



# Redditch Borough Open Space Study 2023





people spaces places

# Leisure and Cultural Strategy for Redditch and Bromsgrove

## Redditch Borough Open Space Study 2023

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# Redditch Borough Open Space Study

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## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1.1 This Open Space Study has been undertaken by consultants CFP, who were commissioned by Redditch Borough Council and Bromsgrove District Council. This study has been undertaken as part of a suite of documents to inform the wider work to develop a Leisure and Culture Strategy for both Councils. It will complement the Playing Pitch Strategy once published.*
- 1.1.2 This report sets out the most recent open space analysis findings for Redditch Borough Council using Open Space data, updated in 2021. It also presents the results of the most recent borough-wide consultation, which indicates Open Space demand and public perceptions.*
- 1.1.3 Following this, the report includes proposals and justifications for new local standards for quantity and accessibility of Open Space. It is intended that the new local standards will be used to inform planning policy and guide future Open Space planning.*

## 2 Methodology and Approach

### 2.1 Definitions and Scope

2.1.1 *The following section outlines definitions used in this analysis and the scope of the work.*

2.1.2 *The National Planning Policy Framework<sup>1</sup> defines open space as “all open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity”.*

2.1.1 *Earlier guidance contained in Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation has now been superseded by the National Planning Policy Framework. However, this provides a useful reference and offers more detailed and useful definition of open space, broken down by typology based on their primary use<sup>2</sup>. Table 1 below details the Open Space Typologies used and their definitions, based on primary purpose. In this study we use the term Level 1 Typology where this is based on the overall primary purpose. A Level 2 Typology, introduced in Table 2 below offers further detail about the classification.*

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1 Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. (2012). National Planning Policy Framework: Annex 2: Glossary. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/annex-2-glossary> (Accessed: 27 July 2021).

2 Department for Communities and Local Government. (2006). Assessing needs and opportunities: a companion guide to PPG17. Available: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/7660/156780.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7660/156780.pdf) (Accessed: 27 July 2021).



<i>Level 1 Typology</i>	<i>Primary Purpose</i>
<i>Allotments and Community Gardens</i>	<i>Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion</i>
<i>Amenity Green Space</i>	<i>Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas</i>
<i>Cemeteries and Churchyards</i>	<i>Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity</i>
<i>Civic Space</i>	<i>Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events</i>
<i>Natural and Semi-natural Green Space</i>	<i>Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness</i>
<i>Outdoor Sports Facilities</i>	<i>Participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls, athletics, or countryside and water sports.</i>
<i>Parks and Gardens</i>	<i>Accessible, high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events</i>
<i>Provision for Children and Young People</i>	<i>Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play area, ball court, skateboard areas and teenage shelters</i>

*Table 1 Open Space Typology – Level 1*

*2.1.2 Rivers, lakes, canals and other bodies of water have been considered as part of this study where they are located within or include areas of publicly access open space. Whilst this study recognises the value of this blue infrastructure, it is not proportionate within this study to record the full extent of water bodies where this is not associated with the open space typologies shown in Table 1.*

*2.1.3 Table 2 below shows the Level 2 Typology used in the analysis in relation to the Level 1 Typology. This was developed by consultants CFP In conjunction with Redditch Borough and Bromsgrove District Councils. It provides a useful method for recording other (secondary) uses of open space adding more detail over the primary purpose (Level 1 typology). Note Level 2 Typology was not applicable to Amenity Green Space, Cemeteries and Churchyards, Natural and Semi-natural Green Space, and Park and Gardens.*

*2.1.4 In order to provide this greater level of granularity, some open space will be plotted within the GIS as two or more polygons. Larger sites such as country parks, or parks and gardens,*

whilst managed as a single space may be plotted as several polygons, each then classified according to the primary purpose of this zone (polygon). For example, play spaces (Provision for Children and Young People) has been plotted as a discrete area (polygons) even when this sits within other open spaces. Consequently, the analysis in this document is based around the number of polygons rather than the number of sites.

Level 1 Typology	Level 2 Typology
Allotments and Community Gardens	Allotment
	Community Garden
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Education Site
	Public
	Sports Club
Provision for Children and Young People	Toddler
	Junior
	Teenager
	Adult Fitness

Table 2 Open Space Typology – Level 2

2.1.5 Table 3 shows the different levels of accessibility classifications used in this study. Sites that do not offer any form of public access have been excluded from this study.

Accessibility	Definition
Limited	Restricted (Limited) open spaces are those which may be publicly or privately owned, but access may require an appointment or prior arrangement, such as allotments or schools
Unrestricted	Publicly accessible, without prior appointment. Some sites may be locked or gated from dusk until dawn or have other time limited restrictions to public access

Table 3 Accessibility Level

2.1.6 Table 4 below sets out the hierarchy levels that were used to classify the importance or significance of Redditch Borough’s open spaces.



## 2.1.7

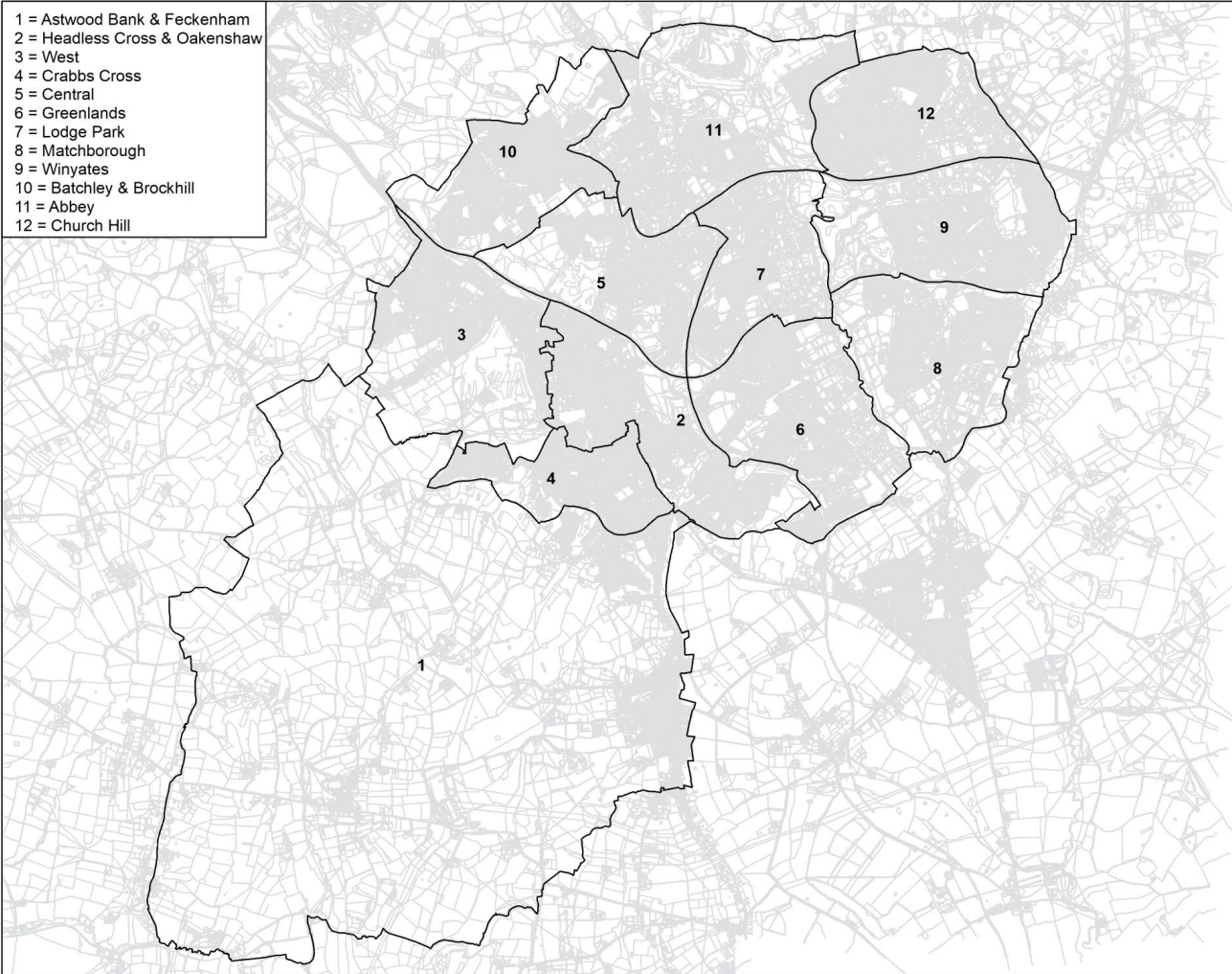
<b>Hierarchy</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<i>Local</i>	<i>Those sites which perform a function to a small geographical area or community – typically areas of amenity green space</i>
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	<i>Those sites which perform a function that serves a more immediate community. Unlikely to attract people from across the borough</i>
<i>District</i>	<i>Those sites whose significance should attract people from across the entire borough. Usually, large sites with a range of facilities or designated importance for history or nature conservation</i>
<i>Sub-Regional</i>	<i>Those sites whose significance should attract people from the entire borough and wider region. Very large sites with a wide range of facilities or designated importance for history or nature conservation</i>

Table 4 Hierarchy Level

2.1.8 *The scope of this research was Redditch Borough. For context, Figure 1 shows the borough and ward boundaries within Redditch.*


2.1.9 *Where open spaces span ward boundaries the sites have typically been split into separate polygons in order to allow more accurate analysis and reporting at a ward level. Consequently, the tables of data in the analysis sections that follow show the number of polygons rather than the number of sites.*

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

### Figure 1 Study Area

**Legend**  
 Borough and ward boundaries

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### 3 Open Space Supply

3.1.1 This section provides an overview of the supply of open space across the Borough, its type, accessibility and distribution.

#### 3.2 All Open Space

3.2.1 Table 5 shows the total amount of open space (across both levels of accessibility) within Redditch Borough as recorded in the dataset. Most of the total (87.72%) is made up from three typologies. Parks and Gardens covered the largest proportion of the borough, with 28 polygons covering 334.63 hectares and making up over a third (34.26%) of the total area of open space. This was followed by Natural and Semi-natural Green Space, with a total of 120 polygons covering 311.88 hectares (31.93% of total area). The 43 Outdoor Sports Facilities, which include club grounds, education sites and public sports facilities, covered just over a fifth (21.53%) of the total area, with 210.26 hectares in total.

<b>Level 1 Typology</b>	<b>Number of sites (polygons)</b>	<b>Area (Ha)</b>	<b>% Total Area</b>
Parks and Gardens	28	334.63	34.26
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	120	311.88	31.93
Outdoor Sports Facilities	43	210.26	21.53
Amenity Green Space	98	81.81	8.38
Allotments and Community Gardens	17	20.46	2.10
Cemeteries and Churchyards	3	12.66	1.30
Provision for Children and Young People	46	3.32	0.34
Civic Space	1	1.74	0.18
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>976.77</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 5 Open Space Supply by Typology (All Open Space)

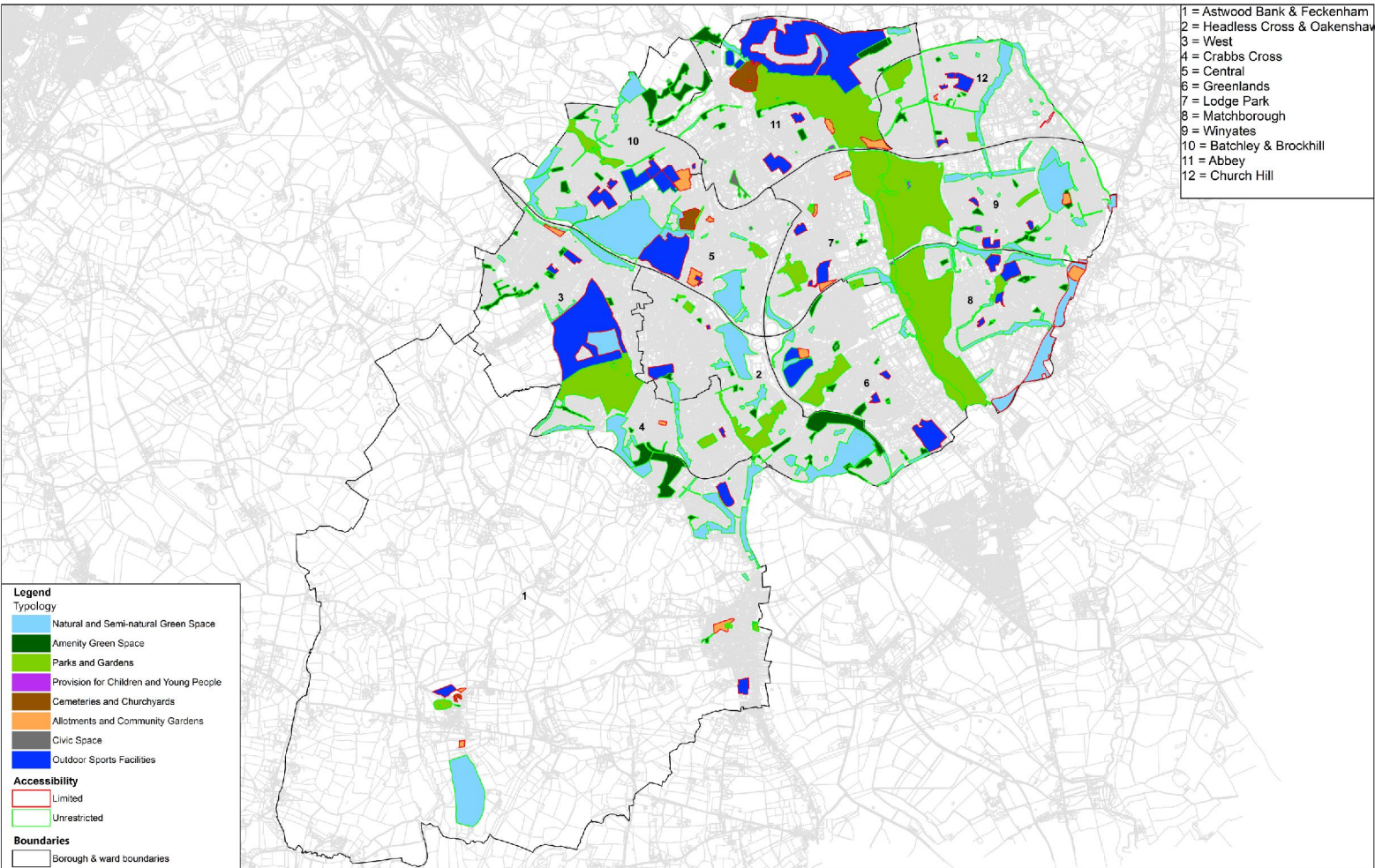
3.2.2 The remaining five typologies only constitute 12.28% of the total area of open space. Amenity Green Space makes up the majority of this, with 98 polygons covering 81.81 hectares (8.38%). There are 17 polygons classified as Allotments and Community Gardens in Redditch Borough, totalling 20.46 hectares. Only three Cemeteries and Churchyards were included in the dataset but covered 1.30% of the total area. The 46, typically small, polygons classed as Provision for Children and Young People only amount to 3.32 hectares (0.34%). There is only one Civic Space in Redditch Borough. It covers 1.74 hectares or 0.18% of the total area.

3.2.3 Figure 2 overleaf is the Framework Map which shows all open spaces in Redditch Borough by typology. Note the boundary colour also denotes accessibility. A larger scale map is shown in Appendix A.

3.2.4 Table 6 shows the levels of accessibility to open space in Redditch Borough. Just under three quarters (74.96%) of the polygons are classified as having unrestricted access.

Accessibility	Number of Sites (polygons)	Area (Ha)	% Total Area
Limited	63	244.59	25.04
Unrestricted	293	732.18	74.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>976.77</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 6 Open Space by Accessibility Level



### 3.3 Unrestricted Open Space

- 3.3.1 The following section provides an overview of unrestricted open space. Section 5 deals with specific types of open space and considers the options for local standards.
- 3.3.2 The total area of unrestricted open space in Redditch Borough is 732.18 hectares. Most of this space constitutes Parks and Gardens (334.63 hectares) and Natural and Semi-natural Green Space (290.57 hectares), which make up over four fifths (85.39%) of the total area of unrestricted open space (Table 7).
- 3.3.3 All Amenity Green Spaces have unrestricted access, constituting 11.17% of the total area of unrestricted open space. Every Civic Space and all polygons classified as Provision for Children and Young People are classified as unrestricted, meaning the proportion of the total area made up by these polygons has increased compared with Table 5 (which included all polygons regardless of accessibility), albeit only slightly, to 0.24% and 0.45% respectively.
- 3.3.4 Only six polygons, covering 20.10 hectares, classified as Outdoor Sports Facilities are considered unrestricted. Outdoor Sports Facilities with unrestricted access make up 2.75% of the total unrestricted open space.

Level 1 Typology	Number of Sites (polygons)	Area (Ha)	% Total Area
Amenity Green Space	98	81.81	11.17
Civic Space	1	1.74	0.24
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	114	290.57	39.69
Outdoor Sports Facilities	6	20.10	2.75
Parks and Gardens	28	334.63	45.70
Provision for Children and Young People	46	3.32	0.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>732.18</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 7 Unrestricted Open Space Supply by Typology



Ward	Amenity Green Space	Civic Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Total
Abbey Ward	10	1	5	2	1	6	25
Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward	5		7		3	4	19
Batchley & Brockhill Ward	13		8	1	2	4	28
Central Ward	3		11	1	2	4	21
Church Hill Ward	7		13		3	3	26
Crabbs Cross Ward	4		8		2		14
Greenlands Ward	11		11	2	2	5	31
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward	14		12		3	2	31
Lodge Park Ward	2		3		5	4	14
Matchborough Ward	6		14		2	3	25
West Ward	14		6		1	8	29
Winyates Ward	9		16		2	3	30
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>293</b>

Table 8 Unrestricted Open Space by Ward – Number

3.3.5 There is a fairly good distribution of unrestricted polygons across all wards. All wards contain at least two Amenity Green Spaces, three Natural and Semi-natural polygons and one Park and Garden. Although when Outdoor Sports Facilities with limited access are removed, eight wards no longer contain a site under this classification, the only wards with provision to unrestricted polygons are Abbey Ward, Batchley & Brockhill Ward, Central Ward and Greenlands Ward (Table 8).

Ward	Amenity Green Space	Civic Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Total
Abbey Ward	11.54	1.74	6.65	2.56	68.00	0.54	91.02
Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward	10.02		43.14		2.89	0.20	56.25
Batchley & Brockhill Ward	15.58		23.41	5.38	7.10	0.19	51.66
Central Ward	0.20		57.69	3.84	2.76	0.19	64.68
Church Hill Ward	2.22		19.23		8.67	0.13	30.26
Crabbs Cross Ward	5.56		15.25		2.25		23.05
Greenlands Ward	7.16		8.26	8.33	21.57	0.19	45.51
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward	16.03		40.97		14.60	0.17	71.77
Lodge Park Ward	0.75		6.48		35.53	0.28	43.04
Matchborough Ward	2.41		17.99		69.92	0.06	90.38
West Ward	6.06		18.59		36.90	0.27	61.82
Winyates Ward	4.28		32.93		64.43	1.10	102.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>81.81</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>290.57</b>	<b>20.10</b>	<b>334.63</b>	<b>3.32</b>	<b>732.18</b>

Table 9 Unrestricted Open Space by Ward – Area (ha)

3.3.6 Table 9 on page 12 sets out the total hectares of unrestricted open space across the wards by typology. As all Amenity Green Space is classified as unrestricted there is no change in the provision across the wards compared with Table 7. This also applies to the provision of Parks and Gardens, Provision for Children and Young People and Civic Spaces.

*3.3.7 Natural and Semi-natural Green Space remains the second largest typology by total area of open space and Central Ward still contains the largest supply, now representing 19.85% of the total area. Abbey Ward (6.65 hectares) and Lodge Park Ward (6.48 hectares) contain similarly low quantities. With limited access sites removed from the analysis, Matchborough Ward has gone from providing 37.35 hectares to only 17.99 hectares of unrestricted supply.*

*3.3.8 Only four wards contain Outdoor Sports Provision with unrestricted access, and the total supply is 20.10 hectares. Two fifths (41.4%) of this supply are within Greenlands Ward, while Batchley & Brockhill Ward contains just over a quarter (26.8%).*

<b>Typology 1</b>	<b>Area (Ha)</b>	<b>Hectares per 1,000 population</b>
<i>Amenity Green Space</i>	81.81	0.96
<i>Civic Space</i>	1.74	0.02
<i>Natural and Semi-natural Green Space</i>	290.57	3.41
<i>Outdoor Sports Facilities</i>	20.10	0.24
<i>Parks and Gardens</i>	334.63	3.92
<i>Provision for Children and Young People</i>	3.32	0.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>732.18</b>	<b>8.59</b>

*Table 10 Unrestricted Open Space by Typology – Area (Ha / 1,000 population)*

3.3.9 *Table 10 above shows the total supply of unrestricted open space by primary purpose (Level 1 Typology) and the hectares per 1,000 population. Population data has been taken from the 2019 Mid-Year Estimates and is based on a Redditch Borough population of 85,261.*

3.3.10 *Overall, there are 8.59 hectares of unrestricted open space per 1,000 population people in Redditch Borough. The highest quantities of unrestricted open space are Parks and Gardens (3.92 hectares per 1,000 population) and Natural and Semi-natural Green Space (3.41 hectares per 1,000 population).*

3.3.11 *With 8.81 hectares in Redditch Borough, there are 0.96 hectares per 1,000 population people of Amenity Green Space.*

3.3.12 *Supplies of other open space types are substantially lower. With the majority of Outdoor Sports Facilities classified as having limited access, there are only 0.24 hectares per 1,000 population of unrestricted Outdoor Sports Facilities in Redditch Borough. Supply of Provision for Children and Young People is also very low, equating to 0.04 hectares per 1,000 population and, with only one Civic Space in the Borough, there is only 0.02 hectares per 1,000 population.*



3.3.13 There is substantial variation between the wards in terms of level of supply. Seven of the 12 wards contain higher hectares per 1,000 population than the overall figure for Redditch Borough (Table 11).

