

Play Strategy 2022 – 2030 Evidence Base

Appendix A

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%	3	
			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.

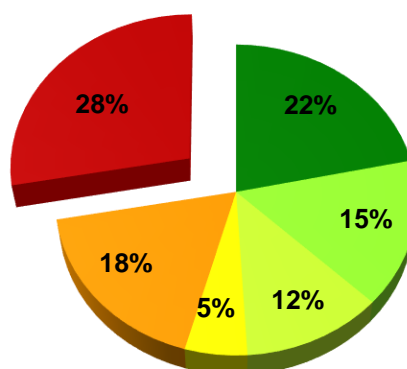
The key consultation findings relating to the provision of fixed equipment play areas are outlined below.

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



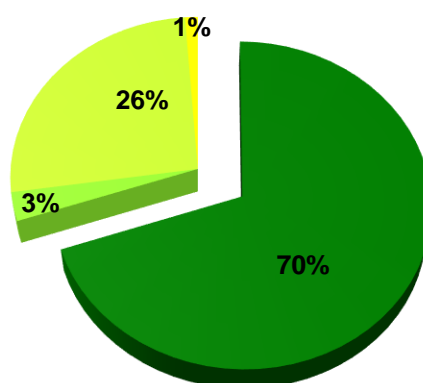
Respondents were asked to name the three sites they visit most often. The most popular site is Queens Park. A total of 43% of respondents state they often visit the site. Holmebrook Valley Country Park is the other specific park site cited as being visited often by respondents. Over a third of respondents (35%) cite visiting Holmebrook Valley Country Park often. Other sites popular for

respondents to visit are Somersall Park, Walton Dam, Poolsbrook 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

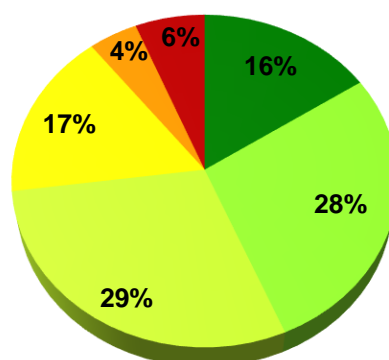


Respondents were asked what the main mode of travel they use to access play and open space provision. An assumption is made for only the most common modes of travel to be listed as possible options.

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

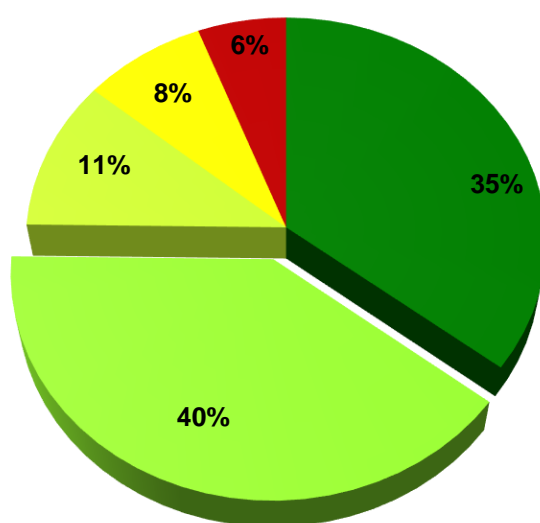


Quantity of play space

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.

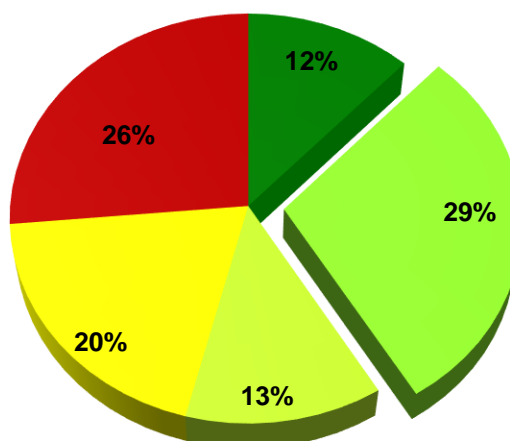
How satisfied are you with the quantity of the play

How satisfied are you with how close the play areas are to you?



Quality

How satisfied are you with the quality of the play areas?



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

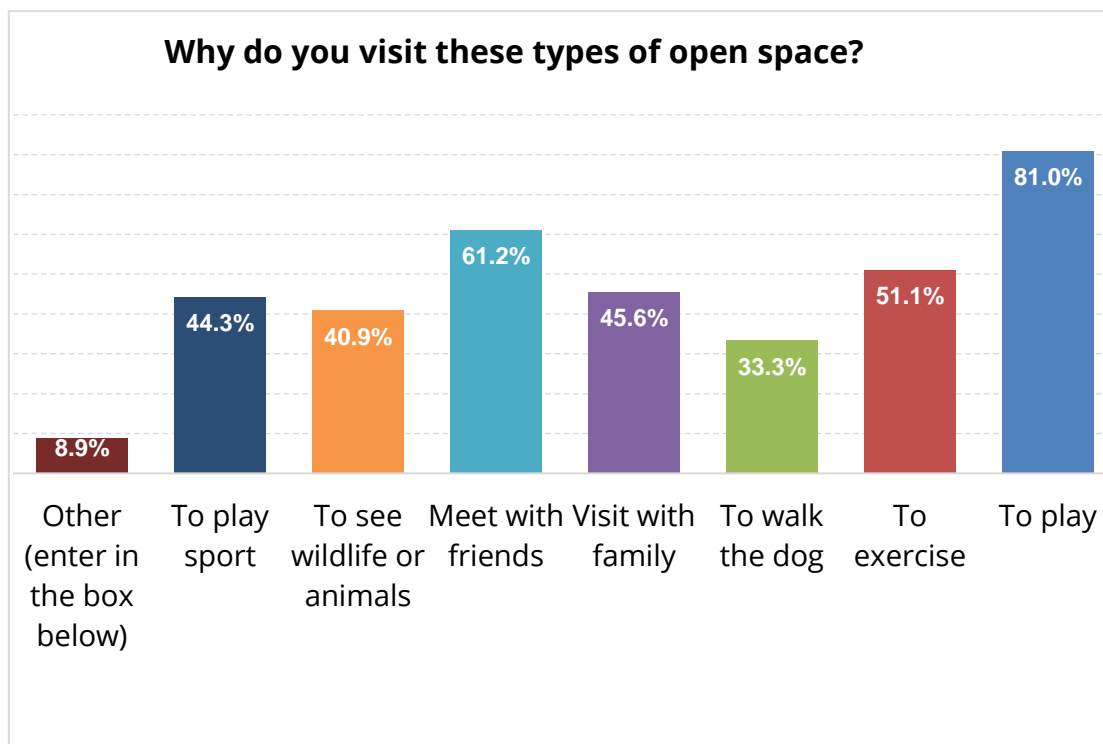
Children and young people were asked what types of open space they like to visit. The most common type of open space to visit is parks with 81%. Other forms of open space they like to visit are play areas (66%), nature areas (63%), small grassed areas near home (49%) and sports pitches (38%).

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

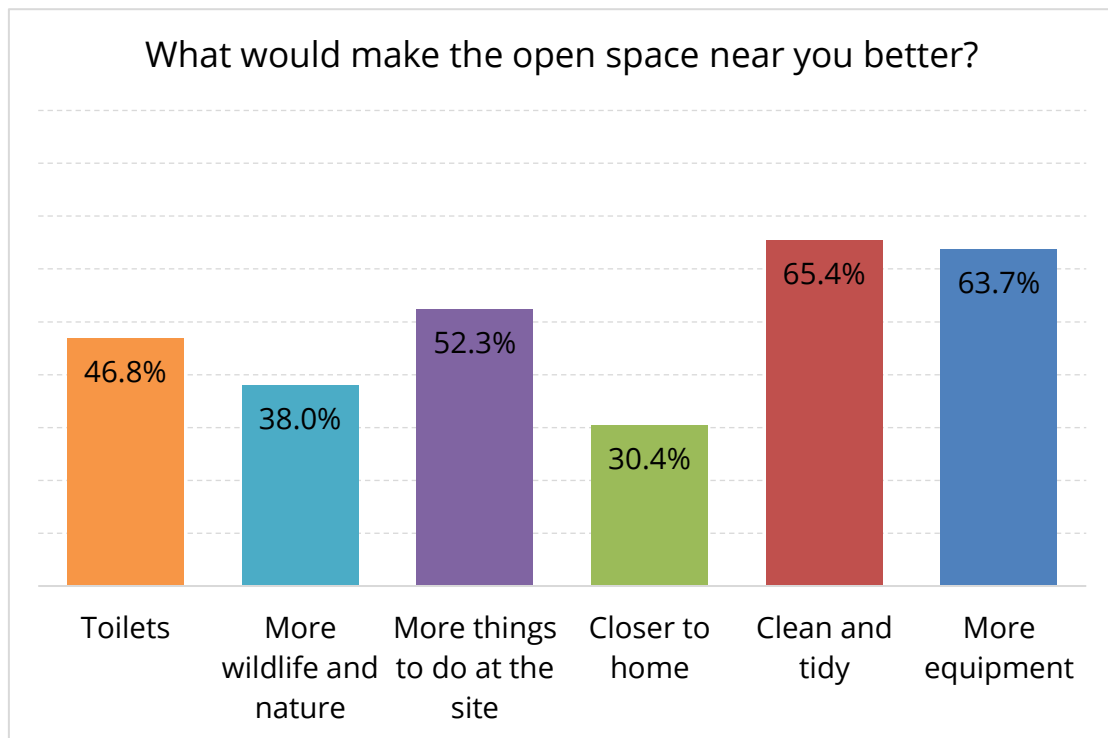


Respondents were asked what type of play provision they prefer to visit. A fairly even split between response figures is observed. A slightly higher proportion of respondents prefer more natural play opportunities (52%).

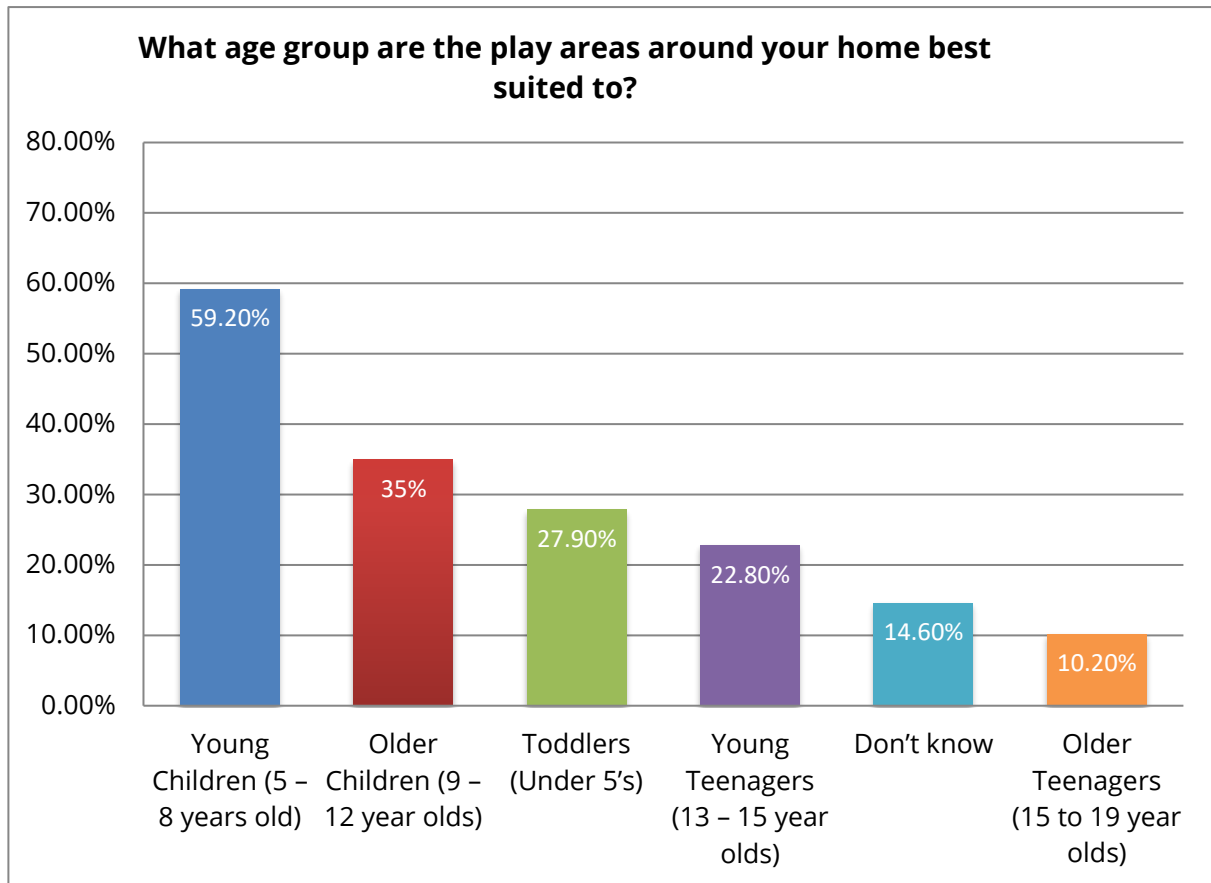
What types of play do you prefer?

