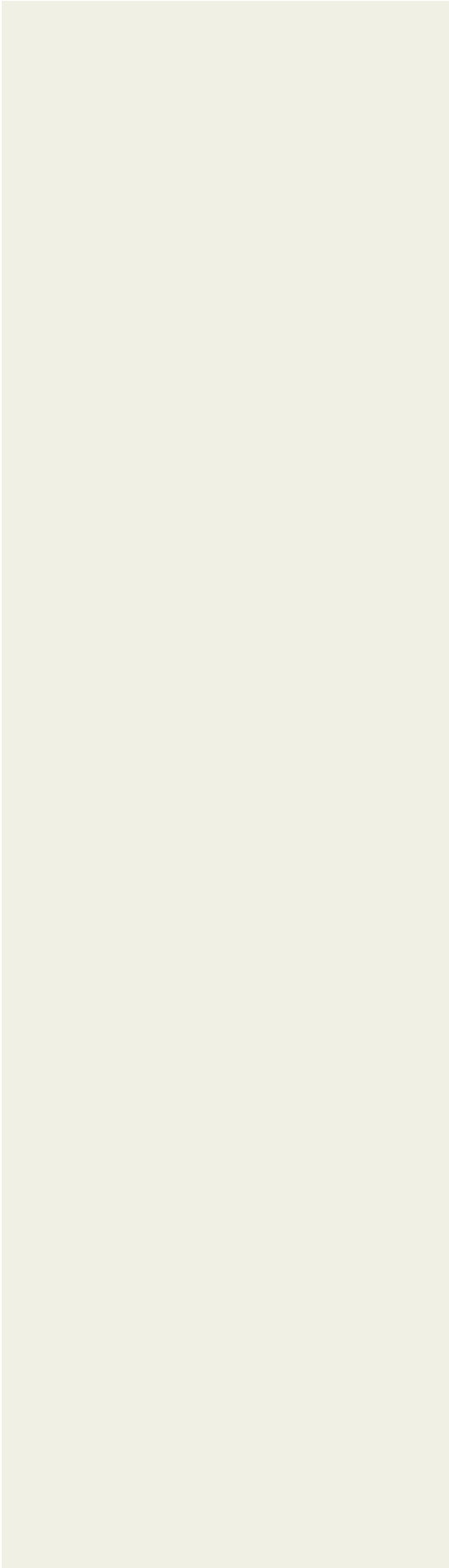


Quality Spaces for People and Places



**Redcar & Cleveland's
Green Space Strategy
2006 - 2016**



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Foreword

from
Councillor Bob Stanway
Cabinet Member for
Environmental Improvement



Green Spaces can provide a focal point for community life and opportunities to enjoy and benefit from healthy recreation and educational activities. They also make a significant contribution to creating attractive places in which people wish to live, work in or visit.

Redcar & Cleveland contains a wide selection of parks and other green spaces, some of which are of fine quality and are highly valued. However, there is scope to enhance many of our other green spaces and to improve access to the outstanding coastline and countryside close by.

This Green Space Strategy provides the starting point for achieving that by providing a long-term framework for improvement. The Strategy has been developed following extensive research and consultation with local people to find out what they think of their green spaces and how they would wish to see them improved.

For the Strategy to be effective, it is essential that the involvement of local people continues, not only through consultation but by increasing community involvement in managing green spaces. This is why a partnership approach between the Council, key stakeholders and local community groups will be followed in delivering the strategy 'on the ground'.



What do we mean by Green Space?

What is the Green Space Strategy?



1 Introduction

Green Space refers to the range of green areas which are used by the public, and includes parks, spaces in and around housing estates, sports pitches, children's play areas, wildlife and countryside sites, allotments, cemeteries and churchyards and green routes.

The Redcar & Cleveland Green Space Strategy is about land, and about people. The purpose of the strategy is to deliver positive and lasting change to the borough's stock of green spaces, for the benefit of everyone, by providing a framework for achieving objectives over a 10-year period.

"Green space is a vital part of the public realm. Attractive, safe and accessible parks and green spaces contribute positive social, economic and environmental benefits, improving public health, well being and quality of life."¹

The above quote, taken from a government publication, demonstrates the importance of green space for people and the environment. The box on the next page explains more about the benefits which green spaces can provide.

¹ CABE Space (2003) Green Spaces Strategies - A Good Practice Guide.



THE BENEFITS OF GREEN SPACE

Health

Green spaces can benefit both mental and physical well-being. They provide opportunities to enjoy the natural world and to get involved in a range of leisure activities such as walking, running and cycling. The more accessible and attractive the green space, the more likely it is to be used by a wide range of people. Physical activity is now widely accepted as a major contributor to good health and can help to reduce rates of coronary heart disease, diabetes, certain cancers and mental health problems.

Education

Green spaces can provide a valuable resource for education, providing outdoor classrooms and space for training in areas such as nature conservation, archaeology, horticulture, community work, environmental education and landscaping.

Economic

The economic benefits of green spaces are becoming more apparent. An urban area with lots of high quality green space and areas for wildlife creates a positive image and is attractive to businesses and visitors alike - encouraging job creation, tourism and investment. Green spaces can also promote rising property values and support the regeneration process.

Environmental

Green spaces encourage wildlife like birds, trees, butterflies and wild flowers to flourish. In an increasingly urbanised society, where the expansion of urban development means that true countryside becomes ever more distant from many, and what countryside remains has often lost much of its wildlife interest, green spaces increasingly symbolise pockets of countryside in built up areas. They can act as wildlife corridors allowing plant and animal life to flourish and migrate between them, thus acting as an important link or a series of stepping stones between urban and rural areas ensuring that wildlife in both are connected.

What is included in the Green Space Strategy

The Green Space Strategy focuses on publicly-accessible green spaces within and on the edge of residential areas, plus the green routes (the footpaths and cycle ways, etc.) which provide links between these spaces and with the countryside. The Green Space Strategy covers several 'types' of green space, which are shown in the table below, and covers the entire borough, including those areas inside the North York Moors National Park.

The table has been adopted from Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (PPG 17), which sets out the Government's planning policies on Open Space, Sport and Recreation.

TYPE OF SPACE	DEFINITION
Urban Parks	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
Amenity Areas	Typically green spaces in and around housing estates and village greens.
Equipped Children's Play Areas	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.
'Kick-about' Areas	Larger areas in and around housing estates which are suitable for the playing of ball games.
Sports Pitches	Areas providing opportunities for participation in competitive outdoor sports.
Natural and Semi-Natural Spaces	Woodland and other spaces that are managed in a way that promotes biodiversity and allows nature to develop.
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Burial grounds providing opportunities for quiet recreation and contemplation, and biodiversity.
Allotments	Plot of land subdivided to provide opportunity for people to grow produce.
Green Routes	Footpaths, water courses and cycle routes, which can link residential areas, green spaces and the countryside and attract wildlife into built-up areas.

Why Prepare a Green Space Strategy?



To improve the management and maximise the benefits of green spaces

Over recent decades, the quality and usage of green spaces declined across the UK. A study by the Urban Parks Forum showed that standards mainly declined due to falling local authority budgets, which were reduced by £1.3 billion between 1980 and 2000. In deprived areas, poor quality spaces are symptomatic of wider social, economic and environmental decay and can perpetuate the cycle of deprivation.

To co-ordinate action and develop partnership working

The drive to improve the borough's green spaces is already underway. The Council, local community groups (such as residents associations and 'Friends of...' groups) and environmental organisations including Groundwork, Tees Forest and Tees Valley Wildlife Trust are already engaged in bringing forward a wide range of site improvement projects. There is a need to co-ordinate all of this activity to ensure that resources are effectively used and the benefits are maximised.

To access more funding opportunities

There are a range of funding possibilities for green spaces. By providing a clear and co-ordinated set of policies and proposals, the Green Space Strategy will ensure that an effective case for investment is made when submitting bids for funding. Experience shows that in areas of the country where a strategic approach has been adopted, access to different funding sources has increased significantly.

To promote green space investment as a policy priority

The Green Space Strategy will elevate the status of green space issues in the borough when giving consideration to public policy priorities.



Redcar & Cleveland Profile



Policy Context

To help create sustainable communities

Attractive green spaces can play a vital role in creating sustainable, inclusive and cohesive communities where people will choose to live and work both now and in the future.

Redcar and Cleveland is on the north east coast, and is the southernmost borough in the North East Region, and the Tees Valley sub-region.

It is a borough of urban and rural contrasts. Urban conurbations and areas of heavy industry are contiguous with heritage coastline, arable and pasture farming, and wild moorland in the North York Moors National Park. At 24,490 hectares, it is the largest of the Tees Valley boroughs. Its population of almost 140,000 is spread across the main urban conurbation of Redcar and Greater Eston, and smaller towns, seaside resorts and villages.

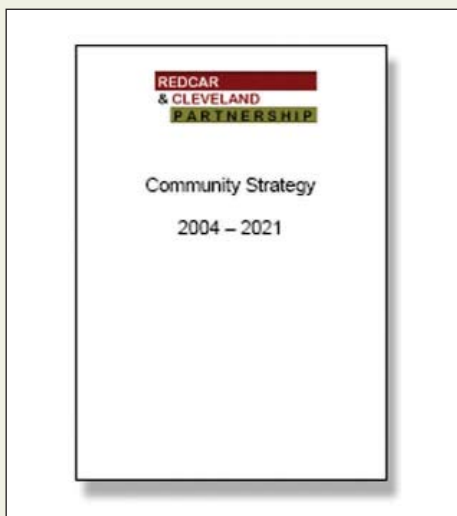
The communities in the borough are as varied as its landscape. Areas of extreme deprivation that are experiencing severe housing market decline neighbour areas of affluence with some of the fastest rising house prices in England. The population of Redcar and Cleveland is ageing at a slightly higher rate than it is regionally and nationally, with just over 20% of our population being over retirement age (nationally it is 18.7%), and only 1.1% of our population is black and minority ethnic.

There are severe health inequalities throughout the borough.

For the Green Space Strategy to be successful, it needs to be relevant to national and local policies.

Nationally, the government is encouraging local authorities to develop green space strategies as part of the drive to create sustainable

Redcar & Cleveland Community Strategy



communities. The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), which was set up by the government in 1999 to promote high standards in the quality and design of buildings and spaces, recognises the importance of green spaces in creating successful and attractive places.

At the local level, the Green Space Strategy has strong linkages with two key local policy documents - the Redcar & Cleveland Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework.

The Redcar & Cleveland Community Strategy provides an overarching framework for delivering social, economic and environmental improvements across the borough in the period to 2021.

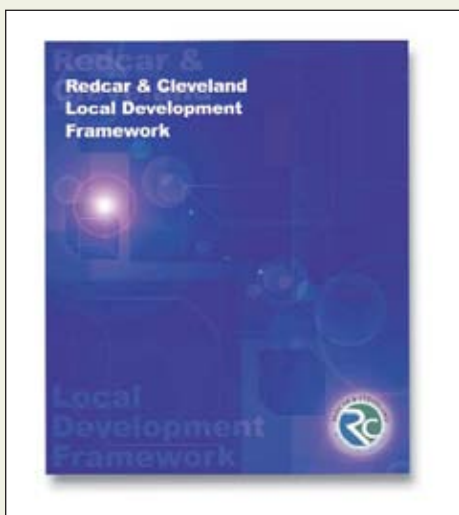
The Community Strategy aims to 'make Redcar & Cleveland an attractive place to live, work and invest' through focussing on the following six priority objectives:

- Priority 1:** Creating More Employment Opportunities
- Priority 2:** Tackling Crime and the Fear of Crime
- Priority 3:** Investing in Children and Young People
- Priority 4:** Creating a Clean and Sustainable Environment
- Priority 5:** Improving Health and Well-being
- Priority 6:** Neighbourhood Renewal and Social Inclusion

The Green Space Strategy can have a positive impact in all six priority areas, with priorities four, five and six being particularly significant. The Community Strategy has been prepared by the Redcar and Cleveland Partnership, which is the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for the borough. The Partnership was established in



Redcar & Cleveland Local Development Framework



1998 to bring together key public and voluntary sector agencies, private sector organisations and community interests in order to improve the quality of life for local people through a strategic approach. Priority Groups have been formed to oversee the achievement of the six objectives. Priority Group Four has identified the Green Space Strategy as a priority in its delivery plan.

The Redcar & Cleveland Local Development Framework (LDF) is currently being prepared and is due to replace the Local Plan in 2008 as the major spatial strategy for the borough. Many of the actions emerging from the Green Space Strategy will be implemented through policies in the LDF, which will address issues including:

- Protecting green spaces from development
- Providing additional green spaces to meet demand
- Improving existing spaces
- Providing policy guidance for securing developers' contributions towards investment in green space

Other relevant strategies

The Green Space Strategy has links with a number of other strategies and studies, as illustrated in the diagram below:



Green Spaces in Redcar & Cleveland

The borough has an extensive supply of green spaces, as shown below. Research undertaken in preparing this Green Space Strategy has indicated that over a third of adults in Redcar & Cleveland either travel through or visit green spaces at least once a week.

Some of the borough's green spaces have significant heritage and conservation value, including Saltburn Valley Gardens which is a registered Historic Park.

In addition to the parks and other green spaces situated in and on the edge of residential areas, the borough is also privileged to contain and be in close proximity to outstanding countryside and coastline in the North York Moors National Park, and also contains areas of archaeological and geological significance.

It is clear, however, that there is scope to improve the borough's green space assets to maximise their value to people and the environment. The Green Space Strategy is being prepared to help achieve this.

Within Redcar & Cleveland there are:

- Over 500 hectares of public parks and other urban green spaces
- 64 equipped play areas
- Urban country parks at Saltburn, Normanby & Guisborough
- Over 60 full size community football pitches
- Over 80 allotment areas
- More than 20 cemeteries and churchyards
- 6 Local Nature reserves, with others awaiting designation
- Major areas of accessible woodland and wildlife areas including Errington Woods, Eston Hills, Coatham Marsh and Foxrush Community Woodland



Strategy Preparation



The Green Space Strategy has been prepared over a two-year period, and progress has been overseen by a Stakeholder Group, which comprises:

- Councillor Bob Stanway, Cabinet Member for Environmental Improvement
- Council Officers from the Area Management and Chief Executive's Departments
- Representatives from three key environmental organisations: Groundwork South Tees, Tees Valley Wildlife Trust and Tees Forest all of which are involved in improving green spaces in Redcar & Cleveland
- Representative from Coast & Country Housing which, like the Council, is responsible for the maintenance of substantial areas of green space.

What this strategy document contains



The remainder of this report contains:

The Strategy Vision and Aims

The vision summarises what the strategy will seek to achieve over the next 10 years. The vision is supported by three core aims relating to the themes of improving quality, meeting needs and involving people.

Section 2 - Strategy Research

Research has been undertaken to establish the current state of the borough's stock of green spaces, what people think of them and what needs to be done in order to improve them in accordance with the vision and aims of the strategy. The research has involved carrying out audit work and consultation exercises with local people. This section of the document summarises the findings of the research.

Section 3 - Recommendations

Section 3 sets out twenty broad recommendations which the strategy will seek to implement. The recommendations are based on the findings of the strategy research and support the achievement of the Vision and Aims. Implementing each recommendation will involve taking a number of actions and these are also explained in this section.

