

PRESTON CITY COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE STUDY

STANDARDS PAPER UPDATE

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QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

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



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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Open Space Standards Paper (Updated 2025) prepared by Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Preston City Council (PCC). 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 Council's 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 for the Council to have clarity over existing levels of open space and what different types of provision 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

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Overview

Audit Assessment

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 200 accessible sites are identified and included within the study. There are an additional three inaccessible natural sites, (Fishwick Bottoms Open Space, Asda Wood and Fishwick Phase 3) which would provide a total of 203 sites

Within Preston, there is a total of approximately 724 hectares. The largest contributor to provision is natural and semi natural (326 hectares); accounting for 45%.

Table 1.2: Overview of open space provision

Open space typology	Number of sites	Total amount (hectares)*
Park and gardens	33	255
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	22	326
Amenity greenspace	56	70
Provision for children & young people	73	6
Allotments and community gardens	7	27
Cemeteries/churchyards	5	39
Civic spaces	4	1
TOTAL	200	724

All 200 sites have been assessed and receive a quality and value score. 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	60%	41%	57%	83%	13	20
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	40%	23%	46%	77%	6	16
Amenity greenspace	65%	49%	68%	89%	20	36
Provision for children and young people	60%	38%	65%	87%	18	55
Allotments	45%	50%	63%	72%	0	7
Cemeteries	55%	63%	66%	72%	0	5
Civic	55%	62%	66%	70%	0	4
TOTAL		23%	-	89%	57	143

* Rounded to the nearest whole number

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There is generally a good level of quality across all open space sites. This is reflected in over three quarters (71%) of sites scoring above their set threshold for quality. All civic spaces, allotments and cemetery sites assessed score above the quality threshold.

This is followed by provision for children and young people and natural and semi-natural with 74% and 73% of sites assessed respectively scoring above the thresholds.

The typology proportionally scoring lowest on quality is parks and gardens with 40% 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%	22%	48%	86%	0	33
Natural & semi-natural greenspace		24%	39%	63%	0	22
Amenity greenspace		23%	35%	61%	0	56
Provision for children & young people		38%	51%	82%	0	73
Allotments		33%	55%	67%	0	7
Cemeteries		44%	56%	63%	0	5
Civic		38%	43%	50%	0	4
TOTAL		22%	47%	86%	0	200

All sites are 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.

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Analysis areas

For mapping purposes and audit analysis, Preston has been divided into three 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 1.2: Population by analysis area

Analysis area	Population (2021)
Preston North East	45,207
Preston North West	39,621
Preston South	63,025
Preston	147,853

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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 33 sites classified as parks and gardens totalling over 255 hectares. This is an equivalent to 1.73 ha per 1,000 population.
- Proportionally, a greater level of provision is located in the Preston North West Analysis Area (2.44 ha per 1,000 population) compared to Preston South (1.82 ha per 1,000) and Preston North East (0.97 ha per 1,000 population).
- FIT suggests a standard of 0.80 ha per 1,000 population. All individual analysis areas meets the FIT standard.
- Other forms of open space also contribute to the perception and role of parks such as Beacon Fell Country Park.
- Catchment mapping shows that areas of higher population density generally are covered by the catchments applied.
- Most park and garden sites rate above the threshold for both quality and value. Sion Park is the lowest scoring site for quality. However, no specific issues are highlighted. The highest five scoring sites for quality are Ashton Park, Avenham and Miller Parks, Haslam Park, Moor Park and Winckley Square Gardens. This is reflected in all these sites achieving the Green Flag Award status.
- All assessed sites score highly for value, with the important social interaction, health benefits, ecological value and sense of place sites offer being recognised.

2.2 Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- There are 25 natural and semi-natural greenspace sites equating to 339 hectares. Of these, three have restricted or limited access due to conservation reasons.
- The 22 sites considered accessible total over 326 hectares. On this basis, there is proportionally more provision located in the Preston North East Analysis Area (6.32 ha per 1,000 population) compared to Preston North West (0.31) and Preston South (0.45)
- FIT suggests a standard of 1.80 ha per 1,000 population. Using the 22 sites, there are 2.21 ha per 1,000 population (accessible) across Preston. Only the Preston North East Analysis Area (6.32 ha per 1,000 population) meets the FIT standard individually.
- There is a good distribution of natural and semi-natural sites across the area.
- Brockholes Nature Reserve has national importance and is also classified as a LWS (Local Wildlife Site).
- Of the natural sites assessed, a total of 73% rate above the threshold set for quality. Only six sites rate below the quality threshold mainly due to poor paths and lower overall maintenance levels.
- All sites rate above the threshold for value. The habitat role of many natural sites is widely recognised with some sites also offering recreational opportunities (e.g. Brockholes Nature Reserve, Fishwick Bottoms Nature Reserve). This 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 good level of recreational offer.

