

Allocations and Designations Plan Greenspace Audit

December 2020



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1. Introduction

Introduction

- 1.1 Greenspaces are a valuable resource for our communities. Adequate and appropriate provision plays a critical role in the environmental, social and economic sustainability of Sunderland and in particular, makes a variety of positive contributions to the health and wellbeing of residents.
- 1.2 Greenspaces provide habitats for wildlife and allows residents to interact with nature. Even spaces which include playing pitches, primarily used for sport and recreation, can provide areas of considerable ecological value through planting and landscaping around the perimeter of the maintained area. Greenspaces have great capacity to provide a number of different functions. Multi-functional greenspaces can mitigate the impacts of climate change, reducing surface water runoff and flooding and providing urban cooling. The provision of attractive greenspaces can greatly improve the aesthetic quality of the environment, making areas more appealing to residents, visitors and businesses.

Sunderland Context

- 1.3 With a population of 277,705¹, Sunderland provides more than a quarter of the population of the Tyne and Wear conurbation. Nevertheless, 55% of its area is classed as open countryside. This is in part due to the Green Belt that helps to preserve the open countryside through the centre and fringes of the city area and separating both the city from neighbouring towns as well as its three main areas from each other - Sunderland, Washington and Houghton-le-Spring/Hetton-le-Hole. It is also due to major reclamation schemes carried out following industrial change, enabling improved access to the River Wear Estuary and the creation of a number of formal parks and country parks.
- 1.4 In comparison to other UK cities, the location of Sunderland has major advantages that combine to create a rich and varied network of greenspaces that benefit the health, social, economic and environmental well-being of the city. The city's greenspaces are supplemented by Sunderland's beaches and natural coastline, the location on a major river estuary and by the unusual and rare habitat provided by the Magnesian Limestone plateau and escarpment that bisects the geology and geography of the city. There have also been numerous greenspace improvements made across the city over the last 20 years, including the creation of Herrington and Elba Country Parks, the creation of Rainton Meadows Local Nature Reserve, major refurbishments to Mowbray, Roker and Barnes historic parks and the creation of 3 sports hubs at Washington, Downhill and at Ford. Complementing and knitting these features together are green corridors and cycleways that owe their existence from successful reclamation of several former railway lines.

¹ ONS 2019 Mid -Year Population Estimate

Greenspace

1.5 As set out in the adopted Core Strategy and Development Plan (CSDP), Policy NE4, greenspace is defined as:

- Amenity greenspace;
- Provision for children and young people;
- Natural and semi-natural greenspace;
- Formal parks and country parks;
- Allotments and community gardens;
- Outdoor sports facilities;
- School playing fields and grounds;
- Cemeteries and church grounds;
- Civic spaces; and
- Coast and estuary.

1.6 Greenspace, irrespective of access or ownership, includes all recreational amenity areas. In general, greenspaces serve a number of functions and the approach to planning greenspaces needs to consider the creation and maintenance of a solid network of multifunctioning greenspaces and corridors which provide links for both people and wildlife.

Purpose of the Report

1.7 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the quantitative and qualitative needs and deficiencies of greenspace within the city at both an Area Regeneration Framework level (ARF)² and ward level and to review the established local provision standards. The report will be an important up-to-date evidence base to inform the Allocations and Designations Plan (A&D Plan) and aid the implementation of Policy NE4 of the Core Strategy and Development Plan (CSDP).

1.8 With regards 'needs' of greenspace, this is based upon ensuring that all residents have access to quality greenspaces within their neighbourhood/locality in line with the city standards and where deficiencies are identified, putting forward solutions which will overcome this need.

1.9 The report will:

1. Review and update the 2018 report with regard to relevant national and local planning policy related to greenspace;
2. Set out the different types of greenspaces within the city and how they have been assessed;
3. Set out the city wide standards for the different types of greenspace;

² The city is made up of 5 ARF areas, Sunderland North, Sunderland East, Sunderland West, Washington and Coalfield. See map at Appendix 5

4. Provide an overview of greenspace provision by type, ARF and ward, setting out areas of deficiency when applying standards;
 5. Put forward suggested solutions as to how and what is needed to overcome these deficiencies, including opportunities for new provision; and
 6. Put forward recommendations /suggestions for the different types of green spaces.
- 1.10 It should be noted that in addition to the requirement for greenspace within the polices of the CSDP, general criteria for greenspace is also set out within the draft housing allocations within the draft A&D plan. As such, the suggested solutions within this report should be considered through pre-application discussions when proposing to bring sites forward for development.

2. Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

2.1 The 2019 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Glossary (page 69), defines open space³ as:

“All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity”.

2.2 The NPPF states that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sports and recreational facilities and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.

2.3 The NPPF recognises the wider role of open space, stating that successful neighbourhoods require high quality public space, which in turn makes a vital contribution to the health and well-being of communities. It puts forward that the planning system should create a built environment that facilitates social interaction and inclusive communities and ensures access to open spaces and recreational facilities.

2.4 It goes on to state that: existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land 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 benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

2.5 The NPPF also recognises the contribution that sports and recreation facilities can make towards the health and wellbeing of residents, the NPPF (at paragraph 96) states:

“Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities”.

³ This report references ‘Greenspace’, rather than Open space, in line with policy NE4 of the CSDP

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)

- 2.6 The Government's Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) states that 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.
- 2.7 The PPG also states that open space (which can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks) can have multiple benefits, which are reflected in the NPPF:
- providing health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby;
 - having an ecological value and contributing to green infrastructure as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development; and
 - being an important component in the achievement of sustainable development.
- 2.8 There are a number of additional organisations that act as Government advisors and have provided considerable research and justification on the need for better understanding of our greenspaces. Part of this is provided to support local authorities, but it is also recognised that there is only a limited understanding nationally of our greenspaces and very little provided, in terms of best practice standards, that should be applied.

Sunderland Strategic Policy

City Plan

- 2.9 Sunderland's City Plan 2019-30 sets out the city's vision for development under three key themes: a dynamic city; a healthy city; and a vibrant city. Providing quality greenspace is significant to all of these themes, particularly in being able to support a low carbon economy, providing more attractive neighbourhoods, encouraging more active and healthier lifestyles, which in turn supports increased social resilience.

Sunderland Local Plan

- 2.10 Sunderland's Local Plan is the spatial manifestation of the wider ambitions and goals of the Council and its partners. It consists of 3 parts:
- Core Strategy and Development Plan (CSDP) - adopted plan which identifies the city's strategic planning policy;
 - Allocations and Designations Plan – (A&D Plan) - will set out local policies including site-specific policy allocations and designations for the development, protection and conservation of land in the city; and

- International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP) Area Action Plan (AAP) 2017-2032 – adopted plan which sets out site specific policies for the comprehensive development of the IAMP.

Core Strategy and Development Plan

2.11 Through the implementation of the policies in the CSDP the Council will guide investment and development to 2033 and will deliver the sustainable growth of Sunderland. The availability of quality greenspaces across all areas of the city is a key ingredient to delivering these goals and is especially relevant to 3 of the CSDP’s strategic priorities as follows:

Strategic Priority 3: To promote healthy lifestyles and ensuring the development of safe and inclusive communities, with facilities to meet daily needs that encourage social interaction and improve health & wellbeing for all.

Strategic Priority 8: To protect and enhance the city’s biodiversity, geological resource, countryside and landscapes whilst ensuring that all homes have good access to a range of interlinked green infrastructure.

Strategic Priority 9: To adapt to and minimise the impact of climate change by reducing carbon emissions, maximising the use of low carbon energy solutions and seeking to reduce the risk/impact of flooding.

2.12 Policy NE4 of the adopted CSDP sets out the city’s strategic approach to greenspace.

Policy

NE4 Greenspace

The council will protect, conserve and enhance the quality, community value, function and accessibility of greenspace and wider green infrastructure, especially in areas of deficiency identified in the council’s Greenspace Audit and Report by:

1. designating greenspaces in the A&D Plan;
2. requiring development to contribute towards the provision of new and/or enhanced greenspace where there is an evidenced requirement
3. requiring all major residential development to provide:
 - i. a minimum of 0.9ha per 1,000 bedspaces of useable greenspace on site; unless
 - ii. a financial contribution for the maintenance/upgrading to neighbouring existing greenspace is considered to be more appropriate;
4. refusing development on greenspaces which would have an adverse effect on its amenity, recreational or nature conservation value unless it can be demonstrated that:
 - i. the proposal is accompanied by an assessment that clearly demonstrates that the provision is surplus to requirements; or
 - ii. a replacement facility which is at least equivalent in terms of usefulness, attractiveness, quality and accessibility, and where of an appropriate quantity,

- to existing and future users is provided by the developer on another site agreed with the council prior to development commencing; or
- iii. replacement on another site is neither practicable or possible an agreed contribution is made by the developer to the council for new provision or the improvement of existing greenspace or outdoor sport and recreation facilities and its maintenance within an appropriate distance from the site or within the site.

The impact of development on greenspace provision will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis in terms of its potential impact on Natura 2000 (N2K) sites.

2.13 At paragraph 10.23 the CSDP defines greenspace as:

- a) Amenity greenspace;
- b) Provision for children and young people;
- c) Natural and semi-natural greenspace;
- d) Formal parks and country parks;
- e) Allotments and community gardens;
- f) Outdoor sports facilities;
- g) School playing fields and grounds;
- h) Cemeteries and church grounds;
- i) Civic spaces; and
- j) Coast and estuary.

2.14 In addition to this Greenspace, there are other strategies that help to guide provision and management of greenspace and these are detailed further in Appendix 2.

3. What is Greenspace?

- 3.1 Greenspace, irrespective of access or ownership, includes all recreational amenity areas including civic spaces, parks, playing fields and allotments. In general, greenspaces serve a number of functions and the approach to planning greenspaces needs to consider the creation and maintenance of a solid network of multifunctioning greenspaces and corridors which provide links for both people and wildlife.
- 3.2 The importance of greenspace within the city and the contribution that it makes to the health, wellbeing, image and identity for the residents of the city is acknowledged and it is important that the quality and quantity of greenspaces, together with their biodiversity, are sustainably maintained and enhanced for the benefit of current and future generations.
- 3.3 Sunderland’s greenspaces have been analysed at an area level as well as at ward level, taking into account:
 - **Quantity** – the amount (by type) of greenspace available;
 - **Quality** – based on detailed survey results and existing known data;
 - **Value** – capturing how important greenspace is to people; and
 - **Accessibility** – how accessible each type of greenspace is available across the city and also identifying known key physical barriers to access such as rivers, major roads and railways.

Table 1: Greenspace Type

Type of Greenspace	Definition
Amenity Greenspace	Spaces whose primary function is the provision of amenity (e.g. visual enhancement or informal recreation) to local residents, workers or passers-by. Predominantly found in residential areas but may be located in commercial areas to serve staff/visitors. Typically mown grassed areas (big or small), perhaps with trees, or perhaps including highway verges or landscaping.
Provision for Children and Young People	Fixed, formal play equipment, but also including Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Dual Use Games Areas (DUGAs).
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	Natural habitats including woodland, grassland, wetland, heathland, geological, coast and estuarine areas.
Formal Parks and Country Parks	District, local, city parks and country parks.
Allotments & Community Gardens	Where people can grow their own fruit and vegetables. Not including private gardens.
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Open space specifically geared towards sport and formal recreation. e.g. football, cricket, tennis, rugby, hockey, bowling greens, golf courses, multi-purpose courts and kickabout areas.

Green Infrastructure Corridors	Greenspace sites that help to form a much longer connected corridor of sites. Such corridors allow for walking, cycling and wildlife movement.
Cemeteries and church grounds	Cemeteries, churchyards and also the general grounds of a church.
Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced spaces for pedestrians e.g. war memorials, pedestrian areas, river and coastal promenades.
Accessible Countryside	All of the city's open countryside, private or public.
Coast & Estuary	Beaches and cliff top areas, coastal links and River Wear Estuary.
School Playing Fields and Grounds	This includes all school grounds, whether or not they provide public access to greenspace/sports facilities out of school hours.

How has greenspace been assessed?

3.4 The methodology is based on the approach set out in the 2012 Greenspace Audit and Report. The quantity, quality and value of each plot have been appraised and a pro-forma completed so far as was possible⁴.

3.5 Over 1,700 sites have been assessed against a list of 60 criteria, which was applied to each type of greenspace, which included:

- Land use and boundary treatments (23 criteria);
- Facilities (14 criteria);
- Recreation facilities (5 criteria);
- Biodiversity (10 criteria); and
- Landscape visual and character (8 criteria).

Each criteria scored up to a maximum of five points, (with 5 being high). The full list criteria can be found at appendix 1.

3.6 The primary function of the greenspace audit has been to collate quantitative and qualitative information on current greenspace provision. Scores for the various criteria have been collected, along with comments on specific information where appropriate, and entered into a database.

3.7 The 60 questions have been tested against all greenspace sites identified, irrespective of their typology. Clearly there are questions that are simply not relevant to certain types of greenspace and this may be seen to put these sites at a disadvantage when comparing their value scores against other greenspace types. The counter argument here is that some greenspaces are much more multi-functional and thereby appeal to a lot more users.

3.8 Nevertheless, it is also clear that as each question is scored identically (out of a maximum of 5 points) there is an underlying assumption that each question has the same level of importance. For example, the presence of litter bins or space for coach

⁴ A copy of the pro-forma is attached at Appendix 3

parking is presently given similar weighting to questions relating to whether a site provides play equipment or is a protected wildlife site.

- 3.9 Furthermore, in addition to the above, it was recognised that there were other considerations relevant to greenspace that may have not been fully represented in the 60-question assessment. Therefore, in order to better reflect the status and importance that is placed by Government and by users of greenspaces, a series of community value weightings were applied. The weightings attempted to limit the scoring disadvantage that certain types of greenspace may have suffered.
- 3.10 Weightings were applied to sites such as wildlife sites, allotments, cemeteries and churchyards, (the full list of weightings can be found at Appendix 1). Each weighting had additional points attached to it, however as more than one weighting may be identified to a particular site, only the highest value weighting was counted towards the overall value score. Further details on the weightings can be found at Appendix 1.

Greenspace assumptions⁵

3.11 Primary purpose

Every site has a “primary purpose” identified. This primary purpose is used to analyse the amount of different types of greenspace we have, and also for any analysis that examines all typologies together. However, it is recognised that most sites have multiple uses, and therefore the audit also identifies 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th purposes as and where necessary.

- 3.12 Green Infrastructure corridors, coast & estuary and outdoor play areas are not treated as a ‘primary’ land use. Green Infrastructure corridors are considered to be an amalgam of greenspace sites that collectively form a corridor (for more information, please refer to the 2018 Sunderland Green Infrastructure Strategy). Play areas are always considered to be contained within a larger land use (such as a park or sports area). Coast and estuary greenspaces primarily relate to natural greenspace sites, or they may have other primary functions such as amenity greenspace or provide civic space.

- 3.13 The audit also provides the following basic information in relation to all sites:

- Site size in hectares;
- Land ownership (in general terms);
- Specific details relating to biodiversity;
- Type of buildings on site (if any);
- Types of sports pitches (if any);
- Type of play facility (if any); and
- Details of any historic importance that the site may have.

⁵ Further details on assumptions can be found at appendix 1

3.14 Greenspace sites below 0.02ha (200 square metres) have not been included (though on occasion small sites in a group have been included as one). Sites that cross the city boundary are also included in the site audit. A few sites wholly in neighbouring authorities (but adjacent to the city boundary and accessible) have been also been included in the audit, because they are used by Sunderland residents. These sites are:

- Cornthwaite Park, Whitburn
- Boldon Golf Course, West Boldon
- Chartershaugh Allotments, General's Wood, Chester-le-Street
- Morton Wood LWS, Woodstone
- South Crescent Football Field, Woodstone
- New Lambton Recreation Ground, Woodstone
- Elmwood Street Play Area, Woodstone
- Sharpley Plantation, Seaton
- Carr House Plantation, Murton.

4. Greenspace standards

- 5.1 There is a limited range of national guidelines and standards identified for local greenspace provision and the Government generally recommends that guidelines/standards are set locally. In Sunderland there are limited local guidelines and what there is focus on the quantity of provision only. (Where guidelines are set locally these have been utilised).
- 5.2 As such, standards have been set for each type of greenspace where appropriate, which address quantity, quality, accessibility and value. These standards which are set out below are:
- locally appropriate where possible, as opposed to adopting guidelines developed elsewhere that may not be appropriate within Sunderland;
 - realistic, in terms of what can be achieved in the local area and that reflect the views of communities and strategic priorities;
 - challenging, recognising the need for improvement if more greenspaces are to be beneficial for local communities; and
 - corporately endorsed.

Amenity greenspace

- 5.3 Spaces whose primary function is the provision of amenity (e.g. visual enhancement or informal recreation) to local residents, workers or passers-by. Predominantly found in residential areas but may be located in commercial areas to serve staff/visitors. Typically mown grassed areas (big or small), perhaps with trees, or perhaps including highway verges or landscaping.

Quantity

- 5.4 Unlike most other types of greenspace, when considering quantity standards there is less need for emphasis on individual amenity greenspace sites and more needed on the range of sites that serve a neighbourhood/locality. As such, the quantity standard is based upon the amount of greenspace available to the population in terms of hectares per 1,000 population.
- 5.5 Any site deemed to have an amenity greenspace role has been included. Approximately 1,423 hectares of land is identified city wide as having an amenity greenspace function, set against the city population this results in a city average of 5.13 hectares per 1,000 population⁶. As such the quantity standard for amenity greenspace is the 5.13ha per 1,000 population average.

Quality

- 5.6 When assessing the greenspace sites in the city, consideration was given to a wide range of criteria, such as facilities, land use, boundary treatment, biodiversity and landscape character. Based on the Audit scoring, as set out in Appendix 1, these

⁶ This has been reduced slightly since 2018, primarily because of a revised view of church grounds and cemeteries and the amenity greenspace value that they provide

results provided an applicable quality assessment of all sites in Sunderland, with an average score of 81 points. As such, in terms of determining the quality of an area of amenity greenspace, a score of 81 is the baseline to achieve.

Provision for children and young people

- 5.7 Provision for children and young people is defined as fixed, formal play equipment, but also including Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Dual Use Games Areas (DUGAs).

Quantity, quality and accessibility

- 5.8 Sunderland's Play and Urban Games Strategy sets out standards for fixed-play equipment which are in line with national accessibility standards identified by the Fields in Trust. These standards are based upon different size equipped play areas being within a certain distance of a home, a Local equipped area for play (LEAP) being no more than 400m away and a Neighbourhood equipped area for play (NEAP) to be no more than 1,000m away. With regards to the quality, the vast majority of fixed play sites are owned and maintained by the Council and it ensures that the condition, ongoing maintenance and quality of equipment is reviewed on a regular basis, as well as working closely to ensure that high standards are maintained with other local providers across the city.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace

Quantity, quality and accessibility

- 5.9 All sites have been assessed and categorised in terms of being "high" or "low" quality, using Sunderland's natural greenspace definition template (see Appendix 1), as well as advice from the City Council's Countryside Team and Durham Wildlife Trust.
- 5.10 Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to quality places near to where people live. These standards recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:
- An accessible quality natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres from home;
 - At least one accessible quality 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home;
 - One accessible quality 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home;
 - One accessible quality 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home; and
 - One hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserve per thousand population.
- 5.11 With regards woodland sites the Woodland Trust set out standards for access to quality woodland sites which have been taken on board through this report, these state that:
- At least one accessible quality 2 hectare site within 500 metres of homes.
 - At least one accessible quality 20 hectare site within 4 kilometres of homes.

Parks and formal gardens

Quality

5.12 The main quality tool for parks and formal gardens is achieving Green Flag status, however the Council do strive to improve the quality of all parkland within the city.

Accessibility

5.13 Historically, a three—tier approach has been taken to determining access to parks which reflects the quality and range of functions and facilities on offer. These are to be maintained and are set out below:

- Green Flag Parks and ‘established’ Country Parks of over 50 hectares: 1 kilometre radius;
- All Local Parks over 1 hectare in size: 700 metre radius; and
- Pocket Parks under 1 hectare in size: 350 metre radius.

Allotments and Community Gardens

Quantity

5.14 National standards are broadly in place for allotment and community gardens, which are set at 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population (The Future of Allotments - 1998). However, these do not reflect different historical levels of interest in allotment gardening. As such a local quantity standard has been adopted which reflects current provision and overall levels of interest in allotment gardening. Based on current provision of allotments, city wide and population levels, the standard for allotments and community gardens is set at 0.36 ha per 1,000 population, which is well above the national standard.

Quality

5.15 With regards the quality of allotments and community gardens, advice is taken from the Council’s Environmental Services and as such this report does not set any quality standards.

Accessibility

5.16 As allotment sites vary in size, from small one plot allotments which act more as rear gardens, through to a site within North Sunderland providing over 300 plots. It is known that people are willing to travel to access larger allotments sites due to the facilities they have available, this is reflected in the locally recommended set standards (these have been subject to public consultation in 2012 and again in 2018 without any objection) set out below:-

- Over 100 plots = 1,200 metre radius
- 50-99 plots = 900 metre radius
- 25-49 plots = 600 metre radius
- 1 – 24 plots = 300 metre radius.

Outdoor sports facilities

5.17 See Sunderland City Council Playing Pitch Plan 2018⁷ and any future updates.

Cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds

5.18 The greenspace report sets out what provision the city has with regards to cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds and gives an indication of the amount of remaining burial space, but does not set any standards for this type of greenspace.

5.19 As all of the municipal cemeteries (except for Easington Lane) have good public transport access and the geographical spread of sites across the city is good, and collectively the City Council can meet its duty of demonstrating an ability to provide for disposal (by burial) for the dead (though there are no longer any new plots available in the Washington area) there is no real need to consider accessibility standards.

Civic spaces

5.20 The greenspace report sets out what provision the city has with regards civic spaces but does not set any standards for this type of greenspace.

Accessible countryside

5.21 The greenspace report sets out what provision the city has with regards to access to the countryside but does not set any standards for this type of greenspace.

School playing fields and grounds

5.22 The greenspace report sets out what provision the city has with regards to school playing fields with grounds but does not set any standards for this type of greenspace.

Table 2: Greenspace standards

Greenspace type	City-wide Quantity standard	City-wide accessibility standard	City-wide Quality standard
Amenity greenspace	5.13 hectares per 1,000 population		Baseline - 81 points
Provision for children and young people	Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) – 400m distance from home Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) – 1000m distance from home		All Council-owned sites monitored and reviewed by Council on regular basis with ongoing dialogue with private providers.

⁷ <https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/media/19334/Sunderland-Playing-Pitch-Plan/pdf/SCCPlayingPitchPlan.pdf?m=637328442913800000>

<p>Natural and semi-natural greenspace</p>	<p>An accessible quality natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres from home.</p> <p>At least one accessible quality 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home.</p> <p>One accessible quality 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home.</p> <p>One accessible quality 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home.</p> <p>One hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserve per thousand population.</p> <p>At least one accessible quality 2 hectare woodland site within 500 metres of homes.</p> <p>At least one accessible quality 20 hectare woodland site within 4 kilometres of homes.</p>		
<p>Parks and formal gardens</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Green Flag Parks and 'established' Country Parks of over 50 hectares: 1 kilometre radius.</p> <p>All Local Parks over 1 hectare in size: 700 metre radius.</p> <p>Pocket Parks under 1 hectare in size: 350 metre radius.</p>	<p>Green Flag park status and ongoing quality review by Council, plus regular liaison with private providers.</p>
<p>Allotments and Community Gardens</p>	<p>0.36 hectares per 1,000 population</p>	<p>Over 100 plots = 1,200 metre radius 50-99 plots = 900 metre radius 25-49 plots = 600 metre radius 1 – 24 plots = 300 metre radius.</p>	<p>Ongoing quality review of Council sites by Environmental Services and regular liaison with private providers.</p>

5. Greenspace provision

City-wide greenspace

- 5.1 A total of 1,749 greenspace sites have been identified within Sunderland, with a further 9 sites identified adjacent to the city boundary. These sites total 3,878.46 hectares, or 27.7% of the city area. Combined with the open countryside in Sunderland there are nearly 8,000 hectares (55%) of ‘undeveloped’ green land in the city.
- 5.2 Provision varies across the 5 areas (see Table 3 below). Washington and the Coalfield have roughly twice the amount of greenspace that exists in North, West or East ARF’s. However, both Washington and the Coalfield ARF’s include Green Belt and other open countryside designations and the quantity is bolstered by major single sites, such as golf courses, country parks, woodland and other natural greenspaces.

Table 3: Total greenspace provision by Area Regeneration Framework (ARF)

ARF	Sites total	%	Hectares	%
Sunderland North	274	15.67	537.80	13.87
Sunderland West	291	16.64	519.45	13.39
Sunderland East	300	17.15	567.83	14.64
Washington	456	26.07	1,034.18	26.66
Coalfield	428	24.47	1,219.20	31.44
Total	1,749	100.00	3,878.46	100.00

5.3 Greenspaces often have multiple functions and it is very difficult to accurately split the land-take by the different types of greenspace identified. As an example, Mowbray Park is primarily classed as formal parkland, but also provides an element of amenity greenspace, natural greenspace, outdoor play, outdoor sport and civic space. As a general guide, the split by greenspace type can be broadly shown by identifying the primary use. This is shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Greenspace provision by primary use

Primary Use	Number of Sites	Hectares	% of overall greenspace
Allotments and community gardens	99	99.54	2.56
Amenity greenspace	1,137	753.74	19.43
Cemeteries and church grounds	43	108.83	2.81
Civic spaces	30	14.79	0.38
Natural and semi natural greenspace	220	1,536.43	39.61
Outdoor sports facilities	61	500.96	12.92
Parks and formal gardens	45 ⁸	605.23	15.61
School playing fields and grounds	115	259.19	6.68
Total	1,749	3,878.46	100

5.4 Around 65% of all greenspace sites in the city are primarily classed as “amenity greenspace”. These sites tend to be small and they account for fewer than 20% of all greenspace area. In contrast, natural and semi-natural greenspaces account for 12.5% of all sites, but represent over 39% of the greenspace land-take. Formal parks, country parks and outdoor sports facilities also tend to be large sites.

