



Redcar & Cleveland Public Open Space Assessment Report

April 2016



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Executive Summary

Background

- ES1 This report summarises a recently completed assessment of public open space in the borough. The work has been undertaken in-house and will form part of the evidence base supporting the forthcoming Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan. The assessment provides the basis for, and sets out in draft, policies to support the protection of valuable public green spaces and, based on a review of minimum standards, inform the case for new provision or for rationalisation where appropriate.
- ES2 The majority of publicly accessible green and open spaces in and around the residential areas of the borough are owned and maintained either by Redcar & Cleveland Council (“the Council”) or Coast and Country Housing. There are also spaces which are owned or managed by town and parish councils, charitable trusts and local voluntary groups.
- ES3 It is essential that the local plan includes effective policies which can enable the sustainable provision of attractive, safe and well-used open spaces which meet local needs across the borough both now and into the future. In practice this inevitably involves achieving an appropriate balance between supply and quality. At the same time, making the most of existing open space resources can help to meet a range of needs which in turn can enhance value, utility and potentially the quality of individual spaces.
- ES4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires that local plans should be founded on a strong evidence base, and in that regard Paragraph 73 advises: *‘planning policies for open space, sport and recreation should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments which identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses and should be used to determine provision requirements’*.
- ES5 Open space planning policies are currently set out in the and in the Development Policies Development Plan Document (July 2007) in relation to the protection of open spaces and in the Developer Contributions SPD (December 2014), which includes locally-derived minimum quality, quantity and accessibility provision standards for ‘generic’ spaces (parks and amenity areas, younger children’s play areas and provision for teenagers and older children).
- ES6 This study complements, and needs to be considered alongside the Council’s Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy which were updated in 2015.

Scope

- ES7 The assessment covers accessible and usable spaces which are either within or adjacent to residential areas, are publically available during daylight hours and are free to use at the point of entry. The study has therefore focussed primarily on the following ‘types’ of space: residential amenity areas, formal parks, urban woodlands and other natural areas, equipped play areas, provision for older children and teenagers (including public sports pitch areas also used by adults) and civic hard spaces. It is recognised that cemeteries, churchyards and allotments are also important urban greenspace resources, but they are more specialised areas and the need for allotment and burial plots is already subject to ongoing monitoring.
- ES8 It was not realistically feasible to assess all sites which could conceivably meet the above parameters. A minimum size standard of 0.1 hectares was therefore generally applied; the main exception to this being equipped play areas, a few of which fall below the threshold but clearly have some community value. The same approach was taken in earlier assessments and therefore provided an instant dataset for review and analysis and ensured that the overwhelming majority of usable spaces would

be captured in the audits, though it is recognised that there are other, smaller amenity areas which may also benefit residential amenity.

ES9 The study has assessed sites borough-wide – including a small number of spaces which fall inside the North York Moors National Park at Easington, Charlton’s and Pinchinthorpe. The National Park Authority and not Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council is the local planning authority for those areas. As such, planning policy recommendations emerging from this assessment would not be applicable to those sites or areas, and any other relevant issues would need to be dealt with through the Local Plan for the North York Moors.

Methodology

ES10 The assessment was undertaken in accordance with published guidance and comprised the following elements:

- *Quality Audit:* to assess the condition of all identified spaces against a range of indicators under five themes: appearance, accessibility, security, facilities and biodiversity and score them accordingly.
- *Quantity Audit:* to consider the range and distribution of spaces between and within settlements and neighbourhoods.
- *Accessibility Audit:* linked to the quantity audit, to consider accessibility to different types of spaces based on notional walking times and distance catchments.
- *Needs Consultation Survey:* to gauge public satisfaction levels concerning quality, quantity and accessibility of different types of open space, principally via a questionnaire survey.
- *Further Analysis* to identify key findings, examine consultation feedback, and assess policy options.

ES11 The survey stage involved reviewing existing data, adding in new spaces and removing discontinued sites. Observational site surveys were supported by desk-based analysis as necessary. Quantity and accessibility audits were completed using assembled data and subject to analysis at different spatial levels. Public consultation was undertaken in summer 2015 primarily via a questionnaire surveys using the Council’s Viewfinder portal. The audit and consultation findings were compared, and considered against current open space standards and alternatives to identify the most appropriate policy options.

ES12 To develop the assessment, the primary purpose of each site was identified with distinctions made between generic green spaces, natural areas and civic hard spaces. In the accessibility audit, a site hierarchy was developed with each generic space afforded a status category (strategic, neighbourhood, local or doorstep space) to reflect its size and significance. Indicative walking distances were applied to strategic, neighbourhood and local spaces (1.6km, 800m and 400m respectively); doorstep spaces were excluded as these sites tend to be incidental spaces with limited community relevance beyond the immediate residential properties.

ES13 In assessing quality, sites were rated from 1 to 5 against each relevant quality indicator but as larger or multi-functional sites were inevitably assessed against more indicators, the results were also converted into percentage scores to assist the analysis.

ES14 The study assessed 222 sites covering an estimated total land area of 687 hectares (ha.). The sites varied significantly in terms of size and functionality, ranging from small amenity areas to large multi-purpose parks and neighbourhood spaces. Most sites are relatively small, with a median average size of 0.7ha. A large proportion (54%) were identified as amenity spaces and within the site hierarchy over 80% were identified as either doorstep or local spaces, though they accounted for less than 25% of the estimated land area.

ES15 The vast majority of spaces were included in the previous assessment. A few new sites have become established since 2005 while some are no longer in use. The number of new spaces and land area exceeded that which has been lost, but this difference is negligible within the context of overall supply.

Quality Audit

ES16 Reflecting the wide range of assessed sites, the quality audit showed significant variations with absolute quality scores ranging from 20 to 114 and a median average of 50; percentage scores varied from 38% to 93% with a median average of 69%.

ES17 Despite such variations, the audit found some scope for improvement or enhancement in most cases, even on sites scoring highly in absolute and relative terms. It was also apparent that the majority of spaces were generally fit for purpose, though some sites – particularly informal ‘kick-about’ areas - were in a relatively poor condition.

ES18 Larger strategic sites with a range of infrastructure and tended to score highest. Lower scoring sites included some basic amenity areas and some larger spaces which tended to display a greater propensity to problems of dog fouling, littering and more serious anti-social behaviour. These larger low scoring sites were more likely to be in backland locations or on the edge of settlements and not well overlooked by property frontages or main roads.

ES19 Quality scores varied between and within settlements and neighbourhoods. Sites in more deprived areas tended to score lower than comparable spaces elsewhere, but even in lower scoring residential areas there were examples of higher scoring sites.

ES20 The surveys showed that since the 2005 audit some sites have undergone noticeable improvement, others have declined but the majority are in similar condition. More generally, noticeable changes include the increased use of ‘k’ barriers at entrance points (to combat the off-roading problem) and the spread of woodland planting areas on some larger sites.

Quantity Audit

ES21 The quantity audit estimated that overall supply was equivalent to 5.1 ha per ‘000 population. In terms of generic space (*i.e.* excluding civic spaces natural areas such as woodlands and wetlands), the recorded supply was equivalent to 3.3 ha per ‘000 population, which significantly exceeds the minimum local standard in the Developers Contributions SPD (1.2ha /‘000 population). While this does not imply that there is a surplus of space, it demonstrates that there may be potential for diversification or, if necessary, rationalisation of some spaces in order to support an improved offer.

ES22 The supply was shown to meet the stated minimum requirement in most areas, but the distribution of supply varies between settlements and neighbourhoods. Provision in and around public housing estates in terms of the number, size and range of sites is often more generous than in private suburban housing areas, though as the former tend to be developed at higher residential densities with less private garden space, comparative needs may also be greater. Lower density housing areas, often comprising larger or higher value properties and towards the edge of built-up areas, tend to have the least communal green space. In areas of tightly-developed terraced housing, having access to sufficient nearby space is a particularly significant consideration.

Accessibility Audit

ES23 The accessibility audit comprised a desk-based exercise involving the identification and GIS mapping to apply notional user distance catchments to identify any gaps in provision. A total of 125 sites were mapped, comprising 8 ‘strategic ‘spaces, 23 ‘neighbourhood’ spaces and 94 ‘local’ spaces. Sites

classed as natural and civic spaces, along with smaller, 'doorstep' spaces, were not mapped as the current local accessibility standard does not apply to them.

ES24 The audit found the vast majority of residents live within the notional catchment of at least one space. Mirroring the quantity audit however, the number and range of spaces falling within catchment varied.

Consultation Survey

ES25 The survey questionnaire yielded 325 responses, and provided a reasonable sample from which to analyse satisfaction levels overall, for different types of space and between localities. The survey comprised 16 questions, including core questions about the quantity, quality and accessibility of different types open spaces.

ES26 The survey asked participants whether there was a sufficient provision of different types of open space within their home locality. The majority of respondents indicated that supply was either about right, nearly enough or not enough. For amenity spaces, urban parks, civic spaces and, natural areas, the most popular answer was 'about right', though for natural areas and urban parks the percentage difference with the 'not enough' option was small.

ES27 For younger children's play areas, provision for teenagers and older children and sports pitches more respondents selected the 'not enough' option than 'about right'. The standout response here concerned teenage and older children's provision, where an overwhelming majority (73%) indicated that the level of supply was not enough.

ES28 Participants were asked to rate the overall quality of different types of open space. The dominant rating given was 'satisfactory', to varying degrees. The exception to this was in terms of provision for teenagers and older children, for which two-thirds of replies rated the quality of these sites as poor or very poor. These responses correspond to the relatively low overall quality rating emerging from the audit for some of these spaces. Equipped play areas received a relatively high proportion of poor ratings. The ratings for amenity spaces are particularly significant as these sites comprise the majority of open spaces in the assessment. Just under two thirds of responses rated them as satisfactory, good or very good, but a sizeable proportion gave a 'poor' quality rating; similar observations can be made about sports pitches and urban parks.

ES29 A follow-up question revealed the 79% of respondents felt that their local or preferred open space could be improved, which demonstrates that quality issues are highly significant.

ES30 Views were sought on walking times and preferred modes of transport in using different types of open spaces. In all cases, most respondents would expect to walk. In terms of travel times, the responses broadly reflected the open space hierarchy and justify the walking distance threshold assumptions used in the accessibility audit.

ES31 There was some variation in terms of both the residential location and age breakdown of respondents, which provides some context to the nature of the responses received. There was relatively a high rate of responses from Guisborough, Saltburn and Marske, and a healthy response rate from Redcar residents which accounted for over one-third of all replies - three times as many as Greater Eston which has a comparable population. There was a relatively low response from residents in Greater Eston, Skelton and Loftus.

ES32 Further analysis showed that a higher proportion of respondents also lived in areas of private suburban neighbourhoods - areas where public open space provision may be below average.

ES33 The survey also yielded a range of opinions and suggestions about general problems and issues, specific spaces and area priorities.

Further Analysis

- ES34 In some areas, the overall minimum quantitative standard of 1.2 ha. per '000 people may be satisfied, but the nature of that supply is imbalanced, with possible deficiencies in certain types of space, notably where the supply largely comprises general amenity space with limited facilities specifically targeting teenagers and older children.
- ES35 In light of the consultation survey responses, further analysis was undertaken specifically in relation to provision for teenagers and older children, and to play space for younger children.
- ES36 The audit identified 41 sites providing facilities teenagers and older children, whether as a primary or secondary use and they range from basic grassed playing fields generally suitable for formal and informal ball games, to more targeted facilities such as multi-use games areas (MUGAs), skateboard ramps and teenage shelters with some larger sites containing a combination of these elements.
- ES37 Accessibility mapping showed that while most of the residential population falls within the catchment of at least one space, several areas did not, including Marske, Saltburn, western Guisborough, the Nunthorpe / Ormesby Bank area, most of Loftus and part of central Redcar.
- ES38 From a quality perspective, the assessment showed that many of the sites had scope for improvement. In that regard MUGAs and other specialist areas tend to be more usable, versatile and secure than traditional grass playing fields and they require less land.
- ES39 The audit identified 60 sites which provide facilities for younger children, mostly comprising equipped play areas. These sites range from small equipped play and 'mini kick-about' sites to multi-functional neighbourhood and strategic spaces incorporating substantive equipped play facilities.
- ES40 Accessibility mapping showed that most residential areas fall within the indicative catchment of at least one play space, but parts of Nunthorpe, Ormesby, Normanby, Eston, Marske, Guisborough and Loftus were outside notional user catchment areas.
- ES41 For both open space categories, the geographical areas falling outside catchment are similar and most of these areas generated a high response rate to the consultation survey. Overall, there does appear to be some correlation between the audit findings and consultation responses regarding both the quality and geographical distribution of provision, particularly for older children and teenagers.
- ES42 Although play areas for children and young people have been identified as key areas of concern, the consultation survey did not include under-16s, representative groups or schools and the consultation received very few responses from young adults in the 16-24 and 25-34 age cohorts. At the same time, the need for informal play facilities may be affected by the popularity of public and private indoor recreation facilities (such as soft play areas, leisure centres, youth clubs and sports halls), private 'pay and play' all weather football sites and increased participation through competitive sports clubs.

Minimum Standards

- ES43 The purpose of including minimum standards is to support policy objectives and provide direction and certainty to developers and decision makers.
- ES44 A review of local plan minimum provision standards has been undertaken and, taking into account alternative options the assessment findings and having regard to alternative options. It is recommended that existing minimum quantity standards are appropriate to Redcar & Cleveland and

should be retained, accessibility standards are adjusted in line with benchmark guidelines from Fields In Trust, and quality standards are expressed in more detail.

Conclusion

- ES45* The assessment has provided an updated review of public open spaces across the borough primarily to inform local plan preparation. The study indicates that in the majority of areas supply meets minimum requirements but there are some gaps in provision. The assessment has identified enhancement potential on the majority of existing spaces.
- ES46* Draft policies for safeguarding valuable open spaces and establishing minimum quantity, quality and accessibility provision standards are set out towards the back of the document as an appropriate policy response to the assessment findings. It is recommended that these policies are included for consultation in the forthcoming draft Local Plan and that safeguarded open spaces are shown as such on the draft Local Plan Policies Map.

1

Introduction

Background

1.1 This document summarises an assessment of public open space in Redcar & Cleveland. The report forms part of the evidence base supporting policy development through the forthcoming Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan, which will become the statutory development plan for the borough¹.

1.2 The provision of successful, high quality open spaces is a key consideration in promoting the development of prosperous, healthy and sustainable communities. It is well documented that they can help to deliver multiple linked social, economic, health and environmental benefits, examples of which are set out below in *Table 1*. Conversely, low quality spaces which are poorly maintained, misused or unsafe can have reverse effects.

Table 1: Potential Benefits of Open Space

Social	Economic	Environmental
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community cohesion and social interaction • Promote healthy living • Accessible and affordable recreational assets • Educational resources • Civic pride 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boost property and land values • Increase attractiveness to inward investors and property developers • Support visitor economy and local businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide local character and interest • Aesthetically pleasing • Promote biodiversity • Flood Risk management • 'Green lungs' (CO² absorption and oxygen release)

1.3 The majority of public green and open spaces in and around the main residential areas of the borough are provided and maintained either by the Council or Coast and Country Housing. There are also spaces which are owned or managed by charitable trusts and voluntary groups.

1.4 It is essential that the local plan includes effective policies which can enable the sustainable provision of attractive, safe and well-used open spaces which can meet local needs across the borough. In practice this inevitably involves achieving an appropriate balance between supply and quality as a higher the supply of open space means that resources to maintain and improve open spaces become more stretched.

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in 2012 and introduced major reforms to the planning system and plan-making. The NPPF confirms that in preparing local plans, planning authorities should undertake open space needs assessments. In Redcar & Cleveland, assessments of green space quality, quantity and accessibility were last undertaken in 2005. This work informed the Redcar & Cleveland Green Space Strategy 2006-16 and the draft standards set out in the draft LDF Communities DPD (2009) and more recently the previous draft local plan (September 2013). The draft standards have been subsumed into the Developer Contributions SPD (December 2014).

1.6 The assessments are clearly ripe for review. They cannot be considered up to date for the purposes of plan-making as they are founded on an historical information base and population data, they pre-date the NPPF and the Green Space Strategy has almost reached the end of its projected lifespan. This study therefore replaces the previous assessments.

¹ Excluding areas inside the North York Moors National Park, where the National Park is the Local Planning Authority.

1.7 Overall, the previous audits found that quality considerations outweighed supply issues in most areas of the borough. The Green Space Strategy noted that the supply of open space comfortably met the minimum quantity requirements and recommended that, with a few exceptions where provision was limited, priority should be given to maximising the quality and usability of existing spaces, many of which had scope for improvement. Central to this was the concept of 'multi-functionality', which was prominent in PPG17 and is about making the most of public spaces to meet different user needs.

1.8 This study overlaps with and complements, and should therefore be considered alongside the Council's Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy documents which were updated in 2015 and provide useful information regarding sites, priorities and the current and projected supply and demand for sports pitches.

Purpose and Objectives

1.9 The purpose of the assessment is to produce an extensive and updated objective analysis which establishes a strong evidence base drawing on a variety of information sources to effectively inform local policymaking and planning decisions.

1.10 The report sets out an objective assessment of open space needs across the study area derived from the following:

- formal open space **quality audit** achieved through observational site surveys and follow up analyses;
- desk-based **quantity** and **accessibility audits** to examine provision at different geographical levels and for different types of space;
- public consultation on **open space needs** undertaken primarily through an online public questionnaire survey and which supplements the audits.

1.11 The overriding objectives of the assessment are:

- to identify any shortfalls in supply and quality and any potential solutions in particular geographical areas or for types of space.
- to identify, where appropriate, opportunities for new open space provision, improvement or rationalisation.
- to identify open spaces which should be safeguarded from development through the Local Plan and depicted as such on the Local Plan Proposals Map.
- to devise recommended minimum quality, quantity and accessibility standards for inclusion as policy in the Local Plan.

Policy Context

1.12 The assessment has had regard to the current planning policy framework and the local strategic context. To that end, the statutory planning framework and corporate policy documents mentioned below have been taken into account.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

1.13 The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the government planning policies to guide, among other things, the preparation of local plans.

1.14 The NPPF requires that plans should be founded on a strong evidence base, and in that regard Paragraph 73 advises that *'planning policies for open space, sport and recreation, should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments which identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses and should be used to determine provision requirements'*.

1.15 Paragraph 74 confirms that existing open space, sport and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless an assessment has clearly shown they are surplus to requirements, or the resulting loss would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity or quality in a suitable location, or the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss. The NPPF does, then, allow a degree of flexibility in terms of the provision and management of open space resources.

Redcar & Cleveland Development Plan

1.16 The Local Development Framework Core Strategy and Development Policies Development Plan Documents were adopted in July 2007 and along with saved policies from the previous Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan (1999), they constitute the current development plan for the Redcar & Cleveland area outside the North York Moors National Park. The DPDs are however higher level policy document and not site specific and as such have limited relevance to individual open spaces. The policies listed below are nonetheless pertinent to public open spaces.

Policy DP13: Protecting Open Spaces

1.17 DP13 is the main open space policy in the LDF and seeks to protect public, private or amenity spaces from development unless any of the following apply:

- *there is a proven excess of such provision and the proposed loss would not result in a current or likely shortfall in the plan period;*
- *the loss of amenity space would not harm the character of the surrounding area;*
- *recreational facilities within the open space will be enhanced by the proposed development of an appropriate portion of the open space; or*
- *the community would gain greater benefit from the developer providing a suitable alternative recreational or amenity open space nearby.*

Policy DP13 (along with all other policies) is open to review in the forthcoming local plan, however it does seek to safeguard open spaces while allowing a degree of flexibility to facilitate enhancements in management, community value and usage.

DP1: Development Limits

1.18 Policy DP1 carried forward Policy LD1 from the 1999 Local Plan. Development limit boundaries were set around most towns and villages and defined on the LDF Adopted Proposals Map (2007). The policy prohibits most forms of development outside the boundary. A number of sites in the assessment fall outside development limits, thereby benefitting from a further layer of policy protection.

CS23 Green Infrastructure

1.19 Part C of Policy CS23 Green Infrastructure identifies the five green wedges separating distinctive urban areas between Nunthorpe and Marske and these are annotated on the proposals map. Green wedges are strategic green corridors which provide land buffers and maintain separation between different urban communities and land uses within the Teesside conurbation. These designations green wedges contain areas of valuable recreational and amenity open space and wildlife sites and corridors and the policy seeks to enhance the quality, value, multi-functionality and accessibility of green wedges where appropriate. Part A of CS23 also includes (undefined) strategic gaps between Marske and New Marske, and between Marske and Saltburn which perform a similar function to green wedges.

1.20 In recent years some development has been allowed in green wedge locations to promote increased housing supply and development pressure on other green wedge land is ongoing. A review of the adopted boundaries is being carried out as part of the preparation of the local plan.

Supplementary Planning Documents

1.21 The adopted development plan has been augmented by several supplementary planning documents (SPDs) including the Developer Contributions and Design of Residential Areas SPDs.

Developer Contributions SPD (December 2014)

1.22 The Developer Contributions SPD sets out the Council approach for securing developer contributions for proposals requiring planning permission, whether secured through planning conditions, Section 106 Planning Obligations, Section 278 highway agreements or the Community Infrastructure Levy. The requirements cover a range of community infrastructure, including public open spaces. Pages 18 to 28 are devoted to open space provision.

1.23 The SPD has been prepared in accordance with the NPPF and accordingly emphasises that development viability will be taken into account in assessing required contributions. It is stated that wherever possible infrastructure should be provided on site, but it is also acknowledged that in some cases this may not be practical and financial contributions may be sought in lieu; as open space is land hungry, this is an important matter.

1.24 The SPD sets a threshold of 10 dwellings (or a site area of 0.5 hectares) for triggering contributions towards new provision or improvements to existing spaces.

1.25 Where off-site provision is deemed appropriate, it is advised that financial contributions will be sought, with the contribution based on the land area required and the cost per hectare of providing open space, with the agreed cost estimates to be based, for example, on up to date published industry guidelines, or recent projects undertaken in the borough. Where improvements to existing spaces are required, the guidance advises the financial contributions would normally be based on 50% of the estimated cost of providing a new space. Annual maintenance contributions, via commuted sum, are attached to each obligation with a twenty year lifespan stated as a guideline.

1.26 The guidance recognises the importance of green spaces to the community, the natural and built environment and individual quality of land seeks to ensure, through negotiation, that new provision or improvements to existing spaces are the most appropriate solution for a particular area, and that spaces are well-designed, accessible and fit for purpose.

1.27 Indicative minimum quantity, quality and accessibility standards the following draft minimum, are set out in Appendix B of the SPD and are as follows:

- **Quantity Standard:** 1.2 hectares (ha.) per thousand population comprising 0.5ha teenage provision, 0.3ha equipped play space and 0.4ha amenity space (including parkland).
- **Quality Standard:** Public parks and large and medium sized green spaces that are clean, attractive, accessible and safe.
- **Accessibility Standard:** Access for all to at least one of the following:
 - i. A small green space up to 1.9 hectares in size within 300m; and /or
 - ii. A large green space of at least 2 hectares within 600m; or
 - iii. A formal urban park of at least 2 hectares within 1000m.

1.28 The quantity standard is the same as that set out in the former Redcar & Cleveland Local Plan (1999) which was itself based on the historic National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) 'six acre standard', which included 0.8 children's space comprising 0.5 ha informal play space and 0.3 ha equipped areas, plus 0.4 ha amenity /parkland space. The latter was identified by the NPFA (since renamed 'Fields in Trust'), but it was not part of the six acre standard, which referred specifically to play space.

1.29 The accessibility standard was derived from the 2006-16 Green Space Strategy (see below). The use of distance thresholds is derived from PPG17. The quality standard is similar to that included in the Green Space Strategy. It is clarified in the SPD that quality standards '*will be used to establish whether there are any deficiencies in provision and that off-site contributions to improve existing spaces will be sought where the space is accessible from a new development*'(Para 4.18).

1.30 The minimum standards set out in the Developer Contributions SPD provide useful benchmarking but their continued relevance needs to be reviewed as they are derived from outdated sources and site-level data. This assessment has provided an opportunity to do that and influence policy direction from the perspective of a solid and updated evidence base.

1.31 Minimum provision standards in relation to natural green space and woodland of are also included in the SPD, at Appendix B, and they are as follows:

Natural Greenspace

Quantity Standard

- 1ha. of statutory Local Nature Reserve per '000 population .

Accessibility Standard

- 2ha. within 300m.
- 20ha. site within 2km.
- 100ha. site within 5km.
- 500ha. site within 10km.

Woodland

Accessibility Standard

- 2ha. within 500m.
- 20ha. within 4km.

1.32 The above standards restate national-level guidelines. The standards for natural green space were devised by Natural England². The woodland accessibility standard is from the Woodland Trust³ (*Space for People, 2015*).

1.33 Given that this assessment is concerned with primarily assessing urban green space provision it is not within the scope of the study to assess all natural spaces in the borough and therefore the appropriateness of the above standards.

1.34 It is recognised nonetheless that natural areas are a key important component of the open space offer throughout the borough, providing opportunities for informal recreation across vast areas of land for nearby residents and visitors, including areas within the National Park.

1.35 Furthermore, overall provision is generous compared to national guidelines and local authority averages. Redcar & Cleveland contains 6 statutory Local Nature Reserves covering an area of 262 hectares, which is equivalent to 1.8ha. per '000 population and therefore nearly double the minimum requirement specified by Natural England. Woodland Trust figures from 2015 indicate that in Redcar & Cleveland, 33.2% of the populace lived within 500m of a 2ha+ accessible woodland site, and 85.6% lived within 4km of a 20ha. accessible woodland. These figures show a marginal increase on corresponding figures from 2010, and they compare favourably with many other local authorities being well above the respective UK averages of 18.2% and 67.6%. When currently inaccessible woodlands are taken into account it is estimated that a further 80 hectares of woodland would be required to meet the 100% target for 2ha+ woodland, and none at all would be required in relation to 20ha sites.

² Natural England (2010): *Nature Nearby-Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt)*.

³ Woodland Trust (2015): *Space for People*.

1.36 The borough contains around 100 recognised local sites (as recorded by Tees Valley Wildlife Trust, and including some natural areas included in the assessment) which further reflects the scale of provision.

1.37 Through working in partnership with specialist agencies such as the Woodland Trust, coverage in particular has increased in recent years reflecting a wider national trend. Woodland planting provides a relatively cost-effective open space use and there may be further opportunities to increase coverage towards the target, particularly where the level of generic space is high and the local environment would benefit from further tree planting. In the absence of a more detailed local assessment, it may be appropriate to retain these standards in seeking to attract investment in natural spaces.

Redcar & Cleveland Design of Residential Areas Supplementary Planning Document (2010)

1.38 The Design of Residential Areas SPD provides non-prescriptive guidelines to planning applicants for residential developments with the aim of raising the design quality of new developments in the borough. The guidelines focus on fifteen objectives organised around four themes relating to distinctiveness, ease of movement, openness and sustainability. Objective 8 seeks the creation of open spaces which are *'well designed valued by the community, have a purpose and are fit for purpose'*. Objective 10 advocates the provision of *'aspiring play spaces that are attractive, exciting and accessible for children of all ages'*.

1.39 The overall approach taken in the SPD is particularly resonant with the aim of improving open space quality standards. Under Objective 8, the guidelines advocate that open space should form an integral part of new development, be purposeful, have good surveillance and accessibility, and complement any nearby spaces with linkages where appropriate. It is also acknowledged that off-site improvements to existing spaces may be required in lieu of new provision where the level of supply is substantial. Under Objective 10, the importance of achieving a good balance between achieving good overlooking from properties and maintaining residential privacy is emphasised along with ensuring play areas are equipped to meet needs across the age spectrum with different expectations according to the hierarchy of 'neighbourhood', 'local' and 'doorstep' spaces.

Local Strategies

Redcar & Cleveland Green Space Strategy (2006-16)

1.40 The Green Space Strategy was prepared following the completion of the 2005 open space audits and intensive consultation and set out twenty recommendations relating to the improvement of the open space offer in the borough. The overarching recommendation of the strategy was to focus on improving open space quality rather than increasing supply. The strategy also set out recommended minimum provision standards which were later incorporated in the Developer Contributions SPD.

1.41 The strategy considered urban green space provision (play areas, teenage provision, amenity areas and parks) on a holistic basis to reflect the reality that while spaces may have a defined primary purpose, there is considerable overlap between different types of space and uses. This is most apparent on larger multi-functional sites, but it may also be evident on smaller and informal spaces with for example some amenity areas being used for informal play.

1.42 The audits found that that while there were deficiencies in open space in some parts of the borough, in many places there was sufficient overall provision when set against the established minimum quantity standard. The strategy advanced therefore was to focus more in upgrading existing provision where possible, in order to maximise the benefits for the wider community and the efficient use of urban land.

Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Strategy (May 2015)

1.43 Assessment and policy objectives relating to playing pitch provision standards are set out in the updated Playing Pitch Strategy which was prepared in accordance with updated Sport England guidance. The strategy replaces the previous document from 2011 and is derived from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage which is summarised in an associated Playing Pitch Assessment (February 2015). The strategy provides a framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2015 and 2037, in line with official population projections covering the same period. The following playing pitches and outdoor sports were included in the study:

- Football
- Cricket
- Rugby Union
- Hockey/Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- Tennis
- Bowls

1.44 The purpose of the strategy is to achieve the following:

- a sound evidence base for any future planning decisions around playing pitches;
- a sound evidence base for and contributing to future planning policy;
- evidence for any internal and external funding, including developer contributions from new development;
- support decision making around leases for sports clubs;
- understand potential shortfalls in provision across the defined analysis areas; and
- support external funding bids and maximising support for outdoor sports facilities.

1.45 In a departure from the previous strategy, and in accordance with the Sport England guidance, the 2015 refresh no longer advocates minimum quantity standards (in the 2011 update these ranged between sub-areas from 0.8ha / '000 pop. to 1.0 ha / '000 pop and are set out in the Developers Contributions SPD). The document does provide the following:

- a vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches;
- a series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock;
- a series of sport by sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision; and
- prioritised area-by-area action plans to address key issues including the identification of short, medium and long-term priority projects.

1.46 The strategy advises that the recommendations arising from the study should be translated into local plan policy so there is a policy mechanism to support delivery and secure provision/investment where the opportunity arises.

1.47 There is a strong degree of overlap between the strategy and this study, particularly in relation to Council-owned sports facilities which are also freely available for general recreational use. Therefore, for reference purposes, some key extracts from the Playing Pitch Strategy are included at **Appendix A**. More detailed site-specific analysis and recommendations are included in the strategy document itself.

Redcar and Cleveland Economic Regeneration Masterplan: Public Realm Improvement Programme

1.48 The Regeneration Masterplan was adopted in 2010 and refreshed in 2012 and seeks to deliver significant growth and development to address deprivation and create a more prosperous borough within the period to 2025. As part of the implementation of the masterplan, the first phase of a public realm improvement has been rolled out, and includes enhancements to existing open spaces.

1.49 A list of those ongoing and completed projects (as at February 2016) relating to open spaces included this assessment is set out in *Table 2*. Many other potential open space improvements projects have been identified for future implementation, subject to funding considerations and an ongoing review of the economic strategy linked to the masterplan.

Table 2: Public Realm Improvement Programme – Relevant Completed and Ongoing Schemes

OSA ID	Site	Location	Project Summary
078	Locke Park	Redcar	Install fencing to tennis and basketball courts. Installation of water taps to enable community maintenance.
062	Dormanstown Millennium Green	Redcar	Additional planting.
085	Kirkleatham Showground	Redcar	West Dyke Road entrance improvements. Installation of water taps to enable community maintenance.
117	Marske Stray	Marske	Upgraded car parking facilities. Provide additional waste bins.
096	Redcar Stray	Redcar	Provision of additional dual waste bins required.
101	Borough Park	Redcar	Installation of water taps to allow the community to undertake maintenance.
040	Eston Pocket Park	Eston	Tree planting, hard & soft landscaping works and fencing.
037	Whale Hill Recreation Ground	Eston	Tree planting, landscaping works and fencing.
159	Marshall Drive Community	Brotton	Footpath improvements and tree planting.
174	Lingdale Playing Field	Lingdale	Tree planting and drainage at southern end and birdsmouth fencing around pitch.
133	Saltburn Valley Gardens	Saltburn	New steps on woodland paths, new surfacing and hand rails. Refurbished picnic area.

Our Plan 2014-17

1.50 Our Plan is the Council's key Corporate Strategy, cutting across all Council activities and strategies, including the Regeneration Masterplan and the Local Plan. Central to Our Plan is the aim of achieving targeted social, economic and environmental objectives linked to the following nine themes:

- Best Start in Life
- Reablement and Independence
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Driving Our Growth
- Pathways to Work
- Things to Enjoy
- Neighbourhood and Customer Service
- Good Governance
- Making Our Money Go Further

1.51 Improving the open space offer around the borough is an important aspect in terms of three of the above themes – Healthy Lifestyles, Driving Our Growth and Things To Enjoy, and there are various actions linked to these themes, some of which are relevant to the provision and usage of open space resources.

Practical Guidance on Assessments and Standards

1.52 National policy guidance on open space assessments is limited. Planning Practice Guidance supporting the NPPF quotes the Sport England guide 'Assessing needs and opportunities guide for indoor and outdoor sports' (July 2014) as best practice and this has been followed in updating the Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Assessment and Playing Pitch Strategy.

1.53 However, the approach is tailored towards specific sports uses (indoor and outdoor) and it is made clear in the guidance that it is not intended for assessing other types of open space. In the absence of comparable published advice on assessing open space generally, other documents such as those listed below also merit consideration.

Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17): Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation Companion Guidance Assessing Needs and Opportunities (2002)

1.54 PPG17 was accompanied by comprehensive practice guidance 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' and marked a policy shift from nationally derived to locally determined standards, including minimum accessibility and quality standards, in addition to the long-established concept of quantity standards. This guidance informed the approach taken in the 2005 assessment, which achieved an extensive assessment of publically accessible urban green spaces in the borough.

1.55 Although dated, the practice guidance incorporated detailed advice for undertaking quality, quantity and accessibility audits, devising quality and accessibility standards and established the

concepts of multi-functionality and primary purpose, in recognition that larger spaces in particular are often used for a range of activities, which can present practical difficulties in measuring provision levels for different types of open space. PPG17 was formally cancelled with the introduction of the NPPF, but the practice guidance was not.

