



Please ask for Charlotte Kearsey
Direct Line: 01246 34 523636
Email: committee.services@chesterfield.gov.uk

The Chair and Members of Cabinet

28 June 2021

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the CABINET to be held on TUESDAY, 6 JULY 2021 at 10.30 am in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Rose Hill, Chesterfield, the agenda for which is set out below.

Members of the public will be able to access the meeting online by following the link [here](#).

AGENDA

Part 1(Public Information)

1. Declarations of Members' and Officers' Interests relating to items on the Agenda
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15 June, 2021.

4. Forward Plan

Please follow the link below to view the latest Forward Plan.

[Forward Plan](#)

Items Recommended to Cabinet via Cabinet Members

Deputy Leader

5. Council Plan - Annual Performance Report (Pages 7 - 50)

Cabinet Member for Governance

6. Equality and Diversity Annual Report (Pages 51 - 96)

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

7. Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (Consultation Draft) (Pages 97 - 214)
8. Play Strategy (Consultation Draft) (Pages 215 - 320)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Randy', written in a cursive style.

Local Government and Regulatory Law Manager and Monitoring Officer

CABINET

Tuesday, 15th June, 2021

Present:-

Councillor P Gilby (Chair)

Councillors Blank
D Collins
Holmes
J Innes

Councillors P Innes
Ludlow
Mannion-Brunt
Serjeant

Non Voting P Innes
Members

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

8 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS
RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

9 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sarvent.

10 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 25 May, 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

11 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 July to 31 October was reported for information.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Forward Plan be noted.

12 GENERAL FUND BUDGET OUTTURN 2020/21

The Acting Service Director - Finance submitted a report on the General Fund Revenue and Capital Outturns for 2020/21. The report provided details of variations from the revised estimates, documented the level of General Fund Revenue reserves and provisions at year end and also sought approval for a single carry forward request.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the General Fund Revenue and Capital Outturn reports for 2020/21 be noted.
2. That the proposal to make a contribution from the General Fund Revenue surplus to the Business Rates Reserve to meet the 2020/21 deficit on business rates income, as set out in section 4.2.5 of the officer's report, be approved.
3. That the General Fund Revenue carry forward request, as detailed in section 4.2.6 of the officer's report, be approved.
4. That the level of General Fund Revenue Reserves and Provisions, outlined in section 4.4 and Appendix C of the officer's report, be approved.
5. That the proposal to transfer the General Fund Revenue surplus for the financial year 2020/21 to the Budget Risk Reserve, as outlined in paragraph 4.4.6 of the officer's report, be approved.
6. That the General Fund Capital financing arrangements, as set out in Appendix D of the officer's report, be approved.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS

1. To consider the final outturn position of previously approved General Fund Revenue and Capital budgets for 2020/21 and the effectiveness of the council's Financial Strategy and in-year budget monitoring arrangements.

2. To consider the General Fund Revenue Reserves and Provisions position given the issues facing the Council over the period of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

13 **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) - FINAL ACCOUNTS 2020/21**

The Acting Service Director - Finance submitted a report on the Housing Revenue Account Final Accounts for 2020/21. The report provided details of variations from the revised estimates and also sought approval for 2 no. carry forward requests.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the revenue carry forward request, as detailed in paragraph 4.1.7 of the officer's report, and the capital carry forward request in respect of schemes which were not finalised during 2020/21, as detailed in paragraph 4.2.2 of the officer's report, be both approved.

REASON FOR DECISIONS

To keep Members informed about the current financial standing of the council's Housing Revenue Account.

14 **NORTH DERBYSHIRE ROUGH SLEEPER STRATEGY 2021-23**

The Service Director – Housing submitted a report seeking approval for adoption of the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 – 2023.

In 2018, the Government introduced the National Rough Sleeping Strategy. This placed a requirement on councils to prepare and adopt local Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies to include explicit provision for tackling rough sleeping.

The proposed Strategy, attached at Appendix 2 of the officer's report, provided for a partnership approach between the three North Derbyshire councils, other statutory services, the third sector and homeless people.

***RESOLVED –**

That the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 – 2023 be approved and adopted.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS

1. Approval of the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 – 2023 will ensure that the Council continues to deliver prevention, intervention, and recovery measures to ensure that people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness and rough sleeping can access effective services and support.
2. It is a legal requirement to have agreed and published a local Rough Sleeper Strategy.

For Publication

Annual performance report – Council Plan Delivery Plan 2020-21 (J040)

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	6 July 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Deputy Leader
Directorate:	Corporate

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To report progress made during the second year of the 2019 – 2023 Council Plan against the milestones and measures identified in the 2020/21 Delivery Plan.
- 1.2 To highlight the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on priority areas and mitigating action taken.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That members note the significant achievements against the priority areas within the Council Plan Delivery Plan and the contributions made by staff during the Covid-19 pandemic.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 To progress delivery of the Council Plan 2019 - 2023 and maximise positive outputs and outcomes for our communities.

4.0 Report details

- 4.1 Background

The Council Plan 2019 – 2023 was agreed by Council in February 2019. The plan identifies the Council's key priorities, objectives and commitments over a four year period. In order to track and challenge progress across the four years, annual delivery plans are developed. This report highlights performance against the 2020/21 delivery plan.

4.2 Covid-19 impact

The World Health Organisation declared the outbreak of Covid-19 to be a public health emergency of international concern on 30 January 2020 and on 11 March 2020 declared Covid-19 a global pandemic.

4.3 The Covid-19 pandemic brought fast moving and unprecedented challenges to communities and organisations. Chesterfield Borough Council had to quickly reprioritise to ensure core services could be delivered, while supporting additional emergency planning, community response and economic measures.

4.4 Staff across the Council were re-deployed to support key Covid-19 response activities including ensuring key services such as the crematorium could be maintained but also to support new areas of work including business grant allocations, food and medicine deliveries, supporting testing facilities, town centre ambassadors and supporting the community and voluntary sector volunteering programmes. This re-prioritisation of resources and Covid-19 related safety measures including social distancing have had a significant impact on the Council's ability to deliver on elements of the delivery plan for 2020/21. This impact was assessed throughout the year alongside performance progress. The led to additional challenge and mitigation, some re-prioritisation and innovative alternative activities to ensure outcomes were achieved.

4.5 Overall performance and Covid-19 impact

Appendix 1 shows the progress made on the 41 milestones being tracked during 2020/21 as well as the Covid-19 impact.

4.6 73% of milestones within the delivery plan for 2020/21 have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic to a medium to high extent and at the half year point 46% of the milestones remained on target. Following challenge and discussion with Finance and Performance Board, Scrutiny and Cabinet, the Corporate Leadership team were

tasked with developing improvement strategies and alternative options for delivering outcomes. At year end we have now achieved 68% of the milestones with a further 15% scheduled for completion in 2021.

4.7 71% of our key measures achieved their target and a further 10% were within a 10% variance. 19% did not meet their target, however, these were areas where Covid-19 had a critical impact on delivery – either through re-prioritisation of services due to Covid-19 response requirements or through national conditions.

4.8 Making Chesterfield a thriving borough

68% of the milestones for this priority area have been delivered and a further 21% have been re-profiled due to Covid-19 challenges but will be delivered by summer 2021. 82% of the key measures within this priority met their target. Highlights include:

- Excellent progress on the new Northern Gateway enterprise centre with the centre due to open in 2021
- The first development at Waterside Basin Square is underway with ground works completed and steels erected. Local labour clauses and local supply chain maximisation are in place but also added value with Chesterfield College students using the site to support their construction skills learning
- Supporting Staveley Town Deal Board to secure £25.2 million in town deal funding to support a huge range of projects
- Successfully bidding for £2.37 million in external funding to help secure maximum benefits from HS2 for Chesterfield communities and businesses – in total £9.8 million has been secured during the first two years of the Council Plan
- Progressing ambitious plans for the Heart of Chesterfield project including securing a further £650k in external funding to support market improvements
- Refreshing the skills action plan with all targets for schools, business and learner engagement being hit and £1.7 million in external skills funding being levied during the first two years of the Council Plan
- Hit the 100% local labour clause target for the sixth year running

4.9 There were a number of milestones where innovative alternative provision had to be developed to achieve priority outcomes while taking into account Covid-19 restrictions. Examples include:

- To coincide with the release of GCSE exam results, in partnership with Destination Chesterfield and the D2N2 Careers Hub we launched an innovative online careers and employability platform. The My Future platform provided free careers information and support to young people facing uncertainty in their future as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Thousands of young people took the opportunity to engage with over 100 businesses and education and training providers across 10 augmented reality zones.
- The HS2 and you programme was paused from March 2020 due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on school provision. We developed a revised approach working with Learn-By-Design and Spanish Rail Manufacturer Talgo to develop on-line materials that provide all primary and secondary school students in Chesterfield borough with the opportunity to access resources virtually by taking part in a 'Green Rail' Competition
- The events programme was critically impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Major events for 2020 were cancelled due to social distancing requirements. a focus on virtual events developed around arts, culture, museums and civic and where appropriate carefully managed Covid-19 secure scaled back in-person events such for example 'the Amazing Santa House'. The augmented reality experience proved to be successful with over 750 families attracted to visit the Town Centre in the run up to Christmas

4.10 Improving quality of life for local people

64% of the milestones for this priority area have been delivered and a further 9% have been re-profiled due to Covid-19 challenges but will be delivered by summer 2021. 75% of the key measures within this priority met their target. Many of these milestones and measures aligned with key activity required to ensure a resilient and effective community response during the pandemic. Highlights include:

- Environmental and refurbishment works were completed at Grangewood including new doors, windows, security, electrical works, flooring, roofing and rendering across four blocks of flats with extensive environmental improvements. Phase 1 at Barrow Hill has also been completed with new roofs, windows and landscaping and parking improvements
- The private sector stock condition survey has been completed with additional work being undertaken to identify investment priorities

- Significant progress has been made against the Climate Change action plan including housing capital programme priorities, energy efficiency, tree planting etc.
- The core elements of the Derbyshire Care Leaver Offer are now in place including council tax support, housing policy changes and key worker activity plus enhanced leisure provision with additional areas around work and skills being developed
- Armed Forces Covenant action plan has progressed well. Progress includes developing a revised leave policy for reservists, attaining the Bronze Award in the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme, enhanced service concessions etc.

4.11 There were a number of milestones where innovative alternative provision had to be developed to achieve priority outcomes while taking into account Covid-19 restrictions. There were also priorities which needed to be ramped up to respond to community response challenges during the pandemic. Examples include:

- The Covid-19 pandemic has placed an absolute focus on rough sleeping. The Getting everyone in and Keeping Everyone In requirements have improved access to support and accommodation. CBC has been the lead agency for a number of rough sleeping initiatives developed across Derbyshire and has been key in securing much needed funding to improve access to services for more complex needs
- During 2020/21 the Equality and Diversity Forum and Chesterfield Borough Council had to get creative to continue to deliver high quality educational, consultative and celebratory events and activities in a Covid-19 secure way. Due to creative thinking and a lot of hard work by staff, members and volunteers the programme delivered in 2020/21 was bigger than ever and due to a variety of formats being utilised we increased engagement and diversity

4.12 Provide value for money services

73% of the milestones for this priority area have been delivered and 42% of the key measures met their target. A further 25% were within a 10% variance however 33% were critically affected by Covid-19. This was due mainly to significant uplifts in demand during the pandemic but also due to significant new requirements for example – business grants. Delivery highlights for value for money include:

- Excellent progress on the ICT improvement programme. This programme has been absolutely essential to ensuring we could

continue to deliver core services but also to take on additional challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic

- Over 10,000 people now have MyChesterfield digital accounts to access a large range of services
- Large increases in website and social media hits – providing essential resources for our communities and businesses during the pandemic
- Key services and over 200 staff were successfully transferred from Arvato and Kier to direct council delivery following the end of the public/private partnership
- Organisational Development Strategy approved with essential resources now coming into place
- A strategic review for Investors in People was undertaken in January 2021 and the council's Silver accreditation was extended until January 2022

5.0 Alternative options

5.1 No alternative options have been identified.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Council Plan

6.1 The Delivery Plan for 2020/21 contributes to the overall delivery of the Council Plan 2019 – 2023.

7.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

7.1 Progressing several of the milestones within the delivery plan are critical to delivering the medium term financial plan and ensuring financial sustainability.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

8.1 No legal considerations have been identified.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

9.1 Human resource re-prioritisation to key areas during the Covid-19 pandemic had a significant impact on delivery of several milestones. Investment in our people has however continued to be a key focus area with significant achievements against the People Plan and an extension of our Silver Investors in People award.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

Description of the Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating Action	Impact	Likelihood
Failure to make sufficient progress on Council plan delivery	H	H	Assessment of Covid-19 impact. Re-prioritisation of priorities and resources.	M	M
Failure to complete projects on time/budget/to quality standards.	H	H	Performance management framework has helped to identify at risk areas due to Covid-19 pandemic and other issues. Plans in place to improve performance or re-prioritise.	M	M
Core services unable to identify contribution to the corporate priorities	H	H	Performance management framework has helped to identify at risk areas due to Covid-19 pandemic and other issues. Plans in place to improve performance or re-prioritise.	M	M

11.0 Implications for consideration – Community wellbeing

11.1 Key areas of activity within the improving quality of life priority contribute significantly to community wellbeing and have continued to be prioritised during the Covid-19 pandemic.

12.0 Implications for consideration – Economy and skills

12.1 Re-prioritisation of activity has focused on securing economic recovery and maximising the benefits of schemes, external funding and skills opportunities.

13.0 Implications for consideration – Climate Change

13.1 The Climate Change Action Plan is one of the key priorities for delivery within the delivery plan. Progress has been maintained despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

14.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

14.1 Individual milestones are assessed for their equality and diversity impact. Overall the delivery plan makes a significant positive impact for the community including people with protected characteristics.

Decision information

Key decision number	1038
Wards affected	All

Document information

Report author	
Service Director – Corporate	
Appendices to the report	
Appendix 1	Annual Performance report 2020/21

This page is intentionally left blank

Annual Performance Report – Council Plan Delivery Plan for 2020/21

- 1.0 Introduction and performance overview
- 2.0 Performance dashboard
- 3.0 Priority - Making Chesterfield a thriving borough
- 4.0 Priority - Improving the quality of life for local people
- 5.0 Priority - Providing value for money services

1.0 Our Council Plan – Vision, Values and Priorities

- 1.1 Drawing upon an extensive evidence base and using horizon scanning tools we developed a new four year plan from 2019 to 2023 with the same **vision – putting our communities first**. The plan provides a focus to our activities and identifies the priorities which require a collective corporate effort to deliver real outcomes.
- 1.2 It isn't just about what we do that is important, it is the way that we do it. The council has four **values** that describe how we will work to achieve our vision of putting our communities first:
 - **We are customer focused:** delivering great customer service, meeting customer needs. We regularly carry out satisfaction surveys to find out what our communities and residents think of the services we provide. We engage with our residents, tenants, visitors and businesses through a wide range of groups, forums, roadshows and online, seeking their views on our services and how we can improve them. We look to deal promptly and effectively with complaints and always welcome comments and compliments.
 - **We take a can do approach:** striving to make a difference by adopting a positive attitude. Our staff come up with and deliver solutions to problems and regularly go the extra mile to ensure our communities are well served. We contribute actively to partnerships with other organisations in the borough and beyond. We manage our suppliers and contractors fairly but robustly to make sure we get the best from the public money we spend.
 - **We act as one council, one team:** proud of what we do, working together for the greater good. We value regular and open engagement with all staff and carry out regular surveys to find out how we can improve as an employer. We invest in the development of our staff, regularly attracting additional funding for training. We promote a commercial outlook within our teams, to make sure we secure value for money and look for opportunities to generate additional income that we can then invest in service delivery.
 - **We believe in honesty and respect:** embracing diversity and treating everyone fairly. The council has a strong record of going well beyond its statutory equality duties and regularly works with partners to host and promote events throughout the borough that celebrate diversity. Our staff and councillors work well together and individuals are able to express their views openly within their teams and at wider meetings and events.
- 1.3 To ensure we stay on track for delivery we are also developing annual delivery plans. These delivery plans identify the key milestones, inputs, outputs and measures we will need

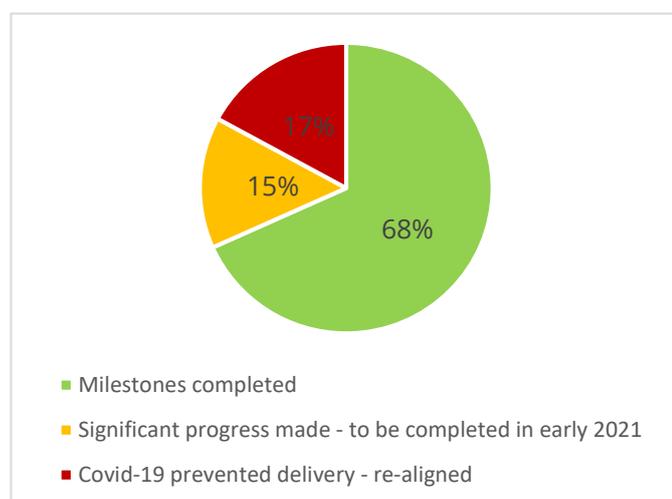
to deliver during each year of the plan to maintain progress. The delivery plan will be reviewed annually and approved by Council in February alongside the budget and medium term financial plan.

- 1.4 This report focuses on the progress made towards our second Council Plan Delivery Plan – 2020/21 and the milestones and measures for our three priority areas:
- Making Chesterfield a thriving borough
 - Improving the quality of life for local people
 - Providing value for money services
- 1.5 It is important to note that Covid-19 was a key challenge throughout 2020/21 and had a significant impact on delivery in a variety of ways including:
- Diverting resources into Covid-19 response – community and economic measures
 - Challenges around delivering Covid-19 workplaces and activities
 - The impact of government guidance and emergency provisions
 - Partnership challenges due to Covid-19 demands on key partners
 - Shortages of supplies

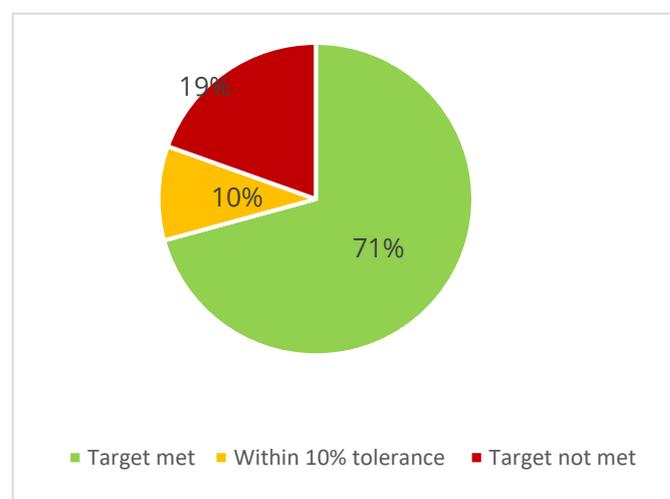
All activities have continued to be assessed throughout the period for Covid-19 impact and response.

2.0 Performance dashboard

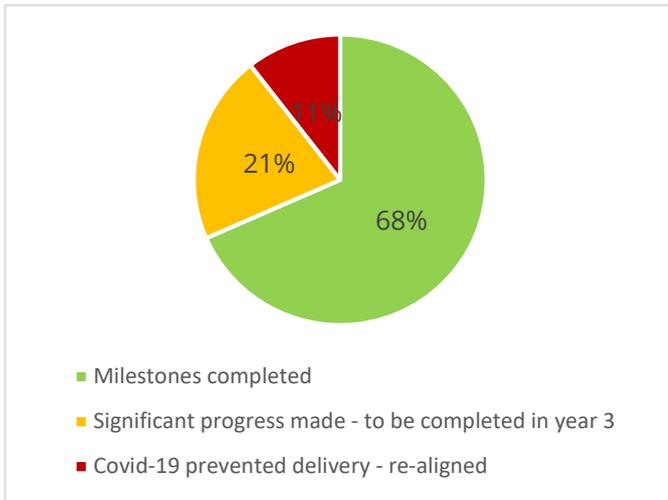
Total delivery plan milestones in 2020/21



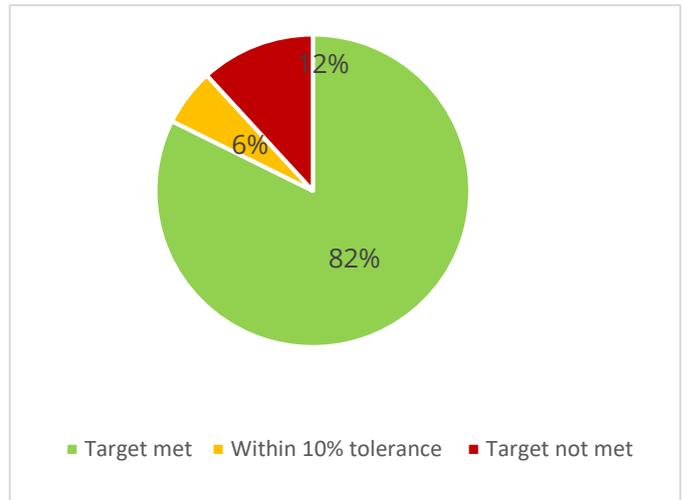
Total delivery plan measures



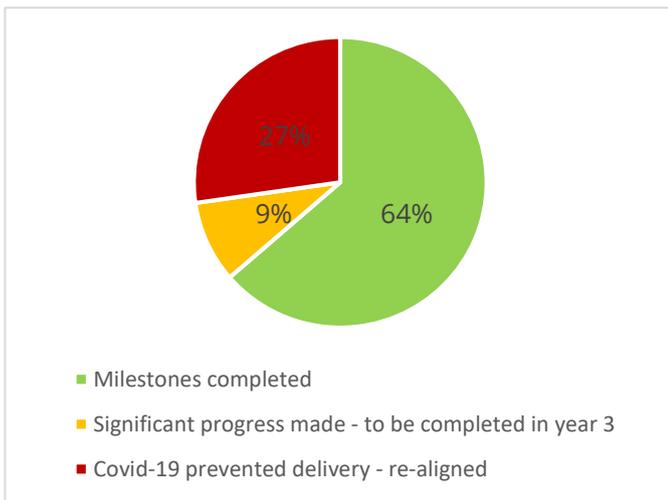
Making Chesterfield a thriving borough milestones



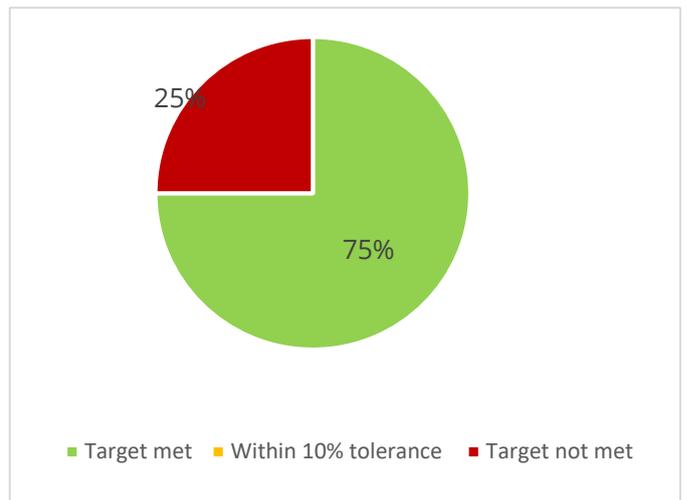
Making Chesterfield a thriving borough measures



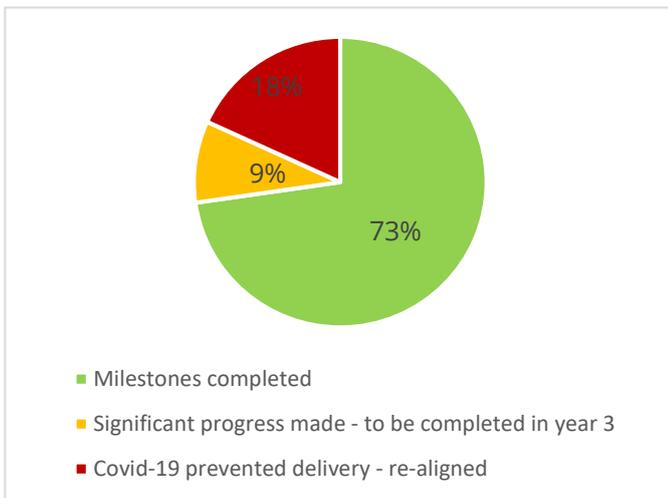
Improving quality of life for local people milestones



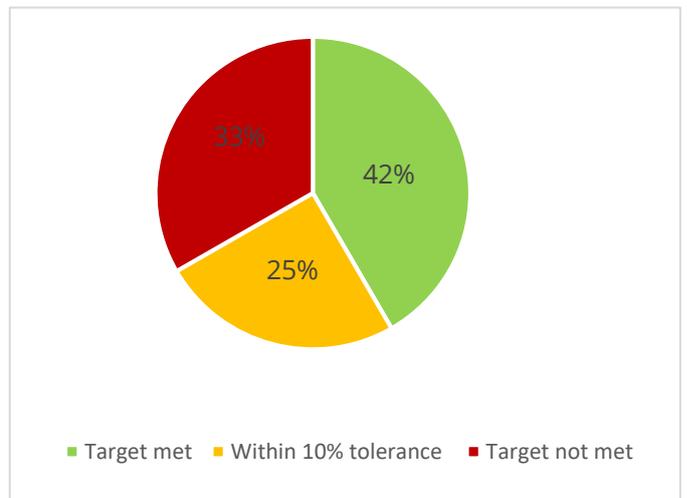
Improving quality of life for local people measures



Providing value for money services milestones



Providing value for money services measures



3.0 Priority – Making Chesterfield a thriving borough

- 3.1 There are four objectives for this priority area:
- Chesterfield Borough – A great place to live, work and visit
 - Vibrant town centres
 - Build a stronger business base
 - Develop an inclusive and environmentally sustainable approach to growth
- 3.2 The progress on the key milestones for this priority is detailed in the table below. Of 19 milestones risk assessment indicated that six were likely to be impacted by Covid-19 to a high extent, eight as medium and five as low. Despite Covid-19 having significant delivery impacts for 74% of the milestones for 2020/21, 68% of the milestones were delivered to schedule and a further 21% due to be completed in 2021/22.

Milestone	Covid Risk	RAG	Progress
Complete and open the Northern Gateway Enterprise Centre	M		<p>Building works commenced in April 2020, however the delivery programme was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic mainly through supply chain shortages and Covid-19 secure construction and workplace challenges.</p> <p>At the half year performance stage, the programme had been re-aligned taking into account the Covid-19 challenges and a revised completion date for 2021 agreed. The latest progress indicates that this is possible however it is regularly reviewed due to ongoing Covid-19 related supply chain challenges.</p> <p>Photographs and videos of the build progressing are available via the council's website. A walkthrough video has also been developed to give potential tenants a flavour of what the new enterprise centre will have to offer. Find out more here.</p> <p>A marketing strategy has been developed, with the new Centre adding to the Enterprise Chesterfield brand.</p> <p>The new building has been designed to have sustainability principles at its heart, minimising its impact on the environment.</p>
Progress the land assembly plan for the next phase of	M		We continue to work with a range of partners and key stakeholders to explore ways to bring forward sites allocated for housing in the recently adopted Local Plan. Significant progress has been made to establish viability of redevelopment and is

the Northern Gateway			supported by a detailed planning brief to show design/layout and character of possible development. The next stage is to engage further with landowners and occupiers to seek alternative relocation options. Progress will continue into 2021/22.
Continue to support the delivery of the Elder Way development	H		<p>Chesterfield Borough Council and Destination Chesterfield continue to support the developers Jomast to market the development and secure interest. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic there had been significant interest in the remaining units at the Elder Way development and progress was being made to secure tenants.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has had a negative impact in converting interest into tenancies due to market confidence particularly in the hospitality and leisure sectors. Our economic recovery plan includes a range of activities aimed at providing support and boosting confidence for both customers and businesses with a particularly focus on town centre recovery.</p> <p>The £1.8m investment in public real works on Elder Way and Packers Row will be a big boost to this activity. A Contractor has been working onsite delivering the improvements and completion is expected in summer 2021.</p>
Waterside – commence construction of commercial development at Basin Square	L		<p>The first development in the Basin Square area commenced in October 2020. Construction is well underway, ground works are completed and steels are erected to full height on site.</p> <p>Chesterfield Borough Council is working closely with the main contractor and Chesterfield College to maximise the impact of the local labour clause and to support local supply chains.</p> <p>The site is also being utilised to support Chesterfield College students with their Construction Skills learning. We have funded an interactive time lapse camera to support students with their digital construction skills lab at college. Supported site visits have also taken place.</p> <p>Other elements of the Waterside scheme also continue to progress. There is active interest in the multi-storey car park proposed for the site and with the hotel operator.</p>
Complete consultation,	M		Chesterfield Borough Council secured external funding to support key strands of the masterplan

develop and adopt the HS2 station masterplan			<p>delivery. This includes £2.4 million from D2N2 LEP to deliver a number of activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a transport and accessibility study and preliminary designs for the highway layout • site wide ground investigations • Delivery Strategy for the proposed multi-storey car park and transport hub • A public realm strategy and design work towards the new pedestrian and cycle infrastructure including a new bridge <p>Consultation on the draft masterplan was undertaken from 8 February 2021 to 8 March 2021. Due to Covid-19 related restrictions the consultation was undertaken largely online through the use of a virtual exhibition room, although paper copies of all materials and contact phone numbers were also provided to assist residents unable to engage virtually.</p> <p>1,396 visits were recorded to the Masterplan Consultation Website and 114 individual responses received. Responses were received from Statutory Consultees, Key Stakeholders, Interest Groups and the General Public.</p> <p>A comprehensive Report has been drafted on the outcome of the Consultation process and the Masterplan is currently being revised in line with consultation responses.</p> <p>The Final Masterplan is due by mid-May 2021 and is expected to be adopted in July 2021.</p>
Progress key site acquisition strategy to maximise HS2 benefit	L		<p>The £2.4 million D2N2 LEP funding is also being used to progress the acquisition, demolition and site assembly of the former Chesterfield Hotel. This includes the submission of a planning application for a mixed use development on the site. The legal agreement to secure the site was successfully implemented and demolition is in progress. The internal 'soft-strip' is completed and visible demolition work is expected to commence during June 2021.</p>
Progress year 2 of the HS2 and you programme	H		<p>The HS2 and you programme was paused from March 2020 due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on school provision. The programme was paused approximately two thirds of the way through the programme with the programme originally due to complete in June 2020. The impact of Covid-19 has continued to impact schools with restrictions on</p>

			<p>external visitors / activities expected to remain well in to the 2021/22 academic year.</p> <p>At the half year performance stage, the programme was re-aligned taking into account the Covid-19 challenges with a revised approach being agreed. We worked with Learn-By-Design and Spanish Rail Manufacturer Talgo to develop on-line materials that provide all primary and secondary school students in Chesterfield borough with the opportunity to access resources virtually by taking part in a 'Green Rail' Competition. https://www.learnbydesign.co.uk/dr-green-competition</p> <p>Both competitions focus on sustainable and green rail. The Primary Challenge asks students to design a sustainable and green train and the Secondary Challenge is centred on planning a new route for Talgo's Hydrogen Train. Both challenges are supported by resources that embed STEM skills and align to curriculum subjects.</p>
Deliver year 1 of the Visitor Economy Action Plan	H		<p>Work on the preparation of the Visitor Economy Strategy and Action Plan has commenced. Following a procurement exercise, Team Tourism (specialist consultants in the tourism and visitor economy sector) have been appointed to develop the Strategy. The project inception meeting took place at the beginning of March 2021 and since that time Team Tourism have been undertaking background research (building on the Chesterfield Visitor Economy Audit that was completed in August 2020) and an initial round of stakeholder engagement. This engagement has included a facilitated session with a CBC Scrutiny Project Group which has an active interest in the development of the Visitor Economy Strategy and action Plan. Following wider consultation on both options for development and the draft document, the strategy is scheduled for completion autumn 2021.</p>
Deliver a programme of Borough wide events	H		<p>The events programme has been critically impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Major events for 2020 were cancelled due to social distancing requirements including Medieval Fun Day, Walking Festival, 1940s market, Motor Fest, Fireworks extravaganza and the Christmas Lights switch on. The approach was revised in-year with a focus on virtual events developed around arts, culture, museums and civic and where appropriate carefully</p>

			<p>managed Covid-19 secure scaled back in-person events such as Remembrance.</p> <p>We delivered a Covid-19 secure Christmas event “The Amazing Santa House” augmented reality experience. This event proved to be successful with many families attracted to visit the Town Centre in the run up to Christmas. Visits were pre-bookable and sold out very quickly. Over 750 families booked to visit the Santa House. Feedback was obtained from those visiting and 98% of visitors said they would recommend the experience to friends and family. 76% of those visiting reported that they stayed in town and spent money. Further, 91% of those attending said they would be more likely to come to Chesterfield if more regular events and experiences took place.</p> <p>In addition to our own events programme we have worked hard to provide information to event organisers on Covid-19 event specific Health and Safety requirements. A checklist is available on our website and support available. If events do go ahead, they must comply with emerging government guidance to review the events usually held. We are using the checklist and guidance to develop our events for 2021/22 which a range of “little and often” events to support town centre recovery.</p>
<p>Re-launch the Town Centre Forum to increase engagement and activity to promote and support the Chesterfield Town Centre economy</p>	M		<p>The re-launch of the full Town Centre Forum had to be delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions, however an alternative approach was developed during 2020/21 which enabled engagement, promotion and support activity to go ahead.</p> <p>This has included one to one engagement with businesses and key stakeholders within the town centre in order to support them during the different stages of Covid-19 restrictions and beyond. Our Town Centre Engagement Officer</p> <p>The re-launch of the town centre forum forms a key part of our economic recovery plan and is being developed for 2021/22.</p>
<p>Support the development of Peak Resort and Adrenaline World (now Summit @Peak), maximising the benefit for</p>	L		<p>Chesterfield Borough Council continues to support the development of Peak Resort scheme which will provide significant employment opportunities for our communities. The scheme will benefit the local community by providing additional services and facilities as well as providing jobs through construction and operations on the site and</p>

Chesterfield's economy			<p>opportunities for the wider supply chain and business community.</p> <p>Summit @ Peak construction is underway and will provide a variety of activities including zip lines, climbing walls and a ninja course.</p> <p>Another key part of the development is the Gateway @ Peak to provide environmentally friendly tourism opportunities into Chesterfield, North Derbyshire and the Peak District. The developer Milligan Retail are working in partnership with the Council, University of Derby and the Peak District National Park Authority to develop the gateway proposition and business case.</p>
Consider the options for the refurbishment of the George Stevenson Memorial Hall and progress to design phase if viable.	M		<p>The options development stage was paused during the first half of 2020/21 due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The project was however progressed from October 2020 and an initial options appraisal was presented to members and officers in December. The Royal Institute of British Architects stage 1 report was considered in February 2021 and stage 2 report considered in May 2021.</p> <p>Detailed designs and financial summary have been produced which detail the proposed costs of the capital project and also revenue implications.</p> <p>If the options are considered desirable and viable and outline project funding plan will be developed to include potential external funding opportunities and financial borrowing options and costs.</p>
Develop schemes and initiatives including the town investment plan to maximise the Staveley Town Centre Deal potential	L		<p>The Staveley Town Board has been meeting regularly to consider the range of complex issues of programme development, sifting projects of significant scale, impact and community benefit that are deliverable within the 5 year Town Deal period.</p> <p>Following consultation, the place vision was approved by the Staveley Town Deal Board along with a Town Deal logo. The Town Investment Plan was then co-designed and submitted to Government. In March 2021 Government announced that Staveley had been successful in securing £25.2 million.</p> <p>Chesterfield Borough Council are the accountable body for the fund and work continues to develop the assurance framework, guidance and policy around the town deal. There has also been significant engagement in national level town deal workshops, focus groups and technical events as</p>

			<p>well as local project sponsor workshops. In addition, we are actively engaged with the national programme with other town deal areas (101 in total) to collaborate and learn from best practice.</p> <p>A report went to Joint Cabinet, Employment & General on 13 April to set out the Management and staffing arrangements for the Staveley Town Deal.</p> <p>Staveley received funding ahead of the Town Deal, namely £500k Accelerator Fund from Government. Four of the five projects: DRIIVe, CCTV, Play equipment in King George V Park and drainage for Staveley Miners Welfare Football pitches are now all complete. One further project (Springwell Community College) is working through various legal and funding issues but expects to commence later in 2021/22 in accordance with agreed timescales.</p>
Further develop the visitor offer at the Pomegranate and Winding Wheel Theatres	H		<p>Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the focus during 2020 was re-opening the theatres as a Covid-19 secure venues to ensure the safety of customers and staff. The Pomegranate Theatre was initially re-opened as a cinema in July 2020 and then for live theatre in October 2020 and the Winding Wheel Theatre was re-opened for live theatre in October 2020. All activities had to be carefully risk assessed to ensure safety. Unfortunately, due to government restrictions, both theatres had to close in early November 2020, and have remained closed for entertainment since then. However, since January 2021 the Winding Wheel Theatre has been licensed by the NHS for use as a vaccination centre.</p> <p>During the periods of closure of the theatres, we have continued to engage with customers virtually using social media and other online platforms with quizzes, competitions, activities and information.</p>
Conduct research and develop options for alternative usage of retail space in the town centres	L		<p>We continue to actively explore different uses for retail space within the Town Centre. Town centre spaces are evolving over time and Covid-19 has had a significant impact. Where spaces have become available we have worked with stakeholders to develop alternative uses where appropriate, for example Job Centre Plus with the former Argos retail store. We are also working with Vicar Lane to bring a greater variety of uses to retail space in order to maintain town centre vibrancy. A further study has also been</p>

			commissioned to consider the demand for housing within the town centre.
Progressing the Heart of Chesterfield programme including commencement of the Market reconfiguration project	M		<p>The revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield programme comprises of three key scheme elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reconfiguration of the outdoor market • Infrastructure to support events and activities • The provision of enhanced public realm linked to the Northern Gateway development <p>Although the Covid-19 pandemic has adversely impacted on the timescale for scheme completion, progress has continued to be made. Additional funding of £650k from the D2N2 LEP was approved in August 2020. This funding will enable an upgrade of the market reconfiguration works (£350k) and an extension of the public realm works at Elder Way to include Packers Row (as far as the junction with High St). Completion is expected in summer 2021.</p> <p>The design work for the reconfiguration of the market place is underway with works planned to start in early 2022 following consultation.</p>
Develop and adopt a long-term parking strategy including electric vehicle charging	M		<p>Development of the parking strategy is underway, however specific aspects of delivery and improvement have already been progressed including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total replacement of parking equipment to mirror Saltergate MSCP enabling customers to purchase weekly, monthly and annual passes directly from pay stations as well as online • Pay by phone launched for surface pay and display sites • Work is underway with Derbyshire County Council and AECOM to deliver a vehicle management system to improve traffic flow into Chesterfield via the A61 corridor and it's arterial routes. • Electronic signage available on strategic routes into the town centre to inform customers of car parking availability. The signage is completed with a further stage now underway to link back office systems to inform the display regarding the number of spaces available at each site • 23 electric vehicle chargepoints have been installed in partnership with Derbyshire County Council and Chargemaster, utilising external funding of around £100k. There is also a 10 year maintenance and upgrade agreement

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding has been secured to provide chargepoints in residential settings through the Onstreet Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) (2020-21 round). This fund is aimed at providing charging facilities to residents who do not have access to off street parking for electric vehicle charging, to ensure that this is not a barrier to EV use and ownership. The groundworks have been completed with the final installation happening in June • Structural repairs to Beetwell Street Multi-Storey car park have been completed and have led to increased capacity
Deliver new business units at Calow Lane	H		<p>This activity was halted in 2020, to allow the Economic Development Team to focus on delivery of activity contained in the Covid-19 Recovery Plan. The pause also gave an opportunity to review the demand for industrial units during the Covid-19 pandemic. The demand for industrial units within Chesterfield continues to be high with high letting rates across existing stock and a high enquiry rate.</p> <p>Work on the delivery of new business units has now commenced with site investigations being completed and architects procured to develop designs. The draft designs are currently being costed by quantity surveyors. When detailed costs are available, the design will be progressed and a planning application submitted.</p>
Refreshing the skills action plan to include harder to reach young people including care leavers, apprentice town and annual skills conference support	M		<p>The Skills Action Plan has been refreshed focusing on and responding to the challenges and opportunities highlighted in the Councils Growth Strategy and Economic Recovery Plan. The plan focuses on four key themes: supporting young people, raising skill levels, improving the role of higher education provision and realising our growth ambitions by harnessing the power of investment.</p> <p>The Skills Action Plan however continues to be reviewed and refined to respond to the latest information and Government direction. This includes the Skills White Paper published in January and the Skills Accelerator Prospectus in April. There were further announcements around post 16 education within the Queen's Speech 2021 which will also be important to reflect.</p> <p>A range of activities have been delivered during 2020/21:</p>

Young people and Careers (including supporting harder to reach)

New activities have included the establishment of a Chesterfield provider network (April 20) and the delivery of virtual skills and careers platform [My Future](#) (Aug 20), supporting the Chamber of Commerce in the delivery of the Kickstart Scheme in Chesterfield which has generated 161 vacancies across 51 companies in the borough. . These activities recognise increases in unemployment, in particular amongst 18-24 year olds, the impact Covid-19 has had on young people ability to engage with employers, training providers and careers guidance and the need for a co-ordinated response to the challenge presented by Covid-19.

There has been increased engagement with DCC Childrens Services and Careers Services teams to ensure unemployed, those at risk of redundancy and harder to reach groups including NEET and Care leavers can access activities within the economic recovery strategy and skills action plan.

Apprentice Town activity has continued to be delivered and has included the Apprentice Round Table event in February and a refreshed marketing campaign from December 2020, resulting in 11,500-page views, 8,320 of them being unique views between April 2020 – March 2021. This is a 50% increase on the previous year.

Local Labour Activity

A key objective within the skills action plan is to harness the power of investment and maximise the number of training, employment and supply chain opportunities for local people arising from new development secured through local labour agreements. This has continued in earnest and will continue to be a priority in the refreshed plan. We have seen significant impact resulting from this activity in 2020/21 with activity enabling:

375 jobs

45 Apprenticeships

£23,107,028 contracts within local supply chain

As well as number of social value impacts including:

- £6825 contribution to Speedwell Infant School as part of contractors' social value commitments

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Work Experience (Fortem / Springwell School) Virtual Workplace Tours (MADE / Woodhead Construction) Live briefs and Curriculum Projects (Britcon, Woodhead, Fortem) <p>Women in construction mentoring</p> <p>Annual Skills and Employability Conference</p> <p>Recognising continued social distancing restrictions, the annual employability conference was delivered in a new virtual format in February 21. The event was attended by 89 delegates from across the business and education community and focussed on strengthening relationships between employers and the future workforce with the theme of innovation, change and resilience.</p>
--	--	--

3.3 The progress on the key measures for this priority is detailed in the table below. There are 22 measures, 17 of which had targets and measures collected during 2020/21. 14 of the 17 measures met their target (82%). A further measure is within 10% tolerance of meeting the target and two were not met. These three measures around town centre occupancy, town centre housing and NEET for young people were both significantly impacted by Covid-19 and reflect the national picture.

Measure	2020/21 target	2020/21 actual	Rag Rating	Comments
Number of new homes in the borough	240	297		
Number of new homes in the town centre	Increase from 10	1		Covid-19 has had a significant impact on town centre conversion activity. A further study has also been commissioned to consider the demand for housing within the town centre.
Major planning applications - speed of decisions	60%	84%		Rolling two-year average required of over 60% to meet national planning standards
Other planning applications – speed of decisions	70%	74%		Rolling two-year average required of over 70% to meet national planning standards
Major planning applications – quality of decisions	Under 10%	0.3%		Rolling two-year average required of under 10% to meet national planning standards
Other planning applications – quality of decisions	Under 10%	0.3%		Rolling two-year average required of under 10% to meet national planning standards

Amount of external funding accessed for HS2 programme	£1 million	£2.37 million		£9.8 million secured during the first two years of the council plan.
Number of children reached via HS2 and you project	530			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Tourism contribution to the economy	5% increase			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Visitor numbers	5% increase			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Visitor overnight stays	5% increase			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Town centre occupancy rates	90%	87%		Occupancy rate impacted by Covid-19. This is inline with the national picture.
Number of businesses	Over 3280	3360		An increase of 80 despite the high impact of Covid-19.
Number of business start-ups in the borough	Over 340	415		An increase of 75 despite the high impact of Covid-19.
Number of businesses supported to find accommodation	Over 500	609		
% local labour clauses	100%	100%		
% jobs secured by local people on developments with local labour clauses	50%	61%		
Percentage of young people not in education, employment or training	Under 5%	5.8%		Worsening picture across the country as under 25s have been significantly impacted by Covid-19 economic impact.
Number of schools and businesses engaged in skills programmes	40	153		
Number of learners engaged in skills programmes	400	1534		
Funding levied for skills programmes	Over £500k	£661,069		Over £1.7 million in external skills funding secured during the first two years of the Council Plan.
Visitor numbers at theatres	135,000			Theatres closed during most of 2020/21 due to Covid-19 pandemic.

4.0 Priority – Improving quality of life for local people

- 4.1 There are four objectives for this priority area:
- Provide quality housing and improve housing conditions across the borough
 - Improve our environment and enhance community safety for our communities and future generations
 - Help our communities to improve their health and wellbeing
 - Reduce inequality and provide support to vulnerable people
- 4.2 The progress on the key milestones for this priority is detailed in the table below. Of 11 milestones risk assessment indicated that four were likely to be impacted by Covid-19 to a high extent, four as medium and three as low. Despite Covid-19 having significant delivery impacts for 72% of the milestones for 2020/21, 64% of the milestones were delivered to schedule and a further 9% due to be completed in early 2021/22.

Milestone	Covid Risk	RAG	Progress
Develop, agree and implement the Rough Sleepers Strategy	L		<p>The Rough Sleepers Strategy was approved in early 2020/21 however learning from the pandemic and new requirements are being used to update the Strategy for 2021/22.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has placed an absolute focus on rough sleeping. The Getting everyone in and Keeping Everyone In requirements have improved access to support and accommodation for rough sleepers.</p> <p>Delivery of ‘wrap around’ intensive support workers to develop a relationship with people and a different offer of accommodation has been developed. Funding has been secured for the “Keeping Everyone In” recovery project to provide wrap around support across Derbyshire. CBC are the lead authority and the SLA with P3 and Pathways. The service launched on 1st October 2020.</p> <p>The Housing First Scheme has been developed and is now operational providing an initial 7 units of supported accommodation for people with complex needs. Due to the immediate success and demand for the service the decision was made to expand to 14 units.</p> <p>Funding has been acquired to enable the recruitment of a Link Officer with Probation Services to enable a joined up approach to dealing with people being released from prisons and those that have offending history. The post is</p>

		<p>based within Probation but largely focussed within the council's homeless prevention team.</p> <p>Funding has been allocated through the Better Care Fund to enable the recruitment of a specialist Mental Health Housing Options worker based within P3 to work alongside the Keeping Everyone In Service.</p> <p>The Next Steps Accommodation funding bid to MCHLG has been successful, £152K awarded to Derbyshire, 72% of what was asked for, which will deliver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contribution to the Housing First scheme • Private Rented Support packages to support access into homes and work with landlords • 2 additional workers for Keeping Everyone in • Winter provision support <p>Critical partnerships have been developed across Derbyshire and with statutory agencies. The prospectus for the next element of the funding is expected in October 2020 and preparations are in place to apply for further funding for accommodation and support services.</p> <p>The focus and investment in services due to Covid-19 have enabled a step change in the delivery of the strategy.</p> <p>The provision of the winter Nightshelter that has been in place in the previous 2 years was not possible this year due to the pandemic. As an alternative CBC in partnership with other Derbyshire councils commissioned a 35 unit facility to ensure the safe delivery of accommodation during the winter period. This was in operation between 15th December 2020 to 31st March 2021.</p> <p>CBC led on a county wide bid to the MHCLG's Rough Sleeper Initiative Fund in an attempt to secure funding to continue to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x rough sleeper co-ordinators • 6 x Rough sleeper outreach workers • 6 x Supported Lettings workers • 1 x Rough Sleeper Team Leader • 1 x Prison Resettlement worker • 3 x Rough Sleeper Navigators • Contribution to winter provision in 2021.
--	--	--

			<p>The overall application was for in excess of £655,000. Notification of the outcome of the bid will not be made until May/June 2021 but initial feedback from MHCLG has been positive.</p>
<p>Assess private sector stock condition survey and develop a costed action plan for improvement</p>	H		<p>Derby City Council have completed the draft stock condition survey on our behalf. The survey has highlighted that there are significant challenges with the private sector stock condition, and we are awaiting the county wide overview to consider if there is a similar issue across Derbyshire.</p> <p>To enable us to be as informed as possible in terms of the private sector housing stock in Chesterfield, we signed up to a further project which naturally leads on from the stock condition survey. This project is a Health Impact Assessment regarding our private sector housing, was intended to be completed towards the end of this financial year which will inform any correlations between poor housing and ill health and from that we will determine investment priorities going forward within the action plan. Unfortunately the project was delayed due to Covid-19 and the staff (employed by Derby City) were redeployed onto other Covid-19 duties.</p> <p>This activity however is now restarting and will provide vital data to inform our action plan.</p>
<p>Deliver year 2 of the five-year housing environmental schemes programme</p>	M		<p>Phase 1 of the Environmental Scheme at Barrow Hill was completed in 2020/21. Phase 2 is now underway and progressing well. The scheme value is approximately £3.9m with the work scheme broadly classified into the following types of external environmental improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways • Private access paths and courts • Shared surface streets and courtyards • Green space and tree planting • Gardens and boundaries <p>The full scheme is due for completion in June 2022.</p> <p>Following the successful completion of the Grangewood scheme, the Council continues with the residential block refurbishment Programme to upgrade and improve various residential blocks throughout the Borough.</p> <p>The value of the overall programme is £8m over a 5-year period with the project initially focussing on the following blocks - Ashcroft Court, Seaton</p>

			<p>Court, Brearley Court, Dixon Court and Newland Dale with additional blocks coming on stream in future years.</p> <p>As part of the refurbishments schemes, the blocks will undergo extensive internal and external improvements included decorating the communal areas, upgrades to the communal lighting and electrical installations to make the areas lighter and brighter for residents, fitting new secure entrance doors to all blocks and the installation of new fire rated doors to each individual flat.</p> <p>The external render and roof coverings in some cases will be replaced and concrete repairs will be carried out on communal stairwells to ensure the safety of all residents and visitors.</p> <p>In response to the climate emergency, the Council is committed to ensuring that its existing housing stock is as energy efficient as possible. As part of that commitment, the windows and in some cases the insulation in each property and all communal areas will also be upgraded to improve the thermal efficiency of residents' homes.</p> <p>Limited hard and soft landscaping works will be included where appropriate as part of the block refurbishments with improvements including provision of additional parking and renewal of footpaths and green spaces.</p>
Deliver year 1 of the climate change plan	M		<p>Delivery during the first year of the Climate Change Action Plan has been strong despite the significant impacts and challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic has made engagement with the private sector and some partners more challenging and also slowed some action areas internally and externally due to the need to redeploy and refocus resource pandemic response.</p> <p>30 of the 39 actions within the plan have either been completed in year 1 or remain on target for their delivery date. The remaining nine actions are being progressed but the timescales have been adjusted to take into account the challenges experienced during 2020/21 and into 2021/22. They are however still expected to be delivered during year 2 and 3 of the plan.</p> <p>Homes and buildings</p> <p>The Housing Capital Programme includes significant investment in improving thermal/energy</p>

efficiency of existing housing stock which will deliver over £13 million of improvements by March 2023. This will also deliver major benefits for our tenants in terms of warmer homes with lower energy bills and as a result make a significant contribution to tackling fuel poverty.

In response to the climate emergency that was declared last July, the Council is committed to ensuring that its existing housing stock is as energy efficient as possible. As part of that commitment, the windows and in some cases the insulation in each property and all communal areas will also be upgraded to improve the thermal efficiency of residents' homes.

In August 2020, Government launched Phase 1a the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme. Chesterfield were successful in their bid for £500K to improve approximately 40 privately owned/rented properties within the borough. In January 2021, the Council were successful in their Phase 1b bid for a further £500K in round 1b to improve a further 40 privately owned/rented properties. Government have just launched Phase 2 of GHG and Chesterfield have been provisionally awarded a further £445K subject to the submission of a successful bid. To qualify all homes must have an EPC of grade E or below and the occupier of the property must be in receipt of an annual income of less than £30K, which would mean that they are in fuel poverty. Phase 1a must be delivered by the end of June 2021, Phase 1b must be delivered by the end of September 2021 and Phase 2 must be delivered by the end of December 2021.

The delivery of approximately £1.5 million pound in improvements to privately owned properties within the borough, will ensure the vulnerable occupiers of these properties will have warmer homes with lower energy bills and as a result make a significant contribution towards tackling climate change and fuel poverty.

Power and electricity

Chesterfield Borough Council is now on a fully renewable energy plan for all our electrical energy needs. This has been renewed at a significantly (circa 25%) reduced rate for 2021/2022. LED lighting is being installed in CBC operational buildings (internally and externally) as existing fittings reach the end of life. DCC report that they

are in the process of switching all streetlights, illuminated signs, bus shelters, and traffic signals to LED operation county-wide. This has resulted in a saving of approximately 15.7 GWh of electricity per year since 2015 (around 11,700 tonnes of CO₂ emitted annually). Currently about 88% of streetlights have been converted to LED across Derbyshire.

Transport

A Borough-wide Integrated transport assessment is being conducted and the new Local Plan prioritises walking and cycling in the overall spatial strategy (and in a range of specific policies throughout the plan). Preparation of Walking and Cycling SPD has been delayed due to resourcing constraints while responding to White Paper on Planning. This is expected by the end of 2021. Work on a CBC fleet needs assessment has been completed and is being refined in readiness for contract renewal (in 2023). A trial of electric bicycles for use by CBC staff in place of fossil-fuelled powered vehicles for work travel is being developed.

Industry and business

Climate Change and sustainability are forming a key part of discussions and actions regarding the wider economic recovery following the Covid-19 pandemic for Chesterfield and Derbyshire as a whole. While we saw a significant drop in CO₂ emissions during 2020 the challenge remains to recover economically, without immediately returning to a high emission “business as usual” scenario. Destination Chesterfield and Business Support have been supporting businesses in the transition to increased working from home where possible and have been enabling a host of online seminars to boost sustainable business. Work is ongoing in partnership with Destination Chesterfield to support change in the private sector in transition to a lower carbon mode of doing business, however this engagement work has been severely hampered by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Destination Chesterfield are including a sustainability category within their Love Chesterfield awards in Autumn 2021.

Land use

A preliminary tree canopy assessment found an average canopy cover in the borough of 16.3%.

			<p>This is greater than the national mean for urban areas (15.8%). A more detailed survey is planned which will assess this in more detail at ward level over the summer of 2021, this survey is likely to take quite a long time to complete as it requires detailed survey work of a number of sample plots.</p> <p>Work is progressing with partners to begin to develop a full trees and woodland strategy – this will incorporate (and to some extent supersede) the work on CBC carbon storage, and also incorporate work on biodiversity mapping and other natural capital in the borough. This is a substantial piece of work and is expected to be completed in early 2022.</p> <p>We have and will continue to work with Derbyshire County Council to establish our approach to nature friendly road verges. Changes are being applied to cutting schedules to reflect these (although this has been a relatively low priority during the winter months).</p> <p>CBC planted around 3000 trees during the 2020/21 planting season.</p> <p>Waste</p> <p>Following a period of significant disruption due to Covid-19 and issues around domestic recycling, CBC has terminated our contract for domestic recycling and re-issued it on a temporary basis before a fresh tendering exercise. Work is now ongoing in developing revised waste strategies and other outreach activities. This project area has suffered substantial slippage due to the period of disruption but is once again making progress.</p> <p>Engagement and Communication</p> <p>A new communications and engagement strategy for the council on climate change has been completed. Based on this, we have added material to the council website on climate change and have developed an annual communications plan focussing on climate change messaging. As of the reporting date we were also integrating a number of other climate change messages in our wider communications, commissioning branding for climate change campaigns, developing a stakeholder mapping exercise to establish groups in the community which we were not engaging with on this issue, and assessing the need for carbon literacy training for elected members.</p>
--	--	--	--

Develop plans to focus housing service investment to improve affordable warmth and contribute to reducing climate change impact	L		<p>The Housing Capital Programme includes significant investment in improving thermal/energy efficiency of existing housing stock which will deliver over £13 million of improvements by March 2023. This will also deliver major benefits for our tenants in terms of warmer homes with lower energy bills and as a result make a significant contribution to tackling fuel poverty.</p> <p>In response to the climate emergency that was declared last July, the Council is committed to ensuring that its existing housing stock is as energy efficient as possible. As part of that commitment, the windows and in some cases the insulation in each property and all communal areas will also be upgraded to improve the thermal efficiency of residents' homes.</p>
Develop and deliver schemes and trials to increase recycling rates	H		<p>During February 2021 the council terminated its contract with its recycling contractor. Work is underway to secure the way forward for the recycling services, with a short/medium term solution in place with a different contractor. This aspect of the council's delivery plan will be picked up as part of the longer term solution.</p>
Deliver year 1 of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy	H		<p>The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy is to be presented to council in Quarter 2 of 2021. It has been delayed slightly in order that it can be rolled out together with the play strategy which is an integral part of the Parks and Open Spaces strategy.</p>
Plan and deliver the 2020/21 local democracy programme with a climate change theme	H		<p>The local democracy programme was paused from March 2020 due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on school provision. Conversations with schools has indicated that they will require a significant amount of recovery and catch up time for students and that they may not be able to re-join the programme until 2021.</p> <p>The Climate change local democracy programme has however been developed and will only require minor updating for 2021/22.</p>
Plan and deliver with the Equality and Diversity Forum four equality and diversity events	M		<p>Face to face events during 2020/21 were not be possible due to social distancing measures. However, following successful virtual meetings of the Equality and Diversity Forum, four virtual events have taken place during the second half of the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Mental Health training session was held in October 2020, looking at the impact of Covid-

			<p>19 on mental health. This was a well attended session and excellent feedback was received. As a result two more sessions are booked for Q1 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An online Holocaust Memorial Day event was held in January 2021. The forum worked closely with the charity 'Generation 2 Generation' and welcomed a guest speaker who spoke about her mother and grandmother and their experiences during the Second World War when they had to live as non-Jewish Hungarians in Budapest. • For International Women's Day in March 2021, the forum chose to spotlight local services who support victims of domestic abuse. In partnership with the Elm Foundation, a series of short videos and information about the support which is available were posted on social media throughout the day. • Two days of 'Hope Not Hate' webinar training sessions were completed during March 2021, concentrating on Unconscious Bias and Antisemitism.
Implement the Derbyshire Care Leaver Offer	L		<p>Core elements of the Care Leaver Offer are now in place including council tax support, housing policy changes and key worker activity plus enhanced leisure provision.</p> <p>Improvements in communication between the Housing Options Team at CBC and the Leaving Care Team at DCC have been made to improve the level of support, information and choices around suitable accommodation. Key links have been made between the Skills team at CBC and the leaving care team at DCC to ensure care leavers can access key skills activities like the MyFuture platform, educational and apprenticeship information and opportunities.</p>
Deliver year 1 of the Armed Forces Covenant action plan	M		<p>Key elements of the plan have been delivered including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointing an Armed Forces Champion • Providing member and officer representation and engagement at Derbyshire Covenant Partnership • Working with Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council and Derbyshire Districts to establish an officer working group to progress covenant actions • Promoting services, information, events etc. aimed at or of benefit to the armed forces

		<p>community via our website and social media accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Derbyshire Covenant Partnership project aiming to identify the size and needs of the Armed Forces Community within Derbyshire- awaiting Derby University report • Attained the Bronze Award in the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme • Amended annual leave policy to include up to 10 days paid leave days per calendar year to undertake reservist duties • Introduced concessions available at Queen's Park Sports Centre and the Healthy Living Centre, Staveley for active armed forces members and flexible terms for membership <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has however presented some challenges. Prior to the pandemic we had been successfully working with the Department for Work and Pensions and Job Centre Plus to deliver the veterans hub. The veterans hub is open to all members of the armed forces including serving, retired, veterans, and reservists. The regular hub sessions focus on health wellbeing, re-employment, volunteering etc. Due to social distancing and shielding this service has not been possible to undertake safely during the pandemic. Alternative options are currently being considered.</p> <p>Recognition of the Armed Forces Community is also a key part of the plan. The Covid-19 pandemic impacted significantly on our plans for VE and VJ day celebrations with activities moved to digital platforms. We are currently developing plans for Remembrance Sunday and the 11th hour ceremony.</p> <p>We have recently submitted our application for Silver Award status in the Ministry of Defense Employer Recognition Scheme.</p>
--	--	---

- 4.3 The progress on the key measures for this priority is detailed in the table below. There are 12 measures, eight of which had targets and measures collected. Six of the eight measures met their target (75%). The two measures where targets were not met – new Council homes and the number of children in the learn to swim programme were significantly impacted by Covid-19.

