

**SOUTH RIBBLE
OPEN SPACE STUDY
UPDATED STANDARDS PAPER**

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QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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PLEASE NOTE; THIS IS A DRAFT VERSION OF THE SOUTH RIBBLE OPEN SPACE STUDY UPDATED STANDARDS PAPER AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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SOUTH RIBBLE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STANDARDS PAPER

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Open Space Standards Paper (Updated 2025) prepared by Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for South Ribble Borough Council. It is an updated version of the previous Open Space Standards Paper (2019) reflecting any known changes in the quantity and quality of sites*.

This study is intended to assist in the Councils Local Plan process. Given the potential scale of growth in the area, and the implications such growth may have on existing provision, it is important the Council has clarity over existing levels of open space and the requirements for the different types of provision that should be delivered.

This document helps identify the deficiencies and surpluses in existing and future open space provision. In addition, it should help inform an approach to securing open space facilities through new housing development and help form the basis for negotiation with developers for contributions towards the provision of open spaces.

Scope

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

Table 1.1: Open space typologies

Typology	Primary purpose
Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.
Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.
Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, MUGAs, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.
Allotments	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.
Cemeteries and churchyards	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
Green corridors	Areas or route which provide walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel. May also offer opportunities for wildlife mitigation.
Civic Space	Including civic and market squares, and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians

The supply and demand requirements for playing pitches and outdoor sports is provided in a separate Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). This is to reflect the difference in methodologies.

* provided by council officers

All known open space sites (including provision for children and young people) are identified and mapped. Each site is classified based on its primary open space purpose, so that each type of space is only counted once. A total of 246 accessible sites are identified and included within the study. There are an additional 18 inaccessible natural sites, which would provide a total of 264 sites.

Within South Ribble, there is a total of approximately 459 hectares. The largest contributor to provision is natural and semi natural (200 hectares); accounting for 44%.

Table 1.2: Overview of open space provision

Open space typology	Number of sites	Total amount (hectares)*
Park and gardens	8	84
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	46	200
Amenity greenspace	108	144
Provision for children & young people	55	7
Allotments and community gardens	6	5
Cemeteries/churchyards	18	17
Green Corridors	1	2
Civic spaces	4	0.24
TOTAL	246	459

244 sites have been assessed and receive a quality and value score. St Johns Green Allotments and St Oswalds RC Church Longton have not been assessed due to access difficulties. The exception is for some play sites with multiple forms of provision which have been completed under one assessment.

Table 1.3: Quality scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Park and gardens	55%	52%	67%	87%	2	6
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	40%	21%	50%	90%	13	33
Amenity greenspace	65%	52%	73%	91%	38	70
Provision for children and young people	60%	44%	70%	87%	12	43
Allotments	45%	45%	53%	58%	1	4
Cemeteries	55%	32%	55%	66%	8	9
Green Corridors	60%	76%	76%	76%	0	1
Civic	55%	53%	56%	60%	2	2
TOTAL		21%	-	91%	76	168

* Rounded to the nearest whole number

There is generally a good level of quality across all open space sites. This is reflected in over half (69%) of sites scoring above their set threshold for quality. All green corridors score above the quality threshold.

This is followed by allotments, provision for children and young people and parks with 80%, 78% and 75% of sites assessed respectively scoring above the thresholds.

The typology proportionally scoring lowest on quality is amenity greenspaces with 35% of assessed sites scoring below the threshold for quality. This often reflects overall maintenance and cleanliness as well as a lack of ancillary facilities.

Table 1.4: Value scores for assessed open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores			No. of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Park and gardens	20%	33%	59%	77%	0	8
Natural & semi-natural greenspace		17%	38%	84%	1	45
Amenity greenspace		22%	36%	64%	0	108
Provision for children & young people		38%	50%	73%	0	55
Allotments		26%	29%	39%	0	5
Cemeteries		31%	47%	74%	0	17
Green Corridors		46%	46%	46%	0	1
Civic		33%	40%	48%	0	4
TOTAL						1

All but one site is assessed as being above the threshold for value, reflecting the role and importance of open space provision to local communities and environments.

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

Analysis areas

For mapping purposes and audit analysis, South Ribble has been divided into analysis areas. These allow more localised examination of open space surpluses and deficiencies. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. The analysis areas and their populations are shown in the table below.

Table 1.5: Population by analysis area

Analysis area	Population (2021)
South Ribble Central	14,866
South Ribble Eastern	26,995
South Ribble Leyland	31,865
South Ribble Penwortham	22,564
South Ribble Western Parishes	14,731
South Ribble	111,021

PART 2: ASSESSMENT REPORT SUMMARY

An updated summary, on a typology-by-typology basis, is set out below.

2.1 Parks and gardens

- ◀ There are eight sites classified as parks and gardens totalling over 84 hectares. This is an equivalent to 0.76 ha per 1,000 population.
- ◀ Other forms of open space also contribute to the perception and role of parks; such as Cuerden Valley Park South Ribble which is classified and included as natural and semi-natural greenspace provision.
- ◀ Proportionally, a greater level of provision is located in the South Ribble Leyland Analysis Area (1.41 ha per 1,000 population) compared to the South Ribble Penwortham (1.31), South Ribble Central (0.65), South Ribble Eastern (0.04 ha per 1,000) and South Ribble Western (0.01).
- ◀ FIT suggests a standard of 0.80 ha per 1,000 population. By individual analysis area, only South Ribble Leyland and South Penwortham meet the FIT standard. Overall, South Ribble (0.76 ha per 1,000 population) falls just below the standard. However, if Cuerden Valley Park South Ribble is included, South Ribble as a whole would have 0.95 ha per 1,000.
- ◀ Catchment mapping shows that there is a noticeable gap in the South Ribble East Analysis Area.
- ◀ All park and garden sites rate above the threshold for value. Just two sites (Rawstone Crescent Gardens and Pear Tree Park, Middleforth Green) rate below the quality threshold. However, no specific issues are highlighted. The quality of Worden Park is noted as particularly good. This is reflected in the site achieving the Green Flag Award status. Hurst Grange Park also has this status.
- ◀ All assessed sites score highly for value, with the important social interaction, health benefits, ecological value and sense of place sites offer being recognised.

2.2 Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- ◀ There are 46 accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace sites covering over 200 hectares. This is an equivalent to 1.80 ha per 1,000 population.
- ◀ There is proportionally more provision located in the South Ribble Eastern Analysis Area (3.16 ha per 1,000 population) compared to South Ribble Central (2.70), South Ribble Leyland (1.37), South Ribble Western (0.88) and South Ribble Penwortham (0.80).
- ◀ FIT suggests a standard of 1.80 ha per 1,000 population, overall South Ribble meets this with 1.80 ha per 1,000 population. Only the South Ribble Central (2.70) and South Ribble Eastern Analysis Area (3.16) meets the FIT standard individually.
- ◀ There is a good distribution of natural and semi-natural sites across the area. There are no gaps in provision in the 30-minute drive time catchment.
- ◀ Of the natural sites assessed, a total of 72% rate above the threshold set for quality. 13 sites rate below the quality threshold. Quality issues are highlighted mainly due to poor generally maintenance, narrow paths and overgrown nettles hindering usage.
- ◀ Value is high with only one site (Sound Mound) rating below the value threshold as it is mostly impassable. This also rates below the quality threshold. The habitat role of many sites is widely recognised with some also offering extensive recreational opportunities (e.g. Longton Brickcroft Nature Reserve).
- ◀ Longton Brickcroft Nature Reserve is a Green Flag Award winning site, reflective of its high quality and value scores. It scores the highest both for value and quality.
- ◀ The high proportion of sites to rate above the threshold for value demonstrates the added benefit natural and semi-natural greenspaces can provide especially in terms of contributing to flora and fauna. Larger sites may also provide a level of recreational offer.