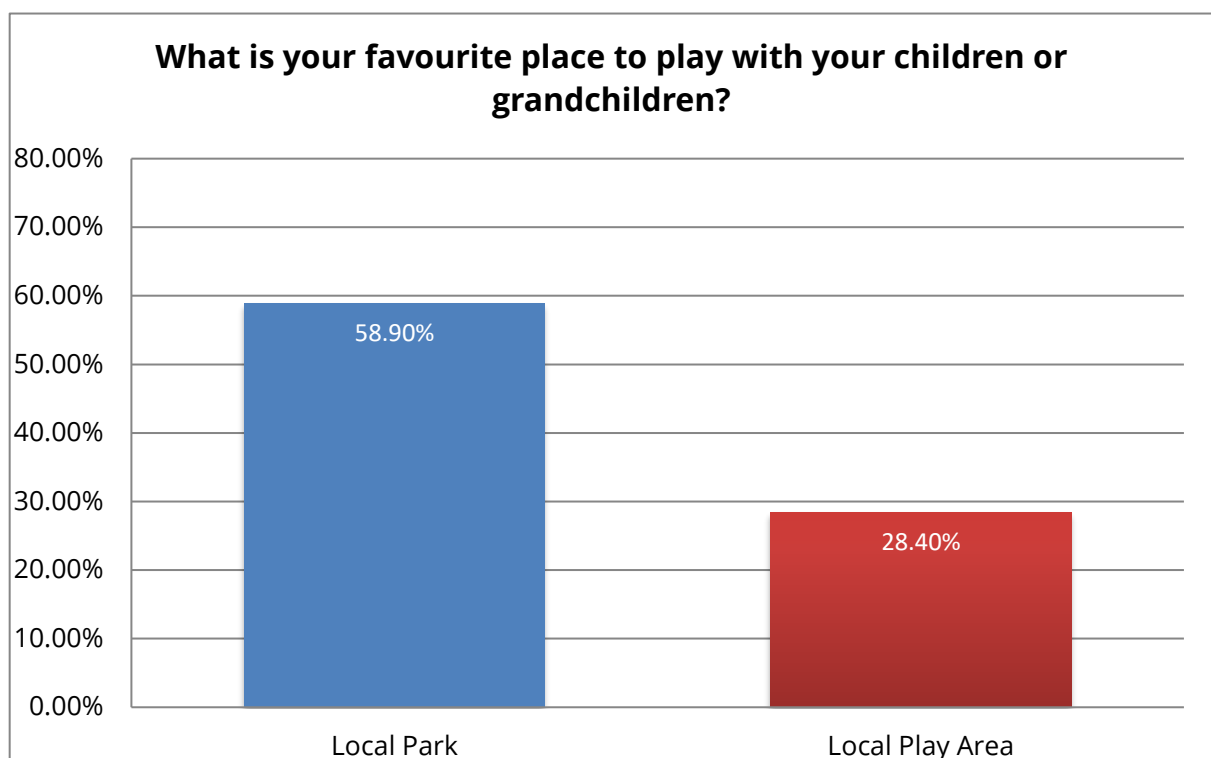
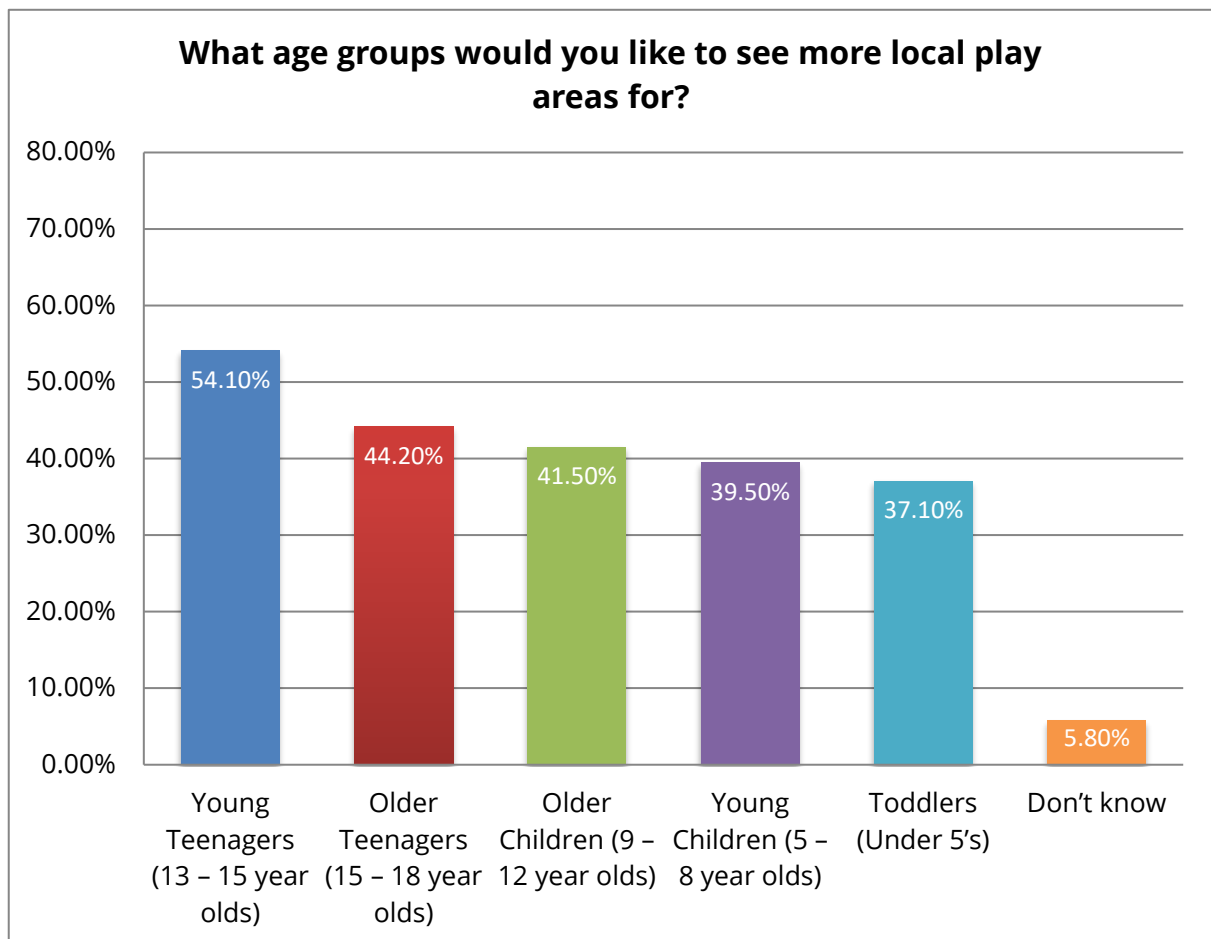


Respondents were asked what would make open spaces near them better. The most popular answers include sites to be clean and tidy (65%) and for more play equipment (64%).

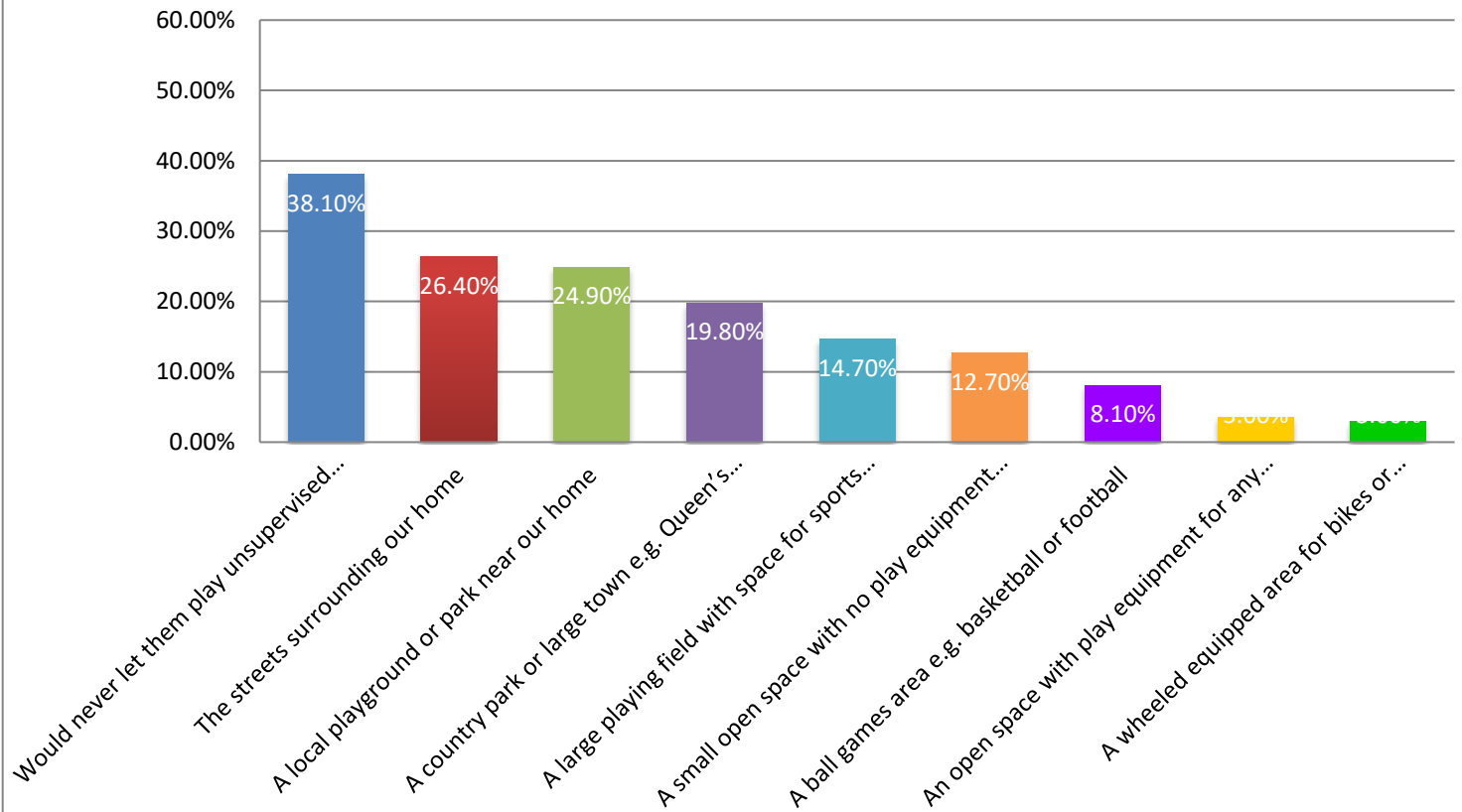


Respondents were asked what age group are the play areas around your home best suited to. The responses illustrate that gaps persist for older children and young people and this was borne out by the response to the follow on question.



