



# WIGAN COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE REPORT

### APRIL 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

**Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd**  
Company No: 9145032 (England)

**MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS**

Registered Office: 1 -2 Frecheville Court, off Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0UF  
T: 0161 764 7040 E: [mail@knp.co.uk](mailto:mail@knp.co.uk) [www.knp.co.uk](http://www.knp.co.uk)



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# WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

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## OPEN SPACE REPORT

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### Glossary

DPD	Development Plan Document
FIT	Fields in Trust
FOG	Friends of Group
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LAP	Local Area for Play
LEAP	Local Equipped Area for Play
LDF	Local Development Framework
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
MUGA	Multi-Use Games Area (an enclosed area with a hard surface for variety of informal play)
NEAP	Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSALG	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners
ONS	Office of National Statistics
OSNA	Open Space Needs Assessment
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
SOA	Super Output Areas
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest

## PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Wigan Council commissioned Knight Kavanagh and Page Ltd (KKP) to deliver an Open Space Report. This document focuses on reporting the findings of the research, site assessments, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpin the study. It provides detail regarding what provision exists in the area, its condition, distribution and overall quality.

The study will help inform direction on the future delivery of accessible, high quality, sustainable provision for open spaces. It can help to inform the priorities for open space provision as part of future population distribution and planned growth. Open spaces contribute to the health, well-being, cultural heritage, landscape, education, climate change mitigation, biodiversity, and movement for people and wildlife. It is therefore vital for local authorities to know what provision currently exists and what the priorities and requirements are for the future.

In order for planning policies relating to open space to be 'sound', local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities. The Council has undertaken assessments of numerous open space sites across the Wigan area.

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 remains the only national best practice guidance on the conduct of an open space assessment.

Under paragraph 103 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.

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## OPEN SPACE REPORT

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	Parks and formal gardens, open to the general public. Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
Natural / semi-natural greenspaces	Supports wildlife conservation, biodiversity, and environmental education and awareness.
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	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.
Allotments	Opportunities to grow own produce. Added benefits include the long term promotion of sustainable living, health, and social inclusion.
Cemeteries, churchyards and other burial grounds	Provides burial space but is considered to provide a place of quiet contemplation and is often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
Outdoor Sports	Sites with a primary function as sports provision including dedicated grass pitches and artificial pitches (i.e. floodlit, available for use in evenings and weekends). Includes football clubs, bowling greens and tennis courts.
Civic Space	Civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.
Green corridors	Offers opportunities for walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration. This can also include river and canal banks.

### 1.1: Report structure

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

- ◀ Part 3: Summary of survey and site audit
- ◀ Part 4: Parks and gardens
- ◀ Part 5: Natural / semi-natural greenspace
- ◀ Part 6: Amenity greenspace
- ◀ Part 7: Provision for children and young people
- ◀ Part 8: Allotments
- ◀ Part 9: Cemeteries / churchyards
- ◀ Part 10: Civic space
- ◀ Part 11: Green corridors
- ◀ Part 12: Outdoor sports

Any site recognised as sports provision but with a clear multifunctional role (i.e. where it is also available for wider community use as open space) is included in this study. Provision purely for sporting use are the focus of other studies (i.e. Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy). On dual use sites, the pitch playing surfaces are counted as part of the overall site

size as they are considered to contribute to the total open space site and reflect its multifunctionality.

### 1.2: National context

#### National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (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.

The NPPF states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development (paragraphs 7-9). 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.

Paragraph 103 of the NPPF establishes that access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for health and well-being. It states 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.

As a prerequisite, paragraph 104 of the NPPF states 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.

#### National Planning Practice Guidance

National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) is a web-based resource which brings together planning guidance on various topics into one place. It was launched in March 2014 and adds further context to the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF). It is intended that the two documents should be read together.

The guidance determines that open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space. It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the duty to cooperate where open space serves a wider area.

### Creating great spaces for all: Fields in Trust (2024)

As part of its protection work, Fields in Trust (FIT) offers guidance on open space provision and design. This is to ensure that provision of outdoor sport, play and informal open space is of a sufficient size to enable effective use; is in an accessible location and in close proximity to dwellings; and of a quality to maintain longevity and to encourage its continued use.

Beyond the Six Acre Standard sets out a range of benchmark guidelines on quantity, quality and accessibility for open space and equipped play. It also offers some recommendations to minimum site sizes.

### Planning for Sport Guidance (2019), Sport England

The Planning for Sport Guidance sets out how the planning system can help provide opportunities for everyone to be physically active. It highlights the vital role planning systems play in shaping environments (including open spaces) which offer opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity. To help with this, the guidance sets out 12 planning-for-sport principles to be embraced across four categories.

Table 1.2: 12 planning for sport principles

Overarching	1. Recognise and give weight to the benefits of sport and physical activity
	2. Undertake, maintain and apply robust and up-to-date assessment of need and strategies for sport and physical activity provision, and base policies, decisions and guidance upon them
	3. Plan, design and maintain buildings, developments, facilities, land and environments that enable people to lead active lifestyles
Protect	4. Protect and promote existing sport and physical activity provision and ensure new development does not prejudice its use
	5. Ensure long-term viable management and maintenance of new and existing sport and physical activity provision
Enhance	6. Support improvements to existing sport and physical activity provision where they are needed
	7. Encourage and secure wider community use of existing and new sport and physical activity provision
Provide	8. Support new provision, including allocating new sites for sport and physical activity which meets identified needs
	9. Ensure a positive approach to meeting the needs generated by new development for sport and physical activity provision
	10. Provide sport and physical activity provision which is fit for purpose and well designed
	11. Plan positively for sport and physical activity provision in designated landscapes and the green belt
	12. Proactively address any amenity issues arising from sport and physical activity developments



## Summary of the national context

Policies set out within the NPPF state that local and neighbourhood plans should both reflect needs and priorities within a local community and be based on robust and current assessments of open space, sport and recreational facilities. Encouraging better levels of physical literacy<sup>1</sup> and activity is a high priority for national government. For many people, sport and recreational activities have a key role to play in facilitating physical activity. Therefore, ensuring that open space creates an active environment with opportunities and good accessibility is important. In line with national policy recommendations, this study makes an assessment of open space provision from which recommendations and policy can be formulated.

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<sup>1</sup> Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities

## PART 2: METHODOLOGY

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

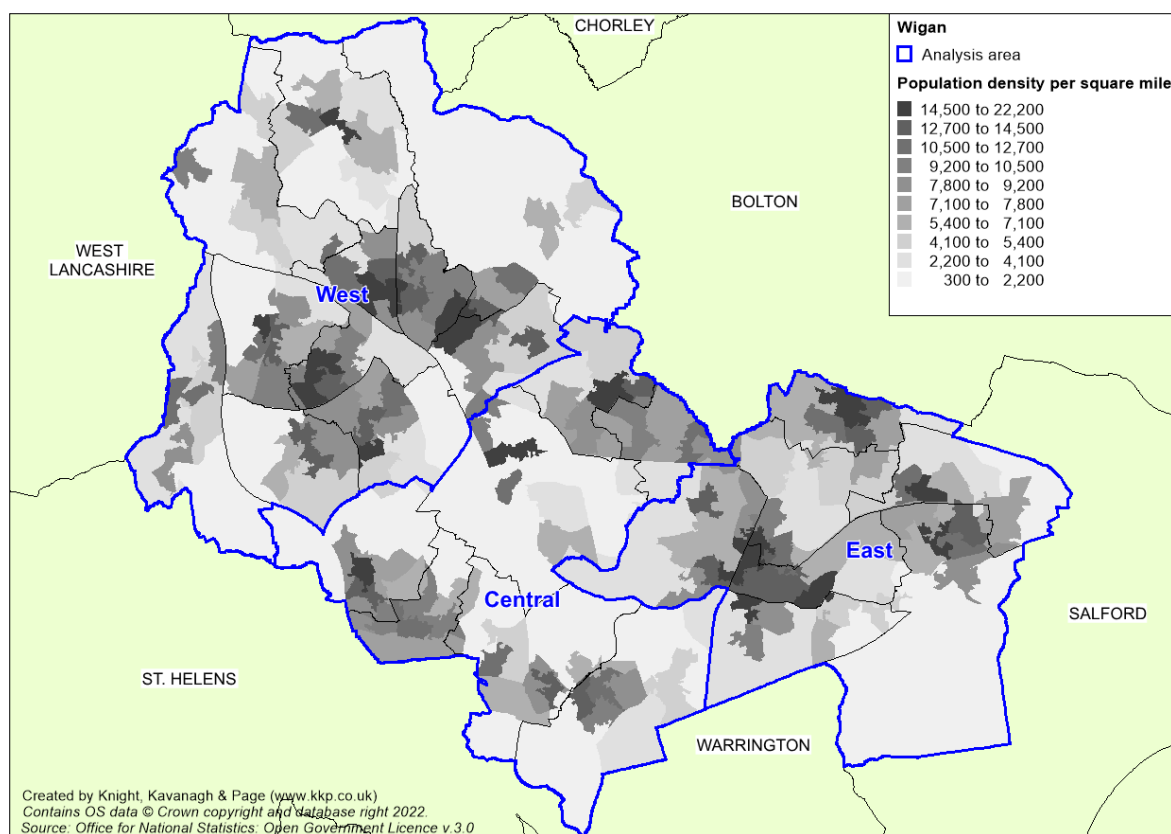
- ❖ 2.1 - Analysis areas
- ❖ 2.2 - Auditing local provision
- ❖ 2.3 - Open space provision standards
- ❖ 2.4 - Quality
- ❖ 2.5 - Accessibility catchments

### 2.1: Analysis area

The study area comprises the whole of Wigan Borough. In order to address supply and demand on a more localised level, analysis areas and ward areas have been utilised.

Figure 2.1 shows the authority broken down into analysis areas in tandem with population density. Population is considered in more detail below. Figure 2.2 shows ward areas.

Figure 2.1: Map of Wigan Borough including analysis areas



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Figure 2.2: Map of Wigan Borough including wards

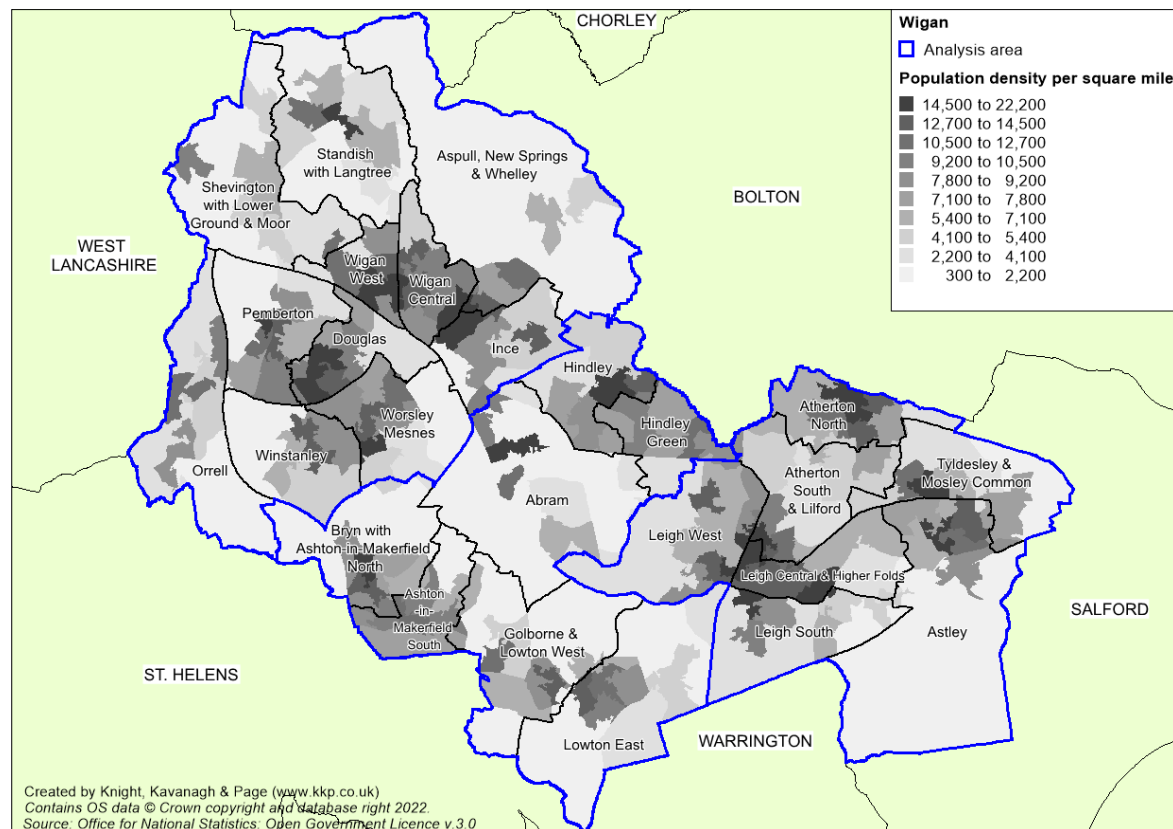


Table 2.1: Ward and analysis area populations<sup>2</sup>

Ward and analysis areas	Population
<b>Central analysis area</b>	<b>92,869</b>
Abram	15,830
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	12,440
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	10,829
Golborne and Lowton West	10,381
Hindley	13,368
Hindley Green	14,140
Lowton East	15,881
<b>East analysis area</b>	<b>98,893</b>
Astley	13,258
Atherton North	14,122
Atherton South and Lilford	14,263
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	15,167
Leigh South	12,307

<sup>2</sup> Mid-Year Estimates 2022, Office for National Statistics

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Ward and analysis areas	Population
Leigh West	16,722
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	13,054
<b>West analysis area</b>	<b>142,348</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	10,490
Douglas	12,458
Ince	10,996
Orrell	12,877
Pemberton	15,436
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	11,663
Standish with Langtree	17,770
Wigan Central	16,289
Wigan West	8,927
Winstanley	11,689
Worsley Mesnes	13,753
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>334,110</b>

### 2.2: Auditing local provision

Open space sites (including provision for children and young people) are identified, mapped and assessed to evaluate quality. Site quality ratings have been provided by Wigan Council. Only publicly accessible sites are included in the quality audit (i.e. private sites or land which people cannot access are excluded).

Each site is classified based on its primary open space purpose so that each type of space is counted only once. The audit and the study analyse the following typologies in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17.

1. Parks and gardens
2. Natural / semi-natural greenspace
3. Amenity greenspace
4. Provision for children and young people
5. Allotments
6. Cemeteries / churchyards
7. Civic space
8. Green corridors
9. Outdoor sports

#### Site size threshold

In accordance with recommendations from the Companion Guidance to PPG17, a size threshold of 0.2 hectares is often applied to the typologies of amenity greenspace and natural / semi-natural greenspace. It is recognised that it would be impractical to capture every piece of land that could be classed as open space as these sites are often too small to provide meaningful leisure and recreational opportunities that would warrant a full site assessment. However, spaces smaller than 0.2 hectares can provide amenity to local neighbourhoods and stepping-stones for wildlife.

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If required, amenity greenspaces and natural / semi-natural sites below 0.2 hectares should be assessed on a site-by-site basis (to assess their potential community, biodiversity and visual value). Planning policies relating to the consideration of the loss of open space could still apply to such sites, even if they are not specifically included in the audit.

It should be noted that some sites below the threshold i.e. those that are identified as having particular significance and considered to provide an important function, as well as play space for children and young people, are included in the audit process.

### Database development

All information relating to open spaces is collated in the Project Open Space Database (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)
- ◆ Typology
- ◆ Size (hectares)
- ◆ Site audit data

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

### 2.3: Open space standards

To identify specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space in a local area, provision standards focusing on Quality, Quantity and Accessibility are set and applied later in the document.

<b>Quality</b>	Ability to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities. Aimed at identifying high quality provision for benchmarking and low quality provision for targeting as part of an improvement programme. The Quality Standard is based on the audit assessment ratings.
<b>Quantity</b>	Are there enough spaces in the right places? Aimed at helping to establish areas of surplus and deficiency and, where appropriate, to understand the potential for alternative uses and / or key forms of provision.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Distance thresholds aimed at improving accessibility factors (e.g. so people can find and get to open spaces without undue reliance on using a car) and helping to identify potential areas with gaps in provision. Shown via maps.

### 2.4: Quality

Most open space sites receive a quality rating undertaken by Wigan Council. The rating is intended to provide an indication to a site's overall quality and condition. These have been applied to sites via a colour rating (green representing good quality sites e.g. clean and well-maintained; amber represents average quality sites; red represents poor quality sites).

A site rating low for quality should not automatically be viewed as being fit for development. It is also necessary to understand its value, access and role within the community it serves. It may, for example, be the only site serving an area and should therefore be considered a priority for enhancement.

The different colour ratings work as a method to reflect the variability in quality at a local level for different types of provision. It allows the Council more flexibility in directing funds towards sites for enhancements, which is useful if funds are geographically constrained with respect to individual developments.

Reason and flexibility are needed when evaluating sites close to the average rating / threshold. The review of a quality threshold is just one step for this process, a site should also be evaluated against the value assessment and local knowledge.

### 2.5: Accessibility catchments

Accessibility catchments can be used as a tool to identify deficiencies of open space in a local area. This is achieved by applying them to create a distance catchment. The study displays the results of the catchment to highlight any potential deficiencies in access to provision.

There is an element of subjectivity resulting in time / distance variations. This is to be expected given that people walk at different speeds depending on a number of factors including height, age, levels of fitness, and physical barriers on route. Therefore, there will be an element of 'best fit'.

The accessibility catchments from FIT are used to show how far residents are likely to be willing to travel to access different types of open space provision.

Table 2.3: Accessibility catchment times/distances

Open space type		Catchment
Parks and gardens		9-minute walk time (710m)
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		9-minute walk time (720m)
Amenity greenspace		6-minute walk time (480m)
Provision for children and young people	LAP	1-minute walk time (100m)
	LEAP	5-minute walk time (400m)
	NEAP	12.5-minute walk time (1000m)
	Other provision (e.g. MUGA, skate park)	9-minute walk time (700m)
Allotments		No standard set
Cemeteries / churchyards		No standard set
Civic spaces		No standard set
Green corridors		No standard set
Outdoor sports		No standard set

No standard is set for the typologies of allotments, cemeteries, civic spaces or green corridors. For cemeteries, provision should be determined by demand for burial space.

## PART 3: SUMMARY OF SURVEY AND SITE AUDIT

This section provides a summary of the responses to the online community survey. It also describes generic trends and findings from the site visit quality ratings. Site specific and typology issues are covered in the relevant sections later in this report.

### 3.1: Community Survey

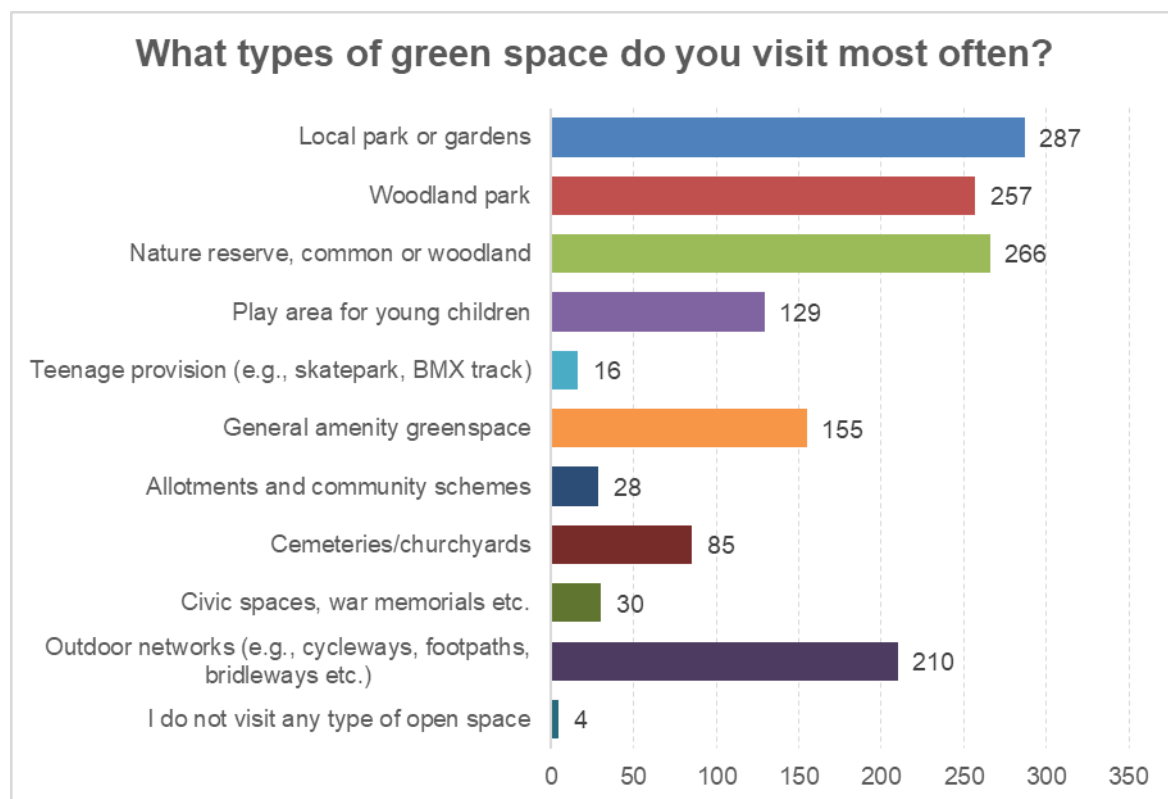
An online community survey was hosted on the Council website and promoted via social media and the Council's communication team. The use of a questionnaire was considered a good approach to providing a widespread opportunity for people to provide their thoughts towards open space provision.

The questionnaire consisted of a series of multiple choice and open-ended questions asking respondents their thoughts on topics such as types of open space visited, frequency and quality etc. A total of 397 responses were received. A summary of the responses is set out on the following pages.

#### Usage

Popular forms of open space provision to visit most often are parks and gardens (73%), nature reserves, commons or woodlands (67%), woodland parks (65%) and outdoor networks (53%).

Figure 3.1.1: Types of open spaces visited most often



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The main reasons for visiting green spaces are for a walk or stroll (86%), to get fresh air (84%), for peace and quiet / relax (67%) and to experience / see nature (64%). Note that percentages do not equate to 100% due to respondents being able to select all reasons that apply for this question.

The answer 'to grow my own fresh fruits and vegetables' received one of the lowest percentages with only 6% of respondents as this is specific to those respondents stating they visit an allotment, and with most people not being an allotment holder. Consequently, it is not a common reason for people visiting open space. 'Other' mainly included dog walking and to help one's mental health.

Table 3.1.1: Reasons for visits

Why do you visit green spaces?	Count	%
Walk / stroll	337	86.2%
Fresh air	327	83.6%
Peace and quiet /relax	263	67.3%
To experience / see nature	251	64.2%
Exercise / sport	235	60.1%
Time with family / friends	208	53.2%
Other	45	11.5%
To grow my own fresh fruits and vegetables	23	5.9%

### Accessibility

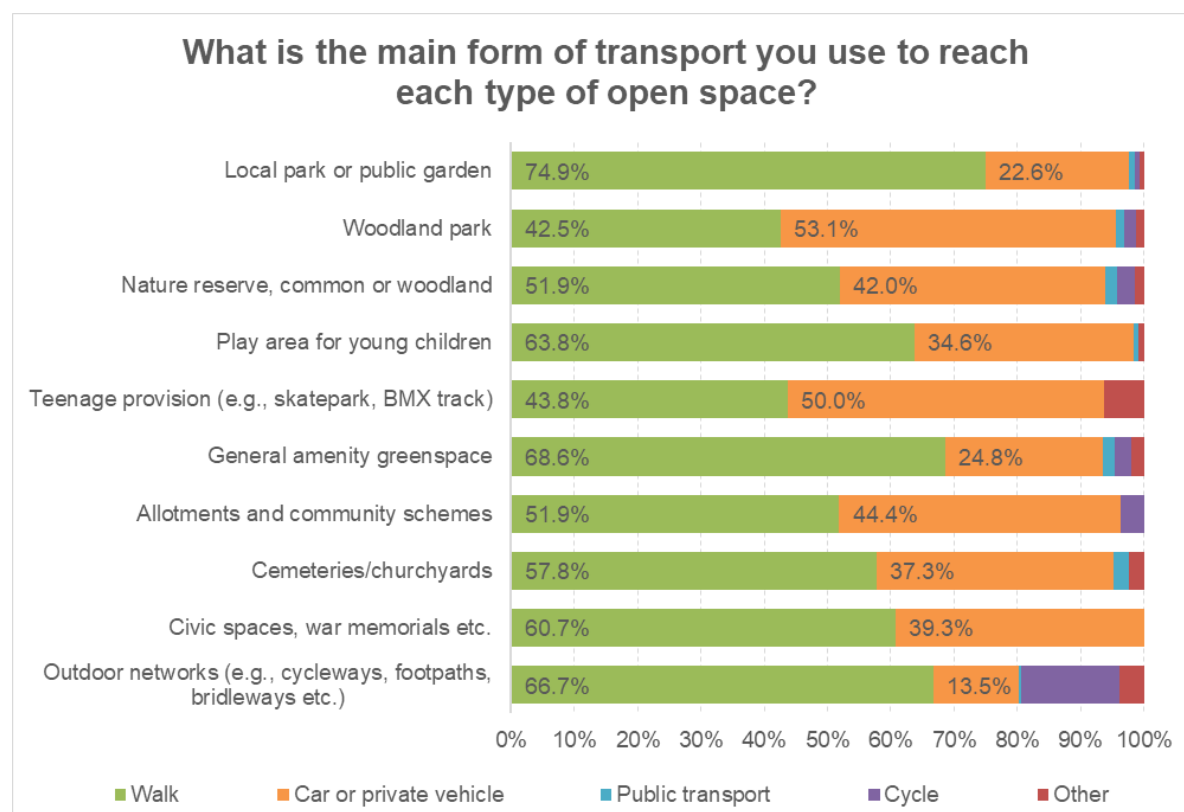
Figure 3.1.2 shows individuals generally walk to access provision for:

- ◆ Parks (75%),
- ◆ Amenity greenspace (69%),
- ◆ Outdoor networks (67%),
- ◆ Play areas for young children (64%),
- ◆ Civic spaces (61%),
- ◆ Cemeteries / churchyards (58%),
- ◆ Allotments (52%), and
- ◆ Nature reserves, commons or woodlands (52%).

The exception to this is woodland parks (53%) and teenage provision (50%) for which more individuals are often willing to travel by car to access.



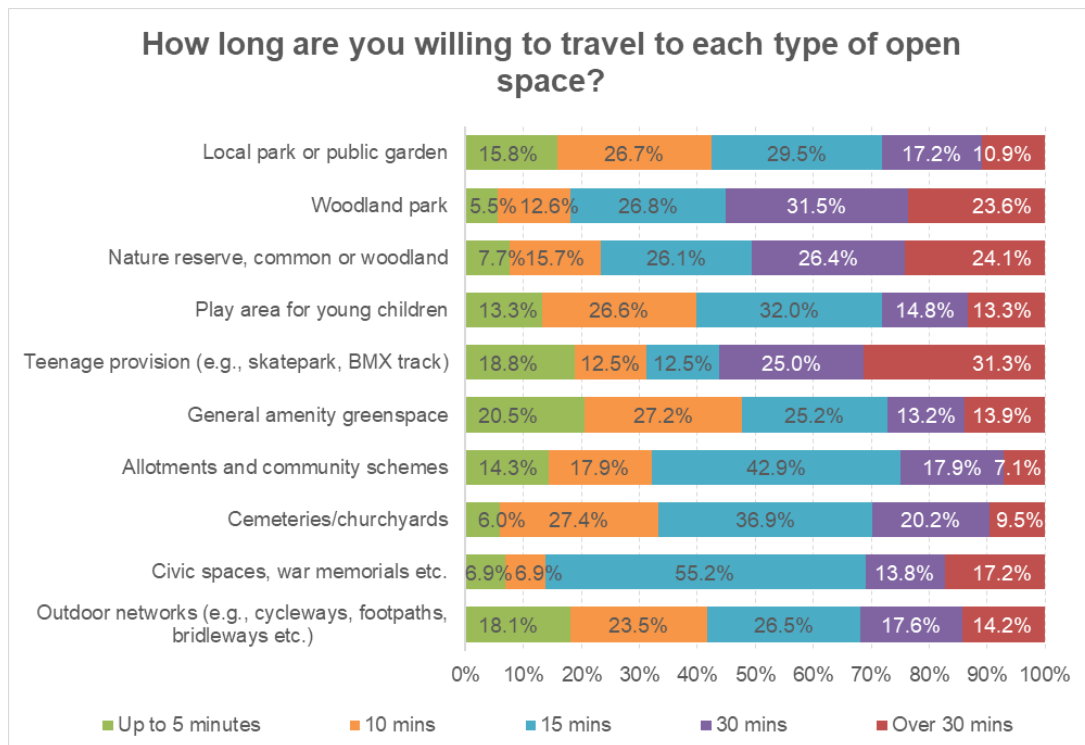
Figure 3.1.2: Mode of travel to open space sites



For some provision such as nature reserves, woodland parks and teenage play provision, there is a willingness to travel further distances, with 31% of respondents stating they would travel over 30 minutes to access teenage provision. Nearly a third of respondents (32%) state they would travel 30 minutes to visit woodland parks, and over a quarter of respondents (26%) are willing to travel 30 minutes to visit 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 noticeable for parks, allotments, amenity greenspace, and play provision.

Figure 3.1.3: Time willing to travel to open space sites



Respondents were asked how frequently they visit the types of open space they visit most often. The majority of types of open space are visited weekly. The exception is cemeteries (50%) and civic spaces (38%) which respondents visit monthly. Note that the same proportion of respondents (37.5%) visit teenage provision on a weekly and monthly basis.

