

# EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL PPG17 OPEN SPACE & PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY SEPTEMBER 2009





Quality assurance	Name	Date
Report origination	Claire Fallon	08.06.09
Quality control	John Eady	18.06.09
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#### INTRODUCTION

This document is the Strategy for open spaces, sport and recreational provision in East Staffordshire. It has been developed and driven by the results of research and analysis of open space and playing pitch provision across the Borough. This information is set out in the Open Space Assessment Report and the Playing Pitch Assessment Report, which highlight key issues emerging from detailed assessment of the quality and distribution of provision and the findings of extensive consultation with local groups and people.

The Strategy sets out a vision over the period to 2026 in relation to the provision and improvement of open space and playing pitches within East Staffordshire. The targets set reflect the key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy. Study outputs include:

- Recommended standards of provision (quality, quantity and accessibility) for all types of open space, sport and recreation facilities in accordance with PPG17.
- Justifiable and defensible identification of any deficiencies and surpluses in provision and options for dealing with them now and in the future.
- Recommended priorities and action plan for improving provision across the Borough to meet local needs that are identified in the course of the study.
- A clear framework for practical action where necessary to protect and improve existing open spaces and to increase the provision of such facilities, where it is shown that there is a potential deficit.
- A robust evidence base to enable development of planning policies as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and other local development documents.

#### Context

#### **New Growth Point**

East Staffordshire has been identified by central government as a New Growth Point in their 2006 announcements of the New Growth Point Programme. This initiative will bring significant benefits to the Borough in terms of strategic growth and associated infrastructure investment from central government

It is estimated that East Staffordshire will deliver 12,900 new homes by 2026; equating to a population rise of 30,960 (based upon an average household size of 2.4 people). A significant proportion of this strategic growth will be directed at the Burton area but Uttoxeter is also expected to grow further. Within these ambitions there is a clear opportunity to protect and improve open space and outdoor sports facilities across East Staffordshire to meet the need of the current and future population.

In addition to the consolidation and enhancement of its existing greenspace network, an awareness of the opportunities surrounding new development is also essential. Given that Government policy focuses on the need for additional housing particularly in towns and cities, this could make existing open spaces seem attractive as potential development sites. According to PPG17 Guidance, even if the land in question has been neglected and is in poor condition it is not an appropriate solution to allow development. Nor will it be enough to simply ensure that if an existing open space or sport and recreation facility is lost to some other land use, it is replaced in broadly the same area. However, the local

needs assessment provides a robust tool in which to ensure where replacement land is most needed or that its new location will fully serve the public interest.

Burton upon Trent's position as the capital of the National Forest is also a major driving force in its future development. The National Forest Company is a not-for-profit company set up by government to deliver the objectives of the National Forest. It has achieved this to date through effective partnership working with a wide range of organisations and providing an efficient governance structure to ensure successful delivery. It will be a key stakeholder in the delivery of the open space strategy within East Staffordshire.

#### Green Infrastructure Study

The ESBC Green Infrastructure Study (March 2008) already provides a long term vision for green infrastructure within the Borough, ensuring that current strategic growth is fully integrated with and informed by this and to ensure that no net loss in the context of value or provision occurs.

Its vision addresses the improvement of green infrastructure within the rural areas of the Borough and the maintenance and improvement of connectivity between the Borough's urban and rural areas.

In particular, it recognises that:

'Burton upon Trent will be an attractive, green town with large areas of developing urban woodland, easily recognisable as the capital of the National Forest. This reputation, along with the realisation of the benefits provided by the River Trent, will make it a very desirable place to live and work with large areas of well-managed accessible woodland within cycling distance of the town.'

'Uttoxeter will continue to develop as a significant population centre to the north of the Borough, celebrating its rural setting and improving sustainable linkages to the River Dove to the east and the Churnet Valley, Weaver Hills and Peak District to the north. Delivery of the New Growth Point will bring multiple benefits to the town, with the new residential and employment areas providing a significant, attractive open space network connecting with existing green assets.'

'The Borough as a whole will celebrate its natural environment, using the opportunities presented by development to invest significant resources in the consolidation and enhancement of its existing green infrastructure network. In particular, the character and connectivity of the Needwood Forest will be enhanced, reversing historic ancient woodland fragmentation. The river corridors forming the natural boundaries to the Borough will be improved, with habitat enhancement, creation and connection. The provision of extensive public access will enable these valuable landscapes to be enjoyed by all.'

#### Sub-Regional Sports Facility Framework

The Framework provides a strategic link between the West Midlands Regional Facilities Framework (2007) and the existing or emerging strategies of the individual local authorities within Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, national governing bodies of sport and other key partners/stakeholders. It covers the period up to 2021.

It prioritises sports facility investment in "hub level" across the sub-region by:

- Guiding sub-regional strategic planning (including the provision which will be required
  if the planned housing growth is realised);
- Taking account of population trends;
- Anticipating the impact of a 1% per annum growth in participation on facility needs;
- Highlighting gaps in strategic facility provision across the SASSOT area and identifying options to address them;
- Taking into account the role of the education sector in sports provision and community use, paying particular attention to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and Academy programmes;
- Inputting into the statutory planning process;
- Providing an input into other agendas e.g. health, regeneration.

Where appropriate, we have reflected the recommendations within the Framework within this Strategy.

#### STRATEGIC VISION AND AIMS

#### Vision

This strategy is an important opportunity to achieve excellence. Reflecting the opportunity to 'raise standards' across East Staffordshire presented by the Green Infrastructure Strategy and the National Forest and so that it dovetails with other major influences on management and planning of open space, sport and recreation facilities, the following strategic vision for open space, sport and recreation is proposed:

East Staffordshire is a place where people can achieve their aspirations and enjoy living in an attractive environment for all members of the community and celebrate the diversity the Borough has to offer. A coherent green infrastructure will provide residents with healthy lifestyle opportunities through enhanced amenities supporting a range of uses and activities, linking the town centre to the outlying countryside, villages and National Forest.

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#### Strategic aims

Delivery of strategic aims will support work to deliver themes highlighted in the East Staffordshire Sustainable Community Strategy. The long-term vision for the area is set out under key themes:

- 1. A Brighter Future for Children and Young People.
- 2. A Safer and Stronger East Staffordshire.
- 3. A Healthier East Staffordshire.
- 4. A Growing East Staffordshire.
- 5. A cleaner, Greener East Staffordshire.

Therefore, the strategic aims for this study are:

Core theme 1: A Brighter Future for Children and Young People:

Aim: East Staffordshire will provide, accessible, affordable and suitable activities for young people within open space, sport and recreation facilities. Their use will be promoted for educational activity and interpretation opportunities. East Staffordshire will continue to utilise play to raise the self-esteem, aspirations and achievements of young people.

Core theme 2: A Safer and Stronger East Staffordshire:

Aim: East Staffordshire will provide and promote the use of safe and usable open space, sport and recreation facilities that are accessible and inclusive for all residents and celebrate community cohesion, equality and diversity.

Core theme 3: A Healthier East Staffordshire:

Aim: East Staffordshire will promote the use of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities to improve the health and wellbeing of residents by providing a network (i.e. of the right quantity of facilities to meet needs) of high quality, accessible provision that encourages residents to make healthy choices.

Core theme 4: A Growing East Staffordshire:

Aim: East Staffordshire will promote high quality open spaces, sport and recreation facilities as being essential to the viability of the growth of East Staffordshire and ensure that any new developments take into account the need for appropriate levels of public open space and leisure facilities.

Core theme 5: A cleaner, Greener East Staffordshire:

Aim: East Staffordshire will protect valuable open space, sport and recreation facilities that meet community needs and increase awareness of the wildlife and environmental value offered by open spaces.

#### MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

A number of management objectives should be driven by ESBC to enable the above strategic aims to be achieved. The following objectives apply to open space, sport and recreation facilities:

- 1. All high quality/high value open space, sport and recreation provision as identified within the audit and assessment reports should be retained and protected within the planning system.
- 2. All partners should work together to provide good quality, accessible and safe open spaces, sport and recreational facilities.
- 3. Maximise accessibility to open space, sport and recreation facilities in terms of distribution, walking/cycling/public transport links/disabled access etc.
- 4. Within a phased programme, and in partnership with landowners and providers of provision, improve the quality of open space, sport and recreational provision. Low quality sites of high value should be investigated and where feasible, prioritised for investment.
- 5. All partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies in quality and value and meet identified shortfalls identified through improvements to the current stock of provision.
- 6. All partners should use development opportunities and consult with the community to identify facility need and increase and/or improve existing provision in line with the findings of the assessment reports.
- 7. All partners should seek to ensure that this provision is of an appropriate distribution, quantity and quality. As a priority, new facilities to be provided or supported if they contribute to the appropriate distribution of facilities or to meet high demand.
- 8. Maximise the potential for recreational use arising from gravel extraction projects to meet current and future identified deficiencies in both open space and sports facilities, linking to the Green Infrastructure/Central Rivers Strategy.
- 9. All developments should provide an adequate quantity of high quality and diverse recreational space to cater for the needs of new and existing residents and employees. These should be accessible by foot and bicycle and linked into the wider green infrastructure network.
- 10. Capital receipts from disposals of open space, sport and recreation facilities should be ring-fenced specifically for investment into other comparable provision. It should be invested in accordance with the aims of the Strategy.
- Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to a Section 106 Agreement. Where development contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement must be completed specifying the amount and timing of sums to be paid.

- 12. Commercial/industrial development should also be subject to Section 106 Agreements for sport given the healthy workplace agenda and that people who commute into the area will seek to use facilities for keep fit etc. thereby increasing demand.
- 13. Existing and future provision should all comply with DDA legislation, where possible, ensuring that provision is fully accessible for all residents (including, where relevant, the elderly, the disabled, young people and girls/women, BME groups).
- 14. Access to all forms of provision should be improved (e.g., by locating any new sites near public transport hubs; increasing public transport links to larger sites, especially at weekends and throughout the summer).
- 15. ESBC should continue to gather the views and opinions of local residents in a rolling five year programme of survey work in line with PPG17 guidance.
- 16. To utilise available tools, such as Sport England's Active People, to measure the outcome and impact of the Strategy.
- 17. Existing and new links, between schools, community groups/sports clubs should be maximised to develop good quality facilities.
- 18. Demand for sports facilities against levels of provision should be continually reassessed to address emerging shortfalls.
- 19. All partners should conserve and enhance the wildlife which inhabits East Staffordshire's green spaces, and foster an appreciation of ecology and the natural world.
- 20. All partners should maintain a safe, clean, accessible and attractive environment for children's play and for the leisure of older and disabled residents and families.
- All partners should pursue the policy objectives of the Local Strategic Partnership, 21. Local Agenda 21 and Sustainable Development by contributing to improving the economic, social and environmental quality of East Staffordshire.

#### PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

#### Key issues to be addressed

#### Football

- In total, five sites are currently overplayed on a weekly basis due to their popularity. However, in the main, pitches have spare capacity.
- Six clubs expressed latent demand: this equates to an additional requirement for one senior and eight junior pitches.
- Demand for junior/mini pitches remains high and there is a current shortfall of junior pitches. The current playing pitch stock should be protected and consideration should be given to changing the designation of some senior pitches to junior pitches.
- There is a lack of changing facilities at Newton Road Recreation Ground and Anglesey Park and some provision is assessed as poor quality, including Shobnall and Pennycroft Playing Fields. Access to school changing facilities is poor.
- The main site specific issue relate to management and ownership of playing fields. The majority of clubs do not have security of tenure and some of these are at constant threat of closure while others which are unable to develop facilities without funding.
- There is no specific women's league covering the area. As a result, there is a significant drop off at U16. Only one women's team currently plays in East Staffordshire.

#### Cricket

- Pitches are, in general, played to capacity and clubs tend to require access to two pitches to accommodate all teams.
- Pitch quality is generally good or adequate. Barton under Needwood CC is seeking to extend its changing rooms in order to fully cater for juniors and girls/women's teams.
- The main site specific issue relates to security of tenure. The majority of clubs do not have this, some are at constant threat of closure and others are unable to develop facilities without external funding.
- Medina CC currently has no access to pitches, since the pavilion at its former home ground was deemed unsafe following fire damage. Partners are currently exploring opportunities to accommodate the Club in the short term before there is a significant impact on its two senior and two junior teams.
- Uttoxeter CC is seeking opportunities to develop an area of Uttoxeter Gravel Pits as a cricket site to accommodate it when the lease runs out on its current facility at Uttoxeter Racecourse in 2014.

#### Rugby

- One club expressed latent demand, which equates to an additional requirement of one junior pitch.
- Pitches at Oxhay are played over capacity due to the poor pitch quality and lack of access to changing accommodation. This is particularly affecting Burton RFC as matches are frequently cancelled. In order to accommodate more matches, the quality of pitches at Oldfields Park needs to be increased.
- Burton RFC has recently purchased land on the outskirts of Branston, with the aspiration to develop the site over time. However, this is reliant on the sale of its home ground in Burton town centre.
- Barton under Needwood RFC is seeking to extend its changing rooms in order to fully cater for juniors and girls/women's teams.

#### Hockey

- There are four, sand based STPs located in East Staffordshire suitable for hockey. These are located at a variety of locations, including sports centres and schools. Participation in women's hockey is generally declining in East Staffordshire. However, junior hockey does appear to be increasing and larger clubs believe membership levels could increase if there were additional facilities.
- STPs at Shobnall and Thomas Alleynes are both operating to capacity. Although both are deemed to be good quality, it is likely that Shobnall STP will deteriorate in quality over the next five years due to being played to capacity for hockey and football.
- Access to provision at Abbotts Bromley School for Girls and Denstone College is restricted and it is therefore underutilised for community use. The cost of hiring these facilities is thought to be the main issue.
- Hockey clubs do travel outside of the Borough to use provision when all fixtures/training cannot be accommodated at either Shobnall or Thomas Alleynes. In the long term, it is thought that current and future demand could justify and sustain the provision of a second pitch at Shobnall.

#### **Athletics**

- There is potential to extend the current level of junior provision at Burton Athletics
- Shobnall LC track will be resurfaced in 2009. The infield is considered to be of adequate quality. However, the quality of the changing accommodation is deemed to be poor and not adequate to meet the needs of a growing athletics clubs.

