



Report of the Director of City Development

Development Plan Panel

Date: 12 July 2010

Subject: Leeds' Needs and Opportunities Assessment for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Electoral Wards Affected:

All



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

The city council has been collecting sport, recreation and open space data to allow preparation of a Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) Assessment of Needs and Opportunities. This material is required as part of the evidence base for the LDF and related green space and recreation activity.

Within the context of this guidance, the Assessment of Needs and Opportunities is comprised of two key components. These are: i) a green space and recreation audit & quality assessment and, ii) a needs assessment (comprising a public consultation exercise, involving stakeholder workshops and interviews). This has been a major undertaking and both elements are now complete.

This information, provides a basis to develop appropriate policy approaches and a framework to consider operational and delivery issues. Consequently, the material will help inform decisions in relevant service areas and external agencies.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 Further to previous reports and presentations to the Development Plan Panel, the purpose of this report is to brief members on the outcomes of the key findings of the PPG17 Assessment of Needs and Opportunities. The headline findings are set out in this report for information and discussion.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 PPG17 'Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation' was revised and re-issued in 2002. The revision contained a clear instruction to local planning authorities to provide for better protection, improved access and use of open space, sport and recreation facilities. It focused on the need for improved, more locally determined standards, justified by public consultation.
- 2.2 The information currently available on the emerging Localism Bill and National Planning Statement, do not offer any indication of the future consideration or direction in planning for open space, sport and recreation facilities, both in terms of development plan preparation and development management. However, there are emerging details in the Natural Environment White Paper, that communities will be given new powers to designate protected green areas as part of local neighbourhood plans.
- 2.3 The study has been led by Forward Planning and Implementation, with the support of other services within City Development, including Parks and Countryside.
- 2.4 The initial headline audit findings were reported to Development Plan Panel in July 2010 and this report reflects the outcomes of both the audit and needs assessment.
- 2.5 An electronic version of the complete draft study has been placed on the council internet. This is a large technical study, comprising many plans and tables. For ease of reference, hard copy versions will be made available at the meeting. Chapter 13 of the study contains a comprehensive summary of the key issues, findings and recommendations and is appended to this report.

3.0 Main issues

- 3.1 The study includes information for the following types of sport, recreation and open space:
- Parks and Gardens
 - Amenity Space
 - Children and Young People's Equipped Play Provision
 - Outdoor Sports
 - Private Estates Open to the Public
 - Allotments
 - Natural Green Space
 - Indoor Sports Facilities
 - Cemeteries, Churchyards and Green Corridors
 - City Centre Open Space
- 3.2 Leeds is fortunate to have a good overall supply of green space and recreation facilities which compare favourably to other cities and local authorities. The key issue to address is the uneven distribution of quality green space. In areas with an

apparent abundance of certain types of open space, the survey results indicate a perceived dissatisfaction with the amount available. Indicating that the issues are complex and interrelated.

3.3 Based upon the study's findings, the following green space standards have been developed. These will need to be considered further as part of the LDF Core Strategy.

Provision Type	Quantity Standard	Accessibility Standard	Quality Standard
Parks & Gardens	1 ha per 1,000 population – equivalent to current level of provision	15 minute walk time (720m)	7 out of 10
Amenity Green Space	0.45 ha per 1,000 population – above the existing level of provision	10 minute walk time (480m)	7 out of 10
Provision for Children & Young People	Two equipped play facilities per 1,000 children/young people (0 to 16 years)– above the existing level of provision	15 minute walk time (720m)	7 out of 10
Outdoor Sports Facilities	1.85 ha per 1000 population – equivalent to current level of provision	20 minute walk time to outdoor tennis, 10 minute drive time to bowling greens and grass playing pitches 20 minute drive to athletics tracks, golf courses and synthetic pitches	7 out of 10
Allotments	0.24 ha per 1000 population – above the existing level of provision	20 minute walk time (960m)	7 out of 10
Natural and Semi-natural Open Space	2 ha per 1,000 population – below the existing level of provision	15 minute walk time (720m)	7 out of 10
Council Indoor Leisure: Sports Halls	15m ² /1,000 population above the existing level of provision	15 minutes public transport journey time	7 out of 10
Swimming Pools	7.8 m ² /1,000 population below the existing level of provision	15 minutes public transport journey time	
Indoor Tennis Courts	0.08 courts/1,000 population, equivalent to the existing level of provision	20 minutes public transport journey time	
Fitness Gym	1.1 gym stations/1,000 population, above the existing level of provision	15 minutes public transport journey time	
Leeds City Centre Open Space	0.41 per 1,000 population, above the existing level of provision	10 minute walk for amenity 15 minute walk for Parks & Gardens	7 out of 10

- 3.4 Whilst some of these standards may appear aspirational in the context of the current economic climate, it needs to be remembered that local planning policy that develop from these standards, once adopted, will apply for the longer term of the relevant development plan document. For example, it is envisaged that the Core Strategy will have a plan period up to 2028. It would be reasonable to assume that the country will experience improved economic conditions during this period up to 2028. The current UDP green space policies have applied since 1998.
- 3.5 The following table compares the PPG17 study proposed standards with the current adopted standards in the Leeds UDP (2006).

Typology	PPG17 Standard Per Person (meters square)	UDP standard per person (meters square)	PPG17 increase on UDP standard (meters square)
Parks and Gardens (ie. Community Parks & Recreation Area)	10	7.69	2.31
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	20	0	20
Amenity Green Space	4.5	15.38	-10.88
Provision for Children & young people	1 equipped facility per 500 children	1 equipped facility per 37 children ¹	N/A
Outdoor Sport Facilities	18.5	7.69	10.81
Allotments	2.4	0	2.4
Total	55.4	30.76	24.64

- 3.6 The UDP does not contain a requirement detailing provision of natural green space or allotments as part of new development proposals. This will be a new planning policy requirement following implementation of the PPG17 study. The implication of the proposed standards is an additional green space requirement of 24.6 square metres per person or 2.46 hectares per 1,000 population, although not all green space is appropriate for all new development sites. The green space requirement will be assessed on the accessibility and quantity of the different types of green space, sport and recreation provision in proximity to the development and the individual circumstances of the development site under consideration which could be physically constrained by topography or site size. Policy preparation and application will also need to be sensitive to the current economic conditions and sufficiently flexible to take account of viability issues.
- 3.7 The key issues and recommendations which require action are available in the appended Chapter 13 of the study. These can be further summarised as:
- **Incorporate the local (Leeds) standards and green space hierarchy into the LDF and use these as a basis for decision making:** Policies should be sensitive to the likely population increases resulting from new developments to take account of individual dwelling types and size (number of bedrooms). Incorporate a policy detailing the importance of biodiversity and conservation at open space sites;
 - **Ensure contributions are sought towards the full range of open space, sport and recreation typologies identified in the study:** including indoor sport facilities (as discussed in chapter 10), and provision of new green space, in

¹ Policy N2.1 and SPG4 require a play area on any development larger than 60 dwellings.

addition to civic space in Leeds City Centre (as discussed in chapter 12). The policy and its application will need to be sensitive to the current economic conditions and flexible to take account of viability issues;

- **Develop a policy approach to protect allotments no longer in functional use from development in areas of allotment or other green space need;**
- **Develop a policy approach to identify new allotment sites where appropriate:** These sites may be in existing underused green space such as community parks or amenity space;
- **Develop new policies which include for contributions to public open space provision from applications for commercial development that significantly increase the demand for open space, sport and recreation facilities:** The policy and its application will need to be sensitive to the current economic conditions and flexible to take account of viability issues;
- **Devise a series of minimum size thresholds which will guide decision making relating to acceptable on and off-site provision.** This is necessary to ensure the provision of useable areas of open space that can be easily and economically maintained and ensure that the system is transparent;
- **Off-site contributions should be derived from standard open space costings:** based on recent tender returns for relevant works and projects;
- Within the overall context of a strategy to connect and integrate a network of green spaces and areas of civic space, **develop a detailed implementation strategy to address the identified deficits and surplus of some types of green space in different areas across the city:** Prepare a methodology and assessment tool to consider the potential movement between typologies of surplus space. This should consider all the possible alternative green space uses for sites prior to formal identification as surplus green space. Income generated by disposal should be used to address quality and quantity deficits in the area;
- **Develop a city centre policy approach to seek provision of new green space or contributions towards new provision and targeted quality improvements:** These improvements could target existing spaces in the city centre and those important parks surrounding the edge of the city centre such as Woodhouse Moor. The policy and its application will need to be sensitive to the current economic conditions and flexible to take account of viability issues;
- **Explore creation of a city-wide open space fund (pooled fund) to improve the quality of city parks,** which are used by all residents: Since the scaling back of S106 through the CIL regulations, this could only be achieved through implementation of CIL;
- **Establish a quality improvement programme containing outline cost estimates for the priority works:** The initial priorities should be linked to priorities identified in the audit, to bring sites up to a 'good', (7) standard;
- **Establish continuous monitoring framework to evaluate performance against the standards.**

4.0 Implications for Council policy and governance

- 4.1 PPG17 requires up-to-date needs and opportunity assessments of open space, sport and recreation to provide the robust evidence base for the development of relevant planning policies and strategies. It is, therefore, necessary to complete this work to justify the council's future approach to controlling development in respect to green space and recreation land.

