BURY COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

MARCH 2026

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd
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Glossary

BC	Bury Council
DPD	Development Plan Document
FIT	Fields in Trust
FOG	Friends of Group
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LAP	Local Area for Play
LEAP	Local Equipped Area for Play
LDF	Local Development Framework
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
MUGA	Multi-use Games Area (an enclosed area with a hard surface for variety of informal play)
NEAP	Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSALG	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners
ONS	Office of National Statistics
OSNA	Open Space Needs Assessment
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
SOA	Super Output Areas
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Bury Council (BC) commissioned Knight Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) to deliver an Open Space Assessment Study. This focuses on reporting the findings of the research, site assessments, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpin the study. It provides detail regarding what provision exists in the area, its condition, distribution, and overall quality.

The document can facilitate the direction on the future provision of accessible, high quality, sustainable open spaces. It can help to inform the priorities for open space provision as part of future population distribution and planned growth. Open spaces contribute to the health, well-being, cultural heritage, landscape, education, climate change mitigation, biodiversity and movement for people and wildlife. It is therefore vital for local authorities to know what provision currently exists and what the priorities and requirements are for the future.

In order for planning policies relating to open space to be 'sound', local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities. We follow the methodology to undertake such assessments by best practice including the Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) Companion Guidance; Assessing Needs and Opportunities[1]' published in September 2002.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has replaced PPG17. However, assessment of open space facilities is still normally carried out in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17 as it remains the only national best practice guidance on the conduct of an open space assessment.

Natural England is recognised as a leading authority on green infrastructure and plays a central role in shaping national policy and guidance. It launched the Green Infrastructure Framework (2023), along with accompanying Green Infrastructure Standards, to provide guidance to support the planning, design, and delivery of high-quality infrastructure. It aims to support equitable access to greenspace across the country, with an overarching target for everyone being able to reach good quality greenspace in their local area.

Under paragraph 103 of the NPPF, it is set out that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

[1] Assessing Needs and Opportunities

The table below details the open space typologies included within the study:

Table 1.1: Open space typology definitions

Typology	Primary purpose
Parks and gardens	Parks and formal gardens, open to the general public. Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Supports wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.
Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.
Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.
Allotments	Opportunities to grow own produce. Added benefits include the long term promotion of sustainable living, health and social inclusion.
Cemeteries, churchyards and other burial grounds	Provides burial space but is considered to provide a place of quiet contemplation and is often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

Any site recognised as sports provision but with a clear multifunctional role (i.e., where it is also available for wider community use as open space) is included in this study. Provision purely for sporting use are the focus of other studies (i.e., Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy). On dual use sites, the pitch playing surfaces are counted as part of the overall site size as they are considered to contribute to the total open space site and reflect its multifunctionality.

1.1 Report structure

This study considers the supply and demand issues for open space provision across Bury. Each part contains relevant typology specific data. Further description of the methodology used can be found in Part 2. The Study as a whole covers the predominant issues for all open spaces as defined in best practice guidance:

- Part 3: Survey and audit summary
- Part 4: Parks and gardens
- Part 5: Natural and semi-natural greenspace
- Part 6: Amenity greenspace
- Part 7: Provision for children and young people
- Part 8: Allotments
- Part 9: Cemeteries/churchyards
- Part 10: Civic space

1.2 National context

National Planning Policy Framework, (MHCLG)

The National Planning Policy Framework[2] (NPPF) sets out the planning policies for England. It details how these are expected to be applied to the planning system and provides a framework to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development (paragraphs 7-9). It establishes that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

Paragraph 103 of the NPPF establishes that access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for health and well-being. It states that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite, paragraph 104 of the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation sites, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown the site to be surplus to requirements; or
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss.

National Planning Practice Guidance (MHCLG)

National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) is a web-based resource which brings together planning guidance on various topics into one place. It was launched in March 2014 and adds further context to the (NPPF). It is intended that the two documents should be read together.

The guidance determines that open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space. It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas.

[2] http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/policy/

Creating great spaces for all: Fields in Trust (2024)

As part of its protection work, Fields in Trust (FiT) offers guidance on open space provision and design. This is to ensure that provision of outdoor sport, play and informal open space is of a sufficient size to enable effective use; is in an accessible location and in close proximity to dwellings; and of a quality to maintain longevity and to encourage its continued use.

Creating great spaces for all sets out a range of benchmark guidelines on quantity, quality and accessibility for open space and equipped play. It also offers some recommendations to minimum site sizes.

Planning for Sport Guidance (2019), Sport England

Sets out how the planning system can help provide opportunities for everyone to be physically active. It highlights the vital role planning systems play in shaping environments (including open spaces) which offer opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity. To help with this, the guidance sets out 12 planning-for-sport principles to be embraced.

Table 1.2: 12 planning for sport principles

Overarching
Recognise and give weight to the benefits of sport and physical activity.
Undertake, maintain and apply robust and up-to-date assessment of need and strategies for sport and physical activity provision, and base policies/decisions/guidance upon them.
Plan, design and maintain buildings, developments, facilities, land and environments that enable people to lead active lifestyles.
Protect
Protect and promote existing sport and physical activity provision and ensure new development does not prejudice its use.
Ensure long-term viable management and maintenance of new and existing sport and physical activity provision.
Enhance
Support improvements to existing sport / physical activity provision where needed
Encourage and secure wider community use of existing and new sport and physical activity provision.
Provide
Support new provision, including allocating new sites for sport and physical activity which meets identified needs.
Ensure a positive approach to meeting the needs generated by new development for sport and physical activity provision.
Provide sport and physical activity provision which is fit for purpose and well designed
Plan positively for sport and physical activity provision in designated landscapes and the green belt.
Proactively address any amenity issues arising from sport/physical activity developments.

Green Infrastructure Framework (2023), Natural England

Launched by Natural England, the Green Infrastructure Framework (GIF) provides a structure to analyse where greenspace in urban environments is needed most. It aims to support equitable access to greenspace across the country, with an overarching target for everyone being able to reach good quality greenspace in their local area.

The GIF comprises of principles, standards, mapping tools, planning and design guides. The principles are set out for consideration to reflect the importance of providing multi-functional and well-designed provision.

Principle
Why 1 – Nature rich beautiful places
Why 2 – Active and healthy places
Why 3 – Thriving and prospering communities
Why 4 – Understanding and managing water environment
Why 5 – Resilient and climate positive places
What 1 - Multifunctional
What 2 - Varied
What 3 - Connected
What 4 - Accessible
What 5 - Character
How 1 – Partnership and vision
How 2 - Evidence
How 3 – Plan strategically
How 4 - Design
How 5 – Managed, valued, monitored and evaluated

The area wide standard cited for local authorities is 3 hectares per 1,000 population. The mapping tool, as part of Accessible Greenspace Standard, offers a structured approach to assessing provision at varying spatial levels (doorstep, local and neighbourhood) in order to highlight potential gaps in accessibility. Users are encouraged to consult Natural England's mapping tools and guidance documents for further details on standard provision and recommended benchmarks.

Summary of the national context

Policies set out within the NPPF state that local and neighbourhood plans should both reflect needs and priorities within a local community and be based on robust and current assessments of open space, sport and recreational facilities. Encouraging better levels of physical literacy[3] and activity is a high priority for national government. For many people, sport and recreational activities have a key role to play in facilitating physical activity. Therefore, ensuring that open space creates an active environment with opportunities and good accessibility is important. In line with national policy recommendations, this study makes an assessment of open space provision from which recommendations and policy can be formulated.

[3] Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities

PART 2: METHODOLOGY

This section details the methodology undertaken as part of the study. The key stages are:

- 2.1 – Analysis areas
- 2.2 – Auditing local provision
- 2.3 – Open space provision standards
- 2.4 – Quality and value
- 2.5 – Quality and value thresholds
- 2.6 – Accessibility catchments

2.1 Analysis area

The study area comprises the whole of Bury. In order to address supply and demand on a more localised level, analysis areas (consisting of groups of electoral wards) have been utilised.

Population figures for each analysis area are presented in table 2.1.

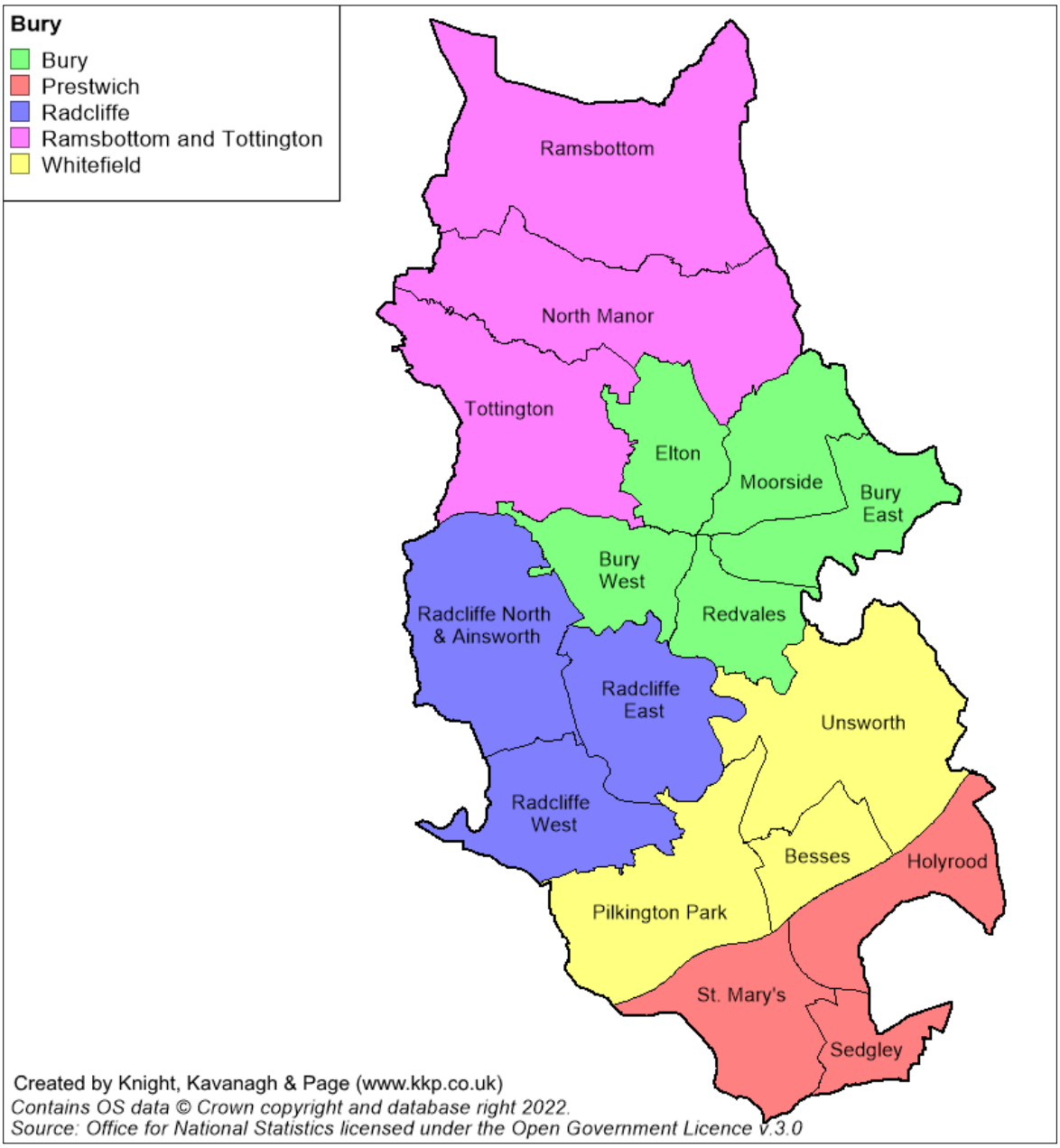
Table 2.1: Analysis areas and populations

Analysis area	Population[4]
Bury	57,953
Prestwich	36,316
Radcliffe	34,568
Ramsbottom and Tottington	31,939
Whitefield	33,830
Bury	**194,606**

Figure 2.1 shows the whole of Bury with the applied analysis areas.

[4] Mid-Year Estimates (2022), Office for National Statistics

Figure 2.1: Map of Bury with analysis areas



2.2 Auditing local provision

Open space sites (including provision for children and young people) are identified, mapped and assessed to evaluate site value and quality. Only sites publicly accessible are included in the quality and value audit (i.e., private sites or land, which people cannot access, are not included).

Each site is classified based on its primary open space purpose, so that each type of space is counted only once.

The audit and the study, analyse the following typologies in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17.

1. Parks and gardens
2. Natural and semi-natural greenspace
3. Amenity greenspace
4. Provision for children and young people
5. Allotments
6. Cemeteries/churchyards
7. Civic space

Site size threshold

In accordance with recommendations from the Companion Guidance to PPG17, a size threshold of 0.2 hectares is applied to the typologies of amenity greenspace and natural/semi-natural greenspace.

It is recognised that it would be impractical to capture every piece of land that could be classed as open space. They are often too small to provide any meaningful leisure and recreational opportunities to warrant a full site assessment. However, spaces smaller than 0.2 hectares can provide amenity to local neighbourhoods and stepping-stones for wildlife.

Table 2.2: Site size thresholds for each open space typology

Typology	Site size threshold
Allotments	None
Amenity greenspace	0.2ha
Cemeteries	None
Parks and gardens	None
Provision for children and young people	None
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	0.2ha

If required, these amenity greenspaces and natural sites below 0.2 hectares should be assessed on a site-by-site basis (to assess potential community, biodiversity and visual value), for example, if a request for development be made upon such a site in the future. Planning policies relating to the consideration of the loss of open space could still apply to such sites, even if they are not specifically included in the audit.

It should be noted that some sites below the threshold i.e., those that are identified as having particular significance and considered to provide an important function, as well as play space for children and young people, are included in the audit process.

Database development

All information relating to open spaces is collated in the Project Open Space Database (supplied as an Excel electronic file). All sites identified and assessed as part of the audit are recorded within the Database. The Database details for each site are as follows:

Data held on open spaces database (summary)
◂ KKP reference number (used for mapping) ◂ Site name ◂ Typology ◂ Size (hectares) ◂ Site audit data

Sites are primarily identified by KKP in the audit using official site names, where possible, and/or secondly using road names and locations.

2.3 Open space standards

To identify specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space in a local area, provision standards focusing on Quality, Quantity and Accessibility are set and applied later in the document (Part 11).

Quality	Ability to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities. Aimed at identifying high quality provision for benchmarking and low quality provision for targeting as part of improvements. The Quality Standard is based on the audit assessment scores.
Quantity	Are there enough spaces in the right places? Aimed at helping to establish areas of surplus and deficiency and, where appropriate, to understand the potential for alternative uses and/or key forms of provision.
Accessibility	Distance thresholds aimed at improving accessibility factors (e.g., so people can find and get to open spaces without undue reliance on using a car) and helping to identify potential areas with gaps in provision. Shown via maps.

2.4 Quality and value

Approximately 190 sites have been visited and assessed. Due to the large number of sites identified as part of the audit, it was not feasible to visit and assess every site. Consequently, a sample of sites from the core provision types of parks, natural/semi-natural greenspace and amenity greenspace sites have been visited and assessed for quality and value. All identified parks and play provision receive a quality and value rating. As do natural/semi-natural greenspace (over five hectares) and amenity greenspace (over one hectare). No allotments or cemeteries have been assessed. More information about outdoor sports facilities can be found in the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Study.

Sites receiving a quality and value score can help determine sites for continued protection, as a priority for investment and to identify sites that may be surplus. Quality and value are fundamentally different and can be unrelated. For example, a high-quality site may be inaccessible and, thus, be of little value, whereas a rundown (poor quality) site may be the only one in an area and thus be immensely valuable. As a result, quality and value are also treated separately in terms of scoring.

Analysis of quality

Data collated from site visits is initially based upon criteria derived from the Green Flag Award scheme (a national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, operated by Keep Britain Tidy). This is utilised to calculate a quality score for each site visited. Scores in the database are presented as percentage figures.

The quality criteria used for the open space assessments carried out for all open space typologies are summarised in the following table.

Quality criteria for open space site visit (score)
◂ Physical access, e.g., public transport links, directional signposts.
◂ Personal security, e.g., site is overlooked, natural surveillance.
◂ Access-social, e.g., appropriate minimum entrance widths.
◂ Parking, e.g., availability, specific, disabled parking.
◂ Information signage, e.g., presence of up-to-date site information, notice boards.
◂ Equipment and facilities, e.g., assessment of both adequacy and maintenance of provision such as seats, benches, bins, toilets.
◂ Location value, e.g., proximity of housing, other greenspace.
◂ Site problems, e.g., presence of vandalism, graffiti.
◂ Healthy, safe and secure, e.g., fencing, gates, staff on site.
◂ Maintenance and cleanliness, e.g., condition of general landscape & features.
◂ Groups that the site meets the needs of, e.g., elderly, young people.

For the provision for children and young people, criteria are also built around Green Flag. It is a non-technical visual assessment of the whole site, including general equipment and surface quality/appearance plus an assessment of, for example, bench and bin provision.

This differs, for example, from an independent Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RosPA) review, which is a more technical assessment of equipment in terms of play and risk assessment grade.

Analysis of value

Site visit data plus desk-based research is calculated to provide value scores for each site identified. Value is defined in Companion Guidance to PPG17 in relation to the following three issues:

- Context of the site i.e., its accessibility, scarcity value and historic value.
- Level and type of use.
- The wider benefits it generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment.

In addition, the NPPF refers to attributes to value such as beauty and attractiveness of a site, its recreational value, historic and cultural value and its tranquillity and richness of wildlife.

Children's and young people play provision is scored for value as part of the audit assessment. Value, in particular is recognised in terms of the size of sites and the range of equipment it offers. For instance, a small site with only one or two items is likely to be of a lower value than a site with a variety of equipment catering for wider age ranges.

The value criteria set for audit assessment is derived from:

Value criteria for open space site visits (score)
• Level of use (observations only), e.g., evidence of different user types (e.g. dog walkers, joggers, children) throughout day, located near school and/or community facility. • Context of site in relation to other open spaces. • Structural and landscape benefits, e.g., well located, high quality defining the identity/ area. • Ecological benefits, e.g., supports/promotes biodiversity and wildlife habitats. • Educational benefits, e.g., provides learning opportunities on nature/historic landscapes. • Social inclusion and health benefits, e.g., promotes civic pride, community ownership and a sense of belonging; helping to promote well-being. • Cultural and heritage benefits, e.g., historic elements/links (e.g., listed building, statues) and high-profile symbols of local area. • Amenity benefits and a sense of place, e.g., attractive places that are safe and well maintained; helping to create specific neighbourhoods and landmarks. • Economic benefits, e.g., enhances property values, promotes economic activity and attracts people from near and far.

2.5 Quality and value thresholds

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by Companion Guidance to PPG17); the results of the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The primary aim of applying a threshold is to identify sites where investment and/or improvements are required. It can also be used to set an aspirational quality standard to be achieved at some point in the future and to inform decisions around the need to further protect sites from future development (particularly when applied with its respective value score in a matrix format).

A site rating low for quality should not automatically be viewed as being fit for development. It is also necessary to understand its value, access and role within the community it serves. It may for example be the only site serving an area and should therefore be considered a priority for enhancement.

The most recognised national benchmark for measuring the quality of parks and open spaces is the 66% pass rate for the Green Flag Award. This scheme recognises and rewards well-managed parks and open spaces. Although this Open Space Study uses similar assessment criteria to that of the Green Flag Award scheme it is inappropriate to use the Green Flag benchmark pass for every open space as they are not all intended to perform to the same exceptionally high standard. For example, a park would be expected to feature a greater variety of ancillary facilities (seating, bins, play equipment) and manicured landscaping and planting, etc. in contrast to an amenity greenspace serving a smaller catchment and fewer people.

Furthermore, a different scoring mechanism is used in this study to that of the Green Flag scheme (albeit criteria for this study is derived from the Green Flag scheme). For each open space typology, a different set and / or weighting for each criterion of quality is used. This is to better reflect the different roles, uses and functions of each open space type. Consequently, a different quality threshold level is set for each open space typology.

