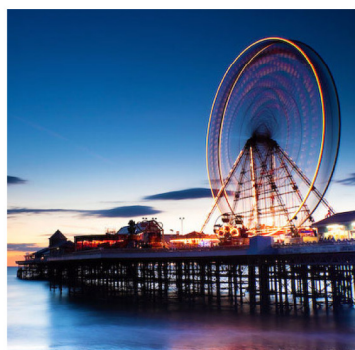
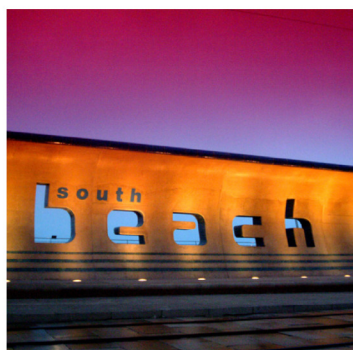


Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Blackpool Council



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Contents

1 Introduction	3
2 Policy Context	5
3 Blackpool Profile	13
4 Methodology	17
5 Borough Overview	21
6 Parks and Gardens	23
7 Amenity Greenspace	34
8 Provision for Children and Young People	40
9 Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, and Green Corridors	46
10 Allotments and Community Gardens	55
11 Civic and Market Squares, and other Hard Surfaced Areas	61
12 Cemeteries and Churchyards	65
13 Indoor Sports Provision	68
14 Outdoor Sports Facilities	70
15 Area Analysis	80
16 Summary and Key Recommendations	94
Appendix A: Site Profiles	98
Appendix B: Area Maps	148

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Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

1. Introduction

1.1 Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities; and if well designed and maintained they can make areas attractive places to live, work and visit.

1.2 Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (PPG17): Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002) aimed to improve the quantity and quality of open space, by requiring local authorities to undertake an assessment of needs and opportunities in their area, and to develop a series of local standards by which to improve the overall provision of open space.

1.3 In 2009 an audit was carried out to assess the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities in Blackpool, based on PPG17 and its Companion Guide (Assessing Needs and Opportunities). This did not aim to provide a full PPG17 assessment, but to set out the steps taken to progress to such an assessment, as well as to provide an overview of all open space, sport and recreation sites in the Borough, including the quality and quantity, and to make recommendations to inform the development of planning policy.

1.4 The purpose of the 2014 update is to review this information and take into account any changes in open space provision in the Borough since 2009. In doing so, it will provide an updated position on the latest provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities in Blackpool. This work is being done in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) (2014) which have replaced PPG17 and its Companion Guide.

1.5 The 2009 audit has been used to support the preparation of the Blackpool Core Strategy to date, including proposed policies on open space, sport and recreation facilities. This 2014 update will ensure that the Core Strategy is supported by an up-to-date assessment and will form part of the evidence base. It will also inform the development of future planning

policy as appropriate, including the Site Allocations and Development Management DPD, Supplementary Planning Documents and any Neighbourhood Plans which may come forward.

1.6 This work is also expected to influence the development of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy for Blackpool and a future review of SPG 11: Open Space: Provision for New Residential Development and the Funding System (1999).

1.7 The definition of open space used in this update is unchanged from the 2009 audit, which was set out in previous national planning policy (PPG17) and is now subsequently set out in the NPPF:

“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”.

1.8 The following typologies of open space, sport and recreation facilities are used (unchanged from 2009):

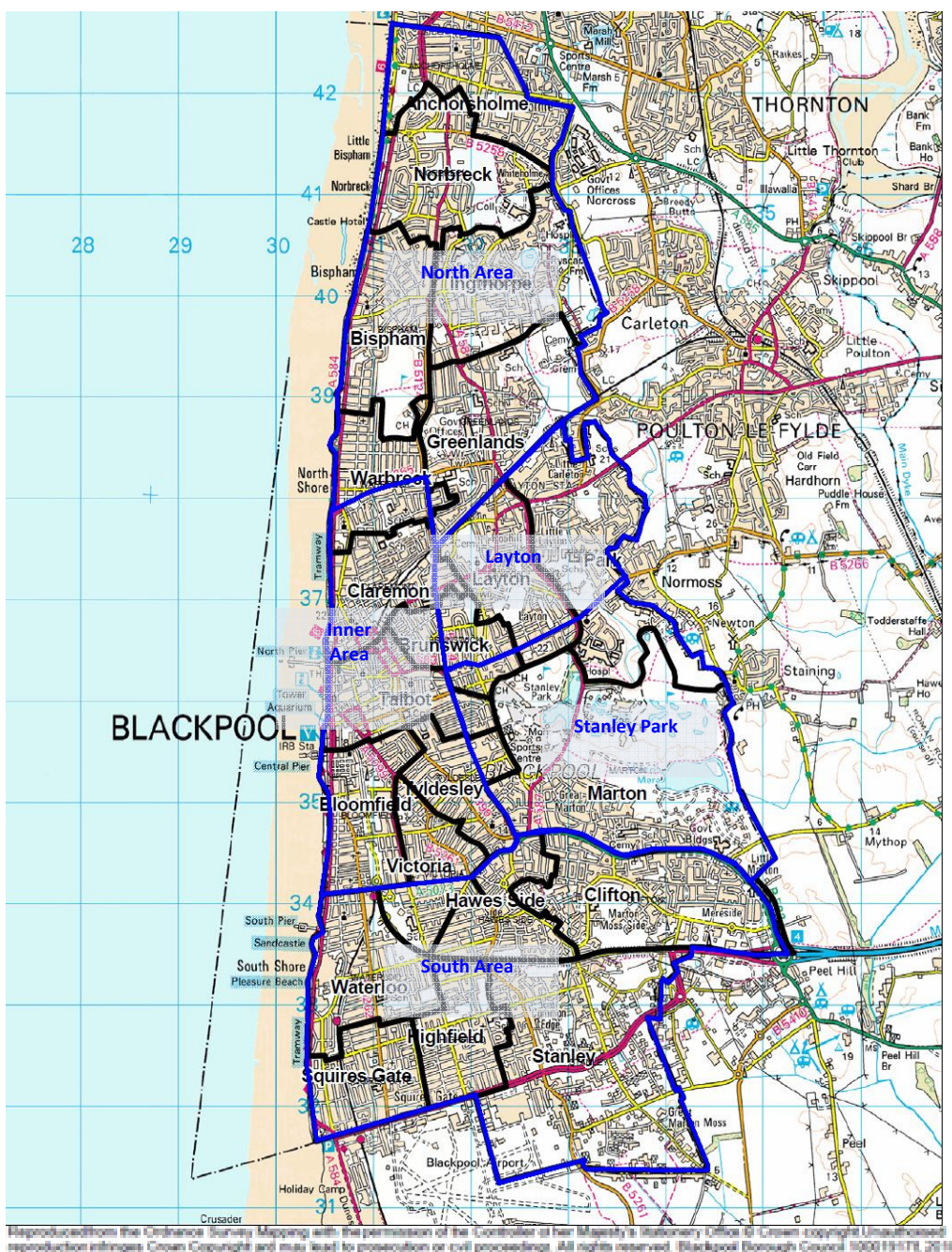
- Allotments
- Amenity Greenspace
- Cemeteries and Churchyards
- Civic and Market Squares
- Community Gardens
- Green Corridors
- Hard Surfaced Areas
- Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People
- Indoor Sports Provision

1.9 Each site is assessed with information provided on their type, size and location. This helps determine overall provision in the Borough in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility of each typology. Furthermore, the Borough is divided into five areas (Inner, North,

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Layton, Stanley Park and South) and the provision of each typology is assessed for each area. Further detail on the methodology is set out in Section 3.

Figure 1: Study Areas



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

2. Policy Context

National context

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

2.1 The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies and how these should be applied. The requirements of the NPPF in relation to open space (replacing PPG17) are that:

"Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreation provision is required." [Paragraph 73]

"Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land 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;*
- *the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
- *the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs of which clearly outweigh the loss"* [Paragraph 74]

2.2 This update has been prepared in line with the requirement for assessments of need for sport and recreation facilities to be robust and up-to-date.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)

2.3 The following guidance on how open space should be taken into account in planning and assessing

open space is provided on the Government's website (replacing the Companion Guide to PPG17):

"Open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space (see NPPF paragraphs 73-74). Open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks. It can provide health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby; have an ecological value and contribute to green infrastructure (see NPPF paragraph 114), as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development, and an important component in the achievement of sustainable development (see NPPF paragraphs 6-10).

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."

Other Relevant National Guidance

2.4 Sport England aims to ensure positive planning for sport, enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places, based on robust and up-to-date assessments of need for all levels of sport and all sectors of the community. To achieve this their objectives are to seek to protect sports facilities from loss as a result of redevelopment; to enhance existing facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and management and to provide new facilities that are fit for purpose to meet demands for participation now and in the future. These are set out in the Planning for Sport Forward Planning Guide (Sport England, 2014).

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

2.5 The PPG points to Sport England for guidance on assessing the need for sport and recreation facilities (following the withdrawal of PPG17 and its Companion Guide in 2012). This is set out in the 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for indoor and outdoor sports facilities' (Sport England, 2014). This guide has primarily been produced to help local authorities meet the requirements of the NPPF. Use of the guide will help to ensure the development of positively prepared policies and a sound local plan.

Local context

Current Blackpool Local Plan 2001-16 (2006)

2.6 The Blackpool Local Plan (2001-2016) sets out policies for the town's physical regeneration; balances future development needs against the protection of the countryside and open space; and reflects the need to make the best use of land in Blackpool given its tightly drawn boundary and shortage of developable land. New housing and employment development is entirely focused on the existing urban area. The main focus for promoting and managing change, including open space, sports and recreation, is similarly on the urban area, with opportunities for new provision more limited.

2.7 The Local Plan identifies 4 main components for promoting and managing change in Blackpool:

Town centre and resort regeneration - creating a development framework and conditions for physical changes to the town centre and main resort areas to provide compelling reason to come into the heart of Blackpool as a resident, business investor or visitor;

Neighbourhood development - promoting change and development where it is most needed, and managing change to achieve more balanced and healthy communities. The Council will work with local communities to develop neighbourhood plans for priority neighbourhoods;

Resort management - ensuring the most is gained from resources, land, buildings and facilities that contribute positively to Blackpool;

Quality - promoting or managing change to raise all aspects of environmental quality for residents, visitors and businesses (Blackpool's success as a residential community and a visitor destination depends on the quality of its environment).

2.8 In terms of open space, sport and recreation the Local Plan aim and objective is to:

"Shape the future physical development of neighbourhoods in a way that encourages more balanced and healthy local communities and promotes social inclusion"

2.9 Since 1999, there have been limited changes in the availability of open space due to the established pattern of provision and the compact and urban nature of Blackpool. Of paramount importance has been the protection and safeguarding of existing open space, sport and recreation facilities to ensure that the Borough retains an adequate provision. It has also been a priority to improve open space provision and access to sports and recreation facilities in the inner area neighbourhoods to address current deficiencies (whilst recognising the challenges in doing so).

2.10 The current Local Plan aims to ensure that all neighbourhoods have access to at least one significant area of green space that is attractive, safe and useable. It emphasises the importance of recreation and open space, particularly in Blackpool, where the historical pattern of development has left minimal open green spaces in the inner areas. To achieve this, policies focus on protecting, and where possible, enhancing existing open space and facilities and developing new areas, to improve the quality and quantity of open space and recreational facilities throughout the Borough and increase their accessibility to local residents. Complementing these policies is a framework to regenerate the inner area neighbourhoods.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

2.11 There are a number of specific policies in relation to **safeguarding and enhancing existing open space and recreation provision** which have been 'saved' and remain part of Blackpool's Development Plan. These are as follows:

BH5 Protection of Public Open Space

Development of public open space will not be permitted unless:

- a) the proposal would support existing sport and recreational uses, or would provide facilities for new sports or recreational uses; and*
- b) it is incorporated sensitively into its surroundings, maintaining or enhancing the character of the open space; or*
- c) provision is made for a replacement area of open space that is at least as accessible to current and potential users, and is at least equivalent in terms of size, usefulness, attractiveness and quality.*

2.12 Policy BH5 safeguards all existing public open space from inappropriate development, given that within Blackpool's urban area it is highly valued and provides important recreational, sports and visual amenity benefits. Development is limited to small-scale structures which would support existing recreational uses or provide facilities for new recreational uses, providing they are developed in a sensitive manner. In certain cases an area of open space may be substituted for another to allow the development of a site; as long as the alternative provision would be better than, or at least the equivalent of, the current provision.

BH7 Playing Fields and Sports Grounds

Development that would result in the loss of existing playing fields and sports grounds, including school playing fields and playgrounds will not be permitted unless:

- a) it is ancillary to such use and does not adversely affect the quantity or quality of pitches and their use;*
- b) it only affects land which is incapable of forming a playing pitch (or part of one)*
- c) the playing fields or sport ground that would be lost would be replaced by equivalent or better quantity or quality of provision in a suitable location*
- d) it is for an outdoor or indoor sports facility of sufficient benefit to outweigh the loss of the playing field or sports ground; or*
- e) in the case of school playing fields or playgrounds:*
 - the land is needed for the expansion of school facilities, and*
 - a sufficient area of playing fields/ playground is retained to meet existing and future school needs, and*
 - the land is not required to meet other existing or potential future community needs and its development is supported by the wider community.*

2.13 Policy BH7 applies to playing fields within areas of existing open space or school sites and to other sports grounds, generally in private ownership. It safeguards all playing fields and sports grounds from inappropriate development. Development adversely affecting the quantity or quality of playing field or sports ground provision will only be permitted where there are wider community benefits and the development is supported by the community. The Council will seek to increase community use of playing fields and supporting school sports facilities.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

BH8 Open Land Meeting Community and Recreational Needs

Development of land shown on the Proposals Map as other open land meeting important community and recreational needs will not be permitted unless:

- a) the development only covers a small part of the site and enhances community or recreational use; and*
- b) the development maintains the open character of the land.*

2.14 Other urban greenspace, even if not generally accessible to the public, is deemed an essential feature of the urban environment, contributes to the character and amenity of different parts of the town and helps to meet the community's recreational needs. Policy BH8 therefore resists development of these sites except where redevelopment of a small part of the site will enhance sports or recreational provision whilst maintaining the open character of the land.

BH9 Allotments

Alternative uses of allotment sites will not be permitted unless:

- a) a suitable alternative site of equivalent size and quality is provided; or*
- b) there is no identified need and it has been underused or derelict for a long period.*

2.15 Council allotments form an important part of leisure provision and Policy BH9 safeguards them from development. Alternative uses for allotments will not be permitted unless there is clearly surplus land having regard to long-term vacancy levels and future needs.

NE5 Other Sites of Nature Conservation Value

Development will not be permitted that would destroy or adversely affect County Heritage Sites – biological or geological – and other sites of importance to nature conservation interests, including all ponds in the Borough.

Where in exceptional circumstances the benefits of development proposals clearly outweigh the extent of ecological or geological harm, developers will be required to compensate for such harm to the fullest practicable extent with the conservation interests of the site.

2.16 Apart from the statutorily designated SSSI (Marton Mere), the highly built up nature of Blackpool limits the number of sites of nature conservation interest, increasing the importance of protection of any sites where nature conservation interests are identified. In June 1991, the Council formally declared the Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve and has since prepared a Management Plan to manage, enhance and promote the Reserve. The Council will actively seek to unlock the potential for such sites and improve the natural environment for local resident. Potential measures include landscape renewal, wildlife habitats, footpaths, tree planting and community woodlands as well as more formal and informal provision for recreational facilities.

NE7 Sites and Features of Landscape, Nature Conservation and Environmental Value

The Council will protect and retain sites and features of landscape, nature conservation and environmental value. Particular importance is attached to:

- sites within the densely built-up inner areas*
- prominent road/railway frontage sites that provide attractive open breaks*
- groups of trees and hedgerows that contribute to*

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

public amenity and/or of nature conservation importance

- *watercourses*
- *other habitats listed in the Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) or supporting species listed in the BAP.*

Development proposals must ensure that these sites and features are protected and where possible enhanced. The Council will identify suitable sites for landscape enhancement and use its powers to promote and encourage their renewal, including maximising benefits for nature conservation using available grant resources.

2.17 Policy NE7 aims to retain and enhance remaining open land not otherwise protected by other safeguarding policies which, due to Blackpool's intensely built-up urban area, has important landscape, nature conservation and environmental/amenity value for the community. It requires substantial development proposals or any proposals affecting prominent or sensitive sites to have regard to their landscape character and include an assessment of their potential impact on the open and urban landscape. Where such sites are identified as of importance, the Council will seek their conservation.

NE8 Urban Greenspace

The following sites are identified as important open landscape areas which contribute significantly to the character of the surrounding area and which will be safeguarded as urban greenspace:

E8.1 Warren Drive

Within the site:

- *proposals for landscape enhancement including new planting will be pursued*
- *open aspects across the site will be retained*
- *public access will be retained to the Warren Drive frontage and along the west and east of the site*

E8.2 Geldof Drive/Warley Road

Within the site:

- *proposals for landscape renewal will be pursued to create a natural 'wild' greenspace*
- *open recreational access will be provided from adjoining residential areas.*

2.18 Reflecting their character and landscape value, Policy NE8 safeguards sites at Warren Drive and Geldof Drive as important urban greenspace and encourages proposals for landscape renewal and enhancement to enhance the landscape interest and value of the sites.

NE9 The Coast and Foreshore

The environment of Blackpool's coast and foreshore will be protected by:

- *giving favourable consideration to development proposals to secure further improvements to the quality of seawater and beaches*
- *resisting developments that would adversely affect the appearance and environmental quality of the beach and foreshore.*

2.19 Blackpool's coastline and foreshore are well used by local residents and intensively used for tourism. Policy NE9 aims to protect and enhance the environment of the coast with a commitment to maintain and protect the large expanse of beaches. The Council will continue to monitor beach levels, and will resist any proposed development that would be likely to threaten the Blackpool sands.

2.20 There are also a number of specific policies in relation to new open space provision which have been 'saved' and remain part of Blackpool's Development Plan. These are as follows:

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

BH6 New Open Space Provision

The following further areas are allocated for public open space:

*Gorton Street 0.4 hectares
Highfield Road/Yeadon Way 4.8 hectares
Lawson Road extension 1.4 hectares*

The Council will promote and encourage other opportunities for new open space and sport and recreational facilities on appropriate sites, particularly in areas where there is an identified shortfall in provision.

2.21 Policy BH6 allocates limited areas of new open space provision, reflecting Blackpool's compact urban area and limited land available. The Council continues to seek opportunities to improve/increase provision where there is potential to do so, in particular in the inner areas where the preparation of neighbourhood plans will help in identifying needs and opportunities.

BH10 Open Space in New Housing Developments

- New residential development will need to provide sufficient open space to meet the needs of its residents in accordance with the Council's approved standards.*
- All developments should provide open space on site where possible to do so. Where site constraints preclude making the full rate of provision onsite, developers may instead pay a commuted sum based on the net shortfall to improve open space provision and meet the needs generated by the development.*

2.22 Policy BH10 requires all new housing developments to provide adequate open space to meet the demands of future residents. These include parks, outdoor sports pitches and facilities, amenity greenspace and play spaces. The requirements are

currently set out in SPG 11: *Open Space: provision for new residential development and the funding system (1999)* which supports this policy.

2.23 Where there are no areas available for open space on-site, the policy allows developers instead to enter into an agreement to pay a commuted sum to the Council towards the alternative provision or improvement of public open space in the Borough. SPG11 uses the National Playing Field Association standard for assessing the provision required. Commuted sum monies received to date have largely been spent on improvements and enhancements to existing open space and facilities across the Borough.

2.24 Current policies to date have been successful in safeguarding existing open space and ensuring that new housing developments make a positive contribution towards new open space provision or enhancement of existing open space. This is illustrated by an (albeit small) increase in the amount of open space recorded in the Borough since the 1999 audit.

Emerging Blackpool Core Strategy 2012-27

2.25 The Core Strategy identifies the benefits of Green Infrastructure in terms of supporting regeneration, adding to the attractiveness of the town as a place to invest, and making a vital contribution to the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors, particularly in the inner area neighbourhoods. It provides the framework for continued safeguarding of existing open spaces and recreation, whilst encouraging new spaces and facilities and the enhancement of existing provision where possible. Increasing the amount and improving the quality of open space, whilst actively supporting Green Infrastructure planning, will enhance the network of open spaces across the Borough.

2.26 The Core Strategy Vision is for Blackpool's natural environment to consist of an accessible network of quality green open spaces, coast and

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

countryside, which have been protected and enhanced for people to enjoy and to sustain a rich biodiversity. Blackpool also has sustainable communities with fair access to open space, sport and recreation.

2.27 A number of strategic objectives support this aspect of the Vision:

- create well-designed places for people to enjoy with high quality buildings, streets and spaces, whilst conserving and enhancing Blackpool's rich heritage and natural environment
- develop sustainable and safer neighbourhoods that are socially cohesive and well connected to...culture and leisure facilities
- improve the health and wellbeing of Blackpool's residents and reduce health inequalities by maintaining good access to health care and encouraging healthy lifestyles, including access to open spaces, the coast, countryside, sport and recreation facilities

2.28 Some key policies/considerations include:

- Policy CS2: The need for around 4,200 new homes to meet Blackpool's needs between 2012 and 2027
- Policy CS3: Sustainable economic development including the enhancement of existing employment sites with new employment development on remaining available land and through opportunities for redevelopment
- Policy CS5: A sustainable, high quality transport network and quality arrival experience which includes a safe, enhanced and extended network of pedestrian and cycle routes connecting neighbourhoods with green spaces and countryside
- Policy CS6: Protecting, enhancing, creating new accessible spaces and connecting networks of green infrastructure; and requiring all new developments to incorporate new or enhance existing green infrastructure either on-site or off-site as appropriate

- Policy CS26: The retention and enhancement of the distinctive character of Marton Moss through a neighbourhood planning approach

2.29 Other policies which will also help to enhance open space, sport and recreation provision include CS7: Quality of Design, CS11: Planning Obligations, CS12: Sustainable Neighbourhoods, CS15: Health and Education, CS17: Blackpool Town Centre and CS21: Leisure and Business Tourism.

2.30 The Core Strategy approach to Green Infrastructure is informed by the earlier 2009 open space audit; a review of current Local Plan policies; and the Council's approach to safeguarding and improving the Borough's provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities. The latter involves consideration of wider strategies that have been implemented or are currently being prepared by the Council and its partners. Some of these are set out below.

Wider Council Strategies

Playing Pitch Strategy (draft 2011)

2.31 Blackpool Council commissioned Strategic Leisure, part of the Scott Wilson Group, in 2010 to carry out a Playing Pitch Strategy. This assessed the current and future need for outdoor sport provision covering the sports of football, cricket, rugby, hockey, bowling greens and tennis courts in line with national guidance at the time (PPG17).

2.32 This work updates the 2003 Blackpool Playing Pitch Assessment, which supported the protection and enhancement of playing pitches and the need to overcome identified deficiencies in provision through the development of local standards. Work to complete the 2011 draft report is ongoing (to address comments from Sport England) and is due to be finalised by the end of 2014.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Blackpool Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2013 – 2018 (2013)

2.33 The document identifies key themes and priorities for sport and physical activity in Blackpool which reflects Blackpool's demographics and population need. Key outcomes are increased levels of physical activity, better and more accessible facilities for all people taking part in sport and a healthier Blackpool. The strategy includes priorities to maximise the use of outdoor space and influence urban planning and developments to support an increase in physical activity. This updates the Blackpool Sport, Nutrition and Physical Activity Strategy 2008 – 2012 (2008).

Children's Play Strategy for Blackpool 2006 – 2011 (2006)

2.34 The report sets out a strategic plan for the development of play facilities to ensure high quality, inclusive and accessible play provision for children and young people. It emphasises the need to protect and enhance existing play provision and open spaces, which should be safeguarded from future development. This supports a safeguarding policy which also prioritises improvements to existing provision and aims to create new provision in areas with greatest need, such as the inner areas.

2.35 Historically the Council has been successful in enhancing existing children's play facilities, via internal-led programmes as well as through planning policy and developer contributions. However, there has been increased reliance on children's play provision within larger neighbourhood recreation grounds rather than a wider range of more local sites, in response to residents' concerns.

2.36 There are currently no plans to update this document or put it to further use (this is also true with the Allotment Strategy set out below). However, the work is expected to inform emerging all-encompassing strategies as appropriate.

Allotment Strategy 2005 – 2010 (2005)

2.37 The joint document between the Council and the Federation of Blackpool Allotment Associations sets out the over-arching direction for the allotment service, supported by business plans for each allotment site in the Borough. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that allotment sites have a sustainable future, are of a good quality and that an effective relationship remains between the Council, allotment holders and the Blackpool Federation of Allotment Associations.

Green Space Strategy (emerging)

2.38 The Council are currently developing a new Green Space Strategy which will be a management-focused document for Blackpool's strategic parks and open space, to cover areas including play, health, horticulture, food growing etc. This all-encompassing document will sit within a Green Infrastructure Strategy framework being developed at the same time.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

3. Blackpool Profile

3.1 In assessing the current and future provision of open space, sport and recreation in Blackpool it is important to analyse the local context and profile of the Borough, in particular social and economic indicators such as demographics, deprivation, health and wellbeing, economy and employment, education, community safety, local amenities and the natural environment.

Population

3.2 Blackpool has a population of around 142,000 people and covers an area of around 3,500 hectares (35km²). It is by far the most densely populated Borough in Lancashire and the seventh most densely populated borough in England and Wales outside Greater London. The high population density illustrates that existing open space should be highly regarded and protected to provide relief for residents from the dense urban form, which is particularly apparent in the Inner Area.

3.3 Between 2001 - 2011 Blackpool's population fell by 0.2% compared to growth of 3.3% across Lancashire and 7.9% across England over the same period. Historically, Blackpool has experienced more pronounced population decline since 1981. By 2027, Blackpool's population is projected to have grown by 7,600 (5%). It is therefore essential that the projected increase in the number of people living in the Borough by the end of the plan period are planned for and that new development provides the necessary open space requirements either on site or off site via a commuted sum in order to met the needs of new residents in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility of open spaces in the Borough.

3.4 Figure 2 demonstrates the uneven spatial distribution of Blackpool's population, with the Inner Area being particularly densely populated. Here, approximately 25% of the population live in an area

covering approximately 15% of the total area of Blackpool. Whilst town and city centres are often the most densely populated areas, this is a particular issue in Blackpool due to the extremely high population density for the overall Borough, where for the Inner Area there is an estimated population density of 64.9 persons per hectare.

Figure 2: Population Information

Area	Population*	Area*(ha)	Population Density* (persons per hectare)
Inner Area	34647	533.8	64.9
North Area	35895	931.1	38.5
Layton Area	15029	321.6	46.73
Stanley Park Area	13560	573.8	23.63
South Area	42845	1126.3	38.04
Total	141976	3498	40.59

*The data gathered is only approximate, the areas used for the study are not official areas therefore there are no official and exact population figures available for the sites. The data that is represented has been gathered using a combination of Neighbourhood Statistics to arrive at informed, but approximate data.

Figure 3: Age breakdown of Blackpool's population

Age Groups	Total	Percentage
0-19	32354	23%
20-44	43963	31%
45-64	38509	27%
65+	27239	19%

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 4: Age breakdown of population aged 19 and under

Age Groups	Total	Percentage of total under 19 population
0-4	8218	25%
5-15	17148	53%
16-19	6988	22%
Total	32354	100%

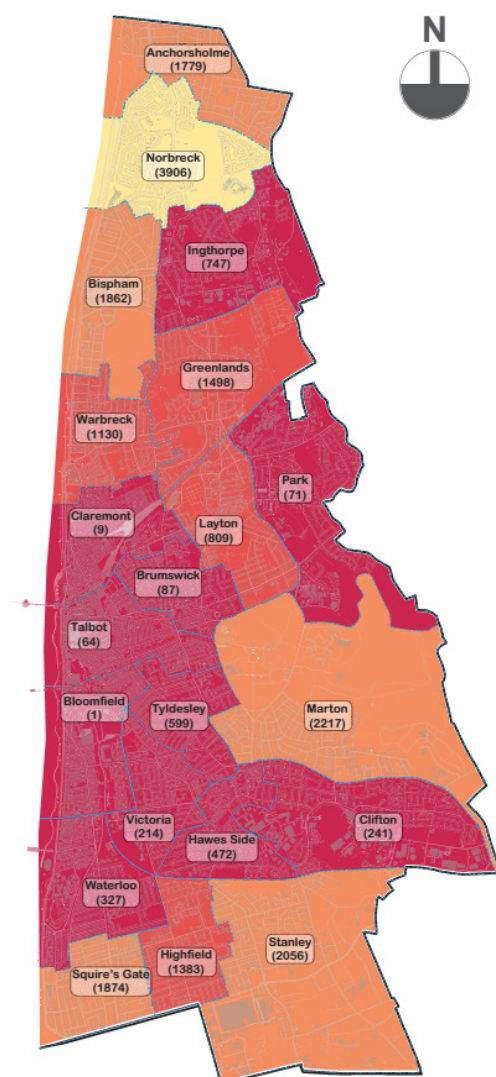
3.5 Figure 3 indicates that over half the population is aged under 45 years of age, however there is also a high proportion of older residents (aged 65 or over) contributing towards 19% of Blackpool’s total population. There is a fairly even distribution of age ranges in Blackpool, as such provision of open space, sport and recreation should reflect the different groups and their specific needs.

3.6 The majority of Blackpool’s younger population (aged 19 and under) are 5 - 15 year olds (see figure 4). This is a fairly significant section of the residential community who have specific open space, sport and recreation requirements, which should be taken into account when enhancing current and the creation of new provision

Deprivation

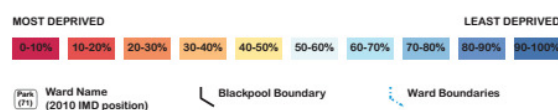
3.7 The Borough suffers from severe levels of highly concentrated deprivation, which has worsened over the last ten years. In 2011, 30% of all children (9,000+) were living in child poverty. The 2010 Indices of Deprivation ranked Blackpool as the 6th most deprived local authority in the country and almost one third of small areas within the town are amongst the 10% most deprived areas nationally. Figure 5 illustrates that the highest concentration of deprivation occurs within Blackpool’s Inner Area.

Figure 5: Indices of Multiple Deprivation



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Key



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

3.8 Blackpool's historic decline in population is exacerbated by the high levels of socio-economic deprivation, resulting in low levels of prosperity and a circle of disadvantage and deprivation.

3.9 High levels of deprivation often relate to lower car ownership and almost 40% of Blackpool's residents do not own a vehicle. For these people, access to open space may be limited to those within walking distance or by public transport. Therefore, it is important for areas with high levels of deprivation to have access to local/neighbourhood open spaces that are more readily accessible on foot.

3.10 The North West Green Infrastructure Guide (2008) identifies that high quality green infrastructure networks can have a positive effect on people's quality of life, and in turn can lessen levels of deprivation. A policy approach which contributes to lowering levels of deprivation in Blackpool by improving the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities is therefore to be welcomed.

Health and Well-being

3.11 The health of people in Blackpool is generally worse than the national average. The town records one of the lowest life expectancy rates nationally and there are inequalities by deprivation and gender. For example, men in the least deprived areas of the town can expect to live nearly 10 years longer than men in the most deprived areas. For women this difference is 8.5 years. Health priorities for Blackpool include alcohol and drug misuse, mental health, smoking and obesity. A high percentage of working age residents claim Incapacity Benefit (over 12%) which is almost double the national average. Blackpool also has high levels of teenage pregnancy rates, although rates have fallen since 2003.

Economy and Employment

3.12 In 2012 67% of Blackpool's working age population were in employment (57,100 residents), which was lower than the Lancashire (71%) and North-

West (69%) average and reflects a downward trend since 2008 (broadly mirroring the national trend, although starting from a much lower base). The proportion of working age population claiming job seekers allowance (JSA) increased during the same period, from 3.1% in July 2008 to 6.3% in July 2012 (an increase of around 2,900 residents).

3.13 More concerning is Blackpool's unemployment rate of 9.9%, which is a larger deficit than previous years when compared to the average for Lancashire (7.4%), the North West (8.3%) and Great Britain (7.8%). The issue is principally related to male unemployment. Unemployment rates vary considerably across Blackpool, with more people out of work in Blackpool's Inner Area. A reliance on the tourism industry means there is high seasonal unemployment. The scale of the tourism economy and the reliance of local people on employment in this sector, means that seasonal fluctuations in the labour market remain a key issue for the economy.

