



EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

OPEN SPACE STUDY

STANDARDS PAPER

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QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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INTRODUCTION

This is the Open Space Standards Paper prepared by Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for East Northamptonshire Council (ENC). It follows on from the preceding Open Space Assessment Report. Together the two documents provide an evidence base to help inform the future provision for open spaces in East Northamptonshire.

The report forms part of a suite of reports that together make up the Open Space and Playing Pitch Study. The PPS is undertaken in accordance with a different methodology provided in Sport England's Guidance 'Developing a Playing Pitch Strategy' for assessing demand and supply for outdoor sports facilities (2013).

This study and its reports replace a previous set of reports referred to as the East Northamptonshire Open Space Study produced in 2006.

The evidence presented in this report should be used to inform local plan documents and supplementary planning documents. It helps identify the deficiencies and surpluses in existing and future provision. In addition, it should help set an approach to securing open space facilities through new housing development and help form the basis for negotiation with developers for contributions towards the provision of appropriate open space facilities and their long term maintenance.

The provision standards used to determine deficiencies and surpluses for open space are set in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility throughout the report.

Assessment Report summary

The following section provides a summary from the Assessment Report on a typology by typology basis.

Parks and gardens

- ◀ There are ten sites classified as parks and gardens totalling 51.41 hectares.
- ◀ A gap in the 15 minute walk time catchment mapping is noted in the Raunds area. However, the settlement is served by other forms of open space such as amenity greenspace. It is unlikely that new parks provision is needed in order to meet this gap.
- ◀ The majority of provision rates above the threshold for quality. Two sites rate below the threshold; although one of these sites (Saffron Road/Vine Hill Drive Park), is only marginally below the 60% threshold. No specific quality issues are highlighted. However, both are noted as lacking ancillary features in comparison to the other high quality parks and gardens provision in the area.
- ◀ Rushden Hall Park is the highest scoring site for quality. Its quality is predominantly attributed to the range and standard of provision within the site. It is the only site with Green Flag Award status.
- ◀ All parks are assessed as being of high value, with the important social inclusion and health benefits, ecological value, educational value and sense of place sites offer being acknowledged.

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Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- ◀ In total, there are 47 natural and semi-natural greenspaces, totalling over 387 hectares of provision.
- ◀ Accessibility standards of a 15 minute walk time have been set. No significant deficiencies are identified. Any gaps noted are in areas of low population density or are met by other forms of open space provision. New provision is unlikely to therefore be required.
- ◀ There are five nature reserves in the area. Kinewell Lake has LNR status as well as being a designated a SSSI and SPA.
- ◀ Natural greenspace sites are generally viewed as being of a good quality. This is reflected in the audit assessment with most (62%) scoring above the threshold. Kinewell Lake scores the highest for quality with 87%; a reflection of its general high level of standard.
- ◀ Seventeen sites are rated as being below the threshold for value. The lowest scoring sites for quality have issues with maintenance and cleanliness, as well as a lack of features such as signage, seating and litter bins.
- ◀ Higher scoring sites, such as Kinewell Lake and Cherry Walk Greenspace (Raunds), provide a range of opportunities and uses. Such sites also give additional information; helping provide greater learning opportunities.
- ◀ Given the rural characteristic of the area, overall, there is thought to be a sufficient amount of natural and semi-natural greenspace provision.

Amenity greenspace

- ◀ A total of 77 amenity greenspace sites are identified in East Northamptonshire, totaling over 59 hectares of amenity space.
- ◀ The Rushden Analysis Area currently has the most provision in terms of hectares (17.5 ha). However, the Irthlingborough Analysis Area has the most provision per 1,000 population (1.16 hectares).
- ◀ The multifunctional role of amenity greenspace to local communities is recognised and as such the expectation exists for provision to be locally accessible. Therefore an accessibility of a five minute walk has been set.
- ◀ It is unlikely that new provision is required as gaps are served by other forms of open space provision such as natural and semi natural greenspace. Furthermore, no issues regarding a deficiency in amenity greenspace is highlighted from the consultation.
- ◀ Overall the quality of amenity greenspaces is positive. Most sites (75%) are rated as high for quality in the site visit audit. Only a handful of sites are identified as having any specific issues. Often a site with a quality score below the threshold is due to its size and nature and therefore it lacks any form of ancillary feature.
- ◀ In addition to the multifunctional role of sites, amenity greenspace provision is, in general, particularly valuable towards the visual aesthetics for communities. This is demonstrated by the 70% of sites rating above the threshold for value. The contribution these sites provide as a visual amenity and for wildlife habitats should not be overlooked.

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Provision for children and young people

- ◀ There are 64 sites across East Northamptonshire identified as play provision. This equates to over five hectares.
- ◀ The Rushden Analysis Area currently has the most provision for children and young people (19). This is followed closely by the Rural Analysis Area (15) which has the most provision per 1,000 population (0.13 hectares).
- ◀ There is generally a good spread of provision across the area. The 10 minute walk time catchment covers the most densely populated areas. However, there are small gaps in provision in Oundle and Rushden which may need to be addressed through new sites or increasing the size of existing sites.
- ◀ The majority of play sites (75%) are assessed as being overall high quality. Although there are 14 sites which score low for quality. Often these sites are assessed as low due to general appearance, minor maintenance issues and lack in range and quality of equipment.
- ◀ All play provision is rated as being of high value from the site visit audit.

Allotments

- ◀ A total of 38 sites are classified as allotments in East Northamptonshire, equating to more than 32 hectares.
- ◀ The current provision of 32.35 hectares is above the nationally recommended amount. However, there are waiting lists within East Northamptonshire, suggesting demand for allotments is not currently being met by supply.
- ◀ Although there is no provision within Higham Ferrers, allotments located in Chelveston and Rushden (Allotments off Grafton Rd) do help to meet this gap. New provision to serve Higham Ferrers would help meet the catchment gap. Similarly, in the Thrapston Analysis Area, a catchment gap exists. Therefore, new provision would meet this catchment gap.
- ◀ More than half of allotments score high for quality. The lowest scoring sites are identified as being small and lacking in ancillary features.
- ◀ All allotments in East Northamptonshire are assessed as high value reflecting the associated social inclusion and health benefits, their amenity value and the sense of place offered by provision.
- ◀ Waiting list numbers suggest that continuing measures should be made to provide additional plots in the future.

Cemeteries

- ◀ There are 75 sites classified as cemeteries, equating to over 33 hectares of provision.
- ◀ As one of the main forms of provision for future burial capacity, the Rushden Cemetery site is noted as having circa five years of capacity remaining. Plans are being put in place to provide additional interment space for the future in both Rushden and Irthlingborough analysis areas.
- ◀ The need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.
- ◀ The majority of cemeteries and churchyards are rated as high quality. However, 11 sites score below the quality threshold. This is a reflection of the lack of ancillary facilities (e.g. benches, signage), sense of security and general maintenance observed.
- ◀ All cemeteries are assessed as high value, reflecting that generally provision has cultural/heritage value and provide a sense of place to the local community.

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Green Corridors

- ◀ There are 31 sites classified as green corridors in East Northamptonshire, equating to over one hectare of provision.
- ◀ East Northamptonshire also has a number of walking and cycling routes including the East Northants Greenway.

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QUALITY STANDARDS

The quality standard is in the form of a quality and value matrix. In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by best practice guidance) the results of the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold; high being green and low being red.

