### Wider Benefits of Open Space

	<ul> <li>providing safe outdoor areas that are available to all ages of the local population to mix and socialise</li> </ul>
Social	<ul> <li>social cohesion - potential to engender a sense of community ownership and pride</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>providing opportunities for community events, voluntary activities and charitable fund raising</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>providing opportunities to improve health and take part in a wide range of outdoor sports and activities.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>providing easily accessible recreation areas as an alternative to other more chargeable leisure pursuits</li> </ul>
Recreational	<ul> <li>offers wide range of leisure opportunities from informal leisure and play to formal events, activities and games</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>open spaces, particularly parks, are the first areas where children come into contact with the natural world</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>play opportunities are a vital factor in the development of children.</li> </ul>
	reducing motor car dependence to access specific facilities
	• providing habitats for wildlife as an aid to local biodiversity
	<ul> <li>helping to stabilise urban temperatures and humidity</li> </ul>
Environmental	<ul> <li>providing opportunities for the recycling of organic materials</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>providing opportunities to reduce transport use through the provision of local facilities.</li> </ul>
Educational	<ul> <li>valuable educational role in promoting an understanding of nature and the opportunity to learn about the environment</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>open spaces can be used to demonstrate virtues of sustainable development and health awareness.</li> </ul>
	adding value to surrounding property, both commercial and residential, thus increasing local tax revenues
	<ul> <li>contribution to urban regeneration and renewal projects</li> </ul>
Economic	<ul> <li>contributing to attracting visitors and tourism, including using the parks as venues for major events</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>encouraging employment and inward investment</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>complementing new development with a landscape that enhances its value.</li> </ul>

Туре	Definition	Primary Purpose/Examples
Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks.	<ul><li>informal recreation</li><li>community events.</li></ul>
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspaces	Includes publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands (e.g. downlands, commons, meadows), wetlands, open and running water and wastelands.	<ul> <li>wildlife conservation,</li> <li>biodiversity</li> <li>environmental education and awareness.</li> </ul>
Amenity Greenspace	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.	<ul> <li>informal activities close to home or work</li> <li>enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.</li> </ul>
Provision for Children and Young People	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.	<ul> <li>equipped play areas</li> <li>ball courts</li> <li>outdoor basketball hoop areas</li> <li>skateboard areas</li> <li>teenage shelters and 'hangouts'.</li> </ul>
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Natural or artificial surfaces either publicly or privately owned used for sport and recreation. Includes school playing fields.	<ul> <li>outdoor sports pitches</li> <li>tennis and bowls</li> <li>golf courses</li> <li>athletics</li> <li>playing fields (including school playing fields)</li> <li>water sports.</li> </ul>
Allotments	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. May also include urban farms.	<ul> <li>growing vegetables and other root crops.</li> <li>N.B. does not include private gardens.</li> </ul>
Cemeteries & Churchyards	Cemeteries and churchyards including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.	<ul> <li>quiet contemplation</li> <li>burial of the dead</li> <li>wildlife conservation</li> <li>promotion of biodiversity.</li> </ul>
Green Corridors	Includes towpaths along canals and riverbanks, cycleways, rights of way and disused railway lines.	<ul> <li>walking, cycling or horse riding</li> <li>leisure purposes or travel</li> <li>opportunities for wildlife migration.</li> </ul>
Civic Spaces	Includes civic and market squares and other hard-surfaced community areas.	<ul> <li>designed for pedestrians</li> <li>primary purpose of providing a setting for public events.</li> </ul>
Indoor Sport and Recreation	Opportunities for participation in indoor sport and recreation.	<ul> <li>sports halls</li> <li>swimming pools</li> <li>indoor tennis</li> <li>indoor bowls.</li> </ul>

There are a number of types of land use that have not been included in this assessment of open space in conjunction with PPG17, namely:

- grass verges on the side of roads
- small insignificant areas of grassland or trees for example on the corner of the junction of two roads
- SLOAP (space left over after planning ie in and around a block of flats)
- farmland and farm tracks
- private roads and private gardens.

As a result of the multifunctionality of open spaces there is a requirement to classify each open space by its <u>'primary purpose'</u> as recommended in PPG17 so that it is counted only once in the audit.

This should be taken into account when considering additional provision. For example, in areas of deficiency of amenity greenspace, playing pitches may exist that provide the function of required amenity greenspace but its primary purpose is as an outdoor sports facility.



### Sevenoaks Open Spaces Study



Sevenoaks District Council is looking at all kinds of open space across the District. The study will investigate whether there is enough open space, how it is used and how easy it is to get to. Valuable information regarding other sport and recreation facilities in the District is also being collected as part of the study. This study is important to make sure that there is sufficient open space to meet the needs of our residents now and in the future. The questionnaire is quick and easy to answer. Please try to answer as many questions as possible by placing a tick in the boxes or writing your answer in the spaces provided. Please return your questionnaire even if you are unable to answer all of the questions, as any information you can provide will be very useful to us.

Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT each of the following types of open space are to you:						
	Very Important	Not Important	No opinion			
Parks and public gardens						
Natural greenspaces (e.g woodland, meadows)						
Green corridors (e.g footpaths, cycleways)						
Amenity greenspace (e.g grass areas in housing estates, village greens)						
Play spaces for children and young people (e.g play areas, skate parks)						
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts)						
Allotments						
Cemeteries and churchyards						

#### Q2

## Please say if you feel there is TOO little or TOO much provision for each type of open space within your local area.

	More than enough	About right	Nearly enough	Not enough	No opinion
Parks and public gardens					
Natural greenspaces (e.g woodland, meadows)					
Green corridors (e.g footpaths, cycleways)					
Amenity greenspace (e.g grass areas in housing estates, village greens)					
Play spaces for children and young people (e.g play areas, skate parks)					
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts)					
Allotments					
Cemeteries and churchyards					
	Travel Tin	1e			

## How long do you think you should be expected to travel to each type of open space? Please write the TIME you would expect to travel (in minutes) and tick the kind of transport you would expect to use.

Travel Time- Minutos	Malk	Cyclo	Pus	Car	Train
Minutes					
		Time-	Time-	Time-	Time-

•	

HOW OFTEN have you used each of the following types of open space in the last 12 months?

