

**LONDON BOROUGH OF
ISLINGTON**

**OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND
RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

PART I: MAIN REPORT

**Prepared for London Borough of
Islington
by
Land Use Consultants
and PMP**

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43 Chalton Street
London NW1 1JD
Tel: 020 7383 5784
Fax: 020 7383 4798
luc@landuse.co.uk

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ACRONYMS

BSF – Building Schools for the Future

CPA – Comprehensive Performance Assessment

DAII – Disability Action in Islington

DCLG – Department for Communities and Local Government

LAA – Local Area Agreement

LBI – London Borough of Islington

LDD – Local Development Document

LDF – Local Development Framework

LTA – Lawn Tennis Association

Ha – Hectares

m - Metres

MOL – Metropolitan Open Land

MUGA – Multiuse Games Area

NDC – New Deal for Communities

ODPM – Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

PPG17 – Planning Policy Guidance 17

PPS – Planning Policy Statement

RSL – Registered Social Landlord

SINC – Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

SPD – Supplementary Planning Document

SPG – Supplementary Planning Guidance

STP – Synthetic Turf Pitch

UDP – Unitary Development Plan

PREFACE

1. Islington is one of the smallest and most densely populated London Boroughs. The Borough's limited open space is highly valued but under increasing pressure. It needs to be managed and maintained effectively to improve the quality of life for the people of Islington through a greener borough. Similarly, sports, recreation and community facilities are highly valued, and must be carefully managed to ensure they meet the changing needs of a growing population.
2. The existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities in Islington are managed by a combination of different London Borough of Islington services (including Greenspace and Leisure within the Environment and Regeneration department), and partnerships and other organisations including Registered Social Landlords (RSLs). In 2007 the Borough commissioned a series of studies to assess the different types of provision. This PPG17 compliant Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment is one of four main studies. The diagram overleaf (**Figure 1**) illustrates how the various studies interrelate. The scope, aims and objectives of each of these studies is summarised below.

SCOPE OF THE VARIOUS STUDIES

Green Space Assessment and Action Plan (Land Use Consultants and Groundwork, 2007/2008)

Mission: Delivering high quality parks and green spaces to meet the needs of Islington's diverse communities.

3. This document covers the green spaces and facilities currently managed by Greenspace Services. 165 sites managed by the Greenspace Team, totalling 81.09 hectares of green space were included in the study which encompasses the majority of the publicly accessible open space in Islington. A range of consultations were undertaken to gain an understanding of existing needs. Detailed site audits were carried out on all 165 sites. By developing a quality standard, the relative value and condition of the sites was assessed. Prioritised action plans were developed for the four Area Committees, accompanied by detailed enhancement recommendations for each site.

Leisure Needs Analysis (PMP, 2006)

4. This study was commissioned to identify leisure needs/demand within Islington and potential development opportunities to address them. The assessment considered indoor and outdoor sports provision with particular focus on seven council sites including three leisure centres, three public swimming pools and a tennis centre. The intention of the council is, after the completion of the additional PPG17 assessment of sports facilities, to commission an action plan for Leisure managed sites to enable a prioritised programme of improvements to be agreed.

Play Strategy (Islington Play Partnership, Islington Council, 2007-2012)

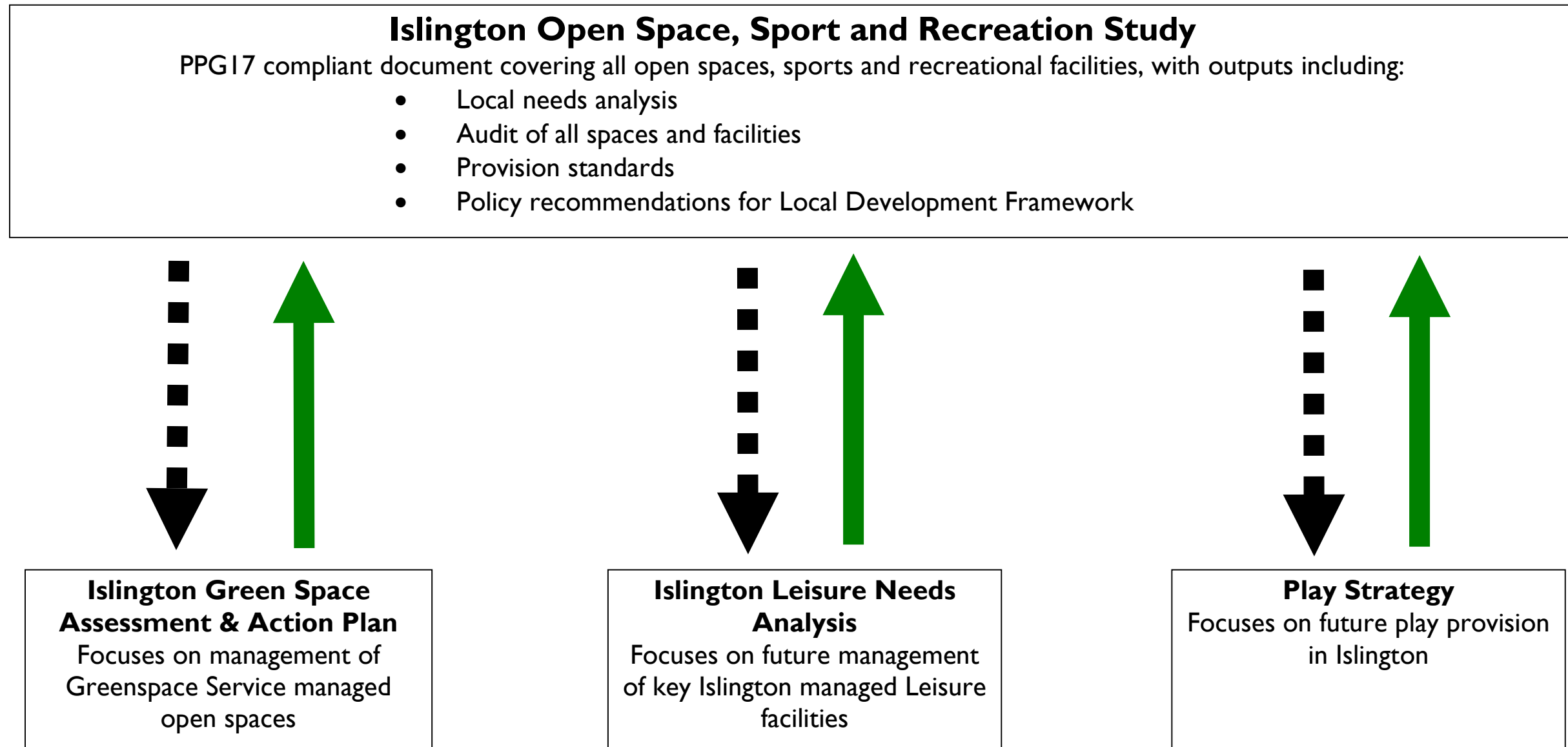
5. The play strategy reviewed the existing play provision in Islington which includes 16 children's centres, 20 play centres, 12 adventure playgrounds as well as youth centres, specialist projects and other facilities, including play areas in parks. The review involved consultation exercises and resulted in a five year action plan. The action plan includes the proposal to develop a play improvement programme to increase the quality and range of inclusive play opportunities on offer in adventure playgrounds, and to develop a Play Ranger programme to deliver play outcomes in parks and open spaces in the evenings, at weekends and during holidays.

PPG17 compliant Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Assessment (2009)

6. As detailed in the schematic diagram overleaf, the individual studies provide only a partial picture of open space, sport and recreational facilities in the borough in terms of needs, provision, quality, quantity and accessibility. For example, the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan was specifically commissioned by the Greenspace Team to inform the management of its sites. It did not, therefore, cover all open spaces within the borough and build up an overall picture of provision and needs. The PPG17 compliant study was commissioned jointly by Planning, Greenspace and Leisure Services to serve a number of purposes:
 - To provide an overarching audit and analysis of all open space, sport and recreational facilities, bringing together, and building on, the previous 'stand alone' studies to build up an overall picture of provision, needs and deficiencies;
 - To inform priorities and management by the relevant council teams (in particular Greenspace and Leisure), which will require these teams to review the earlier assessments and action plans in the light of the overarching findings of the PPG17 assessment;
 - To identify the need for further work to define detailed management needs e.g. through the production of specific strategies and action plans;
 - To provide a comprehensive evidence base, in line with Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (PPG17), to inform the development of policies in the Local Development Framework (LDF) on open space, sport and recreation.
 - To inform the production of a Supplementary Planning Document, within the LDF, on planning contributions, which will include contributions to open space, play space and leisure facilities.
7. This study has involved additional audit work to capture any open spaces or facilities which have not already been included in the studies outlined above (or to capture further key information in relation to particular sites not provided in the preceding studies). This audit work has captured an additional 85 open space sites totalling **17ha hectares of open space (including play)**, together with **16 outdoor sports facilities, 37 indoor sports facilities, and 57 community facilities**.

8. Building on the work already undertaken, standards have been developed for open space, sport and recreational facilities to assess the **accessibility, quantity and quality** of the current provision. This has enabled the identification of spatial and quantitative deficiencies/surpluses in provision which underpin a series of recommendations for taking forward the management and delivery of these facilities.

Figure 1: Diagram illustrating the relationship between service specific studies and comprehensive open space, sport and recreational facilities study



KEY:



Detailed audit data and recommended standards to feed into comprehensive PPG17 assessment of all open space, sports and recreational facilities



Policy recommendations and overarching needs analysis to feed back into service specific strategies and priorities

I. INTRODUCTION

- I.1. Land Use Consultants (LUC) and PMP were commissioned in January 2008 to complete a PPG17 compliant assessment of open space, sport and recreational facilities within the London Borough of Islington (see **Map 1**).
- I.2. The key drivers for this study include:
- To provide an overarching audit and analysis of all open space, sport and recreational facilities, bringing together, and building on, the previous ‘stand alone’ studies to build up an overall picture of provision, needs and deficiencies;
 - To inform priorities and management by the relevant council teams (in particular Greenspace and Leisure), which will require these teams to review the earlier assessments and action plans in the light of the overarching findings of the PPG17 assessment;
 - To identify the need for further work to define detailed management needs e.g. through the production of specific strategies and action plans;
 - To provide a comprehensive evidence base, in line with Planning Policy Guidance note 17 (PPG17), to inform the development of policies in the Local Development Framework (LDF) on open space, sport and recreation.
 - To inform the production of a Supplementary Planning Document, within the LDF, on planning contributions, which will include contributions to open space, play space and leisure facilities.

OBJECTIVES

- I.3. Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation, sets out government policy on the issues which must be taken into account when preparing development plans and when considering individual planning applications. PPG17 sets out a requirement for local authorities to undertake assessments of needs and opportunities for open space, sport and recreation to underpin such considerations. Paragraph 1 of the PPG notes that *‘to ensure effective planning for open space, sport and recreation it is essential that the needs of local communities are known. Local authorities should undertake robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities for open space, sports and recreation facilities’*. It goes on to say that *‘Local authorities should also undertake audits of existing...facilities, the use made of existing facilities, access...and opportunities for new open space and facilities. Audits should consider both the quantitative and qualitative elements of open space, sports and recreation facilities’*.
- I.4. PPG17 is clear on the value of such assessments and audits, noting that *these ‘will allow local authorities to identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses...in their areas. They form the starting point for establishing an effective strategy for open space, sport and recreation at the local level (tied into the local authority’s Sustainable Community Strategy), and for effective planning through the development of appropriate policies in plans’*.

- 1.5. In line with PPG17, the objective of this study is to provide a clear evidence base to inform the development of LDF policies and for underpinning strategies for the delivery of high quality open space, sport and recreation facilities. To achieve this it sets out:
- 1) A clear assessment of the needs of local communities in terms of open space, sport and recreation provision, based upon public consultation and analysis of current provision;
 - 2) A comprehensive audit of the provision and quality of open space, sports and recreation facilities in the borough;
 - 3) Standards for accessibility, quality and quantity of open space, sport and recreation facilities against which current and future provision may be assessed, and which may inform standards to be set for provision of such facilities by developers in new development;
 - 4) An assessment of the quality, quantity and accessibility of open space, sports and recreation facilities in the borough;
 - 5) Recommendations for the future management and provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities in the borough to ensure the council effectively manages and develops this resource to contribute to a high quality of life for those living and working in the borough;

SCOPE OF THIS ASSESSMENT

- 1.6. The assessment considered 811 open space sites, 16 outdoor sports facilities, 37 indoor sports facilities, and 57 community facilities. Of the 811 open space sites, 165 are Greenspace Services managed sites¹ which were audited in 2007 as part of the Green Space Assessment; 646 are housing open spaces mainly on Homes for Islington managed estates, including sites owned and/or managed by other agencies such as RSLs and the City of London. The sites considered in this study are shown in **Map 6**.
- 1.7. The study has been overseen by a Steering Group comprising various council officers, including from Greenspace Services, Leisure Services, Planning and Young People's Services, and representatives of Homes for Islington.

STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

- 1.8. The report is set out in four parts:

Part one: Methodology and context - sets out the methodology used to identify the sites and facilities to be included in the audit and the methodology for auditing the sites. It also describes the development of typologies which have been used to

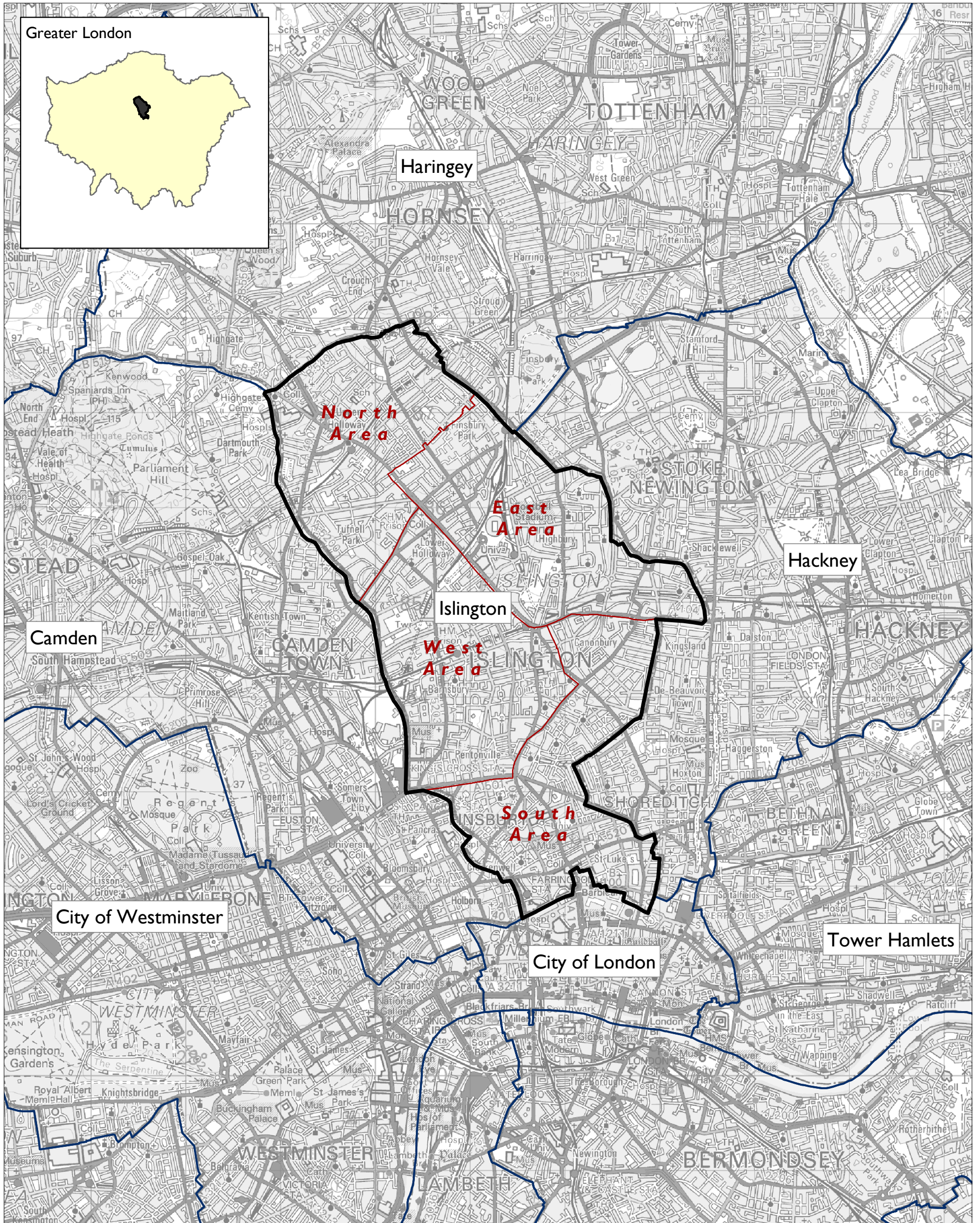
¹ It should be noted that of the 165 sites that are managed by Greenspace Services, 37 sites are very small open spaces or planters which serve a visual amenity function only. These spaces have been audited and assessed as part of the Green Space Assessment typology F. Due to the size and nature of the function of these spaces, they have not been assessed in detail in this study.

categorise the sites and structure the data analysis. Part I also establishes the context for the study, in terms of relevant plans and strategies which inform the study. It also provides an overview of open space, sport and recreation needs, based on socio-economic data and public consultation;




Part two: Framework for analysis – describes the open space, sport and recreation typologies and hierarchy of sites used to frame the analysis;

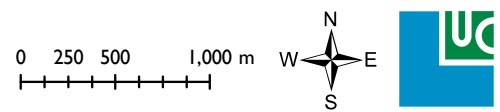
Part three: Assessment of provision – reviews each typology in turn, describes how provision standards have been set, applies the standards and identifies key issues to be addressed in terms of future management and delivery of new facilities;

Part four: Conclusions and recommendations – provides an overview of the key issues identified through the study and sets out recommendations for addressing deficiencies.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 1: London Borough of Islington location

- Key**
-  London Borough of Islington
 -  Neighbouring Boroughs
 -  Area Committee boundaries



PART ONE: METHODOLOGY AND CONTEXT

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1. The methodology adopted for this assessment was guided by PPG17 and its companion guide, which set out five key stages. It is also informed by the Greater London Authority (GLA) Guide to Preparing Open Space Strategies: Best Practice Guidance of the London Plan.
- 2.2. The methodology also built on work previously undertaken for the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan² and the Leisure Needs Analysis³.

STEP 1: IDENTIFYING LOCAL NEEDS

“To ensure effective planning for open space, sport and recreation it is essential that the needs of local communities are known. Local authorities should undertake robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities for open space, sports and recreational facilities.” (PPG17 para 1)

- 2.3. A review of the relevant national, regional and local planning policy context was undertaken, in order to identify the land use implications of policies and strategies for open space, sport and recreation. The policy context is provided in **Section 3** of this report.
- 2.4. To provide an understanding of the specific needs of the borough, information was collated on the geographic, demographic and socio-economic context of Islington which could influence the level of need. For example, people living in areas with a high proportion of flats are less likely to have access to private gardens thus increasing their need for public open space. This contextual information is detailed in **Section 3**.
- 2.5. In order to understand fully the attitudes and opinions of local people towards existing provision of open spaces and facilities, and to understand what future provision they would like to see, a programme of community consultation was undertaken. This entailed a series of face-to-face interviews in parks, door step interviews, online surveys, a series of workshops with hard-to reach groups, a workshop with the representatives from ‘Friends of’ groups for Islington Parks, and a workshop with LBI Greenspace Rangers. A household and sports club survey was also undertaken. Consultation is detailed further in **Section 3**.

STEP 2: AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

“Local authorities should also undertake audits of existing open space, sports and recreational facilities.Audits should consider both the quantitative and the qualitative elements of open space, sports and recreational facilities. Audits of quality will be particularly important as they will allow local authorities to identify

² Produced for Islington Council by Land Use Consultants and Groundwork, 2007/8

³ Produced for Islington Council by PMP, 2006

potential for increased use through better design, management and maintenance.”
(PPG17 para 3).

Auditing open space provision

- 2.6. As part of the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan site audits were carried out by Groundwork for each of the sites managed by the Greenspace Team. Separate to this, open spaces on 331 Homes for Islington estates were also audited by Groundwork. A site audit form was developed (see example in **Appendix 4**) based around the themes of the Civic Trust’s Green Flag Award criteria, which is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. The use of the Green Flag themes ensured sufficient information was gathered in order to understand the quality of existing spaces. The Green Flag themes and a brief description of each are set out below.
- 2.7. In order to capture open spaces not included in the previous studies, a desk-based mapping exercise was undertaken to identify any additional open spaces within the borough. The steering group helped to identify the larger of these spaces, and Ordnance Survey MasterMap data was used to identify the smaller spaces. The steering group reviewed the resultant list of sites, and excluded any that fell outside of the typologies covered by this assessment. The audit of these additional sites was undertaken in early 2008.