Figure 3.1.4: How often do you visit these types of open space

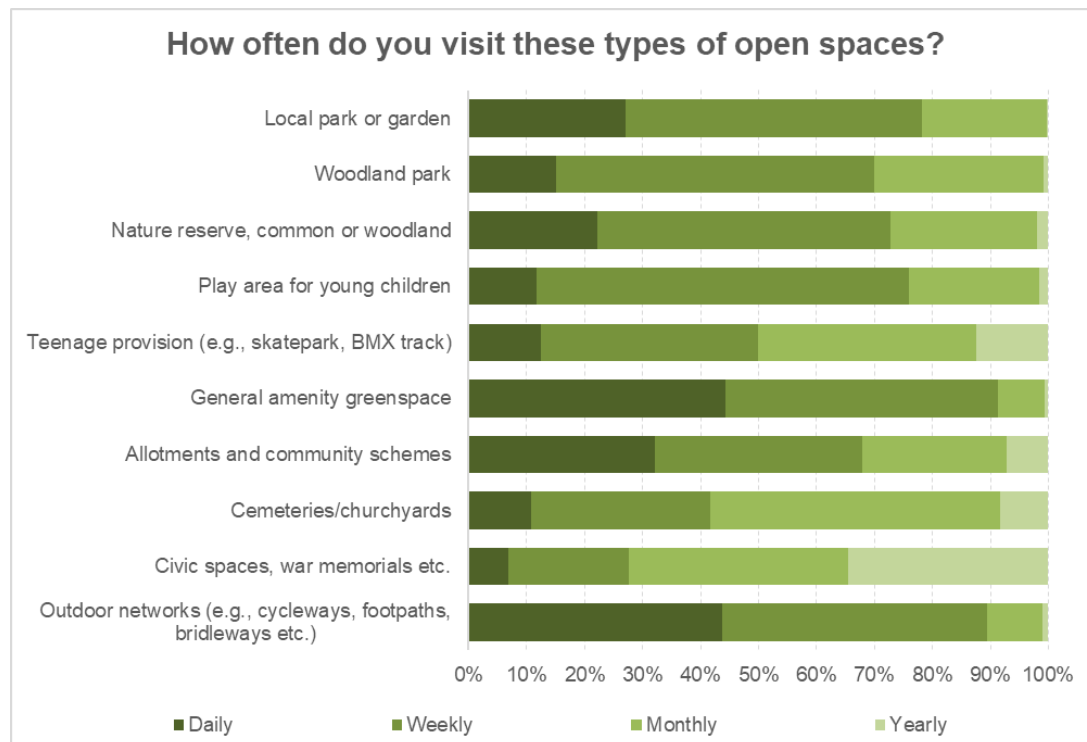


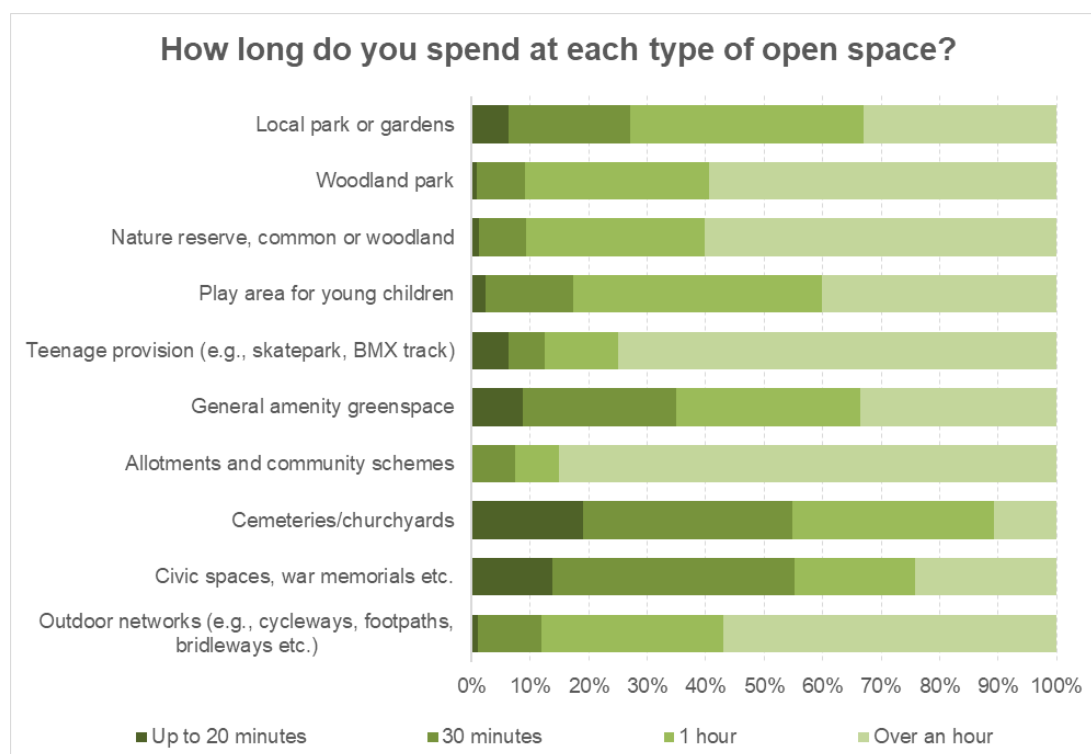
Table 3.1.2: How often do respondents visit these types of open spaces

How often do you visit these types of open spaces?	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
Local park or garden	27.0%	<b>51.2%</b>	21.4%	0.4%
Woodland park	15.0%	<b>54.9%</b>	29.2%	0.8%
Nature reserve, common or woodland	22.3%	<b>50.6%</b>	25.3%	1.9%
Play area for young children	11.6%	<b>64.3%</b>	22.5%	1.6%
Teenage provision (e.g. skatepark, BMX)	12.5%	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	12.5%
General amenity greenspace	44.3%	<b>47.0%</b>	8.1%	0.7%
Allotments and community schemes	32.1%	<b>35.7%</b>	25.0%	7.1%
Cemeteries / churchyards	10.7%	31.0%	<b>50.0%</b>	8.3%
Civic spaces, war memorials etc.	6.9%	20.7%	<b>37.9%</b>	34.5%
Outdoor networks (e.g. cycleways, footpaths, bridleways etc.)	43.8%	<b>45.7%</b>	9.6%	1.0%

Respondents were asked how long they spend at each type of open space. There are several types of open space that users spend over an hour at including allotments (85%), teenage provision (75%) and nature reserves, commons or woodlands (60%).

Respondents spend the least amount of time (30 minutes) at cemeteries (36%) and civic spaces (41%). This is not surprising as these types of open spaces are where people sit and relax but do not spend as much time, in comparison to other open spaces like parks which tend to offer more facilities and features. Nearly half of respondents spend an hour at local parks or gardens (40%) and at play areas for young children (40%).

Figure 3.1.5: How long do respondents spend at each type of open space



Note that these percentages are proportional in relation to how long respondents spend at a particular type of open space. For example, 12 out of 16 respondents spend over an hour at teenage provision equating to 75%, whereas 94 respondents out of 285 spend over an hour at parks. Despite the number being greater, proportionally this equates to 33%.

## Availability and Quality

In general, respondents consider the amount and access of open space provision across Wigan Borough to be quite satisfactory (37%); a further 15% rate availability of open space provision as very satisfactory.

Table 3.1.3: Satisfaction with the overall amount and access of open space provision across the whole of Wigan Borough

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
14.8%	36.7%	21.9%	14.8%	11.7%

Similarly, over a third of survey respondents (36%) consider the quality of open space provision across Wigan Borough to be generally quite satisfactory. A further 13% rate quality as very satisfactory. Only small proportions of respondents view quality as quite unsatisfactory (15%) or very unsatisfactory (10%). There was also a number of respondents (26%) that view quality as neither satisfactory nor unsatisfactory.

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Table 3.1.4: Satisfaction with quality of open space provision across the whole of Wigan Borough

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
12.9%	36.0%	26.4%	15.0%	9.6%

Respondents were also asked how they rated the overall amount and access of open space provision in their local area e.g. within a 10-minute walk. Over a third of respondents (34%) consider this as quite satisfactory with a further 28% very satisfactory. A small proportion of respondents view the amount of, and access to, open space provision in their local areas as quite unsatisfactory (12%) or very unsatisfactory (13%).

Table 3.1.5: Satisfaction with overall amount and access of open space provision in your local area

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
28.1%	34.2%	13.2%	11.9%	12.7%

Likewise, over a third of respondents (36%) consider the quality of open space provision in their local area to be generally quite satisfactory and a fifth of respondents rate quality as very satisfactory. 16% of respondents rate quality in their local area as quite unsatisfactory with a further 14% of respondents very unsatisfactory.

Table 3.1.6: Satisfaction with the quality of open space provision in your local area

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
20.4%	35.6%	14.2%	15.5%	14.2%

Respondents to the survey were asked what they thought would improve open space provision. The most common answers include better care and maintenance of features (63%), more wildlife / habitat promotion (42%), greater attractiveness (39%), and better and wider range of facilities (38%). Note that respondents could select up to four options.

Table 3.1.7: What would improve open space provision for you?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Better maintenance and care of features	63%
More wildlife / habitat promotion	42%
Greater attractiveness (e.g. flowers, trees)	39%
Better and wider range of facilities (i.e. seating, refreshments)	38%
Improved access to and within sites	31%
Improved personal safety	27%
Play equipment (new or improved)	21%
Greater information on sites	16%

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Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Other	15%
More public events	14%
Greater community involvement	10%
Outdoor gym / exercise equipment	7%

Other improvements included better / more easily accessible links for cyclists / walkers between sites, less housing developments, additional litter bins and public toilets.

A common theme in the comments section towards the end of the survey is respondents concerns over more housing developments and the implications on the amount of open space and wildlife. Numerous respondents have highlighted that a lot of open space has been lost. Several comments state that building on the green belt needs to stop. Furthermore, several respondents highlight dog fouling and litter issues.

The majority of respondents (80%) strongly agree with the statement 'visiting open spaces makes me feel better'. A further 17% agree with the statement. Only one respondent disagrees with the statement and one respondent strongly disagrees. An additional 3% of respondents (13 respondents) neither agree nor disagree.

Table 3.1.8: 'Visiting open spaces makes me feel better'

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
79.60%	16.62%	3.27%	0.25%	0.25%

### 3.2: Audit overview

Within the audit, there is a total of 1,279 sites equating to over 3,725 hectares of open space. The largest contributor to provision is natural / semi-natural greenspace (2,356 hectares) accounting for 63%.

Table 3.2.1: Overview of open space provision

Open space typology	Number of sites	Total amount (hectares) <sup>3</sup>
Allotments	62	34
Amenity greenspace	421	272
Cemeteries / churchyards	37	91
Civic Spaces	20	4
Green corridors	17	122
Natural / semi-natural greenspace	223	2,356
Outdoor sports <sup>4</sup>	299	597
Park and gardens	32	240
Provision for children and young people	168	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>3,725</b>

<sup>3</sup> Rounded to the nearest whole number

<sup>4</sup> Outdoor sports provision is included only for audit completion

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

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### 3.3: 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 across Wigan Borough.

Table 3.3.1: Quality ratings for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Poor	Average	Good
Allotments	14	29	17
Amenity greenspace	38	196	187
Cemeteries / churchyards	1	7	29
Civic spaces	0	3	17
Green corridors	6	3	8
Natural / semi-natural greenspace	34	151	38
Park and gardens	1	8	23
Provision for children and young people	41	107	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>339</b>

There is a mixed quality of open space across all typologies. This is reflected in just over a third of assessed sites (35%) rating as good quality. Over half of assessed sites (51%) are considered average quality. A small proportion (14%) of assessed sites rate as poor quality.

## **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.

### **4.2: Current provision**

There are 32 sites classified as parks and gardens across Wigan, the equivalent to 240 hectares (see Table 4.1). No site size threshold has been applied and, as such, all known sites have been included within the typology.

It is important to note that within the category of parks and gardens there are two distinct types of sites. Some are significant in size and act as destinations offering greater recreational facilities and uses which people will often be willing to travel further to access. Examples of this type include Haigh Woodland Park and Mesnes Park. Other sites within the typology are smaller in size and more formal in character with less recreational uses. Examples of this include Liverpool Road Community Garden and Pemberton Memorial Garden.

Table 4.1: Current parks and gardens provision by analysis area

<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Hectares (ha)</b>	<b>Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)</b>
Central	9	45.15	0.49
East	10	43.02	0.44
West	13	151.68	1.07
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>239.85</b>	<b>0.72</b>

For parks and gardens, Table 4.1 identifies that Wigan Borough has a current provision level of 0.72 hectares per 1,000 head of population. The largest site and biggest contributor to provision is Haigh Woodland Park (107 ha) located in the West Analysis Area. The next largest site is Golborne Park (20 ha) in the Central Analysis Area.

Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 4.1 shows that overall, Wigan Borough is below this. Only the West Analysis Area is above this figure.

To assist in identifying local levels in provision, table 4.2 shows current parks and gardens provision broken down by ward.

Table 4.2: Current parks and gardens provision by ward

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Hectares (ha)</b>	<b>Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)</b>
Abram	1	1.89	0.12
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	3	5.74	0.46
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1	1.71	0.16



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Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Golborne and Lowton West	1	20.58	1.98
Hindley	1	6.63	0.47
Hindley Green	1	3.43	0.24
Lowton East	1	5.18	0.33
<b>Central</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>45.15</b>	<b>0.49</b>
Astley	1	3.97	0.30
Atherton North	1	0.64	0.05
Atherton South and Lilford	2	23.14	1.62
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	-	-	-
Leigh South	3	6.28	0.51
Leigh West	3	8.99	0.54
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	-	-	-
<b>East</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>43.02</b>	<b>0.44</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1	107.00	10.20
Douglas	3	5.79	0.46
Ince	1	6.71	0.61
Orrell	2	11.70	0.91
Pemberton	2	1.07	0.07
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	-	-	-
Standish with Langtree	2	8.62	0.49
Wigan Central	1	10.07	0.62
Wigan West	-	-	-
Winstanley	-	-	-
Worsley Mesnes	1	0.72	0.05
<b>West</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>151.68</b>	<b>1.07</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>239.85</b>	<b>0.72</b>

Five wards do not have parks and gardens provision: Leigh Central and Higher Folds, Tyldesley and Mosley Common, Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor, Wigan West and Winstanley.

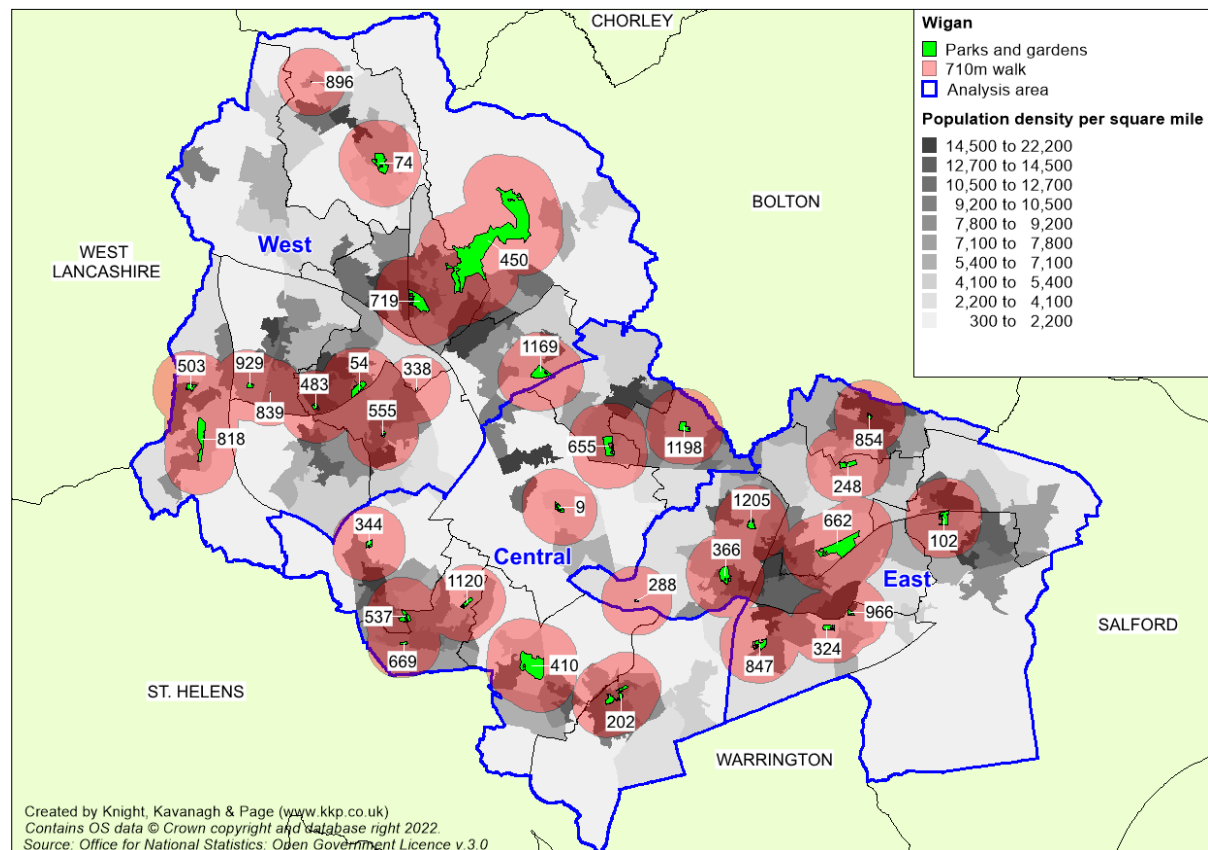
Parks provision, particularly 'destination' parks, are often only going to exist in areas of greater population density. Consequently, some analysis areas being below the FIT suggestion does not mean a true deficiency exists. It is therefore important to also consider accessibility and quality of provision.

### 4.3: Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a 9-minute walk time has been set across Wigan Borough. Figure 4.1 shows parks and gardens mapped with catchments against the analysis areas. This should be treated as an approximation as it does not take account of topography or walking routes.

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Figure 4.1: Parks and gardens mapped with a 9-minute (710m) walk catchment



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Table 4.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
9	Abram Park	Central	Abram	1.89	
54	Alexandra Park	West	Douglas	4.70	
74	Ashfield Park	West	Standish with Langtree	8.54	
102	Astley Street Park	East	Astley	3.97	
202	Braithwaite Road	Central	Lowton East	5.18	
248	Central Park	East	Atherton South and Lilford	3.45	
288	Crankwood Park	East	Leigh West	0.33	
324	Dootsons Park Playing Field	East	Leigh South	2.15	
338	Eckersley Rest Garden	West	Douglas	0.14	
344	Edmund Collins Park	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1.72	
366	Firs Park	East	Leigh West	6.16	
410	Golborne Park	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	20.58	
450	Haigh Woodland Park	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	107.00	
483	Highfield Gardens	West	Douglas	0.96	
503	Holgate Park	West	Orrell	2.02	
537	Jubilee Park	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	2.95	
555	Kipling Park	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.72	
655	Leyland Park	Central	Hindley	6.63	
662	Lilford Park	East	Atherton South and Lilford	19.70	
669	Liverpool Road Community Garden	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.73	
719	Mesnes Park	West	Wigan Central	10.07	
818	Orrell Water Park	West	Orrell	9.67	
839	Pemberton Memorial Garden	West	Pemberton	0.03	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
847	Pennington Hall Park	East	Leigh South	3.29	
854	People's Place	East	Atherton North	0.64	
896	Quakers Burial Ground	West	Standish with Langtree	0.08	
929	Redwood Park	West	Pemberton	1.04	
966	Sandersons Croft	East	Leigh South	0.84	
1120	Stubshaw Cross	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	2.06	
1169	Walmsley Park	West	Ince	6.71	
1198	Westlake Park	Central	Hindley Green	3.43	
1205	Westleigh Park	East	Leigh West	2.50	

Note that the sizes of each site displayed in the key to sites mapped tables are rounded up to two decimal places.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

In general, most areas of greater population density are covered by a 9-minute walk catchment for parks. However, gaps are noticeable in all three analysis areas including central parts of West Analysis Area, north / north-east of the Central Analysis Area and across the East Analysis Area.

At a ward level, there are gaps noted in all wards across the Wigan Borough. Noticeable gaps in the West Analysis Area wards include Ince, Wigan West, Pemberton, Winstanley, Douglas, Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor and Standish with Langtree. In the Central Analysis Area, gaps are noted in Abram and Hindley. In the East Analysis Area, gaps are highlighted in Leigh Central and Higher Folds, Leigh West, Atherton North, Tyldesley and Mosley Common and Golborne and Lowton West.

Many of these gaps are served by other forms of open space provision such as amenity greenspace and natural / semi natural greenspace. Such sites may not meet the criteria of parks and gardens provision but are likely to offer similar opportunities and access to recreational activities often associated with parks. Exploring the potential to formalise features associated with parks at some of these sites could be considered to increase a sites secondary function as a park.

Table 4.4a: Other open spaces serving gaps in park catchments (Central Wards)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Abram	Adjacent 93 Victoria Road (ID 39)	Amenity
Abram	Adjacent railway northwest of Stratton Drive (ID 49)	Natural
Abram	Amberswood Nature Reserve (ID 68)	Natural
Abram	Kingsdown Recreation Area (ID 554)	Amenity
Abram	Miller's Lane (ID 728)	Amenity
Abram	Platt Bridge Community Garden (ID 866)	Amenity
Abram	St Johns Street, Recreational Ground (ID 1062)	Amenity
Abram	Stratton Drive (ID 1118)	Amenity
Abram	West of Lily Lane, North of canal (1195)	Natural
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	Salkeld Avenue (ID 963)	Natural
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	Skitters Wood, Woodedge (ID 1006)	Natural
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Bryn Road (opposite Lockett Road) (ID 217)	Amenity
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Bryn Road/Beech Street (ID 219)	Amenity
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Eldon Gardens (ID 347)	Amenity
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Kinder Grove/Grange Road (ID 549)	Amenity
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Nicol Road / Bryn Road (ID 764)	Amenity
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Rear of 12 Tatton Drive (ID 915)	Amenity
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Whitledge Green (ID 1226)	Natural

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Golborne and Lowton West	School Street, Golborne (ID 976)	Amenity
Hindley	Adjacent Hindley Hall Golf Course (ID 45)	Natural
Hindley	Rayner Park NSN (ID 906)	Natural
Hindley Green	Close Lane Farm, Close Lane (ID 265)	Natural

Table 4.4b: Other open spaces serving gaps in park catchments (East Wards)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Astley	Acresfield (ID 15)	Amenity
Astley	Acresfield and Tiverton Close (ID 16)	Amenity
Astley	Adjacent 12 North Lane (ID 20)	Amenity
Astley	Adjacent 566 Manchester Road (ID 36)	Amenity
Astley	Ann Lane/Higher Green Lane (ID 70)	Amenity
Astley	Birtle Drive (ID 170)	Amenity
Astley	Manchester Road/Church Road (691)	Amenity
Astley	Moorgate Drive/Hurstbrook Close (737)	Amenity
Astley	Playing Fields, Parkfield Avenue (ID 882)	Amenity
Astley	Recreation Ground, Ellesmere Street (ID 927)	Amenity
Astley	West of Caldwell Avenue Tyldesley (Coldalhurst Farm) (ID 1193)	Amenity
Astley	Withington Drive (ID 1269)	Amenity
Atherton North	Bolton Old Road/Park Street (ID 177)	Amenity
Atherton North	Car Bank Street (ID 245)	Amenity
Atherton North	Cherry Tree Grove (ID 254)	Amenity
Atherton North	Coronation Avenue/Queens Avenue (ID 280)	Amenity
Atherton North	Devonshire Road Playing Field (ID 316)	Amenity
Atherton North	Douglas Park (ID 326)	Amenity
Atherton North	Douglas Street Playing Field (ID 327)	Amenity
Atherton North	Fletcher/Hatton Avenue (ID 369)	Amenity
Atherton North	Gibfield Park Avenue (ID 391)	Amenity
Atherton South and Lilford	Adjacent 294 Tyldesley Road (ID 28)	Amenity
Atherton South and Lilford	Gibfield Park South, Colliery Lane (ID 393)	Natural
Atherton South and Lilford	Lancaster Avenue (rear of) Chanters Brook (567)	Natural
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Church Street Leigh (ID 259)	Amenity
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Kenilworth Drive (ID 545)	Amenity
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Market Place / St Marys Way (ID 702)	Amenity

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Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Walkers Drive (adjacent 55) (ID 1164)	Amenity
Leigh West	Adjacent 2 Horrocks Street (ID 24)	Amenity
Leigh West	Adjacent Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Plank Lane (ID 50)	Amenity
Leigh West	Armfield Grove (ID 72)	Amenity
Leigh West	Common Lane, Leigh (ID 272)	Amenity
Leigh West	Crankwood Road (ID 292)	Amenity
Leigh West	Wilkinson Park Drive (ID 1253)	Amenity

Table 4.4c: Other open spaces serving gaps in park catchments (West Wards)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Adjacent 165 Haigh Road (ID 22)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Adjacent canal / footbridge Withington Lane (ID 41)	Natural
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Aspull Common, Haigh Road (ID 93)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Haigh Road / Parklands Drive (ID 453)	Natural
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Haigh Road / Ratcliffe Road (ID 454)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Haigh Road / St David's Crescent (ID 456)	Natural
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Kirkless Wood, Withington Lane (ID 560)	Natural
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Opposite 37 St Davids Crescent (ID 803)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Opposite 58 / 60 Stanley Road (ID 804)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Ratcliffe Road / Stanley Lane (ID 905)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Reservoir / pond off Withington Lane (ID 933)	Natural
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Scot Lane / Sumner Street (ID 979)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Stanley Road / Ratcliffe Road (ID 1107)	Amenity
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Wigan Road / Higher Lane (ID 1243)	Natural
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Woods Road (ID 1283)	Natural
Douglas	Buchanan Road / Fraser Road (ID 221)	Amenity
Douglas	Land between canal / Stadium Way (ID 590)	Natural
Ince	Arnside Avenue (ID 73)	Amenity

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Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Ince	Belle Green Lane between Nelson Drive / Russell Street (ID 138)	Amenity
Ince	Belle Green Lane/Russell St/Kendal Road (ID 141)	Amenity
Ince	Bryn/Manley Street / Warrington Road (ID 220)	Amenity
Ince	Coopers Glen (ID 274)	Amenity
Ince	Falkirk Drive / Belle Green Lane (ID 361)	Amenity
Ince	Foster Avenue (ID 372)	Natural
Ince	Ince Green Lane / George Street (ID 525)	Amenity
Ince	Junction Road / Spindlewood Terrace (ID 540)	Amenity
Ince	Lancaster Street (ID 568)	Amenity
Ince	Warrington Road / Redbrook Road (ID 1186)	Amenity
Ince	Westwood Lane, Ince (ID 1215)	Natural
Ince	Westwood Lane / end of Eton Terrace (ID 1216)	Amenity
Ince	William Fosters Playing Fields (ID 1257)	Amenity
Ince	Withington Lane (ID 1270)	Natural
Orrell	Recreation Ground Upholland Road (ID 126)	Amenity
Orrell	Recreation Ground Upholland Road (ID 926)	Amenity
Pemberton	City Road/Montrose Avenue / Comet Road (ID 262)	Natural
Pemberton	Helvellyn Road / The Green (ID 474)	Amenity
Pemberton	Houghton Lodges, Martland Mill Lane (ID 513)	Natural
Pemberton	Land adjacent Chapel Street Pemberton (ID 574)	Natural
Pemberton	Land adjacent Lancaster / Canberra Road (ID 576)	Natural
Pemberton	Land adjacent Leopold Street / railway (ID 577)	Natural
Pemberton	Land around / at end of St John Street (ID 584)	Amenity
Pemberton	Land end Heysham Road / off City Road (ID 599)	Amenity
Pemberton	Land Lamberhead / Somerset Road (ID 604)	Amenity
Pemberton	Land on Worsley Hall Avenue to No.117 (ID 616)	Amenity
Pemberton	Langdale / Heysham Road (ID 622)	Amenity
Pemberton	Lonsdale Walk (ID 674)	Amenity
Pemberton	Montrose Avenue / Ribble Drive (ID 733)	Amenity
Pemberton	Norley Road (between 8-10) (ID 768)	Amenity
Pemberton	Porters Wood, Ackhurst Lane (ID 888)	Natural
Pemberton	Saddleback Crescent / Helvellyn Road (ID 960)	Amenity
Pemberton	Severn Road / Ribble Road (ID 983)	Amenity
Pemberton	Somerset Road / Lamberhead Road / Dorset Close (ID 1013)	Amenity
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Ayrefield Grove / Cloughwood Crescent (ID 111)	Amenity
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Bankwood / Chisacre Drive/Miles Lane (ID 113)	Amenity
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Between railway / river near Ackhurst Lane (ID 155)	Natural



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Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Brookfield Road (ID 210)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Bullrush Meadow (ID 224)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Hullet Hole Wood, The Nook (ID 519)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Rear of Robin Hill Drive (ID 922)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Softrush Park / Almond Green Avenue (ID 1011)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Stockley Drive (ID 1113)	Amenity
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Off Woodhouse Drive / Beech Hill Lane (ID 1153)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Woodnook Road (adjacent 43) (ID 1282)	Amenity
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Primrose Lane / Kenyon Road (ID 891)	Amenity
Standish with Langtree	Bradley Lane / end Sheldon Avenue (ID 199)	Natural
Langtree	Buttercup Meadow, south of Pepper Lane (ID 228)	Amenity
Langtree	Buttercup Meadow / Ludlow Street (ID 229)	Amenity
Langtree	Byley Rise (ID 231)	Natural
Langtree	Eagle Close / Artisan Close (ID 331)	Natural
Langtree	Grove Lane / Sedgewick Green (ID 446)	Natural
Langtree	Kitchen Carr Wood, Rectory Lane (ID 562)	Natural
Langtree	Land adj Beech Walk / Wilkesley Avenue (ID 573)	Natural
Langtree	Land off Sheldon Avenue (ID 612)	Natural
Langtree	Ludlow Street / Almond Green Avenue (ID 686)	Amenity
Langtree	Otter Close Wood, Rectory Lane (ID 820)	Natural
Langtree	Rosebay Gardens / Foxtail Meadow (ID 947)	Amenity
Langtree	Woodhouse Drive / Almond Brook Road / School Lane (ID 1275)	Natural
Langtree	Woodland, Green Lane (ID 1280)	Natural
Wigan West	Land between Scot Lane / railway / Martland Mill Lane (ID 593)	Natural
Wigan West	Bartons Wood, Tan House Drive (ID 117)	Natural
Wigan West	Between Wirral Drive and Beech Walk (ID 157)	Amenity
Wigan West	Blundells Wood, Ravenswood Avenue (ID 174)	Natural
Wigan West	Crossley Avenue (ID 308)	Natural
Wigan West	Foxdene Grove (ID 373)	Amenity
Wigan West	Land adj Merton Road / Grebe Close (ID 580)	Natural
Wigan West	Land Andover Crescent between Petworth Avenue / Colerne Way (ID 582)	Amenity
Wigan West	Land Beech Walk / end Sunnyfields (ID 586)	Amenity

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Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Wigan West	Corner of Elkstone Close / Burley Crescent (ID 596)	Amenity
Wigan West	Land end Charlotte Drive (ID 598)	Natural
Wigan West	Land off Billinge Road adjacent No.196 (ID 607)	Natural
Wigan West	Land south of Pemberton Colliery, Smithy Brook Park, Smithy Court (ID 617)	Amenity
Wigan West	Land Tarrant Close / Andover Crescent (ID 618)	Amenity
Wigan West	Tan House Drive (opposite Bartons Wood) (ID 1126)	Amenity
Winstanley	Warminster Grove (rear of houses) (ID 1178)	Amenity
Worsley Mesnes	Land around Pearsons Flash adjacent canal / railway (ID 583)	Natural
Worsley Mesnes	Scotmans Flash off Poolstock Lane (ID 980)	Natural
Worsley Mesnes	Westwood Flash, Westward Park Drive (ID 1214)	Natural

### 4.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks and gardens.

Table 4.5: Quality ratings for assessed parks and gardens

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	5	4	0
East	7	3	0
West	11	1	1
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>

All 32 identified parks and gardens are allocated a quality rating. Almost three quarters of assessed sites (72%) rate as good quality. These include four Green Flag Award sites, demonstrating their high standards:

- ✦ Alexandra Park,
- ✦ Central Park,
- ✦ Jubilee Park, and
- ✦ Mesnes Park.

These sites are all attractive and well-maintained with numerous facilities and features including benches, bins, play provision, accessible pathways, signage, and good boundary fencing.

Alexandra Park has the additional benefits of an orchard, outdoor gym, skate park, heritage features, car park, and a community allotment. The site also features two bowling greens, a monument, and is stewarded by a Friends Group. The park hosts several events throughout the year.