#### **Bowls**

- There is good junior participation within clubs but this could be further developed to have junior teams competing.
- A number of bowling greens are under threat from closure, for example, Belvedere Park. If these were to close, this may increase demand on ESBC provision at Shobnall Leisure Complex (which is currently underutilised). Leagues acknowledge that there has been a decline in the number of clubs and greens, but do not consider there to have been a reduction in participation.
- Participation is likely to remain static or increase slightly (from clubs aspirations, population growth, aging population etc). However, it is unlikely that future demand for bowling facilities will result in the need for new facilities but existing greens should be protected if they are in good accessible locations or replaced in better locations.
- Shobnall Leisure Complex bowling green is rated as poor quality, and together with a lack of local demand has resulted in it being underused. If further industrial greens close in the local area, demand for its usage may increase.
- A continuing issue raised during consultation appears to be the need to upgrade ancillary facilities.
- Clubs consider the general quality of greens in the area to have remained the same since last season. However, a number report that greens are suffering from disease.

#### **Tennis**

- Mini tennis competitions are delivered outside East Staffordshire at either Draycott Tennis Club or David Lloyd in Derby. This is because these sites both have indoor courts and there are no indoor tennis courts in East Staffordshire.
- Approximately 15 courts have been lost in the last 10-15 years and participation in BDTL has reduced as a result. Anecdotal evidence suggests that some clubs do not enter more teams due to a limited number of courts.
- According to LTA guidelines, there is some spare capacity at Grange, Barton and Abbots Bromley clubs to accommodate more teams if required without the need for more courts.
- Quality of courts in the Burton area is poor, with three at Shobnall being poor quality. The grass courts at Grange Tennis Club are also deemed to be of poor quality. It is unlikely that increasing the quality of provision, would lead to casual usage increasing at Shobnall. Increasing the quality of courts at Grange Tennis Club would help to meet future demand expressed by the Club.
- There is little demand for additional provision of outdoor tennis courts in the Burton or Uttoxeter areas. There is spare capacity at publicly available courts at Shobnall and Bramshall Park if required. However, there is reported demand for provision of public courts in Rolleston.
- Public provision is generally underused. No clubs use Oldfields Park or Newton Road Recreation Ground. In the main, this is thought to be due to quality. However, Newton Road Recreation Ground gets a surprising amount of casual use because there is little else available, despite the poor quality. Poor location is also an issue at Newton Road Recreation Ground.

#### Golf

- Clubs generally regard the quality of their courses as good or excellent.
- Two clubs deliver the community links programme in East Staffordshire; Branston and Craythorne.
- Clubs in East Staffordshire are becoming increasingly aware of the need to promote golf to young people in order to grow the game and attract junior members. Two thirds of clubs have some form of link with local schools in the Borough.
- Half of East Staffordshire clubs have experienced an increase in senior membership levels. Generally clubs in the Borough are operating at under capacity.

#### Strategic framework for sports facility improvements

This section sets out objectives for the development of sports facilities in East Staffordshire. They seek to address the issues raised in the Outdoor Sports Assessment Report.

The following targets have been developed as a result of the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and the catchment mapping. They reflect the key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy (2026). Recognising both the variety of ownership of sports facilities across East Staffordshire, from ESBC to parish councils to clubs, implementation of this strategy will be the responsibility of ESBC in partnership with local stakeholders. Recommendations must also be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to meet planning considerations.

It is estimated that East Staffordshire will deliver 12,900 new homes by 2026; equating to a population rise of 30,960. Based upon an average household size of 2.4 people, the future population figure is estimated to be 139,286 (an increase of 28.6%). The majority of the 12,900 new homes (11,000) will be concentrated in and around Burton.

The aim of this Strategy is to identify facility needs, which can then be used to negotiate with developers and secure future Section 106 agreements. These will deal directly with the issues (including deficiencies) identified in the Assessment Report.

#### General objectives

1. Help to increase participation in sport and physical activity by improving the quality of facilities across East Staffordshire.

It is vital that local clubs and organisations have access to the best facilities possible, both to accommodate current levels of participation and to stimulate new activity. These facilities must meet the minimum specification requirements set out by national governing bodies of sport, leagues/competitions as well as (as far as possible) matching the aspirations of sports clubs in the Borough.

It is recommended that all outdoor sports facilities provision should be of 'adequate or good quality'.

In East Staffordshire, a handful of outdoor sports facility sites are not served by changing facilities. By default, these can be considered poor quality. Furthermore, some key sites that have poor quality facilities. The lack of (or poor) quality facilities is not conducive to retaining existing players nor attracting new participants. Consultation suggests that it is one of the primary reasons limiting participation growth, particularly for juniors.

A programme of changing room upgrade/instalment has been carried out by ESBC over the previous few years. It is important to continue this programme and to prioritise sites which, by providing/upgrading the changing facilities, will have the greatest impact on the largest number (and variety) of teams. The following table highlights the recommendations for further changing facility improvements across East Staffordshire.

Table 1: Priorities sites for changing facilities

Site	No. of pitches	Current quality	Comments	Recommendation	Priority
Newton Recreation Ground	2	Poor (unused)	The building is in a poor state of repair and is currently not in use due to its poor quality and is now afflicted by graffiti. Site is used exclusively by	Provide a portacabin style accommodation to enable continued use of the site.  If junior matches are centralised, this site will be surplus to football	Short term Long term
Holland Sports and Social Club	Various multi sport	Poor	Winshill JFC.  Changing accommodation is unable to support junior development.	requirements.  Support the Club to seek external funding to upgrade changing accommodation.	Short term
Anglesey Park	1	No provision	Used by junior and senior teams. Potential to develop more pitches with investment in ancillary provision including changing accommodation and car parking.	Support the Club to seek external funding for upgrade changing accommodation.	Medium term
Pennycroft Playing Fields.	2	Poor	Pitches are used to capacity and changing accommodation is inadequate. Teams report latent demand at this site.	Invest in changing room upgrade.	Short term
Silver Lane Playing Fields	1	No provision	Leased by Marchington FC from Marchington Parish Council. Changing facilities are not available at the site and would help to attract more players if available.	Support the Club and Parish Council to seek external funding for upgrading/providing changing accommodation.	Medium term
Shobnall Fields	Various multi sport	Poor	Changing rooms supporting outdoor provision are of poor quality and currently unused.	Invest in changing room upgrade.	Medium term

Site	No. of pitches	Current quality	Comments	Recommendation	Priority
Craythorne Field	3	Average	Site owned by Rolleston on Dove Parish Council and used by Rolleston FC. There are changing rooms at this site, further reducing the capacity of pitches.	Support the Club and Parish Council to seek external funding for upgrading/providing changing accommodation.	Medium term

### Overplay

In order improve the overall quality of the playing pitch stock in the Borough, it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity (Sport England suggests that a good pitch can accommodate two matches per week). This is determined by assessing pitch quality and allocating a weekly match limit to each. The following table highlights sites which are currently played beyond capacity and recommendation to help reduce this, if required.

Table 2: Overplayed pitches

Site	Weekly overplay of matches	Analysis
Abbot Beyne School	2	Formal use agreement with Winshill JFC for use of pitches. Overplayed due to poor quality pitches and lack of access to changing accommodation. The school has extensive playing fields with capacity for at least for three more pitches. Club should apply for a long term lease of the playing fields and in partnership with the School apply for funds to improve quality.
Marstons Sports Club	8	Central venue site for BJFL. Good quality pitches played over capacity. Pitches are able to accommodate more matches than Sport England recommendations. Continue to maintain to current standard.
Belvedere Park Sports & Social Club	4	Central venue site for BJFL. Good quality pitches played over capacity. Pitches are able to accommodate more matches than Sport England recommendations. Continue to maintain to current standard.
Shobnall Leisure Complex	17.5	Central venue site for BJFL. Good quality pitches played over capacity. Pitches are able to accommodate more matches than Sport England recommendations. Continue to maintain to current standard.
Holland Sports Club	0.5	Good quality pitches, only slightly played over capacity. Continue to maintain to current standard.

2. Help to increase participation in sport and physical activity by ensuring that there are sufficient facilities to meet current and future demand.

#### Demand

In particular, it is predicted that East Staffordshire is likely to see an increase in demand for mini and junior pitch provision in the future and identified deficiencies (as outlined in the Assessment Report) should be met through improvements to the current pitch stock.

Demand for junior provision should be updated over the next five years (by 2014) to further quantify this in terms of provision required. The Assessment Report identified a certain level of latent demand. This amounts to:

- 4 senior pitches.
- ◆ 5 junior pitches.

In addition to this expressed latent demand, national changes in sport participation and proposed housing growth in Burton should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming such initiatives are successful, these will obviously impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Such development work therefore represents latent demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e. it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to occur. The following table highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities.

Table 3: Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Football	Sustained participation in adult football.	Required investment in the improvement of key sites to maintain capacity.
	Development of Charter Standard clubs.  Junior/mini demand will continue to grow. BJFL predicts growth of approximately 10 - 15% next year.	An increase in junior participation, which will increase the need for mini/junior pitches and segregated changing facilities where necessary.
Cricket	Development of Focus (i.e. Clubmark) Clubs and an increase in midweek (junior) matches.	An increase in junior participation, which is not likely to require additional pitches, but will increase the need for segregated changing facilities.
Rugby union	Emerging school/club links will result in increased junior participation within clubs.	An increase in the demand placed on the current pitch stock.

This is a significant level of latent demand for junior pitches. The Sport England, Playing Pitch Model used in the Assessment Report highlights an anticipated future surplus of senior football pitches. Whilst these predictions should be treated with caution and not used in isolation, they are in line with issues highlighted in the report. However, this type of surplus is important to overall levels of provision in the Borough in the context of using adult pitches to accommodate junior and mini-play as multifunctional pitches. Furthermore surplus pitches allow partners to rest some to protect overall pitch quality in the long term. ESBC should strive to replicate these popular sites across the Borough. As a long term priority, it should work in partnership with Burton Junior Football League to develop a

central venue junior site to centralise demand for junior pitches and assist clubs, which have difficulty finding suitable sites, and often have to use multiple sites to accommodate all teams.

3. Maximise community access to all outdoor sports facilities in East Staffordshire.

A priority is to secure greater community use of school playing fields to cater for expressed and future demand in the Borough, particularly in respect of mini and junior football. The first priority should, therefore, be to identify a suitable site and pilot a schoolclub formal community use agreement. We suggest using the current example between Abbot Beyne School and Winshill JFC as a starting point. This model should then be reviewed and rolled out across the Borough. Key principles to be incorporated into the agreement (in accordance with issues highlighted in the Assessment Report) are:

- Ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured.
- As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures.
- Ensure that pitch provision at schools meets the needs of the local community and contributes towards overcoming deficiencies in the area. Where possible, this should be linked to central coordination of bookings.

Priority should be given to working with the following schools:

- Abbot Beyne School (link to Winshill JFC).
- Abbotts Bromley School for Girls (link to Medina Cricket Club).
- Paget School (link to by Trentside CC and Stapenhill Swifts FC).
- John Taylor High School (link to Burton Rugby Club).
- Robert Sutton Catholic Sports College.

It is recommended that a working group be established to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased use of school facilities. This should be driven at a local level and should incorporate the following representation:

- Sports development officers.
- Partnership development manager(s).
- PE/Education officers.
- Individual school representative(s).

4. Adopt a strategic management approach to all facilities in the Borough to achieve the necessary increase in quality and quantity of provision.

#### Security of tenure

There is potential for a number of sites in the Borough to be leased to sports clubs and/or organisations. Each club should meet the Council's service and/or strategic objectives. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the 'development quality' of the club, aligned to its long term objectives and sustainability.

The main site specific issue across East Staffordshire appears to relate to management and ownership of playing fields. As stated earlier, ownership varies from parish councils to private industrial sites and the majority of clubs do not own or have long terms leases on their home grounds. This is particularly difficult for those playing on sports and social grounds/industrial sites. Although clubs tend to carry out their own maintenance/upkeep, applying for funding to substantially improve sites can be difficult, and is near impossible for the ones that do not have security of tenure. It has been raised as a particular issue in cricket.

Table 4: Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs/organisations

Club	Site
Clubs should have (or be close to achieving) Clubmark or NGB accreditation. Club commits to meeting demonstrable local	Sites should be those identified as tier B sites (i.e. not those with a Borough-wide significance).
demand and shows a pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.	As a priority, sites should be of poor or average quality and require capital investment
Club is sustainable, both in a financial sense and through its internal structures relating to the recruitment and retention policy concerning both players and volunteers.	to improve.  Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.
Ideally, clubs should have already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.	An NGB representative should sit on a management committee for each site leased to a club.

#### Tiered model approach criteria

Consultation has highlighted a number of key sites across East Staffordshire. These are sites which are often considered to be the most popular. They need to be high quality in order to accommodate a sufficient number of matches per week. Partners should extend this provision model to recognise the supply and demand issues identified throughout the Assessment Report (i.e. current levels of overplay) and the investment necessary to improve all sites in the Borough based on current levels of usage. The identification of sites is based on strategic importance in the Borough-wide context (i.e. they accommodate the majority of play). In addition, a number of sites accommodate both senior and junior matches, sometimes concurrently. Not only could such sites require a mixture of mini, junior and senior pitches, but they also require segregated ancillary facilities, in order to maximise their usage at all times.

To recognise supply and demand issues identified within the assessment (i.e. current levels of overplay) and the investment necessary to improve key site quality it is recommend that a tiered approach to pitch management is adopted. Identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a Borough-wide context (i.e. they accommodate the majority of play).

Table 5: Tiered model approach criteria

Tier A1 sites	Tier A2 sites	Tier B1 sites	Tier B2 sites	Tier C (education) sites
Strategically placed in East Staffordshire context.	Strategically placed in the local and/or East Staffordshire context.	Strategically placed in the local context.	Strategically placed in the local context.	Strategically placed in the local context.
Generally accommodates more than five pitches.	Generally accommodates more than four pitches.	Generally accommodates more than two pitches.	Generally single pitch sites.	Generally accommodates more than one pitch.
Generally serves multi- sports.	Generally single sport provision, but most have a dedicated junior/mini site.	Generally single sport provision.	Generally single sport provision.	Formal school use agreement in place or being worked towards.
Provides excellent pitch quality and pitches can usually accommodate up to 4 matches per week.	Provides excellent pitch quality and pitches can usually accommodate up to 4 matches per week.	Provides good quality pitch provision and pitches can accommodate up to 3 matches per week.	Provides good quality pitch provision and pitches can accommodate up to 3 matches per week.	Provides a good quality pitch provision and pitches can accommodate 2 matches per week.