Amenity greenspace

Amenity Greenspace	Spaces whose primary function is the provision of amenity (e.g. visual enhancement or informal recreation) to local residents, workers or passers-by. Predominantly found in residential areas but may be located in commercial areas to serve staff/visitors. Typically
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⁸ there are 42 parks identified, some are split across different Wards

	mown grassed areas (big or small), perhaps with trees, or perhaps including highway verges or landscaping.
--	--

- 5.5 Amenity greenspace is a generic description for greenspace and planting which softens the urban fabric, allows for informal leisure and provides a setting for buildings. It is greenspace whose primary purpose is to improve and enhance the appearance of the local environment.
- 5.6 There are 1,137 sites identified that have amenity greenspace as their primary purpose, totalling 754 hectares, or 19 % of total greenspace. A further 147 sites have been identified as having a non-primary amenity greenspace function- providing 1,423 hectares in total, over nearly 1,300 sites.
- 5.7 The quantity of amenity greenspace varies between the 5 areas of the city as set out below.

Table 5: Quantity of amenity greenspace per 1,000 population by area

Area	Hectares per 1000 population
City Average	5.13
Sunderland North ARF	4.41
Sunderland West ARF	4.31
Sunderland East ARF	3.19
Washington ARF	6.80
Coalfield ARF	7.38

- 5.8 When set against the city-wide quantity standard of 5.13 ha per 1,000 population as set out in section 4, what can be clearly seen is that Washington and Coalfield have higher than average levels of amenity greenspace, while Sunderland North, West and East have below average levels. These deficiencies are better viewed at the Ward level.

Table 6: Amenity greenspace quantity by Ward

Ward	Total area (hectares)	Population	Amenity greenspace/ 1000 population
Barnes	43.55	10,645	4.09
Castle	58.43	10,834	5.39
Copt Hill	42.73	11,714	3.65
Doxford	56.09	9,607	5.84
Fulwell	31.72	10,907	2.91
Hendon	30.31	12,958	2.34
Hetton	92.92	11,886	7.82
Houghton	60.88	11,643	5.23
Millfield	24.70	12,680	1.95
Pallion	32.98	10,822	3.05
Redhill	57.39	11,208	5.12

Ryhope	48.43	11,165	4.34
Sandhill	50.40	10,808	4.66
Shiney Row	161.25	13,212	12.20
Silksworth	78.64	10,400	7.56
Southwick	76.74	10,750	7.14
St Anne's	30.42	11,058	2.75
St Chad's	35.78	9,282	3.85
St Michael's	22.62	10,707	2.11
St Peter's	17.03	10,976	1.55
Washington Central	60.93	10,771	5.66
Washington East	106.84	11,314	9.44
Washington North	85.24	10,918	7.81
Washington South	68.47	9,997	6.85
Washington West	48.89	11,443	4.27
Total	1,423.39	277,705	5.13

- 5.9 At a Ward level, the lowest amounts of amenity greenspace are predictably in the more densely populated parts of the city, which can be clearly seen at Figure 1 map below, particularly around the city centre, though there is also low provision in some outer areas too. Compared to the quantitative city average of 5.13 hectares per 1,000 population, Wards have been graded 'very high' to 'very low'⁹. The 'very high' and 'very low' grades indicate more than 50% higher or lower than the city average. The 'low' and 'high' grades indicate 25-50% higher or lower than the city average.
- 5.10 The quantity of greenspaces is difficult to overcome when the lowest amounts are normally within the more densely populated areas of the city where land is scarce. As such, those areas with low and very low quantities of greenspace should be protected where possible and consideration given to improvements to the quality of existing greenspaces and access to them.

⁹ Very low = <2.56 ha/1,000 population; Low = 2.56-3.84; Below average 3.85-5.12; Above average 5.13-6.40; High = 6.41-7.70; Very High = >7.71 ha/1,000 population.

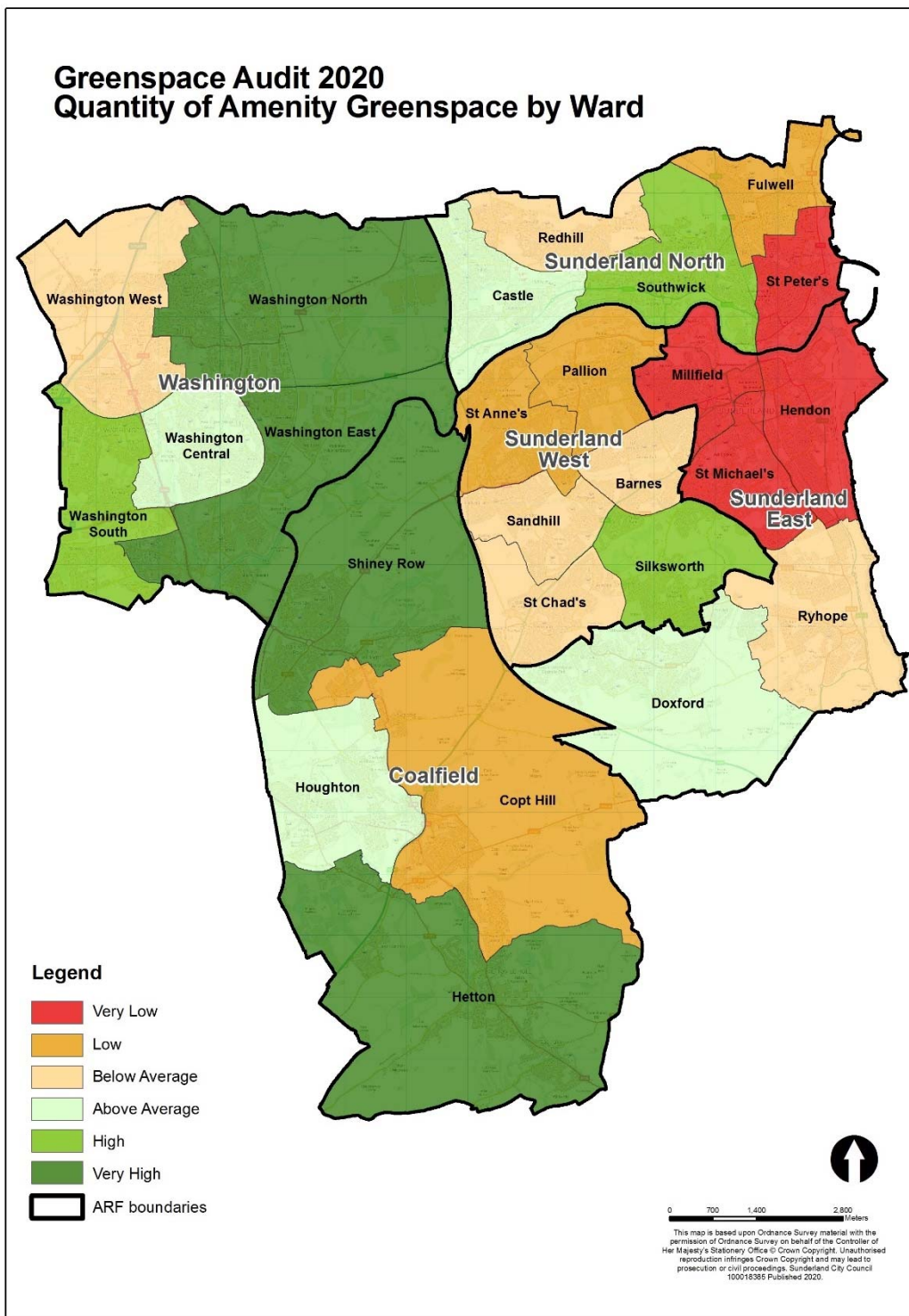


Figure 1: Quantity of Amenity Greenspace by Ward

5.11 Within Wards there can be localised areas of deficiency, and therefore the Ward data should not be used as the only indicator to provision, but also be considered alongside identified locality deficiencies as indicated in the table below.

Table 7: Areas of deficiencies in relation to quantity

Very Low Quantity of Amenity Greenspace		
Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Castle	Town End Farm	Retain where possible and concentrate on making improvements to the quality of existing greenspaces and access to them.
Redhill	Marley Potts	
St Peter's	Roker	
Pallion	St Gabriel's	
Silksworth	Elstob	
Pallion	Ford & Pallion	Utilise other Council-led initiatives, programmes and regeneration aims to prioritise improvements to existing greenspaces.
Barnes	Humbledon & Plains Farm	
Millfield	Thornhill	
St Michael's	Queen Alexandra Road	
St Michael's	Hillview	
Ryhope	Grangetown	
Hendon	Hendon	
Millfield	Millfield	
Houghton	Fencehouses	
Houghton	Chilton Moor & Dubmire	
Houghton	Success	
Low Quantity of Amenity Greenspace		
Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Southwick	Southwick	Retain where possible and concentrate on making improvements to the quality of existing greenspaces and access to them.
St Peter's	St Peter's and North Haven	
Barnes	Barnes	
Barnes	High Barnes	
St Anne's	Pennywell	
Sandhill	Thorney Close	Utilise other Council-led initiatives, programmes and regeneration aims to prioritise improvements to existing greenspaces.
St Chad's	Middle & East Herrington	
St Anne's	Nookside	
St Michael's	Ashbrooke	
Washington East	Barmston & Columbia	
Washington North	Usworth	
Houghton	Burnside & Sunnyside	
Shiney Row	Old Penshaw & Cox Green	

Quality of greenspaces

5.12 With regards to the quality of the city’s greenspaces, when set against the average quality standard score of 81 at an area level, the quality of greenspaces in all areas generally reflects that of the city average.

Table 8: Quality of amenity greenspace by area

Area	Average quality score
City Average	81
Sunderland North ARF	82
Sunderland West ARF	80
Sunderland East ARF	85
Washington ARF	80
Coalfield ARF	79

5.13 When considering this on a ward basis and setting it against the actual number of sites within each ward that fall 20% below the quality standard, it is clear from the map (Figure 2) and the table below that the majority of wards throughout the city have some form of greenspaces which are of poor quality.

Table 9: Amenity greenspace quality by Ward

Ward	Average quality score	Number of sites <20% below city average
Barnes	92	1
Castle	78	4
Copt Hill	79	4
Doxford	79	1
Fulwell	88	0
Hendon	92	2
Hetton	80	14
Houghton	77	10
Millfield	85	4
Pallion	80	4
Redhill	80	4
Ryhope	84	4
Sandhill	77	1
Shiney Row	80	5
Silksworth	91	2
Southwick	84	6
St Anne’s	78	4
St Chad’s	75	10
St Michael’s	92	0
St Peter’s	89	0
Washington Central	82	3
Washington East	79	6

Washington North	81	2
Washington South	80	1
Washington West	79	3

Greenspace Audit 2020 Quality of Amenity Greenspace by Ward

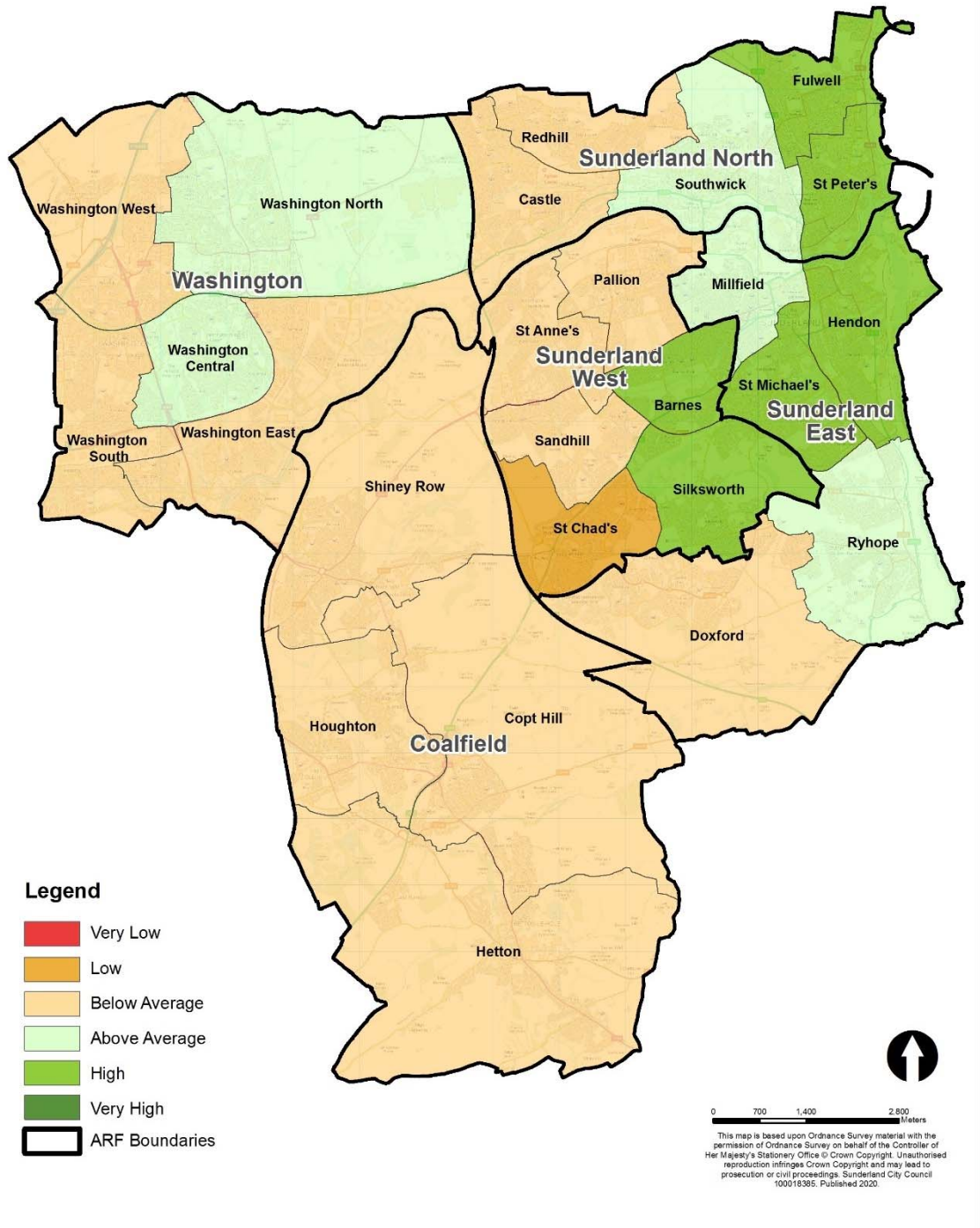


Figure 2: Quantity of Amenity Greenspace by Ward

Table 10: Areas of deficiencies in relation to quality

Very Low Quality of Amenity Greenspace		
Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Redhill	Marley Potts	Make improvements to the quality of greenspaces within the locality and improve access to them.
Pallion	Ford & Pallion	
Doxford	Hall Farm & Chapelgarth	
Washington East	Barmston & Columbia	Utilise other Council-led initiatives, programmes and regeneration aims to prioritise improvements to existing greenspaces
Houghton	Burnside & Sunnyside	
Houghton	Fencehouses	
Low Quality of Amenity Greenspace		
Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Castle	Town End Farm	Make improvements to the quality of greenspaces within the locality and improve access to them.
Southwick	Southwick	
St Chad's	Farringdon	
St Annes's	Pennywell	Utilise other Council-led initiatives, programmes and regeneration aims to prioritise improvements to existing greenspaces
Sandhill	Thorney Close	
Houghton	Chilton Moor & Dubmire	
Hetton	Moorsley & Easington Lane	
Shiney Row	Penshaw & Shiney Row	

Provision for children and young people

Provision for Children and Young People	Fixed, formal play equipment, but also including Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Dual Use Games Areas (DUGAs).
--	--

- 5.14 There are 76 outdoor fixed play facilities across the city as can be seen on the map, Figure 3. Two further facilities lie adjacent to the boundary, at Cornthwaite Park, Whitburn and in Woodstone Village, Durham. Where feasible, equipment has been re-used and the range and quality of existing sites has been improved, enabling catchment areas to be updated.
- 5.15 Taking into account the standards at section 4 for access to a LEAP or a NEAP (400m from home for a LEAP and 1,000m for a NEAP), access to play facilities has increased over recent years, with 92% of residents now having access to high quality play, (a

LEAP or a NEAP). The table below sets out what percentage of residents within each ward have access to high quality play sites.

Table 11: Play area provision by Area and Ward

Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %	Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %
Total	277,705	92			
Sunderland North	54,675	90	Sunderland West	63,015	95
Sunderland East	57,117	90	Washington	54,443	93
Coalfield	48,455	93			
Ward	Pop'n	Access %	Ward	Pop'n	Access %
Barnes	10,645	97	Castle	10,834	95
Copt Hill	11,714	83	Doxford	9,607	79
Fulwell	10,907	84	Hendon	12,958	100
Hetton	11,886	93	Houghton	11,643	99
Millfield	12,680	100	Pallion	10,822	100
Redhill	11,208	100	Ryhope	11,165	95
Sandhill	10,808	82	Shiney Row	13,212	96
Silksworth	10,400	94	Southwick	10,750	96
St Anne's	11,058	99	St Chad's	9,282	100
St Michael's	10,707	71	St Peter's	10,976	76
Washington Central	10,771	96	Washington East	11,314	86
Washington North	10,918	93	Washington South	9,997	100
Washington West	11,443	93			

Greenspace audit 2020 Fixed play areas

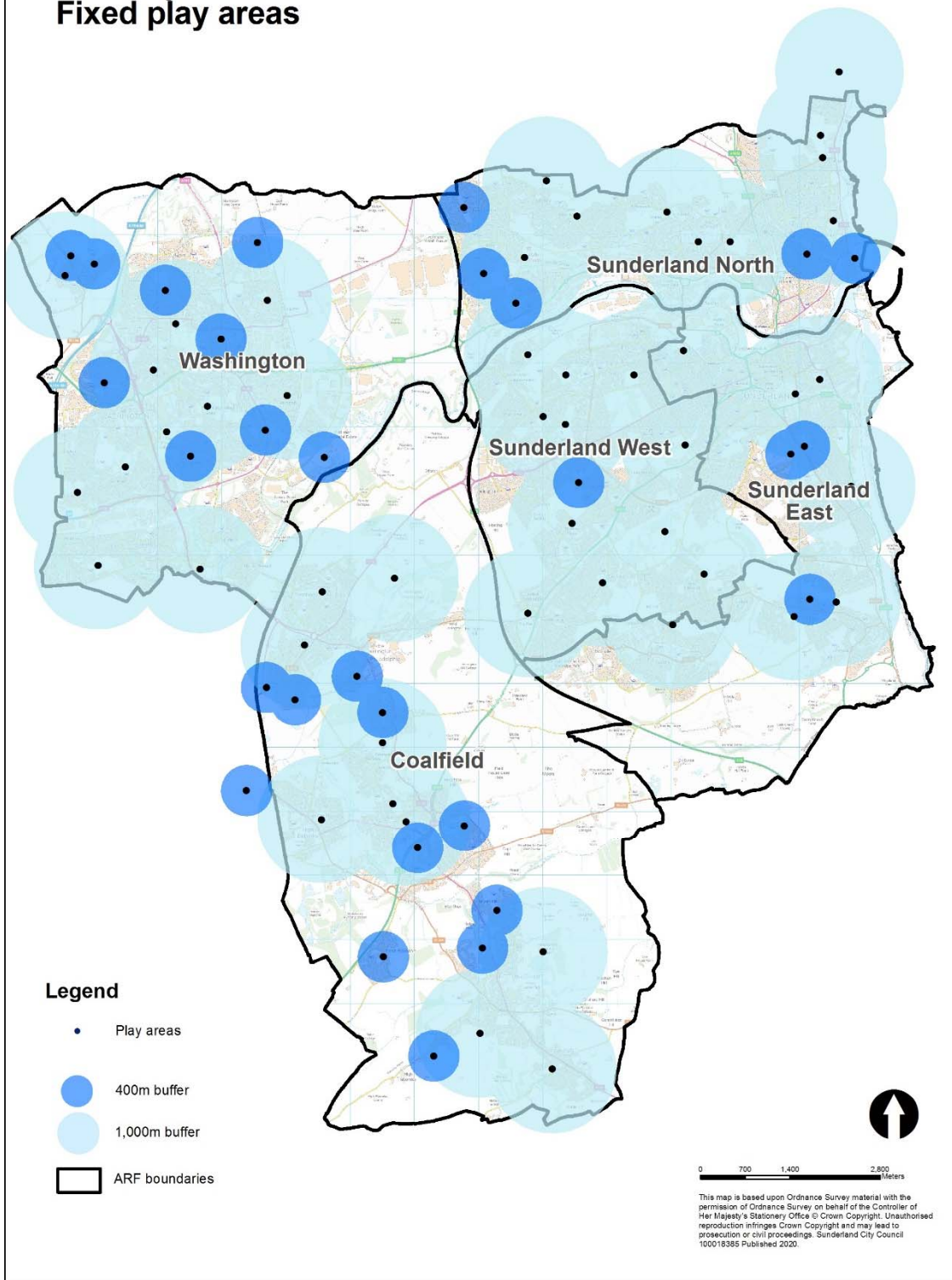


Figure 3: Fixed play areas

Areas of deficiency

5.16 The main deficiencies with fixed play areas is the lack of access to them in certain areas of the city rather than the quality of provision. The table below sets out those wards and localities which have gaps in access to play equipment and suggest how this may be overcome.

Table 12: Areas of deficiency in relation to fixed play

Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
St Peter's	Monkwearmouth	Provision of play equipment in close proximity to Dame Dorothy Primary School.
Fulwell	Fulwell and Seaburn Dene	Provision of play equipment in close proximity to Fulwell Infants School.
Sandhill	Hastings Hill	Provision of play equipment in close proximity to the Pennywell redevelopment on Presthope Road/ Portslade Road
St Annes	West Pennywell	Provision of play equipment in close proximity to the Pennywell redevelopment on Presthope Road/ Portslade Road.
Doxford	Moorside, Chapelgarth and Hall Farm	Play is to be provided within each of the four SSGA development sites. The provision of play equipment within the Chapelgarth site will serve a wider catchment area and as such may alleviate this shortfall.
St Michael's	Queen Alexandra Road and Hillview	Provision of play equipment in close proximity to Hill View playing fields.
Washington North	Usworth	Upgrade of facilities at North Avenue, Usworth to NEAP to serve a wider catchment area or provision of play equipment in close proximity to Stone Cellar Road.
Washington East	Fatfield	Provision of play equipment at Fatfield Bowl.
Copt Hill	Broomhill	Upgrading of facilities at King George play area, Hetton Downs to serve a wider catchment area.

- 5.17 In addition to the above, particularly in view of topography and distance from neighbouring facilities, consideration should be given to some form of new fixed play at the former Groves site and within Riverside Sunderland.
- 5.18 For those areas which have access to provision of fixed formal play equipment the priority should be to ensure the quality is maintained.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace

Natural and semi-natural greenspace	Natural habitats including woodland, grassland, wetland, heathland, geological, coast and estuarine areas.
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- 5.19 Natural and semi-natural greenspace make up 39.61% of the city's overall greenspace, the largest proportion of greenspace within the city covering 1,536 hectares of land. Over 200 natural and semi-natural greenspaces were assessed to determine any shortfalls in provision, this is set out below:

ANGST standard No.1: an accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres from home

- 5.20 Approximately 137,000 residents live within this threshold, which equates to approximately 49% of the city's population.

Table 13: ANGST standard no. 1 by Area and Ward

Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %	Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %
Total	277,705	49			
Sunderland North	54,675	49	Sunderland West	63,015	54
Sunderland East	57,117	40	Washington	54,443	43
Coalfield	48,455	61			
Ward	Pop'n	Access %	Ward	Pop'n	Access %
Barnes	10,645	66	Castle	10,834	70
Copt Hill	11,714	55	Doxford	9,607	59
Fulwell	10,907	49	Hendon	12,958	42
Hetton	11,886	77	Houghton	11,643	47
Millfield	12,680	4	Pallion	10,822	42
Redhill	11,208	50	Ryhope	11,165	54
Sandhill	10,808	44	Shiney Row	13,212	68
Silksworth	10,400	59	Southwick	10,750	43
St Anne's	11,058	61	St Chad's	9,282	53
St Michael's	10,707	42	St Peter's	10,976	36
Washington Central	10,771	85	Washington East	11,314	77

Washington North	10,918	5	Washington South	9,997	42
Washington West	11,443	6			

- 5.21 Approximately half of the city’s population do not have access to an area of semi-natural and natural greenspace, of at least 2ha within 300m from their home. However, this is a very ambitious target and having 49% of the population who do have access within Sunderland is higher than the national average as indicated by Natural England.
- 5.22 Notwithstanding this, the above table shows three wards within the city where the access is extremely poor, with percentages of the ward population who have access within 300m of home as low as 4%.
- 5.23 In terms of Wards and localities, the map at Figure 4 and the following table sets out those areas that are classed as having limited or no access in relation to ANGST standard no. 1 and puts forward possible solutions to improve this.

Table 14: Areas of deficiency in relation to ANGST standard no. 1

Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Castle	Town End Farm	Upgrade woodland shelter belts to west of Town End Farm
Redhill	Redhouse	Upgrade land to the west of Downhill Sports Hub
Southwick	Southwick	Upgrades to greenspaces to the north of Marley Potts or to Thompson Park
Fulwell	Fulwell (west)	Upgrades to Thompson Park
St Peter’s	Roker (west)	Upgrades to Thompson Park
St Anne’s	Pennywell (east) Nookside	Upgrade greenspace at The Blackie, Fordfield Road and King George V Park
Pallion	Ford and Pallion	Upgrade greenspace at The Blackie, Fordfield Road and potential new area of greenspace at former Groves site
Sandhill	Hastings Hill	Upgrades to nearby Green Belt land
St Chad’s	Farringdon	Upgrades to greenspaces within the locality
Silksworth	Silksworth (south)	Upgrade greenspace to the south of Penbrooke Avenue
Millfield	Thornhill and Millfield	Upgrade Riverside Park/Sunderland Riverside

Hendon	Hendon	Upgrade Town Moor
St Michael's	Grangetown and Hillview	Upgrade Grangetown Cemetery
Ryhope	Hollycarrside and Ryhope	SAANG creation as part of SSGA
Doxford	Doxford (east)	SAANG creation as part of SSGA
Washington West	Springwell Village Donwell Albany and Blackfell	Upgrade woodland shelter belts at Donwell, Blackfell and Albany
Washington North	Usworth Concord Sulgrave and Hertburn	Upgrade woodland shelter belts west of Sulgrave. Enhance Albany Park and Usworth Park.
Washington East	Barmston	Upgrade woodland shelter belts west of Barmston
Washington Central	Columbia	Upgrade woodland shelter belts beside Columbia and Swan
Washington South	Oxclose and Ayton	Enhance Holley Park and Ayton Park. Upgrade woodland shelter belt east of Oxclose.
Shiney Row	Penshaw and Shiney Row	Enhance greenspace at Barnwell Fields.
Copt Hill	Newbottle and Racecourse Estate	Upgrade greenspaces to the west of Newbottle School, Houghton Colliery and Kirklea Park
Houghton	Burnside Sunnyside Dubmire and Colliery Row	Upgrade greenspaces at Flint Mill and Keir Hardie site at Dubmire.