-	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Infrequently	Never
Parks and public gardens					
Natural greenspaces (e.g woodland, meadows)					
Green corridors (e.g footpaths, cycleways)					
Amenity greenspace (e.g grass areas in housing estates, village greens)					
Play spaces for children and young people (e.g play areas, skate parks)					
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts)					
Allotments					
Cemeteries and churchyards					

Q5

#### Please give your main reasons for USING open space (you may tick more than one box):

To walk	For a kickabout / general play.	Shortcut / easiest route
To walk the dog	To sit and relax or read	To use children's play
For fresh air	To look at flowers and plants	equipment
To take exercise	To observe wildlife	To take children out
To picnic / eat	To see events / entertainment	Other
To play sport on courts / pitches	As a meeting place	
lf "Other" please specify:		

Q6

#### For the open space types you DO NOT use, please say why not (you may tick more than one box):

Lack of time	Poor quality	Inconvenient public transport
Lack of interest	Unsuitable facilities	times
Too far from home	Feels unsafe	Dog fouling
Public transport not available /	Use open spaces outside Sevenoaks	Other
Car access / parking	l am not allowed	
Close to busy road / railway	Public transport costs	
If "Other" please		

### SECTION TWO - SPECIFIC TO THE OPEN SPACE YOU USE MOST FREQUENTLY.

			/. Please go straight to
		QUENTLY (please tick	one box only):
Parks and public gardens Natural greenspace (e.g. woodland, meadows) Green corridors (e.g. footpaths, cycleways)	Amenity greenspace grass areas in housir estates, village green Provision for children young people (e.g. pi	(e.g. Outdoo g pitches s) tennis o and Allotme ay Compt	or sports facilities (e.g. , bowling greens, courts)
Please name the open space SITE yo	ou use MOST FREQU	ENTLY	
How often do you visit the site? Daily			
	Travel		
How do you normally TRAVEL there? Walk Private car If "Other" please specify	Bus	Cycle	······
How LONG does it take you to reach Less than 5 minutes	Between 10-15 minut	tes Betwee	<b>00x only)</b> en 20-30 minutes
	Quality		
Please state if you experience any of frequently (as indicated in Q7):	the following PROB	LEMS at the open spac	ce type you visit most
Vandalism and graffiti Litter problems Anti-social behaviour Dog fouling Noise Smells Too busy/crowded Eear of crime	Significant problem	Minor problem	No problem
	SECTION 3 if you         Please state which open space TYPE         Parks and public gardens         Natural greenspace (e.g.         woodland, meadows)         Green corridors (e.g.         footpaths, cycleways)         Please name the open space SITE yo         How often do you visit the site?         Daily         Weekly.         How do you normally TRAVEL there?         Walk         Private car         If "Other" please         specify         How LONG does it take you to reach         Less than 5 minutes         Between 5-10 minutes         Between 5-10 minutes         Yandalism and graffiti         Litter problems         Anti-social behaviour         Dog fouling         Noise         Smells	SECTION 3 if you do not use any type         Type most frequently used         Type most frequently used         Please state which open space TYPE you use MOST FREE         Parks and public gardens       Amenity greenspace         Natural greenspace (e.g.       Amenity greenspace         Woodland, meadows)       Provision for children         Young people (e.g. plants, cycleways)       areas, skate parks)         Please name the open space SITE you use MOST FREQUE         How often do you visit the site?       Daily         Daily       Monthly         Weekly       Infrequently         Weekly       Infrequently         Weekly       Infrequently         Weekly       Bus         Private car       Travel         How LONG does it take you to reach this type of open sp         Less than 5 minutes       Between 10-15 minute         Between 5-10 minutes       Between 15-20 minute         Daily       Yandalism and graffiti         Litter problems       Anti-social behaviour         Dog fouling       Noise         Smells       Too busy/crowded	Please state which open space TYPE you use MOST FREQUENTLY (please tick Parks and public gardens

#### Q13 How satisfied are you with the following facilities at the type of open space you visit most frequently:

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied	Not applicable
Play equipment					
Maintenance and management					
Lighting					
Boundaries (e.g railings, hedges etc)					
Toilets					
Parking					
Provision of bins for litter					
Seats / benches					
Pathways					
Information and signage					
Planted and grassed areas					
	Aspiration	5			
What would be the TOP FIVE F frequently? (please tick only FI		uld like to see	e in the open s	pace you visi	t most
Well kept grass	Events eg music		features (eg		for young
Clean / litter free	Toilets		)	] people 1 Easy to g	
_, " ,				200,109	

Q14

Flowers/trees and	Cafe	features	site
shrubs	Seating	Nature	Easy to get around
Changing facilities	-	conservation area	within site
Clear footpaths	Picnic area	Dog walking	On site security (eg
Level surface/ good	Shelter		warden/CCTV)
drainage	Varied play	Dog free area	Art / sculptures
Entertainment	equipment	Litter bins	Information boards
facility			Variety of facilities
Other (please specify)			

## Q15 Which of the following factors would make you feel SAFER using this open space (you may tick more than one)

Adequate lighting	Staff-on-site	Landscaping (open aspect of
Clear route to open space	Reputation of area / space	the open space)
Adequate car parking	Boundaries (eg railings, fencing etc) Daylight	
Other (please specify)		

#### Accessibility

# Q16 Please give an indication of how happy you are with the following ACCESSIBILITY factors for the open space you visit most frequently.

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	unsatisfied	Not applicable
Visibility of site entrance					
Signage					
Opening times					
Easy to get there by walking					
Easy to get there with pushchairs or wheelchairs					
Easy to get there by public transport					
Easy to get there by cycleways					

Very

	Other Sites
Q17	Is there an open space, of the same type, nearer to your home that you do not use? Yes
Q18	If yes please state name of site:
Q19	Please state the reason for not using this site:
Q20	Please use the box below to write any additional comments about open space in your area:

### SECTION THREE- QUESTIONS ON SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

# Q21 How often have you used use the following types of indoor sport and recreation facilities in the District, in the last 12 months?

	More than once a	Once a	Once every 2	Once a	Less than once a	
	week	week	weeks	month	month	Not at all
Swimming pool						
Sports hall						
Squash courts						
Health and fitness						
Indoor bowls						
Indoor tennis						
Studios for dance and exercise classes						
Village hall						
School hall						
Community centre						

## Q22 Please tick below whether you feel there is ENOUGH OR NOT ENOUGH provision for each type of indoor sport and recreation facility within Sevenoaks.

	More than				
	enough	About right	Nearly enough	Not enough	Don't know
Swimming pool					
Sports hall					
Squash courts					
Health and fitness					
Indoor bowls					
Indoor tennis					
Studios for dance and exercise classes					
Village hall					
School hall					
Community centre					

Q23 How long do you think you should be expected to travel to each type of indoor sport and recreation facility? Please write the TIME you would expect to travel (in minutes) and tick the MODE of transport you would expect to use.