2.3 Amenity greenspace

- ◀ There are 108 amenity greenspace sites equating to over 143 hectares of provision.
- ◀ Proportionally, more provision is located in the South Ribble Leyland Analysis Areas (2.02 ha per 1,000 population) compared to South Ribble Central (1.08), South Ribble Eastern (1.01), South Ribble Penwortham (0.86) or South Ribble Western (1.12).
- ◀ FIT suggest a standard of 0.60 ha per 1,000 population. Overall, South Ribble (1.29 ha per 1,000 population) meets the standard. Each of the five sub areas also meet the standard.
- ◀ Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of amenity greenspace across the area.
- ◀ Over half of amenity sites (64%) rate above the threshold for quality. The majority of sites to score lower for quality is due to a lack of ancillary features.
- ◀ In addition to its multifunctional role, amenity greenspace makes a valuable contribution to visual aesthetics for communities – hence all sites rate above the value threshold.

2.4 Provision for children and young people

- ◀ There are 55 play sites identified, a total of over seven hectares.
- ◀ South Ribble as a whole, has a current provision of 0.06 ha per 1,000 population. By sub analysis area, South Ribble Leyland and South Ribble Western Analysis Areas have a higher current level of provision (0.08 and 0.07).
- ◀ There is a good spread of provision across the area. All areas with a greater population density are within walking distance of a form of play provision.
- ◀ A greater proportion of play sites (78%) rate above the threshold for quality. Lower quality scoring sites tends to reflect a lack in and/or range of equipment and/or its general condition.
- ◀ All sites rate above the threshold for value reflecting the social, healthy and developmental benefits provision can provide.

2.5 Allotments

- ◀ There are six allotments sites equating to almost five hectares.
- ◀ Current provision of 0.04 hectares per 1,000 population is significantly below the NSALG recommended amount (0.25 hectares per 1000 people). None of the individual analysis areas meet the standard. The analysis areas of South Ribble Western Parishes and South Ribble Central do not contain any allotments.
- ◀ Catchment mapping does not highlight any gaps in provision within a 15-minute drive.
- ◀ The value of allotments is widely recognised due to the associated social inclusion, health benefits and the sense of place they offer. This is reflected in all sites scoring above the value threshold.

2.6 Cemeteries

- ◀ There are 18 cemeteries and churchyards, equating to almost 17 hectares.
- ◀ The largest site is Hurst Grange Burial Ground (2.37 hectares).
- ◀ No standards are set for cemeteries. The need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

2.7 Civic Space

- ◀ There are four sites classified as civic space; all sites score above the value threshold.

PART 3: SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS

3.1 Developing and setting standards

The following section derives and details the proposed local standards recommended for South Ribble Council. It details how current provision levels identified as part of the assessment compare to existing standards such as national benchmarks and whether any adjustments to the proposed standards are required.

It is important to recognise that there are no prescribed national standards for open space provision. In general, very little guidance is offered at a national level for quality with benchmarking of standards focusing on quantity and accessibility levels. Subsequently, the following approach has been used to provide an informed reasoning to the setting and application of standards for South Ribble Borough Council.

As part of the original 2019 work, consultation on local need for open space provision was conducted with key local authority officers. Consultation was also carried out with parish and town councils via face-to-face meetings and surveys. A summary of any instances of demand being highlighted is set out in Appendix One.

An overview of the proposed standards in terms of quality, accessibility and quantity is set out below. The proposed standards are then used to determine deficiencies and surpluses for open space in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility (as recommended by best practice).

3.2 Quality

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

The baseline threshold for assessing quality can often be set around 66%; based on the pass rate for Green Flag criteria (site visit criteria also being based on Green Flag). This is the only national benchmark available for quality of parks and open spaces. However, the site visit criteria used for Green Flag is not appropriate for every open space typology as it is designed to represent a sufficiently high standard of site. Quality thresholds are, thus, adjusted to better reflect average scores for each typology. In our experience this works effectively as a locally reflective method to distinguish between high and low quality sites. Consequently, the baseline threshold for certain typologies is amended to better reflect this.

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

For value there is no national guidance on the setting of thresholds. The 20% threshold applied is derived from our experience and knowledge in assessing the value of sites. Whilst 20% may initially seem low, it is a relative score - designed to reflect those sites that meet more than one aspect of the criteria used for assessing value.

Table 3.2.1: Quality benchmark standards

Typology	Quality threshold	Value threshold
Parks and gardens	55%	20%
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	40%	20%
Amenity greenspace	65%	20%
Provision for children and young people	60%	20%
Allotments	45%	20%
Cemeteries/churchyards	55%	20%
Civic space	55%	20%

3.3 Accessibility

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

Results of the community survey have been used to set initial accessibility catchments. These are presented in Table 3.3.1 and are applied to help inform deficiencies in each form of open space provision.

No national benchmarking or accessibility standards are recommended to be set for the typologies of cemeteries, green corridors or civic space. It is difficult to assess such provision against catchment areas due to their role and usage.

Table 3.3.1: Accessibility catchments

Open space type	Accessibility catchment
Parks & Gardens	15-minute walk time
Natural & Semi-natural Greenspace	30-minute drive time
Amenity Greenspace	10-minute walk time
Play areas & provision for young people	10-minute walk time
Allotments	15-minute drive time

Guidance on walking distance and times is published by Fields In Trust (FIT) in its document *Beyond the Six Acre Standard* (2015). These guidelines have been converted into an equivalent time period in the table below. FIT also offer appropriate accessibility distances for children's play provision. These vary depending on the type of play provision (children's play or older age ranges).

Table 3.3.2: FIT accessibility guidelines

Open space type		FIT guideline	Time equivalent
Parks & Gardens		710m	9-minute walk time
Natural & Semi-natural Greenspace		720m	9-minute walk time
Amenity Greenspace		480m	6-minute walk time
Play areas & provision for young people	LAP	100m	1-minute walk time
	LEAP	400m	5-minute walk time
	NEAP	1,000m	12.5-minute walk time
	Youth	700m	9-minute walk time
	Fitness provision	n/a	n/a
Allotments		n/a	n/a

Recommendation for accessibility standards

For the purposes of this study, using the accessibility catchments derived from the community survey for most typologies is recommended. Best practice advice advocates using locally derived provision standards.

Whilst the FIT accessibility catchments are recognised benchmarks, they are not as relevant locally in comparison to accessibility standards derived from the community survey (see recommendations for quantity standards in section 3.4).

3.4 Quantity

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

No quantity standard is suggested for open space provision such as cemeteries, green corridors or civic space. Cemetery provision should be determined by instances of demand such as burial capacity and local need. Green corridor and civic space provision should be considered as a design requirement for any large-scale developments.

To set a quantity standard it is necessary to compare existing levels of provision identified as part of the assessment against national benchmarks. It is also important to identify any instances of local need for open space as identified through consultation with local authority officers and parish/town councils.

Guidance on quantity levels is published by Fields In Trust (FIT) in its document *Beyond the Six Acre Standard* (2015). The guidance provides standards for three types of open space provision: parks and gardens, amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace. The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) offers guidance on allotments. FIT also suggests 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population of equipped/ designated playing space as a guideline quantity standard for play provision.

Table 3.4.1 sets out the quantity figures for current provision levels identified and the national benchmarks.

