



ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT REPORT

JANUARY 2021

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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Glossary

MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act
DPD	Development Plan Document
FIT	Fields in Trust
FOG	Friends of Group
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MUGA	Multi-use Games Area (an enclosed area with a hard surface for variety of informal play)
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSALG	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners
ONS	Office of National Statistics
OSNA	Open Space Needs Assessment
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RBC	Rossendale Borough Council
SFS	Sports Facilities Strategy
SOA	Super Output Areas
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Rossendale Borough Council (RBC) commissioned Knight Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) to deliver an Open Space Assessment. This document is part of a wider series of inter-related strategies for sport and recreation that also includes a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and Built Sports Facilities Strategy. These assessments were commissioned as a key part of the evidence base for the Local Plan. The inter-relationship between the strategies must be noted as some sports covered by the PPS also use indoor facilities for matches/training or use open space areas for informal use. Similarly, there may be forms of open space which feature a playing pitch or sporting facility.

This document focuses on reporting the findings of the research, consultation, site assessments, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpin the study. It provides detail regarding what provision exists in the area, its condition, distribution and overall quality.

It will help inform direction on the future provision of accessible, high quality, sustainable provision for open spaces in Rossendale Borough. It can help to inform the priorities for open space provision as part of future population distribution and planned growth.

The purpose of an Open Space Study is to recognise the role of open space provision as a resource to the Borough of Rossendale. Open spaces contribute to the health, well-being, cultural heritage, landscape, education, climate change mitigation, biodiversity and movement for people and wildlife. The impact of climate change is a recognised concern. One which open space provision has the ability to help contribute towards tackling through measures such as tree planting, landscaping, re-wilding and creation of wild areas etc. It is therefore vital for local authorities to know what provision currently exists and what the priorities and requirements are for the future

In order for planning policies to be 'sound' local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities. We advocate that the methodology to undertake such assessments should still be informed by best practice including the Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) Companion Guidance; *Assessing Needs and Opportunities*^{*} published in September 2002.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has replaced PPG17. However, assessment of open space facilities is still normally carried out in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17 as it still remains the only national best practice guidance on the conduct of an open space assessment.

Under paragraph 96 of the NPPF, it is set out that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assessing-needs-and-opportunities-a-companion-guide-to-planning-policy-guidance-17>

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

Table 1.1: Open space typology examples and definitions

Typology	Primary purpose	Description
Parks and gardens	Urban parks, country parks and formal gardens, open to the general public. Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.	High profile examples include Stubbylee and Moorlands Park, Whittaker Park and Snig Hole Park.
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Supports wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.	Includes sites such as nature reserves as well as large expansive sites and reservoirs.
Urban greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.	Mown grassed areas like recreation grounds and playing fields as well as woodlands often within or close to housing.
Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.	Includes equipped play areas, Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs), skate parks and informal football areas.
Allotments	Opportunities to grow own produce. Added benefits include the long term promotion of sustainable living, health and social inclusion.	Areas for growing produce such as allotments like Cowpe Allotments and Burnley Road Allotments.
Cemeteries, churchyards and other burial grounds	Provides burial space but is considered to provide a place of quiet contemplation and is often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.	Includes active burial provision such as cemeteries and closed sites like churchyards.
Civic space	Provides a setting for civic buildings, public gatherings and community events.	Including civic and market squares and other hard surfaced community areas designed for pedestrians.
Green corridors	Routes providing walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel. May also offer opportunities for wildlife mitigation.	Examples include Irwell Sculpture Trail and Rossendale Way.

1.1 Report structure

Open spaces

This report considers the supply and demand issues for open space provision across Rossendale Borough. Each part contains relevant typology specific data. Further description of the methodology used can be found in Part 2.

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The report as a whole covers the predominant issues for all open spaces as defined in best practice guidance:

- ◀ Part 3: General open space summary
- ◀ Part 4: Parks and gardens
- ◀ Part 5: Natural/ semi-natural greenspace
- ◀ Part 6: Urban greenspace
- ◀ Part 7: Provision for children/ young people
- ◀ Part 8: Allotments
- ◀ Part 9: Cemeteries/churchyards
- ◀ Part 10: Civic spaces
- ◀ Part 11: Green corridors

Playing Pitches and Indoor Built Sports Facilities

The provision of formal outdoor sports is contained within the associated Playing Pitches and Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategies. The amount and quality of such provision is not included in the total figures for open space as a different methodology in line with national guidance is prescribed.

Any site recognised as sports provision but with a clear multifunctional role (i.e. where it is also available for wider community use as open space) is included in this study as a type of open space. Provision purely for sporting use are included within the other studies. On dual use sites, the pitch playing surfaces are counted as part of the overall site size as they are considered to contribute to the total open space site and reflect its multifunctionality. Pitches on dual use sites are identified in the PPS too but only by number and pitch type (as prescribed in Sport England Guidance).

1.2 National context

National Planning Policy Framework (2019), (MHCLG)

The National Planning Policy Framework (Feb 2019) (NPPF) sets out the planning policies for England. It details how these are expected to be applied to the planning system and provides a framework to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development (paragraphs 7-9). It establishes that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

Paragraph 96 of the NPPF establishes that access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for health and well-being. It states that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

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As a prerequisite, paragraph 97 of the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation sites, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown the site to be surplus to requirements; or
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

National Planning Practice Guidance (MHCLG)

National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) is a web-based resource which brings together planning guidance on various topics into one place. It was launched in March 2014 and adds further context to the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF). It is intended that the two documents should be read together.

The guidance determines that open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space. It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the duty to cooperate where open space serves a wider area.

Everybody Active, Every Day (2014), Public Health England

In October 2014 Public Health England (PHE) produced a plan to tackle low activity levels across the country. Along with making the case for physical activity, the plan identifies four areas where measures need to be taken at a national and local level:

- ◀ Active society: creating a social movement. Shifting social norms so that physical activity becomes a routine part of daily life.
- ◀ Moving professionals: activating networks of expertise. Making every contact with the health sector count to push the 'active' message and to deliver the message through other sectors including education, sports and leisure, transport and planning.
- ◀ Active environments: creating the right spaces. Making available and accessible appropriate environments that encourage people to be active every day.
- ◀ Moving at scale: scaling up interventions that make us active. Maximising existing assets that enable communities to be active.

Open space provision has an important role in working towards these measures. There is a need to ensure accessible facilities that can help meet the physical activity needs of everyone including the physically and mentally disabled and those with learning difficulties and debilitating diseases.

Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2015), Fields in Trust

As part of its protection work, Fields in Trust (FiT) offers guidance on open space provision and design. This is to ensure that the provision of outdoor sport, play and informal open space is of a sufficient size to enable effective use; is located in an accessible location and in close proximity to dwellings; and of a quality to maintain longevity and to encourage its continued use.

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Beyond the Six Acre Standard sets out a range of benchmark guidelines on quantity, quality and accessibility for open space and equipped play. It also offers some recommendations to minimum site sizes. These are considered as part of the review of provision standards in the Open Space Standards Paper.

Planning for Sport Guidance (2019), Sport England

Sets out how the planning system can help provide opportunities for everyone to be physically active. It highlights the vital role planning systems play in shaping environments (including open spaces) which offer opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity. To help with this, the guidance sets out 12 planning-for-sport principles to be embraced.

Table 1.2: 12 planning for sport principles

Overarching	Recognise and give weight to the benefits of sport and physical activity Undertake, maintain and apply robust and up-to-date assessment of need and strategies for sport and physical activity provision, and base policies, decisions and guidance upon them
Protect	Plan, design and maintain buildings, developments, facilities, land and environments that enable people to lead active lifestyles Protect and promote existing sport and physical activity provision and ensure new development does not prejudice its use
Enhance	Ensure long-term viable management and maintenance of new and existing sport and physical activity provision Support improvements to existing sport and physical activity provision where they are needed
Provide	Encourage and secure wider community use of existing and new sport and physical activity provision Support new provision, including allocating new sites for sport and physical activity which meets identified needs Ensure a positive approach to meeting the needs generated by new development for sport and physical activity provision Provide sport and physical activity provision which is fit for purpose and well designed Plan positively for sport and physical activity provision in designated landscapes and the green belt Proactively address any amenity issues arising from sport and physical activity developments

Summary of the national context

Policies set out within the NPPF state that local and neighbourhood plans should both reflect needs and priorities within a local community and be based on robust and current assessments of open space, sport and recreational facilities. Engaging residents to take up and retain a minimum or better level of physical literacy and activity is a high priority for national government. For many people, sport and recreational activities have a key role to play in facilitating physical activity. Therefore, ensuring that open space creates an active environment with opportunities and good accessibility is important. In line with national policy recommendations, this report makes an assessment of open space provision from which recommendations and policy will be formulated.

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1.3 Local context

Rossendale Borough Council Corporate Strategy (2017-2021)

This is a Council wide document which pulls together wider Council plans and strategies so that everyone is working to a vision and priorities that will benefit individuals and Rossendale as a whole. It underlines a commitment to gain investment and ensure sustainable growth in Rossendale, as well as maintaining high quality, value for money services. The vision is: 'Rossendale, a place where people want to live, visit, work and invest'. Its three key priorities are:

- ◀ A clean and green Rossendale.
- ◀ A connected and successful Rossendale that welcomes sustainable growth.
- ◀ A proud, healthy and vibrant Rossendale.

Rossendale Council Core Strategy Development Plan (2011-2026) and emerging Local Plan (2019-2034)

The Core Strategy was adopted in November 2011 and sets out policies on development and land use. This commits to ensuring that the Borough is a healthy, vibrant place to live and visit. It notes that to achieve this it will need to work with partners to improve the health and wellbeing of its residents, particularly through sport, leisure within its stock of parks and open spaces. The associated Proposals Map identifies a number of "Greenlands" and "Recreation Areas" which have been reviewed as part of this open space assessment.

The Emerging Rossendale Local Plan 2019-2034 is currently at Examination (as of April 2020); once adopted, it will replace the 2011 Core Strategy. It contains policies seeking to protect existing playing pitches, open space and sport and recreation facilities, as well as setting out requirements for new open space and sport provision.

The Rossendale 2019 Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) update

This was produced in support of the emerging Local Plan and provides an update to the 2018 IDP. The purpose of the IDP is to provide an up-to-date evidence base document to demonstrate that the necessary infrastructure is either in place or is planned to support delivery of Local Plan growth proposals, including those relating to education and health.

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PART 2: METHODOLOGY

This section details the methodology undertaken as part of the study. The key stages are:

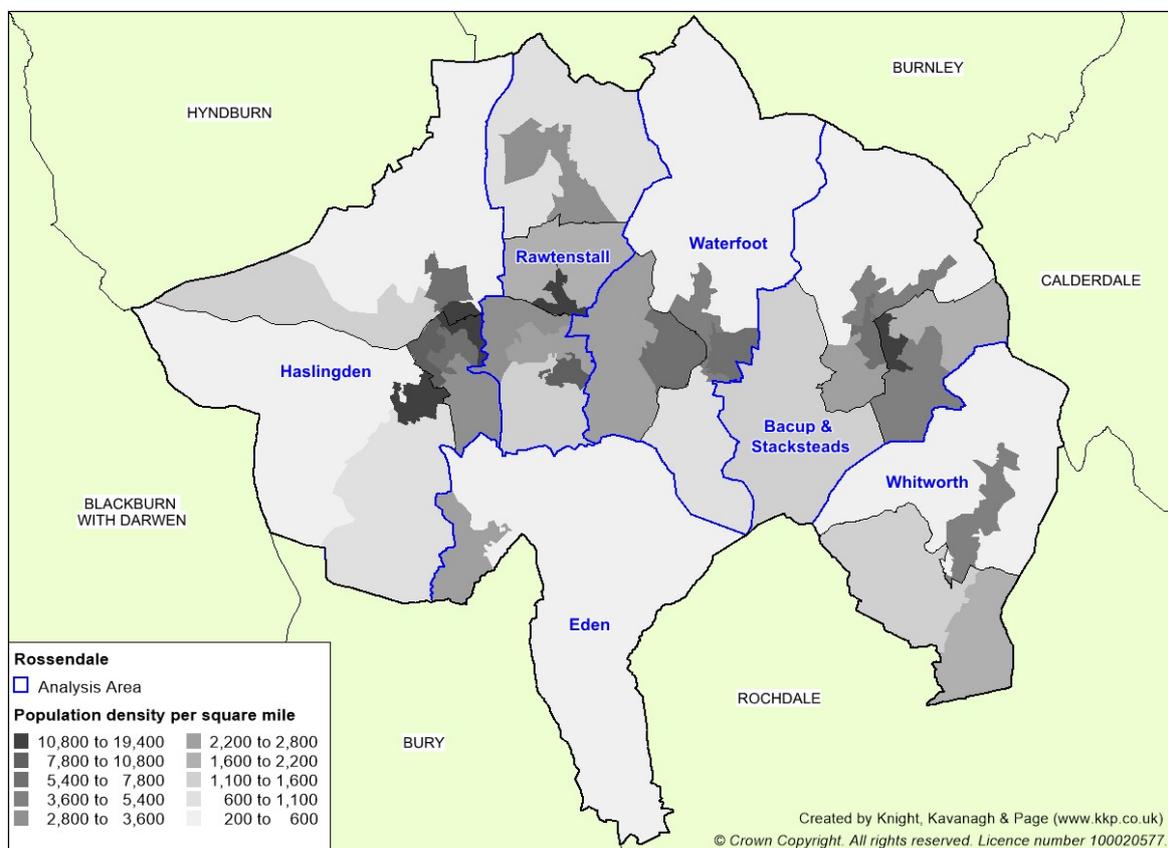
- ◀ 2.1 - Analysis areas
- ◀ 2.2 - Auditing local provision
- ◀ 2.3 - Open space provision standards
- ◀ 2.4 - Quality and value
- ◀ 2.5 - Quality and value thresholds
- ◀ 2.6 - Accessibility standards

2.1 Analysis area

The study area comprises the whole of Rossendale Borough. In order to address supply and demand on a more localised level, analysis areas (consisting of grouped ward areas) have been utilised. Because of the nature of ward boundaries some places may not necessarily be included in areas they are normally associated with e.g., e.g., Hareholme ward covers parts of Rawtenstall and Waterfoot, but for the purposes of this study it has been included wholly within the Waterfoot Analysis Area.

Figure 2.1 shows the Borough broken down into these analysis areas in tandem with population density. Population is considered in more detail below.

Figure 2.1: Map of Rossendale Borough including analysis areas



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Table 2.1: Analysis areas and populations

Analysis area	Wards	Population*
Bacup and Stacksteads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greensclough • Irwell • Stacksteads 	15,872
Eden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eden 	3,626
Haslingden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worsley • Greenfield • Helmshore 	18,088
Rawtenstall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longholme • Cribden • Goodshaw 	13,959
Waterfoot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitewell • Hareholme 	11,537
Whitworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facit and Shawforth • Healey and Whitworth 	7,813
Rossendale		70,895

2.2 Auditing local provision

The KKP Field Research Team undertook the site audit for this study between February and June 2020. Open space sites (including provision for children and young people) are identified, mapped and assessed to evaluate site value and quality. Only sites publicly accessible are included (i.e. private sites or land, which people cannot access, are not included). Each site is classified based on its primary open space purpose, so that each type of space is counted only once. The audit, and the report, analyse the following typologies in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17.

1. Parks and gardens
2. Natural and semi-natural greenspace
3. Urban greenspace
4. Provision for children and young people
5. Allotments
6. Cemeteries/churchyards
7. Civic spaces
8. Green corridors

Site size threshold

In accordance with recommendations from the Companion Guidance to PPG17, a size threshold of 0.2 hectares is applied to the typologies of urban greenspace and natural/semi-natural greenspace. It is recognised that spaces smaller than 0.2 hectares can provide amenity to local neighbourhoods and stepping-stones for wildlife. However, they are often too small to provide any meaningful leisure and recreational opportunities to warrant a full site assessment.

* Mid-2018 Population Estimates for 2018 Wards in England (ONS)

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They should therefore be assessed on a site by site basis (to assess potential community, biodiversity and visual value) should a request for development be made upon such a site in the future.

It should be noted that some sites below the threshold i.e. those that are identified as having particular significance and considered to provide an important function, as well as play space for children and young people, are included in the audit process.

Database development

All information relating to open spaces is collated in the project open space database (supplied as an Excel electronic file). All sites identified and assessed as part of the audit are recorded within the database. The database details for each site are as follows:

Data held on open spaces database (summary)

- ◀ KKP reference number (used for mapping)
- ◀ Site name
- ◀ Ownership (if known)
- ◀ Management (if known)
- ◀ Typology
- ◀ Size (hectares)
- ◀ Site visit data

Sites are primarily identified by KKP in the audit using official site names, where possible, and/or secondly using road names and locations.

2.3 Open space standards

To identify specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space in a local area, provision standards focusing on Quality, Quantity and Accessibility are set and applied later in the document (Part 12).

Quality	Ability to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities. Aimed at identifying high quality provision for benchmarking and low quality provision for targeting as part of an improvement programme. The Quality Standard is based on the audit assessment scores.
Quantity	Are there enough spaces in the right places? Aimed at helping to establish areas of surplus and deficiency and, where appropriate, to understand the potential for alternative uses and/or key forms of provision.
Accessibility	Distance thresholds aimed at improving accessibility factors (e.g. so people can find and get to open spaces without undue reliance on using a car) and helping to identify potential areas with gaps in provision. Shown via maps.

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2.4 Quality and value

The quality of the Borough's open spaces has been assessed through site visits. The Quality Standards will be founded on this information.

Through the assessment process each type of open space receives separate quality and value scores. This allows for the application of a high and low quality/value matrix to further help determine prioritisation of investment and to identify sites that may be surplus within and to a particular open space typology.

Quality and value are fundamentally different and can be unrelated. For example, a site of high quality may be inaccessible and, thus, be of little value; whereas a rundown (poor quality) site 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.

Analysis of quality

Data collated from site visits is initially based upon criteria derived from the Green Flag Award scheme (a national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, operated by Keep Britain Tidy). This is utilised to calculate a quality score for each site visited. Scores in the database are presented as percentage figures. The quality criteria used for the open space assessments carried out for all open space typologies are summarised in the following table.

Quality criteria for open space site visit (score)

- ▶ Physical access, e.g. public transport links, directional signposts
- ▶ Personal security, e.g. site is overlooked, natural surveillance
- ▶ Access-social, e.g. appropriate minimum entrance widths
- ▶ Parking, e.g. availability, specific, disabled parking
- ▶ Information signage, e.g. presence of up to date site information, notice boards
- ▶ Equipment and facilities, e.g. assessment of both adequacy and maintenance of provision such as seats, benches, bins, toilets
- ▶ Location value, e.g. proximity of housing, other greenspace
- ▶ Site problems, e.g. presence of vandalism, graffiti
- ▶ Healthy, safe and secure, e.g. fencing, gates, staff on site
- ▶ Maintenance and cleanliness, e.g. condition of general landscape & features
- ▶ Groups that the site meets the needs of, e.g. elderly, young people
- ▶ Site potential

For the provision for children and young people, criteria are also built around Green Flag. It is a non-technical visual assessment of the whole site, including general equipment and surface quality/appearance plus an assessment of, for example, bench and bin provision.

This differs, for example, from an independent Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RosPA) review, which is a more technical assessment of equipment in terms of play and risk assessment grade.

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Analysis of value

Site visit data plus desk-based research is calculated to provide value scores for each site identified. Value is defined in Companion Guidance to PPG17 in relation to the following three issues:

- ◀ Context of the site i.e. its accessibility, scarcity value and historic value.
- ◀ Level and type of use.
- ◀ The wider benefits it generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment.

In addition, the NPPF refers to attributes to value such as beauty and attractiveness of a site, its recreational value, historic and cultural value and its tranquillity and richness of wildlife.

Children's and young people play provision is scored for value as part of the audit assessment. Value, in particular is recognised in terms of size of sites and the range of equipment it hosts. For instance, a small site with only one or two items is likely to be of a lower value than a site with a variety of equipment catering for wider age ranges.

The value criteria set for audit assessment is derived from:

Value criteria for open space site visits (score)

- ◀ Level of use (observations only), e.g., evidence of different user types (e.g. dog walkers, joggers, children) throughout day, located near school and/or community facility
- ◀ Context of site in relation to other open spaces
- ◀ Structural and landscape benefits, e.g., well located, high quality defining the identity/ area
- ◀ Ecological benefits, e.g., supports/promotes biodiversity and wildlife habitats
- ◀ Educational benefits, e.g., provides learning opportunities on nature/historic landscapes
- ◀ Social inclusion and health benefits, e.g., promotes civic pride, community ownership and a sense of belonging; helping to promote well-being
- ◀ Cultural and heritage benefits, e.g., historic elements/links (e.g. listed building, statues) and high profile symbols of local area
- ◀ Amenity benefits and a sense of place, e.g., attractive places that are safe and well maintained; helping to create specific neighbourhoods and landmarks
- ◀ Economic benefits, e.g., enhances property values, promotes economic activity and attracts people from near and far

The quality and value audit assessment in Spring 2020 was partially interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic (with visits having to be suspended for two months). Consequently, some disruption to maintenance of sites occurred as a result of stretched resources and competing factors during this period. However, one of the implications of Covid-19 has been the importance and vital role open space provision can provide to local communities. Recognising this along with consideration to the future needs and demands of such provision should raise the profile of open spaces and the processes supporting its existence (i.e. ensuring evidence bases are kept up to date and used to inform future decision making processes).

2.5 Quality and value thresholds

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by Companion Guidance to PPG17); 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).

A site rating low for quality should not automatically be viewed as being fit for development. It is also necessary to understand its value, access and role within the community it serves. It may for example be the only site serving an area and should therefore be considered a priority for enhancement.

The most recognised national benchmark for measuring the quality of parks and open spaces is the 66% pass rate for the Green Flag Award. This scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and open spaces. Although this open space study uses a similar assessment criteria to that of the Green Flag Award scheme it is inappropriate to use the Green Flag benchmark pass for every open space as they are not all designed or expected to perform to the same exceptionally high standard.

For example, a park would be expected to feature a greater variety of ancillary facilities (seating, bins, play equipment) and manicured landscaping and planting, etc. in contrast to an urban greenspace serving a smaller catchment and fewer people.

Furthermore, a different scoring mechanism is used in this study to that of the Green Flag scheme (albeit the criteria for this study is derived from the Green Flag scheme). For each open space typology, a different set and / or weighting for each criterion of quality is used. This is to better reflect the different roles, uses and functions of each open space type. Consequently, a different quality threshold level is set for each open space typology.

Quality thresholds in this study are individual to each open space typology. They are based on the average quality score arising from the site assessments and set using KKP's professional judgment and experience from delivering similar studies. The score is to help distinguish between higher and lower quality sites, it is a minimum expectation as opposed to an absolute goal. This works as an effective method to reflect the variability in quality at a local level for different types of provision. It allows the Council more flexibility in directing funds towards sites for enhancements which is useful if funds are geographically constrained with respect to individual developments.

Reason and flexibility are needed when evaluating sites close to the average score / threshold. The review of a quality threshold is just one step for this process, a site should also be evaluated against the value assessment and local knowledge.

For value, there is no national guidance on the setting of thresholds. The 20% threshold is derived from KKP's experience and knowledge in assessing the perceived value of sites.

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A high value site is one deemed to be well used and offering visual, social, physical and mental health benefits. Value is also a more subjective measure than assessing the physical quality of provision. Therefore, a conservative threshold of 20% is set across all typologies. Whilst 20% may initially seem low - it is a relative score. One designed to reflect those sites that meet more than one aspect of the criteria used for assessing value (as detailed earlier). If a site meets more than one criterion for value it will score greater than 20%. Consequently, it is deemed to be of higher value.

