

**HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Title/Subject Matter:** Needs Analysis of Green Space & Play Provision –  
Development Priorities

**Meeting/Date:** Overview & Scrutiny (Communities and Environment) – 6  
September 2016  
Cabinet – 22 September 2016

**Executive Portfolio:** Councillor Robin Carter – Executive Councillor for  
Environment, Street Scene and Operations

**Report by:** Alistair Merrick – Interim Head of Operations

**Ward(s) affected:** All

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**Executive Summary:**

1. The report contains a consolidation of the needs analysis work of green space and play provision that has been overseen by Overview and Scrutiny and provides a schedule of prioritised development projects to constitute the future strategic direction for the development of all green space in Huntingdonshire.
2. The strategic review of Operations in early 2015 confirmed that although the Council had adopted an Open Spaces Strategy in 2011 it did not include prioritised development projects for green space and play provision taking into account current provision against the Council's adopted benchmarks for providing open space and play facilities.
3. The needs analysis work to address this deficiency has confirmed that there is a good base of green space and play provision against the policy benchmarks across the District but that there is a schedule of development priorities detailed in Appendix 1 required as the enhancements necessary to move towards a full compliance with these policy benchmarks.
4. Consultation has been conducted with Town and Parish Councils during the needs analysis project to agree future development projects for green space and play provision across Huntingdonshire.
5. It is recommended that following approval of the development priorities to then apply the unspent Section 106 contributions to deliver these development priorities.

6. The recommended development projects for green space and play provision when adopted will then be reviewed annually in December each year by the Environmental Services Development Team to confirm progress made, any resourcing implications and any emerging new needs for provision potentially arising from continued housing development in the District. The outcome of this annual review will then be reported to Overview and Scrutiny and the Cabinet in February of each year.

**Recommendation(s):**

The Cabinet is recommended to endorse the schedule of development projects for green spaces contained in Appendix 1 as the future strategic direction for the development of green spaces and as the guide for future planning decisions regarding green spaces provision.

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report contains a consolidation of the needs analysis work of green space and play provision overseen by Overview and Scrutiny and provides a schedule of prioritised development projects to constitute the future strategic direction for the development of all green space in Huntingdonshire.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The strategic review of Operations in early 2015 confirmed that although the Council had adopted an Open Spaces Strategy in 2011 it did not include prioritised development projects for green space and play provision taking into account current provision against the Council's adopted benchmarks for providing open space. The Council's adopted benchmarks for green space are as follows:

**Table 1: Adopted Council Benchmarks for Green Space & Play Provision**

Category of Green Space	Policy Benchmark
Parks and Gardens	0.48 hectares per 1,000 head of population
Natural and Semi-natural Open Space	0.23 hectares per 1,000 head of population
Allotments and Community Gardens	0.32 hectares per 1,000 head of population
Amenity Green Spaces	1.09 hectares per 1,000 head of population
Play Provision	0.25 hectares per 1,000 head of population

- 2.2 The consequence of this have been as follows:

- a) The Council has been considering planning applications for housing developments in the District that have included green space provision outside of a robust strategic framework. Therefore not all of this green spaces development has material improved provision against areas of deficiency.
- b) The adoption of green space outside of such a robust strategic framework has not ensured that the long term financial commitments for this Council and also for Town and Parish Councils is aligned to clearly established priorities and Medium Term Financial Strategies of each organisation.
- c) It has left substantial Section106 contributions unspent.

## 3. NEEDS ANALYSIS WORK COMPLETED

- 3.1 To address this lack of clear development proposals for green space and play provision against the adopted policy benchmarks for provision the Environmental Services Development Team in the Operations Division has over the last eighteen months carried a needs analysis of current provision of green space and play provision across the District against the policy benchmarks. This has included consultation with the Town and Parish Councils to agree the development priorities. The intention being to develop a schedule of development projects to meet clearly established deficiencies in current provision and not to create a revised Open Spaces Strategy that is light on such detail.

- 3.2 The Development Team have also robustly reviewed the £603,000 in uncommitted Section 106 contributions for green space and play provision against the emerging development proposals. The purpose being to identify the projects that can be immediately progressed.
- 3.3 The outcome of the needs analysis work is contained in Appendix 1. This confirms that there is a good base of provision against the policy benchmarks and detailed in Table 2 below is a synopsis of the development priorities confirmed from the needs analysis work as the enhancements required to move towards a full compliance with these policy benchmarks.

**Table 2: Synopsis of Green Space & Play Development Priorities**

Town or Parish Council Location	Development Need
Huntingdon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Short Term:</b> funding in place to upgrade three play areas from Local Equipped Play Areas (LEAP) to Neighbourhood Equipped Play Areas (NEAP) and to create a new MUGA.</li> <li>• <b>Long Term:</b> funding required to enhance allotments and community gardens in the West Ward.</li> </ul>
Ramsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> development of two new play areas through planned housing developments and upgrade of two LEAP's to NEAP's.</li> <li>• <b>Long Term:</b> funding required for creating natural and semi-natural areas and parks and gardens.</li> </ul>
St Ives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Short Term:</b> funding in place to upgrade two LEAP's to NEAP's.</li> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised to re-designate amenity green space as natural and semi-natural green space in the East and West Wards.</li> <li>• <b>Long Term:</b> funding required to create community gardens in the East and South Wards.</li> </ul>
Earith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised to improve green space potentially involving the ECA field subject to resolving access issues.</li> </ul>
Godmanchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised to enhance natural and semi-natural areas.</li> <li>• <b>Long Term:</b> further investigation required with the Town Council regarding options to enhance parks and gardens provision.</li> <li>• <b>Long Term:</b> funding to be realised from any housing development of more than 10 houses to enable the upgrade of the LEAP to a NEAP in the north-west of the town.</li> </ul>
Sawtry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised to upgrade the LEAP at St Judith Field to a NEAP.</li> </ul>
Stilton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised from any housing development of more than 10 houses for allotments or community gardens.</li> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised from any housing development of more than 10 houses to acquire land and then to develop a play area.</li> </ul>
Yaxley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised from any housing development of more than 10 houses for allotments or community gardens.</li> </ul>

Town or Parish Council Location	Development Need
St Neots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised to convert existing amenity green space into allotments or community gardens.</li> <li>• <b>Medium Term:</b> funding to be realised to create a play area on the amenity green space between the A1 and the west of Eaton Ford.</li> </ul>

#### 4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

4.1 The Panel considered the report and recognised it as the final report in a series of reports on the provision of green space and play equipment. Members agreed that the Council should list its green space and play equipment needs in order to identify priorities for the Council when new developments are proposed. The Panel recommend that the Cabinet should endorse the schedule of development projects for green spaces.

#### 5. KEY IMPACTS & RISKS

5.1 There has been a lack of robust strategic framework for the development of green space and play provision in Huntingdonshire with clearly set future development priorities tied to available Section 106 contributions and the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. The adoption of the recommended prioritised development projects in Appendix 1 will provide this strategic framework for both the Development Division and Operations Division going forward.