Keep Britain Tidy Green Flag Award

1.56 The Green Flag Award scheme started in 1996 and rewards high quality open spaces on an annual basis and the borough's three urban country parks at Flatts Lane, Pinchinthorpe and Saltburn have been awarded and retained Green Flag status over several years. The initiative is administered by the Department for Communities and Local Government on behalf of Keep Britain Tidy.

1.57 Green Flag Award applications are judged against the following eight criteria:

- A welcoming place
- Healthy, safe and secure
- Clean and well maintained
- Sustainability
- Conservation and heritage
- Community involvement
- Marketing
- Management

1.58 The Green Flag Award is intended to provide a benchmarking standard for assessing high quality open space, with some flexibility to reflect the range and variation of public open spaces. Realistically however the above criteria, while providing some broad scope for assessment, are generally appropriate for assessing major parks and open spaces, rather than the wider majority of urban green spaces.

Green Space Scotland / Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network (2008): Greenspace Quality - a guide to assessment, planning and strategic development

1.59 This guidance is more substantive than the Green Flag criteria and includes practical advice for undertaking site condition surveys for different types of spaces and across a wide range of quality indicators. The document also sets out approaches for rating sites and comparing survey results.

Fields in Trust / NPFA (2008): Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play

1.60 In response to changing planning policy, *Fields in Trust* (formerly the NPFA) published detailed survey-based guidance to replace the organisations long-established 'six acre standard' from 1925. The guidance provides, among other things, recommended the following benchmark standards, to be determined subject to local circumstances:

- Equipped Play Space: 0.25 ha / '000 Pop
- Informal Playing Space: 0.55 ha / '000 pop.

The above standards are as per the six acre standard and similar to those set out in the Developer Contributions SPD for equipped play space (0.3ha) and teenage provision (0.5 ha).

Fields in Trust Survey (2015) Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard

1.61 In response to the NPPF and the 2011 Localism Act, *Fields in Trust* produced further survey-based guidance setting out a range of recommended benchmark standards and guidelines. The survey of 119 local authorities yielded a response rate of 21% (26 local authorities) and the benchmark guidelines are based on the median average of those responses.

1.62 With regard to minimum **quantity** standards - the following benchmark quantity standards for amenity areas, parks and natural spaces are included (in addition to the play and teenage provision benchmarks noted above):

- Amenity Spaces: 0.6 ha. per thousand population
- Parks and Gardens: 0.8 ha. / '000 pop.
- Natural / Semi natural Areas: 1.8 ha. / 000 Pop.

1.63 It is also observed that 22% of authorities used a combined provision for amenity spaces and urban parks, with a median average of 1ha. per '000 pop.

In terms of devising **accessibility** standards, the guidance recommends the use of walking distances and times as follows, taking into account any obstacles or barriers to access:

- 250m – 2-3 minutes' walk
- 400m – 5 minutes' walk
- 800m – 10 minutes' walk
- 1,200m – 15 minutes' walk
- 1,600m – 20 minutes' walk

1.64 Linked to walking times, the guidance also advises the following indicative benchmarks for different types of spaces as follows:

- Parks and Gardens – 710m
- Amenity Green Space – 480m
- Natural and Semi- Natural Areas – 720m
- Playing Pitches – 1200m
- Equipped Play Areas – 100m to 1,000m depending on scale
- Multi-use Games Areas / Skateboard Parks – 700m

1.65 The guidance also includes the following **quality** guideline for informal outdoor space (comprising parks and gardens, amenity spaces and natural semi-natural areas):

- parks to have Green Flag status
- appropriately landscaped
- positive management
- provision of footpaths
- designed so as to be free of the fear of harm or crime

1.66 All the above documents provide different options and ideas for conducting the assessment, including reviewing minimum standards, and they considered in determining the approach taken, which is set out in the chapter.

Demographic Context

1.67 Open spaces should meet a range of needs across the population spectrum and it is appropriate that the assessment takes into account demographic trends and variations in considering current and prospective needs and priorities.

1.68 The population of the borough has been steadily falling since the 1980s and it was just one of sixteen local authority districts to lose population over the 2001-2011 Census period. This established trend is primarily due to two related factors. Firstly, net out-migration of working-age households, both locally and further afield. Secondly, the relatively low birth and household growth rates, which reflect the comparatively old population with a high and increasing proportion of retired people. As demonstrated in *Table 3*, official population projections to 2037 indicate that the proportion of over- 65s is set to accelerate, with a corresponding drop off in the working-age cohort aged 16 to 64.

Table 3: Population Change in Redcar & Cleveland 2001-2011

Age Group	Population					
	Recorded (2011 Census)				Projected*	
	2001	%	2011	%	2037	%
0-15	28,455	20.4%	24,160	17.9%	22,673	16.9%
16-64	87,370	62.8%	84,575	62.6%	72,026	53.6%
65+	23,320	16.8%	26,420	19.5%	39,612	29.5%
Total	139,145	100%	135,155	100%	134,311	100%
Overall Change			-3990		-844	
Change %			-2.9%		-0.62%	

*ONS Sub-National Population Projections 2012-2037 (May 2014).

1.69 Although it is recognised that an ageing population is a UK-wide phenomenon, and that as a policy response the state retirement age is progressively being increased, it is also the case in Redcar & Cleveland (as in other coastal and rural areas attractive to older and retired households), the proportion of retirement age inhabitants is above national, regional and Tees Valley averages and, moreover, projected increases will exacerbate comparative differences. Attracting jobs and encouraging working age households to remain or move into in the borough may, to some extent, help to redress the growing demographic imbalance and population decline and stagnation, but this will not impact on the anticipated absolute growth in the over-65 population.

1.70 Beyond the overall trend of a falling and ageing population, there are demographic variations between wards and settlements in the borough. In *Table 4*, population change between 2001 and 2011 is broken down to ward level. Out of the 22 electoral wards, the population dropped in 16 of them, most acutely in the deprived wards of South Bank (-23.4%) and Grangetown (-17.4%),

where significant block clearance of low demand housing took place, and to a lesser extent in Dormanstown (-7.9%) where there was some rationalisation of Coast & Country social rented properties. The losses at Newcomen (-11.9%) and Loftus (-9.8%) are misleading because major housing renewal schemes in these wards coincided with the Census. Within the current Census period to 2021 it is anticipated that the population loss in Newcomen since 2001 will be fully recovered and will at least partially recover at Loftus.

1.71 The significant population gains in the wards of Skelton (+17.5%) and Longbeck (+17%) are due to the implementation of major greenfield housing land allocations.

1.72 In terms of age structure, the 65+ population increased in all but five wards and is particularly high in the coastal wards of Saltburn and St Germain's (Marske), which are attractive retirement destinations.

1.73 The population structure of Grangetown ward is somewhat unique and paints a reversal of the wider picture, with 0-15 population (28.2%) significantly exceeding the mean borough average (17.9%), and the 65+ cohort (8.1%) well below it (19.5%). The situation in Grangetown may reflect the nature of properties available, with a high provision of social rented accommodation, typically family dwellings. However, the age profile at Grangetown also needs to be seen within the context of significant population decline in that ward.

Table 4: Ward Level Population Change 2001-2011

Ward	Mid 2011	Mid 2001	Change	%	Mid 2011 Estimate						Change 2001-2011		
					0-15	%	16-64	%	65+	%	0-15	16-64	65+
Ormesby	5,940	6,395	-455	-7.7%	910	15.3%	3,580	60.3%	1,450	24.4%	-140	-380	65
Normanby	6,925	7,150	-225	-3.2%	1,090	15.7%	4,470	64.5%	1,365	19.7%	-270	-200	250
Eston	7,005	7,525	-520	-7.4%	1,190	17.0%	4,565	65.2%	1,255	17.9%	-375	-85	-55
Teesville	6,600	6,845	-245	-3.7%	1,075	16.3%	3,970	60.2%	1,555	23.6%	-205	-270	230
South Bank	6,515	8,060	-1,545	-23.7%	1,335	20.5%	4,220	64.8%	960	14.7%	-620	-760	-165
Grangetown	5,035	5,910	-875	-17.4%	1,420	28.2%	3,205	63.7%	410	8.1%	-460	-320	-90
Greater Eston	38,020	41,885	-3,865	-11%	7,020	18.8%	24,010	63.2%	6,995	18.4%	-2,070	-2,015	235
Coatham	5,420	5,215	205	3.8%	930	17.2%	3,705	68.4%	780	14.4%	-45	380	-135
Dormanstown	6,745	7,275	-530	-7.9%	1,275	18.9%	4,160	61.7%	1,310	19.4%	-395	-155	15
Kirkleatham	7,065	7,030	35	0.5%	1,300	18.4%	4,270	60.4%	1,490	21.1%	-220	15	235
Newcomen	4,365	4,870	-505	-11.6%	835	19.1%	2,720	62.3%	810	18.6%	-335	-175	5
West Dyke	7,515	7,485	30	0.4%	1,385	18.4%	4,790	63.7%	1,335	17.8%	-285	60	250
Zetland	4,595	4,775	-180	-3.9%	825	18.0%	2,860	62.2%	910	19.8%	-65	-110	-5
Redcar	35,705	36,650	-945	-3%	6,550	18.3%	22,505	63.0%	6,635	18.6%	-1,345	15	365
Guisborough	7,600	7,405	195	2.6%	1,245	16.4%	4,655	61.3%	1,700	22.4%	-85	230	50
Hutton	7,180	7,450	-270	-3.6%	1,170	16.3%	4,390	61.1%	1,625	22.6%	-205	-580	525
Westworth	4,650	4,750	-100	-2.1%	810	17.4%	3,005	64.6%	835	18.0%	-100	-225	230
Lockwood	2,030	2,110	-80	-3.8%	320	15.8%	1,230	60.6%	475	23.4%	-90	-105	110
Loftus	6,380	7,070	-690	-9.8%	1,145	17.9%	4,000	62.7%	1,240	19.4%	-380	-445	140
Longbeck	7,055	6,005	1,050	17.5%	1,300	18.4%	4,400	62.4%	1,355	19.2%	165	330	555
St. Germain's	6,125	6,420	-295	-4.6%	860	14.0%	3,510	57.3%	1,750	28.6%	-205	-385	290
Saltburn	5,960	5,910	50	0.8%	870	14.6%	3,595	60.3%	1,495	25.1%	-100	-35	185
Skelton	7,475	6,390	1,085	17.0%	1,465	19.6%	4,860	65.0%	1,150	15.4%	195	710	180
Brotton	6,990	7,120	-130	-1.8%	1,405	20.1%	4,415	63.2%	1,165	16.7%	-75	-290	235
All Wards	135,170	139,165	-3,995	-2.9%	24,160	17.9%	84,575	62.6%	26,420	19.5%	-4,295	-2,795	3,100

1.74 The nature of the population structure and prospective change, and at different spatial levels, has implications for the sustainable provision, maintenance and renewal of open spaces and the type of space required. Redcar & Cleveland is currently characterised by the following trends:

- a declining population, particularly among younger age groups
- a significantly increasing 65+ population
- reflecting the above trends, relatively low household growth

1.75 Population projections for 2012-2037 indicate that if established trends were to continue, the rate of decline would slow and levels would stabilise in the early 2020s. At the same time, the proportion of residents over 65 would increase from 19% to 28% by 2030; which, within the context

of an ageing UK population, is well above national and regional averages. Accordingly, as the birth rate declines, the rate of household growth is projected to fall over the period from a relatively low base.

1.76 These issues are pertinent at a time of ongoing budget pressures due to the government's continuing austerity programme and they are particularly acute in areas with a higher dependence on local services, such as in significantly deprived neighbourhoods or those with large retired populations, or both. The ongoing and increasing imbalance between the working age population and retired people, as indicated in the CLG projections, places further strain on local resources and in terms of achieving wider Council objectives.

2

Methodology

Overview

2.1 While online examples of post-NPPF assessments appear to be limited, recent studies published by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (2014)⁴ and Breckland District Council (2015)⁵ have both relied on the earlier PPG17 guidance in undertaking assessments.

2.2 Given the lack of guidance, the approach used in this assessment is similar to that applied in 2005 and has undertaken involved undertaking quantity, quality and accessibility audits, a public consultation survey and follow up analyses.

2.3 The 2005 assessment concluded that while there were deficiencies in open space in some parts of the borough, in most residential neighbourhoods the recorded provision exceeded the minimum quantity standard, but there was scope to enhance the quality of many spaces, whether through renewal, or diversification to increase usability. The recommended strategic approach therefore was to focus on upgrading the quality of existing spaces.

2.4 Preliminary work involved reviewing existing data, adding in new spaces and removing redundant sites. In undertaking the quality audit, observational and site surveys were largely undertaken between late 2014 and early 2015, backed up by desk-based work as necessary. While site visits can record a large amount of information about the condition of spaces, including photographic evidence, they inevitably represent an individual interpretation, and at a fixed point in time. The consultation stage was therefore critically important in further understanding the quality of particular spaces and wider open spaces issues by seeking the views of residents, regular users, operational staff and community workers⁶.

2.5 Using the assembled data, quantity and accessibility audits were undertaken including analysis at different spatial levels. The audit and survey findings were compared, and considered against the current open space standards to identify requirements and recommendations. 2011 Census population data broken down neighbourhood levels using ONS Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) and Office for National Statistics population projections for 2012-2037 have informed the quantitative analysis.

2.6 Public consultation was undertaken in summer 2015. The Council's Viewfinder questionnaire surveys, which are issued on a quarterly basis, provided the bedrock for this, supplemented by discussions with Neighbourhood Officers and the Community Enhancement Forum. The consultation findings have been considered and compared alongside the audits.

Assessment Scope

2.5 The study covers accessible and usable spaces within and adjacent to residential areas, and which are publically available during daylight hours and free to use at the point of entry.

⁴ <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/New%20local%20plan%202/5.19b%20BwD%20Open%20Space%20Assessment%20May%202014.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/2455/Documents-Library-Publications>

⁶ And was augmented by Council Members feedback on priorities informing the Public Real Improvement Programme.

2.6 Due to time and resource issues, it was not realistically feasible to include all sites which could conceivably fall within the above parameters. Furthermore, smaller areas tend to have limited usability potential. A minimum size standard of 0.1 ha. was therefore generally applied; the main exception to this was equipped play areas, a small number of which fall below the size threshold but clearly may have some community value. Furthermore, this size threshold was applied in previous assessments thus producing an instant dataset for review and analysis. It is recognised nonetheless that there are other smaller sites in residential areas which may have visual, amenity or environmental value.

2.7 PPG 17 sets out several open space typologies. In line with the PPG17 companion guidance, the assessment at the outset sought identify a primary purpose for each space to reflect its main land use or primary function. Notwithstanding primary purpose, it is recognised in the guidance that in practice there is significant crossover between the different types of urban green spaces such as parks, public sports grounds, informal 'kick-about' areas, equipped play sites and amenity areas. This is particularly the case on larger multi-functional sites which can variously include play facilities (in some cases for different age groups), multi-use games areas and 'grassed 'kick-about' areas, playing pitches, general amenity space, formal parkland and gardens, and natural areas. Informal 'kick-about areas' and public sports pitches - both essentially playing fields of varying sizes - are particularly interchangeable and may be distinguished by dint of any formal match play, which itself can be prone to change due to demand patterns. In recognition of these commonalities, and to facilitate comparison against the existing minimum quantity standard of 1.2ha. / '000 pop which encompasses all of the above open space 'types' (with the exception of natural areas), they have been grouped together as 'generic' green spaces.

2.8 Supplementing these areas are more specialist spaces including natural areas such as accessible woodlands, wetlands and rough grasslands, civic hard spaces such as market places and pedestrianised squares, burial grounds and allotments.

2.9 There is some overlap between generic and more specialist spaces. For example natural areas, burial grounds and civic spaces perform a general amenity function and may possess similar attributes applicable to many spaces which form part of the generic supply, but critically they are not included within the current minimum provision standards. Accessible urban woodlands may in particular may be popular areas for informal and quiet recreation, thus providing an alternative to parks and other spaces.

2.10 The study has included and distinguished between generic spaces, natural areas, and civic spaces as shown in *Table 5* below.

Table 5: Scope of Assessed Spaces and Broad Categories

Analysis Category	Primary Purpose	Definition
Generic Green Space	Parks	Sites which are formally laid out and include major spaces offering a range of activities and facilities, and smaller 'pocket' parks with, for example, paths, lawned areas, seating and flower beds. As per PPPG17, this category also includes country parks.
	Public Sports Grounds	Public recreation grounds where a significant proportion of the land area is given over to formal sports matches and part of the site may be fenced off for that purpose. These sites were included the 2014 Playing Pitch Assessment, alongside private sport grounds which do not feature in this assessment.
	Informal Kick-about Areas	Spaces which are primarily suitable for playing of ball games on an informal basis, typically by older children and teenagers, but also over smaller areas for younger children. These spaces may include goalposts and some larger sites may even contain a marked sports pitch, but have been identified as kick-about areas if they have not been included in the Playing Pitch Assessment, thus providing a distinction from public sports grounds. Some sites may also contain facilities such as teenage 'hang out' shelters, enclosed Multi-Use Games Areas and skateboard ramps.
	Equipped Play Areas	Smaller sites containing specialist children's play equipment. A significant number of play areas are secondary uses within larger sites identified primarily under one of the foregoing typologies.
	Residential Amenity Space	This is a common category of open space which largely includes informal grassed and landscaped spaces in residential neighbourhoods (including those with 'no ball games' signs erected). Many of these sites will be of local significance and some may be suitable for low key activities such as dog walking and informal play.
Natural Space	Natural and Semi-Natural Areas	This category comprises heavily vegetated sites of varying size and significance and includes the main accessible urban woodlands, including the major designated community woodlands, grasslands and wetlands in and adjacent to the main urban and rural settlements.
Civic Space	Civic Spaces	Prominent areas of pedestrianised hard space, such as squares possibly with seating and other facilities used for assembly and community events (e.g. markets or memorial services)

2.11 Allotments, Burial Grounds and Green Corridors have not been included in the wider analysis. Some useful data and feedback has nonetheless been collected through the public consultation and analyses which can be used to inform any further work, and other policies and strategies.

Allotments

2.12 Allotments have not been included in the main assessment as they are not strongly related to generic open space provision and standards because they have restricted public access, incur user fees and are highly distinctive, mono-functional facilities.

2.13 It is acknowledged nonetheless that allotments are an important resource, particularly for an ageing population, and that the borough contains a substantial number of allotment areas. Analysis has therefore been briefly undertaken to assess supply and demand, the findings of which are set out below.

2.14 Under the Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908, local authorities are required to provide allotments where there is an identified demand, and under the 1925 Allotments Act local authority-

owned sites can be declared statutory, which provides a layer of legal protection against disposal for other uses. Sites in other ownerships do not benefit from this designation.

2.15 Updating information from a 2004 survey, a broad 2015-based estimate indicates the borough contains 85 areas of current or former allotment land with potential for approximately 3,075 plots over 116 hectares, though not all plots will meet the minimum standards of 250m². Out of this provision, the Council operates 15 sites containing 708 plots. Eight of the sites are in Redcar and the other seven are in Greater Eston. The majority of sites are provided by town or parish councils or private landowners.

2.16 The Developer Contributions SPD does not include minimum provision standards for allotments. The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments of 250m² per 1,000 households, which is equivalent to 0.5ha per '000 households. Based on this indicative national standard and on 2011 Census household estimates, the number of plots required in the borough would be 271, far less than the estimated 3,075, though not all plots will meet the minimum dimensions prescribed by the NSALG. The estimated 116ha is equivalent to 1.96ha per thousand households, though not all sites have been surveyed and some, particularly in East Cleveland, appear to be substantially disused. Further analysis and consultation with plot-holders and site operators may be required to provide a more accurate assessment of supply.

2.17 It is evident however that provision is unevenly distributed with a highly disproportionate land supply in some East Cleveland settlements. By contrast, in Redcar the supply (7.85ha) falls marginally below the equivalent national standard (7.89 ha) and in the wards of Ormesby and Hutton there is no provision.

2.18 But notwithstanding comparative supply issues, analysis of allotment waiting lists shows that on Council-owned sites at least the demand far outstrips supply; it is feasible this situation may be replicated in some other parts of the Borough. As at December 2015, Council records show there were 311 individuals on the waiting list compared to 45 vacant plots. Of these vacancies, 36 were on two sites, at Teesville and Eston Grange, but the higher level of vacancy was due to the poor state of some plots due to fly-tipping and overgrown ground. The Eston Grange site is also shown to be at risk of surface water flooding. Nonetheless, waiting list numbers exceeding plot vacancies on both sites and, more generally, the lists do not account for latent demand from people who might otherwise apply for an allotment if plots were more readily available.

2.19 Observational surveys of all sites have indicated that despite the high level of supply relative to national guidelines, allotments are generally well used, with odd exceptions in some East Cleveland settlements, where there the supply of allotment land is exceptionally high.

2.20 It may be appropriate to undertake a more detailed study involving all stakeholders in order to identify, among other things, minimum provision standards which are sensitive to local needs. In the meantime, against a backdrop of a rapidly growing retirement population the plan should seek to safeguard allotment provision. In some cases, sites are protected to some degree by virtue of being outside development limits or through been statutory allotments. However non-statutory sites within settlement development limits may be vulnerable to development and should be retained unless it is apparent they are surplus to community requirements.

Burial Grounds

2.21 Burial grounds, comprising cemeteries and churchyards, have recreational, amenity and environmental value which complements the wider open space offer but unlike generic spaces these sites are not subject to minimum provision standards and unlike some natural and civic spaces the scope for change and diversification is strictly limited. The need for burial space at cemeteries is monitored directly through demand for burial plots and municipal sites are maintained and secured accordingly to support the formal burial function and enable memorial visits. Therefore minimum provision standards through local plans are not required.

Green Corridors

2.22 As part of the open space typology PPG17 also lists green corridors - strategic pedestrian and cycle links connecting open spaces and residential areas and including urban wildlife corridors such as beck walkways. Major green corridors have not been assessed here however due to practical assessment difficulties; specifically the long time it would take to assess them due to their extreme linear form which can run for several miles and through open countryside, which is beyond the scope of the study. Urban green routes are nonetheless considered within the context of area supply and accessibility issues and they were included in the questionnaire survey. Linear corridors which form part of broader, more usable spaces to have been included within the dimensions of the host open space.

2.23 Therefore, while some survey work has been undertaken particularly in relation to allotments, to maximise the use of resources priority was given to assessing more accessible generic, natural and civic spaces which constitute the majority of primary urban green spaces.

Exclusions

2.24 In addition to the general exclusion of sites which do not meet minimum size threshold of 0.1ha with a few exceptions (detailed below) the following land areas **have not been included** in the assessment:

- Agricultural or horticultural land.
- Private gardens.
- School or college playing fields.
- Peripheral landscaping around residential developments, with some exceptions (detailed below).
- Road verges and other highway land, with exceptions as below. Strategic green infrastructure along main highway corridors is not included as part of the requirement.
- Land with planning permission for development.
- Cleared former housing land and other areas of vacant land which have been grassed over or have become heavily vegetated but are not actively maintained as open space for public enjoyment. This includes former housing land with anti-vehicle barriers along the highway boundary.
- Sites where public access is discouraged or is heavily restricted.
- Accessible countryside and moorland which is remote from residential areas. This includes the deep wooded beck valleys which run for long distances through parts of East Cleveland. Although some of these areas do pass the edge of rural settlements such as Loftus and have some public access, they are not actively managed as public spaces and less well-related to any adjacent built-up areas. It is recognised however that these sites may have some amenity value and some are protected through Local Wildlife or Geological Site designations.

- Private sports clubs. These sites have limited access to the wider general public but were however, with the exception of golf clubs, included in the Playing Pitch Assessment and Strategy.
- Beaches, though it is recognised that the beaches at Redcar, Marske, Saltburn and Skinningrove do have amenity value, including concurrently with any adjacent green spaces and open areas.
- Landscaped open space around industrial estates, business and retail parks and other built-up areas remote from housing.
- Any other land which cannot be defined under one of the above green space types and in accordance with PPG 17 definitions.

Exceptions

2.25 The following exceptions have been made against the exclusions listed above:

- Equipped play areas, which are stand-alone facilities and not part of a larger area of green space. Some of these sites occupy an area of less than 0.1 ha, but equipped play areas tend to have important community value which overrides site dimensions.
- Clusters of amenity spaces where all sites are at least 0.05 ha. located close to a site or sites of the same type and similar in character and which clearly form a network of spaces designed within a specific housing estate. In such cases these areas have been recorded as one site with the land area aggregated.
- Deeper landscape and highways buffers which have some amenity value and are mostly at least around 15m in depth.

Quantity Audit

2.26 The 2005 audit assumed the starting point for identifying sites to be included in the study. This was supplemented by GIS-based survey work to identify new spaces and other changes. For each identified site, the dimensions, location, primary purpose and any secondary function(s) were recorded and from this and an indicative hierarchical status applied, which would also provide the basis for the accessibility audit. Further analysis was conducted at different spatial and hierarchical levels and for different types of space.

2.27 Given that the current local quantity standards are lower than the current *Fields in Trust* benchmark and are historic, for analytical purposes it is reasonable to also apply the latter as a further, higher benchmark against which to assess provision levels, and in considering appropriate minimum provision standards. To that end, as the assessment has combined generic elements to reflect the multi-functional nature of some spaces, using the local authority combined average for parks and amenity spaces of 1ha. per thousand population was considered more appropriate than applying the separate benchmarks also quoted in the *Fields In Trust* guidance. This produces minimum generic requirement of 1.8 ha. per '000 population, compared to 1.2ha. / '000 pop. under the current local standard in the Developer Contributions SPD.

2.28 Although there are currently no established locally-derived minimum quantity standards for natural spaces, the analysis has used the *Fields in Trust* median benchmark (1.8ha. /000 pop.) to gauge provision levels given that the borough contains a number of significant natural areas and the

significant overlap between these sites and generic spaces in terms of informal recreation and amenity value.

Quality Audit

2.29 It is recognised that around the borough there are wide variations in terms of the dimensions, location, condition and function(s) of public open spaces. The purpose of the quality audit was to assess the extent to which all sites were deemed to be fit for purpose through, so far as possible, a structured and consistent approach informed by site scoring guidelines. Outside of this, any opportunities for potential improvement were also noted.

2.30 Using the 2005 study as a starting point and guidance in the Green Flag Award scheme and more detailed Scottish government guidance outlined in the previous chapter, survey pro-formas and scoring parameters were devised. Each identified space was then subject to an observational survey to assess its quality against a range of indicators under the following five themes:

- Accessibility
- Appearance
- Security & Safety
- Facilities
- Biodiversity

2.31 Attached to the five themes were a total of thirty indicators. Through the site surveys, spaces were scored against all relevant indicators to reflect the range and condition of the space, and any hard infrastructure and facilities and produce an absolute score. Sites were given an initial score from 1 ('Poor') to 5 ('Excellent') against each indicator using the following guidelines:

Score	Rating	Definition
5	Excellent	The site exceeds quality expectations and provides an aspirational standard for comparable sites.
4	Good	The site comfortably meets expectations with limited scope for enhancement.
3	Acceptable	The site is generally fit for purpose with some potential areas for realistic improvement.
2	Sub-standard	Overall the site falls below expectations with notable room for improvement in at least one area.
1	Poor	The site falls short of expectations and has significant problems. Overall, the site currently has limited or negative community value.

2.32 The majority of the observational surveys were undertaken from Autumn 2014 to Winter 2015 and therefore in terms of appearance and ground conditions did not arguably present sites at their aesthetic or environmental best.

2.33 The audit developed and refined the approach undertaken in 2005, which covered a smaller number of quality indicators (up to 23) across five themes with scores (between 1 and 9) and ratings (good fair or poor) given against each theme rather than individual indicators. A copy of the survey pro-forma is attached at **Appendix B**.

Survey Process

2.34 The purpose of carrying out site visits was to gather information about site quality by confirming the functions, recording the range and condition of facilities and infrastructure, commenting on the appearance of each site, flagging up positive attributes or problems, and identifying any potential areas for improvement. This involved making and explaining judgements about how well a site is performing against relevant quality indicators set out under the five themes listed above.

2.35 The extent to which different quality indicators were applied was determined by the type of site, its size, use(s) and hierarchical significance. As a general rule smaller residential amenity spaces of local significance (which account for the largest proportion of sites) would be expected to be considered against fewer indicators than say a multi-functional urban park. Also, equipped play areas, informal kick-about areas and sports grounds would be expected to have relatively limited biodiversity value as they need open land for practical and security purposes, while natural areas are inclined to be more enclosed and less overlooked, and by implication they are less secure spaces.

Post-Survey Analysis

2.36 To refine the survey findings and promote consistency, sites were then subject to review using a scoring guide against each of the 30 Indicators; this is attached at **Appendix C**. The extent to which different quality indicators apply under each theme was dependent on the type of site, its size, and the range of functions, facilities and infrastructure. It was anticipated from the outset that while some factors such as access and cleanliness would apply universally, others would not and as such variations would be reflected in site scoring patterns.

2.37 As a general rule, smaller residential amenity spaces of local significance which were consequently assessed against fewer indicators than say a multi-functional urban park with more facilities. In recognising the propensity for such differences, sites were also scored in percentage terms and to enable further consideration of quality variations between similar sites.

2.38 Likewise, different types of spaces would be expected to follow different scoring patterns. For example, equipped play areas, informal kick-about areas and sports grounds might be expected to have relatively limited biodiversity value as they require relatively open land for practical and security purposes, while on the other hand natural areas while being more environmentally significant are typically more enclosed and less overlooked.

Accessibility Audit

2.39 The extent to which people are likely to use spaces is influenced by the distance which they are prepared to travel to visit them, and the mode of transport which they are likely to use. To that end, the nature, size and range of facilities on offer will influence expectations, and these relative differences need to be acknowledged in making assumptions about notional user catchment areas.

2.40 The accessibility audit followed a two stage process. Firstly, by developing a site 'hierarchy' classification to reflect the significance of each site. Secondly, by attaching a travel distance catchment for each hierarchy classification based on walking times, taking into account any major barriers to access.

2.41 To reflect the varying significance of spaces and types and to assist the accessibility audit, the analysis grouped sites under one of the following hierarchical categories in order of decreasing importance:

- Strategic spaces: key sites such as large urban parks, urban country parks and tourism destinations attracting visitors from beyond the immediate area and potentially across the borough and beyond. Sites may have additional facilities such as parking areas and public toilets.
- Neighbourhood spaces: large, important sites which are typically at least 2ha in size, may be multi-functional and provide the main public space serving one or more residential neighbourhood or housing estate.
- Local spaces: sites with some local significance, and usually at least 0.4 ha in size.
- Doorstep space: small, sometimes incidental spaces (typically grassed amenity areas within housing estates) which have limited use potential and are unlikely to have any significance beyond the immediate vicinity.

2.42 The site groupings broadly reflect the size, locational context and purpose(s) of each site. In carrying out the accessibility analysis each hierarchical group has been given a different distance threshold to reflect its importance; this approach corresponds to PPG17 and the 2005 assessment. The distance thresholds, measured from the site entrances, defines a notional user catchment and are based on straight line distances taking into account accessibility barriers

2.43 For the purposes of the analysis the following distance and walking catchments were applied, with distances measured from site entrances:

- Strategic spaces: 1.6km (approximately 20 minutes' walk assuming a moderate average pace of 3mph)
- Neighbourhood spaces: 800m (10 minutes' walk)
- Local spaces: 400m (5-10 minutes' walk)

2.44 The above parameters are in line with the *Fields in Trust* 2015 guidance on walking times. The distance catchments are slightly different from those which were used in the 2005 audit and assimilated as standards currently set out in the Developer Contributions SPD. The appropriateness of the assumptions used was later checked against responses to the consultation survey.

2.45 It is acknowledged nonetheless that this is a crude (but also quick) approach to estimating user catchments. Strategic sites for example could well attract a significant number of visitors from well beyond the 1600m catchment, and often using motorised transport. Doorstep spaces were not subject to accessibility analysis because they are insignificant in terms of reach, which is unlikely to stretch beyond the immediate area.

2.46 Natural or civic spaces not mapped either as there are no locally-derived accessibility standards in place; as noted above only national guidelines are quoted in the Developer Contributions SPD in relation to natural areas. It is recognised nonetheless that that these spaces have amenity value and provide important informal recreation opportunities and their strategic significance was recorded in line with the broad definitions above.

Public Consultation

2.47 The primary means of consultation has been undertaken through a questionnaire survey, undertaken chiefly through the Council's Viewfinder citizen's panel. To generate interest, a presentation was delivered to the Council's Community Enhancement Forum in April 2015. Meetings were also held with some Council neighbourhood officers to gain further insight into particular spaces and area issues.

2.48 Viewfinder is a voluntary survey panel comprising several hundred adult residents from across the borough which providing an opinion sounding board through survey questionnaires issued on a periodic basis. A public satisfaction survey comprising 16 questions was issued to Viewfinder members in July 2015. To encourage further participation a link to the questionnaire was also placed on the Council website and staff intranet homepages.

2.49 The consultation process was devised with the intention of securing a reasonable opinion sample about open space provision from individuals across the adult age range and different residential areas of the borough. Bearing in mind the availability of staff and time resources, a mass distribution questionnaire survey was seen as the most appropriate and realistic way of achieving consultation aims. The survey closed after two months. Subsequently, the responses were analysed, summarised and compared with the audit findings. A blank copy of the questionnaire form is included at **Appendix D**.

3

Assessment Findings

Quantity Audit

Overview

3.1 The audit has recorded 222 sites covering an estimated total land area of 687 hectares (ha.). The sites, with corresponding ID numbers, are tabulated at **Appendix E** and shown on the corresponding location plans at **Appendix F**.

3.2 In *Table 6*, the supply is broken down between generic, natural and civic spaces. While the vast majority of sites are included in the generic category, in terms of land area provision is broadly split between generic and natural spaces, with the latter including vast areas such as Errington Woods (92ha.), Coatham Marshes (54ha.) and Foxrush Community Woodland (45ha.). There is considerable difference between overall mean and median average space sizes (3.1 and 0.7 ha. respectively), which reflects the impact of a few very large sites and the majority being smaller residential amenity areas.

3.3 The estimated supply of 443ha on generic sites is equivalent to 3.3ha. per '000 population and is therefore far in excess of the current minimum quantity standard (1.2ha. / '000 pop.) and the aggregated *Fields in Trust* benchmark (1.8ha. / '000 pop.).

Table 6: Supply Overview

Category	Sites	%	Area (ha.)	%*	Mean Site Size (Ha.)	Median (Ha.)
All Spaces	222	100%	687	100%	3.1	0.7
Generic	202	91%	443	64%	2.2	0.5
Natural	16	7%	238	35%	14.9	3.0
Civic	4	2%	5	1%	1.3	0.7

3.4 In *Table 7*, the provision is summarised in terms of site hierarchy and shows that while most sites (over 70%) are smaller local or doorstep spaces, they account for less than one quarter of the total land area.