Quality thresholds in this study are individual to each open space typology. They are based on the average quality score arising from the site assessments and set using KKPs professional judgment and experience from delivering similar studies. The score is to help distinguish between higher and lower quality sites; it is a minimum expectation as opposed to an absolute goal. This works as an effective method to reflect the variability in quality at a local level for different types of provision. It allows the Council more flexibility in directing funds towards sites for enhancements which is useful if funds are geographically constrained with respect to individual developments.

Reason and flexibility are needed when evaluating sites close to the average score / threshold. The review of a quality threshold is just one step for this process, a site should also be evaluated against the value assessment and local knowledge.

There is no national guidance on the setting of value thresholds, and instead a 20% threshold is derived from KKP's experience and knowledge in assessing the perceived value of sites.

A high value site is one deemed to be well used and offering visual, social, physical and mental health benefits. Value is also a more subjective measure than assessing the physical quality of provision. Therefore, a conservative threshold of 20% is set across all typologies. Whilst 20% may initially seem low - it is a relative score. One designed to reflect those sites that meet more than one aspect of the criteria used for assessing value (as detailed earlier). If a site meets more than one criterion for value it will score greater than 20%. Consequently, it is deemed to be of higher value.

For allotments, cemeteries and civic space corridors no quality/value assessments have taken place. Allotments are often difficult to assess due to being accessible for plot members only. The role of cemeteries is unique in comparison to other types of open space; one which is difficult to assess in terms of quality and value.

Table 2.2: Quality and value thresholds by typology

Typology	Quality threshold	Value threshold
Amenity greenspace	50%	20%
Parks and gardens	50%	20%
Provision for children and young people	50%	20%
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	55%	20%

2.6 Accessibility catchments

Accessibility catchments can be used as a tool to identify deficiencies of open space in a local area. This is achieved by applying them to create a distance catchment. The study displays the results of the catchment to highlight any potential deficiencies in access to provision.

There is an element of subjectivity resulting in time / distance variations. This is to be expected given that people walk at different speeds depending on a number of factors including height, age, levels of fitness and physical barriers on route. Therefore, there will be an element of 'best fit'.

The accessibility catchments from FIT are used to show how far residents are likely to be willing to travel to access different types of open space provision.

Table 2.3: Accessibility catchment times/distances

Open space type	Catchment
Parks & gardens	9-minute walk time (710m)
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	9-minute walk time (720m)
Amenity greenspace	6-minute walk time (480m)
Provision for children and young people (LAP)	1-minute walk time (100m)
Provision for children and young people (LEAP)	5-minute walk time (400m)
Provision for children and young people (NEAP)	12.5-minute walk time (1000m)
Provision for children and young people (Informal provision e.g., MUGA, Skate park)	9-minute walk time (700m)
Allotments	No standard set
Cemeteries	No standard set

No standard is set for the typologies of allotments or cemeteries. For cemeteries, provision should be determined by demand for burial space.

PART 3: SUMMARY OF SURVEY AND AUDIT

This section provides a summary of the responses to the online community survey that took place in spring 2025 and describes trends from the quality and value audit for each typology.

3.1 Community Survey

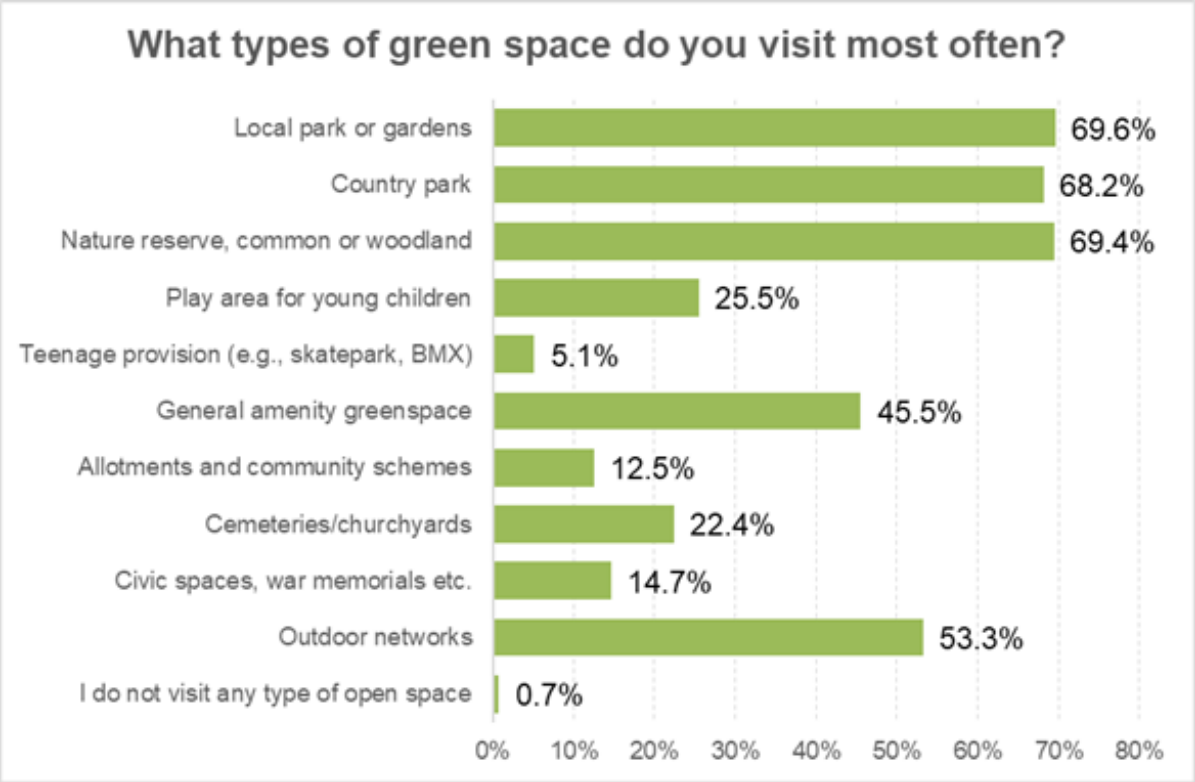
An online community survey was hosted on the Council website and promoted via social media by the Council's communication team. The use of a questionnaire was considered a good approach to providing a widespread opportunity for residents and stakeholders to give their thoughts towards open space provision. A total of 418 responses were received.

The questionnaire consisted of a series of multiple choice and open-ended questions asking respondents their thoughts on topics such as types of open space visited, frequency and quality etc.

Usage

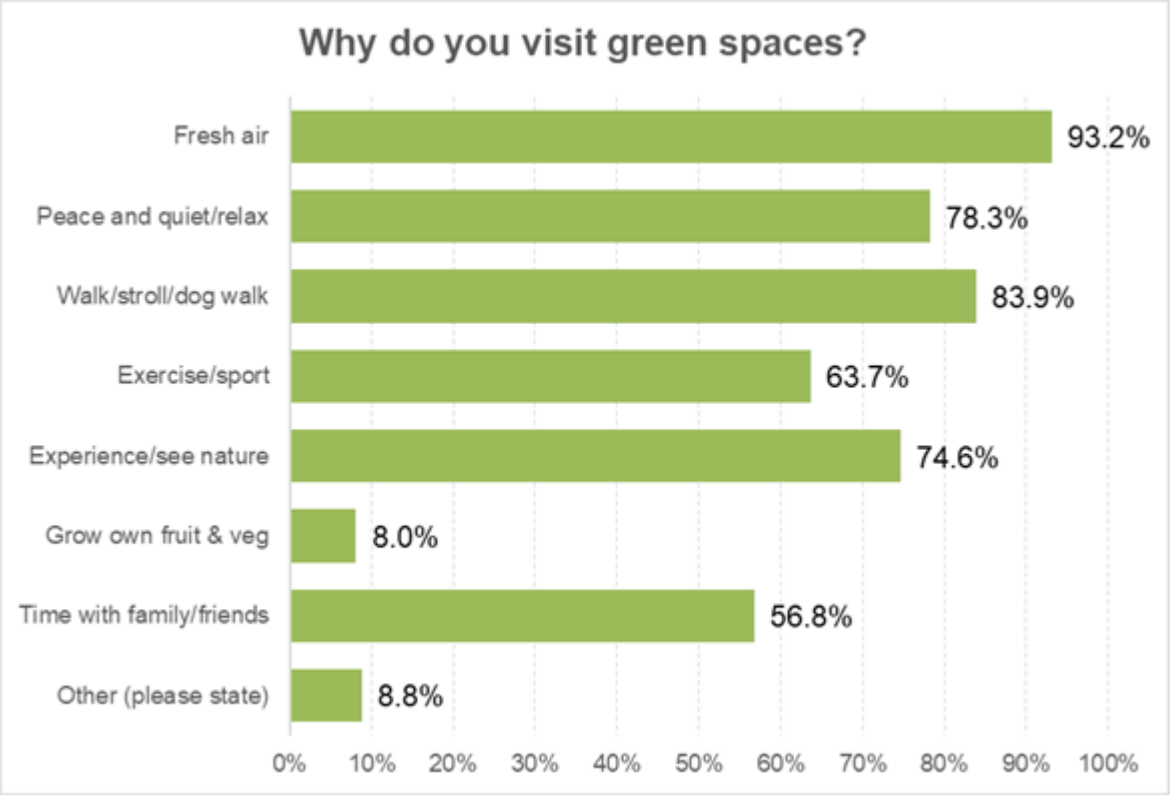
Popular forms of open space provision to visit most often are parks and gardens (70%), nature reserves, commons or woodlands (69%), country parks (68%) and outdoor networks i.e. cycleways, bridleways, pathways (53%).

Figure 3.1.1: Types of open space to visit



The main reasons for visiting open spaces are for fresh air (93%), to go for a walk or stroll (84%) and for peace and quiet/relax (78%). The reason 'to grow fresh fruits and vegetables' received one of the lowest percentages (8%). This is a specific answer relating only to those respondents stating they visit an allotment (with most people not being an allotment holder). Consequently, it is not a common reason for people visiting open space.

Figure 3.1.2: Reasons for visits



Accessibility

Figure 3.1.3 shows individuals generally walk to access amenity space (79%), parks (78%), play areas for young children (77%), allotments (69%), outdoor networks (69%), civic spaces (65%), nature reserves, commons or woodlands (58%), and teenage provision (57%).

There are also quite high percentages of individuals willing to travel by car to access provision of country parks (62%), cemeteries (43%), teenage provision (38%) and nature reserves, commons or woodlands (37%).

Figure 3.1.4 shows for some provision such as country parks (47%), nature reserves (43%) and civic spaces/war memorials (30%), there is a willingness to travel further distances, with respondents stating they would be willing to travel 30 minutes or longer.

For other forms of provision, respondents show a willingness to travel a shorter amount of time (i.e., 10 to 15 minutes). This is particularly noticeable for parks, allotments, outdoor networks, cemeteries and teenage provision.

For amenity greenspace, outdoor networks and play provision there is a willingness by some respondents to travel even shorter times (i.e., up to 5 minutes).

Figure 3.1.3: Mode of travel to open space sites

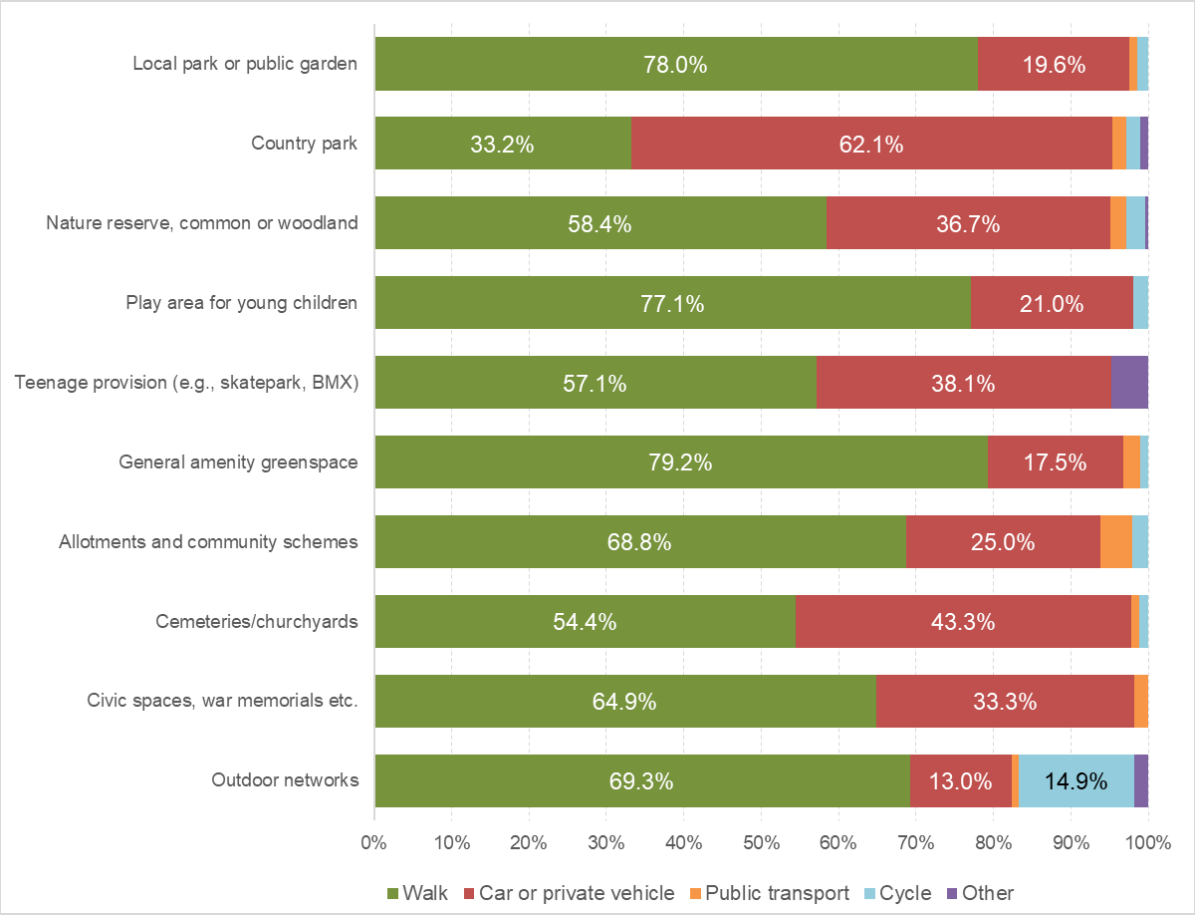
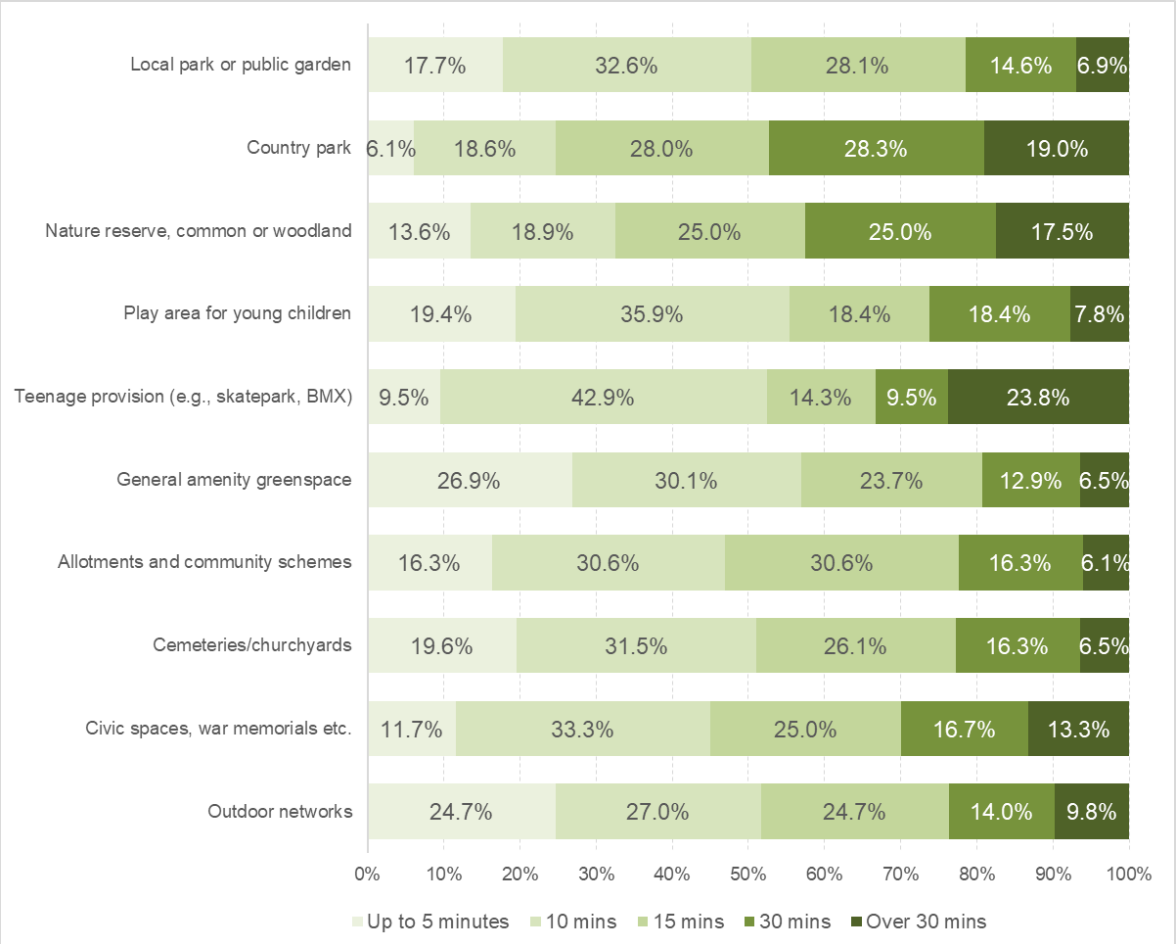


Figure 3.1.4: Time willing to travel to open space sites



Availability and Quality

In general, respondents consider the amount of open space provision to be quite satisfactory with nearly half (42%) stating they are quite satisfactory. A fifth of respondents (26%) rate the amount and access of open space provision as very satisfactory. There is 15% of respondents that view the amount of open space provision to be neither satisfactory nor unsatisfactory. Only a small percentage view it as quite unsatisfactory (12%) or very unsatisfactory (5%)

Table 3.1.1: Satisfaction with amount and access of open space provision

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory nor unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
25.5%	41.9%	15.2%	11.8%	5.5%

A similar amount of survey respondents (41%) considers the quality of open space provision to be generally quite satisfactory. A further 18% rate quality as very satisfactory. Only small proportions of respondents view quality as quite unsatisfactory (12%) or very unsatisfactory (7%).

Table 3.1.2: Satisfaction with quality of open space provision

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
18.4%	40.7%	22.0%	11.9%	7.0%

Respondents of the survey were asked what they thought would improve open space provision. The most common answers include better maintenance and care of features (66%), more wildlife/habitat promotion (55%), greater attractiveness (41%) and better and wider range of facilities (30%).

Table 3.1.3: What would improve open space provision for you?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Better maintenance and care of features	66%
More wildlife/habitat promotion	55%
Greater attractiveness (e.g. flowers, trees)	41%
Better and wider range of facilities (i.e. play equipment, seating, refreshments)	30%
Improved access to and within sites	26%
Improved personal safety	24%
Greater community involvement	20%
Play equipment (new or improved)	18%
Greater information on sites	14%
Other (please state below)	14%
More public events	12%
Outdoor gym/exercise equipment	6%

3.2 Audit overview

This section provides a summary of the trends from the audit for each typology.

There are a total of 393 sites equating to 1,111 hectares of open space. The largest contributor to provision is natural/semi-natural greenspace (800 hectares), accounting for 72% of provision.

Table 3.2.1: Overview of open space provision

Open space typology	Number of sites	Total amount (hectares)[5]
Allotments	30	16
Amenity greenspace	88	124
Cemeteries/churchyards	30	50
Civic space	12	1
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	96	800
Park and gardens	44	111
Provision for children & young people	93	9
TOTAL	**393**	**1,111**

3.3 Quality

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for open spaces.

Table 3.3.1: Quality scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Sites below typology threshold	Sites above typology threshold
Amenity greenspace	42%	56%	69%	6	20
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	24%	60%	78%	7	22
Park and gardens	30%	53%	84%	16	28
Provision for children & young people	26%	54%	82%	38	51
Total	-	-	-	**67**	**121**

There is a generally a positive quality of open space across all typologies. This is reflected in over half (65%) of assessed sites scoring above their set threshold for quality.