#### 6. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 The needs analysis project has managed within a robust project plan and each phase of work completed has been submitted to Overview and Scrutiny for consideration of the findings.

6.2 The recommended development projects for green space and play provision when adopted will then be reviewed annually in December each year by the Environmental Services Development Team to confirm progress made, any resourcing implications and any emerging new needs for provision potentially arising from continued housing development in the District. The outcome of this annual review will then reported to Overview and Scrutiny and the Cabinet in February of each year.

#### 7. LINKS TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

7.1 The recommended development priorities for green space and play provision when approved will contribute to the Corporate Plan as follows:

- a) Enhancing fundamentally the built and green environment of the District.
- b) The Development and Operations Divisions becoming much more business-like and efficient in the way they progress the development of future green spaces and play provision.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 Consultation has been conducted with Town and Parish Councils during the needs analysis project to agree future development projects for green space and play provision across Huntingdonshire.

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The proposed allocation of Section 106 contributions is consistent with the detail of the Section 106 Agreements.

## **10. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The needs analysis project has been delivered within existing resources and the resource implications for the delivery of the recommended development projects is detailed in schedule of development priorities contained in Appendix 1. Significant progress can be made through the allocation of existing Section 106 contributions of £603,000.

## **11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS**

- 11.1 The schedule of development priorities for green space and play provision in Appendix 1 is recommended to provide a robust strategic framework for future developments that meet evidenced need against the Council's policy benchmarks for such provision.

## **12. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED**

- 12.1 Appendix 1: Schedule of Prioritised Development Projects for Green Space & Play Provision

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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**Appendix 1: Schedule of Prioritised Development Projects for Green Space & Play Provision**

**Appendix 1 (a): Huntingdon – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

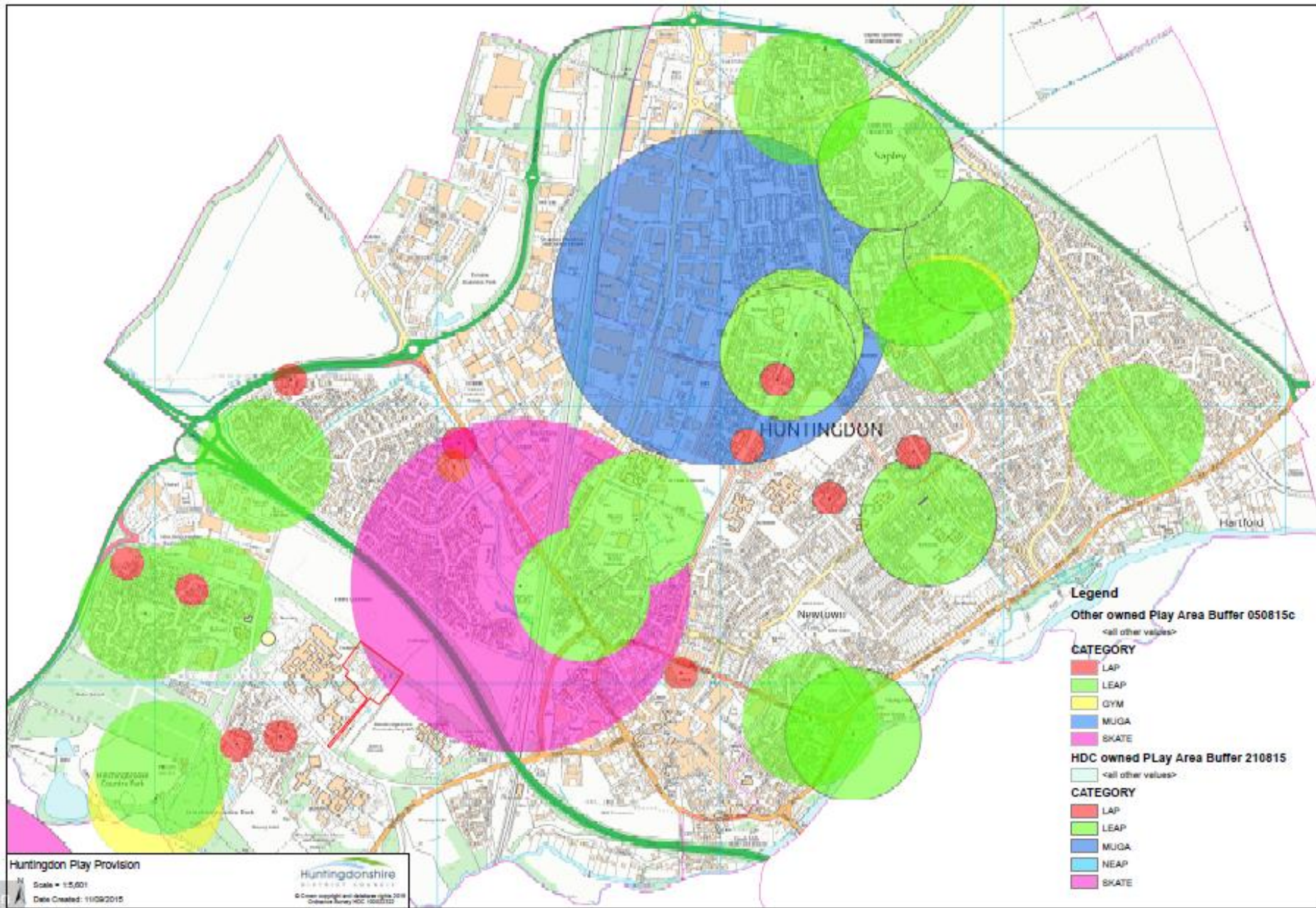
Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
<b>Huntingdon (See Appendix 1a)</b>	Green Space	<b>Parks and Gardens:</b> Provision is deficient in the West Ward. West Ward does have a high industrial area where the main area of deficiency is showing. The East and North Wards are within the policy requirement.	<b>No Action Recommended:</b> Development through capital resources of some of the Natural and Semi Natural areas as Parks and Gardens in the south of the West Ward is a consideration. However, because the A14 divides the ward and this would only benefit a small residential area as there is limited access across the A14 there would be a low return on investment, therefore no action is recommended.	N/A
		<b>Natural &amp; Semi Natural:</b> The North Ward is deficient The East and West Wards are both over provided for making the total for Huntingdon 126 hectares over the policy requirement.	<b>No Action:</b> In the North Ward there are no potential sites that could be converted to Natural and Semi Natural Green Space, therefore no action is recommended no because of the over provision within the town as a whole.	N/A
		<b>Allotments and Community Gardens:</b> The North and West Wards are lacking allotments and community gardens. However the allotment in the West Ward is closer to more houses in the North Ward than many of those in the West Ward. There is an overall deficiency in Huntingdon as a whole of three hectares.	<b>Action:</b> In the West Ward the area south of the A14 – Mill Common; currently Natural and Semi Natural Green Space, part of this site could be considered as a community garden. In the North Ward part of the Sapley Playing Fields could also be considered as a community garden or allotments, this would also benefit many of the residents from the West Ward.	Long Term – funding would need to be realised to deliver the proposed action.