Greenspace audit 2020
Natural and semi-natural greenspace
High quality site over 2ha with 300m buffer

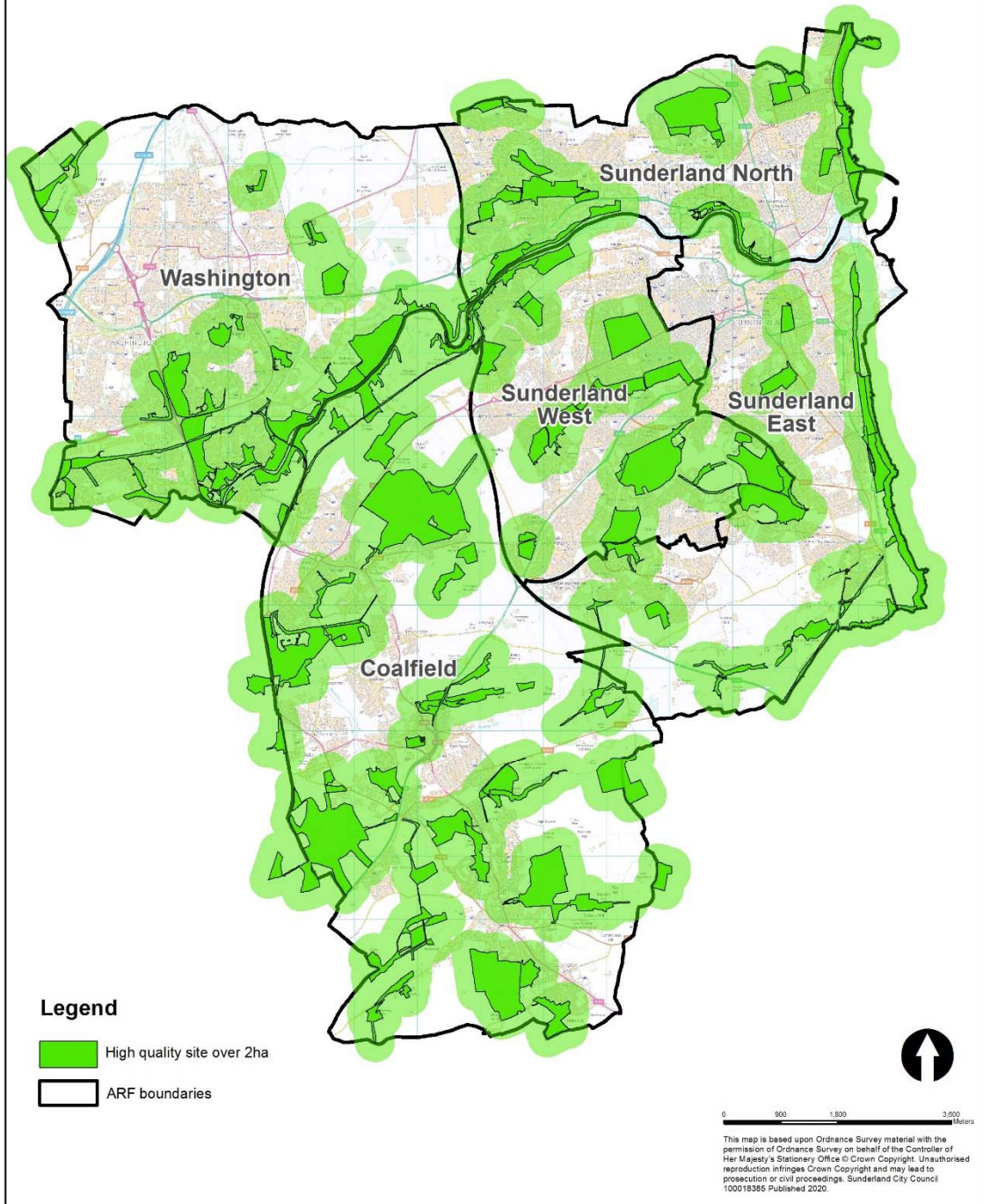


Figure 4: Natural and semi-natural greenspace – High quality site (over 2ha) with 300m buffer

ANGST standard No.2: at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home

5.24 There are numerous high quality natural greenspaces of at least 20 hectares within the city and 96% of the city’s population live within this threshold. Limited access is restricted to north Washington only, which can be clearly seen on the map at Figure 5.

Table 15: Area of deficiencies in relation to ANGST standard no. 2

Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Washington West	Springwell Village Donwell	The options are limited for sites so large, however potential to develop a quality natural greenspace that connects IAMP, the safeguarded land, River Don, Washington Hub and South Tyneside Green Belt.
Washington North	Usworth Usworth Hall Sulgrave	

Greenspace audit 2020
Natural and semi-natural greenspace
High quality site (over 20 Ha) with 2km buffer

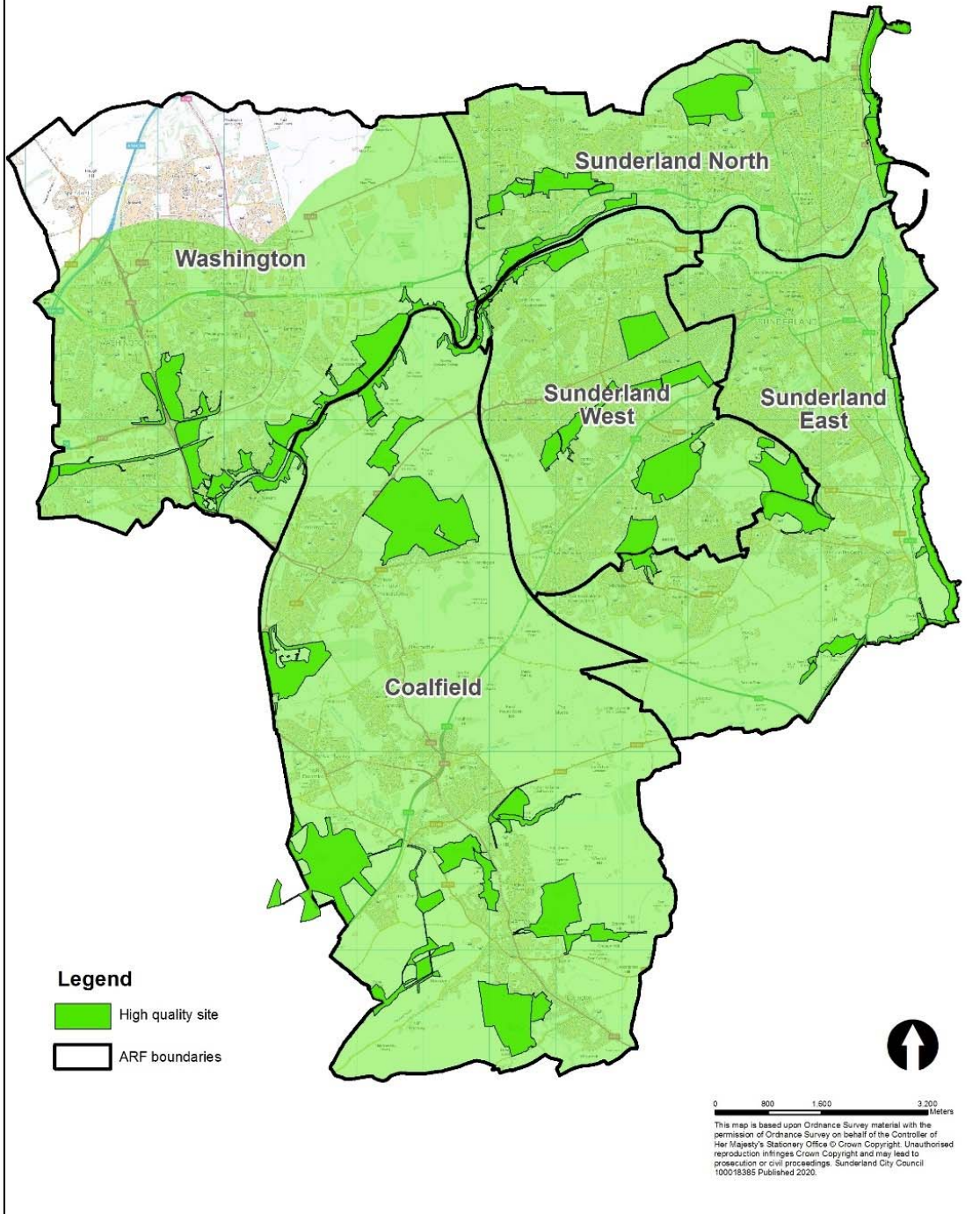


Figure 5: Natural and semi-natural greenspace - High quality site (over 20ha) with 2km buffer

ANGST standard No.3: one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home

5.25 There are four cumulative greenspaces of at least 100 hectares in size. The four are:

- **Sunderland Coast** - Most of Sunderland's coast forms part of the Durham Heritage Coast as well as part of the European-protected Northumbrian Coast SPA and Durham Coast SAC. This site is considered collectively to be over 500 hectares in size;
- **Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve;**
- **Herrington Country Park;** and
- **The River Wear Valley,** which consists of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland, Washington Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre, James Steel Park and Princess Anne Park.

5.26 Together, they ensure that 100% of the city satisfies this ANGST standard, this is clear from the map at Figure 6.

Greenspace audit 2020
Natural and semi-natural greenspace
High quality site (over 100 Ha) with 5km buffer

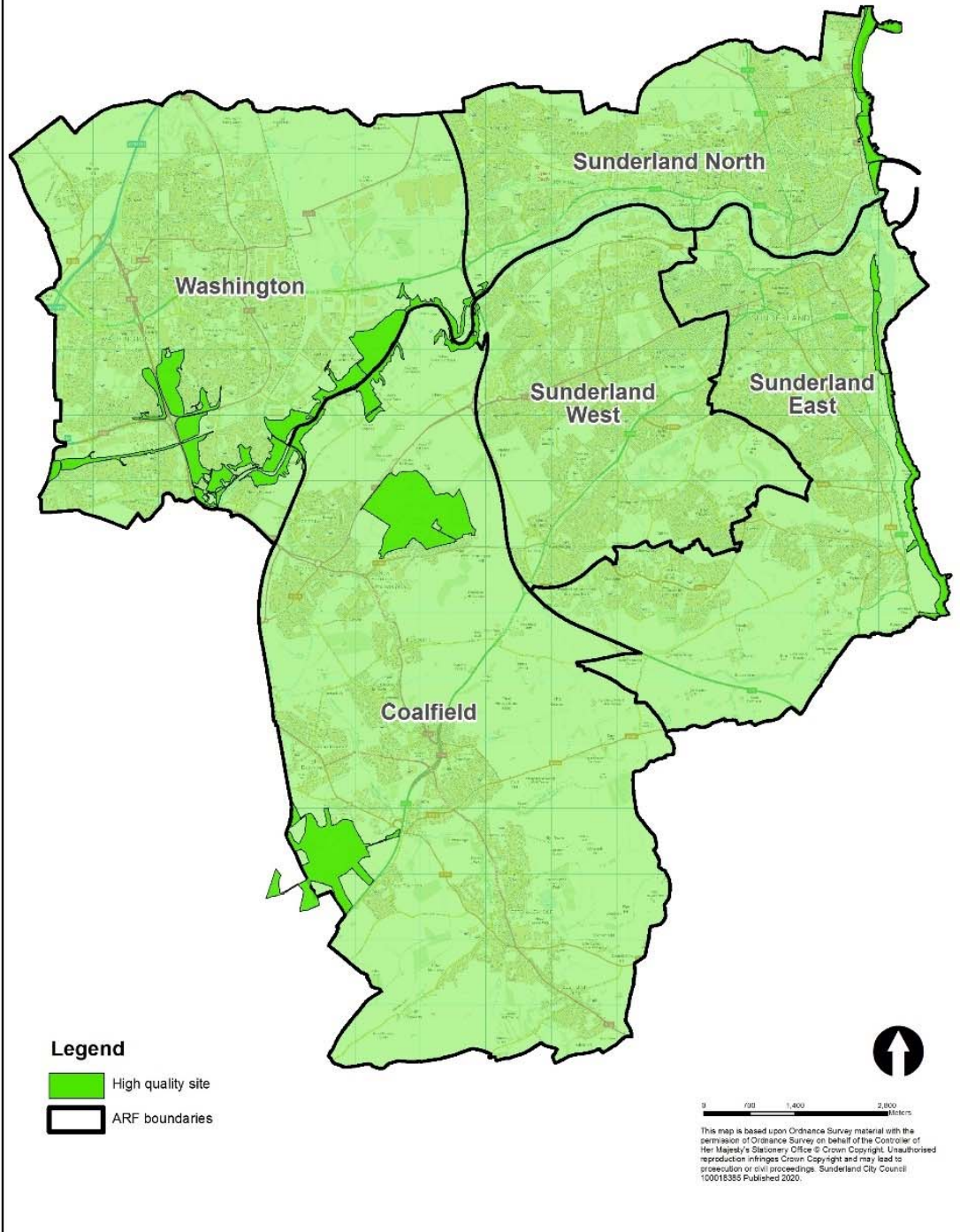


Figure 6: Natural and semi-natural greenspace - High quality site (over 100ha) with 5km buffer

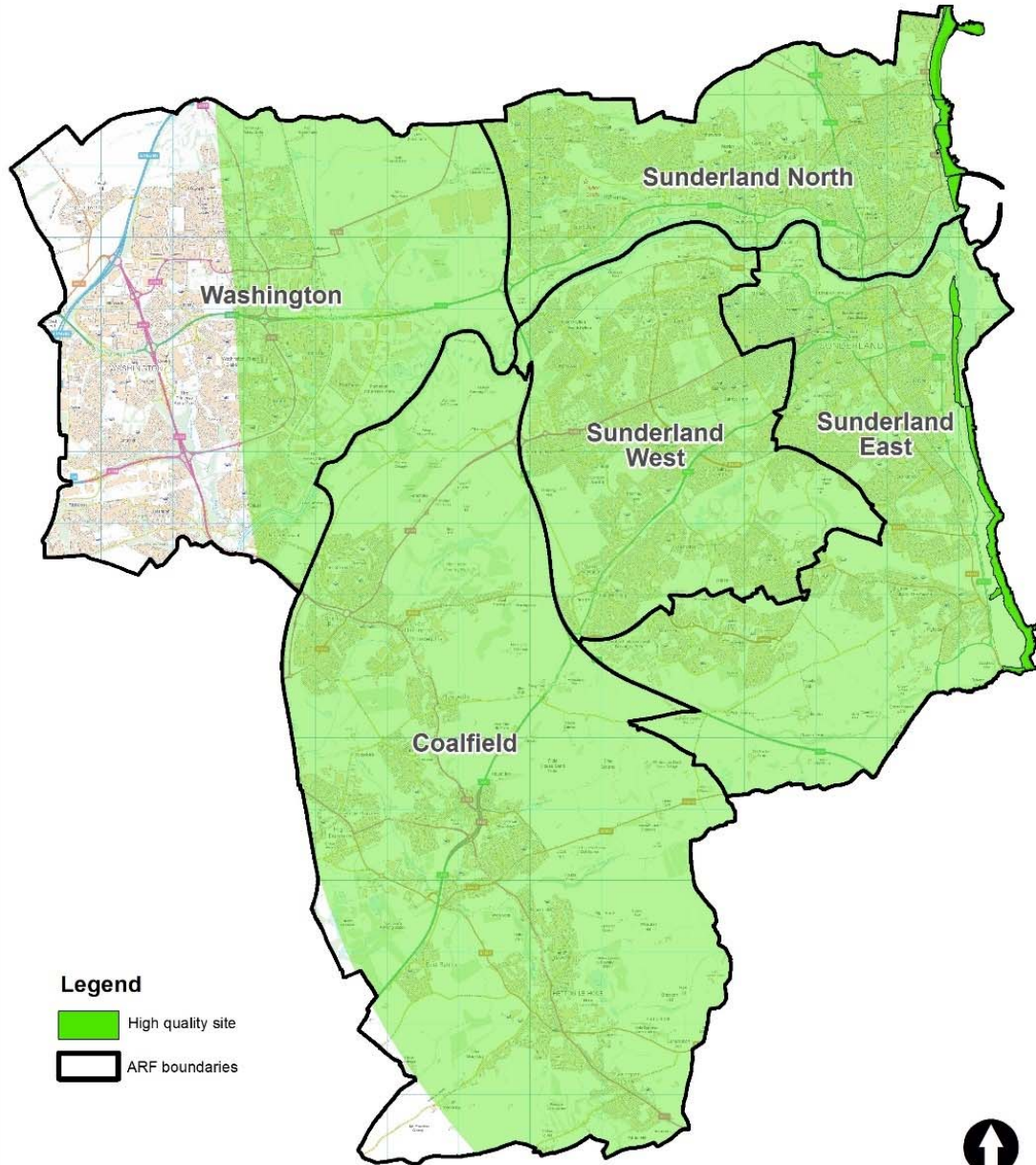
ANGST standard No.4: one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home

5.27 The Durham Heritage Coast collectively provides a 500+ hectare site, which covers most of the city, except for the west of Washington (see map at Figure 7). The nearest site to the west of Sunderland is the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Table 16: Areas of deficiencies in ANGST standard no. 4

Area of the city	Suggested solution
<p>West Washington</p>	<p>Develop high quality strategic green infrastructure corridors that link up to the north with South Tyneside, to the south with Houghton and with Chester-le-Street and Durham City to the west.</p> <p>Utilise biodiversity net gains to create additional areas of greenspace</p> <p>Utilise wildlife networks to create corridors of greenspace</p>

Greenspace audit 2020
Natural and semi-natural greenspace
High quality site (over 500 Ha) with 10km buffer



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Figure 7: Natural and semi-natural greenspace - High quality site (over 500ha) with 10km buffer

Woodland

5.28 In terms of woodland, the Greenspace audit identified a total of 1,380 sites in Sunderland that contain trees, ranging from greenspaces with a few saplings, to ancient semi-natural woodland.

5.29 The standards set out within section 4 are applied below.

Woodland indicator 1: At least one accessible 20 hectare site within 4 kilometres of homes

5.30 Five sites have been identified within the city that contain more than 20 hectares of woodland. They are as follows:

- Herrington Country Park (approximately 39 hectares of woodland);
- Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve (approximately 32 hectares);
- Silksworth Sports Complex (approximately 25 hectares);
- James Steel Park - Pattinson South Pond, Mount Pleasant (approximately 24 hectares);
- Princess Anne Park - north end (approximately hectares); and
- With further maturity, Elba Park will provide an additional woodland site (approximately 38 hectares).

5.31 Using the 4 kilometre threshold, these sites serve 88% of the city population. In order to achieve full coverage the gap to the northern part of Sunderland North requires increased tree coverage (the map at Figure 8 indicates this gap) .

Table 17: Areas of deficiency in woodland indicator 1

Area of city	Suggested solution
Northern part of Sunderland North	Possible creation of 20ha + woodland site in north Sunderland. Increase tree coverage to:- Fulwell Quarries Downhill sports complex and land to the west (Downhill Park) Hylton Dene

Greenspace audit 2018 Woodland (20ha+ sites with buffers)

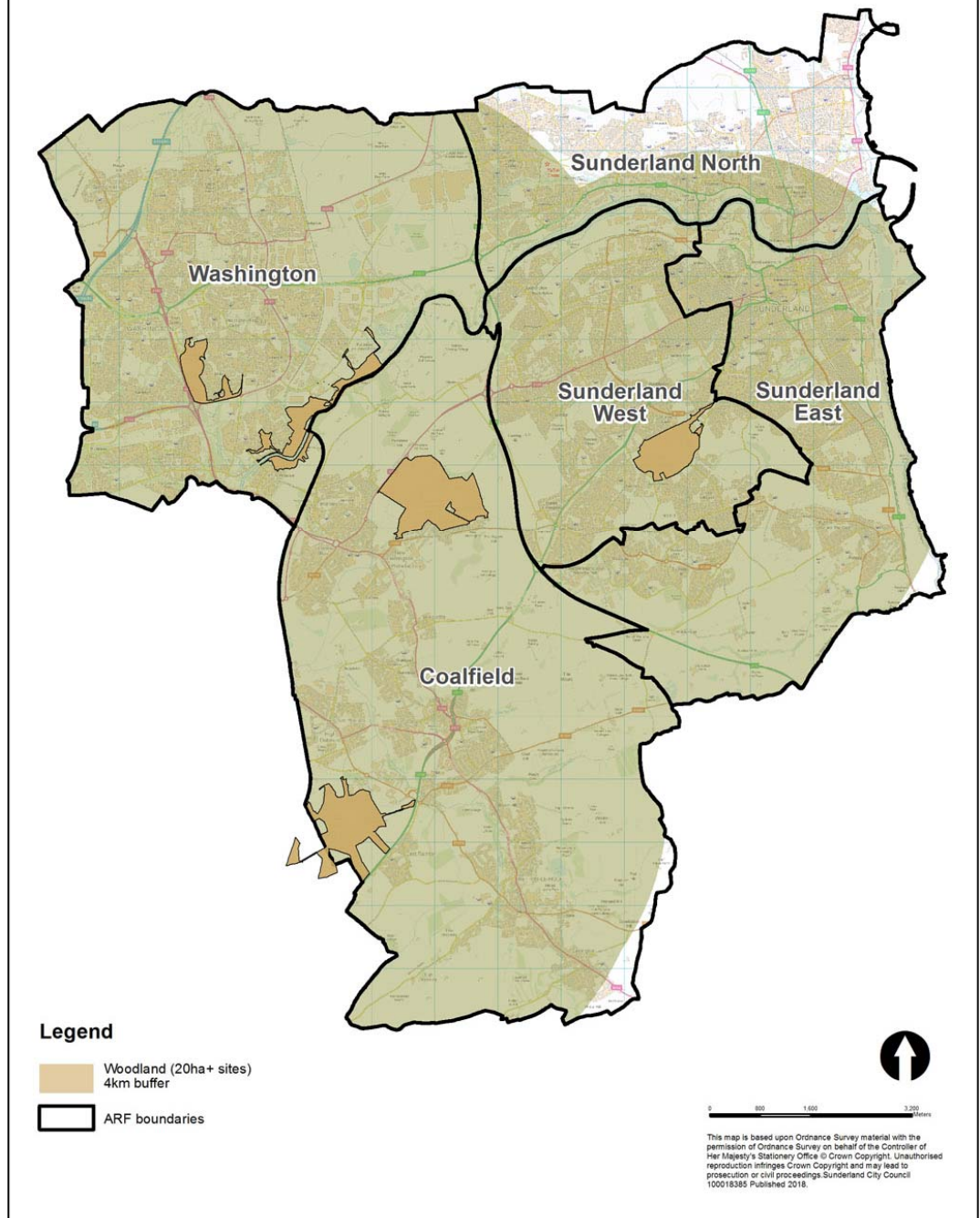


Figure 8: Woodland (20ha+ sites with buffers)

Woodland indicator 2: At least one accessible 2 hectare site within 500 metres of homes

5.32 There are 85 accessible woodland sites within the city or adjacent to the city boundary which provide access for 65% of the city population (see Table 18 below). There are a further 36 existing sites (168 hectares) that have limited or no access, but with improvement and agreement of landowners, could provide woodland access to residents.

Table 18: Woodland Trust standard no. 2 by Area and Ward

Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %	Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %
Total	277,705	65			
Sunderland North	54,675	67	Sunderland West	63,015	60
Sunderland East	57,117	52	Washington	54,443	75
Coalfield	48,455	73			
Ward	Pop'n	Access %	Ward	Pop'n	Access %
Barnes	10,645	86	Castle	10,834	83
Copt Hill	11,714	67	Doxford	9,607	85
Fulwell	10,907	74	Hendon	12,958	52
Hetton	11,886	95	Houghton	11,643	77
Millfield	12,680	12	Pallion	10,822	64
Redhill	11,208	83	Ryhope	11,165	32
Sandhill	10,808	11	Shiney Row	13,212	52
Silksworth	10,400	77	Southwick	10,750	48
St Anne's	11,058	61	St Chad's	9,282	65
St Michael's	10,707	84	St Peter's	10,976	52
Washington Central	10,771	98	Washington East	11,314	76
Washington North	10,918	87	Washington South	9,997	81
Washington West	11,443	34			

5.33 In terms of Wards and localities, the table below sets out those areas which are currently outside of the 2 hectare threshold (this can also be seen on the map at Figure 9) and puts forward possible solutions to meet these deficiencies:

Table 19: Area of deficiency in Woodland Indicator 2

Ward	Locality	Suggested solution
Castle	Town End Farm (south)	Upgrade shelter belt to west of Town End Farm
Redhill	Redhouse (east)	Improve woodland cover at Southwick Cemetery and greenspaces adjacent to the site.
Southwick	Southwick and Monkwearmouth	Improve woodland cover in Thompson Park and also at Thirlwell Bank, Queens Road/Stadium Riverside/Sheepfolds.
Fulwell	Fulwell (west)	Increase woodland cover at Thompson Park
St Peter's	Roker (west)	Increase woodland cover at Sheepfolds/Stadium Riverside
St Anne's	Pennywell (east), Nookside	Consider woodland improvements at Fordfield Road (The Blackie) and at King George V Park.
Pallion	Pallion	Consider woodland improvements at Ford Sports Hub/Claxheugh
Sandhill	Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close, Springwell	Improve woodland cover along Barnes Park Extensions
St Chad's	Middle Herrington	Consider woodland improvements at Middle Herrington Park/West Park
Silksworth	Silksworth (south)	Consider increased woodland at St Matthew's Field/Churchyard

Millfield	Thornhill and Millfield	Woodland improvements at Riverside Park
Hendon	Hendon and East End	Woodland improvement at Town Moor and locality
St Michael's	Grangetown	Consider woodland improvements at Grangetown Cemetery
Ryhope	Hollycarrside and Ryhope	Consider potential to extend woodland east from former Golf Course site to Ryhope Recreation site.
Doxford	Doxford (east)	The SANGs within SSGA
Washington West	Springwell Village, Donwell and Blackfell	Upgrade shelter belts at Donwell and Blackfell
Washington North	Usworth	Upgrade shelter belts at Donwell
Washington East	Barmston	Upgrade shelter belts to west of Barmston
Washington South	Ayton	Upgrade shelter belt to west of Ayton and also increase scale and quality of woodland in Ayton Park.
Shiney Row	Shiney Row	Consider woodland planting in Herrington Burn corridor and investigate potential for improved access to Lambton Estate woodland.
Copt Hill	Newbottle and Racecourse Estate	Upgrade woodland in Houghton Hillside Cemetery
Houghton	Dubmire	Consider increased woodland at Flint Mill, between Dubmire and Burnside.

