



CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT REPORT
OCTOBER 2018

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Glossary

CBC	Chesterfield Borough Council
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act
DPD	Development Plan Document
FIT	Fields in Trust
FOG	Friends of Group
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
MUGA	Multi-use Games Area (an enclosed area with a hard surface for variety of informal play)
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSALG	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
SOA	Super Output Areas
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Draft Open Space Assessment Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Chesterfield Borough Council (CBC). It provides detail with regard to what open space provision exists in the area, its condition, distribution and overall quality. This document sets out the findings of the research, consultation, site assessments and GIS mapping undertaken as part of the study.

This study is intended to assist in the Councils process of preparing a new Local Plan for the area and a Strategy for Open Spaces. As part of this, it is reviewing its evidence base which will help to inform better understanding of the community needs and priorities for investment. The study will also aid in the consideration of potential disposal sites in areas found to be sufficient in open spaces.

In accordance with best practice recommendations, a size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied to the inclusion of some typologies within the study. This means that, in general, sites that fall below this threshold are not audited unless identified as being significant e.g. play spaces.

The table below details the open space typologies included within the study:

Table 1.1: Open space typology definitions

Typology	Primary purpose
Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Accessible sites with more of a focus on wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness. Human recreational activities are likely to be less intense (e.g. nature reserves, woodlands, plantations).
Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.
Provision for children and young people (including teenage provision)	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction for children and young people, such as formal equipped play areas, MUGAs, skateboard areas and teenage shelters. It can also include informal areas of land surrounding formal play provision.
Allotments and Community Schemes	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.
Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
Green Corridors	Routes which provide for walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel. May also offer opportunities for wildlife mitigation.

The Strategy/Standards Paper (to follow the assessment report) will also consider the future requirements for provision based upon population distribution, health and deprivation indicators, planned growth and consultation findings. It will give direction on the future provision of accessible and high quality provision for open spaces.

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In order for planning policies to be 'sound', local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities. We advocate that the methodology to undertake such assessments should still be informed by best practice including the Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) Companion Guidance; *Assessing Needs and Opportunities* published in September 2002.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has replaced PPG17. However, assessment of open space facilities is still normally carried out in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17 as it still remains the only national best practice guidance on the conduct of an open space assessment.

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

1.1 Report structure

Open spaces

This report sets out the supply and demand issues for open space provision across Chesterfield. Each part contains relevant typology specific data. Further description of the methodology used can be found in Part 2. The report as a whole covers the predominant issues for all open spaces as defined in best practice guidance:

- Part 3: Summary of consultation and site visits
- Part 4: Parks and Gardens
- Part 5: Natural/semi-natural Greenspace
- Part 6: Amenity Greenspace
- Part 7: Provision for children/young people
- Part 8: Allotments
- Part 9: Cemeteries
- Part 10: Green corridors

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1.2 National context

National Planning Policy Framework (2018)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Why do parks matter?

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

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

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

What challenges are facing the parks sector?

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

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

How can we secure a sustainable future for parks?

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

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

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

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

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

- ◀ *Recommendation Three:* As part of developing their exclusive use and charging policies for parks and green spaces, local authorities should work collaboratively with relevant groups of park users to identify the range of ways in which they can contribute to their parks
- ◀ *Recommendation Four:* Local authorities should encourage and support the development of friends' group forums, and work with them in a coordinated way to ensure that needs are properly assessed, and resources are prioritised and targeted appropriately
- ◀ *Recommendation Seven:* Local Plans should take a whole-place approach recognising the importance of parks and green spaces to existing and new communities

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- ◀ *Recommendation Thirteen:* Cross-departmental group should encourage and facilitate the evaluation and benchmarking of emerging models for parks management, and the sharing of best practice
- ◀ *Recommendation Fourteen:* guidance for local authorities that they should work collaboratively with Health and Wellbeing Boards (and others) to prepare joint strategies

1.3 Local context

Chesterfield Local Plan; Core Strategy (2013)

Sets out a strategy for development across the borough until 2031. It identifies which broad areas are suitable for development.

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

The Core Strategy is the first part of replacing the previous Local Plan (2006). As part of the Council's preparation for a new Local Plan it is concurrently reviewing its land holdings to help inform future decision-making policy.

Derbyshire Health and Well Being Strategy (2015-2017)

Sets out the key priorities and how members will work together to improve the health and wellbeing of Derbyshire's residents. It is focused on four priorities:

- ◀ Keeping people healthy and independent in their own home
- ◀ Building social capital
- ◀ Creating healthy communities
- ◀ Supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people

Open spaces such as parks and gardens and play areas can provide an important role in helping to tackle many of these priorities and the indicators used to track them. It is widely acknowledged that open spaces can contribute to the quality of life for an individual and communities. Life expectancy, obesity levels and perceptions of residents' trust in the areas they live are some of the indicators open spaces can influence.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

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

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Chesterfield Park and Open Spaces Strategy (2015-2024)

Builds upon the previous 2003 strategy to provide the context and Councils vision relating to parks and open spaces. The vision for parks and open spaces is:

To ensure that Chesterfield has an accessible network of high quality parks and open spaces which puts good health and an excellent quality of life within reach of everyone who lives in and visits Chesterfield

Quality assessments of 80 sites were undertaken as part of the strategy. In addition, quantity and accessibility including analysis on a Ward level was provided. As part of the analysis several key issues were identified:

- ◀ Pockets of inadequate provision of some categories of open space
- ◀ Issues with quality that need to be balanced with reducing budgets and the need for limited new provision
- ◀ Need to better promote and further engage communities to maximise benefits
- ◀ Need to protect and prioritise the use of and where possible increase income/external funding
- ◀ Over provision of some categories in some areas
- ◀ Not promoting open spaces to their maximum potential
- ◀ Anti-social behaviour is an issue at various sites
- ◀ Not yet maximising the opportunities to encourage healthy activity in open space network
- ◀ Some sites less accessible and not linked to each other or the countryside
- ◀ Community engagement can be improved to maximise its benefits
- ◀ Do not realise the full benefits green spaces can contribute to the regeneration agenda

An action plan based on the strategic objectives of the strategy is detailed in order to help identify and highlight key outputs and outcomes of the document.

More recently a Chesterfield Draft Play Space Strategy has been undertaken (but not published). This considers the levels of existing provision and the need for a sustainable and deliverable approach to play space provision.

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PART 2: METHODOLOGY

This section details the methodology undertaken as part of the study. The key stages are:

- ↳ 2.1: Analysis areas
- ↳ 2.2: Auditing local provision
- ↳ 2.3: Quality and value
- ↳ 2.4: Quality and value thresholds
- ↳ 2.5: Identifying local need
- ↳ 2.6: Accessibility catchments

2.1 Analysis area and population

The whole of the Chesterfield Borough area is used for the purposes of mapping and initial audit analysis within this Assessment Report. The Strategy will split Chesterfield into 22 analysis areas in order to provide a more detailed level of analysis and to help inform future requirements and strategic recommendations.

The 22 analysis areas are intended to reflect the recognisable places of the different areas of Chesterfield. These relate to the 19 Wards across Chesterfield. They also reflect known barriers to movement such as major roads (e.g. A61, A619 and A617), railways (e.g. Midland Main Line) and waterways (e.g. Chesterfield Canal and River Doe Lea). Figure 2.1 shows the 22 analysis areas.

Figure 2.1: Analysis areas



Chesterfield is estimated to have a population of 104,440^{*}. This is used throughout the report to help calculate the current provision levels in hectares per 1,000 population. i.e. area of open space (in hectares) per 1000 people (head of population).

^{*} ONS Mid-Year Estimate 2016

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Population figures for each of the 22 analysis areas are set out in Table 2.1. ONS Mid-Year 2016 figures at a Lower Super Output level are initially utilised. These are then allocated to reflect the number of residential dwellings located within one of the 22 analysis areas.

Table 2.1: Analysis areas with estimated populations

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

2.2 Auditing local provision (supply)

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

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

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

- ◀ Parks & gardens
- ◀ Natural & semi-natural greenspace
- ◀ Amenity greenspace
- ◀ Provision for children & young people
- ◀ Allotments
- ◀ Cemeteries/churchyards
- ◀ Green corridors

Database development

All information relating to open spaces is collated in the project open space database (to be supplied as an Excel electronic file). All sites identified and assessed as part of the audit are recorded within the database. The database details for each site are as follows:

Data held on open spaces database (summary)

- ◀ KKP reference number (used for mapping)
- ◀ Site name
- ◀ Ownership (if known)
- ◀ Management (if known)
- ◀ Primary Typology
- ◀ Size (hectares)
- ◀ Access (whether a site has restricted access)
- ◀ Site visit data (i.e. quality and value scores)
- ◀ Analysis area
- ◀ Ward

Sites are primarily identified by KKP in the audit using official site names, where possible, and/or secondly using road names and locations.

2.3 Quality and value

Each type of open space (included within the sample audit) receives separate quality and value scores. This also allows for application of a high and low quality/value matrix to further help determine prioritisation of investment and to identify sites that may be surplus within and to a particular open space typology.

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

Analysis of quality

Data collated from site visits is initially based upon those derived from the Green Flag Award scheme (a national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, operated by Keep Britain Tidy). This is utilised to calculate a quality score for each site visited. Scores in the database are presented as percentage figures. The quality criteria used for the open space assessments carried out for all open space typologies are summarised in the following table.

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Quality criteria for open space site visit (score)

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

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

Analysis of value

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

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

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

The value criteria set for audit assessment is derived as:

Value criteria for open space site visits (score)

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

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2.4 Quality and value thresholds

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the results of the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The primary aim of applying a threshold is to identify sites where investment and/or improvements may be required. It can also be used to set an aspirational quality standard to be achieved in the future and to inform decisions around the need to further protect sites from future development (particularly when applied with its respective value score in a matrix format).

The only national benchmark available for quality of parks and open spaces is the 66% pass rate for Green Flag. However, the Green Flag pass rate is not appropriate for every open space typology as it is designed to represent a sufficiently high standard of provision.

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

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

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

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

Table 2.2: Quality and value thresholds by typology

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

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

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

2.5 Identifying local need (demand)

Consultation to identify local need for open space provision has been carried out via a combination of face-to-face meetings, surveys and telephone interviews. It has been conducted with key local authority officers and stakeholders. An online community survey and a survey for children to complete were also hosted. These were promoted by the Council with 671 community survey responses and 236 children's survey responses being received. The consultation ran from 16th April to 1st June 2018.

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

Further explanation to the purpose of the survey, data confidence and limitations is set out in Appendix One.

The findings of the consultations are used, reviewed and interpreted to further support the results of the quality and value assessment. The responses and trends are set out later in the report.

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2.6 Accessibility catchments

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

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

Results of the community survey (Table 3.1.4) have been used to set initial accessibility catchments. These are presented in Table 2.3 and are applied to help inform potential deficiencies in each form of open space provision.

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

Table 2.3: Accessibility catchments from respondents

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

* Equivalent radial distance calculated on basis of average person walking one mile in 20 minutes

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PART 3: SUMMARY OF SURVEY AND VISITS

This section provides a summary of the responses to the online community survey and children's survey*. It also describes generic trends and findings from the quality and value ratings for the sample of site visits undertaken. Site specific and typology issues are covered in the relevant sections later in this report. A summary of the responses is set out on the following pages. Appendix One sets out the confidence limits and intervals to the survey.

3.1 Community Survey

An online community survey was hosted on the Council website and promoted via social media and the Council's communication team. Paper versions of the survey were also available at four public locations consisting of Chesterfield Library, Queens Park Sports Centre, Staveley Healthy Living Centre and Chesterfield Museum. A total of 562 electronic and 109 paper responses were returned. Consequently, a total of 671 responses were received.

As part of the survey some open space typologies were given a slightly different name compared to how they are referred to within the report. This was to ensure respondents were clear about what types of open space were being covered within the question. It also allows for greater understanding of some sub-categories of provision (i.e. the difference between play areas for young children and provision categories for older groups such as teenagers). Most names used are similar. A summary of the differences is set out below.

Table 3.1: Open space typologies

Survey typologies	Study typologies
Local park or public garden	Parks and gardens
Country park	Covered as part of parks and gardens
Nature reserve, common or woodland	Covered as part of natural and semi-natural greenspace
Play area for young children	Covered as part of provision for children and young people
Teenage provision (e.g. skate parks, BMX)	Covered as part of provision for children and young people
General amenity greenspace	Amenity greenspace
Allotments and community gardens	Allotments
Cemeteries/ churchyards	Cemeteries/ churchyards
Civic spaces (e.g. market squares, memorials)	n/a
Outdoor networks (e.g. cycle paths, footpaths, bridleways)	Covered as part of green corridors

* Responses shown are currently only based on electronic returns. Paper responses are being scanned and verified

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3.1.1 Usage

The most popular forms of provision to visit on a more frequent basis (i.e. more than once a week) are parks, outdoor networks or amenity greenspace. Respondents identify they generally visit parks (45%), outdoor networks (41%), amenity greenspace (32%) and play areas for young children (22%) more than once a week. This is followed by country parks (19%) and nature reserves (18%).

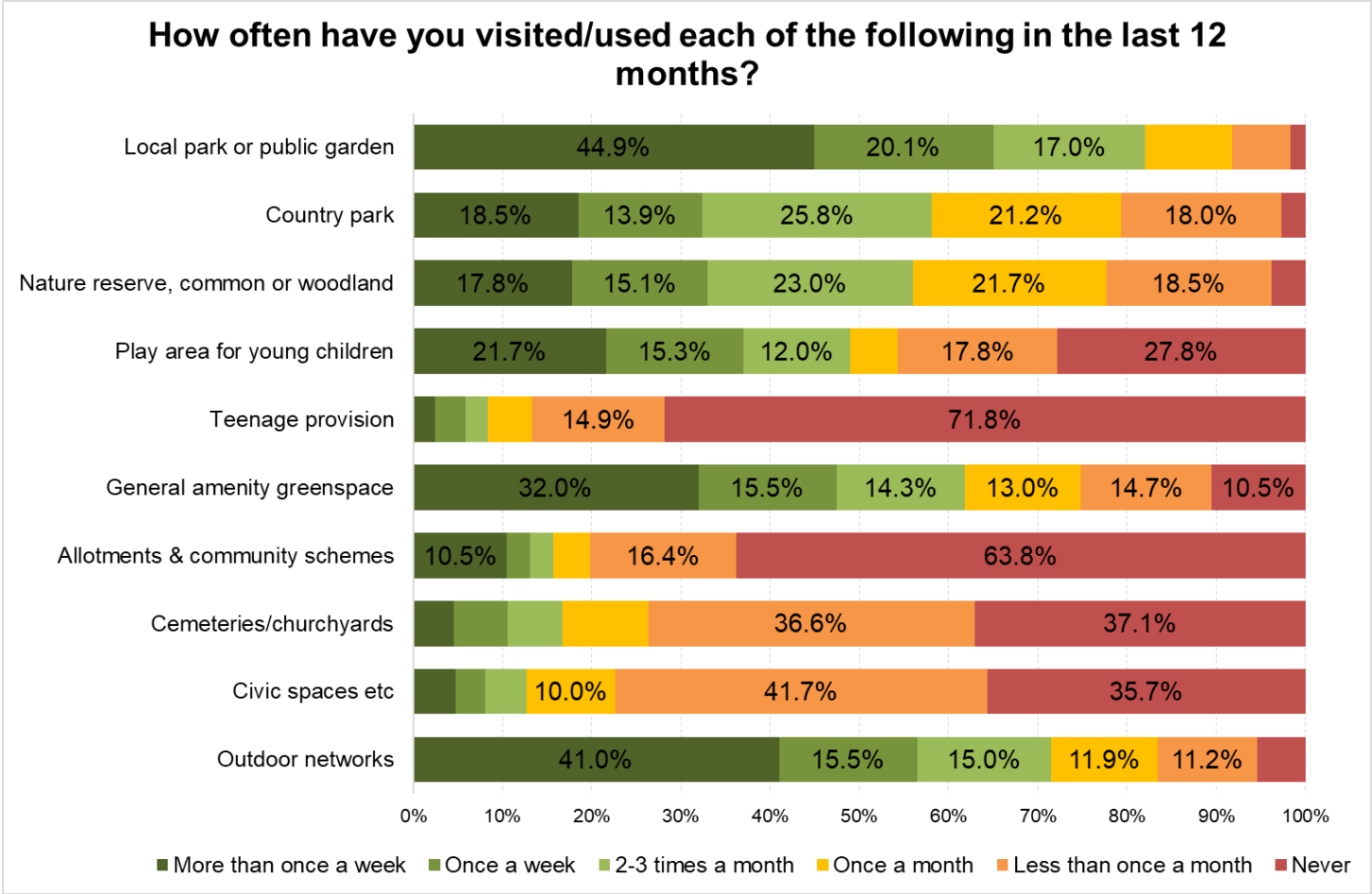
Provision such as allotments (16%), civic space (42%) and cemeteries and churchyards (37%) are visited on a less frequent basis, with more respondents stating they visit such provision less than once a month. This however is not surprising given their role and function.