The primary aim of applying a threshold is to identify sites where investment and/or improvements may be required. It can also be used to set an aspirational quality standard to be achieved (if desired) in the future and to inform decisions around the need to further protect sites from future development (particularly when applied with its respective value score in a matrix format).

The base line threshold for assessing quality can be set around 66%, based on the pass rate for Green Flag Award criteria (site visit criteria also being based on the Green Flag Award). This is the only national benchmark available for parks and open spaces. No other good practice examples are adopted for the setting of quality and value thresholds in the UK.

Site visit criteria used for Green Flag are not always appropriate for every open space typology and are designed to represent an exceptionally high standard of site. Therefore the baseline threshold (and subsequent applied standard) for certain typologies is lowered to better reflect local circumstances, whilst still providing a distinction between sites of a higher or lower quality.

Table 1: Quality and value thresholds

Typology	Quality threshold	Value threshold
Parks and gardens	60%	20%
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	35%	20%
Amenity greenspace	40%	20%
Provision for children and young people	55%	20%
Allotments	40%	20%
Cemeteries/churchyards	40%	20%

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Identifying deficiencies

Quality

The following table provides a summary of the application of the quality standards in East Northamptonshire.

Table 2: Quality scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Scores			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Allotments	31%	43%	67%	15	17
Amenity greenspace	21%	47%	81%	19	57
Cemeteries/churchyards	23%	44%	60%	11	64
Provision for children & young people	35%	63%	89%	14	43
Park and gardens	50%	68%	93%	2	8
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	13%	41%	86%	17	28
TOTAL				78	217

Nearly three quarters (74%) of assessed open spaces in East Northamptonshire rate above the quality threshold set.

Proportionally more allotments (47%) and natural and semi-natural greenspace (38%) sites score below the threshold for quality compared to other typologies.

For natural and semi natural greenspace sites, this is a reflection of the number of sites for this typology without any specific ancillary features or facilities. Sites for the typology of natural and semi-natural greenspace can also tend to score low for personal security given they are often in isolated locations and not overlooked by other land uses. Often sites deliberately have very little ongoing management or maintenance in order to provide, for example, wildlife habitats. However, keeping on top of issues such as litter and dog fouling is important to maintain higher quality scores.

Although 26% of assessed sites score below the threshold, this does not mean all these sites have specific quality issues. A low quality score can merely be attributed to a lack of ancillary features and facilities. This is often the case for smaller sites.

The typologies of parks and gardens, churchyards and cemeteries and amenity greenspace score well for quality. The proportion of cemeteries and parks and gardens rated as being of a high quality is noticeable. Although both typologies do still have a number of sites that rate below the thresholds.

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Value

The table below summarises value deficiencies when applying the value standards for open spaces in East Northamptonshire.

Table 3: Value scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Scores			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Allotments	25%	33%	45%	0	32
Amenity greenspace	2%	30%	66%	23	53
Cemeteries/churchyards	21%	41%	53%	0	75
Provision for children & young people	20%	40%	64%	0	57
Park and gardens	49%	67%	32%	0	10
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	4%	25%	56%	17	28
TOTAL				40	255

The majority of sites (86%) are assessed as being of high value. A higher proportion of amenity greenspace and natural and semi natural greenspace sites score low for value. This reflects the number of sites within these typologies that lack any particular ancillary features. This can make these sites less attractive to visitors. Amenity greenspace also contains a number of smaller sized sites. However, the value these sites play in providing a visual and recreational amenity as well as a break in the built form remains important in a wider context.

All provision for parks and gardens, cemeteries, children and young people and allotments rate high for value reflecting their role to local communities. There is also only one cemeteries site which scores low for value.

A high value site is considered to be one that is well used by the local community, well maintained (with a balance for conservation), provides a safe environment and has features of interest; for example, play equipment and landscaping.

Sites that provide for a cross section of users and have a multi-functional use are considered a higher value than those that offer limited functions and that are thought of as bland and unattractive.

Quality and value matrix

Assessing the quality and value of open spaces is used to identify those sites which should be given the highest level of protection by the planning system, those which require enhancement in some way and those which may no longer be needed for their present purpose.

When analysing the quality/value of a site it should be done in conjunction with regard to the quantity of provision in the area (whether there is a deficiency).

Presented below is a high/low classification giving the following possible combinations of quality and value for open spaces:

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High quality/low value

The preferred policy approach to a space in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary purpose. If this is not possible, the next best policy approach is to consider whether it might be of high value if converted to some other primary purpose (i.e. another open space type). Only if this is also impossible will it be acceptable to consider a change of use.

High quality/high value

All open spaces should have an aspiration to come into this category and the planning system should then seek to protect them. Sites of this category should be viewed as being key forms of open space provision.

Low quality/low value

The policy approach to these spaces or facilities in areas of identified shortfall should be to enhance their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value.

For spaces or facilities in areas of surplus a change of primary typology should be first considered. If no shortfall of other open space typologies is noted than the space or facility may be redundant/ 'surplus to requirements'.

If there is a choice of spaces or facilities of equal quality to declare surplus, and no need to use one or part of one to remedy a deficiency in some other form of open space or sport and recreation provision, it will normally be sensible to consider disposing of the one with the lowest value. Similarly, if two are of equal value, it will normally be sensible to dispose of the one of lower quality.

Low quality/high value

The policy approach to these spaces should be to enhance their quality to the applied standards. Therefore, the planning system should initially seek to protect them if they are not already so.

Please refer to the Appendix for tables showing the application of the quality and value matrix presented for each analysis area. However, the following tables provide a summary of the matrix. The location and proximity to similar open space typologies has been used to identify if the action identified for a site should be a priority

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Policy implications and recommendations

Following application of the quality and value matrix a summary of the actions for any relevant sites in each analysis area is shown below.

Higham Ferrers Analysis Area

Summary	Action
<i>Parks and gardens</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for Saffron Rd/Vine Hill Dr Park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced as a priority where possible.
<i>Natural and semi-natural greenspace</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality and value rating for Ferrers Art College Natural Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance quality of site and where possible to also enhance value.

Irthlingborough Analysis Area

Summary	Action
<i>Allotments</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irthlingborough allotments score low for quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance quality of site where possible; not all plots have same appearance.
<i>Amenity greenspace</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites; AGS off Ebbw Vale Road and Addington Road AGS rate low for quality and value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance quality of sites if possible to enhance value.
<i>Provision for children and young people</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality rating for two sites; Allen Road Play Area and Old Bowls Green Skate Park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible; range of equipment on sites may also need expanding.
<i>Natural and semi-natural greenspace</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality rating for Ringtail Close. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites score low on quality and value; Scharpwell N/S and Irthlingborough NSN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance quality of the two sites if possible to also enhance value.

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Oundle Analysis Area

Summary	Action
<i>Allotments</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four sites score low for quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance quality of site where possible; not all plots to same appearance.
<i>Amenity greenspace</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites score low for quality and value; Mill Street and Corner of Wadenhoe Lane and Main Street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible. As a result of enhancing quality, value of sites may also increase.
<i>Provision for children and young people</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for New Road Play Area 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of site should be enhanced where possible.