4.2 The study has been completed via public consultation (including workshops with key stakeholders and interviews). In disseminating the findings of the study, it is, therefore, proposed to facilitate a feedback session with stakeholders. Such an approach is consistent with the commitment to ongoing engagement as part of the LDF process and to help inform the preparation of the publication draft of the Core Strategy on these issues.

5.0 Legal and resource implications

5.1 Once adopted, the LDF, will be the development plan for Leeds and will need to be consistent with corporate objectives and the objectives of the community strategy. Preparing evidence for the council's emerging LDF is time consuming and resource intensive.

5.2 The actions in chapter 13 are categorised into likely time scales. Some of the short term actions can be determined quickly and will have minimal, if any resource implications. Other recommendations will have more significant resource implications over a longer period.

5.3 Resource commitments raised above will need to be addressed and reviewed within the context of existing provision and the council's overall budget position and priorities.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 This report has provided information on the Leeds PPG17 study. The presentation provides an overview of the proposed standards of the different types of sport, recreation and green space across Leeds and their implications.

7.0 Recommendation

7.1 Development Plan Panel are recommended to:

- Note the completion of the Leeds PPG17 Assessment of Needs and Opportunities study;
- Note the implications of the proposed standards on new development proposals;
- Support the delivery of a feedback exercise to update stakeholders on the preparation of the study and its content. With the specific aim of gathering key partner understanding and support for the action points, identification of additional resources and implementation of the study recommendations set out in Chapter 13 of the draft document.

Chapter 13 Implementation

Introduction

- 13.1 The PPG 17 study has identified several specific issues relating to the provision, quality and accessibility of open space, sports and recreation facilities across Leeds.
- 13.2 Given the significance of green space provision to amenity, recreation, urban cooling and combating the effects of climate change, local distinctiveness, health and well being, a key priority for the council is to tackle both the qualitative and quantitative deficiencies in provision. The audit has identified accessibility issues faced by local residents when trying to use and access facilities. In addition, the study also provides a basis to consider the level of provision across the district by typology and local area.
- 13.3 This final chapter contains recommendations to assist in the preparation of planning policies to help address the findings of the audit. A number of recommended actions are then proposed relating to sports, recreation and open space provision in general.

The plan-led system

- 13.4 The overall conclusions of the study should be used to guide preparation of future planning policy and to inform development management decisions. The study will form a key component of the LDF evidence base which will provide the long term development vision for the city and comprise a series of development plan documents and supplementary planning documents, including the Core Strategy.
- 13.5 Development Plan Documents (DPDs) will include general policies relating to open space, sport and recreation facilities that are supported by the findings of this study and other relevant documents.
- 13.6 Key issues emerging from this study which need addressing in general planning policies include:
- Protection of open space from development - this should include all types of open space although some exception criteria will be necessary;
 - the LDF should facilitate the proactive planning and delivery of new open space where it is required through appropriate allocations and policies;
 - allocations of new allotment sites;
 - maximising opportunities for green space provision arising from new developments reflecting appropriate policies and standards.
- 13.7 As well as contributing to the development of general policies, this document will inform more specific documents within the LDF:
- Site Specific Policies and Allocations DPD
 - Any environmental plan deemed necessary as part of the LDF
 - Area Action Plans
 - Future Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- 13.8 The remainder of this section provides guidance on the use of this PPG17 study, particularly in regard to determining developer contributions (for consideration within DPDs) and identification of issues within the analysis areas. The same principles can also be applied to Area Action Plans and large scale regeneration proposals.

Proposed Leeds Standards Summary

13.9 Chapters 4 to 12 propose standards for different types of open space, sport and recreation facilities. These standards are summarised in Table 13.1 below:

Table 13.1 Summary of Recommended Local Standards by Typology

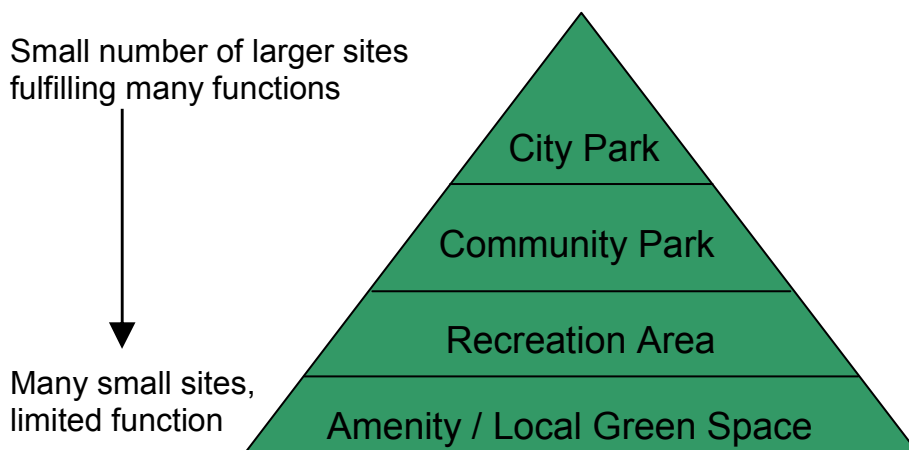
Type	Quantity Standard	Accessibility Standard	Quality Standard
Parks & Gardens	1 hectare per 1,000 population – equivalent to current level of provision	15 minute walk time (720m)	7
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Type	Quantity Standard	Accessibility Standard	Quality Standard
Leeds City Centre Open Space	0.41 per 1,000 population - above the existing level of provision	10 minute walk for amenity 15 minute walk for Parks & Gardens	7

13.10 Several of the more common typologies are found in the existing UDP policy N2 hierarchy. These are parks and gardens, amenity green space, children’s and young people’s provision and outdoor sports as titled in the typology of table 13.1. As part of the implementation of the standards, it is proposed to replace this hierarchy with one focused on the function and attraction of green space sites whilst providing a more useful definition of the space types. This revised definition takes account of higher level sites which can fulfil the roles of other spaces. There are no site size thresholds and the definitions proposed relate to the function of the space.

13.11 There are six city parks in Leeds which can fulfil many of the roles of spaces lower down the hierarchy. Amenity space cannot fulfil the role of other space types without direct intervention to widen the range of facilities available at the space. It should also be noted that not all amenity green space is capable of enhancement, possibly due to its size, location or gradient such that it may never be capable of the increased functionality required by other types of green space.

Figure 13.1 Green Space Hierarchy



13.12 Table 13.2 below provides a definition of the proposed green space hierarchy to assist with preparation of the implementation strategy.

Table 13.2 Definitions of Proposed Green Space Hierarchy

Space Type	Definition
Amenity / Local Green Space	Open spaces with minimal facilities & furniture used for informal recreation. Users will travel a relatively short distance to use these sites.
Recreation Area	Designed primarily for outdoor sporting and recreation opportunities, providing equipment and spaces for formal and informal recreation.
Community Park	Providing for the local community as a whole. They usually provide multiple facilities for active and passive recreation with areas of formal landscaping.
City Park	Providing a wide range of opportunities for the city's residents and visitors. The range of attractions, natural and formal landscapes and facilities provided will attract users from a wide catchment area willing to undertake longer visits.

Summary of Key Issues by Typology

13.13 The primary issues emerging for each type of open space can be summarised as:

Parks and Gardens

- ensure that the LDF contains policies that protect parks from development;
- if the LDF proposes a strategy of accommodating significant levels of population growth, plan for provision of large new parks and gardens (as per the proposed standards) in association with urban extensions;
- in allocating new development sites in locations which fail to meet the proposed standards, consider how the development can improve access and increase provision to parks;
- prepare a strategic programme of qualitative improvements across the city, with specific regard to the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change;
- maximise the role of parks to increase participation in health and physical activity across the city;
- facilitate access to parks through the development of public transport links to parks and the creation of pedestrian and cycle links, from areas of lower provision;
- support the council's Parks and Green Space Strategy which identifies a key priority as improving 100% of community parks to Green Flag standard by 2020.

Amenity Green Space

- East Inner and the North East Inner analysis areas have a surplus of amenity space. However, all other areas of Leeds have a shortfall with North West Inner and Outer areas show the greatest deficit of amenity green space.
- Any sites considered surplus within these areas require further assessment to investigate their appropriateness in meeting deficiencies in other green space typologies. If they cannot satisfactorily meet other green space needs then their development potential should be investigated.
- Amenity space serves a limited function but in areas deficient in other types there may be potential to diversify it for other green space purposes.

- Amenity green spaces are used by a large proportion of the population especially children, a third of whom recognise it as their favourite place to play so these spaces will need to be protected through the LDF.
- Amenity green space produced a wide range of scores from the quality assessment, with 13% of all amenity sites assessed as at least 7 out of 10, further improvements are still required at valued amenity sites particularly within areas of deficiency.