Table 2.2: Quality and value thresholds by typology

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

2.6 Accessibility catchments

Accessibility catchments can be used as a tool to identify deficiencies of open space in a local area. This is achieved by applying them to create a distance catchment. The report displays the results of the catchment to highlight any potentially deficiencies in access to provision.

There is an element of subjectivity resulting in time / distance variations. This is to be expected given that people walk at different speeds depending on a number of factors including height, age, levels of fitness and physical barriers on route. Therefore, there will be an element of 'best fit' for Rossendale Borough.

Accessibility guidance from FIT provides suggested catchment standards for parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural greenspace, urban greenspace and provision for children and young people. These are set out in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3: FIT accessibility guidelines

Open space type	Walking guideline	Approximate time equivalent
Parks & Gardens	710m	9 minute
Amenity Greenspace (i.e. Urban greenspace)	480m	6 minute
Natural & Semi-natural Greenspace	720m	9 minute
Play areas & informal sports facilities	LAP	100m
	LEAP	400m
	NEAP	1,000m
	Other provision (e.g. MUGA, Skate park)	700m
		12 ½ minute
		9 minute

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FIT do not set accessibility catchments/standards for allotments or churchyards / cemeteries. Churchyards and cemeteries are unique in their function; making new provision occurs only in exceptional circumstances based on evidence beyond the scope of this study. Therefore, it would not be appropriate to set an accessibility standard as this report can have no impact on provision.

Similarly, for allotments no accessibility catchments are suggested. Allotments provide opportunities for people to grow their own produce. They encourage physical activity, improve mental health and provide a sense of well-being thereby contributing to the quality of life. Making way for the delivery of a new allotment is not without its challenges given the land take involved. However, it can be planned for where there is justification.

Another accessibility catchment is suggested at a national level for natural and semi-natural greenspace. Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) also provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. They recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:

- ◀ An accessible natural greenspace of at least two hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (five minute walk) from home.
- ◀ At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home.
- ◀ One accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home.
- ◀ One accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home.

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PART 3: SUMMARY OF SITE VISITS

This section describes trends from the quality and value ratings for each typology.

3.1 Overview

Within Rossendale Borough there is a total of 260 sites equating to approximately 580 hectares of open space. The largest contributor to provision is natural/semi-natural greenspace (368 hectares); accounting for 63%.

Table 3.1: Overview of open space provision

Open space typology	Number of sites	Total amount (hectares)*
Allotments	16	4
Cemeteries/churchyards	22	22
Civic spaces	5	<1
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	13	368
Park and gardens	16	31
Provision for children & young people	61	5
Urban greenspace	127	149
TOTAL	260	580

3.2 Quality

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for open spaces across the Borough.

Table 3.2: Quality scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores			No. of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	Low	High
Allotments	40%	26%	41%	53%	6	8
Cemeteries/churchyards	40%	27%	42%	60%	7	12
Civic spaces	45%	35%	48%	68%	2	3
Provision for children & young people	65%	23%	69%	93%	21	40
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	45%	21%	53%	81%	3	8
Park and gardens	55%	38%	57%	79%	7	9
Urban greenspace	40%	7%	37%	77%	77	49
					123	129

There are eight sites to not receive a quality or value rating due to being inaccessible at the time of the site visit.

* Rounded to the nearest whole number

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There is a mixed quality of open space across all typologies. This is reflected in just over half (51%) of sites scoring above their set threshold for quality.

Proportionally there are more urban greenspace sites to rate below the quality thresholds. This is reflective of the mixed range of sites within this typology.

3.3 Value

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for open spaces across the Borough.

Table 3.3: Value scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Scores			No. of sites	
		Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Allotments	20%	21%	24%	32%	0	14
Cemeteries/churchyards		11%	29%	44%	3	16
Civic spaces		23%	33%	40%	0	5
Provision for children & young people		16%	41%	64%	1	60
Natural & semi-natural greenspace		19%	39%	59%	1	10
Park and gardens		33%	53%	73%	0	16
Urban greenspace		6%	26%	70%	35	91
					40	212

Nearly all sites (84%) 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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PART 4: PARKS AND GARDENS

4.1 Introduction

This typology often covers urban parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide accessible high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. Country park sites may also provide opportunities and functions often associated with parks and as such, are included within this section.

4.2 Current provision

There are 16 sites classified as parks and gardens across Rossendale, the equivalent of almost 31 hectares (see Table 4.1). No site size threshold has been applied and, as such, all sites have been included within the typology. All analysis areas have parks provision.

Table 4.1: Current parks and gardens provision in Rossendale

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		
	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bacup and Stacksteads	6	9.75	0.61
Eden	1	0.03	0.01
Haslingden	4	6.43	0.36
Rawtenstall	2	8.05	0.58
Waterfoot	2	6.22	0.54
Whitworth	1	0.37	0.05
Rossendale	16	30.85	0.44

For parks and gardens, the Borough has a current provision level of 0.44 hectares per 1,000 head of population. The largest site and therefore the biggest contributor to this provision is Stubblelee and Moorlands Park (8.84 ha) located in the Bacup and Stacksteads Analysis Area. The next largest site is Whittaker Park (7.85 ha) in the Rawtenstall Analysis Area.

It is important to note that within the category of parks and gardens there are two distinct types of site. Some sites are significant in size and act as destination places offering greater recreational facilities and uses which people will often be willing to travel further to access. Examples of this type include Stubblelee Moorlands Park and Whittaker Park. Other sites within the typology of parks and gardens are smaller in size and more formal in character with less recreational uses. Examples of this include memorial gardens.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 4.1 shows that overall, the Borough is below this. This is also the case when considering each analysis area separately.

However, as recognised above the reality is that parks provision, particularly 'destination' parks, are only going to exist in areas of greater population density. Consequently, some analysis areas being below the FIT suggestion does not mean a true deficiency exists. It is therefore important to also consider accessibility and quality of provision.

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4.3 Accessibility

For the purpose of mapping, a 9-minute radial walk time catchment has been applied to parks and gardens. Figure 4.1 shows the catchments applied to parks and gardens to help inform where potential deficiencies in provision may be located. This should be treated as an approximation as it does not take account of topography or walking routes.

Figure 4.1: Parks and gardens mapped with 9-minute

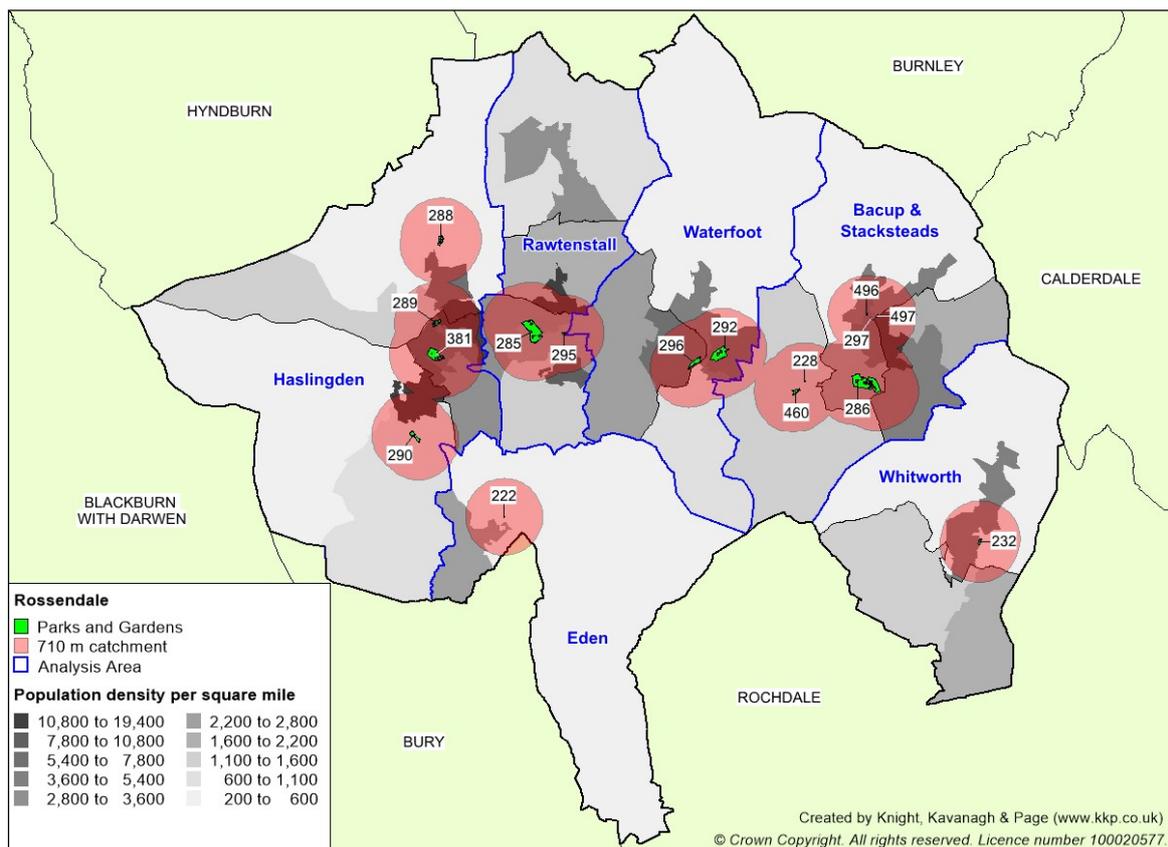


Table 4.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
222	Edenfield Memorial Gardens	Eden	0.03	61.6%	48.2%
228	Peace Garden, Stacksteads	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.04	44.4%	37.3%
232	Whitworth Memorial Gardens	Whitworth	0.37	67.1%	50.0%
285	Whittaker Park	Rawtenstall	7.85	74.8%	72.7%
286	Stubbylee and Moorlands Parks	Bacup & Stacksteads	8.84	78.8%	72.7%
288	Worsley Park	Haslingden	0.80	56.2%	54.5%
289	Greenfield Memorial Gardens	Haslingden	0.81	56.0%	68.2%
290	Snig Hole Park	Haslingden	1.19	67.5%	63.6%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
292	Edgeside Park	Waterfoot	4.54	43.8%	45.5%
295	Memorial/Library Gardens, Rawtenstall	Rawtenstall	0.20	57.4%	60.0%
296	Tricketts Memorial Gardens, Waterfoot	Waterfoot	1.68	40.4%	41.8%
297	Bacup Cenotaph	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.03	53.9%	45.5%
381	Victoria Park, Haslingden	Haslingden	3.63	66.9%	68.2%
460	Stacksteads Riverside Park	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.72	37.9%	39.1%
496	Wayside Garden, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.04	47.8%	32.7%
497	Wall of History, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.07	54.6%	46.4%

4.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance); scores from site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks. A threshold of 55% is applied to segregate high from low quality parkland. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 4.3: Quality ratings for parks and gardens

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<55%	>55%
Bacup & Stacksteads	38%	53%	79%	5	1
Eden	62%	62%	62%	0	1
Haslingden	56%	62%	68%	0	4
Rawtenstall	57%	66%	75%	0	2
Waterfoot	40%	42%	44%	2	0
Whitworth	67%	67%	67%	0	1
Rosendale	38%	57%	79%	7	9

Of the 16 park and garden sites in the Borough, over half (56%) rate above the quality threshold suggesting a reasonably high standard of quality of parks provision. As seen in the table above, there is a significant difference in quality between the highest scoring site (Stubbylee and Moorlands Parks) and the lowest scoring site (Stacksteads Riverside Park).

The lowest scoring sites for quality within the Borough are:

- ◀ Stacksteads Riverside Park (38%)
- ◀ Tricketts Memorial Gardens, Waterfoot (41%)

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These sites generally score lower for overall appearance. They are also noted as containing areas not as well maintained and/or overgrown. The sites also score lower for features such as entrances, seating and bins in comparison to other sites of the same type.

The criteria used to assess parks and gardens is intended to be high, reflecting the Green Flag Award assessment. As such, not all park and garden sites would be expected to score above the threshold set for such a prestigious award. It is more likely for the flagship 'destination' sites to score highly.

Sites assessed as being of particularly high quality and as such, rate well above the threshold, are Stubblee and Moorlands Parks (79%) and Whittaker Park (75%).

Stubblee and Moorlands Parks is observed as a large, attractive site with many features. It has a wide variety of play provision including a pump track as well as a bowling green and tennis courts. All of which are noted as being to a good quality and appearance.

Similarly, Whittaker Park has a good variety of features including a bowling green, tennis courts, an informal skate park and play equipment.

Other high scoring sites to note include Snig Hole Park and Victoria Park, Haslingden scoring 68% and 67% respectively. Both these sites benefit from a range of ancillary features and facilities including play equipment, benches, bins and a clock tower.

Victoria Park, Haslingden also contains a MUGA, small skate park and fitness equipment, further adding to the quality of the site. Snig Hole Park contains football goals, a war memorial and the River Ogden running through it. Both sites have active Friends Group providing additional benefits to the quality and use of the site.

4.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for parks. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 4.4: Value ratings for parks and gardens

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bacup & Stacksteads	33%	46%	73%	0	6
Eden	48%	48%	48%	0	1
Haslingden	55%	65%	68%	0	4
Rawtenstall	60%	66%	73%	0	2
Waterfoot	42%	44%	45%	0	2
Whitworth	50%	50%	50%	0	1
Rosendale	33%	53%	73%	0	16

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All park and garden sites rate above the threshold for value. The highest scoring sites for value are:

- ◀ Stubblelee and Moorlands Park (73%)
- ◀ Whittaker Park (73%)
- ◀ Victoria Park, Haslingden (68%)
- ◀ Snig Hole Park (68%)
- ◀ Greenfield Memorial Gardens (68%)

All these parks have high amenity and social value due to containing a range of play equipment, good paths and recreational and exercise opportunities. Also, they are observed as attractive parks that are well used and maintained, therefore, also score highly for visual and landscape benefits. Two of these sites, Victoria Park, Haslingden and Snig Hole Park are identified as having active Friends Groups, helping to support its range of benefits.

All park and garden sites provide opportunities for a wide range of users and demonstrate the high social inclusion, health benefits and sense of place that parks can offer.

One of the key aspects of the value placed on parks provision is their ability to function as a multipurpose form of open space provision. Parks provide opportunities for local communities and individuals to socialise and undertake a range of different activities, such as exercise, dog walking and taking children to the play area.

Consequently, sites with a greater diverse range of features and ancillary facilities rate higher for value.

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PART 5: NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREENSPACE

5.1 Introduction

The natural and semi-natural greenspace typology can include woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g. down-land, meadow), heath or moor, wetlands (e.g. marsh, fen), wastelands (including disturbed ground), and bare rock habitats (e.g. quarries) and commons. For the purpose of this study, the focus is on sites providing wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

5.2 Current provision

In total, there are 13 natural and semi-natural greenspace sites in the Borough, equating to 368 hectares.

Table 5.1: Current accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace in Rossendale

Analysis area	Natural and semi-natural greenspace		
	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bacup and Stacksteads	2	45.48	2.86
Eden	2	104.59	28.84
Haslingden	3	158.90	8.78
Rawtenstall	-	-	-
Waterfoot	3	38.50	3.34
Whitworth	3	20.54	2.63
Rossendale	13	368.02	5.19

These totals do not include all provision in the area as a site size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied. Sites smaller than this are likely to be of less or only limited recreational value to residents. However, they may still make a wider contribution to local areas, in relation to community viability, quality of life and health and wellbeing. Furthermore, they provide 'stepping stones' for flora and fauna enabling freedom of movement for wildlife across the Borough.

Haslingden Analysis Area has the most natural and semi-natural provision with a total of 158.90 hectares. This makes up 43% of this provision across Rossendale.

The two largest sites are Ogden reservoir and surrounding area (125 hectares) and Dearden Brook (63 hectares). The former makes up 34% of the natural/semi-natural provision in the Borough.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Within the Borough, there is an overall provision of 5.19 hectares per 1,000 head of population which exceeds the FIT guidelines. This is also the case for all the analysis areas, with the exception of the Rawtenstall Analysis Area.

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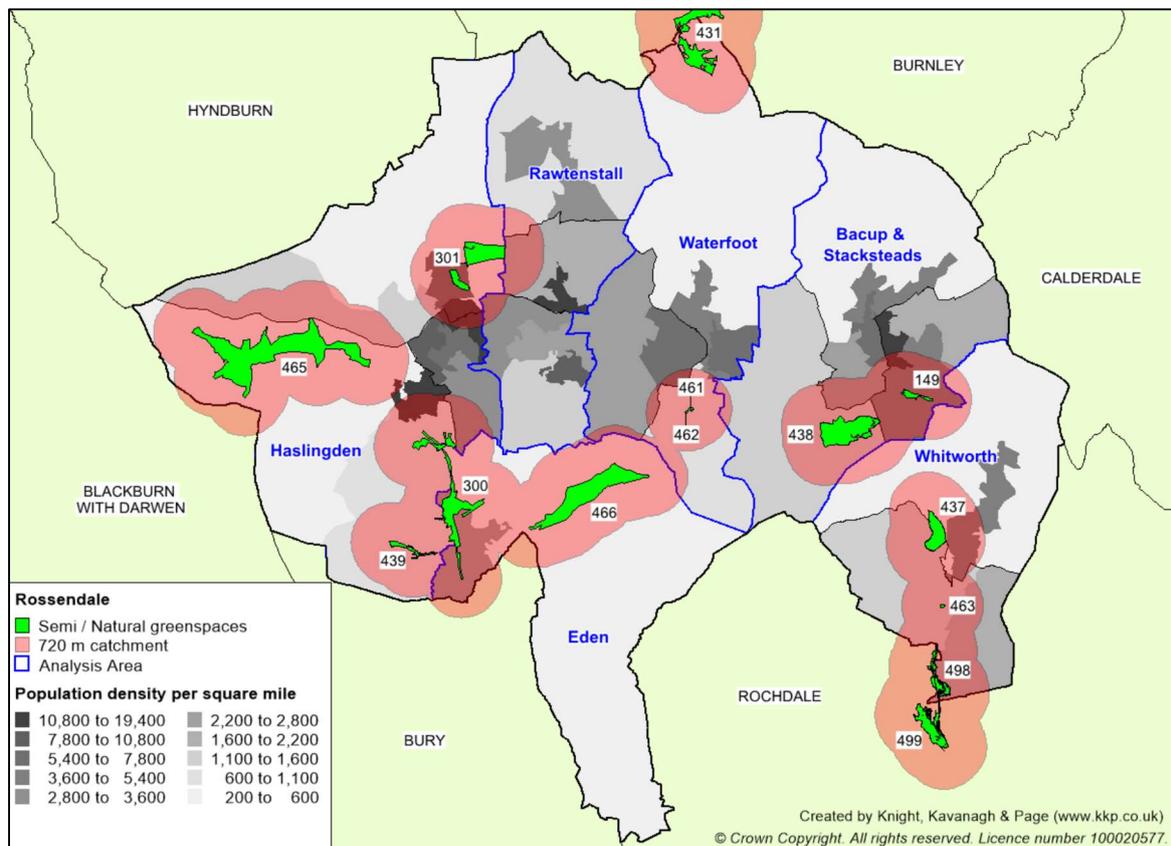
It is important to recognise that other open spaces such as parks and urban greenspace often provide opportunities and activities associated with natural and semi-natural greenspace. For example, sites such as Stubblelee and Moorlands Parks is considered to offer a dual use and purpose. The site is observed as offering greater biodiversity and habitats due to the presence of trees and water features. However, it is important to highlight that it is not always clear to distinguish a sites primary typology. Some sites can bridge the definition of typologies such as natural greenspace and urban greenspace. For example, a grassed area left unmaintained can start to have characteristics associated with natural greenspace.

5.3 Accessibility

Two accessibility catchments exist for natural and semi-natural greenspace. One is suggested by FIT and the other by Natural England. The following figures present the FIT and Natural England catchments. It is important to recognise that Natural England's ANGSt catchments are intended to be aspirational but it is considered that ANGSt is more reflective to the unique differences in site sizes and roles of natural greenspace provision. Consequently, it is Natural England's ANGSt which is used as part of the analysis of accessibility for natural greenspace later in the report.

The FIT suggested catchment of a 9-minute walk time is applied in Figure 5.1.

Figure 5.1: Natural and semi-natural greenspace mapped with 9-minute catchment



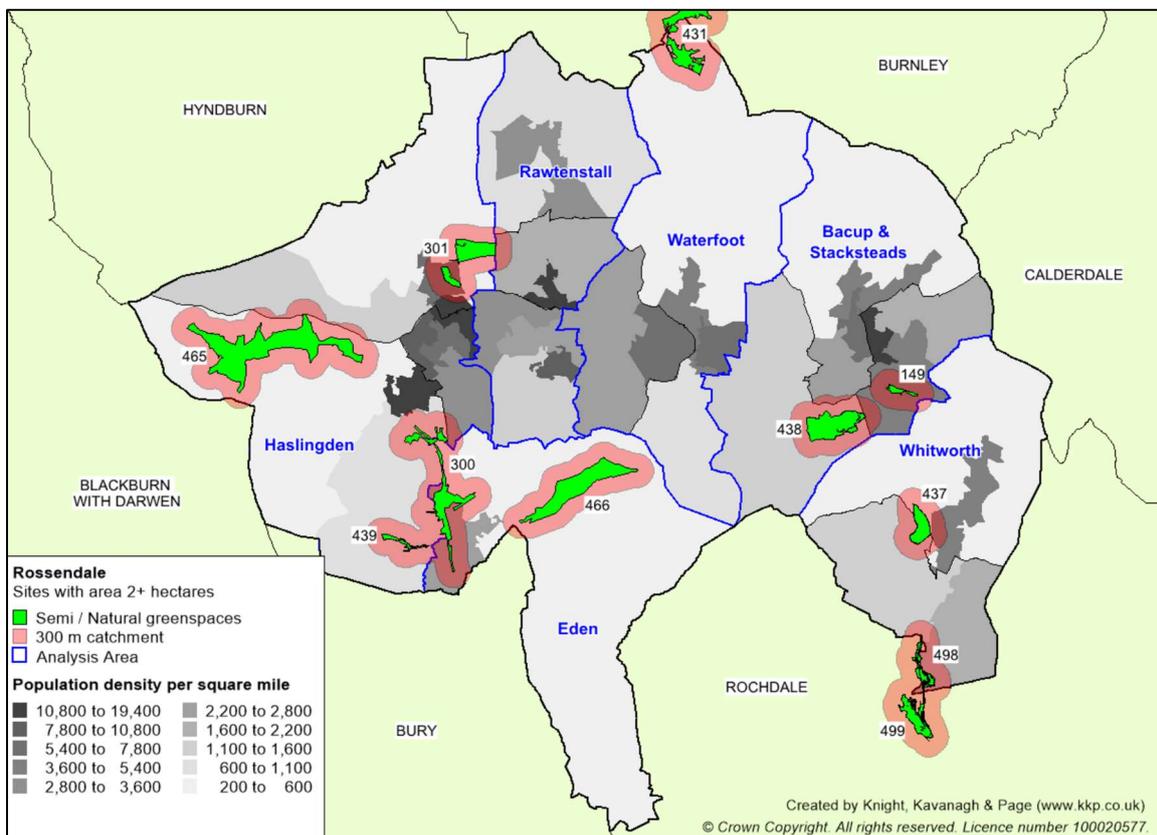
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As highlighted earlier, Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) also provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. They recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:

- ✦ An accessible natural greenspace of at least two hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (five minute walk) from home.
- ✦ At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home.
- ✦ One accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home.
- ✦ One accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home.