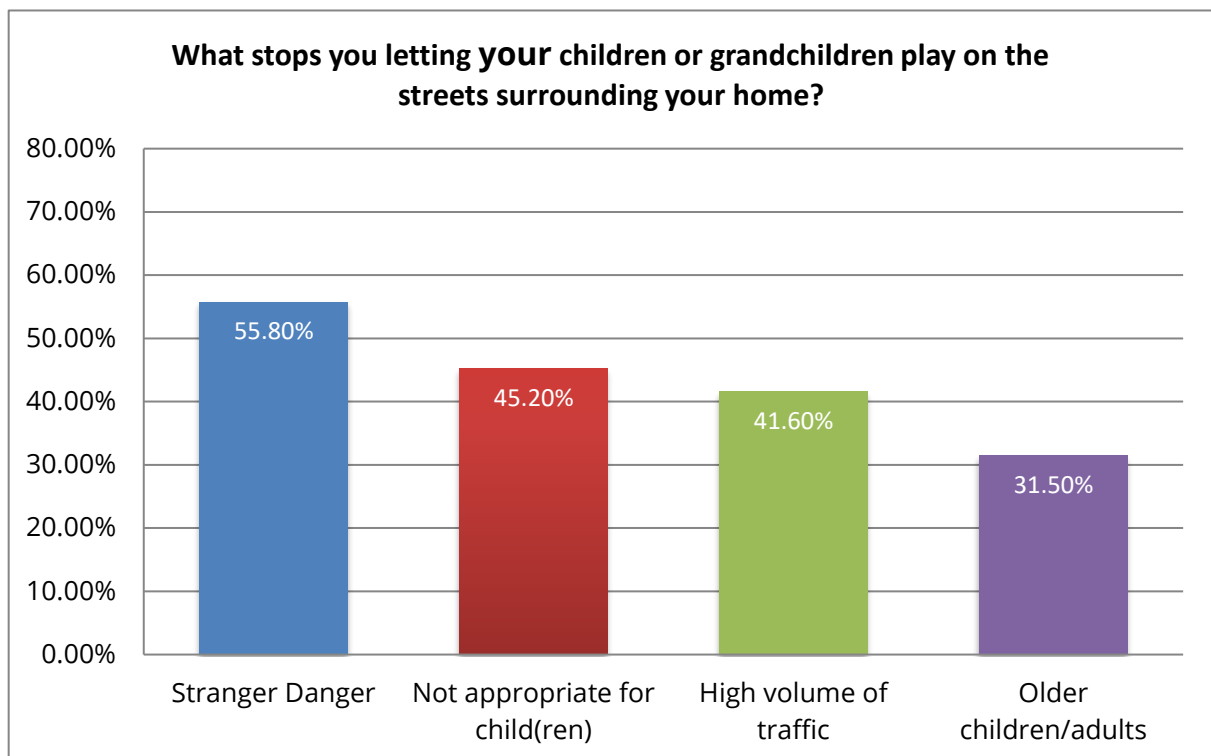


Where do your children or grandchildren play when playing on their own/without adult supervision?



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



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	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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		
Age	M	F	Tot	M	F	Tot
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