Table 7: Supply Breakdown by Site Hierarchy

Hierarchy Breakdown	Sites	%	Area (Ha.)	%	Mean Site Size (Ha.)	Median (Ha.)
Strategic	13	6%	303	44%	23	14
Neighbourhood	28	13%	223	32%	8	6
Local	105	47%	143	20%	1.4	1.0
Doorstep	76	34%	18	3%	0.24	0.24
Total	222	100%	687	100%	3.1	0.70

3.5 In *Table 8*, the supply is further broken down in terms of open space primary typologies, which reflects the split. Over half of sites are identified as amenity areas (119) but they occupy just 16% of overall land supply.

Table 8: Breakdown by Site Typology

Primary Purpose	Sites	Sites %	Area (Ha)	Area %
Parks	13	6%	143	21%
Sports Grounds	14	6%	71	10%
Larger Kick-about	16	7%	91	13%
Equipped Play	30	14%	23	3%
Smaller Kick-about	7	3%	6	1%
Amenity	122	55%	109	16%
Natural Spaces	16	7%	238	35%
Civic	4	2%	5	1%
ALL	222	100%	687	100%

3.6 In *Table 9*, the typological breakdown is compared with the relevant benchmark standards, based on the primary purpose of assessed sites. To more accurately reflect play provision for different age groups, smaller kick-about areas intended for use by younger children have been included separately from larger kick-about sites which essentially form part of the provision for older children and teenagers.

3.7 The overall figures show that the mean and median supply meet both the SPD standard and the *Fields in Trust* benchmarks, with the median (2.2ha) notably less than the mean average (3.1ha). Only equipped play areas do not meet the benchmark minimum requirement. However the calculations do not account for some play areas which are incorporated within larger sites and included under other primary classifications such as parks; actual provision would likely exceed the minimum standard and *Fields In Trust* benchmark if all play areas were to be measured individually.

3.8 The figures confirm that the provision of natural spaces meets the *Fields In Trust* benchmark, though as only urban natural spaces have been recorded by the assessment, actual provision taking into account accessible countryside sites will be higher.

Table 9: Supply Comparison with Local and Benchmark Standards

Types	Supply (Ha)	Supply (ha/'000)	Standard / Benchmark (ha/'000)
All Generic Spaces	443	3.3	1.2 / 1.8
Parks & Amenity Spaces	252	1.9	0.4 / 1.0
Younger Children Provision (Equipped Play / Smaller Kick-about)	29	0.2	0.3
Older Children & Teenage Provision / (Larger kick-about / sports grounds)	162	1.2	0.5
Natural Spaces	238	1.8	1.8

Spatial Distribution

3.9 Although recorded provision generally meets minimum and benchmark standards, it is unevenly distributed around the borough. This is demonstrated in *Table #* which compares supply

between settlements and urban locations, set out in order of declining population. Over two-thirds of the population live within the two largest urban areas of Redcar and Greater Eston, and in Guisborough. The level of provision varies between and within these main settlements, as demonstrated in *Tables 10 to 13* which break the supply down to ward level.

3.10 In **Redcar**, relative overall and generic provision (7.1ha. and 4.3ha. respectively) are above the borough averages (5.1ha. and 3.3ha.). Generic provision comfortably exceeds the current minimum standard and the *Fields in Trust* benchmark and it is augmented by major natural spaces at Foxrush Farm and Coatham Marshes which, along with the beaches and sand dunes, have significant amenity value. At ward level, relative generic provision varies with limited relative provision at Newcomen and Coatham (0.3ha. and 1.1ha.) and particularly high provision recorded for the wards of Kirkleatham (7.8ha.), Dormanstown (6.6ha.) and Zetland (6.2ha.). However the Redcar built-up area is relatively compact and the six ward boundaries are arbitrary. For example, Newcomen and Coatham border the major strategic space at Locke Park (16ha) and Westfield Playing Field (4.4ha) is on the Newcomen border; both spaces fall inside Dormanstown Ward.

3.11 In **Greater Eston**, relative overall provision is below the borough average but generic supply (4.2ha) is above average and comfortably exceeds the benchmark minimum requirement. At ward level, provision varies from Ormesby ward (0.7 ha. / '000 pop.) to 10.5ha /'000 pop. at Normanby, though the latter figure is distorted by Flatts Lane Country Park (45ha.), which extends beyond the immediate urban area.

3.12 At **Guisborough**, relative overall supply (2.1ha.) is below the Borough average and significantly less than in Redcar and Greater Eston, but generic provision (2.0ha.) does meet the minimum standard and Fields In Trust benchmark. For the three wards, estimated relative provision varies from 1.3ha in Westworth to 2.6ha. in Hutton. Provision in Hutton is boosted by Guisborough Forest and Walkway Country Park (12.6ha.), which actually falls inside the National Park boundary and is located marginally beyond the urban edge; space within the residential area itself is limited and conditions attached to the planning consents for ongoing major residential developments at Galley Hill and Pine Walk require on-site open space provision, including play areas.

3.13 Among the next largest settlements, provision levels vary but minimum standards are seen to be met in Marske, Skelton /New Skelton, Saltburn and Brotton. At Loftus however, relative generic provision (1.1ha. / '000 pop.) is below the standard.

3.14 Provision levels are more prone to variation in smaller rural villages due to the low resident population. No sites were recorded in some small rural settlements including Yearby, Upleatham, Stanghow and Liverton. In these and other rural settlements and peripheral suburban areas, a lack of managed space may be partly compensated by easy access to vast areas of accessible countryside including strategic paths and bridleways.

3.15 Overall, provision in and around public housing estates is typically more generous than in private housing areas, though the former tend to be developed at higher residential densities with less private garden space. Lower density private housing areas, comprising larger or higher value properties tend to have the least space. In some older terraced housing neighbourhoods, developed at very high densities, provision may also be limited and, as such, any local spaces, particularly equipped play areas, may be particularly valuable. It is also the case that there tends to be less pressure from housebuilders to release land for development in and around public housing and other lower value market areas.

3.16 The study has assessed sites throughout the borough – including four spaces which fall inside the North York Moors National Park at Easington, Charlton’s and Pinchinthorpe. The National Park Authority and not Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council is the local planning authority for those areas. As such, planning policy recommendations emerging from this assessment would not be applicable to those sites or areas, and any other relevant issues would need to be dealt with through the Local Plan for the North York Moors.

Table 10 Locational Supply Summary

Locations	Pop. Est.	Qty. (ha.)	Per Capita Supply	Generic	Generic PCS	Natural (ha)	Civic (ha)	Generic %	Natural %	Civic %
Borough	135,177	687	5.1	443	3.3	238	5	64%	35%	1%
Greater Eston	37,320	168	4.5	158	4.2	10	1	93%	6%	1%
Redcar	37,180	265	7.1	161	4.3	100	4	61%	38%	1%
Guisborough	16,979	36	2.1	34	2.0	1.3	0	96%	4%	0%
Marske	8,593	14	1.6	14	1.6	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Skelton & New Skelton	6,070	15	2.5	10	1.6	5	0	65%	35%	0%
Saltburn	5,958	34	5.8	21	3.6	12.5	0.5	62%	37%	1%
Brotton	5,394	14	2.6	9	1.7	5	0	65%	35%	0%
Loftus	4,066	5	1.3	4.6	1.1	1	0	86%	14%	0%
New Marske	2,960	101	34.2	8	2.8	93	0	8%	92%	0%
Lingdale	1,711	10	5.9	2	1.1	8	0	19%	81%	0%
Boosbeck	1,168	5	4.1	5	4.1	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Carlin How	1,155	2	1.7	2	1.7	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Liverton Mines	958	2	2.2	2	2.2	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Easington	923	0.5	0.5	0	0.5	0	0	100%	0%	0%
North Skelton	834	4	5.1	2	2.2	2	0	44%	56%	0%
Lazenby	700	2	3.3	2	3.3	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Skelton Green	550	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.7	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Skinningrove	451	0.5	1.1	1	1.1	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Moorsholm	311	2	5.6	2	5.6	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Margrove Park	280	3	9.8	3	9.8	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Charlton’s	238	2.5	10.5	2.5	10.5	0	0	100%	0%	0%
Newton	70	0.6	8.5	0.6	8.5	0	0	100%	0%	0%

Table 11: Greater Eston Supply Summary

Location	Est. Pop.	Assessed Sites	Total Ha.	Generic Ha.	Relative Supply (Ha. / 000 pop.)
Ormesby Ward	5,940	5	4	4	0.7
Normanby Ward	6,925	14	72	72	10.5
Eston Ward (excl. Lazenby)	6,305	10	12	14	2.0
Teesville Ward	6,600	3	18	18	2.7
South Bank Ward	6,515	13	32	31	5.0
Grangetown Ward	5,035	12	29	19	5.7
Lazenby	700	3	2	2	3.3
Overall	38,020	60	168	158	4.2

Table 12: Redcar Supply Summary

Location	Est. Pop	Assessed Sites	Total Ha.	Generic Ha.	Relative Supply (Ha. / 000 pop.)
Coatham Ward	5,420	4	10	6	1.1
Dormanstown Ward (excl. Yearby)	6,745	18	144	45	6.6
Kirkleatham Ward	7,065	14	56	55	7.8
Newcomen Ward	4,365	1	1	1	0.3
West Dyke Ward+ Mickledales	8,990	11	26	26	2.9
Zetland Ward	4,595	8	28	28	6.2
Overall	37,180	56	265	161	4.3

Table 13: Guisborough Supply Summary

Location	Est. Pop	Assessed Sites	Total Ha.	Generic Ha.	Relative Supply (Ha. / 000 pop.)
Guisborough Ward (excl. Upleatham & Dunsdale)	7,162	5	14	14	1.9
Hutton Ward (excl. Hutton Village & Newton)	6,853	10	18	17	2.6
Westworth Ward (excl. Boosbeck, Charlton's & Margrove Pk)	2,964	4	4	4	1.3
Overall	16,979	19	36	35	2.0

Comparison with 2005 Audit

3.16 The vast majority of spaces were included in the previous assessment. Several new sites have become established and are shown in *Table 14*. Further spaces, to be established as part of ongoing developments have not been recorded. A few sites recorded in 2005 have since been lost to other uses; these sites are listed in *Table 15*. Overall, both the number of new spaces and the quantity of land exceed equivalent losses.

Table 14: Spaces Established Since 2005 Assessment

Map ID	Site	Location	Area (Ha.)	Primary Purpose	Comments
079	Coatham Common	Redcar	6	Amenity area	Former golf course land previously allocated for housing which has since secured village green status and is therefore safeguarded from built development.
044	Leven Street	South Bank	0.4	Kick-about area	Part of cleared older housing area now used as an informal kick-about area with small goalposts installed at opposite ends.
018	Mallinson Park	Normanby	0.3	Amenity area	Small linear space which has recently been established as part of the Mallinson Park housing development along its western periphery. The entire site was formerly college playing field; historically the amenity space was used for landfill activities.
092	Fleetwood Walk	Redcar	0.9	Amenity area	Space provided as part of Kings Chase / Kirkleatham Mews development.
094	Haweswater Road	Redcar	1.2	Amenity area	Former school playing field now maintained as public green space.
215	Kings Chase Link	Redcar	0.5	Amenity area	Linear space along part of southern and western boundaries of Kings Chase development. The land was previously part of the larger space at Hambleton Avenue (see below).
231	Westfield Playing Field	Redcar	4.4	Informal kick-about	Former school site, including the buildings footprint, which was recently opened to public use and provides a large grassed area with footpath access and entrance waste bins. This is a backland space and suitable for ball games, though there are no goalposts or marked pitch areas and the site could equally be used as an amenity area for exercising dogs, etc.
136	De Brus Centre	Skelton	3.9	Sports ground	Former school playing fields now used for football pitches by a local club and fully accessible to public.
066	Campbell Grove	Redcar	0.1	Amenity area	Integral space within Steeplechase development.
040	Eston Pocket Park	Eston	6.4	Amenity area	Former school playing field which is accessible as part of Eston Rec area but has now been formally adopted as an amenity area with seating and tree planting.
232	Deepdale Road	Loftus	0.7	Natural space	Small woodland area created on the site of redundant lock-up garages on the NW edge of Loftus.

Table 15: Spaces Lost Since 2005 Assessment

Site	Location	Area (Ha.)	Comments
Land East of Redcar Road East Estate	South Bank	6.3	Site formerly provided a football pitch and managed natural area since the early 2000s but these uses have been abandoned. The land is in RCBC ownership but falls within the Low Grange Farm proposed housing site and is subject to disposal.
Hambleton Avenue	Redcar	6.0	Large amenity space, most of which was given up for housing (King's Chase / Kirkleatham Mews development) to support redevelopment of the former Courts public housing estate.
Allendale Road	Ormesby	0.5	Former kick-about area in front of Spencerbeck House flats which has been redeveloped for affordable housing.

3.17 Some spaces have undergone changes since 2005 through investment in replacement or additional facilities, or through diversification. At the same time, some fledgling urban woodland areas (whether standalone natural areas or part of multi-functional spaces) have become more established, thereby potentially enhancing environmental and community value. Occasionally, some rationalisation has taken place – for example at Lakes Recreation Ground, Redcar where 3ha. was given up to provide a new site for Redcar Primary Care Hospital.

Quality Audit

Overview

3.18 Quality audit surveys were carried out for all generic, natural and civic spaces and subsequently scored against each indicator. Total scores ranged from 20 to 114 with a mean average of 50 and a median score of 47 (which reflects the propensity of smaller sites). At **Appendix G** sites are listed in scoring order, from highest to lowest. Percentage equivalent scores, as a secondary measure of quality, ranged from 38% to 93% with mean and median averages of 69%. Average scores against the five quality themes are summarised in *Table 16*.

Table 16: Breakdown of Average Quality Audit Scores by Theme

Theme	Mean Average	% Share
Accessibility	7	14%
Appearance	17	33%
Security	13	26%
Facilities	11	21%
Biodiversity	3	6%

3.19 It is apparent that scoring results were weighted in favour of appearance and security indicators, with limited significance in terms of accessibility, and biodiversity in particular. **Appearance** indicators scored the highest, accounting on average for one third of site scores and includes, under 'cleanliness', an assessment of the key areas of litter and dog fouling. **Security** indicators scored next highest and are an important consideration in terms of surveillance, traffic safety and design. **Accessibility** attracted limited scoring, which reflects the fact that the majority of assessed spaces do not have internal paths or multiple entrances. Furthermore, wider access considerations in terms of bus and rail connections and dedicated car and bike parking (unless specifically provided) were only considered against the 13 strategic sites as most users would be expected to be within walking distance of 'lesser' sites with a more localised catchment. The relatively limited scoring against **facilities** is due to the high proportion of smaller grassed amenity spaces in the assessment.

3.20 The particularly low scoring against **biodiversity** indicators reflects the urban location and relatively small size of many sites. Most spaces comprise mown grassland and, in some cases opportunities for intensive planting may be constrained by play and security considerations. Even where amenity and other smaller spaces are relatively well planted up with trees and shrubs, the absolute contribution to biodiversity is insignificant compared to natural areas and other substantial, well vegetated spaces and this distinction was made in scoring sites. Nonetheless, as noted above woodland coverage has increased since the 2005 survey and there may be scope to plant up further areas in suitable urban locations in order to support environmental sustainability, enhance the appearance of spaces and neighbourhoods and respond to maintenance budget pressures.

Site Hierarchy Summary

3.21 In *Table 17*, quality scores have been broken down according to hierarchical status in terms of strategic, neighbourhood, local and doorstep spaces. As might be expected, there is a correlation between site size and significance and average quality score as larger sites have more facilities and infrastructure. This does not apply to percentage scores, however, with neighbourhood sites scoring on average below local spaces. This is because some neighbourhood spaces, particularly larger playing field sites may be more vulnerable to misuse and consequently scored lowly against some indicators, particularly in relation to appearance, while smaller sites have more limited facilities and infrastructure and have therefore been assessed against a narrower range of indicators.

3.22 On larger sites, there was also a greater variation between scores, which is reflected in the variations between mean and median average scores and percentages. On strategic sites this may broadly reflect variations in the range of facilities. For neighbourhood spaces, it may also be symptomatic of variable site conditions.

Table 17: Quality Score Summary by Site Hierarchy

Hierarchy Breakdown	Sites	Mean Quality Score	Median Quality Score	Mean Quality %	Median Quality %
Strategic	13	90	83	79%	82%
Neighbourhood	28	59	58	65%	62%
Local	105	63	63	70%	69%
Doorstep	76	56	55	75%	75%
All Spaces	222	50	47	69%	69%

Site Typology Summary

3.23 In *Table 18*, average quality scores for each site typology are listed, and they are broken down against the five broad themes in *Table 19*, to provide further insight.

Table 18: Quality Score Summary by Primary Purpose

Primary Purpose	Sites	Mean Quality Score	Median Quality Score	Quality Score Mean %	Quality Score Median %	Highest Quality Score	Lowest Quality Score	Variance
Parks	13	79	75	80%	80%	114	59	46
Public Sports Grounds	14	54	53	65%	66%	69	34	35
Large Kick-about	16	47	48	58%	56%	69	24	45
Equipped Play Areas	30	55	57	70%	70%	70	31	39
Small Kick-about	7	49	52	67%	70%	74	28	46
Amenity Areas	122	44	42	70%	70%	76	20	56
Natural Spaces	16	51	41	68%	67%	60	39	21
Civic Hardspace	4	77	77	84%	84%	97	56	41
All Spaces	222	50	47	69%	69%			

Table 19: Quality Score Summary by Theme and Primary Purpose

Theme	Primary Purpose							
	Parks (13)	Public Sports Grounds (14)	Large Kick-about (16)	Equipped Play (30)	Small Kick-about (7)	Amenity (122)	Natural Spaces (16)	Civic Hardspace (4)
Accessibility	12	8	6	6	5	6	11	18
Appearance	24	16	14	17	16	16	19	17
Security	12	12	11	14	13	14	8	15
Facilities	23	16	13	16	14	6	13	25
Biodiversity	8	2	3	2	2	2	10	2
Overall	79	54	47	55	49	44	61	77

3.24 Mean average scores range from 44 (amenity areas) to 79 (parks) and in all categories there are variations at site level. Amenity areas show the largest absolute difference between high and low scores, which is because there are far more sites included in that broad category. However, when median and mean averages are compared, the greatest variation is with natural areas (10), followed by parks (4). This is because both these categories included a mix of high scoring strategic and 'lesser' sites, resulting in a greater outlier effect. Also, where there are a smaller number of sites, the effects of scoring variations are more pronounced, in contrast to amenity areas many of which are similar in terms of size, characteristics and significance.

3.25 Reflecting the range the of facilities and generally high level of maintenance afforded to them , parks scored particularly well in terms of appearance and facilities, and better than most categories under the other themes. Public sports grounds include a number of large multi-functional sites, which scored well in terms of the range of facilities provided and they noticeably out-score the comparable large 'kick-about' areas, some of which lack facilities, and generally perform more poorly in terms of appearance and security, which is indicative of anti-social behaviour problems. Equipped play sites scored comparatively well overall and in terms of security, appearance and facilities, though there were variations in terms of the range and condition of the latter. Amenity areas, overall, scored well in terms of security but poorly in terms of facilities, which reflects the small size, basic characteristics and location of many sites within and well overlooked by housing.

3.26 Natural spaces scored relatively highly in terms of appearance and biodiversity , with significant overall variations between sites and poorly against security indicators due to intensive planting reducing visibility, and the relatively remote location of many of sites. Civic spaces scored highly overall because all four sites are in prominent locations near major roads and are well-appointed and maintained.

Locational Summary

3.27 In *Table 20*, overall quality scores are summarised by location, with highest absolute scores shown first. Inevitably, in Greater Eston and Redcar, where there are far more spaces than elsewhere, the overall rating is constrained by the number of smaller amenity spaces which have limited scores, which in turn creates a greater divergence between the lowest and highest scores. In other cases, such as Carlin How, the co-existence of good and poor quality spaces has resulted in a significant scoring gap.

Table 20: Quality Score Summary by Location

Area / Settlement	Recorded Sites	Mean Quality Score	Median Quality Score	Quality Score - Mean %	Quality Score - Median %	Lowest Score	Highest Score	Variance
Borough	222	50	47	69%	69%	20	114	94
Moorsholm	1	72	72	77%	77%	72	72	n/a
Margrove Park	1	71	71	80%	80%	71	71	n/a
Skinningrove	1	69	69	78%	78%	69	69	n/a
Charlton's	2	57	57	73%	73%	48	65	17
New Marske	5	64	65	81%	81%	52	78	26
Saltburn	9	62	63	74%	73%	41	105	64
Guisborough	19	57	50	72%	71%	38	114	76
Skelton Green	2	54	54	75%	75%	52	55	3
Boosbeck	4	51	48	73%	74%	40	67	27
Redcar	56	51	47	71%	70%	28	97	69
Marske	14	50	44	72%	71%	28	79	51
Lingdale	5	50	50	70%	71%	33	69	36
Loftus	8	50	44	67%	64%	39	67	28
Lazenby	3	49	59	69%	75%	29	59	30
Carlin How	3	49	59	60%	70%	24	63	39
Skelton & New Skelton	16	47	42	72%	73%	31	72	41
Easington	1	47	47	64%	64%	47	47	n/a
Brotton	9	46	47	65%	64%	28	65	37
Greater Eston	57	45	42	70%	67%	20	101	81
Newton	1	42	42	71%	71%	42	42	n/a
Liverton Mines	2	37	37	51%	51%	29	44	15
North Skelton	3	35	34	56%	58%	29	43	14

Site Overview

3.28 To illustrate the range of scoring at site level, *Tables 21* and *22* list the highest and lowest 10% absolute scores. As might be anticipated, larger sites and particularly those with strategic significance tend to be ranked higher than the many residential amenity spaces as they are likely to have more facilities, planting and infrastructure such as paths and seating and they may benefit from a more intensive maintenance regime.

3.29 The top three sites are the borough's three urban country parks, all of which have achieved annual Green Flag Award status over several years. Unsurprisingly, a disproportionate number of strategic spaces (10 out of 22) fall within the top 10%, 6 are classed as having neighbourhood significance and the other 6 are identified as local sites, which is testimony to larger sites, and parks in particular, having more facilities and high maintenance standards. Some of the smaller sites within this grouping have benefitted from external funding streams or recent improvements.

3.30 All sites scoring in the lowest 10% were identified in the hierarchy as either doorstep or local spaces. Most of these sites are small and basic. They may be fit for purpose, but they typically have limited environmental and wider community value and limited facilities and infrastructure. The list does however include five informal kick-about sites and one equipped play area, all of which were to be in relatively in poor condition with outdated, limited or vandalised equipment. The list also includes three fledgling woodland areas. The comparison percentage scores vary markedly from 38% to 72% with lower percentage scores likely to reflect for example poor ground conditions and appearance, a higher incidence of vandalism and other anti-social behaviour and security issues.

Table 21: Site Quality Rankings – Highest 10% Scores

Position	ID	Site	Location	Primary Purpose	Hierarchy Status	Score	%
1	211	Guisborough Forest and Walkway Country Park	Guisborough	UP	Strategic	114	88%
2	133	Saltburn Valley Gardens	Saltburn	UP	Strategic	105	85%
3	019	Flatts Lane Woodland Country Park	Normanby	UP	Strategic	101	81%
4	081	Redcar Seafront	Redcar	CS	Strategic	97	93%
5	078	Locke Park	Redcar	UP	Strategic	97	85%
6	087	Foxrush Community Woodland	Redcar	NS	Neighbourhood	88	81%
7	188	King George V Playing Field	Guisborough	SG	Neighbourhood	87	73%
8	118	Marske Valley Gardens	Marske	RA	Local	79	89%
9	218	Redcar High Street	Redcar	CS	Strategic	79	84%
10	051	Errington Woods	New Marske	NS	Strategic	78	75%
11	082	Kirkleatham Museum	Redcar	EP	Strategic	76	81%
12	135	Saltburn Promenade	Saltburn	CS	Strategic	75	83%
13	189	Chapel Beck Walkway / Westgate Park	Guisborough	UP	Neighbourhood	75	72%
14	101	Borough Park	Redcar	UP	Neighbourhood	74	88%
15	097	Zetland Park	Redcar	UP	Neighbourhood	74	83%
16	120	Marske Village Green	Marske	IK	Local	74	83%
17	032	Grangetown Millenium Green	Grangetown	UP	Local	74	79%
18	173	Moorsholm Green	Moorsholm	SG	Local	72	77%
19	149	Layland Beck Community Park	New Skelton	NS	Neighbourhood	72	73%
20	096	The Stray	Redcar	NS	Strategic	72	69%
21	057	Grangetown Park	Grangetown	UP	Local	71	85%
22	182	Margrove Park	Margrove Park	RA	Local	71	80%

NS - Natural Space; CS - Civic Space; UP – Urban Park; SG – Sports Ground; RA-Residential Amenity Space;

Table 22: Site Quality Rankings – Lowest 10% Scores

Position	ID	Site	Location	Primary Purpose	Hierarchy Status	Score	%
200	110	Mickledales Amenity Space	Redcar	RA	Local	33	67%
201	177	Lingdale Pit East	Lingdale	NS	Local	33	67%
202	122	Wheatlands Drive	Marske	RA	Doorstep	32	71%
203	090	Mablethorpe Close	Redcar	RA	Doorstep	32	65%
204	113	Beardmore Av	Marske	RA	Local	32	59%
205	071	Britannia Place	Dormanstown	RA	Doorstep	31	63%
206	063	Westfield Way (S)	Dormanstown	RA	Doorstep	31	63%
207	139	Ennerdale Crescent	Skelton	EP	Local	31	62%
208	009	Normanby Road/ Ainsworth Way	Spencerbeck	RA	Local	31	57%
209	033	Grisedale Cres	Grangetown	IK	Local	30	61%
210	075	Broadway West	Dormanstown	RA	Doorstep	30	55%
211	202	North Skelton Woodland	North Skelton	NS	Local	29	59%
212	059	Wilton Green	Lazenby	IK	Local	29	49%
213	172	Ironstone Way	Liverton Mines	IK	Local	29	45%
214	124	Limes Crescent	Marske	RA	Doorstep	28	72%
215	044	Leven Street	South Bank	IK	Doorstep	28	64%
216	229	Ings Lane Woodland	Brotton	NS	Local	28	64%
217	016	Bexley Drive	Normanby	RA	Doorstep	28	62%
218	072	Abercrombie Road	Dormanstown	RA	Doorstep	28	57%
219	228	Church Lane Corridor (South)	Grangetown	RA	Local	26	53%
220	035	Monmouth Road	Grangetown	RA	Doorstep	24	55%
221	209	Mill Lane	Carlin How	IK	Local	24	38%
222	058	Mushroom Grove	Grangetown	RA	Local	20	41%

RA-Residential Amenity Space; NS - Natural Space; EP – Equipped Play Area; IK – Informal Kick-about Area .

Overall Observations

3.31 Although quality varies significantly between spaces, even on sites scoring highly in absolute and relative terms there may still be scope for enhancement. Some potential improvements were noted in the site visits.

3.32 The audit found that the majority of spaces were generally fit for purpose, though some 'kick-about' areas were in a particularly poor condition. The extent to which sites are needed and should be retained for current purposes would however also depend on the extent and nature of provision nearby, and prospective change for example through improvement programmes and future housing developments.

3.33 Because the quality survey assessed spaces according to a wide range of indicators, there is scope for conflict between different themes and indicators. For example, while increased tree planting improves biodiversity and appearance, concerns about surveillance and openness may limit the scope for this. Likewise, imposing effective barriers to prevent misuse for example through off-road vehicles, may also restrict or deter usage.

3.34 Facilities contribute significantly to site scores, so larger sites tend to rank higher, while on smaller spaces the provision of basic infrastructure such as paths and seating, and good connectivity with a wider green network can disproportionately elevate scores significantly above peer sites, which might otherwise be of comparable or possibly better quality in terms of other aspects such as appearance and cleanliness.

3.35 There is a degree of user conflict between motor vehicles and open space, ranging from worn or pitted peripheral ground to drivers using the site for parking in the absence of a driveway and outright off-roading by dirt bikes or cars, usually on larger sites. Minor conflict may stem from the vast increase in the number of vehicles on the road compared to when estates were built, and in some older housing areas particularly where road widths are narrow. Resolving this problem might be helped by rationalisation of some spaces to provide additional parking or passing areas⁷, while reinforcing site boundaries through fencing, barriers or planting to prevent vehicles getting onto the grass.

3.36 Sites in more deprived areas tended to score lower than comparable sites elsewhere as evidence of problems such as vandalism, litter, dog fouling and misuse were more acute –including some well overlooked sites. Conversely, other sites in deprived areas, possibly not well used due to a reduced population and benefitting from recent third party funding and from CCTV surveillance, evidently had fewer problems and scored highly in terms of the range and condition of facilities and infrastructure.

3.37 'Off-roading' has become a problem particularly on larger, open sites and natural areas where security barriers are limited and it has become more prevalent since the previous assessment with, accordingly, more 'k' barriers installed to resist intrusion at site entrances.

3.38 Large and less well-overlooked sites are generally most vulnerable to anti-social behaviour which reflects the importance of passive surveillance, particularly where sites are directly overlooked from property frontages and highways. On larger sites, rationalisation through development but without undermining functionality may help to improve surveillance, allied to

⁷ There are examples of this, such as on the residential amenity space at Grosvenor Gardens, Normanby (site 015).

reinforced perimeter security. However, while this may reflect strong design principles, where play facilities are provided on well overlooked sites, this can give rise to disquiet and complaints from nearby residents about noise or other disturbance, which sometimes results in equipment being removed.

3.39 Site quality may be affected by different levels of usage. Larger multi-functional and small amenity spaces which are in prominent locations and thoroughfares and are well used may have more problems and be less visually attractive than lower profile spaces concealed within housing neighbourhoods, but they may also be of greater community value. One exception to this is the major parks which tend to be subject to higher maintenance and security standards and in some cases are locked after dark.

3.40 There is potential for user conflict, perhaps most notably between informal play and kick-about areas and dog owners, or between older and younger children. The first issue especially illustrates the importance of providing secured, enclosed play areas or multi-use games areas (MUGAs), and where appropriate potentially dividing sites internally between different users and uses, whether through good design to segregate different age groups and uses (including dog exercise areas), or introducing practical measures such as fencing or signage in order to create genuinely multi-faceted spaces which can appeal successfully to different user groups.

Accessibility Audit

Overview

3.41 The identification of a notional four-tier site hierarchy to reflect the role and significance of all sites in the assessment has provided the basis for the accessibility audit. Sites were identified as strategic, neighbourhood, local or doorstep spaces and the results are summarised in *Table 23*. A list of sites and indicative hierarchy status is attached at **Appendix H**.

Table 23: Site Hierarchy Summary

Hierarchy Status	Indicative User Catchment	Sites	Generic	Natural	Civic	Sites %	Area (Ha)	Area %	Avg. Size (Mean, Ha.)
Strategic	1600m	13	8	2	3	6%	303	44%	23
Neighbourhood	800m	28	23	4	1	13%	223	33%	8.3
Local	400m	105	95	10	0	47%	143	20%	1.4
Doorstep	n/a	76	76	0	0	34%	18	3%	0.24
All Sites		222	202	16	4	100%	687	100%	3.1

3.42 The accessibility audit comprised a desk-based exercise involving the identification and mapping of user distance thresholds for generic spaces using the indicative standards outlined above, and mapping the results to identify any gaps in provision.

3.43 As noted previously, natural areas and civic spaces were excluded from this part of the assessment as there are no comparative minimum local standards, and sites classified as doorstep spaces, in typically having very limited reach, were not included in the exercise either. 126 generic open spaces were therefore included in the accessibility audit, comprising 8 sites identified as strategic spaces (1600m catchment / 20 minutes' walk), 23 neighbourhood spaces (800m / 10 minutes) and 95 local spaces (400m / 5 minutes).

3.44 In mapping larger catchments, account was taken of physical access barriers, such as Redcar Racecourse, land at Newstead Farm in the west of Guisborough, the A174 Teesside Parkway and the Darlington to Saltburn railway line plus, where appropriate, any perceptible barriers where particular open spaces may be strongly attributable to specific neighbourhoods or housing estates (such as site 020 - Bankfields estate playing field).

3.45 The application of distance catchments found that most areas, and the overwhelming majority of households have at least one local space within 400m. Resonating with the quantity audit findings, there are spatial variations ranging from areas falling within the catchment of a single site, to others served by a selection of spaces. Residential areas falling outside notional catchments are illustrated in *Figure 1* and described in *Table 24*.



Legend
Areas outside catchment



Figure 1 - Residential Areas Outside Assessed Catchments



Date: 17/05/2016
Drawn by: DM
Scale: A3 = 1:20,000
DWG No: PLN6607E2

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Table 24: Residential Areas Falling Outside Notional Open Space Catchments

Area / Settlement	Residential Location	Comments
Greater Eston (Ormesby Ward)	Part of Nunthorpe, south of Guisborough Road.	Lower density housing area falling outwith notional catchment of Byland Road play area (site 001). Unmanaged Council-owned and partly wooded area between housing and by-pass is used for informal recreation.
	Part of Nunthorpe, towards Gypsy Lane station.	Falls outwith notional catchment of Byland Road play area. Relatively short distance and walk from larger amenity and play space across the administrative boundary, at The Avenue, though this involves negotiating a railway crossing.
	Part of area West of Ormesby Bank either side of A174.	Steeply sloping suburban housing area which backs onto the partly-accessible Ormesby Hall Estate and falls outwith notional catchments of Eastbank Road Play Area (site 002), Spencerbeck Field (site 004) and further east, the Flatts Lane Country Park (site 019).
Marske	Small part of built-up area towards eastern periphery.	The area contains some doorstep amenity spaces at Hambleton Crescent.
Skelton	Area between Skelton Green and Skelton High Street.	This area is steeply sloping and contains residential properties with substantial garden plots.
Brotton	South western extremity of built-up area in the Millholme Drive area.	This is a very small area which falls outside the catchment of Marshall Drive neighbourhood space (site 158) and contains a doorstep amenity space at Woodside (site 151).
Skinningrove	Northern part of Skinningrove encompassing the village centre.	Skinningrove has a linear settlement form and this area, towards the foreshore, falls beyond the notional 400m catchment of the doorstep green located at the southern approach to the village (site 162).
Loftus	Western periphery of Loftus.	This is a tightly developed older housing area with woodlands nearby but there is no formal urban greenspace. Loftus tip, north of Loftus Leisure Centre, is an extensive open area of vacant Council-owned land which appears to be well used for exercising dogs but it is not formally maintained as open space.
	Southern edge of Loftus at Rosecroft Lane.	This is a small residential neighbourhood in a semi-rural location. The former Rosecroft School playing fields are substantial and occupy the eastern side of Rosecroft Lane but they are not maintained as adopted open space.
Easington	Part of Easington south of A174	Private housing area lying beyond the equipped play site at the NE edge of the village (site 170). Easington is in the North York Moors National Park where the National Park is the local planning authority.
Lingdale	Western extremity of linear settlement.	Small part of village just beyond catchment of play area further east (site 176).