Tier A1 sites	Tier A2 sites	Tier B1 sites	Tier B2 sites	Tier C (education) sites
Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms to serve the number of pitches.	Adequate changing to accommodate both senior and junior teams concurrently.	Maintenance can be either by the club or remain with the local authority.	_	Capital receipt will be ring-fenced and reinvested to improve local sports facilities.

Tier A sites are sites identified as having East Staffordshire-wide significance. They are often multi-pitch sites, frequently catering for more than one type of sport and regularly (on, say, a weekly basis) catering for a high level of play. They should be maintained to a high standard, although in some instances improvements to pitch quality will relieve pressure on other pitches across the Area and increase the overall capacity and adequacy of the pitch stock. It is, therefore, anticipated that a significant amount of the annual maintenance budget should be spent on such sites.

Tier A2 (junior/mini sites) recognise the growing emphasis on dedicated football venues catering solely for junior (especially mini-soccer) matches. Conditions recommended for junior football are becoming more stringent as the issue of child protection becomes more prominent. This should be reflected in the provision of a unique tier of pitches that can ensure player safety, as well as being maintained more efficiently.

Tier B1 sites are smaller, cater for demand at analysis area level and are vital to accommodate participation. Generally, tier 'B1' sites have the potential to become 'A' sites but require higher levels of initial investment, more ongoing maintenance, and some pitch infrastructure work. They should be designated as medium priority for investment.

Tier B2 sites are also smaller sites. They cater for demand at analysis area level and are vital to accommodate participation. However, they are more appropriate for clubs to take on a long-term lease to assist with the process of securing external funding. Tier B1 sites should be given a higher priority for investment than B2 sites.

Tier C sites are education owned and have the potential to be used by the community for competitive matches under the auspices of community use agreements. They have the potential to add to the pitch stock and relieve pressure at a local level.

5. Utilise planning obligations associated with new housing development to enhance sport pitch provision (subject to identified need).

ESBC should ensure that Section 106 funds are directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitch facilities.

It is important that this strategy informs policies and emerging supplementary planning documents by setting out the Council approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development. The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions for the provision of appropriate facilities and their long term maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes on the pitches. A number of management objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- Ensure that where sites are lost, through development or closure, that facilities of the same or improved standard are provided to meet the continued needs of residents.
- Capital receipts from disposals of playing pitch facilities should be ring-fenced specifically for investment into other playing pitch facilities. They should be invested in accordance with the aims of the Strategy.
- Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to a Section 106 Agreement. Where developer contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement must be completed specifying the amount and timing of sums to be paid. Within this process, ensure the distribution of new facilities provided is accessible to the new residents.
- Commercial/industrial development should also be subject to Section 106 Agreements for sport given the healthy workplace agenda and that people who commute into the area will seek to use facilities for keep fit etc. thereby increasing
- A 'central pot' for developer contributions across East Staffordshire should be established to invest in playing pitch facility provision and maintenance.
- Where new pitches are provided, changing rooms should be located on site.

Within the lifetime of the Strategy, the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme presents East Staffordshire with an opportunity to provide a new range of shared sports facilities to meet both the current and future needs of the area. Where appropriate, it will be important for BSF sites to negotiate and sign formal and long-term agreements that secure community use. The proposals in this document, therefore, need to be examined against these issues:

- BSF presents an opportunity to deal with some of the issues outlined in the Assessment Report. However, it is not the only solution and should only be seen as one part of the strategic approach to the future provision of outdoor sports facilities in the Borough.
- The analysis provides a clear indication of the future pitch requirements in East Staffordshire and provides a basis for partners, led by HDC, to negotiate with developers delivering the BSF programme.

#### Sport specific objectives

#### Football

- Current level of provision to be maintained and protected (including Belvedere Park Sports facilities which are currently under threat). There is estimated to be an oversupply of senior pitches in the future, where there is current spare capacity, senior pitches should be converted to junior and mini pitches.
- Meet latent deficiencies in junior pitches by utilising pitch provision at school sites. Invest in central venue sites able to accommodate anticipated growth in junior football.
- All sites with two or more pitches to be well drained and have access to appropriate quality changing facilities to cater for junior requirements. As a priority, improve the pitch quality of Tier A1 and A2 sites including Shobnall Leisure Complex and Belvedere Park.
- As a priority, a high level of maintenance should be maintained at Tier A1 and A2 sites including Shobnall Leisure Complex and Belvedere Park throughout the playing season.
- Continue to support clubs in the management and development of facilities. Where appropriate, develop lease arrangements with clubs to manage their own 'home' sites thus facilitating club development. This could include varying levels of shared management. Development and management criteria need to be established in order to maintain the viability and financial security of these sites.
- Continue to support development of the East Staffordshire Schools Girls League to drive up participation. Encourage and support the development of a specific County women's league.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation (3G) turf pitches for football and rugby should be supported in accordance with the Sub-Regional Sports Strategy which recommends the provision of a full sized 3G pitch in Uttoxeter and/or associated with Burton Rugby Club relocation. For football, consider negotiating access to the FAs National Football Centre.

#### Cricket

- Current level of provision to be maintained and further pitches may need to be sought in the future to ensure that all clubs have access to two pitches.
- Continue to support clubs in the management and development of facilities. Where possible, work with landowners and clubs in order to maintain the viability and financial security of sites.
- Support existing clubs to maintain and develop their ancillary facilities to cater for junior and girls/women's cricket.
- In the long term, support Medina CC in partnership with Abbot Beyne School. Investigate the potential for Medina CC to have a long term lease on the site in order to apply for external funding for changing room development. Alternatively, support the merger of Medina CC with another club, e.g. Burton CC, in the interests of building a more sustainable club.

- Support Uttoxeter CC in seeking opportunities to develop an area of Uttoxeter Gravel Pits as a cricket site to accommodate it when the lease runs out on its current facility at Uttoxeter Racecourse in 2014.
- Develop two indoor cricket centres in East Staffordshire (one in Burton and one in Uttoxeter) in order to prioritise access to good quality provision and reduce travel costs for clubs. Investigate this potential at Uttoxeter Leisure Centre and Meadowside Leisure Centre – investment in the nets is required at the latter venue.
- Support Wootton CC to secure access to a second home ground in the near future to meet growing and latent demand expressed.
- Support Rolleston CC in seeking additional pitch space in Rolleston in order to reduce the need to travel to Marchington to access provision.

#### Rugby union

- Current level of provision to be increased in the future to meet the identified deficiencies in pitches expressed by Burton RFC.
- As a priority, support the relocation and development of facilities to service Burton RFC. It is likely that, based upon available finances pitches will be developed before clubhouse and associated changing accommodation.
- Decommission poor quality sites where pitch drainage is unlikely to be improved i.e. Oxhay and transfer play to new provision.
- Encourage and support development of junior girls' and women's' rugby. In particular, support Barton under Needwood RFC to extend its changing rooms in order to fully cater for juniors and girls/women's teams.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation (3G) turf pitches for football and rugby should be supported in accordance with the Sub-Regional Sports Strategy which recommends the provision of a full sized 3G pitch in Uttoxeter and/or associated with Burton Rugby Club relocation.

#### Hockey

- Current level and quality of provision to be maintained and considered as the minimum level of provision. As a long term aspiration, it is estimated that future demand (for hockey and football training) could justify and sustain the provision of a second pitch at Shobnall Leisure Complex or in the Burton area.
- In order to meet current demand (some players travel outside the Borough), encourage greater access to provision at Abbotts Bromley School for Girls and consider grant options to counter balance the inflated hire costs in comparison with local authority/school provision.
- Invest in a contingency fund to address likely forthcoming carpet replacement at Shobnall STP over the next five years.

#### **Athletics**

- Current levels of provision to be maintained.
- Continue to support and encourage the development of athletics facilities in Burton. In partnership with Burton Athletics Club, invest in the quality of changing accommodation at the Shobnall track in order to meet needs of a growing athletics club.

#### **Tennis**

- Increase the availability of public tennis provision in the Rolleston area, in partnership with Rolleston Parish Council.
- Improve the quality of courts in the Burton area, including at Shobnall Leisure Complex and Grange Tennis Club.
- Encourage further casual use of public tennis courts and provide strategic reserve for the current usage levels at private facilities. Except at Newton Road Recreation Ground, where provision is particularly underused due to poor quality and ESBC should further assess the need to retain these courts.
- Where demand exists, support tennis clubs to improve court quality and/or install floodlighting (in order to increase the capacity) of existing tennis court provision.
- Support provision of indoor tennis courts in Burton. Primarily, to cater for mini tennis competitions and to further develop tennis structures in the Borough.
- Continue to support and encourage junior development at key tennis clubs in order to increase participation levels in the sport.

#### **Bowls**

- Current demand is being accommodated at current provision and it is unlikely that future demand for bowling facilities will result in the need for new facilities.
- A small number of greens could be lost if fully justified by demand and if compensatory provision made and/or appropriate improvements made to increase capacity on a nearby green.
- Retain bowling provision at Shobnall for the next three years as strategic reserve until the future of company sports ground based greens is clearer.
- All bowling greens and pavilions to be safe, secure facilities. All to be (where possible) fully accessible for disabled users and spectators.
- Support and encourage junior bowls development in order to sustain future participation levels in the sport.

#### Golf

- Current demand is being accommodated of current provision and it is unlikely that future demand will result in the need for new facilities.
- Identify two clubs/municipal courses across East Staffordshire to be a partner/focus
  for junior development to provide pathways for the work in progress through the
  school sports partnerships.
- Support the work of clubs to promote the take up of golf with children and young people.
- Support clubs to improve facilities and with their development aspirations.
- All golf courses to be safe and secure facilities, through a continued programme of upgrading and installing perimeter fencing, where appropriate.

#### Setting playing pitch standards

Target quantity standards are a guideline as to how much provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve East Staffordshire over the next ten years. One standard for outdoor sports (including playing pitch and non pitch sports) is provided in relation to demand, access and future population growth and are provided on an analysis area basis.

Within local plans many local authorities use the Fields in Trust (FIT - formerly known as the National Playing Fields Association) guidelines to set local standards for recreation provision. This is usually based on a number of hectares per 1,000 population which should be protected and maintained and designated as such in the local plan. The FIT standard outlines 1.21 hectares of formal recreation provision as an aspiration for provision. Local authorities can then use this figure as a benchmark. The standard suggests that for every 1,000 residents there should be 1.6 hectares (4 acres) for outdoor sport and recreation space. With the remaining 0.8 hectares (2 acres) for children's play.

Taking this analysis a step further to identify within the provision, adequate and inadequate provision and levels of latent demand in the area, makes the standard significantly more representative of the local situation. By factoring in this information a 'qualitative local standard' can be derived. That is to say a local standard that takes into account local qualitative information.

The qualitative local standard is calculated by adding the hectarage of provision available for community use to the identified shortfall/surplus of pitches (latent and future demand). It also takes into account the amount of inadequate pitches within the existing stock.

It is advised that the qualitative local standards are adopted as part of the LDF and used as supplementary planning guidance in the context of planning applications such as the following:

- Where applicants propose the removal/relocation of outdoor sports facilities, which will affect the amount of provision in a given area.
- Where developer contributions can be gained to improve the quality of existing facilities and provide new facilities.
- Where a new development increases local need for outdoor sports facilities.

Outdoor sports facilities standards have been calculated in line with Sport England guidance set out in 'Towards A Level Playing Field'. Playing pitches are bookable facilities and demand can be quantified more accurately. Within this report local standards or 'local aspirations targets for provision' in hectares per 1,000 population are derived as follows:

Existing provision (within this a recognition of 'poor quality' provision)	+	Additional provision to meet current unmet demand (latent demand identified through consultation)	+	Additional provision to meet current demand (Shortfalls in current provision)	=	Local aspirational target for provision (per 1,000 population - taking into account population projections for
						<b>2026</b> )

#### Shortfalls in provision

#### Latent demand

The table below provides a summary of latent demand identified across East Staffordshire and fed into the standards calculations.

Table 6: Summary of latent demand

Analysis area	Pitches			
	Football	Cricket	Rugby	
Burton	5 junior	-	-	
Rural 1	1 senior	-	-	
Rural 2	2 junior	-	-	
Uttoxeter	1 junior	-	1 junior	

#### Current demand

Sport England's PPM is used to assess whether supply of pitches is sufficient to meet peak time demand. Additional provision required in East Staffordshire to meet current demand is taken from the PPM calculations in the Assessment Report. All shortfalls are summarised below and fed into the standards calculations.

Table 7: Summary of deficiencies

Analysis area	Pitches			
	Football	Cricket	Rugby	
Burton	-41	-1.2	-3.5	
Rural 1	-	-3.2	-2.5	
Rural 2	-	-	-	
Uttoxeter	-	-0.5	-1.5	

#### Future demand

The latest Office of National Statistics (ONS) Super Output Area population estimates for England and Wales, mid-2007 suggests a current population of 108,326 in East Staffordshire. It is estimated that East Staffordshire will deliver 12,900 new homes by 2026; equating to a population rise of 30,960. Based upon an average household size of 2.4 people, the future population figure is estimated to be 139,286 (an increase of 28.6%). The majority of the 12,900 new homes (11,000) will be concentrated in and around Burton.

Therefore, a % increase is applied to each analysis area to reflect the population projections at a local level:

Table 8: Population projections by analysis area

	(ONS mid 2007 estimates) Current population	Actual increase homes	% Increase population	(2026) Future population
Burton	65,132	11,100	40.9%	91,772
Rural 1	20,401	500	5.9%	21,601
Rural 2	10,177	300	7.1%	10,897
Uttoxeter	12,616	1000	19.0%	15,016
EAST STAFFORDSHIRE	108,326	12,900	28.6%	139,286

#### East Staffordshire playing pitch standards

The following table summarises the recommended local provision standards for playing fields in East Staffordshire. Target standards provide a guideline about how much provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the Borough until 2026. For full calculations please see Appendices.