Section 4 - Action Plan

The Action Plan provides a timetable for commencing the implementation of the Green Space Strategy over the next three years.

Vision and Aims

Vision

'The Green Space Strategy will seek to create an attractive sustainable environment that will help to improve the image of Redcar and Cleveland, encourage investment, enhance residents' quality of life and engender local pride in the community'

Aims

1. Enhancing Quality

This aim is about improving the overall quality of the borough's green spaces.

2. Meeting Needs

This aim is about meeting everyone's green space needs more effectively.

3. Involving People

This aim is about increasing the involvement of local people in managing and using green spaces.



2 Strategy Research

About the Strategy Research

This section briefly summarises the work undertaken in preparing the Green Space Strategy. Research has been carried out to assess current green space provision and identify opportunities for improvement. This work has provided the basis for the recommendations in section three of the document.

More detailed summaries of the research are contained in the background papers listed in **Appendix 1**.

Local Needs Assessment

The main part of the research has involved carrying out a '**Local Needs Assessment**' of green spaces either in or adjoining residential areas of the borough. This has been done in accordance with national planning guidance contained in Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (PPG17) and its companion guide, 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' and has involved carrying out a series of audit and consultation exercises.



The local needs assessment has looked at the quality, quantity and accessibility of green spaces. Following on from this, research has been undertaken to consider **minimum local standards** for the quality, quantity and accessibility of green spaces.

About the Audits

Audits were carried out to record, survey and assess the borough's public green spaces. The audits were required to provide an understanding of the current situation concerning the condition, amount and location of green spaces. The following types of green space were included:

- **Urban Parks**
- **Amenity Spaces**
- **'Kick-about' areas**

- **Equipped Children's Play Areas**
- **Public Sports Grounds**
- **Natural and Semi-Natural Areas**
- **Cemeteries and Churchyards**

In practice however a significant number of sites fulfil more than one of the above functions. Many larger spaces for example incorporate an equipped play area, amenity space and sports pitches.

It was therefore necessary in analysing different **types** of green space to identify the **primary** purpose of each site.

Around 200 sites were identified, and all of them were at least 0.1 hectares in size. The spaces included in the audit are shown in the maps in *Appendix 2* together with private sports grounds which were included in the Playing Pitch Assessment.

Area Analysis

As part of the audit, analysis of green space provision between different areas of the borough was undertaken, using the Council's six Area Environment Committee (AEC) areas as a starting point. The six AEC areas and the electoral wards which they contain are shown in the table below.

AEC Area	Wards
ONE	Ormesby, Normanby, Eston
GaTeS	Grangetown, Teesville, South Bank
Redcar	Coatham, Dormanstown, Kirkleatham, Newcomen, West Dyke, Zetland
East Cleveland	Longbeck, St. Germain's, Saltburn, Skelton
Kilton	Brotton, Lockwood, Loftus
Guisborough	Guisborough, Hutton, Westworth

About the Consultations



Research Summaries



Local people are the main users of green spaces and have the most knowledge and experience of them, so it is essential that their views are taken into account in the Green Space Strategy. Consultations were carried out to provide further information about spaces, what local residents think about them, whether there is enough space, and how they would like to see them improved. The consultations consisted of survey questionnaires and participation workshops. The questionnaires were circulated to the members of the Redcar and Cleveland Citizens Panel (approximately 1900 residents), Council employees and other individuals on request. This was followed up by several workshops held with local youth and community groups.

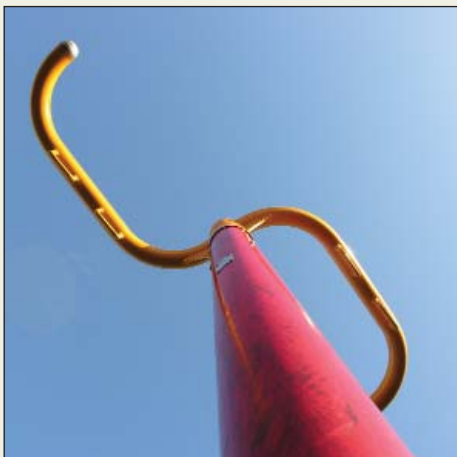
Summaries of the different elements of the research are set out over the next few pages in the following order:

- **Green Space Quantity Assessment**
- **Green Space Accessibility Audit**
- **Green Space Quality Assessment**
- **Local Standards Research**

The main part of the research has been complimented by the following:

- **Biodiversity Audit**
- **Allotments Survey**
- **Playing Pitch Assessment**
- **Overview of Strategic Green Routes**

Green Space Quantity Assessment



Quantity is about providing enough green space to meet the needs of local people. The Local Needs Assessment has included a quantity audit to identify, record and analyse the supply and distribution of different types of green space within the borough.

This has been followed up in the consultation, particularly through the survey questionnaires, which asked residents how satisfied they were with the amount of green space in their area.

Assessing whether areas have sufficient green space involves giving consideration to the following:

The Distribution of Space

This shows which neighbourhoods or areas have the most (and least) space as a proportion of the population.

Residential Neighbourhoods

The amount of public green space required to meet local needs may vary between areas due to different housing densities. The borough contains areas of high, medium and low density housing. A high density residential neighbourhood containing many dwellings with limited or no garden space may be more dependent on public green space compared to an area which contains properties with large gardens and is much closer to major areas of accessible countryside or coastline.

Population Structure

The need for different **types** of green space may vary due to the nature of the population. For example, neighbourhoods containing larger proportions of young people might be expected to require proportionately more play facilities than other areas.

QUANTITY ASSESSMENT: AUDIT FINDINGS

Distribution of space

- The audit identified around 200 green spaces covering an estimated area of over 500 hectares of land. This excludes substantial areas of accessible natural and semi-natural spaces beyond the built-up area (such as Eston Hills and Errington Woods)
- The sites ranged in size from 0.1 to over 60 hectares. A lot of sites are fairly small, with around 70% less than 0.4 hectares in size.
- Green space is unevenly distributed throughout the borough, with variations in the amount and the type of green space provided between AEC areas, wards and neighbourhoods.
- The Redcar & GaTeS AEC areas contain proportionately more green space than the other AEC areas, with the more rural areas of Guisborough and Kilton containing the least.
- Most of the largest green spaces are in the main residential areas of the borough (Redcar, Greater Eston and Guisborough). Spaces in the settlements of East Cleveland tend to be smaller, however these areas contain more equipped play spaces.
- There is currently a shortage of space at cemeteries in Brotton and Loftus, which are almost full. Estimated capacity at other cemeteries ranges from 5 years (Eston) to 80 (Skelton). An increase in cremation rates and the emerging alternative of woodland burial have reduced pressure on burial land requirements.

Residential Neighbourhoods

- Areas of low density housing containing properties with large gardens are likely to contain less public space than more densely developed neighbourhoods.
- Public housing estates are likely to contain a larger supply of space than privately developed areas. Some recent private developments, such as The Ings in Redcar, contain substantially more provision than some earlier private developments.

Population Structure

- There are significant variations in the population structure of wards and local neighbourhoods, which will affect the need for different types of space. For example, the proportion of children under 16 in Grangetown is, at 32%, significantly higher than the borough average of 20%. Similarly the proportion of retirement age residents in the wards of St Germain's (28%) and Ormesby (26%) is above the borough average (20%).

QUANTITY ASSESSMENT: QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS

- Overall, 45% of respondents were satisfied with the level of provision of parks and green spaces in their local neighbourhood. This was significantly more than the 25% who were dissatisfied. 30% of respondents were undecided about this issue;
- The rate of satisfaction exceeded dissatisfaction for each type of green space. The lowest satisfaction rate was recorded for Sports Pitches (38%), however this category also received by far the highest proportion of undecided respondents (45%). The highest level of dissatisfaction was recorded for 'kick-about' areas (32%);
- In 19 out of 22 wards, the rate of satisfaction exceeded dissatisfaction, with satisfaction levels ranging from 28% in South Bank to 62% in Grangetown. In South Bank, Teesville and Newcomen wards, the rate of dissatisfaction was higher than satisfaction;
- Satisfaction levels by AEC area:

GaTeS:	41%
Ormesby, Normanby & Eston:	42%
Kilton:	43%
Guisborough:	44%
Redcar:	49%
Saltburn:	53%
- Satisfaction levels by type of space:

Sports Pitches:	38%
Kick-about areas:	42%
Equipped Play Areas:	47%
Small Landscaped (Amenity) Areas:	48%
Parks:	53%
- It was suggested at one of the workshops that there is insufficient space in the following area:

East Redcar.

Green Space Accessibility Audit



Accessibility is about the ease with which people are able to gain access to green spaces. The borough may contain a substantial amount of space, as the Quantity Audit has shown, but it is distributed unevenly across different areas and this has implications for the range of spaces which people are able to access. An accessibility audit has been carried out to indicate how easy it is for people in different areas of the borough to reach green space.

The audit has been carried out in accordance with the PPG17 companion guidance and is based on an estimated **catchment area** which each space is likely to serve.

To estimate a catchment area, a **distance threshold** has been applied to each space based on its size and perceived significance. To assist this process, sites have been classified as either 'small', 'large' or 'strategic', as follows:

- **Small spaces - these are spaces between 0.4 and 2 hectares in size**
- **Large Spaces - these are spaces of more than 2 hectares in size**
- **Strategic Spaces - these are urban parks areas of more than 2 hectares in size and comprising a range of green space uses such as play equipment, sports facilities and amenity areas.**

Using the assumption that people are likely to travel further to reach larger sites, the following distance thresholds have been applied from the centre of each site based on average walking times, and including an allowance for wheelchair travel (based on surveys carried out by other local authorities):

- **Small Spaces: 300 metres (5 minutes walk)**
- **Large Spaces: 600 metres (10 minutes walk)**

- **Strategic Spaces: 1000 metres (20 minutes walk)**

The catchment areas for each site are shown as circles on **Maps 8 to 10** in *Appendix 2*. The areas outside the circles do not fall within the catchment of a green space.

ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT: FINDINGS

- Roughly half of residential areas are within the catchment (five minutes walk) of a smaller green space (see Map 8).
- Approximately three quarters of residential areas fall within the catchment of a larger green space or urban park (see Map 9).
- More than half of residential areas are within the catchment of more than one space and approximately 90% of residential areas fall inside the catchment of at least one public green space (see Map 10).
- The main residential areas falling outside the catchment of public spaces (also shown in Map 10), can be summarized as follows:
 - Parts of west Guisborough
 - East of Redcar Road, Guisborough
 - Parts of Nunthorpe and Ormesby
 - Part of Normanby, towards the edge of the built-up area
 - Between Skelton and Skelton Green
 - Part of Newcomen Ward in Redcar
 - Small part of New Marske
 - Liverton
 - Easington, south of A174

Green Space Quality Assessment

The purpose of the quality audit was to provide a broad indication of the variations in quality between different spaces and geographical areas across the borough. The audit has identified problems and opportunities for improving green spaces, and examples of high quality spaces.

The audit assessed each site against the following factors, all of which are indicators of quality:

a) Cleanliness:

This concerned the levels of litter, dog fouling and fly-tipping on each site.

b) Accessibility:

This considered how easy it was to get onto the site and navigate around it, taking into account the ease of wheelchair access. Issues such as the number and condition of entrance points and internal footpaths were all taken into account.

c) Facilities:

This concerned the range, and condition of facilities such as toilets, parking, seating and the variety of uses on the site. Parks for example tend to contain a range of facilities such as children's play equipment, quiet areas and tennis courts.

d) Security and Safety:

This involved taking into account whether sites were well lit, were protected from traffic, how well they were overlooked and any evidence of anti-social behaviour, such as vandalism and graffiti.

e) Aesthetics:

This considered the attractiveness of spaces in relation to the range and condition of grassed areas, planting and landscaping and any special features, which add to attractiveness of each site, such as interesting views or monuments.

Sites were assessed against each of the five indicators to produce an overall quality assessment score. Some sites scored more than others due to factors such as the size and type of site. For example, a major park with a range of facilities is more likely to score higher than a small grassed area within a housing estate.

Therefore, sites of the same type were compared and rated as either 'Good', 'Fair' or 'Poor'. The ratings are intended to reflect the potential for improving the site. The analysis included an assessment of quality for different types of sites and for the six AEC areas.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT: AUDIT FINDINGS

- The audit found that there is scope to improve most spaces in the borough - including some of the spaces rated as 'good'.
- 63% of sites were rated as 'fair'.
- 29% of sites were rated as 'good'.
- 8% of sites were rated as 'poor'.
- Sites scores ranged from a low of 17 to a high of 38.
- Some of the best quality sites are maintained with the involvement of local community groups.
- The surveys showed that sites which are overlooked by housing tended to be less likely to suffer from problems such as vandalism, graffiti, litter and dog fouling.
- In churchyards and cemeteries, problems of security and personal safety may be compounded by fewer opportunities for surveillance due to tree cover, enclosed areas and limited visitor numbers compared to some other major green spaces.
- The quality of spaces varied across the borough with most areas containing a mix of sites rated as 'good', 'fair' or 'poor'.
- The largest proportion of sites rated as 'poor' (23%) was located in the GaTeS AEC Area.
- The largest proportion of sites rated as 'good' (48%) was located in the Guisborough AEC area.
- Average quality scores for different types of sites were highest for urban parks (33) and lowest for kick-about areas (25), which are particularly prone to problems of litter, vandalism and other anti-social behaviour.

Quality Assessment: Consultation Responses

The questionnaires asked people for their views about the quality and quantity of green spaces in the borough. Questions were also asked about the management of green spaces and increasing biodiversity.

The workshops considered green space provision in different areas across the borough. Participants were asked for their opinions and comments about the problems and benefits of major green spaces, and how they might be

improved. General comments were also invited about quality and the level of provision, and about any other sites. Aerial photographs were used to assist the process.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT: QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS

Problem identification

The questionnaire asked panel members how satisfied they were with the quality of a local green space with which they are familiar and respondents were asked to state the extent to which cleanliness, anti-social behaviour, appearance and safety presented problems on their local space.

Over 1000 responses were received to this question, covering a large number of sites across the borough.

The overall response showed that respondents were most concerned about the following problems:

- Anti-social behaviour: 36%
- Cleanliness: 32%
- Safety: 28%
- Appearance: 15%

Management

70% of respondents thought that local communities should be involved in managing green spaces.

Biodiversity

76% of respondents thought that biodiversity - encouraging a greater range of plants and trees, etc. - was an important consideration that should be incorporated into the management of public green spaces.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT: SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Good points

- Quality of play equipment
- Location of spaces close to residential areas
- Unrestricted access of many spaces

Bad points

- Safety from traffic
- Children's safety
- Safety after dark - this was of particular concern to children and young people
- Litter & broken glass
- Dog fouling
- Vandalism and graffiti
- Misuse - especially through alcohol and drug abuse and 'off-roading'
- Underused areas

Opportunities

- Infrastructure improvements - lighting, pathways, seating etc.
- Provision of more traffic safety barriers
- Increase site security e.g. through more community safety warden patrols
- Provide more litter bins and dog waste bins
- Events and marketing campaigns to increase user numbers
- Educate people not to misuse the spaces

Biodiversity Audit



A Biodiversity Audit has been carried out by Tees Valley Wildlife Trust to assess the potential for increasing planting and the range of plant species on 24 major green spaces in different parts of the borough.