Table 3.4.1: Comparison of current provision and national benchmarks

Typology	Hectares per 1,000 population	
	Current provision levels	National benchmarks
Parks & gardens	0.76	0.80
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	Accessible	1.80
	All	2.19
Amenity greenspace	1.29	0.60
Provision for children & young people	0.06	0.25
Allotments	0.04	0.25

Recommendation for quantity standards

The recommendation for open space is for the current provision levels to be used as the recommended quantity standards for South Ribble.

The national benchmark quantity standards are not deemed as appropriate for use as they do not take into consideration the local circumstances, distribution and historical trends of the area. An approach using locally derived quantity standards ensures more reflective standards are set as they are based on and take consideration to current local provision levels and views.

Parish councils were also asked whether they considered there to be enough open space to meet needs. A summary of the key headlines is set out below. It is necessary to examine the highlighted concerns from the parish councils as there are comments reflecting lack of open space and maintenance issues. However, in general, none of the concerns justify increasing the quantity provision standards for the whole of the City based on these local instances.

Table 3.4.3: Parish council responses

Parish council	Highlighted concerns (from 2019 work)
Farington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Paul's Park Play Area needs refurbishment (intend to carry out asap). There are a lack of sports pitches in the Borough. Always asked if the BTR field is available. This field is currently used by Leyland United but they are an adult team. There is play provision for smaller children but then nothing for the mid-range young people and it is this range that needs to be targeted. We only have the BTR field until 2020 and this this lease is unlikely to be renewed. Some open spaces are very good such as Farington Park and some are quite poor.
Hutton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No allotments or youth provision
Much Hoole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor drainage across Northern Road Recreation Ground. Drainage has been improved but still remains a significant issue.

Parish council	Highlighted concerns (from 2019 work)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disused tennis courts at back of village hall which are not maintained. The Village Trustee want to prioritise village hall rebuild which is run down. • Burial capacity at Hill Road Cemetery 10/15 years left. Plan is to extend into Hurst Grange Park. Some decent play areas.
Penwortham TC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage is the main issue. Pitch at Kingsfold Playing Fields had drainage issues last year. • Hurst Grange Park needs refurbishing. The coachhouse building is going to be developed. Needs a café, toilets, lighting and a heritage centre.
Salmesbury and Cuerdale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural area, not much open space. • No parks, play areas, youth provision, allotments.

These concerns also help to highlight priorities and actions in relation to quality and access issues at certain settlements.

On this basis, the recommendation is for the current provision levels to be used as the recommended quantity standards for South Ribble. For natural provision, using the current provision level which omits the restricted access sites is recommended. This will better reflect existing provision levels and expectations whilst ensuring future demand from housing growth is not detrimental to existing provision levels.

The recommended quantity standards for South Ribble are set out in Table 3.4.5.

Table 3.4.5: Recommended quantity standard

Typology	Quantity standard (hectares per 1,000 population)
Parks & gardens	0.76
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	1.80
Amenity greenspace	1.29
Provision for children & young people	0.06
Allotments	0.04

PART 4: APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS

The provision standards used to determine deficiencies and surpluses for open space are set in terms of quality, accessibility and quantity.

4.1: Quality and value

Each type of open space receives a separate quality and value score. This also allows for application of a high and low quality/value matrix to further help determine prioritisation of investment and to identify sites that may be surplus as a particular open space type.

Quality and value matrix

Assessing the quality and value of open spaces is used to identify those sites which should be given the highest level of protection, those which require enhancement and those which may no longer be needed for their present purpose. When analysing the quality/value of a site, it should be done in conjunction with regard to the quantity of provision in the area (i.e. whether there is a deficiency).

The high/low classification gives the following possible combinations of quality and value:

High quality/low value

The preferred policy approach to a space in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary function. If this is not possible, consideration to a change of primary function should be given (i.e. a change to another open space typology).

High quality/high value

All open spaces should have an aspiration to come into this category and the planning system should then seek to protect them. Sites of this category should be viewed as being key forms of open space provision.

Low quality/low value

The policy approach to these spaces or facilities in areas of identified shortfall should be to enhance their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value.

For open spaces in areas of sufficiency a change of primary typology should be first considered. If no shortfall of other open space typologies is noted than the site may be redundant/ 'surplus to requirements'.

If there is a choice of sites of equal quality to declare surplus, and no need to use one or part of one to remedy a deficiency in some other form of open space or recreation provision, it would be best to consider the one of lowest value to be more disposable.

Low quality/high value

The policy approach to these spaces should be to enhance their quality to the applied standards. Therefore, the planning system should initially seek to protect them if they are not already so.

4.2: Accessibility

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

Results of the community survey and Settlement Hierarchy for South Ribble have been used to inform accessibility catchment standards. These are presented in Table 4.2.1 and are applied to identify potential deficiencies in each form of open space provision.

Table 4.2.1: Accessibility catchments

Open space type	Accessibility catchment
Parks & Gardens	15-minute walk time
Natural & Semi-natural Greenspace	30-minute drive time
Amenity Greenspace	10-minute walk time
Play areas & provision for young people	10-minute walk time
Allotments	15-minute drive time

No national benchmarking or accessibility standards are recommended to be set for the typologies of cemeteries or green corridors. It is difficult to assess such provision against catchment areas due to their role and usage.

Identifying deficiencies

If an area does not have access to the required level of provision (consistent with the catchments and settlement hierarchy) it is deemed deficient. KKP has identified instances where new sites may be needed or potential opportunities could be explored in order to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision (i.e. a gap in one form of provision may exist but the area in question may be served by another form of open space).

The following sections summarise the deficiencies identified from the application of the accessibility standards together with the recommended actions. Please refer to the associated mapping data to view site locations.

In determining the subsequent actions for any identified catchment gaps, the following key principles are adhered to:

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

These principles are intended to mitigate for the impact of increases in demand on existing provision. An increase in population will reduce the lifespan of certain sites and/or features (e.g. play equipment, maintenance regimes etc). This will lead to the increased requirement to refurbish and/or replace such forms of provision. Consequently, the recommended approach is to increase the capacity of and/or enhance the existing provision available.

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South Ribble Central

Table 4.2.3: South Ribble Central Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ No significant gaps in 15-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	◀ No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Allotments	◀ No gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

South Ribble Eastern

Table 4.2.4: South Ribble Eastern Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ Gap in 15-minute walk time catchment to west of area	◀ Gaps are served by other forms of provision such natural greenspace (e.g., Cockshott Wood, Holland Wood and Walton Park)
Amenity Greenspace	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	◀ No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Allotments	◀ No gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

South Ribble Leyland

Table 4.2.5: South Ribble Leyland Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ Minor gaps in 15-minute walk time catchment to north of densely populated area	◀ Gaps are served by other forms of provision such as natural and amenity greenspace (e.g., Alongside Schleswig Way-3 and Bannister Brook)
Amenity Greenspace	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	◀ No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Allotments	◀ No gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

South Ribble Penwortham

Table 4.2.5: South Ribble Penwortham Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ No gaps in 15-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	◀ No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Allotments	◀ No gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

South Ribble Western

Table 4.2.5: South Ribble Western Penwortham Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ No significant gap in 15-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	◀ No gaps in 10-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	◀ No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	◀ No significant gaps in 10-minute walk time	n/a
Allotments	◀ No gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

4.3: Quantity

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

Setting quantity standards

The setting and application of quantity standards is necessary to ensure new developments contribute to the provision of open space across the area.