Green Flag Award criteria themes

1. A Welcoming Place

Welcoming, good & safe access, signage, equal access for all

2. Healthy, Safe and Secure

Safe equipment & facilities, personal security, dog fouling, appropriate provision of facilities, quality of facilities

3. Clean and Well Maintained

Litter & waste management, grounds maintenance & horticulture, building & infrastructure maintenance, equipment maintenance

4. Sustainability

Environmental sustainability, pesticides, peat use, waste minimisation, arboriculture & woodland management

5. Conservation and Heritage

Conservation of nature features, wild flora & fauna, conservation of landscape features, conservation of buildings & structures

6. Community Involvement

Community involvement in management & development including outreach work, appropriate provision for the community

7. Marketing

Marketing & promotion, provision of appropriate information, provision of appropriate educational interpretation/information

8. Management

Implementation of management plan

Auditing sport and recreation provision

- 2.8. Sport and leisure provision previously audited for the Leisure Needs Analysis was compared against the Active Places database to ensure the list of all sites to be audited was up-to-date and comprehensive. A list of community and school facilities was provided by the council and supplemented by additional desk and telephone research to enable a comprehensive audit of these facilities.

Database

- 2.9. A comprehensive Microsoft Access database was developed to hold all of the information drawn from the site audits, including site addresses, and any further site specific information drawn from the consultation. The database is linked to a GIS data set of the sites to enable spatial analysis.

Assigning typologies to audited sites

- 2.10. Based on the audits, all sites have been categorised into one of 13 typologies, as follows:
- Parks and gardens
 - Natural and semi-natural green space
 - Green corridor
 - Outdoor sports facilities
 - Amenity green space
 - Allotments, community gardens & city farms
 - Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds
 - Civic space
 - Housing amenity space
 - Play and youth facilities
 - Community facilities
 - Indoor sports facilities
- 2.11. The typologies, which help to categorise the sites into discrete categories, enable a meaningful analysis of the data collected during the site audits.
- 2.12. In addition to assigning each site a type, sites can be further categorised into sub-types, which typically reflect their size and/or usage. For example parks and gardens may be broken down into larger and smaller sites, which would typically provide different types of facilities and attract people from different sized catchment areas. Similarly, play and youth facilities may be further categorised by the age groups which they serve. This is termed a site 'hierarchy' and provides a further layer of

information for analysis in order to understand the provision of open spaces and facilities in both quantitative and qualitative terms. The typologies and hierarchy are further described in **Section 4**.

Mapping of sites outside the borough boundary

- 2.13. As part of the initial mapping exercise to identify open spaces in Islington, a request was sent out to neighbouring authorities for digital data to identify key sites outside of the borough boundary. These mainly consisted of the larger open spaces which were considered to potentially serve residents in Islington. Detailed audit work was not undertaken nor were typologies assigned but these spaces were considered in the application of overall accessibility standards. Sports, play and community facilities outside of the borough have not been taken into account in the analysis.

STEPS 3 & 4: SETTING AND APPLYING PROVISION STANDARDS

“The Government believes that open space standards are best set locally. National standards cannot cater for local circumstances, such as differing demographic profiles and the extent of existing built development in an area.

Local authorities should use the information gained from their assessments of needs and opportunities to set locally derived standards for the provision of open space, sports and recreational facilities in their areas. Local standards should include:

- i. quantitative elements (how much new provision may be needed);*
- ii. a qualitative component (against which to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities); and*
- iii. accessibility (including distance thresholds and consideration of the cost of using a facility).” PPG17 paras 6-7*

- 2.14. As noted in the extract from PPG17 above, a key stage of the process was to set locally specific standards. This enabled an analysis of the adequacy of existing provision and the likely adequacy of provision in future, taking into account population growth. Standards also form the basis for requirements in new developments, for example, in terms of indicating how much provision for play or outdoor sport might be required in a new housing development.
- 2.15. To set locally specific standards for each type of open space or facility, the following factors were taken into consideration:
- National standards
 - Existing local accessibility standards
 - The strategic context, including the fact that Islington has a dense urban fabric
 - The existing level of provision

- Benchmarking against other local authorities standards
- Consultation findings.

Quantitative standards

- 2.16. The quantity standard defines the amount of open space, sport and recreational facilities that should be available to the population living in Islington. The standards provide a measure against which existing provision can be assessed and guidance for additional provision in new development. Published guidance provides a useful reference for setting the quantity standard, but, in order to ensure the standards are relevant to Islington, they reflect the findings of the audits in terms of existing levels of provision and take into account consultation findings to gauge whether the community considers the level of current provision to be sufficient or not.
- 2.17. As indicated in the PPG 17 Companion Guide quantity standards can be expressed as “a combination of a unit of ‘useful area’ of provision and a population” e.g. X hectares of parks per 1000 people. For some types of facilities, such as sports and community facilities, the area is less relevant and is better expressed as a number of a certain type of facility per 1000 people.
- 2.18. The quantity standards for each typology are described in Appendix 8, and within the sections of this report covering each typology (Sections 5-16).

Qualitative standards

- 2.19. A quality standard provides a benchmark against which the existing condition and need for enhancement of existing spaces or facilities can be measured and can provide a guide to the qualitative attributes that should be expected of a newly created space or facility (refer to Appendix 9 for details).

Open spaces

- 2.20. The site audit form used to assess the open space typologies was based around the themes of the Civic Trust’s Green Flag Award criteria. In order to assess consistently both the value and the quality of the sites, the questions on the audit form were scored to facilitate the analysis. The scoring system is set out on the example site audit form in Appendix 4. The resulting scores have been used as a basis for developing a quality standard for each typology.

Quality assessment

- 2.21. As part of the site audit each site was assessed for quality against the Green Flag criteria and the condition of the various components of a site rated as good, fair or poor. This assessment was then transposed through a scoring system into a quality score. In order to develop a quality standard which is appropriate for the type and function of open spaces in Islington, the existing quality of provision was reviewed by typology and the associated hierarchy level(s). Through reviewing the existing range of quality scores alongside the more detailed qualitative information recorded in the audit it was possible to define a quality standard in the form of a quality threshold

score. A threshold has been defined for each level of the hierarchy reflecting the ideal score scenario for a good quality site.

Value assessment

- 2.22. Value is fundamentally different from quality; a space can be highly valued for a range of reasons even if it is of low quality or vice versa. As set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide 'value' mainly relates to the following:
- Context: e.g. an easily accessible space is higher value than one that is inaccessible to potential users, equally the value of a space may diminish if it is immediately adjacent to several others which provide the same functions.
 - Level and type of use: the primary purpose and associated use of a space can increase its value – well used spaces are of high value to people, similarly spaces with diverse habitats can be well used by wildlife and can be interpreted as having higher value.
 - Wider benefits: i.e. the benefits a space generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment including the following - structural and landscape, ecological, education, social inclusion and health benefits, cultural and heritage, amenity benefits and 'sense of place', economic benefits.
- 2.23. The site audit included information to be evaluated as part of the value assessments, such as the value of play spaces and the biodiversity value of habitats. The relevant audit information was reviewed to develop a value threshold score specific to the different types of open space in Islington. A list of key characteristics was developed which could be expected of sites of a particular typology, at a particular level of the hierarchy. These are listed within each typology chapter.

Indoor and outdoor sports and community facilities

- 2.24. A tailored approach was taken to setting quality standards for these facilities, taking into account:
- National standards, such as Sport England design guidance and Green Flag criteria for outdoor sports, and ISO 9001:2000, Investors in Excellence and Chartermark standards for indoor facilities;
 - Consultation findings which specifically sought to understand people's key priorities for facilities, for example, the importance of maintenance, range of activities, welcoming staff, availability of information, etc;
 - Existing local standards and strategic context;
 - Benchmarking against other local authorities' standards.

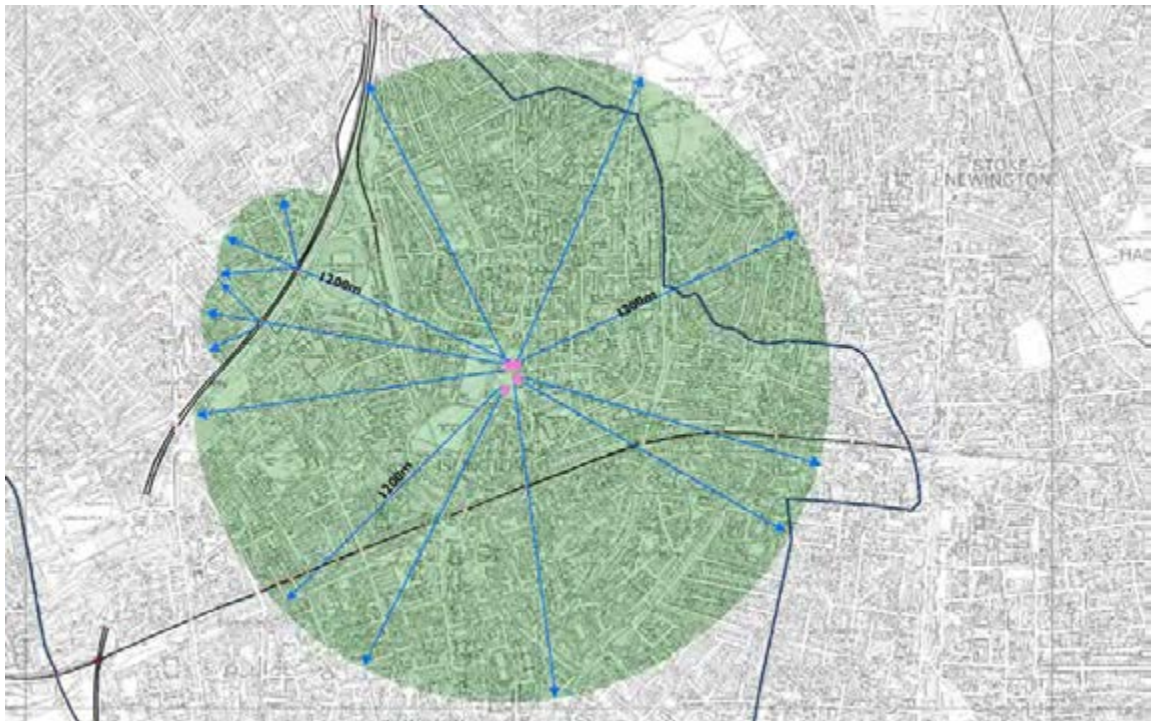
Accessibility standards

- 2.25. The accessibility standard defines the maximum distance that users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of provision. This can be presented spatially by use of an 'accessibility catchment' which is effectively a mapped buffer around facilities

and spaces. The GLA Best Practice Guidance of the London Plan (for access to public open space) draws on the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) Six Acre Standard and gives guidance on distance thresholds for different size categories of open space.

- 2.26. Accessibility standards are based on relevant national and local information as well as the strategic context of the borough and consultation findings. Benchmarking against other local authorities has also been taken into account.
- 2.27. Accessibility catchments were mapped by applying a radius around the site as per the accessibility standard e.g. 400m for a local park. Where barriers, such as railway lines, are apparent, the catchment areas were adjusted to reflect this. This approach is illustrated in **Figure 2**.

Figure 2: Approach to mapping accessibility catchments



- 2.28. The accessibility standards were developed specifically relevant to each typology and the different sizes/categories of provision within that typology (refer to Appendix 7). Larger, multifunctional sites generally serve a more strategic role, with a large catchment area but these sites can also function as an area's local provision, the catchment distance reducing accordingly. It was therefore important to reflect this in the mapping of the accessibility catchments. The method adopted was to apply the relevant catchment extent to all sites within a particular size category or hierarchy but to also apply this catchment to all sites in higher size categories. This approach enabled deficiencies to be identified accurately, accounting for the substitutive role these larger sites can play.

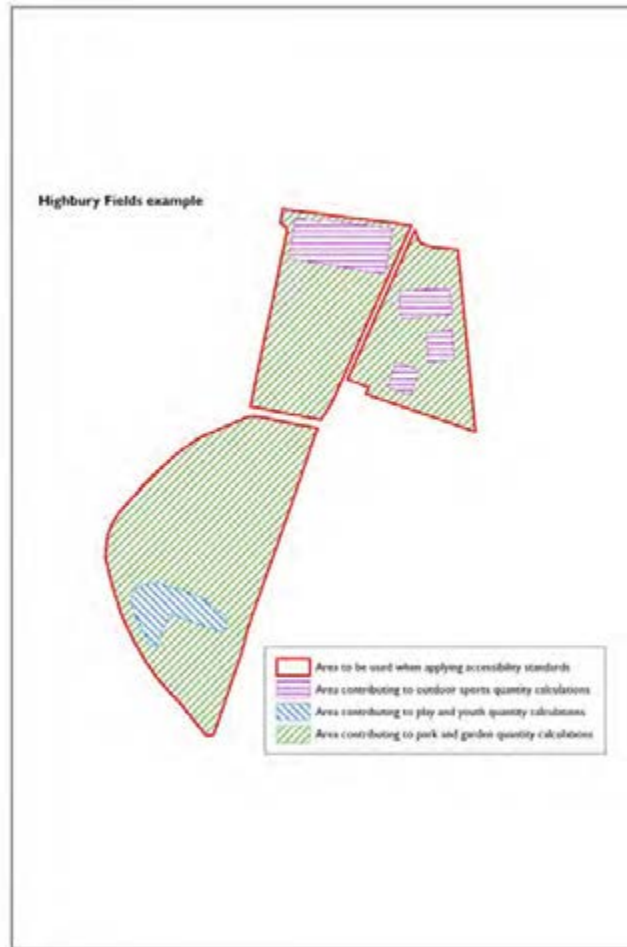
Application of the standards

- 2.29. The standards were applied to the data audited for each typology to identify:
- Areas which do and do not have access to different types of spaces and facilities by virtue of their geographic location;
 - Parts of the borough (wards and Committee Areas) which have above or below the recommended standard in terms of quantity of provision per 1000 people;
 - Sites and facilities which are performing well and less well in terms of quality and value.

Primary and secondary typologies

- 2.30. Due to the multi-functional nature of the open spaces in Islington, some facilities (e.g. play spaces and sports pitches) are often located within other types of space, such as a park or garden. In order to ensure that sites falling within wider spaces are taken into account in the analysis, these sites were given a 'secondary' typology. When calculating total quantities of provision of, say, parks and gardens, the area of playspace or pitches within them was excluded. This ensured no double counting across typologies. However, when applying accessibility catchments, it is considered that it is the total 'package' that defines the catchment. So for example, a football pitch and playground within a park are likely to enhance its popularity. Therefore when accessibility catchments have been applied the total area has been used to calculate the appropriate buffer. This is illustrated in **Figure 3**.

Figure 3: Approach to calculating quantity of provision by typology



STEP 5: INFORMING PLANNING POLICY

“Open spaces or facilities provide the 'base resource' around which it will be possible to identify a strategy which balances economic, social and environmental objectives in order to achieve the best possible long term use of land. This strategy is likely to have four basic components:

- *Existing provision to be protected*
- *Existing provision to be enhanced*
- *Existing provision to be relocated in order to meet local needs more effectively or make better overall use of land*
- *Proposals for new provision”*

PPG17 Companion Guide para 8.1

- 2.31. The fifth methodological stage set out in the Companion Guide is to identify strategic options (as detailed in the box above) to inform planning policy. In order to inform policy development a series of key issues and recommendations was defined for each typology.

2.32. **Section 17** provides an overall assessment of provision of public open space and overall priorities for addressing quantitative, qualitative and accessibility deficiencies in all types of open space. It also draws together overall recommendations for provision and management of play space, indoor and outdoor sports and community facilities. It further provides overarching recommendations for delivery through planning policy, developer contributions and key council service providers and other stakeholders

3. IDENTIFYING LOCAL NEEDS: STRATEGY AND POLICY CONTEXT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS (PPG 17 STEP 1)

STRATEGY AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1. This section provides a summary of key national, regional and local policies and strategies that have informed the open spaces, sport and recreation assessment. It also outlines the geographic, demographic and socio-economic context and the findings of consultation. Taken together, these comprise the ‘needs assessment’.

National policy and strategy

- 3.2. **Planning Policy Statement 1: Delivering Sustainable Development (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), 2005)** supports the protection and enhancement of the quality of urban areas, and urges planning authorities to maintain and improve the local environment and mitigate declining environmental quality through positive policies such as the conservation and provision of open space. Planning Policy Statement (PPS)1 encourages development plan policies to take into account the need to improve the natural and built environment, including the provision of good quality open space. Additionally, PPS1 states that planning authorities should seek to provide improved access to open space, and requires that plan policies support the promotion of health and wellbeing by making provision for physical activity.
- 3.3. **Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 3: Housing (Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), 2006)** aims to deliver housing developments in suitable locations which offer a range of community facilities. PPS3 sets out good design principles, and encourages local planning authorities to consider whether proposed development will provide or enable good access to community, green, open, amenity and recreational space, which should include play space, in addition to private outdoor space. PPS3 also outlines the importance of ensuring that children’s needs are considered where family housing is proposed, by ensuring that there is good provision of recreational areas, which should include play areas and informal play space. It states that public space should be safe, secure and stimulating with pedestrian access.
- 3.4. **Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM, 2005)** states that local authorities should aim to maintain habitat networks through policies in plans. Networks should be protected, which may be achieved through wider strategies for the protection of open space and access routes, including those in urban areas. PPS9 also sets out the Government’s aim to enhance biodiversity in green spaces and in development.
- 3.5. **Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (ODPM, 2002).** Local authorities should undertake robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities for open space, sport and recreational facilities. These assessments should cover the distinctive needs

of the population for open space and built sports and recreational facilities. Local authorities should develop planning policies for the maintenance of existing or creation of new open spaces for public access, based on the findings of the assessment. PPG 17 also supports a more extensive network of accessible green spaces around towns. When planning for open space, sports and recreational facilities in terms of improving existing facilities or providing new facilities, local authorities should seek to:

- promote accessibility by walking, cycling and transport links;
- promote sites that will contribute to town centre viability and vitality;
- avoid loss of amenity to residents;
- improve the quality of the public realm through good design;
- consider potential to create areas of open spaces in industrial or commercial areas;
- improve the quality of existing facilities;
- consider the safety of the people using open spaces;
- meet the regeneration needs of areas;
- consider the scope for using any surplus land for open space, sport or recreational use, weighing this against alternative uses;
- assess the impact of new facilities on social inclusion;
- consider the recreational needs of visitors and tourists.

Spatial Planning for Sport and Active Recreation (2005)

- 3.6. Sport England is aiming for two million more people to be active by 2012 and to provide more places to play sport. Sport England seeks to:
- develop and improve the knowledge and practice of sport and physical recreation in England;
 - encourage and develop higher standards of performance and the achievement of excellence;
 - foster, support and undertake the development of facilities;
 - advise, assist and cooperate with other government departments and local authorities.
- 3.7. Sport England sees the planning system as an opportunity to deliver its own aspirations for sport and recreation, whilst contributing to the goals of partners in public, private and voluntary sectors. Sport England promotes a planned approach

towards the provision of facilities, and seeks to ensure that those involved in provision of sport and recreation through the planning process:

- take a broader view of the role of spatial planning as an enabling function which goes beyond the setting and delivery of land-use policy;
- identify opportunities for delivering an enhanced quality of life for communities, in the short, medium and longer term;
- recognise and take full advantage of the unique ability of sport and active recreation to contribute to a wide array of policy and community aspirations;
- develop partnership working stimulated by, and perhaps centred on, sport and active recreation as a common interest;
- use sport and recreation as one of the building blocks of planning and delivery of sustainable communities.

London wide policy and strategy

The London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London Consolidated with Alterations since 2004

- 3.8. The London Plan contains an overarching objective to accommodate growth without encroaching on open spaces, and the need to protect, enhance and provide new open space is integrated throughout the policies within the Plan. Similarly the need to protect and enhance sport, recreation and community facilities is integrated through the Plan. Policy 3A.18 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure and community facilities notes that policies in DPDs should assess the need for social infrastructure and community facilities in their area, and ensure that they are capable of being met wherever possible, including children’s play and recreation facilities, sports and leisure facilities, open space and, community halls and meeting rooms. It notes that adequate provision for these facilities is particularly important in major areas of new development and regeneration and that the net loss of such facilities must be resisted and increased provision be sought, both to deal with the increased population and to meet existing deficiencies.
- 3.9. The Plan aims to protect Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and other designated open spaces. The Plan also aims to make London a more attractive, well designed and green city.
- 3.10. Policy 3D.8 seeks to realise the value of open space and green infrastructure, and sets out a commitment for the Mayor to work with strategic partners to protect, promote and improve access to London’s network of open spaces, to realise the current and potential value of open space to communities, and to protect the many benefits of open space, including those associated with health, sport and recreation, children’s play, regeneration, the economy, culture, biodiversity and the environment. It goes on to note that policies in DPDs should treat the open space network as an integrated system that provides a “green infrastructure” containing many uses and performing a wide range of functions. Policy 3D.11 Open space provision in DPDs sets out further requirements for local planning policy, including identifying broad

areas of public open space deficiency and priorities for addressing them; ensuring that future open space needs are considered in planning policies for areas of growth; encouraging functional and physical linkages within the network of open spaces and to the wider public realm; and including appropriate designations and policies for the protection of local open spaces that are of value, or have the potential to be of value, to local communities.

