

OUTER NORTH EAST HOUSING MARKET CHARACTERISTIC AREA

HAREWOOD AND WETHERBY WARDS (with small areas of Alwoodley, Roundhay and Cross Gates and Whinmoor Wards)

INTRODUCTION

1. Outer North East Housing Market Characteristic Area and Wards

- 1.1 Plan 1 shows the boundaries of the wards that fall, to a greater or lesser extent, within Outer North East Housing Market Characteristic Area (HMCA). The plan also shows the areas of greenspace by type that fall in the area. Copies of plans are available upon request. Please e-mail ldf@leeds.gov.uk.
- 1.2 The greenspace sites shown on the plan and used in the following assessment are those which were identified and surveyed during the citywide Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (referred to as the Open Space Audit) in 2008 and not the allocated greenspace (N1, N1a, N5 and N6) identified in the UDP Review 2006. Many sites are in both but there are variations which must be noted: 1) some allocated sites are not included (where they have been developed); 2) others appear with amended boundaries; and 3) there are additional sites which are not currently allocated but have been identified through the audit as functioning as greenspace. Plan 2 overlays the existing UDP allocations with the boundaries of the Open Space Audit sites and thereby clearly shows the differences between the two. Appendix 1 contains a list of those allocated sites which do not appear on the plan and the reasons why they are not shown. It is proposed to delete these sites, revise the boundaries of some sites to reflect what is currently on the ground and designate the new sites identified through the Open Space Audit. Housing Market Characteristic Areas are sub-areas recognising the diverse nature and characteristics of market areas across the City. These areas take account of topographical and settlement spatial definitions as well as operational housing markets in terms of house prices and land values. They reflect geographical areas that people tend to associate with finding properties to live in.
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- 1.4 Whilst other subjects have been considered on an HMCA basis, the quantity of greenspace has been analysed according to wards because this allowed a more accurate analysis by ward population figures. The quality and accessibility of greenspace is assessed on an HMCA basis.
- 1.5 There are 5 wards that fall to a greater or lesser extent within the Outer North East Housing Market Characteristic Area (HMCA). Harewood and Wetherby Wards fall completely within the HMCA whilst very small areas of Cross Gates and Whinmoor and Roundhay Wards fall within the area along with a slightly larger area of Alwoodley Ward. These latter three wards will be considered in detail under other HMCA's, however it should be noted that there are areas of natural greenspace in these small parts of Alwoodley and Roundhay Wards which are shown with all other greenspace in the HMCA on Plan 1. The majority of this report will

concentrate on Harewood and Wetherby Wards only, however in the case of natural greenspace, this would result in a slight under-estimate of the amount in the HMCA.

- 1.6 Where an area of greenspace falls across the boundary of the ward then only the part of the greenspace that falls within the ward has been included in the analysis. Care has been taken to check this would not result in the division of a facility.

2.0 Total Greenspace in 2 Wards

- 2.1 Total greenspace in Harewood and Wetherby wards is **573.58 ha** on **148** greenspace sites. Excluding green corridors, cemeteries and golf courses the total is **275.5 ha** this relates to **111** sites. There are **4** sites within Alwoodley and Roundhay Wards covering an area of **2.809ha** in the Outer North East HMCA.

3.0 Core Strategy Policy G3: Standards for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

- 3.1 Policy G3 sets out standards for the following types of greenspace:
- Parks and Gardens
 - Outdoor Sports Provision - excludes MUGAs, single goal ends and golf courses. Includes tennis courts, bowling greens, athletics tracks, synthetic pitches, adult pitches, junior pitches (football, rugby, cricket)
 - Amenity greenspace – excludes cemeteries.
 - Children and young people’s equipped play facilities – includes MUGAs skate parks, teen shelters, play facilities.
 - Allotments – both used and unused.
 - Natural greenspace - excludes green corridors.
- 3.2 There are no standards in the Core Strategy for cemeteries, green corridors and golf courses (but these are shown on Plan 1 for completeness).