3.3.14 With 14.93 hectares per 1,000 population, Matchborough Ward contains the largest supply of unrestricted open space, this is closely followed by Abbey Ward, with 13.75 hectares per 1,000 population. In contrast Church Hill Ward only contains 3.75 hectares per 1,000 population, less than a quarter of that in Matchborough Ward. Matchborough, Abbey and Winyates wards are disproportionately high as these are the wards that contain the sub-regional level Arrow Valley Park that runs north/ south through Redditch's urban area.

Ward	Population	Area (Ha)	Hectares per 1,000 population
Matchborough	6,054	90.38	14.93
Abbey	6,620	91.02	13.75
Winyates	8,184	102.73	12.55
West	5,823	61.82	10.62
Central	6,844	64.68	9.45
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	56.25	9.33
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295	71.77	8.65
<b>Borough-wide average</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>732.18</b>	<b>8.59</b>
Lodge Park	5,591	43.04	7.70
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783	51.66	5.88
Greenlands	9,329	45.51	4.88
Crabbs Cross	5,647	23.05	4.08
Church Hill	8,062	30.26	3.75

Table 11 Unrestricted Open Space – Current Ha / 1,000 population by Ward

3.3.15 Figure 3 overleaf shows the hectares of unrestricted open space per 1,000 population by ward.

## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 3  
All Unrestricted Open Space Provision by Ward

### Legend

Hectares per 1000 population

13.8 to 15

10.6 to 13.8

9.3 to 10.6

5.9 to 9.3

3.7 to 5.9

Unrestricted open space

### Boundaries

Borough & ward boundaries

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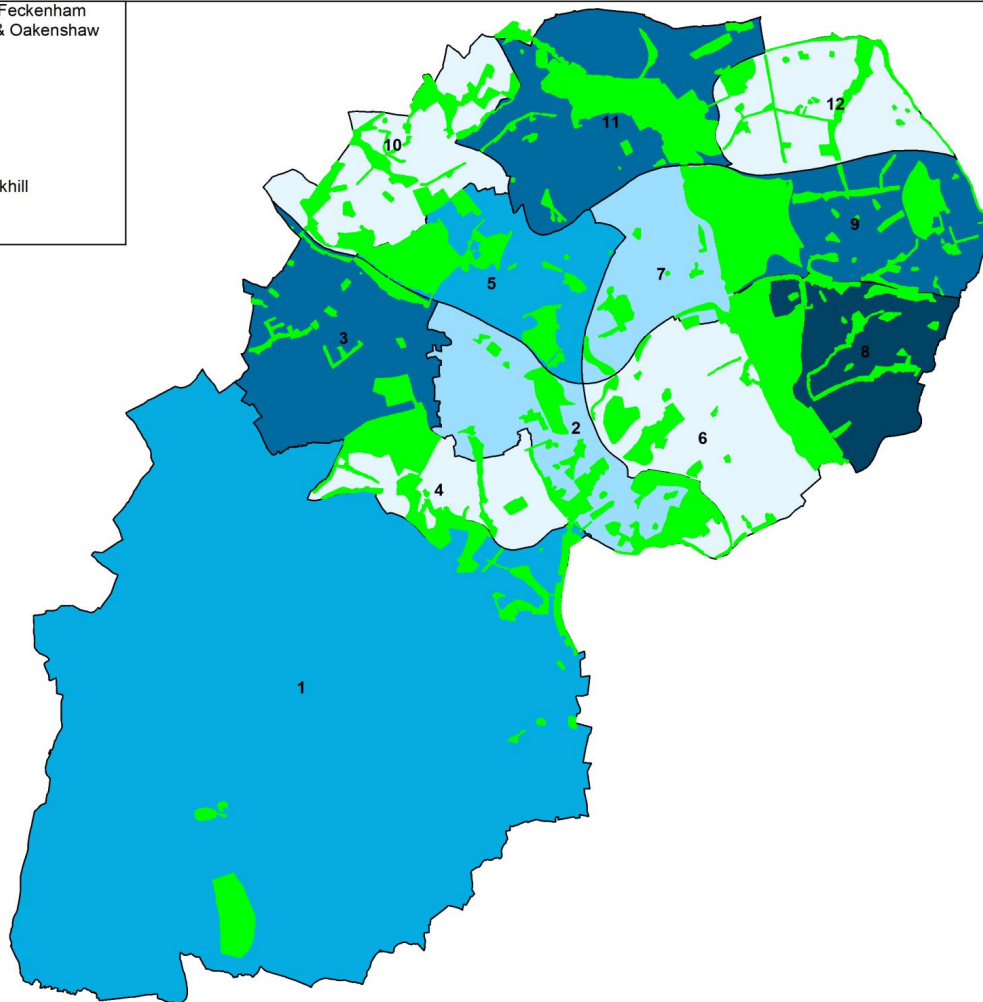
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people across places

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



3.3.16 Table 12 shows the impact of population growth on the quantity of open space (using the standardised measure of hectares per 1,000 population), assuming the overall open space supply remains static.

3.3.17 The Population Projections (2018) indicate a steady population up to 2033, maintaining around 8.60 hectares per 1,000 population. However, after 2033 a slightly increased rate of population growth will decrease levels of access to 8.48 hectares per 1,000 population by 2043.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Hectares per 1,000 population</b>
2020	85,118	8.60
2021	85,165	8.60
2022	85,199	8.59
2023	85,209	8.59
2024	85,197	8.59
2025	85,173	8.60
2026	85,151	8.60
2027	85,130	8.60
2028	85,124	8.60
2029	85,121	8.60
2030	85,120	8.60
2031	85,117	8.60
2032	85,134	8.60
2033	85,168	8.60
2034	85,208	8.59
2035	85,258	8.59
2036	85,334	8.58
2037	85,434	8.57
2038	85,551	8.56
2039	85,681	8.55
2040	85,819	8.53
2041	85,967	8.52
2042	86,124	8.50
2043	86,293	8.48

Table 12 Change in Open Space Provision based on Population Projections

3.3.18 For the purposes of the 2021 Leisure and Cultural Strategy, accessibility thresholds have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) and Bromsgrove Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2007). The distance thresholds are shown in Table 13 by hierarchy. It is worth noting that the 15–20-minute walk is equivalent to a 10-minute drive, and the 30-minute walk to a 15-minute drive.

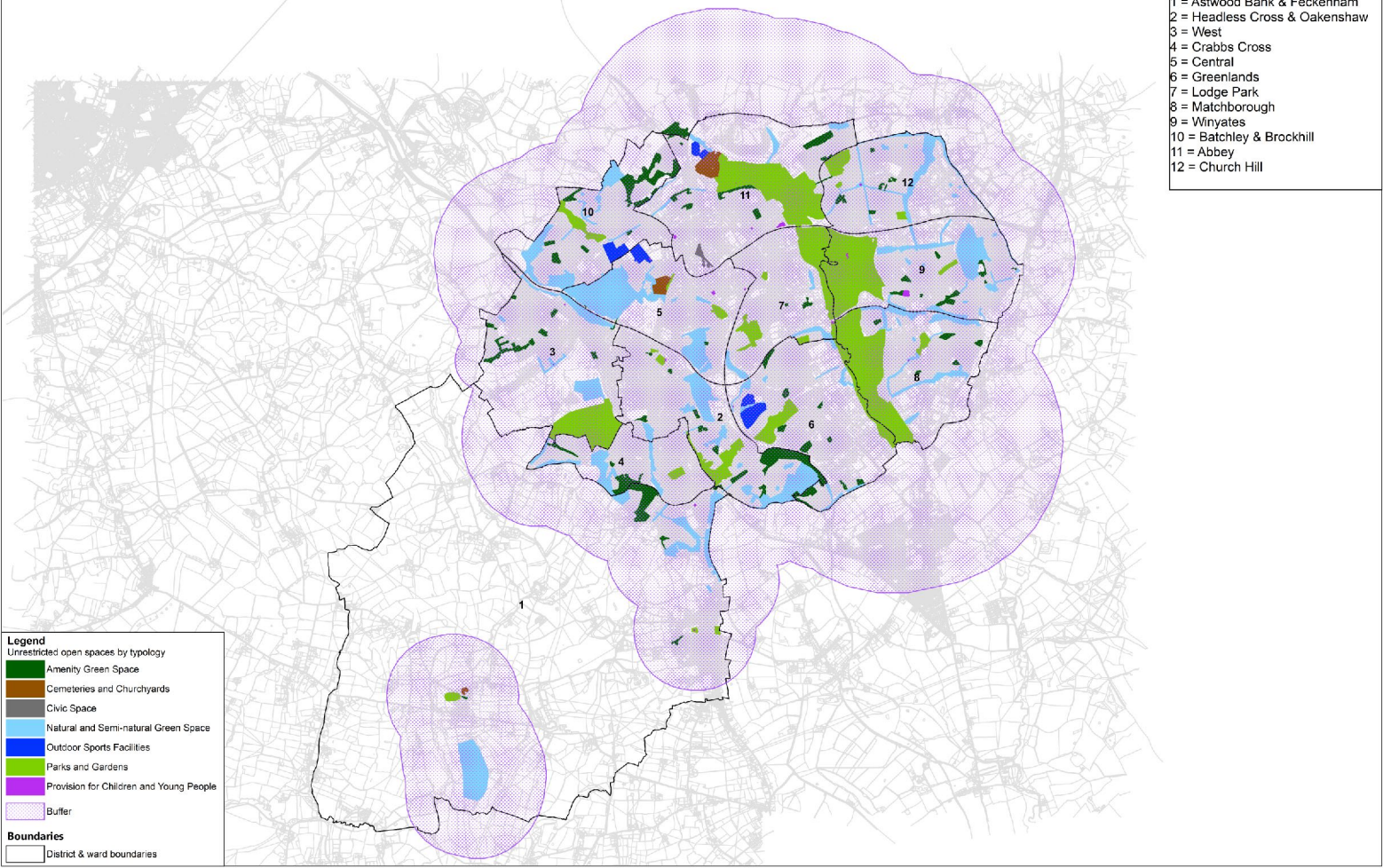
<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>
<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>
<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>
<i>Sub-Regional</i>	2000	<i>30 minutes</i>

Table 13 Distance thresholds – Hierarchy

3.3.19 Figure 4 shows all unrestricted open space buffered at varying levels determined by the hierarchy level.



- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
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- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



**Legend**

Unrestricted open spaces by typology

- Amenity Green Space
- Cemeteries and Churchyards
- Civic Space
- Natural and Semi-natural Green Space
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People
- Buffer

**Boundaries**

- District & ward boundaries

### 3.4 Open Space Supply and Deprivation

3.4.1 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is used by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (formerly the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) to calculate relative levels of deprivation in England. The methodology considers 39 indicators across seven domains that affect an individual's living situation. These domains are (1) income, (2) employment, (3) health deprivation and disability, (4) education, skills and training, (5) crime, (6) barriers to housing and services and (7) living environment. Relative deprivation is calculated for every Lower Super Output Area (LSOAs) in England, on a scale of one (most deprived) to 32,844 (least deprived). For purposes of analysis, the average overall IMD score has been calculated for each ward (based on re-attributed wards). Table 14 shows the average score for LSOAs by ward against the quantity of unrestricted space per 1,000 population.

3.4.2 For purposes of analysis, the average overall IMD score has been calculated for each ward. Table 14 shows the average score for LSOAs by ward against the quantity of unrestricted space per 1,000 population.

Ward	Average IMD Score	Hectares per 1,000 population
Batchley & Brockhill	31.9	5.88
Greenlands	31.5	4.88
Church Hill	30.2	3.75
Lodge Park	27.6	7.70
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	25.0	8.65
Matchborough	24.4	14.93
Central	24.2	9.45
Abbey	23.7	13.75
Crabbs Cross	22.9	4.08
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	21.8	9.33
West	18.8	10.62
Winyates	17.0	12.55

Table 14 Unrestricted Open Space and IMD (average score by ward) (Lower IMD score represents higher deprivation)

*3.4.3 The quantity of hectares per 1,000 population is an indication of deprivation levels as Batchley & Brockhill, Church Hill, Greenlands and Lodge Park Wards all have the highest levels of deprivation (as indicated by the high IMD score) and a lower quantity of hectares per 1,000 population compared with the Borough-wide average. However, it is important to note that wards such as Matchborough Ward and Abbey Ward, which have the highest hectares of unrestricted open space per 1,000 population, also have higher average IMD scores of 24.4 and 23.7 respectively.*

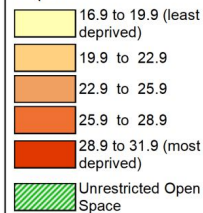
*3.4.4 Figure 5 overleaf shows the 2019 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (Overall) overlaid by the supply of unrestricted open space.*

## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 5  
Unrestricted Open Space & Indices of Deprivation (Overall) 2019

### Legend

#### Indices of Multiple Deprivation



#### Boundaries



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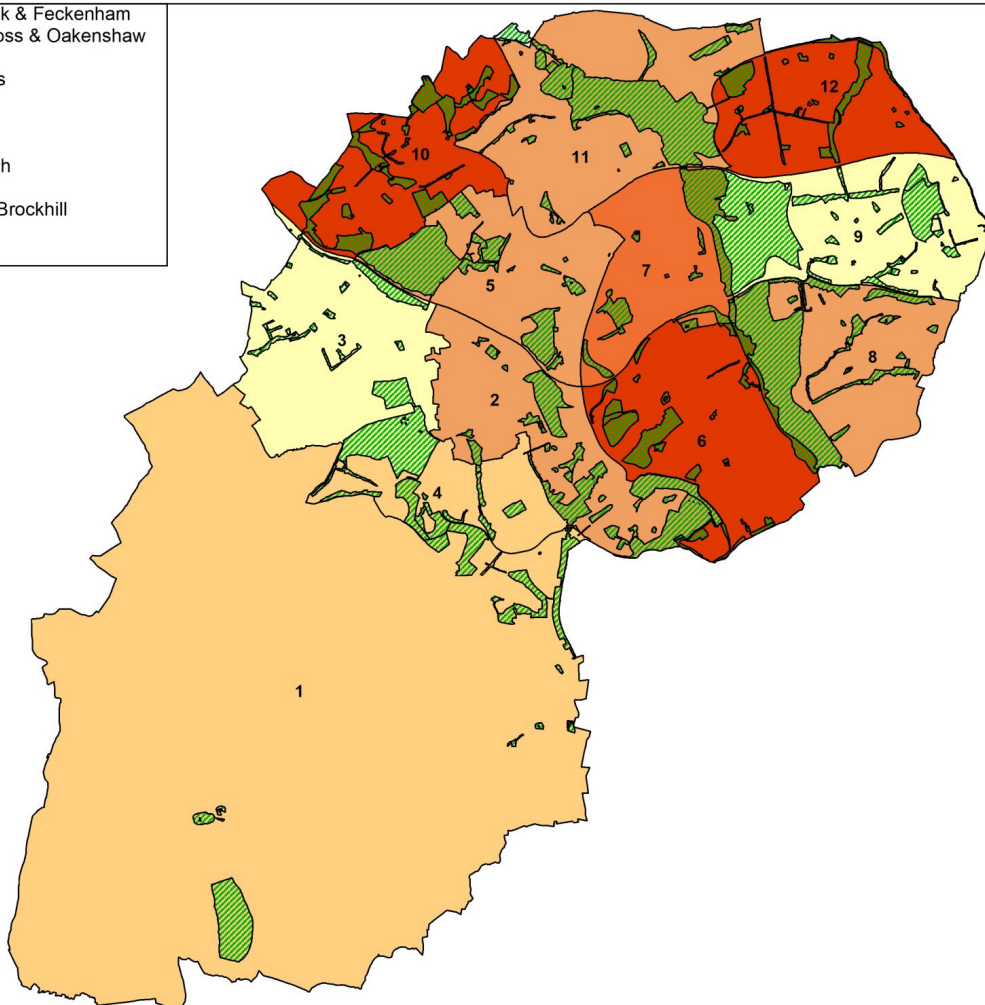
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Date:
GA	AS	15/03/22



people green places

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill





3.4.5 Table 15 shows the average health deprivation score for each ward against the quantity of unrestricted space per 1,000 population.

Ward	Average Health Deprivation Score	Hectares per 1,000 population
Church Hill	0.77	3.75
Batchley & Brockhill	0.69	5.88
Greenlands	0.59	4.88
Lodge Park	0.50	7.70
Central	0.48	9.45
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	0.46	8.65
Crabbs Cross	0.44	4.08
Matchborough	0.43	14.93
Abbey	0.36	13.75
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	0.35	9.33
West	0.23	10.62
Winyates	0.23	12.55

Table 15 Unrestricted Open Space & Health Deprivation (average score IMD Health score by ward) (Lower IMD score represents higher deprivation)

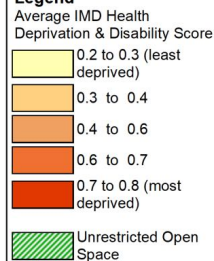
3.4.6 The quantity of hectares per 1,000 population is an indication of health deprivation levels. Greenlands, Church Hill, Batchley & Brockhill and Lodge Park Wards have the highest levels of health deprivation in the Borough, and quantities of unrestricted open space, below the Borough-wide average.

3.4.7 Figure 6 overleaf shows the 2019 IMD Health Domain overlaid by the supply of unrestricted open space.

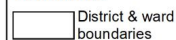
## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 6  
Unrestricted Open Space & Average IMD Health Deprivation & Disability Domain Score

### Legend



### Boundaries



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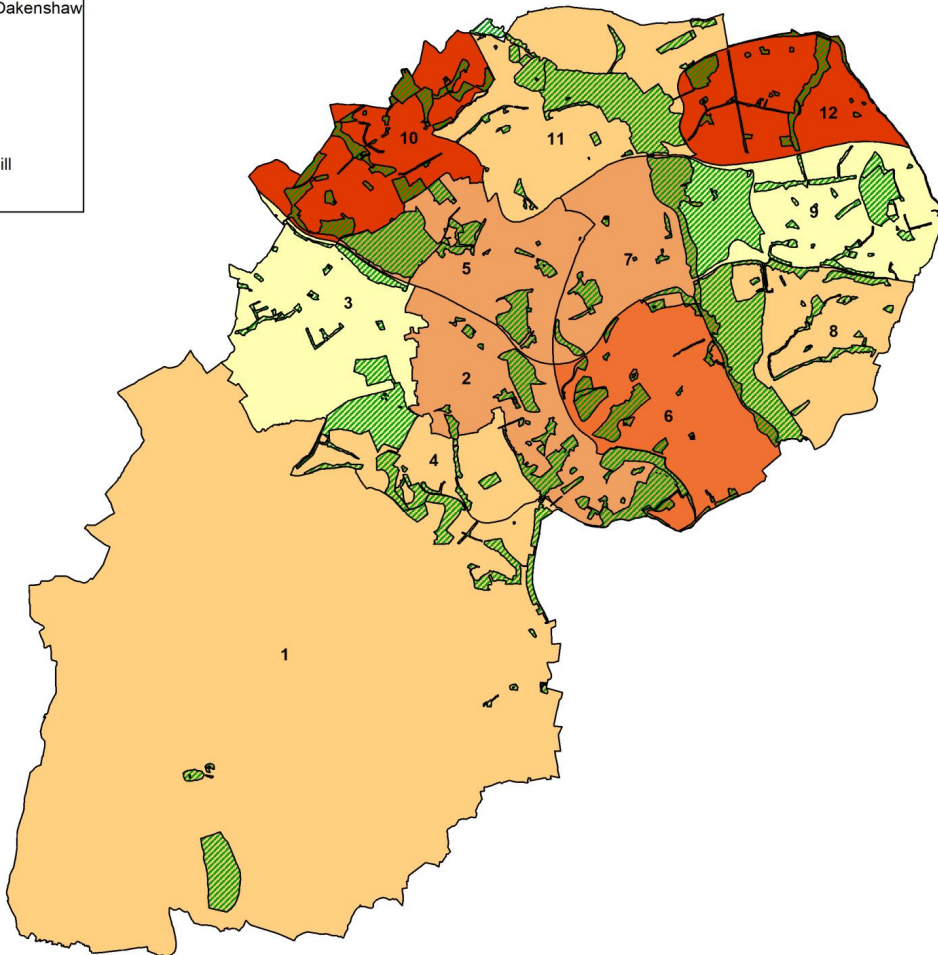
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GA	AS	10/01/22



people across places

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



3.4.8 *The links between open space provision and wider public health are longstanding and well known. Public parks were created in response to poor living and environmental conditions in urban areas in the nineteenth century. Improving public health outcomes continues to be a public policy priority and the Covid-19 pandemic has further reinforced the importance of access to open space. For the purposes of the wider Leisure and Cultural Strategy, consideration has been given to open space provision and public health indicators.*

3.4.9 *The average life expectancy for both males and females shown in Table 16 has been taken from the Office for National Statistics and data is for 2015 to 2019<sup>3</sup>. It is shown in conjunction with the number of hectares per 1,000 population of unrestricted open space by ward.*

Ward	Average Life Expectancy (Male & Female)	Hectares per 1,000 population
Matchborough	82.7	14.93
Abbey	85.6	13.75
Winyates	80.9	12.55
West	87.7	10.62
Central	81.1	9.45
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	85.8	9.33
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	80.3	8.65
<i>Borough-wide average</i>	82.3	8.59
Lodge Park	80.4	7.70
Batchley & Brockhill	78.6	5.88
Greenlands	79.9	4.88
Crabbs Cross	82.5	4.08
Church Hill	81.9	3.75

Table 16 Unrestricted Open Space Provision and Life Expectancy


<sup>3</sup> Office for National Statistics. (2020). Life Expectancy by Ward 2015-2019. Available: [https://www.localhealth.org.uk/#c=indicator&i=t4.le\\_m\\_v&view=map8](https://www.localhealth.org.uk/#c=indicator&i=t4.le_m_v&view=map8) (Accessed: 18 August 2021).