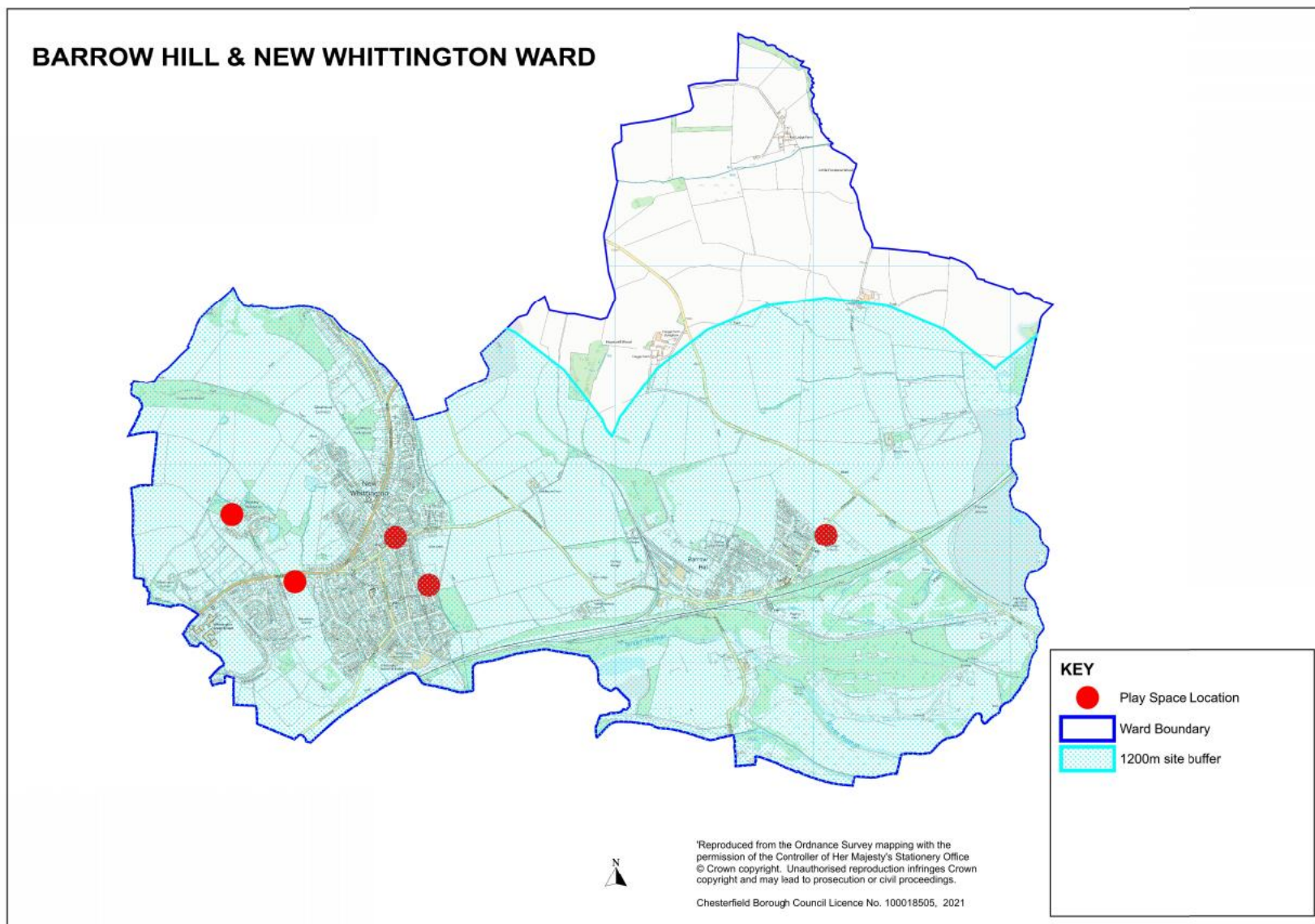
Poverty and Deprivation

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%

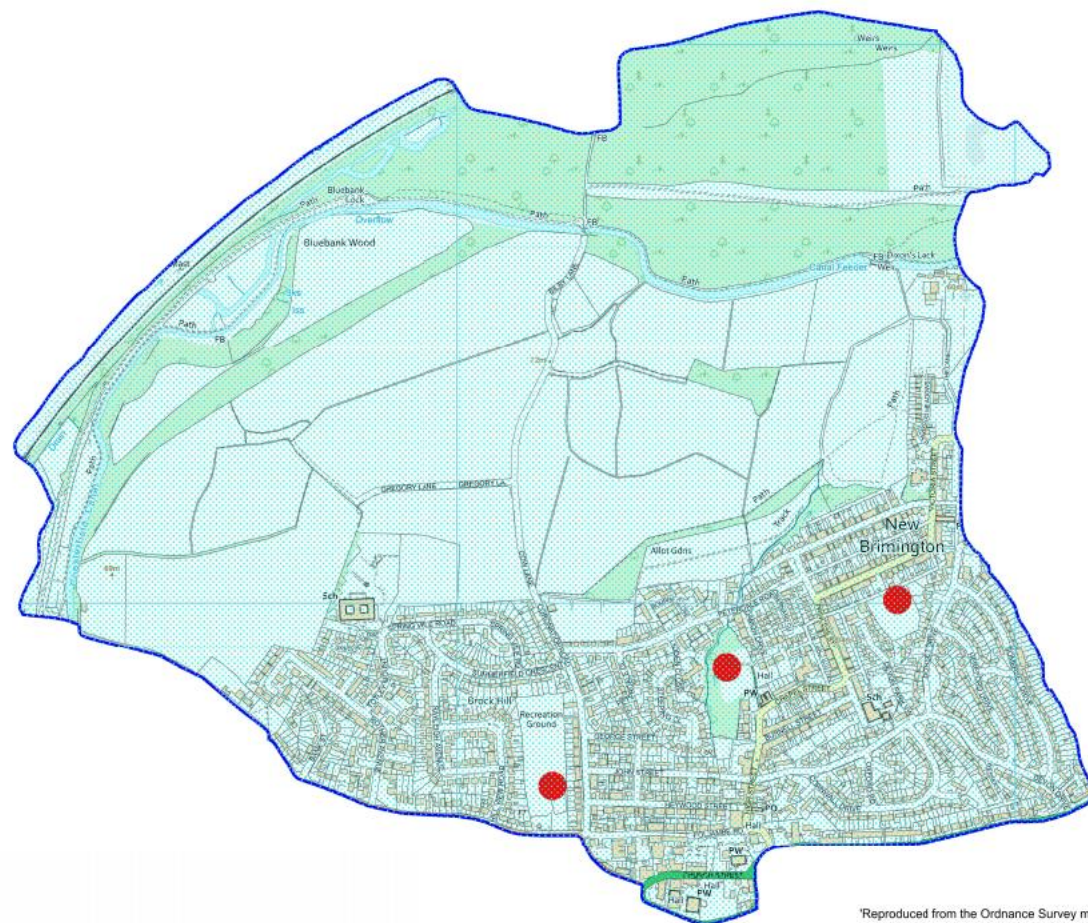
Quality, Value and Contribution Scores

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

Ward Level Maps



BRIMINGTON NORTH



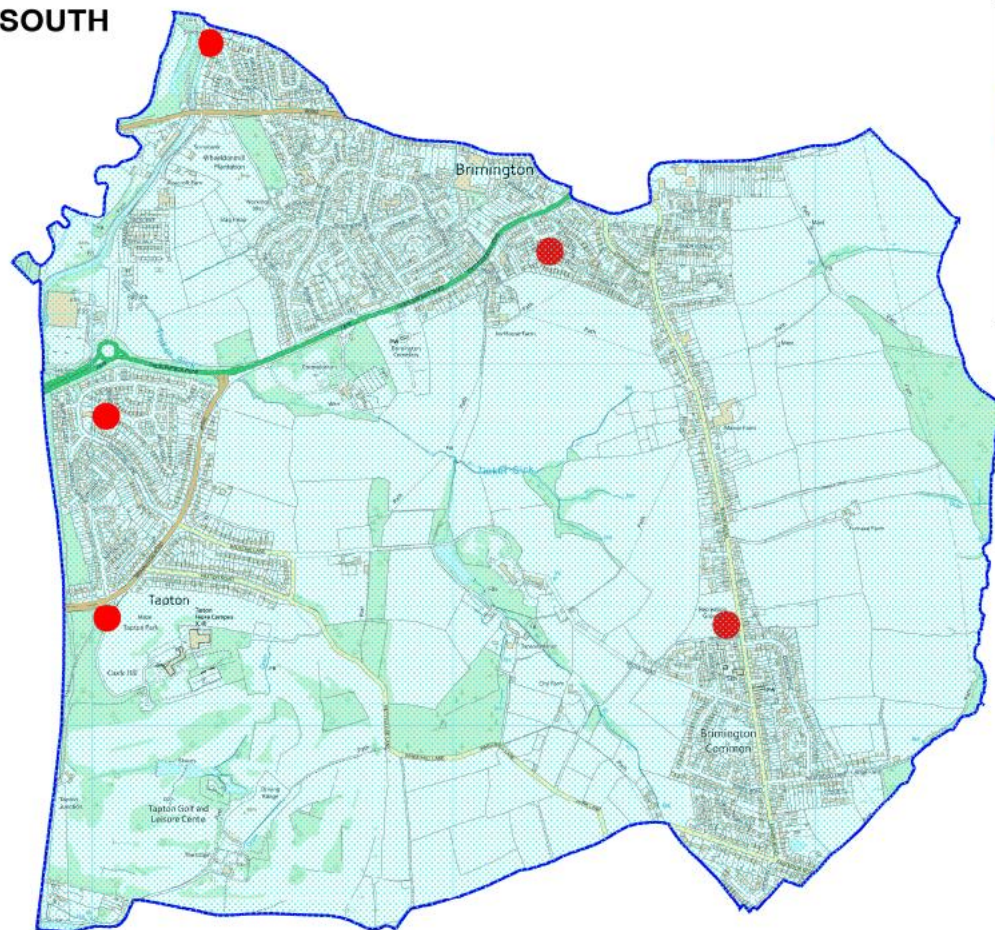
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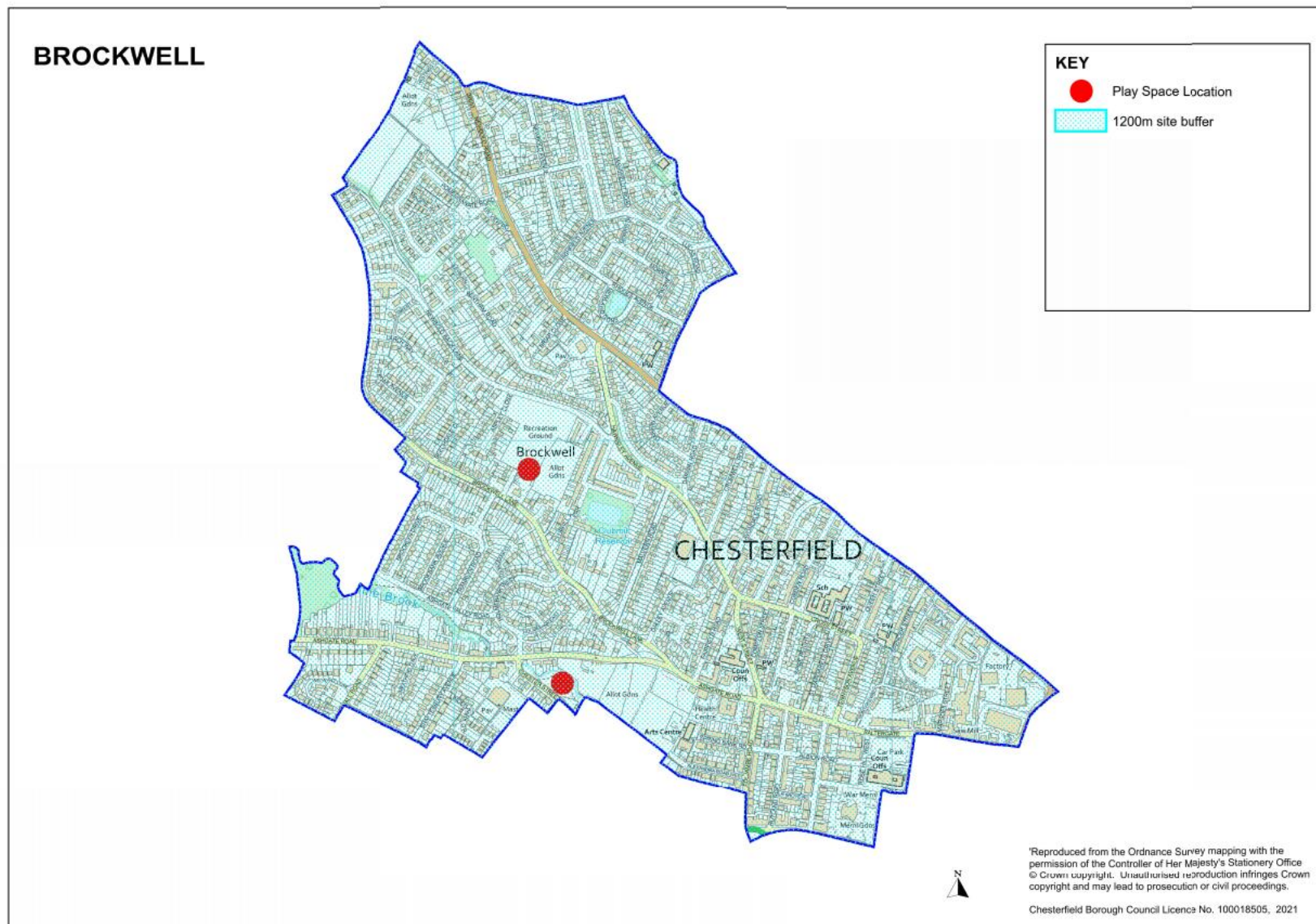
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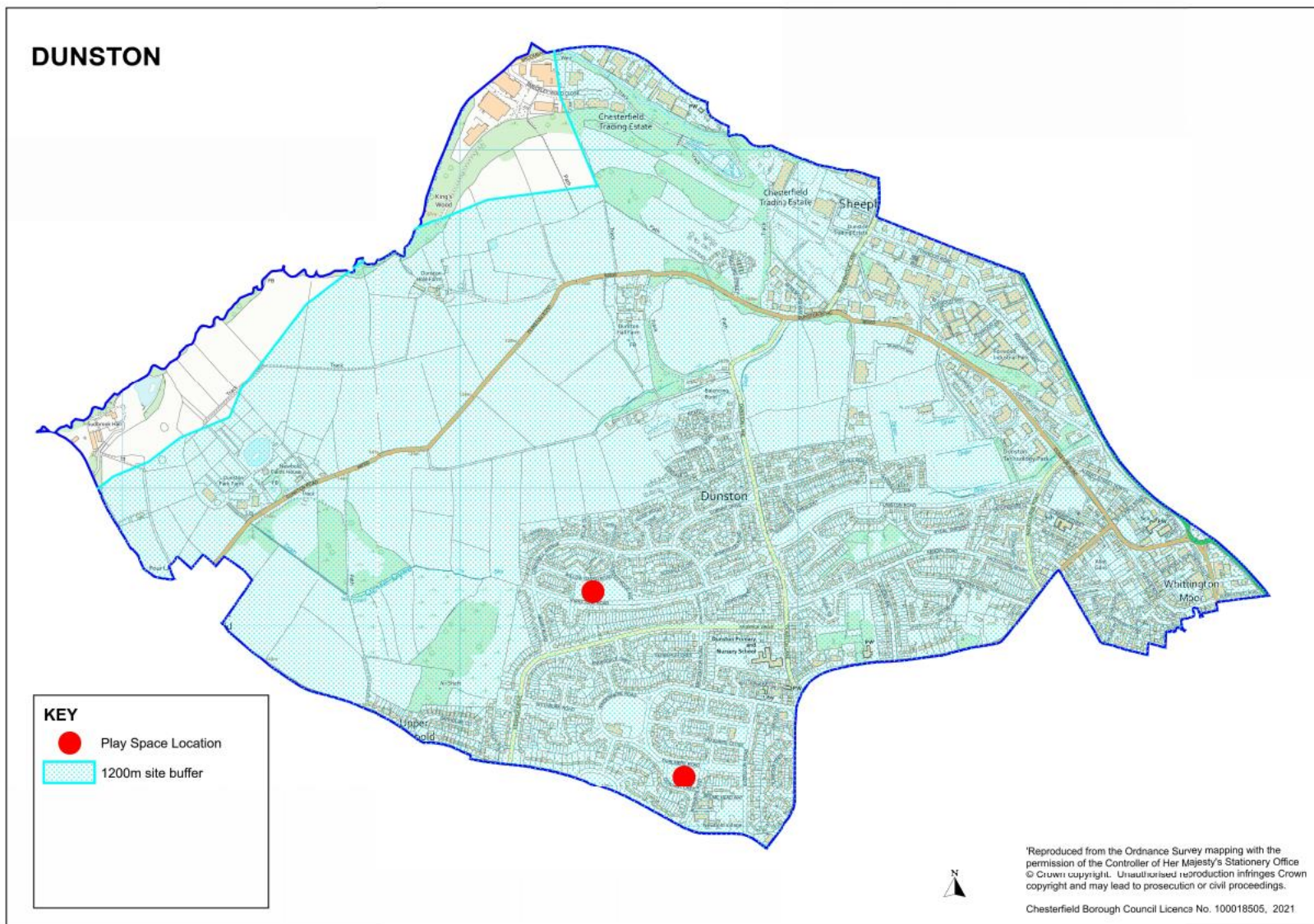
BRIMINGTON SOUTH