[5] Rounded to the nearest whole number

3.4 Value

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for open spaces.

Table 3.4.1: Value scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Sites below typology threshold	Sites above typology threshold
Amenity greenspace	11%	31%	45%	2	24
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	21%	29%	45%	0	29
Park and gardens	11%	32%	55%	3	41
Provision for children & young people	13%	41%	73%	1	88
Total	-	-	-	**6**	**182**

Nearly all sites (97%) are assessed as being above the threshold for value, reflecting the role and importance of open space provision to local communities and environments.

A high value site is considered to be one that is well used by the local community, well maintained (with a balance for conservation), provides a safe environment and has features of interest, for example, good quality play equipment and landscaping. Sites that provide for a cross section of users and have a multi-functional use are considered a higher value than those offering limited functions and viewed as unattractive.

There are a handful of sites that score especially high for quality and value. These include Clarence Park, Close Park, Nuttall Park and Philips Park. The play areas within Clarence Park, Close Park and Nuttall Park are also noted as rating highly for quality and value.

Table 3.4.2: High quality and value sites

KKP Ref	Site Name	Typology	Quality Score	Value Score
108	Clarence Park	Parks	83.9%	54.5%
116	Close Park	Parks	81.5%	45.5%
363	Philips Park	Natural	78.0%	36.4%
328	Nuttall Park	Parks	77.5%	45.5%

PART 4: PARKS AND GARDENS

4.1 Introduction

This typology often covers urban parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide accessible high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.

4.2 Current provision

There are 44 sites classified as parks and gardens across the area, the equivalent of over 111 hectares (see Table 4.1). No site size threshold has been applied and, as such, all sites have been included within the typology. The names of the parks and their analysis area are listed in Table 4.2.

Table 4.1: Current parks and gardens provision

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bury	15	57.29	0.99
Prestwich	4	9.23	0.25
Radcliffe	7	16.87	0.49
Ramsbottom and Tottington	12	22.68	0.71
Whitefield	6	5.37	0.16
Total	**44**	**111.44**	**0.57**

For parks and gardens, there is a current provision level of 0.57 hectares per 1,000 head of population. The largest site and therefore the biggest contributor to this provision is Burrs Country Park (26 ha) in the Bury Analysis Area.

It is important to note that within the category of parks and gardens there are two distinct types of sites. Some are significant in size and act as destinations offering greater recreational facilities and uses which people will often be willing to travel further to access. Examples of this type include Burrs Country Park and Nuttall Park. Other sites within the typology of parks and gardens are smaller in size, acting more as a visual/garden form of provision with comparable less ancillary facilities. Examples of this include Kay Gardens, in Bury Analysis area, and St Paul's Church Gardens in the Ramsbottom and Tottington Analysis Area.

Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 4.1 shows that overall, the total of provision is below this. However, the Bury Analysis Area (0.99 hectares per 1,000 population) is above the FIT standard.

Some analysis areas being below the FIT suggestion may not mean a true deficiency exists. It is therefore important to also consider accessibility and quality of provision. Furthermore, it is recognised that Heaton Park provides an important role in the use and perception of parks provision locally. This is especially relevant for the Prestwich and Whitefield analysis areas.

4.3 Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a 9-minute walk time has been set. This is based on the suggested FIT catchments. Figure 4.1 shows parks and gardens mapped with the accessibility catchment. This should be treated as an approximation as it does not take account of topography or walking routes. Each site has been allocated its own ID number (shown in Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1: Parks and gardens mapped with a 9-minute (710m) walk catchment

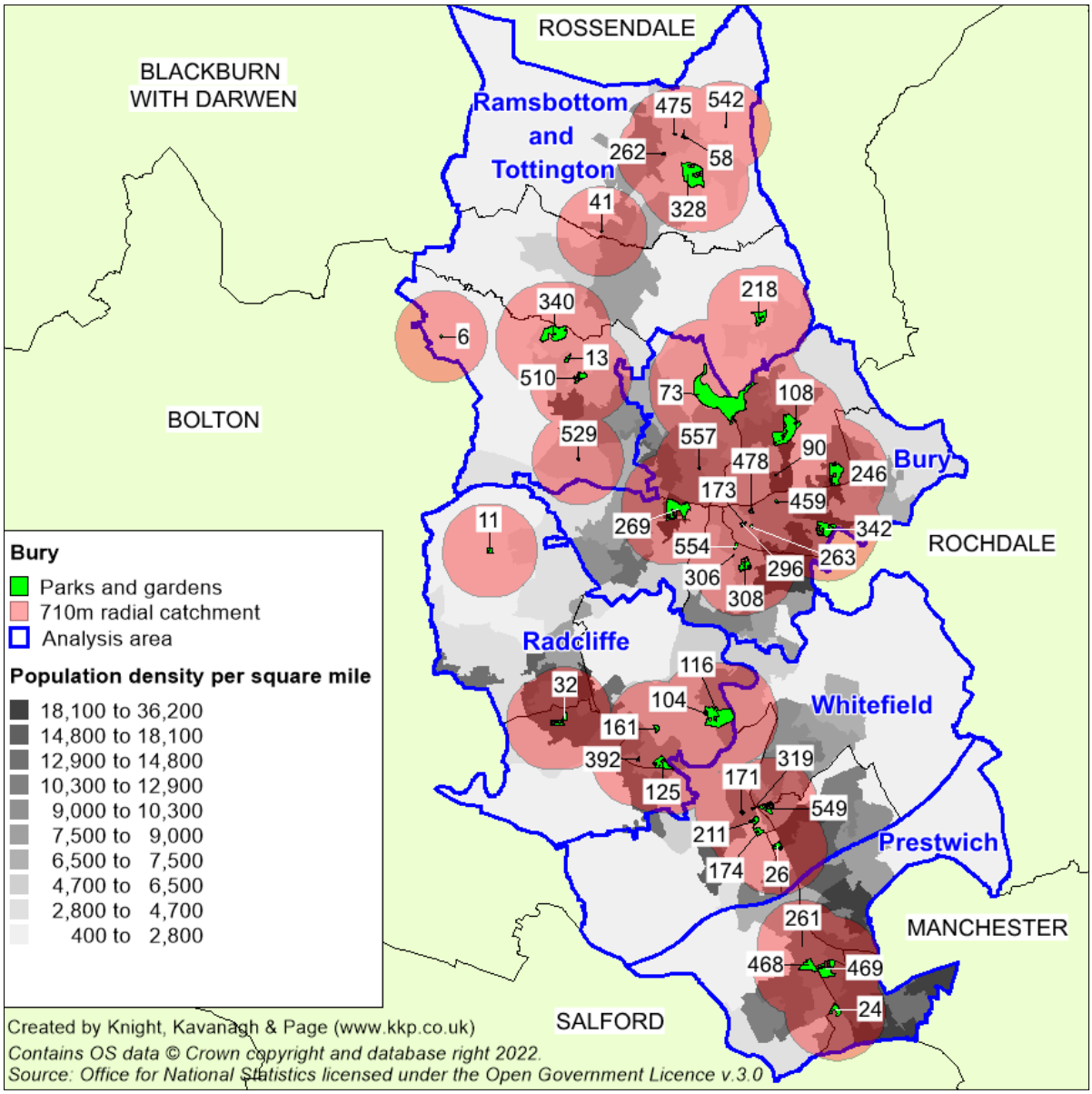


Table 4.2: Key to parks and gardens mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
6	Affetside Millennium Green	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.15	62.8%	32.7%
11	Ainsworth Recreation Ground	Radcliffe	0.56	46.3%	37.3%
13	Alan Barton Memorial Garden	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.56	53.9%	23.6%
24	Barnfield Park	Prestwich	1.68	41.8%	21.8%
26	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park	Whitefield	1.03	54.2%	36.4%
32	Bolton Road Park	Radcliffe	1.72	59.8%	31.8%
41	Bolton Road West Garden	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.03	42.6%	21.8%
58	Bridge Street Gardens	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.31	52.8%	23.6%
73	Burrs Country Park	Bury	26.18	76.0%	50.0%
90	Cateaton Street Community Garden	Bury	0.06	51.2%	37.3%
104	Church Green	Radcliffe	0.08	42.7%	23.6%
108	Clarence Park	Bury	10.73	83.9%	54.5%
116	Close Park	Radcliffe	10.52	81.5%	45.5%
125	Coronation Park	Radcliffe	3.25	56.4%	23.6%
161	Festival Gardens	Radcliffe	0.61	48.6%	23.6%
171	Former Stand College	Whitefield	0.27	40.8%	23.6%
173	Gallipoli Gardens	Bury	0.09	58.8%	48.2%
174	Gardens off Pinfold Lane	Whitefield	1.05	29.6%	10.9%
211	Hamilton Road Park	Whitefield	1.15	60.6%	36.4%
218	Hartley Gardens Park	Ramsbottom and Tottington	2.88	50.1%	27.3%
246	Hoyles Park	Bury	5.34	70.7%	41.8%
261	Jewish Memorial Garden	Prestwich	0.02	38.6%	28.2%
262	Kay Brow Garden	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.17	43.1%	21.8%
263	Kay Gardens	Bury	0.18	50.9%	39.1%
269	King George V Playing Field / Whitehead Park	Bury	7.27	57.8%	50.0%
296	Library Gardens / Bank St. Memorial Garden	Bury	0.19	54.7%	32.7%
306	Manchester Old Road Recreation Space	Bury	0.04	41.6%	25.5%
308	Manchester Road Park	Bury	2.24	59.2%	39.1%

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
319	Memorial Garden, Bury New Road/Church Lane, Whitefield	Whitefield	0.10	39.2%	21.8%
328	Nuttall Park	Ramsbottom and Tottington	9.59	77.5%	45.5%
340	Old Kays Park	Ramsbottom and Tottington	7.17	56.8%	36.4%
342	Openshaw Park	Bury	4.20	50.6%	23.6%
392	Radcliffe Riverside Gardens	Radcliffe	0.14	33.6%	14.5%
459	St. John's Gardens	Bury	0.18	50.6%	40.9%
468	St. Mary's Flower Park	Prestwich	3.17	65.5%	36.4%
469	St. Mary's Park	Prestwich	4.36	68.3%	36.4%
475	St. Pauls Church Garden	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.10	58.3%	28.2%
478	St. Mary's Church Gardens	Bury	0.19	49.1%	23.6%
510	Town Meadow Park	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.59	52.8%	27.3%
529	Walshaw Village Gardens	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.09	38.6%	23.6%
542	Whalley Road Garden	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.03	37.7%	17.3%
549	Whitefield Park	Whitefield	1.78	65.3%	40.9%
554	Whitehead Clock Gardens	Bury	0.30	51.2%	40.9%
557	Woodbank Gardens	Bury	0.10	41.3%	23.6%

In general, there is good coverage of parks based on a 9-minute walk time in areas with greater population density. However, gaps are noticeable in some areas of greater population density across all analysis areas. Many of these gaps are served by other forms of open space provision such as amenity greenspace and natural and semi natural greenspace. Such sites may not meet the criteria of parks provision but are likely to offer similar opportunities and access to recreational activities often associated with parks. Exploring the potential to formalise features/access associated with parks provision at some of these sites could be considered to increase a sites secondary role as a park.

Table 4.3: Other open spaces serving gaps in park and garden catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
Bury	Dow Lane (ID 137)	Natural
	Elton Reservoir (ID 153)	Natural
	Goshen Playing Fields (ID 183)	Amenity
	Kirklees Valley LNR (ID 279)	Natural
	Manchester Road Playing Fields (ID 314)	Amenity

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
	Sycamore Road (ID 492)	Amenity
Prestwich	Drinkwater Park (ID 139) Fairway Gardens (ID 158) Venwood Road (ID 520) Heaton Park (outside)	Natural Amenity Amenity Park
Radcliffe	Banana Path (ID 22) Rear of Sparking Clog Public House (ID 402) Redbank Playing Fields (ID 405) Snape Street (ID 434)	Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Bolton Road West Playing Fields (ID 42) Greenmount Recreation Ground (ID 199) Kirklees Valley LNR (ID 279) Summerseat Lane (ID 487)	Amenity Amenity Natural Amenity
Whitefield	Boz Park (ID 47) Goshen Playing Fields (ID 183) Grundy Playing Fields (ID 205) Hathaway Road Recreation Space (ID 222) Hillock Playing Fields (ID 232) Parr Brook Open Space (ID 354) Thatch Leach Lane Open Space (ID 500)	Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity

4.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), scores from site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks. A threshold of 50% is applied to distinguish high from low quality parkland. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The score is to help distinguish between higher and lower quality sites; it is a minimum expectation as opposed to an absolute goal.

Table 4.4: Quality ratings for assessed parks and gardens

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<50%	>50%
Bury	41%	56%	84%	3	12
Prestwich	39%	54%	68%	2	2
Radcliffe	34%	52%	82%	4	3
Ramsbottom and Tottington	38%	52%	78%	4	8
Whitefield	30%	47%	65%	3	3
Total	**30%**	**53%**	**84%**	**16**	**28**

There are 16 sites which rate below the quality threshold. No significant issues are observed. The sites generally score lower due to a lack of features such as signage, seating and bins, in comparison to other park sites. Several of the sites to rate lower for quality are noted as being a small memorial garden. Some of the lowest scoring sites, such as Gardens off Pinfold Lane (30%) and Radcliffe Riverside Gardens (34%), are also observed as overgrown and lacking regular use.

Most park and garden sites rate above the quality threshold. The highest scoring sites for quality are:

- Clarence Park (84%)
- Close Park (82%)
- Nuttall Park (78%)
- Burrs Country Park (76%)

All sites are also noted as being Green Flag Award winning sites (2024/25), further recognition to their high level of quality.

The sites are highlighted as being very well maintained, clean and featuring good paths. They are also observed as having a range facilities including cafés, play provision, bowling greens, pitches and tennis courts. Car parking is also noted across the sites. The condition of these features is generally viewed as good quality.

Burrs Country Park is a slightly different form of provision as it is a country park style site with a wide range attractions for visitors. This includes excellent natural conservation features and supporting interpretation signage and information about the site's history. Ancillary features such as seating, bins, car parking, and pathways are all noted as being to a good standard and well maintained.

Other sites to rate highly for quality include:

- Hoyles Park (71%)
- St Mary's Park (68%)
- St Mary's Flower Park (65%)
- Whitefield Park (65%)

These sites all rate highly for the range and condition of features they contain. Provision such as seating, signage, bins and play equipment all rate well. Furthermore, features such as entrances, pathways and overall maintenance are considered to score positively.

Green Flag

The Green Flag Award scheme is licensed and managed by Keep Britain Tidy. It provides a national standard for parks and greenspaces and is a useful tool to highlight the role of Green Flag status as an indicator of high quality. This in turn affects upon the way parks and greenspaces are managed and maintained.

There are currently 15 sites in Bury identified as achieving Green Flag status (2024/25). A total of 13 of these are classified as parks:

- Bolton Road Park
- Burrs Country Park
- Clarence Park
- Close Park
- Hamilton Road Park
- Manchester Road Park
- Nuttall Park
- Openshaw Park
- St Mary's Park
- Town Meadow Park
- Whitefield Park
- Whitehead Park

A further two Green Flag Award winning sites are identified as cemetery provision (Radcliffe Cemetery and Ramsbottom Cemetery).

4.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for parks. A threshold of 20% is applied to distinguish high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2.

Table 4.5: Value ratings for assessed parks and gardens

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bury	24%	38%	55%	0	15
Prestwich	22%	31%	36%	0	4
Radcliffe	15%	29%	45%	1	6
Ramsbottom and Tottington	17%	27%	45%	1	11
Whitefield	11%	28%	41%	1	5
Total	**11%**	**32%**	**55%**	**3**	**41**

Nearly all park and garden sites rate above the value threshold. There are, however three sites which rate below the threshold:

- Gardens off Pinfold Lane (11%)
- Radcliffe Riverside Gardens (15%)
- Whalley Road Garden (17%)

All three sites also rate below the quality threshold. The sites rate lower for overall appearance and cleanliness. They generally lack features such as signage, seating and bins. Site observations note that Gardens off Pinfold Lane and Radcliffe Riverside Gardens as overgrown. The perceived level of use for such sites is likely to be limited.

Park sites provide opportunities for a wide range of users and demonstrate the high social inclusion, health benefits and sense of place they can offer. One of the key aspects of the value placed on parks is their function as multipurpose provision. Parks provide opportunities for local communities and individuals to socialise and undertake a range of different activities, such as exercise, dog walking and taking children to the play area. Consequently, sites with a greater diverse range of features and ancillary facilities rate higher for value.

The highest scoring sites for value are:

- Clarence Park (55%)
- Burrs Country Park (50%)
- Whitehead Park (50%)
- Gallipoli Gardens (48%)

All these parks have high amenity and social value due to containing good social, recreational and exercise opportunities. They are also some of the highest scoring for quality, reflecting their role and importance to a range of users. Burrs Country Park also scores highly for ecological benefits due to having areas promoting biodiversity and habitats. Gallipoli Gardens scores highly for educational and cultural/heritage value due to its links to the adjacent Fusilier Museum.

PART 5: NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREENSPACE

5.1 Introduction

The natural and semi-natural greenspace typology can include woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g., down-land, meadow), heath or moor, wetlands (e.g., marsh, fen), wastelands (including disturbed ground), and bare rock habitats (e.g., quarries) and commons. For the purpose of this study, the focus is on sites providing wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

5.2 Current provision

In total there are 96 natural and semi-natural greenspace sites, equating to over 800 hectares.

Table 5.1: Current natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bury	30	117.82	2.03
Prestwich	11	203.01	5.59
Radcliffe	20	193.22	5.59
Ramsbottom and Tottington	24	163.99	5.13
Whitefield	11	122.48	3.62
Total	**96**	**800.50**	**4.11**

The two largest sites are two Outwood Country Park (68 hectares) and Philips Park (65 hectares). The two make up 17% of the natural/semi-natural provision. Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. In total, there is an overall provision of 4.11 hectares per 1,000 head of population which is above the FIT guidelines. All analysis areas are also noted as being above this figure.

It is important to recognise that other open spaces such as parks and amenity greenspace often provide opportunities associated with natural greenspace. For example, Burrs Country Park offers greater biodiversity and habitats due to the presence of a variety of plants, trees and bushes.

It is also important to highlight that some sites can bridge the definition of typologies such as natural greenspace and amenity greenspace. For example, a grassed area left unmaintained can start to have characteristics associated with natural greenspace.

Designations

In terms of national designations, there are several sites recognised as local nature reserves (LNRs)[6].

- Chapelfield (4 hectares)
- Chesham Woods (12 hectares)
- Hollins Vale (15 hectares)
- Kirklees Valley (53 hectares)
- Philips Park (65 hectares)
- Redisher Woods (20 hectares)
- Springwater Park (34 hectares)

On this basis, a population such as in the borough of Bury (194,606) is recommended by Natural England[7] to have approximately 194 hectares of LNR. As it stands, there is approximately 203 hectares which sufficiently meets this standard.

5.3 Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a 9-minute walk time has been set. This is based on the suggested FIT catchments. Figure 5.1 shows natural and semi-natural greenspace mapped with the accessibility catchment. This should be treated as an approximation as it does not take account of topography or walking routes. Each site is allocated its own ID number. The ID numbers for each site are not shown on the map due to there being too many.

