SD.47



Sunderland Greenspace Audit and Report

December 2018



SUNDERLAND GREENSPACE AUDIT AND REPORT

December 2018

Contents

		Page
1.0	Introduction / background	1
2.0	Policy background	5
3.0	Audit assumptions	11
4.0	Audit methodology	16
5.0	Audit scoring and community value weighting	18
6.0	Local guidelines & results Introduction / city perspective	21
7.0	Amenity greenspace	24
8.0	Provision for children and young people	33
9.0	Natural and semi-natural greenspace	37
10.0	Parks and Formal Gardens	49
11.0	Allotments and Community Gardens	54
12.0	Outdoor sports facilities	60
13.0	Cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds	67
14.0	Civic spaces	71
15.0	Accessible countryside	72
16.0	School playing fields and grounds	74
17.0	Greenspace value	76
18.0	City-wide results, recommendations and next steps	85
Appe	ndix 1: Greenspace provision at Area Framework level	89
Appe	ndix 2: Greenspace provision at Ward level	98

Appendix 3: Policy ba	ackground detail	113
Appendix 4: Defining Sunderland	and identifying natural greenspace in	116
Appendix 5: Greensp	ace audit proforma	118
Appendix 6: Amenity 20% below the city av	greenspace quality – sites scoring more than verage	130

1.0 Introduction / background

- 1.1 With a population of 277,962 (Source: ONS Mid-2016 estimate), Sunderland provides more than a quarter of the population of the Tyne and Wear conurbation. Nevertheless, 57% of its area is classed as open countryside or urban green space. This is in part due to Green Belt that helps to preserve open countryside through the centre and fringes of the city area, and separating both the city from neighbouring towns as well as its three main areas from each other- Sunderland, Washington and Houghton-le-Spring / Hetton-le-Hole. It is also due to major reclamation schemes carried out following industrial change, enabling improved access to the River Wear Estuary and the creation of a number of formal parks and country parks.
- 1.2 In comparison to other UK cities, the location of Sunderland has major advantages that combine to create a rich and varied network of greenspaces that benefits the health, social, economic and environmental well-being of the city. The city's greenspaces are supplemented by Sunderland's beaches and natural coastline, the location on a major river estuary and by the unusual and rare habitat provided by the Magnesian Limestone plateau and escarpment that bisects the geology and geography of the city. There have also been numerous greenspace improvements made across the city over the last 15 years, including the creation of Herrington and Elba Country Parks, and major refurbishments to Mowbray, Roker and Barnes historic parks. Complementing and knitting these features together are green corridors and cycleways that owe their existence from successful reclamation of several former railway lines.
- 1.3 Local policy for the provision and management of green spaces is contained in a number of council publications. Principal amongst these is the city's sustainable community strategy (Sunderland Strategy) that specifies the following key aim and objective:

Aim 5 is:

"To ensure that Sunderland becomes a clean, green city with a strong culture of sustainability, protecting and nurturing both its built heritage and future development and ensuring that both the built and natural environments will be welcoming, accessible, attractive and of high quality".

Key objective:

"Residential and employment areas will be set within a network of green spaces providing areas for recreation, natural habitats and attractive landscape settings. The network will link the main urban areas, the coast, river and countryside with each other and with neighbouring districts".

and

"By 2025 the council and its partners will have created sustainable and environmentally friendly housing developments that open up and connect neighbourhoods with each other and to town centres and create common spaces shared by all communities".

Sunderland Greenspace Audit

- 1.4 To achieve the council's green space related objectives and guide its future planning and management of green spaces it is important that an up-to-date assessment of the types, amounts, quality and public perceptions of green spaces is undertaken.
- 1.5 Sunderland has prepared an Open Space Register and Map for more than 30 years. These registers concentrated on the quantity of provision of parks, amenity greenspace, play areas and outdoor sports facilities.
- 1.6 The 2018 Greenspace Audit provides an update to the 2012 audit and is designed to set local standards and guidelines based on assessments of local needs, demographics and audits of existing open spaces. It provides the basis for addressing quantitative and qualitative deficiencies through the planning process and recommends policies and actions for inclusion within Council documents. It will also enable the City Council to ensure the most effective and efficient use of greenspaces within the city and plan and respond appropriately to any pressures of immediate and future developments.
- 1.7 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) endorses the above approach to greenspace, as well as promoting the concept of 'Green Infrastructure' (GI), which provides further sustainable elements to be considered with regards to the development of city greenspaces, and to support the city's Local Plan.

Area Frameworks and Wards

- 1.8 The City Council has broken the city into 5 large areas, known as Area Frameworks. Each framework area is made up of several adjoining electoral wards, and so represents a fairly large sector of the city. The aim of each framework is to help develop regeneration policies and activities by area and they provide an important means of co-ordinating resources and directing them to areas of greatest need and opportunity. The 5 Area Frameworks are as follows:
 - Sunderland North
 - Sunderland West
 - Sunderland East
 - Washington
 - Coalfield.



How to use this report

- 1.9 Most users of this report will be investigating a particular greenspace, or group of greenspaces, or investigating greenspace need in relation to a development in a particular part of the city. The key sections of the report are as follows:
 - Appendix 1 provides an explanation of greenspace need for each of the 5 Area Frameworks
 - Appendix 2 provides an explanation of greenspace need for each of the 25 Wards
 - Sections 7 to 18 explain greenspace statistics and need by each of the greenspace typologies, as well as addressing local 'value' of sites and physical barriers to access across the city.

Beyond this report, it may also be necessary to refer to other Council reports and strategies, such as, for example, the Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan. City-wide information and headline statistics on greenspace can be found in sections 6 and 18.

2.0 Policy background

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.1 The NPPF states that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreational facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits of surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area.
- 2.2 The NPPF recognises the wider role of greenspace, stating that successful neighbourhoods require high quality public space, which in turn makes a vital contribution to the health and well-being of communities. It puts forward that the planning system should create a built environment that facilitates social interaction and inclusive communities and ensures access to open spaces and recreational facilities. Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless an assessment has been undertaken that clearly shows the land to be surplus to requirements. Any loss resulting from a proposed development should be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.
- 2.3 These statements, along with the City Council's own vision and aims, provide the basis for undertaking the current Green Space Audit, so as to give the council an up-to-date data base and report for its forward planning functions. Paragraph 10.24 of the publication draft Core Strategy and Development Plan (CSDP) states that the Greenspace Audit should be used to inform development of the most suitable greenspace provision/improvement for each locality.
- 2.4 The CSDP defines greenspace as:
 - a) Amenity greenspace
 - b) Provision for children and young people
 - c) Natural and semi-natural greenspace
 - d) Formal parks and country parks
 - e) Allotments and community gardens
 - f) Outdoor sports facilities
 - g) School playing fields and grounds
 - h) Cemeteries and church grounds
 - i) Civic spaces
 - j) Coast and estuary.
- 2.5 In addition, further analysis has been undertaken to ascertain the quantity, quality, local value and site accessibility of greenspaces. This has been interpreted as follows:
 - Quantity the amount (by type) of greenspace available
 - Quality based on detailed survey results, and existing known data

- Value capturing how important greenspace is to people
- Accessibility how accessible each type of greenspace is available across the city, and also identifying known key physical barriers to access such as rivers, major roads and railways.

National advice

2.6 There are a number of organisations that act as Government advisors, and have provided considerable research and justification on the need for better understanding of our greenspaces. Part of this is provided to support local authorities, but it is also recognised that there is only a limited understanding nationally of our greenspaces, and very little provided in terms of best practice standards that should be applied. Natural England and the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) have provided the bulk of the UK research.

Council policy

- 2.7 The City Council's Corporate Plan sets out the key priorities for the next four years. One of the key priorities in the Plan is regenerating the City and improving health and wellbeing. Key actions have been derived from the key priorities which include:
 - Maximising the opportunities from the Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Contribute to the development and implementation of delivery plans for the 8 Health and Wellbeing Board priorities for action which include smoking, alcohol, best start in life, physical inactivity, falls prevention, Sunderland as a healthy place, economy and standard of living and wellbeing
 - Health and Social Care
 - o Integration and whole system innovation
 - o Prevention, re-ablement and supporting independence
 - Review and transform key public health commissioned services
 - o Implementation of a new Integrated Substance Misuse model
 - NHS Health Checks
 - Review and transform Public Health 0 19 services.
- 2.8 The Plan then goes on to state that Sunderland should be a city where everyone is as healthy as they can be, where people live longer, enjoys a good standard of wellbeing and we see a reduction in health inequalities. The Plan wants to enable and support individuals and families and communities to enjoy much better health and wellbeing, with less reliance on the public sector in the longer term. This involves recognising and being responsive not only to local needs but also to community strengths and exploring how these can be better harnessed to help address the challenges we face. By building on and utilising the resources and

energy of our communities we can support people to take greater control of their lives, encourage good health choices and overcome the barriers which can prevent good physical and mental health and support increased economic participation and productivity; including encouraging businesses and investors to contribute to improving health prosperity as well as economic prosperity.

2.9 The main strands of the Sunderland Strategy relating to greenspace are referred to in the Introduction to this paper. There are, however, many further specific references to greenspace across the 5 themes, and these are summarised below.

Attractive and Inclusive City theme:

- the regeneration of central Sunderland will bring about a residential population along the river corridor with improved public access to the riverside, attracting people from the wider city and beyond to its walkways, its squares and green spaces
- A range of exemplar buildings and public spaces will contribute to the creation of a first class city centre
- The coastal zone will be developed whilst recognising the need to protect its important natural assets
- Opportunities will be explored to improve open space and recreation and to provide new and improved pedestrian and cycle access to and from nearby residential areas around the Hendon Leas and Ryhope Coast.

Prosperous City

- Key natural strategic assets such as the coastline and the river Wear which support culture, leisure and tourism opportunities, are essential to the further growth of prosperity in the city.
- It is recognised that in order to improve economic prosperity this needs to be matched by improvements to the environment. The physical regeneration of the city's existing features, including parks and the coastline will occur which will improve the perception of Sunderland's cultural and natural assets.

Healthy City

• The provision of high quality and valued green space and sports/recreation facilities throughout the city will help to deliver the priority of achieving a healthy city.

Safe City

• It is important to provide well designed, managed and clean environments. Green spaces in the city should be of a high quality and provide safe environments.

Learning City

- Green space can be used as an educational resource i.e. it can help to explain the culture, history, geography, and biodiversity of an area.
- 2.10 The Publication Draft CSDP (June 2018) includes a strategic priority for the natural environment:

"To protect and enhance the city's biodiversity, geological resource, countryside and landscape whilst ensuring that all homes have good access to a range of interlinked green infrastructure."

- 2.11 Once adopted, the CSDP will supersede the saved policies from Sunderland's Unitary Development Plan (UDP). They include a number of policies saved under the transitional arrangements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 covering open space, sports and recreation. Information used to inform the UDP policies relates to the 1994 Open Space Recreation Report and in this respect circumstances today have changed. National greenspace guidance is not fully reflected in the UDP, particularly in relation to identifying green corridors, accessible countryside in the urban fringe and civic spaces and building on the need for multifunctionality within open space. The UDP also does not address fully the qualitative and accessibility needs and aspirations. Clearer coherent links are required in how open space contributes strategically to delivery of wider council strategic objectives (i.e. Sunderland Strategy).
- 2.12 Whilst preparing the CSDP to provide sufficient development land to 2033, full consideration was given to identifying the most suitable and sustainable sites across the city. This involved carrying out a Strategic Land Review across the city, alongside an Employment Land Review, Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA), Green Belt and Settlement Break Reviews. The Greenspace Audit and Report was also considered as part of this process.
- 2.13 As a result of these reviews, a number of greenspace sites were identified and put forward for inclusion in the SHLAA. Although greenfield in nature, they generally represent urban development sites in sustainable locations, and offer the opportunity to provide funding improvements to neighbouring greenspace sites. These are outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Greenspace sites included in the SHLAA

SHLAA Ref.	Site name	Reason for inclusion in SHLAA
056	High Usworth School, Washington	Urban site, has planning permission for 56 units.
079	Hylton Lane/Blaydon Avenue, Town End Farm	Urban fringe site, longstanding UDP housing allocation. Planning application under consideration.
087	Former Dubmire primary School, Fence Houses	Urban brownfield site. Development of site would need to support improvements to nearby amenity greenspace, to mitigate for site loss.
093	Recreation Field, North Moor Lane, Farringdon	Urban site adjacent to Silksworth Recreation Centre. Site is considered developable subject to appropriate mitigation measures. Includes a disused former football field.
104	Carley Hill School, Emsworth Road, Southwick	Urban site. Part of wider North Sunderland Masterplan that includes improvement to Fulwell Quarries site into Country Park.
154A	Seaburn Camp, Whitburn Road (North)	Urban fringe site. Planning application under consideration.
175	Fulwell Quarry / north of Emsworth Road	Urban fringe. Alternative housing site to original UDP allocation that directly impacted on Local Nature Reserve. Part of wider North Sunderland Masterplan that includes improvement to Fulwell Quarries site into Country Park.
177	Former Usworth Comprehensive School	Urban site. Site includes disused playing fields from former school. Council has identified site for housing release.
187	Bonnersfield – land at Palmers Hill Road	Urban site. Development will be subject to environmental mitigation and will need to retain some provision for greenspace/public realm.
197	Land to the east of former Broomhill Estate	Urban fringe site. Has planning permission for 102 homes.
258	Washington Football Club, Spout Lane	Urban site, within an area of Greenspace abundance. Sports field no longer in use. Subject to Sport England approval.
324	Land to the east of Durham Road and Tudor Grove	Urban site. Has planning permission for 8 homes.
328	Hetton Downs Phase 2.	Urban site, with planning application under consideration. Forms Phase 2 of Hetton Downs Renewal Area.
330A	Philadelphia Complex	Urban site. Has planning permission for 500 homes.
342	Land at Mill Hill, Silksworth Road	Urban site. Site has outline planning approval.
440	Cragdale Gardens, Low Moorsley	Urban site, within an area of Greenspace abundance, with large greenspace sites adjacent.
477	Land north of Burdon Lane	Urban fringe site, forms part of the South Sunderland Growth Area and is included in the Core Strategy for housing.
451	Hillview Playing Fields	Urban site. Area of low greenspace, but sports pitches considered to be surplus to requirements in future. Proposal is to develop half of site to enable other half to provide formal greenspace to serve the area. Subject

		to Sport England approval.
467	Fulwell Mill	Urban fringe. Included within wider North Sunderland Masterplan that includes improvement to Fulwell Quarries site into Country Park. The site includes a Sports pitch which is not expected to be in use from 2018-19. Subject to Sport England approval.
538	Havannah Road / Moorway, Albany	Urban site. Part of the site (woodland shelter belt) would be retained.
540	Hetton Downs Phase 3	Urban site. Site identified for disposal as Phase 3 of Hetton Downs Renewal Area. Site is subject to further consultation and relocation of some site uses.
563	Hylton Skills Campus, North Hylton Road	Urban site. Former College site that includes a disused sports pitch. Included within wider North Sunderland Masterplan that includes improvements to Fulwell Quarries into Country Park.
632	Rear of Don Gardens, Concord	Urban site, within an area of Greenspace abundance, with other large sites and parkland adjacent.
650	Dame Margaret Field, Washington	Urban site, adjacent to large greenspaces in locality. Subject to Sport England approval.
651	Land at Tay Road, Thorney Close	Urban site. Adjacent to major area of greenspace (Barnes Park Extensions). Site includes Sports pitches that are no longer in use. Subject to Sport England approval.
677	Land at Birchwood, Ford Oval	Urban site. Part of site proposed for development which would fund improvements to remainder of greenspace/playspace site.
691	Land at Stephenson Industrial Estate	Urban site, within an area of Greenspace abundance, with other large sites and parkland nearby. Lower value site.
692	Land to north of Irene Avenue	Urban site. Identified as cemetery expansion space. Proposal to relocate expansion land onto adjacent area.
707	Land adjacent to Moorsburn Drive, Houghton	Urban site, within an area of greenspace abundance. Small infill proposed.
708	Land fronting Chiswick Road, Hylton Castle	Urban site. Site identified as a small housing infill site in area of greenspace abundance.
710	Oswald Terrace South, Castletown	Urban site. Low value greenspace in area with above average levels of greenspace.
716	Tasman Road, Thorney Close	Urban site. Low value greenspace / former housing site. Small infill proposed.
717	Theme Road, Thorney Close	Urban site. Low value greenspace / former housing site. Small infill proposed.
718	Tadcaster Road, Thorney Close	Urban site. Low value greenspace / former housing site. Small infill proposed.
719	Tanfield Road, Thorney Close	Urban site. Low value greenspace / former housing site. Small infill proposed.
721	The Ropery, Websters Bank	Urban site. Site development would involve conversion of existing listed building, plus new build, with surrounding landscaping retained.

2.14 In addition to the Greenspace Audit and Report, there are other strategies that help to guide provision and management of green space and these are detailed further in Appendix 3.

3.0 Audit assumptions

Key audit assumptions

3.1 Sunderland's Greenspace Audit is aligned to the NPPF and considers all types of greenspace across the city (except private gardens) irrespective of ownership and access. Sunderland's audit has been analysed at a variety of different spatial levels and also considers greenspace quantity, quality, site value and accessibility

Detailed audit assumptions

3.2 Each type of green space is defined as follows:

Type of greenspace	Definition
Amenity	Spaces whose primary function is the provision of amenity
Greenspace	(e.g. visual enhancement or informal recreation) to local
	residents, workers or passers-by. Predominantly found in
	residential areas but may be located in commercial areas to
	serve staff / visitors. Typically mown grassed areas (big or
	small), perhaps with trees, or perhaps including highway
	verges or landscaping.
Provision for	Fixed, formal play equipment, but also including Multi-Use
Children and Young People	Games Areas (MUGA's) and Dual Use Games Areas (DUGA's).
Natural and semi	Natural habitats including woodland, grassland, wetland,
natural greenspace	heathland, geological, coast and estuarine areas.
Formal Parks and	District, local, city parks and country parks.
Country Parks	
Allotments &	Where people can grow their own fruit and vegetables. Not
Community	including private gardens.
Gardens	
Outdoor Sports	Open space specifically geared towards sport and formal
Facilities	recreation. e.g. football, cricket, tennis, rugby, hockey,
	bowling greens, golf courses, multi-purpose courts and
	kickabout areas
Green	Greenspace sites that help to form a much longer connected
Infrastructure	corridor of sites. Such corridors allow for walking, cycling and
Corridors	wildlife movement.
Cemeteries and	Cemeteries, churchyards and also the general grounds of a
church grounds	church
Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced spaces for pedestrians e.g. war memorials,
A	pedestrian areas, river and coastal promenades.
Accessible	All of the city's open countryside, private or public.
Countryside	

Coast & Estuary	Beaches and cliff top areas, coastal links and River Wear
	Estuary.
School Playing	This includes all school grounds, whether or not they provide
Fields and Grounds	public access to greenspace/ sports facilities out of school
	hours.