QUANTITY OF GREENSPACE

4.0 Methodology

- 4.1 The tables below show the breakdown of provision, or **quantity**, for each of the 6 types of greenspace defined in Policy G3 in the Core Strategy. The quantities have been divided by the total population of each ward to give a standard which can be compared against the standards in Policy G3.
- 4.2 The ward population is taken from the ONS Population Census 2011. Ward Populations are as follows:

Ward	Population
Harewood	18,363
Wetherby	19,979

- 4.3 Child populations are taken from the ONS Population Census 2011 and the 2007 mid year estimates. The 2011 census figures are grouped in 5 year categories so there are accurate figures for 0 - 4, 5 – 9 and 10 – 14 year olds. The next category is 15 – 19 year olds so the 2007 mid year estimates have been used to estimate the number of 15 and 16 year olds. These estimates are broken down to individual years so the number of 11 and 12 year olds in 2007 (15 and 16 year olds in 2011)

has been added to the 2011 population figures to give an estimate of children and young people by ward. This is set out below:

Ward	Population aged 0 -16 years
Harewood	3,431
Wetherby	3,415

4.4 Core Strategy Policy G3 identifies the following standards for quantity of greenspace:

Greenspace type	Quantity per 1000 population
Parks and Gardens	1 hectare
Outdoor sports provision	1.2 hectares (excluding education provision)
Amenity greenspace	0.45 hectares
Children and young people's equipped play facilities	2 facilities per 1,000 children (excluding education provision)
Allotments	0.24 hectares
Natural Greenspace	0.7 hectares (main urban area and major settlements, 2 ha other areas)

5.0 Quantities by types and Wards

5.1 The quantities of greenspace types compared to the Core Strategy standards are as follows for the two wards in the Outer North East HMCA.

Parks and Gardens:

5.2 *Parks and Gardens Harewood Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
140	Lotherton Hall Estate	57.131
1796	Welfare Avenue OS	0.845
	TOTAL	57.976

5.2.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $57.976 \div 18.363 = 3.15$ hectares

5.2.2 **Conclusions:** Compared against the standard of 1 hectare per 1000 population, Harewood Ward noticeably exceeds the recommended Core Strategy standard and so has surplus provision in terms of the quantity of Parks and Gardens. This surplus is solely due to the large area of Lotherton Hall which is located in the south east corner of the Ward.

5.2.3 Harewood House is located within the ward though the grounds are not freely accessible to members of the public at any time therefore they are not included in the parks and gardens of Harewood Ward. Part of the grounds is open to the public at certain times, subject to an entrance fee. This accessible area is shown on Plan 1.

5.3 *Parks and Gardens Wetherby Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
544	West Park	0.727

574	Clifford Village Hall	0.250
419	Quarry Hill Lane Rec, Wetherby	2.799
513	Hallfield Lane Recreation Ground	0.728
672	Bramham Recreation Ground	2.521
545	Deepdale Community Centre	1.241
536	Nidd Approach	0.169
611	Sandringham Road Recreation Ground	0.976
469	King Georges Field Recreation Ground	3.865
572	Northways Field and Woodland Area	1.653
	TOTAL	14.929

5.3.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $14.929 \div 19.979 = 0.747$ hectares

5.3.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 1 hectare per 1000 population, Wetherby ward falls short of the recommended Core Strategy standard and so is deficient in terms of the quantity of Parks and Gardens.

5.4 **Parks and Gardens - Overall Conclusions**

5.4.1 If the totals for the 2 wards are added together it creates an overall standard of **1.94 hectares per 1,000 population** for the HMCA. This exceeds the Core Strategy standard however this figure is an average so whilst there is an excess of provision in Harewood Ward, there is an under provision in Wetherby Ward.

Outdoor Sports Provision

5.5 **Methodology**

5.5.1 Outdoor sports facilities in educational use have been excluded as it cannot be assumed that these are available for the public to use. Golf courses have also been excluded.

5.5.2 There are instances where outdoor sports provision occurs within other primary typologies. We have identified these and used the Sport England Comparison Standards to extract out the size of facilities as follows:

- Playing pitch (adult) = 1.2ha
- Junior pitch = 0.5ha
- Bowling green = 0.14ha
- Tennis court = 0.0742
- Cricket pitch = 1.37ha
- Synthetic turf pitch = 0.7ha

5.7 **Outdoor Sports Provision Harewood Ward**

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME
1766	Scarcroft Cricket Pitch
1763	Shadwell Cricket Ground
992	Harewood Cricket Club
1627	Linton Tennis Courts
1521	Collingham Bowling Green and Tennis Courts
1523	Collingham And Linton Sports Association
1738	Thorner Bowling Club
1576	Thorner FC and Thorner Mexborough CC

