

Natural and semi-natural open space

Definition

- 6.1 This type of open space includes woodlands, urban forestry, scrubland, grasslands (e.g. downlands, commons, meadows), wetlands, nature reserves and wastelands with a primary purpose of wildlife conservation and bio-diversity within the settlement boundaries.

Figure 6.1 – Natural and semi-natural site off Huntington Road in Thrapston



Strategic context and consultation

- 6.2 94% of respondents to the household survey indicated that the provision of natural and semi natural open space was important to them. This indicates that this is the most important type of open space to residents of East Northamptonshire. 30% of residents visit natural sites on a weekly basis, making it also the most frequently used type of open space.
- 6.3 Residents emphasised the importance of providing local natural and semi natural open spaces and specifically protecting existing sites from development. The value of these sites in terms of ecological benefits was also recognised, in addition to the recreational value these sites offer. Links between natural sites were considered high priority, generating both wildlife and corridors and a negotiable green corridor infrastructure.
- 6.4 Excluding the more urban areas, Oundle, Rushden, Thrapston, Higham Ferrers, Raunds and Irthlingborough, the geography of East Northamptonshire lends itself to

this type of open space. In addition to natural space within settlements, there are vast areas within the rural surrounds and large quantities of nearby countryside.

- 6.5 The Wildlife Trust reinforced this viewpoint, stating that East Northamptonshire is blessed in terms of the amount of natural space, although pointing out that much of it is low quality both in terms of natural heritage and access provision. Further development of habitats and biodiversity through improvement of the management of natural sites is a key element of the Regional Spatial Strategy, while Policy 29 states that the woodlands should be protected.

Current position

- 6.6 East Northamptonshire has a large amount of natural and semi natural provision. This study includes provision within settlement boundaries. Large significant sites located in the outlying rural areas are also taken into account.

- 6.7 These standards will be considered when applying the local standards for this typology and will be discussed later on in this section.

- 6.8 The adopted local plan highlights (and protects) several important natural and semi natural sites, many of which have specific designations. These include:

- Rockingham Forest
- Titchmarsh Nature Reserve (declaring authority Northamptonshire County Council)
- Twywell Hills and Dales Country Park – SSSI
- Wakerley Great Wood
- Fineshade Woods
- Thrapston Lakes and Stanwick Lakes
- Barnwell Country Park - this has elements of natural and semi natural provision, although serves a primary purpose of a country park.

- 6.9 The household survey highlighted that a number of these site listed above are among the most frequently visited sites in East Northamptonshire Irchester Country Park, Fermyn Woods, Kinewell Lake, Stanwick Lakes and Thrapston Lakes.

Setting provision standards

- 6.10 In setting local standards for Natural and Semi-natural open space there is a need to take into account any national or local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison, site assessments and consultation on local needs. Full justifications for the local standards are provided within Appendix K. L and M.

Quantity

- 6.11 The provision of natural and semi-natural open space amounts to 232.29 hectares in total. As previously highlighted, this excludes large sites at the edge of settlement boundaries. As may be expected due to the nature and character of East Northamptonshire, provision of natural and semi natural open space is

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predominantly located in the rural area. Current provision of natural and semi natural in the urban areas equates to 84.29 hectares or 1.30 per 1000 population compared to 148 hectares or 8.79 hectares per 1000 population in the rural area.

- 6.12 The only definitive national standard for natural and semi-natural areas is the English Nature Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt). This suggests that there should be at least 2 ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1,000 population. The Woodland Trust as outlined above, also propose standards for accessible woodland areas. However there is no national or local standard that covers the whole of this typology of open space although English Nature does approve other greenspace standards set by other organisations.
- 6.13 The household survey indicates that half of all respondents perceive the level of provision to be 'about right'. although just over a quarter of respondents (26%) said that they felt provision was 'not enough'. This was particularly true of the South Urban area where 34% of people thought there was a lack of provision of natural and semi-natural areas, although 42% in this area felt provision was about right.
- 6.14 By way of contrast, 41% of respondents across the district felt there to be insufficient provision of natural and semi natural open space, stating reasons such as the development of new housing estates and recognition for the need for sites which encourage the protection of wildlife and bio-diversity. The primary reason for the perception of insufficient provision in the southern area of the authority related to locational deficiencies, with residents highlighting there were no natural spaces near their homes.
- 6.15 Residents attending drop in sessions highlighted the local importance of providing a good network of green corridors which feed into the natural open spaces, linking them together. This was seen as an important and valuable resource, and the opportunities for wildlife and people provided by natural and semi natural open space sites were recognised. The pocket parks initiative provides natural areas in both urban areas and small rural settlements and these were perceived to be valuable strategic sites that should be protected, encouraged and developed in other areas where there are locational deficiencies.
- 6.16 National standards suggest around 2 ha per 1000 population and standards set for other authorities range vastly, with some up to 10ha, although the majority are around 2.5ha. The East Northamptonshire local plan suggests that where possible, woodlands with recreational opportunity should be created.
- 6.17 Due to the nature of the rural area, the close proximity of nearby countryside and the differences between rural and urban areas in East Northamptonshire it is considered inappropriate and onerous to apply the same standards to the urban and rural areas. The current provision in the urban area is equivalent to 1.30 ha per 1000 population (excluding large sites, which should be viewed as a district wide resource) although the spread of provision across the urban analysis areas is varied and ranges from 1.15 to 1.97 hectares per 1000 population.
- 6.18 As the overall consensus is that the level of provision is about right in the urban areas (50%) and the incidental nature limit opportunities for provision of this type of open space, a standard equivalent to current levels of provision (1.30 hectares per 1000 population) across the authority has been set, although consideration should also be given to incorporating natural areas within other typologies.