Enhancing biodiversity not only provides a range of environmental benefits, it can also create opportunities for community involvement and education, and can reduce site maintenance costs.

The audit assessed the value of each site in terms of its potential for biodiversity gain against the five types of urban green space habitat, which are as follows:

1. Grassland
2. Woodland
3. Hedgerows
4. Single Trees
5. Wetlands

The potential of each site was scored against the five habitat types.

The sites were given a score between 1 (major spending and changes in management approach required) and 10 (little spending and few changes in management approach required) for each of the 5 habitat components. This resulted in sites being scored out of 50.

A summary of the Biodiversity Audit is available to view on the Council's website and in public libraries. A summary of the main findings is contained in the table on the following page.

BIODIVERSITY AUDIT: FINDINGS

- The audit found that each site had a different level of potential for biodiversity gain through a change in approach to management and increased spending.
- Site scores ranged from a low of 3 to a high of 28.
- The lowest scoring site (St. Helen's Close, Eston) had a low level of biodiversity with closely mown amenity grassland of low wildlife value and several small groups of trees and very few shrubs.
- The highest scoring site (Hob Hill Lane, Saltburn) had a higher level of biodiversity with established flower-rich grassland, mixed hedging and scrub and an area of woodland.
- The audit identified the following general measures for increasing biodiversity:
 - hedgerow planting to provide safe wildlife routes
 - planting of native trees and shrubs
 - introducing wildflowers
 - varying grass cutting regimes
 - establishing wetlands in naturally damp areas
 - increasing community involvement in and awareness of biodiversity issues and projects.

Allotments Survey



Allotments are a useful resource. They provide community facilities, support bio-diversity and encourage healthy living. Allotments have traditionally served nearby areas of terraced housing, providing space for growing fresh produce. Over recent decades interest in them waned, due to the replacement of terraced housing with houses with gardens, and to a declining interest in home food production. This has led to the abandonment of sites leaving unsightly and underused areas.

However, the demand for allotments may rise again due to the growing interest in healthy lifestyles, combined with an increase in housing densities which could reduce average garden sizes. Allotments provide opportunities for growing organic fruit and vegetables at low cost and in a social setting.

Redcar and Cleveland contains a significant number of allotment areas and plots. A survey has been undertaken to assess their appearance, facilities, condition and how well used they are.

The survey identified over 80 allotment areas. The Council manages 19 sites, most of which are in the Redcar and Greater Eston areas. The Council maintains a waiting list and records vacant plots on its sites, which provides an indication of supply and demand for allotments in those parts of the borough. Ownership in the rest of the borough is more diverse, particularly in East Cleveland which contains a lot of allotment areas of varying size.

ALLOTMENTS SURVEY: FINDINGS

- The condition of allotments varies across the borough, though well-used sites tend to have better appearance than areas with high plot vacancies.
- In some cases sites have been well secured but this has created an unattractive external appearance.
- There appears to be a shortage of allotments in Redcar.
- There are a number of vacant plots particularly in East Cleveland, and near South Bank.
- Scope to manage sites more effectively, particularly in East Cleveland.
- Poor internal access is a problem on many sites.

Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Assessment



An assessment of playing pitches has been completed to consider the quality and quantity of sports pitches, including privately owned facilities. The assessment identified site-specific problems and issues and examined the supply of and demand for pitches and facilities (including anticipated future demand) for participating in the following sports:

- Football
- Rugby
- Cricket
- Hockey

The Playing Pitch Assessment has been carried out in accordance with guidance from Sport England.

The borough contains a substantial number of pitches, mostly used for playing football by adult, youth and junior teams. Most of the rugby and cricket pitches are in private ownership. There are a several Council-owned sports grounds, such as Eston Recreation Ground, Dormanstown Recreation Ground and the King George V



complex at Guisborough which have unlimited public access and provide amenity space and children's play areas as well as football pitches. There are also a number of school football pitches which are used by football clubs outside school hours.

Maximising community use of school facilities may be an effective way of satisfying unmet demand for sports facilities.

The assessment covered only outdoor grass pitches, but recognizes that the provision of indoor and outdoor artificial pitches may impact on the demand for traditional grass football pitches. This issue will be explored further in the Redcar & Cleveland Sport and Leisure Needs Assessment.

The assessment involved carrying out surveys of all the local clubs which use facilities and examined Football Association records to show how well used the pitches are and indicate where there may be a need for additional pitch provision.

Minimum quantity and quality standards for playing pitches are recommended in section 3 under Recommendations 3 and 12, based on the findings and recommendations of the Playing Pitch Assessment and subject to the findings of the Sport and Leisure Needs Assessment.

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT: FINDINGS

Quality

Private facilities tend to be secure and in good condition. Council-owned facilities are more accessible but this makes them more vulnerable to vandalism and misuse. The survey found that there is significant scope to enhance the quality of some facilities through:

- improving the quality of pitches
- providing secure changing areas
- protecting facilities through more effective security measures

Quantity

On the whole, the borough has sufficient pitch space to meet current and anticipated future demand for each sport, with two exceptions:

- the growing demand for junior football has created a shortage of pitches in Redcar. Generally, any shortages could be met through remarking underused adult pitches, upgrading kick-about areas or making greater use of school pitches; and,
- the limited availability of pitches to meet the demand for junior rugby in Guisborough. This may be addressed through making greater use of facilities at Laurence Jackson School outside of school hours.

Overview of Strategic Green Routes

A survey has been carried out of green routes, which are the strategic footpaths, cycle routes and bridleways that link residential areas with urban green spaces, the coast and countryside, creating a network of paths and spaces which form part of the borough's green infrastructure.

It is important that local communities have good access to the countryside and where appropriate, the coast, to maximise the benefits of these natural assets.

Green routes provide a number of benefits:

- They enable people to access a wider variety of spaces and can assist in meeting



shortfalls without the added costs of providing and maintaining additional spaces;

- They help to maximise the potential value, uses and number of users of green spaces;
- They enable people to walk and cycle to green spaces and other destinations in a traffic-free environment; and
- Along with water courses, they provide migratory passages and habitat for wildlife

The following initiatives, which are currently being pursued, can all contribute to improving and developing the network of green routes:

- Safer Routes to School programme
- Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan
- Greenways
- Cycle Network

The survey mapped the existing strategic linkages and identified potential opportunities to improve them.



GREEN ROUTES: SURVEY FINDINGS

Green routes should be:

- Enhanced and protected
- Properly signposted
- Well-maintained
- Easily accessible
- Improved in terms of safety at road crossings and on highways not currently designated for pedestrians and cyclists
- Designed to form a link between Cycleways, Rights of Way and Bridleways

The borough's main urban areas already contain linked green spaces and many spaces are served by footpaths or cycleways. Opportunities exist to further develop the linkages and are shown in Appendix 2 (Map 11) towards the back of the document and are numbered as follows:

1. Linking up sections of the Eston Mine-Grangetown dismantled railway at Monmouth Road.
2. Creation of a path directly through Flatts Lane Woodland Country Park.
3. A safe route alongside A1043 and A171 to the North and South of Swan's Corner at Nunthorpe linking the LTP (Local Transport Plan) proposed cycle route with the Right of Way.
4. Linking two Rights of Way along the B1269 to the south of Dunsdale.
5. Linking up the Right of Way at Wilton Lane in north Guisborough through the A171 underpass.
6. Making an attractive route eastwards from Guisborough to the Cleveland Way.
7. Land between The Avenue and Hutton Lane. The area has the potential to provide a vital part of the green corridor network linking west Guisborough to the town centre along Chapel Beck, taking in Chapel Beck and Westgate parks.
8. Creating a safe route along The Avenue between Hutton Beck and the cycle way on Hutton Lane.
9. Linking the National Cycle Route and the Cleveland Way at Skinningrove.
10. Joining the 2 sections of the LTP proposed cycle way through the Rights of Way at Kilton.

About Minimum Local Standards



One of the key purposes of the research was to inform the establishment of acceptable minimum standards of provision. Minimum standards are needed because:

- They provide an indication of what needs to be done in terms of achieving the vision and aims of the strategy;
- They will provide an identifiable measure of progress as the strategy is implemented; and
- They will enable the identification of sites to be protected from development, and where investment in green spaces may be required.

PPG17 advises that minimum local standards for quantity, quality and accessibility should be established, based on the outcome of the local needs assessment.

This Green Space Strategy provides a starting point for reviewing existing minimum quantity standards for public parks and other green spaces (see Recommendation 1 in section 3 of the document) and puts forward the following minimum standards:

- Accessibility standards for public parks and green spaces (see Recommendation 1).
- Quantity standards for playing pitches (Recommendation 3).
- Quality standards for public parks and green spaces, including cemeteries and churchyards (Recommendation 9).
- Quality standards for playing pitches (Recommendation 12).

The standards will be used to guide the overall enhancement of green space provision in the borough. The minimum standards are a target that the Council and its partners will work towards as resources permit.



Introduction

3 Recommendations

This part of the strategy sets out twenty broad recommendations arising out of the strategy research.

Each recommendation will contribute to the achievement of the Strategy Vision, stated on page 12, which is

'To create an attractive sustainable environment that will help to improve the image of Redcar and Cleveland, encourage investment, enhance residents quality of life and engender local pride in the community'

The recommendations support the core aims of enhancing quality, meeting needs and involving people. Recommendation 20, the final recommendation, is about the overall implementation of the strategy.

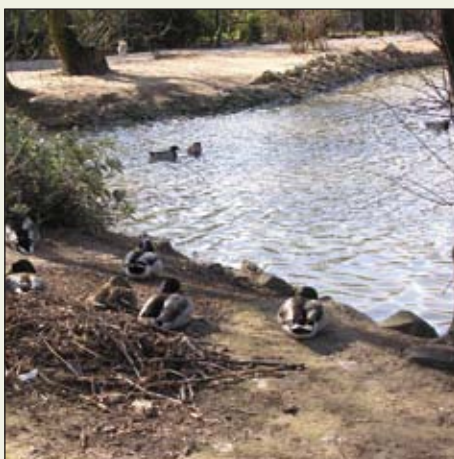
The recommendations are listed in the table overleaf and explained in more detail over the following pages.

THE TWENTY RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Agree and adopt minimum quantity and accessibility standards for public parks and green spaces
2	Ensure that everyone has access to adequate provision of different types of green space
3	Ensure that everyone has access to adequate provision of sports pitches
4	Protect and develop the borough's green infrastructure network
5	Protect valuable green spaces from development
6	Ensure that the disposal of any surplus green spaces include mitigation measures to support improvements to green space
7	Ensure that the provision of green space in new housing developments meets agreed minimum local standards and developers contribute to future maintenance costs
8	Support the provision of additional and replacement trees in urban areas
9	Agree and adopt minimum quality standards for public parks and green spaces
10	Ensure all public parks & green spaces of 0.1 hectares and above achieve minimum quality standards within 10 years
11	Carry out an audit of public green spaces of less than 0.1 hectares
12	Improve the quality of sports pitches
13	Prepare an Allotments Strategy
14	Prepare management plans for major parks and cemeteries
15	Ensure countryside sites meet agreed minimum standards within 10 years
16	Enhance biodiversity throughout the borough
17	Improve the quality of green routes
18	Ensure local communities and local interest groups are fully involved in delivering the Green Space Strategy
19	Increase awareness of the value and significance of green space
20	Ensure that the Green Space Strategy is implemented in accordance with agreed aims, recommendations and actions

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEETING NEEDS

RECOMMENDATION 1 - Agree and adopt minimum quantity and accessibility standards for public parks and green spaces



Minimum quantity and accessibility standards are required in order to help ensure that people have access to the spaces they need.

Government planning policy guidance contained in PPG17 recognises that meeting shortfalls in green space provision may be more achievable through making better use of existing spaces and improving access rather than providing additional spaces, which may be difficult to secure and maintain.

Accessibility Standards

Minimum accessibility standards are set out on the following page. The standards are based on the catchments applied in the accessibility audit. PPG17 advises that in assessing the requirement for green spaces, a larger site can substitute for a smaller site and this has also been taken into account in devising the standards.

The standards apply to the vast majority of green spaces identified in the Local Needs Assessment under the following classifications:

- Urban Parks
- Amenity Spaces
- 'Kick-about' Areas
- Equipped Play Areas
- Public Sports Grounds

These different types of green space have been brought together in this general category of parks and informal green spaces to reflect the fact that many green spaces in the borough currently do, or have the potential to fulfil more than one of the above functions. Most of the sites are in the ownership of the Council or Coast & Country Housing and all have unlimited public access during daylight hours.

The benefit of this approach is that it provides for a more simplified approach to assessing local provision.

The agreed minimum standards will be implemented through the Local Development Framework, which is in the course of preparation.

The accessibility standards should be considered in conjunction with the recommended minimum quality standards set out under Recommendation 9.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

Everyone should have access to at least one of the following:

- at least one small green space of up to 1.9 hectares in size within 5 minutes walk;
- and / or
- a larger green space of at least 2 hectares within 10 minutes walk;
- or
- a formal urban park of at least 2 hectares within 20 minutes walk.

Small spaces should be at least 0.1 hectares in size and offer a range of basic facilities in accordance with the minimum quality standards identified in Recommendation 9. The site should include areas suitable for younger children's play, and provide opportunities for walking and relaxation. Small spaces should be accessible to children without crossing a busy road.

Large spaces, other than wildlife areas, should incorporate all the facilities of small spaces plus opportunities for older children, including 'kick-about' areas.

Urban Parks should offer all the facilities of small and large spaces, plus facilities for other popular activities such as bowls and tennis courts. Urban Parks should also provide toilet facilities and, where possible, on-site parking.

Quantity Standards

Existing minimum standards in relation to the quantity of green spaces are contained in the Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan and are as follows:

- Playing fields: 1.6-1.8 hectares for every 1000 residents
- Equipped Children's play area: 0.2 - 0.3 hectares for every 1000 residents



- Informal Children's Play (ie 'kick-about' areas): 0.4 - 0.5 hectares for every 1000 residents
- Parkland and amenity space: 0.4 hectares for every 1000 residents

Overall, the provision in the borough meets the minimum requirement suggested in the Local Plan, but these standards need reviewing because:

- They are based on guidelines provided by the National Playing Fields Association and may not necessarily reflect local circumstances;
- They are not based on an assessment of local needs as advocated in PPG17; and;
- The strategy research has demonstrated variations within and between neighbourhoods and areas in terms of the distribution of green space, residential densities and the population structure.

In the light of the above, further work is required to review the existing minimum quantity standards.

The Redcar & Cleveland Sport and Leisure Needs Assessment will provide an assessment of wider recreational provision and contribute towards this process.

Revised minimum standards for sports pitch provision are included under Recommendation 3, based on the 2005 Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Assessment.