Greenspace audit 2020 Woodland (2ha+ sites with buffers)

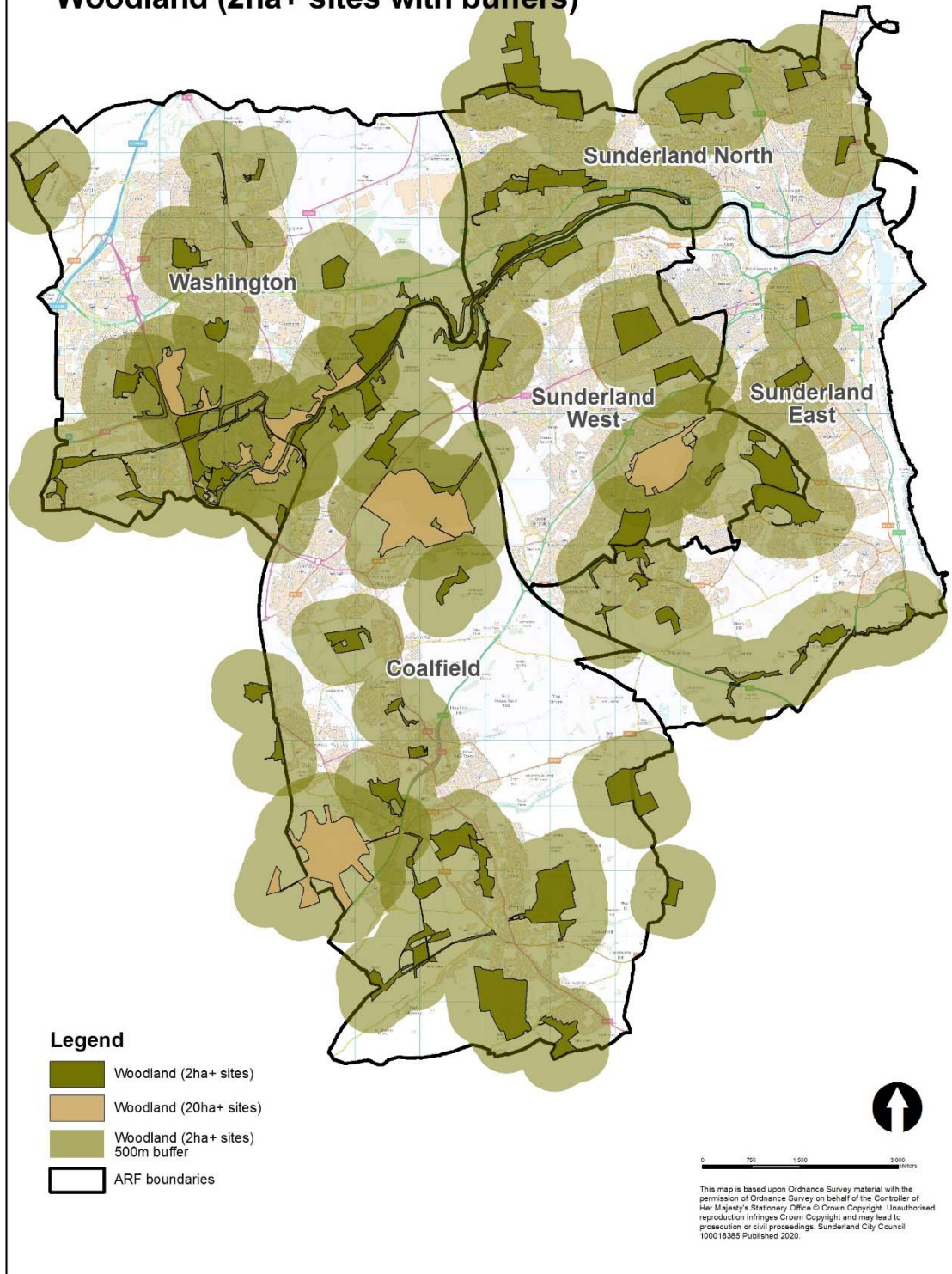


Figure 9: Woodland (2ha+ sites with buffers)

Parks and Formal Gardens

Parks and Formal Gardens	District, local, city parks and country parks.
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5.34 Parks and Formal Gardens are defined as being designed, organised and accessible greenspace that provides high quality opportunities for informal recreation and/or community events. Country Parks tend to be larger in size, providing easy access for countryside recreation (such as walking, horse riding and cycling) in a managed environment.

Quantity

5.35 There are 42 Formal Parks and Country Parks in the city, totalling 820 hectares. However, in terms of parks being classed as the primary purpose, this then reduces down to 605 hectares across the city.

Quality

5.36 The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and greenspaces in England and Wales. The award scheme began in 1996 as a means of recognising and rewarding the best greenspaces in the country. It was also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards, creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas.

5.37 Six parks in the city have Green Flag status; these being Roker Park, Herrington Country Park, Hetton Lyons Country Park, Barnes Park, Elba Park and Mowbray Park.

5.38 The 42 Parks and Formal Gardens are shown in Table 20 below.

Table 20: Parks and Formal Gardens in Sunderland

Wards	Park
Barnes	Barnes Park
	Barnes Park Extension (Ettrick Grove)
Castle	Billy Hardy Sports Complex
	Hylton Dene Park Local Nature Reserve
Copt Hill	Kirklea Park
Doxford	Doxford Park
Hendon	Barley Mow Park
	Mowbray Park
Hetton	Rainton Meadows and Joes Pond SSSI
	Hetton Lyons Country Park
	Hetton Park
	Flatts Recreation Ground (Brick Garth)
Houghton	Elba Park
	Rectory Park
Millfield	Riverside Park

	Town Park
	Diamond Hall Pocket Park
	Burn Park (Part)
Ryhope	Ryhope Recreation (Welfare) Park
Sandhill	Barnes Park Extensions (Grindon Lane and Tay Road)
	Thorndale Park, Thorndale Road
Shiney Row	New Herrington Welfare Park/Herrington Recreation Ground
	Herrington Country Park
Silksworth	Silksworth Welfare Park
	Silksworth Sports Complex and Puma Tennis Centre
	Tunstall Hills Local Nature Reserve
Southwick	Thompson Park
St Anne's	King George V Park
	Barnes Park Extension Springwell Road
St Chad's	Herrington Park, Middle Herrington
	West Park
St Michael's	Backhouse Park
St Peter's	Roker Park
Washington Central	Princess Anne Park
	Glebe Park
	Glebe Colliery Welfare Park
Washington East	James Steel Park (Biddick Burn and Worm Hill, Chartershaugh, Pattinson Pond LWS and Mount Pleasant)
	Princess Anne Park (Fatfield and Rear of St Robert's School)
	Penshaw Park
Washington North	Usworth Park
	Albany Park
Washington South	Holley Park
	Ayton Park
	Rickleton Park
Washington West	Springwell Village Park Rear of Windsor Road

5.39 The following table sets out the percentage of population for each ARF and ward that has access to parks and formal gardens, based upon the accessibility standards as set out in section 4, which are:

Green Flag Parks and 'established' Country Parks of over 50 hectares: 1 kilometre radius

All Local Parks over 1 hectare in size: 700 metre radius

Pocket Parks under 1 hectare in size: 350 metre radius.

Table 21: Access to Parks and Formal Gardens by Area

Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %	Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %
Total	277,705	82			
Sunderland North	54,675	73	Sunderland West	63,015	85
Sunderland East	57,117	81	Washington	54,443	84
Coalfield	48,455	89			
Ward	Pop'n	Access %	Ward	Pop'n	Access %
Barnes	10,645	100	Castle	10,834	62
Copt Hill	11,714	84	Doxford	9,607	74
Fulwell	10,907	71	Hendon	12,958	91
Hetton	11,886	91	Houghton	11,643	81
Millfield	12,680	96	Pallion	10,822	49
Redhill	11,208	56	Ryhope	11,165	41
Sandhill	10,808	95	Shiney Row	13,212	100
Silksworth	10,400	99	Southwick	10,750	73
St Anne's	11,058	68	St Chad's	9,282	98
St Michael's	10,707	95	St Peter's	10,976	100
Washington Central	10,771	99	Washington East	11,314	83
Washington North	10,918	82	Washington South	9,997	100
Washington West	11,443	56			

5.40 On average, city-wide, 82% of city residents have access to a formal park or country park. The main areas of deficiency can be seen on the map at Figure 10 and are set out in table 22 below, along with suggested solutions to overcome access issues.

Table 22: Area of deficiencies in relation to access to parks

Ward	Locality	Suggested Solution
Castle	Town End Farm	Upgrade land to the west of Downhill Hub to a park.
Redhill	Downhill and Witherwack	Upgrade Fulwell Quarries and land to the west of Downhill Hub to a Park.
Southwick	Marley Potts and Carley Hill	Upgrade Fulwell Quarries and land to the west of Downhill Hub.

Fulwell	Seaburn Dene	Upgrade Fulwell Quarries and land to the west of Downhill Hub.
St Anne's	South Hylton and west Pennywell	Connect the Children's Forest, Pennywell, South Hylton Riverside and Claxheugh and transform into a Country Park.
Pallion	Ford and Pallion	Create park area within northern Pallion area/Claxheugh Upgrade the Blackie Park, Fordfield road to a pocket park.
Hendon	East End and Grangetown	Upgrade the Town Moor to a pocket park.
Ryhope	Hollycarrside and Ryhope village	Upgrade existing greenspace at Smith Street South, Ryhope. Create SANG within the SSGA.
Doxford	Hall Farm	Create SANG within the SSGA.
Washington West	Blackfell and Donwell	Upgrade Albany Park to Green Flag status. Upgrade existing greenspace at Westernmoor/Knoulberry to pocket park.
Washington North	Usworth	Upgrade Albany Park to Green Flag status.
Washington East	Barmston	Upgrade existing greenspace at Waskerley Road to Pocket Park

Copt Hill	Newbottle	Upgrade greenspace to the west of Newbottle School to Pocket Park
Houghton	Burnside and Dubmire	Upgrade Keir Hardie park to Pocket Park
Hetton	Low Moorsley	Upgrade greenspace at Langdale Street to Pocket Park.

Greenspace audit 2020 Parks and formal gardens with accessibility buffers

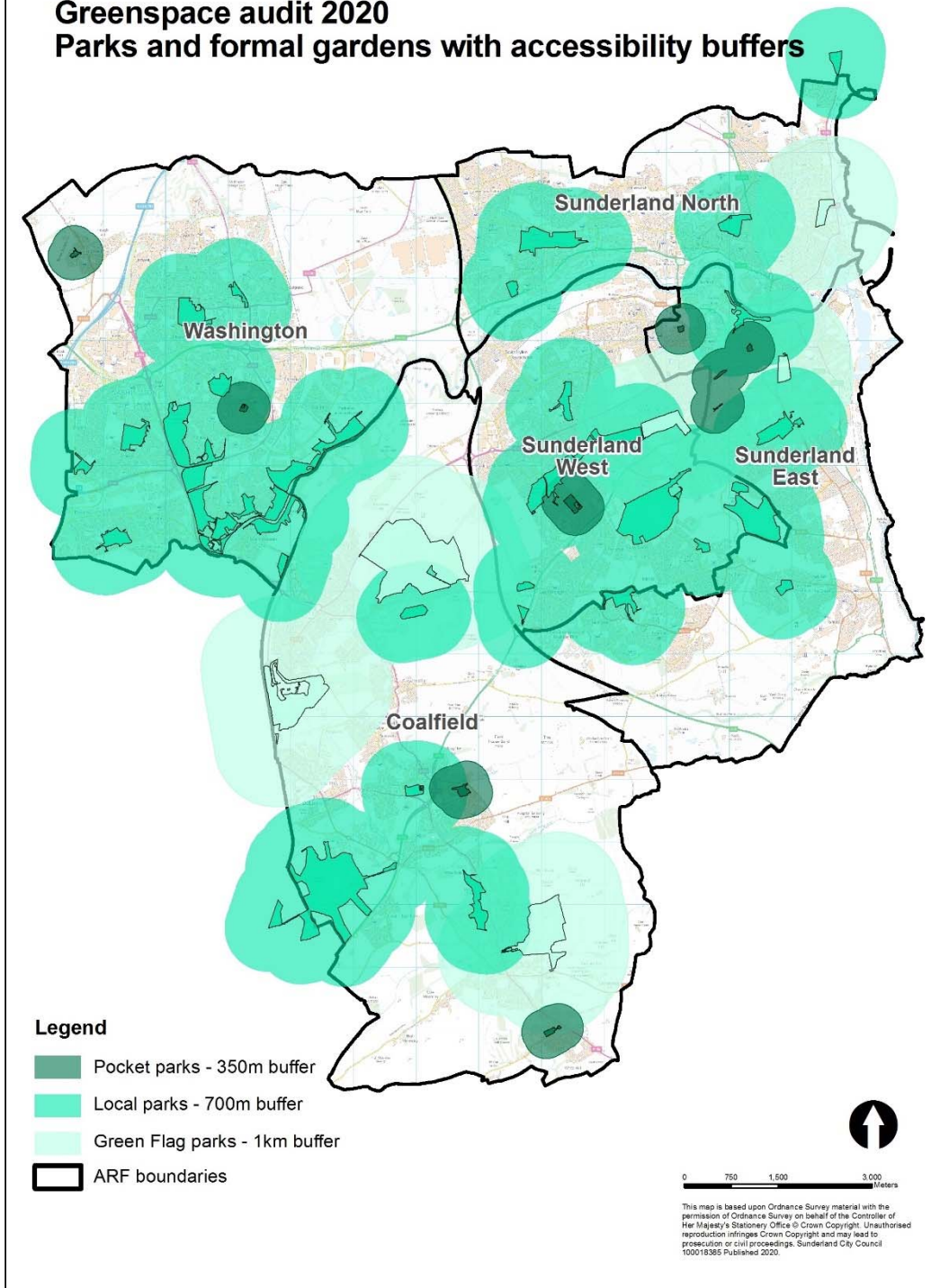


Figure 10: Parks and formal gardens with accessibility buffers

Allotments and Community Gardens

Allotments & Community Gardens	Where people can grow their own fruit and vegetables. Not including private gardens.
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- 5.41 An allotment is an area of land in, or on the edge of, a developed area which can be owned or rented by local people for the growing of vegetables, flowers or fruit. Community Gardens are usually urban community-managed projects working with people, animals and plants, and are created in response to a lack of access to allotments or greenspace in general. They range from tiny wildlife gardens to fruit and vegetable plots on housing estates, from community polytunnels to large city farms.
- 5.42 There are 99 public and privately owned allotment and community garden sites identified within the Greenspace Audit, with a further site just outside the city boundary at Chartershaugh, Washington. In terms of primary greenspace purpose, allotments provide 2.56% of all greenspace.
- 5.43 The amount of public and private allotments (by area) in Sunderland has dropped very slightly in recent years, in part due to a redrawing of allotment boundaries and also due to the loss of two sites (Wellington Lane and Simpson Street). However, an existing site at Ford Quarry has been expanded to help compensate for this loss. The total allotment provision across the city is 99.54 ha.
- 5.44 Table 23 below sets out the city wide allotment provision by size of allotment and Table 24 sets the provision out by area.

Table 23: Allotment provision by size

Small allotments – 1-24 plots	17.36ha
Medium allotments - 25-49 plots	30.08ha
Large allotments – 50-99 plots	20.39ha
Very large allotments- over 100 plots	31.71ha
Total allotment area citywide	99.54ha

Table 24: Allotment provision by area

North ARF area	24.29ha
East ARF area	15.16ha
West ARF area	15.60ha
Washington ARF area	8.65ha
Coalfield ARF area	35.84ha

5.45 The table below sets out the percentage of ward population who have access to some form of allotments provision based upon the accessibility standards as set out in Chapter 4.

Over 100 plots = 1,200 metre radius
50-99 plots = 900 metre radius
25-49 plots = 600 metre radius
1 – 24 plots = 300 metre radius.

Table 25: Access to allotment provision by Area and Ward

Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %	Area Framework	Pop'n	Access %
Total	277,705	62			
Sunderland North	54,675	56	Sunderland West	63,015	67
Sunderland East	57,117	58	Washington	54,443	44
Coalfield	48,455	86			
Ward	Pop'n	Access%	Ward	Pop'n	Access %
Barnes	10,645	87	Castle	10,834	10
Copt Hill	11,714	76	Doxford	9,607	86
Fulwell	10,907	73	Hendon	12,958	55
Hetton	11,886	86	Houghton	11,643	84
Millfield	12,680	5	Pallion	10,822	73
Redhill	11,208	77	Ryhope	11,165	84
Sandhill	10,808	50	Shiney Row	13,212	96
Silksworth	10,400	100	Southwick	10,750	92
St Anne's	11,058	62	St Chad's	9,282	28
St Michael's	10,707	65	St Peter's	10,976	25
Washington Central	10,771	39	Washington East	11,314	69
Washington North	10,918	77	Washington South	9,997	28
Washington West	11,443	1			

5.46 In terms of accessibility, it is apparent from the table and map at Figure 11 that Washington has very limited access to allotments. Provision is especially low in the west of the Washington in most neighbourhoods/localities.

5.47 Sunderland East and Sunderland North also fall short of the city average for allotment provision. The catchment map clearly indicates that the shortfalls occur in neighbourhoods/localities nearest to the City Centre, in Pennywell, Grindon, Middle & East Herrington.

5.48 Within the Council a dedicated team have responsibility for allotment provision and as such they are aware of and action deficiencies where needed. As such the following table sets out those areas where it is shown have deficiencies in allotment provision and sets out more general solutions to overcome these issues, rather than putting forward solutions for individual sites or areas.

Table 26: Areas of deficiencies in relation to allotment provision

Locality	Suggested solution
Town End Farm	Seek to retain existing allotments and enhance poor quality sites wherever feasible. Support additional allotments and/or community gardens subject to local demand and viability
Hylton Castle	
Roker	
Seaburn	
Middle and East Herrington	
Pennywell	
Hastings Hill and Grindon	
Millfield and Thornhill	
East End and Hendon North	
Glebe and Biddick	
Rickleton, Harraton and Oxclose	
Lambton	
Donwell and Usworth	
Blackfell and Albany	

Greenspace audit 2020 Allotments and community gardens with accessibility buffers

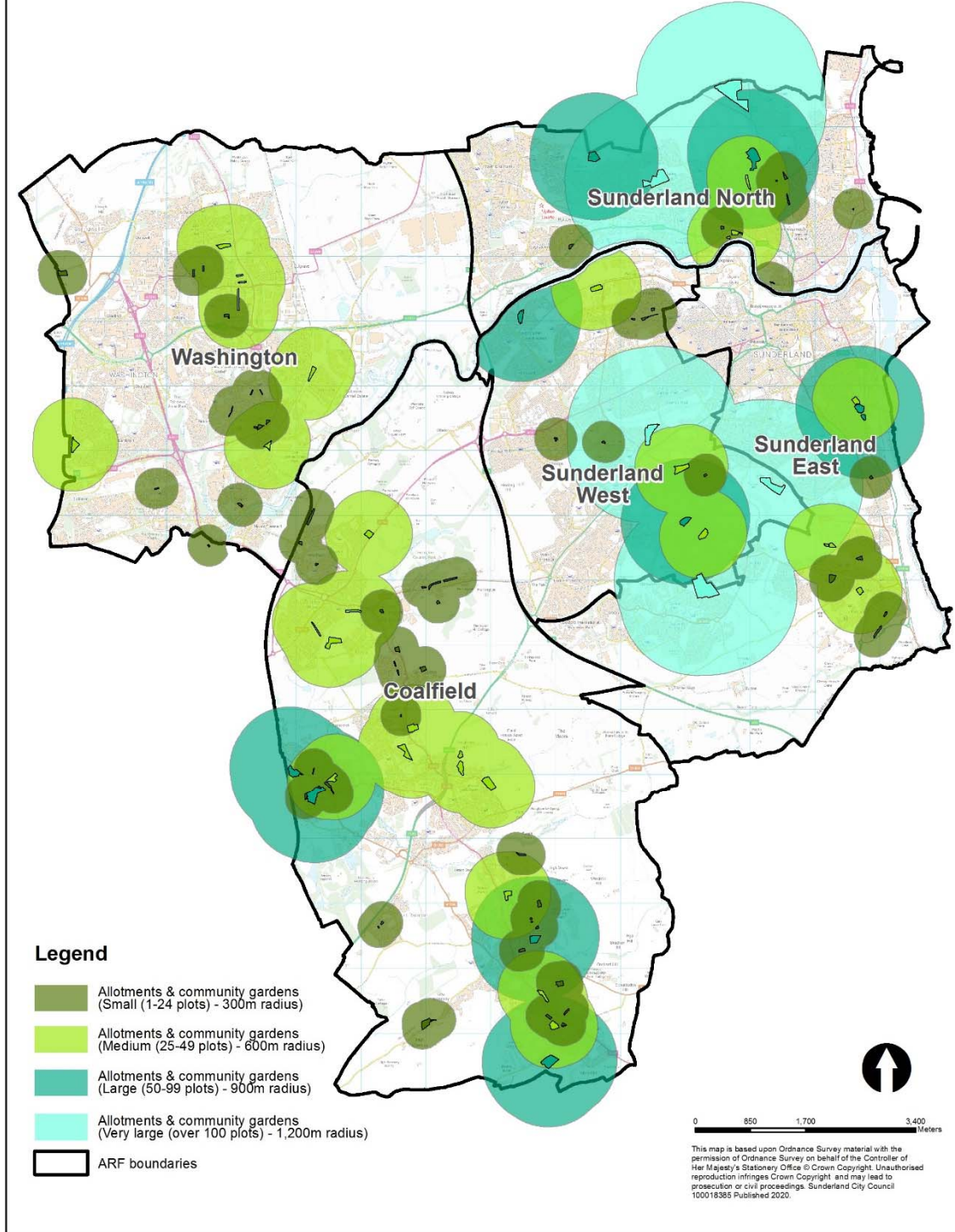


Figure 11: Allotments and community gardens with accessibility buffers

Outdoor sports facilities

Outdoor Sports Facilities	Greenspace specifically geared towards sport and formal recreation - e.g. football, cricket, tennis, rugby, hockey, bowling greens and golf courses.
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- 5.49 Outdoor sports facilities are defined as land providing formal recreation opportunity for participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls and golf.
- 5.50 In consultation with Sport England, in 2018 the Council produced a revised Playing Pitch Plan (PPP) which provided a clear strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2017 and 2022. It updated the previous 2014 Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan.
- 5.51 The PPP covers the following playing pitches and outdoor pitch sports:
- Football pitches (grass and 3G);
 - Cricket pitches;
 - Rugby union pitches;
 - Hockey pitches;
 - Bowling greens; and
 - Tennis courts (indoor and outdoor).
- 5.52 The PPP adopts a strategic approach to improving participation levels and focuses on the following issues:
- To impact on the greatest number of people;
 - To support people in communities that are benefiting least from the opportunities that being physically active brings; and
 - To provide universal access to an appropriate provision of sport and leisure facilities and support sporting excellence.
- 5.53 The vision for playing pitches in Sunderland is that:
“Sunderland has an accessible range of playing pitch facilities and venues which offer increased opportunities for all sections of the community to participate in both formal and informal opportunity, contributing to a higher quality of life.”
- 5.54 The PPP provides an overall strategy, action plan and key priorities to achieve this vision. It includes the creation of three new sports ‘Hub’ sites at Community North Sports Complex, Ford Quarry and Northern Area, Washington, which are now open and operational. The hubs provide intensive sports use and are expected to impact on future assessments of playing pitch need across the city. This need will be considered through an update to the 2018 PPP, which is programmed to commence in winter 2021 (two years after the opening of the first ‘Hub’, which was in November 2019).
- 5.55 In terms of this greenspace report and outdoor sports facilities, as the detail is set out within the Council’s Playing Pitch Plan.

Cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds

Cemeteries and church grounds	Cemeteries, churchyards and also the general grounds of a church
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- 5.56 Cemeteries and church grounds encompass three types of greenspaces, with cemeteries and churchyards each providing a greenspace type individually which both include spaces set aside for the burial of the dead. A third category relates to church grounds (without burial) and relates to the landscaped greenspace surrounding any church.
- 5.57 In terms of sites and area, a total of 49 sites have been identified within the city with some form of cemetery or church function, totalling 112.10 hectares or 2.91% of the city greenspace area. In terms of primary purpose only, there are 43 cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds identified, totalling just over 108 hectares, or 2.81% of the city's greenspace.
- 5.58 There are 10 municipal cemeteries in Sunderland and Sunderland Crematorium lies within the grounds of Bishopwearmouth Cemetery, which itself occupy over 40% of all the city's cemetery land (see map at Figure 12). There are over 30 other private churches, churchyards and church grounds across the city. Saved Policy SA22 of the UDP, identifies two cemetery expansion sites attached to Grangetown and Ryhope Cemeteries. It is proposed to continue to safeguard these areas through the A&D Plan.
- 5.59 On average 230 new municipal graves are acquired in the city per annum (period 2008-19). The take-up rates vary between each of the Council's 10 cemeteries, however it has been assumed that the rates will remain at this level during the plan period, as such the table below (Table 27) provides an estimate of the remaining plot capacity overall in Sunderland.