Table 9: Playing pitch standards on analysis area basis

Analysis area	Local standard (hectares per 1,000 population)		
Burton	1.23		
Rural 1	1.99		
Rural 2	1.98		
Uttoxeter	1.18		

It is important that all levels of analysis are kept up to date approximately every three years. In line with recommendations in PPG 17: Planning for Open Space Sport & Recreation and that ESBC has a current audit and assessment of provision in order to respond appropriately to the needs of the local community.

#### **Calculating Section 106 contributions**

#### **Pitches**

In all cases the requirement for provision should be based upon the number of persons generated from the net increase in dwellings in a proposed scheme, using the average household occupancy rate of 2.32 persons per dwelling as derived from the Census 2001.

The first stage is to calculate the total number of persons in the development (dwellings in the development multiplied by 2.32 (persons per dwelling). For example, 500 dwellings at 2.32 persons per household represent 1,160 persons.

The next stage is to calculate the hectarage required for the development. This is calculated by multiplying total persons in the development by the local standard for the analysis area where the development is taking place (see Table 9) and dividing the total by 1,000. For example, 1,160 persons multiplied by 1.23 (Burton Analysis Area) and divided by 1,000 equals 1.43 hectares required.

Based on the figure that a senior football pitch (including run off) is 0.89 hectares, this would equate to a need of 1.6 senior football pitches for example. For full breakdown of playing pitch sizes used in this report, please refer to Appendix Two.

In addition to the standards calculations, the deficiencies and surpluses in provision identified within the PPM should also be taken into account, in terms of identifying where (by analysis area) provision is required. Please refer to the relevant pages within the sport by sport sections at the beginning of this report.

#### Calculation:

#### Changing rooms

In the Borough, poor quality pitches are unable to accommodate the maximum number of weekly matches. In certain cases, this is due to either lack of changing facilities or current changing provision being poor quality. All playing pitches should be served by suitable, good quality ancillary facilities; these should be located in close proximity to the playing area.

To achieve an increase in participation in sport and physical activity in the Borough, it is imperative that in addition to the need to secure developer contributions for pitch provision, contributions should also be sought for improving and providing changing room accommodation using the following guidelines:

- Figures based on the sports facility costs from Sport England for the 2nd quarter of this year http://www.sportengland.org/kitbag\_fac\_costs\_q2\_2008.doc.
- Therefore the calculations below would need to change each quarter.
- Changing provision requirements are reliant on the number of pitches not the size of pitches. Changing facilities required for new pitches, whether they are on or off site.

Example 1: Calculation for off site contribution for playing pitches:

Hectares	/	0.64	X	80,000	=	£
required		(typical hectares of		(cost of grass		off-site
(Based on		grass pitch		pitch of 0.64 ha		contribution
NPFA		identified by Sport		as identified by		
standard)		Eng for calculation		Sport England		
,		purposes)		for calculation		
		,		purposes)		

Example 2: Calculation for off site contribution for playing pitches:

No. of Pitches x (Need 2 team changing room per pitch)	565,000 (cost of 4 team changing room as identified by Sport England for calculation purposes)	/	2 (based on 2 teams per pitch)	=	£ Total off-site contribution
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NB – the total figures do not include land value contribution or commuted sum for future maintenance.

#### **OPEN SPACE SPATIAL STRATEGY**

#### Key issues to be addressed

#### Public parks

- 25 sites are classified as publicly accessible parks and gardens. Between them these total just over 133 hectares.
- The Citizen's Panel survey identifies high usage of current provision with over three quarters (77%) of respondents stating that they had visited provision in the last year.
- Almost half (48%) of Panel respondents would expect to walk to access park provision, with almost one quarter (23%) willing to walk for up to 15 minutes. As this is also in-line with national guidelines, we recommend that Borough Council's the target be that all residents in East Staffordshire are within a 15 minute walk time of high quality parks provision.
- There is provision of at least one park and garden in each major settlement in the Borough (Burton-upon-Trent and Uttoxeter). However, provision is lacking in the more rural settlement areas. Almost half (44%) of the citizen panel respondents rate the provision/accessibility of parks and gardens to be good (29%) or very good (15%). Although provision is limited within the rural analysis areas this is to be expected as, with the exception of Barton-under-Needwood there are no settlements with significant populations to generate need for such provision.
- The mean quality score for the Borough lies at 51%. Consultation indicates that residents generally consider the quality of parks and gardens to be adequate. The main quality issue raised during consultation is the perceived problem of dog foul negatively impacting upon site quality and, thus, usage.
- Social inclusion and health, habitat and wildlife value and amenity and sense of place are recognised benefits of park and garden provision.

#### Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- In total, 29 open spaces in East Staffordshire, totalling almost 165 hectares, are classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces.
- There is currently one designated LNR, Scalpcliffe Hill, totalling eight hectares. ESBC aspires to have a total of five designated LNR's by 2010 and applications are currently submitted for designation of Branston Water Park and the Kingfisher Trail.
- The Citizen Panel survey identifies high usage levels of natural/semi-natural provision with three quarters (74%) of respondents stating that they had visited such provision in the previous 12 months.
- Borough residents are most likely to use transport to access natural areas (43%). Reflecting the rural nature of the Borough one third (33%) of Panel respondents state that they are willing to travel up to 30 minutes by transport to reach provision.
- We recommend an accessibility standard whereby all Borough residents are within at least a 20 minute drive time of high quality natural greenspace provision. Given National Forest implications, we recommend that this be made more challenging in Burton, where an accessibility standard of 10 minute walk time to provision should be set. On this (10 minute walk-time) basis, there are areas of deficiency in Burton.

- The availability of nature areas is rated as good or very good by almost one half (45%) of citizen panel respondents.
- All sites classified as natural/semi-natural scored for at least one element of value. Recognising the landscape, ecological and education benefits offered by sites the mean score for the Borough lies at 25%.

#### **Green corridors**

- There is an extensive PROW network covering the Borough, totalling just over 699km. However, bridleway provision makes up only 8.5% of the total network.
- A number of long distance routes pass through the Borough offering opportunities to access the countryside.
- The Trent and Mersey Canal provides a valuable green corridor through Burton-upon-Trent. It is well used but consultation indicates that it could be better utilised for recreation.
- Mapping demonstrates the extensive PROW network available across the Borough, particularly covering the rural areas. However, it highlights the limited availability within more urban settlements e.g. Burton-upon-Trent and also illustrates the extent to which the network is disjointed.
- SCC has undertaken significant consultation and research for the Staffordshire RoWIP. This sets out a 10-year action plan to improve the provision of the PROW network across the County in line with the needs of users.
- Potential opportunities for recreational corridors arising from gravel extraction projects to meet current and future deficiencies and linking to the Green Infrastructure/Central Rivers Strategy.

#### Amenity greenspace

- There are 94 amenity greenspace sites, totalling just over 103 hectares across East Staffordshire.
- Almost one quarter (23%) of all respondents state that they are willing to travel 5 minutes or less, on foot, to visit provision.
- Residents generally consider provision of amenity greenspace to be adequate in terms of quantity. Where provision exists it often functions as a valuable community resource for informal play and recreation.
- Quality standards vary across provision. However, the majority of sites score highly for maintenance and cleanliness. The main quality issue impacting upon provision and raised during consultation is the perceived levels of dog foul.

#### Provision for children and young people

- In total, 88 sites in East Staffordshire are classified as provision for children and voung people, totalling just over three hectares.
- Overall, 44% of citizen panel respondents have visited play areas for children (PAC) in the last 12 months. This figure is lower (10%) when considering provision for teenagers (PAT).
- For both types of play provision the majority of respondents that indicated travel distance preferences indicate that they are willing to walk for up to 15 minutes to access provision. Specifically we defined a 10 minute catchment for children's play area and a 15 minute catchment for young people/teenagers.
- Each significant settlement area across the Borough has access to at least one children's play area. Almost half (45%) of all play area provision across East Staffordshire is of LAP standard.
- Catchment mapping shows that provision is well distributed with the vast majority of residents being within a 10 minute time of provision. All settlements have some form of play area. Residents are generally content with the quantity of provision but there is demand for a greater variety of play opportunities. In particular, there is demand for increased provision for young people/teenagers.
- Consultation and site assessments identify that quality of play areas varies significantly across the Borough. Residents report that children's play areas suffer from regular vandalism and there is demand for greater policing of sites. However, this perception is considered to be greater than reality and fuelled by the regular presence of young people congregating on and littering children's play areas.
- Value scores for play areas across the Borough are generally high, with the mean score for all analysis areas being above the suggested threshold of 20%. Residents place a high value upon play facilities recognising the benefits that play can provide in terms of health, active lifestyles, social inclusion and interaction between children plus its developmental and educational value.
- Consultation identifies demand for introducing greater interactive, dynamic and natural play opportunities including elements of touch, sound and sight e.g. play panels, talk tubes, water-based play and sand.

#### **Allotments**

- There are 30 classified allotment sites in East Staffordshire, equating to just over 24 hectares.
- The majority of are identified as low quality, in part, due to poor quality paths within sites and general visual quality. Despite this, user consultation identifies very few concerns with provision. The value of allotments in East Staffordshire is high due to the associated social inclusion and health benefits and also the amenity benefits and sense of place offered.
- The vast majority of sites are operating at almost 100% capacity. The combined allotment waiting list across East Staffordshire, of 143, demonstrates that the high demand is not currently being met by provision. There is particularly high demand for more provision in Uttoxeter.

- A demand based equation is identified in the calculation of standards to determine the future requirements for allotments. This will take into account that some rural settlements, notably Abbotts Bromley, Marchington, Yoxall and Denstone have no access to allotment provision.
- Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel between 10 and 15 minutes walk to access allotment provision.
- Management of allotment sites is split between allotment associations and town/ parish councils. There is a lack of strategic management of provision across East Staffordshire. However, this does not appear to impact on the usage of provision and ESBC recognises the imminent need for an allotment strategy. Users indicate that it would be beneficial to have an allotment forum to help share and improve site management.
- Opportunity exists to split some large sized plots into smaller ones to encourage greater take up. Smaller plots are both more manageable and will enable the agencies involved to work to meet waiting list demand.

#### **Cemeteries**

- 11 sites are classified under this typology equating to just over 20 hectares of provision in East Staffordshire.
- The Citizen Panel survey highlights high usage levels; almost two thirds (61%) of respondents stating that they had visited a cemetery/churchyard in the previous twelve months. Reflecting the nature of most visits to churchyards/cemeteries over two thirds (65%) of users only visit cemeteries and churchyards less than once a month.
- Almost one fifth of all respondents (19%) are willing to walk up to 15 minutes to reach a cemetery/churchyard.
- Although quality standards vary across provision, on the whole sites score highly for landscape design and maintenance and overall maintenance and cleanliness. Consultation identifies that residents generally perceive quality standards to be high.
- There is potential to recognise the high quality standard achieved at Stapenhill Cemetery by entering the site for the Green Flag Award.
- There is opportunity to better promote the use of provision as an open space resource recognising the historical and educational opportunities offered by sites and the wildlife value.

### **Summary of deficiencies**

### Public parks

No settlements with significant populations to generate need for such provision.

### Natural and semi-natural greenspace

There are current areas of deficiency in Burton against a 10 minute walk time. Therefore, new provision in the form of two sites should be sought to help meet current and future deficiencies, one in Burton East and one in Burton West.

#### Green corridors

No identified gaps in the mapping. However, consultation highlights deficiencies for off-road cycling around Uttoxeter and within the Needwood Forest area of East Staffordshire.

### Amenity greenspace

There is little demand for additional provision, particularly in the more rural settlements of the Borough, as residents in these areas consider access to the surrounding countryside to provide adequate informal recreation opportunity.

### Provision for children and young people

- Equipped play provision is well distributed with all settlements having some form of play area. Although there are some pockets of deficiency, additional provision should not be a priority, but quality issues should be addressed. However, demand exists for increased provision for young people. Sites in Uttoxeter and East Burton are required to help meet these deficiencies.
- Regents Park Estate, Branston where a piece of land, off Jephson Road, was identified as a play/park area when the estate was developed. However, it remains unused and there is local demand for provision of a play area or for the site to be developed as a community park.

#### **Allotments**

Although catchment mapping highlights that some rural settlements, notably Abbotts Bromley, Marchington, Yoxall and Denstone do not have access to allotment provision, the need for new provision will be driven by a demand based calculation (see page 66/67 for the full calculation). The following population is currently not served by allotment provision:

Burton East	Burton West	Rural 1	Rural 2	Uttoxeter
0	2,685	10,124	7,495	0

Current deficiencies are further identified through waiting lists for provision:

<b>Burton East</b>	Burton West	Rural 1	Rural 2	Uttoxeter
35	18	46	0	44

- The combined allotment waiting list across East Staffordshire, of 143, demonstrates that the high demand is not currently met by provision. There is particularly high demand for more provision in Uttoxeter.
- This then feeds a detailed demand-based calculation taking account of the following:
  - Latent suppressed demand as expressed by the number of residents on waiting lists.
  - Latent potential demand to calculate this, the size of population not covered by an existing allotment site and its catchment is calculated; the current participation rate (total number of occupied plots/total current population) is applied to this population figure to calculate how many plots are required.
  - Marketing/participation increase allotments are growing in popularity nationally; to cater for this an allowance is made for participation/take-up to increase by 5% by 2025.

#### **Cemeteries**

Although the majority of users would accept up to a 15 minute walk to access provision, we recommend that new cemetery provision is driven by the need for burial capacity rather than accessibility.

### Other deficiencies

A number of national (aspirational) standards have recently been applied and deficiencies identified within the East Staffordshire Green Infrastructure Study. PPG17 guidance does not advocate the use of national standards and therefore, deficiencies within this report derive from locally developed standards (identified through consultation). However, it is worthy of note (as a cross reference point) that other standards do exist and have recently been applied. These are summarised below:

- Some wards within East Staffordshire (Eton Park, Horninglow, Stapenhill and Heath) contain levels of greenspace that are below the recommendations of the Six Acre Standard for their total populations. New development within or adjacent to these wards should include additional open space provision to address this deficit.
- The assessment of 'Burton upon Trent and Uttoxeter against the Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard' revealed significant deficits in the current provision of accessible greenspace and investment should be made to address this requirement.

