



Play, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment

Main Report

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TEP
Genesis Centre,
Birchwood Science Park,
Warrington,
WA3 7BH

Tel: 01858 383120
Email: tep@tep.uk.com

Offices in Warrington, Market Harborough, Gateshead, London and Cornwall

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Author	Valerie Jennings
Date	June 2023
Checked	Rebecca Martin
Approved	Lindsey Cunliff

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1.0 Introduction

Context

- 1.1 Open space is important because of its valuable contribution to quality of life, health and wellbeing and the economy. Furthermore, open spaces provide green infrastructure (GI) benefits such as mitigating climate change, flood alleviation, and ecosystem services. The provision of these facilities in our cities, towns and villages is of high importance to a sustainable future and is embedded in national planning policy.
- 1.2 The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), updated in July 2021, recognises the opportunities that appropriately located and well-designed open spaces can provide. Paragraph 98 states:

Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.

- 1.3 Open space provision crosses many other aspects of the NPPF including:
- Promoting Healthy Communities;
 - Delivering Sustainable Development;
 - Supporting a Prosperous Rural Economy;
 - Promoting Sustainable Transport;
 - Requiring Good Design;
 - Conserving and Enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment; and
 - Meeting the Challenges of Climate Change.

Purpose and Scope

- 1.4 This Play, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Needs Assessment (hereby referred to as the 'Assessment') replaces the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (PMP, 2008) and is supported by the Developer Contributions Strategy (TEP ref: 9039.005).
- 1.5 The Assessment provides robust and up-to-date information concerning the demand and use of open space throughout the borough irrespective of ownership up to 2040, which aligns with the review of the Local Plan. It will support the Council's vision to "protect, care and invest to create a better borough". The Assessment supports the Council's Vision, Priorities and Values of:
- Every child, young person and adult lives well in their community;
 - All neighbourhoods are a great place to live; and

- Natural environment is protected, and the Council has a leading role in addressing the climate emergency.

1.6 This Assessment will ensure that the Council can prioritise investment into poor quality scoring open spaces to ensure improvements are targeted, and that open space receives developer contributions needed to provide for new communities. The Assessment provides Quantity, Quality and Accessibility standards for open spaces, which are reviewed based on hectares per 1,000 population. Gaps in provision will be addressed within new developments through either new onsite provision, or off-site contributions.

1.7 Several sites within the borough have been subject to a quality and value audit (see Chapter 3.0 for further details). The criteria for these sites are set out in the Methodology.

The borough

1.8 Telford and Wrekin is made up of three distinct areas which are Telford, Newport and the rural areas.

1.9 The natural environment and open space within and between Telford and Wrekin's communities form one of the most distinctive and defining characteristics of the borough. The quantity and quality of the natural environment in the borough continues to be one of the main reasons why many people choose to live and invest here.

1.10 Much of the borough is covered by green spaces and natural areas. Telford has extensive areas of green space, much of it formed by the pioneering "Green Network" designation which has helped to provide protection from development.

1.11 The borough's landscape has been shaped by centuries by both natural and man-made processes and includes several significant landscape features including the Wrekin Hill (within the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and the Ironbridge Gorge which includes the River Severn (a UNESCO World Heritage Site).

1.12 The Telford and Wrekin Local Plan 2011-2031 identifies the key strengths for the borough's natural environment as:

- High quality of accessible and ecologically diverse green space;
- Large rural areas;
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB); and
- 110 designated ecology sites including 9 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

1.13 The borough supports a wide range of habitats and species¹ which are protected through a series of designated sites including:

- Nine SSSI's;
- Thirteen Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and an additional four in the process of being designated;
- Over seventy Local Wildlife Sites (LWS); and

¹ [Biodiversity and natural environment - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

- Over 200 Green Guarantee sites to which the Council has committed to protecting in the current Local Plan².

1.14 The key challenges for the natural environment for the borough are:

- Having resources to maintain and improve green space;
- Increasing the benefits, accessibility and quality of urban green space; and
- Protecting green spaces whilst meeting the needs for growth.

1.15 The strengths and challenges of the natural environment in the borough will be reviewed as part of this Assessment.

Analysis Area

1.16 This Assessment looks at the overall provision of the borough and across four key sub-areas comprising 1 - Telford North, 2 - Telford South and 3 - Newport and 4 - Rural. Each sub-area has been chosen due to its distinct characteristics and availability of current, and future population data.

1.17 The sub-area boundaries are shown in Figure 1 below.

² [Green Guarantee - Green Guarantee - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

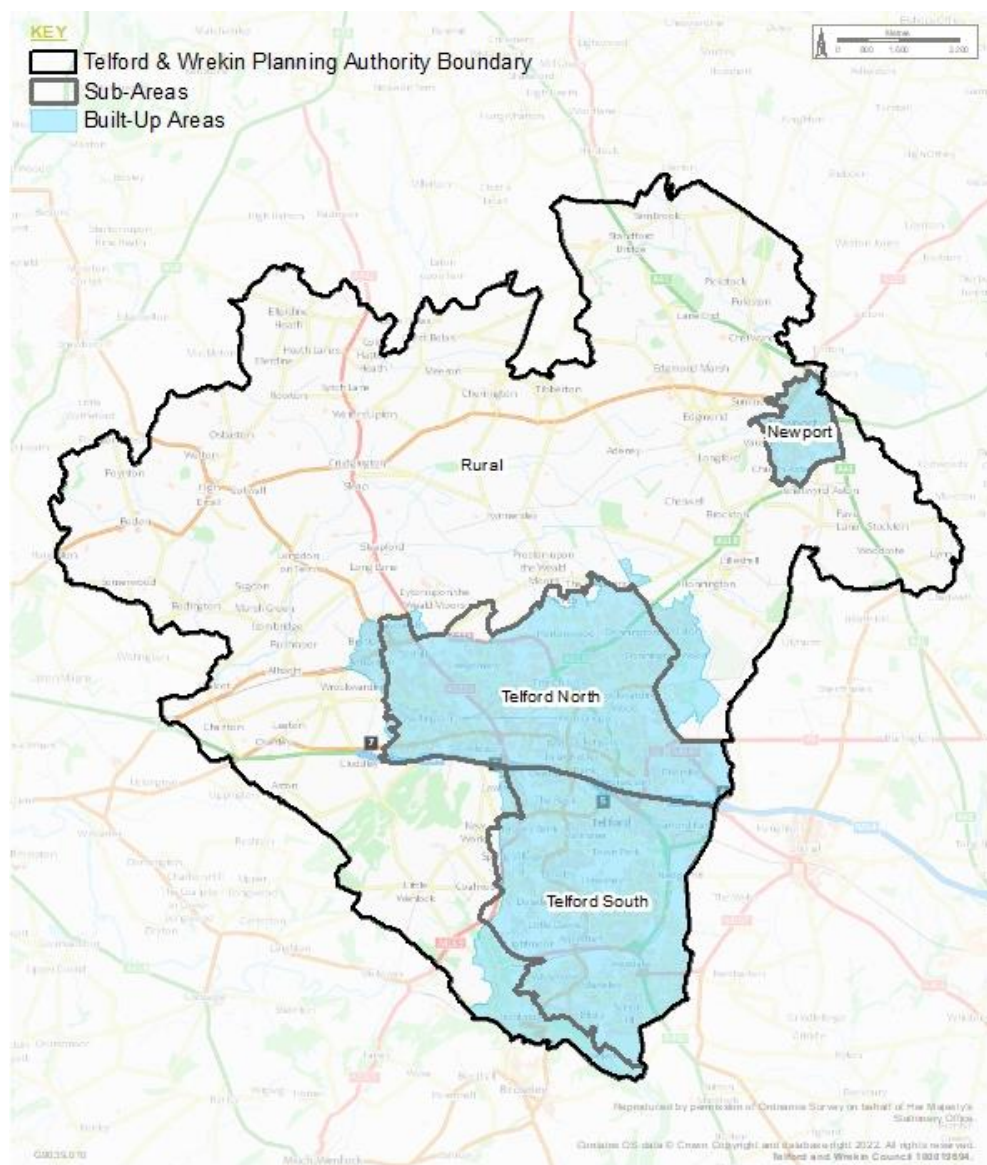


Figure 1 PROS Needs Assessment Study Area

2.0 Policy Context

- 2.1 This chapter summarises how open spaces feature in national and local policy. Figure 2 illustrates the hierarchy of planning policy for the borough.

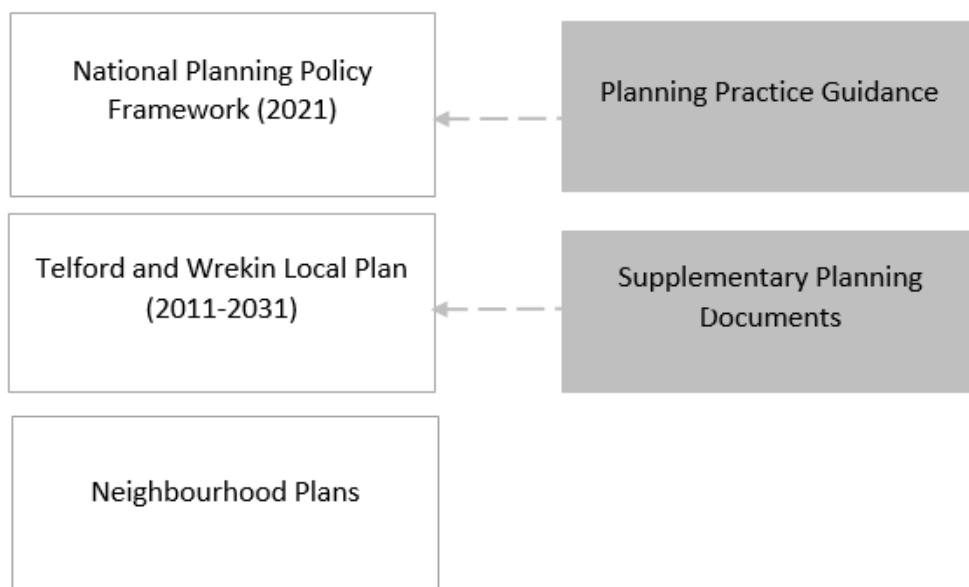


Figure 2: Hierarchy of Planning Policy in Telford and Wrekin Borough.

National Policy Context

National Planning Policy Framework (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021)

- 2.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was updated in July 2021 and sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are to be applied. The NPPF is a material consideration in decision and Local Plan making. The NPPF requirements in relation to open space are outlined in the following paragraphs.
- 2.3 The NPPF defines 'open space' as:

"All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity".

Plan-Making

- 2.4 Paragraph 20 outlines that Strategic Policies as set by local authorities should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of places, making specific provision for the '*conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation*'.

Promoting Healthy and Safe Communities

- 2.5 Paragraph 92 states that planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, safe and accessible places which promote social interaction and enable and support healthy lifestyles.
- 2.6 Paragraph 98 states that access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.
- 2.7 Paragraph 99 states that existing open space, including sports and recreational buildings and playing fields, should not be built on unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space is surplus to requirements; or the loss would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in a suitable location; or the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision.

Local Green Space Designation

- 2.8 Paragraphs 101 to 103 in the NPPF set out the Local Green Space designation as a way for communities to identify and protect green space of particular importance to them through local and neighbourhood plans. For the Local Green Space designation to be used the green space must be:
- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
 - demonstrably special to the local community with a particular local significance (aesthetically, historical, recreational or environmental); and
 - local in character and not an extensive tract of land.
- 2.9 The NPPF states that local policies for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with those for Green Belts.

Achieving well-designed places

- 2.10 Paragraph 131 states that trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined and that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments.

Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

- 2.11 The NPPF emphasises that responding to climate change is central to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.
- 2.12 Paragraph 153 states that plans should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, considering the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Policies should support appropriate measures to ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts.

- 2.13 Furthermore paragraph 154 states that new development should be planned to avoid increased impacts from climate change. In areas which are vulnerable from impacts of climate change these should be mitigated against and managed through suitable adaption measures, such as GI.

Biodiversity and Geodiversity

- 2.14 Paragraph 174 of the NPPF states that the planning system has a role to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. Valued landscapes and ecosystems should be protected, with development prevented from adversely affecting soil, air or water, or from causing noise pollution and land instability.
- 2.15 The NPPF states in paragraph 179 that local planning authorities should plan to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity. This should be achieved through identifying and mapping local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity and the wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them. Furthermore, plans should promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.
- 2.16 Paragraph 180 states when determining planning applications local planning authorities should support development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity. Opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.
- 2.17 With regards to GI, paragraph 186 states that there are opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts through the provision and enhancement of GI.

Planning Practice Guidance

Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities; Public Rights of Way; and Local Green Space³ (March 2014)

- 2.18 This planning practice guidance (PPG) provides advice on open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way (PRoW) and the Local Green Space designation. The guidance states that it is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. It describes the Local Green Space designation in further detail than the NPPF.

Healthy and Safe Communities⁴ (March 2014 updated August 2022)

- 2.19 The Healthy and Safe Communities PPG sets out key advice on the how to account for health and well-being in the planning process in two ways:
- Creating environments that support and encourage healthy lifestyles; and

³ [Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/281111/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space.pdf)

⁴ [Healthy and safe communities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/281111/healthy-and-safe-communities.pdf)

- Identifying and securing the facilities needed for primary, secondary and tertiary care and the wider health and care system.

- 2.20 This PPG states how planning can influence the built environment to improve health and reduce levels of obesity in local communities.
- 2.21 The PPG also covers the promotion of the benefits of estate regeneration and supporting safe communities.

Climate Change⁵ (June 2014 updated March 2019)

- 2.22 The Climate Change PPG advises how to identify suitable mitigation and adaptation measures in the planning process to address the impacts of climate change.
- 2.23 The PPG states that the impact of climate change needs to be taken into account in a realistic way and, as part of this, local planning authorities should identify no or low cost responses to climate risks that deliver a multitude of benefits, for example GI that improves adaption, biodiversity and amenity.
- 2.24 Furthermore, the Climate Change PPG states that when local authorities are preparing Local Plans and taking planning decisions, they should pay particular attention to integrating adaptation and mitigation approaches and looking for 'win-win' solutions. For example, the provision of multi-functional GI can reduce urban heat islands, manage flooding and help species adapt to climate change whilst also contributing to a pleasant environment that encourages people to walk and cycle.

Natural Environment⁶ (January 2016 updated July 2019)

- 2.25 The Natural Environment PPG advises on land of environmental value, GI, biodiversity and ecosystems and landscape.
- 2.26 The PPG highlights the importance of GI as a natural capital asset. These include community benefits such as enhancing wellbeing, outdoor recreation, food and energy production and mitigating the effects of climate change, such as urban cooling and flood risk management.
- 2.27 The PPG also identifies the benefits of wider environmental net gain to reduce pressure on and achieve overall improvements in natural capital, ecosystem services and the benefit they deliver.

Flood Risk and Coastal Change⁷ (March 2014 updated August 2022)

- 2.28 The Flood Risk and Coastal Change PPG advises how to take account of, and address the risks associated with flooding and coastal change in the planning process.
- 2.29 The PPG highlights that open spaces provide opportunities to reduce overall flood risk in a development area and beyond. Sustainable drainage systems provide opportunities such as combining water management with green space with associated benefits for amenity, recreation and wildlife.

⁵ [Climate change - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/climate-change-planning-guidance)

⁶ [Natural environment - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/natural-environment-planning-guidance)

⁷ [Flood risk and coastal change - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flood-risk-and-coastal-change-planning-guidance)

A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment⁸

- 2.30 The 25 Year Environment Plan sets out government actions to help the natural world regain and retain good health. It aims to deliver cleaner air and water in our cities and rural landscapes, protect threatened species and provide richer wildlife habitats.
- 2.31 Policies are divided into key areas to focus actions:
- Using and managing land sustainability;
 - Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes;
 - Connecting people with the environment to improve health and well-being;
 - Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste;
 - Securing clean, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans; and
 - Protecting and improving the global environment.

Local Policy Context

- 2.32 A review of local policy context is at Appendix A including a summary of relevant Plans, Strategies and Policies. The existing Local Plan is up to date to 2031. Telford and Wrekin Council is undertaking review of the Local Plan which will provide a new end date of 2040. This Needs Assessment provides an evidence base to support the Local Plan Review.

⁸ [25-year-environment-plan.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

3.0 Method

Guidance and Best Practice

- 3.1 This PROS Needs Assessment is in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) for Open Space, which have replaced Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation (2002) and its Companion Guide, Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A companion guide to Planning Policy Guidance 17 (2002).
- 3.2 Whilst the Companion Guide to Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 has been superseded, it is acknowledged that the principals and approach within the guidance have not been replaced and it is still relevant to apply the methodology to assess needs for open space provision.

Stages of the Assessment

- 3.3 The PROS Needs Assessment process follows five stages as illustrated in Figure 3: PROS Needs Assessment Process.

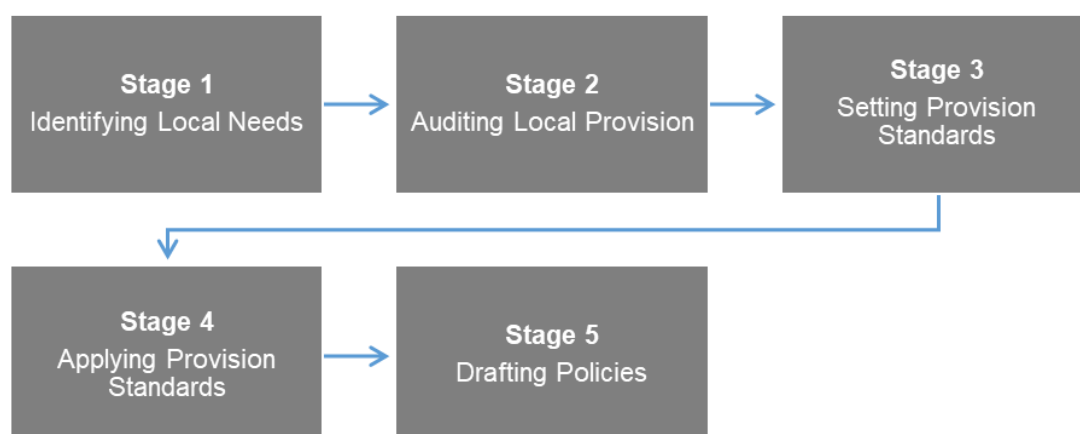


Figure 3: PROS Needs Assessment Process

Typologies

- 3.4 Table 1 provides a description of each of the open space typologies included in this Assessment. Each typology has a primary function, however may deliver a wide range of functions and benefits to people, place and the wider environment.

Table 1 Open Space Typologies included in the PROS Needs Assessment

Open Space Typology	Description
Allotments and Community Gardens	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.

Open Space Typology	Description
Amenity Greenspace	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	Cemeteries and Burial Grounds including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.
Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced areas usually located within town or city centres.
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Includes country parks, nature reserves, publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, wetlands and wastelands.
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Usually in the form of pitches or other sports provision, such as football, rugby or cricket pitches as well as tennis courts or bowling greens.
Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks and formal gardens. Parks usually contain a variety of facilities, and may have one or more of the other types of open space within them.
Play Space (Children)	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction specifically designed as equipped play facilities for children.
Play Space (Youth and Teenagers)	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction specifically designed as equipped play facilities for young people.

Quantity

- 3.5 The quantity assessment is carried out through a desk-based GIS exercise, using open space data provided by the Council. Open space sites are mapped in a GIS geo-database which provides total area in hectares of each site. Each site is assigned an open space typology so that a total area of sites by typology can be calculated.
- 3.6 The quantity provision of sites is based on the Council's Open Space Asset list. Further updates to the open space data have been captured during the site audits in 2021.

- 3.7 When combined with population figures, quantity can be expressed in terms of a hectare per 1,000 population figure. This is the way that local authorities express their quantity of open space and is how quantity standards for open space are expressed.
- 3.8 In this assessment, total area and numbers of sites, has been used to calculate the current quantity provision for the borough and each sub-area. Population figures have been used to calculate the hectare per 1,000 population figures for each typology on a borough wide and sub-area basis, for the current and future population.

Quality

- 3.9 PROS sites have been audited as part of the assessment process. Sites which have been audited have been selected based on the process outlined below in Figure 4:



Figure 4: Audit levels

- 3.10 The PROS quality assessment is based on site audits aligned to the Green Flag Award assessment criteria. The Green Flag Award is widely recognised as a quality benchmark for parks and green spaces, is advocated by Fields in Trust (FiT) and used by many other local authorities as part of their play, recreation and open space assessments.
- 3.11 Play Space was also audited using the Green Flag Award assessment criteria, however, has also been audited using typology specific criteria.

- 3.12 The quality assessment method for the site audits uses some of the Green Flag Award criteria (described in Table 2) based on those that can be applied to all typologies of open space. This allows a quality benchmark to be applied to all the borough's open spaces.

Table 2 Green Flag Award Criteria

Green Flag Award Criteria	Description
Welcoming Place	Signage
	Entrances
	Safe Access
	Access for All Abilities
	Boundaries
	Car parking/Cycling Provision
Healthy, Safe and Secure	Facilities and Activities
	Clear Sightlines
	Shelter
	Lighting
Well Maintained and Clean	Bins, Dog Bins and Recycling
	Overall Site Cleanliness
	Hard Landscape Features
	Buildings
	Soft Landscape Features
	Site Furniture

- 3.13 The quality assessment does not attempt to 'judge' all sites as to whether they would pass or fail the Green Flag Award. This would not be appropriate to do as part of an Open Space Assessment due to the types and nature of the sites; the proportionate amount of time needed to spend assessing each site in full; and the information available to undertake the assessment. The full Green Flag Award process involves reviewing a management plan for each site, and undertaking a site visit with the site managers, key stakeholders and the local community.
- 3.14 Not all open spaces are within the Council's ownership and therefore improvements to quality may not be provided or funded directly by the Council.

3.15 The bandings for the open space quality audits are as follows:

- Excellent - 90% to 100%;
- Very good - 80% to 89%;
- Good - 70% to 79%;
- Fair - 50% to 69%; and
- Poor - 0% to 49%.

3.16 The full site audit results are included as Appendix D. Full details of audit results including accompanying notes have been provided to the Council.

Value

3.17 The open space value assessment is based on 'Assessing needs and opportunities: a companion guide to PPG17⁹ (September 2002). Although PPG17 has been superseded by the NPPF 2021, there has been no supporting guidance published to supersede 'Assessing needs and opportunity: a companion guide to PPG17'. This is the most up to date guidance for value assessment for open spaces.

3.18 Table 3 details the value criteria used for this PROS Needs Assessment.

Table 3 Value Criteria

Value	Value Criteria
Context Value	Value as a cycle or pedestrian route
	Value in terms of a linked series of green or hard spaces
	Value in terms of a linked openness in a densely developed area
	Value in terms of providing a setting for buildings (e.g. Georgian square)
Historical/Heritage Value	Value as a designed landscape
	Value of historic buildings within the space
	Value of other historical features (e.g. statues, fountains, headstones)
Contribution to Local Amenity, Vitality and Sense of Place	Contribution to the appearance of the neighbourhood
	Evidence of use for events
	Value as a noise buffer
	Value as a visual screen or buffer

Value	Value Criteria
	Value in terms of 'sense of place'
	Value in terms of 'business' for social interaction
	Value in terms of local air quality and amelioration of pollution
	Visual attractiveness
	Proximity to hospital/health centre/school/other community hub
Recreation Value	Value for community events
	Value in terms of health benefits (e.g. jogging, health walks)
	Value of informal recreation opportunities (e.g. walking, relaxation)
Play Value	Value in terms of variety of finishes and experiences
	Value of space for adventure play
	Value of space for kickabout
	Value of space for seeing birds and animals
Ecological/ Biodiversity Value	Nature conservation designation
	Value as a green corridor for wildlife
	Value for public enjoyment of nature
	Value of habitats within the space (including water)
	Value of trees to the neighbourhood
	Buildings have potential for green roofs/walls
	Buildings have potential for rain water harvesting

3.19 The bandings for the open space value audits are as follows:

- High - 60 to 100%;
- Medium - 40 to 59%; and
- Low - 0 to 39%.

Quality and Value Matrix

- 3.20 The value of a site, in conjunction with the quality, can be used to guide planning decisions about the future of sites as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Quality and Value Matrix

<p>Poor Quality High Value</p> <p>High value sites that are poor quality should look to be enhanced in terms of their quality</p>	<p>Good Quality High Value</p> <p>Ideally all spaces should fall into this category, and decisions focused on protection of the best sites</p>
<p>Poor Quality Low Value</p> <p>Where possible look to enhance quality and value, or review if sites are surplus to requirements</p>	<p>Good Quality Low Value</p> <p>Where possible look to enhance value in terms of the functions the sites provide, or consider if value could increase by a change of use</p>

Accessibility

- 3.21 The accessibility assessment applies Walking Thresholds ('as the crow flies') to sites. Walking Thresholds are shown on accessibility maps in this report to indicate areas with access to each typology, and those without.
- 3.22 Table 5 sets out the walking distances and walking thresholds from the FiT Guidance for Outdoor Sports and Play – Beyond the Six Acre Standard, the Existing Assessment 2008, and how the distances, in metres (m) can be interpreted as walking time.

Table 5 Walking Distance, Thresholds and Time

Typology	Benchmark Standard ¹⁰ (metres)	Existing Accessibility Standard ¹¹
Allotments and Community Gardens	None set	15 minute walk time (720m)
Amenity Greenspace	480m	10 minute walk time (480m)
Cemeteries & Burial Grounds *	None set	None set

¹⁰ [FiT Guidance](#)

¹¹ [Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

Typology	Benchmark Standard ¹⁰ (metres)	Existing Accessibility Standard ¹¹
Civic Spaces	None set	15 minute walk time (720m) (Urban) 15 minute drive time (Rural)
Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space	720m	10 minute walk time (480m)
Outdoor Sports Facilities	1,200m	15 minute walk time (720m) inc. Grass pitches, tennis courts, bowling green. 20 minute drive time inc. synthetic turf pitches, golf courses, athletics tracks.
Parks and Gardens	710m	15 minute walk time (720m) (Urban) 20 minute drive time (720m) (Rural)
Provision for Children and Young People	LAP - 100m LEAP - 400m	10 minute walk time (480m)
Teenagers and Young People	NEAP – 1,000m	10 minute walk time (480m)

*included for completeness

4.0 Identifying Local Needs

National Strategy Documents

- 4.1 The following strategy documents provide an overview of the national strategic context and actions in relation to open space and are summarised in Appendix B:
- Promoting Healthy Cities (Royal Town Planning Institute, 2014);
 - Green Infrastructure Strategies (Natural England, 2014);
 - The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011);
 - Everybody Active, Every Day (Public Health England, 2014); and
 - Green Infrastructure Framework (Natural England, 2023).

Local Strategy Documents

- 4.2 The following strategy documents provide an overview of the Council's strategic context and actions in relation to open space and are summarised in Appendix B:
- The Council Plan (2020);
 - Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study (June 2013);
 - Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (2008);
 - Playing Pitch Strategy (2016); and
 - Local Play Strategy (2007-2017).

Developer Contributions

- 4.3 A comparison of developer contributions has been undertaken separately to provide an evidence base for setting the Council's developers contributions for open space.
- 4.4 The Developer Contributions Strategy (TEP ref: 9039.005) builds on evidence in this PROS Needs Assessment.

Population

Facts and Figures

- 4.5 Population data in this study is based Office for National Statistics Census 2021 data¹².
- 4.6 The population of borough is projected to grow by 13.58% by 2040. The largest growth is expected in Telford South with an estimated increase by 20.85%. Population within the Rural sub-area is predicted to decrease by 11.69% due to an ageing population, and children moving out of the family home.

Current Population

- 4.7 For this Assessment, ONS Census 2021 data has been used. Based on this data the current (2021) population of borough is 185,600.

¹² Office for National Statistics licensed under the Open Government Licence. [First results from Census 2021 in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

Future Population

4.8 The projected future population for the borough in 2040 is 210,801. Figure 5 provides the current and projected future population by Sub-Area. Population figures for 2040 have been calculated based on ONS Census 2021 Data, and applying a percentage increase to the data, based on the 2018 subnational population projections as below¹³:

- ONS (2018) Estimate for 2021 Population - 183,514
- ONS (2018) Estimate for 2040 Population - 208,432
- Percentage increase in population - 13.58%
- ONS Census (2021) estimate for 2021 - 185,600
- Applying a 13.58% increase to the Census 2021 data to estimate population up to 2040 - 210,801.

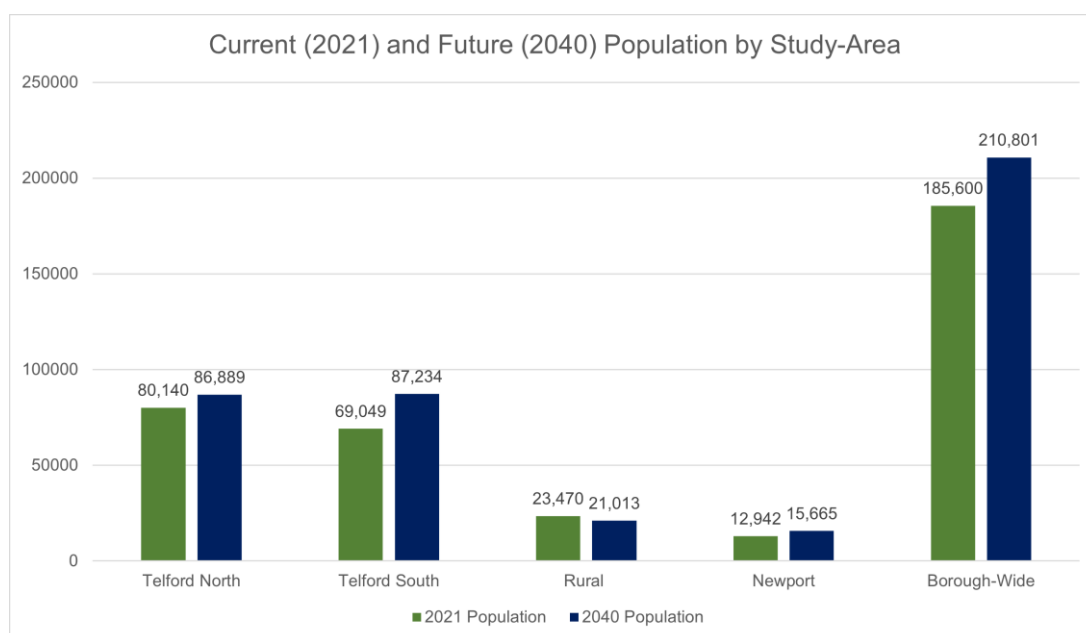


Figure 5: Current and Projected Future Population by Sub-Area

Consultation

Key Stakeholders

4.9 In October 2021, TEP and Telford & Wrekin Council undertook consultation events with key stakeholders including Parish Councils and Elected Members. Consultees were invited to answer a set of bespoke targeted questions related to management, use and perception of open space in the borough. Questions and a summary of responses are outlined in Appendix C.

4.10 The aims of the PROS Needs Assessment consultation were to:

- Provide key stakeholders across the borough with information about the PROS Needs Assessment and Developer Contributor Strategy;

¹³ [Subnational population projections for England - Office for National Statistics](#)

- Allow key stakeholders to comment on the vision and approach to managing and developing open spaces within the borough;
- Understand key opportunities and challenges faced by developers; and
- Consider feedback received as a result of the consultation process.

- 4.11 The key stakeholder questionnaires were issued via email link for participants to respond to.
- 4.12 13 completed responses were received from the questionnaire which was issued to 45 key stakeholders providing a return rate of 29%.