Measure	2020/21 target	2020/21 actual	Rag Rating	Comments
---------	----------------	----------------	------------	----------

Number of new Council homes developed or acquired	37	17		Development and acquisition stalled in March 2020 due to Covid-19. Developments and acquisitions have resumed and the programme is back on track to achieve 100 new homes or acquired homes by April 2023.
Decent homes standard	100%	100%		
Children who are fairly active as measured by the active lives survey	Above 50%			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Adults who are fairly active as measured by the active lives survey	Above 65%			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Number of children in our learn to swim programme	1900	1466		Although the target has been missed this is an excellent result to achieve over 75% of the target number given the limited availability of provision due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Number of green flag rated parks and open spaces	5	5		
Tenancy sustainment, percentage of people supported who remain in their tenancies one year after support started	85%	96%		
Number of homeless preventions per annum	Over 300	330		
Additional amount of benefits claimed due to Council support	Over £750,000	£889,797		Over £1.68 million in additional benefits have been claimed during the first two years of the Council Plan.
Number and amount spent on disabled facilities grants	Over 400,000	£414,000		
Number of children engaged in local democracy and civic campaigns	500			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Number engaged in theatres health and wellbeing programme	1000			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic

5.0 Priority – Providing value for money services

- 5.1 There are three objectives for this priority area:
- Become and stay financially self sufficient
 - Make our services easier to access, deliver savings and reduce our environmental impact through the use of technology
 - Improve services and customer interaction by investing in our staff
- 5.2 The progress on the key milestones for this priority is detailed in the table below. Of the 11 milestones risk assessment indicated that five were likely to be impacted by Covid-19 to a high extent, three as medium and three as low. Despite Covid-19 having significant delivery impacts for 73% of the milestones for 2020/21, 73% of the milestones were delivered to schedule and a further 9% due to be completed in early 2021/22.

Milestone	RAG Rating		Progress
Deliver the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan and actions for 2020/21 including the business plans for leisure and venues	H		<p>Medium term financial strategy has been adjusted to reflect impact of Covid-19 pandemic. Analysis for increased costs and income loss to date has been undertaken and all government returns to access additional funding have been completed on time.</p> <p>The Year-End final accounts and report will be presented to Cabinet in June 2021.</p>
Develop the Council's Organisational Development approach further to ensure alignment of key strategies, plans, programmes and functions	M		<p>Organisational Development Strategy approved at Full Council. The OD Strategy recommends that the Council builds on its existing best practice by integrating existing change programmes and emerging future priorities into a detailed OD plan, which focuses on seven themes and outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People & Culture: Develop a skilled, resourceful and effective workforce, which is capable of delivering our future ambitions 2. Finance & Commercial: Increase financial performance and resilience throughout the Council and further develop a commercial culture, including working with partners, to maximise the performance of our assets 3. Access to Services: Provide improved access to services to our communities for the services they need, in the way they need, and via a single point of contact and resolution 4. Digital & Data Capability: Develop digital capability, which enables new ways of working, enhanced service performance and

			<p>culture change; making management and use of data more effective, to inform decision making and insight</p> <p>5. Strategy, Policy & Governance: Enhance and standardise evidence based planning and decision making, with agile, transparent and effective governance structures</p> <p>6. Programme & Performance Management: Deliver Council priorities more effectively through centrally coordinated programme and performance management, which is incorporated into a corporate framework and with dedicated management resource</p> <p>7. Engagement & Communication: Co-design services and improvements with our stakeholders. Increase awareness of council services and improve our reputation by demonstrating delivery of Council outcomes and associated benefits to our communities</p>
Review the Council's commercial approach, services and investment portfolios and deliver actions resulting from the review	H		<p>Covid -19 has had a major impact on the Council's commercial activity. As the short, medium and longer terms impacts emerge this will inform the review and help to develop our future approach. The Councils organisational development strategy, which was approved at Cabinet and Council in April 2021, will include the review of the Councils approach to commercialism. The review will look at;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing an updated definition of commercialism for the Council • creating a better understanding of the opportunities to integrate commercial awareness with public sector values • considering whether the new definition should incorporate pursuing service efficiencies to eradicate 'waste' in the system • considering the role of procurement, innovation, and working effectively in 'taking a commercial approach' • considering the contribution that could be made to maximising social value for our communities
Successfully return Arvato and Kier services	L		<p>All Arvato and Kier services have successfully transferred back to Chesterfield Borough Council. The final services transferred back in January 2021.</p>
Deliver the activities identified in the	H		<p>A final draft of the Asset Management Strategy has been prepared. This is being reviewed in</p>

Council's Asset Management Strategy and Plan for 2020/2021			<p>light of the Covid-19 pandemic impacts and in conjunction with the Organisational Development (OD) strategy.</p> <p>The Council is still managing the delivery of its Asset Management Delivery Plan which contains all the ongoing asset related priority actions and outputs. The Covid-19 pandemic has led to a number of these actions being reviewed due to capacity and re-prioritisation. The plan will continue to be co-ordinated and managed through the Councils Asset Management Group and will be further updated for consideration / approval once the Asset Mgt. Strategy (2021-24) has been approved.</p> <p>A number of key renovation works have been completed and the three year asset disposal programme has also continued.</p>
Complete the second year of the ICT improvement programme.	L		<p>ICT improvement programme continues to deliver at pace and remains on budget and within project timescales despite the challenges of Covid-19. Some key achievements so far this year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed upgrade to Windows 10 on all computers improving performance and security for computer users • Completed the move of all services to the new resilient internet connections and decommission old connections. • Implemented automatic monthly security patching to end-user devices to improve security • Migrated housing (Northgate) and finance (Logotech) systems to cloud or vendor hosting improving availability, performance and security whilst reducing maintenance effort • Roll out user portal of the ICT Service Desk; users can log calls and request services directly via the portal. • Completed upgrade of all network equipment to improve the Council's network and allow remote support of network infrastructure • Office 365 phase 1 rollout completed. Phase 2 defined and scoped. Improvements planned for OneDrive, Teams & SharePoint Online • COINS system PDA roll out is complete. 115 employees to access key systems remotely while out on site, increasing productivity, efficiency and communication

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retiring of legacy servers – 44 servers retired in total, reducing maintenance effort and licence costs Covid-19 business grants process developed on Salesforce as an end-to-end digital solution Salesforce digitalisation projects in progress for Environmental Health and Food, Licensing and Waste Management
Develop our future ICT Strategy for 2022/2023 onwards	H		<p>Maintaining the progress on the current ICT programme has been the priority, with many initiatives brought forward to address mobile working. New services the council has provided in response to pandemic (such as business grants) have been implemented as digital projects with quicker time-to-market and reduced operating cost compared to a manual process.</p> <p>The medium and long-term impacts of the pandemic (technological, cultural, societal, financial) will have a major influence on the future ICT programme so this activity will need to span into 2021/22. Some planned areas of focus for the ICT strategy are data and application integration, improving business intelligence and further digitalisation workstreams.</p>
Further develop the performance management framework to include key organisational health check measures to support service improvement	M		<p>The Council Plan Delivery Plan for 2021/22 approved at Council in February 2021 includes a revised measures suite to incorporate some corporate health measures.</p> <p>The Performance Management Framework also includes sector led improvement activity with the Local Government Association. The next Peer Challenge has been booked for October 2021 and will include a focus on corporate health factors.</p> <p>Performance Management is a key part of the Organisational Development Strategy with actions planned over the next two years.</p>
Achieve customer services excellence accreditation	M		<p>We are currently awaiting feedback from our submission to Customer Service excellence.</p> <p>Maintaining core services has been the priority during the Covid-19 pandemic alongside new demands such as business grants and business rate changes.</p>

			<p>We have however continued to build on the successful customer service excellence assessment for 2019/20 and have submitted our application for 2020/21 and are expecting a positive result.</p>
<p>Deliver the 2020/2021 activities identified in the People Plan 2019 – 2023</p>	<p>L</p>		<p>Progress on the People Plan 2019 – 2023 has continued at pace with key achievements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council was awarded a place as a Top 100 Apprentice employer in the national competition run by the Government body ESFA • Supporting the redeployment of staff to the Proact Stadium to act as marshals for the local testing station • Development and implementation of a set of bespoke management seminars aimed at supporting managers to adapt to managing remotely and supporting their staff to work in an agile way • ‘Art of Brilliance’ seminar delivered by Dr Andy Cope focusing on resilience, and access obtained to 18 ‘bite size’ Art of Brilliance webinars on topics such as ‘Dealing with rapid change’, ‘Difficult conversations’ and ‘how to find your brave’ • A suite of e-learning modules ‘Covid essentials’ was quickly made available and advertised on aspire learning • Restructure of Corporate Leadership Team • Launched a coaching and mentoring programme • Launched mental health first aid programme and procured a 24/7 Employee Assistance Programme for staff and members • Developed a process for Members to access Occupational Health and assistance scheme • TUPE transfer 2 large service areas resolving pay and rations issues e.g. removing bonus from Arvato staff and substituting Voluntary Living Wage and NJC equivalent annual pay awards. • Rapid change in the culture of the organisation supported by ICT/HR/L & D. 187 staff changed from fixed desktops to laptops to enable agile working supported by ICT to address home broadband issues etc.

Complete the Investor in People Assessment improving silver scores in key areas	H		A strategic review of the council's people practices was undertaken in January 2021 and the council's accreditation was extended until January 2022 at which point the council will apply for further re-accreditation. The strategic review was entirely positive and recognised the huge amount of progress made by the council during the last year.
---	----------	--	---

5.3 The progress on the key measures for this priority is detailed in the table below. There are 16 measures, 12 of which had targets and measures collected. Five of the 12 measures met their target (42%). A further three measures are within 10% tolerance of meeting the target (25%). However four within the call centre will critically impacted by the extreme surge in demand due to Covid-19.

Measure	2020/21 target	2020/21 actual	Rag Rating	Comments
Number of CBC apprentices	23	48		
Council tax collection	96.4%	95.5%		Collection rates have been negatively affected by Covid-19 which is in line with the national picture.
NDR collection rates	97%	94.7%		
Rent collection rates	97.7%	94%		
Revenues, benefits and rents calls average time to answer	1 minute	3 minutes 41 seconds		Service has been significantly impacted by the surge in calls related to Covid-19 restrictions and professions including the need to divert staff to key activities including the business grants programme. Measures were put in place to reduce impact including mutual aid.
Environmental services calls average time to answer	1 minute	2 minutes 29 seconds		
Switchboard calls average time to answer	1 minute	2 minutes 32 seconds		
Housing repairs hotline calls average time to answer	1 minute	3 minutes 22 seconds		
Facebook followers	Above 10,000	11,032		Instagram introduced in 2020/21.
twitter followers	Above 8,000	8,889		You Tube and LinkedIn will be included for 2021/22.
Instagram followers	Above 1,000	1,336		
Net promoter score – Winding Wheel	Above 50%			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
Net promoter score – Pomegranate Theatre	Above 65%			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic

Participation in parks and open spaces events and activities	Over 60,000			Activity not undertaken due to Covid-19 pandemic
My Chesterfield sign ups – digital account	Baseline	9,537		
Website hits	Over 450,000	926,645		Significant increase due to Covid-19 information hub traffic. Over 400,000 additional visits.

This page is intentionally left blank

For publication

Equality and Diversity Annual Report 2020 - 2021 (GV430)

Meeting:	1. Cabinet 2. Council
Date:	1. 6 July 2021 2. 21 July 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Governance
Directorate:	Corporate
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of the report

To present the Council's Equality and Diversity Annual Report for 2020/21 for consideration.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Equality and Diversity Annual Report be approved.
- 2.2 That the Equality and Diversity Annual Report is published on the Council's website and circulated to partners.

3.0 Reason for recommendations

- 3.1 Equalities legislation and good practice require public bodies to publish annual equalities reports. The report should summarise equalities progress during the last year, and future plans.

4.0 Report details

- 4.1 The Equality and Diversity Annual Report is attached at Appendix 1. The report includes improvements and achievements over the last year, including progress in delivering the corporate Equality and Diversity Strategy and Action Plan, and also future plans. It also helps the Council to show some of the steps being taken to meet the Equality Act 2010 and

associated Public Sector Equality Duty.

- 4.2 The Annual Report has been developed in consultation with the Equality and Diversity Forum. It also includes a summary of the equality impact assessments undertaken during 2020/21 around Council policies, strategies and plans, along with progress on equality and diversity issues during the year.

5.0 Alternative options

- 5.1 The alternative approach would be to not publish the Annual Report, however, this would make it difficult to demonstrate the Council's progress in delivering Equalities outcomes.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Council Plan

- 6.1 The activities within the Annual Report are linked to the priority of 'Improving the Quality of Life for Local People' - Improving community cohesion, raise awareness of equality issues and celebrate our diverse communities through the delivery of a minimum of four events each year with the Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum.
- 6.2 In addition to the Forum's activities, the report also brings together a range of activities delivered across the Council's services which support the promotion of equalities and inclusive services.

7.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

- 7.1 No additional resources are requested in the annual report. The Forum has also successfully drawn external funding in to enable us to provide additional activities during 2020/21 and 2021/22.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

- 8.1 The annual report provides an opportunity for the council to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and associated Public Sector Equality Duty, including delivery of its Equality Objectives. It is required that all relevant documents and reports are published.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

- 9.1 No implications identified.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

This work concerns the implementation of statutory and good practice performance requirements. It is required that all relevant documents and reports are published.

Description of the Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating Action	Impact	Likelihood
Reputational and legislative risk of not publishing the Annual Report which demonstrates compliance with Equality Annual Report.	M	L	Publish the Annual Report on the Council's website and distribute via partner mailing lists.	L	L

11.0 Implications for consideration – Community wellbeing

11.1 The annual report draws on community wellbeing activities that have a close connection with equality and diversity objectives.

12.0 Implications for consideration – Economy and skills

12.1 The annual report draws on activities relating to the economy and skills that have a close connection with equality and diversity objectives, and protected groups.

13.0 Implications for consideration – Climate Change

13.1 No implications identified, although continuing with a blended approach to online and face to face events and activities will support the climate change agenda.

14.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

14.1 The annual report provides the community and relevant organisations with an update of the Council's progress in delivering equality outcomes.

Decision information

Key decision number	197
Wards affected	All wards

Document information

Report author	
Allison Potter, Katy Marshall, Policy Officer, Corporate	
Appendices to the report	
Appendix 1	Equality and Diversity Annual Report 2020/2021



Chesterfield Borough Council

Equality and Diversity Annual Report

2020 – 21



Are we accessible to you?

- We want everyone to be able to understand us.
- We want everyone to be able to read our written materials.
- We aim to provide you with what you need to read, speak and write to us.

On request we will provide free:

- Language interpreters, including British Sign Language.
- Translations of written materials into other languages.
- Materials in Braille, large print, on tape, and in Easy Read.

Please contact us:

Telephone: **01246 345247**

Text: **07960 91 02 64**

Email: **enquiries@chesterfield.gov.uk**

1. Introduction from Cllr Sharon Blank, Cabinet Member for Governance



Welcome to Chesterfield Borough Council's Equalities Annual Report for 2020/21. The report sets out the work we have been doing over the last year to promote and celebrate equality and diversity.

The COVID pandemic has highlighted just how important the promotion of equality is, especially within local communities - working with partners, voluntary groups and other organisations is an essential part of how we do this. We are very proud of our achievements, including our continued promotion of equalities and celebration of diversity within our services, as well as out in the wider community.

The Equality and Diversity Forum continues to promote equality and diversity within the borough and, during lockdown, held virtual meetings and events. The Holocaust Remembrance Day event was, for me personally, the most moving I have attended.

"Putting Our Communities First", Chesterfield Borough Council is committed to treating people fairly in everything we do as a service provider, employer and community leader. We believe we are continuing to make a real difference to the quality of life of our residents, businesses and visitors.

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of our key equalities achievements during the last year.



2. Equality and Diversity Strategy – Action Plan Progress

- 2.1. Our current Equality and Diversity Strategy outlines our corporate equality objectives between 2019 and 2023, and the way in which we plan to promote equality and diversity both within the Council and with our communities. The Equality and Diversity Policy and Strategy provide a framework for the Council to continue to ensure that the services we provide are fair and meet the needs of the local community, and that we discharge and progress our responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010.
- 2.2. In addition to reporting on our progress in implementing the strategy and action plan through these annual reports, progress is also monitored via the corporate performance management framework. The Equality and Diversity Forum also have a role in scrutinising our performance in delivering the strategy.
- 2.3. During 2020/21 we have completed the following activities which contribute to the action plan outcomes for the four-year Strategy:

Supporting and facilitating the Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum to act as a critical friend.

During 2020 and 2021, the Equality and Diversity Forum have met regularly and have worked together with Chesterfield Borough Council and acted as a critical friend when discussing current issues and projects and agreeing relevant topics for discussion at meetings and training events.

Outcome: - Improving and championing access to the Council's services and other public services for all.

Developing the council's website, intranet and microsites to make them accessible to all our internal and external customers.

We have carried out extensive improvement work to make the council website accessible to our customers, increasing its accessibility score from zero to nine out of ten in the independent Sitemorse Local Government Index. A website



accessibility statement was published on 23 September 2020 in accordance with the EU Web Accessibility Directive and will be reviewed periodically.

We add subtitles to all our videos using the functionality in YouTube; subtitles are carried forward wherever the video is displayed such as on Facebook, Twitter, or embedded in web pages on the council website.

Outcome: Information is now reflective of and accessible to our local communities.

Support the planning and delivery of the local arrangements for the 2021 Census

The Policy and Communications team worked alongside the Office for National Statistics and played a key role in the preparations for the census which took place in March 2021. Return rates were higher than anticipated and the first set of output data is expected in early 2022.

Outcome: - With the figures from a successful census we will be able to understand our community better and shape our services accordingly.

Retain our Customer Service Excellence Accreditation

The Customer Services team continue to meet the requirements of the Customer Service Excellence Standard with all elements being fully compliant.

Outcome: The community are provided with choice of access to a wide range of services which the council provides.



Raising awareness of local equality issues and celebrating our diverse communities through the delivery of a minimum of four events each year through Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum on a range of locally relevant equality themes

The Equality and Diversity Forum have successfully delivered four online events during 2020/21; Mental Health Training, Hope Not Hate Training, Holocaust Memorial Day and International Women's Day.

Outcome: Diversity continues to be celebrated and awareness of local issues raised in the wider community.

Continue to work with partners to tackle homelessness

The Covid-19 pandemic has placed an absolute focus on homelessness and rough sleepers. Critical partnerships have been developed across Derbyshire and with statutory agencies, for example CBC in partnership with other Derbyshire councils commissioned a 35-unit facility to ensure the safe delivery of accommodation during the winter period.

Outcome : - Improved access to accommodation and support for the homeless and rough sleepers.

3. Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum

3.1. Despite the ongoing covid-19 restrictions during 2020/21, Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum has continued to reach wide audiences, moving meetings and activities online. As a result of hosting activities online, we have managed to reach a wider and more diverse audience, with new participants being able to take part, and this approach is something that the forum would like to continue alongside the more traditional face-to-face activities. The forum has continued to work together to share ideas and best practice, be a 'critical friend', and raise awareness in the community of equality and diversity. One of the most important contributions of the forum is the successful engagement with the wider community, and at the beginning of this year, the Forum held a workshop looking at demographics and locally relevant topics to develop a plan of activities and events for the year. This resulted in a year of excellent online educational and awareness raising activities led by the forum.

A message from Sarah Roy, Chair of Chesterfield Equality and Diversity Forum



I am very pleased to be able to carry on as chair of the Equality and Diversity Forum again this year. What a year it has been! Really, with the Covid pandemic and all of the restrictions we have needed to put in place we are glad that the forum and its members are all still here to fight another day! We are very proud that we have still managed to build upon our achievements in the face of such adversity and that we have been able to hold events, meetings and activities in a safe way. I would like to thank all of our forum members, old and new, for their continued support throughout this challenging year and for carrying on supporting the Borough Council to promote the equality agenda.



As you can imagine, we did have to revise the plans that we made last year with events and meetings not being able to be held in person. We were able to adapt quickly and appropriately to deliver our activities in a totally unprecedented way for us as a Forum. Most of the organisations and charities that are represented at the Forum have been impacted negatively by the pandemic and I am grateful to them for prioritising their involvement in this when they were having such a tough time.

Again, our Holocaust Memorial Day event was a great success and the format with our speaker worked well. Vivienne Cato spoke to Forum members and the wider public live via Microsoft Teams about the experiences of her mother, Eva Cato, during the Holocaust when they had to live as non-Jewish Hungarians in Budapest to escape Nazi persecution. Vivienne's account of what happened was moving and fascinating and we are grateful to her for helping us to commemorate the date as we normally would.

On 8th March, we marked International Women's Day by shining the spotlight on local services that provide support to victims of domestic abuse by teaming up with The Elm Foundation – a safe, and supportive place for anyone affected by domestic abuse. We heard short stories from the inspirational team and survivors over on the council's social media channels throughout the day. This provided residents with an opportunity to find out more about the work of The Elm Foundation and the support that is available locally. This year's theme was #ChoosetoChallenge and residents were urged to challenge and call out sex-based bias and inequality, seek out and celebrate women's achievements.

We have also managed to run quite a number of online training sessions throughout the pandemic, including Owen Jones from Hope Not Hate Charitable Trust delivering two online webinars, aiming to help people learn more about Antisemitism and Unconscious Bias. Also, Simon Herbert, from Mental Health.co.uk presented online Mental Health training. These sessions were so popular and fully booked that we have been able to secure some more sessions for the coming year. All of our events and training have been free of charge to attend.

If you would like further details of our meetings or activities, we welcome



new members so please get in touch. We will continue to carry on the work of the Forum to promote equality and celebrate diversity throughout Chesterfield Borough.

3.2. Equality and Diversity Forum meetings and engagement

A key aim of the Forum is to raise awareness of equalities and issues affecting local people. The Forum has over 200 members that receive regular information about the meetings, events and equalities news. Some of the participants represent a community group, or statutory organisation, while others are there as individuals from the community with an interest in promotion of equality and diversity.

During 2020/21 there were high levels of engagement at the online meetings with a variety of issues being considered including: engaging with participants online during covid-19, commemorations review, trans awareness and personal insight, census engagement for hard to reach groups, changes to local Age Concern/Bright Life services. During February, the forum had an initial workshop looking at local data to plan equality and diversity events, training and activities for 2021-2022.

3.3 Equality and Diversity Forum events and activities

In addition to the meetings, during 2020/21 the Equality and Diversity Forum have continued to organise, host and support a number of events throughout the year on a range of equality themes that are relevant to the community, and drawing in additional funding to maximise the impact we can all make in the community and to pool our limited resources. We would like to thank all those who have given up their time to support and help plan the following events that have taken place over the past year.



Events during 2020/21 included:



**Mental Health
Training.co.uk**

**Mental Health Awareness
Training**

In October 2020, Simon Herbert from Mental Health Training.co.uk presented a two-hour webinar focusing on the impact of Covid-19 on Mental Health in general and its impact on the wellbeing of individuals with pre-existing mental health conditions. The session was fully booked, with approximately 30 attending the course and due to popular demand two more sessions are booked for May 2021.

Some of the comments provided to us when we asked for feedback from the session are below:

Simon was very knowledgeable and broke the topics down so we could understand what he was discussing.

I found the triggers surrounding stress very useful and how they can be deep rooted.

Topics were explained exceptionally well.

A 5* session - really enjoyed it, thank you.



Hope Not Hate

During March 2021, Owen Jones from Hope Note Hate Charitable Trust presented a series of webinars covering two areas:

- **Becoming Conscious About Unconscious Bias**
Participants learnt more about two forms of unconscious bias; confirmation bias and ethnocentric bias and explored why we have them, how they work and how to adjust for them.
- **Anti-Semitism**
This session enabled participants to become more informed about British Jewish communities, looking at the contemporary state of Anti-Semitism, its origins and what is fuelling the current rise.



Six sessions were run over a two-day period and a total of 88 people participated.

It made me think about issues I don't often address at work

I liked the format...the use of the chat function worked well.

I think there are some points that were made which will stay with me and give me more insight.

It gave a model for the tricky question of what prejudice is caused by

Very useful, I knew the principles but it is good to have case studies which bring it into context.

It was fantastic, I am so glad I heard through the grapevine so I could attend

I have put forward to my line manager that this sort of training be mandatory

Personally I feel this sort of training should be mandatory, particularly when doing a role supporting people. For me it has reinforced the importance of being aware of our own thoughts and beliefs, understanding where they come from and challenging them.



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1**



Holocaust Memorial Day 2021

The Holocaust Memorial Day activities continue to be very well supported by local communities, drawing in large audiences. The theme set by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust for 2021 was 'Be the Light in the Darkness'. This year, many people came together to mark Holocaust Memorial Day virtually, to help those in need and to build a better future.

Our guest speaker this year was Vivienne Cato from the charity Generation 2 Generation who spoke to the forum about her Mother, Eva Cato. Vivienne's Jewish mother was born in 1926 in the Slovak part of Czechoslovakia, which became Slovakia at the end of 1938.

Vivienne spoke about what happened to her mother and grandmother during the Second World War when they had to live as non-Jewish Hungarians in Budapest, Hungary in order to survive the Nazis' determination to exterminate the entire European Jewish population and about how we can remember and commemorate the Holocaust in the UK.

Over 30 people attended the online event, which ended with a Q and A session touching on locally relevant issues and themes.



Feedback was invited after the event and out of those who responded, 100% rated the event as either 'good' or 'very good/excellent'. Comments included:

Today's event was amazing, the fact that Vivienne was speaking to us with so much passion and then to hear her wonderful Mother who was so powerful and inspiring. I found the whole event to be so moving and thought provoking, this was the best Teams event I have ever been on, thank you.

An excellent presentation by Vivienne Cato. It was very well constructed with pictures and video telling a very poignant story. The importance of individual acts of kindness shines through.

An excellent and emotional presentation. The personal connection of the speaker brought a reality which can often be missed when viewing films/documentaries of the Holocaust.

A very moving personal testimony but also the stark statistics shown, in most countries, 90% of the Jews perished. This really brought it home for my teenagers.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions our HMD Memorial Book was presented online for the first time for comments this year. We had an increase in the number of entries compared to previous years:



Messages left in our Holocaust Memorial Day Book of Remembrance 2021:

I think at times we need to look back and think how mankind can be so cruel to his or her fellow humans, but as we look back we must also remember those who suffered and use the memories of those individuals to make sure that these kind of atrocities never happen again.

I hope we never forget those who lost their lives and faced great suffering for simply being themselves.

It's important we learn from the past to achieve a better future. Will the dark deeds of the past be a lesson to lead us to a brighter future?

We must pray that never again will people be treated as we are reminded of by the holocaust.

Remembering all those who lost their lives in the horror of the Holocaust. May we always be vigilant to stop this ever happening again.

"Hope" is the thing with feathers That perches in the soul And sings the tune without the words And never stops at all. *Emily Dickinson*

Let us never forget those lost to genocide and persecution in the hopes we may never see such atrocities again.

May we all be the light in the darkness as individuals and communities have been in the past resisting the darkness to be the light before, during and after genocide. May the experiences of those effected by genocide not be forgotten by future generations. May genocides never happen again.

We remember the hundreds of thousands of LGBT+ people murdered in the Nazi holocaust and in subsequent holocausts. We remember those who wore the pink triangle in Nazi concentration camps to identify that they were gay and those who wore the black triangle to identify they were lesbian or trans. We remember the gay men who were liberated from the camps and then imprisoned because being gay was still a crime. We remember men like Fredy Hirsch; Jan Mautner; Karl Gorath, Tadeusz and Zbigniew; Ernst Ellson; Manfred Lewin and Gad Beck; Hermann Bartel; Erwin Schimitzek; Emil Drews; Max Gergia; Emil Sliniok; August Pfeiffer; Walter Peters; Willi Pohl; Rudolf von Mayer; Willi Kacker; Oskar Birke; Otto Hertzfeld; Johann Majschek; Franz Ruffert; Richard Schiller; Josef Krose; Hugo Prabitzer and all those thousands of others, unnamed but equally important, equally remembered. We honour their memory. We will never forget.

In memory of all those who lost their lives and in hope that such atrocities never happen again. Also in memory and giving thanks to the amazing men and women who gave their lives and fought to bring peace and end the suffering facing others. RIP.

HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1

Be the light in the darkness is such an inspiring message this year. I'll be lighting a candle today to remember all those lost in the Holocaust.

Holocaust Memorial Day is a day to remember all those who have suffered and died during the Holocaust and to come together to stop similar atrocities happening again. At Links we work with organisations to resist that darkness and to shine the light and build a just and fair society.

We must never forget the Holocaust. So many people were cruelly persecuted, tortured and exterminated for no reason other than their faith. It is horrifying to know that 6 million Jews were killed. It is heart-breaking to know how many people suffered at the hands of the Nazis; how scared they must have been; how alone many must have felt; how scared children were when separated from their parents; how bereaved they felt knowing family members and friends had been taken to the concentration camps. We must also remember survivors of the Holocaust - their strength and resilience and how difficult it must have been to survive such atrocities.

Having visited Auschwitz and Birkenau camps in Winter, it is hard to imagine how anyone could survive the appalling conditions. A starvation diet, insufficient clothing, minimal heating and disease must have made life unbearable. Families separated on arrival with the "Lucky" ones worked to death. Future generations should never forget the suffering of these people and their stories should be forever told. May they never be forgotten.

It is always important that we should never forget such atrocities. Amidst those events are acts of kindness and we all have opportunities to be kind to others. As the title of the Holocaust Memorial tells us "be the light in the darkness".

By listening to stories and letting ourselves imagine the unimaginable, we remember.

In memory of my mother, Eva Cato, and the many other members of my parents' families murdered in the Holocaust.



International Women's Day



International Women's Day 2021

For International Women's Day in March 2021, the forum chose to spotlight local services who support victims of domestic abuse. The Covid pandemic has meant that victims of domestic abuse may be trapped at home with abusers, and isolated from friends and support networks. It has also made it difficult for victims to find the space and privacy to report domestic abuse.

In partnership with the Elm Foundation, a series of short videos and information about the support which is available were posted on social media throughout the day.

Online engagement (the amount of comments, likes, post clicks and shares our content gets) was good, with 97 on Facebook, 36 on Twitter and 8 on LinkedIn.



4.0 Promoting equality and diversity through our services

Throughout the year, a range of activities and developments take place within the Council's services which contribute towards our commitment to embrace diversity and treat everyone fairly.

4.1 Customer Services

The Council's Customer Services have once again retained their Customer Service Excellence accreditation, meeting the standards with full compliance. Retaining the accreditation gets harder each year, requiring us to prove that we continue to deliver good customer service, whilst also making improvements since the last assessment.

The Customer Service Excellence standards consist of 5 key areas:

- Customer Insight
- The Culture of the Organisation
- Information and Access
- Delivery
- Timeliness and Quality of Service

Through our case studies and evidence, we were able to demonstrate that the customer service delivery over the five areas had been of a high standard, with numerous improvements. We were also able to show a commitment to continual development in the service which we provide to our customers.

4.2 Community Development

The Derbyshire Schools Holiday Programme (Holiday Hunger) project in Barrow Hill continues to be a success. Working with Barrow Hill School we distributed food parcels to families during Easter, Spring Bank Holiday, October Half Term, Christmas, February Half Terms in 2020 and Easter 2021. This project is designed to support nutrition for children who are likely to eat significantly less than they would during the school term when they have access to food.



The Rother Action Youth Group continued throughout 2020, providing food for families in the Rother area during the school holidays as well as providing activities for children to do at home.

4.3 Sport and leisure

Covid-19 has had a major impact on the ability of the Sport and Leisure service to deliver its full programme of activities. The Coronavirus Regulations set very specific requirements regarding the nature and type of activities which could be delivered, which when considered against the shielding protocols resulted in a very challenging year for programme development and delivery. Under normal operating conditions we would have continued to provide a full range of inclusive activities in our leisure centres and in the community to improve access to sport and leisure and reduce inactivity. This would have included;

- Popular 50 plus activity programme is delivered at Queen's Park Sports Centre providing a range of physical activity opportunities.
- Women only swimming at The Healthy Living Centre.
- Swimming lessons aimed specifically at supporting the needs of autistic children, with children gradually progressing into mainstream lessons.
- The approach we have taken regarding our autism programme has been nationally recognised by Swim England and also commended with staff recognition within the county through the Active Derbyshire Awards.
- The delivery of the Derbyshire County Council weight management programmes in both our Leisure Centres. They are self-referral and are free for anyone in the borough.
- The delivery of a health referral scheme for customers that have, or are at risk of developing a medical condition, these sessions support our customers to exercise and be more physically active to help improve health and wellbeing. Our health referral scheme sessions take place at Queens Park Sports Centre and the Healthy Living Centre, with qualified staff to guide, support and help customers achieve their goals.



When easing of restrictions allowed, new leisure programmes and lesson schedules were introduced which carefully followed the government guidance. The teachers spent time upskilling and training, getting to grips with the new processes which were put into place.

Our program of Health Walks was also seriously impacted by Covid - group walks were suspended for most of the year with just a handful of walks taking place in the Autumn between lockdowns. Once Covid guidelines allow, we will be re-establishing a program of group lead walks, to offer residents a chance to take safe, simple exercise outdoors and enjoy the benefits to both their physical and mental health and as a way to overcome some of the issues of social isolation caused by the pandemic.

During the year we have worked with colleagues across Derbyshire to develop "Walk Derbyshire" - a framework to promote walking in all forms including group walks, walking to school or work or just walking with friends and family or on one's own.

Chesterfield Walking Festival 2020 was suspended and rolled forward to 2021. CBC are offering a "Dementia Friendly" walk in Eastwood park in collaboration with Hasland Walk This Way group, and a beginners walk from the Cosy Hub community base in Birdholme.

Beat the Street was our successful borough-wide game - over 13,000 residents took part in the game, walking, scooting and cycling over 143,000 miles. A survey distributed twelve months following the game phase showed there had been a sustained increase in physical activity and reduction in car use long after the game period. While many residents reported that Covid restrictions had had a negative impact on physical activity, health and wellbeing, for many the restrictions have had a positive impact on their activity levels and staying at home has allowed them to walk more, exercise outdoors and visit local parks and greenspaces. There was a strong consensus among participants that they would like to take part in a variety of local outdoor activities in future, especially nature-based activities which



are family friendly, which we will be offering in 2021/22 during our “Chesterfield’s Great Outdoors” and “Year of Outdoors” initiatives.

CBC continue to support local residents and partner organisations with provision of community kitchens, food banks and food hubs across the borough, including supporting holiday play programs where food and activities are offered in areas of need.

We have despite the pandemic continued to work with partner agencies to support residents across our communities, through the local area Health and Wellbeing Networks. In addition to direct support through prescription and food parcel delivery.

Our staff have regularly linked with organisations and health support groups to offer information and advice on health and wellbeing, particularly around the importance of keeping active during the pandemic.

4.4 Parks and open spaces

Chesterfield’s parks continue to provide excellent facilities for the community and visitors. We are proud to hold 5 Green Flags which recognise the best parks and green spaces across the country with one of the key considerations being accessibility. We continue to invest in our smaller local parks aiming to make them as accessible and appropriate as possible. Parks provide outlets to play sport (football, petanque, cricket, walking football, bowls and pickleball) and informal recreation and we also maintain many equipped play areas, several of which have had recent makeovers and new facilities. An external organisation ran accessible bike sessions in Queen’s Park.

A growing number of people are holding events on our parks including Eid picnics by members of the Muslim community as a celebration of the end of Ramadan. As part of the walking festival we hosted a roll and stroll



event designed for people with physical and learning disabilities, and a dementia walk.

We aim to instil ownership and pride at a young age by engaging infants and junior school groups, along with many community groups with bulb planting at their local parks. This has helped contribute towards the 23,500 (socially planted) spring bulbs planted in 2020 to make Chesterfield a brighter borough.

4.5 Housing

During the last year, the council invested £20million in its own housing stock and estates with further investment planned for the coming year to ensure that all our tenants continue to benefit from a decent and affordable home.

We are becoming more active in providing new Council properties to meet demand for affordable homes in the Borough. Building work completed on ten-unit scheme at Heaton Court, Brampton and a four-unit scheme at Manor Drive, Brimington. We are currently on site building a 21-unit scheme at Loundsley Green and a number of smaller sites at Middlecroft. In addition, the Council has also bought a number of new build homes directly from developers to add to its affordable housing stock.

We are also working hard to secure more affordable private sector housing to meet the needs of a growing and changing population. Planning applications from the past two years have included the provision of over 170 new affordable homes to be let or offered through shared ownership by Housing Associations increasing the affordable housing options available to households on the Housing register.

During the last financial year, our Private Sector Housing Team has supported the completion of 57 Disabled Facilities Grant adaptations in properties in Chesterfield Borough. Adaptations have included the installation of stairlifts, extensions and bathrooms, a total spend of approximately £414,000.

In addition to these the Housing Service carried out 163 (33 major and 130 minor) adaptations costing £144,268 to properties in its ownership.

Our tenancy sustainment team provides support, advice and assessments to some of our most vulnerable tenants to reduce tenancies breaking



down and prevent homelessness. 96 % of the tenants they supported remained in their tenancies.

In responding to the Covid pandemic Repairs and maintenance staff worked with local pharmacies to collect and deliver prescriptions to shielding households.

Throughout the pandemic there have been a range of different directives and initiatives that have placed additional pressures upon the Housing Service. Vulnerabilities have, at times, been intensified with a number of high-risk groups emerging from within the Homeless sector in particular. In partnership with other local authorities, partners and support agencies we have been able to deliver a number of new housing and support projects that have protected the health and safety of those most at risk. Partnerships with the Health Sector have strengthened and enabled us to arrange the safe accommodation of rough sleepers through the winter months whilst also providing vaccinations through a local GP surgery. “

Also, Chesterfield Borough Council has led on a number of funding bids to enable existing services across the county for vulnerable people to continue together with additional services being developed to continue this work into the future. In 2021 funding applications totalling in excess of £2 million which on approval will bring much needed investment into the supported housing sector across Derbyshire.

With the digital switch approaching and due to be in place by 2023, along with the contracts with DCC due to be reviewed, ILS and Careline are going through a full reshaping with a full focus on improving the offerings to our residents across the borough, along with ensuring we run an efficient and robust service for such a critical operation.

4.6 Apprenticeships town and improving our economy

During 2020/21 we have continued to deliver activity outlined in the Skills Action Plan but with a focus on economic recovery in response to the corona virus pandemic. This includes working with Chesterfield College and other partners to continue to develop Chesterfield as an Apprentice Town. We have our own successful apprenticeships scheme that currently supports more than 40 apprenticeships and in 2020 was ranked 82nd in



the top 100 Apprenticeship employers in England. But we want to support all young people in our communities to gain employment, further education and to develop their skills. In 2019/20 over 1600 individuals were participating in apprenticeships in Chesterfield with over 61% participating in apprenticeships at level 3 or above and 20% being at higher or degree level.

Apprenticeships also featured heavily in the annual employability and skills conference which took place in February 2021. The conference provided a platform for Chesterfield College and the Heathcote's Group, a UK Care provider, Head Officed at Chesterfield, to demonstrate how placing apprenticeships at the centre of their workforce strategy has supported the growth of the company and helped them cope on the frontline during the pandemic. The conference, which was delivered on a virtual platform this year, was attended by over 85 delegates from across Chesterfield's business and education community, including 11 year 13 students. Now in its 5th year, the conference again examined the work being done in Chesterfield to bridge the gap between education and business, and saw how, by forging relationships with local businesses, schools are enriching their curriculums and harnessing a strong pipeline of local talent. Richard Gerver, an award-winning speaker and best-selling author who is described as one of the most inspirational leaders of his generation, delivered the keynote speech at the conference, where he discussed the profound challenges now faced by young people and shared some of his thinking on what we can all do to enable more young people to get the jobs they aspire to.

This year's conference also showcased projects delivered in 2020 by D2N2 North Derbyshire Careers Hub. The North Derbyshire Careers Hub, was the most improved careers hub in the UK 2020, supported by projects delivered in partnership with Chesterfield Borough Council. These projects have included virtual 'open door' programmes delivered for MADE in Chesterfield, the women in construction mentoring programme and the



flagship My Future online careers platform. My Future is a project led by Chesterfield Borough Council, in partnership with Destination Chesterfield and the North Derbyshire Careers. Believed to be the first of its kind in the UK, My Future , an innovative online careers and employability platform, has been designed to provide virtual support for young people facing uncertainty in their future as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and help employers reach prospective employees. The platform has also supported parents to provide help to their child as much traditional support was lost due to the pandemic. Offering this platform in an online format has enabled those people who previously wouldn't have been able to attend an in-person event (due to disabilities, finance restrictions, limited time etc) to take part. My Future accommodates 100 virtual employer exhibition pods across 11 sector zones in a 360° fully immersive careers fair setting which can be accessed via computer or through the mobile application. Through multi-media functionality, each pod provides a unique opportunity for businesses, training and employment support providers to showcase their resources, job roles and vacancy information.

There has been a sharp rise in youth unemployment as a result of the corona virus pandemic; In addition to developing the My Future platform and the continued delivery of Apprentice Town, Chesterfield Borough Council have partnered with East Midlands Chamber of Commerce to help promote the Kickstart Scheme; a scheme that provides paid 6 months work experience to 16-24 year olds in receipt of universal credit. To date, Chesterfield Borough Council has supported the East Midlands Chamber to generate 162 Kickstart vacancies across 51 business across the borough.

The HS2 and You school engagement programme was launched in June 2019. The programme, which aims to raise awareness of the career opportunities in the Rail sector has to date been delivered to 970 students across 8 primary, 3 secondary and one special school in Chesterfield. Due to the corona virus, in person delivery has not been possible, however Chesterfield Borough Council have worked with



Learn by Design and Spanish Rail Manufacturer, Talgo to develop some virtual resources and a competition which will see primary and secondary school children in Chesterfield, developing their STEM skills to design a sustainable train and route planning.

Ensuring that local people and businesses have the right skills to access current and future opportunities is a key objective underpinning the Skills Action plan and one that contributes to the Councils priority to make Chesterfield a thriving Borough. We are progressing two key skills capital projects through the Staveley Town Deal, including DRIIVe (Derbyshire Rail Innovation Vehicle), a modern innovation centre encompassing research and development, training and commercial office and workshop space at Barrow Hill and a construction Skills hub in Staveley that will see the creation of an on-site construction training facility that will help students gain practical skills and experience with direct access to sector employers.

Local labour clauses have continued to be agreed on 100% of eligible developments and to date, 335 local jobs, 45 apprenticeships and over £23m of contracts being awarded to the local supply chain, as well as a number of other social value outputs including careers support and work experience.

The Council is still actively supporting the delivery of key regeneration schemes (Peak and Waterside) and is actively engaged in the direct delivery of the Northern Gateway Scheme which has now seen the completion of Saltergate MSCP, with the Enterprise Centre due to be completed Summer 21. These developments will directly deliver hundreds of new employment opportunities to Chesterfield.

4.7 Arts and culture accessibility

The Theatres Access Group continues to deliver its action plan to improve access at the Council's Theatres. We continue to provide performances



with audio description, signed performances and touch tours to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

4.8 Equalities training for our staff

We offer the three mandatory equalities training modules in an online format, covering the Equality Act 2010, equality and diversity in Chesterfield's communities, and a guide to reasonable adjustments. Feedback from employees shows that these modules have been effective, with an average of 99% of participating employees stating that the modules either met or exceeded their expectations. In addition, a number of comments were made by employees who completed the modules about how they would apply their learning including:

As someone who has a disability themselves, I feel this module is a great source of information.

Will make me mindful of other's needs and how to address them.

Clear, concise advice on how to meet a person's needs which I can put into practice in my work.

The course has raised my awareness to the various types of disabilities and the reasonable adjustments that can be made to improve our service to the public.

I now know that not everything will be as easily accessible as it is for most, therefore, making sure that everyone is treated equally is of utmost priority.

Some additional training has taken place during the year, as follows:

Mental Health First Aid Training

During 2020/21 twelve members of staff volunteered to undertake training to become Mental Health First Aiders. Their contact details are advertised on Aspire and posters throughout the council buildings and they are available to all employees.

Our HR and Support Service Manager is in the process of completing her training as a Mental Health First Aid instructor. Further training dates to recruit some more Mental Health First Aiders are booked for June and September 2021.

Mentoring programme

During 2020/21 twenty employees undertook mentoring training and are available as mentors. There are also three people in HR who are fully trained coaches/mentors and CBC is a member of the East Midlands Coaching and Mentoring Group. This means we can access outside mentors if required.

Lone-working – Specialist Training

Twenty three employees attended specialist Lone Working training provided by the Conflict Training Company. The first course was a classroom delivered course for 9 delegates on the 12th March 2020. The following course was cancelled due to Covid, but it was delivered online to 14 delegates on the 20th September 2020.

4.9 Press Releases and Communications

Throughout 2020/21 the CBC Communications Team have continued to promote equality and diversity events and news items via our social media platforms. Some examples are below:

- Community Infrastructure Levy Funding (26th Feb 2021)

Community groups in Chesterfield, including Derbyshire LGBT+ and the Cosy Hub, have benefitted from grants provided by the Community Infrastructure Levy.

- Feeling Connected Campaign (25th Feb 2021)

DVA are encouraging residents to get involved in a campaign to help tackle social isolation. Those with protected characteristics are more adversely affected by isolation, particularly the elderly and disabled.

- HMD (13th Jan 2021)

Online event for HMD was advertised.



- Mayor's Appeal (22nd Dec 2020)

Former Mayor, Councillor Gordon Simmons, presented a cheque to Age Concern Chesterfield and District, his chosen charity, for just under £7,000 which was generated from fundraising events held throughout his tenure.

- Housing refurbishment shortlisted for awards (3rd Dec 2020)

Refurbishment of social housing for the elderly in Chesterfield was nominated for 3 awards at the Constructing Excellence East Midlands Awards.

- COVID-19 recovery plan (7th Oct 2020)

Tackling social isolation, which adversely affects many protected characteristics groups, is a priority for Chesterfield's post-Covid recovery.

- Call for volunteers (23rd September 2020)

Chesterfield Volunteer Centre asked for people to take part in the To Your Door programme, delivering shopping and groceries to vulnerable members of the community.

- Srebrenica Memorial Week (5th July 2020)

Article to mark 25 years since the Srebrenica genocide.

- Review of monuments and statues (10th June 2020)

In the wake of the Black Lives Matter protests, Leader of the Council, Councillor Tricia Gilby announced a review of statues, monuments and commemorations in public realm to ensure they are appropriate.

4.10 United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

In March 2021, Chesterfield Borough Council and the Equality and Diversity Forum helped to promote an activity being organised by 'Chesterfield Stand up to Racism' to mark United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Local schools were contacted and children were invited to design a poster or write a poem to represent

the idea of friendship and unity across all peoples and against hatred and division, and to display them in their schools or windows at home.

4.11 Armed forces community

In 2019 the Ministry of Defence, working with the Royal British Legion, revised the 2012 Armed Forces Covenant which has the key principles:

- No member of the armed forces community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen
- In some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved

Derbyshire County Council and all districts agreed to collaborate and develop a strengthened covenant and armed forces partnership. Leader of the Council, Cllr Tricia Gilby along with all other Derbyshire Local Authority Leader's signed the new covenant in July 2019 and Cllr Kate Sarvent was appointed as our Armed Forces Champion. We developed a Derbyshire action plan and a complementing Chesterfield Borough Action Plan 2019 – 2023 – both of which we have been making rapid progress against. Our key improvements so far include:

- Supporting the Department for Work and Pensions and Job Centre Plus to deliver the popular veteran's hub – offering a range of help and support
- Working with Armed Forces Charities and cadet branches to develop an annual programme of events and activities to recognise and value the contribution of the armed forces community past and present. This includes Armistice Day, Remembrance Sunday, Armed Forces Day, commemoration of key dates
- Honouring decorated service personnel and the wider remembrance of the sacrifices made by local residents e.g. Legion d'Honneur, Victoria Cross etc. receptions
- Supporting the Civic Cadet roles and encouraging Armed Forces Cadet Units and other young people via schools, clubs and associations to take part in the annual programme of recognition events and activities (over 400 engaged in 2019/20 with virtual opportunities for 2020/21)

- Annual leave policy now includes up to 10 days paid leave per calendar year to undertake reservist duties
- Concessions policy across all service areas includes Armed Forces Category
- Improvements to key housing policies to respond to specific needs and circumstances of Armed Forces Community

Due to progress made, Chesterfield Borough Council was successful in achieving the Bronze Award in the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme in late 2019. We have now made enough progress to apply for the Silver award which is now being progressed.

4.12 Commemorations review

The council has committed to listen to and work with local communities to review the appropriateness of local monuments and statues on public land. We have extended this review to include all commemorations on public land including monuments, statues, plaques, street names and the names of public buildings. The report from the review is expected to be available in 2021.

4.13 Adoption of the working definition of Antisemitism

In July 2020 Chesterfield Borough Council formally approved and adopted the working definition of Antisemitism.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of Antisemitism is:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

5.0 Equality impact assessments

The Council is committed to demonstrating that all relevant equality issues have been considered before changes are made to policies, projects, services, functions and strategies, or when new ones are created. Chesterfield Borough Council does this through its robust Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

The EIA process enables us to look at our work in depth to see what impact it has on different equality groups, and to mitigate against any potentially negative impacts that are identified. Staff received training in the completion of EIAs ensuring that the process is embedded across all council services.

During 2020/21 the Council undertook around 16 Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) for a variety of changes to policies, strategies and projects. These have taken into consideration: best practice, demographic information and employee and customer feedback and other engagement activities. The EIAs were published with the relevant reports to the Council's Cabinet. Through the EIA process, we have been able to address any negative impacts on sections of the community promote equality by identifying and acting on opportunities to implement positive impacts for groups where possible.

6.0 Looking forward to 2021/22

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought with it unprecedented challenges for Chesterfield Borough Council. During this time, we have worked hard to provide support to both staff and the wider community, particularly those who are more vulnerable who may need more assistance, and we will continue to do so.

We will continue to work with partners to promote and support equality and diversity with our communities and within our organisation. We will need to adapt as we move towards community and economic recovery but here is a sample of some of the activities we would like to take forward in 2021/22:

- Continuing to work in partnership with communities to organise a range of equality and diversity themed awareness activities and events, through the Equality and Diversity Forum.
- Continuing to embed the Council's commitment to equalities in its service planning and delivery by delivering a robust equality impact assessment process and upholding the importance of this during financially challenging times.



- Providing employees with training and development opportunities so that they have the skills, abilities and confidence to recognise and respond appropriately and sensitively to diversity and discrimination, both within the workplace, when delivering services and, ultimately, in their everyday lives. Delivering ongoing equality and diversity refresher training as required with services and a range of additional awareness raising modules on locally relevant themes.
- Develop and deliver the LGBT+ research and consultation project to coincide with Census 2021 delivery and shape the provision of our services accordingly.
- Continuing to deliver the Equality and Diversity Strategy for 2019-23.

7.0 Gender pay gap report 2020

Introduction

At Chesterfield Borough Council we value diversity and inclusion and believe that it strongly contributes to the quality of our services. We are committed to being an equal opportunities employer and aim to treat all employees and job applicants fairly, regardless of their gender (including gender reassignment), age, race, sexuality, full or part-time status, marital status and disability. We believe it is important to attract and retain a workforce that reflects the customers and communities we serve.

We welcome the gender pay gap reporting requirements for a number of reasons including:

- It will help to confirm to our existing and prospective employees that we are committed to building a diverse and inclusive workplace, that provides equal opportunity to all employees irrespective of gender
- It will help us to monitor pay and career progression more closely and to ensure that all employees, irrespective of gender are supported to reach their full potential
- It is an opportunity to review our data and consider any issues we need to address, and we can capture our journey over the next few years in our gender pay gap reporting and review our progress

7.1 What is the gender pay gap?

The gender pay gap is concerned with differences in the average earnings of men and women over a standard time period, regardless of their role or seniority. The law requires any organisation with more than 250 employees to publish its gender pay gap information annually based on a snapshot date. For the public sector the snapshot date is 31 March.

Gender pay gap is not the same as equal pay. The law says that men and women must be paid the same for doing the same or equivalent work. We use job evaluation techniques to evaluate each role and not the post holder to ensure that all roles are fairly remunerated in comparison to other roles. It makes no reference to gender or any other personal characteristics of any existing or potential job holders. We are therefore confident that our gender pay gap does not stem from paying men and women differently for the same or equivalent work, rather it is a result of the roles in which men and women work within the organisation and the salaries these roles attract.

7.2 Our gender pay gap data

At the 31 March 2020 Chesterfield Borough Council employed 988 people the gender split of our workforce is 46% female and 54% male, however this isn't an equal split across our services. The majority of Chesterfield Borough Council services are provided in-house including services which many authorities have either contracted out such as building cleaning or moved to alternative models such as arms-length organisations for example with managing Council housing and associated repairs and maintenance (OSD). These services tend to have a large gender in-balance, for instance building cleaning employs a large number of female part time staff whereas the majority of higher paid trades staff and associated professions working in housing repairs and maintenance (OSD) are male. These services have a disproportionate impact on our gender pay gap data.

The 2020 gender pay gap data is shown below:

Gender pay gap measure	31 March 2020
Average gender pay gap as a mean average	12%
Average gender pay gap as a median average	14%
Average bonus gender pay gap as a mean average	0%
Average bonus gender pay gap as a median average	0%



Proportion of males receiving a bonus payment	24%
Proportion of females receiving a bonus payment	0%

Quartile	31 March 2020	
	Male	Female
Upper quartile	71%	29%
Upper middle quartile	56%	44%
Lower middle quartile	46%	54%
Lower quartile	45%	55%

Note on terminology:

Mean average - to get the mean figure we add up the hourly rate of our employees and then divide it by the number of employees (988).

Median average – to get the median figure we put all the 988 employee hourly rates in a row from lowest to highest and then take the middle point (494).

Quartiles – Again we put all the 988 hourly rates in a row from lowest to highest and then split the data into four equal slices of 247. The lower quartile is the 247 lowest hourly rates and the upper quartile is the 247 highest hourly rates.

7.3 Interpreting the data

The Chesterfield Borough Council mean gender pay gap for 2020 is 12% in favour of males and the median gender pay gap is 14% also in favour of males. These figures are significantly affected by the Council’s decision to retain in-house delivery for the majority of our services. To illustrate this issue, we have run a second set of figures excluding the housing and maintenance service (OSD) from the figures. This reduces the gender pay gap significantly.

Approximate average gender pay gap as a mean average = 8% (compared to 17% with OSD)



Approximate average gender pay gap as a median average = 5% (compared to 24% with OSD)

To understand the gender pay gap it is essential to understand certain key facts about the distribution of grades, genders and working patterns in each of the four quartiles.

Upper Quartile

The upper quartile includes 177 men of whom 155 are full time and 22 are part time and 72 women of whom 32 are full time and 40 are part time. 85 of the male employees in this quartile are in trade professions. The types of roles in this quartile include:

- The Council's senior leadership team
- Heads of service/service manager roles e.g. Head of ICT, Chief Accountant, Bereavement Services Manager
- Trades e.g. plumbers, gas engineers, joiners, bricklayers
- Traditional professions – solicitors, planners, environmental health officers
- Exercise instructors

Upper middle quartile

The upper middle quartile includes 137 men of whom 113 are fulltime and 24 are part time and 113 women of which 54 are fulltime and 59 are part time. Around 10% of this quartile are trade staff which is a significant reduction on previous years. The types of roles in this quartile include:

- Trades e.g. bricklayers, joiners, plumbers
- Contract supervisors
- Housing officers
- Enforcement officers
- Sports coaches
- Senior accounting technicians
- Democratic officers

Lower middle quartile

The lower middle quartile includes 117 men of whom 82 are fulltime and 35 are part time and 132 women of which 53 are fulltime and 79 are part time. The types of roles in this quartile include:

- Accounting technicians
- Auditors



- Car park attendants
- Head leisure attendant

Lower quartile

The lower middle quartile includes 105 men of whom 56 are fulltime and 49 are part time and 137 women of which 26 are fulltime and 111 are part time. The types of roles in this quartile include:

- Cleaners
- Stage crew
- Caretakers
- Customer Services Assistants
- Receptionists
- Administrative staff
- Apprentices

The quartile information appears to support the theory of occupational segregation as a factor in gender pay gaps. We currently have no female employees in trade positions which make up a third of the roles in the upper middle quartile and almost 50% of roles in the upper quartile are trade roles. Conversely roles within the lower quartile including cleaners and administrative staff are predominantly held by female employees.

