

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

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INTRODUCTION

This document is the Strategy and Action Plan for open spaces, sport and recreational facilities provision in Bolton. The Strategy has been developed from the results of research and analysis of open space, sport and recreational facilities provision within Bolton. This information is set out in the respective assessment reports (outdoor sports facilities and open spaces), which highlight key issues emerging from detailed assessment of the quality and distribution of provision and extensive consultation with local groups and people.

The Strategy and Action Plan sets out a vision over the next ten years for Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council and its partners in relation to the provision and improvement of open space provision within Bolton.

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STRATEGIC VISION AND AIMS

Vision

The vision for this strategy is 'to provide good quality and accessible open space, sport and recreational opportunities in order to support Bolton being a great place to grow up, live, learn, work, do business and visit.'

Strategic aims

Delivery of strategic aims will support work to deliver the themes of the Bolton Community Strategy, the main aim of which is the regeneration of communities, through:

- Building on strong local communities.
- Improving image and strengthening pride in the Borough.
- Improving health, well-being and the quality of life.
- Enhancing local living and the environment.
- Improving accessibility.
- Lifelong learning and developing potential.
- Improving safety, reducing crime and tackling drugs.
- Investing in our future - children and young people.
- Improving the economy and employment opportunities.

Therefore, strategic aims are to:

1. Provide usable, accessible and sustainable open spaces, sport and recreational facilities within the Borough.
2. Seek to ensure that this provision is of an appropriate distribution, quantity and quality (new facilities will only be provided or supported if they contribute to the appropriate distribution of facilities).
3. Rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfall as outlined in the Assessment Report through improvements to the current stock of provision.
4. Encourage, support and develop partnerships with all owners and providers of open space, sport and recreational facilities to secure public/community use of provision.
5. Proactive use of planning powers to quantify and secure appropriate developer contributions for new or enhanced facilities.

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6. Work in tandem with providers and community groups (e.g., sports clubs, friends of groups) to secure and develop open spaces, sport and recreational facilities. (All providers to ensure a balanced programme of activity).
7. Ensure that existing and future provision complies with DDA legislation and is fully accessible for all residents (including, where relevant, the elderly, the disabled, young people and girls/women, BME groups).
8. Provide affordable facilities, which are accessible to all sections of the community.
9. Increase access to all forms of provision, e.g., by locating any new sites near public transport hubs; increasing public transport links to larger sites, especially at weekends and throughout the summer.

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Management objectives

A number of management objectives should be implemented to enable the above strategic aims to be delivered. They include:

Generic objectives

1. Within a phased programme, improve the quality of all open spaces, sport and recreational facilities including their ancillary facilities.
2. Use development opportunities and consult with the sporting community and local residents to identify facility need and increase and/or improve the existing in line with the findings of the assessment reports.
3. Strive to ensure that where sites may be lost, through development or closure, that facilities of the same or improved standard are provided to meet the continued needs of residents.
4. All partners and stakeholders to work together to provide usable, accessible and viable open spaces, sport and recreational facilities.
5. Provide assistance and support to those facilities that have yet to meet DDA requirements and seek to ensure that facilities are accessible to all residents.
6. Strive to ensure that there is a clearly identified community and recreational need for development of new facilities with minimal displacement of usage from other sites.
7. Ensure that all new or replacement facilities/sites are developed to meet minimum contemporary specifications.
8. Continue to gather the views and opinions of local residents in a rolling five year programme of survey work.
9. Maximise links, both existing and new, between schools and sports clubs, to develop good quality facilities.
10. Continually re-assess the demand for sports facilities against levels of provision and address emerging shortfalls.



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STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

This section sets out general objectives for the development of open space provision in Bolton. They seek to address the issues raised in the Open Spaces Assessment Report.

The following targets have been developed through the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and the catchment mapping. They reflect the key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to meet planning considerations.

General

- ❑ Consider options to decrease unofficial motorbike use across open spaces, e.g., through greater publicity regarding penalties, by increasing deterrent signs, perimeter fencing and gates.
- ❑ Raise awareness of accessible open space provision e.g. through promotion on the Council website, on site signage and leaflets.
- ❑ Undertake an education campaign across the Borough to raise awareness of the problem with dog foul on open spaces and highlight the associated health risks. Increase enforcement and raise awareness that dog waste can now be disposed of in general waste/dual waste litterbins.
- ❑ To encourage people of different generations to interact in order to create an environment whereby young people are presented in a less threatening role. Improve perceptions surrounding young people e.g. through positive media releases.

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Parks and gardens

- ❑ As a priority, all parks and gardens falling below the quality threshold should be increased to high quality.
- ❑ All low value sites should be increased to high value.
- ❑ The aspiration is to improve quality as a priority rather than meet catchment gaps. In the main, catchment gaps will be met by long term investment in other typologies fulfilling the same recreational function for example, amenity greenspace. New provision should be provided in Horwich to fulfil the identified catchment gaps:

Analysis area	Catchment gaps identified	Targets
Heaton & Lostock and Hulton Area Forum	South and East of Over Hulton	Not seen as a priority to fulfil. Area is mainly agricultural land and only small pockets of population.
South Turton Area Forum	Egerton	Not seen as a priority to fulfil. It is likely that residents will travel to Egerton Park (just outside the catchment area).
Two Towns Area Forum	Horwich	New provision required equating to up to 1ha of park and gardens.
Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum	Hunger Hill	Amenity greenspace sites will go some way towards fulfilling gap with increased formal provision at Snyderdale open space (site 417).
	South West Westhoughton	Large amenity greenspace sites will go some way towards fulfilling gap with increased formal provision at Cunningham Clough (site 567) and Hoskers Nook (site 568).
	North Westhoughton	Amenity greenspace sites will go some way towards fulfilling gap with increased formal provision at Holden Lea (site 457).

- ❑ Develop and keep up to date management plans for all the major parks, focused on maintaining site quality and encouraging use.
- ❑ Develop a rolling programme of Green Flag site applications with a minimum of one new site per annum entered. Initially, this should focus on Moses Gate, Moss Bank, and Queens Park.
- ❑ Work to improve safety perception associated with the Borough's parks. Identify ways of decreasing anti-social behaviour and vandalism, e.g., through increased security presence, improved lighting etc.
- ❑ Follow BMBC's signage strategy to implement signage and interpretation improvements where required.
- ❑ Continue to encourage and support community involvement in the management of the Borough's parks.



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- ❑ Undertake infrastructure and drainage improvements within key sites that host events.
- ❑ Continue to improve access to provision, e.g. raising awareness through promotion, car parking, upgrading paths.
- ❑ Provide more 'traditional' park features within sites e.g. with formal footpaths, seating and bin provision, with additional features such as attractive landscaping, garden areas, play areas, attractions and features of interest etc.

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Semi/natural greenspaces

- ❑ Low value sites are considered for either removal or change of use/typology through the low value evaluation.
- ❑ All sites retained through the low value evaluation should be increased to high value.
- ❑ Publicly accessible, natural and semi natural sites falling below the quality threshold should be investigated for the potential to increase to high quality.
- ❑ Work to meet identified catchment gaps across Bolton, where deemed appropriate:

Analysis area	Catchment gaps	Target
Astley Bridge and Smithills	Astley Bridge and Smithills (north of Bolton Town Centre)	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of natural and semi natural greenspace.
Crompton and Halliwell	Bolton Town Centre	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of natural and semi natural greenspace.
Farnworth and Kearsley	East of Farnworth	Not seen as a priority to fulfil if new provision is provided in South Area as recommended.
Heaton & Lostock and Hulton	Fernhill Gate	Investigate increasing the size and quality of Beaumont Chase Woodland (site 305) to increase its catchment area.
	Over Hulton	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of natural and semi natural greenspace.
South	East of analysis area	New provision required equating to up to two sites of 0.66ha each of natural and semi natural greenspace.
South Turton	Egerton	Investigate increasing the size and quality of Blackburn Road Woodland (site 311) to increase its catchment area.
	Bromley cross/Toppings	Investigate increasing the size, quality and value of Bradshaw Meadows (site 318) to increase its catchment area.
Two Towns	Horwich	New provision required equating two sites of to up to 0.66ha each of natural and semi natural greenspace.

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Analysis area	Catchment gaps	Target
	Blackrod	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of natural and semi natural greenspace.
Westhoughton with Chew Moor	Westhoughton	New provision required equating two sites of up to 0.66ha each of natural and semi natural greenspace.

- ❑ Write management plans for all LNR sites to guide strategic management.
- ❑ Investigate the feasibility of providing a mobile ranger covering the LNR sites to increase site presence, promote access, improve safety perceptions and facilitate greater community/education activities/interpretation opportunities.
- ❑ Work to raise awareness of accessible LNR provision through increased information provision on the BMBC website, production and distribution of a promotional leaflet and greater engagement of local schools.
- ❑ Continue to work towards meeting the Natural England (formally English Nature) target for LNR provision.
- ❑ Encourage and support the formation of LNR site specific 'friends of' groups.
- ❑ Promote access to the countryside.
- ❑ Continue to work in partnership with Red Rose Forest to provide, manage, promote and protect woodland provision and access across the Borough.
- ❑ Maintain and continue to build partnerships with external agencies and voluntary sector organisations involved in the management of sites.
- ❑ Using the area management plans, draft a tree/woodland strategy covering woodlands in Bolton.
- ❑ Investigate possible methods of deterring unofficial use of sites by motorbikes and quad bikes. This may include greater access controls, where possible and without interfering with DDA compliance, and also greater enforcement in partnership with the Police to tackle the problem. Explore options for the potential development of an official site for motorbike use.
- ❑ Continue to encourage community involvement in the improvement and management of natural/semi natural greenspaces, particularly to develop disused open spaces.