	Travel					
	Time - Minutes	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car	Train
Swimming pool						
Sports hall						
Squash courts						
lealth and fitness						
ndoor bowls						
ndoor tennis						
Studios						
/illage hall						
School hall						
Community hall						
Swimming pool	Squash	courts		School h	all	
Swimming pool	Squash	courts		School h	all	
Sports hall	Studios			Commun	nity centre	
Health and fitness	Indoor te	ennis				
Indoor bowls	Village h	all				
How do you normally TRAVEL to only)	this type of i	ndoor spor	t and recreat	ion facility?	? (please ticl	k one bo
Walk	Bus			Cycle		
Car	Train					
How LONG does it take you to rea box only)	ach this type	of indoor s	port and reci	eation facil	lity?(please	tick one
Less than 5 minutes	Betweer	n 10-15 minut		Retween	20-30 minutes	_
	20111007			Detween	20 00	s
Between 5-10 minutes		n 15-20 minut			minutes	

Q24

Q25

Q26

## For the type of indoor sport and recreation facility you visit most frequently (as indicated in Q24), please give an indication of your level of satisfaction with the following factors:

				Very	
	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	unsatisfied	Not applicable
Range of facilities					
Quality of facilities					
Cleanliness					
Maintenance					
Health and safety					
Appearance					
Changing facilities					
Staffing and supervision					
Customer care					
Programme of activities					
Security					
Car parking					
Overall					
If you have stated UNSATISFIED or VERY UNSATISFIED please state why					

Q28 For the type of indoor sport and recreation facility you visit most frequently (as indicated in Q24), please give an indication of your level of satisfaction with the following ACCESSIBILITY factors:

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very unsatisfied	Not applicable
Opening times					
Ease of booking					
Pricing					
Easy to get there by walking					
Easy to get there with pushchairs or wheelchairs					
Easy to get there by public transport					
Easy to get there by cycleways					
What type of indoor sport and recr demand for in Sevenoaks?	reation facilities	s would you l	ike to see more	e of and/or thi	ink there is
Swimming pool	Health and	fitness	Inde	oor tennis	
Sports hall	Indoor bowl	ls	Sqı	ash courts	
Other (please specify)					

Q29

## Q30 How often have you used the following types of indoor sport and recreation facilities OUTSIDE the District, in the last 12 months?

	More than once a week	Once a week	Once every 2 weeks	Once a month	Less than once a month	Not at all
Swimming pool						
Sports hall						
Squash courts						
Health and fitness						
Indoor bowls						
Indoor tennis						
Studios						
Village hall						
School hall						
Community hall <i>Please state the</i>						
names of the facilities you use outside the District						

## Q31 What are the main reasons for you NOT using indoor sport and recreation facilities in the District? (Please tick a maximum of three)

Lack of time	Poor quality facilities	Public transport costs
Lack of interest	Unsuitable facilities	Inconvenient public transport
Too far from home	Facility not provided in	
Too expensive	Sevenoaks	Don't know what is available
	Feel unsafe	Difficult to book facilities
Public transport not available/difficult route	Use facilities outside the	Unsuitable opening hours
Car access/parking difficult	I am not allowed	Poor standard of cleanliness

### Q32 If you currently use school, community and/or village halls inside the District, can you please state which activities you currently undertake there:

keep fit/aerobics	yoga	other (please state)	
badminton	table tennis		
Other:			

SECTION FOU	<b>IR - SOME DETAILS ABOUT</b>	TYOU
Are you:		
Male	Female	
How old are you?	25.20	60-75
Under 16	25-39	
16-24	40-59	75+
Which of the following best descril	bes your ethnic origin?	
White British	Black Other	Mixed White and Black
White Irish	Asian British	Caribbean
White Other	Asian Pakistani	African
Black British	Asian Indian	Mixed Black and White and
Black African	Asian Bangladesh	Asian Mixed Other
Black Caribbean	Asian Other	Chinese
Other (please specify)		
Are there any children in the house	hold under 16 years?	
Yes	No	
	L	
Please state your postcode (this winner no other reason):	ill be used to map the catchment	t area for open space types ar
no other reason):		

### Sevenoaks Sport & Recreation Clubs Survey

Q1	Please state the name of your clu	ub/organisat	ion:			
		C				
Q2	What activities does your club pa	articinate in?	) (nlease	tick as many a	s apply)	
Q	Football			Netball	appi)	
	Cricket			Indoor Bowls		
	Rugby			Badminton		
	Magby Martial Arts					
				Squash		
	Hockey Athletics			Cycling		
				Walking		
	Swimming			Other		
	If other please state					
Q3	How many adult male members of	do you have	?		Г	
04					ļ	
Q4	How many junior male members	do you nave	97		Г	
~-					J	
Q5	How many adult female members	s do you hav	e?		Г	
					J	
Q6	How many junior female member	rs do you ha	ve?		Г	
Q7	In which town/village do most of	your membe	ers resid	le?	,	
	C C					
Q8	How often does your club/organi	sation play/p	oractice	?		
	More than twice a week			fortnightly		
	twice a week		0	once a month		ŏ
	weekly		0	less than monthly	/	0
	-		0	-		0
Q9	Which leisure facilities (indoor a	nd/or outdoo	or) does	your club/organ	isation use?	
Q10	For facility 1 please rate the follo good:	wing aspect	s on a s	cale of 1-5 wher	e 1=poor and 5=	very
	Location	1	2	3	4	5
	Location	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
	Range of facilities	$\odot$	$\odot$	0	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$
	Quality of changing facilities	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
	Appearance	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
	Ease of booking	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$
	Pricing	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$
	Accessibility by public transport	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$
	Helpfulness of staff	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$
	Car parking	0	Õ	Õ	õ	õ
	Overall	õ	ŏ	ŏ	ŏ	õ
	lf average or below, please e reason why:	xplain the ma		Ŭ		0

# Q11 For facility 2 please rate the following aspects on a scale of 1-5 where 1=poor and 5=very good:

	1	2	3	4	5
Location	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Range of facilities		$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Quality of changing facilities		$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Appearance	0	0	0	0	$\odot$
Ease of booking		$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Pricing	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Accessibility by public transport	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Helpfulness of staff	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	
Car parking	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$
Overall	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
<i>If average or below, please reason why:</i>	explain the ma	ain	Γ		

# Q12 For facility 3 please rate the following aspects on a scale of 1-5 where 1=poor and 5=very good:

	1	2	3	4	5
Location	$\bigcirc$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\bigcirc$
Range of facilities	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$
Quality of changing facilities	0	0	0	0	0
Appearance	0	0	0	0	0
Ease of booking	0	0	0	0	0
Pricing	0	0	0	0	0
Accessibility by public transport	0	0	0	0	0
Helpfulness of staff	0	0	0	0	0
Car parking	0	0	0	0	0
Overall	Õ	õ	õ	õ	Õ
lf average or below, please e reason why:	explain the m	hain			