The following figures set out Natural England's ANGSt to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located. This is considered further in Part 12. The ANGSt benchmarks are considered as a whole i.e. a deficiency is deemed an area not covered by any of the ANGSt catchments.

Figure 5.2: Natural/semi-natural greenspace over 2 hectares with 300m catchment



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Figure 5.3: Natural/semi-natural greenspace over 20 hectares with 2km catchment

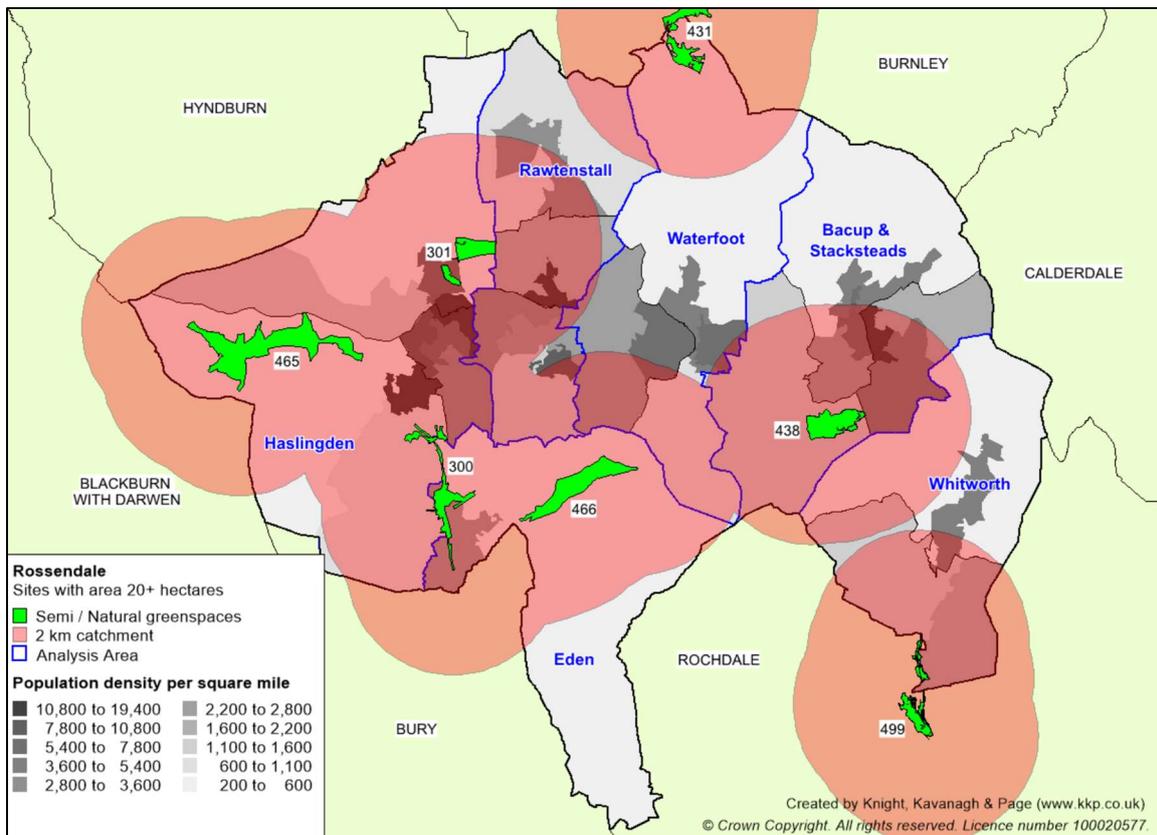
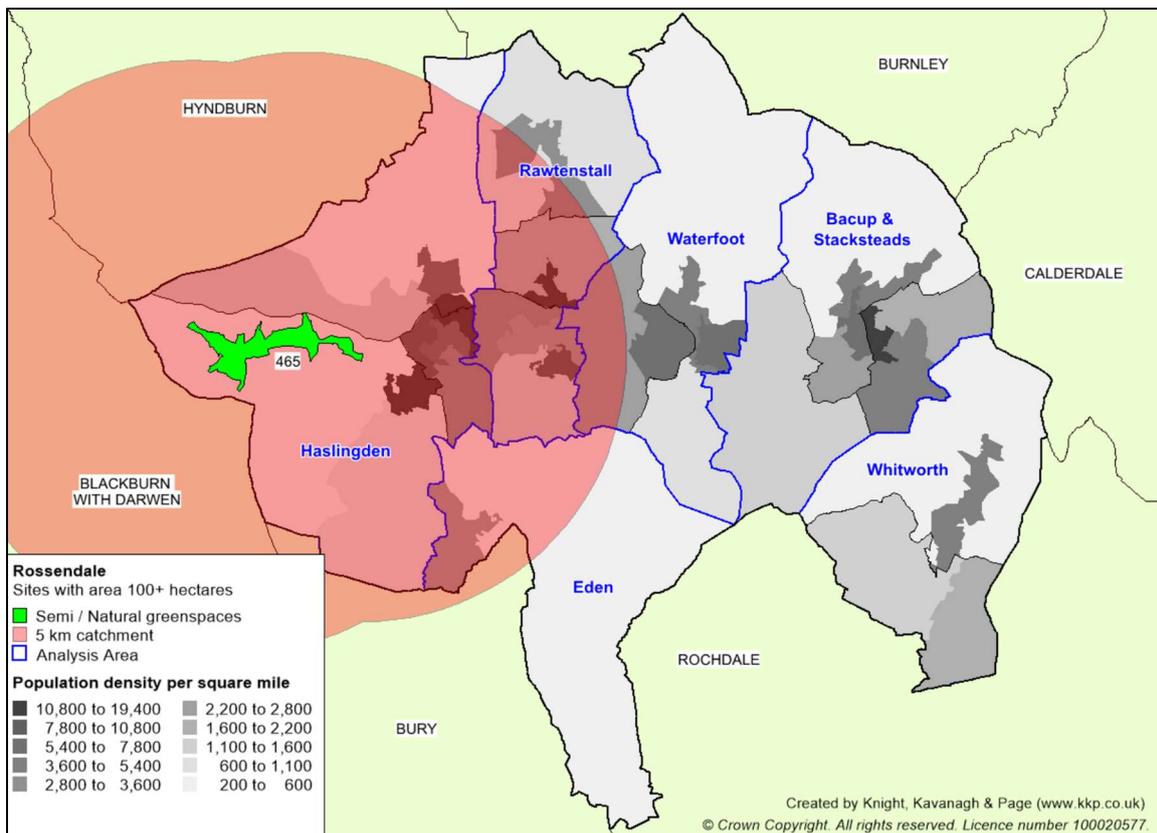


Figure 5.4: Natural/semi-natural greenspace over 100 hectares with 5km catchment



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Table 5.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
149	New Line 2, Britannia	Bacup & Stacksteads	4.03	69.2%	40.9%
300	Lumb Mill	Eden	41.79		
301	Top O'Slate, Haslingden	Haslingden	29.36	45.6%	44.5%
431	Dunnockshaw Memorial Garden	Waterfoot	37.97	66.1%	50.0%
437	Cowm Reservoir	Whitworth	16.25	81.2%	50.0%
438	Lee Quarry	Bacup & Stacksteads	41.45	76.6%	59.1%
439	Wet Moss	Haslingden	4.89	41.0%	30.9%
461	Pond 1 (off Cowpe Road)	Waterfoot	0.41	23.1%	30.0%
462	Pond 2 (off Cowpe Road)	Waterfoot	0.13	21.4%	19.1%
463	Wallbank Drive Reservoir	Whitworth	0.41	55.6%	34.5%
465	Ogden reservoir and surrounding	Haslingden	124.65	61.0%	45.5%
466	Dearden Brook	Eden	62.81		
498	Healey Dell Nature Reserve (in)	Whitworth	3.88	48.4%	27.3%

Note Healey Dell Nature Reserve has been partially included. The site is a total of 31.49 hectares. However, only 3.88 hectares of this is in the Rossendale Borough boundary therefore, only the section within Rossendale has been included.

5.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) scores from the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 45% is applied to divide high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 5.3: Quality ratings for natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<45%	>45%
Bacup & Stacksteads	69%	73%	77%	0	2
Eden	-	-	-	-	-
Haslingden	41%	49%	61%	1	2
Rawtenstall	-	-	-	-	-
Waterfoot	21%	37%	66%	2	1
Whitworth	48%	62%	81%	0	3
Rossendale	21%	53%	81%	3	8

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Lumb Mill and Dearden Brook do not receive a quality or value score due to being inaccessible.

Of natural and semi-natural sites assessed, a total of seven sites (70%) in the Borough rate above the threshold set for quality, indicating a high standard of quality for this type of open space provision.

There are three sites to score below the quality threshold:

- ◀ Pond 2 (off Cowpe Road) (21%)
- ◀ Pond 1 (off Cowpe Road) (23%)
- ◀ Wet Moss (41%)

Sites scoring below the quality threshold tend to be devoid of basic ancillary features such as benches and bins. In some instances, natural and semi-natural sites can be intentionally without ancillary facilities in order to reduce misuse/inappropriate behaviour whilst encouraging greater conservation. Pond 2 (off Cowpe Road) (21%) is noted as being mostly inaccessible. The paths were overgrown and not defined. Wet Moss (41%) benefits from signage however it is in a more rural isolated location and scores lower for user security. Pond 1 (off Cowpe Road) (23%) has maintenance issues with damage observed to fencing and a narrow path around the pond.

The highest scoring natural and semi-natural sites for quality in Rossendale Borough are:

- ◀ Cowm Reservoir (81%)
- ◀ Lee Quarry (77%)
- ◀ New Line 2, Britannia (69%)
- ◀ Dunnockshaw Memorial Garden (66%)

These sites, alongside other high scoring sites, have the added benefit of ancillary features such as, informative signage and bins. The sites are also observed as having good access for all, with well-maintained pathways and levels of personal security. Furthermore, these sites all have car parking with Lee Quarry also having disabled parking. All the sites excluding Lee Quarry have seating. However, Lee Quarry (77%) contains bike trails on an old quarry site adding to the quality and value of the site.

Some sites scoring above the threshold, are noted as having some issues regarding maintenance. For example, Top O'Slate, Haslingden (46%) has evidence of vandalism. At the time of assessment, it was observed as having weed encroachment, fly tipping and damage to one of the picnic benches and noticeboard. The site also scores lower for paths due to them being uneven.

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5.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 5.4: Value scores for assessed natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bacup & Stacksteads	41%	50%	59%	0	2
Eden	-	-	-	-	-
Haslingden	31%	40%	45%	0	3
Rawtenstall	-	-	-	-	-
Waterfoot	19%	33%	50%	1	2
Whitworth	27%	37%	50%	0	3
Rosendale	19%	39%	59%	1	10

Most natural and semi-natural sites across the Borough score above the threshold for value. The majority of sites have high ecological value, contributing to flora and fauna, as well as providing habitats for local wildlife.

As well as ecological value, these sites provide benefits to the health and wellbeing of residents and those visiting from further afield. This is a result of the exercise opportunities they provide, for example, through walking and biking trails. Furthermore, they break up the urban form creating peaceful space to relax and reflect. The high levels of natural features also support with improving air quality, particularly in built up areas.

The highest scoring natural and semi-natural sites for value within the Borough are:

- ↳ Lee Quarry (59%)
- ↳ Dunnockshaw Memorial Garden (50%)
- ↳ Cowm Reservoir (50%)

These sites offer education value through interpretation boards as well as high amenity and social value due to good paths and recreation and exercise opportunities. All are well located and of high quality, providing attractive landscapes, and enhancing structural and landscape benefits. In addition, each provide high ecological value due to high biodiversity providing habitats for a flora and fauna. Cowm Reservoir has added social and amenity value due to its reservoir providing water ski facilities.

Sites such as Dunnockshaw Memorial Garden, Top O'Slate, Haslingden and Earnshaw Road (South) also have cultural and heritage value. For example, Top O'Slate, Haslingden features a Halo steel lattice sculpture whilst Lee Quarry used to be a working quarry. In addition, Lee Quarry is a SSSI adding further value and importance.

PART 6: URBAN GREENSPACE

6.1 Introduction

Urban Greenspace is defined as sites offering opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential and other areas. It includes informal recreation spaces, wooded areas and other incidental space.

This is a unique typology of open space specific to Rossendale. It is intended to reflect the areas of land within denser population areas which provide an informal recreational role. These would usually be categorised as amenity or natural greenspace. However, within Rossendale it is difficult to distinguish between such sites in order to categorise them in this way. Consequently, such sites are captured within a single typology. The typology of natural greenspace (Part 5) focuses on sites providing wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

6.2 Current provision

There are 127 urban greenspace sites in Rossendale Borough equating to 159 hectares of provision. Sites are most often found within areas of housing and function as informal recreation space or along highways providing a visual amenity. A number of recreation grounds and playing fields are also classified as urban greenspace.

Table 6.1: Distribution of urban greenspace sites in Rossendale

Analysis area	Urban greenspace		
	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bacup and Stacksteads	29	37.62	2.37
Eden	5	7.48	2.06
Haslingden	27	31.73	1.75
Rawtenstall	24	11.99	0.86
Waterfoot	23	42.96	3.72
Whitworth	19	17.27	2.21
Rossendale	127	149.04	2.10

This typology has a broad range of purposes and as such varies significantly in size. For example, Crawshawbooth Village Centre at 0.12 hectares acts as an important visual/communal amenity. In contrast Flax Moss Sports Ground at nearly six hectares, is a large recreation ground with a range of recreational and sport opportunities.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 6.1 shows that overall, the Borough is sufficient on this basis. This is also the case for all six analysis areas.

It is important to highlight that it is not always clear to distinguish a site's primary typology. Some sites can bridge the definition of typologies such as natural greenspace and urban greenspace. For example, a grassed area left unmaintained can start to have characteristics associated with natural greenspace.

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6.3 Accessibility

For the purpose of mapping, a six-minute walk time for sites (based on FIT guidelines) is applied. Figure 6.1 shows the catchments applied to urban greenspace provision to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located.

Figure 6.1: Urban greenspaces with 6-minute walk

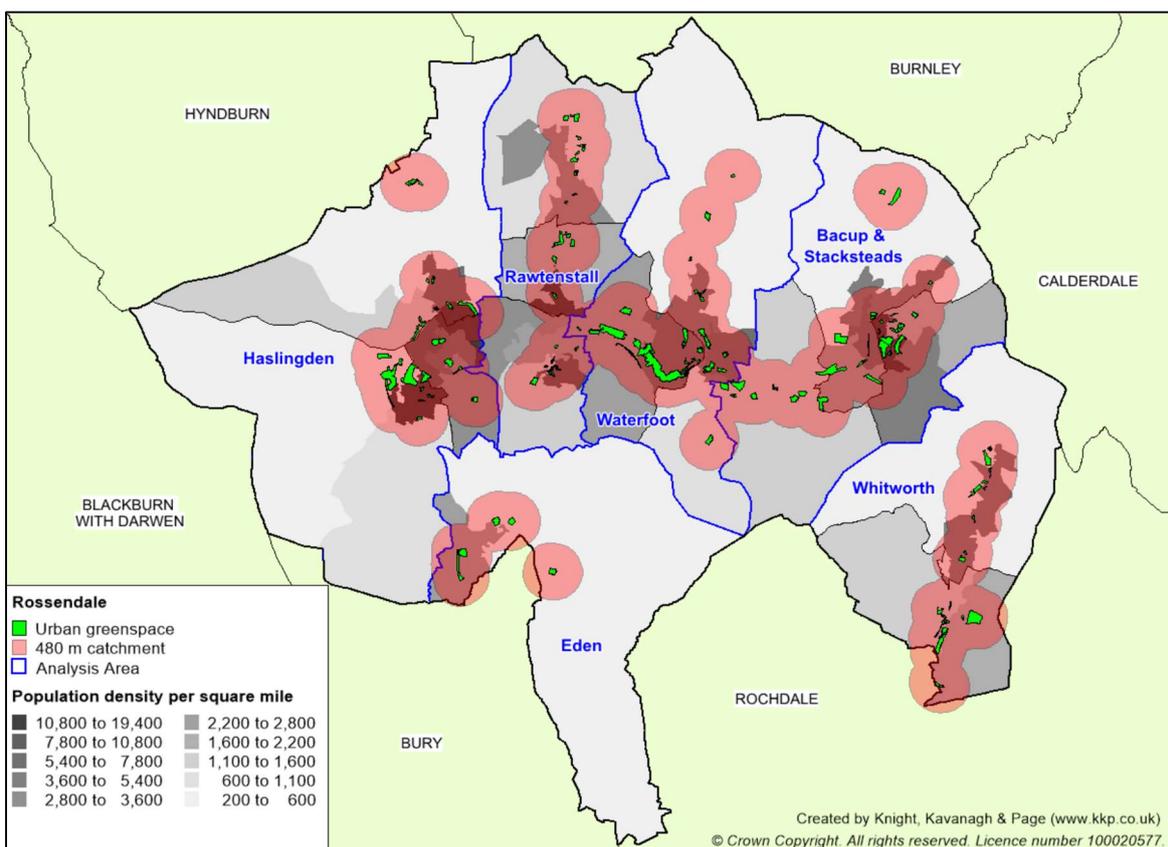


Table 6.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
1	Lumb (Millennium Green)	Waterfoot	1.05	59.0%	59.0%
2	Seat Naze	Waterfoot	2.00	15.7%	28.0%
4	Pin Meadow, Stubbins	Eden	1.93	25.5%	28.0%
5	Recreation ground, Bleakholt Road	Eden	1.24	54.3%	33.0%
6	Helmshore Road, Helmshore	Haslingden	0.43	47.9%	28.0%
8	Off Broadway, Haslingden/Helmshore	Haslingden	0.23	53.2%	28.0%
9	Lancaster Ave./Broadway Crescent, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.14	62.8%	28.0%
10	Lancaster Ave./Dean Road, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.14	50.4%	33.0%
11	Rutland Walk/Kent Walk playground, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.23	47.1%	22.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
12	Rear of Helmshore Road, Haslingden	Haslingden	2.03	47.9%	39.0%
16	Gas Street, Holden Wood	Haslingden	1.77	15.3%	6.0%
18	Park Avenue/Criccieth Close, Haslingden	Haslingden	1.45	42.6%	32.0%
19	Syke Side	Haslingden	0.55	22.3%	21.0%
22	Grane Rd./Charles Lane, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.41	26.2%	17.0%
24	Fern Terrace, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.46	30.6%	11.0%
27	Central Sq., Off Bury Rd., Haslingden	Haslingden	0.26	58.5%	28.0%
29	Pit Heads pocket park, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.59	50.4%	28.0%
32	Railway Rd./Blackburn Rd., Worsley	Haslingden	0.25	30.0%	22.0%
38	The Ducky	Haslingden	0.31	28.1%	12.0%
42	Lomas Lane/Cherry Crescent, New Hall Hey	Rawtenstall	0.37	26.4%	12.0%
43	Lomas Lane/ Fallbarn Crescent, New Hall Hey	Rawtenstall	0.30	12.4%	11.0%
44	Lomas Lane, New Hall Hey	Rawtenstall	0.49	25.6%	12.0%
45	Bury Rd., Wood Top	Rawtenstall	0.19	23.1%	13.0%
52	Worswick Crescent, Rawtenstall	Waterfoot	0.18	23.1%	13.0%
54	Playing fields rear of houses Bacup Rd., Cloughfol	Waterfoot	1.07	27.3%	17.0%
55	Lower Cloughfold	Waterfoot	6.79		
58	Cloughfold/Newchurch	Waterfoot	2.93	12.4%	6.0%
67	Lowe View, Boothfold	Waterfoot	0.77	18.2%	23.0%
70	Bridleway/New rd. Newchurch	Waterfoot	0.71	14.1%	16.0%
72	Bacup Rd, Waterfoot	Waterfoot	15.52	24.0%	12.0%
77	Edgeside Woodland	Waterfoot	2.42	27.8%	28.0%
85	Newchurch Rd./Glen Crescent, Glen Top	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.34	52.3%	20.0%
86	Glen Top	Bacup & Stacksteads	1.46	9.1%	11.0%
87	Glen Top/Waterbarn	Bacup & Stacksteads	2.76	14.1%	6.0%
88	Western Road Park	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.31	46.0%	33.0%
89	Rear of Holland Ave, Cribden	Rawtenstall	0.47	26.4%	12.0%
93	Acrefield Dr, Reedsholme	Rawtenstall	0.70	18.2%	7.0%
94	Adelaide St, Cranshawbooth	Rawtenstall	0.14	33.1%	18.0%
95	Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth	Rawtenstall	0.37	44.6%	28.0%
96	Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	0.83	34.7%	23.0%
97	Harvey Longworth Court, Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	0.21	31.1%	23.0%
98	Goodshaw Lane, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	0.30	26.2%	23.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
99	Thirlmere Way, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	0.43	21.5%	23.0%
100	Meadows Drive/Fairbank Walk, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	0.28	33.9%	23.0%
101	Burnley Road, Loveclough	Rawtenstall	0.15	48.8%	33.0%
105	Foxhill Drive	Waterfoot	0.54	29.8%	17.0%
108	Burnley Rd. East, Whitwell Bottom	Waterfoot	0.31	42.2%	23.0%
111	Albert Street/Rock Bridge Fold	Waterfoot	0.23	37.2%	32.0%
115	Dean Lane Sports Pitch	Waterfoot	0.29	49.9%	28.0%
117	Cutler Greens, Stacksteads	Bacup & Stacksteads	2.46	13.2%	8.0%
119	New Line1, Britannia	Bacup & Stacksteads	1.59	6.6%	6.0%
120	Newchurch Rd., Rockcliffe	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.55	25.6%	11.0%
123	Crabtree Ave., Rockcliffe	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.34	28.1%	28.0%
126	Off Thorn St., Irwell	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.15	16.5%	11.0%
128	Hawthorn Rd, Irwell doorstep green (West)	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.69	38.3%	23.0%
129	South St., Irwell	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.16	46.8%	30.0%
131	Tong Lane, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.31	16.5%	22.0%
138	Vale St, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.27	9.9%	11.0%
148	Burnley Rd/Heald Lane, Weir	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.62	54.5%	20.0%
156	Old Lane, Shawforth	Whitworth	2.16	48.5%	40.0%
158	Market St., Shawforth/Facit	Whitworth	0.43	15.7%	17.0%
159	Leavengreave Court, Facit	Whitworth	0.33	31.1%	20.0%
160	Jubilee Walk, Market St., Facit	Whitworth	0.41	31.4%	23.0%
165	John St., Facit	Whitworth	0.26	41.6%	24.0%
172	Coppice Drive, Whitworth	Whitworth	0.23	25.6%	11.0%
174	Eastgate, Whitworth	Whitworth	0.26	25.9%	13.0%
181	Station Rd., Healey	Whitworth	0.64	41.6%	25.0%
182	Bacup Rd, Cloughfold	Waterfoot	0.21	25.6%	18.0%
214	Village Centre, Crawshawbooth	Rawtenstall	0.12	70.2%	38.0%
217	Rawtenstall Railway Station	Rawtenstall	0.20	76.6%	70.0%
242	Clod Lane, Greenfield	Haslingden	0.64	71.1%	55.0%
258	Edgeside Park, Whitewell	Waterfoot	0.50	61.4%	45.0%
266	Hawthorn Rd., Irwell doorstep green (West)	Bacup & Stacksteads	1.19	49.5%	39.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
276	Sharneyford AGS	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.32	50.7%	29.0%
279	Edenfield CC	Eden	1.07	49.6%	29.0%
287	Loveclough Park	Rawtenstall	1.07	13.2%	18.0%
291	Cloughfold Doorstop Green/Play Area	Waterfoot	1.50	35.5%	28.0%
298	Swinnel Brook	Haslingden	7.38	38.8%	45.0%
299	Helmshore Railway	Haslingden	0.97	38.4%	30.0%
305	Moss Meadow	Bacup & Stacksteads	1.31	24.8%	34.0%
317	Rising Bridge, East View	Haslingden	0.21	62.8%	28.0%
318	Lane Side Haslingden	Haslingden	1.13	35.5%	28.0%
322	Flax Moss Sports Ground	Haslingden	5.93	52.9%	34.0%
325	Edenfield Recreation Ground	Eden	1.49	55.9%	28.0%
326	Chatterton Recreation Ground, Stubbins	Eden	1.75	49.3%	38.0%
331	Reeds Holme Recreation Ground	Rawtenstall	0.60	30.6%	28.0%
332	Goodshaw Recreation Ground	Rawtenstall	0.71	40.5%	33.0%
334	Marl Pits Sports Complex 2	Waterfoot	1.79	39.7%	25.0%
336	Hareholme	Waterfoot	0.22	31.4%	13.0%
345	Stacksteads Sports Ground	Bacup & Stacksteads	1.10	34.7%	38.0%
347	Leavengreave Sports Pitch	Whitworth	0.91	37.2%	23.0%
349	John Street Sports Pitch	Whitworth	0.72	52.9%	28.0%
352	Maden Recreation Ground Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	2.73	37.7%	33.0%
353	Warcock Lane, Greave	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.72	23.1%	23.0%
386	Fallbarn Crescent, Longholme	Rawtenstall	0.15	29.8%	29.0%
399	Knowsley Crescent, Shawforth	Whitworth	0.29	33.3%	29.0%
430	Waingap Woodland	Bacup & Stacksteads	5.04	46.8%	33.0%
432	Spodden Valley	Whitworth	3.59	71.9%	50.0%
434	The Harry Grady Community Open Space	Whitworth	0.41	61.4%	49.0%
441	Cowpe Road AGS	Waterfoot	1.30	62.5%	40.0%
442	Barlow Fold Sports Field	Rawtenstall	1.18	35.8%	28.0%
445	Healey Pump Track NSN	Whitworth	0.25	44.1%	35.0%
446	Reeds Close / Crawshaw Drive AGS	Rawtenstall	0.57	32.2%	20.0%
458	Northfield Road	Haslingden	1.16	16.5%	22.0%
459	St Peter's Sports Pitch	Haslingden	0.82	56.5%	28.0%
467	Hollin Way	Rawtenstall	1.94	34.7%	27.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
469	Beaufort Road	Bacup & Stacksteads	2.26	39.7%	40.0%
470	Earnshaw Road (North)	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.62	59.0%	43.0%
471	Bankside Lane	Bacup & Stacksteads	4.62	33.1%	29.0%
472	Swiss Clough & Booth Fold	Waterfoot	1.79	42.1%	29.0%
474	Wallbank Drive	Whitworth	0.90	37.2%	33.0%
476	Bury Road	Rawtenstall	0.23	48.6%	23.0%
477	Charles Lane woodland	Haslingden	1.15	47.1%	38.0%
478	Land east of Rochdale Road	Bacup & Stacksteads	3.41	23.1%	24.0%
479	Land south of St Mary's Primary School	Bacup & Stacksteads	2.64	37.2%	39.0%
480	Britannia Way, Helmshore	Haslingden	0.34	39.7%	28.0%
481	Foxhill Estate RBC Owned	Waterfoot	0.27	34.7%	17.0%
482	Free Fit, Bacup Road, Cloughfold	Waterfoot	0.59	50.4%	24.0%
483	Masseycroft Landscape	Whitworth	0.22	37.6%	17.0%
484	Millgate Quarry, Market Street	Whitworth	0.13	24.0%	21.0%
485	Old Lane, Market Street	Whitworth	0.25	41.3%	23.0%
486	Plantation Bankings, Market St	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.31	53.2%	28.0%
488	Wallbank Est. Eastgate South	Whitworth	0.27	43.0%	23.0%
489	Earnshaw Road (South)	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.39	22.3%	11.0%
491	Land off Gladstone Street, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	2.39	18.2%	17.0%
492	Land at Kirkhill Avenue, Haslingden	Haslingden	2.34	36.0%	22.0%
494	Brandwood Road	Bacup & Stacksteads	1.07	29.8%	33.0%