- 3.3 Sites may be publicly or privately owned, and some may not have public access at all.
- 3.4 Every site has a "primary purpose" identified. This primary purpose is used to analyse the amount of different types of greenspace we have, and also for any analysis that examines all typologies together. However, it is recognised that most sites have multiple uses, and therefore the audit also identifies 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th purposes as and where necessary.
- 3.5 Green Infrastructure corridors, coast & estuary and outdoor play areas are not treated as a 'primary' land use. Green Infrastructure corridors are considered to be an amalgam of greenspace sites that collectively form a corridor (for more information, please refer to the 2018 Sunderland Green Infrastructure Strategy). Play areas are always considered to be contained within a larger land use (such as a park or sports area). Coast and estuary greenspaces primarily relate to natural greenspace sites, or they may have other primary functions such as amenity greenspace or provide civic space.
- 3.6 The audit also provides the following basic information in relation to all sites:
 - Site size in hectares
 - Land ownership (in general terms)
 - Specific details relating to biodiversity
 - Type of buildings on site (if any)
 - Types of sports pitches (if any)
 - Type of play facility (if any)
 - Details of any historic importance that the site may have.
- 3.7 Greenspace sites below 0.02ha (200 square metres) have not been included (though on occasion small sites in a group have been included as one). 1769 greenspace sites in Sunderland have been analysed and mapped in total.
- 3.8 Sites that cross the city boundary are also included in the site audit. A few sites wholly in neighbouring authorities (but adjacent to the city boundary and accessible) have been also been included in the audit, because they are used by Sunderland residents. These sites are:
 - Cornthwaite Park, Whitburn
 - Boldon Golf Course, West Boldon

- Chartershaugh Allotments, General's Wood, Chester-le-Street
- Morton Wood LWS, Woodstone
- South Crescent Football Field, Woodstone
- New Lambton Recreation Ground, Woodstone
- Elmwood Street Play Area, Woodstone
- Sharpley Plantation, Seaton
- Carr House Plantation, Murton.

3.9 A number of further specific assumptions were made for the audit:

Table 3: Assumptions made for the Greenspace Audit

Amenity Greenspaces	 Sites that were considered to be too unkempt have been counted as a natural greenspace site,
	or not counted altogether
Provision for Children &	- As well as formal static play areas, these include
Young People	Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Dual Use
	Games Areas (DUGAs)
	 No site has "play area" as a primary purpose
Natural and Semi-Natural	- Table 4 provides a full definition, based on 4
Greenspace	quality levels. Levels 1 and 2 would be classed as
	"higher quality" natural greenspace, Level 3
	includes "lower quality" greenspace, and any sites
	classed within Level 4 would not be counted at all
Formal Parks & Country	- Some sites named as "parks" on Ordnance Survey
Parks	may not be included as they fail to reach the
	required parks standard as outlined in the
	Strategy
	- Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve broadly
	conforms to the purpose of a country park and
	has therefore been included as such
Allotments and	- Sites with too many private garages or formal
Community Gardens	gardens are considered as private gardens only,
	and not counted on the greenspace register
Outdoor Sports Facilities	- Do not include indoor sports provision, though
	any summaries may need to reflect such facilities,
	e.g. indoor tennis courts
	- Kickabout areas (grassed sites equipped with
	football goal posts) are included
Green Corridors	- The main green corridors have been identified
	within the Local Plan
	- All sites linked to, or within, a green corridor have
	been identified as having such a purpose
	- No site has 'green corridor' as a primary purpose-
	corridors typically relate to an amalgamation of
	existing greenspace sites. Even narrow cycleway
L	

	corridors will primarily provide amenity or natural greenspace
Cemeteries, Churchyards	- The primary purpose has been separated in order
and Church Grounds	to make the distinction between those sites
	containing burial ground and others that simply
	supply the landscaped setting for a church
Civic Spaces	- In some cases, streets with wide pavements for
	pedestrians (and with a high footfall) were included
	- Sites were restricted to those with hard-standing
	surfaces only
Accessible Countryside	- All of the city's urban fringe and open countryside
	was classed as "accessible". Rights of Way exist
	across most of our countryside to provide, at the
	very least, a view across key landscapes
School Playing Fields and	- All school playing fields and grounds have been
Grounds	included
	- Outdoor sports facilities and formal play areas will
	only be assessed in terms of provision if it is clear
	that they are available for public use

3.10 Defining Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in terms of quantity and quality broadly follows Natural England's "Access to Natural Greenspace Standards Plus", or ANGSt Plus (2008). The summary definition reflects a local adaptation of advice provided by Natural England, and is set out below (Table 4).

Level 1	 European designated sites – Northumbria Coast SPA, Durham Coast SAC Nationally and locally recognised nature conservation areas, Durham Heritage Coast, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Local Nature Reserves. Ancient Semi-Natural or Ancient Replanted woodland
Level 2	 Less intensively managed greenspaces (includes amenity open space, formal parks, country parks, school grounds, sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards, cemeteries and allotments Non-dense, non-intensive deciduous and/or coniferous woodland, freely growing shrubbery and element of public access Open water and wetlands with reeds, tall wildflowers, (could include ponds, ditches, small rivers, streams and lakes) River estuary (water, mudflats, saltmarsh) Unimproved, semi-improved and rough grassland, and heathland (with wild herbs and flowers)

	 Disused / derelict land with protected BAP Priority Species present Open Access Land / Remnant countryside (within urban and urban fringe areas) Unimproved farmland
Level 3	 Woodland shelter belts / intensive woodland with no freely growing shrubbery and very limited or no public access Disused/derelict land with no protected BAP Priority Species present Managed/more intensive greenspaces and recreational spaces with limited functions (includes amenity open space, parks, school grounds, sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards, cemeteries and allotments) Formal boating or ornamental lakes, culverted streams and other examples of open water with little or no biodiversity
Level 4	 Improved farmland Private gardens Active quarries

Adapted from Natural England's ANGST Plus categories of 'naturalness'.

4.0 Audit methodology

4.1 Sunderland's Audit Methodology is based on the approach set out in the 2012 Greenspace Audit and Report. The quantity, quality and value of each plot have been appraised and a pro-forma completed so far as was possible. A copy of the pro-forma is attached (see Appendix 5). The full list of pro-forma criteria is summarised below and were all applied to each type of green space:

Land Use and Boundary Treatment				
1. Green Flag Status	2. Pedestrian Access			
3. Vehicular Access	4. Disabled Access			
5. Main Entrance	6. Other Entrances			
7. Access Arrangements	8. Boundaries			
9. Roads	10. Paths			
11. Cycleway	12. Bridleway			
13. Tree Cover	14. Tree Mix			
15. Planted Areas	16. Amenity Grass Areas			
17. Meadow Grass Areas	18. Playing Fields			
19. Pasture / Grazed Land	20. Wetlands			
21. Cleanliness	22. Safety			
23. General Maintenance				
Facilities				
24. Litter Bins	25. Dog Bins			
26. Recycling Bins	27. Seats			
28. Toilets	29. Car Parking			
30. Coach Parking	31. Cycle Parking			
32. Bus Stops	33. Metro Train Station			
34. Street Lighting	35. Signage			
36. Information	37. Events Programme			
Recreation Facilities	·			
38. Access to Buildings	39. Sports Pitches			
40. Play Equipment	41. Water-based Sports			
42. Other Sports				
Biodiversity	·			
43. Protected Site	44. Grassland			
45. Woodland	46. Hedgerow			
47. Wetlands	48. Coastal & Estuarine			
49. Other	50. Geodiversity			
51. Level of Use (Wildlife)	52. General Overall Maintenance			
Landscape Visual and Character				
53. Rarity	54. Visual Amenity			
55. Exposure	56. Defines Character			
57. Historic Protection	58. Usage (People)			

Table 5: Greenspace Audit- criteria used in the proforma

59. Usage Type (People) 60. Warden or Ranger Presence

- 4.2 The answers to each of the above 60 questions were scored out of a total of 5 points. Officers were briefed in terms of how to interpret or approach certain questions. All sites were then analysed in terms of consistency of approach by the Lead Officer.
- 4.3 Sunderland's Greenspace Audit has applied community value weightings to the final audit score wherever it was merited. This is explained in the next Section.

5.0 Audit scoring and community value weighting

- 5.1 The primary function of the greenspace audit has been to collate quantitative and qualitative information on current open space provision. Scores for the various criteria have been collected, along with comments on specific information where appropriate, and entered into a database.
- 5.2 The 60 questions have been tested against all greenspace sites identified, irrespective of their typology. Clearly there are questions that are simply not relevant to certain types of greenspace and this may be seen to put these sites at a disadvantage when comparing their value scores against other greenspace types. The counter argument here is that some greenspaces are much more multi-functional and thereby appeal to a lot more users.
- 5.3 Nevertheless, it is also clear that as each question is scored identically (out of a maximum of 5 points) there is an underlying assumption that each question has the same level of importance. For example, the presence of litter bins or space for coach parking is presently given similar weighting to questions relating to whether a site provides play equipment or is a protected wildlife site.
- 5.4 Furthermore, there are other considerations relevant to greenspace that may have not been fully represented in the 60-question assessment, such as whether the site falls within protected Green Belt. Therefore, in order to better reflect the status and importance that is placed by Government and by users of greenspaces, a series of community value weightings have been introduced. These weightings also attempt to limit the scoring disadvantage that certain types of greenspace may suffer.
- 5.5 The weightings are listed below in Table 6:

	Weighting
Wildlife Sites	Attached
European SAC / SPA protection, national SSSI / LNR/ LGS	100pts
protection	
Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)	50pts
Protected and BAP Priority Species	50pts
Cemeteries and churchyards (with graves)	
With graves	100pts
Church grounds (amenity grassland)	Opts
Woodland Plantations	25pts
Formal Parks and Country Parks	
All parks	50pts

Table 6: Greenspace weightings

(Option to zero score a park deemed to be surplus to	Opts
requirements, i.e. already in area with high abundance of	(note: no sites
parks, and with little local value	included to date)
Natural 9 Comi Natural Groonsnasa	
Natural & Semi Natural Greenspace High quality	50pts
Low quality	Opts
	opts
Allotments	
(Quality based on 2009 assessment, high scoring at least	
18 out of 30)	
(Abundance based on ARF hectarage above or below the	
city average)	
High quality / low abundance	50pts
High quality / high abundance &	25pts
Low quality / low abundance	
Low quality / high abundance	Opts
Outdoor Sport	
(including kickabout areas)	
Football, Cricket, Rugby, Hockey, Bowling Green, Astroturf	50pts
multi-use, Tennis and Netball Courts, Golf Courses	
Kickabout areas, MUGA's, Golf Driving Ranges and land	25pts
retained for sports pitch use (not presently used)	
Historic Protection	
Major historic (significant greenspace within a	50pts
Conservation Area, or setting of very significant listed	
building)	
Historic Value (other sites that were scored 4 or 5 out of 5	25pts
on the survey).	
Site within Green Belt	50pts
Amenity (Doorstep) Greenspaces – depends on hectarage	
/ 1000 population.	
Areas with very low provision	40pts
Areas with low provision	20pts
Playspaces	
All other provision	25pts
Low quality/extent	Opts
Green Corridors	
(sites contributing to a corridor)	25pts
	23pts

Site Rarity	
Sites scored 4 out of 5 (rare to city) or 5 out of 5	25pts
(nationally rare)	
Defines Character	
Sites scored 5 out of 5 (very important)	25pts
Civic Space	Opts
(No further weighting, many sites receive weighting via	
site rarity, historic value or character)	
Coast & Estuary	
(No further weighting, just a weighting via natural	No further
greenspace protection, corridor or wildlife value).	weighting.
Accessible Countryside	Not applicable
(Not identified as 'Greenspace', to be investigated further	
in terms of 'Landscape Character'. Countryside sites	
receive weightings via Green Belt protection, green	
corridor, wildlife, park or sports use).	

5.6 More than one weighting may be identified to a particular site. However, only the highest value weighting is counted towards the overall value score. This is demonstrated below.

Greenspace Site X qualifies for the following weightings:

- Historic value 25pts
- Within an area with low greenspace provision 20pts.
- Green Belt 50pts
- Defines character 25pts

Site X will therefore receive a weighting of 50pts, which will be added to its 60question score.

5.7 The final site scores can be viewed in total of all sites or specifically by each typology. It is intended to reflect site quality and value.

Local guidelines & results

6.0 Introduction / city perspective

The need to set guidelines

- 6.1 Setting guidelines enables authorities to benchmark their open space assets. Guidelines support local planning policies and priority setting, as well as providing mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. In the past, open space standards have concentrated on quantity only, whereas new guidelines will address quantity, quality, accessibility and value.
- 6.2 To ensure that the city's greenspaces are protected and enhanced, guidelines need to be set that achieve the following:
 - They are locally appropriate, as opposed to simply adopting guidelines developed elsewhere that may not be appropriate
 - They provide realistic guidelines in terms of what can be achieved in the local area, and that they reflect the views of communities and strategic priorities
 - They provide challenging guidelines recognising the need for improvement if more open spaces are to be beneficial for local communities
 - They recognise the differences between different types of open space
 - They are corporately endorsed, and have sufficient weight so as to ensure that planners, managers and other relevant stakeholders are involved in their development to ensure that they are both achievable and enforceable.
- 6.3 There is a limited range of national guidelines and standards identified for local open space provision, and the Government generally recommends that guidelines are set locally. In Sunderland, there are limited local guidelines applied, and of these, they focus on the quantity of provision only. These are explained in more detail by typology below, together with recommended guidelines that should be adopted for the city.
- 6.4 When the guidelines are applied, the results make it clear how each area performs in relation to quantity, quality, accessibility and overall value of greenspaces. The results enable spatial comparisons to be made at a Ward and Area Framework level, and also nationally, where comparative data exists.

City-wide greenspace

- 6.5 A total of 1769 greenspace sites have been identified within Sunderland, with a further 9 sites identified adjacent to the city boundary. These sites total 3,873.46 hectares, or 27.7% of the city area. Combined with the open countryside in Sunderland there are over 8,000 hectares (57%) of 'undeveloped' green land in the city.
- 6.6 Provision varies across the 5 areas (see Table 7 below). Washington and the Coalfield have roughly twice the amount of greenspace that exists in North, West or East ARF's. However, both Washington and the Coalfield ARF's include Green Belt and other open countryside areas, and the quantity is bolstered by major single sites, such as golf courses, country parks, woodland and other natural greenspaces.

ARF	Sites total	%	Hectares	%
Sunderland North	276	15.60	548.43	14.16
Sunderland West	292	16.51	538.03	13.89
Sunderland East	309	17.47	580.86	15.00
Washington	457	25.83	1026.80	26.51
Coalfield	435	24.59	1179.34	30.45
Total	1769	100.00	3873.46	100.00

Table 7: Total greenspace provision by ARF

6.7 Greenspaces often have multiple functions, and it is very difficult to accurately split the land-take by the different types of greenspace identified. As an example, Mowbray Park is primarily classed as formal parkland, but also provides an element of amenity greenspace, natural greenspace, outdoor play, outdoor sport and civic space. As a general guide, the split by greenspace type can be broadly shown by identifying the primary use. This is shown in Table 8 below.

Primary Use	Number of	Hectares	% of overall
	Sites		greenspace
Allotments and community gardens	100	100.66	2.60
Amenity greenspace	1146	756.98	19.50
Cemeteries and church grounds	43	106.21	2.74
Civic spaces	29	14.98	0.40
Natural and semi natural greenspace	228	1452.63	37.50
Outdoor sports facilities	61	571.35	14.70
Parks and formal gardens	45*	607.39	15.80
School playing fields and grounds	117	263.26	6.80
Outdoor play facilities	[64**]		
Total	1769	3873.46	100

Table 8: Greenspace provision by primary use

* - there are 42 parks identified, some are split across different Wards
 ** - outdoor play facilities are not listed as a primary greenspace use.

6.8 Around 65% of all greenspace sites in the city are primarily classed as "amenity greenspace". These sites tend to be small and they account for fewer than 20% of all greenspace area. In contrast, natural and semi-natural greenspaces account for 13% of all sites, but account for over 37% of the greenspace land-take. Formal parks, country parks and outdoor sports facilities also tend to be large sites.

7.0 Amenity greenspace

Amenity	Spaces whose primary function is the provision of amenity
Greenspace	(e.g. visual enhancement or informal recreation) to local
	residents, workers or passers-by. Predominantly found in
	residential areas but may be located in commercial areas to
	serve staff / visitors. Typically mown grassed areas (big or
	small), perhaps with trees, or perhaps including highway
	verges or landscaping.

- 7.1 Amenity greenspace is a generic description for green space and planting which softens the urban fabric, allows for informal leisure and provides a setting for buildings. It is open space whose primary purpose is to improve and enhance the appearance of the local environment.
- 7.2 There are 1146 sites identified that have amenity greenspace as their primary purpose, totalling 757 hectares, or 19.5% of total greenspace. A further 147 sites have been identified as having a non-primary amenity greenspace function-providing 1,492 hectares in total- and this figure is used to determine the quantitative city average, explained below.

Quantity

- 7.3 Unlike most other types of greenspace, when investigating quantity guidelines there is less need for emphasis on individual amenity greenspace sites, and more emphasis needed on the range of sites that serve a neighbourhood. As such, the most appropriate quantity guideline that should be applied is based on the amount of greenspace available to the population. Most local authorities analyse their greenspace in terms of hectares per 1000 population.
- 7.4 Nationally, the amount of greenspace varies greatly, but much of this has to do with the detail of survey undertaken. Local authorities often only record greenspace sites that are above 0.10 hectares in size.
- 7.5 In Sunderland, sites as little as 0.02 hectares were recorded. Furthermore, any site deemed to have an amenity greenspace role has been included, regardless of its primary purpose. Some 1,492 hectares are identified as having an amenity greenspace function, and the city average is 5.36 hectares per 1000 population.
- 7.6 It is therefore recommended that the city average of amenity greenspace is adopted as a baseline to be applied across the city, with a particular focus to increase provision, wherever feasible, in areas below that figure.

Recommended quantity guideline for amenity greenspace:

5.36 hectares per 1000 population

Results

7.7 The quantity of amenity greenspace varies between the 5 areas:

Area	Hectares per 1000 population
City	5.36
Sunderland North ARF	5.01
Sunderland West ARF	4.56
Sunderland East ARF	3.37
Washington ARF	6.67
Coalfield ARF	7.76

7.8 From an area perspective, Washington and Coalfield have higher than average levels of amenity greenspace, while Sunderland North, West and East have below average levels. These deficiencies are better viewed at the Ward level.