- 3.4.10 *Life expectancy in Redditch Borough ranges between 78.6 years in Batchley & Brockhill Ward and 87.7 years in West Ward. For comparison, the average life expectancy in England overall is 82.0 years, and 80.8 years in the West Midlands.*
- 3.4.11 *With an average life expectancy across the borough of 82.3 years, wards above the average hectares per 1,000 population (8.59 hectares) have a longer life expectancy than wards with below average hectares per 1,000 population (on average 80.7 years). However, there are wards with above borough-wide average life expectancies with less than the average hectares per 1,000 population.*
- 3.4.12 *Notably, Winyates Ward has an above average of 12.55 hectares per 1,000 population but one of the lowest life expectancies in the Borough at 80.9 years. In contrast, Crabbs Cross Ward has only 4.08 hectares per 1,000 population but an average life expectancy (82.5 years) around the borough-wide average (82.3 years).*
- 3.4.13 *Figure 7 overleaf shows the average life expectancy for males and females by ward, overlaid by the supply of unrestricted open space.*

## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

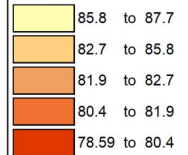
Figure 7  
Unrestricted Open Space & Average Life Expectancy

### Legend

 Unrestricted Open Space


### Average Life Expectancy

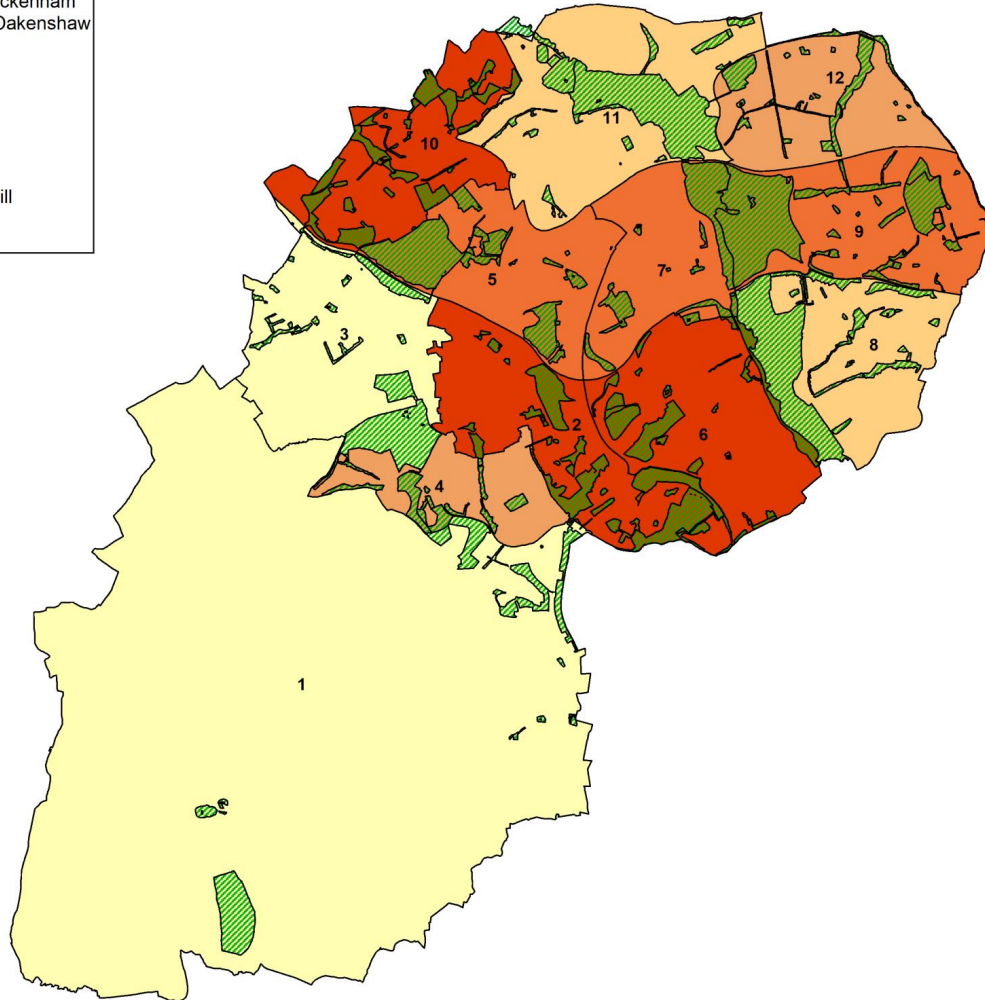
Highest



Lowest

### Boundaries

 Borough & Ward Boundaries



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 REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham  
2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw  
3 = West  
4 = Crabbs Cross  
5 = Central  
6 = Greenlands  
7 = Lodge Park  
8 = Matchborough  
9 = Winyates  
10 = Batchley & Brockhill  
11 = Abbey  
12 = Church Hill

## **4 Open Space Demand**

*4.1.1 Redditch Borough Council has run four community surveys since 2018. This section is an overview of consultation data on Open Space quantity, quality and accessibility.*

### **4.2 Residents Perceptions of Open Space Quantity**

*4.2.1 Respondents were asked if they thought there were enough of each type of open space in their local area. The results are discussed below by ward and typology.*

### **Parks and Open Spaces**

*4.2.2 As shown in Table 17, no respondents considered there to be too many parks and open spaces in their local area. When asked if they had any additional comments, respondents added that there can never be too much open space and that, while there is more provision than neighbouring authorities, Redditch Borough has a deficit compared with its population. Some respondents commented on areas of open space where development has been built or is being proposed.*

*4.2.3 Across the whole borough, 67.5% of respondents considered the provision to be about right. In all 12 wards, the majority of respondents rated the levels of provision as about right, and there were only four wards where a higher proportion of respondents rated provision as too little, compared with the borough overall. Of these, Matchborough Ward had the highest proportion of respondents that considered there to be too few parks and open spaces, with more than two-fifths (43.7%) of respondents.*



Ward	Too little	About right	Too much
Matchborough Ward	43.7%	56.3%	0.0%
Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward	38.5%	61.5%	0.0%
Batchley & Brockhill Ward	35.7%	64.3%	0.0%
Church Hill Ward	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%
Redditch Borough Overall	32.5%	67.5%	0.0%
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward	31.8%	68.2%	0.0%
Winyates Ward	31.8%	68.2%	0.0%
Central Ward	29.4%	70.6%	0.0%
Greenlands Ward	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%
Lodge Park Ward	27.3%	72.7%	0.0%
West Ward	22.2%	77.8%	0.0%
Abbey Ward	15.4%	84.6%	0.0%
Crabbs Cross Ward	7.1%	92.9%	0.0%

Table 17 Quantity of Parks and Open Space Provision by Ward

## Outdoor Sports Provision

4.2.4 Across the borough, just over half of respondents (54.6%) rated the supply of outdoor sports provision as about right (Table 18). However, more than half of the respondents from three wards considered supply in their local area to be too little. Most notably, three-quarters of respondents (75.0%) from Batchley & Brockhill Ward considered there was too little supply of outdoor sports provision.

4.2.5 When asked if they had any other comments one respondent said they had to travel to Bromsgrove once a week to play hockey on the Astroturf pitches and would like to see one in Redditch. Two respondents also added that it would be good to have free tennis courts, such as in Worcester. However, opinions varied with one respondent adding that the borough does not need any more football pitches or outdoor gym facilities on natural open spaces.

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Too little</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too much</b>
<i>Batchley &amp; Brockhill Ward</i>	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%
<i>West Ward</i>	70.0%	30.0%	0.0%
<i>Lodge Park Ward</i>	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%
<i>Winyates Ward</i>	40.0%	50.0%	10.0%
<i>Matchborough Ward</i>	45.8%	52.1%	2.1%
<b>Redditch Borough Overall</b>	<b>44.2%</b>	<b>54.6%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<i>Church Hill Ward</i>	45.0%	55.0%	0.0%
<i>Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham Ward</i>	42.9%	57.1%	0.0%
<i>Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw Ward</i>	38.9%	61.1%	0.0%
<i>Central Ward</i>	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%
<i>Greenlands Ward</i>	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%
<i>Abbey Ward</i>	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%
<i>Crabbs Cross Ward</i>	20.0%	80.0%	0.0%

Table 18 Quantity of Outdoor Sports Provision by Ward

## **Play Provision**

4.2.6 Overall, just over half of respondents (52.5%) consider there to be too little play space provision across the borough (Table 19). The majority of respondents from five wards consider there to be too little play space in their local area; three quarters (75.0%) of respondents from Greenlands Ward and 71.4% from Matchborough Ward thought there is too little provision.

4.2.7 Some respondents felt that, with the increasing population in Redditch, there were now not enough play spaces, compared to years ago. One respondent suggested that most residential areas should have a small play park so families could access them more easily in their local area. Others added that their local play areas were not in a good condition,

hence they travelled to visit other spaces. Another two respondents suggested a splashpad, adding that they usually travelled to Evesham, Worcester and Warwick to visit play spaces.

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Too little</b>	<b>About right</b>	<b>Too much</b>
<i>Greenlands Ward</i>	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%
<i>Matchborough Ward</i>	71.4%	28.6%	0.0%
<i>Church Hill Ward</i>	61.1%	38.9%	0.0%
<i>Lodge Park Ward</i>	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%
<i>Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham Ward</i>	55.6%	44.4%	0.0%
<b>Redditch Borough Overall</b>	<b>52.5%</b>	<b>46.9%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<i>Central Ward</i>	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
<i>Crabbs Cross Ward</i>	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
<i>Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw Ward</i>	45.0%	55.0%	0.0%
<i>Winyates Ward</i>	40.0%	60.0%	0.0%
<i>Batchley &amp; Brockhill Ward</i>	36.4%	63.6%	0.0%
<i>Abbey Ward</i>	22.2%	66.7%	11.1%
<i>West Ward</i>	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%

Table 19 Quantity of Play Space Provision by Ward

### 4.3 Residents Perceptions of Open Space Quality

4.3.1 As part of the consultation, respondents were asked to rate the provision of various leisure and culture facilities and services in Redditch Borough.

**Parks and Open Spaces**

4.3.2 Between 2018 and 2019, respondent ratings of open space provision showed a marked decrease (Chart 1). In 2018, over two-thirds of respondents (67.3%) rated the provision of open spaces as good or very good. However, in 2019, this decreased to 58.0%. While there was little substantial change in the proportion who rated them as poor or very poor, the proportion who ranked them as adequate increased between 2018 and 2019.

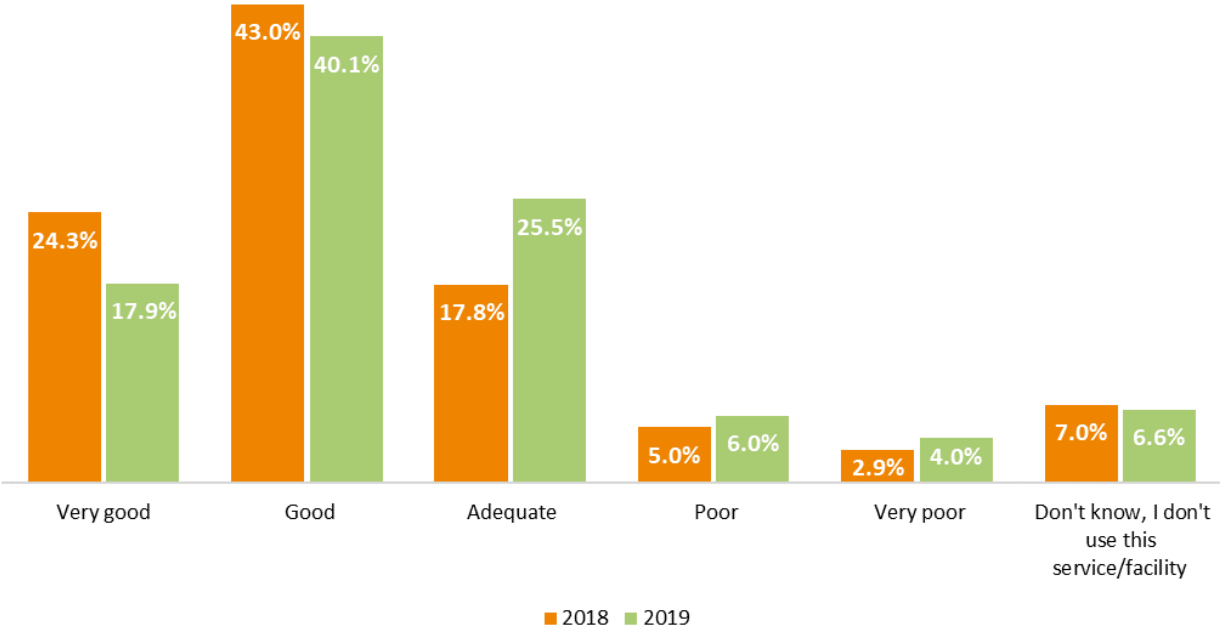


Chart 1 How would you rate the provision of open spaces in Redditch Borough?

**Managed Parks**

4.3.3 There was little substantial difference in the proportion of respondents rating managed sites, such as Arrow Valley Country Park, as good or very good between 2018 (67.9%) and 2019 (69.6%). The proportion rating the provision of managed sites as poor or very poor also remained more or less the same (Chart 2).

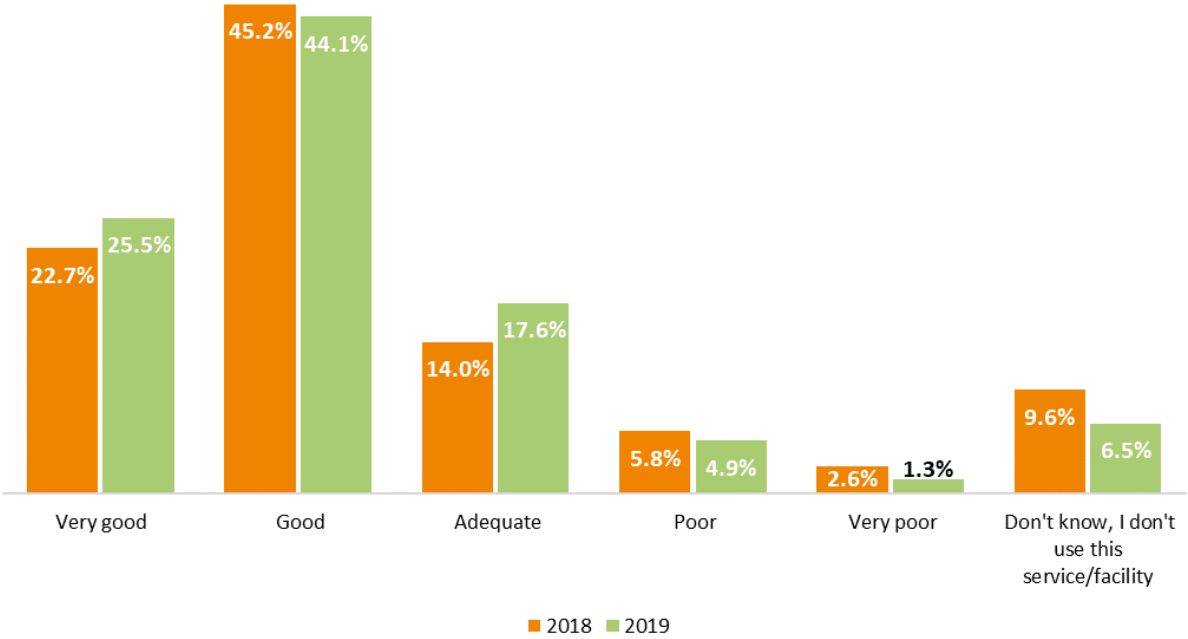


Chart 2 How would you rate the provision of managed parks in Redditch Borough?

**Play Equipment**

4.3.4 In 2019, there was a marked decrease in the proportion of respondents rating play equipment as good or very good. While one in 20 in both 2018 (5.2%) and 2019 (5.0%) rated play provision as very good, there was a 10.0% decrease in good ratings (Chart 3). Meanwhile, the proportion rating the provision as poor or very poor increased by 5.1%.

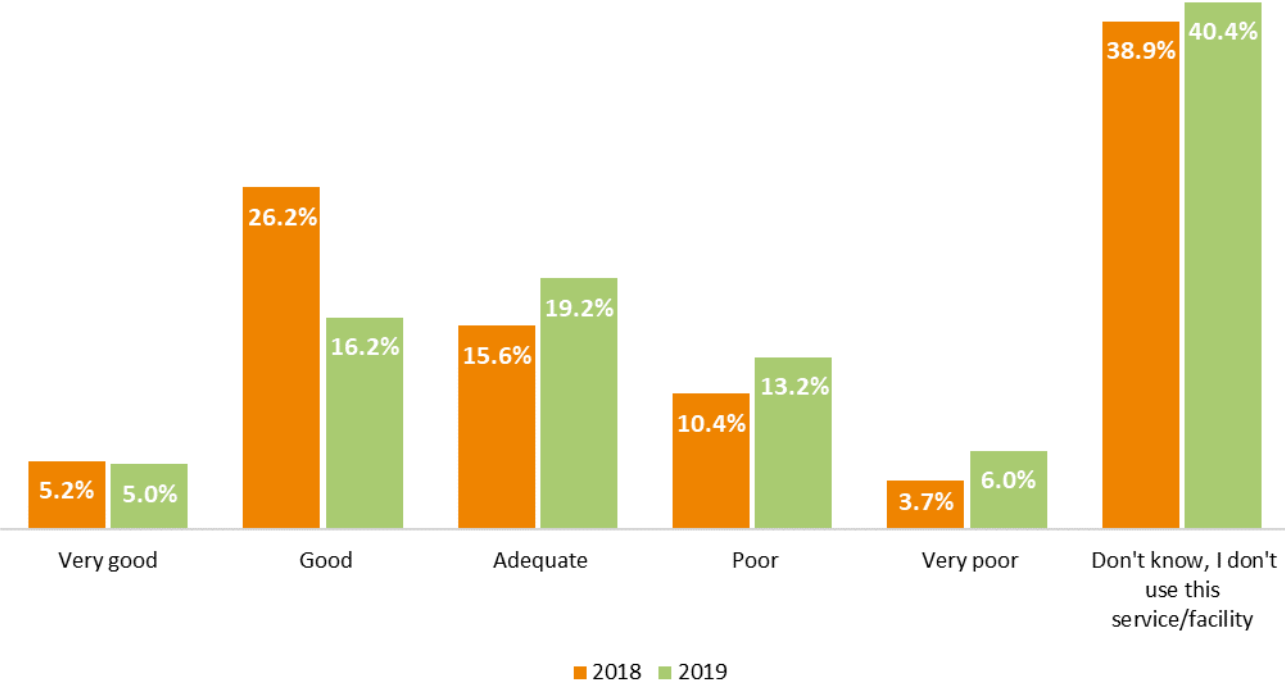


Chart 3 How would you rate the provision of play equipment in Redditch Borough?



**Allotments**

4.3.5 In 2019, there was a 10.6% decrease in the proportion of respondents who reported not knowing or using allotments in Redditch, thus making it difficult to draw comparisons with 2018. In 2019, there was a 5.1% increase in respondents rating allotments as good or very good, but there was also a 3.5% increase in those rating them as poor or very poor (Chart 4).