Mapping demonstrates a good distribution of urban greenspace provision across the Borough, with all areas of higher population density being served by a form of urban greenspace provision within a six-minute walk time catchment.

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6.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance); the scores from site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for urban greenspaces. A threshold of 45% is applied to divide high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 6.3: Quality ratings for urban greenspaces

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<40%	>40%
Bacup & Stacksteads	7%	31%	59%	21	8
Eden	25%	48%	60%	1	4
Haslingden	15%	43%	71%	12	15
Rawtenstall	12%	34%	77%	18	6
Waterfoot	12%	35%	63%	15	7
Whitworth	16%	38%	72%	10	9
Rosendale	7%	37%	77%	77	49

One site (Lower Cloughfold) does not receive a quality or value score as there was difficulty in accessing the site and is determined as having little value.

Less than half of assessed urban greenspaces in the Borough (39%) rate above the quality threshold.

The highest scoring sites for quality are:

- ◀ Rawtenstall Railway Station (77%)
- ◀ Spodden Valley (72%)
- ◀ Clod Lane, Greenfield (71%)
- ◀ Village Centre, Crawshawbooth (70%)
- ◀ Rising Bridge, East View (63%)
- ◀ Lancaster Ave./Broadway Crescent, Haslingden (63%)
- ◀ Cowpe Road AGS (63%)

All seven of these sites are observed as having high standards of maintenance and cleanliness, resulting in a good overall appearance. In addition, they provide good levels of user security, including lighting at Rawtenstall Railway Station (77%) and Lancaster Ave./Broadway Crescent, Haslingden (63%). All benefit from signage and most have seating except for Lancaster Ave./Broadway Crescent, Haslingden. It was noted that Village Centre, Crawshawbooth (70%) has toilets albeit these were locked at the time of visit. Cowpe Road AGS (63%) has the additional benefit of a football goals and a planting area, enhancing the quality of the site.

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Furthermore, the sites have bins to prevent excessive littering and pathways suitable for various users. Two of the sites Rawtenstall Railway Station and Clod Lane, Greenfield also have picnic tables.

Clod Lane, Rising Bridge East View and Cowpe Road AGS have good recreational opportunities including play provision, the latter also containing an informal BMX track. Rising Bridge East View had improvements this year including a new play area, path on the edge and a small grass area with two medium sized football goals.

Larger urban greenspace sites often lend themselves to sporting opportunities such as football. These sporting opportunities as well as other added features on site, such as good quality play areas, provide increased reasons for people to visit such provision.

There are several sites noted as having some issues despite scoring above the threshold. For example, Dean Lane Sport Pitch (50%), has some evidence of vandalism. One of the signs and parts of the fencing were damaged. Likewise, Lumb (Millennium Green) (59%) also has evidence of vandalism. One of the benches was very damaged and there was poor drainage across the whole site. Both sites have the additional benefit of football goals with netting.

Bury Road (49%) scores above the threshold however, it was observed that both benches on site were damaged beyond use. Paths were also noted as uneven and the grass was overgrown. The site does however benefit from good entrances, user security, gradient and ancillary features such as bins.

Over half of sites (61%) rate below the quality threshold indicating some sites potentially having a poor general standard of quality. The lowest scoring urban greenspace sites for quality in Rossendale are:

- ◀ New Line 1, Britannia (7%)
- ◀ Glen Top (9%)
- ◀ Vale St, Bacup (10%)
- ◀ Lomas Lane/ Fallbarn Crescent, New Hall Hey (12%)
- ◀ Cloughfold/Newchurch (12%)
- ◀ Loveclough Park (13%)
- ◀ Cutler Greens, Stacksteads (13%)
- ◀ Bridleway/New Road, Newchurch (14%)
- ◀ Glen Top/Waterbarn (14%)

All these sites listed above bar Loveclough Park have issues regarding access. Most have been noted as no or very limited access suggesting some could be private. All the sites also lack any ancillary features and formal pathways. Issues of fly tipping and litter is noted at Vale St, Bacup and Bridleway/New Road, Newchurch. Syke Side (22%) is noted as being mostly inaccessible. Paths were overgrown and not defined. Unsurprisingly, all these sites rate very low for quality and value.

Market St., Shawforth/Facit is also noted as having fire damage and some litter. Cloughfold/Newchurch (12%) is observed as being very difficult to access, no maintenance and not really used. Personal security is very poor and there is very limited access down the side of the new house. It is overgrown, unkempt and has little value.

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6.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 6.4: Value ratings for urban greenspace

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bacup & Stacksteads	6%	24%	55%	9	20
Eden	28%	31%	38%	0	5
Haslingden	6%	28%	55%	5	22
Rawtenstall	11%	24%	70%	8	16
Waterfoot	6%	25%	59%	9	13
Whitworth	11%	26%	50%	4	15
Rossendale	6%	26%	70%	35	91

Most urban greenspace sites (72%) rate above the threshold for value. Some of the highest scoring sites for value in Rossendale are Rawtenstall Railway Station (70%), Lumb (Millennium Green) (59%) and Clod Lane, Greenfield (55%). These sites are recognised for the accessible, good quality recreational opportunities they offer (such as sports and play provision) for a wide range of users.

Urban greenspace should be recognised for its multi-purpose function, offering opportunities for a variety of leisure and recreational activities. It can often accommodate informal recreational activity such as casual play and dog walking. Many sites in the Borough offer a dual function and are amenity resources for residents as well as being visually pleasing.

These attributes add to the quality, accessibility, and visibility of urban greenspace. Combined with the presence of facilities (e.g. benches, landscaping and trees) this means that the better quality sites are likely to be more respected and valued by the local community.

PART 7: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

7.1 Introduction

Provision for children and young people includes areas designated primarily for play and social interaction such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.

Provision for children is deemed to be sites consisting of formal equipped play facilities typically associated with play areas. This is usually perceived to be for children under 12 years of age. Provision for young people can include equipped sites that provide more robust equipment catering to older age ranges incorporating facilities such as skate parks, BMX, basketball courts, youth shelters and MUGAs.

7.2 Current provision

A total of 61 play locations are identified in Rossendale as provision for children and young people. This combines to create a total of over five hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 7.1: Distribution of provision for children and young people in Rossendale

Analysis area	Provision for children and young people		
	Number	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Bacup and Stacksteads	19	1.90	0.12
Eden	3	0.42	0.12
Haslingden	13	0.94	0.05
Rawtenstall	10	0.83	0.06
Waterfoot	11	0.85	0.07
Whitworth	5	0.23	0.03
Rossendale	61	5.17	0.07

Play areas can be classified in the following ways to identify their effective target audience utilising Fields In Trust (FIT) guidance.

FIT provides widely endorsed guidance on the minimum standards for play space.

- ◀ LAP - a Local Area of Play. Usually small landscaped areas designed for young children. Equipment is normally age group specific to reduce unintended users.
- ◀ LEAP - a Local Equipped Area of Play. Designed for unsupervised play and a wider age range of users; often containing a wider range of equipment types.
- ◀ NEAP - a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play. Cater for all age groups. Such sites may contain MUGA, skate parks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and are often included within large park sites.

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7.3 Accessibility

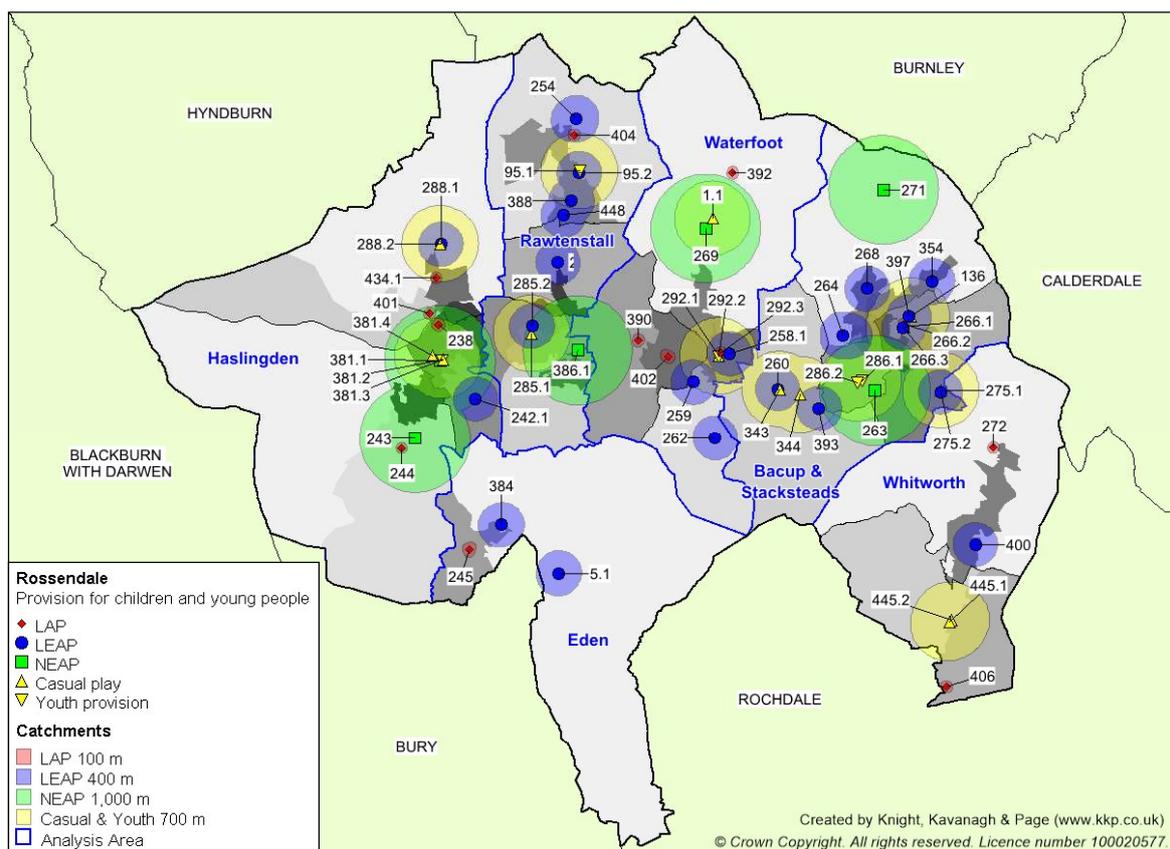
Accessibility guidance from Fields in Trust (FIT), suggests between a 100m (or 1-minute walk time) up to a 1,000m (or 12.5-minute walk time).

Table 7.3: Accessibility guidelines from Fields in Trust (FIT) for play provision

Form of play provision		Walking guideline	Approximate time equivalent
Provision for children and young people	LAP	100m	1 minutes
	LEAP	400m	5 minutes
	NEAP	1,000m	12 ½ minutes
	Other provision (e.g. MUGA, Skate park)	700m	9 minutes

Figure 7.1 shows the catchments applied to provision for children and young people to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located.

Figure 7.1: Provision for children and young people with walk times mapped



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Table 7.4: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
1.1	Lumb (Millennium Green) fitness equipment	Waterfoot	0.005	69.8%	47.3%
5.1	Turn Village play area	Eden	0.15	80.4%	47.3%
95.1	Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth Pump Track	Rawtenstall	0.04	51.5%	38.2%
95.2	Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth, Play Area	Rawtenstall	0.06	43.3%	29.1%
136	Rosendale Close, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.06	63.6%	41.8%
238	Greenfield Gardens, Greenfield Play Area	Haslingden	0.13	83.2%	50.9%
242.1	Clod Lane, Greenfield Play Area	Haslingden	0.05	85.6%	50.9%
243	Snig Hole, Helmshore	Haslingden	0.14	84.5%	63.6%
244	Alden Close Play Area, Helmshore	Haslingden	0.007	82.5%	34.5%
245	Chatterton Park, Stubbins	Eden	0.19	73.9%	38.2%
249	Sunnyside, Cribden	Rawtenstall	0.05	55.7%	38.2%
254	Loveclough Park, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	0.21	60.1%	32.7%
258.1	Edgeside Park AGS Play area	Waterfoot	0.09	59.8%	38.2%
259	Mullards/Waterfoot, Whitewell	Waterfoot	0.10	93.5%	45.5%
260	Western Park, Stacksteads	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.03	68.7%	41.8%
262	Cowpe Road Play Area	Waterfoot	0.07	81.8%	45.5%
263	Stubbylee Park play area	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.34	71.5%	54.5%
263.1	Stubbylee Park fitness equipment	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.02		
264	Maden Rec Ground, Greensclough	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.22	62.5%	41.8%
266.1	Hawthorn Rd. MUGA	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.04	76.3%	38.2%
266.2	Hawthorn Rd. Play Area 1 (Adjacent car park)	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.02	69.1%	38.2%
266.3	Hawthorn Rd. Play Area 2 (Adjacent MUGA)	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.009	68.7%	41.8%
268	Gordon St, Greensclough	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.11	75.9%	45.5%
269	Lumb, Whitewell	Waterfoot	0.11	64.9%	56.4%
271	Weir Play Area	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.16	75.3%	54.5%
272	Knowlsey Crescent Play Area, Shawforth	Whitworth	0.02	77.7%	45.5%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
275.1	Britannia Recreation Ground MUGA	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.03	80.4%	45.5%
275.2	Britannia Recreation Ground Play Area	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.04	82.5%	45.5%
285.1	Whittaker Park MUGA	Rawtenstall	0.08	65.3%	29.1%
285.2	Whittaker Park play area	Rawtenstall	0.09	77.3%	36.4%
286.1	Stubbylee Park Skatepark	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.14	73.9%	45.5%
286.2	Stubbylee Park Pump Track	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.19	56.0%	45.5%
288.1	Worsley Park Play Area	Haslingden	0.05	64.9%	50.9%
288.2	Worsley Park MUGA	Haslingden	0.07		
292.1	Edgeside Park MUGA	Waterfoot	0.08	57.7%	41.8%
292.2	Edgeside Park Skatepark	Waterfoot	0.07	59.1%	41.8%
292.3	Edgeside Park play area (adjacent bowling green)	Waterfoot	0.03	68.7%	41.8%
317.1	Rising Bridge, East View play area	Haslingden	0.02	80.4%	38.2%
343	Western Rd., Stacksteads (MUGA)	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.06	54.3%	38.2%
344	Tunstead 2 MUGA	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.07	51.5%	38.2%
354	Sharneyford Playground	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.24	72.5%	54.5%
381.1	Victoria Park Play Area (Skatepark)	Haslingden	0.07	87.3%	54.5%
381.2	Victoria Park Play Area (MUGA)	Haslingden	0.07		
381.3	Victoria Park Play Area	Haslingden	0.29		
381.4	Victoria Park fitness equipment	Haslingden	0.008		
384	Edenfield playground	Eden	0.09	75.9%	38.2%
386.1	Fallbarn Crescent, Longholme, Play Area	Rawtenstall	0.10	66.3%	41.8%
388	Hill St., Crawshawbooth	Rawtenstall	0.08	66.7%	41.8%
390	Cloughfold, Hareholme	Waterfoot	0.07	23.4%	16.4%
392	Water Gardens Children's Play Area	Waterfoot	0.04	74.2%	47.3%
393	Cutler Lane Children's Play Area	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.07	59.5%	29.1%
397	Rosendale Crescent, Irwell	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.06	73.5%	38.2%
400	Festival Park, Facit	Whitworth	0.04	89.0%	45.5%
401	Ratcliffe St., Worsley	Haslingden	0.03	61.2%	25.5%
402	Staghills, Hareholme	Waterfoot	0.18	36.4%	23.6%
404	Hamer Ave/Ring St., Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	0.05	60.8%	20.0%
406	Station Rd./Healey Dell	Whitworth	0.03	58.4%	20.0%

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
434.1	Harry Grady play area	Haslingden	0.009	72.9%	47.3%
445.1	Healey Pump Track	Whitworth	0.09	70.1%	23.6%
445.2	Masseycroft MUGA	Whitworth	0.04		
448	Crawshaw Grange play area	Rawtenstall	0.07	69.8%	47.3%

7.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guide); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for play provision for children and young people. A threshold of 65% is applied to divide high from low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

The quality assessment of play sites does not include a detailed technical risk assessment of equipment. For an informed report on the condition of play equipment the Council's own inspection reports should be sought.

Table 7.5: Quality ratings for provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<65%	>65%
Bacup & Stacksteads	52%	69%	82%	6	13
Eden	74%	77%	80%	0	3
Haslingden	61%	78%	87%	3	10
Rawtenstall	43%	62%	77%	5	5
Waterfoot	23%	63%	93%	6	5
Whitworth	58%	74%	89%	1	4
Rosendale	23%	69%	93%	21	40

A total of 65% of play sites rate above the quality threshold. Some of the highest scoring sites in Rosendale are:

- ◀ Mullards/Waterfoot, Whitewell (93%)
- ◀ Festival Park, Facit (89%)
- ◀ Victoria Park Play Area (87%)
- ◀ Clod Lane, Greenfield Play Area (86%)

These sites are observed as being safe and secure with sufficient litter bins (contributing to the sites cleanliness), seating, signage and good quality play equipment. The sites generally offer a variety of equipment to a good condition/quality.

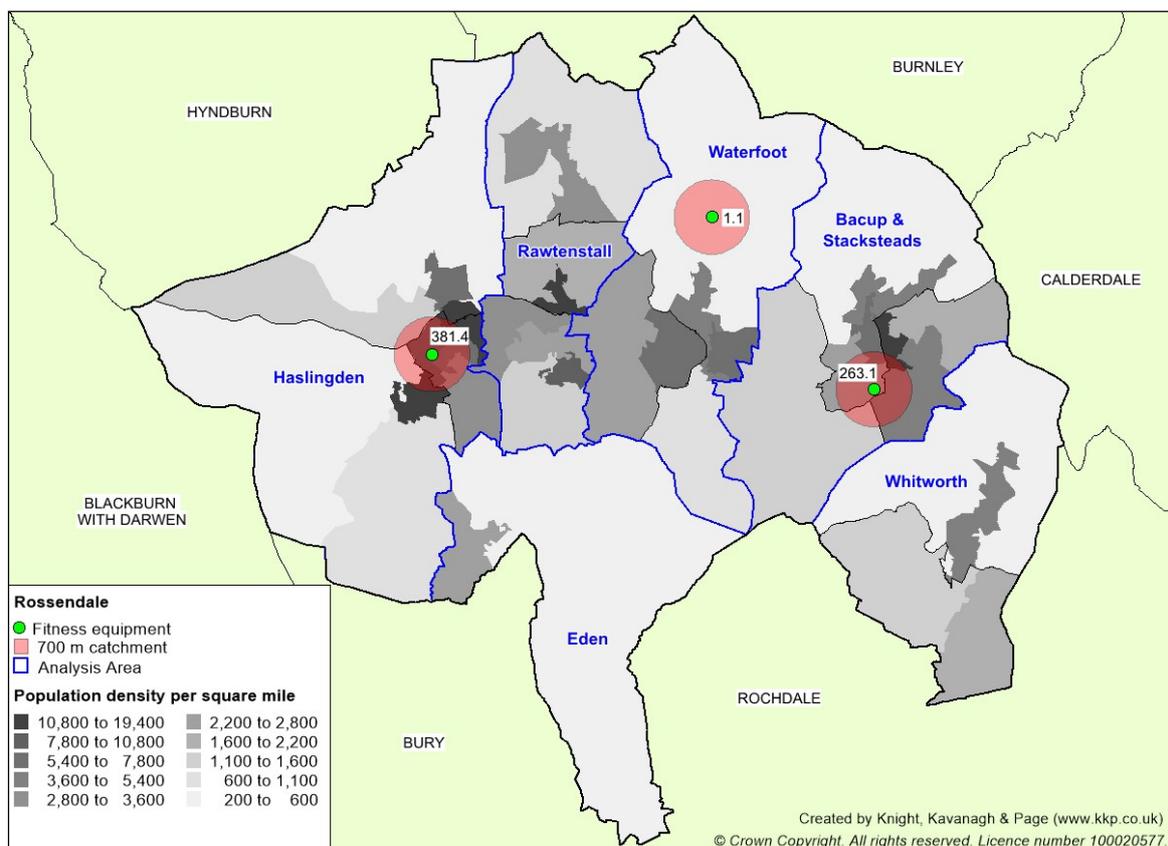
Noticeably there are a number of sites which contain provision catering for older age ranges such as skatepark, MUGAs and/or pump tracks. A total of 16 sites feature a skatepark, MUGA and/or BMX facility.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

In addition, three sites are identified as featuring fitness equipment. These are Lumb (Millennium Green), Stubblelee Park and Victoria Park.