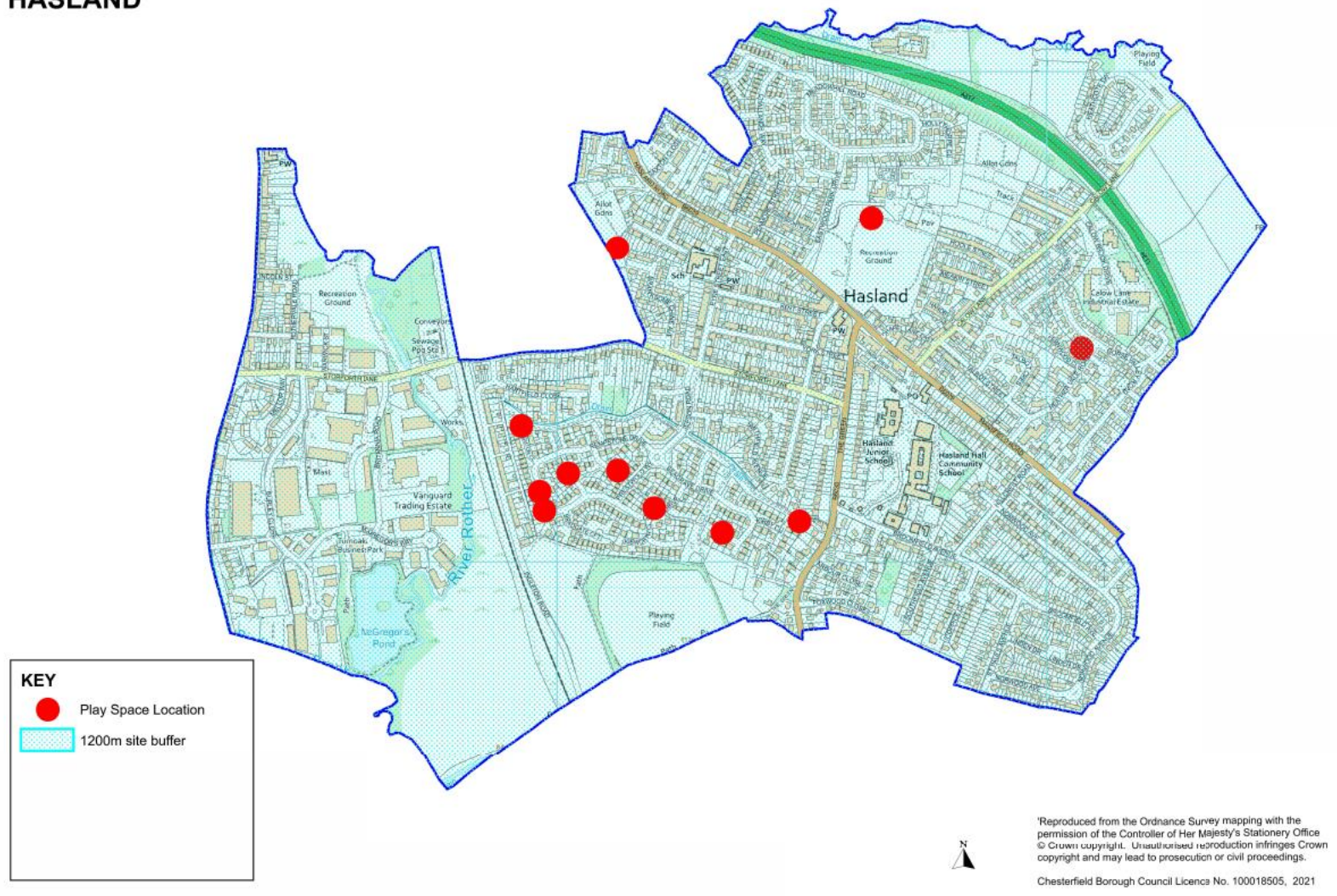
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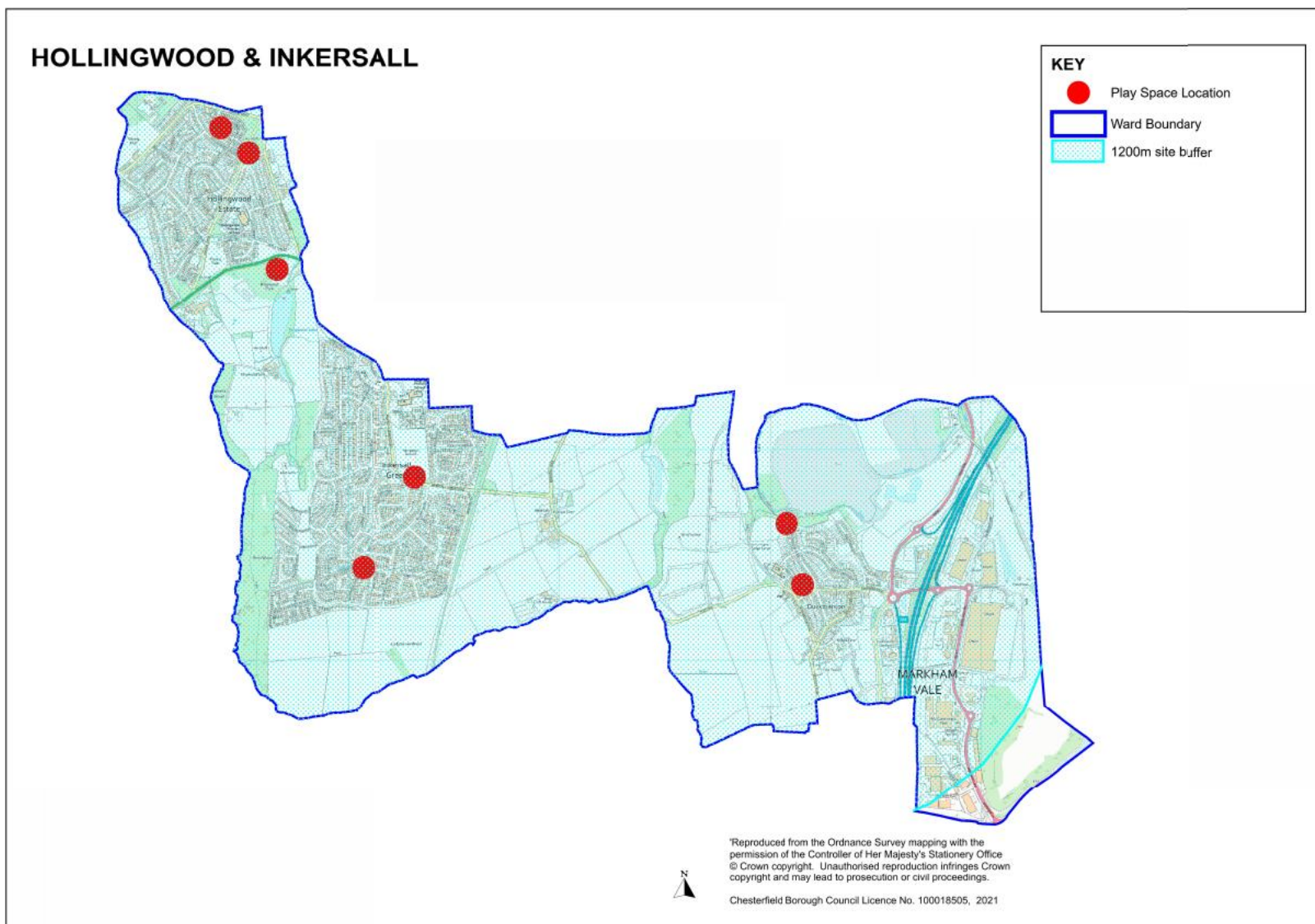
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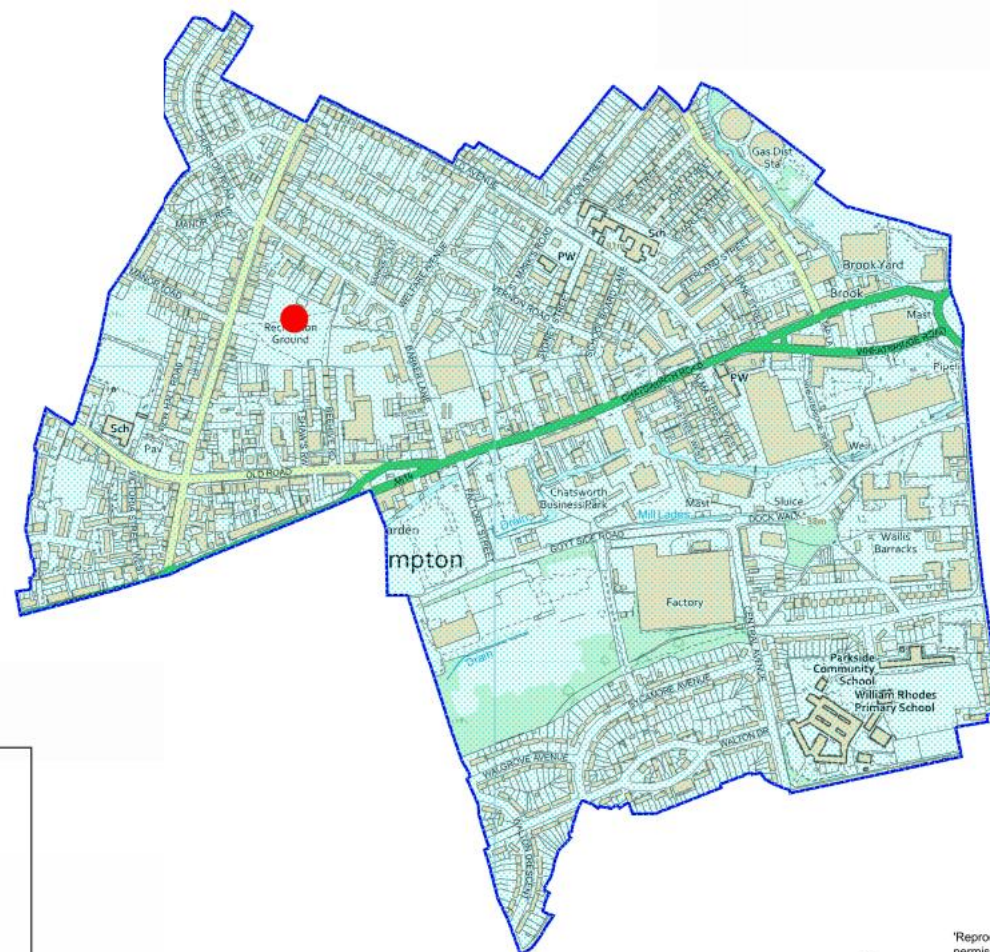


HASLAND





HOLMEBROOK



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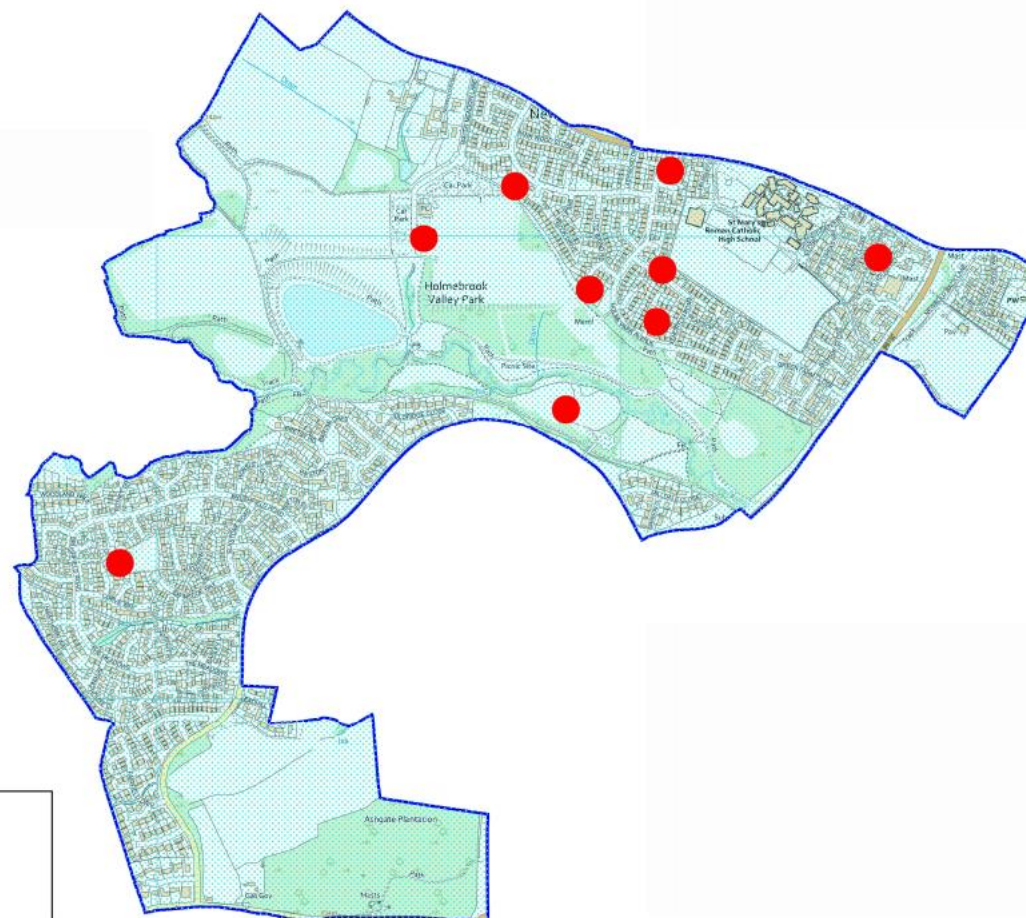
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LINACRE