- 3.11. Policy 3D.12 indicates that boroughs should, in consultation with local communities, the Mayor and other partners, produce open space strategies to protect, create and enhance all types of open space in their area.
- 3.12. The London Plan also sets out specific policy in relation to children and young people's play and informal recreation in Policy 3D.13. This policy notes that boroughs and other partners should ensure that all children have safe access to good quality, well-designed, secure and stimulating play and informal recreation provision. It indicates that boroughs should produce strategies on play and informal recreation to improve access and opportunity. It goes on to state that boroughs should undertake audits of existing play and informal recreation provision and assessments of need in their areas, considering the qualitative, quantitative and accessibility elements of play and informal recreation facilities. It also identifies the importance of ensuring developments that include housing make provision for play and informal recreation, based on the expected child population generated by the scheme and an assessment of future needs.
- 3.13. The Plan recognises the need to ensure a high quality public realm (Policy 4B.3), and the supporting text notes that boroughs' open space strategies should reflect this policy.
- 3.14. Plan policy on the Blue Ribbon Network notes that this contributes to the open space network of London, and that as part of Open Space Strategies, boroughs should identify potential opportunities alongside waterways for the creation and enhancement of open spaces.
- 3.15. The Plan is also clear that new development must address open space needs. Policy 2A.1 sets out overarching sustainability criteria within the plan, which include 'Ensuring that development incorporates green infrastructure that is planned, located, designed and managed as an integrated part of the wider network of open space'. Policy 3A.2 notes that DPDs, in identifying housing land, should consider the adequate provision of local services including public open space to meet future needs, and that in the case of development proposals for large residential sites, boroughs should assess the need for community and ancillary services including leisure facilities and public open space.

Open Space Strategies – Best Practice Guidance (2009)

- 3.16. This document is designed to assist in the production of open space strategies as set out in Policy 3D.12 of the London Plan. It provides further advice on the assessment of open space provision and how this meets the needs of local communities. In particular, it provides advice on how to prepare a strategy to reflect this assessment, and how this can be delivered.

Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation: Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (March 2008)

- 3.17. The Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) provides guidance to London boroughs on providing for the play and recreation needs of children and young people under the age of 18 and the use of benchmark standards in the preparation of Play Strategies and in the implementation of Policy 3D.13 as set out in the London Plan (consolidated with Alterations since 2004). The guidance sets out a methodology for identifying, mapping and auditing existing provision and determining the play requirements of new development.

Improving Londoners' Access to Nature: London Plan Implementation Report (February 2008)

- 3.18. This report provides non-statutory advice that demonstrates how the aim of improving access can be achieved by identifying opportunities. More detailed advice with suggestions for specific sites has been sent to each borough. The report identifies areas of deficiency to nature and public open space across London and sets out advice on how access to nature may be increased. Measures include improving the natural value of spaces, creating new spaces, creating new access points or opening up sites with restricted access and improving walking access to sites. It also notes the scope to improve access to nature in housing estates. The report reiterates the Mayor's commitment to using his planning powers to secure improvements in access to nature and the role of TfL, and also notes the key role which individual boroughs must play. The report includes several examples of successful projects in Islington, including the creation of Gillespie Park on railway land and enhanced access via a footbridge, and Whittington Park, and a number of sites which could be improved.

The Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy

- 3.19. This has two main themes: protecting important wildlife habitat and priority species, and improving access to nature. These two themes are reflected in the strategy's two main targets: no net loss of important wildlife habitat and reducing areas of deficiency in access to nature.

The Mayor's Children and Young People's Strategy

- 3.20. This notes that it is important that children have access to a variety of open space for sport, play and to discover the natural world.

The Mayor's Older People Strategy

- 3.21. This seeks to work with London boroughs, London Parks and Green Spaces Forum and other groups to make London's open spaces more accessible and enjoyable for older people.

The Mayor's Accessible London SPG

- 3.22. This emphasises that audits of parks and open spaces should identify improvements needed to make them accessible and inclusive to all potential users, regardless of disability, age and gender.

The Planning for Equality and Diversity SPG

- 3.23. The SPG states that access issues should be considered in the management of open spaces in order to maximise the potential value and benefits to local communities.

Borough level policy and strategy

Islington Unitary Development Plan, London Borough of Islington (June 2002)

- 3.24. Islington Unitary Development Plan (UDP) sets out an overall aim to improve the environment. The Recreation and Leisure chapter of the UDP contains policies to increase the quantity and accessibility of public open space and ensure residents have access to different types of open space. The UDP states that local park and play space provision will be improved and will be extended where possible to form green links, footways and cycleways. Longer walkways will be protected and extended where feasible and the council will seek to increase outdoor space directly adjacent to homes.
- 3.25. Policies are included in the UDP to prioritise open space provision in areas of deficiency and increase public access to underused private open space. The UDP states that open spaces should be designed well, to ensure they are safe, secure, attractive and interesting. Policies in the UDP support the development of Regent's Canal for recreation and encourage the development of allotments and community gardens. Where land is vacant or underused, the UDP states that the council will encourage temporary use as, among other uses, open space, and take nature conservation considerations into account in management of its parks and open spaces. The UDP also states that the council will seek the creation, maintenance and improvement of Green Corridors. Designated MOL will be protected from development and the council will aim to protect and enhance its character.
- 3.26. As stated in the UDP, change of use from public or private open space will be given permission only in exceptional circumstances. Where permission is given, equivalent open space provision must be provided elsewhere.
- 3.27. The designations in the UDP of relevance to the protection and management of open space in Islington include (see **Map 2**):
- **Metropolitan Open Land (MOL):** the borough includes two sites: Parkland Walk and Highbury Fields;
 - **Listed Buildings:** there are numerous listings protecting individual and groups of buildings as well as other built features such as railings;
 - **Conservations Areas** cover 37 areas of the borough, a number of which protect the character of the 19th century housing areas in central and southern Islington of terraces set around communal squares;

- **Sites of Nature Conservation Importance:** Islington contains a number of sites at a range of levels including Metropolitan (4 sites), Borough Grade I (13 sites), Borough Grade II (11 sites) and Local (25 sites);
- **Local Nature Reserves:** there are three LNRs in the Borough: Parkland Walk, Barnsbury Wood and Gillespie Park;
- **Tree Preservation Orders** protect numerous trees in Islington;
- **Green corridors** include the New River, Regent's Canal, Parkland Walk / Islington Park Walk;
- **Scheduled Ancient Monuments:** there are two SAMs: St. John's Gate and the Nunnery of Mary de Fonte, Clerkenwell;
- **Strategic and Local Views** include views to St Paul's cathedral and St Pancras station and hotel, as well as other local landmarks within Islington;
- **Archaeological Priority Areas:** there are 19 APAs which mainly relate to early settlement.

Local Development Framework

- 3.28. The council is currently preparing an Issues and Options Consultation document, which, in terms of policy in relation to open space, sport and recreation draws upon the findings of this PPG17 assessment. Alongside this the council is drafting an SPD on planning obligations, which again draws upon the findings and recommendations of this assessment in terms of the standards which have been defined for each typology and which may be applied to provision of open space, play space, sport and recreation facilities in new development.

Nag's Head Town Centre Strategy, London Borough of Islington (May 2007)

- 3.29. The Nag's Head Town Centre Strategy is a Supplementary Planning Document within the LDF which sets a framework for decision-making to regenerate this area, which is centred on the Holloway Road/Seven Sisters Road intersection. The strategy sets out the need to improve open space, particularly green space, in the area as a key issue and the vision to create open space, particularly green space where opportunities are presented through development or other rearrangement of space.

Finsbury Park Area Action Plan, London Borough of Islington Submission Draft (October 2007)

- 3.30. This Action Plan, which will form part of the LDF, sets out the vision for the Finsbury Park area of Islington, which includes the provision of open space for all to enjoy. The Action Plan also includes an aim to improve orientation of existing open spaces.
- 3.31. As part of the overall vision for the borough, the strategy identifies the need for a greener and cleaner borough as a way of contributing to the wider objectives for Sustainability and the Environment. Within this wider objective, Sustainable Community Strategy Policies have been identified to deliver green space and open

space resources as a facility for all communities. This is to be achieved through the involvement of local communities in improving existing resources and the promotion of biodiversity. This Priority, alongside other Strategic Priorities within the Strategy, has been used to define the targets in the Local Area Agreement (LAA).

Islington's Local Area Agreements

- 3.32. Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are agreements set up between central government and local authorities together with other key partners at the local level. The primary objective of an LAAs is to deliver sustainable communities through better outcomes for local people⁴. In Islington's case, the agreement is formed between central government and the Islington Strategic Partnership (ISP). The ISP brings together senior representatives from the key statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors in the borough.
- 3.33. Islington's LAAs, run from 2008 to 2011, and set targets which are updated on an annual basis, to keep in line with changing local priorities. Five ISP Theme Groups have a role in planning activity around, and monitoring the achievement of, LAA targets and outcomes. The Environment and Sustainability Theme Group works on indicators related to parks, open space and climate change. The Health and Older People's Partnership Board works on indicators to promote health. Indicators with direct relevance to this work include:
- **188:** Adapting to climate change;
 - **195:** Improved street and environmental cleanliness;
 - **121:** Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75;
 - **56:** Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6.
- 3.34. The Local Area Agreements (LAAs) will function as the delivery plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy, establishing the specific improvements the borough wants to achieve. There are specific targets with the aim of increasing the levels of health (which is closely linked to levels of physical activity), as well as the quality of parks and open spaces, particularly those in or near areas of considerable deprivation.

Islington's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 (Our Vision for 2020 – the Islington we want to be)

- 3.35. The Sustainable Community Strategy is a long-term strategy for the borough that aims to capture the long-term needs and ambitions of the borough to make Islington a safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run community that will offer widespread equality and opportunity for all residents. The strategy has been developed by the Islington Strategic Partnership with the involvement of public, private and community

⁴ Communities and Local Government web site, Frequently asked questions about LAAs [<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1163655>], last accessed 02/07/2007

organisations, and is delivered through Local Area Agreements. The vision is structured around three key objectives:

- Reducing poverty;
- Improving access for all;
- Realising everyone's potential.

3.36. A series of priorities have been identified to help deliver these objectives which include improving the quality of the environment, improving safety and people's feelings of safety and building stronger, sustainable communities. These priorities will inform and be delivered by the Local Area Agreement.

One Islington Corporate Plan 2006-2009

3.37. The One Islington Corporate Plan sets out objectives for improving the borough over the next three years to ensure a cleaner, greener and safer borough with stronger communities. The Plan includes actions the council will take to help deliver the shared goals in the Sustainable Community Strategy and the specific targets set within the Local Area Agreement. With regard to the provision of green space, the Plan aims to protect and extend green spaces, whilst maintaining and improving their facilities and encouraging more people to make use of them. The plan also aims to improve the AI 'corridor' with the improvement of public spaces in order to improve the quality of people's lives and make it a place for all communities in Islington.

Sustainability Action Plan 2006-2010

3.38. The Sustainability Action Plan is a five-year strategy setting out borough-wide actions and targets to deliver a step change in the management of natural and man-made resources as a way of dealing with the effects of environmental change. As part of one of the key action areas for promoting sustainability in service delivery, the Plan aims to increase the amount of green space in the borough by at least a further 1.5 hectares during the Plan period.

Biodiversity Action Plan

3.39. Islington's Biodiversity Action Plan sets out six specific action plans for habitats in the borough (the built environment, canals and waterways, parks and open spaces, private gardens and allotments, railside land and school grounds), and five specific action plans for species (the house sparrow, hedgehog, stag beetle, bats and black poplar).

3.40. The aims of the parks and open spaces action plan are:

- To raise awareness of the importance of Parks and City Squares in the conservation of Islington's biodiversity;

- Working alongside local people, to promote enjoyment of wildlife, increase biodiversity and encourage good conservation practice within Islington's parks and city squares.

Greenspace and Leisure Division⁵ Strategy 2006-2010

- 3.41. The Greenspace and Leisure Division Strategy 2006-2010 expands upon the achievements of the Greenspace Strategy produced in 1999 by setting out the overall objectives for a continued 5-year action plan to maintain and improve Islington's green space. Having now been joined up with a number of other divisions in the borough, such as Cemeteries, Sports and Leisure and the Sustainability Unit, the strategy takes a more integrated approach towards maintaining and improving urban open spaces in Islington. In light of the Local Area Agreement (LAA), One Islington Corporate Plan and the A1 Borough Vision, the strategy sets out 10 overall objectives for the next five years, 2006-2010.
- 3.42. Of these objectives, Objective 3: Green spaces, addresses the need to improve both the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces across the borough through tackling the problem of deteriorating infrastructure and addressing the limited provision of green space by identifying new opportunities for creating public open spaces. With this in mind, the strategy seeks to increase public open space in the borough by at least 1 hectare (to comply with LAA objectives), develop a 5-year parks redevelopment programme and increase the quality of grounds maintenance. Objective 7: Greening the City aims to develop projects producing green corridors through 'blurring the boundaries of the park' and taking the green into a variety of other spaces and places, including estate grounds, railway land and school sites.

Greening the Grey Strategy

- 3.43. This strategy (which is currently in draft format), takes forward objective 7 (Greening the city) of the Greenspace and Leisure Division Strategy 2006 – 2010, as outlined above.
- 3.44. The objective of the strategy is to work with partners and the local community, to develop projects producing green corridors, reclaiming forgotten corners, promoting hanging baskets and street planters, greening the streetscape and the borough's Housing Estates. Some 32 sites have been considered for the strategy, and the list of sites for consideration with the strategy is under constant review. A number of schemes have already been delivered under the strategy, including a planted 'living' wall at Paradise Park Children's Centre, and the sowing of an annual meadow along the Holloway Road frontage of Whittington Park.

Improving the Accessibility of Parks and Open Spaces for Disabled People 2007: User Involvement Report

- 3.45. Disability Action in Islington (DAII) have been commissioned by Islington Strategic Partnership's Environment and Sustainability Theme Group to identify improvements

⁵ Now called Public Realm Division

for increased accessibility to parks and open spaces for disabled residents and visitors of the borough. The report focuses on the findings of work with local disabled people and relates to achieving target SSC21 of Islington's LAA, which addresses the need to create stronger, more sustainable communities. The key recommendations of the report relating to green space are summarised as the following:

- There should be a greater presence of park attendants/wardens in all parks to improve confidence in park use;
- Park attendants and staff 'huts' should be more easily recognisable so people know where to obtain assistance. Furthermore, their hours and contact details should be displayed throughout parks;
- All staff should attend Disability Equality Training and key staff also need impairment specific training;
- Wholesale improvements to ensure local parks, and particularly playgrounds, are accessible to disabled children;
- Consideration should be given to upgrading and maintaining accessible public toilets in local parks;
- An immediate review should be undertaken of hazards such as bollards, inappropriately placed seating, poor signage and broken or obstructed pathways;
- Information and signage needs to be provided in a range of accessible formats.

AI Borough: Rethinking the Road

- 3.46. The AI Borough Strategy aims to improve the AI road in Islington by transforming it from a traffic corridor to a series of attractive and welcoming public spaces. Forming the spine of the borough, the AI is the single largest public space in Islington, however, the dominance of road traffic and the poor quality of the local environment severely limits opportunities for residents to use the street as public space. The key objectives of the strategy are based upon a number of core principles, including the development of a 'green corridor' that will involve the improvement of local parks and open spaces. This will also involve using local parks and open spaces to connect up the corridor, opening up and providing access to previously unavailable open spaces ('Hidden Corners'). The area covered by this strategy is shown in **Map 5c**.

ECI New Deal Public Space Strategy

- 3.47. The ECI New Deal for Communities (NDC) is a community led programme that has designated £6 million towards the improvement of open space in the ECI postcode area of South Islington. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that by 2010, there will be a considerable improvement in the quality of public spaces in terms of amenity, maintenance and public safety. This will include parks, streets, pavements and all public open spaces on council estates to create a network of safe, green and attractive public open spaces for local residents. The strategy will be funded through a joint initiative between the London Borough of Islington and NDC money, and will be taken forward through a phased implementation process to balance short-term

opportunities with long-term needs. The area covered by this strategy is shown in **Map 5c**.

A Play Strategy for Islington 2007 to 2012

- 3.48. The strategy has been prepared by the Islington Play Partnership, a new body established to bring together key public services and organisations working to improve opportunities and access to play and free time activities for children and young people. The strategy is seeking to ensure more and better play spaces and opportunities, that the borough is more child friendly and to utilise the range of policy areas that contribute to play opportunities. The strategy sets out the local needs context, the key Local Area Agreement priorities with respect to children and young people and other key strategic context, reviews current provision and sets out an action plan for delivery.

The Islington ProActive Strategy

- 3.49. This strategy has been developed through a partnership involving the council, Primary Care Trust, education services, voluntary organisations, Aquaterra Leisure and Arsenal Football Club.
- 3.50. Islington's ProActive Strategy will deliver the key aims of the Sustainable Community Strategy and the LAA through partnership working. The strategy highlights the need for both high quality facilities and joint working with schools to help achieve the increased participation targets set out in the action plan. In addition, the strategy identifies target groups, such as young people, that will need to be engaged through appropriate facility provision and programming.
- 3.51. The strategy incorporates a five year action plan, of which the key objectives are:
- promoting a strategic approach
 - providing first class facilities
 - promoting community participation
 - planning for children and young people
 - working with schools
 - enabling an active community
 - promoting the healthy workplace
 - tackling ill-health
 - planning for older people.

Islington Council Sports and Leisure Strategy (2002)

- 3.52. The council's sport and leisure facilities, whether purpose built, multi-use leisure centres or small kick-about areas on housing estates, vary in age and quality. In many

cases they are ageing, have suffered from years of under investment and are in significant need of investment or renewal. There has been a steady decline in funding and resources within the council in recent years, which has left a gap in the traditional 'sports development' approach.

- 3.53. The council's core priority set out in the Islington Council Sports and Leisure Strategy (2002) is to 'deliver value for money and high quality services, through quiet efficiency and the traditional values of public services'.
- 3.54. The council recognises its evolving role as one of enablement, support, commissioning and review rather than that of direct provision or delivery of public leisure services in Islington.

Islington Borough Leisure Needs Analysis (2006)

- 3.55. The primary aim of this study was to identify leisure facility needs/demand within Islington and potential development opportunities to address them.
- 3.56. The key output was a shortlist of future delivery options for leisure services, for consideration by the council, prior to more detailed appraisal and development work in a subsequent phase.
- 3.57. The assessment predicted that by 2016 the borough would have a shortfall in both sports hall space and swimming pools.

GEOGRAPHIC, DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT

- 3.58. This section describes the geographic, demographic and socio-economic characteristics of Islington. This data has been gathered in order to:
 - Provide the spatial context for the PPG17 assessment;
 - Understand the pressures and issues which the borough is facing, for example, in terms of population pressures on services, including open space, sport and recreation;
 - Understand the specific socio-economic characteristics of the borough which will have a bearing on local needs in terms of access to open space, sport and recreation. For example, people in particularly densely populated parts of the borough are less likely to have access to private open space, thus creating a particularly high level of need for accessible, good quality public open space.
- 3.59. The London Borough of Islington is located in central London, and as shown in **Map I**, neighbours the boroughs of Haringey to the north, Hackney to the east, the City of London to the South and Camden to the west. The borough is divided into four 'area committees' for certain administrative processes, each made up of four wards. The geographic areas relating to these area committees (North, South, East and West) and the 16 wards are used throughout this report as a framework for analysis.