Further work will be undertaken to:

- Give consideration to smaller spaces of less than 0.1 hectares (see Recommendation 11);
- Take into account the need for greater provision of space in areas with high average housing densities

**RECOMMENDATION 2 -
Ensure that everyone has
access to adequate provision
of different types of green
space**

**RECOMMENDATION 3 -
Ensure that everyone has
access to adequate provision
of sports pitches**



- Consider incorporating minimum standards for natural and semi-natural areas
- Consider local needs for allotment provision (see Recommendation 13)

The recommended standards set out in Recommendation 1 will provide the requirements for the provision of green space.

Where it transpires that an area has adequate provision of green space over and above the agreed minimum but has a demonstrable lack of a particular type of space (such as a play area), the Council and its partners will seek to meet any shortfalls by utilising existing spaces more effectively.

The Playing Pitch Assessment found that the borough has adequate pitch provision to meet current and anticipated future demand and makes the following recommendations:

- Rather than providing additional playing pitches, place future emphasis on improving the quality of existing pitches and facilities (see Recommendation 12).
- Give consideration to adopting revised standards for the provision of pitches. The Assessment has indicated that the current quantity standard of 1.6 hectares of pitch space for every 1000 people is not justified and should be revised to reflect local circumstances.
- The suggested revised quantity standards are presented for consideration in the box below. The proposed standards vary between Area Environment Committee (AEC) areas.
- It is anticipated that adopting the proposed standards should ensure that sufficient pitches continue to be made available in order to meet changing demand.

RECOMMENDED PLAYING PITCH MINIMUM QUANTITY STANDARDS

- Guisborough AEC area: 1.0 Hectares for every 1000 people
- East Cleveland AEC area: 1.0 Hectares for every 1000 people
- ONE AEC area: 0.9 Hectares for every 1000 people
- GaTeS AEC Area: 0.9 Hectares for every 1000 people
- Redcar AEC area: 0.9 Hectares for every 1000 people
- Kilton AEC Area: 0.8 Hectares for every 1000 people

RECOMMENDATION 4 - Protect and develop the borough's green infrastructure network

The Council and its partners will seek to ensure that the network of green spaces and green routes which are part of the borough's green infrastructure are protected from development.

Where it is appropriate, the network will be enhanced to improve the linkages between local communities and green spaces. Map 11 in Appendix 2 sets out some potential linkage improvements.

RECOMMENDATION 5 - Protect valuable green spaces from development

It is important that valuable green spaces - those which are required to meet local green space needs as identified in the Local Needs Assessment - are protected from development. Currently, green space is safeguarded by Policy L1 of the Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan. The Local Development Framework (LDF) will continue to safeguard spaces, through Policy DP13 of the LDF Development Policies document, and the LDF Communities Development Plan Document. Green spaces will also be identified on the proposals map in the Local Development Framework.

RECOMMENDATION 6 - Ensure that the disposal of any surplus green spaces include mitigation measures to support improvements to green space

The partial or total disposal of surplus green spaces is one means by which funding can be raised to support investment in other green spaces.



**RECOMMENDATION 7 -
Ensure that the provision of
green space in new housing
developments meets agreed
minimum local standards and
developers contribute to
future maintenance costs**

Criteria for assessing whether green spaces are surplus to requirements will be established through the Local Development Framework (see policy DP13 in the LDF Development Policies document).

It is suggested that the following issues are taken into consideration in establishing criteria:

- The loss of the site will not result in a loss of space which would undermine minimum standards for accessibility and quantity;
- The site is not required to meet a need for a particular type of space for which a shortage has been identified in the locality;
- The loss of the site would not prejudice the existence of, or the potential creation of a green route;
- The site should not contain an important wildlife habitat and development should not threaten the integrity of habitat networks, geological interests and conservation assets;
- Where sites are partially disposed of for residential development, the design of the development should ensure that the remaining space is integrated within the new development; and,
- After land has been disposed of, an agreed proportion of the capital received from the sale of the land should be re-invested in green spaces to support the vision and aims of the Green Space Strategy through a section 106 agreement.

Currently, the requirement for green space provision in new developments is 0.7 hectares of space for every 100 dwellings. These standards are contained in Policy L7 of the Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan.

It is proposed to review the requirements for new provision in the Local Development Framework.



**RECOMMENDATION 8 -
Support the provision of
additional and replacement
trees in urban areas**



**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
ENHANCING QUALITY**
**RECOMMENDATION 9 -
Agree and adopt minimum
quality standards for public
parks and green spaces**

Green Spaces should be well-designed and have a positive impact on housing schemes. Where new green space is provided, the design and layout of new developments should ensure that green space provides a focal point for the residential area and spaces should be overlooked by housing and, if possible, linked into the wider green network.

A Supplementary Planning Document will be prepared to set out the revised requirements, drawing on the minimum quality standards set out in Recommendation 9 below and the Redcar and Cleveland Urban Design Guidelines which provide advice on achieving good quality design in developments.

Trees, whether they are located inside parks and green spaces or along streets, enhance the appearance of urban areas. Trees also provide important health and environmental benefits by absorbing carbon dioxide emissions and giving out oxygen and, along with green areas, absorb rainfall thereby assisting natural drainage.

The borough contains both leafy areas with significant tree coverage and other areas which lack trees and other vegetation.

Tees Forest is currently pursuing the Green Streets Initiative which is seeking to increase tree coverage in parts of the borough and the Council has commenced work on developing the Redcar & Cleveland Tree and Woodland Strategy.

The Green Space Strategy should support these and other initiatives to increase tree coverage across Redcar and Cleveland, and to ensure that lost trees are replaced.

Quality Standards

Quality standards are needed to ensure that green spaces are well designed, benefit local communities and the environment and are fit for



purpose. The borough does not currently have any minimum quality standards. Adopting them will provide clear guidance for identifying priority sites, developing an enhancement programme and achieving improvements.

The proposed standards are set out below. They are designed to address the issues and concerns emerging from the strategy research and have been derived from the government's Green Flag Award guidance and the police initiative, Secured By Design. The Green Flag Scheme gives recognition to high quality local spaces and Saltburn Valley Gardens has recently been awarded Green Flag Status for 2006.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM QUALITY STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC PARKS AND GREEN SPACES

Public parks and green spaces should be clean, attractive, accessible and safe.

They should be well lit with clear and prominent entrances, secure from traffic and have well maintained grassed areas, and offer a range of trees and shrubs.

Green spaces should contain seating, litter bin(s), dog waste disposal bin(s) and at least one surfaced path enabling wheelchair access through the site.

Any facilities, including children's play equipment and buildings should be well-maintained and safe.

The standards will be applied to both existing and new green spaces.

The recommended quality standards should be considered in conjunction with existing quantity standards and the recommended accessibility standards in Recommendation 1. The standards will be developed to:

- Give consideration to smaller spaces of less than 0.1 hectares (see Recommendation 11); and



**RECOMMENDATION 10 -
Ensure all public parks &
green spaces of 0.1 hectares
and above achieve minimum
quality standards within 10
years**

- Incorporate quality standards for natural and semi-natural areas.

The agreed minimum standards will be implemented through the Local Development Framework, which is in the course of preparation. The standards apply to the vast majority of green spaces identified in the Local Needs Assessment, under the following classifications:

- Urban Parks
- Amenity Spaces
- 'Kick-about' Areas
- Equipped Play Areas
- Churchyards
- Cemeteries

Revised minimum standards are proposed separately for playing pitches on the basis of the Playing Pitch Assessment and Sport and Leisure Needs Assessment (see Recommendation 12) and will be developed for allotments (see Recommendation 13).

The audit and consultation exercises have shown that significant scope exists to improve the majority of green spaces in the borough, and have generated ideas for improving the attractiveness, value and management of them. Good quality spaces can provide a range of social, economic and environmental benefits and can help to address shortfalls in provision by ensuring that spaces are used to their full potential.

The task of enhancing quality is a significant undertaking which will require careful planning, substantial consultation and co-ordinated investment to ensure that a realistic programme of lasting improvements can be delivered. This is therefore seen as a long-term objective to be implemented over the lifetime of the strategy.

Action plans should be developed for individual spaces and have regard to the minimum quality standards.

**RECOMMENDATION 11 -
Carry out an audit of public
green spaces of less than 0.1
hectares**

**RECOMMENDATION 12 -
Improve the quality of sports
pitches**

In order to monitor the condition of green spaces, and the effectiveness of the strategy, sites should be surveyed at least once every five years.

In addition to the spaces identified in the strategy research, the borough contains a substantial number of small amenity sites of less than 0.1 hectares. These spaces can provide local community and environmental benefits and should be incorporated into the overall programme to improve the borough's green spaces.

It is therefore suggested that these sites are surveyed and recorded and quality, quantity and accessibility audits are carried out.

These sites should be retained and improved as necessary.

The Playing Pitch Assessment includes the following recommendations for improving the quality of sports pitches:

- Develop a hierarchical approach to the planning and development of pitches and facilities to direct and encourage investment in pitches and facilities and assist in meeting the varied needs of local clubs competing at and aspiring to different standards.
- Allow clubs to lease Council sites and playing pitches. This will likely lead to investment on the site and the organisation attracting funds that are not accessible by the Council itself.
- Future emphasis should be placed largely on improving the quality of existing pitches and ancillary facilities (club houses, changing facilities, drainage etc.) rather than the creation of new ones.
- Ensure that future developer contributions arising from planning obligations associated with major residential development are utilised in

improving existing sports pitches, ancillary facilities or where appropriate indoor facilities, rather than in providing entirely new sports fields. All local circumstances should be evaluated before determining requirements.

Recommended minimum quality standards for playing pitches are set out below.

RECOMMENDED PLAYING PITCH MINIMUM QUALITY STANDARDS

Playing pitches should be well marked and even, have good drainage and be capable of hosting matches on a regular basis.

Ancillary facilities should include car parking and changing areas with showering facilities and enable wheelchair access for spectators.

Playing pitches and facilities should have effective security against vandalism and misuse.

RECOMMENDATION 13 - Prepare an Allotments Strategy

The allotments survey has provided a starting point for further work.

Because the borough contains substantial areas of land devoted to allotments, and the use and condition of them varies significantly, it is recommended that an allotment strategy is prepared.

The strategy should seek to improve quality and encourage usage through a co-ordinated approach which brings different site owners together and promotes good practice in managing allotment provision. As a major allotment provider, it may be appropriate for the Council to instigate the process of assessing local needs and developing working relationships with other allotment providers.

Specific quantity, accessibility and quality standards may be appropriate for allotments



**RECOMMENDATION 14 -
Prepare management plans
for major parks and
cemeteries**

**RECOMMENDATION 15 -
Ensure countryside sites meet
agreed minimum standards
within 10 years**

**RECOMMENDATION 16 -
Enhance biodiversity
throughout the borough**

because, unlike public parks and green spaces, they tend to be single purpose sites with limited public access.

The Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan includes a minimum standard of 0.4 hectares per 1,000 people, but this is based on a traditional standard and does not reflect any recent needs assessment.

The allotment strategy should review the appropriateness of the current minimum quantity standard.

Management plans should be prepared for major green spaces in order to ensure minimum quality standards are achieved and maintained.

As part of the successful bid to gain Green Flag Award status for Saltburn Valley Gardens, a site management plan was drawn up setting out a detailed site survey and several objectives for improving the quality of this very large site over a five-year period.

Management plans should also be prepared for other major parks and cemeteries.

The borough is privileged to contain substantial areas of accessible woodlands and countryside. The Council and its partners are committed to making more of these areas publicly accessible and to improving them, for example by designating further local nature reserves in addition to the six which already exist. It is proposed to pursue Green Flag Award status for the borough's other country parks and this approach will be used as a basis for improving the quality of other areas of green space outside the built-up areas.

Encouraging biodiversity is a key objective in creating a more sustainable environment.



**RECOMMENDATION 17 -
Improve the quality of green
routes.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
INVOLVING PEOPLE**

**RECOMMENDATION 18 -
Ensure local communities and
local interest groups are fully
involved in delivering the
Green Space Strategy.**

The Green Space Strategy will seek to support biodiversity in the following ways:

- Supporting potential improvements to sites identified in the biodiversity audit;
- Extending the audit to other sites;
- Through on-going environmental enhancement initiatives, such as the eco-schools programme operated by Groundwork South Tees in conjunction with local schools;
- Incorporating the policies and objectives of the Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan within the wider programme to enhance green space and green corridors; and
- Training staff to implement sustainable maintenance techniques in the management of green spaces.

Work should be undertaken to assess the quality of green routes in order to identify any needs for improvement.

Green routes should be safe and easy to use for pedestrians and disabled users and where appropriate, cyclists and horse riders. Green routes should be well signposted and surfaced and clearly laid out.

The culture of partnership working between the Council, other organisations and local communities is already established through individual projects and the Community Enhancement Forum and Community Network, both of which bring together local action groups.

The borough contains a number of high quality green spaces which have been improved in conjunction with local community and environmental groups. School pupils are involved in environmental improvements through the ongoing 'Eco-schools' project operated by the Groundwork Trust.



**RECOMMENDATION 19 -
Increase awareness of the
value and significance of
green space.**

The consultation exercises have shown that local people appreciate the opportunity to get involved in improving their environment. In order to ensure that local communities are fully included in implementing the Green Space Strategy and to encourage further community involvement in the improvement and management of green spaces it is proposed to:

- Expand the Green Space Strategy Stakeholder Group to include local community representation;
- Promote community participation in the site improvement programme and develop support to community groups;
- Promote community management of public green spaces through the delivery of a training and educational programme for volunteers;
- Support employment and skills training initiatives and develop a wider-base of skilled people in local communities; and
- Support the expansion of the Eco-Schools programme and other community-based green space projects.

The audit and consultation exercises have shown that the abuse of green spaces through vandalism, dog fouling, graffiti, fly tipping and litter dropping contributes significantly to poor quality green spaces. It is therefore essential that these issues are effectively tackled if sustainable improvements to the borough's green spaces are to be secured. This is one reason why the increased involvement of local residents in improving, and managing green spaces will be sought under Recommendation 18. Increasing the sense of community ownership in green spaces can help to foster a strong sense of pride in local green spaces and the wider local environment. In support of this important objective, it is also proposed to pursue the following activities:

- deliver an education and training programme with youth and community

STRATEGY DELIVERY
RECOMMENDATION 20 -
Ensure that the Green Space
Strategy is implemented in
accordance with agreed aims,
recommendations and
actions.



groups to address problems of anti-social behaviour; and

- develop an events programme to encourage increased use of parks and green spaces, for example relating to the promotion of sport and exercise.

It is also important to ensure co-operation and co-ordination in maintenance regimes between different Council departments and other organisations which own or manage green space, for example through the recycling of green waste and introduction of sustainable management techniques.

The Green Space Strategy is wide-ranging and implementing its recommendations will involve significant commitment and actions from different people and organisations.

To support the successful implementation of the strategy, it is suggested that a co-ordinator is appointed to oversee the range of activities simultaneously taking place and to report on progress to the Green Space Stakeholder Group.

Clearly, securing financial support will be an important issue in driving forward the strategy. In devising a co-ordinated funding programme which effectively supports the Green Space Strategy, there is a need to thoroughly review current funding arrangements and explore future options.