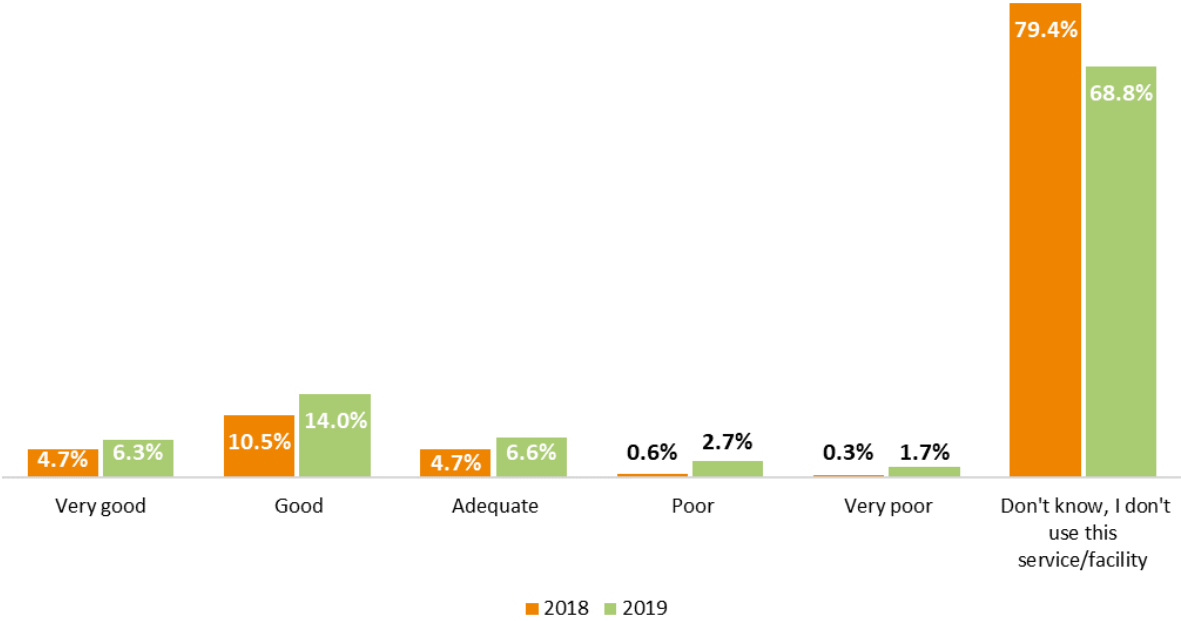


Chart 4 How would you rate the provision of allotments in Redditch Borough?

**4.4 Levels of Satisfaction**

4.4.1 Respondents were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied with the overall quality of each type of open space in their local area.

**Parks and Open Spaces**

4.4.2 As Table 20 shows, across the whole borough, most respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of parks and open spaces in their area. However, out of a total of 257 respondents, levels of dissatisfaction are higher among respondents from certain wards. Most notably, one in seven respondents from Batchley & Brockhill Ward were very

dissatisfied with parks and open spaces in their area. In Central Ward, as many respondents were very dissatisfied (5.6%) as were very satisfied. (5.6%).

4.4.3 When asked if they had any other comments they would like to make, respondents said their open spaces were often littered and not mowed or weeded enough, or too many trees were being taken down without consultation. Another added that the pavements were in poor condition and leaves would accumulate, rendering them unusable in winter.

4.4.4 On the other hand, a respondent said that the Meadows were “beautiful and I walk to Arrow Valley Park through it”. Others added that it was great where provision had been improved, such as at Batchley, Morton Stanley and the lake, and where pathways had been re-tarmacked. However, one respondent commented that all the resources seem to go toward Arrow Valley Country Park, leaving other open spaces neglected.

Ward	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward	0.0%	7.7%	15.4%	61.5%	15.4%
Church Hill Ward	0.0%	20.8%	8.3%	37.5%	33.3%
Crabbs Cross Ward	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	57.1%	28.6%
Greenlands Ward	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward	0.0%	13.6%	18.2%	36.4%	31.8%
Lodge Park Ward	0.0%	9.1%	9.1%	63.6%	18.2%
Winyates Ward	0.0%	9.5%	4.8%	52.4%	33.3%
<b>Redditch Borough Overall</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>44.7%</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
Central Ward	5.6%	5.6%	11.1%	72.2%	5.6%
Matchborough Ward	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	33.8%	49.3%
West Ward	5.6%	0.0%	11.1%	50.0%	33.3%
Abbey Ward	7.7%	7.7%	0.0%	30.8%	53.8%
Batchley & Brockhill Ward	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	28.6%	28.6%

Table 20 Resident Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of Parks and Open Space (by Ward)

## Outdoor Sports Provision

4.4.5 Overall, levels of satisfaction with outdoor sports provision were lower than parks and open spaces (Table 21). Out of 163 respondents, more than a fifth (20.9%) were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the quality of outdoor sport provision in their area. Half of the respondents from West Ward (50.0%) and Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward (50.0%) were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied and a fifth (22.2%) of respondents from Batchley & Brockhill Ward were very dissatisfied and none were satisfied.

4.4.6 Comments relating to outdoor sports provision referred to areas where more provision is needed. One respondent said Matchborough West needed more equipment, and another that they needed more space for disc golf and more baskets.

Ward	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Abbey Ward	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%	16.7%	16.7%
Central Ward	0.0%	16.7%	33.3%	41.7%	8.3%
Church Hill Ward	0.0%	18.8%	31.3%	37.5%	12.5%
Greenlands Ward	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward	0.0%	16.7%	38.9%	38.9%	5.6%
Lodge Park Ward	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	57.1%	14.3%
Winyates Ward	0.0%	11.1%	44.4%	44.4%	0.0%
Redditch Borough Overall	5.9%	15.0%	33.3%	37.3%	8.5%
Matchborough Ward	8.3%	12.5%	37.5%	33.3%	8.3%
Crabbs Cross Ward	10.0%	0.0%	20.0%	60.0%	10.0%
West Ward	12.5%	37.5%	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%
Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	0.0%
Batchley & Brockhill Ward	22.2%	33.3%	0.0%	44.4%	0.0%

Table 21 Resident Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of Outdoor Sports Facilities (by Ward)

## Play Spaces

4.4.7 Across Redditch, just over half respondents (52.9%) were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of play spaces in their local area (Table 22). Out of a total of 161 respondents, overall dissatisfaction was highest in Church Hill Ward, where almost half of respondents (46.7%) were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. However, Matchborough Ward had the highest proportion of respondents reporting being very dissatisfied with the quality of play spaces.

4.4.8 Respondents said many play areas had been removed and the remaining sites had been vandalised and neglected. Respondents cited play areas where they felt more work was needed, including Forge Mill play area, Moons Moat school play, and the zip lines at Morton Stanley Park and Arrow Valley Country Park. Another added that they were not accessible to children with disabilities.

Ward	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Abbey Ward	0.0%	11.1%	11.1%	44.4%	33.3%
Crabbs Cross Ward	0.0%	12.5%	25.0%	62.5%	0.0%
Greenlands Ward	0.0%	20.0%	60.0%	0.0%	20.0%
Lodge Park Ward	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
Winyates Ward	0.0%	10.0%	20.0%	70.0%	0.0%
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw Ward	5.3%	15.8%	31.6%	36.8%	10.5%
West Ward	7.7%	0.0%	7.7%	46.2%	38.5%
Redditch Borough Overall	9.0%	16.1%	21.9%	40.6%	12.3%
Batchley & Brockhill Ward	9.1%	18.2%	9.1%	36.4%	27.3%
Astwood Bank & Feckenham Ward	11.1%	22.2%	22.2%	44.4%	0.0%
Church Hill Ward	13.3%	33.3%	20.0%	26.7%	6.7%
Central Ward	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%	71.4%	0.0%
Matchborough Ward	16.7%	21.4%	26.2%	28.6%	7.1%

Table 22 Resident Satisfaction with the Overall Quality of Play Spaces (by Ward)

## 4.5 Other Feedback

### Travelling to Open Space

4.5.1 *In 2020, respondents were asked how frequently they visited all parks and open spaces. The results demonstrate the impacts of the COVID-19 lockdown; before lockdown, about half of respondents (37.8%) never visited parks and open spaces but this proportion increased to 70.0% during lockdown.*

4.5.2 *These results are in direct contrast with national trends, which showed a significant increase in the frequency of use of open spaces during lockdown. It is worth noting that more than a third of respondents (55.7%) of respondents were aged over 60 years, and the Covid-19 pandemic may have had a disproportionate effect on the willingness or ability of this age group to access open space.*

4.5.3 *Most respondents (63.8%) said they usually walked to parks and open spaces (Chart 5). Of those that said they usually travelled to outdoor sports facilities, almost three-quarters (72.8%) would drive or take a taxi and 22.5% would walk. Three would cycle (4.0%) and one (0.7%) said they usually travel by motorcycle. Of the remaining respondents, the majority (32.8%) took a car or taxi, eight (3.0%) would cycle and only one (0.4%) would take the bus. Some respondents added that their mode of transport depended on the site;*

they would be willing to be travel further to a site such as Arrow Valley Country Park hence they would use the car. If a site was smaller, and more local, they would walk.

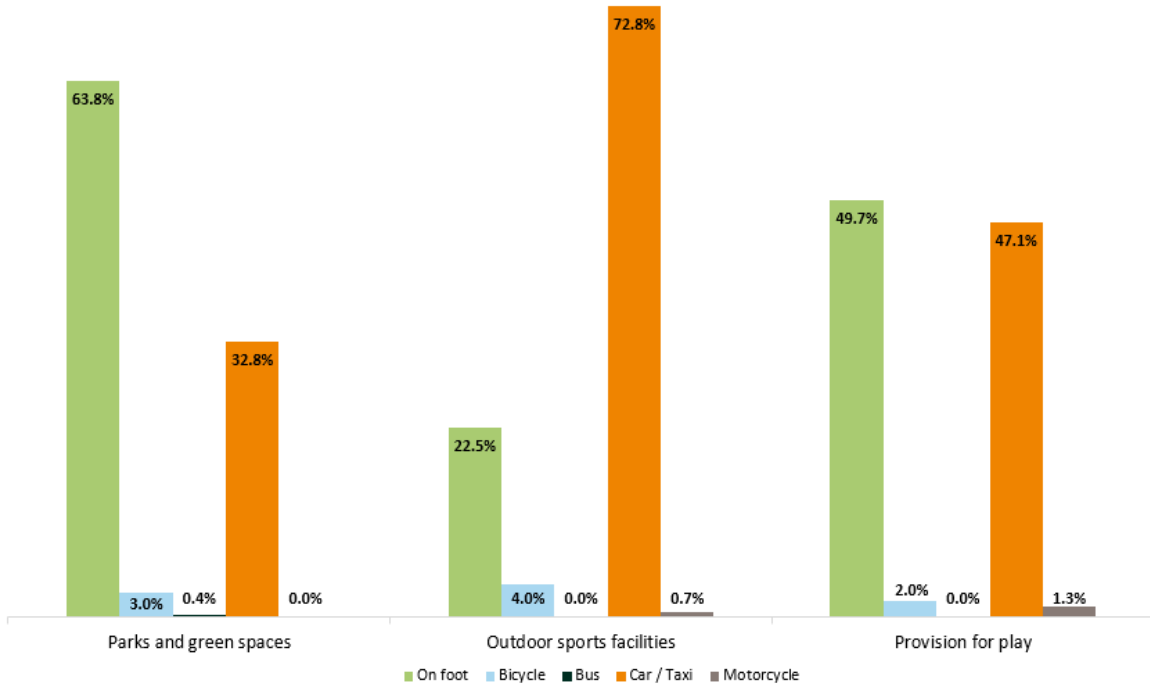


Chart 5 What mode of transport do you usually use to access a park or other type of green space in Redditch Borough?



4.5.4 Of those that said they usually travelled to outdoor sports facilities, almost three-quarters (72.8%) would drive or take a taxi and 22.5% would walk. Three would cycle (4.0%) and one (0.7%) said they usually travel by motorcycle.

4.5.5 There was a more or less even split between respondents who said they usually drove (47.1%) or walked (49.7%) to play spaces. Three (2.0%) would cycle and two (1.3%) would travel by motorcycle.

4.5.6 When asked if they would like to add anything else, respondents added they had to drive as there was no local provision or no way to walk to them safely. Others also added that public transport was too expensive to use.

4.5.7 As part of the 2021 consultation, respondents were asked how long they would walk for better-quality open space of different types (Chart 6).

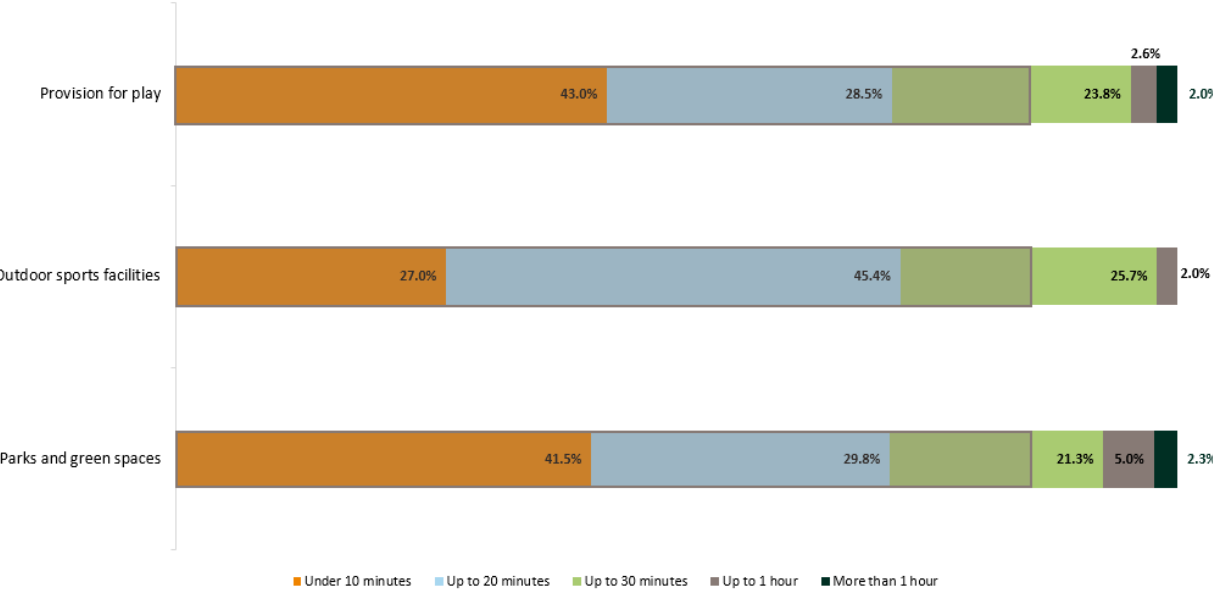


Chart 6 How long would you be willing to walk for a better-quality park or other type of green space in Redditch Borough?

4.5.8 As part of the Open Space Quantity and Accessibility Assessment, an open spaces hierarchy was established, setting the distance and travel time thresholds to sites based on their hierarchy. Overall, 75% to 80% of respondents would walk up to 30-minutes to visit each type of green space, as indicated by the overlaid grey bar in Chart 6. This is equal to a 15-minute drive and covers a distance of 2,000m, equivalent to the distance threshold for a

*sub-regional site in the open space hierarchy. This result is not surprising as sites that will be a "better-quality", as used in the question, will be more significant, more popular and therefore more maintained sites.*

- 4.5.9 With around two-fifths (43.0%), the most significant proportion of respondents said they would walk up to ten minutes to better-quality play provision. As previously discussed, only around half of the respondents said they walk to play provision; hence this result is not surprising. Some respondents added that they would not want their young children walking too far on their own to play spaces. Another said that it depended on if they had their children with them and that children cannot walk that far, especially if tired after playing. One respondent said they would walk further if they "knew there were provisions for special needs in a playground".*
- 4.5.10 The results indicate that respondents are willing to travel further for better-quality outdoor sports provision. Compared with both play provision and parks and green spaces, a higher proportion (45.4%) would be willing to travel between 10- and 20-minutes. However, no respondents would travel for over one hour. One respondent commented that they do not want to tire themselves out before getting there by walking too far if visiting a site to exercise.*
- 4.5.11 Like play provision, around two-fifths (41.5%) of respondents would be willing to walk up to ten minutes to a better-quality park or open space. Almost a third (29.8%) of respondents said they would travel up to 20 minutes, and 21.3% would travel up to 30 minutes. The results show that respondents would be willing to walk further for a better-quality park or open space than outdoor sports facilities or play provision, with one in 14 (7.4%) willing to travel an hour or more.*
- 4.5.12 When asked if they had any other comments they would like to make, several respondents added that health conditions limited themselves or their friends and family. Otherwise, they would walk for longer. Another respondent said they would walk further to visit a green space if the town felt safer.*

## **Value of Parks and Open Spaces**

*4.5.13 Chart 7 shows almost all respondents rated providing contact with nature, wildlife, and seasonal change (98.4%), providing green lungs for the Borough (99.2%) and somewhere to improve my mental and physical wellbeing (97.3%) as very or fairly valuable.*

*4.5.14 The least valuable aspect of open spaces, as rated by respondents, was increasing the value of house prices in the area around them, although it is worth noting that 71.1% of respondents still rated this as fairly or very valuable. Several respondents added that they felt this was irrelevant to planning open space. A place for learning, volunteering and developing new skills was also rated as being slightly less valuable (80.8%).*

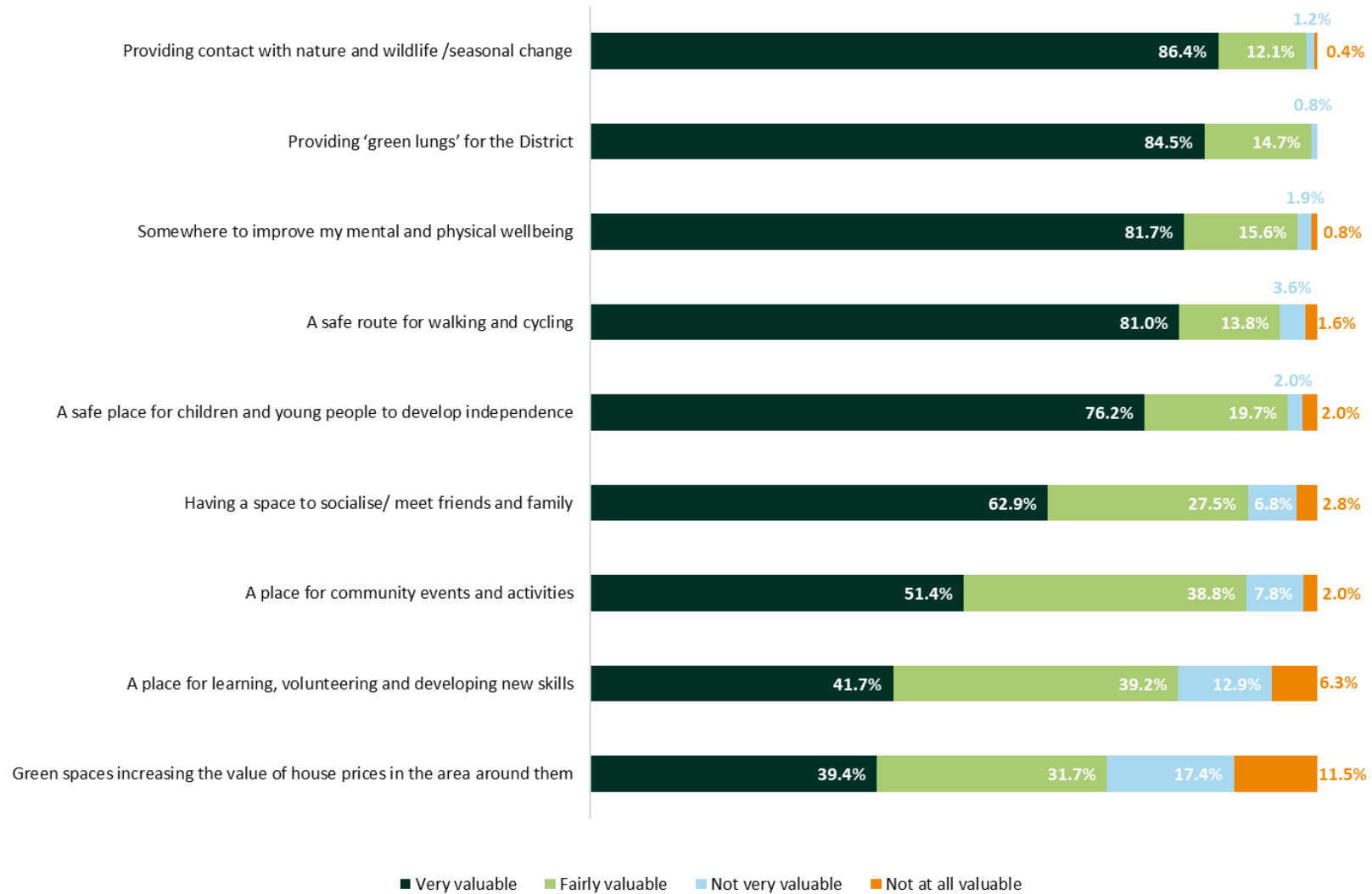


Chart 7 Value of Parks and Open Space.