The following recommendations were made, based upon the above assessment for Burton:

- Creation of additional areas of accessible natural greenspace (minimum 2 hectares), focussing on the Horninglow and Winshill residential areas to ensure that all residents have sufficient access. This could be achieved by making existing natural areas formally accessible or increasing the "naturalness" of existing areas of formal open space (e.g. through woodland planting in partnership with the National Forest Company) where identified surplus exists.
- Designation of an additional 40.48 hectares of Local Nature Reserve within Burton. This could be achieved through the designation of the Trent Washlands, which forms a significant area of natural space in the town.

The following recommendations were made, based upon the above assessment for Uttoxeter:

- Creation of additional accessible natural greenspace (minimum two hectares) in several strategic locations across the town to address the significant existing shortfall. This could be achieved by improving the "naturalness" of existing spaces in the Town ward, where there is an existing surplus of formal open space (see Table 9.1 below) or creating additional natural spaces on the urban fringe where this is not possible. When creating spaces on the urban fringe, the effects of the town's major roads and railway line upon accessibility must be taken into account.
- Designation of an additional 12 hectares of Local Nature Reserve(s). This is likely to involve the creation of new habitats as Chapter 5 identified that Uttoxeter does not contain any existing resources of recognised biodiversity value.
- Creation of large sites within the vicinity of the town to meet the requirements of the third standard. This will require significant partnership, working with local landowners and environmental stakeholders, this maybe facilitated by the opportunities presented by the New Growth Point.

### Strategic framework for open space improvements

This section sets out objectives for the development of open space provision in East Staffordshire. They are designed to address the issues raised in the Open Space Assessment Report.

The following targets were developed through the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and catchment mapping. They reflect key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy. Recommendations must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to meet planning considerations.

### **General objectives**

- Create sustainable provision. As a priority, ESBC should work towards addressing quality and value issues before considering the need to address future deficiencies in provision against quantitative standards.
- Continue to maintain high grounds maintenance standards and strive to raise standards further, as feasible, across parks and open spaces.
- ESBC should work in partnership with voluntary organisations and community groups across the Borough to sustain provision of community events within open spaces.
- Options to decrease unofficial motorbike use across open spaces should be considered. These may include, for example, through greater publicity with regard to penalties, increasing deterrent signs, perimeter fencing and gates. Investigate the possibility of designating an official site for off-road motocross/scrambler bike use.
- ESBC should continue to proactively raise awareness, and tackle the problem, of dog foul on open spaces through education campaigns across the Borough. Raise awareness that dog waste can be now be disposed of in general waste/dual waste litterbins, which are being provided within key sites.
- Awareness of accessible open space provision and the value of sites in relation to wildlife, health and educational benefits should be raised: e.g. via promotion on the Council website, on site signage and leaflets.
- ESBC should work, in partnership with all providers, to offer open space and sport facilities that are accessible for all, particularly wheelchair users, families with pushchairs and elderly users e.g. through improved path surface quality and installation of ramps and hand rails where appropriate.
- The possibility of varying the role of community wardens to provide a greater visual presence and point of contact within open spaces should be investigated.
- Recognising the value offered by the community involvement in the management of open spaces at present, as and when resources allow, encourage and support the formation of site-specific 'friends of' groups to support the development and enhancement of open spaces.
- The opportunity to further integrate greenspace into the heart of Burton e.g. provide better links from the Town Centre to the Washlands and the Memorial Gardens (KKP Ref 18) should be taken. Consider options in partnership with Burton College.
- To invest in the Trent Washlands to provide a well connected high quality green space which local people can be proud to be associated with and use frequently; capitalising on the River and its surroundings for both relaxation and sport.

- To invest in the Borough's historic parks and gardens; including Bramshall Road Park, Stapenhill Gardens, The Remembrance and Memorial Gardens, to ensure that the communities local heritage is preserved and developed for current and future generations.
- To enhance the Borough's Community Parks to provide first rate play opportunities for children and young people, while working to ensure that high quality play opportunities are accessible to all across the Borough.

### Typology specific objectives

### Public parks

- The aspiration for parks provision is to improve quality as a priority. Therefore, all 'Town Parks' falling below 66% quality threshold (reflecting the Green Flag pass mark) should be increased to high quality in the short term (within five years). These include:
  - Oldfield Park.
  - The Washlands Stapenhill Hollows.
- Remembrance and Memorial gardens should be sufficiently revamped in the medium term (5 - 8 years) in order to be categorised as Town Parks.
- All other high value parks falling below 50% quality threshold should be increased to high quality.
- ESBC should continue to develop and keep up to date management plans for the all key, focused on maintaining site quality and encouraging use.
- ESBC should work to maintain Green Flag status at sites. Undertake necessary improvements and work to successfully submit a further site by 2010. Initially, this should focus on a site within Uttoxeter; consideration should, in this context, be given to Bramshall Park and Pennycroft Park.
- ESBC should continue to encourage and support community involvement in the management of the Borough's parks.
- ESBC should continue to improve access to provision, e.g. raising awareness through promotion, car parking, upgrading paths.
- In the long term, investment in Newton Road Recreation Ground/Park should be sought to create a destination park that residents and visitors will travel to. This may include the levelling out of the site and relocation of facilities. ESBC to work in partnership with Burton Canoe Club in any future development of Newton Road Park.
- As and when resources allow, ESBC should work to encourage and support the formation of 'friends of' groups to increase community engagement in the management and development of parks and gardens. In particular, consider the potential involvement of Burton Canoe Club in open space developments adjacent the River.

### Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- The aspiration for natural greenspace provision is to improve access and quality in the rural areas and provide new provision in Burton as a priority.
- Provision of new sites (minimum two hectares), one in East and one in West Burton, with priority given to the Horninglow and Winshill residential areas. This could be achieved by making existing natural areas formally accessible or increasing the "naturalness" of existing areas of formal open space (e.g. through woodland planting in partnership with the National Forest Company).
- Publicly accessible, natural and semi natural sites falling below 40% quality threshold which are considered to be high value should be increased to high quality.
- ESBC should maintain, and continue to build, partnerships with external agencies and voluntary sector organisations involved in the management of sites.
- Work to raise awareness of accessible nature and semi-natural open space provision and the value of the sites in terms of habitat value and education benefits should be undertaken. This may be achieved through increased information accessible on the ESBC website and greater engagement of local schools.
- The countryside should be promoted as a valuable open space resource for a variety of users. As well as habitat value it also offers informal play opportunities and provides walking and horse riding routes linking a number of settlements.
- The potential of semi-natural sites should be utilised to develop and promote 'creative' and 'wild' play opportunities.
- Work to increase the availability of accessible local nature reserve (LNR) provision, should be pursued via the designation of at least five sites by 2010, to meet the current 99 hectare shortfall against the Natural England recommended standard. This should include:
  - Work to designate of an additional 40.48 hectares of LNR within Burton. This could be achieved through the designation of the Trent Washlands, which forms a significant area of natural space in the town.
  - Work to designate of an additional 12 hectares of LNR within Uttoxeter. This is likely to involve the creation of new habitats, as Uttoxeter does not contain any existing resources of recognised biodiversity value.
  - Creation of large sites within the vicinity of Uttoxeter. This will require significant partnership, working with local landowners and environmental stakeholders, this may be facilitated by the opportunities presented by the New Growth Point.
- ESBC should increase opportunities for the experience of nature review maintenance regimes for formal open space provision and where feasible modify to introduce natural features e.g. wildflower meadows.
- Partnerships with external agencies and voluntary sector organisations involved in the management of sites should be maintained and developed.

#### Green corridors

- All sites to be retained and protected. The aspiration for green corridors is to maintain high standards of maintenance and ensure site quality is upgraded where appropriate. Consider Denstone Old Railway as a future potential Green Flag site (the awarded is not just restricted to parks and gardens).
- ESBC and partners should work in line with the Staffordshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP) to guide the management and improvement of the public rights of way (PROW) network within the Borough.
- Where possible, provision in Uttoxeter and within the Needwood Forest should be increased to meet perceived needs for more provision in these areas.
- Work to create a well connected, accessible and promoted off-road PROW network should be undertaken.
- ESBC should, as a priority, seek to establish more permissive path agreements to meet identified deficiencies in provision. ESBC should carry out necessary work on the paths to bring them up to an appropriate standard. The paths should then also be monitored and maintained including any stiles, kissing gates, signs etc.
- Where appropriate, ESBC and partners should continue to improve access to provision (taking into account disability access). Investigate methods of improving provision to information e.g. route distances, destinations and difficulty.
- Improve promotion of the PROW network. Develop a programme to enhance signage and way marking of PROW to better promote access to the surrounding countryside.
- Continue to develop and support community involvement in the management of green corridors.
- Further recognise the potential of the River as a resource that can be accessed for sporting activities such as canoeing and rowing as well as for general recreation.
- Maximise the potential for recreational corridors arising from gravel extraction projects to meet current and future deficiencies and linking to the Green Infrastructure/Central Rivers Strategy.

### Amenity greenspace

- All sites to be retained. The aspiration for amenity greenspace is to improve quality.
- All sites falling below 40% quality threshold should be increase to high quality. As a priority, invest in sites above 2 hectares in size, including:
  - Rangemore Playing Fields.
  - Land to south of Anglesey Community Park.
  - Silver Lane Playing Fields.
- Work to create more functional and visually attractive amenity greenspaces through, for example, provision of seating and/or landscaping.
- Ensure that new housing developments provide sufficient allowances for amenity greenspaces, where appropriate.
- Develop, promote and encourage the play opportunities offered by sites, where appropriate.

- Raise awareness of dog foul by-laws covering sites. Raise awareness amongst dog owners that dog waste can be disposed off in ordinary litterbins.
- Encourage and support community involvement and ownership of amenity greenspace. Support local communities to facilitate events and activities on sites.

### Provision for children and young people

- The aspiration for equipped children's play provision is to increase the quality and value of all provision. Work in accordance with the 'Vision' for play in East Staffordshire, as set out by the Borough-wide Play Strategy.
- Where the overlap in catchment is high and the value or quality low, all sites should be assessed to determine whether they justify retention. Improvements to high value low quality sites should be prioritised: those falling below 66% quality threshold should be improved.
- Rationalise equipped play provision by investigating further the value of LAPs to local communities. In the short term, consider removal of low value LAPs and reinvestment in neighbouring fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value. For example, de-commission/close Newton Road Recreation Ground Play Area and reinvest elsewhere in Winshill such as Wheatley Lane Recreation Ground Play Area.
- All new provision should meet minimum size standards, be of at least LEAP size and provide significant play value in a high quality environment
- The aspiration for provision for young people (teenagers) is to increase provision. Work is required to meet perceived deficiencies in Uttoxeter and East Burton. ESBC and partners also need to work with local communities and young people and ensure that users are involved in the design and location of future provision to create greater ownership of sites and ensure that users needs are being met.
- There is a need to fully utilise developer contributions to address the quality of current stock and achieve better contributions to increase the scale of provision and underpin the continued maintenance of any new provision.
- ESBC (and partners) should support and encourage providers of provision to enhance the accessibility and inclusivity of play provision. All new and refurbished play areas to provide inclusive provision.
- Where appropriate and feasible, new provision for children and young people should offer more adventurous and challenging play opportunities with a variety of equipment catering for a wide age range. ESBC and partners should encourage greater provision of interactive play equipment such as talk tubes and interactive grids.
- Perimeter fencing, where appropriate, and safety surfacing should be evident at all new and existing play areas. Where feasible seating should be provided in and around play provision.
- Through the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Wild Play officers, informal and natural play opportunities should be promoted and facilitated.
- Affordable and fully accessible activities should be targeted at young people.
- ESBC and partners should continue to encourage and support the community in providing and improving play opportunities for children and young people.

### **Allotments**

- The aspiration for allotments is to provide new provision to meet current and future demand.
- As a priority, new provision in Uttoxeter should be made. In partnership with allotment associations, ESBC should consider plot splitting and sharing to better utilise current provision to meet waiting list demand. It should also consider introducing a policy which ensures that where a waiting list for provision exists, a single tenant cannot be allocated more than one plot.
- All sites to be retained. Investigate the potential to bring Ashbourne Road Allotments back into use to help meet rural deficiencies.
- Though many allotment sites are of a low quality, the users are generally content as they are still 'fit for purpose'. Consult with the users of all sites which fall below the quality threshold to determine whether there are specific things which they would like improved.
- All major development in the Borough should be required to design into schemes growing areas at multiple levels for residents (internally, externally at ground level, roofs gardens, communal balconies) and the planting of edible soft landscaping (e.g. fruit and nut trees). Alternatively if this is not feasible require a contribution to urban agriculture off site.
- ESBC should allow unconventional underused spaces (such as river and railway banks; school, hospital, social housing grounds; publicly owned brownfield sites; Council-owned road verges and other underused areas of green) to be used for urban agriculture uses and to protect these from development.
- A Borough-wide allotment strategy should be produced to guide the strategic management of provision across all managing bodies. As part of this, undertake a review of the effectiveness of self-management of provision by associations and encourage and support the formation of an allotment user forum to facilitate the sharing of management skills and best practice.
- Initiate a policy stating that if demand for raised beds arose, ESBC would endeavour to provide for that demand if and where possible to ensure that, where feasible provision is fully inclusive.
- If and when provision increases and greater allotment usage can be accommodated. the Council will work in partnership with all providers to raise awareness of provision and its value (in terms of wider social and health benefits).
- There is a need for additional allotment space in Rolleston. Support Rolleston on Dove Parish Council to seek additional land to serve demand for provision.

### **Cemeteries**

- The aspiration for cemeteries is to ensure that provision remains accessible and is promoted as a recreation resource. However, new provision should be driven by the need for burial space rather than the need for open space.
- ◆ ESBC should explore the potential to extend Stapenhill Cemetery to increase capacity for a further 50 years. If successful, car parking capacity should be increased, particularly to facilitate access to the Greenhouse and Environment Centre within the site.
- ESBC should investigate the potential to submit Stapenhill Cemetery for the Green Flag Award in 2010.
- Greater community involvement in the management and maintenance of cemeteries and disused churchyards should be encouraged.
- Greater use of cemeteries for informal recreation e.g. walking and continue to enhance areas for wildlife should be encouraged.
- Greater use of cemeteries as an educational resource, both in terms of heritage and environmental value should be encouraged.