Table 3.1.1: Frequency of visits to open space typologies in last 12 months

	More than once a week	Once a week	2-3 times a month	Once a month	Less than once a month	Never
Local park or public garden	44.9%	20.1%	17.0%	9.7%	6.5%	1.7%
Country park	18.5%	13.9%	25.8%	21.2%	18.0%	2.7%
Nature reserve, common or woodland	17.8%	15.1%	23.0%	21.7%	18.5%	3.9%
Play area for young children	21.7%	15.3%	12.0%	5.3%	17.8%	27.8%
Teenage provision	2.5%	3.4%	2.5%	5.0%	14.9%	71.8%
General amenity greenspace	32.0%	15.5%	14.3%	13.0%	14.7%	10.5%
Allotments and community gardens	10.5%	2.6%	2.6%	4.1%	16.4%	63.8%
Cemeteries/ churchyards	4.6%	6.1%	6.1%	9.6%	36.6%	37.1%
Civic spaces etc	4.7%	3.3%	4.6%	10.0%	41.7%	35.7%
Outdoor networks	41.0%	15.5%	15.0%	11.9%	11.2%	5.4%

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Figure 3.1.1: Frequency of visits to open space typologies in last 12 months*



* Blank sections with no percentage figure displayed have 5% or less response return

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

Other sites popular for respondents to visit are Somersall Park / Walton Park (23%), Poolsbrook Country Park (19%), Chesterfield Canal (18%) and Eastwood Park (14%).

Table 3.1.2: Sites most often visited

Sites/areas	Percentage of respondents
Queens Park	43%
Holmebrook Valley Country Park	35%
Somersall Park / Walton Park	23%
Poolsbrook Country Park	19%
Chesterfield Canal	18%
Eastwood Park	14%

3.1.2 Accessibility

Respondents were asked what the main mode of travel they use to access open space provision. The answer option of Non-vehicle means is intended to cover the most probable non-vehicle methods of travel such as walking. The survey does not cater for all eventualities for modes of travel. Consequently, potential travel modes such as horse riding, scooter, skate board etc are not listed as possible options. An assumption is made for only the most common modes of travel to be listed as possible options.

Results from the survey shows that the majority of individuals are willing to use non-vehicle means* to access most types of provision. This is most evident for parks (77%), amenity greenspace (62%), outdoor networks (57%) and play areas for young children (49%).

The exception to this is for country parks (65%) and nature reserves (55%) which individuals are more likely to travel by private car.

A mixed response is noted for open space provision such as cemeteries. For cemeteries, a similar proportion of respondents' access by non-vehicle (27%) or using private car (30%).

* Non-vehicle means is intended to represent walking, running, horse riding modes

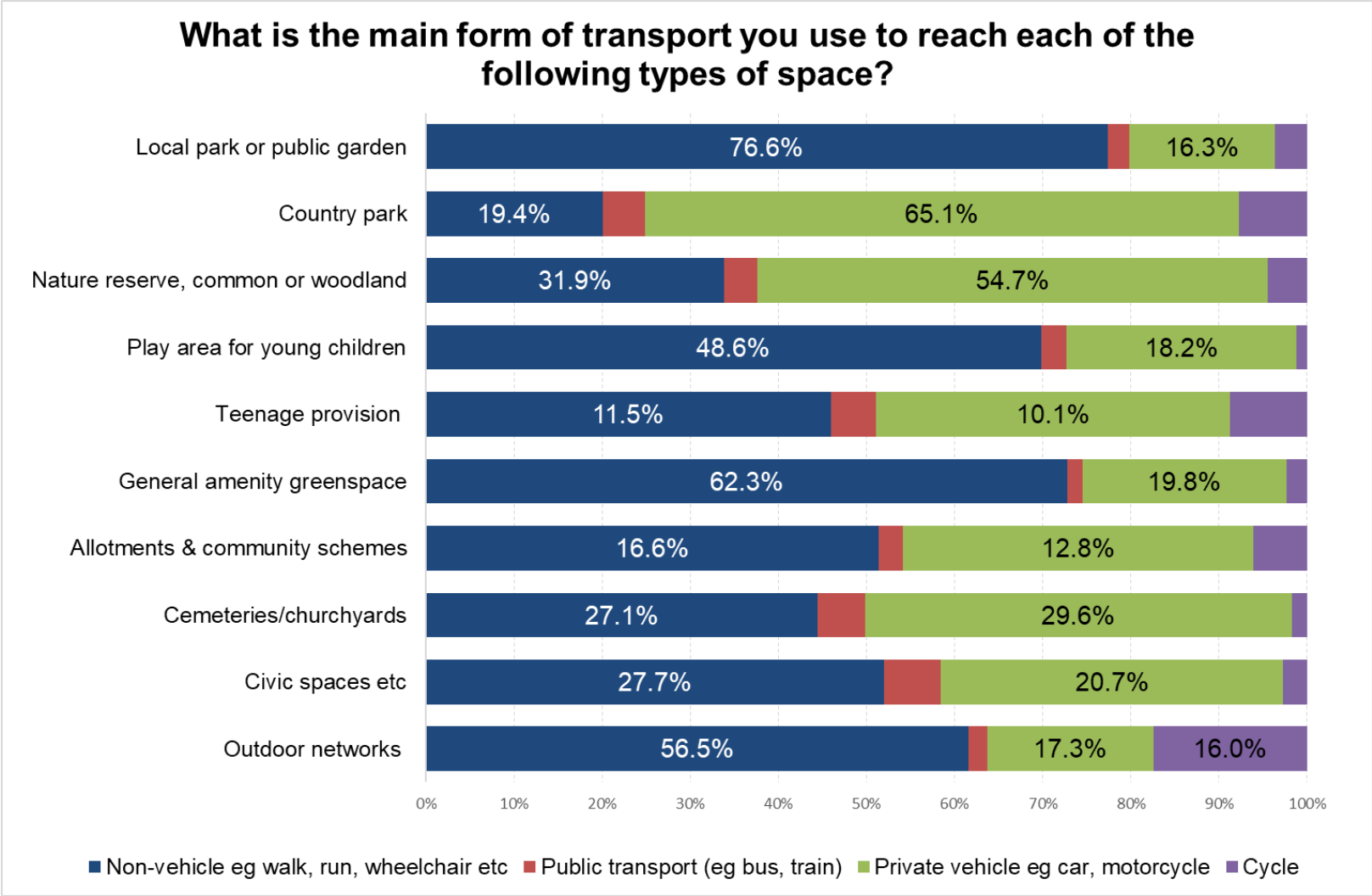
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Table 3.1.3: Mode of travel to open space sites

	Non-vehicle	Public transport	Private vehicle	Cycle	N/A
Local park or public garden	76.6%	2.4%	16.3%	3.7%	1.1%
Country park	19.4%	4.7%	65.1%	7.4%	3.4%
Nature reserve, common or woodland	31.9%	3.6%	54.7%	4.2%	5.7%
Play area for young children	48.6%	2.0%	18.2%	0.8%	30.4%
Teenage provision	11.5%	1.3%	10.1%	2.2%	74.9%
General amenity greenspace	63.3%	1.5%	19.8%	2.0%	14.4%
Allotments and community gardens	14.5%	0.9%	12.8%	2.0%	67.7%
Cemeteries/churchyards	26.5%	3.3%	29.6%	1.0%	39.0%
Civic spaces etc	26.6%	3.4%	20.7%	1.4%	46.7%
Outdoor networks	56.5%	2.0%	17.3%	16.0%	8.2%

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Figure 3.1.2: Mode of travel to open space sites



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For some provision such as nature reserves and country parks there is a willingness to travel further distances. Over a third of respondents (36%) state they would travel up to 30 minutes to access a country park with 32% willing to travel 30 minutes to a nature reserve.

For other forms of provision, respondents show a willingness to travel a shorter amount of time (i.e. 10 to 15 minutes). This is particularly noticeably for parks, amenity and outdoor networks.

For these types of open space, an even range of travel times are observed. This is likely a reflection to the variation in different forms of parks provision.

There are a greater proportion of respondents who state they are not interested in travelling to teenage provision (71%) and allotments (59%). Provision such Civic spaces (45%) and cemeteries/churchyards (39%) also receive a higher proportion of not interested responses. This is likely to reflect the niche use and specific users of these types of open spaces.

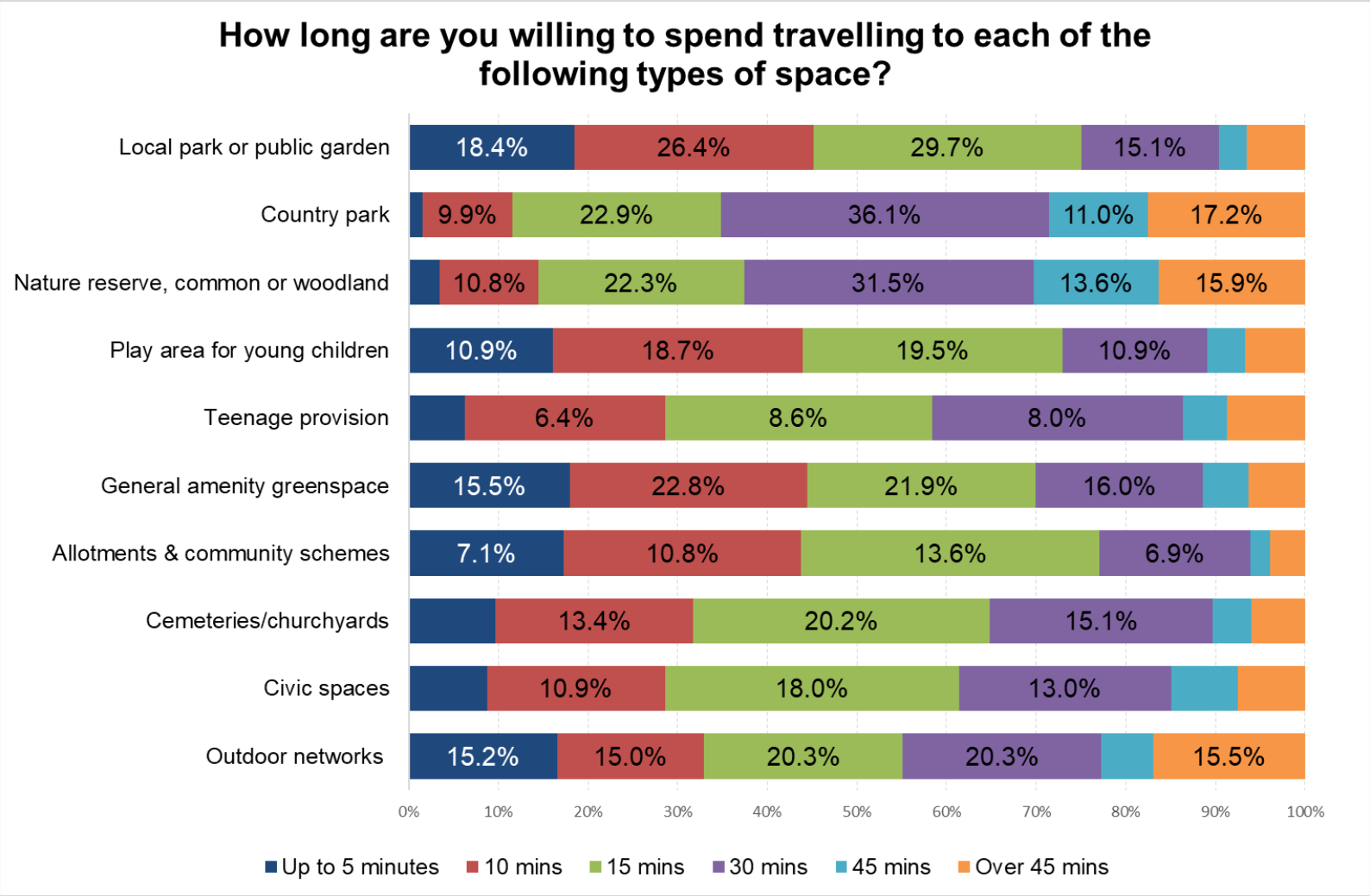
These results have helped inform the catchment mapping for each typology later in the report.

Table 3.1.4: Time willing to travel to open space sites

	Up to 5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes	45 minutes	Over 45 minutes	Not interested
Park or public garden	18.6%	27.5%	29.9%	14.4%	2.8%	6.1%	0.8%
Country park	1.5%	9.8%	22.7%	35.6%	11.3%	17.5%	1.5%
Nature reserve etc	2.6%	10.8%	20.7%	33.1%	13.6%	16.5%	2.8%
Play area for children	10.4%	18.3%	19.3%	10.8%	2.9%	4.1%	34.2%
Teenage provision	1.3%	6.3%	7.8%	7.3%	1.3%	2.2%	73.9%
Amenity greenspace	14.5%	23.7%	22.2%	15.1%	4.6%	6.0%	13.9%
Allotments	6.0%	11.6%	12.6%	7.9%	0.9%	1.5%	59.5%
Cemeteries/churchyards	4.9%	14.6%	18.4%	15.2%	3.0%	3.0%	41.0%
Civic spaces	4.1%	11.6%	17.8%	12.4%	4.5%	3.4%	46.3%
Outdoor networks	14.1%	15.7%	20.4%	21.2%	5.0%	15.5%	8.1%

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Figure 3.1.3: Time willing to travel to open space sites



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3.1.3 Quantity

In general, respondents consider the amount of provision to be quite satisfactory for most typologies. A noticeable proportion of respondents also view quantity as very satisfactory.

Parks, country parks and nature reserves are viewed as predominantly being very or quite satisfactory. A total of 46% of respondents rate the quantity of parks provision as quite satisfactory with a further 27% rating quantity as very satisfactory. Country parks also receive a similar response; with 47% of respondents quite satisfied and a further 28% very satisfied with quantity. A similar trend can be seen in the responses to nature reserves with most respondents rating quantity as quite satisfactory (42%) or very satisfactory (25%).

Most respondents rate quantity as quite satisfactory for outdoor networks (42%), amenity greenspace (37%) and cemeteries (25%).

There are a greater proportion of respondents who have no opinion to the quantity of allotments (50%) and teenage provision (57%). Civic spaces (44%) and cemeteries/churchyards (39%) also have higher proportions. However, this is likely to reflect the niche use and user numbers of these types of spaces.

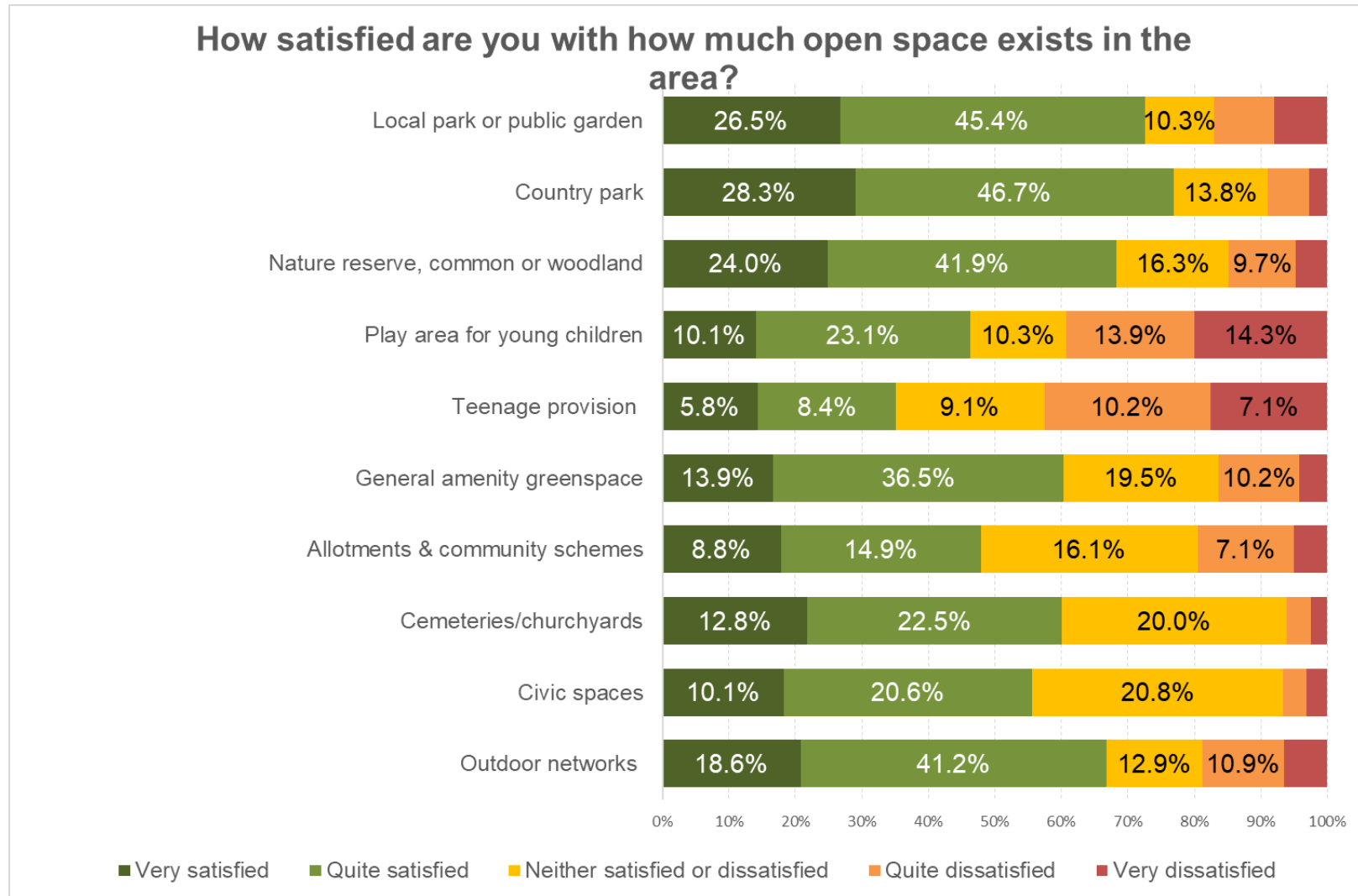
A greater proportion of respondents rate the amount of play area for children as being quite dissatisfied (13%) and very dissatisfied (13%). A similar percentage of respondents is also seen for teenage provision; with a noticeable percentage of respondents being quite dissatisfied (10%) and very dissatisfied (7%). This may relate to perceptions of quality.