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
<b>Huntingdon (See Appendix 1a)</b>	Play	Huntingdon is made up of 3 wards and when analysed it became clear that there was a need for a limited increase in play provision throughout the wards.	<p><b>Action:</b> After consultation with Huntingdon Town Council, 4 existing play facilities have been identified as potential locations that could be increased in size and play provision to ensure adequate play coverage is reached against policy benchmarks. These areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Pits, Sapley Road Play Area LEAP (Town Council owned):</b> to increase the existing play area to a NEAP by installing a ball game element along with other facilities.</li> <li>• <b>Sallowbush Road, adjacent to MUGA (HDC owned):</b> to increase existing site to include a play area and re-designating the site as a NEAP.</li> <li>• <b>Devoke Close, Stukeley Meadows LAP (Town Council owned):</b> increase the existing play area by installing a low key ball element with other facilities to make it a NEAP.</li> <li>• <b>Elsie's Way, field adjacent to Huntingdon Gym (Town Council owned):</b> to install ball game element and other facilities to increase to a NEAP.</li> </ul>	Short Term – funding in place to deliver the projects



## Appendix 1 (a): Huntingdon – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

		East		North		West		Total	
Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	9,734		6,789		7,765		24,288	
Green Space Provision (ha)	Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	4.67	8.19	3.26	4.88	3.73	1.30	11.66	14.37
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	3.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.80	0.00	6.49
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	2.24	14.74	1.56	0.00	1.79	108.00	5.59	122.74
Allotments & Community Gardens	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	3.11	3.29	2.17	0.00	2.48	1.55	7.77	4.84
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	10.61	25.95	7.40	32.37	8.46	18.28	26.47	76.60
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>20.64</b>	<b>55.86</b>	<b>14.39</b>	<b>37.25</b>	<b>16.46</b>	<b>131.93</b>	<b>51.49</b>	<b>225.04</b>
Play Provision (ha)	Definition								
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.05	n/a	0.04	n/a	0.08	n/a	0.17
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.24	n/a	0.20	n/a	0.24	n/a	0.68
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.10	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>2.43</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>1.94</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>6.07</b>	<b>0.95</b>



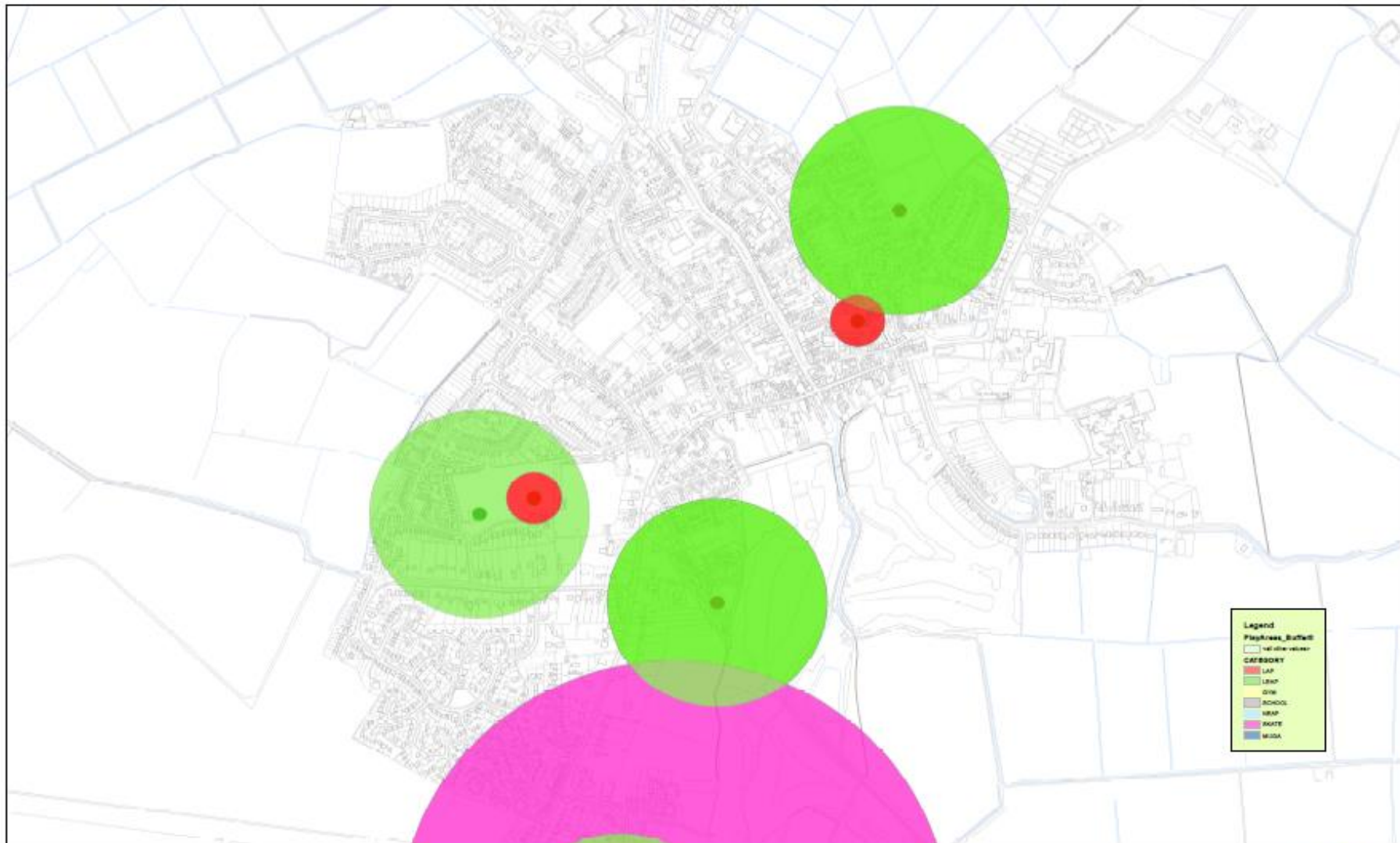
**Appendix 1b: Ramsey – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
<p><b>Ramsey (See Appendix 1b)</b></p>	<p>Green Space</p>	<p>Overall there is sufficient green space provision in Ramsey although it is not very well distributed, with just two main areas of amenity green space and very little in the north of the town.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> There are currently no natural or semi-natural areas but, as there is an overprovision of amenity green space some of these areas could be allowed to grow wild to allow for biodiversity and environmental education.</p>	<p>Long Term - funding would need to be realised to deliver the proposed action</p>
		<p>The allotment plots are plentiful but their location is not within easy reach of the majority of residents.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> The parks and garden element is also deficient, again part of the amenity green space could be set aside to allow for this.</p>	<p>Long Term - funding would need to be realised to deliver the proposed action</p>
	<p>Play</p>	<p>Ramsey currently has five play areas, four are the responsibility of the Town Council and the fifth is owned and maintained by the District Council. The benchmark analysis and catchment plan in Appendix 1(b) clearly evidences there is a deficiency in play provision in Ramsey. However the main area where there is no play is the town centre which does not have any space that could be set aside for play</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> There are outline planning applications for two developments in Ramsey. If both of these are successful and the developers provide open space as required, the Ramsey Millions Partnership would have funding in place to provide a skate park in the north of Ramsey which would alleviate the deficiency.</p>	<p>Medium Term – Funding to be realised through planning agreements</p>
			<p><b>Action:</b> If this land is not forthcoming then the funding could made available to upgrade the two LEAP's in King George V Playing Field and Mill Lane into NEAP's which would also provide sufficient play for Ramsey</p>	<p>Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements</p>