Jubilee Park is observed as an attractive park with numerous trees, planting, benches and bins. The park features a good network of paths enabling pram and wheelchair access through the site. There is also a play area, MUGA and skate park on site further adding to the quality of the site.

Mesnes Park is a historic park that features a café, toilets, a lake and a bandstand. It also contains a monument, South African War memorial, tennis courts, bowling greens and outdoor gym equipment further adding to its appeal. There is a pavilion in the centre of the park containing Frederick's Ice Cream. It also has a Friends Group helping to conserve and improve the park.

The criteria used to assess parks and gardens is intended to be high, reflecting the Green Flag Award assessment. As such, not all park and garden sites would be expected to score above the threshold set for such a prestigious award. It is more likely for the flagship 'destination' sites to score highly.

Haigh Woodland Park is another site considered as good quality due to offering a range of facilities and features for a wide range of users. This destination park features a high ropes adventure course, large play area, mini golf, walled gardens, picnic areas and woodland trails. It also contains a bird hide, model railway and a pond attracting many users. Unsurprisingly, this is a well-used park.

All Saints Church, Crawford Street, aka Wigan Parish Church Gardens and Wigan Cenotaph, features wide footpaths, numerous benches, lighting, mature trees, signage and attractive landscaping adding to the quality of the site. There is a church and cenotaph on site, however, it is considered to be more of a garden and is therefore included within this typology.

The Council consider eight parks to be of average quality. These include Crankwood Park, a relatively small site featuring an unfenced play area, football goals and a youth shelter. The site benefits from signage, seating and bins but there are no pathways and fewer features compared to other parks. Eckersley Rest Garden is a small visual amenity with places to sit and relax however it rates lower due to maintenance and requires improvement.

Just one site rates as poor quality (Holgate Park). The site lacks signage and has poor boundary fencing. However, the site features a play area, seating and some natural surveillance.

## **PART 5: NATURAL / SEMI-NATURAL GREENSPACE**

### **5.1: Introduction**

The natural / semi-natural greenspace typology can include woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g. down-land, meadow), heath or moor, wetlands (e.g. marsh, fen), wastelands (including disturbed ground), and bare rock habitats (e.g. quarries) and commons. For the purpose of this study, the focus is on sites providing wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

Many natural / semi-natural sites are intentionally without ancillary facilities to reduce misuse or inappropriate behaviour whilst encouraging greater flora and fauna activity.

### **5.2: Current provision**

There are 223 natural / semi-natural greenspace sites, equating to over 2,356 hectares.

Table 5.1: Current natural / semi-natural greenspace by analysis area

<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Hectares (ha)</b>	<b>Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)</b>
Central	50	798.55	8.60
East	58	751.19	7.60
West	115	806.76	5.67
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>2,356.50</b>	<b>7.05</b>

These totals include all provision in the area with no site size threshold applied. Sites smaller than 0.2ha are likely 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 community viability, quality of life, and health and wellbeing. Furthermore, they may provide 'stepping stones' for flora and fauna enabling freedom of movement for wildlife.

The West Analysis Area has the most natural / semi-natural provision with a total of 806 hectares. This makes up 34% of natural / semi-natural provision in the borough.

The two largest sites are Bickershaw Colliery Site, Edna Road / Plank Lane (239 hectares) and Amberswood Nature Reserve (167 hectares) which make up 17% of the natural / semi-natural provision total.

Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Within Wigan Borough there is an overall provision of 7.05 hectares per 1,000 head of population which exceeds the FIT guidelines. This is also the case for all three analysis areas.

To assist in identifying local levels in provision, table 5.2 shows current natural / semi-natural provision broken down by ward.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 5.2: Current natural / semi-natural greenspace by ward

Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Abram	12	409.08	25.84
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	7	35.59	2.86
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	7	107.41	9.92
Golborne and Lowton West	8	50.03	4.82
Hindley	3	22.16	1.66
Hindley Green	3	6.75	0.48
Lowton East	10	167.53	10.55
<b>Central</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>798.55</b>	<b>8.60</b>
Astley	14	158.99	11.99
Atherton North	-	-	-
Atherton South and Lilford	13	84.29	5.91
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	8	98.71	6.51
Leigh South	4	48.16	3.91
Leigh West	11	333.35	19.93
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	8	27.68	2.12
<b>East</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>751.19</b>	<b>7.60</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	18	147.39	14.05
Douglas	2	19.62	1.57
Ince	14	47.27	4.30
Orrell	8	49.01	3.81
Pemberton	8	59.92	3.88
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	12	107.30	9.20
Standish with Langtree	20	83.23	4.68
Wigan Central	6	8.14	0.50
Wigan West	2	7.68	0.86
Winstanley	11	42.07	3.60
Worsley Mesnes	14	238.14	17.32
<b>West</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>806.76</b>	<b>5.67</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>2356.49</b>	<b>7.05</b>

Atherton North, in the East Analysis Area, is the only ward to not contain any natural / semi-natural greenspace.

It is important to recognise that other open spaces such as parks and amenity greenspace often provide opportunities associated with natural / semi-natural greenspace. For example, Haigh Woodland Park offers greater biodiversity and habitats due to the presence of ponds and woodland.

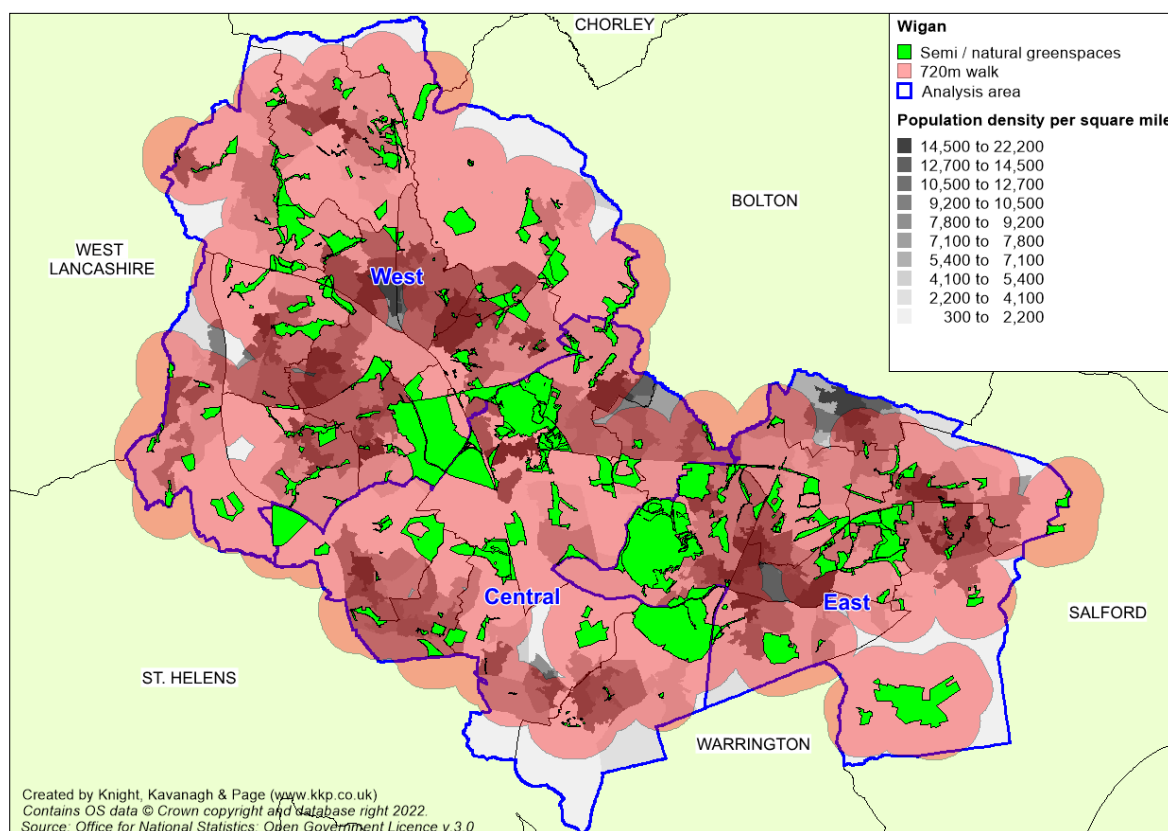
It is also important to highlight that some sites can bridge the definition of typologies such as natural / semi-natural greenspace and amenity greenspace. For example, a grassed area left unmaintained can start to have characteristics associated with natural / semi-natural greenspace.

## 5.3: Accessibility

An accessibility standard of a 9-minute walk time has been set across Wigan Borough for natural / semi-natural greenspace. This is based on FIT catchments. Figure 5.1 shows natural / semi-natural greenspace mapped against the analysis areas with the accessibility catchment.

Due to the number of sites, the map does not show ID numbers.

Figure 5.1: Natural / semi-natural greenspace mapped with a 9-minute (720m) walk catchment



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 5.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
3	Abbey Lakes Woodland, Orrell Road	West	Orrell	2.78	
19	Adjacent 1 Oakfield Avenue	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.50	
28	Adjacent 294 Tyldesley Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	5.34	
34	Adjacent 444 Manchester Road	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	4.01	
40	Adjacent and rear of 314 Westleigh Lane	East	Leigh West	4.46	
41	Adjacent canal near footbridge Withington Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.57	
42	Adjacent canal / off Higher Green Lane	East	Astley	2.25	
44	Adjacent Coupland Road	Central	Hindley Green	3.52	
45	Adjacent Hindley Hall Golf Course	Central	Hindley	14.08	
46	Adjacent Kirkless Hall, Farm Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	7.90	
48	Adjacent Prospect Cottages, Haigh Road, Haigh	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.40	
49	Adjacent railway northwest of Stratton Drive	Central	Abram	5.62	
64	Allscott Way	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	5.73	
65	Along River Way	West	Wigan Central	0.51	
68	Amberswood Nature Reserve	Central	Abram	167.21	
82	Ashton Heath	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	7.94	
83	Ashton Heath Sewage Works, Golborne Road	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	12.00	
100	Astley Green Village Green	East	Astley	0.26	
101	Astley Street	East	Astley	4.93	
115	Barlows Farm, Close Lane	Central	Abram	22.25	
117	Bartons Wood, Tan House Drive	West	Winstanley	0.92	
126	Bedford Moss	East	Astley	107.73	
127	Bee Fold Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	2.47	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
130	Beech Street off Bryn Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.14	
134	Behind houses at end of Elmridge	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.67	
146	Bentinck Street / Lady Lane	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.35	
148	Between 31 / 58 Shelley Street	East	Leigh West	0.72	
151	Between canal/William Foster playing field	West	Ince	9.13	
155	Between railway / river near Ackhurst Lane	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	17.84	
158	Bex Hole	East	Leigh West	45.56	
163	Bickershaw Colliery Site, Edna Road / Plank Lane	East	Leigh West	239.69	
167	Billinge Plantation, Crank Road	West	Orrell	4.76	
169	Birley Wood off Wigan Road	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	39.46	
174	Blundells Wood, Ravenswood Avenue	West	Winstanley	7.84	
191	Borsdane Wood	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	29.16	
194	Bowden Close	East	Leigh South	1.13	
198	Bracken Road (rear)	East	Leigh West	0.58	
199	Bradley Lane / end Sheldon Aveune	West	Standish with Langtree	3.28	
204	Bransfield Close / Kingston Close	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.30	
207	Broadfern	West	Standish with Langtree	0.07	
210	Brookfield Road	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	4.40	
224	Bullrush Meadow	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.19	
231	Byley Rise	West	Standish with Langtree	0.16	
232	Byrom Hall Wood	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	27.95	
257	Chorley Road / Lurdin Lane / adjacent railway	West	Standish with Langtree	6.11	
262	City Road/Montrose Avenue / Comet Road	West	Pemberton	27.72	
265	Close Lane Farm, Close Lane	Central	Hindley Green	2.84	
270	Colliery Site adjacent Common Lane	East	Leigh West	15.01	



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
271	Common Lane, Tyldesley	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	1.91	
273	Congresbury Road	East	Leigh West	17.07	
276	Coppice Wood, Crank Road, Billinge	West	Orrell	0.76	
283	Coupland Road Hindley Green	Central	Hindley Green	0.39	
301	Crompton Way	Central	Lowton East	0.78	
308	Crossley Avenue	West	Winstanley	0.34	
310	Dam House, Astley Hall Drive	East	Astley	3.97	
314	Delfhaven Court, Standish	West	Standish with Langtree	12.82	
318	Dingle Walk	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.42	
331	Eagle Close/Artisan Close	West	Standish with Langtree	0.64	
332	East of Howe Bridge Sports Centre (Bee Fold Fishery)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	10.27	
335	East of Shakerley Road	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	1.07	
336	East of Stone Cross Lane	Central	Lowton East	0.07	
337	East Street	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.81	
339	Edge Green Common (South)	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	3.66	
340	Edge Green Common (North)	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	2.46	
348	Ellenor Brook, Bodmin Road	East	Astley	1.11	
355	End of Chatsworth Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	1.39	
363	Finch Mill Avenue / Ruecroft Close	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.80	
372	Foster Avenue	West	Ince	3.54	
377	Fullbeck Avenue / Bransfield Close	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.78	
385	Garrett Lane Tyldesley	East	Astley	1.55	
390	Gathurst Wood, Gathurst Road	West	Pemberton	3.61	
393	Gibfield Park South, Colliery Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	3.68	
441	Green Lane, Leigh	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	7.75	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
446	Grove Lane / Sedgewick Green	West	Standish with Langtree	0.34	
453	Haigh Road / Parklands Drive	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.34	
456	Haigh Road / St David's Crescent	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	14.04	
458	Hall Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.10	
465	Hartington Drive (between 15-17)	West	Standish with Langtree	0.34	
471	Heath Lane, Lowton	Central	Lowton East	0.34	
473	Helen Street / Halewood Avenue	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.08	
480	High Street / Ince Green Lane	West	Ince	0.91	
511	Hope Carr Nature Reserve, Hope Carr Lane	East	Leigh South	38.41	
513	Houghton Lodges, Martland Mill Lane	West	Pemberton	0.82	
519	Hullet Hole Wood, The Nook	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	10.24	
522	Inbetween Atherleigh Way and Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	3.26	
524	Ince Green Lane	West	Ince	0.90	
530	James Street	West	Ince	0.31	
544	Kendal Road	West	Ince	0.46	
551	Kings Park semi natural area	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.38	
553	Kingsdown Flash, Lee Lane	Central	Abram	18.99	
558	Kirkless Local Nature Reserve, Farm Lane	West	Ince	24.71	
559	Kirkless Street	West	Ince	1.53	
560	Kirkless Wood, Withington Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	28.60	
562	Kitchen Carr Wood, Rectory Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	5.04	
563	Lady Mabels Wood, Hall Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	26.36	
567	Lancaster Avenue (rear of) Chanters Brook	East	Atherton South and Lilford	2.11	
569	Land (Chair Wood) adjacent Wigan Road	West	Orrell	18.73	
570	Land (Elnup / Hot House Wood) off High Park	West	Standish with Langtree	29.02	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
571	Land (Parsons Meadow) off Warrington Road	West	Worsley Mesnes	20.33	
573	Land adjacent Beech Walk / cricket ground / Wilkesley Avenue	West	Standish with Langtree	0.62	
574	Land adjacent Chapel Street Pemberton	West	Pemberton	0.84	
575	Land adjacent Coppull Lane / off Central Park Way	West	Wigan Central	2.10	
576	Land adjacent Lancaster / Canberra Road	West	Pemberton	8.26	
577	Land adjacent Leopold Street / railway	West	Pemberton	3.05	
578	Land adjacent motorway/3 ponds	West	Winstanley	2.33	
579	Land adjacent Pepperwood Drive / Worthington Way	West	Winstanley	2.28	
580	Land adjacent railway end Merton Road / Grebe Close	West	Winstanley	2.63	
583	Land around Pearsons Flash adjacent canal/railway	West	Worsley Mesnes	109.75	
587	Land behind Billinge Hospital, Greenslate Road	West	Orrell	7.83	
590	Land between canal / Stadium Way	West	Douglas	17.70	
591	Land between Hall Lane / railway opposite tennis courts	West	Orrell	7.14	
592	Land between Poolstock Lane / Warrington Road / Smithy Brooke	West	Worsley Mesnes	3.11	
593	Land between Scot Lane / river / railway / Martland Mill Lane	West	Wigan West	2.35	
595	Land Bransfield Close behind / adjacent No.4-22 (SHLAA0105)	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.28	
598	Land end Charlotte Drive	West	Winstanley	0.25	
602	Land Gate Lane	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	3.92	
606	Land off Beech Walk adjacent Cherry Tree Farm	West	Winstanley	9.98	
607	Land off Billinge Road adjacent No.196	West	Winstanley	1.40	
608	Land off Gidlow Lane north of factory	West	Wigan West	5.33	
609	Land off Haigh Road near churchyard / cemetery	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.05	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
611	Land off Riverside Avenue / Central Park Way	West	Wigan Central	1.77	
612	Land off Sheldon Avenue	West	Standish with Langtree	3.88	
613	Land off Upholland Road behind houses no.323-355	West	Orrell	4.96	
614	Land off Whitley Crescent / adjacent railway	West	Wigan Central	3.00	
617	Land south of Pemberton Colliery, Smithy Brook Park, Smithy Court (SHLAA0090)	West	Winstanley	10.20	
620	Landgate Lodge, Landgate Lane	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	2.25	
628	Lawns Wood, Wigan Lane	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	4.37	
660	Lightshaw Meadows, Lightshaw Lane	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	3.01	
668	Little Lows Meadow, Lowton	Central	Lowton East	0.16	
676	Low Hall Local Nature Reserve	Central	Abram	25.06	
709	Marus Avenue / Coppice Drive / Warrington Road	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.62	
712	Maypole Wood, Park Lane	Central	Abram	7.78	
716	Melling Way / Tan House Drive	West	Winstanley	3.91	
729	Millingford Brook Woodland, Croft Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.37	
746	Naburn Drive	West	Orrell	2.06	
753	New Manchester Woods	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	5.45	
770	North East of Clough House Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	12.71	
771	North of Black Lane	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	29.47	
772	North of Enstone Way	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	3.82	
774	North of Gidlow Cemetery	West	Standish with Langtree	6.02	
776	North of Lilford Park, Elmridge	East	Atherton South and Lilford	26.33	
777	North west of Kirkham Road, east of Atherleigh Way	East	Leigh South	7.69	
788	Off Gretna Road / Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	12.75	
789	Off Ledgard Avenue	East	Leigh South	0.93	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
790	Off Lovers Lane near crematorium	East	Atherton South and Lilford	11.23	
791	Off Meanley Road	East	Astley	1.78	
793	Off School Lane Gin Pit Village	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	21.85	
794	Off Squires Lane	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	4.26	
795	Off Westleigh Lane	East	Leigh West	3.99	
809	Orchard Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	5.00	
820	Otter Close Wood, Rectory Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	5.39	
829	Parkfield Drive (between 10-16)	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	3.52	
842	Pennington Flash Country Park	Central	Lowton East	163.63	
861	Petticoat Lane / Morrisons car park	West	Ince	1.71	
869	Platt Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2.13	
885	Ponds off Waterfield Close	Central	Lowton East	0.30	
888	Porters Wood, Ackhurst Lane	West	Pemberton	12.26	
892	Princess Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.53	
895	Prospect Hill Woodland, Haigh Road, Haigh	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.81	
906	Rayner Park NSN	Central	Hindley	7.84	
911	Rear 125 Baker Street	West	Douglas	1.92	
914	Rear 81-108 Manchester Road	East	Astley	2.16	
922	Rear of Robin Hill Drive	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.90	
923	Rear of Squires Lane	East	Astley	15.28	
932	Renfrew Close / Marus Avenue	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.51	
933	Reservoir / pond off Withington Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.82	
936	Ridges Wood off Wigan Road	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.70	
950	Rough Wood, Whitecroft Road	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.53	
951	Roundmoor Road	West	Standish with Langtree	1.50	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
957	S Mead / Oak Green Road	Central	Lowton East	0.11	
963	Salkeld Avenue	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.69	
965	Sanderson Street	East	Leigh West	0.99	
971	Sandyforth Farm, Ashton Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	45.29	
974	Scholes / Coop Street / Lower Longshoot	West	Wigan Central	0.52	
975	School Coverts, School Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.18	
980	Scotmans Flash off Poolstock Lane	West	Worsley Mesnes	82.48	
985	Shared Street	West	Ince	0.26	
1006	Skitters Wood, Woodedge	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	9.03	
1011	Softrush Park / Almond Green Avenue	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.90	
1014	South of Cooling Lane	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	11.80	
1110	Stein Avenue	Central	Lowton East	1.32	
1112	Stirrups Farm Road	Central	Lowton East	0.25	
1117	Stour Road / Wycombe Drive	East	Astley	2.57	
1128	Templegate Close / Copeland Drive	West	Standish with Langtree	0.41	
1129	Templeton Road / Woodcock Drive	Central	Abram	1.61	
1136	Thompson Farm Meadow / end of Oak Green Road	Central	Lowton East	0.57	
1138	Three Sisters Nature Reserve	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	48.95	
1148	Union Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	1.07	
1150	Upton Lane	East	Astley	3.50	
1153	Valley off Woodhouse Drive / Beech Hill Lane	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	25.07	
1160	Victoria Fields, Bickershaw Lane	Central	Abram	23.56	
1162	Viridor Wood (Forestry Commission), Bolton Road	Central	Abram	66.60	
1163	Viridor Wood West of Bolton Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	10.07	
1165	Walkway between Wigan Lane and Green Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	0.83	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1174	Ward Street / Ladies Lane	Central	Hindley	0.25	
1175	Wardlow Avenue / Spring Road	West	Pemberton	0.36	
1181	Warrington Road between Lancaster Street / Hardacre Street	West	Ince	0.52	
1182	Warrington Road opposite Tyrer Avenue	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.86	
1192	West of Atherleigh Way	East	Leigh West	4.45	
1194	West of Lily Lane, North of canal, Taylors Lane	Central	Abram	7.11	
1195	West of Lily Lane, North of canal	Central	Abram	52.25	
1196	West of Queensway	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	9.74	
1212	Westonby Court	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.60	
1214	Westwood Flash, Westward Park Drive	West	Worsley Mesnes	14.63	
1215	Westwood Lane, Ince	West	Ince	1.68	
1216	Westwood Lane / end of Eton Terrace	West	Ince	0.38	
1220	Whelley / Camberwell Crescent	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2.08	
1221	White Bridge Wood, Chorley Road	West	Standish with Langtree	5.45	
1224	Whitcroft Road / Killington Close	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.62	
1225	Whitehead Hall Meadow, Lower Green Lane	East	Astley	5.34	
1226	Whitledge Green	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.78	
1243	Wigan Road / Higher Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	5.60	
1262	Windy Bank Wood, Jennets Lane	East	Astley	6.54	
1270	Withington Lane	West	Ince	1.23	
1273	Woodcock Park, Woodcock Drive	Central	Abram	11.04	
1275	Woodhouse Drive / Almond Brook Road / School Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	1.14	
1280	Woodland, Green Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	0.17	
1281	Woodland, Wigan Lane	West	Wigan Central	0.24	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1283	Woods Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	8.58	
1287	Worthington Lakes, Chorley Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	16.67	
1290	York Avenue	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	6.58	



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Most areas with greater population density are served by the 9-minute walk time catchment for natural / semi-natural greenspace. However, a few gaps are noticeable. In the West Analysis Area, a gap in the Orrell and Pemberton wards are noted. Gaps are also noted in the wards of Golborne and Lowton West, Hindley and Hindley Green in the Central Analysis Area. In the East Analysis Area, the wards of Atherton North and Leigh Central and Higher Folds.

Gaps are generally served by other forms of open space provision. Such sites may offer similar opportunities and access to activities associated with natural / semi-natural greenspace. The potential to increase a site's secondary function as natural / semi-natural greenspace should be explored.

Table 5.4a: Other open spaces serving gaps in natural catchments (Central Area)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Golborne and Lowton West	Golborne Park (ID 410)	Parks
Hindley	Close Street (ID 266)	Amenity
Hindley	Salisbury Avenue (ID 962)	Amenity
Hindley	Smithwood Avenue (ID 1009)	Amenity
Hindley Green	Acreswood Avenue (ID 17)	Amenity
Hindley Green	Westlake Park (ID 1198)	Parks

Table 5.4b: Other open spaces serving gaps in natural catchments (East Area)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Atherton North	Brook Street (ID 209)	Amenity
Atherton North	Buttercup Close (ID 226)	Amenity
Atherton North	Car Bank Street (ID 245)	Amenity
Atherton North	Cherry Tree Grove (ID 254)	Amenity
Atherton North	Coronation Avenue / Queens Avenue (ID 280)	Amenity
Atherton North	Devonshire Road Playing Field (ID 316)	Amenity
Atherton North	Fletcher / Hatton Avenue (ID 369)	Amenity
Atherton North	Gibfield Park Avenue (ID 391)	Amenity
Atherton North	Gloucester Street, Atherton (ID 403)	Amenity
Atherton North	Leighton Avenue (ID 652)	Amenity
Atherton North	Prestwich Street (ID 890)	Amenity
Atherton North	Rear of Car Bank Crescent (ID 920)	Amenity
Atherton North	Spa Road Playing Field (ID 1017)	Amenity
Atherton North	Spa Road / Hillside Avenue (ID 1018)	Amenity
Atherton North	Spinningfield Close, Atherton (ID 1020)	Amenity
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Church Street Leigh (ID 259)	Amenity
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Market Place / St Marys Way (ID 702)	Amenity

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Table 5.4c: Other open spaces serving gaps in natural catchments (West Area)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Orrell	Holgate Park (ID 503)	Parks
Orrell	Pinewood Crescent (ID 863)	Amenity
Pemberton	Redwood Park (ID 929)	Parks

### 5.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural / semi-natural greenspace.

Table 5.5: Quality ratings for assessed natural / semi-natural greenspace

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	11	37	2
East	8	38	12
West	19	76	20
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>34</b>

All 223 identified sites are allocated a quality rating. Most assessed sites (68%) rate as average quality indicating a mixed standard of quality. Only 17% of assessed natural / semi natural greenspace sites in Wigan Borough rate as good quality overall.

Some good quality natural / semi-natural sites in Wigan Borough are:

- ✦ Amberswood Nature Reserve
- ✦ Low Hall Nature Reserve
- ✦ Kirkless Local Nature Reserve, Farm Lane
- ✦ Pennington Flash Country Park

These sites, alongside other high scoring sites, have the added benefit of ancillary features such as paths and bins. The sites are also observed as having good access for all with well-maintained pathways and levels of personal security. Note that the boundary fencing at the Amberswood Nature Reserve, Low Hall Nature Reserve and Kirkless Local Nature Reserve are identified as being average condition.

Amberswood Nature Reserve is a large site comprising of lakes, ponds, woodlands and wetland. The varied habitats support a range of wildlife. It is a Site of Biological Importance and became a National Nature Reserve in October 2022. The site benefits from a good network of paths used by walkers, dog walkers, horse riders and cyclists. Many footpaths have been upgraded including the path around the lake. Additional improvement works have been undertaken through Woodland Improvement Grants which Wigan Council has received from the Forestry Commission. Furthermore, an outdoor classroom has been installed in the woodland which is used by local primary schools. Overall, the site's condition is rated as good. However, the site is noted as having some quality issues such as vandalism, graffiti and litter. The boundary fencing is noted as being average quality.

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Adjacent to Amberswood Nature Reserve is Low Hall Nature Reserve, another good quality site. It is much smaller but also part of the wider Flashes of Wigan and Leigh National Nature Reserve and provides an important link in the Wigan Borough wildlife corridor. The site features car parking, including disabled car parking, informative signage, bins and fencing. Moreover, the site is very rich in wildlife and habitats and attracts numerous dragonflies and damselflies. However, the site is noted as containing some overgrown vegetation and litter.

Similar in size to Low Hall Nature Reserve is Kirkless Local Nature Reserve, located in Wigan Town Analysis Area. The site features good paths, mostly accessible for wheelchairs. The site is home to the rare willow tit: Britain's most endangered small bird.

Pennington Flash Country Park is one of the largest natural / semi-natural greenspaces. This Green Flag Award site has a fantastic range of facilities including a lakeside café, accessible toilets, car parking, and an adventure play area. The site has the additional benefits of bird hides, picnic areas, bins, signage, footpaths, cycleways and bridle paths enabling a range of visitors to use the site.

Despite some sites rated as being in overall good condition, there are numerous sites noted as having average quality principal features including Skitters Wood, Woodedge, Coupland Road Hindley Green, Finch Mill Avenue / Ruecroft Close, Hullet Hole Wood, The Nook, and Rear of Robin Hill Drive.

Most assessed natural / semi-natural greenspace sites (151) are considered as average quality. Billinge Plantation, Crank Road and Coppice Wood, Crank Road, Billinge are located adjacent to each other and near the Wigan Borough boundary. Both sites feature paths and are used by walkers and dog walkers. Both lack signage, seating and bins, however the purpose of these sites is more focused on habitat promotion and wildlife.

Worthington Lakes, Chorley Road, owned by United Utilities, is of average quality overall. The lakes are part of a large country park with a nature reserve, paths, seating and bins. However, the site boundary condition is identified as average and there are also litter and overgrown vegetation observed.

A total of 34 natural / semi-natural greenspaces rate as poor quality mainly due to a lack of ancillary features. In addition, the quality of existing features at many of these sites is considered poor or average. For example, Bartons Wood on Tan House Drive, and Victoria Fields on Bickershaw Lane, are noted as having overgrown vegetation, vandalism and litter. Both sites have poor boundary fencing, are poorly maintained and lack other ancillary features such as bins and seating.

Melling Way / Tan House Drive (aka Tan Pit Wood, Tan Pit Lane) and Land between Scot Lane / river / railway / Martland Mill Lane are also noted as overgrown vegetation with litter.

## **PART 6: AMENITY GREENSPACE**

### **6.1: Introduction**

Amenity greenspace is defined as sites offering opportunities for informal activities close to home, and enhancement of the appearance of residential and other areas. It includes informal recreation spaces and other incidental spaces.

### **6.2: Current provision**

There are 421 amenity greenspace sites in Wigan Borough equating to over 271 hectares of provision. Sites are most often found within areas of housing and function as informal recreation space or along highways providing a visual amenity. A number of recreation grounds and playing fields are also classified as amenity greenspace.

Table 6.1: Current amenity greenspace by analysis area

Analysis area	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Central	91	62.02	0.67
East	122	88.97	0.90
West	208	120.61	0.85
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>271.59</b>	<b>0.81</b>

This typology has a broad range of purposes and as such varies significantly in size. For example, Clonderry Close in Tyldesley at 0.12 hectares acts as an important visual / communal amenity. In contrast, Aspull Civic Park at nearly six hectares is a greenspace with a range of recreational and sport opportunities.

Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 6.1 shows that overall Wigan Borough is above this. This is also the case for all three analysis areas.

To assist in identifying local levels in provision, table 6.2 shows current amenity greenspace provision broken down by ward.