Children's and Young People's Equipped Play

- the majority of survey respondents perceived that there were not enough facilities, in particular for teenagers / young people, across Leeds. The condition of existing facilities was generally considered to be poor.
- the application of the quantity, quality and accessibility standards highlighted a need to improve facilities across Leeds to meet the recommended standards.
- the distribution of facilities also requires greater consideration, there are urban areas of Leeds which have no access to facilities.
- the following key priorities for the future delivery of children and teenage/young people facilities in Leeds are recommended:
 - Improve the number and distribution of facilities
 - Consult the community on the type and location of facilities
 - Seek to improve the quality and the variety of facilities available

Outdoor Sports

- protect all outdoor sports facilities from development unless it can be proven that the replacement of a facility will result in a higher quality facility in a nearby location and it does not result in a reduction in meeting the accessibility standard;
- seek to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities through the delivery of the community hub sites. Sites should meet National Governing Body criteria. This includes the provision of appropriate changing facilities; self contained units satisfying Sport England guidelines;
- focus on enhancing the quality of existing tennis courts and provide additional facilities in areas devoid of provision if additional consultation indicates it is a local priority;
- prioritise improvements to the quality of existing poor quality synthetic pitches over the development of new pitches;
- ensure that the pricing structure for sites offering synthetic pitch provision is accessible to all sectors of the community;
- address issues surrounding the quality of grass pitches through a detailed programme of improvement focusing on ancillary accommodation and drainage;
- facilitate the delivery of the sport proposals in suitable locations through the planning system and maximise community use of the resulting facilities;
- review the implications of population growth and changes in the participation profile on the demand for facilities;
- encourage schools to make sports facilities available for community use, especially in areas of over playing. It is acknowledged that the increase in academy and trust schools will mean individual schools, rather than the education authority, are responsible for letting facilities.

Allotments

- used by a small proportion of the population, however, the waiting list has increased by 25% between 2010 and 2011;
- increased provision of new sites and plots will be required to meet the standard and satisfy waiting list demand;
- consider future provision using alternative plot size such as half plots and quarter plots;
- some allotment sites are currently used for extensive animal grazing and could be more intensively and efficiently used for growing food.

Natural Space

- ensure that the LDF contains policies that protect natural green space from development. Only in cases where there is an assessment that the site no longer contains sufficient nature conservation value should an alternative type of green space be considered. Application will have to carefully consider implications for wilful destruction of habitats by landowners seeking alternative uses;
- in allocating new development sites in locations which fail to meet the proposed standards, consider how the development can improve access and increase provision of natural green space and the potential join up areas of green infrastructure;
- prepare a strategic programme of qualitative improvements across the city;
- maximise the role of natural green space to increase participation in health and physical activity and to realise its educational benefits across the city;
- facilitate improved access to natural green space in the urban area through the development of footpath links.

Council Indoor Sports Provision

- take account of access for local residents on foot and by public transport, rather than by car when determining appropriate locations for new facilities, especially in areas of low car ownership
- ensure that the pricing structure is attractive to all sections of the community
- review programming at popular sites across the city to maximise access for a variety of sports during peak times.
- ensure that clubs are able to access facilities and that their requirements do not have a negative impact on casual use and access for other sports
- ensure that facilities are inviting to the general public through effective maintenance and management regimes.
- improvements to the quality of existing facilities should be prioritised.

Cemeteries, churchyards and green corridors

- no standard has been set regarding the quantity, quality or accessibility for churchyards, cemeteries and green corridors;
- the results from the needs assessment suggest a general satisfaction in the current provision, quality and accessibility, although none of the council's churchyards or cemeteries pass the Green Flag standard;
- there is a shortage of burial space in the city with identified provision sufficient to accommodate burials up to 2022. New cemeteries are required to accommodate future needs and satisfy statutory requirements for burial space and the allocation of additional burial space should be considered as part of the site allocation DPD.

City Centre Public Space

- one of the three priorities to improve the city centre (from the city centre visioning conference 2009), was provision of a city centre park. This need is already reflected as a key priority in the Parks and Green Space Strategy;
- the Leeds City Centre Audit (2007) noted that 51% of people it surveyed thought the city centre did not have enough public open spaces;
- sites will need to be identified to accommodate new park provision and new development will have to satisfy a proposed provision standard which combines parks and amenity space provision at 0.41 hectares per 1,000 population in the city centre;
- continue applying provision of civic space to development at a rate of 20% of the site area;
- ensure that the LDF contains policies that protect city centre spaces from development;
- if the LDF proposes a strategy of accommodating significant levels of population growth in the city centre, plan for provision of green space (as per the proposed standards) in association with new residential development;
- prepare a strategy to develop a network of pedestrianised streets, civic squares and amenity spaces that link to other blue and green infrastructure both within and surrounding the city centre;
- plan for the future role of green and blue infrastructure in Leeds City Centre in combating the effects of climate change.

1.1 Summary of Key Issues District Wide and by Area

13.14 Leeds is in the fortunate position of possessing a good overall provision of green space. As table 13.3 below demonstrates, the city compares favourably against other local authority's green space provision where this information is available. This is influenced by the presence of the six large city parks and the many large natural spaces on the edge of the urban area. The key issue for Leeds is the uneven distribution, varying quality and type of this provision at a local level.

Table 13.3 Comparison with other Local Authorities – Existing Provision (hectares per 1,000 population)

	Parks and Gardens (inc. City Parks)	Amenity Space	Allotments	Outdoor Sport	Natural	Overall Provision
Leeds	1.97	0.47	0.19	1.85	2.58 Urban area only	6.47
Hull	0.5	0.66	0.21	1.68	0.6	3.65
York	0.16	1.27	0.29	2.15	1.6	5.47
Bristol	Individual Typology comparison not possible					3.8
Sheffield	1.55	0.56	0.32	1.12	3.04	6.59
Nottingham	2.67		0.31	0.6	1.51	5.09
Kirklees	0.44	0.45	0.17	1.94	3.2	6.2

13.15 To understand the distribution at a more local level there follows a summary of the key green space and recreation issues for each of the analysis areas used in the study. The key issues emerging for each area are summarised below:

Spatial Summary

East Inner

Lowest provision ratio (0.62 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (50 hectares) of **Parks and Gardens** (including city parks) of all ten areas. Access for residents is good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park or multi facility recreation ground. Communities of Fearnville, parts of Seacroft and Aire Valley are all outside 15 minute walk time catchments to a park. Aire Valley to the South is an industrial area which currently does not have a residential population. Application of the standards would suggest that sites are over used and there should be greater provision, possibly by increasing the size of existing sites should the opportunity arise. However, the priority should be to focus on improving the quality of sites. With an average quality score of 5.3, and no single site satisfying the proposed quality standard there is a need to action improvements.

East Inner has the largest quantity (62.65 hectares) and ratio (0.78 hectares per 1,000 population) of **amenity green space** of the ten areas. Application of the amenity standard would indicate a surplus of 26.39 hectares. This quantitative surplus needs to be balanced with the deficit for Parks and Gardens of over 30 hectares. Access to amenity space is good overall with only a limited number of residential areas (Harehills, Fearnville and Aire Valley) outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. The residents in Harehills without access to an amenity green space have good access (less than 10 minutes) to Harehills Park which fulfils the function of amenity green space. The quality average for the area is 4.96 which is similar to the city average for amenity space which is 5.05. Only 6% of sites achieve the quality standard. The priority in East Inner should focus on raising the quality of the most valuable amenity spaces and consider which surplus sites are most equipped in terms of location, size and topography to be transformed into other open space types which are in deficit. Following this exercise it should be possible to identify spaces that are not required for amenity or any other open space use.

This area has 18,800 young people aged 0 to 16 year olds (mid year estimate 2008). It has both the largest under 16 population and the largest proportion at 23% of total analysis area population. 10% of all fixed **equipped play provision** is in the area, but only 5% of children's fixed play areas. Provision appears to focus on young people rather than young children. The area has the highest quantity of teen zones and the second highest provision of MUGAs. Application of the standard calculates that ten additional facilities are needed; the highest shortfall of any area. Here 79% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision, however, the distribution of children's play areas leaves the communities of Seacroft, Fearnville and part of Cross Gates outside the 15 minute walk time catchments. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space, which is not necessarily a reflection of the play facility. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 5.69 indicating that sites with such provision are of a slightly better quality than the average score for amenity and parks and garden sites. The priority should be to improve the distribution and increase the quantity of children's fixed play areas.

Performance against the city average for the overall quantity of **outdoor sports** is slightly below at 1.5 hectares per 1,000 population. East Inner has a substantial deficit in overall outdoor sports provision of 29 hectares. However, due to larger accessibility catchments for outdoor sports facilities, the provision of the adjacent East Outer area also needs to be considered, which at a surplus of 20 hectares would appear to satisfy most of the shortfall if it is accessible to households of East Inner. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility and synthetic pitch facility. Only the communities of Lincoln Green and Saxton Gardens have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score is raised to 5.5, but this is still the lowest of all areas. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority, although some deficiencies appear to exist. Further sports specific demand led research needs to be undertaken to fully understand the detailed sport specific nature of the apparent deficit.

There are 2.24 hectares of disused **allotment** sites which could create up to 80 full size plots in an area with a waiting list of 78 names. The provision ratio of all allotment sites is 0.14 hectares per 1,000 population. This reduces to 0.11 hectares per 1,000 population when considering only those sites in use. To achieve the proposed standard requires a further 10 hectares of allotment provision. This is the highest deficit of all areas. Residents in Seacroft, Killingbeck, Lincoln Green and Saxton Gardens have to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access existing in use sites. Although a new allotment is being provided as part of the comprehensive refurbishment works to Saxton Gardens. The average quality score for sites in use is the lowest of all the areas at 3.73.