Appendix 1b: Ramsey – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

		Ramsey	
Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	5,848	
Green Space Provision (ha)	Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	2.81	0.02
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	0.00
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	1.35	0.00
Allotments & Community Gardens	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	1.87	2.91
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	6.37	14.89
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>12.40</b>	<b>17.82</b>
Play Provision (ha)	Definition		
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.02
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.12
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.46</b>	<b>0.14</b>





Current Play Provision in Ramsey

 Scale = 1:7,500  
 Date Created: 21/04/2015

**Appendix 1c: St Ives – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
St Ives (See Appendix 1c)	Green Space	<p><b>Natural and Semi Natural Green Space (N&amp;SN)</b> - Although at a local level the East and West Wards are deficient in Natural &amp; Semi-Natural green space as a whole St Ives is over provided by 1.5ha.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> In both East and West Wards, reallocate approximately 1ha of amenity green space to Natural &amp; Semi-Natural green space with a consequent reduction in maintenance regimes.</p>	<p>Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements</p>
		<p><b>Allotments and Community Gardens (A&amp;CG)</b> - Provision for Allotments &amp; Community Gardens is deficient in East and South Wards although when St Ives is assessed as a whole provision matches policy requirement.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Allotments would not always be appropriate in dense urban areas and instead community gardens would be more successful. One location in the East Ward or South Ward should be identified as a site for a small community garden (approximately 100m2 per site).</p>	<p>Long Term - funding would need to be realised to deliver the proposed action</p>
	Play	<p>A serious under provision for play is noted across the whole of St Ives.</p> <p>By increasing the designation of the play areas at Stirling Road and Warners Park (Town Council owned) to NEAP status through investment, adequate play coverage could be reached.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Identify funding to invest in Stirling Road and Warners Park play areas to re-designate them as NEAPs.</p>	<p>Short Term - funding in place to deliver the projects</p>

## Appendix 1c: St Ives – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

		East		South		West		Total	
Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	6,966		6,795		3,025		16,786	
Green Space Provision (ha)	Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	3.34	5.14	3.26	2.04	1.45	6.57	8.06	13.74
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	2.76	0.00	1.12	0.00	0.18	0.00	4.06
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	1.60	0.42	1.56	4.96	0.70	0.00	3.86	5.38
Allotments & Community Garden	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	2.23	0.00	2.17	0.00	0.97	5.34	5.37	5.34
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	7.59	14.49	7.41	11.09	3.30	6.92	18.30	32.50
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>14.77</b>	<b>22.81</b>	<b>14.41</b>	<b>19.20</b>	<b>6.41</b>	<b>19.01</b>	<b>35.59</b>	<b>61.03</b>
Play Provision (ha)	Definition								
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.01	n/a	0.01	n/a	0.02
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.08	n/a	0.12	n/a	0.04	n/a	0.24
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.10	n/a	0.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.74</b>	<b>0.08</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>4.20</b>	<b>0.36</b>