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Green corridors

- ❑ Once completed, implement the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) to guide the management and improvement of the PROW network within the Borough.
- ❑ Work to create a well connected, accessible and promoted off-road PROW network.
- ❑ Investigate the potential to provide traffic free cycling routes through Bolton town centre to provide links between East and West Bolton and North and South Bolton.
- ❑ Work in partnership with landowners to investigate the possibility of upgrading canal towpaths to cycleways, where possible.
- ❑ Work to provide safe crossing safe crossing places where PROW are divided by major roads.
- ❑ Where appropriate, continue to improve access to provision (taking into account disability access). Investigate methods of improving access to information e.g. route distances, destinations and difficulty.
- ❑ Improve promotion of bridleway provision.
- ❑ Work to improve the signage of the PROW network and in particular the restricted by-ways.
- ❑ Development of an improved fault and problem reporting system allowing feedback to PROW users as and when issues have been dealt with.
- ❑ Upgrade site quality where appropriate.
- ❑ Continue to develop and support community involvement in the management of green corridors.
- ❑ Where appropriate and feasible work to upgrade PROW status to provide for a range of different users.
- ❑ All low value sites should be increased to high quality and value.

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Amenity greenspace

- ❑ Low value sites are considered for either removal or change of use/typology through the low value evaluation.
- ❑ All sites retained through the low value evaluation should be increased to high value.
- ❑ Amenity greenspaces falling below the quality threshold should be investigated for the potential to increase to high quality.
- ❑ Work to meet identified catchment gaps across Bolton, where deemed appropriate:

Analysis area	Catchment gaps	Targets
Farnworth and Kearsley	South Farnworth	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of amenity greenspace required.
Heaton & Lostock and Hulton	South and East of Over Hulton (mainly agricultural land)	Not seen as a priority to fulfil. Area is mainly agricultural land and only small pockets of population.
South Turton	Egerton	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of amenity greenspace required.
Two Towns	Blackrod	New provision required equating to up to 0.66ha of amenity greenspace required.
	West of Horwich	Minor gaps not seen as a priority to fulfil.

- ❑ Raise awareness of current provision and work to meet current catchment gaps.
- ❑ Consider park and garden sites identified for removal/change of use as potential sites to meet catchment gaps identified in amenity greenspace.
- ❑ Work to create more functional amenity greenspaces through, for example, provision of formal seating and/or play areas, to offer greater community value.
- ❑ Raise awareness of dog foul by-laws covering sites and the dog warden officers and their powers of enforcement.
- ❑ Review grounds maintenance regimes of amenity greenspace to ensure grass mowing programme is sufficient.
- ❑ Encourage and support greater community involvement in and management of amenity greenspace.
- ❑ Ensure that new housing developments provide sufficient allowances for amenity greenspaces, where appropriate.
- ❑ Work to decrease unofficial motorbike use, e.g., by enforcement (including publicising prosecutions/fines) increasing deterrent signs, perimeter fencing and gates.



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Allotments, community gardens and city farms

- ❑ Work towards producing an allotment strategy to guide the strategic management of provision.
- ❑ All high value sites should be retained.
- ❑ Allotments falling below the quality threshold should be investigated for the potential to increase to high quality.
- ❑ The demand assessment takes into account occupied plots, vacant plots and waiting lists. It shows that the following additional plots and hectareage are required in each analysis area:

Analysis area	Catchment gaps identified	Plots (ha) required to meet future demand per analysis area
Farnworth and Kearsley	Farnworth	58 plots (1.45 ha)
	Kearsley	
Heaton & Lostock and Hulton	South of analysis area	35 plots (0.87 ha)
Leverhulme	East of analysis area	41 plots (1.03 ha)
South Turton	East of the analysis area	41 plots (1.03 ha)
Two Towns	South of Horwich	178 plots (4.45 ha)
	Blackrod	
Westhoughton with Chew Moor	Westhoughton	21 plots (0.5 ha)
	Chew Moor	
	Hunger Hill	

- ❑ Catchment gaps identified should be met taking into account the demand assessment results shown above. This should be tied in closely with sites identified within the action plan in order to test the true impact the above will have on waiting lists.
- ❑ Increase awareness of allotment provision and their value (in terms of wider social and health impact).
- ❑ Consider offering leases, of at least 5-10 years, to allotment associations to encourage investment in the improvement of sites.
- ❑ Encourage and support allotment associations to move towards self-management.
- ❑ Improve the management of vacant plots and waiting lists to ensure that vacant plots are utilised to meet the waiting list demand where possible. Consider an incentive scheme to encourage potential users to take up vacant plots in unfavourable condition.
- ❑ Continue to invest in site quality and security as funding allows.

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- ❑ Develop a programme to provide toilet facilities at current provision, where feasible (prioritising the larger sites and sites with community group use firstly) and at new provision.
- ❑ Raise awareness, amongst plot holders, of the services offered by BMBC to assist users in the disposal of allotment waste. Enforce flytipping more actively and erect penalty warning signs.
- ❑ Continue to encourage use of allotments by schools and community groups, through increased promotion.

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Cemeteries, disused churchyards and burial grounds

- ❑ It is not considered appropriate to cover all catchment gaps through new provision.
- ❑ Tackle the problem of dog foul through increased enforcement on site.
- ❑ Encourage community involvement in the management and maintenance of cemeteries and disused churchyards.
- ❑ Encourage greater use of cemeteries for informal recreation e.g. walking and enhance areas with wildlife value.
- ❑ Encourage greater use of cemeteries as an educational resource, both in terms of heritage value and environmental value.
- ❑ Undertake an asset review of all buildings within cemeteries to identify opportunities for bringing disused buildings back into use.
- ❑ Complete the headstone survey at outstanding sites and undertake any necessary remedial work. Introduce a system of anchoring headstones to fully secure them.
- ❑ Review the opening and closing times of the sites and adjust according to the route taken by the security team.
- ❑ Consultation identifies demand for a greater presence within cemeteries in the form of a police community support officer patrol. In partnership with the Police, investigate the feasibility of including sites suffering from vandalism and anti-social behaviour. Although the presence would be ad hoc, the knowledge that the sites are patrolled could act as a deterrent and reassurance of safety for responsible users.

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Civic space

- ❑ The aspiration is to protect existing provision and not to seek additional provision. However, BMBC should work towards formally identify all civic spaces across Bolton.
- ❑ Enforce pavement obstructions e.g. A-frame display boards outside of shops.
- ❑ Increase seating provision throughout the Town Centre civic spaces.
- ❑ Make greater use of civic spaces for events. Investigate provision of a mobile bandstand to facilitate events in civic spaces.
- ❑ Explore opportunities for public art to enhance civic spaces.

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STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

This section sets out general objectives for the development of outdoor sports facilities in Bolton. They seek to address the issues raised in the Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment Report.

The following targets have been developed through the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and the catchment mapping. They reflect the key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to meet planning considerations.

Football

- ❑ As a priority, consolidate existing playing commitments, with clubs gaining regular access to facilities that meet current demand.
- ❑ Improve the quality (and therefore capacity) of the existing pitch stock. All sites to be well drained and have access to appropriate changing facilities.
- ❑ Where there will be an over supply of pitches in the future, consider that senior pitches are used to accommodate junior and mini pitches.
- ❑ Where appropriate, develop lease arrangements with clubs to manage their own 'home' sites thus facilitating club development. This could include varying levels of shared management between the club and BMBC. Development and management criteria need to be established in order to maintain the viability and financial security of these sites.

Senior men's football

- ❑ Areas of the Borough, which have TGRs higher than the Borough average, should aim to maintain these levels of participation.
- ❑ Areas of the Borough, which have TGRs lower than the Borough average, should use this as a target for participation.
- ❑ Significant spare capacity at Hulton Lane Playing Fields, could, if required absorb some of the demand for Harper Green Playing Fields.

Women and girls' football

- ❑ The areas of the Borough which appear to be the focus for current participation (eg Leverhulme) should aim to maintain these TGRs.
- ❑ The areas of the Borough where there is no formal participation should aim to meet the Borough average TGR.



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- ❑ Continue to invest in central venue sites that are able to accommodate the anticipated growth in girls' football. Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing.

Junior boys' football

- ❑ Improve the quality and capacity of existing pitch stock.
- ❑ Meet likely future deficiencies in junior pitches by utilising senior pitch in areas of over supply.
- ❑ Continue to invest in central venue sites that are able to accommodate the anticipated growth in mini football. Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing.

Mini football

- ❑ Meet likely future deficiencies in mini pitches by utilising senior pitch in areas of over supply.
- ❑ Provide mini pitches in Crompton and Halliwell area to encourage and increase participation and to meet latent demand.
- ❑ Continue to invest in central venue sites that are able to accommodate the anticipated growth in mini football. Increase the quality and standard of changing rooms to accommodate segregated changing.

Rugby union

- ❑ As a priority, support Lostock RUFC in seeking security of tenure of a permanent home ground facility to accommodate both current and latent demand.
- ❑ Improvements to the quality (and therefore capacity) of the existing pitch stock to meet anticipated latent demand and to provide strategic reserve for the current usage levels.
- ❑ Support development and investment in pitches at Bolton Rugby RUFC to accommodate latent demand.