East Inner has the largest deficiency of **natural green space**. The 54 hectares equate to a ratio of 0.76 hectares per 1,000 population, creating a shortfall of 131 hectares when assessed against the standard. The largest natural space is Wyke Beck Valley at 42 hectares. 72% of households in the area are within a 15 minute walk of a natural site. The communities of Cross Green, Lincoln Green, Saxton Gardens, parts of Crossgates and parts of Seacroft fall outside the 15 minute walk time catchment for natural green space. The average quality score is 3.4, none of the sites achieved the quality standard. The highest scoring site is at Killingbeck Business Park which scored 6.16. Application of the standards highlights the area is deficient in all aspects; the priority should be to improve the quality of existing sites, improve ecology value at sites in other space types where appropriate and address the quantitative deficiency by creating new sites in the areas of greatest deficiency.

There are two council **indoor leisure facilities**; Fearnville Leisure Centre and Richmond Hill Recreation Centre. Most households have 15 minute public transport access to council sports halls. Access to swimming pools and gyms is not as comprehensive due to the restricted range of facilities available at Richmond Hill Recreation Centre. Households in North Seacroft, Cross Green and East End Park all have to travel further than 15 minutes. The quality of council provision is 4.44 for Fearnville and 5 for Richmond Hill. Both sites are in need of substantial refurbishment to satisfy the proposed quality standard. Application of the standards would suggest a need to replace Richmond Hill Recreation Centre with a larger facility including a wider range of sport facilities and improve the quality at Fearnville Leisure Centre.

East Outer

Below average provision ratio (0.82 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (70 hectares) of **Parks and Gardens** (excluding city parks). However, when including Temple Newsam (the largest of the city parks at 340 hectares) the ratio of parks provision increases to 4.8 hectares per 1,000 population. Access for residents is good, with most households having access within 15 minutes walk to a park, city park or multi facility recreation ground. Communities in Swillington and Eastern Kippax are outside the 15 minute walking catchments. With an average quality score of 5.82, and only 7% of parks achieving the standard, there is a need to action quality improvements. The priority should focus on raising the quality and access to existing provision and using new allocations to locate new green space provision to improve accessibility.

At 36 hectares and a ratio 0.42 hectares per 1,000 population of **amenity green space**, the area has a very small deficit compared to the proposed standard. Access to amenity space is good overall with only a limited number of settlements (East of Garforth and areas of Kippax) outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. The residents in both Eastern Garforth and Northern Kippax have access to park sites within 10 minutes to supplement these minor deficits. The quality average for the area is 5.12, with 11% of sites already attaining the proposed standard. The priority should be raising the quality of existing sites.

East Outer has one of the largest populations of 0 to 16 year olds (17,043 using the mid year estimate 2008). The area has the largest number of children's equipped play areas at 26. This contributes to the overall total of 40 **children's and young people's equipped play facilities**, giving the area the highest amount of provision for all facilities within Leeds. Application of the standard calculates that the area currently has six facilities in excess of the proposed standard. This is a reflection of the provision of children's play areas in smaller villages and settlements whereby every settlement has at least one play facility irrespective of the local demographic composition. Here 78% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision, however, the distribution of children's and young people's play facilities means the communities of Northern and central Kippax are outside the 15 minute walk time catchment. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessary a reflection of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 5.72 indicating that sites with fixed play provision are usually of better quality than the average amenity and parks and garden green space. The priority should be improve the distribution of children's and young people's fixed play areas as and when opportunities arise.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of outdoor sports is above standard at 2.1 hectares per 1,000 population. It has a surplus in overall **outdoor sports** provision of 20 hectares when compared to the standard. Households have good overall access to all

outdoor sport facilities except tennis courts. The communities of Swillington, Eastern Garforth and Methley are all outside the 20 minute walk time standard. The average quality score performs well at 6.36; slightly below the city outdoor sports average with only 31% of sites achieving the standard. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority. Further sports specific demand led research is needed to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent surplus. The shortfall in the adjacent East Inner area may contribute to additional demand for the facilities in East Outer.

There is good provision of **allotment** sites at 0.27 hectares per 1,000 population. There is only one large 2.24 hectares disused allotment sites which has been returned to growing agricultural crops and is unlikely to be available for allotment use in the plan period. Despite this apparent good provision there is still 152 names on the waiting list; a strong indication that increased provision is required. Households in Swarcliffe, Western Garforth, Temple Newsam, Manston and parts of Austhorpe and Cross Gates have to travel further than a 15 a minute walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for sites is slightly below the city average at 4.78. Only 4% of allotment sites achieved the quality standard. Application of the standard highlights the area is deficient in both access and quality. In addition, despite satisfying the quantity standard more sites should be created to both improve access and reduce the waiting list. The priority should be to identify new sites in areas of poor access and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

East Outer has the largest provision of **natural green space**; 385 hectares equating to a ratio of 4.8 hectares per 1,000 population. This is due to the large natural sites around Allerton Bywater and adjacent to the River Aire. Here 72% of households are within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. This access percentage is similar to other areas with substantially less green space and reflects the semi rural location of many of the sites. Households in Western Garforth, Whitkirk, Crossgates, Manston have to travel further than 15 minutes walk to access a natural space. Although some of these areas have access to parks which contain large areas of natural space. The average quality of natural green space sites is 4.93 indicating that sites in this area are of a better average quality than the district. In this area 3% of sites achieve the quality standard. Application of the standards highlights the area is deficient in quality and accessibility; the priority should focus on improving the quality of existing sites in the most accessible locations.

There are three council **indoor leisure facilities**; John Smeaton Leisure Centre, Garforth Squash & Leisure Centre and Kippax Leisure Centre. Most households have 15 minute public transport access to council sports halls. Access to swimming pools and gyms is not as good due to the limited range of facilities available at the centres in Kippax and Garforth. Households in Kippax have to travel 30 minutes to access a council gym and households in Northern Garforth, 30 minutes for a swimming pool. Most residents have poor access to both council or privately run indoor tennis facilities, having to travel 45 minutes or greater by public transport to access the John Charles Centre for Sport in South Leeds. Quality of council provision is 7.89 for John Smeaton, Garforth 3.33 and 4.11 for Kippax. The priority should focus on improving the quality standard at both the Garforth and Kippax sites which are in need of refurbishment to satisfy the proposed quality standard.

North East Inner

North East Inner has a below average provision ratio (0.8 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (57 hectares) of **Parks and Gardens**. However, when including Roundhay Park (a city park) the figure increases to 2.89 hectares per 1,000 population and 204.83 hectares. Access is good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. Communities of Moortown, Carr Manor, parts of north

Chapletown and south east Oakwood are all outside of the 15 minute catchments. Application of the standards would suggest a 14 hectare deficiency, however, the priority should be to raise the quality of sites. With an average quality score of 5.72, and no single site satisfying the proposed quality standard, there is a need to action quality improvements.

With the lowest number of **amenity green spaces** (29) covering a large area (51.57 hectares), the provision ratio for amenity space in the North East Inner area is one of the highest at 0.73 hectares per 1,000 population. The application of the amenity standard indicates a surplus of 20 hectares of amenity space. This quantitative surplus needs to be balanced with the deficiency for Parks and Gardens of over 14 hectares. Access to amenity space is fair overall but the residents of Roundhay, Western Meanwood and Chapel Allerton are outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. However, these residents without access to an amenity green space have good access (less than 10 minutes) to Parks and Gardens within the area which can fulfil the function of amenity green space. The quality average for the area is 5.38; higher than the city average for amenity space which is 5.05. In this area 8% of amenity sites achieve the proposed quality standard. The priority should focus on improving the quality of the most valuable amenity spaces and consider which surplus sites are most equipped in terms of location, size and topography to be transformed into other open space types.

With a ratio of 1.42 hectares per 1,000 population, North East Inner has the joint lowest provision of **children's and young people's equipped play facilities**. Application of the standard calculates that 8 additional facilities are needed; the second highest shortfall of any area. Here 72% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision, however, the distribution of children's play areas leaves the communities of Moortown, Oakwood and Car Manor outside 15 minutes of their nearest facility. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the equipped play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 5.43 indicating that sites with such provision are of a slightly lower quality than the average score for amenity and parks and garden sites in the area. The priority should be to improve the distribution of children's equipped play areas.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of **outdoor sports** is slightly below the proposed standard at 1.59 hectares per 1,000 population. It has a deficit in overall outdoor sports provision of 19 hectares. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green and 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility and synthetic pitch. Only the communities off Meanwood Road (towards to city centre) have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score performs well at 6.06, however, this is the lowest of all areas. In the area 48% of sites achieve the quality standard. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority, although some minor deficiencies appear to exist. Further sports specific demand led research should be undertaken to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent deficit.

The waiting list for **allotments** in the North East Inner has witnessed the largest increase of all analysis areas between 2010 and 2011. In 2010 the area waiting list was one of the city's highest at 232 persons. Currently 10.16 hectares is in use as allotments and only one small site (0.22 hectares) is disused. The provision ratio is lower than average at 0.15 hectares per 1,000 population. To achieve the proposed standard requires a further 7 hectares of allotment provision. Residents in Moortown, Oakwood and Chapletown have to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access active sites. The average quality score for sites in use is the highest of all the areas at 5.87, with 25% of sites achieving the quality standard. The priority should be to create new sites to reduce the waiting list and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

With a provision ratio slightly below the city average for **natural green space**, there is 2.12 hectares per 1,000 population, resulting in a surplus of 8 hectares. Accessibility is good, with 91% of households within 15 minutes of a natural site. Parts of Chapel Allerton, Roundhay and Southern Chapletown are outside a 15 minute walk time. The average quality score was 4.55, slightly above the district average, although none of the sites achieved the quality standard. The priority should be to improve the existing quality of sites.