- 4.5.15 Respondents added that “our open space is very valuable [and] there is nothing that could replace or devalue the importance of our open space” and that “open spaces in Redditch have been a lifeline in the pandemic and continue to be so”. Another added that, with more houses being built, open lungs will be more important than ever. One respondent said that open spaces allowed their disabled child to be “...herself and not be judged, to gain independence in understanding where she is and what she can manage, where we can play sports etc” and that “as somebody with long term health issues these areas are essential to me ... we can cater for our needs in these close to home, open spaces”.
- 4.5.16 The consultation took place during the COVID-19 pandemic & national lockdown. When asked how parks and open spaces improved their experience of lockdown, almost two thirds (62.6%) of respondents said it improved their mental and physical health. Other significant responses included providing a space for exercise, such as cycling, walking, (54.1%), being closer to nature (47.4%) and feelings of freedom (45.9%).
- 4.5.17 Going forward, over three quarters of respondents (78.9%) said they would visit parks and open spaces in Redditch to enjoy the outdoor space, and 74.5% said they would visit to exercise. Other popular reasons were for wildlife and biodiversity (47.3%) and to spend time with family and friends (47.6%).

### **Mental Health Benefits**

- 4.5.18 There was a marked increase in the proportion of respondents who said they took part in informal activities such as walking and gardening to improve their wellbeing and mental health between 2018 (83.4%) and 2019 (91.5%). While this figure dropped to 78.5% during the 2020 lockdown, it had returned to 2018 levels by September-October 2020 (83.1%).
- 4.5.19 In 2018, a quarter (26.6%) of respondents said they contributed to the community by volunteering or as part of a community group to improve their mental health. This figure increased to a third (34.5%) in 2019 but decreased to 21.1% during the lockdown. By September-October 2020, it had risen to 2018 levels again with 25.7% of respondents.

## **Volunteering**

4.5.20 *In 2019, respondents were asked about getting involved in maintaining their local parks and open spaces. Almost a third of respondents (31.0%) would be interested in volunteering as a litter picker, while a quarter (25.7%) would be happy to “Adopt an Area” and keep a specific area free of litter.*

## **Barriers to Use**

4.5.21 *Throughout 2018, 2019 and 2020, respondents were asked about how safe they felt in their community. Most respondents reported feeling safe outside during the day in 2018 (88.5%) and 2019 (89.1%). However, after dark this figure dropped to about half of respondents in both years. Similar to the 2018 and 2019 surveys, respondents were also asked about community safety in 2020 but respondents were also asked about safety prior to and during lockdown, as well as at the time of the survey. Prior to lockdown, 91.7% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed they felt safe in their local area during daylight. During lockdown, this figure decreased to 79.3% but had increased to 84.6% by September 2020. After dark, only about half of respondents said they felt safe, similar to 2018 and 2019. These results indicate that community safety is also seen as the top Council priority by respondents.*

4.5.22 *During the 2019 consultation, respondents also indicated that affordability was an issue with accessing leisure and cultural services.*

4.5.23 *In the 2021 community consultation, respondents were asked what prevented them from using or visiting a park or other type of park or open space in Redditch Borough. With over two-fifths (45.0%) of respondents, many reported not having anything preventing them. Almost a fifth of respondents (19.8%) were prevented by anti-social behaviour, this was followed by lack of time (17.6%) and lack of facilities (16.8%). Under ‘Other’ (7.6%) respondents added a lack of toilets and poor footpaths or footpaths used by cyclists as well. Others added too many other users or not enough car parking spaces.*

4.5.24 *When asked if they would like to add any other comments, respondents suggested some additions to open spaces, including wider pathways, more information, additional parking, dog bins, additional toilets and undercover play equipment. Some also referenced the maintenance of parks, adding there was poor landscaping and litter, as well as little*

enforcement regarding litter, aggressive dogs and their mess. Several also said they tended to visit during daylight when it felt safer. Other issues include lack of facilities for disabled users, poor public transport and too few children's play areas.

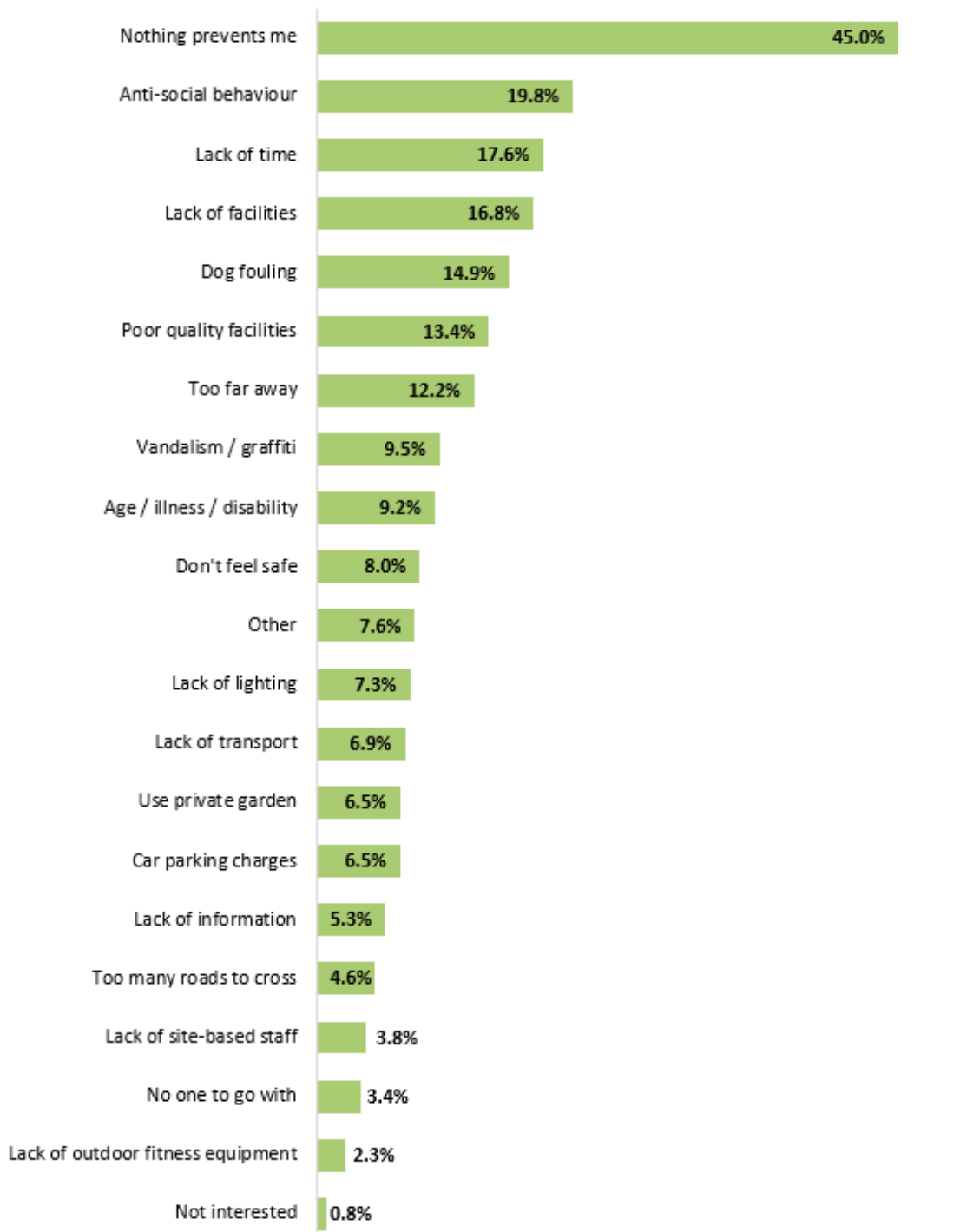


Chart 8 Barriers to using Open Space (Borough Level)



## 5 Developing Local Standards

### 5.1 Scope

- 5.1.1 *This Open Space Study has reviewed and updated the dataset (held in a GIS system) relating to Open Space, which was used during the preparation of the Borough of Redditch Local Plan No.4 (Adopted 30 January 2017), to provide up to date and robust evidence to establish the current supply of Open Space to inform current and future plan-making.*
- 5.1.2 *This Open Space Study has reviewed and updated the dataset (held in a GIS system) relating to Open Space to provide up to date and robust evidence to establish the current supply of Open Space.*
- 5.1.3 *This section of the report considers the current supply and consultation data relating to the potential demand for open space and proposes updated local standards for the quantity and accessibility of open space within the Borough which will be included in the revised Local Plan.*
- 5.1.4 *The proposed local standards cover seven open space typologies as set out in the table below.*

<b>Level 1 Typology</b>	<b>Redditch Local Standard</b>
<i>Parks and Gardens</i>	Yes
<i>Natural and Semi-natural Green Space</i>	Yes
<i>Amenity Green Space</i>	Yes
<i>Outdoor Sports Facilities</i>	Yes
<i>Playing Pitches</i>	No
<i>Provision for Children and Young People</i>	Yes
<i>Allotments and Community Gardens</i>	Yes
<i>Cemeteries and Churchyards</i>	No
<i>Civic Space</i>	No

Table 23 Scope of Local Standards

- 5.1.5 *Local Standards are proposed for the quantity of open space based on ward level analysis.*
- 5.1.6 *Local Standards are proposed for the accessibility of open space based on catchment mapping linked to the hierarchy of open spaces.*
- 5.1.7 *There is currently no large-scale data on the quality of open spaces in the Borough which would support the development of quality standards. Quality of open space is an important determinant of its use and further work is required to create a dataset that will allow analysis and understanding of the quality of open spaces across the Borough. This will need to be carried out on a case by case basis as needed.*
- 5.1.8 *Some initial quality assessment has been carried out for four key sites in Redditch in order to develop Management and Maintenance Plans and Masterplans. These sites are Arrow Valley Country Park, Morton Stanley Park, Batchley Pool & Brockhill Park and Overdale Park. A site by site quality analysis will be undertaken for any other open spaces that might be affected as a result of applications submitted for planning permission.*

## **5.2 Approach**

- 5.2.1 *In deriving Local Standards for Open Space, analysis has been carried out on local, neighbourhood and district level spaces. Sub-regional spaces that potentially attract visitors from across the Borough and from further afield have been discounted and not used in the quantity calculations or accessibility mapping. The justification for this is that these spaces have a disproportionate effect at a ward level and the focus for the standard is to consider provision at a more local level with access to facilities on foot or by non-vehicular modes of travel supporting active travel.*

## **5.3 Proposed Local Standards**

### **Parks and Gardens**

- 5.3.1 *Table 24 shows the supply of Parks and Gardens (below sub-regional level) across Redditch Borough. There are a total of 22 sites (polygons) totalling 99.07 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 1.16 hectares per 1,000 population.*
- 5.3.2 *Overall, there is a reasonable supply of Parks and Gardens across Redditch Borough with only Abbey ward having no provision. However, only four of the twelve wards have a*

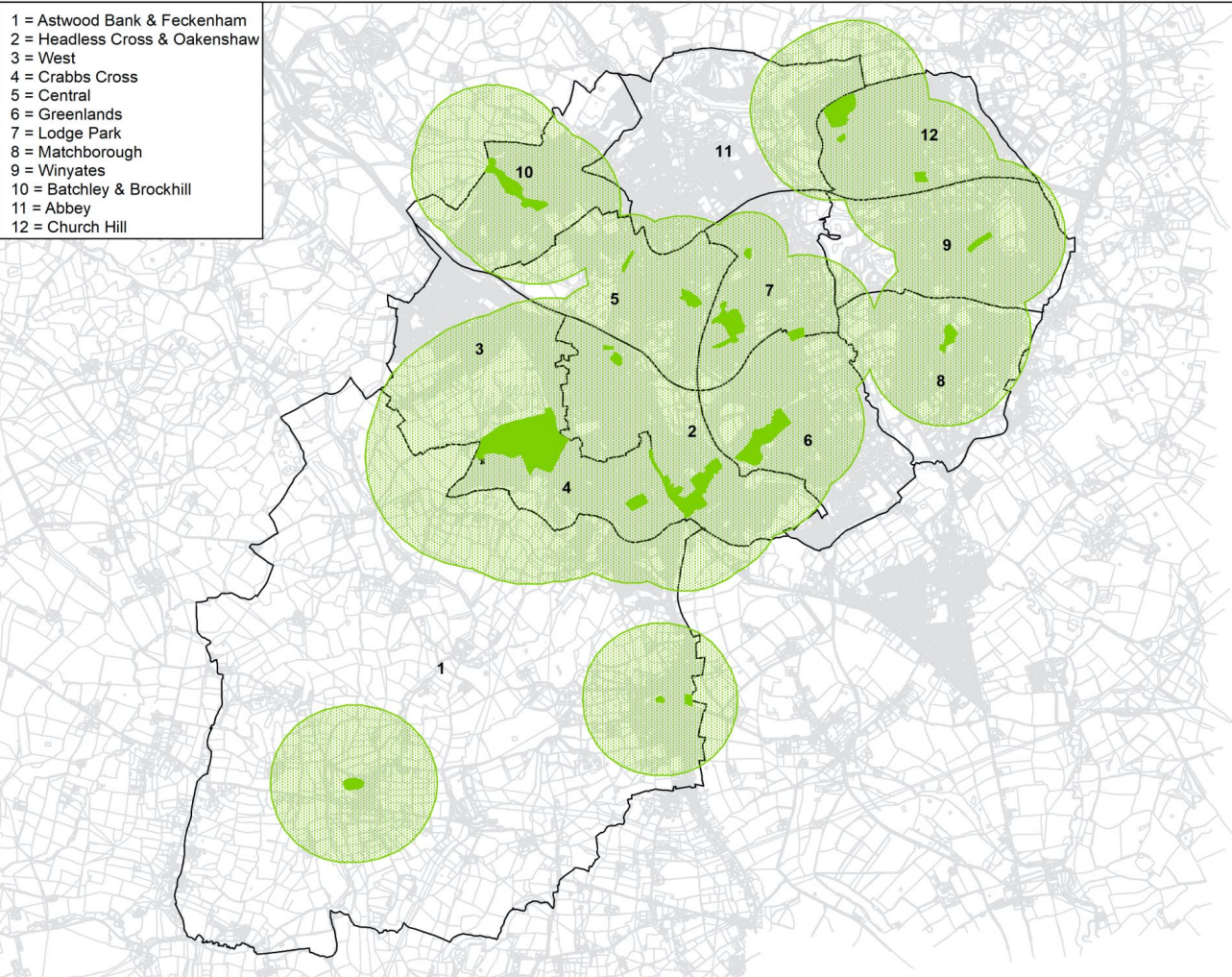
current level of supply above the average (based on hectares per 1,000 population). These wards are: Greenlands, Headless Cross & Oakenshaw, Lodge Park and West.

5.3.3 Figure 8 shows the accessibility of Parks and Gardens across the Borough based on catchment areas derived from the hierarchy level of each space, with local spaces buffered at 400m, neighbourhood spaces at 800, and District level spaces at 1200m from the site boundary. The accessibility map shown at Figure 8 also shows the contribution of provision of Parks and Gardens from neighbouring districts where this contributes to the accessibility of open space provision for Redditch residents. These sites have been classified using the same approach for Redditch Borough with the size of catchments driven by the hierarchy classification.

Ward	Population (2019 MYE)	No. of sites (polygons)	(Area Ha)	Area (Ha/1,000 Population)
Abbey	6,620	-	-	0.00
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	3	2.89	0.48
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783	2	7.10	0.81
Central	6,844	2	2.76	0.40
Church Hill	8,062	3	8.67	1.08
Crabbs Cross	5,647	2	2.25	0.40
Greenlands	9,329	1	11.42	1.22
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295	3	14.60	1.76
Lodge Park	5,591	3	8.71	1.56
Matchborough	6,054	1	2.36	0.39
West	5,823	1	36.90	6.34
Winyates	8,184	1	1.41	0.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>99.07</b>	<b>1.16</b>

Table 24 Parks and Open Space Supply by Ward

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

**Figure 8**  
Proximity to Parks and Gardens (Buffered @ 400m / 800m / 1200m)

**Legend**

- Unrestricted Parks and Gardens
- Buffer

**Boundaries**

- Borough & ward boundaries

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<b>Parks and Gardens</b>	
<b>QUANTITY</b>	
<i>National Standards</i>	<p><i>The Fields in Trust Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play include a measure for Informal Open Space. The recommendation is that there should be:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>0.80 hectares per 1,000 population of Parks and Gardens (within 710 m).</i></li> </ul>
<i>Current Local Standards</i>	<p><i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 4.42 hectares per 1,000 population. The earlier Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.27 hectares per 1,000 population. There appears to be difference in methodology relating to the mapping of sub-regional spaces that may account for this significant variance. However, data from these two studies has not been available to allow a direct comparison.</i></p>
<i>Current Provision</i>	<p><i>This Open Space Study has reviewed and updated the open space mapping and GIS dataset drawing upon the national Ordnance Survey Open Green Space dataset which has resulted in additional data capture. It has also sought to apply a consistent approach to both Redditch and Bromsgrove local authority areas which has resulted in some changes in the classification of open spaces (by typology, hierarchy and accessibility).</i></p> <p><i>There are currently 22 Parks and Gardens sites (polygons) totalling 99.07 hectares. This equates to 1.16 hectares per 1,000 population.</i></p>
<i>Consultation Results</i>	<p><i>The Redditch Community Survey data (2018 and 2019) indicates that at a Borough wide level 67.5% of respondents considered the current level of provision of Parks and Open Spaces to be "about right". 32.5% of respondents considered there to be 'too little' provision. NB the survey asked about Parks and Open Space generally rather than about "Parks and Gardens" which are more narrowly defined for the purposes of this Study.</i></p> <p><i>Provision of Parks and Gardens in the four wards (Greenlands, Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw, Lodge Park and West) with above average provision typically consider the current level to be 'about right'. The level of provision in Church Hill ward at 1.08 hectares per 1,000 population is marginally below the Borough average at 1.16 hectares per 1,000 population. Two thirds (66.7%) of respondents to the Community Survey in this ward considered the level of</i></p>

		<i>provision to be "about right" and this is marginally below the average Borough level.</i>												
<i>Proposed Standard</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>1.16 hectares per 1,000 population</i>												
<i>Justification</i>		<p><i>Consultation data would tend to suggest the current level of provision is adequate with no indication that there is significant over supply. Whilst access to formal Parks and Gardens in some wards is limited it is unlikely that the supply can be increased significantly through the creation of new open space. Setting the proposed standard at the current level will allow the Council to focus on retaining existing provision and improving quality. Consideration should also be given to investing in other open space typologies (where there is a deficiency) that could be upgraded to function as Parks and Gardens.</i></p> <p><i>NB There is limited large scale data about the quality of Parks and Gardens since quality assessment data was last gathered on a large scale in 2007. Through other workstreams as part of the Leisure and Culture Strategy we have found a small sample of key Parks and Gardens generally to be clean and well maintained.</i></p>												
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>		<i>There is no provision of Parks and Gardens in Abbey Ward. The following wards have levels of provision that are below the proposed quantity standard: Abbey, Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham, Batchley &amp; Brockhill, Central, Church Hill, Crabbs Cross, Matchborough, Winyates.</i>												
<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>														
<i>Proposed Standard</i>	<i>Accessibility</i>	<p><i>The proposed accessibility standard is based upon a standard model applied across all open space types. This model sets out the following accessibility standards based upon the hierarchy classification. Approximate walking times are shown for reference.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Hierarchy Level</b></th> <th><b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b></th> <th><b>Approximate Walking Time</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Local</i></td> <td><i>400</i></td> <td><i>Up to 10 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Neighbourhood</i></td> <td><i>800</i></td> <td><i>10-15 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>District</i></td> <td><i>1200</i></td> <td><i>15-20 minutes</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>	<i>Local</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>	<i>Neighbourhood</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>10-15 minutes</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>1200</i>	<i>15-20 minutes</i>
<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>												
<i>Local</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>												
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>10-15 minutes</i>												
<i>District</i>	<i>1200</i>	<i>15-20 minutes</i>												

<i>Justification</i>	<i>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</i>
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<i>Generally, there is good access to Parks and Gardens across most of Redditch Borough. There are potential deficiencies in access in most of Abbey ward, the north-west of West ward, the south-east of Greenlands ward and parts of Lodge Park, Matchborough and Winyates wards.</i>

*Table 25 Proposed Local Standards for Parks and Gardens*



## **Outdoor Sports Facilities**

- 5.3.4 *Based on national good practice, Outdoor Sports Facilities include open spaces for pitch sports (including football, rugby union, hockey, lacrosse and cricket) and non-pitch sports such as athletics, tennis and bowling greens. Run-off areas and the wider open space have typically been included in the calculations. Golf courses and golf driving ranges where these are privately owned have been excluded for Local Standards relating to Outdoor Sports Provision since they have 'limited' accessibility (see 5.3.5 below).*
- 5.3.5 *The definition of Outdoor Sports Facilities is broad and includes provision that is publicly, community and privately owned including education sites with community use agreements in place. This data has been cross referenced with draft data gathered as part of the development of the Playing Pitch Strategy which is due to be published in Summer 2022.*
- 5.3.6 *The proposed quantity and accessibility standards provide an overview of the overall provision of a range of Outdoor Sports Facilities across the Brough. The Playing Pitch Strategy will provide more a more detailed assessment for the supply and demand for specific sports provision.*
- 5.3.7 *Table 26 shows the supply of Outdoor Sports Facilities across Redditch Borough. There are a total of 13 sites (polygons) totalling 50.88 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population.*
- 5.3.8 *Figure 9 shows the accessibility of Outdoor Sports Facilities across the Borough based on catchment areas derived from the hierarchy level of each space, with local spaces buffered at 400m, neighbourhood spaces at 800m, and District level spaces at 1200m from the site boundary. The accessibility map shown at Figure 9 also shows the contribution of Outdoor Sports Facilities from neighbouring districts where this contributes to the accessibility of open space provision for Redditch residents. Sites have been classified using the same approach for Redditch Borough with the size of catchments driven by the hierarchy classification.*