- 3.60. Islington is one of the smallest and most densely populated London boroughs. As at the 2001 census, Islington had a population of 175,797⁶, and with a density of 118 people per hectare, was the second most densely populated London borough (second only to Kensington and Chelsea). The most recent GLA population projections put the 2008 population at 191,300⁷. The population is expected to grow to 211,850⁸ by 2025 this will result in additional pressure on existing services and facilities in the borough. The average population density in 2008 is 128 people per hectare (as shown in **Map 3a**), which is expected to rise to 143 people per hectare in 2025, this is illustrated in **Map 3b**. Tollington Ward is the most densely populated in Islington with 156 people per hectare whereas Clerkenwell and Bunhill in the south are the least densely populated at 111 and 103 people per hectare respectively.
- 3.61. This very high population density corresponds with another factor highly relevant to this work: the density of green space in the borough. Islington has the second lowest density of green space of all Local Authorities in England, second only to the City of London⁹.
- 3.62. Key factors in terms of the demographic and socio-economic structure of Islington are commented on below.
- 3.63. The **age structure** of Islington differs markedly from that of the rest of England, and accentuates the pattern of the rest of London.¹⁰ Islington has a large proportion of young people of working age, with a significantly greater than average percentage of population between the ages of 20 and 40¹¹.
- 3.64. The number of children (aged 0-18 years) living in Islington is 38,300¹² and is expected to rise to 42,150¹³ by 2025. In terms of density this equates to 26 children per hectare in 2008 and 28 children per hectare in 2025 (illustrated in **Map 3c** and **Map 3d**). Hillrise Ward in the north of the borough has the highest density of children in 2008 (35 children per hectare) in contrast to Clerkenwell in the south which only has 16 children per hectare. At 2025, Clerkenwell is still expected to have the lowest child density (15 children per hectare) which represents a slight decrease in the number of children in this ward. Finsbury Park is expected to have the highest child density in 2025 with 38 children per hectare.
- 3.65. In terms of **household types**, the vast majority of households in Islington (80.3%) live in purpose built or converted flats¹⁴ (see **Map 4d**). A corollary of this is that a

⁶ Office of National Statistics, 2001 Key Statistics

⁷ GLA 2007 Round Ward Population Projections. © Greater London Authority, 2008. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 50.

⁸ GLA 2007 Round Ward Population Projections. © Greater London Authority, 2008. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 50.

⁹ Generalised Land Use Statistics for England, ODPM, 2005.

¹⁰ Statistics Report, London Borough of Islington, September 2006.

¹¹ Statistics Report, London Borough of Islington, September 2006.

¹² GLA 2007 Round Ward Population Projections. © Greater London Authority, 2008. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 50.

¹³ GLA 2007 Round Ward Population Projections. © Greater London Authority, 2008. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 50.

¹⁴ Statistics Report, London Borough of Islington, September 2006.

similar proportion of people are unlikely to have access to their own private garden, meaning that the green space that is accessible within the borough has even greater importance. Moreover, households in Islington are very overcrowded, with one in four households being categorised as overcrowded from the 2001 Census¹⁵.

- 3.66. Adding to the pressure on the green space in Islington, the borough's **day time population** is greater than the resident population, as "more people come to work in Islington than leave Islington to work elsewhere"¹⁶. **Map 4c** shows the employment clusters in the borough which were mapped as part of the Atkins Employment Study, 2005.
- 3.67. Islington has a relatively **mobile population**, with one tenth of the resident population having changed their address in the year prior to the census. Such a transient population can potentially mean that some people are less likely to 'take ownership' of their local spaces, and lack long term interest in maintaining the area.
- 3.68. **Map 4a** and **Map 4b** shows Index of Multiple Deprivation and Health Deprivation Indicators for Islington. As a whole, in terms of average **deprivation**, Islington ranks as the sixth worst local authority in the country, behind Liverpool, Manchester, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Hackney in the Index of Multiple Deprivation. However, this low overall score masks a significant variation within the borough itself. For example, "the average annual earned income of Islington owner occupiers (with a mortgage) is £49,254 whilst the gross annual earned income of Islington Council tenants is £6,290"¹⁷.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

- 3.69. Clearly the most important element of understanding local needs is to ask people what they feel about current provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities, and what they would like to see in future. An extensive consultation process has been undertaken, which is detailed below.

Open space

- 3.70. Consultation on open space provision in Islington was undertaken through the Green Space Assessment in 2007 which preceded this full PPG17 assessment. It was therefore decided that it was not necessary to undertake additional consultation as part of the PPG17 assessment, which is also important for ensuring residents do not experience 'consultation fatigue'. The 2006 Customer Satisfaction survey undertaken by the council also provides an insight into satisfaction with open space in the borough and open space needs.
- 3.71. The programme of community consultation, undertaken through the Green Space Assessment, in order to understand the attitudes and opinions of local people towards existing green space provision, entailed a series of face-to-face interviews held in parks, face-to-face interviews carried out on door steps, online surveys, a

¹⁵ Statistics Report, London Borough of Islington, September 2006.

¹⁶ Statistics Report, London Borough of Islington, September 2006.

¹⁷ Islington's Core Planning Strategy Submission draft March 2007.

series of workshops with hard-to reach groups, a workshop with the representatives from 'Friends of' groups for Islington Parks, and a workshop with the LBI Greenspace Ranger group. The results from this consultation are outlined below.

Community Consultation (Groundwork)

- 3.72. The following section summarises the community consultation carried out by Groundwork as part of the Green Space Assessment; the full consultation report is available in **Appendix 3**.
- 3.73. Community consultation aimed to ascertain opinions of both park users and those who currently do not use parks or green spaces. The survey form was designed to find out why people use and why they don't use Islington's green spaces, to rate people's satisfaction with the current provision, to understand usage patterns and to help guide future investment priorities. Face to face surveys were carried out in four parks (Elthorne Park, Fortune Park, Newington Green and Paradise Park) at different days and different times, and door to door surveys were carried out in each of the committee areas. Residents were also able to complete the questionnaire survey at either Groundwork's or LB Islington's website. Five focus groups were carried out with groups who might be difficult to reach through other means, including older and disabled residents, young people and residents from minority ethnic communities. These focus groups were: the Islington Chinese Association, Barnard Park Youth Club, New River Green Parent's Group, Holloway Women's Group and the Dorcas Project.
- 3.74. According to the consultation, the majority of those who currently use parks or green spaces visit sites that are within 15 minutes walking distance of their homes. Relatively few people are prepared to travel to larger parks on a regular basis even if they boast better facilities. The questionnaire survey showed that while 54% of park users visit their local park at least 2-3 times a week, only 15% visit larger parks that often. Access to a good quality green space close to people's homes is therefore vitally important.
- 3.75. People consulted value parks and green spaces for the formal and informal recreational opportunities they provide. They use parks to get fresh air, for peace and quiet, to go for a walk or simply to enjoy the beauty of the surroundings. Parents mainly visit with their children, while visiting with friends and family were also popular.
- 3.76. Most respondents visit on both weekdays and the weekend, with slightly more people visiting exclusively on the weekend compared to weekdays. Slightly more people visit parks and green spaces as part of a group compared to those who prefer to visit on their own.
- 3.77. The main consideration when visiting parks, as well as the main barrier to accessing parks and green spaces, is safety. The majority of respondents indicated that they felt either very safe or safe when visiting parks they are familiar with. Focus groups showed that familiarity with a park and proximity to people's homes affects perceptions of safety. Residents perceive parks and green spaces that are located close to their homes and those they visit frequently to be safe, whereas parks that

are located further away and that they are less familiar with are frequently perceived to be dangerous.

- 3.78. Other considerations that were important to people visiting parks were convenience, a good standard of maintenance, accessibility and play areas.
- 3.79. People identified the issue of dog fouling as a key improvement priority. Dog fouling contributes to people feeling unsafe, acts as a barrier to people accessing parks and green spaces and spoils people's enjoyment of these spaces. Other improvement priorities revolved around addressing safety and security issues, improving parks and green spaces' appearance, lighting and seating improvements.
- 3.80. Residents would generally prefer investment in parks in Islington to be focused on improving existing parks and green spaces, rather than creating new spaces (64% expressed this preference). 22.2% felt that investment should be focused on creating new parks. 13.6% did not express a preference or did not have a strong opinion.
- 3.81. The consultation found that of those who expressed a preference, the majority would like to see investment spread across a larger number of sites, including pocket parks and squares, rather than to focus investment on a small number of key sites. As the vast majority of people travel less than 10 minutes to the park they use most regularly, good quality green spaces close to people's homes are key to ensuring that people's satisfaction with green spaces remains high or to increase satisfaction ratings.
- 3.82. Based on the above findings it is suggested that a key aim for public open space should be to improve the quality of provision rather than seek to create significant areas of new open space. As a minimum, new provision should be secured to ensure that there is not a gradual decrease in provision per head as the population increases, and it is suggested that in line with council policy an aspiration to increase this by small but realistic increments should be put in place.

'Friends of Parks Consultation

- 3.83. In February 2007 LUC and Groundwork carried out a consultation session with representatives from 'Friends of' parks groups from the borough. Nineteen people were present at this session, representing the following eleven parks and the 'Islington Gardeners':
 - Barnard Park
 - Barnsbury Square
 - Dartmouth Park
 - Edward Square
 - Elthorne Park
 - Gillespie Park
 - Highbury Fields

- Paradise Park
- Petherton Green
- Quaker Gardens
- Thornhill Bridge

3.84. The aim of the consultation was to inform people about the green space study, and to gain their opinion on issues relating to green space provision and management in the parks that they know well.

3.85. The positive and negative issues relating to each individual space, noted by the representatives were written up and entered into the green space database, so that they could be viewed alongside the audit results for each space. Some key issues to emerge from the consultation were:

Anti-social behaviour

3.86. This is a major issue in many of Islington's green spaces. Some 'Friends of' groups felt that there had been improvements due to a combination of factors, including the introduction of a Park Keeper for a site, the Safer Neighbourhood Team and Friends of groups. It was also felt that there was significant potential to minimise anti-social behaviour through improving community links, for example through working with school and youth groups. There were mixed feelings regarding the use of security features such as CCTV to deal with issues; some people felt that the use of CCTV in parks does nothing to prevent anti-social behaviour and sends out a negative message to park users, others felt that the use of such security measures could significantly reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

General maintenance

3.87. Several people felt that general maintenance was not carried out to a very high standard, and that this would have a significant impact on the quality of the green spaces.

Dog nuisance

3.88. Dog fouling was a key issue raised by a number of people, and in one park it was noted that the policy of no dogs in the park was not enforced. LBI are currently pursuing the introduction of dog control orders which would provide greater powers for enforcement.

Positive factors

3.89. A number of positive factors were raised by the consultation session, and this included the improved sense of community already in some areas, such as those where Friends groups had already been established. Many Friends groups felt that their parks had special or unique features, with an emphasis placed on the resource they provided as local parks, with diverse habitats, providing quiet and peaceful

spaces, or places for communities to meet. Good quality design was commented on for a number of spaces.

Ranger Group Consultation

- 3.90. In July 2007 LUC carried out a consultation session with the Rangers. The purpose of the session was to inform and involve the Ranger team in the development of the green space assessment and action plan. In particular to draw on their direct site experience to highlight key issues affecting Islington's green spaces and the primary areas for improvement.
- 3.91. Following an introduction to the group about the study the Rangers split into four groups made up of 3-4 staff from different areas of the borough. Each group was asked to discuss and note down the key issues and improvement priorities at a borough-wide and then site-specific level. Each group then fed back to a round table discussion.

Key issues and areas for improvement

- 3.92. The key issues and borough-wide improvement priorities discussed at the Ranger group consultation are summarised below:
- Ensure good accessibility for people with disabilities
 - New signage needed
 - Need for spaces to be made safer through reducing health and safety issues e.g. trip hazards and through addressing anti-social behaviour, crime and vandalism issues
 - Improvement and/or addition of facilities to increase the number and range of users and in turn reduce negative use of spaces, e.g. playgrounds, provision of facilities for older teenagers 15-19 years, toilets, cafes/kiosks (the latter particularly in larger parks)
 - Ensure adequate investment in ongoing horticultural and cleansing maintenance with improved training and supervision of staff
 - Capital versus revenue expenditure – ensure capital improvement schemes factor in ongoing maintenance costs
 - Horticultural maintenance/development - develop lower maintenance sites/sustainable planting with built in irrigation
 - Address declining condition of infrastructure
 - Empower park patrol
 - Progress the introduction of dog control orders to enable effective enforcement and issue of fixed penalties for inappropriate dog use (both dog fouling and dog control issues were discussed e.g. conflicts with dogs off leads in small green spaces and tree attacks by dogs)

- Prioritise funding/investment in a range of parks (not just those with local resident support).

Customer Satisfaction Survey

3.93. The Customer Satisfaction Survey, undertaken by the council with regard to environment and regeneration in 2006, identified spatial variations in terms of satisfaction with the quantity of provision of open spaces in Islington:

- Overall, 59% of residents were very or fairly satisfied with the quantity of parks and open spaces in the borough. A significant minority was less satisfied.
- Residents in the north and east of the borough were more satisfied with the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces, compared to the west and the south.
- Residents in the north of the borough are the most satisfied with the quantity of parks and open spaces (69%), while residents in the east were the most satisfied with the quality of parks and open spaces (70%).
- Residents in the south were the least satisfied with both the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces (50% and 55% respectively).

3.94. It can be seen from this that a significant minority of residents are not satisfied with quantitative provision, and that this has a spatial manifestation with residents in the south and west of the borough generally being less satisfied.

Play space

3.95. Extensive consultation has been undertaken by the council in order to prepare the Play Strategy for Islington, and through various other council activities. The Play Strategy identifies the following themes emerging from the consultation with children and young people:

- There are generally high levels of satisfaction and continued use of adventure playgrounds by children and young people who do engage.
- A wish for more play opportunities, more of the time for all children and young people, especially for the older age group and those with disabilities.
- Affordability.
- Involvement in decision-making, both in new and existing settings.
- Real and perceived barriers that restrict children's play: environmental and hygiene factors; fear of crime, strangers and bullying.
- More choice: especially sports, arts, computers and music.
- Most favoured place for out of school activities was adventure playgrounds, youth clubs and leisure facilities.

- The strategy also identifies that whilst there is wide acknowledgement of the rich diversity of play provision in the borough, most respondents said they want more play space, especially very local to where they live.
 - Children and young people identified a need for facilities suitable for 8-14 year olds; much provision is aimed at younger children, or used by older children who are intimidating.
- 3.96. Consultation with stakeholders (adults ranging from disability coordinators to teachers) identify the following issues and barriers to play:
- Lack of open space and poor or variable condition of many of those spaces.
 - More use could be made of the play spaces there are, particularly if more were supervised, especially for children and young people with disabilities and those from black and ethnic minority communities.
 - Acknowledgement of the national trends in the restrictions on children’s freedom to play: real and perceived threats to safety, environmental and social factors.
 - Lack of understanding of play, its value and benefits.
 - Lack of strategic planning, especially around funding and the use of S106 monies, although all acknowledge that the Play Strategy addresses this.
- 3.97. The strategy concludes that ‘we already have a relatively generous resourcing and provision of play opportunities in Islington’ and goes on to identify a number of areas for improvement, many of which are related to better management of existing spaces.

Sport and recreation

- 3.98. A sport and recreation survey was sent to 10,000 households in the borough. 432 responses were received providing a statistically sound sample for analysis. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.99. In addition, a sports club survey was sent to all sports club secretaries in the borough, and posted on the PMP website for online completion. The questionnaire can be found in **Appendix 2**. Unfortunately the response rate was poor, with only 7 questionnaires returned.
- 3.100. Details of the consultation responses are set out in Sections 8, 15 and 16 of this report in relation to typologies D, L and M (outdoor sports facilities, indoor sport and community facilities, respectively).

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Summary: strategy and policy context and local needs analysis

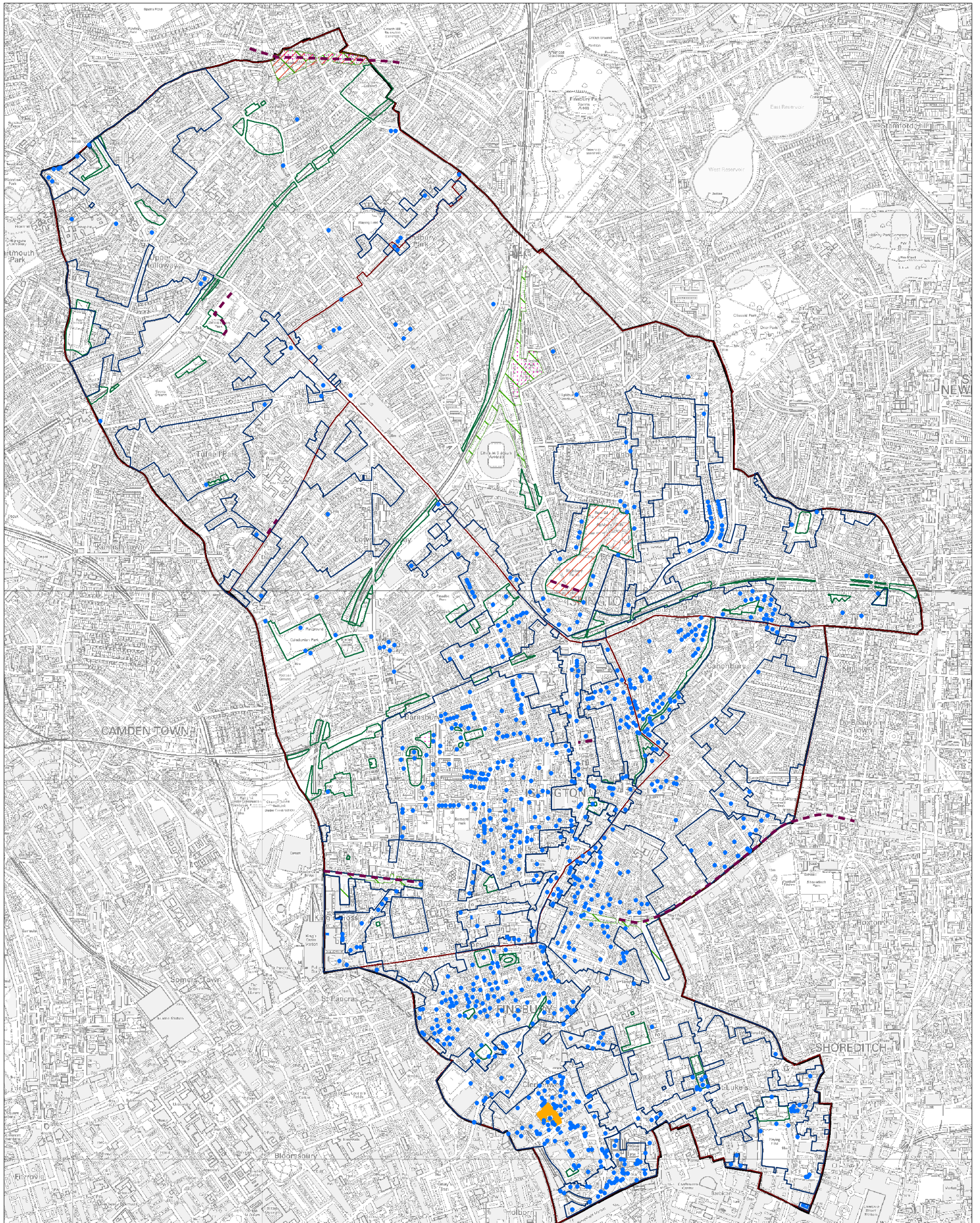
- Planning policy seeks to protect and enhance social infrastructure, and community facilities across the spectrum, including open space, play space, sports and leisure facilities and community halls and meeting rooms, both in terms of existing provision and ensuring adequate provision in new

development;

- National, regional and local planning policy stresses the importance of conserving and enhancing open space and ensuring that new development incorporates functional, accessible, safe and well designed open space and play space;
- Planning policy recognises the diverse range of functions which open space provides;
- There is a national aim to achieve greater participation in sport and recognition of the role of the planning system in helping to deliver this;
- At the local level, the Islington Local Area Agreement sets out indicators and performance targets to enhance open space and promote health. In terms of sport and active recreation, the ProActive Strategy will implement the LAA and Sustainable Community Strategy aims and objectives. A number of strategies sit alongside these documents with symbiotic aims;
- The geographical and socio-economic profile of the borough informs an understanding of needs for open space, sport and recreation facilities. Islington is one of the most densely populated boroughs with a growing population. It also has the second lowest density of green space in England. It has a high level of overcrowded housing, a significant majority of residents living in flats who are unlikely to have private open space, and high levels of deprivation. Open spaces are therefore under considerable pressure and there is great scope to improve quality of life through provision of well planned open spaces and sport and recreation facilities;
- Participation rates in active sport and recreation amongst Islington residents are higher than the national average, but slightly lower than the average rates for Central London;
- The Leisure Needs Assessment (2006) identified a shortage of both swimming pool and sports hall provision, which is set to worsen in the period to 2016. It identified provision of health and fitness stations and squash courts to be adequate or exceeding demand. It identified a lack of athletics provision within the borough. The study also highlighted a number of quality issues particularly with reference to swimming pools;
- Access to good quality green space close to people's homes is considered very important by residents;
- People visit parks for a range of reasons, including to get fresh air, peace and quite, to enjoy their surroundings and to walk and play;
- People are concerned about safety, dog fouling and the need to improve the appearance, lighting and seating of spaces;
- Residents would like to see investment spent on improving existing spaces rather than creating new spaces, and spread across spaces rather than being

focussed on a small number of key sites;

- However, a significant minority of people are not satisfied with the level of provision, particularly residents in the south and west of the borough;
- Play space provision is relatively generous with key areas of improvement relating to better management of existing spaces. A need for more local scale provision close to where people live was raised.