Table 3.1.5: Satisfaction with amount of open spaces

	Very satisfied	Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	No opinion
Park or public garden	26.5%	46.3%	10.2%	8.7%	7.2%	1.1%
Country park	28.1%	46.8%	13.0%	6.0%	2.5%	3.6%
Nature reserve etc	24.9%	42.2%	16.0%	9.5%	3.9%	3.6%
Play area for children	10.8%	24.9%	11.4%	13.1%	13.4%	26.4%
Teenage provision	5.5%	9.4%	10.3%	10.3%	7.1%	57.3%
Amenity greenspace	14.9%	36.6%	19.3%	9.7%	3.4%	16.1%
Allotments	8.4%	17.9%	15.5%	6.4%	2.1%	49.7%
Cemeteries/churchyards	13.0%	25.0%	19.5%	2.2%	1.4%	38.9%
Civic spaces	9.8%	23.3%	19.0%	2.0%	1.4%	43.6%
Outdoor networks	19.9%	42.7%	12.9%	9.8%	5.0%	9.8%

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Figure 3.1.4: Satisfaction with quantity of open spaces



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3.1.4 Availability

In general, respondents consider the availability of provision to be quite satisfactory for most typologies. In some cases, a noticeable proportion of respondents also view availability as very satisfactory.

Parks are viewed as predominantly being very satisfactory. A total of 48% of respondents rate the availability of parks provision as very satisfactory with a further 37% rating availability as quite satisfactory.

Country parks, nature reserves, play areas for younger children and outdoor networks are also viewed by respondents as being generally quite or very satisfactory.

For other types of open space, results are more mixed but still positive.

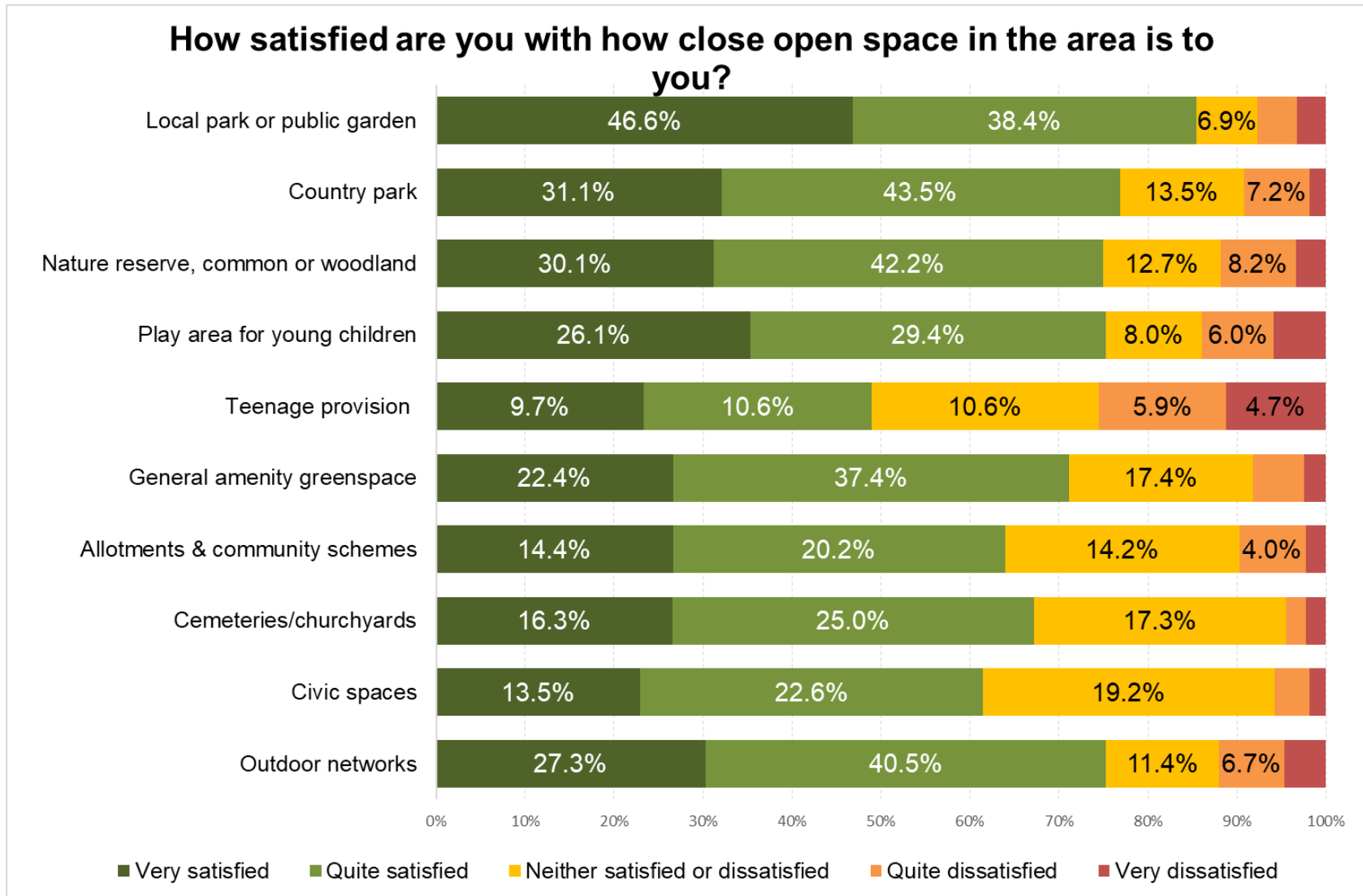
Similar to quantity, a greater proportion of respondents have no opinion to the availability of teenage provision (60%), allotments (47%), civic spaces (44%) and cemeteries/churchyards (42%). However, this is likely to reflect the niche use and user numbers of these types of spaces.

Table 3.1.5: Satisfaction with availability of open spaces

	Very satisfied	Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	No opinion
Park or public garden	46.6%	38.4%	6.9%	4.4%	3.3%	0.5%
Country park	31.1%	43.5%	13.3%	7.2%	1.8%	2.9%
Nature reserve etc	30.1%	42.2%	12.7%	8.2%	3.3%	3.6%
Play area for children	26.1%	29.4%	8.0%	6.0%	4.3%	26.2%
Teenage provision	9.7%	10.6%	10.6%	5.9%	4.7%	58.5%
Amenity greenspace	22.4%	37.4%	17.4%	4.8%	2.1%	15.9%
Allotments	14.4%	20.2%	14.2%	4.0%	1.2%	45.9%
Cemeteries/ churchyards	16.3%	25.0%	17.3%	1.4%	1.4%	38.6%
Civic spaces	13.5%	22.6%	19.2%	2.3%	1.1%	41.3%
Outdoor networks	27.3%	40.5%	11.4%	6.7%	4.2%	10.0%

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Figure 3.1.5: Satisfaction with availability of open spaces



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3.1.5 Quality

Respondents consider the quality of provision to be generally quite satisfactory for most types of open space.

Nature reserves (51%), country parks (50%), outdoor networks (43%), parks (40%) and amenity greenspace (38%) are viewed by respondents as mostly being quite satisfactory. For the typologies of country parks (25%), nature reserves (23%) and parks (19%) a noticeable proportion of respondents also rate quality as very satisfactory.

Similar to the trend for availability, there are a greater proportion of respondents who have no opinion to the quality of teenage provision (61%), allotments (49%), civic space (44%) and Cemeteries/churchyards (40%). This is likely to reflect the niche use and user numbers of these types of spaces.

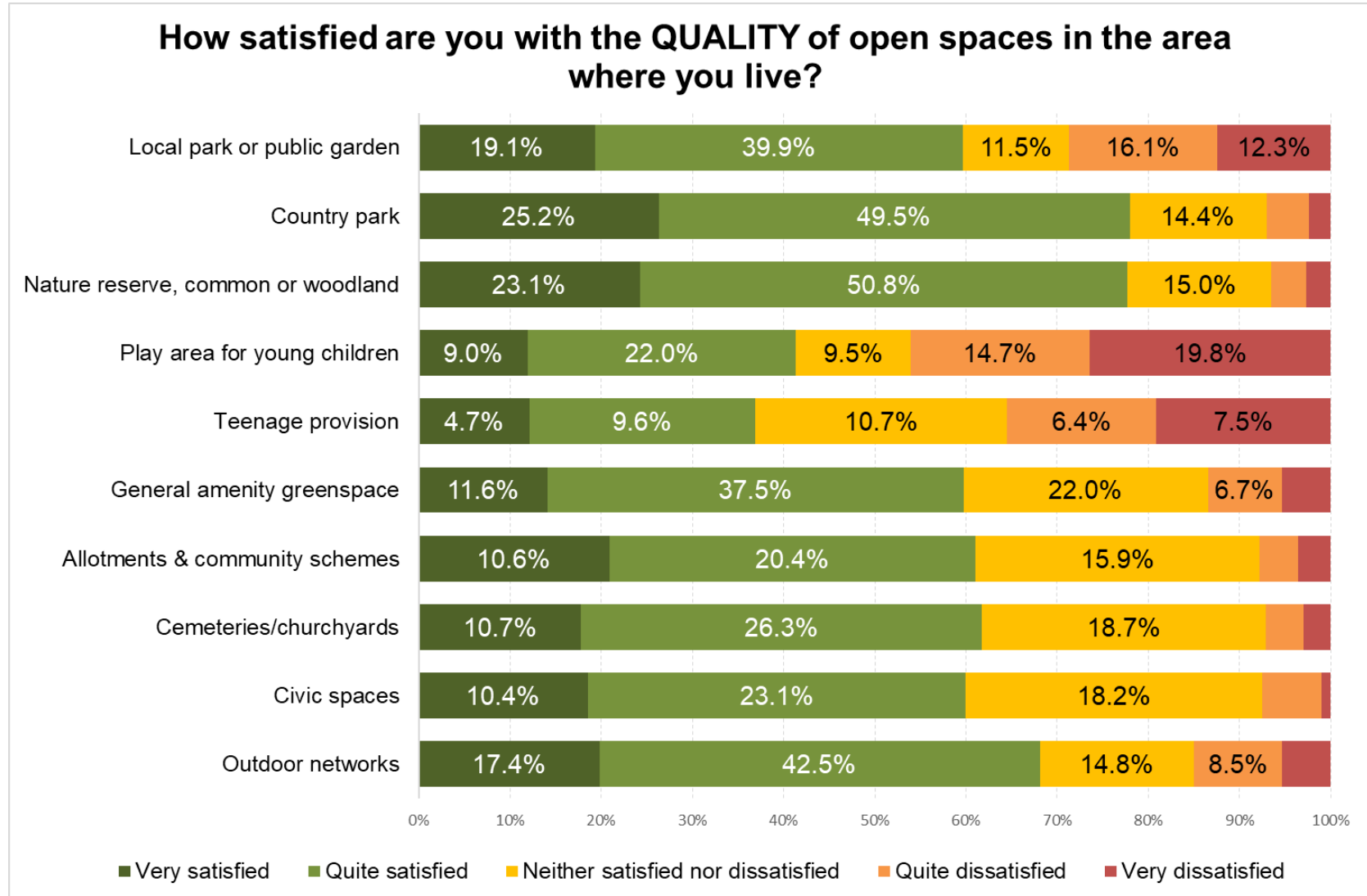
There are a noticeable proportion of respondents who rate quality of play areas for young children as very dissatisfied (20%) or quite dissatisfied (15%).

Table 3.1.6: Satisfaction with quality of open spaces

	Very satisfied	Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	No opinion
Park or public garden	19.1%	39.9%	11.5%	16.1%	12.3%	1.1%
Country park	25.2%	49.5%	14.4%	4.5%	2.3%	4.1%
Nature reserve etc	23.1%	50.8%	15.0%	3.7%	2.5%	4.9%
Play area for children	9.0%	22.0%	9.5%	14.7%	19.8%	24.9%
Teenage provision	4.7%	9.6%	10.7%	6.4%	7.5%	61.1%
Amenity greenspace	11.6%	37.5%	22.0%	6.7%	4.4%	17.8%
Allotments	10.6%	20.4%	15.9%	2.2%	1.8%	49.2%
Cemeteries/ churchyards	10.7%	26.3%	18.7%	2.5%	1.8%	40.1%
Civic spaces	10.4%	23.1%	18.2%	3.6%	0.5%	44.1%
Outdoor networks	17.4%	42.5%	14.8%	8.5%	4.7%	12.0%

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Figure 3.1.6: Satisfaction with quality of open spaces



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Respondents to the survey were asked what improvements would most encourage them to use open space more in their area. The most common answers include maintenance and improvements (64%), cleanliness (60%) and new facilities e.g. café, play equipment (33%).

Improvements to play equipment is also highlighted by the 24% of respondents that answer different play opportunities from what is usually provided.

Table 3.1.7: What improvements would encourage more visits?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Attractiveness of the site, flowers, trees etc	37.6%
Maintenance and improvement of footpaths, seats, shelters etc	63.9%
Good access to spaces	17.6%
Cleanliness	60.5%
Community involvement	15.5%
Increasing the amount of open spaces	22.4%
Accessibility improvements e.g. wheelchair access	5.7%
Different play opportunities than usually provided	23.5%
New facilities at existing spaces e.g. play equipment, cafe	33.4%
Use of open spaces for events etc	14.5%
Good public information about spaces and events	11.2%
More natural wildlife environments	26.2%
To incorporate a feeling of safety through lighting, fencing etc	18.2%
Other (please state below)	3.6%

Specific questions regarding play were also asked. Respondents were asked what type of play provision they visit most often; and, what type of play provision would they prefer.

A fairly even split between response figures is observed. A slightly higher proportion of respondents visit smaller play sites nearer to home (52%) and would prefer more natural play opportunities (57%).

Table 3.1.8: What types of play do you visit most often?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Larger play sites with lots of different equipment often located at a park	48.5%
Smaller play sites with less equipment but nearer to home	51.5%

Table 3.1.9: What types of play do you prefer?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
More natural play opportunities with landscaping	57.4%
Traditional play equipment	42.6%

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3.2 Children’s Survey

An online children’s survey was hosted on the Council website and promoted via social media and the Councils communication team. Paper versions of the survey were also available. A total of 112 electronic and 118 paper responses were returned. Consequently, a total of 236 responses were received.