3.14 The economic activity rate (people directly in work or actively seeking it) in Blackpool stood at around 72% in 2012. This is lower than the Fylde Coast, Lancashire and England, with this deficit driven principally by male inactivity. Positively, there has been a considerable increase in the number and proportion of economically inactive people in Blackpool who 'want a job' in recent years (from 17% in 2005 to 29% in 2012, which equates to some 2,400 more people looking to find work and is now higher than the figure for both Lancashire and England (24% in 2012).

3.15 In 2011 the average weekly earnings of people living in Blackpool was £239.60 and for people working in Blackpool this average was £313.00. Both are notably lower than those at county, regional and national levels. Blackpool residents earn less than the Blackpool workforce, indicating that residents fail to take higher end jobs in the local economy. Low potential earnings make it harder to reduce benefits dependency and encourage the workless population back into employment.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

3.16 Over 1995-2008 Blackpool's economy grew at under half the rate of England, with annual Gross Value Added (GVA) growth of 2.6% per annum compared to 4.2% in Lancashire and 5.4% in England.

Education

3.17 Blackpool has low educational attainment and skills levels. In 2012, less than 50% of pupils achieved 5+ GCSEs with grades A*-C (including English and Maths) and 14.5% of working age residents had no qualifications. However, qualification and skills levels, including GCSE results, have improved since 2005. Blackpool has a higher rate of young people that are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) compared to Lancashire and England.

Local Amenities and Natural Environment

3.18 The 'State of Blackpool' (2008) report suggested the quality of the natural environment in Blackpool is poor compared to the average for England and is significantly lower than the standard for Lancashire. This is attributed to the Borough's low tranquillity level (as measured by population density) and poor air quality level compared to the national benchmark, reflecting Blackpool's highly urbanised form.

3.19 Approximately 80% of Blackpool's urban area is developed. With the exception of the promenade and beach, there is limited open space particularly in the intensely built up Inner Area, where some wards have the lowest provision in the UK. The promenade is a key asset and provides an important recreation space particularly for visitors. In 2012 a multi-million pound programme of investment was completed to reconstruct damaged sea defences, improve the public realm, create a new event space and improve pedestrian access to the beach. The beach is also a key asset although in the past sections of Blackpool's coastline have failed to meet the minimum mandatory standards for bathing waters. Ongoing improvements to the treatment of wastewater are essential to

improve the quality of Blackpool's bathing water and maintain the standards required.

3.20 A quarter of the town's open space is provided in and around Stanley Park, which has Grade II* listed status (as an historically important garden) and is one of the largest parks of its kind in the country, providing a full range of recreational facilities that have more than town-wide significance.

3.21 In the town centre and inner areas, however, there is little provision of open space of all types. Beyond the built-up area, undeveloped open land in the east of the town is made up of protected open space, sites of nature conservation value, Green Belt and Countryside Areas. Blackpool's intensely built-up urban area means much of this open land has important landscape, nature conservation and environmental value.

Summary

3.22 It is recognised by the Council that there are significant barriers to achieving healthy and sustainable communities in Blackpool, with its urban environment, deprivation levels and inequalities which prevail. However, much has been done to improve the environment in recent years, capitalising on a number of key assets to further enhance open space provision, with Blackpool Council often leading on a number of key projects, for example with respect to the coast and the recent improvement to a number of parks in the Borough.

3.23 In recognition of the important role that Blackpool's open space, sport and recreation facilities have in improving the health and well-being of Blackpool's residents, the quality of the natural environment and the attractiveness of Blackpool as a place to live, work, visit and invest, it will be essential for Council policies to ensure that a variety of good quality and well managed open spaces and facilities are provided in the future.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

4. Methodology

4.1 The methodology used to undertake the 2009 audit was based on the previous national planning guidance on open space (Companion Guide to PPG17). Whilst this has since been deleted the same framework has been used in this 2014 update for continuity.

Typologies

4.2 The typologies set out in figure 6 have been taken from the previous PPG17 and illustrate the broad range of open spaces that may be of public value.

Figure 6: Open Space Typologies

Typology	Primary Purpose
Park and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events <i>Examples: Urban parks, country parks, and formal gardens</i>
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces including urban woodland	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education/ awareness <i>Examples: Woodland and scrub, grassland, heath/moor, wetlands, open and running water, wastelands and bare rock habitats (e.g. cliffs, quarries, pits)</i>
Green corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration <i>Examples: river and canal banks, road and rail corridors, cycling routes, pedestrian paths, rights of way and permissive paths</i>
Outdoor sports facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls, athletics or countryside and water sports <i>Examples: Tennis courts, bowling greens, sports pitches, golf courses, athletic tracks, school playing fields, institutional playing fields and other outdoor sports areas</i>
Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home/work or enhancement of the appearance of residential areas <i>Examples: Informal recreation spaces,</i>

		<i>housing greenspaces, domestic gardens, village greens, and other incidental space</i>
	Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people. <i>Examples: Equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard parks, 'hanging out' areas including teenage shelters</i>
	Allotments, community gardens (+ urban farms)	Opportunities for people to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion
	Cemeteries, disused churchyards + other burial grounds	Providing areas for quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity
Civic spaces	Civic/market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events <i>Examples: Sea fronts (including promenades), civic squares, market squares, pedestrian streets, and other hard surfaced pedestrian areas.</i>

4.3 In addition to the typologies listed above, the assessment of current provision also includes indoor sports facilities (sport halls, swimming pools, indoor pitches and courts).

Geographical Provision

4.4 In addition to assessing provision across the whole Borough, this study also considers provision across five broader spatial areas of Blackpool. These are defined by clear physical boundaries (e.g. railway lines and major road routes) as follows:

- The **Inner Area** which includes the town centre and land bounded to the north by Warbreck Hill Road, the east by Devonshire Road/ Whitegate Drive, the south by Waterloo Road and the west by the Promenade.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

The Inner Area covers an area of approximately 534 hectares (ha).

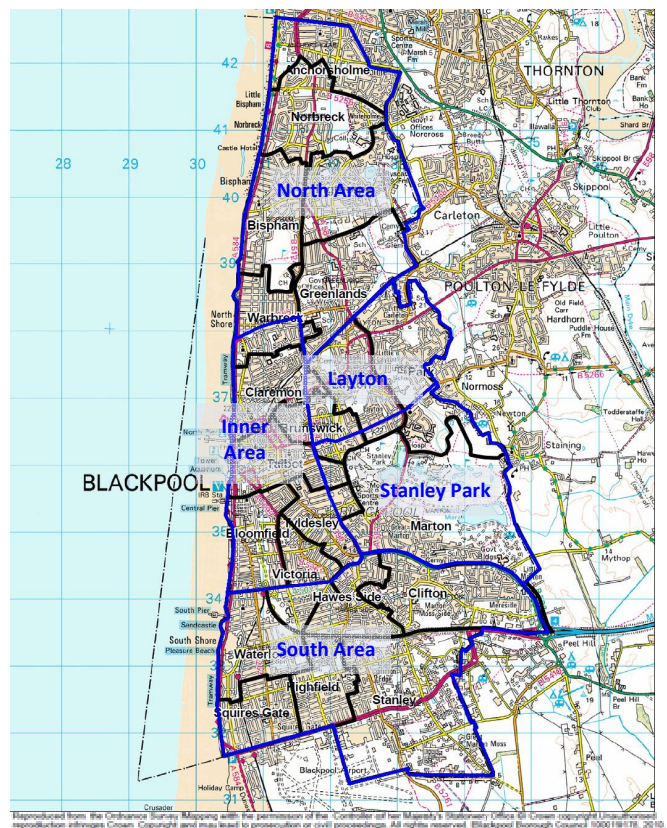
- The **North Area** which includes land north of the Inner Area boundary/Blackpool North Railway Line, extending to the eastern and northern boundaries of the Borough and west to the promenade. The North Area covers an area of approximately 931 ha.

- The **Layton Area** which lies south of the Blackpool North Railway Line bounded by Devonshire Road to the west, Newton Drive to the south, and the Borough boundary to the east. It is the smallest of the five areas and covers an area of approximately 322 ha.

- The **Stanley Park Area** which includes land bounded by Newton Drive (north), Whitegate Drive (west), Preston New Road (south) and the Borough boundary (east). It covers an area of around 574 ha.

- The **South Area** which includes land south of Waterloo Road/Preston New Road, extending to the Borough's southern and eastern boundary and the promenade to the west. It is the largest of the five areas covering an area of approximately 1126 ha.

Figure 7: Area Boundaries for this Study



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Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Nine Stages of the Assessment

4.5 Various research methods are used to identify all areas of open space, sport and recreation facilities, categorise these into 12 main typologies (as set out earlier) and then assess the quantity, quality and accessibility of each typology. The nine stages followed to undertake the assessment are illustrated in figure 8.

Figure 8: Step-by-Step Approach



4.6 **Assessing national, regional and local planning policy** as well as relevant wider policy documents to establish the key requirements for undertaking such an assessment and to provide local context to current issues regarding open space, sport and recreation provision. In undertaking the 2014 Update the policy context has been refreshed and is summarised in Section 2.

4.7 For the 2009 audit, the starting point for **conducting a desktop study to identify all open spaces, sport and recreation facilities** was the 1999 audit, which provided a quantitative assessment of open space in Blackpool at that time. For the 2014 Update, the starting point is the 2009 audit. Additional information has been gathered from the Council's Leisure Services team, including details of recent studies and projects undertaken; from aerial photography, GIS and internet searches; and in the case of the 2014 Update, from the S106 Register. Information obtained on each open space site includes their primary/secondary use and size. For the 2014 Update, information from the 2009 audit is updated as necessary using monitoring records.

4.8 Due to Blackpool's intense urban character, small sites (i.e. less than 0.1ha) are included as these can provide valuable local green space, particularly in residential areas and the town centre. Those sites initially identified but subsequently excluded from further assessment due to their limited use as open public space or potential for recreational use comprise institutional (e.g. hospitals/schools) and agricultural land, unless unrestricted public access exists.

4.9 Once the sites to be assessed are identified, their **primary and secondary purpose is identified** in accordance with the Companion Guide to PPG17. Where a site is considered multi-functional its secondary purpose is also identified.

4.10 Each site is then **mapped** and colour-coded by typology based on its primary purpose identified.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

4.11 The next step involves **assessing the quantity, quality and accessibility of each typology.**

4.12 Quantity is assessed for the whole Borough as well as for each of the five broad areas in order to calculate the provision density of each typology (using residential population and open space quantity data), although this does not account for the high number of visitors that come to the resort. The provision density and area plans of all sites provide an indication of accessibility to open space, sport and recreation facilities for each of the five areas.

4.13 In accordance with the previous PPG17, the audit looks at both the quality and value of sites. For example, a high quality area of open space could be difficult to access and therefore may be of low value to users, whilst an easily accessible space of low quality may be highly valued by users. In addition, it looks at how any wider benefits, such as a role enhancing landscape quality and biodiversity, an educational or cultural role, contribute to the value of open spaces as recreational uses.

4.14 To assess accessibility, each site is analysed as to whether it provides a local or neighbourhood wide facility. Local sites were defined as any site under 1ha and a neighbourhood site over 1ha. Exceptions to this are where certain sites, regardless of size, are defined as neighbourhood facilities i.e. allotments; outdoor sports facilities; and children's play spaces.

4.15 However there are a few exemptions to this rule where the facilities do not warrant neighbourhood importance. These are highlighted where necessary in the audit, such as a small-scale children's playspace. Golf courses are exempt from the accessibility analysis as these generally require access by car and are not open to the wider public for other recreational uses, so the walking threshold is irrelevant. Stanley Park has a borough-wide importance, but in terms of walking thresholds it is likely to have a neighbourhood walking distance.

4.16 Local sites are defined as having a 200m walking threshold (as the crow flies) and neighbourhood sites a 500m threshold. Whilst these thresholds are relatively low compared to other studies, they reflect the compact and urban nature of the Borough, where open space is in close proximity to/surrounded by urban areas. Larger thresholds would mean the accessibility radius covered much of the Borough for some of the typologies and whilst this suggests a good level of access, it would not provide a useful indication on the accessibility maps of where there is more restricted access to open space sites.

4.17 In Blackpool, all sites are potentially accessible by walking as there is no open space in remote or inaccessible locations (which may be the case in rural boroughs) and given the Borough's infrastructure network. The accessibility maps, therefore, do not intend to provide an in-depth analysis of accessibility in terms of travel times. Instead, they provide an indication of areas with high accessibility to the various types of open space. The accessibility radius illustrated on the plans are only indicative of local (200m) and neighbourhood (500m) site access, although areas surrounding these designations are also likely to have adequate, or at least some, access. The plans provide a useful tool to analyse which areas do not have doorstep/immediate access to the different types of open space.

4.18 The area maps and assessments of quality, quantity and accessibility provide an indication of where improvements are most needed, which are then translated into recommendations for each typology and area. These recommendations will inform future policy documents including the Local Plan and Green Infrastructure Strategy.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

5. Borough Overview

5.1 Figure 9 illustrates there are 134 open space, sport and recreation sites identified in the Borough, providing eleven different types of open space and covering an area of approximately 572.1 hectares (ha). This equates to 16% of the entire Borough.

5.2 The South and North areas have the highest number of open space sites (38 and 36 respectively) compared to the Inner Area which has the lowest (19). Whilst this suggests increased accessibility for residents in these two areas, the number of sites provides no indication regarding quality and actual use. In terms of area coverage, the highest amount is in the Stanley Park Area (246.72 ha).

5.3 Outdoor sports facilities make up over a third of the total open space (195.5 ha) in the Borough. A substantial proportion is also provided by Natural and semi-natural greenspace (132.71 ha) as well as Parks and gardens (122.4 ha). In contrast Community gardens, Civic and market squares and Provision for children and young people make up the lowest provision (0.27, 0.6 and 1 ha respectively). Amenity greenspace accounts for the largest number of sites (42), although their small scale is reflected by their limited contribution to overall provision. This begins to provide an indication of potential deficiencies in open space in Blackpool. Variations in the spatial distribution of each typology are discussed later in this section.

Figure 9: Open Space by Type, Number and Location

Open Space Typology	Inner Area		North Area		Layton Area		Stanley Park Area		South Area		Total		
	No.	Ha	No.	Ha	No.	Ha	No.	Ha	No.	Ha	No.	Ha	% Ha
Allotments	0	0	0	0	1	1.8	3	5.1	4	6.2	8	13.1	2.29
Amenity greenspace	6	1	6	3.83	10	5.74	7	7.52	13	10.5	42	28.59	5.00
Churchyards & cemeteries	0	0	1	12.7	1	9.5	0	0	0	0	2	22.2	3.88
Civic & Market Squares	1	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.6	0.1
Community Gardens	0	0	0	0	1	0.2	0	0	1	0.07	2	0.27	0.05
Green Corridors	0	0	3	5.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5.6	0.98
Hard Surfaced Areas	1	21.3	1	15.4	0	0	0	0	1	13.4	3	50.1	8.76
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1	1.5	8	33.9	2	3.21	6	91.5	1	2.6	18	132.71	23.20
Outdoor Sports Facilities	4	0.9	11	77.8	2	0.9	3	90.9	14	25	34	195.5	34.17
Provision for Children and Young People	1	0.1	2	0.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0.17
Parks and Gardens	5	15.2	4	20.6	4	21.4	1	51.7	4	13.5	18	122.4	21.40
Total	19	40.6	36	170.73	21	42.75	20	246.72	38	71.27	134	572.07	100%
% Total		7.1%		29.8%		7.5%		43.1%		12.5%		100%	

5.4 Figure 10 indicates that over half of all sites (70) in the Borough are less than 1 ha in size, with a

large proportion (46) less than 0.5 ha. These small sites largely comprise amenity greenspace. The lack of

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

larger sites reflects Blackpool's historical expansion which includes a compact, dense urban area and tightly drawn boundary.

Figure 10: Open Space by Size

Site Sizes (Ha)	Total Number of Sites
0.01 - 0.5	46
0.6 - 1.0	24
1.1 - 2.0	20
2.1 - 5.0	16
5.1 - 10.0	14
10.1 - 30.0	10
30.1 - 70.0	4
Total	134

5.5 With a population of 141,976, the total amount of open space equates to approximately 4.03 hectares of open space per 1000 persons. Figure 11 illustrates variations of open space density by typology and shows that the highest provision is outdoor sports facilities (1.38ha/1000 persons). The lowest provision are that of Civic and market squares, Community Gardens, Green Corridors and dedicated Provision for Children and Young People.

Figure 11: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision per 1000 Persons by Typology

Typology	Ha	Ha/1000 persons
Allotments	13.1	0.09
Amenity Greenspace	28.59	0.20
Cemeteries and Churchyards	22.2	0.16
Civic and Market Squares	0.6	0.00
Community Gardens	0.27	0.00
Green Corridors	5.6	0.04
Hard Surfaced Area	50.1	0.35
Natural/Semi-Natural Greenspace	132.71	0.93
Outdoor Sports Facilities	195.5	1.38
Parks and Gardens	122.4	0.86
Provision for Children and Young People	1	0.01
Total	572.07	4.03

5.6 Figure 12 compares variations of open space density by geographical area. The Stanley Park area has a substantially larger provision of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Parks and Gardens and Outdoor

Sports Facilities than the other four areas. The Inner Area has the lowest level of provision per 1000 people, which is symptomatic of the high population density and lower levels of open space provision.

Figure 12: Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision per 1000 Persons by Location

Area	Est. Pop'n	Ha	Ha/1000 persons
Inner Area	34647	40.6	1.1
North Area	35895	170.73	4.9
Layton Area	15029	42.75	2.5
Stanley Park Area	13560	246.72	20.1
South Area	42845	71.27	1.7
Total	141976	572.07	4.0

5.7 Sections 6 to 14 go on to provide a more detailed assessment of each open space typology (according to the 'primary purpose' of each site) while section 15 provides a greater analysis of provision by area.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

6. Parks and Gardens

6.1 Parks and Gardens are generally multi-functional spaces, providing a range of facilities including landscaped gardens, playing fields, children and young people's play areas and facilities for outdoor sport provision. Blackpool has ten principle parks and a number of other smaller parks and gardens. The principal parks provide approximately 112.8 hectares of open space, and are:

- Anchorsholme Park (North Area - 9.5 ha)
- Moor Park North (North Area - 7 ha)
- Boundary Park (Layton Area - 8.1 ha)
- Kingscote Park (Layton Area - 9.9 ha)
- Revoe Park (Inner Area - 3 ha)
- Claremont Park (Inner Area - 3.9 ha)
- Bancroft Park (Inner Area - 7.1 ha)
- Stanley Park (Stanley Park Area - 51.7 ha)
- Mereside Park (South Area - 9.5 ha)
- Watson Road Park (South Area - 3.1 ha)

6.2 The *Green Flag Scheme* recognises and rewards the best green spaces in the country with Stanley Park has achieving green flag status again in 2014.

Inner Area

6.3 The Inner Area has a limited amount of open space, and the areas of greenspace that are available are generally small in scale. There are five parks in the Inner Area; Bancroft Park, Revoe Park, Claremont Park, Warbreck Recreation Ground and the Harold Larwood Park (formerly known as Talbot and Brunswick (TAB) Health Village). In recent years the lack of open greenspace has been identified as a major issue for the physical appearance of the inner area, but also for the health and well-being of residents. Consequently, there has been a focus on improving the provision of

open space, sport and recreation facilities in the Inner Area. Significantly increasing the quantity of open space is not a possibility due to the intensely built-up nature of the inner area, therefore the Council has sought to ensure the limited opportunities to develop sites of open green space compensate for the lack of quantity by achieving high-quality standards. Recent developments of green space, sport and recreation facilities have attained a high standard of design and quality. In total there is approximately 15.2 hectares of parks and gardens in the Inner Area.

- *Bancroft Park* opened in 2006 and was the first major park to open in Blackpool since 1926. The park provides a number of facilities, including gardens, equipped children's play areas, multi-use games areas, two sculptural 20 metre climbing walls and a bouldering wall.
- *Revoe Park* provides areas of green space for recreational use, a small wooded area, a number of bowling greens, an equipped children's play area and multi-use games areas.
- *Claremont Park* provides areas of green space and also recreational facilities such as a sports pitch, bowling greens, multi-use games areas, community garden and an equipped children's play area. A small area of the park has been developed into a car park for the site to improve the park's accessibility and use.
- *Warbreck Recreation Ground* has a large area of landscaped pathways which are surrounded by semi-natural vegetation, providing an area for quiet recreational use. In addition, there are larger expanses of open green space and a play area for children.
- *Harold Larwood Park* is an integrated health and community facility, which comprises a Sure Start centre, a community health centre and meeting place. In terms of open space, sport and recreation, the Health Village also provides a multi-use games area, children's play zone and areas of public open space.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 13: Bancroft Park Park Climbing Tower



North Area

6.4 The North Area contains four sites defined as Parks and Gardens, covering an area of approximately 20.6 hectares. These sites are:

- *Anchorsholme Park* - provides a large area of amenity parkland, including seasonal pitch and putt golf, in addition to tennis courts, multi-use games areas, bowling greens and an equipped play area for children.
- The *Devonshire Road Rock Gardens* - originally founded in the 1900s, and form an important wildlife area containing a number of rare species. The Gardens have undergone extensive improvements which have sought to improve community access and use of the gardens. Recent improvements have included the relaying of all the paths, providing easier access for disabled users,

and also a general improvement in the landscape quality.

- *Luton Road Recreation Ground (Eastpines Park)* - contains a landscaped area, parkland with pathways for easy access, and an equipped children's play area.
- *Moor Park North* - originally developed in the 1950s and comprises areas of parkland, tennis courts, multi-use games areas, children's equipped play area, as well as providing local cycle way running from Ashfield Road to Collins Avenue. Part of the park has recently been redeveloped to create the Moor Park Health and Leisure Centre. This has led to a loss of 1ha of the park, however as part of the development, improvements have been made to existing facilities including a new multi use games area fronting Bispham Road, new play areas and a contribution of additional 0.2ha public of open space resulting from the demolition of the nearby Bispham Clinic.

Layton Area

6.5 The Layton Area has four main Parks and Gardens, covering an area of approximately 21.3 hectares. These are:

- *Boundary Park* - provides a variety of recreational opportunities, including four sports pitches, equipped children's play area, bowling greens, and also areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- *Grange Park Recreation Ground* - provides parkland with small wooded areas, and an equipped play area for children. In 2011 part of the park was redeveloped for housing (0.3ha). As part of the development, significant improvements were made to the remainder of the park including new children's play equipment.
- *Kingscote Park* - the second largest park in Blackpool, after Stanley Park. It is a large area of parkland which provides open space for a variety

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

of recreational uses, there is also a multi-use games area and equipped play area for children.

- *Layton Recreation Ground* - provides an area of parkland, MUGA and an equipped play area for children. The Council is currently working in partnership with Lovell Homes to redevelop the adjacent Queen Park Estate for family housing. The housing development will encroach onto the Rec leading to the net loss of 0.22 ha of open space. To compensate for this, significant qualitative improvements, at a cost of around £600,000 would be made to the existing public open space to make it more attractive and functional. The development is also designed with good access to this space to encourage community use.

Stanley Park Area

6.6 Approximately a quarter of Blackpool's open space is provided in and around Stanley Park. Stanley Park is the Borough's largest park and contains ornamental gardens, lakes, woodlands, historical landmarks, and also sporting and recreational facilities. The park is Grade II* listed on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, maintained by English Heritage, and is additionally situated within a Conservation Area (designated in 1984). The park's north east lake area is designated a County Biological Heritage Site due to its wildlife populations. The park was awarded its first Green Flag Award in 2008, and has upheld this status annually.

6.7 To ensure the park is managed effectively Blackpool Council developed a '*Stanley Park Management Plan 2013-2018*'. The Management Plan sets out how the Council aims to conserve and enhance the parks heritage value, whilst continuing to provide continuing to provide and improving facilities for the local community and wider visiting public.

6.8 It identifies a number of achievements between 2011 and 2013 which include:

- Installation of a new £300,000 Adventure Playground

- Refurbishment of Cocker Memorial Clock Tower roof and clock mechanism
- Friends of Stanley Park adopting the management of the park visitor centre
- Stanley Park angling club adopting the lake management and undertaking practical lake management and conservation work
- Installation of £50,000 grant funded skate park ramps
- Refurbishment of the park visitor centre by the Probation Service
- Providing an excellent programme of Music in the Park concerts at the bandstand
- Providing a comprehensive programme of community events with partners
- Renovation of the Athletic Arena changing rooms building
- Installation of a £500,000 national standard BMX Race Track

Figure 14: Stanley Park



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

South Area

6.9 In the South Area there are four main Parks and Gardens, totalling an area of approximately 13.5 hectares. The quality of the Parks and Gardens in the South Area is of a high standard, with two out of the four parks previously attaining the Green Flag Award in 2009. The three parks in the South Area are:

- *Watson Road Park* - provides an attractive landscape with good quality recreational and sporting facilities for local residents. The Council produced a '*Watson Road Management Plan 2008-2013*', which aimed to preserve the park's historic and ecological heritage and increase visitor numbers by maximising the potential of existing facilities and creating new provision which is sympathetic of the original design concepts. The park provides a range of play, sport and recreational facilities in the form of a multi-use games area and a children's play area and formal gardens.
- *Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground* - is a small, municipal park containing a variety of community facilities including a children's playground, multi-use games areas and also decorative gardens. Blackpool Council has developed a '*Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground Management Plan 2008-2013 which is due to be updated within the next 12-18 months*', and aims to ensure the grounds continue to provide a welcoming, safe and high quality facility for the local community.
- *Mereside Park* - provides an extensive recreational area with five sports pitches, equipped play areas for children, a multi-use games area, BMX track and parkland. It primarily serves the nearby residential catchment on the Mereside housing estate, with the sports pitches available for wider use. The park lacks the extensive landscaping, gardens and interest of some other parks of this size, by in large comprising a large swathe of open grassland with few other features of interest.

- *Crossland Road Park* - is a small, municipal park c including a children's playground, playing field and also natural landscaping.

6.10 Figure 15 illustrates the multi-functionality of the Parks and Gardens, and demonstrates that such sites provide areas of open space for a range of recreational uses.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

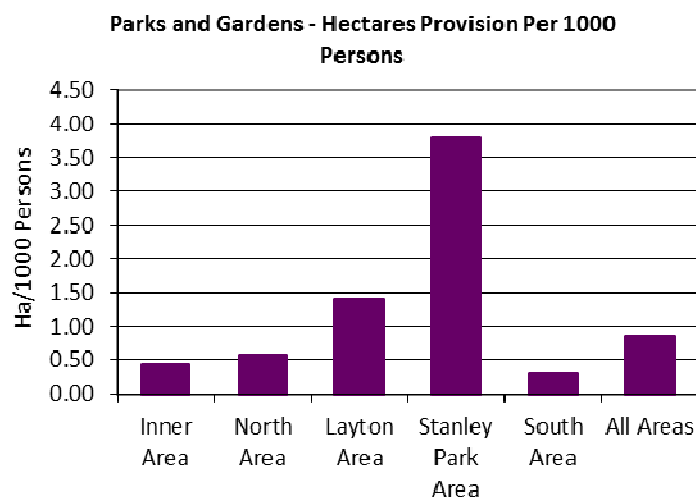
Figure 15: Multi-functionality of Parks and Gardens

	Site	Equipped Play Area	MUGA	Playing Fields/ Sports Pitches	Bowling Greens	Natural and Landscaped Areas
Inner Area	Revoe Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Claremont Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Bancroft Park	✓	✓			✓
	Harold Larwood Park (TAB Health Village)	✓	✓			✓
	Warbreck Recreation Ground	✓				✓
North Area	Anchorsholme Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Devonshire Road Rock Gardens					✓
	Luton Road/Eastpines Park	✓		✓		✓
	Moor Park North	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Layton Area	Boundary Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Grange Park Recreation Ground	✓				✓
	Kingscote Park	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Layton Recreation Ground	✓	✓	✓		✓
Stanley Park Area	Stanley Park	✓	✓	✓		✓
South Area	Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Mereside Park	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Watson Road Park	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Crossland Road Park	✓		✓		✓

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Figure 16: Summary of Parks and Gardens Provision

Area	Provision (Hectares)	Population	Approximate ha/1000 persons
Inner Area	15.2	34647	0.43
North Area	20.6	35895	0.58
Layton Area	21.3	15029	1.23
Stanley Park Area	51.7	13560	4.20
South Area	13.5	42845	0.32
All Areas	122.3	141976	0.86



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6.11 There are around 122.3 hectares of open space provided in Parks and Gardens in the Borough, over 17 sites. The sites range in size from 0.3 hectares (Harold Larwood Park) to 51.7 hectares (Stanley Park). The current provision of Parks and Gardens equates to approximately 0.86 hectares per 1000 persons.

6.12 Figure 17 illustrates that by far the largest hectare provision of parks and gardens is concentrated in the Stanley Park Area, which is attributed to Stanley Park. The South Area has the smallest hectare provision per 1000 persons of Parks and Gardens, this potentially indicates a deficiency as this is the largest area in the Borough, with the highest population. This deficiency is even more apparent when compared to the Inner Area, which has 1.7 hectares more provision despite being the smallest area in size and the most urban and densely populated area in the Borough.

6.13 Currently, in the South Area there is a lack of parks and gardens, however in the future this supply could potentially be improved through the large scale housing development at Moss House Road which includes a park as part of the proposals.

6.14 The North Area also has limited provision, and although better provided with a wider range of other open spaces, aside from Anchorsholme Park, there is a noticeable lack of provision for much of the area closest to the seafront.

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Figure 17: Provision of Parks and Gardens by Area



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Quality

6.15 Stanley Park has achieved the Green Flag status in 2014, illustrating a high quality standard. Blackpool Council is committed to developing and maintaining high quality Parks and Gardens which are well utilised.

Accessibility

6.16 Each of the five areas contain at least one area of parkland, a number of which are fully accessible to disabled users. The Inner Area has a number of Parks and Gardens, and due to the compact nature of the Borough, parkland in other areas is also potentially easily accessed from the Inner Area by walking or public transport. This is particularly illustrated by Stanley Park, which has a regional importance, and can be easily accessed from the Inner Area. Cycle accessibility has been improved recently through the creation of two new explorer routes which link the Promenade to Stanley Park and travel through the Inner Area.

6.17 Figure 18 indicates the local and neighbourhood accessibility of Parks and Gardens in the five areas. The map indicates that accessibility to parks and gardens is unevenly distributed, with substantial areas of Blackpool with restricted access to parks and gardens. Areas of limited local or neighbourhood wide access to parks and gardens is particularly evident in the South Area. The residential neighbourhoods of Common Edge, Hawes Side, and Marton Moss have restricted local access to parks and gardens, the closest sites are located to the east and west of the area. The lack of access is to some extent compensated through the availability of land designated as countryside, however this is largely privately owned.