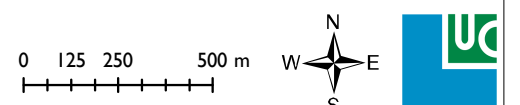
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

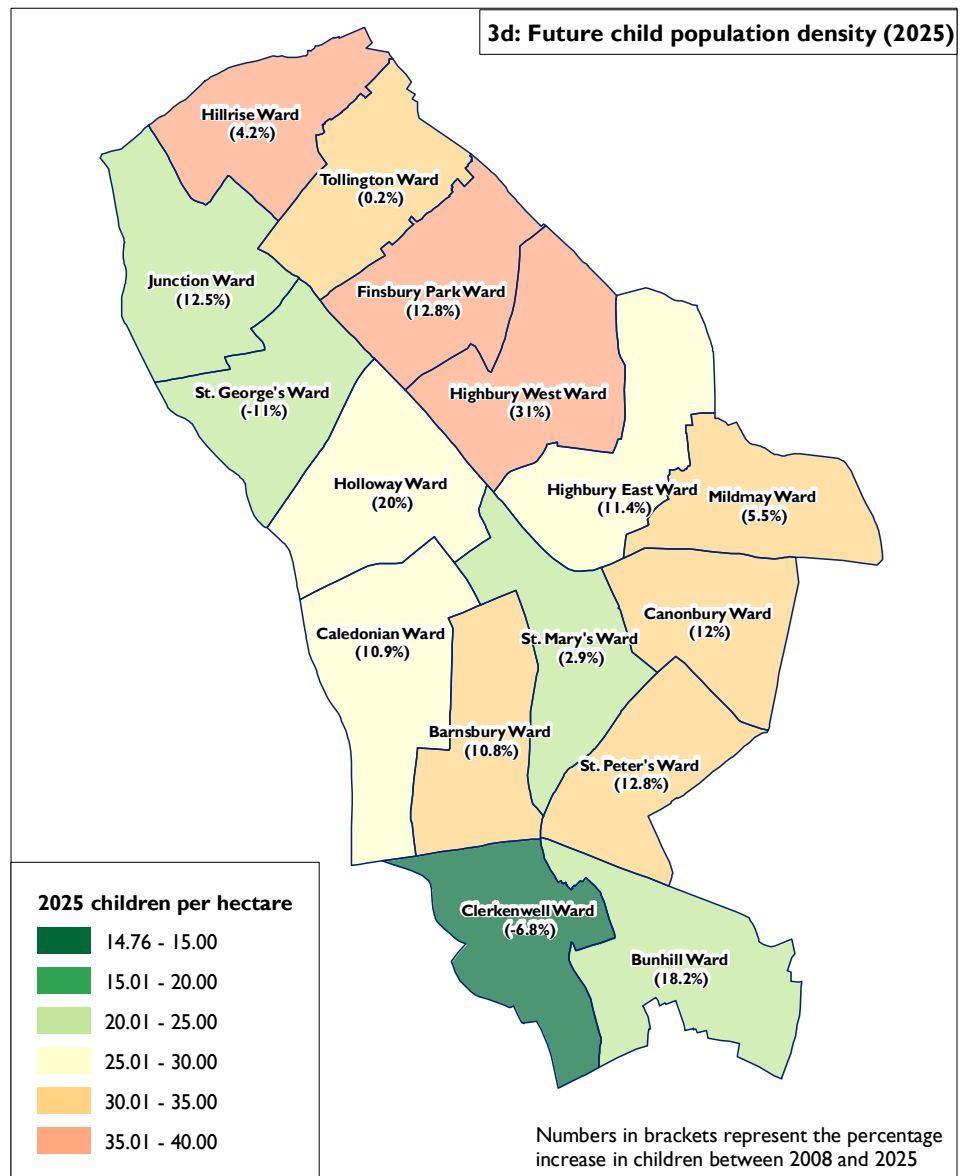
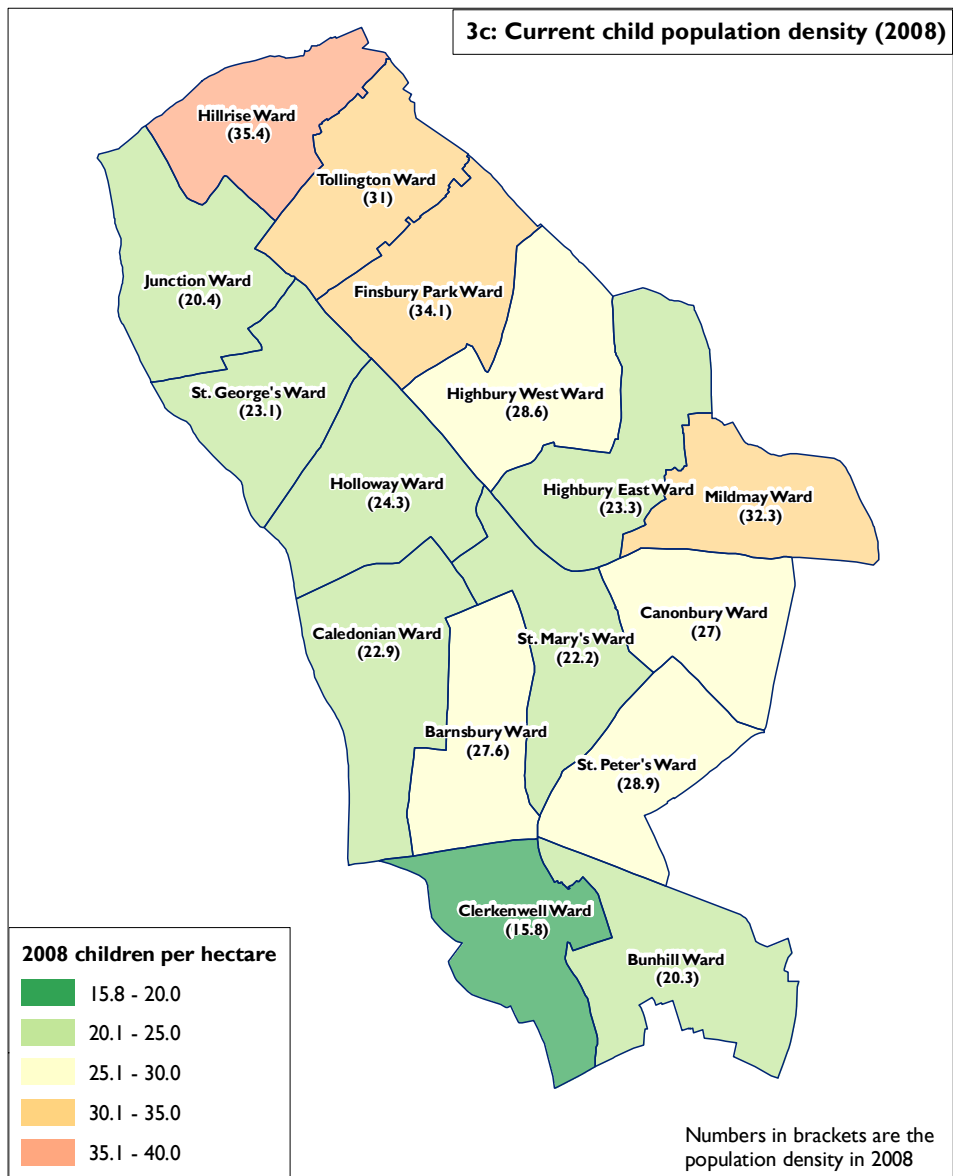
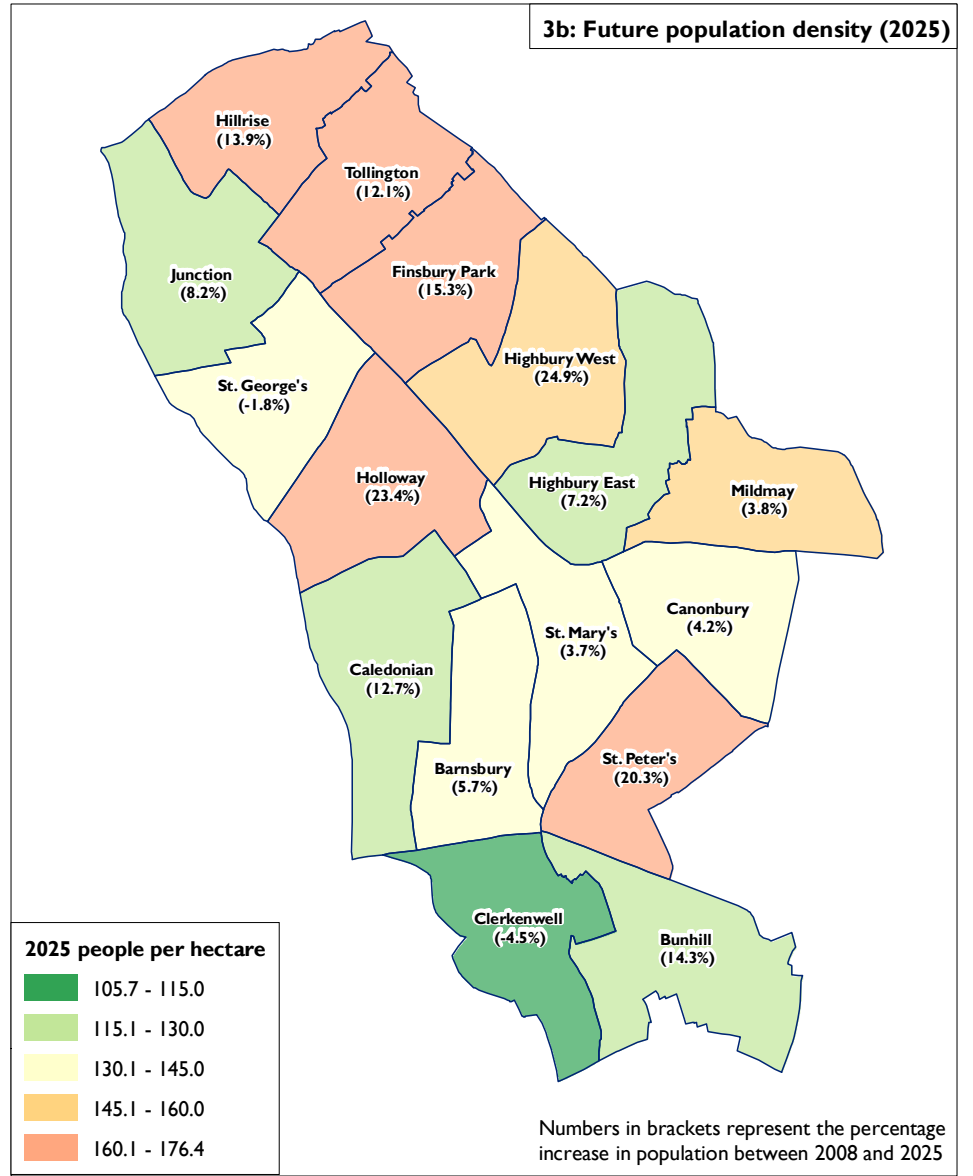
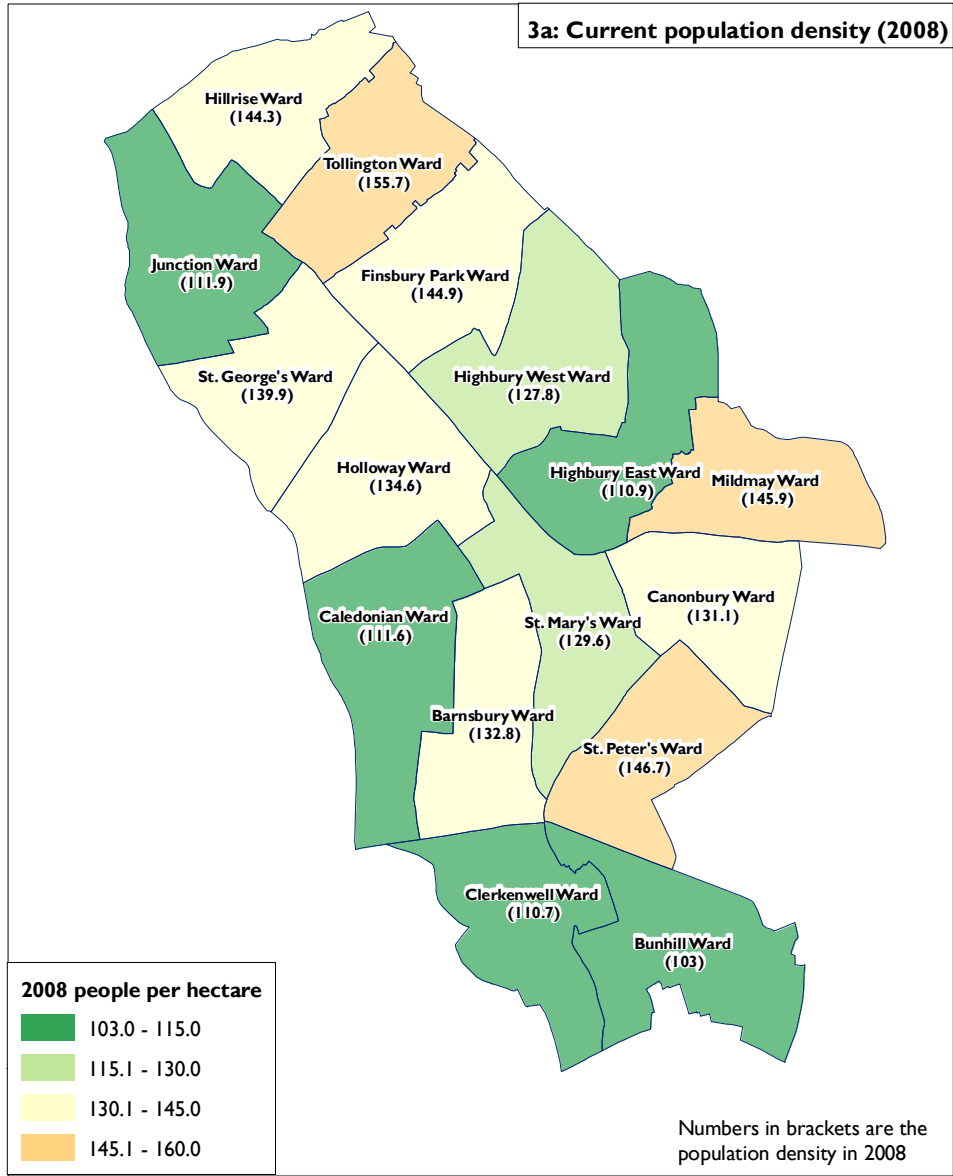
Map 2: Main Unitary Development Plan (UDP) designations affecting the protection and management of green space

Key

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| London Borough of Islington | Metropolitan Open Land | Cycle routes |
| Area Committee boundaries | Sites of metropolitan importance for nature conservation | Scheduled Monuments |
| Conservation Areas | Borough Grade 1, Grade 2 and Local Sites of Nature Conservation Importance | Listed Buildings |
| Local Nature Reserves | | |