Rugby league

- ❑ Improvements to the quality (and therefore capacity) of the existing pitch stock to meet anticipated latent demand and to provide strategic reserve for the current usage levels.
- ❑ Improve the quality and capacity of changing accommodation to meet current and future demand.
- ❑ Support and encourage clubs to seek security of tenure of home ground facilities.



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Cricket

- ❑ Increase the quality and availability of school cricket pitches to meet future demand.
- ❑ Provision of two cricket development centres located at secondary schools. These are to be used as a central venue for kwik cricket leagues and tournaments as well as coaching activities, which would relieve some pressure from club pitches.
- ❑ Support existing clubs to maintain and develop their facilities to further meet local needs.
- ❑ Seek to assist the development of teams in Heaton and Lostock and Hulton as there are currently no teams playing in this area.

Hockey

- ❑ Current level of provision to be (at least) maintained.
- ❑ Seek to meet identified demand for junior hockey teams at Thornleigh School STP.
- ❑ All STPs in the Borough to be good quality, well maintained surfaces with appropriate replacement/sinking funds.
- ❑ Secure appropriate access to STPs for hockey clubs for training sessions.

Rounders

- ❑ Seek to meet latent demand for rounders in Bolton utilising spare capacity at football pitch sites e.g. Hulton Lane Playing Fields.
- ❑ Support and encourage the development of partnerships between rounders clubs and cricket/football clubs in order to further develop rounders in Bolton and provide access to good quality facilities and appropriate club development support.

Bowls

- ❑ All bowling greens and pavilions to be safe and secure facilities, through a continued programme of upgrading and installing perimeter fencing.
- ❑ All bowling greens and pavilions to be (where possible) fully accessible for disabled users and spectators.
- ❑ Support and encourage junior development at key clubs in order to sustain future participation levels in the sport.

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Tennis

- ❑ Improve the quality (and therefore capacity) of the existing park tennis courts to meet identified latent demand and to provide strategic reserve for the current usage levels.
- ❑ All courts to be safe and secure facilities, through a continued programme of upgrading and installing perimeter fencing.
- ❑ All courts to be (where possible) fully accessible for disabled users and spectators.
- ❑ Support private clubs in seeking to improve clubhouses and changing accommodation.

Athletics

- ❑ Maintain the current level of participation and standard of facilities.
- ❑ Continue to provide access to good quality training facilities for track and field athletics.

Golf

- ❑ Identify three clubs/municipal courses across Bolton to be a partner/focus for junior development to provide pathways for the work in progress through the school sports partnerships.
- ❑ Support the work of clubs to promote the take up of golf with children and young people.
- ❑ Support clubs in aspirations to improve facilities and development aspirations.
- ❑ All golf courses to be safe and secure facilities, through a continued programme of upgrading and installing perimeter fencing, where appropriate.

Education

- ❑ Encourage schools to formalise community use of playing fields and associated facilities. Target this specifically in areas identified as having latent or future demand for facilities.
- ❑ All school playing fields to be safe and secure facilities, through a continued programme of upgrading and installing perimeter fencing.

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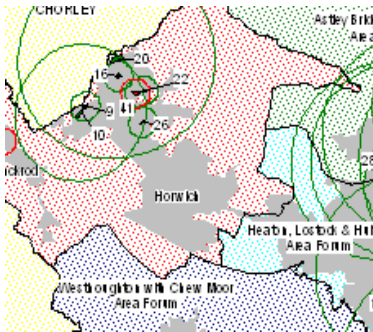
LOW VALUE SITE EVALUATION

Stage 1 – apply catchment mapping as set out under each typology section within the report and apply coloured catchment circles according to its value status is green is high value and red is low value.

Stage 2 – identify those low value (red sites) where release/change of use would create a catchment gap. **RETAIN** these sites as they serve a purpose and fulfil a catchment need. The recommendation for these sites is to increase value.

Stage 3 – identify those low value (red sites) where removal/change of use would not create a catchment gap. See example below. These sites are then examined in further detail, taking into consideration quality, usage and where possible demand. This allows for an informed decision to be made on the future of the site. At this stage, sites can still be retained.

Figure 1: example of catchment mapping



Stage 4 – finalise list of sites for release or change of use to another typology. These sites will be excluded from the standards calculations.

Low value sites for the typologies of parks and gardens, green corridors, civic spaces and cemeteries are not considered for removal, as the Strategy considers that these sites are protected from development or change of use as they are valuable open spaces within Bolton.

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Parks and Gardens

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area				
200	Andrew Lane	48.4%	16.9%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment area of sites 233 and 241. This is a small park in a triangle between two roads. Change of use/disposal
Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area				
239	Mortfield Park	25.8%	6.9%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. Site assessment notes that this is a small grassed area with a neglected play area. Retain – increase value
254	Thomasson Park	53.3%	12.3%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. However, the site makes up the grounds of the Register Office. Retain – increase value
228	Hill Top Park, Halliwell	35.8%	14.6%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. Change of use/disposal
Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area				
219	Fern Street Recreation Ground	26.0%	19.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. Retain – increase value
214	Darley Park	23.8%	15.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. Retain – increase value



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
366	Kearsley Memorial	44.8%	13.8%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. Change of use/disposal
South Area Forum analysis area				
245	Pikes Mill Recreation Ground	36.5%	6.9%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of a number of surrounding high value sites. Site assessment highlights that this site may be formal football pitches but at time of assessment there was no sign of recent line markings or use and drainage problems were identified. Change of use/disposal
Two Towns Area Forum analysis area				
258	Whitehall Lane, Blackrod	25.1%	13.8%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment area of site 257. Site assessment notes that this site has potential to be re-classified as "semi-natural" Change of use/disposal

Natural/semi natural sites

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area				
385	Moss Bank Way, South of	21.3%	2.6%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 321 and 339. Change of use/disposal
438	Wythburn Avenue	13.3%	17.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 339. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area				
360	Hill Top Park/Halliwell Recreation Ground woodland	1.3%	13.0%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap. However, site assessment identifies that the unmanaged woodland is on very steep slopes and is impenetrably thick with no paths. Retain – increase value
Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area				
346	Fold Road, Kearsley, South of	36.0%	11.3%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal
347	Fold Road, West of	25.3%	17.4%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal
368	Kearsley Road, North of	28.0%	13.9%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal
386	Moss Road, Kearsley - East of	14.7%	15.7%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal
402	Red Rock Lane, Stoneclough	16.0%	13.9%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal
405	Ringley Road, Stoneclough - East of	26.7%	13.9%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal
406	Ringley Wood, Stoneclough	18.7%	12.2%	Removal would not create a catchment area. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 367. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Heaton, Lostock and Hulton Area Forum analysis area				
349	Glengarth Drive	20.0%	19.1%	Removal of this site would create a minor catchment gap. Site assessment notes that this is an attractive site that appears unused. There is currently no seating provision or pathways. This site has potential for community involvement and environmental education, which is not being fulfilled. Increasing community involvement and usage may increase value. Retain – increase value
390	New Park Wood, rear of	10.7%	18.3%	Catchment does not serve a settlement area. This is extensive unmanaged woodland providing excellent habitats despite fly-tipping, litter, motorcycle and quad tracks. There is an extensive network of informal footpaths. Change of use/disposal
431	Turnberry, rear of 6-28	14.7%	17.4%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap. Site assessment notes that the woodland is impenetrable with no paths. There is very little woodland management evident there is some dumping of garden rubbish. The site appears to be unused by local residents. There is potential for the site to be an education resource or pleasant walking area if paths were available. Retain – increase value
South Area Forum area analysis area				
338	Doe Hey Brook, adj St Michaels Church	18.7%	8.7%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 320 and 400. Change of use/disposal
354	Hacken Lane, Bolton - Adj River Tonger	16.0%	13.0%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 320 and 400. Retain – increase value
420	St Peters Church, rear of	21.3%	15.7%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 320. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
South Turton Area Forum analysis area				
316	Bradshaw Meadows, North of	24.0%	19.1%	Removal would create a catchment gap unless site 318 retained and value increased. Change of use/disposal
318	Bradshaw Meadows, South of	22.7%	19.1%	Removal of the site would create a catchment gap. Retain and increase value. Retain – increase value
357	Higher Ridings/Rodmell Close, Bromley Cross	9.3%	14.8%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment area of site 430. The site assessment notes that the site experiences problems with flytipping and litter. Change of use/disposal
Two Towns Area Forum analysis area				
312	Blackrod Bypass, Blackrod	17.3%	16.5%	Removal of this site would create a catchment gap. Retain – increase value
382	Montcliffe Woodland Area, Horwich	18.7%	19.1%	Catchment does not serve a settlement area. Retain – increase value
411	Scot Lane, Blackrod	20.0%	15.7%	Removal of this site would not create a catchment gap if site 312 retained and value increased. Consider future in relation to future of site 312. Site assessment identifies that this is a reasonable patch of woodland, which is largely undisturbed. There are good habitats provided. Change of use/disposal
421	Stocks Park Drive, Horwich	17.3%	19.1%	Removal would create a catchment gap. Retain and increase value. Retain – increase value
Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum analysis area				
326	Chorley Road, Westhoughton, part Dog Holes Farm	33.3%	17.4%	Removal would create a catchment gap. Retain and increase value. Site assessment notes that this is an attractive mixed woodland with marshy area, stream and pond at boundary providing excellent habitats. Retain – increase value