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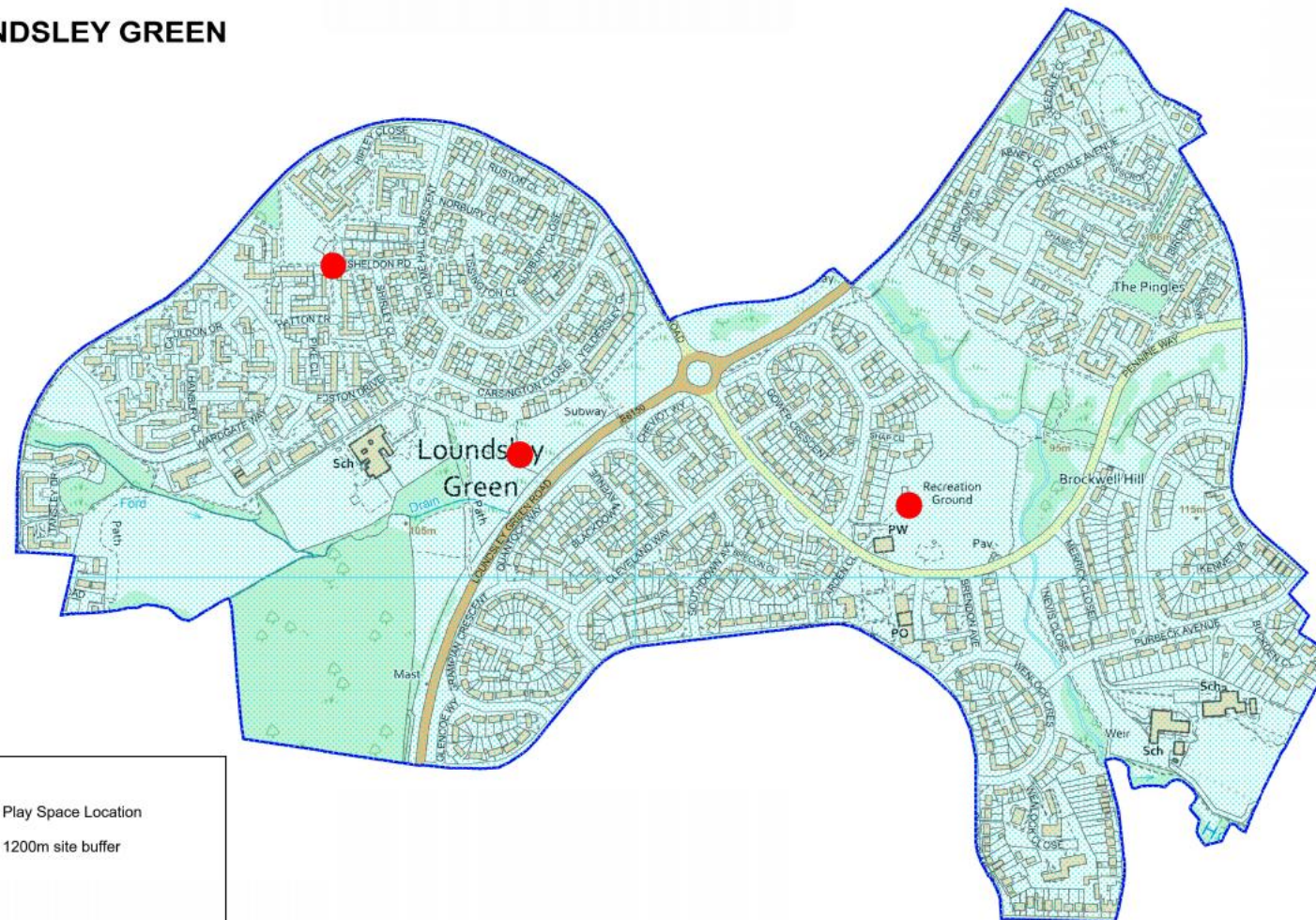
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LOUNDSLEY GREEN

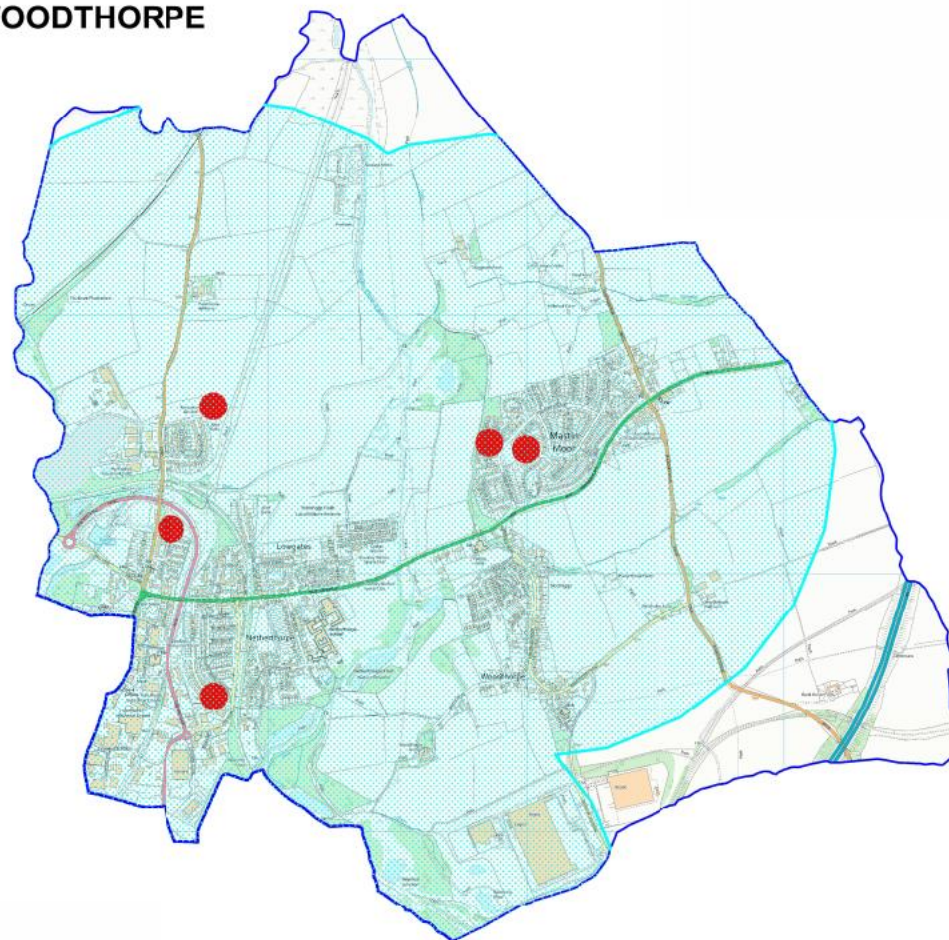


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LOWGATES & WOODTHORPE**KEY**

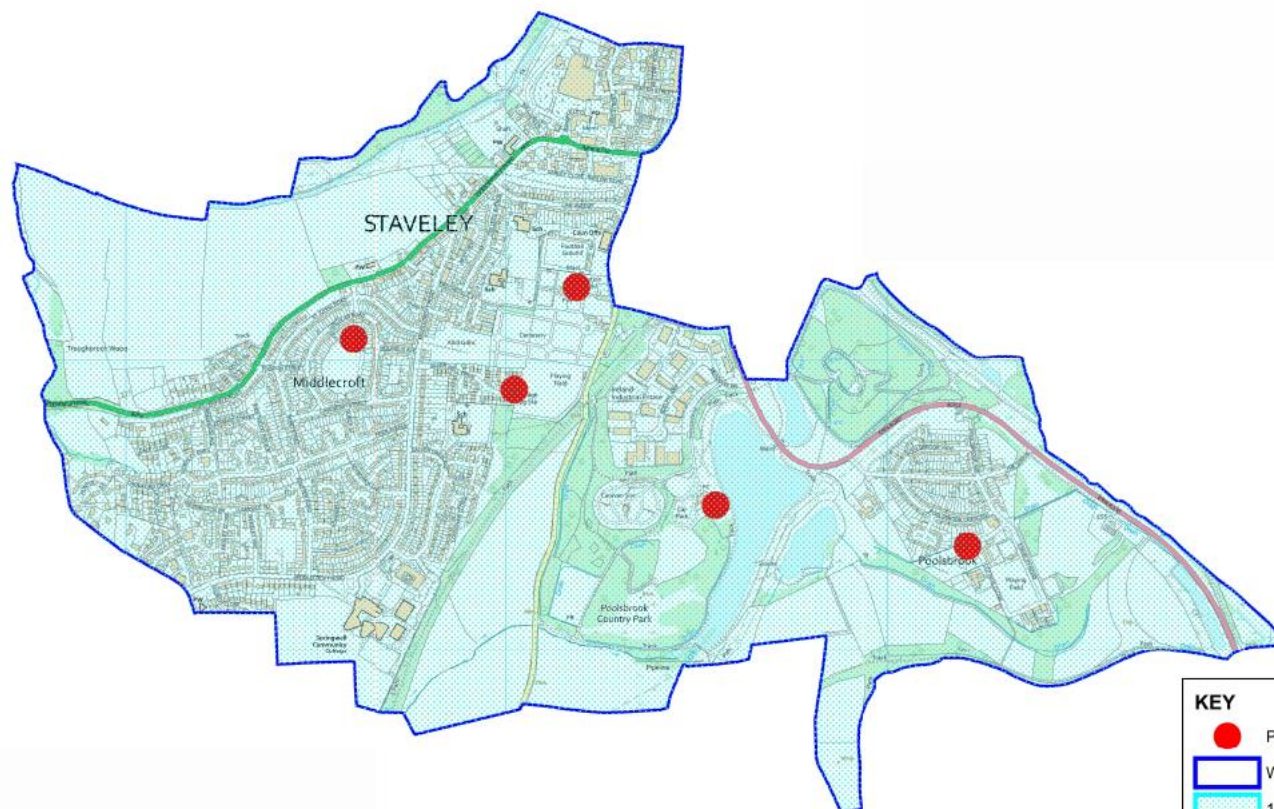
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-  Ward Boundary
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MIDDLECROFT & POOLSBROOK

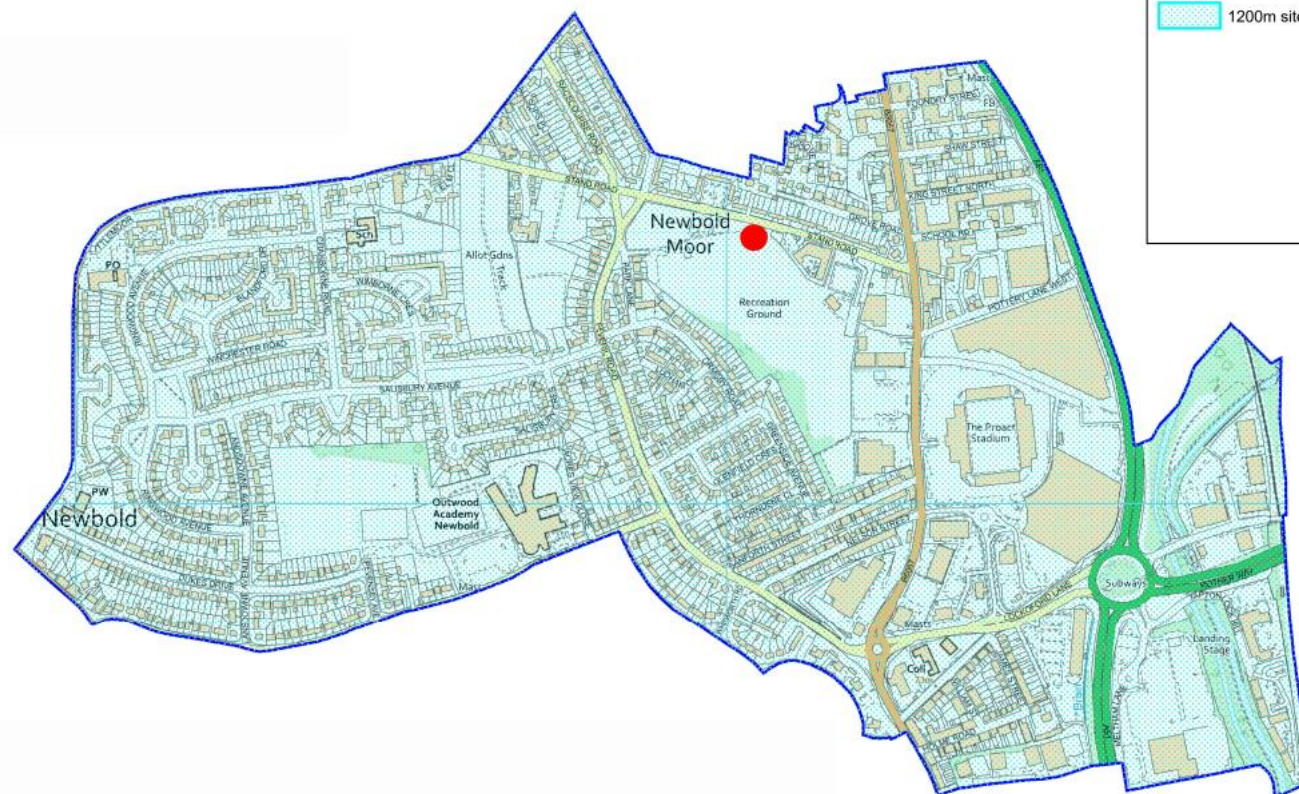


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 - ▭ Ward Boundary
 - ▭ 1200m site buffer