Figure 7.2 highlights that there is a noticeable lack of provision of this type within the central areas of the Borough. Consideration to providing fitness equipment at existing parks such as Whittaker Park, Edgeside Park and Whitworth Memorial Gardens could help to meet such gaps. In addition, provision at locations such as Marl Pits and Whitworth Leisure Centre could also help.

Figure 7.2: Fitness equipment sites in Rossendale



There are 21 sites rating below the threshold. Sites rating lower for quality is often due to maintenance/appearance observations and/or the range/quality of equipment on site. Some of the lower scoring sites are:

- ◀ Cloughfold, Hareholme (23%)
- ◀ Staghills, Hareholme (36%)
- ◀ Goodshaw Lane Play Area, Crawshawbooth (43%)

The sites are all noted as having a limited range of equipment with no ancillary features such as signage or seating. Observations all highlight the appearance of the sites as being poor with equipment often dated or damaged as well as litter being an issue.

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7.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table overleaf summarises the results of the value assessment for children and young people. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 7.6: Value ratings for provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bacup & Stacksteads	29%	43%	55%	0	19
Eden	38%	41%	47%	0	3
Haslingden	25%	46%	64%	0	13
Rawtenstall	20%	33%	42%	0	10
Waterfoot	16%	40%	56%	1	10
Whitworth	20%	34%	45%	0	5
Rossendale	16%	41%	64%	1	60

The one site to rate below the value threshold is Cloughfold, Hareholme. The site is noted as having dated wooden equipment, which was vandalised at the time of the visit. Litter was also observed as an issue.

All other play sites in Rossendale are rated as being above the threshold for value. This demonstrates the role play provision provides in allowing children to play but also the contribution sites make in terms of giving children and young people safe places to learn, for physical and mental activity, to socialise with others and in creating aesthetically pleasing local environments.

Sites scoring particularly high for value tend to reflect a good range of quality equipment available at sites. The highest scoring sites for value are:

- ✦ Snig Hole Play Area, Helmshore (64%)
- ✦ Lumb, Whitewell (56%)
- ✦ Victoria Park Play Area (54%)
- ✦ Stubblee Park Play Area (54%)
- ✦ Weir Play Area (54%)
- ✦ Sharneyford Playground (54%)

The sites are observed as being well maintained with a good to reasonable variety of equipment, as well as having sufficient access. The sites are also assumed to be well used given their range and quality of equipment, particularly for the highest scoring sites.

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Diverse equipment to cater for a range of ages and abilities is important and can significantly impact on value. Provision such as skate park facilities and MUGAs are often highly valued forms of play. For example, Victoria Park caters for a wide age range of children as it contains play equipment, MUGA, skate park and fitness equipment.

In total there are 14 sites identified as containing one of more facilities considered as catering for older age ranges.

Table 7.7: Play sites with expansive equipment

Site name	Facility
Lumb (Millennium Green) fitness equipment	Fitness equipment
Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth Pump Track	Pump Track
Rosendale Close MUGA, Bacup	MUGA
Stubbylee Park	Fitness equipment, Pump Track, Skatepark,
Hawthorn Rd. MUGA	MUGA
Britannia Recreation Ground MUGA	MUGA
Whittaker Park MUGA	MUGA
Worsley Park MUGA	MUGA
Edgeside Park	MUGA, Skatepark
Western Rd., Stacksteads (MUGA)	MUGA
Tunstead 2 MUGA	MUGA
Victoria Park Play Area	Fitness equipment, MUGA, Skatepark
Healey Pump Track	Pump Track
Masseycroft MUGA	MUGA

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 8: ALLOTMENTS

8.1 Introduction

The allotments typology provides opportunities for people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social interaction.

8.2 Current provision

There are 16 sites classified as allotments in Rossendale Borough, equating to over four hectares. No site size threshold has been applied to allotments and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 8.1: Distribution of allotment sites in Rossendale

Analysis area	Allotments		
	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)	Current provision (Ha per 1,000 population)
Bacup and Stacksteads	3	0.61	0.04
Eden	-	-	-
Haslingden	5	1.55	0.09
Rawtenstall	4	0.81	0.06
Waterfoot	4	1.49	0.13
Whitworth	-	-	-
Rossendale	16	4.46	0.06

The largest site in the Borough is Free Lane Allotments, Helmshore (0.92 hectares).

The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (20 per 2,000 people based on two people per house or one per 100 people). This equates to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 populations based on an average plot-size of 250 square metres (0.025 hectares per plot).

Rossendale based on its current population (70,895) is short of the NSALG standard. Using this suggested standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision for Rossendale is 17.72 hectares. Existing provision of 4.46 hectares therefore does not meet this guideline.

8.3 Accessibility

Figure 8.1 shows allotments mapped across Rossendale.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Figure 8.1: Allotments mapped against analysis areas

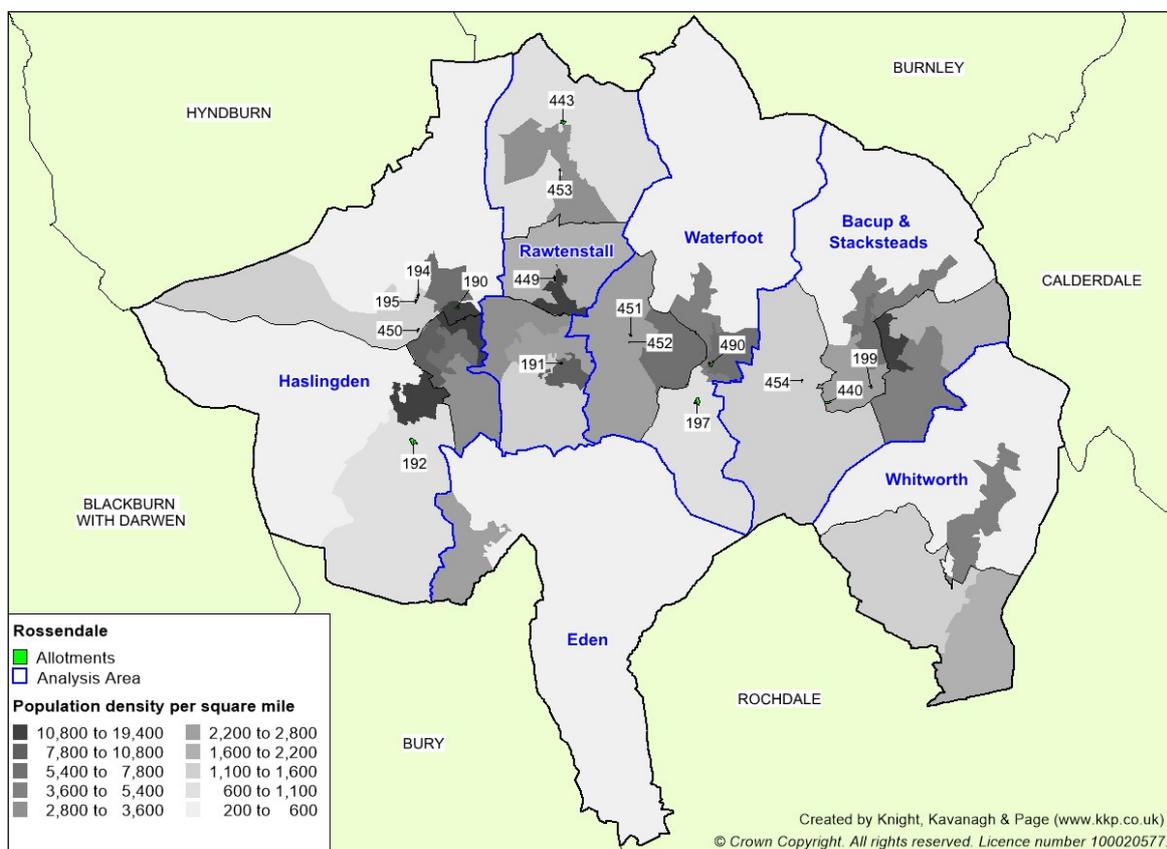


Table 8.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
190	Kirkhill Allotments	Haslingden	0.22	31.5%	21.0%
191	Dale View Allotments	Rawtenstall	0.08		
192	Free Lane Allotments, Helmshore	Haslingden	0.92	53.2%	32.4%
194	Prinny Hill Allotments 1	Haslingden	0.21	25.8%	21.0%
195	Prinny Hill Allotments 2	Haslingden	0.11		
197	Cowpe Allotments	Waterfoot	0.89	42.7%	22.9%
199	Stubbylee Gardens Allotments	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.20	50.0%	28.6%
440	Brunswick Gardens	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.33	37.9%	21.9%
443	Burnley Road Allotments	Rawtenstall	0.52	51.6%	27.6%
449	Allotments off Leebrook Road	Rawtenstall	0.17	33.9%	21.9%
450	Allotments between Three Point Business Park and James Street	Haslingden	0.10	49.2%	26.7%
451	Allotments behind Plantation House (Patrick Crescent)	Waterfoot	0.09	33.1%	21.9%
452	Allotments behind no. 7 Dobbin Lane	Waterfoot	0.03	33.9%	21.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
453	Allotments off Stone Holme Terrace	Rawtenstall	0.05	43.5%	21.9%
454	Allotments off Bankfield Street, Stacksteads	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.08	41.9%	27.6%
490	Swiss Clough & Booth Fold Allotments	Waterfoot	0.47	41.9%	21.9%

8.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) the site assessment scores have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments. A threshold of 40% is applied to divide high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 8.4: Quality ratings for allotments

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<40%	>40%
Bacup & Stacksteads	38%	43%	50%	1	2
Eden	-	-	-	0	0
Haslingden	26%	40%	53%	2	2
Rawtenstall	34%	43%	52%	1	2
Waterfoot	33%	38%	43%	2	2
Whitworth	-	-	-	-	-
Rosendale	26%	41%	53%	6	8

Two sites (Dale View Allotments and Prinny Hill Allotments) do not receive a quality or value score. The former could not be accessed but was noted as appearing unused. The latter could not be located and may no longer exist.

More allotment sites (57%) rate above the threshold for quality than below. Site assessment highlights that such sites are generally well kept. The highest scoring sites are:

- ✦ Free Lane Allotments, Helmshore (53%)
- ✦ Burnley Road Allotments (52%)
- ✦ Stubblee Gardens Allotments (50%)

These sites are generally observed as having good fencing, signage, pathways and sufficient personal security.

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Despite six sites rating below the threshold, no particular concerns with site quality is highlighted. Sites tend to rate below the quality threshold due to being hidden and/or having slight access restrictions (i.e. uneven or steep pathways). The Allotments off Leebrook Road (34%) is the only site noted as having concerns over its general appearance/cleanliness.

8.5 Value

In order to determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 8.5: Value ratings for allotments

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bacup & Stacksteads	22%	26%	29%	0	3
Eden	-	-	-	-	-
Haslingden	21%	25%	32%	0	4
Rawtenstall	22%	24%	28%	0	3
Waterfoot	21%	22%	23%	0	4
Whitworth	-	-	-	-	-
Rossendale	21%	24%	32%	0	14

All allotments rate above the threshold for value. This reflects the associated social inclusion and health benefits, amenity value and the sense of place offered by provision.

Free Lane Allotments, Helmshore is the highest scoring site for value (32%). It is also the highest rating site for quality. The site is recognised for its well-presented appearance and its social and amenity benefits.

Allotments should generally be considered as highly valued as they are often identified by the local community as important forms of open space provision.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 9: CEMETERIES/CHURCHYARDS

9.1 Introduction

Cemeteries and churchyards include areas for quiet contemplation and burial of the dead. Sites can often be linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

9.2 Current provision

There are 22 sites classified as cemeteries/churchyards, equating to over 21 hectares of provision in Rossendale Borough. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all identified provision is included within the audit.

Table 9.1: Distribution of cemeteries in Rossendale

Analysis area	Cemeteries/churchyards	
	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Bacup and Stacksteads	2	5.34
Eden	1	0.36
Haslingden	6	3.43
Rawtenstall	6	5.44
Waterfoot	4	1.52
Whitworth	3	5.57
Rossendale	22	21.66

The largest contributor to burial provision is Bacup Cemetery (5.20 hectares).

9.3 Accessibility

No accessibility standard is set for this typology and there is no realistic requirement to set such standards. Provision should be based on burial demand.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Figure 9.1: Cemetery sites mapped against analysis areas

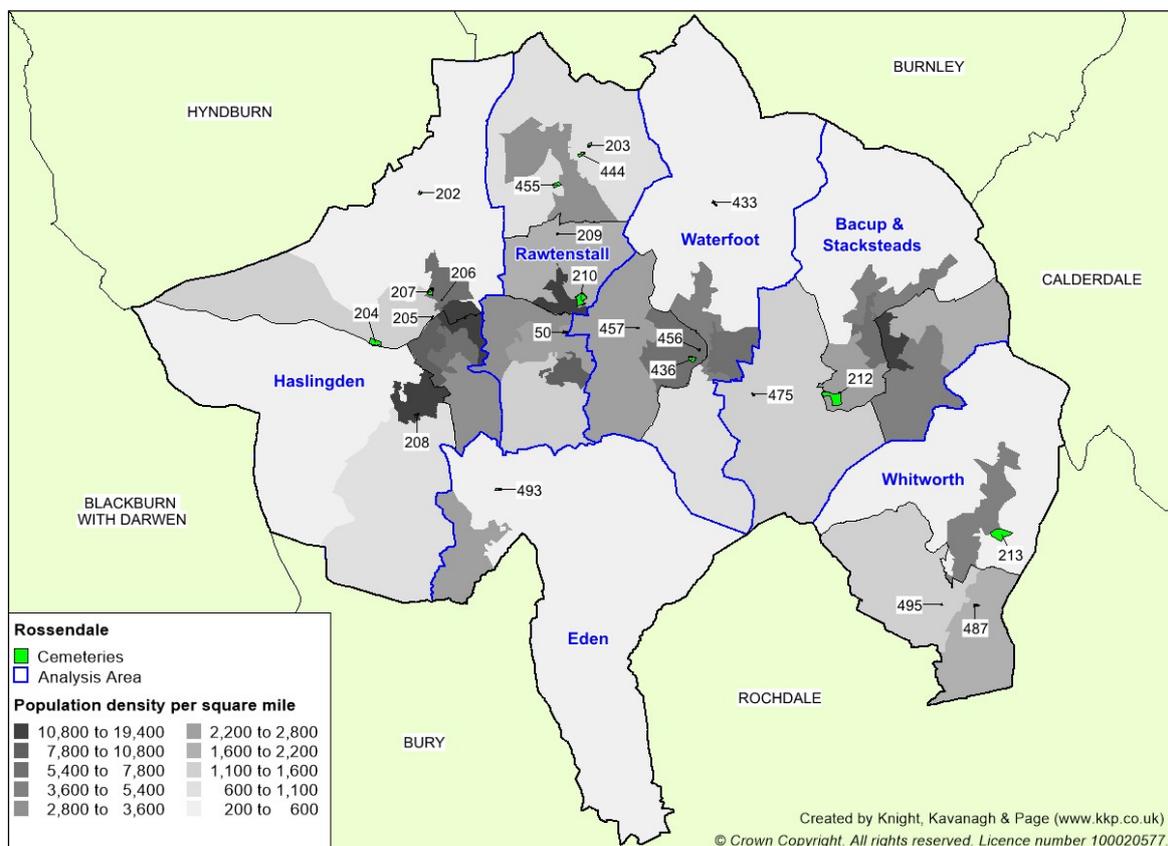


Table 9.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
50	St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall	Rawtenstall	0.30	50.7%	44.0%
202	St John's Stonefold	Haslingden	0.21	36.0%	28.0%
203	Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	0.43		
204	Haslingden Cemetery	Haslingden	1.89	46.0%	29.0%
205	New Street Cemetery, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.06	31.7%	16.0%
206	Chapel Street Cemetery, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.01	28.4%	16.0%
207	Haslingden St. James Church of England	Haslingden	0.92	50.3%	23.0%
208	St Thomas Musbury	Haslingden	0.34	36.0%	33.0%
209	Cribden	Rawtenstall	0.08	26.7%	11.0%
210	Rawtenstall Cemetery	Rawtenstall	3.06	56.5%	30.0%
212	Bacup Cemetery	Bacup & Stacksteads	5.20	41.6%	33.0%
213	Whitworth Cemetery	Whitworth	5.15	60.3%	35.0%

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
433	Baptist Church Cemetery, Burnley Road East	Waterfoot	0.31	43.5%	27.0%
436	Newchurch, St. Nicholas w. St. John and St. Michael	Waterfoot	0.97	42.4%	35.0%
444	St Mary and All Saints Church	Rawtenstall	0.66	41.8%	28.0%
455	Rossendale Pet Crematorium and Memorial Gardens	Rawtenstall	0.91		
456	Newchurch Methodist Church	Waterfoot	0.15	37.3%	27.0%
457	Sion Baptist Church	Waterfoot	0.09	45.1%	28.0%
475	Waterbarn Chapel	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.15		
487	St Bartholemew's Church Yard	Whitworth	0.33	41.6%	43.0%
493	Edenfield Parish Church	Eden	0.36	46.6%	38.0%
495	Burials on Hall Street	Whitworth	0.09	32.3%	28.0%

In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates a fairly even distribution across the area. As noted earlier, the need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

9.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries. A threshold of 40% is applied to divide high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 9.4: Quality ratings for cemeteries

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<40%	>40%
Bacup & Stacksteads	42%	42%	42%	0	1
Eden	47%	47%	47%	0	1
Haslingden	28%	38%	50%	4	2
Rawtenstall	27%	44%	57%	1	3
Waterfoot	37%	42%	45%	1	3
Whitworth	32%	45%	60%	1	2
Rossendale	27%	42%	60%	7	12

Three sites (Goodshaw Chapel, Rossendale Pet Crematorium and Memorial Gardens, and Waterbarn Chapel) do not receive a quality and value score as they could not be accessed due to being locked at the time of site visit.

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Nearly two thirds of assessed cemeteries (63%) rate above the threshold for quality. The three sites scoring highest for quality are:

- ↳ Whitworth Cemetery (60%)
- ↳ Rawtenstall Cemetery (56%)
- ↳ St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall (51%)
- ↳ Haslingden St. James Church of England (50%)

These sites demonstrate high levels of cleanliness and maintenance, with good boundary fencing and signage.

The lowest sites scoring below the threshold are:

- ↳ Cribden (27%)
- ↳ Chapel Street Cemetery, Haslingden (28%)
- ↳ New Street Cemetery, Haslingden (32%)

These are smaller sites, which as a result have fewer ancillary features including seating, bins and signage. The overall appearance of the sites is also rated as low.

9.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for cemeteries. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 9.5: Value ratings for cemeteries

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<20%	>20%
Bacup & Stacksteads	33%	33%	33%	0	1
Eden	38%	38%	38%	0	1
Haslingden	16%	24%	33%	2	4
Rawtenstall	11%	28%	44%	1	3
Waterfoot	27%	29%	35%	0	4
Whitworth	28%	35%	43%	0	3
Rosendale	11%	29%	44%	3	16

Three sites (Goodshaw Chapel, Rosendale Pet Crematorium and Memorial Gardens, and Waterbarn Chapel) do not receive a quality and value score as they could not be accessed due to being locked at time of site visit.

Nearly all assessed cemeteries and churchyards are rated as being of high value, reflecting their role within local communities.

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In addition, the cultural/heritage value of sites and the sense of place they provide for local people is acknowledged in the assessment scoring. High scoring sites for value offer visual benefits and opportunities to serve an important function for a local community. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards can often offer important low impact recreational benefits to the local area (e.g. habitat provision, wildlife watching).

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PART 10: CIVIC SPACE

10.1 Introduction

The civic space typology includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.

10.2 Current provision

There are five civic space sites, equating to less than half a hectare of provision, identified across Rossendale. In addition, there are likely to be other informal pedestrian areas, streets or squares which may be viewed as providing similar roles and functions as civic space.

Table 10.1: Distribution of civic spaces in Rossendale

Analysis area	Civic space	
	Number of sites	Total hectares (ha)
Bacup & Stacksteads	2	0.10
Eden	-	-
Haslingden	2	0.07
Rawtenstall	-	-
Waterfoot	1	0.13
Whitworth	-	-
Rossendale	5	0.30

Civic space provision is identified in half the analysis areas.

The largest site is The Valley Centre, Rawtenstall, at 0.13 hectares (Waterfoot Analysis Area). This is also known as Spinning Point. Due to how the Analysis Areas have been mapped (based on ward boundaries), this area sits within the Hareholme ward, which is included within the Waterfoot Analysis Area, as explained in section 2.1 previously.