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Amenity greenspace

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area				
586	Seymour Road Rec	28.3%	19.1%	Removal would create a catchment gap. Consider increasing value. Site assessment reports that the site appears to be a former recreation ground with space for football. There are some old markings evident. Retain – increase value
Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area				
330	Clifton Moss, Kearsley	42.6%	19.1%	Removal would not create a settlement catchment gap. Its catchment area in Bolton is covered by sites 310, 585, 302 and 363. Change of use/disposal
331	Clifton Street, Kearsley	26.7%	18.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 584. Change of use/disposal
343	Ellen Grove, Kearsley	36.4%	10.0%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 363 and 302. Change of use/disposal
345	Fold Road, Kearsley, East of	45.0%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 363 and 302. Change of use/disposal
373	Lark Hill, Farnworth	37.6%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 584. Change of use/disposal
378	Manchester Road, Kearsley - South of	44.2%	14.5%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 363 and 302. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
380	Medway Drive, Kearsley	29.8%	18.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites of 302, 363 and 585. Change of use/disposal
387	Moss Road, Kearsley - West of	40.7%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 584. Change of use/disposal
395	Quarry Road, Kearsley	39.1%	18.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of sites 302 and 584. Change of use/disposal
408	River Irwell, Stoneclough - Land Adjacent to	32.6%	13.6%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 363 and 302. Change of use/disposal
409	Sand Hole Road, Kearsley - East of	39.5%	19.1%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap. Retain – increase value
424	Tanfield Drive, Stoneclough - Opposite Nos 7-35	58.5%	18.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 363 and 302. Change of use/disposal
433	Waverley Avenue, Kearsley	30.2%	10.0%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 584. Change of use/disposal
436	Wordsworth Avenue, Farnworth	57.0%	4.5%	Removal would create a very minor catchment gap. Consider future in relation to catchment of site 379. This site is grass roadside verges in a housing estate. Retain – increase value
583	Farnworth Grammar Football Ground	38.8%	15.5%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of sites of 581 and 584. Retain – increase value



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
598	Edith Street	36.4%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment of site 584. Change of use/disposal
Leverhulme Area Forum analysis area				
371	Ladyshore Colliery, Little Lever - Site of	37.2%	15.5%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 480. Site assessment noted that this is currently used for horse grazing. Change of use/disposal
414	Sharples Court, Little Lever	39.5%	6.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 422. Change of use/disposal
Heaton, Lostock and Hilton Area Forum analysis area				
344	Ferncrest Wigan Road/Beaumont Road junction	39.9%	16.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 370. However, this is a roadside verge which forms a noise barrier between housing estate and busy ring road. The site has potential for pleasant wooded walk, but currently is too overgrown. Litter and neglect make it a poor site and detract from its attractiveness. Change of use/disposal
578	Hulton Lane / Longfield Road Playing Fields / Rec	45.0%	5.5%	Removal would create a significant catchment gap. Retain and consider increasing value. Site assessment notes that this is an extensive area of former playing fields and is poorly drained and not in current use. Improving drainage may encourage greater usage and increase value. Retain – increase value
South Area Forum analysis area				
329	Clarendon Street, North of	48.1%	6.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 461. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
358	Highfield Drive, Farnworth, land adj	25.6%	10.0%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 394. Change of use/disposal
573	Walkers Institute	33.7%	16.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment areas of a number of surrounding high value sites. Site assessment indicates that this is a recreation ground with a football pitch. There are clear line markings but no goalposts and no signs of recent use. Retain – increase value
South Turton Area Forum analysis area				
376	Longsight Lane, East of	36.0%	13.6%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment areas of a number of surrounding high value sites. Site assessment highlights that the site is an area of grass with some trees. There is no evidence of any maintenance. The site appears to be used only by dog walkers. Change of use/disposal
Two Towns Area Forum analysis area				
340	East of A6027, Horwich	46.1%	9.1%	Removal would create a catchment gap. Retain and consider ways to increase value. Retain – increase value
353	Greenbarn Way, Blackrod, opp 2-6	54.3%	8.2%	Removal would create a catchment gap. This is a roadside verge. Retain and increase value. Retain – increase value
426	Telford Street, Horwich	49.2%	19.1%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap. Retain – increase value
Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum analysis area				
374	Leigh Common, Westhoughton	34.1%	8.2%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap. Site assessment notes that the site appears to be fenced off as a paddock but not used. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
558	Lostock Open Air	41.9%	8.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 459. Change of use/disposal
559	Chew Moor / Bolton Road	39.1%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchments of a number of surrounding high value sites. Change of use/disposal
560	Wellington Street	45.3%	5.5%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap, unless site 374 retained and value increased. Site assessment indicates that the site could be enhanced by play equipment, seating, paths and bins. Retain – increase value
563	Chequerbent Rec	30.2%	13.6%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of sites 562 and 417. Site assessment identifies that this is currently a neglected recreational area. Predominately open mown grass with no amenities or formal paths. Retain – increase value
569	Hoskers Nook East	37.2%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment areas of a number of surrounding high value sites. Change of use/disposal



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Allotments

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area				
40	Private allotments next to Moss Lea	39.6%	14.8%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment areas of a number of surrounding sites. However, this is a private site which is divided into paddocks. Change of use
Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area				
8	Cross Street	58.2%	6.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment areas of a number of surrounding sites. Consultation identifies that the site is currently not in use as allotments and there are plans within BMBC to use this site as another typology. Change of use/disposal
31	Seymour Road	18.7%	4.3%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment areas of a number of surrounding sites. Consultation and site assessment finds that the site is in need of major development work. The area is in a very overgrown condition and only one plot is currently being used. Change of use/disposal
Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area				
3	Back Plodder Lane	41.8%	12.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 1. Site assessment indicates that this small site has no allotment facilities and the plots make are used as extensions to gardens. Change of use/disposal
4	Cemetery Road Kearsley	44.0%	17.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 5 and 7. However, the site is well used with all plots tenanted and a waiting list of 8. Retain – increase value



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Leverhulme Area Forum analysis area				
14	Garstang Avenue	44.0%	11.3%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 36. The site currently has a waiting list of 4. Retain – increase value
388	Mytham Road, Little Lever - West of	0.0%	3.5%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 5. Site assessment indicates that the site is overgrown with no sign of recent use. Change of use/disposal
South Area Forum analysis area				
39	Willows Mercadale	46.2%	19.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 24,30 and 1. Change of use/disposal
South Turton Area Forum analysis area				
337	Dene Bank Allotments, Bradshaw	38.5%	11.3%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 37 and 13. Site assessment notes that all plots appear dis-used. Change of use/disposal
Town Towns Area forum analysis area				
27	New Street Blackrod	49.5%	19.1%	Removal would create a catchment gap. There are only 3 plots at the site, 1 is currently disused, 1 is being cultivated and 1 is being used as a car parking area. Retain and increase value through increased usage as allotment. Retain – increase value
41	Private allotments next to Longworth Road	53.8%	10.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 20. Site assessment indicates that this small site is mostly being used for garden extensions. However, this site is private. Change of use



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Cemeteries

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area				
101	Astley Bridge Cemetery	50.1%	14.3%	Removal would create a catchment area. Investigate ways to increase value. Retain – increase value
Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area				
100	Albert Rd Rest Garden	37.9%	17.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 119. Retain – increase value
107	Farnworth Cemetery	60.3%	18.1%	Removal would create a significant catchment gap. Consider ways to increase value. Retain – increase value
Leverhulme Area Forum analysis area				
111	Little Lever Garden of Remembrance	39.1%	17.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 119. Retain – increase value
118	St Stephens & All Martyrs Church	56.0%	15.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 119. Change of use/disposal
South Area Forum analysis area				
105	Christ Church Gardens	40.8%	18.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 119. Change of use/disposal
116	Parish Church, Bolton	61.1%	15.2%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 119. Change of use/disposal



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum				
121	Westhoughton Garden of Remembrance	47.5%	12.4%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of site 120. Retain – increase value

Civic spaces

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area				
451	Cheadle Square	39.7%	18.0%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment covered by the catchment area of Victoria Square. Retain – increase value
South Area Forum analysis area				
599	Nelson Square	64.5%	18.1%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Catchment covered by the catchment area of Victoria Square. Retain – increase value



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SETTING OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

Introduction

Target quantity standards provide a guideline as to how much open space provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the Borough over the next ten years. Standards for open space provision have been created in relation to demand, access and future population growth.

Quality and accessibility standards are also provided per typology of open space. A quality standard is provided based on the audit and assessment of sites and provides a minimum level of quality (percentage score), which sites should achieve. An accessibility standard is also provided based on catchment areas and how far people should be expected to travel to visit each typology of open space.

KKP has applied a composite approach to the setting of open space provision standards in Bolton. It has taken account of the other possible options including use of a generic application of settlement hierarchy and the application of national standards and believes that this is the most appropriate way to produce locally derived standards for Bolton and conforms to the guidance set out by PPG17.

Methodology

The current level of provision

The current level of provision has been calculated using the information collected within the accompanying Assessment Report and analysed using the open spaces database.

Mapping deficiencies

Catchment mapping is used to demonstrate which areas are deficient in open space provision. All sites are mapped with the appropriate catchment area applied, against a settlement backdrop (please refer to the Assessment Report for maps). Deficiency is then calculated by identifying gaps/areas not covered by the catchment areas for each typology of open space.