6.18 The North Area contains a substantial area that has limited local or neighbourhood level of access to parks and gardens, particularly evident in the central section of the North Area, running from the promenade to Blackpool's eastern boundary. The Inner Area has limited access to Parks and Gardens around

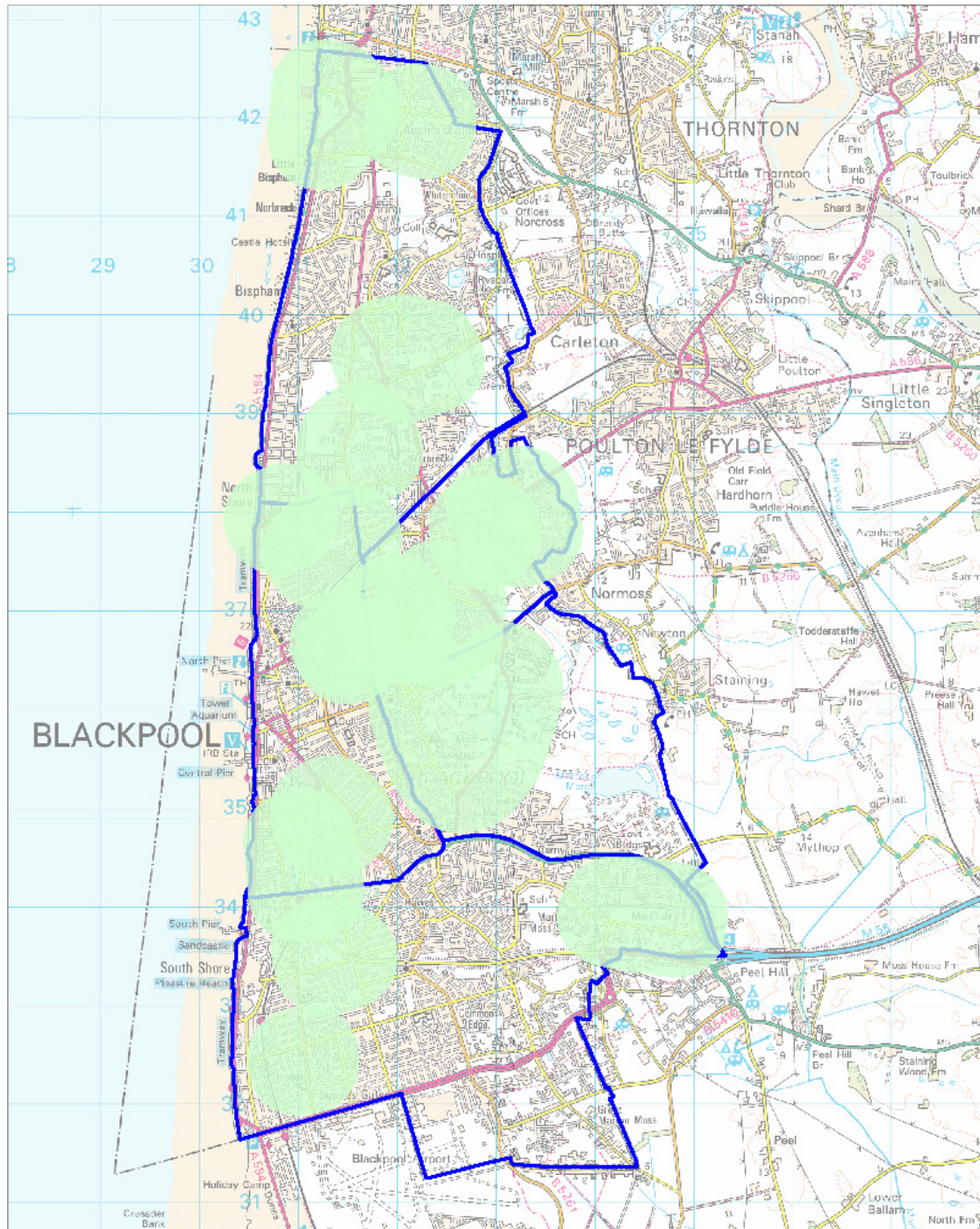
the town centre and particularly close to the promenade. This is also reflected in the North and South Areas where access to Parks and Gardens is restricted towards the promenade as a result of the extensive resort development of the early nineteenth century which provided limited or no provision of parks and gardens close to the seafront.

6.19 Access to parks and gardens is particularly well provided in the Stanley Park Area, and Layton Area. Much of the urban area of Stanley Park has access to a park within a walking distance of 500m. A high proportion of the built up area of the Layton Area has local or neighbourhood level access to parks and gardens, as indicated on figure18, only minor sections of the area has slightly more limited access, but are still in close proximity would have some access to Parks and Gardens which surround these sections.

6.20 Therefore, there are three area of Blackpool where access to Parks and Gardens could be improved, located around the town centre and Inner Area promenade, the central section of the North Area, from the eastern Borough boundary to the promenade, and the central section of the South Area, running from the north to south border. The lack of provision near to the Promenade may also be exacerbated by the high number of visitors which come to such areas.

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Figure 18: Accessibility of Parks and Gardens



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Recommendations

6.21 Due to the built up nature of the town, opportunities to address needs and directly improve this type of facility through new or the extension of existing Parks and Gardens are very limited. Emphasis for improvement in much of the existing urban area will generally therefore need to rely on other smaller incremental forms of provision and enhancement of other types of open space. Bancroft Park and the new Rigby Road development have provided the opportunity for new open space in the heart of the Inner Area. Any future open space strategy should actively ensure the existing parks and gardens are maintained to a high standard and are protected and enhanced. Particular emphasis should also be given to improving access to existing Parks and Gardens.

6.22 Stanley Park is in relatively close proximity to Inner Area communities and in terms of the size and quality can in some ways further compensate for the Inner Area's more limited provision. The South Area has the lowest hectare provision of parks and gardens in the Borough, however in the future this supply could be improved through the large scale housing development at Moss House Road which includes a park as part of the proposals. Any other opportunities which arise from any development in this area should include consideration of potential provision of a new park. The Layton and Stanley Park Areas have a good provision of Parks and Gardens, as such these sites should continue to be protected and enhanced.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

7. Amenity Greenspace

7.1 Amenity Greenspace includes informal recreation spaces and greenspaces providing opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancing the appearance of residential or other areas. In the context of Blackpool, the key asset of the foreshore is an important source of amenity space which enhances the natural environment and provides a significant area for informal recreation.

Inner Area

7.2 A large proportion of the greenspace available in the Inner Area is in the form of amenity space, and is generally small in size and fragmented across the area. Areas of amenity space in the Inner Area include: *Ansdell Road/Waterloo Road; Greenwood Avenue; Gynn Flagstaff; Jeffrey Square; Raikes Parade* and *Spencer Court*. These spaces have grassed areas, and in a few sites, some small landscaped areas with pathways and benches.

7.3 There is approximately one hectare of greenspace provided over six sites which are classified as amenity space in the Inner Area, effectively comprising very small green pockets of space providing some break to the high density and heavily urbanised character of the Inner Area as a whole. Rather than providing the supporting networks of amenity greenspace to supplement the larger parks, gardens and playing pitches, these small amenity spaces are likely to be the only open spaces in much of the Inner Area, particularly closest to the town centre. In addition, the Rigby Road housing development, currently under construction, includes the provision of new amenity greenspace in the Inner Area.

Figure 19: New amenity greenspace at Rigby Road



North Area

7.4 In terms of Amenity Greenspace there is approximately 3.83 hectares in the North Area. Whilst this is more than in the Inner Area, this is the second lowest level of provision across the five areas of Blackpool. This again reflects the historic pattern of development within much of north Blackpool, particularly closest to the seafront, consisting of streets of housing, developed as the town expanded outwards from the town centre, but with little or no provision of open space within these areas. This lack of amenity greenspace is compensated for by the coast and foreshore, and by the larger scale provision of Anchorsholme Park in the north and the North Shore Golf Club (which provides an important visual amenity). From the second half of the 20th century onwards, areas developed further away from the seafront have provided higher quantities of other types of greenspace that are easily accessed in the North Area. Nevertheless there remains very little informal visual and recreational locally accessible space directly within large parts of the residential North Area. Amenity greenspace in the North Area include the sites of: *Bispham Library; Derwent Place; Fleetwood Road; Regency Gardens* and *Munster Avenue*.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Layton Area

7.5 There is 5.74 hectares of Amenity Greenspace in the Layton Area, located at: *Bathurst/Adstone Avenue; Chepstow Road; Dinmore Avenue; Draycott Avenue; Garstang Road; Greenbriar Close; St Walburgas Road; and Tarnbrook Drive*. This is not the highest level of provision within Blackpool, but as shown in figure 20, Amenity Greenspace represents a substantial and probably the best dispersed and most accessible areas of informal amenity space provision in Blackpool. This largely reflects the priority that was given to greenspace provision as part of the development of Council housing estates – with the Grange Park estate a major part of the Layton Area. The majority of this space is provided as maintained grassed areas dispersed across the housing estate. Other amenity provision is focused on the main highway frontages (St Walburgas Road/Garstang Road).

Stanley Park Area

7.6 There are three very small amenity greenspaces at *Lindsey Avenue, Newcastle Avenue* and *South Park Drive* within the residential areas to the west of Stanley Park. Otherwise, all other provision of amenity space surrounds and provides a setting for Stanley Park itself. The one exception to this, the largest area of amenity greenspace in Blackpool is the Herons Reach approach to the De Vere Hotel development in the 1990's extending in Blackpool from the Zoo Frontage onto East Park Drive. Although there is also an abundance of major open space provision to the east, focused on Herons Reach and Marton Mere, the residential area around Lawson Road and Preston New Road has no amenity greenspace or open space provision. In total, amenity greenspace in the Stanley Park Area covers an area of approximately 7.52 hectares, located at:

East/North Drive Frontage; Weymouth Road; East/West Park Drive Triangle; and the Zoo and East Park Drive Frontage.

South Area

7.7 The South Area, comparative to the four other areas, has an extensive amount of amenity greenspace, which approximately totals 10.5 hectares. The sites of amenity greenspace are located at: *Birkside Way; Bridge House Road; Cardigan Crescent; Castlerigg Place; Harrowside (Solaris Centre); Holgate; Kentmere Drive; Kingsmede; Osbourne Road; Preston New Road; Sunningdale Avenue; Walkers Hill; and Wimbourne Crescent*. Again, much of the focus for the provision is within the main Council Housing estate at Mereside, concentrated in this one locality. Other provision is located alongside the seafront 'crescents' and at the Solaris Centre, and within part of Marton Moss, south of Highfield Road which was developed most recently by a consortium of private bodies in the last 10-15 years.

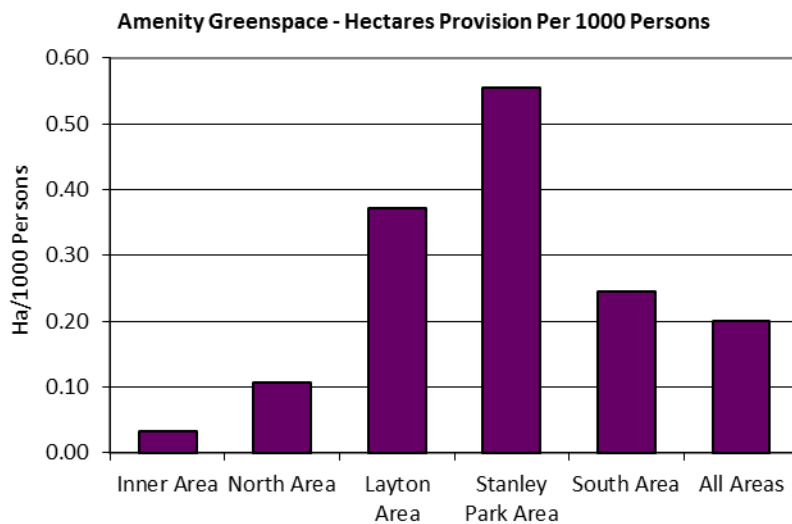
7.8 There are 28.55 hectares of Amenity Greenspace provided in the Borough, over 42 sites. The sites range in size from 0.02 hectares (Newcastle Avenue) to 5.4 hectares (Zoo and Herons Reach). The current provision of Amenity Greenspace equates to approximately 0.2 hectares per 1000 persons.

7.9 Figure 34 indicates that the South Area has the largest amount of amenity greenspace, however the Stanley Park Area has the highest provision per 1000 Persons, this is largely attributed to the low population density in this area. The Inner Area has the lowest provision of amenity greenspace, which correlates with the area's high built concentration and population density.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 20: Summary of Amenity Greenspace Provision

Area	Provision (ha)	Population	Approximate ha/1000 persons
Inner Area	1.1	34647	0.03
North Area	3.83	35895	0.11
Layton Area	5.74	15029	0.37
Stanley Park Area	7.52	13560	0.55
South Area	10.5	42845	0.25
All Areas	28.59	141976	0.20



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 21: Total Provision in Hectares of Amenity Greenspace by Area



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Quality

7.10 The quality of amenity greenspace sites varies throughout the Borough, at a minimum the sites include grassed and paved areas, but can also have landscaped areas.

Accessibility

7.11 Amenity Greenspace is distributed throughout the Borough, and therefore should be accessible to a large proportion of residents, particularly as a majority of amenity greenspace is located within residential areas.

7.12 Many of the amenity greenspace sites identified for the assessment are under 1 hectare in size, and are generally considered to have only a local importance. Therefore, whilst such sites are generally well distributed across the Borough, due to the nature and size of the sites access to these are likely to be local in scale. Figure 22 indicates that the Layton Area generally has good access to amenity greenspace, however to the edges of this area this becomes somewhat more limited. The Stanley Park Area generally has good access, but some of the urbanised areas do have more limited access, however some sites in the South Area are also accessible.

7.13 Access to amenity greenspace in the South Area is more varied, with some locations having a high concentration of such space, and other sections with more limited access. This is particularly concentrated in the Marton Moss area, and set back from the promenade. The North Area has some access to amenity greenspace, particularly along some of the major routes. There is a concentration to the north of the area, but with limited access to amenity greenspace along the North Area's promenade section and set back from this. The Inner Area has an even distribution of access to amenity greenspace, however large proportions of the Inner Area have more restricted access, particularly to the north of the town centre along the promenade and to the southwest of the area.

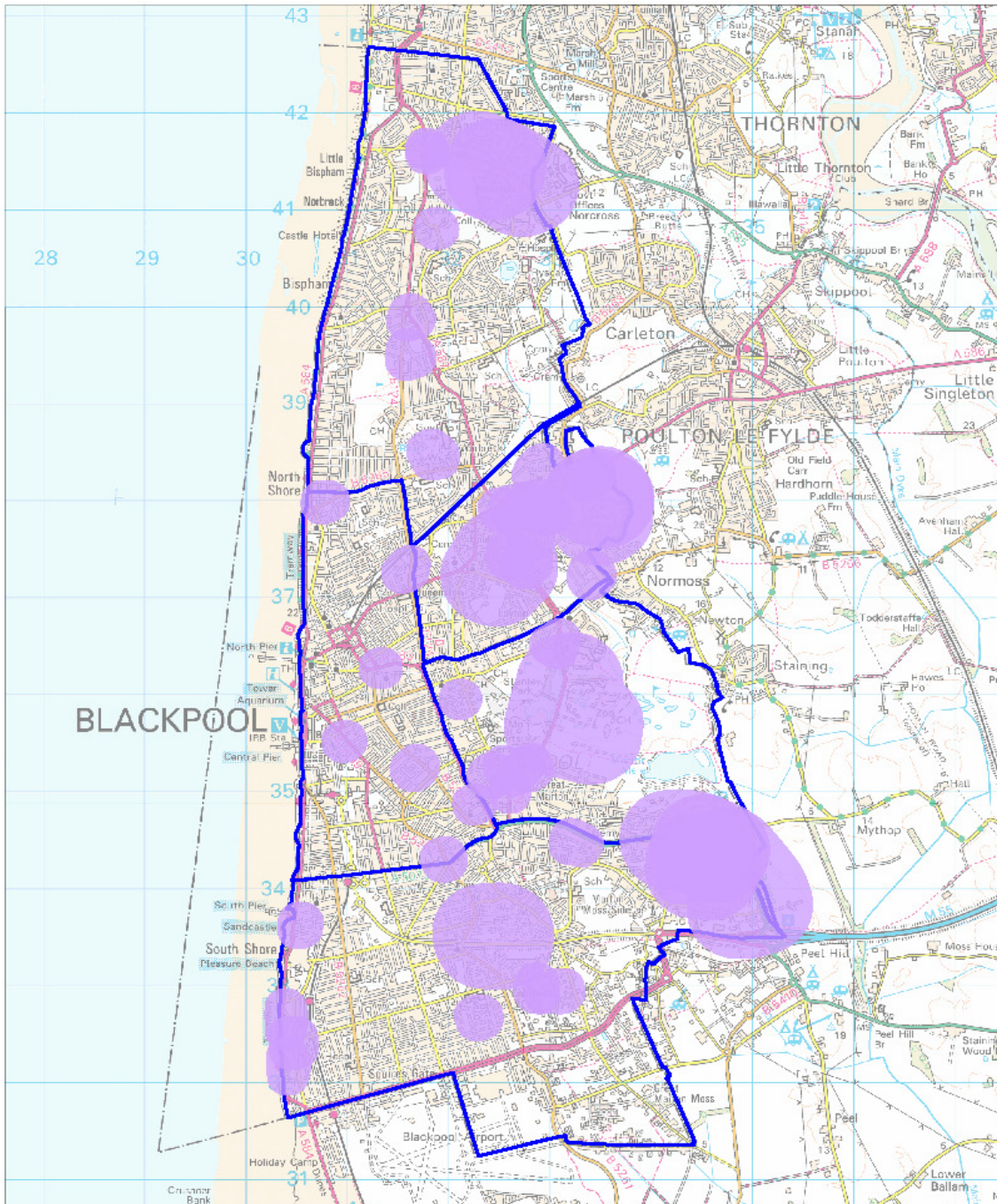
Recommendations

7.14 The amenity greenspace sites that are available should continue to be protected and enhanced. It should also be ensured that Amenity Greenspace continues to be an important part of provision of any comprehensive new development.

7.15 New amenity greenspace sites should be designed to a high standard as such sites can add much to the quality of residential areas. The design of existing sites should be improved to move away from the traditional spaces providing only grassed areas.

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Figure 22: Accessibility of Amenity Greenspace



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8. Provision for Children and Young People

8.1 Provision which is specifically in place for children and young people is difficult to define, as children and young people will play or 'hang out' in most kinds of public open space, ranging from playing fields, town centre civic squares and amenity greenspace to the more recognisable child play areas, such as equipped playgrounds, skate parks and Multi-Use Games Areas. Many of the areas utilised by children and young people provide informal play opportunities, and in terms of this assessment the spaces will often have a primary purpose which is not recognised specifically as provision for children and young people.

8.2 In 2008 Blackpool became one of 30 Local Authorities nationally to achieve Children's Play Pathfinder status from the Department of Children, Schools and Families with funding awarded to improve play facilities in the town. This resulted in 28 community play areas being upgraded or created, in addition to a range of revenue supported play initiatives which will be launched in local communities. A number of new natural playscapes have been installed, which aim to move away from traditional equipment such as slides and swings, and include natural features such as rock and sand, to encourage creativity in children. Work will be undertaken in 2015 to audit the quality of the existing children play areas and identify any further improvements that are needed.

8.3 Provision for children and young people is particularly important in Blackpool, as approximately 23% of the population are under the age of 19 as illustrated previously in figure 3. As such nearly a quarter of the population of Blackpool could potentially make use of provision for children and young people, therefore the protection and creation of such provision is a key priority in Blackpool, as indicated by the planned upgrades.

Inner Area

8.4 The Inner Area currently has no sites specifically designated for the provision for children

and young people, however there are a number of facilities located in multi-purpose sites, such as Harold Larwood Park; Bancroft Park; Warbreck Recreation Ground; Spencer Court; Claremont Park, Revoe Park and Bethesda Square. Facilities and provision in these sites include children's equipped play areas, two play spaces are provided in the Bancroft Park, one for children and one for youths.

8.5 Recent improvements include a new children's playground at Bethesda Square, new playground at Revoe Park and enhancement of existing facilities at Claremont Park. Two children's playgrounds will be provided as part of the Rigby Road housing development which will create additional provision for children and young people in the Inner Area.

Figure 23: Bancroft Park Children's Play Area



North Area

8.6 The provision for children and young people in the North Area is predominantly in the form of play areas with playground equipment. *Bispham Recreation Ground* and *Kincraig Road (Kincraig Fun Zone)* are the only sites in Blackpool that are specifically designated as provision for children and young people, and cover an area of 0.9 hectares. Provision is also located in *Luton Road/Eastpines Park*, and *Corrib Road Play Area*. *Moor Park South* additionally contains a skate park which is open to public use. There are also relatively new playgrounds on *Cavendish Road* and *Champagne Avenue*.

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Layton Area

8.7 In the Layton Area there are no primary purpose sites for provision for children and young people, however there are facilities provided in the multi-functional sites of *Grange Park Recreation Park*, *Layton Recreation Ground* and *Boundary Park*, with provision in the form of equipped play areas. Provision in the Layton Area has recently been improved by the enhancement of existing playground facilities at *Boundary Park* and the development of new play, sport and youth areas in *Kingscote Park*.

Stanley Park Area

8.8 The Stanley Park Area has no designated sites for the provision of children and young people, but a new childrens play area is provided as part of the new housing development off Cornwall Place (*Rosefinch Way*). In addition, a wide range of facilities can be found in Stanley Park including a skate park and BMX park.

8.9 Work has recently been completed on a new animal farm themed play area at Stanley Park for 2-8 year olds which is one of the largest outdoor facilities of its kind in the North West.

South Area

8.10 Similarly, the South Area does not contain any sites specifically designated for the provision of children and young people, however facilities are provided within the sites of *Fishers Field/Highfield Park*, *Highfield Road Recreation Ground*; *Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground*; *Mereside Park*; *Crossland Road Park*; *Watson Road Park* and *Kingsmede Amenity Greenspace*.

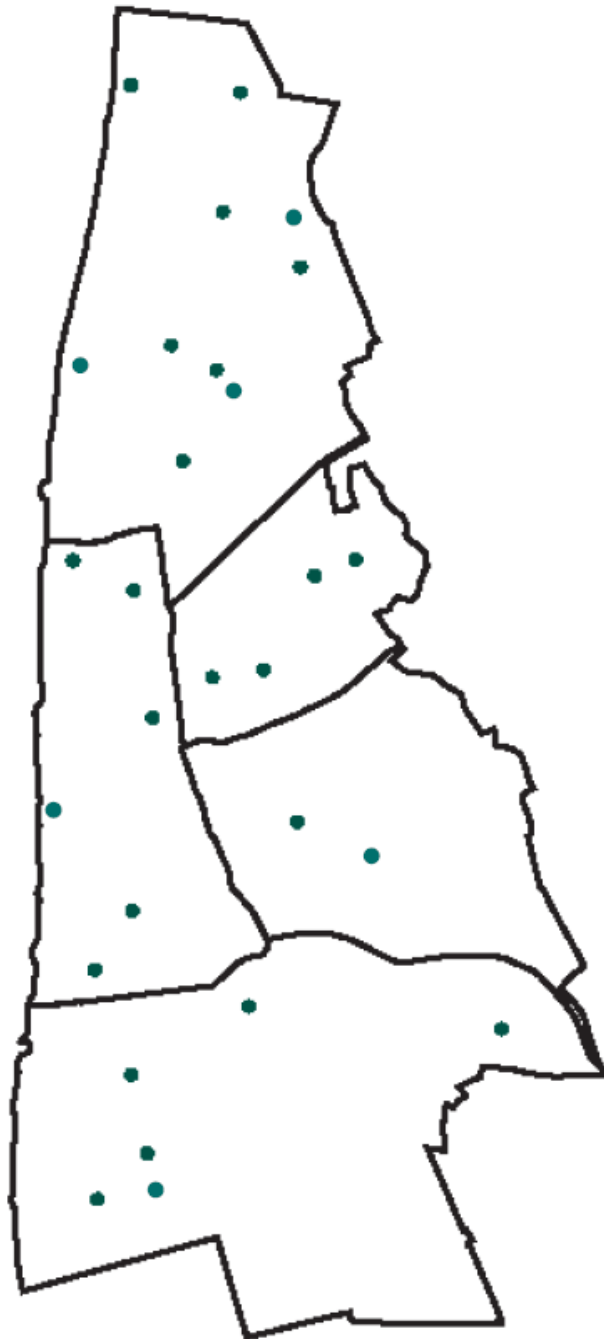
8.11 Figures 24 and 25 provide an indication of provision for children and young people in the Borough. These figures illustrate where facilities, such as children's playgrounds, are located regardless of the primary purpose of the site.

Figure 24: Sites Containing Provision for Children and Young People

Area	Sites
Inner Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revoe Park • Claremont Park • Bancroft Park • Harold Larwood Park • Warbreck Recreation Ground • Bethesda Square
North Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anchorsholme Park • Bispham Recreation Ground • Carr Road Playing Fields • Corrib Road Playing Fields • Kincaig Rd (Kincaig Fun Zone) • Luton Road/Eastpines Park • Moor Park North • Moor Park South • Champagne Avenue • Cavendish Road
Layton Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundary Park • Grange Park Recreation Ground • Kingscote Park • Layton Recreation Ground
Stanley Park Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stanley Park • Rosefinch Way
South Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highfield Road Rec Ground • Fishers Field/Highfield Rd Park • Louie Horrocks Rec Ground • Mereside Park • Crossland Road Park • Watson Road Park

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Figure 25: All Sites of Provision for Children and Young People



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8.12 Figure 25 illustrates the distribution of children's playspace across the Borough. There is great potential to further increase provision and improve existing facilities, and to diversify the range of provision available. Approximately a quarter of the Blackpool population is under the age of 19, as such there is potentially a great demand for a range of facilities which specifically cater for this age range.

8.13 There is one skate park at *Moor Park South* (and a similar proposed for *Claremont Park* in 2015), a larger outdoor facility at *Stanley Park* and an indoor skate park 'Ramp City' located just outside the Blackpool boundary. Ramp City is one of the largest in the country and is readily accessible to large sections of South Blackpool and has a wider sub-regional catchment.

8.14 As a seaside resort Blackpool has a number of private sector operated play and leisure facilities, which are aimed at the tourist market, these include Blackpool Tower, Sandcastle Water World and the Winter Gardens, and a number of crazy golf courses. The beach is also utilised by children and young people as an extensive play resource.

Quality

8.15 The quality of children's playspace has vastly improved in recent years as discussed in paragraph 8.2.

8.16 The Council is currently undertaking a Play Provision Audit on its green spaces, utilising the Play England Assessment Methodology. It is expected to be completed in March 2015.

Accessibility

8.17 Consultations held for the *Children's Play Strategy in 2006* identified ideal distance thresholds for

children and young people to travel to play facilities, these were:

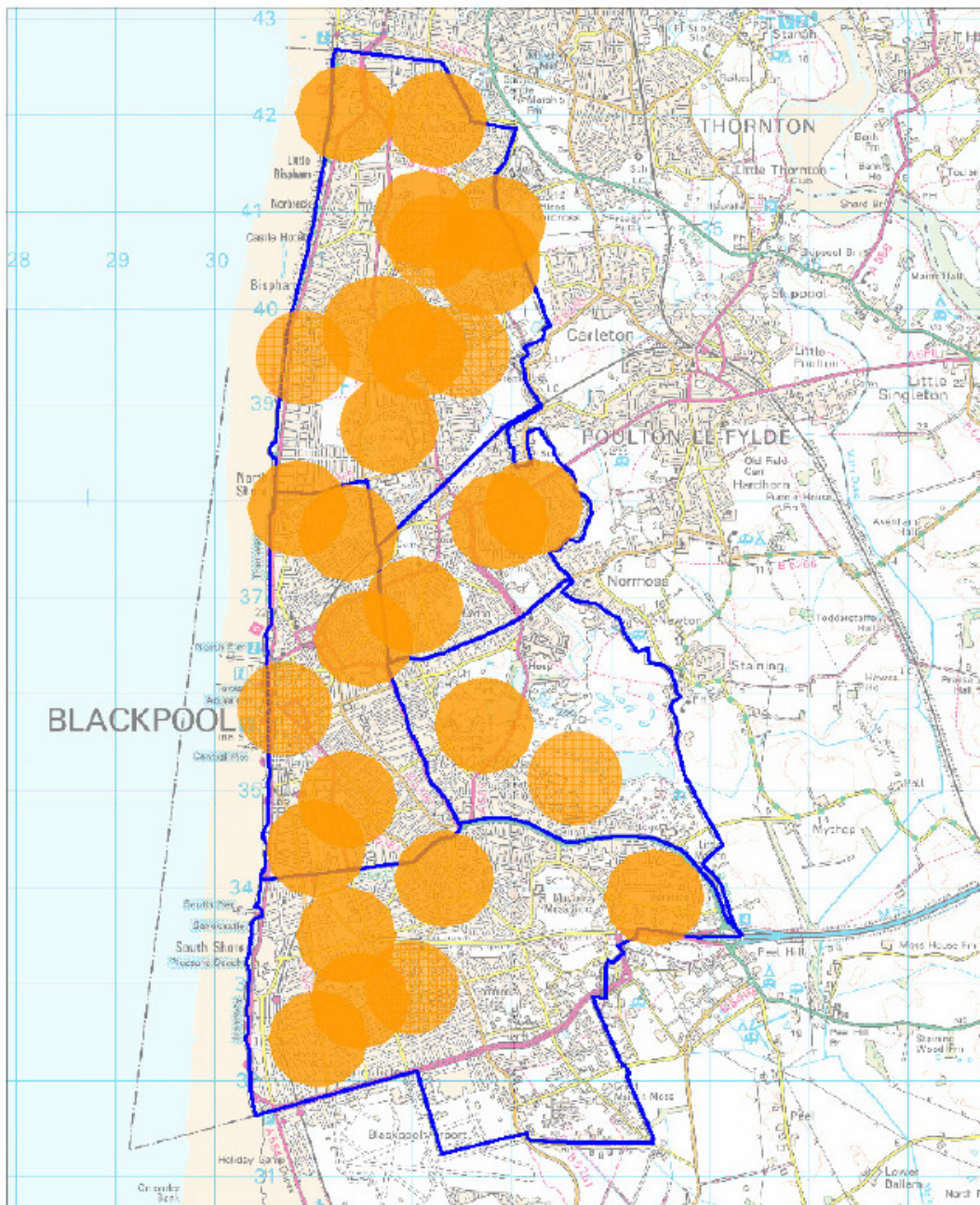
- 15 minutes for playgrounds;
- 20 minutes for kick around areas and youth shelters; and
- 25 minutes for skate parks and multi-use games areas.

8.18 Figure 26 does not intend to provide an in-depth analysis of accessibility to incorporate the above ideal distance thresholds, but instead provides an indication of areas which have good access to sites allocated for children and young people.

8.19 Figure 26 indicates that overall the Blackpool Borough has a good provision of children's play spaces distributed across the areas. The Stanley Park Area contains only two sites with access more limited to the west and south of the area. The South Area provides a number of facilities, with more restricted access to such sites in and around the Marton Moss area, however the proposed housing development at Moss House Road will provide a new children's play area. The Inner Area, comparative to the other areas, has a large number of sites which are fairly evenly distributed across the area, but with very restricted access to provision for children and young people in and around the town centre itself. However the two children's play areas at the Rigby Road development will add to this provision. The North and Layton Areas generally have good access to such sites, however there are some areas with more limited access, located mainly along the Promenade.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 26: Accessibility of Provision for Children and Young People



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Recommendations

8.20 The *Children's Play Strategy* recommended developing new and enhanced play opportunities in the most deprived areas of Blackpool, particularly in areas where there are high population levels in terms of children and young people and where there are clear gaps in play provision. The recent development of children's play facilities on Bethesda Square and Cavendish Road Recreation Ground have made a valuable contribution to play provision and have gone some way to address identified deficiencies. The children's play parks as part of the Rigby Road development will also be a welcome addition in the Inner Area.

8.21 Consultations relating to the Play Strategy have also indicated that more challenging play equipment is needed for young people, and in particular facilities for the 11 to 16 age group should be considered as part of any new play development. Additionally, there is a need to increase the number of youth shelters across the Borough, these should be linked to existing youth facilities and should be developed within the most deprived and highly populated areas.

8.22 There is a good provision of multi-use games areas in the Borough across schools and parks, however there is some deficiency in provision in the South Area and consideration should be given to the development of further facilities in this area.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

9. Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspaces and Green Corridors

9.1 The urban expansion of Blackpool has generally eroded the number of sites of natural and semi-natural greenspaces that are available. The remaining areas of natural space which do exist as a result are highly valued, and these are predominantly located along the eastern boundary of the Borough, with little provision elsewhere, and none in the Inner Area.

9.2 An immediate distinction is appropriately made between natural/wild landscape areas where recreation and public access is actively encouraged across the whole of the lands – for people to walk, enjoy and play – as against other areas which because of their special botanical or wildlife interest have been designated as protected sites. Public access to such sites is still permitted, but the focus on these sites is on safeguarding their natural conservation assets for their own future as well as for people to enjoy.

9.3 The Borough additionally has two areas of greenbelt land, located in the North and Layton Areas. The boundaries of the greenbelt have remained unchanged from those designated in the previous 1991-2001 and 2001-2016 Local Plans. The greenbelt areas have not been included in this assessment as these areas are largely agricultural or privately owned land with restricted public access.

9.4 In total there are 13 designated County Biological Heritage Sites (BHSs) in Blackpool which are protected and managed jointly by the Council and Groundwork. County BHSs contain the most important non-statutory wildlife sites in Lancashire, and can contain valuable habitats such as ancient woodland, species-rich grassland and bogs. Many BHSs provide a refuge for rare and threatened plants and animals, and form an irreplaceable part of the environment. As such BHSs are a major part of the strategy to conserve the biological richness of Lancashire, and increasing the visual and natural amenity of greenspace.

9.5 As stated, Blackpool's urban expansion means other remaining areas of open accessible recreational natural space are few and far between, and many such spaces were gradually lost as Blackpool continued to expand rapidly throughout the twentieth century. There are only 19 such sites which can be specifically categorised as natural open landscapes.

9.6 In addition to natural and semi-natural greenspaces, there are also a few green corridor sites. Green corridors can include river and canal banks, and cycleways as green corridors. The Borough has no rivers or canals, as such the main source of green corridors are found in cycleways and areas of greenspace between built up areas.