Table 10: Amenity greenspace quantity by Ward

Ward	Total	Population	Amenity
	area		greenspace /
	(hectares)		1000 population
Barnes	44.41	10,825	4.10
Castle	51.38	11,004	4.67
Copt Hill	46.39	11,449	4.05
Doxford	60.67	9,637	6.30
Fulwell	42.47	11,321	3.75
Hendon	32.14	13,069	2.46
Hetton	91.48	11,426	8.01
Houghton	67.48	11,490	5.87
Millfield	24.09	12,982	1.86
Pallion	42.67	10,437	4.09
Redhill	60.66	11,225	5.40
Ryhope	53.88	10,732	5.02
Sandhill	50.28	11,003	4.57
Shiney Row	162.18	12,981	12.49
Silksworth	76.13	10,625	7.17
Southwick	102.52	10,909	9.40
St Anne's	36.53	11,059	3.30

St Chad's St Michael's	38.89 21.72	9,366 10,703	4.15
St Peter's	19.53	10,698	1.83
Washington Central		10,098	5.49
	59.63	,	
Washington East	105.97	11,142	9.51
Washington North	85.02	11,152	7.62
Washington South	71.38	10,141	7.04
Washington West	44.97	11,717	3.84
Total	1492.47	277,962	5.36



- 7.9 At a Ward level, the lowest amounts of amenity greenspace are predictably in the more densely populated parts of the city, particularly around the city centre, though there is also low provision in some outer areas too. Compared to the quantitative city average of 5.36 hectares per 1000 population, Wards have been graded 'very high' to 'very low'¹. Within Wards, however, there can be localised areas of deficiency.
- 7.10 In summary, the main gaps in provision are in the following Wards and localities:

Area	Ward	Locality	
Sunderland North	St Peter's	Town End Farm	
		Marley Potts	
		Roker	
Sunderland West		St Gabriel's	
		Elstob	
		Ford & Pallion	
		Humbledon & Plains Farm	
		Thorney Close	
Sunderland East	Millfield	Thornhill	
	Hendon	Queen Alexandra Road	
	St Michael's	Hillview	
		Grangetown	
		Hendon	
		Millfield	
Coalfield		Chilton Moor & Dubmire	
		Fencehouses	
		Success	
Low Quantity of Ameni	ty Greenspace	Southwick	
	Fulweii	St Peter's and North Haven	
Sunderland West	St Anne's	Barnes	
		Nookside	
		Pennywell	
Sunderland Fast			
	Washington West	Ashbrooke	
Sunderland East Washington	Washington West		

Table 11: Wards and localities with low quantities of greenspace

¹ Very low = <2.70 ha/1000 population; Low = 2.70<4.00; Below average 4.00<5.36; Above average 5.36<6.70; High = 6.70<8.00; Very High = >8.00 ha/1000 population.

Quality

- 7.11 Sixty questions were asked of every greenspace site in the city, ranging from questions on facilities, land use and boundary treatment, biodiversity and landscape character. These results provide an applicable quality assessment of all sites in Sunderland. It should be noted that no 'quality' based guideline exists for planning in the city.
- 7.12 Nearly 1300 sites have been identified as having an amenity greenspace use (primary or otherwise). The results indicate that the average site score in Sunderland is 80 points, based on the Audit scoring. It is therefore recommended that this figure be adopted as a baseline guideline for site quality. The dual purpose of applying this guideline will be to:
 - ensure that sites scoring above the average retain their site quality;
 - consider prioritising for improvement individual low quality sites and settlements with overall low average site quality.

Results

7.13 The quality of the city's greenspace can be seen in the table below

Area	Average quality	
	score	
City	80	
Sunderland North ARF	81	
Sunderland West ARF	80	
Sunderland East ARF	84	
Washington ARF	80	
Coalfield ARF	79	

Table 13: Amenity greenspace quality by Ward

Ward	Average quality score	Number of sites <20% below city average
Barnes	92	1
Castle	78	4
Copt Hill	78	5
Doxford	77	3
Fulwell	84	1
Hendon	90	3

Hetton	80	14
Houghton	77	11
Millfield	84	4
Pallion	78	5
Redhill	79	5
Ryhope	83	5
Sandhill	77	3
Shiney Row	81	5
Silksworth	87	2
Southwick	82	7
St Anne's	78	5
St Chad's	75	10
St Michael's	91	0
St Peter's	88	0
Washington Central	81	3
Washington East	79	6
Washington North	81	2
Washington South	80	1
Washington West	78	3


- 7.14 Many of the best quality amenity greenspaces exist in the central Sunderland area and along the coast. By contrast, these areas also tend to have the lowest quantities of amenity greenspace.
- 7.15 In summary, the main gaps in provision are in the following Wards and localities:

 Table 14: Wards and localities with low quality greenspace

Area	Ward	Locality	
Sunderland North		Marley Potts	
Sunderland West	St Chad's	Ford & Pallion	
Coalfield		Burnside & Sunniside	
		Fencehouses	
Sunderland West	St Anne's	Farringdon	
Sunderland North Sunderland West	Castle St Anne's	Town End Farm Farringdon	
	Pallion	Pennywell	
	Sandhill	Thorney Close	
Sunderland East	Doxford	Hall Farm & Chapelgarth	
Washington	Washington West	Albany & Blackfell	
		Barmston & Columbia	
Coalfield	Houghton	Chilton Moor & Dubmire	
Coalfield	Houghton Copt Hill	Chilton Moor & Dubmire Moorsley & Easington Lane	

7.16 A total of 108 individual sites scoring more than 20% below the city average have been identified across the city (see Appendix 6), with 32% of these sites in the Coalfield area (and in Houghton and Hetton Wards in particular), and 23% in the West area (particularly St Chad's Ward).

Recommended quality guideline for amenity greenspace: 80 points.

Consider prioritising improvements to poor quality sites on an individual basis and also from a Ward and locality perspective.

8.0 Provision for children and young people

Provision for Children	Fixed, formal play equipment, but also including
and Young People	Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA's) and Dual Use
	Games Areas (DUGA's).

8.1 This section focuses on fixed play equipment, but also includes Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Dual Use Games Areas (DUGAs).

Quantity, quality and accessibility

- 8.2 Fields in Trust (formerly the National Playing Fields Association, or NPFA) recommends a quantity standard for "children's playing space" of 0.6-0.8ha per 1000 population. However, whilst this includes fixed play equipment, this also includes "casual play space within housing areas". This standard is included in the UDP and was endorsed in the city's Play and Urban Games Strategy.
- 8.3 National accessibility standards are also identified by Fields in Trust, and endorsed by Sunderland's Play & Urban Games Strategy. These guidelines also help to determine the quantity of provision across the city. Since Sunderland is determining provision of fixed play equipment separately from amenity greenspace, outdoor sports provision and natural greenspace, the original NPFA target (combining fixed and non-fixed play equipment) is not relevant to this study.
- 8.4 The national accessibility standards for fixed play equipment are as follows:

Type A standard	Local Area for Play (LAP) – 100 metres distance from home. Facilities for the Under 8's
Type B standard	Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) – 400m distance from home
Type C standard	Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) – 1000m distance from home Ages 8-14 years

8.5 The Sunderland Play and Urban Games Strategy followed Fields in Trust's Type A, B, and C standards, though in recent years the Type A facilities have been phased-out, with a current focus for provision on Type B and Type C facilities only.

Results

8.6 The Greenspace Audit identifies 64 outdoor fixed play facilities across the city. Two further facilities lie adjacent to the boundary, at Cornthwaite Park, Whitburn and in Woodstone Village. The overall number of facilities has reduced considerably since 2012, mainly due to the removal of small, doorstep facilities. Where feasible, equipment has been re-used and the range and quality of existing sites has been improved, enabling catchment areas to be updated. As a result of this, access to play facilities has actually increased slightly since 2012, with 91% of residents having access to high quality play (see Table 15 below). The ultimate aim is for 100% accessibility.

	Pop'n	Access		Pop'n	Access
Area Framework		%	Area Framework		%
Total	277,962	91			
Sunderland North	55,157	88	Sunderland West	63,315	96
Sunderland East	57,123	85	Washington	55,021	92
Coalfield	47,346	92			
Ward	Pop'n	Access	Ward	Pop'n	Access
		%			%
Barnes	10,825	96	Castle	11,004	92
Copt Hill	11,449	76	Doxford	9,637	82
Fulwell	11,321	81	Hendon	13,069	100
Hetton	11,426	94	Houghton	11,490	100
Millfield	12,982	100	Pallion	10,437	100
Redhill	11,225	92	Ryhope	10,732	76
Sandhill	11,003	83	Shiney Row	12,981	98
Silksworth	10,625	94	Southwick	10,909	98
St Anne's	11,059	95	St Chad's	9,366	100
St Michael's	10,703	72	St Peter's	10,698	74
Washington Central	10,869	97	Washington East	11,142	87
Washington North	11,152	89	Washington South	10,141	100
Washington West	11,717	90			

Table 15: Play area provision by Area and Ward

8.7 The following map identifies play areas and agreed catchment distances, which take into account the quality and size of the playspace.



- 8.8 The main gaps in provision are in the following Wards and localities:
 - St Peter's Monkwearmouth
 - Fulwell Fulwell and Seaburn Dene
 - Redhill Redhouse
 - Sandhill Hastings Hill
 - St Anne's West Pennywell
 - Doxford Moorside
 - Ryhope Ryhope village
 - St Michael's Queen Alexandra Road and Hillview
 - Washington North Usworth
 - Washington East Fatfield
 - Copt Hill Broomhill and Philadelphia.

ACTION: Direct future investment towards maintenance of existing sites as well as seeking to address the accessibility gaps identified, which can be either through provision of new play facilities, or enhancement of an existing facility that would feasibly serve a wider catchment area.

9.0 Natural and semi-natural greenspace

	Natural habitats including woodland, grassland,
natural greenspace	wetland, heathland, geological, coast and estuarine areas.

9.1 Natural England acts as the Government's wildlife and conservation advisor. Its definition of 'accessible natural greenspace' is:

"...not intensive so that a feeling of naturalness is allowed to predominate"

"Nature Nearby" April 2010

9.2 This provides a succinct, if general definition. It does not attempt to list what types of 'places' this would include, however. Table 3 (Chapter 3) provides Sunderland's full definition, which is based on Natural England's 2008 report "Access to Natural Greenspace Standards Plus", or ANGSt Plus, and has been altered to suit local circumstances. This definition also enables a quality template to be applied to all natural greenspace sites.

Quantity, quality and accessibility

- 9.3 All sites have been assessed and categorised in terms of being "high" or "low" quality, using Sunderland's natural greenspace definition template, as well as advice from the City Council's Countryside Team and Durham Wildlife Trust.
- 9.4 Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. These standards recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:
 - An accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres from home
 - At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home
 - One accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home
 - One accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home
 - One hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserve per thousand population.
- 9.5 The ANGST criteria can be used to identify where shortfalls in quantity and quality of provision can be addressed. This report has already defined a quality standard for natural and semi-natural greenspace, which enables the above access thresholds to be mapped out correctly. Many other local authorities have adopted (or are proposing to adopt) the ANGST approach and it is recommended that Sunderland also adopts ANGST to enable comparisons to be made with other parts of the country.

Recommended adoption of ANGST standards to provide accessibility standards for Natural and Semi-Natural greenspace:

An accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres from homes

At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of homes

One accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of homes

One accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of homes

Results

9.6 ANGST standard No.1: an accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres from home

Approximately 149,000 residents live within this threshold, or about 54% of the city population (increased from 48% in 2012- see Table 15 below).

	Pop'n	Access		Pop'n	Access
Area Framework		%	Area Framework		%
Total	277,962	54			
Sunderland North	55,157	56	Sunderland West	63,315	58
Sunderland East	57,123	44	Washington	55,021	48
Coalfield	47,346	64			
Ward	Pop'n	Access	Ward	Pop'n	Access
	_	%			%
Barnes	10,825	74	Castle	11,004	78
Copt Hill	11,449	60	Doxford	9,637	66
Fulwell	11,321	59	Hendon	13,069	53
Hetton	11,426	80	Houghton	11,490	51
Millfield	12,982	3	Pallion	10,437	54
Redhill	11,225	49	Ryhope	10,732	56
Sandhill	11,003	45	Shiney Row	12,981	64
Silksworth	10,625	67	Southwick	10,909	45
St Anne's	11,059	51	St Chad's	9,366	58
St Michael's	10,703	52	St Peter's	10,698	48
Washington Central	10,869	86	Washington East	11,142	88
Washington North	11,152	5	Washington	10,141	59
			South		
Washington West	11,717	4			

Table 15: ANGST standard No.1 by Area and Ward



- 9.7 In terms of Wards and localities, the following areas are classed as having limited or no access in relation to ANGST standard no 1:
 - Castle Town End Farm
 - Redhill Downhill and Redhouse
 - Southwick Southwick
 - Fulwell Fulwell (west)
 - St Peter's Roker (west)
 - St Anne's Pennywell (east), Nookside
 - Pallion Ford and Pallion
 - Sandhill Hastings Hill
 - St Chad's Farringdon
 - Silksworth Silksworth (south)
 - Millfield Thornhill and Millfield
 - Hendon Hendon
 - St Michael's Grangetown and Hillview
 - Ryhope Hollycarrside and Ryhope
 - Doxford Doxford (east)
 - Washington West Springwell Village, Donwell, Albany and Blackfell
 - Washington North Usworth, Concord, Sulgrave and Hertburn
 - Washington East Barmston
 - Washington Central Columbia
 - Washington South Oxclose and Ayton
 - Shiney Row Penshaw and Shiney Row
 - Copt Hill Newbottle and Racecourse Estate
 - Houghton Burnside, Sunniside, Dubmire and Colliery Row

9.8 ANGST standard No.2: at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home

There are numerous high quality natural greenspaces of at least 20 hectares within the city, and 95% of the city population live within this threshold. Limited or zero access is restricted to north Washington only:

- Washington West: Springwell Village and Donwell
- Washington North: Usworth, Usworth Hall and Sulgrave.



9.9 ANGST standard No.3: one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home

There are four cumulative greenspaces of at least 100 hectares in size. The four are:

- Most of Sunderland's coast forms part of the Durham Heritage Coast as well as part of the European-protected Northumbrian Coast SPA and Durham Coast SAC. This site is considered collectively to be over 500 hectares in size
- Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve
- Herrington Country Park
- The River Wear valley, which consists of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, Washington Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre, James Steel Park and Princess Anne Park.

Together, they ensure that 100% of the city satisfies this ANGST standard.



9.10 ANGST standard No.4: one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home

The Durham Heritage Coast collectively provides a 500+ hectare site, which covers most of the city, except for the west of Washington. The nearest site to the west of Sunderland is the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The best option to enable full coverage here may be to develop high quality strategic green infrastructure corridors that, for example, could include the Green Belt land between Sunderland and South Tyneside or Sunderland and Houghton, together with the open countryside westwards towards Chester-le-Street and Durham City.



ACTION: Consider improvements to all areas with limited access to natural greenspace. Focus on 'low' or 'very low' scoring areas (identified above) to improve existing low quality natural greenspace sites, or other greenspaces, in order to attain the 4 ANGST accessibility standards.

Woodland accessibility standards

- 9.11 In addition to ANGST standards, there are also national standards relating specifically to woodland. The Woodland Trust proposes two accessibility standards using distance thresholds:
 - At least one accessible 2 hectare site within 500 metres of homes
 - At least one accessible 20 hectare site within 4 kilometres of homes
- 9.12 Since it is the intention of the City Council to increase tree cover across the city, it is recommended that these two further accessibility criteria are included alongside the ANGST thresholds above.

Recommended adoption of Woodland Trust accessibility standards for woodland:

At least one accessible 20 hectare site within 4 kilometres of homes

At least one accessible 2 hectare site within 500 metres of homes

Results

- 9.13 In terms of woodland, the Greenspace Audit has identified a total of 1,387 sites in Sunderland that contain trees, including, on the one hand, open spaces with a few saplings, to ancient semi-natural woodland on the other.
- 9.14 The Woodland Trust's two benchmark indicators work out as follows:

Woodland indicator 1: At least one accessible 20 hectare site within 4 kilometres of homes

Five sites have been identified within the city that contain more than 20 hectares of woodland. They are as follows:

- Herrington Country Park (approximately 39 hectares of woodland)
- Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve (c. 32 hectares)
- Silksworth Sports Complex (c. 25 hectares)
- James Steel Park- Pattinson South Pond, Mount Pleasant- (c.24 hectares)
- Princess Anne Park- north end- (c.23 hectares).

With further maturity, Elba Park will provide an additional woodland site (c.38 hectares).

- 9.15 Using a 4 kilometre threshold, these sites serve over 90% of the city population.
 - The remaining area outside of the threshold is the north part of Sunderland North. Fulwell Quarries, Downhill Sports Complex and Hylton Dene are the largest nearby sites that, with increased tree cover, could achieve this threshold in the area.

ACTION: Investigate options to create a 20ha+ woodland site in the North Sunderland area.



9.16 Woodland indicator 2: At least one accessible 2 hectare site within 500 metres of homes

There are 82 accessible woodland sites within the city or adjacent to the city boundary which provide access for 70% of the city population (see Table 16 below). There are a further 36 existing sites (168 hectares) that have limited or no access, but with improvement and agreement of landowners could provide woodland access to residents.



	Pop'n	Access		Pop'n	Access
Area Framework		%	Area Framework		%
Total	277,962	70			
Sunderland North	55,157	71	Sunderland West	63,315	60
Sunderland East	57,123	59	Washington	55,021	81
Coalfield	47,346	77			
Ward	Pop'n	Access	Ward	Pop'n	Access
		%			%
Barnes	10,825	90	Castle	11,004	87
Copt Hill	11,449	70	Doxford	9,637	86
Fulwell	11,321	72	Hendon	13,069	58
Hetton	11,426	98	Houghton	11,490	84
Millfield	12,982	12	Pallion	10,437	66
Redhill	11,225	83	Ryhope	10,732	35
Sandhill	11,003	15	Shiney Row	12,981	55
Silksworth	10,625	81	Southwick	10,909	54
St Anne's	11,059	64	St Chad's	9,366	53
St Michael's	10,703	87	St Peter's	10,698	61
Washington Central	10,869	96	Washington East	11,142	85
Washington North	11,152	93	Washington	10,141	87
			South		
Washington West	11,717	48			

Table 16: Woodland Trust standard No.2 by Area and Ward

- 9.17 In terms of Wards and localities, the following areas are currently outside of the 2 hectare threshold:
 - Castle Town End Farm (south)
 - Redhill Redhouse (east)
 - Southwick Southwick and Monkwearmouth
 - Fulwell Fulwell (west)
 - St Peter's Roker (west)
 - St Anne's Pennywell (east), Nookside
 - Pallion Pallion
 - Sandhill Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close, Springwell
 - St Chad's Middle Herrington
 - Silksworth Silksworth (south)
 - Millfield Thornhill and Millfield
 - Hendon Hendon and East End
 - St Michael's Grangetown
 - Ryhope Hollycarrside and Ryhope
 - Doxford Doxford (east)

- Washington West Springwell Village, Donwell and Blackfell
- Washington North Usworth
- Washington East Barmston
- Washington South Ayton
- Shiney Row Shiney Row
- Copt Hill Newbottle and Racecourse Estate
- Houghton Dubmire.

ACTION: Investigate options for increased tree cover in the identified deficiency areas. Consider opening-up access to existing sites with limited accessibility.