Table 6.2: Distribution of all amenity greenspace by ward

Analysis area	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Abram	17	16.31	1.03
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	9	3.02	0.24
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	16	8.21	0.76
Golborne and Lowton West	16	12.01	1.16
Hindley	8	4.42	0.33
Hindley Green	11	4.35	0.31
Lowton East	14	13.69	0.86
<b>Central</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>62.02</b>	<b>0.67</b>
Astley	17	15.06	1.14

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Analysis area	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Atherton North	19	13.02	0.92
Atherton South and Lilford	12	10.33	0.72
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	20	11.97	0.79
Leigh South	12	3.13	0.25
Leigh West	24	20.84	1.25
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	18	14.62	1.12
<b>East</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>88.97</b>	<b>0.90</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	47	29.46	2.81
Douglas	11	5.67	0.46
Ince	31	18.27	1.66
Orrell	4	1.55	0.12
Pemberton	23	17.18	1.11
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	18	9.99	0.86
Standish with Langtree	25	9.93	0.56
Wigan Central	13	5.47	0.34
Wigan West	12	7.16	0.80
Winstanley	11	2.77	0.24
Worsley Mesnes	13	13.15	0.96
<b>West</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>120.61</b>	<b>0.85</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>271.59</b>	<b>0.81</b>

All wards are observed as containing amenity greenspace.

Note that 163 sites in table 6.1 are below 0.2 hectares. These are very small and typically would not be included within a study of this type. Such sites still play an important role but are less likely to provide much recreational use and serve more as visual amenities. Table 6.3 below shows the amounts of amenity greenspaces above 0.2 hectares across Wigan Borough to demonstrate the comparison in quantity and standards figures.

Table 6.3: Distribution of amenity greenspaces above 0.2 hectares

Analysis area	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Central	57	57.90	0.62
East	83	83.84	0.85
West	118	109.30	0.77
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>251.04</b>	<b>0.75</b>

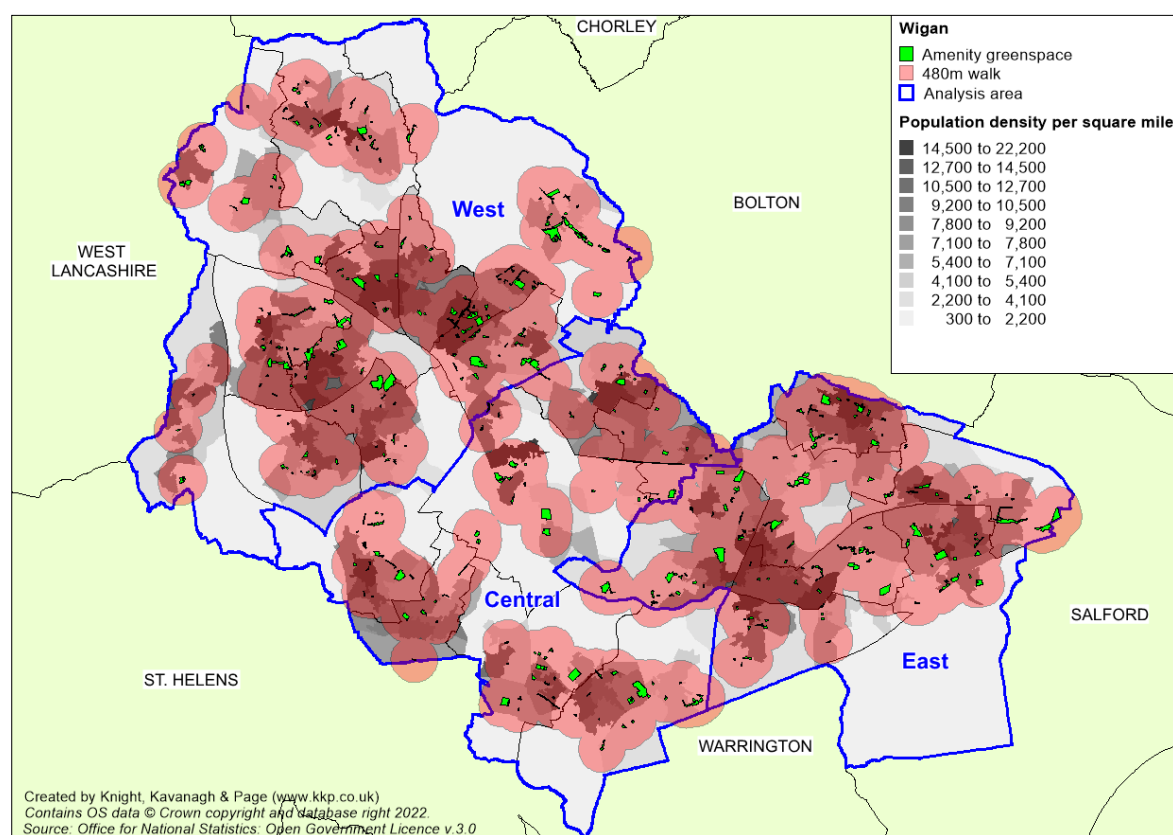
Using sites above 0.2 hectares in size, table 6.3 shows that overall Wigan Borough is still above the FIT standard of 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population. All three analysis areas also remain above this standard.

It is important to highlight that it is not always clear to distinguish a site's primary typology. Some sites can bridge the definition of typologies such as natural / semi-natural greenspace and amenity greenspace. For example, a grassed area left unmaintained can start to have characteristics associated with natural / semi-natural greenspace.

## 6.3: Accessibility

An accessibility standard of a 6-minute walk time (480m) has been set across Wigan Borough for amenity greenspace. This is based on FIT catchments. Figure 6.1 shows amenity greenspace mapped against the analysis areas with the accessibility catchment. Due to the number of sites, the map does not show ID numbers.

Figure 6.1: Amenity greenspaces with a 6-minute (480m) walk catchment



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Table 6.4: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1	170-192 Almond Brook Road	West	Standish with Langtree	0.05	
2	Abberley Way (adjacent 16)	West	Winstanley	0.14	
15	Acresfield	East	Astley	0.07	
16	Acresfield and Tiverton Close	East	Astley	0.09	
17	Acreswood Avenue	Central	Hindley Green	0.26	
18	Adjacent 2 Dunsdale Drive	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.08	
20	Adjacent 12 North Lane	East	Astley	0.16	
21	Adjacent 128 Westleigh Lane	East	Leigh West	0.29	
22	Adjacent 165 Haigh Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.11	
23	Adjacent 2 Bexhill Drive	Central	Hindley Green	0.15	
24	Adjacent 2 Horrocks Street	East	Leigh West	0.13	
25	Adjacent 28 Golborne Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.08	
26	Adjacent 283 Bryn Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.30	
27	Adjacent 29 Chester Avenue	Central	Lowton East	0.14	
29	Adjacent 3 Hazelmere Gardens	Central	Hindley Green	0.13	
30	Adjacent 327 Tyldesley Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.67	
31	Adjacent 33 Belle Green Lane	West	Ince	0.12	
32	Adjacent 4 Edge Green Lane	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.10	
33	Adjacent 416 Wigan Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.14	
35	Adjacent 538 Bryn Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.15	
36	Adjacent 566 Manchester Road	East	Astley	0.82	
37	Adjacent 69 Bolney Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.09	
38	Adjacent 72 High Street	West	Standish with Langtree	0.04	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
39	Adjacent 93 Victoria Road	Central	Abram	0.39	
43	Adjacent Cherry Gardens Hotel	West	Wigan Central	0.29	
50	Adjacent to Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Plank Lane	East	Leigh West	0.18	
51	Albion Drive / Kirkless Hall Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.30	
53	Alders Green Road	Central	Hindley	0.33	
66	Alton Close	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.08	
69	Anderton Way / Withington Grange	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.13	
70	Ann Lane / Higher Green Lane	East	Astley	0.21	
72	Armfield Grove	East	Leigh West	0.51	
73	Arnside Avenue	West	Ince	0.41	
75	Ashfield Park Drive (opposite 1-19)	West	Standish with Langtree	0.28	
88	Aspull Civic Park	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	5.83	
93	Aspull Common, Haigh Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2.12	
111	Ayrefield Grove / Cloughwood Crescent	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.77	
112	Bankside Avenue	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.10	
113	Bankwood / Chisacre Drive / Miles Lane	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.07	
114	Barbury Close	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.32	
116	Barracks Road / Bickershaw Lane	Central	Abram	0.22	
119	Beacon Road	Central	Abram	0.13	
128	Beech Hill Avenue / Lingfield Crescent	West	Wigan West	0.26	
133	Behind 28 / 29 Albion Drive	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.12	
137	Bellamy Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.13	
138	Belle Green Lane between Nelson Drive / Russell Street	West	Ince	0.10	



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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
140	Belle Green Lane / Helmfield Road	West	Ince	0.12	
141	Belle Green Lane / Russell Street / Kendal Road	West	Ince	0.34	
145	Bentham Place	West	Standish with Langtree	0.38	
147	Between 1-2 Eastwood Grove	East	Leigh West	0.11	
149	Between 81a and 99a Crooke Road	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.07	
150	Between Ashbourne Avenue / Dryton Walk	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.11	
152	Between Essex Street / Windermere Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.11	
153	Between Great Acre and Vine Street	West	Wigan Central	0.09	
154	Between Oak Street and Henry Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.13	
156	Between Sole Street / Salmon Street, Whelley	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.13	
157	Between Wirral Drive and Beech Walk	West	Winstanley	0.11	
160	Bexhill Drive / Polegate Drive	Central	Hindley Green	0.10	
161	Bickershaw AGS	Central	Hindley Green	0.44	
170	Birtle Drive	East	Astley	0.21	
172	Blackberry Drive	Central	Hindley	0.37	
173	Bluebell Avenue / Forest Avenue	West	Wigan West	0.12	
176	Bodmin Drive	Central	Abram	0.47	
177	Bolton Old Road/Park Street	East	Atherton North	0.15	
178	Bolton Road (opposite 376-386)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.21	
179	Bolton Road (opposite 385-403)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.53	
180	Bolton Road (opposite 404-468)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.32	
181	Bolton Road (opposite 50-72)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.74	
182	Bolton Road (opposite 72-76)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.60	
183	Bolton Road adjacent St Elizabeth's Church	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.72	
185	Bolton Road opposite Mill Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.16	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
187	Bolton Road/Bradshaw House Farm	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.20	
188	Bolton Road / Orchard Street	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.66	
189	Bonnywell Road (opposite 2-16)	East	Leigh South	0.39	
193	Boundary Street / Ellesmere Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.45	
200	Bradshaw Close	West	Standish with Langtree	0.20	
205	Branson Close	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.21	
209	Brook Street	East	Atherton North	0.74	
215	Bryn Gates Recreational Ground	Central	Abram	0.80	
217	Bryn Road (opposite Lockett Road)	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.44	
219	Bryn Road / Beech Street	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1.06	
220	Bryn Street / Manley Street / Warrington Road	West	Ince	0.20	
221	Buchanan Road / Fraser Road	West	Douglas	0.37	
223	Buckland Drive / Ashington Close	West	Pemberton	0.19	
225	Burghley Way	West	Ince	0.51	
226	Buttercup Close	East	Atherton North	0.68	
228	Buttercup Meadow, south of Pepper Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	0.10	
229	Buttercup Meadow / Ludlow Street	West	Standish with Langtree	0.30	
233	Calder Avenue	Central	Hindley Green	0.20	
236	Cale Lane Playing Fields	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2.79	
237	Cale Lane, Aspull	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.54	
238	Calveley Walk / Aldford Way	West	Standish with Langtree	0.12	
241	Canberra Road / Lancaster Road	West	Pemberton	1.83	
245	Car Bank Street	East	Atherton North	0.70	
246	Carr Lane / Stewart Road / Ashby Road	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.66	
253	Chapel Street / Forth Street	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.19	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
254	Cherry Tree Grove	East	Atherton North	0.19	
255	Chilton Close	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.30	
256	Chorley Road (opposite Devon Drive)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.80	
259	Church Street Leigh	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.18	
263	Clarke Street	East	Leigh South	0.21	
264	Clonderry Close	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.12	
266	Close Street	Central	Hindley	0.35	
267	Clough House Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.23	
272	Common Lane, Leigh	East	Leigh West	0.46	
274	Coopers Glen	West	Ince	0.11	
277	Corner of Abbeyfields / Dumbarton Green	West	Wigan West	0.08	
279	Corner of Schofield Lane and Scholes	West	Ince	0.14	
280	Coronation Avenue / Queens Avenue	East	Atherton North	0.34	
281	Coronation Park	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.50	
286	Cranborne Close	West	Standish with Langtree	0.63	
287	Crank Wood, Crankwood Road, Abram	East	Leigh West	3.12	
293	Crawford Avenue	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.17	
294	Crawford Avenue, Aspull	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.57	
299	Cromer Drive	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.19	
302	Crooke Road (adjacent public house)	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.16	
304	Crooke Road to front of Church	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.07	
307	Cross Street / Market Street	West	Standish with Langtree	0.07	
309	Dalbeattie Rise / Waterbeck Close	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.43	
312	Davidson Walk	West	Douglas	0.11	
315	Denham Drive and Cranfield Road	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.11	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
316	Devonshire Road Playing Field	East	Atherton North	2.87	
325	Douglas Green	West	Standish with Langtree	0.62	
326	Douglas Park	East	Atherton North	0.12	
327	Douglas Street Playing Field	East	Atherton North	1.47	
329	Dovedale Crescent	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.11	
333	East of Pocket Nook Lane	Central	Lowton East	2.85	
347	Eldon Gardens	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.16	
349	Ellesmere Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.84	
353	Elmfield / Millbrook Primary School	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.10	
354	Elmhow Grove / Malham Avenue	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.26	
357	End of Hedge Bank, Standish	West	Standish with Langtree	0.47	
359	Fairway, behind Standish Leisure Centre	West	Standish with Langtree	3.07	
360	Fairway / Thorley Grove	West	Standish with Langtree	0.26	
361	Falkirk Drive / Belle Green Lane	West	Ince	0.19	
362	Farm Croft Drive	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.36	
364	Findley Cook Road	West	Winstanley	0.06	
369	Fletcher / Hatton Avenue	East	Atherton North	0.14	
373	Foxdene Grove	West	Winstanley	0.47	
375	Frederick Street / Kirkless Street	West	Ince	0.28	
380	Gadbury Fold	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.23	
381	Gantley Avenue (rear 9-55)	West	Orrell	0.21	
383	Gardinar Close	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.48	
388	Garton Drive	Central	Lowton East	0.71	
391	Gibfield Park Avenue	East	Atherton North	0.69	
395	Gidlow Lane	West	Wigan West	0.53	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
399	Gin Pit Village Green, School Street	East	Astley	0.57	
400	Gloucester Avenue	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.64	
401	Gloucester Crescent	Central	Hindley	0.10	
403	Gloucester Street, Atherton	East	Atherton North	0.07	
414	Golborne Parkside	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	4.04	
426	Gorse Walk	East	Leigh West	0.15	
428	Grange Street	East	Leigh South	0.10	
429	Grasmere Street	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.13	
431	Grassland at front of 498 Bolton Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.33	
437	Green Avenue Park	East	Astley	0.28	
442	Greenough Street / Scholes	West	Wigan Central	0.44	
443	Greenough Street / Turner Street / Sullivan Way	West	Wigan Central	0.24	
445	Grizedale Drive / Kendal Road	West	Ince	0.19	
454	Haigh Road / Ratcliffe Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.59	
455	Haigh Road / Scot Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.21	
459	Hamblett Street	East	Leigh West	0.34	
460	Hazelton Close	East	Leigh South	0.06	
461	Banbury Close	East	Leigh South	0.12	
462	Hardrow Close / Selside / Woodhead Green	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.22	
464	Harrier Close	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.77	
466	Hawkhurst Street AGS	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.39	
472	Hedge Bank / Broadfern	West	Standish with Langtree	0.09	
474	Helvellyn Road / The Green	West	Pemberton	1.07	
476	Hesketh Meadows Playing Field	Central	Lowton East	6.36	
478	Heywood Avenue / Cottesmore Way	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	1.67	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
479	High Park (between 26 / 28)	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.15	
502	Hodder Close / Montrose Avenue / Sherwood Drive	West	Pemberton	3.18	
505	Holly Road	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.17	
506	Holly Road / St Elizabeths Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.09	
507	Holmbrook / Leafield	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.21	
512	Hope Park	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.95	
518	Howe Bridge Playing Fields	East	Atherton South and Lilford	3.89	
521	Ilkeston Drive	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.29	
525	Ince Green Lane / George Street	West	Ince	0.10	
526	Ince Green Lane / The Grove	West	Ince	0.20	
532	James Street / Bolton Road	Central	Abram	0.47	
538	Junction Merton Road and Ribbesford Road	West	Winstanley	0.11	
539	Junction of Oak Street and Shuttle Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.07	
540	Junction Road / Spindlewood Terrace	West	Ince	0.63	
542	Jury Street / Briggs Street	East	Leigh West	0.82	
543	Karen Road	West	Ince	0.27	
545	Kenilworth Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.34	
548	Kielder Close	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.06	
549	Kinder Grove / Grange Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.29	
550	King Georges Playing Field, Armoury Bank	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.27	
552	Kings Park, Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	2.79	
554	Kingsdown Recreation Area	Central	Abram	1.85	
561	Kirkwood Close	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.16	
564	Laithwaite Park	West	Douglas	3.18	
568	Lancaster Street	West	Ince	0.06	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
572	Land adjacent 115 Woodhouse Lane	West	Wigan West	0.14	
581	Land adjacent to 64 Poolstock Lane	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.14	
582	Land Andover Crescent between Petworth Avenue / Colerne Way	West	Winstanley	0.09	
584	Land around / at end of St John Street	West	Pemberton	0.16	
585	Land at Pocket Nook Lane	Central	Lowton East	0.24	
586	Land Beech Walk/end Sunnyfields	West	Winstanley	0.52	
588	Land between 177-201 Platt Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.46	
589	Land between Baldwin Street / Brook Lane	West	Pemberton	0.19	
594	Land between Smethurst Lane / Chatsworth / Enfield Street	West	Pemberton	0.10	
596	Land corner Elkstone Close / Burley Crescent	West	Winstanley	0.09	
597	Land corner Prescott Lane / Spring Road	West	Pemberton	0.11	
599	Land end Heysham Road/off City Road	West	Pemberton	0.12	
601	Land end Stanton Close between houses	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.07	
604	Land Lamberhead / Somerset Road	West	Pemberton	0.18	
605	Land Little Lane near Lady Lane (SHLAA0090)	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.14	
616	Land on Worsley Hall Avenue adjacent to No.117	West	Pemberton	0.11	
618	Land Tarrant Close (adjacent no.18) / Andover Crescent	West	Winstanley	0.10	
622	Langdale / Heysham Road	West	Pemberton	0.67	
623	Langtree Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	0.19	
625	Larch Road / Westleigh Lane	East	Leigh West	0.32	
626	Larchwood Drive	West	Wigan Central	0.84	
629	Lawson Avenue Playing Field	East	Leigh West	2.87	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
630	Legh Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	2.61	
644	Leigh Road / Lovers Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.26	
652	Leighton Avenue	East	Atherton North	0.80	
654	Ley Road, Astley	East	Astley	0.15	
672	Lodge Lane Playing Fields	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	3.48	
673	Longbrook / Parkfield	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.57	
674	Lonsdale Walk	West	Pemberton	0.12	
686	Ludlow Street / Almond Green Avenue	West	Standish with Langtree	0.60	
688	Lune Grove (rear)	East	Leigh West	0.42	
689	Manchester Road	West	Ince	2.66	
690	Manchester Road (Amberswood Common)	West	Ince	0.90	
691	Manchester Road / Church Road	East	Astley	0.38	
692	Manchester Road / Rose Bridge High School	West	Ince	0.37	
693	Manchester Road / Walmsley Park	West	Ince	1.03	
694	Maple Avenue	Central	Lowton East	0.21	
695	Maple Crescent / Westbourne Avenue	East	Leigh West	0.11	
697	Margaret Street	West	Wigan West	0.61	
702	Market Place / St Marys Way	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.25	
706	Marsh Playing Fields	East	Leigh West	4.96	
707	Martland Avenue	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.17	
711	Mayfield Road	West	Pemberton	0.41	
715	Medway Walk	West	Douglas	0.52	
717	Melrose Playing Field	East	Leigh West	0.98	
718	Merchants Crescent	Central	Lowton East	0.45	
726	Middlecot Close	West	Orrell	0.15	



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
728	Miller's Lane	Central	Abram	0.17	
730	Miners Welfare Recreation Ground, Sherwood Crescent	Central	Abram	1.59	
733	Montrose Avenue / Ribble Drive	West	Pemberton	0.23	
735	Monyash View	Central	Hindley Green	0.11	
736	Moore Street / Lamb Street	West	Wigan Central	0.38	
737	Moorgate Drive / Hurstbrook Close	East	Astley	1.39	
738	Moorside / Oakfield Crescent	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.18	
744	Mosley Common Playing Field	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	2.40	
747	Naylor Avenue	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.24	
748	Nel Pan Lane (near 66)	East	Leigh West	0.79	
749	New City Road Playing Field	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	2.75	
756	Newlyn Drive	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.10	
757	Newman Ave	West	Wigan West	0.98	
764	Nicol Road / Bryn Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	3.24	
765	Nook Lane	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.88	
768	Norley Road (between 8-10)	West	Pemberton	0.33	
769	North Avenue / West Avenue	East	Leigh South	0.16	
773	North of Garrett Lane / West of Mossley Common Road	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	4.62	
775	North of Kirkwood Close, with Wigan Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.10	
778	Northway / Mesnes Street	West	Wigan Central	0.13	
779	Nothumberland Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.85	
782	Oaklands Road	Central	Lowton East	1.25	
786	Oakwood Drive	East	Leigh South	0.52	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
792	Off Nixon Philips Drive	Central	Hindley Green	0.20	
797	Opposite 17-39 Norley Hall Avenue	West	Douglas	0.19	
798	Opposite 2-12 Central Avenue	East	Leigh South	0.19	
799	Opposite 23 Shelley Street	East	Leigh West	0.14	
800	Opposite 26 Birkett Bank	West	Ince	0.23	
801	Opposite 28-46 Holt Street	East	Leigh West	0.30	
802	Opposite 36 Bridge Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.12	
803	Opposite 37 St Davids Crescent	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.12	
804	Opposite 58/60 Stanley Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.25	
805	Opposite 612 Wigan Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.40	
806	Opposite 7 Rose Hill View	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.27	
807	Opposite 9 Langley Close	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.11	
808	Opposite 19 Winton Road	Central	Lowton East	0.62	
826	Park Road to Leigh Road	Central	Abram	2.63	
830	Parkfield Drive (between 27-33)	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.29	
834	Parsons Meadow Playing Field	West	Worsley Mesnes	5.12	
835	Parsons Meadow St Judes ARLFC	West	Worsley Mesnes	5.55	
836	Pateley Square	West	Wigan West	0.44	
837	Peel Hall Avenue	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.31	
845	Pennington Gardens	East	Leigh South	0.28	
846	Pennington Green Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.12	
853	Pennington Road / Bonnywell Road / Malvern Terrace	East	Leigh South	0.21	
858	Perch Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.39	
859	Peregrine Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.14	
862	Pickley Green	East	Leigh West	0.81	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
863	Pinewood Crescent	West	Orrell	0.10	
866	Platt Bridge Community Garden	Central	Abram	0.15	
873	Platt Lane / Scholes	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.17	
877	Playing Field off Crooke Road	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.66	
882	Playing Fields, Parkfield Avenue	East	Astley	3.71	
883	Pond Street	Central	Lowton East	0.11	
890	Prestwich Street	East	Atherton North	1.53	
891	Primrose Lane / Kenyon Road	West	Standish with Langtree	0.24	
897	Queensway (adjacent 32)	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	1.93	
899	Queensway / Coronation Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.11	
900	Queensway / Walmsley Road	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.41	
901	Railway Street / Woodhouse Lane	West	Wigan West	0.03	
903	Raithby Drive	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.18	
904	Ramshorn Close, Standish	West	Standish with Langtree	0.19	
905	Ratcliffe Road / Stanley Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.04	
907	Rayner Park	Central	Hindley	0.65	
912	Rear 186 Hamilton Street	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.13	
913	Rear 57 May Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.13	
915	Rear of 12 Tatton Drive	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.16	
916	Rear of 13 Hathaway Walk	Central	Abram	0.11	
918	Rear of 30-36 Mesnes Avenue	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.18	
919	Rear of 36 East Street	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.14	
920	Rear of Car Bank Crescent	East	Atherton North	0.24	
921	Rear of Moss Bank Court	East	Leigh West	0.10	
925	Recreation Ground off Leigh Street	Central	Hindley Green	1.94	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
926	Recreation Ground Upholland Road	West	Orrell	1.10	
927	Recreation Ground, Ellesmere Street	East	Astley	1.57	
931	Regina Crescent	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.18	
934	Richmond Drive/Imperial Drive	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	1.27	
938	Roach Green	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.21	
942	Roscoe Street / Hardybutts	West	Ince	0.12	
947	Rosebay Gardens / Foxtail Meadow	West	Standish with Langtree	0.27	
948	Rossdale Grove	West	Standish with Langtree	0.22	
949	Rothwell Gardens	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.23	
952	Rowe Street / Manchester Road	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.06	
953	Royal Drive (adjacent 74)	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.32	
954	Royal Drive / Windsor Road	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.48	
955	Runs along Richmond Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.14	
956	Ryder Grove	East	Leigh South	0.14	
960	Saddleback Crescent / Helvellyn Road	West	Pemberton	1.17	
962	Salisbury Avenue	Central	Hindley	2.00	
964	Sanderling Drive / Redshank Grove	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.18	
969	Sandway	West	Wigan West	0.14	
972	Schofield Lane / Catherine Street	West	Ince	1.03	
973	Scholes (front of Church/Health Centre)	West	Wigan Central	0.17	
976	School Street, Golborne	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.25	
977	School Street, Leigh	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.85	
979	Scot Lane / Sumner Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.11	
981	Scott Lane (rear 373-405)	West	Pemberton	0.49	
982	Sculpture at Scholes	West	Ince	0.09	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
983	Severn Road / Ribble Road	West	Pemberton	0.48	
986	Sherwood Crescent / Montrose Avenue (opposite 5-21)	West	Douglas	0.19	
987	Sherwood Crescent / Montrose Avenue (opposite 8-28)	West	Douglas	0.22	
988	Sherwood Drive / Kingwood Crescent	West	Douglas	0.24	
989	Sherwood Grove	West	Douglas	0.27	
1001	Shuttle Street to front of Morrisons	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.09	
1002	Sibley Avenue / Longmead Avenue	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.20	
1003	Silk Mill Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.48	
1004	Silvinton Way	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.14	
1008	Smiths Lane, Hindley Green	Central	Hindley Green	0.09	
1009	Smithwood Avenue	Central	Hindley	0.17	
1013	Somerset Road / Lamberhead Road / Dorset Close	West	Pemberton	1.47	
1015	Southlands Avenue Playing Field	West	Standish with Langtree	0.78	
1016	Sovereign Close Play Area	Central	Lowton East	0.04	
1017	Spa Road Playing Field	East	Atherton North	1.30	
1018	Spa Road / Hillside Avenue	East	Atherton North	0.43	
1020	Spinningfield Close, Atherton	East	Atherton North	0.23	
1021	Spring Street / adjacent to canal	West	Ince	0.23	
1025	Spruce Close	Central	Lowton East	0.41	
1034	St Annes Recreation Ground	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.77	
1037	St Catherines Recreation Ground	West	Ince	1.87	
1042	St Elizabeths Road / Holly Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.15	
1051	St Helens Road (between 432-458)	Central	Lowton East	0.11	
1052	St James Crescent	Central	Abram	0.31	
1062	St Johns Street, Recreational Ground	Central	Abram	4.17	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1100	Stadium Way / Anjou Boulevard	West	Pemberton	3.10	
1101	Stadium Way / Scot Lane	West	Pemberton	1.29	
1106	Standish Library	West	Standish with Langtree	0.11	
1107	Stanley Road / Ratcliffe Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.09	
1109	Stavesacre (opposite 22)	East	Leigh South	0.75	
1111	Stirrups Farm Rd / S Meadow Close	Central	Lowton East	0.19	
1113	Stockley Drive	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.80	
1116	Stonefield / Crawley Avenue	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.58	
1118	Stratton Drive	Central	Abram	2.37	
1126	Tan House Drive (opposite Bartons Wood)	West	Winstanley	0.63	
1130	The Avenue	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.52	
1134	Thirlmere Avenue	East	Astley	0.24	
1135	Thomas Street Playing Field	Central	Hindley Green	0.73	
1151	Upton Road	East	Atherton North	0.35	
1154	Vauxhall Road	West	Ince	0.30	
1164	Walkers Drive (adjacent 55)	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.33	
1166	Walkway off Bakewell Drive	West	Wigan West	0.13	
1167	Walmsley Meadow Road	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.72	
1178	Warminster Grove (rear of houses)	West	Winstanley	0.46	
1179	Warrington Lane near Brook House	West	Ince	0.14	
1180	Warrington Road	Central	Abram	0.22	
1183	Warrington Road / Little Lane	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.43	
1184	Warrington Road / Norfolk Street	West	Douglas	0.14	
1186	Warrington Road / Redbrook Road	West	Ince	0.22	
1187	Warrington Road / Stanley Street / Victoria Street	West	Douglas	0.24	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1188	Warrington Road / Taylors Lane	Central	Abram	0.26	
1189	Watsons Playing Field	East	Leigh West	2.23	
1190	Wellington Drive opposite No.15	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.10	
1191	West of Astley Street	East	Astley	3.27	
1193	West of Caldwell Avenue Tyldesley (Coldalhurst Farm)	East	Astley	1.25	
1223	Whiteacre / Forest Drive	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.22	
1230	Wigan Lane (between 365-375)	West	Wigan Central	0.33	
1231	Wigan Lane / Milton Grove (Marylebone Park)	West	Wigan Central	0.53	
1232	Wigan Lane / St Clements Road	West	Wigan Central	0.16	
1233	Wigan Lower Road behind No.152-166	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.14	
1234	Wigan Lower Road / Woodhouse Drive	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.24	
1239	Wigan Road / Ashby Grove	East	Leigh West	0.29	
1240	Wigan Road / Cale Lane / Kirkless Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.30	
1242	Wigan Road / Crooke Road	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.34	
1244	Wigan Road / Holly Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.13	
1245	Wigan Road / Seaman Way	Central	Hindley	0.44	
1252	Wigan Youth Zone Playing Field	West	Wigan Central	0.67	
1253	Wilkinson Park Drive	East	Leigh West	0.42	
1257	William Fosters Playing Fields	West	Ince	5.14	
1259	Winnard Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.26	
1260	Windsor Street	West	Wigan Central	1.19	
1269	Withington Drive	East	Astley	0.70	
1271	Withington Lane / Canal Bank House	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.19	
1276	Woodhouse Stadium Playing Fields	West	Wigan West	3.69	
1277	Woodhurst Drive	West	Standish with Langtree	0.26	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1278	Woodhurst Drive (adjacent 71)	West	Standish with Langtree	0.37	
1282	Woodnook Road (adjacent 43)	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.19	
1284	Worsley Green	West	Pemberton	0.23	
1285	Worsley Mesnes Drive opposite Shakespeare Grove	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.08	
1288	Yewdale Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1.27	



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Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of amenity greenspace provision across Wigan. Some minor gaps in catchment mapping are noted. However, it is recognised that these gaps are potentially covered and served by other forms of open space provision. Exploring the potential to strengthen features associated with amenity greenspace at some of these sites could be considered to increase a sites secondary function as an amenity.