10.3 Accessibility

Figure 10.1 shows civic space mapped across Rossendale.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

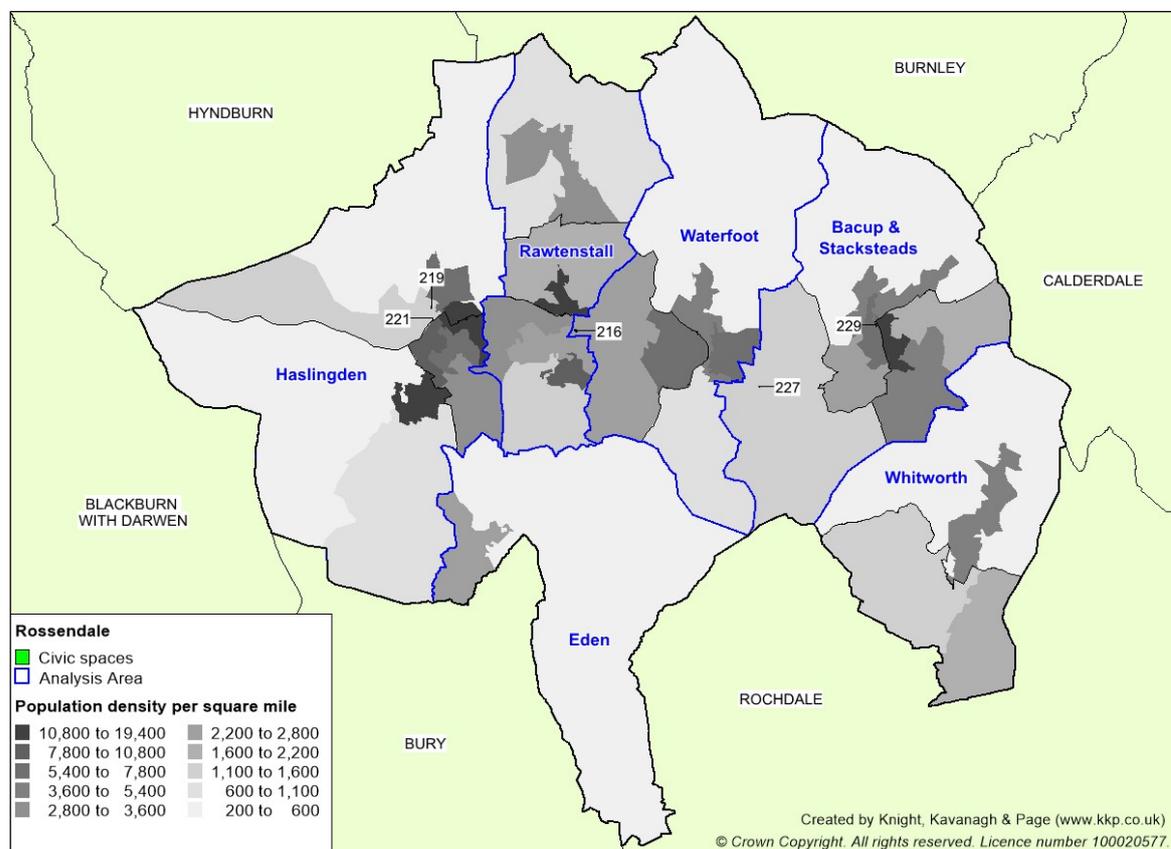


Figure 10.1: Civic space mapped against analysis areas

Table 10.2: Summary of sites

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Size (ha)	Quality score	Value score
216	The Valley Centre, Rawtenstall	Waterfoot	0.13	35.2%	35.0%
219	Market, Haslingden	Haslingden	0.05	52.6%	40.0%
221	Lower Deardengate	Haslingden	0.02	46.6%	33.0%
227	Path of History	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.02	39.7%	23.0%
229	Temple Court Market Place, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads	0.08	67.6%	35.0%

When considering the purpose of civic spaces of providing space for public demonstrations and community events, they are likely located in areas of higher population density, where people may congregate. When observing Figure 10.1, there is a generally good distribution of civic spaces across the areas of higher population density.

There are some gaps to the areas of denser population. These are likely; however, to be being met by other sites such as park and gardens.

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Rather than looking to provide new standalone provision of this type, the focus may be towards providing areas within existing sites, which could be used for community events and gatherings.

10.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for civic spaces. A threshold of 45% is applied to divide high from low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 10.3: Quality ratings for civic spaces

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<45%	>45%
Bacup & Stacksteads	40%	54%	68%	1	1
Eden	-	-	-	-	-
Haslingden	47%	50%	53%	0	2
Rawtenstall	-	-	-	-	-
Waterfoot	35%	35%	35%	1	0
Whitworth	0%	0%	0%	0	0
Rosendale	35%	48%	68%	2	3

Three out of the five civic spaces rate above the threshold set. The highest scoring sites are Temple Court Market Place, Bacup (68%) and Market, Haslingden (53%).

These sites are observed as being well maintained with seating, bins to maintain cleanliness and good quality surfaces.

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10.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for civic spaces. A threshold of 20% is applied to divide high from low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 10.4: Value ratings for civic spaces

Analysis area	Scores (%)			No. of sites	
	Lowest score	Average score	Highest score	<xx%	>xx%
Bacup & Stacksteads	23%	29%	35%	0	2
Eden	-	-	-	-	-
Haslingden	33%	37%	40%	0	2
Rawtenstall	-	-	-	-	-
Waterfoot	35%	35%	35%	0	1
Whitworth	-	-	-	-	-
Rosendale	23%	33%	40%	0	5

All five civic spaces are rated as being above the value threshold, reflecting their role as an important function to the local communities and areas.

PART 11: GREEN CORRIDORS

11.1 Introduction

The green corridors typology includes sites that offer opportunities for walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration. This can include river and canal banks as well as road and rail corridors.

No quality or value ratings are provided for such forms of provision as it cannot be assessed in the same way as an open space site.

11.2 Current provision

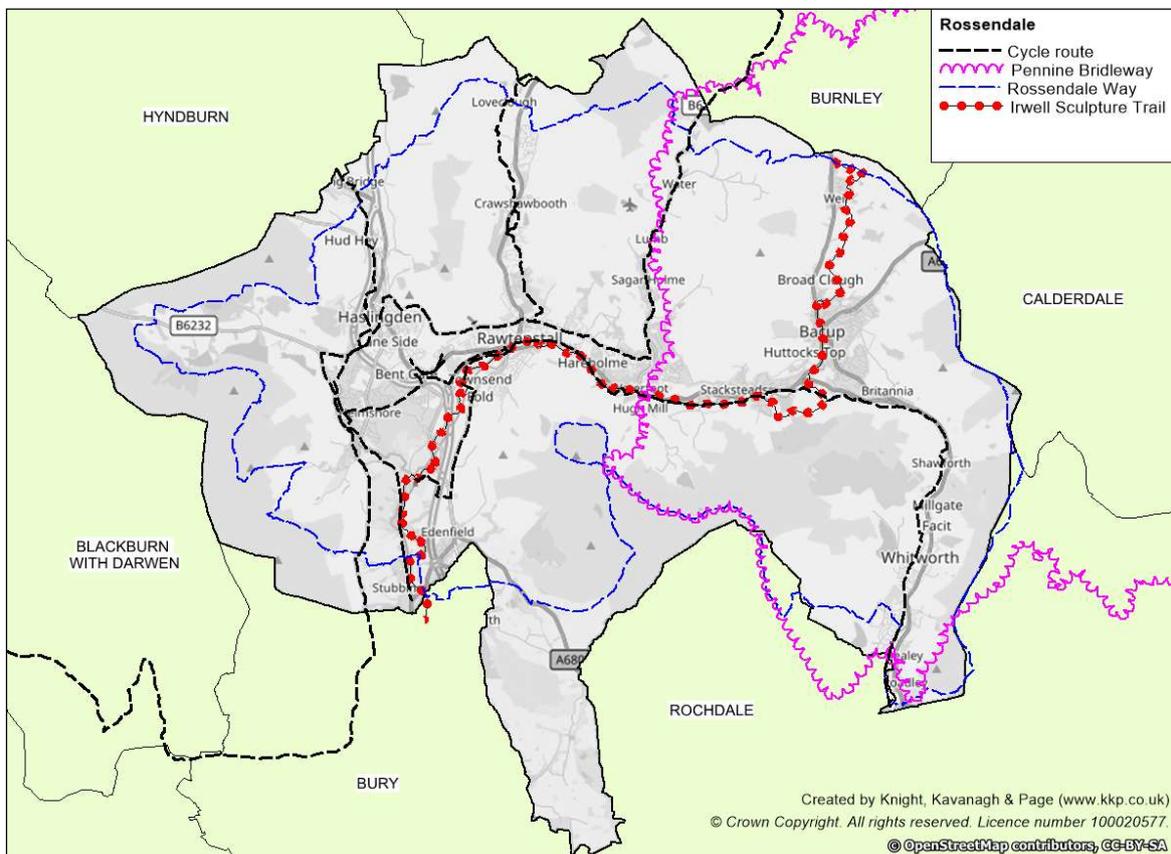
There are several forms of green corridor provision identified across Rossendale. Key forms of provision include:

- ◀ Rossendale Way
- ◀ Pennine Bridleway
- ◀ Irwell Sculpture Trail Lines

11.3 Accessibility

It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to their linear nature and usage. Figure 11.1 shows green corridors mapped across the area.

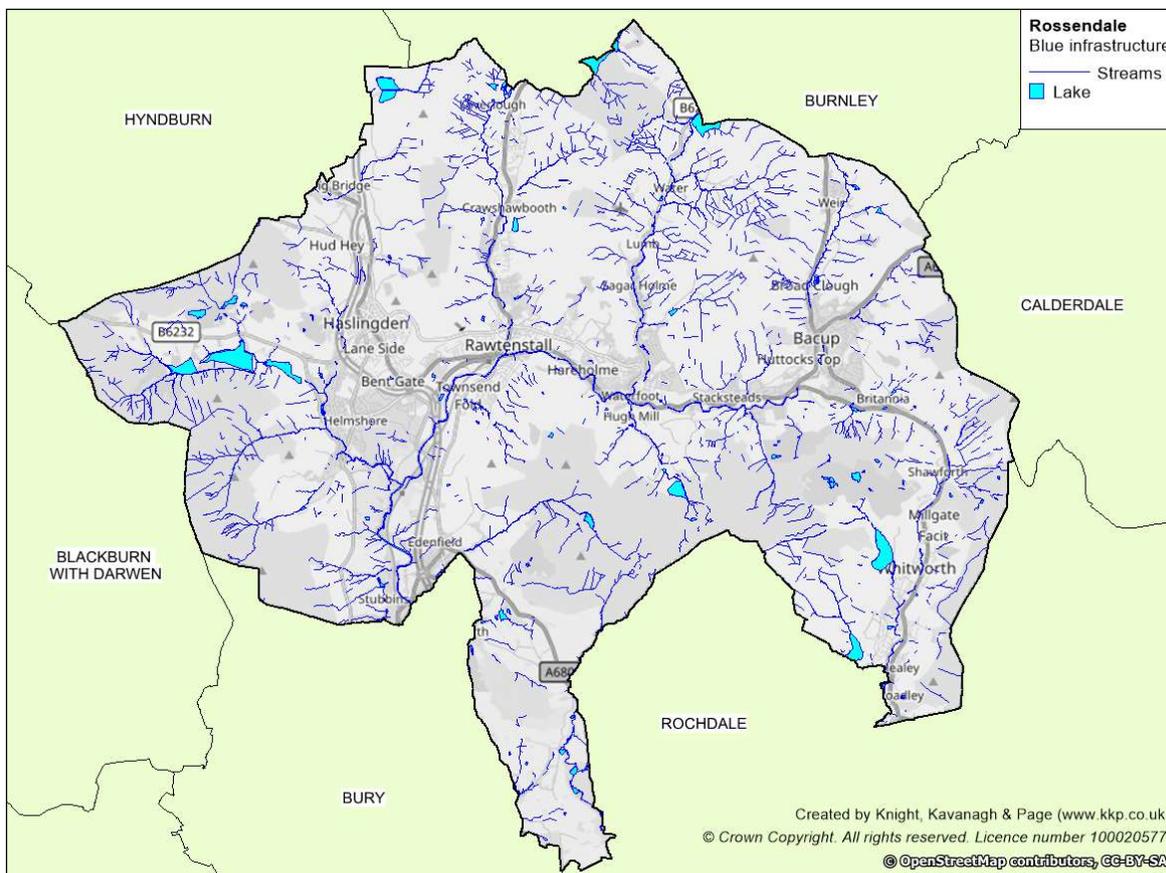
Figure 11.1: Green corridors mapped



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Blue infrastructure such as streams, rivers and lakes can also be recognised as forms of green corridor provision. Figure 11.2 shows the blue infrastructure across Rossendale.

Figure 11.2: Blue infrastructure mapped



Environmental Network Study (2017)

The Environmental Network Study undertaken by RBC has two aims. First, to consider the value of establishing an environmental network (EN) and defining it in the Local Plan. Secondly, to investigate the role of ‘Greenlands’† in contributing to the EN.

The EN is recognised as the backbone of the Borough’s green infrastructure. It supports biodiversity, recreation, physical activity, sustain landscape and historic character, contribute to carbon storage and flood resilience. It consists of three components:

Rural network	Extensive coverage of biodiversity designations (e.g. SSSI, LNR etc)
Valley network	Largely based on the five river valleys (Spodden, Irwell, Whitewell Brook, Limy Water and Ogden)
Greenland sites	Majority of 88 Greenland sites are parks, playing pitches, cemeteries, and allotments to remain as green space.

The EN Study provides a series of recommendations to reflect the opportunity for a comprehensive and connected EN that can deliver multiple benefits.

† Greenlands being a 1995 Local Plan saved policy designation to protect open spaces from development

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PART 12: PROVISION STANDARDS

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

12.1: 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 and/or accessibility 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:

		Quality	
		High	Low
Value	High	All sites should have an aspiration to come into this category. Many sites of this category are likely to be viewed as key forms of open space provision.	The approach to these sites should be to enhance their quality to the applied standard. The priority will be those sites providing a key role in terms of access to provision.
	Low	The preferred approach to a site 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).	The approach to these sites in areas of identified shortfall should be to enhance their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value. In areas of sufficiency a change of primary typology should be considered first. If no shortfall of other open space typologies is noted than the site may be redundant/ 'surplus to requirements'.

There is a need for flexibility to the enhancement of low-quality sites. 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 sites where it is not appropriate or cost effective to do so. Please refer to the individual typology sections as well as the supporting excel database for a breakdown of the matrix.

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12.2: Accessibility

Accessibility catchments are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that factors underpinning catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day and hour to hour. For the purposes of this process the concept of 'effective catchments' are used, defined as the distance that most users would travel. The accessibility catchments do not consider if a distance is on an incline or decline. They are therefore intended to act as an initial form of analysis to help identify potential gaps.

For most typologies FIT accessibility standards have been used, however, Natural England's ANGSt is recommended for natural greenspace provision as ANGSt is considered more reflective to the unique differences in site sizes and roles of natural greenspace provision than the FIT standard.

Table 12.2.1: Recommended accessibility standards

Open space type	Walking guideline	Approximate time equivalent
Parks & Gardens	710m	9 minute
Urban Greenspace	480m	6 minute
Natural & Semi-natural Greenspace	ANGSt	Variable
Provision for children and young people	LAP	100m
	LEAP	400m
	NEAP	1,000m
	Other provision (e.g. MUGA, Skate park)	700m
Allotment	n/a	n/a
Cemeteries	n/a	n/a
Civic space	n/a	n/a

ANGSt recommends that people living in towns and cities should have:

- ✦ An accessible natural greenspace of at least two hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (five minute walk) from home.
- ✦ At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home.
- ✦ One accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home.
- ✦ One accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home.

The ANGSt benchmarks are considered as a whole i.e. a deficiency is deemed if an area is not covered by any of the ANGSt catchments.

No catchments are suggested for the typologies of allotments, civic space or cemeteries. For cemeteries, it is difficult to assess such provision against catchment mapping as it is better to determine need for provision based on demand for burial space. For allotments, it is more appropriate to determine need for provision based on factors such as waiting lists.

If an area does not have access to provision (consistent with the catchments) 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 (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). Please refer to the associated mapping to view site catchments.

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The following tables summarise the deficiencies identified from the application of the accessibility standards. In determining any subsequent actions for identified gaps, the following are key principles for consideration:

- ◀ 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.

Table 12.2.2: Parks and gardens

Analysis area	Catchment gap	Provision helping to serve gap:
Bacup and Stacksteads	Gap in catchment to east	Warcoock Lane, Greave (KKP 353) Sharneyford AGS (KKP 276) Hawthorn Rd, Irwell (West) (KKP 128/266) Crabtree Ave, Rockcliffe (KKP 123)
Eden	Minor gap in catchment to west	Chatterton Park, Stubbins (KKP 245) Lumb Mill (300)
Haslingden	Gap in catchment to south east and minor gap to east	Clod Lane, Greenfield (KKP 242) Pit Heads pocket park, Haslingden (KKP 29)
Rawtenstall	Gap in catchment to north and minor gap to south	Rear of Holland Ave, Cribden (KKP 89) Reeds Holme Recreation Ground (KKP 331) Goodshaw Recreation Ground (KKP 332) Burnley Rd, Loveclough (KKP 101) Meadows Drive/Fairbank Walk, Goodshaw (KKP 100) Thirlmere Way, Goodshaw (KKP 99) Goodshaw Lane, Goodshaw (KKP 98) Harvey Longworth Court, Goodshaw Chapel (KKP 97) Goodshaw Chapel (KKP 96) Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth (KKP 95) Adelaide St, Crawshawbooth (KKP 94) Fallbarn Crescent, Longholme (KKP 386) Barlow Fold Sports Field (KKP 442)
Waterfoot	Gap in catchment to north and west	Burnley Rd. East, Whitwell Bottom (KKP 108) Foxhill Drive (KKP 105) Nr. Lower Hollin Farm, Whitwell Bottom (KKP 106) Cloughfold Doorstop Green/Play Area (KKP 291) Playing fields rear Bacup Rd., Cloughfold (KKP 54) Lower Cloughfold (KKP 55) Bacup Rd, Waterfoot (KKP 72)
Whitworth	Gap in catchment mapping to north and south	Old Lane, Shawforth (KKP 156) Leavengreave Sports Pitch (KKP 347) Cowm Reservoir (KKP 437) Healey Pump Track NSN (KKP 445) Spodden Valley (KKP 432) Wallbank Drive/Reservoir (KKP 474/463)

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Table 12.2.3: Natural and semi-natural greenspace

Analysis area	Catchment gap	Provision helping to serve gap:
Bacup and Stacksteads	Minor gap in catchment to north	Area is considered to be well served by access to surrounding countryside
Eden	No significant gap	n/a
Haslingden	No significant gap	n/a
Rawtenstall	Minor gap in catchment to north	Goodshaw Chapel (KKP 203) St Mary and All Saints Church, Goodshaw (KKP 444) Meadows Drive/Fairbank Walk, Goodshaw (KKP 100) Thirlmere Way, Goodshaw (KKP 99) Goodshaw Lane, Goodshaw (KKP 98) Harvey Longworth Court, Goodshaw Chapel (KKP 97) Goodshaw Chapel (KKP 96)
Waterfoot	Gap in catchment mapping to centre and north	Burnley Rd. East, Whitwell Bottom (KKP 108) Foxhill Drive (KKP 105) Nr. Lower Hollin Farm, Whitwell Bottom (KKP 106) Seat Naze (KKP 2) Edgeside Woodland (KKP 77) Bacup Road (KKP 72) Edgeside Park (KKP 292) Swiss Clough & Booth Field (KKP 472)
Whitworth	Gap in catchment mapping to north	Whitworth Cemetery (KKP 213) Leavengreave Sports Pitch (KKP 347) Old Lane, Shawforth (KKP 156) Market St., Shawforth/Facit (KKP 158) Leavengreave Court, Facit (KKP 159) Old Lane, Market Street (KKP 485)

Table 12.2.4: Urban greenspace

Analysis area	Catchment gap	Provision helping to serve gap:
Bacup and Stacksteads	Minor gap in catchment to north and south east	Bacup Cenotaph (KKP 297) New Line 2, Britannia (KKP 149)
Eden	Minor gap in catchment to west	Lumb Mill (KKP 300)
Haslingden	No significant gap	n/a
Rawtenstall	Gap in catchment to south west	Whittaker Park (KKP 285) Memorial/Library Gardens, Rawtenstall (KKP 295)
Waterfoot	No significant gap	n/a
Whitworth	No significant gap	n/a

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Table 12.2.5: Provision for children and young people

Analysis area	Catchment gap	Provision helping to serve gap:
Bacup and Stacksteads	No significant gap	n/a
Eden	Minor gap in catchment mapping	Exploring/encouraging opportunities to expand provision at existing sites such as Chatterton Park, Stubbins (KKP 245) and Edenfield Playground (KKP 384)
Haslingden	Minor gap in catchment mapping	Exploring/encouraging opportunities to expand provision at existing sites such as Harry Grady play area (KKP 434.1), Ratcliffe St., Worsley (KKP 401) and Greenfield Gardens Play Area (KKP 238)
Rawtenstall	Minor gap in catchment mapping to centre	Exploring/encouraging opportunities to expand provision at existing sites such as Sunnyside, Cribden (KKP 249)
Waterfoot	Gap in catchment mapping	Exploring/encouraging opportunities to expand provision at existing sites such as Cloughfold, Hareholme (KKP 390) and Staghills, Hareholme (KKP 402) and to create provision at existing sites such as Foxhill Drive (KKP 105), Nr. Lower Hollin Farm (KKP 106) and Burnley Rd East (KKP 108)
Whitworth	Gap in catchment mapping to north and minor gap to south	Exploring/encouraging opportunities to expand provision at existing sites such as Knowlsey Crescent Play Area, Shawforth (KKP 272) and Station Rd./Healey Dell (KKP 406)

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12.3: Quantity

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

Setting quantity standards

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

Shortfalls in quality and accessibility standards are identified across the Borough for different types of open space (as set out in Parts 12.1 and 12.2). Consequently, the Council should seek to ensure new developments contribute to the overall provision of open space.

The recommendation for open space is for the current provision levels to be used as a basis to inform and determine the quantity requirements for Rossendale Borough.

The exception could be for natural and semi-natural greenspace where the use of a quantity standard in determining future provision of natural provision is not considered useful. Given the large quantity standard figure for natural greenspace, developments would be required to provide significant amounts of such provision. A more meaningful approach would be to ensure access and quality of existing provision and new provision of multifunctional space such as parks, urban greenspace and play provision.

It should be noted that the RBC Play Strategy uses a quantity standard of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population to calculate contributions from developments. This is based on the FIT suggested standard. For consistency in the approach within this study, the current provision level for play is utilised to identify potential shortfalls.

Table 12.3.1: Recommended quantity standards

Typology	Quantity standards (hectares per 1,000 population)
Parks & gardens	0.44
Urban greenspace	2.10
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	5.19
Provision for children & young people	0.07
Allotment	0.06

The current provision levels can be used to help identify where areas may have a shortfall against the recommended quantity standards for Rossendale Borough. Table 12.3.2 and 12.3.3 show 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 summary of the quantity figures (per 1,000 population) for each ward area are also set out in Appendix Three.

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Table 12.3.2: Current provision against recommended quantity standards

Settlement	Parks and gardens		Natural & Semi-natural (Hectares per 1000 population)		Urban greenspace		Allotments	
	0.44		5.19		2.10		0.06	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Bacup and Stacksteads	0.61	+0.17	2.86	-2.33	2.37	+0.27	0.04	-0.02
Eden	0.01	-0.43	28.84	+23.65	2.06	-0.04	-	-0.06
Haslingden	0.36	-0.08	8.78	+3.59	1.75	-0.35	0.09	+0.03
Rawtenstall	0.58	+0.14	-	-5.19	0.86	-1.24	0.06	Level
Waterfoot	0.54	+0.10	3.34	-1.85	3.72	+1.62	0.13	+0.07
Whitworth	0.05	-0.39	2.63	-2.56	2.21	+0.11	-	-0.06

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All analysis areas are observed as having shortfalls in some form of open space. However, Whitworth is the only analysis area highlighted as having shortfalls across all open space types.

Provision for children and young people

Table 12.3.4 shows the position for each sub-area as to whether it is sufficient or identified as having a shortfall against the recommended standard in terms of provision for children and young people.

Table 12.3.4: Current play provision against recommended quantity standard

Analysis area	Hectares per 1000 population	
	Current provision	Sufficiency/deficiency against 0.07 recommended standard
Bacup and Stacksteads	0.12	+0.05
Eden	0.12	+0.05
Haslingden	0.05	-0.02
Rawtenstall	0.06	-0.01
Waterfoot	0.07	Level
Whitworth	0.03	-0.04

There is a mixture of analysis areas identified as having a current provision level below or above the recommended quantity standard.

Identifying priorities

Several quantity shortfalls in the open space typologies are highlighted across the Borough. However, creating new provision to address these shortfalls (particularly any quantity shortfalls) is unrealistic (as significant amounts of new forms of provision would need to be created). A more realistic approach is to ensure sufficient accessibility and quality of existing provision.