## Q13 For facility 4 please rate the following aspects on a scale of 1-5 where 1=poor and 5=very good:

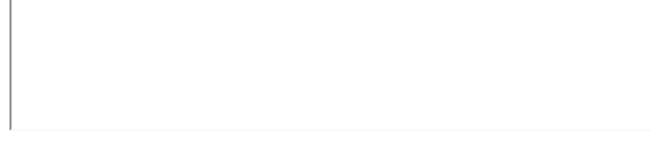
	1	2	3	4	5
Location		$\odot$		0	$\odot$
Range of facilities	0	0	0	0	0
Quality of changing facilities	0	0	0	0	0
Appearance	0	0	0	0	0
Ease of booking	0	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Pricing	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Accessibility by public transport		$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Helpfulness of staff	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Car parking	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
Overall		$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$	$\odot$
lf average or below, please e	xplain the ma	ain	-		
reason why:					

Q14 How would you rate the overall provision of leisure facilities within Sevenoaks?

Very good Good Average Poor Very poor Please explain the reason for this choice

Do the existing le Yes	isure facilites you use m	eet all the	e needs of your club/organisatic No	on?
If no, please expl	ain the reasons why not:	:		
What types of leis for in Sevenoaks		like to se	e more of, and/or think there is a	a deman
Swimming po	ool (lane swimming)		Multi Use Games Area	
	L			
Leisure Pool	S		Grass Pitches	
Leisure Pool Sports Halls	S		Grass Pitches Squash courts	
	-			
Sports Halls Health & fitne	-		Squash courts	

Q19If one thing could be done to improve the provision of leisure facilities in Sevenoaks, what would that be?



Q20If you have any general comments that you would like to make us aware of regarding the provision of leisure facilities in Sevenoaks, please use the space provided below:

### Thank you for your time.

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Reset Submit

### QUALITY SCORING ASSESSMENT

Site ID:					Date of \	/isit:	
Site Name:					Specific	Facilities	
Site Address:							
Type of Open Space:       1       Parks and Gardens         2       Natural and semi natural a         3       Green Corridors		areas	4 5 6	Amenity Greenspace Young People and Children Outdoor Sports Facilities	7     Allotments       8     Cemeteries and Churchyards       9     Civic Spaces		
	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Weighting	Assessor's Comments
Cleanliness and Maintenance							
Includes: Vandalism and Graffiti Litter problems Dog Fouling Noise Equipment Maintenance	5	4	3	2	1	x3	
Security and Safety					•		
Includes: Lighting Equipment Boundaries (e.g. fencing)	5	4	3	2	1	x2	
Vegetation					•		
Includes: Planted areas Grass areas	5	4	3	2	1	x2	
Ancillary Accomodation	Ancillary Accomodation						
Includes: Toilets Parking Provision of bins for rubbish/litter Seats / Benches Pathways (within the open space sites)	5	4	3	2	1	x2	

### **QUALITY SCORING ASSESSMENT (Definitions)**

			-			
		Very Good (5)	Good (4)	Average (3)	Poor (2)	
	Vandalism and Graffiti	No evidence of vandalism or graffiti	Limited evidence of vandalism or graffiti	Some evidence of vandalism or graffiti but doesn't really detract from the cleanliness or attraction of the area	Increasing evidence of vandalism and graffiti which would probably deter some users	Clear e proba
	Litter problems No evidence of litter Limited evid		Limited evidence of litter	Some evidence of litter but doesn't really detract from the cleanliness or attraction of the area	Increasing evidence of litter which would probably deter some users	Clear ev
Maintenance	Dog Fouling No evidence of dog fouling; specific dog fo bins provided where appropria		Limited evidence of dog fouling	Some evidence of dog fouling but doesn't really detract from the cleanliness or attraction of the area	Increasing evidence of dog fouling which would probably deter some users; no specific bins provided in appropriate areas	Clear evic
ss and Ma	Noise	Very quiet and peaceful site; no intrusion by any noise	Limited intrusion by noise; ie site located away from roads, railways, works sites etc	Little intrusion by noise (eg busy road, railway nearby) but wouldn't really deter usage of the site	Noise intrusion apparent; may have some affect on potential usage	Noise int
Cleanlines	Equipment (eg condition and maintenance of equipment in play areas or recreation provision)	Equipment in excellent condition and provides an attraction for users	Equipment in good condition	Equipment in reasonable condition; some potential improvements but not a necessity at this stage	Some equipment in poor condition and obvious that improvements could be made	Majority disre
	Smells (unattractive)	Aactive) No unattractive smells Limited unattractive smells Little un		Little unattractive smells or some smells that would be a one-off; shouldn't deter any usage	Some unattractive more permanent smells; may deter some users	Clearly a
	Maintenance and Management	Clean and tidy; well-maintained site that is inviting to users; possibly an example of good practice	Clean and tidy site; good maintenance	Reasonably clean and tidy site; some potential improvements	Some questions regarding the cleanliness of the site; some obvious improvements could be made	Po
Safety	Lighting	Appropriate lighting that promotes the safety of the open space; well-maintained	Appropriate lighting; well-maintained	Some lighting; some general improvements could be made	Limited lighting; or appropriate lighting in poor condition	Limited li
Security and Sat	Equipment (eg protection of equipment and appropriate flooring and surfaces) Equipment in excellent condition; excellent surfaces provided throughout the site; appropriate fencing of site to protect equipment and/or ensure safety of users		Equipment in good condition; appropriate and suitable surfaces provided throughout the majority of the site; sufficient measures provided to protect equipment and/or ensure safety of users	Equipment in reasonable condition; appropriate surfaces provided but some potential improvements; some measures provided to protect equipment and/or ensure safety of users	Equipment in poor condition; some questions regarding safety of use; appropriate surfaces provided but in poor condition or some clear concerns regarding surfaces; limited measures to protect equipment of users	
Sec	Boundaries (including hedges, fencing a	Clearly defined and well-maintained to a high standard	Clearly defined and maintained to a reasonable standard	Mostly clearly defined but possibly improvements to be made to the standard and condition	Poorly defined and some questions regarding the standard and condition	F
ation	Planted areas	Numerous planting, with appropriate mix of plants, installed and maintained to a very high standard; no weeds	Numerous planting, with appropriate mix of plants, installed and maintained to a reasonable standard; very few weeds	Appropriate range of vegetation and plants but with some patchy maintenance	Limited range of vegetation and plants but reasonable maintenance	Lim mair
Vegetation	Grass areas	Full grass cover throughout; cleanly cut and in excellent colour and condition	Full grass cover throughout and cleanly cut; few weeds but generally in good condition	Grass cover throughout but with some thin patches or excessive growth in some areas; some bald areas and a few weeds; but generally in good condition	General grass cover but some significant areas thins, saturated and/or poorly maintained; cut infrequently with obvious clippings still in existence	General g and/or
	Toilets	Provided where appropriate; easy to access; signed and well-maintained	Provided where appropriate; easy to access; some minor improvements could be made (eg cleanliness)	Provided where appropriate; reasonable access; generally not very well maintained	Insufficient toilets provided; or those provided are in poor condition and likely to be generally avoided by open space users; uninviting	No toile provided
5	Parking (related to open spaces)	On-site parking provided; adequate number; clean and in good condition; well signposted	On-site or appropriate off-site parking provided; adequate number; generally clean but some improvements could be made	Appropriate off-site parking provided; some limit in terms of spaces; generally clean	No on-site and limited off-site parking provided; or adequate number of spaces but in poor condition	Park
Accommodation	Provision of bins for rubbish/litter	Numerous bins provided and in good condition; in right locations and clearly labelled for appropriate purpose	Numerous bins provided and in average condition; clearly visible and in appropriate locations	Adequate number provided and in average condition; some signs of overuse/ damage etc	Insufficient number provided but in average/good condition; or appropriate number but with significant signs of damage or limited maintenance	Insuffi
Ancillary Ac	Seats / Benches	Numerous for the size of site and in good condition	Numerous for the size of site and in average condition	Adequate number for the size of site and in good condition	Insufficient number but in good condition; or adequate number but in poor condition	In
An	Pathways (within the open space sites)	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined; surfaces clean, debris and weed free and in excellent condition	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined; little debris and/or weeds but overall in good condition; good disabled access in most areas	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges reasonably well defined; some debris and/or weeds but doesn't detract too much from overall appearance; disabled access in some areas	Suitable materials but some faults; some difficulty with defined edges; debris and/or weeds detract slightly from appearance; some difficulties with disabled access	Inapprop not cle lii
	Information & Signage	Information clearly displayed in various formats (eg noticeboards, leaflets etc); signage in good condition	Information clearly displayed in appropriate format; signage in good condition	Appropriate information displayed in some format; condition of signage reasonable	Limited information displayed; signage that is provided in poor condition and uninviting	No inf
						<u></u>