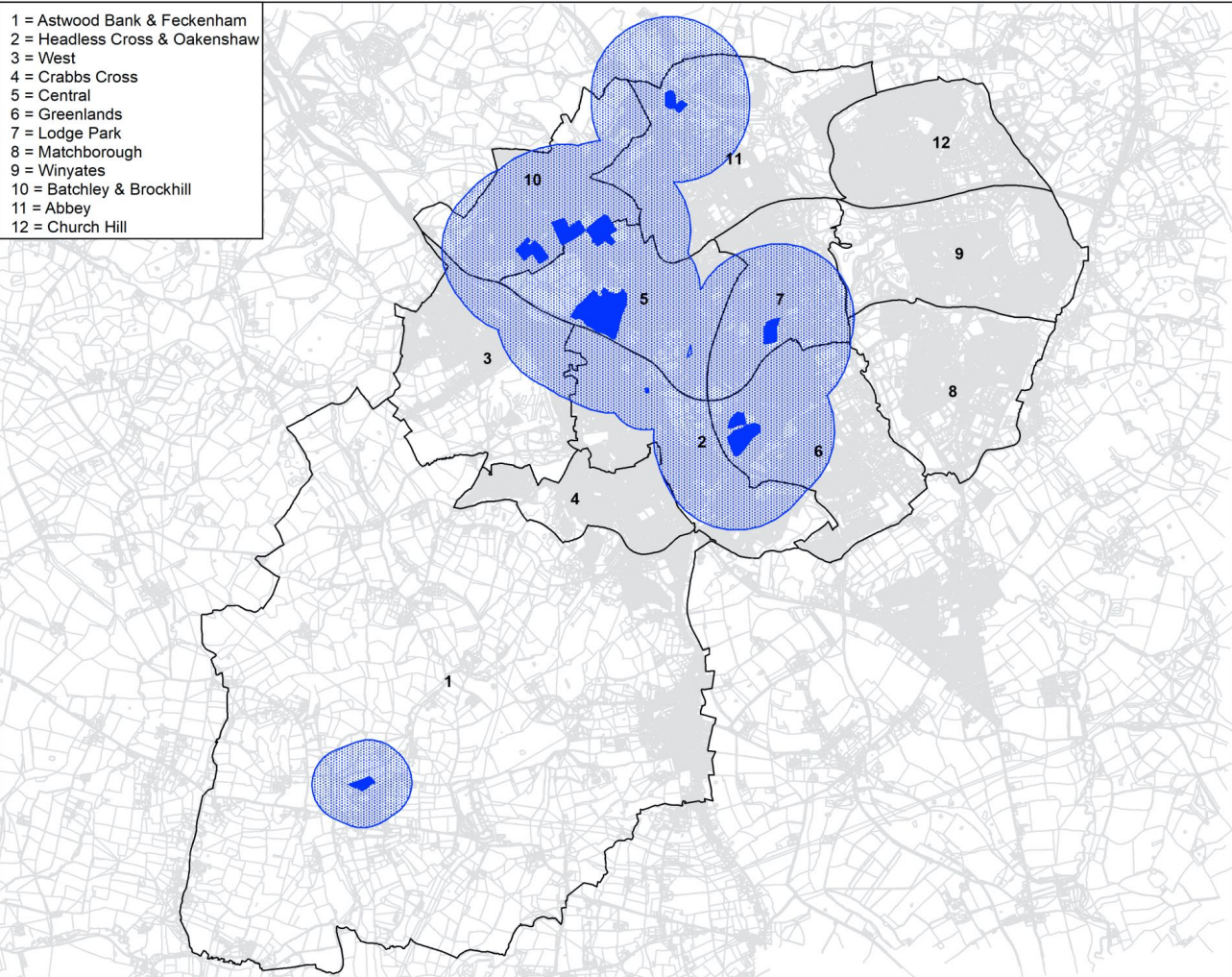


### 5.3.9

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Population (2019 MYE)</b>	<b>No. of sites (polygons)</b>	<b>(Area Ha)</b>	<b>Area (Ha/1,000 Population)</b>
<i>Abbey</i>	6,620	2	2.56	0.39
<i>Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham</i>	6,029	1	1.92	0.32
<i>Batchley &amp; Brockhill</i>	8,783	3	9.83	1.12
<i>Central</i>	6,844	3	25.05	3.66
<i>Church Hill</i>	8,062			0.00
<i>Crabbs Cross</i>	5,647			0.00
<i>Greenlands</i>	9,329	2	8.33	0.89
<i>Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw</i>	8,295	1	0.15	0.02
<i>Lodge Park</i>	5,591	1	3.05	0.55
<i>Matchborough</i>	6,054			0.00
<i>West</i>	5,823			0.00
<i>Winyates</i>	8,184			0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>50.88</b>	<b>0.60</b>

Table 26 Outdoor Sports Facilities Supply by Ward

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 9  
Proximity to Outdoor Sports Facilities  
(Buffered @ 400m / 800m)

- Legend**
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
  - Buffer
  - Boundaries**
  - Borough & ward boundaries

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Bromsgrove District Council



REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Outdoor Sports Facilities

### QUANTITY

<p><i>National Standards</i></p>	<p><i>Fields in Trust (2015) – Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard : Quantity Guideline of 1.62 ha per 1,000 population for Outdoor Sports (including 1.20 ha per 1,000 population for Playing Pitches)</i></p>
<p><i>Current Local Standards</i></p>	<p><i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 2.06 hectares per 1,000 population (and a further 0.69 hectares per 1,000 population for Schools and School Grounds). The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard of 1.67 hectares per 1000 population.</i></p>
<p><i>Current Provision</i></p>	<p><i>This Open Space Study has reviewed and updated the open space mapping and GIS dataset drawing upon the national Ordnance Survey Open Green Space dataset which has resulted in additional data capture. It has also sought to apply a consistent approach to both Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas which has resulted in some changes in the classification of open spaces (by typology, hierarchy and accessibility). However, the current level of provision is broadly consistent with that recorded in 2007.</i></p> <p><i>There are 13 Outdoor Sports Facilities (polygons) totalling 50.88 hectares. This equates to 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population. Only three wards: Batchley &amp; Brockhill, Central and Greenlands have provision above this average level of provision.</i></p>
<p><i>Consultation Results</i></p>	<p><i>The Redditch Community Survey data (2018 and 2019) indicates that at a Borough wide level 54.6% of respondents considered the existing level of provision is “about right”. However, 44.4% of respondents considered there to be “too little” provision. In Batchley &amp; Brockhill Ward, Lodge Park and West Wards most respondents considered the provision to be “too little”.</i></p>
<p><i>Proposed Standard</i></p>	<p><i>Quantity</i> <i>0.60 hectares per 1,000 population</i></p>
<p><i>Justification</i></p>	<p><i>In Central and Greenlands wards there is above average provision and most respondents in these wards consider the level of provision to be “about right”. Batchley and Brockhill has the second highest level of provision yet 75% of respondents to the Community Survey consider there to be “too little” provision.</i></p>

	<p>The current level of average provision and the proposed quantity standard is significantly below the national FIT standard. There may be limited opportunities to create significant areas of new Outdoor Sports Facilities in many wards with a deficiency, or in the short term increase public access. Therefore, a proposed quantity standard that reflects the current level of provision is recommended. This will allow the Council to focus on retaining existing provision and improving quality.</p>												
<p>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</p>	<p>There is no provision of Outdoor Sports Facilities in Church Hill, Crabbs Cross, Matchborough, West and Winyates Wards. Provision in Abbey, Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham, Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw and Lodge Park is below the proposed quantity standard.</p>												
<p><b>ACCESSIBILITY</b></p>													
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District	1200	15-20 minutes											
<p>Justification</p>	<p>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</p>												
<p>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</p>	<p>There are significant deficiencies in access to Outdoor Sports Facilities across north-east and south-west Redditch. The wards with the least access include Matchborough, Winyates, Church Hill and Crabbs Cross.</p>												

Table 27 Proposed Local Standards for Outdoor Sports Facilities

**Natural and Semi-natural Green Space**

5.3.10 *Natural and Semi-natural Green Space includes a broad range of open spaces managed for wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness. The classification includes is based on the primary purpose of the open space. Other open space types may have nature conservation and biodiversity value but may not be included in this classification if their primary purpose is different. Natural and Semi-natural Green Space includes sites that have formal designations (such as Local Nature Reserves or Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation) as well as those with no formal designation.*

5.3.11 *There are a small number of large, predominantly woodland sites that make a significant contribution to the landscape character of the Borough. However, the distribution of these Natural and Semi-natural Green Spaces across Redditch Borough is rather uneven and this results in some wards having a large quantity of Natural and Semi-natural Green Space whilst others have relatively little. These creates some issues when deriving a local quantity standard that can be applied across all wards within the Borough. In order to take this variance into account we have removed eight sites (polygons) from the calculations when deriving a local quantity standard.*

5.3.12 *The eight Natural and Semi-natural Green Spaces, all over ten hectares in size that have been discounted from the ward calculations are set out in the table below:*

URN	Site Name	Area	Ward
13	Pitcheroak Wood	38.33	Central Ward
116	Feckenham Wylde Moor	23.76	Astwood Bank and Feckenham Ward
56	Wirehill Wood	18.75	Headless Cross and Oakenshaw Ward
106	Ipsley Alders Nature (WWT) Reserve (SSSI)	16.02	Winyates Ward
67	Not named	13.17	Headless Cross and Oakenshaw Ward
22	Southcrest Wood	12.11	Central Ward
7	Foxlydiate Wood	11.26	Batchley & Brockhill Ward
28	Not named	10.60	Church Hill Ward

Table 8 Natural and Semi-natural Green Space excluded from the Local Standards Calculations

Ward	Population (2019 MYE)	No. of sites (polygons)	(Area Ha)	Area (Ha/1,000 Population)
Abbey	6,620	5	6.65	1.00
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	6	19.38	3.22
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783	7	12.15	1.38
Central	6,844	9	7.25	1.06
Church Hill	8,062	13	9.00	1.12
Crabbs Cross	5,647	8	15.25	2.70
Greenlands	9,329	11	8.26	0.89
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295	10	9.06	1.09
Lodge Park	5,591	3	6.48	1.16
Matchborough	6,054	17	37.35	6.17
West	5,823	6	18.59	3.19
Winyates	8,184	17	18.49	2.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>167.90</b>	<b>1.97</b>

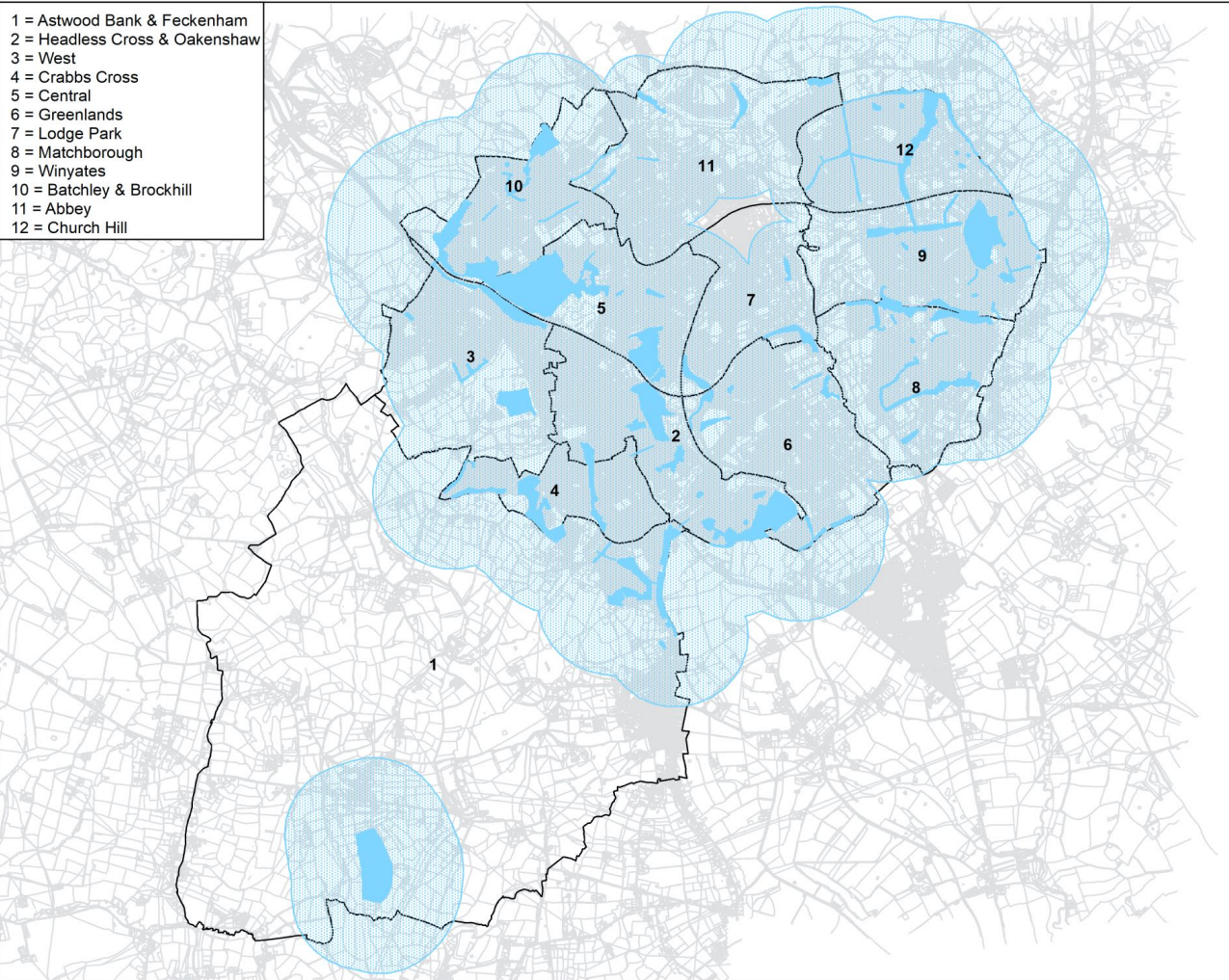
Table 29 Natural and Semi-natural Green Space (adjusted) Supply by Ward

5.3.13 The Natural and Semi-natural Green Space adjusted dataset (Table 24) shows there are a total of 112 sites (polygons) totalling 167.90 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 1.97 hectares per 1,000 population.

5.3.14 Figure 10 shows the accessibility of Natural and Semi-natural Green Spaces across the Borough based on catchment areas derived from the hierarchy level of each space, with local spaces buffered at 400m, neighbourhood spaces at 800m, and District level spaces at 1200m from the site boundary. The accessibility map shown at Figure 10 also shows the contribution of Natural and Semi-natural Green Spaces from neighbouring districts where this contributes to the accessibility of open space provision for Redditch residents. Sites have been classified using the same approach for Redditch Borough with the size of catchments driven by the hierarchy classification.



- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 10  
Proximity to Natural & Semi-natural Green Space (Buffered @ 400m / 800m / 1200m)

**Legend**

- Unrestricted Natural & Semi-natural Green Space
- Buffer

**Boundaries**

- Borough & ward boundaries

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GA	AS	12/01/22

## Natural and Semi-natural Green Space

### QUANTITY

<p><i>National Standards</i></p>	<p><i>The new Natural England Accessible Natural Green Space Standards published in 2021 recommend that everyone should have an accessible natural greenspace:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>of at least 0.5 hectares within 200 metres;</i></li> <li>• <i>of at least 2 hectares in size within 300 metres (straight line) or 500 metres (actual travel distance);</i></li> <li>• <i>at least one accessible 10 hectare site within one kilometre;</i></li> <li>• <i>at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres;</i></li> <li>• <i>one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres; and</i></li> <li>• <i>one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres; plus</i></li> <li>• <i>a minimum of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The Fields in Trust Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play include a measure for Informal Open Space. The recommendation is that there should be:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>1.80 hectares per 1,000 population of Natural and Semi-natural Green Space (within 720 m) along with</i></li> <li>• <i>0.60 hectares per 1,000 population of Amenity Green Space (within 480 m); and</i></li> <li>• <i>0.80 hectares per 1,000 population of Parks and Gardens (within 710 m).</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>Current Local Standards</i></p>	<p><i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 3.34 hectares per 1,000 population. The earlier Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.44 hectares per 1000 population. There appears to be difference in methodology relating to the mapping of sub-regional spaces that may account for this significant variance. However, data from these two studies has not been available to allow a direct comparison.</i></p>
<p><i>Current Provision</i></p>	<p><i>This Open Space Study has reviewed and updated the open space mapping and GIS dataset drawing upon the national Ordnance Survey Open Green Space dataset which has resulted in additional data capture. It has also sought to apply a consistent</i></p>



	<p><i>approach to both Redditch and Bromsgrove local authority areas which has resulted in some changes in the classification of open spaces (by typology, hierarchy and accessibility). As a consequence, there is some variance between the current data and that recorded in 2005 and 2009.</i></p> <p><i>Adjusting the data to remove a small number of large sites (polygons) that have a disproportionate effect, there are 112 Natural and Semi-natural Green Spaces totalling 167.90 hectares. This equates to 1.97 hectares per 1,000 population.</i></p>
<i>Consultation Results</i>	<i>There is no current consultation data for the Borough about the demand for Natural and Semi-Natural Green Space.</i>
<i>Proposed Quantity Standard</i>	<i>1.97 hectares per 1,000 population</i>
<i>Justification</i>	<p><i>Natural and Semi-natural Green Space is available in just five of the twelve wards despite the high level of provision. This reflects the local character and landscape associated with the development of the New Town.</i></p> <p><i>There is significant variation at a Ward level, although there is a good distribution of Natural and Semi-natural Green Space across the Borough. The accessibility mapping discussed below shows that most parts of Redditch Borough (with the exception of the more rural parts of Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham ward) have reasonable access to Natural and Semi-natural Green Space. Therefore, the recommendation is to propose a local standard at the existing level of provision to allow a focus on sustaining the current level of provision and improving quality.</i></p>
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<i>There is some level of provision of Natural and Semi-natural Green Space in every ward across the borough. However, the following wards have levels of provision below the proposed Local Standard: Abbey, Batchley &amp; Brockhill, Central, Church Hill, Greenlands, Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw and Lodge Park.</i>

<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>													
<i>Proposed Accessibility Standard</i>	<p>The proposed accessibility standard is based upon a standard model applied across all open space types. This model sets out the following accessibility standards based upon the hierarchy classification. Approximate walking times are shown for reference.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Hierarchy Level</b></th> <th><b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b></th> <th><b>Approximate Walking Time</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Local</i></td> <td>400</td> <td><i>Up to 10 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Neighbourhood</i></td> <td>800</td> <td><i>10-15 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>District</i></td> <td>1200</td> <td><i>15-20 minutes</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>	<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>	<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>	<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>
<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>											
<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>											
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>											
<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>											
<i>Justification</i>	<p>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) and Bromsgrove Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2007). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</p> <p>The accessibility against the Natural England Accessible Natural Green Space Standards can be viewed here: <a href="https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/GreenInfrastructure/Map.aspx">https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/GreenInfrastructure/Map.aspx</a></p>												
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<p>Small parts of Lodge Park and Abbey wards have limited accessibility to Natural and Semi-natural Green Space. This is also the case in the more rural parts of Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham ward).</p>												

Table 30 Proposed Local Standards for Natural and Semi-natural Green Space

## Amenity Green Space

5.3.15 *Amenity Green Space is typically informal open space that offers opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other area.*