Raunds Analysis Area

Summary	Action
<i>Amenity greenspace</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for two sites; De Ferneus Drive AGS and London Road AGS. Cherry Walk AGS 1 rates low for quality and value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible. Enhance quality of site, provided it is possible to also enhance value.
<i>Churchyards and cemeteries</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites: Church Street Cemetery Ringstead and Stanwick Cemetery score low for quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to enhance quality of sites provided it is possible.
<i>Provision for children and young people</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality rating for one site; Duke of Wellington Play Area, Stanwick. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of site should be enhanced where possible; range of equipment on sites may also need expanding.

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Rural Analysis Area

Summary	Action
Allotments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for nine sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible.
Amenity greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for two sites. Four sites rate low for value. Three sites rate low for quality and value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible. Enhance quality of these sites if possible, which may result in increased value. Enhance quality of site, provided it is possible, to also enhance value.
Churchyards and cemeteries	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five sites rate low for quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance quality of sites provided it is possible.
Provision for children and young people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for seven sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible; range of equipment on sites may also need expanding.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low quality ratings for five sites. Low value score for four sites. Six sites rate low for both quality and value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible. Enhance quality of the sites if possible to also enhance value. Enhancing quality of these sites may result in increased value. Therefore quality should be enhanced if possible.

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Rushden Analysis Area

Summary	Action
Allotments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One site scores low for quality; Allotments off Grafton Rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of site should look to be enhanced where possible; for instance, all plots not to same appearance
Amenity greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twelve sites score low for quality. Oak Pits Way and Clover Dr AGS rate low for value. Three sites score low for quality and value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible. Value of these sites should look to be improved; increasing the quality and usage of these sites may help. By enhancing quality of sites; it is possible to also enhance value.
Provision for children and young people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites rate low for quality; Fosse Green Play Area and Play Area off Oval Crescent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible; range of equipment on sites may also need expanding if possible.

Thrapston Analysis Area

Summary	Action
Amenity greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One site; Land off Huntingdon Road/ Orchard Way. Four sites score low for both quality and value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of site should look to be enhanced where possible. Enhance quality of sites; provided it is possible to also enhance value.
Provision for children and young people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One site; Memorial Park Play Area scores low for quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible. Range of equipment on site may also need expanding.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites rate low for quality; Acorn Close and Meadow Lane NSN. One site; Land off Huntingdon Road/ Orchard Way scores low for value and quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of sites should be enhanced where possible. Enhancing quality of this site may result in increased value. Therefore quality should be enhanced if possible.

Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking site development or enhancement:

- ◀ Site's significance to local area and community.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Gaining revenue funding from planning contributions in order to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Gaining planning contributions to assist with the creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease site to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups/parish councils to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.

Community funding sources

Outside of developer contributions there are also a number of potential funding sources¹ available to community and voluntary groups. Each scheme is different and is designed to serve a different purpose. In order for any bid to be successful consideration to the schemes criteria and the applicant's objectives is needed. Sources for funding applications are continuously changing and regular checking of funding providers should be undertaken.

¹ Source: Potential funding for community green spaces, DCLG

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ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

Accessibility standards for different types of provision are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that factors that underpin catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day and hour to hour. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchments', defined as the distance that would be travelled by the majority of users.

Accessibility standards are based on extensive sector knowledge as well as reflecting best practice guidelines such as *Fields in Trust: Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play*.

Table 4: Accessibility standards to travel to open space provision

Typology	Applied standard
Parks and gardens	15 minute walk time (1200m)
Natural and semi-natural	15 minute walk time (1200m)
Amenity greenspace	5 minute walk time (400m)
Provision for children and young people	10 minute walk time (800m)
Allotments	15 minute walk time (1200m)
Cemeteries	No standard set

Most typologies are set as having an accessibility standard of a 15 minute walk time. A smaller walk time is applied for the typologies of amenity greenspace and provision for children and young people.

No standard is set for the typologies of cemeteries. It is difficult to assess such provision against catchment areas due to its nature and usage. For cemeteries, provision should be determined by demand for burial space.

Identifying deficiencies

If a settlement does not have access to the required level of provision it is deemed deficient. KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision (in hectares).

Guidance on the size of provision for each typology provided in the future to combat deficiencies has been created based on the average size for each typology in East Northamptonshire. For example, the average size in hectares for play provision for children is 0.09.

Table 5: Minimum size of site based on average typology size in East Northamptonshire

Classification	Minimum size of site
Allotments	0.85 ha
Amenity greenspace	0.77 ha
Natural and semi natural	8.24 ha
Parks and gardens	5.14 ha
Provision for children and young people	0.09 ha

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Policy implications and recommendations

In general, the applied walk time catchment for each typology tends to cover the analysis areas. However, minor gaps are highlighted for certain typologies.

The table below summaries the deficiencies identified from the application of the accessibility standards, together with the recommended actions. Please refer to the Open Space Assessment Report to view the maps.

Higham Ferrers Analysis Area

Typology	Identified need (catchment gap)	Action
Allotments	◀ Gap in provision to north of settlement.	◀ New allotment provision should be sought to a minimum size of 0.85 hectares. This will help to tackle catchment gaps and any waiting lists across Higham Ferrers.

Irthlingborough Analysis Area

No gaps in the catchment mapping are identified in terms of accessibility.

Oundle Analysis Area

Typology	Identified need (catchment gap)	Action
Natural and semi-natural	◀ There are currently gaps in areas of higher population density.	◀ Most of this identified gap is served by Barnwell Country Park which falls into parks and gardens provision. This site also has characteristics of natural and semi-natural provision and therefore offers associated recreational opportunities.
Provision for children and young people	◀ Gap in provision for Oundle Analysis Area.	◀ New play provision should be sought to a minimum size of 0.09 hectares. Alternatively, existing sites could be increased in size.

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Raunds Analysis Area

Typology	Identified need (catchment gap)	Action
Parks and Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps in walk time catchment mapping noted in the Raunds Analysis Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified gap is well served by other typologies such as amenity greenspace sites: Marshalls Road AGS and Twyford Avenue, and the natural/semi natural greenspace site of Kinewell Lake. These will help to meet the identified gap by offering associated recreational opportunities.
Provision for children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with Raunds Parish Council highlighted deficiency in play provision for younger children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite there being no significant gaps in catchment mapping for play provision; consultation suggests the provision available may be more suited to older children. Therefore play provision for younger children in the form of a new site equating to 0.09 hectares should be sought.

Rural Analysis Area

Typology	Identified need (catchment gap)	Action
Provision for children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with Glapthorn Parish Council highlighted deficiency in play provision for younger children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New play provision should be sought to a minimum size of 0.09 hectares. Alternatively, existing sites could be increased in size.

Rushden Analysis Area

Typology	Identified need (catchment gap)	Action
Provision for children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps in provision for Rushden Analysis Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New play provision should be sought to a minimum size of 0.09 hectares. Alternatively, existing sites could be increased in size.

Thrapston Analysis Area

Typology	Identified need (catchment gap)	Action
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is currently only one allotment within Thrapston analysis area, creating a deficiency in provision in the analysis area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New allotment provision should be sought to a minimum size of 0.84 hectares. This will help to tackle catchment gaps and any waiting lists.

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QUANTITY STANDARDS

The following calculation is an example of how we calculate quantity standards for East Northamptonshire. This is done on a typology by typology basis to calculate how much open space provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the area now and in the future. An explanation about the different column headings can be found on the following pages.

Analysis areas	Current provision (ha) [*]	Current population	Current standard	Identified deficiencies [†]	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population	Provision in 2031 (ha)	Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (ha)
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
Area A (1)			A/B*1000		A+D	E/B*1000		F*G/1000-A	F5*G/1000-A
Area B (2)									
Area C (3)									
Area D (4)									
Study Area (5)									

No quantity standard is set for cemetery provision. As such provision is determined by demand for burial space.