Shortfalls in quality and accessibility standards are identified across the Borough for different types of open space (as set out in Parts 4.1 and 4.2). Consequently, the Council should seek to ensure these shortfalls are not made worse through increases in demand as part of future development growth across the Borough.

The recommendation for open space is for the current provision levels to be used as the recommended quantity standards for South Ribble. The exception is potentially for allotments which is explained in section 3.4.

The recommended quantity standards for South Ribble are:

Table 4.3.1: Recommended quantity standards

Typology	Recommended Quantity Standard (hectares per 1,000 population)
Parks & gardens	0.76
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	1.80
Amenity greenspace	1.29
Provision for children & young people	0.06
Allotment	0.04

Implication and recommendations

The current provision levels can be used to help identify where areas may have a shortfall against the recommended quantity standards for South Ribble. Table 4.3.2 and 4.3.3 shows the position for each sub-area as to whether it is sufficient or identified as having a shortfall against the recommended quantity standards for each type of open space.

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Table 4.3.2: Current provision against recommended quantity standards

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural & Semi-natural		Amenity greenspace		Allotments	
			(Hectares per 1000 population)					
	0.76		1.80		1.29		0.04	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
South Ribble Central	0.65	-0.11	2.70	+0.90	1.08	-0.21	-	-0.04
South Ribble Eastern	0.04	-0.72	3.16	+1.36	1.01	-0.28	0.06	+0.02
South Ribble Leyland	1.41	+0.65	1.37	-0.43	2.02	+0.73	0.05	+0.01
South Ribble Penwortham	1.31	+0.55	0.80	-1.00	0.86	-0.43	0.05	+0.01
South Ribble Western Parishes	0.01	-0.75	0.88	-0.92	1.12	-0.17	-	-0.04

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Table 4.3.3: Current provision against FIT guideline standards

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural & Semi-natural (Hectares per 1000 population)		Amenity greenspace		Allotments	
	0.80		1.80		0.60		0.25	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
South Ribble Central	0.65	-0.15	2.70	+0.90	1.08	+0.48	-	-0.25
South Ribble Eastern	0.04	-0.76	3.16	+1.36	1.01	+0.41	0.06	-0.19
South Ribble Leyland	1.41	+0.61	1.37	-0.43	2.02	+1.42	0.05	-0.20
South Ribble Penwortham	1.31	+0.51	0.80	-1.00	0.86	+0.26	0.05	-0.20
South Ribble Western Parishes	0.01	-0.79	0.88	-0.92	1.12	+0.52	-	-0.25

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All analysis areas are observed as having shortfalls in at least one form of open space (not taking in to account provision for children). South Ribble Western Parishes and South Ribble Central analysis areas do not have any allotment provision so are observed as having a shortfall. However, in most analysis areas, where a shortfall in one open space type might be identified; there is generally a sufficiency in other open space types noted.

Provision for children and young people

Table 4.3.4 shows the position for each sub-area as to whether it is sufficient or identified as having a shortfall against the recommended standard in terms of provision for children and young people.

Table 4.3.4: Current play provision against recommended quantity standard

Analysis area	Hectares per 1000 population	
	Current provision	Sufficiency/deficiency against 0.06 recommended standard
South Ribble Central	0.04	-0.02
South Ribble Eastern	0.06	Level
South Ribble Leyland	0.09	+0.03
South Ribble Penwortham	0.05	-0.01
South Ribble Western Parishes	0.07	+0.01

The South Ribble Central and South Ribble Penwortham Analysis Areas are identified as having a shortfall against the recommended standard.

Identifying priorities

The focus for areas identified as being sufficient against the existing quantity standards will be for priorities to ensure quality and accessibility standards are being met. Table 4.3.2 and 4.3.3 also highlights those areas of the Borough with shortfalls in open space provision.

The recommended quantity standards should also be used to determine the open space requirements as part of new housing developments. In the first instance, all types of open space provision should look to be provided as part of new housing developments.

If this is not considered viable, the column signalling whether an analysis area is sufficient or has a shortfall against the recommended quantity standards may be used to help inform the priorities for each type of open space within each analysis area (i.e. the priorities will be where a shortfall has been identified).

For example, in South Ribble Eastern, shortfalls are highlighted across three forms of open space provision (see Table 4.3.2 and 4.3.4). On this basis, this should be identified as a priority area for new forms of provision. If not feasible, then ensuring contributions to enhancing the quality and accessibility of existing open space provision will be necessary.

PART 5: POLICY ADVICE AND STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Strategic recommendations

The following section provides a summary on the key findings through the application of the quantity, quality and accessibility standards. It incorporates and recommends what the Council should be seeking to achieve in order to address the issues highlighted.

Recommendation 1

- ◀ *Ensure low quality sites are prioritised for enhancement*

The policy approach to these sites should be to enhance their quality to the applied standards (i.e. high quality) where possible. This is especially the case if the site is deemed to be of high value to the local community. Therefore, they should initially be protected, if they are not already so, in order for their quality to be improved.

The implications summary of low quality sites (p38-42) identifies those sites that should be given consideration for enhancement if possible. Priority sites should be those highlighted as helping or with the potential to serve gaps in provision (see Recommendation 2)

Recommendation 2

- ◀ *Sites helping or with the potential to serve areas identified as having gaps in catchment mapping should be recognised through opportunities for enhancement*

The implications summary for the accessibility catchment mapping (p14-16) highlights any sites that help or have the potential to serve gaps in provision. Furthermore, there are some sites across South Ribble with a multi-functional role which may serve (to some extent) the wider areas of the Borough.

The Council should seek to ensure the role and quality of these multi-functional sites through greater levels and diverse range of features linked to those types of open space. This is in order to provide a stronger secondary role as well as opportunities associated with other open space types. This may also help to minimise the need for new forms of provision in order to address gaps in catchments or as a result of potential new housing growth developments. This may particularly be the case in areas where the space to create new forms of provision is not a viable option.

Recommendation 3

- ◀ *Recognise areas with sufficient provision in open space and how they may be able to meet other areas of need*

If no improvements can be made to sites identified as lower quality (p38-42), then a change of primary typology should be considered (i.e. a change of role).

If no shortfall in other open space types is noted (p18-20), or it is not feasible to change the primary typology of the site, only then the site may be redundant/ 'surplus to requirements'.

Recommendation 4

- ◀ *The need for additional cemetery provision should be led by demand*

No standards have been set for the provision of cemeteries. Instead provision should be determined by demand for burial space.

5.2 Implications

The following section sets out the policy implications in terms of the planning process in South Ribble. This is intended to help steer the Council in seeking contributions to the improvement and/or provision of any new forms of open space.

How is provision to be made?

The requirements for on-site or off-site provision will vary according to the type of open space to be provided. Collecting contributions from developers can be undertaken through the following two processes.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Planning Obligations are the two main mechanisms available to the Council to ensure future development addresses any adverse impacts it creates. If required, Planning Conditions can be used to ensure that key requirements are met.

Planning obligations

Planning Conditions and Obligations (often known as Section 106 Agreements) require individual developments to provide or pay for the provision of development specific infrastructure requirements. They are flexible and deliver a wide range of site and community infrastructure benefits.

A development should make appropriate provision of services, facilities and infrastructure to meet its own needs. Where sufficient capacity does not exist, the development should contribute what is necessary either on-site or by making a financial contribution towards provision elsewhere.

Seeking developer contributions

This document can inform policies and emerging planning documents by assisting in the Council's approach to securing open spaces through new housing development. The evidence should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions for the provision of appropriate facilities and their long term maintenance.