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2.3 Amenity greenspace

- There are 56 amenity greenspace sites equating to over 69 hectares of provision.
- Proportionally, more provision is located in Preston North East Analysis Area (0.72 ha per 1,000 population) compared to Preston North West (0.35) or Preston South (0.37).
- FIT suggests a standard of 0.60 ha per 1,000 population. Overall, Preston (0.47 ha per 1,000 population) is slightly below the FIT standard.
- Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of amenity greenspace across the area. Some minor gaps from catchment mapping are noted in the south of the North East analysis area and on the east side of the North West analysis area.
- Over half (64%) of assessed amenity sites rate above the threshold for quality. The majority of sites to score lower for quality is due to a lack of ancillary features, poor surfaces or no paths and general perceived poorer site maintenance
- 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 73 play sites identified; a total of over six hectares.
- Preston as a whole has a current provision of 0.04 ha per 1,000 population. By sub analysis area, only Preston South has a higher current level of provision (0.05).
- There is a good spread of provision across the area. Most areas of greater population density are covered although a minor gap to the south of the North East Analysis Area is observed.
- A greater proportion of play sites (75%) 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 play provision rates above the threshold for value; reflecting the social, healthy and developmental benefits provision can provide.

2.5 Allotments

- There are seven allotments sites: equating to more than 27 hectares.
- Current provision of 0.18 hectares per 1,000 population is below the NSALG recommended amount (0.25 hectares per 1000 people).
- Catchment mapping does not highlight any significant gaps in provision.
- Waiting lists exist for plots across the area. These appear manageable however long term there is likely to be a need for continuing forms of provision.
- The value of allotments is widely recognised due to the associated social inclusion, health benefits and the sense of place they offer.

2.6 Cemeteries

- There are five cemeteries and churchyards, equating to nearly 39 hectares.
- The largest site is Ribbleton/Farrington Cemetery (29.48 hectares).
- No standards are set for cemeteries. The need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

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2.7 Green corridors

- ◀ There are no green corridors identified. However, it is acknowledged that the Preston Guild Wheel, a 21 mile cycle route, encircles Preston and runs through several open spaces in Preston including Avenham and Miller Parks and Preston Crematorium.
- ◀ The sites offer important recreational opportunities such as walking and cycling as well as attracting visitors to the area. They also provide important habitat and wildlife benefits.

2.8 Civic Space

- ◀ There are four sites classified as civic spaces: all score high for quality and value.

PART 3: SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS

3.1 Developing and setting standards

The following section derives and details the proposed local standards recommended for Preston City 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 Preston City Council.

As part of the original 2019 work, consultation on local need for open space provision was conducted with key local authority officers. Consultation has also been carried out with parish and town councils. This has been via face-to-face meetings and surveys to all parish councils. 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.

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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%
Green corridors	60%	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).

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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
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 useful to compare existing levels of provision identified as part of the assessment against national benchmarks. The current provision levels are initially detailed in the Assessment Report.

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.

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Table 3.4.1: Comparison of current provision and national benchmarks

Typology		Hectares per 1,000 population	
		Current provision levels	National benchmarks
Parks & gardens		1.73	0.80
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	All sites	2.30	1.80
	Accessible sites only	2.21	
Amenity greenspace		0.47	0.60
Provision for children & young people		0.04	0.25
Allotment		0.18	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 Preston.

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. Full responses are provided in the Assessment Report.

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 3.4.2: Parish council responses

Parish council	Highlighted concerns
Barton	- Not enough open space with the amount of new housing. - Playgrounds need to be maintained to ensure they remain a usable facility
Broughton in Amounderness	King George's Playing Field is very poorly drained so not used as much as it could be.
Grimsargh	Lack of youth provision. Parish Council looking to provide a football pitch and possibly a MUGA if land can be acquired. Existing open spaces are good but could be improved.
Whittingham	No public open space in Higher Whittingham.
Woodplumpton	No concerns identified

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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 Preston. 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 Preston are set out in Table 3.4.3.