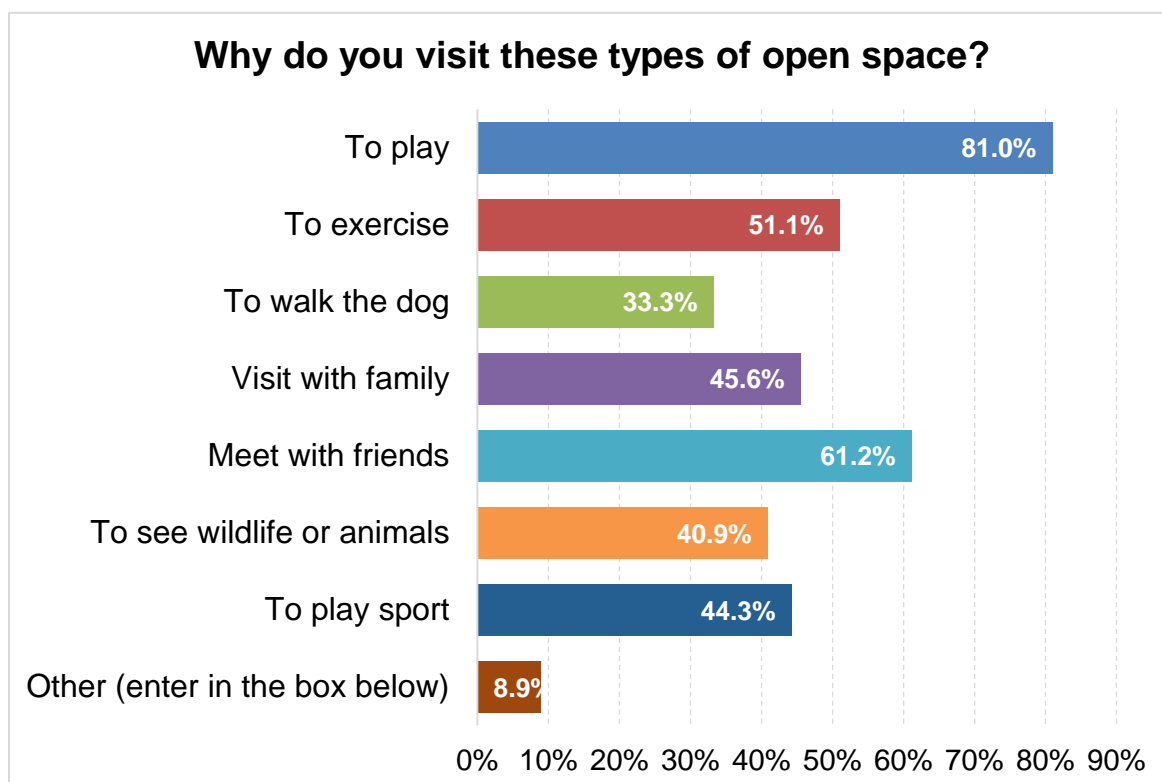
Respondents were asked what types of open space they like to visit. The most common type of open space to visit is parks with 81%. Other forms of open space they like to visit are play areas (66%), nature areas (63%), small grassed areas near home (49%) and sports pitches (38%).

Table 3.2.1: Visits to open space

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Parks	81.0%
Play areas	66.2%
Nature areas	63.3%
Small grassed areas near home	49.4%
Sports pitches	38.0%
None	3.0%

The most common reason for visiting these types of open space is to play (81%). Meeting with friends (61%), exercising (51%) and to visit with family (46%) are commonly also cited reasons for visiting.

Figure 3.2.1: Reasons for visiting



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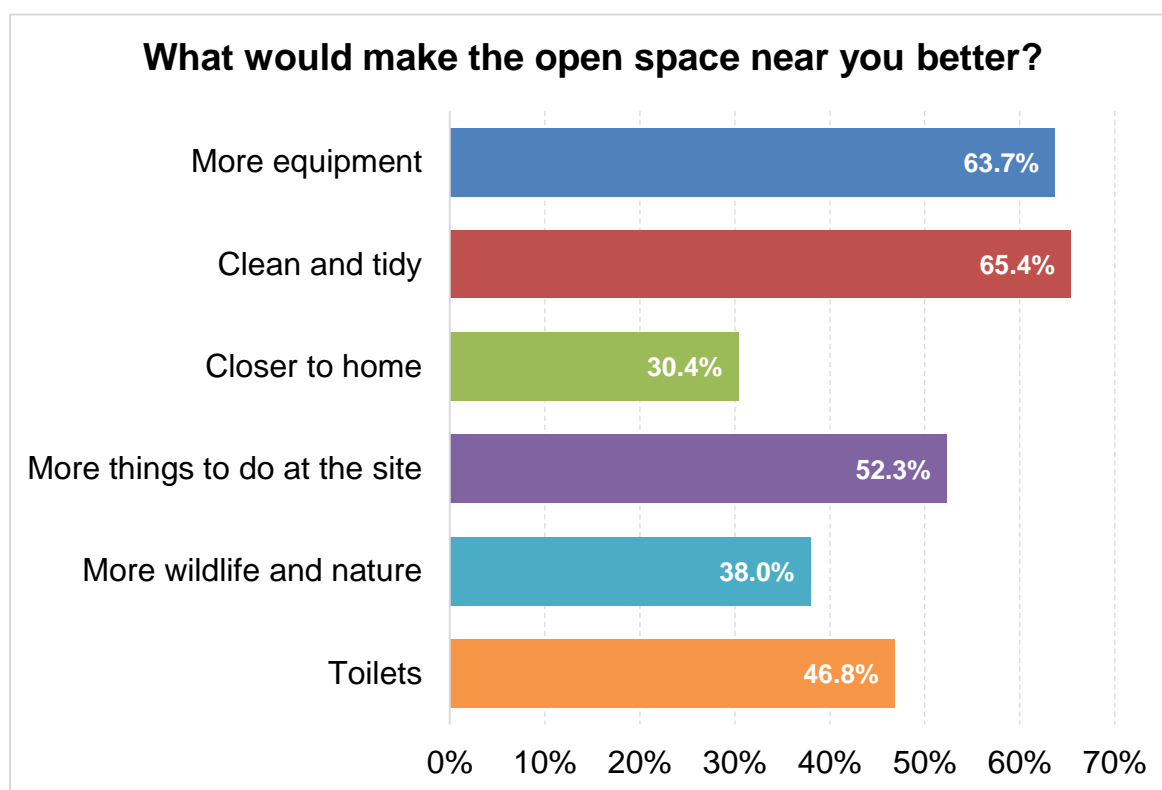
Respondents were asked what type of play provision they prefer to visit. A fairly even split between response figures is observed. A slightly higher proportion of respondents prefer more natural play opportunities (52%).

Table 3.2.2: What types of play do you prefer?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
More natural play opportunities with landscaping	52.0%
Traditional play equipment	48.0%

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

Figure 3.2.2: Improvements to sites



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Respondents to the survey were also asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the following statements. A fairly even proportion agree and disagree with sites being clean and tidy.

Table 3.2.3: Cleanliness and tidiness

The open spaces I visit are very clean and tidy	Percentage of respondents
Agree	46.0%
Disagree	54.0%

A slightly greater proportion of respondents (62%) agree there are lots of thing to do at the sites they visit.

Table 3.2.4: Things to do

There are lots of things to do at the sites I visit	Percentage of respondents
Agree	61.8%
Disagree	38.2%

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3.3 Chesterfield Members Workshop

In addition, a workshop with council members was held to discuss their views on considerations for priorities going forward, potential resources to utilise and other information in regards to open space provision. An example of the Poolsbrook Analysis Area was used to demonstrate the considerations for future priorities.

A summary of these findings is set out below.

Table 3.3.1: Summary of Members Workshop

Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Providing and improving access to existing resources; particularly strategic forms of provision such as parks, country parks and green corridors (i.e. usable, safe, advertised) ◀ Ensure quality of such provision and other existing sites is sufficient – improving quality of existing sites to encourage greater use ◀ Quality of existing play facilities and need to provide for all age ranges. Will help reduce misuse of some play provision by older age ranges. Reduce anti-social behaviour ◀ Above priorities can help contribute to community cohesion and reduce isolation of communities (especially in light of limited resources and budgets) ◀ Informed approach of demand i.e. if evidence highlights there is clear need or deficiency ◀ Alternative/innovative approaches particularly to allotments e.g. Guerrilla Gardening, links to schools ‘grow you own spaces’ etc ◀ Application and enforcement of planning conditions for open space/play ◀ Need to link to wider council strategic priorities. Focus s106/CIL on areas with highest health issues and deprivation levels ◀ Cost to access open spaces-public transport, increasing car ownership.
Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Planning applications/conditions/CIL ◀ Consideration to less capital receipt from land sales if extra provision added ◀ HRA funding ◀ External funding grants; Sport England, Arts Council ◀ Programme for events ◀ Can land be shared with schools-are schools prepared for grass areas/pitches on site to be used by the community ◀ Community and voluntary assistance
Other Info
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Access routes, crossing points, hills – impact on people’s routes to access sites ◀ Infrastructure-size of houses, gardens, space of homes. Information on CBC homes (age etc) ◀ Condition of planning for houses-what are the requirements on developer for open space ◀ Can we modify other open space i.e. play equipment on amenity greenspace? ◀ Engage with young people-ask what they want to encourage use of spaces ◀ Are their barriers highlighted in consultations to existing open spaces ◀ What are other bodies/organisations planning that could impact on provision ◀ Awareness and recognition of specific sites i.e. Poolsbrook Hotel ◀ Smaller spaces that are available to community but don’t count as part of this assessment (i.e. small patches of grass/community garden)

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3.4 Site Visit Overview

This section describes trends from the quality and value ratings for each typology. Within Chesterfield, there is a total of over 592 hectares of publicly accessible open space. The largest contributor to provision is natural and semi-natural greenspace (313 hectares). This is predominantly due to the two country parks (an equivalent to 130 hectares) being categorised within the typology.

Table 3.4.1: Overview of open space provision

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

3.4.1 Quality

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for open spaces.

Table 3.4.2: Quality scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Park and gardens	55%	44%	61%	86%	4	16
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	40%	29%	51%	96%	11	22
Amenity greenspace	60%	33%	65%	87%	26	69
Provision for children & young people	60%	50%	67%	91%	23	69
Allotments	50%	36%	58%	73%	1	32
Cemeteries/churchyards	60%	56%	68%	87%	2	8
Green corridors	60%	61%	71%	84%	0	4
TOTAL					67	220

There is generally a good level of quality across all open space sites. This is reflected in over three quarters (77%) of sites scoring above their set threshold for quality. Proportionally parks, allotments, green corridors and cemeteries have a high proportion of sites to rate above the quality thresholds.

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3.4.3 Value

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for open spaces.

Table 3.4.3: Value scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Park and gardens	20%	39%	51%	90%	0	20
Natural & semi-natural greenspace		26%	41%	68%	0	33
Amenity greenspace		15%	32%	60%	6	89
Provision for children & young people		15%	63%	91%	11	81
Allotments		9%	28%	56%	1	32
Cemeteries/churchyards		32%	60%	81%	0	10
Green corridors		31%	49%	83%	0	4
TOTAL					18	269

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

A high value site is considered to be one that is well used by the local community, well maintained (with a balance for conservation), provides a safe environment and has features of interest; for example, good quality play equipment and landscaping. Sites that provide for a cross section of users and have a multi-functional use are considered a higher value than those offering limited functions and viewed as unattractive.

3.5 Summary

- ◀ 287 sites are identified as publicly accessible open space provision. This is equivalent to over 592 hectares.
- ◀ Over three quarters (77%) of sites rate above the threshold set for quality.
- ◀ With the exception of 11 play sites and six amenity greenspaces, all open space is assessed as above the value threshold. This reflects the importance of provision and its role offering social, environmental and health benefits.

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 4: PARKS AND GARDENS

4.1 Introduction

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

4.2 Current provision

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

Table 4.1: Parks overview

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

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

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

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

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

Table 4.2: Parks overview (including country parks)

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

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

4.3 Accessibility

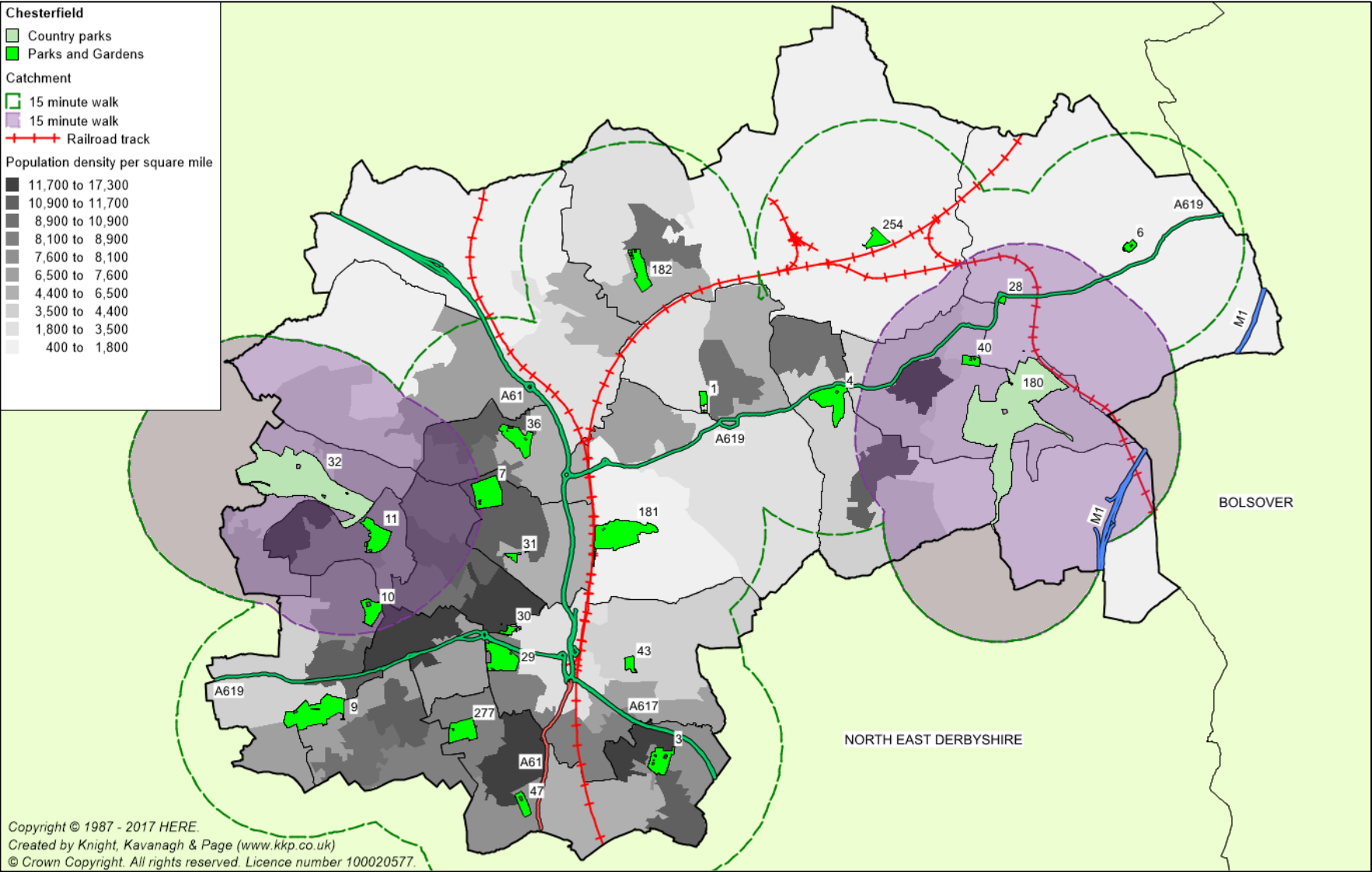
The community survey found the most common mode of travel to access a park is by non-vehicle methods (e.g. walking, running etc). Over three quarters of respondents (77%) state they access a park by non-vehicle means. This is followed by 16% of respondents that identify accessing park provision via private car. A further 4% state accessing via cycling.

The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 15 minutes (30%). This is closely followed by those willing to travel up to 10 minutes (26%). On this basis, a 15-minute walk (equivalent to 1,200m) has been applied to all parks to reflect the most popular walk time. Figure 4.1 shows the catchment mapping.

Country parks are also shown to reflect the dual role such forms of provision provide. Only a 15-minute walk time to the country parks is shown as the 30-minute drive time applied to country parks covers the whole of Chesterfield as well as surrounding local authorities. For this reason, the drive time catchment is not shown in the mapping.

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Figure 4.1: Parks and gardens mapped against 15-minute walk time catchment



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Table 4.3: Key to sites mapped

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

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

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

In most instances these appear to be areas of low population density. In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Woodthorpe, Brimington and Hollingwood, Middlecroft and Inkersall. The Strategy will explore in more detail the potential gaps in provision on an analysis area basis.

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

4.4 Quality

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

Table 4.4: Quality ratings for parks

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

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

The four sites to rate below the threshold are:

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

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

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

- ◀ Queen's Park (85.8%)
- ◀ Eastwood Park (80.4%)
- ◀ Somersall Park (72.0%)
- ◀ Tapton Park (68.3%)
- ◀ Stand Road Recreation Ground (67.7%)

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

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

Green Flag

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

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

There are six sites in Chesterfield identified as achieving Green Flag Award status (2017/18). Two of these are identified as park sites. The Green Flag Award sites are:

- ◀ Eastwood Park
- ◀ Queen's Park

Other non-park Green Flag Award sites are:

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

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

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4.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for parks. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 4.5: Value scores for parks

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

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

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

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

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

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

4.6 Summary

Parks and gardens

- ◀ There are 20 sites classified as parks and gardens totalling over 111 hectares. This is an equivalent to 1.06 hectares per 1,000 population.
- ◀ The country parks of Holmebrook Valley and Poolsbrook are both included within natural and semi-natural greenspace category. However, it is recognised that they have a dual use and role as parks provision. If these sites are included from quantity levels a provision level of 2.31 hectares per 1,000 population is observed.
- ◀ Chesterfield as a whole surpasses the FIT suggested standard of 0.80 ha per 1,000 population.
- ◀ Catchment mapping shows that areas of higher population density are covered by the walk time catchment applied. The drive time catchments applied to country parks also provides substantial coverage.
- ◀ Nearly all park and gardens rate above the threshold for quality. Only four sites rate below the threshold. However, no specific issues are highlighted with scoring being reflective of the comparison between other park sites.
- ◀ The quality of sites is noted as being particularly good. This is reflected in two park sites achieving Green Flag Award status.
- ◀ All assessed sites score highly for value, with the important social interaction, health benefits, ecological value and sense of place sites offer being recognised.