Far fewer men across the organisation work in part time/ job share roles than their female equivalents. This can enable faster progression due to increased opportunity to gain experience and knowledge. Women are less likely to work part-time in the council as they progress through to a senior level.

7.4 Bonus Scheme

Chesterfield Borough Council does not have a council wide bonus scheme. We do however operate a productivity-based incentive scheme for our trade-based employees e.g. plumbers, electricians, roofers etc. This incentive scheme enables us to recruit and retain employees with specific trades to ensure that 100% of our council housing stock remains at the decent homes standard and that we can continue to provide an effective repairs service for our tenants. Nationally these types of role continue to be male dominated which is the key reason for the difference in the proportion of male and female employees receiving a bonus payment. We currently have no female employees in trade roles.



7.5 How we are addressing the pay gap

We aim to recruit from the widest possible talent pool. We have updated our recruitment policy and procedures and trained all our recruiting managers to ensure that language in job adverts is neutral, that they understand the importance of interviewing people with gender balanced panels in order to avoid unconscious bias and can develop a recruitment experience that enables candidates to showcase their knowledge, experience and skills across their whole life experience. We aim to take this further in 2021 by implementing 'blind' recruitment methods to ensure candidates are shortlisted for roles on merit only.

We use job evaluation techniques to evaluate each role to ensure that all roles are fairly remunerated in comparison to other roles and also pay at least the Living Wage Foundations living wage level to all our employees which has a positive disproportional impact on female employees who make up a larger proportion of the workforce in services for example building cleaning that benefit from the living wage.

Once we have the right people, we want them to stay. To support this, we have developed a range of flexible working opportunities including part-time, job-share, compressed hours etc. We have also updated and promoted our policies and procedures regarding maternity, paternity and adoption leave and have updated our shared parental leave policy and offering career breaks.

We devote significant time and resources to helping our employees' progress in their careers and accessing quality learning and development opportunities. This includes regular development conversations with line managers, a formal personal development review meeting every six months and service level succession planning activities. There are also opportunities to learn from women who have progressed into the highest levels of organisations, this is a key consideration for our management conferences, managers seminars and international women's day activities.

In 2020 Chesterfield Borough Council was awarded a place as a top 100 apprentice employer by government. We use apprenticeships to enhance the skills, knowledge and experience of our existing employees and to give opportunities to a diverse range of new employees – this includes working with partners to increase engagement with BAME communities. We recognise however that offering new apprenticeship opportunities which are attractive to women may in the short negatively impact our gender pay gap as these roles attract a lower salary but this



is about investing in a pipeline of talent and creating career pathways for apprentices to progress and meet their potential. We carefully consider how to support female staff and apprentices to take the next steps in their career, identify and reduce any barriers to gender equality. Over time this will reduce the gender gap and quartile distribution.

We work with schools and colleges regularly via our local democracy programmes and work experience opportunities. These help us to develop a relationship with young people in the Borough early on which in turn helps us to identify as an employer of choice within the area particularly for apprenticeship opportunities. In a typical year we will engage over a thousand children and young people in these activities.

We also take our wider role as a key place shaper seriously and consider how we can help to address the gender pay gap within the Borough. As part of our commitment to local labour clauses we work with employers and partner agencies to enable them to showcase opportunities and career pathways in schools and colleges. Across the borough large scale regeneration activity is taking place, this matched with a clear focus on the skills agenda will provide significant employment and educational opportunities which have the potential to further reduce the gender pay gap within the borough. Some highlights include:

- Supporting young women into construction mentoring scheme – we have teamed up with development partners, Robert Woodhead Ltd and Whittam Cox Architects, to create the new initiative – designed to promote more female leaders in the industry. Mentors from the companies are providing careers advice and guidance to encourage young women who may just be starting out in work – or who may be looking to retrain – to consider the range of opportunities on offer within construction
- We continue to secure local labour clauses on all eligible developments and support businesses and communities to get the maximum benefit from these opportunities
- Once local labour clauses are secured we offer a range of support to companies including advice on local recruitment, links with local training providers and information about how they can best explore local supply chain opportunities
- Launched our award-winning virtual skills and careers platform, 'My Future', to overcome some of the challenges presented by Covid-19 and to provide individuals, especially 16 – 24-year olds, with continued access to



careers information and employment support. Offering this platform in an online format has enabled those people who previously wouldn't have been able to attend an in-person event (due to disabilities, finance restrictions, limited time etc) to take part. Chesterfield Borough Council led on the project, working in partnership with D2N2 Careers Hub and Destination Chesterfield. Thousands of young people took the opportunity to engage with over 100 businesses and education and training providers across 10 augmented reality zones

- We encourage local businesses to engage with schools in the area to encourage children and young people to think about their future career aspirations. Recent sessions included William Davis Ltd at Newbold Academy and Kier and Huber at Parkside.
- Our work with Chesterfield College and other key partners to develop the apprentice town initiative. There are now over 3500 young people embarking on apprenticeships and giving investors in Chesterfield access to a pool of high- quality skills that will enable their businesses to grow and prosper
- Our partners Destination Chesterfield co-ordinate the successful 'Made in Chesterfield' campaign which is a celebration of the manufacturing, engineering, science and technology industries in the town. The campaign looks to inspire the next generation to the industry, with businesses, schools and training providers coming together to showcase the sector
- Derby University's Chesterfield campus offers a large range of health and social care courses where students can gain valuable work experience as well as academics qualifications utilising NHS standard mock hospital wards, interactive suite, clinical suite and high-tech computer suite
- Peak resort – a £400million pound integrated leisure, health, sport and education resort will provide not only a large range of new jobs and careers but also an additional university campus specialising in leisure and hospitality
- We are working with a range of partners to develop plans for the enhanced HS2 maintenance depot at Staveley which will provide around 800 quality jobs and a range of training opportunities
- Our HS2 & You programme which launched in June 2019 has already engaged over 800 children in a range of activities to enable them to consider future careers in the rail industry. We are expanding this



programme for 2021 to focus on a range of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) based opportunities

This is just a snapshot of the exciting activities taking place within the Borough which will provide high quality career pathways for young people within our Borough.

8.0 Further information

If you have any comments on our Equalities Annual Report or would like to request further information or copies of any of the documents highlighted in the report, please contact:

Katy Marshall or Allison Potter

Policy Officer

Tel: 01246 959645 or 01246 959644

E-mail: katy.marshall@chesterfield.gov.uk or allison.potter@chesterfield.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

For Publication

Consultation on the Draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 – 2030 (L000)

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	6 July 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Health and Wellbeing
Directorate:	Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 For Cabinet to approve the draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy for public consultation.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That Cabinet approves the draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 – 2030 for public consultation.

2.2 That a report is brought to Cabinet with a final draft of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy for adoption following completion of the public consultation.

3.0 Background

3.1 The last Parks and Open Spaces Strategy for Chesterfield was adopted in 2014 and has been a catalyst for realising a wide range of improvements in the quality of parks and open spaces.

3.2 Since the launch of the strategy, over 20 Friends of Parks groups have been supported and play a significant role in attracting funding to drive improvements and attracting more people to use their local park. The council has made available resource packs to enable new start up Friends

groups, with information on running and managing a Friends group and how to attract funding. The council has completed the restoration of Queen's Parks western boundary with the provision of a new 3G artificial pitch and associated landscape works.

- 3.3 We now have master plans and management plans for our main parks and hold four prestigious Green Flag awards at Queen's Park, Holme Brook Valley Park, Eastwood Park and Pools Brook Country Park. Brearley Wetlands, Norbriggs Flash and Blue Bank Pools have been declared as local nature reserves and large tracts of woodland are now being actively managed and made more accessible. The council manages numerous semi natural spaces under the DEFRA high-level stewardship scheme. The council continues to mitigate the effects of climate change through our tree planting programmes and a reduction in mowing spaces where it is appropriate to do so.
- 3.4 The Chesterfield in Bloom campaign is firmly established in the borough and we have successfully achieved a gold standard for the last 4 years.
- 3.5 The council has invested heavily in the refurbishment of our play spaces and a range of challenging and innovative play equipment, outdoor gyms, multi-use games areas and skate parks have sprung up across the Borough.
- 3.6 We continue to hold and support a wide range of successful events and activities in our parks and open spaces ranging from the Stand Road Bonfire Night, County Cricket, Gala Days and Chesterfield Pride to name but a few.
- 3.7 In 2018 the Council had an existing evidence base for open space, sports and recreation. However, elements of this evidence base were not adequate for local planning purposes given that the Playing Pitch Strategy required updating, whilst the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2014 did not fully meet the requirements of planning policy and guidance.
- 3.8 In 2018 the council undertook an open space assessment to support the Local Plan and to provide a more robust evidence base for the provision and protection of parks and open spaces in the borough.
- 3.9 The updated draft Parks and Open Space Strategy now takes account of the open space assessment and gives a clear direction of where open space should be provided and protected.

4.0 **The Draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 - 2030**

- 4.1 The previous Parks and Open Spaces Strategy was adopted in 2014.
- 4.2 The updated and refreshed strategy will become the key document guiding the Council's protection and investment into parks and open spaces for the next ten years.

By adopting this strategy, the Council will have:

- Clear and transparent guidance and priorities for improving its parks and open spaces, to meet the needs of community attitudes and expectations in providing open space in the borough.
- Evidence of local leadership on and commitment to parks and open spaces, to underpin bids for funding for their improvement.
- Clear links to and co-ordination with the Councils Council Plan and the adopted Local Plan.
- Evidence and policies to underpin the negotiation of 'planning gain' for open space provision in association with new development.
- A developed structure of parks and open spaces, with a framework for prioritisation and resource allocation for management and improvement with the basis for the development of investment-backed annual action plans.
- Improved accessibility to Chesterfields parks and open spaces.

- 4.3 A copy of the draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy is attached at **Appendix A.**

5.0 **Consultation of the draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 - 2030**

- 5.1 Consultation on the draft Parks and Open Spaces strategy will ensure that Chesterfield citizens have a direct say in how the council can address local needs and priorities for its parks and open spaces.
- 5.2 Consultation on the Parks and Open Spaces strategy will take place in two phases, influenced in part due to the current restrictions pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 5.3 **Phase 1** – general consultation on the draft Play Strategy will take place via the council's online website.

5.4 **Phase 2** – analysis of the data captured from the general consultation will help to inform our further consultation with key stakeholders including ‘Friends’ groups, other local open space groups and elected members.

5.5 When consulting with specific interest groups the green spaces team will undertake the consultation using appropriate methodologies that adhere to Covid – 19 social distancing measures and government guidance at the time.

5.6 Once the public consultation has taken place the amended Parks and Open Spaces Strategy will be brought back to Cabinet for approval.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Council Plan

6.1 The parks and open spaces strategy positively contributes to the following council plan objectives:

- Improving quality of life for local people
- Improving our environment and enhance community safety for all our communities and future generations
- Helping our communities to improve their health and wellbeing

7.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

7.1 No specific financial implications have been identified from the undertaking of the consultation. This implication will be considered further when the revised strategy is presented to cabinet following consultation.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

8.1 The Council is required to meet statutory planning requirements including compliance with the NPPF as part of its Local Plan. A robust parks and open space evidence base is a key part of the evidence base and helps inform the parks and open spaces strategy.

8.2 Planning development for the borough and associated decisions require robust strategic needs and evidence being in place in event of challenge.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

9.1 No specific human resource implications have been identified from the undertaking of the consultation. This implication will be considered further when the revised strategy is presented to cabinet following consultation.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

Description of the Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating Action	Residual Risk
Strategy not adopted	High	Low	<p>The strategy has been developed to fully reflect the challenges of land use and open space development presents. It has been informed by a varied evidence base and as such it supports the Council vision and council plan objectives.</p> <p>Full consultation programme being undertaken to ensure local input and engagement to reflect local need.</p>	Low

11.0 Implications for consideration – Community wellbeing

11.1 Relaxing or participating in active exercise in a park or green space is an effective way to tackle poor health in an urban area. Access to good-quality, well-maintained public spaces can help to improve both physical and mental health by encouraging us to walk more, to play sport, or simply to enjoy a green and natural environment. We will encourage the

use of parks and green spaces for a culture of physical activity by all sections of our community. Open space as we have seen through the Covid-19 pandemic has played and continues to play an integral role in supporting the wellbeing of communities.

- 11.2 We will seek to ensure that our parks and open spaces can be beneficial for a range of physical and mental health condition priorities as part of a preventative 'natural health service'. Linking deprived communities and people with health-related issues to parks and open spaces is more important than ever. The council has a supporting public health leadership role, working with valued partners and we will work with our partners to create a joined-up approach using green social prescribing to better support and improve the mental health and wellbeing of local communities through use and development of green space, by supporting people to feel confident and encouraging them to become active participants in the natural world.

12.0 Implications for consideration – Economy and skills

- 12.1 Providing good quality open space will support the Councils wider ambitions regarding making Chesterfield a thriving borough by actively contributing to making Chesterfield a great place to live, work and visit.

13.0 Implications for consideration – Climate Change

- 13.1 Our parks and open spaces make a significant contribution to our commitment to become a net carbon neutral council by 2030 and borough by 2050. This includes maximising sustainable principles at all our facilities and in the way we manage and maintain our parks and open spaces but also in seeking to increase biodiversity. We have an overarching duty to consider the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment. In the management, maintenance and development of open space biodiversity will be a priority.
- 13.2 There is therefore a need to build climate adaptability into the maintenance of Chesterfields parks, open spaces. This will in turn impact on the selection of species for planting, choosing specimens that are resilient to unpredictable weather conditions. There is potential to improve and promote the environmental sustainability of parks and open spaces and associated buildings and operations, for example, using low emission machinery/vehicles where possible. Chesterfields parks and

open spaces can play an important role in reducing the borough's carbon and environmental footprint through for example recycling and composting of parks waste, encouraging local food growing and encouraging cycling, walking and public transport use where appropriate.

13.3 A full Climate Change Impact Assessment is attached at **Appendix C**.

14.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

14.1 The Equality Impact Assessment is attached at **Appendix B**. No negative impacts for groups with protected characteristics have been identified.

15.0 Recommendations

15.1 That Cabinet approves the draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy for consultation.

15.2 That a report is brought to Cabinet with a final draft of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy for adoption following completion of the consultation.

16.0 Reasons for Recommendations

16.1 The Council Core Strategy requires a robust needs and evidence base relating to green space to meet statutory planning requirements within the Local Plan Framework.

16.2 It is essential that the Council understands local community needs and can strategically plan and resource future plans through a recognised methodology being used to develop essential investment.

16.3 Parks and open space provision in local communities is an essential requirement to ensure that Chesterfield is sustained and developed both as a great destination; and a healthy and active place to live and work.

Decision information

Key decision number	1031
Wards affected	All

Document information

Report author	
John Ramsey – Principal Green Space Officer Strategic	
Appendices to the report	
Appendix A Part 1	Draft Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 – 2030
Appendix A part 2	Evidence Base
Appendix B	Equality Impact Assessment
Appendix C	Climate Change Impact Assessment



Consultation Draft

Parks and Open Spaces Strategy

Owner: Service Director - Leisure, Culture and Wellbeing

Date: July 2021

Review by: July 2030



Contents

Section	Contents	Page
	Foreword	3
1.0	Policy statement	4-7
2.0	The impact of parks and open spaces	7-12
3.0	Barriers to the use of parks and open space	12-13
4.0	Evidence base	14-19
5.0	Our vision and key themes	20-21
6.0	Key priorities	21-26
7.0	Parks and open space investment and funding	26-27
8.0	Delivery plan, monitoring and review	27
	Appendix A Evidence base	



FOREWORD

By Cllr Jill Mannion Brunt, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing



Chesterfield is not your typical market town and not your typical borough. It is perfectly located at the heart of England and well connected via the UK's road and rail network; it affords residents a great quality of life, being on the doorstep of the stunning Peak District National Park and a place with high quality, affordable housing. Although benefiting from key developments and growth in recent years, the legacy of declining industries has contributed to high levels of deprivation and significant health and wellbeing challenges in some parts of the borough.

The parks and open spaces within our borough are an important element of what makes Chesterfield an attractive place to live, work and visit. They have an essential role to play in improving the health, wellbeing and quality of life for our communities as well as attracting visitors from far and wide. As seen during the 2020 – 2021 Covid-19 pandemic our parks and open spaces offered a real lifeline to many residents and enabled them to continue to access free exercise and wellbeing opportunities when many other options were unavailable to them.

Now more than ever our green spaces should be protected, enhanced, and cherished for generations to come. Good quality, accessible open spaces provide sporting and recreational facilities, green lungs for communities to breathe and contribute to a vibrant economy, encouraging higher quality and more sustainable economic development. Through increasing biodiversity and enabling sustainable landscapes they also make a crucial contribution to reducing the impact of Climate Change and help us to work towards our Climate Change targets of a net carbon neutral council by 2030 and borough by 2050.

For our open space network to be fully utilised, it is important to recognise our community's needs. Several issues are key to the success of this strategy including improving the quality and accessibility of provision and maximising opportunities to engage communities to create a shared ownership and pride for our parks and open spaces. Our accompanying action plan sets out some key steps to help achieve.

SECTION 1: Policy statement

1.1 Introduction

Parks and other open spaces play a big part in what makes Chesterfield Borough an attractive place to live, work and visit. They are places for everyone to enjoy and encourage and promote healthy lifestyles as well as providing much needed places to meet family and friends and relax. Good quality open space can also enhance our economy by providing employment opportunities in a number of sectors including leisure and tourism.

Our previous Parks and Open Spaces Strategy was launched in 2014 and has been a catalyst for wide ranging improvements in the quality of parks and open spaces but also led to a significant increase in community engagement. Since the launch of the strategy, over 20 Friends of Parks groups have been supported and encouraged by the Council and play a significant role in securing external funding to drive improvements and attracting more people to use their local park. Key collaborative improvements include:

- Reducing the impact of climate change via our extensive tree planting scheme and careful development of our landscaping and maintenance schemes
- Developing a comprehensive resource pack and officer support to enable new Friends of groups to form and existing groups to flourish
- Chesterfield in Bloom is firmly established with thousands of residents through schools, local businesses, community groups and as private individuals taking part in this campaign to green our borough. The Council has achieved gold standard four years in a row up to 2020
- Holding five prestigious Green Flag awards - Queen's Park, Holme Brook Valley Park, Eastwood Park, Pools Brook Country Park and the Crematorium
- Completed the restoration of our Grade II* listed Queen's Park's western boundary with sympathetic fencing and extensive landscaping works
- Provision of a new 3G artificial sports pitch at Queen's Park, enabling a huge variety of sport and recreation
- Refurbished many play spaces with challenging and innovative play equipment and also introduced outdoor gyms, multi-use games areas and skate parks

- Increased events and activities in our parks by working with a range of partners for example Stand Road Bonfire Night extravaganza, County Cricket, Gala Days and Chesterfield Pride
- Developed masterplans and management plans for our key parks to maximise quality, engagement and biodiversity. This includes several areas of the borough being declared as local nature reserves and tracts of woodland are now being actively managed and made more accessible
- Effective management of a range of semi-natural spaces under the DEFRA high-level stewardship scheme

In the light of all these improvements and achievements, public satisfaction with local parks and open spaces in Chesterfield Borough remains high with 83% of residents being very satisfied or satisfied with provision (based on 2019/20 Local Government Association Are You Being Served survey methodology).

1.2 **Strategy scope**

The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy covers the whole borough of Chesterfield and includes all publicly owned parks and open spaces. Allotments, sports pitches and play areas are referred to throughout the strategy however there are separate strategies for these specific open spaces.

Parks and open spaces over 0.2 hectares or more across a range of typologies are included within the strategy. This equates to over 592 hectares of publicly owned parks and open spaces. The largest category of provision is natural and semi-natural spaces which accounts for 313 hectares. This is predominantly due to the two country parks within the borough (Holmebrook and Poolsbrook) which account for over 130 hectares of provision.

The strategy highlights a range of issues impacting on parks and open spaces provision and sets out financially sustainable management approaches to enable a range of provision that meets the needs and aspirations of our communities.

1.3 **Strategy aims**

The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy is key to guiding the Council's protection and investment in parks and open spaces and providing a platform for increased community engagement. The Aims of the strategy are:

- to provide clear and transparent guidance and priorities for improving parks and open spaces
- to enhance local leadership and commitment to improving and investing in parks and open spaces
- to provide high quality evidence to underpin and support funding bids to improve parks and open spaces including community engagement opportunities
- to feed into and maximise visibility within the Council's key strategy documents the Council Plan and Local Plan
- to enhance our contribution to key agenda's including the climate emergency, improving accessibility and responding the borough's challenging health and wellbeing profile
- to support negotiation with developers for 'planning gain and support' for open space provision in new developments
- to develop a hierarchy of parks and open spaces with a framework for prioritisation and resource allocation for management and improvement

1.4 **The Council's role**

Local authorities are advocates and custodians of parks and open spaces. They can:

- Improve, maintain and review existing parks and open spaces
- Provide new, high quality parks and open space
- Increase green infrastructure within public spaces
- Improve transport links, pathways and other means of access to parks and open spaces
- Provide imaginative routes linking areas of parks and open space for active travel

This strategy and the resultant delivery plan will embed our commitment to the effective management of our parks and open spaces within the borough and recognises the importance to our communities and our economy. The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy contributes significantly to the Council's vision

'Putting our communities first' and our Council Plan delivery across the three priority areas:

- Making Chesterfield a thriving Borough
- Improving the quality of life for local people
- Providing value-for-money services

SECTION 2: The impact of parks and open spaces

2.1 Why are parks and open spaces so important?

The quality of our parks and open spaces can make a significant contribution to the quality of life and health and wellbeing for residents. They provide places to meet, exercise and play but also places to learn about nature or just enjoy a pleasant environment. They are venues for affordable recreation and provide opportunities for young people to undertake creative play and 'hang out'. A spacious green environment can also boost the image of an area, helping to attract inward investment, visitors, and residents alike, whilst key sites are often the focus of civic pride, for example Queen's Park.

Having a strategic approach to parks and open spaces provision can help us to maximise the benefits of parks and open spaces for the whole community. This includes integrating provision into the Council Plan, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and a range of other key plans and strategies. Ensuring that parks and open spaces are a key consideration in our Local Plan is paramount to ensure that planning policies, masterplans, new developments, negotiations and decision making all consider the importance of parks and open spaces provision.

Understanding national policy levers, as well as the purpose and contents of local policies and strategies is critical to address provision of sufficient access to parks and open space and its longer-term sustainability. Local documents should reflect how parks and open space is integral to meeting health and wider priorities and support the protection and enhancement of them.

Now more than ever we can look at parks and open space with a deeper understanding of the wider determinants of health, of which both the built and the natural environment are fundamental pillars. Broadly, it is thought that parks and open space is linked to health and wellbeing in several ways:

- improving access to parks and open space promotes healthy behaviours including engaging in physical activity and active travel
- Improving social contacts and giving people a sense of familiarity and belonging
- Providing opportunities to develop new skills and capabilities – particularly for young people, there is emerging evidence that spending time in parks and open space is associated with a range of benefits including improved motor skills, better academic performance and increased concentration
- Parks and open spaces including pocket parks, street trees, green walls and roof gardens in urban areas can also help to mediate potential harms posed by exposure to air pollution, the urban heat island effect, mitigate excessive noise and reduce flood risk

For all these reasons, improving access to quality parks and open space has the potential to improve health outcomes for the whole population. However, this is particularly true for disadvantaged communities, who appear to accrue an even greater health benefit from living in a greener environment. This means that parks and open space also can be an important tool in the ambition to increase healthy life expectancy and improve health and wellbeing outcomes for our communities.

2.2 **Benefits of Open Space**

2.2.1 **Health benefits**

A range of academic and community studies have identified clear links between parks and open spaces and improved health and wellbeing. Recent findings include:

- A clear link between green living environments and improved mortality rates in particular for cardiovascular linked mortality
- Increased self-assessed perceptions of good health and wellbeing
- A reduction in the physical and psychological markers of stress, anxiety, and depression

- Improved parental and birth outcomes including more favourable birth weights
- People living near quality parks and open spaces are more likely to meet the national physical activity recommendations, have positive mental health outcomes and are less likely to struggle with weight management
- Improved immune systems
- Positive associations between a greener living environment and improved mental health outcomes for children and young people including emotional wellbeing, reduced stress and improved resilience

Mental health is an area of sharp focus where parks and open spaces can make a significant positive contribution. The physical health, social and economic consequences of poor mental health are substantial. Compared to the general population, people with poor mental health are more likely to have physical health conditions, a lower life expectancy, higher rates of health risk factors such as smoking, alcohol and drug misuse, and are more likely to experience social / economic inequalities such as isolation, unemployment and homelessness or poor housing. Poor mental health is estimated to have an economic and social cost of £105 billion a year in England, with treatment costs expected to double in the next 20 years. In addition to these costs there are incalculable costs to individuals, families, and communities due to lost potential and limited life chances.

2.2.2 **Social benefits**

The social benefits of parks and open spaces have also been a key area for study with a range of benefits identified including:

- The creation of opportunities for social connectedness – taking part in events, activities or just taking time to relax with friends and family
- Children’s play is a key reason for many people to visit parks and open spaces. The importance of play for a child’s development is well documented but there are often challenges around access including concerns about poor facilities, safety and anti-social behaviour
- Passive recreation is also a key social benefit. This can include walking dogs, watching your children play, viewing wildlife, looking at views, reading or resting. Passive recreation is often far more important to individuals lives than active recreation
- Active Recreation – organised sport, children’s play, music, and a range of events. It is estimated nationally that up to 16% of park users will visit for

- Active recreation alone and this accounts for 7.5 million visitors to parks and open spaces each year
- Equality and diversity– different groups have different requirements and expectations of parks and open spaces such as accessible features, opportunities for reflection and worship or celebration of key dates.
- Park and Open Spaces as Educational Resources. The benefits to children have included sensory perception, children’s behaviour, outdoor learning opportunities, different patterns of play

2.2.3 **Environmental and climate change benefits**

A range of environmental benefits have also been identified alongside significant opportunities for reducing the impact of climate change:

- Opportunities to enhance screening to reduce noise and absorb pollutants
- Provide diverse wildlife habitats and contact people with nature close to their homes, schools and places of work. These include local nature reserves, areas of natural and semi-natural green space, allotments and river corridors
- Provide opportunities for active travel to reduce car journeys
- Enable specific climate change focused initiatives including tree planting, improving biodiversity and developing sustainable solutions to landscaping and management
- Providing opportunities to improve a range of habitats

2.3 **The value of parks and open spaces**

Local Government is a major advocate and custodian of parks and open spaces, but the sector faces huge challenges in terms of the funding and maintenance of existing parks and open spaces, let alone the creation of further provision. It is important that in these strained times parks and open spaces are recognised for their broader social, economic, health and environmental benefits and not just viewed as a financial liability. This needs to form part of all investment and divestment decisions around parks and open spaces provision.

The value of parks and open spaces can be quantified by a monetary value for instance the value of the land, the income opportunities or the cost of maintenance but we are advocating that qualitative measures including social,

economic, health and environmental benefits are also effectively considered to improve decision making. There is also an increasing body of evidence that demonstrates a positive relationship between the provision of parks and open space with improvements to community wellbeing and reduced costs for public services including central and local government provision, NHS, Police and Fire and Rescue services:

- Natural England estimate that £2.1 billion per year could be saved in health costs if everyone in England had good access to parks and open space, due to increased physical activity in those spaces. This is primarily through improved mental health outcomes and people meeting physical activity guidelines
- A welfare gain of £1.2 billion per annum is found for people undertaking one or more 'active' visits (30 minutes, moderate intensity activity daily) to parks and open spaces. This includes £760 million in avoidable medical costs
- A number of city based and regional studies have also quantified the savings potential through better health outcomes linked to opens spaces for example £580 million in London, £192 million in Birmingham or £18 million for Wales coastal paths
- Some studies have estimated the annual benefit to society of parks and open spaces for instance £600 million in Birmingham and some have shown the link between £1 spent on parks and open spaces to pounds saved in health costs - £34 in Sheffield
- Proximity to parks and open spaces has also been shown to attract a premium in terms of house prices and area desirability

2.4 **Inequalities in parks and open space access**

There is evidence to suggest that there are disparities between the quality and quantity of parks and spaces in different areas and indeed differences in the ways and frequency that communities use and engage with them. This can include:

- Generally lower levels of high quality parks and open spaces areas with higher deprivation levels
- There is a link between poorer access to high quality parks and open spaces and poorer health and wellbeing outcomes

- People in areas with higher deprivation levels are already more likely to have poorer health and wellbeing outcomes so unequal provision can further compound this issue
- Studies indicate that all communities benefit from parks and open spaces but there is a disproportionate positive impact for communities with higher deprivation levels
- Analysis of MENE (Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment) survey data across multiple years found that infrequent users of parks and open space tend to be – people who are female, older, in poor health, of
- lower socioeconomic status, with a physical disability, ethnic minorities, people living in deprived areas, those with less local access to parks and open space and people living further from the coast

Section 3.0: Barriers to the use of parks and open space

3.1 A range of barriers have been identified which may contribute to reasons why some groups are less likely to use parks and open spaces than others. These can include physical barriers, social and cultural barriers or even perception and awareness of opportunities. Barriers identified include:

- Proximity to parks and open space near to home. MENE data shows that two-thirds of visits to parks and open space are within 2 miles of home
- Physical obstacles – lack of or poorly maintained road or path networks or challenging topography
- Transport – lack of public transport options, safe walking or cycling routes or the cost of parking on site
- Lack of facilities – toilets, benches, cafes
- Accessibility for example accessible access for people with mobility challenges, seats, accessible toilets, and suitable parking
- Social experiences – being out in a natural setting is not part of social expectations or background, discomfort over perceptions of what is seen as ‘appropriate’ behaviour in such spaces, feeling unwelcome or out of place
- Experiences or perceptions of anti-social behaviour, hate crime, vandalism, litter, poor maintenance, poor lighting
- Limited awareness of provision and how to access

- Experience and confidence in accessing provision
- Competing time pressures and interests - MENE survey data indicated that 36% of respondents were either “too busy at work” or “too busy at home” to engage with parks and open spaces and a further 21% just weren’t interested

3.2 **Guiding principles to encourage engagement with parks and open space**

- Provide opportunities for ongoing and meaningful consultation with communities to understand the barriers that are preventing them from using parks and open spaces and to collaborate to identify solutions to reduce barriers
- Utilising inclusive design principles that make it easy and attractive for people to use parks and open spaces and that maximise benefits for the community
- Undertake bespoke work to engage harder to reach communities to identify activities and actions which could increase their engagement with parks and open spaces
- A combined approach which delivers physical improvements to parks and open spaces, seeks to reduce barriers to access and promotes social engagement and participation
- Careful planning and evaluation of proposals and decisions that take into account the holistic value of parks and open spaces

Chesterfield Borough Council like the majority of local authorities faces huge challenges in terms of the funding and maintenance of existing provision and investment in new provision. We actively pursue external funding opportunities for improvements and have been very successful in drawing down significant funding to enhance existing provision and to support new provision however there may be occasions where match funding is required, or we have been unable to secure external funding for key schemes. In these circumstances it may be necessary to consider the disposal of surplus low-quality open space provision to support the maintenance and enhancement of the remainder of our parks and open spaces network.

Section 4: Evidence base – Refer to Appendix A

4.1 Evidence base

A huge range of data underpins the development of our Parks and Open Spaces Strategy. The evidence base is important in setting local standards for the type, location, quantity, quality and accessibility of parks and open spaces, helping to identify gaps in provision and to define key priorities for investment. We have produced a comprehensive evidence base document that sets out national, regional, and local information key to the development of this strategy.

4.2 Parks and Open Spaces assessment

In 2018 the Council undertook a series of audits to establish the quantity, accessibility, quality of parks and open spaces in the borough and more importantly how the value and contribution that these spaces make to the quality of life for residents. There is localised recognition that there needs to be continued improvements to parks and open spaces within the borough. However, despite the enthusiasm to do so, these continued improvements cannot be achieved at once and actions need to be organised, prioritised, resourced and adequately funded.

The parks and open spaces assessment and audit scores help us to identify key priorities by enabling:

- Clear policies for protection linked to prescribed and identified sites
- Developing specific recommendations by area where there are opportunities to improve accessibility and quality of green spaces
- A shared understanding through custodianship of the areas to be retained and protected
- A review of sites against planning policy that may lead to occasional disposal
- Determined what additional resources are required to build on existing good practice

The parks and open spaces assessment and audit were undertaken in several key stages including:

- Analysis areas
- Auditing local provision
- Quality and value
- Quality and value thresholds
- Identifying local need
- Accessibility catchments

Further details of the methodology used and how scores and values were awarded is contained within our evidence base, but the key findings are detailed below:

There is over 592 hectares of publicly accessible parks and open spaces within Chesterfield Borough. The largest contributor to provision is natural and semi-natural parks and open space (313 hectares). This is predominantly due to the two country parks (an equivalent to 130 hectares) being categorised within the typology. The table below gives an overview of **provision**:

Table 1 - overview of open space typologies

Open space typology	Number of sites	Total amount (hectares)
Park and gardens	20	111
Natural & semi-natural parks and open space	33	313
Amenity parks and open space	95	93
Provision for children & young people	92	5
Allotments	33	40
Cemeteries/churchyards	10	30
Green corridors	4	n/a
Total	287	592

There is generally a good level of quality across open space sites. This is reflected in over three quarters (77%) of sites scoring above the quality threshold. Parks, allotments, green corridors and cemeteries have a high proportion of sites to rate above the quality thresholds. The table below gives an overview of **quality**:

Table 2 - Quality scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores %			Number of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Park and gardens	55%	44%	61%	86%	4	16
Natural & semi-natural parks and open space	40%	29%	51%	96%	11	22
Amenity parks and open space	60%	33%	65%	87%	26	69
Provision for children & young people	60%	50%	67%	91%	23	69
Allotments	50%	36%	58%	73%	1	32
Cemeteries/churchyards	60%	56%	68%	87%	2	8
Green corridors	60%	61%	71%	84%	0	4
TOTAL					67	220

Value assessments have also been undertaken. Nearly all sites (94%) are assessed as being above the threshold for value, reflecting the role and importance of parks and open space provision to local communities and environments. Provision for children and young people is the only typology to have any sites to rate below the value threshold. This reflects for those sites a general lack of quality equipment..

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, good quality 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 offering limited functions and viewed as unattractive. The table below gives an overview of **value**:

Table 3 - Value scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores %			Number of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Park and gardens	20%	39%	51%	90%	0	20
Natural & semi-natural parks and open space		26%	41%	68%	0	33
Amenity parks and open space		15%	32%	60%	6	89
Provision for children & young people		15%	63%	91%	11	81
Allotments		9%	28%	56%	1	32
Cemeteries/churchyards		32%	60%	81%	0	10
Green corridors		31%	49%	83%	0	4
TOTAL					18	269

4.3 Parks and open spaces community survey

A parks and open spaces community survey was undertaken in 2018/19 with 671 respondents taking the opportunity to tell us more about their needs and aspirations for parks and open spaces within the borough. The full survey report is available within the evidence base but some key messages from the survey include:

- 65% of respondents visit a park or public garden at least once a week
- The majority of respondents use non-vehicular modes of transport including walking, running and cycling to access provision in particular parks (77%), amenity greenspace (62%) and outdoor networks (57%)
- For other types of provision including play areas, country parks and cemeteries the weighting towards vehicle use is higher
- For most types of provision people are willing to travel for around 15 minutes but this increases for certain types of provision including country parks and local nature reserves where the majority of people would be happy to travel for 30 minutes
- In general, respondents consider the amount of provision to be quite satisfactory for most types of provision, similarly with quality

- The factors which would make the biggest difference in terms of increasing the use of parks and open spaces include improved cleanliness, better maintenance and improvements to paths, benches, shelters etc and the attractiveness of sites with landscaping, floral displays etc.

In addition to the main survey 236 children took the opportunity to engage in a specific child focused survey in 2018/19. The key findings include:

- 81% like to visit parks, 66% play areas and 63% nature areas
- The most common reason for visiting these types of open space is to play (81%), meet with friends (61%), to exercise (51%) and to visit with family (46%)
- When asked about what would make parks and open spaces better the most popular answers were making them cleaner and tidier (65%) and more play equipment (64%)

4.4 **Travel and access audit**

The parks and open spaces community survey found that the most common mode of travel to access open spaces is by non-vehicle methods e.g. walking, running cycling. The most common time willing to be travelled to access provision is 15 minutes. A 15-minute walk is the equivalent to 1.2 kilometres and this radius has been used to map the access to key provision types. For some types of provision – driving is a key method of transport e.g. for country parks and local nature reserves this has also been considered within the audits. The mapping and gap analysis is available within the evidence base.

4.5 **Standards for parks and open space provision**

Standards for the parks and open space typologies consider surpluses and deficiencies in provision on the basis of quantitative, qualitative analysis and any consultation undertaken. The location, accessibility, and quality of parks and open space is also important in ensuring that the areas are well used and appropriate to the needs of the Chesterfield community. Setting distance thresholds for each type of open space for all areas is not easy to achieve, as many factors will influence travel times. The figures are based on generic average travel times. However, the standards provide guidance that help to identify gaps that will be used to inform our action plans for improvement and sites for review.

In developing and applying standards of provision, it is important to note that:

- National standards of recommended provision have been used for comparative purposes (Fields in Trust Beyond the Six Acre Standard and Accessible Natural Parks and Open Space Standard)
- Existing standards of provision relate to the current level of provision of a specific typology
- Recommended standards of provision are based on local assessment and analysis but may be the same as a national recommended standard if appropriate, and specifically where current levels of provision do not meet a nationally recommended standard as a minimum. Equally, the future recommended standard may be the existing provision, if it is particularly high, and to lose it would significantly change the natural character of the area.

It is not appropriate to set local standards in the same way for each typology; this is because the majority of people access different types of provision in different ways, for example, walking to a park or children’s play area, driving to an outdoor sports facility. In addition, the way in which people choose to access different types of provision may be influenced by locational factors, for example, a high-quality park may be within cycling or driving, but not walking distance. With this in mind, we have developed a set of standards below for each typology.

Table 4 – Adopted standards for open space typologies

	Parks and gardens	Natural and semi-natural	Amenity greenspace	Children and young people	Allotments
Quantity standard	1.06 hectares per 1000 population	3 hectares per 1000 population	3 hectares per 1000 population	0.27 hectares per 1000 population	0.39 hectares per 1000 population
Travel and accessibility standard	1.2km or 15 minute walk time	1.2km or 15 minute walk time or 30	1.2km or 15 minute walk time	1.2km or 15 minute walk time	1.2km or 15 minute walk time

Section 5: Our vision and key themes

5.1 Our Vision for parks and open spaces

To provide, protect and enhance a variety of high quality, accessible parks and open spaces throughout the borough, that are well designed and maintained, sustainable; support biodiversity, safe; and promote health, well-being and enjoyment, improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to the borough.

5.2 Key Themes

We have identified four key themes for the parks and open spaces strategy, each with key underpinning actions:

1. A clear strategy for investment in parks and open spaces

- Identify key investment priorities
- Improve the quality of parks and open spaces at key sites
- Adopt a re-investment mechanism for capital receipts from recreational land sales

2. Using our resources effectively and sustainably

- Review play area provision
- Maximise income and external funding opportunities
- Explore the potential to dispose of or make alternative use of low value and low quality open space in areas of over provision
- Review parks management and maintenance regimes to realise efficiencies and maximise climate change benefit

3. Increase the use of our parks and open spaces

- Develop a diverse and attractive programme of events and healthy activities in partnership
- Promote open space benefits for health, learning and wildlife
- Encourage responsible use of sites and take effective action with partners to combat anti-social behaviour

4. Engage with our community and partners effectively

- Increase engagement with key partners and user groups

- Develop volunteering opportunities in parks
- Seek to promote a local river and tree stewardship scheme in partnership

- Support sports clubs and other groups to move to self-management of facilities

This strategy is a vehicle to enable us to focus resources where they are most needed and where they will have the greatest impact for the future. It sets out the framework within which we will seek to engage with funders, partners and communities in order to maximise resource allocation both in terms of quality of provision and outcomes such as reducing health inequalities.

Section 6: Key priorities

6.1 **Review of play provision stock**

The quality of play provision has been highlighted as an area of concern within the parks and open spaces audit and community survey. A significantly greater percentage of respondents to the survey were dissatisfied with the quality of play provision when compared to other types of parks and open spaces. Enhancing the stock is a challenge due the demands of refurbishing and improving stock on a regular basis and the capital investment required. We will develop a 5-year plan which identifies those sites for which investment is required. The plan will provide the framework for a long-term strategic view to be taken to ensure we have a robust and affordable range of play opportunities across the Borough. In developing the plan consideration will be given to providing more natural play opportunities through creative landscaping. This will be in response to the higher proportion of survey respondents who cited preferring natural play opportunities as opposed to traditional play equipment.

6.2 **Protection of parks and open spaces**

Chesterfield Borough Council wishes to protect and preserve public open space by ensuring that assets are not transferred out of the Council's ownership. There may be exceptional circumstances with lease arrangements or where alternative suitable provision can be made if provision is lost through development. We want to ensure that development proposals and local improvement works take all reasonable steps to avoid harm to the amenity, heritage, biodiversity and recreational value of existing open space.

6.3 **Quality and access at key and multi-functional sites**

The priorities from the open space assessment highlights several sites that have real potential to reduce gaps in provision. There are also a number of sites across the borough with a multi-functional role which can serve the wider borough. These are highlighted as strategically and locally important sites. We are seeking to ensure that quality and access at these sites is good and we will be exploring options to enhance provision given their important role across the borough as well as to local communities. These sites include:

Destination parks - these parks serve local communities but also attract a large number of visitors from within and outside of the borough. They are of substantial size and often of historic importance. They provide a wide range of attractions and facilities.

Community parks - these parks serve a key local need, but which are of sufficient size to accommodate a reasonable range of attractions and facilities. There are 19 sites that are considered as Community parks or have the potential to be community parks with some investment.

Natural/semi-natural green space - These sites are primarily 'natural' in appearance, of significant size, listed in the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust register of sites of importance for nature conservation and managed for wildlife but accessible for informal recreation.

6.4 **Standards for Open Space Provision**

The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy includes 'standards' for open space in Chesterfield including quality, quantity and accessibility in all settlements across most typologies. We will take all reasonable and practicable steps to achieve these standards across the borough. Increases in population will provide additional demand for the requirements of open space. New populations in many instances will warrant contributions towards open space. The quantity, quality and accessibility standards can help to inform decisions around these requirements and priorities for open space. The quantity standards can help to calculate the amount of provision required as part of a new development. Using the travel/accessibility and quality standards can then help to identify any opportunities for potential offsite contributions. However, in some developments an onsite contribution will still be required.

6.5 **Strategic growth sites**

Known development sites provide an opportunity to establish a more detailed level of clarity in terms of the open space provision requirements as a result of each development. Across the borough there are several planned developments and allocated sites for housing. These developments are at different stages, some have live planning applications, some are allocated, and others are at an initial identification stage. Developers of all new housing within the borough will be required to contribute to on or off-site open space provision in accordance with the councils adopted standards. On-site provision will be made where possible or off-site contributions to additional or improved open space will be sought where we are able to secure it by S106 planning obligation or Community Infrastructure Levy. The recommended quantity provision standards for the borough are applied in order to determine the need for open space provision as part of the development scenarios.

6.6 **Dealing with Surpluses and Deficiencies in Open Space**

We will ensure that where surplus land exists (where typologies exceed the standards for local communities), modification to the land to address other typology shortfalls within the locality will be considered prior to consideration for disposal where practicable. We will seek to address deficiencies in open space (where typologies do not meet the standards for local communities) by applying for external funding sources and consideration of gain through the planning system.

6.7 **Adoption and Liability of New Open Spaces**

By seeking to address the shortfalls identified in the Parks and Open Spaces assessment by creating new open spaces, the Council will reduce its financial liability by actively promoting the transfer to third party organisations e.g. management bodies. Where the Council does accept the asset transfer appropriate levels of revenue funding will be agreed in advance and the quality standards identified in the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy should be met, where possible, prior to transfer.

6.8 **Ongoing evaluation**

In recognition of changing circumstances, we will continue to monitor and assess provision, needs and demand to inform decision making including investment and divestment decisions and changes to typology.

6.9 **Consultation**

We will consult with residents, users and community groups, where reasonable, on proposals for development of or changes to parks and open spaces, standards or policies to ensure community expectations are met in delivering and managing open space and in order to set good examples to other providers.

6.10 **Health and Wellbeing**

Relaxing or participating in active exercise in a park or green space is an effective way to tackle poor health in an urban area. Access to good-quality, well-maintained public spaces can help to improve both physical and mental health by encouraging us to walk more, to play sport, or simply to enjoy a green and natural environment. We will encourage the use of parks and green spaces for a culture of physical activity by all sections of our community.

We will seek to ensure that our parks and open spaces can be beneficial for a range of physical and mental health condition priorities as part of a preventative 'natural health service'. Linking deprived communities and people with health-related issues to parks and open spaces is more important than ever. The council has a supporting public health leadership role, working with valued partners and we will work with our partners to create a joined-up approach using green social prescribing to better support and improve the mental health and wellbeing of local communities through use and development of green space, by supporting people to feel confident and encouraging them to become active participants in the natural world.

6.11 **Partnership Working**

We will continue to work in partnership with the public, private and voluntary sectors including providing advice and support and acting as a critical friend in order to manage and enhance our parks and open spaces across the borough more effectively.

6.12 **Management and Maintenance**

Chesterfield Borough Council recognises the importance of high-quality management and maintenance of open spaces and will seek to ensure that the quality standards identified in the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy are met. We

procedures and protocols will be developed to supplement these policies in order to effectively manage open space.

6.13 Signage and Interpretation

We will ensure that where there is an identified need appropriate signs and interpretation boards are in place for our parks open spaces. Signage should be sufficient for purpose and positioned to avoid impairing amenity and creating visual clutter.

6.14 Marketing and Promotion

We will continue and seek to improve marketing of open space across the Borough including to fully exploit its value for education, health promotion, improved liveability of neighbourhoods and accessibility via public transport, cycling or walking.

6.15 Investment in Open Spaces

We will explore and co-ordinate all investment opportunities in our parks and open spaces including Heritage Lottery Funding, Sport England, Landfill Tax Credits etc. We will continue, where appropriate, to seek funding through the planning process e.g. Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy, for open space provision in relation to new development.

6.16 Equality and Diversity

The Council is committed to promoting equality and diversity in the provision and management of open space including improvements to parks and open space facilities. This commitment recognises not only our legal requirements under legislation, but also our drive to ensure we make all reasonable adjustments to ensure that our facilities are accessible for our communities.

6.17 Crime and anti-social behaviour

We will work with our partners to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and improve social cohesion on open spaces.

6.18 Climate change and biodiversity

Our parks and open spaces make a significant contribution to our commitment to become a net carbon neutral council by 2030 and borough by 2050. This includes maximising sustainable principles at all our facilities and in the way we



manage and maintain our parks and open spaces but also in seeking to increase biodiversity. We have an overarching duty to consider the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment. In the

management, maintenance and development of open space biodiversity will be a priority.

Long term climate forecasts (Climate UK), indicate a likelihood of higher average temperatures and more seasonal extremes. This might include a decrease in summer rainfall and an increase in heat waves, and/or an increase in 'flash' rainfall resulting in more flooding, higher sea levels and waterlogged soils. There is therefore a need to build climate adaptability into the maintenance of Chesterfields parks, open spaces. This will in turn impact on the selection of species for planting, choosing specimens that are resilient to unpredictable weather conditions. There is potential to improve and promote the environmental sustainability of parks and open spaces and associated buildings and operations, for example, using low emission machinery/vehicles where possible. Chesterfields parks and open spaces can play an important role in reducing the borough's carbon and environmental footprint through for example recycling and composting of parks waste, encouraging local food growing and encouraging cycling, walking and public transport use where appropriate.

6.19 **Quality Schemes**

To encourage and support schemes that promote quality and sustainability, such as Green Flag and Chesterfield in Bloom, to enhance the Council's Parks and Open Spaces.

6.20 **Community Engagement and Volunteering**

The Council recognises the many valuable benefits that volunteering can bring to individuals, communities and in improving our parks and open spaces. We will continue to encourage and support volunteering in its many forms including Friends of Groups, tenants and residents' associations and the Chesterfield in Bloom committee. In committing to providing and extending the range of volunteering opportunities within the open spaces work programme, the Council has provided technical support and advice to community and voluntary groups that are working on projects which support the delivery of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.

Section 7: Parks and open space investment and funding

- 7.1 We recognise that our parks and open spaces require investment and nurturing. We will actively seek opportunities to generate income and secure funding for the improvement and regeneration of our parks and open spaces, in partnership with key stakeholders and external agencies.
- 7.2 We will develop 5- and 10-year delivery and investment plans to determine those spaces in need of investment. We will use our evidence base and audits to inform where investment should be directed. These will be linked to, and driven by, gaps in provision and areas of social and economic deprivation. We will ensure that Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts are allocated to support the comprehensive and inclusive development of parks and open space across the borough.

Section 8: Delivery plan, monitoring and review

8.1 **Action plan**

The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy is intended as a framework and guide for the delivery of priorities, and local circumstances will be used to inform its implementation. We will develop an action plan to focus strategy delivery, but this will need to be flexible with regular review periods built in to ensure local needs are being met as well as strategic priorities progressed.

8.2 **Monitoring and review**

Progress against the delivery plan will be monitored and challenged via the Cabinet Portfolio holder on an annual basis to ensure that actions remain on target and an annual performance report will be provided to Cabinet. This will

also include the opportunity to make any amendments to the delivery plan responding to emerging needs and challenges.



CHESTERFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Key performance information will also be monitored and challenged during the plan period including satisfaction and usage data, quality and value score updates and quality awards including Green Flags and In Bloom ratings.

DRAFT



Appendix A

Parks and Open Spaces Strategy

2021 -2030

Evidence base

Section 1: National Context

At a national level the key policy and guidance documents that underpin this strategy and set out clear expectations for local authorities to take a strategic approach to green space are:

- The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)
- The Biodiversity Strategy for England (BSE)
- The Localism Act, 2011
- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- Making Space for Nature (MSN)
- Natural England's Green Infrastructure Guidance (GIG)
- DEFRA's Green Infrastructure Partnership (GIP)
- Communities and Local Government Committee: Public Park – Seventh Report Session (2016 – 2017)
- Government Response to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee Report: The Future of Public Parks (2017)

The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)

The NEWP (2011) states the government's view that the quality of the natural environment is in decline, highly fragmented and unable to respond to the pressures that will follow from climate change. The NEWP is based largely on the concept of "ecosystem services" and the benefits that society gains from natural resources and functional natural systems – benefits such as food and water, fertile soils and clean air. It concludes that many ecosystems are in decline and therefore the benefits society derives from them are also in decline. As a result, it argues for the creation and maintenance of a "resilient ecological network across England". It also refers to urban green infrastructure as completing "the links in our national ecological network" and "one of the most effective tools available to us in managing environmental risks such as flooding and heat waves".

The White Paper introduced several new policy initiatives, including:

- Local Nature Partnerships, intended to work at a strategic scale for a better natural environment
- Nature Improvement Areas intended to enhance and reconnect nature on a significant scale
- Biodiversity offsets, designed to deliver biodiversity benefits for losses through compensatory habitat expansion or restoration elsewhere
- A Green Infrastructure (GI) Partnership designed to support the development of GI in England

The Biodiversity Strategy for England (BSE)

The BSE, Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services, sets out how the Government intends to implement international and EU commitments. It aims to reduce the environmental pressures created by development by "taking a strategic approach to planning for nature" and by retaining "the protection and improvement of the natural environment as core objectives of the planning system".

National Planning Policy Framework (2018)

The NPPF sets out the planning policies for England. It details how these are expected to be applied to the planning system and provides a framework to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It establishes that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

Under paragraph 96 of the NPPF, it is set out that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite paragraph 97 of the NPPF states that existing open space, sports, and recreation sites, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown the site to be surplus to requirements; or
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss

Communities and Local Government Committee: Public parks - Seventh Report of Session (2016–17)

Discusses in detail the three key questions on the inquiry into public parks: why parks matter, what challenges are facing the parks sector, and how we can secure a sustainable future for parks. A summary of the three themes is set out below:

Why do parks matter?

Clear evidence of the high usage and role of parks in serving a wide range of users including children and young people is strongly discussed. Furthermore, the many benefits of parks are recognised including:

- Physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Active travel
- Community cohesion and identity
- Biodiversity and access to nature
- Local economy and growth
- Climate change and the environment

Whilst the diverse role of parks is widely acknowledged as indisputable, the focus on parks as physical assets and operational costs can overlook the benefits provided. There is a need for assessment of parks to be more nuanced in a way which values it in terms of health and wellbeing, amenity, and leisure.

What challenges are facing the parks sector?

A number of demands and trends are impacting on the management, maintenance and use of parks across the country. These include:

- Competing demands and tensions between parks users
- Funding reductions
- Health and safety
- Access to revenue and capital funding
- Unequal distribution of parks and green spaces
- Planning policy
- Green infrastructure

How can we secure a sustainable future for parks?

No one size fits all solution is recognised. However, it is highlighted that local authorities are best placed to make decisions appropriate to their local circumstances. Other key considerations include:

- The role of the community
- Innovation and alternative approaches
- A statutory duty to provide and maintain parks
- Coordination and leadership

Government Response to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee Report: The Future of Public Parks (2017)

The document examines the inquiry conducted by Communities and Local Government Select Committee (in July 2016) on the future of public parks. It builds upon the previous themes of why do parks matter, what challenges is the sector facing and can a sustainable future be secured.

In total 17 recommendations were made with each being considered by the Parks Minister as part of the formal Government response. A summary of some of the more relevant recommendations to local authorities are provided below:

- Recommendation Three: As part of developing their exclusive use and charging policies for parks and open spaces, local authorities should work collaboratively with relevant groups of park users to identify the range of ways in which they can contribute to their parks.
- Recommendation Four: Local authorities should encourage and support the development of friends' group forums, and work with them in a coordinated way to ensure that needs are properly assessed, and resources are prioritised and targeted appropriately.
- Recommendation Seven: Local Plans should take a whole-place approach recognising the importance of parks and green spaces to existing and new communities.
- Recommendation Thirteen: Cross-departmental group should encourage and facilitate the evaluation and benchmarking of emerging models for parks management, and the sharing of best practice.
- Recommendation Fourteen: guidance for local authorities that they should work collaboratively with Health and Wellbeing Boards (and others) to prepare joint strategies.

Promoting Healthy Communities

Open space is a vitally important component of sustainable development and is covered in the NPPF objective of Promoting Health Communities. It requires planning authorities:

- To create a shared vision with communities of the residential environment and facilities they wish to see.
- To deliver the social, recreational, and cultural facilities and services the community needs.

- To base their planning policies on “robust and up to date assessments of the needs for parks and open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision, “in effect, what was known until recently as a “PPG17 assessment” or “green space strategy;”
- To protect and enhance public rights of way and access.

It provides highly specific guidance:

- Existing park and open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:
- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings, or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

Protecting Green Belt Land

The NPPF states unequivocally that “the fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open” and requires planning authorities to:

“... plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land”.

It also states that the construction of buildings in the Green Belt is inappropriate, although it also highlights a number of exceptions to this general rule. They include the

“... provision of appropriate facilities for outdoor sports, outdoor recreation and for cemeteries, as long as it preserves the openness of the Green Belt and does not conflict with the purposes of providing land within it”.

Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

The NPPF suggests that the planning system should help conserve and enhance the natural environment by:

- Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils.
- Recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services.

- Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.
- Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and
- Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

Provision Standards

The Framework entitled “Using a proportionate evidence base”, requires that planning authorities,

“... set out their policy on local standards in the Local Plan ...they should assess the likely cumulative impacts on development in the area of all existing and proposed local standards, supplementary planning documents and policies that support the development plan, when added to nationally required standards.”

Implicitly, therefore, the NPPF continues the approach set out in the former PPG17 of requiring councils to adopt locally determined standards for open space, sport and recreation provision, a key outcome of this revised parks and open spaces strategy.

Making Space for Nature (MSN)

MSN also highlights the decline in biodiversity and fragmentation of wildlife habitats, resulting in a reduction in the benefits that ecosystems deliver. It suggests that the overall aim for England’s ecological networks should be to ensure that

“Compared to the situation in 2000, biodiversity is enhanced and the diversity, functioning and resilience of ecosystems re-established in a network of spaces for nature that can sustain these levels into the future, even given continuing environmental change and human pressures.”

Natural England’s Green Infrastructure Guidance (GIG)

Natural England has been promoting the concept of green infrastructure (GI) for some years. However, its initial attempts concentrated on trying to persuade local authorities to adopt its Accessible Natural Parks and open space Standard (ANGSt) which set out an aspiration that everyone should be able to access a range of green spaces of different sizes within fixed maximum distances from their home. ANGSt had two main failings. First, it ignored the requirement in the former PPG17 that

provision standards for open space should be locally determined; and second, it was simply unachievable in many areas. GI thinking has now moved on to focus more on the planned use of natural systems and processes (ecosystems) than what was ultimately an arbitrarily determined set of standards.

DEFRA's Green Infrastructure Partnership (GIP)

This is reflected in the work of the Green Infrastructure Partnership, which fulfils a commitment in the Natural Environment Green Paper, it brings together a wide range of organisations with a remit of:

Finding ways to provide green infrastructure in towns, cities, and rural areas.

Address barriers that might prevent this progress.

Develop and evidence base on the condition of England's green infrastructure and how it meets the needs of communities.

Demonstrate the many benefits that green infrastructure can bring.

Look into how communities, planners and decision-makers can best be supported in designing and developing green infrastructure; and

Help people to quantify the costs and benefits of investing in green infrastructure and make the case for green infrastructure projects.