Table 27: Projected cemetery space in Sunderland

Cemetery	Hectares (size of site)	Graves sold per annum 1/1/08-31/12/18	Graves remaining (as at 1/1/19)	Projected provision (years from 2019)
Washington	1.77	0	0	0
Sunderland (Grangetown)	11.98	36	494	13.7
Bishopwearmouth	33.82	78	1,620	20.7
Mere Knolls	15.76	33	4,505	136.5
Southwick	7.26	22	1,086	49.3
Ryhope	2.60	10	83	8.3
Castletown	1.12	6	275	45.8
Houghton	3.92	27	299	11.07

Hetton	2.63	12	413	34.4
Easington Lane	1.42	6	386	64.3
Sub-total	82.28	230	9,161	39.83
Extension areas				
Grangetown	1.99		3,383	
Ryhope	0.71		1,207	
Sub Total	2.70	230	4,590	20.0
Grand Total	84.98	230	13,751	59.83.0

- 5.60 Assuming that burial plot acquisition remains the same, it would appear that there is approximately 40 years' capacity remaining over the whole of the city, with a further 20 years available from the two protected expansion sites at Grangetown and Ryhope. Therefore, at present the city has municipal burial space that could last until 2079. Of course, plot purchases could vary greatly over time, but even so, there would appear to be a considerable supply available.
- 5.61 In spatial terms, there is no municipal burial space remaining in Washington. There has been some initial site investigation regarding identifying a new municipal cemetery to serve Washington to satisfy residents preferences, however further work needs to be undertaken on this. Ultimately, however, the City Council's duty is to demonstrate an ability to provide for the disposal (by burial) for the dead and this can be achieved through the spare capacity elsewhere across the city.
- 5.62 With regards individual cemeteries, from the table above it is clear that Ryhope and Houghton Cemeteries could become full within the plan period (Ryhope within the next eight years and Houghton within the next 11 years). However, provision is available elsewhere within the city.
- 5.63 Table 28 below sets out the potential shortfalls with regards to cemetery provision alongside possible solutions.

Table 28: Shortfalls of cemetery provision

Area	Suggested solution
Washington	Investigate potential for new municipal cemetery
Ryhope	Ensure extension land identified at Ryhope is retained as such.
Houghton	Longer term - Investigate potential for new municipal cemetery

Greenspace audit 2018 Church yards and church grounds

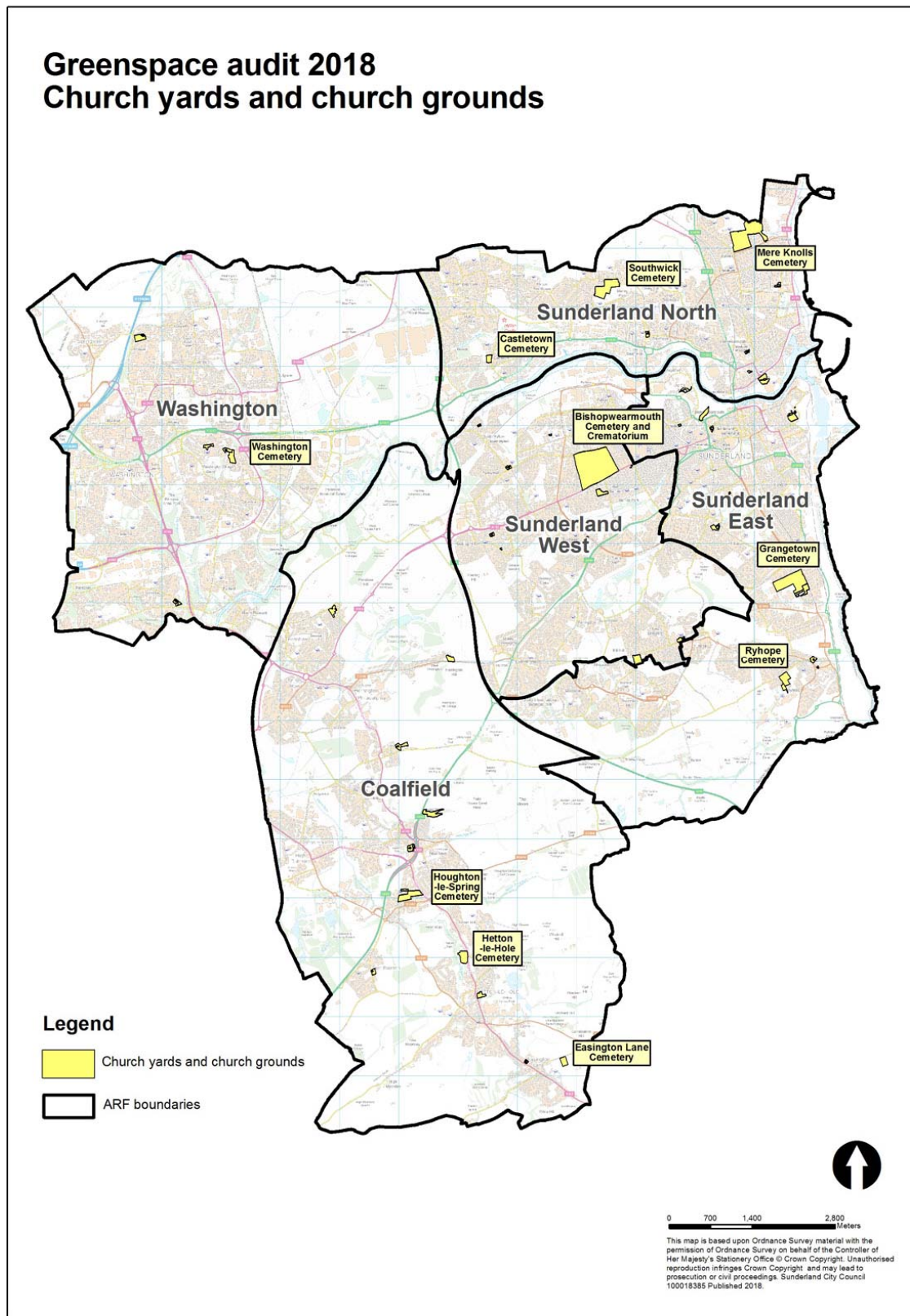


Figure 12: Church yards and church grounds

Civic spaces

Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced spaces for pedestrians e.g. war memorials, pedestrian areas, river and coastal promenades.
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- 5.64 Unlike all other types of greenspace, civic spaces refer to hard surfaced spaces for pedestrians, such as war memorials, piazzas, pedestrian areas, river and coastal promenades. The purpose of civic spaces in town and city centres is often to provide a setting for civic buildings, such as town halls and opportunities for open air markets, demonstrations and civic events.
- 5.65 A total of 35 sites have been assessed as falling within the above category, with a combined area of 21.46 hectares. In terms of primary purpose only, 30 sites were identified.
- 5.66 The majority of Sunderland’s civic spaces are concentrated in Sunderland City Centre, along the mouth of the River Wear and along the Roker and Seaburn coast. Most recent improvements have included the provision of space at Keel Square which is now used for many public events and along the sea front at Roker and Seaburn.
- 5.67 Due to the function of civic spaces throughout the city, they are not measured in terms of quality or the populations access to them. As such the report concludes that civic spaces are an important part of Sunderland’s city centre, towns and the sea front and as such should be maintained to a high standard and utilised for events where possible.

Accessible countryside

Accessible Countryside	All of the city’s open countryside, private or public.
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- 5.68 For this Greenspace Audit, “accessible countryside” comprises publicly accessible greenspaces (outside of the urban area) including linear routes on/across public and private land. Sunderland’s countryside is accessible via c. 250km of routes linking and permeating urban and rural areas. These routes comprise public footpaths and multi-user routes, the latter including public bridleways and cycle routes. Available public access takes in a full range of range of landscape characters including scenic coastal cliff tops and estuarine trails, woodland and rural farmland. But it also connects people between residential areas and to employment education and services sites. They also connect people to the numerous parks and country parks.

Rights of Ways/Cycleways

- 5.69 The majority of public rights of way and cycle routes are publicly maintainable and the majority of public access routes and land are publicly managed. In addition to this, charities such as the Woodland Trust and Sustrans manage a number of woodlands

and sections of routes in which public access is promoted. The National Cycle Network in Sunderland includes:

- NCN1 (east coast route);
- NCN7 (C2C to Whitehaven Cumbria);
- NCN11 (Bowes Railway Path); and
- NCN70 (W2W to Walney Island, Cumbria).

5.70 In 2014 the England Coast Path improved coastal access between Hendon and Ryhopen and in 2018 the Tyne and Wear Heritage Way, an 80 mile route around the region was re-launched.

5.71 The city cycle network has grown rapidly over the last 20 years, from very little to approximately 150km of routes (see map at Figure 13). Former rail corridors radiate from the city centre out to Washington and the Coalfield and provide easy cycling routes for all abilities. Many other routes have been developed, linking residential areas to education, employment and local services. Most of these routes are also multi-functional, serving recreation and physical activity needs.

5.72 Cycle levels in Sunderland have materially exceeded the national average, with steady growth over 8% each year since 2006. The city cycle network has greatly increased, but there is still some way to go to fully connect the city.

Greenspace audit 2020 Existing cycle network with accessibility buffers

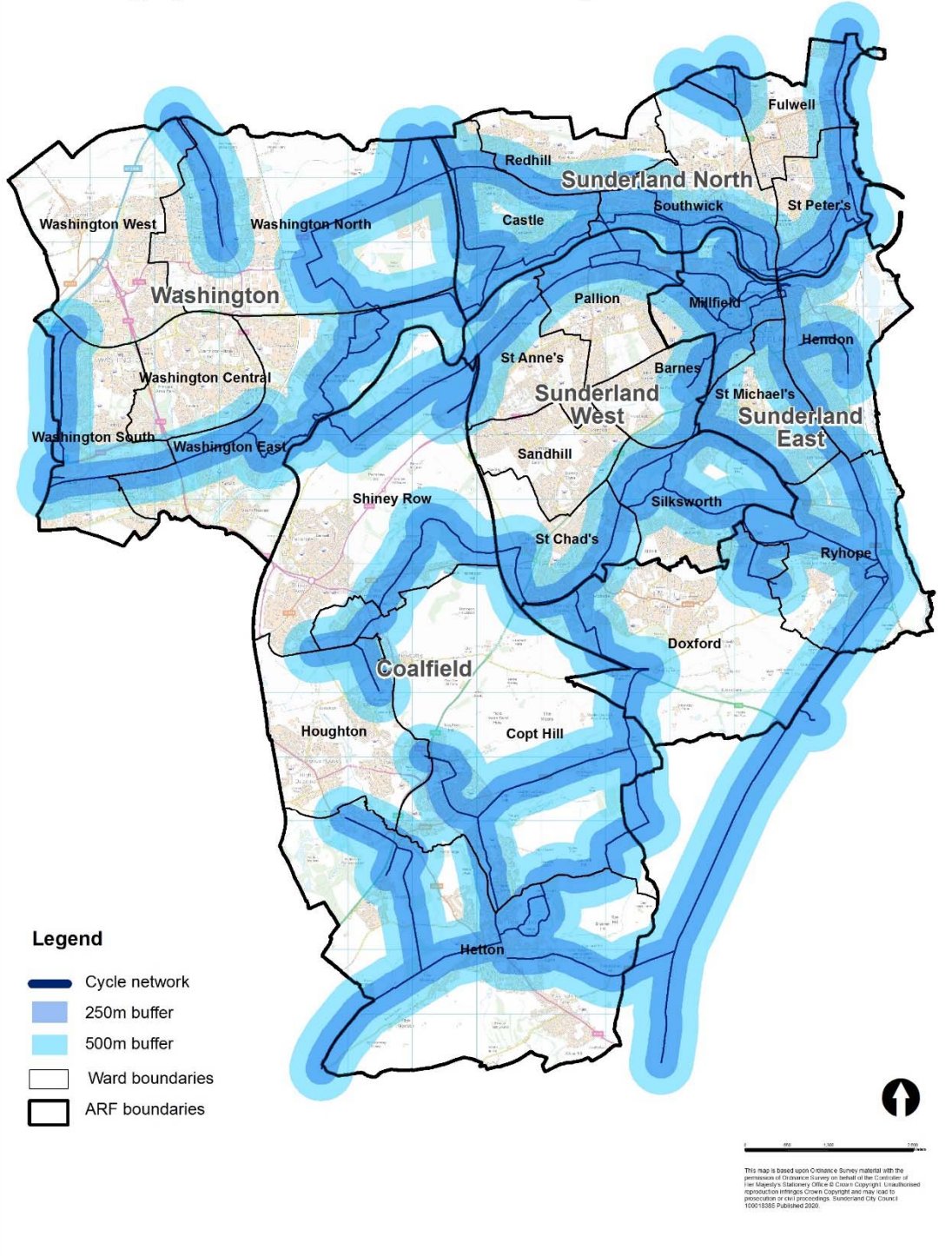


Figure 13: Existing cycle network with accessibility buffers

- 5.73 During the 2020 COVID-19 response, levels of walking and cycling markedly increased. This followed production of the national walking and cycling investment strategy and financial commitments to enable delivery of this and increased capacity to allow for social distancing with Covid19 related escalations in levels of walking and cycling. In addition, the Government’s Department for Transport guidance for developing cycle networks has been consolidated and updated into a much more ambitious Local Transport Note 1/20. It is hoped that funding will continue to be made available to deliver on these ambitions.
- 5.74 Strategic planning for future network development is set out in:
- The Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan 3, which includes the T&W Rights of Way Improvement Plan covering walking cycling and equestrian network development;
 - The seven authority Regional Transport Plan (out for consultation, Dec. 2020)
 - Sunderlands’ Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan (due for completion spring/summer 2021);
 - Strategic cycle master-plans for each of the 5 Sunderland areas, compiled in conjunction with the Area Committees/Place Boards, which give weight to funding bid opportunities and developer contribution proposals; and
 - Advanced network development planning in conjunction with strategic developments such as the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor (SSTC), South Sunderland Growth Area (SSGA) and International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP).
- 5.75 In terms of this greenspace report and accessible countryside, as the detail for future network development is set out within the documents listed above.

School playing fields and grounds

School Playing Fields and Grounds	This includes all school grounds, whether or not they provide public access to greenspace/ sports facilities out of school hours.
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- 5.76 The Greenspace Audit identified 115 primary and secondary schools with attached greenspace totalling 259 hectares, providing a wide variety of sports on grass, synthetic and hardstanding surfaces.
- 5.77 Government policy towards the protection of school playing fields has been gradually strengthened since the mid-1990’s, amidst fears that playing fields were being lost to development. The Schools Standards and Framework Act (SSFA) was introduced by the Government in 1998, which was in turn amended by the Education and Inspection Act (2006). Section 77 of the SSFA seeks to protect school playing fields against disposal or change of use by requiring the prior consent of the Secretary of State for Education before disposal or change of use may take place. The NPPF protects playing field from development and states that they should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the land 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 benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

5.78 Schools across Sunderland contribute a significant proportion of the total number of sports facilities. Primarily, these facilities must help to ensure that active lifestyles can be undertaken by schoolchildren. However, where feasible, school facilities are increasingly being used for community use and to maximise their neighbourhood role. This is not always straightforward - key issues that arise include:

- Achieving weekend and non-term time access to school facilities;
- Access to school buildings for changing facilities;
- Over-use of school playing fields/maintenance;
- Managing/hiring pitch use; and
- School pitches may not be the correct size for wider community use.

5.79 In terms of this greenspace report and school playing fields and grounds, this report gives an overview of this type of greenspace and recommends that the use of school sports facilities are maximised for community use where feasible, which is in line with the Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan 2018.

Greenspace value

5.80 The true value of greenspaces is an amalgam of site quality, accessibility and need. High quality sites may exist that have low local value because they have limited access, or maybe their value is diminished because there is an abundance of similar provision close-by. On the other hand, a site may be of low quality but is highly valued because it is the only such provision around. Sites that demonstrate multiple functions generally have more value to them, being more attractive to a wider population than a single function site. Sites may also have a strategic value, such as nationally recognised wildlife habitat, or a supporting role in a Conservation Area.

Site value is determined by:

- *Value in terms of the strategic significance given to it by statutory bodies;*
- *Value in terms of the way local people appreciate the site;*
- *Value in terms of quality the site brings to an area;*
- *Value in terms of the functions it brings to an area; and*
- *Value in terms of the scarcity of the site's function to a particular area.*

5.81 The median value score for all 1,749 greenspace site assessed is 96 points. As such this is used as a baseline to measure a sites value, with 'low' value scores (61-74 points) and 'very low' value scores (60 points and under). The map at Figure 14 sets out greenspaces within the city and their greenspace value.

5.82 The following table details how many ‘low’ and ‘very low’ value greenspace sites each area of the city has, these are also reflected in the maps at Figures 15-19.

Table 29: Low and low value greenspace sites within the city

ARF	‘Low’ value sites (61-74 points)	‘Very low’ value sites (60 points and under)
Sunderland North	57	6
Sunderland West	39	5
Sunderland East	34	4
Washington	83	3
Coalfield	87	22
Total sites	300	40

Dealing with low value sites

5.83 Low value sites should be considered as a priority for improvement, just because a site is considered as low value does not mean that the greenspace is surplus to requirements. The function of each greenspace needs to be explored in further detail to understand why the site is perceived as having a low value which will assist in how it can be improved.