Table 6.5a: Other open spaces serving gaps in amenity catchments (Central Wards)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Abram	Kingsdown Flash, Lee Lane (ID 553)	Natural
Abram	Low Hall Local Nature Reserve (ID 676)	Natural
Abram	Templeton Road / Woodcock Drive (ID 1129)	Natural
Abram	West of Lily Lane, North of canal (ID 1195)	Natural
Abram	Woodcock Park, Woodcock Drive (ID 1273)	Natural
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	Liverpool Road Community Garden (ID 669)	Parks
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Sandyforth Farm, Ashton Road (ID 971)	Natural
Hindley	Leyland Park (ID 655)	Parks
Lowton East	Pennington Flash Country Park (ID 842)	Natural
Lowton East	Stein Avenue (ID 1110)	Natural

Table 6.5b: Other open spaces serving gaps in amenity catchments (East Wards)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Astley	Rear 81-108 Manchester Road (ID 914)	Natural
Atherton South and Lilford	Gibfield Park South, Colliery Lane (ID 393)	Natural
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	Adjacent 444 Manchester Road (ID 34)	Natural
Leigh South	Pennington Hall Park (ID 847)	Parks
Leigh West	Bickershaw Colliery Site, Edna Rd / Plank Lane (ID 163)	Natural
Leigh West	Firs Park (ID 366)	Parks

Table 6.5c: Other open spaces serving gaps in amenity catchments (West Wards)

Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	Haigh Woodland Park (ID 450)	Parks
Orrell	Orrell Water Park (ID 818)	Parks
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Birley Wood off Wigan Road (ID 169)	Natural
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Hullet Hole Wood, The Nook (ID 519)	Natural

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Ward	Other open spaces in gap	Open space type
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Shevington Memorial Park (ID 996)	Parks
Standish with Langtree	Ashfield Park (ID 74)	Parks
Standish with Langtree	Bradley Lane / end Sheldon Avenue (ID 199)	Natural
Standish with Langtree	Land (Elnup / Hot House Wood) off High Park (ID 570)	Natural
Standish with Langtree	Land off Sheldon Avenue (ID 612)	Natural
Standish with Langtree	Quakers Burial Ground (ID 896)	Parks
Wigan Central	Mesnes Park (ID 719)	Parks
Winstanley	Pepperwood Drive / Worthington Way (ID 579)	Natural
Winstanley	Land off Beech Walk adjacent Cherry Tree Farm (ID 606)	Natural
Winstanley	Melling Way/Tan House Drive (ID 716)	Natural
Worsley Mesnes	Land at Pearsons Flash adjacent canal / railway (ID 583)	Natural
Worsley Mesnes	Rough Wood, Whitecroft Road (ID 950)	Natural
Worsley Mesnes	Scotmans Flash off Poolstock Lane (ID 980)	Natural

### 6.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspace.

Table 6.6: Quality ratings for assessed amenity greenspaces

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	46	35	10
East	64	46	12
West	77	115	16
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>38</b>

All 421 identified sites across the Wigan Borough are allocated a quality rating. Only 38 assessed amenity greenspace sites (9%) rate as poor quality. Many of these sites have limited or no ancillary features and facilities and serve more as a visual amenity or road buffer. Some of these sites include:

- ◆ Platt Lane / Scholes
- ◆ Branson Close
- ◆ Medway Walk
- ◆ Haigh Road / Scot Lane

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These four sites are identified as being in poor condition with poor boundaries. Furthermore, all three have no seating with only Branson Close featuring bins. Platt Lane / Scholes is a visual tree belt / grass verge. The site is fenced off and poorly maintained and used. The site does benefit from lighting and a path however it lacks other ancillary provision.

Similarly, Branson Close is observed as a visual tree belt and features mature trees, lighting and bins. The site is used by walkers and dog walkers. However, it has overgrown grass, shrubs and trees.

Medway Walk also has maintenance and quality issues with the Council highlighting issues of fly tipping, litter and overgrown vegetation. However, the site provides a physical link via the path, used by walkers and dog walkers.

Haigh Road / Scot Lane is another low-quality rated site. It features bins, seating and lighting adding to its quality. However, overall, the site is in poor condition with weeds noted. The site has some natural surveillance and an average quality site boundary.

Just less than half of the amenity greenspace sites assessed (47%) rate as average quality. A large proportion of these (69%) are located in the West Analysis Area.

Ann Lane / Higher Green Lane benefits from benches, bins, lighting and mature trees. The Council highlight that benches have been recently replaced however the landscape planting is overgrown.

Dovedale Crescent is a small basic greenspace overlooked by housing with no facilities or features. The site is deemed as average quality due to this.

Ellesmere Street is a reasonably sized greenspace in a residential area used by local dog walkers. The site has paths and bins. Adjacent to this site is Boundary Street / Ellesmere Street which is rated as good quality. It is identified as a visual grass verge with paths, lighting, seating and bins, used by walkers, cyclists and dog walkers. The site has natural surveillance and trees present.

Almost half of the assessed sites (44%) rate as good quality. Some of these are:

- ◀ Prestwich Street (East Analysis Area)
- ◀ Leighton Avenue (East Analysis Area)
- ◀ Manchester Road (Amberswood Common) (West Analysis Area)

Prestwich Street is a linear greenspace with the Collier Brook running through and has good boundary fencing, mature trees and landscaping. The site is used by walkers, dog walkers and local children.

Leighton Avenue is also rated as good quality and has the additional benefit of a play area.

Manchester Road (Amberswood Common), located adjacent to Walmsley Park is considered as a good quality site due to containing mature trees, good landscaping and average boundary fencing.

## **PART 7: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **7.1: Introduction**

Provision for children and young people includes areas designated primarily for play and social interaction 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 include equipped sites that provide more robust equipment catering to older age ranges incorporating facilities such as skate parks, BMX, basketball courts, youth shelters, outdoor gyms and MUGAs.

### **7.2: Current provision**

A total of 168 play locations are identified in Wigan Borough as provision for children and young people. This combines to create a total of over nine hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 7.1: Current provision for children and young people by analysis area

<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Hectares (ha)</b>	<b>Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)</b>
Central	56	2.95	0.03
East	49	2.78	0.03
West	63	3.46	0.02
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>9.19</b>	<b>0.03</b>

Fields in Trust (FIT) suggests 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 7.1 shows that overall, Wigan Borough is significantly below this.

Table 7.2: Current provision for children and young people by ward

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Hectares (ha)</b>	<b>Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)</b>
Abram	17	1.23	0.08
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	6	0.36	0.03
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	7	0.24	0.02
Golborne and Lowton West	5	0.26	0.03
Hindley	9	0.45	0.03
Hindley Green	4	0.16	0.01
Lowton East	8	0.25	0.02
<b>Central</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>0.03</b>
Astley	8	0.43	0.03
Atherton North	8	0.39	0.03
Atherton South and Lilford	7	0.50	0.04
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	4	0.17	0.01

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Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Leigh South	7	0.60	0.05
Leigh West	10	0.50	0.03
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	5	0.19	0.01
<b>East</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2.78</b>	<b>0.03</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	9	0.65	0.06
Douglas	6	0.51	0.04
Ince	10	0.41	0.04
Orrell	3	0.20	0.02
Pemberton	6	0.24	0.02
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	7	0.41	0.04
Standish with Langtree	10	0.46	0.03
Wigan Central	3	0.22	0.01
Wigan West	4	0.14	0.02
Winstanley	3	0.12	0.01
Worsley Mesnes	2	0.91	0.07
<b>West</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>3.46</b>	<b>0.02</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>9.19</b>	<b>0.03</b>

Table 7.2 highlights that there is play provision in each ward across Wigan Borough.

Play areas can be classified in the following ways to identify their effective target audience utilising FIT guidance.

FIT category	Explanation	FIT catchment
LAP	A Local Area of Play. Usually small, landscaped areas designed for young children. Equipment is normally age group specific to reduce unintended users.	100m
LEAP	A Local Equipped Area of Play. Designed for unsupervised play and a wider age range of users; often containing a wider range of equipment types.	400m
NEAP	A Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play. Cater for all age groups. Such sites may contain MUGA, skate parks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and are often included within large park sites.	1000m
Casual/Youth	Provision often catering for older ages such as MUGAs, skate parks, basketball areas, fitness equipment	700m

On this basis, table 7.3 shows that most play sites across Wigan are categorised as LEAP. Across all analysis areas it is the most common type of play provision.

# WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

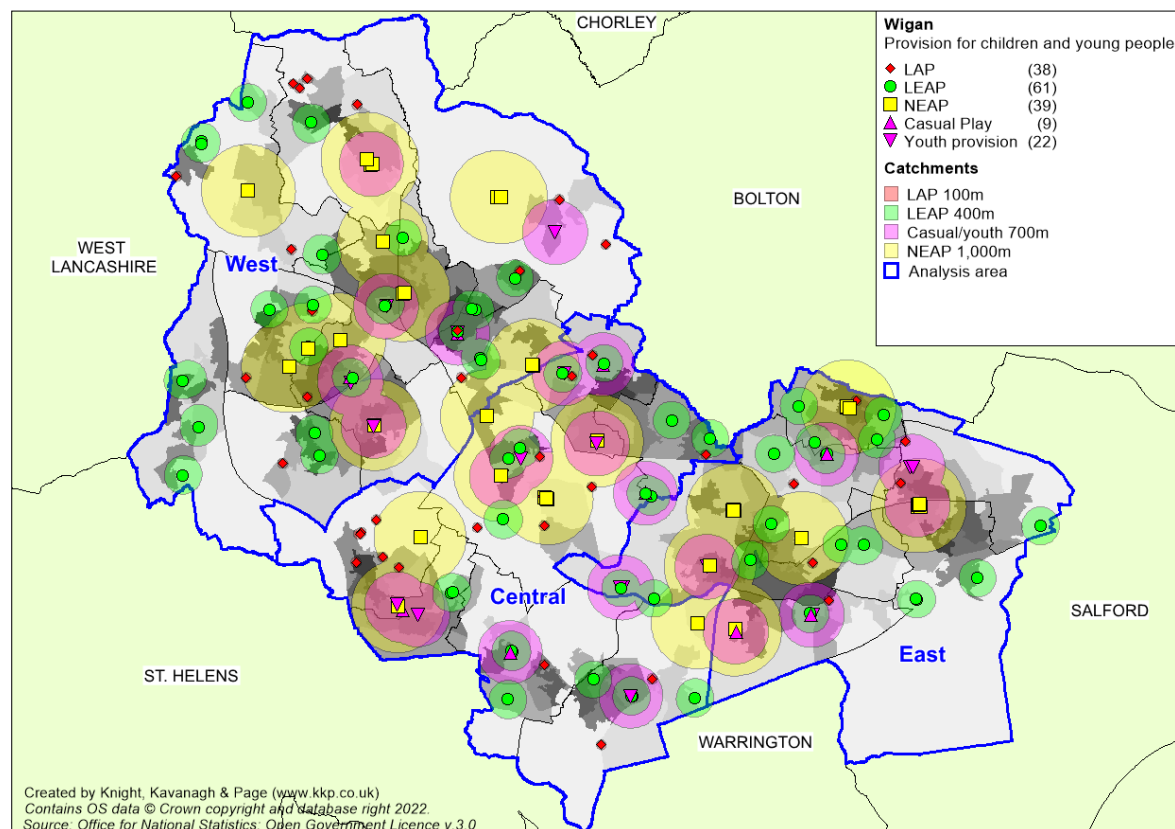
Table 7.3: Distribution of sub-categories for children and young people

Analysis area	LAP	LEAP	NEAP	Casual/Youth	Total
Central	17	18	9	12	56
East	5	20	14	10	49
West	15	24	16	8	63
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>168</b>

## 7.3: Accessibility

Using the FIT standards, accessibility catchments of 100m, 400m, 1000m and 700m have been set across Wigan Borough for different types of play provision. Figure 7.1 shows play provision mapped against the analysis areas with the accessibility catchment.

Figure 7.1: Play provision with different applied catchments mapped



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 7.4: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
9.1	Abram Park play area 1	Central	Abram	0.0361	
9.2	Abram Park play area 2	Central	Abram	0.0884	
9.3	Abram Park MUGA	Central	Abram	0.0661	
9.5	Abram Park basketball	Central	Abram	0.0271	
54.1	Alexandra Park play areas	West	Douglas	0.0615	
54.2	Alexandra Park outdoor gym	West	Douglas	0.0065	
54.3	Alexandra Park skate park	West	Douglas	0.1180	
74.1	Ashfield Park play area 4	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0137	
74.2	Ashfield Park play area 1	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0791	
74.3	Ashfield Park play area 2	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0214	
74.4	Ashfield Park play area 3	West	Standish with Langtree	0.1954	
74.5	Ashfield Park basketball court	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0495	
88.1	Aspull Civic Park basketball	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0599	
102.1	Astley Street Park play area	East	Astley	0.1964	
102.2	Astley Street Park outdoor gym	East	Astley	0.0120	
102.3	Astley Street Park multi play	East	Astley	0.0099	
102.4	Astley Street Park MUGA	East	Astley	0.1077	
102.5	Astley Street Park zip wire	East	Astley	0.0192	
116.1	Bickershaw Lane Play Area	Central	Abram	0.0160	
119.1	Beacon Road play areas	Central	Abram	0.0156	
119.2	Beacon Road ball court	Central	Abram	0.0144	
160.1	Bexhill Drive play area	Central	Hindley Green	0.0200	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
161.1	Bickershaw play area	Central	Hindley Green	0.0781	
180.1	Bolton Road play area	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0124	
202.1	Braithwaite Road play area	Central	Lowton East	0.0280	
215.1	Bryn Gates play area	Central	Abram	0.0148	
223.1	Buckland Drive play area	West	Pemberton	0.0287	
226.1	Buttercup Close play area	East	Atherton North	0.0270	
229.1	Buttercup Meadow / Ludlow Street play area	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0096	
236.1	Cale Lane Playing Fields play area	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0204	
237.1	Cale Lane play area	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0269	
241.1	Marsh Green play area	West	Pemberton	0.0300	
248.1	Central Park play area (sand)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.0787	
248.2	Central Park toddler play area	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.0205	
248.3	Central Park outdoor gym	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.0101	
255.1	Kennet Way play area	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.0147	
267.1	Clough House Drive play area, Leigh	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.0194	
282	Coronation Park play area	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.1425	
283.1	Coupland Road play area	Central	Hindley Green	0.0333	
288.1	Crankwood Park play area	East	Leigh West	0.0523	
288.2	Crankwood Park Youth play area	East	Leigh West	0.0564	
288.3	Crankwood Park MUGA	East	Leigh West	0.0533	
293.1	Crawford Avenue play area	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.0118	
299.1	Cromer Drive play area	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.0296	
324.1	Dootson Park play area 1	East	Leigh South	0.0244	



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
324.2	Dootson's Park outdoor gym	East	Leigh South	0.0223	
324.3	Dootson's Park zip wire	East	Leigh South	0.0109	
324.5	Dootson Park play area 2	East	Leigh South	0.0819	
327.1	Douglas Street Playing Field play area	East	Atherton North	0.0172	
333.1	East of Pocket Nook Lane play area	Central	Lowton East	0.0610	
344.1	Edmund Collins Park play areas	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0149	
344.2	Edmund Collins Park MUGA	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0693	
366.1	Firs Park play area	East	Leigh West	0.0679	
366.2	Firs Park MUGA	East	Leigh West	0.0764	
378.1	Furlong Close play area	Central	Abram	0.2337	
391.1	Gibfield Park Avenue play area	East	Atherton North	0.0456	
395.1	Gidlow Lane play area	West	Wigan West	0.0342	
410.1	Golborne Park play area 1	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.1388	
410.2	Golborne Park play area 2	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.0239	
410.3	Golborne Park MUGA goal	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.0118	
429.1	Grasmere Street play area	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.0429	
437.1	Green Avenue Park play area 1	East	Astley	0.0195	
437.2	Green Avenue Park play areas 2	East	Astley	0.0316	
450.1	Haigh Woodland Park play area 1	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.2528	
450.2	Haigh Woodland Park play area 2	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.1126	
453.1	Parklands Drive play area	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0232	
475	Hérons Wharf play area	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.0757	
478.1	Heywood Avenue play area	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.0245	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
483.1	Highfield Gardens play area	West	Douglas	0.0282	
489	Hilton Street play area	West	Ince	0.0373	
500.1	St Peters Recreation Ground play area	Central	Hindley	0.0837	
500.2	St Peters Recreation Ground MUGA	Central	Hindley	0.0456	
502.1	Montrose Avenue play areas	West	Pemberton	0.0408	
502.2	Montrose Avenue skatepark	West	Pemberton	0.0802	
503.1	Holgate Park play areas	West	Orrell	0.0514	
517	Howe Bridge play area	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.0201	
537.1	Jubilee Park play area	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.1321	
537.2	Jubilee Park MUGA	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.0554	
537.3	Jubilee Park skate park	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.0526	
549.1	Grange Road play area	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0467	
554.1	Abram Labour Club play area	Central	Abram	0.0312	
555.1	Kipling Park play areas	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.0308	
555.2	Kipling Park MUGA	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.0655	
564.1	Laithwaite Park play area	West	Douglas	0.0912	
586.1	Beech Walk play area	West	Winstanley	0.0257	
603	Gayton Close play area	West	Winstanley	0.0458	
623.1	Langtree Lane play areas	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0150	
626.1	Larchwood Drive play area	West	Wigan Central	0.0219	
630.1	Legh Street play area	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.0616	
652.1	Leighton Avenue play area	East	Atherton North	0.0254	
655.1	Leyland Park play areas	Central	Hindley	0.1117	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
655.2	Leyland Park MUGA	Central	Hindley	0.0811	
655.3	Leyland Park half MUGA	Central	Hindley	0.0708	
662.1	Lilford Park play area	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.3240	
686.1	Ludlow St / Almond Green Avenue play area	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0106	
697.1	Margaret Street play area 1	West	Wigan West	0.0221	
697.2	Margaret Street play area 2	West	Wigan West	0.0093	
697.3	Margaret Street MUGA	West	Wigan West	0.0779	
705	Marsh Green teen meet	West	Pemberton	0.0479	
719.1	Mesnes Park play area	West	Wigan Central	0.1894	
719.2	Mesnes Park outdoor gym	West	Wigan Central	0.0045	
730.1	Kent Avenue play area	Central	Abram	0.0881	
744.1	Mosley Common play area	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.0772	
758	Newman Close play area	Central	Hindley	0.0149	
764.1	Nicol Mere play area	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0226	
766	Norley Hall Adventure Playground	West	Douglas	0.2098	
779.1	Platt Lane play area	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0662	
779.2	Platt Lane MUGA	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.0758	
780	Oakenden play area	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0248	
782.1	Oaklands Road toddler play area	Central	Lowton East	0.0261	
782.2	Oaklands Road skate park	Central	Lowton East	0.0255	
782.3	Oaklands Road zip wire	Central	Lowton East	0.0507	
808.1	Winton Road play area	Central	Lowton East	0.0033	
818.1	Orrell Water Park play areas	West	Orrell	0.0883	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
842.1	Pennington Flash play area	Central	Lowton East	0.0224	
847.1	Pennington Hall Park play area	East	Leigh South	0.3480	
847.2	Pennington Hall Park MUGA	East	Leigh South	0.0934	
854.1	People's Place play area	East	Atherton North	0.0509	
854.2	People's Place toddler play area	East	Atherton North	0.0528	
854.3	People's Place MUGA	East	Atherton North	0.1468	
867	Platt Bridge Teen Meet	Central	Abram	0.1017	
874	Play area on Queens Avenue	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.0467	
875	Playground on corner of Bank Street	Central	Abram	0.1085	
883.1	Pond Street Play Area	Central	Lowton East	0.0361	
907.1	Rayner Park play area	Central	Hindley	0.0304	
907.2	Rayner Park half MUGA	Central	Hindley	0.0019	
926.1	Cobmoor play area	West	Orrell	0.0642	
927.1	Ellesmere Street play area	East	Astley	0.0330	
929.1	Redwood Park play area	West	Pemberton	0.0139	
934.1	Richmond Drive / Imperial Drive play areas	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.0609	
966.1	Butts Park play area	East	Leigh South	0.0172	
996.1	Shevington Memorial Park play areas	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.0750	
1023	Spring View play area	Central	Abram	0.2105	
1030.1	Highfield Grange Avenue play area	West	Winstanley	0.0456	
1113.1	Stockley Drive play area	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.0392	
1113.2	Stockley Park trim trail	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.0274	
1118.1	Foggs Fold play area	Central	Abram	0.0833	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1118.2	Stratton Drive football area	Central	Abram	0.0791	
1120.1	Stubshaw Cross play area	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.0503	
1120.2	Stubshaw Cross MUGA	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.0240	
1128.1	Copeland Drive play area	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0326	
1138.1	Three Sisters Adventure Playground	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0514	
1148.1	Union Street play area	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.0267	
1151.1	Upton Road play area	East	Atherton North	0.0282	
1154.1	Vauxhall Road play area	West	Ince	0.0163	
1154.2	Vauxhall Road MUGA	West	Ince	0.0240	
1154.3	Vauxhall Road climbing frame	West	Ince	0.0052	
1154.4	Vauxhall Road skate park	West	Ince	0.0194	
1154.5	Vauxhall Road zip wire	West	Ince	0.0286	
1168	Walmsley Meadow Road play area	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.0422	
1169.1	Walmsley Park play area	West	Ince	0.0705	
1169.2	Walmsley Park skate park	West	Ince	0.0944	
1174.1	Ward Street play area	Central	Hindley	0.0119	
1197	Westcroft play area	Central	Abram	0.0108	
1198.1	Westlake Park play area	Central	Hindley Green	0.0260	
1205.1	Westleigh Park play area 1	East	Leigh West	0.0396	
1205.2	Westleigh Park play area 2	East	Leigh West	0.0114	
1205.3	Westleigh Park basketball	East	Leigh West	0.0823	
1205.4	Westleigh Park outdoor gym	East	Leigh West	0.0134	
1223.1	Whiteacre play area	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.0367	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1242.1	Crooke Village play area	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.0128	
1253.1	Wilkinson Park Drive play area	East	Leigh West	0.0451	
1257.1	William Fosters Playing Fields play area 1	West	Ince	0.0645	
1257.2	William Foster Playing Fields play area 2	West	Ince	0.0517	
1277.1	Woodhurst Drive play area	West	Standish with Langtree	0.0319	
1288.1	Landgate play area	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.0145	
1290.1	Shakerley Common outdoor gym	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.0037	
1290.2	York Avenue MUGA	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.0745	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Overall, there is a reasonably good spread of play provision. However, there are gaps in catchments across all three analysis areas. In the West Analysis Area, the wards of Wigan West and Wigan Central have catchment gaps. The tables below detail the ward areas with gaps in catchments. The following sites may help to serve some of the gaps in catchments if the amount and range of play equipment can be expanded.

Table 7.5a: Sites with potential to help serve gaps in play provision catchments (Central)

Ward	Existing site with potential to help
Abram	Abram Labour Club play area (554.1)
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	Landgate play area (1288.1)
Golborne and Lowton West	Heywood Avenue play area (ID 478.1)
Hindley Green	Westlake Park play area (1198.1)
Lowton East	Braithwaite Road play area (ID 202.1)

Table 7.5b: Sites with potential to help serve gaps in play provision catchments (East)

Ward	Existing site with potential to help
Astley	Green Avenue Park play area 1 (437.1)
Astley	Green Avenue Park play areas 2 (ID 437.2)
Astley	Ellesmere Street play area (ID 927.1)
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	Mosley Common play area (ID 744.1)

Table 7.5c: Sites with potential to help serve gaps in play provision catchments (West)

Ward	Existing site with potential to help
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	Heron's Wharf play area (ID 475) Stockley Drive play area (ID 1113.1)

### 7.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for provision for children and young people.

Table 7.6: Quality ratings for assessed provision for children and young people

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	11	32	13
East	18	31	0
West	12	44	7
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>20</b>

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

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All 168 play sites are allocated a quality rating. Nearly a quarter of assessed play sites (24%) rate as good quality.

Some of these sites are:

- ◀ Haigh Woodland Park play area 1 (adventure playground)
- ◀ Haigh Woodland Park play area 2 (high ropes)
- ◀ Bickershaw Lane play area
- ◀ People's Place play area, Atherton
- ◀ People's Place toddler play area, Atherton
- ◀ People's Place MUGA, Atherton
- ◀ Woodhurst Drive, Standish

Most of these sites have signage, seating and boundary fencing. Bickershaw Lane play area, adjacent to Bickershaw Village Community Hall, lacks signage and is noted as having poor boundary fencing. However, the site is rated as good quality overall and features a reasonable amount of equipment.

Haigh Woodland Park play area 1 features a range of good quality equipment<sup>5</sup>, seating, signage, landscaping, lighting, toilets, and car parking, adding to the quality of the site. The site has no identified quality issues and is well-used. It has a high level of natural surveillance with it being located in a country park.

Similarly, The People's Place play areas on Devonshire Road, Atherton are all noted as good quality with fencing, signage and benches. Note that the boundary fencing is observed as being in average condition.

Woodhurst Drive in Standish is another good quality site that features a climbing frame / multi-play, swings and a slide. It has good boundary fencing, benches and a high level of natural surveillance. There are numerous surrounding trees. The surface is artificial grass / astro enabling greater use throughout the year.

Most assessed play areas (64%) rate as average for quality. Some of these sites include:

- ◀ Abram Park play area 1, Abram
- ◀ Buttercup Close play area, Atherton
- ◀ Herons Wharf play area, Appley Bridge
- ◀ Astley Street Park play area, Tyldesley

Abram Park play area 1 is unfenced and features benches and signage however the quality of its features is rated as average.

Buttercup Close play area in Atherton also contains benches and signage. The boundary fencing is identified as being good quality however, overall, the site's condition is of average quality.

Herons Wharf play area is located in a new housing area in Appley Bridge and features an agility area, multi-play, springies and toddler swings. The site lacks signage and seating. Boundary fencing is also noted as poor, lowering the quality of the site.

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<sup>5</sup> The high ropes play area adjacent is not free



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

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Although Astley Street Park play area features a range of equipment (play equipment, MUGA, outdoor gym) and has boundary fencing, seating, landscaping, lighting and car parking. The quality of these, and the overall site condition, is noted as average.

There are 20 assessed sites rating as poor quality. Sites rating lower for quality is often due to maintenance / appearance observations and / or the range and quality of equipment on site.

For example, the playground on the corner of Bank Street (aka Neville Street), Platt Bridge, has limited equipment. The boundary fencing is observed as being poor as well as the site's overall condition. The site benefits from signage and a bin but lacks seating.

Cob Moor play area in Billinge is located within an amenity greenspace. It features boundary fencing, albeit this is regarded as being in poor condition. The site also lacks seating and signage.

## **PART 8: ALLOTMENTS**

### **8.1: Introduction**

The allotments typology provides opportunities for people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social interaction.

### **8.2: Current provision**

There are 62 sites classified as allotments in Wigan Borough equating to over 34 hectares. No site size threshold has been applied to allotments and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 8.1: Current allotment provision by analysis area

Analysis area	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Central	17	6.87	0.07
East	15	14.57	0.15
West	30	12.82	0.09
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>34.26</b>	<b>0.10</b>

The largest site in Wigan Borough is Tyldesley Allotments, Boundary Street (5.74 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).

Based on its current population (329,262), Wigan Borough is below the NSALG standard. Using this suggested standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision is 82.32 hectares. The existing provision of 34.26 hectares is therefore significantly below this guideline.

To assist in identifying local levels in provision, table 8.2 shows current allotment provision broken down by ward.

Table 8.2: Distribution of allotment sites broken down by ward

Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Abram	5	1.67	0.11
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1	1.54	0.12
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	3	0.76	0.07
Golborne and Lowton West	2	0.76	0.07
Hindley	5	1.44	0.11
Hindley Green	-	-	-
Lowton East	1	0.72	0.05
<b>Central</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6.87</b>	<b>0.07</b>

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

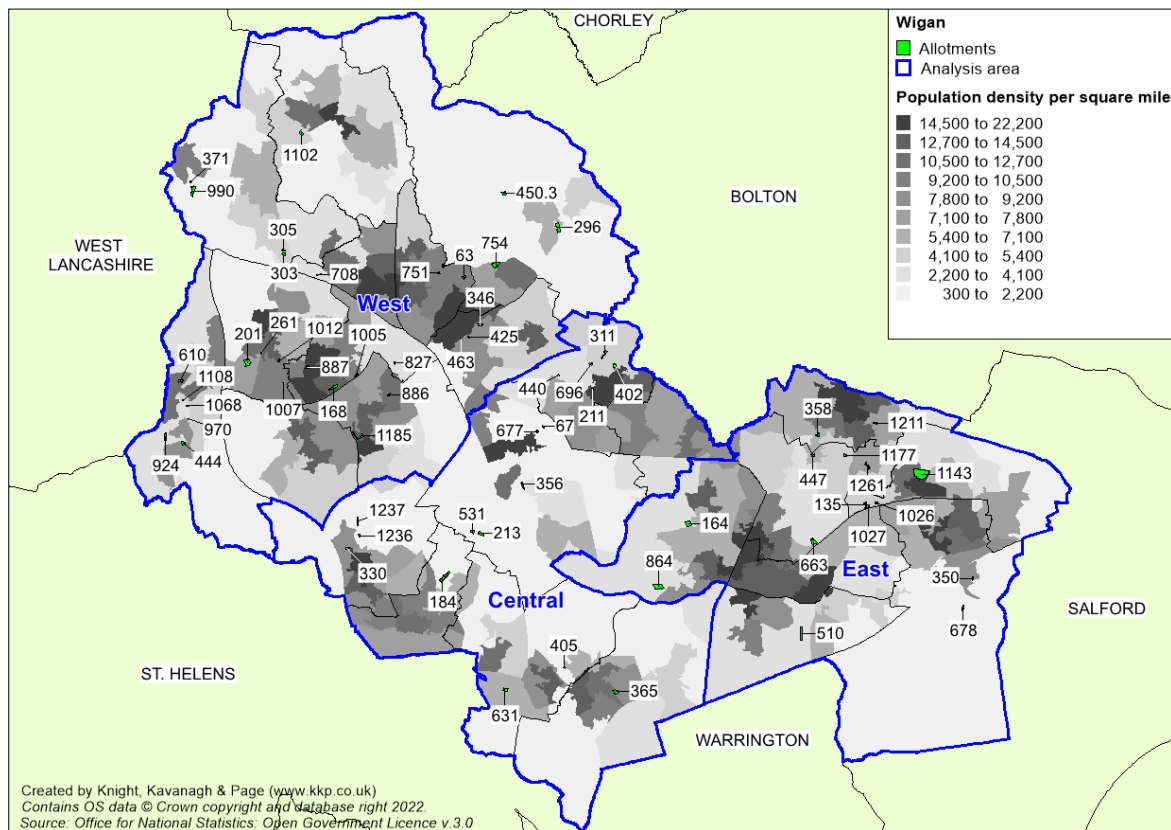
Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Astley	2	0.55	0.04
Atherton North	2	0.62	0.05
Atherton South and Lilford	4	2.18	0.15
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	-	-	-
Leigh South	1	1.43	0.12
Leigh West	2	3.08	0.18
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	4	6.71	0.51
<b>East</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14.57</b>	<b>0.15</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	3	3.23	0.31
Douglas	4	1.55	0.12
Ince	3	0.51	0.05
Orrell	6	1.62	0.13
Pemberton	4	1.91	0.12
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	4	1.91	0.16
Standish with Langtree	1	0.41	0.02
Wigan Central	2	0.55	0.03
Wigan West	1	0.14	0.02
Winstanley	-	-	-
Worsley Mesnes	2	0.96	0.07
<b>West</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>12.82</b>	<b>0.09</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>34.26</b>	<b>0.10</b>

### 8.3: Accessibility

Figure 8.1 shows allotments mapped across Wigan Borough.

# WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Figure 8.1: Allotments mapped against analysis areas



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 8.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality Rating
63	Allotment Site, Balcarres Avenue, Wigan	West	Wigan Central	0.37	
67	Amberswood Community Allotments	Central	Abram	0.07	
135	Behind houses No.2-28 Squires Lane	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.27	
164	Bickershaw North Site Edna Rd Leigh	East	Leigh West	1.19	
168	Billinge Road (r/o 98-138b)	West	Douglas	0.82	
184	Bolton Road Allotments (r/o 350-453)	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.54	
201	Bradshaw Street/Calder Bank	West	Pemberton	1.68	
211	Brookland Avenue	Central	Hindley	0.14	
213	Bryn Gates Allotments	Central	Abram	0.60	
261	City Road (r/o 48-62)	West	Pemberton	0.06	
296	Crawford Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.33	
303	Crooke Road (r/o 50-82)	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.41	
305	Crooke Road, Shevington	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.15	
311	Danes Avenue (r/o 53-115) allotments	Central	Hindley	0.55	
330	Downall Green Road Allotments	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.19	
346	Edward Street (adjacent Rose Bridge School)	West	Ince	0.40	
350	Little Shakerley Common	East	Astley	0.14	
356	End of Cook Street	Central	Abram	0.35	
358	Factory Street West	East	Atherton North	0.36	
365	Fir Tree Avenue Allotments	Central	Lowton East	0.72	
371	Forest Fold raised allotment beds	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.05	
402	Gloucester Crescent allotments	Central	Hindley	0.39	
405	Golborne Allotments Rivington Avenue	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.16	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality Rating
425	Gordon Street (adjacent 17)	West	Ince	0.06	
440	Green Crew Community Garden St Peters Pavilion	Central	Hindley	0.11	
444	Greenslate Community Farm Allotment	West	Orrell	0.41	
447	Guest Fold Allotments, Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.43	
450.3	Haigh Walled Gardens (Allotment provision)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.58	
463	Harper Street (r/o 160-170)	West	Ince	0.05	
510	Hope Carr Lane Allotments	East	Leigh South	1.43	
531	James Street Allotments	Central	Abram	0.40	
610	Land off Moor Rd (r/o 144-154)	West	Orrell	0.47	
631	Legh Street (r/o 79-121b)	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.60	
663	Lilford Park Allotments	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.90	
677	Low Hall Park, Eatock Street	Central	Abram	0.25	
678	Lower Green Lane (adjacent 54)	East	Astley	0.41	
696	Margaret Street allotments	Central	Hindley	0.24	
708	Martland Mill Lane (r/o 69-107)	West	Wigan West	0.14	
751	New Lodge (adjacent Bellingham Bowling Green)	West	Wigan Central	0.18	
754	New Springs Horticultural Society, Wigan Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.33	
827	Park Street (r/o 153-161)	West	Douglas	0.16	
864	Plank Lane Allotments (r/o 58-70)	East	Leigh West	1.90	
886	Poolstock Lane (r/o 49-63)	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.17	
887	Poplar Avenue / Closebrook Road Worsley Hall	West	Douglas	0.35	
924	Rear Upholland Road	West	Orrell	0.54	
970	Sandy Lane / Lodge Road	West	Orrell	0.02	
990	Shevington Allotment Society, Forest Fold	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.29	
1005	Skew Bridge Allotments	West	Douglas	0.22	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality Rating
1007	Smethurst Lane (r/o 14-24)	West	Pemberton	0.02	
1012	Somerset Road	West	Pemberton	0.16	
1026	Squires Lane (r/o 46)	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.18	
1027	Squires Lane (south of 30-40)	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.52	
1068	St Lukes Allotments	West	Orrell	0.14	
1102	Standish Community Allotment Society	West	Standish with Langtree	0.41	
1108	Station Avenue	West	Orrell	0.04	
1143	Tyldesley Allotments, Boundary Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	5.74	
1177	Wardour Street (opposite 65)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.37	
1185	Warrington Road / Poolstock Lane	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.79	
1211	Weston Street Allotments, Atherton	East	Atherton North	0.26	
1236	Wigan Road (r/o 493-505)	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.12	
1237	Wigan Road (r/o 527-587)	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.44	
1261	Windsor Street allotments	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.48	

The known waiting lists and plot numbers are displayed below in Table 8.4. Note that the waiting lists, plot numbers and other related information are provided by Wigan Council.

## WIGAN COUNCIL

### OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 8.4: Allotment plot numbers, waiting lists and other information (where known)

Site ID	Site name	Number of plots	Waiting lists	Water supply	Vacant plots	Overgrown plots	Other issues	Raised beds	Community links
164	Bickershaw North Site Edna Rd	27	43	No	No	1	Vandalism to fence	No	Yes
168	Billinge Road (r/o 98-138b)	8	5	No	No	4	Residential Development - Closed	No	No
311	Danes Avenue (r/o 53-115) allotments	15	37	No	No	1	No	No	No
330	Downall Green Road Allotments	4	84	No	No	No	No	No	No
447	Guest Fold Allotments, Leigh Rd	28	90	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
463	Harper Street (r/o 160-170)	4	1	No	No	No	No	No	No
663	Lilford Park Allotments	38	140	Yes	No	2	No	Yes	Giant onion and tallest sunflower comp (tenants only).
677	Low Hall Park, Eatock Street	6	88	No	1	No	No	No	No
696	Margaret Street allotments	9	106	No	2	0	Reserved for Castle Hill	No	No
708	Martland Mill Lane (r/o 69-107)	8	120	No	1	1	No	No	No
864	Plank Lane Allotments (r/o 58-70)	60	104	Yes	3	1	No	No	Dreamcatchers CIC
886	Poolstock Lane (r/o 49-63)	10	104	No	1	1	No	No	No
970	Sandy Lane / Lodge Road	2	20	No	0	0	No	No	No
1005	Skew Bridge Allotments	10	93	Yes	1	1	No	No	No
1177	Wardour Street (opposite 65)	4	33	No	0	0	Leased to 3rd party	No	No
1185	Warrington Road / Poolstock Lane	44	77	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
1211	Weston Street Allotments, Atherton	11	162	Yes	2	No	No	Yes	No



### 8.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments.

Table 8.3: Quality ratings for assessed allotments

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	3	10	4
East	7	8	0
West	7	11	10
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>14</b>

All 62 identified allotment sites are allocated a quality rating. A higher proportion of allotment sites assessed for quality rate average (47%).

Amberswood Community Allotments features signage, a wide entrance and average quality boundary fencing. The site has the additional benefit of a gardening group.

Margaret Street has few ancillary features and has poor boundary fencing and no natural surveillance, lowering the quality of the site. The Council highlight that the site is used for garages and parking.

Despite Edward Street (adjacent Rose Bridge School) featuring good boundary fencing, car parking, polytunnels, and raised beds, the site rates as average quality overall. The site has no significant issues but does not feature signage or natural surveillance.

Nearly a third of assessed sites (28%) rate as good quality overall. Some of these sites include:

- ◀ Bryn Gates Allotments
- ◀ Weston Street Allotments, Atherton
- ◀ New Springs Horticultural Society, Wigan Road (r/o 24)

Bryn Gates Allotments benefits from adequate boundary fencing, natural surveillance and signage.

Weston Street Allotments in Atherton is noted as featuring good boundary fencing however no signage is present. The site is easy to view and is overlooked.

New Springs Horticultural Society, Wigan Road is a large allotment site with wide paths throughout enabling cars and wheelchair access. The site also benefits from good boundary fencing, signage and a car park, further adding to the quality of the site.

Standish Community Allotment Society is another well-maintained site featuring good boundary fencing and a car park. The site is located adjacent to St Marie's Church. It has no signage but is in good overall condition.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

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A total of 13 assessed allotment sites rate as poor quality. These sites tend to have poor boundary fencing, no natural surveillance, and no or few ancillary features such as signage. Some of these sites include:

- ◀ Brookland Avenue
- ◀ Gloucester Crescent allotments
- ◀ Smethurst Lane (r/o 14-24)
- ◀ Station Avenue

These sites are in poor overall condition with no natural surveillance, signage, seating or parking. Furthermore, the boundary condition for each is highlighted as poor.

Allotment Site, Balcarres Avenue, Wigan is rated as poor overall. The site does have the benefits of car parking and good boundary fencing, however, it lacks signage and natural surveillance.

## **PART 9: CEMETERIES / CHURCHYARDS**

### **9.1: Introduction**

Cemeteries / 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 37 sites classified as cemeteries / churchyards, equating to nearly 91 hectares of provision in Wigan Borough. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all identified provision is included within the audit.

Table 9.1: Current cemeteries / churchyards by analysis area

Analysis area	Number	Total hectares (ha)
Central	12	15.03
East	9	32.97
West	16	42.92
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>90.92</b>

The largest contributor to burial provision is Gidlow Cemetery, Wigan Road at almost 15 hectares.

Cemeteries / churchyards are important resources offering both recreational and conservation benefits. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards can also offer important low impact recreational benefits (e.g. dog walking, wildlife watching).

Table 9.2: Current cemeteries / churchyards by ward

Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)
Abram	1	0.78
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	3	4.13
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	2	0.51
Golborne and Lowton West	2	1.65
Hindley	2	6.77
Hindley Green	-	-
Lowton East	2	1.20
<b>Central</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15.03</b>
Astley	2	5.07
Atherton North	-	-
Atherton South and Lilford	2	11.67
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	2	13.48
Leigh South	-	-
Leigh West	1	0.52
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	2	2.24

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Ward	Number	Hectares (ha)
<b>East</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>32.97</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	3	2.59
Douglas	-	-
Ince	1	2.72
Orrell	3	1.85
Pemberton	1	2.30
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1	0.77
Standish with Langtree	3	17.75
Wigan Central	-	-
Wigan West	-	-
Winstanley	1	0.61
Worsley Mesnes	3	14.32
<b>West</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>42.92</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>90.92</b>

Table 9.2 shows there are no cemeteries / churchyards in the six wards of Hindley Green, Atherton North, Leigh South, Douglas, Wigan Central and Wigan West.

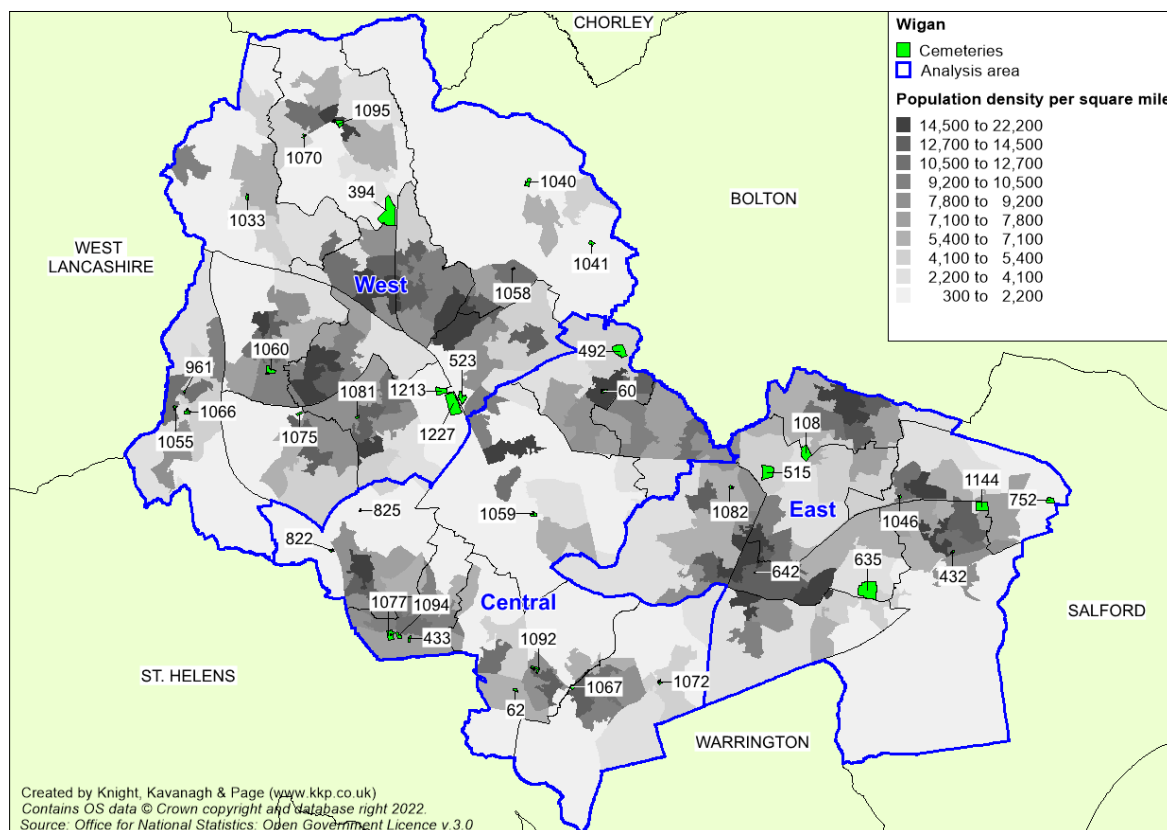
### 9.3: Accessibility

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. The estimated capacity figures provided by Wigan Borough Council are provided below. Note that these are all based on current (2025) demands.

Table 9.3: Estimated burial capacity

Cemetery	Estimated capacity
Gidlow	25 years
Hindley	5 years
Howe Bridge	14 Years
Leigh	28 years
Tyldesley	5 Years
Westwood	5 Years

Figure 9.1: Cemetery / churchyard sites mapped against analysis areas



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 9.4: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
60	All Saints Church, Chapel Fields Lane	Central	Hindley	0.79	
62	All Saints Church, High Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.50	
108	Atherton Cemetery, Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	4.96	
394	Gidlow Cemetery, Wigan Road	West	Standish with Langtree	14.99	
432	Graveyard, Church Road	East	Astley	0.34	
433	Graveyard, Heath Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.62	
492	Hindley Cemetery, Castle Hill Road	Central	Hindley	5.98	
515	Howe Bridge Crematorium, Lovers Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	6.71	
523	Ince Cemetery, Cemetery Road	West	Ince	2.72	
635	Leigh Cemetery, Manchester Road	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	13.3	
642	Leigh Parish Church, St Mary the Virgin	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.09	
752	New Manchester Woodland Cemetery, City Road	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	1.83	
822	Our Lady Immaculate RC Church	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.36	
825	Park Lane Chapel, Wigan Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.15	
961	Salem URC, Church Street	West	Orrell	0.21	
1033	St Anne's C of E Church, Church Lane	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.77	
1040	St David's Church, Haigh Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.47	
1041	St Elizabeth's Church, Bolton Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.95	
1046	St George's Church, School Street	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.41	
1055	St James' Church, St James Road	West	Orrell	0.52	
1058	St John the Baptist Church, Kirkless Street	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.17	
1059	St John's C of E Church, Warrington Road	Central	Abram	0.78	

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
1060	St John's Church, Church Street	West	Pemberton	2.30	
1066	St Luke's Church, Lodge Road	West	Orrell	1.12	
1067	St Luke's Church, Slag Lane	Central	Lowton East	0.55	
1070	St Marie's Church, Almond Brook Road	West	Standish with Langtree	0.54	
1072	St Mary's Church, Newton Road	Central	Lowton East	0.65	
1075	St Matthew's Church, Billinge Road	West	Winstanley	0.61	
1077	St Oswald and St Edmund Arrowsmith RC Church, St Oswalds Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	2.53	
1081	St Paul's Church, Browning Avenue	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.30	
1082	St Paul's Church, Pickley Green	East	Leigh West	0.52	
1092	St Thomas Church, Church Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	1.18	
1094	St Thomas's Church, Heath Road	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.98	
1095	St Wilfrid's Church, Market Place	West	Standish with Langtree	2.23	
1144	Tyldesley Cemetery, Hough Lane	East	Astley	4.73	
1213	Westwood Cemetery, Westwood Lane	West	Worsley Mesnes	3.27	
1227	Wigan Crematorium and Lower Ince Cemetery	West	Worsley Mesnes	10.76	

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

### 9.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a sites overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries.

Table 9.5: Quality ratings for assessed cemeteries

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	9	2	1
East	9	0	0
West	11	5	0
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>

All of the 37 identified sites are allocated a quality rating. Over three quarters (78%) of assessed sites rate as good quality overall, demonstrating a high standard of quality of cemeteries.

Gidlow Cemetery, the largest site, is rated as good quality due to wide, accessible entrances and paths enabling pram and wheelchair access, benches, numerous trees, hedges and landscaping. The site has the additional benefits of a car park, bins, signage and gardens of remembrance further adding to its quality. It also has several denomination sections. It is noted that there is burial capacity space remaining at this site.

Another large, good quality site is Wigan Crematorium and Lower Ince Cemetery. The site features a range of facilities including accessible entrances and pathways, signage, mature trees, good boundary fencing, benches and bins. The site has the additional benefits of car parking, toilets, crematorium and gardens of remembrance. Similarly, there is burial capacity space at this site.

Within close proximity to Wigan Crematorium and Lower Ince Cemetery are Westwood Cemetery, Westwood Lane and Ince Cemetery, Cemetery Road. Both sites are fairly large and feature mature trees, benches and bins. Ince Cemetery also has car parking, however, it is noted that boundary fencing is average quality.

Some sites rate as good overall but have noted maintenance issues. For example, the council highlight that a large area to rear of St Oswald and St Edmund Arrowsmith RC Church is unused and overgrown with mature trees and shrubs, making this section inaccessible. The council also identify that Our Lady Immaculate RC Church is undergoing restoration.



There are only seven sites which rate as average quality. St Thomas's Church, Heath Road is noted as featuring a large unused area to the side that is overgrown with mature trees, shrubs and long grasses. Some areas containing older graves are poorly maintained with headstones falling over. However, newer graves are better maintained. The site benefits from signage, good boundary fencing, natural surveillance, and Commonwealth graves and memorial. There is also a car park opposite the site. Overall, the site is noted as being in average / poor condition.

Similarly, All Saints Church, High Street has issues relating to overgrown shrubs with an area to the side with mature trees that is not maintained. The site is observed as featuring good boundary fencing, bins, and signage.

Only the graveyard on Heath Road in Ashton rates as poor quality. This is due to being mostly overgrown with long grasses, thistles and nettles etc. There is evidence that a few graves have been visited but the site is mainly used as a shortcut / dog walking. The site benefits from mature trees, Commonwealth graves and some natural surveillance. However, boundary fencing is in poor condition and the site has no signage.

## **PART 10: CIVIC SPACES**

### **10.1: Introduction**

The civic space typology includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, providing a setting for civic buildings, public gatherings and community events.

### **10.2: Current provision**

There are 20 civic space sites identified across Wigan Borough equating to four hectares. In addition, there are likely to be other informal pedestrian areas, streets or squares which may be viewed as providing similar roles and functions as civic space.

Table 10.1 Current civic spaces by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Central	4	0.16
East	4	0.31
West	12	3.53
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4.00</b>

Most civic space provision is in the West Analysis Area, which contains the town of Wigan.

Table 10.2 shows the distribution of civic spaces broken down by ward.

Table 10.2 Current civic spaces by ward

Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Abram	1	0.01
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	-	-
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1	0.05
Golborne and Lowton West	2	0.10
Hindley	-	-
Hindley Green	-	-
Lowton East	-	-
<b>Central</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.16</b>
Astley	-	-
Atherton North	1	0.04
Atherton South and Lilford	1	0.13
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	-	-
Leigh South	-	-
Leigh West	-	--
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	2	0.13
<b>East</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.31</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1	0.15

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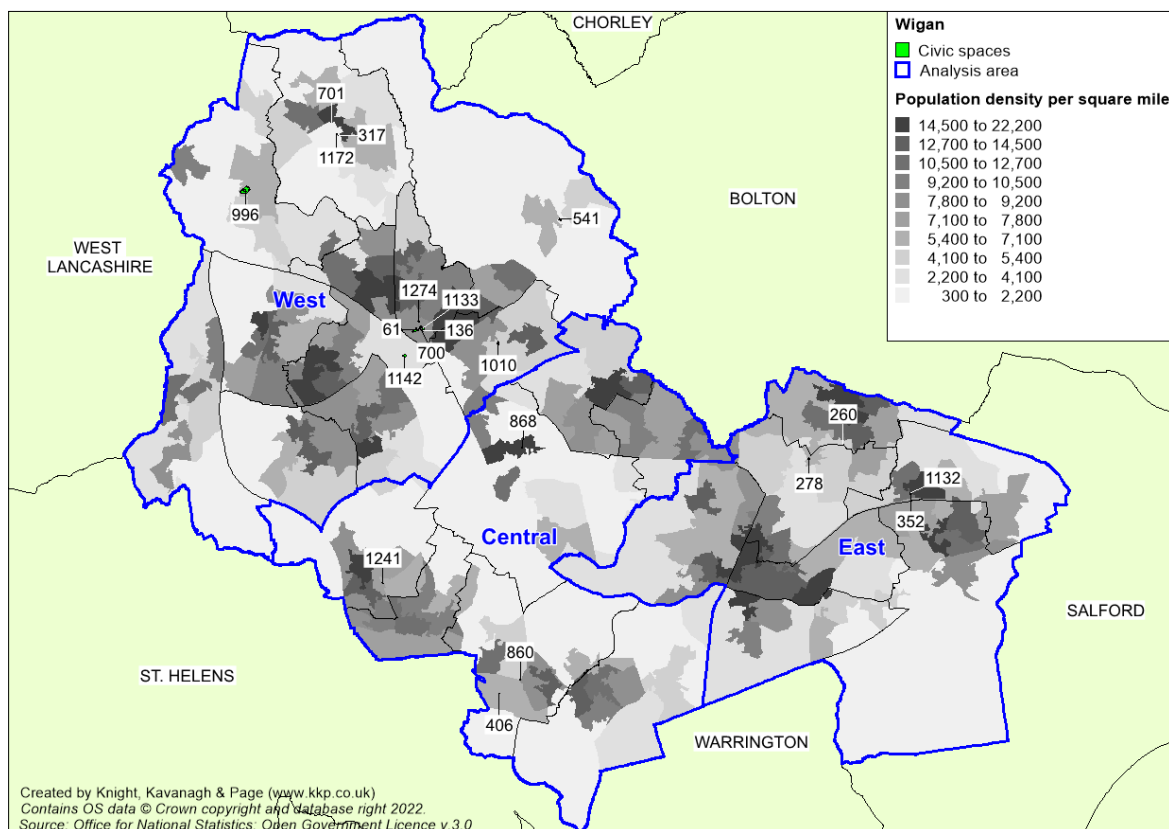
Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Douglas	1	0.34
Ince	1	0.16
Orrell	-	-
Pemberton	-	-
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1	1.82
Standish with Langtree	3	0.06
Wigan Central	5	1.00
Wigan West	-	-
Winstanley	-	-
Worsley Mesnes	-	-
<b>West</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3.53</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1.39</b>

Table 10.2 highlights that most wards do not have civic space provision. Distribution of provision is likely to be in areas of higher population density.

### 10.3: Accessibility

No accessibility standard is set for this typology and there is no realistic requirement to set such standards. Figure 10.1 shows the distribution of civic spaces across Wigan Borough.

Figure 10.1: Civic spaces mapped against analysis areas



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 10.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
61	All Saints Church, Crawford Street	West	Wigan Central	0.66	
136	Believe Square Millgate	West	Wigan Central	0.10	
260	Church Street / St John Street / Market Place	East	Atherton North	0.04	
278	Corner of Hamilton Street / Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.13	
317	Diamond Jubilee Garden	West	Standish with Langtree	0.01	
352	Elliott Street opposite The Square	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.03	
406	Golborne Cenotaph	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.04	
541	Junction Wigan Road / Bolton Road / Haigh Road / Scot Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.15	
700	Market Place, Wigan	West	Wigan Central	0.21	
701	Market Place, Standish	West	Standish with Langtree	0.03	
860	Peter Kane Square	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.06	
868	Platt Bridge War Memorial	Central	Abram	0.01	
996	Shevington Memorial Park	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.82	
1010	Smithy Green Manchester Road Ince	West	Ince	0.16	
1132	The Square, Tyldesley	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.11	
1133	The Wiend	West	Wigan Central	0.18	
1142	Trencherfield Gardens	West	Douglas	0.34	
1172	War Memorial High Street / Church Street	West	Standish with Langtree	0.02	
1241	Wigan Road / Carnegie Drive	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.05	
1274	Woodcock Square, Wigan	West	Wigan Central	0.05	

When considering the purpose of civic spaces as providing space for public gatherings and community events, they are likely located in areas of higher population density. There are many gaps to the areas of denser population. These are likely, however, to be met by other sites such as park and gardens.

### 10.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries.

Table 10.4: Quality ratings for assessed civic spaces

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	4	0	0
East	2	2	0
West	11	1	0
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

All 20 identified sites are allocated a quality rating. All but three assessed sites rate as good quality. No civic spaces are noted as poor quality. Sites rating as good quality generally have seating and lighting.

Believe Square, Millgate is an attractive site with numerous benches, some planting, lighting, a statue and great signage.

Golborne Cenotaph does not feature facilities such as fountains, seating or lighting however is still highlighted as being in good condition overall.

Smithy Green Manchester Road Ince is a war memorial site featuring a tree and lighting. Moreover, it has the additional benefits of car parking and CCTV.

The two assessed civic spaces that rate average quality are Church Street / St John Street / Market Place and Elliott Street opposite The Square. The former features a war memorial, lighting, CCTV, a bench and bin. The site is small and does not feature planting or signage. Elliott Street opposite The Square features landscaping, seating, lighting, CCTV. Likewise, the site has no signage.

## **PART 11: GREEN CORRIDORS**

### **11.1: 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. This can also include river and canal banks. For the purposes of this study, the Public Rights of Way (PROW) network has been used.

### **11.2: Current Provision**

There are 17 forms of green corridor provision identified across Wigan Borough. These are categorised as bridleways, byways, restricted byways and footpaths. Note that some sites may span across multiple analysis areas.

Table 11.1: Current green corridors by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Central	8	34.22
East	3	40.37
West	6	47.39
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>121.98</b>

There is a fairly even distribution in the number and amount of provision across the three analysis areas.

Table 11.2 shows the distribution of civic spaces broken down by ward. Due to the linear nature of provision, sites are allocated to a single ward (containing the majority of provision)

Table 11.2: Current green corridors by ward

Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Abram	3	24.21
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	-	-
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	-	-
Golborne and Lowton West	-	-
Hindley	3	3.16
Hindley Green	1	0.34
Lowton East	1	6.52
<b>Central</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>34.22</b>
Astley	1	18.67
Atherton North	-	-
Atherton South and Lilford	2	21.71
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	-	-
Leigh South	-	-
Leigh West	-	-

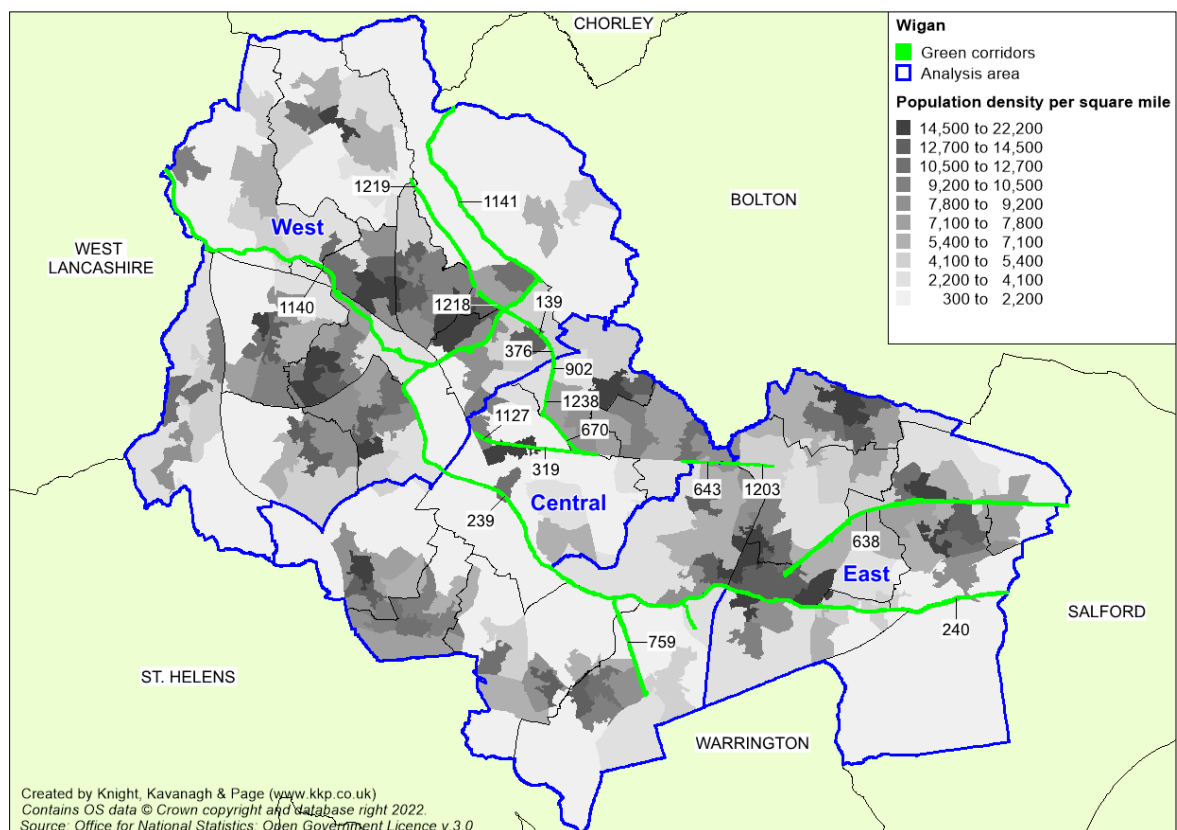
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Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	-	-
<b>East</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40.37</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2	19.88
Douglas	-	-
Ince	2	2.18
Orrell	-	-
Pemberton	-	-
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1	24.94
Standish with Langtree	1	0.39
Wigan Central	-	-
Wigan West	-	-
Winstanley	-	-
Worsley Mesnes	-	-
<b>West</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>47.39</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>121.98</b>

### 11.3: Accessibility

Figure 11.1 shows provision mapped across Wigan Borough.

Figure 11.1: Map of green corridors



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 11.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ward	Size (ha)	Quality rating
139	Belle Green Lane to Railway	West	Ince	1.65	
239	Canal Pennington to Westwood	Central	Abram	21.17	
240	Canal through Leigh	East	Astley	18.67	
319	Dismantled railway Platt Bridge	Central	Abram	2.01	
376	From Makerfield Way	West	Ince	0.53	
638	Leigh Guided Busway	East	Atherton South and Lilford	21.25	
643	Leigh Road to Westleigh Lane	Central	Hindley Green	0.34	
670	Liverpool Road to Park Road	Central	Hindley	0.98	
759	Newton Road to Gerrards Bridge	Central	Lowton East	6.52	
902	Railway to Wigan Road	Central	Hindley	0.99	
1127	Taylors Lane to Warrington Road	Central	Abram	1.03	
1140	Top Lock to Appley Bridge	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	24.94	
1141	Top Lock to Boundary	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	12.78	
1203	Westleigh Lane to Lovers Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.45	
1218	Whelley Loop Line	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	7.10	
1219	Whelley Loop Line Viaduct	West	Standish with Langtree	0.39	
1238	Wigan Road to Liverpool Road	Central	Hindley	1.18	



### 11.4: Quality

Site assessments undertaken by Wigan Council are used to help inform a site's overall quality. Sites are colour-coded (good quality being green, average quality being amber and poor quality being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries.