The Partnership defines GI as "a planned network of green spaces and other environmental features including street trees, gardens, green roofs, community forests, parks, rivers, canals and wetlands". It has gone on to commission research on six broad topics:

- How to design and retrofit GI.
- How to plan GI for ecosystem services.
- How to work with communities.
- How to implement GI at the local level.
- How to value and make the case for GI; and
- How to ensure that people have the skills and knowledge to deliver improved GI

Countryside & Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000) and Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act (2006)

Both the Acts refer to GI by recognising the need for strategic and open access, Local Access Forums and the duty of public bodies to have regard for biodiversity.

The Biodiversity Strategy for England, Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services (2011)

Builds on the Natural Environment White Paper and Lawton report and the role planning and development has in taking “a strategic approach to planning for nature”. It sets out the Government’s objectives and main actions to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2020 and to ensure the intrinsic value and benefits associated with biodiversity are fully recognised by society. The emphasis is very much about planning for biodiversity at a landscape scale.

Section 2: Local Context

Open Space Assessment – October 2018

The Council commissioned an Open Space Assessment prepared by Knight Kavanagh and Page. The assessment provides detail with regard to what open space provision exists in the area, its condition, distribution and overall quality. This study was intended to assist in the Councils process of preparing a new Local Plan for the area and a Strategy for Parks and Open Spaces. As part of this, it has reviewed the evidence base which will help to inform better understanding of the community needs and priorities for investment. The recommendations and priorities take into consideration the findings of the assessment report as well as population distribution, health and deprivation levels and planned growth.

The study also gives guidance on the consideration of potential disposal sites in areas found to have sufficient open space.

Chesterfield Local Plan 2018 - 2033

Sets out a strategy for development across the borough until 2033. It identifies which broad areas are suitable for development.

It also established a presumption against the loss of open space, play provision and sports facilities unless certain criteria are met. In broad terms it seeks to maintain and enhance existing provision in the Borough unless there is clear evidence of a surplus. This was formulated in the absence of an up to date evidence base on open space, outdoor sports and recreation. The Examination Inspector stated a need for further evidence to be prepared as a matter of urgency.

As part of the Councils preparation for a new Local Plan it is concurrently reviewing its land holdings to help inform future decision-making policy. Local Plan Policies that relate directly to open space are set out below.

CLP15 Green Infrastructure

Chesterfield borough's green infrastructure network will be recognised at all levels of the planning and development process with the aim of protecting enhancing, linking, and managing the network, and creating new green infrastructure where necessary. Development proposals should demonstrate that they will not adversely affect, or result in the loss of, green infrastructure, unless suitable mitigation measures or compensatory provision are provided.

Development proposals should, where relevant:

- a) not conflict with the aim and purposes of the Green Belt (as set out in the NPPF); and
- b) not harm the character and function of the Green Wedges and Strategic Gaps; and
- c) enhance connectivity between, and public access to, green infrastructure; and
- d) (i) protect and enhance access to the multi-user trails network as shown on the Policies Map; and (ii) increase the opportunities for cycling, walking and horse riding; and
- e) enhance the multi-functionality of the Borough's formal and informal parks and open spaces; and
- f) protect or enhance Landscape Character; and
- g) increase tree cover in suitable locations in the borough to enhance landscape character, amenity, and air quality; and
- h) where new green infrastructure is proposed, there must be clear funding and delivery mechanisms in place for its long-term management and maintenance, prior to the development commencing.

Where necessary and appropriate development will be expected to make a contribution through planning obligations or CIL towards the establishment, enhancement and on-going management of green infrastructure by contributing to the development of a strategic green infrastructure network within Chesterfield Borough.

CLP16 Biodiversity, Geodiversity, and the Ecological Network

The council will expect development proposals to:

- protect, enhance and contribute to the management of the borough's ecological network of habitats, protected and priority species and sites of international, national and local importance (statutory and non-statutory), including sites that meet the criteria for selection as a local wildlife site or priority habitat; and
- avoid or minimise adverse impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity; and

- provide a net measurable gain in biodiversity.

CLP17 Open Space, Play Provision, Sports Facilities and Allotments

Where proposed development would result in a need for new open space and outdoor sports facilities and/or exacerbate existing deficiencies in provision, development must contribute to public open space, sports facilities and play provision in accordance with the council's adopted standards as set out in Appendix B of the Local Plan and in line with the following requirements:

- a) on-site in a suitable location taking account of accessibility wherever possible; or
- b) where on site provision is not feasible or suitable, as a financial contribution to the creation of a new facility off-site or the upgrading and improvement of an existing facility, secured by planning obligation or CIL; or
- c) where new public open space is to be provided on site, as multifunctional, fit for purpose space that supports local community's health and wellbeing and activity levels and the ecological network.

Contributions to off-site provision will be secured through CIL and/or S106 agreements as appropriate.

On-site provision will be incorporated into development proposals with suitable management and maintenance arrangements secured through S106 agreements. Planning permission will not be granted for development which would have a negative impact on, or result in the loss of, open space, play provision and/or sports facilities unless:

- a) the site is clearly surplus to requirements and the land is not needed or is not suitable to meet a deficiency in a different type of open space provision; or
- b) equivalent or better alternative open space provision in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility will be provided on a replacement site; or
- c) the development is for alternative sports and/or recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

Deprivation factors

The latest indices of multiple deprivation figures, health profile, official labour market statistics (NOMIS) and child poverty statistics indicate that despite extensive investment to grow Chesterfield's economy, our communities are still struggling to access the proceeds of growth due to a variety of factors including poor health, caring responsibilities and poor educational and skills attainment.

Key issues include:

- Estimated 5600 children in poverty
- Ranked 86th worst out of 317 local authorities for overall indices of multiple deprivation, 64th income, 40th employment, 13th health,
- Life expectancy 9.8 years lower for people in the most deprived areas of Chesterfield compared to the least deprived
- Over 1000 people presenting as homeless each year

Our Lives, Our Health - Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2023

Vision and Priorities for Derbyshire

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018 outlines five priority areas on which the Health and Wellbeing Board will focus activity over the coming years.

Our priorities are to:

- Enable people in Derbyshire to live healthy lives
- Work to lower levels of air pollution
- Build mental health and wellbeing across the life course
- Support our vulnerable populations to live in well-planned and healthy homes
- Strengthen opportunities for quality employment and lifelong learning

In Derbyshire, 20.9% of the population is physically inactive, similar to the England average of 22.2%. However, the prevalence of overweight and obesity in both adults and young children is significantly higher than the national average. Only 40.4% of babies in Derbyshire are breastfed for at least 6 weeks, compared to an England average of 44.4%. Further, only half of 15-year olds eat 5 portions or more of fruit and vegetables per day, rising to 57.8% in adults.

The 'Towards an Active Derbyshire' strategy seeks cultural transformation that makes Derbyshire more active through providing co-ordinated choice, motivation, and support for physical activity. Delivery of the strategy is a partnership between a wide range of stakeholders – led by Active Derbyshire – that focuses on reducing physical inactivity in women and girls, young people and those living in more deprived communities. Delivery will be through a wide range of initiatives for example encouraging active travel and supporting the development of local opportunities to be active.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Draws together information in order to forecast the main health and wellbeing needs of Derbyshire people over the next 15 years. It provides a snapshot of the current health and wellbeing of residents. The JSNA supports re-design of services to ensure demand is met and health inequalities are identified in order to set a framework across services and agencies. A series of reports are provided to help provide profiles to some of the key areas to be addressed.

Chesterfield Borough Council Plan 2019 - 2023

The Council Plan helps us to effectively invest and deploy our time, resources, and energy to support key services and work with residents, partners, and businesses to ensure that everyone in the borough can achieve their full potential.

The Council Plan includes our priorities for the next four years:

- Making Chesterfield a thriving borough
- Improving quality of life for local people
- Providing value for money services

These are the activities on which we will focus our efforts and want to see a real shift in over the four years. The four-year plan allows us time to plan ahead without trying to speculate about what our communities will need and expect in the distant future.

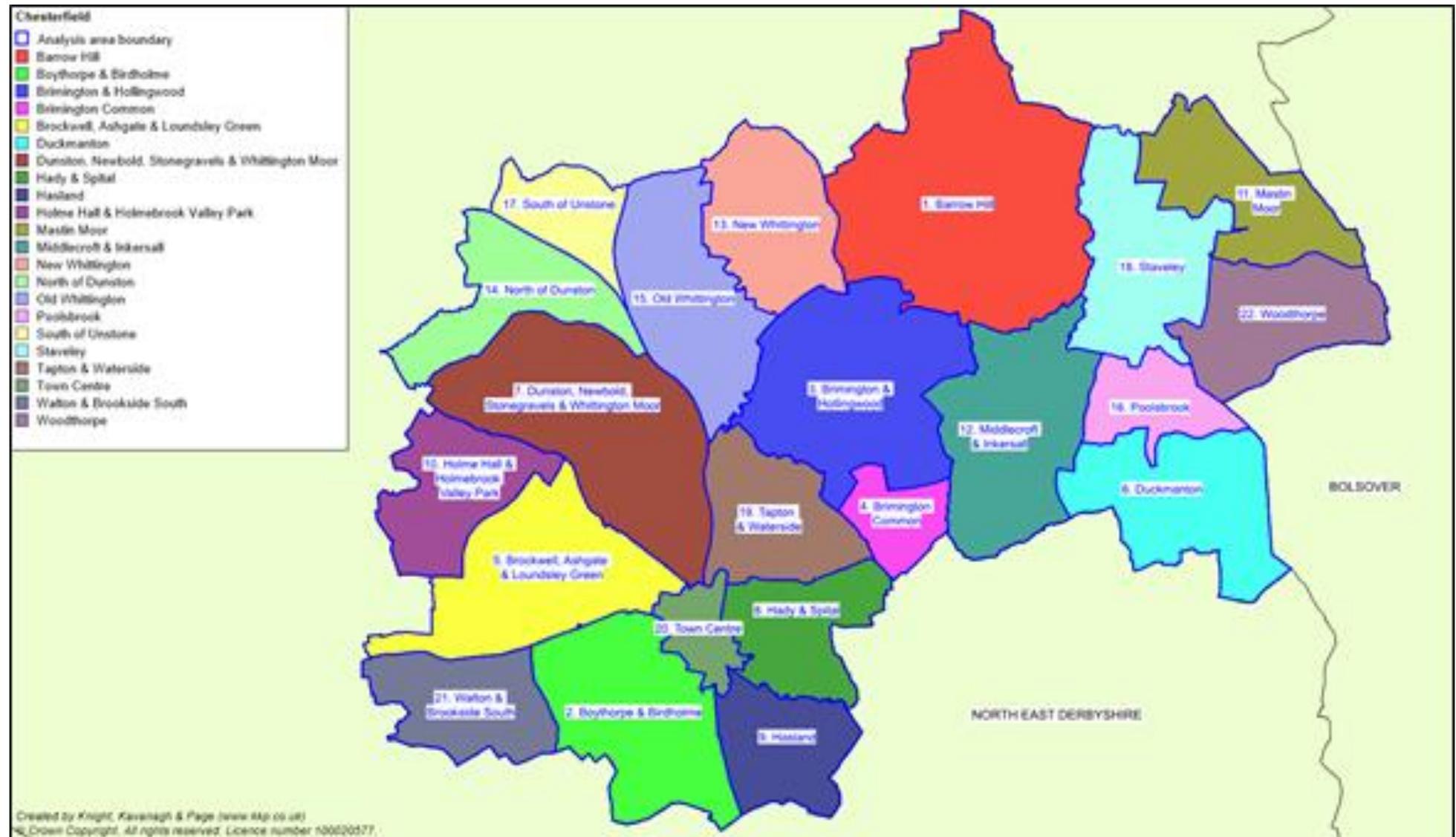
Section 3: Parks and Open Space Audits – our methodology

Analysis area and population

The whole of the Chesterfield Borough area is used for the purposes of mapping and initial audit analysis. The assessment splits Chesterfield into 22 analysis areas in order to provide a more detailed level of analysis and to help inform future requirements and any future parks and open space recommendations.

The 22 analysis areas are intended to reflect the recognisable places of the different areas of Chesterfield. These relate to the 19 Wards across Chesterfield. They also reflect known barriers to movement such as major roads (e.g. A61, A619 and A617), railways (e.g. Midland Main Line) and waterways (e.g. Chesterfield Canal and River Doe Lea). The map below shows the 22 analysis areas.

Figure 1 Analysis areas



Chesterfield is estimated to have a population of 104,440 (need to mark Office of national statistics and year – latest is 104,600 - 2019). This is used throughout the strategy to help calculate the current provision levels in hectares per 1,000 population. i.e. area of open space (in hectares) per 1000 people (head of population).

Population figures for each of the 22 analysis areas are set out in the table below. ONS Mid-Year 2016 figures at a Lower Super Output level are initially utilised. These are then allocated to reflect the number of residential dwellings located within one of the 22 analysis areas.

Analysis areas with estimated populations.

Analysis area	Estimated population
Barrow Hill	1,388
Boythorpe & Birdholme	12,715
Brimington & Hollingwood	9,851
Brimington Common	1,410
Brockwell, Ashgate & Loundsley Green	14,960
Duckmanton	1,067
Dunston, Newbold, Stonegravels & Whittington Moor	16,231
Hady & Spital	3,961
Hasland	7,416
Holme Hall & Holmebrook Valley Park	5,474
Mastin Moor	1,718
Middlecroft & Inkersall	7,462
New Whittington	4,385
North of Dunston	12
Old Whittington	4,108
Poolsbrook	1,037
South of Unstone	149
Staveley	3,028
Tapton & Waterside	1,529
Town Centre	544
Walton & Brookside South	5,498
Woodthorpe	497

Set out below is the methodology the Council used when assessing its parks and open spaces.

Auditing local provision

The assessments focussed on those sites that are publicly accessible (i.e. generally private sites or land, which people cannot access, are not included). The exception is for allotments which are not open to the general public, but which are used by members of the community. Sites are initially identified using existing mapping data from previous and related studies.

In accordance with best practice recommendations, a size threshold of 0.2 hectares is applied to the inclusion of some typologies within the study. Sites of a smaller size, particularly for the typologies of amenity parks and open space and natural and semi-natural parks and open space tend to have a different role. Often this is for visual purposes (e.g. small incremental grassed areas such as highway verges) and is therefore considered as offering less recreational use in comparison to other forms of open space. Subsequently sites below 0.2 hectares for these typologies are not audited.

Each site is classified based on its primary open space purpose, so that each type of space is counted only once. However, the multi-functional role and use of some types of open space is acknowledged. A total of 283 sites are identified and included within the study. The audit, and the report, utilise the following typologies in accordance with best practice:

- Parks and Gardens
- Natural and Semi natural green space
- Amenity parks and open space
- Provision for Children and young people
- Allotments
- Cemeteries/churchyards
- Green Corridors

All information relating to each open space is collated into a database.

Quality and value

Each type of open space (included within the sample audit) receives separate quality and value scores.

Quality and value are fundamentally different and can be unrelated. For example, a high-quality space may be inaccessible and, thus, be of little value; whereas a rundown (poor quality) space may be the only one in an area and thus be immensely valuable. As a result, quality and value are also treated separately in terms of scoring.

Analysis of quality

Data collated from site visits is initially based upon those derived from the Green Flag Award scheme (a national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, operated by Keep Britain Tidy). This is utilised to calculate a quality score for each site visited. Scores in

the database are presented as percentage figures. The quality criteria used for the open space assessments carried out for all open space typologies are summarised below:

- Physical access, e.g. public transport links, directional signposts,
- Personal security, e.g. site is overlooked, natural surveillance
- Access-social, e.g. appropriate minimum entrance widths
- Parking, e.g. availability, specific, disabled parking
- Information signage, e.g. presence of up to date site information, notice boards
- Equipment and facilities, e.g. adequacy and condition of provision such as seats, benches, bins, toilets
- Site problems, e.g. presence of vandalism, graffiti
- Healthy, safe and secure, e.g. fencing, gates, staff on site
- Maintenance and cleanliness, e.g. condition of general landscape & features
- Groups that the site meets the needs of, e.g. elderly, young people

Within the databases the criteria are weighted to reflect their level of importance to each different open space typology. For example, a greater presence and variety of ancillary facilities (e.g. seating, bins, paths, play equipment, landscaping, etc.) and their management is expected at a park than in comparison to an amenity parks and open space or other type of open space. This is intended to reflect the general role and use of each open space type.

Analysis of value

Site visit data plus desk-based research is calculated to provide value scores for each site identified. Value is defined in best practice guidance in relation to the following three issues:

- Context of the site i.e. its accessibility, scarcity value and historic value.
- Level and type of use.
- The wider benefits it generates for people, biodiversity, and the wider environment.

In addition, the NPPF refers to attributes to value such as beauty and attractiveness of a site, its recreational value, historic and cultural value and its tranquillity and richness of wildlife. These elements are all considered as part of the value scoring:

- Level of use (observations only), e.g., evidence of different user types (e.g. dog walkers, joggers, children) throughout day, located near school and/or community facility
- Context of site in relation to other open spaces and proximity to housing
- Structural and landscape benefits, e.g., well located, high quality defining the identity/ area
- Ecological benefits, e.g., supports/promotes biodiversity and wildlife habitats
- Educational benefits, e.g., provides learning opportunities on nature/historic landscapes
- Social inclusion and health benefits, e.g., promotes civic pride, community ownership and a sense of belonging; helping to promote physical and mental well-being
- Cultural and heritage benefits, e.g., historic elements/links (e.g. listed building, statues) and high-profile symbols of local area

- Amenity benefits and a sense of place, e.g., attractive places that are safe and well maintained; helping to create specific neighbourhoods and landmarks
- Economic benefits, e.g., enhances property values, promotes economic activity, and attracts people from near and far

Quality and value thresholds

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the results of the site assessments are 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 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 only national benchmark available for quality of parks and open spaces is the 66% pass rate for Green Flag. However, the Green Flag pass rate is not appropriate for every open space typology as it is designed to represent a sufficiently high standard of provision.

For example, a park would be expected to feature a greater presence and variety of ancillary facilities (e.g. seating, bins, paths, play equipment, landscaping, etc.) in comparison to an amenity parks and open space or other type of open space.

Furthermore, the 66% threshold for Green Flag is not appropriate as a different scoring mechanism is used (albeit the criteria for this study is derived from the categories used as part of Green Flag).

For each typology a different set or weighting for each criterion of quality is used. This is in order to better reflect the different roles and uses of each open space type. Consequently, a different threshold level is set for each open space typology.

In order to distinguish between higher and lower quality sites, the quality thresholds are set to reflect the average scores for each typology within the Borough. For example, the average of the 95 amenity parks and open space sites to receive a score is 64%. Consequently, the quality threshold is set at 60% (setting the threshold at 65% only provides a limited number of sites below the threshold and which does not reflect known sites of a lower quality). In our experience this works as an effective initial method to reflect local levels of provision and their variability.

Quality and Value thresholds by typology

Typology	Quality threshold	Value threshold
Parks and gardens	55%	20%
Natural and semi-natural parks and open space	40%	20%
Amenity parks and open space	60%	20%
Provision for children and young people	60%	20%
Allotments	50%	20%
Cemeteries/churchyards	60%	20%
Green corridors	60%	20%

For value, there is no national guidance on the setting of thresholds. The 20% threshold applied is derived from our experience and knowledge in assessing the perceived value of sites.

A high valued site is one deemed to be well used and offering visual, social, physical, and mental benefits. Value is also a more subjective measure than assessing the physical quality of provision. Therefore, a conservative blanket threshold of 20% is set. Whilst 20% may initially seem low - it is a relative score. One designed to reflect those sites that meet more than one aspect of the criteria used for assessing value (as detailed earlier). If a site meets more than one criterion for value it will score greater than 20%. Consequently, it is deemed to be of higher value.

Identifying local need

In the spring and early summer of 2018, the council undertook a consultation exercise to identify local need for open space provision. This was carried out via a combination of face-to-face meetings, surveys, and telephone interviews. An online community survey and a survey for children to complete were also hosted. These were promoted by the Council with 671 community survey responses and 236 children's survey responses being received.

The purpose of the surveys was to gather views of the public and highlight their opinions regarding the accessibility, amount, and quality of open spaces in Chesterfield. It helps to statistically support the audit assessment findings in relation to quality, quantity, and access of provision. This in turn helps to inform any future actions and recommendations for parks and open spaces in the borough.

The findings of the consultations are used, reviewed, and interpreted to further support the results of the quality and value assessment.

Travel and Access catchments

Accessibility catchments 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. For the purposes of this process, this problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchments', defined as the distance that would be travelled by the majority of users.

Catchment areas are overlaid on the mapping of sites to help identify potential gaps in provision. In effect these are circular 'as the crow flies' areas (radial catchments). They do not simulate actual walking distances based on pedestrian routes or barriers to movement. However, significant barriers to movement are also mapped to help recognise instances where access to open space provision may be restricted. The use of radial catchment areas is a common and accepted method to identify potential gaps in provision (as set out in best practice such as FIT and Companion Guidance to PPG17).

Results of the community survey have been used to set initial accessibility catchments. These are presented in Table 5 and are applied to help inform potential deficiencies in each form of open space provision.

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

Travel and Access catchments from respondents

Open space type		Accessibility catchment	Equivalent radial distance
Parks & Gardens		15-minute walk time	1,200m
		30-minute drive time to country parks	n/a
Natural & Semi-natural Parks and open space		15-minute walk time	1,200m
		30-minute drive time	n/a
Amenity Parks and open space		15-minute walk time	1,200m
Play areas & provision for young people	Children's play	15-minute walk time	1,200m
	Youth provision	15-minute walk time	1,200m
Allotments		15-minute walk time	1,200m
		15-minute drive time	n/a

Section 4: Open Space Assessment – audit results and analysis

Parks and gardens

This typology often covers urban parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide accessible high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. Country park sites may also provide opportunities and functions often associated with parks and should therefore be recognised within a parks section.

There are 20 sites classified as parks and gardens. This is an equivalent of over 111 hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and, as such, all known sites are included within the typology.

Parks overview

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	20	111.19	1.06

The largest site and biggest contributor to provision is Tapton Park (16.2 hectares). This is followed by Somersall Park (15.2 hectares). Other significant providers are Ringwood Park (9.8 hectares), Highfield Park (9.5 hectares) and Queens Park (8.7 hectares)

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Overall, Chesterfield has a current provision level of 1.06 hectares per 1,000 population which sufficiently surpasses the FIT suggested standard.

Country parks can be considered to offer a dual role. Sites predominantly provide opportunities linked with natural greenspace but also offer many features associated with parks provision. However, to ensure no double counting of sites they are classified within natural and semi-natural greenspace but recognised within the parks and gardens typology.

If the sites were to be included within the quantity of parks provision, due to their dual role, the current levels of provision would greatly increase. The provision levels for parks and gardens would still exceed the FIT suggested standard.

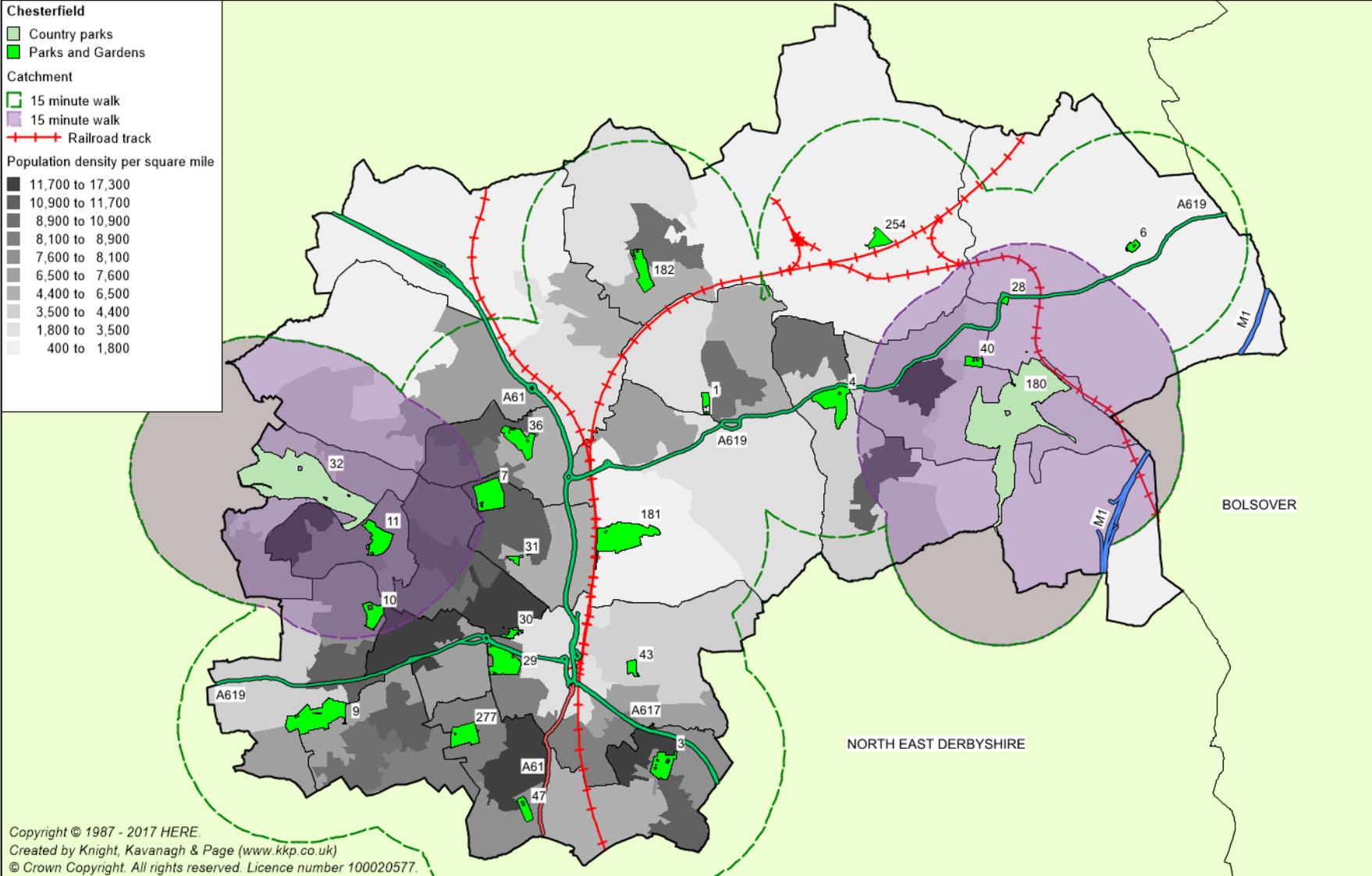
Parks overview (including country parks)

Analysis area	Parks and gardens (inc country parks)		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	22	241.01	2.31

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. No issue with regard to availability of parks is highlighted. Nearly half of respondents (45%) rate being quite satisfied with the how much parks provision exists. A further 27% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (9%) or very dissatisfied (8%).

The community survey found the most common mode of travel to access a park is by non-vehicle methods (e.g. walking, running etc). Over three quarters of respondents (77%) state they access a park by non-vehicle means. This is followed by 16% of respondents that identify accessing park provision via private car. A further 4% state accessing via cycling. The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 15 minutes (30%). This is closely followed by those willing to travel up to 10 minutes (26%). On this basis, a 15-minute walk (equivalent to 1,200m) has been applied to all parks to reflect the most popular walk time. The map below shows the catchment mapping. Country parks are also shown to reflect the dual role such forms of provision provide. Only a 15-minute walk time to the country parks is shown as the 30-minute drive time applied to country parks covers the whole of Chesterfield as well as surrounding local authorities. For this reason, the drive time catchment is not shown in the mapping.

Parks and gardens mapped against 15-minute walk time catchment



Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
1	Thistle Recreation Ground (Eastwood Rec)	60.3%	45.7%
3	Eastwood Park	80.4%	85.7%
4	Ringwood Park	62.7%	61.0%
6	Wickins Place Doorstep Green	59.9%	45.7%
7	Highfield Park	58.9%	50.5%
9	Somersall Park	72.0%	56.2%
10	Wasps Nest (Inkerman Playing Field)	54.7%	53.3%
11	Loundsley Green Park	43.9%	49.5%
28	Staveley Memorial Gardens	49.3%	43.8%
29	Queen's Park	82.3%	94.3%
30	Shentall Gardens	58.7%	41.9%
31	Abercrombie Community Park	55.0%	39.0%
36	Stand Road Recreation Ground	67.7%	61.9%
40	King George V Park	58.0%	60.0%
43	Valley Road Recreation Ground/Spital Park	49.9%	45.7%
47	Langerfield Park	54.8%	56.2%
181	Tapton Park	68.3%	52.4%
182	Brearley Park & Wetlands	56.9%	61.0%
254	Station Road Recreation Ground	58.0%	57.1%
277	Boythorpe Park	53.1%	52.4%

Some gaps in the 15-minute walk time catchment are initially highlighted to a few areas of the Borough including;

- Barrow Hill
- Brimington Common
- Ducknanton
- Mastin Moor
- North of Dunston
- Old Whittington
- South of Unstone
- Woodthorpe

In most instances these appear to be areas of low population density. In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Woodthorpe, Brimington and Hollingwood, Middlecroft and Inkersall.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of parks is highlighted. Nearly half of respondents (47%) rate being very satisfied with the how close parks provision is. A further 38% state they are quite satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (4%) or very dissatisfied (3%).

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by best practice); scores from site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table overleaf summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks. A threshold of 55% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Quality ratings for parks

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <55%	High ≥55%
Chesterfield	44%	61%	86%	42%	4	16

Over three quarters of parks provision (80%) is rated as being above the quality threshold. There are only four sites to rate below the quality threshold. It is worth acknowledging that most of the sites only just score below the quality threshold of 55%.

The four sites to rate below the threshold are:

- Langerfield Park (54.8%)
- Staveley Memorial Gardens (51.4%)
- Spital Park (49.9%)
- Loundsley Green Park (43.9%)

No specific quality issues are observed at the sites. The sites should not necessarily be considered as poor quality as scoring is a relative concept. The ratings therefore tell us that these four sites, in comparison to other park sites, are not considered as being of a similar level of quality.

There are 18 sites to rate above the threshold. The highest scoring sites are:

- Queen's Park (85.8%)
- Eastwood Park (80.4%)
- Somersall Park (72.0%)

- Tapton Park (68.3%)
- Stand Road Recreation Ground (67.7%)

The sites are generally identified as containing a range of ancillary features and facilities including play equipment (for a wide range of ages), sporting opportunities (i.e. football, cricket), wildlife promotion and other facilities such as toilets, café, and car parking. There are also active Friends Groups providing additional benefits to the quality and use of the site. In general, the overall appearance and maintenance at the sites is observed as excellent. The quality of the sites is reflective of Queens Park and Eastwood Park achieving Green Flag Award status.

Most respondents to the community survey are generally satisfied with the quality of parks provision. Over a third of respondents' rate quality as quite satisfactory (40%) with a further 19% rating provision as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (16%) or very dissatisfied (12%) with quality of parks.

Green Flag

The Green Flag Award scheme is licensed and managed by Keep Britain Tidy. It provides national standards for parks and greenspaces across England and Wales. Public service agreements identified by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) highlight the importance placed on Green Flag status as an indicator of high quality. This in turn impacts upon the way parks and gardens are managed and maintained.

A survey by improvement charity GreenSpace highlights that parks with a Green Flag Award provide more satisfaction to members of the public compared to those without it. Its survey of 16,000 park users found that more than 90% of Green Flag Award park visitors were very satisfied or satisfied with their chosen site, compared to 65% of visitors to non-Green Flag parks.

There are six sites in Chesterfield identified as achieving Green Flag Award status (2019/20). Two of these are identified as park sites. The Green Flag Award sites are:

- Eastwood Park
- Queen's Park

Other non-park Green Flag Award sites are:

- Chesterfield Crematorium
- Chesterfield Canal
- Holmebrook Valley Country Park
- Poolsbrook Country Park

To be successfully awarded a Green Flag, sites must be considered to be maintained and managed to a high standard. The work of both the Council maintenance team and the Friends of Groups located at sites are important to their continuing achievement.

To determine whether sites are high or low value the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for parks. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value scores for parks

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	39%	51%	90%	51%	0	20

All 20 sites score above the threshold for value. The four Green Flag Award sites are the highest rating parks for value:

- Queen’s Park (94.3%)
- Eastwood Park (85.7%)
- Brearley Park (61.0%)
- Stand Road Recreation Ground (57.1%)

This is likely in part to reflect the high quality of such sites but also their role in facilitating a range of educational, social and well-being benefits.

All parks provide opportunities for a range of users and demonstrate the high social inclusion, health benefits and sense of place that parks can offer. One of the key aspects of the value placed on parks provision is their ability to function as a multipurpose form of open space provision.

Parks provide opportunities for local communities and individuals to socialise and undertake a range of different activities, such as exercise, dog walking and taking children to the play area. Furthermore, parks can have ecological value, providing habitats for a variety of wildlife. Taking all this into account, parks and gardens are recognised as being heavily integrated into people’s everyday lives.

Natural and semi natural greenspace

The natural and semi-natural greenspace typology can include woodland and scrub, grassland, heath or moor, wetlands, wastelands, and bare rock habitats and commons. Such sites are often associated with providing wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

In total, 33 sites are identified as natural and semi-natural greenspace, totalling nearly 314 hectares of provision. A minimum site size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied. Sites smaller than this are assumed to be of less or only limited recreational value to residents. However, they may still make a wider contribution to local areas, in relation to quality of life and health and wellbeing.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace overview

Analysis area	Natural and semi-natural		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	33	313.80	3.00

The biggest contributor to natural and semi-natural provision is Poolsbrook Country Park at 73 hectares. Other noticeably large sites include Holmebrook Valley Country Park (57 hectares), Norbriggs Flash at 37 hectares, Netherthorpe Flash (29 hectares), West Wood (24 hectares) and Cobnar Wood (19 hectares)

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard for natural and semi-natural provision. Overall, Chesterfield has a current provision level of 3.00 hectares per 1,000 population. This sufficiently surpasses the FIT suggested standard.

It is important to recognise that other forms of open space such as parks and amenity greenspace may also provide opportunities and activities associated with natural and semi-natural greenspace.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. No issue with regard to availability of nature reserves, commons or woodlands is highlighted. Over two fifths of respondents (42%) rate being quite satisfied with how much natural provision exists. A further 25% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (10%) or very dissatisfied (4%).

A slightly greater proportion of respondents (47%) rate being quite satisfied with how much country parks provision exists. A further 28% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (6%) or very dissatisfied (3%).

Three sites identified as being designated as Local Nature Reserves (LNRs). These are:

- Bluebank Woods
- Brearley Wetlands
- Norbriggs Flash

All three are recognised for their habitats and wildlife promotion. A brief summary of each site is set out below.

Types of designation

Designation	Description
Bluebank Woods	An unusual feature is the oxbow pools created when the River Rother was straightened as part of the railway development. A variety of wildlife can be seen including voles, kingfishers, grass snakes etc.
Brearley Wetlands	Habitats on site include wet grasslands, hedgerows, and scrub. Specifics such as invertebrates and migrating birds may be seen.
Norbriggs Flash	Mosaic of species rich grassland, open water, surrounding reed beds and marginal aquatic vegetation. Site is important for wintering wading birds and wildfowl.

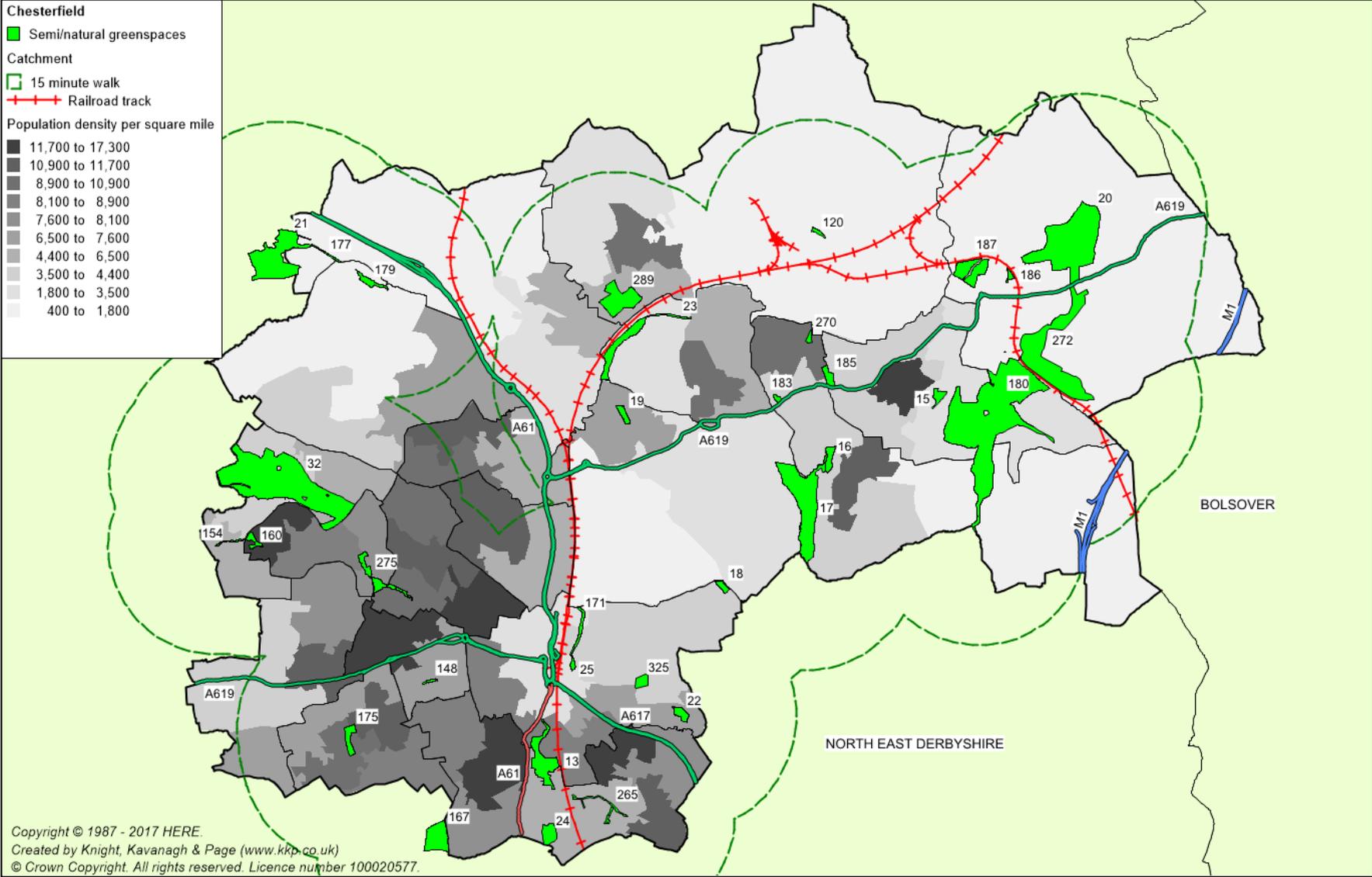
The community survey found the most common mode of travel to access a nature reserve, common or woodland is by private car (55%). This is followed by non-vehicle means (32%). A similar trend is also demonstrated for country parks; with 65% of respondents stating they access provision via private car.

The most common time willing to be travelled by respondents to access a nature reserve, common or woodland is up to 30 minutes (32%); followed by 15 minutes (22%). A similar trend is also demonstrated for country parks; with 36% of respondents stating they would travel up to 30 minutes.

On this basis, a 15-minute walk time and 30-minute drive time have been applied to natural and semi-natural greenspaces across Chesterfield. The map below shows the walk time catchment applied. A 30-minute drive time covers the whole of Chesterfield as well as surrounding local authorities. For this reason, it is not shown in the mapping.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace mapped against 15-minute walk time

Page 163



Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
13	Rother Recreation Ground & Washlands	64.6%	49.5%
15	Haddon Place	43.4%	42.1%
16	Land Adjacent to Bevan Drive	36.4%	38.9%
17	West Wood	54.5%	36.8%
18	Plover Wood	33.3%	37.9%
19	Wheeldonmill Planation	48.5%	33.7%
20	Norbriggs Flash	62.0%	55.8%
21	Cobnar Wood	39.4%	36.8%
22	Hady Plantation	29.3%	37.9%
23	Bluebank Wood	61.3%	50.5%
24	McGregor's Pond	55.9%	49.5%
25	Wakeley Recreation Ground	34.3%	33.7%
32	Holmebrook Valley Country Park	95.6%	58.9%
120	Campbell Drive Plantation	47.5%	35.8%
148	Sycamore Avenue	53.5%	35.8%
154	Off Langley Close	59.3%	30.5%
160	Tansley Drive Woodland	65.7%	50.5%
167	Gorsey Knowe	55.2%	37.9%
171	Riverside Park	63.6%	44.2%
175	Walton Plantation	54.5%	36.8%
177	Barlow Brook	36.4%	33.7%
179	Smeckley Wood Close	39.4%	34.7%
180	Poolsbrook Country Park	84.8%	68.4%
183	Land Adjacent Pear Tree Close	32.3%	26.3%
185	Troughbrook Wood	32.3%	41.1%
186	Pullman Close Plantation	41.4%	38.9%
187	Staveley Town Basin	52.5%	47.4%
265	Hasland Corridor	52.5%	33.7%
270	Land off Private Drive	30.3%	29.5%
272	Netherthorpe Flash	38.4%	38.9%
275	Purbeck Avenue/Penine Way	66.0%	40.0%
289	Brearley Wetland	53.5%	45.3%
325	Spital Park Woods	51.5%	37.9%

Gaps in the 15-minute walk time catchment are initially highlighted to a few areas of the Borough including;

- Barrow Hill
- Duckmanton
- Dunston, Newbold, Stonegravels and Whittington Moor
- New Whittington
- Walton and Brookside South

In most instances these appear to be areas of low population density. In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Duckmanton, South of Unstone and Woodthorpe.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to ‘closeness’ of natural sites is highlighted; 42% of respondents rate being quite satisfied with how close natural provision is. A further 30% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (8%) or very dissatisfied (3%).

Similarly, 44% of respondents rate being quite satisfied with how close country parks provision is. A further 31% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (7%) or very dissatisfied (2%).

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) scores from the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 40% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Quality ratings for natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <40%	High ≥40%
Chesterfield	29%	51%	96%	66%	11	22

Natural and semi-natural greenspace has a lower quality threshold than some other open space typologies such as parks. This is in order to reflect the wide-ranging characteristics of provision. For instance, some natural and semi-natural sites are intentionally without ancillary facilities as they focus on wildlife habitats whilst others are more centred on recreational use.

Of the natural and semi-natural provision assessed, a total of 22 sites (66%) rate above the threshold set for quality. There are 11 sites which rate below the quality threshold applied.

The lowest scoring sites are:

- Hady Plantation (29.3%)
- Land off Private Drive (30.3%)
- Land adjacent Pear Tree Close (32.3%)
- Troughbrook Wood (32.3%)
- Plover Wood (33.3%)

Sites scoring below the threshold for quality tend to lack basic ancillary features such as benches and bins. However, as previously mentioned, this can be due to their primary role as forms of habitat provision. However, they mainly score below the threshold due to an appearance of a lack of maintenance (narrow/overgrown pathways) which impacts on their access and usage.

Most sites scoring above the threshold are observed as being more attractive due to the perceived higher levels of maintenance and cleanliness as well as the recreational uses on offer.

The highest scoring sites are:

- Holmebrook Valley Country Park (95.6%)
- Poolsbrook Country Park (84.6%)
- Tansley Drive Woodland (69.7%)
- Norbriggs Flash (67.0%)
- Purbeck Avenue/Pennine Way (66.0%)
- Bluebank Wood (65.3%)

These sites are observed as having better maintained pathways, appropriate boundary fencing as well as good signage. All the above sites score well for overall maintenance and cleanliness, drainage, and pathways.

Holmebrook Valley Country Park is the highest scoring site. It is noted as containing a range of features and ancillary facilities (e.g. café, car parking, play equipment, sports provision etc). The sites high score is likely a reflection of its offer; as well as its status as a Green Flag Award site.

Quality of natural provision for most respondents to the community survey is generally satisfactory. Over half of respondents (51%) rate being quite satisfied with quality of nature reserves with a further 23% being very satisfied. Respondents also rate quality of country parks positively; with 50% rating quality as quite satisfactory and 25% rating it as very satisfactory.

Green Flag

There are six sites in Chesterfield identified as achieving Green Flag Award status (2019/20). Two of these are identified as natural and semi-natural sites:

- Holmebrook Valley Country Park
- Poolsbrook Country Park

Other non-natural Green Flag Award sites are:

- Chesterfield Crematorium
- Chesterfield Canal
- Eastwood Park
- Queen's Park

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value scores for natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	26%	41%	68%	42%	0	33

All of the assessed natural and semi-natural greenspace sites rate above the value threshold. The sites to rate the highest for value are:

- Poolsbrook Country Park (68.4%)
- Holmebrook Valley Country Park (58.9%)
- Norbriggs Flash (55.8%)
- Bluebank Wood (50.5%)
- Tansley Drive Woodland (50.5%)
- Rother Recreation Ground & Washlands (49.5%)
- Mc Gregor's Pond (49.5%)

Excluding McGregor’s Pond, the other sites listed above are also some of the highest scoring sites for quality. The high quality and value score for such sites is reflective of their role and importance to the local area.

Norbriggs Flash and Bluebank Wood are both designated as LNR’s. The former features an interpretation board about the site’s history and species; which adds to its onsite educational value. The other LNR site, Brearley Wetland, also rates highly for value with 45.3%. Rother Recreation Ground & Washlands scores highly for value. This is partly due to wide pathways and a cycle path enabling a range of users including wheelchair users to access the site. It also has small football goals on the grass area. Together these elements enhance the sites social, sport and recreation value.

Sites rating above the value threshold often demonstrate the added benefit natural and semi-natural greenspaces can provide especially in terms of contributing to flora and fauna promotion and habitat opportunities. There are only three natural sites with a LNR designation in place. This demonstrates the role and importance such sites provide especially in terms of natural provision. Prominent sites of this type can even act as a destination, attracting users from outside the local area.

Amenity greenspace

This is defined as sites offering opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas. It includes informal recreation spaces, housing green spaces, village greens and other incidental space.

There are 95 amenity greenspace sites in Chesterfield equivalent to over 93 hectares of provision. Sites are most often found within areas of housing and function as informal recreation space or open space providing a visual amenity. A number of recreation grounds and playing fields are also classified as amenity greenspace.

Amenity greenspace overview

Analysis area	Natural and semi-natural		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	95	93.31	0.89

A large proportion of provision may be considered as being smaller grassed areas or roadside verges. However, there is some variation of sites within this typology. For example, the smallest site is Land adjacent to Arklow Close at 0.18 hectares whilst the largest site is Hasland Hall Playing Fields at over 4.96 hectares. Larger recreation grounds and playing fields serve a different purpose to smaller grassed areas and verges; often providing an extended range of opportunities for recreational and sporting activities due to their size.

It is important to recognise the role of the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) with regard to such sites. Some playing fields and recreation grounds included within the Open Space Assessment will also be included within a PPS. These sites are covered by the Open Space Assessment to reflect the multi-functional role of such forms of provision.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Overall, Chesterfield has a current provision level of 0.89 hectares per 1,000 population which sufficiently surpasses the FIT suggested standard.

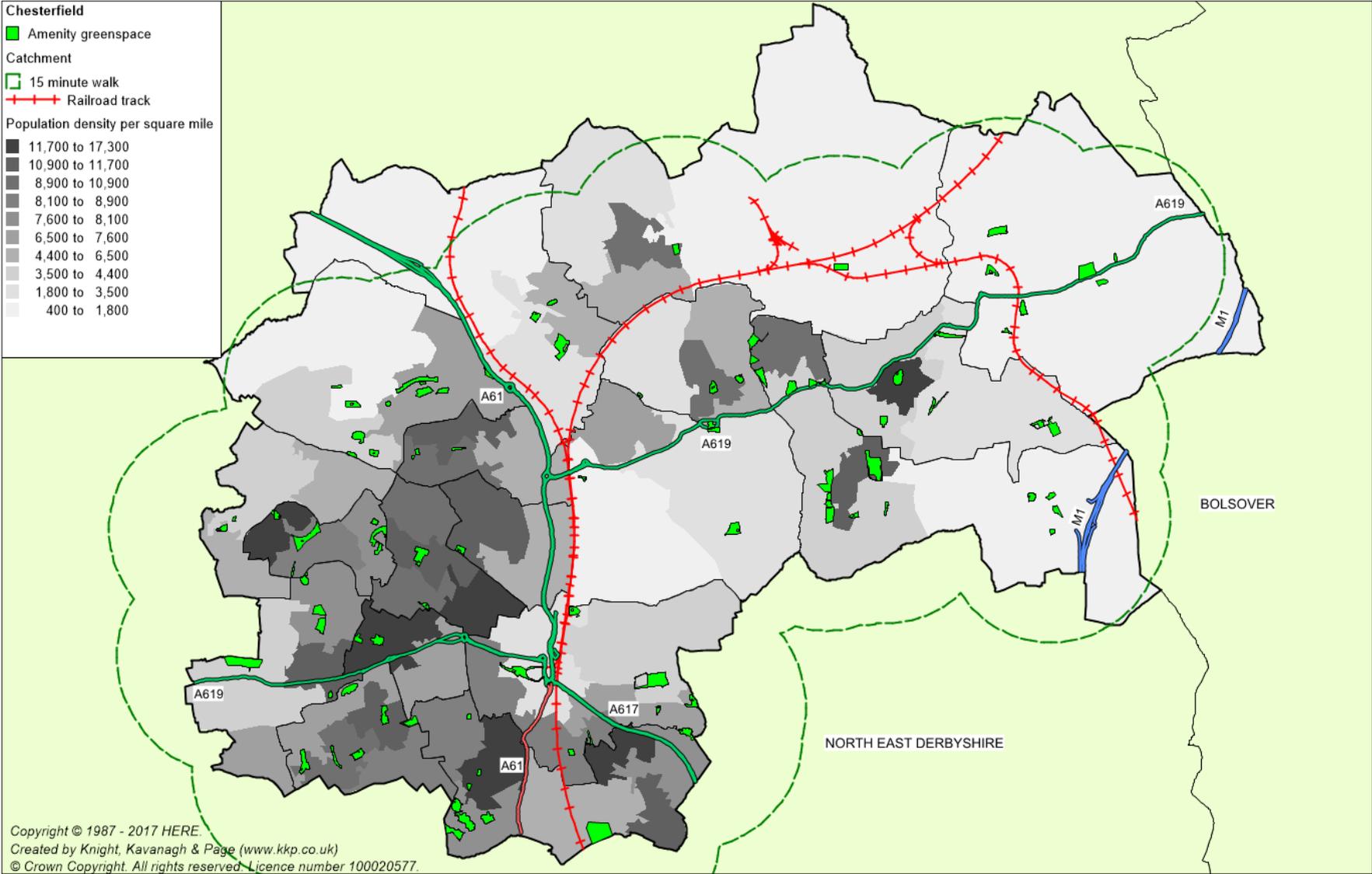
Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. Just over a third of respondents (37%) rate being quite satisfied with the how much amenity greenspace provision exists. A further 15% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (10%) or very dissatisfied (3%).

The community survey found the most common mode of travel to access an amenity greenspace is by non-vehicle methods (i.e. walking, running etc.). Nearly two thirds of respondents (62%) state they access an amenity greenspace by non-vehicle means. This is followed by 20% of respondents that identify accessing amenity greenspace provision via private car.

The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 10 minutes (23%) and up to 15 minutes (22%). A further 16% state they would travel up to 30 minutes. On this basis, a 15-minute walk (equivalent to 1,200m) has been applied to all amenity greenspace to reflect a significant proportion of respondents will walk up to 15 minutes. This is shown in map below.

Amenity greenspace mapped against 15-minute catchment

Page 171



Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
2	Badger Recreation Ground	66.3%	33.0%
5	Inkersall Green Playing Field	81.8%	52.1%
8	Hady Playing Field	65.8%	39.4%
34	Hartington Recreation Ground	61.0%	40.4%
35	Hilltop Road	59.9%	36.2%
37	BRSA Sports Ground, Station Road	50.8%	26.6%
38	Off Alpine Grove	63.1%	34.0%
41	Poolsbrook Recreation Ground	66.9%	41.5%
44	Manor Road Recreation Ground	79.1%	59.6%
51	Pearsons Recreation Ground	77.0%	41.5%
52	Netherleigh Road	87.2%	48.9%
53	Chester Street Recreation Ground (The Monkey Park)	67.4%	43.6%
114	Kendal Road Recreation Ground	59.4%	29.8%
115	Church Street	78.6%	44.7%
116	Wensley Way	59.0%	23.4%
117	Edinburgh Road	80.2%	46.8%
118	Poolsbrook Road	55.6%	40.4%
119	Newbridge Lane	65.8%	33.0%
121	Brushfield Recreation Ground	65.2%	48.9%
122	Markham Road Open Space	33.2%	22.3%
123	Bellmont Drive	75.9%	35.1%
124	The Pingles	74.3%	35.1%
125	Netherthorpe Recreation Ground	65.2%	35.1%
126	Land to West of St Philips Drive	63.1%	31.9%
127	Land at Cherry Tree Grove	67.4%	36.2%
128	Off Ravensdale Close	66.3%	38.3%
129	Peak View Road	65.8%	35.1%
130	Princess Street	67.0%	34.0%
131	Sheldon Road	65.8%	47.9%
132	Coniston Road and Rydal Close	74.3%	40.4%
133	Circular Road	71.3%	35.1%
134	Rockley Close	65.8%	35.1%
135	Moston Walk	66.3%	42.6%
136	Kirkstone Road	71.1%	46.8%

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
137	Hall Road	71.7%	39.4%
138	Cuttholme Road	70.6%	30.9%
139	Roecar Close Open Space	59.4%	28.7%
140	Woolgrove AGS	64.2%	37.2%
141	Land South of Coniston Road	60.4%	34.0%
142	Land Adjacent Kirkstone Road	59.9%	27.7%
143	Damon Drive	56.2%	36.2%
144	Thirlmere Road	73.8%	36.2%
145	Windermere Road	65.8%	34.0%
146	Somersby Avenue	64.7%	46.8%
147	Wingerworth Way Open Space	65.2%	34.0%
149	Land Adjacent Salisbury Avenue	67.4%	39.4%
150	Healthy Living Centre Open Space	64.2%	29.8%
151	Pevensey Green	80.2%	62.8%
152	Land Adjacent Newbold Road	77.0%	35.1%
153	Land South of Rydal Crescent	61.5%	34.0%
155	Haddon Close	69.5%	29.8%
156	Summerskill Green	75.0%	52.1%
157	Greenways	55.1%	23.4%
158	Elm Street	40.6%	21.3%
161	Gypsy Lane Amenity Area	43.3%	26.6%
162	Dovedale Avenue	57.8%	35.1%
163	Cottage Close	54.6%	28.7%
164	Spire Walk	63.6%	52.1%
165	Haddon Close 2 Amenity Space	69.0%	43.6%
166	Harehill Road	65.1%	34.0%
169	Lockoford Amenity Greenspace	68.6%	37.2%
170	St David's Rise	65.8%	36.2%
172	Barnes Road	65.2%	33.0%
173	Spital Lane Recreation Ground	61.0%	33.0%
197	Cavendish Place	59.9%	35.1%
209	North of Brookfield Avenue	56.2%	27.7%
219	Land Adjacent Stubbing Road	73.8%	42.6%
226	Land off Kingsley Avenue	66.8%	42.6%
227	Land Adjacent Baines Wood Close	54.6%	28.7%
233	Land North of Albert Street North	72.7%	31.9%
240	Land Adjacent Grindlow Avenue	64.2%	40.4%

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
245	Glencoe Way	61.0%	33.0%
248	Land Adjacent B6039	75.9%	26.6%
249	Land adjacent to Arklow Close	68.5%	31.9%
251	Norbriggs Playing Field	71.7%	34.0%
252	Hassop Road Amenity Space	75.6%	43.6%
255	Albert Road Amenity Greenspace	52.4%	35.1%
258	Pennine Way Amenity Greenspace	69.0%	36.2%
259	Loundsley Green Road Amenity Space	67.9%	47.9%
260	Brushfield Road Amenity Greenspace	66.8%	36.2%
263	Walton Dam Pitches North	50.1%	30.9%
267	Heathcote Drive	77.0%	40.4%
269	Crow Lane Amenity Space	72.0%	52.1%
271	Westwood Drive Amenity Space	62.0%	39.4%
273	East Crescent North	50.3%	29.8%
274	East Crescent West	67.9%	35.1%
283	Madin Drive/Bradshaw Road	62.6%	39.4%
284	Kinder Road	63.1%	34.0%
285	Madin Drive/Jarvis Place	55.6%	34.0%
286	Maple Street	50.3%	23.4%
287	Land South of Maple Street	71.7%	33.0%
288	Land North of Sycamore Road	47.1%	20.2%
326	Hasland Hall Playing Fields	48.7%	45.7%
328	Norbriggs Road	48.1%	24.5%
332	Brampton Rec	44.4%	28.7%
333	Boythorpe AGS*		

Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of amenity greenspace provision across the area; the majority of areas with a higher population density are being served by a catchment of an amenity greenspace. However, gaps in the 15-minute walk time catchments are initially highlighted to a few areas of the Borough; most noticeably Barrow Hill and South of Unstone.

In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Barrow Hill and Woodthorpe. The Strategy will explore in more detail the potential gaps in provision on an analysis area basis.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. Over a third (37%) rate being quite satisfied with how close amenity greenspace provision is. A further 22% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (5%) or very dissatisfied (2%).

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance); the scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspaces. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Quality ratings for amenity greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <60%	High ≥60%
Chesterfield	33%	65%	87%	57%	26	69

A total of 73% of assessed amenity greenspace sites rate above the threshold for quality.

The highest scoring sites for are:

- Netherleigh Road (aka Manor Fields) (87.2%)
- Inkersall Green Playing Field (81.8%)
- Pevensey Green (80.2%)
- Edinburgh Road (80.2%)

The sites are observed as having high standards of maintenance and cleanliness, resulting in a good overall appearance. In addition, they provide sufficient security levels, bins, signage and pathways.

Netherleigh Road is the highest scoring site. It has a noticeboard, appropriate fencing and a good supply of benches and bins. It is well used especially by dog walkers. This site is managed by volunteers at the Manor Fields Association.

Similarly, Pevensey Green is maintained by the Friends of Pevensey Green. The site is observed as very neat and well-maintained with benches and bins. Despite this, consultation with the Group identify that the site is plagued by dog fouling and occasional vandalism. The site seems well used by locals and dog walkers.