9.7 There are a number of cycle routes in Blackpool. The Jubilee Cycle Way, runs along the promenade from North Pier to Anchorsholme. Another route runs from North Pier to Staining via Stanley Park, and additionally the South Promenade route runs from Starr Gate to the Sandcastle Water Park. In 2008 Blackpool was awarded Cycling Town status by the Cycling England organisation, as part of this two additional 'explorer routes' were created between the Promenade and Stanley Park. In the context of Blackpool, the cycle routes predominantly include the promenade and therefore the routes do not provide green corridors, and as such the cycle routes are not included in this assessment. Green corridors have therefore been designated as areas of greenspace which provide a barrier between the built environment, or provide an access route through built up areas to other greenspaces.

9.8 Another significant area that should be mentioned but which is not outlined in the typology index is the coast. The beach in Blackpool, particularly in the Inner Area, to many extents compensates for the lack of open greenspace in the Town Centre, and at low-tide provides a vast open public space which can be utilised.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Inner Area

9.9 The Blackpool Local Plan identifies the Geldof Drive/Warley Road site as an important open landscape which significantly contributes to the surrounding area and is to be safeguarded. It is proposed that landscape renewal will be pursued at the site to create a natural 'wild' greenspace, where open recreational access will be provided from adjoining residential areas. The site at *Geldof Drive* provides an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace covering approximately 1.5 hectares, and is the only such site in the Inner Area.

North Area

9.10 The North Area contains a number of sites of natural or semi-natural greenspace, located at the sites of: *Ashfield Road; Dumfries Close;; Low Moor/Runcorn Avenue; Mossom Lane; Queens Promenade Coastal Grass Land; Runcorn/Holyoake Avenue; and Warren Drive/Deerhurst Road*. The sites include semi-natural and natural vegetation, such as grassland, bogs, wooded areas, ponds and other open water. In total there is approximately 34 hectares of natural or semi-natural greenspace in the North Area, providing a substantial area of natural greenspace adding to the visual quality of the landscape in the area.

9.11 The coastline, promenade and accompanying greenspace are integrated into the North West Coastal Trail (<http://www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk/nw-coastal-trail/>), which aims to become a key Green Infrastructure asset in the North West Region. These features provide a large source of natural open space, and also have highly regarded ecological and amenity functions. The coast and promenade is, and will continue to be, safeguarded, with continual enhancement and maintenance a key priority to ensure they remain high quality assets in Blackpool.

9.12 The Blackpool Local Plan(2006) identifies a site at Warren Drive/Deerhurst Road as an important open landscape area which contributes significantly to the surrounding area, and is safeguarded as an urban greenspace. There has been planning permission in the

past to develop part of the site for offices. Any proposals should include landscape enhancement through new planting, retaining the open aspects across the site, and improving public access to the Warren Drive/ Deerhurst Road frontage. This will help to improve the quality and accessibility of this key site.

9.13 The North Area also contains a substantial amount of greenbelt land which is located on the eastern borough boundary. This greenbelt land has not been formally included in the assessment as the land is not entirely open space and consists of private farm land, agricultural buildings, housing, and open water. However, the green belt land does add to the visual quality of the landscape and to the overall green infrastructure of Blackpool.

9.14 There are a number of sites in the North Area which contain areas of natural or semi-natural greenspace, but have other primary purposes, including locations such as: *Carr Road Playing Fields; Champagne Avenue/Briarfield; Dumfries Close; Hawking Place; Moor Park North; Moor Park South; Regency Gardens; and Whiteholme Playing Fields*.

9.15 A number of Blackpool's designated County Biological Heritage Sites are also located in the North Area, these are:

- Field Pond West - Bispham Road.
- Bispham Marsh - Kincaig Road
- Queens Promenade Coastal Grassland
- Robins Lane Pond Cluster – Bispham
- Carleton Cemetery Pond Cluster

9.16 The North Area has a number of Green Corridors totalling an area of approximately 5 hectares, the corridors are found at the sites of: *Champagne Avenue/ Briarfield; Hawking Place* (north and west of the Technology Park); and *Moor Park Avenue/Briarwood Drive*. The Blackpool North Railway

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement

2014 Update

line, which provides a boundary between the North and Layton areas, also provides a green corridor.

Layton Area

9.17 Sites of natural and semi-natural greenspace in the Layton Area are located at *Bathurst Avenue* and *Collingwood Avenue*, covering an area of 3.2 hectares, with grassland, natural or semi-natural vegetation and wooded areas. The area also contains a small section of greenbelt land located on the eastern borough boundary.

9.18 Areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace are also located in *Boundary Park* and *Kingscote Park*. *Boundary Park* contains a two acre wildlife conservation area, the *Genesis Wildlife Haven*. Previously the area had been wasteland before 2002, until a group of local residents formed a support group, the '*Christ the King Wildlife Support Group*' which cleaned up and improved the overall quality and appearance of the area.

9.19 The only form of green corridor in the Layton area is found alongside the Blackpool North Railway Line which provides the boundary between the North and Layton Areas. Railways lines can provide important wildlife corridors but, in this instance, does not provide any accessible public open space and therefore has not been included in this audit.

Stanley Park Area

9.20 The Stanley Park Area contains a substantial amount of natural and semi-natural greenspace located at a number of sites, covering 91.5 hectares. Two important areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace are the *Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve* and the *Salisbury Woodland*.

9.21 The *Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve* is the focal point of an extensive series of Biological Heritage Sites in Blackpool and occupies part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in recognition of its bird population. *Marton Mere* was declared an SSSI in 1979 and covers an area of 39 hectares, with an 18 hectare

natural freshwater site, which is one of the few such remaining sites in Lancashire. The site also forms part of the greenbelt and contains a diversity of habitats including open water, reed beds, grassland and also woodland and shrubs. The reserve supports a number of other important populations such as dragonflies, bats and orchids. The site is situated on the urban fringe and is utilised for nature conservation, environmental education and quiet recreation. The Local Nature Reserve is owned, managed and funded by Blackpool Council in partnership with Marton Mere Holiday Village.

9.22 The Marton Mere Management Plan (2013-2018) provides the framework and information describing how Marton Mere is managed and confirms Blackpool Council's aims to maintain the site in a reasonable condition, conserving and enhancing the reserve's ecological value and its essential and varied character, whilst continuing to provide and improve facilities and activities for the local community and wider visiting public, engaging them in the process. The Management Plan also contains a prioritised programme for action. Work has just commenced on a £380,000 Heritage Lottery funded project to renovate, enhance and improve the reserve environment and facilities.

9.23 *Salisbury Woodland* is Blackpool's only amenity woodland site, which was originally planted in the 1930s to act as a shelterbelt for Stanley Park Golf Course, and was later developed into public space during the 1950's. The woodland was designated a County Biological Heritage Site in 1993, and contains a mixture of native and exotic trees, accompanied by shrubs and wild flowers. In addition to *Salisbury Woodland* there are three additional Biological Heritage Sites, these are the Broad Oak Lane Field Ponds, Stanley Park Heronry (island in Stanley Park Lake), and Heron's Reach Golf Course. The woodland is connected to other quality greenspaces including *Stanley Park* and *Heron's Reach*.

9.24 Significant improvements were carried out in *Salisbury Woodland* garden's in 2009, which has revitalised one of Blackpool's most important ecological assets. New entrances, paths, furniture and

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

major conservation works transformed the site. The significant tree thinning and pruning works have resulted in a huge increase in woodland flora and fauna improving the visitors experience to the site.

9.25 In addition there are also the natural and semi natural sites of:

- The *East Park Drive* site covers an area of 24.5 hectares, and includes natural and semi-natural vegetation, grassland, wooded areas, and open water.
- *Heron's Reach* extends around the Heron's Reach Golf Course and includes natural and semi-natural vegetation, grassland and a series of open water lakes.
- *Lawson Road* is a former playing field which is currently being developed as a wetland area, covering a site of 5.4 hectares. The site has been transformed with the creation of six ponds, an extension of a reed bed, hedge and scrub planting and the creation of a raised footpath. The site is accessible by a footpath which runs from the site to the *Marton Mere Nature Reserve*.
- Areas of natural or semi-natural greenspaces are also located in the sites of *Stanley Park; Weymouth Road; East/West Park Drive Triangle* and the *Zoo Frontage* and *East Park Drive Triangle*

South Area

9.26 The only area of natural or semi-natural greenspace in the South Area is *Yeadon Way*, which covers an area of 2.6 hectares and has a variety of vegetation and grassland. In addition, the South Area includes the Marton Moss area that is designated as countryside in the Blackpool Local Plan, covering a total area of 218.8 hectares. This site however, with the exception of a small number of footpaths, is generally not open to public access and contains

numerous dwellings, agricultural buildings and facilities, and privately owned and managed agricultural land. As such this site has not been included in the 2009 open space assessment.

9.27 The South Area additionally contains two Biological Heritage Sites, one of which is situated along the Blackpool South Railway Line, and also a site at Chapel Road, in the Marton Moss area.

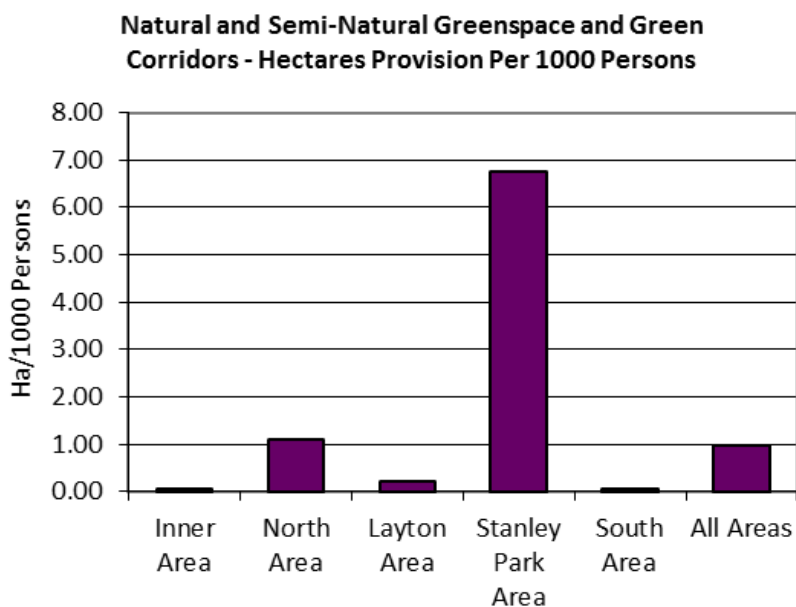
Quantity

9.28 There are 132.7 hectares of open space classified as Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace or Green Corridors in the Borough, over 22 sites. The sites range in size from 0.2 hectares (Ashfield Road) to 43.4 hectares (Marton Mere). The current provision of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Green Corridors equates to approximately 0.93 hectares per 1000 persons

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

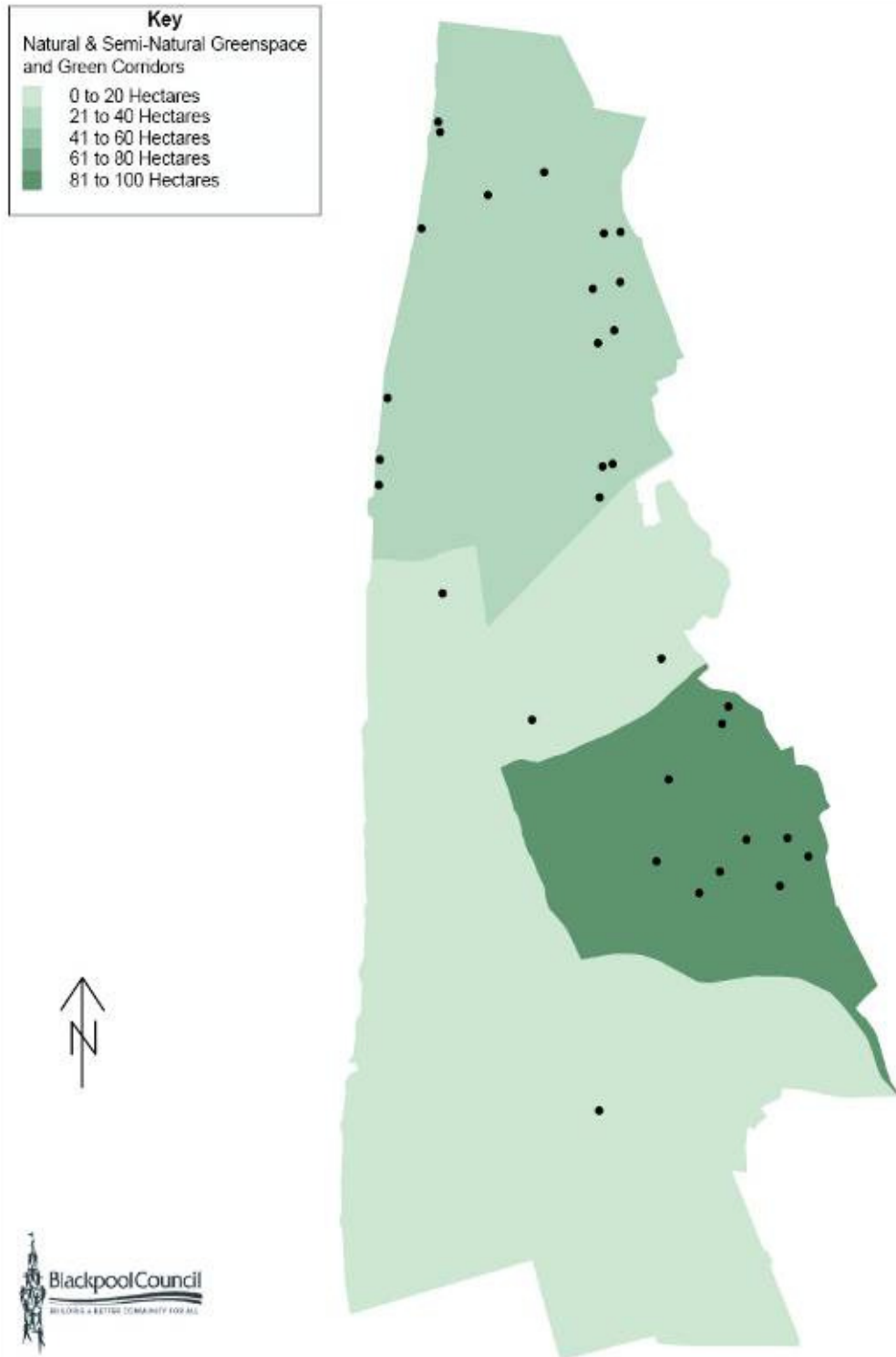
Figure 27: Summary of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Green Corridor Provision

Area	Provision (Hectares)			Population	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Green Corridors Approximate ha/1000 persons
	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Green Corridors	Total		
Inner Area	1.5	0	1.5	34647	0.04
North Area	33.9	5.6	39.5	35895	1.10
Layton Area	3.21	0	3.21	15029	0.21
Stanley Park Area	91.5	0	91.5	13560	6.75
South Area	2.6	0	2.6	42845	0.06
Total	132.71	5.6	138.71	141976	0.97



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 28: Total Provision in Hectares of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspaces and Green Corridors by Area



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9.29 Figure 28 indicates that areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace are concentrated in the North and Stanley Park Area, with the South and Inner Areas containing the least number of sites.

9.30 Many of the natural and semi-natural greenspace sites are located close to the eastern borough boundary, away from the highly developed urban form, which is dominated by high density development from the early twentieth century.

Quality

9.31 The *Salisbury Woodland* is of a high natural quality, illustrated by its Biological Heritage site Status. The site is currently maintained to a high standard, and that the woodland habitat is protected and enhanced to maintain a high quality environment.

Accessibility

9.32 Green corridors are currently only located in the North Area, therefore accessibility to such forms of greenspace may be limited for large sections of the population in Blackpool.

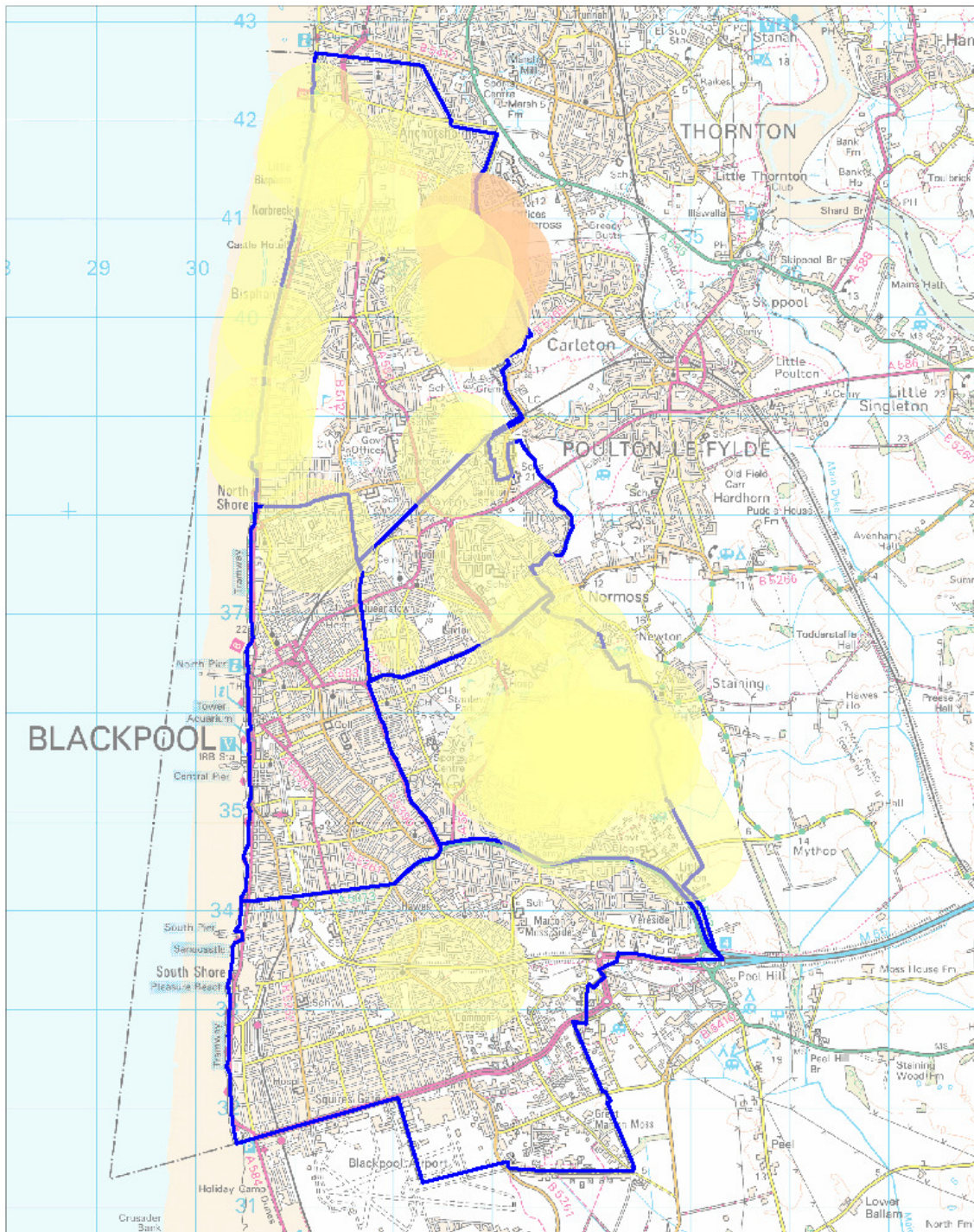
9.33 As mentioned previously, areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace are largely concentrated in the Stanley Park Area with a significant amount in the North Area also. Other areas do contain some areas of smaller amounts natural and semi-natural greenspace, however enhancing access to existing areas should be a priority.

9.34 Figure 29 illustrates that accessibility to natural and semi-natural greenspace, and to green corridors varies across the Borough. Access is particularly limited in the South and Inner Areas, with large proportions of these areas with more limited access to such types of open space. The areas surrounding the Inner and South promenade areas have limited access to natural and semi-natural greenspace. The North Area has a number of sites which provide much of the area with access to the sites, however some areas have more limited access to natural and semi-natural greenspace. The

Layton Area has good accessibility to natural and semi-natural greenspace, however there are a few urban areas which have more restricted access. The Stanley Park Area contains a number of sites of natural and semi-natural greenspace, which provides good accessibility to such sites, but due to the location of these sites the urban areas of Stanley Park has more limited direct access to the sites.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 29: Accessibility of Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace and Green Corridors



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Recommendations

9.34 Areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace should be maintained to a high standard to ensure that sites do not become overgrown and unusable. There are very few sites of natural and semi-natural greenspace remaining, except the ponds concentrated in north east Blackpool, and the few remaining designated Local Nature Reserve, BHS sites and SSSI. Due to the limited amount of such space, it is essential that this type of open space provision is protected, maintained and enhanced so as not to lose these important ecological sites.

9.35 Blackpool's urban form and constrained boundary limits opportunities to develop new sites. However there is increased recognition of the limitations of formal provision, and the need for wider informal and wilder recreational opportunities.

9.36 As a result major new initiatives have looked to remodel existing areas of formal parkland and other applications to provide wider recreational opportunities and important assets. This is particularly illustrated by the sites of *Mossom Lane*, *Warren Drive*, *Geldof Drive*, *George Bancroft Park*, the *Promenade Headlands*, and the incorporation of ecological areas in school playing fields.

9.37 It is necessary that any new development must have high regard to the need for retention, incorporation as well opportunities for enhancement and creation of such natural and semi-natural greenspace areas within any strategic new development as well as more formal provision, and standards must reflect this.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

10. Allotments and Community Gardens

10.1 In Blackpool there are currently eight allotment sites, totalling an area of 13.1 hectares, and which are occupied by over 330 plot holders. The allotments sites are safeguarded by policy BH9 of the Blackpool Local Plan, and are managed by the Federation of Allotment Associations.

Inner and North Areas

10.2 The Inner and North Areas currently contain no allotments sites. Due to the compact urban form of the Inner Area, where overall there is a lack of other open space types it is understandable that there are no allotments sites. However the North Area is much larger in size and contains a variety of other open space sites, therefore the lack of allotment provision is more pronounced. Consequently, residents in the Inner Area, but more particularly the North Area have restricted access to allotment sites, this lack of provision should be a key issue to be addressed. There is one community garden at Claremont Park which was created in 2007. The garden was funded by the Local Area Agreement, Safer Stronger Communities Fund, and work carried out by Groundworks on behalf of Blackpool Council.

Layton Area

10.3 The Layton Area contains one allotment site and one Community Garden. The *Layton Allotment* covers approximately 1.8 ha, with a total of 41 plots. The *Grange Park Community Garden* covers an area of 0.2 ha. The community garden is supported by the Grange Park Community Project, which was the

overall winner of the 2004 Office of the Deputy Prime Ministers (ODPM) Sustainable Communities Award 2004.

Stanley Park Area

10.4 In the Stanley Park Area there are three allotments sites, the *Lawson Road Allotments* (2.6 ha), *Oxford Square Allotments* (0.3 ha) and *Newton Drive (David Slack) Allotments* (2.2 ha), which provide 153 plots, covering an area of 5.1 hectares. There are currently no community gardens in the area.

South Area

10.5 In the South Area there are four designated allotment areas, these are the *Cherry Tree Allotments* (4 ha), *Bridgehouse Farm Allotments* (1.2 hectares), *Acre Gate Allotments* (0.9 ha) and *Scotswood Avenue Allotments* (0.1 ha), which provide 159 plots.. There is one community garden at Lostock Gardens which was created 2011 as part of joint project between Lancashire Police, Groundworks and Blackpool Coastal Housing.

Quantity

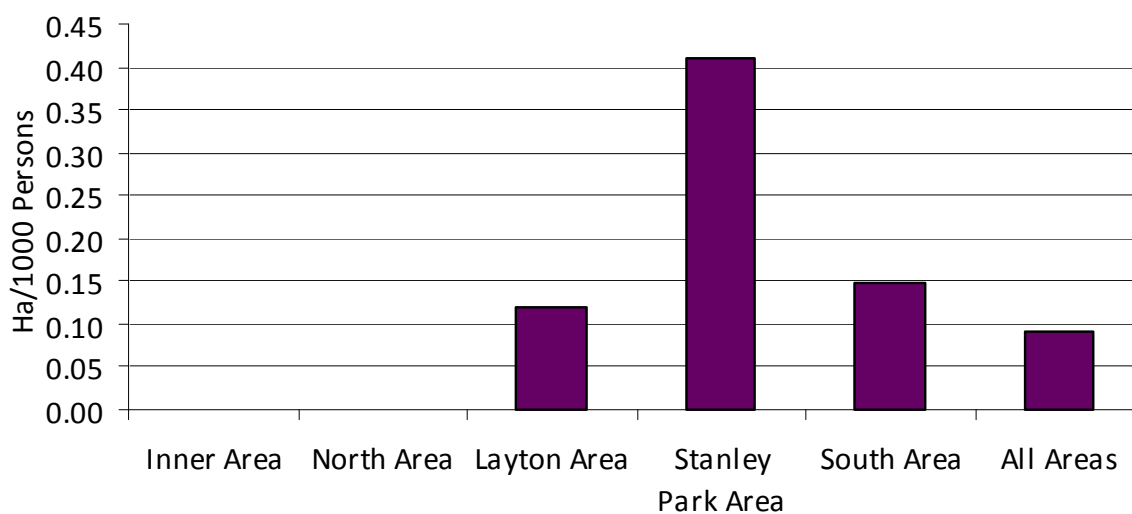
10.6 There are 13.37 hectares of Allotments and Community Gardens provided in the Borough, over 9 sites. The sites range in size from 0.07 hectares (Lostock Gardens Community Garden) to 2.6 hectares (Lawson Road). The current provision of Allotments and Community Gardens equates to approximately 0.09 hectares per 1000 persons.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 30: Summary of Allotment and Community Garden Provision

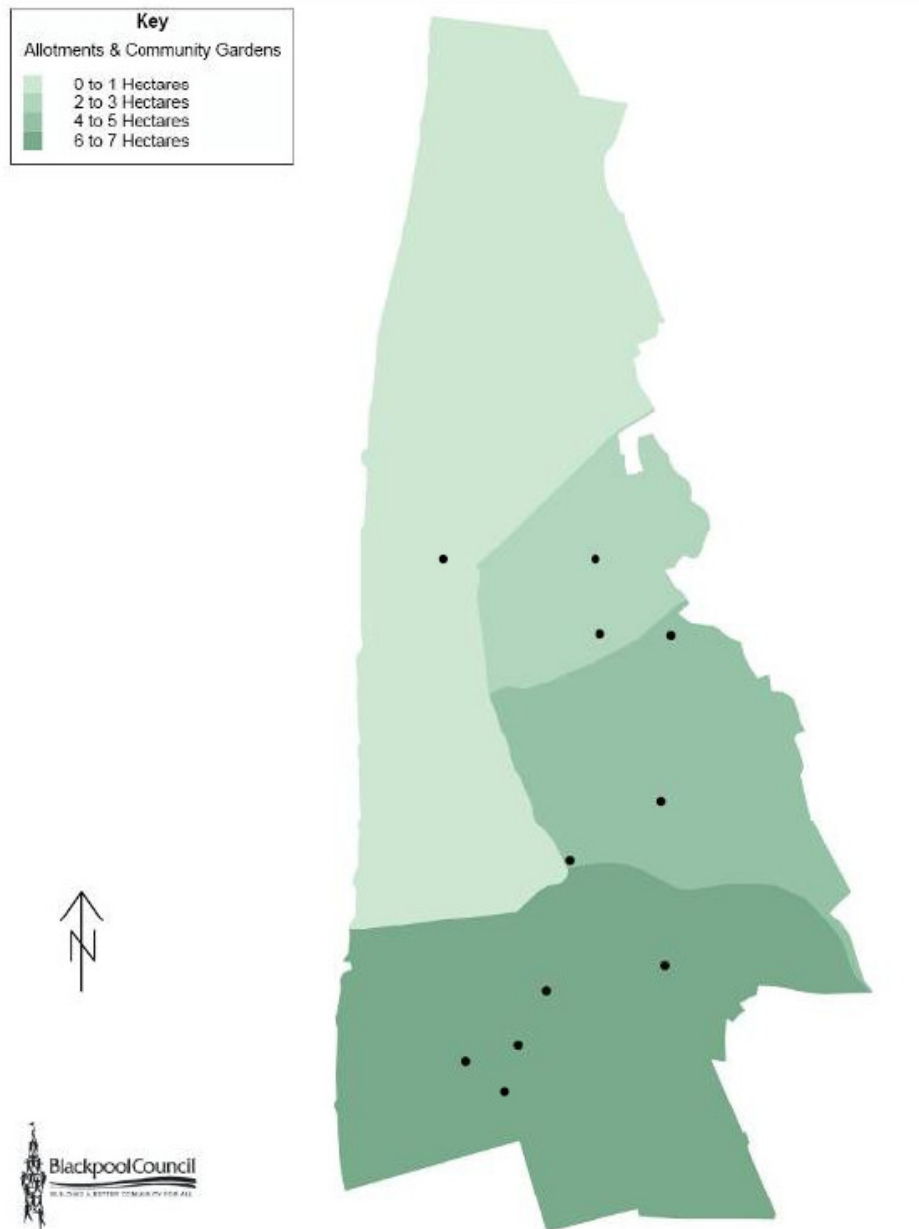
Area	Provision (Hectares)			Population	Allotments and Community Gardens Approximate ha/1000 persons
	Allotments	Community Gardens	Total		
Inner Area	0	0	0	34647	0.00
North Area	0	0	0	35895	0.00
Layton Area	1.8	0.2	2.0	15029	0.12
Stanley Park Area	5.1	0	5.1	13560	0.41
South Area	6.2	0.07	6.27	42845	0.15
Total	13.1	0.27	13.37	141976	0.09

Allotments and Community Gardens - Hectares Provision Per 1000 Persons



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 31: Total Provision in Hectares of Allotments and Community Gardens by Area



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10.7 All allotment sites are currently in use and all have waiting lists, this implies that there is a demand for further allotment sites, particularly as there are currently no allotment sites available in the Inner and North Areas.

Quality

10.8 There has been a long period of under-investment in allotments. As a result there has been a deterioration in the condition and appearance of sites, consequently a strategic approach is required to counter this decline and ensure that the benefits of allotment gardening are fully recognised and available to a wider range of the community. The previous *Allotment Strategy* identified that the landscape impact of some allotments sites needs to be addressed, where a rundown appearance may create apathy amongst some agencies and members of the public, consequently acting as a barrier to the further development of allotments in town.

Accessibility

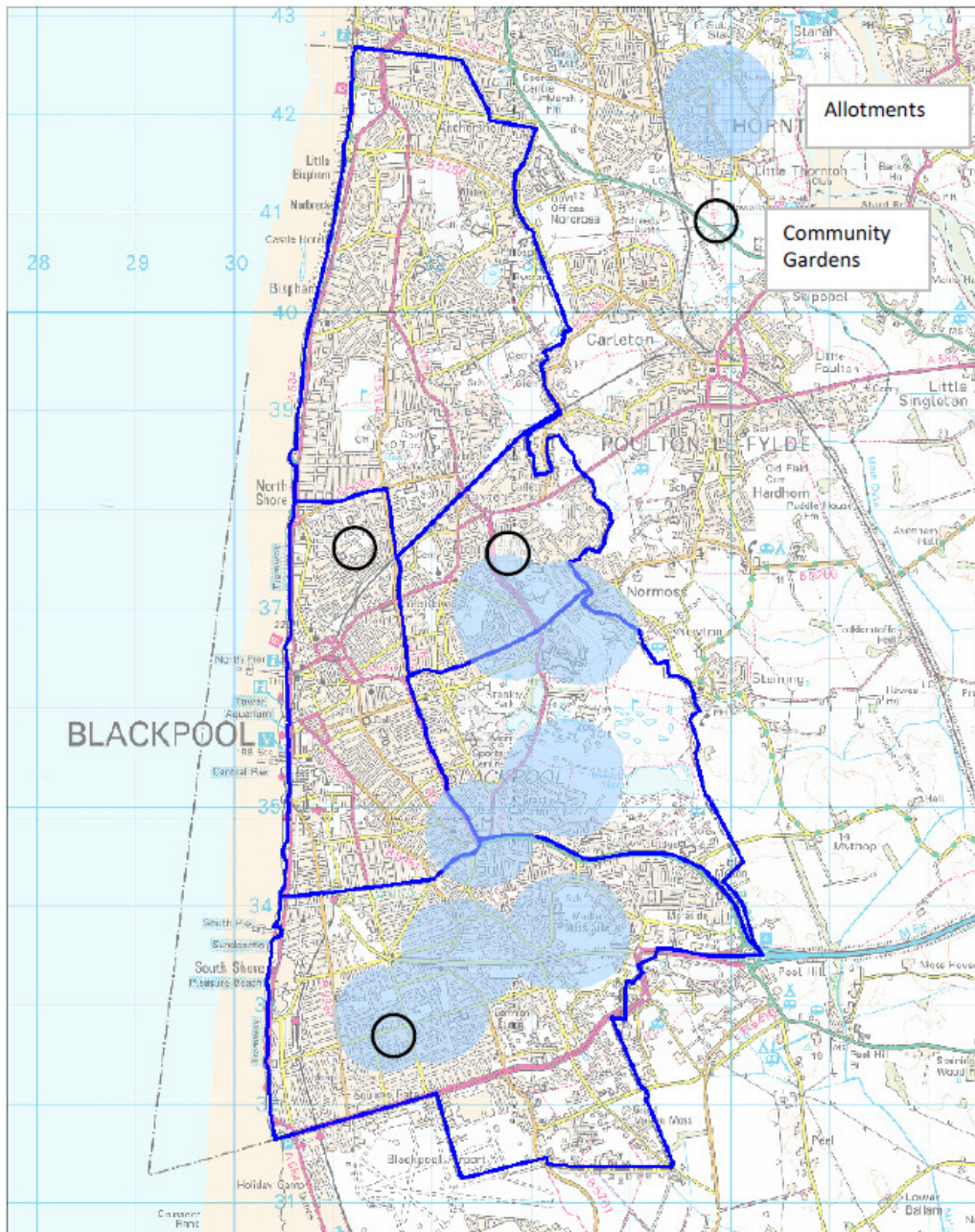
10.9 Half of the Borough's allotments are located in the South Area, with the remaining allotments located in the Stanley Park Area and Layton Area, accessibility to allotments for residents living in the North and Inner Areas therefore may be restricted. Where possible the development of allotments sites in the North and Inner Areas should be encouraged to further improve the quantity and accessibility of allotments sites in Blackpool.