Table 3.4.3: Recommended quantity standard

Typology	Quantity standard (hectares per 1,000 population)
Parks & gardens	1.73
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	2.21
Amenity greenspace	0.47
Provision for children & young people	0.04
Allotments	0.18

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 then 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 have been used to set initial accessibility catchments. These are presented in Table 4.2.1 and are applied to help inform 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:

- ◀ 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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Preston North East

Table 4.2.3: Preston North East Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ No gaps in 15-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	◀ Minor gap in 10-minute walk time catchment to south of analysis area	◀ Gap is served by other forms of provision such as parks (e.g. Moor Park, Manor House Lane Park and Brookfield Park).
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	◀ No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	◀ Minor gaps in walk time catchment to south west of analysis area	◀ Gap is in lower population areas of city containing Royal Preston Hospital, Preston Golf Club and Preston College etc. unlikely to warrant further action.
Allotments	◀ No significant gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

Preston North West

Table 4.2.4: Preston North West Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	◀ No gaps in 15-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	◀ Minor gap in 10-minute walk time catchment to south of analysis area	◀ Gap is served by other forms of provision such as parks (e.g. Ashton Park, Haslam Park and Mill Lane Playing Field).
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 significant gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

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Preston South

Table 4.2.5: Preston South Accessibility Summary

Typology	Identified need from catchment gap	Action
Parks and gardens	No gaps in 15-minute walk time catchment	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	Minor gaps in 10-minute walk time catchment to north of analysis area	Gap is served by other forms of provision such as parks (e.g. Moor Park and Ashton Park).
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	No gaps in 30-minute drive time	n/a
Provision for children and young people	Minor gap in 10-minute walk time catchment	- Gap is in dense area of city centre. Likely to be served to some extent by existing provision such as Moor Park, Castleton Road, Fishwick Road, Smiths Rec and Moor Lane - Opportunities to enhance/expand equipment range at existing sites is recommended
Allotments	No gaps in 15-minute drive time	n/a

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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 City 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 City.

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

The recommended quantity standards for Preston are:

Table 4.3.1: Recommended quantity standards

Typology	Recommended Quantity Standard (hectares per 1,000 population)
Parks & gardens	1.73
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	2.21
Amenity greenspace	0.47
Provision for children & young people	0.04
Allotment	0.18

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 Preston. 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. A comparison benchmark against the FIT guideline standards are also presented.

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Table 4.3.2: Current provision against recommended quantity standards

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural & Semi-natural (Hectares per 1000 population)		Amenity greenspace (Hectares per 1000 population)		Allotments	
	1.73		2.21		0.47		0.18	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Preston North East	0.97	-0.76	6.32	+4.11	0.72	+0.25	0.31	+0.13
Preston North West	2.44	+0.71	0.31	-1.90	0.35	-0.12	0.02	-0.16
Preston South	1.82	+0.09	0.45	-1.76	0.37	-0.10	0.20	+0.02

Table 4.3.3: Current provision against FIT guideline standards

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		Natural & Semi-natural (Hectares per 1000 population)		Amenity greenspace (Hectares per 1000 population)		Allotments	
	0.80		1.80		0.60		0.25	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Preston North East	0.97	+0.17	6.32	+4.52	0.72	+0.12	0.31	+0.06
Preston North West	2.44	+1.64	0.31	-1.49	0.35	-0.25	0.02	-0.23
Preston South	1.82	+1.02	0.45	-1.35	0.37	-0.23	0.20	-0.05

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All analysis areas excluding Preston North East are observed as having shortfalls in some form of open space.

Provision for children and young people

Table 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 standard in terms of provision for children and young people.

Table 4.3.3: Current play provision against recommended quantity standard

Analysis area	Hectares per 1000 population	
	Current provision	Sufficiency/deficiency against 0.04 recommended standard
Preston North East	0.04	Level
Preston North West	0.04	Level
Preston South	0.05	+ 0.01

None of the Preston sub analysis areas are all 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 City 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 the Preston North West Analysis Area, shortfalls are highlighted across semi-natural greenspace, amenity greenspace and allotments (see Table 4.3.2). On this basis, these open space types should be identified as a priority 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.

Identified low quality sites (p33-35) 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 (p15-16) highlights those sites that help or have the potential to serve gaps in provision. Furthermore, there are some sites across Preston with a multi-functional role which may serve (to some extent) the wider areas of the City.