10.0 Parks and Formal Gardens

Parks and Formal	District, local, city parks and country parks.
Gardens	

- 10.1 Parks and Formal Gardens are defined as being designed, organised and accessible greenspace that provides high quality opportunities for informal recreation and/or community events. Country Parks tend to be larger in size, providing easy access for countryside recreation (such as walking, horse riding and cycling) in a managed environment.
- 10.2 There are 42 Formal Parks and Country Parks in the city, totalling 607 hectares and ranging from 131 hectares to just 0.73 hectares. This equates to 2.18 hectares of park and formal gardens per 1000 population.
- 10.3 There are no national standards for Parks provision. The Unitary Development Plan (1998) adopted a hierarchy of provision, endorsing recommendations made in the city's 1994 Open Space Recreation Report, which closely followed guidelines set out by Fields in Trust. The hierarchy took its lead from a model used by the Greater London Development Plan (a model that CABE further endorsed in 2009).
- 10.4 However the policy has not had a direct impact on the provision of parks in Sunderland. Any new provision has occurred out of circumstance- the opportunity to reclaim derelict land and create new parkland, for example- rather than addressing a known facility deficiency in a particular area, or direct attempt to improve upon the hierarchy outlined above. Perhaps more importantly the City Council's emphasis has been on improving the quality of the city's parkland facilities.
- 10.5 To address access deficiency in future years, further quality improvements to existing parks are needed, and consideration given to the upgrading of key greenspaces so that they provide formal parkland for neighbourhoods currently without park access.

Quality

- 10.6 The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. The award scheme began in 1996 as a means of recognising and rewarding the best green spaces in the country. It was also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards, creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas.
- 10.7 Five parks in the city have Green Flag status; these being Roker Park, Herrington Country Park, Hetton Lyons Country Park, Barnes Park and Mowbray Park.

10.8 *Results*

The 45 Parks and Formal Gardens are shown in Table 17 below.

Table 17:	Parks and	Formal	Gardens in	Sunderland
-----------	-----------	--------	------------	------------

Wards	Park			
Barnes	Barnes Park			
	Barnes Park Extension (Ettrick Grove)			
Castle	Billy Hardy Sports Complex			
	Hylton Dene Park Local Nature Reserve			
Copt Hill	Kirklea Park			
Doxford	Doxford Park			
Hendon	Barley Mow Park			
	Mowbray Park			
Hetton	Rainton Meadows and Joes Pond SSSI			
	Hetton Lyons Country Park			
	Hetton Park			
	Flatts Recreation Ground (Brick Garth)			
Houghton	Elba Park			
	Rectory Park			
Millfield	Festival Park			
	Town Park			
	Diamond Hall Pocket Park			
	Burn Park (Part)			
Ryhope	Ryhope Recreation (Welfare) Park			
Sandhill	Barnes Park Extensions (Grindon Lane and Tay Road)			
	Thorndale Park, Thorndale Road			
Shiney Row	New Herrington Welfare Park/Herrington Recreation			
	Ground			
	Herrington Country Park			
Silksworth	Silksworth Welfare Park			
	Silksworth Sports Complex and Puma Tennis Centre			
	Tunstall Hills Local Nature Reserve			
Southwick	Thompson Park			
St Anne's	King George V Park			
	Barnes Park Extension Springwell Road			
St Chad's	Herrington Park, Middle Herrington			
	West Park			
St Michael's	Backhouse Park			
St Peter's	Roker Park			
Washington Central	Princess Anne Park			
	Glebe Park			
	Glebe Colliery Welfare Park			
Washington East	James Steel Park (Biddick Burn and Worm Hill,			

	Chartershaugh, Pattinson Pond LWS and Mount Pleasant)
	Princess Anne Park (Fatfield and Rear of St Roberts School)
	Penshaw Park
Washington North	Usworth Park
	Albany Park
Washington South	Holley Park
	Ayton Park
	Rickleton Park
Washington West	Springwell Village Park Rear of Windsor Road



	Pop'n	Access		Pop'n	Access
Area Framework		%	Area Framework		%
Total	277,962	84			
Sunderland North	55,157	75	Sunderland West	63,315	86
Sunderland East	57,123	84	Washington	55,021	87
Coalfield	47,346	85			
Ward	Pop'n	Access	Ward	Pop'n	Access
	-	%		-	%
Barnes	10,825	100	Castle	11,004	73
Copt Hill	11,449	87	Doxford	9,637	80
Fulwell	11,321	72	Hendon	13,069	92
Hetton	11,426	91	Houghton	11,490	70
Millfield	12,982	100	Pallion	10,437	64
Redhill	11,225	58	Ryhope	10,732	48
Sandhill	11,003	95	Shiney Row	12,981	97
Silksworth	10,625	100	Southwick	10,909	74
St Anne's	11,059	66	St Chad's	9,366	98
St Michael's	10,703	96	St Peter's	10,698	100
Washington Central	10,869	100	Washington East	11,142	90
Washington North	11,152	82	Washington	10,141	100
			South		
Washington West	11,717	64			

Table 18: Access to Parks and Formal Gardens by area

- 10.9 Using the quantity guideline, 84% of city residents have access to a formal park or country park. The main areas of deficiency are:
 - Castle Town End Farm
 - Redhill Downhill and Witherwack
 - Southwick Marley Potts and Carley Hill
 - Fulwell Seaburn Dene
 - St Anne's South Hylton and west Pennywell
 - Pallion Ford and Pallion
 - Hendon East End and Grangetown
 - Ryhope Hollycarrside and Ryhope village
 - Doxford Hall Farm
 - Washington West Blackfell and Donwell
 - Washington North Usworth
 - Washington East Barmston
 - Copt Hill Newbottle
 - Houghton Burnside, Fence Houses and Dubmire
 - Hetton Low Moorsley

10.10 The aim is for 100% residents to have such access. In many cases, there are doorstep greens and other quality greenspaces that could be upgraded to provide formal parkland in key deficiency areas.

ACTION: The above quantity deficiencies will be examined in order to improve overall access, with consideration given to improving the quality of existing parks, as well as the potential to upgrade key greenspaces so that they provide formal parkland for neighbourhoods currently without park access.

11.0 Allotments and Community Gardens

Allotments &	Where people can grow their own fruit and vegetables.
Community Gardens	Not including private gardens.

11.1 An allotment is an area of land in, or on the edge of, a developed area which can be owned or rented by local people for the growing of vegetables, flowers or fruit. Community Gardens are usually urban community-managed projects working with people, animals and plants, and are created in response to a lack of access to allotments or greenspace in general. They range from tiny wildlife gardens to fruit and vegetable plots on housing estates, from community polytunnels to large city farms.

Quantity

- 11.2 In terms of national standards, the 1969 Thorpe Report recommended a minimum standard of allotment provision of 0.2 hectares (0.5 acres) per 1000 population. In 1996, the National Allotment survey identified an average provision in England of 15 plots per 1000 households. The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners considers that the target for provision, based on the findings of a national survey, should be 20 allotment plots per 1000 households (a typical plot size being 250 square metres). This target allows for some growth in demand as forecast in the House of Commons Select Committee report 'The Future of Allotments' (1998), and equates to a recommended spatial standard of 0.25 hectares per 1000 population.
- 11.3 A national provision standard is a useful guide but most crucially does not reflect different historical levels of interest in allotment gardening. Many local authorities have subsequently adopted a quantity standard or guideline based on current provision and overall levels of interest in allotment gardening. Local authorities will often use the area average to seek to retain levels in area where provision is high, and raise levels where provision is low.
- 11.4 The amount of public and private allotments (by area) in Sunderland has dropped from 122 hectares in 1980 to 101 hectares in 2018, a reduction from 0.417 hectares per 1000 population to 0.363ha/1000 population (see Table 19 below). The present figure has broadly stayed the same since 2012. It should be noted, however, that some of these sites still exist, but are used primarily as garage and/or private garden sites rather than allotments, and are therefore no longer counted in this audit.

Year	Area in Hectares	Population	Provision / 1000 population
1980	122.90	294,895 (1981)	0.417
2012	103.43	281,654 (MYE)	0.367
2018	100.90	277,962 (2016 MYE)	0.363

Table 19: City-wide allotment provision 1980-2018

11.5 Allotment gardens are often associated with heavy industry, and were often made available to employees. Areas of heavy industry may therefore have a strong history of allotment gardening, and Sunderland is no exception, with the amount of allotment land in the city well above the national guide standard. Whilst the amount of allotments has reduced in the last few decades, the waiting lists for allotments in Sunderland indicate a revived interest that mirrors a growing national desire to locally grown produce. It is therefore recommended that the current level of 0.36 hectares per 1000 population is used as a benchmark guideline to be applied across the city, with a particular focus to increase provision, where public need is shown, in areas below that guideline.

Recommended quantity guideline for Allotments and Community Gardens:

0.36 hectares per 1000 population

Quality

- 11.6 In 2010 a Task & Finish group for the city's Environment & Attractive City Scrutiny Committee investigated the quality of Council-owned allotments, using 5 key criteria. Each site was scored out of a total of 30 points. This information has been used in the Greenspace Audit, and all sites scoring 18 or more points have received a value weighting. Furthermore, the audit of greenspace sites has been used to consider the quality of all privately owned allotments in the city. These results have been examined in line with use of aerial photography to determine whether sites would be deemed high quality and similarly receive a value weighting.
- 11.7 These results are discussed in paragraph 11.14 below and provide some general indicators.

Accessibility

- 11.8 Allotment sites vary greatly in size, some providing just one allotment, whilst the largest at Shields Road, Seaburn provides over 300 plots. In their 2008 "Audit and Assessment on Open Space, Sport and Recreation", Hartlepool Borough Council has concluded that people would be willing to travel further to access larger allotment sites. This is a fair assessment, given that some of the smallest sites in Sunderland almost serve as extended back gardens to adjoining housing, whilst the larger sites tend to have more facilities available. The following accessibility thresholds are therefore recommended for Sunderland:
 - Over 100 plots = 1200 metre radius.
 - 50-99 plots = 900 metre radius
 - 25-49 plots = 600 metre radius
 - 1 24 plots = 300 metre radius.

Recommended catchment areas for Allotments and Community Gardens:					
Over 100 plots = 1200 metre radius.					
50-99 plots = 900 metre radius					
25-49 plots = 600 metre radius					
1 – 24 plots = 300 metre radius					

Results

- 11.9 There are 100 public and privately owned allotment and community garden sites identified within the Greenspace Audit, with a further site just outside the city boundary at Chartershaugh, Washington. In terms of primary greenspace purpose, allotments provide 2.60% of all greenspace.
- 11.10 As indicated earlier, the amount of allotment land in Sunderland remains well above the national guide standard. The amount of public and private allotments (by area) in Sunderland has dropped from 122.90 hectares in 1980 to 100.90 hectares in 2018, a reduction from 0.42 hectares per 1000 population to 0.36ha/1000 population. Much of this loss, however, has been in the Coalfield, where overall provision is still twice the city average (see Table 20 below).

Area	Year	Area	Population	Provision/1000
		(Ha)		population
North Sunderland	1980	25.10	65,165	0.39
South Sunderland	1980	41.40	130,800	0.32
Washington	1980	8.80	51,795	0.17
Coalfield	1980	47.60	47,135	1.01
North Sunderland	2018	24.29	55,157	0.44
East Sunderland	2018	15.85	57,123	0.28
West Sunderland	2018	15.44	63,315	0.24
Washington	2018	8.62	55,021	0.16
Coalfield	2018	36.70	47,346	0.78



- 11.11 In terms of accessibility, it is apparent that Washington has very limited access to allotments. Provision is especially low in the west of the New Town.
- 11.12 Sunderland East and Sunderland West also fall short of the city average for allotment provision. The catchment map clearly indicates that the shortfalls occur in neighbourhoods nearest to the City Centre, in Pennywell, Grindon, Middle & East Herrington.
- 11.13 It is recommended to retain and enhance all existing sites in these areas of deficiency, and consideration should be given to whether all sites in areas of allotment surplus (primarily the Coalfield) are all worthy of long-term retention.
- 11.14 There is a clear distinction in terms of site quality at the area level. In terms of hectares, North and West Sunderland have 98% and 97% of higher quality allotment. East Sunderland and Washington have slightly lower levels at 87% and 76% respectively. By contrast, only 37% of allotment land in the Coalfield is considered to be high quality, and there is no difference in quality between public and private ownership.

ACTION: Support additional allotments and/or community gardens in Washington, Middle & East Herrington, Pennywell, Hastings Hill, Grindon and near to the City Centre, subject to local demand and viability.

In Washington, West and East Sunderland (where provision quantity is below average), seek to retain existing allotments and enhance poor quality sites wherever feasible.

When considering development proposals in the Coalfield, consider whether allotment sites should be retained and enhanced or whether they have low value to the local community and are not worthy of long-term retention.

12.0 Outdoor sports facilities

Outdoor Sports	Open space specifically geared towards sport and		
Facilities	formal recreation- e.g. football, cricket, tennis, rugby,		
	hockey, bowling greens and golf courses.		

- 12.1 Outdoor sports facilities are defined as land providing formal recreation opportunity for participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls and golf.
- 12.2 In consultation with Sport England, in 2018 the Council has produced a revised Playing Pitch Plan (PPP), which provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2017 and 2022. It updates the previous 2014 Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan.
- 12.3 The PPP covers the following playing pitches and outdoor pitch sports:
 - Football pitches (grass and 3G)
 - Cricket pitches
 - Rugby union pitches
 - Hockey pitches
 - Bowling greens
 - Tennis courts (indoor and outdoor).
- 12.4 The PPP adopts a strategic approach to improving participation levels and focuses on the following issues:
 - To impact on the greatest number of people
 - To support people in communities that are benefiting least from the opportunities that being physically active brings;
 - To provide universal access to an appropriate provision of sport and leisure facilities and support sporting excellence.
- 12.5 The vision for playing pitches in Sunderland is that:

"Sunderland has an accessible range of playing pitch facilities and venues which offer increased opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in both formal and informal opportunity, contributing to a higher quality of life."

12.6 The PPP provides an overall strategy, action plan and key priorities to achieve this vision. It includes the creation of three new sports 'Hub' sites at Community North Sports Complex, Ford Quarry and Northern Area, Washington, which are planned to be operational for 2019. The hubs will be able to provide intensive sports use and will impact on future assessments of playing pitch need across the city.













13.0 Cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds

Cemeteries and	Cemeteries, churchyards and also the general
church grounds	grounds of a church

- 13.1 There are three types of greenspace identified here. Cemeteries and churchyards provide two greenspace types, and refer to spaces set aside for the burial of the dead. A third category has been identified relating to church grounds (without burial) relating to landscaped greenspace surrounding any church. In terms of sites and area, a total of 49 sites have been identified with some form of cemetery or church function, totalling 112.10 hectares or 2.91% of the city greenspace area. In terms of primary purpose only, there are 43 cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds identified, totalling 106 hectares, or 2.76% of the city's greenspace.
- 13.2 There are 10 municipal cemeteries in Sunderland, and Sunderland Crematorium lies within the grounds of Bishopwearmouth Cemetery, which itself occupy over 40% of all the city's cemetery land. There are over 30 other private churches, churchyards and church grounds across the city. Policy SA22.2 of the UDP identifies two cemetery expansion sites attached to Grangetown and Ryhope Cemeteries.
- 13.3 There has been an average of 230 new municipal graves acquired in the city per annum in the period 2008-17, which shows a drop from the 380 graves that were sold in 2005-06. The take-up rates varied between each of the Council's 10 cemeteries. Assuming that the rates would remain at this level during the plan period, the following table (Table 21) provides an estimate to the remaining plot capacity overall in Sunderland.

Cemetery	Hectares (size of site)	Graves available (at 2007)	Graves sold for period 1/1/08 – 31/12/1 6	Graves sold per annum 1/1/08- 31/12/1 6	Graves remaining (as at 1/1/17)	Projected provision (years from 2017)
Washington	1.77	0	0	0	0	0
Sunderland	11.98	890	324		566	
(Grangetown)			324	36	000	15.7
Bishopwearmouth	33.82	2475	699	78	1776	22.9
Mere Knolls	15.76	4865	294	33	4571	140.0
Southwick	7.26	1330	200	22	1130	50.9
Ryhope	2.60	190	87	10	103	10.6
Castletown	1.12	340	53	6	287	48.6
Houghton	3.92	600	247	27	353	12.9

Table 21:	Existing and	projected	cemetery	space in	n Sunderland	
-----------	--------------	-----------	----------	----------	--------------	
Hetton	2.63	545	108	12	437	36.4
----------------------	---------------	---------------	--------------	-------------	----------	------
Easington Lane	1.42	450	52	6	398	68.6
Sub-total	82.28	11685	2064	230	9621	42.0
Expansion areas:						
Estimated 1700 plots	s feasible pe	r hectare (ir	ncluding pat	hs and land	scaping)	
Grangetown	1.99				3383	
Ryhope	0.71				1207	
Sub Total	2.70			230	4590	20.0
Grand Total	84.98			230	14,211	62.0

- 13.4 Assuming that burial plot acquisition remains the same, it would appear that there are 42 years' capacity remaining, with a further 20 years available from the two protected expansion sites at Grangetown and Ryhope. Therefore, at present the city has municipal burial space that could last until 2079. Of course, plot purchases could vary greatly over time, but even so, there would appear to be a considerable supply available.
- 13.5 In spatial terms, there is no municipal burial space remaining in Washington. There has already been some initial site investigation regarding a new municipal cemetery to serve Washington. Ultimately, however, the City Council must demonstrate an ability to provide for the disposal (by burial) for the dead, and this is achieved through the spare capacity elsewhere across the city. If a new site is desired, consideration would also need to be given as to whether the new site should focus on the Washington area, or to provide a new central site aimed at serving the city as a whole.



- 13.6 It would also appear that Ryhope Cemetery could become full within the next 11 years. Therefore, consideration will be given to formalising use of the Ryhope Cemetery expansion area.
- 13.7 Most cemetery and churchyard sites score highly for quality. Many cemeteries and church grounds provide a haven for wildlife and attractive and peaceful neighbourhood open spaces. Setting a meaningful quality standard would prove difficult to act upon, given that many sites are privately owned.
- 13.8 All of the municipal cemeteries (except for Easington Lane) have good public transport access. Though there are no longer any new plots available in the Washington area, the geographical spread of sites across the city is good, and plot capacity remains high. Therefore, there is no real need to consider accessibility standards.

No recommended quantity, quality or accessibility standard for cemeteries, churchyards or church grounds

Future consideration to be given to whether, in spatial terms, the city would benefit from an additional cemetery site either in the Washington area, or a central site to serve the city as a whole.

Capacity at Ryhope Cemetery to be monitored, and the expansion site will be brought into use as needed to ensure continued grave availability in this locality

14.0 Civic spaces

Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced spaces for pedestrians e.g. war memorials, pedestrian areas, river and coastal
	promenades.

- 14.1 Unlike all other types of greenspace, civic spaces refer to hard surfaced spaces for pedestrians, such as war memorials, piazzas, pedestrian areas, river and coastal promenades. The purpose of civic spaces in town and city centres is often to provide a setting for civic buildings, such as town halls, and opportunities for open air markets, demonstrations and civic events.
- 14.2 A total of 34 sites have been assessed as falling within the above category, with a combined area of 21.32 hectares. In terms of primary purpose only, 29 sites were identified.
- 14.3 The majority of Sunderland's civic spaces are concentrated in Sunderland City Centre, along the mouth of the River Wear and along the Roker and Seaburn coast. Most recent improvements have included the provision of space at Keel Square which is now used for many public events and along the sea front at Roker and Seaburn.