Stakeholder Consultation Summary

- 4.13 Key stakeholders were asked to complete 16 questions issued by email which covered usage, accessibility, quality, quantity and improvements. Key stakeholders were also asked additional targeted questions related to open spaces they manage. A summary has been provided below:
- Open spaces managed by the Council are generally considered to be good quality across the borough, especially Telford Town Park which was noted as “outstanding”;
 - More funding and investment should be provided for tree planting, biodiversity enhancement, upgrades and more frequent bin collections;
 - Consultees raised litter and recycling bin collections as a major issue, with some volunteer groups undertaking bin emptying themselves at a local level and using their own private bins;
 - Several comments were made about play parks and the need for them to be upgraded;
 - There are barriers to cyclists, which means connectivity to and between open spaces is sometimes hindered. These barriers should be reviewed to improve connectivity;
 - Public transport in rural areas is very limited, which affects accessibility to open spaces for rural communities, and access to open spaces in rural communities from urban areas; and
 - The highest perceived threat/barrier to open spaces was antisocial behaviour (76.92%), followed by funding, community engagement and planning (53.85%).

Public Consultation

- 4.14 In October 2022 TEP issued a public consultation survey to those who live, work and visit the borough. Consultation aimed to gather existing views on open space in the borough, as well as identifying key priorities from the public.
- 4.15 The public consultation was hosted via an online survey platform to make the consultation process accessible, quick and easy.
- 4.16 334 completed responses were received from the online consultation.

Public Consultation Summary

4.17 Respondents were asked to complete 19 questions through an online survey platform, results are summarised below:

- Respondents use open spaces within Telford North (54.19%) and Telford South (44.31%) most. The lowest usage was Newport (13.77%) and Rural Areas (18.56%), however this may be due to having smaller populations;
- The open spaces used most frequently are Parks and Gardens (74.25%), followed by Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace (60.18%).
- Open spaces are used for a range of activities including walking, dog walking, sports, play, observing nature and food growing.
- Parks and Gardens are visited by 44% of the respondents weekly. The lowest usage were Cemeteries and Burial Grounds (7.49%);
- There were 244 suggestions relating to new facilities or improvements to existing spaces including:
 - Additional outdoor adult gym equipment;
 - Additional dog bins and fenced off areas for dog training/socialisation;
 - Play equipment for children and adults with disabilities and special needs;
 - Toilet facilities for disabled users including changing beds;
 - Upgraded play children and young people play equipment;
 - Natural play opportunities and natural/wild areas to experience nature;
 - Additional seating and litter bins; and
 - Access to informal open fields for walking, dog walking and informal play;
- General barriers to the use of open spaces include antisocial behaviour, distance to travel, parking and facilities for disabled users, lighting/safety concerns and accessibility. For Allotments and Community Gardens and Outdoor Sports Pitches there were also concerns regarding cost and availability;
- Walking, cycling and driving accessibility to open spaces is considered 'Good'. Public transport was considered 'Average' and there were comments about poor bus services;
- Quality of open spaces used by respondents was considered generally 'Good' (44.91%), with only 7.19% of respondents considering open spaces to be 'Poor'. The Quality of open space across the borough was also considered 'Good' (46.79%), with the least people considering open space to be 'Poor' (3.06%);
- To improve the quality open spaces most respondents want to see more facilities (57.75%), followed by better maintenance (54.58%) and better access (41.90%);
- Most respondents considered the potential threats or barriers to the provision of open space as a borough is antisocial behaviour (64.37%) and funding (62.28%);
- Most respondents considered the potential opportunities to include grants and funding (95.5%), engagement with the community and stakeholders (94.5%) and more effective use of S106 (94.3%); and

- When considering barriers to play in particular, most respondents did consider their to be barriers (59.46%), which included accessibility (i.e. parking, disabled users, fencing), antisocial behaviour and maintenance.

4.18 A full question breakdown from the stakeholder and public consultations are provided in Appendix C.

5.0 Auditing Local Provision

Introduction

- 5.1 This section presents the results of the quantity, quality, value and accessibility assessment for the borough as a whole, the sub-areas and each of the open space typologies.
- 5.2 Indoor Sports Facilities are not included in the review of open spaces within the borough, as these are considered as part of the Playing Pitch Strategy.

Borough Overview

Quantity

- 5.3 The number, area and percentage of each type of open space within the borough is shown in Table 6. The highest proportion of open space is provided by Natural and Semi-Natural Typology (71.01%), this is in part due to the Council's 200 plus Green Guarantee spaces which sit within the Council's ownership and are protected from development. The Green Guarantee reflects the Council's commitment to the provision of locally accessible green spaces and to meeting the needs of local communities.
- 5.4 Provisions for Teenagers & Young People (0.16%) and Civic Space (0.20%) typologies provide the least provision across the borough.

Table 6: Open Spaces by Typology, Number and Area

Open Space Typology	No.	Area (ha)	Area (%)
Allotments and Community Gardens	16	12.38	0.4%
Amenity Greenspace	191	214.80	6.8%
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	69	44.81	1.4%
Civic Spaces	20	6.41	0.2%
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	145	2,251.71	71.0%
Outdoor Sports Facilities	154	492.91	15.5%
Parks and Gardens	19	131.53	4.1%
Provisions for Children	137	11.49	0.4%
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	70	4.99	0.2%
Final Total - Rounded to two decimal places	821	3,171.03	100%

5.5 Table 7 shows the quantity of each typology by sub-area in ha.

Table 7: Ha of Open Space by Typology and Sub-area

Open Space Typology	1- Telford North	2 - Telford South	3 - Rural	4 - Newport
Allotments and Community Gardens	4.47	3.07	3.83	1.01
Amenity Greenspace	120.70	76.58	11.42	6.10
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	17.30	6.03	17.63	3.85
Civic Spaces	1.32	4.78	0.31	0.00
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	370.44	618.62	1240.83	21.82
Outdoor Sports Facilities	136.19	103.64	236.76	16.33
Parks and Gardens	4.57	52.48	73.01	1.46
Provisions for Children and Young People	4.04	4.17	1.85	1.43
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	1.45	2.33	0.62	0.59
Total rounded to two decimal places	660.48	871.70	1586.26	52.59

5.6 ONS estimates the current population of Telford & Wrekin Borough is 185,600 and the total amount of open space of 3,171.03 ha, current provision of open space is calculated at **17.09 ha per 1,000 population**.

- 5.7 Using the projected future population figures generated by the future population projections it is also possible to calculate future provision. The area of each open space typology per 1,000 population (current and future) is shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Open Space by Hectare per 1,000

Open Space Typology	2021 ha/ 1,000	2040 ha/ 1,000
Allotments and Community Gardens	0.07	0.06
Amenity Greenspace	1.16	1.02
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	0.24	0.21
Civic Spaces	0.03	0.03
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	12.13	10.68
Outdoor Sports Facilities	2.66	2.34
Parks and Gardens	0.71	0.62
Provisions for Children and Young People	0.06	0.05
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	0.03	0.02
Total rounded to two decimal places	17.09	15.03

Accessibility

- 5.8 Plans (G9039.013-020) shows accessibility to Amenity Greenspace, Allotments and Community Gardens, Civic Spaces, Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Parks and Gardens, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Play Areas and Teenagers mapped using the thresholds set out in Table 9.
- 5.9 Accessibility thresholds have not been assigned to Cemeteries and Burial Grounds because there is no national benchmark for accessibility to this typology. Whilst not envisaged at this time, if Telford and Wrekin Council requires a standard for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds, this would be sought through the Cemeteries and Burial Strategy.
- 5.10 A review of accessibility for each of these typologies is included in Chapter 7.

Table 9: Walking and Driving Accessibility for Open Space Typologies

Open Space Typology	Existing Accessibility Standards ¹⁴
Allotments and Community Gardens	15 minute walk time (720 metre)
Amenity Greenspace	10 minute walk time (480 metres)
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds *	None set
Civic Spaces	15 minute walk time (720m) (Urban) 15 minute drive time (Rural)
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	10 minute walk time (480m)
Outdoor Sports Facilities	15 minute walk time (720m) inc. Grass pitches, tennis courts, bowling green. 20 minute drive time inc. synthetic turf pitches, golf courses, athletics tracks.
Parks and Gardens	15 minute walk time (720m) (Urban) 20 minute drive time (Rural)
Provisions for Children and Young People	10 minute walk time (480m)
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	10 minute walk time (480m)

*included for completeness

Quality

- 5.11 Open spaces were audited based on methodology set out in Chapter 3. TEP undertook quality audits of all typologies except Outdoor Sports Facilities, Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People. The Council audited Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People.
- 5.12 Following a desk-based exercise to consolidate data a total of 892 sites were included in the overall dataset, of which 388 open spaces were taken forward to audit. Data consolidation consisted of comparison with Ordnance Survey layers, comparison with the Council's Green Guarantee Sites Layer, and the Green Network Sites Layer. In undertaking the data review exercise, sites have been:
- added to the dataset;

¹⁴ [Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

- removed from the dataset; or
- updated or merged.

5.13 378 sites had full quality audits as part of this Assessment and the results are shown on plan G9039.021.

5.14 The range of scores from the quality audits are provided in Figure 6 and the quality score split by each typology is in Table 10.

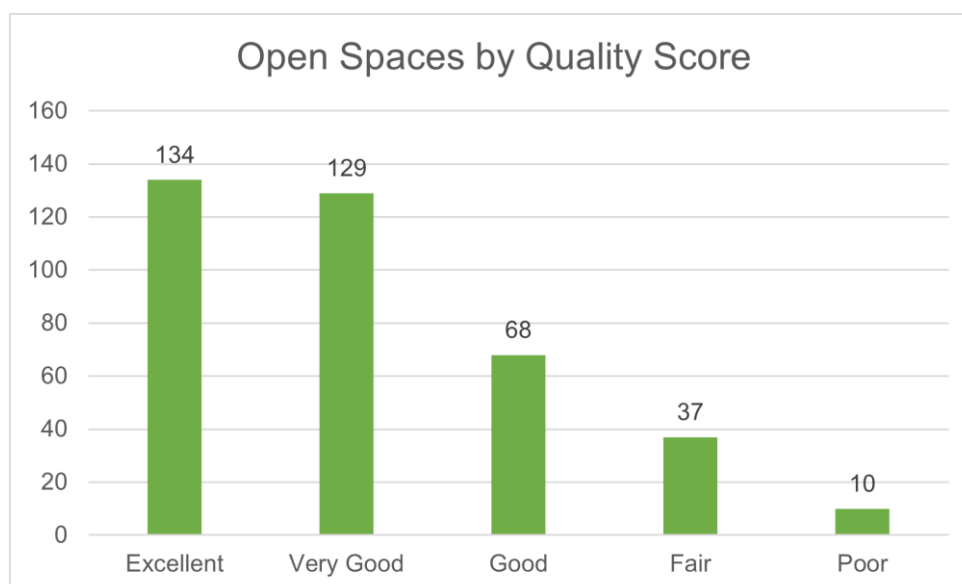


Figure 6: Open Spaces by Quality Score

Table 10: Quality Score for Open Space Typology

Open Space Typology	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Allotments and Community Gardens	8	0	3	1	0
Amenity Greenspace	15	12	2	5	3
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	8	3	0	1	0
Civic Spaces	3	0	0	0	0
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	57	15	8	12	3

Open Space Typology	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Parks and Gardens	6	4	1	1	0
Provisions for Children	23	69	32	11	2
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	14	26	22	6	2
Total	134	129	68	37	10

Value

- 5.15 The range of value score from the audits of open space is shown at a borough level on G9039.022
- 5.16 The range of value scores from the audits of open spaces are provided in Figure 7 and the value scores for each typology are in Table 11.

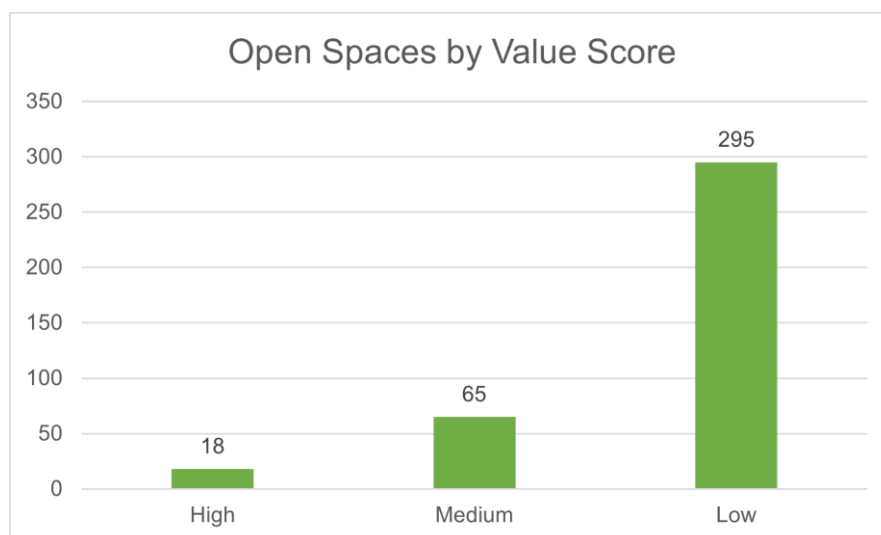


Figure 7: Open Spaces by Value Score

Table 11: Value Score for Open Space Typologies

Open Space Typology	High	Medium	Low
Allotments and Community Gardens	0	1	11
Amenity Greenspace	5	11	21
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	3	4	5
Civic Spaces	0	1	2
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	6	23	66
Parks and Gardens	3	7	2
Provisions for Children and Young People	1	3	133
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	0	15	55
Total	18	65	295

5.17 Plan G9039.022 shows the results of the value assessment by site, and results are broken down in Appendix D.

5.18 Due to the nature of Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers & Young People as a primarily play based typology there is limited multi-functionality opportunities leading to lower value scores generally.

Key Finding on Quality and Value

5.19 Table 12 provides an overview of the range of quality and value scores achieved in the sites audits, and results are presented in Appendix D.

5.20 There were 134 sites that had a Quality score of Excellent and 10 sites that had a Quality score of Poor. The greatest range of quality score is within Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace typology.

5.21 There were 295 sites that have a Value score of Low, with Provision for Children having the highest number of Low Value sites.

Table 12: Range of Quality and Value Score by Typology

Open Space Typology	Sites Audited	Range of Quality Scores	Range of Value Scores
Allotments and Community Gardens	12	51-100	28-45
Amenity Greenspace	37	46-100	10-69
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	12	55-100	10-73
Civic Spaces	3	91-99	26-53
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	95	45-100	14-73
Parks and Gardens	12	63-100	35-73
Provisions for Children and Young People	137	48-95	10-62
Provisions for Teenagers & Young People	70	32-95	20-48
Total	378	32-100	10-73

Allotments and Community Gardens

- 5.22 Allotments and Community Gardens provide opportunities for those who wish to do so, to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.

Quantity

- 5.23 There are 16 sites providing 12.38 ha of Allotments and Community Gardens in the borough, this equates to 0.07 ha per 1,000 population (2021).
- 5.24 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) does not provide a national benchmark for Allotments and Community Gardens.
- 5.25 Consultees noted a lack of availability and cost of Allotments and Community Gardens as a barrier to this typology.
- 5.26 Standards are covered further in Chapter 6.

Quality and Value Assessment

- 5.27 Quality and Value scores for audited Allotments and Community Gardens are summarised in Appendix D in order of their quality audit score and the results are also shown on Plan G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.022.
- 5.28 12 Allotment and Community Garden sites received a full quality audit. There were Excellent quality Allotments and Community Gardens across all four wards. The lowest scoring allotment was Florence Close which scored 51% (Fair).
- 5.29 The average quality score for Allotments and Community Gardens is 89 which falls under the Very Good category as shown in Table 13. The greatest number of sites fall into the Excellent category, with Good being the next highest scoring category.

Table 13: Quality Range for Allotments and Community Gardens

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
89	Excellent	0	1	3	0	8

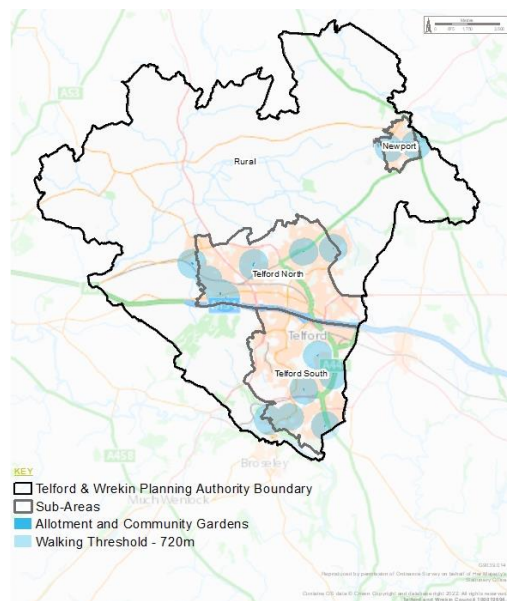
- 5.30 The average value score for Allotments and Community Gardens is 32 which falls under the Low Value category as shown in Table 14. The greatest number of sites fall into the Low category, with only one site, Meadow View Road Allotment falling into the Medium Value banding which is within the Newport sub-area.

Table 14: Value Range for Allotments and Community Gardens

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
32	Low	11	1	0

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.31 Allotments and Community Gardens have an existing accessibility threshold of 15 minutes walk (720 meters).
- 5.32 Open Space Accessibility - Allotments and Community Gardens Plan (G9039.014) and Figure 8 shows that there are Allotments and Community Gardens in all four sub-areas. Newport has good accessibility to Allotments and Community Gardens, but Telford North and Telford South have inconsistent accessibility to this typology. There are only three Allotments and Community Gardens in the Rural sub-area.



*Figure 8: Allotments and Community Gardens
Accessibility Plan (720 m, 15 minute walk)*

- 5.33 There are large gaps in provision for access to this typology in all four sub-areas. This is echoed within consultation responses with respondents noting not enough local Allotments and Community Gardens.

Amenity Greenspace

- 5.34 Amenity Greenspaces are informal green spaces providing opportunities for informal recreation for residents and workers whilst enhancing the appearance of the area.

Quantity Assessment

- 5.35 There are 191 sites providing 214.80 ha of Amenity Greenspace in the borough, this equates to 1.16 ha per 1,000 population.
- 5.36 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) provides a benchmark of 0.6 ha per 1,000 population. FiT's guidance is based on a survey of 119 (33%) local authorities in England and Wales which found that the median level of provision of Amenity Green Space sought was 0.55 ha per 1,000 population.
- 5.37 Standards are covered further in Chapter 6.

Quality and Value Assessment

- 5.38 Quality and Value scores for audited Amenity Greenspaces are summarised in Appendix D in order of their quality audit score and the results are also shown on G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.022.

- 5.39 37 Amenity Greenspace sites received a full quality audit across all four sub-areas. There are Excellent quality amenity greenspaces across all sub-areas except Newport.
- 5.40 The average quality score for Amenity Green Spaces is 84 which falls under the Very Good category as shown in Table 15. The greatest number of sites fall into the Excellent category, with Very Good being the next highest scoring category.

Table 15: Quality Range for Amenity Greenspace

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
84	Very Good	3	5	2	12	15

- 5.41 Three Amenity Greenspace sites received a Poor Quality score including Sale Acre Way, all three poor spaces were in Telford South.
- 5.42 The average value score for Amenity Greenspace is 39 which falls under the Low Value category as shown in Table 16. The greatest number of sites fall into the Low category.

Table 16: Value Range for Amenity Greenspace

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
39	Low	21	11	5

- 5.43 Constable Drive Amenity Greenspace in Telford North received the highest Value score of 69%.

Accessibility Assessment

5.44 Amenity Greenspaces are set an existing accessibility threshold of 10 minutes walk (480m).

5.45 Open Space Accessibility - Amenity Greenspace (G9039.013) and Figure 9 illustrates that almost all residential areas of Telford North and Telford South have access to this typology as well as the western areas in Newport. The Rural Sub-Area has limited accessibility however, this is expected due to access to the countryside and smaller settlements. There are some small areas in Telford South which have gaps in provision to this typology, however these are covered by Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace.

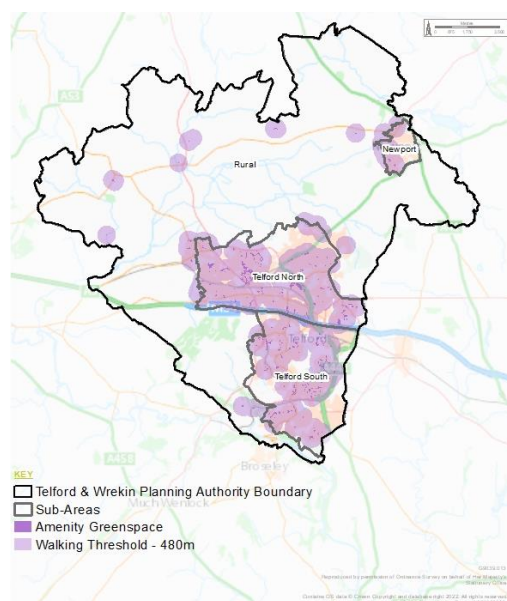


Figure 9: Amenity Greenspace

Accessibility Plan (480 m, 10 minute walk)

5.46 Distance was noted as a barrier to accessing Amenity Greenspace as well as suitable access for those who are disabled or using a mobility aid.

Cemeteries and Burial Grounds

5.47 Cemeteries and Burial Grounds include disused churchyards and other burial grounds. Cemeteries and Burial Grounds are often landscaped with trees, grassland and shrub planting with benefits wildlife, as well as providing space for quiet reflection.

Quantity Assessment

5.48 There are 69 sites providing 44.81 ha of Cemeteries and Burial Grounds in the borough, this equates to 0.24 ha per 1,000 population.

5.49 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) does not provide a national benchmark for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds.

5.50 Standards are covered further in Chapter 7.

Quality and Value Assessment

5.51 Quality and Value scores for audited Cemeteries and Burial Grounds are summarised in Appendix D in order of their quality audit score and the results are also shown on G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.022.

5.52 12 Cemeteries and Burial Grounds sites received a full quality audit.

- 5.53 The average quality score for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds is 90 which falls under the Excellent category as shown in Table 17. The greatest number of sites fall into the Excellent category and these sites are located across all sub-areas. The highest Quality Cemeteries and Burial Grounds are Telford Crematorium and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Table 17: Quality Range for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
90	Excellent	0	1	0	3	8

- 5.54 The average value score for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds is 40 which falls under the Medium Value category as shown in Table 18.

Table 18: Value Range for Cemeteries and Burial grounds

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
40	Medium	5	4	3

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.55 There is no existing accessibility threshold for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds.

Civic Spaces

- 5.56 Civic Spaces are hard surfaced areas usually located within town or city centres.

Quantity Assessment

- 5.57 There are 20 sites classed as Civic Spaces in the borough, which equates to 6.41 ha. This equates to a quantity provision of 0.03 ha per 1,000 population.
- 5.58 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) does not provide a national benchmark for Civic Spaces.

Quality and Value Assessment

- 5.59 Quality and Value scores for audited Civic Spaces are summarised in Appendix D in order of their quality audit score and the results are also shown on G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.022.
- 5.60 3 Civil Spaces received a full quality audit, and all three sites audited across Telford North, Telford South and the Rural sub-areas received an Excellent quality score.

- 5.61 The average quality score for Civic Spaces is 96 which falls under the Excellent category as shown in Table 19. All Civic Spaces audited scored Excellent.

Table 19: Quality Range for Civic Spaces

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
96	Excellent	0	0	0	0	3

- 5.62 The average value score for Civic Spaces is 36 which falls under the Low Value category as shown in Table 1320.

Table 20: Value Range for Civic Spaces

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
36	Low	2	1	0

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.63 Civic Spaces have an existing accessibility threshold of 15 minutes walk (720m) walk time for urban areas and 15 minutes drive time for rural areas.
- 5.64 Open Space Accessibility - Civic Space (G9039.015) illustrates that there is a sporadic coverage of accessibility to Civic Space, primarily in the urban areas of Telford North and Telford South which is expected due to the function and size of this typology. There is no access to this typology in the Newport or Rural sub areas, primarily due to the urban setting of this typology.

Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- 5.65 Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace includes country parks, nature reserves, publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, wetlands and wastelands.

Quantity Assessment

- 5.66 There are 145 sites providing 2,251.71 ha of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in the borough, which equates to 12.13 ha per 1,000.
- 5.67 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) provides a benchmark of 1.80 ha per 1,000 population. FiT's guidance is based on a survey of 119 (33%) local authorities in England and Wales. The survey found that the median level of provision sought for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace was 1.80 ha per 1,000 population.

Quality and Value Assessment

- 5.68 The quality scores for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspaces are listed Appendix D in order of their quality, value scores are also shown. Quality audit scores are shown on Plan G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.022.
- 5.69 95 Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace received a full quality audit.
- 5.70 The average quality score for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace is 87 which is categorised as Very Good, as shown in Table 21. 57 of the sites audited fall into the Excellent category.

Table 21: Quality Range for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
87	Very Good	3	12	8	15	57

- 5.71 The average value score for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace is 36 which falls under the Low Value category as shown in Table 22.

Table 22: Value Range for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
36	Low	66	23	6

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.72 Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace have an existing accessibility threshold of 10 minute walk (480m).

5.73 Open Space Accessibility - Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace map (G9039.016) and Figure 10 illustrates that there is excellent coverage of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, with the majority of Newport, Telford North and Telford South.

5.74 The majority of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in the Rural sub-area is to the south west of the sub-area, to the west of Telford South and Telford North. There are some gaps in provision to Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in the northern parts of the Rural sub-area although these areas have greater access to the open countryside.

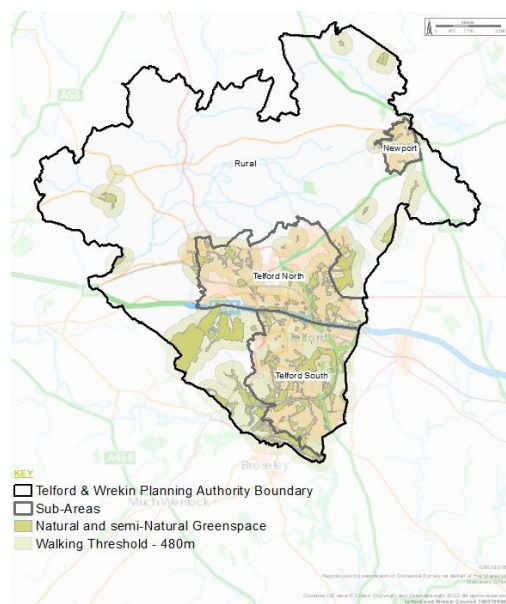


Figure 10: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace
Accessibility Plan (480 m, 10 minute walk)

Outdoor Sports Facilities

5.75 Outdoor Sports Facilities are generally in the form of pitches or other sports provision such as football, rugby or cricket pitches as well as tennis courts or bowling greens.

Quantity Assessment

5.76 There are 154 sites providing 492.91 ha of Outdoor Sports Facilities in the borough, which equates to 2.66 ha per 1,000.

5.77 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) provides a benchmark of 1.60ha per 1,000 population.

Quality and Value Assessment

5.78 Outdoor Sports Facilities were not audited as part of this PROS Needs Assessment as they are covered within the Playing Pitch Strategy.

Accessibility Assessment

5.79 Outdoor Sports Facilities have an existing accessibility threshold of 15 minute walk (720m) to grass pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens. There is a 20 minute drive time standard to synthetic turf pitches, golf courses and athletics tracks.

5.80 Open Space Accessibility - Outdoor Sports Facilities map (G9039.018) and Figure 11 illustrates that there is excellent accessibility to Outdoor Sports Facilities within the Telford North, Telford South and Newport sub-areas when applying the 15 minute (720m) standard.

5.81 Accessibility to Outdoor Sports Facilities in the Rural sub-area is limited to 10 of the rural settlements.

5.82 Distance to Outdoor Sports Facilities was raised by respondents during consultation to a barrier to accessing this typology.

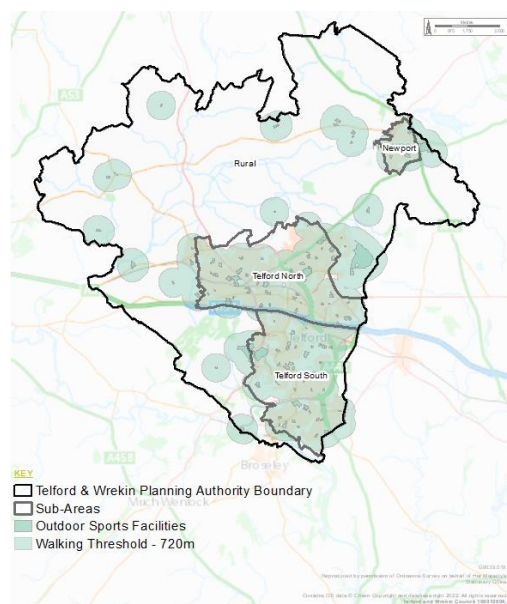


Figure 11: Outdoor Sports Facilities
Accessibility Plan (720 m, 15 minute walk)

Parks and Gardens

5.83 Parks and Gardens are generally multi-functional spaces, providing a range of facilities including landscaped gardens, playing fields, play areas and facilities for outdoor sport provision.

Quantity Assessment

5.84 There are 19 sites providing 131.53 ha of Parks and Gardens in the borough, which equates to 0.71 ha per 1,000.

5.85 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) provides a benchmark of 0.8 ha per 1,000 population. FiT's guidance is based on a survey of 119 (33%) local authorities in England and Wales. The survey found that the median level of provision sought for Parks and Gardens was 0.8 ha per 1,000 population.

5.86 Standards are covered further in Chapter 7.

Quality and Value Assessment

5.87 The quality scores for Parks and Gardens are listed in Appendix D in order of their quality, value scores are also shown. Quality audit scores are shown on Plan G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.021.

5.88 12 Parks and Gardens received a full quality audit.

5.89 The average quality score for Parks and Gardens is 90 which is categorised as Excellent, followed by Very Good category as shown in Table 23.

5.90 Dawley Park in Telford South received the highest Quality score of 100%.

Table 23: Quality Score for Parks and Gardens

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
90	Excellent	0	1	1	4	6

- 5.91 The average value score for Parks and Gardens was 52 which falls under the Medium Value category as shown in Table 24.

Table 24: Value Range for Parks and Gardens

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
52	Medium	2	7	3

- 5.92 Water Lane Park in the Newport sub-area scored the highest Value Park and Garden at 73%.

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.93 Parks and Gardens have an existing accessibility threshold of 15 minutes walk time (720m) for urban areas and 20 minutes drive time for rural areas.
- 5.94 Open Spaces Accessibility - Parks and Gardens Plan (G9039.017) illustrates that there are significant gaps in accessibility to Parks and Gardens across the borough in all four sub-areas. However, when assessed alongside other open space typologies such as Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Amenity Greenspace there is almost full coverage across Telford North, Telford South and Newport to open space.
- 5.95 Distance was noted as a barrier to use of Parks and Gardens by respondents to community consultation.

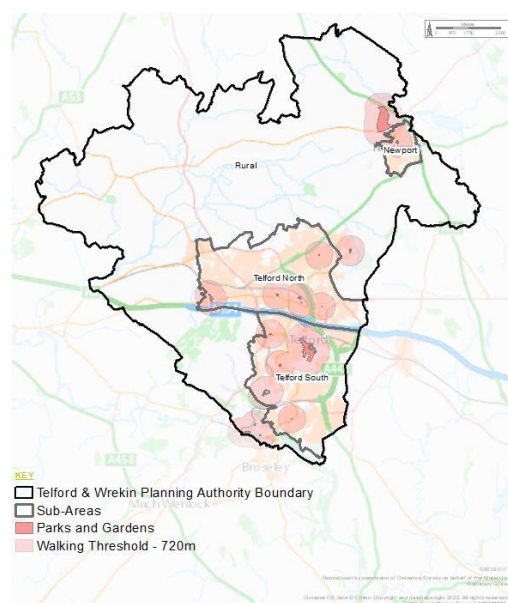


Figure 12: Parks and Gardens

Accessibility Plan (720 m, 15 minute walk)

Provision for Children

- 5.96 Provision for Children are areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas.

Quantity Assessment

- 5.97 There are 137 Provision for Children and Young People sites, providing 11.49 ha of Provision of Children and Young People which equates to 0.06 ha per 1,000.
- 5.98 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) provides a benchmark of 0.25 ha per 1,000 population. FiT's guidance is based on a survey of 119 (33%) local authorities in England and Wales which found that the median level of Provision for Children and Young People was 0.25 ha per 1,000 population.
- 5.99 Standards are covered further in Chapter 7.