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 (p33-35), 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 (p18-19), 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 Preston. 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

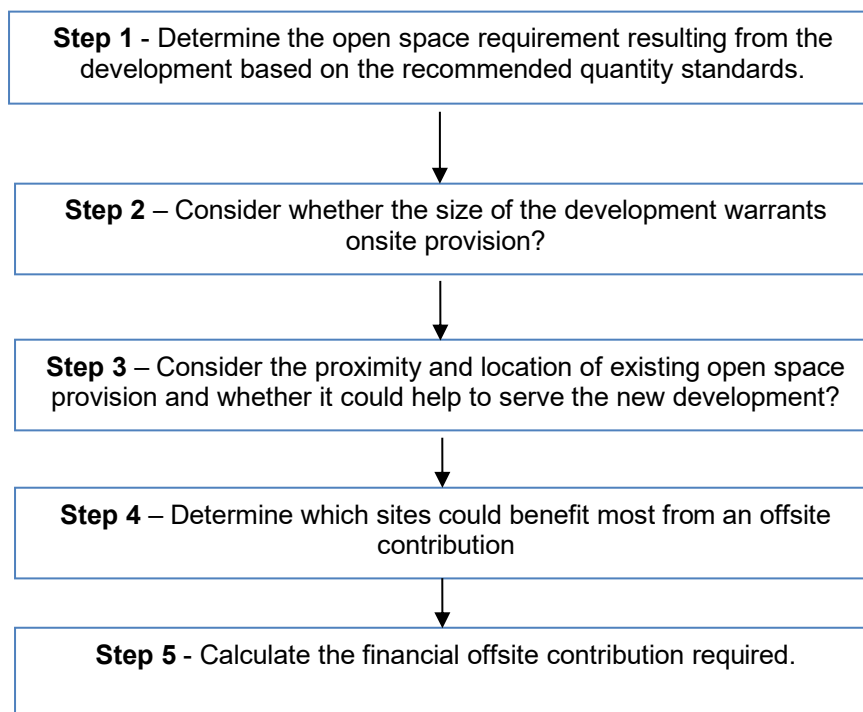
A focus of this study has been to recognise the role quality and accessibility has in terms of open space provision. Future need should not just centre on quantity requirements of new residential developments. For instance, a new residential development may not warrant onsite provision but contribution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

Example FIT buffer zones and sizes:

- ◀ Minimum size of sites from FIT Guidance ([Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play England](#))
- ◀ For equipped play areas a minimum size of 0.04 hectares is recommended as minimum dimensions
- ◀ This would require a buffer zone of 20m minimum separation between activity zone and the habitable room façade of dwellings
- ◀ For informal/casual play areas a minimum size of 0.10 hectares is recommended as minimum dimensions
- ◀ This would require a buffer zone 30m minimum separation between activity zone and the boundary of dwellings

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.

* Minimum recommended size for play areas by Fields In Trust

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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.

* 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.

A1.1: Preston North East Analysis Area Summary

A1.1a: Allotments

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Serpentine 1,2,3 and Deepdale allotments Sharoe Green Lane allotment gardens Grange Community Allotment Gardens	
	Low		

A1.1b: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	The Green Langcliffe Road Haighton Drive AGS Gamull Lane Sharoe Green Hospital Langport Close Amenity Area Peacock Hill Amenity Grimsargh Linear Park Grimsargh Village Hall POS The Square, Bleasedale Road Garstang Road Levensgath Avenue Recreation Ground Grange Ave Longsands Village Green	The Green 2 Roman Way Amenity 1 Barton Village Hall playing fields Halstead Road Amenity Roman Way Amenity 2 Roman Way Amenity 3 Brookview-valley bottom Whernside Crescent Grange Park Extension Carwags Picnic Area Greenethorn Crescent Amenity
	Low		

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A1.1c: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	St Lawrence's Church, Barton Ribbleson / Farrington Park Cemetery Preston Crematorium	
	Low		

A1.1d: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Brockholes Nature Reserve Beacon Fell Country Park Pope Lane Field Grange Valley Hills and Hollows Sandybrook Wood Boilton Wood Ferryhalgh Wood Brockholes Wood Mason's Wood	Fulwood Hall Lane Moss Leach Wood Hills and Hollows EP
	Low		