[6] LNR designation may differ to the land identified as an open space site
[7] Green Infrastructure Standards for England (2023), Natural England

Figure 5.1: Natural and semi natural greenspace mapped with a 9-minute (720m) walk catchment

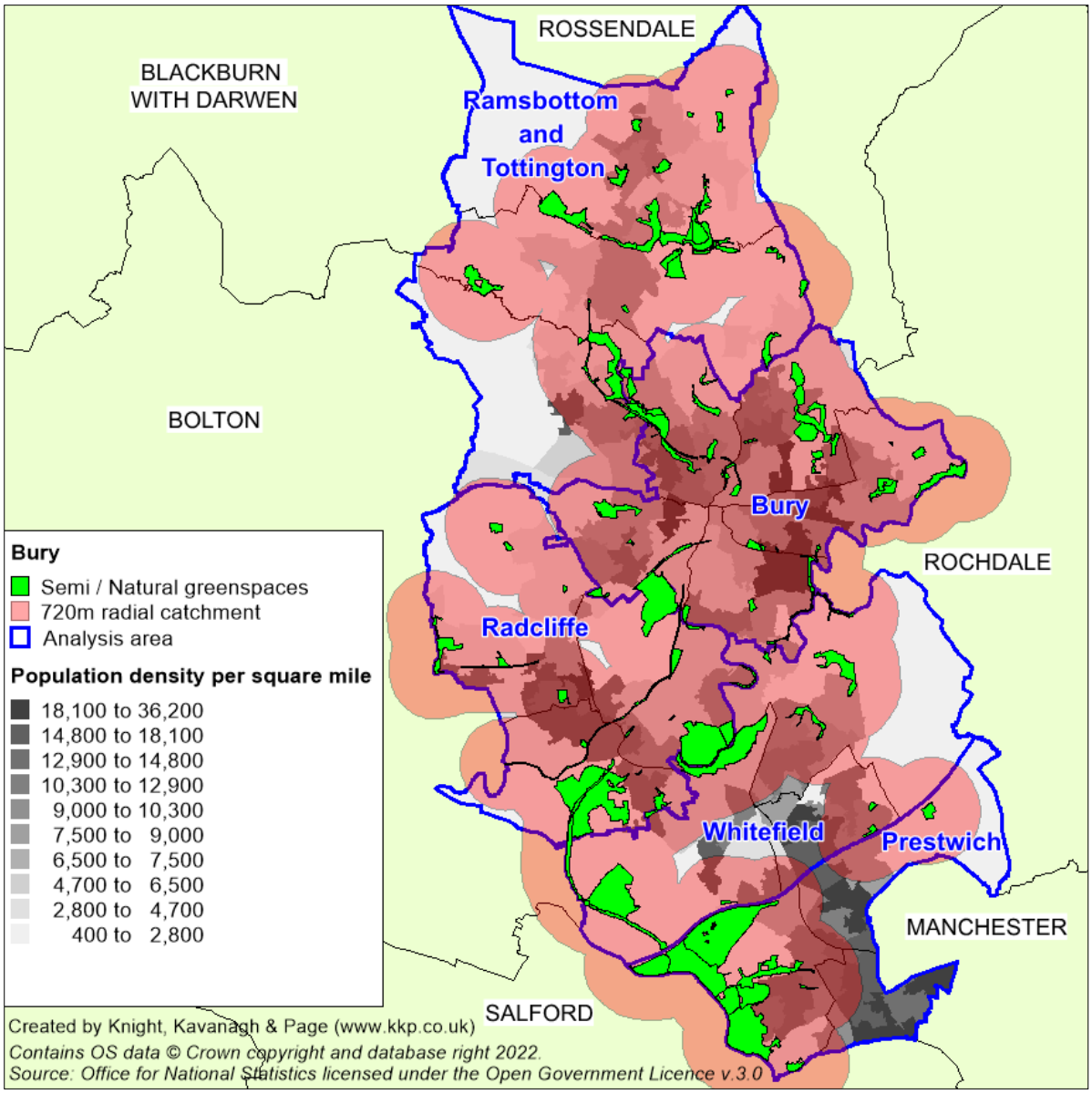


Table 5.2: Key to natural and semi-natural greenspace mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
3	Adj Bradley Fold Depot	Radcliffe	2.02
4	Adjacent Barracks Lodge Recreation Space	Bury	0.43
21	Baldingstone SBI	Ramsbottom and Tottington	2.17
31	Bluebell Wood	Bury	0.66
50	Bradley Fold Railway Path	Radcliffe	2.64
61	Broad Hey Wood	Ramsbottom and Tottington	13.77

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
62	Broad Oak Neighbourhood Park	Bury	3.36
65	Broad Oak Woods	Bury	4.69
66	Broad Oak/Smethurst Wood	Bury	10.25
74	Burrs Woods	Bury	4.02
89	Castlestead Wood, Burrs	Bury	1.38
91	Chamberhall	Bury	1.67
94	Chapelfield	Radcliffe	3.57
95	Chapelfield West	Whitefield	1.01
97	Chesham Woods	Bury	12.23
130	Daisyfield Greenway	Bury	3.51
131	Darbyshire Street Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.60
137	Dow Lane	Bury	10.05
139	Drinkwater Park	Prestwich	41.44
141	Dumers Lane	Radcliffe	2.14
143	Eagles Nest Wood	Prestwich	0.63
153	Elton Reservoir	Radcliffe	37.47
165	Former Binex Works	Ramsbottom and Tottington	4.01
167	Former clay pit north of Rochdale Old Road	Bury	2.31
168	Former Prestwich Tip adjacent to Drinkwater Park	Prestwich	13.59
176	Gardner Mount Recreation Ground	Prestwich	3.15
177	Georges Wood	Radcliffe	2.43
179	Gollinrod / Brooksbottom Wood	Ramsbottom and Tottington	13.54
180	Gollinrod / Nuttall Field	Ramsbottom and Tottington	7.81
182	Gorses Quarry	Bury	5.72
189	Grant's Wood	Ramsbottom and Tottington	2.23
202	Greenway at Bury Ground	Bury	0.99
209	Gypsy Brook East	Bury	2.59
210	Gypsy Brook West	Bury	2.73
214	Hampson Mill Reservoir	Whitefield	1.01
228	Heyside Way	Bury	0.11
242	Hollins Vale LNR	Whitefield	14.86
256	Hurst Wood	Whitefield	39.86
258	Hutchinson's Goit	Radcliffe	1.04
260	Jacob's Ladder	Ramsbottom and Tottington	4.06
265	Kenyon Street	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.66
266	Kersal Road Open Space	Prestwich	3.02

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
278	Kirklees Trail	Ramsbottom and Tottington	8.65
279	Kirklees Valley LNR Phase 1	Ramsbottom and Tottington	35.56
280	Kirklees Valley LNR Phase 2	Bury	17.57
286	Land at Lodge Brow	Radcliffe	0.19
288	Land off Freestone Close	Bury	0.34
289	Land off Withins Lane	Radcliffe	4.34
291	Land South of Close Park	Radcliffe	5.82
292	Land West of Warth Fold	Bury	2.08
294	Leemans Hill Recreation space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.45
301	Longsight Road Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.73
304	Lowes Road	Bury	3.70
315	Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal	Radcliffe	9.10
321	Miss Walkers Field	Bury	8.43
322	Mode Hill Lane	Whitefield	1.05
324	Mount Pleasant (2)	Ramsbottom and Tottington	2.21
334	Off Cross Lane Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.20
336	Off Hollybank Street Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.90
337	Off Marston Close Recreation Space	Whitefield	1.45
350	Outwood Country Park	Radcliffe	68.23
353	Parr Brook Open Space (North)	Whitefield	5.38
363	Philips Park	Prestwich	64.76
364	Philips Park entrance	Whitefield	0.76
366	Pigs Lee Brook	Ramsbottom and Tottington	5.45
375	Pot Green Woodland	Ramsbottom and Tottington	3.36
377	Prestwich Clough	Prestwich	12.97
383	Prestwich Sewage Works	Prestwich	10.39
390	Radcliffe Ees	Radcliffe	38.44
404	Redbank Lodges	Radcliffe	2.63
406	Redisher Woods	Ramsbottom and Tottington	19.72
410	Rhodes Farm	Prestwich	13.16
412	Riverside at Bury Ground	Bury	1.53
413	Roach Bank	Whitefield	2.72
414	Roch Valley Greenway	Bury	6.96
433	Simister Wetlands	Prestwich	3.69
436	South of Broad Hey Recreation Land	Ramsbottom and Tottington	8.42
437	South Royd Street	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.33
440	Spen Moor	Bury	2.54

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
446	Springwater Park	Whitefield	34.39
452	St. Andrew's Church Recreation Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	3.33
484	Starkies Wood	Bury	1.48
485	Starling Wood	Radcliffe	0.57
486	Starmount Lodges / Blackshaw Brook	Radcliffe	9.75
489	Summerseat Nature Reserve	Ramsbottom and Tottington	7.21
495	Tagg Wood	Ramsbottom and Tottington	5.01
502	The Delph (Ainsworth)	Radcliffe	1.15
514	Townside Field / Pyramid Park	Bury	2.82
516	Two Brooks Valley	Ramsbottom and Tottington	11.25
533	Waterdale	Prestwich	36.21
544	Whalley Road Recreation Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	2.35
548	Whitefield Nature Trail / Outwood Trail	Whitefield	19.98
558	Woodbank Recreation Space	Bury	3.02
559	Woodgate Hill Memorial Forest	Bury	0.15
565	Woodland Adjacent Bye Road	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.74
566	Woodland off Goshen Lane	Bury	0.49

Gaps in the 9-minute walk time catchment are noted across most of the analysis areas except for Bury. Many of the gaps are served by other forms of open space provision such as amenity greenspace and parks. Such sites may offer similar opportunities and access to activities associated with natural greenspace. Any potential opportunities to increase the secondary function of these as natural greenspace should be explored.

Table 5.3: Other open spaces serving gaps in natural catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
Prestwich	Carver Gardens (ID 83) Fairway Gardens (ID 158) St Mary's Park (ID 469) Heaton Park (outside)	Amenity Amenity Parks Park
Radcliffe	Banana Path (ID 22)	Amenity
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Town Meadow Park (ID 510)	Parks
Whitefield	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park (ID 26) Gardens off Pinfold Lane (ID 174) Hamilton Road Park (ID 211) Hillock Playing Fields (ID 232) Thatch Leach Lane Open Space (ID 500) Tintern Avenue Open Space (ID 505)	Parks Parks Parks Amenity Amenity Amenity

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
	Whitefield Park (ID 549)	Parks

5.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), scores from the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 55% is applied to distinguish high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The score is to help distinguish between higher and lower quality sites; it is a minimum expectation as opposed to an absolute goal.

Due to the large number of sites identified as part of the audit, it was not feasible to visit and assess every site. Consequently, a sample of 30 natural sites (generally over five hectares in size) were visited. These are listed in Appendix One.

Table 5.4: Quality ratings for assessed natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<55%	>55%
Bury	24%	47%	64%	4	3
Prestwich	52%	65%	78%	1	7
Radcliffe	51%	57%	65%	2	2
Ramsbottom and Tottington	65%	67%	70%	0	6
Whitefield	61%	66%	72%	0	4
Total	**24%**	**60%**	**78%**	**7**	**22**

Over two thirds (76%) of assessed natural and semi natural greenspace sites rate above the quality threshold, indicating a positive standard of quality.

The highest scoring natural and semi-natural site for quality is Philips Park (78%). It has a range of high-quality ancillary features, in contrast to other natural sites locally. The site score well for entrances, pathways, user security, car parking, benches and signage. Furthermore, it benefits from extensive areas of wildlife habitat reflected in its designation as a Local Nature Reserve.

Other high scoring sites include:

- Drinkwater Park (74%)
- Springwater Park (72%)
- Two Brooks Valley (70%)

The sites are all noted as being generally well maintained, with a good overall appearance, catering for a range of users. They have the added benefit of ancillary features such as signage, bins and boundary fencing. The sites are also observed as having reasonable to good access for all, with well-maintained pathways.

There are seven sites which rate below the quality threshold. The lowest scoring sites are:

- Broad Oak/Smethurst Wood (24%)
- Broad Oak Woods (35%)
- Roch Valley Greenway (45%)

The sites score slightly lower for overall maintenance and appearance compared to other similar sites. Litter is highlighted as an issue at all three sites. Both Broad Oak Woods and Broad Oak/Smethurst Wood are also observed as having evidence of use by offroad bikes. The three sites are also noted as not containing any features such as signage or seating.

In some instances, natural and semi-natural sites can be intentionally without ancillary facilities to reduce misuse/inappropriate behaviour whilst encouraging greater conservation.

5.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 20% is applied to distinguish high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 5.5: Value ratings for assessed natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bury	21%	27%	30%	0	7
Prestwich	21%	28%	36%	0	8
Radcliffe	25%	35%	45%	0	4
Ramsbottom and Tottington	23%	27%	31%	0	6
Whitefield	25%	34%	45%	0	4
Total	**21%**	**29%**	**45%**	**0**	**29**

All assessed natural and semi-natural sites score above the threshold for value. The majority of sites have high ecological value, contributing to flora and fauna, as well as providing habitats for local wildlife.

As well as ecological value, sites provide benefits to the health and wellbeing of residents and those visiting from further afield. This is a result of the exercise opportunities they provide, for example, through walking and biking trails. Furthermore, they break up the urban form creating peaceful space to relax and reflect. The high levels of natural features also support with improving air quality, particularly in built up areas.

The highest scoring natural and semi-natural sites for value are Springwater Park (45%) and Elton Reservoir (45%). The sites offer high ecological value due to the habitat opportunities. Springwater Park is also noted as a Local Nature Reserve. They also rate well for amenity and social benefits due to the network of paths which provide informal exercise opportunities.

PART 6: AMENITY GREENSPACE

6.1 Introduction

Amenity greenspace is defined as sites offering opportunities for informal activities close to home, work or enhancement of the appearance of residential and other areas. It includes informal recreation spaces and other incidental spaces.

6.2 Current provision

There are 88 amenity greenspace sites equating to over 124 hectares of provision. Sites are most often found within areas of housing and function as informal recreation space or along highways providing a visual amenity. A number of recreation grounds and playing fields are also classified as amenity greenspace.

Table 6.1: Current amenity greenspace

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bury	20	26.23	0.45
Prestwich	5	5.12	0.14
Radcliffe	24	28.15	0.81
Ramsbottom and Tottington	24	24.56	0.77
Whitefield	15	40.04	1.18
Total	**88**	**124.10**	**0.64**

This typology has a broad range of purposes and as such varies significantly in size. For example, Sergeants Lane at 0.21 hectares acts as a visual/verge amenity for residents. In contrast, Parr Brook Open Space at 6.82 hectares has play and recreational opportunities.

Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 6.1 shows that overall provision of 0.64 hectares per 1,000 head of population is above the FIT guidelines. This is also the case for Radcliffe, Ramsbottom and Tottington, and Whitefield analysis areas. Both the Bury and Prestwich analysis areas are below the FIT suggested standard.

Some analysis areas being below the FIT suggestion may not mean a true deficiency exists. It is therefore important to also consider accessibility and quality of provision.

It is important to highlight that it is not always clear to distinguish a site's primary typology. Some sites can bridge the definition of typologies such as natural greenspace and amenity greenspace. For example, a grassed area left unmaintained can start to have characteristics associated with natural greenspace.

6.3 Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a 6-minute walk time has been set. This is based on the suggested FIT catchments. Figure 6.1 shows amenity greenspace mapped with the accessibility catchment. This should be treated as an approximation as it does not take account of topography or walking routes. The ID numbers for each site are not shown on the map due to there being too many.

Figure 6.1: Amenity greenspaces with a 6-minute (480m) walk catchment

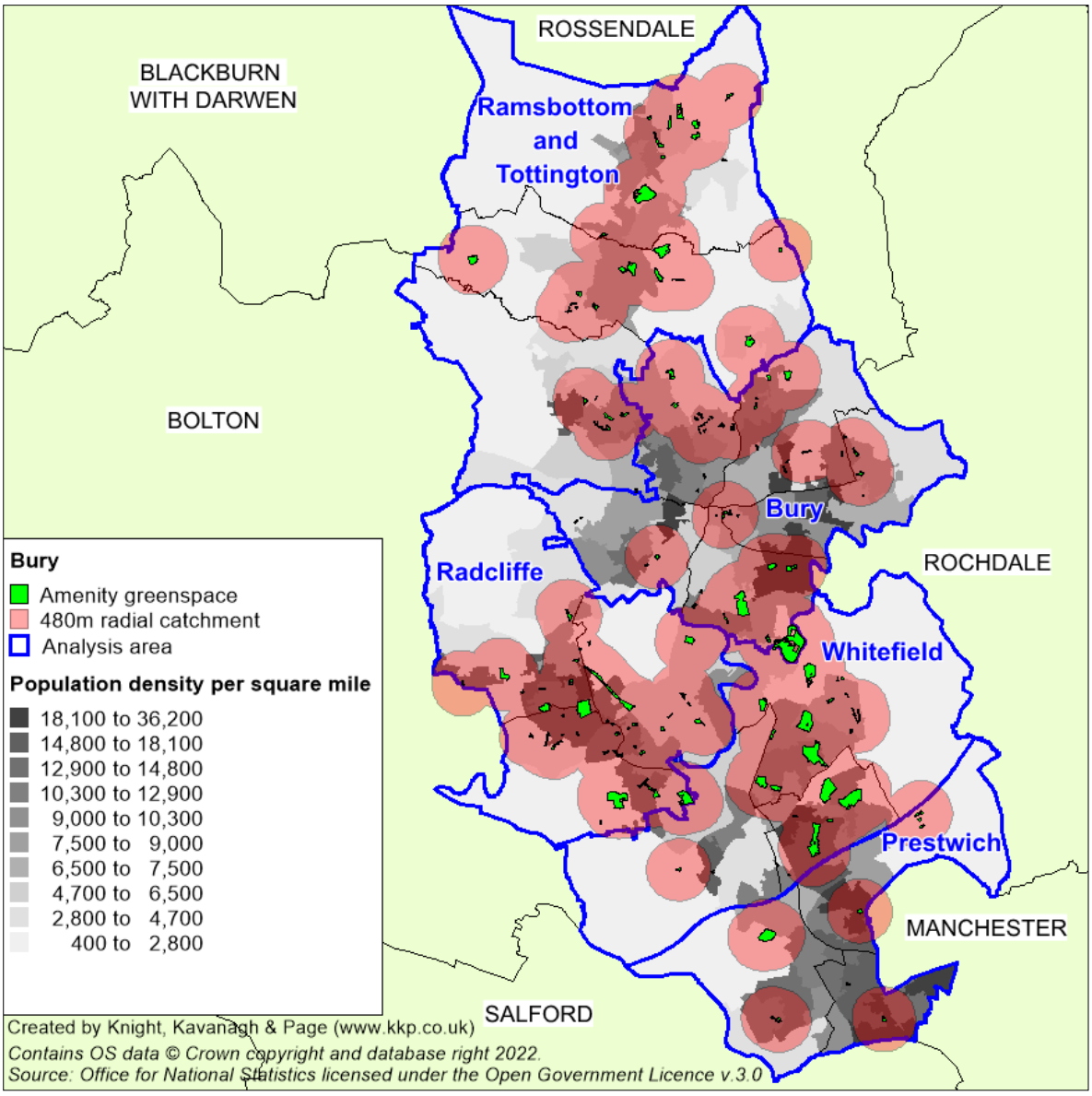


Table 6.2: Key to amenity greensapces mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
1	Abden Street	Radcliffe	0.24
5	Adjacent Bye Road Recreation Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.43
15	Albert Road Recreation Space	Whitefield	0.33
16	Albert Street Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.83
22	Banana Path, Radcliffe	Radcliffe	3.99
23	Barlow Recreation Ground	Whitefield	1.65
42	Bolton Road West Playing Fields	Ramsbottom and Tottington	5.87
45	Booth Street	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.30
47	Boz Park	Whitefield	6.21
52	Brandlesholme House Open Space / Purbeck Drive	Bury	1.01
53	Brandlesholme Road	Bury	0.42
59	Bright Street	Radcliffe	0.26
70	Brownhills Recreation space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.42
83	Carver Gardens	Prestwich	0.36
99	Chiswick Drive Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.22
100	Christ Church Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.57
106	Church Meadow (1)	Whitefield	0.33
107	Church Meadow (2)	Whitefield	0.25
115	Clifton Road Playing Fields	Prestwich	3.61
122	Clough Meadow Road Open Space	Radcliffe	0.47
133	Dereham Close Recreation Space	Bury	0.26
148	Elms Playing Fields	Whitefield	2.26
157	Factory Street Garden	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.52
158	Fairway Gardens	Prestwich	0.36
162	Finchy Park	Bury	0.35
170	Former Radcliffe Paper Mill	Radcliffe	0.82
183	Goshen Playing Fields	Bury	12.34
191	Greendale Drive Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.67
193	Greenheys Crescent Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.42
199	Greenmount Recreation Ground	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.39
204	Grindsbrook Road Open Space	Radcliffe	0.66
205	Grundy Playing Fields	Whitefield	3.85
222	Hathaway Road Recreation Space	Whitefield	5.13
223	Hawkshaw Recreation Ground	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.42
232	Hillock Playing Fields	Whitefield	5.80