3.46 The most significant residential areas falling outside the notional distance catchments are at Nunthorpe and the upper part of Ormesby Bank, and the western part of Loftus towards the leisure centre. The former is an outer suburban area on the edge of the Teesside conurbation and it contains areas of lower density private housing with large gardens and is steeply sloping in places; these factors restrict the potential to increase public space provision which consequently tends to be lower in such areas.

3.47 The western part of Loftus, near the top of Loftus Bank, includes a compact area of tightly developed, older (inter- and pre-war) residential streets with limited garden space. Open space provision is restricted to evidently well used allotment plots on land between St Hilda's Terrace and Loftus Bank, and a small (0.7ha.) community woodland at Deepdale Road recently created by Coast & Country Housing (site 232). There are dense wooded beck valleys to the west and south west of Loftus, but access is difficult in places.

3.48 It was observed during the site visits that the substantial former waste tip area to the north of Loftus Leisure Centre comprising rough grassland and unadopted paths is popular with dog owners. This open area also adjoins an accessible unmanaged and sloped wooded area towards Hummersea Primary School. All of this land is in Council ownership but the potential to adopt it formally as public open space is restricted by ground conditions, with geotechnical investigations having detected landfill gas emissions.

Public Consultation

Overview

3.49 The consultation survey questionnaire yielded 325 responses, and provided a reasonable sample from which to undertake further assessment of satisfaction levels overall, for different types of space and between places.

3.50 However, it should be noted that because *Viewfinder* provided the principal channel of consultation, the response reflected the views of residents who participate in regular surveys about various topics through being Viewfinder panel members, rather than a wider community interest in open space issues.

3.51 Post-survey analysis has revealed variations in responses levels between residential locations and in terms of age group distribution, which provide some context to the nature of the feedback received.

Spatial Distribution

3.52 To assist the analysis, survey question 11 asked participants to state their postcode. 249 responses were forthcoming, including one void return with an untraceable postcode. The response level is equivalent to a 77% success rate and, therefore, while not totally representative of the survey it was sufficient to enable comparison between different residential locations.

3.53 *Table 25* shows the distribution of respondents from the postcode answers, in order of resident population from high to low.

Table 25: Indicative Geographical Distribution of Survey Responses

Location	Est. Pop.*	%	Responses	%
Greater Eston	38,020	28%	31	12%
Redcar	37,180	28%	90	36%
Guisborough	16,979	13%	40	16%
Marske	8,593	6%	29	12%
Skelton	6,070	4%	2	0.8%
Saltburn	5,958	4%	33	13%
Brotton	5,394	4%	7	3%
Loftus	4,066	3%	1	0.4%
New Marske	2,960	2%	3	1%
Lingdale	1,711	1.3%	5	2.0%
Carlin How	1,155	0.9%	1	0.4%
Boosbeck	1,168	0.9%	0	0.0%
Liverton Mines	958	0.7%	1	0.4%
North Skelton	834	0.6%	2	0.6%
Skelton Green	550	0.6%	2	0.8%
Skinningrove	451	0.3%	1	0.4%
Totals	134,499		248	

*Based on 2011 Census figures.

3.54 The following distinctions are apparent from the table:

- There was an uneven geographical distribution in relative responses, with Greater Eston (31) underrepresented in particular, and a high rate of responses from residents of Saltburn and Marske, from which a similar number of responses were received to despite both having significantly smaller populations than Greater Eston.
- There was a healthy response rate from Redcar residents (90), accounting for over one-third of all replies and three times as many as Greater Eston with a comparable population. The number of responses from Guisborough (40) also exceeded the latter despite having less than half the resident population.
- Amongst the main rural settlements, there was a particular low response from Skelton (2) and Loftus (1).
- The underlying implication of these spatial differences is that the wider survey is more likely to reflect the views of residents in parts of Redcar and Guisborough and in Saltburn and Marske than elsewhere in the borough.

3.55 There were also some variations within the largest residential areas of Greater Eston, Redcar and Guisborough. In Greater Eston (including Lazenby), 33% of respondents were from Ormesby ward, which has 15% of the population. In Redcar, a higher proportion of respondents (43%) lived in the eastern residential areas between Redcar Racecourse and the coast, focussed on the wards of West Dyke and Zetland. In Guisborough, over 80% of respondents lived in the southern and western parts of the town in wards of Hutton and Westworth) with a significantly lower proportion (15%) in Guisborough ward in the north of the town.

3.56 Common to all the above is that a higher proportion of respondents lived in areas where private and higher value suburban housing are dominant. One significant aspect of this trend is that with some exceptions (such as east Redcar), public open space provision in these areas may be below average, particularly where housing has been developed at relatively lower densities.

Age Demographic Distribution

3.57 The breakdown of responses also indicate an imbalance between age groups as shown in *Table 26* below, which confirms that older age groups were over-represented relative to the share of the adult population, with a particularly low response from adults under 35 and a high response in the 55-74 age bracket. The age imbalance ties in with the spatial distribution of responses, with wards at Saltburn, Guisborough and Marske (St. Germain's) all having relatively high proportions of retirement-age residents.

3.58 The survey did not, moreover, include consultation with children or youth groups and the response from 16-24 year old was the smallest of any age group.

Table 26: Comparative Age Group Breakdown of Survey Respondents

Population Age Cohort	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+
ONS 2014 Mid-Year Population Estimates	11.8%	11.3%	11.1%	14.8%	14.1%	11.8%	6.9%	2.5%
Survey Responses	1.1%	3.8%	20.9%	20.9%	24.3%	22.4%	4.6%	1.9%

3.59 It is also acknowledged that while the survey has generated a reasonable level of responses and opinion about open spaces - albeit unevenly distributed geographically and demographically - to achieve the primary objectives to inform the assessment and facilitate comparison with the audit findings, the nature of the consultation via a questionnaire survey did not, by design, seek to garner more detailed views than might be achieved for example through a qualitative approach including discussions with open space management personnel as well users, user groups and the wider public through for example neighbourhood panels. Further investigation and consultation would therefore be recommended to explore site and area issues in more detail, for example as part of a neighbourhood plan or area improvement scheme.

Consultation Feedback Summary

Open Space Quantity

3.60 Question 1 of the survey asked participants whether there was sufficient provision of different types of open space within their home locality, include answers for green corridors and allotments. It should be noted that the survey included country parks under the category of natural spaces (due to their semi-rural location and significant areas of woodland planting) but in the subsequent analysis they have since been included under the category of 'Parks' in line with PPG17 definitions and because there are some similarities with municipal urban parks.

3.61 The majority of participants (319 out of 325) responded to this question. The results are summarised in *Table 27*, and converted into percentages at *Table 28*, with the highest responses shown in bold type.

Table 27: Survey Response – Open Space Supply

Type / Rating	More than enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	Undecided	Response Count
Local Amenity Spaces	14	139	59	86	12	310
Equipped Play Areas	9	107	62	130	6	314
Teenage Provision	3	31	26	229	26	315
Sports Pitches	13	108	53	127	16	317
Urban Parks	11	117	70	105	11	314
Natural Areas	21	122	53	114	3	313
Civic Spaces	19	113	81	64	36	313
Green Corridors	5	98	76	117	17	313
Allotments	21	116	60	87	31	315

Table 28: Survey Response – Open Space Supply % Breakdown

Type / Rating	More than enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	Undecided	Response Count
Local Amenity Spaces	5%	45%	19%	28%	4%	100%
Equipped Play Areas	3%	34%	20%	41%	2%	100%
Teenage Provision	1%	10%	8%	73%	8%	100%
Sports Pitches	4%	34%	17%	40%	5%	100%
Urban Parks	4%	37%	22%	33%	4%	100%
Natural Areas	7%	39%	17%	36%	1%	100%
Civic Spaces	6%	36%	26%	20%	12%	100%
Green Corridors	2%	31%	24%	37%	5%	100%
Allotments	7%	37%	19%	28%	10%	100%

3.62 There were no instances where the most popular response option was that provision was 'more than enough'. The majority responses were that supply was either 'about right', 'nearly enough' or 'not enough'.

3.63 For amenity spaces, urban parks, civic spaces, natural areas and allotments, the most popular response was 'about right', though for natural areas and urban parks there was a small gap with responses indicating provision was not enough.

3.64 For equipped play areas, teenage provision, sports pitches and green corridors more respondents selected the 'not enough' option than 'about right'. The standout response here concerned the teenage provision category, whereby an overwhelming majority (73%) indicated that the level of supply was not enough. This is therefore a key issue which merits further investigation. For equipped play areas, the number of responses indicating the supply was not enough was higher than those who thought it was about right with a smaller number suggesting provision was nearly enough. Similar results were reported for sports pitches.

3.65 In terms of amenity spaces, significantly more respondents thought that there was sufficient provision than not enough (which would correspond to the audit findings), though the latter group still comprised a sizeable minority. The split was less clear cut in relation to urban parks, which perhaps reflects the uneven distribution of formal parks around the Borough, with the main urban parks all in Redcar. For natural spaces, marginally more respondents thought that provision was about right than those who thought it was not enough.

Open Space Quality

3.66 Survey question 2 asked respondents to rate the overall quality of different types of open space listed at question 1, along with cemeteries and churchyards and beaches. The vast majority of

survey participants also responded to this question. The results are summarised in *Table 29*, with equivalent percentages in *Table 30* and the most popular answers again highlighted.

Table 29: Survey Responses – Open Space Quality

Type / Rating	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Very Poor	Undecided	N/A	Response Count
Local Amenity Spaces	11	57	131	81	17	12	1	310
Equipped Play Areas	10	50	109	94	42	8	5	318
Teenage Provision	2	23	31	127	92	23	14	312
Sports Pitches	6	41	131	74	37	18	11	318
Urban Parks	5	59	118	80	37	6	6	311
Natural Areas	14	23	32	24	6	3	0	102
Civic Spaces	3	48	142	58	18	25	19	313
Cemeteries / Church Yards	11	98	141	34	18	7	6	315
Green Corridors	5	55	128	67	32	18	6	311
Beaches / Sand Dunes	24	89	99	46	21	1	33	313

Table 30: Survey Responses – Open Space Quality % Breakdown

Type / Rating	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Very Poor	Undecided	N/A	Response Count
Local Amenity Spaces	4%	18%	42%	26%	5%	4%	0%	100%
Equipped Play Areas	3%	16%	34%	30%	13%	3%	2%	100%
Teenage Provision	1%	7%	10%	41%	29%	7%	4%	100%
Sports Pitches	2%	13%	41%	23%	12%	6%	3%	100%
Urban Parks	2%	19%	38%	26%	12%	2%	2%	100%
Natural Areas	14%	23%	31%	24%	6%	3%	0%	100%
Civic Spaces	1%	15%	45%	19%	6%	8%	6%	100%
Cemeteries / Church Yards	3%	31%	45%	11%	6%	2%	2%	100%
Green Corridors	2%	18%	41%	22%	10%	6%	2%	100%
Beaches / Sand Dunes	8%	28%	32%	15%	7%	0%	11%	100%

3.67 With the exception of teenage provision, the dominant rating given was ‘satisfactory’, to varying degrees. The figures for teenage provision stand out because over two-thirds of participants rated the quality of these sites as poor or very poor and, moreover, these responses align with the relatively low overall quality ratings emerging from the site audits for kick-about areas in particular.

3.68 Equipped play areas received a comparatively high share of poor ratings and with the exception of cemeteries and churchyards and beaches / sand dunes, ‘poor’ ratings exceeded ‘good’ ratings for all categories. The ratings for amenity spaces are particularly significant as they account for the majority of open spaces in the assessment. Just under two thirds of responses rated them as satisfactory, good or very good, but a sizeable proportion gave a ‘poor’ quality rating; similar

observations can be made about sports pitches and urban parks. It is noticeable that comparatively few responses were received in relation to natural areas.

3.69 Survey questions 5 to 8 asked participants in more detail about the **quality** of their local open space, or one with which they were familiar. Reflecting the spatial distribution of responses, the most comments were received for spaces in Redcar (44%), Guisborough (16%), Saltburn (16%) and Greater Eston (12%). For Marske, site-specific comments (13) were noticeably fewer than the number of resident respondents (29), which perhaps reflect the fact that most spaces in Marske are relatively small, and there is no major multi-functional site.

3.70 Feedback was received from 240 participants on a total of 70 spaces; these sites are listed at **Appendix I** in order of comments received. The number of comments on individual sites ranged from 1 to 26 (Saltburn Valley Gardens), with next highest being on five major open spaces in Redcar (between 9 and 17) and two in Guisborough (9 each). The range of responses received indicates that people are more likely to use or be aware of larger parks and spaces, rather than small nearby amenity areas.

3.71 In addition to comments on generic open spaces, in 45 cases comments referred to other sites such as private sports clubs, beaches, cemeteries and vacant land, none-specific spaces particularly at Marske (4) and Guisborough (3), and generally in terms of surrounding countryside and green corridors. Reference was also made to usage of spaces beyond the borough boundary; specifically Stewart Park, Preston Park and Middlesbrough Sports Village.

3.72 Question 6 asked to participants to respond to identify any positive descriptive attributes about local spaces from a selection of 21 options, based on the five quality themes of appearances, accessibility, security and safety, facilities and biodiversity. The top five ranking responses are set out in *Table 31* and indicate that users tend to have good access to local spaces in particular, and that spaces are safe from highways. It is also apparent that dog walking is a popular activity, at least among the survey group. Although positive appearance features in the top five, it is noticeable the proportion was below 50 per cent of responses

Table 31: Survey Responses– Five Highest Positive Quality Indicators

Answer Options	Response %
Site is conveniently located near home or easily accessible by bike, car or public transport.	78.2%
Well secured from traffic.	65.7%
Ideal for exercising dogs.	60.9%
Well-kept grass.	59.8%
Generally attractive site which enhances the appearance of the wider area.	47.6%

3.73 Similarly, in question 7 a total of 15 negative attributes regarding site quality were set out and participants asked to confirm how relevant they were to the selected site. The most popular responses are set out in *Table 32* and show that cleanliness issues were by some way the most significant. This is partly to be expected as these considerations apply to every site, unlike for example the condition of paths or seating. The lowest scoring answer (8) related to spaces being remote from housing which corresponds to the lead answer in the previous question about spaces being conveniently located.

Table 32: Survey Responses - Five Highest Negative Quality Indicators

Answer Options	Major Issue	Minor Issue	Unsure	N/A
Dog fouling.	142	89	19	9
Litter.	107	121	14	13
Poorly maintained paths or seating.	56	71	32	71
Poorly maintained (or inadequate) planted areas.	53	83	27	68
Anti-social behaviour such as alcohol or drug abuse, gang intimidation or excessive noise.	52	84	49	55
Vandalism to planted areas, signage or facilities.	51	74	40	71

3.74 Survey question 8 asked whether the selected space could be improved from a simple yes or no. 79% of respondents gave a 'Yes' answer. Following on from this, suggestions for improvement were invited. This generated 190 responses, some of which relate to operational or other matters rather than open space planning or design issues, or more general points. Nonetheless, the responses provide a wealth of information about individual spaces and ideas about how they might be improved.

3.75 Question 10 provided the opportunity for additional comments about open space provision. This question generated 99 responses. Some of the comments received related to issues not relevant to the assessment of current open space provision (such as objection to further greenfield housing developments). Other comments were also related to indoor recreation facilities, or were more relevant to the Playing Pitch Strategy.

3.76 The majority of comments did however have direct relevance to planning or operational issues. These responses can be divided into general and area-specific comments and are summarised as such below.

General Observations

- Investment needed, to attract more visitors to the borough.
- Provide separate dog exercise areas (such as at Albert Park in Middlesbrough).
- Open spaces need to be more natural such as with long grasses and wild flowers to promote biodiversity and environmental education.
- Teen shelters are counterproductive as they are designed to attract young people to a particular location but as the group grows so does noise disturbance which ultimately leads to the issue of dispersal orders.
- Quality improvements are needed rather than additional provision.
- There is insufficient space for teenagers (several comments).
- Provide high quality parks, including effective management of anti-social behaviour.
- Noise disturbance during the evenings.
- Upkeep of bridleways could be better.
- Equipped play areas are of poor quality and lack imagination.
- Facilities for teenagers are non-existent in some areas and their needs are ignored by the community.
- More teenage provision in terms of seating areas is required.

- More provision for children and young people is needed.
- Recognition that budget constraints limit scope for investment and improvement.
- Improvements to grounds maintenance have been noticeable.
- Littering (several respondents).
- Dog fouling is a major problem (several respondents).
- Widen paths to cater for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Spaces are basic and not well maintained with an over-reliance on voluntary groups.
- Improve allotment site maintenance.
- Facilities need to be provided for active older residents.
- Enforcement measures need to be more effective.
- All spaces should be retained and managed.
- Improve indigenous and migratory bird population control from an environmental health perspective.
- Budget cut mean some spaces are being neglected and have become 'no man's land'; these areas should be allowed to grow naturally to encourage wildlife.
- Lack of organised activities to encourage usage.
- Generally well-maintained.
- Overall space is sufficient but quality needs to be improved.
- Verges are cut too often – should give way to wild flowers etc.
- Large areas of mown grass are ecologically unsound and boring.
- Vandalism to young trees is a particular problem; should plant fewer but more established trees.
- Off-roading is a major problem

Area -Specific Observations

- Could do with a formal park in Guisborough.
- In Guisborough, provision is relatively poor with underinvestment and spaces need to be retained.
- General satisfaction with open spaces in Saltburn though there is scope for improved maintenance and management of some areas.
- Lack of play space in parts of Normanby.
- Lack of play areas in newer parts of Skelton.
- Improve tennis courts at Marske.
- Improve routine management of Redcar Stray to address litter and dog fouling provision (for example with more and better quality waste bins).
- Guisborough should employ a town warden.
- Limited opportunities for outdoor activities in Grangetown.
- Insufficient play areas for all ages in Guisborough.
- Varied allotment site quality in Redcar.
- Insufficient space in Nunthorpe and land is being lost to development.
- Redcar has some good quality quiet spaces but they need to be policed and maintained better.

The above points, particularly those which were repeated, broadly reflect and expand upon on the nature of responses to earlier questions, for example in terms of litter and dog fouling problems and provision for children and young people.

Open Space Accessibility

3.77 Question 3 asked participants how long in terms of the time they would expect to travel to different types of open space: This was followed up with corresponding question 4 which asked which mode of transport they would most likely chose in travelling to different spaces. Summary responses are set out in *Tables 33 and 34* below, with the most popular answers highlighted for each typology.

Table 33: Survey Responses – Anticipated Walking Times

Answer Options	Up to 5 minutes	Between 5 and 10 minutes	Between 10 and 20 minutes	Over 20 minutes	Public Transport Journey	Undecided /Unlikely to use	Response Count
Local Amenity Spaces	67	112	93	9	2	7	290
Equipped Play Areas	71	135	69	6	0	14	295
Teenage Provision	40	96	93	23	2	35	289
Sports Pitches	20	83	118	42	9	23	295
Urban Parks	21	107	122	30	9	3	292
Natural Areas	27	81	122	50	13	0	293
Allotments	28	84	123	22	3	30	290
Cemeteries/Churchyards	15	59	136	51	15	16	292
Green Corridors	46	99	101	28	6	13	293
Civic Spaces	14	82	116	38	15	24	289
Beaches/Sand Dunes	10	53	125	55	36	13	292

Table 34: Survey Responses: Preferred Travel Modes

Answer Options	Walking	Cycling	Public Transport	Car	Unlikely to use	Response Count
Local Amenity Spaces	232	9	4	48	2	295
Equipped Play Areas	206	7	0	34	49	296
Teenage Provision	128	13	5	34	112	292
Sports Pitches	112	11	11	79	78	291
Urban Parks	157	15	14	94	9	289
Natural Areas	163	16	13	98	3	293
Allotments	135	15	3	52	86	291
Cemeteries/Churchyards	126	6	13	100	49	294
Green Corridors	181	20	10	65	18	294
Civic Spaces	145	10	16	99	24	294
Beaches/Sand Dunes	137	5	11	134	7	294

3.78 In all cases, most respondents would expect to walk to spaces with some reliance on the car to varying degrees and limited reliance on public transport. In terms of walking times, the differences broadly reflect the open space hierarchy and justify the distance threshold assumptions applied to the accessibility audit for local, neighbourhood and strategic spaces. For local amenity areas, the highest proportion of respondents would anticipate a walking time of between 5 and 10

minutes, with a considerable number allowing between 10 and 15 minutes. For equipped play areas, anticipated walking times are the shortest of any spaces.

3.79 For teenage provision, there is a narrow margin between 5 and 10 and 10 and 15 minutes. A high proportion of these sites are playing fields. For the purposes of the assessment they were primary classed as sports grounds or kick-about areas and in the accessibility audit a high proportion were identified as neighbourhood spaces with an 800m (10 to 15 minute walking) catchment. At the same time, despite the questionnaire eliciting strong negative responses regarding site quality and provision levels, it is noticeable (and understandable given the respondents' age group breakdown), that the vast majority indicated that they would be 'unlikely to use' these spaces.

3.80 Reflecting size and hierarchical significance, longer walking distances are anticipated for sports pitches, urban parks and natural areas, with 10-20 minutes the most popular option, and a higher proportion more likely to use cars.

Further Analysis

3.81 In light of the feedback received from the consultation survey, further work has been undertaken in relation to Older Children and Teenage Provision and Younger Children's Play Areas, as dissatisfaction levels were highest with these types of space.

Provision for Older Children and Teenagers

3.82 Some multi-purpose sites in the borough incorporate segregated play facilities for both age groups, and while it may be possible to draw broad distinctions between equipped play areas and informal (typically smaller) grassed spaces clearly targeting younger children, the needs of older children and teenagers are not easily defined. In providing a clear distinction from younger children's provision, the consultation survey defined 'teenage provision as 'larger play areas suitable for informal ball games and for use by older children and teenagers'.

3.83 The range of spaces included within this category, meeting the above definition is broad and varied, from larger grassed playing fields generally suitable for ball games, or the playing of formal matches, to more targeted facilities including all-weather MUGAs, play and exercise equipment suitable for older children and youths, skateboard parks or ramps, BMX courses and teenage shelters. On some sites, there may be a combination of these elements.

3.84 There were 41 sites recorded in the audit as incorporating one or more of the above uses. 19 of the sites were primarily classified as 'kick-about' areas, another 14 as 'sports grounds', 6 as equipped play areas and 2 as urban parks. Collectively, the sites occupy an area of 179 hectares and have a mean average size of 5 hectares, though sites vary in size from 0.6 ha. (Lazenby Play Area) to 22ha. (Eston Recreation Ground) and the median average size was 2.5ha.

3.85 The quantity audit measured relative teenage provision at 1.2 ha. per '000 residents; this significantly exceeds the minimum standard of 0.5 ha. per '000 pop. and does not include secondary sites. This is therefore at odds with the overwhelming view that the level of provision was insufficient (229 out of 315 responses). To some extent this divergence may reflect the geographical imbalance of responses towards areas with low levels of provision, and a perceived inadequacy of existing sites regardless of local provision. It is also the case that as the estimate is based on the assigned primary purpose of each site, rather than a more detailed breakdown between different open space 'uses', in undertaking further analysis the quantity estimates are a less reliable indicator of relative supply than notional accessibility catchments.

3.86 In terms of site hierarchy and accessibility distance thresholds, 19 sites were identified in the audit as being neighbourhood spaces and 22 as local spaces. These sites were mapped according to their indicative catchment. Indicative site catchments and residential areas falling outside provision catchment are illustrated below on the plan at *Figure 2* and described in *Table 35*.

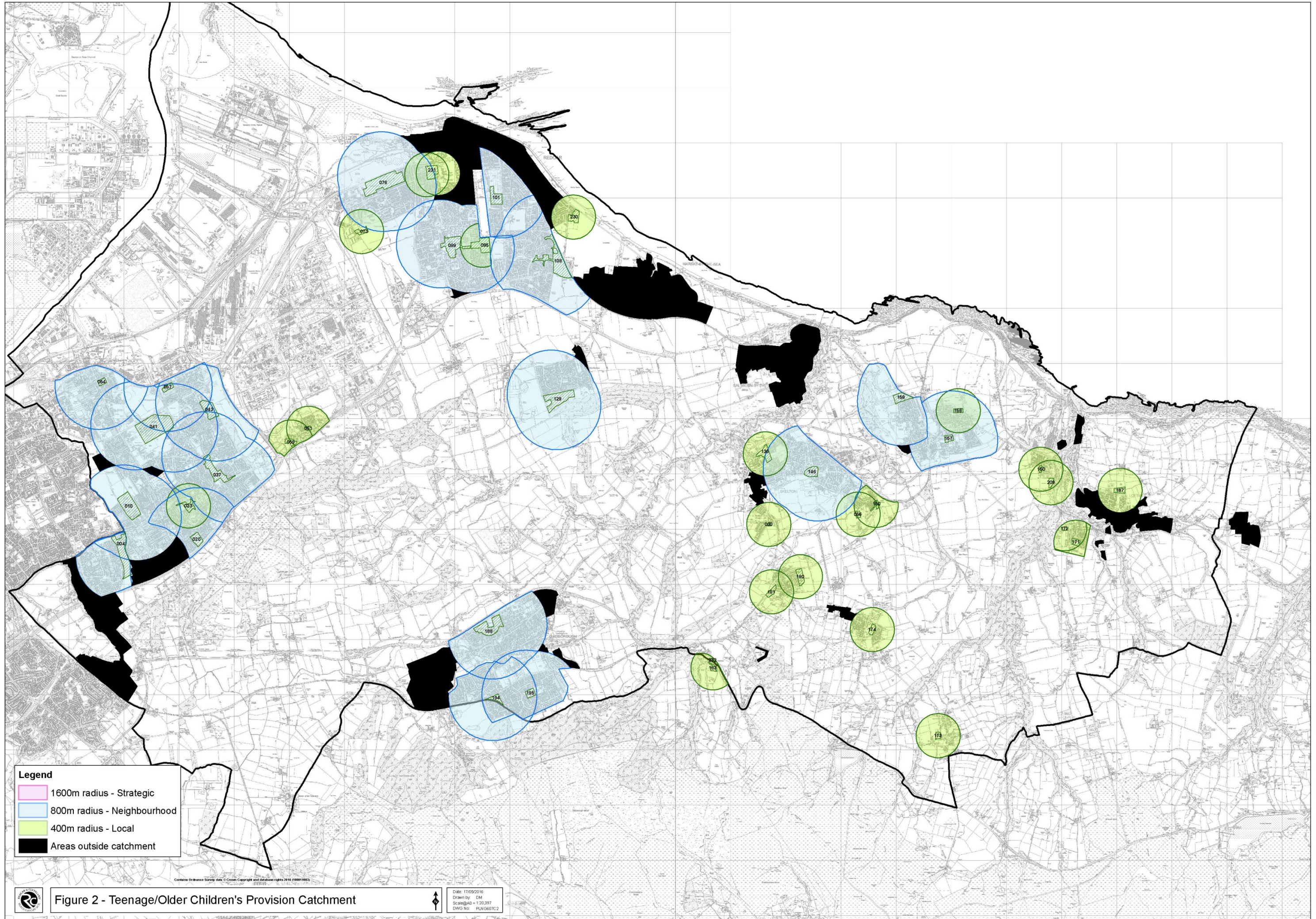


Figure 2 - Teenage/Older Children's Provision Catchment

Table 35: Residential Areas Falling Outside Notional 'Teenage and Older Children's Provision' Catchments

Area or Settlement	Residential Location	Comments
Greater Eston	Nunthorpe.	Nunthorpe is a relatively low density outer suburban housing area. The audit has identified a small equipped play site at Byland Road further north (site 001) but this site may not be capable of accommodating additional facilities. Beyond the administrative boundary to the west there is a private local sports club which maintains playing pitches.
	Omesby Bank, south of A174.	This is a steeply sloping residential area with suburban housing extending either side of the bank. There is a small equipped play area within a strip of land between Eastbank Road and the Parkway (site 002); part of this site may be suitable for informal kick-about activities and given the paucity of nearby space is understood to be used for this purpose at times. However the indicative catchment only covers part of the excluded area.
	Ormesby, west of A171.	Accessible open space in this area is limited to the wooded outer grounds of Ormesby Hall and the adjacent church site which border this area. There are no opportunities for additional provision and the area falls outside the catchment of Spencerbeck Field further east (site 004), which primarily serves the adjacent former Council estates.
	Part of Normanby, west of Flatts Lane	Most of this area would otherwise fall within the notional (800m) catchment of the playing field at the Bankfields Estate (site 020), but has been excluded in the accessibility audit as that space is not easily accessible from the west and it primarily serves a characteristically different neighbourhood. The area falls beyond the notional 800m catchment of Tees Dock Park (site 010), which includes accessible playing pitches leased by a local junior team. The area does fall within the indicative catchment of Flatts Lane Country Park (site 019) which has a substantial grassed area towards the site entrance which may be suitable for informal kick-about, but it is not specifically intended for that purpose.
	Small part of area between Eston Cemetery and Hillview Academy.	This is a minor part of the area which falls marginally beyond the identified neighbourhood catchment of Eston Recreation Ground (site 041).
	High Farm development	Site falls marginally outside indicative (800m) catchments of Eston Rec and Smith's Dock Park sites.
Redcar	Parts of central Redcar between Kirkleatham Lane and West Dyke Road, extending towards Roseberry Road.	This area includes major open spaces such as Locke Park and Coatham Common, but there is no major dedicated provision for teenagers and older children. The recent release into public use of the Westfield Playing Field and former school land (site 231) covers part of the inner area but despite the large size of the site (4.4 ha.) a restricted user catchment has been assumed to reflect the lack of facilities. The Council's 2007 Sports and Leisure Needs Assessment previously identified this site as suitable for incorporating a MUGA.
	Part of east Redcar between the railway and coast including the area near Zetland Park.	This area is situated towards Zetland Park, (which only contains play facilities for younger children), and the Stray but falls outwith the notional 400m catchment of playing fields at Oak Road (Site 230) which while leased from the Council by the adjacent local football club (Redcar Athletic) are fully accessible and suitable for informal kick-about. Access to limited facilities at Borough Park (open amenity area and outdoor gym) is restricted by the railway line.
	Very small area at SW edge of town.	This area is adjacent to Kirkleatham Showground but falls marginally outside notional 800m catchment of Lakes Recreation Ground further north.

Guisborough	Western residential areas at the Pine Hills, Galley Hill and Hutton Meadows estates.	The west of Guisborough generally contains limited open space. The layout attached to the ongoing Galley Hill development layout includes a 1ha green space incorporating a play area but this may only cater for younger children. Smaller play areas are also shown on the layout for the neighbouring Pine Walk development.
	Peripheral eastern areas in the Butt Lane an, Mackie Drive areas, and the Regency Gardens development.	These areas are relatively small and fall marginally outside the catchment of the neighbourhood spaces at Belmont Field (site 195) and King George V Recreation Ground (site 188) respectively.
Marske	There is no dedicated provision in Marske.	Land at the Marske Tennis Club site adjacent to Marske United FC may present the most logical place to site a MUGA or other purpose-built facilities as it adjoins the younger children's play area east of High Street (site 123) and is centrally located within the built-up area, but this would depend on whether the tennis courts are re-established and how much of the site would be required for that purpose. The amenity spaces at Beardmore Avenue (site 113- 1.1ha.), The Headland (site 119 - 2.8ha.) and Marske Stray (site 117 – 3.9ha.) are the largest open spaces recorded by the audit but they are remote from some parts of Marske and the latter are in sensitive coastal locations.
Skelton	Skelton Green down to Skelton High Street.	This is a linear area with a very steep topography which generally lacks open space and opportunities for new provision. The area falls outwith the catchment of larger playing fields and facilities spaces at De Brus and Hollybush sites in Skelton (sites 136 and 146) and the indicative catchment of the older children's play area site at Manless Terrace, Skelton Green (site 030) .
Saltburn	There is no dedicated provision in Saltburn.	Saltburn Valley Gardens (site 133) is identified as a strategic site and its indicative catchment (1600m) serves the entire built-up area but it does not include facilities specifically aimed at young people, and parts of the site are remote from residential area. There are smaller spaces including two equipped play areas but it is questionable whether any are large enough to also accommodate teenage facilities. Saltburn does benefit from having a youth club and leisure centre, based on the same site, and nearby, a local junior football club which leases Council land at Hob Hill in the south of the town, but there are no fully accessible playing fields or targeted facilities. Subject to further investigation, this general area might provide the most appropriate and accessible location to accommodate outdoor facilities for older children and teenagers.
Brotton	Small area on SW edge in Millholme Drive area.	Area falls marginally outside the indicative 800m catchment of Marshall Drive Playing Fields (site 158).
Loftus	Most of the built-up area, which falls outside indicative 400m catchment of North Road Playing field.	The audit shows Loftus has relatively low generic supply (1.1ha/ '000 pop.) and while there are significant areas of woodland in the vicinity of the town the varied topography restricts opportunities for playing pitch provision. The former playing fields attached to the former Rosecroft School at the southern edge of the built-up area remain unused but they are also remote from some densely populated areas. The existing playing field at North Road (site 167) on the northern periphery is a basic facility and relatively small (0.9ha).
New Marske	Small part of village at original settlement in Pontac Road area.	The area falls outside catchment of the large Grewgrass Lane site (ref. 129), between the southern boundary of the estate and Errington Woods provides an extensive kick-about area and trim trail equipment. There is a community football club based in this area.
Lingdale	Western side of village.	Lingdale contains a fully accessible football pitch at its eastern end (site 174) but the linear form of the settlement means that part of the built-up area falls outside the 400m catchment.