There are a significant range of funding sources and mechanisms which can be used to support investment in green spaces. Funding sources can be divided into three broad areas:

- Local Authority (and other landowner) capital and maintenance budgets.
- Developers Contributions - through the planning system, it is possible to secure investment in green spaces through planning agreements which meet the community infrastructure requirements

of new developments (see Recommendation 7 above).

- **Grant funding - grant-based funding sources are numerous and diverse. Some sources of funding are area-based such as the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund which targets the UK's most deprived neighbourhoods while others, such as the Football Foundation, are activity-specific. Other major funding sources include the Big Lottery Fund, the Stronger Safer Communities Fund, Landfill Tax and various schemes supported by private business.**
- **In many cases, securing grant funding may be dependent on the following:**
 - **demonstrating community involvement and benefit;**
 - **creating employment and training opportunities; and**
 - **securing match funding from the Council.**

One of the initial key tasks for the strategy co-ordinator would be to develop a funding strategy to explore all of the above issues.



4 Action Plan

The following pages set out an initial Action Plan, to 2008, for implementing the Green Space Strategy against the three core aims and the twenty recommendations.

The list of actions and target dates is indicative and may be subject to change. In some cases, action towards implementing the recommendations has already commenced and this is indicated in the tables overleaf.

The Action Plan will be developed and reviewed regularly as part of the strategy monitoring and review process.

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
MEETING NEEDS	Agree and adopt minimum quantity and accessibility standards for public parks and green spaces	Issue draft strategy for consultation	Completed		
		Review existing quantity standards	Ongoing	RCBC Planning Policy and Health & Well-Being	Sport & Leisure Needs Assessment
		Research and agree, if appropriate, minimum standards for the provision of natural and semi-natural spaces	2007	RCBC Planning Policy	
	Ensure that everyone has access to adequate provision of different types of green space	Identify, in accordance with agreed local standards, shortfalls in each type of green space and opportunities to address them, including the improvement of strategic green routes	2007	RCBC Planning Policy, Health & Well-Being and Parks & Countryside	Playing Pitch Assessment Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan
		Begin pursuing remediation through the options of: a) additional provision; b) diversification of existing spaces, and c) re-use of any surplus spaces	2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	Playing Pitch Assessment
	Ensure that everyone has access to adequate provision of sports pitches	Agree and commence implementation of the recommendations of the 2005 Playing Pitch Assessment relating to pitch provision	2006	RCBC Parks & Countryside and Health & Well-Being	Playing Pitch Assessment

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
MEETING NEEDS	Protect and develop the borough's green infrastructure network	Identify and begin pursuing opportunities to improve linkages between sites and between residential areas and the countryside	2006	RCBC Parks & Countryside	Local Transport Plan Countryside Strategy Tees Forest Plan Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan
	Protect valuable green spaces from development	Incorporate policies in the LDF which safeguard valuable green spaces	2007	RCBC Planning Policy	Local Development Framework
	Ensure that the disposal of any surplus green spaces includes mitigation measures to support improvements to green space	Begin identifying any surplus spaces based on outcome of Green Space Local Needs Assessment and Sports & Leisure Needs Assessment	2006	RCBC Planning Policy, Parks & Countryside, Health & Well-Being and Chief Executive's	Playing Pitch Assessment RCBC Asset Review Sports & Leisure Needs Assessment
	Ensure that provision of green space in new housing developments meets agreed minimum local standards and developers contribute to future maintenance costs	Agree mitigation programme for each surplus site (e.g. investment in other sites)	2007	RCBC Planning Policy, Parks & Countryside and Health & Well-Being	Playing Pitch Assessment Sports & Leisure Needs Assessment
		Prepare Supplementary Planning Document as part of LDF	2007	RCBC Planning Policy	Local Development Framework

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
MEETING NEEDS	Support the provision of additional and replacement trees in urban areas	Commence implementation of 'Green Streets' initiative	2006	RCBC Parks & Countryside & Tees Forest	Tree and Woodland Strategy
		Begin developing policies and programmes to support further investment	2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	Tree and Woodland Strategy
ENHANCING QUALITY	Agree and adopt minimum quality standards for public parks and green spaces	Issue draft strategy for consultation	Completed		
		Research and agree, if appropriate, minimum quality standards for natural and semi-natural spaces	2007	RCBC Planning Policy and Parks & Countryside Tees Valley Wildlife Trust English Nature	
		Agree 1st tranche priority sites and explore investment, funding and delivery options	2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	
		Commence delivery of 1st tranche improvement projects	2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	

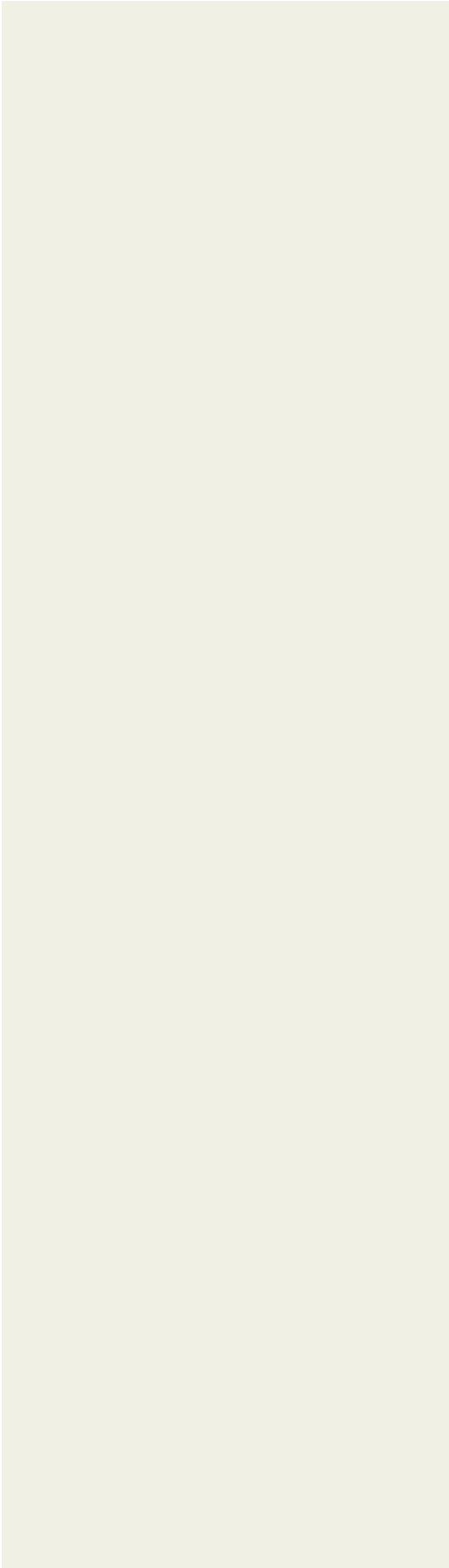
AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
ENHANCING QUALITY	Ensure all parks and green spaces of 0.1 hectares and above achieve minimum quality standards within 10 years	Pursue Green Flag status for Saltburn Valley Gardens and for the other two country parks at Normanby and Guisborough	In progress (achieved for Saltburn Valley Gardens)	RCBC Parks & Countryside	
		Seek funding to support proposals to improve Locke Park	In progress	RCBC & partners	
	Carry out an audit of public green spaces of less than 0.1 hectares	Agree 2nd tranche priority sites and explore investment, funding and delivery options for each site	2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	
		Identify and survey and record sites	2008	RCBC & partners	
	Improve the quality of sports pitches	Agree and adopt revised quality standards	2006	RCBC Planning Policy and Health & Well-Being	Playing Pitch Assessment Sport & Leisure Needs Assessment
		Agree and commence improvement programme as recommended in the Playing Pitch Assessment	2007	RCBC Planning Policy and Health & Well-Being	Playing Pitch Assessment Sport & Leisure Needs Assessment

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES	
ENHANCING QUALITY	Prepare an allotments strategy	Carry out a local needs assessment of RCBC allotment provision	From 2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside		
		Develop working relationships with other allotment providers and owners	From 2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside		
	Prepare management plans for major parks and cemeteries	Complete management plan for Saltburn Valley Gardens	Completed			
		Begin preparing management plans for other major sites	2007	RCBC & partners		
	Ensure countryside sites meet agreed minimum standards within 10 years	Undertake audits of quality, quantity and accessibility and identify priorities		2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	
			Develop and agree minimum standards	2008	RCBC Parks & Countryside	
		Develop site management plans and commence improvement programme		2009	RCBC Parks & Countryside	

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
<p>ENHANCING QUALITY</p>	<p>Enhance biodiversity throughout the borough</p>	<p>Deliver training and awareness programme to ground maintenance staff and implement maintenance regimes which encourage biodiversity</p>	<p>2006</p>	<p>RCBC Parks & Countryside</p>	
		<p>Extend eco-schools programme to promote biodiversity, community involvement and environmental improvement</p>	<p>2006</p>	<p>Groundwork Trust</p>	
		<p>Agree priorities and implementation plan to enhance selected major sites</p>	<p>2006</p>	<p>RCBC Parks & Countryside / Tees Valley Wildlife Trust</p>	
		<p>Develop work to improve biodiversity on highway verges</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>RCBC Parks & Countryside</p>	
		<p>Incorporate relevant biodiversity policies and objectives from Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan into quality standards and implementation plans</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>RCBC Parks & Countryside / Tees Valley Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan</p>

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
INVOLVING PEOPLE	Improve the quality of green routes	Develop and implement programme to enhance network of strategic urban - rural and intra - urban green corridors, linked to improvements to footpath and cycle - path routes	In progress	RCBC Parks & Countryside and Highways & Transportation	Local Transport Plan Countryside Strategy Tees Forest Plan
	Ensure local communities and local interest groups are fully involved in delivering the Green Space Strategy	Expand GSS Stakeholder Group (to include, e.g. community representatives and environmental groups) to oversee strategy implementation, monitoring and review	2007	RCBC Parks & Countryside	Community Enhancement Forum; Community Network
	Ensure local communities and local interest groups are fully involved in delivering the Green Space Strategy	Promote community participation in the site improvement programme and develop support to community groups	In progress	RCBC Parks & Countryside	
		Promote community management of public green spaces through the delivery of a training and educational programme	In progress	RCBC Parks & Countryside and Groundwork Trust	
		Extend school involvement in the improvement of public green spaces	In progress	RCBC & partners	
		Ensure co-operation and co-ordination between different Council departments and other landowners in the maintenance and improvement of green spaces	From 2006	RCBC RCBC Parks & Countryside Coast & Country Housing	

AIM	RECOMMENDATIONS	PRIORITY ACTIONS	TARGET DATES	LEAD ACTOR(S)	RELATED STRATEGIES
INVOLVING PEOPLE	Increase awareness of the value and significance of green space	Work with stakeholders and partner organisations to develop an employment / volunteer training programme for green space enhancement	In progress	RCBC Parks & Countryside Groundwork Trust Wildlife Trust	Routes to Employment Strategy
		Develop events programme to encourage increased use of sites and networks for sports, health promotion activities etc.	In progress	RCBC & partners	Physical Activity Strategy
		Develop education programme with youth and community groups to address problems of misuse.	From 2007	RCBC & partners	
STRATEGY DELIVERY	Ensure that the Green Space Strategy is delivered in accordance with agreed aims, recommendations and actions	Appoint 'Strategy Co-ordinator' to oversee implementation of projects, co-ordinate funding and budgets, undertake monitoring and review.	2007	Director of Area Management	
		Develop a funding strategy to support the implementation of the Green Space Strategy	2007	Strategy Co-ordinator (RCBC Parks & Countryside)	



Appendix 1

Glossary

Acknowledgements

Contacts

Useful Related Documents

Glossary

What we mean by the following:

Biodiversity Audit - An audit of the level of biodiversity of certain sites in the borough.

Community Safety Strategy - A strategy which seeks to reduce crime and disorder and improve the perception of community safety.

Community Strategy - Identifies six main priorities to improve quality of life in the borough.

Green Corridor - Footpaths, bridleways and cycle routes which can link residential areas, green spaces and the countryside and attract wildlife into built-up areas.

Green Flag Award - A quality award for green spaces given by the Civic Trust, for spaces that meet specific criteria to demonstrate they are well maintained, welcoming and part of the community.

Green Infrastructure - The network of open spaces, waterways, woodlands, green routes, street trees, open countryside and coastal areas within and between our urban areas.

Green Routes - Accessible paths used by pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.

Green Spaces Assessment quality and quantity assessments of green spaces in the borough.

Hectare (Ha) - Unit of metric measurement equivalent to 100 x 100 metres (about 2.5 acres) used to measure land area.

Horticulture - Care and knowledge of plants and gardening.

Housing Strategy - A strategy prepared by the Council and its partners which sets out priorities for improving housing in Redcar and Cleveland to ensure housing provision meets community needs and aspirations.

Landscape Character Assessment - Identifies and describes the different rural landscapes of Redcar & Cleveland outside the National Park.

Local Nature Reserve - An area of land protected for wildlife and used by the community, declared by the Council and English Nature.

Local Transport Plan - Sets out strategies to address the regeneration and transport shared priorities that have been agreed between central and local government.

LSP (Local Strategic Partnership) - Established in 1998 to bring together at local level key public voluntary sector agencies, private sector organizations and community groups to improve the quality of life for the people in Redcar and Cleveland.

Management plans - A detailed description of how a site should be maintained, managed and improved, including a timetable.

Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy - A strategy to tackle hardship in the poorest areas of Redcar & Cleveland.

Obesity Strategy - A strategy to tackle obesity in Redcar and Cleveland prepared by Langbaugh Primary Care Trust.

Physical Activity Strategy and Action Plan - A strategy outlining how the Council is going to make sure people have the opportunity to improve their quality of life by becoming more active.

Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (PPG 17): Planning for Open Playing Pitch Assessment - Government guidance providing planning policies and advice for open space, sport and recreation.

Play Strategy (Draft) - Strategy to provide quality and accessible play opportunities which offer variety, adventure and stimulus in an environment where children and young people can choose to play freely and safely.

Policy - A way of guiding decision making by setting ground rules and direction.

Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan - Plan which will set out a framework for managing local rights of way in order to provide better facilities for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

Redcar and Cleveland Local Development Framework - The vision, strategy and policies for the future planning and development of Redcar and Cleveland to 2021.

Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan June 1999 - Contains detailed policies to guide conservation and development in the borough (excluding areas in the national park) to 2006.

Routes to Employment

Initiative which assists unemployed residents in seeking training, employment or vocational education.

Rural Strategy for East Cleveland - Identifies the issues that matter to rural people the most, and looks to the future.

Shoreline Management Plan - Defines policies on the future management of the coastline between the River Tyne and Flamborough Head, over the next 100 years, taking into account the influences and needs of the built and natural environment.

Sport and Leisure Needs Assessment (at preparation stage) - Will provide an updated assessment of community needs for sport and recreation facilities.

Sustainable Communities - Places where people want to live and work, now and in the future.

Sustainable Environment Strategy 2006-2021 (Draft) - Strategy, policies and actions developed by the Council and its partners, to raise awareness, change behaviour and deliver environmental improvement across the borough

Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan - Promotes action to improve habitats and sites for particular species.

Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy - Provides guidance for the enhancement of the natural environment at key strategic locations around the Tees Valley sub-region.