The wider benefits of open space sites and features regardless of size should be recognised as a key design principle for any new development. These features and elements can help to contribute to the perception of open space provision in an area, at the same time as also ensuring an aesthetically pleasing landscape providing wider social, environmental and health benefits. Sport England's Active Design looks at the opportunities to encourage sport and physical activity through the built environment in order to support healthier and more active lifestyles. It is therefore important for planning to consider the principles of Active Design.

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In smaller, infill, development areas where open space provision is identified as being sufficient in terms of quantity and subsequently, therefore, provision of new open space is not deemed necessary. It may be more suitable to seek contributions for quality improvements and/or new offsite provision in order to address any future demand.

Off site contributions

If new provision cannot be provided on site it may be more appropriate to seek to enhance the quality of existing provision and/or improve access and linkages to existing sites. In some instances, a development may be located within close proximity to an existing site. In such cases, it may be more beneficial for an offsite contribution to avoid creation of small incremental spaces so close to existing sites.

Standard costs for the enhancement of existing open space and provision of new open spaces should be clearly identified and revised on a regular basis.

Maintenance contributions

There will be a requirement on developers to demonstrate that where onsite provision is to be provided it will be managed and maintained accordingly. In some instances, the site may be adopted by the Council, which will require the developer to submit a sum of money in order to pay the costs of the site's future maintenance. Often the procedure for councils adopting new sites includes:

- ◀ The developer being responsible for maintenance of the site for an initial agreed establishment period.
- ◀ Sums to cover the maintenance costs of a site (once transferred to the Council) should be intended to cover an agreed set period.

Calculations to determine the amount of maintenance contributions required should be based on current maintenance costs. The typical maintenance costs for the site should also take into consideration its open space typology and size.

5.3 Approach to developer contributions

KKP advocates the requirement for open space should be based upon the number of persons generated from the net increase in dwellings in the proposed scheme. We also promote the use of quantity provision standards (in hectares per 1,000 population) in calculating the open space requirements of new housing development.

Flexible approach

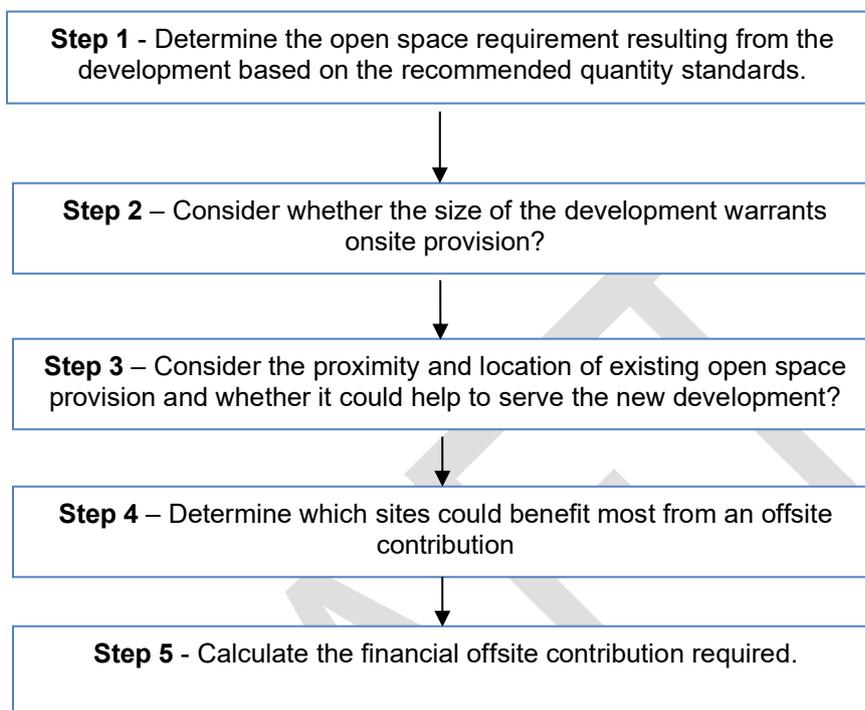
A focus of this study has been to recognise the role quality and accessibility has in terms of open space provision. Future need should not just centre on quantity requirements of new residential developments. For instance, a new residential development may not warrant onsite provision but contribution to an existing site within close proximity could be.

The flowchart (Figure 5.3.1) sets out the process that should be considered when determining contributions in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility. For larger scale developments, the provision standards should be used to help determine the requirements for open space provision as part of a development.

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The figure below sets out the processes that should be considered when determining developer contributions towards open space provision.

Figure 5.3.1: Determining developer contributions



Determining onsite or offsite contributions

The requirement for on or off-site provision should be undertaken in conjunction with the accessibility and quality of existing open space provision. For instance, if an existing form of open space is located within access to the development there may not be a requirement to provide onsite provision.

Small sized onsite contributions should be avoided on developments smaller in size where necessary. It is recognised that open spaces of a particular small size hold less recreational use and value. The presence of additional smaller sites will also add to the existing pressures of maintenance regimes and safety inspections. It is therefore suggested that a minimum threshold is used to determine if provision should be provided on or off site.

Both the GLA and FIT offer some guidance to the potential minimum threshold size of sites (Table 5.3.1). New open space provision should look to be provided as offsite contributions if the calculated open space requirement for the proposed development falls below the size threshold. If the requirement is above the threshold, it should look to be provided onsite as part of the development.

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Table 5.3.1: Minimum size threshold for contributions:

Classification		Minimum size of site
Allotments		0.4 ha (0.025 per plot)
Amenity greenspace		0.4 ha
Natural and semi natural		0.4 ha
Parks and gardens		2 ha
Play areas*	Equipped	0.04 ha
	Informal/casual	0.10 ha

Source: GLA Open space strategies: Best practice guidance (2009)

Play area recommendation

Residential developments should normally be required to meet the need for play provision generated by the development on site, as an integral part of the design. Where this is not feasible, payment of a development contribution will be used to install or upgrade play facilities in the vicinity of a proposed development.

A play area must be sited within an open space sufficient to accommodate the provision and its required buffer zone to ensure residential amenity is maintained. Buffer distances ensure that facilities do not enable users to overlook neighbouring properties, reducing possibility of conflict. Any play requirements should be counted as additional to any other onsite open space requirement (e.g. provision of amenity greenspace should not also be counted as informal play provision).

Fields in Trust (FIT) offer guidance to the appropriate buffer zone areas dependent upon the type of play provision (i.e. the larger the scale of play provision, the greater the buffer zone recommended).

FIT also recommend minimum site areas for different levels of formal play; LAP (Local Area for Play) is approximately 0.01ha, or 100 sq. metres (0.01ha), LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play) is approximately 0.04 hectares, or 400 sq. metres per 1,000 population, and for larger forms of play i.e. NEAPs (Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play), FIT recommends an area of 0.10 hectares per 1,000 population.

On this basis, a development of 435 dwellings[†] or more would be required to warrant on-site provision of play equipment. This means that for a significant number of developments, play provision may take the form of developer contributions to up-grade and expand the local equipped play provision in the vicinity of the development. However, play provision may still need to be made on sites in locations where the nearest existing play site is deemed too far away.

The extent to which the amount of the required provision should be made on site by way of informal provision would be determined on a case by case basis subject to site size, shape, topography, the risk of conflict with existing neighbouring residential properties and feasibility. Any informal provision can include useable informal grassed areas but should not include landscaping areas as these are regarded as formal provision. Opportunities to provide inclusive forms of play equipment at sites should be encouraged.