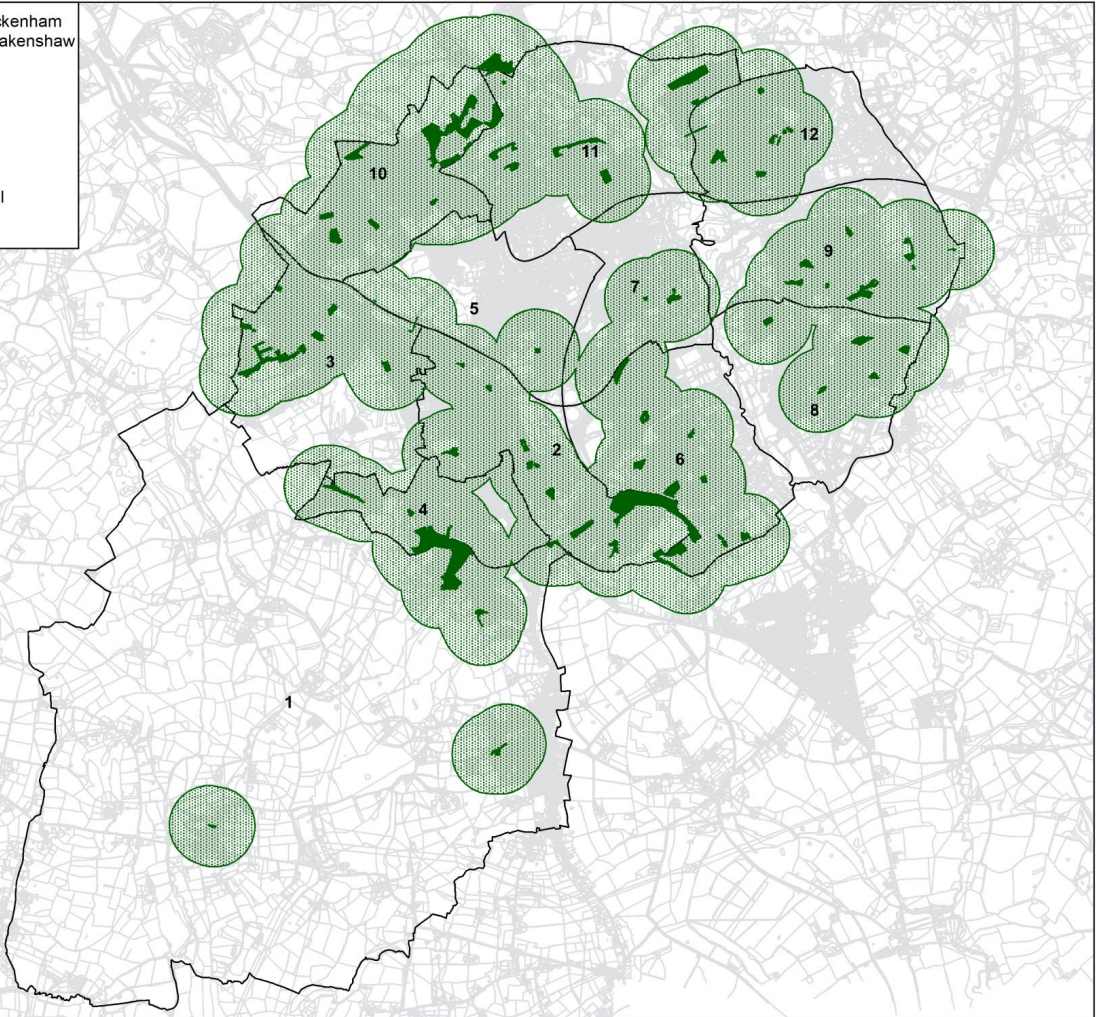
5.3.16 *Table 30 shows the supply of Amenity Green Space across Redditch Borough. There are a total of 98 sites (polygons) totalling 81.81 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 0.96 hectares per 1,000 population.*

5.3.17 *Figure 11 shows the accessibility of Amenity Green Space across the Borough based on catchment areas derived from the hierarchy level of each space, with local spaces buffered at 400m, neighbourhood spaces at 800m, and District level spaces at 1200m from the site boundary. The accessibility map shown at Figure 11 also shows the contribution of Amenity Green Space from neighbouring districts where this contributes to the accessibility of open space provision for Redditch residents. Sites have been classified using the same approach for Redditch Borough with the size of catchments driven by the hierarchy classification.*

Ward	Population (2019 MYE)	No. of sites (polygons)	(Area Ha)	Area (Ha/1,000 Population)
Abbey	6,620	10	11.54	1.74
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	5	10.02	1.66
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783	13	15.58	1.77
Central	6,844	3	0.20	0.03
Church Hill	8,062	7	2.22	0.28
Crabbs Cross	5,647	4	5.56	0.98
Greenlands	9,329	11	7.16	0.77
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295	14	16.03	1.93
Lodge Park	5,591	2	0.75	0.13
Matchborough	6,054	6	2.41	0.40
West	5,823	14	6.06	1.04
Winyates	8,184	9	4.28	0.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>81.81</b>	<b>0.96</b>

Table 31 Amenity Green Space Supply by Ward

- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 11  
Proximity to Amenity  
Green Space (Buffered  
@ 400m / 800m /  
1200m)

**Legend**

- Unrestricted Amenity Green Space
- Buffer

**Boundaries**

- Borough & ward boundaries

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## Amenity Green Space

### QUANTITY

<i>National Standards</i>	<i>The Fields in Trust Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play include a measure for Informal Open Space. The recommendation is that there should be 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population of Amenity Green Space (within 480 m).</i>
<i>Current Local Standards</i>	<i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.84 hectares per 1,000 population. The earlier Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.42 hectares per 1000 population.</i>
<i>Current Provision</i>	<p><i>This Open Space Study has reviewed and updated the open space mapping and GIS dataset drawing upon the national Ordnance Survey Open Green Space dataset which has resulted in additional data capture. It has also sought to apply a consistent approach to both Bromsgrove and Redditch local authority areas which has resulted in some changes in the classification of open spaces (by typology, hierarchy and accessibility). As a consequence, there is some variance between the current data and that recorded in 2007.</i></p> <p><i>There are 98 Amenity Green Space sites totalling 81.81 hectares. This equates to 0.96 hectares per 1,000 population.</i></p>
<i>Consultation Results</i>	<i>There is no consultation data specifically relating to Amenity Green Space.</i>
<i>Proposed Quantity Standard</i>	<i>0.96 hectares per 1,000 population</i>
<i>Justification</i>	<i>There is some variation in the level of provision of Amenity Green Space across the Borough, however, the highest level of provision is 1.93 hectares per 1,000 population in Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw ward. There are six wards where there is provision less than the proposed quantity standard. Therefore, the overall 'fit' of the proposed standard is relatively good.</i>
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<i>The following wards have levels of provision below the proposed quantity standard: Central, Church Hill, Greenlands, Lodge Park, Matchborough and Winyates.</i>

<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>													
<i>Proposed Accessibility Standard</i>	<p>The proposed accessibility standard is based upon a standard model applied across all open space types. This model sets out the following accessibility standards based upon the hierarchy classification. Approximate walking times are shown for reference.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Hierarchy Level</b></th> <th><b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b></th> <th><b>Approximate Walking Time</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Local</i></td> <td>400</td> <td><i>Up to 10 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Neighbourhood</i></td> <td>800</td> <td><i>10-15 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>District</i></td> <td>1200</td> <td><i>15-20 minutes</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>	<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>	<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>	<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>
<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>											
<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>											
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>											
<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>											
<i>Justification</i>	<p>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) and Bromsgrove Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2007). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</p>												
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<p>Much of urban Redditch has reasonable access to some provision of Amenity Green Space. However, there are deficiencies in the following wards: Central, Greenlands, Lodge Park, Matchborough, Abbey, Church Hill and West.</p>												

Table 32 Proposed Local Standards for Amenity Green Space



## **Provision for Children**

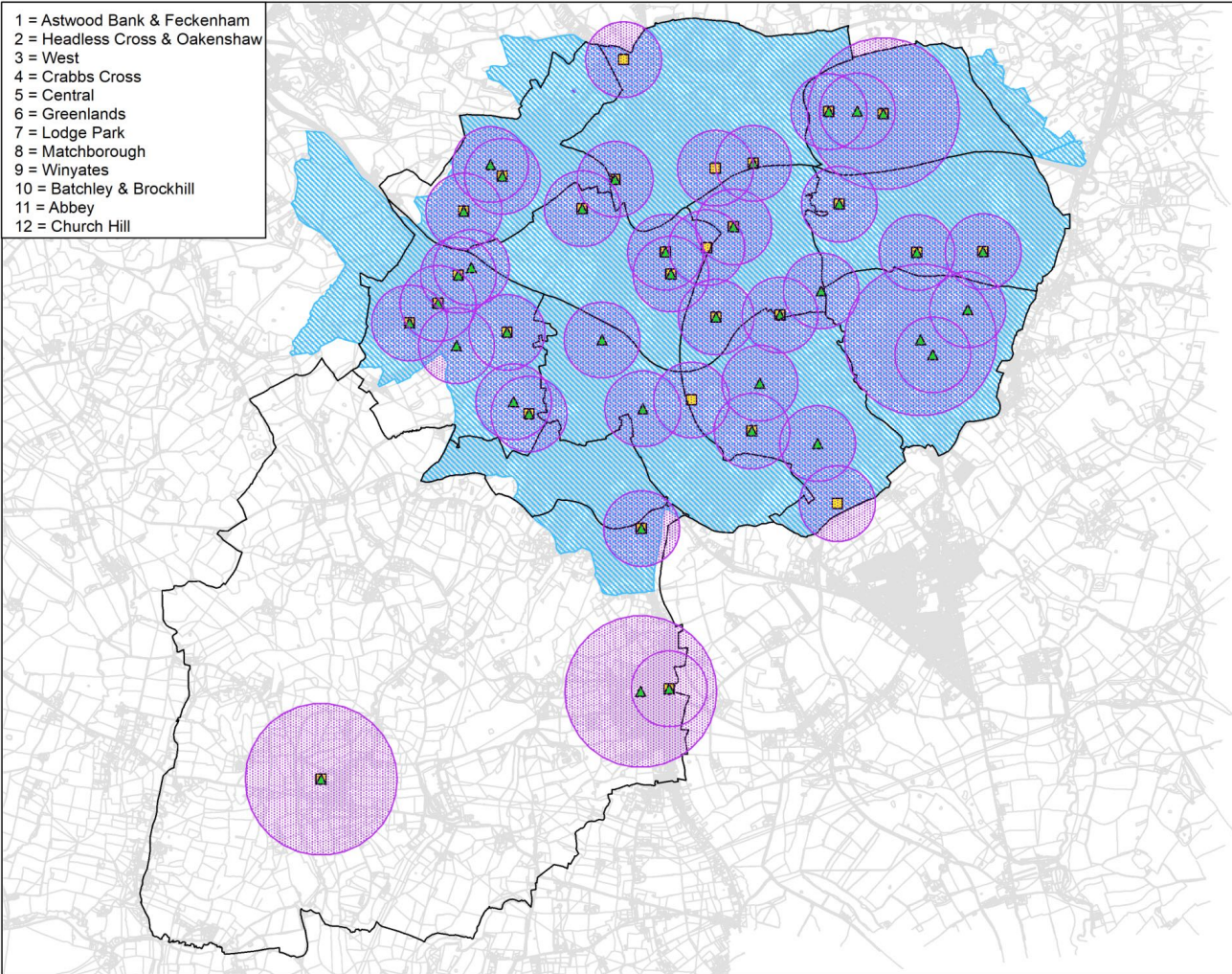
- 5.3.18 *Provision for Children includes areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children (aged up to 14 years) such as inform areas for play, natural play and equipped play areas. A separate standard for Teenage Provision is discussed in the next section.*
- 5.3.19 *Sites (polygons) have been plotted based on Primary Purpose as Provision for Children and Young People. These have then been further classified according to the type of provision at a more detailed secondary level. This records toddler and junior play forming Provision for Children. Teenage and Outdoor Fitness provision has been classified as Provision for Teenagers and Young People. Due to the way the data was originally captured some polygons include both Provision for Children and Provision for Teenagers and Young People. Where a single polygon includes both categories of provision, the measured area (Ha) has been split across the two categories to avoid double counting.*
- 5.3.20 *Table 32 shows the supply of Provision for Children across Redditch Borough. There are a total of 43 sites (polygons) totalling 3.168 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 0.037 hectares per 1,000 population.*
- 5.3.21 *Figure 12 shows the accessibility of Provision for Children and Young People across the Borough based on catchment areas derived from the hierarchy level of each space, with local spaces buffered at 400m, neighbourhood spaces at 800m, and District level spaces at 1200m from the site boundary. The accessibility map shown at Figure 12 also shows the contribution of Provision for Children and Young People from neighbouring districts where this contributes to the accessibility of open space provision for Redditch residents (the data for other local authority areas does not allow the provision to be separated Children's Provision and that for Teenagers). Sites have been classified using the same approach for Redditch Borough with the size of catchments driven by the hierarchy classification.*

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Population (2019 MYE)</b>	<b>No. of sites (polygons)</b>	<b>(Area Ha)</b>	<b>Area (Ha/1,000 Population)</b>
<i>Abbey</i>	6,620	4	0.461	0.070
<i>Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham</i>	6,029	4	0.203	0.034
<i>Batchley &amp; Brockhill</i>	8,783	3	0.114	0.013
<i>Central</i>	6,844	4	0.193	0.028
<i>Church Hill</i>	8,062	3	0.130	0.016
<i>Crabbs Cross</i>	5,647	-	-	0.000
<i>Greenlands</i>	9,329	5	0.189	0.020
<i>Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw</i>	8,295	2	0.173	0.021
<i>Lodge Park</i>	5,591	4	0.279	0.050
<i>Matchborough</i>	6,054	3	0.060	0.010
<i>West</i>	5,823	8	0.269	0.046
<i>Winyates</i>	8,184	3	1.097	0.134
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3.168</b>	<b>0.037</b>

Table 33 Provision for Children and Young People by Ward



- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 12a  
Proximity to Provision for Children (Buffered @ 400m / 800m)

**Legend**

- Unrestricted Provision for Children
- Buffer
- Toddler Sites
- Junior Sites
- Tier 1 Settlements

**Boundaries**

- District & ward boundaries

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<b>Provision for Children</b>	
<b>QUANTITY</b>	
<i>National Standards</i>	<p><i>The Fields in Trust (FIT) Guidance for Provision for Children includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>0.25 hectares per 1,000 population for Equipped / Designated play areas (this includes Local Areas for Play (LAP) which can include informal areas for recreation)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The FIT Standards also include recommended minimum sizes for provision (minimum activity zones):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Local Area for Play (LAP) 0.01 ha (10x10 metres)</i></li> <li><i>Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) 0.04 ha (20 x 20 metres)</i></li> <li><i>Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) 0.1 ha (31.6 x 31.6 metres)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The guidance suggests that "The quantity guidelines can be applied across all urban and rural settings".</i></p>
<i>Current Local Standards</i>	<i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.09 hectares per 1,000 population for Play Areas. The earlier Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard for Provision for Children of 0.27 hectares per 1,000 population.</i>
<i>Current Provision</i>	<i>There are 43 play spaces sites (polygons) totalling 3.168 hectares. This equates to 0.037 hectares per 1,000 population. There is provision in all wards with the exception of Crabbs Cross.</i>
<i>Consultation Results</i>	<i>The Redditch Community Survey data (2018 and 2019) indicates that at a Borough wide level 52.5% of respondents considered the current level of provision for children and young people to be "too little".</i>
<i>Proposed Standard</i>	<i>Quantity</i> <i>0.037 hectares per 1,000 population</i>
<i>Justification</i>	<i>Consultation evidence seems to suggest that the overall level of provision for children and young people is inadequate. However, there is considerable variation in provision across the Borough Where the level of provision is near, or slightly exceeds the Borough average, respondents tend to suggest the current level of provision is "about right". By recommending a quantity</i>

	<p>standard based on the current average level of provision Redditch Borough Council can focus on addressing any significant deficiencies and also seek to improve quality on play other spaces which is also an important factor that will affect levels of use and user satisfaction.</p>												
<p><i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i></p>	<p>There is no Provision for Children and Young People in Crabbs Cross Ward. The following eight wards have provision below the proposed quantity standard: Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham, Batchley &amp; Brockhill, Central, Church Hill, Greenlands and Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw and Matchborough</p>												
<p><b>ACCESSIBILITY</b></p>													
<p><i>Proposed Accessibility Standard</i></p>	<p>The proposed accessibility standard is based upon a standard model applied across all open space types. This model sets out the following accessibility standards based upon the hierarchy classification. Approximate walking times are shown for reference.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Hierarchy Level</th> <th>Accessibility Standard (m)</th> <th>Approximate Walking Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Local</td> <td>400</td> <td>Up to 10 minutes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neighbourhood</td> <td>800</td> <td>10-15 minutes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>District</td> <td>1200</td> <td>15-20 minutes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Hierarchy Level	Accessibility Standard (m)	Approximate Walking Time	Local	400	Up to 10 minutes	Neighbourhood	800	10-15 minutes	District	1200	15-20 minutes
Hierarchy Level	Accessibility Standard (m)	Approximate Walking Time											
Local	400	Up to 10 minutes											
Neighbourhood	800	10-15 minutes											
District	1200	15-20 minutes											
<p><i>Justification</i></p>	<p>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) and Bromsgrove Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2007). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</p>												
<p><i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i></p>	<p>Many urban areas have access to some form of Provision for Children, particularly across urban Redditch. Some residential areas lack good access to existing provision in particular the following wards: Abbey, Central and Crabbs Cross.</p>												

Table 34 Proposed Local Standards for Provision for Children and Young People

## Provision for Teenagers and Young People

5.3.22 *Provision for Teenagers and Young People includes areas designed primarily for more active play and social interaction such as ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters. Outdoor gym provision has also been included in this category.*

5.3.23 *Table 34 shows the supply of Provision for Children and Young People across Redditch Borough. There are a total of 18 sites (polygons) totalling 2.164 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 0.025 hectares per 1,000 population.*

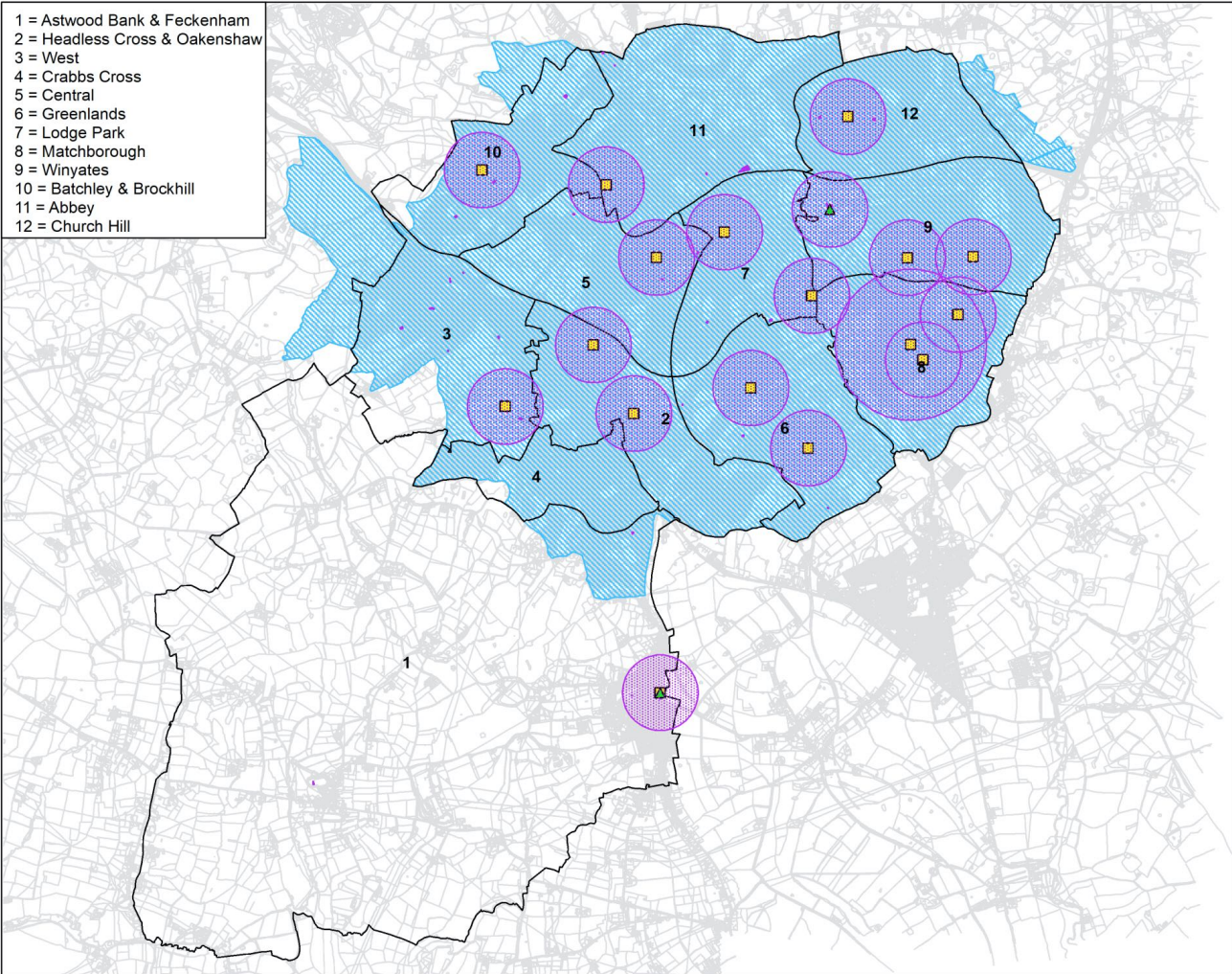
5.3.24 *Figure 12b shows the accessibility of Provision for Children and Young People across the Borough based on catchment areas derived from the hierarchy level of each space, with local spaces buffered at 400m, neighbourhood spaces at 800m, and District level spaces at 1200m from the site boundary. The accessibility map shown at Figure 12b also shows the contribution of Provision for Children and Young People from neighbouring districts where this contributes to the accessibility of open space provision for Redditch residents (the data for other local authority areas does not allow the provision to be separated Children's Provision and that for Teenagers). Sites have been classified using the same approach for Redditch Borough with the size of catchments driven by the hierarchy classification.*

Ward	Population (2019 MYE)	No. of sites (polygons)	(Area Ha)	Area (Ha/1,000 Population)
Abbey	6,620	1	0.090	0.014
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	1	0.130	0.022
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783	1	0.027	0.003
Central	6,844	1	0.128	0.019
Church Hill	8,062	1	0.050	0.006
Crabbs Cross	5,647	-	-	0.000
Greenlands	9,329	2	0.132	0.014
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295	2	0.173	0.021
Lodge Park	5,591	2	0.202	0.036
Matchborough	6,054	3	0.060	0.010
West	5,823	1	0.074	0.013
Winyates	8,184	3	1.097	0.134
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2.164</b>	<b>0.025</b>