**RECOMMENDED
LOCAL STANDARD
(if required)**

**1.30 ha per 1,000
population urban
8.79 ha per 1000
population**

- 6.19 This recommended standard (which should be viewed as a minimum level of provision) meets the expectations of current users and is higher than current levels of provision in Oundle and Rushden, Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers and Raunds where perceptions of deficiencies were strongest. This standard will therefore protect existing levels of provision, without placing onerous demands for new provision. The standard should be applied to the urban areas only (Thrapston, Oundle and Rushden, Raunds, Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers) and should be used when considering appropriate levels of provision for new developments.
- 6.20 Consultation with residents in the rural area suggests that the current level of provision (8.79 ha) is appropriate for this area. Natural and semi natural provision is characteristic of rural areas, and residents are also close to areas of nearby countryside. As current levels of provision appear to be about right, the recommended standard set is equivalent to current levels of provision. This standard recognises and protects existing provision without placing any onerous demands for new provision in the rural area unless related to population increases.

Quality

- 6.21 There are no definitive national or local quality standards although the Countryside Agency state that such land should be managed to conserve or enhance its rich landscape, bio-diversity, heritage and local customs.
- 6.22 The overall quality of natural and semi-natural open space across East Northamptonshire is considered reasonable, although there are a large number of sites scoring below 50%. The highest quality sites include the Area Adjacent to Paddock Stone Cottage, Thurning (Site ID 389) 80%, Donne Close Natural and Semi Natural, North of Rushden (Site ID 1352) 76% and Ferguson's Close Natural Area, Aldwinckle (Site ID 465) 76%.
- 6.23 Safety and security at natural and semi natural sites was considered to be relatively poor, with only 13% of sites considered to be of good average. More significant to this type of open space was that on the whole vegetation was considered to be only average, with only just over a quarter of sites considered good. 83% of all natural and semi natural sites assessed were perceived to offer ecological benefits, while 76% offered structural and landscape benefits.
- 6.24 In addition to those sites that we assessed, there are a number of very large natural sites which offer a countywide resource for residents of Northamptonshire. Consultations highlight that these sites, which include Stanwick and Thrapston Lakes are of very good quality.
- 6.25 The household questionnaire identified that the highest related aspirations relating to natural and semi natural open spaces were natural features, clean and litter free, footpaths and good access to the site.
- 6.26 Other consultations suggested that ultimately open space provision, especially natural and semi natural open space should be sustainable which can be ensured by capitalising on the function of natural features, improving bio diversity, habitat and wildlife protection. Raising awareness of existing natural and semi natural sites was perceived to be important, as although a number of residents highlighted good

QUALITY VISION

“A spacious, clean and litter free site with clear pathways and natural features including vegetation, ponds and flowers that encourage wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.”

quality sites, many indicated that they were not aware of any accessible natural sites.

- 6.27 Current users of natural and semi natural open spaces highlighted that the main issue of concern in natural and semi natural sites is the presence of dog fouling. The Council have proactively attempted to eradicate dog fouling through the introduction of patrols in named problem areas.
- 6.28 Due to the rural nature of the area, it is not always feasible for natural and semi natural open spaces to be managed primarily by local authorities. As such, the community should be involved in the management of sites wherever possible. This has proved successful in many local authority areas.
- 6.29 A suggested Quality Vision standard for natural and semi-natural open space needs to take into account the aspirations of the public and provide an all encompassing standard for this important typology of open space. Owing to the abundance of natural and semi natural open space in East Northamptonshire it is of paramount importance that all such open space is governed by a local quality standard as to improve the management and maintenance of such sites. The standard incorporates the Council and Public aspirations for safer and cleaner open spaces, in addition to including the need to promote awareness of the existence and quality of natural spaces. The vision is centred around local priorities which focus on a sustainable and natural environment and supports the intention set out in the Best Value Performance Plan of Cleaner and Safer Communities.
- 6.30 The recommended local standard provides the vision for any new provision and also a benchmark for existing natural and semi-natural open space to achieve in terms of enhancement.
- 6.31 Appendix L highlights the links between the quality vision and the site assessments that have been undertaken for natural and semi naturals, converting the key factors of the vision into an expected score against the site assessment matrix used and consequently providing a minimum quality benchmark. It is important to set a benchmark indicator against which the comparative quality of natural and semi natural open spaces within East Northamptonshire can be assessed. This standard can also serve to guide improvement programmes by striving to attain the quality threshold rating at each site.
- 6.32 The key points that link the quality vision and site assessments for natural and semi natural open spaces are the provision of a welcoming clean and litter free site, with clear pathways, natural features including vegetation, and natural features including vegetation, ponds and flowers.
- 6.33 The quality site assessments are divided into sub categories and an expected score is assigned against each (shown in brackets). The full methodology is explained in appendix L:
- cleanliness and maintenance (4)
 - safety and security (3)
 - vegetation (5)
 - ancillary accommodation (3)

- 6.34 This provides a quality vision percentage of 78% which is intended as an aspirational benchmark for the natural and semi natural open space sites in East Northamptonshire.