Exploring opportunities to enhance existing provision and linkages to these sites should be endorsed. Part 12.4 provides an initial summary of the quantity, quality and accessibility for each area. Further insight to the shortfalls is provided within each provision standard summary (Parts 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3).

Quantity levels should still be utilised to indicate the potential lack of provision any given area may have. However, this should be done in conjunction with the accessibility and quality of provision in the area.

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 provision should look to be provided as part of new housing developments.

If this is not considered viable, the column signalling whether an 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 area (i.e. the priorities may be where a shortfall has been identified).

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12.4: Summary of Quantity, Quality and Accessibility

12.4.1: Bacup and Stacksteads Analysis Area Summary

Typology	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Accessibility	Quality
Parks and gardens	Sufficient by 0.17	Gap in catchments to east	Five out of six sites rate below quality threshold.
Natural & semi-natural	Shortfall of 2.33	Minor gap to north	All sites rate high for quality.
Urban greenspace	Sufficient by 0.27	Minor gap to north and south east	21 out of 29 sites rate below quality threshold. Nine sites also rate below value threshold
Play provision	Sufficient by 0.05	No gaps in provision	Six out of 19 sites rate below quality threshold.
Allotments	Shortfall of 0.02	Not applicable	Brunswick Gardens (ID 440) rates below quality
Conclusion:			
The only significant quantity shortfall is in natural and semi-natural greenspace. However, access and quality of such provision is generally considered sufficient. The focus for the area should be on enhancing quality of parks, urban greenspace and play provision. In the case of urban greenspace and play provision, quantity and access appear sufficient. However, a large proportion of sites rate below the quality thresholds. Exploring opportunities to enhance quality and/or the potential rationalisation of some poor-quality provision in areas of sufficient access coverage could be considered.			

12.4.2: Eden Analysis Area Summary

Typology	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Accessibility	Quality
Parks and gardens	Shortfall of 0.43	Minor gap to west	All sites rate high for quality.
Natural & semi-natural	Sufficient by 23.65	No gaps in provision	Not applicable
Urban greenspace	Shortfall of 0.04	Minor gap to west	One site (Pin Meadow: ID 4) rates below quality
Play provision	Sufficient by 0.05	Minor gap in catchments	No deficiency identified
Allotments	No provision of this type	Not applicable	Not applicable
Conclusion:			
The only significant quantity shortfall is in parks and gardens provision. However, access and quality are generally considered sufficient. The focus for the area should be on enhancing quality of natural greenspace and urban greenspace.			

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12.4.3: Haslingden Analysis Area Summary

Typology	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Accessibility	Quality
Parks and gardens	Shortfall of 0.08	Gap to south east and minor gap to east	All sites rate high for quality.
Natural & semi-natural	Sufficient by 3.59	No gaps in provision	One out of three sites rate below quality threshold.
Urban greenspace	Shortfall of 0.35	No gaps in provision	12 out of 27 sites rate below quality threshold. Five sites also rate below value threshold.
Play provision	Sufficient by 0.02	Minor gap in catchments	Three out of 12 sites rate below quality threshold.
Allotments	Sufficient by 0.03	Not applicable	Two out of five sites rate below quality threshold.
Conclusion:			
Quantity shortfalls in urban greenspace and to a lesser extent parks and gardens are noted. Access to such provision is generally considered sufficient. Quality of parks is also sufficient. The focus for the area should be on enhancing quality of urban greenspace and play provision.			

12.4.4: Rawtenstall Analysis Area Summary

Typology	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Accessibility	Quality
Parks and gardens	Sufficient by 0.14	Gap to north and minor gap to south	All sites rate high for quality.
Natural & semi-natural	No provision of this type	Minor gap to north	Not applicable
Urban greenspace	Shortfall of 1.24	Gap in catchments to south west	18 out of 24 sites rate below quality threshold. Eight sites also rate below value threshold.
Play provision	Shortfall of 0.01	Minor gap to centre	Five out of 10 sites rate below quality threshold.
Allotments	Level	Not applicable	One out of four sites rate below quality threshold.
Conclusion:			
A shortfall in urban greenspace quantity is noted. Deficiencies in quality are also highlighted for urban greenspace as well as play provision. However, access is generally sufficient. The focus for the area should be on enhancing quality of such provision, given a large proportion of urban greenspace sites rate below the quality thresholds. Exploring opportunities to enhance quality and/or the potential rationalisation of some poor-quality provision in areas of sufficient access coverage could be considered.			

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12.4.5: Waterfoot Analysis Area Summary

Typology	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Accessibility	Quality
Parks and gardens	Sufficient by 0.10	Catchment gap to north and west	Both sites rate below quality threshold.
Natural & semi-natural	Shortfall of 1.85	Catchment gap to centre	Two out of three sites rate below quality threshold. One site also rates below value threshold.
Urban greenspace	Sufficient by 1.62	No gaps in provision	15 out of 23 sites rate below quality threshold. Nine sites also rate below value threshold.
Play provision	Level	Gap in catchments	Six out of 11 sites rate below quality threshold. One site also rates below value threshold.
Allotments	Sufficient by 0.07	Not applicable	Two out of four sites rate below quality threshold.
Conclusion:			
<p>The only quantity shortfall is in natural and semi-natural greenspace. Furthermore, gaps in access for such provision also exists. However, quantity and access of urban greenspace is sufficient. Exploring opportunities for some urban greenspace to help serve the gap in natural greenspace should be explored. As a large proportion of urban greenspace sites rate below the quality thresholds, the potential rationalisation of some poor quality provision in areas of sufficient access coverage could be considered</p>			

12.4.6: Whitworth Analysis Area Summary

Typology	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Accessibility	Quality
Parks and gardens	Shortfall of 0.39	Catchment gaps to north and south	All sites rate high for quality.
Natural & semi-natural	Shortfall of 2.56	Catchment gap to north	All sites rate high for quality.
Urban greenspace	Sufficient by 0.11	No gaps in provision	10 out of 19 sites rate below quality threshold. Four sites also rate below value threshold.
Play provision	Shortfall of 0.04	Gap to north and minor gap to south	One out of five sites rate below quality threshold.
Allotments	No provision of this type	Not applicable	Not applicable
Conclusion:			
Quantity and access of urban greenspace is sufficient. Opportunities for some sites to help serve the gaps in other provision should be explored.			

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12.5: 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 help address the issues highlighted as well as the priorities for meeting demand from future growth.

Recommendation 1

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

Part 12.2 identifies sites that help or have the potential to serve existing identified gaps in provision. A summary of the sites helping to serve these catchment gaps is also set out in Table 12.5.1 below.

Table 12.5.1: Summary of sites helping to serve catchment gaps

Ref	Site name	Analysis area	Helps to serve provision gap in:
2	Seat Naze	Waterfoot	NSN
29	Pit Heads pocket park, Haslingden	Haslingden	Parks
54	Playing fields rear of houses Bacup Rd., Cloughfol	Waterfoot	Parks
55	Lower Cloughfold	Waterfoot	Parks
72	Bacup Rd, Waterfoot	Waterfoot	Parks, NSN
77	Edgeside Woodland	Waterfoot	NSN
89	Rear of Holland Ave, Cribden	Rawtenstall	Parks
94	Adelaide St, Crawshawbooth	Rawtenstall	Parks
95	Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth	Rawtenstall	Parks
96	Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
97	Harvey Longworth Court, Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
98	Goodshaw Lane, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
99	Thirlmere Way, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
100	Meadows Drive/Fairbank Walk, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
101	Burnley Rd, Loveclough	Rawtenstall	Parks
105	Foxhill Drive	Waterfoot	Parks, NSN, play
108	Burnley Rd. East, Whitwell Bottom	Waterfoot	Parks, NSN, play
123	Crabtree Ave., Rockcliffe	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
128	Hawthorn Rd, Irwell doorstep green (West)	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
149	New Line 2, Britannia	Bacup & Stacksteads	Urban GS
156	Old Lane, Shawforth	Whitworth	Parks, NSN
158	Market St., Shawforth/Facit	Whitworth	NSN
159	Leavengreave Court, Facit	Whitworth	NSN
213	Whitworth Cemetery	Whitworth	NSN

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Ref	Site name	Analysis area	Helps to serve provision gap in:
238	Greenfield Gardens, Greenfield Play Area	Haslingden	Play
242	Clod Lane, Greenfield	Haslingden	Parks
245	Chatterton Park, Stubbins	Eden	Play
249	Sunnyside, Cribden	Rawtenstall	Play
266	Hawthorn Rd., Irwell doorstep green (West)	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
272	Knowlsey Crescent Play Area, Shawforth	Whitworth	Play
276	Sharneyford AGS	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
285	Whittaker Park	Rawtenstall	Urban GS
291	Cloughfold Doorstop Green/Play Area	Waterfoot	Parks
292	Edgeside Park	Waterfoot	NSN
295	Memorial/Library Gardens, Rawtenstall	Rawtenstall	Urban GS
297	Bacup Cenotaph	Bacup & Stacksteads	Urban GS
300	Lumb Mill	Eden	Parks, Urban GS
331	Reeds Holme Recreation Ground	Rawtenstall	Parks
332	Goodshaw Recreation Ground	Rawtenstall	Parks
347	Leavengreave Sports Pitch	Whitworth	Parks, NSN
353	Warcook Lane, Greave	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
384	Edenfield playground	Eden	Play
386	Fallbarn Crescent, Longholme	Rawtenstall	Parks
390	Cloughfold, Hareholme	Waterfoot	Play
401	Ratcliffe St., Worsley	Haslingden	Play
402	Staghills, Hareholme	Waterfoot	Play
406	Station Rd./Healey Dell	Whitworth	Play
432	Spodden Valley	Whitworth	Parks
434.1	Harry Grady play area	Haslingden	Play
437	Cowm Reservoir	Whitworth	Parks
442	Barlow Fold Sports Field	Rawtenstall	Parks
444	St Mary and All Saints Church, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	NSN
445	Healey Pump Track NSN	Whitworth	Parks
463	Wallbank Drive Reservoir	Whitworth	Parks
472	Swiss Clough & Booth Fold	Waterfoot	NSN
474	Wallbank Drive	Whitworth	Parks
485	Old Lane, Market Street	Whitworth	NSN

These sites currently help to meet the identified catchment gaps for other open space typologies. Where possible, the Council should seek to adapt these sites to provide a stronger secondary role, to help meet these gaps.

These sites should therefore be viewed as open space provision that are likely to provide multiple social and value benefits. It is also important that the quality and value of some of these sites is secured and maintained (Recommendation 2).

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Recommendation 2

- ◀ Ensure low quality/value sites helping to serve potential gaps in accessibility catchments are prioritised for enhancement

The approach to these sites should be to enhance their quality/value to the applied standards. The quality and value matrix of the supporting database identifies the sites that should be given priority. A list of low quality and/or value sites currently helping to serve catchment gaps in provision is set out in Table 12.5.2 below.

Table 12.5.2: Summary of low quality/value sites helping to serve catchment gaps

Ref	Site name	Analysis area	Helps to serve provision gap in:
2	Seat Naze	Waterfoot	NSN
54	Playing fields rear of houses Bacup Rd., Cloughfol	Waterfoot	Parks
55	Lower Cloughfold	Waterfoot	Parks
72	Bacup Rd, Waterfoot	Waterfoot	Parks, NSN
77	Edgeside Woodland	Waterfoot	NSN
89	Rear of Holland Ave, Cribden	Rawtenstall	Parks
94	Adelaide St, Crawshawbooth	Rawtenstall	Parks
96	Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
97	Harvey Longworth Court, Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
98	Goodshaw Lane, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
99	Thirlmere Way, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
100	Meadows Drive/Fairbank Walk, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall	Parks, NSN
105	Foxhill Drive	Waterfoot	Parks, NSN, play
123	Crabtree Ave., Rockcliffe	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
128	Hawthorn Rd, Irwell doorstep green (West)	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
149	New Line 2, Britannia	Bacup & Stacksteads	Urban GS
158	Market St., Shawforth/Facit	Whitworth	NSN
159	Leavengreave Court, Facit	Whitworth	NSN
249	Sunnyside, Cribden	Rawtenstall	Play
291	Cloughfold Doorstop Green/Play Area	Waterfoot	Parks
292	Edgeside Park	Waterfoot	NSN
297	Bacup Cenotaph	Bacup & Stacksteads	Urban GS
300	Lumb Mill	Eden	Parks, Urban GS
331	Reeds Holme Recreation Ground	Rawtenstall	Parks
347	Leavengreave Sports Pitch	Whitworth	Parks, NSN
353	Warcoock Lane, Greave	Bacup & Stacksteads	Parks
386	Fallbarn Crescent, Longholme	Rawtenstall	Parks
390	Cloughfold, Hareholme	Waterfoot	Play
401	Ratcliffe St., Worsley	Haslingden	Play

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Ref	Site name	Analysis area	Helps to serve provision gap in:
402	Staghills, Hareholme	Waterfoot	Play
406	Station Rd./Healey Dell	Whitworth	Play
442	Barlow Fold Sports Field	Rawtenstall	Parks
474	Wallbank Drive	Whitworth	Parks

It is also important to consider the need to address other sites of low quality and value if possible in line with Recommendation 3 below.

Recommendation 3

- ◀ *Recognise low quality and value sites and how they may be able to meet other needs*

Where sites of low quality or value appear to fall within an area of sufficiency, a change of primary typology should be first considered. If no shortfall of other open space type is noted or the practicality of enhancing the site is not cost effective, then the site may be redundant or 'surplus to requirements'.

There are 131 sites identified as currently having either lower quality and/or value. This includes sites which receive no quality/value score due to being inaccessible or unable to be assessed.

Of these 131 sites, 32 are identified in Table 12.5.2 as helping to serve catchment gaps in other types of open space. These sites should first be enhanced in terms of quality. Consideration should be given to changing the primary typology or strengthening the secondary function of these 32 sites, to one which they currently help to serve a gap in provision, even if their quality cannot currently be enhanced.

Consequently, there are 99 sites of low quality and/or value, which do not currently appear to serve any highlighted gaps in catchment mapping. The 99 sites are set out in Table 12.5.3. Further exploration into these sites could be undertaken to establish whether any are potentially genuinely surplus to requirements.

Other factors, such as shortfalls in quantity for that provision type, the potential removal of a site creating a different catchment gap and/or the potential to help serve deficiencies in other types of provision should also be considered. The Council may also be aware of other issues, such as the importance of a site for heritage, biodiversity or as a visual amenity, that may also indicate that a site should continue to be protected.

Table 12.5.3: Sites of low quality/value not serving an accessibility catchment gap

Ref	Site name	Analysis area
4	Pin Meadow, Stubbins	Eden
16	Gas Street, Holden Wood	Haslingden
19	Syke Side	Haslingden
22	Grane Rd./Charles Lane, Haslingden	Haslingden
24	Fern Terrace, Haslingden	Haslingden
32	Railway Rd./Blackburn Rd., Worsley	Haslingden

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Ref	Site name	Analysis area
38	The Ducky	Haslingden
42	Lomas Lane/Cherry Crescent, New Hall Hey	Rawtenstall
43	Lomas Lane/ Fallbarn Crescent, New Hall Hey	Rawtenstall
44	Lomas Lane, New Hall Hey	Rawtenstall
45	Bury Rd., Wood Top	Rawtenstall
52	Worswick Crescent, Rawtenstall	Waterfoot
58	Cloughfold/Newchurch	Waterfoot
67	Lowe View, Boothfold	Waterfoot
70	Bridleway/New rd. Newchurch	Waterfoot
86	Glen Top	Bacup & Stacksteads
87	Glen Top/Waterbarn	Bacup & Stacksteads
93	Acrefield Dr, Reedsholme	Rawtenstall
95.1	Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth Pump Track	Rawtenstall
95.2	Goodshaw Lane, Crawshawbooth, Play Area	Rawtenstall
111	Albert Street/Rock Bridge Fold	Waterfoot
117	Cutler Greens, Stacksteads	Bacup & Stacksteads
119	New Line1, Britannia	Bacup & Stacksteads
120	Newchurch Rd., Rockcliffe	Bacup & Stacksteads
126	Off Thorn St., Irwell	Bacup & Stacksteads
131	Tong Lane, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads
136	Rosendale Close MUGA, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads
138	Vale St, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads
160	Jubilee Walk, Market St., Facit	Whitworth
172	Coppice Drive, Whitworth	Whitworth
174	Eastgate, Whitworth	Whitworth
182	Bacup Rd, Cloughfold	Waterfoot
190	Kirkhill Allotments	Haslingden
191	Dale View Allotments	Rawtenstall
194	Prinny Hill Allotments 1	Haslingden
195	Prinny Hill Allotments 2	Haslingden
202	St John's Stonefold	Haslingden
203	Goodshaw Chapel	Rawtenstall
205	New Street Cemetery, Haslingden	Haslingden
206	Chapel Street Cemetery, Haslingden	Haslingden
208	St Thomas Musbury	Haslingden
209	Cribden	Rawtenstall
216	The Valley Centre, Rawtenstall	Waterfoot
227	Path of History	Bacup & Stacksteads
228	Peace Garden, Stacksteads	Bacup & Stacksteads
254	Loveclough Park, Goodshaw	Rawtenstall

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Ref	Site name	Analysis area
258.1	Edgeside Park AGS Play area	Waterfoot
264	Maden Rec Ground, Greensclough	Bacup & Stacksteads
269	Lumb, Whitewell	Waterfoot
286.2	Stubbylee Park Pump Track	Bacup & Stacksteads
287	Loveclough Park	Rawtenstall
288.1	Worsley Park Play Area	Haslingden
288.2	Worsley Park MUGA	Haslingden
292.1	Edgeside Park MUGA	Waterfoot
292.2	Edgeside Park Skatepark	Waterfoot
296	Tricketts Memorial Gardens, Waterfoot	Waterfoot
298	Swinnel Brook	Haslingden
299	Helmshore Railway	Haslingden
305	Moss Meadow	Bacup & Stacksteads
318	Lane Side Haslingden	Haslingden
334	Marl Pits Sports Complex 2	Waterfoot
336	Hareholme	Waterfoot
343	Western Rd., Stacksteads (MUGA)	Bacup & Stacksteads
344	Tunstead 2 MUGA	Bacup & Stacksteads
345	Stacksteads Sports Ground	Bacup & Stacksteads
352	Maden Recreation Ground Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads
393	Cutler Lane Children's Play Area	Bacup & Stacksteads
399	Knowsley Crescent, Shawforth	Whitworth
404	Hamer Ave/Ring St., Goodshaw	Rawtenstall
439	Wet Moss	Haslingden
440	Brunswick Gardens	Bacup & Stacksteads
446	Reeds Close / Crawshaw Drive AGS	Rawtenstall
449	Allotments off Leebrook Road	Rawtenstall
451	Allotments behind Plantation House (Patrick Crescent)	Waterfoot
452	Allotments behind no. 7 Dobbin Lane	Waterfoot
455	Rosendale Pet Crematorium and Memorial Gardens	Rawtenstall
456	Newchurch Methodist Church	Waterfoot
458	Northfield Road	Haslingden
460	Stacksteads Riverside Park	Bacup & Stacksteads
461	Pond 1 (off Cowpe Road)	Waterfoot
462	Pond 2 (off Cowpe Road)	Waterfoot
466	Dearden Brook	Eden
467	Hollin Way	Rawtenstall
469	Beaufort Road	Bacup & Stacksteads
471	Bankside Lane	Bacup & Stacksteads
475	Waterbarn Chapel	Bacup & Stacksteads

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Ref	Site name	Analysis area
478	Land east of Rochdale Road	Bacup & Stacksteads
479	Land south of St Mary's Primary School	Bacup & Stacksteads
480	Britannia Way, Helmshore	Haslingden
481	Foxhill Estate RBC Owned	Waterfoot
483	Masseycroft Landscape	Whitworth
484	Millgate Quarry, Market Street	Whitworth
489	Earnshaw Road (South)	Bacup & Stacksteads
491	Land off Gladstone Street, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads
492	Land at Kirkhill Avenue, Haslingden	Haslingden
494	Brandwood Road	Bacup & Stacksteads
495	Burials on Hall Street	Whitworth
496	Wayside Garden, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads
497	Wall of History, Bacup	Bacup & Stacksteads

Next steps

Supplementary Planning Document

The Council may wish to develop a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to provide further detail on the policies and proposals within the Local Plan. An SPD focusing on open space provision standards and how they will be applied could assist in the consideration and determining of planning applications.

The following topics/headings may wish to be considered if the Council progresses with creating an SPD:

- ◀ Policy context – where does the requirement for open space sit in terms of national and local planning policy
- ◀ Overview of the evidence base used to inform setting of standards
- ◀ Explanation to the set provision standards
- ◀ Explanation to how the standards are applied and how contributions are calculated
- ◀ Setting process for calculating the financial contribution for off-site provision or improvements
- ◀ Design principles for open space provision
- ◀ Setting process for calculating maintenance costs required

APPENDIX ONE: SURVEY RESULTS

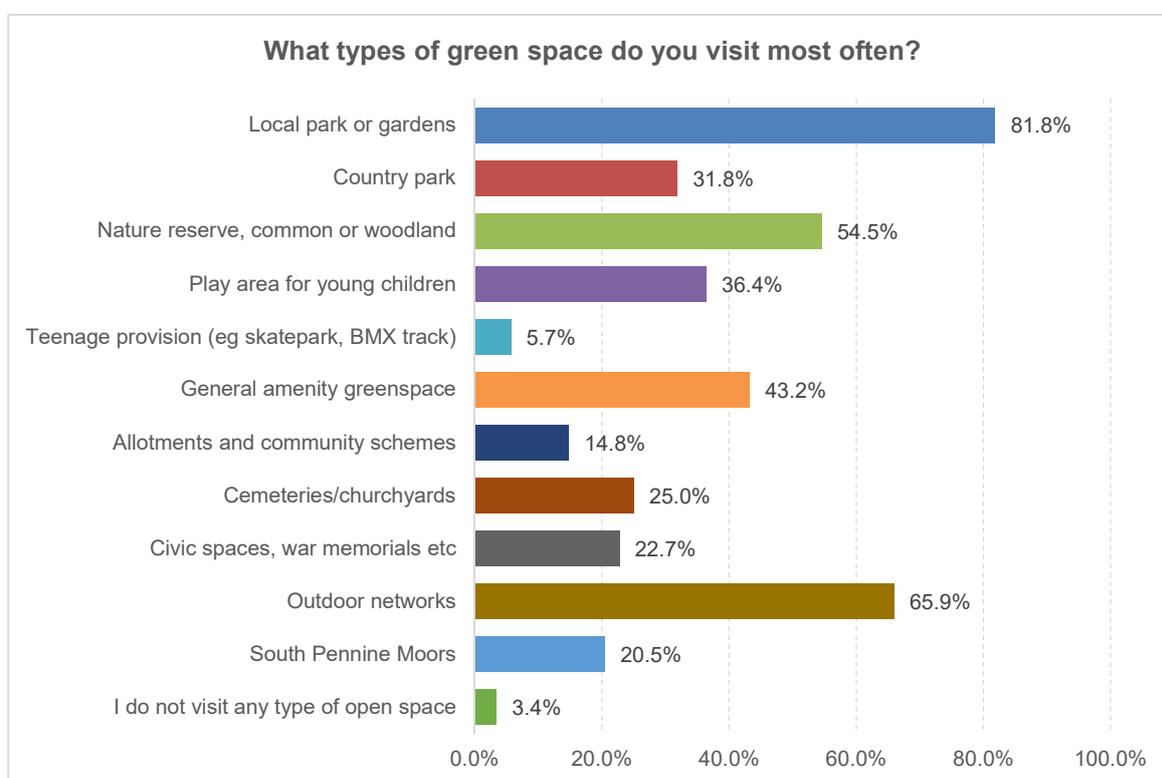
A1.1 Community Survey

An online community survey was hosted on the Council website and promoted via social media and the Councils communication team. A total of 88 responses were received. The findings of the consultations are used, reviewed and interpreted to further support the report findings. A summary of the responses is set out on the following pages.