Very	Poor	(1)
------	------	-----

r evidence of vandalism and graffiti which would bbably deter any usage of the open space site

evidence of litter which would probably deter any usage of the open space site

evidence of dog fouling which would probably deter any usage of the open space site

intrusion clearly apparent by a number of sources and would probably deter some usage

ity of equipment in poor condition and in a state of srepair; no signs of the issue being addressed

ly apparent unattractive permanent smells; would deter some potential users

Poor cleanliness; clear evidence of a lack of maintenance

d lighting in poor condition; or no lighting in places required

uipment in very poor condition; clear questions arding safety of use; inappropriate surfaces; no measures to protect equipment of users

Poorly defined and in a state of disrepair

Limited range of vegetation and plants; poor naintenance with some areas clearly suffering

al grass cover but with some serious wear and tear for limited grass cover in many areas; little or no serious attempt to correct the problem

bilets in a place that should be provided; or some ed but in a state of disrepair that are unlikely to be used

arking provision limited and in poor condition

ufficient number provided and in poor condition

Insufficient number and in poor condition

ropriate materials and/or significant faults; edges clearly defined; significant debris and/or weeds; limited disabled access or very restricted

information displayed in appropriate areas; no signage

#### Quantity

PPG17 advocates that planning policies for open space, including playing fields, should be based upon local standards derived from a robust assessment of local need.

The quantity of provision provided by the audit of open space has assisted in the setting of such local provision standards for both local authority areas. These are included for each type of open space in the separate sections and, as recommended by PPG17, is undertaken by population to calculate the quantity of provision per person.

The quantitative analysis has also taken into account key issues raised from previous consultations with the public. This provides a more objective view rather than relying solely on statistical calculations. A comparison with the community's view on the existing level of facilities required and the current level of provision needs to be undertaken to help establish a reasonable level of provision.

Provision standards are then applied to determine whether there is a surplus of provision, the provision was about right or there is a deficiency. All standards are based on 2001 Census data.

The overall aim of the quantity assessment is to:

- establish areas of the District suffering from deficiency of provision within each type of open space
- areas of significant surplus where it may be possible to investigate changing the type of open space to types that are deficient in that area.

#### Quality

Quality and value of open space are fundamentally different and can sometimes be completely unrelated. An example of this could be:

- a high quality open space is provided but is completely inaccessible. Its usage is therefore restricted and its value to the public limited; or
- a low quality open space may be used every day by the public or have some significant wider benefit such as biodiversity or educational use and therefore has a relatively high value to the public.

The needs assessment therefore analyses quality and value separately within each type of open space.

The overall aim of a quality assessment should be to identify deficiencies in quality and key quality factors that need to be improved within:

- the geographical areas of the District
- specific types of open space
- specific quality factors that ensure a high quality open space

This enables resources to be concentrated on areas that need to be improved.

#### Accessibility

Accessibility is a key assessment of open space sites. Without accessibility for the public the provision of good quality or good quantity of open space sites would be of very limited value. The overall aim of an accessibility assessment should be to identify:

- how accessible sites are
- how far are people are willing to travel to reach open space
- areas of the District deficient in provision
- areas of the District differing in accessibility and therefore of priority importance
- key accessibility factors that need to be improved

Setting accessibility standards for open space should be derived from an analysis of the accessibility issues within the audit and in light of community views.

Distance thresholds (i.e. the maximum distance that typical users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of provision using different modes of transport) are a very useful planning tool especially when used in association with a Geographical Information System (GIS).

PPG17 encourages any new open space sites or enhancement of existing sites to be accessible by environmentally friendly forms of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport. There is a real desire to move away from reliability on the car.