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME
1574	Aberford Playing Fields and Tennis Courts
1573	Aberford Bowling Green
1485	Thorner Tennis Club
1481	Bardsey Sports Ground
1482	Bardsey Bowling Green and Tennis Courts.
1483	East Keswick Tennis Courts
1484	Holywell Lane Park
1475	East Keswick Sports Association
1796	Welfare Avenue OS
1797	Barwick Sports Ground
1800	Scholes Playing Field
1407	Aberford Albion FC
1761	Moor Allerton Golf Club

5.7.1 The quantity of outdoor sports provision on the above sites is as follows:

Type	No.	Area (ha)
Adult Pitches	11	13.2
Junior Pitches	1	0.5
Cricket Pitches	9	12.33
Tennis Courts	26	1.93
Bowling Green	7	0.98
Synthetic Pitches	0	0
Total		28.94

5.7.2 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $28.94 \div 18.363 = 1.576$ hectares

5.7.3 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 1.2 hectares per 1000 population, Harewood Ward exceeds the recommended Core Strategy standard and so has surplus provision in terms of the quantity of outdoor sports provision.

5.8 ***Outdoor Sports Provision Wetherby Ward***

5.8.1 The quantity of outdoor sports provision on the above sites is as follows:

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME
1456	Walton Road Sports Pitches
1458	Bramham Park Cricket Pitch
1459	Wetherby Cricket Ground
1561	Thorp Arch Tennis Courts
534	Law Close Greenspace
672	Bramham Recreation Ground
573	Stables Lane Playing Field
545	Deepdale Community Centre
1636	Bramham Cricket Pitch
611	Sandringham Road Recreation Ground
1464	Leeds United Training Ground
1466	Thorp Arch and Boston Spa Cricket Ground
469	King Georges Field Recreation Ground
675	Terrace Lawn Tennis Club

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME
572	Northways Field and Woodland Area
99	The Ings Wetherby

Type	No.	Area (ha)
Adult Pitches	18	21.6
Junior Pitches	2	1
Cricket Pitches	5	6.85
Tennis Courts	9	0.668
Bowling Green	3	0.42
Synthetic Pitches	0	0
Total		30.538

5.8.2 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $30.538 \div 19.979 = 1.528$ hectares

5.8.3 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 1.2 hectares per 1000 population, Wetherby Ward exceeds the recommended Core Strategy standard and so has surplus provision in terms of the quantity of outdoor sports provision.

5.10 Outdoor Sports Provision – Overall Conclusions

5.10.1 If the totals of the 2 wards are added together it creates an overall standard of **1.552 hectares per 1,000 population**. As both Wards have a surplus of outdoor sports provision the average will also be in surplus.

Amenity Greenspace

5.11 *Amenity Greenspace Harewood Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
1548	Bardsey Dog Exercising Area	1.225
1630	Collingham Community Hall	0.203
1521	Collingham Bowling Green and Tennis Courts	0.437
1574	Aberford Playing Fields and Tennis Courts	0.675
1484	Holywell Lane Park	0.417
1219	Moat End (rear of)	0.724
1798	Leeds Road POS	3.133
	TOTAL	6.814

5.11.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $6.814 \div 18.363 = 0.371$ hectares

5.11.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 0.45 hectares per 1000 population, Harewood Ward falls short of the recommended Core Strategy standard and so is deficient in terms of the quantity of amenity greenspace.

5.12 *Amenity Greenspace Wetherby Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
622	Deepdale Lane Playground	0.195
1463	Thorp Arch Grange	1.092
422	Quarry Hill Bridge, Wetherby	0.775
534	Law Close Greenspace	0.477

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
1559	Rudgate Park 4	2.369
1468	Rudgate Park	0.930
467	Butterwick Gardens	0.603
612	Jubilee Gardens	0.270
542	North Grove Road	0.221
543	Deighton Road	0.495
	TOTAL	7.427

5.12.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $7.427 \div 19.979 = 0.372$ hectares

5.12.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 0.45 hectares per 1000 population, Wetherby Ward falls short of the recommended Core Strategy standard and so is deficient in terms of the quantity of amenity greenspace.

5.14 Amenity Greenspace – Overall Conclusions

5.14.1 If the totals for the 2 wards are added together it creates an overall standard of **0.3715 hectares per 1,000 population**. As both wards fall short of the Core Strategy standard the average is below as well.

Children and Young People’s equipped play facilities:

5.15 Methodology

5.15.1 These lists exclude play facilities that are in educational use, since these are only available during the school day and by the children attending that particular school.