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
238	Hollinhurst Playing Fields	Radcliffe	3.18
245	Horncastle Close Open Space	Bury	0.21
251	Hunters Hill Open Space	Whitefield	0.37
252	Huntfold Drive Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.41
257	Hutchinson Way Open Space	Radcliffe	0.31
276	King George V Playing Fields, Outwood	Radcliffe	5.48
281	Lamb Lodge	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.24
287	Land at Phoenix Street	Bury	0.48
290	Land opposite 200 Railway Street	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.29
297	Limefield Brow Recreation Space	Bury	1.14
298	Limefield Gardens	Bury	0.34
314	Manchester Road Playing Fields	Bury	5.36
320	Milton Road Open Space	Radcliffe	1.47
323	Mount Pleasant (1)	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.26
332	Oak Avenue Recreation Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.72
335	Off Fern Grove / Grove Street Recreation Space	Bury	0.39
354	Parr Brook Open Space (South)	Whitefield	6.82
358	Peel Brow	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.92
360	Peel Brow Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.86
362	Peel Street Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.23
370	Pilkington Way Open Space (West)	Radcliffe	0.26
371	Pitt Street Open Space	Radcliffe	0.49
374	Pot Green Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.39
376	Powell Street Open Space	Bury	0.33
384	Queen Street Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.55
394	Radcliffe Tower	Radcliffe	0.62
395	Railway Street Recreation Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.12
398	Ramsbottom Baths Recreation Land	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.35
402	Rear of Sparking Clog Public House	Radcliffe	1.48
403	Rectory Lane Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.27
405	Redbank Playing Fields	Radcliffe	4.78
418	Salford Street Recreation Space	Bury	0.27
421	Scobell Street Open Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.35
426	Sergeants Lane Open Space	Whitefield	0.21
429	Simister Green	Prestwich	0.35
434	Snape Street	Radcliffe	0.26

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
441	Spinney Drive Open Space	Bury	0.21
442	Spring Lane / Whittaker Street Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.27
443	Springs Community Green	Bury	0.91
487	Summerseat Lane	Ramsbottom and Tottington	1.84
491	Sunnybank Road Recreation Space	Whitefield	0.53
498	Tennyson Avenue Open Space	Bury	0.33
500	Thatch Leach Lane Open Space	Whitefield	5.32
505	Tintern Avenue Open Space / Mather Avenue	Whitefield	0.97
515	Trimingham Drive Recreation Space	Bury	0.26
520	Venwood Road	Prestwich	0.45
530	Warth Fold	Radcliffe	1.20
534	Waterside Road Playing Fields	Ramsbottom and Tottington	3.10
539	Wellington Road Recreation Space	Bury	0.97
553	Whitefield Road Recreation Space	Bury	0.29
555	Wood Hey Close Recreation Space	Radcliffe	0.22
564	Woodhill Road	Bury	0.35
568	Young Street	Radcliffe	0.31

Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of amenity greenspace provision. However, some areas of higher population density are not being served by a form of amenity greenspace provision within a 480m catchment. It is recognised that these gaps are predominantly covered and served by other forms of open space provision.

Table 6.3: Other open spaces serving gaps in amenity greenspace catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
Bury	Dow Lane (ID 137)	Natural
	Elton Reservoir (ID 153)	Natural
	Gallipoli Gardens (ID 173)	Park
	Kay Gardens (ID 263)	Park
	Whitehead Park (ID 269)	Park
	Kirklees Valley LNR (ID 279/280)	Natural
	Manchester Old Road Recreation Space (ID 306)	Park
	Manchester Road Park (ID 308)	Park
	Openshaw Park (ID 342)	Park
	St John's Gardens (ID 459)	Park
	St Mary's Church Gardens (ID 478)	Park
Prestwich	Barnfield Park (ID 24)	Park
	Gardner Mount Recreation Ground (ID 176)	Natural
	St Mary's Flower Park (ID 468)	Park

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
	St Mary's Park (ID 469) Philips Park (ID 363) Prestwich Clough (ID 377) Heaton Park (outside)	Park Natural Natural Park
Radcliffe	Church Green (ID 104) Close Park (ID 116)	Park Park
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Grant's Wood (ID 189) Tagg Wood (ID 495) Old Kays Park (ID 340) Town Meadow Park (ID 510)	Natural Natural Park Park
Whitefield	Besses Playing Fields (ID 26) Gardens off Pinfold Lane (ID 174) Hamilton Road Park (ID 211) Philips Park (ID 363)	Park Park Park Natural

6.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), the scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspaces. A threshold of 50% is applied to distinguish high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The score is to help distinguish between higher and lower quality sites; it is a minimum expectation as opposed to an absolute goal.
Due to the large number of sites identified as part of the audit, it was not feasible to visit and assess every site. Consequently, a sample of 28 amenity sites (generally over one hectare in size) were visited. These are listed in Appendix One.

Table 6.4: Quality ratings for assessed amenity greenspaces

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<50%	>50%
Bury	48%	56%	69%	2	3
Prestwich	49%	49%	49%	1	0
Radcliffe	42%	52%	62%	2	5
Ramsbottom and Tottington	49%	58%	68%	1	4
Whitefield	51%	56%	63%	0	8
Total	**42%**	**55%**	**69%**	**6**	**20**

Over three quarters (77%) of assessed amenity greenspaces rate above the quality threshold.

The highest scoring sites for quality are:

- Brandlesholme House Open Space (69%)
- Railway Street Recreation Space (68%)
- Thatch Leach Lane Open Space (63%)
- Waterside Road Playing Fields (63%)

These sites generally score well for overall appearance and cleanliness including features such as entrances, access and user security. The sites also all benefit from supporting ancillary facilities such as seating, bins and signage. Brandlesholme House Open Space, Thatch Leach Lane Open Space, and Waterside Road Playing Fields also contain play provision which rates above the quality threshold.

Brandlesholme House Open Space is observed as a well-kept and tidy site. It contains several planters along the pathway. The site shows clear evidence of being well looked after by the local community.

Some amenity greenspace sites often contain sporting/activity opportunities such as football. These sporting opportunities as well as other added features on site, such as good quality play areas, provide increased reasons for people to visit such provision.

There are six assessed amenity greenspaces sites (23%) which are below the quality threshold. The lowest scoring amenity greenspace sites for quality are:

- Warth Fold (42%)
- Milton Road Open Space (46%)
- Limefield Brow Recreation Space (48%)

The sites have no signage or seating and score lower for overall appearance and maintenance. Both Warth Fold (42%) and Milton Road Open Space (46%) are noted as being overgrown. Warth Fold is observed as a grass field with soil/blocks barricading the entrance. Both sites also rate below the value threshold.

6.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results. A threshold of 20% is applied to distinguish high from low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 6.5: Value ratings for assessed amenity greenspace

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bury	28%	32%	38%	0	5
Prestwich	38%	38%	38%	0	1
Radcliffe	11%	27%	40%	2	5
Ramsbottom and Tottington	23%	30%	45%	0	5
Whitefield	23%	32%	38%	0	8
Total	**11%**	**31%**	**45%**	**2**	**24**

Nearly all assessed amenity greenspace sites rate above the threshold for value. Similar to quality, sites rating below the value threshold is often due to a lack of supporting features and perceived lower levels of use.

The two sites to rate below the value threshold are Warth Fold (11%) and Milton Road Open Space (18%). Both sites also rate below the quality threshold. They are observed as overgrown grassed areas lacking any significant ancillary features. Warth Fold is noted as having a blocked entrance due to soil and concrete blocks.

The highest scoring sites for value are Ramsbottom Baths Recreation Land (45%) and Banana Path (40%). These sites are recognised for the accessible, good quality recreational and informal exercise opportunities they offer for a wide range of users. Both sites are perceived to be attractive and well used, providing high amenity and health benefits. Ramsbottom Baths Recreation Land surrounds the pool and fitness centre. It also features a play area further adding to its use and value.

Amenity greenspace should be recognised for its multi-purpose function, offering opportunities for a variety of leisure and recreational activities. It can often accommodate informal recreational activity such as casual play and dog walking. Many sites offer a dual function and are amenity resources for residents as well as being visually pleasing.

These attributes add to the quality, accessibility, and visibility of amenity greenspace. Combined with the presence of facilities (e.g., benches, landscaping and trees) this means that the better-quality sites are likely to be more respected and valued by the local community.

PART 7: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

7.1 Introduction

Provision for children and young people includes areas designated primarily for play and social interaction such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.

Provision for children is deemed to be sites consisting of formal equipped play facilities typically associated with play areas. This is usually perceived to be for children under 12 years of age. Provision for young people can include equipped sites that provide more robust equipment catering to older age ranges incorporating facilities such as skate parks, BMX, basketball courts, youth shelters and MUGAs.

7.2 Current provision

A total of 93 play locations are identified as provision for children and young people. This combines to create a total of over eight hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 7.1: Current provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bury	28	2.70	0.05
Prestwich	12	1.74	0.05
Radcliffe	18	1.47	0.04
Ramsbottom and Tottington	19	1.54	0.05
Whitefield	16	1.26	0.04
Total	**93**	**8.71**	**0.04**

The Bury Analysis Area (28) has the greater number of play sites as well as the greatest amount of provision (2.70 hectares). It also has the greatest current provision with 0.05 hectares per 1,000 population along with Prestwich and Ramsbottom and Tottington analysis areas.

Fields in Trust (FIT) guidance suggests a quantity standard of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population for designated playing space. The current standard of 0.04 hectares per 1,000 population in total is significantly below the FIT standard. However, it is often recognised that children and young people can and do use the space surrounding the defined designated area for play. This is especially the case with amenity greenspace.

Table 7.2 uses the combined site size of provision for children and young people and any amenity greenspace containing play provision to compare against the FIT standard.

Table 7.2: Current provision for children and young people (including surrounding amenity)

Analysis area	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bury	18.22	0.31
Prestwich	2.90	0.08
Radcliffe	11.20	0.32
Ramsbottom and Tottington	15.05	0.47
Whitefield	29.22	0.86
Total	**76.60**	**0.39**

Table 7.2 shows that nearly all analysis areas meet the suggested FIT standard of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population on this basis. Only Prestwich Analysis Area is below the FIT standard. This is also a reflection that play provision within the analysis areas is often hosted in 'parent' sites categorised as natural and semi-natural greenspace.

7.3 Accessibility

Play areas can be classified in the following ways to identify their effective target audience and recommended accessibility catchment utilising FIT guidance.

Sub-type	Explanation	Catchment
Local Area of Play (LAP)	Usually small areas designed for very young children. Equipment is normally age group specific to reduce unintended users.	100m
Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP)	Designed for children who are beginning to play independently; often catering for different play types and experiences.	400m
Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play (NEAP)	Cater mainly for older more independent children but potentially with opportunities for younger children or siblings; providing a wider range of play experiences. Such sites may contain space to play larger group games and seating/shelter.	1000m
Informal play	Facilities specifically designed for informal recreation such as pump tracks, parkour, social areas, ball courts, MUGAs or skateboard areas (referred to as casual provision in this study)	700m

Figure 7.1 shows play provision mapped with the catchments.

Figure 7.1: Play provision with different applied catchments mapped

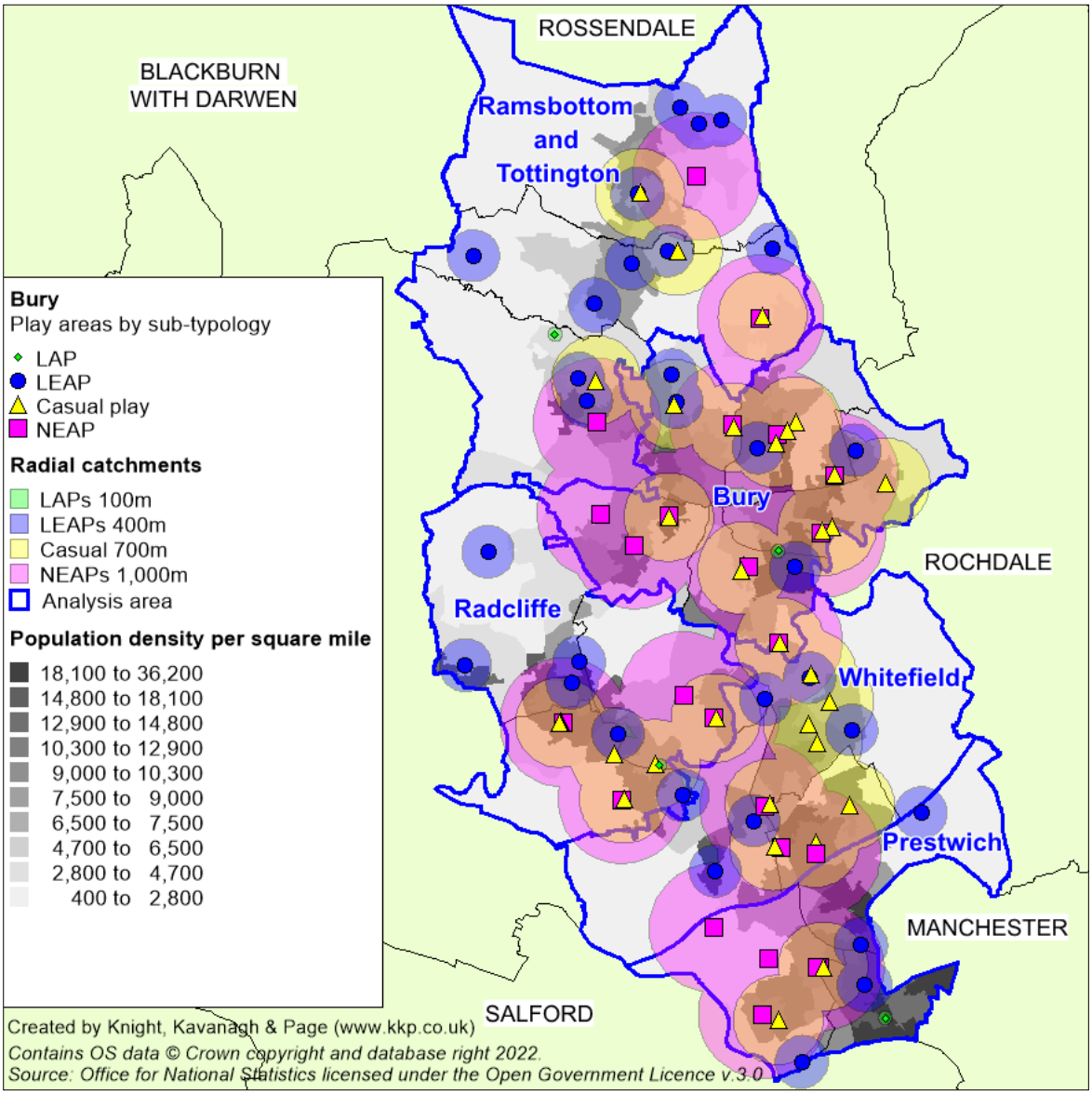


Table 7.2: Key to play provision mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Type	Size (ha)
1.1	Abden Street Play Area	Radcliffe	LEAP	0.08
11.1	Ainsworth Recreation Ground play area	Radcliffe	LEAP	0.10
23.1	Barlow Recreation Ground play area	Whitefield	LEAP	0.07
26.1	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park play area	Whitefield	NEAP	0.15
26.2	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park MUGA	Whitefield	Casual	0.06
32.1	Bolton Road Park play area	Radcliffe	NEAP	0.19
32.3	Bolton Road Park MUGA	Radcliffe	Casual	0.06
32.5	Bolton Road Park table tennis	Radcliffe	Casual	0.00

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Type	Size (ha)
32.6	Bolton Road Park youth shelter	Radcliffe	Casual	0.00
42.1	Bolton Road West Playing Fields play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.20
42.2	Bolton Road West Playing Fields MUGA	Ramsbottom and Tottington	Casual	0.05
45.1	Booth Street play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.06
47.1	Boz Park MUGA	Whitefield	Casual	0.06
49	Bradley Fold Play Area	Radcliffe	LEAP	0.09
52.1	Brandlesholme House / Purbeck Drive play area	Bury	LEAP	0.06
53.1	Brandlesholme Road Play Area	Bury	LEAP	0.10
53.2	Brandlesholme Road MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.06
59.1	Bright Street Play Area	Radcliffe	NEAP	0.12
62.1	Broad Oak Neighbourhood Park MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.08
108.1	Clarence Park play area	Bury	NEAP	0.23
108.2	Clarence Park MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.06
108.3	Clarence Park skate park	Bury	Casual	0.21
108.5	Clarence Park fitness equipment	Bury	Casual	0.02
116.1	Close Park play area	Radcliffe	NEAP	0.12
116.2	Close Park MUGA	Radcliffe	Casual	0.06
125.1	Coronation Park play area	Radcliffe	LAP	0.02
125.2	Coronation Park MUGA	Radcliffe	Casual	0.09
137.1	Dow Lane play area	Bury	NEAP	0.16
158.1	Fairway Gardens play area	Prestwich	LAP	0.02
162.1	Finchy Park play area	Bury	LEAP	0.05
165.1	Former Binex Works basketball	Ramsbottom and Tottington	Casual	0.05
176.1	Gardner Mount Play Area	Prestwich	NEAP	0.33
183.1	Goshen Playing Fields play area	Bury	NEAP	0.20
183.2	Goshen Playing Fields MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.06
199.1	Greenmount Recreation Ground play areas	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.06
205.1	Grundy Playing Fields play area	Whitefield	LEAP	0.06
205.2	Grundy Playing Fields MUGA	Whitefield	Casual	0.06
211.1	Hamilton Road Park play area	Whitefield	LEAP	0.07
218.1	Hartley Gardens play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	NEAP	0.11

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Type	Size (ha)
218.2	Hartley Gardens MUGA	Ramsbottom and Tottington	Casual	0.06
222.1	Hathaway Road MUGA	Whitefield	Casual	0.06
223.1	Hawkshaw Recreation Ground play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.07
228.1	Heyside Way play area	Bury	LAP	0.03
238.1	Hollinhurst Playing Fields play area	Radcliffe	LEAP	0.07
246.1	Hoyles Park play area	Bury	NEAP	0.11
246.2	Hoyles Park MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.06
251.1	Hunters Hill football court	Whitefield	Casual	0.03
264	Kenyon Lane play area	Prestwich	LEAP	0.18
266.1	Kersal Road play area	Prestwich	LEAP	0.13
269.1	King George V Playing Field / Whitehead Park play area	Bury	NEAP	0.14
269.2	King George V Playing Field / Whitehead Park MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.06
276.1	King George V Playing Fields play area	Radcliffe	NEAP	0.11
276.2	King George V Playing Fields MUGA	Radcliffe	Casual	0.06
308.1	Manchester Road Park play area	Bury	NEAP	0.11
308.2	Manchester Road Park MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.06
308.3	Manchester Road Park outdoor gym	Bury	Casual	0.01
324.1	Mount Pleasant (2) play equipment	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.03
328.1	Nuttall Park play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	NEAP	0.21
340.1	Old Kays Park play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LAP	0.04
342.1	Openshaw Park play area	Bury	NEAP	0.23
342.2	Openshaw Park MUGA 1	Bury	Casual	0.06
342.3	Openshaw Park MUGA 2	Bury	Casual	0.19
349	Ostrich Lane Play Area	Prestwich	LEAP	0.24
351.1	Park Lane Playground	Whitefield	LEAP	0.08
354.1	Sunnybank play area	Whitefield	Casual	0.07
355.1	Parr Lane play area	Whitefield	LEAP	0.08
358.1	Peel Brow play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.06
363.1	Philips Park play area	Prestwich	NEAP	0.17
372	Play Area off Kershaw Avenue	Prestwich	NEAP	0.11
393	Radcliffe Skate Park	Radcliffe	Casual	0.15

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Type	Size (ha)
398.1	Ramsbottom Baths play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.09
429.1	Simister Green Play Area	Prestwich	LEAP	0.07
434.1	Snape Street Play Area	Radcliffe	LEAP	0.09
437.1	South Royd Street Ball Zone	Ramsbottom and Tottington	Casual	0.06
443.1	Springs Community Green play area	Bury	LEAP	0.04
456.1	St. John with St. Mark School Play Area	Bury	LEAP	0.03
469.1	St. Mary's Park play area 1	Prestwich	NEAP	0.16
469.2	St. Mary's Park play area 2	Prestwich	NEAP	0.18
469.3	St. Mary's Park MUGA	Prestwich	Casual	0.09
487.1	Summerseat Lane play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.09
492.1	Sycamore Road Play Area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	NEAP	0.10
500.1	Thatch Leach Lane play area	Whitefield	NEAP	0.15
500.2	Thatch Leach Lane MUGA	Whitefield	Casual	0.06
510.1	Town Meadow Park play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.08
520.1	Venwood Road Play Area	Prestwich	Casual	0.06
534.1	Waterside Road Playing Fields play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.07
537.1	Wellington Barracks Recreation Ground play area	Bury	NEAP	0.11
544.1	Whalley Road play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	LEAP	0.06
549.1	Whitefield Park play area	Whitefield	NEAP	0.15
549.2	Whitefield Park MUGA	Whitefield	Casual	0.07
564.1	Woodhill Road Play Area	Bury	NEAP	0.12
564.2	Woodhill Road MUGA	Bury	Casual	0.05
568.1	Young Street Play Area	Radcliffe	LEAP	0.07

There is overall a good spread of play provision. Areas with a greater population density are generally within a walking distance catchment for play provision. However, potential minor gaps in catchments are observed to some areas. The following sites may help to serve some of the gaps in catchments if the amount and range of play equipment can be expanded.