Quality and Value Assessment

- 5.100 The quality scores for Provision for Children are listed Appendix D in order of their quality, value scores are also shown. Quality audit scores are shown on Plan G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.021.
- 5.101 137 Provision for Children sites received a full quality audit.
- 5.102 The average quality score for Provision for Children is 82 which is categorised as Very Good as shown in Table 25.

Table 25: Quality range for Provision for Children

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
82	Very Good	2	11	32	69	23

- 5.103 Nuthatch Crescent Play Area in Telford North received the highest quality score of 95% and Coronation Crescent in Telford South received the lowest quality score of 48%.
- 5.104 The average value score for Provision for Children was 28 which falls under the Low Value category as shown in Table 26.

Table 26: Value Range for Provision for Children

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
28	Low	133	3	1

- 5.105 Telford Park Play area in Telford South was the only high value Provision for Children typology with a score of 62%.
- 5.106 Due to the nature of Provision for Children as a primarily play based typology there is limited multi-functionality opportunities leading to lower value scores generally.

Additional Play Assessment Criteria

- 5.107 Play provision was also scored to assist with the forthcoming Play Strategy including assessment of relative value score for physical play, sensory play, social play and accessibility.

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.108 Provision for Children has an existing accessibility threshold of 10 minutes (480m) walk.
- 5.109 Open Space Accessibility - Play Area and Teenagers Plan (G9039.019) and Figure 13 illustrates that there is good accessibility to Provision for Children and Provision for Teenagers and Young People across the borough with most residential areas having access to one play provision. Shawburch, Telford is not covered by an accessible equipped play area.
- 5.110 There are small gaps in provision in Telford North around Hortonwood, and large areas of the Rural sub-area however these are generally non-residential areas.

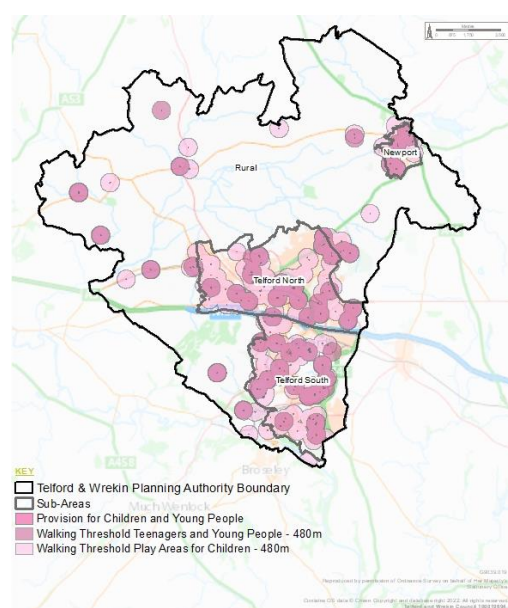


Figure 13: Provision for Children and Young People
Accessibility Plan (480 m, 10 minute walk)

Provision for Teenagers and Young People

- 5.111 Provision for Teenagers and Young People are areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving equipped play areas for older children, multi-use games areas and skateboard parks.

Quantity Assessment

- 5.112 There are 70 Provision for Teenagers and Young People sites, providing 4.99 ha of Provision of Teenagers and Young People which equates to 0.03 ha per 1,000.

5.113 FiT's Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) provides a benchmark of 0.25 ha per 1,000 population. FiT's guidance is based on a survey of 119 (33%) local authorities in England and Wales which found that the median level of Provision for Teenagers and Young People was 0.25 ha per 1,000 population.

5.114 Standards are covered further in Chapter 7.

Quality and Value Assessment

5.115 The quality scores for Provision for Teenagers and Young People are listed Appendix D in order of their quality, value scores are also shown. Quality audit scores are shown on Plan G9039.021. Value scores are shown on Plan G9039.022.

5.116 70 Provision for Teenagers and Young People received a full quality audit.

5.117 The average quality score for Provision for Teenagers and Young People is 80 which is categorised as Very Good, followed by Excellent category as shown in Table 27.

Table 27: Quality range for Provision for Teenagers and Young People

Average Score	Average Banding	Quality Split				
		Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
80	Very Good	2	6	22	26	14

5.118 Gatecombe Way MUGA in Telford North received the highest quality score of 95%.

5.119 The average value score for Provision for Teenagers and Young People was 33 which falls under the Low Value category as shown in Table 28.

Table 28: Value Range for Provision for Teenagers and Young People

Average Score	Average Banding	Value Split		
		Low	Medium	High
33	Low	55	15	0

5.120 Due to the nature of Provision for Teenagers & Young People as a primarily play based typology there is limited multi-functionality opportunities leading to lower value scores generally.

Additional Play Assessment Criteria

5.121 Play provision was also scored to assist with the forthcoming Play Strategy including assessment of relative value score for physical play, sensory play, social play and accessibility.

Accessibility Assessment

- 5.122 Provision for Teenagers and Young People have an existing accessibility threshold of 10 minutes (480m) walk.
- 5.123 Open Space Accessibility - Play Area and Teenagers Plan (G9039.019) and Figure 13 illustrates that there is good accessibility to Provision for Teenagers and Young People and Provision for Children and Young People across the borough with most residential areas having access to at least one play provision.

6.0 Setting Standards

- 6.1 This PROS Needs Assessment is in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) for Open Space, which have replaced Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation (2002) and its Companion Guide, Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A companion guide to Planning Policy Guidance 17 (2002).
- 6.2 Whilst the Companion Guide to Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 has been superseded, it is acknowledged that the principals and approach within the guidance have not been replaced and it is still relevant to apply the methodology to assess needs for open space provision.
- 6.3 Recommended standards of provision are based on local assessment and analysis and may be the same as a national recommended standard, if appropriate. Where current levels of provision do not meet a national recommended standard, this should be viewed as a minimum. Equally, the existing provision may already meet the future recommended standard and to lose it would significantly change the natural character of the area. By combining the existing level of provision with local views on its adequacy, it is possible to develop a range of new provision standards.

Benchmark Standards

- 6.4 National Benchmark Standards are from Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2020) which replaces FiT's 2008 guidance Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play. Beyond the Six Acre Standard guidance reflects the NPPF, The Localism Act 2011 and the phased introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The guidance draws out new recommendations for accessibility and, alongside formal open space such as sports pitches and play areas, introduces benchmarking for informal open space (e.g., Amenity Green Space and Natural Green Space sites). The latest guidance has been informed by a survey commissioned by FiT in 2014 resulting in a response from 119 local authorities in England and Wales, representing a total response rate of 33%.
- 6.5 In 1996, English Nature (now Natural England) produced recommendations for the provision of accessible natural green space, this is often referred to as the ANGSt model. The ANGSt model recommends at least 2ha of accessible natural green space per 1,000 population which is detailed by tiers of site according to size. The guidelines recommend a provision of:
- at least two hectares in size, no more than 300m (five minutes' walk) from home;
 - at least one accessible 20 ha site within 2km of home;
 - one accessible 100 ha site within 5km of home;
 - one accessible 500 ha site within 10km of home;
 - a minimum of 1 ha of statutory local nature reserves per 1,000 people;
 - that no person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size; and
 - that there should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round trip) of people's homes.

- 6.6 According to the ANGSt model, a natural green space is based on the level of intervention through management or other forms of disturbance and accessibility is the ability of visitors to physically gain access to a site.
- 6.7 Although the ANGSt model was published in 1996, no other models or standards for accessibility have been produced and therefore it remains relevant to this PROS Needs Assessment particularly in relation to proposing accessibility standards.
- 6.8 The Woodland Trust's Woodland Access Standard aspires to the following guidelines:
- no person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2 ha in size; and
 - there should be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20 ha within 4km (8km round trip) of people's homes.

Additional Information on Allotment and Community Gardens Standards

- 6.9 There is no legal national minimum quantity provision standard for Allotments and Community Gardens¹⁵.
- 6.10 The 1969 Thorpe Report recommended a minimum provision equivalent to 15 plots per 1,000 households¹⁶, which equates to 6.5 plots per 1,000 population or 0.16 ha per 1,000 population.
- 6.11 The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) recommends a minimum level of provision of 20 allotment plots¹⁷ per 1,000 households, which equates to 8.7 plots per 1,000 population or 0.21 ha per 1,000 population. NSALG advises that the standard plot size is 250 sq. metres.
- 6.12 A Review of Allotment Provision for Cambridge City Council¹⁸, stated that there is difficulty in considering a standard of provision based on household given the trend of falling household size since the 1950s. The report referenced the Survey of Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, carried out by the University of Derby on behalf of Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in 2006, which showed that the national average provision was 7 plots per 1,000 population, which equates to 0.175 ha per 1,000 population.
- 6.13 In the FiT Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play Review, Phase 2 Survey Findings for England and Wales (2014), the median level of provision for allotments, community gardens and urban farms was 0.3 ha per 1,000 population.
- 6.14 A summary of national benchmark standards for Allotments and Community Gardens is provided in Table 29.

¹⁵ <http://www.allotmoreallotments.org.uk/legislation.html>

¹⁶ Average Household size in England & Wales is 2.3 (2011 Census)

¹⁷ Based on a standard plot of 250 m²

¹⁸ Review of Allotment Provision for Cambridge City Council (Ashley Godfrey Associates, January 2010)

Table 29: Summary of National Benchmark Standards for Allotments and Community Gardens

	No. of households	No. of Allotment plots per 1,000 household	Population (based on household size of 2.3)	Hectare (based on plot size of 250m ²)
Thorpe Report 1969	1,000	15	2,300	0.375
	-	6.5	1,000	0.16
NSALG	1,000	20	2,300	0.5
	-	8.7	1,000	0.21
University of Derby	-	7	1,000	0.175
	-	-	1,000	0.3

Proposed Standards

Quantity

- 6.15 The proposed quantity standards are based on a review of the existing quantity provision in the borough. The context of open space provision in the borough is a strong consideration in setting standards since the standards should be locally derived based on supply and demand; as well as consideration of the differing nature of the sub-areas across the borough.

Allotments and Community Gardens

- 6.16 The proposed standard is to retain the existing 0.07 ha per 1,000. There is no FiT benchmark standard for Allotments and Community Gardens, but the FiT survey to inform the Guidance states that the median level of provision across local authorities was 0.3 hectares per 1,000.

Amenity Greenspace

- 6.17 The proposed standard for Amenity Greenspace is to reduce the existing standard from 1.17ha per 1,000 population to 0.60 ha per 1,000 population. The proposed standard meets the national benchmark standard for this typology.

Cemeteries and Burial Grounds

- 6.18 There is no FiT benchmark standard, and no standard has been set for Cemeteries and Burial Grounds, because Cemeteries and Burial Ground provision cannot be quantified in this way as their provision is not led by the need for open space and recreation. It is acknowledged that they contribute to the overall open space provision of an area, hence their inclusion in the assessment.

Civic Space

- 6.19 There is no FiT benchmark standard and no standard has been set for Civil Space, because provision cannot be quantified in this way as their provision is not led by the need for open space and recreation, even though it is acknowledged that they contribute to the overall open space provision of an area, hence their inclusion in the assessment.

Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- 6.20 The proposed standard is to retain the existing standards of 6.00 ha per 1,000 population in urban areas, and 15.30 ha per 1,000 populations in rural areas. The standards are well above the FiT benchmark standard of 1.80 ha per 1,000 population however the Council has pledged to protect over 200 Green Guarantee spaces within Council's ownership from development. The Green Guarantee reflects the Council's commitment to the provision of locally accessible green spaces and to meeting the needs of local communities.

Outdoor Sports Facilities

- 6.21 The FiT standard for Outdoor Sports Facilities is 1.6 ha per 1,000. The proposed quantity standard for Outdoor Sports Facilities is to reduce the current standard slightly from 1.80 ha per 1,000 population to 1.6 ha per 1,000 population in line with the national benchmark.
- 6.22 The Playing Pitch Strategy 2016 identified some future deficiencies in football pitches, especially in areas of high housing growth. However, cricket, rugby union and rugby league pitches are currently meeting needs and AGP pitches have significant capacity, therefore when considering Outdoor Sports Facilities as a whole there is sufficient provision currently and in the future.

Parks and Gardens

- 6.23 The proposed standard for Parks and Gardens is 0.40 ha per 1,000 which is an increase from the existing standard of 0.07 ha per 1,000. The proposed standard is lower than the national benchmark standard of 0.8 ha per 1,000, however the national benchmark is not achievable across the borough, due to land capacity and capital costs, and would lead to a significant deficit. Applying the national benchmark results in a deficit borough-wide and across three of the sub-areas which is unlikely to be addressed through new provision on development sites due to the nature of this typology and the borough.
- 6.24 It is envisaged that with an increase in multi-functionality across a range of typologies, services provided within the core Park and Garden typology may be provided across other typologies.

Provision for Children

- 6.25 The proposed standard for Provision for Children is to retain the existing standard of 0.095 ha per 1,000. The benchmark standard for this typology is 0.25 ha per 1,000 population.

- 6.26 Feedback from key stakeholder consultation indicated that stakeholders would prefer to see the current provision improved rather than significant funding for new play provisions.

Provision for Teenagers and Young People

- 6.27 The proposed standard for Provision for Teenagers and Young people is to retain the existing standard of 0.04 ha per 1,000 population, which is lower than the benchmark standard of 0.05 ha per 1,000 population.
- 6.28 Feedback from the consultation indicated that stakeholders would prefer to see the current provision improved rather than significant funding for new play provisions.

Table 30: Proposed Quantity Standards for Telford & Wrekin

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	National Benchmark	Existing Standard (ha/1,000)	Proposed Standards (ha/1,000)
Allotments and Community Gardens	0.07	No Standard	0.07	0.07
Amenity Greenspace	1.16	0.60	1.17	0.60
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds *	0.24	No Standard	N/A	N/A
Civic Spaces	0.03	No Standard	N/A	N/A
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	12.13	1.80	6.00 (Urban) 15.30 (Rural)	6.00 (Urban) 15.30 (Rural)
Outdoor Sports Facilities	2.66	1.60	1.80	1.60
Parks and Gardens	0.62	0.80	0.07	0.40
Provisions for Children	0.06	0.25	0.095	0.095
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	0.03	0.25	0.04	0.04

*included for completeness

Surplus and Deficiencies by Quantity Standard

- 6.29 Table 31 compares the existing quantity provision against the proposed quantity standard for Telford & Wrekin Borough to show the surplus and deficiency for the current population 2021.

Table 31: Existing Quantity Provision against the Proposed Quantity Standard

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Surplus/Deficiency (ha) as at 2021
Allotments and Community Gardens	0.07	0.07	0.00
Amenity Greenspace	1.16	0.60	0.56
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds *	0.24	No Standard	N/A
Civic Spaces	0.03	No Standard	N/A
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	12.13	6.00 (Urban) 15.30 (Rural)	6.13 (Urban) -3.17 (Rural)
Outdoor Sports Facilities	2.66	1.60	1.06
Parks and Gardens	0.71	0.40	0.31
Provisions for Children and Young People	0.06	0.095	-0.035
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	0.03	0.04	-0.01
Total rounded to two decimal places	17.09	-	-

*included for completeness

- 6.30 Table 32 compares the future quantity provision against the proposed quantity standard for Telford & Wrekin Borough to show surplus and deficiency for the future projected population of 209,090 by 2040.
- 6.31 Surplus and deficiencies shown are correct at the time of publishing this Assessment. Interventions proposed from new development (either through providing new provision, or off-site contributions) will assist in addressing any deficiencies.

Table 32: Future Quantity Provision against the proposed standard

Open Space Typology	Future Provision (ha/1,000)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Surplus/Deficiency (ha) at 2040
Allotments and Community Gardens	0.06	0.07	-0.01
Amenity Greenspace	1.02	0.60	0.42
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds *	0.21	N/A	N/A
Civic Spaces	0.03	N/A	N/A
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	10.68	6.00 (Urban) 15.30 (Rural)	4.68 (Urban) -4.62 (Rural)
Outdoor Sports Facilities	2.34	1.60	0.74
Parks and Gardens	0.62	0.40	0.22
Provisions for Children and Young People	0.05	0.095	-0.04
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	0.02	0.04	-0.02
Total rounded to two decimal places	15.03		

*included for completeness

Accessibility

- 6.32 Accessibility Standards are summarised in Table 33.
- 6.33 No standard is proposed for Civic Space due to the nature of this typology being predominately urban. Applying an accessibility threshold to this typology leaves large gaps in provision which are not easily addressed through the creation of new spaces.

Table 33: Existing Accessibility Standards

Open Space Typology	National Benchmark Standard	Existing Accessibility Standard ¹⁹	Proposed Accessibility Standard
Allotments and Community Gardens	No Standard	15 minute walk (720m)	15 minute walk (720m)
Amenity Greenspace	10 mins walk (480m)	10 minute walk (480m)	10 minute walk (480m)
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds *	No Standard	None Set	None Set
Civic Spaces	No Standard	15 minute walk (720m) (urban) 15 minute drive (rural)	None set
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	15 mins walk (720m)	10 Minute walk (480m)	10 Minute walk (480m)
Outdoor Sports Facilities	1,200m	15 minute walk (720m) - Grass pitches, tennis courts, bowling greens. 20 minute drive - Synthetic turf pitches, golf courses, athletics tracks	15 minute walk (720m)
Parks and Gardens	15 mins walk (710m)	15 minute walk (720m) – urban 20 minute drive time - rural	15 minute walk (720m)

¹⁹ [Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

Open Space Typology	National Benchmark Standard	Existing Accessibility Standard ¹⁹	Proposed Accessibility Standard
Provision for Children and Young People	LAP - 100m (2-3 mins walk) LEAP - 400m (5 mins walk) NEAP - 1000m (20 mins walk)	10 minute walk (480m)	LAP - 100m LEAP - 400m NEAP - 1,000m
Provision for Teenagers and Young People	NEAP - 1000m (20 mins walk)	10 minute walk (480m)	NEAP - 1,000m

*included for completeness

Quality

- 6.34 The proposed quality standard for open space across the borough is based on the Green Flag Award criteria (used to complete the quality audits). A Green Flag would be awarded to a site which passes a full assessment award criteria which is based on official standards set and recognised in the United Kingdom and internationally.
- 6.35 The Green Flag Award Raising the Standard manual has eight sections of assessment, however for the purposes of the Telford & Wrekin PROS Needs Assessment, Section 1: A Welcoming Place, Section 2: Healthy, Safe and Secure and Section 3: Well Maintained, were used to audit each site and assess each open space typology. The assessment criteria selected is appropriate to apply to all typologies of open space.
- 6.36 The bandings for the quality audits are as follows:
- Excellent - 90% to 100%
 - Very Good - 80% to 89%
 - Good - 70% to 79%
 - Fair - 50% to 69%
 - Poor - 0% to 49%
- 6.37 There is no existing quality open space standard, however the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (2008) does state *"the majority of recommended enhancements to the open space network focus on improvements to the quality of open spaces, ensuring that provision better meets the needs of local residents, without compromising the overall character of the town"*.

The proposed quality standard of 80% ensures that all sites achieve at least a Very Good quality score.

- 6.38 The national benchmark standards and proposed standards for Telford & Wrekin Borough are set out in Table 34. Outdoor Sports Facilities have not been assessed for quality as they do not readily fit within the Green Flag Award criteria due to types of facilities provided and are considered separately in the Playing Pitch Strategy.

Table 34: Existing and Proposed Quality Standard

Open Space Typology	National Benchmark Standard	Proposed Standard
Parks and Gardens	Parks to be of Green Flag status.	The national benchmark based on the Green Flag Award should be applied so that sites obtain a Quality Score of 80% to ensure all sites achieve a Very Good Quality Score or above.
Amenity Greenspace	Appropriately landscaped. Positive management.	
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Provision of footpaths. Designed to be free of the fear of harm or crime.	
Allotments and Community Gardens	No standard in the guidance, but it can be assumed the same standards as above apply to other types of green space.	
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds		
Civic Space	No standard in the guidance, but it can be assumed the same standards as above apply to other types of green space.	
Provision for Children	Quality appropriate to the intended level of performance, designed to appropriate technical standards. Located where they are of most value to the community to be served.	
Provision for Teenagers and Young People		

Value

- 6.39 Value was not assessed in the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (2008). The proposed value stand for open space in borough is based on Assessing needs and opportunities: a companion guide to PPG17 (September 2002).

6.40 The bandings for the open space value audits are as follows:

- High - 60 to 100%
- Medium - 40 to 59%
- Low - 0 to 39%

The proposed Value Standard of 60% ensures that all sites achieve a High value score.

6.41 Adding value to open space is very important as it enables them to provide more ecosystem services and the benefits that can be derived from them. Value can be added in a multitude of ways to draw out their contextual, heritage, local amenity/ sense of place, recreation, play and ecological value.

Table 35: Value Standards for Telford & Wrekin Borough by Open Space Typology

Open Space Typology	Proposed Standard
Parks and Gardens	Sites obtain a Value score of 60% and above to ensure all sites achieve a High Value score.
Amenity Greenspace	
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	
Allotments and Community Gardens	
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	
Civic Space	
Provision for Children and Young People	

7.0 Applying Standards

- 7.1 This chapter analyses the PROS provision in each of the four sub-areas across the borough. This includes details on each open space typologies including quantity, quality and accessibility. Considering the existing provision against the individual characteristics of each sub-area, including the socio-economic factors, will help inform the most appropriate means of future open space provision. Whilst analysis at a sub-area level provides a level of detail to help decision making, it is not the intention that each sub-area should have equal provision due to differences in population.

1 - Telford North

Sub-Area Analysis

- 7.2 The Telford North Sub-Area comprises the built-up area within Telford and includes the M54. Telford North is mostly residential development with the Hortonwood Industrial Estate to the north east of the settlement boundary. The Green Flag Award Hartshill Park is at the centre of Telford North, which provides a wide range of recreational facilities, and links to a wider network of Amenity Greenspace and Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace.
- 7.3 The estimated population of Telford North as at 2021 is 80,140.
- 7.4 G9039.011 shows open space typologies across the Telford North sub-area.
- 7.5 There are 332 open spaces in the Telford North sub-area across all typologies.
- 7.6 Table 36 shows a breakdown of current and future provision by typology in Telford North sub-area as well as any surplus and deficiencies.

Table 36: Telford North Open Space Provision by Typology

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	2040 Provision (ha/1,000)
Allotments and Community Gardens	4.47	0.07	0.06	0.05
Amenity Greenspace	120.70	0.60	1.51	1.39
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	17.30	No Standard	0.22	0.20
Civic Spaces	1.32	No Standard	0.02	0.02

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	2040 Provision (ha/1,000)
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	370.44	6.00	4.62	4.26
Outdoor Sports Facilities	136.19	1.60	1.70	1.57
Parks and Gardens	4.57	0.40	0.06	0.05
Provision for Children and Young People	4.04	0.095	0.05	0.05
Provision for Teenagers and Young People	1.45	0.04	0.02	0.02

Accessibility Analysis

- 7.7 The Telford North sub-area has good accessibility to Amenity Greenspace, Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Outdoor Sports Facilities and Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People.
- 7.8 Access to Allotments and Community Gardens, and Parks and Garden is limited in Telford North however when assessed with other open space typologies there is good coverage across the residential areas of North Telford.

Quality Analysis

- 7.9 G9039.021.2 shows each open space and the Quality score from the open space audits.
- 7.10 Most sites within the Telford North sub-area were scored Excellent (57) and Very Good (44). 31 sites achieved a Good quality score, 13 sites were Fair and 2 sites were Poor.
- 7.11 A summary of quality audit results for the sub area can be found in Appendix D.

Value Analysis

- 7.12 G9039.022.2 shows each open space and the Value score from the open space audits.

7.13 Open space with the Telford North sub-area ranged from Low to High Value. 122 sites in the Telford North sub-area had a Low Value. Constable Drive Amenity Greenspace and Leeses Close Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace have the highest value score due to the important contribution to open space within an urban area.

7.14 A summary of value results can be found in Appendix D.

Future Provision

7.15 Table 37 below shows the current and future provision for each open space typology within the Telford North sub-area. There is a population trajectory in the Telford North sub-area of **86,889 population by 2040**.

Table 37: Telford North Sub-Area Open Space Provision Current and Future

Open Space Typology	Current (2021) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)	Future (by 2040) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)
Allotments and Community Gardens	-0.01	-0.02
Amenity Greenspace	0.91	0.79
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	-	-
Civic Spaces	-	-
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	-1.38	-1.74
Outdoor Sports Facilities	0.10	-0.03
Parks and Gardens	-0.34	-0.35
Provision for Children	-0.04	-0.05
Provision for Teenagers and Young People	-0.02	-0.02

2 - Telford South

Sub-Area Analysis

7.16 The Telford South sub-area comprises of Telford to the south of the M54, including Telford Town Centre, Stafford Park Industrial Estate to the southeast of the M54 and Halesfield Industrial Park to the southeast. Telford Town Park and Dawley Park are both Green Flag Award Parks in Telford South, which provide a range of recreational opportunities and link to a network of other open space typologies present across Telford South.

- 7.17 There is a population of 69,049 in 2021, which rises to 87,234 in 2040. This equates to 12.62 ha per 1,000 of open space in 2021 and 9.99 ha per 1,000 of open space in 2040. Telford South is due to see the highest increase in population up to 2040 across the four sub-areas.
- 7.18 Map G9039.011.1-30 shows open space typologies across the Telford South sub-area. There are a total of 287 sites in Telford south providing 871.71ha of open space.
- 7.19 Table 38 shows a breakdown of current and future provision by typology in Telford South sub-area as well as any surplus and deficiencies.

Table 38: Telford South Open Space Provision by Typology

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	2040 Provision (ha/1,000)
Allotments and Community Gardens	3.07	0.07	0.04	0.04
Amenity Greenspace	76.58	0.60	1.11	0.88
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	6.03	No Standard	0.09	0.07
Civic Spaces	4.78	No Standard	0.07	0.05
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	618.62	6.00 (Urban)	8.96	7.09
Outdoor Sports Facilities	103.64	1.60	1.50	1.19
Parks and Gardens	52.48	0.40	0.76	0.60
Provisions for Children	4.17	0.095	0.06	0.05
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	2.33	0.04	0.03	0.03

Accessibility Analysis

- 7.20 The Telford South sub-area has good accessibility to Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Amenity Greenspace, Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People.
- 7.21 There is little access to Allotments and Parks and Gardens. However, when combined with other open space typologies there is good coverage across the residential areas of Telford South.

Quality Analysis

- 7.22 G9039.021.3 shows each open space and the Quality score from the open space audits.
- 7.23 Many sites within the Telford South sub-area were scored Excellent (46) and Very Good (46). 19 sites were scored Good, 18 sites Fair and 7 sites Poor.
- 7.24 21 Natural and Semi-Natural sites achieved an Excellent Quality score.

Value Analysis

- 7.25 Map G9039.022.3 shows each open space and the Value score within the Telford South sub-area.
- 7.26 Open space within the Telford South sub-area ranged from Low to High Value. 106 sites were scored Low Value. Holywell Meadow Park and Garden achieved the highest value score of 63% due to the open space being key to creating a sense of place, providing opportunities to connect with nature and providing community recreational activities. Town Park North (Parks and Gardens) achieved the second highest value score in Telford South 59%.
- 7.27 A summary of value results can be found in Appendix D.

Future Provision

- 7.28 Table 39 below shows the current and future provision for each open space typology within the Telford South sub-area. There is a population trajectory of **87,234 population by 2040**.

Table 39: Telford South Sub-Area Open Space Provision Current and Future

Open Space Typology	Current (2021) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)	Future (by 2040) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)
Allotments	-0.03	-0.03
Amenity Greenspace	0.51	0.28
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	-	-
Civic Spaces	-	-

Open Space Typology	Current (2021) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)	Future (by 2040) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	2.96	1.09
Outdoor Sports Facilities	-0.10	-0.41
Parks and Gardens	0.36	0.20
Provision for Children	-0.03	-0.05
Provision for Teenagers and Young People	-0.01	-0.01

3 - Rural

Sub-Area Analysis

- 7.29 The Rural sub-area comprises areas of the borough outside of the Telford and Newport settlement boundaries. Dale End Park achieved a Green Flag Award in 2022.
- 7.30 There is a population of 23,470 in 2021, which declines up to 2040 to 21,013 due to an aging population. This equates to 67.59 ha per 1,000 of open space in 2021 and 75.49 ha per 1,000 of open space in 2040.
- 7.31 G9039.011.1-30 shows open space typologies across the Rural sub-area. There are 155 open space sites in the sub-area providing 1586.26 ha of open space.
- 7.32 Table 40 shows a breakdown of current and future provision by typology in Rural sub-area as well as any surplus and deficiencies.

Table 40: Rural Open Space Provision by Typology

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	2040 Provision (ha/1,000)
Allotments	3.83	0.07	0.16	0.18
Amenity Greenspace	11.42	0.60	0.49	0.54
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	17.63	No Standard	0.75	0.84
Civic Spaces	0.31	No Standard	0.01	0.01

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	2040 Provision (ha/1,000)
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	1240.83	15.30	52.87	59.05
Outdoor Sports Facilities	236.76	1.60	10.09	11.27
Parks and Gardens	73.01	0.40	3.11	3.47
Provisions for Children	1.85	0.095	0.08	0.09
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	0.62	0.04	0.03	0.03

Accessibility Analysis

- 7.33 The Rural sub-area has generally poor accessibility to all open space typologies, however this is expected due its rural nature. There is a significant amount of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in the south west of the Rural sub-area, to the west of Telford North and Telford South.

Quality Analysis

- 7.34 Maps G9039.021.1-4 shows each open space and the Quality score from the open space audits.
- 7.35 Most sites in the Rural area scored Very Good (28) and Excellent quality (25). 12 sites achieved a Good quality score and 3 sites Fair.

Value Analysis

- 7.36 Maps G9039.022.1-4 shows each open space and the Value score from the open space audits.
- 7.37 Open space with the Rural sub-area ranged from Low to High Value. Hillside NSN and Constable Drive ASG achieved the highest value score due to creating a sense of place and contributing to the attractiveness of the area.
- 7.38 A summary of value results can be found in Appendix D.

Future Provision

- 7.39 Table 41 below shows the current and future provision for each open space typology within the Rural sub-area. There is a population trajectory of **21,013 population by 2040**.

Table 41: Rural Sub-Area Open Space Provision Current and Future

Open Space Typology	Current (2021) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)	Future (by 2040) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)
Allotments	0.09	0.11
Amenity Greenspace	-0.11	-0.06
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	-	-
Civic Spaces	-	-
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	37.57	43.75
Outdoor Sports Facilities	8.49	9.67
Parks and Gardens	2.71	3.07
Provision for Children and Young People	-0.02	-0.01
Provision for Teenagers and Young People	-0.01	-0.01

4 - Newport

Sub-Area Analysis

- 7.40 The Newport sub-area comprises of Newport town, which is located to the north east of the borough. There are no Green Flag Award Parks in the Newport sub-area.
- 7.41 There is a population of 12,942 in 2021, which increases to 2040 to 15,665. This equates to 4.06 ha per 1,000 of open space in 2021 and 3.36 ha per 1,000 of open space in 2040.
- 7.42 Maps G9039.011.1-30 shows open space typologies across the Newport sub-area. There are a total of 47 open spaces sites in the Newport sub-area providing 52.60ha of open space.
- 7.43 Table 42 shows a breakdown of current and future provision by typology in the Newport sub-area as well as any surplus and deficiencies.

Table 42: Newport Open Space Provision by Typology

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	2040 Provision (ha/1,000)
Allotments	1.01	0.07	0.08	0.06
Amenity Greenspace	6.10	0.60	0.47	0.39
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	3.85	No Standard	0.30	0.25
Civic Spaces	0.00	No Standard	0.00	0.00
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	21.82	6.00 (Urban)	1.69	1.39
Outdoor Sports Facilities	16.33	1.60	1.26	1.04
Parks and Gardens	1.46	0.40	0.11	0.09
Provisions for Children	1.43	0.095	0.11	0.09
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	0.59	0.04	0.05	0.04

Accessibility Analysis

- 7.44 The Newport sub-area has generally good accessibility to Parks and Gardens, Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Allotments Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People.
- 7.45 There are gaps in Amenity Greenspace provision to the east of the town and there are no Civic Spaces.