15.0 Accessible countryside

Accessible	All of the city's open countryside, private or public.
Countryside	

15.1 For this Greenspace Audit, "accessible countryside" comprises publicly accessible open spaces (outside of the urban area) including linear routes on/across public and private land. Sunderland's countryside is accessible via c. 250km of routes linking and permeating urban and rural areas. These routes comprise public footpaths and multi-user routes, the latter including public bridleways and cycle routes. Available public access takes in a full range of range of landscape characters including scenic coastal cliff tops and estuarine trails, woodland and rural farmland. But it also connects people between residential areas and to employment education and services sites. They also connect people to the numerous parks and country parks.

Rights of Ways / Cycleways

- 15.2 The majority of public rights of way and cycle routes are publicly maintainable, and the majority of public access routes and land are publicly managed. In addition to this, charities such as the Woodland Trust and Sustrans manage a number of woodlands and sections of routes in which public access is promoted. The National Cycle Network in Sunderland includes:
 - NCN1 (east coast route);
 - NCN7 (C2C to Whitehaven Cumbria);
 - NCN11 (Bowes Railway Path), and;
 - NCN70 (W2W to Walney Island, Cumbria).

In 2014 the England Coast Path improved coastal access between Hendon and Ryhope. In 2018 the Tyne and Wear Heritage Way, an 80 mile route around the region, was re-launched.

- 15.3 The city cycle network has grown rapidly over the last 20 years, from very little to c.150km of route. Former rail corridors radiate from the city centre out to Washington and the Coalfield, and provide easy cycling routes for all abilities. Many other routes have been developed, linking residential areas to education, employment and local services. Most of these routes are also multi-functional, serving recreation and physical activity needs.
- 15.4 Cycle levels in Sunderland have materially exceeded the National average, with steady growth over 8% each year since 2006. The city cycle network has greatly increased, but there is still some way to go to fully connect the city.
- 15.5 Strategic planning for future network development is set out in:

- The Tyne and Wear Rights of Way Improvement Plan covering walking cycling and equestrian network development;
- The North East Combined Authority Cycling and Walking Strategy and Implementation Plan (due for completion in 2018);
- Strategic cycle master-plans for each of the 5 Sunderland areas, compiled in conjunction with the Area Committees / Place Boards, which give weight to funding bid opportunities and developer contribution proposals;
- Advanced network development planning in conjunction with strategic developments such as the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor (SSTC), South Sunderland Growth Area (SSGA) and International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP).



16.0 School playing fields and grounds

This includes all school grounds, whether or not they provide public access to greenspace/ sports facilities
out of school hours.

- 16.1 The Greenspace Audit identified 117 primary and secondary schools with attached greenspace totalling 263 hectares, providing a wide variety of sports on grass, synthetic and hardstanding surfaces.
- 16.2 Government policy towards the protection of school playing fields has been gradually strengthened since the mid-1990's, amidst fears that playing fields were being lost to development. The Schools Standards and Framework Act (SSFA) was introduced by the Government in 1998, which was in turn amended by the Education and Inspection Act (2006). Section 77 of the SSFA seeks to protect school playing fields against disposal or change of use by requiring the prior consent of the Secretary of State for Education before disposal or change of use may take place. The NPPF protects playing field from development and states that they should not be built on unless:
 - An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the land 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 need for which clearly outweighs the loss.
- 16.3 Schools across Sunderland contribute a significant proportion of the total number of sports facilities. Primarily, these facilities must help to ensure that active lifestyles can be undertaken by schoolchildren. However, where feasible, school facilities are increasingly being used for community use and to maximise their neighbourhood role. This is not always straightforward- key issues that arise include:
 - Achieving weekend and non-term time access to school facilities
 - Access to school buildings for changing facilities
 - Over-use of school playing fields / maintenance
 - Managing/hiring pitch use
 - School pitches may not be the correct size for wider community use.
- 16.4 Maximising community use of schools sports facilities is promoted through policies and strategies contained within the Sunderland Playing Pitch Strategy (2018).

Recommendation:

Ensure, wherever feasible, that community use of school sports facilities is maximised.

17.0 Greenspace value

- 17.1 The true value of greenspaces is an amalgam of site quality, accessibility and need. High quality sites may exist that have low local value because they have limited access, or maybe their value is diminished because there is an abundance of similar provision close-by. On the other hand, a site may be of low quality but is highly valued because it is the only such provision around. Sites that demonstrate multiple functions generally have more value to them, being more attractive to a wider population than a single function site. Sites may also have a strategic value, such as nationally recognised wildlife habitat, or a supporting role in a Conservation Area.
- 17.2 Sunderland's Greenspace Audit has scored every site, based upon questions relating to site function, facilities, biodiversity, accessibility and visual character. Added to these scores are weightings that relate to local, regional and national site protections, greenspace deficiency areas, corridor connectivity and local consultation carried out to determine greenspace value. The weightings are explained in Chapter 5. From this total score, all of the sites can be reviewed and mapped together, and the lowest scoring sites can be identified.

Site value is determined by:

- Value in terms of the strategic significance given to it by authorities
- Value in terms of the way local people appreciate the site
- Value in terms of quality the site brings to an area
- Value in terms of the functions it brings to an area
- Value in terms of the scarcity of the site's function to a particular area

Value guidelines

- 17.3 The appended map shows the site value scores broken down into 6 categories:
 - Very high value
 - High value
 - Above average value
 - Below average value
 - Low Value
 - Very low value.



17.4 The median value score for all 1769 greenspace sites is 95 points.

Dealing with low value sites

- 17.5 Future strategic decision making process should focus on low value sites as a priority. This in itself does not mean because they are of low value that green space is surplus to requirements. Instead the function of each green space needs to be explored in further detail to understand why the site is perceived as having a low value.
- 17.6 The first step should be to consider whether there are deficiencies in other types of open space in the area, such as allotments or natural greenspaces. In all cases a robust approach should be applied before releasing a site for development, and it is recommended that all the following criteria are considered:
 - All functions that open space can perform have been considered and the loss of the open space would not have an adverse impact on the ability of the wider area to achieve these functions;
 - The open space is not protected by a planning or statutory designation, nor is it of historic, ecological or landscape significance;
 - The open space does not form part of, nor has it the potential, to create a link between spaces;
 - The open space does not contribute to or have the potential to contribute to the character or the amenity of the area;
 - There is no identified open space deficiency in the area and its loss does not create one;
 - The community has been consulted and the proposal for an alternative use is widely supported;
 - There is no net loss of biodiversity or increase in an area of deficiency in access to nature; and
 - Other statutory authorities, such as the Environment Agency, do not identify the open space as providing a significant ecosystem service.
- 17.7 It is recommended that the 'low' value scores (61-74 points) and 'very low' value scores (60 points and under) are prioritised for site review, to consider whether the site use needs to be changed, whether the site needs to be enhanced, or whether a non-greenspace use would be more appropriate.
- 17.8 The 'very low' sites are located as follows: (60 points and under)

Sunderland North:	7 sites
Sunderland West:	13 sites
Sunderland East:	6 sites
Washington:	3 sites
Coalfield:	27 sites.

Total = 5	6 sit	es.
-----------	-------	-----

17.9 The 'low' sites are located as follows: (61-74 points)

Sunderland North:	56 sites
Sunderland West:	44 sites
Sunderland East:	41 sites
Washington:	94 sites
Coalfield:	94 sites.
Total =	329 sites.

ACTION: To investigate and make recommendations relating to all sites scoring below 75 points, which are either classed as "low value" or "very low value".











18.0 City-wide results, recommendations and next steps

- 18.1 It is difficult to make comparisons between Sunderland's greenspace provision and provision elsewhere in the UK. Sunderland's audit is very detailed and includes certain greenspaces that may not be included on other studies. It is, however, possible to draw the following conclusions:
 - Sunderland is a green city. The amount of greenspace appears to be above the national average, and when combined with the amount of open countryside also in the city, it is accurate to report that 57% of the overall city area is green field (undeveloped)
 - The establishment of country parks in recent years has significantly boosted the amount of overall parkland in Sunderland, and this appears to be a positive proportion when compared nationally
 - Access to natural greenspaces and woodland in Sunderland is much better than national organisations envisage
 - We have 50% more allotments than the England average recommendation
 - There is no clear distinction regarding the amount of greenspace provision in urban and suburban areas, in contrast to national trends
 - Unlike national indicators, in Sunderland the provision of recreation grounds and sports facility provision does not vary greatly between urban and peripheral areas
 - Again, unlike the national picture, there is no clear-cut trend in Sunderland indicating that poorer areas have lower greenspace provision. Areas of former heavy industry are probably better indicators of higher greenspace provision
 - Closely mirroring national trends, however, the quality of Sunderland's greenspace is worse in deprived areas.
- 18.2 The city has significant green (and blue) assets that make the city more attractive to inward investment. The strategic benefits associated with the heritage coast, River Wear Estuary, Magnesian Limestone Escarpment, the proliferation of formal parks and country parks and interconnecting off-road cycleways, provide an attractive environment to live in and locate to, and encourage regional leisure and tourism investment in its own right.
- 18.3 Whilst new sources of funding are in limited supply during recession, investment can be generated through the re-use of low value greenspaces- the loss of one poor quality, poorly used greenspace site may provide funds that enable other nearby greenspaces to be improved, and a local neighbourhood could achieve an overall greenspace 'net gain'.

- 18.4 Both nationally and in Sunderland, there are major concerns regarding increasingly sedentary lifestyles, and levels of obesity. A variety of Government reports make the point that our living environment has a significant impact on opportunities to undertake physical activity. Increased physical inactivity is one of the factors behind the rapid increases in obesity, type two diabetes and coronary heart disease the leading single cause of death in the UK. Lack of greenspace access also indirectly impacts upon an individual's exposure to sunlight and Vitamin D. Rickets, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, several cancers, and autoimmune conditions have recently been associated with Vitamin D insufficiency. Mental health issues can also be exacerbated where residents have limited greenspace access and opportunities for walking and cycling. Lack of access may help to increase isolation, and may reduce physical exercise which can help to treat mental health, such as depression.
- 18.5 The above health factors send a clear message to Sunderland that we should continue to improve our overall greenspace product.

18.6 **City-wide, the key priorities are to:**

- Set greenspace guidelines and standards that seek to minimise inequalities in terms of greenspace provision, that in turn will ensure that all areas have a range of greenspaces accessible to them;
- The quality of existing greenspaces should be improved in general, and especially in the more deprived parts of the city;
- Alter the use of some types of greenspace, to enable more greenspace variety in key areas;
- Where justified and agreed, re-use low value greenspaces for other forms of development, ensuring that funds are provided and re-used to improve other greenspace within the neighbourhood; and
- Better promote our Greenspace "product":
 - highlight to inward investors that Sunderland is a green city and has high standards and variety of greenspaces on offer
 - ensure that we maximise publicity regarding the coast, river and natural environment
 - focus on promoting regional tourist activities such as the National Cycle Network, facilities at the marina and in our parks and country parks.

18.7 Specific priorities with regards to different types of greenspace are as follows:

Amenity greenspace (section 7.0)

- Endorse the quantity and quality guidelines identified in the audit
- Review all Wards and localities identified with 'low' or 'very low' quantities of amenity greenspace to consider options for improvement

• Review all Wards and localities that scored 'low' or 'very low' for amenity greenspace quality, as well as the 108 individual sites that scored over 20% below the city average to identify potential possibilities for improvement.

Provision for children & young people (section 8.0)

• Direct future investment towards maintenance of existing sites as well as seeking to address the accessibility gaps identified, which can be either through provision of new play facilities, or enhancement of an existing facility that would feasibly serve a wider catchment area.

Natural and Semi-Natural greenspace (section 9.0)

- Endorse ANGST standards for Natural and Semi-Natural greenspace
- Endorse Woodland Trust accessibility standards for woodland
- Consider improvements to all areas with limited access to natural greenspace. Focus on 'low' or 'very low' scoring areas to existing low quality natural greenspace sites, or other greenspaces, in order to attain the 4 ANGST accessibility standards
- Investigate options for increased tree cover in the identified deficiency areas. Consider opening-up access to existing sites with limited accessibility.

Formal Parks and Country Parks (section 10.0)

• Review the quantity deficiencies relating to parkland access in order to improve overall access, with consideration given to improving the quality of existing parks, as well as the potential to upgrade key greenspaces so that they provide formal parkland for neighbourhoods currently without park access.

Allotments and Community Gardens (section 11.0)

- Endorse the quantity guideline and recommended accessibility thresholds for allotment provision
- Support additional allotments and/or community gardens in Washington, Middle & East Herrington, Pennywell, Hastings Hill, Grindon and near to the City Centre, subject to local demand and viability
- In Washington, West and East ARF's (where provision quantity is below average), seek to retain existing allotments and enhance poor quality sites wherever feasible
- When considering development proposals in the Coalfield, consider whether allotment sites should be retained and enhanced or whether they have low value to the local community and are not worthy of long-term retention.

Outdoor sports facilities (section 12.0)

• Outdoor sports provision to be guided by the Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan

Cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds (section 13.0)

• No recommended quantity, quality or accessibility standard for cemeteries, churchyards or church grounds. However, future consideration to be given to whether, in spatial terms, the city would benefit from an additional cemetery site either in the Washington area, or a central site to serve the city as a whole.

School playing fields and grounds (section 16.0)

• Ensure, wherever feasible, that community use of school sports facilities is maximised.

Greenspace value (section 17.0)

• To investigate and make recommendations relating to all sites scoring below 75 points, which are either classed as "low value" or "very low value".

Specific area needs are detailed in Appendices 1 and 2.

Next steps

- 18.8 Key next steps include:
 - Informing policies to be included in the emerging Allocations and Designations Development Plan Document and emerging Green Infrastructure Delivery and Action Plan
 - Providing valuable supporting information and recommendations to other key corporate strategies and Area Plans
 - Informing Area Committees as to the quantity, quality, accessibility and value of greenspaces in their respective localities, who will be in a position to consider key improvements and interventions
 - Ensuring that the Development Management Team have up-to-date evidence in place when determining planning applications.

Appendix 1

Greenspace provision at Area Framework level

How this appendix should be used

This appendix should be used as a reference tool (in conjunction with Appendix 2 as needed), explaining how areas work in spatial terms. It seeks to highlight the general status regarding different greenspace issues. It should be noted that Chapters 6-17 may also need to be referenced, in order to explain a specific greenspace issue in more detail, and/or to signpost users to view other key reports.

A. Sunderland North

Sunderland	Population is 55,157 (19.8% of city population). Area is 1,623 hectares
North ARF	(11.62% of city area).
Total	Sunderland North is urban in nature; countryside exists to the north but
greenspace	mostly falls within South Tyneside MBC. Countryside is limited to the west
	by Nissan. While 20% of the population lives in North Sunderland, just 14%
	of the city's greenspace is located here. However, this statistic can be
	misleading; some of largest greenspaces in Sunderland exist in open
	countryside (such as woodland, golf courses, country parks).
Amenity	BELOW AVERAGE
greenspace	5.01 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha/1000 across the city.
quantity:	'Very low' provision is identified in Town End Farm, Marley Potts and Roker,
	with 'low' provision identified in Southwick, St Peter's & North Haven.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE
amenity	The average quality score is slightly above the city average.
greenspaces:	Low quality is identified at Town End Farm and Marley Potts.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE.
provision	88% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower
	accessibility levels are identified at Fulwell & Seaburn, Redhouse and
	Monkwearmouth.
Natural and	ABOVE AVERAGE
semi-natural	56% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m
greenspace	of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 54%). This is a
-	positive statistic, given the absence of open countryside which limits the
	overall quantity of natural greenspace available.
	ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of
J	

Г	<u> </u>
	2 hectares+ size) in Town End Farm, Downhill, Redhouse, Southwick, Fulwell
	(west) and Roker (west).
	ANGST (20ha) $-$ 100% achievement.
	ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement.
	ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE
	71% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2
	hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide
	average of 70%). Again, this is a positive statistic, given the absence of
	open countryside which limits the overall quantity of natural greenspace
	available.
	Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited
	access in Town End Farm (south), Redhouse (east), Southwick,
	Monkwearmouth, Fulwell (west) and Roker (west).
	Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): The only part of the
	city without access is the north-east part of Sunderland North area.
Formal park	BELOW AVERAGE
access	75% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country
	park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 84%)- the lowest area score
	recorded.
	Limited accessibility in Town End Farm, Downhill, Witherwack, Marley
	Potts, Carley Hill and Seaburn Dene.
	rotts, carrey rim and seasant bene.
Allotment and	ABOVE AVERAGE
community	Although allotment access is limited in Town End Farm and Hylton Castle to
gardens –	the west, and Roker and Seaburn to the east, there are a number of large
access	allotment areas that enable provision to exceed the city average.
Allotment	GOOD
quality	
Outdoor Sports	Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need
facilities – key	across the city. 3 Sports 'hubs' are proposed at: Community North Sports
issues	Complex; Ford Quarry, and; Northern Area, Washington.
Cemeteries	ABOVE AVERAGE
	The area is well-served by 3 municipal cemeteries.
	No accessibility issues.
Greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE
value	Only 13% (7 sites) of all 'very low value' sites identified in the city are in
	North area. 17% (56 sites) of all 'low value' sites are in North area.
Cycle route and	AVERAGE
Rights of Way	Whilst the coast and riverside areas have good access to routes, the north
network access	and north-west of the ARF have relatively poor access. North-south access
	is particularly limited.
L	

B. Sunderland West

Sunderland West ARF	Population is 63,315 (22.8% of city population). Area is 1,824 hectares (13.06% of city area).
Total greenspace	The West area is urban in nature, bounded by the River Wear to the north and with countryside existing to the west (separated by the A19). While nearly 23% of the population lives in West area, just under 14% of the city's greenspace is located here. This statistic is a bit misleading, some of largest greenspaces in Sunderland exist in open countryside (such as woodland, golf courses, country parks).
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.56 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha/1000 across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in St Gabriel's, Elstob, Ford, Pallion, Humbledon, Plains Farm, Thorney Close, with 'low' provision identified in Barnes, Nookside and Pennywell.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	AVERAGE The average quality score is the same as the city average. 'Very low quality' is identified at Ford & Pallion, 'low quality' is identified at Farringdon, Thorney Close and Pennywell.
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE. 96% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at west Pennywell and Hastings Hill.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	 ABOVE AVERAGE 58% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 54%). This is a positive statistic, given the absence of open countryside which limits the overall quantity of natural greenspace available. ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Pennywell (east), Nookside, Ford, Pallion, Hastings Hill, Farringdon and Silksworth (south). ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	 BELOW AVERAGE 60% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 70%). Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Pennywell (east), Nookside, Pallion, Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close, Springwell, Middle Herrington and Silksworth (south).
	Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.

Formal park access	ABOVE AVERAGE 86% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 84%). Limited accessibility in Ford, Pallion, South Hylton and west Pennywell.
Allotment and	BELOW AVERAGE
community	Allotment access is limited in Middle & East Herrington, Pennywell,
gardens –	Hastings Hill and Grindon.
access	
Allotment	GOOD
quality	
Outdoor Sports	Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need
facilities – key	across the city. 3 Sports 'hubs' are proposed at: Community North Sports
issues	Complex; Ford Quarry, and; Northern Area, Washington.
Cemeteries	AVERAGE The area is well-served by Bishopwearmouth cemetery and crematorium. No accessibility issues.
Greenspace	AVERAGE
value	23% (13 sites) of all 'very low value' sites identified in the city are in West
	area. 12% (41 sites) of all 'low value' sites are in West area.
Cycle route and	AVERAGE
Rights of Way	There are routes to the north and to the south of the area, but access is
network access	limited in central areas and north-south.