Accessibility

- 6.35 With regards to accessibility the definitive national standard has been produced by ANGSt, who recommend 2 ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1,000 people. Additionally, The Woodland Trust has also developed standards based on the provision of woodland suggesting that:
- no person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size
 - there should be also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round-trip) of people's homes.
- 6.36 There are no existing local standards.
- 6.37 Overall site access was considered as average to good, with two sites scoring 80%, Bridge Street in Thrapston (Site ID 1993) and the natural area opposite the Village Hall in Sudborough (Site ID 396). The majority of natural and semi-natural sites scored above 40% indicating that although access is reasonable, there are some areas where access should be considered a priority for improvement.
- 6.38 From the household questionnaire, of those that used natural and semi natural open spaces most frequently, there was satisfaction with the site entrance and accessibility by walking. Accessibility by public transport, and for people with pushchairs or wheelchairs was considered much less favourably.
- 6.39 The majority of people indicated that travelling by foot was the preferred method of travel. The 75% threshold level for the whole area was 15 minutes and this was supported by residents living in all four of the analysis areas. Current behaviour also reflects this viewpoint, with the majority of people who use these types of open spaces most frequently travelling up to 15 minutes.
- 6.40 As such, a walking distance standard has been set for 15 minutes for Natural and Semi-Natural open space. This reflects the 75% threshold level advocated by PPG17 and the patterns of current users. There is no split in the standards for urban and rural areas as the household survey and other consultation suggested that a 15-minute-travel time was appropriate for the whole of the authority.
- 6.41 A straight line distance of 720m has been used rather than the pedestrian distance of 1200m. This is based on PMP's average walking distances and uses a factoring reduction of 40% to account for the fact that people do not walk in a straight line to access their open space facilities. This 40% factoring is based on the National Playing Fields Association Six Acre Standard (See Table 3, page 25 of NPFA Six Acre Standard), which has been worked out from a trial of 4 – 14 year olds and the distance they travelled.

**RECOMMENDED
LOCAL
STANDARD**

**15 minute walk
(720m)**

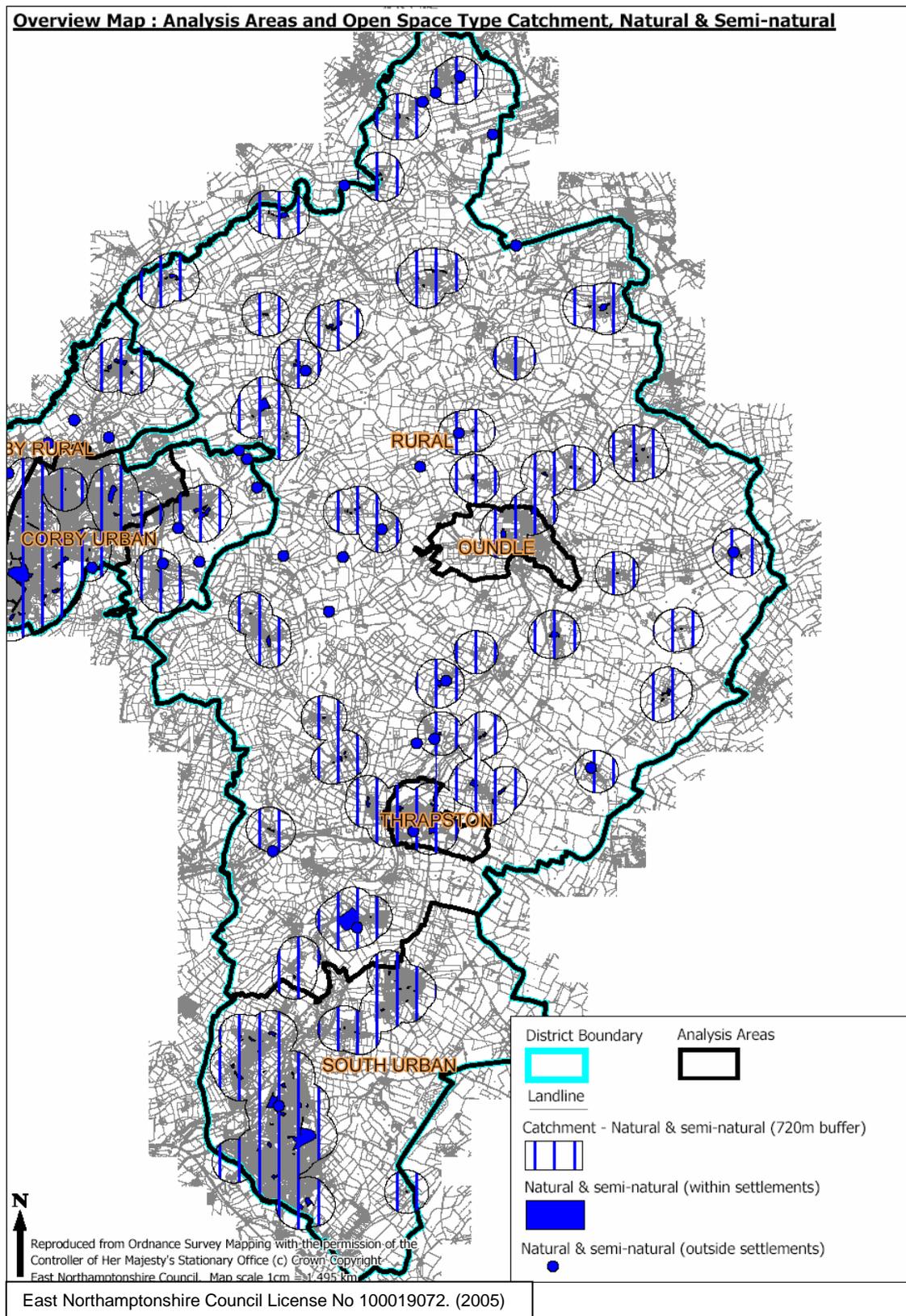
Applying provision standards – identifying geographical areas