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MOOR

KEY

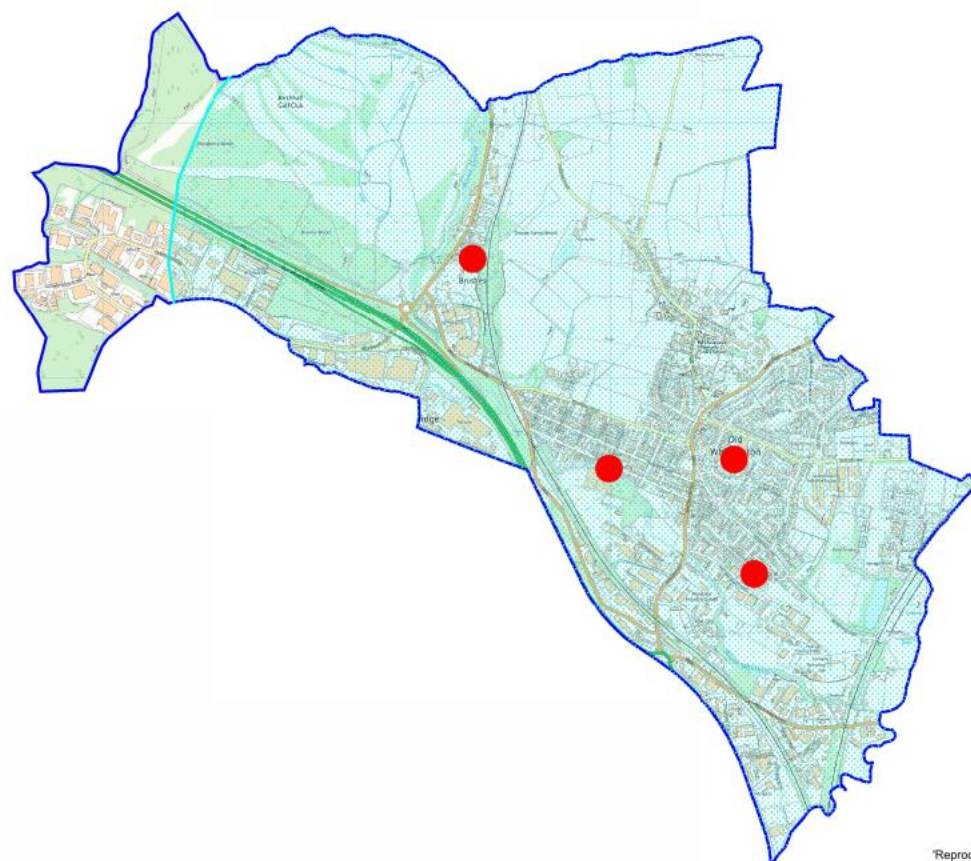
 Play Space Location

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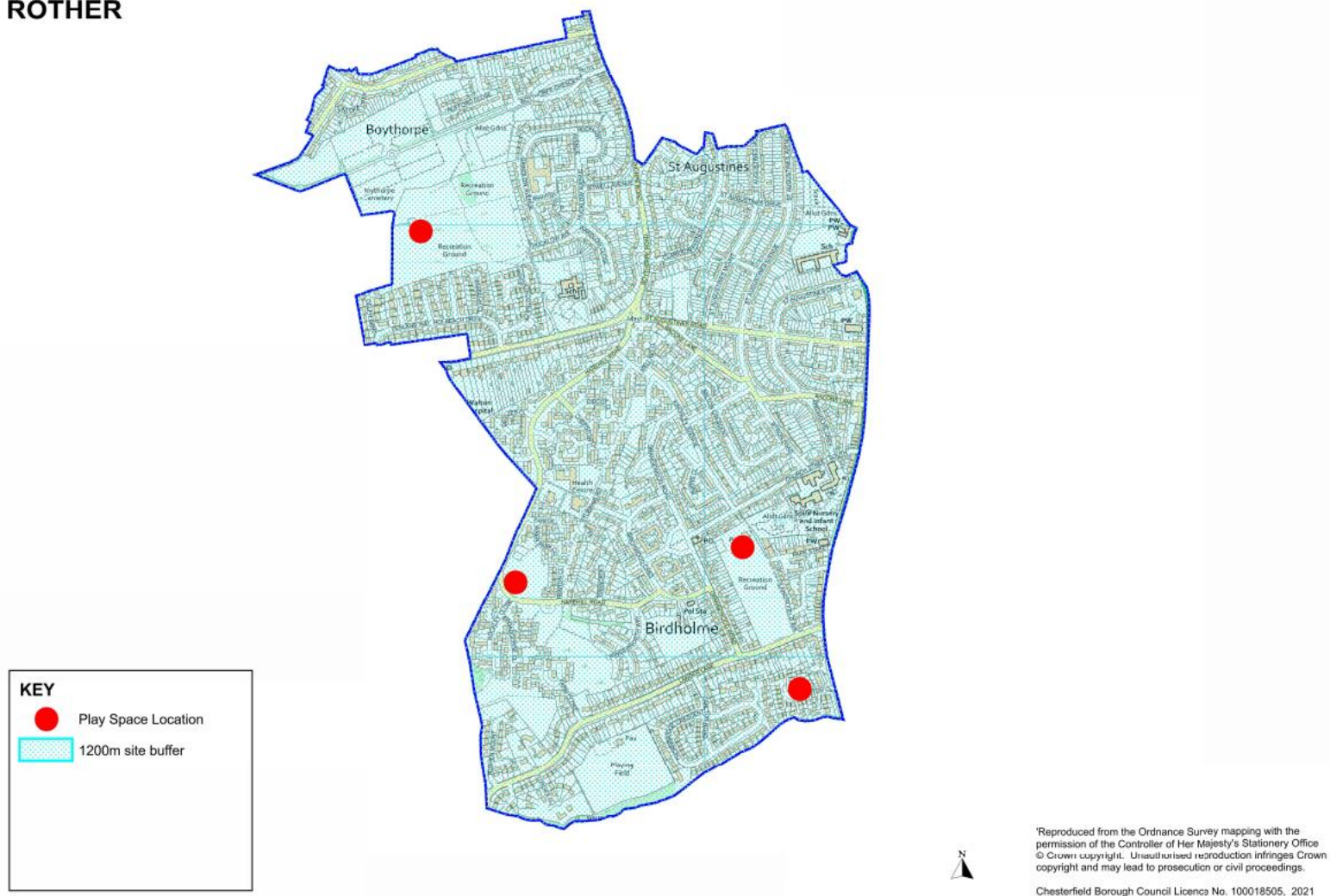
OLD WHITTINGTON



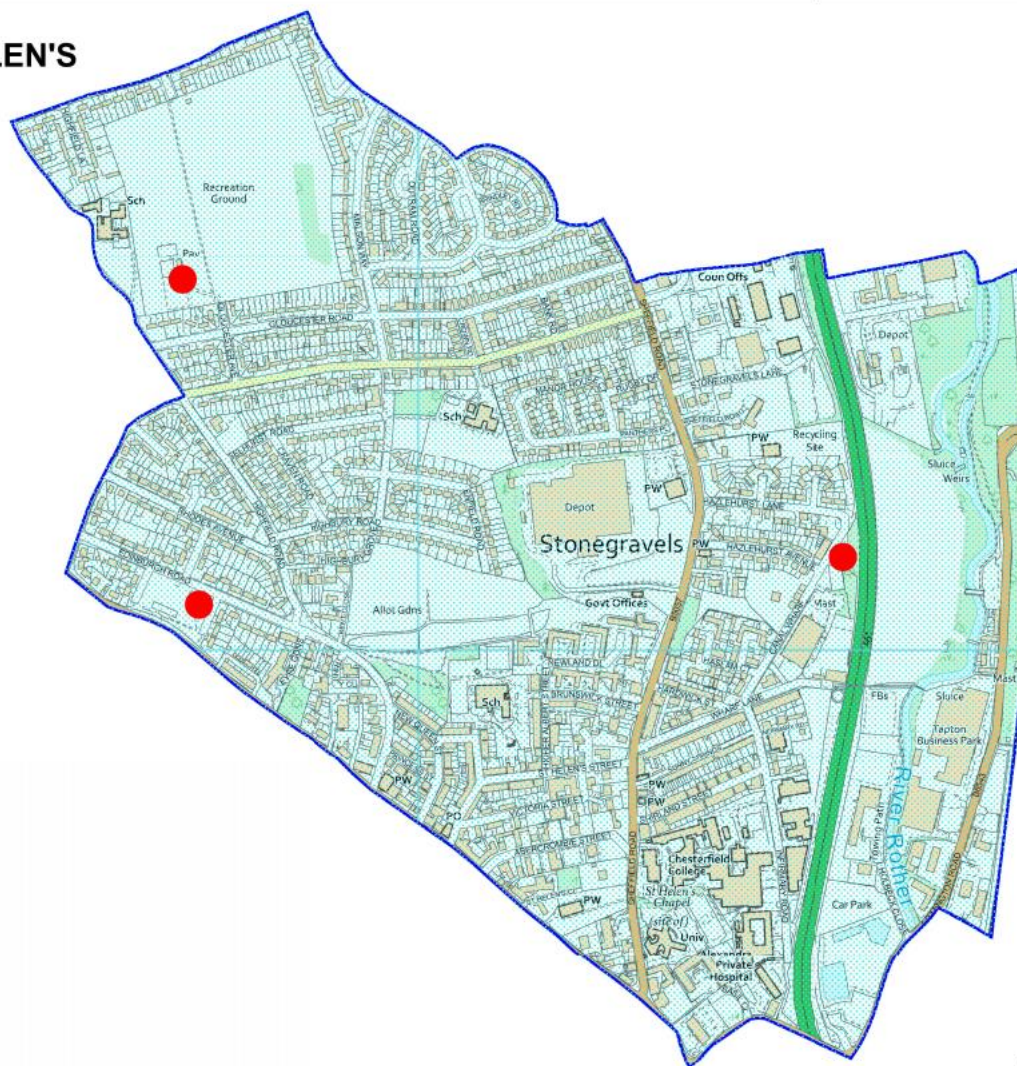
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●	Play Space Location
	Ward Boundary
	1200m site buffer