#### Level of usage and value

The value of an open space site is entirely different to quality and relates mainly to three key factors as described in PPG17 companion guide:

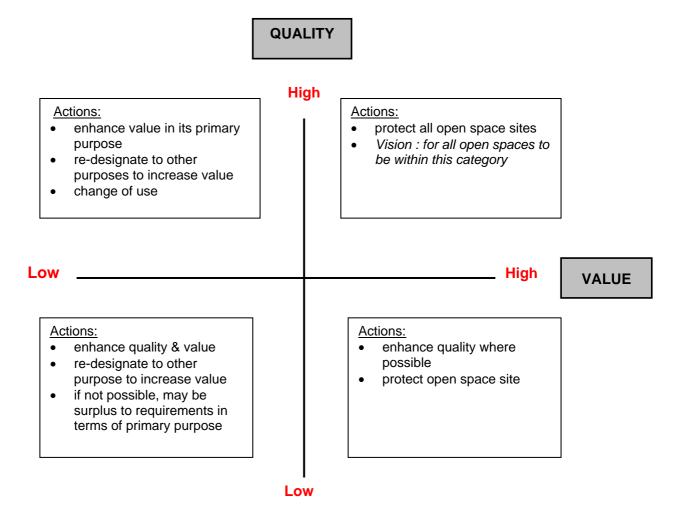
- Context a site that is inaccessible is irrelevant to potential users and therefore is of little value irrespective of its quality. Also, in areas where there is a large amount of high quality open space or more than is actually required, some of it may be of little value. In contrast to this, a site of low quality but in an area of low provision maybe of extremely high value to the public.
- Level and type of use poorly used open space sites may be of little value while highly used sites may be of high value
- Wider benefits there are many wider benefits of open space sites that should be taken into account when analysing the results of particular sites e.g. visual impact, benefits for biodiversity, education, cultural, economy etc. These benefits are difficult to assess in a systematic way and would require detailed site visits.

Evaluating value therefore involves attempting to assess these factors, in particular relating the context of the open space site (quality and accessibility) against the level of use of each site.

From the assessment of the value of sites, we are able to start to determine policy options in terms of feeding into a specific action plan. This is fundamental to effective planning:

The figure below provides a simple means of determining the most appropriate policy approach to each existing open space site.

#### STEP 3 & 4: SETTING AND APPLYING PROVISION STANDARDS – APPENDIX E



### **CABE Space**

CABE Space is part of the Commission for the Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) and is publicly funded by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). CABE Space aims:

# cabe space

"to bring excellence to the design, management and maintenance of parks and public space in towns and cities."

Through their work, they encourage people to think holistically about green space, and what it means for the health and well being of communities, routes to school and work, and recreation through play and sport. Their ultimate goal is to ensure that people in England have easy access to well designed and well looked after public space. Lessons learnt for some of CABE Space's case studies include:

- strategic vision is essential
- political commitment is essential
- think long-term
- start by making the case for high quality green spaces in-house (persuading other departments is key – high priority)
- a need to market parks and green spaces
- a need to manage resources more efficiently
- work with others projects are partnerships
- keep good records: monitor investments and outcomes
- consult widely and get public support for your work.

### Green Space Strategies - a good practice guide, CABE Space (May 2004)

The guidance draws on the principles of the Government's Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 and will help contribute to national objectives for better public spaces, focusing on three broad stages in producing a green space strategy.

- Stage 1: Preliminary activities
  - o provides the foundation of a successful strategy
- Stage 2: Information gathering and analysis
  - provides the objective and subjective data necessary to make informed judgements
- Stage 3: Strategy production
  - preparing consultation draft and final strategy drawing on consultation responses

The document demonstrates why a green space strategy is important and the potential opportunity and benefits that it can provide, including:

- reinforcing local identity and enhancing the physical character of an area, so shaping existing and future development
- maintaining the visual amenity and increasing the attractiveness of a locality to create a sense of civic pride
- securing external funding and focusing capital and revenue expenditure cost-effectively
- improving physical and social inclusion including accessibility, particularly for young, disabled and older people
- protecting and enhancing levels of biodiversity and ecological habitats.

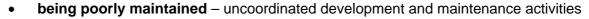


# Is the grass greener...? Learning from the international innovations in urban green space management, CABE Space (July 2004)

This is an international perspective using examples of good and bad practice that demonstrate the many issues common to English local authorities that international cities also face and providing practical solutions that have combat the problems overseas. The guide focuses in particular on aspects of management and maintenance practice, providing a series of challenging and inspiring solutions to common issues that are not dissimilar to current English practice.

#### The problem in England!

The document describes the problems faced by green space and how English towns and cities are often criticised for:



- being insecure the hostile nature of many green spaces
- **lacking a coherent approach to their management** conflicting interventions by a multitude of agencies, without clear overall responsibility
- offering little to their users lacking in facilities and amenities and being a haven for anti-social behaviour
- **being poorly designed** unwelcoming to people, created with poor quality materials.



### Manifesto for better public spaces, CABE Space (2003)

There is huge national demand for better quality parks and public spaces. Surveys repeatedly show how much the public values them, while research reveals how closely the quality of public spaces links to levels of health, crime and the quality of life in every neighbourhood. CABE Space 'manifesto for better public spaces' explains the 10 things we must do to achieve this:

- 1) ensure that creating and caring for well-designed parks, streets and other public spaces is a national and local political priority
- encourage people of all ages including children, young people and retired people – to play and active role in deciding what our parks and public spaces should be like and how they should be looked after



- 3) ensure that everyone understands the importance of good design to the vitality of our cities, towns and suburbs and that designers, planners and managers all have the right skills to create high quality public spaces
- 4) ensure that the care of parks and public spaces is acknowledged to be an essential service
- 5) work to increase public debate about the issue of risk in outside spaces, and will encourage people to make decisions that give more weight to the benefits of interesting spaces, rather than to the perceived risks
- 6) work to ensure that national and local health policy recognises the role of high quality parks and public space in helping people to become physically active, to recover from illness, and to increase their general health and well-being
- 7) work to ensure that good paths and seating, play opportunities, signs in local languages, cultural events and art are understood to be essential elements of great places – not optional extras that can be cut from the budget
- 8) encourage people who are designing and managing parks and public spaces to protect and enhance biodiversity and to promote its enjoyment to local people
- 9) seek to ensure that public spaces feel safe to use by encouraging councils to adopt a positive approach to crime prevention through investment in good design and management of the whole network or urban green spaces
- 10) encourage people from all sectors of the community to give time to improving their local environment. If we work together we can transform our public spaces and help to improve everyone's quality of life.

### The Value of Public Space, CABE Space (March 2004)

CABE Space market how high quality parks and public spaces create economic, social and environmental value, as well as being beneficial to physical and mental health, children and young people and a variety of other external issues.

Specific examples are used to illustrate the benefits and highlight the issues arising on the value of public space:

#### The economic value of public spaces

A high quality public environment is an essential part of any regeneration strategy and can impact positively on the local economy. For example - property prices.