Edinburgh Road and Inkersall Green Playing Field benefit from play areas which add to their quality and value. The latter also has a MUGA. Edinburgh Road also has a noticeboard about upcoming events; evidencing a level of community involvement and use.

Larger amenity greenspace sites such as recreation grounds and playing fields often lend themselves to greater sporting and recreational opportunities such as football. These opportunities as well as other added features on site, such as good quality play areas, provide increased reasons for people to visit such provision. Consequently, the quality of such sites is often to a higher standard. Of the sites highlighted as a recreation ground or playing field, 11 out of the 13 (85%) are rated as being above the quality threshold.

Some of the lowest scoring amenity greenspace sites are:

- Markham Road Open Space (33.2%)
- Elm Street (40.6%)
- Gypsy Lane Amenity Area (43.3%)
- Land North of Sycamore Road (47.1%)
- Hasland Hall Playing Fields (48.7%)

These sites all lack ancillary features such as bins and benches. They mainly score low due to a generally poorer level of appearance and perceived maintenance. For example, Hasland Hall Playing Fields has damaged fencing and very long grass. It has no specific paths but does seem reasonably used by dog walkers and contains a spacious grass area with a running track and rounders area.

Markham Road Open Space is observed as poorly maintained with overgrown grassed areas and unkept paths. The paths are narrow in parts with evidence of misuse (i.e. broken glass). Similarly, Elm Street is observed as having overgrown grass and thorns encroaching onto the pathways as well as appearing to be generally less well maintained.

Most respondents to the community survey are generally satisfied with the quality of amenity greenspace provision. Over a third of respondents' rate quality as quite satisfactory (37%) with a further 12% rating provision as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (7%) or very dissatisfied (4%) with the quality of amenity greenspace.

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value ratings for amenity greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	15%	32%	60%	45%	6	89

Nearly all amenity greenspaces (94%) rate above the threshold for value. The highest scoring sites are:

- Manor Road Recreation Ground (59.6%)
- Pevensey Green (57.4%)
- Inkersall Green Playing Field (52.1%)
- Spire Walk (52.1%)
- Summerskill Green (52.1%)
- Crow Lane (52.1%)

These sites scoring high for value also score high for quality. They all appear well used, providing social and health benefits with suitable ancillary facilities to enable a wider range of people to use. Manor Road Recreation Ground and Inkersall Green Playing Field contain football goals, enhancing sport and recreation opportunities. Crow Lane and Spire Walk also feature play provision; further added to their appeal and social interaction benefits.

There are six sites to rate below the value threshold. These include:

- Land North of Sycamore Road (14.9%)
- Elm Street (16.0%)

- Markham Road Open Space (17.0%)
- Greenways (18.1%)
- Maple Street (18.1%)
- Wensley Way (18.1%)

The sites are all observed as being poorly maintained with a lack of pathways and other ancillary facilities. There is perceived to be little use of these sites. All six also rate below the threshold for quality.

Amenity greenspace should be recognised for its multi-purpose function, offering opportunities for a variety of leisure and recreational activities. It can often accommodate informal recreational activity such as casual play and dog walking. Many sites are likely to offer a dual function and are amenity resources for residents as well as being visually pleasing. These attributes add to the quality, accessibility, and visibility of amenity greenspace. Combined with the presence of facilities (e.g. benches, landscaping, and trees) this means that the better-quality sites are likely to be more respected and valued by the local community.

Provision for children and young people

This type of provision includes areas designated primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.

Provision for children is deemed to be sites consisting of formal equipped play facilities typically associated with play areas. This is usually perceived to be for children under 12 years of age. Provision for young people can also include equipped sites that provide more robust equipment catering to older age ranges. It can include facilities such as skate parks, BMX, basketball courts, youth shelters and Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs).

A total of 81 sites are identified in Chesterfield as provision for children and young people. This combines to create a total of more than five hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all known provision is identified and included within the audit.

Provision for children and young people overview

Analysis area	Provision for children and young people		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	81	5.17	0.05

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Overall, Chesterfield has a current provision level of 0.05 hectares per 1,000 population based on equipped play areas. However, there are instances where the surrounding open space of the site in which the play provision is located will also contribute to the play offer. If such sites are also included in the calculation, then a total of 37.17 hectares is identified; an equivalent to 0.36 hectares per 1,000 population.

There are a number of sites providing specific provision catering for older age ranges. In total there are seven sites recognised as offering substantial provision such as skate parks for older ages. These include:

- Eastwood Park
- Wickins Place
- Loundsley Green
- Stand Road
- Chesterfield Skate Park
- Brearley Park
- Station Road (Barrow Hill)

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. A quarter (25%) rate being quite satisfied with how many play areas for young people exists. A further 11% state they are very satisfied. However, a combined 26% state they are quite dissatisfied (13%) or very dissatisfied (13%).

For teenage provision, a total of 57% of respondents had no opinion. A slightly greater proportion of respondent's rate being quite dissatisfied (10%) or very dissatisfied (7%) compared to those that are quite satisfied (9%) or very satisfied (6%).

The community survey found that the most common mode of travel to access play areas for children is by non-vehicle methods (i.e. walking, running etc).

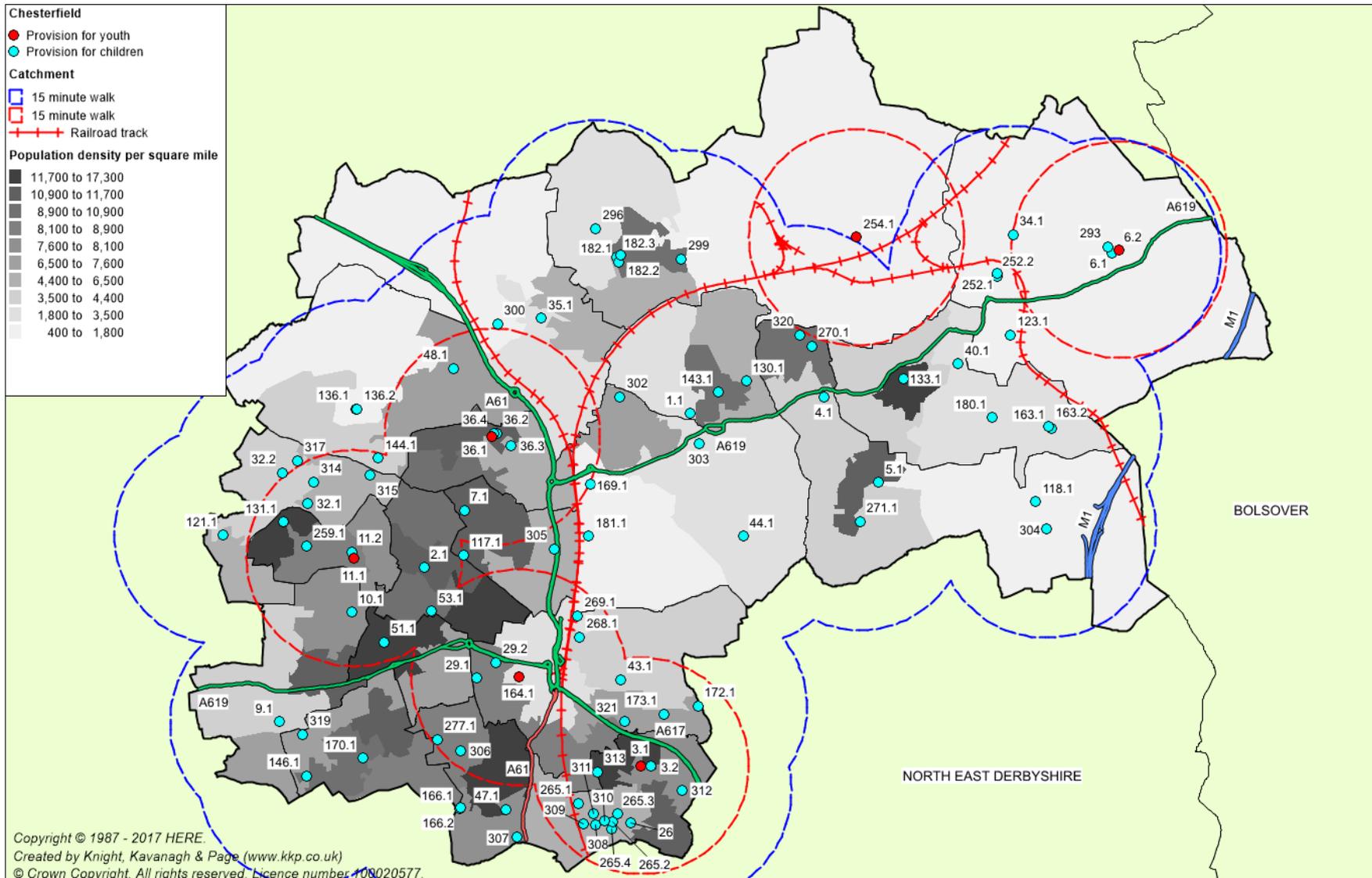
Nearly half of respondents (49%) state they access a play area by non-vehicle means. This is followed by 18% of respondents that identify accessing play areas for children via private car.

The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 15 minutes (20%) and up to 10 minutes (19%). On this basis, a 15-minute walk has been applied to all play areas for children to reflect the most popular walk time.

Respondents to the survey also highlight that for provision catering for older ages (i.e. teenagers), the most popular mode of travel to access such provision is by non-vehicle means (12%) followed by private car (10%). The most common times to travel in order to access provision for teenagers are 15 minutes (9%), 30 minutes (8%) and 10 minutes (6%). Consequently, a 15-minute walk time to provision for teenagers is applied to the mapping to reflect the average travel time from respondents. This is shown in the map below.

Provision for children and young people mapped against catchments

Page 181



A single quality and value score are attributed at sites where more than one form of play provision is identified.

Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
1.1	Thistle Park	76.8%	78.2%
2.1	Badger Play Area	61.8%	50.9%
3.1	Eastwood Park Play Area	88.6%	81.8%
3.2	Eastwood Park MUGA		
4.1	Ringwood Park	69.3%	72.7%
5.1	Inkersall Green	80.4%	89.1%
6.1	Wickins Place 2	62.7%	81.8%
6.2	Wickins Place 1		
7.1	Highfield Park play area and MUGA	62.4%	87.3%
9.1	Somersall Park Play Area	55.6%	74.5%
10.1	Wasps Nest	66.7%	83.6%
11.1	Loundsley Green skate park and MUGA	70.9%	85.5%
11.2	Loundsley Green play area		
26	Kirby Close Play Area	67.6%	16.4%
29.1	Queens Park Play Area	80.1%	89.1%
29.2	Queens Park Play Area 2		
32.1	Holmebrook Valley Park Play Area 1	66.7%	87.3%
32.2	Holmebrook Valley Park Play Area 2	89.9%	83.6%
34.1	Hartington Recreation Ground	62.1%	49.1%
35.1	Hilltop Road Play Area	81.4%	80.0%
36.1	Stand Road Skate Park	80.1%	87.3%
36.2	Stand Road Play Area		
36.4	Stand Road MUGA		
36.3	Stand Road Play Area 2	73.5%	85.5%
40.1	King George V Play Area	60.8%	74.5%
43.1	Valley Road	61.1%	74.5%
44.1	Manor Road Recreation Ground Play Area	81.7%	85.5%
47.1	Langerfield Park MUGA	80.4%	89.1%
48.1	Chesterfield Panthers Rugby Club MUGA	76.5%	85.5%
51.1	Pearsons Recreation Ground Play Area	52.9%	20.0%

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
53.1	Chester Street Recreation Ground Play Area	69.3%	81.8%
117.1	Edinburgh Road Play Area	91.2%	90.9%
118.1	Poolsbrook Road Play Area	54.9%	78.2%
121.1	Brushfield Recreation Ground	66.7%	83.6%
123.1	Bellmont Drive Play Area	69.6%	83.6%
130.1	Princess Street Play Area	54.2%	50.9%
131.1	Sheldon Road Play Area	54.2%	70.9%
133.1	Circular Road Play Area	68.3%	87.3%
136.1	Kirkstone Road Play Area	63.7%	81.8%
136.2	Kirkstone Road Play Area MUGA		
143.1	Damon Drive Play Area	67.6%	72.7%
144.1	Thirlmere Road Play Area	56.9%	80.0%
146.1	Stanford Way Play Area	88.2%	83.6%
163.1	Cottage Close Play Area 1	64.7%	81.8%
163.2	Cottage Close Play Area 2	56.9%	74.5%
164.1	Chesterfield Skate Park	62.4%	80.0%
166.1	Harehill Road Play Area	71.9%	85.5%
166.2	Harehill Road MUGA		
169.1	Lockoford Play Area	57.8%	38.2%
170.1	St Davids Rise Play Area	53.9%	41.8%
172.1	Barnes Road Play Area	67.6%	70.9%
173.1	Spital Lane Play Area	80.7%	70.9%
180.1	Poolsbrook Country Park	85.3%	72.7%
181.1	Tapton Park Play Area	53.6%	69.1%
182.1	Brearley Park Play Area	81.0%	78.2%
182.2	Brearley Park Skate Park		
182.3	Brearley Park MUGA		
252.1	Hassop Road	69.0%	87.3%
252.2	Hassop Road MUGA		
254.1	Station Road (Barrow Hill) play area and MUGA	70.6%	90.9%
259.1	Carsington Way	73.2%	72.7%
265.1	Knighton Close Play Area	74.8%	16.4%
265.2	Oadby Drive 1	61.8%	16.4%
265.3	Seagrave Drive	59.2%	34.5%
265.4	Harcourt Close	60.8%	69.1%

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
268.1	Wain Avenue	55.9%	36.4%
269.1	Crow Lane MUGA	66.3%	89.1%
270.1	Private Drive Play Area	80.4%	85.5%
271.1	Westwood Drive	51.3%	23.6%
277.1	Whitecotes Playing Field Play Area	71.6%	81.8%
293	Howells Place	51.6%	21.8%
296	Coupland Close	54.9%	43.6%
299	Devonshire Avenue Play Area	53.9%	70.9%
300	Holland Road	59.2%	72.7%
302	Windmill Way	75.5%	72.7%
303	Nethercroft LAP (Lark's Rise)	59.8%	40.0%
304	West Crescent Play Area	82.4%	90.9%
305	Canal Wharf Play area and MUGA	68.3%	83.6%
306	Whitecotes Park Play Area	58.8%	21.8%
307	Staunton Close	58.8%	20.0%
308	Bradgate Croft	64.7%	16.4%
309	Oadby Drive 3	65.4%	16.4%
310	Oadby Drive 2	69.9%	16.4%
311	Rempstone Drive	68.6%	61.8%
312	Heather Vale Road Play Area	76.5%	74.5%
313	Durley Chine	67.0%	50.9%
314	Parkside View	65.7%	18.2%
315	Stoops Close	50.3%	18.2%
317	Priestfield Gardens	62.7%	67.3%
319	Foxbrook Drive	58.8%	14.5%
320	Juniper Close	62.7%	20.0%
321	Rose Garth Close	55.9%	18.2%

Gaps in the 15-minute walk time catchments are initially highlighted to a few areas of the Borough; most noticeably Barrow Hill and South of Unstone.

There several gaps in provision catering for older age ranges. This is particularly noticeable to the eastern areas of the Borough.

In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Brockwell, Ashgate and Loundsley Green and Woodthorpe. There is generally a good spread of play provision across the area.

Greater population density areas are shown to be served by some form of play provision.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space is in the area. Over a quarter of respondents (26%) rate being very satisfied with the how close play areas for young children is. A further 29% state they are quite satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (6%) or very dissatisfied (4%).

Similar to responses for quantity, most (59%) had no opinion regarding teenage provision. There are 10% of respondents very satisfied and 11% as quite satisfied with the closeness of teenage provision. This is compared to those respondents which rate being either quite dissatisfied (6%) or very dissatisfied (5%). The results are likely a reflection to the role and use of such provision to older aged respondents.

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for play provision for children and young people. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Quality ratings for provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <60%	High ≥60%
Chesterfield	50%	67%	91%	41%	23	69

Overall, 75% of play sites rate above the quality threshold. There are however 23 sites which rate below the threshold.

Of the 23 sites to rate below the threshold, 18 are considered to be akin to localised areas of play (LAPs). These are generally small forms of play provision with often a limited range of equipment.

This links to a wider trend with observations from the site visit audit highlighting a number of sites with a lack of equipment. There are 25 sites noted as having a lack of equipment. In some instances, sites contain a single piece of equipment such as a springy or static play piece. Not all sites noted as having a lack of equipment rate below the quality threshold. However, the range and diversity of equipment at a site influences its quality and potential level of use. Consequently, sites with a limited scope of equipment are more likely to rate lower for quality and value.

In addition, site visit observations also highlight a tired and dated appearance at some play sites. There are 16 play sites with audit comments signalling the play equipment or the site in general to appear old and dated. For example, across the stock there are several sites which have old safety tile surfaces (the surface of choice for most play sites now tends to be wet pore or similar). Given the age of some of these surfaces, shrinkage and gapping is highlighted at several sites. These can present potential trip hazards.

Some of the lower scoring sites for quality are:

- Stoops Close (50.3%)
- Westwood Drive (51.3%)
- Howells Place (51.6%)
- Pearsons Recreation Ground Play Area (52.9%)

The example sites (above) are all identified as containing single pieces of play equipment. This is generally perceived as being of poor quality. In addition, surface quality, ancillary features (e.g. bins and seating) and site cleanliness all score low.

The majority of sites do however rate above the threshold. Some of the highest scoring sites include:

- Edinburgh Road Play Area (91.2%)
- Holmebrook Valley Park Play Area 2 (89.9%)
- Eastwood Park Play Area (88.6%)
- Poolsbrook Country Park (87.3%)

These sites are all noted as having a good range and imaginative forms of equipment catering for different ages. In addition, the equipment is in great condition as are the other features on site such as seating and bins. Sites such

as Eastwood and Poolsbrook contain outdoor gym equipment which further adds to their offer and appeal. The former also has a relatively new skate park facility.

Proportionally the larger play sites tend to score higher for quality. This is often due to a wider variety of equipment being present which caters towards a greater range of age groups. Such sites are also likely to be linked with additional ancillary facilities such as car parking, toilets, and refreshments.

Most respondents to the community survey are slightly negative with the quality of play areas for children. A total of 20% view quality as very dissatisfactory with a further 15% rating provision as quite dissatisfactory. There is a smaller proportion of respondents that are either quite satisfied (22%) or very satisfied (9%). The responses for teenage provision are more mixed. There are 6% quite dissatisfied and 8% very dissatisfied. Conversely, there are 10% of respondents who are quite satisfied and 5% very satisfied. More than half of respondents (61%) have no opinion.

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table overleaf summarises the results of the value assessment for children and young people. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value ratings for provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	15%	63%	91%	76%	11	81

Nearly all play sites (88%) rate above the threshold for value. This demonstrates the important role play provision provides in allowing children to play but also the contribution sites make in terms of giving children and young people safe places to learn, for physical and mental activity, to socialise with others and in creating aesthetically pleasing local environments.

There are 11 sites to rate below the threshold for value. These are all identified as being sites containing only a single piece of equipment. Three of these sites also rate below the threshold for quality:

- Foxbrook Drive (14.5%)
- Stoops Close (18.2%)
- Rose Garth Close (18.2%)

High valued sites tend to reflect the size and amount as well as range of provision present. This often means sites are more popular and well used. Diverse equipment caters to a greater range of ages. Furthermore, such sites often provide added value in terms of healthy, active lifestyles, social inclusion and interaction between individuals whilst also adding to developmental and educational benefits.

Sites scoring particularly high for value tend to reflect the size and amount/range and role of equipment present on site. Some of the highest scoring sites for value are:

- Poolsbrook Country Park (90.9%)
- Station Road (Barrow Hill) (90.9%)
- West Crescent Play Area (90.9%)
- Crow Lane (89.1%)
- Inkersall Green (89.1%)
- Langerfield Park (89.1%)
- Queens Park (89.1%)

The three highest scoring sites for value are all observed as containing a variety of equipment. For example, Poolsbrook Country Park has a range of equipment including outdoor gym equipment; Station Road (Barrow Hill) features play equipment, a MUGA and a youth shelter; West Crescent Play Area has an extensive amount of equipment including a number of educational play panels with different languages.

Diverse equipment to cater for a range of ages is also essential. More specifically, provision such as skate park facilities and MUGAs are highly valued forms of play. Sites containing such forms of provision often tend to rate higher for value.

It is also important to recognise the benefits of play in terms of healthy, active lifestyles, social inclusion, and interaction between children plus its developmental and educational value. The importance of play and of children's rights to play in their local communities is essential.

Allotments

Allotments are a typology which covers open spaces that provide opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health, and social interaction. This includes provision such as allotments, community gardens and city farms.

There are 33 sites classified as allotments in Chesterfield, equating to over 40 hectares.

Distribution of allotment sites by analysis area

Analysis area	Provision for Allotments		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	33	40.35	0.39

The largest forms of allotment provision are Grove Allotments at 3.49 hectares and Highfield Allotments at 3.27 hectares.

The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (20 per 2,000 people based on two people per house or one per 100 people). This equates to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 populations based on an average plot-size of 250 square metres (0.025 hectares per plot).

As a whole, Chesterfield, based on its current population (104,440) meets the NSALG standard. Using this suggested standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision is 26 hectares. Existing provision of 40 hectares therefore meets this guideline.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. Just over half of respondents (50%) had no opinion on this. Excluding this, a greater proportion of respondents (16%) are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with how much allotments exists. There are 18% of respondents that state being quite satisfied with how much provision exist. A further 8% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either

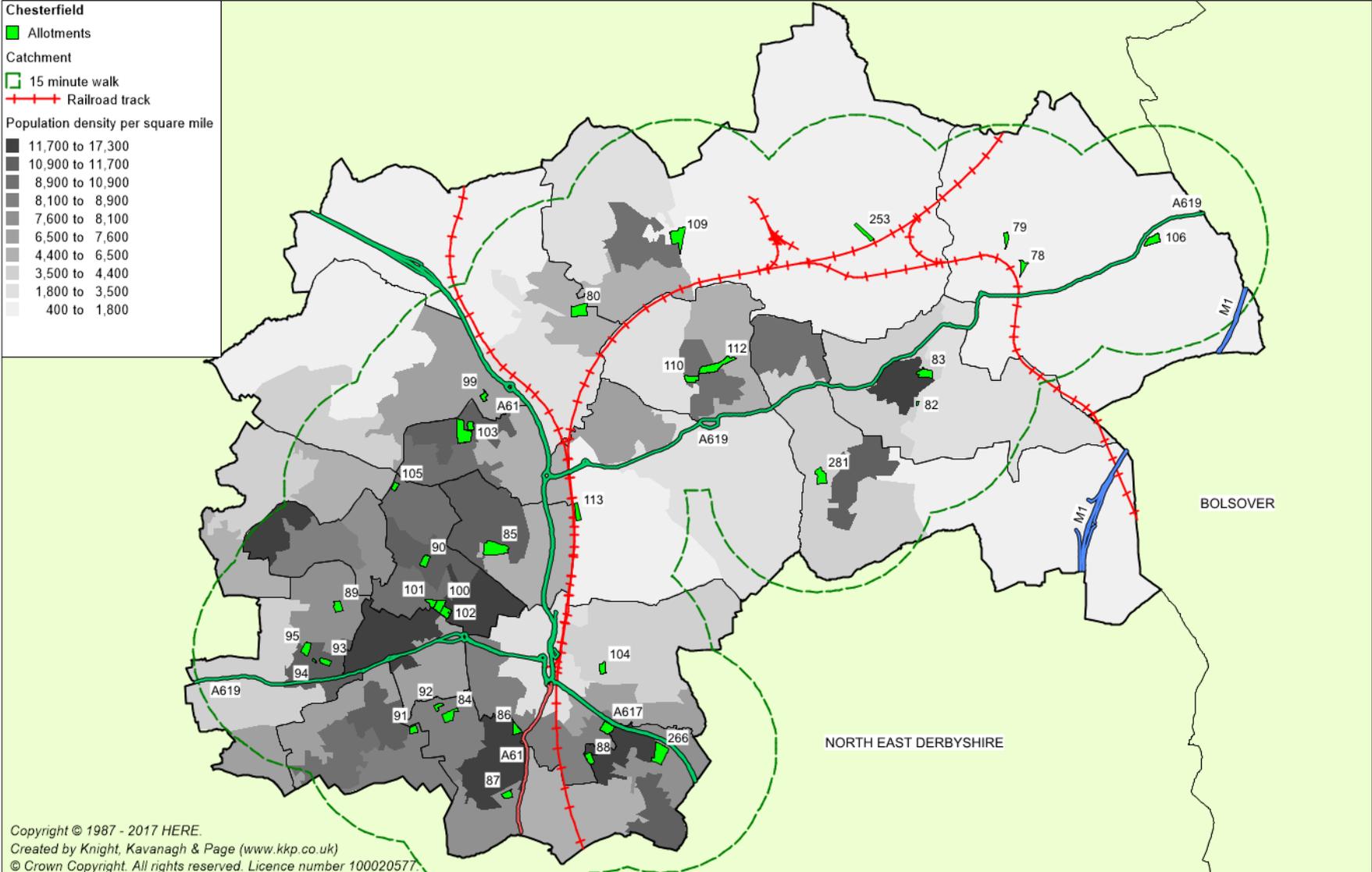
quite dissatisfied (6%) or very dissatisfied (2%). The low response figures are reflective of the niche use of allotments to the wider public.

The community survey found the most common modes of travel to access an allotment is by non-vehicle methods (i.e. walking, running etc) (16%) and by private car (13%).

The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 10 minutes (11%) and up to 15 minutes (14%). On this basis, a 15-minute walk time (equivalent to 1,200m) and drive time have been applied to all allotments to reflect the most popular mode and travel times. This is shown in the map below.

Allotments mapped against 15-minute walk time catchment

Page 191



Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality Score	Value score
78	Bellhouse Allotments	56.7%	25.6%
79	Hartington Allotments	54.4%	26.7%
80	Old Whittington Allotments	53.3%	27.8%
82	Calver Crescent Allotments	54.4%	25.6%
83	Middlecroft Allotments	60.0%	31.1%
84	Boythorpe Allotments	56.7%	27.8%
85	Highfield Allotments	57.8%	22.2%
86	St Augustine's Allotments	61.1%	27.8%
87	Hunloke Community Gardens	62.2%	48.9%
88	Storforth Lane Terrace Allotments	55.6%	28.9%
89	Ashgate Allotments	63.3%	28.9%
90	Brockwell Allotments	58.9%	24.4%
91	Off Hunloke Avenue Allotments	56.7%	23.3%
92	Rufford Close Allotments	60.0%	33.3%
93	Off Rhodesia Road Allotments	58.9%	22.2%
94	Quarry Lane Allotments	51.1%	21.1%
95	Old Road Allotments	65.6%	23.3%
99	Avenue Road Allotments (St John's Road)	58.9%	32.2%
100	Goldwell No 1 Allotments	65.6%	30.0%
101	Goldwell No 2 Allotments	67.8%	41.1%
102	Fairplay Community Garden	61.1%	26.7%
103	Grove Allotments (Stand Road)	57.8%	27.8%
104	Hady Hill Allotments	52.2%	25.6%
105	Littlemoor Allotments	58.9%	24.4%
106	Mastin Moor Community Garden	73.3%	55.6%
107	Penmore Allotments (Penmore Lane)	58.9%	30.0%
109	New Whittington Allotments	51.1%	27.8%
110	Coronation Road Allotments	61.1%	26.7%
112	King Street Allotments	61.1%	32.2%
113	Swaddale Allotments	35.6%	8.9%
253	Barrow Hill Allotments (Station Road)	51.1%	25.6%
266	Ashfield Road Allotments	68.9%	33.3%
281	Inkersall Allotments	53.3%	32.2%

The map above shows the distribution of allotment sites across the area against the 15-minute walk time catchment. A 15-minute drive time covers the whole of Chesterfield as well as some neighbouring local authorities. For this reason, it is not mapped.

Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of allotments provision across the area; most areas with a higher population density are being served by a catchment of an allotment. However, gaps in the 15-minute walk time catchments are initially highlighted to a few areas of the Borough including:

- Barrow Hill
- Duckmanton
- Holme Hall and Holmebrook Valley Park
- North of Dunston
- Poolsbrook
- South of Unstone

In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Mastin Moor and Walton and Brookside South. The Strategy will explore in more detail the potential gaps in provision on an analysis area basis.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. Nearly half of respondents (46%) had no opinion. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of parks is highlighted; a fifth (20%) rate being quite satisfied with a further 14% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing availability of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (4%) or very dissatisfied (1%).

Allotment associations are responsible for the day to day management of the sites. Many of the sites operate a waiting list due to the popularity and demand for plots.

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments. A threshold of 50% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Quality ratings for allotments

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <50%	High ≥50%
Chesterfield	36%	58%	73%	37%	1	32

Only one site rates below the quality threshold. Swaddale Allotments appears to not be in use. The site was overgrown and not accessible at the time of the visit. This site has now been earmarked for housing in the local plan.

Overall, quality of provision is very good with nearly all identified sites rating above the threshold for quality. The highest scoring sites are:

- Mastin Moor Community Garden (73.3%)
- Ashfield Road Allotments (68.9%)
- Goldwell No 2 Allotments (67.8%)
- Goldwell No 1 Allotments (65.6%)
- Old Road Allotments (65.6%)

All five sites have good personal security, signage and excellent boundary fencing. Mastin Moor Community Garden has the additional benefit of seating and bins. Furthermore, all the sites are observed as being well maintained containing neat plots and good pathways.

It is also important to recognise the Rufford Close Allotment site is a previous East Midlands In Bloom competition winner. The site was recognised for its organisation and tidiness.

Most respondents to the community survey (49%) had no opinion to the quality of allotments. Of those that did, 20% rate quality as quite satisfactory with a further 11% rating it as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (2%) or very dissatisfied (2%) with quality of allotments.

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below

summarises the results of the value assessment for allotments. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value ratings for allotments

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
	Chesterfield	9%	29%		56%	47%

Nearly all assessed allotment sites rate above the threshold for value. This is a reflection of the associated social inclusion and health benefits, amenity value and the sense of place offered by such forms of provision. Swaddale Allotments is the only site to rate below the value threshold. The site appears to not be in use as it was overgrown and not accessible at the time of the visit.

The highest scoring sites for value are Mastin Moor Community Garden (56%) and Hunloke Community Garden (49%). Both are very well maintained. Unusually both sites can be accessed by the public; as opposed to only being used by allotment holders. This further adds to their role and benefit to the local communities.

Other sites also offer additional social value. For example, Goldwell No. 2 Allotments is highlighted as having two raised beds and a sensory garden for disabled users. In addition, a plot on the site is used by the Oak Springs charity as part of a rehabilitation programme.

Avenue Road Allotments is also identified as having a plot that been converted to a communal plot for growing space; enhancing the sites social and community value.

There is high ecological and biodiversity value at Goldwell No. 2 Allotments. The site is teeming with wildlife and attracts a lot of wildlife including dragonflies, newts, bees, and bats. There is a pond on site too, some rare weeds and wildlife encouragement is an ongoing project. In the future, the association would like to have schools visiting and to be shown the pond as this concept would be very beneficial.

The value of allotments is further demonstrated by the existence of waiting lists at sites signalling continued demand for provision.

Cemeteries and closed church yards

Cemeteries and churchyards include areas for quiet contemplation and burial of the dead. Sites can often be linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

There are 10 sites classified as cemeteries/churchyards, equating to nearly 30 hectares of provision. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all identified provision is included within the audit.

Distribution of cemeteries and churchyards

Analysis area	Cemeteries/churchyards	
	Number of sites	Size (ha)
Chesterfield	10	29.50

The largest contributor to burial provision in the area is Chesterfield and District Crematorium (6.35 hectares). This followed by Boythorpe Cemetery at 5.37 hectares.

There are four sites operated by CBC:

- Brimington Cemetery
- Boythorpe Cemetery
- Spital Cemetery
- Staveley Cemetery

Several closed churchyards are also maintained by the Council.

The Chesterfield and District Crematorium is managed by a Joint Crematorium Committee as it is jointly owned by Chesterfield Borough Council and Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Councils.

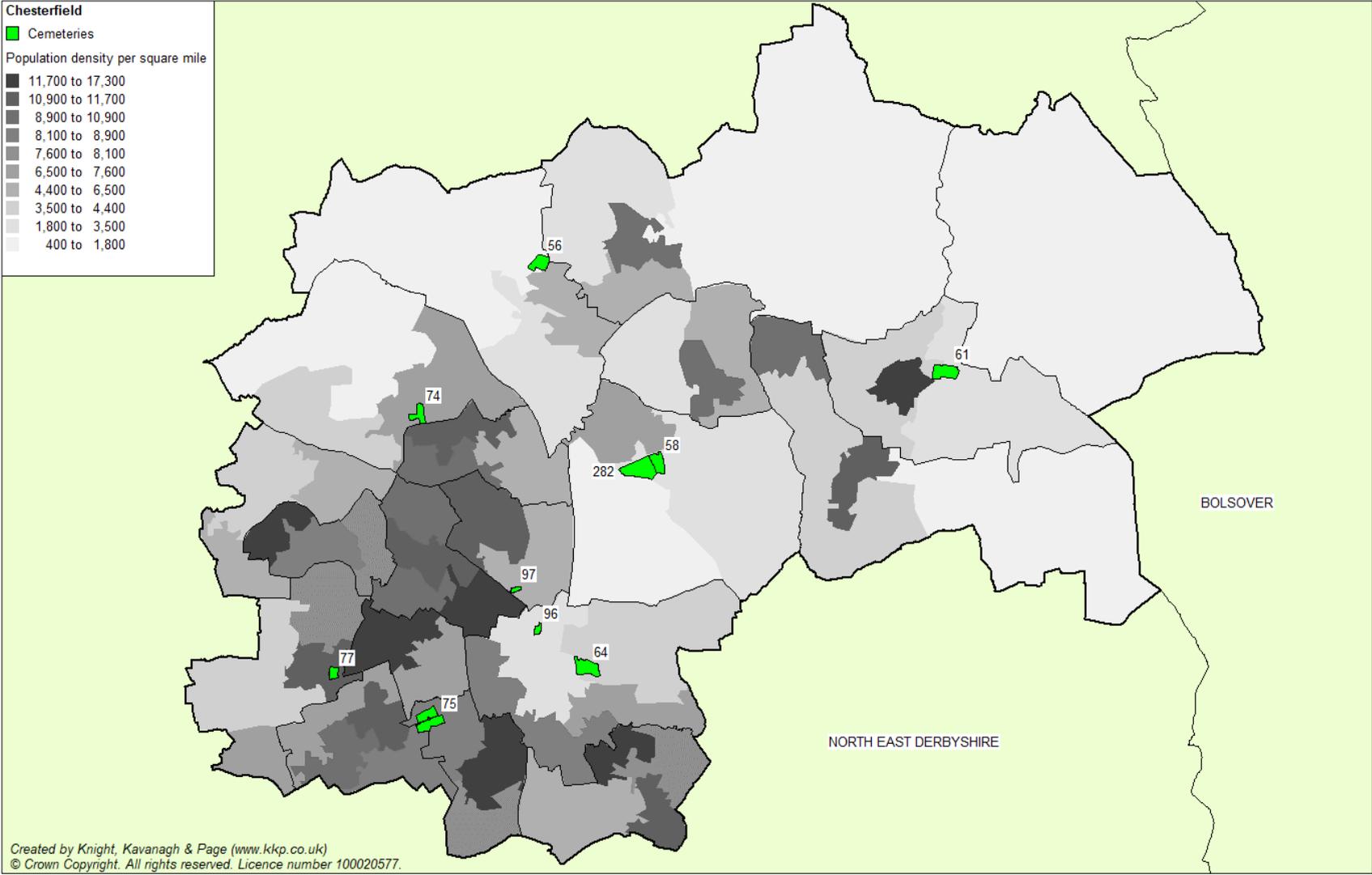
Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. No issue with regard to the quantity of cemeteries is highlighted. A quarter of respondents (25%) rate being quite satisfied with a further 13% stating they are very satisfied. Further supporting

the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (2%) or very dissatisfied (1%). There are 39% of respondents who have no opinion to provision of cemeteries.

No accessibility standard is set for this typology and there is no realistic requirement to set such standards. Provision should be based on burial demand.

The map below shows cemeteries and churchyards mapped against analysis areas.

Cemetery sites mapped



Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality Score	Value Score
56	St Bartholomew's Church Old Whittington Closed Churchyards	59.6%	47.8%
58	Brimington Cemetery	66.1%	70.0%
61	Staveley Cemetery	68.5%	76.7%
64	Spital Cemetery	65.4%	63.3%
74	St John's Newbold	55.5%	32.2%
75	Boythorpe Cemetery	70.6%	77.8%
77	St Thomas' Church Brampton	76.6%	62.2%
96	St Mary and All Saints Church	64.0%	43.3%
282	Chesterfield and District Crematorium	86.6%	81.1%
97	Holy Trinity Church	62.6%	47.8%

In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates a fairly balanced distribution across the area. As noted earlier, the need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of cemeteries is highlighted. A fifth of respondents (25%) state being quite satisfied with a further 16% being very satisfied with how close cemeteries provision is. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are quite dissatisfied (1%) or very dissatisfied (1%).

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Quality ratings for cemeteries

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <60%	High ≥60%
Chesterfield	56%	68%	87%	31%	2	8

The majority of cemeteries and churchyards in Chesterfield (80%) rate above the threshold set for quality; suggesting a reasonably high standard of quality.

Chesterfield and District Crematorium, in Brimington, is the highest scoring site for quality with a score of 87%. It scores significantly higher than the other sites. It is observed as being well-maintained with accessible paths and ancillary features such as seating, car parking (Including disabled parking bays) and toilet facilities. It also has excellent signage, directional signposts, and a map of the large site. Furthermore, it has a child burial area, garden of remembrance as well as a woodland walk; all add to the quality of the site as well as the aesthetic value and health benefits. Its high quality is represented by it being a Green Flag Award site.

Boythorpe Cemetery (71%) also scores well above the threshold for quality. The site is observed as containing excellent, flat, wide paths, being tidy and containing lots of seating. It also seems very well used by locals as a cut through and for plot holders accessing the allotments adjacent to the cemetery.

The only two sites to rate below the quality threshold are:

- St Bartholomew's Church Old Whittington Closed Churchyards (59.6%)
- St John's Newbold (56%)

It should be noted that St Bartholomew's Church Old Whittington Closed Churchyards scores just below the threshold of 60%. There are no major issues highlighted but the site scores lower for paths and general maintenance. It is observed that paths are mostly fine but are uneven in parts. In addition, there are several tilted gravestones. However, the site does have seating, some car parking and litter bins.

St John's Newbold is observed as being well maintained overall. It only just scores below the threshold (56%). The site, in comparison to others, has no car parking or seating but it does benefit from good pathways and bins.

Most respondents (40%) have no opinion on this. The rest of the respondents to the community survey are generally satisfied with the quality of provision. Over a fifth of respondents' rate quality as quite satisfactory (26%) with a further 11% rating provision as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (3%) or very dissatisfied (2%) with quality of cemeteries.

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for cemeteries. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value ratings for cemeteries

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	32%	60%	81%	49%	0	10

All identified cemeteries and churchyards are assessed as being of high value, reflecting their role within local communities. In addition, the cultural/heritage value of sites and the sense of place they provide for local people is acknowledged in the assessment scoring. High scoring sites for value offer visually attractive landscape benefits and opportunities to serve an important function for a local community. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards can often offer important low impact recreational benefits to the local area (e.g. walking, habitat provision, wildlife watching).

Chesterfield and District Crematorium (81%) scores the highest for value. It is a well-used Green Flag Award site. In addition to its 'traditional' function the site also has added ecological and biodiversity value with lots of trees, blossoms, a pond, and woodland walk.

Similarly, the other four main cemetery sites all rate highly for value. This reflects their role and use to the local communities they serve.

Green Corridors

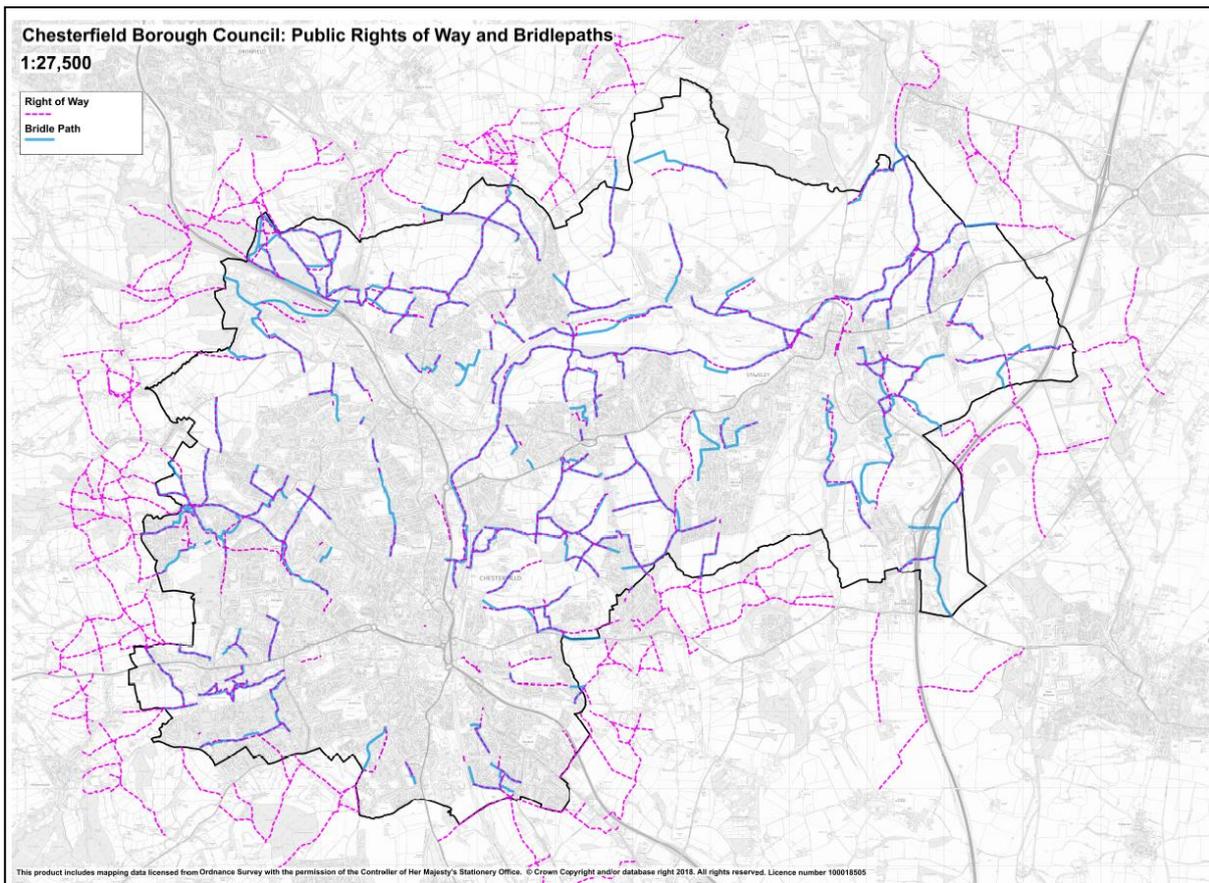
The green corridors typology includes sites that offer opportunities for walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration.

There are four forms of green corridor provision identified across Chesterfield.

- Chesterfield Canal
- Holme Brook Valley Trail
- Hipper Valley Trail
- Trans Pennine Trail and Cuckoo Way

It is acknowledged that there are other forms of provision in Chesterfield which are likely to contribute to green corridors such as public rights of way (PROW). However, the focus of this study is on those main forms of provision.

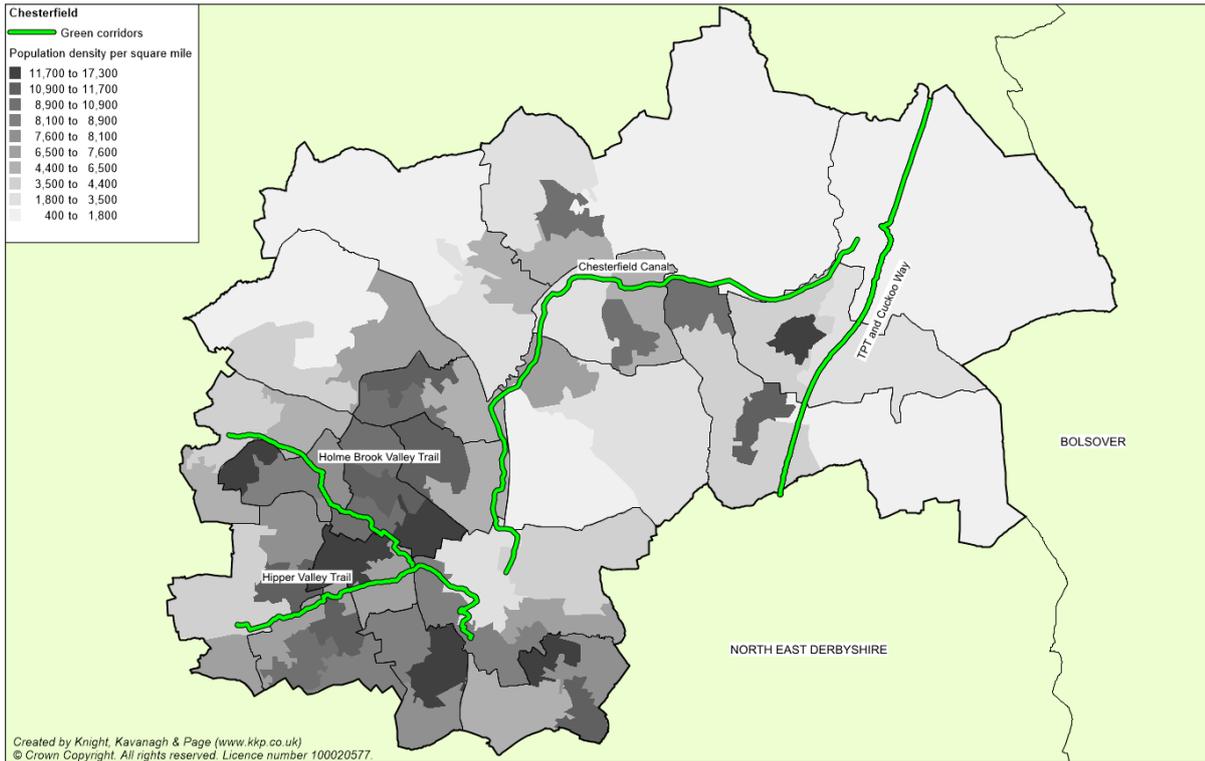
Public rights of way and bridle paths in Chesterfield



Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. No issue with regard to availability of outdoor networks is highlighted. Nearly half of respondents (43%) rate being quite satisfied with the how much provision exists. A further 20% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (10%) or very dissatisfied (5%).

It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to their linear nature and usage. The map below shows green corridors mapped in the area.

Green corridors mapped



Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value Score
327	Chesterfield Canal	84.2%	83.3%
329	Holme Brook Valley Trail	61.4%	31.1%
330	Hipper Valley Trail	64.9%	31.1%
331	Trans Pennine Trail and Cuckoo Way	74.9%	48.9%

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of green corridors is highlighted. Two fifths (41%) rate being quite satisfied with the how close green corridors provision is. A further 27% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are quite dissatisfied (7%) or very dissatisfied (4%).

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Quality ratings for green corridors

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <60%	High ≥60%
	Chesterfield	61%	71%		84%	23%

All four green corridors rate above the threshold for quality. No particular issues are identified. Observations do note that the main sign for the Hipper Valley Trail (in Somersall Park) could do with being refreshed.

Chesterfield canal rates above the threshold for quality. It scores highly for accessibility, signage/information as well as being generally well kept and maintained. Its high quality is represented by it being a Green Flag Award winner (2019/20).

Most respondents to the community survey are generally satisfied with the quality of outdoor networks provision. Over two fifths of respondents' rate quality as quite satisfactory (43%) with a further 17% rating provision as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are quite dissatisfied (9%) or very dissatisfied (5%) with quality.

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Value ratings for green corridors

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
	Chesterfield	31%	49%		83%	-

All four green corridors rate above the threshold for value. It is important to highlight that the green corridors serve as an important link between different open space sites. A summary of the connections each green corridor provides is set out below:

Connecting open space sites to green corridors

Green corridor	Other connecting open space sites
Chesterfield Canal	Staveley Town Basin, BRSA Sports Ground, Bluebank Wood
Holme Brook Valley Trail	Holme Brook Valley Country Park, Loundsley Green Park, Purbeck Avenue/Pennine Way, Chester Street Recreation Ground, Goldwell Allotments, Queens Park
Hipper Valley Trail	Somersall Park/Walton Park, Walton Dam, Queens Park, Spire Walk,
Trans Pennine Trail and Cuckoo Way	Pullman Close Plantation, Poolsbrook Country Park, Haddon Close Amenity

Chesterfield canal rates highest for value. It provides many recreational and learning opportunities. The Tapton Lock visitors centre offers additional educational and social benefits. Further adding to its value are the range of events which take place throughout the year.

Chesterfield Borough Council Equality Impact Assessment - Full Assessment Form

<i>Title of the policy, project, service, function or strategy:</i>		Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 - 2030
<i>Service Area:</i>	Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing	
<i>Section:</i>	Environmental Services	
<i>Lead Officer:</i>	John Ramsey	
<i>Date of assessment:</i>	May 2021	
<i>Is the policy, project, service, function or strategy:</i>		
<i>Existing</i>	Yes	
<i>Changed</i>	Yes	
<i>New / Proposed</i>	No	

Section 1 – Clear aims and objectives

1. What is the aim of the policy, project, service, function or strategy?

By adopting this strategy, the Council will have:

- clear and transparent guidance and priorities for improving its parks and open spaces, to meet the needs of community attitudes and expectations in providing green space in the borough;
- evidence of local leadership on and commitment to parks and open spaces, to underpin bids for funding for their improvement;
- clear links to and co-ordination with the councils Council Plan and the adopted Local Plan;
- evidence and policies to underpin the negotiation of 'planning gain' for open space provision in association with new development;
- a developed hierarchy of parks and green spaces, with a framework for prioritisation and resource allocation for management and improvement with the basis for the development of investment-backed annual action plans
- improved accessibility to Chesterfields parks and open spaces.

2. Who is intended to benefit from the policy and how?
 All residents of and visitors to Chesterfield.

3. What outcomes do you want to achieve?
 Clarity for local residents and specific interest groups on the Councils vision and strategic direction for the provision, management and improvement of green spaces across the Borough.

Section 2 – What is the impact?

4. Summary of anticipated impacts. *Please tick at least one option per protected characteristic. Think about barriers people may experience in accessing services, how the policy is likely to affect the promotion of equality, knowledge of customer experiences to date. You may need to think about sub-groups within categories eg. older people, younger people, people with hearing impairment etc.*

	Positive impact	Negative impact	No disproportionate impact
Age	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability and long-term conditions	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
Marriage and civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
Pregnant women and people on parental leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
Ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
Religion and belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes

Section 3 – Recommendations and monitoring

If you have answered that the policy, project, service, function or strategy could potentially have a negative impact on any of the above characteristics then a full EIA will be required.

5. Should a full EIA be completed for this policy, project, service, function or strategy

A brief description of how the proposal has been developed to take into consideration protected groups, outcomes of consultation etc.

No disproportionate negative impact has been identified for any group with a protected characteristic

Section 4 – Knowledge management and publication

Please note the draft EIA should be reviewed by the appropriate Service Manager and the Policy Service **before** WBR, Lead Member, Cabinet, Council reports are produced.

Reviewed by Head of Service/Service Manager	Name:	John Ramsey
	Date:	28/05/2021
Reviewed by Policy Service	Name:	Donna Reddish
	Date:	28.06.21
Final version of the EIA sent to Policy Service	Yes	
Decision information sent to Policy Service	Yes	

This page is intentionally left blank

Parks and Open Space Strategy 2021 – 2030 – Climate Change Impact Assessment

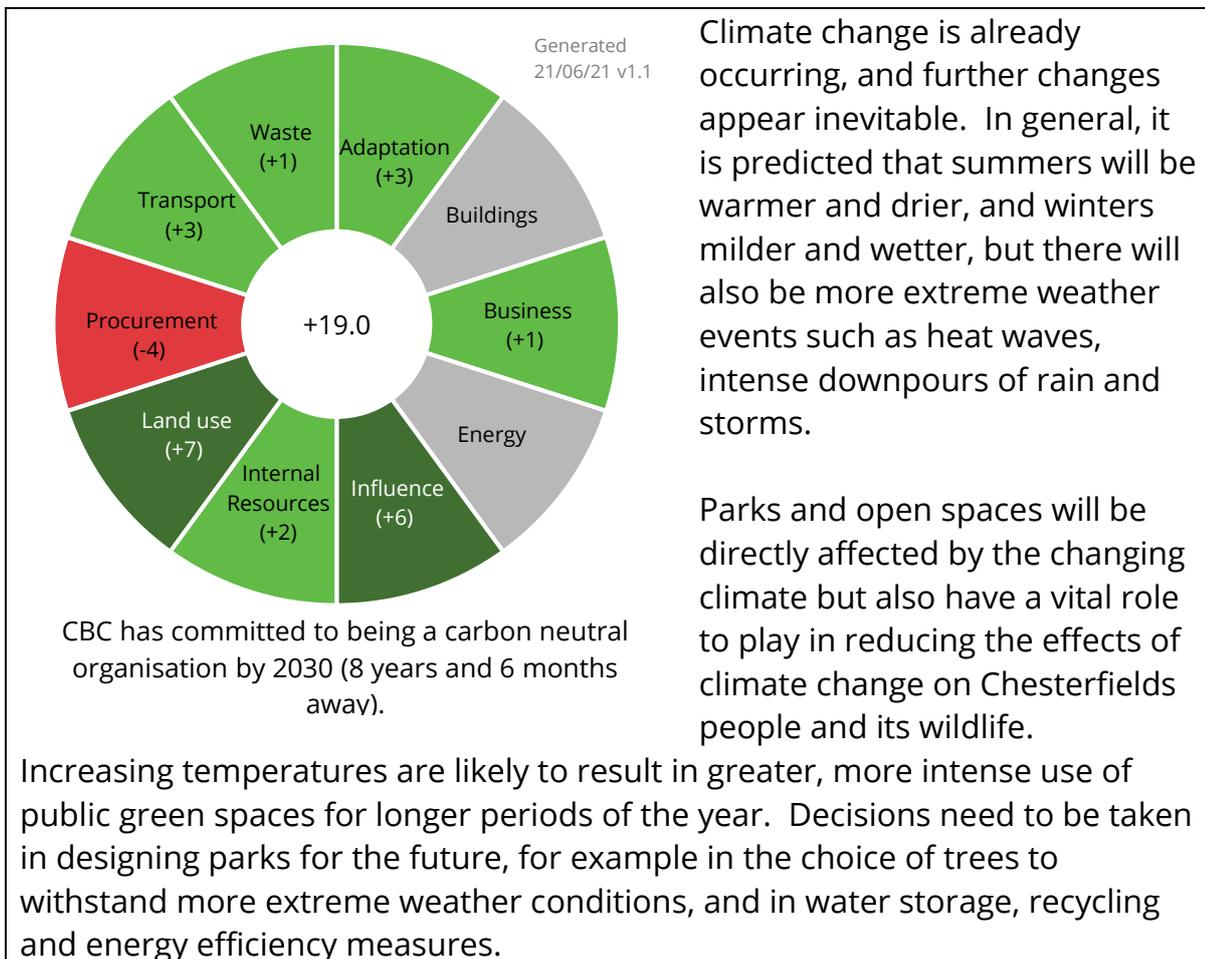
The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy covers multiple climate change sensitivities, and which results in both positive and negative effects. A summary of the estimated results is available in Table 1.

Table 1. Rationale of adopting the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and its impacts for Climate Change.

Category	Rationale summary
Adaptation	<p>We can support and encourage water storage by allotment associations and community gardens.</p> <p>Our tree planting programmes will help to reduce flooding peak (not a NFM scheme, but catchment will become more wooded)</p> <p>Tree planting can reduce heatwave vulnerability and can have a cooling effect.</p> <p>Changing our mowing regimes can help to capture more carbon and have a cooling effect.</p>
Buildings	<p>The design of any new buildings in parks and open space on existing or growth sites can incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption, utilise materials sourced locally and consider the inclusion of grey water storage.</p>
Business	<p>By working with a range of partners such as Friends groups and volunteers we can influence the way they work, procure things, and raise awareness of the need to tackle climate change in our communities through events, activities and projects</p> <p>By ensuring that any businesses that operate from our premises i.e. café follow best practice</p>
Energy	
Influence	<p>We can promote good practice by sharing stories of our own successes with other partners and support them with advice</p> <p>We can influence a range of partners including voluntary groups, tree wardens, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Derbyshire County Council and Don Catchment Rivers Trust in the work we do on our parks and open spaces e.g. DCC on the cycle network.</p>
Internal Resources	
Land Use	<p>By undertaking more tree planting on urban sites, we can meet identified deficiencies in semi natural open space.</p>

	On semi natural open space, we can also modify the land by implementing scrapes to increase water carrying capacity to prevent flooding and help with nature recovery.
Procurement	There is likely to be an increase in spending on sundry items for tree planting programmes for example on tree shelters, weedkiller, tools etc.
Transport	Through the strategy we can promote active travel on our own land and also the wider network of footpaths and cycleways to support a reduction in carbon emissions.
Waste	Try to minimise our waste materials by promoting recycling schemes at some of our venues and ensuring that the most sustainable option is used where possible. We are adapting our formal planting areas to reduce the amount of green waste by using more permanent plant types that require less pruning. Some green waste can be recycled but there are haulage considerations to be taken account of.

Report



Chesterfields Parks and Open Spaces Strategy will be central to the way parks and open spaces adapt to climate change, including their role in capturing and storing water after heavy rainfall, preventing localised flooding. Parks and open spaces provide an important cooling effect.

Key benefits that we can realise through our Parks and Open Spaces Strategy to reduce our climatic impacts are:

- promote healthier living, providing spaces for physical activity and relaxation
- cool the town and absorb stormwater to lessen the impacts of climate change
- filter pollutants to improve air and water quality
- make access improvements to our footpaths and cycleways to make them clean, comfortable, and more attractive to encourage walking and cycling,
- store carbon in soils and woodlands
- create better quality and better-connected habitats to improve biodiversity and ecological resilience

This page is intentionally left blank

For Publication

Consultation on the Draft Play Strategy 2021 – 2026 (L000)

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	6 July 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Health and Wellbeing
Directorate:	Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 For Cabinet to approve the draft Play Strategy for public consultation.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That Cabinet approves the draft Play Strategy 2021 – 2026 for public consultation.