Source: LB Islington, Natural England, English Heritage





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

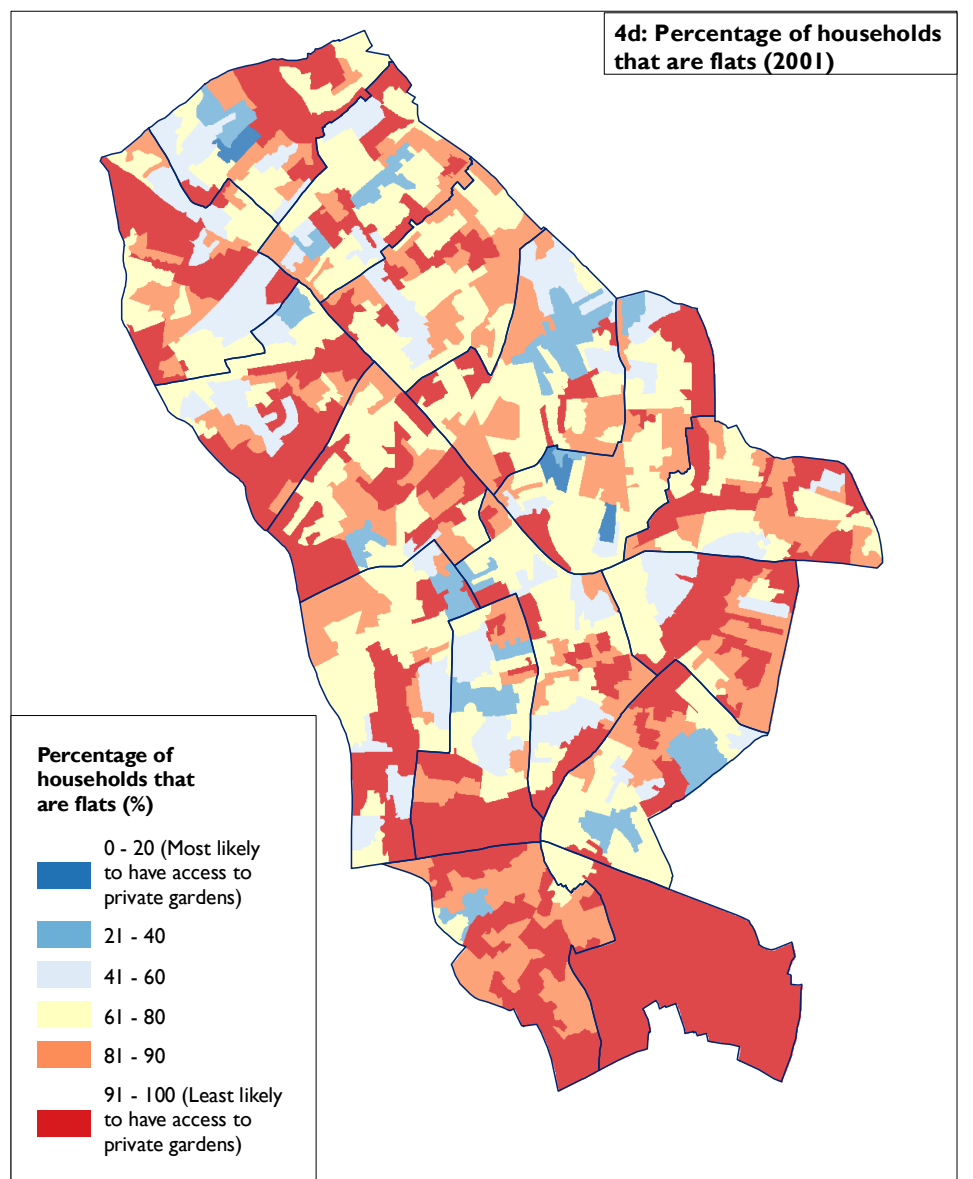
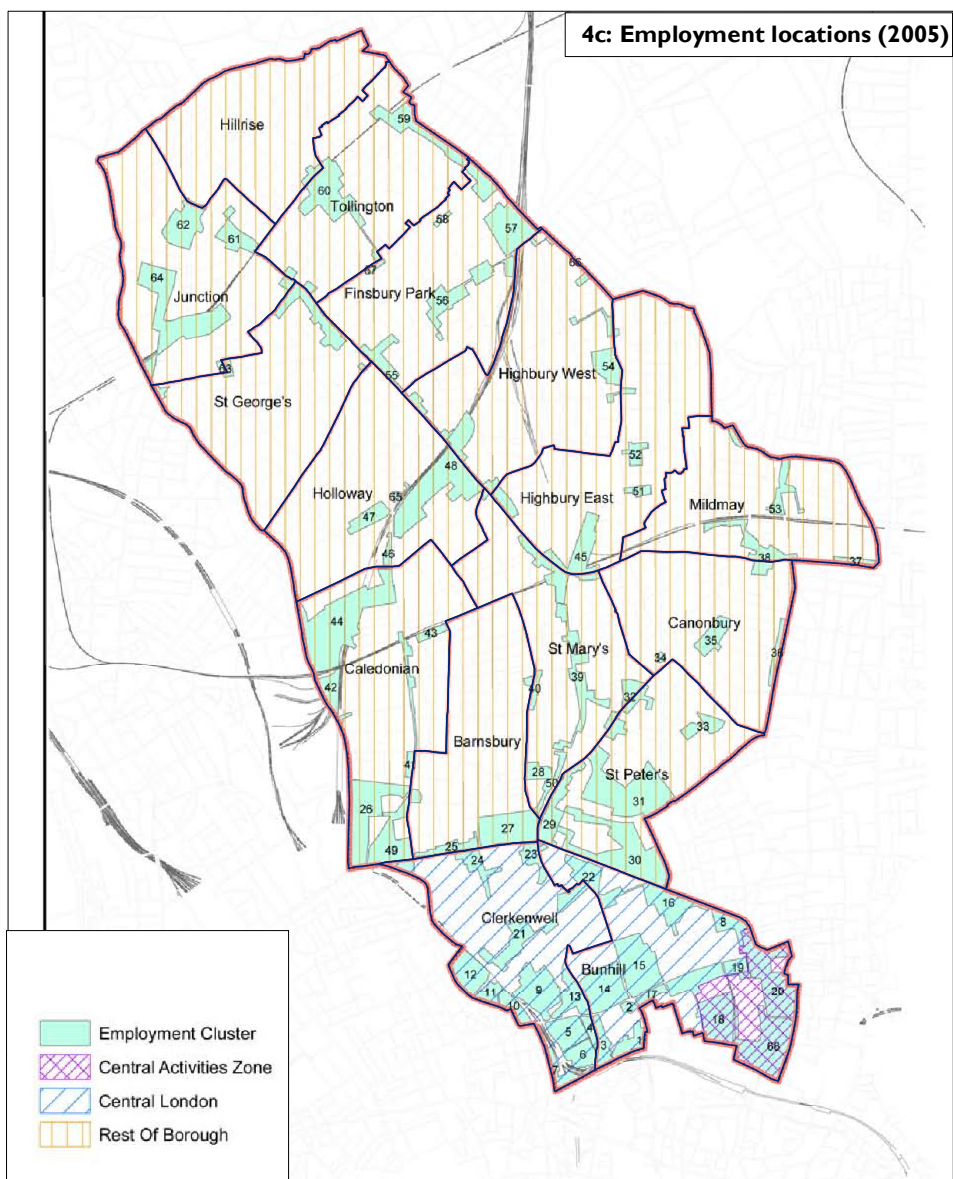
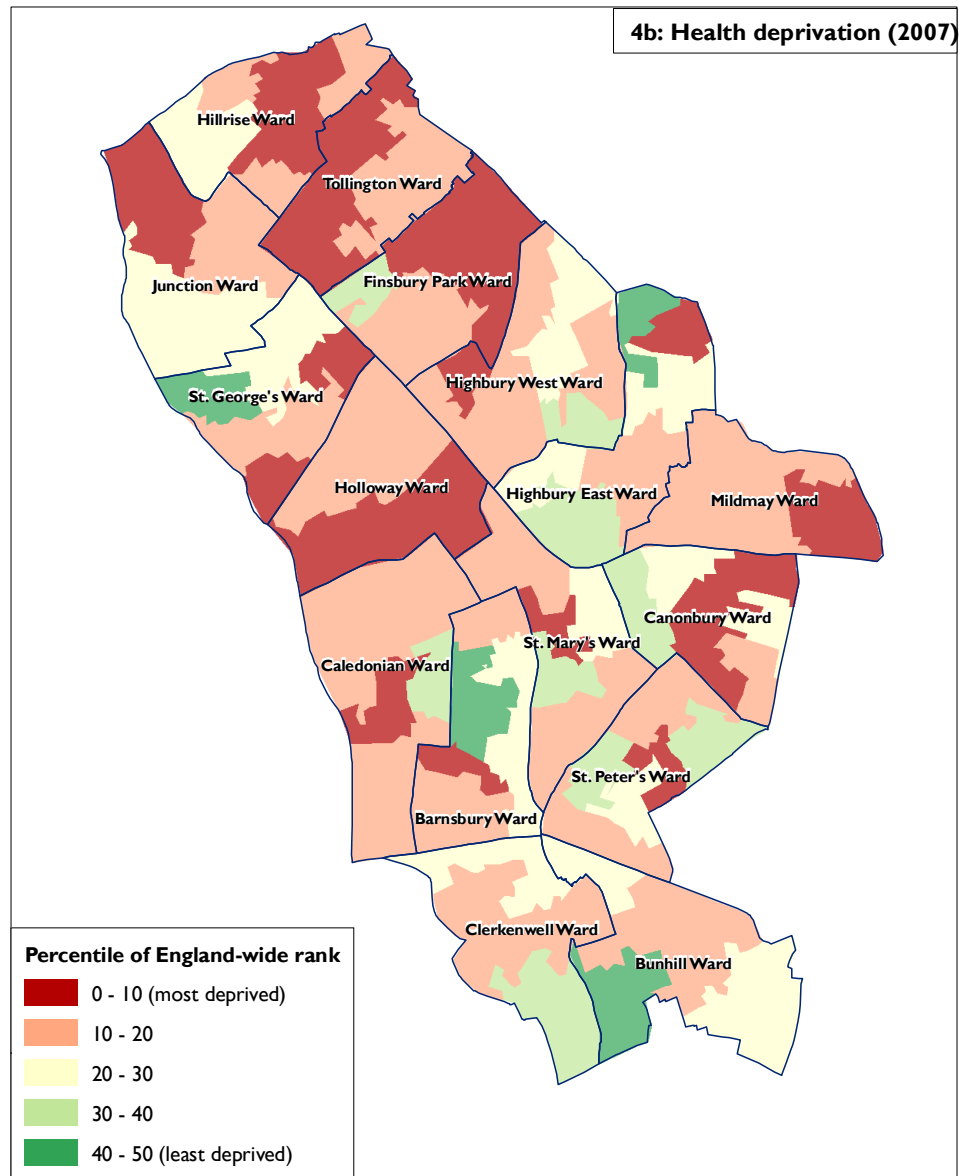
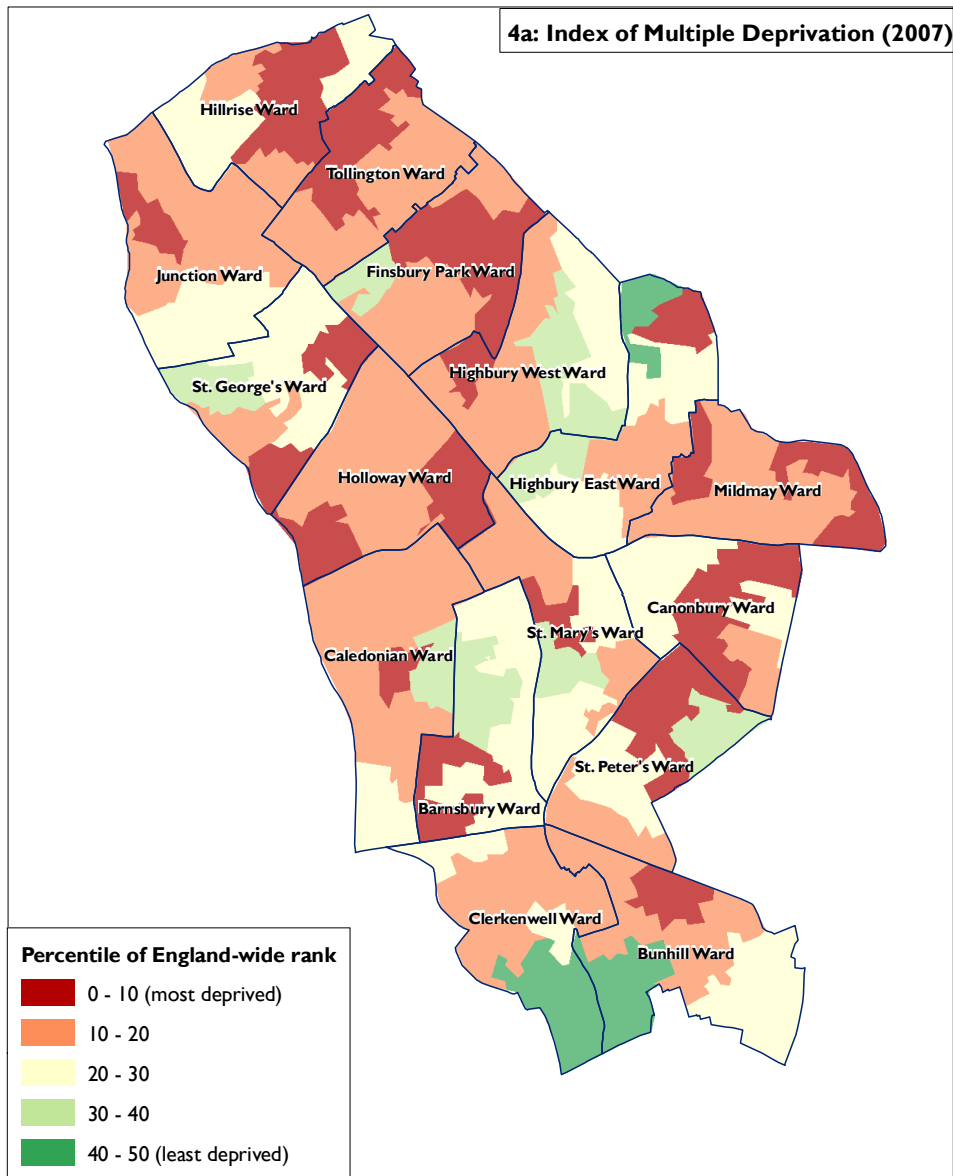
Map 3: Demographic indicators of need: population

0 250 500 1,000 m

Source: GLA 2007 Round ward projections

Key

- Ward boundaries



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 4: Indicators of need: other indicators

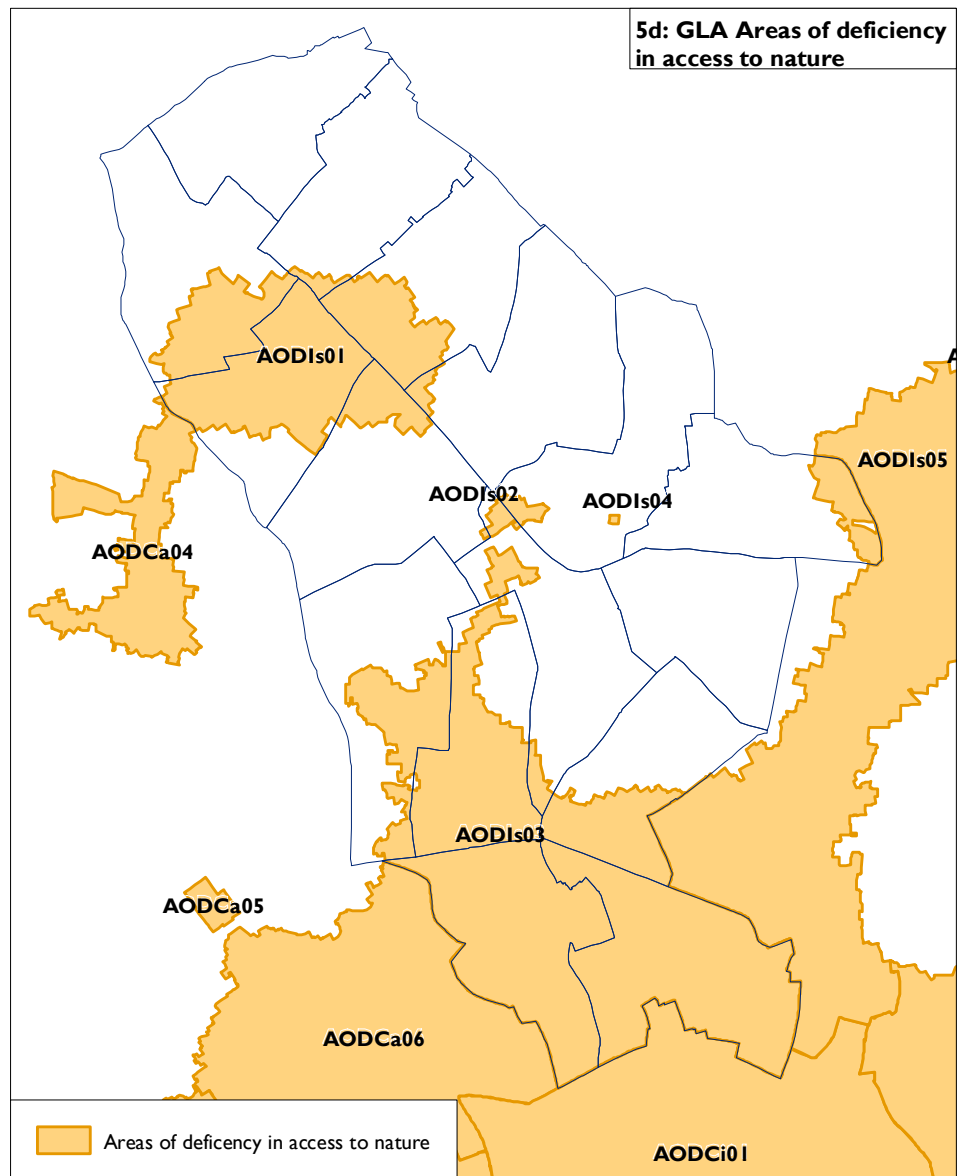
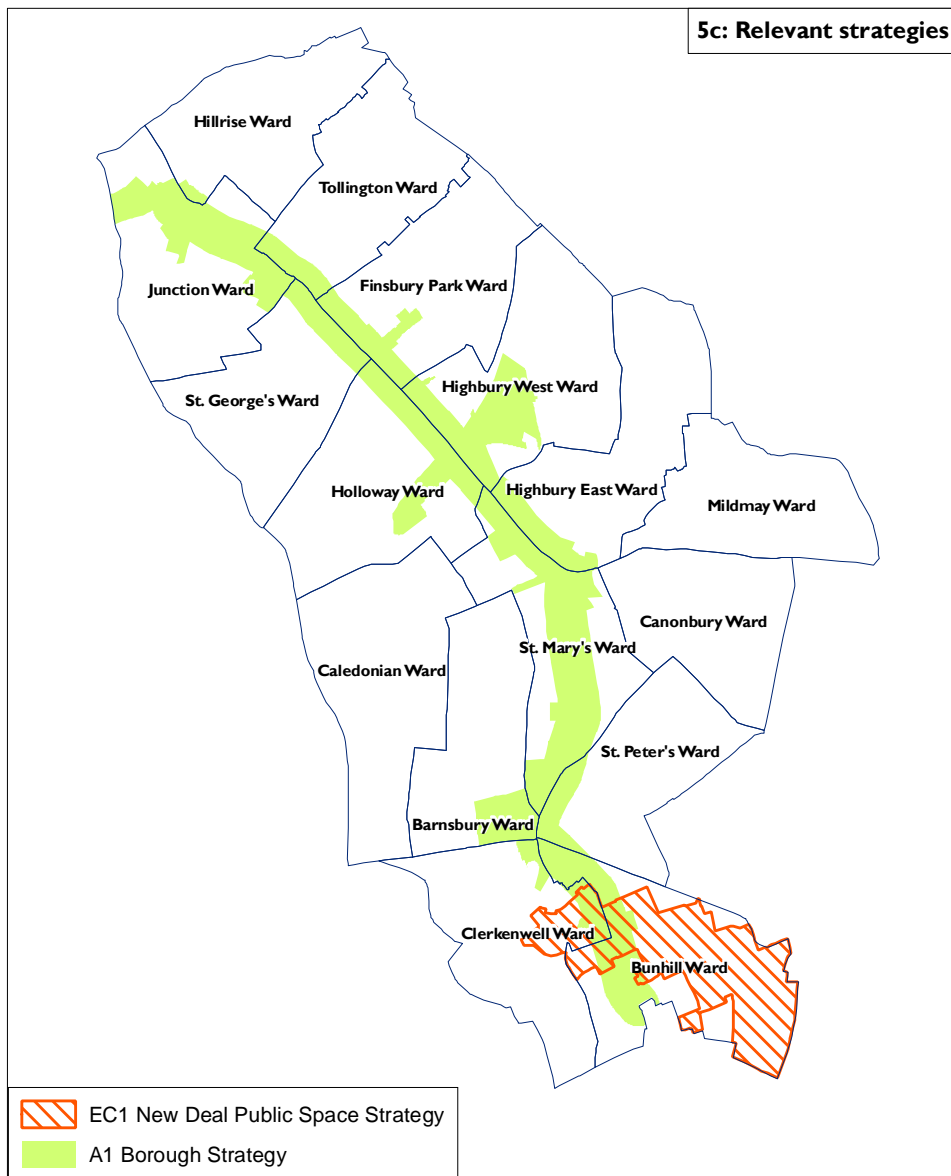
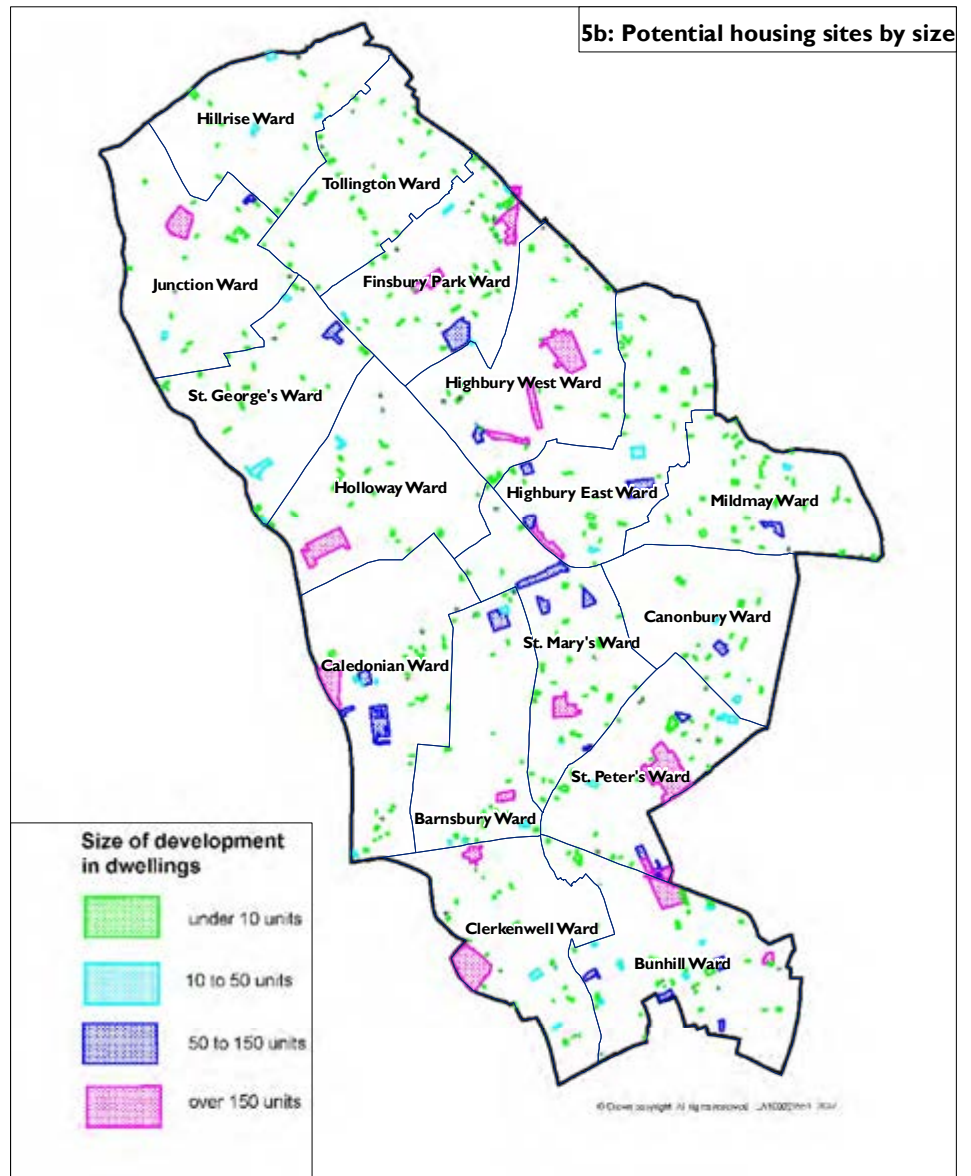
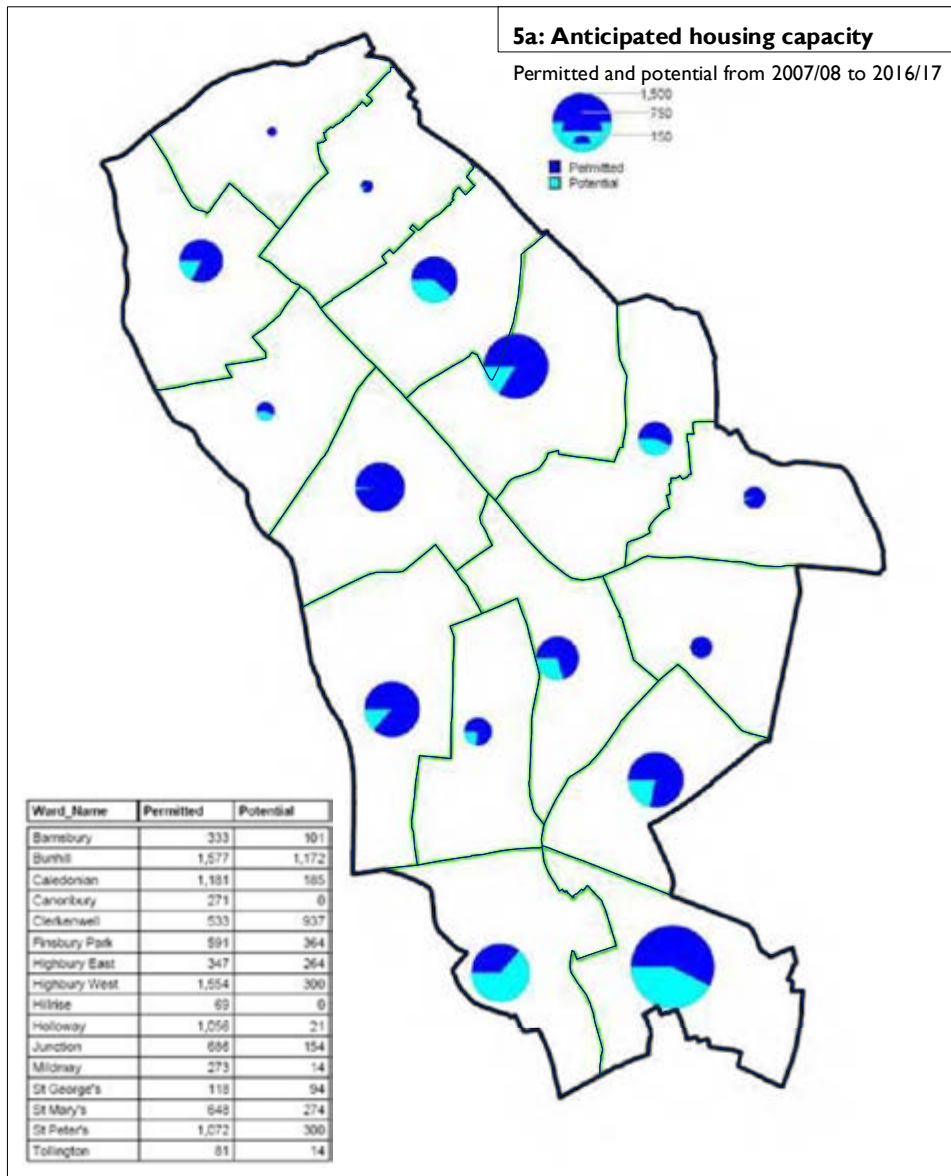
Key