PART 5: NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREENSPACE

5.1 Introduction

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

5.2 Current provision

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

Table 5.1: Natural and semi-natural greenspace overview

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Designations

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

- ◀ Bluebank Woods
- ◀ Brierly Wetlands
- ◀ Norbriggs Flash

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

Table 5.2: Types of designation

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

5.3 Accessibility

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

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

On this basis, a 15-minute walk time and 30-minute drive time have been applied to natural and semi-natural greenspaces across Chesterfield. Figure 5.1 shows the walk time catchment applied. A 30-minute drive time covers the whole of Chesterfield as well as surrounding local authorities. For this reason, it is not shown in the mapping.

Additional catchment mapping for the two country parks is set out in Appendix Two. This shows different modes of travel due to the important role of the two county park sites.

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Table 5.3: Key to sites mapped

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

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

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

In most instances these appear to be areas of low population density. In addition, the identified barriers to movement are likely to further impact on access to provision in areas such as Duckmanton, South of Unstone and Woodthorpe. The Strategy will explore in more detail the potential gaps in provision on an analysis area basis.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of natural sites is highlighted; 42% of respondents rate being quite satisfied with how close natural provision is.

A further 30% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (8%) or very dissatisfied (3%).

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

5.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) scores from the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 40% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 5.4: Quality ratings for natural and semi-natural greenspace

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

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

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

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The lowest scoring sites are:

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

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

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

The highest scoring sites are:

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

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

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

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

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Green Flag

There are six sites in Chesterfield identified as achieving Green Flag Award status (2017/18). Two of these are identified as natural and semi-natural sites:

- ◀ Holmebrook Valley Country Park
- ◀ Poolsbrook Country Park

Other non-natural Green Flag Award sites are:

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

5.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 5.5: Value scores for natural and semi-natural greenspace

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

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

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

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

Norbriggs Flash and Bluebank Wood are both designated as LNR's. The former features an interpretation board about the sites history and species; which adds to its onsite educational value. The other LNR site, Brearley Wetland, also rates highly for value with 45.3%.

Rother Recreation Ground & Washlands scores highly for value. This is partly due to wide pathways and a cycle path enabling a range of users including wheelchair users to access the site. It also has small football goals on the grass area. Together these elements enhance the sites social, sport and recreation value.

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

5.6 Summary

Natural and semi-natural greenspace summary

- ◀ There are 33 natural and semi-natural greenspace sites covering nearly 314 hectares.
- ◀ FIT suggests a standard of 1.80 ha per 1,000 population. Using the 33 sites, there are 3.00 hectares per 1,000 population across Chesterfield.
- ◀ There is a good distribution of natural and semi-natural sites across the area. The 30-minute drive time catchment sufficiently covers the whole of the local authority boundary. However, gaps in the 15 minute walk time catchment are identified to several areas. These will be explored further as part of the strategy.
- ◀ There are three natural sites designated as LNR's; Bluebank Wood, Brearley Wetland and Norbriggs Flash.
- ◀ Of the natural and semi-natural sites assessed, two thirds (66%) rate above the threshold set for quality. There are 11 sites that rate below the quality threshold mainly due to poor maintenance.
- ◀ All sites rate above the threshold for value which demonstrates the added benefit natural and semi-natural greenspaces can provide especially in terms of contributing to flora and fauna. There are also a number of sites which provide a good level of recreational offer; such sites tend to rate highly for value.

PART 6: AMENITY GREENSPACE

6.1 Introduction

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

6.2 Current provision

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

Table 6.1: Amenity greenspace overview

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

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

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

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

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

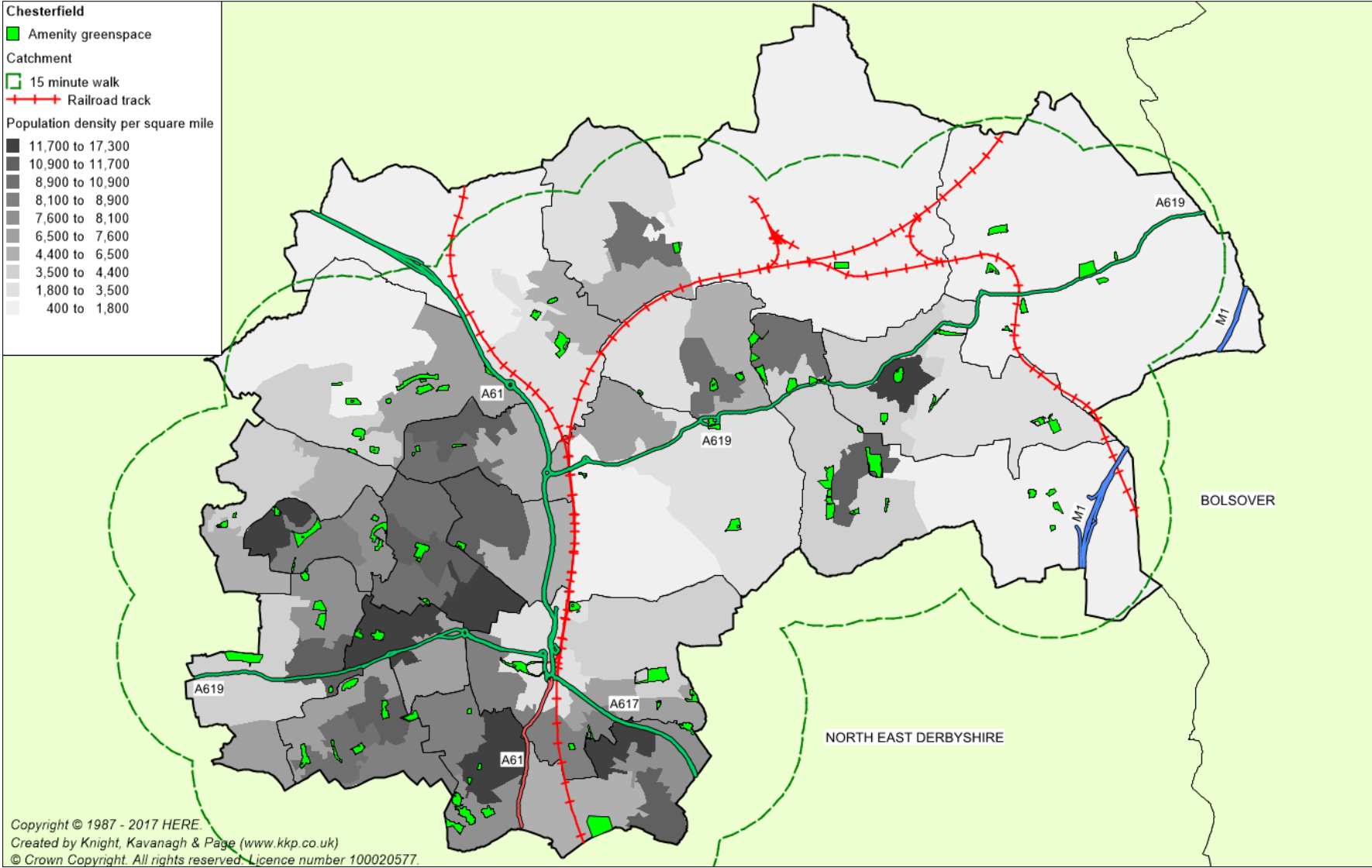
6.3 Accessibility

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

The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 10 minutes (23%) and up to 15 minutes (22%). A further 16% state they would travel up to 30 minutes. On this basis, a 15-minute walk (equivalent to 1,200m) has been applied to all amenity greenspace to reflect a significant proportion of respondents will walk up to 15 minutes. This is shown in Figure 6.1.

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Figure 6.1: Amenity greenspace mapped against 15-minute catchment



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Table 6.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
2	Badger Recreation Ground	66.3%	33.0%
5	Inkersall Green Playing Field	81.8%	52.1%
8	Hady Playing Field	65.8%	39.4%
34	Hartington Recreation Ground	61.0%	40.4%
35	Hilltop Road	59.9%	36.2%
37	BRSA Sports Ground, Station Road	50.8%	26.6%
38	Off Alpine Grove	63.1%	34.0%
41	Poolsbrook Recreation Ground	66.9%	41.5%
44	Manor Road Recreation Ground	79.1%	59.6%
51	Pearsons Recreation Ground	77.0%	41.5%
52	Netherleigh Road	87.2%	48.9%
53	Chester Street Recreation Ground (The Monkey Park)	67.4%	43.6%
114	Kendal Road Recreation Ground	59.4%	29.8%
115	Church Street	78.6%	44.7%
116	Wensley Way	59.0%	23.4%
117	Edinburgh Road	80.2%	46.8%
118	Poolsbrook Road	55.6%	40.4%
119	Newbridge Lane	65.8%	33.0%
121	Brushfield Recreation Ground	65.2%	48.9%
122	Markham Road Open Space	33.2%	22.3%
123	Bellmont Drive	75.9%	35.1%
124	The Pingles	74.3%	35.1%
125	Netherthorpe Recreation Ground	65.2%	35.1%
126	Land to West of St Philips Drive	63.1%	31.9%
127	Land at Cherry Tree Grove	67.4%	36.2%
128	Off Ravensdale Close	66.3%	38.3%
129	Peak View Road	65.8%	35.1%
130	Princess Street	67.0%	34.0%
131	Sheldon Road	65.8%	47.9%
132	Coniston Road and Rydal Close	74.3%	40.4%
133	Circular Road	71.3%	35.1%
134	Rockley Close	65.8%	35.1%
135	Moston Walk	66.3%	42.6%
136	Kirkstone Road	71.1%	46.8%
137	Hall Road	71.7%	39.4%
138	Cuttholme Road	70.6%	30.9%
139	Roecar Close Open Space	59.4%	28.7%
140	Woolgrove AGS	64.2%	37.2%

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Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
141	Land South of Coniston Road	60.4%	34.0%
142	Land Adjacent Kirkstone Road	59.9%	27.7%
143	Damon Drive	56.2%	36.2%
144	Thirlmere Road	73.8%	36.2%
145	Windermere Road	65.8%	34.0%
146	Somersby Avenue	64.7%	46.8%
147	Wingerworth Way Open Space	65.2%	34.0%
149	Land Adjacent Salisbury Avenue	67.4%	39.4%
150	Healthy Living Centre Open Space	64.2%	29.8%
151	Pevensey Green	80.2%	62.8%
152	Land Adjacent Newbold Road	77.0%	35.1%
153	Land South of Rydal Crescent	61.5%	34.0%
155	Haddon Close	69.5%	29.8%
156	Summerskill Green	75.0%	52.1%
157	Greenways	55.1%	23.4%
158	Elm Street	40.6%	21.3%
161	Gypsy Lane Amenity Area	43.3%	26.6%
162	Dovedale Avenue	57.8%	35.1%
163	Cottage Close	54.6%	28.7%
164	Spire Walk	63.6%	52.1%
165	Haddon Close 2 Amenity Space	69.0%	43.6%
166	Harehill Road	65.1%	34.0%
169	Lockoford Amenity Greenspace	68.6%	37.2%
170	St David's Rise	65.8%	36.2%
172	Barnes Road	65.2%	33.0%
173	Spital Lane Recreation Ground	61.0%	33.0%
197	Cavendish Place	59.9%	35.1%
209	North of Brookfield Avenue	56.2%	27.7%
219	Land Adjacent Stubbing Road	73.8%	42.6%
226	Land off Kingsley Avenue	66.8%	42.6%
227	Land Adjacent Baines Wood Close	54.6%	28.7%
233	Land North of Albert Street North	72.7%	31.9%
240	Land Adjacent Grindlow Avenue	64.2%	40.4%
245	Glencoe Way	61.0%	33.0%
248	Land Adjacent B6039	75.9%	26.6%
249	Land adjacent to Arklow Close	68.5%	31.9%
251	Norbriggs Playing Field	71.7%	34.0%
252	Hassop Road Amenity Space	75.6%	43.6%
255	Albert Road Amenity Greenspace	52.4%	35.1%
258	Pennine Way Amenity Greenspace	69.0%	36.2%

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Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
259	Loundsley Green Road Amenity Space	67.9%	47.9%
260	Brushfield Road Amenity Greenspace	66.8%	36.2%
263	Walton Dam Pitches North	50.1%	30.9%
267	Heathcote Drive	77.0%	40.4%
269	Crow Lane Amenity Space	72.0%	52.1%
271	Westwood Drive Amenity Space	62.0%	39.4%
273	East Crescent North	50.3%	29.8%
274	East Crescent West	67.9%	35.1%
283	Madin Drive/Bradshaw Road	62.6%	39.4%
284	Kinder Road	63.1%	34.0%
285	Madin Drive/Jarvis Place	55.6%	34.0%
286	Maple Street	50.3%	23.4%
287	Land South of Maple Street	71.7%	33.0%
288	Land North of Sycamore Road	47.1%	20.2%
326	Hasland Hall Playing Fields	48.7%	45.7%
328	Norbriggs Road	48.1%	24.5%
332	Manor Road AGS	44.4%	28.7%
333	Boythorpe AGS*		

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

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

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

* Only included for mapping purposes. It is not included within the quantity figures as it has no public access. Included for mapping as it is designated as open space on the Local Plan policies map.

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6.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance); the scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspaces. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 6.3: Quality ratings for amenity greenspace

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

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

The highest scoring sites for are:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Some of the lowest scoring amenity greenspace sites are:

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

These sites all lack ancillary features such as bins and benches. They mainly score low due to a generally poorer level of appearance and perceived maintenance. For example, Hasland Hall Playing Fields has damaged fencing and very long grass. It has no specific paths but does seem reasonably used by dog walkers and contains a spacious grass area with a running track and rounders area but which is not totally clear.

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

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

6.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 6.4: Value ratings for amenity greenspace

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

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

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

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

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

- ◀ Land North of Sycamore Road (14.9%)
- ◀ Elm Street (16.0%)
- ◀ Markham Road Open Space (17.0%)
- ◀ Greenways (18.1%)
- ◀ Maple Street (18.1%)
- ◀ Wensley Way (18.1%)

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

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

6.6 Summary

Amenity greenspace summary

- ◀ There are 95 amenity greenspace sites equating to over 93 hectares of provision.
- ◀ FIT suggests a standard of 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population. Overall, Chesterfield (0.89 hectares per 1,000 population) sufficiently meets the FIT standard.
- ◀ Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of amenity greenspace across the area. No significant gaps in catchment mapping are identified.
- ◀ Nearly three quarters (74%) of amenity sites assessed rate above the threshold for quality. The majority of sites to score lower for quality is due to a lack of ancillary features, poor surfaces and paths and being perceived to be generally poorly maintained.
- ◀ In addition to its multifunctional role, amenity greenspace makes a valuable contribution to visual aesthetics for communities – hence 94% of sites rate above the value threshold.