### Civic space

- Formally identify all civic spaces across the Borough. This should include assessment of potential sites and lead to development of a strategy. Car parks should also form part of the review. The Town Hall Square and the open stepped forum outside Burton Library are considered to be amongst the leading candidates for amenity development.
- Investigate the feasibility of increasing the functionality of Burton Market Square as a civic open space through enhancements such as seating and public art.
- Adopt a strategic approach to the 'In-Bloom' competition and consider the option of sustainable planting displays, particularly in Burton Town Centre.

### **Setting open space provision standards**

#### Introduction

There are three elements to setting provision standards:

- **Accessibility** how far people will travel to access provision.
- Quality and value thresholds used to define high and low quality within a matrix.
- **Quantity** hectares per 1,000 population.

Target quantity standards are a guideline as to how much open space, sport and recreation provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve East Staffordshire over the next ten years. Standards for each type of provision have been created in relation to demand, access and future population growth and are provided on an analysis area basis.

Quality and accessibility standards are also provided for each type of provision, where appropriate and assessed within a matrix, to prioritise investment. For green corridors for example, due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to set provision standards in terms of quantity and accessibility.

Where quality/values scores/thresholds are presented, it is based on the audit and assessment of sites and provides a minimum level of quality (percentage score), that sites should achieve. An accessibility standard is also provided based on catchment areas and how far people might be expected to travel to visit each type of provision.

Development of standards is undertaken on an individual typology basis as opposed to grouping similar types of open spaces together such as formal (parks, cemeteries and allotments) and informal (amenity greenspace, natural and semi natural greenspace). This is done in order to recognise the different values placed on each typology as identified during site visits and as placed on them by residents during the consultation. However, on a local level, some similar typologies such as amenity greenspace and natural and semi natural greenspace have been compared within the process and are recognised as providing a similar function.

KKP has applied a composite approach to the setting of open space provision standards in the area. It has taken account of the other possible options including the application of national standards and believes that this is the most appropriate way to produce locally derived standards for the East Staffordshire. This conforms to the guidance set out by PPG17 and the Companion Guide 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities'.

This report is a 'living document' and the recommendations contained within it should be reviewed on a regular basis as outlined in PPG17 and the Companion Guide 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' and to take account of adopted housing allocations and windfall developments as and when required.

### **Accessibility standards**

Distance thresholds are the maximum distances that typical users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of provision using different modes of transport. Catchment areas for different types of provision are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that the factors that underpin catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day and hour to hour. This problem has been overcome in PPG17 by accepting the concept of 'effective catchments', defined as the distance that would be travelled by around 75-80% of users.

### Open space catchment areas

Guidance is offered by the Greater London Authority (GLA) (2002): 'Guide to Preparing Open Space Strategies' with regard to appropriate catchment areas for authorities to adopt (please refer to the appendix for a list of GLA catchment areas). However, this is more relevant in urban areas and in order to make accessibility standards more locally specific to East Staffordshire, we have used data from the parish council consultation to inform their development. They are specific to each typology and the question 'How far would you be willing to travel to visit the following type of provision' was used to help determine an appropriate distance. GLA guidelines are used as a starting point only and/or if no conclusion can be drawn from the consultation.

The following table summaries the street survey and consultation for each typology, relating to how far residents would expect to travel to access good quality provision, together with a recommended distance threshold to apply across East Staffordshire:

Table 10: Summary of open space accessibility standards set within the Open Space Assessment Report

Typology	Street survey	East Staffordshire
Allotments	Majority of users would accept a 10 - 15 minute walk to access provision.	All residents to be 15 minute walk time of high quality allotment provision.
Amenity greenspace	Majority of users would accept up to a 10 minute walk to access provision.	Given the variation in the type of site included within this typology e.g., , for example, recreation grounds which serve quite a different purpose to grassed areas in housing estate which provide a visual break around development or small scale opportunities for play/relaxation, no accessibility catchment is recommended.
Cemetery/ churchyard	Majority of users would accept up to a 15 minute walk to access provision.	Not recommended as provision is driven by burial capacity rather than accessibility.
Civic space	Majority of users would accept up to a 15 minute walk to access provision.	Not recommended as no provision is identified in East Staffordshire.
Green corridors	Majority of users would accept up to a 15 minute walk to access provision.	Not recommended due to linear nature of provision.

Typology	Street survey	East Staffordshire
Natural/semi natural greenspace	Majority of users would accept up to 30 minutes drive time.	All residents to be at least 20 minute drive time of high quality nature areas.
Parks and gardens	Majority of users would accept up to a 15 minute walk to access provision.	All residents to be 15 minute walk time of high quality parks provision.
Provision for children & young people	Majority of users would accept up to a 15 minute walk to access provision. Although there is not significant differences between 5, 10 and 15 minute walk time.	All residents to be 10 minutes walk time of high quality children's play areas, and 15 minutes walking time of provision for young people/teenagers.

For green corridors and cemeteries no specific access standard is set. It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to their linear nature and usage. For cemeteries, provision is determined by demand for burial space. It is also important to note that for allotments, provision is assessed as part of a demand based calculation also.

For outdoor sports facilities, the need for new/more pitches is demand led through the use of the Sport England Playing Pitch Model and therefore it is not appropriate to have an accessibility standard by which to identify deficiencies.

### Summary of deficiencies

If a settlement does not have access to the required level of open space provision (as stated above) it is deemed deficient. KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size (as provided by the Greater London Authority (GLA) guidance), are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision (in hectares), together with demand identified during the consultation.

Table 11: Summary of deficiencies in East Staffordshire

Typology	Deficiency	Recommendation
Parks and gardens	No settlements with significant populations to generate need for such provision.	-
Natural and semi natural	There are areas of deficiency in Burton using a 10 minute walk time.	Two sites are required, one in Burton East and one in Burton West. Minimum size of 2 ha.
Green corridors	No identified gaps in the mapping. Consultation highlights deficiencies for off-road cycling around Uttoxeter and in the Needwood Forest area.	Where possible, increase provision in Uttoxeter and within the Needwood Forest.
Amenity greenspace	There is no specific demand for additional provision identified.	-
Provision for children and young people	No identified demand for new play areas. However, demand exists for increased provision for young people.	Two sites required one each in Uttoxeter and Burton West to help meet these deficiencies. Minimum of 0.04 ha each.
Allotments	There is particularly high demand for more provision in Uttoxeter.	Provide additional plots in Uttoxeter as a priority.

### **Quality and value**

Assessing the quality and value of open spaces is used below to identify those sites which should be given the highest level of protection by the planning system, those which require enhancement in some way and those which may no longer be needed for their present purpose. We present below a high/low classification giving the following possible combinations of quality and value for open spaces:

### High quality/low value

Wherever possible, the preferred policy approach to a space in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary purpose. If this is not possible, the next best policy approach is to consider whether it might be of high value if converted to some other primary purpose. Only if this is also impossible will it be acceptable to consider a change of use.

### High quality/high value

Ideally all open spaces should have an aspiration to come into this category and the planning system should then seek to protect them.

### Low quality/low value

Wherever possible, the policy approach to these spaces or facilities should be to enhance their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.

### Low quality/high value

The policy approach to these spaces should be to enhance their quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

The above approach (as outlined in PPG17: The Companion Guide) provides a simple means of determining the most appropriate policy approach to each existing open space or facility. It also provides a basis for linking planning, design, management and maintenance.

The tables below present where each existing open space fits into the matrix. As a priority, ESBC should focus on improving low quality sites of high value and any low value sites of high quality and investigate (using the site audit – supplied as an electronic file) how these sites could be enhanced.

If there is a choice of spaces or facilities of equal quality to declare surplus, and no need to use one or part of one to remedy a deficiency in some other form of open space or sport and recreation provision, it will normally be sensible to consider disposing of the one with the lowest value. Similarly, if two are of equal value, it will normally be sensible to dispose of the one of lower quality.

### **Quality and value matrix**

### Uttoxeter

Typology	QUALITY	VALUE	
		Low	High
Allotments	High	-	<ul> <li>Alexandra Crescent Allotments</li> <li>Victoria Allotments</li> <li>Leighton Road Allotments</li> <li>Westland Road Allotments</li> </ul>
	Low	-	Park Avenue Allotments
Amenity greenspace	High	<ul> <li>Davies Drive Recreation Ground</li> <li>Silver Birch Drive Open Space</li> <li>Brooklands Close Open Space</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Blount's Drive Open Space</li> <li>The Willows Open Space</li> <li>Grange Road Recreation Ground</li> <li>Weaver Lodge Open Space</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul><li>Avocet Close Open Space</li><li>Harvey Place</li></ul>	<ul><li> Greenacres Drive</li><li> Skylark Close Open Space</li></ul>
Cemeteries	High	-	Uttoxeter Cemetery
	Low	-	-
Children's play areas	High	-	<ul> <li>Blount's Drive Play Area (2)</li> <li>Hazelwalls Community Park Play Area</li> <li>Bramshall Park Play Area</li> <li>Silver Birch Drive Open Space</li> <li>The Willows PA</li> <li>Pennycroft Community Park PA</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul> <li>Blount's Drive Play Area (1)</li> <li>Chaffinch Drive Play Area</li> <li>Heron Drive Open Space</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>George Elliott Close PA</li> <li>Avocet Close PA</li> <li>Kestrel Close PA</li> <li>Oldfield Park PA</li> <li>Grange Road Recreation Ground PA</li> <li>Weaver Lodge PA</li> <li>Brooklands Close PA</li> </ul>
Parks and Gardens	High	-	<ul> <li>Hazelwalls Community Park</li> <li>Bramshall Park</li> <li>Oldfield Park</li> <li>Pennycroft Community Park</li> </ul>
	Low	-	-

Typology	QUALITY	VALUE	
		Low	High
Semi / Natural greenspaces	High	-	Mallard Close Woodland
	Low	Penny Croft Surplus Site	-

### Rural 1

Typology	QUALITY	VALUE		
		Low	High	
Allotments	High	-	<ul> <li>Hopeley Road Allotments</li> <li>Dogshead Lane Allotments</li> <li>Efflinch Lane Allotments</li> <li>Rolleston Allotments</li> </ul>	
	Low	-	<ul><li>Castle Street Allotments</li><li>St James Road Allotments</li><li>Holts Lane Allotments</li></ul>	
Amenity greenspace	Low	<ul> <li>Meadow View Open Space</li> <li>Hollow Lane Playing Fields</li> <li>Park Road Open Space B</li> <li>Tutbury Castle Triangle</li> <li>Ferrers Avenue Playing Field</li> <li>The Green, Marchington</li> <li>Wakefield Road Open Space</li> <li>Burton College Playing Fields</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Wood Lane Playing Fields</li> <li>Craythorne Road Playing Fields</li> <li>Elizabeth Avenue Recreation Ground</li> <li>Oak Road Play Area</li> <li>Collinson Road Play Area</li> <li>Park Pale</li> <li>Cornmill Lane Playing Field</li> <li>Ferrers Field</li> <li>The Croft</li> <li>Hillsea Crescent Open Space</li> <li>Park Road Open Space</li> <li>Ash Tree Road Open Space</li> <li>Silver Lane Playing Fields</li> <li>Rangemore Playing Fields</li> </ul>	
		Rolleston Open Space		
Cemeteries	High	-	Rolleston Cemetery     Barton Church	
	Low	-	<ul><li>St Werburgh's Churchyard</li><li>St Peter's Churchyard</li></ul>	

	OLIAL ITY	VALUE		
Typology	QUALITY	Low	High	
Children's play areas	High	Meadow View Play Area	<ul> <li>Wood Lane Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Oak Road PA</li> <li>Collinson Road PA</li> <li>Tutbury Mill PA</li> <li>Elton Close Playing Field</li> <li>Hillsea Crescent PA</li> <li>Silver Lane Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Beamhill Road PA</li> <li>Laland Street PA</li> <li>Park Pale PA</li> <li>Tutbury Mill Youth Play Area</li> </ul>	
	Low	Cromwell Close Play Area	<ul> <li>Hollow Lane Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Elizabeth Avenue Recreation Ground PA</li> <li>Ferrers Field PA</li> <li>Rangemore Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Forest Edge Way PA</li> <li>Rolleston Open Space PA</li> </ul>	
Parks and Gardens	High	-	Tutbury Mill Open Space	
	Low	-	-	
Semi / Natural greenspaces	High	Brook Hollows	<ul> <li>The Jinny Trail</li> <li>Barton Pool</li> <li>Dunstall Estate</li> <li>Goose Green</li> <li>Swarbourn Meadow</li> <li>National Forest Tender Scheme</li> </ul>	
	Low	<ul> <li>Craythorne Woods</li> </ul>	-	

### Rural 2

Typology	QUALITY	VALUE		
		Low	High	
Allotments	High	-	Stramshall Allotments	
	Low	Ashbourne Road     Allotments	-	
Amenity greenspace	High	-	<ul> <li>Abbots Bromley Millennium Green</li> <li>Church Lane Playing Fields</li> <li>Rocester Parish Playing Fields</li> <li>The Crescent Open Space</li> <li>Sycamore Road Open Space</li> <li>Mayfield Playing Fields</li> <li>Kingstone Playing Fields</li> <li>Church Leigh Recreation Ground</li> <li>Anglesey Playing Field</li> <li>Stramshall Playing Field</li> </ul>	
	Low	<ul> <li>Moorlands Drive Play Area</li> <li>Birches Corner</li> <li>Open Space at rear of Northfield Avenue</li> <li>Birches Corner verge</li> </ul>	<ul><li> Great Gate Village Green</li><li> Croxden Village Green</li><li> Spath Village Green</li><li> Denstone Recreation Ground</li></ul>	
Cemeteries	High	-	-	
	Low	-	<ul><li>St Michael's Churchyard</li><li>Roman Fort/Graveyard, Rocester</li></ul>	
Children's play areas	High Low	-	<ul> <li>Church Lane Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Denstone Old Railway PA</li> <li>Rocester Parish Playing Fields</li> <li>Moorlands Drive PA</li> <li>Stramshall Playing Field PA</li> <li>Mill Bank Drive Play Area</li> <li>Denstone Youth Fund PA</li> <li>Abbots Bromley Millennium Green PA</li> <li>Mayfield Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Kingstone Playing Fields PA</li> <li>Church Leigh Recreation Ground PA</li> <li>Lakeside Club PA</li> </ul>	
Green corridors	High Low	-	Denstone Old Railway     -	