If a settlement is not covered by a catchment it is deemed deficient. Several larger settlements may be partly covered by catchment areas. Where this has occurred KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size, are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision.

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Future population growth

Future population growth has also been incorporated into the provision standard. This has been assessed by adding into the equation future demand for provision using population projections to 2017. The latest sub-national population projections available for England are based on the 2004 mid year population estimates (published 20 December 2005) and project forward the population from 2005 to 2029.

Low value sites

All sites falling below the value threshold have been examined in further detail and a decision made to either remove/change of use or retain. Sites that if removed, will create a catchment gap are retained. These sites have been agreed with BMBC and require action as identified within the action plan (see column B below).

Example calculation

	A	B	C	D	E	F
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Provision to be no longer classified as typology (ha)	Provision to meet catchment gaps	Total future provision	Population (2016)	Standard
1.				A+B+C	14,217	D/E*1,000
2.				A+B+C	33,897	D/E*1,000
3.				A+B+C	15,929	D/E*1,000
4.				A+B+C	19,006	D/E*1,000

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Setting allotment standards

Due to the way in which allotments are operated i.e. through management of bookable plots and waiting lists, the standard calculation can include a more accurate account of demand. In order to calculate a provision standard for allotments, the following is also taken into consideration:

- ❑ Latent suppressed demand – number of residents on waiting list.
- ❑ Latent potential demand – calculated by:
 - Assessing the proportion of households not served by an existing allotment site (using catchment areas as explained above)
 - Calculating the current participation level – occupied plots per 1,000 households.
 - Applying current participation level to the number of households not served by an existing allotment.
- ❑ Demographic change – applying current participation rate to increase in population.
- ❑ Marketing initiatives to reflect promotional work to increase take up – e.g., up to 10% increase on occupied plots.
- ❑ Vacant plots – number of vacant plots.

Setting outdoor sports facility standards

Local authorities have previously used the NPFA 'Six Acre Standard' to define local minimum standards for provision of outdoor sports facilities. It is now recognised that this standard does not take into account the quality and accessibility of facilities or indeed any local expressions of unmet demand. In order that the assessment of outdoor sports facilities sits within the wider context of open spaces and PPG17 requirements, KKP has provided locally derived standards. National standards cannot cater for local circumstances, such as differing demographic profiles and the extent of existing built development in an area.

As with allotments, playing pitches are bookable facilities and demand can also be quantified more accurately. Within this report local standards or 'local aspirations targets for provision' in hectares per 1,000 population are derived as follows:

Existing provision (within this a recognition of 'poor quality' provision)	+	Additional provision to meet current unmet demand	+	Additional provision to meet future demand	=	Local aspirational target for provision
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Summary of aspirations

The following provides a summary of the aspirations and targets set out earlier in this report (see Strategic Framework For Open Space Improvements) and have been applied to the provision standards.

Parks and gardens

The aspiration for parks and gardens is to improve quality as a priority rather than meet catchment gaps. In the main, catchment gaps will be met by long term investment in other typologies fulfilling the same recreational function for example, amenity greenspace. New provision should be provided in Horwich to fulfil the identified catchment gaps. This new provision is identified as equating to 1 hectare, as this is the minimum site size required to generate a sufficient catchment area to meet the gap.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace

The aspiration for natural and semi natural greenspace is to meet catchment gaps across Bolton. All new provision is identified as equating to 0.66 hectares, as this is the minimum site size required to generate a catchment area.

Amenity greenspaces

The aspiration for amenity greenspaces is to meet catchment gaps across Bolton. All new provision is identified as equating to 0.66 hectares, as this is the minimum size required to generate a catchment.

Green corridors

Although the aspiration for green corridors is to meet gaps in provision (identified through site visits and consultation), due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to identify hectareage required or provide accessibility standards.

Allotments

The aspiration for allotments is to meet the population not served by current catchments. The provision standard for allotments is derived through a demand assessment taking into account occupied plots, vacant plots and waiting lists (detailed calculations can be found in the study database). Therefore, in order to meet demand, the minimum plot size is identified as 0.025 hectares (national minimum size).

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Cemeteries

A policy decision has been taken to protect existing cemetery provision across Bolton. It is not considered appropriate to cover all catchment gaps through new provision, only where additional burial provision is identified within the report.

Civic spaces

A policy decision has been taken to protect existing provision and not to seek additional provision; therefore, no accessibility standard is set. However, BMBC should work towards formally identify all civic spaces across Bolton.

Outdoor sports facilities

Standards have been calculated in line with Sport England guidance set out in 'Towards A Level Playing Field.'

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Bolton local provision standards

The table below details the provision standards for open spaces and outdoor sports facilities across Bolton. Detailed calculations can be found in the relevant study databases. Bolton has been divided into analysis areas. These have been adopted to create a more localised assessment of provision and for examination of open space/facility surplus and deficiencies at a local level. The use of analysis areas allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account.

Table 1: Local provision standards

Typology	Standard	Astley Bridge and Smithills	Crompton and Halliwell	Farnworth and Kearsley	Heaton & Lostock and Hulton	Leverhulme	South	South Turton	Two Towns	Westhoughton
Parks and gardens	Quantity Hectares per 1,000 population	2.07	1.29	0.71	0.04	5.16	0.64	1.11	0.67	0.57
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment								
	Accessibility	All settlement areas within 400m of a local park and/or 1,200m of district park and/or 3,200m of a borough park								
Natural/semi natural greenspace	Quantity Hectares per 1,000 population	0.84	0.09	0.64	0.24	1.30	0.37	0.24	0.20	0.27
	Accessibility	All settlement areas within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha								

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Typology	Standard	Astley Bridge and Smithills	Crompton and Halliwell	Farnworth and Kearsley	Heaton & Lostock and Hulton	Leverhulme	South	South Turton	Two Towns	Westhoughton
Amenity greenspace	Quantity Hectares per 1,000 population	0.45	0.46	0.76	1.29	1.43	0.31	1.38	0.84	1.09
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment								
	Accessibility	All settlement areas within 120m of a site up to 0.66ha and/or 1200m of a site between 0.66ha and 1ha and/or 900m of a site between 1ha and 10ha and/or a site of more than 10ha								
Allotments	Quantity Hectares per 1,000 population	0.43	0.22	0.09	0.11	0.04	0.17	0.09	0.34	0.03
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment								
	Accessibility	To keep the waiting lists to a minimum								
Cemeteries	Quantity Hectares per 1,000 population	0.15	0.01	0.18	0.93	0.35	0.01	0.01	0.26	0.11
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment								
	Accessibility	N/A								
Civic spaces	Quantity	N/A								
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment								
	Accessibility	N/A								

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Typology	Standard	Astley Bridge and Smithills	Crompton and Halliwell	Farnworth and Kearsley	Heaton & Lostock and Hulton	Leverhulme	South	South Turton	Two Towns	Westhoughton
Green corridors	Quantity	N/A								
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment								
	Accessibility	N/A								
Outdoor sports facilities	Quantity	0.90	0.96	0.66	0.22	1.34	0.70	1.68	1.81	0.66
	Quality	Site quality rating of good								
	Accessibility	Teams to have access to appropriate site at relevant time								

The standards set are locally derived standards and are therefore reflective of local circumstance including current provision and demand. Although some standards may seem particularly high, this is because the starting point (i.e. the current provision) is higher than other areas. For example, the standard for parks and gardens in Leverhulme (5.16 hectares per 1,000 population) seems particularly high. However, this is because large sites such as Leverhulme Park (55 hectares in size) and Moses Gate Country Park (140 hectares in size) both fall within this analysis area. It is also recognised that Area Forum boundaries do not inhibit residents' usage of open spaces. Analysis areas that appear to have particularly low standards are such because large sites probably fall just outside the Area Forum boundary but still service people from within that area. Therefore, it is not always useful to compare one area with another area, but accept and work towards the standards as locally derived standards.

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ACTION PLAN

Justification of sites within the Action Plan.

The following criteria have been used to identify priorities and justify the inclusion of sites within the action plan.

- ❑ The appropriate catchment is deficient in the specified typology.
- ❑ The site suffers from access problems in terms of safety, poor signage and poor disability provision.
- ❑ A project is currently underway to enhance the existing site and/or funding has been secured.
- ❑ An evaluation of the site's use is required as it is of poor quality and is underused.
- ❑ The desired action is small scale, short term and will enhance the quality of current provision, whilst aiding community empowerment.
- ❑ The importance of the site is identified in other strategies.

Management and development

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

- ❑ Financial viability.
- ❑ Security of tenure.
- ❑ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ❑ Gaining revenue funding from planning contributions in order to maintain existing sites.
- ❑ Gaining contributions in the form of planning contributions, which assist with the creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ❑ Analyse the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ❑ Opportunities to lease site to external organisations(s).
- ❑ Assisting community groups/parish councils to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ❑ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.