A1.1e: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Goosnargh Village Green Grange Park	Grimsargh Recreation Ground Manor House Lane Park Sherwood Way Park Brookfield Park Highgate Park Sion Park Clough Copse Haywood Close Park
	Low		

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A1.1f: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Forest Grove play area Field Maple Drive play area Brockholes Nature Reserve play area Williams Lane-Ladybank Avenue Leesands Brockholes Wood Play Area Goosnargh Green Grimsargh Green The Square play area Sherwood Green Garstang Road play area Levensgath Avenue Grange Ave play area Grange Park play area Longsands MUGA Williams Lane Play Area	Haighton Drive play area Whinsands Play Area 1 Whinsands Play Area 2 Brookfield Park play area Brookfield Park MUGA
	Low		

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A1.2: Preston North West Analysis Area Summary

A1.2a: Allotments

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Haslam Park allotment gardens	
	Low		

A1.2b: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Miller Green Dunnock Lane Cottam Hall Lane Amenity Fulwood Leisure Centre Amenity Jubilee Park Cromer Place Recreation Ground Woodplumton Gilhouse Avenue	Dunoon Close Amenity Dovedale Ave Playing Field Lady Hey Crescent
	Low		

A1.2c: Cemeteries

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Church Lane Cemetery St Annes Church Cemetery	
	Low		

A1.2d: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Savick Way NSN Conway Linear Park	Lower Greenfield (Rear) Tom Benson Walk
	Low		

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A1.2e: Parks and gardens

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Woodplumpton Community Garden Mill Lane Park Conway Park King George V Playing Field Garstang Road Greenside Cottam Ponds Cottam Park Haslam Park Savick Park Tanterton	Station Lane Playing Fields
	Low		

A1.2f: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Dovedale Close Mill Lane under 7s Mill Lane under 12s Station Lane Jubilee Avenue Dovedale Ave Playing Field play area King George V Village Green Cottam Local Centre Woodplumpton Cottam Ponds play area The Gables Roseberry Avenue Haslam Park play area Haslam Park MUGA Summertrees Tanterton Green	Dunnock Lane play area Cromer Place Recreation Ground play area Conway Drive The Horse Riding Path play area
	Low		

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A1.3: Preston South Analysis Area Summary

A1.3a: Allotments

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Penwortham Holme West Allotments Penwortham Valley Rd Allotments Off Leyland Road Frenchwood self-managed allotments	
	Low		

A1.3b: Amenity greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Barlow Street AGS Fishwick Road Layton Road Rose Bud POS Mercer Street Amenity Oxheys Street Bootle Street Amenity Riverside Walk Broadgate Amenity Adelphi Roundabout Aqueduct Street Stanley Street POS Oxhay's Recreation Ground Frenchwood Recreation Ground	Demming Close Ashworth Grove Evans Street AGS Amenity at River Ribble Tythe Barn POS Shelley Road POS
	Low		

A1.3c: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Throslock Wood Frenchwood Knoll Ribble Way and Cycle Route 6 Fishwick Bottoms Nature Reserve	Stoney Butts
	Low		

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A1.3d: Provision for children and young people

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Moor Lane MUGA Barlow Street Play Area Maple Crescent Play Area Castleton Road Castleton Road MUGA Ribbleton Park play area Ribbleton Park skate park Ribbleton Park MUGAs Ashton Park North Ashton Park tennis/MUGA Ashton Adizone Euston Street Maudland Bank Oxhay's Rec Oxhay's Rec MUGA Fishwick BMX track Smiths Rec Frenchwood Rec Moor Park South Moor Park Skate Park Moor Park Adizone Avenham Park play area	Fishwick Road MUGA Ashton Park South Taylor Street Smiths Rec MUGA Frenchwood Rec MUGA Hartington Road MUGA Moor Park South MUGA Moor Park North Moor Park North MUGA
	Low		

A1.3e: Civic Spaces

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	Peace Gardens Avenham Walk Corn Exchange Market Place	
	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.