Table 11.4: Quality ratings for assessed green corridors

Area	Good quality sites	Average quality sites	Poor quality sites
Central	2	2	4
East	3	0	0
West	3	1	2
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>

All of the 17 identified sites are allocated a quality rating. Just less than half of assessed green corridors (47%) rate as good quality. This includes Leigh Guided Busway and Belle Green Lane to Railway. Both sites are accessible for walkers and cyclists with the latter also accessible for horse riders. Both sites feature some natural surveillance and are in good condition overall. However, Belle Green Lane to Railway is noted as having issues of overgrown vegetation, vandalism and litter. Similarly, Leigh Guided Busway also has litter issues.

There are several other good quality sites also noted as having litter such as Canal through Leigh, Canal Pennington to Westwood, Railway to Wigan Road, Top Lock to Appley Bridge and From Makerfield Way. Of these sites, Railway to Wigan Road and From Makerfield Way also have overgrown vegetation.

There are three assessed green corridors noted as average quality:

- ◀ Leigh Road to Westleigh Lane
- ◀ Top Lock to Boundary
- ◀ Wigan Road to Liverpool Road

All three sites are accessible for walkers and cyclists and feature some natural surveillance. Leigh Road to Westleigh Lane and Wigan Road to Liverpool Road are both observed to have overgrown vegetation and litter. Vandalism is also noted at Wigan Road to Liverpool Road.

Six assessed green corridor sites rate as poor quality. This is mainly due to issues such as litter, overgrown vegetation, and having little or no natural surveillance.

The council identify that Whelley Loop Line Viaduct is inaccessible due to health and safety reasons.

## **PART 12: OUTDOOR SPORTS**

### **12.1: Introduction**

Outdoor Sports is included in this report to provide an overview of provision. For the purposes of this report, Outdoor Sports refers to sites considered to have a primary function as sports provision including dedicated grass pitches and artificial pitches (i.e. floodlit, available for use in evenings and weekends). These include football clubs, bowling greens and tennis courts.

The Wigan Council Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) sets out the current and future supply and demand requirements for all playing pitch provision including football, cricket, rugby and hockey. This should be sought with regard to any supply and demand queries.

### **12.2: Current provision**

There are 299 outdoor sports facilities equating to over 597 hectares of provision.

Table 12.1: Current outdoor sports by analysis area

<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Number of sites</b>	<b>Total hectares (ha)</b>
Central	82	187.57
East	86	103.01
West	131	306.66
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>597.23</b>

Table 12.2: Current outdoor sports by ward

<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Number of sites</b>	<b>Total hectares (ha)</b>
Abram	12	12.27
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	11	12.73
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	14	25.29
Golborne and Lowton West	17	62.33
Hindley	13	29.31
Hindley Green	7	13.03
Lowton East	8	32.61
<b>Central</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>187.57</b>
Astley	15	28.67
Atherton North	7	9.80
Atherton South and Lilford	17	19.98
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	9	11.81
Leigh South	21	20.45
Leigh West	10	7.58
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	7	4.71
<b>East</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>103.1</b>

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

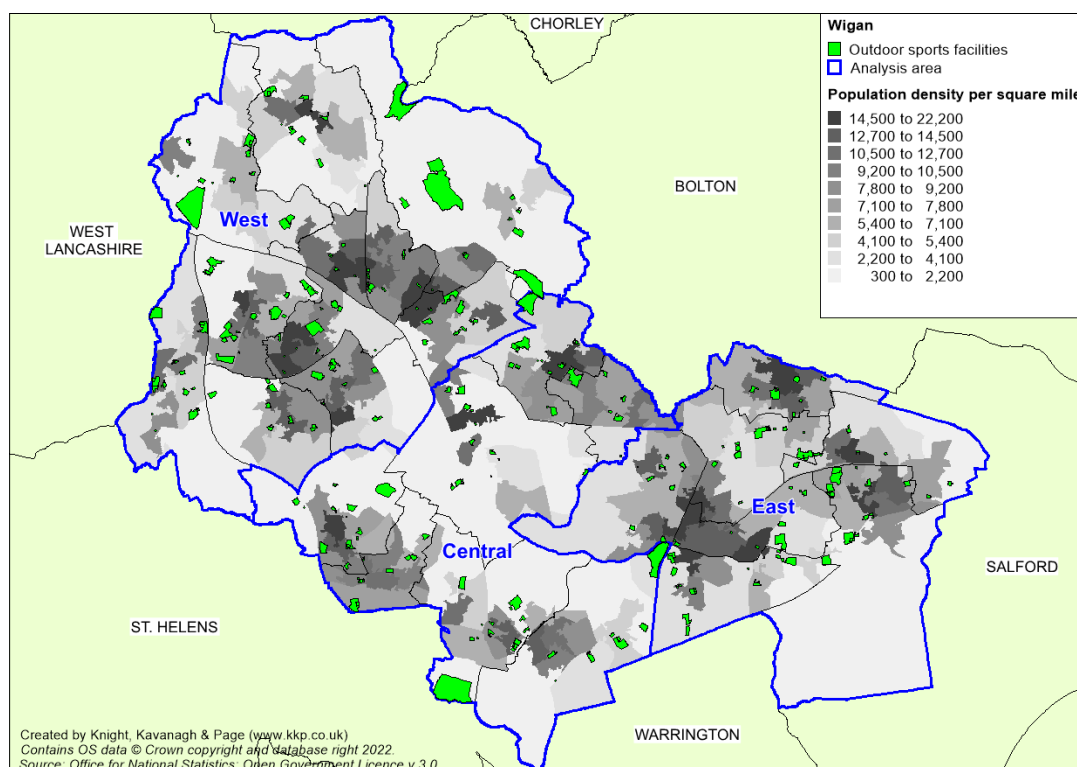
Analysis area	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	12	115.63
Douglas	12	15.10
Ince	13	15.36
Orrell	18	24.76
Pemberton	16	37.43
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	12	55.58
Standish with Langtree	10	13.58
Wigan Central	14	5.36
Wigan West	5	1.73
Winstanley	11	10.88
Worsley Mesnes	8	11.25
<b>West</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>306.66</b>
<b>Wigan Borough</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>597.23</b>

### 12.3: Accessibility

FIT suggest a catchment of 1,200m for outdoor sports provision. However, Sport England guidance for playing pitch provision advises that catchment mapping does not reflect how each individual sport is played. Instead, the supply and demand analysis of a PPOSS should be used. Consequently, it is not necessary for this study to assess outdoor sports against catchment areas.

Figure 12.1 shows outdoor sports sites mapped across Wigan Borough.

Figure 12.1: Outdoor Sports mapped



Due to a large number of sites, outdoor sports sites are not labelled on the map.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 12.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
4	Abraham Guest Academy Artificial Pitch	West	Pemberton	0.64
5	Abraham Guest Playing Fields	West	Pemberton	5.47
6	Abram Bryn Gates Primary School, Lily Lane	Central	Abram	0.84
7	Abram C of E Primary School, Simpkin Street	Central	Abram	0.99
9.4	Abram Park Bowling Green	Central	Abram	0.14
52	Alder House Football Ground, Alder Street	East	Atherton North	0.78
54.4	Alexandra Park Tennis Courts	West	Douglas	0.10
55	Alexandra Park Bowling Greens (St Jude's Bowling Club)	West	Douglas	0.56
71	Area off St James Road within Playing Field	West	Orrell	0.52
80	Ashton Athletic AFC, off Brocstedes Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1.77
81	Ashton Bears Ground	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	3.61
84	Ashton Recreation Society Bowling Green (North)	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.13
85	Ashton Recreation Society Bowling Green (South)	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.15
86	Ashton Town Associated Football Ground, Edge Green Street	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.11
87	Aspull Church Primary School Playing Field	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.71
88.2	Aspull Civic Park Bowling Green 1	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.14
88.3	Aspull Civic Park Bowling Green 2	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.14
88.4	Aspull Civic Park Tennis Courts	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.16
94	Aspull Holy Family RC Infants School Playing Field	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	1.09
95	Aspull RUFC, Woods Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	3.27
96	Astley and Tyldesley Cricket Club, Meanley Road	East	Astley	0.94

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
97	Astley and Tyldesley Cycling Club	East	Astley	0.22
98	Astley and Tyldesley Miners Welfare Institute Bowling Club, Meanley Road	East	Astley	0.14
99	Astley and Tyldesley Sports Club	East	Astley	0.21
109	Atherton Community School, Hamilton Street	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.25
110	Atherton Cricket Club, Leigh Road, Howe Bridge	East	Atherton South and Lilford	1.12
122	Bedford Hall Primary School Playing Field	East	Leigh South	1.35
123	Bedford High School Playing Fields	East	Leigh South	3.76
124	Bedford High School, Manchester Road	East	Leigh South	0.70
125	Bedford HS	East	Leigh South	0.45
129	Beech Hill Primary School Playing Field	West	Wigan West	0.60
132	Beer Engine Bowling Green, Poolstock	West	Douglas	0.12
142	Bellingham Bowling Club, Green 1	West	Wigan Central	0.16
143	Bellingham Bowling Club, Green 2	West	Wigan Central	0.18
144	Bellingham Tennis Club	West	Wigan Central	0.75
162	Bickershaw C of E Primary School, Bickershaw Lane	Central	Abram	0.99
171	Bispham Hall Recreational Club Bowling Green	West	Orrell	0.13
175	Boars Head Public House Bowling Green	West	Standish with Langtree	0.17
190	Boothstown Holy Family RC Playing Field	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.71
192	Botanical Gardens Club, Tyldesley Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.16
195	Bowling Green off Chapel Street	Central	Hindley	0.12
196	Bowling Green, Warrington Road	Central	Abram	0.12

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
197	Bowling Section, Leigh Cricket Club	East	Leigh South	0.15
206	Britannia Bridge Primary Playing Field	West	Ince	1.23
212	Brunswick Recreation Club Bowling Green, Leigh Road	Central	Hindley Green	0.13
216	Bryn Recreation Ground, Bryn Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	2.45
218	Bryn Road, Ashton-In-Makerfield	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.10
242	Cansfield High School Playing Field	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	2.12
243	Cansfield High School, Old Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.53
247	Castle Hill Primary School Playing Field	Central	Hindley	0.81
249	Central Park Academy Artificial Pitch	West	Pemberton	0.24
258	Christopher Park	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	4.25
297	Crilly Park, Spa Road	East	Atherton North	1.61
313	Deanery High School	West	Wigan Central	0.62
324.4	Dootsons Park Bowling Green	East	Leigh South	0.18
341	Edmund Arrowsmith High School Artificial Pitch	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.59
342	Edmund Arrowsmith High School, Rookery Avenue	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	5.10
374	Fred Longworth High School	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.54
378	Furlong Close	Central	Abram	1.85
382	Gardeners Arms Bowling Green, Lovers Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.22
384	Garrett Hall County Primary School, Garrett Lane	East	Astley	1.46
386	Garswood Hall Bowling Club (North)	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.16
387	Garswood Hall Bowling Club (South)	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.21
389	Gathurst Golf Course	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	38.15

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
397	Gilded Hollins Primary School Playing Field	Central	Lowton East	2.39
398	Gin Pit Playing Field	East	Astley	2.91
404	Golborne All Saints Primary Playing Field	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	1.35
407	Golborne Cricket Club, off Stone Cross Lane North	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	1.64
408	Golborne High School Artificial Pitch	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.31
409	Golborne High School Playing Fields	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	5.65
415	Golborne Parkside ARLFC	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.73
416	Golborne Primary Playing Field	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.80
417	Golborne Sports and Social Club Artificial Pitch	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.60
418	Golborne Sports Club	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.73
419	Golborne Sports Club Bowling Green	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.14
420	Golborne Sports Club Tennis Courts	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.10
421	Golborne St Thomas Primary Playing Field	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.50
422	Golborne Village Club, Beech Road Bowling Green	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.11
423	Golf Driving Range, Manchester Road, Astley	East	Astley	4.12
424	Goose Green Cricket Club, Paris Avenue	West	Winstanley	1.14
434	Great Acre Bowling Green 2	West	Wigan Central	0.14
435	Great Acre Bowling Green 3	West	Wigan Central	0.14
436	Great Acre Bowling Green 1	West	Wigan Central	0.14
452	Haigh Hall Golf Course	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	60.28
467	Hawkhurst Street OSF	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.55
468	Hawkley Hall High School	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.41



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
469	Hawkley Hall High School Playing Fields	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.18
470	Haydock Park Golf Course, Newton Lane	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	44.67
481	Highcliffe Court	West	Standish with Langtree	1.84
482	Highfield Cricket Club, Billinge Road	West	Winstanley	2.55
483.2	Highfield Gardens Bowling Green 1	West	Douglas	0.14
483.3	Highfield Gardens Bowling Green 2	West	Douglas	0.15
488	Highfield St Matthews Playing Field	West	Winstanley	0.89
490	Hindley All Saints Primary Playing Field	Central	Hindley	1.37
491	Hindley ARLFC	Central	Hindley	5.89
493	Hindley Green Primary Playing Field	Central	Hindley Green	2.35
494	Hindley Green St John's CE School, Atherton Road	Central	Hindley Green	0.34
495	Hindley Hall Golf Course (South)	Central	Hindley	13.54
496	Hindley Hall Golf Course (North)	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	20.11
497	Hindley High School Playing Fields	Central	Hindley Green	8.23
498	Hindley Junior and Infants Primary Playing Field	Central	Hindley	0.57
499	Hindley Juniors Football Club	Central	Hindley	2.46
500	Hindley St Peters Cricket Club, Hurst Street	Central	Hindley	2.10
501	Hindley Town FC Playing Field	Central	Hindley	1.24
508	Holts Arms Bowling Green, Crank Road	West	Orrell	0.13
509	Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Wigan Street	Central	Abram	1.03
514	Howe Bridge Artificial Pitch	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.63
516	Howe Bridge New Pitches	East	Atherton South and Lilford	2.12

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
527	Ince Primary Playing Field	West	Ince	0.72
528	Ince Rose Bridge ARLFC	West	Ince	0.97
529	Ince St Marys C of E Primary School, Derby Street	Central	Abram	1.13
537.4	Jubilee Park Tennis Courts	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.22
566	Laithwaite Park, Scot Lane	West	Douglas	9.33
600	Land end Spencers Road Dean Wood Golf Course	West	Orrell	6.44
621	Landgate Primary School Playing Field	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.38
633	Leigh Bedford High School Playing Field	East	Leigh South	0.59
634	Leigh Bowling Club, Pownall Street	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.21
636	Leigh Cricket Club, Beech Walk	East	Leigh South	1.25
637	Leigh East RUFC LSV Ledgard Avenue	East	Leigh South	2.06
639	Leigh Harriers Athletics Stadium	East	Leigh South	1.96
640	Leigh Miners ARLFC	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.91
641	Leigh Miners Welfare Club Bowling Section	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.16
645	Leigh RUFC (North)	East	Leigh South	2.67
646	Leigh RUFC (South)	East	Leigh South	1.68
647	Leigh RUFC Bowling Green	East	Leigh South	0.31
648	Leigh Sports Club Tennis Section	East	Leigh South	0.40
649	Leigh Sports Village	East	Leigh South	1.34
650	Leigh St Peters Primary Playing Field	East	Leigh West	1.11
651	Leigh Twelve Apostles School Playing Field	East	Leigh West	0.97
655.4	Leyland Park Tennis Courts	Central	Hindley	0.15

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
661	Lilford Centre Playing Field	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	1.00
662.2	Lilford Park Bowling Green (East)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.18
662.3	Lilford Park Bowling Green (West)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.18
667	Little Lane Playing Field	West	Worsley Mesnes	4.20
671	Lodge Lane	East	Atherton South and Lilford	5.77
675	Lord Nelson Bowling Green, Bridge Street	Central	Hindley	0.11
679	Lowton High School	Central	Lowton East	0.56
680	Lowton High School Playing Field	Central	Lowton East	5.26
681	Lowton Junior and Infant School Playing Field	Central	Lowton East	2.20
682	Lowton St Mary's Playing Field	Central	Lowton East	0.66
683	Lowton St Marys School Playing Field	Central	Lowton East	1.62
684	Lowton West Primary School Playing Field	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.86
685	LSV Artificial Pitch	East	Leigh South	0.05
704	Marsh Green Primary School	West	Pemberton	1.11
710	Marus Bridge Primary School Playing Field	West	Winstanley	0.68
713	Meadowbank Primary School Playing Field	East	Atherton North	4.60
719.3	Mesnes Park Bowling Green 1	West	Wigan Central	0.18
719.4	Mesnes Park Bowling Green 2	West	Wigan Central	0.19
719.5	Mesnes Park Bowling Green 3	West	Wigan Central	0.18
719.6	Mesnes Park Tennis Courts	West	Wigan Central	0.43
727	Millbrook Primary School Playing Field	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.71
734	Montrose Skills Hub	West	Pemberton	0.51

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
739	Morley Street Bowling Green (East)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.14
740	Morley Street Bowling Green (West)	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.15
741	Morley Street Tennis Courts	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.28
745	Mr Earl's Club Bowling Green, Brook Street	West	Ince	0.13
750	New Greenhall Primary School Playing Field	East	Atherton North	0.82
755	Newbridge Learning Community Artificial Pitch	Central	Abram	0.19
760	Newton Westpark Primary School, Tennyson Avenue	East	Leigh West	1.10
761	Newtown and Central Conservative Club Bowling Green, Ormskirk Road	West	Douglas	0.11
763	Nicol Mere Primary School Playing Field	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1.26
767	Norley Hall Cricket Club, Norley Road	West	Pemberton	1.52
781	Oakfield School Playing Field	Central	Hindley Green	0.95
796	Oldhams Fold Playing Field Orrell Road	West	Pemberton	0.99
810	Orrell Holgate Primary School Artificial Pitch	West	Orrell	0.13
811	Orrell Holgate Primary School Playing Field	West	Orrell	0.75
812	Orrell Lamberhead School Playing Field (North)	West	Pemberton	0.27
813	Orrell Lamberhead School Playing Field (South)	West	Pemberton	1.44
814	Orrell Newfold School Playing Field	West	Orrell	1.33
815	Orrell Red Triangle Cricket Club, Winstanley Road	West	Orrell	1.38
816	Orrell St James ARLFC	West	Pemberton	6.10
817	Orrell St James Primary School Playing Field	West	Orrell	0.91
821	Our Lady Immaculate Bowling Green	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.13

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
823	Our Ladys RC Primary School Playing Field	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.75
824	Pagefield Bowling Green, Park Road	West	Wigan West	0.21
832	Parklee Community School Playing Field	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.78
833	Parkside Sports and Community Club Bowling Green	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.14
838	Pemberton Conservative Club Bowling Green	West	Pemberton	0.13
840	Pemberton Working Mens Club Bowling Green	West	Douglas	0.10
841	Pennington FC, Leigh Road	East	Atherton South and Lilford	1.23
843	Pennington Flash Golf Course	Central	Lowton East	19.79
847.3	Pennington Park Bowling Green 1	East	Leigh South	0.18
847.4	Pennington Park Bowling Green 2	East	Leigh South	0.16
847.5	Pennington Park Tennis Courts	East	Leigh South	0.19
865	Platt Bridge Community Centre Bowling Greens	Central	Abram	0.28
870	Platt Lane Bowling Green	Central	Hindley	0.17
876	Playing Field at back of Marus Bridge Primary	West	Winstanley	0.83
878	Playing Field off Hope Carr Road	East	Leigh South	0.88
879	Playing Field off Patricroft Road	West	Ince	0.78
880	Playing Field Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	West	Wigan West	0.19
881	Playing Field to the West of St James Road	West	Orrell	2.88
889	Powerleague Soccerdome Artificial Pitches	West	Pemberton	0.44
893	Printshop Lane Park Tennis Courts	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.17
894	Printshop Lane Playing Field	East	Atherton South and Lilford	0.91
898	Queensway Football Pitch	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	1.63

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
917	Rear of 18 High Street	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	0.10
928	Red Lion Pub Bowling Green, Newton Road	Central	Lowton East	0.13
937	RL Hughes County Primary School Playing Field	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	1.15
939	Robin Park Arena	West	Douglas	2.17
940	Robin Park Arena Artificial Pitch	West	Douglas	1.03
941	Robin Park Tennis Centre Outdoor Courts	West	Douglas	0.30
943	Rose Bridge High School Playing Fields 1	West	Ince	4.32
944	Rose Bridge High School Playing Fields 2	West	Ince	3.87
945	Rose Bridge HS	West	Ince	0.23
946	Rose Bridge Sports and Community Club Bowling Green	West	Ince	0.10
958	Sacred Heart Bowling Green, Swan Lane	Central	Hindley Green	0.12
959	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Playing Field	Central	Hindley Green	0.92
966.2	Sandersons Croft Bowling Green	East	Leigh South	0.15
978	Scot Lane Playing Field	West	Pemberton	5.35
991	Shevington Bowling Club, Forest Fold	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.12
992	Shevington Conservative Club Bowling Green	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.11
993	Shevington High School Playing Fields	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	5.69
994	Shevington High School	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.72
995	Shevington High School Tennis Courts	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.23
998	Shevington Primary School Playing Field	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	1.29
999	Shevington Sharks ARLFC	West	Pemberton	6.26
1000	Shevington Vale Primary School Playing Fields	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.80

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
1019	Spelding Drive adjacent Christopher Park	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	2.52
1022	Spring View Cricket Ground, Warrington Road	Central	Abram	1.57
1024	Spring View Sports Club, Hatfield Close	Central	Abram	3.14
1028	Squires Lane Football Pitch	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	1.30
1029	St Aidan's Bowling Club	West	Winstanley	0.14
1030	St Aidens Catholic Primary School Playing Field	West	Winstanley	1.15
1031	St Ambrose Barlow RC Primary School Playing Field	East	Astley	0.79
1032	St Andrews Primary School Playing Field	West	Wigan West	0.52
1035	St Bernadettes Primary School Playing Field	West	Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	0.99
1036	St Catherine's Primary School Playing Field	West	Ince	0.30
1038	St Cuthberts Primary Playing Field	West	Douglas	0.98
1039	St Cuthberts Rugby Ground	West	Pemberton	6.12
1043	St Gabriel's RC Primary School Playing Field	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	1.05
1044	St Gabriels Bowling Green	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.19
1045	St Gabriels Catholic Primary School Playing Field	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	0.45
1047	St George's School Playing Field	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.47
1048	St Georges Park	East	Astley	2.68
1049	St Georges Park Football Fields	East	Astley	5.92
1050	St Georges Primary School Playing Field, Derby Street	East	Atherton North	1.48
1053	St James Primary School	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.60
1054	St James' Bowling Green	West	Orrell	0.09
1056	St John Fisher High School Artificial Pitch	West	Wigan West	0.20

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
1057	St John Rigby College Artificial Pitch	West	Pemberton	0.84
1061	St John's Primary School Playing Field	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.79
1064	St Judes ARLFC off Keats Avenue	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.08
1065	St Judes Primary School	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.77
1069	St Maries Bowling Green, Almond Brook Road	West	Standish with Langtree	0.11
1071	St Maries Primary School Playing Field	West	Standish with Langtree	1.60
1073	St Marys High School, Manchester Road	East	Astley	0.54
1074	St Marys RC High School Playing Field	East	Astley	5.09
1076	St Matthews Bowling Club, Billinge Road	West	Winstanley	0.11
1078	St Oswald's Bowling Green, rear of Bryn Street	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.13
1079	St Oswalds Primary School Playing Field	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.69
1080	St Patricks Club Bowling Green	West	Ince	0.24
1083	St Paul's Primary School Playing Field	West	Winstanley	0.35
1084	St Peter's C of E School Playing Field	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.83
1085	St Peter's CE Primary School Playing Field	Central	Hindley	0.77
1086	St Peters High School	West	Orrell	0.54
1087	St Peters High School Playing Fields	West	Orrell	3.73
1090	St Phillips Primary School Playing Field, Bolton Old Road	East	Atherton North	0.43
1091	St Stephens Primary School Playing Field	East	Astley	1.80
1093	St Thomas's C of E Playing Field	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.69
1096	St Wilfrid's RC Primary School Playing Field	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.41
1097	St Wilfrids Bowling Green, off Rectory Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	0.10



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
1098	St Wilfrids Primary School Playing Fields	West	Standish with Langtree	1.46
1099	St Williams RC Primary School Playing Field	West	Ince	0.33
1103	Standish Cricket Club, Green Lane	West	Standish with Langtree	2.11
1104	Standish High School Artificial Pitch	West	Standish with Langtree	0.64
1105	Standish High School Playing Field with three pitches	West	Standish with Langtree	3.75
1123	Sutton Park	East	Leigh Central and Higher Folds	6.66
1124	Sycamore Driving Range	Central	Golborne and Lowton West	3.89
1125	Tamar Public House Bowling Green, Nel Pan Lane	East	Leigh West	0.09
1131	The Club House Bowling Green, Fletcher Street	East	Atherton North	0.07
1139	Three Sisters Race Way, Three Sisters Road	Central	Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	10.60
1145	Tyldesley Primary School Playing Field	East	Astley	1.67
1146	Tyldesley Subscription Bowling Club, Garden Street	East	Astley	0.18
1147	Tyldesley Tennis Club	East	Tyldesley and Mosley Common	0.28
1161	Village Club Bowling Green, Westleigh Lane	East	Leigh West	0.11
1176	Wardour Street	East	Atherton South and Lilford	5.34
1200	Westleigh Cricket Club, The Pingots	East	Leigh West	1.17
1201	Westleigh High School	East	Leigh West	0.16
1202	Westleigh High School Artificial Pitch	East	Leigh West	0.54
1204	Westleigh Methodist Cricket Club, Westleigh Lane	East	Leigh West	1.14
1210	Westleigh St Pauls Playing Field	East	Leigh West	1.19
1217	Whelley Labour Club Bowling Green	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	0.14
1228	Wigan Cricket Club, Bull Hey, Parsons Walk	West	Wigan Central	1.58

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Ward	Size (ha)
1229	Wigan Golf Course, Arley Lane	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	25.90
1246	Wigan Rovers	West	Worsley Mesnes	1.47
1247	Wigan RUFC off Wingates Road	West	Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2.96
1248	Wigan St Patricks ARLFC	West	Ince	2.12
1249	Wigan Subscription Bowling Green, Park Crescent	West	Wigan Central	0.20
1250	Wigan Warriors Co-operative Community Stadium	West	Orrell	0.95
1251	Wigan Youth Zone Artificial Pitch	West	Wigan Central	0.47
1258	Willow Grove Primary School Playing Fields	Central	Ashton-in-Makerfield South	1.50
1263	Winstanley College Hard Surfaced Sports Area	West	Orrell	0.24
1264	Winstanley College Playing Field	West	Orrell	4.17
1265	Winstanley Community Primary Playing Field	West	Winstanley	1.07
1266	Winstanley Park Cricket Club, Hall Lane	West	Winstanley	1.98
1267	Winstanley Tennis Club	West	Orrell	0.32
1272	Wood Fold Primary School Playing Field	West	Standish with Langtree	1.79
1286	Worsley Mesnes Primary School Playing Field	West	Worsley Mesnes	0.53
1289	YMCA Bowling Green, off Winstanley Road	West	Orrell	0.14

## **PART 13: IDENTIFYING SHORTFALLS AND PRIORITIES**

Deficiencies and surpluses for open space are set in terms of quality, accessibility, and quantity.

### **13.1: Quality and value**

Most open space sites receive a quality rating. This can help inform prioritisation of enhancement. It should be done in conjunction with regard to the quantity and / or accessibility of provision in the area (i.e. whether there is a deficiency).

There is a need for flexibility with the enhancement of low-quality sites. In some instances, a better use of resources and investment may be to focus on more suitable sites for enhancement as opposed to trying to enhance sites where it is not appropriate or cost effective to do so. Please refer to the individual typology sections as well as the supporting excel database for a breakdown of quality ratings.

#### **Value**

Value of provision has been assessed via a desk-based mapping exercise. This has examined the number of catchment area overlaps in each ward area per open space type.

Wards are then ranked based on the level of abundance through to scarcity for each type of open space. This can help to identify those wards with a possible shortage of such provision and, in conjunction with quantity, quality and accessibility, can help to inform future decision-making processes and priorities.

Table 13.1.1: Wards ranked by park value

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Douglas	1st
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	2nd
Pemberton	3rd
Orrell	4th
Leigh South	5th
Atherton South and Lilford	6th
Leigh West	7th
Worsley Mesnes	8th
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	9th=
Atherton North	9th=
Wigan Central	9th=
Standish with Langtree	10th
Abram	11th=
Astley	11th=
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	11th=
Golborne and Lowton West	11th=

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Ward	Rank
Hindley	11th=
Hindley Green	11th=
Ince	11th=
Lowton East	11th=
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	12th=
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	12th=
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	12th=
Wigan West	12th=
Winstanley	12th=

Table 13.1.2: Wards ranked by natural / semi-natural value

Ward	Rank
Standish with Langtree	1st
Worsley Mesnes	2nd
Ince	3rd
Atherton South and Lilford	4th
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	5th
Winstanley	6th
Astley	7th
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	8th
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	9th
Abram	10th
Leigh West	11th
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	12th
Wigan Central	13th
Pemberton	14th
Lowton East	15th
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	16th
Golborne and Lowton West	17th
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	18th
Douglas	19th
Wigan West	20th
Hindley	21st
Orrell	22nd
Hindley Green	23rd
Leigh South	24th
Atherton North	25th

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Table 13.1.3: Wards ranked by amenity value

Ward	Rank
Ince	1st
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	2nd
Pemberton	3rd
Wigan Central	4th
Standish with Langtree	5th
Atherton North	6th
Douglas	7th
Leigh West	8th
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	9th
Golborne and Lowton West	10th
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	11th
Astley	12th
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	13th
Wigan West	14th
Atherton South and Lilford	15th
Worsley Mesnes	16th
Abram	17th
Leigh South	18th
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	19th
Lowton East	20th
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	21st
Hindley Green	22nd
Winstanley	23rd
Hindley	24th
Orrell	25th

Table 13.1.4: Wards ranked by play value

Ward	Rank
Abram	1st
Leigh West	2nd
Ince	3rd
Atherton North	4th
Astley	5th
Hindley	6th
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	7th
Douglas	8th
Atherton South and Lilford	9th
Standish with Langtree	10th

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE REPORT

Ward	Rank
Leigh South	11th
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	12th
Wigan West	13th
Wigan Central	14th
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	15th
Pemberton	16th
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	17th
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	18th
Lowton East	19th
Worsley Mesnes	20th
Golborne and Lowton West	21st
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	22nd
Hindley Green	23rd
Winstanley	24th
Orrell	25th

The table below presents an overview of the value rankings for each ward area. The wards with consistently high ranking include Ince, Standish with Langtree, and Atherton South and Lilford. This suggests such areas are well provided for with a higher level of open space provision locally.

In contrast, the wards of Hindley Green, Orrell, Lowton East, Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor, and Winstanley, have a generally lower ranking. This suggests a lower level of provision locally is available.