2.2 That a report is brought to Cabinet with a final draft of the Play Strategy for adoption following completion of the public consultation.

3.0 Background

3.1 The first Chesterfield Play Strategy was adopted by the Council in July 2007.

3.2 Since that time the Council has delivered numerous projects that have improved the quality, range and accessibility of play spaces and raised awareness of the benefits of the play offer in Chesterfield.

3.3 The Council has invested heavily in the refurbishment of our play spaces and a range of challenging and innovative play equipment, outdoor gyms, multi-use games areas and skate parks have sprung up across the Borough.

- 3.4 The Council has reviewed the Play Strategy to ensure that going forward it meets the requirements of our children and young people and their parents and carers for the next 5 years.
- 3.5 The Council also commissioned an Open Space Assessment to support the review of the now adopted Local Plan and to provide a robust evidence base of need for open space including play spaces. The review now complete, provides evidence to support the investment into open and play space owned by Chesterfield Borough Council.
- 3.6 In undertaking the Play Strategy review and Open Space Assessment a series of audits have been undertaken to provide detail about what open and play space provision exists across Chesterfield; its condition, distribution, overall quality and accessibility to our communities. The Play Strategy review and Open Space Assessment set out the findings of the research, consultation, site assessments and GIS mapping undertaken as part of the study.
- 3.7 When assessing the quantity and distribution of play space, equipped play spaces are considered, however children and young people can and do use the informal spaces outside the defined play space for play. Informal play spaces are those where there is no equipment or specific design for play, the area is suitable and used for play. These spaces have been audited as part of the Open Space Assessment to arrive at quantitative measures for overall provision. Informal play spaces included here are neighbourhood amenity open spaces, parks, woodlands, natural open spaces, playing fields and recreation grounds.
- 3.8 The updated draft Play strategy 2021 - 2026 now takes account of the open space assessment and gives a direction as to how we best utilise our resources for the continued benefit for play within our communities.
- 3.9 The audit of provision (understanding supply) and identifying needs (understanding need) will through the strategy help inform direction and decision making going forward.
- 4.0 **Consultation on the Draft Play Strategy 2021 - 2026**
- 4.1 Through the strategy we will aim to address the play needs of children and young people in the borough by producing a plan for the refurbishment and development of fixed play structures as well as

considering how we can influence informal play space within the Council's ownership to provide natural play opportunities.

4.2 The Play Strategy will provide guidance on the standards for play provision, which we will encourage other play area developers to adopt on growth sites.

4.3 **Our Vision for Play.** It is the Council's aspiration to ensure that:

"Every play space is a destination, by creating a variety of sustainable play spaces that offer children and young people of all ages and abilities accessible, quality, challenging and fun opportunities for play."

4.4 The updated and refreshed Play Strategy 2021 – 2026 has therefore determined the following working aims as part of the development of the strategy:

- To understand the current quality of children's play in Chesterfield.
- To understand what children and the local community need to help improve access to play; to include race, disability, gender, religion and belief.
- To facilitate play opportunities that are inclusive and accessible.
- To raise the standard, quality and experience of play opportunities across Chesterfield.
- To ensure that play opportunities are resourced and sustainable.
- To widen the understanding of play and support local communities to access play.
- To encourage play in local communities and amongst families.

4.5 The draft Play Strategy is attached at **Appendix A**.

4.6 Consultation on the draft Play Strategy will ensure that Chesterfield citizens have a direct say in how the council can address local needs and priorities for its play spaces.

4.7 Consultation on the Play Strategy will take place in two phases, influenced in part due to the current restrictions pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic.

4.8 **Phase 1** – general consultation on the draft Play Strategy will take place via the council's online website.

4.9 **Phase 2** – analysis of the data captured from the general consultation will help to inform our further consultation with stakeholders including ‘Friends’ groups and other local open space groups and elected members.

4.10 When consulting with specific interest groups the green spaces team will undertake the consultation using appropriate methodologies that adhere to Covid – 19 social distancing measures and government guidance at the time.

4.11 Once the consultation has taken place the updated Play Strategy will be brought back to Cabinet for approval.

5.0 **Implications for consideration – Council Plan**

5.1 The play strategy contributes to the following council plan objectives:

- Improving quality of life for local people.
- Improving our environment and enhance community safety for all our communities and future generations.
- Helping our communities to improve their health and wellbeing.

6.0 **Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money**

6.1 No specific financial implications have been identified from the consultation on the strategy. This implication will be considered further when the revised strategy is presented to cabinet following consultation.

7.0 **Implications for consideration – Legal**

7.1 Article 31 of the UN Convention on the rights of the child states;

‘Parties recognise the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.’

‘Parties shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.’

8.0 **Implications for consideration – Human resources**

8.1 No specific human resource implications have been identified. This implication will be considered further when the revised strategy is presented to cabinet following consultation.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

Description of the Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating Action	Residual Risk
Strategy not adopted	High	Low	<p>The strategy has been developed to fully reflect the challenges of land use and open space development presents. It has been informed by a varied evidence base and as such it supports the Council vision and council plan objectives.</p> <p>Full consultation programme being undertaken to ensure local input and engagement to reflect local need.</p>	Low

10.0 Implications for consideration – community wellbeing

10.1 Being active through play can make unique contributions to children’s health, wellbeing and holistic development, which cannot be obtained from more structured forms of physical activity or formal sport. Anyone can take part in it, there is little or no cost to the participant and does not need high skill levels to specifically engage. This along with the natural creativity and flexibility of play makes it an important part of a child /

young person's development. The Play Strategy will seek to positively contribute to this.

- 10.2 Outdoor play provision can also be beneficial to mental health and well-being by providing important opportunities to interact with nature and other people. The positive effect interaction such as this can have on our mental well-being has been well documented.

11.0 **Implications for consideration – Economy and skills**

- 11.1 Providing good quality play opportunities will support the Council's wider ambitions regarding Making Chesterfield a thriving borough by actively contributing to making Chesterfield A great place to live, work and visit.

12.0 **Implications for consideration – Climate Change**

- 12.1 Opportunities exist within our open space to explore the inclusion of natural play settings. Existing features can be utilised such as woodlands, streams, slopes and fallen wood. These opportunities need to be measured against the risk of engagement but equally the approach needs to reflect the positive outcomes from such engagement. By adapting play spaces to include natural elements through the strategy we could further influence the design of open space on growth sites to take account of these less traditional options and opportunities for play which will have a positive impact on Climate Change.
 - 12.2 Through the strategy our procurement processes can be looked at again to include for example details pertaining to specifications that would ask suppliers to consider the use of materials that are more sympathetic to the environment. For example, the types of paint used and where and how those materials are sourced and transported.
 - 12.3 By adapting our play spaces to accommodate and utilise existing natural play elements this may attract additional funding support from some of our external funding providers. The landfill tax credit scheme, whilst supporting amenity projects also supports those projects that include biodiversity and land adaptation in them.
 - 12.4 A full Climate Change Impact Assessment is attached at **Appendix C**.
- #### 13.0 **Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity**

13.1 The Equality Impact Assessment is attached at **Appendix B**. No negative impacts for groups with protected characteristics have been identified.

14.0 Recommendations

14.1 That Cabinet approves the draft Play Strategy 2021 – 2026 for public consultation.

14.2 That a report is brought to Cabinet with a final draft of the Play Strategy for adoption following completion of the public consultation.

15.0 Reasons for Recommendations

15.1 To bring the Play Strategy up to date to include the recent open space assessment and national, regional and local initiatives in the provision and management of play spaces.

Decision information

Key decision number	1032
Wards affected	All

Document information

Report author	
John Ramsey – Principal Green Space Officer Strategic	
Appendices to the report	
Appendix A Part 1	Draft Play Strategy 2021 – 2026
Appendix A Part 2	Evidence base
Appendix B	Equality Impact Assessment
Appendix C	Climate Change Impact Assessment

This page is intentionally left blank



Consultation Draft

Play Strategy

2021 - 2026

Owner: Service Director - Leisure, Culture and Wellbeing

Date: July 2021

Review by: July 2026



Contents

Section	Contents	Page
	Foreword	3
1.0	Policy statement	4-5
2.0	Impact of play	5-8
3.0	Barriers to play	9-10
4.0	Evidence base	10-16
5.0	Our vision and themes	16-19
6.0	Key policies	19-21
7.0	Play space investment and funding	21-22
8.0	Delivery plan, monitoring and review	22
	Appendix A Evidence base	

DRAFT



FOREWORD

By Cllr Jill Mannion Brunt, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing



Chesterfield Borough Council has a proud history of supporting play opportunities across the borough. Despite the financial challenges faced by local authorities we have continued to invest in our play spaces as we recognised the value to our communities.

Play forms a vital part of a child's growth and development, not just their physical development but their social and cognitive development too. Children play in many ways and at many different times and places. For children and young people, play is more than just 'letting-off steam', it is what they do in their own time, for their own reasons.

In preparing this strategy, we have asked many children and young people and their parents and carers what barriers they face in accessing play spaces. We aim to reduce these barriers over the coming years with an emphasis on supporting those most in need, including children with disabilities and children in areas of deprivation with less life opportunities.

Our aim is to provide all children living and visiting Chesterfield access to good quality play spaces. The challenge in respect of play areas and play spaces is to make sure they deliver a good experience for their users. Children want play spaces they can enjoy and have fun safely. Adults want play spaces where children can develop physical and decision-making skills that will help them in all parts of their lives.

This strategy sets out the Council's commitment to making that a reality.

SECTION 1: Policy statement

1.1 Introduction

In order to be able to set out a plan to maintain and develop excellent play spaces we need to understand our current provision, its strengths and its limitations including the amount, location, quality and different types of play space. We must also be aware of the planning context so that new developments can have suitable facilities to help build new communities. The latest guidance and best practice will also be key in helping us to target resources in the locations most needing them.

Our Play Strategy establishes an understanding and ambition for Children's play in the borough from 2021 until 2026. A robust evidence base for the strategy has been drawn from national policies and initiatives, local consultation and analysis of existing play provision.

We recognise that children and young people are the experts on play and they often show great ingenuity in playing in many different and sometimes challenging circumstances. Throughout the development of this strategy we have listened to children, young people, parents, carers and the wider community to find out what is important to them in play provision and what the barriers are. We are making a commitment to continue this approach with a consultation being a key part of any future refurbishment or installation project.

1.2 Strategy scope

The Play Strategy aims to provide high quality play opportunities for children and young people aged 0 – 19 years. This will include a detailed breakdown of the refurbishment and development of fixed play structures within the Council's ownership and how we might develop further informal play opportunities in public open space in general. The strategy will also provide guidance on the standards for play provision, which we will encourage other play area developers to adopt. The scope of the strategy goes beyond traditional 'fixed equipped' play areas e.g. slides and swings in fenced off areas. Instead 'play spaces' that embrace the natural landscape and create diversity in play are considered within the role of the strategy, enabling and facilitating free choice for play in the wider park

environment. Play provision is geared towards 'free play' i.e. freely available, free of charge and free to choose.

We also recognise that the play children engage in at home, school and commercial venues is important to their development, but these play experiences are not under the control of the Council and are therefore not included within the scope of this strategy.

To inform the strategy a robust evidence base has been produced to assess the quantity, quality and accessibility to freely reachable play spaces.

1.3 **Strategy aims**

The Play Strategy will evaluate and assess the quality, quantity and accessibility of current play provision within Chesterfield borough and identify areas of improvement and enable those improvements across the borough to take place. This will provide a rationale for investment in play provision, set standards for investment in play provision and help to determine where future investment should be directed. Additional aims include:

- To increase play opportunities for children, young people and families
- To widen the understanding of play and enable innovation
- Improving play accessibility for our children, young people and diverse communities
- To facilitate play opportunities that are inclusive and accessible to all children and young people
- Raising the standard, quality and experience of play opportunities across Chesterfield borough
- Ensuring that play opportunities are properly resourced and sustainable

SECTION 2: The impact of play

2.1 **Why is play important?**

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the United Nations in 1989, spells out the basic human rights to which every child, everywhere, is entitled. The Convention sets out several statements called articles. These are the rights of all children and young people up to the age of

18. These include Article 31, the right to engage in play and recreational activities. Children all have a natural desire to play. They play because it is fun, and it makes them happy. When children play, they can be who they want to be and play how they want to play.

2.2 **What is play?**

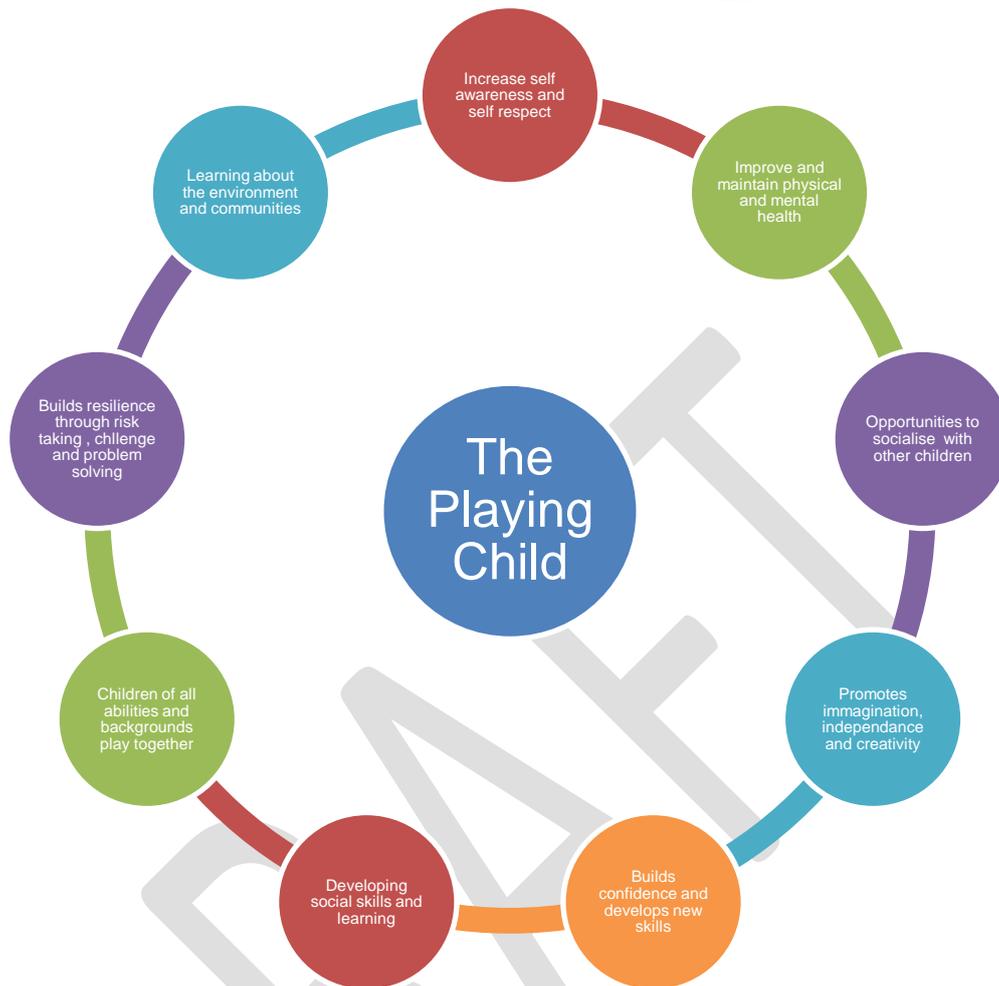
is what children choose to do in their free time, it can and does happen anywhere. Children's play needs are diverse and so too are people's definition of what play is or is not. In order to set a framework for delivering and developing play spaces in the borough, we define play as:

'what children and young people do when they follow their own ideas and interests, in the own way, and for their own reasons.'

Play can take place in many different places; from designated play areas to green open spaces, woods, the streets where children live and, on the way, to places where children go.

2.3 **The benefits of play**

Research shows that play has many benefits for children, families and the wider community, as well as improving health and quality of life, as illustrated in the diagram below:



Play England's 'A world without play' considers the effects of a lack of play on children's lives. It highlights 'the importance of play, particularly outdoor play, for increasing levels of physical activity, alongside other positive influences on a child's well-being', such as opportunities to understand and respect the natural world.

2.4 Inactivity in children

Current national guidance (UK Active) recommends that children over 5 years old should engage in at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous activity every day. Children under 5 that are able to walk unaided should be physically active for at least 3 hours spread throughout the day. The UK Active's study found that across England, only 24% of girls and 32% of boys aged between 2 years old and 15 years old were meeting these recommendations and this is having a significant impact on children's health.

19.5% of children in Year 6 within Chesterfield borough are classified as obese. This is not significantly different from the England average (20%). However, there are some areas of the borough where this figure is above 35%. These tend to correlate with areas with higher levels of deprivation and poorer health profiles.

2.5 **Play and health and wellbeing**

Physically active play can make unique contributions to children's health, wellbeing and holistic development, which cannot be obtained from more structured forms of physical activity or formal sport. Anyone can take part in it, there is no cost, low skill entry level, no specific rules, no specific equipment and no uniform. Research supports the assertion that physical activity is vital for children's learning and for their physical wellbeing. However, recent research has shown that activity levels in the UK, along with those in much of the developed world, are falling and that only half of 7-year olds in the UK achieve an hour's physical activity a day. Research from *Designed to Move: A Physical Activity Action Agenda* shows that from 1961 to 2005, levels of physical activity in the UK dropped by 20% and if current trends continue, will reduce by more than 35% by 2030.

In addition to the positive effects physical activity can have on mental well-being. Outdoor play provisions can also be beneficial to mental health and well-being by providing important opportunities to interact with nature. The positive effect interaction with nature has on our mental well-being has been well documented. Spending time in green environments whether combined with physical activity or for passive relaxation is said to have restorative qualities which help the human body recover from the demands of modern everyday life. Children with easy access to nature are more able to cope with a stressful life than those in urban habitats lacking green space. It can improve cognitive function and has been shown to improve a child's ability to direct their attention. This re-iterates the importance of outdoor play provisions, especially in more urban areas, and their potential to provide a link between children and nature.

SECTION 3: Barriers to play

3.1 Barriers to Play

There are several common barriers identified through a wealth of research, which can prevent or reduce children and young people from playing outdoors.

Disability, ethnicity and faith – Inaccessible play facilities and concerns about the behaviour of other people using facilities can create social and physical barriers to the enjoyment of disabled children's right to play. A recent national survey of 1,000 parents of disabled children demonstrated how their children were often excluded from play opportunities. Parks and playgrounds were the least user-friendly, with few facilities for disabled children and young people. Research has also indicated that ethnicity and faith can be a factor in reduced access to play to a range of factors again due to concerns about the behaviour of other users of facilities and community cohesion.

Traffic – a survey commissioned in 2013 by Play England, Play Wales, Play Scotland and Playboard Northern Ireland, found that over 53% of parents and carers had concerns about traffic. This is an issue that consistently appears high on the list of factors restricting outdoor play. The growing dominance of the car in residential streets, along with concerns about road safety, restricts the space and opportunity for children and young people to engage in active outdoor play and can affect a child's ability to reach a play space independently by walking or cycling. Studies show dramatic decreases in children's independent mobility, a major factor in their access to play opportunities. For example, the proportion of 7- and 8-year olds walking unaccompanied to school fell from 80 per cent in 1971 to nine per cent in 1990.

Negative attitudes and behaviour - children and young people themselves can be a cause of concern in the community. Children are often told to stop playing in the streets or area near their home. There can be a perception that children congregating in groups is threatening but many children do this for their own sense of security. Social barriers such as fear can lead to people linking children and young people socialising in public space with anti-social behaviour. These types of negative attitudes towards children have led to the banning of activities that appeal to younger people, such as ball games and skateboarding in community spaces.

Outcomes focussed on play provision – the replacement of free, self-directed play, with an increase in prescribed educational activities or childcare outcomes restricts children’s opportunities for playing. The role of free play in physical social and cognitive wellbeing has been ‘overlooked’ in many areas and much play provision has become outcome orientated. Play has therefore become an ‘unaffordable luxury’ in modern society, pushed aside to make way for organised activities that are more educational. In organised activities, children do not have the opportunity to direct their own play and create their own boundaries.

Reduction in free time – there are competing demands on children’s time, and so time to play freely is limited. Added to that, many parents are faced with time pressures of their own, which can impact on how children are transported to play areas, especially children living in more isolated areas. This contributes to children having a more sedentary lifestyle, as they turn to games consoles and social media in replacement of active, outdoor play.

Parental anxiety – perceived dangers and parental fears can reduce the amount of time children spend in outdoor open space. Building confidence in the use of our parks and open spaces for safe play is vital.

Section 4: Evidence base – Refer to Appendix A

4.1 Population

Based on 2019 figures from the Office of National Statistics 21% of the population of Chesterfield borough is aged 19 or under approximately 22,000 people.

4.2 Parks and Open Spaces assessment

In 2018 the Council undertook a series of audits to establish the quantity, accessibility, quality of parks and open spaces in the borough and more importantly how the value and contribution that these spaces make to the

quality of life for residents. A key part of the audit included the impact on children and young people. Quantity, quality and travel times were considered as part of this assessment.

Quantity assessment

The purpose of the quantity assessment is to establish the type, range and location of current freely available play facilities and opportunities. There are currently 81 equipped play spaces within the borough equating to 5.17 hectares (0.05 hectares per 1,000 population). The Fields In Trust (FIT) standard suggests 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. However informal open space in a parent site in which a play space is located will also contribute to the play offer. If such sites are also included in the calculation, then a total of 37.17 hectares is identified; an equivalent to 0.37 hectares per 1,000 population.

The table below gives an overview of existing provision in each ward under the following definitions:

LAPS – Local Area for Play – single play item

LEAPS – Local Equipped Area For Play – a minimum of five play types i.e. sliding and swinging e.g. Princess Street, Chester Street Wharf Lane

NEAPS – Neighbourhood Equipped Area For Play – to include for Kindergarten play, Multi Use Games Areas and Skate Parks e.g. Stand Road Park, Eastwood Park and Brearley Park

Table 1 – Play provision by ward

Ward	LAPS	LEAPS	NEAPS	Total
Barrow Hill and New Whittington	1	1	2	4
Brimington North	0	2	1	3
Brimington South	3	2	0	5
Brockwell	0	2	0	2
Dunston	0	2	0	2
Hasland	7	3	1	11
Holmebrook	0	1	0	1
Hollingwood, Inkersall and Duckmanton	2	4	1	7
Linacre	6	1	1	8
Loundsley Green	0	2	1	3
Lowgates	1	3	1	5
Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	1	2	2	5

Moor	0	1	1	1
Old Whittington	1	2	0	3
Rother		2	1	4
St Helens	0	2	1	3

St Leonards	2	4	1	7
Walton	2	2	0	4
West	0	2	0	2

It is recommended that current provision levels of play space provision are to be used as the recommended quantity standards for Chesterfield. In general, the amount of play space provision is very or quite satisfactory by most respondents to the community survey. On this basis, the recommendation is for the current provision levels to be used as the recommended quantity standards for Chesterfield. This will better reflect existing provision levels and expectations whilst ensuring future demand from housing growth is not detrimental to existing provision levels.

The table below out the recommendations for the quantity standards for play space in Chesterfield.

Table 2 - adopted standard for play space provision

Typology	Explanation	Recommended quantity standard (Ha per 1,000 population)
Provision for children and young people	All equipped play provision including informal amenity greenspaces (below two ha) which host a play site	0.27

4.3 Travel assessment

Access to play provision has been established through applying the classification of play spaces and distance thresholds in the play strategy audit through Open Space Assessment PPG17 audit findings and GIS mapping which have contributed to ward profiles.

Accessibility catchments for play space are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that factors that

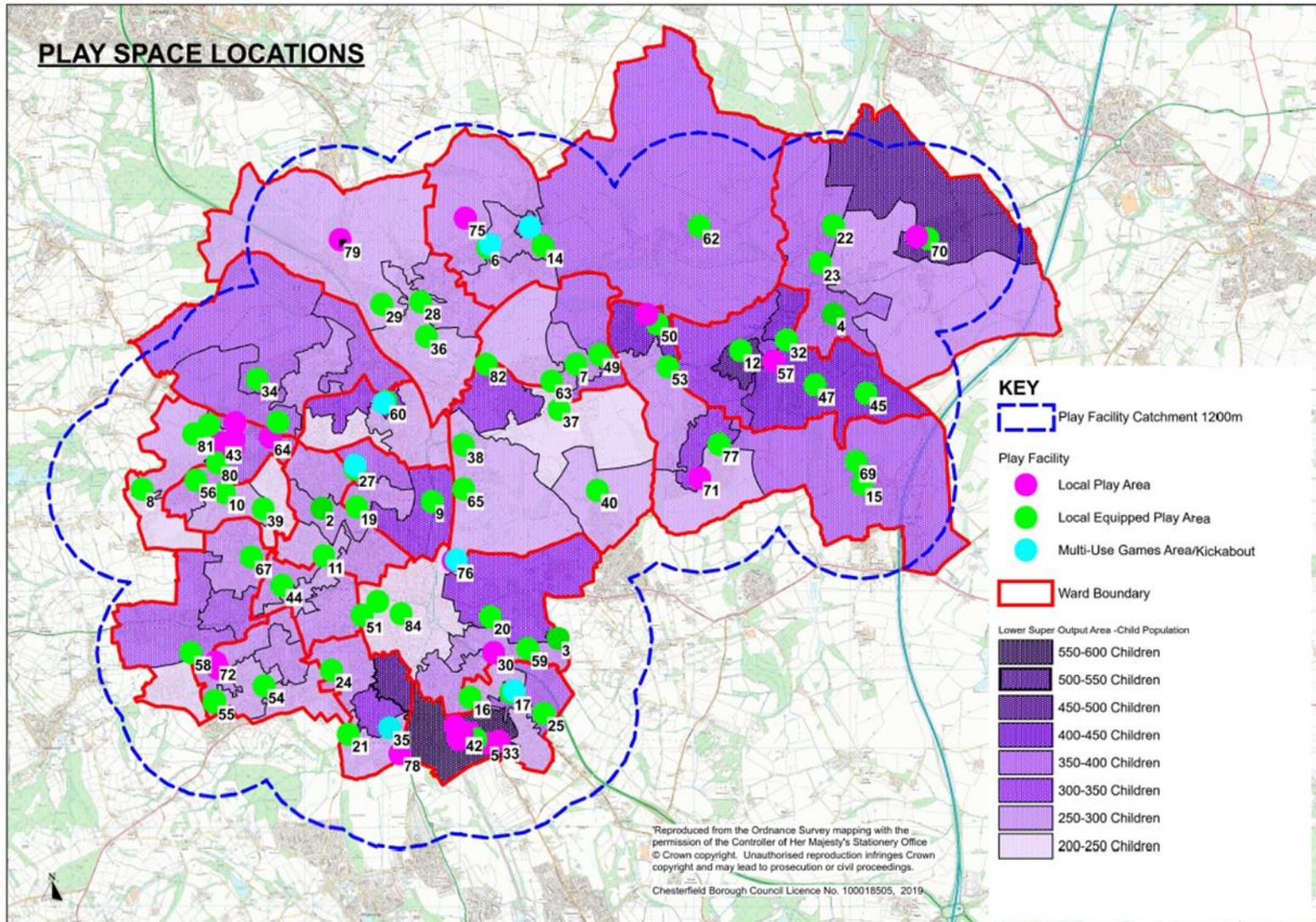
underpin catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day and catchment to catchment. For the purposes of this process this problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchments', defined as the distance that would be

travelled by the majority of users. The PPG17 target for accessibility is to use the Fields in Trust median accessibility standard, which is defined in terms of walking distances from home to play areas:

- Local Areas of Play (**LAPs**): accompanied walking distance **100m** (1-3 minutes' walk)
- Local Equipped Areas of Play (**LEAPs**): walking distance **400m** (5 minutes' walk)
- Neighbourhood Equipped Areas of Play (**NEAPs**): walking distance **1,000m** (15 minutes' walk)

In acknowledging the difficulty in achieving this standard, especially in urban areas, the PPG17 study proposes that open spaces used for other purposes be opened to play and that existing areas offer a greater variety of play opportunities where space allows. This policy requires a local solution, as play provision for older children and young people is often considered to disturb other uses of open space and those living adjacent.

Catchment areas are overlaid on the mapping of sites to help identify potential gaps in provision for each analysis area. In effect these are circular 'as the crow flies' areas (radial catchments). They do not simulate actual walking distances based on pedestrian routes or barriers to movement (a costly method). However, significant barriers to movement are also mapped to help recognise instances where access to open space provision may be restricted.



- 4.4 Results of the community survey have been used to set initial accessibility catchments. This is presented in table below and is applied to help inform potential deficiencies in play space provision. This standard has been adopted by the council for any new developments as they arise. The map overleaf shows the catchment mapping when the equivalent radial distance of 1200m is applied.

Table 3 – adopted standard for access to a play space

Open space type		Accessibility catchment	Equivalent radial distance
Play areas & provision for young people	Children's play	15-minute walk time	1,200m
	Youth provision	15-minute walk time	1,200m

4.5 **Equality Act 2010**

When assessing our play spaces, we ensure accessibility to and within the site, adjustments are made where practicable, quality assessment of the equipment is also carried out to ensure inclusion and signage and safety information is also shown pictorial. For new provision it is written into procurement tenders to ensure appropriate aspects of the Act are implemented both for play equipment provision, access to and from the sites, signage and seating.

4.6 **Parks and Open Space Assessment Community Survey – Play provision**

Respondents were asked what types of open and play space they like to visit. The most common type of open space to visit is parks with 81%. Other forms of open space they like to visit are play areas (66%), nature areas (63%), small grassed areas near home (49%) and sports pitches (38%).

The most common reason for visiting these types of open space is to play (81%). Meeting with friends (61%), exercising (51%) and to visit with family (46%) are commonly also cited reasons for visiting.

Respondents were asked what type of play provision they prefer to visit, formal and/or informal play spaces. There is an even split between formal and informal with a slightly higher proportion of respondents preferring more natural play opportunities (52%).

Respondents were asked what would make open spaces near them better. The most popular answers include sites to be clean and tidy (65%) and for more play equipment (64%).

Respondents were asked what deters you from using your local play space. The most popular answers were stranger danger (55.80%), not age appropriate (45.2%), high volumes of traffic (41.6%) and older children/adults (31.5%).

4.7 **Condition Survey**

Sites were also assessed against their age and current condition, levels of anti-social behaviour, independent insurance inspection reports, compliance with current standards and for play value.

Section 5: Our vision and themes

5.1 **Our vision for play**

“For every play space to be a destination, by creating a variety of sustainable play spaces that offer children and young people of all ages and abilities accessible, quality, challenging and fun opportunities for play.”

5.2 **Key themes**

Informed by the audits and consultation and linking into key strategic documents and priorities, a series of Play Strategy Themes have been developed. These set out the core objectives for the Play Strategy to develop and implement the needs and aspirations of children and young people in Chesterfield and will be the reference point for all action and delivery plans arising from the strategy.

Theme 1 - Raise awareness of play

The Council and its partners will raise awareness of the importance of play, in developing children’s and young person’s physical and social life skills. We want to develop a targeted approach to communicating messages about play opportunities to children and young people. This will:

- Improve participation and usage of current and future provision and maximise the benefits of play
- Provide a more inclusive approach to play
- Help to educate children, parents and carers of the importance of play in development

- Reduce negative perceptions of children and young people at play

Key improvement activities will include improving our website, social media and traditional media presence and maximising partnership communication channels. We will also ensure the dialogue continues with children, young people, parents and carers to enhance our understanding of needs and aspirations.

Theme 2 - Raising the quality of play

Raising the quality of play opportunities to children and young people will provide greater choice and more stimulating environments to develop physical and social skills. Our strategy for play will ensure that children and young people in our area have access to excellent play facilities in order to:

- Promote children's creativity, physical, mental and emotional well-being and healthy growth
- Recognise children's needs to test boundaries
- Balance opportunities for risk taking with prevention of serious harm
- Promote social interaction and respect for others
- Ensure all future facilities comply fully with the Disability Discrimination Act
- Work with partner agencies to assess the number of children and young people with additional needs

Key improvement activities include ensuring consultation with children, young people, parents and carers is undertaken when planning provision upgrades and new provision. We will undertake regular inspections and assessments of equipped play sites including repair, planned maintenance and replacement. All new play equipment will be assessed against Equality Act requirements to maximise inclusive play.

Theme 3 - Improving the range and accessibility of play provision

A facility or service, which fails to meet user needs, will no doubt receive little use. This would be a waste of resource and missed opportunity for our children and young people. By auditing our current play provision, we have been able to assess and better understand gaps in service provision, in particular by undertaking regular consultation with children and young people be able to ascertain what they find inspiring and how their needs might change

over the period of the strategy. Our play facilities and services must be fit for purposes of the user group they are intended for, so we need them to:

- Extend children's choice and control
- Make different kinds of play available
- Promote independence and self esteem
- Reduce barriers to play and increases the level of equal access

Key improvement activities include reviewing provision in line with the play audit findings to ensure geographic and user needs are met. This includes continuing to provide current levels of play provision where appropriate but also considering alternative use of areas where provision is no longer required or play spaces are low quality and value with limited scope for improvement.

Theme 4 - Informal and natural play opportunities

Embracing the natural landscape creates endless diversity in play as every play space will be different and different landscapes can offer different opportunities. Within the consultation and analysis, it is evident that there are competing pressures to expose children to an element of appropriate risk to improve the overall play experience and also to ensure these risks are controlled to keep people safe. Managed correctly, this theme has potential to enable children to interact with their environment and play in less formally contrived situations. A consequence of this will be improved physical fitness and mental health and wellbeing. We aim to:

- Make for effective and efficient use of our play spaces for all types of play
- Provide more opportunities for children and young people in the natural environment
- Stimulate more innovation in play activity

Key improvement activities include providing play opportunities which are inviting, remove physical barriers and introduce natural elements.

Theme 5 - Providing more resources to improve and develop play opportunities

Play adds great value for our communities in particular for children's happiness, health and development. We need to ensure that adequate resource is

available meet this need. The Strategy for Play will ensure that funding opportunities are identified to:

- Provide the necessary capital funding to develop new play opportunities
- Sustain funding to maintain current and future equipped play sites and their ongoing management

Key improvement activities include prioritising areas for investment and securing external funding where possible to further develop and renew existing play provision. Sites will also be identified that can be refurbished as part of the council homes estate improvement programme.

Theme 6 - Strategic Management and Growth Sites

A prerequisite for the play agenda in Chesterfield is the overriding vision to influence planning and policy making process. Associated with this is the desire to make collective decisions about play opportunities and enable resources to be utilised efficient and effectively. We will:

- Identify funding opportunities through community infrastructure levy for sites in close proximity to housing growth areas
- Continue to negotiate for on-site play provision on new developments with management agreements for ongoing maintenance agreements and/or off-site contributions to play facilities at existing play facilities and/or community parks
- Continue to influence excellent design and provision during the planning process

Section 6: Key policies

6.1 Policies

In order to establish the level of provision, and quality of service the following has been developed as policy guidance. Use of this guidance will enable Chesterfield Borough Council to measure performance against nationally recognised benchmark criteria, and also enable the creation of a local standard for play space as part of the Parks and Open Space Strategy.

Local play spaces and facilities with a catchment area of 1200 metres - the aim is to provide an equipped play area within a residential area, where the play area is no more than 1200 metres from home.

Neighbourhood spaces and facilities with a catchment area of 1200 metres

- large equipped destination play areas primarily for children of all ages providing a mixture of facilities which may include wheeled facilities, kick-about areas or multi use games areas.

Safety and quality – to ensure play venues are maintained at a good standard they will receive a technical assessment every calendar month by fully trained staff and a yearly independent inspection will be carried out by the council's insurers.

6.2 **Priorities and Actions**

By using the data obtained from a range of sources, findings of the audit and mapping we can make informed decisions about how play space provision currently meets the needs of the children and young people of Chesterfield borough and how to plan for future needs. We will use a system of classification that can determine the future use of a site and prioritise those sites where funding should be directed to bringing sites up to the required quality standard. Sites will be classified as follows:

- **Sustain** – has received investment within the last ten years, continue to maintain quality through normal routine maintenance and inspection.
- **Enhance** – invest to bring up to modern standard – could include naturalistic play elements as well as fixed play equipment.
- **Enhance/Sustain** – invest to bring up to modern standard – an existing facility may be at sustain standard for the primary play provision for toddlers and juniors but there might be demand for additional facilities for older children i.e. a multi-use games area in a community park.
- **Modify** – consider adaptation to informal play space/naturalistic play space/retained as public open space. Disposal of a site could be considered if there is an oversupply of play space in the area and if investment wouldn't improve the overall quality and value.

We will use the findings of the open space assessment and audits for play to determine which sites should be considered for enhancement. These are often in a strategic location and/or are recognised as serving an important role.

6.3 **Natural play**

As part of the review, consideration to providing more natural play opportunities with landscaping has been given. A slightly higher proportion of survey respondents cited preferring natural play opportunities as opposed to traditional play equipment. The introduction of other forms of play activity is also recommended for consideration.

6.4 **Outdoor gyms**

Outdoor gym equipment is recognised nationally as a popular and inclusive form of physical activity for young people and adults. This could also assist in helping to tackle the challenges of an ageing population. Chesterfield borough will see a greater increase in the 65+ age band than any other age band up to 2036. The low impact exercise opportunities offered by outdoor gym equipment could therefore help with the challenges of an ageing population as well as providing physical activity opportunities for other age groups.

Section 7: Play space investment and funding

7.1 **5-year Investment Plan**

We will develop a 5-year investment plan to determine those play spaces in need of investment. Key features will include estimated costs for raising each of the existing play areas identified to a safe and enticing standard in line with the council's vision for play. Also included will be the life expectancy for the play area and an allocated year to carry out improvements. These dates may change as funding or other resources change, but the development plan and audit will be reviewed every year to keep account of changes. This could include where developer's funds, unexpected windfall opportunities and grant aid are available, creating a need to fast track these play areas in order to meet target spend dates.

The 2018 Open Space Assessment and CBC Play Assessment identified gaps in provision for older children. This provision is traditionally found in community and destination parks.

7.2 Sustaining and delivering new play provision in new residential development

Future population growth will provide added demand to the requirements for open space provision. An increase in population will create increases in use of provision which in turn will reduce the lifespan of existing sites and/or features (e.g. play equipment, maintenance regimes etc). This will lead to the increased requirement to refurbish and/or replace such forms of provision. Consequently, there is a need to plan for the requirements and needs of future population growth.

Section 8: Delivery, monitoring and review

8.1 Play Strategy Delivery

We will develop a delivery plan to support the delivery of the key themes. Delivery of the play strategy will ultimately be the responsibility of Chesterfield Borough Council; however, we will continue to work in partnership where possible and engage with local communities including children and young people to maximise delivery of the strategy. Feedback from consultation has and will continue to be the main factor in delivering play provision throughout the Borough.

8.2 Monitoring and review

The development of a delivery and investment plan will be a key tool to manage, control and report on progress. Progress against the delivery and investment plan will be monitored and challenged via the Cabinet Portfolio holder on an annual basis to ensure that actions remain on target. This will also include the opportunity to make any amendments to the delivery and investment plan responding to emerging needs and challenges. Key performance information will also be monitored and challenged during the

plan period including satisfaction and usage data, quality and value for money updates.



CHESTERFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DRAFT

This page is intentionally left blank



Appendix A

Play Strategy 2021 – 2026

Evidence Base

Quality Assessment

The quality assessment carried out as part of this play strategy draws on the principles of the ROSPA Play Quality Awards judging system. Each of the sites visited during the audits were assessed in relation to quality. This took into consideration a range of factors including site safety, accessibility and environment.

The table below illustrates the quality system used for this assessment.

Quality Factor	Available Maximum Score
SITE OVERALL	
Social Safety	4
Physical Safety	4
Pollution Free	1
Noise Free	2
Minimum of two gates (pedestrian)	3
Gates suitable for wheelchairs	2
Vehicle access gate	1
Emergency vehicle access	2
Age Separation (children of all ages are able to play together)	4
Ground Contours	3
Shade Present	1
Shelter (all ages)	2
Access for Disabled	3
Suitability (for use as a play space)	2
Environmental suitability	2
Locally related	3
Use of planting	2
Wild flowers	3
Trees	3
Long Grass	3
Orientation	1
Appropriate Signage	1
Colour Suitability	2
Open Space	3
Wheelchair Friendly Surfacing Linking Items	4
Site Overall Total	61
Quality Factor	Available Maximum Score
Ambience	
Visual appeal	10
Condition (litter and graffiti)	2
Layout	2
Ambience Total	14
Overall Quality Score	75

This scoring process enables the comparison of sites throughout the borough, with higher scoring sites being of a better quality. There is however some limitation in relation to the methodology employed as part of the quality audit, which should be clarified. It should also be noted that when assessing both quality and value we did not just assess the defined play space but also the wider play opportunities of the site in which the play space is located.

Although the quality assessment provides a robust method for assessing overall quality, it should be noted that smaller sites, specifically LAP's are by their nature likely to score lower as they do not have the available space, and to an extent the need for some play features. What the quality audit does achieve is a comparable baseline assessment to identify general patterns in provision across the Borough, which in turn will help address shortcomings in resources and plan future management strategies.

Value Assessment

Value Factor	Score (1=low 5=high)
LOCATION	
Informal oversight by passer-by or nearby properties.	
Well used by children.	
Ease of getting to and accessing the site.	
Personal safety, security and lighting.	
Access for those with impairments or buggies and pushchairs.	
Opportunities for meeting other children on route.	
Designed for the site.	
Location Total (out of 35)	
PLAY VALUE	
Enticing children to play.	
Play opportunities for disabled children.	
Movement.	
Ball games.	
Opportunities to change the environment / space (loose parts).	
Access to the natural environment.	
Places for children to sit.	
Added play value: the site offers more than just a basic experience.	
Play Value Total (out of 40)	
CARE AND MAINTENANCE	
Well maintained.	
Health & Safety.	
Seating for adults.	
Litter bins.	
Dog free zones.	
Care and Maintenance Total (out of 25)	
VALUE TOTAL (out of 100)	

To an extent play value is a subjective quality, for example, what for one child may be a brilliant and exciting play space, may be considered dull and unimaginative for another. Play value is not purely concerned with equipment, access, appearance it takes into account the contents of the site, the level and type of use and wider benefits. The approach taken to assessing the play value of a play space is based on the Playable Space Quality Assessment Tool developed by Play England in October 2009, which considers how a play space

can meet Play England’s golden rule that “a successful play space is a place in its own right, specially designed for its location, in such a way as to provide as much play value as possible.”

The table below summaries the system using for assessing the value of play spaces and how the contribution to children and young people’s play experience.

It should be noted that there is an element of cross over between the factors that are used to assess quality and value. For example, care and maintenance impacts both the quality of a site and the way in which a child experiences play within the context of the site.

Undertaking a value assessment Chesterfield’s play spaces enables us to plan strategically for the future in order to ensure that play provision is challenging, stimulating and engaging.

Details of the value scores of the 81 sites which were assessed for play value during the play space audit are attached.

Quality and Value Matrix

Although National Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) Note 17: Open Space, Sport & Recreation 2002 has been replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework it outlines a method for comparing quality and value scores as a means for Local Authorities to identify key actions for the future of open and green spaces such as play spaces. The matrix in the table below is based on the guidance in PPG 17 and provides a potential method for determining actions for the development of each play space.

High Quality/Low Value	High Quality/High Value
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the quality. • Undertake further assessment on the value with the aim of enhancing its present primary purpose. • Consider if it would be a high value if converted to another primary purpose. • Change of use is only acceptable if the options above are not achievable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the quality. • Protect the site through planning process.
Low Quality/Low Value	High Value/Low Quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the quality as long as it is also possible to enhance the value. • Assess primary purpose as the site could be surplus to requirements in terms of present primary purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the site quality to meet the require standard. • Protect the site through the planning process.

The 81 play spaces assessed in the audit have been assigned into the above matrix. The site rating takes into account both the quality and value scores making a distinction between high and low scoring sites. The average score for both quality and value has been used to assign scores. The table below shows the results of this process.

Contribution Criteria

Whilst play quality and value are useful tools for ascertaining the contribution that play spaces make to Chesterfield's play provision and can be used as a useful decision making tool for deciding the future of play spaces, there are a number of factors that it does not take into account.

Alongside value and quality, we have used a range of data sources to factor into the strategic decision-making process the contribution that play spaces make to meeting the needs of the community. The table below summarises a range of factors, that impact on how a play space contributes to its local community and outlines a scoring system which enables a meaningful comparison of sites. This process enables us to understand the contribution each play space makes to its community; with a higher score denoting that the park area/play space is more valuable to the community.

Contribution Criteria

Factor	Criteria	Rationale	Measure	Score	Weight
Context	Accessibility	Based on Audit	Limited	5	33%
			Unrestricted	10	
	Proximity	Based on GIS Analysis using FiT Accessibility Standard Buffers. No overlaps = relative high value, increased overlaps relative low value.	No overlap	10	
			1 overlap	9	
			2 overlaps	8	
			3 overlaps	7	
			4 overlaps	6	
			5 overlaps	5	
			6 overlaps	4	
			7 overlaps	3	
			8 overlaps	2	
			9+overlaps	1	
	Quantity	Based on level of provision at ward level assessed against FiT standard quantity benchmark.	Below 0.25Ha	10	
			0.25 – 0.5Ha	9	
			0.5 – 1Ha	8	
1 – 1.5Ha			7		
1.5 – 2Ha			6		
		2 – 2.5Ha	5		

			2.5 – 3Ha	4	
			3 – 3.5Ha	3	
			3.5 – 4Ha	2	
			4Ha+	1	
Type of Use	Hierarchy	Based on Prescribed typology derived from audit.	Destination	10	33%
			NEAP	7	
			LEAP	5	
			LAP	3	
Benefit to Local Population	Deprivation Children & Young People Population	Based on Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Assessed at LSOA Level.	0 – 10% most deprived	10	33%
			11 – 20% most deprived	7	
			0 – 10% least deprived	5	
			Percentage of Chesterfield's children and young people living in the area. Assessed at ward level	0 – 0.5%	
		0.6 – 1.0%	5		
		1.1 – 1.5%	7		
		1.6 – 2.0%	10		

We have been able to use data from a range of sources, the findings of the audit and mapping to make informed assumptions about how play space provision meets the needs of the children and young people of Chesterfield.

Consultation

Views about play and play provision

Consultation with children and young people in the borough, plus residents, parents and stakeholders, plays a key role in our strategic approach to providing for children's play in Chesterfield.

The consultation process engaged with a wide variety of stakeholders via questionnaires, public meetings, focus groups etc

The main aim was to ensure residents had the opportunity to give their views on play in Chesterfield, to help shape and direct the play strategy and to make sure the priorities reflect the needs of the community.

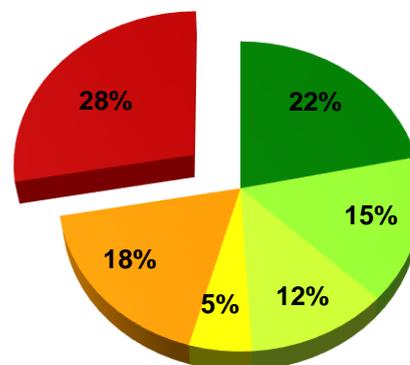
The key consultation findings relating to the provision of fixed equipment play areas are outlined below.

Participation

How often have you visited/used play spaces or teenage provision?

How often have you visited/used the play areas in the last 12 months?

- More than once a week
- Once a week
- 2-3 times a month
- Once a month

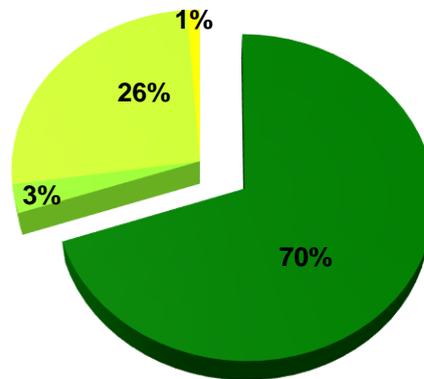


Respondents were asked to name the three sites they visit most often. The most popular site is Queens Park. A total of 43% of respondents state they often visit the site. Holmebrook Valley Country Park is the other specific park site cited as being visited often by respondents. Over a third of respondents (35%) cite visiting Holmebrook Valley Country Park often. Other sites popular for respondents to visit are Somersall Park, Walton Dam, Poolsrook Country Park (19%) and Eastwood Park (14%).

Accessibility

What is the main form of transport you use to reach each play area?

■ Non-vehicle ■ Public transport ■ Private vehicle ■ Cycle

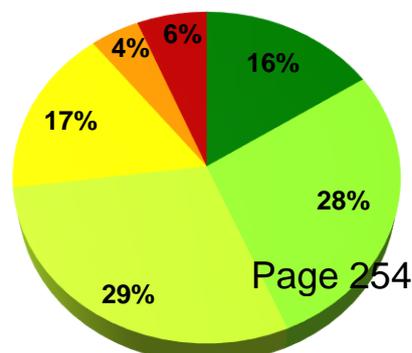


Respondents were asked what the main mode of travel they use to access play and open space provision. An assumption is made for only the most common modes of travel to be listed as possible options.

Travel to open space sites

How long are you willing to spend travelling to the play areas?

■ Up to 5 minutes ■ 10 minutes ■ 15 minutes
 ■ 30 minutes ■ 45 minutes ■ Over 45 minutes



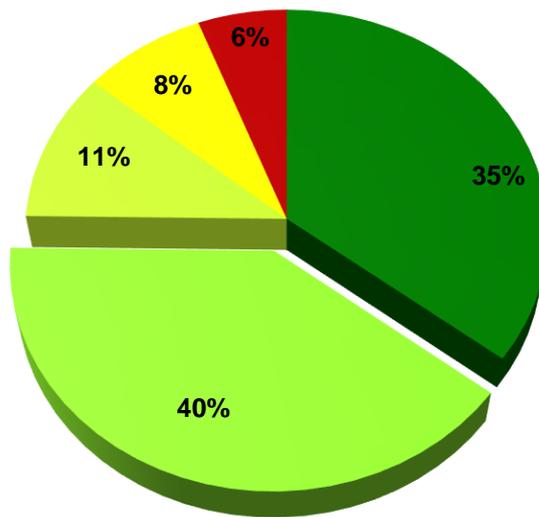
Quantity of play space

In general, respondents consider the amount of provision to be quite satisfactory for most open space typologies. A noticeable proportion of respondents also view quantity as very satisfactory.

How satisfied are you with the quantity of the play

How satisfied are you with how close the play areas are to you?

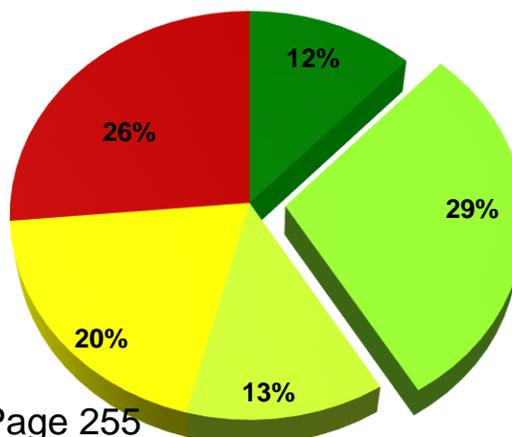
- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied



Quality

How satisfied are you with the quality of the play areas?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied or dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied



Respondents to the survey were asked what improvements would most encourage them to use open space more in their area. The most common answers include maintenance and improvements (64%), cleanliness (60%) and new facilities e.g. café, play equipment 33%).

Improvements to play equipment is also highlighted by the 24% of respondents that answer different play opportunities from what is usually provided.

What improvements would encourage more visits?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Attractiveness of the site, flowers, trees etc	37.6%
Maintenance and improvement of footpaths, seats, shelters etc	63.9%
Good access to spaces	17.6%
Cleanliness	60.5%
Community involvement	15.5%
Increasing the amount of open spaces	22.4%
Accessibility improvements e.g. wheelchair access	5.7%
Different play opportunities than usually provided	23.5%
New facilities at existing spaces e.g. play equipment, cafe	33.4%
Use of open spaces for events etc	14.5%
Good public information about spaces and events	11.2%
More natural wildlife environments	26.2%
To incorporate a feeling of safety through lighting, fencing etc	18.2%
Other (please state below)	3.6%

The community survey also asked specific questions regarding play. Respondents were asked what type of play provision they visit most often; and, what type of play provision would they prefer.

A fairly even split between response figures is observed. A slightly higher proportion of respondents visit smaller play sites nearer to home (52%) and would prefer more natural play opportunities (57%).

What types of play do you visit most often?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Larger play sites with lots of different equipment often located at a park	48.5%
Smaller play sites with less equipment but nearer to home	51.5%

What types of play do you prefer?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
More natural play opportunities with landscaping	57.4%
Traditional play equipment	42.6%

Children and Young Peoples Survey

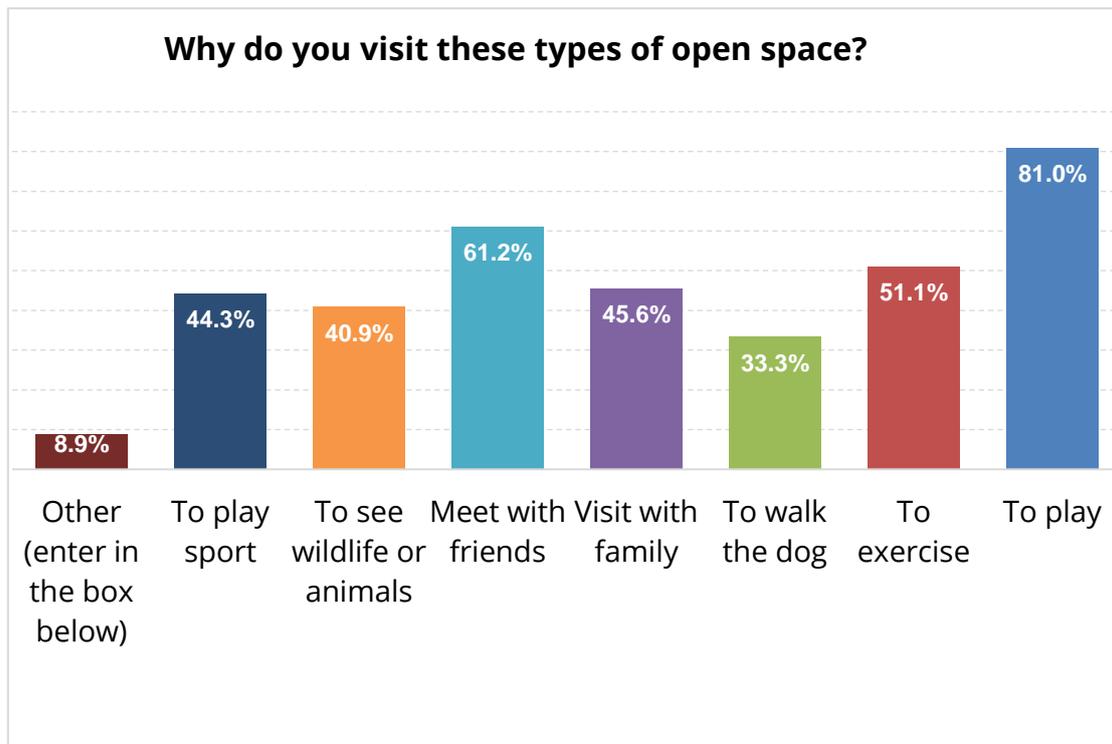
Children and young people were asked what types of open space they like to visit. The most common type of open space to visit is parks with 81%. Other forms of open space they like to visit are play areas (66%), nature areas (63%), small grassed areas near home (49%) and sports pitches (38%).

Visits to open space

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Parks	81.0%
Play areas	63.3%
Nature areas	66.2%
Small grassed areas near home	49.4%
Sports pitches	38.0%
None	3.0%

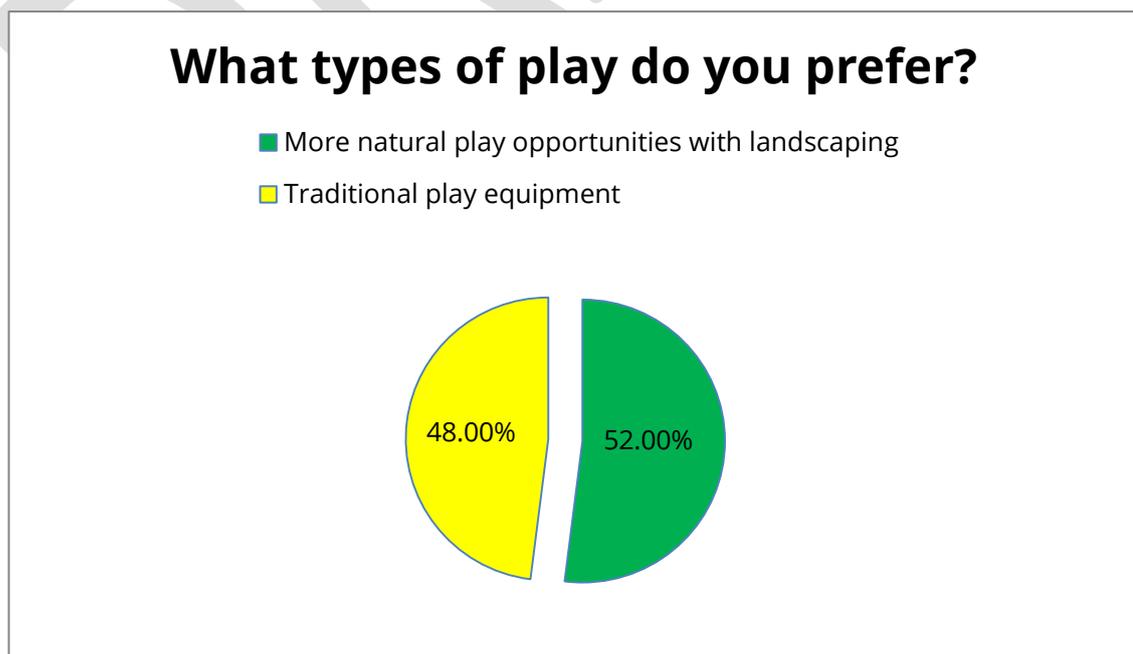
The most common reason for visiting these types of open space is to play (81%). Meeting with friends (61%), exercising (51%) and to visit with family (46%) are commonly also cited reasons for visiting.