5.16 *Childrens & Young People’s Equipped Play Facilities Harewood Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME
1866	Beckside Play Area
1523	Collingham And Linton Sports Association
1481	Bardsey Sports Ground
1483	East Keswick Tennis Courts
1484	Holywell Lane Park
1219	Moat End (rear of)
140	Lotherton Hall Estate
1796	Welfare Avenue OS

Type of Facility	Number
MUGA	0
Child Play Area	8
Skate Park	0
Teen Shelter	0
TOTAL	8 FACILITIES

5.16.1 **Requirement and provision:** $3.431 \times 2 = 6.9$ facilities are required to meet the Core Strategy standard of 2 facilities per 1,000 children. Therefore Harewood Ward exceeds the standard as it has **8** equipped play facilities. It is noticeable, however, that all these facilities are child play areas and that the area has no MUGA’s, skate parks or teen shelters.

5.17 *Childrens & Young Peoples Equipped Play Facilities Wetherby Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME
574	Clifford Village Hall
1459	Wetherby Cricket Ground
513	Hallfield Lane Recreation Ground
672	Bramham Recreation Ground
545	Deepdale Community Centre
536	Nidd Approach
611	Sandringham Road Recreation Ground
469	King Georges Field Recreation Ground
99	The Ings Wetherby
1881	High Trees Nursery School

Type of Facility	Number
MUGA	1
Child Play Area	9
Skate Park	2
Teen Shelter	0
TOTAL	12 FACILITIES

5.17.1 **Requirement and provision** $3.415 \times 2 = 6.8$ **facilities** are required to meet the Core Strategy standard of 2 facilities per 1,000 children. Therefore Wetherby Ward exceeds the standard as it has **12** equipped play facilities. The majority of these are again child play areas however there is a MUGA and two skate parks.

5.19 **Children and Young People's Equipped Play Facilities – overall conclusions**

5.19.1 If the totals for the two wards are added together it creates an overall average requirement for 6.85 facilities and an actual average provision of 10 facilities. As both wards exceed the Core Strategy standard, the average is above as well. Nevertheless, the figures mask the fact that there is a huge difference in provision according to type of equipped play facility. There is a very good provision of child play areas in the HMCA but very few MUGA's and skate parks and no teen shelters. This indicates a shortage in play facilities specifically for older children. There are approximately 2931 young people aged 10 – 16 years in the two wards therefore the lack of suitable provision is an issue.

Allotments:

5.20 *Allotments Harewood Ward*

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
1408	Aberford Allotments - Field Lane	0.780
554	Keswick Lane Allotments	0.208
1688	Collingham Allotments	0.213
1795	Berwick in Elmet Allotments	1.411
1799	Belle Vue Allotments – Scholes	0.297
	TOTAL	2.909

5.20.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $2.909 \div 18.363 = 0.158$ **hectares**

5.20.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 0.24 hectares per 1000 population, Harewood Ward falls significantly short of the recommended standard and so is deficient in terms of the quantity of allotments.

5.21 **Allotments Wetherby Ward**

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
1470	Clifford Allotments	0.723
512	Woodlea (Primrose Lane) Allotments	0.197
1670	Thorner Road Allotments	1.366
674	Boston Spa Allotment Gardens	0.613
1689	Aberford Road Allotments	0.646
	TOTAL	3.545

5.21.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $3.545 \div 19.979 = 0.177$ hectares

5.21.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 0.24 hectares per 1000 population, Wetherby Ward falls significantly short of the recommended standard and so is deficient in terms of the quantity of allotments.

5.23 **Allotments – overall conclusions**

5.23.1 If the totals for the 2 wards are added together it creates an overall average provision of **0.167 hectares per 1,000 population**. As both wards fall noticeably short of the Core Strategy standard the average is below as well.

Natural Greenspace

5.24 **Natural Greenspace Harewood Ward**

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
1525	Collingham and Linton Bridge	2.078
1609	Mill Lane Collingham	0.927
1476	East Keswick War Memorial and Woodland	0.650
1478	East Keswick Main Street	1.619
1769	Scarcroft Plantation	3.260
1551	Aberford Pond - Field Lane	1.347
1759	Hetchell Woods	14.076
1760	Hell Pot Woods / Dam Wood	4.193
1880	Woodhouse Farm/Oakhill Woods	3.242
	TOTAL	31.392

5.24.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $31.392 \div 18.363 = 1.709$ hectares

5.24.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 0.7 hectares per 1000 population, Harewood Ward exceeds the recommended standard mainly due to Hetchell Woods and so has surplus provision in terms of the quantity of natural greenspace.