Tree and Woodland Strategy (Draft) - Will develop a programme for the long term management of the borough's stock of trees and woodlands.

Acknowledgements

Urban Design Guidelines - Provides a framework for maintaining and raising environmental and design quality in Redcar & Cleveland.

We are very grateful to everybody who has given advice throughout the preparation of this Strategy. We have listed those individuals and organisations that deserve particular credit for their vision to enhance and protect green spaces within the borough of Redcar and Cleveland for everybody to enjoy.

The Green Space Stakeholder Group was led by the Planning Policy Team at Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council and involved Simon Blenkinsop, Dennis Demoily, Ged Demoily, Claire Gallagher, Jeremy Garside, Rosemary Kidd, Rob Lunan, Mark Mein, Albert Muckley, Neil Russell, Brian Spink, Councillor Bob Stanway, Paul Taylor, Kevin Wilson and John Woods.

Contacts

Special thanks to:

Coast & Country Housing
Groundwork South Tees
Helen Farrar, CabeSpace
Mike Kipling Photography
Sustrans
Tees Forest
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust

Any comments or questions about this Green Space Strategy can be made as follows:

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TS14 7FD

By phone:

08456 126126

Via email:

contact_us@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Useful related documents

CABE (2003): Green Space Strategies: A Good Practice Guide

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (2002): Quality Spaces, Quality Places - A Greenspace Strategy for Doncaster

Newcastle City Council (April 2004) Green spaces... your spaces: Newcastle's Green Space Strategy

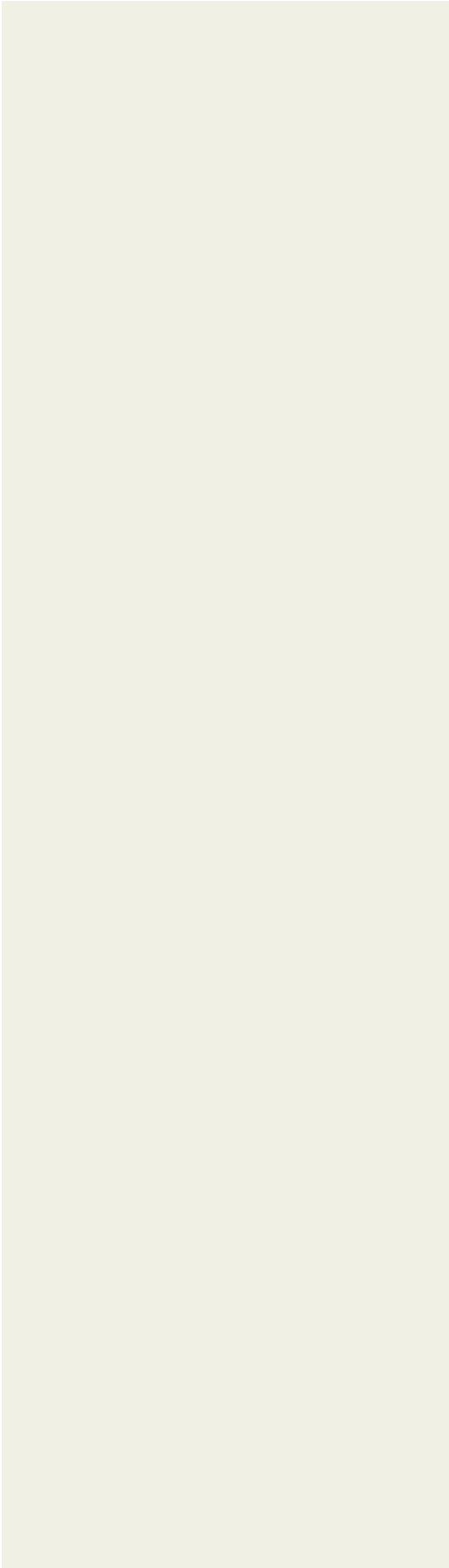
Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (2002): Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation.

Redcar & Cleveland Green Space Strategy
Background Paper: Quality Assessment

Redcar & Cleveland Green Space Strategy
Background Paper:
Quantity & Accessibility Assessment

Redcar & Cleveland Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Development Plan Document - Submission (May 2006)
(available at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/ldf)

Redcar & Cleveland Local Development Framework: Development Policies Development Plan Document - Submission (May 2006)
(available at www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/ldf)





Appendix 2

Maps

Map 1: Outline of Redcar and Cleveland AEC*

Map 2: Green Spaces in ONE AEC

Map 3: Green Spaces in GaTeS AEC

Map 4: Green Spaces in Redcar AEC

Map 5: Green Spaces in East Cleveland AEC

Map 6: Green Spaces in Kilton AEC

Map 7: Green Spaces in Guisborough AEC

Map 8: Areas within 5 minutes walk of a green space of less than 2Ha

Map 9: Areas within 10 minutes walk of a green space of greater than 2 Ha and areas within 15 minutes walk of a Strategic Park

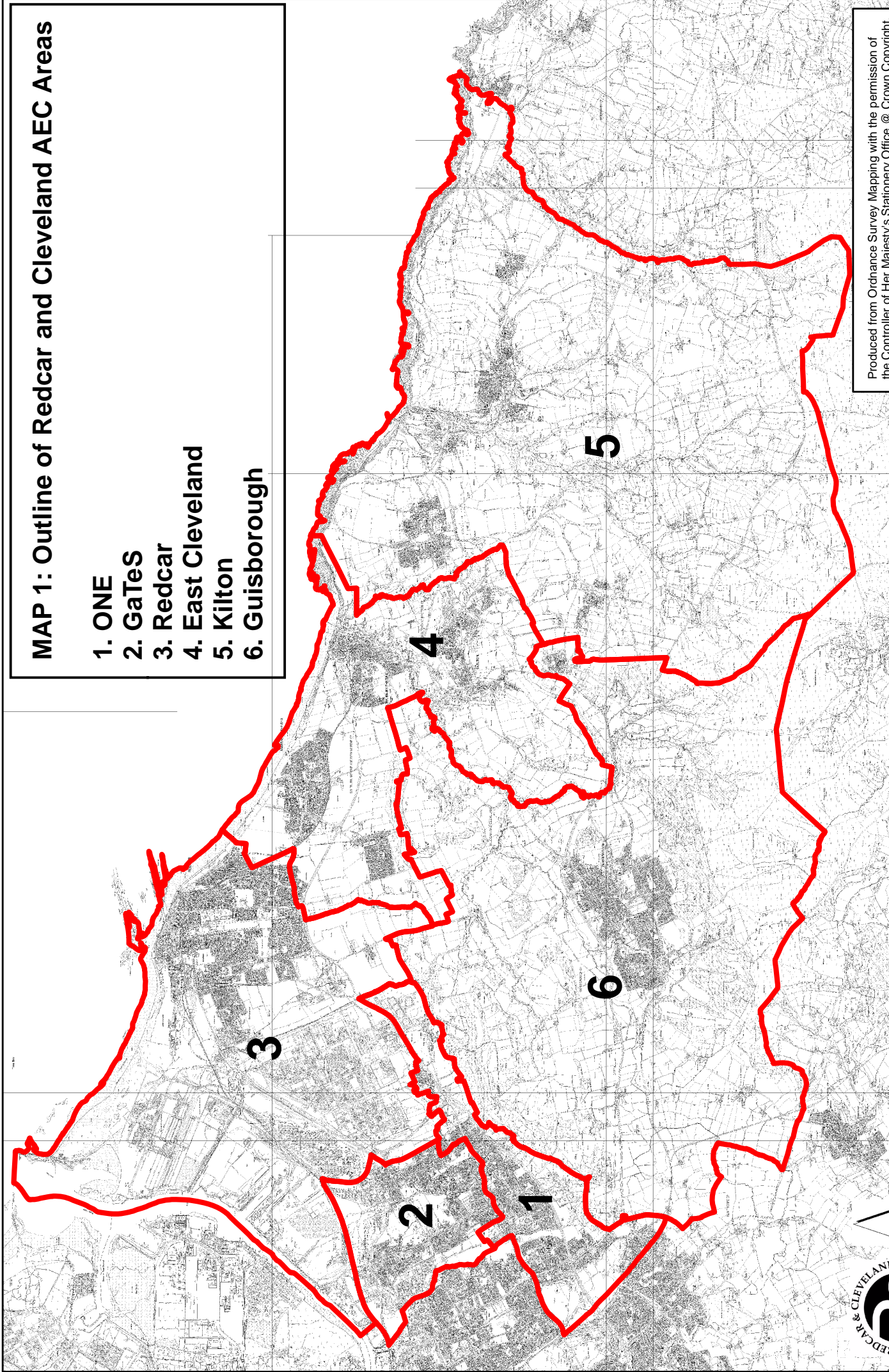
Map 10: All areas within the catchment of at least one of the surveyed green spaces

Map 11: Green Routes including potential improvement opportunities

*The Council's Area Management Department has the responsibility for the maintenance and provision of public green space and delivers its services through six Area Environment Committees (AECs).

MAP 1: Outline of Redcar and Cleveland AEC Areas

- 1. ONE
- 2. GaTeS
- 3. Redcar
- 4. East Cleveland
- 5. Kilton
- 6. Guisborough

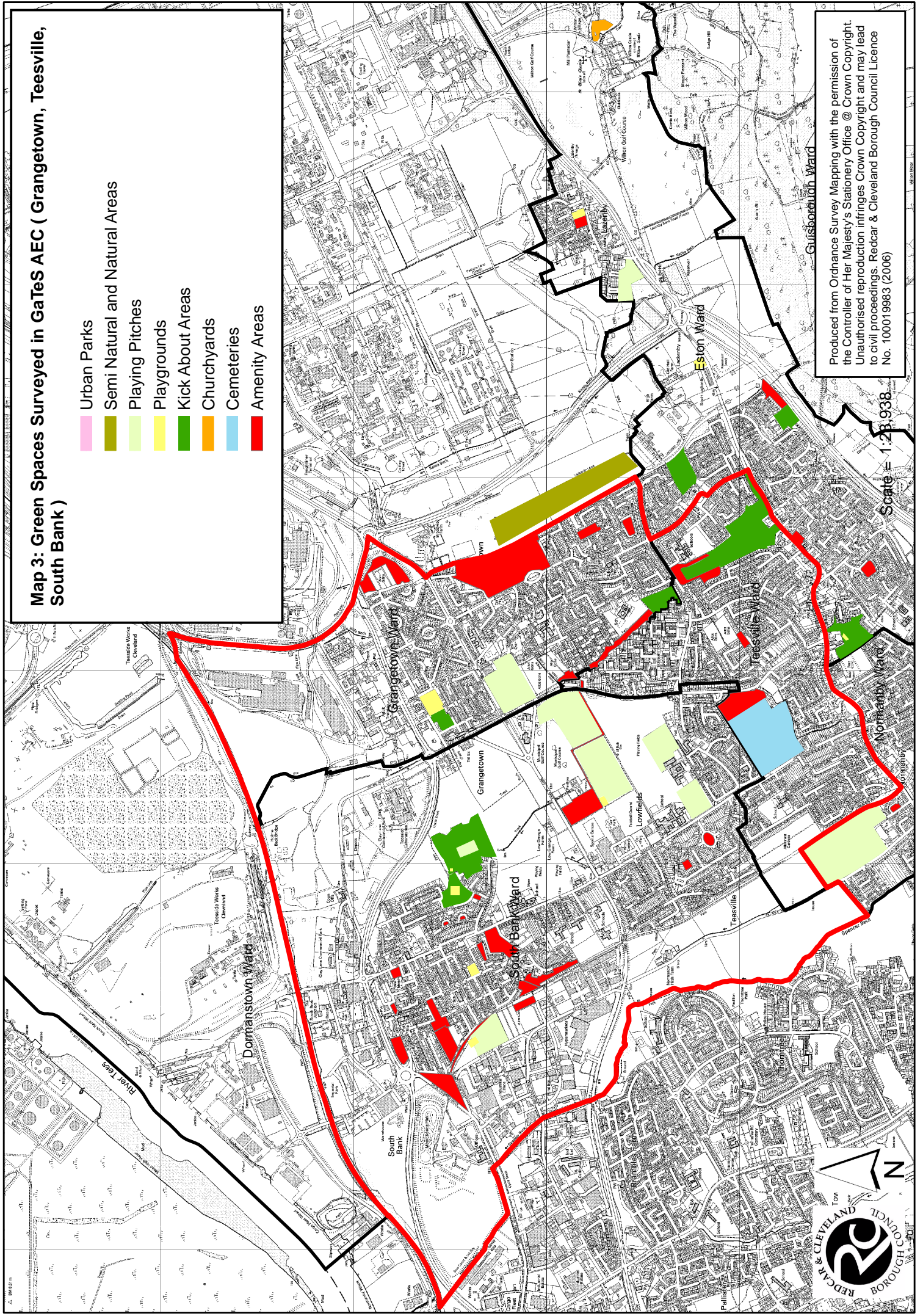


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Scale = 1:101,527

Map 3: Green Spaces Surveyed in GaTeS AEC (Grangetown, Teesville, South Bank)

- Urban Parks
- Semi Natural and Natural Areas
- Playing Pitches
- Playgrounds
- Kick About Areas
- Churchyards
- Cemeteries
- Amenity Areas