* Minimum recommended size for play areas by Fields In Trust

† Based on national household occupancy rate of 2.3 people per dwelling

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APPENDIX ONE: QUALITY AND VALUE MATRIX

The following tables are part of the application of the quality and value matrix as set out earlier in the report (Section 4.1).

Sites that are colour coded green represent scoring above the thresholds for quality and value. Conversely, red scoring sites are those which rate below the quality and value thresholds.

A3.1: South Ribble Central Analysis Area Summary

A3.1a: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Townsway Community Orchard Rosemeade Avenue AGS Meadowland AGS Lydiate Lane AGS Moss Bridge Park AGS North Union View AGS St. Pauls Park AGS	St Cuthbert's Road AGS River Lostock Country Park. Sherdley Wood Heatherleigh AGS End of Mercer Road AGS Trumpet Park Gardens Tardy Gate/Croston Rd/William St Recreation Ground Morland Avenue AGS
	Low		

A3.1b: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St. Pauls Cemetery	Our Lady & St Gellards Churchyard
	Low		

A3.1c: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Cuerden Valley Park, South Ribble St Catherine's Wetland and Woodland Reserve Farington Lodge, Farington London Way NSN 2	Bluebell Wood
	Low		Sound Mound

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A3.1d: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St Catherine's Park Farington Park	
	Low		

A3.1e: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St Catherine's Park play area St. Pauls Park Play Area Kew Gardens Play Area/Farington Park Children's Play Area Farington Park MUGA Trumpet Park Gardens Play Area	William St Recreation Ground play area 2 William St Recreation Ground MUGA Tardy Gate Croston Rd/William St Recreation Ground Play Area 1
	Low		

A3.1f: Civic Space

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High		Tardy Gate War Memorial
	Low		

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A3.2: South Ribble Eastern Analysis Area Summary

A3.2a: Allotments

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Brindle Road Allotments	Thornton Drive Allotments
	Low		

A3.2b: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Walnutwood Avenue AGS River Lostock Playing Fields Industrial Estate AGS 1 Bellis Way, Old Tram Road Coupe Green Amenity Area Longbrook Avenue AGS Withy Trees AGS Bluebell Way AGS Furtherfield AGS 2 Holland House Road Gregson Lane Recreation Area AGS Queen Victoria Recreation Ground King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	Samlesbury Playing Field Devonport Close AGS Holland House Road AGS 2 Morris Homes, Wateringpool Lane Holland House Road AGS 1
	Low		

A3.2c: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St Saviours Churchyard St Mary's RC Church Leyland	Church Road Cemetery All Saints Church St Patrick's Churchyard St Leonards Churchyard St Leonard the Less
	Low		

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A3.2d: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Walton Park Carrwood Road NSN Holland Wood Preston Junction Nature Preserve Withy Grove House NSN Walton-le-dale High School NSN	Carr Wood Oakland Glen NSN Springwood Close Woodland Area Furtherfield NSN Mosney Wood Cockshott Wood
	Low		

A3.2e: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Withy Grove House Parks and Gardens	
	Low		

A3.2f: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	River Lostock Play Area River Lostock MUGA Coupe Green Play Area Bellis Way, Old Tram Road, Play Area Walton-le-dale Youth and Community Centre Holland House Road Play Area Gregson Lane Play Area Gregson Lane MUGA King George's Playing Field - Play Area, South Ribble King Georges MUGA	Withy Grove Park play area Withy Grove Park skate park Withy Grove Park MUGA Hawthorpe Avenue Play Area
	Low		

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A3.2g: Civic Space

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Brownedge Lane (inc. War Memorial)	Carr Brook Linear Park, Clayton Brook Road
	Low		

A3.3: South Ribble Leyland Analysis Area Summary

A3.3a: Allotments

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Long Meanygate Allotment	
	Low		

A3.3b: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Western Drive	AGS South of Industrial Estate
		Wigan Road/Central Avenue AGS	Cheetham Meadow AGS
		Quins Croft Village Green AGS	St James Church AGS
		Kingswood Road AGS	Springfield Road AGS
		St James Garden AGS	Wood Green AGS
		AGS Alongside Schleslig Way - 1	High School Green AGS
		AGS Alongside Schleswig Way - 2	Stokes Hall Estate
		AGS South of Vehicle Test Track	St Johns Green
		East of Ulnes Walton Lane	Middlefield Park
		Millbrook AGS	Leyland Leisure Centre AGS
		Greystones AGS	
		Pintail Close AGS	
		AGS Adjacent To Middlefield Park	
		Moss Side AGS	
		Balcarres Green	
		Bent Green	
		Bannister Brook AGS	
Colt House Wood (south) AGS			
Colt House Wood (west) AGS			
Hastings Road			
Downham Road AGS			

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		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Leadale Green Peacock Hall Green Shawbrook Green, Wade Hall Leyton Green AGS Lowerhouse Road AGS West Paddock AGS Haig Avenue AGS Low Green AGS Mayfield Estate Western Drive AGS Seven Stars Road Leyland	
	Low		

A3.3c: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St James Churchyard St Mary's Cemetery Leyland St Andrews Churchyard Leyland	Pet Cemetery & Crematorium
	Low		

A3.3d: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Saunton Walk NSN Silverstone Street NSN Alongside Schleswig Way – 3 Nixon Lane Wood Beechfield NSN Colt House Wood Schlesing Way Natural Area Spring Gardens, Lancaster Gate Pinewood Crescent NSN High Green/low Green/wood Mill Brook NSN Schleswig Way/slater Lane NSN	Langdale Road NSN Vehicle Test Track (North) NSN Shrugg Wood Nature Reserve Farington Hall Wood
	Low		

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A3.3e: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Worden Park	
	Low		

A3.3f: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Anderton Crescent play area Slater Lane Play Area Slater Lane MUGA Bent Green MUGA Ryden Green play area Downham Road Ball Court Leadale Green Play Area MUGA at Leadale Green Haig Avenue Play Area Haig Avenue MUGA West Paddock Youth Centre Basketball Court Worden Park Play Area Dunnerholme Avenue Play Area	Peacock Hall Green MUGA Shawbrook Green MUGA Seven Stars Road play area
	Low		

A3.3g: Green Corridors

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Between Durham Drive, Highfield Drive and Carpenters Close	
	Low		

A3.3h: Civic Space

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High		Leyland Cross Memorial
	Low		

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A3.4: South Ribble Penwortham Analysis Area Summary

A3.4a: Allotments

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Braid Close Allotments Penwortham Allotments	
	Low		

A3.4b: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Bank Top Road Rydal Avenue AGS Birch Avenue AGS King George V Playing Field, South Ribble Clock Road AGS Ribble Siding AGS Alderfield AGS and Pond Fryer Close AGS Hawkesbury Drive AGS North Martinfeld AGS Sumpter Croft AGS East Rowan Close AGS Kingsfold Playing Fields	Saxon Place AGS Penwortham Allotments NSN Penwortham Broad Oak AGS The Maltings AGS Alderfield AGS East Stonecroft AGS Buckingham Avenue AGS Dickenson Field AGS Havelock Road, Penwortham Farfield AGS
	Low		

A3.4c: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Hurst Grange Burial Ground	St Marys Churchyard
	Low		

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A3.4d: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Tam Wood Blashaw Wood Ribble Siding Woodland Grange NSN Goldenway NSN South Priory Meadow Nature Reserve	Church Wood
	Low		

A3.4e: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Hurst Grange Park Priory Park	Pear Tree Park, Middleforth Green
	Low		

A3.4f: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Birch Avenue Play Area King Georges Play Area Hurst Grange Play Area Kingsfold Drive Play Area	Ribble Siding Play Area Alderfield Play Area
	Low		