5.25 **Natural Greenspace Wetherby Ward**

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	AREA_HA
425	Lazenby Drive Greenspace	1.453
423	Quarry Hill, Wetherby	1.207
1748	Bowcliffe Wood	1.464
1747	Bowcliffe Beck	1.909
466	Raby Park	1.663
609	Crossley Park Wood	0.235
673	Aberford Road Greenspace	0.395
1549	Sand Bridge Sports Ground	1.851
1749	Bramham Lodge	1.301
	TOTAL	11.478

5.25.1 **Quantity (per thousand people)** $11.478 \div 19.979 = 0.574$ hectares

5.25.2 **Conclusions** - Compared against the standard of 0.7 hectares per 1000 population, Wetherby Ward falls short of the recommended standard and so is deficient in terms of the quantity of natural greenspace.

5.25.3 The small areas of Alwoodley Ward and Roundhay Ward that lie within the Outer North East HMCA contain the following areas of natural greenspace. These are parts of larger areas which straddle the border with Outer North West HMCA and North Leeds HMCA. The areas shown are only for the elements which lie within the Outer North East HMCA.

SITE_ID	SITE_NAME	TPOLOGY	AREA_HA
981	Dark Wood	NAT	1.027
982	Birch Wood	NAT	1.052
17	Addymans Wood	NAT	0.384
1645	Shadwell Lane	NAT	0.346
	TOTAL		2.809

These areas will increase the provision of natural greenspace in the HMCA. Overall, the area of natural greenspace within the whole HMCA is 45.679 ha.

5.27 **Natural Greenspace – overall conclusions**

5.27.1 If the totals for the 2 wards are added together it creates an overall average provision of **1.141 hectares per 1,000 population**. This exceeds the Core Strategy standard however this figure is an average so whilst there is an excess of provision in Harewood Ward, there is an under provision in Wetherby Ward. This highlights the need to present the analysis by Ward.

6.0 Overall summary

6.1 The table below summarises the analysis of quantity of provision by greenspace type and Ward.

	Parks and Gardens	Outdoor Sports (excluding education)	Amenity	Children & Young People	Allotments	Natural
Standard	1ha/1000 people	1.2ha/1000 people	0.45ha/1000 people	2 facilities/1000 children	0.24ha/1000 people	0.7ha/1000 people
Harewood	Surplus (2.15 ha)	Surplus (0.376ha)	Deficiency (0.079ha)	Surplus (1.1 facilities)	Deficiency (0.082ha)	Surplus (1.009ha)
Wetherby	Deficiency (0.253ha)	Surplus (0.328ha)	Deficiency (0.078ha)	Surplus (5.2 facilities)	Deficiency (0.063ha)	Deficiency (0.126ha)
Average	Surplus (0.948 ha)	Surplus (0.352 ha)	Deficiency (0.0785ha)	Surplus (3.15 facilities)	Deficiency (0.072 ha)	Surplus (0.441ha, excluding areas outside HMCA)

6.2 **Harewood:** There is a mixture of surpluses and deficiencies across the various greenspace typologies in the area, though some are relatively small quantities. There may be scope for addressing the deficiencies in amenity and allotments by i) laying out some of the surplus areas of parks and gardens, outdoor sports, play facilities or natural greenspace as amenity or allotments; or ii) laying out new areas which aren't greenspace currently, as and when the opportunity and funding arise. This could be delivered by a developer as a requirement on new residential development or by the Council following the payment of commuted sums. If the typology of an area of greenspace is to be changed, it will need to be carefully assessed to ensure it is suitable and appropriate for the new type and not a well used and valued area of the original typology.

6.3 Whilst there is an excess of children and young peoples play facilities, all the existing facilities are children's play areas. There are no MUGA's, skate parks or teen shelters. This means there is a shortage of facilities for older children which should be addressed. There may be scope to change some of the surplus play areas to areas for older children or add suitable 'teenage' equipment to existing facilities.