Reasons for visiting

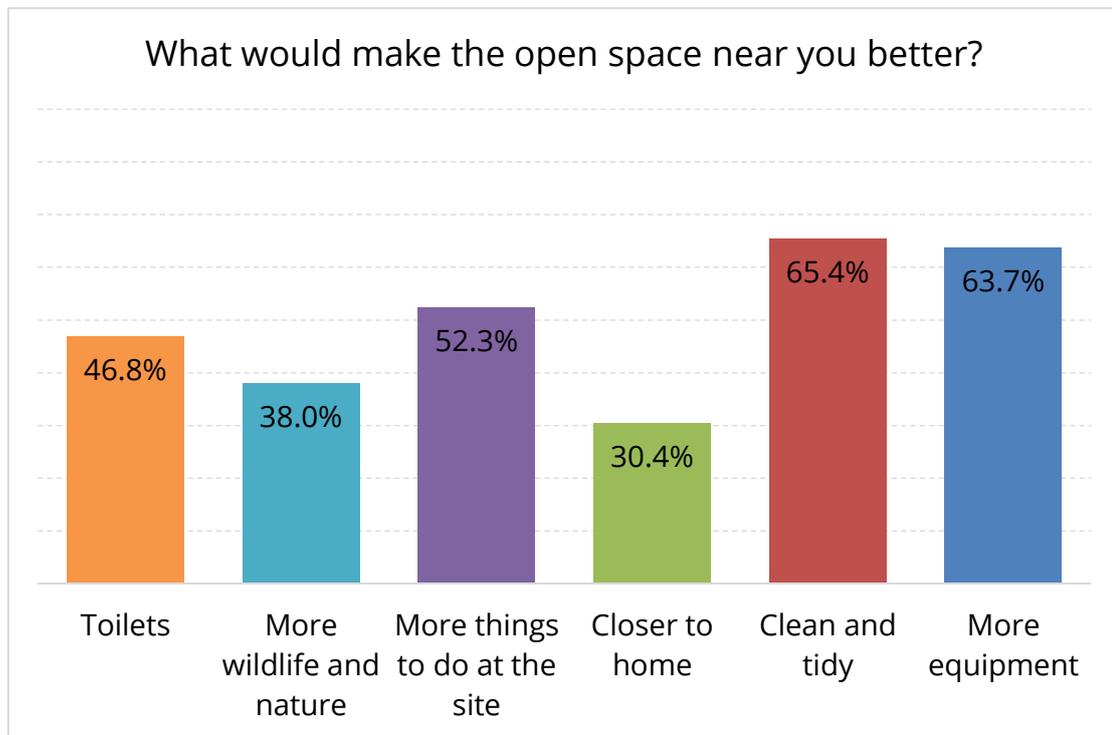


Respondents were asked what type of play provision they prefer to visit. A fairly even split between response figures is observed. A slightly higher proportion of respondents prefer more natural play opportunities (52%).

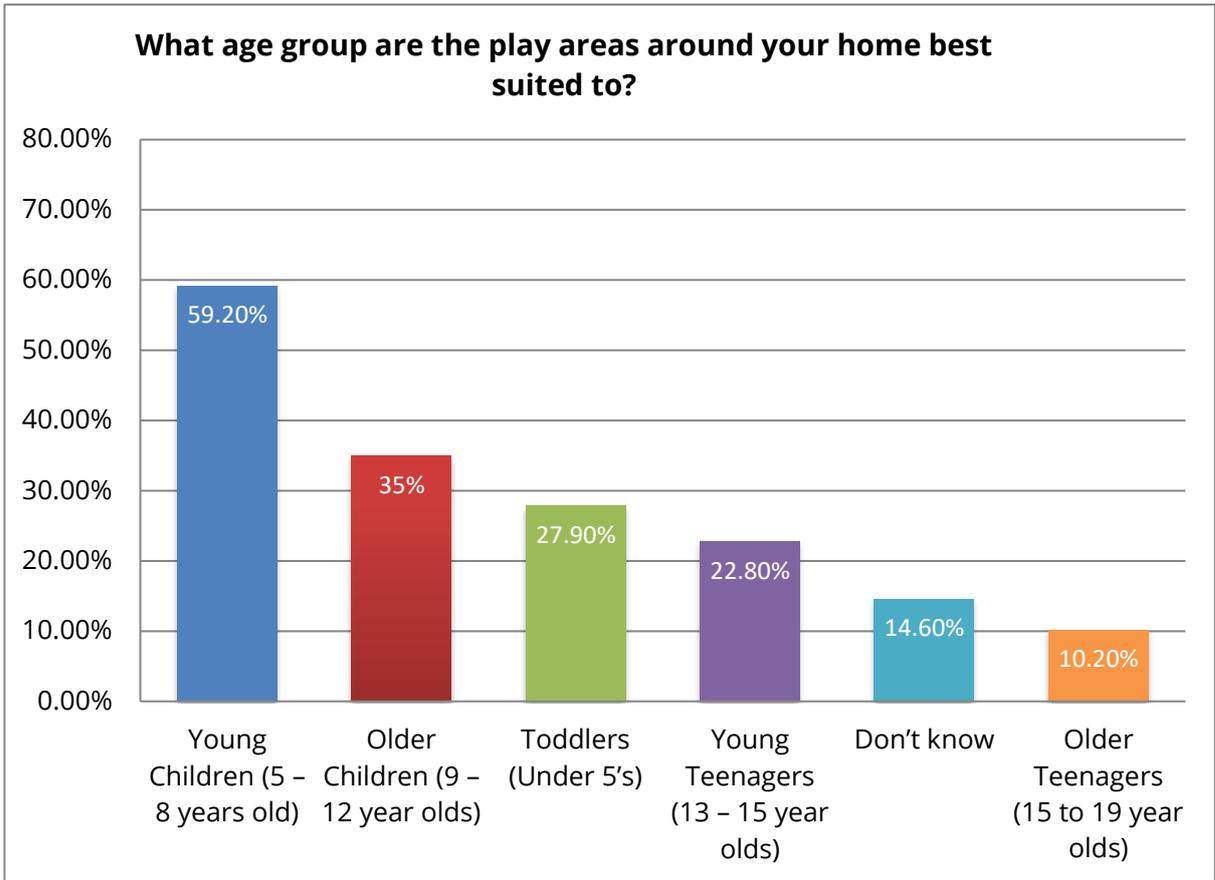
What types of play do you prefer?



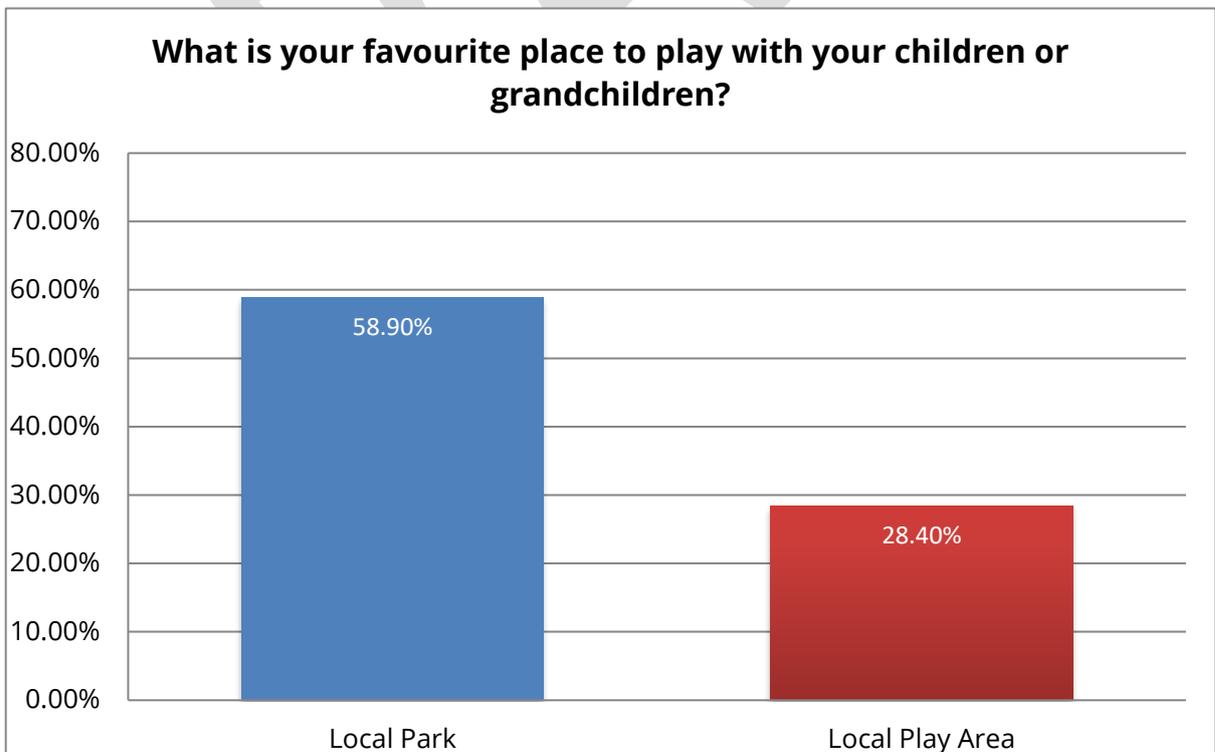
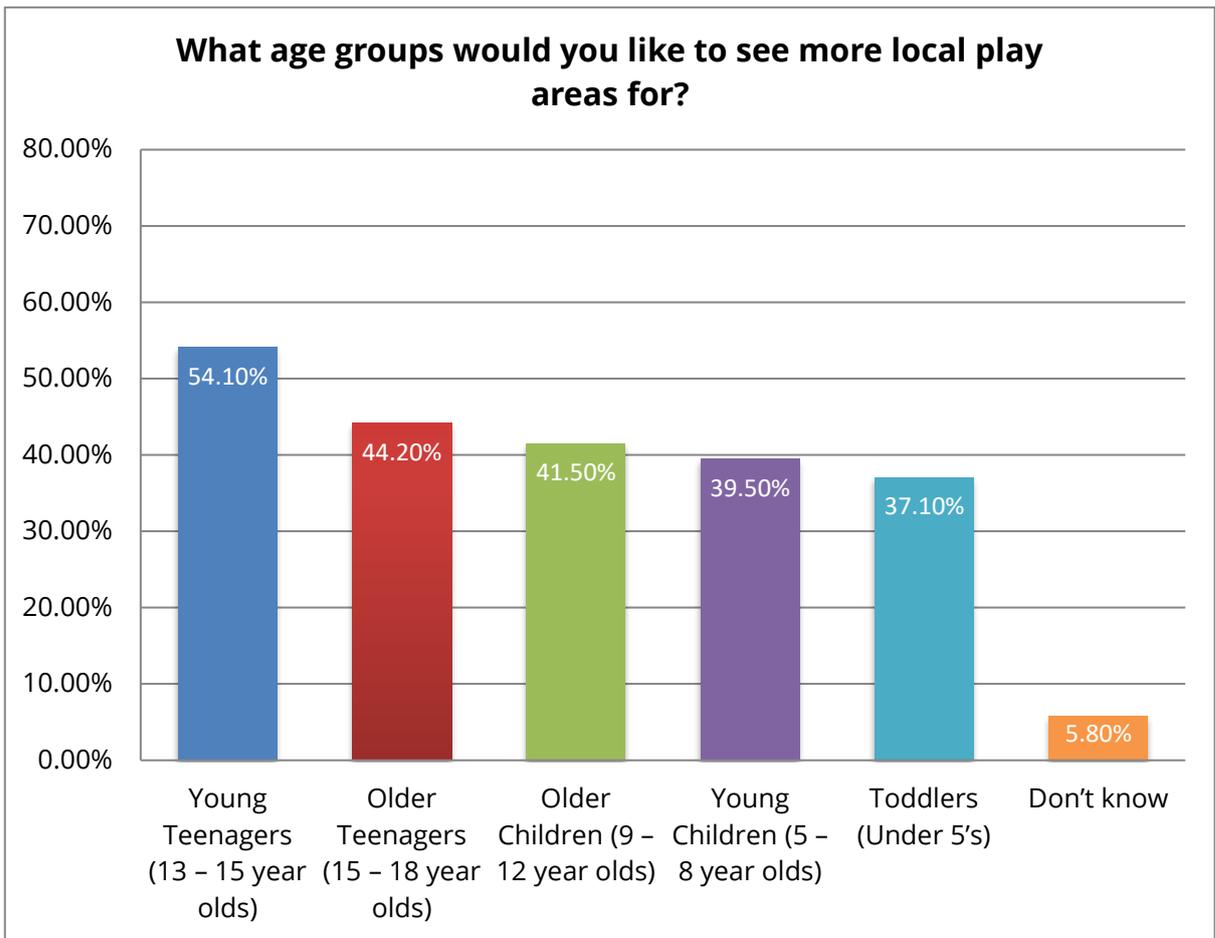
Respondents were asked what would make open spaces near them better. The most popular answers include sites to be clean and tidy (65%) and for more play equipment (64%).



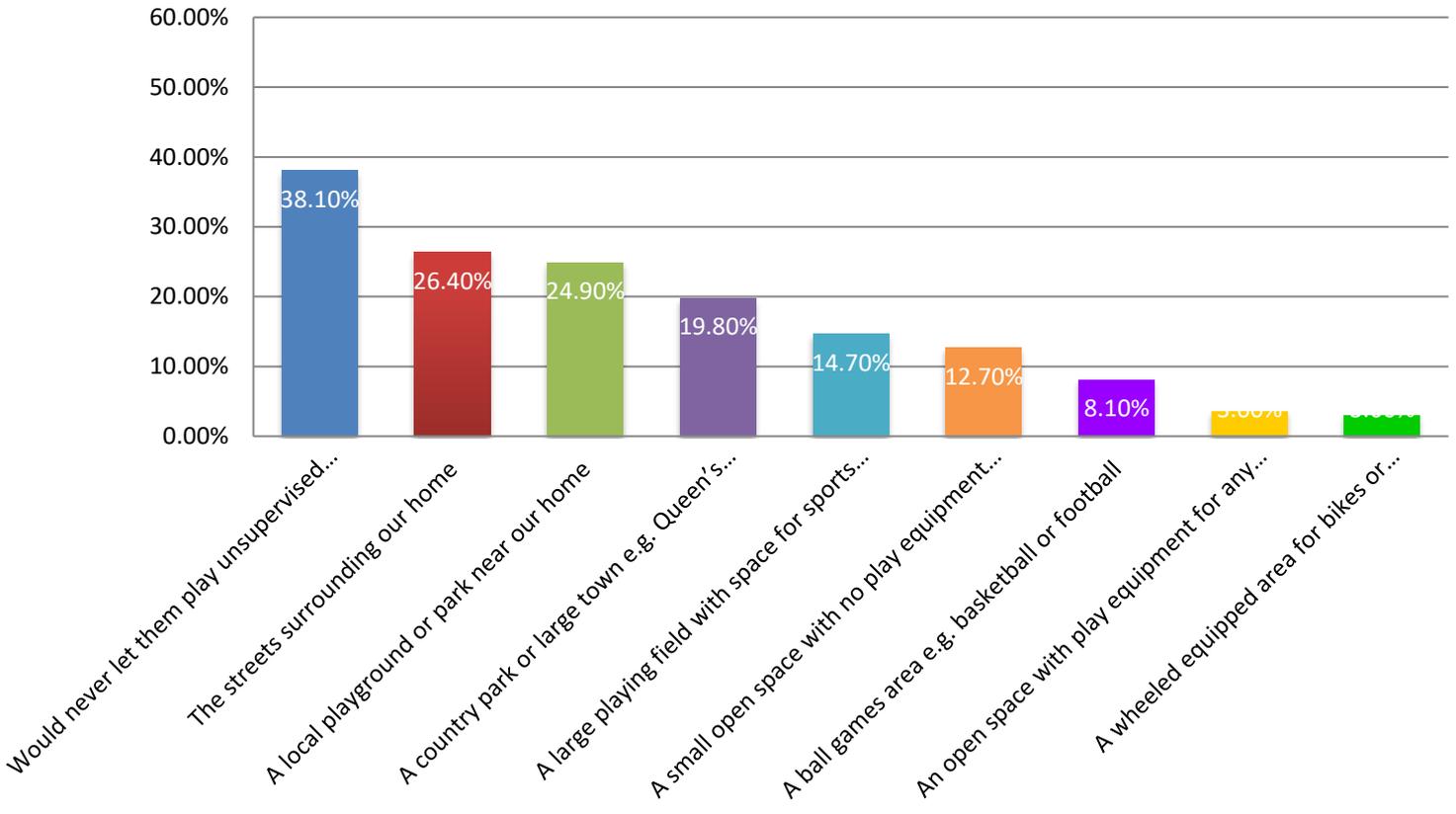
Respondents were asked what age group are the play areas around your home best suited to. The responses illustrate that gaps persist for older children and young people and this was borne out by the response to the follow on question.



DRAFT



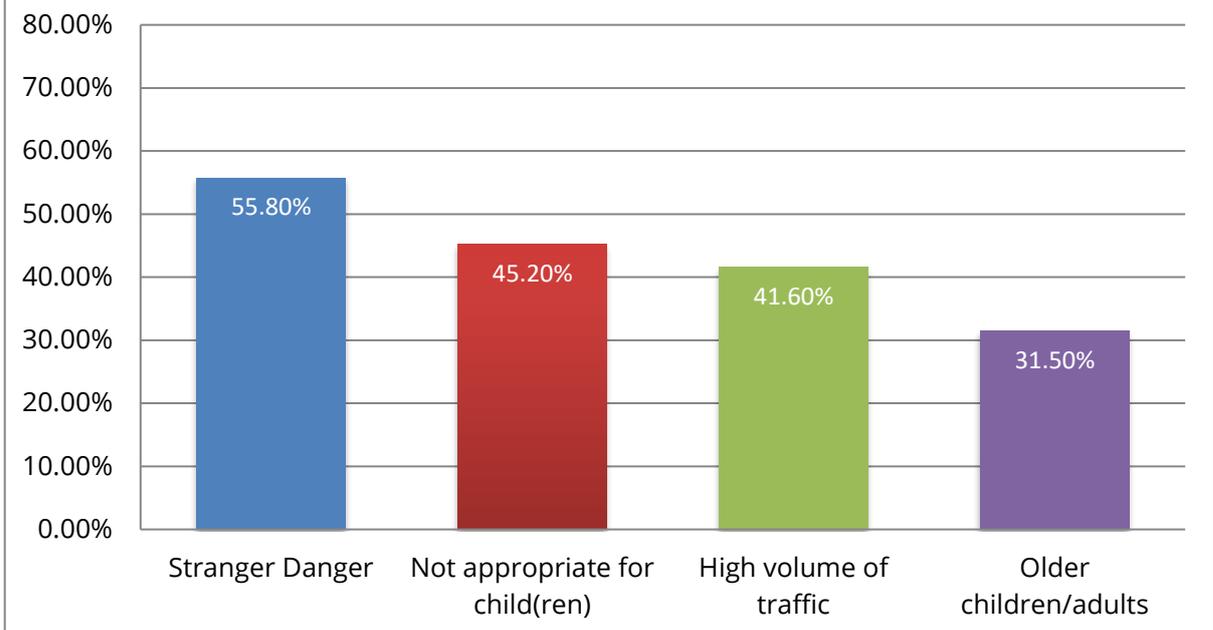
Where do your children or grandchildren play when playing on their own/without adult supervision?



38% of respondents said they would never let their children play unsupervised outside. 25% said their children use the local park or play space to play.

Barriers to play

What stops you letting your children or grandchildren play on the streets surrounding your home?



Ward Profiles

Poolsbrook and Middlecroft Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
32	King George Playing Field	Inkersall Road	S43 3JR	Middlecroft	NEAP	CBC
47	Pools Brook Country Park	Pavilion Drive	S43 3LS	Poolsbrook	NEAP	CBC
45	Cottage Close	Cottage Close	S43 3LP	Poolsbrook	LEAP	CBC
57	Silverwell Drive	St Anne's Close	S43 3LT	Middlecroft	LAP	CBC
12	Circular Road	Circular Road	S43 3XJ	Middlecroft	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Middlecroft and Poolsbrook			Chesterfield Borough Council		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
0 - 4	196	196	392	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	157	144	301	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	201	164	365	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	194	195	389	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 006E	Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	5,932	Top 20%
Chesterfield 002E	Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	2,656	Top 10%
Chesterfield 002D	Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	2,196	Top 10%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	King George Playing Field	NEAP	16	20	32
Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	Pools Brook Country Park	NEAP	75	78	36
Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	Cottage Close	LEAP	44	58	31
Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	Silverwell Drive	LAP	34	51	28
Middlecroft and Poolsbrook	Circular Road	LEAP	44	73	32

Brimington North Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
7	Damon Drive	Damon Drive	S43 1JD	Brimington North	LEAP	CBC
63	Thistle Park	Station Road	S43 1JH	Brimington North	NEAP	CBC
49	Princess Street	Queen Street/Princess Street	S43 1HS	Brimington North	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Brimington North			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	Age	M	F	Tot	M	F
0 - 4	130	144	274	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	107	112	219	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	93	115	208	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	140	132	272	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 005A	Brimington North	13,803	Top 50%
Chesterfield 003C	Brimington North	8,440	Top 30%
Chesterfield 003D	Brimington North	7,016	Top 30%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Brimington North	Damon Drive	LEAP	8	8	42
Brimington North	Thistle Park	NEAP	46	64	42
Brimington North	Princess Street	LEAP	23	28	41

Brimington South Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
40	Manor Road Rec	Manor Road	S43 1PQ	Brimington South	NEAP	CBC
65	Tapton Park	Brimington Road	S41 0ST	Brimington South	NEAP	CBC
38	Lockoford Lane	Darwent Road	S41 0UE	Brimington South	LAP	CBC
82	Windermill Way	Windermill Way	S43 1GR	Brimington South	LAP	CBC
37	Headland Road	Headland Road	S43 1QT	Brimington South	LAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Brimington South			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	158	134	292	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	110	127	237	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	164	168	332	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	145	182	327	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 005B	Brimington South	24,766	Least 30%
Chesterfield 005D	Brimington South	24,062	Least 30%
Chesterfield 005D	Brimington South	8,242	Top 30%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Brimington South	Manor Road Rec	NEAP	47	72	44
Brimington South	Tapton Park	NEAP	45	41	36
Brimington South	Lockoford Lane	LAP	35	39	38
Brimington South	Windermill Way	LAP	32	45	39
Brimington South	Headland Road	LAP	33	29	38

St Helens Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
27	Highfield Rec Ground	Highfield Lane	S41 8BB	St Helens	NEAP	CBC
19	Edinburgh Road	Edinburgh Road	S41 7HE	St Helens	LEAP	CBC
9	Canal Wharf	Canal Wharf	S41 7LY	St Helens	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	St Helens			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	132	143	275	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	126	120	246	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	147	121	268	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	164	150	314	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 010D	St Helens	5,285	Top 20%
Chesterfield 007D	St Helens	5,825	Top 20%
Chesterfield 007E	St Helens	5,494	Top 20%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
St Helens	Highfield Rec Ground	NEAP	29	62	44
St Helens	Edinburgh Road	LEAP	51	85	43
St Helens	Canal Wharf	LEAP	34	54	43

Moor Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
60	Stand Road Park	Stand Road	S41 8SW	Moor	NEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Moor			Chesterfield Borough Council		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
0 - 4	119	106	225	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	92	90	182	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	114	111	225	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	138	143	281	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 007B	Moor	8,100	Top 30%
Chesterfield 007C	Moor	12,269	Top 40%
Chesterfield 004E	Moor	5,699	Top 20%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Moor	Stand Road Park	NEAP	39	76	41

Linacre Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
1	Ashopton Road	Ashopton Road	S41 8XB	Linacre	LAP	CBC
43	Parkside View	Parkside View	S41 8WE	Linacre	LAP	CBC
64	Stoops Close	Stoops Close	S40 4YE	Linacre	LAP	CBC
8	Brushfield Rec Ground	Woodleigh Close	S40 4XW	Linacre	LEAP	CBC
81	Holme Brook Valley Park Top	Watermeadow Drive	S41 8XD	Linacre	NEAP	CBC
80	Holme Brook Valley Park Bottom	Linacre Road	S40 4RY	Linacre	NEAP	CBC
48	Priestfield Gardens	S41 8XH		Linacre	LAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Linacre			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	Age	M	F	Tot	M	F
0 - 4	87	97	184	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	107	83	190	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	119	125	244	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	137	163	300	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 008C	Linacre	27,796	Least 20%
Chesterfield 008B	Linacre	27,047	Least 20%
Chesterfield 008A	Linacre	17,423	Least 50%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Linacre	Ashopton Road	LAP	30	38	30
Linacre	Parkside View	LAP	39	48	30
Linacre	Pearsons Croft	LAP	30	38	30
Linacre	Riddings Croft	LAP	30	38	30
Linacre	Stoops Close	LAP	34	32	32
Linacre	Brushfield Rec Ground	LEAP	45	64	45
Linacre	Holme Brook Valley Park Top	NEAP	65	76	38
Linacre	Holme Brook Valley Park Bottom	NEAP	60	66	38
Linacre	Priestfield Gardens	LAP	47	49	31

Hasland Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
25	Heathervale Road	Gorse Valley Road	S41 0LL	Hasland	LEAP	CBC
42	Seagrave Drive	Chepstow Close	S41 0YD	Hasland	LAP	CBC
26	Oadby Drive (far end)	Oadby Drive	S41 0UA	Hasland	LAP	CBC
5	Bradgate Croft	Bradgate Croft	S41 0XZ	Hasland	LAP	CBC
74	Knighton Close	Knighton Close	S41 0XL	Hasland	LAP	CBC
13	Waltham Croft	Oadby Drive	S41 0UZ	Hasland	LAP	CBC
33	Kirby Close	Kirby Close	S41 0UY	Hasland	LAP	CBC
16	Storforth Lane Terrace	Storforth Lane Terrace	S41 0PY	Hasland	LEAP	CBC
68	Harcourt Close	Harcourt Close	S41 0XB	Hasland	LEAP	CBC
41	Oadby Drive	Oadby Drive	S41 0YA	Hasland	LAP	CBC
17	Eastwood Park	Eastwood Park Drive	S41 0AY	Hasland	NEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Hasland			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	175	186	361	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	174	177	351	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	187	177	364	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	212	205	417	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 012A	Hasland	19,559	Least 50%
Chesterfield 012B	Hasland	19,870	Least 40%
Chesterfield 012C	Hasland	5,077	Top 20%
Chesterfield 012D	Hasland	22,109	Least 40%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Hasland	Heathervale Road	LEAP	32	49	38
Hasland	Seagrave Drive	LAP	38	52	35
Hasland	Oadby Drive (far end)	LAP	38	52	35
Hasland	Bradgate Croft	LAP	38	52	35
Hasland	Knighton Close	LAP	38	52	34
Hasland	Waltham Croft	LAP	38	52	35
Hasland	Kirby Close	LAP	38	52	35
Hasland	Storforth Lane Terrace	LEAP	26	39	37
Hasland	Harcourt Close	LEAP	45	42	37
Hasland	Oadby Drive	LAP	37	40	47
Hasland	Eastwood Park	NEAP	53	94	

St Leonards Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
51/52	Queen's Park	Boythorpe Avenue	S40 2BF	St Leonards	NEAP	CBC
20	Valley Road	Valley Road	S41 0HB	St Leonards	LEAP	CBC
59	Spital Lane	Spital Lane	S41 0HP	St Leonards	LEAP	CBC
30	Rose Garth Close	Rose Garth Close	S41 0GE	St Leonards	LAP	CBC
3	Barnes Road	Barnes Road	S41 0BX	St Leonards	LEAP	CBC
76?	Wain Avenue	Wain Avenue	S41 0FB	St Leonards	LAP	CBC
76?	Wain Avenue	Wain Avenue	S41 0FD	St Leonards	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	St Leonards			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	138	136	276	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	143	125	263	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	144	163	304	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	195	173	365	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 012E	St Leonards	13,494	Top 50%
Chesterfield 012F	St Leonards	23,232	Least 30%
Chesterfield 012G	St Leonards	18,295	Least 50%
Chesterfield 010G	St Leonards	6,592	Top 30%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
St Leonards	Queen's Park	NEAP	63	92	63
St Leonards	Valley Road	LEAP	32	59	41
St Leonards	Spital Lane	LEAP	38	55	40
St Leonards	Rose Garth Close	LAP	36	36	39
St Leonards	Barnes Road	LEAP	28	32	41
St Leonards	Wain Avenue	LAP	36	59	40
St Leonards	Wain Avenue	LEAP	48	67	40

Lowgates and Woodthorpe Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
70	Lansbury Avenue	Wickens Place	S43 3FE	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	NEAP	CBC
22	Hartington Rec Ground	Franklyn Drive	S43 3YA	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	LEAP	CBC
31	Howells Place	Howells Place	S43 3FA	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	LAP	CBC
4	Belmont Bottom	Belmont Drive	S43 3PH	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	LEAP	CBC
23	Hassop Road	Hassop Road	S43 3YT	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Lowgates and Woodthorpe			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	138	138	276	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	143	125	268	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	141	163	304	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	195	173	368	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 002A	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	5,289	Top 20%
Chesterfield002B	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	14,729	Top 50%
Chesterfield 002C	Lowgates and Woodthorpe	3,341	Top 20%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Lowgates and Woodthorpe	Wickens Place	NEAP	51	72	49
Lowgates and Woodthorpe	Hartington Recreation Ground	LEAP	19	37	46
Lowgates and Woodthorpe	Howells Place	LAP	45	53	44
Lowgates and Woodthorpe	Belmont Drive	LEAP	47	77	45
Lowgates and Woodthorpe	Hassop Road	LEAP	51	79	45

Barrowhill and New Whittington Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
75	Coupland Close	Coupland Close	S41 9TB	Barrowhill and New Whittington	LAP	CBC
6	Brearley Park	Brearley Street	S41 9LN	Barrowhill and New Whittington	NEAP	CBC
14	Devonshire Road North	Devonshire Road North	S43 2BH	Barrowhill and New Whittington	LEAP	CBC
62	Station Road Rec Ground	Station Road	S43 2NL	Barrowhill and New Whittington	NEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Barrowhill and New Whittington			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	176	169	345	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	140	144	284	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	196	187	383	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	205	161	366	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 001A	Barrowhill and New Whittington	11,796	Top 40%
Chesterfield 001B	Barrowhill and New Whittington	21,058	Least 40%
Chesterfield 003A	Barrowhill and New Whittington	2,711	Top 10%
Chesterfield 003B	Barrowhill and New Whittington	13,349	Top 50%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Barrowhill and New Whittington	Coupland Close	LAP	42	42	47
Barrowhill and New Whittington	Brearley Park	NEAP	50	87	50
Barrowhill and New Whittington	Devonshire Road North	LEAP	20	25	49
Barrowhill and New Whittington	Station Road Rec Ground	NEAP	54	78	47

Old Whittington Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
29	Holland Road	Holland Road	S41 9DJ	Old Whittington	LEAP	CBC
79	Mallory Close	Mallory Close	S41 9EW	Old Whittington	LAP	CBC
28	Hill Top Road	Hill Top Road	S41 9NF	Old Whittington	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Old Whittington			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	119	104	223	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	100	83	183	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	117	110	227	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	105	121	226	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 001C	Old Whittington	3,863	Top 20%
Chesterfield 001D	Old Whittington	11,755	Top 40%
Chesterfield 001E	Old Whittington	11,620	Top 40%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Old Whittington	Holland Road	LEAP	37	53	45
Old Whittington	Mallory Close	LAP	29	50	45
Old Whittington	Hill Top Road	LEAP	38	46	46

Dunston Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
34	Kirkstone Road	Kirkstone Road	S41 8HE	Dunston	NEAP	CBC
66	Thirlmere Road	Derwent Crescent	S41 8AL	Dunston	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Dunston			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	Age	M	F	Tot	M	F
0 - 4	205	206	411	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	160	147	307	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	180	171	351	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	179	182	361	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 004A	Dunston	9,291	Top 30%
Chesterfield 004B	Dunston	4,415	Top 20%
Chesterfield 004C	Dunston	5,359	Top 20%
Chesterfield 004D	Dunston	11,602	Top 40%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Dunston	Kirkstone Road	NEAP	46	93	49
Dunston	Thirlmere Road	LEAP	38	57	49

Loundsley Green Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
39	Pennine Way	Pennine Way	S40 4NL	Loundsley Green	NEAP	CBC
10	Carsington Close	Carsington Close	S40 4RH	Loundsley Green	LEAP	CBC
56	Sheldon Road	Sheldon Road	S40 4RQ	Loundsley Green	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Loundsley Green			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	110	94	204	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	93	85	178	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	98	91	189	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	129	108	237	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 008D	Loundsley Green	11,444	Top 40%
Chesterfield 008E	Loundsley Green	1,126	Top 10%
Chesterfield 008F	Loundsley Green	7,219	Top 30%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Loundsley Green	Pennine Way	NEAP	39	70	44
Loundsley Green	Carsington Close	LEAP	33	53	44
Loundsley Green	Sheldon Road	LEAP	41	62	44

Brockwell Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
11	Chester Street	Chester Street	S40 1DL	Brockwell	LEAP	CBC
2	Badger Rec Ground	Badger Rec Ground	S40 4BL	Brockwell	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Brockwell			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	147	160	307	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	146	128	274	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	165	155	320	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	182	168	350	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 007A	Brockwell	21,645	Least 40%
Chesterfield 009A	Brockwell	20,178	Least 40%
Chesterfield 009B	Brockwell	26,231	Least 30%
Chesetrfield 010A	Brockwell	10,801	Top 40%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Brockwell	Chester Street	LEAP	33	54	44
Brockwell	Badger Recreation Ground	LEAP	24	30	46

Holmebrook Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
44	Pearsons Rec Ground	Old Hall Road	S40 2RD	Holmebrook	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Holmebrook			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	123	117	240	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	83	110	193	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	154	116	270	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	112	129	241	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 009C	Holmebrook	10,846	Top 40%
Chesterfield 010B	Holmebrook	10,955	Top 40%
Chesterfield 10C	Holmebrook	5,048	Top 20%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Holmebrook	Pearsons Rec Ground	LEAP	33	34	40

West Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
67	Inkerman Playing Fields	Rockingham Close	S40 1JE	West	NEAP	CBC
58	Somersall Park	Somersall Lane	S40 3LE	West	NEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	West			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	111	123	234	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	148	142	290	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	181	181	362	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	184	196	380	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 009D	West	28,063	Least 20%
Chesterfield 009E	West	27,928	Least 20%
Chesterfield 011E	West	32,673	Least 20%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
West	Inkerman Playing Fields	NEAP	55	86	34
West	Somersall Park	NEAP	32	48	36

Walton Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
54	St Davids Rise	St Davids Drive	S40 3HD	Walton	LEAP	CBC
61/55	Stanford Way	Stanford Way	S42 7NH	Walton	LEAP	CBC
72	Foxbrook Drive	Foxbrook Drive	S40 3JR	Walton	LAP	CBC
73	Foxbrook Court	Foxbrook Court	S40 3SS	Walton	LAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Walton			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4				2878	2939	8817
5 - 9				2277	2721	4998
10 - 14				2630	2520	5150
15 - 19				2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 011A	Walton	25,419	Least 30%
Chesterfield 011B	Walton	29,818	Least 10%
Chesterfield 011C	Walton	29,535	Least 20%
Chesterfield 011D	Walton	27,988	Least 20%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Walton	St Davids Rise	LEAP	22	38	28
Walton	Stanford Way	LEAP	30	41	27
Walton	Foxbrook Drive	LAP	38	52	25
Walton	Foxbrook Court	LAP	38	52	25

Rother Ward Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
76	Staunton Close	Staunton Close	S40 2FE	Rother	LAP	CBC
35	Langer Field Park	Langer Lane	S40 2JE	Rother	NEAP	CBC
21	Harehill Road	Harehill Road	S40 2UN	Rother	LEAP	CBC
24	Hazel Drive	Hazel Drive	S40 3EH	Rother	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Rother			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	217	198	415	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	192	174	366	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	183	180	363	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	219	207	426	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 013B	Rother	5,173	Top 20%
Chesterfield 013C	Rother	9,417	Top 30%
Chesterfield 013D	Rother	291	Top 10%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Rother	Staunton Close	LAP	47	29	33
Rother	Langer Field Park	NEAP	42	52	37
Rother	Harehill Road	LEAP	36	48	34
Rother	Hazel Drive	LEAP	38	41	36

Hollingwood, Inkersall and Duckmanton Profile Information

Play Areas

URN	Play Area Name	Address	Postcode	Ward	Play Area Type	Ownership
69	West Crescent	West Crescent	S44 5HE	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	LEAP	CBC
71	Westwood Drive	Westwood Drive	S43 3DF	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	LAP	CBC
77	Inkersall Green Playing Fields	Inkersall Green Road	S43 3US	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	NEAP	CBC
53	Ringwood Park	Chesterfield Road	S43 1DQ	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	NEAP	CBC
50	Private Drive	Private Drive	S43 2JR	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	LEAP	CBC
83	Juniper Close	Juniper Close	S43 2JR	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	LAP	CBC
15	Poolsbrook Road	Poolsbrook Road	S44 5HB	Hollingwood	LEAP	CBC

Ward and Borough Profiles Children and Young People

Ward and Borough Profile	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton			Chesterfield Borough Council		
	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
Age						
0 - 4	234	233	467	2878	2939	8817
5 - 9	227	217	444	2277	2721	4998
10 - 14	260	231	491	2630	2520	5150
15 - 19	254	249	503	2609	2428	5037

Poverty and Deprivation

Super output area code	Ward	Rank in England (out of 32,482 soa's)	Amongst the most/least deprived neighbourhoods in the country.
Chesterfield 006A	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	3,380	Top 20%
Chesterfield 006B	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	11,920	Top 40%
Chesterfield 006C	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	17,796	Least 50%
Chesterfield 006D	Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	9,355	Top 30%
Chesterfield 003E	Hollingwood Inkersall	19,812	Least 40%

Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

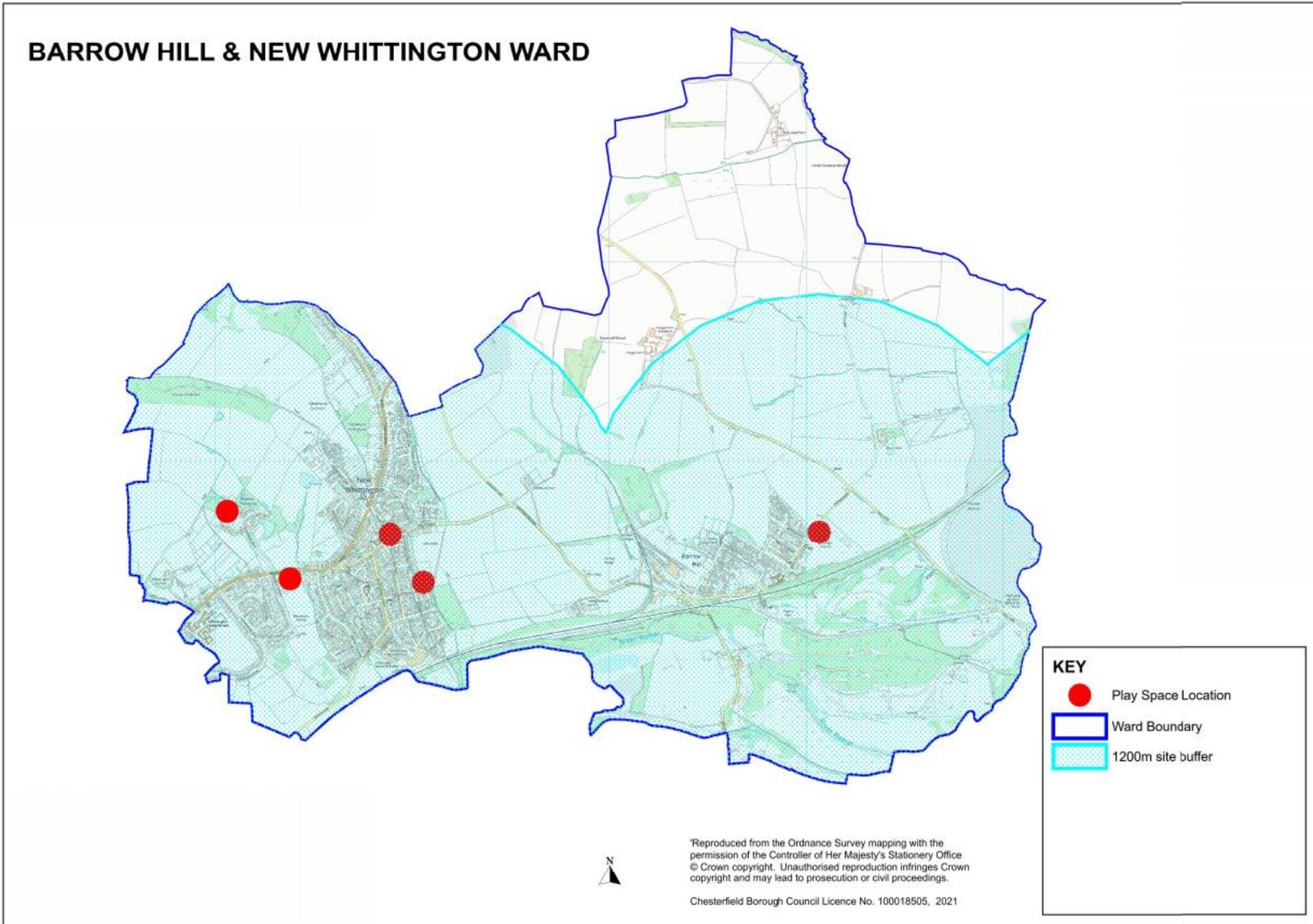
Ward	Site Name	Category	Quality Scores	Value Scores	Contribution Scores
Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	West Crescent	LEAP	62	63	37
Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	Westwood Drive	LAP	24	25	35
Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	Inkersall Green Playing Fields	NEAP	47	73	39
Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	Ringwood Park	NEAP	34	50	40
Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	Private Drive	LEAP	39	57	37
Hollingwood Inkersall and Duckmanton	Juniper Close	LAP	35	58	35
Hollingwood Inkersall	Poolsbrook Road	LEAP	45	58	36

DRAFT

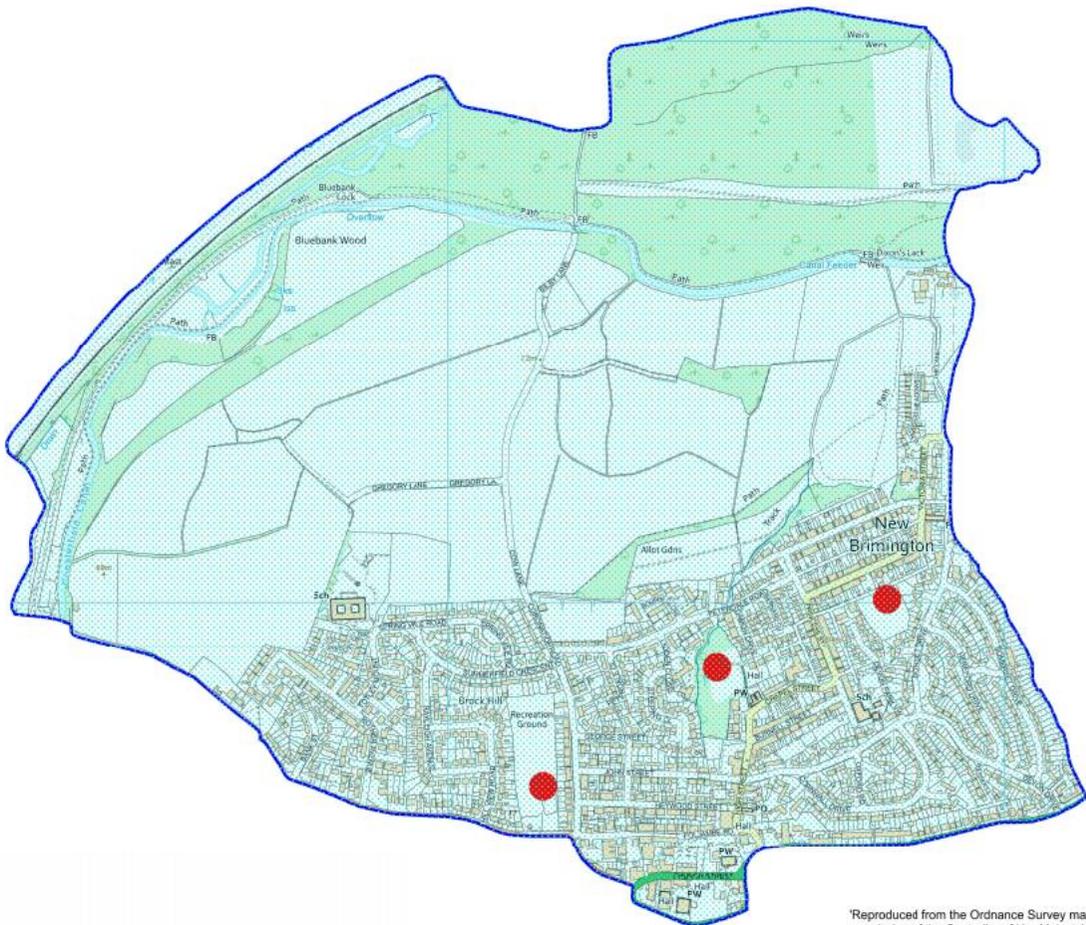
Ward Level Maps



CHESTERFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL



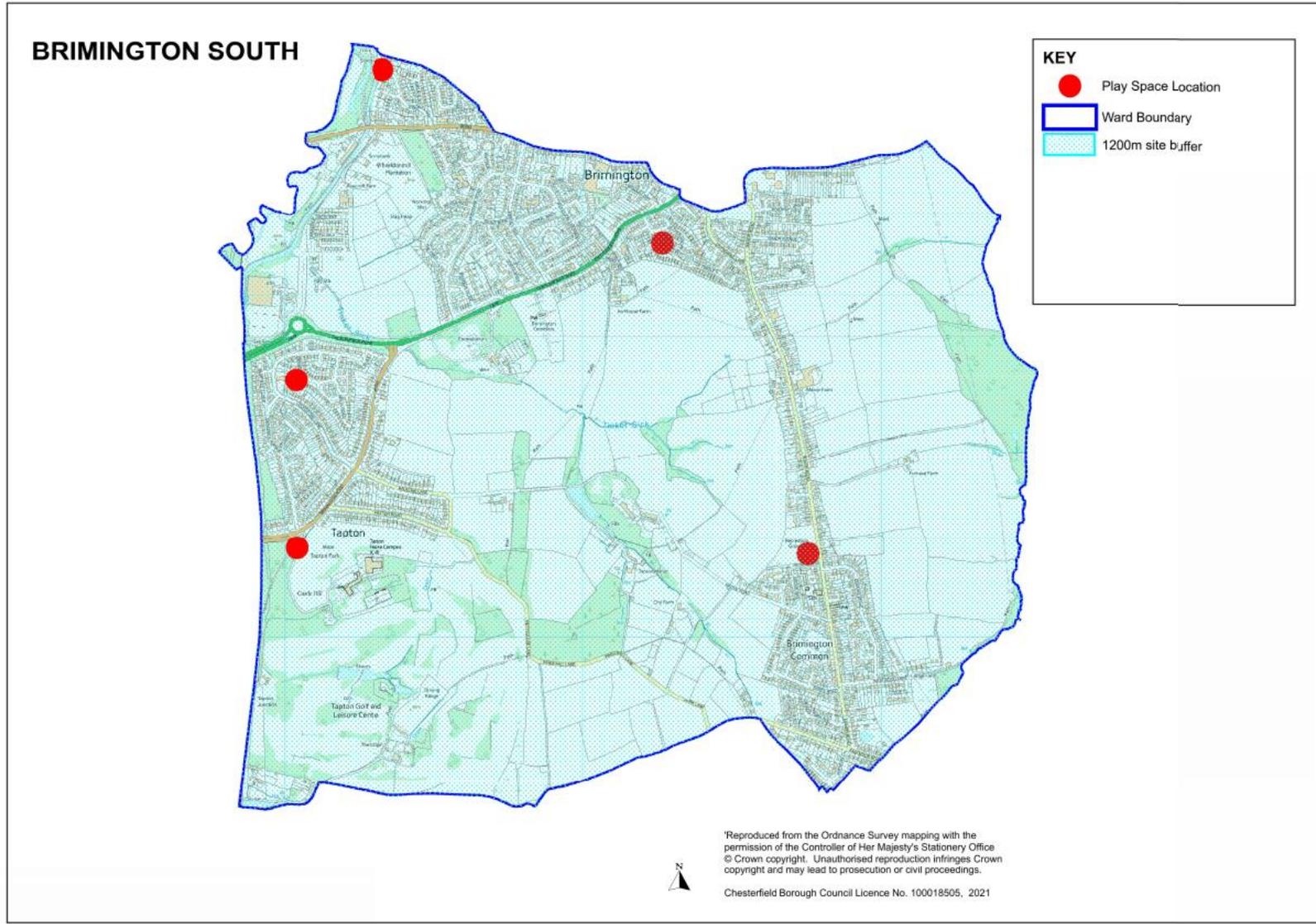
BRIMINGTON NORTH

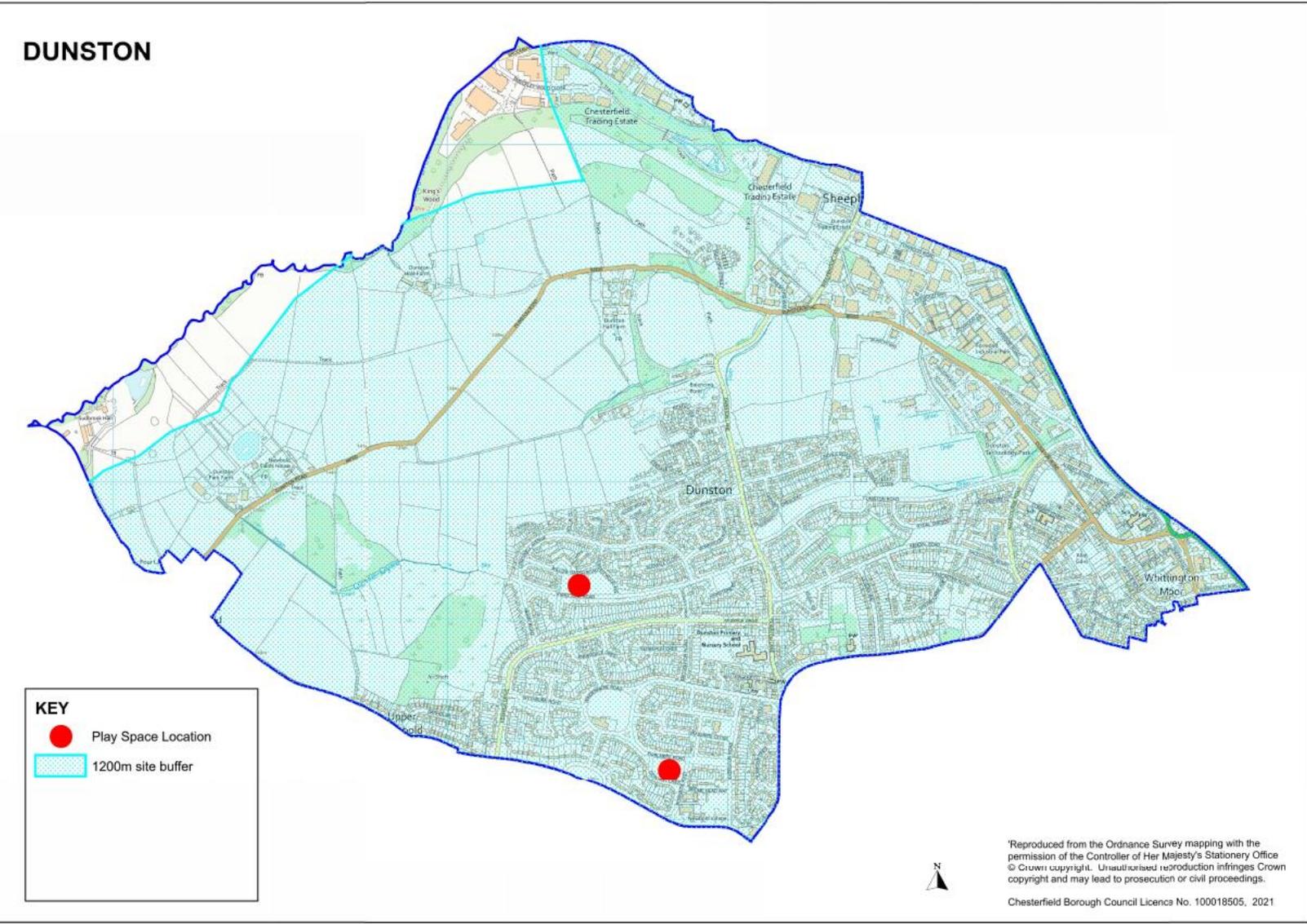


KEY

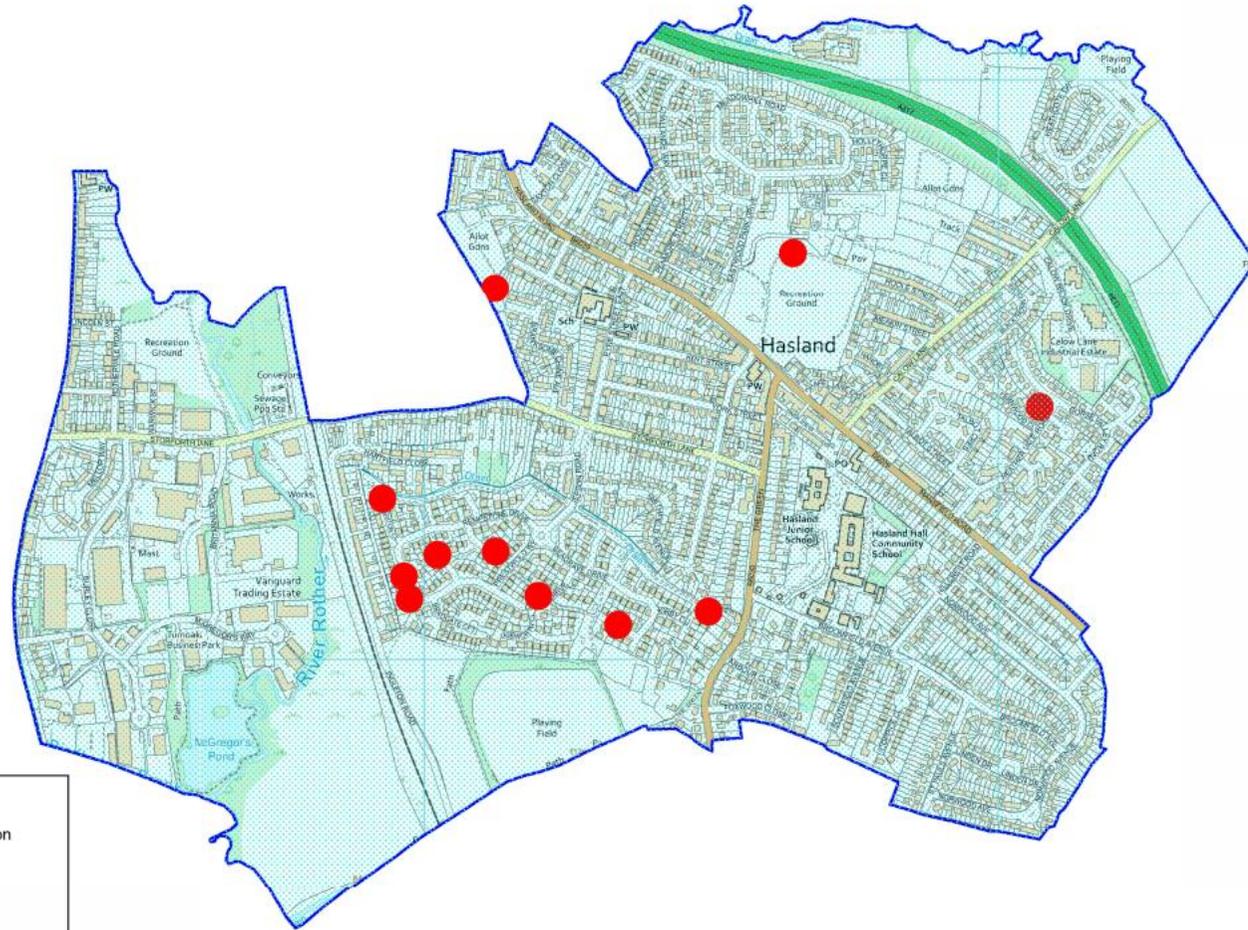
- Play Space Location
- ▭ Ward Boundary
- ▨ 1200m site buffer

*Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Chesterfield Borough Council Licence No. 100018505, 2021