Table 7.3: Sites with potential to help serve gaps in play provision catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap
Prestwich	Fairway Gardens Play Area (ID 158.1), Ostrich Lane Play Area (ID 349)
Radcliffe	Snape Street Play Area (ID 434.1)
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Bolton Road West Playing Fields (ID 42.1/42.2) Greenmount Recreation Ground Play Area (ID 199.1) Ramsbottom Baths Play Area (ID 398.1) Summerseat Lane Play Area (ID 487.1)
Whitefield	Parr Lane Play Area (ID 355.1)

7.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guide), the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for play provision for children and young people. A threshold of 50% is applied to distinguish high from low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The score is to help distinguish between higher and lower quality sites; it is a minimum expectation as opposed to an absolute goal.

The quality assessment of play sites does not include a detailed technical risk assessment of equipment. For an informed report on the condition of play equipment the Council's own inspection reports should be sought.

A list of the individual site quality and value ratings is provided in Appendix One.

Table 7.4: Quality ratings for provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<50%	>50%
Bury	26%	53%	77%	12	15
Prestwich	40%	54%	73%	5	7
Radcliffe	31%	52%	77%	8	10
Ramsbottom and Tottington	37%	57%	82%	5	11
Whitefield	36%	54%	81%	8	8
Total	**26%**	**54%**	**82%**	**38**	**51**

Over half (57%) of assessed play sites rate above the quality threshold.

Some of the highest scoring sites are:

- Nutall Park Play Area (82%)
- Whitefield Park Play Area (81%)
- Clarence Park Play Area and MUGA (77%)
- Close Park Play Area and MUGA (77%)

These sites are observed as being safe and secure with sufficient litter bins (contributing to the sites cleanliness), seating, signage, and good quality play equipment. The sites generally offer a variety of equipment to a good condition/quality. All three sites score highly for maintenance and drainage with the additional benefit of car parking and sufficient disabled access.

Nuttall Park Play Area is observed as an excellent facility. It is noted as containing provision which caters for a range of ages such as a variety of swings and climbing units as well as outdoor gym equipment.

Other high scoring sites include Philips Park Play Area (73%), Town Meadow Park Play Area (73%), Thatch Leach Lane Play Area (72%) and Besses Playing Field Play Area (72%). All sites have good entrances, fencing, signage, benches and litter bins further adding to the quality of their sites. All are observed as containing good quality equipment.

There are a few sites which rate above the threshold for quality but are noted as part of site observations as having tired looking equipment. Fairway Gardens Play Area (51%), and Snape Street Play Area (54%) have equipment that appears in need of refreshing. The two MUGA at Openshaw Park and one at Hartley Gardens Play Area are also noted as tired.

There are 38 (43%) sites rating below the threshold. Sites rating lower for quality is often due to maintenance/appearance observations and/or the range and quality of equipment on site.

Heyside Way Play Area (26%) is the lowest scoring play area for quality. It is observed as a small site at the end of a cul de sac. The agility equipment on site is good quality but the other play equipment is limited and in poor condition. Litter was also noted.

Some of the other lower scoring sites are:

- Broad Oak Neighbourhood Park MUGA (27%)
- Coronation Park MUGA (30%)
- Hunters Hill Football Court (36%)

All three sites have no signage, lack seating/bins and score low for general appearance and levels of use. Broad Oak Neighbourhood Park MUGA had signs of misuse with litter, glass and damage observed at the time of the visit. Both Hunters Hill Football Court and Coronation Park MUGA are limited in their offer. The surface at the latter noted as poor.

7.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance), site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for play. A threshold of 20% is applied to distinguish high from low value. Further explanation of the scoring can be found in Part 2.

Table 7.5: Value ratings for provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bury	20%	41%	73%	0	27
Prestwich	22%	40%	65%	0	12
Radcliffe	13%	38%	65%	1	17
Ramsbottom and Tottington	20%	45%	64%	0	16
Whitefield	20%	42%	64%	0	16
Total	**13%**	**41%**	**73%**	**1**	**88**

Nearly all play sites rate as being above the threshold for value. This demonstrates the role play provision provides in allowing children to play but also the contribution in terms of giving them safe places to learn, for physical and mental activity, to socialise with others and in creating aesthetically pleasing local environments.

The only site to rate below the value threshold is Coronation Park Play Area. It is noted as a small site with limited play equipment and a perceived low level of use. It also rates below the quality threshold due to condition of surfaces and equipment.

Sites scoring particularly high for value tend to reflect a good range of quality equipment available at sites. Some of the highest scoring sites for value are:

- Clarence Park Play Area (73%)
- Kenyon Lane Play Area (66%)
- Young Street Play Area (66%)
- Nutall Park Play Area (64%)
- Whitefield Park Play Area (64%)
- Thatch Leach Lane MUGA (64%)

The sites are observed as being well maintained with a good variety of equipment, as well as having sufficient access. The sites are also assumed to be well used given their range and quality of equipment. Consequently, the range of benefits they provide means they rate highly for social, amenity, and physical activity value.

Diverse equipment to cater for a range of ages and abilities is important and enhances value. Inclusive provision as well as facilities catering for older ages (e.g. skate park and MUGAs) are often highly valued play forms. For example, Clarence Park Play Area caters for a wide age range of children as it contains a play area (with inclusive provision), MUGA, and outdoor gym equipment.

PART 8: ALLOTMENTS

8.1 Introduction

The allotments typology provides opportunities for people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social interaction.

8.2 Current provision

There are 30 sites classified as allotments equating to over 16 hectares. No site size threshold has been applied to allotments and as such all known provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 8.1: Current allotment sites

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bury	7	3.51	0.06
Prestwich	5	6.42	0.18
Radcliffe	4	0.68	0.02
Ramsbottom and Tottington	10	3.16	0.10
Whitefield	4	2.41	0.07
Total	**30**	**16.18**	**0.08**

The largest site is Langley Avenue Allotments (3.38 hectares) in the Prestwich Analysis Area.

The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (20 per 2,000 people based on two people per house or one per 100 people). This equates to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 populations based on an average plot-size of 250 square metres (0.025 hectares per plot).

Based on current population (194,606) provision is below the NSALG standard. Using this suggested standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision is 48 hectares. Existing provision of 16 hectares therefore does not meet this guideline.

8.3 Accessibility

Figure 8.1 shows the mapped allotments.

Figure 8.1: Allotments mapped

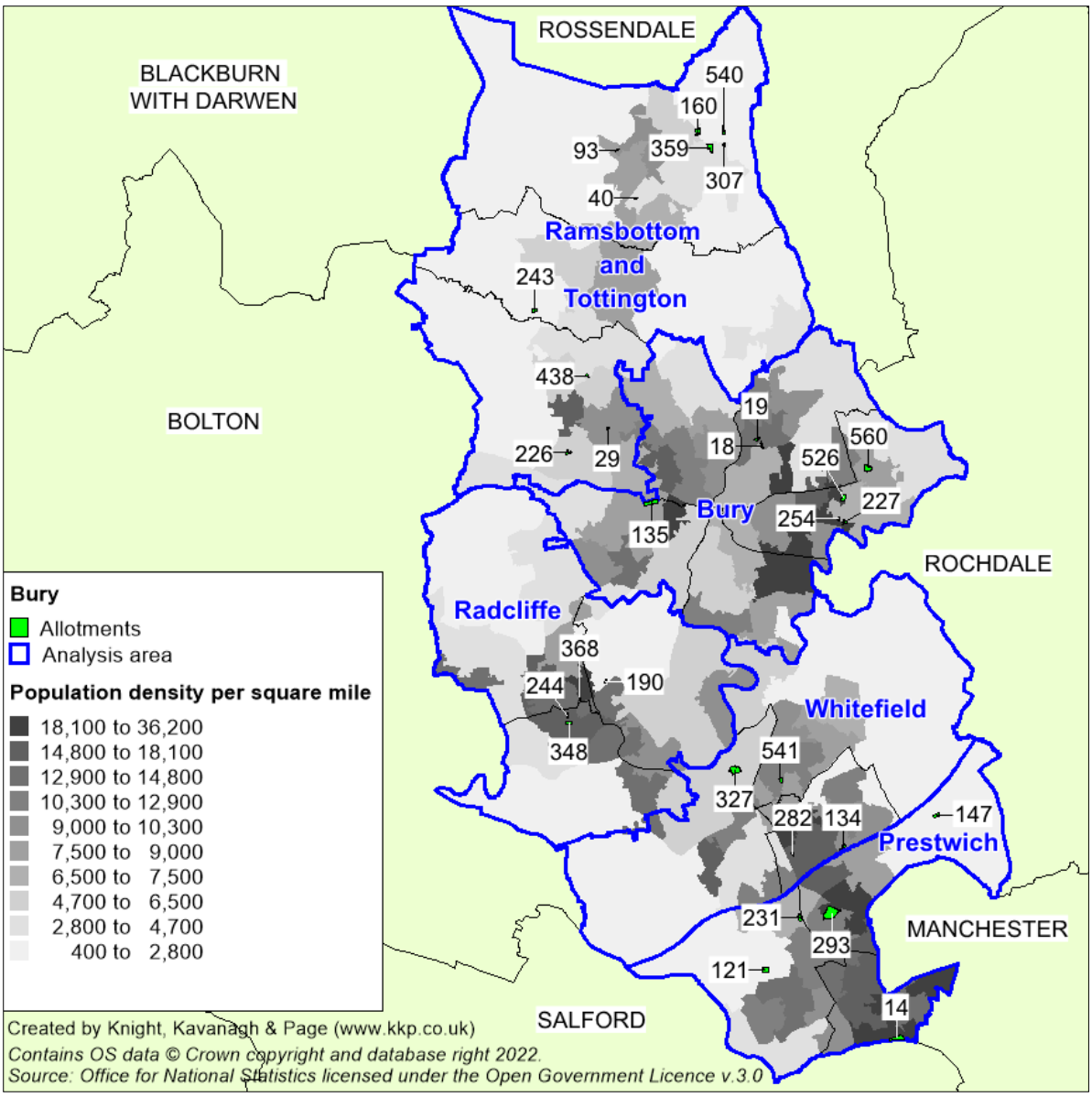


Table 8.2: Key to allotments mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
14	Albert Avenue Allotments	Prestwich	1.17
18	Athlone Avenue Allotments	Bury	0.22
19	Avondale Avenue Allotments	Bury	0.28
29	Birch Avenue/Scobell Street Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.09
40	Bolton Road West Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.12
93	Chapel Lane Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.10
121	Clough Lane Allotments	Prestwich	0.84

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
134	Derwent Close Allotments	Whitefield	0.32
135	Diggle Lane Allotments	Bury	1.14
147	Egypt Lane Allotments	Prestwich	0.53
160	Fern Street Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.65
190	Greenbank Road Allotments	Radcliffe	0.11
226	Haworth Street Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.33
227	Hazel Avenue Allotments	Bury	0.28
231	Highfield Road Allotments	Prestwich	0.50
243	Hollymount Community Orchard Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.39
244	Homer Street Allotments	Radcliffe	0.15
254	Huntley Fold Allotments	Bury	0.14
282	Lancaster Avenue Allotments	Whitefield	0.15
293	Langley Avenue Allotments	Prestwich	3.38
307	Manchester Road Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.13
327	Nipper Lane Allotments	Whitefield	1.66
348	Osborne Walk Allotments	Radcliffe	0.36
359	Peel Brow Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.93
368	Pilkington Road Allotments	Radcliffe	0.06
438	South Royd Street Allotments	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.15
526	Walnut Avenue Allotments	Bury	0.56
540	Whalley Road Allotments, Ramsbottom	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.29
541	Whalley Road Allotments, Whitefield	Whitefield	0.28
560	Woodgate Hill Road Allotments	Bury	0.89

For allotments no quality/value assessments have taken place. Allotments are often difficult to assess due to being accessible for plot members only. However, allotments should generally be considered as highly valued as they are often identified by the local community as important forms of open space provision.

Two sites are managed by Bury Council: Bolton Road West Allotments and Whalley Road Allotments, Ramsbottom. Both are highlighted as having waiting lists. At last count, Bolton Road West Allotments has a waiting list of 11 and Whalley Road Allotments has 13. Both figures have reduced since the previous waiting list figures were taken. Furthermore, the association for Walnut Avenue Allotment also highlights that demand for an allotment plot exceeds the number of plots available. Such instances would suggest that demand is currently outweighing supply.

PART 9: CEMETERIES/CHURCHYARDS

9.1 Introduction

Cemeteries and churchyards include areas for quiet contemplation and burial of the dead. Sites can often be linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

9.2 Current provision

There are 30 sites classified as cemeteries/churchyards, equating to over 49 hectares of provision. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all known provision is included within the audit.

Table 9.1: Current cemeteries/churchyards

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)
Bury	3	20.46
Prestwich	3	7.68
Radcliffe	9	10.32
Ramsbottom and Tottington	11	7.98
Whitefield	4	3.19
Total	**30**	**49.63**

The largest contributor to burial provision is Bury Cemetery equating to nearly 20 hectares. This is followed by Radcliffe Cemetery at six hectares.

Cemeteries and churchyards are important resources, offering both recreational and conservation benefits. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards can also offer important low impact recreational benefits (e.g. dog walking, wildlife watching).

9.3 Accessibility

No accessibility standard is set for this typology and there is no realistic requirement to set such standards. Provision should be based on burial demand.

Figure 9.1: Cemetery sites mapped

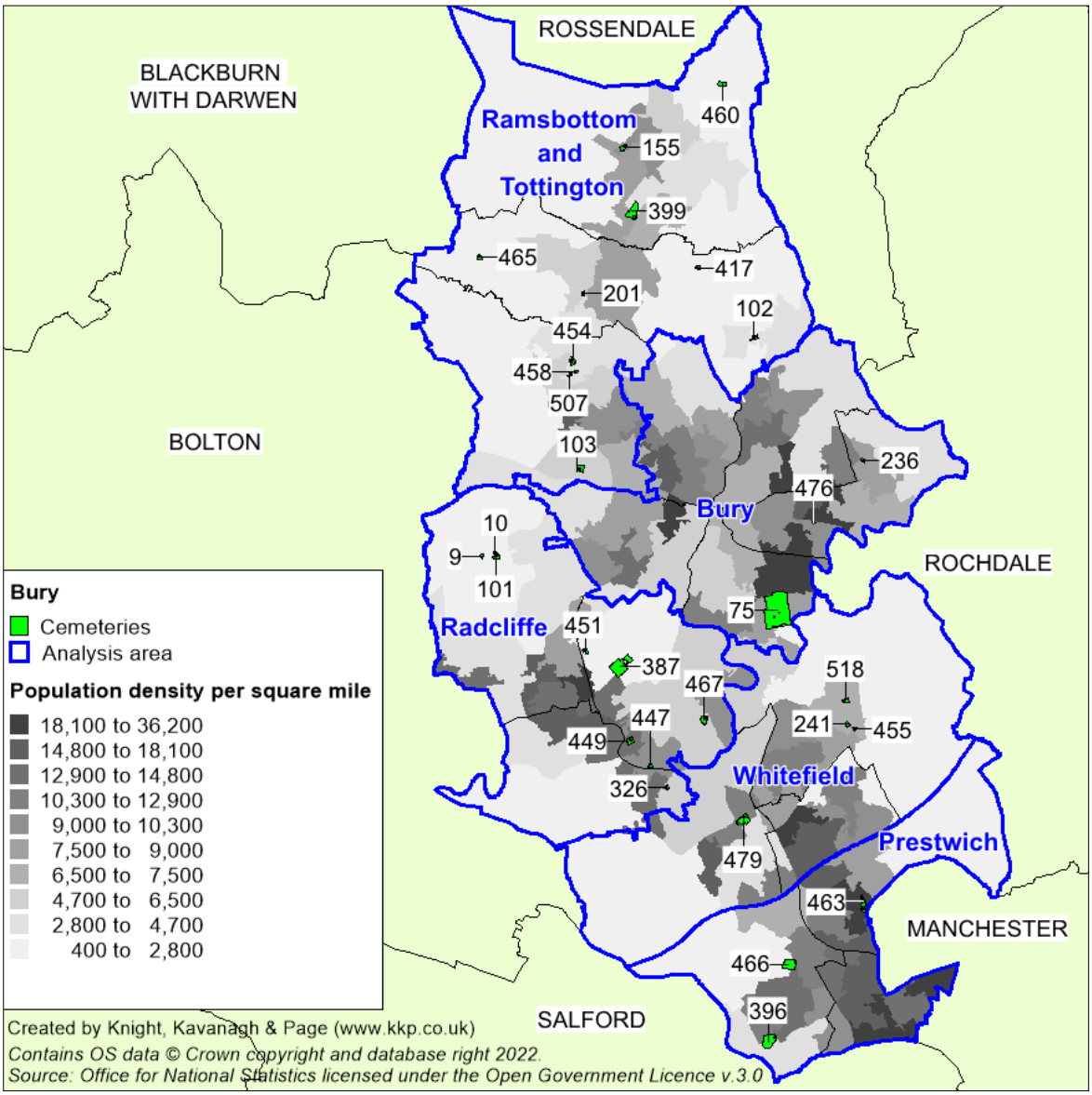


Table 9.2: Key to cemetery/churchyards mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
9	Ainsworth Methodist Church	Radcliffe	0.26
10	Ainsworth Presbyterian Chapel Graveyard	Radcliffe	0.19
75	Bury Cemetery	Bury	20.00
101	Christ Church, Ainsworth	Radcliffe	0.64
102	Christ Church, Walmersley	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.47
103	Christ Church, Walshaw	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.99

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
155	Emmanuel Church	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.60
201	Greenmount United Reformed Church	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.26
236	Hole Bottom Cemetery Memorial Garden	Bury	0.32
241	Hollins Lane Graveyard	Whitefield	0.45
326	New Jerusalem Church	Radcliffe	0.30
387	Radcliffe Cemetery	Radcliffe	6.03
396	Rainscough Jewish Cemetery	Prestwich	3.59
399	Ramsbottom Cemetery	Ramsbottom and Tottington	3.13
417	Rowlands Methodist Churchyard	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.27
447	St John's Graveyard, Radcliffe	Radcliffe	0.42
449	St Thomas & St John	Radcliffe	0.87
451	St. Andrew's Church	Radcliffe	0.45
454	St. Anne's Church	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.70
455	St. George CE Church	Whitefield	0.18
458	St. John's Free Church	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.17
460	St. John's Graveyard	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.75
463	St. Margarets Church and Graveyard	Prestwich	1.12
465	St. Mary's Churchyard, Hawkshaw	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.39
466	St. Mary's Churchyard, Prestwich	Prestwich	2.96
467	St. Mary's Churchyard, Radcliffe	Radcliffe	1.17
476	St. Thomas' Church, Pimhole	Bury	0.15
479	Stand Churchyard	Whitefield	2.05
507	Tottington Methodist Church	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.24
518	Unsworth Methodist Church	Whitefield	0.52

In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates a fairly even distribution across the area. As noted earlier, the need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

For cemeteries no quality/value assessments have taken place. The role of cemeteries is unique in comparison to other types of open space; one which is often difficult to assess in terms of quality and value in a study like this. However, it is important to note that two cemetery sites are Green Flag Award winning sites.