- 6.42 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those areas with required local needs we apply both the quantity and accessibility standards together.

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- 6.43 As mentioned previously, the nature and geography of East Northamptonshire means there are high levels of natural and semi natural open space across the authority, particularly in the rural area. This is reflected by the differentiation between the rural and urban area when setting quantity standards.
- 6.44 There are a number of additional sites in East Northamptonshire, classified as Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI's) and Local/National Nature Reserves that have been excluded from the quantitative audit as they are too large to quantify and located outside the settlement boundaries. These are shown on the overview map as points to ensure that the full picture of provision is presented. Many of these sites have a regional catchment.
- 6.45 As can be seen from Map 6.1 overleaf, the majority of populated areas are within the recommended catchment for this typology, although some locational deficiencies are evident.
- 6.46 Supplementing the natural and semi-natural sites in addition to the accessible countryside are the localised pocket parks, these include:
- Aldwincle Pocket Park
 - Brigstock Pocket Park
 - Easton-on-the-Hill Pocket Park
 - Higham Ferrers Pocket Park
 - King's Cliffe (Maltings Green) Pocket Park
 - King's Cliffe (Willow Walk) Pocket Park
 - Lowick Pocket Park
 - Warmington Big Green Pocket Park
 - Nassington Pocket Park
 - Oundle (New Road) and (Snipe Meadow) Pocket Park
 - Raunds Pocket Park
 - Ringstead Pocket Park
 - Rushden-Higham Ferrers Pocket Park
 - The Weir at Thurning Pocket Park
 - Warmington Old Orchard Pocket Park
- 6.47 These pocket parks perform a dual role, providing natural and semi natural areas and in a formalised setting. Consultation highlights that all sites are highly valued resources, particularly in the rural areas of East Northamptonshire where provision of formal open spaces is limited.