6.4 **Wetherby:** It is noticeable that there are deficiencies in the provision of a number of greenspace types in Wetherby though some are only marginally deficient. Conversely, there is considerable surplus of children and young peoples play facilities. Some of these may be suitable for laying out as parks and gardens, amenity, allotments or natural greenspace using the potential methods highlighted above. A comprehensive assessment will be required to determine the most appropriate use of surplus natural greenspace, whether this be for alternative greenspace typologies or potential development which could generate the funds to lay out new areas of greenspace which is currently deficient.

6.5 Whilst there is an excess of children and young peoples play facilities, the majority of existing facilities are children's play areas. There is only one MUGA's and two skate parks. This means there is a shortage of facilities for older children which

should be addressed. There may be scope to change some of the surplus play areas to areas for older children or add suitable ‘teenage’ equipment to existing facilities.

QUALITY OF GREENSPACE.

7.0 Methodology

7.1 Core Strategy Policy G3 identifies the following standards for the quality of greenspace:

Greenspace type	Quality
Parks and Gardens	7
Outdoor sports provision	7
Amenity greenspace	7
Children and young people’s equipped play facilities	7
allotments	7
Natural Greenspace	7

7.2 Each type of greenspace should meet a quality score of 7. This score is determined by assessing an area against a number of criteria, such as i) how welcoming; ii) level of health and safety; iii) cleanliness and maintenance; iv) conservation, habitats and heritage.

7.3 Plan 2 indicates whether the quality of each area of greenspace in the Outer North East HMCA meets the required standard (a score of 7 and above) or not (a score of 6.9 or below).

7.4 The table below summarise key information about each typology within the Outer North East HMCA.

	Parks and Gardens	Outdoor Sports	Amenity	Childrens & young People	Allotments	Natural
Number of sites	12	38	18	18	10	22
Number scoring 7 & above	5	13	4	4	2	3
Number scoring below 7	7	25	14	14	8	19
Highest score	8.46	8.63	9.5	8.46	7.6	7.66
Lowest score	3.69	2.75	2.45	3.69	2.63	2.14
Average score	6.05	6.25	5.64	6.01	5.52	4.70

7.5 **Conclusions:** Overall, the plan and tables show a predominance of sites (87 out of 118) which fall below the required quality standard of 7, which indicates an issue of substandard greenspace provision across all wards and typologies.

ACCESSIBILITY OF GREENSPACE

8.1 Core Strategy Policy G3 identifies the following standards for accessibility of greenspace. Each type of greenspace should be within the distance specified.

Greenspace type	Accessibility distance
Parks and Gardens	720m
Outdoor sports provision	Tennis courts – 720m Bowling greens and grass playing pitches – 3.2km Athletics tracks and synthetic pitches – 6.4km
Amenity greenspace	480m
Children and young people's equipped play facilities	720m
Allotments	960m
Natural Greenspace	720m and 2 km from sites of 20 hectares or more.

8.2 Plans which show the required buffers as set out above, for each greenspace type are available. Please contact Leeds City Council directly at ldf@leeds.gov.uk. Some conclusions are drawn out below:

8.2.1 Parks and Gardens

The majority of the HMCA lies outside the acceptable distance for accessing a Park and Garden (720m or 10 minute walking distance). Only the built up areas of Wetherby, Boston Spa, Clifford, Bramham and Barwick and the area around Lotherton Hall lie within 720m of a park and garden.

8.2.2 Outdoor Sports Provision

The whole HMCA area is in the required accessibility distance (3.2km) for grass playing pitches. Due to the lack of any athletics tracks and synthetic pitches in the HMCA, the outer north east extent of the HMCA is beyond the acceptable accessibility distance for athletics tracks and synthetic pitches (6.4km). There are a number of tennis courts in the main villages (Boston Spa, Linton, Collingham, East Keswick, Bardsey, Thorner, Scarcroft, Scholes, Barwick and Aberford) but the limited 720m accessibility distance means only the main built up areas of these villages lie within acceptable distances. The more rural areas between these villages are beyond the acceptable distance.

8.2.3 Amenity Greenspace

Amenity greenspace is also concentrated in key settlements – Wetherby, Thorpe Arch/Walton, Boston Spa, Collingham, Bardsey, Thorner, Shadwell, Scholes and Aberford. The 480m accessibility buffer means only the immediate built up area is within an acceptable distance of these amenity spaces. The majority of the HMCA is beyond the acceptable distance.