Quality Analysis

- 7.46 Map G9039.021.4 shows each open space and the Quality score from the open space audits.

- 7.47 Most sites in the Newport area scored Very Good (11) and Excellent quality (7). 6 sites achieved a Good quality score, 3 a Fair score and 1 a poor score. The Catholic Church of SS Peter and Paul achieved the highest quality score of 96%.

Value Analysis

- 7.48 Map G9039.022.4 shows each open space and the Value score from the open space audits.
- 7.49 Open spaces in the Newport sub-area ranged from Low to High Value. 19 sites achieved a low value score, 2 a medium value score and 6 a high value. The highest value sites were Norbroom Park NSN, Newport General Cemetery and Waterlane Park (73%).
- 7.50 A summary of value results can be found in Appendix D.

Future Provision

- 7.51 Table 43 below shows the current and future provision for each open space typology within the Newport sub-area. There is a population trajectory of **15,665 population by 2040**

Table 43: Newport Sub-Area Open Space Provision Current and Future

Open Space Typology	Current (2021) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)	Future (by 2040) Surplus/Deficiency (ha/1,000)
Allotments	0.01	-0.01
Amenity Greenspace	-0.13	-0.21
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	-	-
Civic Spaces	-	-
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	-4.31	-4.61
Outdoor Sports Facilities	-0.34	-0.56
Parks and Gardens	-0.29	-0.31
Provisions for Children and Young People	0.02	0.00
Provisions for Teenagers and Young People	0.01	0.00

8.0 Recommendations

Adopt the Recommended Standards

- 8.1 This Play, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment is in line with the NPPF (2021) and PPG for Open Space, which have replaced PPG 17: Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation (2002) and its Companion Guide, Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A companion guide to PPG 17 (2002). Whilst the Companion Guide to PPG17 has been superseded, the principles and approach within this guidance have not been replaced and remain relevant.
- 8.2 This PROS Needs Assessment has reviewed local open space provision in the Telford & Wrekin Borough, including the quantity, accessibility, quality and value.
- 8.3 This PROS Needs Assessment has resulted in recommendations for standards which are robust and can form a basis for addressing any deficiencies resulting from proposed development and population increase.
- 8.4 It is recommended that the proposed standards are adopted by the Council to support the delivery and implementation of Local Plan policies to 2040.

Protected and Designated Open Space

- 8.5 Local Plan, Policy NE 1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity, states that biodiversity and geodiversity assets will be protected, maintained, and enhanced. The Council will seek positive improvements to the quality of the natural environment through sustainable development which will result in net gains for biodiversity across the borough.
- 8.6 The Council has also pledged to protect over 300²⁰ Green Guarantee spaces within Council's ownership from development. The Green Guarantee reflects the Council's commitment to the provision of locally accessible green spaces and to meeting the needs of local communities. Green Guarantee spaces should continue to be protected and enhanced.
- 8.7 If development is proposed for a designated open space then an assessment should be undertaken, which clearly shows the open space surplus to requirements; or the loss would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in a suitable location; or the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, as per National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021), paragraph 99.

Standards and New Development

- 8.8 The Telford and Wrekin Council, Local Plan (2011-2031) emphasises the importance of GI as a component of sustainable communities; it provides a range of functions including climate change mitigation, recreation, biodiversity, flood water storage, an appreciation of the historic environment and benefits for health and well-being.

²⁰ [Green Guarantee - Green Guarantee - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

- 8.9 There is a growing emphasis on open space to help tackle climate change, create flood risk resilience, reverse biodiversity decline and provide many health and wellbeing benefits for the immediate and wider community. Furthermore new development is required to provide measurable net gain for biodiversity under the NPPF (paragraph 174) and the Natural Environment PPG. All new development of more than 10 dwellings should continue to provide new open space regardless of deficiencies.
- 8.10 The results of this PROS Needs Assessment and associated Developer Contributions Strategy should be used to identify which typology(ies) should be included as part of new development. Through stakeholder consultation and discussions with Council officers it is recommended that a mixture of all typologies should be encouraged as part of larger residential development schemes (coming forward. On smaller residential developments (10-199) open space typologies including Amenity Greenspace, Parks and Gardens, Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People should be provided.
- 8.11 Any new development with open space should be publicly accessible rather than private gated communities (where possible). The quality and accessibility of new open spaces should be considered early in the design and decision-making process to ensure a rich network of accessible open spaces for all residents.
- 8.12 Funding through planning obligations should be used to improve the quality and value of open space such as Amenity Greenspace, Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Parks and Gardens, Provision for Children and Young People and Provision for Teenagers and Young People. A separate Developer Contributions Strategy has been developed and is supported by evidence in this PROS Needs Assessment.

Open Space Guidance Documents

Public Recreation and Open Space

- 8.13 A basic design guide for open space is provided at Appendix E.
- 8.14 A guidance document could be published to outline the open space requirements of new developments to:
- protect, replace or enhance open spaces impacted by development proposals;
 - Implement standards proposed in this PROS Needs Assessment and Developer Contribution Strategy; and
 - Review local open space provision in regard to the increase in population.

Developer Contribution

- 8.15 A separate Developer Contributions Strategy has been developed and is supported by evidence in this PROS Needs Assessment. The Strategy outlines the approach the Council will take to secure developer contributions in relation to open space.

Multi-functional Open Space

- 8.16 Local Plan (2011-2031), Policy NE1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity and NE 3 Existing Public Open Space states that the Council will seek positive improvements and enhancements for public open space, which would improve the quality and value of existing open space typologies across the borough. Wherever possible, the Council should look to open spaces to deliver multiple functions, including:
- Tree planting;
 - Recreation;
 - Green travel route;
 - Aesthetic;
 - Shading from the sun;
 - Evaporative cooling;
 - Trapping air pollutants;
 - Noise absorption;
 - Habitat for wildlife;
 - Connectivity for wildlife;
 - Heritage;
 - Cultural;
 - Carbon storage;
 - Food production;
 - Wind shelter;
 - Education;
 - Water storage;
 - Water infiltration; and
 - Water interception.
- 8.17 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) of 10% for all new development came into legal effect through the Environment Act (2021)²¹. BNG is an approach to development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before. BNG should be encouraged through the planning process to increase multi-functionality of open space and reverse biodiversity decline.

Long-Term Management of Open Spaces for New Development

Application of Standards

- 8.18 It is recommended that the proposed standards are adopted as policy, as part of the updated Local Plan to 2040. New development should use the standards outlined in this document to integrate well designed, quality open space which are accessible for all communities, taking into consideration different age groups, abilities, ethnicities, and gender.

²¹ There is no date for this to be mandatory at the time of writing this Assessment.

Management of Open Space

- 8.19 The Local Plan (2011-2031), Policy NE 5 Management and Maintenance of Public Space, sets out the Council's expectations of management and maintenance of public space. There is a requirement that where applicable, major development proposals will provide sufficient management and/or financial provision for the future management and maintenance of new and existing public open space which forms part of, or is created by, a development.
- 8.20 A Landscape Management Plan is essential for the long-term management of open space and should be produced prior to the transfer of open space in agreement with the Council and not amended without prior written approval by the Council. A Landscape Management Plan should provide the following minimum information for the period of at least 30 years:
- Desktop review of the site including context, designations and history;
 - Site specific information including management considerations including ecology, arboriculture and public rights of way;
 - Aims and objective for the management of the Site;
 - Management organisation who will be responsible for the open space post practical completion;
 - Management operations for soft landscaping, hard landscaping including repair/replacement when damaged/broken and site cleansing;
 - Consideration of safety and specialist inspections i.e. play area ROSPA inspections;
 - Funding of long-term maintenance of the Site in perpetuity; and
 - Procedure of review and monitoring of the open space and the Landscape Management Plan.
- 8.21 A Landscape Management Plan should be supported with a schedule setting out management operations, frequency and times of year.
- 8.22 Developers should confirm who will be responsible for the management of open space in agreement with the Council. This will be secured through a planning condition or a Section 106 Agreement. It is also the developer's responsibility to inform buyers of new properties of the requirement to pay for an annual maintenance contribution (service charge/estate fee).
- 8.23 Once open space has been transferred to a management organisation, the Council or other organisation it is no longer the developer's responsibility to manage the open space. Any costs or other resident commitments in relation to the management of open space on new developments (e.g. service charge) should also be flagged by the appointed solicitor during the conveyancing process to residents.
- 8.24 Where the management organisation or other managing body does not adhere to the maintenance objectives and operations outlined in the Landscape Management Plan, issues should be escalated with the relevant organisation.

APPENDIX A: POLICY CONTEXT

APPENDIX A - TELFORD AND WREKIN LOCAL POLICY CONTEXT

Telford and Wrekin Local Plan (2011-2031)

- 1.1 The Telford and Wrekin Local Plan was adopted in January 2018. The purpose of the Local Plan is to explain what type of place the Borough of Telford & Wrekin is, the type of place they aspire to be in the future and to provide a framework to help manage change and development until 2031.
- 1.2 The vision for the Borough is:
- By 2031, Telford & Wrekin will be a healthier, more prosperous and better connected place;
 - It will have a population of approximately 202,500 people;
 - Sustainable development will be focused in Telford and Newport;
 - Communities in the rural and urban area will be supported;
 - The environment and community green spaces will be protected and enhanced; and
 - New development and inward investment will provide a high quality of life for all those who live and work in and visit the area.
- 1.3 The aims for the Borough are:
- Aim 1: Promote prosperity and opportunity for everyone;
 - Aim 2: Meet local housing needs and aspirations;
 - Aim3: Harness the borough's natural environment;
 - Aim 4: Promote socially cohesive, healthy and active communities;
 - Aim 5: Enhance the infrastructure (including GI) for improved access and communication;
 - Aim 6: Value the cultural and heritage assets; and
 - Aim 7: Reduce the environmental impact of new development.
- 1.4 A key challenge for the borough is balancing appropriate land for a growing population and the Local Plan 2011-2031 sets out a housing requirement of approximately 17,280 new homes and an associated amount of employment land of at least 76 hectares. In apportioning where new development should go there are three distinct parts of the borough. These are: Telford; Newport; and the rural area.
- **Telford** - Home to 86% of the borough's population and the majority of new investment will be directed towards the Telford urban area to exploit its infrastructure strengths, housing delivery up to 2031 is 14,950;
 - **Newport** - Home to 8% of the borough's population and comprises a historic market town with close associations with Harper Adams University. Some new investment will be direct to Newport to help support its role as a growing market town to facilitate opportunities. Housing delivery up to 2031 is 1,330; and
 - **Rural areas** - Home to 6% of the borough's population and is sparsely populated with limited infrastructure. Development is restricted in open

countryside and new investment is to be proposed in areas with access to services and other infrastructure. Housing delivery up to 2031 is 1,000 and the Council will support development in the rural area where it addresses the needs of rural communities. Development is directed to the reuse of previously developed land and to settlements with good infrastructure.

Tourism

- 1.5 Policy EC 5 Telford Town Centre states that within Telford Town Park the Council will protect and enhance the park's recreation and leisure used together with its qualities and character.
- 1.6 Policy EC 11 Improving links to tourist destinations, encourages development which will enhance the connectivity between Telford Town Centre and Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site via Telford Town Park and improve accessibility between Telford Town Centre and Telford Central railway station.
- 1.7 Policy EC 12 Leisure, cultural and tourism development, states that new cultural, tourism and leisure activities will be supported if they are accessible, provide high quality public realm and are well connected. Furthermore the Council will safeguard the alignment of the Shrewsbury and Newport Canal with a long term re-establishment as navigable waterway.

Housing

- 1.8 Policy HO 1 Housing Requirement, states that the Council is planning for approximately **17,280** net dwellings up to 2031.
- 1.9 Policy HO 2 Housing Site Allocations, provides details for the Priorslee Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) (Site H1), which will provide a range of uses including housing, open space, employment, local services and facilities, and other supporting infrastructure necessary to ensure the delivery of sustainable places. The development will be required to provide extensive green infrastructure to address the site's sensitive interface with the open countryside and protection, maintenance and enhancement of known ecological assets.

Natural Environment, Green Infrastructure and Open Space

- 1.10 The borough has a varied and rich natural environment comprising nationally and locally designated sites for biodiversity and geodiversity. It also has extensive areas of natural and semi-natural habitats and a rich variety of urban open spaces providing public amenity, access, recreation, sport and play, and safe havens for wildlife.
- 1.11 Furthermore, GI is an important component of sustainable communities; it provides a range of functions including climate change mitigation, recreation, biodiversity, flood water storage, an appreciation of the historic environment and benefits for health and wellbeing.

- 1.12 The Council has pledged to protect over 300 Green Guarantee spaces within its ownership from development. The Green Guarantee reflects the Council's commitment to the provision of locally accessible green spaces and to meeting the needs of local communities. Around 200 sites have now been protected as part of the Green Guarantee.
- 1.13 Policy NE 1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity, states that biodiversity and geodiversity assets will be protected, maintained and enhanced. The Council will seek positive improvements to the quality of the natural environment through sustainable development which will result in net gains for biodiversity across the borough.
- 1.14 Policy NE 2 Trees, Hedgerows and Woodlands, states that the Council expects existing trees, hedgerows and woodland with biodiversity value, visual amenity value and landscape value to be retained, protected and appropriately managed. Aged and veteran trees, ancient woodland and important hedgerows will be valued and protected.
- 1.15 With regards to existing public open space, Policy NE 3 Existing Public Open Space, states that the Council will protect, maintain and enhance the provision of formal and informal sports and recreation facilities and public open space, including locally important incidental open spaces, throughout the borough.
- 1.16 The Council will only support development which involves the loss or harm of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the following circumstances:
- i. Where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will provide a replacement facility to an equal or improved standard in a suitable alternative location; or
 - ii. Where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will provide appropriate areas of public open space to replace that being lost; or
 - iii. Where the proposal can secure other wider benefits which outweigh the disadvantages of the loss of such open space; or
 - iv. Where appropriate mitigation measures are provided to compensate for the impact upon existing provision.
- 1.17 Policy NE 4 Provision of Public Open Space, requires major development to provide and/or contribute to the provision of multi-functional open space which serves and meets the needs of the development as well as local and wider needs.
- 1.18 The Council will require development to provide:
- i. On-site provision which meets local needs for open space, sport and play;
 - ii. Off-site contributions instead of on site-contribution where it can be demonstrated that on-site provision is not feasible or viable;
 - iii. Contributions towards the enhancement and creation of new areas of open space and/or sports facilities where a local deficiency has been identified and/or where the development will lead to a deficiency;
 - iv. Open space in the most accessible possible locations;
 - v. Play and recreation spaces for children and young people; and
 - vi. Agreements to secure and long-term community use of school and private sports facilities.

- 1.19 Policy NE 5 Management and Maintenance of Public Space, sets out the Council's expectations of management and maintenance of public space. There is a requirement that where applicable, major development proposals will provide sufficient management and/or financial provision for the future management and maintenance of new and existing public open space which forms part of, or is created by a development.
- 1.20 The Green Network concept was developed through the superseded Telford Local Plan (1991) and Wrekin Local Plan (2000) and has been effective and significant in protecting green space and shaping the appearance of the town.
- 1.21 Policy NE 6 Green Network, states that the Council will protect, maintain, enhance and, where possible, extend the Green Network. New development within the Green Network will only be supported where it identifies, protects and enhances the Green Network and its functions. Where adverse impacts are identified, development will need to demonstrate that the benefits of the development outweigh any adverse impacts on the Green Network and its functions.

Community

- 1.22 Policy COM 1 Community Facilities, states that development will be expected to preserve existing community facilities and sustain, enhance and provide new social infrastructure to meet demand arising from new development.
- 1.23 Policy COM 2 Culture, states that the Council will support development that helps sustain and create cultural facilities and opportunities including places of worship, that help people who live in the borough to develop a sense of belonging, to value the cultural diversity and local heritage.

Connections

- 1.24 Policy C 1 Promoting Alternatives to the Car, states that the Council will require (where applicable) for new major development to enhance local and strategic walking and cycling routes, that enable residents or employees to access wider walking and cycling networks.

Heritage

- 1.25 The Ironbridge Gorge UNESCO World Heritage Site was one of the first World Heritage Sites in the UK, in recognition of its role as the birthplace of the industrial revolution and its unique landscape. Policy BE 3 Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, states that the site will be protected and enhanced.
- 1.26 The borough currently has three sites identified on the Historic England Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest Register (Chetwynd Park, Lilleshall Hall and Orleton Hall), designated under the National Heritage Act 1983. Policy BE 7 Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest, states that the borough's historic parks and gardens, and their associated features and settings are preserved and enhanced.

Neighbourhood Plans¹

- 1.27 Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. The Localism Act (2011) introduced new provisions where parish and town councils from across Telford & Wrekin can prepare a Neighbourhood Plans.
- 1.28 There are seven made Neighbourhood Development Plans: Donnington and Muxton, Edgmond, Lilleshall, Madeley, Newport, Tibberton and Cherrington and Waters Upton. These form a statutory part of the decision making process for planning applications in the borough.
- 1.29 Two further areas are preparing Neighbourhood Plans: Ercall Magna and Stirchley and Brookside.

Donnington and Muxton Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2031

- 1.30 Donnington and Muxton is located 4.5km north east of Telford. The parish forms the urban boundary of Telford and extends into open countryside to the north.
- 1.31 The vision is *"seeking to achieve a Neighbourhood Plan that provides a high-quality environment, protects the well-being of residents and retains the character and identity of both the urban and rural parts of Donnington and Muxton"*.
- 1.32 The objectives for local amenity and green space are:
- To protect and where possible enhance existing open spaces;
 - To provide new green spaces within development and improve the linkage between them; and
 - *Provide new and accessible green spaces as set out in "Fields in Trust Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play"*.

- 1.33 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Edgmond Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2031

- 1.34 Edgmond is located 1.6km north west of Newport and 6.5km north of Telford. Edgmond is set in a predominantly rural landscape, with Edgmond village and several hamlets.
- 1.35 The vision is *"To shape the future of Edgmond, by retaining and enhancing its open rural character and historic identity and by strengthening the resilience of the community and improving quality of life for residents to create a safe, welcoming, neighbourly place to live, work and visit"*.
- 1.36 The objectives for local amenity and green space are:
- To protect and enhance green areas, natural habitat, wildlife and biodiversity in and around the village and to encourage appropriate management;

¹ [Neighbourhood planning - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

- To respect the Conservation Area and support sympathetic design to protect and enhance the Conservation Area for the benefit of the entire community; and
- To conserve local open spaces by protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and recreational areas of value to the community whilst ensuring the village retains its rural character.

1.37 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan 2018-2031

1.38 Lilleshall is located 4km south west of Newport and 9.8km to the north east of Telford.

1.39 The vision is *"to continue to thrive as a vibrant and distinctive place, to continue to respect and reflect the views of its community, to evolve while retaining its rural character and identity and to protect and enhance the natural and built environment for the benefit of everyone"*.

1.40 The objectives for the local environment are:

- To protect and enhance the environment and landscapes such as the parish's designated and non-designated heritage assets, in particular the Strategic Landscape Areas; and
- To protect and enhance green areas, natural habitats, wildlife and biodiversity throughout the Parish and to encourage appropriate management in particular of the disused limestone quarries.

1.41 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Madeley Neighbourhood Plan (March 2015)

1.42 Madeley is a historic settlement surrounded by later development. The objectives for green space and public space are:

- To deliver an excellent network of high quality and private open spaces;
- To develop and enhance the green infrastructure provision within the plan area, recognising its contribution towards the wider green infrastructure network in Telford;
- To ensure that important open spaces, such as Rough Park and Madeley Park, are designated as local green spaces;
- To protect and enhance local play areas; and
- To protect and enhance the proposed local nature reserves.

1.43 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Newport Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2031

1.44 Newport is approximately 9km north west of Telford and is one of the key growth areas in the borough.

1.45 The vision is of the Neighbourhood Plan is to:

- Protect and conserve the Town's historic character and heritage;
- Conserve and complement the natural environment;
- Support the local economy and job opportunities;
- Protect and enhance green and open spaces;
- Recognise the areas of flood risk, mineral safe guarding areas, and protect the areas of agricultural land surrounding Newport;
- Encourage sustainable transport and accessibility; and
- Support community wellbeing.

- 1.46 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Tibberton and Cherrington Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2031

- 1.47 Tibberton and Cherrington parish is located 7.7km west of Newport and 17.7km north of Telford. The Parish comprises two settlements including Tibberton village and the hamlet of Cherrington.

- 1.48 The vision of the Neighbourhood Plan is to *"help shape the future of Tibberton and Cherrington by enabling the community to have a positive involvement in where and how development should take place; working to retain and enhance the Parish's open rural character and historic identity; and by contributing to maintaining the Parish as an attractive, safe, secure and low crime environment to live, work and visit.*

- 1.49 The objectives for green space and public space are:

- To conserve and enhance local open spaces by protecting and enhancing existing green spaces and recreational areas of value to the community whilst ensuring the Parish retains its rural character;
- To protect and enhance green areas, natural habitat, wildlife and biodiversity in and around the Parish; to encourage appropriate management and limit pollution and damage to the environment; and
- To protect and enhance features of significant nature conservation or landscape value.

- 1.50 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Waters Upton Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016)

- 1.51 The area of Waters Upton is located approximately 10km north east of Telford. Waters Upton Parish contains several historic settlements and a scattering of individual farms and dwellings

- 1.52 The objectives for green areas and public spaces are:

- To protect, maintain and enhance visually valuable green areas within villages which offer benefits to health, wellbeing and local ecology;
- To protect, maintain and enhance existing formal and informal sports and recreational facilities which encourage outdoor activities and promote life-long fitness; and

- To protect Public Rights of Way and maintain Stiles and Way-markers which enable communities and visitors to appreciate the rural area.

1.53 The Neighbourhood Plan broadly supports the protection, enhancement and maintenance of green space, biodiversity and nature conservation.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)

1.54 There are three SPD's which provide further details to policies set out in the Local Plan 2011-2031. Telecommunications SPD and Shop Fronts, Signage and Design Guidance in Conservation Areas SPD is not relevant to this study, however details of Design for Community Safety SPD have been reviewed with regards to open space below.

Design for Community Safety SPD (July 2008)

1.55 The Design for Community Safety SPD promotes natural surveillance from neighbouring properties, gateway features kept clear and ensure railings to maintain visibility in and out of open space.

1.56 Public access to watercourses and other bodies to increase natural surveillance and safe enjoyable use should be promoted in designs.

1.57 Open space play facilities should be maintained to a good standard to avoid the impression that nobody cares in the area.



HEAD OFFICE

Genesis Centre,
Birchwood Science Park,
Warrington
WA3 7BH

Tel: 01925 844004
E-mail: tep@tep.uk.com

**MARKET
HARBOROUGH**

The Reynard Suite,
Bowden Business Village,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
LE16 7SA

Tel: 01858 383120
E-mail: mh@tep.uk.com

GATESHEAD

Office 26, Gateshead
International Business
Centre,
Mulgrave Terrace,
Gateshead
NE8 1AN

Tel: 0191 605 3340
E-mail: gateshead@tep.uk.com

LONDON

8 Trinity Street,
London,
SE1 1DB

Tel: 020 3096 6050
E-mail: london@tep.uk.com

CORNWALL

4 Park Noweth,
Churchtown,
Cury,
Helston
Cornwall
TR12 7BW

Tel: 01326 240081
E-mail: cornwall@tep.uk.com

APPENDIX B: STRATEGY CONTEXT

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National Strategy Documents

- 1.1 The following strategy documents provide an overview of the national strategic context and actions in relation to open space and are summarised in the following paragraphs:

- Promoting Healthy Cities (Royal Town Planning Institute);
- Green Infrastructure Strategies (Natural England);
- The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011); and
- Everybody Active, Every Day (Public Health England, 2014).

Promoting Healthy Cities (Royal Town Planning Institute)¹

- 1.2 The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) published Promoting Healthy Cities, a document tackling the role of planning in creating healthy cities in October 2014.
- 1.3 The report calls for the UK to develop more integrated strategies for healthy place making, gather greater intelligence on the social and economic determinants of health and reform and strengthen institutions to ensure integration of health policies. This process should involve a range of professions and community stakeholders.

Green Infrastructure Strategies (Natural England)²

- 1.4 Green Infrastructure Strategies (Natural England, October 2014) provides guidance on:
- Why we need GI;
 - What GI should achieve;
 - What GI is; and
 - GI strategies.
- 1.5 Natural England states that GI:
- "Contributes so much to the setting and quality of people's living and working environments, and its role in generating economic benefit has often been overlooked".*
- 1.6 The guidance states that *"policies and decisions on development proposals should conserve and enhance environmental assets"*. Consideration should be made to providing off road, green routes for walkers and cyclists, and consider privately owned land, which provides connectivity for wildlife, and helps tackle climate change and flooding.

¹ <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/policy/2014/february/promoting-healthy-cities/>

² <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35033>

The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011)³

- 1.7 The NEWP states that *“People cannot flourish without the benefits and services our natural environment provides. Nature is a complex, interconnected system. A healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal wellbeing”*.
- 1.8 The Government wants to put the value of nature at the heart of decision-making, in Government, local communities and businesses. To achieve this the NEWP focuses on 4 key areas:
- Protecting and improving our natural environment - Achieve a better-quality natural environment by taking and promoting actions across farmed land, woodlands and forests, towns and cities, and rivers and water bodies;
 - Growing the green economy - Economic growth and the natural environment are mutually compatible. Sustainable economic growth relies on services provided by the natural environment, often referred to as ‘ecosystem services’;
 - Reconnecting people and nature - High-quality natural environments foster healthy neighbourhoods; green spaces encourage social activity and reduce crime. The natural environment can help children’s learning; and
 - International and EU leadership - Environmental leadership should be demonstrable internationally and within the EU, to protect and enhance natural assets globally, promoting environmentally and socially sustainable growth.

Everybody Active, Every Day (Public Health England, 2014)

- 1.9 Everybody Active, Every Day is the national physical activity framework for England. The aim of the framework is to bring about real and long-lasting change using a long-term, evidence based approach to embed physical activity into the fabric of daily life, making it an easy, cost-effective and ‘normal’ choice in every community in England. The priorities of the framework are:
- Active society - Making physical activity part of the daily routine;
 - Moving professionals - Thoughtful urban design, understanding land use patterns and creating transportation systems that promote walking and cycling will help to create active, healthier and more liveable communities; and
 - Active environment - Creating the right spaces, including healthy environments to support health, recreation and wellbeing and encouraging people to use green space, playground and cycle lanes.

Green Infrastructure Framework (Natural England)⁴

- 1.10 Green Infrastructure Framework (Natural England, January 2023) comprises:
- GI Principles (what and how of good GI);

³

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/228842/8082.pdf

⁴ [Green Infrastructure Home \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](https://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Green-Infrastructure-Home)

- GI Standards (National standards for GI quantity and quality);
- GI mapping including environmental and socio-economic datasets;
- GI Planning and Design Guide; and
- Process journeys.

1.11 Natural England states that GI:

"Good quality GI has an important role to play in our urban and rural environments for improving health and wellbeing, air quality, nature recovery and resilience to and mitigation of climate change, along with addressing issues of social inequality and environmental decline."

1.12 The guidance states that *"GI strategies and policies can be used to support aspirations for a Nature Recovery Network (NRN), connecting across urban, urban-fringe, coastal and rural areas and enhancing landscape character"*

1.13 Natural England has developed a set of 15 GI Principles which underpin the GI Framework. The Principles aim to provide a baseline for organisations to develop stronger GI policy and delivery. Principles cover why, what and how GI is achieved.

Local Strategy Documents

1.14 The following strategy documents provide an overview of the Council's strategic context and actions in relation to open space and are summarised in the following paragraphs:

- The Council Plan (2020);
- Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study (June 2013);
- Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (2008);
- Playing Pitch Strategy (2016); and
- Local Play Strategy (2007-2017).

The Council Plan (2020)⁵

1.15 In July 2019, the Council adopted a new vision to *"protect, care and invest to create a better borough"*.

1.16 The Council has four priorities:

- Every child, young person and adult lives well in their community;
- Everyone benefits from a thriving economy;
- All neighbourhoods are a great place to live; and
- Our natural environment is protected, and the Council has a leading role in addressing the climate emergency.

⁵ [Council Plan - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study (June 2013)⁶

- 1.17 The study provides an evidence base for Green Infrastructure (GI) needs and supports the Local Plan 2011-2031. The purpose of the Green Infrastructure Needs Study is to:

- Identify the areas of greatest need for GI;
- Analyse the quantity, quality and distribution of the existing local provision of relevant green infrastructure; and
- Identify the extent to which there is a surplus or deficiency of green infrastructure in quantity, type and distribution in each parish.

Parks and Gardens

- 1.18 The need for parks and gardens is prominent both within Telford and in the surrounding countryside – particularly to the northeast of the borough.

Amenity Greenspace

- 1.19 Needs for amenity green space affect both Newport and the south of Telford, together with some of the borough's rural parishes.
- 1.20 In Newport, current provision meets less than 25% of the recommended quantity standards. Current distribution also makes for poor accessibility: residents living in the north or east side of the town are not within walking distance of existing facilities.
- 1.21 In Telford, while most residents have access to a local amenity sites (apart from Muxton residents), the size, and most importantly the quality of these sites are less than appropriate.

Provision for Young People

- 1.22 Many parishes (21 out of 28) do not meet the recommended standard for quantity of provision for young people. Need is found both in rural and urban areas.

Provision for Children

- 1.23 In comparison to young people's needs, children's needs for provision to play and recreation are less acute. Only 17 parishes do not meet quantity standard needs.

Outdoor Sports Facilities

- 1.24 Current needs for outdoor sports facilities are well met in large portions of the borough. Only eight parishes do not meet the quantity standard including four rural parishes (Chetwynd, Waters Upton, Kynnersley and Eyton upon the Weald Moors) and four within Telford (Hadley and Leegonmery, Lawley and Overdale, St George and Priorslee, and Hollinswood and Randlay).

⁶ [Local Green Infrastructure Needs Study and Appendices.pdf](#)

Allotments

- 1.25 The need for allotments is high and will become higher as new housing is developed. Parishes located in the centre and northeast Telford show the greatest levels of need in the urban areas. Shortages also exist in rural locations – however, this is potentially less of a priority given that in such environments, private gardens may be large enough to allow residents to grow food within their own premises.

Green Travel Routes

- 1.26 Green travel routes between people's homes and places where they shop, work or go to school are most needed in urban areas. Enhancements should be undertaken around Newport, Central Telford, parishes in northern Telford (shopping facilities, institutions and works places) and parishes in south Telford (around schools and communities).

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (2008)

- 1.27 During April 2007 Telford and Wrekin Council (the Council) appointed PMP to undertake a PPG17 assessment. This report sets out the findings of this study and includes an assessment of local needs and existing open space, sport and recreation provision. The Study formed part of the evidence base for the Local Development Framework.
- 1.28 The Study assessed quantity, quality and accessibility of the typologies listed below and identified any deficiencies in the borough:
- Parks and Gardens;
 - Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space;
 - Amenity Green Space;
 - Provision for Children and Young People;
 - Outdoor Sports Facilities;
 - Indoor Sports Facilities;
 - Allotments;
 - Cemeteries and Churchyard;
 - Civic Spaces; and
 - Green Corridor.

- 1.29 The information provided by the Study has been used as a baseline for this Assessment.