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PART 7: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

7.1 Introduction

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

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

7.2 Current provision

A total of 92 sites are identified in Chesterfield as provision for children and young people. This combines to create a total of more than five hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all known provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 7.1: Provision for children and young people overview

Analysis area	Provision for children and young people		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Chesterfield	92	5.17	0.05

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

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

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

* Comprising casual/informal as well as equipped areas

† All amenity sites with an equipped play site

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

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

7.3 Accessibility

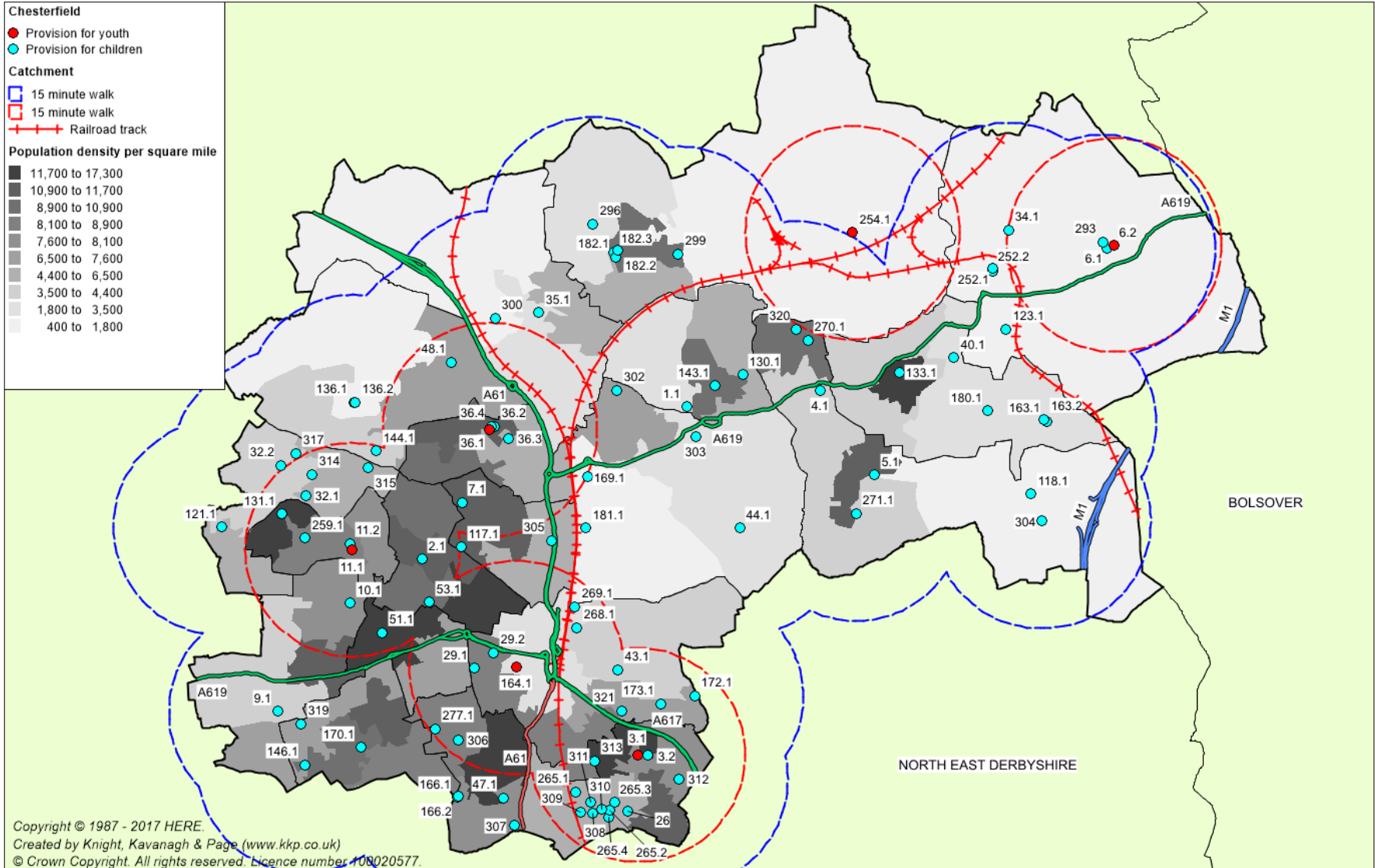
The community survey found that the most common mode of travel to access play areas for children is by non-vehicle methods (i.e. walking, running etc). Nearly half of respondents (49%) state they access a play area by non-vehicle means. This is followed by 18% of respondents that identify accessing play areas for children via private car.

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

Respondents to the survey also highlight that for provision catering for older ages (i.e. teenagers), the most popular mode of travel to access such provision is by non-vehicle means (12%) followed by private car (10%). The most common times to travel in order to access provision for teenagers are 15 minutes (9%), 30 minutes (8%) and 10 minutes (6%). Consequently, a 15-minute walk time to provision for teenagers is applied to the mapping to reflect the average travel time from respondents. This is shown in Figure 7.1

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Figure 7.1: Provision for children and young people mapped against catchments



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

Table 7.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
1.1	Thistle Park	76.8%	78.2%
2.1	Badger Play Area	61.8%	50.9%
3.1	Eastwood Park Play Area	88.6%	81.8%
3.2	Eastwood Park MUGA		
4.1	Ringwood Park	69.3%	72.7%
5.1	Inkersall Green	80.4%	89.1%
6.1	Wickins Place 2	62.7%	81.8%
6.2	Wickins Place 1		
7.1	Highfield Park play area and MUGA	62.4%	87.3%
9.1	Somersall Park Play Area	55.6%	74.5%
10.1	Wasps Nest	66.7%	83.6%
11.1	Loundsley Green skate park and MUGA	70.9%	85.5%
11.2	Loundsley Green play area		
26	Kirby Close Play Area	67.6%	16.4%
29.1	Queens Park Play Area	80.1%	89.1%
29.2	Queens Park Play Area 2		
32.1	Holmebrook Valley Park Play Area 1	66.7%	87.3%
32.2	Holmebrook Valley Park Play Area 2	89.9%	83.6%
34.1	Hartington Recreation Ground	62.1%	49.1%
35.1	Hilltop Road Play Area	81.4%	80.0%
36.1	Stand Road Skate Park	80.1%	87.3%
36.2	Stand Road Play Area		
36.4	Stand Road MUGA		
36.3	Stand Road Play Area 2	73.5%	85.5%
40.1	King George V Play Area	60.8%	74.5%
43.1	Valley Road	61.1%	74.5%
44.1	Manor Road Recreation Ground Play Area	81.7%	85.5%
47.1	Langerfield Park MUGA	80.4%	89.1%
48.1	Chesterfield Panthers Rugby Club MUGA	76.5%	85.5%
51.1	Pearsons Recreation Ground Play Area	52.9%	20.0%
53.1	Chester Street Recreation Ground Play Area	69.3%	81.8%
117.1	Edinburgh Road Play Area	91.2%	90.9%
118.1	Poolsbrook Road Play Area	54.9%	78.2%
121.1	Brushfield Recreation Ground	66.7%	83.6%
123.1	Bellmont Drive Play Area	69.6%	83.6%
130.1	Princess Street Play Area	54.2%	50.9%

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Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
131.1	Sheldon Road Play Area	54.2%	70.9%
133.1	Circular Road Play Area	68.3%	87.3%
136.1	Kirkstone Road Play Area	63.7%	81.8%
136.2	Kirkstone Road Play Area MUGA		
143.1	Damon Drive Play Area	67.6%	72.7%
144.1	Thirlmere Road Play Area	56.9%	80.0%
146.1	Stanford Way Play Area	88.2%	83.6%
163.1	Cottage Close Play Area 1	64.7%	81.8%
163.2	Cottage Close Play Area 2	56.9%	74.5%
164.1	Chesterfield Skate Park	62.4%	80.0%
166.1	Harehill Road Play Area	71.9%	85.5%
166.2	Harehill Road MUGA		
169.1	Lockoford Play Area	57.8%	38.2%
170.1	St Davids Rise Play Area	53.9%	41.8%
172.1	Barnes Road Play Area	67.6%	70.9%
173.1	Spital Lane Play Area	80.7%	70.9%
180.1	Poolsbrook Country Park	85.3%	72.7%
181.1	Tapton Park Play Area	53.6%	69.1%
182.1	Brearley Park Play Area	81.0%	78.2%
182.2	Brearley Park Skate Park		
182.3	Brearley Park MUGA		
252.1	Hassop Road	69.0%	87.3%
252.2	Hassop Road MUGA		
254.1	Station Road (Barrow Hill) play area and MUGA	70.6%	90.9%
259.1	Carsington Way	73.2%	72.7%
265.1	Knighton Close Play Area	74.8%	16.4%
265.2	Oadby Drive 1	61.8%	16.4%
265.3	Seagrave Drive	59.2%	34.5%
265.4	Harcourt Close	60.8%	69.1%
268.1	Wain Avenue	55.9%	36.4%
269.1	Crow Lane MUGA	66.3%	89.1%
270.1	Private Drive Play Area	80.4%	85.5%
271.1	Westwood Drive	51.3%	23.6%
277.1	Whitecotes Playing Field Play Area	71.6%	81.8%
293	Howells Place	51.6%	21.8%
296	Coupland Close	54.9%	43.6%
299	Devonshire Avenue Play Area	53.9%	70.9%
300	Holland Road	59.2%	72.7%
302	Windmill Way	75.5%	72.7%
303	Nethercroft LAP (Lark's Rise)	59.8%	40.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score
304	West Crescent Play Area	82.4%	90.9%
305	Canal Wharf Play area and MUGA	68.3%	83.6%
306	Whitecotes Park Play Area	58.8%	21.8%
307	Staunton Close	58.8%	20.0%
308	Bradgate Croft	64.7%	16.4%
309	Oadby Drive 3	65.4%	16.4%
310	Oadby Drive 2	69.9%	16.4%
311	Rempstone Drive	68.6%	61.8%
312	Heather Vale Road Play Area	76.5%	74.5%
313	Durley Chine	67.0%	50.9%
314	Parkside View	65.7%	18.2%
315	Stoops Close	50.3%	18.2%
317	Priestfield Gardens	62.7%	67.3%
319	Foxbrook Drive	58.8%	14.5%
320	Juniper Close	62.7%	20.0%
321	Rose Garth Close	55.9%	18.2%

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

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

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

There is generally a good spread of play provision across the area. Greater population density areas are shown to be served by some form of play provision.

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

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

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7.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for play provision for children and young people. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 7.3: Quality ratings for provision for children and young people

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

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

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

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

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

It is recognised this is a result of limited capital investment in play provision stock being able to accommodate the demands of refurbishing and improving equipment on a regular basis. In general, a handful of sites are improved per year through the help of local groups to access grants and funding opportunities.

Some of the lower scoring sites for quality are:

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

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

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

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

These sites are all noted as having a good range and imaginative forms of equipment catering for different ages. In addition, the equipment is in great condition as are the other features on site such as seating and bins. Sites such as Eastwood and Poolsbrook contain outdoor gym equipment which further adds to their offer and appeal. The former also has a relatively new skate park facility.

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

Most respondents to the community survey are slightly negative with the quality of play areas for children. A total of 20% view quality as very dissatisfactory with a further 15% rating provision as quite dissatisfactory. There is a smaller proportion of respondents that are either quite satisfied (22%) or very satisfied (9%).

The responses for teenage provision are more mixed. There are 6% quite dissatisfied and 8% very dissatisfied. Conversely, there are 10% of respondents who are quite satisfied and 5% very satisfied. More than half of respondents (61%) have no opinion.

7.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table overleaf summarises the results of the value assessment for children and young people. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 7.6: Value ratings for provision for children and young people

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7.6 Summary

Provision for children and young people summary

- ◀ There are 92 play sites identified; a total of over five hectares.
- ◀ FIT suggests a standard of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population. Overall, Chesterfield has an equivalent of 0.05 hectares per 1,000 population. If land from the surrounding 'parent' site is also included, then provision level of 0.36 hectares per 1,000 population is noted.
- ◀ There is a good spread of provision across the area. All areas with a greater population density are within walking distance of a form of play provision.
- ◀ A greater proportion of play sites (74%) rate above the threshold for quality. Lower quality scoring sites tends to reflect a lack in and/or range of equipment and/or its general condition. Observations highlight a number of sites appearing dated and in need of refurbishment.
- ◀ The majority of play provision (88%) rates above the threshold for value; reflecting the social, healthy and developmental benefits provision can provide.

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PART 8: ALLOTMENTS

8.1 Introduction

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

8.2 Current provision

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

Table 8.1: Distribution of allotment sites by analysis area

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

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

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

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

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. Just over half of respondents (50%) had no opinion on this. Excluding this, a greater proportion of respondents (16%) are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with how much allotments exists. There are 18% of respondents that state being quite satisfied with how much provision exist. A further 8% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (6%) or very dissatisfied (2%). The low response figures are reflective of the niche use of allotments to the wider public.

8.3 Accessibility

The community survey found the most common modes of travel to access an allotment is by non-vehicle methods (i.e. walking, running etc) (16%) and by private car (13%).

The most common times willing to be travelled by survey respondents is up to 10 minutes (11%) and up to 15 minutes (14%). On this basis, a 15-minute walk time (equivalent to 1,200m) and drive time have been applied to all allotments to reflect the most popular mode and travel times. This is shown in Figures 8.1.

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Table 8.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality Score	Value score
78	Bellhouse Allotments	56.7%	25.6%
79	Hartington Allotments	54.4%	26.7%
80	Old Whittington Allotments	53.3%	27.8%
82	Calver Crescent Allotments	54.4%	25.6%
83	Middlecroft Allotments	60.0%	31.1%
84	Boythorpe Allotments	56.7%	27.8%
85	Highfield Allotments	57.8%	22.2%
86	St Augustine's Allotments	61.1%	27.8%
87	Hunloke Community Gardens	62.2%	48.9%
88	Storforth Lane Terrace Allotments	55.6%	28.9%
89	Ashgate Allotments	63.3%	28.9%
90	Brockwell Allotments	58.9%	24.4%
91	Off Hunloke Avenue Allotments	56.7%	23.3%
92	Rufford Close Allotments	60.0%	33.3%
93	Off Rodesia Road Allotments	58.9%	22.2%
94	Quarry Lane Allotments	51.1%	21.1%
95	Old Road Allotments	65.6%	23.3%
99	Avenue Road Allotments (St John's Road)	58.9%	32.2%
100	Goldwell No 1 Allotments	65.6%	30.0%
101	Goldwell No 2 Allotments	67.8%	41.1%
102	Fairplay Community Garden	61.1%	26.7%
103	Grove Allotments (Stand Road)	57.8%	27.8%
104	Hady Hill Allotments	52.2%	25.6%
105	Littlemoor Allotments	58.9%	24.4%
106	Mastin Moor Community Garden	73.3%	55.6%
107	Penmore Allotments (Penmore Lane)	58.9%	30.0%
109	New Whittington Allotments	51.1%	27.8%
110	Coronation Road Allotments	61.1%	26.7%
112	King Street Allotments	61.1%	32.2%
113	Swaddale Allotments	35.6%	8.9%
253	Barrow Hill Allotments (Station Road)	51.1%	25.6%
266	Ashfield Road Allotments	68.9%	33.3%
281	Inkersall Allotments	53.3%	32.2%

Figure 8.1 shows the distribution of allotment sites across the area against the 15-minute walk time catchment. A 15-minute drive time covers the whole of Chesterfield as well as some neighbouring local authorities. For this reason, it is not mapped.

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Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of allotments provision across the area; most areas with a higher population density are being served by a catchment of an allotment. However, gaps in the 15-minute walk time catchments are initially highlighted to a few areas of the Borough including:

- ◀ Barrow Hill
- ◀ Duckmanton
- ◀ Holme Hall and Holmebrook Valley Park
- ◀ North of Dunston
- ◀ Poolsbrook
- ◀ South of Unstone

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

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. Nearly half of respondents (46%) had no opinion. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of parks is highlighted; a fifth (20%) rate being quite satisfied with a further 14% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing availability of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (4%) or very dissatisfied (1%).

Allotment associations are responsible for the day to day management of the sites. An allotment forum used to exist but it is understood that this has since stopped. Many of the sites operate a waiting list due to the popularity and demand for plots.

8.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments. A threshold of 50% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 8.4: Quality ratings for allotments

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <50%	High ≥50%
Chesterfield	36%	58%	73%	37%	1	32

Only one site rates below the quality threshold. Swaddale Allotments appears to not be in use. The site was overgrown and not accessible at the time of the visit.

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Overall, quality of provision is very good with nearly all identified sites rating above the threshold for quality. The highest scoring sites are:

- ◀ Mastin Moor Community Garden (73.3%)
- ◀ Ashfield Road Allotments (68.9%)
- ◀ Goldwell No 2 Allotments (67.8%)
- ◀ Goldwell No 1 Allotments (65.6%)
- ◀ Old Road Allotments (65.6%)

All five sites have good personal security, signage and excellent boundary fencing. Mastin Moor Community Garden has the additional benefit of seating and bins. Furthermore, all the sites are observed as being well maintained containing neat plots and good pathways.

It is also important to recognise the Rufford Close Allotment site is a previous East Midlands In Bloom competition winner. The site was recognised for its organisation and tidiness.

Most respondents to the community survey (49%) had no opinion to the quality of allotments. Of those that did, 20% rate quality as quite satisfactory with a further 11% rating it as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (2%) or very dissatisfied (2%) with quality of allotments.

8.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for allotments. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 8.5: Value ratings for allotments

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	9%	29%	56%	47%	1	32

Nearly all assessed allotment sites rate above the threshold for value. This is a reflection of the associated social inclusion and health benefits, amenity value and the sense of place offered by such forms of provision.

Swaddale Allotments is the only site to rate below the value threshold. The site appears to not be in use as it was overgrown and not accessible at the time of the visit.

The highest scoring sites for value are Mastin Moor Community Garden (56%) and Hunloke Community Garden (49%). Both are very well maintained. Unusually both sites can be accessed by the public; as opposed to only being used by allotment holders. This further adds to their role and benefit to the local communities.

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Other sites also offer additional social value. For example, Goldwell No. 2 Allotments is highlighted as having two raised beds and a sensory garden for disabled users. In addition, a plot on the site is used by the Oak Springs charity as part of a rehabilitation programme.

Avenue Road Allotments is also identified as having a plot that been converted in to a communal plot for growing space; enhancing the sites social and community value.

There is high ecological and biodiversity value at Goldwell No. 2 Allotments. The site is teeming with wildlife and attracts a lot of wildlife including dragonflies, newts, bees and bats. There is a pond on site too, some rare weeds and wildlife encouragement is an ongoing project. In the future, they association would like to have schools visiting and to be shown the pond as this concept would be very beneficial.