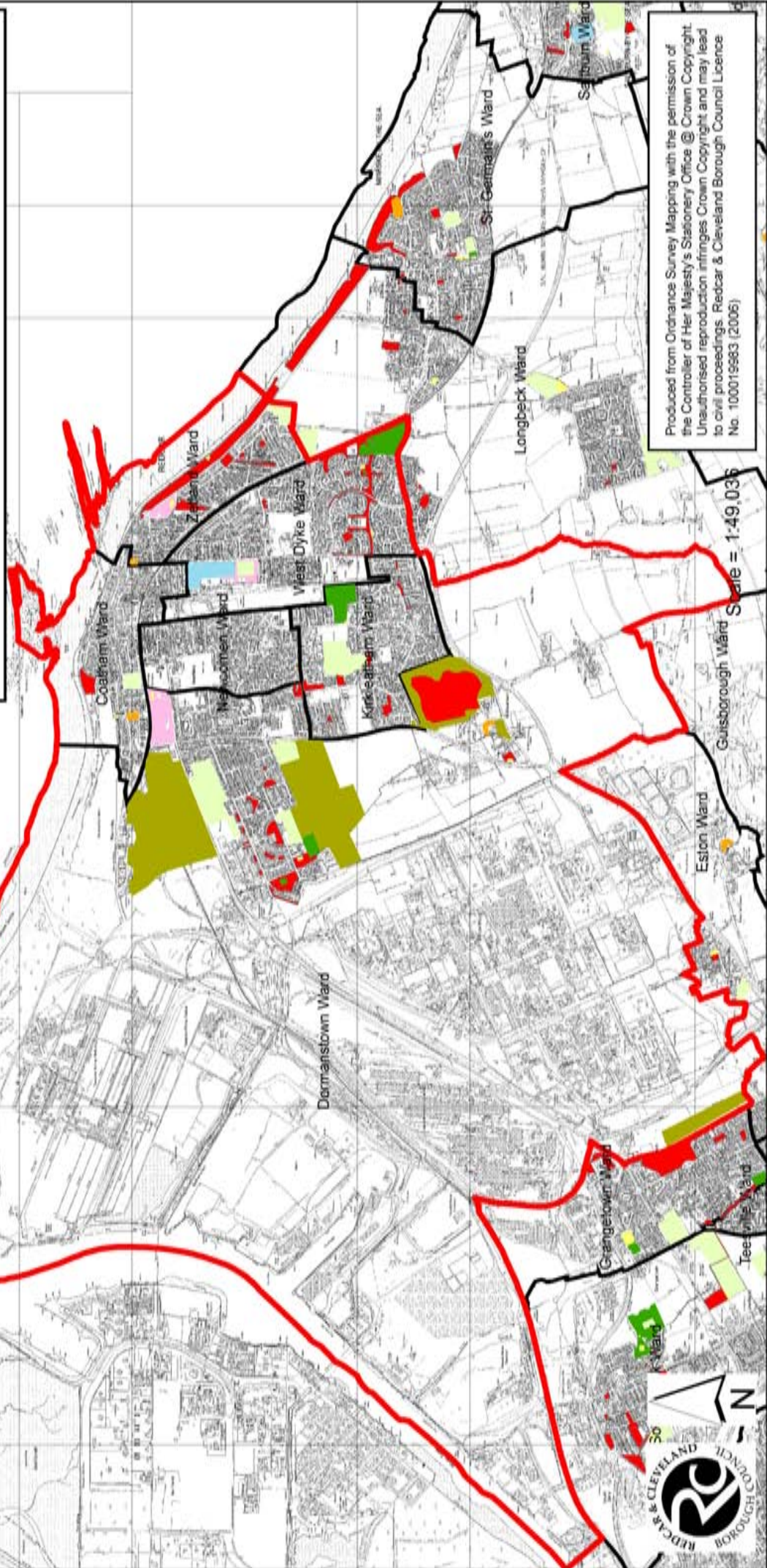
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Map 4: Green Spaces Surveyed in Redcar AEC (Wards: Coatham, Dormanstown, Kirkleatham, Newcomen, West Dyke, Zetland)

- Urban Parks
- Semi Natural and Natural Areas
- Playing Pitches
- Playgrounds
- Kick About Areas
- Churchyards
- Cemeteries
- Amenity Areas



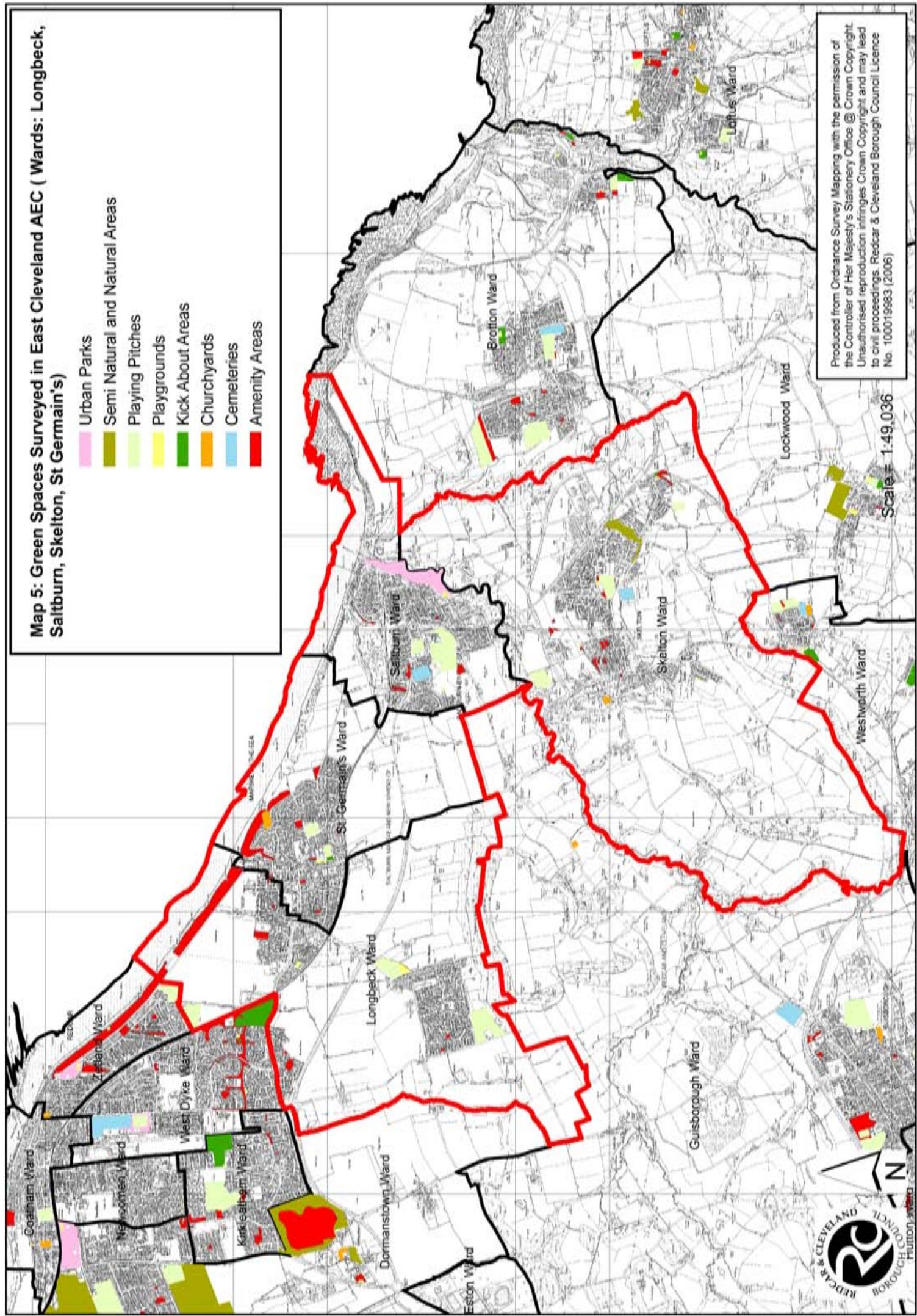
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Map 5: Green Spaces Surveyed in East Cleveland AEC (Wards: Longbeck, Saltburn, Skelton, St Germain's)

- Urban Parks
- Semi Natural and Natural Areas
- Playing Pitches
- Playgrounds
- Kick About Areas
- Churchyards
- Cemeteries
- Amenity Areas



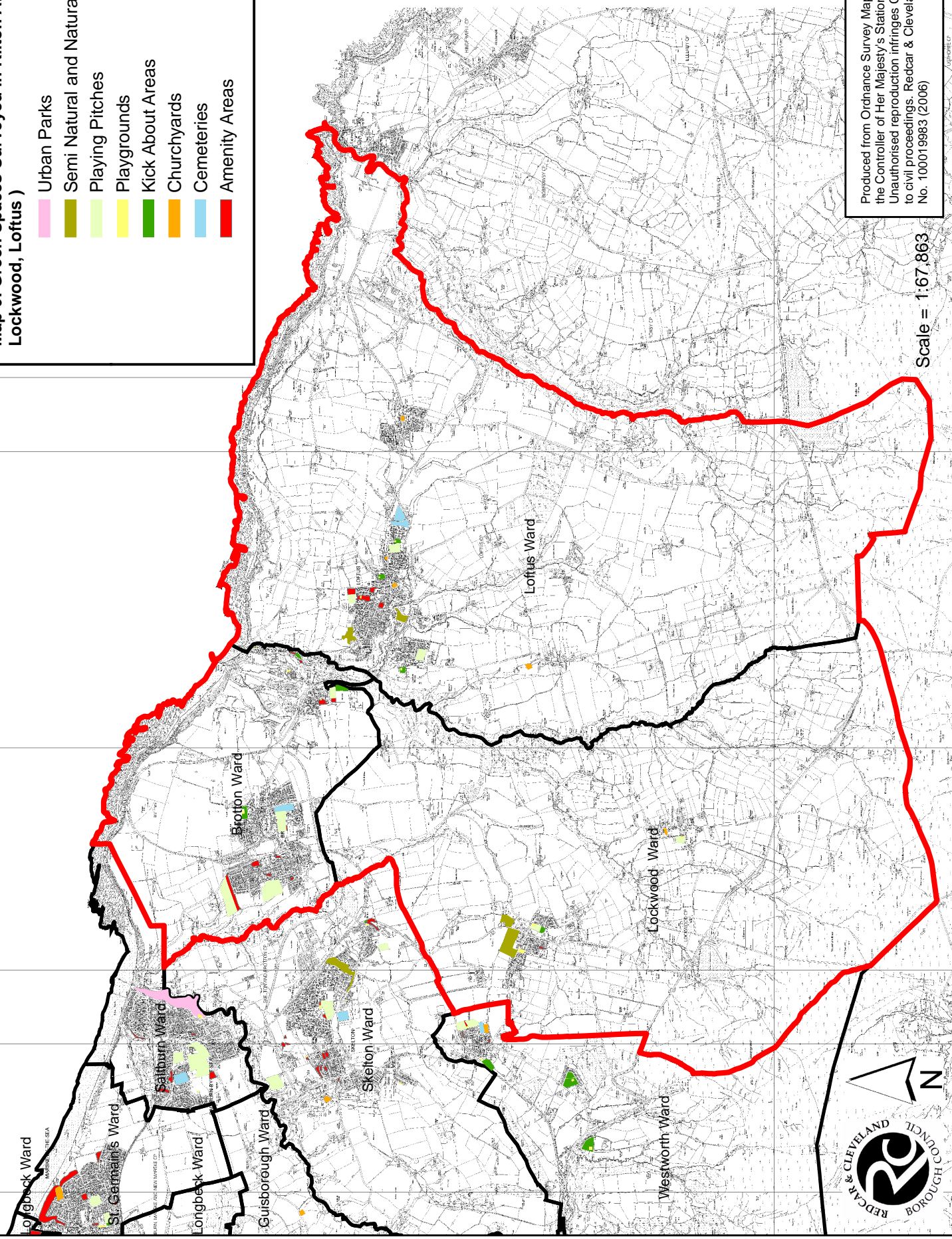
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Scale = 1:49,036



Map 6: Green Spaces Surveyed in Kilton AEC (Wards: Brotton, Lockwood, Loftus)

-  Urban Parks
-  Semi Natural and Natural Areas
-  Playing Pitches
-  Playgrounds
-  Kick About Areas
-  Churchyards
-  Cemeteries
-  Amenity Areas



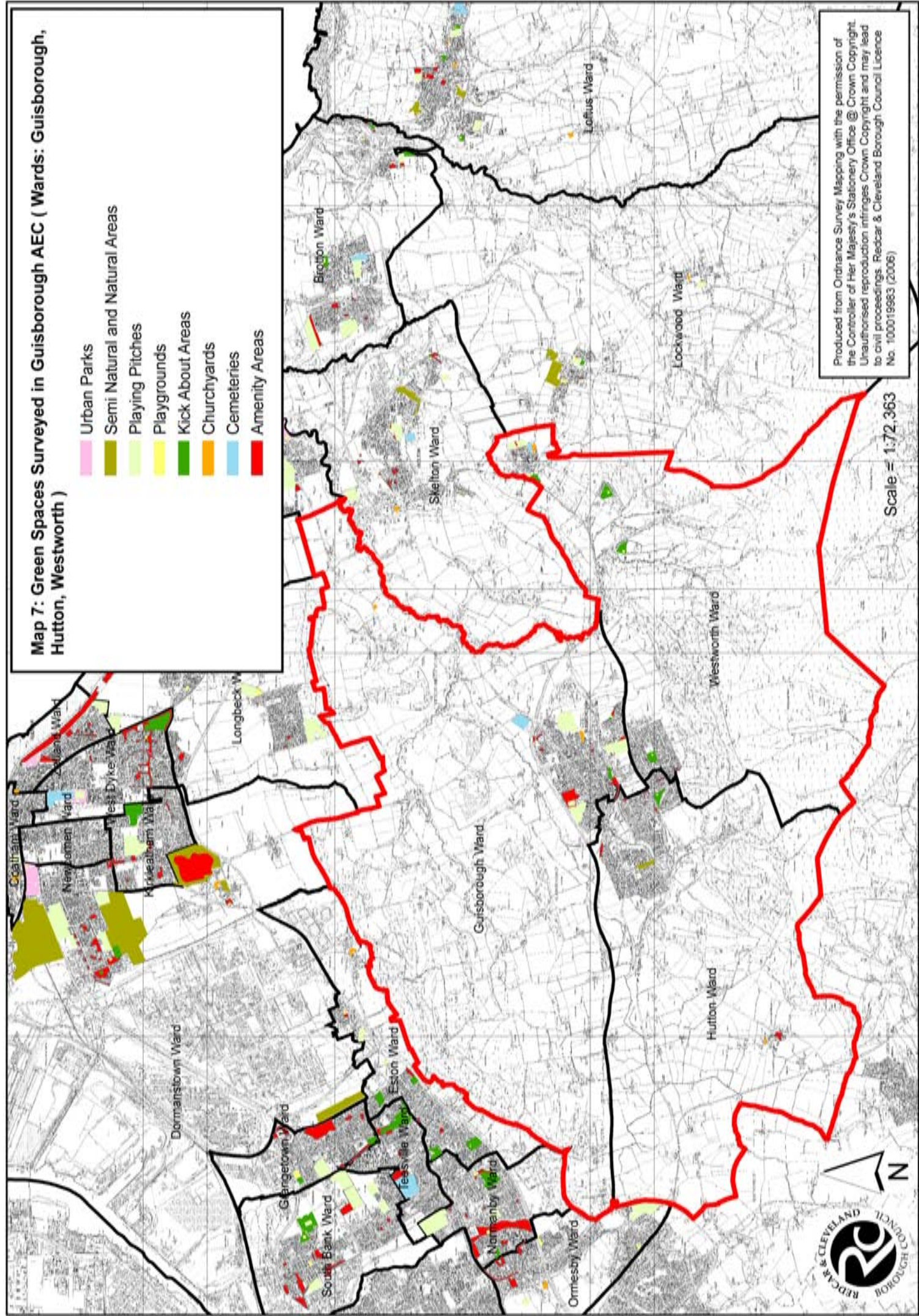
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Map 7: Green Spaces Surveyed in Guisborough AEC (Wards: Guisborough, Hutton, Westworth)