Playing Pitch Strategy (2016)⁷

- 1.30 The Playing Pitch Strategy (2016) was prepared to provide a clear, robust assessment of the extent to which playing pitch provision within the borough can satisfy current, latent and future demand including provision for:
- Football pitches;
 - Cricket pitches;
 - Rugby Union pitches;
 - Rugby League pitches;

⁷ [Telford & Wrekin Local Plan Submission - Evidence Documents - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)

- Hockey pitches; and
 - Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs).
- 1.31 The vision of the Playing Pitch Strategy (2016) is *“to ensure that there will be a range of outdoor sports provision to benefit all residents in Telford and Wrekin, resulting in an increase in participation in sport and physical activity both now and in the future”*.
- 1.32 The key findings for playing pitches are:
- 1.33 Football
- Future pitch deficiencies for mini soccer and junior/youth football;
 - Future demand expected in areas of housing growth in Newport, North and Central Telford with adjoining areas of Wellington; and
 - Improved quality standards of pitches are required to accommodate current and future use.
- 1.34 Cricket
- There is not enough capacity to meet current and future demand. Additional wickets/pitches required to accommodate need;
 - There is no community cricket provision in Central Telford where future population growth is projected. There is limited provision in South Telford; and
 - 50% of the cricket provision is deemed to be overused.
- 1.35 Rugby Union
- There is no spare capacity and significant overuse on all rugby union grass pitches; and
 - There is potential spare capacity at Abraham Darby Academy.
- 1.36 Rugby League
- Some spare capacity exists on the AGP pitch at Phoenix Sports and Leisure Centre.
- 1.37 Hockey
- There is adequate AGP provision in Telford and Wrekin to accommodate competitive hockey.
- 1.38 AGP
- There is significant capacity across all types of AGP surface i.e. sand filled/dressed and 3G; however this is typically late evenings (9-10pm) and weekends when teams are competing; and
 - The Football Associations long term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface. Based on the number of football teams in Telford and Wrekin, at the time of writing the strategy, the need for one additional 3G pitch has been identified.

Local Play Strategy 2007-2017⁸

- 1.39 Telford & Wrekin Council recognises the importance of providing stimulating play opportunities for children and young people (0-18 years) and is committed to enhancing the quality and quantity of current and future free play provision and equipped play and youth facilities across the Borough.
- 1.40 The Strategy aims to:
- Provide a shared understanding of the meaning of play and raise the profile of play;
 - Provide more and better local and inclusive play opportunities where they are most needed;
 - Develop a mechanism, based on key principles and methodology, to prioritise development of existing and new play opportunities;
 - Improve children's access to safe places to play and socialise;
 - Sustain play opportunities over the long-term;
 - Make effective use of funding;
 - Embed within other key strategic plans and initiatives;
 - Develop a Play Opportunities Action Plan based on an agreed set of Play Policy Statements; and
 - Develop and sustain ongoing consultation with communities and children and young people.
- 1.41 To support the aims there are seven play objectives:
- Objective 1: The provision extends the choice and control that children have over their play, the freedom they enjoy and the satisfaction they gain from it.
 - Objective 2: The provision recognises the child's need to test boundaries and responds positively to that need.
 - Objective 3: The provision manages the balance between the need to offer risk and the need to keep children safe from harm.
 - Objective 4: The provision maximises the range of play opportunities.
 - Objective 5: The provision fosters independence and self-esteem.
 - Objective 6: The provision fosters children's respect for others and offers opportunities for social interaction.
 - Objective 7: The provision fosters the child's well-being, healthy growth and development, knowledge and understanding, creativity and capacity to learn.
- 1.42 The Strategy provide guidance on areas of place, equipped play and youth facilities, new development, investment, equality and social inclusion and monitoring of quality.
- 1.43 The Strategy states that all play opportunities will be freely accessible, free of charge and children and young people will have the freedom to come and go.
- 1.44 The Strategy provides an Action Plan which provides targets, activities, timescales, milestones and resources to carry out the Action Plan..

⁸ [Telford & Wrekin Local Plan Submission - Evidence Documents - Telford & Wrekin Council](#)



HEAD OFFICE

Genesis Centre,
Birchwood Science Park,
Warrington
WA3 7BH

Tel: 01925 844004
E-mail: tep@tep.uk.com

**MARKET
HARBOROUGH**

The Reynard Suite,
Bowden Business Village,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
LE16 7SA

Tel: 01858 383120
E-mail: mh@tep.uk.com

GATESHEAD

Office 26, Gateshead
International Business
Centre,
Mulgrave Terrace,
Gateshead
NE8 1AN

Tel: 0191 605 3340
E-mail: gateshead@tep.uk.com

LONDON

8 Trinity Street,
London,
SE1 1DB

Tel: 020 3096 6050
E-mail: london@tep.uk.com

CORNWALL

4 Park Noweth,
Churchtown,
Cury,
Helston
Cornwall
TR12 7BW












Tel: 01326 240081
E-mail: cornwall@tep.uk.com

APPENDIX C: CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Appendix C -Telford & Wrekin Council Play, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Needs Assessment Consultation Summary

1. Which area are you most likely to use open spaces?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Telford North	<div></div>	54.19%	181
2	Telford South	<div></div>	44.31%	148
3	Newport	<div></div>	13.77%	46
4	Rural areas	<div></div>	18.56%	62
5	Other (please specify):	<div></div>	6.59%	22
			answered	334
Other (please specify): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 people responded Shawburch; • 2 people responded Wales; • 3 people responded Wellington; • 2 people responded Ironbridge; • 1 person responded Randlay; • 3 people responded Priorslee; • 1 person responded Shrewsbury; • 1 person responded Wrockwardine Village; • 1 person responded Bratton; • 1 person responded Lawley; and • 2 people responded town centre. 				

2. What type(s) of open space do you use most often? Select all that apply.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Allotments and Community Gardens		8.68%	29
2	Amenity Greenspace		26.05%	87
3	Churchyards and Cemeteries		7.49%	25
4	Civic Spaces		9.28%	31
5	Green Corridors		35.63%	119
6	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		60.18%	201
7	Outdoor Sports Facilities		21.56%	72
8	Parks and Gardens		74.25%	249
9	Play Space (Children)		55.39%	185
10	Play Space (Youth)		17.37%	58
11	Other (please specify):		6.29%	21
			answered	334
<p>Other (please specify):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 person responded farmland; • 7 responded cycle and foot or tow paths; • 2 people responded open water; • 3 people responded skateparks; • 1 person responded dog parks; • 3 people responded fields, nature reserves and informal greenspace; • 1 person responded parks; • 1 person responded woodland; and • 1 person responded garden. 				

3. How do you use open spaces across the Borough? Select all that apply

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Walking	<div></div>	79.04%	264
2	Running	<div></div>	18.26%	61
3	Dog walking	<div></div>	47.31%	158
4	Relaxation	<div></div>	53.29%	178
5	Formal play (use of playground equipment or outdoor gym equipment)	<div></div>	44.01%	147
6	Informal play	<div></div>	38.32%	128
7	Sports or other classes	<div></div>	10.48%	35
8	Education	<div></div>	7.19%	24
9	Other recreation	<div></div>	9.58%	32
10	Socialisation	<div></div>	41.02%	137
11	Food growing	<div></div>	5.39%	18
12	N/A	<div></div>	0.30%	1
13	Other (please specify):	<div></div>	6.89%	23
			answered	334

Other (please specify):

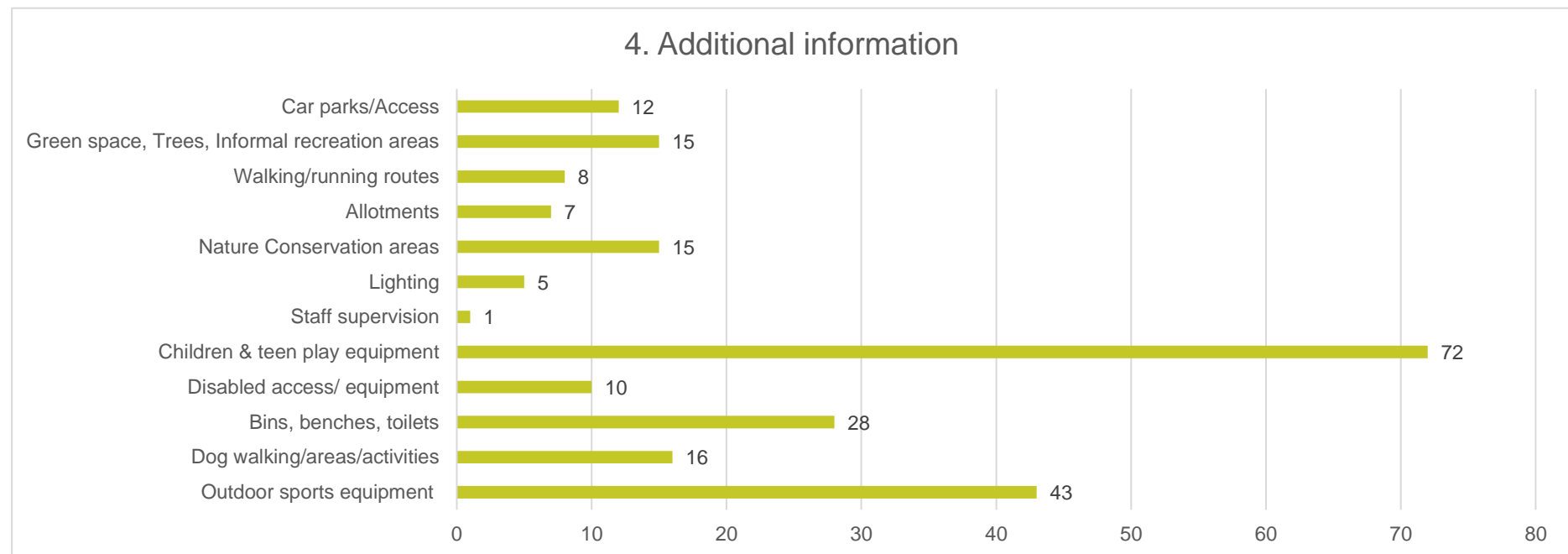
- 4 people responded swimming;
- 5 people responded cycling;
- 3 responded wildlife observation;
- 1 person responded with dog activities;
- 3 people responded horse riding;
- 2 people responded with volunteering/clubs;

3. How do you use open spaces across the Borough? Select all that apply

- 1 person responded with using cafes;
- 2 people responded with sports; and
- 1 person responded with walks with wheelchair.

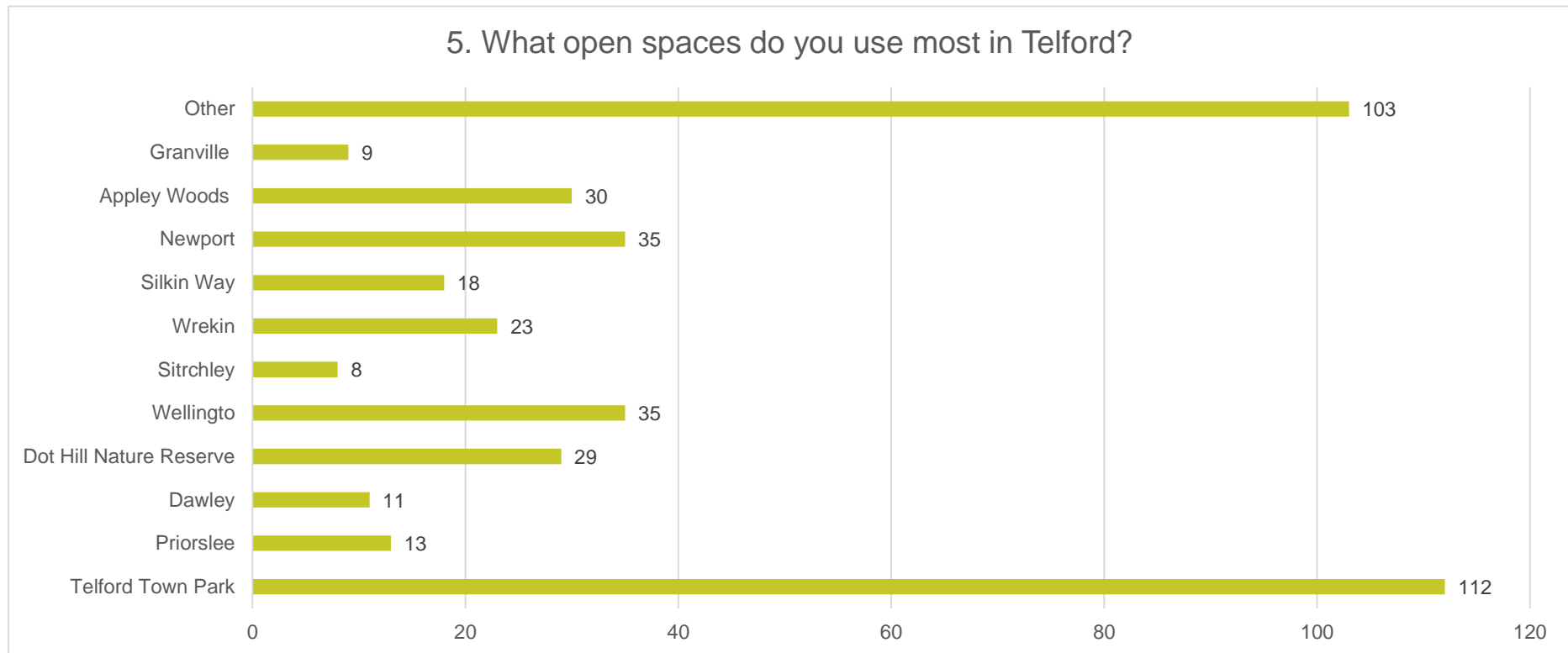
4. Is there anything not currently provided in open spaces that you use that you would like provided? If Yes, please provide further information.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes	76.36%	239
2	No	23.64%	74
		answered	313
If Yes, please provide additional information:			



5. What open space(s) do you use the most in Telford? (please state the name of the sites)

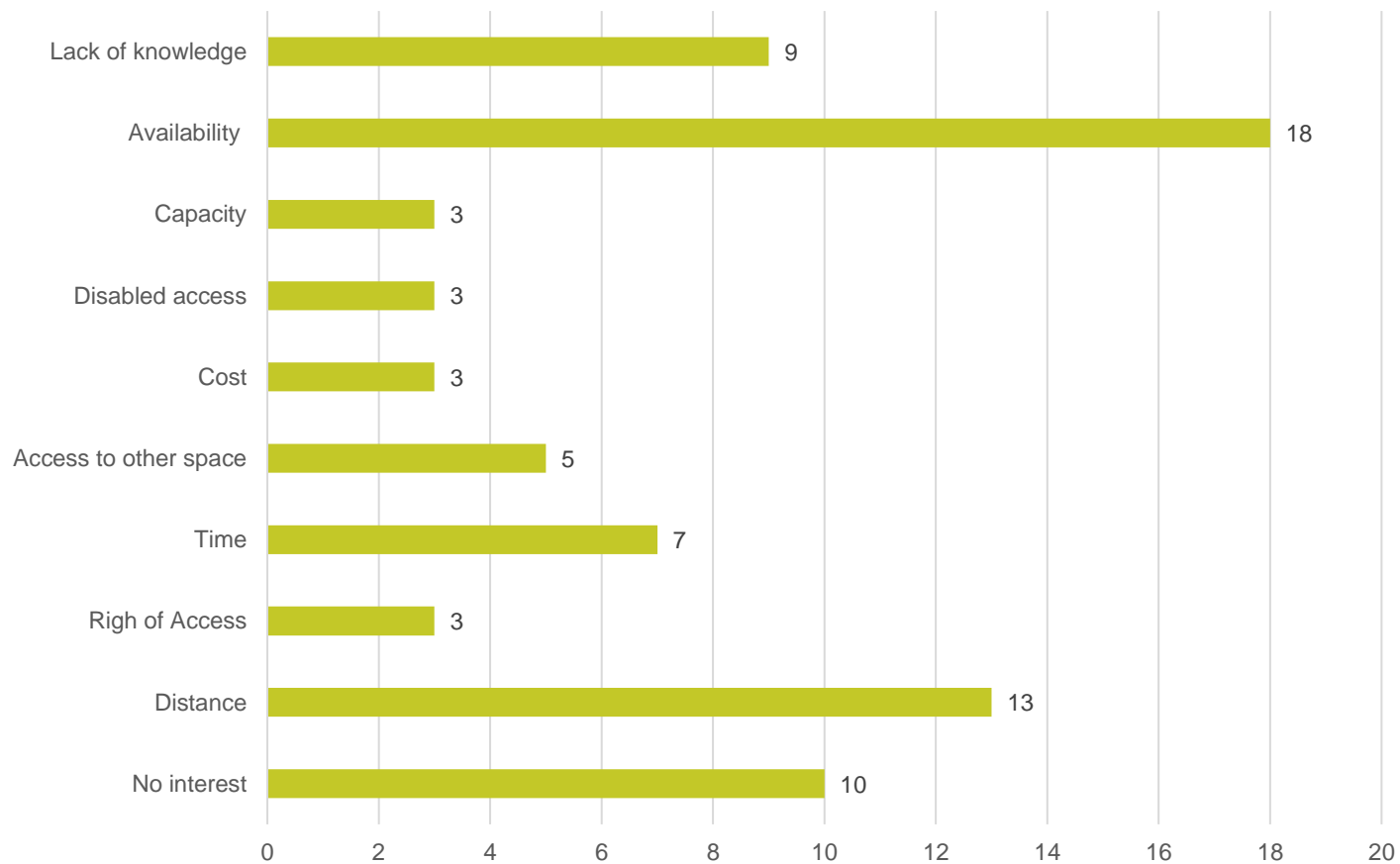
Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question	100.00%	312

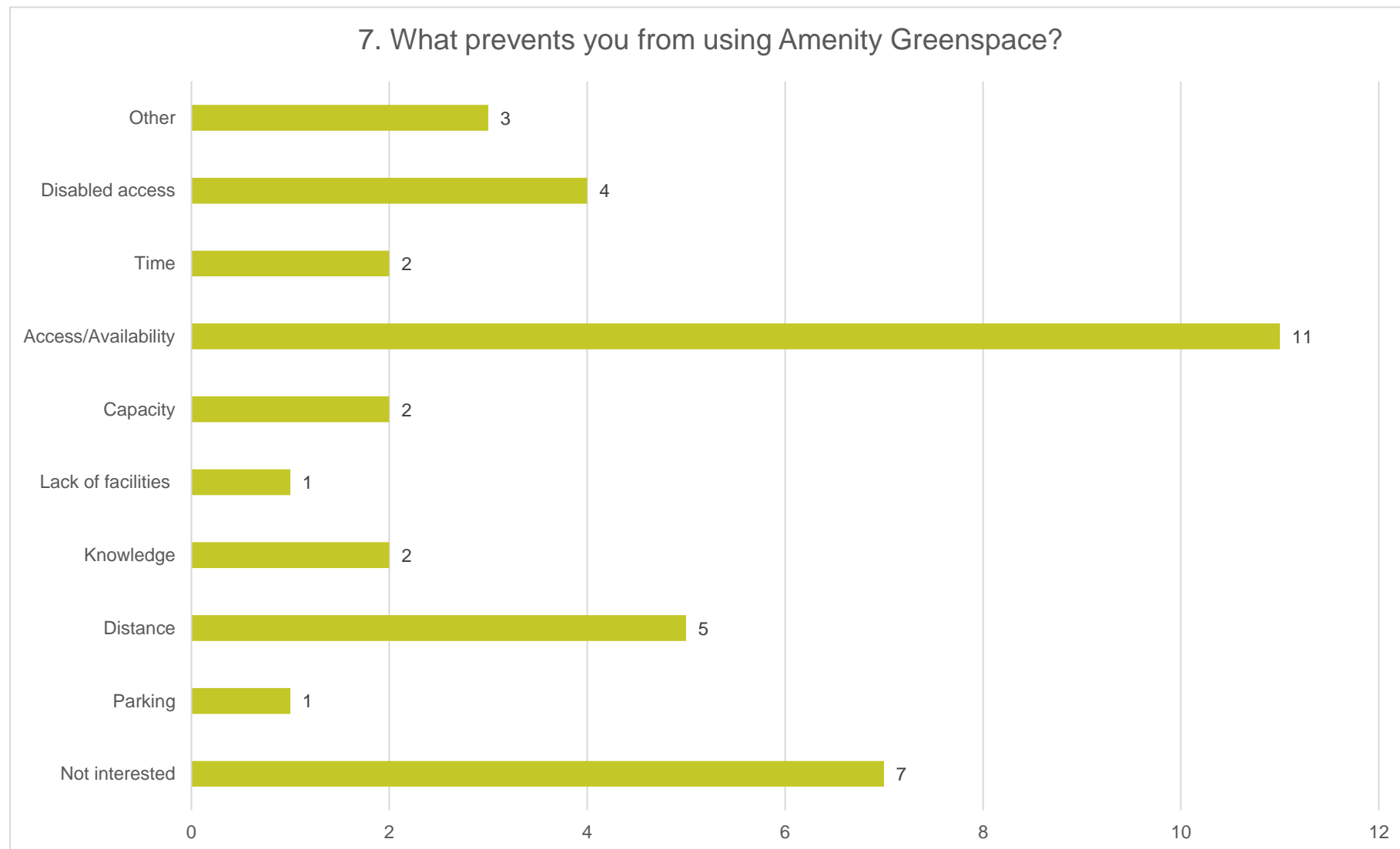


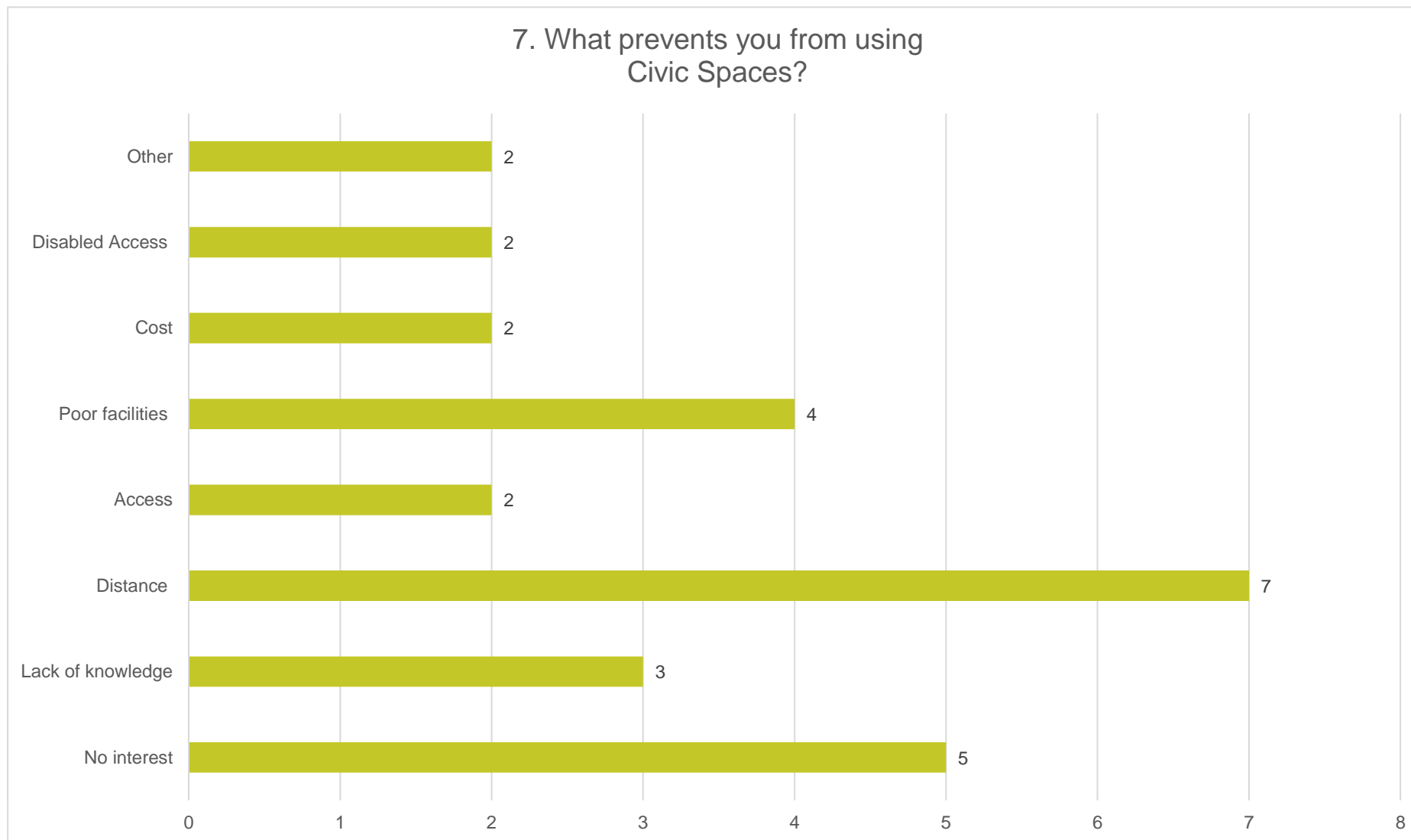
6. How often do you visit each type of space?

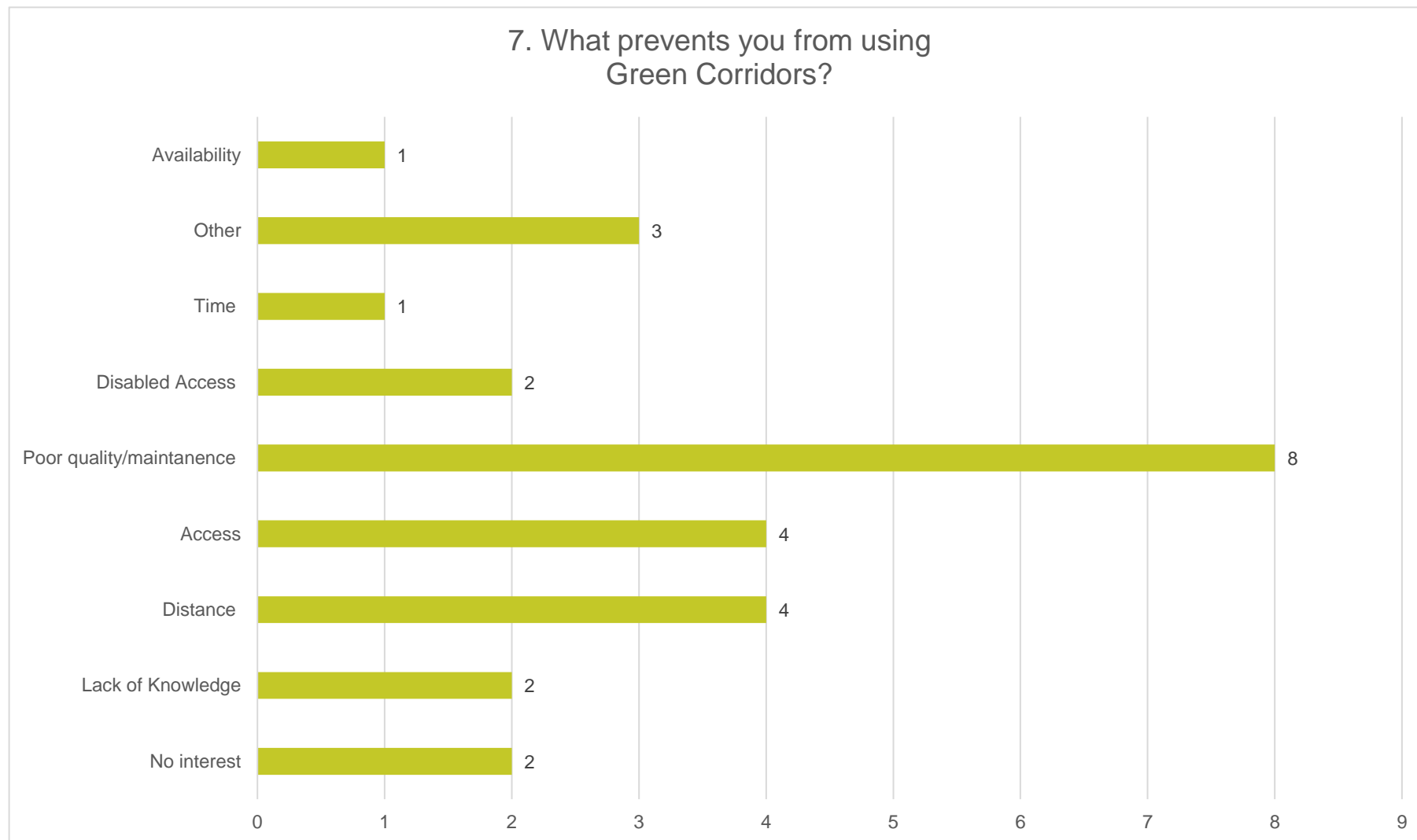
Answer Choices	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	N/A not used	Response Total
Allotments and Community Gardens	5.69% 19	11.08% 37	9.28% 31	2.99% 10	70.96% 237	334
Amenity Greenspace	25.45% 85	25.45% 85	11.68% 39	5.39% 18	32.04% 107	334
Churchyards and Cemeteries	1.50% 5	11.08% 37	12.57% 42	15.57% 52	59.28% 198	334
Civic Spaces	4.49% 15	21.26% 71	23.05% 77	7.78% 26	43.41% 145	334
Green Corridors	26.65% 89	24.25% 81	16.17% 54	5.09% 17	27.84% 93	334
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	33.23% 111	34.43% 115	17.96% 60	3.59% 12	10.78% 36	334
Outdoor Sports Facilities	7.78% 26	21.56% 72	14.37% 48	5.69% 19	50.60% 169	334
Parks and Gardens	25.45% 85	44.01% 147	20.06% 67	3.29% 11	7.19% 24	334
Play Space (Children)	18.56% 62	33.53% 112	9.28% 31	0.90% 3	37.72% 126	334
Play Space (Youth)	5.09% 17	13.77% 46	8.38% 28	0.60% 2	72.16% 241	334
					answered	334

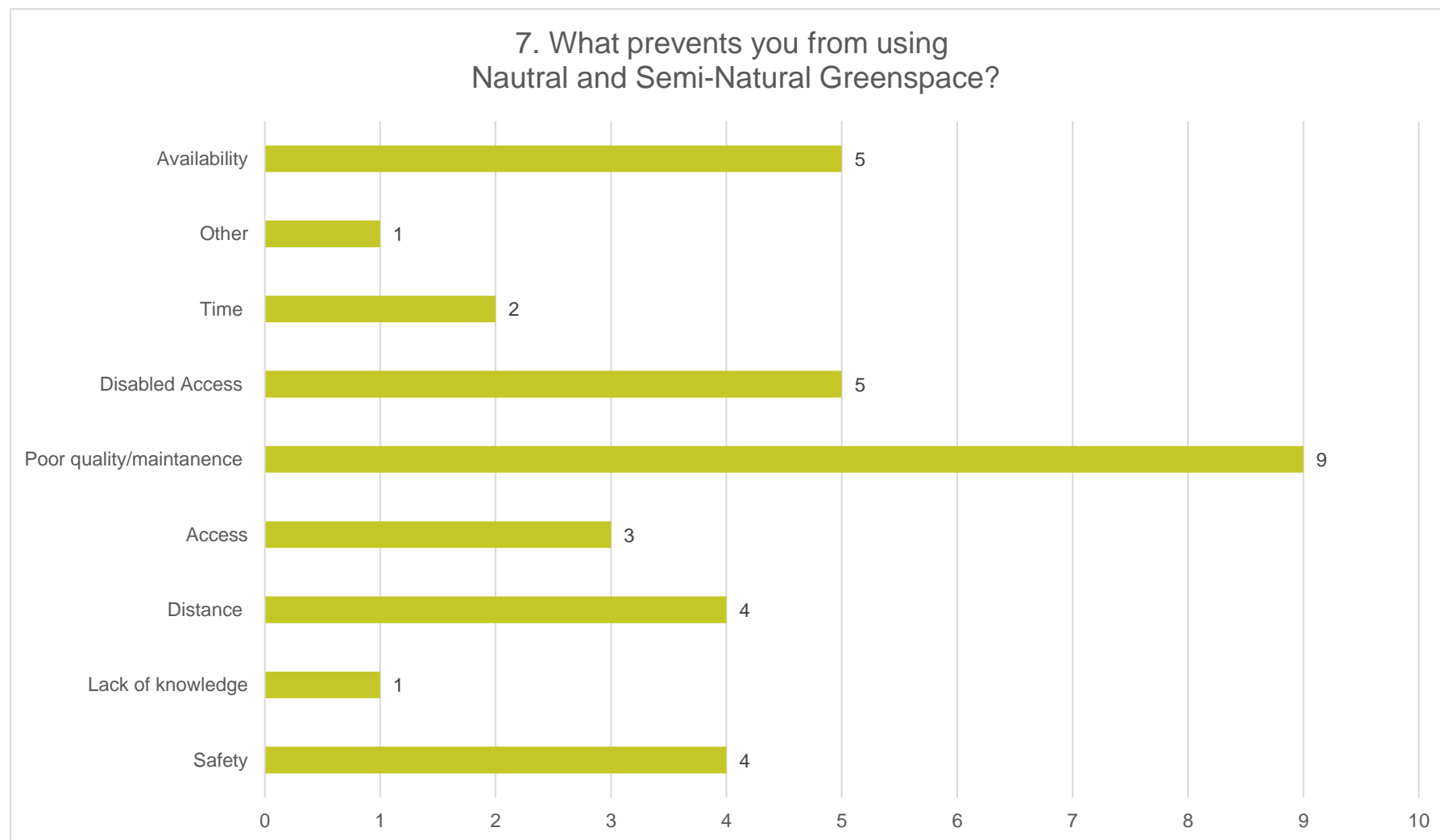
7. What prevents you from using Allotments and Community Gardens?