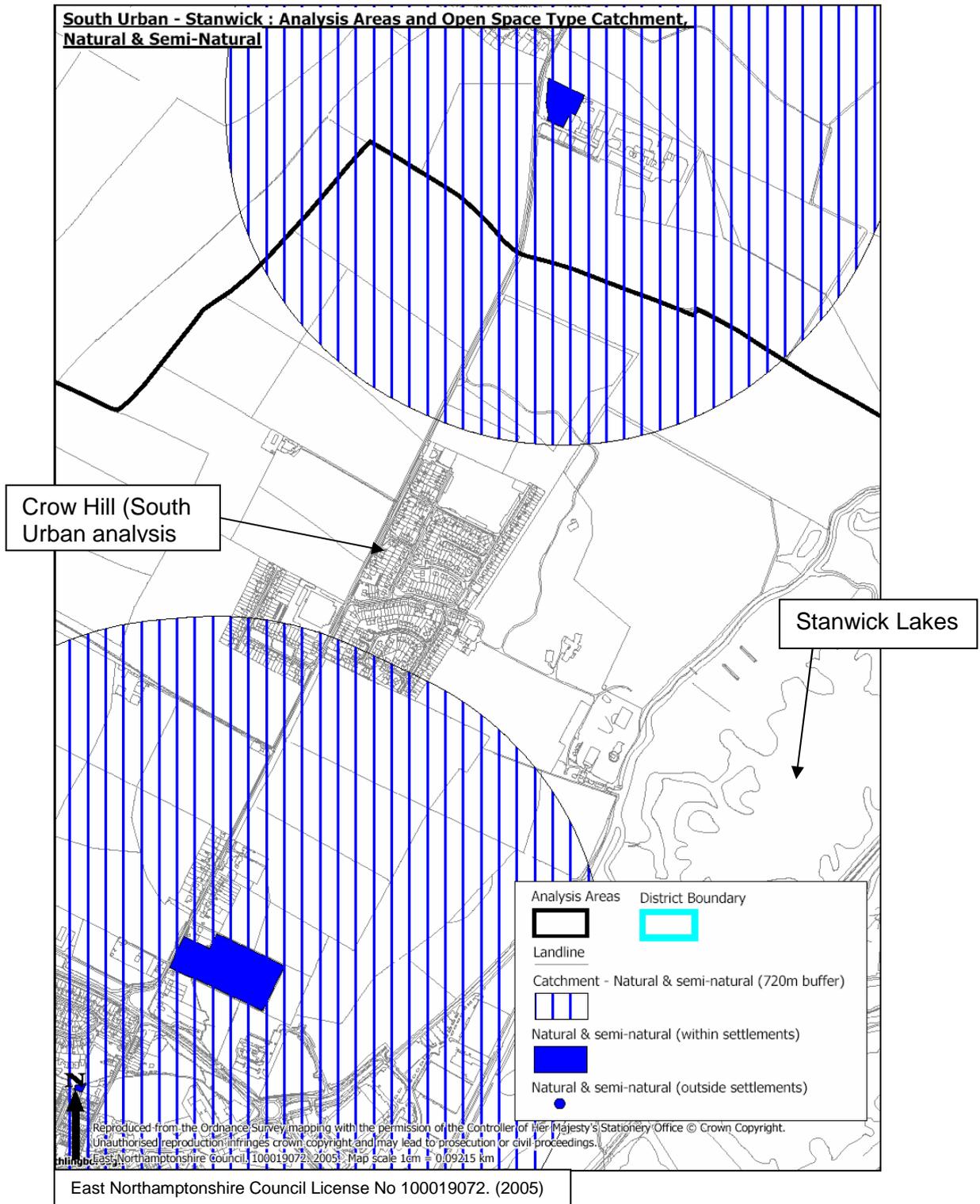
Map 6.1 – Quantity and accessibility standards applied to natural and semi-natural sites in East Northamptonshire



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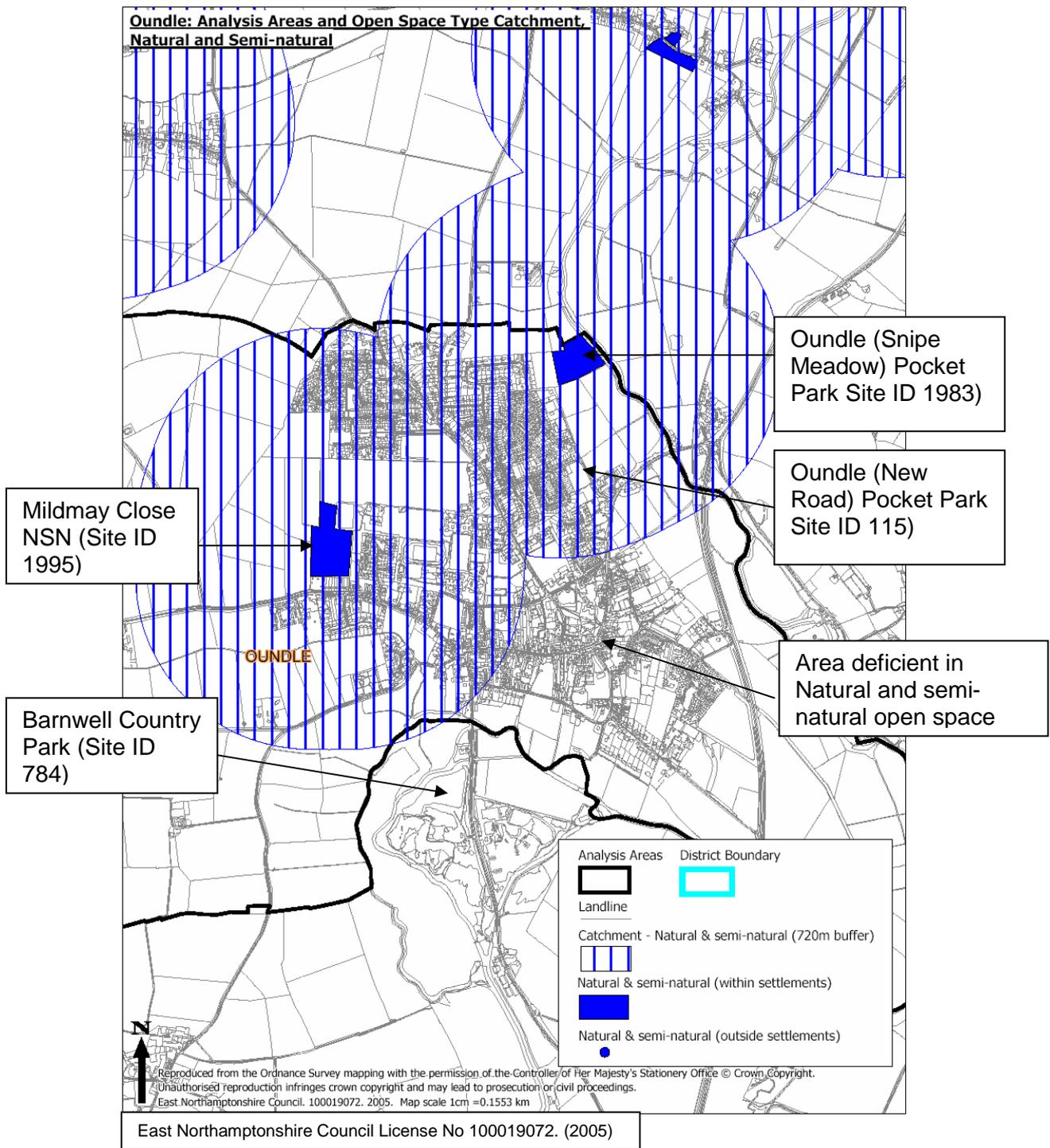
6.48 Map 6.2 below highlights the locational deficiencies within the South Urban Area. Provision in this area is currently below the minimum quantitative standard.