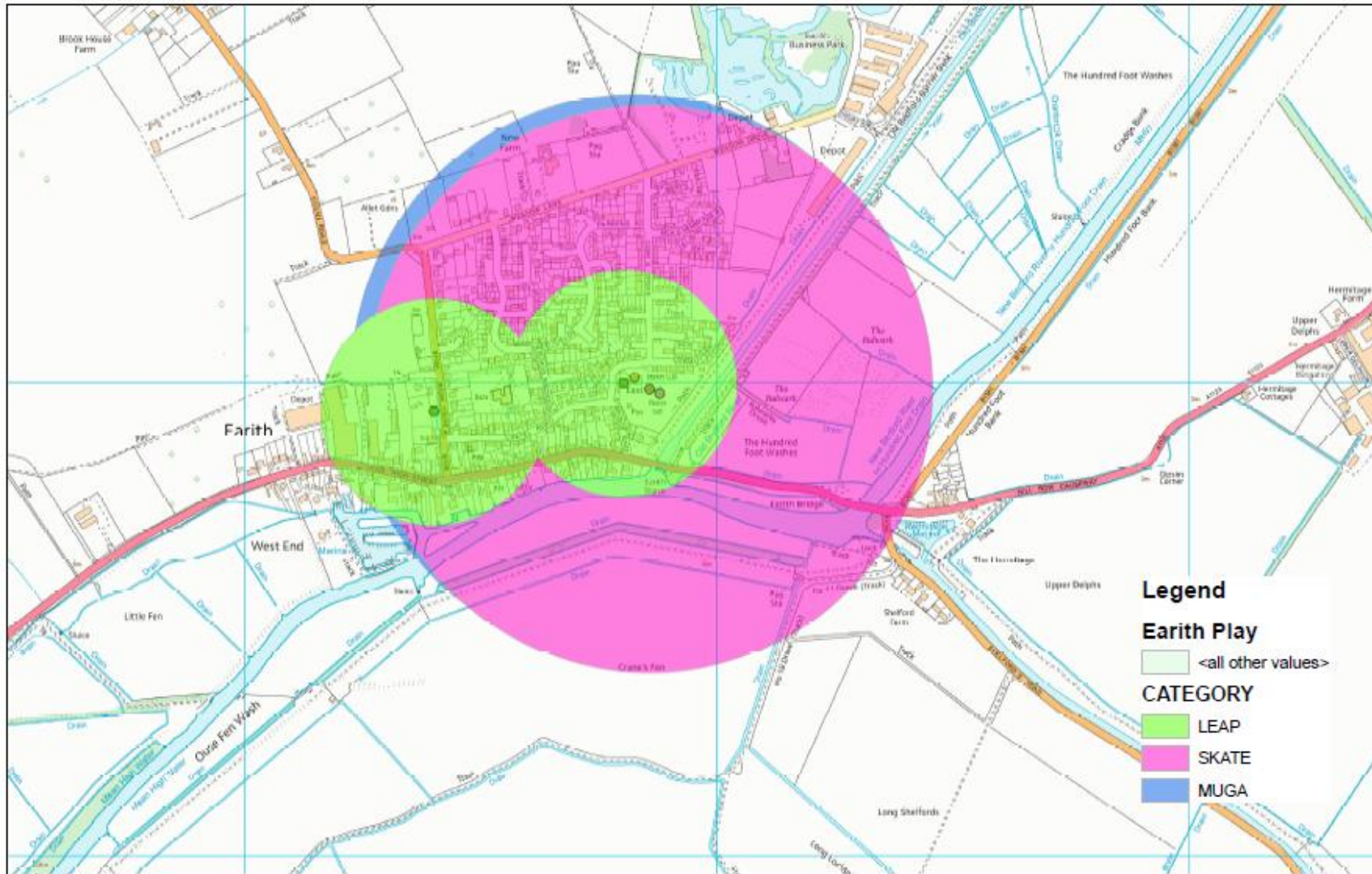


**Appendix 1d: Earith – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
Earith (See Appendix 1d)	Green Space	Provision is well spread out and accessible to residents, although some categories of green space remain below the policy benchmark level. The Bulwark and the River Island although separated from the village by water, do form part of a varied portfolio of Green Space opportunities in the village.	<b>Action:</b> If the access to the ECA field could be resolved and the field brought back into public use the provision of Green Space in Earith would be markedly improved Future funding secured to improve Green Space in Earith should be used to help the Parish Council to find a solution to bring the ECA field back into action.	Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements
	Play	Earith has two play areas, a skate park and a multi-use games area. Although statistically this appears to be deficient, coverage is adequate for a village of this size.	<b>No Action Recommended</b>	N/A

## Appendix 1d: Earith – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	1,563	
Green Space Provision (ha)	Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	0.75	0.00
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	0.03
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	0.36	3.00
Allotments & Community Gardens	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	0.50	0.15
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	1.70	3.00
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>3.31</b>	<b>6.18</b>
Play Provision (ha)	Definition		
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.00
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.08
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.39</b>	<b>0.08</b>



**Legend**

**Earith Play**

- <all other values>

**CATEGORY**

- LEAP
- SKATE
- MUGA

**Earith Play Areas**

Scale = 1:7,134  
 Date Created: 02/12/2015

**Appendix 1e: Godmanchester – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

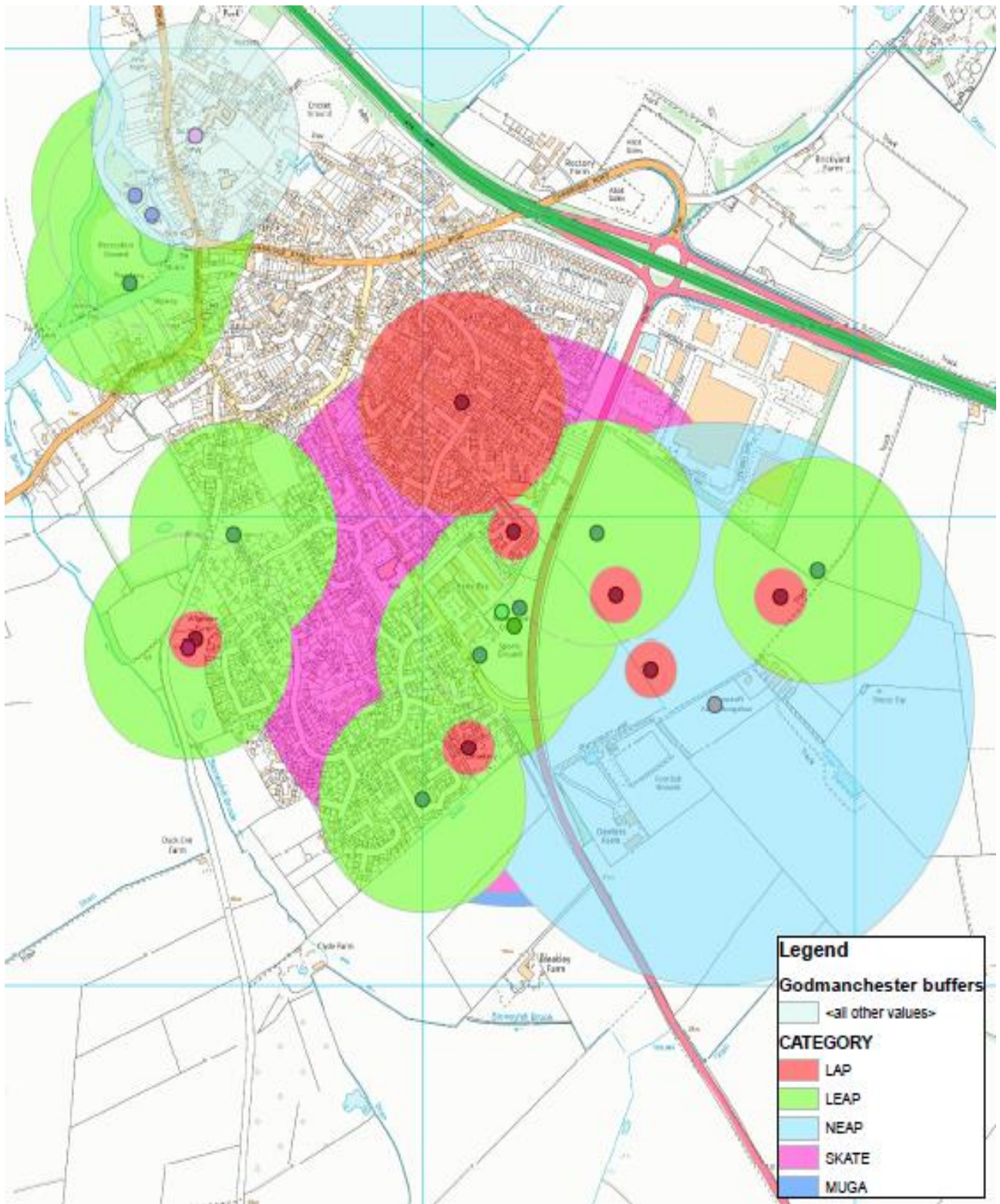
Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
<p><b>Godmanchester (See Appendix 1e)</b></p>	<p>Green Space</p>	<p>Overall there is sufficient green space provision in Godmanchester and it is quite well distributed throughout the town. The new development proposed at Bearscroft Farm to the east of the town will provide some additional green space, although sites have not been confirmed.</p> <p><b>Natural &amp; Semi-Natural green space</b> – there is a deficiency against the policy benchmark for provision and there is a need to increase existing natural/wildlife areas.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> The needs analysis evidences a deficiency in natural and semi-natural areas, however there are a number of amenity green space sites for example Wigmore Farm where the wildflower areas could be extended to provide the biodiversity element needed.</p>	<p>Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements</p>
		<p><b>Parks and Gardens</b> - There is also a deficiency against the policy benchmark for provision but there are no more sites that lend themselves for this purpose.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Further investigation with Town Council required.</p>	<p>Long Term - funding would need to be realised to deliver the proposed action</p>