#### The impact on physical and mental health

Research has shown that well maintained public spaces can help to improve physical and mental health encouraging more people to become active.

#### Benefits and children and young people

Good quality public spaces encourage children to play freely outdoors and experience the natural environment, providing children with opportunities for fun, exercise and learning.

#### Reducing crime and fear of crime

Better management of public spaces can help to reduce crime rates and help to allay fears of crime, especially in open spaces.

#### Social dimension of public space

Well-designed and maintained open spaces can help bring communities together, providing meeting places in the right context and fostering social ties.

#### Movement in and between spaces

One of the fundamental functions of public space is to allow people to move around with the challenge of reconciling the needs of different modes of transport.

#### Value from biodiversity and nature

Public spaces and gardens helps to bring important environmental benefits to urban areas, as well as providing an opportunity for people to be close to nature.



### A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans, CABE Space (May 2004)

A primary intention of the guide is to encourage wider use of management plans by dispelling the myth that the creation of a site management plan is an exceptionally difficult task that can be undertaken only by an expert.

The guide presents ideas on benefits of management plans identifying steps to be taken to writing the plan. It also provides a list of subject areas that need to be addressed in any comprehensive management plan. The document has been split into two sections, providing a logical explanation of the management process:

#### Part 1: Planning the plan

The who, what, when, where and how questions that may arise in the preparation of a park and green space management plan.

#### Part 2: Content and structure of the plan

What information needs to be contained in the final management plan and how should that information be presented?

# Decent parks? Decent behaviour? – The link between the quality of parks and user behaviour, CABE space (May 2005)

Based on research that supports public consultation that poor maintenance of parks, in turn, attracts anti-social behaviour. Encouragingly it provides examples of places where a combination of good design, management and maintenance has transformed no-go areas back into popular community spaces.

There are nine case studies explored in the report. Below are some of the key elements that have made these parks a better place to be:

- take advantage of the potential for buildings within parks for natural surveillance eg from cafes, flats offices
- involve the community early in the process and continually
- involve 'problem' groups as part of the solution where possible and work hard to avoid single group dominance in the park
- provide activities and facilities to ensure young people feel a sense of ownership
- address young peoples fear of crime as well as that if adults.

The evidence in this report suggests that parks were in decline and failing to meet customer expectations long before anti-social behaviour started to become the dominant characteristic. However investing in sites to create good quality parks and green spaces, which are staffed and provide a range of attractive facilities for the local community, can be an effective use of resources.





### DLTR

# Green Spaces, Better Places - The Final Report of the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce, DTLR (2002)

The main messages to emerge from Green Spaces, Better Places are:

- urban parks and open spaces remain popular, despite a decline in the quality as well as quantitative elements
- open spaces make an important contribution to the quality of life in many areas and help to deliver wider social, economic and environmental benefits
- planners and planning mechanisms need to take better account of the need for parks and open spaces including related management and maintenance issues
- parks and open spaces should be central to any vision of sustainable modern towns and cities
- strong civic and local pride and responsibility are necessary to achieve the vision reinforced by a successful green spaces strategy
- there is a need for a more co-ordinated approach at the national level to guide local strategies.

# Improving urban parks, play areas and green space, DTLR (May 2002)

In May 2002 the DTLR produced this linked research report to Green Spaces, Better Places which looked at patterns of use, barriers to open space and the wider role of open space in urban regeneration.

The vital importance of parks and other urban green spaces in enhancing the urban environment and the quality of city life has been recognised in both the Urban Taskforce report and the Urban White Paper.

#### Wider Value of Open Space

There are clear links demonstrating how parks and other green spaces meet wider council policy objectives linked to other agendas, like education, diversity, health, safety, environment, jobs and regeneration can help raise the political profile and commitment of an authority to green space issues. In particular they:

- contribute significantly to social inclusion because they are free and accessible to all
- can become a centre of community spirit
- contribute to child development through scope for outdoor, energetic and imaginative play
- offer numerous educational opportunities
- provide a range of health, environmental and economic benefits.





The report also highlights major issues in the management, funding and integration of open spaces into the wider context of urban renewal and planning:

**Community Involvement -** Community involvement in local parks can lead to increased use, enhancement of quality and richness of experience and, in particular, can ensure that the facilities are suited to local needs.

**Resources** - The acknowledged decline in the quality of care of the urban green space resource in England can be linked to declining local authority green space budgets but in terms of different external sources for capital development, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Section 106 Agreements are seen as the most valuable.

**Partnerships -** between a local authority and community groups, funding agencies and business can result in significant added value, both in terms of finances and quality of green space.

**Urban Renewal** - Four levels of integration of urban green space into urban renewal can be identified, characterised by an increasing strategic synergy between environment, economy and community. They are:

- attracting inward economic investment through the provision of attractive urban landscapes
- unforeseen spin-offs from grassroots green space initiatives
- parks as flagships in neighbourhood renewal
- strategic, multi-agency area based regeneration, linking environment and economy.

### **Sport England**

#### Planning for Open Space, Sport England (Sept 2002)

The main messages from Sport England within this document are:

• Sport England's policy on planning applications for development of playing fields (A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England) provides 5 exceptions to its normal stance of opposing any loss of all, or part of, such facilities and are reflected in PPG 17 (paragraphs 10-15)



- Sport England must be consulted on development proposals affecting playing fields at any time in the previous 5 years or is identified as a playing field in a development plan
- It is highly likely that planning inspectors will no longer accept a Six Acre Standard approach in emerging development plans and therefore increasing the importance of setting local standards
- In undertaking a playing pitch assessment as part of an overall open space assessment, local authorities will need to consider the revised advice and methodology 'Towards a Level Playing Field: A manual for the production of Playing Pitch Strategies'.

# A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England / Playing Fields for Sport Revisited, Sport England (2000)

These documents provide Sport England's planning policy statement on playing fields. They acknowledges that playing fields:

- are one of the most important resources for sport in England as they provide the space which is required for the playing of team sports on outdoor pitches
- as open space particularly in urban areas are becoming an increasingly scarce resource
- can provide an important landscape function, perform the function of a strategic gap or provide a resource for other community activities and informal recreation.

#### Living Places, Cleaner, Safer, Greener ODPM (October 2002)

The Government stated that parks and green spaces need more visible champions and clearer structures for co-ordinating policy and action better at all levels.

Several existing national bodies have responsibilities or programmes with impact on various aspects of urban green spaces including English Heritage, Sport England, Groundwork, English Nature, the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), the Countryside Agency and the Forestry Commission.