Parks and Gardens	High	-	-
	Low	-	Memorial Gardens
Semi / Natural greenspaces	High	-	-
	Low	-	-

### **Burton East**

Typology	QUALITY	VALUE	
		Low	High
Allotments	High Low	-	<ul> <li>Rosliston Road Allotments</li> <li>Claverhouse Allotments</li> <li>Bearwood Hill Allotments</li> <li>Stretton Parish Allotment Site</li> <li>Fivelands Allotments</li> <li>Stapenhill Lane Allotments</li> <li>Anglesey Allotments</li> <li>Wheatley Lane Allotments</li> <li>Mona Lands 'C' Allotments</li> <li>Wetmore Allotments</li> </ul>
Amenity greenspace	High	<ul> <li>Fairham Avenue Open Space</li> <li>Princess Way Open Space B</li> <li>Bitham Court Open Space</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Eton Road Allotments</li> <li>Waterside Open Space A</li> <li>Blackpool Street Recreation Ground</li> <li>Waterside Open Space B</li> <li>Land off Beaufort Road</li> <li>Carpenter Close Play Area</li> <li>Wheatley Lane Recreation Ground</li> <li>Weston Park Avenue (Linear Park Extension)</li> <li>Station Walk</li> <li>Mill Hill Lane Open Space</li> <li>Knightsbridge Way Open Space</li> <li>Grassmere Close Open Space</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul> <li>Suffolk Road Open Space</li> <li>Land off Vancouver Drive</li> <li>Westbury Homes Site Play Area</li> <li>Athlestan Way Open Space</li> <li>Land to south of Anglesey Community Park</li> <li>Totnes Close Open Space</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Princess Way Open Space A</li> <li>Waterside Open Space C</li> <li>Land at Beech Lane</li> <li>The Green</li> </ul>

Typology	QUALITY	V	ALUE
		Low	High
Cemeteries	High	-	<ul><li>Stapenhill Cemetery</li><li>St Modwens Churchyard</li></ul>
Cemeteries	Low	St Mary's Church	-
Children's play areas	High	Carpenter Close Play Area     Ashbrook Open Space	<ul> <li>Heath Road Community Park PA</li> <li>Anglesey Community Park PA</li> <li>Remembrance Gardens PA</li> <li>Stapenhill Gardens Play Area</li> <li>Canterbury Community Park PA</li> <li>Canterbury Community Park teen area</li> <li>Canterbury Community Park MUGA</li> <li>Eton Community Park PA</li> <li>Hillfield Lane Recreation Ground</li> <li>Tower Woods PA</li> <li>The Green PA</li> <li>Upper Mills Community Park PA</li> <li>Wheatley Lane Recreation Ground Play Area</li> <li>Mill Hill Lane Play Area</li> <li>Wetmore Community Park PA</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul><li>Land off Beaufort Road</li><li>Newton Road Play Area</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Suffolk Road Island PA</li> <li>Westbury Homes Site PA</li> <li>Bitham Lane Recreation Ground</li> </ul>
Parks and Gardens	High	-	<ul> <li>Anglesey Community Park</li> <li>The Washlands</li> <li>The Memorial Gardens</li> <li>Remembrance Gardens</li> <li>The Washlands - Stapenhill Gardens</li> <li>The Washlands - Stapenhill Hollows</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul> <li>Forget-me-not Garden</li> <li>Burton Mail Centenary Woodland</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Heath Road Community Park</li> <li>Canterbury Community Park</li> <li>Newton Road Park</li> <li>Wetmore Community Park</li> <li>Eton Community Park</li> <li>Hillfield Lane Recreation Ground</li> <li>Bitham Lane Recreation Ground</li> </ul>

Typology	QUALITY	VALUE					
		Low	High				
			<ul><li>Uxbridge Gardens</li><li>Millenium Garden</li><li>Upper Mills Community Park</li></ul>				
Semi / Natural greenspaces	High	Tower Woods	Horninglow Linear Park (The Kingfisher Trail)				
	Low	<ul> <li>The Broadholme</li> <li>Redhill / Redhill Woodlands</li> <li>Claymills Pool</li> <li>Grazing Land off Watson Street</li> <li>Upper Mills Farm</li> <li>Bass Meadow Forest Tender Scheme</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Scalpcliffe Local Nature Reserve</li> <li>Bitham Claypits</li> <li>Stretton Balancing Pond</li> <li>Stretton Woodlands</li> </ul>				

### **Burton West**

Typology	QUALITY	VA	ALUE
		Low	High
Allotments	High Low	-	Belvedere Allotments     Regatta Lane Allotments
			<ul> <li>Belvoir Road Allotments</li> <li>Bradmore Road Allotments</li> <li>Outwoods Parish Council Allotments</li> </ul>
Amenity greenspace	High	-	Higgot Close Play Area     Forest Road Open Space
	Low	<ul> <li>Land off Lynwood Road</li> <li>Shipley Close Play Area</li> <li>Mellor Road Open Space</li> <li>Torrance Close Open Space</li> <li>Pensgreave Road Open Space</li> <li>Palmer Close Open Space</li> <li>Dover Road Open Space</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clay's Lane Recreation Ground</li> <li>Carver Road Open Space</li> <li>Lonsdale Recreation Ground</li> <li>Portland Avenue Open Space</li> </ul>
Cemeteries	High	Churchyard	-
	Low	-	-

Typology	QUALITY	V	ALUE
		Low	High
Children's play areas	High	-	<ul> <li>Higgot Close PA</li> <li>Horninglow Community Park</li> <li>Carver Road PA</li> <li>Shobnall Fields PA</li> <li>Percy's Grove PA</li> <li>Branston Water Park PA</li> <li>Lonsdale Recreation Ground</li> <li>Newman Drive Open Space</li> <li>Glencroft Close Open Space</li> <li>Palmer Close Open Space</li> <li>Unity Park</li> <li>Millenium PA, Branston</li> </ul>
	Low	<ul><li>Shipley Close Play Area</li><li>Nicklaus Close Play Area</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Clay's Lane Recreation Ground</li> <li>Mellor Road Play Area</li> <li>Torrance Close Play Area</li> <li>Portland Avenue Open Space</li> </ul>
Parks and Gardens	High Low	-	<ul> <li>Horninglow Community Park</li> <li>Outwoods Park</li> <li>Branston Water Park</li> </ul>
Semi / Natural greenspaces	High	- -	The Toadhole Oaks Wood Battlestead Wood
	Low	<ul><li>Percy's Grove</li><li>Outwoods Park Extension</li></ul>	<ul><li>The Brickyards</li><li>Beans Covert</li></ul>

### **Quantity standards**

The assessment reports divide East Staffordshire into analysis areas. These have been adopted to allow more localised assessment of provision, examination of open space/facility surplus and deficiencies and local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. The following example calculation is applied to each typology to calculate how much open space provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve East Staffordshire in the future.

Analysis area	Current provision (ha) <sup>1</sup>	Current population	Current provision level (ha per 1,000 population)	Deficiencies <sup>2</sup> (ha)	Total provision required for 2009 population level (ha)	Provision level required to meet 2009 population (ha per 1,000 population)	Future population (2026)	Total new provision 2026 (ha per 1,000 population)	Deficiency in provision (ha) 2008-2026
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I
			A/B*1000		A+D	E/B*1,000		F*G/1,000	A-H

For green corridors, due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to set provision standards in terms of quantity and accessibility. Therefore, only a quality standard is recommended.

Taken from the project/audit database, supplied as an electronic file.

Provision to meet accessibility/settlement hierarchy gaps expressed in hectares.

### The current level of provision (column A)

The current level of provision is calculated using the information collected and is presented earlier within the assessment reports and analysed using the open spaces project database.

The starting point for calculating quantative standards is total current provision within a given analysis area. Current provision usually has a high impact on aspirational future standards. Residents often base their judgement of need on or around current provision.

### Deficiencies (column D)

Accessibility standards have are set and applied in the form of catchment mapping to demonstrate which areas are deficient in provision. Deficiency is calculated by identifying gaps/areas not covered by the minimum level of open space provision required by the standard. If a settlement does not have access to the required level of open space provision it is deemed deficient. KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size (as suggested by the GLA), are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision.

### Aspirational quantity standard (column F)

Once a new total provision is gained by adding in any deficiencies to the current provision, an aspirational standard can be calculated. This takes into account current demand for provision and should be specific to each particular area and capable of being achieved by achieving the targets outlined earlier within the Strategy.

### Future population growth (columns G)

To assess future provision needs, we have to calculate a percentage increase to apply to each analysis area.

The latest Office of National Statistics (ONS) Super Output Area population estimates for England and Wales, mid-2007 suggests a current population of 108,326 in East Staffordshire. It is estimated that East Staffordshire will deliver 12,900 new homes by 2026; equating to a population rise of 30,960. Based upon an average household size of 2.4 people, the future population figure is estimated to be 139,286 (an increase of 28.6%). The majority of the 12,900 new homes (11,000) will be concentrated in and around Burton.

Therefore, a percentage increase is applied to each analysis area to reflect the population projections at a local level:

	(ONS mid 2007 estimates) Current population	Actual increase homes	% increase population	(2026) Future population
Burton	65,132	11,100	%	91,772
Rural 1	20,401	500	5.9%	21,601
Rural 2	10,177	300	7.1%	10,897
Uttoxeter	12,616	1,000	19.0%	15,016
EAST STAFFORDSHIRE	108,326	12,900	28.6%	139,286

### Future provision (column H)

In order to calculate how much open space provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the area in the future; estimated population growth is applied to the aspirational standard. For the purposes of this report, we have presented total provision required in 2026 to fit with the lifetime of the Core Strategy.

### Deficiency in provision 2008-2026 (column I)

This column substantiates the actual deficiency in terms of the difference in hectares between current provision and future need, based on future growth having taken into account deficiencies.

### Parks and gardens

Analysis area	Current provision (ha) <sup>1</sup>	Current population	Current provision level (ha per 1,000 population)		Total provision required for 2009 population level (ha)	Provision level required to meet 2009 population (ha per 1,000 population)	Future population (2026)		Deficiency in provision (ha) 2008-2026
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I
Burton	118.73	65,132	1.82	-	118.73	1.82	91,772	167.30	48.57
Rural 1	2.75	20,401	0.13	-	2.75	0.13	21,601	2.91	0.16
Rural 2	0.05	10,177	0.00	-	0.05	0.00	10,897	0.05	-
Uttoxeter	20.81	12,616	1.65	-	20.81	1.65	15,016	24.77	3.96

### Amenity greenspace

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current provision level (ha per 1,000 population)	Deficiencies (ha)	Total provision required for 2009 population level (ha)	Provision level required to meet 2009 population (ha per 1,000 population)	Future population (2026)		Deficiency in provision (ha) 2008-2026
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I
Burton	29.62	65,132	0.45	-	29.62	0.45	91,772	41.73	12.11
Rural 1	27.60	20,401	1.35	-	27.60	1.35	21,601	29.22	1.62
Rural 2	13.26	10,177	1.30	-	13.26	1.30	10,897	14.20	0.94
Uttoxeter	2.34	12,616	0.19	-	2.34	0.19	15,016	2.78	0.44

Please note that some double counting may have occurred between outdoor sports facilities and sites classified as amenity greenspace which also contain playing pitches or non pitch provision such as tennis courts. It may therefore be reasonable to consider a reduction of 10% in terms of hectarage deficiency.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Taken from the project/audit database, supplied as an electronic file. <sup>2</sup> Provision to meet accessibility gaps expressed in hectares.

### Natural and semi natural

Analysis area	Current provision (ha) <sup>1</sup>	Current population	Current provision level (ha per 1,000 population)	Deficiencies <sup>2</sup> (ha)	Total provision required for 2009 population level (ha)	Provision level required to meet 2009 population (ha per 1,000 population)	Future population (2026)		Deficiency in provision (ha) 2008-2026
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I
Burton	96.34	65,132	1.48	2.00	98.34	1.51	91,772	138.56	42.22
Rural 1	63.73	20,401	3.12	0.00	63.73	3.12	21,601	67.48	3.75
Rural 2	0.00	10,177	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,897	0.00	-
Uttoxeter	4.46	12,616	0.35	0.00	4.46	0.35	15,016	5.31	0.85

### Play areas

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)		Current provision level (ha per 1,000 population)	Deficiencies (ha)	Total provision required for 2009 population level (ha)	Provision level required to meet 2009 population (ha per 1,000 population)	Future population (2026)		Deficiency in provision (ha) 2008-2026
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I
Burton	1.64	65,132	0.03	0.04	1.68	0.03	91,772	2.37	0.73
Rural 1	1.07	20,401	0.05	0.00	1.07	0.05	21,601	1.14	0.07
Rural 2	0.32	10,177	0.03	0.00	0.32	0.03	10,897	0.35	0.03
Uttoxeter	0.44	12,616	0.03	0.04	0.48	0.04	15,016	0.57	0.13

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Taken from the project/audit database, supplied as an electronic file. <sup>2</sup> Provision to meet accessibility gaps expressed in hectares.

### **Allotments**

Similarly to playing pitches, we are able to quantity demand for allotments taking into account waiting lists and vacant plots. Therefore, a slightly difference approach to calculating standards is presented below. The calculation identifies the number of plots required to meet demand in the future, together with the hectares that this equates to using the England average plot size of 0.025 hectares. This then feeds into a detailed demand based calculation taking into account the following:

- Latent suppressed demand as expressed by the number of residents on waiting lists.
- Latent potential demand to calculate this, the size of population not covered by an existing allotment site and its catchment is calculated; the current participation rate (total number of occupied plots/total current population) is applied to this population figure to calculate how many plots are required.
- Marketing/participation increase allotments are growing in popularity nationally; to cater for this an allowance is made for participation/take-up to increase by 10% by 2026.