Greenspace audit 2020 Greenspace site value

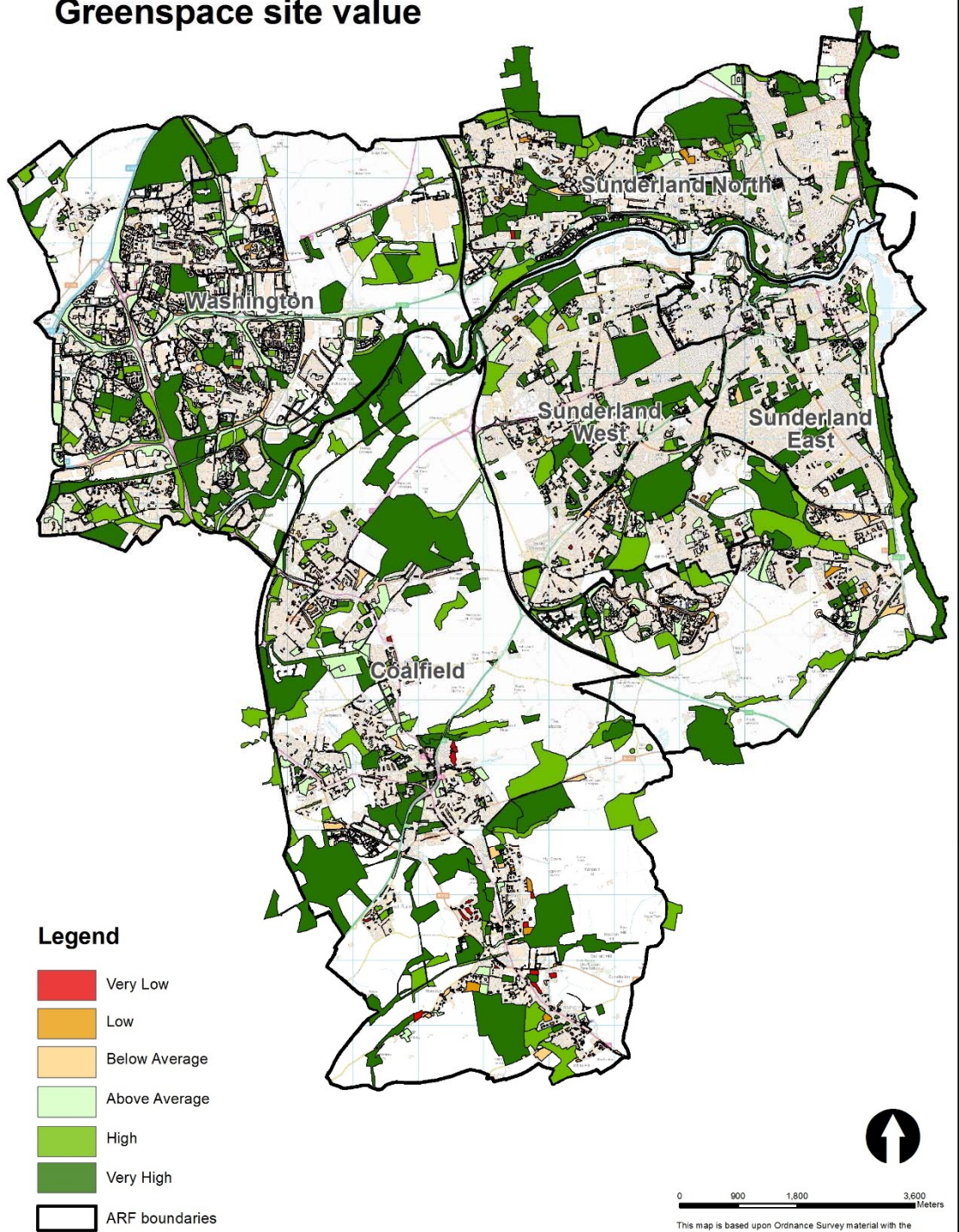


Figure 14: Greenspace site value

Greenspace audit 2020 Low and very low value greenspace - Sunderland West

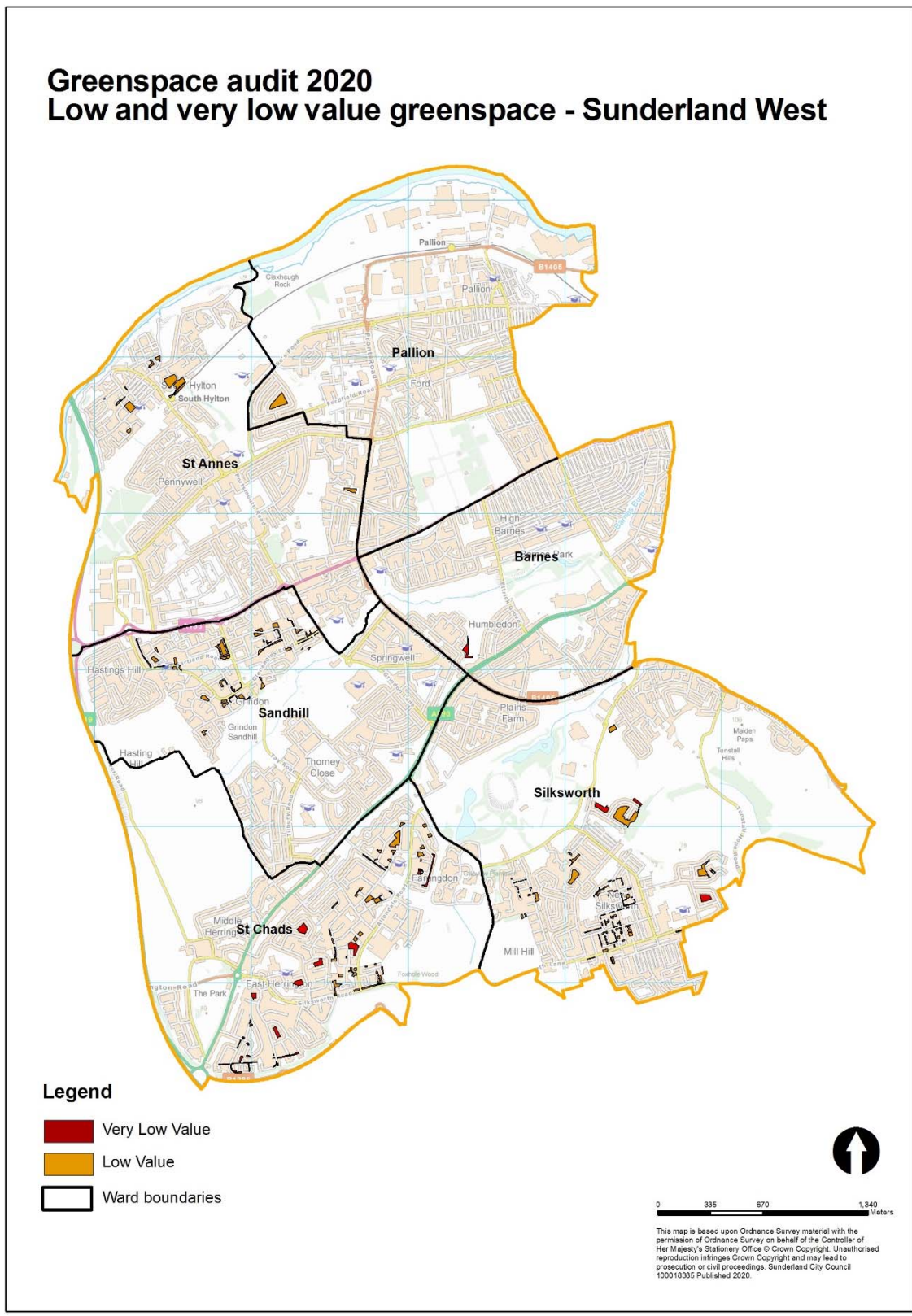


Figure 16: Low and very low value greenspace - Sunderland West

Greenspace audit 2020 Low and very low value greenspace - Sunderland East

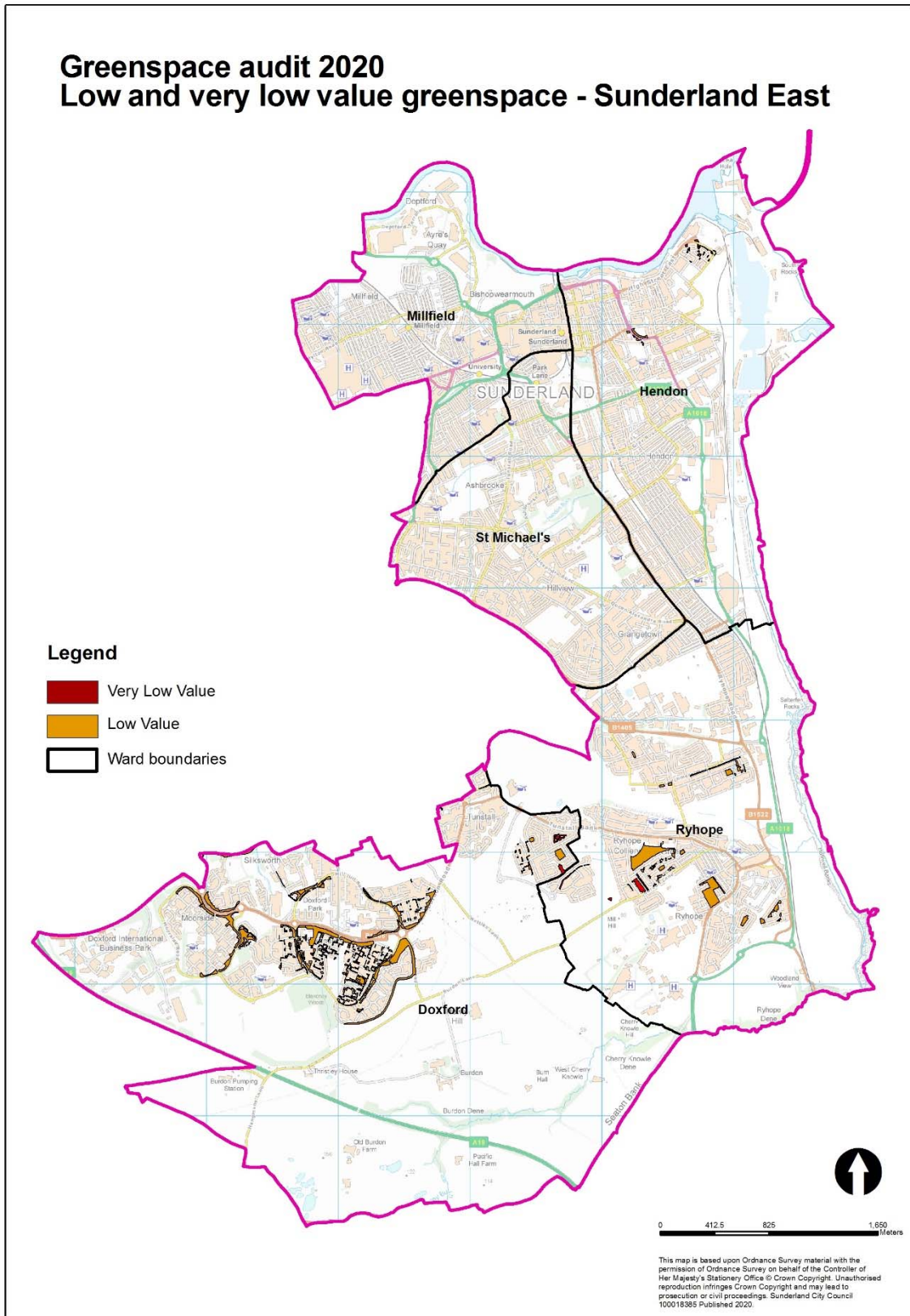


Figure 17: Low and very low greenspace - Sunderland East

Greenspace audit 2020 Low and very low value greenspace - Washington

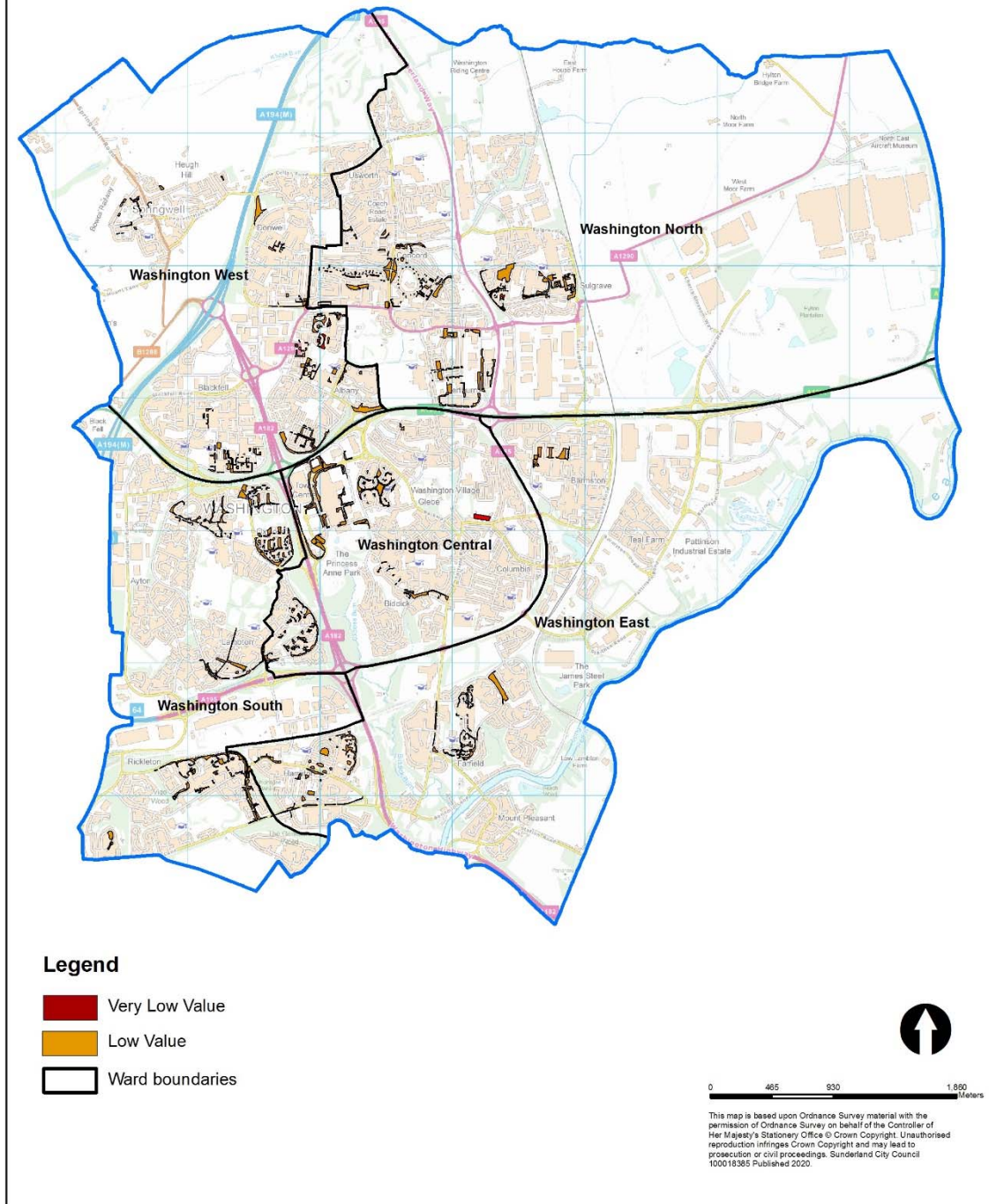
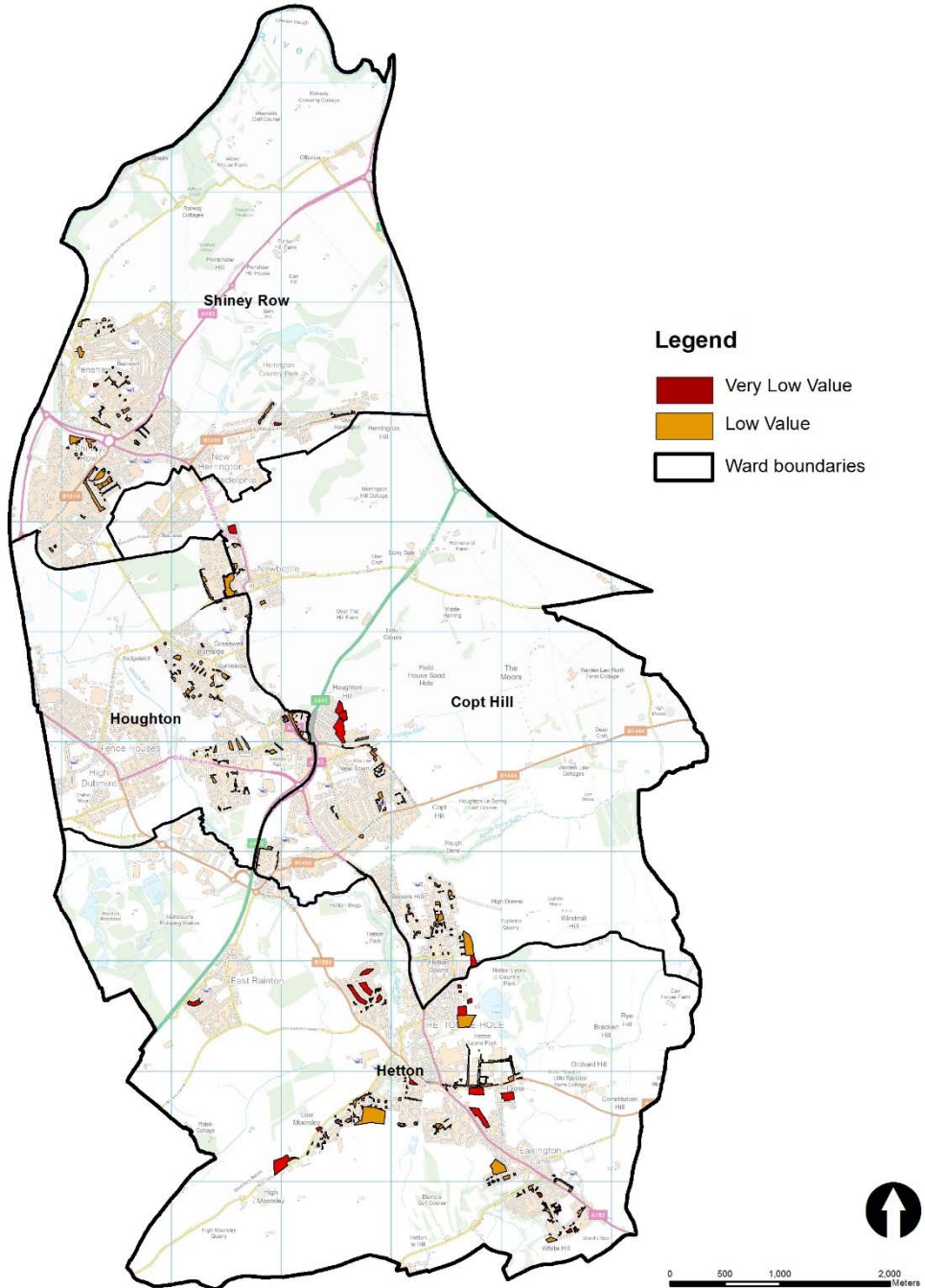


Figure 18: Low and very low value greenspace - Washington

Greenspace audit 2020

Low and very low value greenspace - Coalfield



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Figure 19: Low and very low value greenspace - Coalfield

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Having assessed all types of greenspaces within the city, including the quantity, quality and value, a number of sites have been identified which could be released for development in order to meet the strategic housing needs of the city.
- 6.2 The proposed housing allocations that contain some form of greenspace are set out below, along with the reason for removal as greenspace and the requirements to ensure that appropriate levels of greenspace provision are retained on site or contributions are made to improve other greenspace off-site where required. These requirements are linked with the policy of the draft A&D Plan.

Table 30: Proposed housing allocations that contain greenspace

Site Ref.	Address	Planning Status	Justification for Removal	Greenspace requirements
H8.4	Sunderland Civic Centre	No planning status	The site in the main is a brownfield site with a large swathe of greenspace to the west, with smaller areas of incidental greenspace to the south and east. The site is located beside Mowbray Park. The site has become available for redevelopment purposes, as such the loss of minor areas of greenspace within this site are considered acceptable to progress the regeneration of this large sustainable site within the city centre, subject to the retention and improvement of the large swathe of greenspace within the site.	The draft housing allocation seeks to ensure that the large swathe of greenspace to the west of the site is retained and improved.

H8.7	Former Usworth Comprehensive School	No planning status	It is anticipated that these playing fields will become surplus to requirements due to the opening of the nearby Washington football hub. However, as this will not be determined until an update to the 2018 playing pitch plan is undertaken the draft policy for this site sets out criteria to reflect this.	In line with the updated Playing Pitch Plan. The site can only be developed when it can be evidenced that it has become surplus to requirements.
H8.8	Havannah Road/Moorway	No planning status	This is an urban site consisting of low quality natural greenspace (shelter belt) and scrubland. It is presently not easily accessible. In developing this site there is scope to retain parts of the site and improve for both tree belt purposes and useable, accessible greenspace, which would in time improve the value of the site for local residents.	Retention and improvement to tree belt surrounding the site and improvements to the quality of greenspace on site to make more useable and accessible. Potential improvements to greenspaces within the locality.
H8.9	Willows Close	Planning application pending consideration	Planning application recommended to be approved. Greenspace assessed through the planning application process.	Improvements to the quality of greenspace to be retained on site and/or improvements to greenspaces within the locality.
H8.15	Hylton Lane/Blaydon avenue	Full planning permission	This site is a long standing housing	The approved site layout includes areas of multi-functional green space within the site

			allocation saved from the UDP.	and being on the edge of the urban area the layout also provides access to adjoining greenspaces.
H8.1 6	Southwick Primary School	Full planning permission	A replacement facility equivalent in terms of usefulness, attractiveness, quality, accessibility and quantity is to be provided on an adjoining site.	A new area of greenspace is to be provided to the east of the site to compensate for a loss of greenspace which lies within the northern part of the site.
H8.1 8	Carley Hill School, Emsworth Road	No planning status	The site is a former school site, which incorporated school playing fields. However these have not been in use for over 10 years and as such is absent from the Council's 2018 Playing Pitch Plan. It has therefore been considered to be surplus to requirements. In addition to this as the greenspace aspects of the site have naturalised over time they have taken on the role as a green corridor, linking to the large greenspaces within Fulwell Quarries to the north and Thompson Park to the south. However, it is considered that the loss of this site would not be detrimental to this green corridor as links north and south could still be retained,	Upgrades/contributions to Fulwell Quarries site with the longer term intention for this area to become a Country Park.

			provided a contribution is made to the improvement of Fulwell Quarries.	
H8.1 9	Eastbourne Square, Carley Hill	Full planning permission	Planning permission in place. Greenspace assessed through the planning application process.	N/A
H8.2 2	Old Mill Road Greenspace	No planning status	Locality has high levels of amenity greenspace and it is considered that the loss of this site can assist in improvements to nearby greenspaces to provide an overall better quality of greenspace for the area.	The equipped play space to be relocated to the greenspace to the west without compromising the playing field function, and upgrades/contributions to Fulwell Quarries site with the longer term intention for this area to become a Country Park.
H8.2 3	Land fronting Chiswick Road	No planning status	Former housing site. Locality has high levels of amenity greenspace but below average quality greenspace. Loss of this small urban site can provide quality contributions to neighbouring greenspaces.	Improvements should be made to the quality of green spaces within the locality to offset the loss of this parcel of green space.
H8.2 4	Oswald Terrace South, Castletown	No planning status	Low value greenspace. Locality has high levels of amenity greenspace but below average quality greenspace. Loss of this small urban site can provide quality contributions to	Improvements should be made to the quality of green spaces within the locality to offset the loss of this parcel of green space.

			neighbouring greenspaces	
H8.2 5	Emsworth Square	No planning status	Low value greenspace and former housing site. Locality has above average levels of greenspace. Loss of small amount of greenspace can assist in improving the quality of greenspace in the area.	Upgrades/contribution to Fulwell Quarries site with the longer term intention for this area to become a Country Park.
H8.2 6	Keighley Avenue	Full planning permission	Planning permission in place. Greenspace assessed through the planning application process.	A S106 agreement is in place for the land owner to make a financial contribution to the City Council to be spent on improvements to the quality of greenspace within the area. Consideration should be given to these improvements being at Downhill park, (Land to the west of Downhill Hub).
H8.2 7	Land at Fulwell Quarries	No planning status	Locality has above average levels of amenity greenspace. It is considered that loss of this site is acceptable as overall an improved quality of greenspace for the area can be provided.	Upgrades/contribution to Fulwell Quarries site with the longer term intention for this area to become a Country Park.
H8.3 5	Recreation Field, North Moor Lane, Farringdon	No planning status	Site lies adjacent to Silksworth Recreation Centre, a large area of greenspace. As such the development of this parcel of land is not is considered to	Improvements should be made to the quality of greenspaces within the locality to offset the loss of this parcel of greenspace.

			be detrimental to the overall quantity of greenspace available and the loss can be offset by providing improvements to the quality of nearby greenspaces.	
H8.3 7	Tasman Road, Thorney Close	No planning status	Small area of larger greenspace, which was a former housing site. Improvements should be made to the quality of the remaining area of green space to make more useable for the area.	Upgrades to remaining greenspace, or possible improvements to quality of greenspaces within the locality.
H8.3 8	Theme Road, Thorney Close	No planning status	Small area of larger greenspace, which was a former housing site. Improvements should be made to the quality of the remaining area of green space to make more useable for the area.	Upgrades to remaining greenspace, or possible improvements to quality of greenspaces within the locality.
H8.3 9	Tadcaster Road, Thorney Close	No planning status	Small area of larger greenspace, which was a former housing site. Improvements should be made to the quality of the remaining area of green space to make more useable for the area.	Upgrades to remaining greenspace, or possible improvements to quality of greenspaces within the locality.
H8.4 1	Prestbury Road, Pennywell	Full planning permission	Planning permission in place. Greenspace assessed through the planning application process.	A former employment land allocation. The approved site layout retains and improves an area of greenspace

				to the southern part of the site.
H8.5 4	Land at Philadelphia Complex	Outline planning consent	Major site redevelopment and reclamation. Planning permission in place. Greenspace assessed through the planning application process.	Replacement greenspace to be provided on site to help form a green corridor through the site, to enhance linkages to neighbouring Herrington Country Park and Elba Park
H8.5 6	Cragdale Gardens, Low Moorsley	Planning application pending consideration	Within area of above average greenspace quantities and low quality greenspace. Site is considered to be a lower value greenspace. The development of this site can provide greenspace improvements to adjacent greenspace site to help develop formal parkland.	Improvements required to the quality of the adjoining green space to upgrade to formal parkland to complement the play area. Possible improvements to the quality of greenspaces within the locality.
H8.5 7	Hetton Downs Phase 3	No planning status	The site included a playing pitch which had not been in use for over 10 years and as such is absent from the Council's 2018 Playing Pitch Plan. It has therefore been considered to be surplus to requirements. In addition to this the site also has a wider greenspace role, providing much needed greenspace access to residents and as such the loss of this site can be compensated for by	Improvements should be made to the quality of green spaces within the locality to offset the loss of this parcel of green space. In particular improvements made to the quality of the existing park area to the south of the Cricket field on Church Road.

			providing improvements to nearby greenspaces.	
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6.3 For the purposes of this greenspace report, the proposed housing allocations that have been put forward through the draft A&D Plan which contain greenspace will continue to be retained as greenspace within this document until such a time that they are no longer used as greenspace. The only exception to this are those sites which are now under construction and as such the site no longer functions as greenspace and have therefore been removed.

Implementation

6.4 This greenspace report will support the greenspace policy of the CSDP and policies within the A&D plan. It will assist in the strategic planning of greenspaces by linking the housing allocations to the most appropriate greenspace requirements needed in particular neighbourhoods/localities. It will also be used to inform development of the most suitable greenspace provision/improvement for each locality and those areas which should be protected.

6.5 The report will help to direct investment in new and existing greenspaces by identifying areas where improvements should be made and where new provision is required.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 This report has utilised the greenspace audit that was undertaken in 2018 it has updated the scoring of greenspaces where necessary and taken on board updates to provision and relevant evidence documents, it has also incorporated more accurate data with regards household point data.
- 7.2 It has set out each type of greenspace in terms of existing provision and considered this against the standards to give an indication of where gaps are and put forward possible solutions to rectify shortfalls. Appendix 4 sets this detail out on a ward basis.
- 7.3 As such, the main objective for greenspaces within the city is to generally protect and improve them, linking back to the criteria within adopted policy NE4 of the CSDP.
- 7.4 When considering the release of a greenspace site through Policy NE4, Appendix 6 of this report also identifies additional guidance which could be taken into account.
- 7.5 The overall objective for each type of greenspace is set out below:

Amenity greenspace

- 7.6 Ensure that sites scoring above average retain their site quality and consider prioritising for improvement individual low quality sites and settlements with overall low average site quality.

Provision for children and young people

- 7.7 Direct future investment towards maintenance of existing sites as well as seeking to address the accessibility gaps identified, which can be either through provision of new play facilities, or enhancement of an existing facility that would feasibly serve a wider catchment area.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- 7.8 Consider improvements to all areas with limited access to natural greenspace. Improve quality of 'low' or 'very low' scoring areas of amenity greenspace to attain ANGST accessibility standards.
- 7.9 The CSDP within Policy NE2 sets out that, where appropriate, development must provide net gains in biodiversity, as such these deficiencies in natural and semi-natural greenspaces could be assisted by the delivery of biodiversity net gains.

Woodland

- 7.10 Consider increased tree cover in suitable locations within identified deficiency areas, alongside improving the quality of existing woodland, particularly with regards to established shelter belts such as in Washington. Also give consideration to improving access to existing sites that currently have limited accessibility.

Parks and formal gardens

- 7.11 The aim is for 100% of residents to have access to some form of park or formal garden. In many cases, there are doorstep greens and other quality greenspaces that could be upgraded to provide formal parkland for those localities currently without park access.
- 7.12 This has started to take place in areas such as the SSGA, where the comprehensive planning of a number of key housing sites is allowing gaps in greenspaces to be provided, which will benefit not only the future residents of these areas, but the existing residents nearby.

Allotments and Community Gardens

- 7.13 Ensure the retention and enhancement all existing sites in the areas of deficiency and support additional sites where demand and viability allows. Consideration should also be given to whether all sites in areas of allotment surplus (primarily the Coalfield) should be retained and enhanced or whether they have low value to the local community and are not worthy of long-term retention.

Outdoor sports facilities

- 7.14 Ensure compliance with the Council's 2018 Playing Pitch Plan and any future updates.

Cemeteries, churchyards and church grounds

- 7.15 Ensure the cemetery extension land at Ryhope and Grangetown is retained for such uses and give consideration to a new cemetery within the Washington area and the Houghton area in the longer term.

Civic spaces

- 7.16 Maintain civic spaces to a high standard and utilise for events where possible.

Accessible countryside

- 7.17 Maintain and improve access via public footpaths and multi-user routes to publicly accessible greenspaces, which are outside of the urban area.

School playing fields and grounds

- 7.18 Maximise the use of school sports facilities where feasible.

APPENDIX 1

Audit assumptions

Table 31: Assumptions made from the Greenspace Audit

Amenity Greenspaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sites that were considered to be too unkempt have been counted as a natural greenspace site, or not counted altogether
Provision for Children & Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As well as formal static play areas, these include Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Dual Use Games Areas (DUGAs) - No site has “play area” as a primary purpose
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Table 32 provides a full definition, based on 4 quality levels. Levels 1 and 2 would be classed as “higher quality” natural greenspace, Level 3 includes “lower quality” greenspace, and any sites classed within Level 4 would not be counted at all
Formal Parks & Country Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some sites named as “parks” on Ordnance Survey may not be included as they fail to reach the required parks standard as outlined in the Strategy - Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve broadly conforms to the purpose of a country park and has therefore been included as such
Allotments and Community Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sites with too many private garages or formal gardens are considered as private gardens only, and not counted on the greenspace register
Outdoor Sports Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not include indoor sports provision, though any summaries may need to reflect such facilities, e.g. indoor tennis courts - Kickabout areas (grassed sites equipped with football goal posts) are included
Green Corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The main green corridors have been identified within the Local Plan - All sites linked to, or within, a green corridor have been identified as having such a purpose - No site has ‘green corridor’ as a primary purpose- corridors typically relate to an amalgamation of existing greenspace sites. Even narrow cycleway corridors will primarily provide amenity or natural greenspace
Cemeteries, Churchyards and Church Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The primary purpose has been separated in order to make the distinction between those sites

	containing burial ground and others that simply supply the landscaped setting for a church
Civic Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In some cases, streets with wide pavements for pedestrians (and with a high footfall) were included - Sites were restricted to those with hard-standing surfaces only
Accessible Countryside	- All of the city's urban fringe and open countryside was classed as "accessible". Rights of Way exist across most of our countryside to provide, at the very least, a view across key landscapes
School Playing Fields and Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All school playing fields and grounds have been included - Outdoor sports facilities and formal play areas will only be assessed in terms of provision if it is clear that they are available for public use

Defining Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in terms of quantity and quality broadly follows Natural England's "Access to Natural Greenspace Standards Plus", or ANGSt Plus (2008). The summary definition reflects a local adaptation of advice provided by Natural England and considers the evidence within this report, (and historic audits/reports). Table 32 below sets out the levels.

Table 32: Natural and semi-natural greenspace definition

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European designated sites – Northumbria Coast SPA, Durham Coast SAC • Nationally and locally recognised nature conservation areas, Durham Heritage Coast, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), Local Nature Reserves. • Ancient Semi-Natural or Ancient Replanted woodland
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less intensively managed greenspaces (includes amenity greenspace, formal parks, country parks, school grounds, sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards, cemeteries and allotments) • Non-dense, non-intensive deciduous and/or coniferous woodland, freely growing shrubbery and element of public access • Open water and wetlands with reeds, tall wildflowers, (could include ponds, ditches, small rivers, streams and lakes) • River estuary (water, mudflats, saltmarsh) • Unimproved, semi-improved and rough grassland, and heathland (with wild herbs and flowers) • Disused / derelict land with protected BAP Priority Species present • Open Access Land / Remnant countryside (within urban and urban fringe areas)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unimproved farmland
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland shelter belts / intensive woodland with no freely growing shrubbery and very limited or no public access • Disused/derelict land with no protected BAP Priority Species present • Managed/more intensive greenspaces and recreational spaces with limited functions (includes amenity greenspace, parks, school grounds, sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards, cemeteries and allotments) • Formal boating or ornamental lakes, culverted streams and other examples of open water with little or no biodiversity
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved farmland • Private gardens • Active quarries

Adapted from Natural England's ANGST Plus categories of 'naturalness'.