Instead of setting up a new body, the Government stated it would take action on three levels to improve co-ordination of policy and action for urban parks and green spaces. It will:

- provide a clearer national policy framework
- invite CABE to set up a new unit for urban spaces (CABE Space)
- encourage a strategic partnership to support the work of the new unit and inform national policy and local delivery.

CABE Space and its publications now provide this advice on policy frameworks and local delivery.





#### **English Nature**

English Nature is a government agency concerned with wildlife and geology and is a key partner of the Countryside Agency, which aims to achieve an improved understanding of the relationship between access and nature conservation. English Nature is responsible for selecting and designating Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI's).

English Nature attempts to:

- facilitate and encourage access to National Nature Reserves
- support initiatives aimed at increasing the quantity and quality of open cohabitats
- monitor the effects of access on wildlife sites across the country
- stress the value of local sites and recommend that local authorities develop partnerships for the provision of local sites and SSSI's.

The English Nature Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) require:

- that no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace of at least 2ha in size
- provision of at least 1ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population
- that there should be at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km from home
- that there should be one accessible 100ha site within 5km
- that there should be one 500ha site within 20 km.

The standards were justified in the following ways:

- everyday contact with nature is important for well-being and quality of life
- everyone should be able to enjoy this contact, in safety, without having to make any special effort or journey to do so
- natural greenspace in towns and cities can play an important role in helping safeguard our national treasure of wildlife and geological features
- accessible natural greenspaces give everyone an excellent chance to learn about nature and help to protect it in practical ways
- adequate provision of vegetated areas helps to ensure that urban areas continue to function ecologically.

In 2001 a review of the standards was commenced as English Nature was concerned to find that its accessible natural green space standards seemed to be little used.

The key recommendations of the review include:

• that **English Nature** should provide additional support to the model by providing practical guidance, implementing an outreach strategy to raise the profile of the model

- that local authorities should develop green space strategies as a means of ensuring balanced green space planning, and should set locally appropriated green space standards
- that **central government** should work towards the development of a single framework for integrated green space planning.

#### The Environment Agency

The Environment Agency is the leading public body for protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales. Its remit covers air, land and water.

The main pressures are identified by the Environment Agency as being:

- the growing demand for new homes and places to work .
- increasing calls on essential water resources
- pressures from flooding, land contamination, and volumes of waste.

#### Wildlife Trust

The Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust is the leading conservation charity dedicated exclusively to wildlife. This Trust is responsible for advising the local authorities within the county (including Cherwell), community groups and landowners on nature conservation issues and has a major input into decision-making on planning matters and other issues.

#### National Children's Bureau – Children's Play Council

A review of children's play was undertaken between October 2002 and April 2003. This review takes into account the needs and aspirations and "play" of children up to the age of 16. The report identified four principles of successful projects:

- they are centred on children and young people it was suggested that the most successful play spaces focus on a neighbourhood rather than catering for a whole town
- they have an attractive location with high quality play opportunities
- they fit in well with local circumstances
- they give both children, young people and parents a sense of security.

In addition, the report promotes the use of school facilities out of hours, as this offers additional play opportunities and space for young people. Young people were guestioned as to the type of facility that they would like to see, and it was concluded that young people appreciated both sites that were not staffed by adults and sites where adult helpers were present. Suggestions for facilities included:

- adventure playgrounds
- bike tracks

play centres

- skate parks •
- informal shelter and • youth shelters.

youth cafes •

### Licensed riding establishments

- 1) White Rocks Riding School Carters Hill, Underriver, Seal, TN15 0SL
- 2) Bradbourne Equestrian Centre Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 3DH
- 3) Eaglesfield Equestrian Centre West Yoke, Ash, TN15 7HT
- 4) Bitchet Farm Riding School Bitchet Farm, Bitchet Green, Sevenoaks, TN15 0NA
- 5) Stable Court Skeynes Park, Edenbridge, TN8 6HN
- 6) Pine Ridge Riding School Pound Lane, Knockholt, Sevenoaks, TN14 7NE
- 7) Crippenden Manor Stud 2 Crippenden Manor Bungalow, Spode Lane, Cowden, TN8 7HL
- 8) The Glade Capricorn Farm , Crockenhill Lane, Eynsford, DA4 0JL
- 9) Stidolphs Livery & Riding Centre Eggpie Lane, Weald, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 6NP

### Site Matrix Quality Standard Template

QUALITY	Very Good (5)	Good (4)	Average (3)	Poor (2)	Very Poor (1)
Cleanliness & Maintenance	Clean and tidy. Well maintained and inviting. No litter, dog fouling or graffiti.	Clean and tidy. Well maintained and inviting. Maintained to a good standard. Very little litter, dog fouling or graffiti	Reasonably clean and tidy. Some litter, dog fouling or graffiti but doesn't hinder usage significantly.	Questions of cleanliness and consequently maintenance. Evidence of litter, dog fouling and/or graffiti that detracts from the area.	Poor cleanliness and maintenance and clear evidence of litter, dog fouling and/or graffiti that would detract usage on a significant scale.
Security and Safety	Safe and good lighting and well- maintained Boundaries clearly defined and well- kept	Boundaries clearly defined Safe and good lighting	Boundaries are visible but not overly clear. Safe and reasonable lighting appropriate	Safety and lighting questionable. Boundaries not very clear or well- designed.	Boundaries are unclear and not visible. Safety issues in question and very poor lighting if any.
Vegetation	Numerous range of planting, no weeds Maintained to very high standard. Grass cover throughout and cleanly cut.	Numerous range of planting, few weeds Maintained to good standard Grass cover throughout, cleanly cut but few weeds.	Appropriate range of vegetation and plants but with some patchy maintenance. Full grass cover where appropriate but some thin patches or some excessive growth areas.	Limited range of plants and vegetation e.g. just grass in a park. General grass cover but some significant areas thin, saturated or poorly maintained.	Limited planting and which is reflected through it being poorly maintained. General grass cover but serious wear and tear and no efforts to correct problem.
Ancillary Accommodation (bins, seats, toilets, parking)	Numerous appropriate facilities in excellent condition. Suitable material for road and paths and in excellent condition. Car parks where appropriate.	Numerous appropriate facilities and in good condition Suitable material for road and paths and in good condition Car parks where appropriate but maintenance could be better	Suitable material for roads and paths and safe to use. Appropriate facilities but in average condition and possibly difficult to find.	Possibly unsuitable material for road and paths or right material but with some faults. Insufficient number of facilities and/or in poor condition i.e. not inviting or very well looked after	Roads, paths in need of repair and rethink on materials. Limited facilities and generally avoided by users.

#### APPENDIX H/ I – QUALITY STANDARDS