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
Godmanchester (See Appendix 1e)	Play	Statistically the play provision is showing as deficient against the policy benchmark for provision in the town but with the addition of the play areas proposed as part of the Bearscroft Farm Development, Godmanchester has sufficient play provision. The north of the town that would benefit from an additional play area but there is not a site that could accommodate this.	<b>Action:</b> There is an opportunity to upgrade a LEAP play area to a NEAP play area in the north-west of the town; this would enhance the current footprint of provision. The funding to increase the size and play designation of a LEAP to a NEAP could be funded through securing a Section 106 funding from local developments when it is realised.	Long Term - funding would need to be realised to deliver the proposed action

## Appendix 1e: Godmanchester – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas – National Office of Statistics	6,816	
Green Space Provision (ha)	Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	3.27	0.09
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	0.41
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	1.57	0.00
Allotments & Community Gardens	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	2.18	3.52
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	7.43	9.66
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>14.45</b>	<b>13.68</b>
Play Provision (ha)	Definition		
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.07
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.40
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.70</b>	<b>0.57</b>





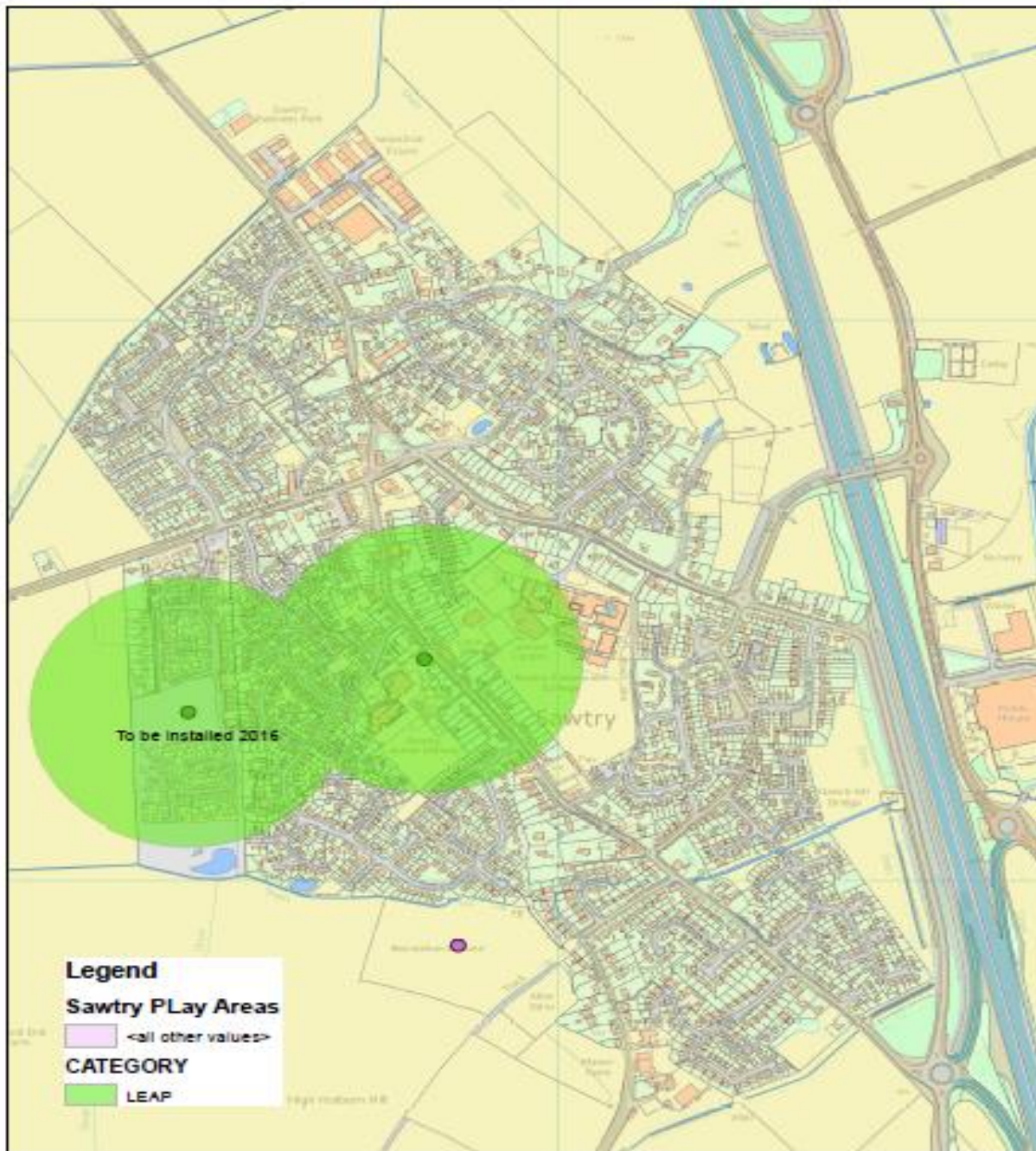
**Appendix 1f: Sawtry – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
Sawtry (See Appendix 1f)	Green Space	Overall there is sufficient green space provision in Sawtry and it is well distributed throughout the village. The new development off Gidding Road will provide extra allotments for the community and also a natural/semi-natural area which includes newt ponds providing a haven for wildlife in the village. Parks and Gardens are the only category of green space that is deficient against the policy benchmark for provision; and unfortunately there is no amenity green space within the village that could be suitably upgraded.	<b>No Action Recommended</b>	N/A
	Play	Sawtry currently has one play area, a youth shelter and a multi-use goal end. Another play area (Leap) is going to be installed in 2016 on a new development off Gidding Road. Statistically there is a deficiency in play provision across parts of the village. By increasing the provision at St Judith Field (Parish Council owned) to a Leap/Neap through investment adequate play coverage could be reached and additional coverage can be provided.	<b>Action:</b> Identify funding to invest in St Judith Field to re-designate to a Leap/Neap.	Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements



## Appendix 1f: Sawtry – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	5,058	
Green Space Provision (ha)	Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	2.43	0.00
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	0.00
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	1.16	1.37
Allotments & Community Gardens	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	1.62	1.20
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	5.51	12.10
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>10.72</b>	<b>14.67</b>
Play Provision (ha)	Definition		
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.08
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.26</b>	<b>0.08</b>