10.10 As indicated by figure 32, access by walking to allotments and community gardens is fairly limited for large areas of the Borough. Access is very limited in the North Area, and in much of the Inner Area, where there is no direct provision, however a site in the Stanley Park Area may be accessible from the Inner Area. Access is greatest in the South Area, but there is also some level of good access in the Stanley Park Area and Layton Area. The nature of

allotments means that access to the sites is often by car, due to the equipment required to tend to the plots, therefore walking access is not necessarily required. Regardless of this, it is still apparent that there is an inadequate supply and access to allotments sites in the North and Inner Areas. There are currently only one three community gardens in the Borough, therefore access is extremely restricted, however due to the nature of community gardens they are primarily targeted at the local residents which are in close proximity to the garden. There is the potential to increase the number and distribution of community gardens to improve accessibility to the wider Blackpool community.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 32: Accessibility of Allotments and Community Gardens



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Recommendations

10.11 There are a number of overarching aims to improve the quality and supply of allotments, including:

- To ensure a sustainable future for Blackpool's allotments;
- To develop the quality of allotment provision;
- To develop a constructive and ongoing partnership between the Council and stakeholders/allotment holders, Blackpool Federation of Allotments Associations, the North West Counties and the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Ltd.

10.12 The strategy provides a structure for achieving these objectives, and to secure the future of the allotments. The main objective is to maintain the current supply and where possible increase the number of plots available. This can be achieved through reinstating existing plots that have been disused and overgrown, maximising the usage areas of allotments sites or extending the sites.

10.13 An additional objective would be to develop allotment sites in the Inner and North Areas, and to support the creation of further community gardens. As illustrated by the Grange Park Community Garden, such sites can provide important community benefits and should be further encouraged within other neighbourhoods in the Borough.

10.14 It is recognised in the Allotment Strategy that to provide high quality facilities, the following improvements will be required at a number of the allotment sites:

- Partnership working;
- Secure perimeter fencing;
- toilets;

- resurfacing of main/side access roads;
- parking facilities;
- reinstating derelict plots/site;
- drainage;
- improved water supplies;
- asbestos removal;
- provision of meeting rooms; and
- lighting/electricity.

10.15 With regards to allotments there is currently no statutory minimum or maximum level of service provision, however the government realises the important role leisure has to play in the fabric of community life and has outlined its vision through the Departments of Culture, Media and Sport, Health, Education and Skills and Environment, Regions and Transport strategies and plans. Therefore to secure allotment sites it may be necessary to develop local minimum standards.

10.16 The emerging Core Strategy policy relating to Marton Moss supports a range of community and recreation facilities should the community want them. This could include new allotments or community gardens.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

11. Civic and Market Squares and Other Hard Surfaced Areas

11.1 Civic and hard surfaced areas provide essential areas of open space in the highly urbanised central areas of the Borough. The Promenade is a vast hard surfaced area that extends the full length, north to south, of the Borough.

11.2 There are a number of existing hard surfaced areas, including St John's Square and the Tower Festival Headland which have both extensively improved hard surfaced areas and civic space in recent years.

St. John's Square

11.3 The Inner Area contains a number of civic and hard surfaced areas in and around the town centre. St John's Square in the centre of the town provides a high-quality, multi-functional public space with seating, lighting, planting, fountains and a large 11 metre 'wave' sculpture.

Figure 33: St John's Square

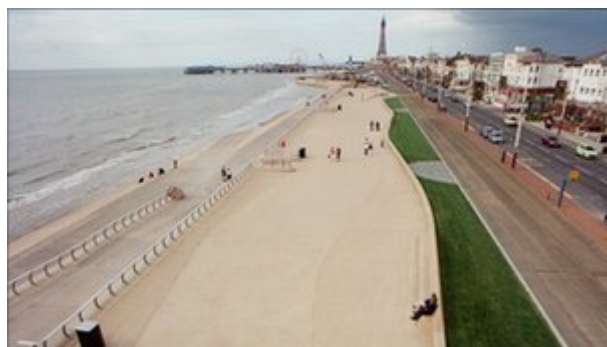


Promenade

11.4 The Promenade covers an area of 50.1 hectares. In the Inner Area the promenade provides a much needed area of open public space away from the intensely urbanised town centre. The recent improvements to the promenade in the Inner and South Area has resulted in a high quality public realm. Part of the wider headlands project included the

improvement of sea defences by developing a series of 'Spanish Steps' and a number of new headlands which provide multi-use areas of open public space.

Figure 34: New Promenade



11.5 In recent years, £15 million in funding was received to create the Tower Headland. The project aimed to create a unique outdoor event space on the headland opposite the Blackpool Tower. The headland comprises a 20,000 capacity open air arena, Festival House register office, and a Comedy Carpet, cast in granite and incorporating famous phrases, anecdotes and jokes set out in the form of music hall posters to celebrate Blackpool's tradition of comedy and entertainment.

Talbot Gateway/Central Business District

11.6 The Talbot Gateway project is a major component of Blackpool's regeneration and provides a civic and cultural quarter set within a large, mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly environment. The 12.8 hectare site includes a Sainsbury's food store, Council offices, cafes and shops.

Quantity

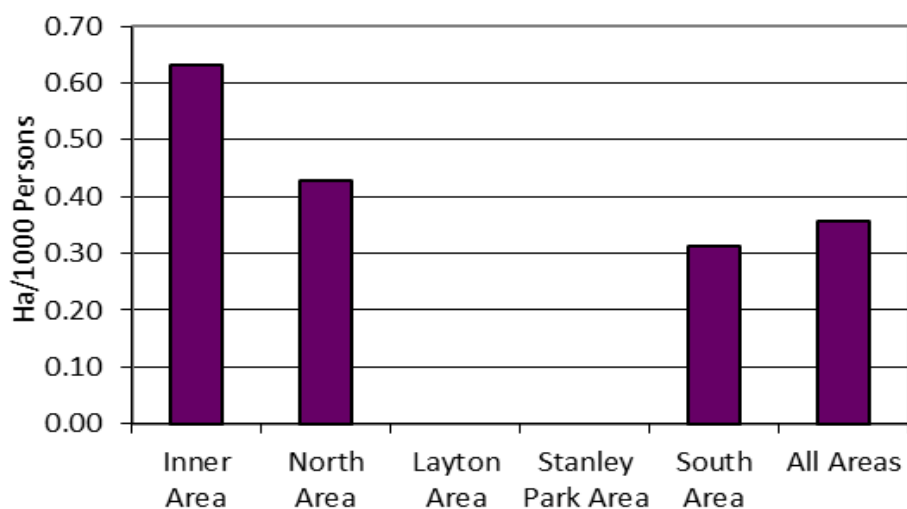
11.7 There are 50.7 hectares of Hard Surfaced Areas and Civic Market Squares provided in the Borough, over 4 sites. The sites range in size from 0.6 hectares (St John's Square) to 15.4 hectares (North Section of the Promenade). The current provision of the Hard Surfaced Areas and Civic and Market Squares equates to approximately 0.36 hectares per 1000 persons.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 35: Summary of Civic and Market Square and Hard Surfaced Area Provision

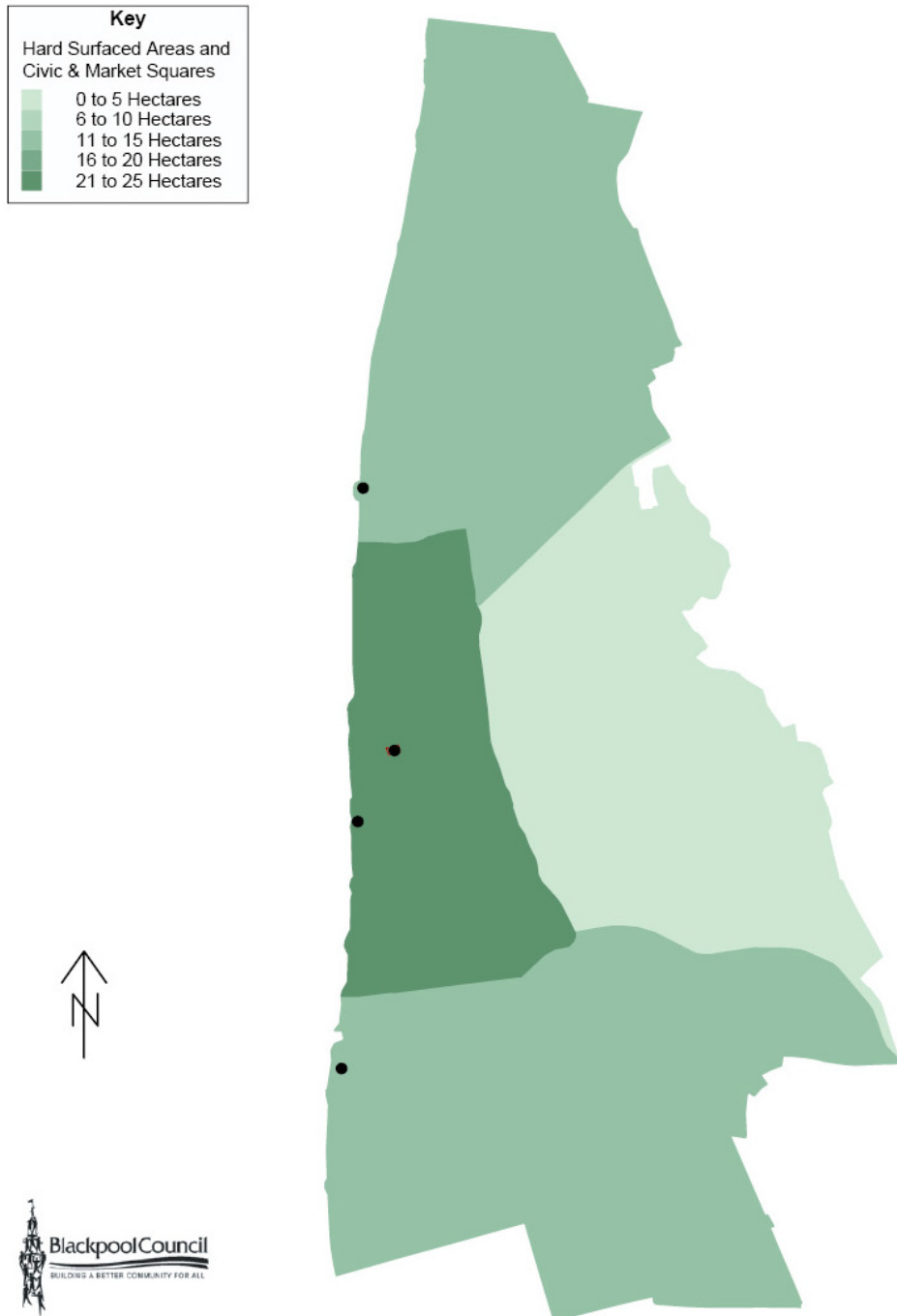
Area	Provision (Hectares)			Population	Civic and Market Squares and Hard Surfaced Areas Approximate ha/1000 persons
	Civic and Market Squares	Hard-Surfaced Areas	Total		
Inner Area	0.6	21.3	21.9	34647	0.63
North Area	0	15.4	15.4	35895	0.43
Layton Area	0	0	0	15029	0.00
Stanley Park Area	0	0	0	13560	0.00
South Area	0	13.4	13.4	42845	0.31
Total	0.6	50.1	50.7	141976	0.36

Hard Surfaced Areas and Civic and Market Squares -
Hectares Provision Per 1000 Persons



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 36: Distribution Hectares of Civic and Market Squares and other Hard Surfaced Areas



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Quality

11.8 The extensive improvements to urban public space, civic spaces and hard surfaced areas have significantly improved the quality of such spaces in Blackpool. The current improvements to the promenade and St John's Square have been designed to a high standard, incorporating good quality and durable materials. St Johns Square received a commended award from the Landscape Institute in 2010. The Comedy Carpet received a nomination for the Designs of the Year Award by the Design Museum in 2012.

Accessibility

11.9 The Promenade provides an extensive hard surfaced area along the entire western boundary of the Blackpool Borough, and as such is accessible to a large proportion of the population. The nature of civic squares means that such sites are normally located within town centres, therefore sites, such the St John's Square, are located within the Inner Area, however there is extensive access to these sites due to their town centre location.

Recommendations

11.10 Hard Surfaced Areas and Civic and Market Squares are crucial to the town centre and the regeneration of Blackpool, with the current improvements adding to the overall quality and quantity of provision in the Borough. Existing redevelopment projects will enhance additional areas and future opportunities for enhancement may also arise from regeneration within district centres and through regeneration plans in resort neighbourhoods. The plans cover significant areas of built environment on the promenade and set back from this. Any redevelopment of such areas should include an enhancement of the public realm and potentially the creation of new open spaces where required.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

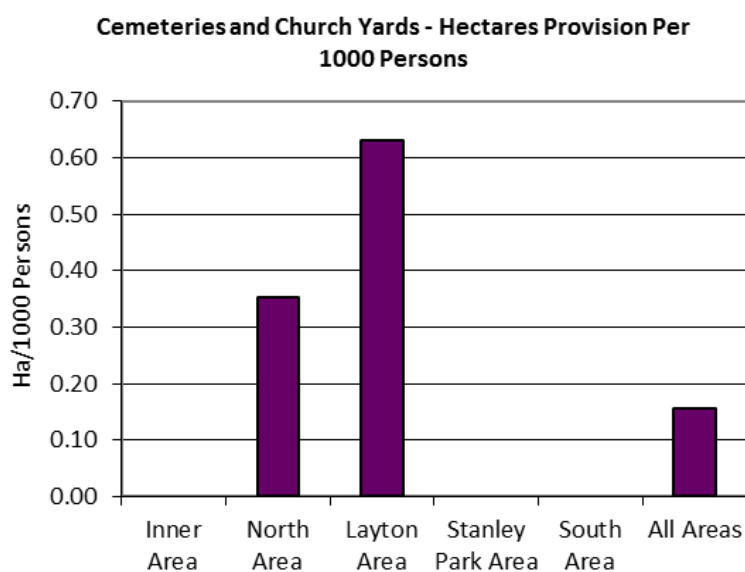
12. Cemeteries and Churchyards

12.1 There is one main Cemetery in Blackpool located in the Layton Area and covers approximately 9.5 hectares. In addition, there is the Carleton Cemetery and Crematorium which is located in the North Area, and covers an area of 12.7 hectares. There

are a number of churchyards across the Borough containing established memorial gardens, including All Hallows Graveyard and Marton Burial Ground, which are replete but all still open to public access.

Figure 37: Summary of Cemeteries and Church Yard Provision

Area	Provision (Hectares)	Population	Approximate ha/1000 persons
Inner Area	0	34647	0.00
North Area	12.7	35895	0.35
Layton Area	9.5	15029	0.63
Stanley Park Area	0	13560	0.00
South Area	0	42845	0.00
Total	22.2	141976	0.16



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

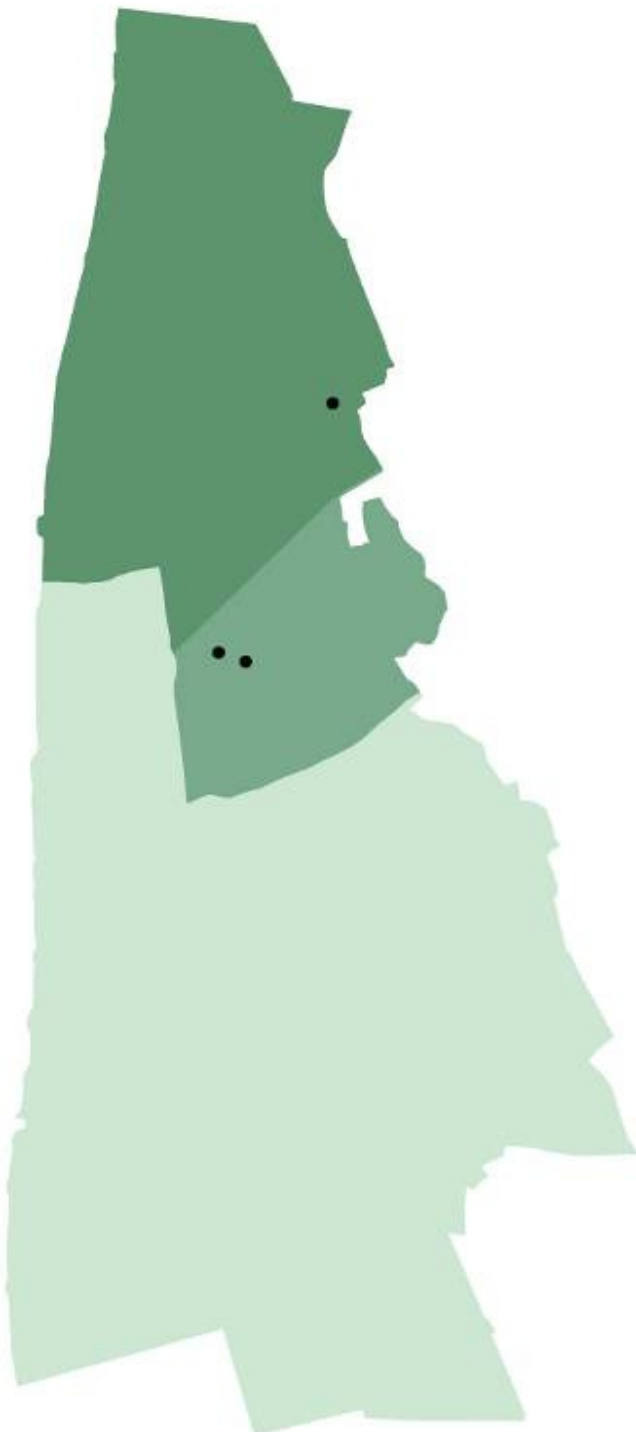
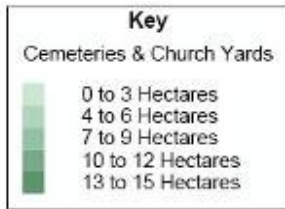
12.2 There are 22.2 hectares of Cemeteries and Churchyards in the Borough, over 2 main sites. The current provision of Cemeteries and Churchyards per 1000 persons equates to 0.16 hectares.

12.3 The Layton and Carlton Cemeteries are valued areas of urban greenspace, meeting community and recreational needs by providing sites for quiet contemplation, and can also provide important areas for wildlife and biodiversity. Provision is concentrated to the north of the Borough, however due to the primary purpose of such sites an assessment of accessibility is not included as, unlike other open space sites, the location of the sites are determined by a number of factors relating to the purpose and use of cemeteries.

12.4 The focus for cemeteries and churchyards in Blackpool therefore should be to continue to provide well maintained areas accessible to the public and where possible promote wildlife conservation and biodiversity within these sites.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 38: Total Provision in Hectares of Cemeteries and Churchyards by Area



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

13. Indoor Sports Provision and Built Facilities

13.1 The Borough contains a number of indoor sports facilities, providing additional access for residents to sport and recreation facilities. Such facilities have an important role in Blackpool due to the restricted amount of open space in the Borough.

13.2 This section provides a broad overview of facilities in the Borough.

Indoor Sports Provision in Blackpool

13.3 There are a number of Local Authority owned indoor sports and recreation facilities in the Borough, including:

- Moor Park Health and Leisure Centre (North Area)
- Talbot and Brunswick Sports Barn (Inner Area)
- Blackpool Sports Centre (Stanley Park Area)
- Palatine Leisure Centre (South Area)

13.4 In addition to the above facilities, schools and colleges also provide valuable indoor sports facilities for community use (a full list of schools in the Borough is provided in figure 39). There are also a number of privately operated indoor health and leisure centres across the Borough which add to the overall offer, providing a range of facilities for use by members.

Sports Halls

13.5 Blackpool Sports Centre, located near Stanley Park, provides a number of indoor sporting facilities, including a multi-use sports hall for activities such as basketball, football, volleyball, indoor hockey and badminton.

13.6 Palatine Leisure Centre also provides a variety of fitness facilities and classes. Harold Larwood Park provides an integrated health and

community facility which contains a multi-use games area, children's play zone and areas of open public space, and the TAB Sports Barn. The TAB Sports Barn is an innovative sports facility and is the first of its kind in the country. The concept of the barn is to combine the best features of indoor and outdoor play provision. The Barn has a permanent solid roof and so the multi-use games area can be used in all weathers.

13.7 Moor Park Health and Leisure Centre is a new facility bringing together a range of facilities and services all under one roof. This includes a fitness studio, exercise class studio, spinning studio, 4 court sports hall, 25 metre pool and separate teaching pool. In addition, there are 3 GP surgeries a chemist, a library and learning centre, cafe and large outdoor play area, all located on one site.

13.8 In addition to the sports halls provided by the Palatine Leisure Centre and the Blackpool Sports Centre, there are a number of community centres and church halls which also hold a range of sport and leisure classes.

Swimming Pools

13.9 There are two main indoor public swimming pools in Blackpool located at the Moor Park and Palatine Leisure Centres. There are also a number of private pools within hotels which can be accessed privately by hotel guests, but are on occasions open to the public. Swimming pools are also provided in a number of private membership gyms.

13.10 The Sandcastle Water Park, near the Blackpool Pleasure Beach, is a major tourist attraction and includes a series of indoor swimming pools and water slides providing a recreational facility for both residents and visitors.

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Fitness Gyms

13.11 In Blackpool, fitness gyms are located in the Palatine Leisure Centre, Moor Park Health and Leisure Centre and Blackpool Sports Centre, as well as a number of private sector gyms which require private membership. There is also a new Council gym facility 'Gateway Fitness' recently opened in the Town Centre as part of the Talbot Gateway development.

Quality, Quantity and Accessibility

13.12 Palatine Leisure Centre, Moor Park Health and Leisure Centre and Blackpool Sports Centre provide broad accessibility across Blackpool to sports halls, gym facilities and swimming pool provision. Beyond that there is a main reliance on private sector provision of gyms and specialist club facilities, and the wider community use of educational sports facilities outside of hours for public use. The large number of hotels in the area can often provide gym and swimming pools to guests and private members.

13.13 All five areas are well provided with a number of indoor sports facilities, providing a range of indoor sporting and recreational opportunities across the Borough.

Recommendations

13.14 Indoor sports and recreation provision provides an important range of facilities for community use, with a number of purpose built sport and recreation facilities and range of school and community halls available across the Borough.

13.15 Overall there is a good supply of indoor provision across the Borough.

13.16 Emphasis should therefore be on enhancing existing facilities and where possible enabling greater community use of facilities within schools, colleges and community centres.

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14. Outdoor Sports Facilities

14.1 Blackpool has a wide variety of Outdoor Sports Facilities; this includes bowling greens, tennis courts, cricket, rugby, and football pitches. In total Blackpool Council is responsible for 42 football pitches, two rugby pitches, and two grass cricket squares. There are also three main golf courses in Blackpool: Heron's Reach Golf Course; Blackpool North Shore Golf Course; and Stanley Park Golf Course.

14.2 In addition to the Outdoor Sports Facilities managed by Blackpool Council there are also a number of facilities operated by private companies and clubs. These facilities are often not fully accessible to the general public, but can be utilised through memberships and fees, and provide important sport provision assets which are accordingly included in the assessment. In general terms, sports facilities serve a much wider catchment than most other open space and recreation facilities. Facilities such as golf courses, swimming pools and sports centres typically serve a town-wide or sub-regional catchment. As such there is a requirement for a good range of facilities to be provided across the town as a whole.

Inner Area

14.3 Bancroft Park is a multi-activity space, with the primary purpose as a Park or Gardens, but additionally provides Outdoor Sports Facilities, including an enclosed basketball and a five-a-side football court, and also two 20 metre climbing towers and a bouldering wall. Outdoor Sports Facilities are also provided in Claremont Park and the Harold Larwood Park, which provide bowling greens, multi-use games areas, playing fields and sports pitches.

14.4 In the Inner Area the only sites designated primarily as outdoor sports provision are four private facilities which are all bowling greens; the *Claremont Conservative Club Bowling Green*, the *Waterloo Hotel Bowling Green*, *Raikes Hall Bowling Green* and *Blackpool Subscription Bowling Club*.

North Area

14.5 In the North Area there are a number of areas of Council owned public open spaces providing primarily formal outdoor sports facilities:

- *Carr Road Playing Fields* provides a football pitch, surrounding playing field areas, areas of natural or semi-natural greenspace, and an equipped play area. In total the playing fields cover an area of approximately 1.4 hectares.
- *Corrib Road Playing Fields* provide a large grassed area for sports, and also an equipped children's play area, in total covering an area of 1.8 hectares.
- *Fleetwood Road Playing Fields* contains two senior football pitches, a grass cricket square, and playing fields, in total covering an area of 5.3 hectares.
- *Moor Park South* has 6 senior football pitches, a multi-use games area, areas of playing field and areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace, and covers an area of 12.4 hectares.
- *Whiteholme Playing Fields* has three senior football pitches and two junior football pitches, covering an area of 7.5 hectares.

14.6 The concentration of public sports pitches in four of these localities represents by far the largest concentration of provision in Blackpool, serving a substantial area of the town. In addition, *Anchorsholme Park*, *Bispham Recreation Ground* and *Moor Park North*, also provide facilities such as bowling greens, playing fields, tennis courts, and multi-use games areas.

14.7 The high level of council provision of outdoor facilities is also matched by a range of private outdoor sporting facilities in the North Area, these include: *Cavendish Road Tennis Courts*; *Bispham Conservative Club Bowling Green*; *Blackpool RUFC*; *Fleetwood Road Golf Driving Range*; *Norbreck Bowling and Tennis Club*

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

and the *North Shore Golf Course*. In the North Area such private outdoor facilities provide a substantial area of sports provision, totaling around two thirds of the total primary outdoor sports facility provision. Individually the North Shore Golf Course is the largest such facility in the area, only exceeded or matched in size by the two other golf courses, and by the town's main Stanley Park. In addition to providing outdoor sport provision, the golf course adds to the visual amenity of the area, particularly as there is little other open space in the immediate vicinity of the site.

Layton Area

14.8 In the Layton Area the only two open spaces primarily designated as providing outdoor sports facilities are the *Layton Bowling Green* and *Layton Institute Bowling Green*. The bowling greens provide 0.9 hectares of outdoor sports provision. Kingscote Park, Layton Recreation Ground and Boundary Park also provide extensive outdoor sports facilities, including sports pitches, bowling greens and multi-use games areas.

Stanley Park Area

14.9 The Stanley Park Area is dominated by Stanley Park itself, but there are also other major outdoor sports facilities that are privately owned, including the *Blackpool Park Golf Course*, *Herons Reach Golf Course*, and the *Blackpool Cricket Club*. These sports facilities provide a substantial area of open space, at around 90.9 hectares. The two golf courses, similarly to the North Shore Golf Course, additionally add to the area's visual amenity.

14.10 Stanley Park provides a range of outdoor sports facilities in the form of the town's main athletics arena, two senior football pitches, one grass cricket square and one rugby pitch, which are owned and managed by Blackpool Council. Additionally, funding of £90,000 has been secured for Stanley Park to invest in outdoor adventure facilities. This will include developing the Boat House in Stanley Park into a water sports facility which will provide boat storage, changing rooms and a meeting room.

South Area

14.11 In the South Area there are a number of designated sites for outdoor sports facilities, including;

- *Common Edge Road Playing Field* which has the single major concentration of sports pitches in the south of the town, including a multi-use greenspace and also an off-road cycle track. The playing fields provide a number of sports pitches and covers an area of 10.9 hectares.
- A small proportion of the land at *Fishers Field/Highfield Park* is currently being partially converted for wider park use, but the remaining land is utilised as playing fields and sports pitches, and in total covers an area of 2.6 hectares.
- *Highfield Road Recreation Ground* provides two bowling greens, a multi-use games area and an equipped children's play area, covering an area of 1.2 hectares.
- *Vicarage Lane Recreation Ground* includes playing fields, natural or semi-natural greenspace, and also an equipped play area, covering an area of 1.5 hectares.

14.12 Outdoor sports facilities are also a secondary purpose of the following sites; *Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground* and *Watson Road Park* and *Mereside Park*. Facilities in these sites include multi-use games areas, playing fields, and a number of senior football pitches.

14.13 There are also a variety of private outdoor sports facilities in the South Area, with a number of pitches for specific local teams which are not open to wider public use. This includes *Squires Gate FC*; *Prebonds FC*; *Wren Rovers FC*; and *AFC Blackpool*. Other private outdoor sports facilities include: the *Co-op Sports Club and Fields*; *Hampton Road Bowling Green*; *South Shore Tennis Club*; *Halfway House Bowling Green*; *Highfield Ladies Bowling Club*; and *South Shore Cricket Club*. The private facilities provide a total of 9.2 hectares of sports area.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

School Playing Fields and Sports Pitches

14.14 Local school playing fields also provide a valuable source of open space and outdoor sports facilities, but may not be fully accessible to all members of the public. The council is aiming to improve accessibility to sports playing fields by increasing public access and the use of school playing fields outside school hours. PPG17 suggests that school playing fields are an example of Outdoor Sports Facilities which could be included in the assessment, however such sites have not been included as not all school playing fields have full public access.

14.15 A number of school sites are currently used by community teams on an ad hoc or informal basis and are therefore considered to be 'unsecured' sites for outdoor sports provision. The Draft Blackpool *Playing Pitch Strategy (2011-2016)* identified that there are currently 8 school sites in the Borough without community-use agreements but currently used on an ad hoc basis by community teams. These sites play a vital role in the facilitation of pitch sports in the area and there remains further potential to open up school playing fields for wider general use by the public, substantially increasing the amount of outdoor sports facilities available in the Borough.