A3.4g: Civic Space

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	War Memorial, Liverpool Road	
	Low		

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A3.5: South Ribble Western Analysis Area Summary

A3.5a: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Longton Victory Memorial Rec Ground East & West Square Green New Longton Recreation Ground Northern Avenue Recreation Ground Little Hoole Playing Fields	Paradise Park Seven Sands Amenity Greenspace Formby Crescent AGS Longton Playing Fields AGS Hutton Recreation Ground
	Low		

A3.5b: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St Michael's Church, Much Hoole St Andrews Churchyard Longton	
	Low		

A3.5c: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Longton Brickcroft Nature Reserve Longton Grove NSN Longton Library NSN Saunders Lane NSN Hutton Seven Sands NSN	
	Low		

A3.5d: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High		Rawstone Crescent Gardens
	Low		

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A3.5e: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	BMX track off Smithy Lane Longton Play Area Longton Playing Fields Youth Shelter New Longton Recreation Ground play area New Longton Ball and Skate Park Northern Avenue Play Area Northern Avenue MUGA Kickabout Little Hoole Playing Fields Play Area	Hutton Recreation Ground Play Area Halliwell Crescent Play Area
	Low		

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APPENDIX TWO: QUALITY AND VALUE SUMMARY

Following identification of high and low quality sites, a summary of the actions for any relevant sites in each analysis area is shown in the following tables. This is to highlight sites for each typology scoring low for quality and/or value in each analysis area and to provide an indication to its level of priority and/or importance with regard to enhancement. The actions cited are broad and intended to act as a stepping stone to further investigation

There is a need for flexibility to the enhancing of sites within close proximity to sites of low quality. In some instances, a better use of resources and investment may be to focus on more suitable sites for enhancement as opposed to trying to enhance a site that is not appropriate or cost effective to do so.

Table A2.1: South Ribble Central Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
◀ No allotments in analysis area.	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
◀ Seven sites rate below quality threshold: St Cuthbert's Road AGS, Tardy Gate/Croston Rd/William St Recreation Ground, Morland Avenue AGS, River Lostock Country Park Sherdley Wood, Heatherleigh AGS, End of Mercer Road AGS and Trumpet Park Gardens.	◀ Enhancing site quality should be explored where possible (exploring options for improved maintenance, drainage and enhancement of general appearance).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
◀ One site (Our Lady & St Gellards Churchyard) rates below quality threshold.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible; for example, exploring options for improved maintenance, personal security
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
◀ Two sites rate below quality threshold: Sound Mound and Bluebell Wood.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible; for example, exploring options for improved maintenance, personal security etc
Parks and gardens	
◀ All sites rate above quality threshold	n/a
Provision for children and young people	
◀ Three sites rate below quality threshold: Tardy Gate Croston Rd/William St Recreation Ground Play Area 1, William St Recreation Ground play area 2 and William St Recreation Ground MUGA.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. look to improve the amount and range of play equipment)
Green Corridors	
◀ No Green corridors in analysis area.	n/a
Civic Space	
◀ Tardy Gate scores below quality threshold.	

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Table A2.2: South Ribble Eastern Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One site rates below the threshold for quality: Thornton Drive Allotments, Houghton. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality should be enhanced where possible; exploring ways to improve overall appearance, site security and boundary fencing.
Amenity greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five site rates below quality threshold: Morris Homes, Wateringpool Lane, Samesbury Playing Field, Holland House Road AGS 1, Devonport Close AGS and Holland House Road AGS 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing site quality should be explored where possible (enhancement of general appearance and features).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five sites rate below quality threshold: St Leonard the Less, Church Road Cemetery, All Saints Church, St Patrick's Churchyard and St Leonards Churchyard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing quality should be explored where possible
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six sites rate below quality threshold: Carr Wood, Oakland Glen NSN, Springwood Close Woodland Area, Furtherfield NSN, Mosney Wood, Cockshott Wood. 	
Parks and gardens	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sites rate above quality threshold: 	n/a
Provision for children and young people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four sites rate below quality threshold: Withy Grove Park play area, Withy Grove Park skate park, Withy Grove Park MUGA and Hawthorpe Avenue Play Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. look to improve the amount and range of play equipment)
Green Corridors	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sites in this analysis area. 	n/a
Civic Space	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sites score below threshold. 	

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Table A2.3: South Ribble Leyland Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
◀ No sites below the quality threshold.	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
◀ 11 sites rate below quality threshold: AGS South of Industrial Estate, St Johns Green, Cheetham Meadow AGS, Middlefield Park, St James Church AGS, Bannister Brook AGS, Springfield Road AGS, Leyland Leisure Centre AGS, Wood Green AGS, High School Green AGS and Stokes Hall Estate.	◀ Enhancing quality should be explored where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, general appearance / additional ancillary).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
◀ Pet Cemetery & Crematorium rates below quality threshold.	◀ Enhancing quality should be explored where possible
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
◀ Four sites rate below quality threshold: Langdale Road NSN, Vehicle Test Track (North) NSN, Shrugg Wood Nature Reserve and Farington Hall Wood.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, pathways)
Parks and gardens	
◀ All sites score above thresholds.	n/a
Provision for children and young people	
◀ Three sites rate below quality threshold: Peacock Hall Green MUGA, Shawbrook Green MUGA, Seven Stars Road play area.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. maintenance, equipment)
Green Corridors	
◀ All sites score above quality threshold.	n/a

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Table A2.4: South Ribble Penwortham Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sites score above the quality threshold. 	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 sites rate below quality threshold: Havelock Road, Penwortham, Saxon Place AGS, Farfield AGS, Penwortham Allotments NSN, Penwortham Broad Oak AGS, The Maltings AGS, Alderfield AGS East, Stonecroft AGS, Buckingham Avenue AGS and Dickenson Field AGS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing quality should be explored where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, general appearance / additional ancillary).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Marys Churchyard rates below quality threshold. 	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Wood rates below quality threshold. 	n/a
Parks and gardens	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pear Tree Park, Middleforth Green rates below quality threshold. 	
Provision for children and young people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sites rate below quality threshold: Ribble Siding Play Area and Alderfield Play Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. maintenance, equipment)

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Table A2.5: South Ribble Western Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
◀ No allotments in this analysis area.	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
◀ Five sites rate below quality threshold: Paradise Park, Seven Sands Amenity Greenspace, Formby Crescent AGS, Longton Playing Fields AGS and Hutton Recreation Ground.	◀ Enhancing quality should be explored where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, general appearance / additional ancillary).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
◀ All sites rate above quality threshold.	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
◀ All sites rate above quality threshold.	n/a
Parks and gardens	
◀ Rawstone Crescent Gardens rates below the quality threshold.	◀ Enhancing site quality in line with other parks should be explored where possible (general appearance and features).
Provision for children and young people	
◀ Two site rates below quality threshold: Hutton Recreation Ground Play Area and Halliwell Crescent Play Area.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. range and amount of equipment)

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APPENDIX THREE: CONSULTATION SUMMARY WITH PARISH COUNCILS

Parish Council	Is there enough open space to meet needs?	Concerns (from 2019 study)
Hutton	Yes	Adequate quality open spaces. No allotments or youth provision
Longton	Yes	No concerns expressed. Good quality existing provision. No allotments.
Much Hoole	Reasonable	Poor drainage across Northern Road Recreation Ground. Drainage has been improved but still remains a significant issue. Potential for fitness equipment. At the back of village hall, there are disused tennis courts which are not maintained. The scout hut is brand new. Would be ideal to implement a MUGA or five-a-side on tennis courts as this would be popular and well used. However, they want to rebuild the village hall first. The Village Trustee want to prioritise village hall rebuild which is run down at the moment.
Penwortham Town Council	Yes	Burial capacity at Hill Road Cemetery 10/15 years left. Plan is to extend into Hurst Grange Park. Some decent play areas. Good supply of OS. Quite a lot of open space. Drainage is the main issue. Pitch at Kingsfold Playing Fields had drainage issues last year. Events held at Hurst Grange Park such as Penwortham Gala. The site needs refurbishing though. The coachhouse building is going to be developed. Needs a café, toilets, lighting and a heritage centre.
Salmesbury and Cuerdale	No	Rural area, not much open space. No parks, play areas, youth provision, allotments. In process of getting a playground on Nabs Head Lane where amenity greenspace is. Have drawn plans up. Got 78% of money. Will possibly be built next year.