The Green Flag Award scheme is licensed and managed by Keep Britain Tidy. It provides a national standard for parks and greenspaces and is a useful tool to highlight the role of Green Flag status as an indicator of high quality. This in turn affects upon the way parks and greenspaces are managed and maintained.

There are currently 15 sites in Bury identified as achieving Green Flag status (2024/25). Two of these are identified as cemetery provision (Radcliffe Cemetery and Ramsbottom Cemetery). The other 13 winning sites are classified as parks.

PART 10: CIVIC SPACE

10.1 Introduction

The civic space typology includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians. Civic/Market squares often provide a setting for civic buildings such as town halls and opportunities for open-air markets, gatherings and community events. They can also provide meeting points and in some areas a relaxation area or somewhere to take a break from work or shopping.

10.2 Current provision

There are 12 civic space sites, equating to over one hectare of provision. In addition, there are likely to be other informal pedestrian areas, streets or squares which may be viewed as providing similar roles and functions as civic spaces.

Table 10.1: Current civic space

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)
Bury	6	0.78
Prestwich	1	0.15
Radcliffe	2	0.31
Ramsbottom and Tottington	1	0.07
Whitefield	2	0.08
Total	**12**	**1.39**

The largest contributor to provision is Rock Place equating to 0.25 hectares. This is followed by Radcliffe Piazza at 0.23 hectares.

Most identified forms of civic space provision are in the Bury Analysis Area. This is not unexpected as the Bury Analysis Area contains the main urban centre of Bury.

Other sites and areas function in a secondary role as civic space provision. For example, park sites such as Gallipoli Gardens and many others provide uses associated with civic spaces - including local community events – as do other spaces such as pedestrianised areas and streets. For the purposes of this report sites such as these have not been classified as civic space provision due to their more prominent primary function and use.

10.3 Accessibility

No accessibility standard has been set for civic spaces. Figure 10.1 shows civic spaces mapped against analysis areas.

Figure 10.1: Civic space sites mapped

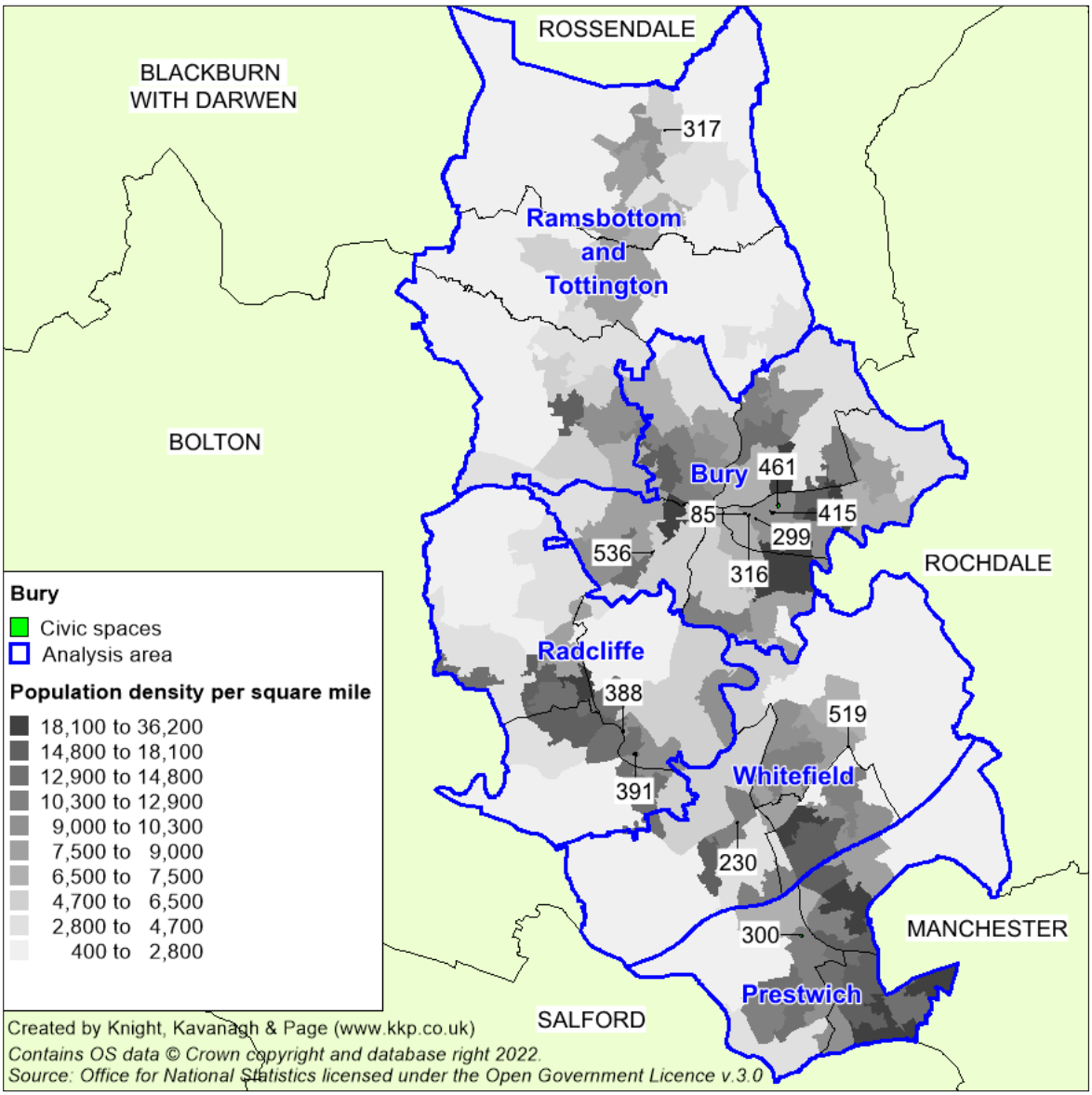


Table 10.2: Key to civic space mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
85	Castle Square	Bury	0.08
230	Higher Lane War Memorial	Whitefield	0.06
299	Lions Garden	Bury	0.09
300	Longfield Centre - The Village Square	Prestwich	0.15
316	Market Place, Bury	Bury	0.06
317	Market Place, Ramsbottom	Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.07
388	Radcliffe Cenotaph	Radcliffe	0.08

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)
391	Radcliffe Piazza	Radcliffe	0.23
415	Rock Place	Bury	0.25
461	St. John's Square	Bury	0.21
519	Unsworth Pole War Memorial	Whitefield	0.03
536	Wellington Barracks Memorial Garden	Bury	0.08

For civic space no quality/value assessments have taken place. The role of civic space is unique in comparison to other types of open space; one which is often difficult to assess in terms of quality and value.

PART 11: PROVISION STANDARDS

The provision standards used to determine deficiencies and surpluses for open space are set in terms of quality, accessibility, and quantity.

11.1: Quality and value

Most types of open space receive a separate quality and value rating. This allows for application of a high and low quality/value matrix to inform prioritisation of investment and, if needed, to help determine if sites may be surplus as a particular open space type.

Quality and value matrix

Assessing the quality and value of open spaces can be used to identify those sites which should be given the highest level of protection, those which require enhancement and those which may no longer be needed for their present purpose.

When analysing the quality/value of a site, it should be done in conjunction with regard to the quantity and/or accessibility of provision in the area (i.e., whether there is a deficiency).

The high/low classification gives the following possible combinations of quality and value:

	High Quality	Low Quality
High Value	All sites should have an aspiration to come into this category. Many sites of this category are likely to be viewed as key forms of open space provision.	The approach to these sites should be to enhance their quality to the applied standard. The priority will be those sites providing a key role in terms of access to provision.
Low Value	The preferred approach to a site in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary function. If this is not possible, consideration to a change of primary function should be given (i.e., a change to another open space typology).	The approach to these sites in areas of identified shortfall should be to enhance their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value. In areas of sufficiency a change of primary typology should be considered first. If no shortfall of other open space typologies is noted than the site may be redundant/ 'surplus to requirements'.

There is a need for flexibility to the enhancement of low-quality sites. In some instances, a better use of resources and investment may be to focus on more suitable sites for enhancement as opposed to trying to enhance sites where it is not appropriate or cost effective to do so.

Please refer to the individual typology sections as well as the supporting excel database for a breakdown of the ratings.

11.2: Accessibility

Accessibility catchments are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that factors underpinning catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day and hour to hour. For the purposes of this process the concept of 'effective catchments' are used, defined as the distance that most users would travel. The accessibility catchments do not consider if a distance is on an incline or decline. They are therefore intended to act as an initial form of analysis to help identify potential gaps.

Table 10.2.1: Accessibility catchments

Open space type	Catchment
Parks & gardens	9-minute walk time (710m)
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	9-minute walk time (720m)
Amenity greenspace	6-minute walk time (480m)
Provision for children and young people (LAP)	1-minute walk time (100m)
Provision for children and young people (LEAP)	5-minute walk time (400m)
Provision for children and young people (NEAP)	12.5-minute walk time (1000m)
Provision for children and young people (Casual e.g., MUGA, skate park)	9-minute walk time (700m)
Allotments	No standard set
Cemeteries	No standard set

No catchments are suggested for allotments or cemeteries. For cemeteries, it is better to determine need for provision based on locally known demand.

If an area does not have access to provision (consistent with the catchments) it is deemed deficient. KKP has identified instances where new sites may be needed, or potential opportunities could be explored in order to provide comprehensive access (i.e., a gap in one form of provision may exist but the area in question may be served by another form of open space). Please refer to the associated mapping to view site catchments.

The following tables summarise the deficiencies identified from the application of the accessibility standards. In determining any subsequent actions for identified gaps, the following are key principles for consideration:

- Increase capacity/usage in order to meet increases in demand, or
- Enhance quality in order to meet increases in demand, or
- Commuted sum for ongoing maintenance/repairs to mitigate impact of new demand

These principles are intended to mitigate for the impact of increases in demand on existing provision. An increase in population will reduce the lifespan of certain sites and/or features (e.g., play equipment, maintenance regimes etc). This will lead to the increased requirement to refurbish and/or replace such forms of provision.

Table 11.1.2: Sites helping to serve gaps in park catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
Bury	Dow Lane (ID 137) Elton Reservoir (ID 153) Goshen Playing Fields (ID 183) Kirklees Valley LNR (ID 279) Manchester Road Playing Fields (ID 314) Sycamore Road (ID 492)	Natural Natural Amenity Natural Amenity Amenity
Prestwich	Drinkwater Park (ID 139) Fairway Gardens (ID 158) Venwood Road (ID 520) Heaton Park (outside)	Natural Amenity Amenity Park
Radcliffe	Banana Path (ID 22) Rear of Sparking Clog Public House (ID 402) Redbank Playing Fields (ID 405) Snape Street (ID 434)	Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Bolton Road West Playing Fields (ID 42) Greenmount Recreation Ground (ID 199) Kirklees Valley LNR (ID 279) Summerseat Lane (ID 487)	Amenity Amenity Natural Amenity
Whitefield	Boz Park (ID 47) Goshen Playing Fields (ID 183) Grundy Playing Fields (ID 205) Hathaway Road Recreation Space (ID 222) Hillock Playing Fields (ID 232) Parr Brook Open Space (ID 354) Thatch Leach Lane Open Space (ID 500)	Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity Amenity

Table 11.1.3: Sites helping to serve gaps in natural greenspace catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
Prestwich	Carver Gardens (ID 83) Fairway Gardens (ID 158) St Mary's Park (ID 469) Heaton Park (outside)	Amenity Amenity Parks Park
Radcliffe	Banana Path (ID 22)	Amenity
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Town Meadow Park (ID 510)	Parks
Whitefield	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park (ID 26) Gardens off Pinfold Lane (ID 174) Hamilton Road Park (ID 211) Hillock Playing Fields (ID 232) Thatch Leach Lane Open Space (ID 500)	Parks Parks Parks Amenity Amenity

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
	Tintern Avenue Open Space (ID 505) Whitefield Park (ID 549)	Amenity Parks

Table 11.1.4: Sites helping to serve gaps in amenity greenspace catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap	Typology
Bury	Dow Lane (ID 137) Elton Reservoir (ID 153) Gallipoli Gardens (ID 173) Kay Gardens (ID 263) Whitehead Park (ID 269) Kirklees Valley LNR (ID 279/280) Manchester Old Road Recreation Space (ID 306) Manchester Road Park (ID 308) Openshaw Park (ID 342) St John's Gardens (ID 459) St Mary's Church Gardens (ID 478)	Natural Natural Park Park Park Natural Park Park Park Park Park
Prestwich	Barnfield Park (ID 24) Gardner Mount Recreation Ground (ID 176) St Mary's Flower Park (ID 468) St Mary's Park (ID 469) Philips Park (ID 363) Prestwich Clough (ID 377) Heaton Park (outside)	Park Natural Park Park Natural Natural Park
Radcliffe	Church Green (ID 104) Close Park (ID 116)	Park Park
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Grant's Wood (ID 189) Tagg Wood (ID 495) Old Kays Park (ID 340) Town Meadow Park (ID 510)	Natural Natural Park Park
Whitefield	Besses Playing Fields (ID 26) Gardens off Pinfold Lane (ID 174) Hamilton Road Park (ID 211) Philips Park (ID 363)	Park Park Park Natural

For play provision, an option could be to explore and encourage opportunities to expand provision at existing play sites where the gap in play provision is highlighted.

Table 11.1.5: Sites helping to serve gaps in play provision catchments

Analysis area	Other open spaces in gap
Prestwich	Fairway Gardens Play Area (ID 158.1), Ostrich Lane Play Area (ID 349)
Radcliffe	Snape Street Play Area (ID 434.1)
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Bolton Road West Playing Fields (ID 42.1/42.2) Greenmount Recreation Ground Play Area (ID 199.1) Ramsbottom Baths Play Area (ID 398.1) Summerseat Lane Play Area (ID 487.1)
Whitefield	Parr Lane Play Area (ID 355.1)

11.3: Quantity

Quantity standards can be used to identify areas of shortfalls and help with determining requirements for future developments.

Setting quantity standards

The setting and application of quantity standards is necessary to determine shortfalls in provision and to help inform what new developments should contribute to the provision of open space across the area.

It is useful to compare existing quantity standards against current levels of provision and national benchmarks.

Guidance on quantity levels is published by FIT in its document “Creating great spaces for all” (2024). The guidance provides standards for three types of open space provision: parks and gardens, amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace. FIT also suggests a guideline quantity standard for equipped/designated playing space.

For allotments, the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households, an equivalent of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population.

Table 11.3.1 sets out the figures for existing quantity standards, current provision levels identified and national benchmarks.

Table 11.3.1: Comparison of quantity standards (hectares per 1,000 population)

Typology	Current provision	National benchmarks	Previous standards
Parks & gardens	0.57	0.80	0.73
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	4.11	1.80	3.90
Amenity greenspace	0.64	0.60	0.50
Provision for children & young people	0.04	0.25	0.25
Allotment	0.08	0.25	3.9 plots[8]

The difference between the previous standards and current provision levels for parks, natural and amenity is likely due to the change in classification for some sites.

For parks, play and allotments the national standards are recommended to be used. In all three typologies, the national standards are the greatest figure of hectares per 1,000 population.

For natural and amenity provision, the current provision levels are recommended to be used. For both provision types, the current provision levels are greater than both the previous standards and national benchmarks.

This approach will ensure the maximum amount of open space provision is sought.

In summary, the following quantity standards are recommended based on current provision levels

Table 11.3.2: Recommended quantity standards (hectares per 1,000 population)

Typology	Recommended Quantity Standard
Parks & gardens	0.80
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	4.11
Amenity greenspace	0.64
Provision for children & young people	0.25
Allotment	0.25

The recommended standards can be used to help inform the contributions from new developments to the provision of open space across the area.

The current provision levels are used to inform existing quantity shortfalls. Table 11.3.3 to 11.3.7 show the position for each sub-area as to whether it is sufficient or identified as having a shortfall for each type of open space.

[8] Based current provision level ratio

Table 11.3.3: Parks and gardens provision shortfalls against current provision level standards by analysis area (hectares per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Current provision	Above/below 0.57
Bury	0.99	0.42
Prestwich	0.25	-0.32
Radcliffe	0.49	-0.08
Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.71	+0.14
Whitefield	0.16	-0.41

Table 11.3.4: Natural greenspace provision shortfalls against current provision level by analysis area (hectares per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Current provision	Above/below 4.11
Bury	2.03	-2.08
Prestwich	5.59	+1.48
Radcliffe	5.59	+1.48
Ramsbottom and Tottington	5.13	+1.02
Whitefield	3.62	-0.49

Table 11.3.5: Amenity greenspace provision shortfalls against current provision level by analysis area (hectares per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Current provision	Above/below 0.64
Bury	0.45	-0.19
Prestwich	0.14	-0.50
Radcliffe	0.81	+0.18
Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.77	+0.13
Whitefield	1.18	+0.55

Table 11.3.6: Provision for children and young people shortfalls against current provision level by analysis area (hectares per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Current provision	Above/below 0.04
Bury	0.05	+0.01
Prestwich	0.05	+0.01
Radcliffe	0.04	Level
Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.05	+0.01
Whitefield	0.04	Level

Table 11.3.7: Allotment provision shortfalls against current provision level by analysis area (hectares per 1,000 population)
:

Analysis area	Current provision	Above/below 0.08
Bury	0.06	-0.02
Prestwich	0.18	+0.09
Radcliffe	0.02	-0.06
Ramsbottom and Tottington	0.10	+0.02
Whitefield	0.07	-0.01

Most analysis areas are observed as having shortfalls in some form of open space. The Ramsbottom and Tottington Analysis is the only analysis area to have no quantitative shortfalls.

11.4: Identifying priorities and recommendations

Several quantity shortfalls in the open space typologies are highlighted. Creating new provision to address these existing shortfalls (particularly any quantity shortfalls) is often challenging (as significant amounts of new forms of provision would need to be created). Often a more realistic approach is to ensure sufficient accessibility and quality of existing provision. However, it highlights the need for new housing developments to provide new open space provision to ensure shortfalls are not exacerbated.

Exploring opportunities to enhance existing provision and linkages to sites should be endorsed. Further insight to the shortfalls is provided within Parts 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3.

Quantity levels should still be utilised to indicate the potential lack of provision any given area may have. However, this should be done in conjunction with the accessibility and quality of provision in the area.

The current provision levels can also be used to determine the open space requirements as part of new housing developments. In the first instance, all types of provision should look to be provided as part of new housing developments.

If this is not considered viable, the column signalling whether an area is sufficient or has a quantity shortfall may be used to help inform the priorities for each type of open space within each area (i.e., the priorities may be where a shortfall has been identified).

Recommendations

The following provides a summary on the key findings through the application of the standards. It incorporates and recommends what the Council should be seeking to achieve in order to help address the issues highlighted.

Recommendation 1

- Sites helping, or with the potential to help, serve areas identified as having gaps in catchment mapping should be recognised as important

Part 11.2 identifies sites that help or have the potential to serve existing identified gaps in provision.