Methodology criteria

Table 33: Greenspace audit - criteria used in the proforma

Land Use and Boundary Treatment	
1. Green Flag Status	2. Pedestrian Access
3. Vehicular Access	4. Disabled Access
5. Main Entrance	6. Other Entrances
7. Access Arrangements	8. Boundaries
9. Roads	10. Paths
11. Cycleway	12. Bridleway
13. Tree Cover	14. Tree Mix
15. Planted Areas	16. Amenity Grass Areas
17. Meadow Grass Areas	18. Playing Fields
19. Pasture / Grazed Land	20. Wetlands
21. Cleanliness	22. Safety
23. General Maintenance	
Facilities	
24. Litter Bins	25. Dog Bins
26. Recycling Bins	27. Seats
28. Toilets	29. Car Parking
30. Coach Parking	31. Cycle Parking
32. Bus Stops	33. Metro Train Station
34. Street Lighting	35. Signage
36. Information	37. Events Programme
Recreation Facilities	

38. Access to Buildings	39. Sports Pitches
40. Play Equipment	41. Water-based Sports
42. Other Sports	
Biodiversity	
43. Protected Site	44. Grassland
45. Woodland	46. Hedgerow
47. Wetlands	48. Coastal & Estuarine
49. Other	50. Geodiversity
51. Level of Use (Wildlife)	52. General Overall Maintenance
Landscape Visual and Character	
53. Rarity	54. Visual Amenity
55. Exposure	56. Defines Character
57. Historic Protection	58. Usage (People)
59. Usage Type (People)	60. Warden or Ranger Presence

Community value weighting

Table 34: Greenspace weightings

	Weighting Attached
Wildlife Sites	
European SAC/SPA protection, national SSSI/LNR/LGS protection	100pts
Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)	50pts
Protected and BAP Priority Species	50pts
Cemeteries and churchyards (with graves)	
With graves	100pts
Church grounds (amenity grassland)	0pts
Woodland Plantations	25pts
Formal Parks and Country Parks	
All parks	50pts
Option to zero score a park deemed to be surplus to requirements, i.e. already in area with high abundance of parks, and with little local value	0pts (note: no sites included to date)
Natural & Semi Natural Greenspace	
High quality	50pts
Low quality	0pts
Allotments (Quality based on 2009 assessment, high scoring at least 18 out of 30) (Abundance based on ARF hectarage above or below the city average)	
High quality/low abundance	50pts

High quality/high abundance & Low quality/low abundance	25pts
Low quality/high abundance	0pts
Outdoor Sport (including kickabout areas)	
Football, Cricket, Rugby, Hockey, Bowling Green, Astro turf multi-use, Tennis and Netball Courts, Golf Courses	50pts
Kickabout areas, MUGAs, Golf Driving Ranges and land retained for sports pitch use (not presently used)	25pts
Historic Protection	
Major historic (significant greenspace within a Conservation Area, or setting of very significant listed building)	50pts
Historic Value (other sites that were scored 4 or 5 out of 5 on the survey).	25pts
Site within Green Belt	50pts
Amenity (Doorstep) Greenspaces – depends on hectarage /1000 population.	
Areas with very low provision	40pts
Areas with low provision	20pts
Playspaces	
All other provision	25pts
Low quality/extent	0pts
Green Corridors (sites contributing to a corridor)	25pts
Site Rarity	
Sites scored 4 out of 5 (rare to city) or 5 out of 5 (nationally rare)	25pts
Defines Character	
Sites scored 5 out of 5 (very important)	25pts
Civic Space (No further weighting, many sites receive weighting via site rarity, historic value or character)	0pts
Coast & Estuary (No further weighting, just a weighting via natural greenspace protection, corridor or wildlife value).	No further weighting.
Accessible Countryside (Not identified as 'Greenspace', to be investigated further in terms of 'Landscape Character'. Countryside sites receive weightings via Green Belt protection, green corridor, wildlife, park or sports use).	Not applicable

More than one weighting may be identified to a particular site. However, only the highest value weighting is counted towards the overall value score. This is demonstrated below.

Greenspace Site X qualifies for the following weightings:

- Historic value – 25pts
- Within an area with low greenspace provision – 20pts.
- *Green Belt* – 50pts
- Defines character – 25pts

Site X will therefore receive a weighting of 50pts, which will be added to its 60-question score.

The final site scores can be viewed in total of all sites or specifically by each typology. It is intended to reflect site quality and value.

Appendix 2: City wide strategies for greensapce

Green Infrastructure Delivery & Action Plan 2019

The Green Infrastructure Delivery and Action Plan sets out a road map of prescriptive measures, projects and priorities for action to promote the Sunderland Green Infrastructure Strategy and take it forwards to delivery

Green Infrastructure Strategy (GI) 2018

The aim of the GI strategy is to identify where there is greatest area-based need for the public benefits that GI brings and highlight where there is the greatest potential for economic, social, environmental and multifunctional outcomes from GI interventions. The report then provides an overview of where enhancements to promote GI could deliver the greatest benefits for wildlife and people

Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan (2018)

This was updated in January 2018 and provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2017 and 2022. It updates the previous 2014 Playing Pitch Plan.

The plan provides a framework for improvement and an action plan. The plan sets out the following overarching aims:

1. To protect the existing supply of playing pitches where it is needed for meeting current and future needs;
2. To enhance playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites; and
3. To provide new playing pitches where there is current or future demand to do so.

A City Approach Towards an Active Sunderland (2014)

The purpose of this document is to present a new city approach towards an active Sunderland and propose a new strategic direction of travel and one which involves partners/stakeholders in achieving shared priority outcomes for the people of Sunderland.

Sunderland Play and Urban Games Strategy (2007)

The aim of the Sunderland's Play and Urban Games Strategy ('Moving Forward') is to work in partnership to provide, support and sustain a variety of high quality and accessible play environments and opportunities, for all children and young people up to 19 years. It endorses national accessibility standards for play as set out by Fields in Trust, following the Trust's Type A, B, and C standards (though in recent years the Type A facilities have been phased-out, with a current focus for provision on Type B and Type C facilities only).

Appendix 3 Greenspace audit proforma



GREEN SPACE STRATEGY 2018 - OPEN SPACE, OUTDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION AUDIT

SURVEY FORM

Site	<input type="text"/>	Poly ID Code as appears in register e.g. A01	<input type="text"/>
Classification (see assessing typology guide)	Primary Purpose	Secondary Purpose	Primary Use Area <input type="text"/> ha
Parks and Gardens			Total Area <input type="text"/> ha
Natural and semi Natural Greenspace			Ownership Sunderland City Council <input type="text"/> (desk top) Other: <input type="text"/>
Green Corridors			
Outdoor sports facilities			
Amenity Greenspace			
Provision for children and young people			
Allotments			
Cemeteries disused churchyards			
Accessible countryside in the urban fringe			
Civic space			
Coast and estuary			
Surrounding Uses	North <input type="text"/>		
	South <input type="text"/>		
	East <input type="text"/>		
	West <input type="text"/>		
Site Description	<input type="text"/>		Explanation to the usage i.e. elements of scale <input type="text"/>
Surveyor Name	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>

QUALITATIVE COMMENTS		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
Land Use and Boundary Treatment			
1.Green Flag Status	5 - Yes 0 - No	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
2.Pedestrian Access	0 - Access Prohibited or no access 1 - Poor/inappropriate (e.g. sensitive site) 2 - Poor but appropriate (e.g. sensitive site) 3 - Good but inappropriate (e.g. sensitive site)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

	<p>4 - Adequate and appropriate but room for improvement</p> <p>5 - Good and appropriate (e.g. park/sensitive site)</p>		
3.Vehicular access inc. maintenance	<p>0 - Very poor access</p> <p>1 - Poor access for all vehicles to include motorbikes</p> <p>2 - Vehicular access but unwanted/inappropriate (e.g. joyriding, fly-tipping)</p> <p>3 - Adequate access but for maintenance only</p> <p>4 - Reasonable access for all vehicles - or no vehicular access requirements</p> <p>5 - Good access for all appropriate uses (e.g. clear, well maintained, surfaced)</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
4.Disabled Access	<p>0 - None (e.g. steps, slope,surface,camber,passing/stopping,rails, gates)</p> <p>1 - Poor (e.g. steep or prolonged gradients, laborious)</p> <p>2 -</p> <p>3 - Reasonable (but may be unclear or lack maintenance)</p> <p>4 -</p> <p>5 - Good (clearly defined and well maintained) DDA compliant</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
5. Main Entrance	<p>1 - Not clearly defined, poorly maintained</p> <p>2 - Apparent as an entrance and clean</p> <p>3 - Obvious, open, inviting and clean - or none required</p> <p>4 - Appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy and well maintained</p> <p>5 - Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clean tidy and well maintained</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
6. Other Entrance Entrances	<p>1 - Not clearly defined, poorly maintained</p> <p>2 -</p> <p>3 - Obvious, open, inviting and clean - or none required</p> <p>4 -</p> <p>5 - Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clean tidy and well maintained</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
7. Access Arrangements	<p>1 - Restricted (only accessible to a small group of people e.g. operational site, farmland)</p> <p>2 -</p> <p>3 - Limited (public/private owned but access requires special arrangement e.g. sports grounds schools, golf courses)</p> <p>4 -</p> <p>5 - Unrestricted (Site avail. to anyone at any time, although may be dusk/dawn restrictions e.g. local parks)</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
8.Boundaries (apply to all boundaries)	<p>1 - Poor (e.g. not clearly defined, maintenance needed) or very limited value/appeal</p> <p>2 - Clearly defined but poor quality or unappealing i.e. damaged</p> <p>3 - Reasonable (e.g. clearly or appropriately defined, requires some maintenance)</p> <p>4 -</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

	5 - Good (e.g. clearly defined, well maintained)		
Issues with any particular boundary quality state here	<input type="text"/>		
9.Roads	1 - No surfacing or in wrong place, or no roads 2 - 3 - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level, for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
10. Paths	1 - No surfacing or in wrong place 2 - 3 - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
11.Cycleway	1 - No surfacing or in wrong place or cycling not provided or allowed 2 - 3 - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
12.Bridleway	1 - No surfacing or in wrong place or horses not allowed 2 - 3 - In correct place, but in need of maintenance and or obvious repair 4 - 5 - In correct place, level for safe use, edges well defined, well maintained 5 - For all user groups	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
13.Tree Cover	0 - None 1 - Specimens 2 - Groups 3 - Woodland Plantation 4 - Mix of above (2 or more) 5 - Mature woodland or sensitive site where trees would not be appropriate	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Approx % tree cover	<input type="text"/>		
14.Tree Mix	0 - No trees 1 - Coniferous 2 - 3 - Deciduous 4 - 5 - Mixed	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
15.Planted Areas (e.g. shrubs)	0 - No planting 1 - Limited planting 2 -	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

	3 - Adequate planting, with an inappropriate mix of plants 4 - 5 - Adequate planting, with appropriate mix of plants		
16.Amenity Grass Areas	0 - Very poor grass cover/quality 1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut	<input type="text"/>	5
17.Meadow Grass Areas	1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut	<input type="text"/>	5
18.Playing Fields	1 - Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some bald areas discreet, grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing) or no relevant playing fields 2 - 3 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds grass cut frequently to keep length short 4 - 5 - Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut	<input type="text"/>	5
19.Pasture/ Grazed Land	0 - Overgrazed, bare ground/poaching, weed infestation 1 - 2 - 3 - Moderate condition some poaching and/or weeds 4 - 5 - No litter or poaching and weeds	<input type="text"/>	5
20.Wetlands (rivers, streams, ditches, lakes, ponds, marsh)	0 - Polluted, litter, algal bloom, poor bank condition, poor submerged, emergent and/or bank vegetation 1 - 2 - 3 - Some litter, bank condition good in part, vegetation present 4 - 5 - Clean, rubbish free, good bank condition and vegetation structure	<input type="text"/>	5
General quality			

21.Cleanliness	1 - Significant evidence of litter, dog fouling or grafitti 2 - 3 - Limited evidence of litter, dog fouling or grafitti 4 - 5 - No evidence of litter, dog fouling or grafitti	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
22.Safety	0 - Very unsafe - refer to supplementary sheet 1 - Unsafe - refer to supplementary sheet 2 - Fairly safe - refer to supplementary sheet 3 - Safe - refer to supplementary sheet 4 - 5 - Very safe - refer to supplementary sheet	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
23.General maintenance	0 - Site in serious state of disrepair and falling into serious state of dilapidation 1 - Site with marked evidence of disrepair but not to critical level 2 - 3 - Signs of disrepair and degradation but generally in good order 4 - 5 - Highly maintained, site very clean and tidy, management programme in place	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
	Sub Total	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="115"/>

FACILITIES		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
24.Litter Bins	0 - None 1 - Insufficient number in poor condition 2 - Insufficient number but in good condition 3 - Adequate number in good/average condition 4 - Numerous and in average condition 5 - Numerous and in good condition	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
25.Dog Bins	0 - None 1 - Insufficient number in poor condition 2 - Insufficient number but in good condition 3 - Adequate number in good/average condition 4 - Numerous and in average condition 5 - Numerous and in good condition	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
26.Recycling Bins	0 - None 1 - Insufficient number in poor condition	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

	<p>2 - Insufficient number but in good condition</p> <p>3 - Adequate number in good/average condition</p> <p>4 - Numerous and in average condition</p> <p>5 - Numerous and in good condition</p>		
27.Seats	<p>0 - None</p> <p>1 - Insufficient seats in poor condition</p> <p>2 - Insufficient seats but in good condition</p> <p>3 - Adequate number in good/average condition</p> <p>4 - Numerous for the size of the site and in average condition</p> <p>5 - Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
28.Toilets	<p>0 - None</p> <p>1 - Temporary toilet provision for events only</p> <p>2 - Permanent but off site</p> <p>3 - Permanent but in poor condition and generally avoided by park users</p> <p>4 - Permanent in reasonable condition</p> <p>5 - Permanent easy to access, signed and well maintained</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
29.Car Parking	<p>0 - None</p> <p>1 - Parking provision required, but insufficient or very limited</p> <p>2 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, limited spaces, maintenance poor</p> <p>3 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces but maintenance could be better</p> <p>4 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces, site clean, tidy, in good condition</p> <p>5 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces, site clean, tidy, in good condition and well signed</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
30.Coach Parking	<p>0 - None</p> <p>1 - Parking provision required, but insufficient or very limited</p> <p>2 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, limited spaces, maintenance poor</p> <p>3 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces but maintenance could be better</p> <p>4 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces, site clean, tidy, in good condition</p> <p>5 - Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces, site clean, tidy, in good condition and well signed</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

31.Cycle Parking	<p>0 - None</p> <p>1 - Cycle parking provision required, but insufficient or very limited</p> <p>2 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, but limited spaces, maintenance poor</p> <p>3 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces but maintenance good or reasonable</p> <p>4 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces but maintenance could be better</p> <p>5 - Cycle parking provided in or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces, site clean, tidy, in good condition and well signed</p>	<input type="text"/>	5
32.Bus Stops	<p>0 - None (distant from bus route and bus stop)</p> <p>1 -</p> <p>2 - Bus stop nearby i.e. within 400m but poor service i.e. 1 every hour or less</p> <p>3 - Bus stop nearby i.e. within 400m with good service (more than 1 every hour)</p> <p>4 - Bus stop in or adjacent to space but poor service</p> <p>5 - Bus stop in or adjacent to space with good service</p>	<input type="text"/>	5
33.Metro Train/ Park and Ride	<p>0 - None (distant from metro/train route, park and ride and station)</p> <p>1 -</p> <p>2 -</p> <p>3 - Station nearby i.e. within 400m</p> <p>4 -</p> <p>5 - Station in or adjacent to space, park and ride to the site</p>	<input type="text"/>	5
34.Street Lighting primarily on site but also adjacent	<p>0 - No lighting</p> <p>1 - Poor lighting scheme</p> <p>2 -</p> <p>3 - Reasonable lighting scheme installed</p> <p>4 -</p> <p>5 - Good sustainable lighting scheme installed and well maintained</p>	<input type="text"/>	5
35.Signage	<p>0 - None</p> <p>1 - Poor coverage (inappropriate place, dated, unclear)</p> <p>2 - Poor coverage (but appropriate place, up to date and clear)</p> <p>3 - Reasonable coverage (appropriate place, up to date and clear)</p> <p>4 -</p> <p>5 - Good coverage</p>	<input type="text"/>	5
36.Information	<p>0 - No information available</p> <p>1 - Limited information available and in poor state/vandalised</p> <p>2 - Limited information made available but in a good state</p> <p>3 - Information of high quality available but on-site only i.e. no leaflets/internet</p>	<input type="text"/>	5

	4 - Information of high quality 5 - Information available for all (could be on boards and leaflet form or internet)		
37.Events Programme	0 - No programmed events 1 - Limited programmed events 2 - 3 - Some programmed events for visitors and schools i.e. educational 4 - 5 - Full events programme for visitors and schools	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
		Sub Total	<input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="70"/>

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
Buildings Type. E.g Sports Hall, changing facilities, club house etc.	<input type="text"/>		
38.Access to buildings	0 - None 1 - Membership/restrictive access only 2 - 3 - Schools only 4 - Unrestrictive access limited hours 5 - Unrestricted access extensive hours	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
39.Sports Pitches	0 - None 1 - Informal usage with community access 2 - 3 - Formally laid out with sports posts with community access 4 - 5 - Formally laid out with sports posts with membership/restrictive access only	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Number of pitches/courts by type of sport any age group i.e. junior pitches	<input type="text"/>		
40.Play Equipment	0 - None 1 - Limited in quantity and variety, poorly used 2 - 3 - Evidence of some use but in poor repair or need of improvement 4 - 5 - Fully operational/in good order	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Type of play i.e. Multi-use games area, Dual-use games area (refer to play and urban games strategy, state age group)	<input type="text"/>		
41.Water-based	0 - None/uncontrolled	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

sports (Fishing, boating, jet surfing, model boating	1 - Membership/restrictive access only 2 - 3 - Public/schools 4 - 5 - Open access		
42.Other sports (skiing, orienteering)	0 - None/uncontrolled 1 - Membership/restrictive access only 2 - 3 - Public/schools 4 - Open access limited hours 5 - Open access extensive times	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Type of other sports state	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>		
		Sub Total	<input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="25"/>

BIODIVERSITY		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
43.Protected site	0 - No specific site protection 1 - 2 - 3 - SNCI 4 - SSSI / Rigs 5 - National / European SPA/SAC and Heritage Coast / LNR	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
44.Grassland	0 - None 1 - Mown amenity grassland, improved agricultural pasture or crops 2 - Tall grasses without wildflowers except for ruderals such as docks and thistles 3 - Tall grasses with some wildflowers also present 4 - Old meadows with diversity of grasses and herb species 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
45.Woodland and scrub	0 - None 1 - Groups or ornamental trees with mown grass or bare ground beneath 2 - Newly planted trees (whips or saplings), not yet large enough to form canopy 3 - Established plantation of trees forming a woodland canopy above unmanaged ground, but which lacks any representative woodland 4 - Established broadleaved woodland with elements of shrub layer and	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

<p>46.Hedgerow</p>	<p>native ground flora 5 - Mix from above 5 - Ancient semi-natural woodland, designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species</p> <p>0 - None 1 - Hedges consisting of ornamental species (e.g. privet or laurel) 2 - Hedges consisting of a single species (e.g. hawthorn) 3 - Hedges made up of 3 or 4 woody species, but with a mown/sprayed/ grazed base 4 - Hedges with 3 or 4 woody species, with "A" shaped cross-section and with wildflowers in base 5 - Ancient hedgerows</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
<p>47.Wetlands</p>	<p>0 - None 1 - Ornamental ponds (or park pond) 2 - Pools, seasonal flushes or ditches without natural wetland vegetation 3 - Ponds, streams, ditches with natural wetland vegetation 4 - Lakes or marshes with variety of wetland birds 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
<p>48.Coastal & Esturine (muds, saltmarsh, sanddunes, cliffs, rocky foreshore)</p>	<p>0 - None 1 - Hard edge/vertical defences, dumping/misuse, pollution, severe erosion, no strandline vegetation 2 - 3 - Semi sympathetic defences, some misuse/pollution, some erosion and unwanted vegetation encroachment 4 - Natural edges, well maintained/no maintenance, no unwanted vegetation encroachment 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
<p>49.Other (including e.g. buildings, walls, quarry, cliffs, spoil, bare ground)</p>	<p>0 - None 1 - Biodiversity interest low/little potential 2 - 3 - Biodiversity interest moderate/some potential 4 - Biodiversity interest high/potential high 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
<p>50.Geodiversity (Geology, geomorphology)</p>	<p>0 - None 1 - Little or no geological/geomorphological interest 2 - 3 - Moderate or potential geological/geomorphological interest</p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

	4 - High geological/geomorphological interest 5 - Designated site, protected species, DBAP habitat and/or species								
51. Level of use (wildlife)	1 - Very low 2 - Low 3 - Moderate 4 - High 5 - Very high and diverse	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>						
Evidence of any protected or biodiversity species, include species names	<input type="text"/>								
Flooding	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Zone 1 - Low probability</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zone 2 - Medium probability</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zone 3 - High probability</td> <td><input type="text"/></td> </tr> </table> <p>From Environment Agency Information</p>	Zone 1 - Low probability	<input type="text"/>	Zone 2 - Medium probability	<input type="text"/>	Zone 3 - High probability	<input type="text"/>		
Zone 1 - Low probability	<input type="text"/>								
Zone 2 - Medium probability	<input type="text"/>								
Zone 3 - High probability	<input type="text"/>								
52. General overall maintenance	0 - Nil 1 - Poor 2 - 3 - Adequate 4 - Good 5 - Excellent	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>						
		Sub Total	<input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="50"/>						

LANDSCAPE VISUAL AND CHARACTER		Actual Score	Max.Pot. Score
53. Rarity	1 - Common (Many similar spaces evident throughout study area) 2 - 3 - Uncommon (Some similar spaces throughout study area) 4 - Rare to city 5 - Nationally rare	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
54. Visual Amenity	1 - Poor 2 - 3 - Moderate 4 - 5 - Good (Space looks attractive in general outlook and feel e.g. pleasant views)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
55. Exposure	1 - Poor (Open) 2 - 3 - Moderate (Partially sheltered natural i.e. trees or man made structure) 4 - 5 - Good (Sheltered natural i.e. trees or man made structure)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
56. Defines character	1 - Does not contribute to the character of an area i.e. not in keeping, does not shape an area 2 - Minimal function in defining character of an area, no real positive role 3 - Contributes to character of an area but on a small local level 4 - Contributes to character of an area locally important and valued but not strategic 5 - Very important feature of an area, defines character, enhances character	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>

(include spaces that contribute to Washington Masterplan ethos and green corridors that function as part of a settlement break/green wedge separating identify of settlements and spaces that function as part of a distinct landscape character area, or are part of a conservation area)			
57. Historic Protection	0 - None 1 - Minimal 2 - Some historic value i.e. views of historic feature of interest (not on site) 3 - Historic feature of interest i.e. building or monument, local materials, paving, gates/railings (not listed) on site 4 - Historic park or garden, cemeteries and churchyards, village green or listed building on site 5 - Combination of 3 and 4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
Type of historic feature (indicate in box) e.g. buildings and monuments listed as being of architectural or historic interest other historic buildings or monuments archaeology, including industrial archaeology Historic Park or garden, other historic gardens, landscape features and designed landscapes Historic structure e.g. Bandstands, fountains, statues Village green			
58. Usage (people)	1 - By adjoining property i.e. private space 2 - By neighbourhood 3 - By City 4 - By sub-region 5 - By region/national/international	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
59. Usage Type (people)	1 - Mainly Passive (e.g. people pass through space but do not use it) 2 - Mainly Casual (e.g. sitting, walking informal play) 3 - Mainly Organised (e.g. football fixtures, training, education, organised walks/tasks) 4 - Combination of 2 of above 5 - Combination of 3 above	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
60. Warden or ranger presence	0 - None 5 - Yes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="5"/>
General notes i.e. known community active community involvement groups relating to the site <input type="text"/>			
		Sub Total	<input type="text" value="40"/>
		Grand Total	<input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="300"/>

Appendix 4

Greenspace provision at ARF and Ward level

How this appendix should be used

This appendix should be used as a reference tool explaining how areas work in spatial terms. It seeks to highlight the general status regarding different greenspace issues. It should be noted that chapter 5 may also need to be referenced, in order to explain a specific greenspace issue in more detail, and/or to signpost users to view other key reports.

A. Sunderland North

Sunderland North ARF	Population is 54,675 (19.7% of city population). Area is 1,623 hectares (11.62% of city area).
Total greenspace	Sunderland North is urban in nature; countryside exists to the north but mostly falls within South Tyneside MBC. Countryside is limited to the west by Nissan. While nearly 20% of the population lives in North Sunderland, just 14% of the city's greenspace is located here. However, this statistic can be misleading; some of largest greenspaces in Sunderland exist in open countryside (such as woodland, golf courses, country parks).
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.41 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Town End Farm, Marley Potts and Roker, with 'low' provision identified in Southwick, St Peter's & North Haven.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	ABOVE AVERAGE Scoring 82 points, the average quality score is slightly above the city average. 'Very low quality' is identified at Marley Potts. Low quality is identified at Town End Farm and Southwick.
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE. 90% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at Fulwell, Seaburn and Monkwearmouth.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	AVERAGE 49% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 49%). This is a positive statistic, given the absence of open countryside which limits the overall quantity of natural greenspace available. ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Town End Farm, Redhouse, Southwick, Fulwell (west) and Roker (west). ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE 67% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 65%). Again, this is a positive statistic, given the absence of

	<p>open countryside which limits the overall quantity of natural greenspace available.</p> <p>Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Town End Farm (south), Redhouse (east), Southwick, Monkwearmouth, Fulwell (west) and Roker (west).</p> <p>Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): The only part of the city without access is the north-east part of Sunderland North area.</p>
Formal park access	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>73% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 82%)- the lowest area score recorded.</p> <p>Limited accessibility in Town End Farm, Downhill, Witherwack, Marley Potts, Carley Hill and Seaburn Dene.</p>
Allotment and community gardens – access	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>Although there are a number of large allotment areas, allotment access is limited in Town End Farm and Hylton Castle to the west and Roker and Seaburn to the east.</p>
Allotment quality	<p>GOOD</p>
Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	<p>Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city. North Area now includes Downhill Football Hub.</p>
Cemeteries	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>The area is well-served by 3 municipal cemeteries.</p> <p>No accessibility issues.</p>
Greenspace value	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>Only 15% (6 sites) of all ‘very low value’ sites identified in the city are in North area. 19% (57 sites) of all ‘low value’ sites are in North area.</p>
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	<p>AVERAGE</p> <p>Whilst the coast and riverside areas have good access to routes, the north and north-west of the ARF have relatively poor access. North-south access is particularly limited.</p>

B. Sunderland West

Sunderland West ARF	<p>Population is 63,015 (22.7% of city population). Area is 1,824 hectares (13.06% of city area).</p>
Total greenspace	<p>The West area is urban in nature, bounded by the River Wear to the north and with countryside existing to the west (separated by the A19). While nearly 23% of the population lives in West area, just under 14% of the city’s greenspace is located here. This statistic is a bit misleading, some of largest greenspaces in Sunderland exist in open countryside (such as woodland, golf courses, country parks).</p>
Amenity greenspace quantity:	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>4.31 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 across the city.</p>

	<p>'Very low' provision is identified in St Gabriel's, Elstob, Ford, Pallion, Humbledon and Plains Farm, with 'low' provision identified in Barnes, High Barnes, Nookside, Pennywell, Middle & East Herrington and Thorney Close.</p>
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>Scoring 80 points, the average quality score is slightly below the city average.</p> <p>'Very low quality' is identified at Ford & Pallion, 'low quality' is identified at Farringdon, Thorney Close and Pennywell.</p>
Outdoor play provision	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>95% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at west Pennywell and Hastings Hill.</p>
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>54% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 49%). This is a positive statistic, given the absence of open countryside which limits the overall quantity of natural greenspace available.</p> <p>ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Pennywell (east), Nookside, Ford, Pallion, Hastings Hill, Farringdon and Silksworth (south).</p> <p>ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement.</p> <p>ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement.</p> <p>ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.</p>
Woodland	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>60% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 65%).</p> <p>Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Pennywell (east), Nookside, Pallion, Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close, Springwell, Middle Herrington and Silksworth (south).</p> <p>Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.</p>
Formal park access	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>85% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 82%).</p> <p>Limited accessibility in Ford, Pallion, South Hylton and west Pennywell.</p>
Allotment and community gardens – access	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>Although there is a reasonable proportion of allotments across the area, there is limited access in Middle & East Herrington, Pennywell, Hastings Hill and Grindon.</p>
Allotment quality	<p>GOOD</p>
Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	<p>Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city. West Area now includes Ford Quarry Football Hub.</p>
Cemeteries	<p>AVERAGE</p> <p>The area is well-served by Bishopwearmouth cemetery and crematorium. No accessibility issues.</p>

Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE 13% (5 sites) of all 'very low value' sites identified in the city are in West area. 13% (39 sites) of all 'low value' sites are in West area.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	AVERAGE There are routes to the north and to the south of the area, but access is limited in central areas and north-south.