Ward boundaries

0 250 500 1,000 m

Source: ONS 2001, Islington Employment Study, Atkins 2005, CLG 2007





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

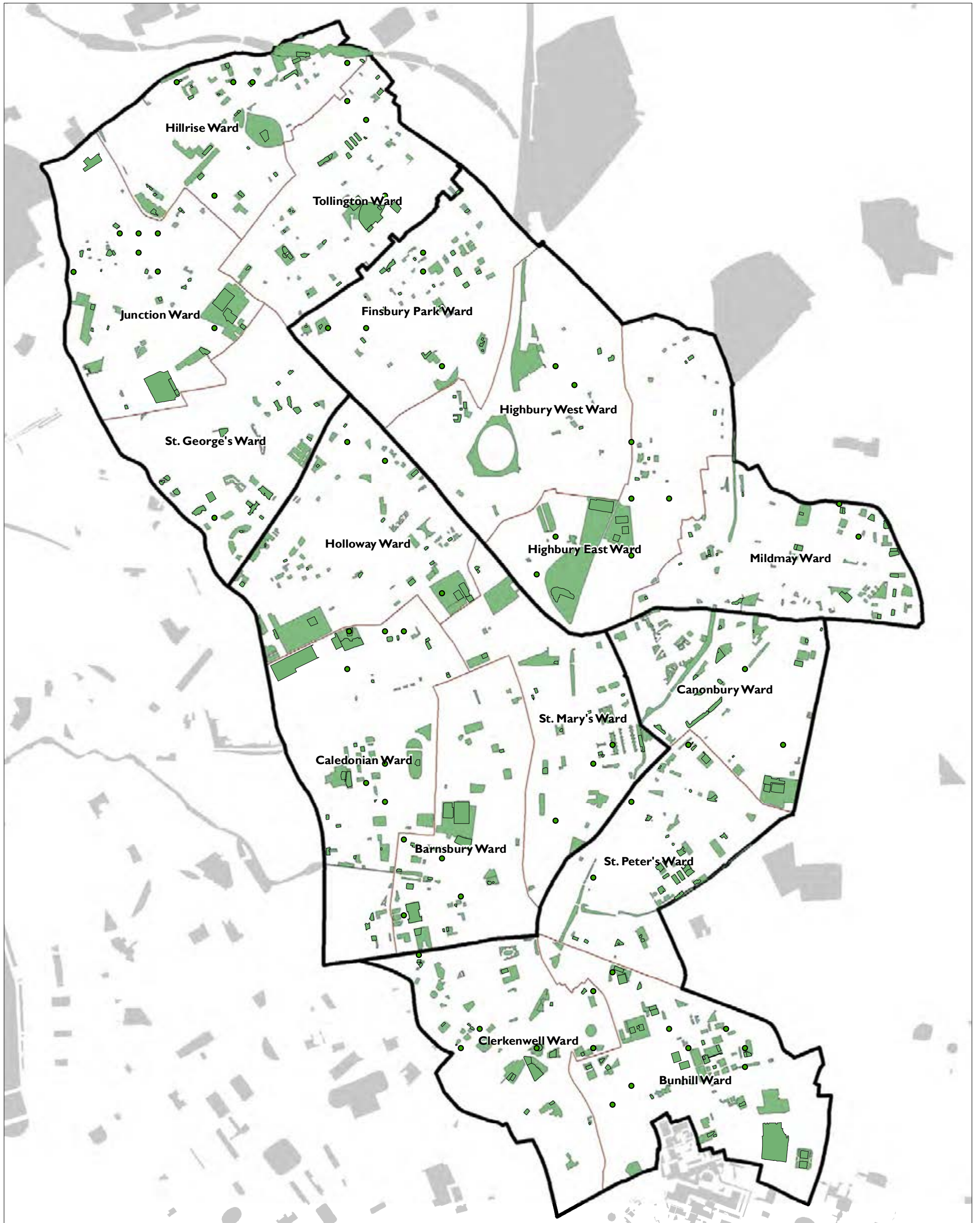
Map 5: Indicators of need: other indicators

0 250 500 1,000 m

Source: London Borough of Islington, GLA





Key

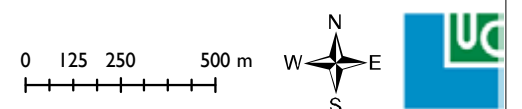
Ward boundaries



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 6: All open space, sport and recreation sites

Key

-  Area Committee boundaries
-  Ward boundaries
-  All open space, sports and recreation sites
-  Sites outside the borough



PART TWO: FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

4. DEVELOPMENT OF AN OPEN SPACE HIERARCHY AND CATEGORISATION OF SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES

- 4.1. Hundreds of sites were audited as part of the assessment. In order to undertake meaningful analysis all sites were assigned a typology (e.g. park & garden, play facility, indoor sports facility, etc.) which forms the basis for analysis. Within each typology, sites are further categorised by size and/or function to enable more in depth analysis.

OPEN SPACE FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

Open space typology

- 4.2. In order to understand the different types and functions of open space provided in the borough, a typology was developed. It is recognised that many spaces will serve a variety of functions. However, in line with PPG17 Guidance and to facilitate categorisation and analysis, each site was assigned a 'primary' typology.
- 4.3. The open space types used to categorise open space within Islington are set out in **Table I** below and shown on **Map 7**:

Table I: Typology of open space provision

Type of open space	Primary purpose
A. Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
B. Natural and semi-natural green space	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education awareness.
C. Green corridor	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration.
D. Outdoor sports facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such a pitch sports, tennis, bowls, athletics or countryside and water sports.
E. Amenity green space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work.
F. Green space for visual amenity	Green space for the enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas, such as roadside planters or tree lined verges.
G. Allotments and community gardens	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.
H. Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
I. Civic space	Providing a setting for civic buildings and community events
J. Housing amenity green space	Opportunities for informal activities within housing estates (mainly for residents' use)
K. Play and youth facilities	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.

Classification of sites by size

- 4.4. Open spaces can also be categorised by size. The GLA Best Practice Guide suggests a size structure around which to base analysis, as outlined in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Open Spaces Size Classes

Open space categorisation	Size guideline hectares (ha)
Regional	Over 400 ha
Metropolitan	60 – 400 ha
District	20 – 60 ha
Local Parks	2 – 20 ha
Small Local Parks	0.4 – 2 ha
Pocket Parks	Less than 0.4 ha
Linear Open Spaces	

- 4.5. In order to analyse open space provision in Islington it was considered necessary to adjust the size structure to reflect the specific conditions of the borough. The borough's biggest park (Highbury Fields) is just under 12 hectares and so the borough has no Regional, Metropolitan or District sized parks. However, Highbury Fields is over 7 hectares larger than the next largest park in Islington and, as confirmed through consultation, is recognised as serving a wider strategic function than the other parks. It was felt that this should be acknowledged by introducing a new category of 'Strategic Parks' (8-20ha).
- 4.6. Furthermore, at the other end of the size scale, over 40% of the spaces audited are smaller than 0.4ha, so it was felt a further subdivision of this classification would be appropriate. A Very Small Spaces (<0.01ha), category is used. In addition to this, the GLA's linear open space category was omitted, as it was felt that this would be adequately reflected in the site typology 'green corridors'. Notwithstanding these points, the final classification is in-keeping with the London Plan hierarchy, enabling the sites to be readily compared with other London boroughs.
- 4.7. The final size classification used in the analysis is presented in **Table 3**.

Table 3: LBI open space size classification

Size category	Size guideline hectares (ha)
Strategic provision	8 - 20ha
Local provision	2 – 8 ha
Small Local provision	0.4 – 2 ha
Pocket provision	0.01 - 0.4 ha
Very small spaces	Less than 0.01ha

The open space hierarchy

- 4.8. In addition to assigning each site a type, sites were further categorised by size in the form of a site **hierarchy**. This provides a useful framework for analysis highlighting the different types of open space assessed.
- 4.9. **Table 4** below is based on the hierarchy developed for the Green Space Assessment. The table builds in the **additional typologies** covered by this more comprehensive PPG17 compliant assessment of open spaces in Islington. The main additions to the table are '**Housing amenity space**' and '**Play and youth facilities**'.

Table 4: Open space hierarchy

Level of provision	Strategic provision	Local provision	Small local provision	Pocket of provision	Very small provision
Type of open space					
A. Parks and Gardens	A* . Strategic parks and gardens (8 – 20ha)	A1 . Major parks and gardens (2 – 8ha)	A2 . Small local parks and gardens (0.4 – 2ha)	A3 . Neighbourhood gardens / squares (<0.01 ha– 0.4ha)	
B. Natural and semi-natural green space		B1 . Local natural/semi-natural green spaces (0.4 – 8ha)		B2 . Pockets of natural/semi-natural green spaces (0.01 – 0.4ha)	
C. Green corridor		C1 . Local green corridors (2 – 8ha)	C2 . Small Local green corridors (0.01 – 2ha)		
D. Outdoor sports facilities	<i>(See 'sport and recreation framework for analysis' below.)</i>				
E. Amenity green space			E1 . Small local / pockets of amenity green space (0.01 – 2ha)		
<i>(F. Green space for visual amenity)</i>				F1 . Pockets / very small spots of green space for visual amenity ¹⁸ (<0.01 ha– 0.4ha)	
G. Allotments, community gardens & city farms			G1 . Small local allotments / community gardens (0.4 – 2ha)	G2 . Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens (0.01 – 0.4ha)	
H. Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds			H1 . Small local cemeteries/burial grounds (0.4 – 2ha)	H2 . Neighbourhood cemeteries/burial grounds (0.01 – 0.4ha)	
I. Civic space		I* . Local civic space (0.4 – 8ha)		II . Neighbourhood civic space (0.01 – 0.4ha)	
J. Housing amenity space			J1 . Small local housing amenity space (0.4 – 2ha)	J2 . Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space (<0.01 ha– 0.4ha)	

¹⁸ Green space for visual amenity is referred to but not included in analysis for this assessment as these are mainly planters managed by Greenspace, below 0.01 ha in area.

Level of provision	Strategic provision	Local provision	Small local provision	Pocket of provision	Very small provision
Type of open space					
K. Play and youth facilities	K* . Strategic playable space	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space (>0.05ha or equivalent in scale of facilities) K1ii. Youth space (>0.02ha)	K2. Local playable space (0.03-0.05ha)	K3i. Doorstep playable space (0.01-0.03ha) K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space (<0.02ha)	K4. Very small playable space (<0.01 ha)

- 4.10. A number of the larger open spaces, particularly sites with a primary purpose of parks and gardens, are multifunctional in terms of the facilities they provide. For the purposes of analysis any outdoor sport or play and youth facilities have been noted as a secondary typology. This has enabled these specific facilities to be quantified and analysed as part of the relevant typology.

SPORT & RECREATION FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

Sport & recreation typology

- 4.11. PPG17 guidance considers the provision of both indoor and outdoor sports facilities. For clarity, these are separated into two distinct typologies within this report. In addition, PPG17 also identifies community facilities, such as church halls and community centres, as an important community resource.

Outdoor sport facilities

- 4.12. Outdoor sport facilities represent one of the broadest typologies included within the PPG17 Companion Guide, including all natural or artificial surfaces. It includes outdoor sports facilities in public and private ownership. **Table 5** identifies the sports facilities included in the assessment.

Table 5: Typology of outdoor sports and recreation provision

Typology	Sub-type	Primary purpose
D. Outdoor sports facilities	a. Grass sports pitches	Sporting use
	b. Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)	Sporting use
	c. Tennis courts	Sporting use
	d. Bowling greens	Sporting use
	e. Formal multiuse games areas (MUGAs)	Organised, booked and paid for sporting use

Indoor sport facilities

- 4.13. PPG17 states that it is essential to also consider the role that indoor sports facilities play in meeting the needs of local residents. The provision of swimming pools, indoor sports halls, indoor bowls and indoor tennis should be considered as part of the local supply and demand assessment. To provide a full view of indoor sports facilities in Islington, gyms and ice rinks have also been included even though they do

not fall within the remit of PPG17. Types of indoor sports facilities included in the assessment are detailed in **Table 6** below.

Table 6: Typology of indoor sports and recreation provision

Typology	Sub-type	Primary purpose
L. Indoor sports facilities	a. Swimming pools	Swimming
	b. Sports halls	Multi-sport use
	c. Indoor tennis	Tennis
	d. Private gyms	Health and fitness
	e. Council gyms	Health and fitness
	f. Ice rinks	Ice skating, ice hockey

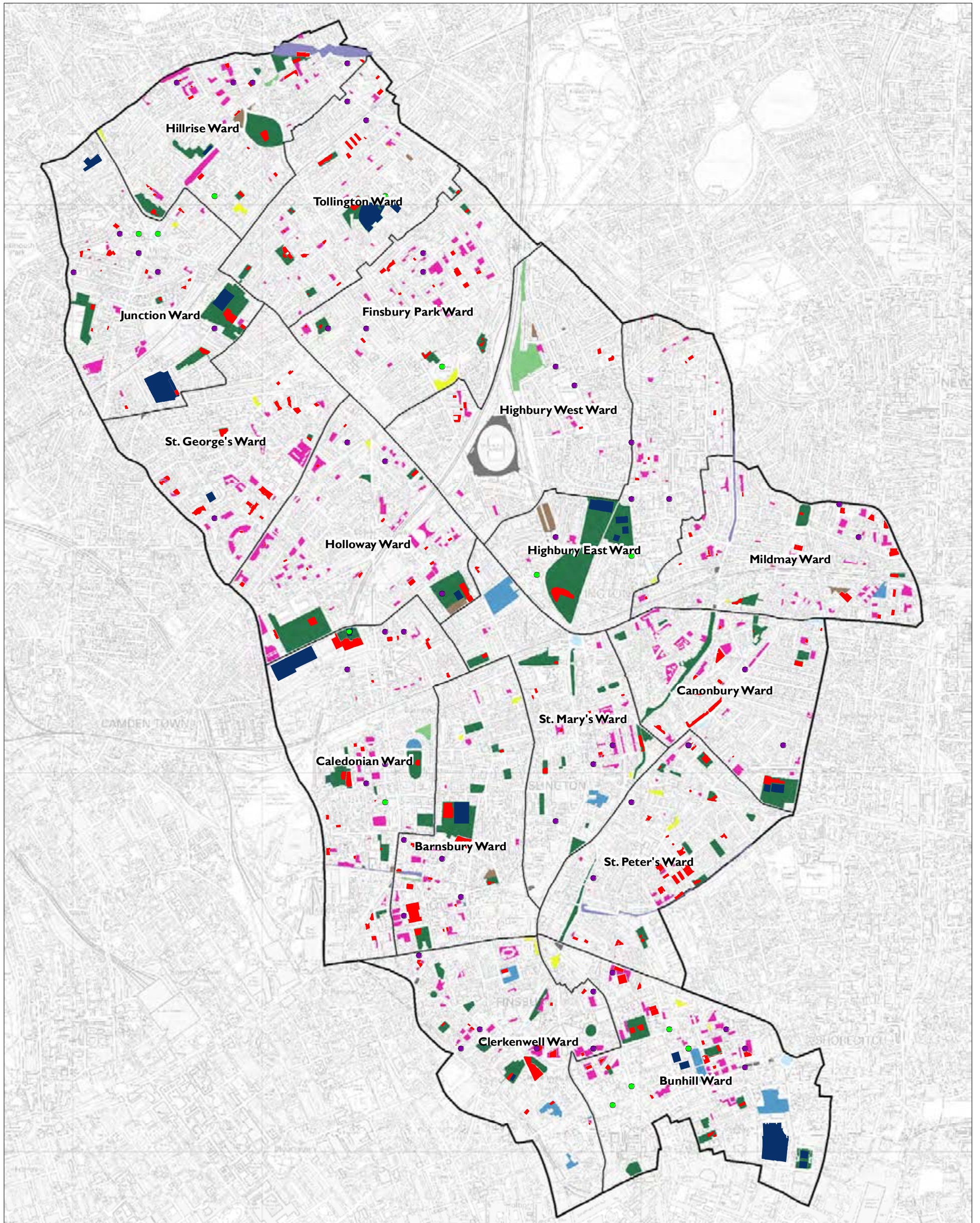
Community facilities

- 4.14. For the purposes of this study community facilities have been categorised and analysed according to their size as detailed in **Table 7**.

Table 7: Typology of community facilities

Typology	Size category
M. Community facilities	Large hire space (caters for over 80 people), for functions, parties, weddings, dances, church gatherings, sport and recreation
	Medium hire space (up to 80 people), for meetings, lectures, presentations, discussion groups, training, small parties, sport and recreation
	Small hire space (up to 20 people), for meetings, lectures, presentations, training courses
	Indoor youth clubs
	Playgroup facilities.

- 4.15. As highlighted in the paragraphs above, the framework for analysis varies across the open space, sport and recreation facilities. However every site assessed was assigned a primary (and where applicable, secondary) typology. For clarity of presentation, **Part three** of this report reviews each typology in turn. **Section 17** draws together the overall findings and recommendations.