^{*} Taken from the project/audit database, supplied as an electronic file

[†] Provision to meet catchment gaps

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Current level of provision (column A)

The starting point for calculating quantitative standards is the total current provision within a given analysis area. Current provision usually has a high impact on aspirational future standards. Residents often base their judgement of need on or around current provision.

Current population (column B)

The current population for East Northamptonshire 2014 ONS mid-term estimate is 88,582.

Current standard (column C)

A current standard (on a 'per 1,000 population of head') is calculated for each analysis area by dividing the current level of provision for a typology by the population identified in that analysis area.

Deficiencies (column D)

The accessibility catchment mapping (outlined above) is primarily used to demonstrate which areas are deficient in provision. Deficiency against the catchment mapping is calculated by identifying gaps/areas not covered by the minimum level of provision required (as illustrated in the maps contained within the assessment report). This is based on achieving comprehensive access, whereby people across East Northamptonshire can access different types of open space within specific distances and/or walking times (see accessibility standards earlier). Consultation findings have also been used to identify any further deficiencies to certain types of open space.

If a settlement does not have access to the required level of open space provision (as identified by mapping) it is deemed deficient. KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size (i.e., as recommended by guidance), are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision.

Total future provision (column E)

The total amount of provision required in the future for an analysis area is calculated by adding any identified deficiencies to the current level of existing provision. This ensures that provision needed to meet existing gaps is incorporated into the standards and calculations for the future.

Standard based on current demand (column F)

Once a new total amount of provision is gained by adding in any deficiencies to the current provision, a current minimum provision standard can be calculated. This takes into account current demand for open spaces and should be specific to each particular area.

Future population (column G)

ONS population projections up to 2031 have been used and applied to each analysis area to calculate future population figures for East Northamptonshire. These projections are shown in table 6.

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Table 6: Population projections

Analysis area	Current Population	Population increase	Population in 2031*
Higham Ferrers	8,961	1,022	9,983
Irthlingborough	8,832	1,007	9,839
Oundle	5,823	664	6,487
Raunds	12,304	1,403	13,707
Rushden	30,245	3,449	33,694
Rural	16,098	1,836	17,934
Thrapston	6,319	721	7,040
East Northamptonshire	88,582	10,101	98,683

It is important to recognise that the figures do not take account of the Rushden East SUE. There is therefore a need to recognise any updating of national statistics as and when possible.

Provision in 2031 (column H)

This column substantiates the actual deficiency in terms of the difference in hectares between current provision and future need for each analysis area, based on future growth having taken into account any identified deficiencies.

Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (column I)

This column substantiates the deficiency in terms of the difference in hectares between current provision and future need for each analysis area. However, it benchmarks against the overall standard for East Northamptonshire rather than the individual standard for each analysis areas. No national standards for most open space typologies exist.

The standard based on current demand for East Northamptonshire should be used to determine requirements for open space as part of new housing developments. In the first instance, all types of open space provision should look to be provided within new housing developments. Columns H and I should be used to help inform the priorities for each type of open space within each analysis area (i.e. priorities will be where additional provision is highlighted in both columns).

Areas identified as being sufficient in terms of meeting the quantity standard for East Northamptonshire should not be viewed as a tool for identifying surpluses of provision. The intention of columns H and I is to highlight areas of the local authority with a priority for additional provision.

* Source: ONS 2014-based Subnational Population Projections

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Parks and gardens

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard	Identified deficiencies	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population	Provision in 2031 (ha)	Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (ha)
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
Higham Ferrers	2.27	8,961	0.25	-	2.30	0.25	9,983	0.23	3.49
Irthlingborough	0.09	8,832	0.01	-	0.09	0.01	9,839	-	5.61
Oundle	1.81	5,823	0.31	-	1.81	0.31	6,487	0.20	1.95
Raunds	-	12,304	-	-	-	-	13,707	-	-
Rushden	16.34	30,245	0.54	-	16.34	1.12	33,694	21.39	3.20
Rural	29.91	16,098	1.85	-	29.91	1.85	17,934	3.26	-19.50
Thrapston	0.96	6,319	0.15	-	0.96	0.15	7,040	0.09	3.12
East Northamptonshire	51.41	88,582	0.58	-	51.41	0.58	98,683	5.82	

Five analysis areas indicate new parks provision is required up to 2031 (column H). Higham Ferrers, Oundle, Raunds, Rushden and Thrapston analysis areas all suggest additional provision of 0.23, 0.20, 21.39, 3.26 and 0.09 hectares is required respectively. Rushden Analysis Area has the most significant requirement up to 2031 based on analysis area standards.

Against the wider East Northamptonshire standard (0.58 ha per 1,000 population) as shown in column I, all analysis areas with the exception of the Rural Analysis Area show deficiencies. The most significant deficiency can be seen in the Irthlingborough Analysis Area. Further to this, Raunds Analysis Area is identified as currently having no parks and gardens provision. However, given the rural characteristics of East Northamptonshire and level of expectation associated with access to parks provision; it is unlikely that new forms of such provision are required. The focus should be on ensuring quality standards are being met for other open space typologies that can provide similar roles and opportunities such as amenity greenspace, for example Manning Road AGS.

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Natural and semi-natural

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard	Identified deficiencies	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population	Provision in 2031 (ha)	Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (ha)
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
Higham Ferrers	11.48	8,961	1.28	-	11.48	1.28	9,983	1.30	32.15
Irthlingborough	132.31	8,832	14.98	-	132.31	14.98	9,839	15.08	-89.31
Oundle	9.49	5,823	1.63	-	9.49	1.63	6,487	1.08	18.86
Raunds	35.33	12,304	2.87	-	35.33	2.87	13,707	4.00	24.57
Rural	150.21	16,098	9.33	-	150.21	9.33	17,934	17.11	-71.84
Rushden	41.91	30,245	1.38	-	41.91	1.38	33,694	4.59	105.33
Thrapston	6.61	6,319	1.04	-	6.61	1.04	7,040	0.71	24.15
East Northamptonshire	387.35	88,582	4.37	-	387.35	4.37	98,683	43.89	

All analysis areas indicate new provision of natural and semi-natural greenspace is required up to 2031 (column H). The Rural (17.11 hectares) and Irthlingborough (15.08 hectares) Analysis Areas highlight the need for the greatest amounts of provision. However, against the wider East Northamptonshire standard (4.37 ha per 1,000 population) in column I, the areas do not require new provision as they sufficiently meet the amounts of provision recommended. It is therefore unlikely that new forms of provision are required.

The analysis areas of Higham Ferrers, Oundle, Raunds, Rushden and Thrapston show that new provision is required against the current standard (column H) and the wider East Northamptonshire standard (column I).

Given the large amounts of existing natural and semi-natural greenspace already recorded across East Northamptonshire as well as the areas general rural characteristics, it is unlikely that new forms of natural and semi-natural greenspace are needed to be sought through developer contributions. The focus for natural provision should be on ensuring quality standards are being met (p9-10). This is also the case for sites which fulfil a similar role to natural and semi-natural provision such as country parks. Furthermore, a general consideration for future planning applications may be to ensure natural and semi-natural features are encouraged on new development sites.