Skinningrove	There are no teenage and older children's provision sites identified in Skinningrove.	The Doorstep Green at Skinningrove (site 162) at the entrance to the small linear village contains a play area and informal grassed pace at its southern end which may be suited to kick-about activities but the site primarily serves younger children. The northern periphery of the village towards the foreshore falls outside the notional 400m user catchment.
Carlin How	Kennedy Crescent area.	This is a small and compact area of older terraced housing which contains a equipped play area at its heart (site 161) but it lies outside the indicative 400m catchment of Carlin How Doorstep Green (site 160), which incorporates a MUGA and is situated at the other side of the village across the A174.
Margrove Park	There are no teenage and older children's provision sites identified in Margrove Park..	The existing open space which, is disproportionately large for the settlement may be of sufficient size to accommodate a facility if required.
Easington	There are no teenage and older children's provision sites identified in Easington.	Play area serves younger children only. Easington is in the North York Moors National Park where the National Park is the local planning authority.

3.87 It is apparent that most residents live within the catchment of a teenage and older children provision site as recorded by the audit, but there are some significant areas which fall outside catchment. Inevitably, in some areas provision is more substantial than others (whether in terms of the amount of space and the range of facilities); this is most apparent in areas where the catchment may be restricted to the outer reaches of a neighbourhood site. These variations generally reflect overall provision levels.

3.88 Critically the main residential areas falling outside catchment, (parts of Redcar, all of Marske and Saltburn, western Guisborough, the Nunthorpe/ Ormesby Bank area and most of Loftus), largely correspond to those areas which generated higher response rates in the consultation survey. Many of areas falling outside catchment are characterised by suburban private sector housing, where open space provision tends to be relatively low, including locations towards the edge of the built-up area. Some areas, such as Marske and Saltburn, also contain a high proportion of retirement-age residents.

3.89 The survey also recorded very low satisfaction scores regarding the quality of teenage provision, with 70% rated poor or very poor while just 8% were rated good or very good and to some extent this reflects the low audit scores kick-about areas in particular. To explore this matter further, the range of functions provided on the 41 sites are summarised in *Table 36*.

Table 36: Summary of Site Provision for Older Children and Teenagers

Total Sites	41	%
Playing Fields	31	76%
Goalposts	22	58%
Older Play Area e.g. zip wire, outdoor gym	13	32%
Matchplay	12	29%
Teenage Shelter	9	22%
Mini kick-about and goals	6	15%
All Weather MUGA	6	15%
Skate Park / Ramp	5	12%
Secured	4	10%
Artificial Lighting	3	7%
BMX course	2	5%

3.90 It is not only the size but the scope of teenage uses incorporated on these sites which varies. The vast proportion are larger grassed playing fields, some of which also incorporate specialist play equipment or MUGAs. Others are basic grassed areas which may be suitable for and will be used for informal recreation by older children and youths, but they are not specialist areas targeting this grouping *per se*. In fact, they may more frequently function as general amenity areas particularly for dog walkers, and this can moreover be a source of conflict between different user groups. In a few cases, particularly on larger sites, playing fields and facilities have been provided alongside enclosed equipped play areas targeting younger children with clear demarcation between the two facilities.

3.91 Trends may also dictate the type of facilities which are provided. At the King George V site in Guisborough, a BMX course has been actively replaced by woodland, while at Eston Recreation

Ground a similar facility has simply fallen into disrepair. Where equipment is provided there are also variations in the quality of the facilities, with some sites subject to vandalism, equipment theft or damage and other anti-social activity. These differences were reflected in the quality audit scores which vary from 24 to 87, and 38% to 88%. As previously noted, informal kick-about areas in particular scored noticeably lower than other site typologies.

3.92 In summary, many of these sites may have significant scope for improvement to upgrade quality and public satisfaction levels through the renewal, provision of additional, targeted facilities and where appropriate through separation of different uses (including through enclosed MUGAs) and user groups to reduce the potential for conflict and encourage higher and more varied usage.

3.93 Where facilities are located away from housing or are subject to significant misuse, CCTV may help to curtail risks and problems, but there are also operational cost considerations associated with this.

3.94 Overall, then, there does appear to be some correlation between the audit findings and consultation responses regarding the quality of provision for older children and teenagers, and the related geographical distribution of spaces and survey respondents.

Provision for Younger Children

3.95 The study identified 60 sites providing play facilities for small children, comprising small mono-functional sites (traditionally referred to as Local Areas for Play or LAPs) and multifunctional neighbourhood and strategic spaces with equipped play facilities (Locally Equipped Areas for Play and Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play – LEAPs and NEAPs). Most of these sites include manufactured play equipment but include seven informal standalone kick-about areas with mini football goals and mown grass suitable for use by younger children.

3.96 The assessment has shown relative children's provision at 0.21ha per '000 residents; which is less than minimum requirement of 0.3 ha' 000, but this is not representative of total provision as it refers only to sites where the identified primary purpose is equipped play area. 30 sites are identified in the audit primarily as equipped play areas, with the other 30 included under another primary category.

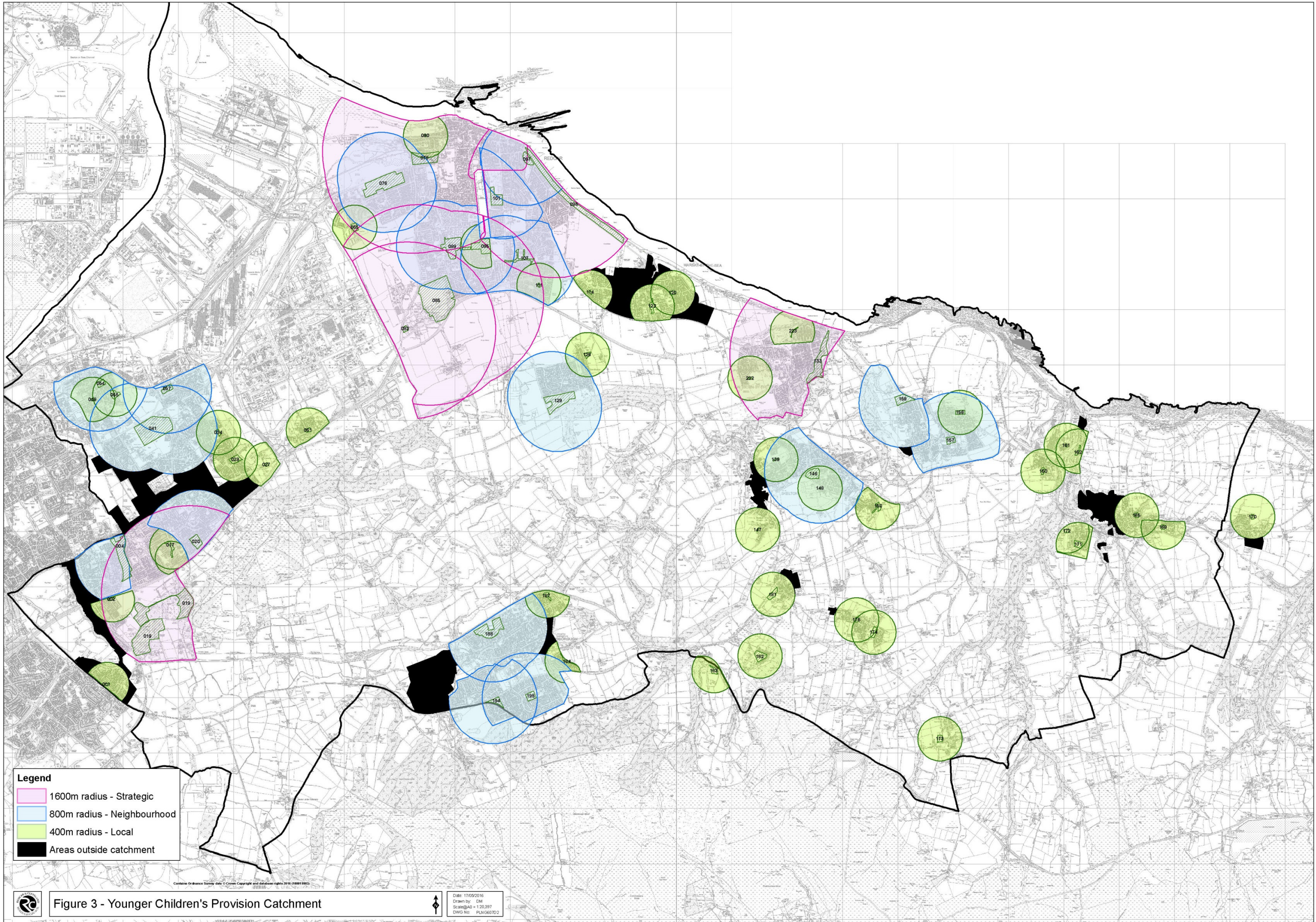
3.97 For the purpose of the accessibility audit, 38 of these sites were classified as local spaces (400m catchment), 14 as neighbourhood spaces (800m) , 5 strategic sites (1600m) and 3 doorstep spaces (no catchment applied).

3.98 For play areas, the response to the consultation was, overall, less critical than for teenage provision, but still significant with 43% rated as poor or very poor. This was less than the 53% of respondents rated the quality as satisfactory or better, but it still indicates overall the potential for improvement and renewal on some sites. In fact, from the 318 responses received the number of responses rating the quality of play areas as poor (94) was only marginally less than those rated as satisfactory (109).

3.99 In terms of supply, the overall response was more negative, with 41% indicating that there was 'not enough' compared to 34% stating that it was 'about right'. A further 20% considered that provision to be 'nearly enough'.

3.100 For equipped play areas, then, the survey indicates that the level and distribution of provision may be more significant than the condition of play facilities and equipment, with the latter still a key issue.

3.101 To examine these issues, relevant sites were mapped according to their indicative catchment. Indicative site catchments and residential areas falling outside provision catchment are illustrated on the plan at *Figure 3* and described in *Table 37*.



- Legend**
- 1600m radius - Strategic
 - 800m radius - Neighbourhood
 - 400m radius - Local
 - Areas outside catchment

Table 37: Residential Areas Falling Outside Notional 'Younger Children's Provision' Catchments

Area or Settlement	Residential Location	Comments
Greater Eston (Ormesby Ward)	Part of Nunthorpe – Morton Carr Lane area south of Guisborough Road towards A1043 Nunthorpe Bypass.	Relatively small and lower density residential area on urban edge which includes a large proportion of bungalows. Falls outwith notional catchment of Byland Road play area north of Guisborough Road (site Ref. 001).
	Part of Nunthorpe, towards Gypsy Lane station.	Small area of residential properties at Mayfield Road / Gypsy Lane which falls marginally outwith the notional catchment of Byland Road play area. Relatively short distance and walk from larger amenity and play space across the administrative boundary, though this involves negotiating a rail crossing. Gypsy Lane properties have substantial gardens.
	Area west of Ormesby Bank, either side of A174	Backs onto Ormesby Hall Estate (Green Wedge and Conservation Area), which is partly accessible. Area falls outwith notional 400m catchment of Eastbank Road play area (site 002) and the large sites at Spencerbeck Field further east (site 004 and Flatts Lane Country Park (site 019).
Greater Eston (Normanby)	Northern part of Normanby, north of High Street / B1380 and west of Normanby Road.	This area is served primarily by the neighbourhood site at Tees Dock Park (site 010) which comprises sports pitches and facilities and parkland but there is not an equipped play area. Part of area falls marginally beyond indicative 800m catchment of Eston Rec (site 041).
	Part of Normanby south of B1380 and west of Flatts Lane.	This area, including the Normanby Hall estate and Mallinson Park development towards the A174, contains a local play area at South Park Wood (site 018), but the indicative notional catchment radius (400m) only covers part of the neighbourhood.
Greater Eston (Eston)	Part of Eston, south of High Street from California Road eastwards to edge of built-up area.	Mostly comprises the private 1970s Meadowgate estate where space is limited to amenity area at Parkgate (1.7ha, site ref. 024) between the rear of housing and the A174 Parkway. Subject to safety and other considerations, the Parkgate site may be physically capable of accommodating play facilities and if so an indicative local catchment of 400m radius would cover most of the excluded area.
	Part of Eston within Teesville ward north of High Street	This area comprises the 1960s private housing area around Churchill Road. There are amenity spaces at Exeter Road (Site 038) and at Church Lane (site 039) - though part of the latter is also reserve cemetery land. The large kick-about site at Whale Hill Rec (site 037), is to the east of this area which falls entirely within its indicative 800m catchment though it is not directly accessible from it and it could be argued that the space more properly serves housing estates to the east and north..
Guisborough	Western residential areas at the Pine Hills and Galley Hill estates.	The western part of Guisborough has limited open space within the built-up area. The layouts and permissions attached to the Galley Hill development and Pine Walk developments include play area requirements.
	Area near Belmangate / Whitby Rd junction	This is a small part of the town which falls marginally outside the 400m catchments of play areas at Butt Lane and Heslington Gardens (sites 184 and 187). Much of this area is given over the non-residential uses including the Guisborough Priory site, educational uses and commercial businesses near the town centre.

Marske	Most of area north of Redcar Road towards Outwood Academy.	This area comprises post-war private suburban housing and contains three small amenity areas, and a larger (1.1ha) amenity space at Beardmore Avenue serving the fairly recent Landings development (site 113). Some of these spaces may have the capacity to accommodate a play area.
	Part of area between Marske High Street and Longbeck Road south of Redcar Road.	This area falls marginally beyond the play areas at Cat Flatt Lane and East of High Street to the west and east respectively. The area contains a smaller amenity area at Wheatlands Drive (site 122) on a backland site, and a further space at Inglewood Ave (0.08ha) and not included in the assessment, which is annotated as a 'playground' on maps and may have been used originally for this purpose and later removed.
	Part of built up area east of High Street towards the coast.	This area falls outside the notional 400m catchment of the equipped play sites east of High Street and at Marske Village Green on Hummershill Lane (site 120) which contains an informal play space. The area contains and is covered variously by the catchments of the small (0.5ha) but high quality amenity space at Marske Valley Gardens (site 118) and the larger (5.1ha) exposed Headland amenity area above the beach (site 119), but neither site incorporates an equipped play area.
	Eastern edge of built up area, mostly south of Windy Hill Lane.	This area falls narrowly outside the indicative catchment of Marske Village Green (site 120). The area is mostly covered by smaller amenity spaces north of Windy Hill Lane and within public housing at Hambleton Crescent.
Brotton	South western extremity of built-up area in the Millholme Drive area.	This is a very part of the built-up area which falls outside the catchment of Marshall Drive neighbourhood space and contains a doorstep amenity space at Woodside.
Loftus	Western Loftus.	This is a tightly developed older housing area in parts and has limited integral urban greenspace. Loftus tip, north of Loftus Leisure Centre, is an extensive area of vacant Council-owned land which is well used for informal recreation, particularly dog-walking, but is currently subject to landfill gas monitoring.
	Southern edge of Loftus at Rosecroft Lane.	This is a small residential neighbourhood in a semi-rural location. The former Rosecroft School playing fields are substantial and occupy the eastern side of Rosecroft Lane but are not maintained for public use.
Skinningrove	Northern part of Skinningrove encompassing the village centre.	Skinningrove has a linear settlement form and this area, which is towards the foreshore and is tightly developed, falls beyond the notional 400m catchment of the doorstep green to the south which contains a good quality play area.
Easington	Part of Easington south of A174	Private housing area lying beyond the equipped play site which is situated at the NE edge of the village (site 170).
Boosbeck	North eastern part of village	Area falls marginally outside indicative 400m catchment of Queen Street play and kick-about area (site 181), which appears to be the main community green space in the village. It is served by Wandhill Recreation Ground (Site 180), which can be used for informal kick-about but there are no play equipment installations on the site. Overall provision of generic green space in Boosbeck is relatively high (4.1 ha. '000 pop.).
Skelton Green	Area between Skelton Green and Skelton High St.	This steeply sloping linear area, comprising houses with large garden plots, falls outside the indicative catchments of the play area at Cleveland View in Skelton Green.
Lingdale	Western extremity of built-up area	Small area of linear settlement falling just beyond catchment of play area further east (site 176).

3.102 The analysis confirms that the vast majority of residents live within the given catchment of an open space incorporating facilities for younger children. Of those residential areas falling outside distance catchment, several also fall outwith the recorded catchment of generic open spaces.

3.103 The mapping analysis shows that the main areas falling outside given catchments of younger children's provision are in parts of the following locations:

- Nunthorpe
- Ormesby Bank
- Normanby
- Eston
- Marske
- Guisborough
- Loftus

3.104 Most of the areas comprise private suburban housing estates and many are in peripheral locations some of which are characterised by lower density, higher value housing.

3.105 All of the Redcar residential area is seen to be accessible, partly due to coverage of strategic sites (Locke Park, The Stray and Kirkleatham Museum) which all have notional 1600m catchments and the neighbourhood-level sites (Zetland and Borough parks and Dormanstown and Lakes recreation grounds).

Meeting Deficiencies

3.106 Where there is a general shortage of space, shortfalls could be met through obligations on developers to provide open space within new developments, or through utilising other land which is available for public use, including existing open spaces, as appropriate.

3.107 Where the minimum overall supply requirement is met but there is an identified shortfall in a particular type of space, addressing deficiencies could involve, depending on locational circumstances, enhancing existing teenage provision and play sites (thereby potentially extending usability and the notional user catchment), creating additional spaces or diversifying uses on existing spaces. Diversifying amenity areas, which account for a large proportion of the supply, appears to present an obvious solution to help redress the supply balance while promoting more efficient use of public space resources and multi-functionality. Unless major new developments are planned, this may be the most readily available option and the most cost-efficient approach.

3.108 At the same time however where supply is less than the indicative minimum, or there is a prevailing view within the community that provision is inadequate, the following issues should also be taken into account in seeking to address unmet needs:

- As shown above, grassed playing fields often occupy large land areas but may have limited facilities; and even where provision is high and facilities are more extensive with purpose-built equipment, this may be in poor condition and underused. The propensity to locate teenage provision in particular away from residential properties, for example on backland sites or on the edge of or between residential neighbourhoods reduces passive surveillance from nearby properties which may render these areas more vulnerable to vandalism and misuse, thereby reducing quality and utility.

- The development of Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs), potentially alongside specialist play equipment installations such as skate ramps and teenage shelters, is a means to provide facilities while reducing the land take compared to traditional playing fields. MUGAs often have weather-resistant surfaces and may be lit and benefit from CCTV security, thus also providing a more versatile, usable and therefore valuable resource, particularly during the evenings and winter months. The successful use of MUGAs may in turn reduce pressure on grass playing pitches which might otherwise be used more successfully for staging formal matches, potentially through perimeter fencing to protect pitches, provided that sufficient informal space is retained.
- The land required to provide a MUGA, and the provision of high perimeter fencing makes them more feasible within an existing residential area by reducing potential conflict with other users and with local properties and road users which in turn promotes increased passive surveillance and traffic safety. For the same reasons, incorporating such facilities within an existing urban greenspace and segregation from other open space users and facilities may also be more feasible.
- Despite the above benefits, however, the potential remains for objections from residents of having play areas or playing fields nearby due to concerns about damage to property, noise levels and intimidation arising from the congregation of large groups. The ubiquity of 'No Ball Games' signs over recent decades is evidence of these tensions and potential sites of neighbour and user conflict and in some cases has resulted in play equipment being removed. These matters reflect the practical difficulties and limitations of utilising amenity spaces near houses. The aforementioned 2015 *Fields in Trust* guidance includes advice on providing buffer zones around MUGAs to reduce conflict potential between users and local residents, though this inevitably increases the land required and may reduce surveillance.
- Over time, the need for play space can also change in line with changes to household structure, specifically in terms of the balance between families with small children and older households. More generally, unlike other types of open space, the active recreational needs for children and teenagers are increasingly being met indoors and through private sector provision through for example soft play areas, leisure centres, youth clubs and hired school and other community halls, or through outdoor pay-and-play all weather synthetic pitches. All of these facilities provide opportunities for engagement in positive activities, particularly during the winter months and poor weather and, moreover, within a controlled environment they may be less likely to result in neighbour disturbance. These facilities often incur a financial cost to the user and may be in heavily car-dependent locations so they should not be seen as a proxy for free outdoor space, but they can nonetheless provide an important recreational resource and their growing popularity may reduce the demand for traditional facilities free at the point of entry.
- Similarly, increased participation levels in organised activities through sports clubs at junior and youth levels, which use training and match facilities several times a week, whether self-owned or leased from a local authority or other third party, may reduce overall demand for informal play facilities particularly for older age groups. In this regard, the needs of young people should be seen alongside the findings and recommendations of the Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment.

3.109 In light of the above, and bearing in mind the audit findings and consultation responses it may be appropriate in seeking to raise the quality of provision to focus on upgrading and diversifying established play sites, particularly in relation to provision for older children and teenagers and on

larger sites with a more extensive user catchment. Such an approach could involve reducing the amount of land devoted to playing field in order to support the provision of more targeted facilities. For equipped play areas, catchment areas are smaller and there may be more scope to accommodate facilities on existing spaces where needed.

3.110 It is not however within the scope or purpose of this study to make specific site or area recommendations or proposals, or to provide a replacement green space strategy. The assessment provides evidence down to site level to inform those processes, but its purpose is to inform local planning policy, development proposals and planning decisions in relation to open space matters.

4

PLANNING POLICY OPTIONS

Overview

4.1 As in the previous assessment, the review has shown that in most parts of the borough the level of provision meets current minimum standards and the higher *Fields in Trust* benchmark. In the light of the assessment findings, the policy emphasis should be on making the most of existing spaces through improvement, renewal and diversification as appropriate, rather than increasing the quantity of provision. Such an approach will support the Council's recent Public Realm Improvement Programme and will become more critical in the light of continuing budget pressures into the foreseeable future.

4.2 Policies in the Local Plan should enable or inform the following:

- the protection of valuable open spaces;
- disposal of surplus spaces where justified;
- specific requirements linked to new developments;
- an appropriate level of developer contributions (direct or through financial contributions) to provide additional space or enhancement of existing spaces ;
- opportunities for enhancing provision including potentially through rationalisation or diversification;
- provision of additional open space where it is needed; and
- site-specific enhancements.

Protecting Open Spaces

4.3 As noted above, sites are currently protected from development through LDF policy DP13, which is shown verbatim in the box below.

Policy DP 13 Protecting Open Spaces

A proposal that would involve the loss of public or private recreation or amenity open space will not be permitted unless:

- a) There is a proven excess of such provision and the proposed loss will not result in a current or likely shortfall in the plan period;*
- b) The loss of amenity open space would not harm the character of the surrounding area;*
- c) Recreational facilities within the open space will be enhanced by the proposed development on an appropriate portion of the open space; or*
- d) The community would gain greater benefit from the developer providing a suitable alternative recreational or amenity open space nearby.*

4.4 It is considered that the current wording of DP13 strikes an appropriate balance in terms safeguarding spaces, while affording sufficient flexibility to enable rationalisation where this is appropriate to promote the achievement of wider open space objectives.

4.5 As the minimum site survey threshold is relatively small (0.1ha, with some smaller exceptions) the overwhelming majority of accessible green spaces have been included in the assessment, and any further sites are likely to have limited community value in terms of open space. Nonetheless, protection should also be afforded where appropriate to these and any other spaces not covered by the assessment.

4.6 As such, Policy DP13 should be broadly retained in the new plan, but with the following two additions:

- reference is made to the Policies Map; and
- additional text is added to enable the protection, where appropriate, of other urban green spaces

4.7 A further layer of policy protection will be afforded to some sites by virtue of being outside development limits or within a green wedge or other conservation designation. Settlement limit and green wedge boundaries are being reviewed as part of the preparation of the plan. Some spaces may also be unsuitable for development due for example to configuration, proximity to conflicting neighbouring uses and essential infrastructure, including sewers, pipelines or other surface or subterranean installations.

4.8 With one exception, the 222 green spaces included in this assessment will be annotated on the draft Local Plan proposals maps and linked to a corresponding policy which will safeguard them from development.

4.9 The following space, which is in partial Council ownership, has been identified for disposal and is therefore not safeguarded:

- **Site 091 – Adjacent St Hilda’s Church, Redcar (0.9 ha.)**

This site comprises basic grassed amenity area surrounding the church building and due to the juxtaposition of the latter towards the centre of the site, the open space is of limited community value. The church provides a community facility but longstanding structural problems dictate that the building needs to be replaced, and redevelopment would be financially-dependent on enabling housing development on part of the site. As such, the proposals are reliant on giving up the open space for development. The redevelopment proposals have been supported by the Council for several years as potential gains in terms of meeting housing needs and providing an improved facility are seen to outweigh the loss of the open space. It is contended therefore that the proposals meet the exceptions criteria currently set out at Policy DP13. The site will be allocated for development in the draft local plan, with an off-site contribution to open space improvement required in mitigation.

4.10 The loss of site 091 will have a negligible effect on the level of open space provision. The site is in Dormanstown Ward on the boundary with Kirkleatham and Newcomen Wards and provision in is exceptionally high in Dormanstown and Kirkleatham. The site been is identified as a local space in the accessibility assessment, but the residential area within the notional 400m catchment also falls inside the indicative catchment of other spaces. There is also a smaller amenity space very close by at Mablethorpe Close (site 090), for which an indicative user catchment has not been drawn.

4.11 It is conceivable that over time other spaces, or parts thereof, may become available for disposal whether for other open space uses or development and where this is the case proposals will similarly be assessed against the safeguarding policy.

Minimum Provision Standards

4.12 The purpose of including minimum standards in the local plan is to support policy objectives and provide certainty to developers and decision makers. At the same time, it should be made clear in the plan that there are no maximum provision standards, and where minimum standards are comfortably exceeded, this does not imply there is a surplus of space, particularly as open space needs may differ between residential neighbourhoods. Taking into account the assessment findings, options emerging for minimum quantity, accessibility and quality standards are considered below. The main issue of concern here is around setting appropriate quantity standards.

Quantity Standards

4.13 The following three basic options are identified:

- Dispense with a quantity standard as per the Sport England guidance and as advocated in the Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Strategy.
- Continue to applying the existing standard most recently set out on the Developer Contributions SPD.
- Apply a higher standard, such as the Fields In Trust benchmark.

4.14 The current standard, (1.2ha per '000 people) is less than the revised *Fields in Trust* benchmark (1.8ha), with the difference being the relative amount afforded for amenity space and parkland (0.4 ha compared to 1.0 ha per '000 population). As the current standard is based on historic guidance and it less accurately reflects current provision levels in the borough than Option 3, its continuing relevance should be reviewed. An alternative approach, in line with Sport England guidance on Playing Pitch Strategies, would be to remove the quantitative requirement altogether, and simply rely on accessibility standards and site or area-specific needs in determining requirements. The advantages and disadvantages of each option are set out in *Table 38* and considered further thereafter.

Table 38: Minimum Quantity Standard Options Compared

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
Remove quantity standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexibility. Effectively acknowledges difficulties in applying blanket requirement across different spatial levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lose layer of policy protection and guidance. May need to be more site-specific like Playing Pitch Strategy which could be impractical.
Retain Existing Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affords greater scope for change to meet strategic needs and respond to budget pressures and priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively low requirement which could underscore actual need. Less scope for developer contributions than Option 3.
Increase Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More reflective of actual provision levels than Option 2. Higher contribution requirements through new development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Places greater emphasis on quantitative requirements which is not the overriding priority. Least flexible option in terms of balancing supply and quality.

4.15 Under the *Sport England* playing pitch model, provision of open space would be reliant on the basis of distance catchments and site level judgements. This may not present an adequate means of assessment as it would remove the mechanism for determining the amount of space based on population levels (or required funding in-lieu of provision). Although an accessibility standard and distance will indicate whether the development or proposals fall within a given user catchment of one or more open spaces, this would not accurately reflect the level of local provision or the impact of prospective development on that provision.

4.16 Although the Playing Pitch Strategy has dispensed with historic NPFA quantity standards and simply proposes site specific changes, that study has a more narrow and targeted perspective and the research is supported by detailed consultation with local sports clubs. As such, benchmark quantity standards become less significant. Generic open space on the other hand involves assessing many more sites, serving a much broader, substantial and more changeable constituency of users and there is, consequently, less scope to realistically monitor changing needs as frequently. It is suggested therefore that it is appropriate to retain a quantity standard and use it concurrently with an accessibility standard.

4.17 The main benefit of raising the minimum quantity standard would be to increase the amount of space required on new developments. This is illustrated in *Table 39* which compares absolute potential open space requirements for different residential developments against the two benchmarks, using an average household size of 2.25 people per household⁸. It should be noted that as the SPD requires 20 year maintenance payments, additional provision would not present immediate constraints on local authority budgets. There would also be a gain from potential off-site contributions to upgrade existing spaces, albeit to a lesser extent⁹.

⁸ Average household size in Redcar & Cleveland recorded in the 2011 Census.

⁹ As the SPD advises that off-site contributions should normally be 50% of the costs of on-site provision, it follows that the commensurate gain from off-site provision contributions would also be less.

Table 39: Potential Quantity Requirements Using Different Benchmarks

Development Size	SPD Standard	Fields In Trust Benchmark
	Open Space Requirement (@ 1.2ha / '000 Pop)	Open Space Requirement (@ 1.8ha / '000 Pop)
50 dwellings	0.13 (ha.)	0.2 (ha.)
100 dwellings	0.27	0.4
250 dwellings	0.67	1
500 dwellings	1.35	2
1000 dwellings	2.7	4

4.18 It is apparent that the supply in most towns and villages would meet the minimum requirement under either option, which is to be expected as mean and median average supply for the borough (3.1 ha and 2.2 ha per '000 pop.) exceeds both requirements.

4.19 As shown in *Table 40*, for those areas where supply falls short, in most cases provision would not meet either standard so additional space may be required in any event, subject to other considerations. Increasing the standard would also result in recorded provision falling below the minimum requirement in Marske, Brotton, Skelton/New Skelton and Carlin How. This would in turn provide an additional layer of policy protection against the loss of spaces in those areas.

Table 40: Impact of Different Quantity Requirements on Current Supply

Ward / Settlement	Assessed Provision (ha/'000 pop.)	Option 2 - SPD Standard 1.2ha.	Option 3 – Fields In Trust Benchmark 1.8ha
Ormesby Ward	0.7	X	X
Newcomen Ward	0.3	X	X
Coatham Ward	1.1	X	X
Marske	1.6	✓	X
Skelton & New Skelton	1.6	✓	X
Loftus	1.1	X	X
Lingdale	1.1	X	X
Carlin How	1.7	✓	X
Skelton Green	0.7	X	X
Skinningrove	1.1	X	X
Yearby, Upleatham, Stanghow, Wilton	0.0	X	X

4.20 The *Fields in Trust* guidance advises that in determining the requirement, consideration should be taken of local circumstances and that the benchmark is a median average; this implies that some participant local authorities use a lower standard. While details of the 26 authorities are not given, many residential areas of Redcar & Cleveland benefit from being in close proximity to accessible countryside and the coast, unlike many other local authority districts.

4.21 It is apparent from the consultation that the beaches and large natural areas including those inside the North York Moors National Park are well-used recreational resources which take pressure

off generic green spaces. These areas have not been accounted for in the assessment. Natural space has been calculated at 1.8 ha per thousand residents, which meets the *Fields in Trust* benchmark median and the supply estimate does not include accessible natural spaces in more remote rural locations. As such, a lower standard may be justified, while recognising that in more densely populated residential neighbourhoods a higher level of provision may be appropriate.

4.22 It is also the case that the difference between the current standard and the *Fields in Trust* benchmark relates only to the provision of parks and amenity space; standards for teenage provision and equipped play areas, which the assessment has shown to be more significant, remain broadly the same. The assessment has estimated the amenity supply equivalent to 1.9ha per '000 population which exceeds both the SPD standards and the higher benchmark. Parks and amenity areas account for 37% of assessed provision (252ha.) and 61% of sites. Amenity areas are well represented in most parts of the borough, particularly the main residential areas and all spaces, including natural areas, arguably have secondary amenity value. In the consultation survey 50% of respondents indicated that the level of provision of amenity space was either about right or more than enough, which was higher than all other open space categories and, as previously noted a disproportionate share of responses were from residents in areas where supply is below the borough average.

4.23 As demonstrated through the assessment, the type and condition of existing spaces are, overall, more critical issues than increasing the quantum of supply. To that end, the main advantage of retaining the current standard is a greater degree of flexibility in terms of managing the balance of supply between the quantity and quality of provision, including diversification to other open space uses, and creating multi-functional spaces to meet the needs of different users and user groups.

4.24 It is suggested therefore that despite the potentially higher developer contributions arising from applying an increased quantity standard, when local circumstances and priorities are taken into account, notably in relation to quality issues, then retaining the current standard (augmented by an appropriate accessibility standard) would, on balance, appear to be the most suitable option for Redcar & Cleveland.

Accessibility Standards

4.25 Options for minimum accessibility standards provide a straight choice between the distance thresholds shown in the SPD, and the *Fields In Trust* benchmark standards used in this assessment. The benchmark standards allow slightly more generous distance thresholds from those set out in the SPD as shown in *Table 41*.

Table 41: Accessibility Standards – Policy Options

Green Space Hierarchy	Developer Contributions SPD		Fields In Trust Benchmark	
	Distance Catchment (m)	Walking Time (mins)	Distance Catchment (m)	Walking Time (mins)
Local Space	300	5	400	5
Neighbourhood Space	600	10	800	10
Strategic Space	1,000	15	1,600	20

4.26 In both cases any physical or perceived barriers to access have been taken into account for practical convenience the measurements are based on straight line and not actual distances, though it is accepted that some distances and times may be longer.

4.27 The higher distances and walking times assume an average moving pace of 3 miles per hour broadly correspond to the responses to the question 3 of the public consultation survey on acceptable walking times to reach different types of spaces. Application of these distances through the audit has shown that most residential areas fall within the indicative catchment of at least one space, with distance measured to the site entrance(s).

4.28 The lower distances and walking time, derived from the previous assessment, assumed more conservative walking speeds and distances from the centre of each space to allow for additional walking time but they are not sourced from any recognised guidance or other, more detailed analysis. It is suggested that the higher benchmark catchments are taken forward into the emerging plan as they do not appear unreasonable based on the survey responses and are research-based and therefore more credible.

Quality Standards

4.29 As the assessment has demonstrated that the overriding policy approach needs to be about improving quality rather than increasing the supply of green spaces, quality standards should be sufficiently clear (but not overly detailed or prescriptive) to ensure that new provision can support policy aspirations, while providing a benchmark to enable the identification of potential improvement opportunities on existing sites, including through diversification of existing uses where appropriate.

4.30 Minimum quantity standards are set out in the SPD (*Appendix B*) as follows:

'Public parks and large and medium sized green spaces that are clean, attractive, accessible and safe'.

This brief policy wording is supported by text at para 4.23 states the green spaces should be *'well-lit with clear and prominent entrances, secure from traffic, have well maintained grassed areas and offer a range of trees and shrubs. Green spaces also should contains 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'.*

4.31 The extent to which the above text should apply would depend to an extent on the size, hierarchical significance and function(s) of each site, and is more likely to relate to some parks and large green spaces, rather than the many smaller amenity areas. Notwithstanding this, the standards should be seen in general rather than specific terms as, for example, some spaces may not be artificially lit because they are locked after dark.