**Sawtry Play Area Coverage**

Scale = 1:7,928  
 Date Created: 10/12/2015

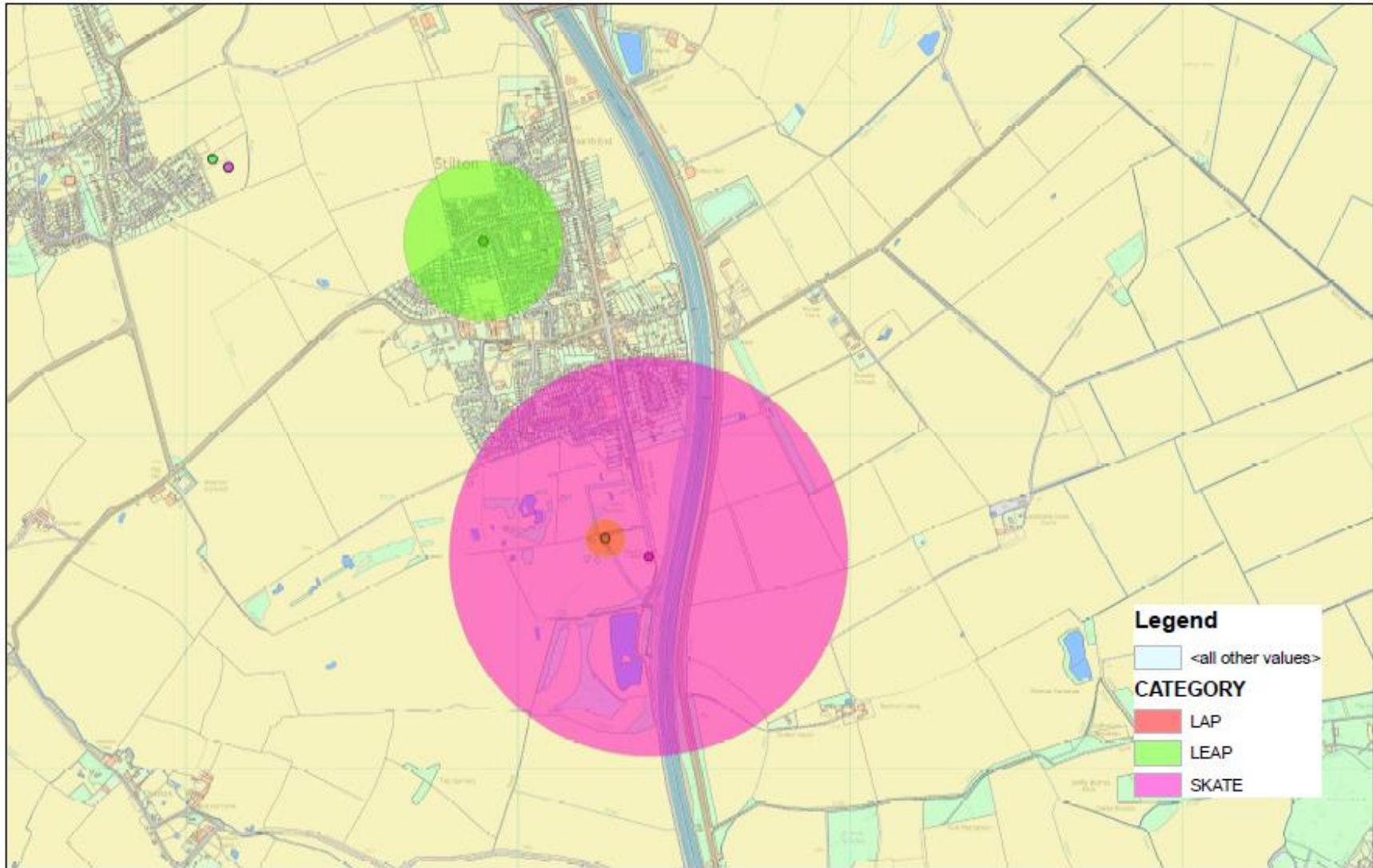
**Appendix 1g: Stilton – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
<b>Stilton (See Appendix 1g)</b>	Green Space	As a whole green open space is deficient, with no provision for allotments, community gardens or wildlife havens, (natural & semi natural). However the amenity grass is very well distributed throughout the village. As the majority of the amenity grass is surrounded by housing, none of these areas lend themselves to anything other than amenity land	<b>Action:</b> If there are any new housing developments within the village consideration should be made with regard to acquiring land for allotments or areas for the community.	Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements
	Play	Stilton has two play areas and a skate park. The current play provision is severely lacking for the majority of Stilton residents.	<b>Action:</b> There are currently no green spaces available in the village that would be suitable to accommodate a play area. HDC should therefore seek to acquire appropriate play provision from any new housing developments in the village.	Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements

## Appendix 1g: Stilton – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

Population	Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	3,034	
<b>Green Space Provision (ha)</b>	<b>Green Space Definitions from PPG17</b>	<b>Policy</b>	<b>Actual (ha)*</b>
Parks & Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	1.46	0.00
Green Corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	0.00
Natural & Semi Natural	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	0.70	0.00
Allotments & Community Gardens	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	0.97	0.00
Amenity Green Space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	3.31	3.12
<b>Total Green Space</b>		<b>6.43</b>	<b>3.12</b>
<b>Play Provision (ha)</b>	<b>Definition</b>		
LAP (0.01ha)	Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.01
LEAP(0.04ha)	Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.04
NEAP(0.1ha)	Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.05</b>





**Legend**

<all other values>

**CATEGORY**

LAP

LEAP

SKATE

**Stilton  
Play Areas**

Scale = 1:10,077

Date Created: 03/12/2015



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Ordnance Survey HCC 100022022

**Appendix 1h: Yaxley – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

Location	Assessment	Needs Analysis Findings	Recommended Action	Resourcing, Deliverability & Priority Rating (Short, Medium & Long Term)
Yaxley (see Appendix 1h)	Green Space	As a whole green open space in Yaxley is deficient against the policy benchmarks for provision with insufficient provision for allotments and community gardens and no provision for parks and gardens. However, the amenity grass is quite well distributed within the main areas in the centre of the village. The two large areas of amenity grass are currently used for outdoor sport so they do not lend themselves to be changed to parks and gardens.	<b>Action:</b> With any new housing developments within the village consideration should be made with regard to acquiring land for allotments or community gardens. If there is a new large development in Yaxley that could accommodate the Parks and Gardens element this would alleviate this deficiency.	Medium Term - Funding to be realised through planning agreements
	Play	Statistically the play provision for Yaxley is showing as deficient against the policy benchmarks for provision in the town, however with the addition of the play areas installed recently at Shackleton Way and Scott Drive, Yaxley has good coverage as far as play is concerned.	<b>No Action Recommended</b>	N/A

Appendix 1h: Yaxley – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

<b>Green Space Provision (ha)</b>	<b>Policy</b>	<b>Actual (ha)*</b>
Parks & Gardens	4.62	0.00
Green Corridors	0.00	0.00
Natural & Semi Natural	2.22	2.23
Allotments & Community Gardens	3.08	0.02
Amenity Green Space	10.50	15.26
<b>Total Green Space</b>	<b>20.42</b>	<b>17.51</b>
<b>Total Play Provision (ha)</b>	<b>2.41</b>	<b>0.29</b>