C. Sunderland East

Sunderland East ARF	Population is 57,123 (20.5% of city population). Area is 2,450 hectares (17.55% of city area).
Total greenspace	Sunderland East is mainly urban in nature, open countryside and Green Belt exists to the south and the coast forms the eastern boundary. The River Wear forms the northern boundary. There is a further central band of countryside stretching from the coast inland to Silksworth. While 20.5% of the population lives in East Sunderland, just 15% of the city's greenspace is located here. This statistic is a bit misleading, some of largest greenspaces in Sunderland exist in open countryside (such as woodland, golf courses, country parks).
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 3.37 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha/1000 across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Thornhill, Queen Alexandra Road, Hillview, Grangetown, Hendon and Millfield, with 'low' provision identified in Ashbrooke.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE

amenity greenspaces:	The quality score is the highest for any of the 5 areas in the city. 'Low quality' is identified at Hall Farm and Chapelgarth.
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE. 85% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at Moorside, Queen Alexandra Road, Hillview, and Ryhope village.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE 44% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 54%). This represents the lowest access of the 5 area frameworks.
	ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Millfield, Thornhill, Hendon, Grangetown, Hillview, Hollycarrside, Ryhope and Doxford (east). ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE 59% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 70%).
	Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Doxford (east), Ryhope, Hollycarrside, Grangetown, Hendon, East End, Thornhill, Millfield. Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.
Formal park access	AVERAGE 84% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (matching the city-wide average of 84%).
	Limited accessibility in East End, Grangetown, Hollycarrside, Ryhope village and Hall Farm.
Allotment and community gardens – access	BELOW AVERAGE Allotment access is limited in all neighbourhoods surrounding the City Centre.
Allotment quality	GOOD Low quality allotments in Ryhope.
Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city. 3 Sports 'hubs' are proposed at: Community North Sports Complex; Ford Quarry, and; Northern Area, Washington.
Cemeteries	ABOVE AVERAGE The area is well-served by 2 municipal cemeteries. No accessibility issues.

Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE 11% (6 sites) of all 'very low value' sites identified in the city are in East area. 12% (41 sites) of all 'low value' sites are in East area.
Cycle route and	ABOVE AVERAGE
Rights of Way	Links have improved in recent years with the English Coast Path improving
network access	access to the coastline.

D. Washington

Washington ARF	Population is 55,021 (19.8% of city population). Area is 3,345 hectares (23.95% of city area).
Total greenspace	The area forms a New Town, largely urban, but flanked on the north and south but Green Belt, and east by a mixture of Green Belt and industrial land. While 20% of the population lives in Washington ARF, more than 26% of the city's greenspace is located here. This reflects the green blueprint originally set out for the New Town, and also the extensive natural greenspaces that flank the River Wear.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 6.67 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha/1000 across the city. Low provision is located in Barmston, Columbia and Usworth.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	AVERAGE The average quality score is the same as the city average. 'Low quality' is identified at Barmston, Columbia, Albany and Blackfell.
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE. 92% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at Usworth and Fatfield.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	 BELOW AVERAGE 48% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 54%). This is despite the area containing a high proportion of natural greenspace areas overall. ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Springwell Village, Donwell, Albany, Blackfell, Usworth, Concord, Sulgrave, Hertburn, Barmston, Columbia, Oxclose and Ayton. ANGST (20ha) – there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 20 hectares+ size) in Springwell Village, Donwell, Usworth, Usworth Hall and Sulgrave. ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE 81% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide

	average of 70%).
	Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Springwell Village, Donwell, Blackfell, Usworth, Ayton and Barmston.
	Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.
Formal park	ABOVE AVERAGE
access	87% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 84%). Limited accessibility in Donwell, Usworth, Blackfell and Barmston.
Allotment and	BELOW AVERAGE
community	In terms of accessibility, it is apparent that Washington area has limited
gardens –	access to allotments. Provision is especially low in the west of the New
access	Town.
Allotment	GOOD
quality	
Outdoor Sports	Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need
facilities – key issues	across the city. 3 Sports 'hubs' are proposed at: Community North Sports Complex; Ford Quarry, and; Northern Area, Washington.
Cemeteries	BELOW AVERAGE
	The ARF has one cemetery, which has no new burial space available. However, there is plentiful capacity elsewhere in the city. A new cemetery site for Washington remains an option, however.
Greenspace	AVERAGE
value	Only 5% (3 sites) of all 'very low value' sites identified in the city are in Washington area. However, 29% (94 sites) of all 'low value' sites are in Washington area.
Cycle route and	AVERAGE
Rights of Way	Whilst there is a network of off-road pathways criss-crossing the New
network access	Town, use is restricted to walking only.

E. Coalfield

Coalfield ARF	Population is 47,346 (17.0% of city population). Area is 4,722 hectares (33.82% of city area).
Total greenspace	The Coalfield area consists of a number of towns and villages within an otherwise rural setting. Open countryside and Green Belt separates the area from Sunderland, Washington, Durham and Murton. While only 17% of the population lives in the Coalfield, just over 30% of the city's greenspace is located here, (more closely mirroring the equivalent land area). The area includes many of the largest greenspaces, including 3

	country parks, a major nature reserve, riverside woodland and 3 golf courses.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 7.76 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha/1000 across the city. Despite this high figure, there are still areas of low provision. 'Very low' provision is identified in Chilton Moor, Dubmire, Fencehouses and Success, with 'low' provision identified in Penshaw.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE The Coalfield has the lowest quality average of the 5 areas. 'Very low' provision is identified in Burnside, Sunniside and Fencehouses, with 'low' provision identified in Chilton Moor, Dubmire, Low Moorsley, Easington Lane, Penshaw and Shiney Row.
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE. 92% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at Broomhill and Philadelphia.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE 64% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 54%).
	ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Penshaw, Shiney Row, Newbottle, Racecourse Estate, Burnside, Sunniside, Dubmire and Colliery Row. ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	AVERAGE 77% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 70%). Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited
	access in Shiney Row, Newbottle, Dubmire and Racecourse Estate. Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.
Formal park access	ABOVE AVERAGE 85% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 84%). Limited accessibility in Newbottle, Burnside, Fencehouses, Dubmire and Low Moorsley.
Allotment and community gardens – access	ABOVE AVERAGE The Coalfield area provides 36% of the city's allotments, twice the city average.
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE

Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city. 3 Sports 'hubs' are proposed at: Community North Sports Complex; Ford Quarry, and; Northern Area, Washington.
Cemeteries	ABOVE AVERAGE The area is well-served by 3 municipal cemeteries. No accessibility issues.
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE 48% (27 sites) of all 'very low value' sites identified in the city are in the Coalfield area. In addition, 29% (94 sites) of all 'low value' sites are also in Coalfield area.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	AVERAGE Whilst there are good west-east connections from the Coalfield to Sunderland and Durham City, north-south routes are limited. There is no clear route threading together Easington Lane, Hetton, Houghton, Shiney Row and Washington.

Appendix 2

Greenspace provision at Ward level

How this appendix should be used

This appendix should be used as a reference tool (in conjunction with appendix 1 if needed), explaining how areas work in spatial terms. It seeks to highlight the general status regarding different greenspace issues. It should be noted that Chapters 6-17 may also need to be referenced, in order to explain a specific greenspace issue in more detail, and/or to signpost users to view other key reports.

A. Sunderland North

CASTLE Population is 11,004. Area is 363.55 hectares.	
Amenity greenspace BELOW AVERAGE	
quantity: 4.67 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 po	pulation
across the city.	
The quality of LOW	
amenity greenspaces: Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 2.	5% lower
than city average.	
Outdoor play GOOD PROVISION	
provision	
Natural and semi- HIGH PROVISION	
natural greenspace Limited access in Town End Farm	
Woodland HIGH PROVISION	
Limited access in Town End Farm (south).	
Formal park access BELOW AVERAGE	
Limited access in Town End Farm.	
Allotment / BELOW AVERAGE	
community gardens – Although the North area provides more allotments than the	e city
access average, there is limited or no provision across Town End F	arm,
Hylton Castle and Castletown.	
Allotment quality GOOD	
Outdoor Sports Refer to Playing Pitch Plan	
facilities	
Greenspace value BELOW AVERAGE	
Concentration of low value sites in Hylton Castle.	
Cycle route and Rights Connections are limited to west-east connections along No	rth Hylton
of Way network Road and the riverside, with no north-south connections in	place.
access	

FULWELL	Population is 11,321. Area is 275.22 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	LOW
quantity:	3.75 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	HIGH
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 84 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 5.0% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited access in Fulwell and Seaburn Dene.
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Fulwell (west).
Woodland	AVERAGE
	Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Fulwell (west).
	Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Fulwell, Seaburn Dene and South
	Bents.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Seaburn Dene.
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Although the North area provides more allotments than the city
access	average, there is limited or no provision in Seaburn and Fulwell.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to the north-south route along the coast with
of Way network	no inland routes in place.
access	

REDHILL	Population is 11,225. Area is 277.33 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE
quantity:	5.40 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	BELOW AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 79 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 1.3% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	Limited access in Redhouse.
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Downhill and Redhouse.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Redhouse (east).
	Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Downhill, Redhouse and Witherwack.
Formal park access	LOW
	Limited access in Downhill and Witherwack.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD

Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentration of low value sites in Downhill and Redhouse.
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to west-east connection along North Hylton
of Way network	Road with no north-south connections in place.
access	

SOUTHWICK	Population is 10,909. Area is 465.82 hectares.
Amonitus ano ano ano a	
Amenity greenspace	VERY HIGH
quantity:	9.40 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 82 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 2.5% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Southwick.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Southwick and Monkwearmouth.
	Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Marley Potts and Carley Hill.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Marley Potts and Carley Hill.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Concentration of low value sites in Carley Hill.
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to west-east C2C corridor with no north-
of Way network	south connections in place.
access	

ST PETER'S	Population is 10,698. Area is 241.01 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	VERY LOW
quantity:	1.83 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	HIGH
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 88 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 10% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Monkwearmouth.
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Roker (west).

Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Roker (west).
	Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Roker (east).
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Although the North area provides more allotments than the city
access	average, there is limited or no provision in Roker and St Peter's.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to the coast and river with no completed
of Way network	inland routes in place.
access	

B. Sunderland West

BARNES	Population is 10,825. Area is 214.06 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE
quantity:	4.10 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	VERY HIGH
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 92 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 15% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	HIGH PROVISION
natural greenspace	
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to National Route 1 along the eastern edge of
of Way network	the Ward only, with no connections further west.
access	

PALLION	Population is 10,437. Area is 341.42 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.09 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	LOW Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 2.5% lower

	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Ford and Pallion.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Pallion.
Formal park access	LOW
	Limited access in Ford and Pallion.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to the west-east route to the north of Pallion,
of Way network	with no connections further south.
access	

SANDHILL	Population is 11,003. Area is 259.58 hectares.
A	
Amenity greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE
quantity:	4.57 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	VERY LOW
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 77 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 3.8% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Hastings Hill.
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Hastings Hill.
Woodland	LOW PROVISION
	Limited access in Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close and
	Springwell.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited access in Hastings Hill, Grindon and Thorney Close.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	AVERAGE
	Concentration of low value sites in Grindon.
Cycle route and Rights	There are no connections within the Ward.
of Way network	
access	

SILKSWORTH	Population is 10,625. Area is 390.65 hectares.
A	
Amenity greenspace	HIGH
quantity:	7.17 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	HIGH
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 87 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 8.8% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Silksworth (south).
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Limited access in Silksworth (south).
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Concentration of low value sites in Silksworth.
Cycle route and Rights	Well connected with route from Doxford International to City Centre
of Way network	and eastwards to Ryhope.
access	

ST ANNE'S	Population is 11,059. Area is 320.61 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	LOW
quantity:	3.30 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	LOW
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 2.5% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	Limited provision in west Pennywell.
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Pennywell (east) and Nookside.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Pennywell (east) and Nookside.
Formal park access	LOW
	Limited access in South Hylton and west Pennnywell.
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited access in Pennywell.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
------------------------	--
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Limited to west-east route from South Hylton to Pallion, with no
of Way network	connections through Pennywell.
access	

ST CHAD'S	Population is 9,366. Area is 316.31 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE
quantity:	4.15 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	VERY LOW
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 75 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 6.3% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Farringdon.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Middle Herrington.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited access in Middle Herrington, East Herrington and Farringdon.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Farringdon and East Herrington.
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to north-south route to the east of the Ward,
of Way network	with no routes linking northwards.
access	

C. Sunderland East

DOXFORD	Population is 9,637. Area is 915.16 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 6.30 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	LOW Average score is 77 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 3.8% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Moorside.
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Doxford (east).
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
	Limited access in Doxford (east).

Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Hall Farm.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Moorside, Hall Farm, Chapelgarth
	and Tunstall Bank Estate.
Cycle route and Rights	Connections are limited to north-south route to the west of the
of Way network	Ward, with no routes through the centre of Doxford.
access	

HENDON	Population is 13,069. Area is 417.10 hectares.
HENDON	ropulation is 13,003. Area is 417.10 nectares.
Amenity greenspace	VERYLOW
quantity:	2.46 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	HIGH
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 90 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 12.5%
	higher than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Hendon.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Hendon and East End.
Formal park access	HIGH
	Limited access in East End and Grangetown.
Allotment /	AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited or no access in East End and Hendon (north).
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Route links north Hendon to City Centre, but no links further to the
of Way network	south.
access	

MILLFIELD	Population is 12,982. Area is 256.87 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY LOW 1.86 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 84 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 5.0% higher

	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	LOW PROVISION
natural greenspace	Limited access in Millfield and Thornhill.
Woodland	LOW PROVISION
	Limited access in Millfield and Thornhill.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited access in Millfield and Thornhill.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	Well connected west-east to City Centre and to the south.
of Way network	
access	

RYHOPE	Population is 10,732. Area is 576.59 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE
quantity:	5.02 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 83 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 3.8% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Ryhope village.
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Hollycarrside and Ryhope.
Woodland	LOW PROVISION
	Limited access in Hollycarrside and Ryhope.
Formal park access	LOW
	Limited access in Hollycarrside and Ryhope village.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Concentration of low value sites in Ryhope.
Cycle route and Rights	Route exists linking to the south and to the west, but no link
of Way network	northwards towards City Centre.
access	

ST MICHAEL'S	Population is 10,703. Area is 275.71 hectares.
	VERYLOW
Amenity greenspace	
quantity:	2.03 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	VERY HIGH
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 91 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 13.8%
	higher than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Hillview and Queen Alexandra Road.
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Grangetown and Hillview.
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
	Limited access in Grangetown.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited provision within Ward.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights	No routes through the Ward.
of Way network	
access	

D. Washington

WASHINGTON CENTRAL	Population is 10,869. Area is 321.98 hectares.
CENTRAL	
Amenity greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE
quantity:	5.49 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 81 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 1.3% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	Limited access in Columbia.
Natural and semi-	HIGH PROVISION
natural greenspace	
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited or no provision in Glebe and Biddick.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	AVERAGE

	Concentration of low value sites in Glebe.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network	No routes through the Ward.
access	

WASHINGTON EAST	Population is 11,142. Area is 765.96 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	VERY HIGH
quantity:	9.51 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	BELOW AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 79 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 1.3% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Fatfield
Natural and semi-	HIGH PROVISION
natural greenspace	Limited access in Barmston.
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
	Limited access in Barmston.
Formal park access	HIGH
	Limited access in Barmston.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	ABOVE AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentration of low value sites in Harraton.
Cycle route and Rights	Connected with routes to the west and northeast towards Nissan, but
of Way network	no direct link to Washington Galleries.
access	

WASHINGTON NORTH	Population is 11,152. Area is 1,178.13 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	HIGH
quantity:	7.62 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 81 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 1.3% higher
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Usworth.
Natural and semi-	LOW PROVISION
natural greenspace	Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Usworth, Concord, Sulgrave and
	Hertburn.
	Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Usworth, Usworth Hall and Sulgrave.
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
	Limited access in Usworth.

Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Usworth.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Concord, Sulgrave and Hertburn.
Cycle route and Rights	Well connected with routes to the north, east, southeast and into
of Way network	Concord.
access	

WASHINGTON SOUTH	Population is 10,141. Area is 432.64 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	HIGH
quantity:	7.04 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	BELOW AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 80 (80.1 as opposed to the city-wide score of 80.3).
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Oxclose and Ayton.
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
	Limited access in Ayton.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited or no provision in Rickleton, Lambton and Oxclose.
access	
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Oxclose, Lambton and Rickleton.
Cycle route and Rights	Connected in most directions, but direct link to Washington Galleries
of Way network	still needed.
access	

WASHINGTON WEST	Population is 11,717. Area is 645.65 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	LOW
quantity:	3.84 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	LOW
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 2.5% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	AVERAGE

provision	
Natural and semi-	LOW PROVISION
natural greenspace	Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Springwell Village, Donwell, Albany and
	Blackfell.
	Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Springwell Village and Donwell.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Springwell Village, Donwell and Blackfell.
Formal park access	LOW
	Limited access in Blackfell and Donwell.
Allotment /	BELOW AVERAGE
community gardens –	Limited or no provision in Blackfell, Donwell, Albany and Usworth.
access	
Allotment quality	AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Albany and Blackfell.
Cycle route and Rights	No routes within Ward.
of Way network	
access	

E. Coalfield

COPT HILL	Population is 11,449. Area is 1,510.95 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE
quantity:	4.05 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	LOW
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 2.5% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	BELOW AVERAGE
provision	Limited provision in Broomhill and Philadelphia.
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Newbottle and Racecourse Estate.
Woodland	AVERAGE
	Limited access in Newbottle and Racecourse Estate.
Formal park access	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Limited access in Newbottle.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Newbottle, Racecourse Estate
	and Hetton Downs.
Cycle route and Rights	Limited access, with no connected routes to Houghton Town Centre,
of Way network	towards Hetton or to Doxford International.

access	
	1

HETTON	Population is 11,426. Area is 1,558.99 hectares.
	ropulation is 11,420. Alea is 1,550.55 nectales.
Amenity greenspace	VERY HIGH
quantity:	8.01 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	BELOW AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 80 (80.1 as opposed to the city-wide score of 80.3).
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	HIGH PROVISION
natural greenspace	
Woodland	HIGH PROVISION
Formal park access	HIGH
	Limited access in Low Moorsley.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Hetton Lyons, Easington Lane,
	Low Moorsley and Park Estate.
Cycle route and Rights	Connections exist to south, west and east, but no direct link to
of Way network	Houghton Town Centre.
access	

HOUGHTON	Population is 11,490. Area is 547.42 hectares.
Amenity greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE
quantity:	5.87 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population
	across the city.
The quality of	LOW
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 77 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 3.8% lower
	than city average.
Outdoor play	GOOD PROVISION
provision	
Natural and semi-	BELOW AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Burnside, Sunniside, Dubmire and Colliery Row.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE
	Limited access in Dubmire.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Burnside, Fencehouses and Dubmire.
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE

Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Burnside, Sunniside and
	Houghton.
Cycle route and Rights	No connecting routes within Ward.
of Way network	
access	

SHINEY ROW	Population is 12,981. Area is 1,093.2 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY HIGH 12.49 ha / 1000 population, as opposed to 5.36 ha / 1000 population across the city.
The quality of	ABOVE AVERAGE
amenity greenspaces:	Average score is 81 (compared to city-wide score of 80). 1.3% higher than city average.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD PROVISION
Natural and semi-	ABOVE AVERAGE
natural greenspace	Limited access in Penshaw and Shiney Row.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE
	Limited access in Shiney Row.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment /	GOOD PROVISION
community gardens –	
access	
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
facilities	
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE
	Concentrations of low value sites in Penshaw and Shiney Row.
Cycle route and Rights	No connected routes to Washington, Houghton Town Centre or
of Way network	towards Sunderland.
access	

Appendix 3: Policy background detail

A) National guidance

National Planning Policy Guidance states that green infrastructure can help to deliver a variety of planning policies including:

• Building a strong, competitive economy

Green infrastructure can drive economic growth and regeneration, helping to create high quality environments which are attractive to businesses and investors.

• Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes

Green infrastructure can help deliver quality of life and provide opportunities for recreation, social interaction and play in new and existing neighbourhoods. More broadly, green infrastructure exists within a wider landscape context and can reinforce and enhance local landscape character, contributing to a sense of place. Green infrastructure is also an important approach to delivering ecosystem services and ecological networks.

• Requiring good design

Well-designed green infrastructure helps create a sense of place by responding to, and enhancing, local landscape character. Green infrastructure can also help create safe and accessible environments in new development and the regeneration of brownfield sites in existing built up areas.

• Promoting healthy communities

Green infrastructure can improve public health and community wellbeing by improving environmental quality, providing opportunities for recreation and exercise and delivering mental and physical health benefits. Green infrastructure also helps reduce air pollution, noise and the impacts of extreme heat and extreme rainfall events.

• Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

Green infrastructure can help urban, rural and coastal communities mitigate the risks associated with climate change and adapt to its impacts by storing carbon; improving drainage (including the use of sustainable drainage systems) and managing flooding and water resources; improving water quality; reducing the urban heat-island effect and; where appropriate, supporting adaptive management in coastal areas. Green infrastructure networks also help species adapt to climate change by providing opportunities for movement.

• Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

The components of green infrastructure exist within the wider landscape context and should enhance local landscape character and contribute to place-making. High quality networks of multifunctional green infrastructure provide a range of ecosystem services and can make a significant contribution to halting the decline in biodiversity.

B) Local policy

Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015 – 2033, Publication Draft (June 2018)

The Core Strategy and Development Plan (CSDP) sets out the planning policies for the City up to 2033. One of the themes of the CSDP is the Natural Environment and the Strategic Priority, to protect and enhance the City's biodiversity, geological resource, countryside and landscapes whilst ensuring that all homes have good access to a range of interlinked green infrastructure. A number of policies have been drafted with the aim of protecting and enhancing the natural environment. Policies NE1 Green Infrastructure and NE4 Greenspace relate specifically to green space. NE1 aims to maintain and improve the City's green infrastructure network and NE4 aims to protect, conserve and enhance the quality, value, function and accessibility of green space.

Sunderland Unitary Development Plan 1998 (UDP)

UDP policies have been 'saved' under the transitional arrangements of the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. These policies remain statutory until superseded by adoption of the Local Plan and relevant Local Development Documents. Specific policies in the 'Leisure' chapter include:

- Policy L1 provision of recreation and leisure facilities;
- Policy L2 indoor sport and seeks to improve provision.
- Policy L3 regional recreational and cultural facilities;
- Policies L4-6 standards for outdoor sport and recreation, amenity open space and children's playspace;
- Policy L7 protection of recreational and amenity land including cemeteries
- Policies L8-9 allotments
- Policy L10 strategic policy on countryside recreational activities
- Policy L11 golf courses
- Policies L12-13 promotion of the coast and riverside and water based facilities.

There are further relevant policies elsewhere in the UDP. For example:

- Policy H21 to provide open space on new housing developments.
- Policy B3 protection of public and private urban green space
- Policy B18 protection of the character and setting of historic parks and gardens from adverse impact by development
- Chapter 9 contains policies relating to environmental protection, including a specific policy relating to the coast (Policy EN13).
- Chapter 11 relates to the countryside and nature conservation, and is of particular importance especially in relation to green corridors, natural and semi-natural urban greenspaces and open countryside in the urban fringe.
- Chapter 15 relates to the creation of paths, cycleways and multi-user routes

• Chapters 19-22 contain a number of specific proposals covering open space, sports and recreation. These primarily focus on addressing the issue of deficiency in access to open space, sports and recreation (quantity rather than quality). Some proposals focus on improvement and enhancement of open space.

Once the CSDP has been adopted all of the above policies will be superseded with the exception of policy L7 – protection of recreational and amenity land including cemeteries.

Five parks in the city have Green Flag status; these being Roker Park, Herrington Country Park, Barnes Park, Mowbray Park and Hetton Lyons Country Park. It is a set target within the strategy to aim for at least one park in each area regeneration framework boundary as having Green Flag status in the coming years. It does not include an account of the quality of existing parks or issues relating to quality. Also it does not discuss how parks should be effectively managed. However, it states that preparation of mini-management plans based on a 10 year vision for all local parks will be developed in the long term (6-10 years).

A City Approach Towards an Active Sunderland (2014)

The purpose of this document is to present a new city approach towards an active Sunderland and propose a new strategic direction of travel and one which involves partners/stakeholders in achieving shared priority outcomes for the people of Sunderland.

Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan (2018)

This was updated in January 2018 and provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2017 and 2022. It updates the previous 2014 Playing Pitch Plan.

The plan provides a framework for improvement and an action plan. The plan sets out the following overarching aims:

- 1. To protect the existing supply of playing pitches where it is needed for meeting current and future needs
- 2. To enhance playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites
- 3. To provide new playing pitches where there is current or future demand to do so

Sunderland Play and Urban Games Strategy (2007)

The aim of the Sunderland's Play and Urban Games Strategy ('Moving Forward') is to work in partnership to provide, support and sustain a variety of high quality and accessible play environments and opportunities, for all children and young people up to 19 years. It endorses national accessibility standards for play as set out by Fields in Trust, following the Trust's Type A, B, and C standards (though in recent years the Type A facilities have been phased-out, with a current focus for provision on Type B and Type C facilities only).

Appendix 4: Defining and identifying natural greenspace in Sunderland

The methodology used for the 2012 Greenspace Audit and Report has been utilised in the preparation of this report. In 2012, when the methodology was being prepared, a number of alternative approaches were discussed with local experts from the City Council's Countryside Team, and also from Natural England. Interviews and meetings enabled agreement to be made to define natural greenspace for Sunderland that combined national guidelines and local circumstances. This research provided 10 conclusions, outlined below.

- 1) The 2008 Natural England definition of natural greenspace should be adopted for Sunderland, but accompanied with a detailed list of land uses and site categorisations that make clear what should and should not be classified as natural greenspace.
- 2) Natural greenspace in Sunderland reflects national policy guidelines, but is also adapted to reflect local circumstances and need
- 3) Sites under 0.25ha in size should be discounted, barring exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances might be as a result of outstanding local interest or site quality.
- 4) Level 1 of "naturalness" includes all sites / land uses that have already been defined as providing natural greenspace and biodiversity value (either with local, national or international protection).
- 5) Level 2 and Level 3 of "naturalness" will draw upon the evidence from the Sunderland Greenspace Audit, which will help to determine the level of 'naturalness' and management intensity of greenspace sites. Sites with less management and more naturalness will tend to be included in Level 2, although accessibility will also be taken into account
- 6) The Greenspace Audit will be used to determine the level of biodiversity provided with regards to open water and wetlands to separate sites into levels 2 and 3
- 7) The Greenspace Audit will be used to determine the level of density of woodland planting and all-round accessibility, again to separate sites into levels 2 and 3
- 8) Derelict and disused land sites will only be included in Level 2 if shown to be safeguarded as green infrastructure in any future site redevelopment. No sites proposed otherwise for redevelopment will be considered, so as to avoid undue damage to the site's economic viability
- 9) The distinctions between unimproved and improved farmland, as well as open access land and remnant countryside will be determined by the City Council's Countryside Team, in association with Natural England
- 10) Private gardens and active quarries will not be counted as natural greenspace, due to their access restrictions.

Level 1	 European designated sites – Northumbria Coast SPA, Durham Coast SAC Nationally and locally recognised nature conservation areas, Durham Heritage Coast, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Local Nature Reserves. Ancient Semi-Natural or Ancient Replanted woodland
Level 2	 Less intensively managed greenspaces (includes amenity open space, formal parks, country parks, school grounds, sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards, cemeteries and allotments Non-dense, non-intensive deciduous and/or coniferous woodland, freely growing shrubbery and element of public access Open water and wetlands with reeds, tall wildflowers, (could include ponds, ditches, small rivers, streams and lakes) River estuary (water, mudflats, saltmarsh) Unimproved, semi-improved and rough grassland, and heathland (with wild herbs and flowers) Disused / derelict land with protected BAP Priority Species present Open Access Land / Remnant countryside (within urban and urban fringe areas) Unimproved farmland
Level 3	 Woodland shelter belts / intensive woodland with no freely growing shrubbery and very limited or no public access Disused/derelict land with no protected BAP Priority Species present Managed/more intensive greenspaces and recreational spaces with limited functions (includes amenity open space, parks, school grounds, sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards, cemeteries and allotments) Formal boating or ornamental lakes, culverted streams and other examples of open water with little or no biodiversity
Level 4	 Improved farmland Private gardens Active quarries

GREEN SPAC	E STRATEGY 2018 - (OPEN SPAC	E, OUTDOOR S	PORT AND RECRE	Sunderland City Council
SURVEY FOR	М				
_	_				
~.	r				
Site				Poly ID Code	
				as appears in register e.g. A0)1
				Tegister e.g. At	<i>)</i> 1
Classification (s	see assessing typology	Primary	Secondary	Primary Use A	rea ha
guide)		Purpose	Purpose	-	
Parks and Garde	ens				
Natural and sem	i Natural Greenspace			Total Area	ha
Green Corridors				_	
Outdoor sports f					
Amenity Greens	space			Ownership	Sunderland City Council
	ildren and young			$(1,1,\ldots)$	0.1
people Allotments				(desk top)	Other:
	sed churchyards			-	
	tryside in the urban			-	
fringe	lu yside in the droan				
Civic space					
Coast and estuar	ry			1	
		•		_	
Surrounding	North				
Uses	South				
	East				
	West			_	
Site	<u> </u>			Usage	Neighbourhood
Description				(hierarchical)	City
Description				scale	Sub-region
				Seale	Regional/National/International
				Explanation	
				to the usage	
				i.e. elements	
				of scale	
					L
Surveyor				Date	
Name				_	

Appendix 5: Greenspace audit proforma

QUALITATIVE COMMENTS Land Use and Boundary Treatment		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
1.Green Flag	5 - Yes		5
Status	0 - No		
2.Pedestrian	0 - Access Prohibited or no access 1 - Poor/inappropriate (e.g. sensitive		5
Access	site) 2 - Poor but appropriate (e.g. sensitive site) 3 - Good but inappropriate (e.g. sensitive site) 4 - Adequate and appropriate but room for		

	improvement 5 - Good and appropriate (e.g. park/sensitive	
	site)	
3.Vehicular access inc. maintenance	0 - Very poor	5
	access 1 - Poor access for all vehicles to include	5
	motorbikes 2 - Vehicular access but unwanted/inappropriate (e.g. joyriding,	
	fly-tipping)	
	3 - Adequate access but for maintenance only	
	4 - Reasonable access for all vehicles - or no vehicular access	
	requirements 5 - Good access for all appropriate uses (e.g. clear, well	
	maintained, surfaced)	
	0 - None (e.g. steps,	
4.Disabled	slope,surface,camber,passing/stopping,rails, gates) 1 - Poor (e.g. steep or prolonged gradients,	5
Access	laborious)	
	2 - 3 - Reasonable (but may be unclear or lack	
	maintenance)	
	4 -5 - Good (clearly defined and well maintained)	
	DDA compliant	
	1 - Not clearly defined, poorly	
5. Main Entrance	maintained 2 - Apparent as an entrance and	5
	clean	
	3 - Obvious, open, inviting and clean - or none required	
	4 - Appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy and	
	well maintained 5 - Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate	
	size, clean tidy and well maintained	
	and wen maintained	
6. Other Entrance	1 - Not clearly defined, poorly maintained	5
Entrances	2 -	
	3 - Obvious, open, inviting and clean - or none required	
	4 -	
	5 - Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clean tidy	
	and well maintained	
7. Access	1 - Restricted (only accessible to a small group of people e.g.	_
Arrangements	operational site, farmland)	5
	2 -	
	3 - Limited (public/private owned but access requires special arrangement	
	e.g. sports grounds schools, golf courses)	
	4 -	
	5 - Unrestricted (Site avail. to anyone at any time, although may be dusk/dawn	
	restrictions e.g. local	
	parks)	
8.Boundaries	1 - Poor (e.g. not clearly defined, maintenance needed) or very limited	5
(apply to all	value/appeal	5
boundaries)	2 - Clearly defined but poor quality or unappealing i.e. damaged	
ooundurros)	3 - Reasonable (e.g. clearly or appropriately	
	defined, requires some maintenance)	
	4 -	
	5 - Good (e.g. clearly defined, well maintained)	

Issues with any particular boundary quality state here		
9.Roads	 No surfacing or in wrong place, or no roads - -	5
	repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level, for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained	
10. Paths	 1 - No surfacing or in wrong place 2 - 3 - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious 	5
	repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained	
11.Cycleway	 No surfacing or in wrong place or cycling not provided or allowed - 	5
	 ³ - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained 	
12.Bridleway	 No surfacing or in wrong place or horses not allowed - 	5
	 3 - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained 5 - For all user groups 	
13.Tree Cover	 0 - None 1 - Specimens 2 - Groups 3 - Woodland Plantation 4 - Mix of above (2 or more) 5 - Mature woodland or sensitive site where trees would not be appropriate 	5
Approx % tree cover		
14.Tree Mix	0 - No trees 1 - Coniferous 2 - 3 - Deciduous 4 - 5 - Mixed	5
15.Planted Areas	0 - No planting 1 - Limited	5
(e.g. shrubs)	planting 2 - 3 - Adequate planting, with an inappropriate mix of plants	

4 - 5 - Adequate planting, with appropriate mix of plants 0 - Very poor grass 0 - Very poor grass 5 Grass Areas 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' Grass Areas 2	
of plants 0 - Very poor grass cover/quality 5 16. Amenity 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 17. Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 5 17. Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 18. Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 18. Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 18. Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 18. Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 19. Some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 5 2 - 5 - Full grass cover throug	
16.Amenity cover/quility 5 Grass Areas 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' some build areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good 5 Grass Areas cuts, cut quality good 5 5 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good 6 6 6 Grass Areas cuts, cut quality good 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	
16.Amenity cover/quility 5 Grass Areas 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' some build areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good 5 Grass Areas cuts, cut quality good 5 5 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good 6 6 6 Grass Areas cuts, cut quality good 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	
Grass Areas patche evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 Fields between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 5 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 5 Fields 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 6	
 is ome bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin'	
excessive between cuts, cut quality good for tearing) 2 2 - 3 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 4 - 5 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 17.Meadow patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 2 - 3 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few 18.Playing 1 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently tot keep length short 5 Fields 2 <t< td=""><td></td></t<>	
(no tearing) 2- 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4- 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 5 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few 5 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 5 5 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to tully good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 5 5 2- 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 5 - Full grass cover throughout,	
 2. 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4. 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2. 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few seeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 18.Playing 19.Plul grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 	
cleanly Cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 18.Playing 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut	
few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 Fields a - cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 5 7 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 5 7 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 6 9 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 6 9 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 7 9 - Overgrazed, bare groun	
length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin'	
5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 17.Meadow 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Grass Areas some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 5 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 5 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Fields 2 - 3 5 5 Fields 2 - 3 5 5 Fields 5 5 5 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 0 0	
I2. Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 I7.Meadow patches evident, 5 Grass Areas between 5 Cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 2 3 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive 5 Weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 Fields cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 5 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 6 8 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 6 9 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 6 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 0 - Overgra	
17.Meadow patches evident, 5 some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive 5 Grass Areas etween cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 3 2 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to Keep length short 4 - 5 4 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 5 18.Playing 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 reids between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant 5 Fields between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant 5 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 5 8 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 5 9 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 5 9 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to 5	
Grass Areas Grass Areas Grass Areas between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
(no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
 Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin'	
few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
 keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 18.Playing Fields Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few meeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 	
 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 18.Playing Fields Fields Fields 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few meets grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 	
cleanly cut 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' 5 18.Playing patches evident, 5 some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive 5 Fields between 5 cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
18.Playing patches evident, 5 Fields some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 0	
18.Playing patches evident, 5 Fields some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 0	
Fields between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
 playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 	
 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 	
few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 	
 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut 0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed 	
0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed	
19.Pasture/ infestation 5	
Grazed Land 1 -	
2 - 3 - Moderate condition some poaching	
and/or weeds	
4 - 5 - No litter or poaching and weeds	
5 - 140 filler of poaching and weeds	
20. Wetlands (rivers, streams, 0 - Polluted, litter, algal bloom, poor bank condition, poor	
ditches, lakes, ponds, marsh) submerged,5 emergent and/or bank	
vegetation	
1-	
2 - 3 - Some litter, bank condition good in part,	
vegetation present	
4 - 5 - Clean, rubbish free, good bank condition and vegetation	
structure	
General quality	
1 - Significant evidence of litter, dog fouling	
21.Cleanliness or grafitti 5	

	 2 - 3 - Limited evidence of litter, dog fouling or grafitti 4 - 5 - No evidence of litter, dog fouling or grafitti
22.Safety	0 - Very unsafe - refer to 5 1 - Unsafe - refer to supplementary 5 2 - Fairly safe - refer to supplementary sheet 3 - Safe - refer to supplementary sheet 4 - 5 - Very safe - refer to supplementary sheet 9 - Very safe - refer to 4 - 5 - Very safe - refer to 5 - Very safe - refer to supplementary sheet
23.General maintenance	0 - Site in serious state of disrepair and falling into serious state 5 of dilapidation 1 1 - Site with marked evidence of disrepair but not to critical level 5 2 - 3 - Signs of disrepair and degradation but generally in good order 4 - 5 - Highly maintained, site very clean and tidy, management programme in place Sub Total 0 115