4.32 The SPD policy wording encompasses the main objectives of creating successful green spaces, but it is suggested that this is expanded on in the plan in order bring out aspirations more effectively, while having regard to hierarchy expectations and to reflect the primacy of quality issues. The following text is put forward as an example:

'Public green spaces which are safe, clean and visually attractive with well-maintained grassed and planted areas, easily accessible and secured from vehicular traffic. Larger parks and neighbourhood spaces should include a range of appropriately sited and well-maintained facilities to support different user needs and, as a minimum, they should incorporate waste bins, paths and seating and be wheelchair accessible. Where appropriate, open spaces should be well overlooked from residential properties or highways and incorporate footpath links'.

The supporting text to the policy should make reference to the Design of Residential Areas SPD.

Draft Policies

4.33 Taking into account the above recommendations, draft policies relating the protection of open spaces, and minimum provision standards are set out in below, to be included as policies in the draft Local Plan or in an appendix to the plan.

Protecting Green Spaces

A proposal that would involve the loss of public or private recreation or amenity open space as identified on the policies map will not be permitted unless:

- a) There is a proven excess of such provision and the proposed loss will not result in a current or likely shortfall in the plan period;
- b) The loss of amenity open space would not harm the character of the surrounding area;
- c) Recreational facilities within the open space will be enhanced by the proposed development on an appropriate portion of the open space; or
- d) The community would gain greater benefit from the developer providing a suitable alternative recreational or amenity open space nearby.

Proposals for development on small amenity spaces and any other green spaces not shown on the proposals map will also be considered, where appropriate, against the above criteria.

Green Space Minimum Provision Standards

Residents should have access to a range of public green spaces in order to meet different local needs. New development has an impact on public open space usage and requirements and contributions will be sought in relation to residential proposals of at least 10 dwellings or 0.5 hectares. In determining contributions, proposals will be assessed against the indicative minimum green space standards set out below.

Minimum Quantity Standard

At least 1.2ha per 1,000 residents, comprising equipped play space for young children, space for older children and teenagers and amenity space or parkland.

Provision in this regard includes green spaces which are usable and normally at least 0.1 hectares in area and excludes highway land and verges, peripheral landscaping, dedicated natural spaces such as woodlands, natural grasslands or wetlands (including ecological urban drainage areas) and civic hardspace.

Minimum Accessibility Standard

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

- Within 400m (approximately 5 minutes' walk) of a local space of at least 0.4 hectares as defined in the Redcar & Cleveland Open Space Assessment, or an equipped play area; or
- Within 800m (10 minutes' walk) of a neighbourhood space as defined in the open space assessment; or
- Within 1.6km (20 minutes' walk) of a strategic green space as defined in the open space assessment.

Minimum Quality Standard

Public green spaces should be safe, clean and visually attractive with well-maintained grassed and planted areas, easily accessible and secured from vehicular traffic. Larger parks and neighbourhood spaces should be well designed and maintained with appropriate facilities to support different user needs. As a minimum, they should incorporate waste bins, paths and seating and be wheelchair accessible. Where appropriate, open spaces should be well overlooked from residential properties or highways and provide safe links with other spaces within the wider green network.

In assessing provision, reference should be made to the Redcar & Cleveland Open Space Assessment (2016). Where accessibility and quantity standards would not be met, additional space will need to be incorporated as part of the proposals to address any deficiencies. Where it is not practical or possible to meet all needs on site, or it is more beneficial to the local community, consideration will also be given to equivalent financial contributions towards enhancing the quality or range of facilities on existing spaces nearby.

Where minimum quantity and accessibility standards are shown to be met through existing provision, equivalent off-site contributions will be sought in accordance with the Developer Contributions SPD, to support improvements or enhancements to existing spaces.

Applying Standards

4.34 For minimum standards to be operationally effective they should be realistic and workable without deterring appropriate development, and be simple to apply. Where a residential application is submitted, the need for additional space (whether provided on or off-site) should be considered before in-lieu financial contributions (stipulated in the SPD as 50% of the provision cost, plus a 20-year maintenance sum).

4.35 This means that additional space should normally be provided as part of the development unless it can be demonstrated that the proposed development meets the minimum accessibility and quantitative standards, in which case a financial contribution to improve existing facilities would apply. In line with Developer Contributions SPD, a contribution from any residential development of at least 0.5 ha or 10 dwellings would be required to allow for increased usage of open spaces.

4.36 In determining the open space requirements as part of housing proposals, the starting point is to apply the minimum quantity standard of 1.2ha/’000 peoples to work out the overall potential requirement. So for example on a scheme for 100 dwellings, at an average household size of 2.25 people the requirement would be 0.27ha. ($225/1000 \times 1.2$).

4.37 The supply position should then be taken into account having regard to all the following criteria:

- whether the site falls within the indicative accessibility catchment of any existing open spaces where the entire site falls within the catchment of all relevant spaces;
- the amount of space falling within that catchment and whether the supply meets the calculated minimum quantitative requirement;
- the nature of that supply in relation to the three components of amenity space, play areas and teenage provision; and
- whether current provision at settlement level (and at ward level in the 15 wards covering the Greater Eston, Redcar and Guisborough urban areas) meets the minimum requirement and would continue to do so in the event of development based on the potential ensuing population increase.

4.38 Where all quantitative supply requirements are achieved and the existing provision includes amenity space, equipped play areas and provision for teenagers and older children, then the above criteria would be seen to be met and, as such, no additional space would be required. At the point, discussions about potential improvements on the relevant spaces would be sought, including in consultation with operational management personnel, etc.

4.39 Where the overall quantity and accessibility requirements are met, but there is a functional deficit for example in terms of teenage provision, then the potential to provide facilities on existing catchment spaces could also be considered; such an approach would ostensibly provide the twin benefits of driving up site quality without unnecessarily adding to supply, thereby promoting a better balance of provision.

4.40 If quantity, accessibility and quality standards are shown to be met, contributions are still justified on the basis that where the neighbourhood population increases, there is a corresponding impact on open space needs in the immediate area at least, as there is with other public services. The assessment has however shown that most spaces have some scope for improvement, however minor or cosmetic. Enhancements could take the form of replacement or additional facilities or

basic infrastructure, planting or landscaping to prove appearance or biodiversity, and the renewal of facilities and infrastructure. Encouraging multi-functionality where possible (or improving existing multi-functional sites) could help to meet any outstanding priority needs *e.g.* in relation to provision for older children and teenagers, while also potentially increasing the community value, usability and quality of the open space.

4.41 In practice, larger greenfield development sites on the edge of settlements are less likely to meet the quantity and accessibility criteria than sites integral to an urban area and as such new on-site provision would normally be required. In some cases however it may be practical or in the wider community interest to meet some requirements through off-site provision or a financial contribution.

4.42 In fact, bearing in mind the development threshold of 10 dwellings, the quantitative requirement would be negligible on many schemes and as such securing off-site contributions towards the enhancement of more substantive established spaces in lieu of on-site provision may be more beneficial to the local community, including residents on the new development.

4.43 In determining contributions, proposals should also have regard to local priorities, including the issues summary expressed in *Table 42*, which very briefly lists key issues in each settlement and urban area emerging from the assessment. The site and area priorities identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy should similarly be taken into account. The list should not be seen as exhaustive or prescriptive and over time other matters may arise. It is also reiterated that the assessment has found that there are supply variations within settlements and urban areas and between the quality of sites in the same locality.

4.44 In some areas, particularly where provision is high, there may be scope for a strategic approach which, through rationalisation (whether for development or alternative open space uses), promotes more efficient usage of open space and enhancements to retained spaces. By reducing cost obligations, this in turn may support quality enhancement objectives and effective longer term management and maintenance of the wider open space estate.

4.45 For all proposals, regard should be had to the Developer Contributions SPD and finalised arrangements should be agreed with the key stakeholders including operational management staff, whether at the Council or with another organisation.

Table 42: Key Findings Summary by Settlement and Area

Location	Key Findings Summary
Greater Eston	Supply shortfall in parts of Ormesby Ward.
	Significant scope for quality improvements to some major spaces, such as Eston Rec.
	Sustainable management of spaces in areas with substantial provision such as Grangetown.
	Lack of local play area in parts of Normanby, Teesville and Eston.
Redcar	Some areas fall outside indicative teenage provision catchments.
	Scope for enhancement at some major sites, including Coatham Common which was quoted in the consultation survey.
	Sustainable management and improvement of spaces in areas with significant provision, particularly in Dormanstown and Kirkleatham Wards, having regard to drainage and flooding issues where appropriate.
Guisborough	Undersupply in west Guisborough, particularly in relation to play areas and teenage provision.
	Establishment of a formal urban park cited in consultation as an improvement opportunity.
Marske	Lack of provision for older children and teenagers.
	Parts of village fall outside equipped play area catchments.
Skelton	Enhancement or provision of play areas near recent housing developments.
	Lack of space in area between Skelton Green and Skelton High Street.
Saltburn	Lack of provision for older children and teenagers.
Brotton	Supply is broadly adequate but there is scope to improve the quality of some spaces.
Loftus	Undersupply against benchmark provision including a deficiency provision for older children and teenagers.
New Marske	Supply meets minimum standard due to large playing field at Grewgrass Lane adjacent to southern boundary of built-up area. Space within housing is limited and should be retained.
Lingdale	Although provision is relatively low (1.1ha / '000 pop.) this is augmented by major natural areas on the northern edge of the village which provide amenity value.
Carlin How	The 'kick-about' site at Mill Lane is in very poor condition. With the provision of the multi-purpose Doorstep Green its continuing functionality should be reviewed.
Boosbeck	Supply is generous, consider scope for improvement.
Liverton Mines	Supply is adequate but there is scope to improve site quality.
North Skelton	Supply is adequate but there is scope to improve site quality.
Lazenby	Supply is generous, though 'kick-about' area at Wilton Green (which is in partial Council ownership) has scope for improvement.
Skelton Green	Provision is relatively low so the two existing sites, primarily providing play space, should be maintained and enhanced where appropriate.
Skinningrove	The existing site, the Doorstep Green, is of generally high quality but has potential for renewal at its southern end to boost provision as supply is relatively low.
Moorsholm	No major issues identified.
Margrove Park	No major issues identified.
Charltons	No major issues identified.
Newton-under-Roseberry	No major issues identified.
Yearby, Upleatham, Wilton, Liverton, Dunsdale and Stanghow.	No spaces identified in these small settlements.

Other Spaces

Natural Areas

4.46 Natural spaces are a major and increasingly important component of urban green space with more grassed areas being given over to woodland planting in particular. As well as supporting environmental sustainability objectives, this approach can support the sustainable provision of open space by reducing periodic maintenance obligations as sites are left to grow naturally and in some cases management is given over to third parties including specialist groups such as the *Woodland Trust* or *Tees Valley Wildlife Trust*.

4.47 The audit has recorded 238ha. of natural space, which accounts for 35% of the assessed provision. In addition, some large generic spaces incorporate prominent areas of natural space particularly woodland. The consultation survey has further confirmed that natural spaces are a key part of the open space offer and some larger natural areas and the country parks which are all heavily wooded and contain areas of ecological significance are popular and valuable spaces well used by the local community. The quality of these spaces varies and to some extent reflects the open space hierarchy. Generally however natural areas by definition are relatively remote or secluded and therefore vulnerable to misuse.

4.48 The assessment has shown that provision is relatively high in Redcar & Cleveland and that the median quantity standard of 1.8ha / '000 pop. as put forward by *Fields in Trust* would be comfortably met. In recognition of their significance and in order to safeguard these areas and encourage further provision where necessary, it may be appropriate to incorporate standards alongside the existing accessibility and Local Nature Reserve standards in the Developer Contributions SPD.

Allotments

4.49 Analysis of vacancy rates and Council waiting lists has confirmed that the demand for plots outstrips supply on the statutory sites in Greater Eston and Redcar and where sites are not fully occupied, this is evidently due to poor quality facilities. Observational surveys have indicated that of other sites across the borough are generally well used, despite the supply of allotment land far outstripping though the distribution of supply is uneven with highly disproportionate provision in and around East Cleveland settlements.

4.50 It is important therefore that allotment areas continue to be safeguarded. Statutory allotments benefit from legal protection and some sites are located outside development limits, thus preventing most forms of development. Non- statutory sites within settlement boundaries remain more vulnerable development however, particularly as there are no set minimum provision standards in the Developer Contributions SPD. Establishing locally-derived standards would require further work, including consultation with plot-holders, site owners and other key stakeholders. It may therefore be appropriate to annotate allotment sites on the proposals map alongside other green spaces and, at least in the interim, have regard to the national provision guidelines (0.5ha. per '000 population) in assessing provision at the local level.

Conclusion

4.51 This document has summarised a comprehensive survey and analysis of open spaces in and around the main residential areas of Redcar & Cleveland. The assessment updates the previous assessment from 2005, establishes a clear and systematic basis for future reviews and, most significantly, provides part of the evidence base supporting the forthcoming draft Local Plan.

4.52 The assessment satisfies the requirements under national planning policy by identifying quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and potential provision surpluses in different parts of the borough. As such, the report and the data behind it provides the basis for policies in the plan, including appropriate and reasonable minimum local standards, to promote the provision of public open spaces which can, so far as possible, enable the needs of local communities to be met both now and in the future. The assessment provides a reference source for assessing open space requirements as arising from residential development proposals and for other work for example in relation to site, area or specific land use strategies or neighbourhood plans.

4.53 As in 2005, the assessment has illustrated variations in the supply and quality of green spaces around the borough and between places and neighbourhoods. With regard to open space supply, it is apparent from the audits, consultation and analysis that a limited number of residential areas have quantitative supply and accessibility deficiencies when assessed against different standards, and these shortfalls should be rectified where feasible. Supply shortfalls could potentially be addressed via new provision, which may be required and funded through new developments, whether provided on site or nearby, or through the enhancement of existing spaces, including diversification of uses.

4.54 But it is also apparent, as it was in 2005, that in many other residential neighbourhoods, communities and settlements the minimum quantity and accessibility standards appear to be satisfied. It is apparent that the majority of sites included in the assessment are fit for purpose and should be retained and safeguarded through the Local Plan, but opportunities for improvement should be explored where appropriate. In some cases, particularly areas where there is substantial provision there may be flexible scope for rationalisation and disposal to promote quality improvements on other spaces or replacement provision.

4.55 Overall, the study indicates that quality issues – the type and condition of spaces – continue to be more significant than supply and accessibility issues. The recommended draft policies are intended to provide appropriate responses to the assessment findings and, in short, to recognise priorities of driving up quality while ensuring sufficient space is provided to promote the sustainable and efficient use of land and budget resources. In terms of the latter, further investigation reveals that in recent years and in line with wider austerity cuts, the number of qualified, skilled and knowledgeable RCBC operational maintenance staff has fallen. However, it is also understood that the Council will be seeking to address these issues.

4.56 The assessment has drawn attention in particular to deficiencies in the supply and quality of provision for children and young people, but this also coincides with a significantly ageing population which has implications for open space needs and provision. In the face of further ongoing budget pressures, a holistic approach which seeks to achieve the creation of successful multifunctional spaces through appropriate design and layout may help to address these diverse challenges in a manner which is cost-effective and land-efficient. In this respect, prioritising improvements to spaces with the most potential may be most appropriate.

4.57 Enhancing the open space offer can be supported through the Local Plan in the following ways:

- inclusion of the recommended minimum draft quantity, quality and accessibility standards which can be applied to guide open space requirements whether through S106 developer contributions or other means;
- safeguarding valuable from development through the Local Plan and depicted as such on the Local Plan Policies Map; and
- establishing sufficiently flexible policies which can promote the achievement of wider objectives while being sensitive to local variations.

4.58 As well as justifying the inclusion of relevant policies and text in the forthcoming local plan, the recommendations emerging from the assessment, along with those in the Playing Pitch Strategy, have implications for the Developer Contributions SPD which will need to be amended accordingly to align with policy changes. The assessment also provides the basis for potential further work, such as in relation to establishing locally-derived standards for allotments and natural areas.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Extracts From Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Strategy

Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings from the Redcar & Cleveland Playing Pitch Assessment Report:

Sport	Analysis Area	Current picture	Future demand (2037)
Football (grass pitches)	Coastal Area	No current shortfalls	No predicted future shortfalls
	East Cleveland	No current shortfalls	Shortfall of 1 match sessions on 9v9 pitches, 0.5 on 7v7 pitches and 1 match session on 5v5 pitches.
	Greater Eston	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions on 9v9 pitches.	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, 2 sessions 9v9, 0.5 on 7v7 and 0.5 on 5v5.
	Guisborough	No current shortfalls	No predicted future shortfalls
Football (3G AGPs)	Coastal Area	Shortfall of 2 3G pitches based on FA model.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
	East Cleveland	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch based on FA model.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
	Greater Eston	Shortfall of 1 3G pitch based on FA model.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
	Guisborough	Current demand is being met.	Pitch/s will require resurface .
Cricket	Coastal Area	Shortfall of 11 match sessions per season.	Likely to increase further due to potential increase in teams.
	East Cleveland	Current demand is being met.	Future demand can be met.
	Greater Eston	Current demand is being met.	Future demand can be met.
	Guisborough	Current demand is being met.	Future demand can be met.
Rugby union	Coastal Area	Redcar training pitch over played by 0.5 sessions	Likely to increase further due to potential increase in teams.
	East Cleveland	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Greater Eston	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Guisborough	Shortfall of 4.5 match sessions per week.	Likely to increase further due to potential increase in teams.
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	Coastal Area	Current demand being met.	Pitch will require resurface .
	East Cleveland	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Greater Eston	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.
	Guisborough	No current demand for pitches	No demand expected.

COASTAL AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ¹⁰	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ¹¹	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	8	-	1	-7	0.5	-6.5
Youth pitches 11v11	4	-	1	-1	1	0
Youth pitches 9v9	3.5	-	1.5	-2	1	-1
Mini pitches 7v7	3.5	-	0.5	-3	1	-2
Mini pitches 5v5	3.5	-	0.5	-3	1	-2

- ◀ Spare capacity exists on all pitch types both now and in the future, with the exception of youth 11v11 pitches, which are played to capacity due to future demand.
- ◀ There are no levels of overplay on any pitch type.
- ◀ There are six youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches and one adult pitch (Saltburn Learning Campus) is used solely by youth 11v11 teams.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and better accommodate current/future demand.
- ◀ Retain small amounts of spare capacity where it can be used to protect/improve quality.
- ◀ Spare capacity on adult pitches to be used to build future capacity on youth 11v11 pitches.

Cricket

- ◀ Corus Sports Club and Saltburn Cricket Tennis & Bowls Club are overplayed by two and nine matches respectively.
- ◀ Actual spare capacity exists at New Marske Cricket Club amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions in the peak period. There are 12 matches of spare capacity in total.
- ◀ Both Redcar Cricket Club and Marske Cricket Club have spare capacity totalling four and seven matches respectively, however, this is not available during the peak period.
- ◀ There are two standalone non-turf wicket pitches; Bydales School and Redcar Academy, neither of which is used by the community.
- ◀ Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve wicket quality/maintenance in order to help alleviate overplay at Corus Sports Club and installation of a non turf wicket at Saltburn Cricket Tennis & Bowls Club
- Consider opportunities to maximise use at New Marske Cricket Club including LMS.

¹⁰ In match equivalent sessions

¹¹ Adult latent demand expressed by Lakes United FC, Youth by Dormanstown FC, Redcar Newmarket FC and Saltburn Athletic and mini latent demand Dormanstown FC and Saltburn Athletic.

Retain non peak spare capacity in order to help improve/protect pitch quality.

- ◀ Seek opportunities to create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ Redcar RUFC has three senior and one mini pitch, all of a good quality. One senior floodlit pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions due to training.
- ◀ There are pitches at Redcar Academy, Rye Hills School and Sacred Heart Comprehensive, however, none are used by the community, despite being available.

Recommendation

Ensure good quality is maintained at Redcar RUFC.

Consider additional floodlighting on other senior pitches to alleviate overplay.

Improve changing facilities in order to accommodate women and girls teams.

Improve pitch quality at school sites and explore community use possibilities.

Hockey

- ◀ Overall, demand for hockey can be met.
- ◀ A full size sand based pitch exists at Rye Hills School and is used by Redcar Hockey Club. The surface of the pitch, however, is 13 years old and users deem the quality to be poor.
- ◀ Junior teams within Redcar Hockey Club have to play outside of Redcar & Cleveland due to only one set of goals existing at Ryehills School, meaning teams cannot play side by side at the same time.

Recommendations

- ◀ Resurface the carpet at Ryehills School and ensure it remains suitable for competitive hockey.
- ◀ Seek funding to provide additional goals at Ryehills School.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for two full size 3G pitches within the Analysis Area, however, there are currently none.

A smaller sized pitch at Saltburn Learning Campus may accommodate some training demand, however very little community use is recorded.

Recommendations

Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGPs to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Marske Tennis Club has only three members, whilst Saltburn Tennis Club has 70 senior and 36 junior members, making it the biggest club within Redcar & Cleveland.
- ◀ All park courts are free to use for the community.

- ◀ No tennis courts within schools are available for community use.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at Marske Sport and Recreation Association in order to ensure the future of the Club.
- ◀ Seek partnership with Saltburn Tennis Club and Saltburn Leisure Centre in order to allow community use of courts at Saltburn Cricket, Bowls and Tennis Club.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.
- ◀ Markse-by-Sea Bowls Club (with a total of 97 members) is operating well above the Redcar & Cleveland average, however, no demand for an additional green was reported.
- ◀ Redcar Borough Park Bowling Club has a particular high membership due to also accessing an indoor green and, as such, does not report a need for additional outdoor facilities.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sustain green quality.
- ◀ Support clubs who report an intention to develop and improve green quality.

EAST CLEVELAND AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹²	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ¹³	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	7	-	-	-7	-	-7
Youth pitches 11v11	2	-	1	-1	1	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	1	0	1	+1
Mini pitches 7v7	0.5	-	-	-0.5	1	+0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	1	+1

- There is spare capacity on adult pitches equating to seven match equivalent sessions both now and in the future.
- There is current spare capacity on youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches, however, future demand results in youth 11v11 pitches being played to capacity and mini 7v7 pitches being overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- Youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 are currently played to capacity, with future demand resulting in overplay by one match equivalent on both pitch types.
- There are two youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. The adult pitch at De Brus Playing Fields is used solely by youth 11v11 teams.

Recommendations:

Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and better accommodate current/future demand.

- Change surplus adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches in order to allow transfer of youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches and to create spare capacity. The most suitable pitches for this are Carlin How WMC, Holly Bush and North Road – Loftus.

Cricket

- There are three pitches; Moorsholm Cricket Club, Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club, all of which have spare capacity amounting to 91 matches.
- Moorsholm Cricket Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club have 0.5 spare capacity available in the peak period.
- There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College that is available to the community however unused.
- Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

¹² In match equivalent sessions

¹³ Youth latent demand expressed by Lingdale FC and Skelton United.

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain spare capacity in order to help improve/sustain pitch quality.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for standalone non-turf wicket pitch at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College to accommodate future demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches in the Area.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch within the Analysis Area, however, there are currently none.

Recommendations

Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGPs to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College, which are unavailable to the community and poor quality.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College in order to allow for more suitable school use.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sustain green quality.

GREATER ESTON AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁴	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ¹⁵	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	5.5	-	1	-4.5	1	-3.5
Youth pitches 11v11	1	-	1	0	1.5	+1.5
Youth pitches 9v9	0.5	-	1	+0.5	1.5	+2
Mini pitches 7v7	2	-	0.5	-1.5	1	-0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	1	-	0.5	-0.5	1	+0.5

- There is current spare capacity on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. Youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity and youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- In the future, spare capacity remains on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, however, the remaining pitch types are overplayed.
- There are 20 youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, all of which are across three sites; Hillsview Academy (sixth form), Middlesbrough Football Community Centre and Smith Dock.

Recommendations

- Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and alleviate overplay.
- Retain small amount of spare capacity to help sustain/improve pitch quality.
- Consider remarking some adult pitches to youth pitches in order to cater for shortfalls. Hillsview Academy should be considered for this.
- Improve changing facilities at Grangetown YCC.

Cricket

- There are three pitches, located at Nunthorpe Cricket Club, Normanby Hall Cricket Club and Smith Dock. All three pitches have spare capacity, although none are available during the peak period.
- There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Nunthorpe Academy that is available to the community however unused. The wicket is poor quality.
- Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

Recommendations

- Improve pitch quality.
- Consider transfer of junior teams onto non-turf wickets in order to create spare capacity during peak time.

¹⁴ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁵ Adult latent demand expressed by Middlesbrough Lionesses, youth and mini by Southbank AFC.

- ◀ Improve quality of standalone non-turf wicket at Nunthorpe Academy to ensure it can appropriately supply any future demand.
- ◀ Consider creation of new provision in order to accommodate any increase in demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches.
- ◀ Two pitches exist within schools. Hillsview Academy is not available to the community as per PFI agreement, whilst Nunthorpe Academy is available but unused.

Recommendation

Explore community use options with schools to ensure any future demand can be met. Improve pitch quality, especially at Nunthorpe Academy, which is considered poor.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A sand based AGP is in place at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre, however work is ongoing to replace the surface with a 3G carpet.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Saint Peters Catholic College which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one additional full size 3G pitches in the Analysis Area, currently there is one.

Recommendations

Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGP to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.
Ensure good quality and high levels of community use at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre.
Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Nunthorpe Academy and Hillsview Academy, which are unavailable to the community.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Support clubs that report an intention to develop and improve green quality.
- ◀ Sustain green quality.

GUISBOROUGH AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	3.5	-	-	-3.5	0.5	-3
Youth pitches 11v11	-	-	-	0	-	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	-	-1	-	-1
Mini pitches 7v7	-	-	-	0	-	0
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	-	0

- ◀ Spare capacity exists on adult and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst the remaining pitch types are played to capacity.
- ◀ There are three youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, located at Guisborough Leisure Centre and King George V Playing Fields.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and alleviate overplay.
- ◀ Retain small amount of spare capacity to help sustain/improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Consider remarking some adult pitches to youth pitches in order to cater for shortfalls.

Cricket

- ◀ Guisborough Cricket Club has 28 matches of spare capacity however the pitch is not available during peak period.
- ◀ Oakley Park has 58 matches of spare capacity and has actual spare capacity during peak period.
- ◀ Pitch ownership and management at both sites is considered secure.
- ◀ A standalone non-turf wicket located at Guisborough Leisure Centre is disused and poor quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Bring the disused standalone non-turf wicket at Guisborough Leisure Centre back into use in order to create further supply.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

¹⁶ In match equivalent sessions

Rugby union

- ◀ There are three sites containing rugby pitches, all of which are used by Guisborough RUFC.
- ◀ Guisborough RUFC is overplayed due to only having two pitches for a large number of teams and no separate training area.
- ◀ Guisborough Leisure Centre is considered poor due to drainage issues and incorrect line markings. The pitch is overplayed by one match due to a combination of club and school use.
- ◀ Belmont Primary School is used by mini teams within the Club and has one match equivalent of spare capacity.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve dated changing facilities in order to allow for the creation of women and girls teams.
- ◀ Improve quality of Guisborough Leisure Centre in order to alleviate overplay.
- ◀ Seek alternative site for Guisborough RUFC in order to provide more pitches and a separate training area, thus alleviating overplay and accommodating all teams on one site.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A sand based AGP is in place at Guisborough Leisure Centre, however, work is ongoing to replace the surface with a 3G carpet.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch in the Analysis Area which will be provided on completion of the new 3G pitch at Guisborough Leisure Centre (September 2015).

Recommendations

Ensure good quality and high levels of community use at Guisborough Leisure Centre.
Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Guisborough Tennis Club has 35 senior and 19 junior members, which has decreased over the previous five years.
- ◀ The Club offers pay and play but finds it difficult to manage as there is no one on-site to collect money and open up the courts.
- ◀ Tennis courts at Guisborough Leisure Centre will be lost for the duration of the new AGP build before being re-provided.

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure courts at Guisborough Leisure Centre are re-provided to a good standard.
- ◀ Seek partnership between Guisborough Tennis Club and Guisborough Swimming Pool in order to help manage pay and play.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Support clubs that report an intention to develop and improve green quality.
- ◀ Sustain green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

EAST CLEVELAND AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁷	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ¹⁸	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	7	-	-	-7	-	-7
Youth pitches 11v11	2	-	1	-1	1	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	1	0	1	+1
Mini pitches 7v7	0.5	-	-	-0.5	1	+0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	1	+1

- ✦ There is spare capacity on adult pitches equating to seven match equivalent sessions both now and in the future.
- ✦ There is current spare capacity on youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches, however, future demand results in youth 11v11 pitches being played to capacity and mini 7v7 pitches being overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- ✦ Youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 are currently played to capacity, with future demand resulting in overplay by one match equivalent on both pitch types.
- ✦ There are two youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. The adult pitch at De Brus Playing Fields is used solely by youth 11v11 teams.

Recommendations:

Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and better accommodate current/future demand.

- ✦ Change surplus adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches in order to allow transfer of youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches and to create spare capacity. The most suitable pitches for this are Carlin How WMC, Holly Bush and North Road – Loftus.

Cricket

- ✦ There are three pitches; Moorsholm Cricket Club, Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club, all of which have spare capacity amounting to 91 matches.
- ✦ Moorsholm Cricket Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club have 0.5 spare capacity available in the peak period.
- ✦ There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College that is available to the community however unused.
- ✦ Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

¹⁷ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁸ Youth latent demand expressed by Lingdale FC and Skelton United.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain spare capacity in order to help improve/sustain pitch quality.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for standalone non-turf wicket pitch at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College to accommodate future demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches in the Area.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch within the Analysis Area, however, there are currently none.

Recommendations

Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGPs to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College, which are unavailable to the community and poor quality.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College in order to allow for more suitable school use.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sustain green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

GREATER ESTON AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ²⁰	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	5.5	-	1	-4.5	1	-3.5
Youth pitches 11v11	1	-	1	0	1.5	+1.5
Youth pitches 9v9	0.5	-	1	+0.5	1.5	+2
Mini pitches 7v7	2	-	0.5	-1.5	1	-0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	1	-	0.5	-0.5	1	+0.5

- There is current spare capacity on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. Youth 11v11 pitches are played to capacity and youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- In the future, spare capacity remains on adult and mini 7v7 pitches, however, the remaining pitch types are overplayed.
- There are 20 youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, all of which are across three sites; Hillsview Academy (sixth form), Middlesbrough Football Community Centre and Smith Dock.

Recommendations

- Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and alleviate overplay.
- Retain small amount of spare capacity to help sustain/improve pitch quality.
- Consider remarking some adult pitches to youth pitches in order to cater for shortfalls. Hillsview Academy should be considered for this.
- Improve changing facilities at Grangetown YCC.

Cricket

- There are three pitches, located at Nunthorpe Cricket Club, Normanby Hall Cricket Club and Smith Dock. All three pitches have spare capacity, although none are available during the peak period.
- There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Nunthorpe Academy that is available to the community however unused. The wicket is poor quality.
- Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

Recommendations

- Improve pitch quality.
- Consider transfer of junior teams onto non-turf wickets in order to create spare capacity during peak time.

¹⁹ In match equivalent sessions

²⁰ Adult latent demand expressed by Middlesbrough Lionesses, youth and mini by Southbank AFC.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Improve quality of standalone non-turf wicket at Nunthorpe Academy to ensure it can appropriately supply any future demand.
- ◀ Consider creation of new provision in order to accommodate any increase in demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches.
- ◀ Two pitches exist within schools. Hillsview Academy is not available to the community as per PFI agreement, whilst Nunthorpe Academy is available but unused.

Recommendation

Explore community use options with schools to ensure any future demand can be met. Improve pitch quality, especially at Nunthorpe Academy, which is considered poor.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A sand based AGP is in place at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre, however work is ongoing to replace the surface with a 3G carpet.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Saint Peters Catholic College which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one additional full size 3G pitches in the Analysis Area, currently there is one.

Recommendations

Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGP to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.
Ensure good quality and high levels of community use at Middlesbrough Football Community Centre.
Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Nunthorpe Academy and Hillsview Academy, which are unavailable to the community.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Support clubs that report an intention to develop and improve green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

- ◀ Sustain green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

GUISBOROUGH AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ²¹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	3.5	-	-	-3.5	0.5	-3
Youth pitches 11v11	-	-	-	0	-	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	-	-1	-	-1
Mini pitches 7v7	-	-	-	0	-	0
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	-	0

- ◀ Spare capacity exists on adult and youth 9v9 pitches, whilst the remaining pitch types are played to capacity.
- ◀ There are three youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, located at Guisborough Leisure Centre and King George V Playing Fields.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and alleviate overplay.
- ◀ Retain small amount of spare capacity to help sustain/improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Consider remarking some adult pitches to youth pitches in order to cater for shortfalls.

Cricket

- ◀ Guisborough Cricket Club has 28 matches of spare capacity however the pitch is not available during peak period.
- ◀ Oakley Park has 58 matches of spare capacity and has actual spare capacity during peak period.
- ◀ Pitch ownership and management at both sites is considered secure.
- ◀ A standalone non-turf wicket located at Guisborough Leisure Centre is disused and poor quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve pitch quality.
- ◀ Bring the disused standalone non-turf wicket at Guisborough Leisure Centre back into use in order to create further supply.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

²¹ In match equivalent sessions

Rugby union

- ◀ There are three sites containing rugby pitches, all of which are used by Guisborough RUFC.
- ◀ Guisborough RUFC is overplayed due to only having two pitches for a large number of teams and no separate training area.
- ◀ Guisborough Leisure Centre is considered poor due to drainage issues and incorrect line markings. The pitch is overplayed by one match due to a combination of club and school use.
- ◀ Belmont Primary School is used by mini teams within the Club and has one match equivalent of spare capacity.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve dated changing facilities in order to allow for the creation of women and girls teams.
- ◀ Improve quality of Guisborough Leisure Centre in order to alleviate overplay.
- ◀ Seek alternative site for Guisborough RUFC in order to provide more pitches and a separate training area, thus alleviating overplay and accommodating all teams on one site.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A sand based AGP is in place at Guisborough Leisure Centre, however, work is ongoing to replace the surface with a 3G carpet.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch in the Analysis Area which will be provided on completion of the new 3G pitch at Guisborough Leisure Centre (September 2015).

Recommendations

Ensure good quality and high levels of community use at Guisborough Leisure Centre.
Ensure sinking fund is in place for eventual resurfacing.