The value of allotments is further demonstrated by the existence of waiting lists at sites signalling continued demand for provision.

8.6 Summary

<p>Allotments summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◀ There are 33 allotments sites: equating to more than 40 hectares◀ Current provision of 0.39 hectares per 1,000 population sufficiently meets the NSALG recommended amount (0.25 hectares per 1000 people).◀ Catchment mapping does not highlight any significant gaps in provision.◀ Quality and value of provision is good overall. The value of allotments is widely recognised due to the associated social inclusion, health benefits and the sense of place they offer.◀ Waiting lists operate at sites suggesting a continued level of demand for provision.

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PART 9: CEMETERIES/CHURCHYARDS

9.1 Introduction

Cemeteries and churchyards include areas for quiet contemplation and burial of the dead. Sites can often be linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

9.2 Current provision

There are 10 sites classified as cemeteries/churchyards, equating to nearly 30 hectares of provision. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all identified provision is included within the audit.

Table 9.1: Distribution of cemeteries and churchyards

Analysis area	Cemeteries/churchyards	
	Number of sites	Size (ha)
Chesterfield	10	29.50

The largest contributor to burial provision in the area is Chesterfield and District Crematorium (6.35 hectares). This followed by Boythorpe Cemetery at 5.37 hectares.

There are four sites operated by CBC:

- ◀ Brimington Cemetery
- ◀ Boythorpe Cemetery
- ◀ Spital Cemetery
- ◀ Staveley Cemetery

A number of closed churchyards are also maintained by the Council.

The Chesterfield and District Crematorium is managed by a Joint Crematorium Committee as it is jointly owned by Chesterfield Borough Council and Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Councils.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. No issue with regard to the quantity of cemeteries is highlighted. A quarter of respondents (25%) rate being quite satisfied with a further 13% stating they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (2%) or very dissatisfied (1%). There are 39% of respondents who have no opinion to provision of cemeteries.

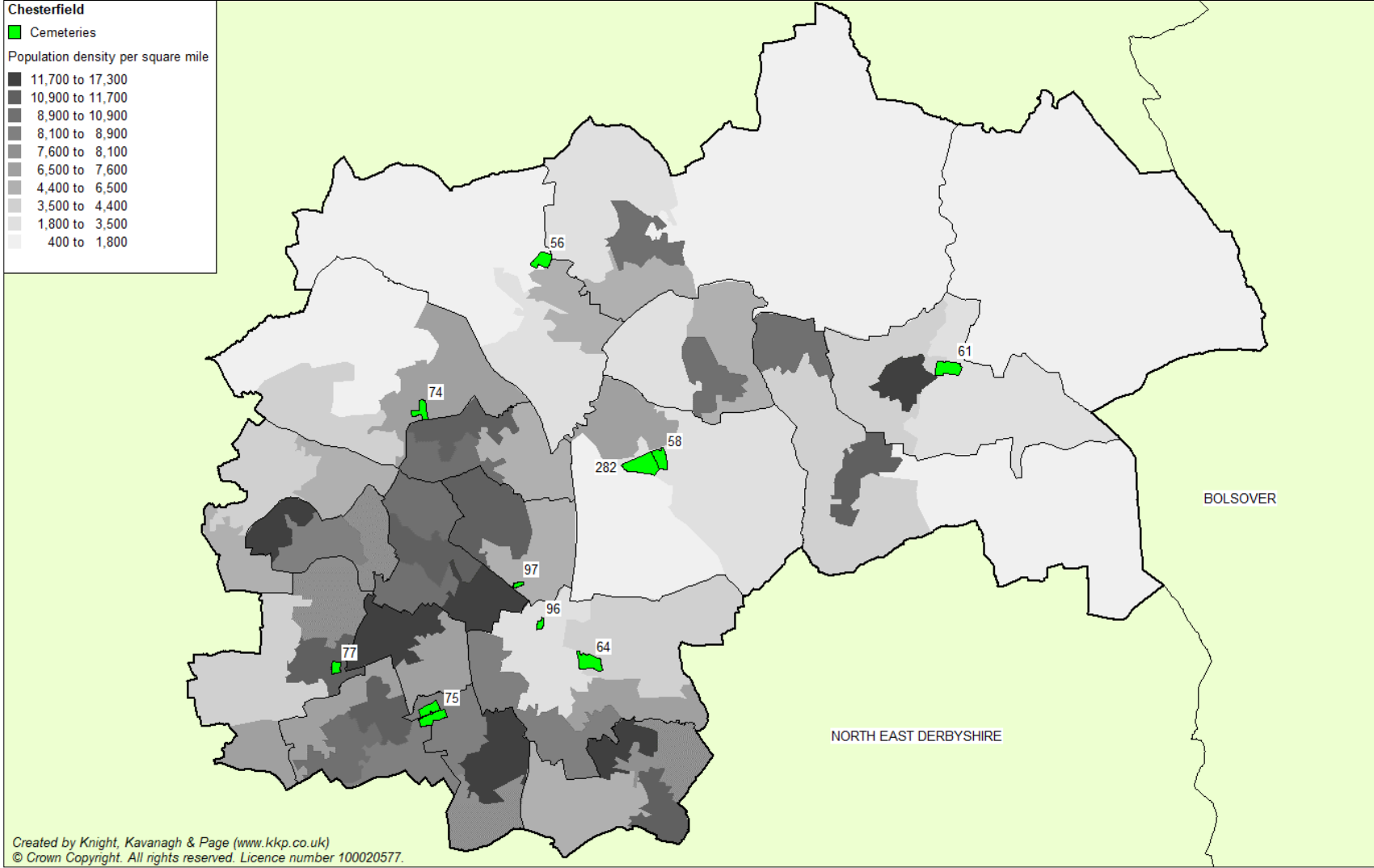
9.3 Accessibility

No accessibility standard is set for this typology and there is no realistic requirement to set such standards. Provision should be based on burial demand.

Figure 9.1 shows cemeteries and churchyards mapped against analysis areas.

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Figure 9.1: Cemetery sites mapped



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Table 9.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality Score	Value Score
56	St Bartholomew's Church Old Whittington Closed Churchyards	59.6%	47.8%
58	Brimington Cemetery	66.1%	70.0%
61	Staveley Cemetery	68.5%	76.7%
64	Spital Cemetery	65.4%	63.3%
74	St John's Newbold	55.5%	32.2%
75	Boythorpe Cemetery	70.6%	77.8%
77	St Thomas' Church Brampton	76.6%	62.2%
96	St Mary and All Saints Church	64.0%	43.3%
282	Chesterfield and District Crematorium	86.6%	81.1%
97	Holy Trinity Church	62.6%	47.8%

In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates a fairly balanced distribution across the area. As noted earlier, the need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of cemeteries is highlighted. A fifth of respondents (25%) state being quite satisfied with a further 16% being very satisfied with how close cemeteries provision is. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are quite dissatisfied (1%) or very dissatisfied (1%).

9.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 9.4: Quality ratings for cemeteries

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <60%	High ≥60%
Chesterfield	56%	68%	87%	31%	2	8

The majority of cemeteries and churchyards in Chesterfield (80%) rate above the threshold set for quality; suggesting a reasonably high standard of quality.

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Chesterfield and District Crematorium, in Brimington, is the highest scoring site for quality with a score of 87%. It scores significantly higher than the other sites. It is observed as being well-maintained with accessible paths and ancillary features such as seating, car parking (Including disabled parking bays) and toilet facilities. It also has excellent signage, directional signposts and a map of the large site. Furthermore, it has a child burial area, garden of remembrance as well as a woodland walk; all add to the quality of the site as well as the aesthetic value and health benefits. Its high quality is represented by it being a Green Flag Award site.

Boythorpe Cemetery (71%) also scores well above the threshold for quality. The site is observed as containing excellent, flat, wide paths, being tidy and containing lots of seating. It also seems very well used by locals as a cut through and for plot holders accessing the allotments adjacent to the cemetery.

The only two sites to rate below the quality threshold are:

- ◀ St Bartholomew's Church Old Whittington Closed Churchyards (59.6%)
- ◀ St John's Newbold (56%)

Note that St Bartholomew's Church Old Whittington Closed Churchyards scores just below the threshold of 60%. There are no major issues highlighted but the site scores lower for paths and general maintenance. It is observed that paths are mostly fine but are uneven in parts. In addition, there are several tilted gravestones. However, the site does have seating, some car parking and litter bins.

St John's Newbold is observed as being well maintained overall. It only just scores below the threshold (56%). The site, in comparison to others, has no car parking or seating but it does benefit from good pathways and bins.

Most respondents (40%) have no opinion on this. The rest of the respondents to the community survey are generally satisfied with the quality of provision. Over a fifth of respondents' rate quality as quite satisfactory (26%) with a further 11% rating provision as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (3%) or very dissatisfied (2%) with quality of cemeteries.

9.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for cemeteries. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 9.5: Value ratings for cemeteries

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	32%	60%	81%	49%	0	10

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All identified cemeteries and churchyards are assessed as being of high value, reflecting their role within local communities. In addition, the cultural/heritage value of sites and the sense of place they provide for local people is acknowledged in the assessment scoring. High scoring sites for value offer visually attractive landscape benefits and opportunities to serve an important function for a local community. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards can often offer important low impact recreational benefits to the local area (e.g. walking, habitat provision, wildlife watching).

Chesterfield and District Crematorium (81%) scores the highest for value. It is a well-used Green Flag Award site. In addition to its 'traditional' function the site also has added ecological and biodiversity value with lots of trees, blossoms, a pond and woodland walk.

Similarly, the other four main cemetery sites all rate highly for value. This reflects their role and use to the local communities they serve.

9.6 Summary

<p>Cemeteries summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◀ There are 10 cemeteries and churchyards, equating to nearly 30 hectares.◀ The largest site is Chesterfield and District Crematorium (6.35 hectares). It is a Green Flag Award site signifying its high quality and value.◀ No standards are set for cemeteries. The need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

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PART 10: GREEN CORRIDORS

10.1 Introduction

The green corridors typology includes sites that offer opportunities for walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration.

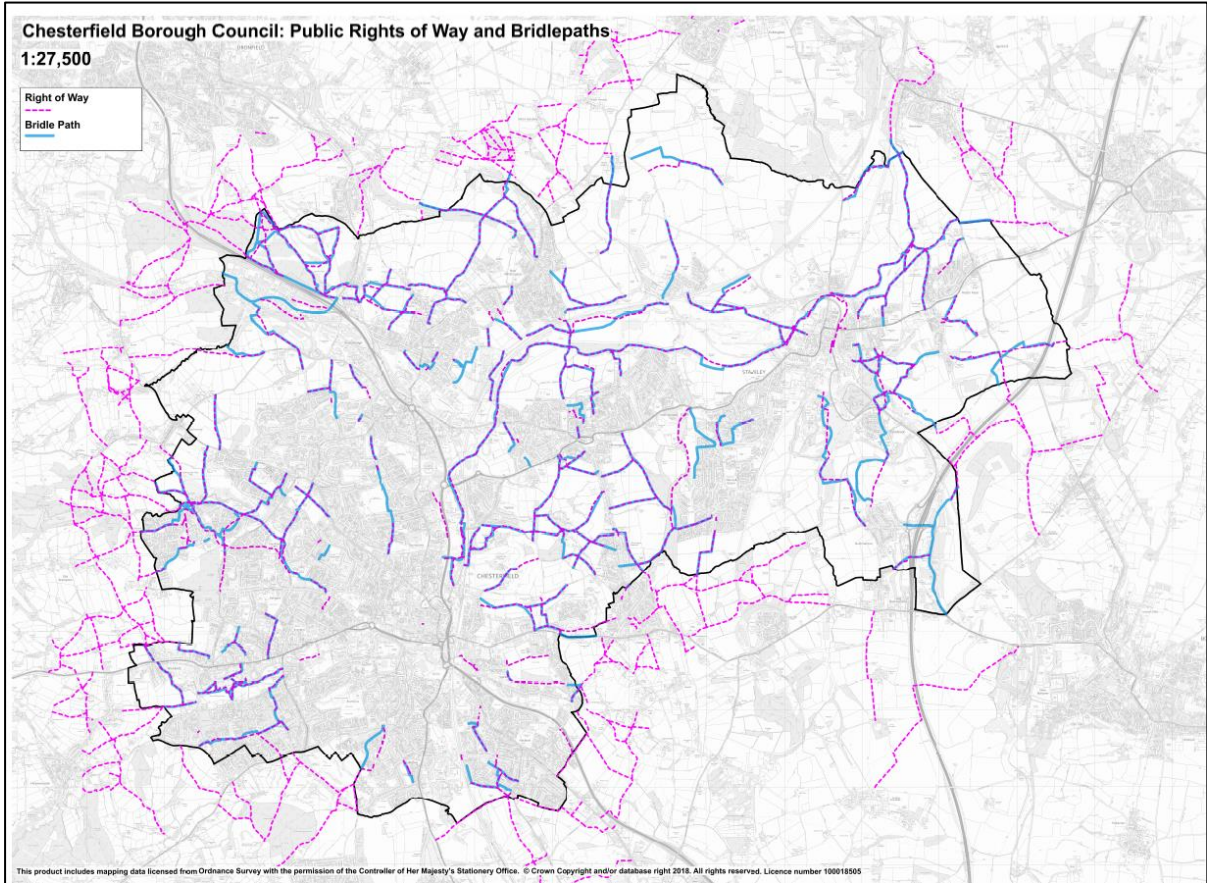
10.2 Current provision

There are four forms of green corridor provision identified across Chesterfield.

- ◀ Chesterfield Canal
- ◀ Holme Brook Valley Trail
- ◀ Hipper Valley Trail
- ◀ Trans Pennine Trail and Cuckoo Way

It is acknowledged that there are other forms of provision in Chesterfield which are likely to contribute to green corridors such as public rights of way (PROW). However, the focus of this study is on those main forms of provision.

Figure 10.1: PROW and Bridlepaths in Chesterfield



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Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how much open space exists in the area. No issue with regard to availability of outdoor networks is highlighted. Nearly half of respondents (43%) rate being quite satisfied with the how much provision exists. A further 20% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are either quite dissatisfied (10%) or very dissatisfied (5%).

10.3 Accessibility

It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to their linear nature and usage. Figure 10.2 overleaf shows green corridors mapped in the area.

Figure 10.1: Green corridors mapped

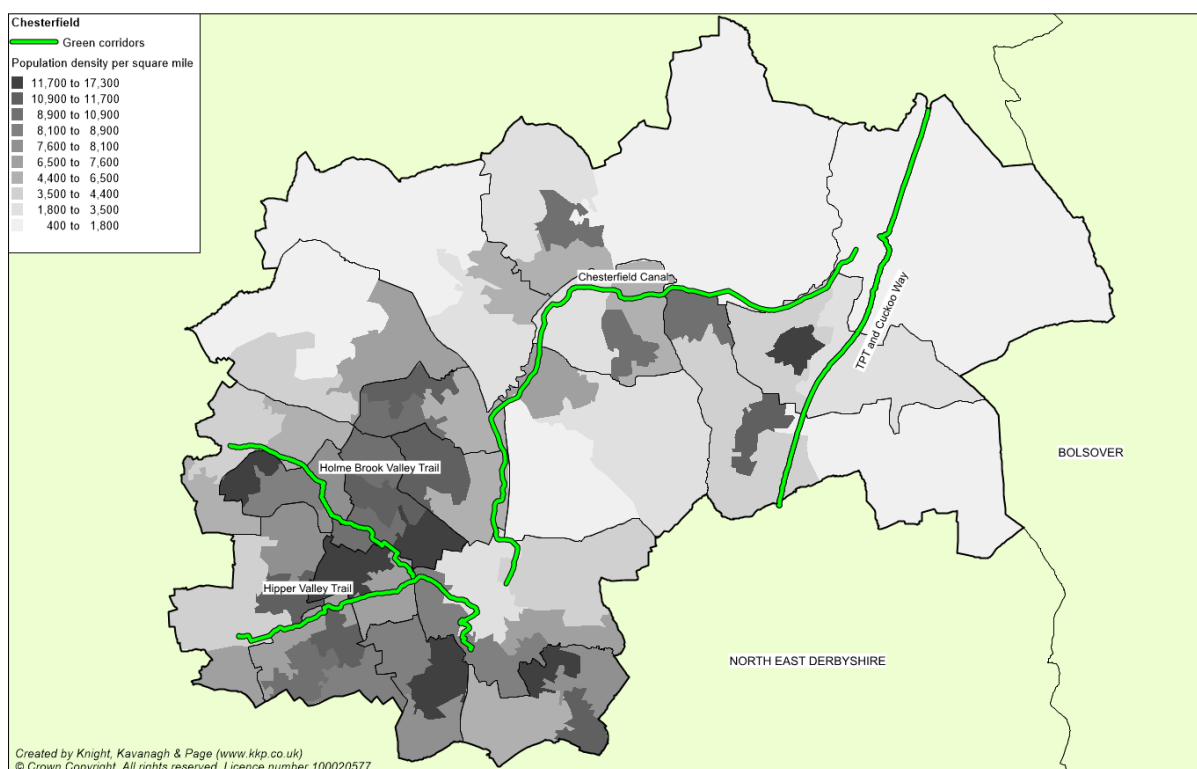


Table 10.1 Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value Score
327	Chesterfield Canal	84.2%	83.3%
329	Holme Brook Valley Trail	61.4%	31.1%
330	Hipper Valley Trail	64.9%	31.1%
331	Trans Pennine Trail and Cuckoo Way	74.9%	48.9%

Respondents to the community survey were asked how satisfied they are with how close open space in the area is. No issue with regard to 'closeness' of green corridors is highlighted. Two fifths (41%) rate being quite satisfied with the how close green corridors provision is.