Scott Hall Sports Centre is the only council **indoor leisure facility** within the analysis area. This centre offers a good range of facilities, meaning most households in the area have 15 minute public transport access to a council sports hall, swimming pool and health and fitness gym. There are, however, some gaps in provision in areas of Roundhay.

North East Outer

This area has the lowest provision ratio (0.42 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (26 hectares) of **Parks and Gardens** (excluding city parks) of all ten areas. Access for residents is poor, with residents in Shadwell, Alwoodley and the rural villages between Wetherby and the main Leeds conurbation all outside a 15 minute walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. Application of the quantity standard shows the largest analysis area deficit at 36 hectares. With an average quality score of 5.92, and 29% of sites achieving the quality standard there is scope for further improvements. However, the priority should be to raise the quality of existing sites and use the LDF to deliver additional parks in areas of highest deficit with acutely limited accessibility.

There is 28 hectares of **amenity space**, a ratio of 0.45 hectares per 1,000 population which meets the proposed quantity. Access to amenity space is fair overall, but a number of the more rural settlements of Eastern Shadwell, Northern Scholes, Scarcroft, Bardsey and Linton are all outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space or 15 minutes from a Park or Garden site which could fulfil the function of amenity green space. The quality average for the area is 4.71, with 14% of sites achieving the quality standard. This is slightly below the city average for amenity space which is 5.05. Generally the priority should be raising the quality of existing sites and the creation of new multi functional sites for those settlement without access to either a Park and Garden or amenity space.

Of all the areas, North East Outer has least number of skate parks (1) and teen zones (0), however, the provision ratio meets the average at 1.94. Provision focuses on younger children, with 19 **children's equipped play areas**. Application of the standard calculates that only one additional facility would be needed. Access to the equipped play facilities is good, although the communities in parts of Alwoodley, Scarcroft and Scholes do not have any provision. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the quality of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 5.14 indicating that sites with such provision are of a slightly better quality than the average score for amenity and parks and garden sites. With 67% of the population living within 15 minutes walk of an equipped play facility the priority should be to improve the distribution and location of children's fixed play areas.

The provision ratio for the North East Outer area is the highest of all areas with 2.64 hectares per 1,000 population which results in the highest current supply at 45.83 hectares. Accessibility catchments for most **outdoor sports** facilities is very good, however, Wetherby, Thorp Arch, Bramham, Collingham and Linton are not within a 20 minute drive to an athletics track. Quality of outdoor facilities is 6.51, slightly above city average and 36% of outdoor sites achieved the standard. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority, although some specialist localised deficiencies appear to exist. Further sports specific

demand led research need to be undertaken to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent deficit.

The North East Outer Area has the joint lowest provision ratio of **allotments** at 0.11 hectares per 1,000 population. However, all sites are in use and the area has the lowest waiting list figure at 26 persons (2010), but this could be explained by the limited number of allotment sites and the rural geography of the area. To achieve the proposed standard would indicate a further 8 hectares of allotment provision is required. However, this level of additional provision is not supported by the waiting list information. Residents in Wetherby, Thorner, Scarcroft, Shadwell and Alwoodley have to travel over 15 minutes walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for sites in use is below average at 5.03. The priority should be to improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply. Any new provision should be directed to those areas of greatest deficiency which maximise accessibility. Further research into the geography of demand would need to be undertaken to ascertain optimum locations. Parish and town councils are the statutory allotment authority where they exist which is in many settlements throughout the North East Outer.

There is 2.28 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space**. The standard indicates an over provision of 11 hectares. Accessibility is good with 58% of residents being within the 15 minute walk time standard from a natural site. Shadwell and the rural settlements of Thorner, Scholes and Barwick in Elmet are all outside the catchment of an identified natural site. However, the rural settlements are within easy access to the countryside and public rights of way network. Quality is fair at 4.50, with only 7% of sites achieving the quality standard, suggesting that the priority should be improving the quality of natural sites.

Wetherby Leisure Centre is the only council **indoor leisure** centre within North East Outer. Most households have 15 to 30 minute public transport access to the public indoor health and fitness gyms and public swimming pools. However, for council sports halls, indoor bowls and public multi purpose halls about half of the residents have to travel over 45 minutes on public transport to access these. The main deficit is for Wetherby and surrounding villages. Application of the standards would suggest a wider range of public indoor sport facilities in Wetherby would improve accessibility.

North West Inner

The provision ratio (0.84 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (89.58 hectares) of **Parks and Gardens** (including city parks) is below the district average. Access for residents is very good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. A small section of the Ireland Wood and central Headingley communities are outside the 15 minute walking catchments. Application of the standard suggests a further 17 hectares is needed. With an average quality score of 4.96 and only 6% of Parks and Gardens meeting the proposed quality standard there is a need to action improvements.

With 35 sites covering 35.72 hectares, the North West Inner area has the lowest provision ratio in the district with 0.29 hectares per 1,000 population. Application of the **amenity** standard would indicate the largest existing deficit of 15.05 hectares of amenity space. Amenity together with Park and Gardens demonstrate a joint deficit of 34 hectares. Access to amenity space is good overall with a number of residential areas (Burley and Northern Weetwood) outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. These residents without access to an amenity green space have good access to other Parks and Garden sites which can fulfil the function of amenity green space. The quality average for the area is

5.34, which is above the city average for amenity space which is 5.05. In this area 20% of amenity sites achieved the quality standard. The priority is raising the quality of amenity spaces.

North West Inner has the highest provision ratio at 3.19 hectares per 1,000 (0 to 16 years) population of **children's and young people's equipped play facilities**. The area also has the lowest proportion and number of 0 to 16 year olds of all areas. Application of the standard calculates that the area has a surplus of 12 equipped play areas; the highest surplus of any area. Accessibility is fair, as the distribution of children's play areas leaves the communities of Headingley, Burly, Holt Park, Ireland Wood and Weetwood without any formal equipped provision. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 5.65 indicating that sites with such provision are of a slightly better quality than the average score for amenity and parks and garden sites. The priority should be to improve the distribution of children's fixed play areas.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of **outdoor sports** is slightly below at 1.75 hectares per 1,000 population. It has a substantial deficit in overall outdoor sports provision of 15 hectares. This is despite the large spaces and number of outdoor sports facilities at the both university's campus sites. However, due to larger accessibility catchments for outdoor sports facilities, the provision of the area adjacent also needs to be considered. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility and synthetic pitch. Only the communities of Horsforth and Ireland Wood have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score performs well at 6.82, the highest of all areas and 50% of sites achieve the quality standard.

There are 2.29 hectares of disused **allotment** sites which could create up to 82 full size plots in the area which has a waiting list of 273 names. The area had the largest waiting list in 2010. The provision ratio of all sites is 0.22 hectares per 1,000 population. When considering only those sites in use, the ratio reduces to 0.2 hectares per 1,000 population. To achieve the proposed standard requires a further 4 hectares of allotment provision. It is currently planned to return the largest disused allotment site at Church Lane, Kirkstall to active use. Once quality improvements have been completed to improve security, 81 full size plots will be provided. Residents in Little London, Weetwood, Hawksworth, Horsforth and Ireland Wood have to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for sites in use is below average at 4.79. None of the allotment sites in the area achieve the quality standard. The study highlights the area is deficient in all aspects; the priority should be to bring disused sites back into use where appropriate, create new sites in areas of greatest deficit and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

There is 2.09 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space** with a surplus of 6 hectares. Accessibility to natural sites is good, with 78% of households within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. The communities of Little London and parts of Burley do not have access within a 15 minute walk time of a natural site. With an average quality score of 4.85 and 11% of sites meeting the quality standard the area is above average. Improving the quality of the existing spaces should be the priority focus.

Kirkstall Leisure Centre is the only council **indoor leisure** facility within the area, however, Holt Park Leisure Centre is on the boundary with the North West Outer area. Most households have 15 to 30 minute public transport access to council sports halls, swimming pools and an indoor health and fitness gyms. Indoor bowls has poor provision, with the

majority of residents living within the 45 minutes public transport access time to the facility at John Charles Centre for Sport.

North West Outer

The area has the highest quantity (118.51 hectares) of **Parks and Gardens** (excluding city parks) of all ten areas. Access for residents is good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. Communities of Bramhope and Wellroyd are outside the 15 minute walk time catchments. Application of the standard calculates a surplus of 32 hectares. The priority should be to raise the quality of sites, which have an average quality score of 5.54, as only 13% of sites achieve the quality standard.

North West Outer has a below average provision ratio (0.35 hectares per 1,000 population) of **amenity green space**. Application of the amenity standard would indicate an existing deficit of 8.45 hectares. This quantitative surplus needs to be balanced with the surplus for Parks and Gardens of 32 hectares. Access to amenity space is poor overall with several communities (Northern Otley, Bramhope, parts of Holt Park, parts of Horsforth, Wellroyd, Rawdon and Guiseley) outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. However, the majority of residents (excluding Bramhope and Wellroyd) have 10 minute walk time access to a Parks and Gardens site which can fulfil the function of amenity green space. The quality average for the area is 5.34 which is above the city average for amenity space which is 5.05. Here 22% of amenity sites achieve the quality standard. The priority should be to raise the quality of sites.