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Guisborough Tennis Club has 35 senior and 19 junior members, which has decreased over the previous five years.
- ◀ The Club offers pay and play but finds it difficult to manage as there is no one on-site to collect money and open up the courts.
- ◀ Tennis courts at Guisborough Leisure Centre will be lost for the duration of the new AGP build before being re-provided.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Ensure courts at Guisborough Leisure Centre are re-provided to a good standard.
- ◀ Seek partnership between Guisborough Tennis Club and Guisborough Swimming Pool in order to help manage pay and play.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Support clubs that report an intention to develop and improve green quality.
- ◀ Sustain green quality.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

EAST CLEVELAND AREA

Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ²²	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand ²³	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult pitches	7	-	-	-7	-	-7
Youth pitches 11v11	2	-	1	-1	1	0
Youth pitches 9v9	1	-	1	0	1	+1
Mini pitches 7v7	0.5	-	-	-0.5	1	+0.5
Mini pitches 5v5	-	-	-	0	1	+1

- There is spare capacity on adult pitches equating to seven match equivalent sessions both now and in the future.
- There is current spare capacity on youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches, however, future demand results in youth 11v11 pitches being played to capacity and mini 7v7 pitches being overplayed by 0.5 match equivalents.
- Youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 are currently played to capacity, with future demand resulting in overplay by one match equivalent on both pitch types.
- There are two youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. The adult pitch at De Brus Playing Fields is used solely by youth 11v11 teams.

Recommendations:

Improve pitch quality in order to increase potential capacity and better accommodate current/future demand.

- Change surplus adult pitches to youth 11v11 pitches in order to allow transfer of youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches and to create spare capacity. The most suitable pitches for this are Carlin How WMC, Holly Bush and North Road – Loftus.

Cricket

- There are three pitches; Moorsholm Cricket Club, Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club, all of which have spare capacity amounting to 91 matches.
- Moorsholm Cricket Club and Skelton Castle Cricket Club have 0.5 spare capacity available in the peak period.
- There is a standalone non-turf wicket at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College that is available to the community however unused.
- Pitch ownership and management across all sites is seen as secure.

²² In match equivalent sessions

²³ Youth latent demand expressed by Lingdale FC and Skelton United.

REDCAR & CLEVELAND PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Recommendations

- ◀ Retain spare capacity in order to help improve/sustain pitch quality.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for standalone non-turf wicket pitch at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College to accommodate future demand.
- ◀ Create training provision at club sites currently without suitable facilities.

Rugby union

- ◀ There is no current demand for rugby pitches in the Area.

Hockey

- ◀ No demand exists for hockey.
- ◀ A smaller sized AGP exists at Loftus Cricket & Athletic Club which can accommodate some training demand.

3G pitches

There is a requirement for one full size 3G pitch within the Analysis Area, however, there are currently none.

Recommendations

Seek suitable potential sites for new 3G AGPs to accommodate shortfall. Review provision and current providers.

Tennis

- ◀ The only courts are located at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College, which are unavailable to the community and poor quality.
- ◀ No local demand exists for additional courts.

Recommendations

- ◀ Improve court quality at Freebrough Specialist Engineering College in order to allow for more suitable school use.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity.
- ◀ The majority of greens are good quality.

Recommendations

- ◀ Sustain green quality.

Appendix B

Quality Survey Form

OPEN SPACES ASSESSMENT – SITE QUALITY AUDIT

ID					Site Name		
Location					Area (Ha.)		
Significance	Strategic			Neighbourhood		Local	
Primary Purpose					Secondary Purpose(s)		
2005 Score					2005 Rating		
Planning Issues							
Ownership	RCBC		CCH		Other (confirm)		
Management	RCBC		CCH		Other (confirm)		

Description

Survey

5 = Excellent	4 = Good	3 = Acceptable	2 = Substandard	1 = Poor
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Accessibility	Comments	Score
Entry points		
Internal Paths		
Wheelchair Accessible		
Bike Parking		
Car Parking		
Public Transport		
Total Score		
% Score		Rating

Appearance	Comments	Score
Entrance(s)		
Ground Condition / Drainage		
Planted Areas		
Wet Areas		
Paths & Hard Infrastructure		
Cleanliness (Litter / Dog Fouling)		
ASB Evidence		
Total Score		
% Score		Rating

Security and Safety	Comments	Score
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Surveillance		
Lighting		
Fencing		
Layout		
Total Score		
% Score		Rating

Facilities	Comments	Score
Litter Bins		
Dog waste Bins		
Benches		
Signage		
Internal lighting		
Play Equipment / Areas		
Changing Facilities		
Toilets		
Other		
Total Score		
% Score		Rating

Biodiversity	Comments	Score
Hedges / Trees / Shrubbery		
Woodland		
Grassland/meadows		
Wildlife Corridor		
Wetland Areas		
Total Score		
% Score		Rating

Overall Score		% Score		Overall Rating	
Comments:					

Opportunities / Recommendations	

Date		Initials	
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Appendix C

Quality Survey Indicator Scoring Guide

ACCESSIBILITY		
Indicator	Scenario	Indicative Score
Entry points	Informal access, from one street/direction limited visibility or prominence within neighbourhood.	2/5
	Single informal but visible access from one street/direction.	3/5
	More than one entrance point but site has limited prominence within wider neighbourhood.	3/5
	Large site with more than one entry point but some access limitations from at least one direction.	3/5
	Thoroughfare.	4/5
	At least two access points, well visible but informal entrances and potentially connected to wider green network.	4/5
	At least one formal entrance point.	4/5
	Multiple formal entrances well signposted providing welcoming and distinctive entry points and potentially good linkages to wider network.	5/5
	Multiple entrance points and possibly strategic links but noticeably poor quality	2/5
Internal Paths	No paths crossing the site.	n/a
	Unmade paths only offering partial or poor quality access .	1/5
	Manmade paths with significant deficiencies requiring remediation.	2/5
	Partial man-made access into site	2/5
	Usable manmade paths with some surface deficiencies but safe.	3/5
	At least one made path crossing site in generally good condition.	4/5
	100% accessible play area safety flooring good condition	5/5
	Multidirectional paths in fine condition with smooth surface.	5/5
Wheelchair Accessible	No paths or unmade paths into site.	n/a
	Partial access into site	2/5
	Single path crossing site but entrance security barrier or narrow/poor path may restrict accessibility.	3/5
	Good paths (condition / width) enabling easy traverse across site with no access restrictions beyond general opening times if applicable.	4/5
	100% accessible play area safety flooring good condition	5/5
	Good provision / accessibility on several paths enabling extensive coverage around site and possibly plus other features eg entrance ramps or other beneficial features.	5/5
Bike Parking	Site is of local or neighbourhood significance (unless dedicated facilities are provided).	n/a
	None.	n/a
	Stands.	4/5
	Shelters.	5/5
	Site is of local or neighbourhood significance (unless dedicated facilities are provided).	n/a
Car Parking (strategic sites only unless provided directly or incidentally)	None.	n/a
	Limited provision, poor surface and unmarked.	1/5
	Limited provision, reasonable surface and may be marked.	2/5
	Adequate or generous provision, poor surface and unmarked.	3/5
	Adequate or generous, well- surfaced and unmarked.	4/5
Generous provision, well- surfaced and marked.	5/5	
Public Transport (strategic sites only)	Site is of local or neighbourhood significance.	n/a
	None or daily service. No rail access.	1/5
	Limited bus services (one per hour minimum).	2/5
	Regular single bus service (every half hour minimum) no rail access.	3/5

	Rail access only.	3/5
	Multiple bus services no rail connection.	4/5
	Multiple bus services and rail connection.	5/5

APPEARANCE		
Indicator	Scenario	Indicative Score
Entrance(s)	Informal access off street / footpath only.	n/a
	Formal entrance point(s) with low level of signage etc. or scope for renewal or enhancement.	3/5
	Formal entrance to part of site, e.g. play area only.	2/5
	Formal entrance point(s) with modern clear signage standard design.	4/5
	Formal entrance point(s) with high distinctive quality of signage or memorials e.g. ornate gates.	5/5
Ground Condition / Drainage	Grass closely mown e.g. to playing surface standard and grassed areas in immaculate condition.	5/5
	Fit for purpose, some worn areas or overgrowth towards edges.	3/5
	Well maintained and attractive amenity area. Worn areas barely evident.	4/5
	Major areas of bare ground within site due to e.g. drainage or off-roading.	2/5
	Site falls within flood area or evidence of subterranean stormwater tanks – deduct point.	
	Minority boggy areas	3/5
	Site falls within flood area but contains wild grassland, reed beds etc. to promote more efficient drainage.- add point	
Planted Areas	Moderate planting in terms of relative coverage and species variation, reasonable condition.	3/5
	Limited or non-existent on site but prominent beyond site boundaries achieving green backdrop.	3/5
	Relatively high coverage, good quality and some species variation which enhances site appearance.	4/5
	Wide range of planting with high coverage in good or excellent condition providing very attractive area or areas.	5/5
	Planting non-existent.	n/a
	Planting limited and in poor condition.	1/5
	Planting limited reasonable condition.	2/5
	Young trees only good coverage / condition.	3/5
	Moderate coverage, some poor quality areas eg with damaged specimens or overgrown areas.	2/5
Wet Areas	None.	n/a
	Limited feature, e.g. small stream, poor condition	2/5
	Limited feature, e.g. small stream, reasonable condition.	3/5
	Significant feature with some scope for improvement, e.g. clean-up detritus but functional.	4/5
	Significant feature, e.g. ponds, fountains, major water course, well maintained.	5/5
Paths & Hard Infrastructure	No internal paths.	n/a

	Limited provision, poor condition.	1/5
	Poor condition.	2/5
	Paths, lighting, structures etc. usable and in reasonable condition but with some potential for renewal or improvement.	3/5
	Good quality and attractive infrastructure, possibly newly installed.	4/5
	Outstanding quality and attractive infrastructure, possibly newly installed.	5/5
Cleanliness (Litter/ Dog Fouling)	No evidence of either – clean site.	4/5
	Moderate litter problem, but clean site otherwise.	3/5
	Significant dog fouling.	1/5
	Moderate dog fouling	2/5
	Limited litter and dog fouling bins provided on site	3/5
	Significant litter problem, no dog fouling observed.	2/5
	Significant litter problem and evidence of dog fouling.	1/5
ASB Evidence	Non-existent.	5/5
	Minor low level eg graffiti.	4/5
	Moderate eg prominent graffiti, broken glass, limited vandalism.	3/5
	Excessive litter or dog fouling – deduct point.	
	Significant eg prominent fires, damaged buildings, high level damage to trees, buildings or equipment, tipping and off-roading.	2/5
	Multiple significant problems.	1/5

SECURITY AND SAFETY		
Indicator	Scenario	Indicative Score
Surveillance	Full passive surveillance from property frontages surrounding site and from highways with no on-site barriers to visibility.	5/5
	Good observation from property with some barriers due to intensive planting, gardens or configuration barriers.	4/5
	Street frontage site but planting notably restricts visibility.	3/5
	Reasonable passive surveillance mainly from rear or gable ends and upper floors e.g. backland site.	3/5
	Natural space.	n/a
	Limited surveillance due to intense planting, large area, irregular configuration or remoteness.	2/5
	Limited surveillance but closed after dark	3/5
	Limited passive surveillance but supported by CCTV and/or lighting.	4/5
Lighting	Site has no internal lighting but benefits from street lamps and property lighting.	3/5
	No on site but boosted by side path with lighting or complete frontage surveillance from properties /highway.	4/5
	Internal paths well lit over large parts of site plus off-site lighting.	5/5
	Partial lighting plus off-site from houses / lamp posts.	4/5
	None on-site and limited off-site due to site configuration, size, or location.	2/5
	Closed after dark.	n/a
	Natural space.	n/a
Perimeter	No formal boundaries - site is open to street scene – but no evidence of vehicle incursion.	3/5
	Boundary treatments provide limited or partial security from incursion.	3/5

	Site is fully enclosed with secure treatments preventing solid barriers to incursion e.g. metal railings.	5/5
	Site is mostly enclosed. with some potential for improvement.	4/5
	Minor incursion e.g. parking, vehicles passing	3/5
	Moderate incursion through off-roading or illegal parking etc.	2/5
	Evidence of significant incursion through off-roading etc.	1/5
Layout	Mono-functional space with basic layout, small site or regular configuration or limited planting and site is mostly visible from different vantage points.	3/5
	Larger site or site with mix of open areas and planted areas but well designed to ensure mostly good visibility in key locations e.g. play areas and ease of access and egress..	4/5
	Natural space.	n/a
	Limited visibility with notable concealment points.	2/5
	Limited visibility with notable concealment points but site is closed after dark.	3/5
	Multifunctional site providing a range of uses and appropriately set out to enable easy access and permeability and good security.	5/5

FACILITIES		
Indicator	Scenario	Indicative Score
Litter Bins	None.	n/a
	Bins in poor condition eg burnt out, and inadequate provision.	1/5
	Poor condition, adequate quantity.	2/5
	On street only, notwithstanding quantity/ condition	3/5
	Standard quality, adequate for site, may need renewing.	3/5
	Standard quality with generous provision or good quality with adequate provision.	4/5
	Excellent quality which enhances site appearance e.g. heavy duty metal with design features incl. dual bins.	5/5
Dog waste Bins	None.	n/a
	On street or periphery only, adequate e.g. quantity/ condition	3/5
	Bins in poor condition e.g. burnt out, and inadequate provision.	1/5
	Bins in poor condition, adequate quantity.	2/5
	Standard quality, adequate for site, may need renewing.	3/5
	Standard quality with generous provision or good quality with adequate provision.	4/5
	Excellent quality which enhances site appearance e.g. heavy duty metal with design features or other facilities, e.g. bag dispenser, or dual bins.	5/5
Signage	None.	n/a
	Limited, poor condition e.g. rusting or heavily defaced.	1/5
	Poor condition, but adequate.	2/5
	Adequate for site, but potential for replacement.	3/5
	Good signage clear and reasonable provision across site.	4/5
	Outstanding with additional features e.g. information boards.	5/5
Benches	None.	n/a
	Benches in poor condition and inadequate provision.	1/5
	Benches in poor condition, adequate quantity.	2/5
	Benches adjacent	3/5
	Standard issue bench, without back rest, adequate quantity,	3/5
	Good quality, possibly including recent installation, adequate or generous provision.	4/5
	Outstanding quality which enhances site appearance e.g. ornate iron and well provided for.	5/5
Internal lighting	None.	n/a
	Partially lit, standard furniture.	3/5
	More fully lit, standard furniture.	4/5
	More fully lit, higher quality, e.g. cast iron construction.	5/5
	Partially lit, higher quality furniture.	4/5
Play Equipment / Areas	None.	n/a
	Limited (e.g. goalposts or small no items), poor condition and insecure, needing major overhaul.	2/5
	Limited, reasonable condition and usable, but with some enhancements desirable.	3/5
	Limited, but good or excellent (new) condition and no scope for improvement	4/5
	Extensive (NEAP), but generally poor condition with some equipment or infrastructure needing replacement.	3/5
	Extensive (NEAP), reasonable condition.	4/5
	Extensive (NEAP), outstanding condition and appearance, possibly recently installed.	5/5
	Changing Facilities	None.

	Functional secured cabins.	3/5
	Permanent structure brick built and modern.	5/5
Toilets	None.	n/a
	Poor quality and needing renewal or vandalised.	2/5
	Moderate condition and generally functional e.g. cabins.	3/5
	Good condition e.g. modern, permanent structure.	4/5
	Excellent condition with hot water facilities etc. possibly as part of larger building e.g. visitor centre.	5/5
	Nearby off site max 3/5	
Other incl minor eg monument or obelisk, and major eg visitor centre, café etc.	Minor Feature / infrastructure in moderate or good condition.	3/5
	Major facility in moderate, functional condition.	4/5
	Major facility in fine condition.	5/5

BIODIVERSITY		
Indicator	Scenario	Indicative Score
Trees / Hedges / Shrubbery	Non-existent	n/a
	Cosmetic value only	1/5
	Moderate absolute coverage good condition	2/5
	Young specimens only good coverage and condition	2/5
	Mature planting modest coverage on larger site /extensive coverage but limited significance - i.e. smaller site at least moderate condition	3/5
	Larger site with significant coverage and at least moderate condition overall.	4/5
	Mature trees good coverage with species variation and in good or excellent condition.	5/5
Woodland	None.	n/a
	Minor site with problems	2/5
	Minor site and well managed	3/5
	Young woodland prominent coverage	3/5
	Major site but management required – dead trees. significant overgrowth etc.	3/5
	Major site moderate maintenance limited species variation	4/5
	Historic woodland	4/5
	Major site, mature trees well maintained and good species variation	5/5
Grassland/meadows	None	n/a
	Minor area	3/5
	Major area	4/5
Wildlife Corridor	None.	n/a
	Major area, e.g. conservation designation, extensive woodland or main watercourse.	5/5
	Prominent feature e.g. lakes or watercourse, large woodland area but no policy designation.	4/5
	Minor area or broken corridor e.g. by major roads or built development.	3/5
Wetlands	None.	n/a
	Major wetland area with e.g. large ponds, prominent water courses, conservation designation, extensive management etc.	5/5
	Prominent feature within the site, e.g. fishing lake, pond or watercourse but no policy designation or formal management.	4/5
	Minor area or feature, e.g. narrow beck channels.	3/5

Appendix D

Viewfinder Survey Questionnaire

Open Space Needs Assessment

This survey seeks views regarding satisfaction with public open spaces in Redcar & Cleveland. The survey is being undertaken as part of an assessment of open space needs in the Borough.

The assessment will support the preparation of the forthcoming Borough development plan, the Local Plan, which will include policies in respect of public green spaces.

The assessment will investigate whether the quality, quantity and accessibility of different types of open space across Redcar & Cleveland is sufficient now, and potentially into the future. It is therefore essential that the views of households are thoroughly considered in this process and the aim of this survey is to obtain a large opinion sample from households across the Borough's towns, villages and residential neighbourhoods. We hope therefore that you can spare some time to complete the survey.

Open Space Needs Assessment

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WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT PARKS AND OPEN SPACES IN REDCAR & CLEVELAND?

The Borough contains a wide variety of open spaces, definitions for these different types of spaces are detailed below:

Local Amenity Green Spaces - these sites are commonplace in residential areas and comprise mown grassed areas sometimes complemented by trees, shrub planting or flower beds.

Children's Equipped Play Areas - containing swings, slides etc. in a protected environment.

Teenage Provision - larger play areas also suitable for informal ball games and for use by older children and teenagers.

Recreation Grounds - major spaces containing formal sports pitches or courts used for competitive sports games.

Urban Parks - formally laid out spaces with larger sites offering a range of facilities.

Natural Areas - areas of significant biodiversity interest including country parks, community woodlands, Local Nature Reserves, wetlands and rough grasslands

Civic Spaces – predominantly paved spaces, suitable for organised events and including market squares and promenades

Cemeteries and Churchyards - enclosed formal spaces providing opportunities for quiet reflection, tranquillity and respectful appreciation of the deceased.

Allotments - heavily enclosed areas used for growing produce and gardening in a communal setting.

Green Corridors - including dedicated footpaths, beck walkways, public rights of way and cycle routes which connect places and spaces

1. Please indicate the extent to which you think the SUPPLY of different types of space in your local area is sufficient:

	More than enough	About right	Nearly enough	Not enough	Undecided
Local Amenity Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipped Play Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teenage Provision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports Pitches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allotments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green Corridors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civic Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Please indicate the extent to which you would rate the OVERALL QUALITY of different types of space in your local area:

	Very good	Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Very poor	Undecided	N/A
Local Amenity Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipped Play Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teenage Provision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports Pitches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cemeteries/Church Yards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green Corridors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civic Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beaches/Sand Dunes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Question 3 - Please indicate the MAXIMUM travelling times which you think are acceptable in travelling to the following different types of public open space:

	Up to 5 minutes	Between 5 and 10 minutes	Between 10 and 20 minutes	Over 20 minutes	Public Transport Journey	Undecided/Unlikely to use
Local Amenity Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipped Play Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teenage Provision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports Pitches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allotments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cemeteries/Churchyards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green Corridors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civic Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beaches/Sand Dunes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Please indicate the mode of transport which you would be MOST LIKELY to use in travelling to the following different types of public open space:

	Walking	Cycling	Public Transport	Car	Unlikely to use
Local Amenity Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipped Play Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teenage Provision	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports Pitches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allotments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cemeteries/Churchyards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Green Corridors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civic Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beaches/Sand Dunes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. In the box below, please state the name or street location of an open space in the Borough with which you are familiar:

6. Thinking about the site you named above, please consider the positive statements below about open space quality and indicate where you think they apply to the above site.

- Well-kept grass
- Clean and free of litter and dog fouling
- Attractive trees, shrubs or other natural features
- Outstanding natural area
- Tranquil atmosphere and good for quiet relaxation
- Attractive views within or out of the site
- Well maintained paths
- Good range of play equipment
- Provides major area for ball games or other exercise opportunities such as running
- Ideal for exercising dogs
- Well laid-out with clear signposting
- Well overlooked by nearby properties and feels safe
- Well secured from traffic
- Site has a good range of facilities for different users and age groups
- Well lit area which feels safe after dark
- Site is conveniently located near home or easily accessible by bike, car or public transport
- Good quality/well maintained seating
- Site is well situated near other key facilities such as schools or shops
- Generally attractive site which enhances the appearance of the wider area
- Easily accessible to wheelchair users
- Other (please specify)

7. Thinking again about the site you named in Question 5, please advise of any problems or negative issues you are aware of from the list below:

	Major Issue	Minor Issue	Unsure	N/A
Dog fouling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Litter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fly tipping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graffiti	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Damage to nearby cars or property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poorly maintained (or inadequate) planted areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flooded or boggy ground	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poorly maintained paths or seating	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Site feels unsafe with concealed or dark areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Remote from housing areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Issues with parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-roading by dirt bikes or vehicles purposely crossing site	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vandalism to planted areas, signage or facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fire damage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anti-social behaviour such as alcohol or drug abuse, gang intimidation or excessive noise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wheelchair access is difficult	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

8. Do you think that the quality of the space you mentioned in Question 5 could be improved?

Yes

No

If you answered Yes, please use the box below to advise how the space might be improved

9. Please indicate whether and how often you are likely to use open spaces for any of the following activities:

	Most days	Weekly	Monthly	Once or twice a year	Rarely	Never
Walking (including as a cut through to work, shops, school etc)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dog walking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visiting play areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Socialising with family/friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visiting alone for quiet relaxation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Informal ball games	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Competitive team sports e.g. football, rugby	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tennis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bowls	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cycling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Running	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor gym/Trim trail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Horse riding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Allotment gardening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

10. Please use the below box to add any further comments about open spaces in Redcar and Cleveland, or to expand upon earlier comments

About You

To make sure we better understand the views of people using the council services in Redcar & Cleveland, we would like to know a few details about you. This will help us know whether concerns and priorities differ between different groups of people. Please note this information will only be used for statistical purposes to see how views differ. No information will be released that would allow the identification of any individual

11. Please let us know your postcode

12. Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female
- Do not wish to say

13. Which of the following age groups do you belong to?

- 16-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- 85 years and older

14. Do you consider yourself to have a disability, long term illness or health problem that limits your daily activities, the work you can do and your access to open space?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

15. To which of these ethnic groups do you consider you belong to?

- White
- Asian or British Asian
- Mixed
- Black or Black British
- Chinese

16. Do you have any children under the age of 16 in your household

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Appendix E

Audited Spaces

Primary Purpose	Abbreviation
Residential Amenity Space	RA
Public Sports Ground	SG
Informal Kick-about Area	IK
Equipped Play Area	EP
Urban and Country Parks	UP
Natural Space	NS
Civic Hard Space	CS

ID	Site	Location	Primary Purpose	Area (Ha.)
178	Boosbeck High Street	Boosbeck	RA	0.1
179	Wand Hill Gardens	Boosbeck	RA	0.2
180	Wandhill Recreation Ground	Boosbeck	SG	3.0
181	Rear of Queen Street	Boosbeck	IK	1.5
151	Woodside	Brotton	RA	0.1
152	Linden Road	Brotton	RA	0.2
153	Sycamore Road	Brotton	RA	0.2
154	Coach Road	Brotton	RA	0.7
156	Byron Court	Brotton	EP	1.2
157	The Garth	Brotton	IK	2.9
158	Marshall Drive Playing Field	Brotton	IK	3.8
159	Marshall Drive Community Woodland	Brotton	NS	3.1
229	Ings Lane Woodland	Brotton	NS	1.8
160	Carlin How Doorstep Green	Carlin How	EP	0.7
161	Kennedy Crescent	Carlin How	EP	0.1
209	Mill Lane	Carlin How	IK	1.1
183	Charlton's Play Area	Charltons	IK	2.3
170	Easington Playing Field	Easington	EP	0.4
020	Bankfields Estate Playing Field	Eston	IK	3.2
021	Bankfields Road Buffer	Eston	RA	1.1
037	Whale Hill Recreation Ground	Eston	IK	8.9
038	Exeter Rd	Eston	RA	0.3
039	East of Eston Cemetery	Eston	RA	2.3
040	Eston 'Pocket Park'	Eston	RA	6.4
041	Eston Recreation Ground	Eston	IK	22.0
022	Mansfield Rd / Marton Cres	Eston	RA	0.4
023	Woodgarth	Eston	IK	2.5
024	Parkgate	Eston	RA	1.7
025	Eston Hospital Site	Eston	RA	0.3
026	Glaisdale Road	Eston	RA	0.5
028	S of Whale Hill shops	Eston	RA	0.4
029	Blakey Walk	Eston	EP	2.0
031	Greystones Community Woodland	Grangetown	NS	9.4
043	Birchington Avenue Playing Field	Grangetown	IK	6.0
226	Bolckow Road	Grangetown	RA	0.3
227	Church Lane Corridor (North)	Grangetown	NS	0.7
228	Church Lane Corridor (South)	Grangetown	RA	0.7
032	Grangetown Millenium Green	Grangetown	UP	2.3
033	Grisedale Cres	Grangetown	IK	0.4
034	Jade Green	Grangetown	EP	1.0
035	Monmouth Road	Grangetown	RA	0.3
036	Church Lane Estate Walkway	Grangetown	RA	2.5
057	Grangetown Park	Grangetown	UP	1.7
058	Mushroom Grove	Grangetown	RA	3.6
186	Heslington Gardens Amenity	Guisborough	RA	0.3
187	Heslington Gardens Play	Guisborough	EP	0.7

188	King George V Playing Field	Guisborough	SG	10.1
184	Butt Lane	Guisborough	EP	0.8
185	Bakehouse Square	Guisborough	UP	0.1
189	Chapel Beck Walkway / Westgate Park	Guisborough	UP	2.7
190	Hutton Lane / Rectory Lane North Side	Guisborough	RA	0.2
191	Thames Rd / Severn Drive	Guisborough	RA	0.1
192	Dorset Road Cluster	Guisborough	RA	0.3
193	Derby Road	Guisborough	RA	0.3
194	Kemplah Field	Guisborough	IK	2.1
195	Belmont Field	Guisborough	IK	2.2
196	Hunter's Hill Cluster	Guisborough	RA	0.4
197	Rufford Close	Guisborough	RA	0.3
052	Aldenham Road Link	Guisborough	RA	0.5
198	The Avenue	Guisborough	NS	1.3
199	Whinchat Tail	Guisborough	RA	0.7
200	Spring Lodge Gardens	Guisborough	RA	0.1
211	Guisborough Forest and Walkway CP	Guisborough	UP	12.5
059	Wilton Green	Lazenby	IK	1.7
060	Lazenby High Street	Lazenby	RA	0.1
061	Lazenby Play Area	Lazenby	EP	0.6
174	Lingdale Playing Field	Lingdale	SG	1.4
175	Lingdale Pit Wildlife Meadow	Lingdale	NS	5.9
176	Lingdale High Street	Lingdale	EP	0.4
177	Lingdale Pit East	Lingdale	NS	2.3
206	Cedarhurst Drive	Lingdale	RA	0.1
171	School Lane	Liverton Mines	IK	1.5
172	Ironstone Way	Liverton Mines	IK	0.7
164	Coronation Park	Loftus	UP	0.5
165	Cleveland Street	Loftus	EP	0.5
166	Westfield Way	Loftus	RA	1.1
167	North Rd Football Pitch	Loftus	SG	1.7
168	North Road Amenity Space	Loftus	RA	0.4
169	Tees Street	Loftus	EP	0.3
210	Rosedale Crescent	Loftus	RA	0.1
232	Deepdale Road	Loftus	NS	0.7
182	Margrove Park	Margrove Park	RA	2.8
112	Redcar Rd	Marske	RA	1.0
115	Fell Briggs Drive	Marske	RA	0.2
123	East of High Street	Marske	RA	1.2
113	Beardmore Avenue	Marske	RA	1.1
114	Cat Flat Lane	Marske	EP	0.2
116	Churchill Drive Cluster	Marske	RA	0.4
117	Marske Stray	Marske	RA	3.9
118	Marske Valley Gardens	Marske	RA	0.5
119	The Headlands	Marske	RA	2.8
120	Marske Village Green	Marske	IK	0.6
121	Windy Hill Lane	Marske	RA	0.6
122	Wheatlands Drive	Marske	RA	0.2
124	Limes Crescent	Marske	RA	0.1
125	Hambleton Cresecent Cluster	Marske	RA	0.7
173	Moorsholm Green	Moorsholm	SG	1.7

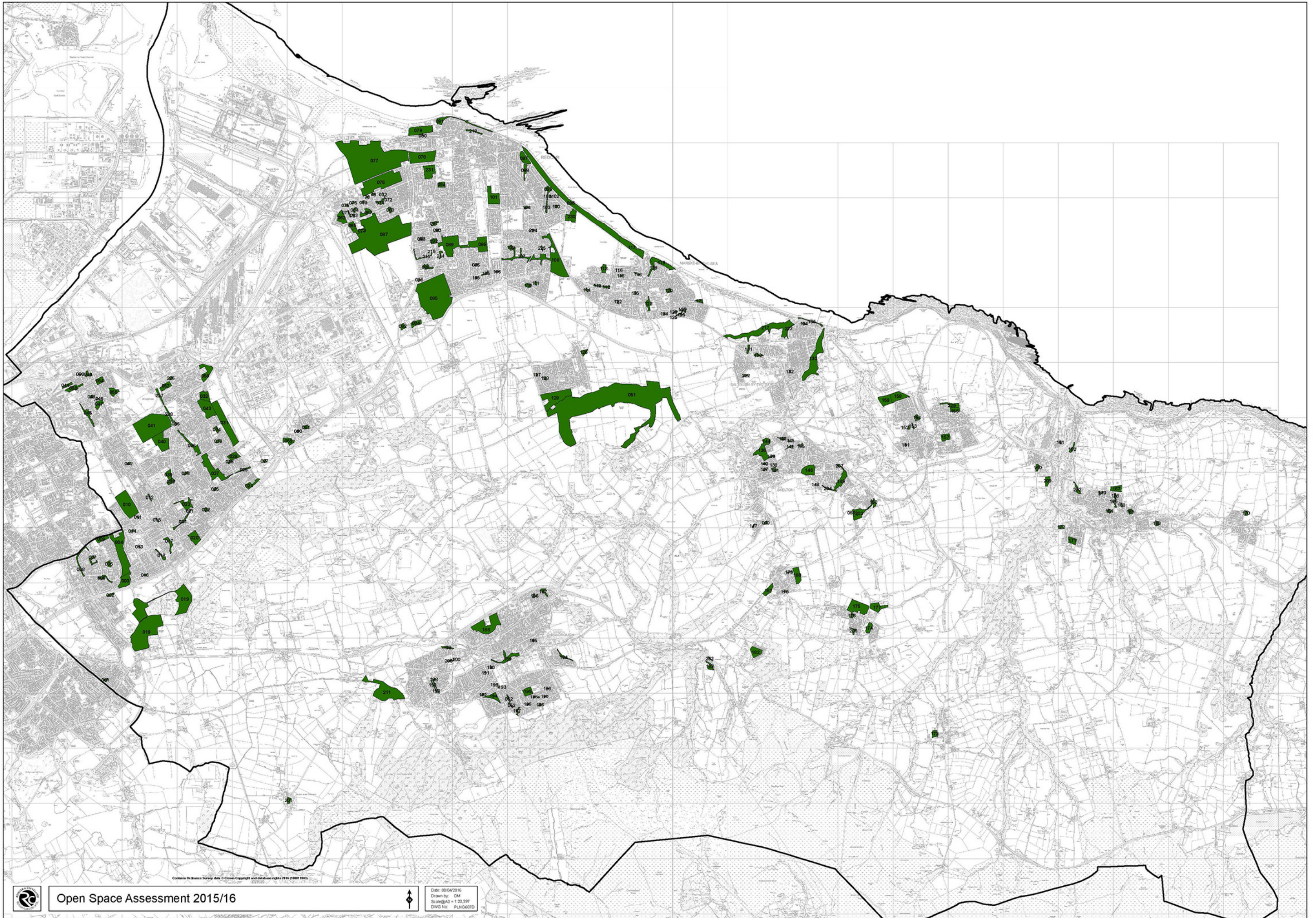
051	Errington Woods	New Marske	NS	92.8
126	Pontac Road	New Marske	EP	0.8
128	Lindrick Road	New Marske	RA	0.2
129	Grewgrass Lane	New Marske	SG	7.3
127	Appleby Close	New Marske	RA	0.1
148	Thomas Street	New Skelton	EP	0.0
149	Layland Beck Community Park	New Skelton	NS	3.7
207	Off Station Lane	New Skelton	RA	0.3
204	Low Stanghow Road	New Skelton	RA	0.2
015	Grosvenor Gardens	Normanby	RA	0.2
010	Smith's Dock Park	Normanby	SG	10.6
012	Manor Green	Normanby	RA	0.3
016	Bexley Drive	Normanby	RA	0.1
011	Tristram Road	Normanby	RA	0.1
013	The Mount	Normanby	RA	0.1
014	Normanby Hall Park	Normanby	RA	0.2
017	South Park Wood	Normanby	RA	0.5
018	Mallinson Park	Normanby	RA	0.3
019	Flatts Lane Country Park	Normanby	UP	45.0
150	William St	North Skelton	EP	1.0
202	North Skelton Woodland	North Skelton	NS	2.4
56	North Skelton Playing Pitch	North Skelton	SG	0.9
001	Byland Road	Nunthorpe	EP	0.3
201	Newton Village Green	N-U-R	RA	0.6
002	Eastbank Road	Ormesby	EP	0.5
003	Endeavour Drive	Ormesby	RA	2.9
004	Spencerbeck Field	Ormesby	IK	9.7
005	Garsbeck Way	Ormesby	RA	0.8
006	Laburnum Road	Ormesby	RA	1.0
007	Adj Allendale Road Shops	Ormesby	RA	1.1
008	Sunnyfield/ Normanby Rd	Ormesby	RA	1.3
009	Ainsworth Way	Ormesby	RA	1.6
077	Coatham Marshes	Redcar	NS	54.0
079	Coatham Common	Redcar	RA	6.0
080	Coatham Rainbow Garden	Redcar	EP	0.1
081	Redcar Seafront	Redcar	CS	3.3
218	Redcar High Street	Redcar	CS	0.6
062	The Fleet	Redcar	RA	2.8
063	Westfield Way (South)	Redcar	RA	0.2
064	Westfield Way (North)	Redcar	RA	0.4
065	Armitage Road Equipped Play Area	Redcar	EP	1.8
073	Armitage Road Playing Field	Redcar	SG	1.4
067	Dormanstown Green	Redcar	RA	1.6
068	Bennison Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.6
069	South of Ennis Square	Redcar	RA	0.2
070	Dorman Crescent / Hill Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.3
071	Britannia Place	Redcar	RA	0.2
072	Abercrombie Road	Redcar	RA	0.1
074	Rear of Adshead Road	Redcar	RA	0.7
075	Broadway West	Redcar	RA	0.3
076	Dormanstown Recreation Ground	Redcar	SG	13.6