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A further 27% state they are very satisfied. Further supporting the existing amount of provision is the smaller percentage of respondents that are quite dissatisfied (7%) or very dissatisfied (4%).

10.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 10.2: Quality ratings for green corridors

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <60%	High ≥60%
Chesterfield	61%	71%	84%	23%	0	4

All four green corridors rate above the threshold for quality. No particular issues are identified. Observations do note that the main sign for the Hipper Valley Trail (in Somersall Park) could do with being refreshed.

Chesterfield canal rates above the threshold for quality. It scores highly for accessibility, signage/information as well as being generally well kept and maintained. Its high quality is represented by it being a Green Flag Award winner (2017/18).

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

Most respondents to the community survey are generally satisfied with the quality of outdoor networks provision. Over two fifths of respondents' rate quality as quite satisfactory (43%) with a further 17% rating provision as very satisfactory. There is a small proportion of respondents that are quite dissatisfied (9%) or very dissatisfied (5%) with quality.

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10.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 10.3: Value ratings for green corridors

Analysis area	Scores (%)			Spread	No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score		Low <20%	High ≥20%
Chesterfield	31%	49%	83%	-	0	4

All four green corridors rate above the threshold for value. It is important to highlight that the green corridors serve as an important link between different open space sites. A summary of the connections each green corridor provides is set out below:

Table 10.4: Connecting open space sites to green corridors

Green corridor	Other connecting open space sites
Chesterfield Canal	Staveley Town Basin, BRSA Sports Ground, Bluebank Wood
Holme Brook Valley Trail	Holme Brook Valley Country Park, Loundsley Green Park, Purbeck Avenue/Pennine Way, Chester Street Recreation Ground, Goldwell Allotments, Queens Park
Hipper Valley Trail	Somersall Park/Walton Park, Walton Dam, Queens Park, Spire Walk,
Trans Pennine Trail and Cuckoo Way	Pulman Close Plantation, Poolsbrook Country Park, Haddon Close Amenity

Chesterfield canal rates highest for value. It provides many recreational and learning opportunities. The Tapton Lock visitors centre offers additional educational and social benefits. Further adding to its value are the range of events which take place throughout the year.

10.6 Summary

Summary

- ◀ There are four green corridors identified across Chesterfield.
- ◀ All four sites rate above the threshold for quality. The quality of the Chesterfield Canal is reflected in it holding a Green Flag Award.
- ◀ All four sites also rate above the threshold for value. This reflects the sites offer to recreational opportunities such as walking, cycling and wildlife migration.
- ◀ Biodiversity value is high for such types of provision as they serve as link for habitats with some sites acting as habitats in their own right.

APPENDIX ONE: SURVEY CONFIDENCE LIMITS

Surveys are conducted simply because it is not practical or affordable to ask everyone. However, if we only ask a proportion of the population what they think how sure can we be that the same views are held by the majority?

The following note provides a brief overview of various considerations that should be made and some of the terms that pervade the landscape of surveys – it does not cover all eventualities

Data confidence:

This is comprised of a confidence interval and a confidence level. In short it means that, for example, you are 95% certain that between 47.5% and 52.5% of people will vote for Party A at a forthcoming election. It is built up as follows:

Confidence interval

This is the + or - figure usually shown with data which, for example says, 63% (+/-3%) of respondents prefer Cola A, in this case you are fairly certain that the true answer lies somewhere between 60% and 66%. There are three key factors which determine the confidence interval, these are:

- ◀ *Sample size* – at its simplest, the larger your sample size, the more confident you can be that the answers reflect those of the population as a whole.
- ◀ *Percentage* – the higher the percentage of respondents giving a particular answer, once again, the more likely it is to be 'correct.' For example, if 99% say Yes then it is very unlikely that the answer for the population as a whole will be No.
- ◀ *Population size* – obviously that the closer the sample size is to the population as a whole the more accurate the data will be (see *Numbers* above).

Confidence level

This tells you how sure you can be that the above figures are correct – usually 95% or 99%.

What sample size is needed?

The above information can be used to determine what size sample is needed to provide data for an area or group and that you can say has a 95% (or 99%) chance of being within +/- 2.5%, +/-5% etc. of the 'true' figure.

Sample size calculators are readily available and determine how many people you need to interview in order to get results that reflect the target population as precisely as needed (or conversely calculate the accuracy of the results you have achieved).

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Error margins and confidence limits for Chesterfield population of 104,440

Example 1:

Determine Sample Size

Confidence Level: 95% 99%

Confidence Interval:

Population:

Sample size needed:

In the first example, you would need a sample of 383 people to have 95% confidence that any statements you say arising from the survey are within +/-5% of the figure that you quote; e.g. if 60% of respondents say they would like to see more open space the ‘true figure’ lies somewhere between 55% and 65%. The confidence interval and level can be changed and the necessary sample size will be produced from this table.

The online community survey for Chesterfield received a return of 671 responses. This surpasses the example explained above.

Example 2 details the confidence levels and intervals for a return of 671 responses.

Example 2:

Find Confidence Interval

Confidence Level: 95% 99%

Sample Size:

Population:

Percentage:

Confidence Interval:

On this basis, with a sample size of 671 for the same population figure for Chesterfield (104,440) the results will be within +/- 4.86 percentage points of the figure quoted e.g. if 60% of respondents say they would like to see more open space the ‘true figure’ lies somewhere between 55.14% and 64.86%.

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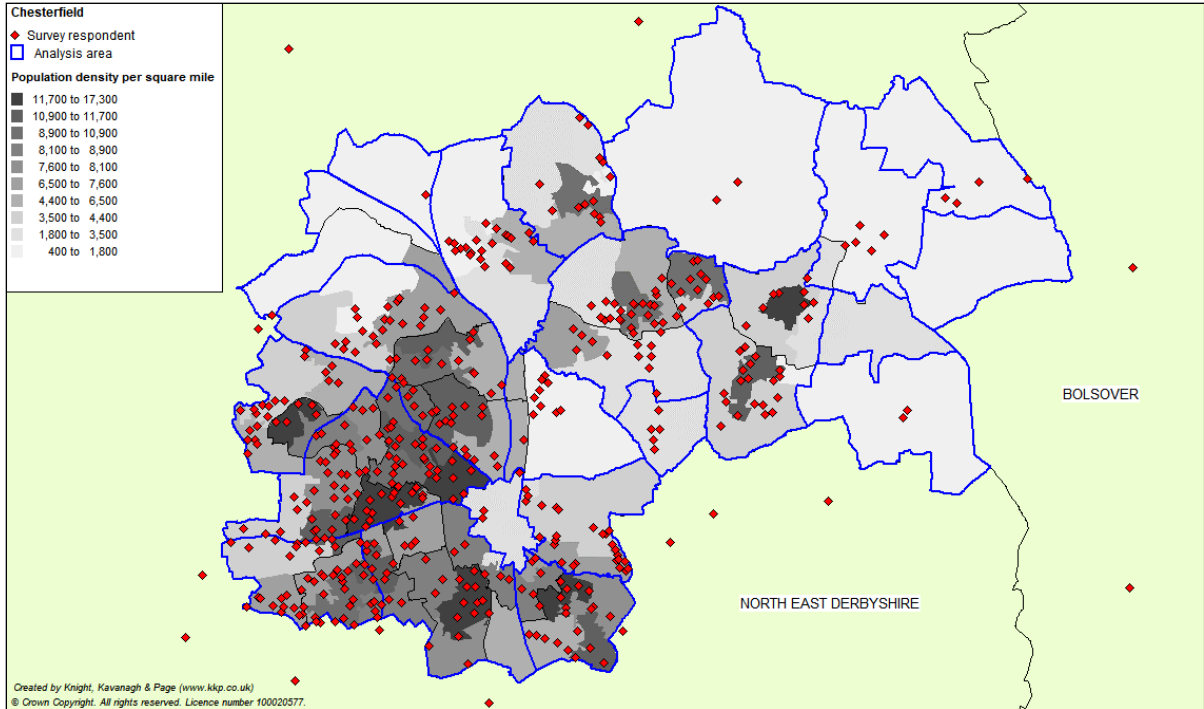
Survey limitations:

It is also important to recognise the geographical spread of responses and what this might mean in terms of using the survey findings.

For example, if all respondents to the survey are from one locality of the local authority; this could mean the results are based on a set of respondents from a particular area with potentially a similar socio-economic background. Consequently, the views of this group of respondents towards provision may not reflect the views of other people from different areas and backgrounds of the local authority.

Figure A1 and Table A1 set out a breakdown to the geographical spread of responses.

Figure A1: Location of respondents



A total of 596 out of the 671 responses (85%) to the survey provide a geographical answer. This means 75 respondents do not provide a geographical marker.

Table A1 provides the location of known respondents by analysis area.

It is not statistically recommended to use the findings of the survey on an analysis area by analysis area basis. This is due to the confidence levels and intervals being too large to give any meaningful assurance in any statements that could be made.

However, as detailed earlier (Example One and Two), it is possible to use the survey results (based on a return of 671 surveys) to make meaningful statements to trends and uses of provision at a Borough wide level.

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Table A1: Distribution of respondents by analysis area.

Analysis Area	Number of respondents	%	% of analysis area population
Barrow Hill	2	0.3%	0.14
Boythorpe & Birdholme	45	7.6%	0.35
Brimington & Hollingwood	65	10.9%	0.66
Brimington Common	7	1.2%	0.50
Brockwell, Ashgate & Loundsley Green	116	19.5%	0.78
Duckmanton	2	0.3%	0.19
Dunston, Newbold, Stonegravels & Whittington Moor	68	11.4%	0.42
Hady & Spital	39	6.5%	0.98
Hasland	30	5.0%	0.40
Holme Hall & Holmebrook Valley Park	34	5.7%	0.62
Mastin Moor	5	0.8%	0.29
Middlecroft & Inkersall	33	5.5%	0.44
New Whittington	17	2.9%	0.39
North of Dunston	0	-	-
Old Whittington	29	4.9%	0.71
Poolsbrook	0	-	-
South of Unstone	1	0.2%	0.67
Staveley	5	0.8%	0.17
Tapton & Waterside	15	2.5%	0.98
Town Centre	3	0.5%	0.55
Walton & Brookside South	80	13.4%	1.46
Woodthorpe	0	-	-
Chesterfield	596	100.0%	-

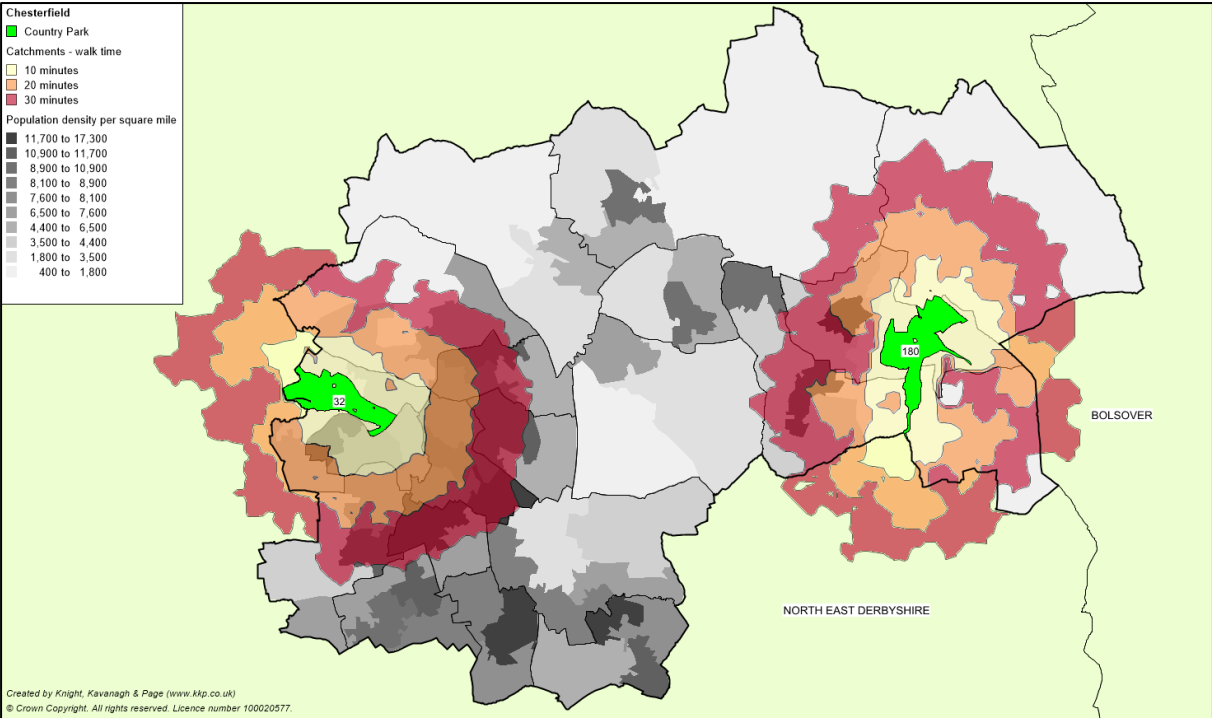
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APPENDIX TWO: COUNTRY PARKS ADDITIONAL CATCHMENT MAPPING

Additional catchment mapping for the two country parks has been provided by Derbyshire County Council using their software (TRACCS). This utilises pedestrian mapping and other known routes to provide 'heat' mapping for three different modes of travel (e.g. walking, bus and bicycle).

This is intended to give further information to the two country parks given their important strategic role to the Borough. The Strategy document will explore further the catchments.

Figure A2.1: Chesterfield Country Parks - Walking



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Figure A2.2: Chesterfield Country Parks - Bus

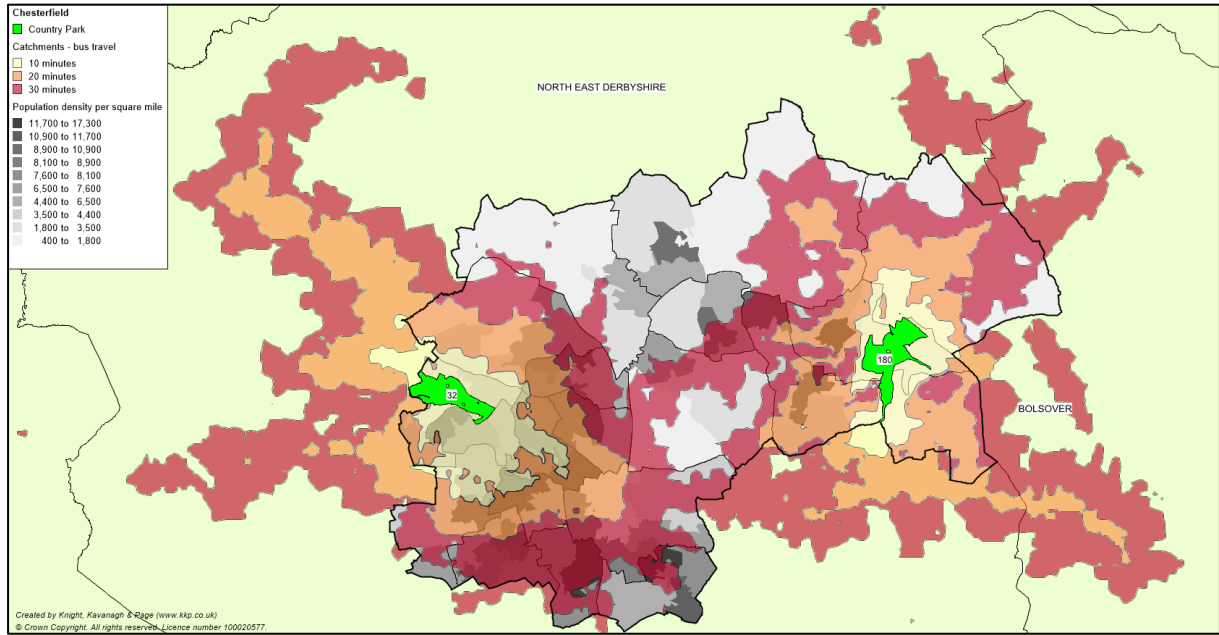


Figure A2.3: Chesterfield Country Parks - Bicycle