8.2.4 Children and Young People's Equipped Play Facilities

The majority of equipped play facilities are also located in main villages and towns – Wetherby, Boston Spa, Clifford, Bramham, Collingham, East Keswick, Bardsey, Thorner, Shadwell, Barwick and Aberford – along with Lotherton Hall. The acceptable accessibility distance of 720m means generally only the built up areas of these villages fall within an acceptable distance. The extensive rural areas in the HMCA are beyond the acceptable distance.

8.2.5 Allotments

There is a significant lack of allotments across the HMCA, with a number of towns and villages not having any e.g. Wetherby, Scarcroft, Thorner and Shadwell. Boston Spa/Clifford/Bramham have adequate access to provision, along with the majority of the villages of Collingham, Bardsey/East Keswick, Scholes, Barwick and Aberford. Again the extensive rural areas of the HMCA lie beyond an acceptable distance from allotments.

8.2.6 Natural Greenspace

Certain villages/towns have good access to natural greenspace – Wetherby, Collingham, Linton, East Keswick, Bardsey, Scarcroft, Bramham and Aberford. An area to the west of Shadwell is also within acceptable distance of natural greenspace, most of which is in the North Leeds HMCA. Similarly, a small area near the southern boundary with Outer South East HMCA falls within the 720m buffer of a site in the Outer South East HMCA. Extensive rural areas of the HMCA lie beyond the acceptable distance (720m) for natural.

8.3 Conclusions:

8.3.1 The table below summarises which settlements have/do not have acceptable accessibility to the 6 typologies of greenspace. The whole HMCA is within an acceptable distance of grass playing pitches (3.2km) though only the southern and western extents of the area are within the acceptable distance of athletics tracks and synthetic pitches, which includes the settlements of Shadwell, Scarcroft, Thorner, Scholes, Barwick and Aberford.

Settlement	Parks & Gardens	Athletics/ synthetic tracks	Tennis Courts	Amenity	Children and Young People	Allotments	Natural
Wetherby	✓			✓	✓		✓
Walton				✓			
Thorp Arch Estate				✓			
Boston Spa	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Clifford	✓				✓	✓	
Bramham	✓				✓	✓	✓
Linton			✓				✓
Collingham			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
E Keswick			✓		✓	✓	✓
Bardsey			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Thorner		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Scarcroft		✓	✓				✓
Shadwell		✓		✓	✓		
Scholes		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Barwick	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Aberford		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

8.3.2 The built up areas of Aberford, Boston Spa, Collingham, Bardsey and Barwick have acceptable accessibility to the most types of greenspace, whilst Walton and Thorp Arch Estate have acceptable accessibility to only amenity greenspace. The more rural areas beyond the built up areas of the villages and towns, generally fall beyond the acceptable distances and therefore have poor accessibility to greenspace.

9.0 **OVERALL CONCLUSIONS FROM THE GREENSPACE ANALYSIS IN OUTER NORTH EAST:**

9.1 **Quantity**

- 9.1.1 Overall the Outer North East HMCA is well provided for in terms of children and young people's equipped play facilities and outdoor sports facilities. However, it should be noted that whilst there is an excess of children and young peoples play facilities, 17 of the facilities are children's play areas, in comparison to only 1 MUGA and 2 skate parks. This clearly shows there is a shortage of facilities for older children which should be addressed. There may be scope to change some of the surplus play areas to areas for older children or add suitable 'teenage' equipment to existing facilities. In contrast, there is a shortage of amenity greenspace and allotments. There is a mixture of surpluses and deficiencies across the two Wards in Parks and Gardens and Natural greenspace.
- 9.1.2 Wetherby Ward is deficient in 4 typologies (parks and gardens, amenity, allotments and natural) though the deficiency in amenity and allotments is small. Harewood is only deficient in 2 (amenity and allotments) again by a small margin. Although there is a deficiency in parks and gardens and natural greenspace in Wetherby Ward, the surpluses in Harewood Ward ensure on average there is a surplus of these two typologies in the HMCA as a whole. It should be noted that outdoor sport excludes a significant number of sport facilities within education facilities as they have been universally regarded as for the use of the school only and private. In some cases communities will have access to school pitches and facilities therefore there could be an even greater surplus.
- 9.1.3 There is a need to provide more specific types of greenspace across the 2 wards. This could be achieved by laying out some of the surplus areas of alternative greenspace types e.g. lay out some of the surplus children and young people's equipped play facilities or outdoor sports to amenity or allotments (and parks and gardens or natural in Wetherby Ward) which are deficient. However, due to the nature of the area this would not be appropriate. The area is dominated by a number of clearly identifiable villages which are separated by open rural land. Many of the villages have a play facility which is a vital facility to the local community and therefore should not be lost. Facilities in neighbouring villages are beyond the acceptable travelling distances. Similarly, certain villages have outdoor sports facilities e.g. tennis courts, bowling greens, grass pitches, which serve the immediate community. The loss of any of these facilities would disadvantage the communities affected. If the typology of an area of greenspace is to be changed, it will need to be carefully assessed to ensure it is suitable and appropriate for the new type and not a well used and valued area of the original typology.
- 9.1.4 The alternative is that new areas which aren't greenspace currently could be laid out to improve quantity of provision. This could be delivered by a developer as a requirement on new residential development or by the Council following the payment of commuted sums.