A1.1.1 Usage

Popular forms of open space provision to visit most often are parks (82%) outdoor networks (66%), and nature reserves (55%).

Figure A1.1.1: Types of open space to visit



Stubblee and Moorlands Park and Chatterton Park are cited as the most frequently visited sites by respondents.

Reasons for visiting open space

The main reasons for visiting open space are for fresh air (93%), to go for a walk or stroll (83%) and for peace and quiet/relax (66%). Unsurprisingly, the reason: 'to grow fresh fruits and vegetables' received the lowest percentages with only 9.4% of respondents selecting this. This is a specific reason relating to allotments (and those survey respondents stating they visit an allotment) which is comparatively a niche form of open space with not everyone being an allotment holder. Consequently, it is not a common reason for people visiting open space.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

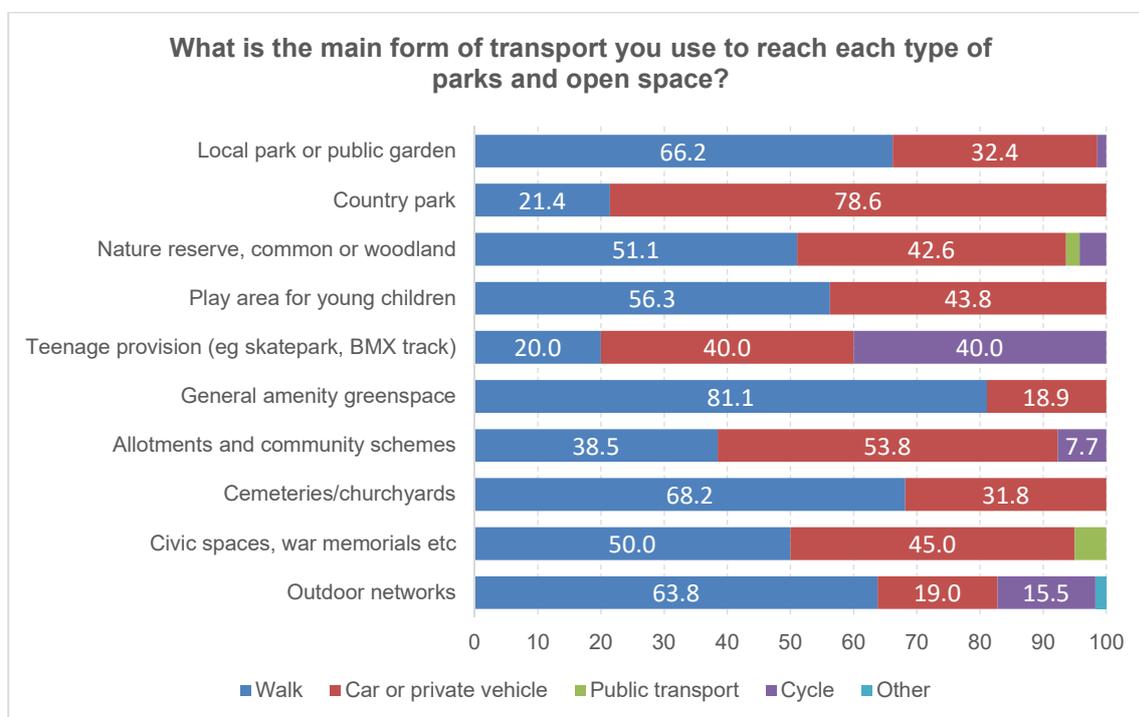
Open space is clearly of high importance with over three quarters of respondents (78%) strongly agreeing with the statement ‘Visiting open spaces makes me feel better’. No respondents strongly disagree and only 1% disagree.

A1.1.2 Accessibility

Results from the survey shows that individuals are willing to walk to access provision of amenity greenspace (81%), cemeteries (68%), parks (66%), outdoor networks (64%), nature reserves (51%) play areas for young children (56%), and civic space (50%).

The exception to this is for country parks (79%), allotments (54%) which individuals travel by car to access.

Figure A1.1.2: Mode of travel to open space sites

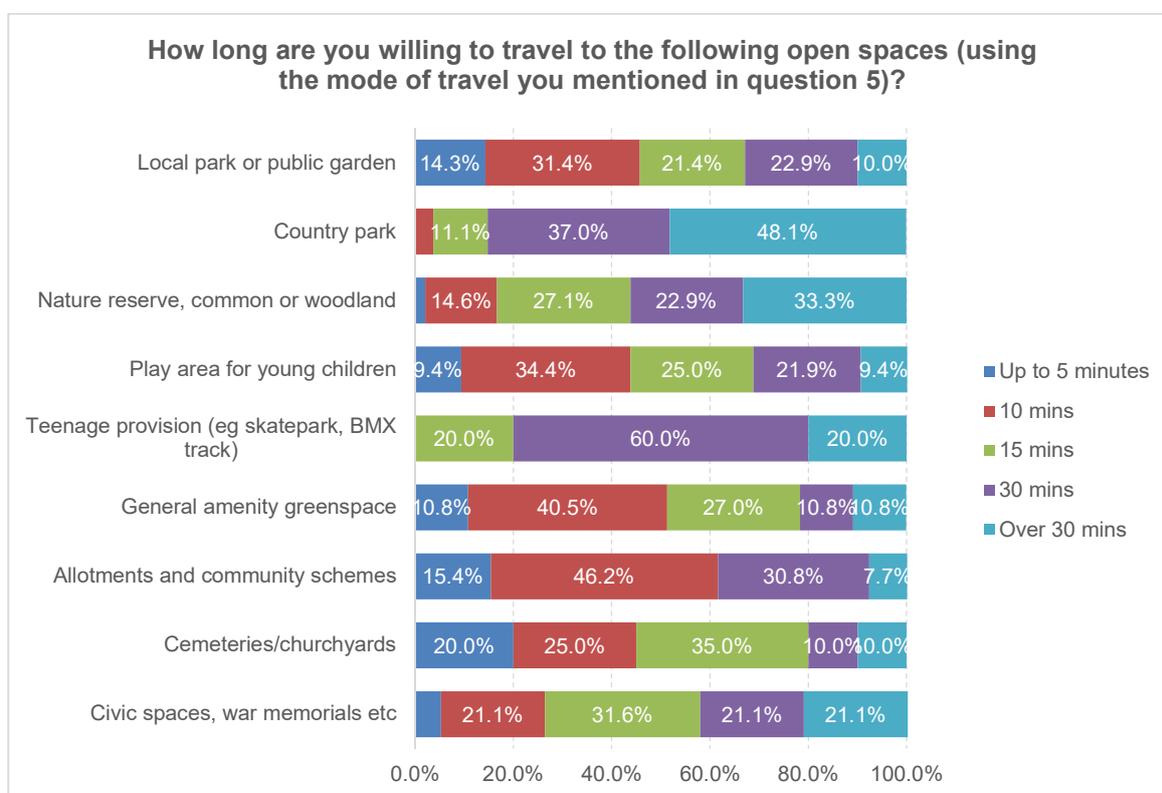


For some provision such as nature reserves and country parks, there is a willingness to travel further distances; with 48% of respondents stating they would travel over 30 minutes to access a country park and 33% willing to travel over 30 minutes to a nature reserve.

For other forms of provision, respondents show a willingness to travel a shorter amount of time (i.e. 10 to 15 minutes). This is particularly noticeable for parks, allotments, urban greenspace and play provision.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Figure A1.1.3: Time willing to travel to open space sites



A1.1.3 Availability and Quality

In general, respondents consider the amount of parks and open space provision to be quite satisfactory with over half (52%) stating they are quite satisfactory. Over a quarter of respondents rate availability of parks and open space provision as very satisfactory.

Table A1.1.1: Satisfaction with availability of parks and open space provision

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
26.1%	52.3%	5.7%	13.6%	2.3%

Just less than half of survey respondents consider the quality of parks and open space provision to be generally quite satisfactory. A further 19% rate quality as very satisfactory. Only small proportions of respondents view quality as quite unsatisfactory (15%) or very unsatisfactory (3%).

Table A1.1.2: Satisfaction with quality of parks and open space provision

Very satisfactory	Quite satisfactory	Neither satisfactory or unsatisfactory	Quite unsatisfactory	Very unsatisfactory
19.3%	42.0%	20.5%	14.8%	3.4%

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Respondents to the survey were asked what they thought would improve open space provision. The most common answers include better maintenance and care (58%), more wildlife/habitat promotion (51%) and better and wider range of facilities and greater attractiveness (both 40%).

Table A1.1.3: What would improve open space provision for you?

Answer option	Percentage of respondents
Greater attractiveness (e.g. flowers, trees)	40.2%
Better maintenance and care of features	57.5%
Improved access to and within sites	35.6%
More public events	20.7%
Greater information on sites	28.7%
Better and wider range of facilities (i.e. play equipment, seating, refreshments)	40.2%
Greater community involvement	25.3%
More wildlife/habitat promotion	50.6%
Other (please state below)	9.2%

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX TWO: GOLF PROVISION

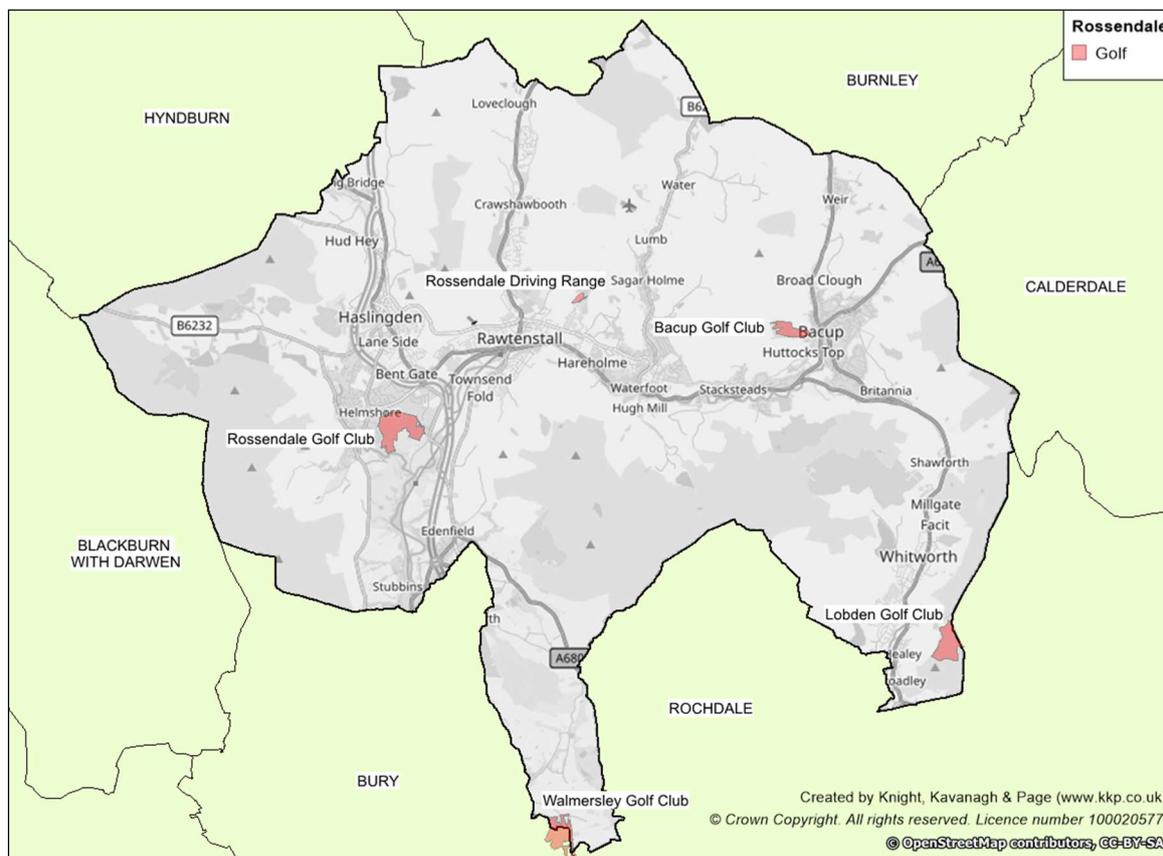
At the request of the Council, Golf provision in the Borough has been identified.

There are four forms of golf provision identified within the Borough:

- ◀ Bacup Golf Club
- ◀ Lobden Golf Club
- ◀ Rossendale Driving Range
- ◀ Rossendale Golf Club

In addition, Walmersley Golf Club is also located on the boundary of Bury.

Figure A2: Golf provision



To determine the requirements for the sport of golf a specific supply and demand assessment should be undertaken. Such a study is outside of the scope of this work.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX THREE: WARD SUMMARY OF QUANTITY

Settlement	Parks and gardens		Natural & Semi-natural		Urban greenspace		Allotments		Play	
	(Hectares per 1000 population)									
	0.44		5.19		2.10		0.06		0.07	
	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -	Current provision	+ / -
Cribden	-	-0.44	-	-5.19	1.09	-1.01	0.04	-0.02	0.01	-0.06
Eden	-	-0.44	28.84	+23.65	2.06	-0.04	-	-0.06	0.12	+0.05
Facit and Shawforth	0.10	-0.34	4.25	-0.94	1.54	-0.56	-	-0.06	0.02	-0.05
Goodshaw	-	-0.44	-	-5.19	1.11	-0.99	0.13	+0.07	0.12	+0.05
Greenfield	0.77	+0.33	-	-5.19	0.79	-1.31	-	-0.06	0.11	+0.04
Greensclough	1.51	+1.07	-	-5.19	2.48	+0.38	0.09	+0.03	0.24	+0.17
Hareholme	0.29	-0.15	-	-5.19	5.81	+3.71	0.02	-0.04	0.04	-0.03
Healey and Whitworth	-	-0.44	1.07	-4.12	2.85	+0.75	-	-0.06	0.04	-0.03
Helmshore	-	-0.44	21.25	+16.06	3.22	+1.12	0.15	+0.09	0.02	-0.05
Irwell	0.01	-0.43	0.65	-4.54	1.99	-0.11	-	-0.06	0.04	-0.03
Longholme	1.37	+0.93	-	-5.19	0.53	-1.57	0.01	-0.05	0.05	-0.02
Stacksteads	0.19	-0.25	10.76	+5.57	2.81	+0.71	0.02	-0.04	0.06	-0.01
Whitewell	0.78	+0.34	6.67	+1.54	1.64	-0.46	0.24	+0.18	0.10	+0.03
Worsley	0.13	-0.31	4.71	-0.48	1.21	-0.89	0.10	+0.04	0.03	-0.04

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

APPENDIX FOUR: SITE ALLOCATIONS REVIEW

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H5	Swinshaw Hall, Loveclough	no	Included as KKP 287
H7	Land Adjacent Laburnum Cottages, Goodshaw	yes	Included as KKP 96
H10	Land at Bury Road, Rawtenstall	no	Included as KKP 476
H12	Reedsholme Works, Rawtenstall	no	Included as KKP 467
H16	Land East of Acrefield Drive	no	Included as KKP 93
H18	Carr Barn and Carr Farm	yes	Not included, fenced field with no obvious access/use
H29	Land off Pennine Road, Bacup	yes	Included as KKP 479
H34	Land at Higher Cross Row, Bacup	no	Included as KKP 470
H37	Land off Gladstone Street, Bacup	no	Included as KKP 491
H41	Thorn Bank, Bacup	yes	Included as KKP 128, 266
H42	Land south of The Weir Public House	no	Not included, field
H47	Land at Kirkhill Avenue, Haslingden	yes	Included as KKP 492
H49	Land adjacent 53 Grane Road, Haslingden	no	Included as KKP 22
H50	Land Adjacent Park Avenue/Cricceth Close, Haslingden	no	Included as KKP 18
H52	Land to the rear of Haslingden Cricket Club	no	Not included. Part of cricket grounds? Seems like training
H57	Foxhill Drive, Whitewell Bottom	no	Included as KKP 481
H58	Land off Lea Bank, Cloughfold	no	Included as part of KKP 58
H61	Hareholme, Staghill	yes	Included as KKP 336
H62	Land off Peel Street, Cloughfold	yes	Not included, school grounds
H72	Land west of Market Street, Edenfield	no	Not included, fenced field with no obvious access/use
H73	Edenwood Mill, Edenfield	no	Not included, not accessible
H74	Grane Village, Helmshore	no	Not included, fields

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Site by site review

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H5	Swinshaw Hall, Loveclough	no	Partly included as KKP 287

The site is within the Rawtenstall Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality and value thresholds. It is within the catchment of several existing urban greenspaces (Ref 101, 332, 100).

The potential loss of the site would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. However, it is of very low quality and value. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H7	Land Adjacent Laburnum Cottages, Goodshaw	yes	Included as KKP 96

The site is within the Rawtenstall Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality threshold. It is within the catchment of several existing urban greenspaces (Ref 100, 99, 98, 97, 95); suggesting there are other forms of open space to a similar/better quality within access.

The potential loss of the site would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. On this basis the site does not need to be retained if quality improvements to the other sites in the area were to be undertaken.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H10	Land at Bury Road, Rawtenstall	no	Included as KKP 476

The site is within the Rawtenstall Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates above the quality and value threshold. It is within the catchment of several existing urban greenspaces (Ref 42, 44, 45, 217, 442). However, Ref 42, 44 and 45 all rate below the threshold for quality and value.

The potential loss of the site would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in provision as there are several other sites in the vicinity (positioned closer to residential areas). On this basis the site does not need to be retained if quality improvements to the other sites in the area were to be undertaken.

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Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H12	Reedsholme Works, Rawtenstall	no	Partly included as KKP 467

The site is within the Rawtenstall Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality threshold. It is within the catchment of several existing urban greenspaces (Ref 93, 331, 446). However, Ref 93 (H16) is also identified as an allocated site.

The potential combined loss of Ref 467 and Ref 93 would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. On this basis the site does not need to be retained if quality improvements to the other sites in the area were to be undertaken.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H16	Land East of Acrefield Drive	no	Included as KKP 93

The site is within the Rawtenstall Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates well below the quality and value thresholds. It is within the catchment of other existing urban greenspaces (Ref 331, 446).

The potential combined loss of Ref 467 and Ref 93 would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. On this basis the site does not need to be retained if quality improvements to the other sites in the area were to be undertaken.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H18	Carr Barn and Carr Farm	yes	Not included, fenced field with no obvious access/use

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed as a fenced field with no obvious public access or use.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H29	Land off Pennine Road, Bacup	yes	Included as KKP 479

The site is within the Bacup and Stacksteads Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality threshold. It is within the catchment of other existing urban greenspaces (Ref 478, 491, 266, 268, 123). However, Ref 491 (H37) and 266/128 (H41) are also identified as allocated sites.

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The potential combined loss of Ref 479 and Ref 491 would create a quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. On this basis the site does not need to be retained if quality improvements to the other sites in the area were to be undertaken.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H34	Land at Higher Cross Row, Bacup	no	Included as KKP 470

The site is within the Bacup and Stacksteads Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates above the quality and value threshold. It is within the catchment of another existing urban greenspace (Ref 489).

The potential loss of the site would slightly reduce the quantity of provision, however it would create no accessibility gap in provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H37	Land off Gladstone Street, Bacup	no	Included as KKP 491

The site is within the Bacup and Stacksteads Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality and value thresholds. It is within the catchment of other existing urban greenspaces (Ref 478, 479, 266, 268, 123). However, Ref 479 (H29) and 266/128 (H41) are also identified as allocated sites.

The potential combined loss of Ref 479 and Ref 491 would create a quantity shortfall but would not create an accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. On this basis the site does not need to be retained if quality improvements to the other sites in the area were to be undertaken.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H41	Thorn Bank, Bacup	yes	Included as KKP 128, 266

The site is within the Bacup and Stacksteads Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. Ref 266 rates above the quality threshold and Ref 128 rates below the quality threshold. It is highlighted as a site providing a potential role in serving a gap in other forms of provision such as parks and gardens.

Any potential loss of the site would impact quantity and accessibility in provision. It should therefore be retained.

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Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H42	Land south of The Weir Public House	no	Not included, field

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed as a fenced field with no general public access or us.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H47	Land at Kirkhill Avenue, Haslingden	yes	Included as KKP 492

The site is within the Haslingden Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality threshold. It is within the catchment of other open space types such as urban greenspace sites (Ref 29) and parks and gardens (Ref 289).

The potential loss of the site would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but create no accessibility gap in provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H49	Land adjacent 53 Grane Road, Haslingden	no	Included as KKP 22

The site is within the Haslingden Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality and value threshold. It is within the catchment of other open space types such as urban greenspace sites (Ref 24, 27, 318, 459) and parks and gardens (Ref 238). However, Ref 24 rates below the threshold for quality and value.

The potential loss of the site would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but create no accessibility gap in provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H50	Land Adjacent Park Avenue/Cricceth Close, Haslingden	no	Included as KKP 18

The site is within the Haslingden Analysis Area which currently has a shortfall against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates above the quality and value thresholds. It is also within the catchment of other existing urban greenspaces (Ref 19, 318, 459) and parks and gardens (Ref 381). However, Ref 19 rates below the threshold for quality and value.

The potential loss of the site would exacerbate the quantity shortfall but create no accessibility gap in urban greenspace provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H52	Land to the rear of Haslingden Cricket Club	no	Not included. Part of cricket ground for training.

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed to be part of Haslingden Cricket Club.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H57	Foxhill Drive, Whitewell Bottom	no	Included as KKP 481

The site is within the Waterfoot Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality and value thresholds. It is also within the catchment of other existing urban greenspaces (Ref 105, 108). However, Ref 105 rates below the quality and value thresholds.

The potential loss of the site would slightly reduce the quantity of provision, however it would create no accessibility gap in provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H58	Land off Lea Bank, Cloughfold	no	Included as part of KKP 58

The site is within the Waterfoot Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality and value thresholds. It is within the catchment of another existing urban greenspace (Ref 72 and 291).

The potential loss of the site would reduce the quantity of provision, however it would create no accessibility gap in provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H61	Hareholme, Staghills	yes	Included as KKP 336

The site is within the Waterfoot Analysis Area which currently is sufficient against the quantity standard for urban greenspace. The site rates below the quality and value thresholds. It is within the catchment of another existing urban greenspaces (Ref 291 and 72).

The potential loss of the site would slightly reduce the quantity of provision, however it would create no accessibility gap in provision. On this basis and in the context of the Council needing to strike a balance between meeting demand for future development needs and provision of open space; it is considered that the site could be appropriate for development. If carried forward, it is recommended mitigation is sought to ensure/enhance the quality of existing nearby sites such as those cited above.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H62	Land off Peel Street, Cloughfold	yes	Not included, school grounds

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed as part of school grounds with no general public access or use.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H72	Land west of Market Street, Edenfield	no	Not included, fields

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed as a fenced field with no general public access or use.

ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H73	Edenwood Mill, Edenfield	no	Not included, not accessible

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed as a fenced field with no general public access or use.

Ref	Site name	Asked by inspector	Open Space Study context
H74	Grane Village, Helmshore	no	Not included, fields

The site is not included within the open space study as it is observed as a fenced field with no general public access or use.