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Figure 39: Schools in Blackpool with Protected Playing Fields

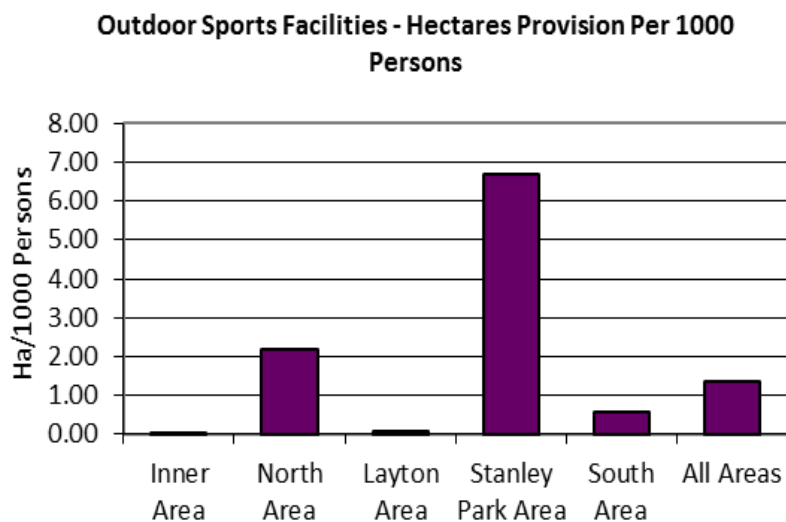
Area	Schools (which may provide additional playing fields and sports pitches)
Inner Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackpool St John’s Church of England Primary School; • Claremont Community Primary School • Holy Family Catholic Primary School; • Revoe Community Primary School • St John Vianney’s Catholic Primary School • Waterloo Primary School
North Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anchorsholme Primary School • Beacon Hill High School Business and Enterprise College • Bispham Endowed Church of England Primary School • Bispham High School • Blackpool and the Fylde College • Kincaig Primary School; • Montgomery High School • Moor Park Primary School • Norbreck Primary School • St Bernadette’s Catholic Primary School • St Teresa’s Catholic Primary School • Westcliff Primary School
Layton Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackpool Sixth Form College • Boundary Primary School • Christ the King Catholic Primary School • Collegiate High School • Devonshire Primary School • Layton Primary School • St Mary’s Catholic College
Stanley Park Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park School • St Kentigern’s Catholic Primary School • Stanley Primary School • Woodlands School
South Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arnold School*; • Blackpool Baines Endowed Church of England Primary School; • Blackpool St Nicholas Church of England Primary School; • Hawes Side Primary School • Highfield Humanities College • Marton Primary School • Mereside Primary School • Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School • South Shore Academy • Roseacre Primary School • St Cuthbert’s Catholic Primary School • St George’s School • Thames Primary School

*Arnold School closed in 2013

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Figure 40: Summary of Outdoor Sports Facilities Provision

Area	Provision (Hectares)	Population	Approximate ha/1000 persons
Inner Area	0.8	34647	0.02
North Area	77.8	35895	2.17
Layton Area	0.9	15029	0.06
Stanley Park Area	90.9	13560	6.70
South Area	25	42845	0.58
Total	195.4	141976	1.38



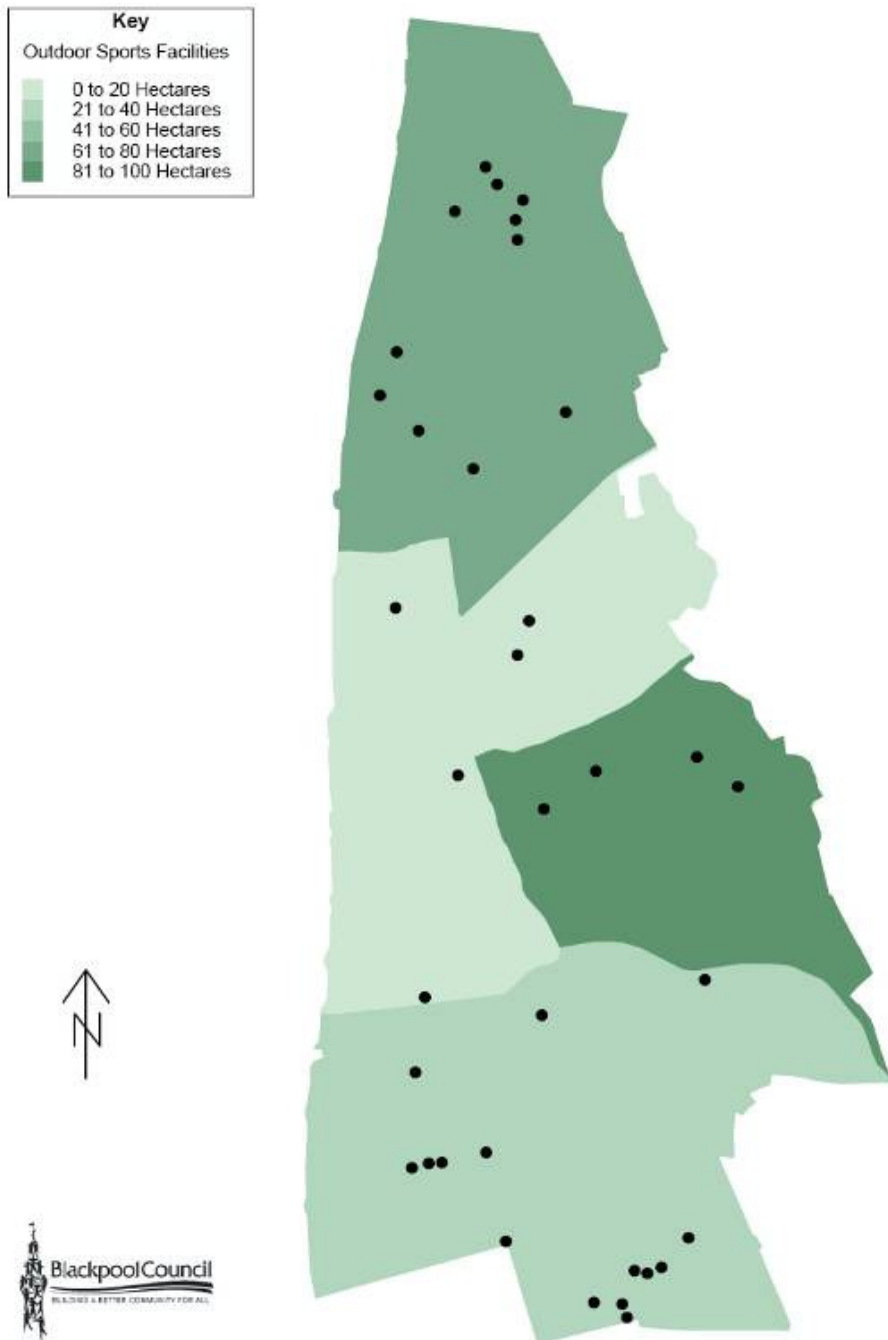
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Quantity

14.16 There are 195.4 hectares of Outdoor Sports Facilities provided in the Borough, over 34 sites. The sites range in size from 0.1 hectare (e.g. Claremont Conservative Club Bowling Green) to 65.8 hectares (Herons Reach Golf Course). The current provision of Outdoor Sports Facilities equates to approximately 1.38 hectares per 1000 persons.

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Figure 41: Distribution of Outdoor Sports Facilities



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14.17 Figure 41 seemingly indicates there is a need to increase the amount of outdoor sports facilities open for public use in the Inner Area and Layton Area. However the practicalities of large scale pitch provision, the generally wide catchment for such facilities, and the actual availability of outdoor sports facilities in wider parks such as *Claremont Park*, *Central Drive Park* and *Boundary Park* all means this is less of a need and less of a priority than what is indicated in figures 41.

14.18 There is an abundance of privately owned outdoor sports facilities in the Borough, particularly in the Stanley Park Area. Sites such as the Herons Reach Gold Course, Blackpool Park Golf Course, and the North Shore Golf Course have dual purposes, by providing key sports facilities serving the town as a whole, but also adding to the visual and landscape quality of an area and generally improving local resident's quality of life, regardless of whether these are not fully accessible to all members of the public.

14.19 The draft *Blackpool Playing Pitch Strategy* (2011) has identified that there were at the time 99 playing pitches in the Borough, which included all known public, private, school and other pitches whether or not they are in secured public use. This comprised of:

- 42 adult football pitches;
- 17 junior football pitches;
- 21 mini pitches
- 7 cricket wickets;
- 8 rugby pitches;
- 4 artificial grass pitches.

14.20 Of the 99 pitches identified, 42 (42%) were full-size adult football, cricket, and rugby pitches, this equates to approximately one pitch for every 2676 adults in the Borough.

14.21 It was concluded in 2003 that assuming all pitches were able to sustain the required two games per week, there was an overall oversupply of pitches in the Borough. This oversupply is focused in the North Area. Whilst there was an identified overall surplus of pitch provision, this was predicted to change to an overall shortfall by 2013, therefore the safeguarding of such facilities as public open space remained a priority.

Quality

14.22 The *Blackpool Playing Pitch Strategy* recognised the need to improve the quality and use of facilities through a range of measures. The development of kick-about facilities in local parks has resulted in a reduction in vandalism, along with other wider facilities and organised activities in local parks which complement support and effectively help safeguard these facilities.

14.23 The quality of existing pitch provision and sites has also been improved through better drainage and increased carrying capacity of the sites. The *Blackpool Playing Pitch Assessment* suggests that the priorities for enhancing provision are:

- continued investment to improve pitches and playing surfaces;
- demolish/ upgrade/ refurbish changing facilities to ensure that standards are acceptable;
- where possible, ensure that sufficient facilities are available to allow multi-sex and multi-age group use of sites simultaneously;
- provide fences on pitches to restrict unauthorised and/or inappropriate use; and
- promote the use of portable goals in order to reduce causal usage of public pitches.

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Accessibility

14.24 As illustrated in figure 41, there is an uneven distribution of outdoor sports facilities in the Borough. With a high concentration of facilities in the Stanley Park Area and in the North Area, and comparatively low provision in the Inner Area and Layton Area. However the typically wider catchment and practical realities of improving provision of larger scale sports pitches means improving provision across the whole of the town is not a realistic way forward. Instead the priority in terms of Outdoor Sports Facilities is to encourage and engage with communities in these areas, and particularly with young people, in order to help promote and facilitate clear uptake and involvement in using the wider range of sports facilities and provision of kickabout areas. The provision of multi-use games areas and the increased dual use of education sports facilities outside of school hours will benefit both improved accessibility to and the efficient utilisation of existing facilities.

14.25 Figure 42 indicates that in overall terms, access to outdoor sports facilities in the Borough is generally of a high standard. Access to outdoor sports facilities is particularly high in the North and South Areas. The North Area has a high concentration of facilities providing a good level of access across the area. The South Area also has a good distribution of outdoor sports facilities, with a large concentration of sites close to the Blackpool boundary. Areas of more limited access are found towards the promenade and on Marton Moss between Yeadon Way and Progress Way.

14.26 Access to outdoor sports facilities is most limited in central Blackpool, Layton and South Shore areas where the historical intensity of built development now provides little opportunity for large scale outdoor sports provision, but is alleviated by the informal role of the seafront and beaches for casual use.

Recommendations

14.27 The *Blackpool Sport, Nutrition and Physical Activity Strategy* stated that around 56.6% of adults were not taking part in regular physical activity, with only 18.2% of adults participating in 30 minutes of moderate exercise on at least 3 or more days a week. These figures are within the lowest 25% of all local authorities in the country. Outdoor Sports Facilities are key to realising the aims of the *Sport, Nutrition and Physical Activity Strategy* of increasing adult membership in sports clubs, and increasing participation in sport and physical activity particularly amongst adults over 40 and vulnerable people.

14.28 The 2011 Draft Blackpool Playing Pitch Assessment (Updated 2014) identified that there was poor communication between schools, sports clubs and facility providers, with priority to develop links between schools and clubs initially through a series of pilot schemes, and to also assess the under utilisation of other facilities which could be put forward as sites of outdoor sports provision.

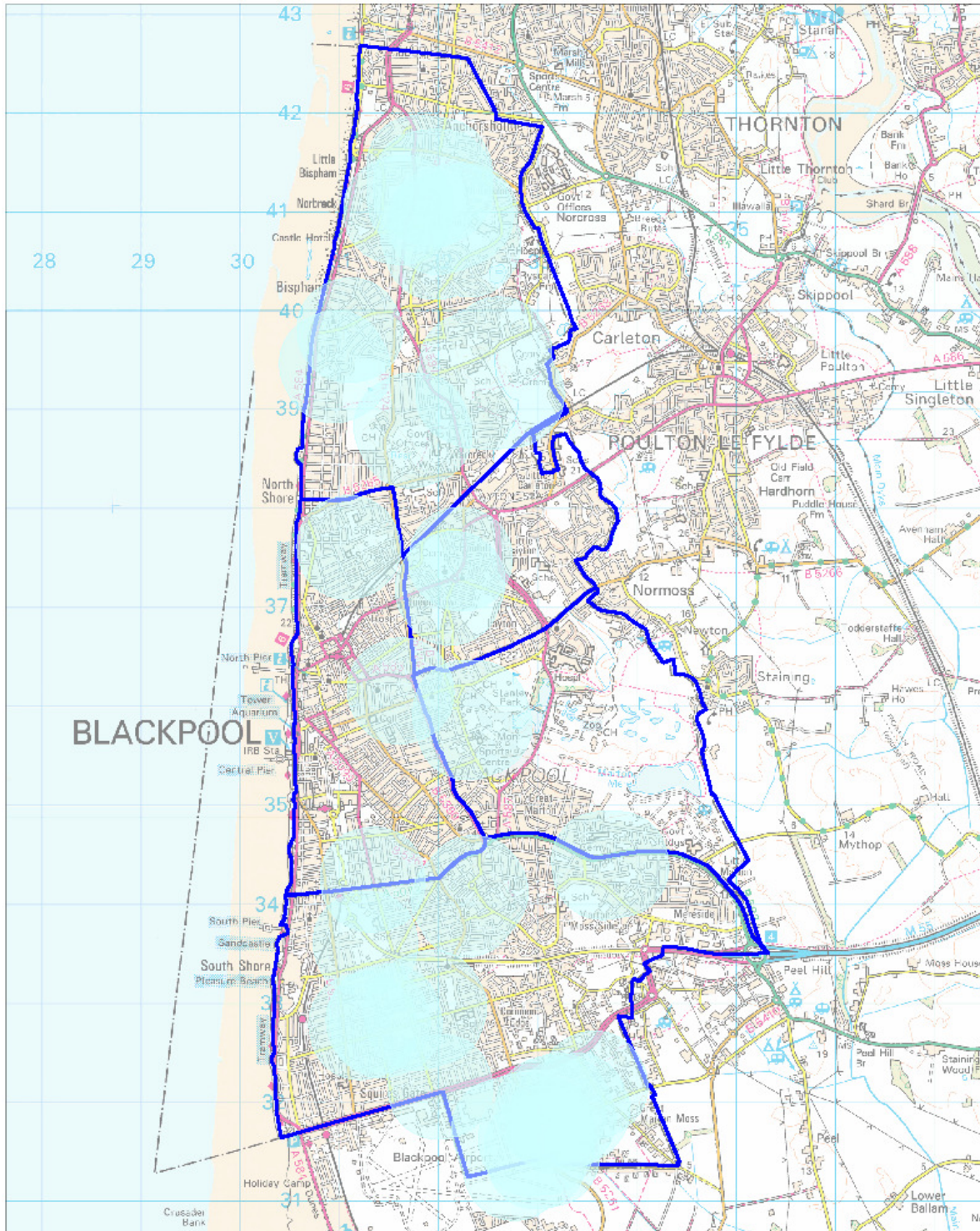
14.29 With regards to sports pitches, there were a number of priorities and issues identified by the *Playing Pitch Assessment* for the Borough to address in order to improve provision. These include:

- the poor quality and insufficient number of grass pitches;
- the high concentration of population per pitch;
- the lack of segregated changing facilities for women; and
- insufficient floodlit facilities.

14.30 Addressing these issues will ensure the quality of playing pitches in the Borough is improved, but will also ensure such facilities are accessible to and usable by all sections of the community.

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Figure 42: Accessibility of Outdoor Sports Facilities



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15. Area Analysis

15.1 The following section analyses the open space provision within each of the five areas of the Borough as defined in this study. This includes analysis on each typology, including quantity, quality and accessibility, as well as recommendations for any future green space strategy. Considering existing provision against the individual characteristics of the areas, including the socio-economic factors, will help inform the most appropriate means of future open space provision.

Inner Area

15.2 Figure 43 provides an overview of open space provision in the Inner Area and illustrates 40.6ha in total. Details of each individual site can be found in Appendix A. Predominantly this is made up of Hard surfaced areas (21.3ha) and Parks and Gardens (15.2ha), with further open space provided in the form of Natural and semi-natural greenspace (1.5ha), Amenity greenspace (1ha), Outdoor sports facilities (0.8ha), Civic and market squares (0.6ha) and Provision for Children and Young People (0.1ha). Currently there are no allotments, churchyards and cemeteries, community gardens or green corridors. Their location within the Inner Area is illustrated on Figure 44.

15.3 The Inner Area is dominated by tourism infrastructure, including densely compact holiday accommodation (hotels and guest houses), as well as high density residential areas to the north, south and east. This limits the amount of public open space in the Inner Area, which equates to only 7.1% of the total area. Open spaces that do exist are unevenly distributed with little, if any, open green space near the promenade or in neighbourhoods comprising predominately holiday accommodation. Most of the open green space is located towards the edge of the area within residential neighbourhoods. There is a lack of open space in the central area, particularly in the town centre, and in the north-west in close proximity to Blackpool North Railway Station and railway line.

Figure 43: Inner Area Provision

Site Name	Size (Ha)	Open Space Type*	Accessibility **
1. Ansdell/ Waterloo Road	0.3	Amenity Greenspace	Local
2. Bethesda Square	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
3. Central Drive Park	3.0	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
4. Claremont Conservative Club Bowling Green	0.1	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
5. Claremont Park	3.9	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
6. Geldof Drive	1.5	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
7. George Bancroft Park	7.1	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
8. Greenwood Avenue	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
9. Gynn Flagstaff	0.2	Amenity Greenspace	Local
10. Jeffrey Square	0.2	Amenity Greenspace	Local
11. Promenade	21.3	Hard Surfaced Areas	Neighbourhood
12. Raikes Hall Bowling Green	0.3	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
13. Raikes Parade	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
14. Spencer Court	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
15. St John's Precinct	0.6	Civic and Market Squares	Neighbourhood
16. TAB Health Village	0.3	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
17. Warbreck Recreation Ground	0.9	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
18. Waterloo Hotel Bowling Green	0.4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
134. Blackpool Subscription Bowling Club	0.1	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood

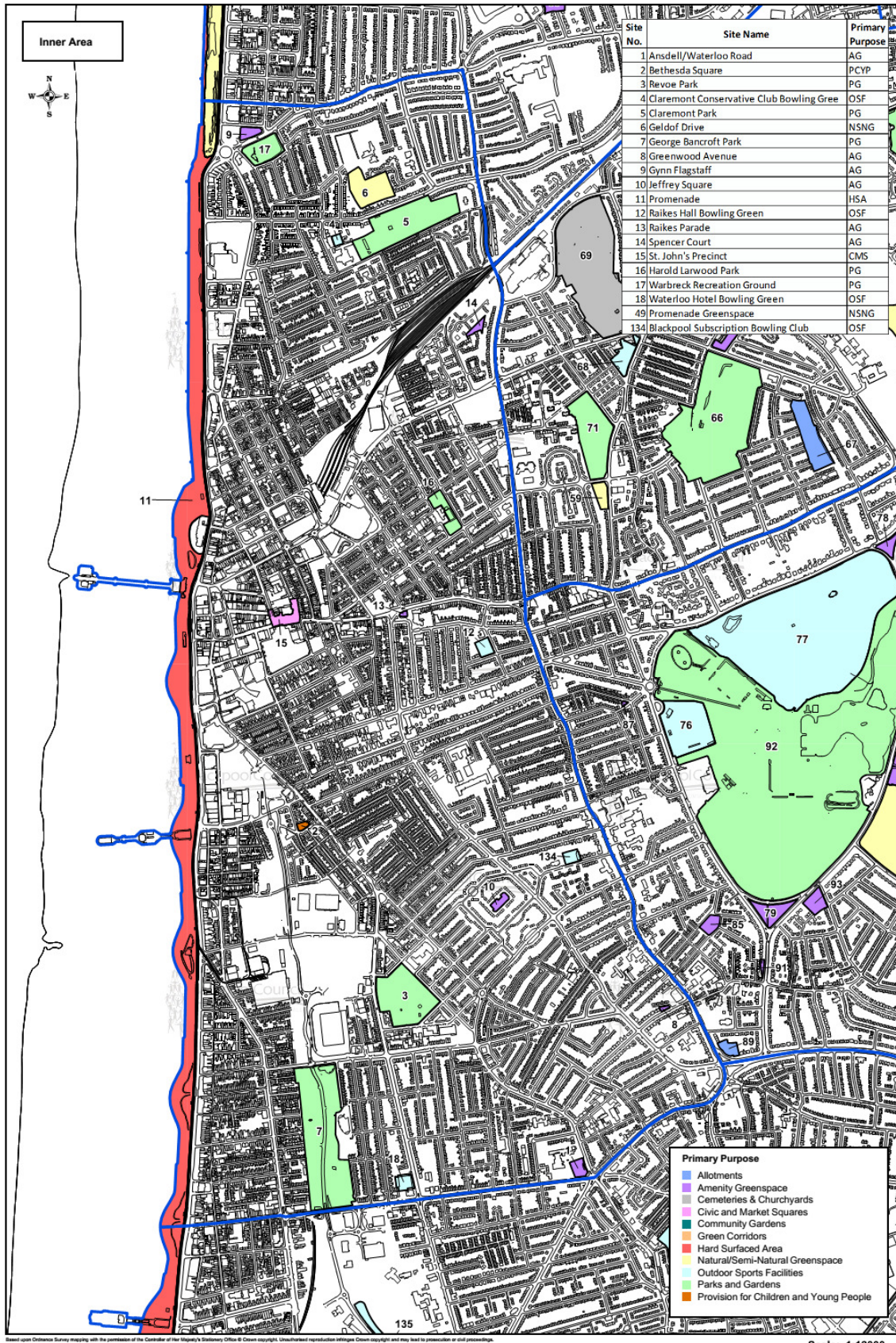
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Total	40.6		
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** Primary Purpose ** Local/Neighbourhood access defined in the methodology (section 4).*

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 44: Distribution of Open Space in the Inner Area



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

North Area

15.4 Figure 45 provides an overview of open space provision in the North Area and illustrates 171.5ha in total. Details of each individual site can be found in Appendix A. Predominantly this is made up of Outdoor sports facilities (77.8ha) and Natural and semi-natural greenspace (33.9ha), with further open space provided in the form of Parks and Gardens (20.6ha), Hard surfaced areas (15.4ha), Churchyards and cemeteries (12.7ha), Green corridors (5.6ha), Amenity greenspace (3.83ha) and dedicated sites of provision for children and young people (0.9ha). Their location within the North Area is shown on Figure 46.

15.5 The North Area contains a mix of residential and holiday accommodation, as well as designated industrial and business areas and an area of green belt land. The areas nearest to the promenade are largely urban, reflecting development in the early 20th century to provide infrastructure and facilities for the large tourist market. Away from the promenade there is a good supply and distribution of open space. Whilst there is a good variety of open space (listed above), there are no allotments, civic and market squares or community gardens. There is a high provision of outdoor sports facilities, however many of these sites are concentrated to the north of the area. The North Area also provides a network of green corridors, which are not available elsewhere in the Borough. In addition to the designated open space areas, in Blackpool's context there is a substantial amount of greenbelt land located to the east of the North Area. Overall, open space represents 18.3% of the total North Area.

Figure 45: North Area Provision

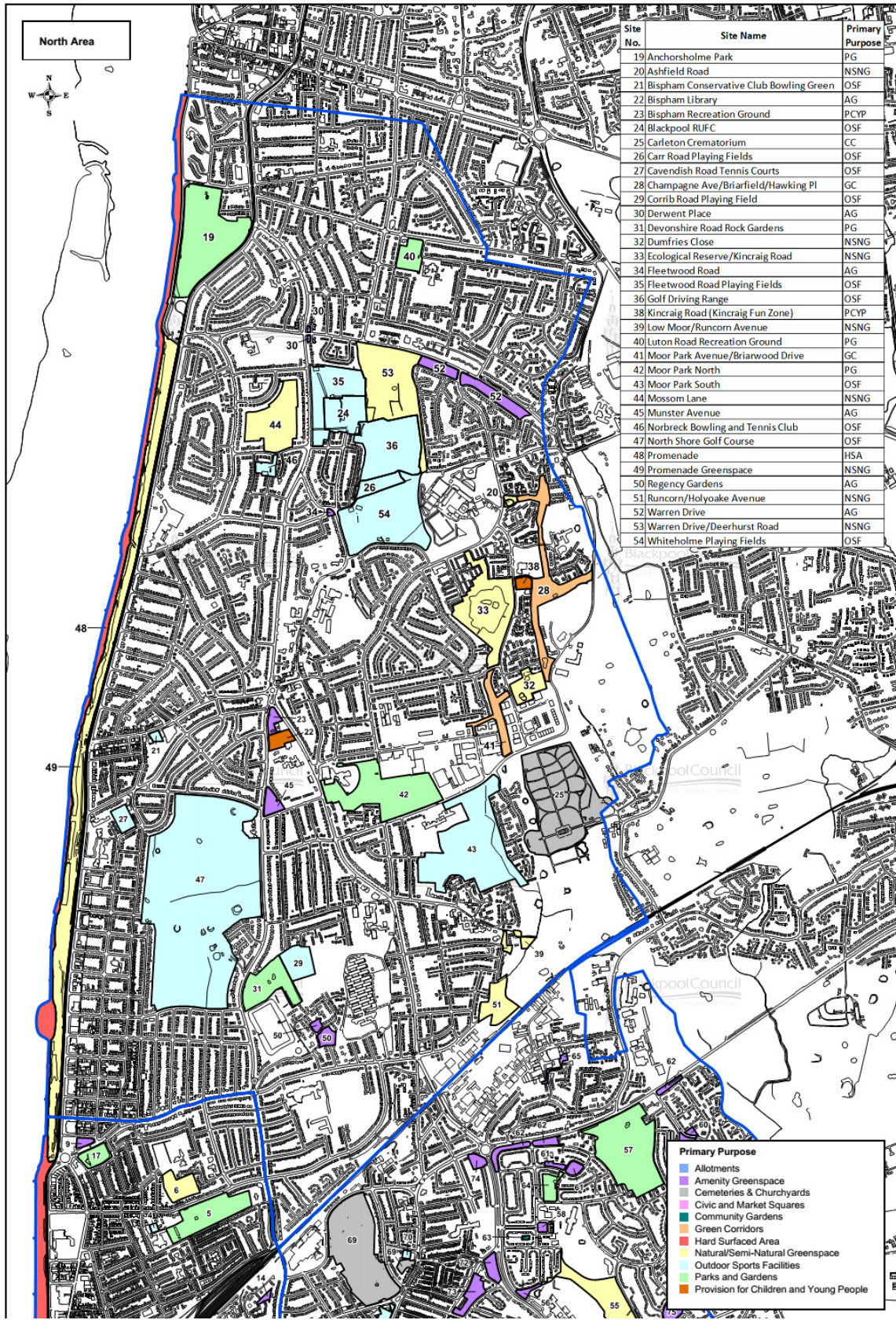
Site Name	Size (Ha)	Open Space Type*	Accessibility **
19. Anchorsholme Park	9.5	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
20. Ashfield Road	0.2	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Local
21. Bispham Conservative Club Bowling Green	0.2	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
22. Former Bispham Library	0.5	Amenity Greenspace	Local
23. Bispham Recreation Ground	0.8	Provision for Children and Young People	Neighbourhood
24. Blackpool RUFC	2.4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
25. Carleton Cemetery and Crematorium	12.7	Churchyards and Cemeteries	Neighbourhood
26. Carr Road Playing Fields	1.4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
27. Cavendish Road Tennis Courts	0.7	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
28. Champagne Avenue/Briarfield	1.6	Green Corridor	Neighbourhood
29. Corrib Road Playing Field	1.8	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
30. Derwent Place	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
31. Devonshire Road Rock Gardens	2.8	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
32. Dumfries Close	1.5	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
33. Ecological Reserve/ Kinncraig Road	6.8	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
34. Fleetwood Road	0.03	Amenity Greenspace	Local
35. Fleetwood Road Playing Fields	5.3	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
36. Golf Driving Range	6.6	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Exempt
37. Hawking Place	3.3	Green Corridor	Neighbourhood

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Site Name	Size (Ha)	Open Space Type*	Accessibility**
38. Kincaig Road (Kincaig Fun Zone)	0.1	Provision for Children and Young People	Neighbourhood
39. Low Moor/ Runcorn Avenue	0.6	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Local
40. Luton Road Recreation Ground	1.3	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
41. Moor Park Ave /Briarwood Drive	0.7	Green Corridor	Local
42. Moor Park North	7	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
43. Moor Park South	12.4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
44. Mossom Lane	5	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
45. Munster Avenue	0.6	Amenity Greenspace	Local
46. Norbreck Bowling and Tennis Club	0.6	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
47. North Shore Golf Course	38.9	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Exempt
48. Promenade	15.4	Hard Surfaced Areas	Neighbourhood
49. Promenade Greenspace	11.0	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
50. Regency Gardens	0.7	Amenity Greenspace	Local
51. Runcorn/Holyoake Avenue	1.7	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
52. Warren Drive	1.9	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood
53. Warren Drive/Deerhurst Road	7.1	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
54. Whiteholme Playing Fields	7.5	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
Total	171.5		

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Figure 46: Plan of Open Space in the North Area



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Layton Area

15.6 Figure 47 provides an overview of open space provision in the Layton Area and illustrates 43.2ha in total. Details of each individual site can be found in Appendix A. Predominantly this is made up of Parks and Gardens (21.4ha), with further open space provided in the form of Churchyards and cemeteries (9.5ha), Amenity greenspace (5.74ha), Natural and semi-natural greenspace (3.21ha), Allotments (1.8ha), Outdoor sports facilities (0.9ha) and community gardens (0.2ha). Their location within the Layton Area is shown on Figure 48.

15.7 The Layton Area is a largely residential with some industrial and business areas. There is an even distribution of open space sites, however there is a deficiency particularly in the area surrounding the railway line. Railway lines can however provide valuable green corridors for wildlife by connecting habitats, but as such space is not publically accessible it has not been included in this audit. There is a variety of open space typologies available, which are listed above, however there are no substantial hard surfaced areas, civic and market squares, green corridors (other than the railway line) or dedicated provision for children and young people. Open space constitutes 13.3% of the total Layton Area.

Figure 47: Layton Area Provision

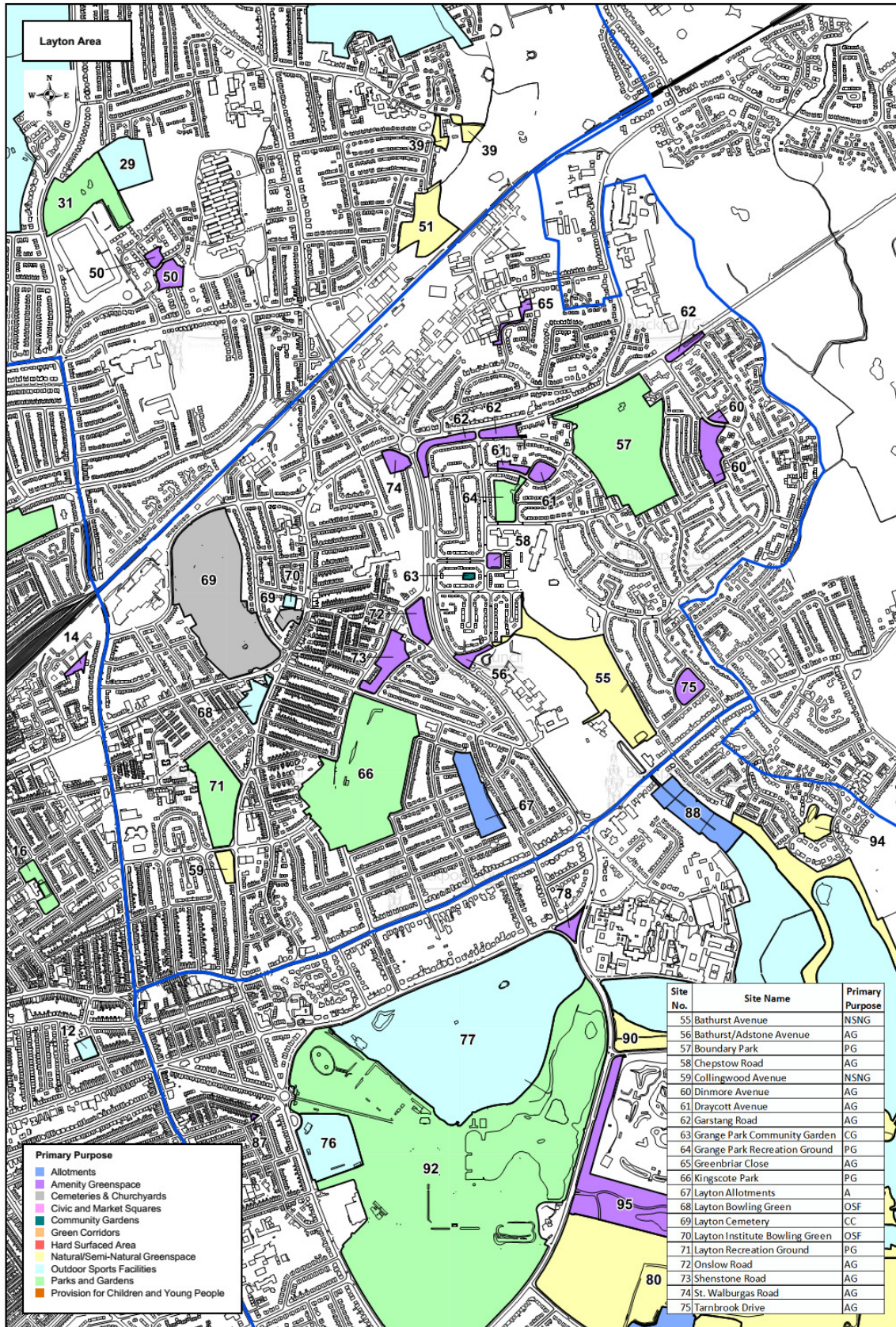
Site Name	Size (Ha)	Open Space Type*	Accessibility **
55. Bathurst Avenue	2.91	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
56. Bathurst/ Adstone Avenue	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
57. Boundary Park	8.1	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
58. Chepstow Road	0.2	Amenity Greenspace	Local
59. Collingwood Avenue	0.3	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Local
60. Dinmore Avenue	1.1	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood
61. Draycott Avenue	0.5	Amenity Greenspace	Local
62. Garstang Road	1.0	Amenity Greenspace	Local
63. Grange Park Community Garden	0.2	Community Gardens	Local
64. Grange Park Recreation Ground	0.7	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
65. Greenbriar Close	0.3	Amenity Greenspace	Local
66. Kingscote Park	9.9	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
67. Layton Allotments	1.8	Allotments	Neighbourhood
68. Layton Bowling Green	0.6	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
69. Layton Cemetery	9.5	Churchyards and Cemeteries	Neighbourhood
70. Layton Institute Bowling Green	0.3	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
71. Layton Recreation Ground	2.6	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
72. Onslow Road	0.64	Amenity Greenspace	Local
73. Shenstone Road	1.1	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

74. St. Walburgas Road	0.2	Amenity Greenspace	Local
75. Tarnbrook Drive	0.6	Amenity Greenspace	Local
Total	42.75		

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 48: Plan of Open Space in the Layton Area



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Stanley Park Area

15.8 Figure 49 provides an overview of open space provision in the Stanley Park Area and illustrates 246.72ha in total. Details of each individual site can be found in Appendix A. Predominantly this is made up of Natural and semi-natural greenspace (91.5ha), Outdoor sports facilities (90.9ha) and Parks and Gardens (51.7ha) with further open space provided in the form of Amenity greenspace (7.52ha) and Allotments (5.1ha). Their location within the Stanley Park Area is shown on Figure 50.