Table 11.4.1: Summary of sites helping to serve catchment gaps

Site ID	Site name	Typology	Helps to serve provision gap in:
22	Banana Path, Radcliffe	Amenity	Parks, Natural
24	Barnfield Park	Parks	Amenity
26	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park	Parks	Natural, Amenity
42	Bolton Road West Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
42.1	Bolton Road West Playing Fields play area	Play	Play
42.2	Bolton Road West Playing Fields MUGA	Play	Play
47	Boz Park	Amenity	Parks
83	Carver Gardens	Amenity	Natural
104	Church Green	Parks	Amenity
116	Close Park	Parks	Amenity
137	Dow Lane	Natural	Parks, Amenity
139	Drinkwater Park	Natural	Parks
153	Elton Reservoir	Natural	Parks, Amenity
158	Fairway Gardens	Amenity	Parks, Natural
158.1	Fairway Gardens play area	Play	Play
173	Gallipoli Gardens	Parks	Amenity
174	Gardens off Pinfold Lane	Parks	Natural, Amenity
176	Gardner Mount Recreation Ground	Natural	Amenity
183	Goshen Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
189	Grant's Wood	Natural	Amenity
199	Greenmount Recreation Ground	Amenity	Parks
199.1	Greenmount Recreation Ground play areas	Play	Play
205	Grundy Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
211	Hamilton Road Park	Parks	Natural, Amenity
222	Hathaway Road Recreation Space	Amenity	Parks
232	Hillock Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks, Natural
263	Kay Gardens	Parks	Amenity
269	King George V Playing Field / Whitehead Park	Parks	Amenity

Site ID	Site name	Typology	Helps to serve provision gap in:
279	Kirklees Valley LNR Phase 1	Natural	Parks, Amenity
280	Kirklees Valley LNR Phase 2	Natural	Amenity
306	Manchester Old Road Recreation Space	Parks	Amenity
308	Manchester Road Park	Parks	Amenity
314	Manchester Road Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
340	Old Kays Park	Parks	Amenity
342	Openshaw Park	Parks	Amenity
349	Ostrich Lane Play Area	Play	Play
354	Parr Brook Open Space (South)	Amenity	Parks
355.1	Parr Lane play area	Play	Play
363	Philips Park	Natural	Amenity
377	Prestwich Clough	Natural	Amenity
398.1	Ramsbottom Baths play area	Play	Play
402	Rear of Sparking Clog Public House	Amenity	Parks
405	Redbank Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
434	Snape Street	Amenity	Parks
434.1	Snape Street Play Area	Play	Play
459	St. John's Gardens	Parks	Amenity
468	St. Mary's Flower Park	Parks	Amenity
469	St. Mary's Park	Parks	Natural, Amenity
478	St. Mary's Church Gardens	Parks	Amenity
487	Summerseat Lane	Amenity	Parks
487.1	Summerseat Lane play area	Play	Play
492	Sycamore Road	Amenity	Parks
495	Tagg Wood	Natural	Amenity
500	Thatch Leach Lane Open Space	Amenity	Parks, Natural
505	Tintern Avenue Open Space / Mather Avenue	Amenity	Natural
510	Town Meadow Park	Parks	Amenity
520	Venwood Road	Amenity	Parks
549	Whitefield Park	Parks	Natural

These sites potentially help to meet the identified catchment gaps for other open space typologies. Their role in providing access to open space is therefore crucial. Where possible, the Council may seek to adapt these sites to provide a stronger secondary role, to help meet the gaps highlighted.

Often this is related to parks, amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace. The Council should explore the potential/possibility to adapt these sites through formalisation and/or greater provision of features linked to other types of open space. This is to provide a stronger secondary role as well as opportunities associated with other open space types. This may, in some instances, also help provide options to minimise the need for creation of new provision to address any gaps in catchment mapping.

For play provision, sites could be explored for opportunities to expand the amount and breadth of equipment at existing play sites.

These sites should therefore be viewed as open space provision that are likely to provide multiple social and value benefits. It is also important that the quality and value of these sites is secured and enhanced (Recommendation 2).

Recommendation 2

- Ensure low quality/value sites helping to serve potential gaps in accessibility catchments are prioritised for enhancement

The approach to these sites should be to enhance their quality/value to the applied standards. A list of low quality and/or value sites currently helping to serve catchment gaps in provision is set out in Table 11.4.2 below. This also includes sites without a quality/value rating.

These sites should first look to be enhanced in terms of quality. Consideration should be given to changing the primary typology or strengthening the secondary function of these sites, to one which they currently help to serve a gap in provision, even if their quality cannot currently be enhanced. For some sites, such as natural and semi-natural greenspace, the ability to adapt or strengthen secondary roles may be limited due to the features and characteristics of the site.

Table 11.4.2: Summary of low quality/value sites helping to serve catchment gaps

Site ID	Site name	Typology	Helps to serve provision gap in:
24	Barnfield Park	Parks	Amenity
42	Bolton Road West Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
42.1	Bolton Road West Playing Fields play area	Play	Play
42.2	Bolton Road West Playing Fields MUGA	Play	Play
83	Carver Gardens	Amenity	Natural
104	Church Green	Parks	Amenity
153	Elton Reservoir	Natural	Parks, Amenity
158	Fairway Gardens	Amenity	Parks, Natural
174	Gardens off Pinfold Lane	Parks	Natural, Amenity
176	Gardner Mount Recreation Ground	Natural	Amenity

Site ID	Site name	Typology	Helps to serve provision gap in:
189	Grant's Wood	Natural	Amenity
199	Greenmount Recreation Ground	Amenity	Parks
306	Manchester Old Road Recreation Space	Parks	Amenity
314	Manchester Road Playing Fields	Amenity	Parks
349	Ostrich Lane Play Area	Play	Play
355.1	Parr Lane play area	Play	Play
434	Snape Street	Amenity	Parks
478	St. Mary's Church Gardens	Parks	Amenity
487	Summerseat Lane	Amenity	Parks
492	Sycamore Road	Amenity	Parks
495	Tagg Wood	Natural	Amenity
505	Tintern Avenue Open Space / Mather Avenue	Amenity	Natural
520	Venwood Road	Amenity	Parks

Recommendation 3

- Review areas with sufficient provision in open space and consider how they may be able to meet other areas of need

This study identifies 70 sites currently below their quality and/or value thresholds. For an area with a quantity sufficiency in one type of open space, and where opportunities allow, a change of primary typology could be considered for some sites of that same type.

For instance, the Whitefield Analysis Area has a potential sufficiency in amenity greenspace but a potential shortfall in natural greenspace. Consequently, the function of some amenity greenspace could look to be strengthened to act as natural greenspace provision.

It is important that other factors, such as the potential typology change of a site creating a different catchment gap and/or the potential to help serve deficiencies in other types of provision should also be considered. The Council may also be aware of other issues, such as the importance of a site for heritage, biodiversity or as a visual amenity that may also indicate that a site should continue to stay the same typology.

Recommendation 4

- Keep data, reports and supporting evidence base up to date to reflect changes

This study provides a snapshot in time. Whilst significant changes are not as common for open space provision, inevitably over time changes in provision occur through creation of new provision, loss of existing provision and/or alterations to site boundaries and management. Population change and housing growth are also another consideration to review when undertaking any form of update as this may impact on quantity provision levels and standards. It is therefore important for the Council to undertake regular reviews of the data and/or actions informed by it.

Recommendation 5

- Recommended standards to inform future growth requirements

At the time of writing several strategic allocations are identified for Bury as part of the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (PfE). Each development area is envisaged to be slightly different in size and distribution of land. The allocated sites are shown in the table below.

Table 11.4.3: PfE strategic site allocations

Strategic allocation	Dwellings to be delivered
Land at JPA1.1 Northern Gateway (Heywood/Pilsworth)	200
Land at JPA1.2 Northern Gateway (Simister/Bowlee)	1,350
Land at JPA7 Elton Reservoir	3,500
Land at JPA9 Walshaw	1,250

The indicative population figures are based on the assumption that population growth will average 2.4 persons[9] per dwelling. Note the figures can be updated as required over the Plan period to reflect changes in population projections and dwelling numbers.

On this basis, using the recommended quantity standards[10], the following open space requirements are calculated for each strategic development.

[9] ONS, Families and households in the UK (2024)
[10] recommended quantity standard (ha per 1,000 population) x population increase / 1000 = estimated requirement

Land at JPA 1.1 Northern Gateway (Heywood/Pilsworth)

The allocation is to deliver 200 dwellings. It is assumed this will provide an indicative population of 480 people. On this basis, the table below sets out the open space requirements.

Table 11.4.4: Northern Gateway (Heywood/Pilsworth) Open Space Requirements (hectares)

Parks	Natural / semi-natural greenspace	Amenity greenspace	Allotment	Play
0.38	1.97	0.31	0.12	0.12

Land at JPA 1.2 Northern Gateway (Simister/Bowlee)

The allocation is to deliver 1,350 dwellings. It is assumed this will provide an indicative population of 3,240 people. On this basis, the table below sets out the open space requirements.

Table 11.4.5: Northern Gateway (Simister/Bowlee) Open Space Requirements (hectares)

Parks	Natural / semi-natural greenspace	Amenity greenspace	Allotment	Play
2.59	13.32	2.07	0.81	0.81

Land at JPA7 Elton Reservoir

The allocation is to deliver 3,500 dwellings. It is assumed this will provide an indicative population of 8,400 people. On this basis, the table below sets out the open space requirements.

Table 11.4.6: Elton Reservoir Open Space Requirements (hectares)

Parks	Natural / semi-natural greenspace	Amenity greenspace	Allotment	Play
6.72	34.52	5.38	2.10	2.10

Land at JPA 9 Walshaw

The allocation is to deliver 1,250 dwellings. It is assumed this will provide an indicative population of 3,000 people. On this basis, the table below sets out the open space requirements.

Table 11.4.7: Walshaw Open Space Requirements (hectares)

Parks	Natural / semi-natural greenspace	Amenity greenspace	Allotment	Play
2.40	12.33	1.92	0.75	0.75

In the event that the number of dwellings proposed on the above PfE strategic site allocations changes, the open space requirements can be recalculated by adjusting the anticipated population increase and building this into the formula set out in footnote 10.

APPENDIX ONE: LIST OF ASSESSED SITES

Natural/semi-natural greenspace

ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Value
62	Broad Oak Neighbourhood Park	Bury	34.8%	25.5%
65	Broad Oak Woods	Bury	34.8%	25.5%
66	Broad Oak/Smethurst Wood	Bury	24.0%	30.0%
97	Chesham Woods	Bury	58.5%	30.0%
137	Dow Lane	Bury	57.8%	27.3%
139	Drinkwater Park	Prestwich	73.5%	27.3%
153	Elton Reservoir	Radcliffe	51.2%	45.5%
168	Former Prestwich Tip adjacent to Drinkwater Park	Prestwich	64.1%	27.3%
179	Gollinrod / Brooksbottom Wood	Ramsbottom and Tottington	65.9%	22.7%
180	Gollinrod / Nuttall Field	Ramsbottom and Tottington	64.8%	22.7%
242	Hollins Vale LNR	Whitefield	67.2%	24.5%
256	Hurst Wood	Whitefield	61.0%	30.0%
266	Kersal Road Open Space	Prestwich	51.6%	30.0%
278	Kirklees Trail	Ramsbottom and Tottington	69.0%	30.0%
279	Kirklees Valley LNR Phase 1	Ramsbottom and Tottington	69.0%	30.0%
280	Kirklees Valley LNR Phase 2	Bury	63.8%	25.5%
315	Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal	Radcliffe	57.5%	25.5%
350	Outwood Country Park	Radcliffe	64.8%	36.4%
363	Philips Park	Prestwich	78.0%	36.4%
377	Prestwich Clough	Prestwich	61.3%	27.3%
383	Prestwich Sewage Works	Prestwich	58.5%	20.9%
406	Redisher Woods	Ramsbottom and Tottington	64.8%	30.9%
410	Rhodes Farm	Prestwich	69.0%	25.5%
414	Roch Valley Greenway	Bury	44.9%	20.9%
446	Springwater Park	Whitefield	71.8%	45.5%
486	Starmount Lodges / Blackshaw Brook	Radcliffe	54.7%	31.8%
516	Two Brooks Valley	Ramsbottom and Tottington	70.0%	26.4%
533	Waterdale	Prestwich	69.0%	25.5%
548	Whitefield Nature Trail / Outwood Trail	Whitefield	63.8%	35.5%

Amenity greenspace

ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Value
22	Banana Path, Radcliffe	Radcliffe	54.1%	40.0%
23	Barlow Recreation Ground	Whitefield	59.7%	23.0%
47	Boz Park	Whitefield	55.0%	30.0%
52	Brandlesholme House Open Space / Purbeck Drive	Bury	69.0%	35.0%
115	Clifton Road Playing Fields	Prestwich	48.6%	38.0%
148	Elms Playing Fields	Whitefield	54.0%	32.0%
183	Goshen Playing Fields	Bury	59.4%	33.0%
205	Grundy Playing Fields	Whitefield	56.8%	33.0%
222	Hathaway Road Recreation Space	Whitefield	50.8%	28.0%
223	Hawkshaw Recreation Ground	Ramsbottom and Tottington	52.1%	23.0%
232	Hillock Playing Fields	Whitefield	50.6%	38.0%
238	Hollinhurst Playing Fields	Radcliffe	61.9%	33.0%
276	King George V Playing Fields, Outwood	Radcliffe	52.1%	33.0%
297	Limefield Brow Recreation Space	Bury	48.2%	28.0%
314	Manchester Road Playing Fields	Bury	48.6%	38.0%
320	Milton Road Open Space	Radcliffe	46.2%	18.0%
354	Parr Brook Open Space (South)	Whitefield	57.3%	33.0%
395	Railway Street Recreation Space	Ramsbottom and Tottington	68.3%	23.0%
398	Ramsbottom Baths Recreation Land	Ramsbottom and Tottington	55.8%	45.0%
402	Rear of Sparking Clog Public House	Radcliffe	50.6%	23.0%
405	Redbank Playing Fields	Radcliffe	54.6%	33.0%
487	Summerseat Lane	Ramsbottom and Tottington	49.1%	28.0%
500	Thatch Leach Lane Open Space	Whitefield	63.2%	38.0%
530	Warth Fold	Radcliffe	42.5%	11.0%
534	Waterside Road Playing Fields	Ramsbottom and Tottington	62.6%	30.0%
564	Woodhill Road	Bury	52.8%	28.0%

Children and young people provision

ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Value
1.1	Abden Street Play Area	Radcliffe	44.3%	29.1%
11.1	Ainsworth Recreation Ground play area	Radcliffe	44.7%	20.0%
23.1	Barlow Recreation Ground play area	Whitefield	42.3%	38.2%
26.1	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park play area	Whitefield	72.2%	45.5%
26.2	Besses Playing Field / Victoria Park MUGA	Whitefield	52.6%	40.0%
32.1	Bolton Road Park play area	Radcliffe	58.4%	20.0%
32.3	Bolton Road Park MUGA	Radcliffe	50.9%	34.5%
32.5	Bolton Road Park table tennis	Radcliffe	50.9%	34.5%
32.6	Bolton Road Park youth shelter	Radcliffe	47.4%	25.5%
45.1	Booth Street play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	55.3%	34.5%
47.1	Boz Park MUGA	Whitefield	43.0%	45.5%
49	Bradley Fold Play Area	Radcliffe	45.0%	30.9%
52.1	Brandlesholme House / Purbeck Drive play area	Bury	64.6%	27.3%
53.1	Brandlesholme Road Play Area	Bury	49.5%	25.5%
53.2	Brandlesholme Road MUGA	Bury	49.5%	25.5%
59.1	Bright Street Play Area	Radcliffe	51.5%	34.5%
62.1	Broad Oak Neighbourhood Park MUGA	Bury	27.1%	34.5%
108.1	Clarence Park play area	Bury	77.3%	72.7%
108.2	Clarence Park MUGA	Bury	76.6%	56.4%
108.3	Clarence Park skate park	Bury	50.5%	25.5%
108.5	Clarence Park fitness equipment	Bury	59.5%	38.2%
116.1	Close Park play area	Radcliffe	76.6%	60.0%
116.2	Close Park MUGA	Radcliffe	77.0%	56.4%
125.1	Coronation Park play area	Radcliffe	40.2%	12.7%
125.2	Coronation Park MUGA	Radcliffe	30.6%	21.8%
137.1	Dow Lane play area	Bury	57.4%	30.9%
158.1	Fairway Gardens play area	Prestwich	50.5%	43.6%
162.1	Finchy Park play area	Bury	40.9%	38.2%
165.1	Former Binex Works basketball	Ramsbottom and Tottington	37.1%	41.8%
176.1	Gardner Mount Play Area	Prestwich	45.4%	30.9%
183.1	Goshen Playing Fields play area	Bury	52.6%	47.3%
183.2	Goshen Playing Fields MUGA	Bury	60.5%	56.4%
199.1	Greenmount Recreation Ground play areas	Ramsbottom and Tottington	71.8%	54.5%

ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Value
205.1	Grundy Playing Fields play area	Whitefield	47.4%	25.5%
205.2	Grundy Playing Fields MUGA	Whitefield	41.9%	21.8%
211.1	Hamilton Road Park play area	Whitefield	71.5%	20.0%
218.1	Hartley Gardens play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	50.9%	36.4%
218.2	Hartley Gardens MUGA	Ramsbottom and Tottington	50.9%	36.4%
222.1	Hathaway Road MUGA	Whitefield	43.0%	47.3%
223.1	Hawkshaw Recreation Ground play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	69.4%	38.2%
228.1	Heyside Way play area	Bury	25.8%	21.8%
238.1	Hollinhurst Playing Fields play area	Radcliffe	51.2%	47.3%
246.1	Hoyles Park play area	Bury	66.3%	29.1%
246.2	Hoyles Park MUGA	Bury	45.0%	43.6%
251.1	Hunters Hill football court	Whitefield	36.1%	40.0%
264	Kenyon Lane play area	Prestwich	47.8%	65.5%
266.1	Kersal Road play area	Prestwich	60.1%	38.2%
269.1	King George V Playing Field / Whitehead Park play area	Bury	53.6%	36.4%
269.2	King George V Playing Field / Whitehead Park MUGA	Bury	45.4%	45.5%
276.1	King George V Playing Fields play area	Radcliffe	52.2%	50.9%
276.2	King George V Playing Fields MUGA	Radcliffe	48.1%	60.0%
308.1	Manchester Road Park play area	Bury	44.7%	20.0%
308.2	Manchester Road Park MUGA	Bury	46.4%	34.5%
308.3	Manchester Road Park outdoor gym	Bury	43.6%	25.5%
328.1	Nuttall Park play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	81.8%	63.6%
340.1	Old Kays Park play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	41.2%	38.2%
342.1	Openshaw Park play area	Bury	63.6%	50.9%
342.2	Openshaw Park MUGA 1	Bury	63.9%	56.4%
342.3	Openshaw Park MUGA 2	Bury	55.7%	56.4%
349	Ostrich Lane Play Area	Prestwich	47.1%	38.2%
351.1	Park Lane Playground	Whitefield	44.7%	43.6%
354.1	Sunnybank play area	Whitefield	60.1%	47.3%
355.1	Parr Lane play area	Whitefield	41.9%	47.3%
358.1	Peel Brow play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	43.0%	56.4%
363.1	Philips Park play area	Prestwich	73.2%	50.9%

ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Value
372	Play Area off Kershaw Avenue	Prestwich	49.8%	47.3%
393	Radcliffe Skate Park	Radcliffe	47.1%	34.5%
398.1	Ramsbottom Baths play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	64.9%	20.0%
429.1	Simister Green Play Area	Prestwich	56.0%	21.8%
434.1	Snape Street Play Area	Radcliffe	54.0%	47.3%
437.1	South Royd Street Ball Zone	Ramsbottom and Tottington	64.6%	43.6%
443.1	Springs Community Green play area	Bury	41.6%	38.2%
469.1	St. Mary's Park play area 1	Prestwich	56.0%	27.3%
469.2	St. Mary's Park play area 2	Prestwich	62.5%	45.5%
469.3	St. Mary's Park MUGA	Prestwich	57.4%	43.6%
487.1	Summerseat Lane play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	50.9%	47.3%
492.1	Sycamore Road Play Area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	49.5%	50.9%
500.1	Thatch Leach Lane play area	Whitefield	72.9%	54.5%
500.2	Thatch Leach Lane MUGA	Whitefield	62.5%	63.6%
510.1	Town Meadow Park play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	72.9%	56.4%
520.1	Venwood Road Play Area	Prestwich	40.2%	29.1%
534.1	Waterside Road Playing Fields play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	61.5%	54.5%
537.1	Wellington Barracks Recreation Ground play area	Bury	48.8%	38.2%
544.1	Whalley Road play area	Ramsbottom and Tottington	45.0%	34.5%
549.1	Whitefield Park play area	Whitefield	81.4%	63.6%
549.2	Whitefield Park MUGA	Whitefield	51.5%	34.5%
564.1	Woodhill Road Play Area	Bury	54.0%	60.0%
564.2	Woodhill Road MUGA	Bury	51.5%	47.3%
568.1	Young Street Play Area	Radcliffe	57.7%	65.5%