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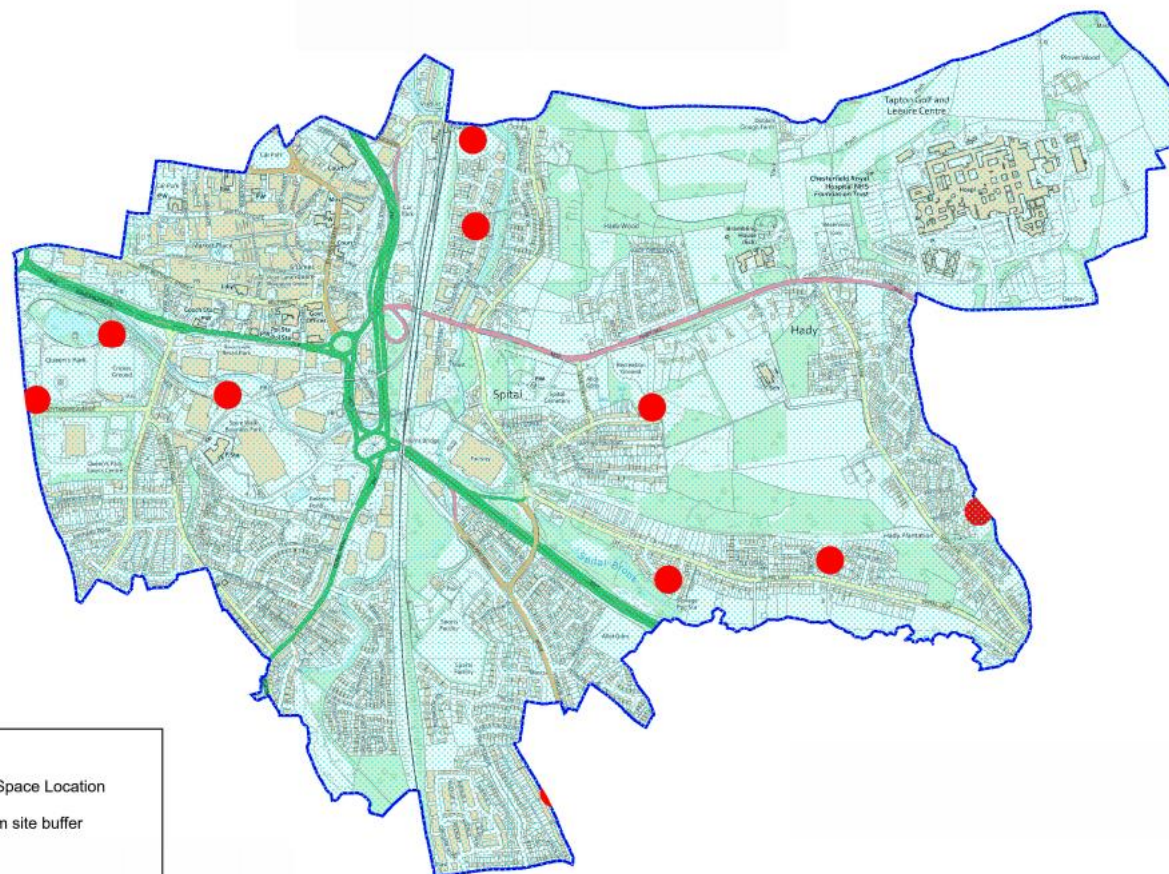
KEY

- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer



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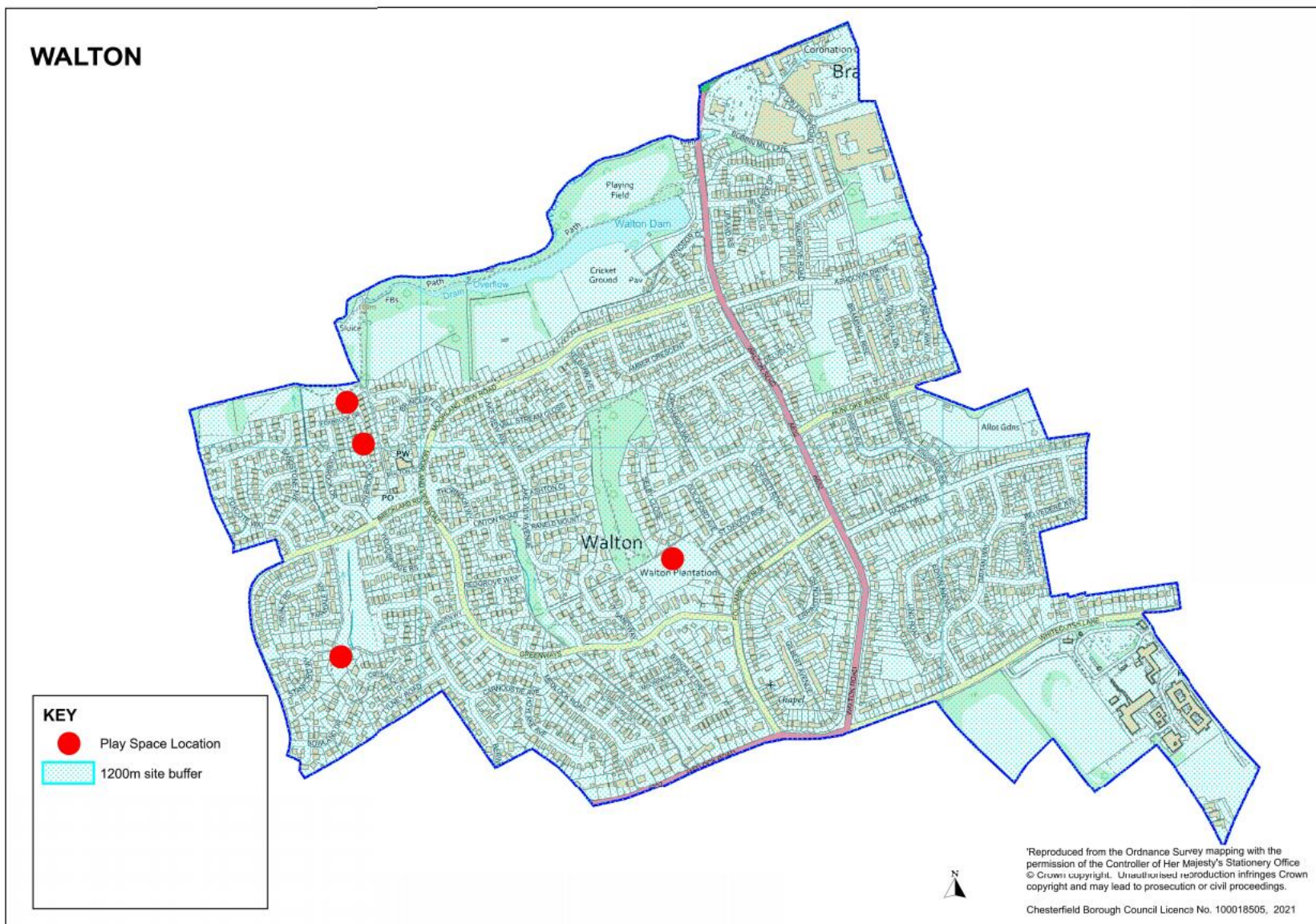
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- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer

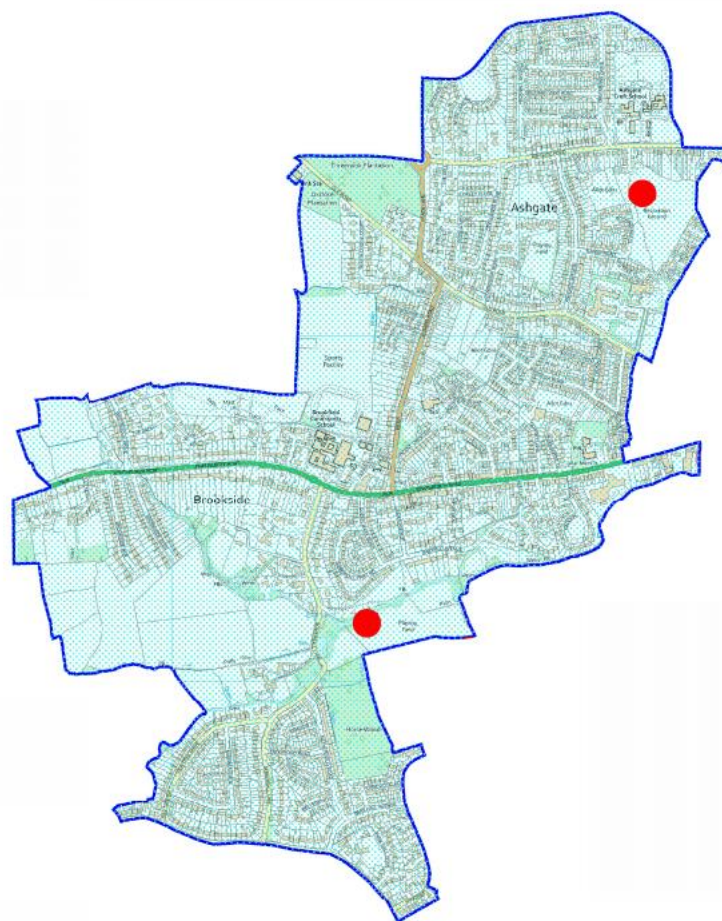


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WEST



KEY

- Play Space Location
- 1200m site buffer



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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

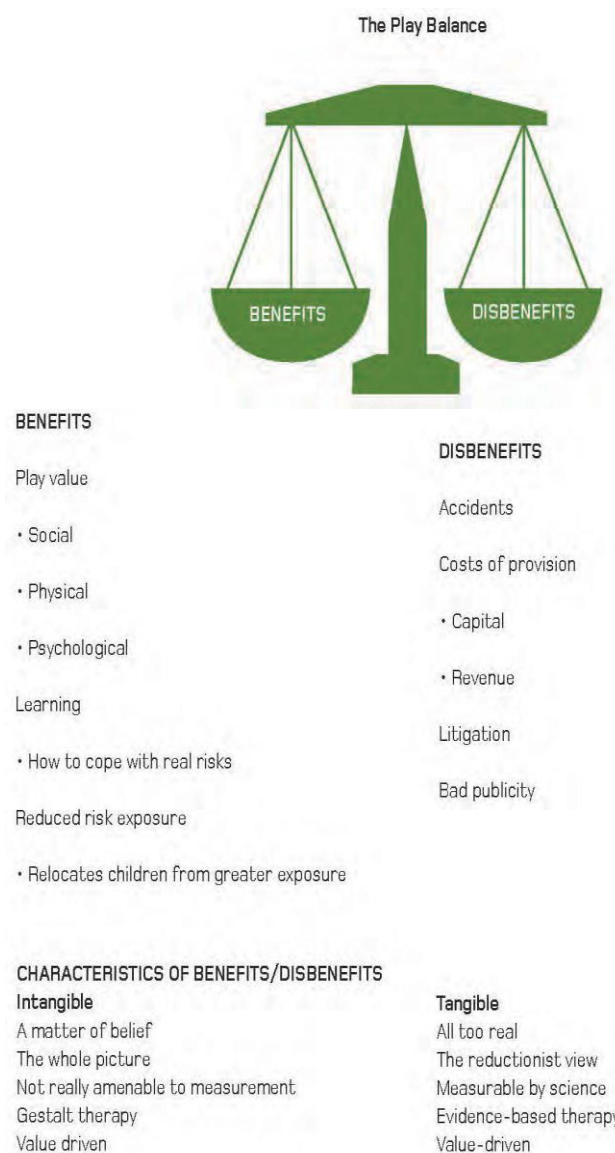
technical play inspection. The council's overall approach to the management of risk is informed by this guidance.

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.