North West Outer has an above average provision ratio of 2.02 **equipped play facilities** per 1,000 (0 to 16 years) population. The area also has the highest number (5) of multi use games areas in the district (20%). Application of the standard shows the area has adequate provision of facilities, although distribution could be improved. Accessibility to the children's play areas is good. However, Southern Guiseley, Wellroyd, Adel, parts of Horsforth and North Western Otley do not meet the 15 minute walk time. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 5.5, indicating that sites with such provision are of a slightly better quality than the average score for amenity and parks and garden sites. The priority should be improve the quality and distribution of children's fixed play areas.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of **outdoor sports** is above the standard at 2.39 hectares per 1,000 population and has the largest amount of outdoor sports provision in the district (209.05 hectares). It has a substantial surplus in overall outdoor sports provision of 48 hectares. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to a golf facility and synthetic turf pitch. Only the communities of Guiseley, Yeadon and parts of Horsforth are not within a 20 minute walk time of a tennis court. Otley is not within 20 minutes drive of an Athletics track. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score performs well at 6.82, with 62% of sites achieving the standard. Further sports specific demand led research needs to be undertaken to fully understand the detailed nature of the surplus.

The area has 16.99 hectares of **allotment** sites are found in North West Outer, providing a provision ratio of 0.19 hectares per 1,000 population. This area has one of the largest number of people on waiting lists (273 in 2010). Application of the standard highlights a deficit of 5 hectares. Residents in Guiseley, Adel, Bramhope and Wellroyd have to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for

sites in use is 5.32, with 15% of sites achieving the quality standard. The priority should be to create new sites in areas of greatest deficiency and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

With a provision ratio of 4.12 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space** there is a surplus of 170 hectares when compared against the proposed standard. Accessibility to natural sites is good, with 79% of households within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. Parts of Yeadon and Guiseley do not have access within a 15 minute walk time of a natural site, however, access to the countryside and the rights of way network is very good. With an average quality score of 5.24 and 8% of sites meeting the quality standard the area is above average. Improving the quality of the existing spaces should be the priority focus.

There are two council **indoor leisure** facilities; Chippendale Swimming Pool, Otley, and Aireborough Leisure Centre. Chippendale Pool is available for public use when not required by the grammar school. Most households in the area have to travel up to 30 minutes by public transport to access council sports halls, health and fitness gyms and swimming pools. This is in excess of the standard and reflects the rural location of many of the settlements in the area. However, accessibility to public indoor bowls is very poor with the majority of households being at least 45 minutes away from the John Charles Centre by public transport.

South Inner

The area has an above standard provision ratio of 1.2 hectares of **parks and gardens** per 1,000 population (excluding city parks). Application of the quantity standard suggests a current surplus of 15 hectares. Access for residents is fairly good, as most households have access within 15 minutes walk to a park or multi facility recreation ground. However, the residential community in the city centre is outside the 15 minute walk time catchment. With an average quality score of 5.17 and only 5% of sites achieving the quality standard there is a need to action improvements.

South Inner has just below average ratio (0.42 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (31 hectares) of **amenity green space**. Application of the amenity standard would indicate an existing deficit of 2 hectares. However, when looked at together with Parks and Gardens, which also provides an amenity function for residents, there is a surplus of 13 hectares. The communities of Northern Hunslet and Beeston are the only residential areas outside a 10 minute walking distance from an amenity green space, however, these areas are within walking distance of Parks and Garden sites. The quality average for the area is 5.32, with 15% of sites satisfying the quality standard. The priority should be to tackle qualitative improvements.

Of all the areas, South Inner has the largest number of Multi Use Games Areas (16), almost a quarter of all Multi Use Games Area provision across Leeds. Provision in the area for all **children's and young people's play facilities** is above average with 2.23 areas per 1,000 child population. Application of the standard calculates a surplus of 3 facilities. Here 83% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision, however, the distribution of children's play areas leaves the communities of Beeston, Holbeck and Middleton outside 15 minutes walking distance standard. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 4.83 indicating that the priority should be to improve the quantity and distribution of facilities.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of **outdoor sports** is poor with the provision ratio (1.5 hectares per 1,000 population) being the lowest in the city. It has the

highest deficit in overall outdoor sports provision at 42 hectares. However, due to larger accessibility catchments for outdoor sports facilities, those facilities of the adjacent area also need to be considered. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility and synthetic pitch. The communities of Hunslet and Middleton have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds and South Leeds Stadium) the average quality score performs well at 6.07, however, this is below the city average. In the area 26% of outdoor sport sites achieved the quality standard. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority, although some deficiencies appear to exist. Further sports specific demand led research needs to be undertaken to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent deficit.

There are 13.08 hectares of **allotments** in South Inner and only one site (0.29 hectares) is not in use. The provision ratio of all sites is 0.18 hectares per 1,000 population and this is below the quantity standard. To achieve the proposed standard requires a further five hectares of allotment provision. Residents in the city centre and Middleton have to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for sites in use is above the city average at 5.69. The priority should be to create new sites and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and provision of facilities such as a water supply.

There is 1.15 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space**, calculating at a deficit of 61 hectares when assessed against the standard. The total area of the 10 natural sites is 85 hectares. Due to the location of the larger sites on the boundary of the South Inner area, accessibility to natural sites is poor with 31% of households within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. This is the lowest proportion of households with access of all the analysis areas. The communities of Beeston, Holbeck, Hunslet, city centre and Belle Isle do not have access within a 15 minute walk time of a natural site, although some of the cemeteries and churchyards in this area do offer small natural areas within their grounds. The average quality score is 3.94 and none of the sites achieve the quality standard. Improving the quality of the existing spaces and new sites in areas of greatest deficiency should be the priority focus.

There are two council **indoor leisure** facilities; John Charles Centre for Sport and Middleton Leisure Centre. Most households in the area have 15 minute public transport access to all council facilities, the only area outside this is part of Hunslet. Both sites are in need of substantial refurbishment to satisfy the proposed quality standard.

South Outer

Provision ratio of 1.2 hectares per 1,000 population and quantity of 108.37 hectares of **Parks and Gardens**. South Outer is one of four areas without a city park within its boundaries. Application of the standards calculates a surplus of 18 hectares. Access for residents is good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. Communities south of West Ardsley and on the edge of Gildersome are not within a 15 minute walk time. The average quality score is 5.8 and 26% of sites achieve the quality standard. The priority should be to raise the quality of the most appropriate and best located sites and consider alternative green space uses to those sites in surplus.

With a ratio of 0.42 hectares per 1,000 population of **amenity green space**, provision is below the proposed standard. Application of the standard would indicate a deficit of 3 hectares. When this quantitative deficit is examined with the deficiency for Parks and Gardens it combines to a joint surplus of 14.2 hectares. Amenity space is unevenly

distributed across the analysis area with Rothwell, Oulton, Drighlington and south of East and West Ardsley not within 10 minutes walk. However, most of these residents (excluding south of West Ardsley) have good access (less than 15 minutes) to Parks and Garden sites which can fulfil the function of amenity green space. The quality average for the area is 5.01 and only 5% of sites achieved the quality standard. The priority should focus on raising the quality of amenity spaces.

South Outer provides 34 **children's and young people's equipped play facilities** at a provision ratio of 1.98 facilities per 1,000 population. Application of the standard calculates that the provision is about right. A total of 82% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision and the distribution is generally good, although the communities of West Ardsley and Western Rothwell are outside the 15 minutes walk time catchment. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 6.55, indicating that sites with equipped play provision are generally of a higher quality.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of **outdoor sports** is slightly below at 1.74 hectares per 1,000 population. It has a deficiency in overall outdoor sports provision of 10 hectares. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility and synthetic pitch. The communities of Drighlington, Gildersome, northern and eastern Morley, East Ardsley and Robin Hood have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score performs well at 6.84; this is the highest of all areas. In total 46% of sites achieve the quality standard. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority, although some deficiencies appear to exist. Further sports specific demand led research is needed to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent deficit.

South Outer has the highest number of **allotment** sites in use (27), covering 22.56 hectares. The area has three disused sites covering 1.46 hectares which could create up to 51 full size plots in an area with a waiting list of 119 names. The provision ratio of all sites is 0.27 hectares per 1,000 population, which reduces to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population when only considering sites in use. Both of these standards are above the recommended standard of 0.24 hectares per 1,000 population. Applying the standard results in a 0.82 excess in allotment land. However, given that all plots are in use and there are 119 names on the waiting list, all sites in the area are required. This is one of only two areas in Leeds which meet the standard. Accessibility of allotments is good with only the residents in Drighlington, eastern Morley, northern Gildersome, south of West Ardsley and eastern Rothwell having to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for sites is below the city average at 5.01. Only 3% of sites achieve the quality standard. The study highlights the area is deficient in all aspects; the priority should be to bring disused sites back into use, where appropriate and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

There is 4.48 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space** with a surplus of 205 hectares. Accessibility to natural sites is good, with 85% of households within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. The communities of Drighlington, parts of Gildersome and an area to the south of Morley do not have access within a 15 minute walk time of a natural site. With an average quality score of 4.56 and 5% of sites meeting the quality standard the area is in need of further quality improvements. Improving the quality of the existing spaces should be the priority focus.

There are two council **indoor leisure** facilities; Morley Leisure Centre and Rothwell Sport and Leisure Centre. It is also important to consider Middleton Leisure Centre in South Inner as for some residents this will be their closest facility. Many households are within 15 minutes public transport access to council sports halls, gyms, swimming pools, indoor tennis and indoor bowls. The only area lacking reasonable access is northern Churwell and that is due to access to public transport.