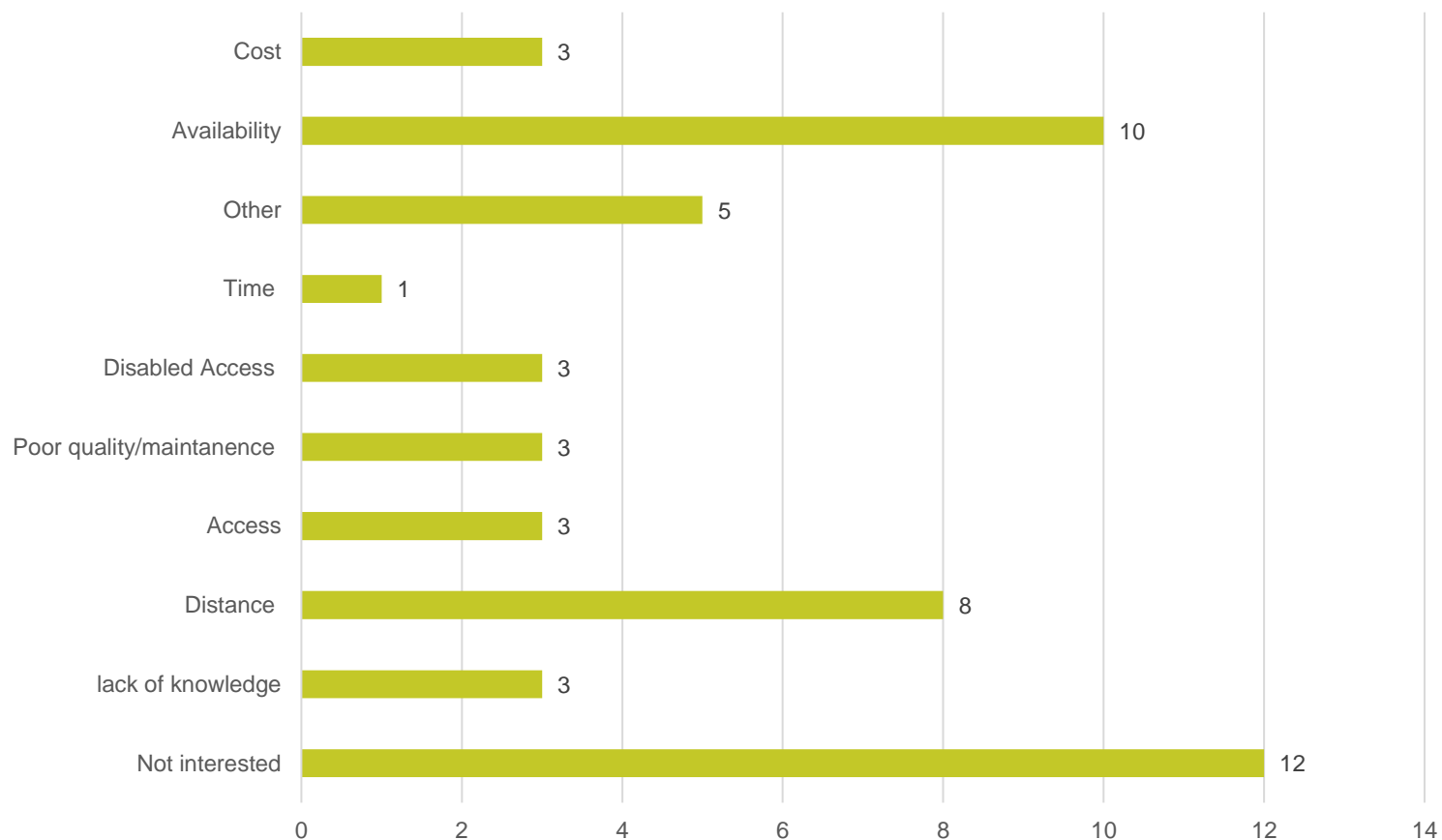


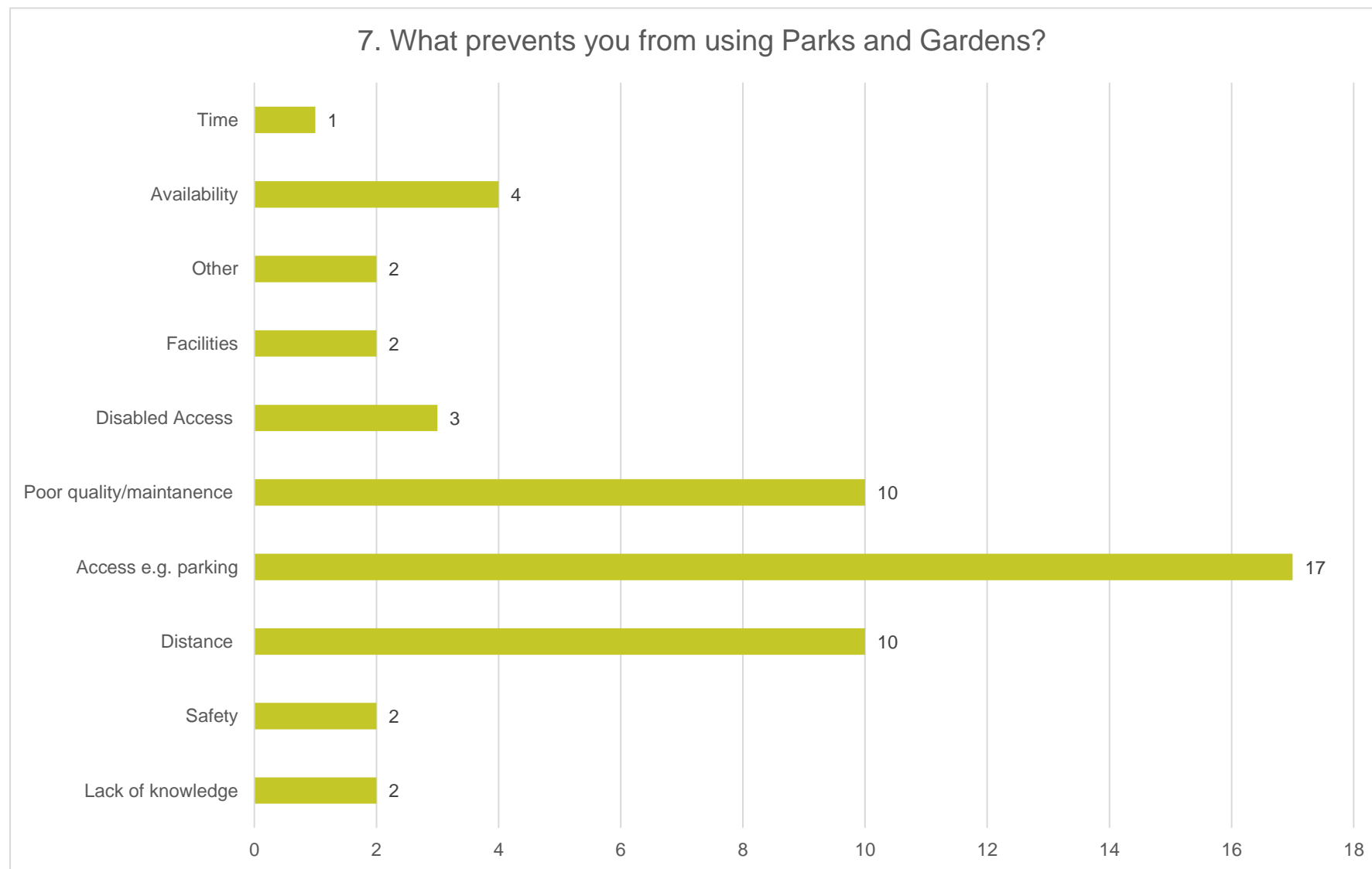


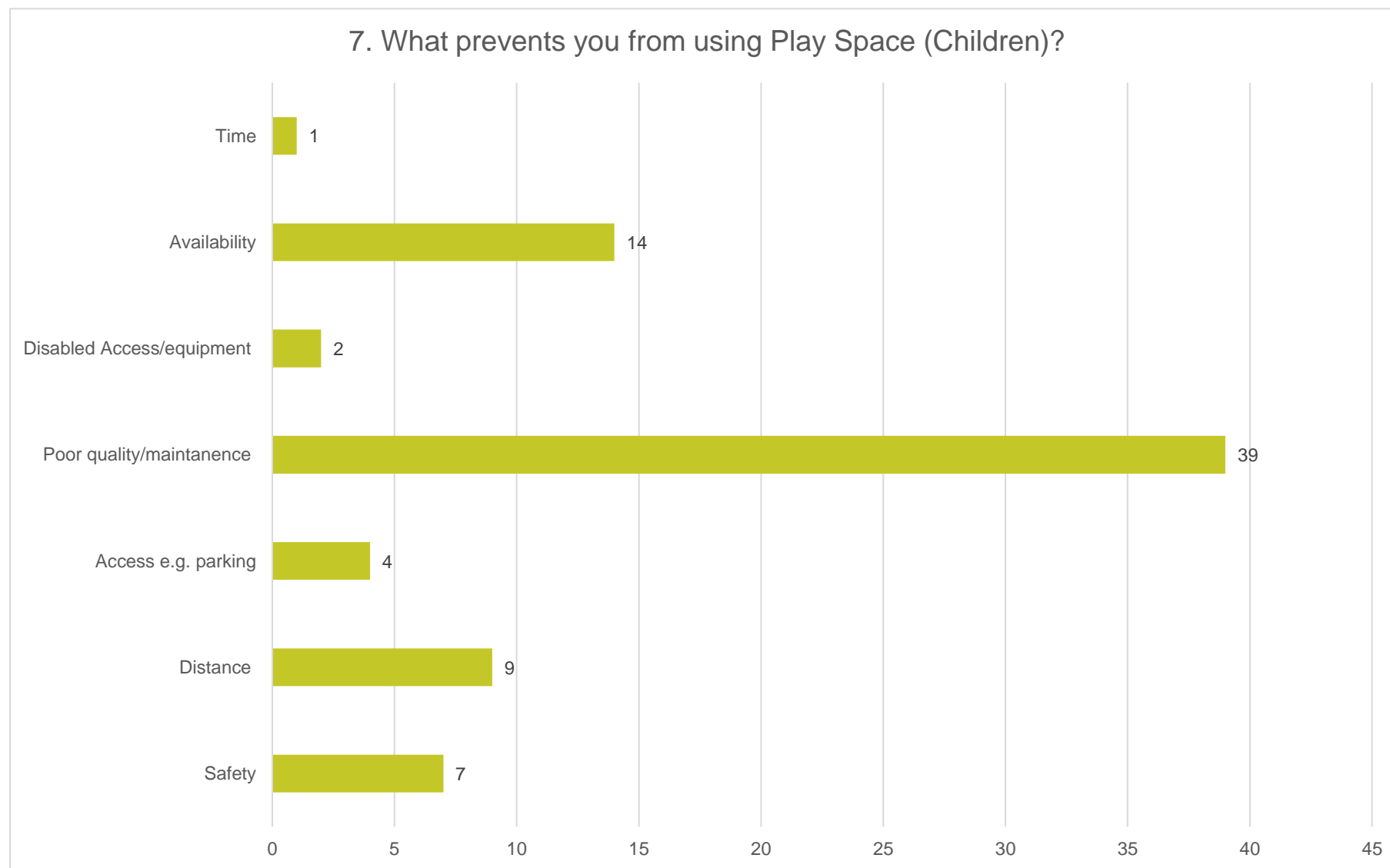


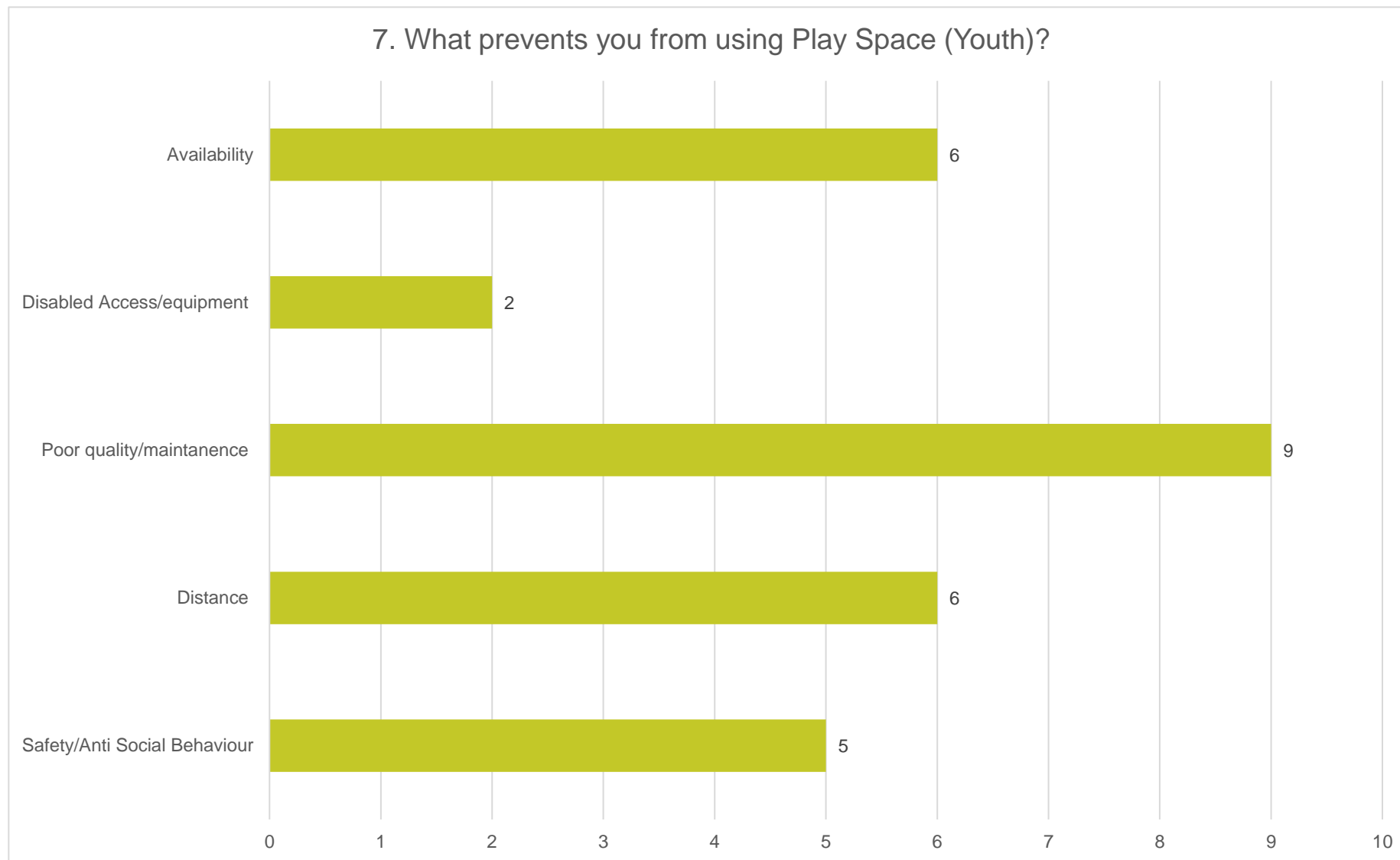


7. What prevents you from using outdoor sports facilities?





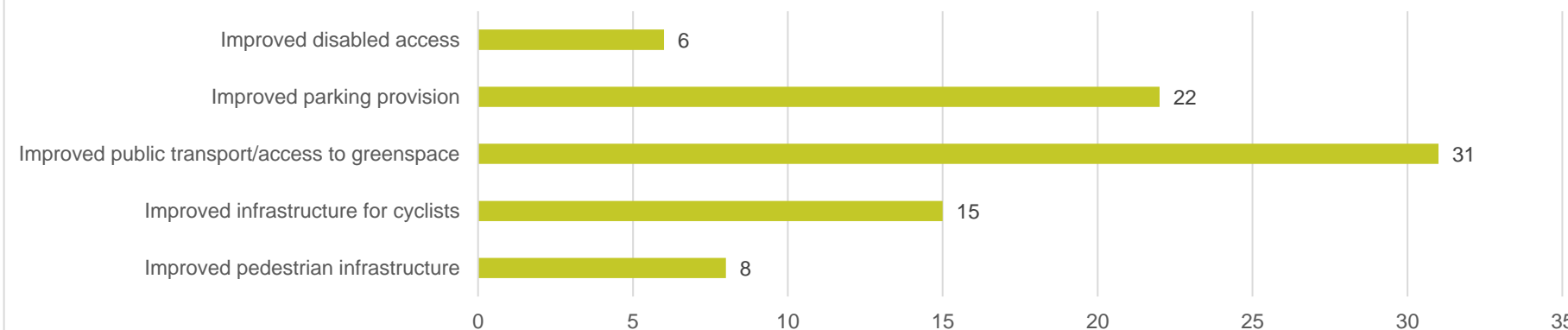




8. How accessible do you think open spaces are that you use in relation to walking, cycling, driving and public transport?

Answer Choices	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Poor	N/A	Response Total
Walking	23.05% 77	41.02% 137	22.16% 74	7.78% 26	5.69% 19	0.30% 1	334
Cycling	14.97% 50	26.65% 89	23.65% 79	7.78% 26	5.69% 19	21.26% 71	334
Driving	13.77% 46	40.12% 134	27.84% 93	6.29% 21	5.39% 18	6.59% 22	334
Public Transport	1.50% 5	14.07% 47	20.06% 67	13.47% 45	16.17% 54	34.73% 116	334
						answered	334

8. How accessible do you think open spaces are that you use in relation to walking, cycling, driving and public transport?



9. How long would you be willing to travel to access each type of open space? (Select all that apply)

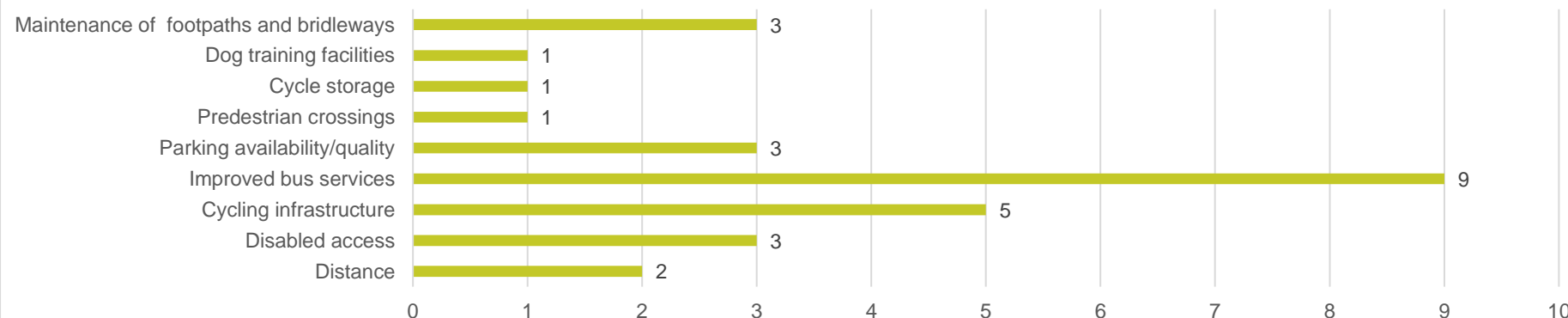
Answer Choices	Up to 10 minutes	Up to 15 minutes	Up to 30 minutes	Up to an hour	More than an hour	n/a not visited	Response Total
Allotments and Community Gardens	21.56% 72	14.97% 50	8.68% 29	1.80% 6	1.50% 5	51.50% 172	334
Amenity Greenspace	31.44% 105	23.65% 79	12.87% 43	4.49% 15	0.90% 3	26.65% 89	334
Churchyards and Cemeteries	16.17% 54	16.77% 56	13.47% 45	2.99% 10	1.50% 5	49.10% 164	334
Civic Spaces	17.66% 59	22.16% 74	21.26% 71	4.49% 15	0.60% 2	33.83% 113	334
Green Corridors	29.34% 98	20.96% 70	20.06% 67	7.49% 25	1.50% 5	20.66% 69	334
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	25.15% 84	20.36% 68	29.64% 99	11.38% 38	3.29% 11	10.18% 34	334
Outdoor Sports Facilities	21.26% 71	21.26% 71	18.56% 62	2.69% 9	1.50% 5	34.73% 116	334
Parks and Gardens	27.25% 91	26.05% 87	29.64% 99	9.88% 33	3.29% 11	3.89% 13	334
Play Space (Children)	29.94% 100	17.37% 58	16.17% 54	2.99% 10	0.90% 3	32.63% 109	334
Play Space (Youth)	16.47% 55	11.98% 40	9.58% 32	1.20% 4	0.30% 1	60.48% 202	334
						answered	334

10. Are there any areas for improvement in terms of accessibility?			
Answer Choices	Area or site referred to	Comments on improvement	Response Total
Walking	54.23% 77	45.77% 65	142
Cycling	54.32% 44	45.68% 37	81
Driving	51.35% 38	48.65% 36	74
Public Transport	50.72% 35	49.28% 34	69
Other	53.33% 32	46.67% 28	60
		answered	132

11. How accessible are the open spaces across the Borough? Are there any areas for improvement in terms of accessibility?

Answer Choices	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Poor	N/A	Response Total
Walking	18.86% 63	40.12% 134	24.85% 83	6.89% 23	2.40% 8	6.89% 23	334
Cycling	12.28% 41	30.84% 103	18.86% 63	5.69% 19	4.49% 15	27.84% 93	334
Driving	12.57% 42	40.42% 135	27.84% 93	2.99% 10	2.69% 9	13.47% 45	334
Public Transport	2.40% 8	14.67% 49	18.86% 63	11.98% 40	14.37% 48	37.72% 126	334

11. Improvements to accessibility of open spaces across the Borough



12. How would you rate the quality of open spaces that you use? Please use the comments box to identify which geographical area/site you are referring to and provide examples of both successful spaces and projects, as well as those you feel require improvement.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Excellent	<div></div>	13.17%	44
2	Good	<div></div>	44.91%	150
3	Average	<div></div>	23.95%	80
4	Below Average	<div></div>	8.98%	30
5	Poor	<div></div>	7.19%	24
6	N/A	<div></div>	1.80%	6
			answered	334
Comments: Successful spaces and spaces that require improvement.				

Park/Area	Positive responses	Negative responses	Suggested improvements
Telford Town Park	28	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional facilities for wheelchair users. Staff presence/supervision Reduced parking costs Closer disabled parking access Play provision for children of all abilities. More lighting
Ironbridge	5	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional maintenance required.
St Leonards field	0	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional play equipment Addressing anti-social behaviour and off-road vehicles. Additional maintenance required.
Randlay	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update play equipment Additional maintenance
Dawley Park	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paved areas for wheelchair access
Stirchley Lane	0	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional play equipment

Leegomery	0	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capacity for children to play • Additional maintenance • Monitoring of dog control
Madley Woods/Park	1	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional tree planting • New equipment
Elms field	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional dog/litter bins
Apley Pool/Woods	11	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More disabled parking • Dog/litter bins
Dothill Nature Reserve	7	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional bins
Ketley Bank	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New play equipment
Newport	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated wildlife areas • Increased provision and range of play equipment for young children and teens.
Bowring	7	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased parking • Additional play facilities
Silkin way	1	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional seating
Bratton Park	0	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved safety of play equipment
Wrockwardine	0	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional parking and toilets • Improved maintenance
Teece Drive/Priorslee	2	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for large open space and allotments. • Removal of fencing restricting access
Shuker Fields	0	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional maintenance required
Blue Bell Park, Sutton Hill	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address damage/unsafe areas
Crescent Rd playing fields	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair/replace damaged play equipment
Mainslee Field	1	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing antisocial behaviour
Lawley	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance to pathways
Wrekin	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in charges of facilities
Granville Park	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement of dogs
Admanston Fields	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional picnic benches
Shawburch	0	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved play space and capacity
Horsehay Park	1	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional maintenance required. • Additional capacity
Saltwell Drive Play Area	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved maintenance
Queen Elizabeth Park	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood protection
Aqueduct Play Park	0	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play area requires updating







13. What improvements would you like to see to open spaces that you use? Please use the comments box to identify the geographical area or specific site you are referring to and provide examples of both successful spaces and projects as well as those you feel require improvement.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Better Entrances	<div></div>	19.72%	56
2	Landscaping	<div></div>	24.65%	70
3	Better Access (footpaths, etc.)	<div></div>	41.90%	119
4	More or better Facilities (seating, etc.)	<div></div>	57.75%	164
5	More Information (boards, etc.)	<div></div>	21.48%	61
6	Better Maintenance (litter, etc.)	<div></div>	54.58%	155
7	Other	<div></div>	14.08%	40
			answered	284
			skipped	50

Park/Greenspace	Comment/improvement
General Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved facilities for all abilities Additional lighting Increased staff/police presence in areas of anti-social behaviour. Signage relating to control of dogs. Addressing litter issues and increased number of bins. Additional bins, dog and recycling bins required. More tree planting and species rich planting. General improvement of maintenance including addressing weeds. Additional facilities for older people Toilet and changing facilities Additional spaces for young children Additional seating provision. Barriers to restrict unauthorised access. Spaces for nature and engagement with nature.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor swimming provision. • Improved and increased cycle paths needed • Additional parking provision. • Additional food growing opportunities. • Information and interpretation boards. • Opportunities to play in nature. • Facilities for dogs and dog walkers. • Lower cost leisure facilities such as an athletics track
Daniels cross playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional maintenance required to address litter issues.
Telford Town Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional staff to provide supervision across the site. • Seating around walking routes and pools.
Elms field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional maintenance to address litter.
Apley Pool/Woods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to pathway and greenspace. • Replacement footpath sign • Additional maintenance including bin and dog bin waste.
Dawley Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skateboard park and Swimming pool provision.
Randlay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased maintenance
St Leonards field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to restrict unauthorised access • Native planting and rewilding
Hortonwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boardwalk maintenance/replacement.
Cherry Tree Hill Play Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance/replacement to play provision.
Dothill Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works required to footpath – provision of gravel in areas of wet ground.
Newport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access improvements to provide access for all along the canal.
Bowring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved accessibility and car parking provision. • Circular path around the perimeter
Silkin Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathway improvements.
Wrockwardine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to footpaths
Bratton Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repairs to seating
Dothill Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional facilities • Improved maintenance
Teece Drive/Priorslee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional open space required to this area. • Improvements required to existing spaces.
Blue Bell Park, Sutton Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved play provision and provision of outdoor gym equipment.
Lawley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional dog bins required.
Admanston Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General improvement in maintenance.
Horsehay Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved maintenance • Provision of interpretation board.

14. How would you rate the quality of open space across the Borough as a whole?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Excellent		14.07%	46
2	Good		46.79%	153
3	Average		29.97%	98
4	Below Average		5.20%	17
5	Poor		3.06%	10
6	N/A		0.92%	3
			answered	327
			skipped	7

Comments: Any specific typologies which require improvement? Respondents should refer to the Supporting Typology list provided.

- 4 people responded with an improvement for the capacity and quality of children's play areas;
- 1 person responded with a need to improve availability of football pitches;
- 1 person responded with a need for improved security/surveillance of open spaces; and
- 1 person responded with a need for improved access to safe outdoor swimming areas.

15. How would you rate each typology across the Borough as a whole in terms of quantity (amount)?

Answer Choices	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Poor	N/A	Response Total
Allotments and Community Gardens	2.69% 9	14.37% 48	13.77% 46	4.79% 16	5.69% 19	58.68% 196	334
Amenity Greenspace	5.99% 20	31.14% 104	26.05% 87	7.19% 24	2.40% 8	27.25% 91	334
Churchyards and Cemeteries	4.19% 14	23.95% 80	22.46% 75	1.80% 6	1.20% 4	46.41% 155	334
Civic Spaces	5.09% 17	31.74% 106	25.45% 85	4.19% 14	1.20% 4	32.34% 108	334
Green Corridors	8.38% 28	31.74% 106	28.14% 94	5.99% 20	3.59% 12	22.16% 74	334
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	12.87% 43	35.33% 118	26.05% 87	5.69% 19	5.39% 18	14.67% 49	334
Outdoor Sports Facilities	4.49% 15	20.06% 67	27.84% 93	7.78% 26	5.39% 18	34.43% 115	334
Parks and Gardens	12.57% 42	39.82% 133	30.84% 103	5.69% 19	4.19% 14	6.89% 23	334
Play Space (Children)	5.99% 20	27.84% 93	21.26% 71	13.17% 44	7.49% 25	24.25% 81	334
Play Space (Youth)	2.69% 9	12.57% 42	15.87% 53	9.88% 33	8.08% 27	50.90% 170	334
						answered	334
Comments e.g. Is there a clear demand for a specific typology? Is there a specific typology which is in excess?							

15. How would you rate each typology across the Borough as a whole in terms of quantity (amount)?

- 4 people responded with a need for more Green Corridors;
- 12 people responded with a need for more Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace';
- 4 people responded with a need for more Parks and Gardens;
- 21 people responded with a need for more Play Space (Children);
- 7 people responded with a need for more Play Space (Youth); and
- 2 people responded reporting an excess of Play Space (Children)

16. What do you perceive as potential threats or barriers to the adequate provision of open space in the Borough as a whole? Select all that apply and please provide comments.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Funding	<div></div>	62.28%	208
2	Antisocial behaviour	<div></div>	64.37%	215
3	Community engagement	<div></div>	25.15%	84
4	Infrastructure requirements	<div></div>	26.65%	89
5	Planning	<div></div>	35.03%	117
6	Lack of consultation	<div></div>	40.12%	134
7	Poor design of the spaces	<div></div>	40.42%	135
8	Other (please state):	<div></div>	5.99%	20
			answered	334
Other please state: (61)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 noted a lack of consultation around existing open spaces; 				

16. What do you perceive as potential threats or barriers to the adequate provision of open space in the Borough as a whole? Select all that apply and please provide comments.

- 17 people responded with housing/building development as a barrier to adequate open space provision;
- 6 people responded with anti-social behaviour as a barrier to adequate open space provision;
- 5 people responded with less public greenspace availability as a barrier to adequate open space provision;
- 1 person responded with lack of maintenance as a barrier to adequate open space provision;
- 5 people responded with lack of parking/accessibility as a barrier to adequate open space provision; and
- 2 people responded with poor capacity as a barrier to adequate open space provision

17. What do you perceive as potential opportunities for open space in the Borough as a whole? Select all that apply and please provide comments.[*] A Section 106 [S106] is a legally binding document between Local Authorities and Developers. Under S106 the Local Authority can seek financial contributions from developers towards the cost of providing new open spaces, or enhancing existing open spaces where significant impact from a development is identified, which can not be mitigated on site.