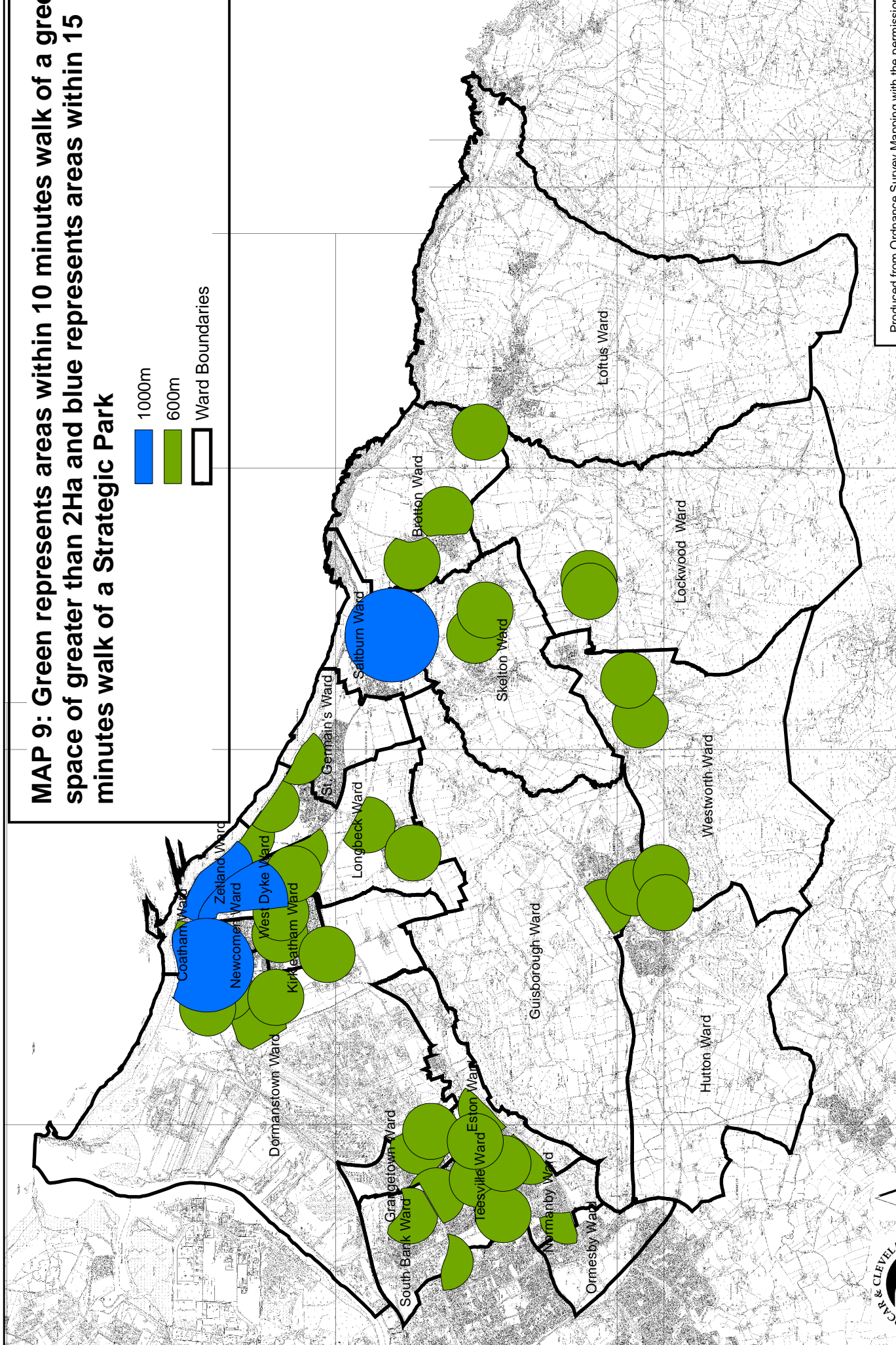
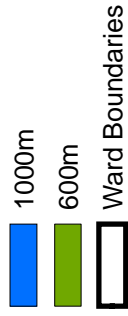
- Urban Parks
- Semi Natural and Natural Areas
- Playing Pitches
- Playgrounds
- Kick About Areas
- Churchyards
- Cemeteries
- Amenity Areas



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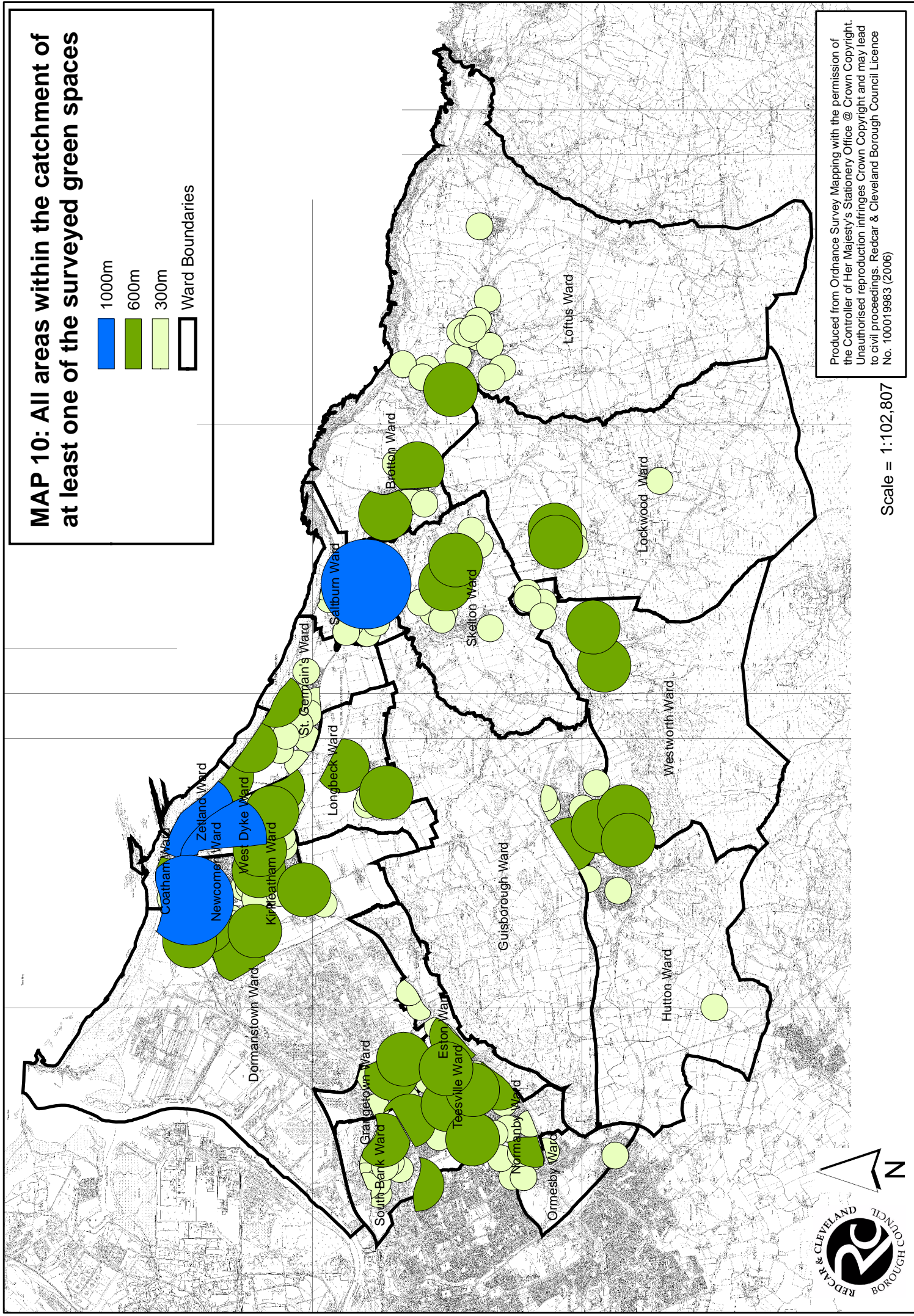
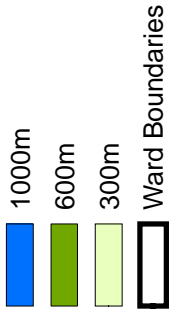
MAP 9: Green represents areas within 10 minutes walk of a green space of greater than 2Ha and blue represents areas within 15 minutes walk of a Strategic Park



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MAP 10: All areas within the catchment of at least one of the surveyed green spaces









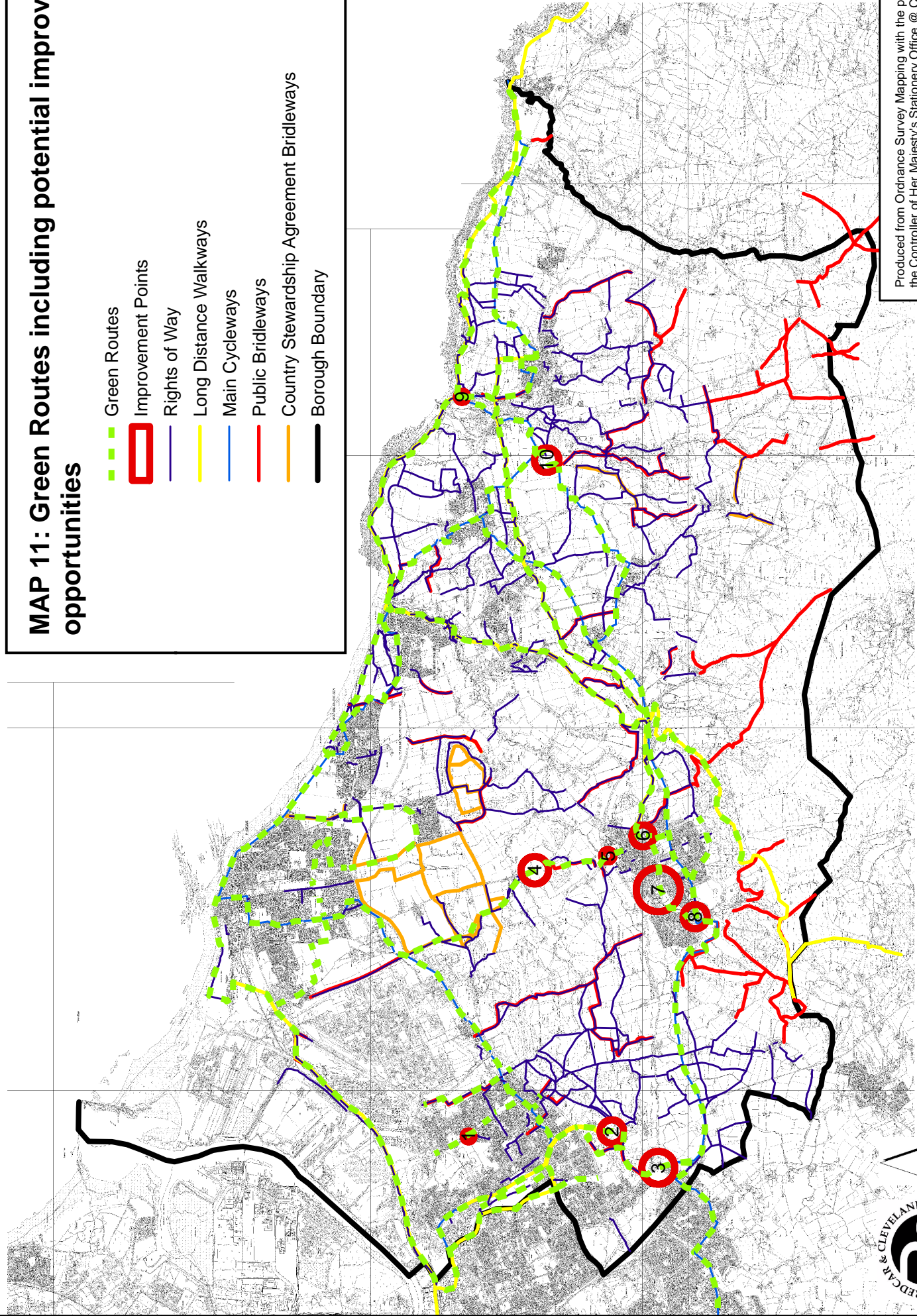
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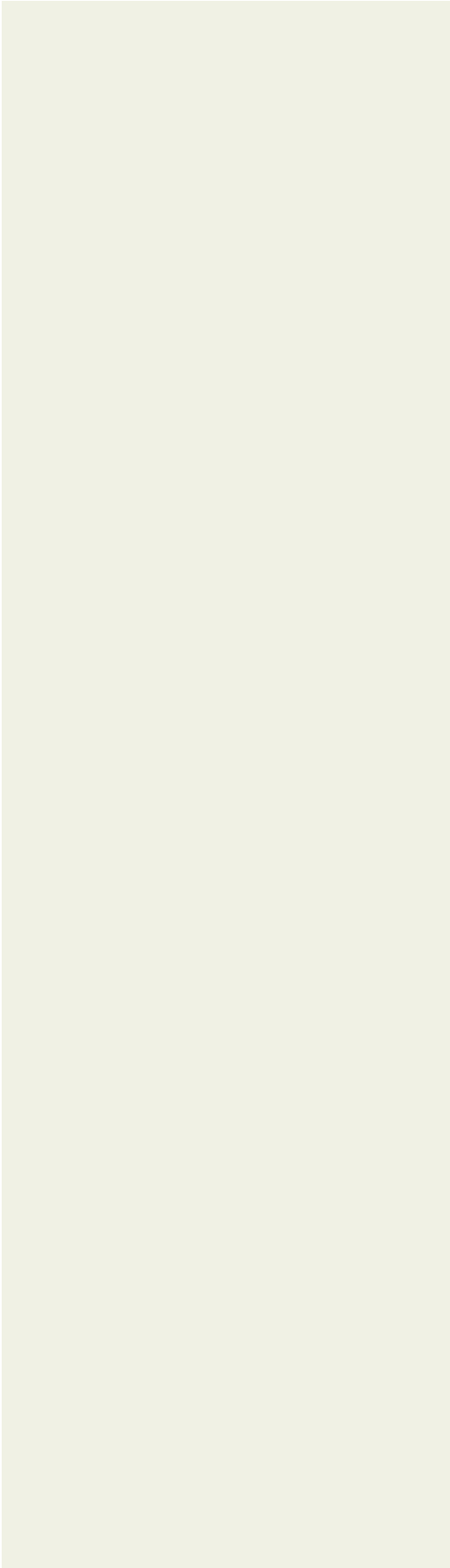
MAP 11: Green Routes including potential improvement opportunities

-  Green Routes
-  Improvement Points
-  Rights of Way
-  Long Distance Walkways
-  Main Cycleways
-  Public Bridleways
-  Country Stewardship Agreement Bridleways
-  Borough Boundary



Scale = 1:110,475

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Quality Spaces for People and Places





Acknowledgements: Mike Kipling Photography, Tees Forest, Sustrans

This information is available on request in other languages, in Braille, on tape and in Large Print. For further information contact 08456 126 126.

يمكن الحصول على هذه المعلومات، عند طلبها، بلغات أخرى أو بلغة بريل أو على شريط صوتي أو بخط كبير. لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل بـ 08456 126 126.

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Bi daxwazê va ev agahî bi zimanên din, bi Braille*, li ser kasetan û bi Tîp û Herfên Mezin heye. Ji bo bêtir agahî, peywendî bi telefona 08456 126 126 dahînin.

Braille*(şiklê ko kesê nikarin baş bibînin dikarin pê bixwînin)

ئەگەر داواکەرت، دەتوانیت ئەم زانیارییانه بە زمانەکانی تر، بە بریل (شتیوای نووسینی نابینا)، لەسەر شریتی دەنگ یان بە جایی بیتی گەورە، دابین بکۆین. بۆ زانیاری زیاتر تکایە پەیوەندی بە ژمارە 08456 126 126 بکە.

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