Table 35 Provision for Teenagers and Young People by Ward



- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

**Figure 12b**  
Proximity to Provision for Teenagers & Adults (Buffered @ 400m / 800m)

**Legend**

- Unrestricted Provision for Teenagers & Adults
- Buffer
- Teenager Sites
- Adult Sites
- Tier 1 Settlements

**Boundaries**

- District & ward boundaries

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REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

people places places

## Provision for Young People and Teenagers

### QUANTITY

<p><i>National Standards</i></p>	<p><i>The Fields in Trust (FIT) Guidance for Provision Young People includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>0.30 hectares per 1,000 population for other outdoor provision (including MUGAs and skateparks)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The FIT Standards also include recommended minimum sizes for provision (minimum activity zones):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Multi-use Games Area (MUGA) 0.1 ha (40 x 20 metres)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The guidance suggests that “The quantity guidelines can be applied across all urban and rural settings”.</i></p>
<p><i>Current Local Standards</i></p>	<p><i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.09 hectares per 1,000 population for Play Areas. The earlier Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard for Provision for Young People of 0.30 hectares per 1,000 population.</i></p>
<p><i>Current Provision</i></p>	<p><i>There are 18 play spaces sites (polygons) totalling 2.164 hectares. This equates to 0.025 hectares per 1,000 population. There is provision in all wards with the exception of Crabbs Cross.</i></p>
<p><i>Consultation Results</i></p>	<p><i>The Redditch Community Survey data (2018 and 2019) indicates that at a Borough wide level 52.5% of respondents considered the current level of provision for children and young people to be “too little”.</i></p>
<p><i>Proposed Standard</i></p>	<p><i>Quantity</i></p> <p><i>0.025 hectares per 1,000 population</i></p>
<p><i>Justification</i></p>	<p><i>Consultation evidence seems to suggest that the overall level of provision for children and young people is inadequate. However, there is considerable variation in provision across the Borough Where the level of provision is near, or slightly exceeds the Borough average, respondents tend to suggest the current level of provision is “about right”. By recommending a quantity standard based on the current average level of provision Redditch Borough Council can focus on addressing any significant deficiencies and also seek to</i></p>

	<i>improve quality on play other spaces which is also an important factor that will affect levels of use and user satisfaction.</i>												
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<i>There is no Provision for Teenagers and Young People in Crabbs Cross ward. The following ten wards have provision below the proposed quantity standard: Abbey, Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham, Batchley &amp; Brockhill, Central, Church Hill, Greenlands and Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw, Matchborough and West.</i>												
<b>ACCESSIBILITY</b>													
<i>Proposed Accessibility Standard</i>	<p><i>The proposed accessibility standard is based upon a standard model applied across all open space types. This model sets out the following accessibility standards based upon the hierarchy classification. Approximate walking times are shown for reference.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Hierarchy Level</b></th> <th><b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b></th> <th><b>Approximate Walking Time</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Local</i></td> <td><i>400</i></td> <td><i>Up to 10 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Neighbourhood</i></td> <td><i>800</i></td> <td><i>10-15 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>District</i></td> <td><i>1200</i></td> <td><i>15-20 minutes</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>	<i>Local</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>	<i>Neighbourhood</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>10-15 minutes</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>1200</i>	<i>15-20 minutes</i>
<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>											
<i>Local</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>											
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>10-15 minutes</i>											
<i>District</i>	<i>1200</i>	<i>15-20 minutes</i>											
<i>Justification</i>	<i>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) and Bromsgrove Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2007). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</i>												
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<i>Many areas of urban Redditch have some access to Provision for Teenagers and Young People although the extent of coverage is not as wide as that for Provision for Children. There are gaps in provision in most wards and Abbey, Central, Crabbs Cross and West Wards have significant gaps.</i>												

Table 36 Proposed Local Standards for Provision for Teenagers and Young People

## Allotments and Community Gardens

5.3.25 Allotments and Community Gardens provide opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion

5.3.26 Table 34 shows the supply of Allotments & Community Gardens across Redditch Borough. There are a total of 17 sites (polygons) totalling 20.46 hectares. Based on the 2019 Mid-Year Population estimates this equates to 0.24 hectares per 1,000 population.

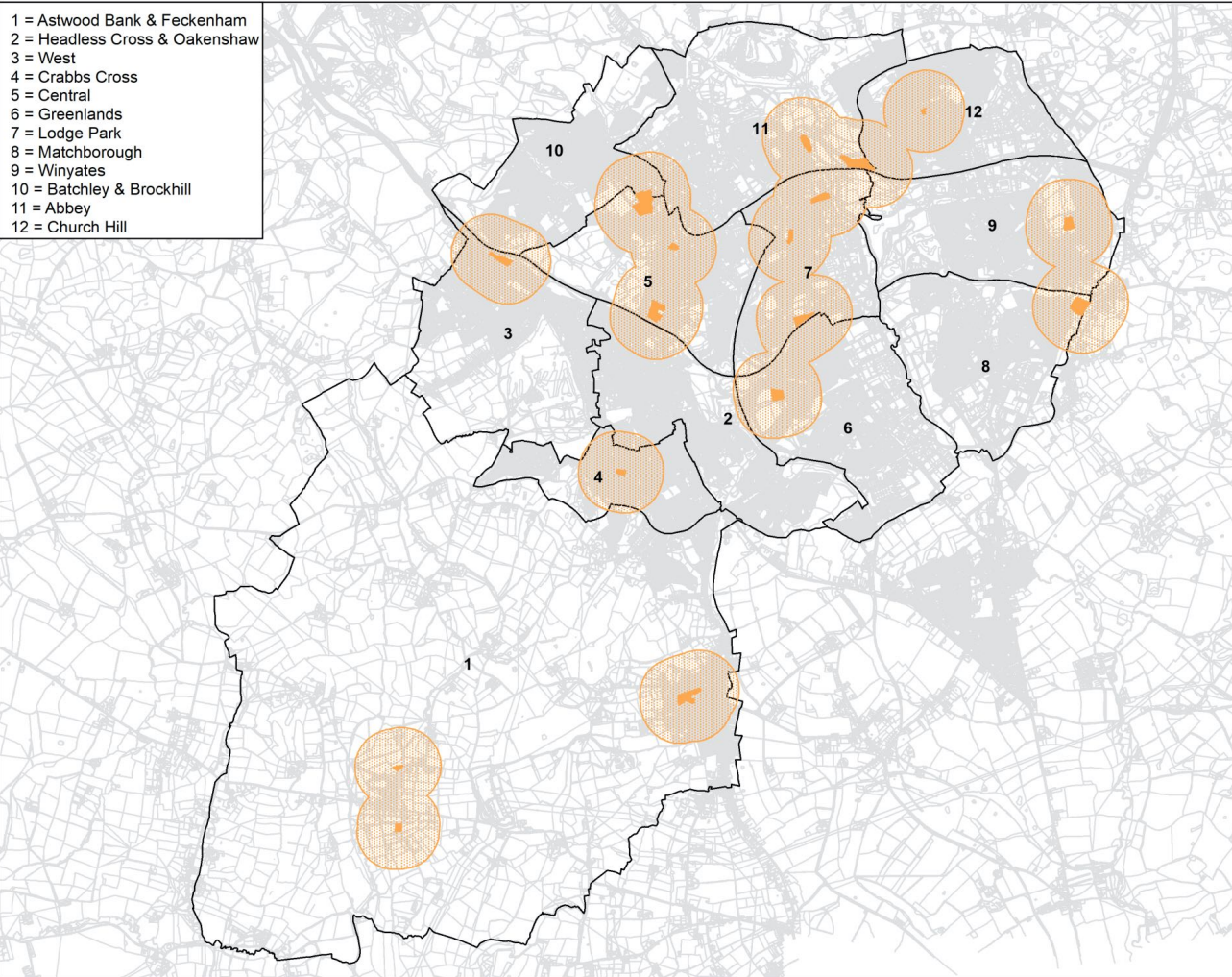
5.3.27 Figure 13 shows the accessibility of Allotments & Community Gardens across the Borough. All sites are classified as Local level and the catchment plotted is there 400m.

Ward	Population (2019 MYE)	No. of sites (polygons)	(Area Ha)	Area (Ha/1,000 Population)
Abbey	6,620	2	3.46	0.52
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	3	2.59	0.43
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783			0.00
Central	6,844	3	6.06	0.89
Church Hill	8,062	1	0.14	0.02
Crabbs Cross	5,647	1	0.39	0.07
Greenlands	9,329	1	1.15	0.12
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295			0.00
Lodge Park	5,591	3	2.37	0.42
Matchborough	6,054	1	2.24	0.37
West	5,823	1	1.05	0.18
Winyates	8,184	1	1.02	0.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20.46</b>	<b>0.24</b>

Table 37 Allotments and Community Gardens Supply by Ward



- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
- 11 = Abbey
- 12 = Church Hill



## Redditch and Bromsgrove Cultural Strategy

Figure 13  
Proximity to Allotments & Community Gardens  
(Buffered @ 400m)

**Legend**

- Allotments & Community Gardens
- Buffer

**Boundaries**

- Borough & ward boundaries

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REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL



people places places

## Allotments and Community Gardens

### QUANTITY

<i>National Standards</i>	<i>The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) recommends a quantity standard of 20 allotment plots per 1,000 households. Based on an average occupancy of 2.40 people per household and an average allotment plot size of 250 square metres this equates to 0.21 hectares per 1,000 population.</i>
<i>Current Local Standards</i>	<i>The Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.26 hectares per 1,000 population. The earlier Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2005) sets out a local quantity standard of 0.19 hectares per 1000 population. The Redditch Borough Council (2020) Allotment Research Project document references the NSALG standard of 0.21 hectares per 1,000 population.</i>
<i>Current Provision</i>	<i>There are 17 allotment sites (polygons) totalling 20.46 hectares. This equates to 0.24 hectares per 1,000 population.</i>
<i>Consultation Results</i>	<i>There is no current consultation data for the Borough about the demand for Allotments and Community Gardens. The Redditch Borough Council (2020) Allotment Research Project suggests that based on supply and population data there is a small surplus of allotment provision in the Borough. However, there does not appear to be any demand data within this study.</i>
<i>Proposed Standard</i>	<i>Quantity 0.24 hectares per 1,000 population</i>
<i>Justification</i>	<i>There appears to be some unmet demand for allotments in some wards in Redditch. The current level of provision marginally exceeds the recommended national standard and it is proposed that a local standard based on the current level of provision is adopted.</i>
<i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i>	<i>There is no allotment provision in Batchley &amp; Brockhill and Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw Wards. Seven other wards have levels of provision lower than the proposed local standard: Church Hill, Crabbs Cross, Greenlands, West and Winyates.</i>

### ACCESSIBILITY

<p><i>Proposed Accessibility Standard</i></p>	<p><i>The proposed accessibility standard is based upon a standard model applied across all open space types. This model sets out the following accessibility standards based upon the hierarchy classification. Approximate walking times are shown for reference. All allotment and community gardens are classified as local with a potential catchment of 400m.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="507 504 1380 745"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="507 504 799 600"><b>Hierarchy Level</b></th> <th data-bbox="804 504 1043 600"><b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b></th> <th data-bbox="1048 504 1380 600"><b>Approximate Walking Time</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="507 600 799 647"><i>Local</i></td> <td data-bbox="804 600 1043 647">400</td> <td data-bbox="1048 600 1380 647"><i>Up to 10 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="507 647 799 694"><i>Neighbourhood</i></td> <td data-bbox="804 647 1043 694">800</td> <td data-bbox="1048 647 1380 694"><i>10-15 minutes</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="507 694 799 745"><i>District</i></td> <td data-bbox="804 694 1043 745">1200</td> <td data-bbox="1048 694 1380 745"><i>15-20 minutes</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>	<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>	<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>	<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>
<b>Hierarchy Level</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard (m)</b>	<b>Approximate Walking Time</b>											
<i>Local</i>	400	<i>Up to 10 minutes</i>											
<i>Neighbourhood</i>	800	<i>10-15 minutes</i>											
<i>District</i>	1200	<i>15-20 minutes</i>											
<p><i>Justification</i></p>	<p><i>The Accessibility Standards have been adapted from the Redditch Open Space Needs Assessment (2009) and Bromsgrove Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2007). Consultation data about travel time and method, where available, has been reviewed in developing this model.</i></p>												
<p><i>Distribution of Provision / Key deficiencies</i></p>	<p><i>There are some significant areas of deficiency across Redditch in terms of reasonable access to allotments and community gardens. The wards with the lowest levels of access include: Abbey, Batchley &amp; Brockhill, Church Hill, Crabbs Cross, Greenlands, Headless Cross &amp; Oakenshaw, Matchborough, West and Winyates.</i></p>												

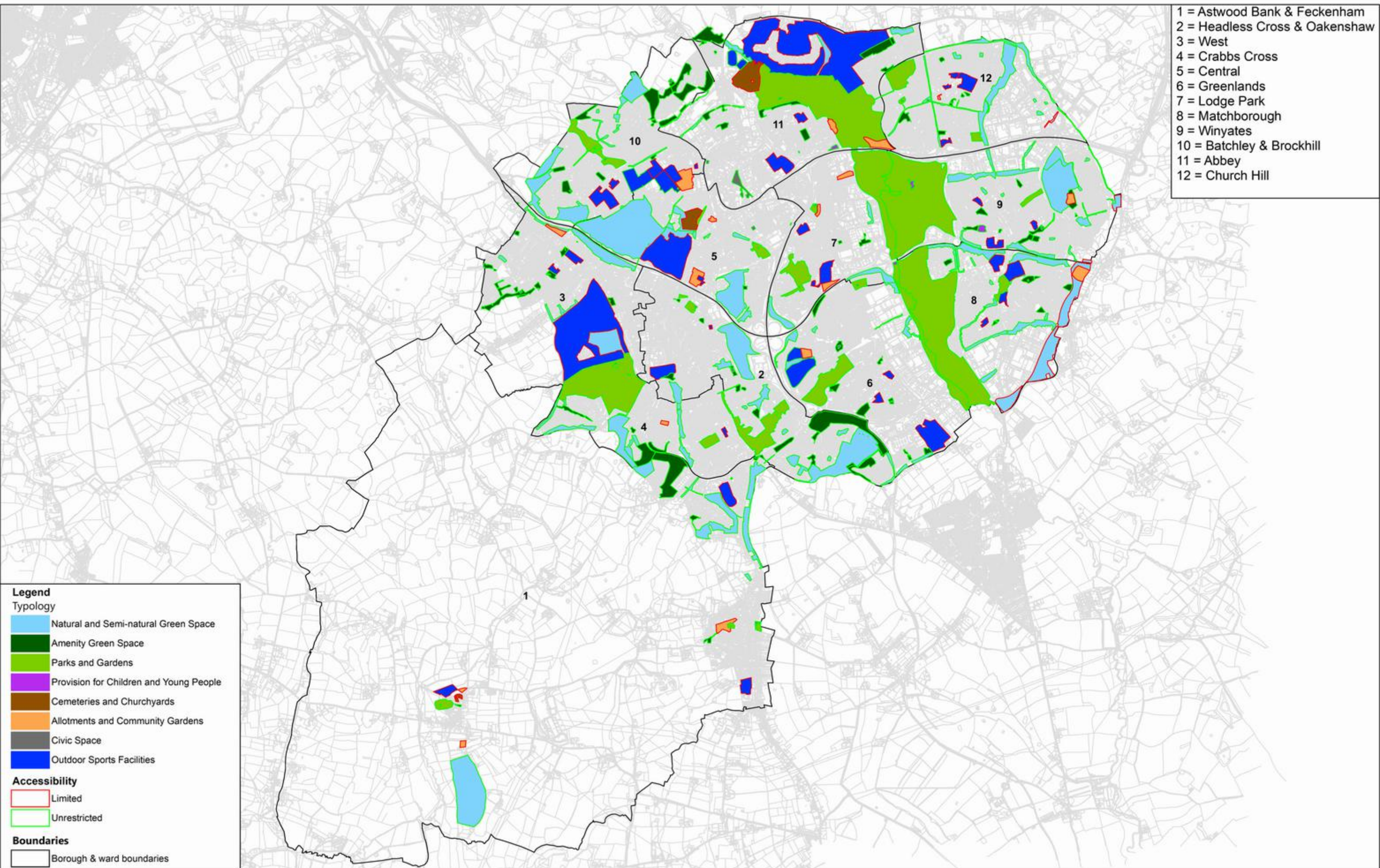
*Table 38 Proposed Local Standards for Allotments and Community Gardens*

## **Appendices**

## **Appendix A Larger Scale Framework Map**



- 1 = Astwood Bank & Feckenham
- 2 = Headless Cross & Oakenshaw
- 3 = West
- 4 = Crabbs Cross
- 5 = Central
- 6 = Greenlands
- 7 = Lodge Park
- 8 = Matchborough
- 9 = Winyates
- 10 = Batchley & Brockhill
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**Legend**

**Typology**

- Natural and Semi-natural Green Space
- Amenity Green Space
- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People
- Cemeteries and Churchyards
- Allotments and Community Gardens
- Civic Space
- Outdoor Sports Facilities

**Accessibility**

- Limited
- Unrestricted

**Boundaries**

- Borough & ward boundaries



## Appendix B Open Space Provision by Ward and Typology – Local Standards Data

(The data presented here is that of a summary of data found in section 5 of the report)

Ward	Allotments and Community Gardens		Amenity Green Space		Natural and Semi Natural Green Space		Outdoor Sports Facilities		Parks and Gardens		Provision for Children		Provision for Teenagers / Young People		Total	
	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)	No	Area (Ha)
	Abbey	2	3.46	10	11.54	5	6.65	2	2.56			4	0.461	1	0.090	24
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	3	2.59	5	10.02	6	19.38	1	1.92	3	2.89	4	0.203	1	0.130	23	37.13
Batchley & Brockhill			13	15.58	7	12.15	3	9.83	2	7.10	3	0.114	1	0.027	29	44.80
Central	3	6.06	3	0.20	9	7.25	3	25.05	2	2.76	4	0.193	1	0.128	25	41.64
Church Hill	1	0.14	7	2.22	13	9.00			3	8.67	3	0.130	1	0.050	28	20.21
Crabbs Cross	1	0.39	4	5.56	8	15.25			2	2.25	-	-	-	-	15	23.44
Greenlands	1	1.15	11	7.16	11	8.26	2	8.33	1	11.42	5	0.189	2	0.132	33	36.64
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw			14	16.03	10	9.06	1	0.15	3	14.60	2	0.173	2	0.173	32	40.19
Lodge Park	3	2.37	2	0.75	3	6.48	1	3.05	3	8.71	4	0.279	2	0.202	18	21.84
Matchborough	1	2.24	6	2.41	17	37.35			1	2.36	3	0.060	3	0.060	31	44.53
West	1	1.05	14	6.06	6	18.59			1	36.90	8	0.269	1	0.074	31	62.94
Winyates	1	1.02	9	4.28	17	18.49			1	1.41	3	1.097	3	1.097	34	27.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20.46</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>81.81</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>167.90</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>50.88</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>99.07</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3.168</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2.164</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>425.46</b>



## Appendix C Open Space Data Tables (by Typology & Ward) – Local Standards Data

(The data presented here is that of a summary of data found in section 5 of the report)

Ward	Population (2019 MYE)	Allotments and Community Gardens	Amenity Green Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children	Provision for Teenagers / Young People	Total
Abbey	6,620	0.523	1.743	1.004	0.386	0.000	0.070	0.014	3.739
Astwood Bank & Feckenham	6,029	0.429	1.661	3.215	0.318	0.480	0.034	0.022	6.158
Batchley & Brockhill	8,783	0.000	1.774	1.383	1.119	0.809	0.013	0.003	5.101
Central	6,844	0.885	0.030	1.060	3.661	0.403	0.028	0.019	6.085
Church Hill	8,062	0.017	0.276	1.116	0.000	1.076	0.016	0.006	2.507
Crabbs Cross	5,647	0.069	0.984	2.701	0.000	0.398	0.000	0.000	4.151
Greenlands	9,329	0.123	0.768	0.885	0.893	1.224	0.020	0.014	3.927
Headless Cross & Oakenshaw	8,295	0.000	1.933	1.092	0.018	1.760	0.021	0.021	4.845
Lodge Park	5,591	0.425	0.134	1.159	0.545	1.557	0.050	0.036	3.906
Matchborough	6,054	0.369	0.398	6.169	0.000	0.390	0.010	0.010	7.356
West	5,823	0.181	1.040	3.192	0.000	6.337	0.046	0.013	10.810
Winyates	8,184	0.124	0.522	2.259	0.000	0.173	0.134	0.134	3.346
<b>Total / Borough Standard per 1000 population</b>	<b>85,261</b>	<b>0.240</b>	<b>0.960</b>	<b>1.969</b>	<b>0.597</b>	<b>1.162</b>	<b>0.037</b>	<b>0.025</b>	<b>4.990</b>

Figures show above for Open Space typologies are hectares per 1,000 population. Green highlighting indicates provision is equal to or above the minimum quantity standard. Red is below the proposed standard.