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ACTION PLAN 2007 – 2017

The Action Plan has been created to be undertaken over a ten-year timescale. The information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur. It is not feasible to include all sites with identified development issues in the Strategy and Action Plan. Only sites, which meet the criteria listed above have, therefore, been included.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

Open spaces

Site ¹	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Parks & gardens				
Barlow Park	203	M-L S	Investigate possible methods of utilising the currently disused tennis courts e.g. bringing back into use or utilising the space in another way such as providing a MUGA. Work to reduce the problem with dog foul through increased enforcement, raised awareness etc.	Increased functionality and value. Increased site quality.
Bradford Park, Radcliffe Road	475	S – L M	Continue with current improvement work including tree thinning and footpath improvement. Once in a suitable condition provide public access to the site.	High quality site adding to the park and garden provision in the area.
Bradford St Park	206	S-M	Continue zone by zone refurbishment work in line with the site master plan. Undertake drainage and levelling improvements to the playing fields. Install signage throughout the site stating ownership and displaying relevant contact numbers and information about applicable by-laws.	High quality and high value site. Increased usage.

¹ All site names as provided by BMBC in project database

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Site ¹	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Brightmet Park	237	S	Repair and upgrade damaged seating provision. Install additional litterbins to service the whole.	Increased quality and enhanced visual appearance.
Doe Hey Park	215	S-M	Investigate the feasibility of extending the car park at the site in order to facilitate greater use of the community building. Improve drainage of the field. Investigate methods of limiting unofficial off-road motorbike use.	Higher usage of site. Improved quality and increased genuine usage.
Egerton Park	217	S-M	Enhance entrance. Carry out improvements to the boundary railings. Support the 'friends of' group in taking forward a bid for heritage lottery funding to upgrade the building within the site. Investigate the feasibility of creating an access path through the tennis courts.	Improved and more welcoming access and visual appearance. Greater investment leading to enhanced facilities and greater community usage.
Farnworth Park	211	S	Attempt to generate greater community interest to maintain the 'friends of' group. Provide a greater official presence to police anti-social behaviour and youth congregation.	Community ownership. Increased site usage and quality. Improved safety perception.
Great Lever Park	220	S	Investigate possible management options for the wildlife garden.	Increased value.
Haslam Park	446	S-M	Undertake overgrown vegetation clearance. Undertake signage improvements following guidance from BMBC's signage strategy.	Welcoming and safer site. Increased awareness.
Leverhulme Park	232	M-L	Investigate the possibility of establishing a dedicated off-road biking area in a secluded and informal area.	Reduced disruption and damage to site.
Morris Green Park	238		With the involvement of the local community association, consider the site for future entry into the Green Pennant Award run by the Civic Trust.	Community ownership and pride. Increased status.

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ¹	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Moses Gate Country Park	240	S-M	<p>Write a management plan for the site and consider for entry for the Green Flag Award.</p> <p>Submit a Heritage Lottery Fund bid for a 'Your Heritage' project to develop interpretation facilities to depict the history of the site.</p> <p>Work to establish a 'friends of' group with representation from the bridleway users and the model aircraft user group.</p> <p>Undertake signage improvements following guidance from BMBC's signage strategy.</p> <p>Provide a safe crossing point on Hall Lane (A6053), which divides the two sections of Moses Gate Country Park.</p> <p>Re-open the site car park located off Hacken Bridge Road.</p>	<p>Improved strategic management.</p> <p>Recognised high quality and value.</p> <p>Increased community ownership.</p> <p>Improved awareness of site features.</p> <p>Increased usage of the bridleways within the Country Park.</p>
Moss Bank Park	241	S L L S M M S-M	<p>Write a management plan for the site and consider for entry for the Green Flag Award.</p> <p>Further investigate the feasibility of relocating the park café to the building currently used for BMBC storage and creating a picnic area.</p> <p>Further investigate the potential for the creation of a crazy golf course around the tennis court area, to be managed externally.</p> <p>Recruit an additional ranger to fulfil the role of providing environmental education activities.</p> <p>Further investigate the feasibility of reinstating the amphitheatre through the enhancements of power supplies and drainage improvements.</p> <p>Considering designating an events specific area on the playing fields behind the bowling greens. If taken forward upgrade the area through drainage works, ground reinforcement and electricity points. Undertake drainage improvements and investigate ground reinforcement methods in all areas used to host events.</p> <p>Undertake signage improvements following guidance from BMBC's signage strategy.</p>	<p>Improved strategic management.</p> <p>Recognised high quality and value.</p> <p>Enhanced facilities and increased usage.</p> <p>Increased opportunities for community engagement and activities.</p> <p>Greater facilitation of events with reduced impact on site quality.</p>

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ¹	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Old Station Park	243	S-M	<p>Upgrade the provision for children.</p> <p>Undertake landscape improvements.</p> <p>Create a welcoming access point from the bridge through litter clearance and open view lines.</p>	<p>Increased visual quality and value to the local community.</p> <p>Creation of a welcoming and safe site.</p>
Queens Park	247	<p>S-M</p> <p>M</p> <p>M</p> <p>S</p> <p>M-L</p> <p>S</p> <p>S</p> <p>S-M</p> <p>M</p> <p>S-M</p>	<p>Write a site management plan and work to submit a bid for a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant.</p> <p>Consider for future entry to the Green Flag award.</p> <p>Install park information boards.</p> <p>Support the friends of Queens Park group in production of a park leaflet detailing heritage information.</p> <p>Undertake overgrown vegetation clearance to improve view lines throughout the site.</p> <p>Investigate the potential of reinstating the old butterfly house as a restaurant/café..</p> <p>Improve grounds maintenance of the ornamental garden.</p> <p>Install bollards by the Park Lodge to prevent vehicle access.</p> <p>Undertake drainage improvements and investigate ground reinforcement methods.</p> <p>Further investigate the feasibility of reinstating the amphitheatre through the enhancements of power supplies and drainage improvements.</p> <p>Undertake signage improvements following guidance from BMBC's signage strategy.</p>	<p>Strategic management.</p> <p>Recognised quality, value and heritage interest.</p> <p>Increased interpretation and awareness.</p> <p>Welcoming site and improved safety perception.</p> <p>Improve facilities and greater usage.</p> <p>Facilitation of greater community events with less of an impact on site quality.</p>
Sunnyside Park	253	S-M	<p>Support the 'friends of' group in the organisation of community events.</p> <p>Work with the 'friends of' group to create a wildflower meadow to deter the playing of golf and provide opportunities for school use.</p> <p>Undertake DDA access audit.</p> <p>Consider future entry for the Green Pennant Award.</p>	<p>Greater community ownership, pride and usage.</p> <p>Increased value.</p> <p>Improved access.</p> <p>Recognised quality and value.</p>

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OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ¹	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Victory Road	597	S	<p>Work to increase the functionality of the site through landscaping and provision of seating and litterbins.</p> <p>Undertake drainage improvements.</p> <p>Support the local resident association in annual provision of a community fun day.</p>	<p>Increased quality and value.</p> <p>Greater community ownership, pride and usage.</p>
Natural/semi-natural greenspace				
Doffcocker LNR	339	S-M	<p>Encourage responsible dog owners through an increased site presence and enforcement and raising awareness regarding the penalty. Replace the faded by-law signs.</p> <p>Improve signage within the site to include up to date information and interpretation opportunities.</p>	<p>Increased site quality.</p> <p>Interpretation opportunities and raised awareness.</p>
Eatock Lodge LNR (assessed as amenity greenspace)	428	S-M	<p>Encourage responsible dog owners through an increased site presence and enforcement and raising awareness regarding the penalty. Replace the faded by-law signs.</p> <p>Provide greater opportunities for user interaction through provision of interpretation opportunities.</p> <p>Investigate potential to upgrade the fishing platforms for use as dipping platforms for schools.</p>	<p>Increased site quality.</p> <p>Interpretation and education opportunities and raised awareness.</p> <p>Greater community engagement and usage.</p>
Hall Lee Bank LNR (assessed as park and garden)	221	S-M	<p>Provide more bins throughout the site and encourage their use.</p> <p>Provide greater opportunities for user interaction through provision of interpretation opportunities.</p>	<p>Increased quality.</p> <p>Interpretation and education opportunities and raised awareness.</p>
Cunningham Clough LNR	567	S	<p>Work to establish community involvement through set up of a 'friends of group to assist with management of the site.</p>	<p>Community ownership and pride leading to increased quality and value to local residents.</p>
Green corridors				
Disused Railway Line, Haulgh	N/A	M	<p>Investigate potential to open the disused railway line to provide a formal walking route/cycle route.</p>	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Site ¹	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
The River Tonge, Haulgh	N/A	M-L	Investigate feasibility of establishing a path following the River past Bradford Park and Tonge Fold Cemetery.	Green corridor link to other open spaces e.g. Moses Gate Country Park.
Middlebrook Valley route	575	S-M	Work to establish a number of 'friends of' groups associated with different sections of the route. Promote the route on the Council website.	Raised awareness and encouragement of usage of the route.
Chequerbent – Branker Street	N/A	M-L	Further investigate the potential to enhance the site through the establishment of an archaeology heritage trail.	Increased value.
Amenity greenspace				
Back Dorset Street, Haulgh	N/A	S	Undertake litter and fly tipping clearance. Undertake landscape improvements.	Creation of a more welcoming and usable site leading to increased quality and value. Improved safety perception.
Edith Street, Farnworth	598	S	Improve grounds maintenance and management of the site. Promote as an informal recreation area for local residents.	Increased quality and value. Increased usage.
Ivy Road, West of.	364	S-M	Create internal footpaths and provide seating and litterbins.	Usable site with greater amenity value for local residents.
Gloster Street, Haulgh	554	S	Consider permitting the playing of ball games. Provide seating.	Usable site with greater amenity value for local residents. Informal provision for children and young people.
Village Green, Thistleton Road	450	S-L	Recognise the value of this site to local residents when considering possible future development.	Protection of provision.