West Inner

West Inner has the highest provision ratio of **parks and gardens** (excluding city parks) at 1.88 hectares per 1,000 population, of all ten areas. The area is one of four without a city park. Access for residents is very good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. Only part of the community of Upper Armley are outside of the 15 minute catchments. Application of the standard indicates a surplus of 44 hectares, the largest of all 10 areas. However, with an average quality score of 4.72, the lowest score for any area, the priority should be to raise the quality of sites.

The lowest quantity (17.61 hectares) results in one of the lowest ratios (0.35 hectares per 1,000 population) of **amenity green space** of the ten areas. Application of the amenity standard would indicate an existing deficit of five hectares. This quantitative deficit needs to be balanced with the surplus for Parks and Gardens of 44 hectares. Access to amenity space is patchy with a number of residential areas (Stanningley, Rodley, north and eastern Bramley and Upper Armley) outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. However, these areas are within a catchment for a park and garden site which can also perform the functions of an amenity space. The quality average for the area is 4.68 which is below the city average for amenity space which is 5.05. Only 4% of sites achieve the quality standard. The priority should focus on raising the quality of amenity spaces.

Of all the areas, West Inner has one of the least number of 0 to 16 year olds (9,883 mid year estimate 2008), although this group does still represent 20% of the area's total population. The area has the lowest number of **children's and young people's equipped play** facilities (14), 5% of all facilities city wide. The area also has the lowest provision of children's play area facilities (5) and teen zones (1). However, the area has about average number of skate parks. Application of the standard calculates that 6 additional facilities could be needed. In total 68% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision, however, the distribution of children's play areas leaves the communities of Upper Armley and Bramley outside a 15 minute walk time. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 4.63. The priority should focus on improving the quantity and distribution of children's fixed play areas in the area.

The quantity of **outdoor sports** is the lowest of all areas with only 68 hectares, resulting in a below average ratio of 1.3 hectares per 1,000 population. It has a deficit in overall outdoor sports provision of 25 hectares. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility and synthetic pitch. The communities of Bramley and Rodley have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score performs well at 6.27. Here 51% of the sites achieve the quality standard. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority, although some deficiencies appear to exist. Further sports specific demand led research needs to be undertaken to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent deficit.

West Inner has the lowest quantity of **allotment** sites with only 6 covering 5.3 hectares and with a ratio of 0.11 hectares per 1,000 population. This reduces to 0.1 hectares per 1,000 population when considering only those sites in use. Only one site is disused, and that would provide 12 full plots if brought back into use. The area has a waiting list of 123 names. When the standard is applied to this area it results in a deficit of 8 hectares. Residents in Stanningley and Bramley have to travel further than a 15 minute walk to access existing in use sites. The average quality score for sites in use is one of the highest for all the areas at 5.74. With a waiting list of 123 names, the priority should be to create new sites and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

There is 1.73 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space** with a deficit of 6 hectares. Accessibility to natural sites is good, with 80% of households within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. The communities of New Wortley and parts of Armley do not have access within a 15 minute walk time of a natural site. With an average quality score of 4.48 and 5% of sites meeting the quality standard there is scope for improvement. Improving the quality of the existing spaces in the areas of greatest deficiency should be the priority focus, such as Dunkirk Hill.

There are two council **indoor leisure** facilities; Bramley Baths and Armley Sport and Leisure Centre. Many households have 15 minute public transport access to council sports halls, swimming pools, tennis courts and gyms. However, large parts of the area have to travel up to 30 minutes by public transport to access these facilities. The quality of the two council sites is very different. The new Armley centre boasts modern high quality facilities. Bramley Baths are historic, dating from 1904 and require some quality improvements.

West Outer

West Outer has above average provision ratio (1.12 hectares per 1,000 population) and quantity (80 hectares) of **parks and gardens** (excluding city parks). West Outer is one of four areas without a city park. Access for residents is very good, with most residents having access within 15 minutes walk to a park site or multi facility recreation ground. However, the priority should be to raise the quality of sites, with an average quality score of 5.95 and only 14% of site achieving the quality standard.

The area has just below average provision ratio (0.42 hectares per 1,000 population) of **amenity green space** covering 29.54 hectares. Application of the amenity standard would indicate an existing deficit of two hectares. When balanced with the surplus for parks and gardens (which can serve as amenity space) there is a total surplus of 6.27 hectares. Access to amenity space is fair with Farsley, the edges of Pudsey and Rodley outside a 10 minute walk catchment to access amenity space. However, all residential areas have access to an amenity space or a parks and garden site. The quality average for the area is 4.19, the lowest of all ten areas. In total 9% of amenity spaces achieve the quality standard. The priority should focus on raising the quality of amenity spaces.

West Outer has one of the lowest provision ratios for **equipped play areas** with 1.59 facilities per 1,000 child population. Provision appears to focus on young children, with 15 Children's equipped play spaces and 6 other facilities. Here 72% of households are within 15 minutes of equipped play provision. However, the distribution of children's play areas leaves the communities of Farnley and Swinnow Moor with no access to facilities, although recent capital investment at Swinnow Moor has created a new children's play area and a teen zone. The current quality of provision has only been assessed on the space which is not necessarily a reflection of the play facility itself. The average quality of green space sites with fixed play provision is 6.54 indicating that sites with such provision are of a better quality

than the average amenity space and Park and Garden site. The priority should focus on improving the quantity and distribution of children's fixed play areas.

Performance against the city average for the quantity of **outdoor sports** is above the standard at 2.07 hectares per 1,000 population. It has a surplus in overall outdoor sports provision of 15 hectares. All households are within a 10 minute drive of a council grass playing pitch and bowling green; 20 minutes drive to an athletics track, golf facility, bowling green and synthetic pitch. Only the communities of Swinnow Moor and northern Farnley have to walk further than 20 minutes to access an outdoor tennis court. Due to the influence of privately operated outdoor sports sites (including Education Leeds) the average quality score performs well at 6.56. Raising the quality of existing sites should be the priority. Further sports specific demand led research needs to be undertaken to fully understand the detailed nature of the apparent surplus.

There are 7.88 hectares of in use **allotment** sites. The provision ratio of sites in use is one of the lowest at 0.11 hectares per 1,000 population. To achieve the proposed standard requires a further 9 hectares of allotment provision. Distribution of allotments is uneven with residents in Farsley, Calverley, New Farnley and the edges of Pudsey and New Wortley all outside the 15 minute walk time for access. The average quality score for sites in use is above average at 5.44, but only 10% of sites achieve the quality standard. Application highlights the area is deficient in all aspects; the priority should be to create new sites in areas of greatest deficit and improve the quality of existing sites by tackling security and facilities provision such as a water supply.

There is 3.86 hectares per 1,000 population of **natural green space**, calculating at a surplus of 124 hectares when assessed against the standard. Accessibility to natural sites is good, with 75% of households within 15 minutes walk of a natural site. Parts of Pudsey, Fartown and Farnley do not have access within a 15 minute walk time of a natural site. The average quality score is 4.46. None of the sites achieve the quality standard. Improving the quality of the existing spaces should be the priority focus.

There is only one council **indoor leisure** facility; Pudsey Leisure Centre. Most households have 15 minute public transport access to council sports halls, gyms, swimming pools, indoor tennis courts and council health and fitness gyms. This may be facilitated by the proximity of the sports centre to the bus interchange in Pudsey. Access to public indoor bowls provision for the majority of households in the area is 45 minutes by public transport. Pudsey Leisure Centre was last refurbished in 1988 and requires considerable improvements to raise the standard from its current score of 3.

Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 13.16 Assessments of need undertaken in relation to PPG17 should drive the future provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities. Planning contributions can be an important source of funding to ensure that provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities meet the aims and objectives of current and future residents, employees and visitors to Leeds.
- 13.17 With regards the use of planning obligations, paragraph 33 of PPG17 states:
"planning obligations should be used as a means to remedy local deficiencies in the quantity or quality of open space, sports and recreation provision. Local Authorities will be justified in seeking planning obligations where the quantity or quality of provision is inadequate or under threat, or where new development increases local needs. It is essential that local authorities have undertaken detailed assessments of

needs and audits of existing facilities, and set appropriate local standards in order to justify planning obligations.”

- 13.18 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) came into force in April 2010 and has recently been followed by amended regulations in April 2011 (Statutory Instrument 2011 No. 987). CIL is a new levy that local authorities can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The money can be used to support development (including development which does not require planning permission), by providing ‘gap’ funding to provide infrastructure that is needed as a result of the development. It should be emphasised however, that the levy is intended to focus on the provision of new infrastructure and should not be used to remedy pre-existing deficiencies in infrastructure provision, unless those deficiencies will be made more severe by new development. The levy can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support development.
- 13.19 The council will need to implement the levy on the basis of requirements set out in the Local Development Framework - Core Strategy and must produce a charging schedule setting out the levy’s rates in their area. A levy can be charged at a rate of £ per sq metre for most new development, which is transparent and non-negotiable to provide up front certainty of costs for developers. It should be noted also that under powers in the 2008 Planning Act, the CIL Regulations change the use of planning obligations (Section 106). After 2014, it will not be possible to secure off site S106 developer contributions for green space improvements.
- 13.20 As CIL will finance the wide range of infrastructure required for new development, green space will have to compete against other needed infrastructure for these funds. It is unlikely that CIL contributions will be protected for specific infrastructure purposes. The information and results available as a consequence of the preparation of this study will be essential to evidence the investment in open space, sport and recreation.