**Yaxley Play Area Buffer Zones**

N Scale = 1:6,820  
 Date Created: 28/04/2016



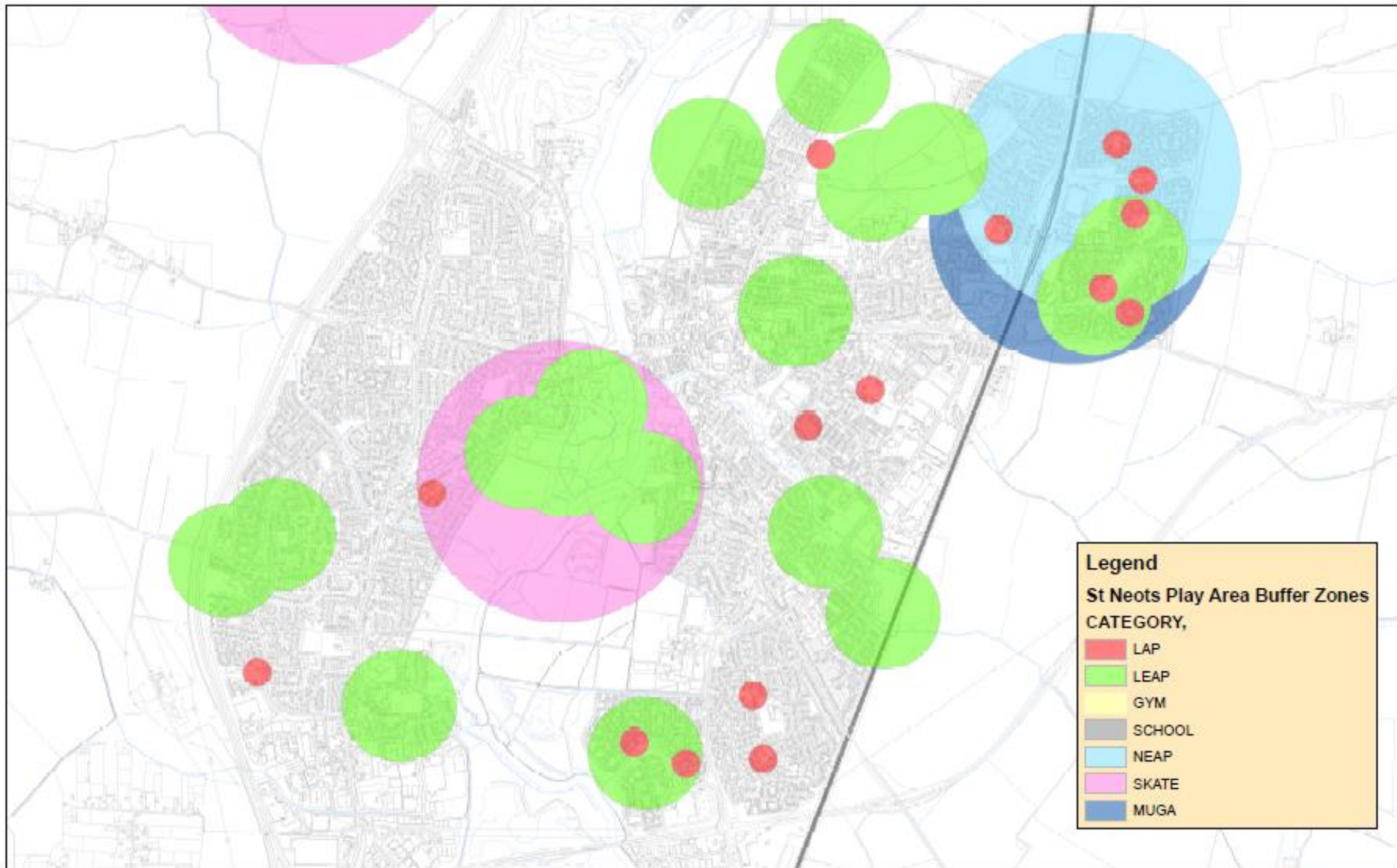
**Appendix 1i: St Neots – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks**

St Neots	Green Space	<p><b>Parks and Gardens</b> - The green space provision for Parks and Gardens is only showing as deficient in the Eaton Socon and Eynesbury wards. However, the overall total Green Space in both of these wards is considerably above the policy requirements.</p>	No Action	N/A
		<p><b>Amenity Green Space</b> - Amenity Green Space is in abundance in all of the St Neots wards, well above the policy requirements and it is quite well distributed with a good number of Green Corridors to connect the green spaces.</p>	No Action	N/A
		<p><b>Natural and Semi Natural Green Space (N&amp;SN)</b> - All the wards in St Neots are well provided for as far as Natural and Semi Natural green space is concerned so again no action is necessary.</p>	No Action	N/A
		<p><b>Allotments and Community Gardens (A&amp;CG)</b> - There are no Allotments or Community Gardens in Eaton Socon, and Eaton Ford and Eynesbury are showing as deficient in this provision. Although the policy requirement for St Neots as a whole is on a par with what is currently being provided, when the private sites are included, there are many residents who would not be able to access a site close to their home.</p>	<p><b>Action</b> - Amenity Green Space is above the policy requirement in each ward. Consideration should be given to converting some of the Amenity Green Space to Allotment Sites or a Community Garden, for example the green space between the A1 and the west of Eaton Socon and Eaton Ford or the western side of Regatta Meadows.</p>	Medium Term

	Play	Statistically the Play provision is showing as deficient in the town, although the existing play areas are well distributed throughout the wards, with the exception of Eaton Ford where it is distinctly lacking.	<b>Action</b> - If funding becomes available there is Amenity Green Space between the A1 and the west of Eaton Ford that could be considered for play following consultation or part of Regatta Meadows could also be an option.	Medium Term
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## Appendix 1i: St Neots – Current Provision against Policy Benchmarks

	Priory Park		Eaton Ford		Eaton Socon		Eynesbury		Total	
Population figures taken from Lower Super Output Areas - National Office of Statistics	6,330		6,834		5,768		10,638		29,570	
Green Space Definitions from PPG17	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*	Policy	Actual (ha)*
Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events	3.04	32.96	3.28	25.04	2.77	0.33	5.11	0.19	9.09	58.33
Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration	0.00	5.95	0.00	3.95	0.00	6.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	16.04
Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness	1.46	5.57	1.57	0.76	1.33	14.95	2.45	16.99	4.35	21.28
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	2.03	5.05	2.19	0.44	1.85	0.00	3.40	0.93	6.06	5.49
Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas	6.90	19.60	7.45	12.00	6.29	11.28	11.60	23.70	20.64	42.88
	<b>13.42</b>	<b>69.13</b>	<b>14.49</b>	<b>42.19</b>	<b>12.23</b>	<b>32.70</b>	<b>22.55</b>	<b>41.95</b>	<b>40.14</b>	<b>144.02</b>
Definition										
Small play space aimed at up to 6yrs children, not equipped	n/a	0.06	n/a	0.01	n/a	0.01	n/a	0.06	n/a	0.08
Equipped play area, 5 types of equipment, 4-8yr olds	n/a	0.28	n/a	0.12	n/a	0.12	n/a	0.16	n/a	0.52
Equipped play area, 8 types of equipment to include ball games, aimed at older children	n/a	0.20	n/a	0.10	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.00	n/a	0.30
	<b>1.58</b>	<b>0.54</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>7.39</b>	<b>0.90</b>



St Neots Play Area Buffer Zones

 Scale = 1:10,000  
 Date Created: 11/02/2016