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Allotments				
Ainsdale Road	1	S	Add woodchip to the surface of the paths. Encourage greater community use of the orchard and wildlife area e.g. by facilitating use as an outdoor classroom for local schools.	Improved site safety for users. Increased community usage and value.
Avondale Road	2	S	Clear the vacant plot and re-let working towards meeting demand.	Meet identified demand in the area.
Cemetery Road, Kearsley	4 & 5	M	Increase the value of the site. To some extent this can be achieved through increasing quality. Upgrade the outstanding low quality perimeter fencing.	Increased site security and quality.
Chequerbent Gardens	6	S-M	As funding allows, undertake upgrade of perimeter fencing. Provide water supply.	Increased site security and quality.
Clammerclough Farnworth	7	S-M	As funding allows undertake upgrade of perimeter fencing. Restrict site access from Moses Gate Country Park.	Increased site security and quality.
Crown Lane, Horwich	9 & 10	S	Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let to work towards meeting waiting list demand.	Meet identified demand in the area.
Dealey Road Deane	11	S-M	As funding allows replace mesh perimeter fencing with palatine fencing. Further investigate the possibility of extending the site using the unused adjoining land owned by the neighbouring primary school. Encourage school use of the provision for environmental education or as an outdoor classroom.	Increased site security and quality. Meet identified demand in the area. Increase community usage and value.
Firwood Lane	12	S-M	As funding allows replace the poor quality chestnut fencing with palatine perimeter fencing. Support the allotment society, in partnership with the local police service, with tackling vandalism and theft through the installation of dummy CCTV. Extend the car parking area.	Increased site security and quality. Increased car park capacity.
Florence Avenue	13	S-M	Replace and upgrade the perimeter fencing. Raise awareness of the fly tipping by plot holders as a problem. Support the allotment association with provision of communal waste bays.	Increased site security and quality.

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Site ²	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Harpers Lane	18	S	Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let working towards meeting waiting list demand.	Increased usage, meet waiting list demand.
Hatfield Road	19	S-M	Investigate the feasibility of providing disabled toilet facilities to support continued usage by the Good Companions Group Disabled Persons Group. As funding allows replace and upgrade the perimeter fencing.	Improved access. Increased security and enhanced site quality.
Lever Park, Horwich	20	S	Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let working towards meeting waiting list demand. Improve fencing provision at the bottom end of the site. Continue to encourage community group usage of plots.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased usage, meet waiting list demand.
Longworth Road, Edgerton	21	S	Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let working towards meeting waiting list demand. Undertake drainage improvements.	Increased capacity and potential usage.
Manningham Road	24	S-M	Upgrade all perimeter fencing to high quality. Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let working to meet waiting list demand. Continue to support usage by community groups and Bolton MBC Education & Culture Play & Children's Services.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased usage, meet waiting list demand.
Moss Lea	25	S-M	As funding allows replace the two older communal greenhouses. As funding allows upgrade the perimeter fencing to palatine fencing. Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let working to meet waiting list demand.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased usage, meet waiting list demand.
Nasmyth Street Horwich	26	S-M	Replace and upgrade all the perimeter fencing.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality.

² All site names as provided by BMBC in project database

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Site ²	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Rawlyn Road	28	S-M	Clear all vacant overgrown plots and re-let working to meet waiting list demand. As funding allows replace the poor quality chestnut fencing with palatine perimeter fencing.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased usage, meet waiting list demand.
Tonge Moor Road	37	S-M	Clear all overgrown plots and re-let working towards meeting waiting list demand. Provide year round toilet provision.	Meet identified demand in the area. Improved site quality and facilities facilitating increased usage, particularly by school children.
Sapling Road	29	S-M	As funding allows continue with the process of replacing and upgrading the perimeter fencing. Continue to encourage and support use of the site by local schools for lessons in nature studies and gardening. Undertake general site improvements such as additional storage facilities for a stock shop and improved path and car park surfacing.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased community usage and value.
Selkirk Road	N/A		Further investigate potential to provide allotment provision at this site.	Meet identified demand in the area.
Settle Street	30	S-M	Upgrade the perimeter fencing. Undertake clearance work of the overgrown area to the rear of the site, which is unsuitable for cultivation. Once complete provide picnic benches for use by tenants and the local community.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased amenity value to the local community.
Shepherd Cross Street	32	S	Undertake drainage improvement work at the three plots that currently suffer from poor drainage and often become waterlogged. Continue to encourage and support community group involvement usage.	Increased capacity and enhanced site quality. High community value.
Smedley Avenue	33	S-M	Undertake clearance of the vacant overgrown plot and re-let working to meet waiting list demand As funding allows replace and upgrade perimeter fencing where required. Replace the washers on the water taps.	Increased site security and enhanced site quality. Increased usage, meet waiting list demand.

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Site ²	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Thicketford Road	34	S-M	As funding allows replace the poor quality chestnut fencing with palatine perimeter fencing.	Improved site security and enhanced site quality.
Tippings Road	35	S-M	Undertake clearance of the vacant overgrown plot and re-let to work towards meeting waiting list demand. Replace and upgrade the perimeter fencing.	Increased capacity and usage. Meet demand. Improved site security and enhanced site quality.
Tonge Fold	36	S-M	Replace and upgrade the perimeter fencing.	Improved site security and enhanced site quality.
Tonge Moor Road	37	S	Undertake clearance of the vacant overgrown plots and re-let to partially meet waiting list demand. Implement control measures to eradicate Japanese knotweed. Investigate possibility of greater toilet provision to encourage and support community group usage, particularly including women and children.	Increased capacity and usage. Meet demand. Enhanced site quality and value.
Cemeteries				
Astley Bridge Cemetery	101	S-M	Investigate the potential around bringing the site chapel back into some form of use. Work to encourage greater community value through the establishment of a 'friends of' group. Provide litterbins throughout the site.	Enhanced amenity value and greater community ownership and usage. Increased site value and security.
Farnworth Cemetery	107	S	Monitor the impact that restricting site access, through locking the access gate, has on reducing anti-social behaviour in terms of youth congregation, illegal motorbike and quad bike use and vandalism. Complete the headstone survey. Increase provision of seating.	Increased site quality and value. Welcoming and safe site. Increased amenity value.

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Site ²	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Heaton Cemetery	108	S-M	Investigate the potential to create a cycle path along the perimeter of the site. Complete the headstone survey. Increase litterbin provision throughout the site.	Greater amenity value to the local community and users. Greater usage of the site.
Overdale Crematorium	115	S-M	Improve the internal footpath surface quality and undertake drainage improvements throughout the site. Investigate the potential to provide a children's burial area.	Increased site quality.
Tonge Cemetery	119	S-M	Promote the historic interest of the site which is a Grade II listed site on the Register of Parks and Gardens. Monitor the impact that cutting back shrubbery and planting has on the occurrence of anti-social behaviour. Attempt to engage the local community through promoting and supporting the formation of a 'friends of' group. Install greater seating provision throughout the site. Investigate the feasibility of establishing community use of the currently disused building within the site. Increase litterbin provision throughout the site.	Historic interpretation and education opportunities. Creation of a more welcoming and safe site. Increased community ownership and amenity value. Increased site presence and natural surveillance.
West Houghton Cemetery	120	S	Invest in path upgrade and improvement.	Improved site access, safety and quality.

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Site ³	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Outdoor sports facilities				
Captains Clough	30	S	Site currently being played over its capacity due to a lack of changing accommodation. Only juniors currently using the site, even though senior pitches are marked out. This site should be considered for long term leasing to a junior club. Site currently being used by Rooftec FC.	Reduce overplay. Secure long term future of junior club.
Moss Bank Park	29	L S	Upgrade porta cabin style changing accommodation to more secure and permanent facility. Site currently being played over its capacity due to its popularity. Transfer some play to Church Road Playing Fields to relieve capacity.	To reduce vandalism and to meet league requirements. Reduce overplay.
Tonge Fold Playing Fields	53	M	Upgrade porta cabin style changing accommodation to more secure and permanent facility. Site currently being played over its capacity due to its popularity. Transfer some play to Leverhulme Park to relieve capacity.	To improve quality, reduce vandalism and to meet league requirements. Reduce overplay.
St James St Playing Fields / Blindshill Playing Fields	237	S	Site is currently being played over its capacity. If the site is to continue to be used, investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues. Permanently mark out the site.	Reduce overplay and increase pitch quality.
Crompton Fold Primary School	77	M	Support Bolton County FC in negotiations with the School to develop some security of tenure for the Club on the site and to seek funding to invest in the quality of the pitches in order to increase capacity.	Increased pitch quality and security of long term future of junior club.
Bowness Primary School	93	M	Support Little Lever Sports Club FC in negotiations with the School to develop some security of tenure for the Club on the site and to seek funding to invest in the quality of the pitches in order to increase capacity.	Increased pitch quality and security of long term future of junior club.