C. Sunderland East

Sunderland East ARF	Population is 57,117 (20.6% of city population). Area is 2,450 hectares (17.55% of city area).
Total greenspace	Sunderland East is mainly urban in nature, open countryside and Green Belt exists to the south and the coast forms the eastern boundary. The River Wear forms the northern boundary. There is a further central band of countryside stretching from the coast inland to Silksworth. While 20% of the population lives in East Sunderland, just 15% of the city's greenspace is located here. This statistic is a bit misleading, some of largest greenspaces in Sunderland exist in open countryside (such as woodland, golf courses, country parks).
Amenity greenspace quantity:	LOW 3.19 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Thornhill, Queen Alexandra Road, Hillview, Grangetown, Hendon and Millfield, with 'low' provision identified in Ashbrooke.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	ABOVE AVERAGE Scoring 85 points, the quality score is the highest for any of the 5 areas in the city. 'Very low quality' is identified at Hall Farm and Chapelgarth.
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE 90% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at Moorside, Queen Alexandra Road, Hillview, Chapelgarth and Hall Farm.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE 40% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 49%). This represents the lowest access of the 5 area frameworks. ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Millfield, Thornhill, Hendon, Grangetown, Hillview, Hollycarrside, Ryhope and Doxford (east). ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE 52% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 65%).

	Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Doxford (east), Ryhope, Hollycarrside, Grangetown, Hendon, East End, Thornhill, Millfield. Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE 81% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 82%). Limited accessibility in East End, Grangetown, Hollycarrside, Ryhope village and Hall Farm.
Allotment and community gardens – access	BELOW AVERAGE Allotment access is limited in all neighbourhoods surrounding the City Centre.
Allotment quality	GOOD Low quality allotments in Ryhope.
Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city.
Cemeteries	ABOVE AVERAGE The area is well-served by 2 municipal cemeteries. No accessibility issues.
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE 10% (4 sites) of all ‘very low value’ sites identified in the city are in East area. 11% (34 sites) of all ‘low value’ sites are in East area.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	ABOVE AVERAGE Links have improved in recent years with the English Coast Path improving access to the coastline.

D. Washington

Washington ARF	Population is 54,443 (19.6% of city population). Area is 3,345 hectares (23.95% of city area).
Total greenspace	The area forms a New Town, largely urban, but flanked on the north and south but Green Belt, and east by a mixture of Green Belt and industrial land. While nearly 20% of the population lives in Washington ARF, more than 26% of the city’s greenspace is located here. This reflects the green blueprint originally set out for the New Town, and also the extensive natural greenspaces that flank the River Wear.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	HIGH 6.80 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 across the city. Despite this high figure, there are still areas of low provision. Low provision is located in Barmston, Columbia and Usworth.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Scoring 80 points, the average quality score is slightly below the city average. ‘Very low quality’ is identified at Barmston and Columbia.

Outdoor play provision	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>93% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space.</p> <p>Lower accessibility levels are identified at Usworth and Fatfield.</p>
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>43% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 49%). This is despite the area containing a high proportion of natural greenspace areas overall.</p> <p>ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Springwell Village, Donwell, Albany, Blackfell, Usworth, Concord, Sulgrave, Hertburn, Barmston, Columbia, Oxclose and Ayton.</p> <p>ANGST (20ha) – there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 20 hectares+ size) in Springwell Village, Donwell, Usworth, Usworth Hall and Sulgrave.</p> <p>ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement.</p> <p>ANGST (500ha) – 40% achievement. Much of Washington lies over 10km away from the Durham Heritage Coastline.</p>
Woodland	<p>HIGH</p> <p>75% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 65%).</p> <p>Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Springwell Village, Donwell, Blackfell, Usworth, Ayton and Barmston.</p> <p>Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.</p>
Formal park access	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>84% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 82%).</p> <p>Limited accessibility in Donwell, Usworth, Blackfell and Barmston.</p>
Allotment and community gardens – access	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>In terms of accessibility, it is apparent that Washington area has limited access to allotments. Provision is especially low in the west of the New Town.</p>
Allotment quality	<p>GOOD</p>
Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	<p>Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city. Washington Area now includes Washington Football Hub.</p>
Cemeteries	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>The ARF has one cemetery, which has no new burial space available. However, there is plentiful capacity elsewhere in the city. A new cemetery site for Washington remains an option, however.</p>
Greenspace value	<p>AVERAGE</p> <p>Only 8% (3 sites) of all ‘very low value’ sites identified in the city are in Washington area. However, 28% (83 sites) of all ‘low value’ sites are in Washington area.</p>

Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	BELOW AVERAGE Whilst there is a network of off-road pathways criss-crossing the New Town, use is restricted to walking only.
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E. Coalfield

Coalfield ARF	Population is 48,455 (17.4% of city population). Area is 4,722 hectares (33.82% of city area).
Total greenspace	The Coalfield area consists of a number of towns and villages within an otherwise rural setting. Open countryside and Green Belt separates the area from Sunderland, Washington, Durham and Murton. While only 17% of the population lives in the Coalfield, just over 30% of the city's greenspace is located here, (more closely mirroring the equivalent land area). The area includes many of the largest greenspaces, including 3 country parks, a major nature reserve, riverside woodland and 3 golf courses.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	HIGH 7.38 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 across the city. Despite this high figure, there are still areas of low provision. 'Very low' provision is identified in Chilton Moor, Dubmire, Fencehouses and Success, with 'low' provision identified in Burnside, Sunnyside and Old Penshaw.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Scoring 79 points, the Coalfield has the lowest quality average of the 5 areas. 'Very low' provision is identified in Burnside, Sunnyside and Fencehouses, with 'low' provision identified in Chilton Moor, Dubmire, Low Moorsley, Easington Lane, Penshaw and Shiney Row.
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE. 93% of the population has access to a fixed outdoor play space. Lower accessibility levels are identified at Broomhill.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE 61% of the population can reach a quality natural greenspace within 300m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 49%). ANGST (2ha)– there is limited access to high quality natural greenspaces (of 2 hectares+ size) in Penshaw, Shiney Row, Newbottle, Racecourse Estate, Burnside, Sunnyside, Dubmire and Colliery Row. ANGST (20ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (100ha) – 100% achievement. ANGST (500ha) – 100% achievement.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE 73% of the population can reach an area of accessible woodland (of over 2 hectares in size) within 500m of their home (as opposed to the city-wide average of 65%). Woodland Trust (2 hectare accessible woodland site): there is limited access in Shiney Row, Newbottle, Dubmire and Racecourse Estate. Woodland Trust (20 hectare accessible woodland site): 100% coverage.

Formal park access	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>89% of the population has reasonable access to a formal park or country park (as opposed to the city-wide average of 82%).</p> <p>Limited accessibility in Newbottle, Burnside, Dubmire and Low Moorsley.</p>
Allotment and community gardens – access	<p>VERY HIGH</p> <p>The Coalfield area provides 36% of the city’s allotments, twice the city average.</p>
Allotment quality	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p>
Outdoor Sports facilities – key issues	<p>Sunderland Playing Pitch Plan separately considers playing pitch need across the city.</p>
Cemeteries	<p>ABOVE AVERAGE</p> <p>The area is well-served by 3 municipal cemeteries.</p> <p>No accessibility issues.</p>
Greenspace value	<p>BELOW AVERAGE</p> <p>55% (22 sites) of all ‘very low value’ sites identified in the city are in the Coalfield area. In addition, 29% (87 sites) of all ‘low value’ sites are also in Coalfield area.</p>
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	<p>AVERAGE</p> <p>Whilst there are good west-east connections from the Coalfield to Sunderland and Durham City, north-south routes are limited. There is no clear route threading together Easington Lane, Hetton, Houghton, Shiney Row and Washington.</p>

Greenspace provision at Ward level

A. Sunderland North

CASTLE	Population is 10,834. Area is 363.55 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 5.39 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Town End Farm.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Low' quality provision in Town End Farm.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	HIGH Limited access in Town End Farm
Woodland	HIGH Limited access in Town End Farm (south).
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Town End Farm.
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY LOW There is limited provision across Town End Farm, Hylton Castle and Castletown.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Hylton Castle.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	North-south connections could be further improved.

FULWELL	Population is 10,907. Area is 275.22 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	LOW 2.91 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 88 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Fulwell and Seaburn Dene.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	AVERAGE Limited access in Fulwell (west).
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Fulwell (west). Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Fulwell, Seaburn Dene and South Bents.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE

	Limited access in Seaburn Dene.
Allotment/community gardens – access	ABOVE AVERAGE There is limited or no provision in Seaburn and Fulwell.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to the north-south route along the coast with no inland routes in place.

REDHILL	Population is 11,208. Area is 277.33 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 5.12 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Marley Potts.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 80 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Redhouse.
Woodland	HIGH Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Redhouse (east). Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Downhill, Redhouse and Witherwack.
Formal park access	LOW Limited access in Downhill and Witherwack.
Allotment/community gardens – access	HIGH
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Downhill and Redhouse.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to west-east connection along North Hylton Road with no north-south connections in place.

SOUTHWICK	Population is 10,750. Area is 465.82 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	HIGH 7.14 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Low' provision identified in Southwick locality.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	ABOVE AVERAGE Average score is 84 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Very low' quality provision in Marley Potts and 'low' quality provision in Southwick locality.

Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Southwick.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Southwick and Monkwearmouth. Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Marley Potts and Carley Hill.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Marley Potts and Carley Hill.
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY HIGH
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Carley Hill.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to west-east C2C corridor with no north-south connections in place.

ST PETER'S	Population is 10,976. Area is 241.01 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY LOW 1.55 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Roker, with 'low' provision identified in St Peter's and North Haven.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 89 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited provision in Monkwearmouth.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Roker (west).
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Roker (west). Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Roker (east).
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	LOW There is limited or no provision in Roker and St Peter's.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to the coast and river with limited inland routes in place.

B. Sunderland West

BARNES	Population is 10,645. Area is 214.06 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.09 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Humbledon and Plains Farm, with 'low' provision identified in Barnes and High Barnes localities.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 92 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	HIGH
Woodland	VERY HIGH
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY HIGH
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to National Route 1 along the eastern edge of the Ward only, with no connections further west.

PALLION	Population is 10,822. Area is 341.42 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	LOW 3.05 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in St Gabriel's, Ford and Pallion.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 80 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Very low' quality provision in Ford & Pallion localities.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Ford and Pallion localities.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Pallion locality.
Formal park access	LOW Limited access in Ford and Pallion.
Allotment/community gardens – access	ABOVE AVERAGE
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE

Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to the west-east route to the north of Pallion, with no connections further south.
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SANDHILL	Population is 10,808. Area is 259.58 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.66 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Low' provision identified in Thorney Close.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 77 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Low' quality provision in Thorney Close.
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited provision in Hastings Hill.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Hastings Hill.
Woodland	VERY LOW Limited access in Hastings Hill, Grindon, Thorney Close and Springwell.
Formal park access	HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Hastings Hill, Grindon and Thorney Close.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Grindon.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	There are no connections within the Ward.

SILKSWORTH	Population is 10,400. Area is 390.65 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	HIGH 7.56 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Elstob.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 91 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Silksworth (south).
Woodland	HIGH

	Limited access in Silkworth (south).
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY HIGH
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Silkworth locality.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Well connected with route from Doxford International to City Centre and eastwards to Ryhope.

ST ANNE'S	Population is 11,058. Area is 320.61 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	LOW 2.75 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Low' provision identified in Nookside and Pennywell.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 78 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Low' quality provision in Pennywell.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD Limited provision in west Pennywell.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Pennywell (east) and Nookside.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Pennywell (east) and Nookside.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in South Hylton and west Pennywell.
Allotment/community gardens – access	AVERAGE Limited access in Pennywell.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Limited to west-east route from South Hylton to Pallion, with no connections through Pennywell.

ST CHAD'S	Population is 9,282. Area is 316.31 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 3.85 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Low' provision identified in Middle and East Herrington.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	LOW Average score is 75 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Low' quality provision in Farrington.

Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Farrington.
Woodland	AVERAGE Limited access in Middle Herrington.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	LOW Limited access in Middle Herrington, East Herrington and Farrington.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Farrington and East Herrington.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to north-south route to the east of the Ward, with no routes linking northwards.

C. Sunderland East

DOXFORD	Population is 9,607. Area is 915.16 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 5.84 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 79 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Very low' quality provision in Hall Farm & Chapelgarth.
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited provision in Moorside, Hall Farm and Chapelgarth.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Doxford (east).
Woodland	VERY HIGH Limited access in Doxford (east).
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Hall Farm.
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY HIGH
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Moorside, Hall Farm, Chapelgarth and Tunstall Bank Estate.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connections are limited to north-south route to the west of the Ward, with no routes through the centre of Doxford.

HENDON	Population is 12,958. Area is 417.10 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY LOW 2.34 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Hendon locality.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 92 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Hendon locality.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Hendon and East End.
Formal park access	HIGH Limited access in East End and Grangetown.
Allotment/community gardens – access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited or no access in East End and Hendon (north).
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Further links along the eastern part of the Ward are needed.

MILLFIELD	Population is 12,680. Area is 256.87 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY LOW 1.95 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Millfield and Thornhill localities.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	ABOVE AVERAGE Average score is 85 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	VERY LOW Limited access in Millfield and Thornhill localities.
Woodland	VERY LOW Limited access in Millfield and Thornhill localities.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY LOW Limited or zero access in Millfield and Thornhill.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Well-connected west-east to City Centre and to the south.

RYHOPE	Population is 11,165. Area is 576.59 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.34 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Grangetown.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	ABOVE AVERAGE Average score is 84 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Hollycarrside and Ryhope localities.
Woodland	LOW Limited access in Hollycarrside and Ryhope.
Formal park access	LOW Limited access in Hollycarrside and Ryhope village.
Allotment/community gardens – access	HIGH
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Ryhope.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Well connected with routes to the north, south and west.

ST MICHAEL'S	Population is 10,707. Area is 275.71 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY LOW 2.11 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Queen Alexandra Road and Hillview, with 'low' provision identified in Ashbrooke.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	HIGH Average score is 92 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited provision in Hillview and Queen Alexandra Road.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Grangetown and Hillview.
Woodland	HIGH Limited access in Grangetown.
Formal park access	HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Ashbrooke.
Allotment quality	GOOD

Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	ABOVE AVERAGE
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Still lacking a route through the centre of the Ward.

D. Washington

WASHINGTON CENTRAL	Population is 10,771. Area is 321.98 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 5.66 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	ABOVE AVERAGE Average score is 82 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Very low' quality provision in Columbia.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	VERY HIGH Limited provision in Columbia.
Woodland	VERY HIGH
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment community gardens – access	LOW Limited or no provision in Glebe, Lambton and Biddick.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Glebe and Lambton.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	No routes through the Ward.

WASHINGTON EAST	Population is 11,314. Area is 765.96 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY HIGH 9.44 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. Low provision is located in Barmston and Columbia.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 79 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Very low' quality provision in Barmston and Columbia.
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited provision in Fatfield.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace	HIGH Limited access in Barmston.
Woodland	HIGH Limited access in Barmston.
Formal park access	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Barmston.
Allotment/community gardens – access	ABOVE AVERAGE
Allotment quality	ABOVE AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentration of low value sites in Harraton.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connected with routes to the west and northeast towards Nissan, but no direct link to Washington Galleries.

WASHINGTON NORTH	Population is 10,918. Area is 1,178.13 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY HIGH 7.81 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. Low provision is located in Usworth.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	AVERAGE Average score is 81 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited provision in Usworth.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	VERY LOW Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Usworth, Concord, Sulgrave and Hertburn. Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Usworth, Usworth Hall and Sulgrave.
Woodland	VERY HIGH Limited access in Usworth.
Formal park access	AVERAGE Limited access in Usworth.
Allotment/community gardens – access	HIGH
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Concord, Sulgrave and Hertburn.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Links required into Concord and towards The Galleries.

WASHINGTON SOUTH	Population is 9,997. Area is 432.64 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	HIGH 6.85 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 80 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Oxclose and Ayton.
Woodland	HIGH Limited access in Ayton.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	LOW Limited or no provision in Rickleton, Harraton and Oxclose.
Allotment quality	GOOD
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Oxclose and Rickleton.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Connected in most directions, but direct link to Washington Galleries still needed.

WASHINGTON WEST	Population is 11,443. Area is 645.65 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	BELOW AVERAGE 4.27 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 79 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	VERY LOW Limited access to 2ha+ sites in Springwell Village, Donwell, Albany and Blackfell. Limited access to 20ha+ sites in Springwell Village and Donwell.
Woodland	LOW Limited access in Springwell Village, Donwell and Blackfell.
Formal park access	LOW Limited access in Blackfell and Donwell.
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY LOW Limited or no provision in Blackfell, Donwell, Albany and Usworth.
Allotment quality	AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Albany and Blackfell.

Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	No routes within Ward.
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E. Coalfield

COPT HILL	Population is 11,714. Area is 1,510.95 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	LOW 3.65 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 79 (compared to city-wide score of 81).
Outdoor play provision	BELOW AVERAGE Limited provision in Broomhill.
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Newbottle and Racecourse Estate.
Woodland	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Newbottle and Racecourse Estate.
Formal park access	ABOVE AVERAGE Limited access in Newbottle.
Allotment/community gardens – access	HIGH
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Newbottle, Racecourse Estate and Hetton Downs.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Further links north towards Shiney Row and to Doxford International are needed.

HETTON	Population is 11,886. Area is 1,558.99 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY HIGH 7.82 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 80 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Low' quality provision at Low Moorsley and Easington Lane.
Outdoor play provision	ABOVE AVERAGE
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	HIGH
Woodland	VERY HIGH
Formal park access	HIGH Limited access in Low Moorsley.

Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY HIGH
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Hetton Lyons, Easington Lane, Low Moorsley and Park Estate.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Reasonably well connected Ward.

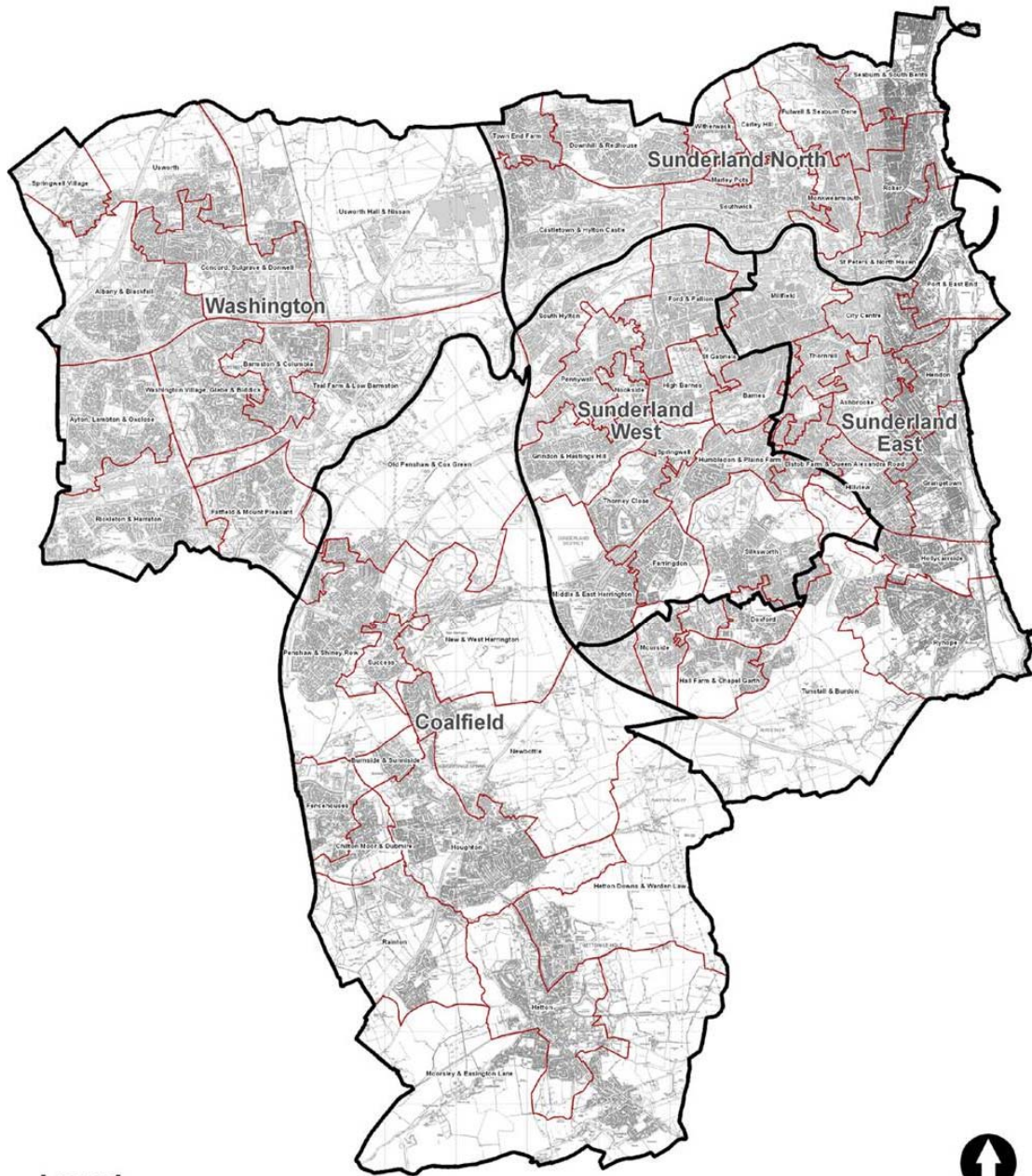
HOUGHTON	Population is 11,643. Area is 547.42 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	ABOVE AVERAGE 5.23 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city. 'Very low' provision is identified in Chilton Moor, Dubmire, Fencehouses and Success, with 'low' provision identified in Burnside and Sunnyside.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 77 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Very low' quality provision at Burnside, Sunnyside and Fencehouses and 'low' quality provision at Chilton Moor and Dubmire.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Burnside, Sunnyside, Dubmire and Colliery Row.
Woodland	HIGH Limited access in Dubmire.
Formal park access	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Burnside and Dubmire.
Allotment/community gardens – access	HIGH
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Burnside, Sunnyside and Houghton.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	Limited connected routes within Ward.

SHINEY ROW	Population is 13,212. Area is 1,093.2 hectares.
Amenity greenspace quantity:	VERY HIGH 12.20 ha/1000 population, as opposed to 5.13 ha/1000 population across the city.

	'Low' provision identified in Old Penshaw.
The quality of amenity greenspaces:	BELOW AVERAGE Average score is 80 (compared to city-wide score of 81). 'Low' quality provision at Penshaw and Shiney Row localities.
Outdoor play provision	GOOD
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	HIGH Limited access in Penshaw and Shiney Row localities.
Woodland	BELOW AVERAGE Limited access in Shiney Row.
Formal park access	VERY HIGH
Allotment/community gardens – access	VERY HIGH
Allotment quality	BELOW AVERAGE
Outdoor Sports facilities	Refer to Playing Pitch Plan
Greenspace value	BELOW AVERAGE Concentrations of low value sites in Penshaw and Shiney Row.
Cycle route and Rights of Way network access	No connected routes to Washington, Houghton Town Centre or towards Sunderland.

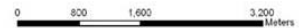
Appendix 5

2020 Sunderland Area Frameworks and neighbourhood localities



Legend

-  ARF boundaries
-  Neighbourhood boundaries



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Appendix 6

Planning Applications - Additional text for consideration

In justifying a loss of greenspace in accordance with Policy NE4 of the CSDP, consideration should also be given to:

- Whether there are deficiencies in other types of open space in the area, such as allotments or natural greenspaces;
- All functions that open space can perform have been considered and the loss of the open space would not have an adverse impact on the ability of the wider area to achieve these functions;
- The open space is not protected by a planning or statutory designation, nor is it of historic, ecological or landscape significance;
- The open space does not form part of, nor has it the potential, to create a link between spaces;
- The open space does not contribute to or have the potential to contribute to the character or the amenity of the area;
- There is no identified open space deficiency in the area and its loss does not create one;
- The community has been consulted and the proposal for an alternative use is widely supported;
- There is no net loss of biodiversity or increase in an area of deficiency in access to nature; and
- Other statutory authorities, such as the Environment Agency, do not identify the open space as providing a significant ecosystem service.