	Yes	No	Response Total
Yes/No			
Grants and Funding	95.5% (252)	4.5% (12)	264
More effective use of S106[*]	94.2% (245)	5.8% (15)	260
Community engagement	92.7% (242)	7.3% (19)	261
Improved management of the spaces	91.3% (232)	8.7% (22)	254

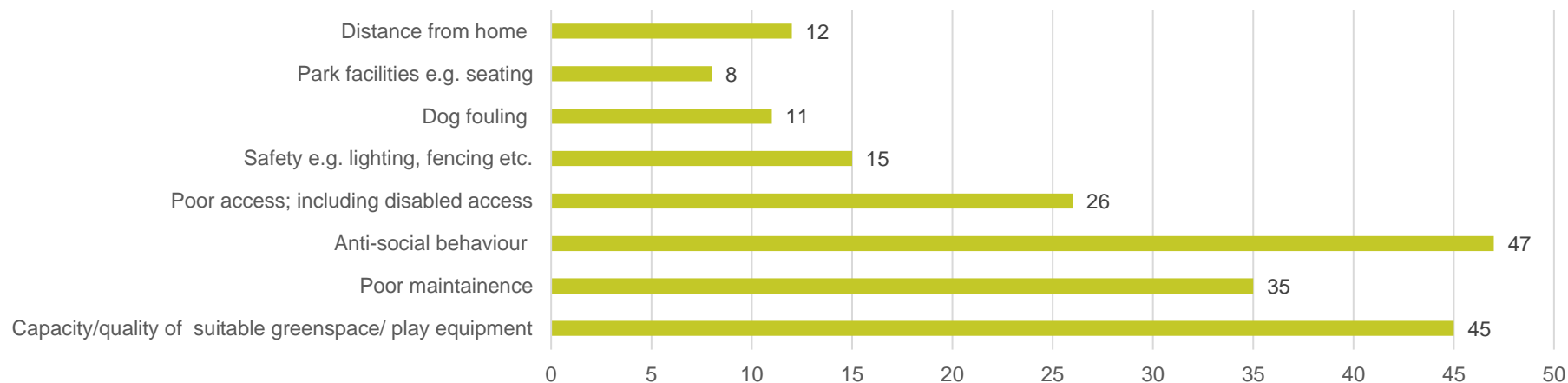
17. What do you perceive as potential opportunities for open space in the Borough as a whole? Select all that apply and please provide comments.[*] A Section 106 [S106] is a legally binding document between Local Authorities and Developers. Under S106 the Local Authority can seek financial contributions from developers towards the cost of providing new open spaces, or enhancing existing open spaces where significant impact from a development is identified, which can not be mitigated on site.

	Yes	No	Response Total
Increased community events	76.4% (194)	23.6% (60)	254
Marketing / Social Media	69.2% (171)	30.8% (76)	247
Engagement with developers	90.1% (227)	9.9% (25)	252
Engagement with the community and stakeholders	94.5% (239)	5.5% (14)	253
		answered	281
Other please state: (41)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging developers to work with volunteers as well as the Council. Review use of sports facilities – e.g. St George's field could be better used for football or cricket. The running track in the town park could be resurfaced and not have funfairs on it. Improved mapping and route suggestions that are up to date on the TWC website. Green gym equipment. Audit and mapping of greenspace provision. 			

18. Are there any specific barriers which prevent or discourage you or your children from using play/open space provision?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Yes	<div></div>	59.46%	176
2	No	<div></div>	40.54%	120
			answered	296

18. Are there any specific barriers which prevent or discourage you or your children from using play/open space provision?



19. Are there any specific improvements you would like to see to each type of play space?		
Answer Choices	Improvements	Response Total
Children's Play Areas	100.00% 134	134
BMX Tracks	100.00% 59	59
Skate Parks	100.00% 60	60
Outdoor Gyms	100.00% 73	73
Other	100.00% 38	38
	answered	179

APPENDIX D: AUDIT RESULTS

**9039 Telford PROS Needs Assessment
x9039.014
Quality and Value Audit Scores**

Site Name	Site ID	Auditor	Typology	Quality Score	Quality Banding	Value Score	Value Banding
Telford North							
Shepherds Lane NSN	262	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	61	High
Wrekin Road Allotments	187	TEP	Allotments	100	Excellent	32	Low
Millstream Way Allotments	326	TEP	Allotments	100	Excellent	32	Low
Kelley Park Road AGS	1333	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	48	Medium
Starmore Drive Allotments	939	TEP	Allotments	100	Excellent	32	Low
Heatherdale NSN	290	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	45	Medium
Goodyear Way NSN	234	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	33	Low
Hurlebrook Way AGS	1012	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	38	Low
Carlton Drive NSN	1035	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	28	Low
Humber Way AGS	122	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	37	Low
Fifth Avenue NSN	365	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	25	Low
Hortonwood 40 NSN	1008	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	25	Low
Sunnyside Road NSN	266	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	25	Low
Station Fields NSN	281	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	18	Low
University of Wolverhampton Telford Campus AGS	433	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	13	Low
St Paul's Drive NSN	285	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	37	Low
University of Wolverhampton Telford Campus NSN	427	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	28	Low
Daisy Bank Drive NSN	249	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	28	Low
<Null>	1259	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	28	Low
Whitechapel Way NSN	1041	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	26	Low
Golf Links Lane NSN	1010	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	47	Medium
School Road Allotments	1312	TEP	Allotments	98	Excellent	32	Low
Shifnal Road NSN	426	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	26	Low
Arlston Avenue NSN	1015	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	23	Low
Greyhound Hill NSN	282	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	97	Excellent	29	Low
<Null>	1231	TEP	Cemeteries	97	Excellent	11	Low
Barnes Wallace Drive AGS2	1003	TEP	Amenity	97	Excellent	28	Low
The Ashes NSN	1353	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	96	Excellent	38	Low
Parkers Pool NSN	678	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	95	Excellent	38	Low
Gatcombe Way MUGA	1298	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	95	Excellent	42	Medium
Nuthatch Crescent Play Area	1289	TWC	Play Areas for Children	95	Excellent	27	Low
Leegomery Local Centre NSN	335	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	94	Excellent	56	Medium
Hartshill Park	271	TEP	Parks & Gardens	94	Excellent	53	Medium
Limestone Way Open Space, Wellington	1248	TEP	Amenity	94	Excellent	38	Low
Hadley Castle Outdoor Gym	1287	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	94	Excellent	28	Low
St Mary's Church	264	TEP	Cemeteries	93	Excellent	44	Medium
Wellington Cemetery	181	TEP	Cemeteries	93	Excellent	43	Medium
Dalebrook Drive NSN	1030	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	93	Excellent	35	Low
Florence Close Play Area	1281	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	28	Low
Kelley Park Rd Play Area	1161	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	29	Low
Teecce Drive MUGA	1302	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	93	Excellent	33	Low
Kelley Business Park NSN	1016	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	92	Excellent	29	Low
New Road Field between Trench and Railfreight Line	1241	TEP	Amenity	92	Excellent	10	TEP
Bowring Recreation Ground/CYP	179	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	34	Low
Frome Way Play Area	940	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	27	Low
Kelley Playing Field Play Area	1332	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	27	Low
Fresday Drive Children's Play Area	418	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	28	Low
Trenchwood Gardens Play Area	1162	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	22	Low
Wellington Town Centre	685	TEP	Civic Spaces	91	Excellent	26	Low
Lodge Road NSN	360	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	91	Excellent	46	Medium
Orston Lane Play Area	1151	TWC	Play Areas for Children	91	Excellent	25	Low
Caldera Road Ball Court	1331	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	91	Excellent	31	Low
Gatcombe Way Children's Play Area	965	TWC	Play Areas for Children	91	Excellent	22	Low
Glade Way AGS	1000	TEP	Amenity	90	Excellent	36	Low
Newlands Road NSN	301	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	90	Excellent	25	Low
Kelley Play Area	1165	TWC	Play Areas for Children	90	Excellent	38	Low
Pains Lane MUGA and skate park	1295	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	90	Excellent	35	Low
Shrubbery Road NSN	265	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	89	Very Good	32	Low
Trench Community Association Play Area	344	TWC	Play Areas for Children	89	Very Good	34	Low
Wellington Road (Broadoaks) BMX Track	1277	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	89	Very Good	42	Medium
Highlander Drive Ball Court	1326	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	89	Very Good	27	Low
Copper Beech Road AGS	404	TEP	Amenity	88	Very Good	27	Low
Keepers Crescent Play Area	943	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	31	Low
Millstream Way Play Area	329	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	28	Low
Tilia Green Play Area	1160	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	34	Low
Hadley Manor Play Area	1329	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	28	Low
Millfields Children's Play Area	194	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	23	Low
Riddings Close Play Area	1291	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	27	Low
Teecce Drive Children's Play Area	436	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	24	Low
Newlands Road CYP	300	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	20	Low
Oakfield Road AGS	111	TEP	Amenity	86	Very Good	38	Low
Wombidge Children's Play Area	410	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	26	Low
Hollies Road Children's Play Area	962	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	21	Low
Wesley Drive NSN	273	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	85	Very Good	43	Medium
<Null>	1257	TEP	Amenity	85	Very Good	10	Low
Warwick Way play area	1155	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	37	Low
Kelley BMX track	1133	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	85	Very Good	37	Medium
Hartshill Park Children's Play Area	270	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	38	Low
Freestone Avenue Ball Court	1336	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	85	Very Good	30	Low
Britannia Way Play Area	1159	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	27	Low
<Null>	1217	TEP	Amenity	84	Very Good	46	Medium
School Lane Donnington Play Area	936	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	25	Low
Kelley skatepark	1163	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	40	Medium
Humber Way Children's Play Area	905	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	27	Low
Millfields Young Peoples Play Area	910	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	84	Very Good	28	Low
Stile Rise AGS	112	TEP	Amenity	83	Very Good	65	High
Copper Beach Road NSN	405	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	83	Very Good	30	Low
Freestone Avenue Play Area	307	TWC	Play Areas for Children	83	Very Good	33	Low
Dothill Play Area	700	TWC	Play Areas for Children	83	Very Good	26	Low
Victoria Avenue CYP	374	TWC	Play Areas for Children	83	Very Good	22	Low
Snedshill NSN	302	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	82	Very Good	44	Medium
Little Mill Meadow Ball Court	1285	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	82	Very Good	36	Low
Whimbre Close CYP	328	TWC	Play Areas for Children	82	Very Good	23	Low
<Null>	1266	TEP	Amenity	81	Very Good	46	Medium
Wellington Road (Broadoaks) Play Ground	132	TWC	Play Areas for Children	81	Very Good	28	Low
Leegomery BMX Area	327	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	81	Very Good	34	Low
Kelley MUGA	1134	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	81	Very Good	31	Low
Hollyoak Grange CYP	311	TWC	Play Areas for Children	81	Very Good	27	Low
Brockwood Copse Play area	1158	TWC	Play Areas for Children	81	Very Good	21	Low
Kenway Drive Play Area	941	TWC	Play Areas for Children	81	Very Good	21	Low
Glade Way NSN	113	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	80	Very Good	62	High
Highlander Drive Play Area	1154	TWC	Play Areas for Children	79	Good	22	Low
St Georges Sports and Social Club Children's Play	313	TWC	Play Areas for Children	79	Good	27	Low
School Lane DonningtonMUGA	1278	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	79	Good	30	Low
Little Mill Meadow Play Area	1156	TWC	Play Areas for Children	78	Good	36	Low
First Avenue CYP	367	TWC	Play Areas for Children	78	Good	27	Low
Wellington Road (Broadoaks) Multi Use Games Area	935	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	78	Good	32	Low
Millstream Way Multi-use Games Area	951	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	78	Good	28	Low
Bronley Way MUGA and Shelter	1300	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	78	Good	29	Low
Hollies Road Multi-use Games Arena	960	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	77	Good	26	Low
Pains Lane Play Area	1296	TWC	Play Areas for Children	76	Good	32	Low
Capewell Road Play Area	413	TWC	Play Areas for Children	76	Good	16	Low
Leases Close NSN	108	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	75	Good	67	High
Station Hill NSN	304	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	75	Good	44	Medium
Bank Way Play Area	1293	TWC	Play Areas for Children	75	Good	28	Low
Harvey Crescent Childrens Play Area	205	TWC	Play Areas for Children	75	Good	17	Low
Hartshill Park Outdoor Gym	1292	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	75	Good	36	Low
Caldera Way Play Area	1166	TWC	Play Areas for Children	75	Good	21	Low
Wombidge BMX and skate Area	956	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	39	Low
School Lane Donnington Skate Park	228	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	34	Low
Union Road CYP	379	TWC	Play Areas for Children	74	Good	19	Low
Parklands Play Area	372	TWC	Play Areas for Children	73	Good	26	Low
Watling Street Community Centre CYP	912	TWC	Play Areas for Children	73	Good	22	Low
First Avenue MUGA	1297	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	73	Good	30	Low
Persing Way Woodland, Apley	1252	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	72	Good	59	Medium
Oakenates Road NSN	358	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	72	Good	54	Medium
Onny Grove Play Area	942	TWC	Play Areas for Children	72	Good	31	Low
Persing Way NSN	1006	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	71	Good	54	Medium
St Matthews Road Play Area	236	TWC	Play Areas for Children	71	Good	21	Low
The Old Shewbirch P.H. (Stratford Park) Play Area	297	TWC	Play Areas for Children	71	Good	25	Low
John Broad Avenue CYP	200	TWC	Play Areas for Children	70	Good	25	Low
Leegomery Skate Park	952	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	70	Good	22	Low
Orston Lane AGS	1314	TEP	Amenity	69	Fair	32	Low
Constable Drive AGS	109	TEP	Amenity	69	Fair	69	High
Willows Road NSN	305	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	68	Fair	25	Low
Hollies Road BMX Area	961	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	66	Fair	26	Low
Deer Park Road CYP	695	TWC	Play Areas for Children	66	Fair	16	Low
Hurtleybrook Way Play Area	388	TWC	Play Areas for Children	65	Fair	16	Low
Copper Beech Road Play Area	403	TWC	Play Areas for Children	64	Fair	19	Low
<Null>	1221	TEP	Parks & Gardens	63	Fair	36	Low
Harvey Crescent Teenagers Play Area	911	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	60	Fair	20	Low
Leegomery Local Centre Play Area	332	TWC	Play Areas for Children	58	Fair	23	Low
New Testament Church of God	1236	TEP	Cemeteries	55	Fair	10	Low
Hadley Learning Community CYP	391	TWC	Play Areas for Children	55	Fair	16	Low
Florence Close Allotments	1280	TEP	Allotments	51	Fair	32	Low
Hortonwood 50 NSN	1009	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	49	Poor	37	Low
Greenlea Road (Parrot's Beak) Children's Play Area	348	TWC	Play Areas for Children	49	Poor	28	Low

**9039 Telford PROS Needs Assessment
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Quality and Value Audit Scores**

Site Name	Site ID	Auditor	Typology	Quality Score	Quality Banding	Value Score	Value Banding
Telford South							
Dawley Park	970	TEP	Parks & Gardens	100	Excellent	49	Medium
Sutton Hill Allotments	634	TEP	Allotments	100	Excellent	32	Low
Sutton Way NSN	638	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	35	Low
Legges Way NSN	1094	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	31	Low
<Null>	1263	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	30	Low
Park Road NSN	452	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	30	Low
Cedar Close NSN	319	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	26	Low
Stafford Park NSN	1042	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	26	Low
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	1238	TEP	Cemeteries	100	Excellent	18	Low
Southfield AGS	1105	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	37	Low
Woodland at Morton Court, Dawley	1249	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	25	Low
Greenspace at Savior Close, Dawley Bank	1245	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	34	Low
Beeches Road Public Open Space Woodside	1243	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	23	Low
High Street Local Centre	490	TEP	Civic Spaces	99	Excellent	29	Low
Bridgnorth NSN	1102	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	26	Low
Kelley Lightmoor Railway (North) NSN	513	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	21	Low
Doseley Road NSN	1052	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	21	Low
Sutton Hill NSN	635	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	14	Low
Spout Lane Green Space	1254	TEP	Amenity	99	Excellent	12	Low
Horsehay Pool NSN	1066	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	48	Medium
Bank Road NSN	1051	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	45	Medium
Holywell Meadow	1227	TEP	Parks & Gardens	98	Excellent	62	High
Croppings Park	1226	TEP	Parks & Gardens	98	Excellent	57	Medium
Stocking Farm NSN	1070	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	39	Low
Waverley NSN	1090	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	17	Low
Beech Road Allotments, Madeley	1250	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	17	Low
Parkway Woodland, Madeley	1251	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	17	Low
Ironbridge Road NSN	582	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	96	Excellent	45	Medium
The Crescent Play Area	1175	TWC	Play Areas for Children	94	Excellent	28	Low
Holy Trinity Church Dawley	527	TEP	Cemeteries	93	Excellent	43	Medium
Catholic Church of St Mary	605	TEP	Cemeteries	93	Excellent	38	Low
Town Park MUGA	1321	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	93	Excellent	41	Medium
Milners Lane CYP	438	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	32	Low
Frame Lane Play Area	1320	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	31	Low
<Null>	1256	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	92	Excellent	28	Low
Telford Park CYP	460	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	62	High
Prince Edward Crescent Play Area	451	TEP	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	24	Low
Meadowpit Mound	618	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	91	Excellent	28	Low
Frame Lane MUGA	1319	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	91	Excellent	39	Low
Trinity Road NSN	529	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	90	Excellent	36	Low
Brunel Road CYP	447	TWC	Play Areas for Children	90	Excellent	34	Low
Glendale BMX Track and MUGA	1303	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	90	Excellent	41	Medium
Portley Rd Children's Play Area	514	TWC	Play Areas for Children	90	Excellent	33	Low
Pageant Drive Teenager Facilities	1308	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	90	Excellent	41	Medium
Brindley Ford Children's Play Area	927	TWC	Play Areas for Children	90	Excellent	31	Low
Brunel Road Games Area	967	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	90	Excellent	36	Low
Dawley Park Children's Play Area	492	TWC	Play Areas for Children	89	Very Good	44	Medium
The Saplings	589	TWC	Play Areas for Children	89	Very Good	31	Low
<Null>	1222	TEP	Parks & Gardens	88	Very Good	42	Medium
Park Lane Games Area, panna court and skate park	583	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	88	Very Good	46	Medium
Dawley Park Outdoor Gym	1307	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	88	Very Good	40	Medium
Woodlands Play Area	1344	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	29	Low
Glendale Children's Play Area	662	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	30	Low
Gresham Drive Play Area	1338	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	32	Low
Spout Way Play Area	1340	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	29	Low
Waverley CYP	590	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	28	Low
Colliers Way NSN	323	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	87	Very Good	34	Low
Beckbury Drive CYP	537	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	24	Low
Beaconsfield Play Area	569	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	34	Low
Lancaster Avenue CYP	495	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	34	Low
Purbeck Dale CYP	487	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	30	Low
Brookside Skate Park	570	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	86	Very Good	40	Medium
Sutton Way CYP	636	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	34	Low
Overdale Playing Field Multi-use Games Area	673	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	86	Very Good	36	Low
Woodlands Skatepark and cycle track	1342	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	86	Very Good	33	Low
Croppings Park MUGA	1210	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	30	Low
The Rock NSN	321	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	85	Very Good	56	Medium
<Null>	1264	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	85	Very Good	53	Medium
The Crescent AGS	1339	TEP	Amenity	85	Very Good	43	Medium
Upper Newdale Play Area	1169	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	30	Low
Downmead CYP	471	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	32	Low
Stitchley Skate Park	1350	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	85	Very Good	40	Medium
Stitchley Multi Use Games Area	1349	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	85	Very Good	37	Low
Randlay Avenue Village Green Play Area	508	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	29	Low
Hills Lane CYP	609	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	34	Low
AB Graines Children's Play Area	657	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	29	Low
Park Lane Play Area	579	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	32	Low
Hills Lane BMX Track	999	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	84	Very Good	34	Low
Pool Side Children's Play Area	658	TWC	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	28	Low
Alma Avenue AGS	482	TEP	Amenity	83	Very Good	43	Medium
Overdale Playing Field Children's Play Area	672	TWC	Play Areas for Children	83	Very Good	27	Low
Stocking Park Play Area	1348	TWC	Play Areas for Children	83	Very Good	36	Low
Dallamoor CYP	472	TWC	Play Areas for Children	83	Very Good	30	Low
Station Road MUGA	1304	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	83	Very Good	32	Low
Overdale Outdoor Gym	1334	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	83	Very Good	23	Low
Southall Road NSN	526	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	82	Very Good	24	Low
Station Road	668	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	81	Very Good	27	Low
Pageant Drive Play Area 1	530	TWC	Play Areas for Children	81	Very Good	31	Low
Malvern Crescent NSN	932	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	80	Very Good	34	Low
Brookside Multi Use Games Area and Outdoor gym	929	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	80	Very Good	41	Medium
Crystal Drive Play Area and MUGA	1167	TWC	Play Areas for Children	80	Very Good	39	Low
Prince Street CYP	608	TWC	Play Areas for Children	80	Very Good	28	Low
Randlay Avenue Allotments	499	TEP	Allotments	79	Good	28	Low
Town Park North	459	TEP	Parks & Gardens	79	Good	59	Medium
Mount Road NSN	480	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	79	Good	21	Low
Stitchley Allotments	551	TEP	Allotments	79	Good	28	Low
Hills Lane Ball Court	1351	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	79	Good	40	Medium
Upper Road CYP	623	TWC	Play Areas for Children	79	Good	28	Low
Local Centre Play Area	633	TWC	Play Areas for Children	79	Good	25	Low
Pageant Drive Play Area 3	554	TWC	Play Areas for Children	78	Good	23	Low
Sutton Hill Local Centre Multi-use Games Area	977	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	77	Good	33	Low
Eleanor's Close AGS	561	TEP	Amenity	76	Good	46	Medium
Tweedale Crescent CYP	602	TWC	Play Areas for Children	76	Good	32	Low
Brindley Ford Games Area	567	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	75	Good	37	Low
Brookside Allotments	566	TEP	Allotments	74	Good	30	Low
Stitchley Cycle Trails Area	541	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	34	Low
Sutton Hill Local Centre Skateboard Park	976	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	33	Low
Chiltern Gardens AGS	1054	TEP	Amenity	73	Good	48	Medium
The Rock Children's Play Area	320	TWC	Play Areas for Children	73	Good	27	Low
Bembridge CYP	574	TWC	Play Areas for Children	72	Good	28	Low
Smallwood Play Area	627	TWC	Play Areas for Children	70	Good	10	Low
Randlay Ave. Village Green Multi Use Games Area	924	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	69	Fair	29	Low
Woodland at Boffield Close, Randlay	1247	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	68	Fair	34	Low
Culmington Play Area	545	TWC	Play Areas for Children	68	Fair	30	Low
Brianwood AGS	928	TEP	Amenity	67	Fair	42	Medium
Martingale Way AGS	665	TEP	Amenity	67	Fair	38	Low
Ironbridge Road CYP	587	TWC	Play Areas for Children	65	Fair	28	Low
Manor Road NSN	525	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	63	Fair	35	Low
Jiggers Roundabout NSN	1069	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	63	Fair	29	Low
Alma Fields BMX track	1305	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	63	Fair	40	Medium
Southfield CYP	628	TWC	Play Areas for Children	63	Fair	23	Low
Maesteg Way Woodland	1244	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	61	Fair	30	Low
Woodland at Brookside Avenue	1253	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	60	Fair	31	Low
<Null>	1268	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	59	Fair	41	Medium
<Null>	1261	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	59	Fair	29	Low
Princes End Children's Play Area	664	TWC	Play Areas for Children	59	Fair	22	Low
The Web Youth Club Multi Use Games Area	519	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	56	Fair	28	Low
Malory Drive NSN	564	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	54	Fair	36	Low
Stitchley Dingle	542	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	54	Fair	27	Low
<Null>	1173	TEP	Amenity	49	Poor	43	Medium
Coronation Crescent CYP	604	TWC	Play Areas for Children	48	Poor	17	Low
Halesfield 20 NSN	1096	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	47	Poor	29	Low
Dale Acre Way AGS	1060	TEP	Amenity	47	Poor	30	Low
<Null>	1265	TEP	Amenity	46	Poor	38	Low
Halesfield 16 NSN	1097	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	45	Poor	29	Low
Daddlebrook Games Area	645	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	32	Poor	20	Low

9039 Telford PROS Needs Assessment

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Quality and Value Audit Scores

Site Name	Site ID	Auditor	Typology	Quality Score	Quality Banding	Value Score	Value Banding
Kirkcaldy							
Ringers Lane Allotments	156	TWP	Allotments	100	Excellent	32	Low
<Null>	1228	TEP	Parks & Gardens	100	Excellent	40	Medium
Bridge Road 1 NSN	1098	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	44	Medium
Woodside Allotments	592	TEP	Allotments	100	Excellent	32	Low
Copperfield Drive NSN	142	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	40	Medium
Chapel Lane NSN	640	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	38	Low
Coal Port High Street West	1108	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	100	Excellent	35	Low
Telford Crematorium	317	TEP	Cemeteries	100	Excellent	20	Low
Sunnyside AGS	168	TEP	Amenity	100	Excellent	35	Low
Coal Port High Street East	1109	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	39	Low
Ironbridge Civic Space	650	TEP	Civic Spaces	99	Excellent	53	Medium
Cherry Tree Hill NSN	1083	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	38	Low
Orchard Lane NSN	622	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	99	Excellent	14	Low
Lloyds Head NSN	1101	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	98	Excellent	38	Low
Cherry Tree Hill AGS	1347	TEP	Amenity	98	Excellent	38	Low
<Null>	1220	TEP	Amenity	98	Excellent	12	Low
Dawley Road NSN	1045	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	97	Excellent	34	Low
<Null>	1219	TEP	Parks & Gardens	96	Excellent	61	High
Bridge Road 3 NSN	1100	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	95	Excellent	38	Low
Church road NSN	1107	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	94	Excellent	54	Medium
Marshbrook Way NSN	143	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	93	Excellent	37	Low
Aliscott Ball Court	1355	TEP	Teenagers & Young People	93	Excellent	48	Medium
Aliscott Play Area	1354	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	41	Medium
Mollett Drive Play Area	1284	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	33	Low
Rodington Village Hall Ball Court	1322	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	90	Excellent	23	Low
Hillside NSN	95	TWC	Natural & Semi Natural	88	Very Good	70	High
Aldermead Close NSN	1313	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	88	Very Good	59	Medium
Southside Gardens Ironbridge	1242	TEP	Parks & Gardens	88	Very Good	35	Low
Marshbrook Way Outdoor Gym	1327	TEP	Teenagers & Young People	88	Very Good	41	Medium
Dale End Riverside Park Play Area	225	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	34	Low
Edgmond Village Pavilion Games Area	920	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	88	Very Good	27	Low
Reynolds Wharf Play Area	1359	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	24	Low
Shrewsbury Road	85	TWC	Natural & Semi Natural	87	Very Good	54	Medium
Dale End Riverside Park	224	TEP	Parks & Gardens	87	Very Good	54	Medium
Admaston Multi Use Games Area	908	TEP	Teenagers & Young People	87	Very Good	34	Low
All Saints Church	14	TWC	Cemeteries	86	Very Good	63	High
Salweils Drive NSN	144	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	86	Very Good	42	Medium
Play Area off Fford View Waters Upton	1269	TEP	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	38	Low
Rodington Village Hall Children's Play Area	80	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	33	Low
High Ercall Village Hall Children's Play Area	901	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	31	Low
Marlebrook Way Roden Children's Play Area	81	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	34	Low
Squirrel Meadow Play Area	1328	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	28	Low
Burnell Road CYP	158	TWC	Play Areas for Children	86	Very Good	31	Low
Little Wenlock Outdoor Gym	1282	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	86	Very Good	25	Low
Little Wenlock Play Area	165	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	31	Low
St Luke's Church	2	TWC	Cemeteries	84	Very Good	63	High
Sunnyside CYP	169	TEP	Play Areas for Children	84	Very Good	31	Low
Sunnyside AGS Outdoor Gym	1283	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	84	Very Good	30	Low
Clark Croft AGS	1270	TWC	Amenity	83	Very Good	55	Medium
Admaston Cycle Track for BMX	907	TEP	Teenagers & Young People	82	Very Good	30	Low
Glovers Way AGS	107	TWC	Amenity	81	Very Good	62	High
Crudgington New Play Area	1357	TEP	Play Areas for Children	80	Very Good	30	Low
Manor Place Crudgington Play Area	42	TWC	Play Areas for Children	80	Very Good	22	Low
Sambrook NSN	4	TWC	Natural & Semi Natural	79	Good	52	Medium
Edgmond Village Pavilion Play Area	19	TEP	Play Areas for Children	79	Good	28	Low
Crudgington New Outdoor Gym	1356	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	79	Good	29	Low
Marshbrook Way Play Area	1157	TWC	Play Areas for Children	76	Good	28	Low
Salweils Drive CYP	134	TWC	Play Areas for Children	76	Good	34	Low
Tibberton C.E. Primary School CYP	975	TWC	Play Areas for Children	76	Good	28	Low
Marshbrook Way ball court	1193	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	76	Good	33	Low
Marlebrook Way Roden Young Persons kick about area	900	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	28	Low
Health Court Elderdine Outdoor Gym	1323	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	26	Low
Cherry Tree Hill Play Area	656	TWC	Play Areas for Children	72	Good	34	Low
Sutherland Gate Play Area	133	TWC	Play Areas for Children	72	Good	28	Low
Brands Avenue MUGA	1311	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	72	Good	34	Low
Lilleshall Primary School Play Area	97	TWC	Play Areas for Children	69	Fair	34	Low
Meadow Drive Watcot Play Area	148	TWC	Play Areas for Children	61	Fair	22	Low
Haygate Road AGS	1316	TWC	Amenity	59	Fair	50	Medium
Newport							
<Null>	1232	TEP	Cemeteries	96	Excellent	55	Medium
Water Lane Victoria Park CYP	54	TWC	Play Areas for Children	93	Excellent	30	Low
Wellington Road Newport Games Area	1191	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	93	Excellent	36	Low
Wallshead Way Games Area	1276	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	93	Excellent	36	Low
Wellington Road Newport Play Area	1153	TWC	Play Areas for Children	92	Excellent	29	Low
Meadow View Road Allotments	74	TEP	Allotments	90	Excellent	45	Medium
Wallshead Way CYP	78	TWC	Play Areas for Children	88	Very Good	28	Low
Norbrook Park Play Area	30	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	25	Low
Stonebridge Play Area	1179	TWC	Play Areas for Children	87	Very Good	27	Low
Newport General Cemetery	75	TEP	Cemeteries	85	Very Good	73	High
Greenfields Drive	1275	TEP	Amenity	85	Very Good	67	High
Water Lane Park	52	TEP	Parks & Gardens	85	Very Good	73	High
Bannmeadow Road CYP	73	TWC	Play Areas for Children	85	Very Good	25	Low
Water Lane Park Outdoor Gym	1274	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	81	Very Good	30	Low
Ashworth Way AGS	77	TEP	Amenity	80	Very Good	60	High
Broomfield Road CYP	60	TWC	Play Areas for Children	80	Very Good	26	Low
Play area off Plough Lane	1271	TWC	Play Areas for Children	80	Very Good	35	Low
Newport Showground Play Area	28	TWC	Play Areas for Children	79	Good	36	Low
Norbrook Park Skate Park	1273	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	79	Good	34	Low
Daniels Cross Play Area	72	TWC	Play Areas for Children	75	Good	35	Low
Wrekin Avenue CYP	67	TWC	Play Areas for Children	75	Good	15	Low
Beechfields Way Teenagers Play Area	918	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	74	Good	23	Low
Baddley's Wells NSN	80	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	71	Good	64	High
Norbrook Park BMX Track	32	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	66	Fair	29	Low
Norbrook Park NSN	35	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	55	Fair	73	High
Beechfields Way NSN	36	TEP	Natural & Semi Natural	53	Fair	29	Low
Norbrook Park Ball Park	1310	TWC	Teenagers & Young People	46	Poor	26	Low

APPENDIX E: DESIGN GUIDE FOR OPEN SPACE



Play, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment

Design Guide

June 2023
9039.017

TEP
Genesis Centre,
Birchwood Science Park,
Warrington,
WA3 7BH

Tel: 01858 383120
Email: tep@tep.uk.com

Offices in Warrington, Market Harborough, Gateshead, London and Cornwall

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Author	Antony Geddes
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Checked	Rebecca Martin
Approved	Lindsey Cunliff

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Introduction

TEP was commissioned by Telford & Wrekin Council in August 2021 to produce a Play, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment and Developer Contributions Strategy. This short design guide is provided to support the Needs Assessment and to guide developers on the standards of open space required in the borough.