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Amenity greenspace

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard	Identified deficiencies	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population	Provision in 2031 (ha)	Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (ha)
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
Higham Ferrers	3.46	8,961	0.39	-	3.50	0.39	9,983	0.43	3.19
Irthlingborough	10.33	8,832	1.16	-	10.33	1.16	9,839	1.08	-3.74
Oundle	2.10	5,823	0.36	-	2.10	0.36	6,487	0.23	2.25
Raunds	6.85	12,304	0.56	-	6.85	0.56	13,707	0.79	2.33
Rural	15.13	16,098	0.94	-	15.13	0.94	17,934	1.73	-3.11
Rushden	17.67	30,245	0.58	-	17.67	0.58	33,694	1.87	4.90
Thrapston	4.09	6,319	0.64	-	4.09	0.64	7,040	0.41	0.63
East Northamptonshire	59.63	88,582	0.67	-	59.67	0.67	98,683	6.45	

All analysis areas indicate new provision of amenity greenspace is required up to 2031 (column H). Although all deficiencies identified are relatively small. The Rural and Rushden analysis areas have the largest deficiencies of 1.73 ha and 1.87 ha respectively.

All analysis areas demonstrate a need for future provision against the current standard (column H). This deficiency further increases against the wider East Northamptonshire standard (column I) for all analysis areas, with the exceptions of the Irthlingborough and Rural analysis areas. Against the wider East Northamptonshire standard (0.67 ha per 1,000 population), these areas do not require new provision as current provision sufficiently meets the amount of provision recommended based on the East Northamptonshire standard.

Improving the quality of existing provision currently scoring as low for quality and/or value should be considered the priority for the areas of Higham Ferrers, Oundle, Raunds, Rushden and Thrapston. Additional provision in Rushden is likely to be warranted in the future.

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Provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard	Identified deficiencies	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population	Provision in 2031 (ha)	Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (ha)
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
Higham Ferrers	0.43	8,961	0.05	-	0.43	0.05	9,983	0.07	0.27
Irthlingborough	0.33	8,832	0.03	-	0.33	0.03	9,839	-0.03	0.26
Oundle	0.47	5,823	0.08	0.09	0.56	0.09	6,487	0.11	-0.08
Raunds	0.36	12,304	0.02	0.09	0.45	0.03	13,707	0.05	0.46
Rural	2.15	16,098	0.13	0.09	2.24	0.14	17,934	0.36	-1.07
Rushden	1.13	30,245	0.04	0.09	1.22	0.04	33,694	0.22	0.89
Thrapston	0.60	6,319	0.09	-	0.60	0.09	7,040	0.03	-0.18
East Northamptonshire	5.50	88,582	0.06	0.36	5.86	0.06	98,683	0.42	

All analysis areas with the exception of Irthlingborough indicate new provision for children and young people is required up to 2031 (column H). The Rural Analysis Area and Rushden Analysis Area suggest a greater amount of provision is required with 0.36 hectares and 0.22 hectares respectively. However, against the wider East Northamptonshire standard (0.06 ha per 1,000 population) in column I, the Rural Analysis Area has sufficient provision.

It is suggested that against the East Northamptonshire standard, Oundle, Rural and Thrapston analysis areas do not require additional provision to meet the amount of provision recommended based on the East Northamptonshire standard. However, the Oundle and Rural areas are identified as having catchment gaps.

Due to identified gaps in catchment mapping and there being suggested shortfalls in provision up to 2031 based on both analysis area standards and the wider area standard, additional provision should be sought in the future.

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Allotments

Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current population	Current standard	Identified deficiencies	Total future provision (ha)	Standard based on current demand	Future population	Provision in 2031 (ha)	Provision in 2031 based on East Northamptonshire standard (ha)
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)
Higham Ferrers	0.40	8,961	0.04	0.85	0.88	0.10	9,983	0.60	3.39
Irthlingborough	3.42	8,832	0.38	-	3.42	0.38	9,839	0.31	0.31
Oundle	0.74	5,823	0.12	-	0.74	0.12	6,487	0.03	0.74
Raunds	2.06	12,304	0.16	-	2.06	0.16	13,707	0.13	3.14
Rushden	11.58	30,245	0.38	-	11.58	0.38	33,694	1.11	1.11
Rural	12.77	16,098	0.79	-	12.77	0.79	17,934	1.39	-5.95
Thrapston	1.35	6,319	0.21	0.85	2.20	0.34	7,040	1.04	1.32
East Northamptonshire	32.35	88,582	0.36	1.70	34.05	0.38	98,683	5.15	

Based on the current population of 88,582 people (ONS 2014 mid-term estimates) East Northamptonshire, as a whole, meets the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) standard. Using the suggested national standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision for East Northamptonshire is 22.14 hectares. The existing provision of 32.35 hectares therefore meets the standard.

If broken down by analysis area, all analysis areas with the exceptions of Thrapston, Raunds and Oundle meet the NSALG standard. Furthermore, only a small amount of allotment provision is identified in the Higham Ferrers Analysis Area, meaning it does not meet the NSALG standard.

There are waiting lists at existing sites across the East Northamptonshire; suggesting demand for plots is not currently being met by supply.

It is recommended that waiting list numbers at sites, rather than the application of any standard such as the NSALG standard, may be more appropriate to determine the need for new provision. These will provide a truer reflection to the demand for additional provision.

Policy advice and recommendations

The following section provides a summary on the key findings of the open space standards paper through application of the quantity, quality and accessibility standards. It incorporates and recommends what the Council should be seeking to achieve in order to address the issues highlighted.

Overview

Recommendation 1

- ◀ *Ensure low quality sites in areas are prioritised for enhancement*

The policy approach to these sites should be to enhance their quality to the applied standards (i.e. high quality). This is especially the case if the site is deemed to be of high value to the local community. Therefore, they should initially be protected, if they are not already so, in order for their quality to be improved.

The policy and implications summary of the quality and value matrix (p9-12) identifies those sites that should be given priority for enhancement if possible.

It is also important for other low quality sites (that may also score low for value) to be addressed in terms of their quality deficiency if possible.

Recommendation 2

- ◀ *Ensure all sites assessed as high for quality and value are protected*

Sites within this category should be viewed as being key forms of open space provision. The quality and value matrix in the Appendix (p32-42) identifies those sites rating high for quality and value. It is important that the Council looks to retain sites of this classification.

Recommendation 3

- ◀ *Sites helping to serve analysis areas identified as having gaps in catchment mapping should be recognised through protection and enhancement*

The policy and implications summary for the accessibility catchment mapping (p15-16) highlights those sites that help to serve other forms of open space provision in the analysis area they are located.

These sites currently help to meet the identified catchment gaps for other open space typologies. Kinewell Lake is an example of a multifunctional site. East Northamptonshire Council should seek to ensure the role and quality of these sites through greater levels and diverse range of features linked to these types of open space. This is in order to provide a stronger secondary role as well as opportunities associated with other open space types. This will also help to minimise the need for new provision in order to address gaps in catchments.

Recommendation 4

- ◀ *Recognise areas with surpluses in open space provision and how they may be able to meet other areas of need*

For sites identified as low value and/or low quality and value in areas (p9-12), if no improvements can be made a change of primary typology should be considered. If no shortfall of other open space typologies is noted, or it is not feasible to change the primary typology of the site, then the site may be redundant/ 'surplus to requirements'.

Recommendation 5

- ◀ *The need for additional allotment and cemetery provision should be led by demand*

No standards have been set for the provision of cemeteries. Instead provision should be determined by demand for burial space.