FACILITIES		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
	0 -	Seore	Beole
24.Litter Bins	None		5
	1 - Insufficient number in poor		
	condition		
	2 - Insufficient number but in good		
	condition		
	3 - Adequate number in good/average		
	condition		
	4 - Numerous and in average		
	condition		
	5 - Numerous and in good		
	condition		
	0 -		
25.Dog Bins	None		5
	1 - Insufficient number in poor		
	condition		
	2 - Insufficient number but in good		
	condition		
	3 - Adequate number in good/average		
	condition		
	4 - Numerous and in average condition		
	5 - Numerous and in good condition		
	condition		
	0 -		
26.Recyling	None		5
	1 - Insufficient number in poor		
Bins	condition		
	2 - Insufficient number but in good		
	condition		
	3 - Adequate number in good/average		

	condition	
	4 - Numerous and in average condition	
	5 - Numerous and in good	
	condition	
	0 -	
27.Seats	None	5
	1 - Insufficient seats in poor	
	condition	
	2 - Insufficient seats but in good condition	
	3 - Adequate number in good/average	
	condition	
	4 - Numerous for the size of the site and in average	
	condition 5 - Numerous for the size of the site and in	
	good condition	
	8	
	0 -	
28.Toilets	None	5
	1 - Temporary toilet provision for events only	
	2 - Permanent but off site	
	3 - Permanent but in poor condition and generally avoided by	
	park users	
	4 - Permanent in reasonable condition	
	5 - Permanent easy to access, signed and well	
	maintained	
29.Car Parking	0 - None	5
	1 - Parking provision required, but insufficent or very	
	limited	
	2 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, limited	
	spaces,	
	maintenance poor	
	3 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park,	
	adequate spaces but	
	maintenance could be	
	better 4 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park,	
	adequate spaces,	
	site clean, tidy, in good	
	condition	
	5 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces,	
	site clean, tidy, in good condition and	
	well signed	
30.Coach	0 - None	5
50.00 u 01	1 - Parking provision required, but insufficent or very	
Parking	limited	
	2 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, limited	
	spaces, maintenance	
	poor	
	$\hat{3}$ - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park,	
	adequate spaces but	
	maintenance could be better	
	4 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park,	
	adequate spaces,	
	site clean, tidy, in good	
	condition 5 Parking provided integral to or adjacent to the park	
	5 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces,	
	site clean, tidy, in good condition and	
	well signed	
31.Cycle Parking	0 -	
51.Cycle Faiking	0 - None	5

	 Cycle parking provision required, but insufficient or very limited 	
	2 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, but limited spaces,	
	maintenance	
	poor 2. Cuele perfine provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate	
	3 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces but	
	maintenance good or reasonable	
	4 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate	
	spaces but maintenance could be	
	better	
	5 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces,	
	site clean, tidy, in good condition and	
	well signed	
22. D	0 - None (distant from bus route and bus	
32.Bus Stops	stop) 1-	5
	2 - Bus stop nearby i.e. within 400m but poor service i.e. 1 every hour or less	
	3 - Bus stop nearby i.e. within 400m with good service (more	
	than 1 every hour) 4 - Bus stop in or adjacent to space but poor	
	service	
	5 - Bus stop in or adjacent to space with good service	
33.Metro Train/ Park and Ride	0 - None (distant from metro/train route, park and ride and station)	5
	1 -	
	2 - 3 - Station nearby i.e.	
	within 400m	
	4 -5 - Station in or adjacent to space, park and ride to the	
	site	
34.Street Lighting primarily on site	0 - No lighting	5
but also adjacent	1 - Poor lighting scheme 2 -	
	3 - Reasonable lighting scheme	
	installed 4 -	
	5 - Good sustainable lighting scheme installed and	
	well maintained	
25 Signage	0 - Nore	5
35.Signage	None 1 - Poor coverage (inappropriate place,	5
	dated, unclear) 2 - Poor coverage (but appropriate place, up to date	
	and clear)	
	3 - Reasonable coverage (appropriate place, up to date and clear)	
	4 -	
	5 - Good coverage	
36.Information	0 - No information available	5
	1 - Limited information available and in poor	
	state/vandalised 2 - Limited information made available but in a good	
	state 3 - Information of high quality available but on-site only i.e. no	
	leaflets/internet	
	4 - Information of high quality	
	$\hat{5}$ - Information available for all (could be on boards and leaflet	
	form or internet)	

	0 - No programmed		
37.Events	events		5
	1 - Limited programmed		
Programme	events		
J	2 -		
	3 - Some programmed events for visitors and schools i.e.		
	educational		
	4 -		
	5 - Full events programme for visitors and		
	schools		
	Sub		
	Total	0	70

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES		Actual	Max.Pot.
Buildings Type. E.g Sports Hall facilities, club house etc.	, changing	Score	Score
38.Access to	0 - None		5
buildings	1 - Membership/restrictive access only 2 -		
	3 - Schools only		
	4 - Unrestrictive access limited hours		
	5 - Unrestricted access extensive hours		
39.Sports	0 - None		5
	1 - Informal usage with community		
Pitches	access 2 - 3 - Formally laid out with sports posts with community access 4 - 5 - Formally laid out with sports posts with membership/restrictive access only		
Number of pitches/courts by type of sp	ort		
any age group i.e. junior pitches			
40.Play	0 - None 1 - Limited in quantity and variety,		5
Equipment	poorly used		
	 2 - 3 - Evidence of some use but in poor repair or need of improvement 4 - 5 - Fully operational/in good order 		
Type of play i.e. Multi-use games area	Dual-use games area		
(refer to play and urban games strategy			
41.Water-based	0 - None/uncontrolled		5
sports	1 - Membership/restrictive access only		
(Fishing,	2 -		
boating, jet	3 - Public/schools		

.



BIODIVERSITY		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
43.Protected site	0 - No specific site protection 1 - 2 - 3 - SNCI 4 - SSSI / Rigs 5 - National / European SPA/SAC and Heritage Coast / LNR		5
44.Grassland	 0 - None 1 - Mown amenity grassland, improved agricultural pasture or crops 2 - Tall grasses without wildflowers except for ruderals such as docks and thistles 3 - Tall grasses with some wildflowers also present 4 - Old meadows with diversity of grasses and herb species 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species 		5
45.Woodland and scrub	 0 - None 1 - Groups or ornamental trees with mown grass or bare ground beneath 2 - Newly planted trees (whips or saplings), not yet large enough to form canopy 3 - Established plantation of trees forming a woodland canopy above unmanaged ground, but which lacks any representative woodland 4 - Established broadleaved woodland with elements of shrub layer and native ground flora 5 - Mix from above 5 - Ancient semi-natural woodland, designated site, 		5

	protected species,	
	DBAP habitat and/or species	
	species	
	0 -	
46.Hedgerow	None	
	1 - Hedges consisting of ornamental species (e.g. privet or laurel)	5
	2 - Hedges consisting of a single species (e.g.	
	hawthorn)	
	3 - Hedges made up of 3 or 4 woody species, but with a	
	mown/sprayed/	
	grazed base 4 - Hedges with 3 or 4 woody species, with "A" shaped	
	cross-section and	
	with wildflowers in	
	base	
	5 - Ancient hedgerows	
	0 -	
47.Wetlands	None	5
	1 - Ornamental ponds (or park	
	pond)	
	2 - Pools, seasonal flushes or ditches without natural	
	wetland vegetation 3 - Ponds, streams, ditches with natural wetland	
	vegetation	
	4 - Lakes or marshes with variety of	
	wetland birds	
	5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species	
	and/or species	
48.Coastal & Esturine (muds, saltmarsh,	0 -	
sanddunes, cliffs, rocky foreshore)	None	5
	1 - Hard edge/vertical defences, dumping/misuse,	
	pollution, severe erosion, no strandline	
	vegetation	
	2 -	
	3 - Semi sympathetic defences, some misuse/pollution,	
	some erosion and unwanted vegetation	
	encroachment	
	4 - Natural edges, well maintained/no maintenance, no	
	unwanted vegetation	
	encroachment	
	5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat	
	and/or species	
49.Other (including e.g. buildings, walls, quarry, cliffs, spoil, bare ground)	0 - None	5
quarry, entrs, spon, bare ground)	None 1 - Biodiversity interest	5
	low/little potential	
	2 -	
	3 - Biodiversity interest moderate/some	
	potential 4 - Biodiversity interest	
	4 - Biodiversity interest high/potential high	
	5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat	
	and/or species	
50.Geodiversity (Geology, geomorphology)	0 -	
	None	5
	1 - Little or no	
	geological/geomorphological interest 2 -	
	3 - Moderate or potential	
	geological/geomorphological interest	
	4 - High geological/geomorpholigcal	
	interest 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat	
	and/or species	



LANDSCAPE V	ISUAL AND CHARACTER	Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
53.Rarity	 Common (Many similar spaces evident throughout study area) - Uncommon (Some similar spaces throughout study area - Rare to city - Nationally rare 		5
54.Visual Amenity	 Poor - - Moderate - - Good (Space looks attractive in general outlook and feel e.g. pleasant views 		5
55. Exposure	 Poor (Open) - - Moderate (Partially sheltered natural i.e. trees or man made structure) - - Good (Sheltered natural i.e. trees or man made structure) 		5
56. Defines character	 Does not contribute to the character of an area i.e. not in keeping, does not shape an area Minimal function in defining character of an area, no real positive role Contributes to character of an area but on a small local level Contributes to character of an area locally important and valued but not strategic Very important feature of an area, defines character, enhances character (include spaces that contribute to Washington Masterplan ethos and green corridors that function as part of a settlement break/green wedge separating identify of settlements and spaces that function as part of a distinct landscape character area, or are part of a conservation area) 		5

57. Historic Protection	 0 - None 1 - Minimal 2 - Some historic value i.e. views of historic feature of interest (not on site) 3 - Historic feature of interest i.e. building or monument, local materials, paving, gates/railings (not listed) on site 4 - Historic park or garden, cemeteries and churchyards, village green or listed building on site 5 - Combination of 3 and 4 		5
and monuments liste architectural or histo other historic buildin archaeology, includi Historic Park or gard landscape features a	oric interest		
58. Usage	1 - By adjoining property i.e. private space		5
(people)	 2 - By neighbourhood 3 - By City 4 - By sub-region 5 - By region/national/international 		
59.Usage Type	1 - Mainly Passive (e.g. people pass through space but do not use it)		5
(people)	 2 - Mainly Casual (e.g. sitting, walking informal play) 3 - Mainly Organised (e.g. football fixtures, training, education, organised walks/tasks) 4 - Combination of 2 of above 5 - Combination of 3 above 		
60. Warden or	0 - None		5
ranger presence	5 - Yes		
	General notes i.e. known community active community involvement groups relating to the site		
	Sub Tota	1	40
	Grand Total	0	300

Appendix 6:

Amenity greenspace quality – sites scoring more than 20% below the city average.

Ref.		Quality		
No	Address	Score	Ward	Locality
	Rear of Front Road/Felstead			
D022	Crescent	38	Pallion	Ford & Pallion
D050	Rear Prestwick Road	41	St Anne's	Pennywell
D051	Priestman Court	42	Pallion	Ford & Pallion
				Castletown & Hylton
C056	Rear of Lavender Grove	43	Castle	Castle
R075	Summerson St	43	Hetton	Hetton
	Former Sunderland Forge			
D069	(University Campus- west)	45	Pallion	Ford & Pallion
R105	Handley Crescent	46	Hetton	Rainton
P098	Rear of Wynyard St	47	Houghton	Fencehouses
F018	Grangetown Fields	47	Hendon	Grangetown
R028	Rear of Norfolk Street	47	Hetton	Hetton
	Former Fencehouses Primary			
P145	School	48	Houghton	Fencehouses
B021	Witherwack House	48	Redhill	Witherwack
			Washington	Barmston &
M013	Rear 27-38 BarmstonWay	50	East	Columbia
Q029	Rear of Burdon Avenue	50	Copt Hill	Houghton
E015	Ayres Quay Road. (West)	50	Millfield	Millfield
				Moorsley &
R037	Rear Bedale St	50	Hetton	Easington Lane
P034	Rear 43-53 Abbey Dr	51	Houghton	Burnside & Sunniside
1032	Rear of The Crescent	51	Silksworth	Silksworth
J007	Ravensworth	51	Doxford	Tunstall & Burdon
R026	Rear Lincoln Crescent	52	Hetton	Hetton
1030	Rear 2-24 Maple Avenue	52	Silksworth	Silksworth
J010	31-33 Ramilies	52	Doxford	Tunstall & Burdon
			Washington	Barmston &
M011	Rear 88-99 Barmston Way	53	East	Columbia
			Washington	Barmston &
M012	62-73 Barmston Way	53	East	Columbia
P036	Newminster Close	53	Houghton	Burnside & Sunniside
				Castletown & Hylton
C060	3-9 Robin Grove	53	Castle	Castle
R030	Rear Bedford St. / Devon St.	54	Hetton	Hetton
R031	Oxford Crescent	54	Hetton	Hetton
B047	Maplewood Avenue	54	Southwick	Marley Potts

			Washington	Barmston &
M025	Rear18-34 Raeburn Avenue	55	Central	Columbia
			Washington	Barmston &
M031	1-I2 Waskerley Rd	55	East	Columbia
			Washington	Barmston &
M032	159-170 Waskerley Rd	55	East	Columbia
			Washington	Barmston &
M033	119-128 Waskerley Rd	55	East	Columbia
				Middle & East
1063	Rear of Carlton Cres	55	St Chad's	Herrington
	Land Adjacent to the			
	Welcome Tavern (Prospect			
F032	Row)	55	Hendon	Port & East End
				Moorsley &
R055	Rear 14-24 ThamesSt	56	Hetton	Easington Lane
				Moorsley &
R101	Shelley Avenue/South View	56	Hetton	Easington Lane
	Former Worm Garden, Lowry			Seaburn & South
A062	Road	56	Fulwell	Bents
			Washington	Barmston &
M026	47-56 Raeburn Avenue	57	Central	Columbia
B051	Carley Hill Rd	57	Southwick	Carley Hill
P054	Rear Of Raby Close	57	Houghton	Fencehouses
R047	S. Of Colliery Lane	57	Hetton	Hetton
P084	Beckwith Close	58	Houghton	Burnside & Sunniside
			Washington	Concord, Sulgrave &
L085	Silverstone Road	58	North	Donwell
1019	Angus Square	58	St Chad's	Farringdon
				Moorsley &
R110	Former Moorsley CA Site	58	Hetton	Easington Lane
J041	Rear Wilkinson Terrace	58	Ryhope	Ryhope
B020	Kier Hardie Way	58	Southwick	Southwick
				Castletown & Hylton
C039	Rear of Clovely Road	59	Castle	Castle
F036	Amberley Street/Harrogate St	59	Hendon	Hendon
Q028	East of Balfour Street	59	Copt Hill	Houghton
				Middle & East
1073	Elmfield Close	59	St Chad's	Herrington
			Washington	
L054	Rear 17-31 Saddleback	60	West	Albany & Blackfell
1099	Isleby / Leven Houses	60	Doxford	Doxford
1014	Alnwick Rd	60	St Chad's	Farringdon
E012	Wilson Street	60	Millfield	Ford & Pallion
D033	Helmsdale Rd/Hexham Rd	60	Pallion	Ford & Pallion
				Middle & East
1064	Launceston Drive	60	St Chad's	Herrington

ĺ				Middle & East
1067	2 -10 Braemar Gardens	60	St Chad's	Herrington
				Middle & East
1083	Rear 3-21 Briardene Cl	60	St Chad's	Herrington
				Middle & East
1074	Rear 15-21 Meadow View	60	St Chad's	Herrington
D042	Presthope Road	60	St Anne's	Pennywell
D055	Southwest of Quarry View	60	St Anne's	Pennywell
P016	51 - 53 Morley Terr	61	Houghton	Fencehouses
D025	St Lukes Road	61	Pallion	Ford & Pallion
J028	58 - 84 Langhurst	61	Ryhope	Hollycarrside
J039	Leechmere Way	61	Ryhope	Hollycarrside
	,		, ,	Moorsley &
R060	Shelley Avenue	61	Hetton	Easington Lane
D010	Opp. 27-28 South View Rd	61	St Anne's	Pennywell
B029	Kipling Street	61	Southwick	Southwick
5025			Washington	Washington Village,
M029	Parkway	61	Central	Glebe & Biddick
F035	Ivor St	62	Ryhope	Grangetown
1000		02	Пупоре	Humbledon & Plains
H055	Adj 191-193 Durham Rd	62	Barnes	Farm
11055		02	Burnes	Penshaw & Shiney
0034	Adj 47 Teesdale Av, Penshaw	62	Shiney Row	Row
0034		02	Shiney Now	Penshaw & Shiney
0042	Redlands	62	Shiney Row	Row
B033	Grosvenor St	62	Southwick	Southwick
0033		02	Washington	Southwick
K021	West View	62	West	Springwell Village
ROZI		02	Washington	
L051	Rear 67 - 77 Saddleback	63	West	Albany & Blackfell
1031		05	Washington	Concord, Sulgrave &
L019	Brindley Road	63	North	Donwell
2015		05	North	Downhill &
C014	Rutherford Square	63	Redhill	Redhouse
014		05	Realin	Downhill &
C017	Ravenswood Square	63	Redhill	Redhouse
017	Adj. 16-24 Aged Miners	05	Realin	Downhill &
C080	homes. N Hylton Rd	63	Redhill	Redhouse
1013	Rear 24-32 Alnwick Rd	63	St Chad's	Farringdon
1013	Avonmouth Rd	63	St Chad's	Farringdon
E003	37-75 Pallion Road	63	Millfield	Ford & Pallion
1003		03	winnen	Grindon & Hastings
H037	9-25 Goodwood Court	63	Sandhill	Hill
11037		05	Sanutiii	Grindon & Hastings
H037	9-25 Goodwood Court	63	Sandhill	Hill
P040		63		Houghton
r040	Houghton Road	63	Houghton	поидптоп

P055	Oak Av	63	Houghton	Houghton
P068	Grasswell Embankment	63	Houghton	Houghton
P087	Burnside Avenue	63	Houghton	Houghton
E023	Rear Thornbury Street	63	Millfield	Millfield
	Hylton Road, Saint Lukes			
D049	Corner	63	St Anne's	Pennywell
				Penshaw & Shiney
0022	Rear of Briar Lea	63	Shiney Row	Row
				Penshaw & Shiney
0047	Adj 43 Whitefield Cr	63	Shiney Row	Row
			Washington	
N065	South of Western Way	63	South	Rickleton & Harraton
	Rear of Mill House Inn (former			
B004	Allotments)	63	Southwick	Southwick
B041	Church St.	63	Southwick	Southwick
H011	Rear 2 -16 Truro Road.	63	Sandhill	Thorney Close
				Castletown & Hylton
C053	Cheltenham Rd.	64	Castle	Castle
				Downhill &
C018	Kentchester Road	64	Redhill	Redhouse
				Hetton Downs &
R016	Byer St	64	Copt Hill	Warden Law
				Hetton Downs &
R070	Blossom St	64	Copt Hill	Warden Law
J043	Queen Street/Leechmere Way	64	Ryhope	Hollycarrside
Q014	Gillas Lane / Meadow Close	64	Copt Hill	Houghton
				Moorsley &
R044	Coalbank Road	64	Hetton	Easington Lane
				Moorsley &
R059	Shelley Avenue	64	Hetton	Easington Lane
				Penshaw & Shiney
0043	Thirkel Place	64	Shiney Row	Row