The purpose of the tables below 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: Preston North East Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
◀ All three sites rate above quality threshold.	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
◀ 11 sites rate below quality threshold: The Green 2, Roman Way Amenity 1, Barton Village Playing Fields, Halstead Road Amenity, Roman Way Amenity 2, Roman Way Amenity 3, Brookview-valley bottom, Wherside Crescent, Grange Park Extension, Carwags Picnic Area and Greenthorn Crescent Amenity.	◀ Enhancing site quality should be explored where possible (exploring options for improved maintenance, drainage and enhancement of general appearance).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
◀ All three sites rate above thresholds.	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
◀ Three site rates below quality threshold: Fulwood Hall Lane, Moss Leach Wood and Hills and Hollows EP.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible; for example, exploring options for improved maintenance, personal security etc
Parks and gardens	
◀ Eight sites score below the quality threshold: Grimsargh Recreation Ground, Manor House Lane Park, Sherwood Way Park, Brookfield Park, Highgate Park, Sion Park, Clough Copse and Haywood Close Park.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible; for example, exploring options for improved maintenance, personal security etc.
Provision for children and young people	
◀ Five sites rate below quality threshold: Haighton Drive play area, Whinsands Play Area 1, Whinsands Play Area 2, Brookfield Park play area, Brookfield Park MUGA.	◀ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. look to improve the range and condition of play equipment)

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Table A2.2: Preston North West Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
♦ All sites rate above thresholds.	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
♦ Three site rates below quality threshold: Dunoon Close Amenity, Dovedale Ave Playing Field and Lady Hey Crescent.	♦ Enhancing site quality should be explored where possible (enhancement of general appearance and features).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
♦ All sites rate above thresholds.	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
♦ Two sites rate below threshold: Lower Greenfield (Rear) and Tom Benson Walk.	♦ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, pathways)
Parks and gardens	
♦ One site rates just below quality threshold: Station Lane Playing Fields.	♦ Enhancing site quality in line with other parks should be explored where possible (general appearance and features).
Provision for children and young people	
♦ Four sites rate below the quality threshold: Dunnock Lane play area, Cromer Place Recreation Ground play, Conway Drive and The Horse Riding Path play area.	♦ Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. look to improve the range and condition of play equipment)

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Table A2.3: Preston South Analysis Area Quality Summary

Summary	Action
Allotments	
All sites rate above quality threshold.	n/a
Amenity greenspace	
Six sites rate below quality threshold: Demming Close, Ashworth Grove, Evans Street AGS, Amenity at River Ribble, Tythe Barn POS and Shelley Road POS.	Enhancing quality should be explored where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, general appearance / additional ancillary).
Cemeteries and churchyards	
No cemeteries in this analysis area.	n/a
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	
Stoney Butts rates below quality threshold.	Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (i.e. improved maintenance, pathways)
Parks and gardens	
Four sites rate below the quality threshold: Broadgate Park (off Hassett Close), Euston Street Park, Maudland Bank Park and Fishwick View Recreation Ground.	Enhancing site quality in line with other parks should be explored where possible (general appearance and features).
Provision for children and young people	
Nine sites rate below quality threshold: Hartington Road MUGA, Moor Park South MUGA, Fishwick Road MUGA, Ashton Park South, Taylor Street, Smiths Rec MUGA, Frenchwood Recreation Ground MUGA, Moor Park North and Moor Park North MUGA.	Site quality should look to be enhanced where possible (e.g. maintenance, equipment)

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APPENDIX THREE: CONSULTATION SUMMARY WITH PARISH COUNCILS

Parish Council	Is there enough open space to meet needs?	Concerns
Barton	No	Not enough open space in the Parish with the amount of new housing going up. More space needed at the north of the village and we need to ensure that the new housing developments provide useful open space. Station Lane Playing Fields are really good. The playground and open space at Forest Grove is safe and accessible. With all of the new housing developments in the village we do need more open space. Both playgrounds are good but need to be maintained going forward to ensure that they remain a useable facility for the village.
Broughton	Yes	King George's Playing Field is very poorly drained so not used by any clubs, has preschool in the old youth club hall and a guides hut used in the summer
Grimsargh	No	As part of consultation involving the Neighbourhood Plan the lack of provision for young people has been identified and the Parish Council are looking to provide a football pitch and possibly a MUGA if we can acquire some land from Preston City Council. Existing open spaces are good but could be improved.
Lea and Cottam	Yes	Generally very poor quality open spaces
Woodplumpton	Yes	Good quality open spaces