In terms of allotments there are waiting lists identified at sites across East Northamptonshire, suggesting supply is not meeting demand. It is suggested that waiting list numbers, rather than the application of a standard, is more appropriate to determine the need for new provision.

Policy implications

The following section sets out the policy implications in terms of the planning process in East Northamptonshire. This is intended to help steer the Council in seeking contributions to the improvement and/or provision of any new forms of open space.

New forms of open space provision are in most circumstances likely to be provided via new areas of housing and/or housing development. This document should help guide the Council to an approach to ensure the most relevant forms of open space are created.

How is provision to be made?

The requirements for on-site or off-site provision will vary according to the type of open space to be provided. Collecting contributions from developers can be undertaken through the following two processes.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Planning Obligations are the two main mechanisms available to the Council to ensure future development addresses any adverse impacts it creates. If required, Planning Conditions can be used to ensure that key requirements are met.

Planning obligations

Planning Conditions and Obligations (often known as Section 106 Agreements) require individual developments to provide or pay for the provision of development specific infrastructure requirements. They are flexible and deliver a wide range of site and community infrastructure benefits.

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A development should make appropriate provision of services, facilities and infrastructure to meet its own needs. Where sufficient capacity does not exist the development should contribute what is necessary, either on-site or by making a financial contribution towards provision elsewhere.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The CIL is a newer method of requiring developers to fund infrastructure facilities including open spaces. They are envisaged by Central Government to replace Section 106 obligations.

It should apply to most new developments and charges are based on the size and type of new development. It will generate funding to deliver a range of Borough wide and local infrastructure projects that support residential and economic growth. CILs are to be levied on the gross internal floor space of the net additional liable development. The rate at which to charge such developments is set out within a council's Charging Schedule. This will be expressed in £ per m².

CIL is not currently in operation in East Northamptonshire.

Seeking developer contributions

This document can inform policies and emerging planning documents by assisting in the Council's approach to securing open spaces through new housing development.

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions for the provision of appropriate facilities and their long term maintenance. Section 106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition and maintenance regimes of playing pitches.

Determining contributions

The majority of East Northamptonshire is set in natural surroundings with ready access to the countryside. For this reason, it may not be considered appropriate to require developer contributions towards the creation of new natural and semi-natural greenspace sites. However, it could be proposed that it is more appropriate for on-site provision of design features associated with, for instance, natural and semi-natural provision (e.g. trees, hedgerows) to be negotiated with a developer on an application-by-application basis. This would need to be in accordance with the recommended standards whilst having regard to the location and characteristics of each site.

For planning obligations, the following elements should be considered when establishing whether open space provision is required and whether it should be provided on site:

- ◆ Identify a deficit - the total amount of open space provision within the locality and whether the amount of provision can contribute to the above quantity standards/levels set for each typology following completion of the development (p20-24)
- ◆ whether the locality is within the accessibility catchment standards as set for each open space typology (p15-16)
- ◆ whether enhancement of existing provision is required if either or both the quantity and accessibility standards are sufficiently met (p9-12)

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In development areas where open space provision is identified as being sufficient in terms of quantity and subsequently, therefore, provision of new open space is not deemed necessary. It may be more suitable to seek contributions for quality improvements and/or new offsite provision in order to address any future demand.

Off site contributions

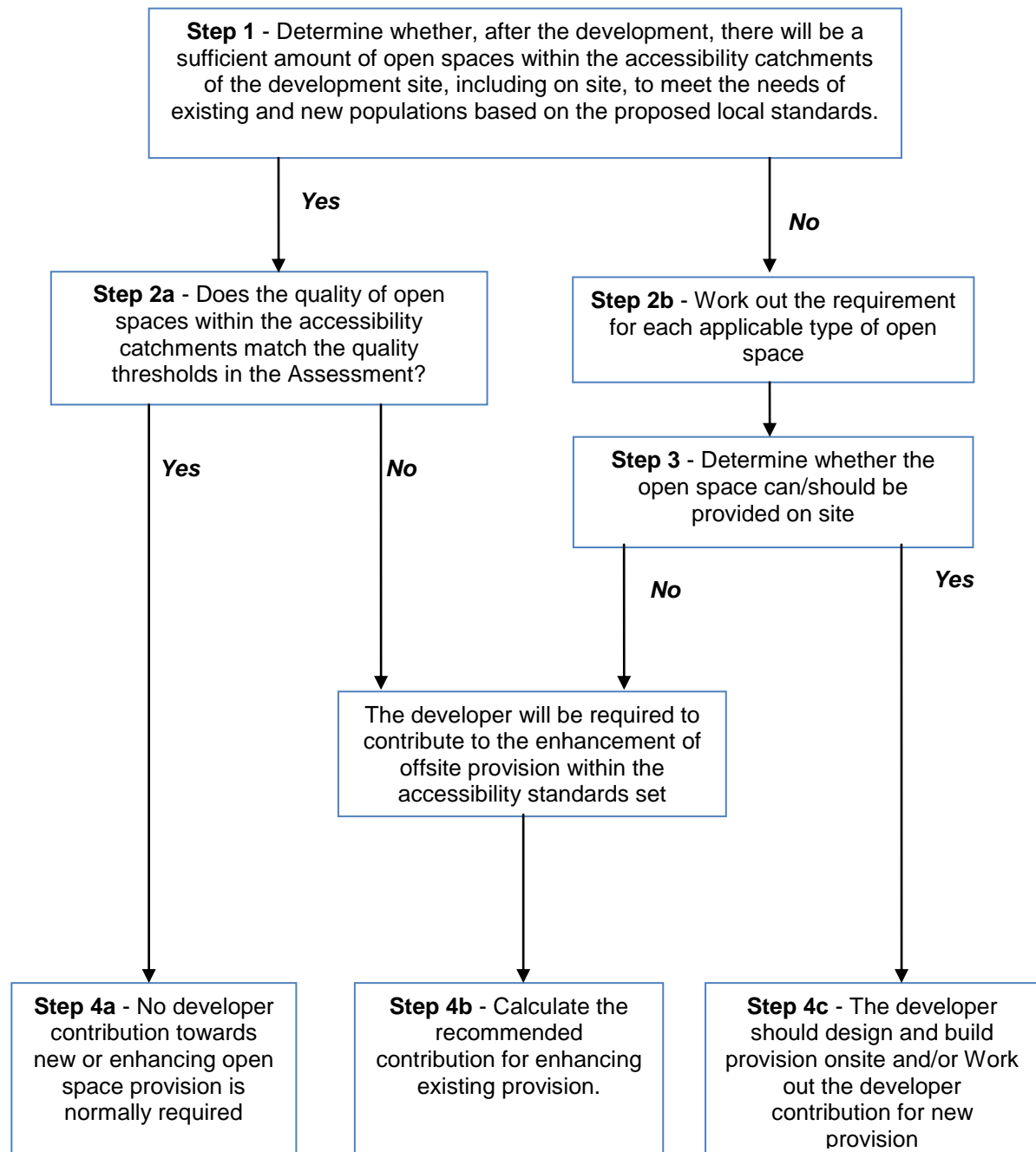
In instances where it is not realistic for new provision to be provided on site it may be more appropriate to seek to enhance the existing quality of provision and/or improve access to sites. Standard costs for the enhancement of existing open space and provision of new open spaces should be clearly identified and revised on a regular basis by the Council. A financial contribution should be, for example, required principally but not exclusively for the typologies identified in this document; subject to the appropriate authority providing and managing the forms of open space provision.