Table 13.1.5: Overview of ward rankings

Ward	Park	NSN	AGS	Play
Abram	11th=	10th	17th	1st
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	2nd	16th	21st	7th
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	9th=	9th	2nd	15th
Astley	11th=	7th	12th	5th
Atherton North	9th=	25th	6th	4th
Atherton South and Lilford	6th	4th	15th	9th
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	11th=	18th	11th	18th
Douglas	1st	19th	7th	8th
Golborne and Lowton West	11th=	17th	10th	21st
Hindley	11th=	21st	24th	6th
Hindley Green	11th=	23rd	22nd	23rd
Ince	11th=	3rd	1st	3rd
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	12th=	5th	9th	17th
Leigh South	5th	24th	18th	11th

Ward	Park	NSN	AGS	Play
Leigh West	7th	11th	8th	2nd
Lowton East	11th=	15th	20th	19th
Orrell	4th	22nd	25th	25th
Pemberton	3rd	14th	3rd	16th
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	12th=	12th	19th	22nd
Standish with Langtree	10th	1st	5th	10th
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	12th=	8th	13th	12th
Wigan Central	9th=	13th	4th	14th
Wigan West	12th=	20th	14th	13th
Winstanley	12th=	6th	23rd	24th
Worsley Mesnes	8th	2nd	16th	20th

### 13.2: Accessibility

Accessibility catchments are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that factors underpinning catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day, and hour to hour. For the purposes of this process the concept of 'effective catchments' are used, defined as the distance that most users would travel. The accessibility catchments do not consider if a distance is on an incline or decline. They are therefore intended to act as an initial form of analysis to help identify potential gaps.

Table 13.2.1: Accessibility catchments

Open space type		Catchment
Parks and gardens		9-minute walk time (710m)
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		9-minute walk time (720m)
Amenity greenspace		6-minute walk time (480m)
Provision for children and young people	LAP	1-minute walk time (100m)
	LEAP	5-minute walk time (400m)
	NEAP	12.5-minute walk time (1000m)
	Other provision (e.g. MUGA, Skate park)	9-minute walk time (700m)
Allotments		No standard set
Cemeteries		No standard set
Outdoor sport		No standard set*

No catchments are suggested for allotments or cemeteries. For cemeteries, it is better to determine need for provision based on locally known demand.

\*Sport England guidance for playing pitch provision advises that catchment mapping does not reflect how each individual sport is played. Instead, the supply and demand analysis of a PPS should be used.

If an area does not have access to provision (consistent with the catchments) it is deemed deficient. KKP has identified instances where new sites may be needed, or potential opportunities could be explored in order to provide comprehensive access (i.e. a gap in one form of provision may exist but the area in question may be served by another form of open space). Please refer to the associated mapping to view site catchments.

The following tables summarise the deficiencies identified from the application of the accessibility catchments. In determining any subsequent actions for identified gaps, the following are key principles for consideration:

- ◀ Increase capacity / usage in order to meet increases in demand, or
- ◀ Enhance quality in order to meet increases in demand, or
- ◀ Commuted sum for ongoing maintenance / repairs to mitigate impact of new demand

These principles are intended to mitigate the impact of increases in demand on existing provision. An increase in population will reduce the lifespan of certain sites and / or features (e.g. play equipment, maintenance regimes etc) which will in turn lead to an increased requirement to refurbish and / or replace such forms of provision.

Please refer to the associated mapping and catchment tables within each typology section.

### 13.3: Quantity

Quantity figures can be used to identify areas of shortfalls. It can also help with determining requirements for future developments (See Part 14).

Shortfalls in quality and accessibility are identified for different types of open space. Consequently, ensuring new developments contribute to the overall provision of open space is a crucial approach to ensuring access to open space.

Table 13.3.1: Summary of current provision levels

Typology	Quantity level (Hectares per 1,000 population)
Parks and gardens	0.72
Natural / semi-natural greenspace	7.05
Amenity greenspace	0.81
Provision for children and young people	0.03
Allotment	0.10

The current provision levels can be used to help identify where areas may have a shortfall. Table 13.3.2 shows the position for each sub-area as to whether it is sufficient or identified as having a shortfall for each type of open space.



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Table 13.3.2: Current provision shortfalls by analysis area (hectares per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural / semi-natural		Amenity greenspace		Allotments		Play provision	
	0.72		7.05		0.81		0.10		0.03	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Central	0.49	-0.23	8.60	+1.55	0.67	-0.14	0.07	-0.03	0.03	Level
East	0.44	-0.28	7.60	+0.55	0.90	+0.09	0.15	+0.05	0.03	Level
West	1.07	+0.35	5.67	-1.38	0.85	+0.04	0.09	-0.01	0.02	-0.01

All analysis areas are observed as having shortfalls in some form of open space.

13.3.3: Current provision shortfalls by ward (hectares per 1,000 population)

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural / semi-natural		Amenity greenspace		Allotments		Play provision	
	0.72		7.05		0.81		0.10		0.03	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Abram	0.12	-0.60	25.84	+18.79	1.03	+0.22	0.11	+0.01	0.08	+0.05
Ashton-in-Makerfield South	0.46	-0.26	2.86	-4.19	0.24	-0.57	0.12	+0.02	0.03	Level
Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North	0.16	-0.56	9.92	+2.87	0.76	+0.05	0.07	-0.03	0.02	-0.01
Golborne and Lowton West	1.98	+1.26	4.82	-2.23	1.16	+0.35	0.07	-0.03	0.03	Level
Hindley	0.47	-0.25	1.66	-5.39	0.33	-0.48	0.11	+0.01	0.03	Level
Hindley Green	0.24	-0.48	0.48	-6.57	0.31	-0.50	-	-0.10	0.01	---0.02
Lowton East	0.33	-0.39	10.55	+3.50	0.86	+0.05	0.05	-0.05	0.02	-0.01

# WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural / semi-natural		Amenity greenspace		Allotments		Play provision	
	0.72		7.05		0.81		0.10		0.03	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
<b>Central</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>-0.23</b>	<b>8.53</b>	<b>+1.48</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>-0.14</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>-0.03</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>Level</b>
Astley	0.30	-0.42	11.99	+4.94	1.14	+0.33	0.04	-0.06	0.03	Level
Atherton North	0.05	-0.67	-	-7.05	0.92	+0.11	0.05	-0.05	0.03	Level
Atherton South and Lilford	1.62	+0.90	5.91	-1.14	0.72	-0.09	0.15	+0.05	0.04	+0.01
Leigh Central and Higher Folds	-	-0.72	6.51	-0.54	0.79	-0.02	-	0.10	0.01	-0.02
Leigh South	0.51	-0.21	3.91	-3.14	0.25	-0.56	0.12	+0.02	0.05	+0.02
Leigh West	0.54	-0.18	19.93	+12.88	1.25	+0.44	0.18	+0.08	0.03	Level
Tyldesley and Mosley Common	-	-0.72	2.12	-4.93	1.12	+0.31	0.51	+0.34	0.01	-0.02
<b>East</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>-0.28</b>	<b>7.59</b>	<b>+0.54</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>+0.09</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>+0.05</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>Level</b>
Aspull, New Springs and Whelley	10.20	+9.48	14.05	+7.00	2.81	+2.00	0.31	+0.54	0.06	+0.03
Douglas	0.46	-0.26	1.57	-5.48	0.46	-0.35	0.12	+0.02	0.04	+0.01
Ince	0.61	-0.11	4.30	-2.75	1.66	+0.85	0.05	-0.05	0.04	+0.01
Orrell	0.91	+0.19	3.81	-3.24	0.12	-0.69	0.13	+0.03	0.02	-0.01
Pemberton	0.07	-0.65	3.88	-3.17	1.11	+0.30	0.12	+0.02	0.02	-0.01
Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor	-	-0.72	9.20	+2.15	0.86	+0.05	0.16	+0.06	0.04	+0.01

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural / semi-natural		Amenity greenspace		Allotments		Play provision	
	0.72		7.05		0.81		0.10		0.03	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Standish with Langtree	0.49	-0.23	4.68	-2.37	0.56	-0.25	0.02	-0.08	0.03	Level
Wigan Central	0.62	-0.10	0.50	-6.55	0.34	-0.47	0.03	-0.07	0.01	-0.02
Wigan West	-	-0.72	0.86	-6.19	0.80	-0.01	0.02	-0.08	0.02	-0.01
Winstanley	-	0.72	3.60	-3.45	0.24	-0.57	-	-0.10	0.01	-0.02
Worsley Mesnes	0.05	-0.67	17.32	+10.27	0.96	+0.15	0.07	-0.03	0.07	+0.04
<b>West</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>+0.35</b>	<b>5.67</b>	<b>-1.38</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>+0.04</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.01</b>

Aspull, New Springs and Whelley is the only ward that is sufficient for all open space typologies. Five wards have deficiencies across all open space typologies: Hindley Green, Leigh Central and Higher Folds, Wigan Central, Wigan West and Winstanley.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### 13.4: Ward quantity, quality, value and accessibility summary

#### Abram

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.60 Shortfall	1 good	11th=	Gap identified
Natural	+18.79 Sufficiency	4 good / 7 average / 1 poor	10th	No gap
Amenity	+0.22 Sufficiency	8 good / 5 average / 4 poor	17th	Gap identified
Play	+0.05 Sufficiency	4 good / 9 average / 4 poor	1st	Gap identified
Allotments	+0.01 Sufficiency	1 good / 4 average	n/a	n/a

#### Ashton-in-Makerfield South

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.26 Shortfall	2 good / 1 average	2nd	Gap identified
Natural	-4.19 Shortfall	2 good / 5 average	16th	No gap
Amenity	-0.57 Shortfall	6 good / 3 average	21st	Gap identified
Play	Level	1 good / 5 average	7th	No gap
Allotments	+0.02 Sufficiency	1 average	n/a	n/a

#### Aspull, New Springs and Whelley

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	+9.48 Sufficiency	1 good	9th=	Gap identified
Natural	+7.00 Sufficiency	4 good / 9 average / 5 poor	9th	No gap
Amenity	+2.00 Sufficiency	17 good / 25 average / 5 poor	2nd	Gap identified
Play	+0.03 Sufficiency	3 good / 5 average / 1 poor	15th	No gap
Allotments	+0.54 Sufficiency	2 good / 1 average	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Astley

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.42 shortfall	1 good	11th=	Gap identified
Natural	+4.94 Sufficiency	4 good / 7 average / 3 poor	7th	No gap
Amenity	+0.33 Sufficiency	9 good / 7 average / 1 poor	12th	Gap identified
Play	Level	3 good / 5 average	5th	Gap identified
Allotments	-0.06 shortfall	2 average	n/a	n/a

### Atherton North

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.67 shortfall	1 average	9th=	Gap identified
Natural	-7.05 shortfall	n/a	25th	Gap identified
Amenity	+0.11 Sufficiency	13 good / 5 average / 1 poor	6th	No gap
Play	Level	5 good / 3 average	4th	No gap
Allotments	-0.05 shortfall	1 good / 1 average	n/a	n/a

### Atherton South and Lilford

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	+0.90 Sufficiency	2 good	6th	Gap identified
Natural	-1.14 shortfall	11 average / 2 poor	4th	No gap
Amenity	-0.09 shortfall	9 good / 3 average	15th	Gap identified
Play	+0.01 Sufficiency	4 good / 3 average	9th	No gap
Allotments	+0.05 Sufficiency	3 good / 1 average	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Bryn with Ashton-in-Makerfield North

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.56 shortfall	1 good	11th=	Gap identified
Natural	+2.87 Sufficiency	2 good / 4 average / 1 poor	18th	No gap
Amenity	+0.05 Sufficiency	8 good / 6 average / 2 poor	11th	Gap identified
Play	-0.01 shortfall	1 good / 3 average / 3 poor	18th	Gap identified
Allotments	-0.03 shortfall	2 average / 1 poor	n/a	n/a

### Douglas

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.26 shortfall	2 good / 1 average	1st	Gap identified
Natural	-5.48 shortfall	2 average	19th	No gap
Amenity	-0.35 shortfall	10 average / 1 poor	7th	No gap
Play	+0.01 Sufficiency	1 good / 5 average	8th	No gap
Allotments	+0.02 Sufficiency	3 good / 1 poor	n/a	n/a

### Golborne and Lowton West

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	+1.26 Sufficiency	1 average	11th=	No gap
Natural	-2.23 shortfall	1 good / 7 average	17th	Gap identified
Amenity	+0.35 Sufficiency	8 good / 5 average / 3 poor	10th	Gap identified
Play	Level	1 average / 4 average	21st	Gap identified
Allotments	-0.03 shortfall	1 average / 1 poor	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Hindley

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.25 shortfall	1 average	11th=	Gap identified
Natural	-5.39 shortfall	3 average	21st	Gap identified
Amenity	-0.48 shortfall	4 good / 4 average	24th	Gap identified
Play	Level	2 good / 5 average / 2 poor	6th	No gap
Allotments	+0.01 Sufficiency	1 good / 2 average / 2 poor	n/a	n/a

### Hindley Green

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.48 shortfall	1 good	11th=	Gap identified
Natural	-6.57 shortfall	1 good / 2 average	23rd	Gap identified
Amenity	-0.50 shortfall	7 good / 4 average	22nd	No gap
Play	-0.02 shortfall	2 good / 2 average	23rd	Gap identified
Allotments	-0.10 shortfall	n/a	n/a	n/a

### Ince

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.11 shortfall	1 good	11th=	Gap identified
Natural	-2.75 shortfall	2 good / 9 average / 3 poor	3rd	No gap
Amenity	+0.85 Sufficiency	9 good / 21 average / 1 poor	1st	No gap
Play	+0.01 Sufficiency	2 good / 6 average / 2 average	3rd	No gap
Allotments	-0.05 shortfall	1 good / 2 average	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Leigh Central and Higher Folds

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.72 shortfall	n/a	12th=	Gap identified
Natural	-0.54 shortfall	7 average / 1 poor	5th	Gap identified
Amenity	-0.02 shortfall	9 good / 7 average / 4 poor	9th	Gap identified
Play	-0.02 shortfall	1 good / 3 average	17th	No gap
Allotments	-0.10 shortfall	n/a	n/a	n/a

### Leigh South

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.21 shortfall	3 good	5th	No gap
Natural	-3.14 shortfall	3 average / 1 poor	24th	No gap
Amenity	-0.56 shortfall	4 good / 7 average / 1 poor	18th	Gap identified
Play	+0.02 Sufficiency	1 good	11th	No gap
Allotments	+0.02 Sufficiency	n/a	n/a	n/a

### Leigh West

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.18 shortfall	1 good / 2 average	7th	Gap identified
Natural	+12.88 Sufficiency	1 good / 5 average / 5 poor	11th	No gap
Amenity	+0.44 Sufficiency	12 good / 10 average / 2 poor	8th	Gap identified
Play	Level	2 good / 8 average	2nd	No gap
Allotments	+0.08 Sufficiency	1 good / 1 average	n/a	n/a



## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Lowton East

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.39 shortfall	1 average	11th=	No gap
Natural	+3.50 Sufficiency	1 good / 9 average	15th	No gap
Amenity	+0.05 Sufficiency	5 good / 8 average / 1 poor	20th	Gap identified
Play	-0.01 shortfall	1 good / 7 average	19th	Gap identified
Allotments	-0.05 shortfall	1 good	n/a	n/a

### Orrell

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	+0.19 Sufficiency	1 good / 1 poor	4th	Gap identified
Natural	-3.24 shortfall	6 average / 2 poor	22nd	Gap identified
Amenity	-0.69 shortfall	3 average / 1 poor	25th	Gap identified
Play	-0.01 shortfall	2 good / 1 poor	25th	No gap
Allotments	+0.03 Sufficiency	1 good / 2 average / 3 poor	n/a	n/a

### Pemberton

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.65 shortfall	2 good	3rd	Gap identified
Natural	-3.88 shortfall	5 average / 3 poor	14th	Gap identified
Amenity	+0.30 Sufficiency	1 good / 16 average / 6 poor	3rd	No gap
Play	-0.01 shortfall	5 average / 1 poor	16th	No gap
Allotments	+0.02 Sufficiency	1 good / 2 average / 1 poor	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Shevington with Lower Ground and Moor

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.72 shortfall	n/a	12th=	Gap identified
Natural	+2.15 Sufficiency	4 good / 8 average	12th	No gap
Amenity	+0.05 Sufficiency	9 good / 9 average	19th	Gap identified
Play	+0.01 Sufficiency	7 average	22nd	Gap identified
Allotments	+0.06 Sufficiency	2 average / 2 poor	n/a	n/a

### Standish with Langtree

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.49 shortfall	2 good	10th	Gap identified
Natural	-2.37 shortfall	5 good / 10 average / 5 poor	1st	No gap
Amenity	-0.25 shortfall	18 good / 7 average	5th	Gap identified
Play	Level	2 good / 8 average	10th	No gap
Allotments	-0.08 shortfall	1 good	n/a	n/a

### Tyldesley and Mosley Common

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.72 shortfall	n/a	12th=	No gap
Natural	-4.93 shortfall	3 good / 5 average	8th	No gap
Amenity	+0.31 Sufficiency	8 good / 7 average / 3 poor	13th	No gap
Play	-0.02 shortfall	1 good / 4 average	12th	Gap identified
Allotments	+0.34 Sufficiency	1 good / 3 average	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Wigan Central

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.10 shortfall	1 good	9th=	No gap
Natural	-6.55 shortfall	2 good / 3 average / 1 poor	13th	No gap
Amenity	-0.47 shortfall	7 good / 5 average / 1 poor	4th	Gap identified
Play	-0.02 shortfall	2 good / 1 average	14th	No gap
Allotments	-0.07 shortfall	1 average / 1 poor	n/a	n/a

### Wigan West

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.72 shortfall	n/a	12th=	Gap identified
Natural	-6.19 shortfall	2 average	20th	No gap
Amenity	-0.01 shortfall	7 good / 5 average	14th	No gap
Play	-0.01 shortfall	4 average	13th	No gap
Allotments	-0.08 shortfall	1 poor	n/a	n/a

### Winstanley

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.72 shortfall	n/a	12th=	Gap identified
Natural	-3.45 shortfall	10 average / 1 poor	6th	No gap
Amenity	-0.57 shortfall	4 good / 7 average	23rd	Gap identified
Play	-0.02 shortfall	1 average / 2 poor	24th	No gap
Allotments	-0.10 shortfall	n/a	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

### Worsley Mesnes

Typology	Quantity	Quality	Value	Accessibility
Parks	-0.67 shortfall	1 good	8th	Gap identified
Natural	+10.27 Sufficiency	2 good / 12 average	2nd	No gap
Amenity	+0.15 Sufficiency	5 good / 7 average / 1 poor	16th	Gap identified
Play	+0.04 Sufficiency	1 average	20th	No gap
Allotments	-0.03 shortfall	1 average / 1 poor	n/a	n/a

### Identifying priorities

The focus for areas identified as being insufficient against the existing quantity standards will be for priorities to ensure quality and accessibility standards are being met. Part 13.4 highlights those areas with current shortfalls in provision.

Where provision is sufficient in terms of quantity, a focus should be on ensuring contributions to enhancing the quality and accessibility of existing open space provision.

### 13.5: Identifying priorities and recommendations

This section provides several priorities and recommendations based on the findings of the report. It incorporates and recommends what the Council should be seeking to achieve in order to help address the issues highlighted.

#### Recommendation 1

- ◆ Ensure new housing developments provide sufficient high quality open space for their new residents across all typologies.

Shortfalls in quantity, quality and accessibility are highlighted across the area. It is therefore important for new developments to not exacerbate existing shortfalls. New development creates additional demand for such provision. It is therefore essential that new areas of population provide and make adequate and appropriate contributions.

In general, quality of assessed sites is mixed. Consequently, it is important to ensure quality of open space provision aims to continuously meet a sufficient standard.

#### Recommendation 2

- ◆ Target areas of shortfall

Quantity levels should still be utilised to indicate the potential lack of provision any given area may have. However, this should be done in conjunction with the accessibility and quality of provision in the area.

Exploring opportunities to enhance existing provision and linkages to these sites should also be endorsed.

#### Recommendation 3

- ◆ Sites helping, or with the potential to help, serve areas identified as having gaps in catchment mapping should be prioritised as opportunities for enhancement

Accessibility mapping identifies sites that help or have the potential to serve existing identified gaps in provision.

These sites potentially help to meet the identified catchment gaps for other open space typologies. Where possible, the Council may seek to adapt these sites to provide a stronger secondary role to help address the gaps highlighted.

Often this is related to parks, amenity greenspace and natural / semi-natural greenspace. The Council should explore the potential / possibility to adapt these sites through formalisation and / or greater provision of features linked to other types of open space.

This is to provide a stronger secondary role as well as opportunities associated with other open space types. This may, in some instances, also help provide options to minimise the need for creation of new provision to address any gaps in catchment mapping. For some sites, such as natural / semi-natural greenspace, the ability to adapt or strengthen secondary roles may be limited due to the features and characteristics of the site. For play provision, sites could be explored for opportunities to expand the amount and breadth of equipment at existing play sites.

Such sites should therefore be viewed as open space provision that are likely to provide multiple social and value benefits. It is also important that the quality of these sites is secured and enhanced.

#### **Recommendation 4**

- ◀ Keeping data and supporting evidence base up to date in order to reflect changes over time

This study provides a snapshot in time. Whilst significant changes are not as common for open space provision, inevitably over time changes in provision occur through creation of new provision, loss of existing provision and / or alterations to site boundaries and management. Population change and housing growth are also another consideration to review when undertaking any form of update as this may impact on quantity provision levels and standards. It is therefore important, particularly given the growing recognition of open space provision, for the Council to undertake regular reviews of the data and / or actions informed by it.

### **PART 14: PROVISION STANDARDS**

The following section details the provision standards recommended for Wigan Council. This is based on up-to-date existing provision levels and how this compares to relevant national benchmarks and neighbouring local authorities.

#### **14.1: Accessibility**

Guidance on walking distance and times is published by FIT in its document “Creating great spaces for all” (2024). Appropriate accessibility distances for children’s play provision vary depending on the type of play provision. FIT do not set accessibility standards for allotments, churchyards/cemeteries, civic space or green corridors.

The accessibility catchments set out as part of the Open Space Report (2025) are based on the distances suggested by FIT. These are also in keeping with those used by some neighbouring local authorities.

Accessibility catchments are a tool to help identify gaps in provision. They can also be used to help inform where development contributions can be allocated. Consequently, a larger catchment area provides greater opportunities and flexibility with where monies can be directed.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Table 14.1.1: Comparison of accessibility catchments

Open space type		FIT	Open Space Report (2025)	St Helens (SPD 2023)	West Lancashire (OS Study 2018)	Chorley	Salford (Greenspace Strategy 2019)	Warrington (OS Study 2023)
Parks and gardens		710m	710m	1,200m	1,000m (urban)	15-minute walk	3,200m (District) 1,200m (Neighbourhood)	1,200m (site 15 ha+) 710m (other sites)
Amenity greenspace		480m	480m	400m	1,200m	10-minute walk	n/a	480m
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		720m	720m	1,200m	30-minute drive	30-minute drive	2,000m (strategic) 500m (local)	300m (2ha+) 2,000m (20ha+) 5,000m (100ha+)
Provision for children and young people	LAP	100m	100m	800m	1,000m	10-minute walk	1,000m (NEAP)	100m
	LEAP	400m	400m					400m
	NEAP	1,000m	1,000m					1,000m
Allotments		n/a	n/a	1,200m	1,200m	15-minute walk	n/a	1,000m
Cemeteries /		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Civic space		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a



No catchments are suggested for allotments, civic space, green corridors or cemeteries as it is difficult to assess such provision against catchment mapping. In some instances (i.e. for cemeteries and allotments) it is better to determine need for provision based on known demand (e.g. capacity, waiting lists etc).

In summary, the following accessibility standards are recommended.

Table 14.1.2: Recommended accessibility standards

Open space type		Recommended standard
Parks and gardens		9-minute walk time (710m)
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		9-minute walk time (720m)
Amenity greenspace		6-minute walk time (480m)
Provision for children and young people	LAP	1-minute walk time (100m)
	LEAP	5-minute walk time (400m)
	NEAP	12.5-minute walk time (1000m)
	Other provision (e.g. MUGA, Skate park)	9-minute walk time (700m)
Allotments		No standard set
Cemeteries / churchyards		No standard set

### 14.2: Quantity

Quantity standards can be used to identify areas of shortfalls and help with determining requirements for future developments.

It is useful to compare existing quantity standards against current levels of provision, national benchmarks, and neighbouring authorities.

Guidance on quantity levels is published by FIT in its document “Creating great spaces for all” (2024). The guidance provides standards for three types of open space provision: parks and gardens, amenity greenspace and natural / semi-natural greenspace. FIT also suggests a guideline quantity standard for equipped / designated playing space.

For allotments, the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households, an equivalent of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population.

Table 14.2.1 sets out the figures for existing quantity standards, current provision levels identified, national benchmarks and neighbouring local authorities.

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Table 14.2.1: Comparison of quantity standards (hectares per 1,000 population)

Open space type		FIT	Open Space Report (2024)	OS figures 2015	St Helens (SPD 2023)	West Lancashire (OS Study 2018)	Chorley (OS 2019)	Warrington (OS Study 2023)
Parks and gardens		0.80	0.72	0.75	0.80	0.10	1.70	1.36
Amenity greenspace		0.60	0.81	0.25	1.00	1.45	0.85	0.85
Natural / semi-natural greenspace		1.80	7.05	2.00	2.00	7.18	6.42	4.94
Provision for children and young people	Equipped	0.25	0.03	0.045	0.10	0.07	0.09	0.06
	Other	0.30		0.325				
Allotments		0.25	0.10	0.15	0.10	0.15	0.07	0.08
Cemeteries / churchyards		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Civic space		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## WIGAN COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Overall, the total current provision level (2025) of 8.71 is greater than the total figures from the 2015 study (3.52) and FIT (4.00). However, this is due to the large current provision level associated with natural / semi-natural greenspace (7.05).

The individual typology figures from 2015 are generally greater than the current provision levels. The exception being in natural greenspace and amenity greenspace. This is likely to be partly due to increases in population since the previous study outweighing the rate of creation / levels of open space provision, meaning the ha per 1,000 population figures have reduced over time.

Combined the 2015 figures are less than the combined total from FIT. The main differences being due to the FIT standards suggested for play and amenity greenspace. Equally, the 2015 figures have a greater level set out for natural greenspace.

The recommendation is for a mix of current provision levels and national benchmarks to be used. In some cases, there is a rationale for utilising national benchmark figures in calculating future requirements of provision.

Table 14.2.2: justification of recommended quantity standards

Type	Recommendation	Justification
Parks and gardens	Current provision	Reflects up to date provision figures, which have been reviewed as part of study. Also, in keeping with FIT.
Natural / semi-natural greenspace	FIT	Current provision level unlikely to be achievable in areas of new development. Therefore, use of FIT as a recognised standard is recommended.
Amenity greenspace	Current provision	Reflects up to date provision figures, which have been reviewed as part of study.
Provision for children and young people	FIT	Current provision level significantly below FIT and 2015 figures. FIT widely recognised / accepted as a quantity standard figure for play provision.
Allotment	NSALG	Demand evidenced through waiting lists. Therefore, use of NSALG as a recognised standard is recommended.

In summary, the following quantity standards are recommended:

Table 14.2.3: Recommended quantity standards

Type	Recommended Quantity Standard (Ha per 1,000 population)
Parks and gardens	0.72
Natural / semi-natural greenspace	1.80
Amenity greenspace	0.81
Provision for children and young people	0.25
Allotment	0.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.83</b>

#### **Policy implications**

Policy PE5 (Open space and play provision in new housing developments) of the Local Plan states “New housing developments of 100 or more homes will be required to provide a minimum of 25 square metres per home of open space and equipped play space on-site”.

This is an equivalent to 1.06 hectares per 1,000 population. The requirement in Policy PE5 is the same as the combined recommended standard for AGS (0.81) and play (0.25) which is 1.06 hectares per 1000 population.

The ward summaries (Part 13.4) can initially be used to highlight which areas are identified as having shortfalls in different types of open space provision. Consequently, this can help to inform development requirements.

#### **14.3: Quality**

Each type of open space receives a quality rating. This helps to highlight shortfalls in quality at a ward level and to inform any opportunities for investment.

When analysing the quality of a site, it should be done in conjunction with regard to the quantity and / or accessibility of provision in the area (i.e., whether there are deficiencies).

There is a need for flexibility to the enhancement of low-quality sites. In some instances, a better use of resources and investment may be to focus on more suitable sites for enhancement as opposed to trying to enhance sites where it is not appropriate or cost effective to do so. Please refer to the individual typology sections for quality ratings.

#### **Design principles and considerations**

It is essential that the provision and location of open space is considered as a priority from the outset in the planning of residential developments. Once the types and quantities to be provided are confirmed, this should be integrated into the development and designed with the objective of contributing optimally to the quality of life of residents. Developments, in which open space is ‘fitted in’ around the built elements as a secondary consideration, rarely achieve this objective.

In addition to the location and design of the individual facilities, consideration should be given to the connections between them, ensuring that a network of diverse and stimulating accessible open space binds the development together.

The following sets out some of the key considerations to the design / quality for different types of provision.

#### ***Open spaces:***

- Appropriate design and layout of interest including suitable planting, seating, signage, bins
- Expected to contribute to green infrastructure
- Open space provision should be meaningful and at the “heart” of new developments.
- Reflective of any site sensitivities and capacity pressures / opportunities
- Open views / clear sightlines for natural surveillance and user safety perceptions
- Variations in vegetation structure and topography to ensure habitat diversity
- Appropriate footpaths and materials. Main paths could be hard surfaced with loose fill material or simply marked by mowing where natural drainage is adequate. For wet areas, timber boardwalks should be installed
- Links to wider networks (i.e. PROW, cycle routes etc)
- Consideration to using any appropriate methods (e.g. fencing, gates etc) to reduce user pressure on areas of sensitivity
- Signage installed as appropriate.

#### ***Play:***

- Appropriate to the needs of the local community
- Accessible for every child within the appropriate walking time for LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs
- Separated from areas of major vehicle movements and accessible directly from pedestrian routes and visible from nearby dwelling or well used pedestrian routes
- Sited in open, welcoming locations with appropriate lighting (where applicable)
- Visible from nearby dwellings or well used pedestrian routes
- Sited on land of natural topography or on land capable of being landscaped for the type of play experience intended
- Designed in accordance with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act, 1995 and Equalities Act 2010
- Designed so that any high climbing structures are as far as possible from nearby dwellings and any potential visual intrusion is minimised
- Integrated, as far as possible, with other open spaces and areas of amenity planting to provide separation from nearby dwellings
- Accessible by footpath with appropriate surface
- Surfaced in a manner fitting to the intensity of use
- Provided with seating for accompanying adults, carers and siblings which promotes a variety of adaptable spaces for scaling, performing and fun
- Use materials that will remain usable and safe for an extended period. Avoid use of materials with a shorter ‘shelf life’ such as timber frames etc.
- Ensure spaces are not dominated by one activity and provide several opportunities for play and physical activity e.g. providing swings which allow for multiple users or installing interactive equipment
- Designed to provide a sociable, stimulating and challenging play experience that may include equipment and other features providing opportunities for meeting friends, undertaking physical activity, imaginative play and expressing yourself or other activities.