HASLAND

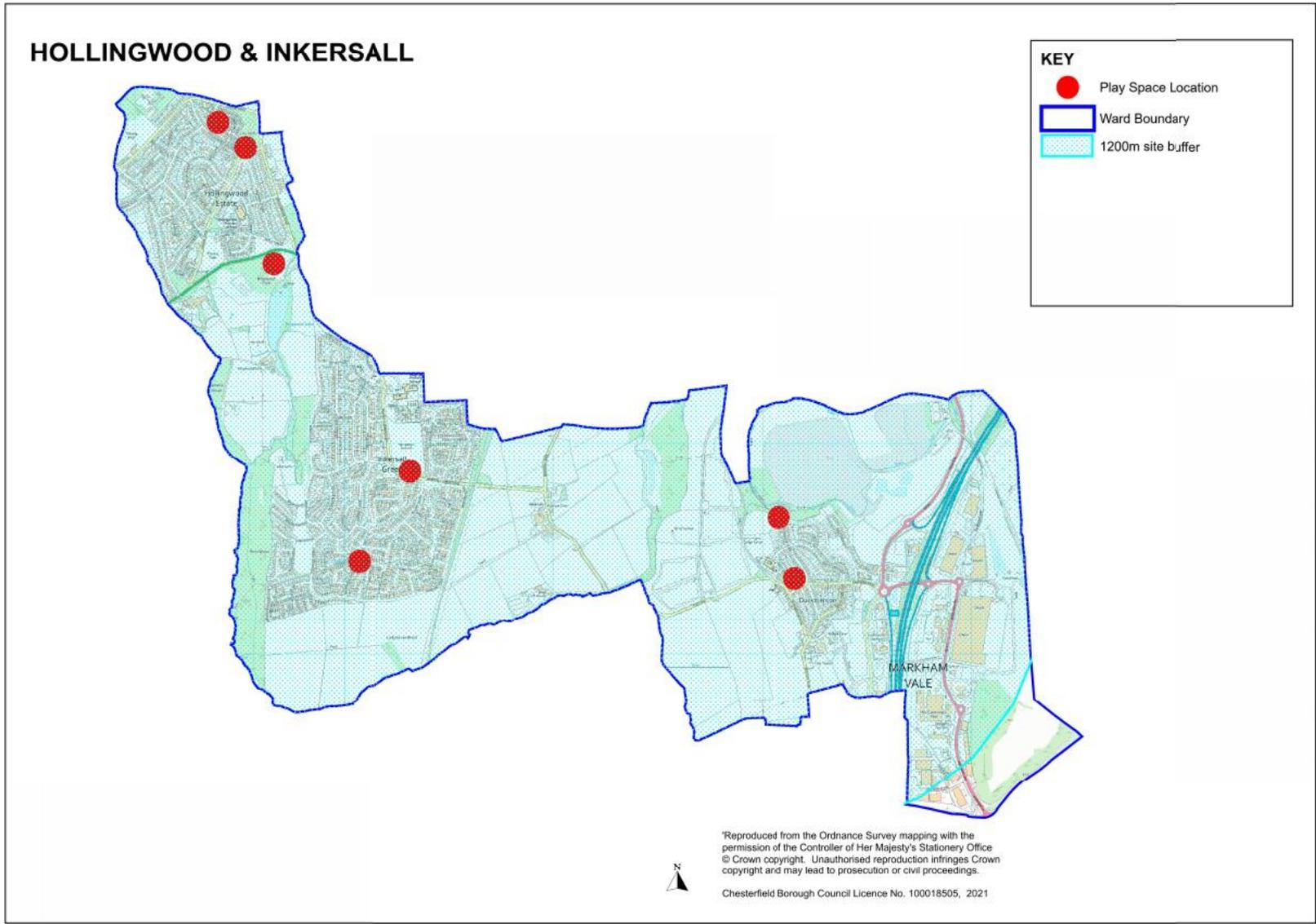


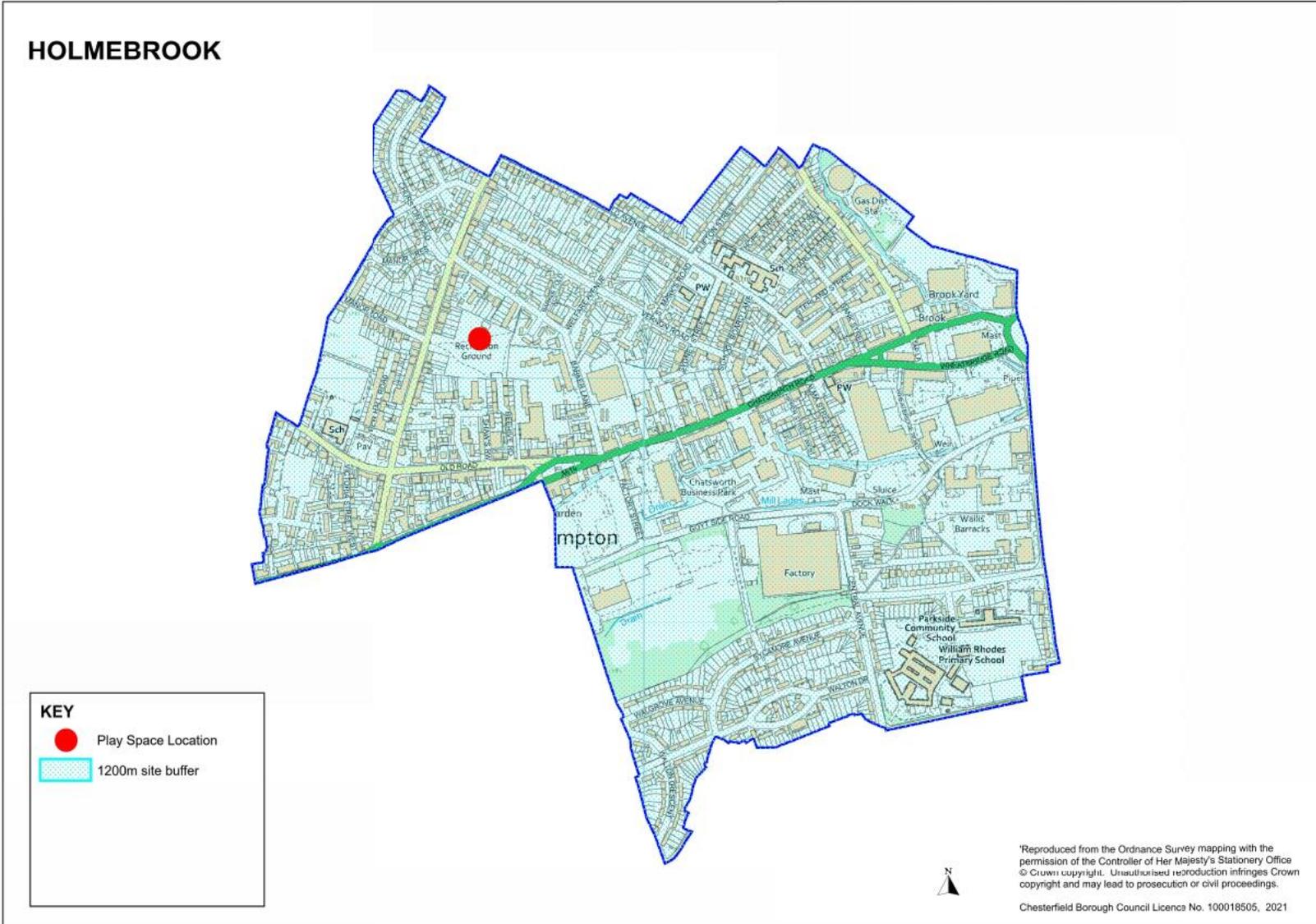
KEY

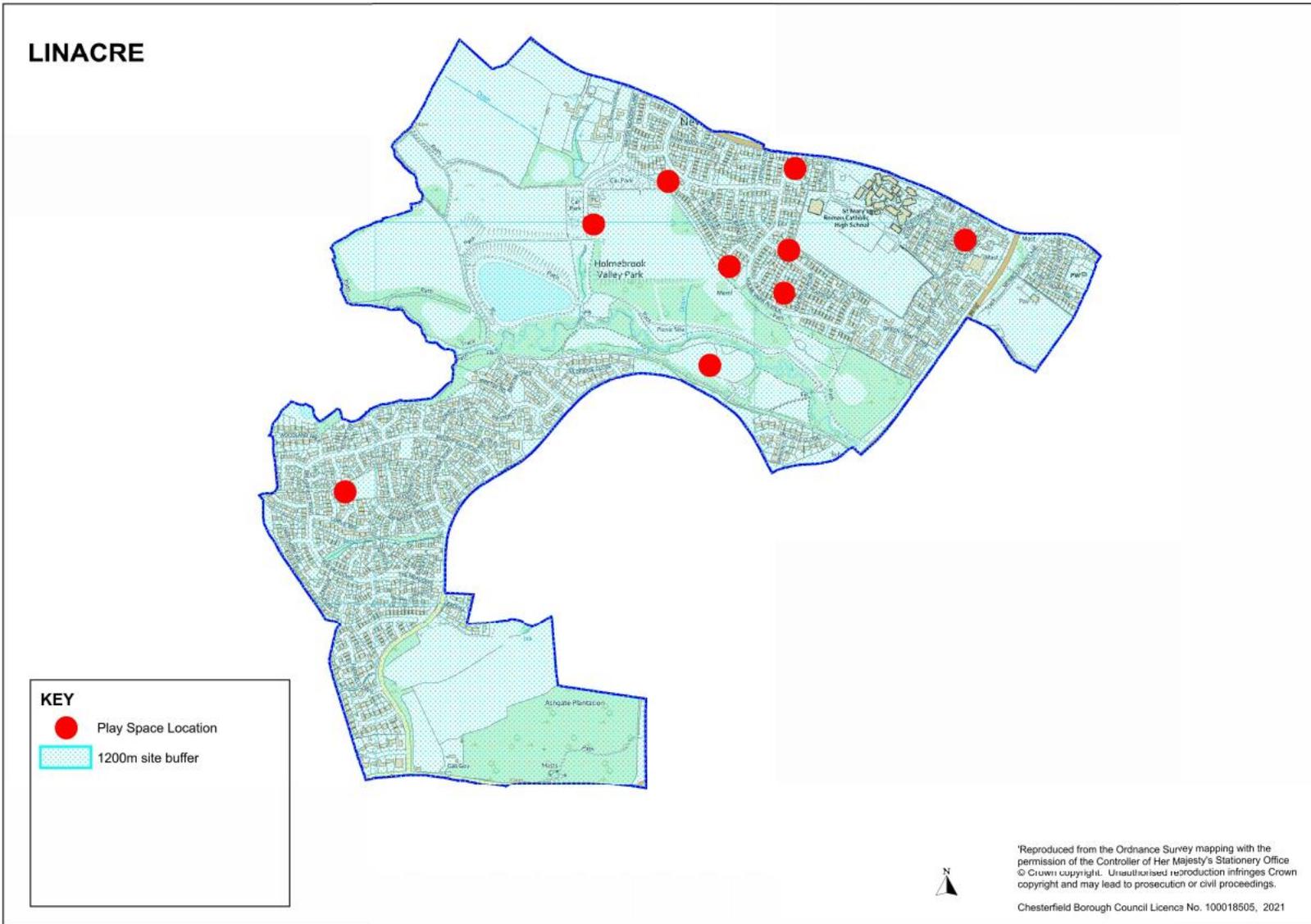
- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer

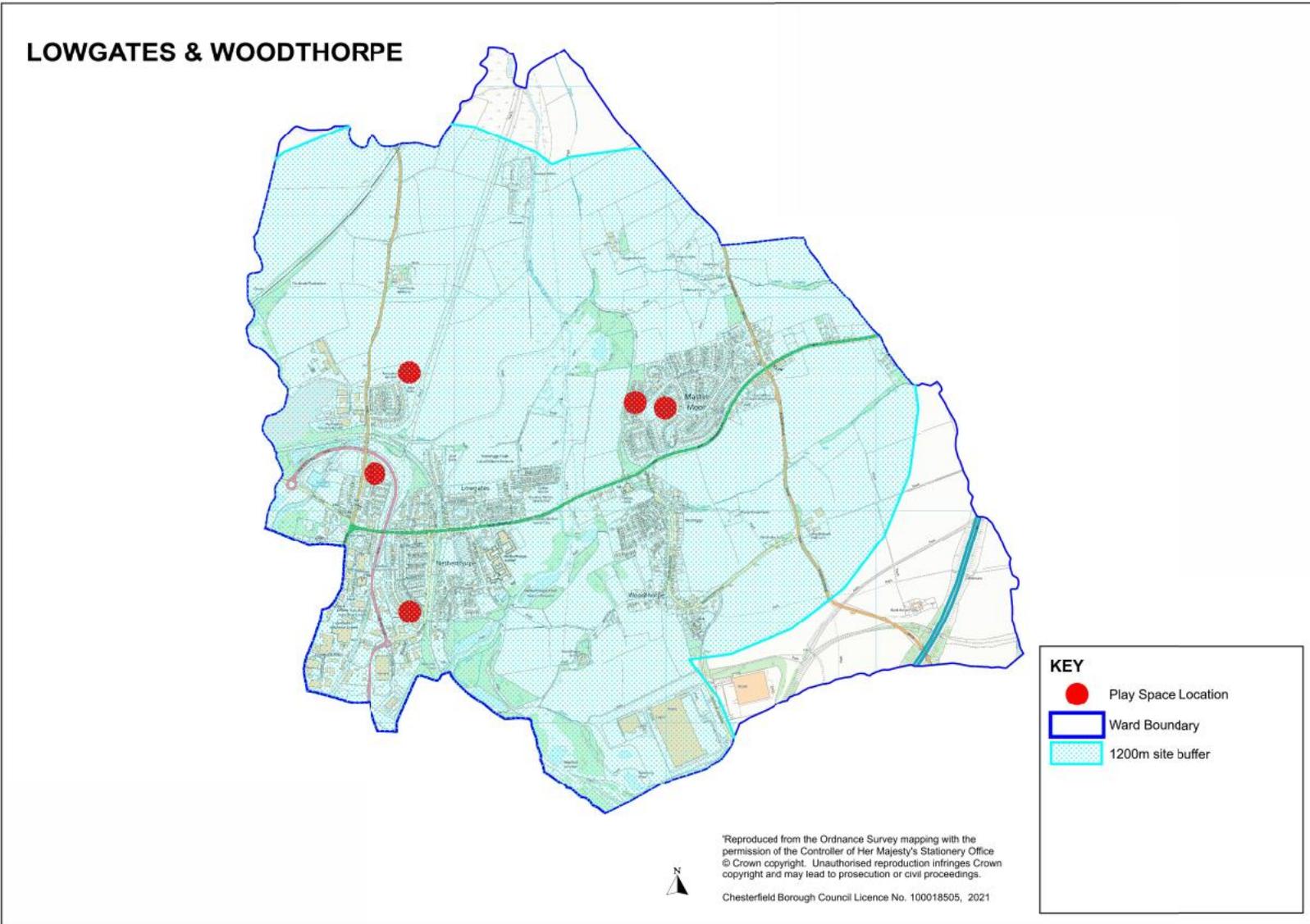


Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Chesterfield Borough Council Licenca No. 100018505, 2021

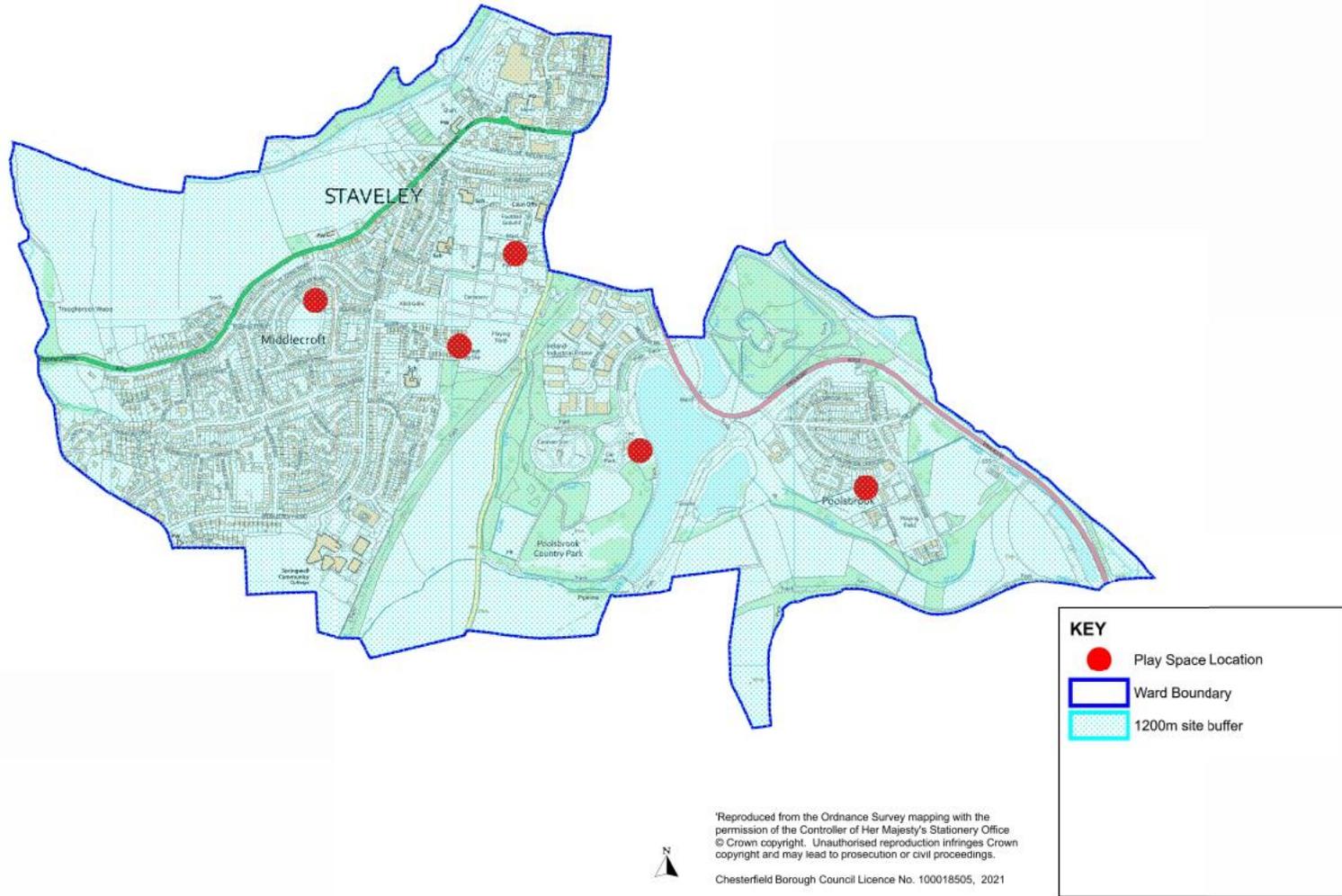




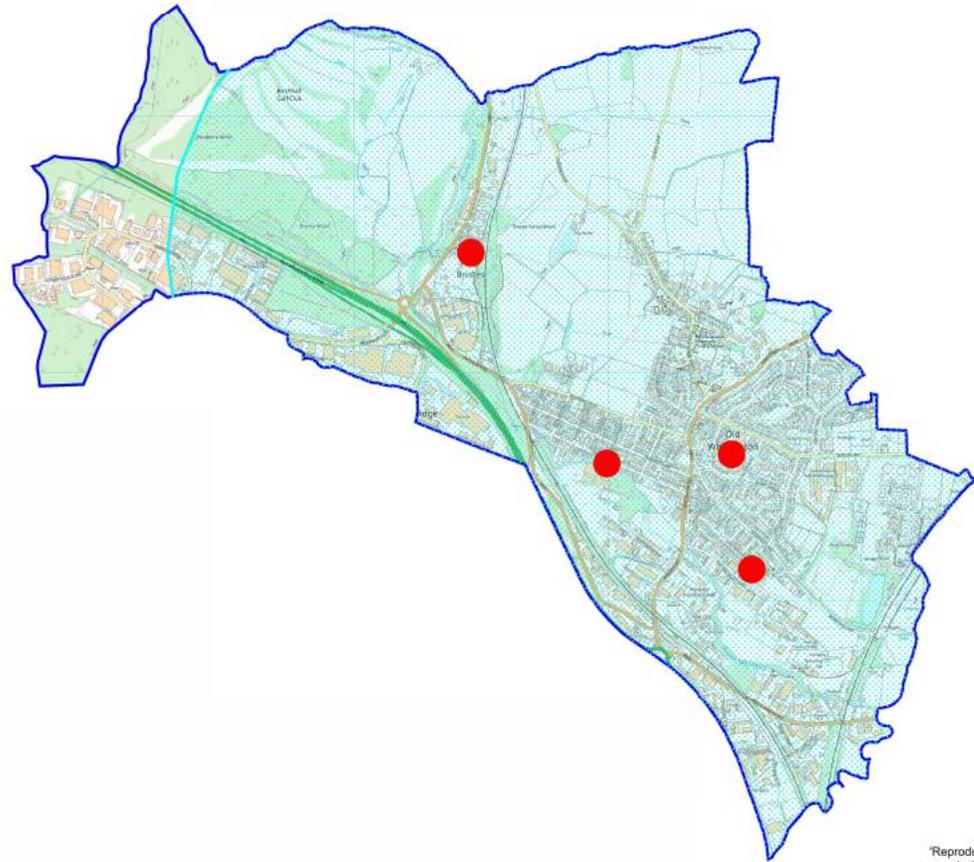




MIDDLECROFT & POOLSBROOK



OLD WHITTINGTON

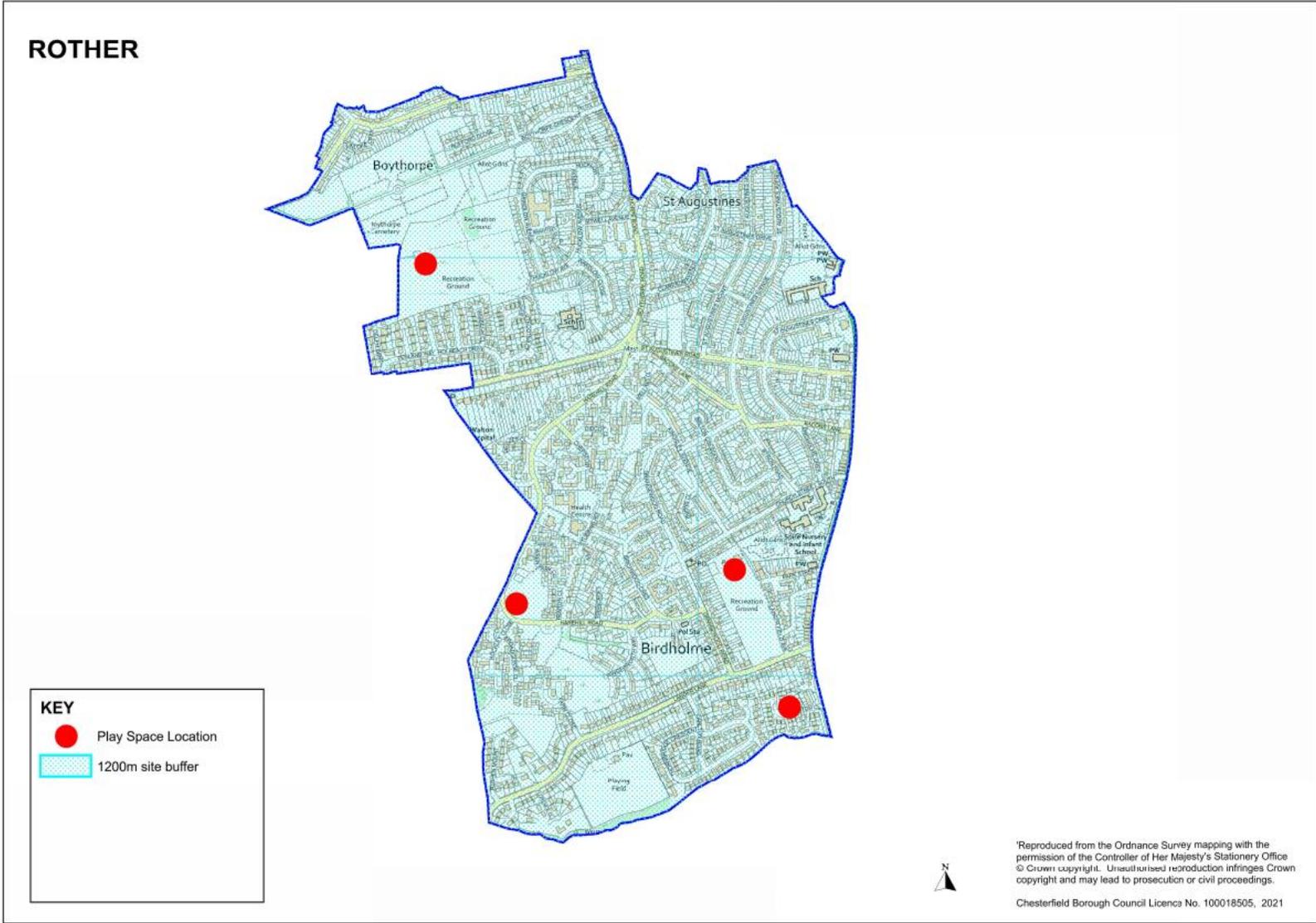


KEY

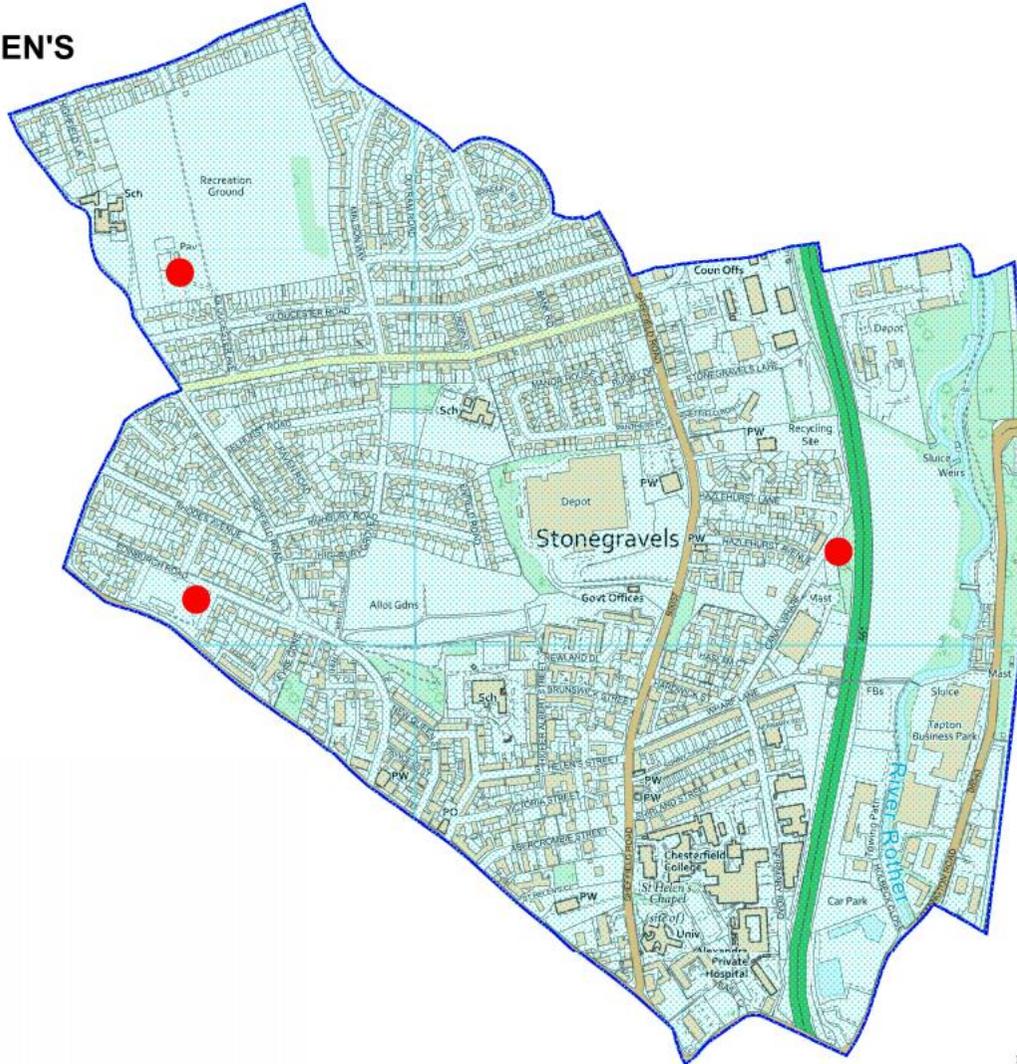
- Play Space Location
- ▭ Ward Boundary
- ▨ 1200m site buffer



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Chesterfield Borough Council Licence No. 100018505, 2021



ST HELEN'S

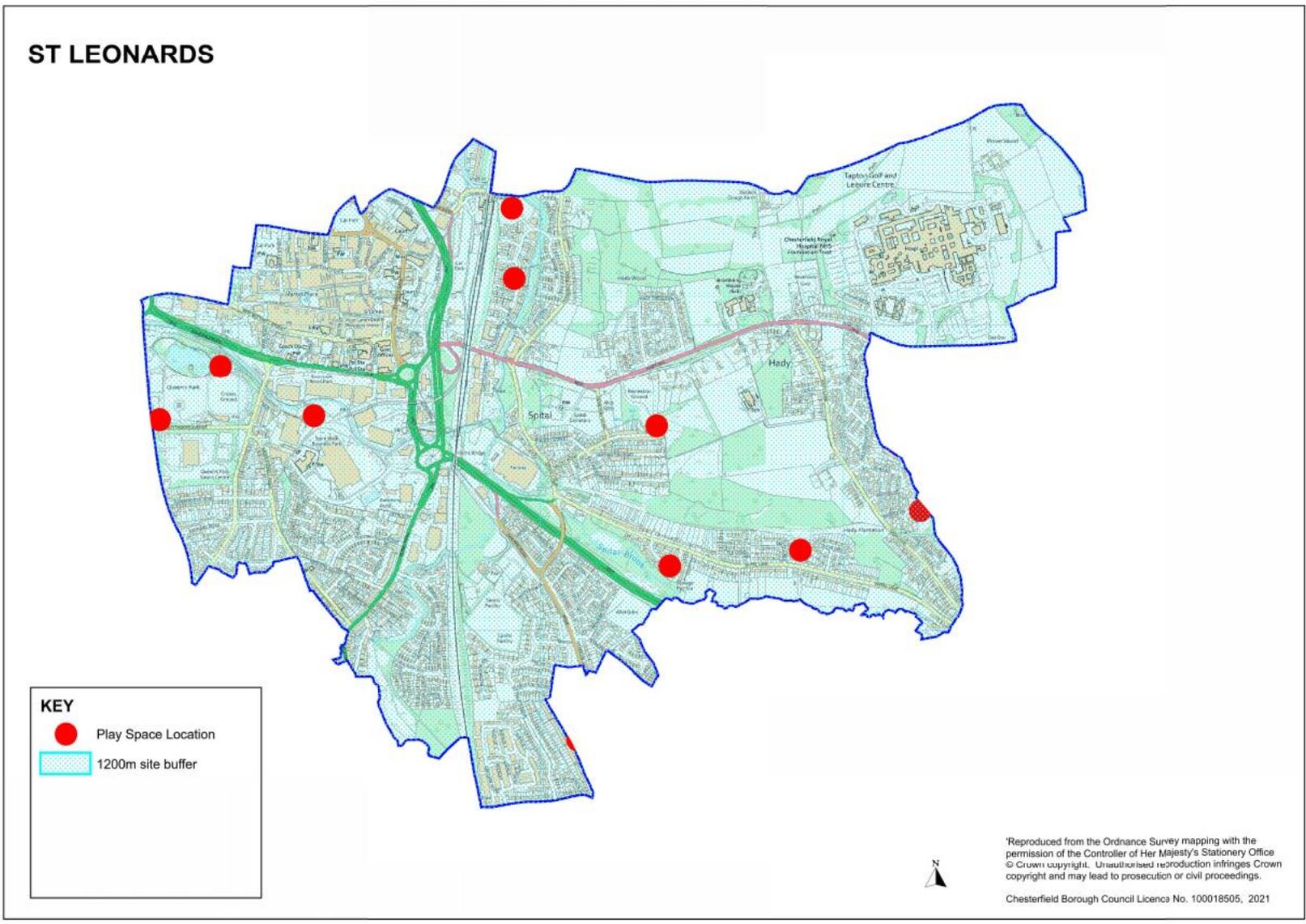


KEY

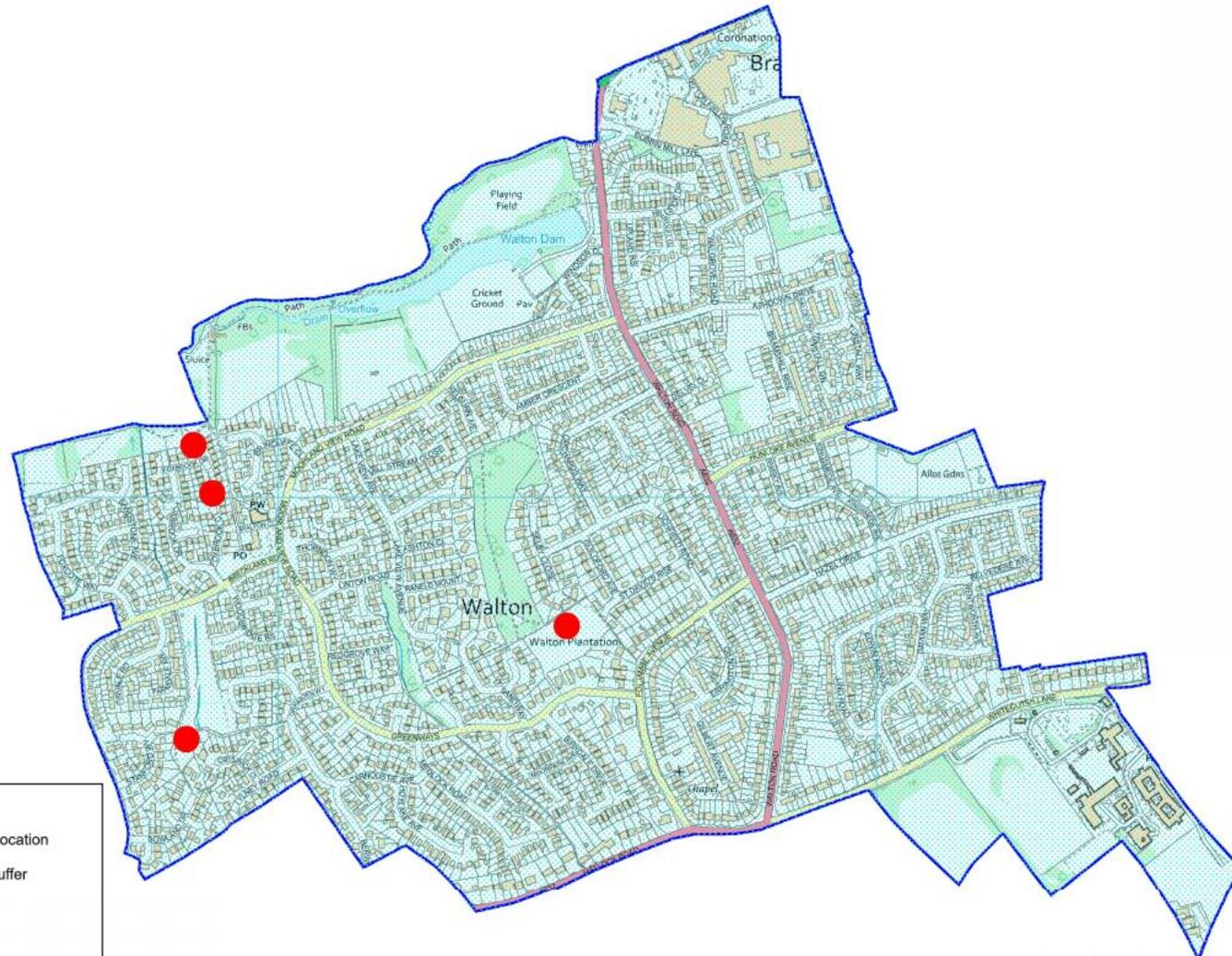
- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Chesterfield Borough Council Licence No. 100018505, 2021



WALTON



KEY

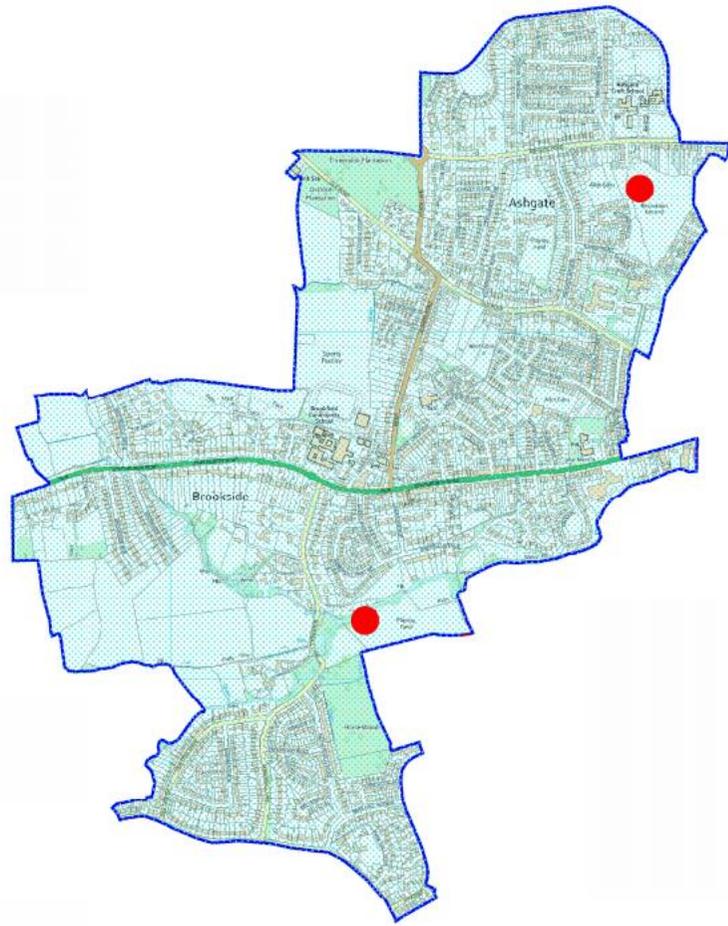
- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

Chesterfield Borough Council Licenca No. 100018505, 2021

WEST



KEY

- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Chesterfield Borough Council Licences No. 100018505, 2021

National, Regional and Local Policy

Policies and Guidance relating to outdoor fixed play space and contributing open space.

National perspective

Nationally there is a body of evidence which demonstrates the importance of specific representation for children and young people in policy development.

The Children's Act (2004) – establishes the statutory framework for realigning services for children and sets out how statutory bodies and agencies will be accountable

Every Child Matters: Change for Children – this cornerstone document interprets the Children's Act (2004) and establishes programmes of local change and the needs of children

The National Play Strategy (2008) – the Children's Plan (2007) was followed by the launch of the first National Play Strategy, which sets out a vision and plan for delivery under five headings:

- More places to play
- Supporting play throughout childhood
- Playing safely
- Child-friendly communities
- Embedding play in local priorities

Children and Families Act 2014 – has provided greater protection to vulnerable children, a new system for those with special educational needs/disabilities and help for parent/carer to balance work and family life. It also encourages the childcare sector by allowing childminders to work with agencies and easier for school to provide flexible extended

services. The statutory role of the Children's Commissioner now has a legal duty to promote and protect children's rights

Aiming High for Disabled Children – this government initiative promotes the principle that disabled children and young people have the same opportunities to develop and fulfil their potential as other children. It supports universal children's services to be more genuinely inclusive of disabled children, including those with complex needs. Resources were made available nationally, this funding was used to improve the play area at Holme Brook Valley Park which provided opportunities for disabled children and young people to spend time playing in a mainstream setting.

Change4Life — play provision can support health objectives. Change for Life is a campaign aimed at reducing obesity by encouraging everybody to 'Eat well, Move more, Live longer'. It is primarily a marketing campaign with a sub brand, Play4Life, promoting the health benefits of play

National Planning Policy

The current relevant government policy is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which replaced previous policy in 2012. It is a key document for the borough council when making plans and decisions. The NPPF seeks to ensure a network of open spaces (green infrastructure) that amongst other things are of high quality, are safe and accessible, promote social interaction, enable and support healthy lifestyles.

The NPPF in effect requires the borough council to have a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for open space (including play provision), sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. This assessment should also identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies and surpluses. The assessment is then to be used to inform what provision is required in the borough.

The Government currently does not set out detailed guidance on how to carry out such an assessment for all types of open space and explains that it is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas¹. In the absence of current guidance (except for that provided by Sports England on purely sports), when carrying out assessments of open space, councils are relying on practice guidance published in 2002, as this is recognised by many as still relevant. The Chesterfield Borough Open Space Assessment in 2018 is based on the 2002 best practice guidance and provides baseline information for the quantity, quality and accessibility of play provision in the Borough in the context of other types of open space provision. It also is the basis for setting local standards of provision in terms of the quantity and accessibility of open spaces.

Local Perspective

Local Planning Policy

The current Local Plan for the borough contains a vision for open spaces (including play provision) as follows:

‘Green spaces and open land are enhanced and connected to provide and link high quality and diverse habitats for wildlife and important spaces for sport, recreation, leisure and healthy living. Everyone in the borough can access a variety of green spaces, including local play areas, informal recreational space and larger sports facilities, properly looked after with long term maintenance and management’.

It contains a policy that protect play spaces in a similar manner to the NPPF, requiring certain strict criteria to be met before such spaces can be developed. It also contains a policy that requires a high standard of design for new open spaces, which links to more detailed design guidance² adopted by the council as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This detailed design guidance contains advice on the following:

- Indicative catchments for play areas and open space
- Use of layout to provide enough space to contain play areas and to create appropriate spaces
- Draws attention to the need to ensure maintenance access to play areas
- Minimum garden size to accommodate children’s play

A specific chapter on public spaces and play areas in terms of a developments layout and play spaces design, covering to a degree natural surveillance, buffer zones, landscaping, natural light and shelter, lighting, management, tree planting.

The Core Strategy is due to be replaced by a new Local Plan in 2020 and its policies should continue to protect play provision where necessary as part of a wider strategy to protect, enhance, link and manage green infrastructure. However, as part of this new Local Plan, standards for how much and what type of open space should be provided in existing communities and in new development will also be adopted by the council.

Planning Conditions and Legal Obligations

When the council grants planning permission and wishes to impose requirements on a development, this is normally secured by planning conditions and/or a legal contract called a Section 106 Obligation. These requirements usually come in the form of infrastructure provision or a financial contribution towards that provision. This includes the provision of green spaces and facilities for children’s play. Developer contributions have been secured through a Section 106 (S106) Agreement [Town and County Planning Act 1980], which forms part of any planning permission granted.

The limitations of S106 contributions is that the financial contribution or infrastructure provision is directly associated with specific development therefore, can only normally be used to develop or improve play provision within a limited distance from the

development. S106 contributions are also required to be delivered within a set time frame. The result of this can be that areas where new developments are prevalent become saturated with provision for play that is not necessarily delivered in the best place and with the best use of resources considering what is already present in existing localities. Similarly, areas of the borough without new development lack continuous investment in infrastructure and facilities for play.

Chesterfield Borough has a legacy of open spaces provided through planning conditions and S106 Obligations, some of which are owned by the council and others which are privately owned and maintained albeit with public access. However, since the 1st of April 2016 the borough council has operated a different approach to securing new open space for development, called the Community Infrastructure Levy. CIL does not replace the ability of the council to secure new open spaces within new major development when appropriate. When new open spaces are provided by developers and owned and maintained privately (not adopted by the Council), planning conditions and obligations are a necessary control to ensure that the quality of the spaces and their public accessibility are maintained adequately in perpetuity.

The Community Infrastructure Levy

The Community Infrastructure Levy, (CIL) which came into force in 2010, is a tariff-based method of collecting funds from development to pay for necessary infrastructure. CIL funds are capable of being used to fund open space provision, sport and recreation facilities including play. CIL will operate alongside S106 contributions. Developers will be required to contribute through either S106 or CIL depending on which is most appropriate within planning regulations. The monies raised from CIL can be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure needed to support new development within the borough, not necessarily in the location where the money is raised.

The council has worked towards introducing CIL in the borough, which will change the way developers contribute to play facilities. The impact on the developer funds available for the provision of play is therefore a changing landscape in Chesterfield.

CIL contributions only begin to be payable upon commencement of CIL-liable schemes. During the lead in time to such development commencing, the council has developed a CIL expenditure strategy, setting out the approach which the council will follow to identify the specific items of infrastructure upon which CIL revenue should be spent in order to support growth and development across the Borough.

The Regulation 123 Infrastructure List sets out the types of infrastructure on which CIL revenue can be spent. Unlike developer contributions from S.106 agreements, CIL does not have to be spent on the site or in the area from which it is collected. CIL must, however, be spent on infrastructure items that are included in Regulation 123 list.

The CIL Regulations set out how monies collected from the CIL should be distributed:

- The council is able to spend up to 5% of CIL income to cover the costs of administration.
- The council must allocate at least 15% of CIL receipts to spend on neighbourhood priorities, either by passing this portion to the relevant parish or town council, or in non-parish areas through allocations to local community projects via the Health and Wellbeing Partnership. Therefore, there will also be the potential for future funding bids for local community scale infrastructure schemes to be routed through this neighbourhood fund.
- The council may spend the remaining 80% on helping to provide the strategic infrastructure needed to support the development of the borough.

The Local Plan identifies the strategic and local infrastructure fundamental to achieving the council's ambitions for shaping the borough and provides the strategic context for infrastructure requirements. The Local Plan Strategy has been agreed to represent the most appropriate focus for prioritising CIL expenditure. This would support the delivery of critical infrastructure necessary to unlock strategic sites and support positive development in Regeneration Priority Areas which will deliver homes and jobs. This should result in transparent spending decisions which accord with the wider direction of policy and support growth on the scale and in the broad locations which the Plan sets out.

Fields in Trust benchmark guidelines

Fields in Trust (FIT) is the operating name of the National Playing Fields Association, whose core principle is to protect outdoor space for sport and recreation. Within its work to protect these spaces, FIT has offered guidance for practitioners on open space provision and design since the 1930's. The 'Six Acre Standard' (minimum standard for outdoor playing space per 1,000 populations) has influenced various reviews of this guidance since the 1930's: *Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play* (2008) and most recently *'Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard* (2015)'.

Whilst retaining the primary rates of provision, the 2015 guidance draws out new recommendations for accessibility, the application of standards and the minimum dimensions of formal outdoor space under the following benchmarks:

- quantity descriptions
- accessibility
- quality
- spatial requirements
- buffer zones

Fields in Trust's benchmarks form a suitable basis for informing planning policies, decisions and proposals, which include the provision of outdoor play at borough or

neighbourhood levels. Using the most current guidance will help the council ensure that the provision of outdoor play is of a sufficient size for effective use; is located in an accessible location in proximity to dwellings; and of a suitable quality to maintain longevity for continued use.

The guidance recommends that equipped or designated play spaces are grouped under the following descriptions:

- A **Local Area for Play (LAP)** is a small area of open space, specifically designated and primarily laid out for very young children to play close to where they live (i.e. within 1-3 minute walking time). The LAP is a doorstep play area. It could be a grassed area, open space, residential street in a home zone or a small designed play area, where young children can play within sight of known adults.
- A **Locally Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)** is an area of open space specifically designated and laid out with features including equipment for children who are beginning to go out and play independently close to where they live, usually within 5 minutes walking time. It could be a grassed area, small park, local open space designed for play or informal recreation or a school play area open out of school hours. Play features, including equipment, are an integral and attractive part of the LEAP.
- A **Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)** is an area of open space specifically designated, laid out and equipped mainly for older children but with play opportunities for younger children as well. It is designed for children and young people who are used to travelling longer distances independently to get to safely on their own. It might be a park, playing field, recreation ground or natural open space, such as a woodland, moorland or beach - accessible and attractive to older children and young people. It might include ball courts, multi-use games areas (MUGA) or skateboard areas. The area should be capable of meeting the needs of children with a range of impairments.

Design for Play: A guide to creating successful play spaces

Produced by Play England in association with the Free Play Network to support the previous government's Play builder and Pathfinder programme, *Design for Play* explains how good play spaces can give children and young people the freedom to play creatively, while allowing them to experience risk, challenge and excitement.

It shows how good play space can be designed to be affordably maintained, challenging some of the myths and risk averse thinking that has created a culture of uninspiring play spaces with prescriptive equipment that lacks any challenge or adventure.

The guidance is underpinned by ten principles:

- are 'bespoke'
- are well located
- make use of natural elements
- provide a wide range of play experiences
- are accessible to both disabled and non-disabled children
- meet community needs
- allow different children of different ages to play together
- build in opportunities to experience risk and challenge
- are suitable and appropriately maintained
- allow for change and evolution

Inclusive design

A fundamental aspect of accessibility is ensuring that play spaces offer opportunities for children and young people of all abilities. It is tempting to invest more heavily in equipment that can be accessed by children with mobility difficulties at larger sites where there is access to car parking, changing facilities and refreshment facilities. However, a National Playing Fields Association study by Rob Whewey and Alison John in 2004 found that disabled children have a desire to use their closest play areas for everyday play, and to play locally with their friends, not only at neighbourhood or destination play areas, just like other children. They found that there are several social and educational barriers to this, beyond the design of the play area. Some play areas are situated in locations that are just less accessible due to the topography of the area but it may be possible to make physical adjustments to play areas to enable better accessibility. Suitable design and adaptation is also important.

Where possible, new and refurbished play areas will be designed and include equipment that enables all children and young people to experience different types of play, in keeping with *Design for Play* principles.

Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation guide

This guide shows how play providers can develop an approach to risk management that considers the benefits to children and young people of challenging play experiences, as well as the risks. It aims to help providers achieve two objectives, which are fundamental to play provision: to offer children and young people challenging, exciting, engaging play opportunities, while ensuring that they are not exposed to unacceptable risk of harm.

Fundamental to the approach within this guidance is a commitment to offer opportunities for risk and challenge in the provision of play facilities. This then forms the framework for the use of risk benefit assessments, which are supported by a

technical play inspection. The council's overall approach to the management of risk is informed by this guidance.

Risk management

Much has been written about our risk adverse society; the increasing need we feel to protect children from risk and the long-term damage this can do to children and to our communities. Exposure to risk is an essential part of ensuring children grow, develop, and are equipped with the skills and ability to fulfil their adult life. Play England are advocates of the risk benefit approach which “allows providers to address the two important objectives of play provision: providing challenge whilst offering protection from unacceptable harm.

The council's approach to play provision is risk adverse. When making improvements to play spaces there is an opportunity for the council to consider how they can become more challenging and make the most of their surrounding environments. The diagram overleaf, shows the delicate balance between benefits and dis-benefits of a risk benefit approach.

By adopting the fundamental principles of risk management outlined in *Managing Risk in Play Provision*, the council can take a risk-benefit approach to play provision. This approach weighs up the potential risk involved in using a play space or item of play equipment against the potential benefit to children's play. It gives the council the opportunity to move away from a risk averse approach that tended to incorporate rubber safety surfacing, fencing and gates, for good economic and insurance reasons, sometimes at the expense of the benefit to children's play. The council recognises that ultimately, children will play and if play spaces do not offer them the level of challenge they desire, they will play elsewhere, possibly in less safe spaces.



A risk benefit assessment approach also illustrates how the process can be used to make decision in relation to surfacing, use of play equipment that doesn't meet industry standards, the presence of children and young people's self-built structures and the inclusions of natural features and landscaping in the play space. If appropriate such an approach can deliver the complementary benefits of reducing costs and creating more stimulating and challenging play environments. Limited resources and funding suggest it may not be viable to retroactively take a risk benefit approach, because of the costs associated with removing fencing etc. Taking a risk benefit approach to play in the future, in relation to both new provision and enhancement of existing, will have considerable benefits for the council.

For example, funds spent on fencing will detract from the amount available for play features. The key question therefore, is what additional value fencing will add to a play space. In some cases, it will be significant, in others, the lack of fencing may well add to the play opportunities available. A risk-benefit analysis, on a site-by-site basis, is the best approach.

Informal and Naturalistic Play

Not all designated play spaces need traditional fixed play equipment. When thinking of site-specific design, landscaping and the inclusion of natural elements such as boulders, tree trunks and mounds can enhance play spaces. Natural play design can fit well within the wider open space and increase the scope for creative play and imaginative games.

Natural playable space can be encouraged within parks, country parks, nature areas etc, where the provision of traditional play equipment may be regarded as inappropriate. Natural play design can be suitable for both urban and rural settings, but careful consideration needs to be made in relation to sustainability and maintenance.

A natural environment in a children's play space is an environment which includes natural elements. Natural environments may include:

- gardens where children can grow their own plants
- sandpits for sensory, symbolic and physical play
- digging patches where children can use garden equipment
- a range of planting to encourage a variety of modes of play such as playing with gum nuts, small branches, flowers, stones and bark
- small pits of pebbles, gravel, coarse sand and smooth river rocks for fine motor and imaginative play
- plants for smelling and picking
- plants that encourages birds, butterflies and other insects
- trees which provide shade
- worm farms and compost areas for environmental education
- water play areas for sensory play.

Why include natural environments in outdoor spaces?

Current research clearly shows that natural environments and outdoor play are beneficial to children in many ways. Playing outdoors is important for developing capacities for creativity, symbolic play, problem solving and intellectual development. Outdoor play has clear physical benefits for developing children including helping children to acquire gross motor skills, eye-hand coordination and helping to prevent obesity.

Sensory stimulation derived from interacting with natural environments allows children to learn with all their senses. These senses include seeing, hearing, touching and smelling. It is well known that physical activity is beneficial for children in many ways with research linking time spent outdoors to increased physical activity, healthy development and overall wellbeing.

Research also shows that children who have trouble concentrating benefit from playing outdoors, as after playing outdoors these children are better able to concentrate on tasks.

Including natural elements into an outdoor play space does not have to look a particular way; there is no formula that must be followed. The design will take into account the size and configuration of the space, the way in which the space is used at the children's service and the ages of the children who play in the space.

Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2021 – 2030

This strategy addresses the issue over the medium and long term by establishing standards for both the quality, quantity accessibility of open space provision. This leads directly to the development of priorities for investment and seeks where appropriate to create new open space through planning gain in areas of deficiency. This can also lead to consideration being given to a limited rationalisation of open space in areas that significantly exceed the adopted standards.

Taking into account the findings of various consultation survey, and the proposed quantity and quality standards for open space, the following key principles have been adopted for open space managed by the borough council in previous parks and open spaces strategies.

That a pyramid of open space provision is adopted, this being:

- Destination parks
- Community parks
- Semi natural open space
- Amenity open space

That catchment areas are adopted for each category of open space as follows:

- Destination parks within 1200m of households
- Community Parks within 1200m of households
- Naturalised Open Space within 480m of households
- Local Open space within 240m of households

This strategy is a practical approach to Chesterfield open space provision, and a clear way forward to ensure resources are targeted appropriately to maintain the standards expected by the public.

Council Plan 2019 – 2023

We are guided by our simple but important vision:

‘Putting our communities first’

Chesterfield Borough Council is here to serve and support our communities including our residents, tenants, businesses, visitors, students and voluntary groups. Together we will continue to make our borough a great place to live, work, visit and invest.

The Council Plan includes our priorities for the next four years:

These are the activities on which we will focus our efforts and want to see a real shift in over the four years. The four-year plan allows us time to plan ahead without trying to speculate about what our communities will need and expect in the distant future.

Current Priorities include

- 1 Making Chesterfield a thriving borough
- 2 Improving quality of life for local people
- 3 Providing value for money services

The Play Strategy fits under priority 2 improving life for local people

More specifically we will measure this by improving our environment and enhancing community safety for all our communities and future generations.

This page is intentionally left blank

Chesterfield Borough Council Equality Impact Assessment - Full Assessment Form

<i>Title of the policy, project, service, function or strategy:</i>		Play Strategy 2021 - 2026
<i>Service Area:</i>	Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing	
<i>Section:</i>	Environmental Services	
<i>Lead Officer:</i>	John Ramsey	
<i>Date of assessment:</i>	May 2021	
<i>Is the policy, project, service, function or strategy:</i>		
<i>Existing</i>	Yes	
<i>Changed</i>	Yes	
<i>New / Proposed</i>	No	

Page 315

Section 1 – Clear aims and objectives

<p>1. What is the aim of the policy, project, service, function or strategy?</p> <p>By adopting this strategy, the Council will have:</p> <p>A rationale for investment in play provision, set standards for investment in play provision and present a development plan identifying priority for future investment. Additional aims include:</p> <p>To increase play opportunities for children, young people and families To widen the understanding of play and enable innovation Improving play accessibility for our children, young people and diverse communities To facilitate play opportunities that are inclusive and accessible to all children and young people Raising the standard, quality and experience of play opportunities across Chesterfield borough Ensuring that play opportunities are properly resourced and sustainable</p>

2. Who is intended to benefit from the policy and how?
All residents of and visitors to Chesterfield.

3. What outcomes do you want to achieve?
Clarity for local residents and specific interest groups on the Councils vision and strategic direction for the provision, management and improvement of play spaces across the Borough.

Section 2 – What is the impact?

4. Summary of anticipated impacts. <i>Please tick at least one option per protected characteristic. Think about barriers people may experience in accessing services, how the policy is likely to affect the promotion of equality, knowledge of customer experiences to date. You may need to think about sub-groups within categories eg. older people, younger people, people with hearing impairment etc.</i>			
	Positive impact	Negative impact	No disproportionate impact
Age	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability and long-term conditions	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage and civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnant women and people on parental leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Religion and belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3 – Recommendations and monitoring

If you have answered that the policy, project, service, function or strategy could potentially have a negative impact on any of the above characteristics then a full EIA will be required.

5. Should a full EIA be completed for this policy, project, service, function or strategy

A brief description of how the proposal has been developed to take into consideration protected groups, outcomes of consultation etc.

No disproportionate negative impact has been identified for any group with a protected characteristic

Section 4 – Knowledge management and publication

Please note the draft EIA should be reviewed by the appropriate Service Manager and the Policy Service **before** WBR, Lead Member, Cabinet, Council reports are produced.

Reviewed by Head of Service/Service Manager	Name:	John Ramsey
	Date:	28/05/2021
Reviewed by Policy Service	Name:	Donna Reddish
	Date:	28/06/21
Final version of the EIA sent to Policy Service	Yes	
Decision information sent to Policy Service	Yes	

This page is intentionally left blank

Play Strategy 2021 – 2026 – Climate Change Impact Assessment

The Play Strategy covers multiple climate change sensitivities, and which results in both positive and negative effects. A summary of the estimated results is available in Table 1.

Table 1. Rationale of adopting the Play Strategy and its impacts for Climate Change.

Category	Rationale summary
Adaptation	Planting trees in parks, open and play spaces can reduce our flooding vulnerability and enable play spaces to be used all year round Planting trees in parks, open and play spaces can reduce our heatwave vulnerability has a cooling effect and provides shade to enable prolonged use
Buildings	
Business	
Energy	
Influence	Through this strategy we can promote the importance of parks, open and play space as places in which children and young people can learn about the natural world and their impact on it Through this strategy we can raise awareness in our local community about the range of facilities on offer from traditional fixed play to more natural landscape and how we can reduce our impact on it by offering different play experiences. We have an educating role here as we move towards more natural play settings.
Internal Resources	Our main source of external funding for play is the landfill tax credit scheme. We can incorporate elements of biodiversity in natural play settings that could attract additional funding not traditionally accessed through this scheme.
Land Use	
Procurement	We can stipulate to our suppliers that we will only use products that come from sustainable sources i.e. timber, rubber etc. We have been reducing the amount of material we use in ground works through the use of grass matt, we can expand on this where it is appropriate to do so

Transport	By locating play space in locations near to local people that are accessible and removing any barriers to access, then play can play a part in encouraging more active travel
Waste	Through our procurement processes we can reduce further amount of material that goes to landfill and that can be recycled e.g. rubber matting, aggregates. Through our procurement processes we can reduce further the amount of waste that is diverted to landfill e.g. utilising spoil on site to create play mounds.

Report