		Burton	Rural 1	Rural 2	Uttoxeter
Number of plots	А	614	143	0	57
Area (ha)	В	17.82	3.02	0.49	2.73
Occupied plots	C=A-D	614	143	0	57
Vacant plots	D	-	-	-	-
Number of residents on waiting list	I	53	46	0	44
Population not served by current catchments	J	2,685	10124	7495	0
Current participation rate (plots per 1,000 pop)	K=C/M	9.43	7.01	0.00	4.52
Plots required	L=J*K	15	71	0	0
Current population (ONS 2006 mid year population estimates)	М	65,132	20,401	10,177	12,616
Future population (2026)	N	91,772	21,601	10,897	15,016
Change in population	O=N-M	26,640	1200	720	2400
Plots required for population change	P=K*O	149	8	0	11
Plots required Sub-total	Q=A-E+G+I+L+P	831	268	0	112
Marketing plots	10%	83	27	0	11
Vacant plots	S=D-H	-	-	-	-
Plots required Total	T=Q+R+S	914	295	0	123
Average plot size (ha)	U	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025
Total area (ha)	V=T*U	22.84	7.38	0.00	3.08
Standard	W=V/N	0.16	0.34	0.00*	0.20

\*As there is no current provision in Rural 2 Analysis Area and therefore no standard is calculated, it is reasonable to accept the same standard as Rural 1.

### Seeking developer contributions

All new development should incorporate commitment to provision of open space to meet the needs of their residents or users in line with the above standards and any subsequent local standards. Within the National Forest, this should consist mainly of woodland, established in line with the National Forest development planting guidelines, unless this conflicts with other over-riding factors, e.g. the extension of a depleted non-woodland habitat. In the other areas of the Borough, this provision should be tailored to the character of the surrounding landscape. Irrespective of use, informal open space should be sustainably managed in partnership with the relevant environmental stakeholders.

### How much open space is required?

The requirement for open spaces should be based upon the number of persons generated from the net increase in dwellings in the proposed scheme, using the average household occupancy rate of 2.32 persons per dwelling as derived from the Census 2001. On this basis 1,000 persons at 2.32 persons per household represents 431 dwellings.

The next stage is to calculate the open space requirement by typology per dwelling. This is calculated by multiplying 431 (dwellings) X the appropriate provision per dwelling by typology. Using children's play space in Burton West as an example, the recommended standard is 0.01 ha (100 sq. metres) per 1,000 population or 431 dwellings. Therefore by dividing 100 sq. metres by 431 dwellings a requirement for 0.2 sq. metres per dwelling is obtained.

Table 2 below shows the open space requirement per dwelling by typology.

Figures in italics are the recommended standards from per 1,000 population, whilst the figures in **bold** are the open space requirements per dwelling in square metres

Table 12: Open Space Requirements per Dwelling

	Burton	Rural 1	Rural 2	Uttoxeter
Children's play				
Equipped children's play	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.03
	0.70	1.16	0.70	0.70
Open space				
Parks and gardens	1.82	0.13	-	1.39
	42.23	3.02		32.3
Semi/natural greenspace	1.51	2.95	-	0.30
	35.03	68.4		7.0
Amenity greenspace	0.45	1.28	1.22	0.16
	10.44	29.7	28.3	3.71
Allotments	0.16	0.34	-	0.24
	3.71	7.89		5.57

### How is the provision to be made?

The requirements for on-site or off-site provision will vary according to the type of open space to be provided.

Open space typologies recommendation:

The rural areas of East Staffordshire are set in natural surroundings with ready access to the countryside. For this reason it is not considered appropriate to require developer contributions for Semi-natural Green Space and Amenity Greenspace. However, it is proposed that appropriate on-site provision may be negotiated with a developer on an application by application basis in accordance with the recommended standards, having regard to the location and characteristics of the site.

A financial contribution, where appropriate, will be required for the following subject to the relevant town or parish council providing and managing this form of open space provision:

- Parks and gardens.
- Cemeteries.
- Allotments.
- Civic space.

Equipped children's play areas recommendation:

Residential developments will normally be required to meet the need for children's play generated by the development on site, either as an integral part of the design, or through payment of a development contribution which will be used to install or upgrade play facilities in the vicinity of a proposed development.

Whilst the norm has been to expect provision to be made on site, consideration needs to be given to the feasibility of provision based elsewhere in the locality or the wider Borough.

The NPFA recommended minimum area of a formal LAP (Local Area for Play) is approx. 0.01ha, or 100 sq. metres (0.01ha). Similarly, the NPFA recommended area of a formal LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play) is approx. 0.04 hectares, or 400 sq. metres. Therefore, a significant amount of new housing development would be required on a site to warrant onsite provision of formal children's play space of an NPFA standard.

This means that for a significant number of development sites formal children's play space provision should take the form of developer contributions to install or up-grade local equipped children's play facilities in the vicinity of the development. However, some informal provision may still need to be made on site.

The extent to which the amount of the required provision should be made on site by way of informal provision would be determined on a case by case basis subject to site size, shape, topography, the risk of conflict with existing neighbouring residential properties and feasibility. Any informal provision can include useable informal grassed areas but should not include landscaping areas.

### Appendix one - Comparator local authority accessibility standards

The following tables summarise the street survey results from other similar local authority areas where KKP has completed a PPG17 assessment. It also presents a typology by typology summary of how these results were translated into accessibility standards.

### Public parks

Local Authority	Street survey results	Accessibility set
South Lakeland	5 – 10 minute walk	All residents to be within 1,200 metres of high quality parks and gardens provision.
Kirklees MC	11-15 minute walk	All dwellings within the built-up areas should be within 400m of a local park and/or 1,200m of district park and/or 2,400 m of a major park
Malvern Hills DC	10 minute by transport	All settlement areas within 400m of a local park and/or 1,200m of district park and/or 3,200m of a borough park
Derwentside DC 5-10 minute walk		All settlement areas within 400m of a local park and/or 1,200m of district park and/or 3,200m of a District park
Fylde BC	Over 15 minute walk	All residents to be within 400m of a local park and/or 1,200m of district park and/or 3,200m of a borough park.
Peak Sub-region	Up to 15 minutes by car	All 'Towns and key settlements' residents to be within 1,250 metres of high quality park and gardens provision.

### Natural/Semi-natural

Local Authority	Street survey results	Accessibility set
South Lakeland	30 minutes by transport	All residents to be within 900 metres of natural/semi-natural provision.
Kirklees MC	Over 30 minutes by transport	All dwellings within the built-up areas should be within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha.
Malvern Hills DC 30 minutes by transport		All settlement areas within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha.
Derwentside DC	Over 15 minute walk	All settlement areas within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha.

Local Authority	Street survey results	Accessibility set
Fylde BC	Over 15 minute walk	All residents to be within 1,000 metres of natural/semi-natural provision.
Peak Sub-region	Between 15 and 30 minutes by transport	All 'towns and key settlements' residents to be within 750 metres of at least a NEAP sized, high quality equipped play area.  All 'Villages and rural settlements' residents to be within 750 metres of at least a LEAP sized, high quality equipped play area.

## Amenity greenspace

Local Authority	Street survey results	Accessibility set		
South Lakeland	5-10 minute walk	All residents to be within 750 metres of amenity greenspace.		
Kirklees MC Less than 5 minute walk		All dwellings within the built-up areas should be within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200n of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha.		
Malvern Hills DC	5 minute walk	All settlement areas within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha.		
Derwentside DC Less than 5 minute walk		All settlement areas within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha.		
Fylde BC	Over 15 minute walk	All residents to be within 1,000 metres of natural/semi-natural provision.		
Peak Sub-region  Just over half would be willing to travel by transport		All 'towns and key settlements' residents to be within 1,000 metres of amenity greenspace provision.  All 'villages and rural settlement' residents to be within 750 metres of amenity greenspace provision.		

## **Provision for Children and Young People**

Local Authority Street survey results Accessibility set				
South Lakeland	5-10 minute walk (children's play area)	All residents to be within 750 metres of at least a LEAP sized, high quality equipped play area.		
Kirklees MC	5-10 minute walk (small children's play area)	All dwellings within the built-up areas should be within 400m of a LEAP (pedestrian route) and/or 1,000m of a NEAP (pedestrian route) and/or 1,000 or a site greater than a SEAP (Straight line distance)		

Local Authority	Street survey results	Accessibility set			
Malvern Hills DC	5 minute walk (children's play area) and 15 min walk (teenage play area)	All settlement areas within 400m of a LEAP (pedestrian route) and/or 1,000m of a NEAP (pedestrian route) and/or 1,000 or a site greater than a SEAP (Straight line distance)			
Fylde BC	11-15 minute walk (children's play area), over 15 min walk (teenage play area)	All settlement areas within 400m of a LEAP (pedestrian route) and/or 1,000m of a NEAP (pedestrian route).			
Peak Sub-region	10 minute walk (children's play area), 5 – 10 minute walk (teenage play area)	All 'towns and key settlement' residents to be within 750 metres of at least a NEAP sized, high quality equipped play area.  All 'villages and rural settlements' residents to be within 750 metres of at least a LEAP sized, high quality equipped play area.			

### Appendix two – pitch dimensions

The following dimensions are used to calculate the area of pitch and non-pitch provision within this study. The dimensions include areas for side and end margins and are taken from the 'Handbook of Sports & Recreational Building Design Volume 1: Outdoor Sports', Second Edition, The Sports Council Technical Unit for Sport, 1993.

Type of pitch	Dimensions used	Hectares
Senior football pitch	122m by 76m	1.4ha
Junior football pitch	88m by 62m	0.82ha
Mini-soccer pitch	55m by 36.6m	0.3ha
Senior rugby union pitch	114m by 70m	1.2ha
Junior rugby union pitch	90m by 52m	0.82ha
Senior cricket pitch	1.5ha	1.5ha
Junior cricket pitch	1.1ha	1.1ha
Artificial turf pitch	118m by 83m	1.46ha
Tennis/netball	37.6m by 18.3m	0.13ha

# Appendix three – full standards calculations

Burton					
91,772 (future population)	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent demand
Senior football	35	25	22	3	
Junior football	24	18	18	0	36.0
Mini football	9	6	6	0	
Senior rugby union	8	5	5	0	
Junior rugby union	1	1	1	0	3.5
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	6	5	5	0	1.2
ATP	1	1	1	0	
Total estimated playing pitch space (ha)	92.87	67.85	63.65		
Total estimated pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)	1.01	0.74	0.69		
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha)				4.20	
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.05	
Required additional playing pitch space (ha)					34.31
Required additional pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)					0.37
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.11

Non pitch	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	58	37	18	19	
Netball	35	14	3	11	
Athletics track	1	1	1	0	
Crown bowling green	8	8	8	0	
Lawn bowling green	10	8	8	0	
MACA	16	9	9	0	
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha)	14.39	10.58	8.55		
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)	0.16	0.12	0.09		
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha)				2.04	
Required improvements to existing non- pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.02	
Required additional non-pitch space (ha)					0.00
Required additional non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)					0.00
Non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					0.12
Playing pitch and non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.23

Rural 1					
21,601 (future population)	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent demand
Senior football	16	12	12	0	1.0
Junior football	7	1	1	0	
Mini football	4	1	1	0	
Senior rugby union	4	1	1	0	
Junior rugby union	2	2	2	0	2.5
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Cricket	13	11	11	0	3.2
ATP	0	0	0	0	
Total estimated playing pitch space (ha)	56.58	38.36	38.36		
Total estimated pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)	2.62	1.78	1.78		
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha)				0.00	
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.00	
Required additional playing pitch space (ha)					8.57
Required additional pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)					0.40
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					2.17

Non pitch	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	22	13	9	4	
Netball	18	5	3	2	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	9	8	8	0	
Croquet lawn	0	0	0	0	
Basketball	1	1	1	0	
MACA	5	2	1	1	
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha)	5.58	3.52	3.43		
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)	0.26	0.16	0.16		
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha)				0.09	
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.00	
Required additional non-pitch space (ha)					0.00
Required additional non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)					0.00
Non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					0.16
Playing pitch and non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.99

Rural 2					
10,897 (future population)	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent demand
Senior football	12	5	5	0	
Junior football	10	3	3	0	2.0
Mini football	2	1	1	0	
Senior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Cricket	2	2	2	0	0.9
ATP	3	2	2	0	
Total estimated playing pitch space (ha)	34.41	15.90	15.90		
Total estimated pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)	3.16	1.46	1.46		
Required improvements to existing playing				0.00	
pitch space (ha)				0.00	
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.00	
Required additional playing pitch space (ha)					3.08
Required additional pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)					0.28
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.74

Non pitch	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	19	10	7	3	
Netball	7	2	1	1	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Lawn bowling green	0	0	0	0	
Croquet lawn	0	0	0	0	
Basketball	0	0	0	0	
MACA	4	3	3	0	
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha)	3.65	2.60	2.33		
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)	0.33	0.24	0.21		
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha)				0.27	
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.03	
Required additional non-pitch space (ha)					0.00
Required additional non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)					0.00
Non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					0.24
Playing pitch and non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.98

Uttoxeter					
15,016 (future population)	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent demand
Senior football	7	4	4	0	
Junior football	4	0	0	0	1.0
Mini football	5	0	0	0	
Senior rugby union	2	2	2	0	
Junior rugby union	2	0	0	0	2.5
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Cricket	3	2	2	0	0.5
ATP	1	1	1	0	
Total estimated playing pitch space (ha)	25.49	12.67	12.67		
Total estimated pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)	1.70	0.84	0.84		
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha)				0.00	
Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.00	
Required additional playing pitch space (ha)					3.67
Required additional pitch playing space (ha per 1,000)					0.24
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.09

Non pitch	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	4	4	4	0	
Netball	4	1	0	1	
Crown bowling green	2	2	2	0	
Lawn bowling green	2	2	2	0	
Croquet lawn	0	0	0	0	
Basketball	0	0	0	0	
MACA	3	1	1	0	
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha)	1.74	1.36	1.29		
Total estimated non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)	0.12	0.09	0.09		
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha)				0.07	
Required improvements to existing non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)				0.00	
Required additional non-pitch space (ha)					0.00
Required additional non-pitch space (ha per 1,000)					0.00
Non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					0.09
Playing pitch and non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)					1.18