15.9 The Stanley Park Area contains residential areas, as well as some industrial and business land, green belt land and the Blackpool Victoria Hospital. The Stanley Park Area provides a large number of recreational facilities, including attractions such as the Model Village and Blackpool Zoo. Open space constitutes a large proportion of the Stanley Park Area, covering 43% of the total area. Whilst there is a substantial amount of space designated as natural and semi-natural greenspace, outdoor sports facilities and parks and gardens, there are no community gardens, green corridors or hard surfaced areas.

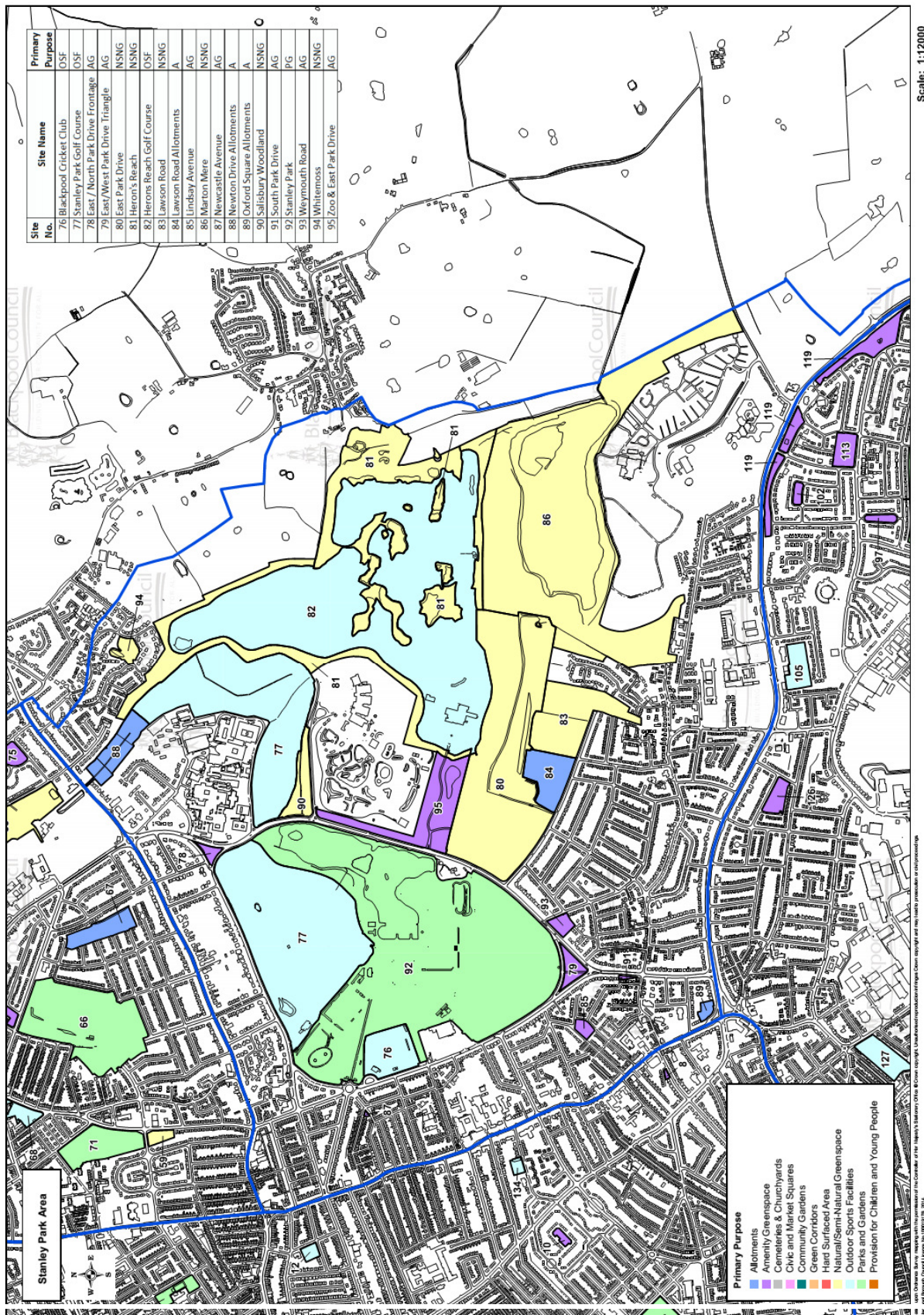
Figure 49: Stanley Park Area Provision

Site Name	Size (Ha)	Open Space Type*	Accessibility **
76. Blackpool Cricket Club	2.7	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Neighbourhood
77. Blackpool Park Golf Course	22.4	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Exempt
78. East/North Park Drive Frontage	0.4	Amenity Greenspace	Local
79. East/West Park Drive Triangle	0.8	Amenity Greenspace	Local
80. East Park Drive	24.5	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
81. Herons Reach	15.3	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood

82. Herons Reach Golf Course	65.8	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Exempt
83. Lawson Road	5.4	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
84. Lawson Road Allotments	2.6	Allotments	Neighbourhood
85. Lindsay Avenue	0.3	Amenity Greenspace	Local
86. Marton Mere	43.4	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
87. Newcastle Avenue	0.02	Amenity Greenspace	Local
88. Newton Drive Allotments	2.2	Allotments	Neighbourhood
89. Oxford Square Allotments	0.3	Allotments	Neighbourhood
90. Salisbury Woodland	2	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Neighbourhood
91. South Park Drive	0.1	Amenity Greenspace	Local
92. Stanley Park	51.7	Parks and Gardens	Neighbourhood
93. Weymouth Road	0.5	Amenity Greenspace	Local
94. Whitemoss	0.9	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Local
95. Zoo and Herons Reach	5.4	Amenity Greenspace	Neighbourhood
Total	246.72		

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 50: Open Space in the Stanley Park Area



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

South Area

15.10 Figure 51 provides an overview of open space provision in the South Area and illustrates 71.27ha in total. Details of each individual site can be found in Appendix A. Predominantly this is made up of Outdoor Sports Facilities (25ha), Parks and Gardens (13.5ha), Hard surfaced areas (13.4), Amenity greenspace (10.5ha), Natural and semi-natural greenspace (2.6ha) and Allotments and Community Gardens (6.27ha). There is no dedicated Provision for Children and Young People, Civic Squares, Green Corridors and Cemeteries. Their location within the South Area is shown on Figure 52.

15.11 The South Area contains a mix of residential and holiday accommodation, industrial and business areas, designated countryside (Marton Moss) and a number of tourist and recreational facilities such as Blackpool Pleasure Beach and the Sandcastle. There are a large number of small open space sites located through out the area, which are fairly well distributed but there are some deficiencies to the southeast of the area (adjacent to Blackpool Airport) and the north west of the area, particularly behind the promenade frontage.

15.12 There is a good supply of outdoor sports facilities distributed across the area, however there are very few parks and gardens, particularly when the South Area is the largest geographical area. There are also no community gardens, churchyards and cemeteries, or green corridors, and very little provision of natural and semi-natural greenspace. In total, open space makes up 6.4% of the South Area's total area.

Figure 51: South Area Provision

Site Name	Size (Ha)	Open Space Type*	Accessibility**
96. Acre Gate Allotments	0.9	A	Neighbourhood
97. Birkside Way	0.3	AG	Local
98. AFC Blackpool	1.5	OSF	Neighbourhood

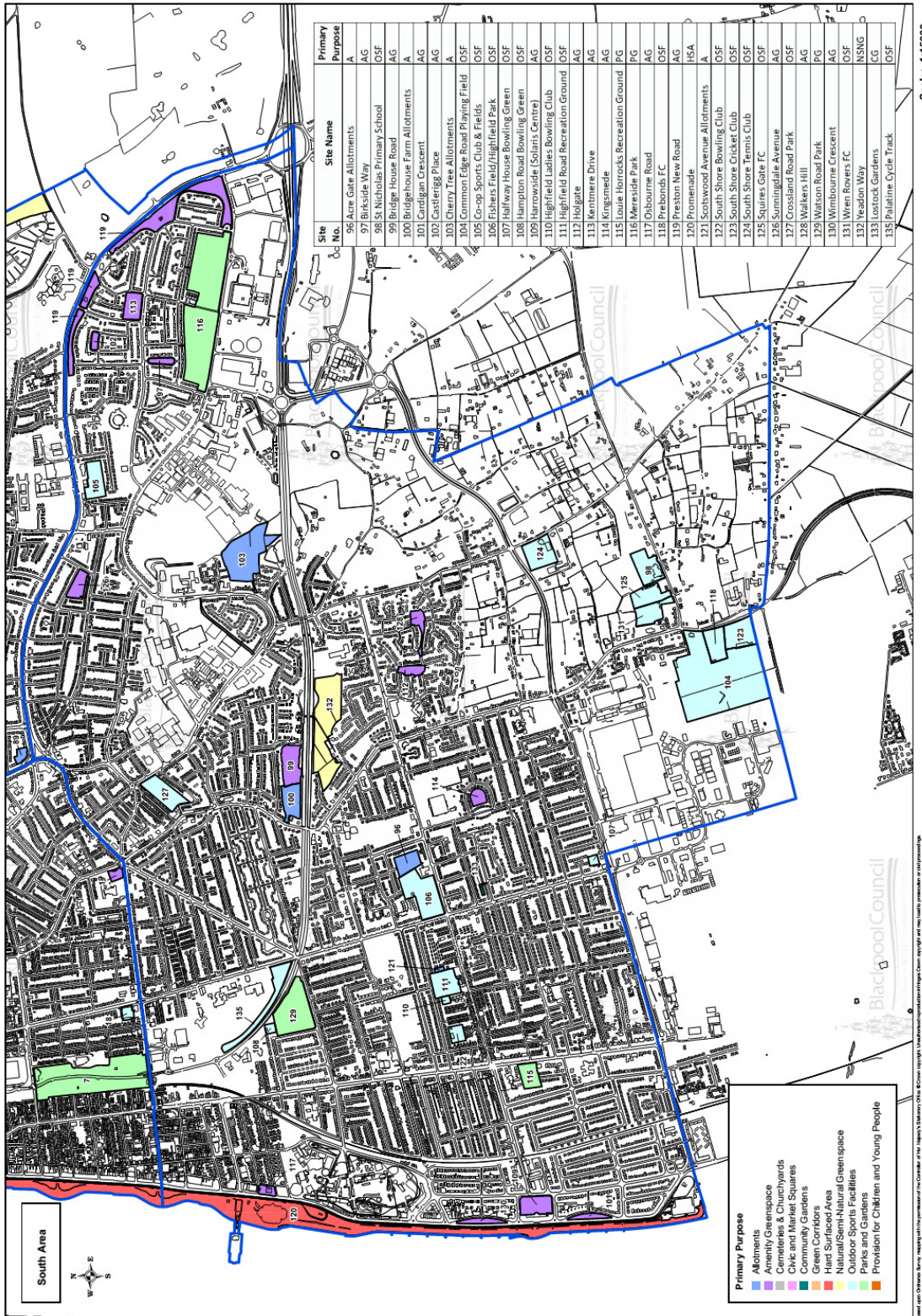
99. Bridge House Road	1.4	AG	Neighbourhood
100. Bridgehouse Farm Allotments	1.2	A	Neighbourhood
101. Cardigan Crescent	0.3	AG	Local
102. Castlerigg Place	0.3	AG	Local
103. Cherry Tree Allotments	4	A	Neighbourhood
104. Common Edge Road Playing Field	10.9	OSF	Neighbourhood
105. Co-op Sports Club and Fields	1.3	OSF	Neighbourhood
106. Fishers Field/Highfield Park	2.6	OSF	Neighbourhood
107. Halfway House Bowling Green	0.1	OSF	Neighbourhood
108. Hampton Road Bowling Green	0.2	OSF	Neighbourhood
109. Harrowside (Solaris Centre)	0.9	AG	Local
110. Highfield Ladies Bowling Club	0.1	OSF	Neighbourhood
111. Highfield Road Recreation Ground	1.2	OSF	Neighbourhood
112. Holgate	0.2	AG	Local
113. Kentmere Drive	1.1	AG	Neighbourhood
114. Kingsmede	0.4	AG	Local
115. Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground	0.9	PG	Neighbourhood
116. Mereside Park	9.5	PG	Neighbourhood
117. Osbourne Road	0.2	AG	Local
118. Prebonds FC	1	OSF	Neighbourhood
119. Preston New Road	3.8	AG	Neighbourhood

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

120. Promenade	13.4	HSA	Neighbourhood
121. Scotswood Avenue Allotments	0.1	A	Neighbourhood
122. South Shore Bowling Club	0.5	OSF	Neighbourhood
123. South Shore Cricket Club	0.5	OSF	Neighbourhood
124. South Shore Tennis Club	1.6	OSF	Neighbourhood
125. Squires Gate FC	1	OSF	Neighbourhood
126. Sunningdale Avenue	0.7	AG	Local
127. Crossland Road Park	1.5	PG	Neighbourhood
128. Walkers Hill	0.6	AG	Local
129. Watson Road Park	3.1	PG	Neighbourhood
130. Wimbourne Crescent	0.3	AG	Local
131. Wren Rovers FC	1	OSF	Neighbourhood
132. Yeadon Way	2.6	NSNG	Neighbourhood
133. Rear Lostock Gardens	0.07	CG	Neighbourhood
Total	71.27		

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Figure 52: Open Space in the South Area



Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

16. Summary and Key Recommendations

16.1 The assessment of open space, sport, and recreation provision illustrates that due to the compact urban nature of Blackpool there is a limitation on the amount of open space available and also the potential to increase the provision of open space. It is evident that whilst there are potential deficiencies in certain types of open space, this is compensated by the availability of other typologies, but also by the high quality of numerous existing sites.

16.2 In Blackpool, there is a total of 572.07 hectares of open space, sport and recreation provision, equating to approximately 4.03 hectares of open space for every 1000 persons in the Borough.

Summary of Typologies

- There are 122.4 hectares of **Parks and Gardens** in the Borough, over 18 sites. The sites range in size from 0.3 hectares (*Harold Larwood Park*) to 51.7 hectares (*Stanley Park*). The current provision of Parks and Gardens equates to approximately 0.86 hectares per 1000 persons. The Parks and Gardens are generally of a high standard, with Stanley Park achieving Green Flag Status. The sites are distributed across the Borough, however there is a deficiency in the South and North Area.
- There are 28.59 hectares of **Amenity Greenspace** in the Borough, over 42 sites. The sites range in size from 0.02 hectares (*Newcastle Avenue*) to 5.4 hectares (*Zoo and Herons Reach*). The current provision of Amenity Greenspace equates to approximately 0.2 hectares per 1000 persons.
- There are 195.5 hectares of **Outdoor Sports Facilities** in the Borough, over 34 sites. The sites range in size from 0.1 hectare (e.g. Claremont Conservative Club Bowling Green) to 65.8 hectares (*Herons Reach Golf Course*). The current provision of Outdoor Sports Facilities equates to approximately 1.38 hectares per 1000 persons. Outdoor Sports Facilities provide the largest amount of open space, which is partially attributed to the three golf courses in the Borough, extensively contributing to the provision of open space and also to the local visual amenity of areas.
- In total there are 3 sites that have a primary use as **Provision for Children and Young People**, however there are a number of children's playgrounds as part of other sites. The sites are distributed across the Borough providing extensive access to such provision. The quality of provision is currently being enhanced through improvements to existing sites but also the creation of new facilities.
- There are 132.71 hectares of **Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace** or **Green Corridors** in the Borough, over 18 sites. The sites range in size from 0.2 hectares (*Ashfield Road*) to 43.4 hectares (*Marton Mere*). The current provision of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Green Corridors equates to approximately 0.93 hectares per 1000 persons. Sites of natural greenspace are distributed across the Borough, however there is little provision in the Inner Area.
- There are 13.37 hectares of **Allotments** and **Community Gardens** in the Borough, over 10 sites. The sites range in size from 0.1 hectares (*Rear Lostock Gardens Community Garden*) to 2.6 hectares (*Lawson Road*). The current provision of Allotments and Community Gardens equates to approximately 0.09 hectares per 1000 persons. The distribution of allotments in the borough is largely uneven, with no provision in the North and Inner Areas.
- There are 50.1 hectares of **Hard Surfaced Areas** and **Civic Market Squares** in the Borough, over 4 sites. The sites range in size from 0.6 hectares (*St John's Square*) to 15.4 hectares (*North Section of the Promenade*). The current provision of the Hard Surfaced Areas and Civic and Market Squares equates to approximately 0.36 hectares per 1000 persons. The promenade (3 sites) provides an extensive and high quality area of hard surfaced public open space, spanning three areas from the northern to southern boundary of Blackpool.
- There are 22.2 hectares of **Cemeteries and Churchyards** in the Borough, over two main sites.

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

The current provision of Cemeteries and Churchyards equates to approximately 0.16 hectares per 1000 persons.

Summary of Areas

16.3 The **Inner Area** has the lowest provision of open space, largely due to the compact nature of the town centre and surrounding areas, and also being one of the smallest areas in size. There is a good provision of Parks and Gardens, and the promenade also provides an extensive area of hard surfaced public space. The foreshore provides an extensive public open space that provides recreational space, and has an important amenity value. The Inner Area lacks a number of open space typologies, the main recommendations for the area is therefore to continue improving the overall environmental quality of all open spaces in the area, and to where possible increase the amount of open space, with an emphasis on providing access to allotments and developing or enhancing play provision. Provision of all open space is particularly limited in the town centre and along the promenade, therefore a focus for future provision should be on these areas.

16.4 The **North Area** has a substantial amount of open space (18.3% of the total area), providing a considerable amount of open space in the form of Outdoor Sports Facilities, Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Parks and Gardens. There is however no current provision of allotments, which severely limits the accessibility to such sites for residents in the North Area. Additionally, when considering the size of the area, there is also a limited amount of Amenity Greenspace available. The main recommendations for the North Area is to continue improving the quality of the available open spaces, and to where possible increase the quantity of open space, particularly for allotments, Amenity Greenspace and potentially Parks and Gardens. Provision is limited along the promenade and set back from this, therefore potential development of new open space provision should be focused in this area.

16.5 The **Layton Area** has the second lowest provision of open space, but this accounts for 13.3% of the Layton Area. The Layton Area has a substantial amount of space classified as Parks and Gardens, accounting for approximately half of all open space in the area. There is also considerable provision in the form of Amenity Greenspace, Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Churchyards and Cemeteries. The area also has the only Community Garden currently available in the Borough. The area has a broad range of provision, but there is limited provision of Outdoor Sports Facilities. The main recommendation for the Layton Area is to maintain the quality and quantity of existing open space provision, and where possible enhance available Outdoor Sports Facilities.

16.6 The **Stanley Park Area** has the highest provision of open space in the Borough, accounting for 43% of the area. Comparatively, the area has very high amount of open space in the form of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace, Parks and Gardens and Outdoor Sports Facilities. A number of the open spaces in the Borough, due to their quality and quantity, have importance which is wider than borough-wide, attracting visitors from across the region and beyond. Compared to the other typologies in the area, there is a smaller provision of Allotments and Amenity Greenspace, however when compared to such provision in the other areas, this is relatively high provision. The main recommendation for the Stanley Park Area is to maintain the high quality and quantity of existing facilities. There appears to be little need to increase the overall provision of open space in the area, therefore focus should be on potentially improving the facilities on offer in the sites and to ensure access to the larger sites, such as Stanley Park, is of a high standard for residents and visitors from outside the Stanley Park Area.

16.7 By far the **South Area** covers the largest area, and contains the highest population, however this is not reflected in the provision of open space, which only equates to 6.4% of the total area. Provision is largely dominated by Outdoor Sports Facilities, Parks

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

and Gardens, Amenity Greenspace and Hard Surfaced Area (the Promenade), however this provision is still fairly limited for the residential population. Comparatively, the area has a fairly substantial provision of Allotment space, covering a number of sites and providing good access for residents. The most prominent issue in the South Area is the lack of access for large sections of the area to locally accessible public open space sites. This is particularly apparent in the Marton Moss area, and surrounding areas as illustrated in the discussions regarding accessibility and the typologies. To some extent the lack of open space in such areas is compensated for by the availability of countryside areas, although largely not open to the public, the areas add to the visual amenity of the Marton Moss area. The main recommendations for the South Area, is to continue improving the quality of existing sites, and where possible increase the amount of open space available off the Promenade. Any new development should take into consideration the horticultural heritage of the area, and should design high quality greenspaces into any potential developments.

Key Recommendations

1. Maintain, and where possible improve, the current provision standard of 4 hectares of open space per 1000 population;
2. Promote the usage of open spaces to enhance quality of life, social inclusion and promote healthy living;
3. Protect and enhance the biodiversity of open space, increase natural landscaping, and support opportunities for urban greening;
4. Establish a prioritised programme of improvements to the quality of open spaces;
5. Maintain a good distribution of high quality open spaces which meet the needs of the community and addresses any deficiencies in provision;

Open Space, Sport & Recreation Audit and Position Statement 2014 Update

Appendices



Appendix A: Site Profiles

Appendix B: Area Maps

Appendix A: Site Profiles

(Sources: Cities Revealed 2006/Google Maps)

Inner Area

<p style="text-align: center;">1. Ansdell/ Waterloo Road</p> 	<p>Area: 0.3 ha (hectares)</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Grassed area with pathways</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2. Bethesda Square</p> 	<p>Area: 0.1 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Provision for children and young people.</p> <p>Description: Grassed area with pathways and childrens play equipment.</p>

3. Central Drive Park/Revoe Park



Area: 3 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Grassed area, trees, equipped play areas, bowling greens, multi-use games area, playing fields.

4. Claremont Conservative Club Bowling Green



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green and accompanying facilities.



5. Claremont Park



Area: 3.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Playing fields, sports pitches, multi-use games area, bowling greens, tennis courts, grassed areas, trees and equipped play areas

<p style="text-align: center;">6. Geldof Drive</p> 	<p>Area: 1.5 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Grassed area</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">7. Bancroft Park</p> 	<p>Area: 7.1 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens</p> <p>Description: Park providing multi-use games areas, equipped play areas, bouldering wall, climbing walls, gardens, grassed areas and trees.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8. Greenwood Avenue</p> 	<p>Area: 0.1 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Grassed area with trees</p>

9. Gynn Flagstaff



Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose:
Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with pathways and trees.

10. Jeffrey Square



Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose:
Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with pathways and trees.

11. Promenade (Example of the Promenade)



Area: 21.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Hard Surfaced Area

Description: Public hard surfaced area

12. Raikes Hall Bowling Green



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose:
Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities

13. Raikes Parade



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose:
Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area

14. Spencer Court



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose:
Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area

15. St John's Square/Cedar Square



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Civic and Market Squares

Description: Paved, open public space

16. Harold Larwood Park (Former TAB Health Village)



Area: 0.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Park and Gardens

Description: Grassed area, gardens, and equipped play areas.

17. Warbreck Recreation Ground



Area: 0.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Grassed areas, trees, gardens, pathways and equipped play areas

18. Waterloo Hotel Bowling Green



Area: 0.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

134. Blackpool Subscription Bowling Club



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

North Area

19. Anchorsholme Park



Area: 9.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Grassed areas, equipped play areas, multi-use games areas, tennis courts,

20. Ashfield Road



Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Grassed area, pathways, shrubs/trees and an area of open water

21. Bispham Conservative Club Bowling Green

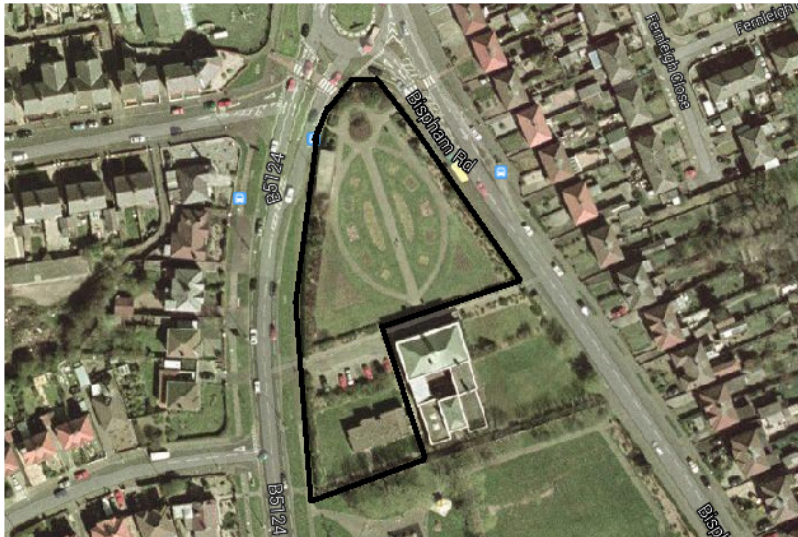


Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

22. Former Bispham Library



Area: 0.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area, with shrubs/trees and pathways.

23. Bispham Recreation Ground



Area: 0.8 ha

Primary Purpose: Provision for Children and Young People

Description: Equipped play areas, playing fields, and grassed area with shrubs/trees.

24. Blackpool RUFC



Area: 2.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitch, playing field, and accompanying facilities.

25. Carleton Cemetery and Crematorium



Area: 12.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Churchyards and Crematoriums

Description: Cemetery with pathways and shrubs/trees.

26. Carr Road Playing Fields



Area: 1.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitches, playing fields, and an equipped play area .

27. Cavendish Road Tennis Courts



Area: 0.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Tennis courts, bowling green, MUGA and childrens play equipment.

28. Champagne Avenue/ Briarfield



Area: 1.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Green Corridor

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grass land, childrens play equipment and 5-a-side pitch

29. Corrib Road Playing Field



Area: 1.8 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Equipped play area and playing field.

30. Derwent Place



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas

31. Devonshire Road Rock Gardens



Area: 2.8 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Gardens, grassed areas with shrubs/trees and with pathways.

32. Dumfries Close



Area: 1.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Open water and grass land with shrubs/trees and pathways.

33. Ecological Reserve/ Kincaig Road



Area: 6.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Open water, shrubs/trees, and grass land.

34. Fleetwood Road



Area: 0.03 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees and pathways

35. Fleetwood Road Playing Fields



Area: 5.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitches with accompanying facilities and playing fields.

36. Golf Driving Range



Area: 6.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Golf course.

37. Hawking Place



Area: 3.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Green Corridor

Description: natural/semi-natural vegetation and grass land.

38. Kincaig Road (Kincaig Fun Zone)



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Provision for Children and Young People

Description: Equipped play area, grassed area with shrubs/trees with pathways.

39. Low Moor/ Runcorn Avenue



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grass land

40. Luton Road Recreation Ground/Eastpines Park



Area 1.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Park with equipped play area, grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

41. Moor Park Avenue/ Briarwood Drive



Area: 0.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Green Corridor

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

42. Moor Park North



Area: 7ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Parkland, gardens, equipped play area, tennis courts, multi-use games areas, bowling greens, shrubs/trees, and grassed areas with pathways.

43. Moor Park South



Area: 12.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitches with accompanying facilities, playing fields, skate park, Fylde Memorial Arboretum and Community Woodland, grassed areas and pathways

44. Mossom Lane



Area: 5 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grass land.

45. Munster Avenue



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees and pathways.




46. Norbeck Bowling and Tennis Club



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green and tennis courts with accompanying facilities.

<p style="text-align: center;">47. North Shore Golf Course</p> 	<p>Area: 38.9 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities</p> <p>Description: Golf course with accompanying facilities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">48. Promenade (example of the Promenade)</p> 	<p>Area: 15.4 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Hard Surfaced Area</p> <p>Description: Hard surfaced public space and grassed areas.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">49. Promenade Greenspace (example of the greenspace)</p> 	<p>Area: 11.0 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Natural and semi-natural vegetation and grass land.</p>

50. Regency Gardens



Area: 0.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

51. Runcorn/ Holyoake Avenue



Area: 1.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grass land.

52. Warren Drive



Area: 1.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

53. Warren Drive/ Deerhurst Road



Area: 7.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grass land.

54. Whiteholme Playing Fields



Area: 7.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitches and playing fields with accompanying facilities.

Layton Area

Figure 25: Aerial images of Layton Area Sites

55. Bathurst Avenue



Area: 2.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.




56. Bathurst / Adstone Avenue



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with pathways.

<p style="text-align: center;">57. Boundary Park</p> 	<p>Area: 8.1 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens</p> <p>Description: Sports pitches, equipped play area, bowling greens, multi-use games area and grassed areas with shrubs/trees.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">58. Chepstow Road</p> 	<p>Area: 0.2 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Grassed areas with pathways</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">59. Collingwood Avenue</p> 	<p>Area: 0.3 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grassland.</p>

60. Dinmore Avenue



Area: 1.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with pathways

61. Draycott Avenue



Area: 0.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas, shrubs/trees and pathways

62. Garstang Road



Area: 1 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas, shrubs/trees and pathways



63. Grange Park Community Garden

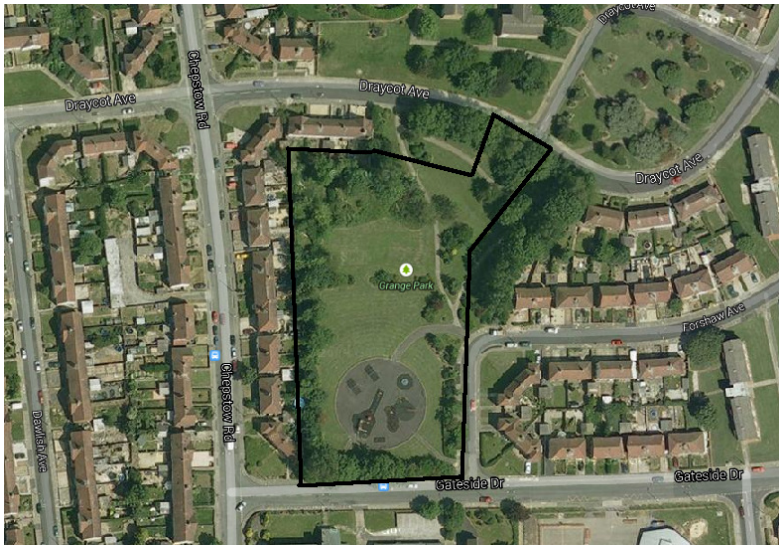


Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Community Garden

Description: Garden, grassed area with shrubs/trees.