The Design Guide includes a general approach to designing and managing external environments, as well as a basic introduction on the long-term management requirements therein.

The Design Guide is divided between each of the open space typologies identified below.

Open Space Typology	Description
Allotments and Community Gardens	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.
Amenity Green space	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.
Cemeteries and Burial Grounds	Cemeteries and Burial Grounds including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.
Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced areas usually located within town or city centres.
Natural and Semi-Natural Green space	Includes country parks, nature reserves, publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, wetlands and wastelands.
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Usually in the form of pitches or other sports provision, such as football, rugby or cricket pitches as well as tennis courts or bowling greens.
Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks and formal gardens. Parks usually contain a variety of facilities, and may have one of more of the other types of open space within them.
Play Space (Children)	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction specifically designed as equipped play facilities for children.
Play Space (Youth and Teenagers)	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction specifically designed as equipped play facilities for young people.

This document is not an exhaustive list of design requirements, but should provide an example of the quality, style and likely management standards expected for a given space. Open spaces should be publicly accessible where possible.

This guide should be read in conjunction with the Play, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment (TEP ref: 9039.004).

Landscape Design Standards

Key British Standards and Guidance of Relevance

All open spaces should be designed, constructed and maintained in conjunction with the following standards as a minimum.

Topsoil BS 3882:2015

- This British Standard specifies requirements for the classification and composition of natural and manufactured topsoils that are moved or traded for creating soil profiles intended to support plant growth.

Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces) BS 4428:1989.

- This British Standard code of practice gives recommendations for the following general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces):
 - a) preliminary investigations;
 - b) drainage;
 - c) grading and cultivation;
 - d) seeding of grass areas;
 - e) turfing;
 - f) amenity tree planting;
 - g) woodland planting; and
 - h) planting of shrubs, herbaceous plants and bulbs.

Recommendations for Transplanting root-balled trees BS 4043:1989

- This British Standard gives recommendations for techniques for transplanting trees which are to be moved with a ball of earth around their roots.

Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations BS 8545:2014

- The purpose of this standard is to explain how new trees can be successfully grown and planted so that they flourish in the landscape without excessive maintenance.

Trees in relation to construction BS5837-2012

- Where tree retention or planting is proposed in conjunction with nearby construction, the objective should be to achieve a harmonious relationship between trees and structures that can be sustained in the long-term. The good practice recommended in this British Standard is intended to assist in achieving this objective.

Pavements constructed with clay, concrete or natural stone paving units Code of practice for the structural design of pavements using modular paving units BS 7533-101:2021

- The British Standard provides recommendations and guidance on the design of pavements surfaced with modular paving units.

Grounds Maintenance BS7370 Part 4

- Recommendations for landscape maintenance of soft landscape (other than amenity turf)

Playground Equipment and Surfacing BS EN 1177

- Covers playground equipment, and the necessary surfacing to reduce the consequences of ground impact of a child. For example, during adventurous play exploring high up on equipment and unfortunately falling.

Skateparks BS 14974:2019

- A safety standard which provides the overall standards for skateparks and BMX tracks.

Outdoor Gym Equipment BS EN 1176

- A safety standard which provides the overall standard for Outdoor Gym Equipment.

Sports England Design and Cost Guidance

- Guidance to help create a greater understanding of overall design concept. While this guidance is not a regulation, it is based on good practice and experience drawn from a

Landscape Design Standards

Tree Replacements and Tree Lined Streets

Paragraph 131 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that *“Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments and can help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined...”*

Trees (new planting)

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible of local provenance native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;
- All new planting will require a UK plant passport;
- Character – consider the existing character of the area when selecting tree species;
- Interest – consider trees with distinctive features that can bring year round interest, i.e. trees with attractive bark, leaves, autumn colour blossoms, flowers , and the use of evergreen species in appropriate locations;
- Trees species should retain leaves for long periods, provide good variation in colour and form, and should not produce fruits that will stain, or produce leaves that will create a slip hazard;
- Select varieties of tree species that avoid or are resistant to pest and disease;
- Mycorrhizal fungi tablets or granules are recommended at the time of planting to aid the successful planting and establishment;

- Tree Avenues— where trees are planted as an avenue they should be planted as a mix of native and non-native species to provide impact to the scale of the street, and resilience to pests and diseases. Where tree replacement planting is undertaken to a tree avenue, the replacement should be the same species as that removed;
- Size – carefully consider the appropriate size and spread of tree at maturity for the area to be planted along with leaf size and canopy cover, ensuring there is sufficient space for the tree to establish and thrive. Street trees should generally be extra heavy standard with rootball and a minimum girth of 16-18cm;
- Protection—trees will need stake (FSC certified), ties and guards during establishment as well as a suitable irrigation system for watering and bark mulch to suppress weeds. The height of stakes shall be specified, and stakes must not be used for container grown or rootball trees;
- Guying systems should be considered where trees are located in high amenity areas to provide stability and reduce damage from vandalism;



Image 1: Acer Campestre—Plant Partner

Landscape Design Standards

Tree Replacements and Tree Lined Streets

- Location – Where street trees are proposed on highway verges or central reservations there must be at least a 1m wide setback from the highway for maintenance access. Planting must ensure trees do not create obstacles, restrict sight lines, street lights or CCTV;
- Management should focus on maintaining the natural form of the tree, ensuring its successful establishment, continued healthy growth and its safety within the landscape;
- Wider context—tree planting schemes should consider wider SuDS and rain garden planting to aid water interception, storage and infiltration;
- Tree planting schemes should consider local ground conditions and the need for suitable underground tree planting systems early on in the design phase; and
- Tree planting schemes should consider the NHBC guidance Building near trees in relation to species selection.

Root Barriers

Tree pits and root barriers are required for any street tree, or tree in close proximity to services or the highway where the roots could impact services or highway construction. Root barriers should be included in the design of tree pits and can be included for individual trees or an entire street.

Replacement Trees

Telford and Wrekin Local Plan Policy NE2 states that *proposals that involve the felling or removal of trees, hedgerow or woodlands or are considered likely to cause demonstrable harm will normally be resisted unless acceptable mitigation or compensation measures can be secured*

Telford & Wrekin Council has produced a Tree Replacement Standard Guidance Note to support Policy NE2. The guidance note seeks to set out how the Council will request contributions when new planting is required on public land to mitigate or compensate for the impacts of a development.



Image 2: Sorbus aucuparia—Plant Partner



Image 3: Prunus avium—Plant Partner

A photograph of a butterfly with orange and black markings on its wings, perched on a cluster of purple lavender flowers. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent green overlay. The text 'Landscape Typologies' is centered over the image, underlined.

Landscape Typologies

Typology

Allotments and Community Gardens

Allotments and Community Gardens provide opportunities for those who wish to do so, to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.

Vegetation

- Planting will generally be for the allotment plot holder to design and maintain as they wish (according to the rules of the allotment); and
- Management will focus on communal areas, which may contain existing trees and hedges and should be managed to permit safe use of the site. Management intensity is likely to be low and infrequent.

Grassland

- Any grassland inside a tenanted plot will be managed by the allotment holder; and
- Communal areas of lawn will be managed to maintain a neat and tidy appearance and aid safe movement throughout the allotment.

Furniture

- Allotments should be secured with boundary fencing and associated vehicular and/or pedestrian access gate;
- A shared vehicular and pedestrian gate will allow access; and
- Water points will be required.

Signage

- Information boards should be provided detailing the 'rules' of the allotment, as well as important health and safety information;
- Should include reference to the National Allotment Society guidance notes.

Hard Surfaces

- Communal footpaths through the allotments will act to create a designed grid, separating the plots. The surface material should be a robust, low maintenance bound surface such as tarmac. The primary focus is on maintaining accessibility rather than aesthetic quality; and
- Secondary paths leading off to plots should consist of permeable bound surfaces such as bound gravel.
- Car parking provision may also be provided with adequate spaces for the type of facility.



Image 4: Turf and communal areas between allotment



Image 5: Planting in plots by allotment holder

Typology

Amenity Green space

Amenity Green spaces should be central to the development, used for informal recreational use for residents whilst enhancing the appearance of the area and softening the urban fabric.

Trees (new planting)

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;
- Character – consider the existing character of the area when selecting tree species;
- Interest – select trees that can bring year round interest, i.e. trees with attractive bark, blossoms, flowers or berries, and the use of evergreen species in appropriate locations;
- Size – carefully consider the appropriate size of tree at maturity for the area to be planted;
- Select varieties of tree species that avoid or are resistant to pest and disease;
- Protection—trees will need stake, ties and guards during establishment; and
- Management should focus on maintaining the natural form of the tree, ensuring its continued healthy growth and its safety within the landscape.

Shrubs

- New shrub planting will generally be confined to formal spaces, part of a native boundary hedging or thicket mixes; and
- Shrubs planting should be of sufficient size so as not to be subject to predation or damage by site users. Any trees which are close to roads and pedestrian walkways should be managed to ensure that they are safe and healthy and do not adversely affect the amenity use of the space.

- Planting should be designed to enable natural surveillance of the area and promote long distance views across the site.
- Protection—trees will need stake, ties and guards during establishment; and
- Management should focus on maintaining the natural form of the tree, ensuring its continued healthy growth and its safety within the landscape.

Grassland

- Will consist primarily of amenity lawn areas for sitting, socialising and informal play; and
- Informal areas of longer grass may be left around the perimeter of the space to create habitat diversity.

Furniture

- Furniture should relate to its location and local distinctiveness to reinforce a sense of place. Different items of furniture should relate to each other in terms of design, material and colour;
- Avoid causing clutter and obstructions by careful citing;
- Use fencing and bollards where necessary to avoid mis-use, but aim to minimise furniture to create a welcoming space without barriers;
- Retain and refurbish distinctive historic elements of furniture where possible;
- Provide quality furniture, built to last;
- Seating should be away from residential developments to reduce nuisance;
- Seating should normally include armrests and backs to assist the elderly. Central armrests should be considered where rough sleeping is likely; and
- Bins should all be of a single, consistent style with simple detailing and easy to clean.

Signage

- Directional and informational signage forms an important part of wayfinding and navigation. The best signage strategies are consistent in style. Signage boards work best as a consistent suite of materials of matching styles, colours and finishes.

Hard Surfacing

- Paving should be consistent to aid wayfinding and reduce maintenance input;
- Materials should consider the visual character of the area and the intensity of use of the area; and
- Thought should be given to sourcing the materials from reputable suppliers with a strong track record in sustainable practices.



Image 6: Constable Drive: Informal amenity green spaces soften the urban fabric and provide space for low key /passive recreation.



Image 7: Informal green spaces help to soften the urban environment and provide some welcome respite

Typology

Cemeteries and Burial Grounds

Cemeteries and Burial Grounds include disused churchyards and other burial grounds. Cemeteries and Burial Grounds are often landscaped with trees, grassland and shrub planting with benefits wildlife, as well as providing space for quiet reflection. They may be formal and manicured in appearance or more informal and naturalistic with an emphasis on habitat creation. In both cases the emphasis is on managing the space sympathetically.

Vegetation

Trees

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;; and
- Ensure that the trees are regularly surveyed to ensure risk related to trees is managed.

Grassland

- For formal grounds, the grassland adjacent to footpaths and around gravestones should be mown with an amenity cut to facilitate access for visitors; and
- More informal grounds should be managed to encourage areas of long grass and wildflower around the perimeter, as well as for less accessible areas. Grass areas around grave stones could be kept short.

Shrubs

- Mature shrubs will often be positioned around the perimeter of the space to create a visual filter from the surrounding area, whilst also providing important wildlife corridors;
- Shrubs may also be single specimens, scattered throughout the grassland; and

- Some cemeteries may be more informal in character.

Furniture

- Will generally be minimal and limited to perimeter fences/walls and features such as gravestones and memorial sculptures/statues;
- Bins should all be of a single style sympathetic to the surroundings with simple detailing and easy to clean; and
- Sympathetic maintenance should ensure that structural elements are safe and secure. Gravestones should be left unless found to be unsafe.

Hard Surfacing

- Will generally consist of mixture of formal narrow paths and desire lines. Management should focus on accessibility for all users, ensuring paths are free from obstructions.



Image 8: Informal cemetery layout



Image 9: Formal cemetery layout

Typology

Civic Spaces

Civic Spaces are hard surfaced areas usually located within town or city centres. These are primarily for amenity use and offer minimal wildlife potential. Civic spaces should provide high quality space for informal recreation.

Vegetation

Trees

- Trees are generally planted in raised planters or within hard landscape with tree grilles or permeable surrounds;
- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;; and
- Tree planting should consider soil depth, quality and drainage. Trees should be positioned away from buildings and will primarily function to soften the aesthetic of the area, as well as providing shading and a wind break.

Shrubs

- Shrub planting will generally be in raised planters within hard landscape areas and will consist of low maintenance, drought tolerant, robust evergreen shrubs;
- Planting will need to be formally pruned and shaped to fit the desired space;
- Beds need to be kept weed and litter free to maintain a tidy, formal aesthetic; and
- Any new planting needs to consider available soil depths, drainage, availability of irrigation and the likely heavy use of the space. Where possible priority should be given to plants that are robust.

Furniture

The main basic considerations for civic space furniture include:

- Choose furniture to relate to its location and local distinctiveness, and reinforce a sense of place. Different items of furniture should relate to each other in terms of design, siting and colour;
- Avoid causing clutter and obstructions by careful citing;
- Retain and refurbish distinctive historic elements of furniture where possible;
- Provide quality furniture, built to last. It is important to establish a cyclical programme for replacement, which considers the likely production timeline for products in the future;
- Seating should normally include armrests and backs to assist the elderly. Central armrests should be considered where sleeping on benches is likely to be a problem;
- Bins should all be of a single style with simple detailing and easy to clean; and
- Features such as sculptures, obelisks and small structures should be relevant to the setting and maintained to be clean, free of graffiti and structurally sound.

Hard Surfacing

- Will typical form the majority of the space and will usually consist of highly robust natural stone or concrete pavers for pedestrian use and occasional vehicles; and
- Materials should be procured from sustainable sources with a replacement strategy detailed at the outset.



Image 10: East Village Stratford Civic Space

Typology

Natural and Semi-Natural Green space

Natural and Semi-Natural Green space includes country parks, nature reserves, publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, wetlands and wastelands.

Vegetation

Trees (new planting)

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;
- Character – consider the existing character of the area when selecting tree species;
- Interest – select trees with year round interest, i.e. trees with attractive bark, blossoms, flowers or berries near publicly accessible areas;
- Size – carefully consider the appropriate size of tree at maturity for the area as well as creating a diverse age structure;
- Protection—new trees will need stake, ties and guards during establishment; and
- Management focus on maintaining the natural form of the tree, ensuring its continued healthy growth and its safety within the landscape.

Street Trees

- The species planted should be native where possible and be non-toxic.
- Select trees which have all year round interest i.e., tree with attractive bark, blossom, flowers and berries near publicly accessible areas to create visual amenity.

Shrubs

- Shrub planting will generally be confined to more formal areas, including car parks, entrances, play areas and seating areas. Shrubs planted should be of sufficient size so as not to be subject to predation or damage by site users.

Grassland

- Will consist of large expanses of long grass and wildflower meadows and areas of amenity lawn for sitting, socialising and informal play.

Furniture

- Furniture should relate to its location and local distinctiveness, reinforcing a sense of place. Furniture should relate to each other in terms of design, siting and colour;
- Avoid causing clutter and obstructions by careful citing;
- Minimise 'defensive' furniture such as railings and bollards to create a welcoming space without barriers;
- Retain and refurbish distinctive historic elements of furniture where possible;
- Provide quality furniture, built to last;
- Seating should include armrests and backs. Central armrests should be considered where rough sleeping is likely; and
- Bins should all be of a single style with simple detailing and easy to clean.

Signage

- Directional/informational signage provide informative wayfinding and navigation. Signage should be consistent in style and the level of information.

Hard Surfacing

- The number of paving types should be kept to a minimum to create a consistent

aesthetic, assist wayfinding and reduce maintenance. Primary footpaths should be more hard wearing with secondary paths and trails being more informal;

- Materials should consider the visual character of the area, the intensity of use

of the area; and

- Thought should be given to sourcing the materials from repeatable suppliers with a strong track record in sustainable practices.



Image 11: Silkin Way Telford



Image 12: East Village Stratford Wetlands at Queen Elizabeth Park

Typology

Outdoor Sports Facilities

Outdoor Sports Facilities are generally in the form of pitches or other sports provision, such as football, rugby or cricket pitches as well as tennis courts or bowling greens.

Trees

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;;
- Any trees will be limited to the perimeter of the space; and
- The focus should be on tree management to ensure that they are safe and healthy and do not adversely affect the amenity use of the space.

Shrubs

- Shrub planting will generally be confined to more formal areas, such as around car parks, entrances and seating areas.

Grassland

- Management of grassland will focus on providing the required manicured finish for the sport in question; and
- Management of grassland areas will be intensive, requiring specialist sports pitch knowledge to ensure suitability, including; drainage, decompaction, nutrient input, topdressing, weeding, moss removal, ensuring a consistent sward density.

Furniture

- Located around the sports pitch or viewing area. Will likely be limited to seating and litter bins;
- Furniture should consider the character of the venue and any historic features. Modern facilities should be furnished with suitably modern and robust provisions.

Hard Surfacing

- Will be limited to gaining access to the facility for both pedestrians and maintenance vehicles. Surfacing will normally be a bound surface such as tarmac, or other suitable robust and low maintenance surface. Car parking provision may also be provided with adequate spaces for the type of facility.



Image 13: Richmond Green Cricket Match



Image 14: Bowling Green, Radnor Gardens Twickenham



Image 15: Public Tennis Courts in parks

Typology

Parks and Gardens

Parks and Gardens are generally multi-functional spaces, providing a range of facilities including landscaped gardens, playing fields, play areas and facilities for outdoor sport provision.

Trees (new planting)

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate;. Trees should match existing mature woodland and scattered trees;
- Character – consider the existing character of the area when selecting tree species;
- Interest – select trees that can bring year round interest, i.e. trees with attractive bark, blossoms, flowers;
- Size – carefully consider the appropriate size of tree at maturity for the area as well as creating a diverse age structure; and
- Protection—new trees will need stake, ties and guards during establishment.

Shrubs

- New shrub planting will generally be confined to more formal areas, such as around car parks, entrances, landscaped gardens, play areas and seating areas;
- Shrubs planted should be of sufficient size so as not to be subject to predation or damage by site users; and
- Garden areas should offer more variety than other amenity spaces with more elaborate herbaceous perennial displays and should demonstrate advanced horticultural skills.

Grassland

- Will consist of large expanses of long grass and wildflower meadows and areas of amenity lawn for sitting, socialising and active play.

Furniture

- Furniture should relate to its location and local distinctiveness, and reinforce a sense of place. Furniture should relate to each other in terms of design, siting and colour;
- Avoid causing clutter and obstructions by careful citing;
- Minimise ‘defensive’ furniture such as railings and bollards to create a welcoming space without barriers;
- Retain and refurbish distinctive historic elements of furniture where possible;
- Provide quality furniture, built to last;
- Seating should normally include armrests and backs to assist the elderly. Central armrests should be considered where sleeping on benches is likely to be a problem;
- Bins should all be of a single style with simple detailing and easy to clean; and
- Play equipment should fit the character of the space, as well as providing activities for a broad age range.

Signage

- Directional and informational signage form an important informative part of wayfinding and navigation. The best signage strategies are consistent in style and the level and type of information. Signage boards work best as a consistent suite of materials of matching styles, colours and finishes, as it reaffirms to the

visitor that they are still within the a site.

Hard Surfacing

- The number of paving types should be kept to a minimum to create a consistent
- Primary footpaths should be more hard wearing with secondary paths and trails being more informal;
- Materials should consider the visual character of the area, the intensity of use of the area; and
- Thought should be given to sourcing the materials from repeatable suppliers with a strong track record in sustainable practices.



Image 16: Furniture should be timeless in style, mixing modern and traditional styles for longevity—product Preva Urbana Park Bench



Image 17: Black Brook Corridor—. Parks combine formal paved walks with informal woodland walks



Image 18: Telford Town Park—extensive parklands should offer a variety of activity and play features.



Image 19: Victoria Park Stafford formally design with permeable paths and formal park benches

Typology

Play Area for Children

Provision for Children are areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas. The National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) designed a format offering guidance to Local Authorities and developers addressing the issue of play space. There are a number of elements to be considered, including:

- Size;
- Location;
- Play space;
- Position from other areas of the built / social environment; and
- Walking time.

A Local Area for Play (LAP)

A small area of unsupervised open space specifically designed for younger children. The area should be appropriate for low-key games; flat and level with grass surfacing. A guard rail, fence or shrubbery should be used as a safety buffer zone. New LAP's are not being sought at this time as part of new development, however existing LAP's should be maintained in a safe manner and replaced as required.

Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)

An unsupervised area equipped for children of early school age. LEAP's should offer at least 5 types of play function and should have seating for accompanying adults.

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)

An unsupervised site servicing a substantial residential area. This area should be equipped for older children, ages 8-14 years, but should have provision for slightly younger children. The size of the play area should accommodate 8 differing types of play equipment providing challenges and enjoyment appropriate to the age.

Trees and Shrubs:

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate and be non-toxic;
- Sensory planting should be planted to encourage close interaction;
- Low level, evergreen hedging can be used to define the play area; and
- Planting should not obscure natural surveillance of the space.

Grassland

- Will consist of grass matting safety surfacing in children's play areas.

Furniture

- Seating should be provided for accompanying adults, close to the play, though not necessarily inside ; and
- Play areas should be enclosed within a low level metal fence (bowtop)/guardrail with a painted finish.

Signage

- Information boards should be provided detailing the 'rules' of the play area as well as important health and safety information including the name and contact details of the managing organisation.

Play Equipment

- Will vary according to the size and nature of the play space, but all equipment should be consistent in terms of style, colour scheme and character;
- Equipment should be robust;
- Life cycle assessments should be made at the design stage; and
- Inspections will be required on a weekly, monthly and annual RoSPA inspections.

Hard Surfacing

- Inside the play space, hard surfacing will be limited to bound surfaces and safety surfacing around equipment.



Image 20: Formal play areas should promote safe, active play with a variety of activities for younger children



Image 21: Play equipment should look to include inclusive designs for children of all physical abilities.



Image 22: Skate Park in Bromley—skate parks should offer a variety of features for different skill levels with clear views across the space for natural surveillance



Image 23: Multi-use games areas (MUGA) offer a range of sports facilities.

Typology

Play Area for Teenagers and Young People

Provision for Teenagers and Young People are areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving equipped play areas, multi-use games areas and skateboard parks. These spaces should be open and inclusive, with seating areas for teenagers to socialise.

Both informal and formal play provision should be considered as well as fence free zones and encouraging natural surveillance within the design.

Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)

An unsupervised area equipped for children of early school age.

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)

An unsupervised site servicing a substantial residential area.

Developers should refer to the Developer Contribution Strategy for guidance when these new facilities are required.

Trees and Shrubs

- New trees will be considered on a site by site basis. Where possible native trees should be used as well as those resilient to a changing climate and be non-toxic;
- Sensory planting should be planted to encourage close interaction; and
- Planting should be designed to enable natural surveillance of the area and promote long distance views across the site.

Grassland

- Will consist of amenity lawn areas for active play.

Furniture

- Seating and bins should be provided around active play spaces. The furniture should be modern, robust and easy to maintain with simple detailing; and
- Bins should all be of a single style with simple detailing and easy to clean; and

Signage

- Information boards should be provided detailing the 'rules' of the play area as well as important health and safety information.
- Signage information should be implemented in and around the play area including name and contact details of the managing organisation.

Hard Surfaces

- Hard surfaces will vary according to the type of play facility. Skate parks will be almost entirely permeable bound surfacing with obstacles, ramps and rails.
- MUGA surfaces will comprise coloured bound surfaces with markings to denote various sports pitches/courts.
- Maintenance will be focused around ensuring that the surface integrity is maintained to remove any hazards. It will also require sports court demarcation to be regularly inspected and reapplied where necessary.
- Full safety surfacing should be used within the play areas to ensure safety underneath play equipment e.g., wet pour or rubber mulch.

A close-up photograph of several lavender flower spikes. A small butterfly with yellow and black markings is perched on one of the flowers. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

Landscape Maintenance Key Measures

The Local Plan (2011-2031), Policy NE 5 Management and Maintenance of Public Space, sets out the Council's expectations of management and maintenance of public space. There is a requirement that where applicable, developments with proposed open space provide sufficient management and/or financial provision for the future management and maintenance of new and existing public open space which forms part of, or is created by, a development.

A Landscape Management Plan (LMP) is essential for the long-term management of open space to ensure good quality open spaces and should be produced prior to the transfer of open space. A LMP should provide the following minimum information:

- Desktop review of the site including context, designations and history;
- Site specific information including management considerations including ecology, arboriculture and public rights of way;
- Aims and objective for the management of the Site;
- Management organisation who will be responsible for the open space post practical completion;
- The LMP will include; a schedule of works, approved landscape plans and details of all the hard and soft landscaping elements;
- How the funding of long-term maintenance of the Site is going to be secured;
- Procedure of review and monitoring of the open space and the Landscape Management Plan;

A LMP should not be changed without written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Landscape Management Key Actions	
Feature	Key Measures
Site wide	<p>Is the landscape establishing well and attractive to residents and wildlife overall?</p> <p>Is the Site in a clean and tidy condition?</p> <p>Is public access to the Site maintained?</p> <p>Are there any health and safety hazards / deficiencies which require rectification? Does the Site comply with the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation?</p> <p>Are there any instances where planting is repeatedly failing? If so, has an arboricultural consultant or landscape architect been consulted with to specify an alternative species?</p>
Retained woodland and trees	<p>Carry out an inspection to note any deficiencies. Concerns about risks to public health and safety and tree health, should be reported and specialist input sought as necessary.</p> <p>Review arboriculture assessment for recommendations on thinning and tree works.</p>
Proposed Tree planting including Street Trees	<p>Are weeds suitably suppressed and has mulch been topped up (where used)?</p> <p>Stakes and ties to be inspected and newly planted trees re-firmed and kept weed free.</p> <p>Any dead or dying trees should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p>
Proposed Woodland planting	<p>Stakes and ties to be inspected and newly planted trees re-firmed and kept weed free.</p> <p>Any dead or dying trees should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p> <p>Review arboriculture assessment for recommendations on thinning and tree works.</p>
Proposed hedgerows	<p>Inspection of the general establishment of the hedges until the branches of adjacent plants fully merge together to establish dense branch growth. Any dead or dying plants should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p> <p>Inspect planting and prune as required, or prune straight away if presents a hazard.</p>

Feature	Key Measures
Hedgerows	Carry out an inspection to note any gaps and re-plant with suitable native species.
Scrub	Carry out an inspection to assess any encroachment of scrub.
Heathland	Assess how varied the age structure of the heathland is.
Herbaceous planting	<p>Condition of mulch, including coverage, depth and effectiveness as a weed suppressant to be inspected.</p> <p>Any dead or dying specimens should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p>
Ornamental shrub planting/ structure planting/ native structure planting/ woodland edge	<p>Condition of mulch, including coverage, depth and effectiveness as a weed suppressant to be inspected.</p> <p>Any dead or dying specimens should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p> <p>Inspect planting and prune as required, or prune straight away if damaged and presents a hazard.</p>
Ornamental grasses	<p>Any dead or dying specimens should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p> <p>Inspect planting and prune as required, or prune straight away if damaged.</p>
Climbers	<p>Any dead or dying specimens should be replaced as specified in the original planting plan.</p> <p>Inspect planting and prune as required, or prune straight away if damaged.</p>
Amenity grassland	Inspection of the grass to ensure a well maintained weed free appearance. Re-seed as required.
Bulb planting	Inspection of the general condition of the bulb planting.
Wildflower grassland/ wildflower meadow	Inspection of the grass to ensure botanical diversity, weeds kept to a minimum, and no scrub encroachment. Re-seed as required.
Wet grass/ wet grassland/ marsh grassland	Inspection of the grass to ensure botanical diversity, weeds kept to a minimum, and no scrub encroachment. Re-seed as required.
Lowland meadow/ low maintenance grass/ rough grass/ informal grass	Inspection of the grass to ensure botanical diversity, weeds kept to a minimum, and no scrub encroachment. Re-seed as required.
Grazing	Inspection of area being grazed to review stocking rate and any requirement to rest the land.
Sports pitch	<p>Review the use of the sports pitch to determine any further maintenance required.</p> <p>Is the fertiliser plan implemented appropriate and having the desired effect?</p>

Feature	Key Measures
Ponds	<p>Inspection to the banks and ensure any tree or shrub saplings within 5m are removed.</p> <p>Review assessments following inspections and carry out recommended works.</p>
SUDS	<p>Inspection to the banks and ensure any tree or shrub saplings within 5m are removed.</p> <p>Carry out inspection of control structure and carry out minor repairs as required.</p> <p>Review assessments following inspections and carry out recommended works.</p>
Existing ditch/ ditch	<p>Inspection to the banks and ensure any tree or shrub saplings within 5m are removed.</p> <p>Review assessments following inspections and carry out recommended works.</p>
Amphibian refugia	Carry out inspection to check condition and remove blockages from access points.
Brash/ Habitat piles	Carry out inspection to check that materials have been replenished in time for the hibernation period in September.
Insect hotels	Inspect insect hotels to ensure they are in situ and in a suitable condition.
Bird boxes	Inspect bird boxes to ensure they are in situ and report any missing or damaged boxes to an ecologist.
Bat boxes	Inspect bat boxes to ensure they are in situ and report any missing or damaged boxes to an ecologist.
Play area	<p>Carry out regular inspections to identify deficiencies such as any signs of vandalism and general damage/ wear of equipment and minor repairs carried out promptly.</p> <p>Any item considered unsafe must be removed or made safe and replaced as soon as possible.</p>
Footpath and cyclepaths	Carry out an inspection to ensure weed free appearance and remove trip or slip hazards. Note any damage and carry out repairs as required.
Concrete flag paving	Carry out an inspection to ensure weed free appearance and remove trip or slip hazards. Note any damage and carry out repairs as required.
Fencing and railings	Carry out an inspection to note any damage which poses a risk to public health and safety, and carry out repairs.
Benches	Carry out an inspection to note any damage and carry out repairs/ replacement.
Bins	Litter picking will be completed weekly and an inspection will be completed to note any overflow or damage and rectify/repair.
Signage	Carry out an inspection to note any damage and carry out repairs/ replacement.



HEAD OFFICE

Genesis Centre,
Birchwood Science Park,
Warrington
WA3 7BH

Tel: 01925 844004
E-mail: tep@tep.uk.com

**MARKET
HARBOROUGH**

The Reynard Suite,
Bowden Business Village,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
LE16 7SA

Tel: 01858 383120
E-mail: mh@tep.uk.com

GATESHEAD

Office 26, Gateshead
International Business
Centre,
Mulgrave Terrace,
Gateshead
NE8 1AN

Tel: 0191 605 3340
E-mail: gateshead@tep.uk.com

LONDON

8 Trinity Street,
London,
SE1 1DB

Tel: 020 3096 6050
E-mail: london@tep.uk.com

CORNWALL

4 Park Noweth,
Churchtown,
Cury,
Helston
Cornwall
TR12 7BW

Tel: 01326 240081
E-mail: cornwall@tep.uk.com