9.2 **Quality**

- 9.2.1 Overall, the plan and tables show a predominance of sites (87 out of 118) which fall below the required quality standard of 7, which indicates an issue of substandard greenspace provision across all wards and typologies.

9.3 Accessibility

- 9.3.1 Most of the built up area is accessible to at least some types of greenspace but no town/village is accessible to all typologies. Aberford Boston Spa, Collingham, Bardsey and Barwick are the best served with acceptable access to 5 (6 in the case of Aberford) typologies whilst more rural areas generally fall beyond the acceptable distances and therefore have poor accessibility to greenspace. Accessibility should be improved by providing more greenspace sites, however this can only realistically be delivered through development. The scattered pattern of settlements and the large extent of Green Belt will make this difficult to achieve.

10.0 QUESTIONS ABOUT GREENSPACE PROVISION IN OUTER NORTH EAST

General

- G1. Do you have any comments on the proposed boundary amendments, additions and deletions to the greenspace provision in the area as shown on greenspace plan A?**
- G2. Do you think the Council should consider changing the type of greenspace where that type of greenspace is in surplus (ie more than meets the standard) to another type of greenspace that falls short of the standards?**
- G3. Do you think the Council should consider allowing development of any of the greenspace sites where that type of greenspace is in surplus (ie more than meets the standard)? If so, which sites?**
- G4. The quality of many existing greenspace sites in the area falls below the required standard. Do you agree that resources (including commuted sums obtained from planning permissions and legal agreements) should be channelled to improving quality of existing sites?**
- G5. Alternatively, if a site is of poor quality and/or disused, do you think it is better to consider allowing development of that site to generate resources to invest in greenspace elsewhere?**
- G6. Do you agree that, where opportunities arise, new greenspace provision should be provided in areas that fall below accessibility distance standards, to ensure residents have adequate access to different types of greenspace?**
- G7. Have you any other comments/suggestions about greenspace provision in the area?**

Specific to Outer North East:

- G8 Part of the existing UDP N6 (playing pitch) designation at Thorp Arch Grange has been put forward as a possible housing site (SHLAA ref 2067, see page 17 of Issues and Options). Do you think this land should be retained as greenspace (protected as play pitch or another greenspace typology) or released for housing?**

- G9** Part of the existing UDP N6 (playing pitch) designation at High Trees School, Boston Spa has been put forward as a possible housing site (SHLAA ref 3332, see page 21 of Issues and Options). This part of the site is currently not used as playing pitch. Do you agree with amending the boundary of the greenspace allocation to remove this land? This does not mean development will be acceptable in this location as it is in the Green Belt.
- G10** Bearing in mind the amount of land that falls outside the accessibility distances and the comparatively low number and scattered distribution of population in these areas, do you agree that, where opportunities arise, new greenspace provision should be provided in areas that fall below accessibility distance standards, to ensure residents have adequate access to different types of greenspace?

Appendix 1

UDP designated greenspace sites not identified as greenspace in the Open Space Audit – proposed to be deleted

Open Space type in existing UDP	Ref number	Address	Reasons for proposed deletion
N1	31/0	Milnthorpe Close, Bramham	Developed for housing
N1	31/3	Woodacre Green, Bardsey	Less than the 0.2ha threshold.
N1	31/8X	Boston Road, Wetherby	In an agricultural rather than a greenspace use (also see SHLAA site 3310, page 20).
N1	31/10	Shaw Barn Lane, Wetherby	Less than the 0.2ha threshold.
N1	31/38	Ainsty Road, Wetherby	Less than the 0.2ha threshold.
N6 (playing pitches)	31/17X	St John's School, Boston Spa	Outdoor sports facilities relocated to south of school buildings.