Map 6.2 – Locational deficiencies in the South Urban area



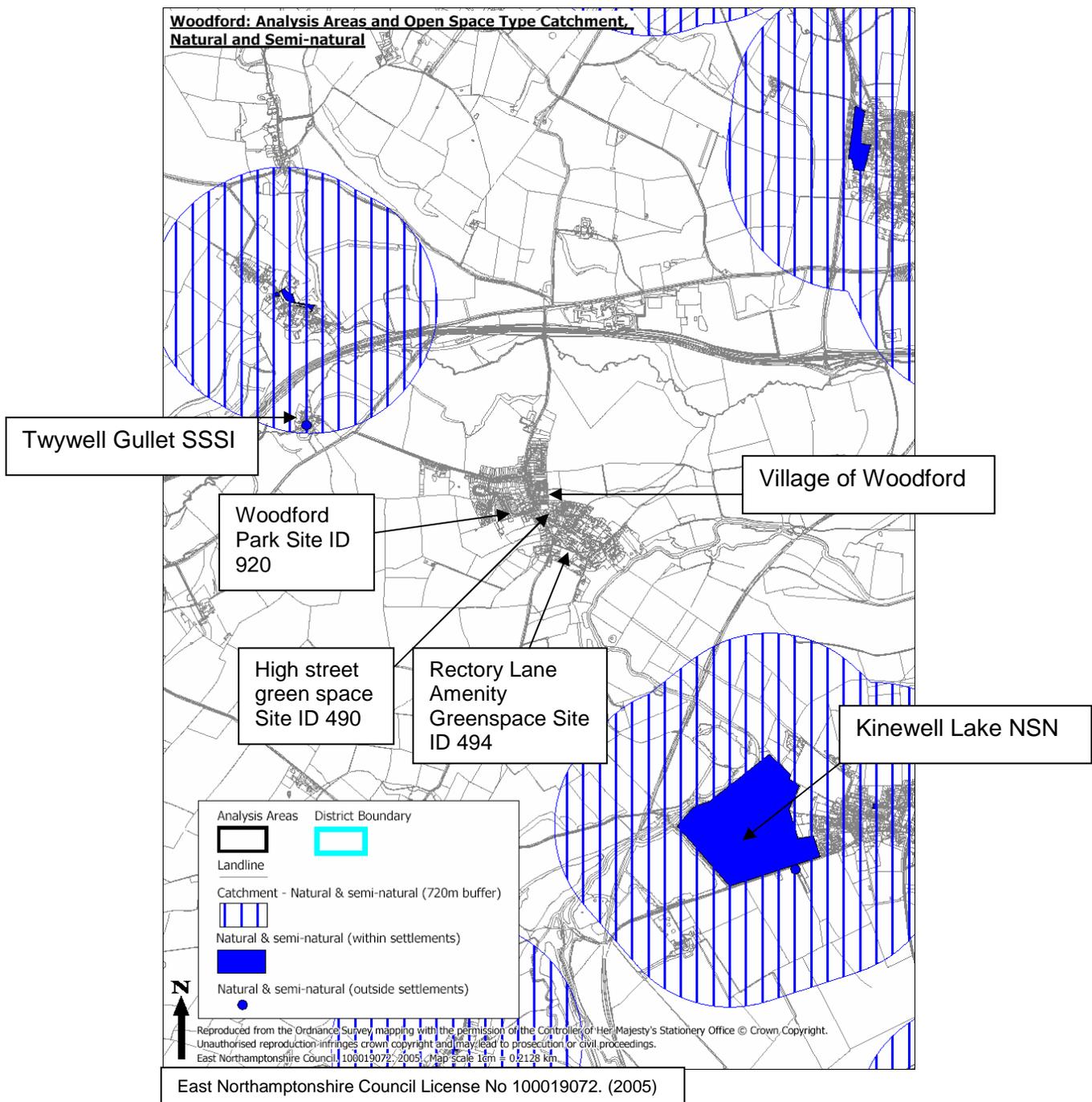
- 6.49 As can be seen in map 6.2, the settlement of Crow Hill is currently devoid of natural and semi-natural open space. This is however perhaps slightly misleading, given that Crow Hill is located just to the west of Stanwick Lakes, one of the largest and most highly valued sites within East Northamptonshire. Additionally, Crow Hill is situated on the northern fringe of the south urban analysis area settlement and therefore also has good access to the open countryside, providing the residents with visual, recreational and landscape benefits. Creation of further natural and semi natural open space in this area is therefore not a priority.
- 6.50 Provision in Oundle falls below the minimum quantitative standard for natural and semi-natural open space. This is reflected when applying the accessibility catchment which highlights a lack of provision to the south east of the town. This is illustrated on map 6.3 overleaf. Again, looking across the typologies and at other significant sites, there are three sites categorised under different typologies, but which include elements of natural open space. Of particular importance is Barnwell Country Park (Classified as a Park and Garden) but within very close proximity to the identified area and containing large areas of natural space. This further reinforces the importance of this already strategically significant site. Oundle New Road Pocket Park (outdoor sports facilities typology) and Snipe Meadow Pocket Park (Natural and semi-natural) also offer similar benefits to residents of this area.

