

SECTION 13 – PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION

Figure 13.1 Existing Quantity and Accessibility in East Northamptonshire

ANALYSIS AREA / TYPOLOGY	South Urban						Thrapston						Oundle						Rural						
	SUP	UP	A	OP	SOP	ACC	SUP	UP	A	OP	SOP	ACC	SUP	UP	A	OP	SOP	ACC	SUP	UP	A	OP	SOP	ACC	
Parks and Gardens	1					N		2				N		2				N						5	N
Natural and Semi Natural		2				N				3		Y			3			N			3				N
Amenity Green Space	1					N			3			Y			3			N				4			N
Young People and Children		2				N			3			N			3			N			3				N
Allotments		2				N		2				N		2				N				4			N

Reference	Provision Level	Description	Colour
1	Significant Under Provision	Below the minimum standard by at least 5 ha	Red
2	Under Provision	Below the minimum standard between 1 and 5 ha	Orange
3	About Right	Within 1 ha above or below the minimum standard	Green
4	Over Provision	Above the minimum standard between 1 and 5ha	Light Blue
5	Significant Over Provision	Above the minimum standard by at least 5 ha	Dark Blue
A	Accessibility Level	Y=All residents can access sites of this typology, N – some residents outside an acceptable catchment	

Key Issues

Area	Key issues
South Urban	The south urban area is below the minimum standard in terms of provision for all typologies. In particular, provision of parks and gardens and amenity green space is significantly below the minimum standard, by more than five hectares.
Thrapston	Greenspace provision is varied in Thrapston, with levels of natural and semi natural spaces above the minimum standard. Provision of amenity green space is almost equivalent to the recommended standard, and the required additional provision for children and young people is less than one hectare. Levels of parks and gardens and allotments are slightly below the minimum standard
Oundle	Levels of provision in Oundle for natural and semi natural open space, amenity green space and young people and children are within 1 hectare of the recommended standard. In a similar vein to Thrapston, the levels of provision of parks and gardens and allotments is below the minimum standard by more than one hectare.
Rural	On the whole provision in the rural area meets the minimum standards, with the only exception being in terms of provision for young people where there is a small shortfall. Given the number of people in the area, there is a significant over provision of parks. This does not however take into account the rural nature of this area or the regional significance of some of the park sites. The application of all standards in the rural area should therefore be treated with caution for these reasons.

Existing policies

13.1 The key issues identified for each area should be linked to LDF policies and future area plans. Table 13.1 overleaf details some key policies in the adopted local plan relating to open space and makes suggested recommendations relating to this study.

SECTION 13 – PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION

Relevant Policies	Key Policy Issues	Recommendation
<p>Policies EN1 / EN2, EN89 / EN9 and EN10 – Protection of valuable sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning permission will not be given in areas of countryside, where development may result in an adverse impact on SSSI / nature reserve, river valleys, conservation areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with this policy, areas of nature conservation and open space value should be protected. Assessments of areas of nature conservation value should be kept up-to-date and used as a complimentary tool to the open space assessment in informing policy decisions
<p>Policy RL1 – leisure and recreation facilities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permission will be granted for the development of leisure and recreation facilities provided that there is no adverse impact on the local environment • Policy RL2 highlights a number of principle sites allocated for recreational use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decisions on the level of development permitted should be taken in conjunction with local assessments of need • areas should be qualitatively and quantitatively protected/enhanced in light of recommendations contained within the assessment to prevent against development where the green space is required • Consider the value and suitability of the principle sites (Policy RL2) in light of the findings of the study, (working through the methodology of paragraphs 13.3 and 13.18) and consider whether any additional sites need to be included within the policy
<p>Policy RL3 – New developments and Policy RL4 – children’s play areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New developments of more than 15 dwellings require recreational open space to be provided by developers in line with NPFA standards • Provision may be on or off site • Children’s play areas should be provided as part of developments of 15 dwellings or more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to refining the stated standards to align with local standards set as part of this study (quantity and accessibility) • This greenspace study should be used to inform the type of open space development required in each area • In line with recommendations in this study, contributions to provision should be required for developments of one dwelling or more. Pooled funds or off site contributions could be considered • Publish detailed Supplementary Planning Document to support the standards and assist with the clear and consistent application of Section 106 contributions

SECTION 13 – PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION

Relevant Policies	Key Policy Issue	Recommendation
<p>Policy RL8 – Planning Permission for development of green spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • permission for the development of pocket parks, country parks, playing fields and picnic sites will be granted providing that there is no adverse impact on the landscape of the local environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • this policy should be implemented giving consideration to local need and standards produced as part of this assessment. In some areas, enhancement of existing sites should be considered a priority rather than the development of new provision
<p>Policy RL12: Development on public open space</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning permission for development on public open space will not be permitted unless an equivalent replacement site is provided and laid out before use of the existing site ceases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuing protection should be afforded to public open space and each individual open space site should be considered in conjunction with local needs set out in this study and the application of the locally derived standards • when considering a replacement site, this should be in accordance with the findings of the open space assessment and should be equivalent in accessibility terms as well as quality
<p>Policy RL13: allotments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applications resulting in the loss of well used allotments will not be considered unless a suitable replacement is provided. Developments on an existing allotment site which may lead to an adverse visual impact are unlikely to receive planning permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consideration should be given to the policy based on the revised standards produced for this assessment – a qualitative element to this policy should remain
<p>Policy CF6: Cemeteries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning permission will be granted for the provision of new cemeteries or the extension of existing facilities provided that access, landscaping and car parking meet the requirements of the Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consideration should be given to the incorporation of quality features highlighted within this study.