APPENDIX FOUR: QUANTITY BY WARD

Table A4.1: Current provision by Ward

Wards	Current population*	Parks & gardens		Natural & semi-natural greenspace		Amenity greenspace		Provision for children/ young people		Allotments	
		Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000
Bamber Bridge East	4945	1.08	0.22	2.35	0.48	6.02	1.22	0.65	0.13	-	-
Bamber Bridge West	4273	-	-	-	-	6.07	1.42	0.11	0.03	-	-
Broad Oak	3994	16.56	4.15	-	-	6.90	1.73	0.76	0.19	1.03	0.26
Broadfield (South Ribble)	4970	-	-	4.14	0.83	5.31	1.07	0.27	0.05	0.09	0.02
Buckshaw & Worden	4730	44.92	9.50	3.66	0.77	19.25	4.07	1.59	0.34	-	-
Charnock	3952	-	-	-	-	3.62	0.92	0.19	0.05	-	-
Coupe Green & Gregson Lane	4237	-	-	0.70	0.17	4.86	1.15	0.31	0.07	1.72	0.41
Earnshaw Bridge	4814	-	-	24.43	5.07	5.65	1.17	0.05	0.01	-	-
Farington East	4548	4.78	1.05	22.19	4.88	1.44	0.32	0.31	0.07	-	-
Farington West	4189	-	-	5.19	1.24	8.75	2.09	0.33	0.08	-	-
Hoole	4254	-	-	-	-	4.24	1.00	0.46	0.11	-	-

* Source: 2021 census population estimates for 2021 Wards

Wards	Current population*	Parks & gardens		Natural & semi-natural greenspace		Amenity greenspace		Provision for children/ young people		Allotments	
		Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000
Howick & Priory	7230	5.19	0.72	12.56	1.74	1.88	0.26	0.14	0.02	-	-
Leyland Central	4936	-	-	3.76	0.76	2.11	0.43	-	-	-	-
Longton & Hutton West	5776	-	-	12.42	2.15	4.63	0.80	0.19	0.03	-	-
Lostock Hall	6138	3.65	0.59	12.82	2.09	7.65	1.25	0.01	0.002	-	-
Middleforth	7386	7.75	1.05	5.56	0.75	6.98	0.95	0.11	0.01	0.06	0.008
Moss Side (South Ribble)	3894	-	-	5.35	1.37	24.09	6.19	0.29	0.07	1.61	0.41
New Longton & Hutton East	4702	0.14	0.03	0.50	0.11	7.66	1.63	0.39	0.08	-	-
St Ambrose	4206	-	-	-	-	2.51	0.60	0.28	0.07	-	-
Samlesbury & Walton	4138	-	-	-	-	3.70	0.89	0.31	0.07	-	-
Seven Stars	4323	-	-	2.18	0.50	5.39	1.25	0.30	0.07	-	-
Walton-le-Dale East	4742	-	-	46.61	9.83	4.30	0.91	0.09	0.02	-	-
Walton-le-Dale West	4658	-	-	35.67	7.66	0.51	0.10	0.04	0.009	-	-
Total	111,021	84.05	0.76	200.10	1.81	143.53	1.29	7.17	0.06	4.51	0.04

Table A4.2: Current provision against recommended quantity standards (hectares per 1,000 population)

Wards	Population	Parks & gardens		Natural & semi-natural greenspace		Amenity greenspace		Provision for children/ young people		Allotments	
		0.76		1.80		1.29		0.06		0.04	
		Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient
Bamber Bridge East	4945	0.22	-0.54	0.48	-1.32	1.22	-0.07	0.13	-0.07	-	-0.04
Bamber Bridge West	4273	-	-0.76	-	-1.80	1.42	+0.13	0.03	-0.03	-	-0.04
Broad Oak	3994	4.15	+3.39	-	1.80	1.73	+0.44	0.19	+0.13	0.26	+0.22
Broadfield (South Ribble)	4970	-	-0.76	0.83	-0.97	1.07	-0.22	0.05	-0.01	0.02	-0.02
Buckshaw & Worden	4730	9.50	+8.74	0.77	-1.03	4.07	+2.78	0.34	-0.28	-	-0.04
Charnock	3952	-	-0.76	-	1.80	0.92	-0.37	0.05	-0.01	-	-0.04
Coupe Green & Gregson Lane	4237	-	-0.76	0.17	-1.63	1.15	-0.14	0.07	+0.01	0.41	+0.37
Earnshaw Bridge	4814	-	-0.76	5.07	+3.27	1.17	-0.12	0.01	-0.05	-	-0.04
Farington East	4548	1.05	+0.29	4.88	+3.08	0.32	-0.97	0.07	+0.01	-	-0.04
Farington West	4189	-	-0.76	1.24	-0.56	2.09	+0.80	0.08	+0.02	-	-0.04
Hoole	4254	-	-0.76	-	1.80	1.00	-0.29	0.11	+0.05	-	-0.04
Howick & Priory	7230	0.72	-0.04	1.74	-0.06	0.26	-1.03	0.02	-0.04	-	-0.04
Leyland Central	4936	-	-0.76	0.76	-1.04	0.43	-0.86	-	-0.06	-	-0.04
Longton & Hutton West	5776	-	-0.76	2.15	+0.35	0.80	-0.49	0.03	-0.03	-	-0.04

Wards	Population	Parks & gardens		Natural & semi-natural greenspace		Amenity greenspace		Provision for children/ young people		Allotments	
		0.76		1.80		1.29		0.06		0.04	
		Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient
Lostock Hall	6138	0.59	-0.17	2.09	+0.29	1.25	-0.04	0.002	-0.058	-	-0.04
Middleforth	7386	1.05	+0.29	0.75	-1.05	0.95	-0.34	0.01	-0.05	0.008	-0.032
Moss Side (South Ribble)	3894	-	-0.76	1.37	-0.43	6.19	+4.90	0.07	+0.01	0.41	+0.37
New Longton & Hutton East	4702	0.03	-0.73	0.11	-1.69	1.63	+0.34	0.08	+0.02	-	-0.04
St Ambrose	4206	-	-0.76	-	1.80	0.60	-0.69	0.07	+0.01	-	-0.04
Samlesbury & Walton	4138	-	-0.76	-	1.80	0.89	-0.40	0.07	+0.01	-	-0.04
Seven Stars	4323	-	-0.76	0.50	-1.30	1.25	-0.04	0.07	+0.01	-	-0.04
Walton-le-Dale East	4742	-	-0.76	9.83	+8.03	0.91	-	0.02	-0.04	-	-0.04
Walton-le-Dale West	4658	-	-0.76	7.66	+5.86	0.10	-	0.009	+0.03	-	-0.04