Map 6.3 - Locational deficiencies in Oundle



- 6.51 Natural and semi natural open space sites within the rural area are geographically well dispersed, and in addition to the larger scale sites located in this area, the majority of rural settlements are well provided for in terms of local natural and semi natural open space. Woodford, one of the larger settlements in the rural analysis area, is one of the few rural areas with no access to natural and semi-natural sites. This is illustrated on map 6.4 overleaf.

Map 6.4 - Locational deficiencies in Woodford and large sites near-by



- 6.52 As shown in map 6.4 there are two strategically significant sites with larger catchments in the vicinity of Woodford. Twywell Gullet is a recognised site of specific scientific interest and is one of the few remaining worked out ironstone quarries in Northamptonshire with a range of vegetation, habitats and water features. This site is located to the north-west of Woodford, whilst Kinewell Lake is another large area of natural and semi-natural space to the south-east of the village.
- 6.53 The presence of these sites reduces the need for new development in this area, but raises the importance of ensuring good access to Twywell Gullet and Kinewell Lake where appropriate. The management of Twywell Hills and Dales area is highlighted as a priority for future development in the East Northamptonshire Best Value Performance Plan. If access is limited, it may be appropriate to provide a specific

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natural and semi natural open space in this area, potentially through the development of an existing site within Woodford to include natural areas. Potential sites include:

- Site ID 920 – Woodford Park – a section within the park could be allocated as a wildlife garden in order to provide some formal natural area for the residents in Woodford
- Site ID 494 – Rectory Lane Amenity Greenspace – a section of this amenity greenspace site could be naturalised

6.54 Great Addington, located just south of Woodford is also outside of the catchment for natural and semi natural provision. Again, this village is also close to Kinewell Lake NSN and is near to Stanwick Lakes. There are very few opportunities to develop any natural areas within this settlement, hence access to nearby natural spaces should be improved.

6.55 Overall improvements to the accessibility of existing sites should be prioritised, as development of new natural sites is difficult and should primarily be opportunity led. The development of green corridors would offer the opportunity to link sites together to provide a network of open spaces, especially in the rural areas.

Quality benchmarking

6.56 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 78% on the site assessment for natural and semi natural open space) provides an indication of the desired level of quality at each site and enables the comparison of sites across the authority.

6.57 As described in appendix L, it highlights sites which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling significantly below and consequently suggests where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in appendix L. The highest and lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 6.2 below.

Figure 6.2 sites above and below the benchmark quality indicator

V good	90% to 100%	
Good	70% to 90%	<p>Adjacent to Paddock Stone Cottage, Thurning (Site ID 389) – 80%</p> <p>Donne Close NSN, North Rushden (Site ID 1352) – 76%</p> <p>Irthlingborough NSN (Site ID 820) – 75%</p> <p>Paddocks Road NSN, North Rushden (Site ID 275) – 75%</p> <p>Bulwick SSSI (Site ID 849) – 75%</p> <p>Titchmarsh LNR (Site ID 835) – 75%</p> <p>Easton on the Hill SSSI (Site ID 800) – 75%</p>



78%

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Average	50% to 70%	↑	
Poor	30% to 50%		<p>Woodland on Osier Bed Lane, Deenethorpe (Site ID 360) – 40%</p> <p>Natural area adjacent to Gatehouse Cottage, Cotterstock (Site ID 523) – 37.5%</p> <p>Natural Area off Brunel Close, Ringstead (Site ID 762) - 34%</p> <p>Green Lane Natural Area, Stanwick (Site ID 749) - 32%</p>
V poor	Below 30%		