64. Grange Park Recreation Ground



Area: 0.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Equipped play areas, grasses area with shrubs/trees.

*Part of the park was redevelopment for housing in xxxx which included improvement to the quality

65. Greenbriar Close



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees.




66. Kingscote Park



Area: 9.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Multi-use games area, playing fields and grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

<p style="text-align: center;">67. Layton Allotments</p> 	<p>Area: 1.8 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Allotments</p> <p>Description: Allotment plots and accompanying facilities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">68. Layton Bowling Green</p> 	<p>Area (Hectares): 0.6</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities</p> <p>Description: Bowling greens with accompanying facilities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">69. Layton Cemetery</p> 	<p>Area: 9.5 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Churchyards and Crematoriums</p> <p>Description: Cemetery with pathways and shrubs/trees.</p>

70. Layton Institute Bowling Green



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

71. Layton Recreation Ground



Area: 2.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Playing fields, multi-use games areas, equipped play areas and grassed areas with pathways and shrubs/trees.

72. Onslow Road



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area.

73. Shenstone Road



Area: 1.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.

74. St Walburgas Road



Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with pathways and shrubs/trees.

75. Tarnbrook Drive



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.

Stanley Park Area

76. Blackpool Cricket Club



Area: 2.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Cricket ground with accompanying facilities

77. Blackpool Park Golf Course



Area: 22.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Golf course with accompanying facilities.

78. East/North Park Drive Frontage



Area: 0.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

79. East/West Park Drive Triangle



Area: 0.8 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

80. East Park Drive



Area: 24.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways

81. Herons Reach (images only show part of Herons Reach, this extends around the Herons Reach Golf Course)

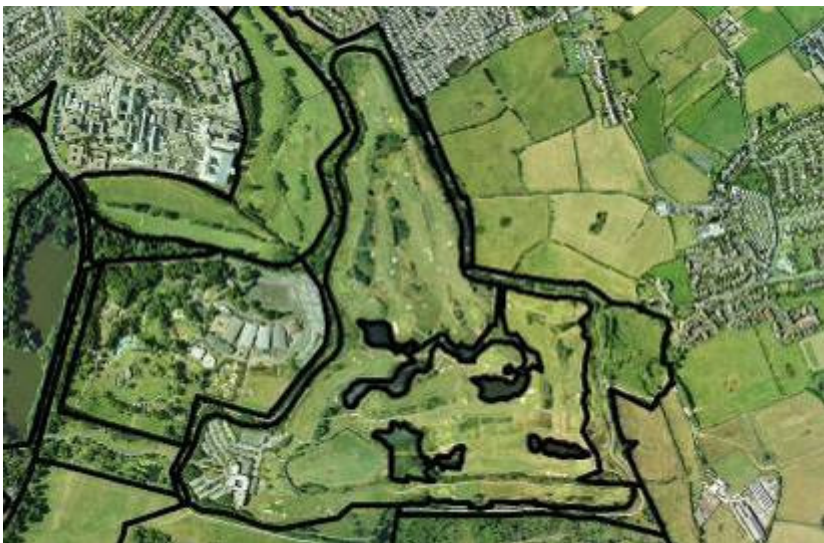


Area: 15.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation, grassland and areas of open water.

82. Herons Reach Golf Course



Area: 65.8 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Golf course and accompanying facilities.

83. Lawson Road



Area: 5.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grassland, children's play equipment.

84. Lawson Road Allotments



Area: 2.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Allotments

Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities.

85. Lindsay Avenue



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.

86. Marton Mere Local Nature Reserve



Area: 43.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees and an area of open water.

87. Newcastle Avenue



Area: 0.02 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.




88. Newton Drive Allotments



Area: 2.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Allotments

Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities.

<p style="text-align: center;">89. Oxford Square Allotments</p> 	<p>Area: 0.3 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Allotments</p> <p>Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">90. Salisbury Woodland</p> 	<p>Area: 2 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">91. South Park Drive</p> 	<p>Area: 0.1 ha</p> <p>Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace</p> <p>Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees</p>

92. Stanley Park



Area: 51.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Gardens, areas of open water, shrubs/trees, athletics ground, equipped play areas, sports pitches, tennis courts, multi-use games areas, bowling greens and grassed areas.

93. Weymouth Road



Area: 0.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees and pathways

94. Whitemoss



Area: 0.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees and an area of open water.

95. Zoo and Herons Reach



Area: 5.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.

South Area

96. Acre Gate Allotments



Area: 0.9 ha

Primary Purpose:
Allotments

Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities.

97. Birkside Way



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity
Greenspace

Description: Grassed area.

98. Blackpool AFC



Area: 1.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitch and accompanying facilities.

99. Bridge House Road



Area: 1.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.

100. Bridgehouse Farm Allotments



Area: 1.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Allotments

Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities.

101. Cardigan Crescent



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas.

102. Castlerigg Place



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas.

103. Cherry Tree Allotments



Area: 4 ha

Primary Purpose: Allotments

Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities.

104. Common Edge Road Playing Field



Area: 10.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Playing fields.

105. Co-op Sports Club and Fields



Area: 1.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitch, bowling greens and accompanying facilities.

106. Fishers Field/ Highfield Park



Area: 2.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitches, playing fields, MUGA and childrens play equipment

107. Halfway House Bowling Green



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

108. Hampton Road Bowling Green



Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

109. Harrowside (Solaris Centre)



Area: 0.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

110. Highfield Ladies Bowling Club



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling greens with accompanying facilities.

111. Highfield Road Recreation Ground



Area: 1.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities, multi-use games area, equipped play area and grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

112. Holgate

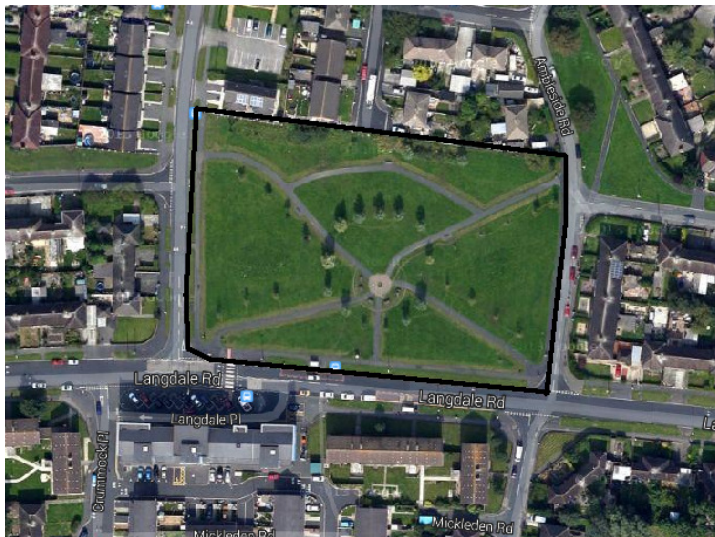


Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

113. Kentmere Drive



Area: 1.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area

114. Kingsmede



Area: 0.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area

115. Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground



Area: 0.9 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Equipped play area, multi-use games area, playing fields and grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

116. Mereside Park



Area: 9.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Sports pitches with accompanying facilities, playing fields, multi-use games areas, bmx track, equipped play areas, and grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

117. Osbourne Road



Area: 0.2 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Hard surfaced public open space and grassed areas.

118. Prebonds FC



Area: 1.0 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitch with accompanying facilities.

119. Preston New Road



Area: 3.8 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.



120. Promenade (example of the promenade)



Area: 13.4 ha

Primary Purpose: Hard Surfaced Areas

Description: Hard surfaced public open space and grassed areas.

121. Scotswood Avenue Allotments



Area: 0.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Allotments

Description: Allotment plots with accompanying facilities

122. South Shore Bowling Club



Area: 0.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Bowling green with accompanying facilities.

123. South Shore Cricket Club



Area: 0.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Cricket ground with accompanying facilities

124. South Shore Lawn Tennis Club



Area: 1.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Tennis courts with accompanying facilities.

125. Squires Gate FC



Area: 1.0 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitch with accompanying facilities.

126. Sunningdale Avenue



Area: 0.7 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed area with shrubs/trees.

127. Vicarage Lane Recreation Ground



Area: 1.5 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Playing fields, equipped play areas, and grassed areas with shrubs/trees.

128. Walkers Hill



Area: 0.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

129. Watson Road Park



Area: 3.1 ha

Primary Purpose: Parks and Gardens

Description: Equipped play areas, MUGA, bowling green, grassed areas with shrubs/trees and pathways.

130. Wimbourne Crescent



Area: 0.3 ha

Primary Purpose: Amenity Greenspace

Description: Grassed areas

131. Wren Rovers FC



Area: 1.0 ha

Primary Purpose: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Description: Sports pitch with accompanying facilities.

132. Yeadon Way



Area: 2.6 ha

Primary Purpose: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Description: Natural/semi-natural vegetation and grassland.

133. Rear Lostock Gardens



Area: 0.07ha

Primary Purpose: Community Garden

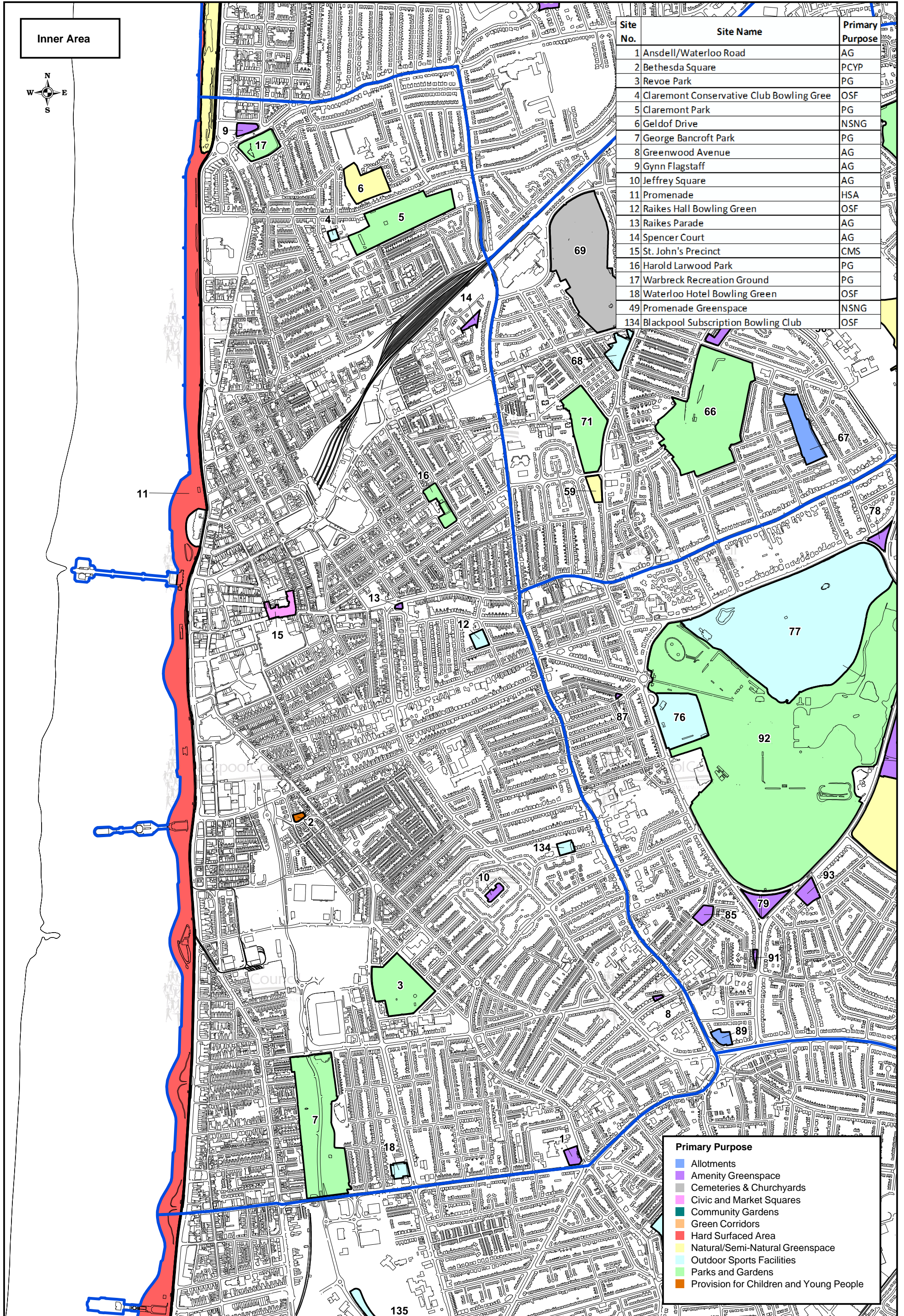
Description: Community Garden with greenhouse

Appendix B - Area Maps

Inner Area



Site No.	Site Name	Primary Purpose
1	Ansdell/Waterloo Road	AG
2	Bethesda Square	PCYP
3	Revoe Park	PG
4	Claremont Conservative Club Bowling Gree	OSF
5	Claremont Park	PG
6	Geldof Drive	NSNG
7	George Bancroft Park	PG
8	Greenwood Avenue	AG
9	Gynn Flagstaff	AG
10	Jeffrey Square	AG
11	Promenade	HSA
12	Raikes Hall Bowling Green	OSF
13	Raikes Parade	AG
14	Spencer Court	AG
15	St. John's Precinct	CMS
16	Harold Larwood Park	PG
17	Warbreck Recreation Ground	PG
18	Waterloo Hotel Bowling Green	OSF
49	Promenade Greenspace	NSNG
134	Blackpool Subscription Bowling Club	OSF



Primary Purpose

- Allotments
- Amenity Greenspace
- Cemeteries & Churchyards
- Civic and Market Squares
- Community Gardens
- Green Corridors
- Hard Surfaced Area
- Natural/Semi-Natural Greenspace
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People

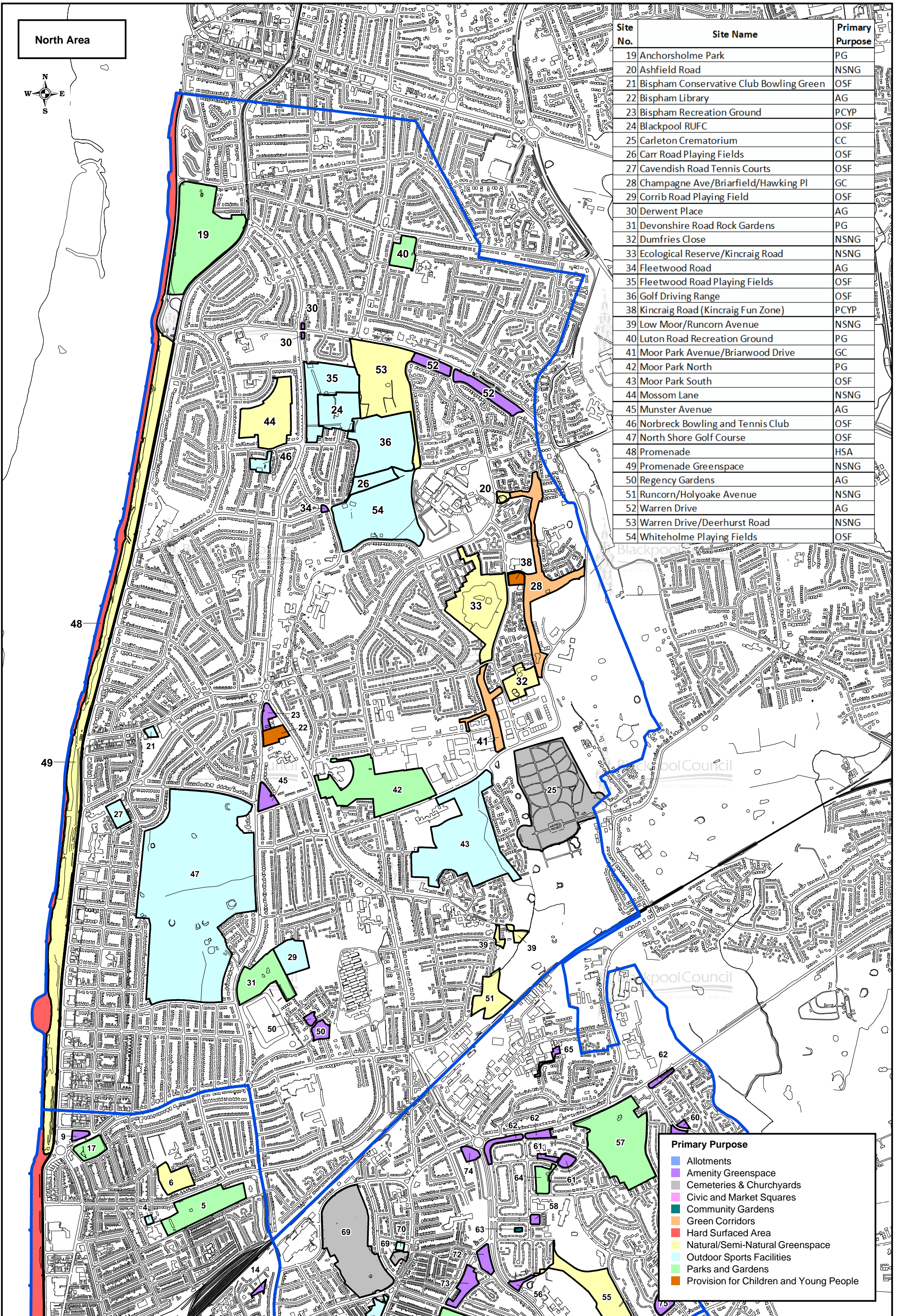
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Scale: 1:12000

North Area



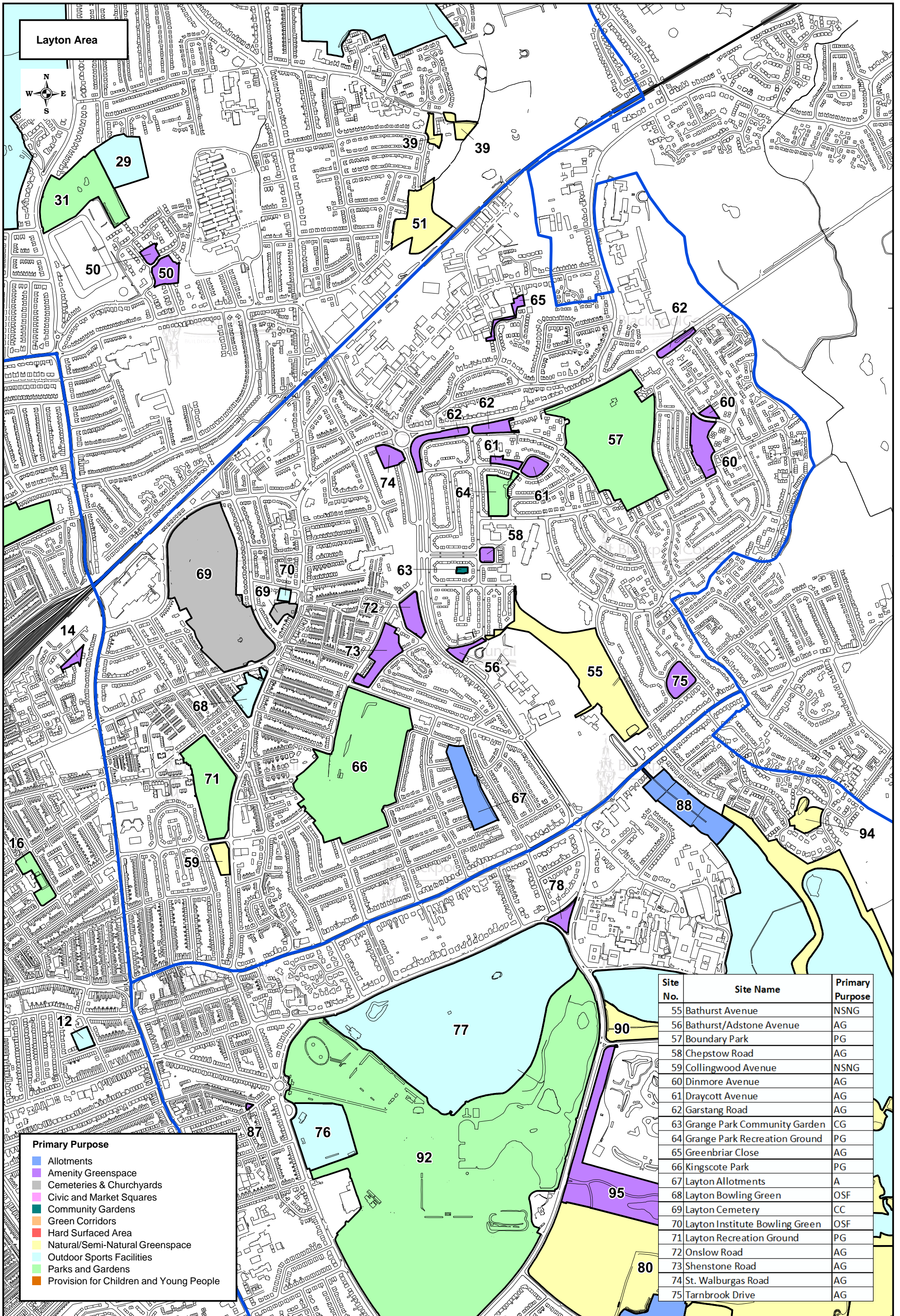
Site No.	Site Name	Primary Purpose
19	Anchorholme Park	PG
20	Ashfield Road	NSNG
21	Bispham Conservative Club Bowling Green	OSF
22	Bispham Library	AG
23	Bispham Recreation Ground	PCYP
24	Blackpool RUFC	OSF
25	Carleton Crematorium	CC
26	Carr Road Playing Fields	OSF
27	Cavendish Road Tennis Courts	OSF
28	Champagne Ave/Briarfield/Hawking Pl	GC
29	Corrib Road Playing Field	OSF
30	Derwent Place	AG
31	Devonshire Road Rock Gardens	PG
32	Dumfries Close	NSNG
33	Ecological Reserve/Kinraig Road	NSNG
34	Fleetwood Road	AG
35	Fleetwood Road Playing Fields	OSF
36	Golf Driving Range	OSF
38	Kinraig Road (Kinraig Fun Zone)	PCYP
39	Low Moor/Runcorn Avenue	NSNG
40	Luton Road Recreation Ground	PG
41	Moor Park Avenue/Briarwood Drive	GC
42	Moor Park North	PG
43	Moor Park South	OSF
44	Mossom Lane	NSNG
45	Munster Avenue	AG
46	Norbreck Bowling and Tennis Club	OSF
47	North Shore Golf Course	OSF
48	Promenade	HSA
49	Promenade Greenspace	NSNG
50	Regency Gardens	AG
51	Runcorn/Holyoake Avenue	NSNG
52	Warren Drive	AG
53	Warren Drive/Deerhurst Road	NSNG
54	Whiteholme Playing Fields	OSF

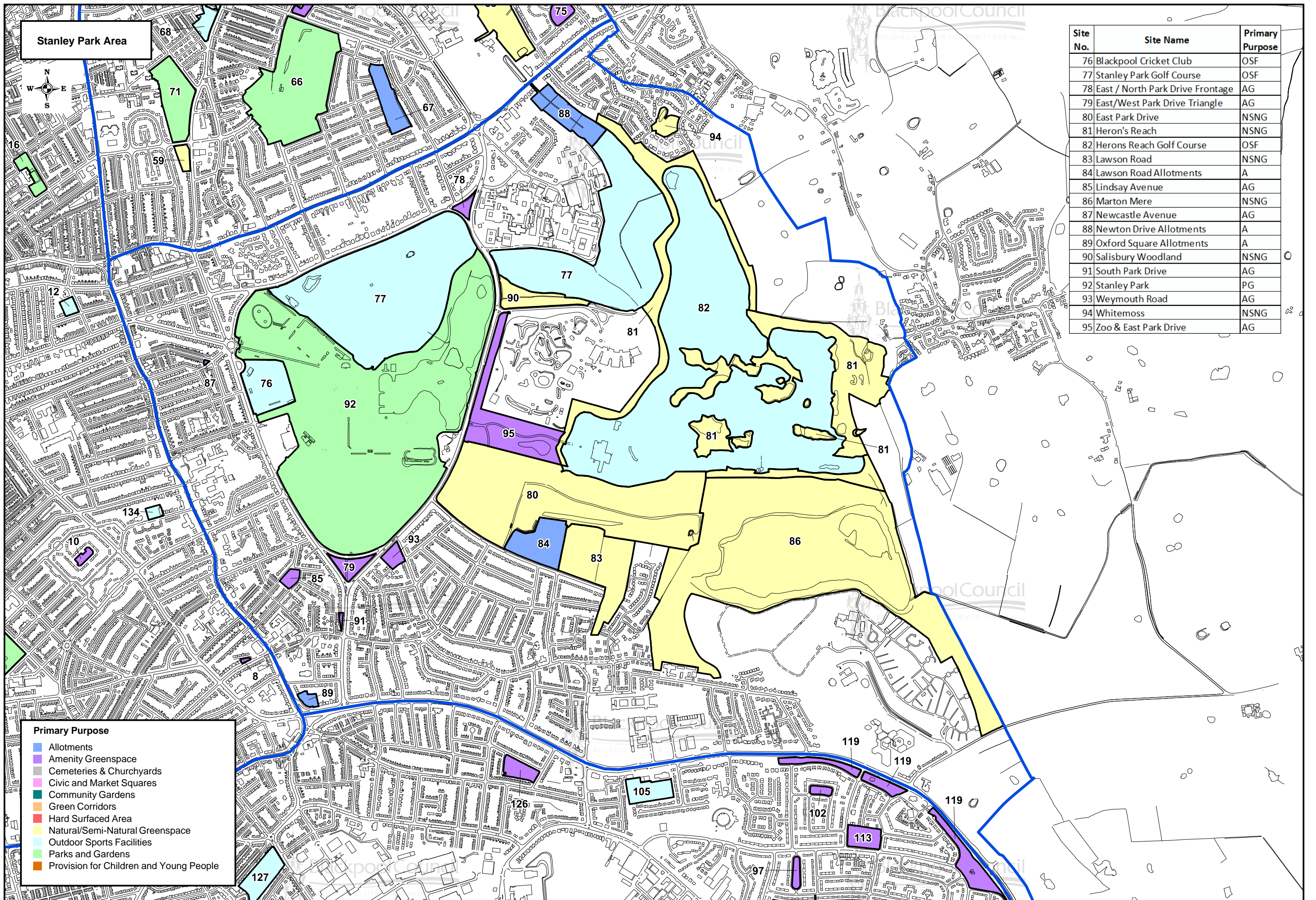


Primary Purpose

- Allotments
- Amenity Greenspace
- Cemeteries & Churchyards
- Civic and Market Squares
- Community Gardens
- Green Corridors
- Hard Surfaced Area
- Natural/Semi-Natural Greenspace
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People

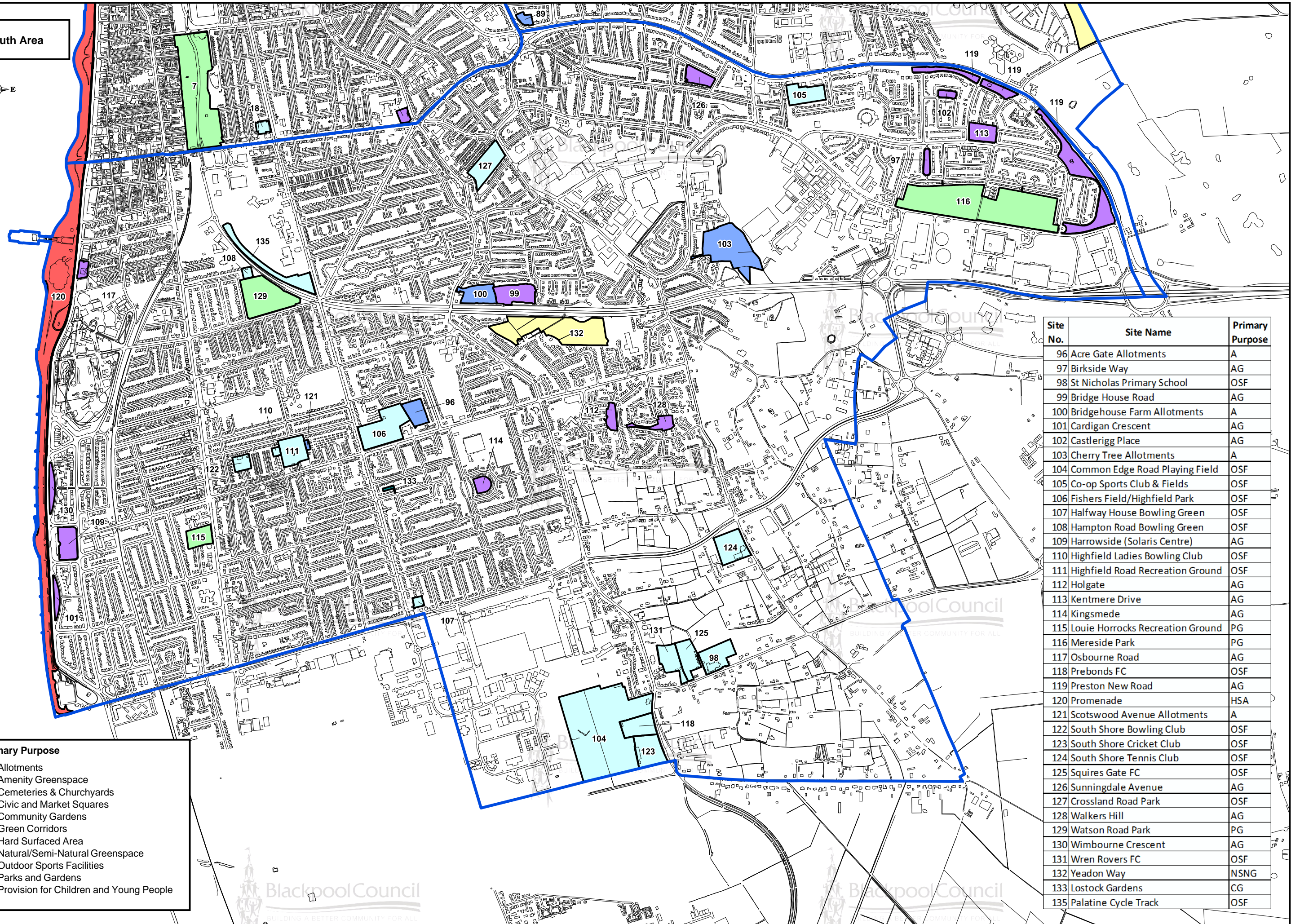
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South Area



Primary Purpose

- Allotments
- Amenity Greenspace
- Cemeteries & Churchyards
- Civic and Market Squares
- Community Gardens
- Green Corridors
- Hard Surfaced Area
- Natural/Semi-Natural Greenspace
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Parks and Gardens
- Provision for Children and Young People

Site No.	Site Name	Primary Purpose
96	Acre Gate Allotments	A
97	Birkside Way	AG
98	St Nicholas Primary School	OSF
99	Bridge House Road	AG
100	Bridgehouse Farm Allotments	A
101	Cardigan Crescent	AG
102	Castlerigg Place	AG
103	Cherry Tree Allotments	A
104	Common Edge Road Playing Field	OSF
105	Co-op Sports Club & Fields	OSF
106	Fishers Field/Highfield Park	OSF
107	Halfway House Bowling Green	OSF
108	Hampton Road Bowling Green	OSF
109	Harrowside (Solaris Centre)	AG
110	Highfield Ladies Bowling Club	OSF
111	Highfield Road Recreation Ground	OSF
112	Holgate	AG
113	Kentmere Drive	AG
114	Kingsmede	AG
115	Louie Horrocks Recreation Ground	PG
116	Mereside Park	PG
117	Osbourne Road	AG
118	Prebonds FC	OSF
119	Preston New Road	AG
120	Promenade	HSA
121	Scotswood Avenue Allotments	A
122	South Shore Bowling Club	OSF
123	South Shore Cricket Club	OSF
124	South Shore Tennis Club	OSF
125	Squires Gate FC	OSF
126	Sunningdale Avenue	AG
127	Crossland Road Park	OSF
128	Walkers Hill	AG
129	Watson Road Park	PG
130	Wimbourne Crescent	AG
131	Wren Rovers FC	OSF
132	Yeadon Way	NSNG
133	Lostock Gardens	CG
135	Palatine Cycle Track	OSF

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