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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
Ashton (Preston)	8671	75.59	8.71	-	-	9.89	1.14	0.82		-	-
Brookfield (Preston)	8274	11.72	1.42	3.27	0.40	1.08	0.13	0.11	0.01	-	-
Cadley	8506	2.19	0.26	0.26	0.03	1.99	0.23	0.29	0.03	-	-
City Centre	11941	19.17	1.61	-		1.21	0.10	0.57	0.05	-	-
Deepdale	9667	7.46	0.77	-	-	-	-	0.25	0.03	-	-
Fishwick & Frenchwood	9430	14.61	1.55	18.88	2.00	6.91	0.73	0.73	0.08	3.25	0.34
Garrison	9154	1.97	0.21	38.74	4.11	7.08	0.75	0.37	0.04	-	-
Greyfriars (Preston)	8346	3.87	0.46	4.46	0.53	0.72	0.09	0.10	0.01	-	-
Ingol & Cottam	9258	19.84	2.14	3.27	0.35	7.56	0.82	0.35	0.04	0.81	
Lea & Larches	9269	21.22	2.29	9.18	0.99	4.07	0.44	0.11	0.01	-	-
Plungington	11456	41.67	4.50	-	-	3.00	0.32	0.90	0.10	12.48	
Preston Rural East	8650	8.37	0.97	-	-	6.67	0.77	0.41	0.05	-	-

* Source: Mid 2021 population estimates for 2021 Wards

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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
Preston Rural North	7093	3.78	0.53	61.51	8.67	2.26	0.32	0.15	0.02	-	-
Ribbleton	9077	4.61	0.51	177.80	19.59	11.10	1.22	0.52	0.06	0.73	0.08
Sharoe Green	8262	11.75	1.42	9.10	1.10	5.45	0.66	0.29	0.04	0.63	0.08
St Matthew's (Preston)	10781	7.44	0.69	-	-	0.64	0.06	0.30	0.03	-	-
Total	147,853	255.26	1.73	326.50	2.21	69.69	0.47	6.27	0.04	17.90	0.12

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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	
		1.73		2.21		0.47		0.04		0.18	
		Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient	Current	Surplus/deficient
Ashton (Preston)	8671	8.71	+6.98	-	-2.21	1.14	+0.67	-	-0.04	-	-0.18
Brookfield (Preston)	8274	1.42	-0.31	0.40	-1.81	0.13	0.34	0.01	-0.03	-	-0.18
Cadley	8506	0.26	-1.47	0.03	-2.18	0.23	0.24	0.03	-0.01	-	-0.18
City Centre	11941	1.61	-0.12	-	-2.21	0.10	0.37	0.05	+0.01	-	-0.18
Deepdale	9667	0.77	-0.96	-	-2.21	-	-0.47	0.03	-0.01	-	-0.18
Fishwick & Frenchwood	9430	1.55	-0.18	2.00	-0.21	0.73	+0.26	0.08	+0.04	0.34	+0.16
Garrison	9154	0.21	-1.52	4.11	+1.90	0.75	+0.28	0.04	Level	-	-0.18
Greyfriars (Preston)	8346	0.46	-1.27	0.53	-1.68	0.09	-0.38	0.01	-0.03	-	-0.18
Ingol & Cottam	9258	2.14	+0.41	0.35	-1.86	0.82	+0.35	0.04	Level	-	-0.18
Lea & Larches	9269	2.29	+0.56	0.99	-1.22	0.44	-0.03	0.01	-0.03	-	-0.18
Plungington	11456	4.50	+2.77	-	-2.21	0.32	-0.15	0.10	+0.06	-	-0.18
Preston Rural East	8650	0.97	-0.76	-	-2.21	0.77	+0.30	0.05	+0.01	-	-0.18

* Source: 2021 Ward population estimates from Preston City Council

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Wards	Population *	Parks & gardens		Natural & semi-natural greenspace		Amenity greenspace		Provision for children/ young people		Allotments	
		1.73		2.21		0.47		0.04		0.18	
		Current	Surplus/ deficient	Current	Surplus/ deficient	Current	Surplus/ deficient	Current	Surplus/ deficient	Current	Surplus/ deficient
Preston Rural North	7093	0.53	-1.20	8.67	+6.46	0.32	-0.15	0.02	-0.02	-	-0.18
Ribbleton	9077	0.51	-1.22	19.59	+17.38	1.22	+0.75	0.06	+0.02	0.08	-0.10
Sharoe Green	8262	1.42	-0.31	1.10	-1.11	0.66	+0.19	0.04	Level	0.08	-0.10
St Matthew's (Preston)	10781	0.69	-1.04	-	-2.21	0.06	-0.41	0.03	-0.01	-	-0.18