Value assessment – identifying specific sites

- 6.58 Sites that generally have a high quality score and high accessibility score frequently have a high level of usage as there is a direct correlation between these factors.
- 6.59 Natural and semi natural sites offer a wide range of ecological benefits and function as wildlife habitats in addition to recreational opportunities.
- 6.60 Three natural and semi natural sites scored highly in terms of quality and accessibility,:
- Paddock stone cottage in Thurning (Site ID 389)
 - Natural area in Thorpe Waterville (Site ID 419)
 - Donne Close NSN in West Rushden (Site ID 1352)
- 6.61 Assuming that the level of use reflects the good quality and accessibility, these sites are highly valuable resources.
- 6.62 There are a number of sites with high quality, but lower accessibility scores (usage is unknown) these include:
- Titchmarsh NSN in Titchmarsh (Site ID 835)
 - Easton on the Hill NSN (Site ID 800)
- 6.63 Poor accessibility may impact on levels of usage and consideration should therefore be given to improving this in order to optimise the benefits from the site.
- 6.64 Factors are often interlinked, and therefore sites with both low quality and low accessibility are often underused. Conversely, these sites may provide important wildlife habitats. Further investigation should be carried out on the following sites, all of which have been considered poor in terms of quality and accessibility:
- Land adjacent to High Street in Raunds (Site ID 10)
 - Ferrers Art College Natural area in Higham Ferrers and North Rushden (Site ID 912)
 - Off Newbridge lane natural area in Stanwick (Site ID 751)
 - Green Lane Natural area in Stanwick (Site ID 749)
- 6.65 It is also important to consider the value of the larger sites such as Stanwick Lakes and Thrapston Lakes. In addition to the ecological benefits and wildlife habitats offered, consultation indicates that these sites are frequently used for recreational purposes and are of regional significance. As such they should be protected. The East Northamptonshire Best Value Performance Plan highlights the development of Stanwick Lakes as an area of nature conservation and outdoor recreation as a priority for the Council over the coming year.

Summary

- 6.66 There is a good geographical dispersion of local natural and semi natural sites across East Northamptonshire. This is supplemented by a number of high quality

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large sites of regional significance. Ongoing development of these sites from both a biodiversity and recreational perspective is vital.

- 6.67 The quality of local natural and semi natural sites is varied, with one site achieving the quality benchmark and four considered to be poor. Improvements to the access to natural sites should be prioritised and it is also important to raise the awareness of the presence of strategic sites within East Northamptonshire.
- 6.68 In terms of wider benefits, the majority of sites provide some form of ecological and also social inclusion and health benefits. Consultation indicated that these sites were perceived to be of high importance to residents and are the most frequently visited type of open space.
- 6.69 The application of the defined accessibility standards (15 minute walk) alongside the quantitative standards (8.79 ha in the rural area and 1.30 ha in the urban area) highlights that there are few deficiencies where new provision is required. Almost all residents are within the appropriate catchment of a natural and semi natural site or an alternative.
- 6.70 The provision and access to green corridors, linking these types of natural and semi-natural open spaces together, will create better access to woodlands, scrublands and countryside. This was highlighted as a priority for residents and is also linked to the findings of the Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure study.

Recommendations

NSN 1	Promote community involvement and ownership of natural and semi natural open space sites
NSN 2	Devise plans (including the development of the green corridor network) to enhance the access to natural and semi natural sites within the urban area and accessible countryside on the urban fringe. This should link with the North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Project and the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and should incorporate key projects such as the development of Stanwick Lakes
NSN 3	Develop partnerships with key external agencies including the Environmental Agency, National Trust, Countryside Commission to improve the natural environment
NSN 4	Consider the development of educational / school programmes promoting natural and semi natural sites and raising awareness of their wildlife and habitat values
NSN 5	Continue to prioritise development of sites of regional significance such as Stanwick Lakes and Tywell Hills.

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NSN 6	<p>Protect and continue to develop large sites of regional significance including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tywell Hills • Stanwick Lakes • Thrapston Lakes
NSN 7	<p>Protect local sites that have been identified as high value (in terms of quality and accessibility). These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site adjacent to Paddock Stone Cottage in Thurning (Site ID 389) • Natural Area in Thorpe Waterville (Site ID 419) • Donne Close Natural Area in West Rushden (Site ID 1352).
NSN 8	<p>Where sites have low accessibility or quality, focus should be made to improve these elements to increase the usage. This should include:</p> <p>Titchmarsh Local Nature Reserve (ID 1950) - Access, Easton the Hill (Id 800) - Access, Land off High Street in Raunds (ID 14) - quality and access, Ferrers Art College Natural Area (ID 912) - quality and access; Off Newbridge Lane, Stanwick (ID 751) - quality and access, Green Lane, Stanwick, (quality and access). Where quality and access is poor, if levels of usage remain low following enhancements, consideration should be given to the appropriateness of the primary purpose of the site in question.</p>
NSN 9	<p>Strive to achieve the quality benchmark (set at 78%) for all natural and semi natural open spaces</p>
NSN 10	<p>In order to address the key areas of deficiency of local natural and semi natural open spaces, consideration should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that Stanwick Lakes, Twyell Gullet, Kinewell Lake and Barnwell Country Park are easily accessible for residents outside the catchment for local natural space