³ All site names as provided by BMBC in project database

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Site ³	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Scholes Bank	26	S	Site is currently being played over its capacity due to its popularity. Transfer some play to Green Lane Playing Fields to relieve capacity.	Reduce overplay.
Green Lane Playing Field	27	S	Site is currently being played over its capacity due to its poor quality pitches and changing accommodation. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues.	Reduce overplay and increase pitch and facility quality.
Ridgmont Park	28	M	Site is currently being played over its capacity due to its poor quality pitches. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues. Pitches should be considered for long-term lease to Horwich Town FC.	Reduce overplay and increase pitch quality. Increase long term future of the Club.
South Avenue Playing Field	14	L	Site currently not being used due to its poor quality. Consider future of the site in relation to continued provision for football. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues. Pitches should be considered for long-term lease.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.
Haslam Park	40	L	Site currently not being used due to its poor quality. Consider future of the site in relation to continued provision for football. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues. Pitches should be considered for long-term lease.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.
Scott Lane	24	M	Site currently not being used due to its poor quality. Consider future of the site in relation to continued provision for football. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues. Pitches should be considered for long-term lease.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.
Withins High School	63	M	Work with the School and the ECB to investigate the potential to develop a cricket development centre to be used as a central venue for kwik cricket leagues and tournaments.	Relieve pressure and increase capacity of club pitches. Sustainability of junior cricket in Bolton and meet future demand.

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Site ³	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Rivington & Blackrod High School	269	L	Work with the School and the ECB to investigate the potential to develop a cricket development centre to be used as a central venue for kwik cricket leagues and tournaments.	Relieve pressure and increase capacity of club pitches. Sustainability of junior cricket in Bolton and meet future demand.
St James Secondary School	68	S	Although available for community use, the School's cricket pitch is currently not in use. Work with the School to increase community use.	Relieve pressure and increase capacity of club pitches. Meet future demand for pitches.
Bolton Rugby RUFC	196	M	Support the Club in identifying funds to improve the quality of the pitch.	Increase capacity of the site to cater for latent demand.
BAe Sports Club	194	S	Support Lostock RUFC to seek tenure of the land at its current home ground at BAe Sports Club.	Secure the long term future of the Club and allow for development of the site to cater for latent demand.
Newhouse Farm	3	L	Site is currently being played over its capacity due to its poor quality pitch. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.
Southfield Drive	37	M	Site is currently being played over its capacity due to its poor quality pitches. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.
Westhoughton RLFC, Wearish Lane	260	S	Support Westhoughton RLFC to seek tenure of the land at its current home ground at Wearish Lane. Site is currently being played over its capacity due to its poor quality pitches. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues.	Secure the long term future of the Club and allow for development of the site to cater for latent demand.
Harper Green Leisure Centre	16	M	Identify funds to carry out remedial repairs and refurbishment to the carpet.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.
Horwich Leisure Centre	259	M	Identify funds to carry out remedial repairs and refurbishment to the carpet.	To improve pitch quality and increase capacity.

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Site ³	KKP Ref	Priority	Recommended actions	Outcomes
Hulton Lane Playing Fields	354	S	Significant spare capacity identified at this site. Investigate the substructure of the playing fields followed by appropriate remedial work to rectify the issues. Investigate leasing pitches to cater for latent rounders demand.	Meet demand for rounders. Improved pitch quality and support towards this well-established local sport.
Rumworth Park	51	M	Investigate ways to improve the quality of the green, including the need to install or upgrade fencing around the bowling green.	To reduce vandalism and increase quality.
Royal Oak Hotel	229	L	Investigate ways to improve the quality of the green, including the need to install or upgrade fencing around the bowling green.	To reduce vandalism and increase quality.
Morfield Bowling Club	245	M	Investigate ways to improve the quality of the green, including the need to install or upgrade fencing around the bowling green.	To reduce vandalism and increase quality.
Piggot Park	203	L	Investigate ways to improve the quality of the green, including the need to install or upgrade fencing around the bowling green.	To reduce vandalism and increase quality.
Westhoughton Park / Central Park	54	S	Upgrade surface quality and install or upgrade fencing around the tennis courts.	Increased quality allowing site to accommodate identified latent demand in the area.

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Appendix one – Outdoor sports facilities - standard calculation

Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 26,444	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	22	13	10	3	-9.7
Junior football	4	2	1	1	3.6
Mini football	8	6	6	0	-1.6
Senior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	6	4	4	0	
ATP	1	1	1	0	
Baseball	2	2	2	0	

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The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Astley Bridge and Smithills.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	2	2	2	0	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	7	7	7	0	
MUGA	2	2	2	0	

Astley Bridge and Smithills analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.23
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	-0.42
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	0.81
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.09
Local standard	0.90
Bolton standard	1.04

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Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area

Population (2001 Census) 26,505	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	5	4	3	1	-1.2
Junior football	1	1	0	1	5.1
Mini football	0	0	0	0	5.4
Senior rugby union	2	2	2	0	0.7
Junior rugby union	1	1	1	0	3.7
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	0.5
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	1	1	1	0	
Rounders	3	3	3	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	6	1	1	0	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	6	6	5	1	
MUGA	2	2	2	0	

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OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY:
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Crompton and Halliwell Area Forum analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.56
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.32
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	0.88
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.08
Local standard	0.96
Bolton standard	1.04

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Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 28,540	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	10	10	6	4	-7.9
Junior football	4	3	0	3	1.9
Mini football	2	1	0	1	4.6
Senior rugby union	1	1	1	0	-1.0
Junior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	3	3	3	0	
Rounders	2	2	2	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	4	4	4	0	
Netball	0	0	-2	2	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	8	8	7	1	
MUGA	4	4	3	1	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Farnworth and Kearsley Area Forum analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.88
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	-0.33
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	0.55
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.11
Local standard	0.66
Bolton standard	1.04

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Heaton, Lostock and Hulton Area Forum analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Heaton, Lostock and Hulton Area Forum analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 25,891	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	5	4	4	0	-4.0
Junior football	8	2	1	1	-2.0
Mini football	1	1	0	1	4.9
Senior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby union	1	1	0	1	-1.0
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	1	0	0	0	
Rounders	2	2	2	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Heaton, Lostock and Hulton Area Forum analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	6	6	6	0	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	4	4	4	0	
MUGA	1	0	0	0	

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OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY:
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Heaton, Lostock and Hulton Area Forum analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.41
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	-0.25
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	0.16
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.06
Local standard	0.22
Bolton standard	1.04

BOLTON COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

South Area Forum area analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the South Area Forum area analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 41,444	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	15	14	11	3	-7.4
Junior football	6	4	2	2	0.7
Mini football	4	1	1	0	7.1
Senior rugby union	1	1	1	0	-1.0
Junior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	4	4	2	2	
ATP	1	1	0	1	
Rounders	1	1	1	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within South Area Forum area analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	7	3	3	0	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	13	13	12	1	
MUGA	7	5	4	1	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

South Area Forum area analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.81
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	-0.22
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	0.59
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.11
Local standard	0.70
Bolton standard	1.04

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Leverhulme area analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Leverhulme area analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 38,297	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	19	18	16	2	-7.4
Junior football	7	6	2	4	8.9
Mini football	10	10	8	2	1.8
Senior rugby union	3	3	2	1	-3.0
Junior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	1	1	0	1	-0.5
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	0.9
Senior cricket	5	5	5	0	
Rounders	3	3	3	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Leverhulme area analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	8	8	0	8	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	1	1	1	0	
Crown bowling green	4	4	4	0	
Lawn bowling green	1	1	1	0	
MUGA	1	1	1	0	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Leverhulme area analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.37
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	-0.15
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	1.22
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.12
Local standard	1.34
Bolton standard	1.04

BOLTON COUNCIL

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South Turton Area Forum analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the South Turton Area Forum analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 24,509	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	11	11	9	2	0.5
Junior football	7	5	3	2	1.9
Mini football	3	1	1	0	23.5
Senior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby union	1	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	3	3	3	0	1.0
ATP	1	1	1	0	
Rounders	1	1	1	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within South Turton Area Forum analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	7	7	7	0	
Netball	0	0	-2	2	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	4	4	3	1	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

South Turton Area Forum analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.16
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.45
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	1.61
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.07
Local standard	1.68
Bolton standard	1.04

BOLTON COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Two Towns Area Forum analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Two Towns Area Forum analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 24,548	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	15	13	10	3	0.5
Junior football	8	8	2	6	0.1
Mini football	2	2	1	1	0.2
Senior rugby union	1	1	1	0	1.0
Junior rugby union	1	1	0	1	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	
Senior cricket	5	5	4	1	
ATP	1	1	0	1	
Rounders	1	1	1	0	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Two Towns Area Forum analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	21	21	21	0	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	8	8	8	0	
Lawn bowling green	1	1	1	0	
MUGA	4	4	4	0	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Two Towns Area Forum analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.55
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.08
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	1.63
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.18
Local standard	1.81
Bolton standard	1.04

BOLTON COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum analysis area

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum analysis area.

Population (2001 Census) 24,548	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	3	3	2	1	1.7
Junior football	2	2	1	1	0.7
Mini football	2	2	0	2	0.8
Senior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Junior rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Mini rugby union	0	0	0	0	
Senior rugby league	2	2	2	0	0.1
Junior rugby league	0	0	0	0	0.4
Senior cricket	1	1	1	0	1.0

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	5	4	4	0	
Netball	0	0	0	0	
Athletics track	0	0	0	0	
Crown bowling green	2	2	2	0	
MUGA	4	4	0	4	

BOLTON COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY: STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.40
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.21
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	0.61
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.05
Local standard	0.66
Bolton standard	1.04