096	The Stray	Redcar	RA	19.4
097	Zetland Park	Redcar	UP	2.4
098	Zetland Park Extension	Redcar	RA	1.7
099	Lily Park	Redcar	RA	0.8
100	Whitby Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.2
102	Ely Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.2
103	Canterbury Road Link	Redcar	RA	0.7
230	Oak Road	Redcar	SG	3.0
101	Borough Park	Redcar	UP	4.6
104	Castle Road	Redcar	RA	0.3
105	Woodside	Redcar	RA	0.4
106	Wheatlands Park Link	Redcar	RA	0.1
107	Ings Estate Play Park	Redcar	EP	5.6
108	Holyhead Drive Playing Field	Redcar	IK	12.5
109	Dover Close	Redcar	RA	0.6
110	Mickledales Amenity Space	Redcar	RA	0.8
111	Mickle Dales Play Area	Redcar	EP	0.3
224	Gilling Way	Redcar	RA	0.3
225	Brackenberry Crescent / Harwich Close	Redcar	RA	0.2
078	Locke Park	Redcar	UP	16.5
082	Kirkleatham Museum	Redcar	RA	1.3
084	Kirkleatham Village Woods	Redcar	NS	1.5
085	Kirkleatham Showground & Gardens	Redcar	UP	33.6
086	West Dyke Rd / Kirkleatham Ln	Redcar	RA	0.2
087	Foxrush Community Woodland	Redcar	NS	45.0
088	Yew Tree Avenue	Redcar	RA	0.9
089	Lakes Recreation Ground	Redcar	SG	8.9
090	Mablethorpe Close	Redcar	RA	0.2
091	Adjacent St Hilda's Church	Redcar	RA	0.8
092	Fleetwood Walk	Redcar	RA	0.9
093	Pentland Avenue	Redcar	RA	0.2
094	Haweswater Road	Redcar	RA	1.2
095	Edenhall	Redcar	IK	6.7
214	Byland Close	Redcar	RA	0.5
215	King's Chase Link	Redcar	RA	0.5
066	Campbell Grove	Redcar	RA	0.1
130	North of Marske Road	Saltburn	RA	0.2
131	The Parkway	Saltburn	RA	0.5
132	Beechwood Avenue	Saltburn	RA	0.1
133	Saltburn Valley Gardens	Saltburn	UP	19.1
134	Marine Parade (North)	Saltburn	RA	0.7
135	Saltburn Promenade	Saltburn	CS	0.5
222	Lilac Close	Saltburn	EP	0.3
223	Marine Parade (West)	Saltburn	RA	0.4
217	Hazel Grove	Saltburn	NS	12.5
136	De Brus Centre	Skelton	SG	3.9
137	Windermere Drive (West)	Skelton	RA	0.2
138	Windemere Drive (East)	Skelton	RA	0.3
139	Ennerdale Crescent	Skelton	EP	0.1
140	Coniston Rd	Skelton	RA	0.2
141	Derwent Road	Skelton	RA	0.3
142	Hamsterley Way	Skelton	RA	0.2

143	Applethwaite Gardens	Skelton	RA	0.3
144	Skelton Fish Pond	Skelton	NS	1.4
145	Rosthwaite Drive	Skelton	RA	0.1
146	Hollybush Activity Centre	Skelton	SG	3.8
155	Wharfedale / Calderdale	Skelton	RA	0.2
147	Cleveland View	Skelton Green	EP	0.1
030	Manless Terrace	Skelton Green	IK	0.3
162	Skinningrove Doorstep Green	Skinningrove	EP	0.5
044	Leven Street	South Bank	IK	0.4
045	Briggs Avenue / Harcourt Road	South Bank	RA	2.4
046	Simpson Close	South Bank	RA	0.2
047	Briggs Avenue	South Bank	RA	1.4
048	King George 's Square	South Bank	CS	0.9
049	Pym Street	South Bank	EP	0.3
50	South Bank Millenium Green	South Bank	UP	2.0
053	Middlesbrough Road	South Bank	RA	0.3
054	Golden Boy Green	South Bank	EP	1.4
055	Steele Crescent	South Bank	EP	0.9
027	South Lackenby Play Area	South Lackenby	EP	0.3
042	The Avenue / Sycamore Crescent	Teesville	RA	0.3

Appendix F

Site Location Plan



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Open Space Assessment 2015/16



Date: 05/04/2016
Drawn by: CM
Scale: 1:20,000
DWG No: PLK0607D

Appendix G

Quality Audit Site Scores

Position	Map ID	Site	Score	%
1	211	Guisborough Forest and Walkway CP	114	88%
2	133	Saltburn Valley Gardens	105	85%
3	019	Flatts Lane Country Park	101	81%
4	081	Redcar Seafront	97	93%
5	078	Locke Park	97	85%
6	087	Foxrush Community Woodland	88	81%
7	188	King George V Playing Field	87	73%
8	118	Marske Valley Gardens	79	89%
9	218	Redcar High Street	79	84%
10	051	Errington Woods	78	75%
11	082	Kirkleatham Museum	76	81%
12	135	Saltburn Promenade	75	83%
13	189	Chapel Beck Walkway / Westgate Park	75	72%
14	101	Borough Park	74	88%
15	097	Zetland Park	74	83%
16	120	Marske Village Green	74	83%
17	032	Grangetown Millenium Green	74	79%
18	173	Moorsholm Green	72	77%
19	149	Layland Beck Community Park	72	73%
20	096	The Stray	72	69%
21	057	Grangetown Park	71	85%
22	182	Margrove Park	71	80%
23	107	Ings Estate Play Park	70	79%
24	187	Heslington Gardens Play	70	79%
25	162	Skinningrove Doorstep Green	69	78%
26	129	Grewgrass Lane	69	78%
27	174	Lingdale Playing Field	69	73%
28	108	Holyhead Drive Playing Fields	69	66%
29	025	Eston Hospital Site	68	86%
30	146	Hollybush Activity Centre	68	62%
31	181	Rear of Queen Street	67	75%
32	164	Coronation Park	67	71%
33	123	East of High Street	66	79%
34	098	Zetland Park Extension	66	70%
35	076	Dormanstown Recreation Ground	66	67%
36	126	Pontac Road	65	82%
37	148	Thomas Street	65	77%
38	223	Marine Parade (West)	65	73%
39	183	Charlton's Play Area	65	73%
40	158	Marshall Drive Playing Field	65	69%
41	184	Butt Lane	65	69%
42	198	The Avenue	64	81%
43	134	Marine Parade (North)	64	81%
44	117	Marske Stray	64	68%
45	231	Westfield Playing Field	44	64%
45	160	Carlin How Doorstep Green	63	71%
46	217	Hazel Grove	63	71%
47	111	Mickle Dales Play Area	61	82%
48	130	North of Marske Road	61	73%

49	050	South Bank Millenium Green	61	73%
50	085	Kirkleatham Showground & Gardens	60	76%
51	114	Cat Flat Lane	60	71%
52	084	Kirkleatham Village Woods	60	71%
53	176	Lingdale High Street	60	71%
54	060	Lazenby High Street	59	80%
55	001	Byland Road	59	75%
56	185	Bakehouse Square	59	75%
57	061	Lazenby Play Area	59	75%
58	008	Sunnyfield/ Normanby Road Buffer	59	70%
59	161	Kennedy Crescent	59	70%
60	039	East of Eston Cemetery	59	63%
61	067	Dormanstown Green	58	69%
62	157	The Garth	58	62%
63	027	South Lackenby Play Area	57	72%
64	080	Coatham Rainbow Garden	57	72%
65	017	South Park Wood	57	64%
66	169	Tees Street	57	64%
67	048	King George 's Square	56	76%
68	128	Lindrick Road	56	76%
69	052	Aldenham Road Link	56	76%
70	156	Byron Court	56	71%
71	065	Armitage Road EPA	56	67%
72	112	Redcar Rd	56	67%
73	147	Cleveland View	55	80%
74	165	Cleveland Street	55	65%
75	186	Heslington Gardens Amenity	54	84%
76	066	Campbell Grove	54	74%
77	168	North Road Amenity Space	54	73%
78	021	Bankfields Road Buffer	53	77%
79	224	Gilling Way	53	72%
80	010	Smith's Dock Park	53	56%
81	141	Derwent Road	52	81%
82	137	Windermere Drive (West)	52	81%
83	127	Appleby Close	52	75%
84	099	Lily Park	52	74%
85	030	Manless Terrace	52	70%
86	034	Jade Green	52	70%
87	069	South of Ennis Square	52	70%
88	095	Edenhall	52	62%
89	195	Belmont Field	52	58%
90	004	Spencerbeck Field	52	55%
91	178	Boosbeck High Street	51	74%
92	207	Off Station Lane	51	69%
93	055	Steele Crescent	51	65%
94	225	Brackenberry Crescent / Harwich Close	50	78%
95	215	King's Chase Link	50	78%
96	175	Lingdale Pit Wildlife Meadow	50	72%
97	104	Castle Road	50	68%
98	159	Marshall Drive Community Woodland	50	63%
99	029	Blakey Walk	50	63%
100	047	Briggs Avenue	49	66%

101	026	Glaisdale Road	49	66%
102	023	Woodgarth	48	81%
103	197	Rufford Close	48	70%
104	204	Low Stanghow Road	48	70%
105	024	Parkgate	48	70%
106	041	Eston Recreation Ground	48	48%
107	232	Charlton's Amenity Space	48	75%
108	103	Canterbury Road Link	47	80%
109	093	Pentland Avenue	47	68%
110	053	Middlesbrough Road	47	68%
111	153	Sycamore Road	47	68%
112	170	Easington Playing Field	47	64%
113	222	Lilac Close	47	63%
114	005	Garsbeck Way	46	74%
115	115	Fell Briggs Drive	46	72%
116	092	Fleetwood Walk	46	72%
117	070	Dorman Crescent / Hill Crescent	46	67%
118	194	Kemplah Field	46	49%
119	100	Whitby Crescent	45	76%
120	199	Whinchat Tail	45	76%
121	106	Wheatlands Park Link	45	70%
122	042	The Avenue / Sycamore Crescent	45	70%
123	179	Wand Hill Gardens	45	70%
124	077	Coatham Marshes	45	54%
125	089	Lakes Recreation Ground	45	48%
126	210	Rosedale Crescent	44	75%
127	018	Mallinson Park	44	75%
128	192	Dorset Road Cluster	44	69%
129	196	Hunter's Hill Cluster	44	69%
130	125	Hambleton Crescent Cluster	44	64%
131	231	Westfield Playing Field	44	64%
132	002	Eastbank Road	44	59%
133	171	School Lane	44	56%
134	121	Windy Hill Lane	43	73%
135	143	Applethwaite Gardens	43	73%
136	073	Armitage Road Playing Field	43	66%
137	054	Golden Boy Green	43	62%
138	150	William St	43	58%
139	155	Wharfedale / Calderdale	42	86%
140	230	Oak Road	42	71%
141	201	Newton Village Green	42	71%
142	015	Grosvenor Gardens	42	71%
143	068	Bennison Crescent	42	66%
144	007	Adj Allendale Road Shops	42	61%
145	116	Churchill Drive Cluster	42	61%
146	037	Whale Hill Rec	42	57%
147	022	Mansfield Road and Marton Crescent	41	76%
148	074	Rear of Adshead Road	41	76%
149	011	Tristram Road	41	76%
150	200	Spring Lodge Gardens	41	76%
151	003	Endeavour Drive	41	69%
152	012	Manor Green	41	69%

153	132	Beechwood Avenue	41	69%
154	190	Hutton Lane / Rectory Lane North Side	41	69%
155	166	Westfield Way	41	64%
156	232	Deepdale Road	41	64%
157	131	The Parkway	41	64%
158	031	Greystones Community Woodland	41	55%
159	180	Wandhill Recreation Ground	40	74%
160	040	Eston 'Pocket Park'	40	68%
161	045	Briggs Avenue / Harcourt Road	40	63%
162	036	Church Lane Estate Walkway	40	58%
163	214	Byland Close	39	72%
164	086	West Dyke Rd / Kirkleatham Ln	39	71%
165	088	Yew Tree Avenue	39	66%
166	193	Derby Road	39	66%
167	144	Skelton Fish Pond	39	61%
168	167	North Rd Football Pitch	39	61%
169	102	Ely Crescent	38	78%
170	145	Rosthwaite Drive	38	76%
171	191	Thames Rd / Severn Drive	38	70%
172	206	Cedarhurst Drive	38	64%
173	154	Coach Road	38	59%
174	020	Bankfields Estate Playing Field	38	55%
175	140	Coniston Rd	37	76%
176	105	Woodside	37	71%
177	049	Pym Street	37	67%
178	142	Hamsterley Way	36	82%
179	013	The Mount	36	73%
180	014	Normanby Hall Park	36	73%
181	046	Simpson Close	36	73%
182	119	The Headlands	36	73%
183	028	S of Whale Hill shops	36	67%
184	062	The Fleet	36	61%
185	094	Haweswater Road	35	80%
186	006	Laburnum Road	35	65%
187	138	Windermere Drive (East)	35	65%
188	064	Westfield Way (North)	35	59%
189	136	De Brus Centre	35	59%
190	227	Church Lane Corridor (North)	35	55%
191	151	Woodside	34	69%
192	226	Bolckow Road	34	68%
193	152	Linden Road	34	63%
194	043	Birchington Avenue Playing Field	34	53%
195	079	Coatham Common	34	53%
196	056	North Skelton Playing Pitch	34	49%
197	109	Dover Close	33	73%
198	091	Adjacent St Hilda's Church	33	67%
199	038	Exeter Rd	33	67%
200	110	Mickledales Amenity Space	33	67%
201	177	Lingdale Pit East	33	67%
202	122	Wheatlands Drive	32	71%
203	090	Mablethorpe Close	32	65%
204	113	Beardmore Avenue	32	59%

205	071	Britannia Place	31	63%
206	063	Westfield Way (South)	31	63%
207	139	Ennerdale Crescent	31	62%
208	009	Ainsworth Way	31	57%
209	033	Grisedale Cres	30	61%
210	075	Broadway West	30	55%
211	202	North Skelton Woodland	29	59%
212	059	Wilton Green	29	49%
213	172	Ironstone Way	29	45%
214	124	Limes Crescent	28	72%
215	044	Leven Street	28	64%
216	229	Ings Lane Woodland	28	64%
217	016	Bexley Drive	28	62%
218	072	Abercrombie Road	28	57%
219	228	Church Lane Corridor (South)	26	53%
220	035	Monmouth Road	24	55%
221	209	Mill Lane	24	38%
222	058	Mushroom Grove	20	41%

Appendix H

Site Hierarchy Classification

Map ID	Site	Location	Primary Purpose	Area (Ha.)	Hierarchy Classificaton	Accesibility Audit
001	Byland Road	Nunthorpe	EP	0.3	Local	Yes
002	Eastbank Road	Ormesby	EP	0.5	Local	Yes
003	Endeavour Drive	Ormesby	RA	2.9	Local	Yes
004	Spencerbeck Field	Ormesby	IK	9.7	Neighbourhood	Yes
005	Garsbeck Way	Ormesby	RA	0.8	Local	Yes
006	Laburnum Road	Ormesby	RA	1.0	Local	Yes
007	Adj. Allendale Road Shops	Ormesby	RA	1.1	Local	Yes
008	Sunnyfield/ Normanby Rd	Ormesby	RA	1.3	Local	Yes
009	Ainsworth Way	Ormesby	RA	1.6	Local	Yes
010	Smith's Dock Park	Normanby	SG	10.6	Neighbourhood	Yes
011	Tristram Road	Normanby	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
012	Manor Green	Normanby	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
013	The Mount	Normanby	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
014	Normanby Hall Park	Normanby	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
015	Grosvenor Gardens	Normanby	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
016	Bexley Drive	Normanby	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
017	South Park Wood	Normanby	RA	0.5	Local	Yes
018	Mallinson Park	Normanby	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
019	Flatts Lane Country Park	Normanby	UP	45.0	Strategic	Yes
020	Bankfields Estate	Normanby	IK	3.2	Neighbourhood	Yes
021	Bankfields Road Buffer	Normanby	RA	1.1	Local	Yes
022	Mansfield Rd / Marton Cres.	Eston	RA	0.4	Doorstep	No
023	Woodgarth	Eston	IK	2.5	Local	Yes
024	Parkgate	Eston	RA	1.7	Local	Yes
025	Eston Hospital Site	Eston	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
026	Glaisdale Road	Eston	RA	0.5	Local	Yes
027	South Lackenby Play Area	South Lackenby	EP	0.3	Local	Yes
028	S of Whale Hill shops	Eston	RA	0.4	Doorstep	No
029	Blakey Walk	Eston	EP	2.0	Local	Yes
031	Greystones Community Woodland	Grangetown	NS	9.4	Neighbourhood	No
032	Grangetown Millenium Green	Grangetown	UP	2.3	Local	Yes
033	Grisedale Cres	Grangetown	IK	0.4	Doorstep	No
034	Jade Green	Grangetown	EP	1.0	Local	Yes
035	Monmouth Road	Grangetown	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
036	Church Lane Estate Walkway	Grangetown	RA	2.5	Local	Yes
037	Whale Hill Rec	Eston	IK	8.9	Neighbourhood	Yes
038	Exeter Rd	Eston	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
039	East of Eston Cemetery	Eston	RA	2.3	Local	Yes

040	Eston 'Pocket Park'	Eston	RA	6.4	Local	Yes
041	Eston Recreation Ground	Eston	IK	22.0	Neighbourhood	Yes
042	The Avenue / Sycamore Crescent	Teesville	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
043	Birchington Avenue Playing Field	Grangetown	IK	6.0	Neighbourhood	Yes
044	Leven Street	South Bank	IK	0.4	Doorstep	No
045	Briggs Avenue / Harcourt Road	South Bank	RA	2.4	Local	Yes
046	Simpson Close	South Bank	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
047	Briggs Avenue	South Bank	RA	1.4	Local	Yes
048	King George 's Square	South Bank	CS	0.9	Neighbourhood	No
049	Pym Street	South Bank	EP	0.3	Local	Yes
050	South Bank Millenium Green	South Bank	UP	2.0	Local	Yes
051	Errington Woods	New Marske	NS	92.8	Strategic	No
053	Middlesbrough Road	South Bank	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
054	Golden Boy Green	South Bank	EP	1.4	Neighbourhood	Yes
055	Steele Crescent	South Bank	EP	0.9	Local	Yes
057	Grangetown Park	Grangetown	UP	1.7	Neighbourhood	Yes
058	Mushroom Grove	Grangetown	RA	3.6	Local	Yes
226	Bolckow Road	Grangetown	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
227	Church Lane Corridor (North)	Grangetown	NS	0.7	Local	No
228	Church Lane Corridor (South)	Grangetown	RA	0.7	Local	Yes
059	Wilton Green	Lazenby	IK	1.7	Local	Yes
060	Lazenby High Street	Lazenby	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
061	Lazenby Play Area	Lazenby	EP	0.6	Local	Yes
062	The Fleet	Redcar	RA	2.8	Local	Yes
063	Westfield Way (S)	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
064	Westfield Way (N)	Redcar	RA	0.4	Doorstep	No
065	Armitage Road EPA	Redcar	EP	1.8	Local	Yes
073	Armitage Road Playing Field	Redcar	SG	1.4	Local	Yes
067	Dormanstown Green	Redcar	RA	1.6	Local	Yes
068	Bennison Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.6	Local	Yes
069	S of Ennis Square	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
070	Dorman Crescent / Hill Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
071	Britannia Place	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
072	Abercrombie Road	Redcar	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
074	Rear of Adshead Road	Redcar	RA	0.7	Local	Yes
075	Broadway West	Redcar	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
076	Dormanstown Recreation Ground	Redcar	SG	13.6	Neighbourhood	Yes
077	Coatham Marshes	Redcar	NS	54.0	Strategic	No
078	Locke Park	Redcar	UP	16.5	Strategic	Yes
079	Coatham Common	Redcar	RA	6.0	Neighbourhood	Yes
080	Coatham Rainbow Garden	Redcar	EP	0.1	Local	Yes
081	Redcar Seafront	Redcar	CS	3.3	Strategic	No
218	Redcar High Street	Redcar	CS	0.6	Strategic	No
082	Kirkleatham Museum	Redcar	RA	1.3	Strategic	Yes

084	Kirkleatham Village Woods	Redcar	NS	1.5	Local	No
085	Kirkleatham Showground & Gardens	Redcar	UP	33.6	Strategic	Yes
086	W Dyke Rd / Kirkleatham Ln	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
087	Foxrush Community Woodland	Redcar	NS	45.0	Neighbourhood	No
088	Yew Tree Avenue	Redcar	RA	0.9	Local	Yes
089	Lakes Recreation Ground	Redcar	SG	8.9	Neighbourhood	Yes
090	Mablethorpe Close	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
091	Adjacent St Hilda's Church	Redcar	RA	0.8	Local	Yes
092	Fleetwood Walk	Redcar	RA	0.9	Local	Yes
093	Pentland Avenue	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
094	Haweswater Road	Redcar	RA	1.2	Local	Yes
095	Edenhall	Redcar	IK	6.7	Local	Yes
214	Byland Close	Redcar	RA	0.5	Doorstep	No
215	King's Chase Link	Redcar	RA	0.5	Local	Yes
066	Campbell Grove	Redcar	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
096	The Stray	Redcar	RA	19.4	Strategic	Yes
097	Zetland Park	Redcar	UP	2.4	Neighbourhood	Yes
098	Zetland Park Extension	Redcar	RA	1.7	Local	Yes
099	Lily Park	Redcar	RA	0.8	Local	Yes
100	Whitby Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
101	Borough Park	Redcar	UP	4.6	Neighbourhood	Yes
102	Ely Crescent	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	Yes
103	Canterbury Road Link	Redcar	RA	0.7	Local	Yes
104	Castle Road	Redcar	RA	0.3	Doorstep	Yes
105	Woodside	Redcar	RA	0.4	Doorstep	Yes
106	Wheatlands Park Link	Redcar	RA	0.1	Doorstep	Yes
107	Ings Estate Play Park	Redcar	EP	5.6	Neighbourhood	Yes
108	Holyhead Drive Playing Field	Redcar	IK	12.5	Neighbourhood	Yes
109	Dover Close	Redcar	RA	0.6	Local	Yes
110	Mickledales Amenity Space	Redcar	RA	0.8	Local	Yes
111	Mickle Dales Play Area	Redcar	EP	0.3	Local	Yes
224	Gilling Way	Redcar	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
225	Brackenberry Crescent / Harwich Close	Redcar	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
230	Oak Road	Redcar	SG	3.0	Local	Yes
231	Westfield Playing Field	Redcar	IK	4.4	Local	Yes
112	Redcar Rd	Marske	RA	1.0	Local	Yes
113	Beardmore Avenue	Marske	RA	1.1	Local	Yes
114	Cat Flat Lane	Marske	EP	0.2	Local	Yes
115	Fell Briggs Drive	Marske	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
116	Churchill Drive Cluster	Marske	RA	0.4	Doorstep	No
117	Marske Stray	Marske	RA	3.9	Strategic	Yes
118	Marske Valley Gardens	Marske	RA	0.9	Local	Yes
119	The Headlands	Marske	RA	2.8	Local	Yes
120	Marske Village Green	Marske	IK	0.6	Local	Yes

121	Windy Hill Lane	Marske	RA	0.6	Local	Yes
122	Wheatlands Drive	Marske	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
123	East of High Street	Marske	RA	1.2	Local	Yes
124	Limes Crescent	Marske	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
125	Hambleton Crescent Cluster	Marske	RA	0.7	Doorstep	No
126	Pontac Road	New Marske	EP	0.8	Local	Yes
127	Appleby Close	New Marske	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
128	Lindrick Road	New Marske	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
129	Grewgrass Lane	New Marske	SG	7.3	Neighbourhood	Yes
130	North of Marske Road	Saltburn	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
131	The Parkway	Saltburn	RA	0.5	Doorstep	No
132	Beechwood Avenue	Saltburn	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
133	Saltburn Valley Gardens	Saltburn	UP	19.1	Strategic	Yes
134	Marine Parade (North)	Saltburn	RA	0.7	Local	Yes
135	Saltburn Promenade	Saltburn	CS	0.5	Strategic	No
222	Lilac Close	Saltburn	EP	0.3	Local	Yes
223	Marine Parade (West)	Saltburn	RA	0.4	Local	Yes
217	Hazel Grove	Saltburn	NS	12.5	Neighbourhood	No
136	De Brus Centre	Skelton	SG	3.9	Local	Yes
137	Windermere Drive (W)	Skelton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
138	Windemere Drive (E)	Skelton	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
139	Ennerdale Crescent	Skelton	EP	0.1	Local	Yes
140	Coniston Rd	Skelton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
141	Derwent Road	Skelton	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
142	Hamsterley Way	Skelton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
143	Applethwaite Gardens	Skelton	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
144	Skelton Fish Pond	Skelton	NS	1.4	Local	No
145	Rosthwaite Drive	Skelton	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
146	Hollybush Activity Centre	Skelton	SG	3.8	Neighbourhood	Yes
155	Wharfedale / Calderdale	Skelton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
147	Cleveland View	Skelton Green	EP	0.1	Local	Yes
030	Manless Terrace	Skelton Green	IK	0.3	Local	Yes
148	Thomas Street	New Skelton	EP	0.02	Local	Yes
149	Layland Beck Community Park	New Skelton	NS	3.7	Neighbourhood	No
207	Off Station Lane	New Skelton	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
204	Low Stanghow Road	New Skelton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
150	William St	North Skelton	EP	1.0	Local	Yes
202	North Skelton Woodland	North Skelton	NS	2.4	Local	No
056	North Skelton Playing Pitch	North Skelton	SG	0.9	Local	Yes
151	Woodside	Brotton	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
152	Linden Road	Brotton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
153	Sycamore Road	Brotton	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
154	Coach Road	Brotton	RA	0.7	Local	Yes
156	Byron Court	Brotton	EP	1.2	Local	Yes
157	The Garth	Brotton	IK	2.9	Neighbourhood	Yes
158	Marshall Drive Playing Field	Brotton	IK	3.8	Neighbourhood	Yes
159	Marshall Drive Community Woodland	Brotton	NS	3.1	Local	No
229	Ings Lane Woodland	Brotton	NS	1.8	Local	No
160	Carlin How Doorstep Green	Carlin How	EP	0.7	Local	Yes
161	Kennedy Crescent	Carlin How	EP	0.1	Local	Yes
209	Mill Lane	Carlin How	IK	1.1	Local	Yes

162	Skinningrove Doorstep Green	Skinningrove	EP	0.5	Local	Yes
164	Coronation Park	Loftus	UP	0.5	Local	Yes
165	Cleveland Street	Loftus	EP	0.5	Local	Yes
166	Westfield Way	Loftus	RA	1.1	Local	Yes
167	North Rd Football Pitch	Loftus	SG	1.7	Local	Yes
168	North Road Amenity Space	Loftus	RA	0.4	Doorstep	No
169	Tees Street	Loftus	EP	0.3	Local	Yes
210	Rosedale Crescent	Loftus	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
232	Deepdale Road	Loftus	NS	0.7	Local	No
170	Easington Playing Field	Easington	EP	0.4	Local	Yes
171	School Lane	Liverton Mines	IK	1.5	Local	Yes
172	Ironstone Way	Liverton Mines	IK	0.7	Local	Yes
173	Moorsholm Green	Moorsholm	SG	1.7	Local	Yes
174	Lingdale Playing Field	Lingdale	SG	1.4	Local	Yes
175	Lingdale Pit Wildlife Meadow	Lingdale	NS	5.9	Local	No
176	Lingdale High Street	Lingdale	EP	0.4	Local	Yes
177	Lingdale Pit East	Lingdale	NS	2.3	Local	No
206	Cedarhurst Drive	Lingdale	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
178	Boosbeck High Street	Boosbeck	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
179	Wand Hill Gardens	Boosbeck	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
180	Wandhill Recreation Ground	Boosbeck	SG	3.0	Local	Yes
181	Rear of Queen Street	Boosbeck	IK	1.5	Local	Yes
182	Margrove Park	Margrove Park	RA	2.8	Local	Yes
183	Charltons Play Area	Charltons	IK	2.3	Local	Yes
232	Charltons Amenity Area	Charltons	RA	0.2	Doorstep	Yes
184	Butt Lane	Guisborough	EP	0.8	Local	Yes
185	Bakehouse Square	Guisborough	UP	0.1	Doorstep	No
186	Heslington Gardens Amenity	Guisborough	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
187	Heslington Gardens Play	Guisborough	EP	0.7	Local	Yes
188	King George V Playing Field	Guisborough	SG	10.1	Neighbourhood	Yes
189	Chapel Beck Walkway / Westgate Park	Guisborough	UP	2.7	Neighbourhood	Yes
190	Hutton Lane / Rectory Lane North Side	Guisborough	RA	0.2	Doorstep	No
191	Thames Rd / Severn Drive	Guisborough	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
192	Dorset Road Cluster	Guisborough	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
193	Derby Road	Guisborough	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
194	Kemplah Field	Guisborough	IK	2.1	Neighbourhood	Yes
195	Belmont Field	Guisborough	IK	2.2	Neighbourhood	Yes
196	Hunter's Hill Cluster	Guisborough	RA	0.4	Doorstep	No
197	Rufford Close	Guisborough	RA	0.3	Doorstep	No
052	Aldenham Road Link	Guisborough	RA	0.5	Local	Yes
198	The Avenue	Guisborough	NS	1.3	Local	No
199	Whinchat Tail	Guisborough	RA	0.7	Local	Yes
200	Spring Lodge Gardens	Guisborough	RA	0.1	Doorstep	No
211	Guisborough Forest and Walkway CP	Guisborough	UP	12.5	Strategic	Yes
201	Newton Village Green	N-U-R	RA	0.6	Local	Yes

Appendix I

Viewfinder Survey: Site Response Breakdown

Site ID	Name	Location	Comments Received
133	Saltburn Valley Gardens	Saltburn	26
078	Locke Park	Redcar	17
097	Zetland Park	Redcar	16
096	The Stray	Redcar	13
101	Borough Park	Redcar	12
079	Coatham Common	Redcar	9
108	Holyhead Drive Playing Fields	Redcar	9
188	King George V Playing Field	Guisborough	9
211	Guisborough Forest and Walkway CP	Guisborough	9
041	Eston Recreation Ground	Eston	6
107	Ings Estate Play Park	Redcar	6
189	Chapel Beck Walkway / Westgate Park	Guisborough	6
134	Marine Parade (North)	Saltburn	5
194	Kemplah Field	Guisborough	5
195	Belmont Field	Guisborough	5
004	Spencerbeck Field	Ormesby	4
037	Whale Hill Rec	Eston	4
087	Foxrush Community Woodland	Redcar	4
019	Flatts Lane Country Park	Normanby	3
051	Errington Woods	New Marske	3
089	Lakes Recreation Ground	Redcar	3
118	Marske Valley Gardens	Marske	3
120	Marske Village Green	Marske	3
123	East of High Street	Marske	3
010	Smith's Dock Park	Normanby	2
040	Eston 'Pocket Park'	Eston	2
076	Dormanstown Recreation Ground	Dormanstown	2
082	Kirkleatham Museum	Redcar	2
095	Edenhall	Redcar	2
099	Lily Park	Redcar	2
113	Beardmore Avenue	Marske	2
119	The Headlands	Marske	2
135	Saltburn Promenade	Saltburn	2
223	Marine Parade (West)	Saltburn	2
174	Lingdale Playing Field	Lingdale	2
187	Heslington Gardens Play	Guisborough	2
001	Byland Road	Nunthorpe	1
003	Endeavour Drive	Ormesby	1
007	Adj Allendale Road Shops	Ormesby	1
008	Sunnyfield/ Normanby Road Buffer	Ormesby	1
017	South Park Wood	Normanby	1
020	Bankfields Playing Field	Bankfields Estate	1
049	Pym Street	South Bank	1
059	Wilton Green	Lazenby	1
068	Bennison Crescent	Dormanstown	1
077	Coatham Marshes	Redcar	1

081	Redcar Seafront	Redcar	1
084	Kirkleatham Village Woods	Redcar	1
085	Kirkleatham Showground & Gardens	Redcar	1
091	Adjacent St Hilda's Church	Redcar	1
094	Haweswater Road	Redcar	1
230	Oak Road	Redcar	1
121	Windy Hill Lane	Marske	1
129	Grewgrass Lane	New Marske	1
130	North of Marske Road	Saltburn	1
222	Lilac Close	Saltburn	1
217	Hazel Grove	Saltburn	1
142	Hamsterley Way	Skelton	1
146	Hollybush Activity Centre	Skelton	1
155	Wharfedale / Calderdale	Skelton	1
148	Thomas Street	New Skelton	1
157	The Garth	Brotton	1
158	Marshall Drive Playing Field	Brotton	1
160	Carlin How Doorstep Green	Carlin How	1
164	Coronation Park	Loftus	1
171	School Lane	Liverton Mines	1
175	Lingdale Pit Wildlife Meadow	Lingdale	1
184	Butt Lane	Guisborough	1
186	Heslington Gardens Amenity	Guisborough	1
198	The Avenue	Guisborough	1