Applying the Standards to Non-Residential Development

- 13.21 It is reasonable to request provision of formal and informal public open space from employment and commercial development that is likely to generate increased demand for, and use of open space, sport and recreation infrastructure.
- 13.22 Paragraph 23 of PPG 17 refers to the use of obligations relating to new development “especially housing”, thus not excluding other uses. A number of planning authorities seek contributions in relation to employment and commercial proposals. Examples from other authorities highlight:
- obligations can be sought in relation to office, shop, retail and warehouse proposals;
 - local authorities normally employ cut off points, a common one being 1000 sq.m of gross floor space;
 - assumed or actual occupancy is taken from local survey figures;
 - authorities may request full contributions (e.g. Windsor and Maidenhead) or reduced contributions based on percentage of staff from outside the area (e.g. South Northamptonshire) or the percentage of the day assumed to be spent in the area (LB Camden);
 - Other uses from which contributions may be sought include hotels, hostels and halls of residence, holiday parks, static caravan sites and dwellings subject to holiday let conditions (North Devon).

- 13.23 Seeking contributions from non-residential development as suggested above, would be consistent with the approach for residential development. Commercial developments place pressure on existing open space and recreation facilities at lunchtime and after work. Users of these areas are not always residents of the city and additional demands are placed on local resources as a result. Assuming that workers commute a distance which is greater than the accessibility standards in this PPG17 assessment, they will contribute towards an increased level of demand on existing provision within that locality. It is recommended that the financial sum or direct provision sought corresponds to the expected number of net additional employees that would result from the proposal, based on the proposed use and the amount of floor space proposed.
- 13.24 This contribution needs to be guided by proposed local standards. There are two calculations that can be made:
- Where quantitative or accessibility deficiencies exist in open space or recreational facilities in the area which cannot be provided for on site, the city council will accept a contribution in lieu of new provision to deliver new provision within the area; &
 - The site is located in an accessible area of sufficient provision, but the quality does not meet the required standard then the contributions will be used to improve the quality of existing facilities and spaces to accommodate the additional demand created by the new development.

Conclusion and Summary of Recommendations

- 13.25 This study has been completed in accordance with the requirements of the latest Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (PPG17) and its Companion Guide. It provides an overview of the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities across Leeds. The study brings together the results of a comprehensive audit of open space and recreation facilities across the city and the perceptions and opinion of residents and users of these facilities. Additional relevant research and results have also been used to further inform the recommendations and proposed standards.
- 13.26 Leeds is fortunate to have a good supply of green space and recreation facilities which compare favourably to other cities and local authorities. The key issue to address is the uneven distribution of quality green space. Some areas have an abundance of certain types of open space. Despite this, the survey results indicate dissatisfaction with the amount of space, thus illustrating the complex issues which need to be considered such as location, layout and design. If any of these elements are not fully considered, the space may not be used or disregarded as a valuable community resource.
- 13.27 The results provide an invaluable tool in the formulation and implementation of planning policies. This relates to both the protection and enhancement of existing open space and the framework for developing planning obligations and its eventual replacement by CIL.
- 13.28 Open space and recreation provision will continue to change and evolve as the city grows. It is crucial that the information gathered for this study is monitored, shared and updated to enable a continued informed dialogue between the relevant stakeholders and affected communities.

13.29 The key actions which need to be addressed to implement the findings of this study appear in the table overleaf with identified delivery responsibilities and a proposed timescale for implementation.

13.30 The timescales used in the table are defined as:

- Short – within 5 years
- Medium – within 10 years
- Long – within 15 years, or the period of the core strategy up to 2026

13.31 The Delivery Partners abbreviations are as follows:

- PS Planning Services
- SDU Sustainable Development Unit
- FPI Forward Planning and Implementation
- P&C Parks and Countryside
- E&N Environment and Neighbourhoods
- P&SD Planning and Sustainable Development, incorporating the individual services of Planning Services, Sustainable Development Unit, Forward Planning and Implementation

Action Point	Delivery Partner/s	Timescale
1. Incorporate general policies within the Core Strategy relating to open space, sport and recreation facilities.	LCC - FPI	Short
2. Incorporate the local standards and green space hierarchy into the LDF and use these as a basis for decision making. Policies should be sensitive to the likely population increases resulting from new developments to take account of individual dwelling types and size (number of bedrooms). They should be applied to new dwellings, including flats and conversions to residential use. Some residential development does not generate a direct need for certain space or facility types, such as student flats and elderly person's accommodation do not generate demand for children's equipped play areas. Policies will need to accommodate some flexibility.	LCC – FPI LCC - PS	Short
3. Incorporate a policy detailing the importance of biodiversity and conservation at open space sites	LCC – P&SD Natural England Leeds Conservation Wildlife Trust West Yorkshire Ecology Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	Short
4. Ensure contributions are sought towards the full range of open space, sport and recreation typologies identified in the study – including indoor sport facilities (as discussed in chapter 10), and provision of new green space, in addition to civic space in Leeds City Centre (as discussed in chapter 12)	LCC – FPI LCC - PS	Short
5. Policy to protect allotments no longer in functional use from development in areas of allotment or other green space need in addition to allocation of new allotment sites	LCC – FPI LCC -PS	Short
6. Incorporate provision and accessibility standards for allotments, natural spaces, council indoor sports facilities, children and young people's equipped facilities	LCC – FPI	Short
7. Continue to base the nature and scale of contributions on the size of	LCC - FPI	Short

Action Point	Delivery Partner/s	Timescale
development and the impact on open space, sport and recreation provision. Continue to seek contributions from all residential developments that increase the demand for open space, sport and recreation facilities.		
8. Regarding non-residential developments, develop new policies which include for contributions to public open space provision from applications for commercial development that increase the demand for open space, sport and recreation facilities.	LCC - FPI	Short
9. Devise a series of minimum size thresholds which will guide decision making relating to acceptable on and off-site provision. This is necessary to ensure the provision of useable areas of open space that can be easily and economically maintained and ensure that the system is transparent.	LCC – FPI LCC – P&C	Short
10. Off-site contributions should be derived from standardised open space costings based on recent tender returns for relevant works and projects	LCC – FPI LCC - P&C	Short
11. Develop a detailed implementation strategy to address the identified deficits and surplus of some types in different areas across the city. Prepare a methodology and assessment tool to consider the potential movement between typologies of surplus space. This should consider all the possible alternative green space uses for sites prior to formal identification as surplus. Income generated by sales should be used to address deficits in the area.	LCC – FPI LCC – P&C LCC – E&N	Medium
12. Review the existing cut-off for seeking green space provision at 10 or more houses – reduce, increase or leave the same	LCC – FPI LCC - PS	Short
13. Develop a city centre open space policy to seek provision of new green space or contributions towards new provision	LCC – FPI LCC - PS	Short
14. Explore creation of a city-wide open space fund (pooled fund) to improve the quality of city parks which are used by all residents. Since the scaling back of S106 through the CIL regulations, this could only be achieved through implementation of CIL.	LCC – FPI Which service is responsible for CIL	Medium
15. Establish a list of priority quality improvement projects containing outline cost estimates which can be updated. The initial priorities should be linked to priorities identified in the audit, to bring sites up to a ‘good’ standard.	LCC - P&C LCC – FPI LCC – Indoor Sports	Short
16. Continue the green space implementation group to progress the use of	LCC - FPI	Ongoing

Action Point	Delivery Partner/s	Timescale
<p>S106 contributions to drive up quality standards in parks and green spaces. This should consist of representatives who have an interest in the provision of open space, outdoor sport and recreation across the city. The role of this working group will prioritise improvement programmes, co-ordinate funding applications and work with developers to ensure provision meets local requirements. The group should share, and utilise the expertise of leisure and planning officers, to ensure that specific site development issues are fully considered, and the implications shared, before a planning decision is made.</p>	LCC - P&C	
<p>17. Ensure that sport, leisure and open spaces are monitored on a continuing basis and regularly publish findings in terms of the quality and quantity of provision. It is important to monitor the quality of sites on a regular basis to ensure that the quality issues identified are improving and to act as a guide in updating investment priorities. This will allow user data to be collated and improvements to be tracked. Findings should be published to enable stakeholders to track progress.</p>	LCC - FPI LCC - P&C	Short
<p>18. Continue to develop the marketing information produced about the parks and open space facilities available, key activities accommodated and access arrangements. Ensure that open space fulfils a valuable role in meeting wider social objectives (e.g. Health improvement, increased active participation).</p>	LCC - P&C NHS LCC - Youth Service	Ongoing
<p>19. Develop a central record of all open space, sport and recreation facilities to include the findings of the assessments undertaken. The central record should include access to GIS mapping and be updated regularly. Prepare updates of demand led sports studies such as strategies for playing pitches, bowling greens and outdoor tennis</p>	LCC - FPI LCC - P&C	Medium to Long
<p>20. Develop an access standard regarding physical access for disabled users in agreement with local providers. Further detailed work required to assess sites for DDA compliance.</p>	LCC – P&C	Short
<p>21. Continue to work towards reducing the incidences and opportunities of and for crime and anti-social behaviour in parks and open spaces.</p>	LCC - P&C WY Police	Ongoing