The wider benefits of open space sites and features regardless of size should be recognised as a key design principle for any new development. These features and elements can help to contribute to the perception of open space provision in an area whilst also ensuring an aesthetically pleasing landscape providing social and health benefits.

The figure below sets out the processes that should be considered when determining developer contributions towards open space, sport and recreation provision.

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Figure 1: Determining s106 developer contributions



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Maintenance contributions

There will be a requirement on developers to demonstrate that where onsite provision is to be provided it will be managed and maintained accordingly. In some instances the site may be adopted by the Council, which will require the developer to submit a sum of money in order to pay the costs of the sites future maintenance. Often the procedure for councils adopting new sites includes:

- ✦ The developer being responsible for maintenance of the site for an initial 12 months or a different agreed time period
- ✦ Sums to cover the maintenance costs of a site (once transferred to the Council) should be intended to cover a period between 10 – 20 years.

Calculations to determine the amount of maintenance contributions required should be based on current maintenance costs. The typical maintenance costs for the site should also take into consideration its open space typology and size.

Calculating onsite contributions

The requirement for open spaces should be based upon the number of persons generated from the net increase in dwellings in the proposed scheme, using the average household occupancy rate of 2.3 persons per dwelling as derived from the Census. On this basis, 1,000 persons at 2.3 persons per household represent 435 dwellings.

The next stage is to calculate the open space requirement by typology per dwelling. This is calculated by multiplying 435 (dwellings) X the appropriate provision per dwelling by typology.

Using amenity greenspace in East Northamptonshire as an example, the recommended standard is 0.67 ha per 1,000 population (6,700 sq. metres per 1,000 population) or 435 dwellings. Therefore by dividing 6,700 sq. metres by 435 dwellings a requirement for 15.4 sq. metres of amenity greenspace per dwelling is obtained.

Equipped play areas recommendation

Residential developments should normally be required to meet the need for play provision generated by the development on site, either as an integral part of the design, or through payment of a development contribution which will be used to install or upgrade play facilities in the vicinity of a proposed development.

Whilst the norm has been to expect provision to be made on site, consideration needs to be given to the feasibility of provision.

The Fields in Trust (FIT) recommended minimum area of a formal LAP (Local Area for Play) is approximately 0.01ha, or 100 sq. metres (0.01ha). Similarly, the FIT recommended area of a formal LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play) is approximately 0.04 hectares, or 400 sq. metres per 1,000 population. The average size of play site in East Northamptonshire is 0.09 hectares. Therefore, a significant amount of new housing in a development would be required to warrant on-site provision of formal children's play space.

This means that for a significant number of development sites, formal children's play space provision should take the form of developer contributions to up-grade local equipped children's play facilities in the vicinity of the development. However, informal provision may still need to be made on site in locations where the nearest existing play provision is deemed too far away.

The extent to which the amount of the required provision should be made on site by way of informal provision would be determined on a case by case basis subject to site size, shape, topography, the risk of conflict with existing neighbouring residential properties and feasibility. Any informal provision can include useable informal grassed areas but should not include landscaping areas as these are regarded as formal provision.

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APPENDIX ONE

Quality and Value matrix

Assessing the quality and value of open spaces is used to identify those sites which should be given the highest level of protection by the planning system, those which require enhancement in some way and those which may be redundant in terms of their present purpose. Further guidance on the quality and value matrix is set out on p7 to 8.

Higham Ferrers Analysis Area

Figure 2: Higham Ferrers Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Amenity greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hecham Way AGS 1 (F46) Hecham Way AGS 2 (F48) Queensway meets Linnets Dr cemetery (F53) AGS off College Street (F58) Kimbolton Rd AGS (F61) Tollbar AGS (F72) Winderere Dr AGS (F135) 	
	Low		

Provision for children and young people			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larkin Gardens Play Area (F52) Saffron Road Recreation Play Area (F127) 	
	Low		

Parks and Gardens			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chichele College Gardens (F43) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saffron Rd/ Vine Hill Dr park (F44)
	Low		

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Natural and semi-natural greenspace		
		Quality
		High
		Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midland Rd/Kimbolton Rd N/S greenspace (F59) Irthlingborough Lakes and Meadows (F173)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ferrers Art College Natural area (F134)

Irthlingborough Analysis Area

Figure 3: Irthlingborough Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Allotments		
		Quality
		High
		Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irthlingborough Allotments (F121)
	Low	

Amenity greenspace		
		Quality
		High
		Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scarborough Street (32) Allen Road AGS (33) Fettledrive Road Park (F101) Home Close AGS (37) Queen Rd AGS (120) Fettledrive Road Park (F101)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holbush Way AGS (F155) AGS off Ebbw Vale Road (151)

Provision for children and young people		
		Quality
		High
		Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Musson Cl/Manton Rd Play Area (F122) Fettledine Rd Play Area (F137) Home Close Play Area 2 (F171) Home Close Play Area (36)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allen Road Play area (153) Old Bowls Green Skate Park (156)

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Parks and gardens			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High street garden, Irthlingborough (F31) 	
	Low		

Natural and semi-natural greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterloo Way AGS (35) Wharf Rd N/S greenspace (156) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ringtail Close N/S greenspace (34)
	Low		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scharpwell N/S greenspace (40) Irthlingborough NSN (124)

Oundle Analysis area

Figure 4: Oundle Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Allotments			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Benefield Allotment (52) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilton Lane Allotment (71) Occupation Road Allotments (165) Corner of Hutchdoyle Lane and Stoke Doyle Lane (185) Benefield Road Allotments (231)
	Low		

Amenity greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corner of New road and St Peter Road (163) St Christophers Drive (145) Hillfield Road (118) 	
	Low		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mill Street (56) Corner of Wadenhoe Lane and Main Street (210)

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Parks and gardens			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High		◀ Corner of Milton Road and Grafton House (125)
	Low		

Provision for children and young people			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	◀ New road Play Area (119)	◀ New Road Play Area 2 (173)
	Low		

Natural and semi-natural greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	▶ Occupation Road (169) ▶ Church street Next to St Micheal Church (212)	
	Low	◀ Benefield Road opposite lammas (40)	

Raunds Analysis Area

Figure 5: Raunds Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Allotments			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	▶ London Road Allotments (14) ▶ Brick Kiln Rd allotments (119)	
	Low		

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Amenity greenspace		
	Quality	
	High	Low
Value	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twyford Avenue (1) Marshall's Road AGS (15) Brook Street AGS (19) Saddlers Way AGS (21) Keston Way AGS (24) High Street/Church St AGS (25) Manningham Rd AGS (110) Cleburne Close AGS (111) Courtman Rd AGS (170) Brook Street Park (6) Cherry Walk AGS 1 (16) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> De Ferneus Drive AGS (11) London Road AGS (13) Cherry Walk AGS 2 (17)
	Low	

Provision for children and young people		
	Quality	
	High	Low
Value	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needham Rd Play Area (118) Brook St Play Area (139) Play area off Marshall's Rd (140) Webb Rd Play Area (141) Play area off Weighbridge Way (169) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duke of Wellington Play Area, Stanwick (F138)
	Low	

Natural and semi-natural greenspace		
	Quality	
	High	Low
Value	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cherry Walk N/S greenspaces (F18) Kinewell Lake (F114) 	
	Low	

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Rural Analysis Area

Figure 6: Rural Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Allotments		
		Quality
		<div>High</div> <div>Low</div>
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orchard Lane, Kings Cliffe (16) Stamford Lane, Warmington (38) Between West Street and Orchard Way, Easton on the Hill (69) Corner of Islington and Church lane, Titchmarsh (77) Yarwell Allotment, Yarwell (144) Cliffe Road Allotment, Easton on the Hill (157) Little Addington Churchyard, Little Addington (215) Saint Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh (217) Twywell Lower Street Allotments, Slipton (222) Westfields, Easton on the Hill Allotments (229)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between Orchard lane and The paddock, Woodnewton (110) St Andrews, Brigstock Allotment, Brigstock (122) Corner of Kennel Hill and Benefield Road, Nassington (131) Corner of Between Eastfield, Crescent and St marys Close, Nassington (137) Brigstock Allotment, Brigstock (148) Lowick Lane Allotments, Aldwinckle (186) Kings Arms Lane, Polebrook (187) Twywell Kettering Road Allotments, Twywell (223) Woodford Road Allotments, Little Addington (226)

Amenity greenspace		
		Quality
		<div>High</div> <div>Low</div>
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park Road, Titchmarsh (10) Eady Row, Woodford (21) The Green, Twywell (22) Bevan Close, Warmington (37) Between Barnwell Road and Main Street, Barnwell (108)) Corner of High Street and Whittlesea terrace, Woodford (150) Corner of Rectory lane and Church Lane, Woodford (151)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stamford Lane opposite pub car park, Warmington (61) Ashton Road opposite the Chequered Skipper, Ashton (74) Between Stamford Road and New Tow, Easton on the Hill (156) The Addingtons playing field, Great Addington (216)

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Provision for children and young people			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Eady Row Play Area, Woodford (1) ◀ Millwood Way Play Area, Kings Cliffe (15) ◀ Aldwincle Church Play Area, Aldwincle (34) ◀ Bevan Close Play Area, Warmington (58) ◀ Fermyn Woods Country Park Play Area, Brigstock (87) ◀ Sandlands Avenue Play Area, Brigstock (90) ◀ St Christophers Drive Amenity, Easton on the Hill (154) ◀ Barnwell Country Park Play Area, Oundle (207) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Park Road Play Area, Titchmarsh (78) ◀ The Drift 2, Collyweston (83) ◀ Orchard Lane, Woodnewton (86) ◀ Stamford Road Play Area, Duddington (136) ◀ Drayton Road Play Area, Lowick (167) ◀ Lower Street, Great Addington (196) ◀ Church Hill, Barnwell (202)
	Low		

Parks and gardens			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Barnwell Country Park, Oundle (206) ◀ Fermyn Woods Country Park, Brigstock (117) 	
	Low		

Natural and semi-natural greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Corner of Drayton Road and Robbs Lane, Lowick (6) ◀ Corner of Station Road and Church Street, Nassington (14) ◀ Lilford road, Thorpe Waterville (32) ◀ Corner of Main Street and Thorpe Road, Aldwincle (95) ◀ Main street, Glapthorn (132) ◀ Between Buntings lane and Dexter Way, Eaglesthorpe (153) ◀ Willow lane, Kings Cliffe (170) ◀ Eagle Lane, Kings Cliffe (171) ◀ Blatherwyke lake, Blatherwyke (172) ◀ Gretton Road, Harringworth (195) ◀ Barnard Way, Brigstock (208) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Saints Andrews Lane, Titchmarsh (45) ◀ Corner of Irthlingborough and Chapel Hill, Little Addington (164) ◀ Ferguson's Close, Polebrook (188)
	Low		

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Natural and semi-natural greenspace		
	Quality	
	High	Low
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Titchmarsh LNR, Titchmarsh (232) 	
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Lilford Road, Thorpe Waterville (57) ◀ The Drove, Nassington (76) ◀ Between Apethorpe Road and Fern Close, Nassington (162) ◀ Corner of seaton road opposite white swan, Harringworth (204) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Thurning Road, Thurning (29) ◀ Red Lodge Road, Bulwick (48) ◀ The Drift 1, Collyweston (82) ◀ Cottestock Road and Church, Cotterstock (97) ◀ Thurning Road, Thurning (168)

Rushden Analysis Area

Figure 7: Rushden Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Allotments		
	Quality	
	High	Low
Value High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Rose Avenue & Highfield Rd Allotments (F66) ◀ Access off Bedford Rd Allotments (F92) ◀ Quorn Rd allotments (F143) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Allotments off Grafton Rd (F94)
Low		

Amenity greenspace		
	Quality	
	High	Low
Value High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Mallards (F65) ◀ Spencer Park (F70) ◀ Melloway Rd AGS (F76) ◀ H.E. Bates Way AGS (F80) ◀ Ascott Rd AGS (F85) ◀ Teasel Close AGS (F90) ◀ Access off Oval Crescent AGS (F95) ◀ Deacon Close AGS (F96) ◀ St Peters, Rushden (off Station Rd) (F159) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Keats Way AGS (F75) ◀ AGS off Firdale Rd (F133)
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Clover Dr AGS (F97) ◀ Oak Pits Way (F89) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Jasmine Gardens AGS (F93) ◀ Crocus Way AGS (F98) ◀ Oakpits Way AGS 1 (F144)

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Provision for children and young people			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St James (F74) Yelden Close Play Area (F81) Aintree Dr Play Area 1 (F84) Aintree Dr Play Area 2 (F86) Sylmond Gardens Play Area (F100) Elliot Way Play Area (F128) Spencer Road Play Area (F130) Play Area off Bradfield Cl or Deacon Cl (F132) Donne Close Play Area (F148) Birkdale Dr Play area (F164) Bedford Rd (Jubilee Park) Play area 2 (F166) Masefield Dr Play area (F167) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fosse Green Play Area (131) Play area off Oval Crescent (161)
	Low		

Parks and gardens			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skinner's Hill/High St (F64) Rushden Hall Park (F62) Jubilee Park, Rushden (off Bedford Rd) (F99) 	
	Low		

Natural and semi-natural greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilson's Pits (F175) 	
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenspace off John Clark Way (F73) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dingle Rd AGS (78) Manor Park (147)

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Thrapston Analysis Area

Figure 8: Thrapston Analysis Area Quality and Value Matrix

Allotments		
		Quality
		High Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Islip Allotments (225)
	Low	

Amenity greenspace		
		Quality
		High Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corner of Lancaster Drive and Windsor Drive (4) School Lane (111) Corner of Windsor drive and Oundle Road (182) Fletcher Gardens (197)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land off Huntingdon Road/ Orchard Way (199) Huntingdon Road (174) Kettering Road (123) Cedar Drive (53) Corner of Oundle Road and Springfield Avenue (7)

Provision for children and young people		
		Quality
		High Low
Value	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furnace Drive Play Area (158) Conway Drive Play Area (2) Sissinghurst Drive Play Area (230) Corner of Lancaster drive and Windsor Drive Play Area (3) Charles Street Play Area (35) Old Farm Lane Play Area (70)
	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace Memorial Park Play Area (17)

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Parks and gardens			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	◀ Peace Memorial Park (180)	
	Low		

Natural and semi-natural greenspace			
		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	◀ Bridge street (161)	▶ Meadow Lane NSN (198) ▶ Acorn Close (138)
	Low		◀ Land off Huntingdon Road/ Orchard Way (8)