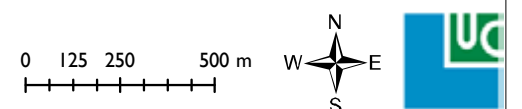


Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 7: All sites by typology

Key

London Borough of Islington	C: Green Corridor	H: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	L: Indoor sports facilities
Ward boundaries	D: Outdoor sports facilities	I: Civic space	M: Community facilities
Typology			
A: Parks and Gardens	E: Amenity green space	J: Housing amenity space	
B: Natural and semi-natural greenspace	F: Green space for visual amenity	K: Play and youth facilities	
	G: Allotments, community gardens & urban farms		



PART THREE: ASSESSMENT OF PROVISION

5. A. PARKS AND GARDENS

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 5.1. This section details the current provision of parks and gardens in Islington in terms of their quantity, distribution and key characteristics. Standards are then described and applied in order to assess whether the current level of provision is sufficient to meet present and future need, concluding with a summary of the key issues and a series of recommendations.
- 5.2. The primary purpose of parks and gardens is to provide accessible open space with high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. Community consultation showed that people in Islington value parks and green spaces for the formal and informal recreational opportunities they provide using them to get fresh air, for peace and quiet, to go for a walk or simply to enjoy the beauty of the surroundings.
- 5.3. Parks and gardens are usually more multi-functional than other open space, offering space for quiet relaxation as well as a range of amenities and activities for visitors. In particular parks and gardens often include children's play, youth and/or outdoor sports facilities. For the purpose of this study specific play and outdoor sport facilities within parks and gardens have been recorded and mapped as a 'secondary typology' to enable them to be analysed in greater detail alongside other play and sport facilities in Islington (see sections 8 and 14). In addition, spaces in other typologies may offer comparable amenity and recreational value to parks and gardens. In Islington, there are a number of cemeteries and disused churchyards (Typology H) which provide an equivalent function. Therefore following discussion with the project Steering Group, Typology H sites have been included in the analysis presented in this section.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 5.4. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of parks and gardens. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is set out by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the parks and gardens together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 5.5. There are a total of 91 parks and gardens, as shown in **Table 8** and illustrated on **Map 8**. These include 1 strategic park, 7 major parks and gardens, 23 small local parks and gardens and 60 neighbourhood gardens /squares. These sites cover a total area of 53ha (excluding the 11 ha occupied by play, youth or outdoor sports facilities within parks and gardens) which accounts for 53.5% of the open space provision in Islington and equates to 0.279ha per 1000 population. Of these sites the vast majority (80 in total, representing 97% of the total area) are fully accessible, a further

10 are limited in access (may be restricted due to locked gates or the garden is only accessible to certain residents) and one is not publicly accessible.

Table 8: Existing provision of parks and gardens

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population (ha)
A*. Strategic parks	1	10.113	191,300	0.053
A1. Major parks and gardens	7	16.117	191,300	0.084
A2. Small local parks and gardens	23	16.072	191,300	0.084
A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	60	11.072	191,300	0.058
TOTAL	91	53.374	191,300	0.279

By Ward

- 5.6. **Table 9** shows the distribution of the 53ha of parks and gardens by ward in terms of numbers of sites and area of sites, broken down by the level of accessibility of the sites. As noted above, in Islington, cemeteries and disused churchyards (Typology H) play a similar role to parks and gardens, for example Myddelton Square in Clerkenwell. Therefore **Table 9** also provides summary details of the number and area of Typology H sites.
- 5.7. The penultimate column of **Table 9** provides a total area of accessible and limited access parks and gardens and Typology H sites (cemeteries and disused churchyards) in Islington. The final column shows what this equates to in terms of quantity of provision per 1000 borough residents. It can be seen that overall provision is 0.312 ha per 1000 population.

Table 9: Existing provision of parks and gardens by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Total no. of P&G sites (all levels of accessibility)	Total area of P&G sites (ha) (all levels of accessibility)	Total no. of P&G sites (publicly accessible and limited access*)	Total area of publicly accessible and limited access P&G (ha)	Total no. of P&G sites with no public access	Ha of P&G with no public access	Area of publicly accessible and limited access Typology H sites (ha)	Ha of typology H sites with no public access	Total area of P&G & Typology H sites (publicly accessible and limited access) (ha)	Existing provision per 1000 population of P&G & Typology H sites (publicly accessible and limited access) (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300	4	1.097	4	1.097					1.097	0.083
	Highbury East	11,150	1	10.113	1	10.113					10.113	0.907
	Highbury West	13,850	0	0.000	0	0.000					0.000	0.000
	Mildmay	12,050	3	1.128	3	1.128				0.357 (1 site)	1.128	0.094
North	Hillrise	11,900	6	4.739	6	4.739					4.739	0.398
	Junction	11,500	4	4.937	4	4.937					4.937	0.429
	St. George's	11,850	2	0.052	2	0.052					0.052	0.004
	Tollington	13,200	7	1.704	7	1.704					1.704	0.129
South	Bunhill	11,200	8	2.983	8	2.983			2.246 (2 sites)		5.229	0.466
	Canonbury	10,600	7	4.506	7	4.506					4.506	0.426
	Clerkenwell	10,350	8	2.769	8	2.769			1.165 (4 sites)		3.935	0.380
	St. Peter's	11,900	11	2.334	11	2.334					2.334	0.197
West	Barnsbury	11,000	7	4.314	7	4.314			0.023 (1 sites)		4.337	0.393
	Caledonian	12,700	6	3.040	6	3.040			0.331 (1 sites)		3.371	0.266
	Holloway	13,600	5	6.193	5	6.193					6.193	0.456
	St. Mary's	11,250	12	3.465	11	3.422	1	0.043**	2.498 (2 sites)		5.920	0.526
TOTAL		191,300	91	53.374	90	53.331	1	0.043	6.263 (10 sites)	0.357 (1 site)	59.594	0.312

* Limited access sites are defined as sites with restrictions to access such as locked gates

** Andersons Square Gardens

- 5.8. **Table 9** shows that parks and gardens are not evenly distributed through the borough. Highbury East Ward has by far the greatest area of parks and gardens, dominated by one site, the strategic park of Highbury Fields. This site occupies 10ha (excluding the parts of the site covered by play and sports), nearly 20% of the total area of parks and gardens in the borough. In stark contrast, neighbouring Highbury West Ward has no parks and gardens and St George's ward has the second lowest provision with just two sites amounting to 0.052ha (0.004ha per 1000 population).
- 5.9. When reviewing the number of sites against the area of provision there is a general pattern that the South and West Area Committees consist of a large number of smaller sites (64 sites in total) whilst the North and East Areas feature fewer larger sites (27 sites in total). This however equates to a relatively even distribution in terms of the total area of parks and gardens with 11.4ha in the North Area, 12.3ha in the East Area, 12.6ha in the South area and a slightly larger overall area of 17ha in the West Committee Area.

Key characteristics of parks and gardens

- 5.10. 79 of the 91 parks and gardens are managed as public open space by Islington's Greenspace Services, including the eight largest spaces. The importance of these spaces to the community is reinforced by the involvement of Friend's Groups at 25 of the Greenspace managed parks and gardens. Details of the main facilities and features audited within parks and gardens are set out below (by hierarchy) together with a bullet point list of the characteristics common to each hierarchy level.

A*: Strategic Parks and Gardens

- 5.11. Highbury Fields (11.76ha including play and sport provision) is the only strategic park in the borough, drawing visitors from across the borough. In the 2006 survey Highbury Fields was by far the most popular park. The park is designated as Metropolitan Open Land and a Local Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) featuring a range of vegetation types including significant mature trees. It is situated within a Conservation Area and features the Grade II Listed Boer War memorial and flanking cannon. It is the largest Greenspace managed site in Islington and leads to Highbury East Ward having the greatest provision in this typology in terms of overall area. The park provides a range of facilities including play provision, tennis courts and junior tarmac pitches with changing rooms and is also equipped with basic amenities such as café, toilets, bins and seating. The play and sports provision at Highbury Fields occupies 1.64ha of the overall park area. These facilities are treated as a secondary typology and considered further in sections 8 and 14 of this report.
- 5.12. In summary, strategic parks and gardens typically exhibit the following characteristics:
- 8-20ha in size
 - Serve borough and metropolitan needs and are predominantly visited by borough residents

- Contribute to character of surrounding area recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation
- Provide for active and passive recreation – contain a wide range of play equipment and provision for young people, together with sporting provision
- Feature a range of habitats which contribute to the local biodiversity acknowledged by SINC designation
- Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins, dog bins, recycling facilities and entrance signs, public notice board, together with toilets, a café and onsite base for staff.

A1: Major Parks and Gardens

- 5.13. The seven major parks and gardens, listed below, are all managed by Greenspace Services (the total areas shown include any play, youth or sport facilities):
- Barnard Park (and extension) (3.77ha)
 - Caledonian Park (4.07ha)
 - Elthorne Park (Including Peace Garden and Boys Boxing Club) (2.65ha)
 - Paradise Park (2.37ha)
 - Rosemary Gardens (2.56ha)
 - Whittington Park (3.89ha)
 - Wray Crescent (2.2ha).
- 5.14. The East Area Committee has no major parks and gardens, Highbury Fields (a strategic park and garden) being the main large park in this area. The North and West Areas of the borough have three major parks and gardens each, whereas the South Area just has one major park (Rosemary Gardens). These major parks and gardens range in size from just over 2ha (Wray Crescent) to just over 4ha (Caledonian Park) drawing visitors from throughout the borough as well as serving the local community. In the 2006 Parks and Open Spaces Usage and Satisfaction Survey (KMC), Barnard Park, Whittington Park and Elthorne Park were named as the most popular parks in the borough, second only to Highbury Fields.
- 5.15. Wray Crescent, Paradise Park, Rosemary Gardens and Barnard Park are all located within Conservation Areas acknowledging their contribution to the character of the surrounding residential area. Caledonian Park includes specific features of heritage value: The Clock Tower which is Grade II* Listed and railings, walls, gate piers and gates which are Grade II Listed (the latter are also on the Buildings at Risk Register due to their poor condition).
- 5.16. The major parks and gardens provide an opportunity for both passive recreation (sitting and watching the world go by) as well as active recreation (all of the sites contain significant play areas for children, and all except Caledonian Park have some

kind of sporting provision such as cricket pitch, astroturf pitch, tennis courts or youth provision in the form of a multi use games area (MUGA)). Of the total 21.5ha of major parks, 5.4ha is occupied by play, youth or outdoor sports facilities.

- 5.17. The major parks and gardens generally have a good provision of basic amenities, including entrance signs, seating, litter bins, dog bins and recycling facilities. Two of the sites contain toilets and the majority have an onsite base for staff or for a play attendant.
- 5.18. The sites contain a range of habitats, with a number including meadow areas, shrub planting and perennial and/or annual planting beds. Three of the major parks and gardens are designated as sites of importance for nature conservation (SINC): Caledonian Park as a Borough Grade I SINC, Paradise Park a Borough Grade II SINC and Whittington Park a Local SINC.
- 5.19. In summary, major parks and gardens typically exhibit the following characteristics:
 - 2-8ha in size
 - Serve borough needs, predominantly visited by borough residents
 - Contribute to character of surrounding area recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation
 - Active and passive recreation – contain wide range of play equipment usually for all ages and provision for young people, and frequently contain sporting provision
 - Range of habitats which contributes to the local biodiversity acknowledged by SINC designation
 - Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins, dog bins, recycling facilities and entrance signs, public notice board, may contain toilets, a café and onsite base for staff.

A2: Small local parks and gardens

- 5.20. The 23 small local parks and gardens are listed in **Appendix 6**. The highest number of these sites is located in the West Area (eight sites), with six sites in both the North and South Areas and just three sites in the East. The following five wards do not have any provision of small local parks and gardens: Highbury East, Highbury West, Holloway, St George's and St Peter's.
- 5.21. Of the 23 sites, 21 are managed by Islington's Greenspace Services. The two additional sites audited as part of this study include a recreation ground at Crouch Hill and the formal Charterhouse Square in the south of Islington. Although Charterhouse Square has limited access, it has been included in this typology as it is similar in character and user experience to other spaces in this category.
- 5.22. The parks and gardens at this level of the hierarchy serve a local need. As with the major parks, these sites fulfill a role for both active and passive recreation, although provision is generally on a smaller scale to that found within the major parks and

gardens. 15 of the sites contain play equipment, nine sites have a MUGA and a small proportion contain some other formal sporting provision. The majority also contain good provision of basic amenities including entrance signs, seating and litter bins.

- 5.23. 12 of the sites are located within a Conservation Area and four sites include Grade II Listed features: the drinking fountain in Finsbury Square, New River Walk watch house, a gravestone in Joseph Grimaldi Park and Thornhill Square railings, which are also on the Buildings at Risk Register due to their poor condition. These designations emphasise the contribution of these small local parks and gardens to the character and heritage of the local area. Barnsbury, Thornhill and Charterhouse Squares which were originally created during the 19th century for communal use by residents of the surrounding houses are particularly good examples.
- 5.24. The majority of sites feature short grass, shrubs and trees. Many also feature formal planting in the form of rose beds and perennial and/or annual bedding displays. 13 of the 23 small local parks and gardens are designated for their nature conservation value. The 'recreation ground' at Crouch Hill forms part of a wider Site of Metropolitan Importance for nature conservation (also designated Metropolitan Open Land), together with three Borough Grade I (Arundel Square Gardens, Dartmouth Park and New River Walk), one Borough Grade II and eight Local SINCS.
- 5.25. In summary, small local parks and gardens typically exhibit the following characteristics:
- 0.4-2ha in size
 - Serve local needs, predominantly visited by local residents
 - Contribute to character of surrounding area, in particular the 19th century squares, and may be recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation
 - Active and passive recreation – mostly contain play equipment providing for two age groups (where appropriate to the character of the site), may contain sporting provision
 - Range of habitats which contributes to local biodiversity and may be acknowledged by SINC designation
 - Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins and entrance signs.

A3: Neighbourhood Gardens / Squares

- 5.26. Of the 60 neighbourhood gardens / squares, 50 are managed by Greenspace Services. These pockets of green space, which are all smaller than 0.4ha, generally supply an immediate neighbourhood need. Of the additional 10 sites audited for this study eight provide predominantly for the use of the immediate residents. However, due to their formal garden character they have been considered within this typology and their accessibility has been recorded as either limited or no public access.

- 5.27. These sites are predominantly located in the South (27 sites) and West (19 sites) Area Committees, with particular concentrations in St Mary's and St Peter's Wards. There are 10 sites in the North Area and just three in the East.
- 5.28. Around half of these sites contain provision for active recreation in the form of small play areas for children, 12 sites feature a MUGA and one site features a small synthetic pitch. In general, the neighbourhood gardens and squares contain a slightly more limited provision of basic amenities, although seating and litter bins are usually provided. Many of the sites are more oriented to passive recreational activities particularly the historic squares, which were created in the 19th century as garden areas for use by local residents. 37 of the 60 neighbourhood gardens / squares are located within Conservation Areas and three of the sites include Grade II Listed features (Astey's Row playground, Spa Green Gardens and Islington Green).
- 5.29. On the whole, the neighbourhood gardens and squares contain a more limited range of habitats than the larger parks and gardens, but in addition to short grass, trees and shrubs a number also contain formal planting of rose beds and annuals or perennials. 10 sites are designated as sites of importance for nature conservation (five Borough Grade I, one Borough Grade II and four Local SINC). Graham Street Open Space, although not designated a SINC, falls within the Regents Canal Site of Metropolitan Importance (SMI).
- 5.30. In summary, neighbourhood gardens and squares typically exhibit the following characteristics:
- <0.4ha in size (usually larger than 0.01 ha)
 - Pockets of provision supplying immediate neighbourhood need
 - Contribute to character of the surrounding area, in particular the 19th century squares, recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation
 - Active and passive recreation – may contain play equipment (where appropriate to the character of the site) with over four items of equipment/five activities providing for one age group, but no sporting provision
 - More limited range of habitats which contributes to local biodiversity and may be acknowledged by SINC designation
 - Limited provision of basic amenities, usually including seating and litter bins.

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

- 5.31. **Table 10** sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured. A full description of the role and purpose of accessibility, quantity and quality standards is provided in Chapter 2 (Methodology). A summary of how these standards were developed is set out below **Table 10** and **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** provide further detail.

Table 10: Parks and gardens - Provision standards

Accessibility standards	A*: Strategic parks and gardens	1200m
	A1: Major parks and gardens	800m
	A2: Small local parks and gardens	400m
	A3: Neighbourhood gardens/squares	400m
Quantity standards	A. Parks and Gardens (including typology 'H' cemeteries and disused churchyards)	0.312ha per 1000 population
Quality standards	A*: Strategic parks and gardens	Value threshold: 85 Quality threshold: 46
	A1: Major parks and gardens	Value threshold: 67 Quality threshold: 41
	A2: Small local parks and gardens	Value threshold: 38 (21 for those sites where they could not accommodate play.) Quality threshold: 31
	A3: Neighbourhood gardens/squares	Value threshold: 28 (16 for those sites where they could not accommodate play.) Quality threshold: 31

- 5.32. The **accessibility standards** for parks and gardens have been informed by GLA Best Practice guidance, tested against the results of consultation and a review of the locally specific conditions in Islington. Consultation results indicated that 35% of respondents who currently use parks or open spaces use sites within 5 minutes walk, 36% walk 5-10 minutes whilst 14% walk 10-15 minutes. The resulting standards shown in **Table 10** reflect these walking distances.
- 5.33. The **quantity standard**, which is designed to assess the adequacy of existing levels of provision and to guide future provision as the borough's population increases, takes account of opinions expressed through consultation in terms of needs/adequacy of the level of provision, the limited opportunity for increasing provision in Islington and benchmarking against other London boroughs.
- 5.34. To assess the quality of existing provision a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold tests the **value** of a site i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics common to that level of the hierarchy in terms of types of facilities, amenities and biodiversity benefits and also tests the **quality** of a site in terms of its presentation, how safe it feels and overall condition.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

Accessibility to parks and gardens in Islington

- 5.35. **Map 9** shows the accessibility standards in the form of distance buffers or catchments (as described in the methodology (see section 2)). The map shows the extent of the borough that has access to parks and gardens at each of the four levels of the hierarchy (noting that parks and gardens in a higher level of the hierarchy are also included in lower levels since they can also provide a more localised function –

for example a strategic park and garden which has the widest accessibility catchment, will also play the role of a local park for those people within the local park scale catchment).

Strategic parks and gardens

- 5.36. Highbury Fields is the only strategic park and when the accessibility standard of 1.2km is applied it is apparent that large areas of the borough do not have easy access to a park and garden of this scale and function. This affects the whole of Clerkenwell and Bunhill wards in the South and all four wards in the North Area. It is noted, however that the larger parks outside of the borough boundary, particularly Clissold and Finsbury Parks to the east, and the much larger Hampstead Heath to the northwest are likely to address the deficiency in the north of the borough (this is explored in the overall analysis of accessibility to public open space drawn together in section 17).

Major parks and gardens

- 5.37. When reviewing accessibility to major parks and gardens, the greatest deficiencies are apparent in Clerkenwell and Bunhill wards in the south. Highbury Fields plays an important role in the east of the borough. Smaller areas of deficiency falling outside the catchments for major parks and gardens are found in parts of Finsbury Park, Highbury West, Highbury East and Mildmay wards. However, the accessibility catchments of Finsbury Park and Clissold Park to the east of the borough boundary (in Haringey and Hackney, respectively) reach into these areas. Similarly small areas of deficiency in the north of Junction Ward are served by Waterlow Park and Highgate Cemetery to the west of the borough boundary in Camden.

Small local parks and gardens

- 5.38. Generally speaking accessibility to small local parks and gardens (or equivalent higher level provision serving this function) is better than access to higher levels of the hierarchy. However there are still deficiencies, predominantly in a band crossing the middle of the borough affecting St George's, Holloway, Finsbury Park, Highbury West and Highbury East Wards. A significant proportion of St Peter's ward and a small area of Bunhill in the South Area are also outside of the accessibility catchments of this level of provision.

Neighbourhood gardens/squares

- 5.39. The majority of the borough is within easy access of a neighbourhood garden/ square, the only deficiencies of note being the eastern half of Highbury West and Highbury East wards and the western edge of St George's ward.

Quantity of parks and gardens in Islington

- 5.40. **Table 11** summarises how the existing provision of parks and gardens measures up against the defined quantity standard of 0.312ha per 1000 population now and at 2025.

Table 11: Quantitative provision of parks and gardens by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Hectares of provision per 1000 population in 2008 (publicly accessible and limited access) including Typology H sites	Surplus/ shortfall in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Surplus/ shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	0.083	-3.039	15,300	-3.670
	Highbury East	0.907	6.638	11,950	6.388
	Highbury West	0.000	-4.308	17,300	-5.383
	Mildmay	0.094	-2.626	12,500	-2.769
North	Hillrise	0.398	1.032	13,550	0.518
	Junction	0.429	1.354	12,450	1.061
	St. George's	0.004	-3.632	11,600	-3.566
	Tollington	0.129	-2.405	14,800	-2.903
South	Bunhill	0.466	1.734	12,800	1.235
	Canonbury	0.426	1.208	11,050	1.069
	Clerkenwell	0.380	0.711	9,900	0.857
	St. Peter's	0.197	-1.366	14,300	-2.115
West	Barnsbury	0.393	0.902	11,650	0.705
	Caledonian	0.266	-0.583	14,300	-1.087
	Holloway	0.456	1.963	16,750	0.974
	St. Mary's	0.526	2.416	11,650	2.286
TOTAL		0.312	0.000	211,850	-6.401

5.41. The table above highlights that there are great discrepancies between the wards in terms of provision of parks and gardens. Highbury West has a shortfall of 4.3ha in 2008, rising to 5.4ha by 2025. In contrast, Highbury East (which includes Highbury Fields) has a surplus of 6.6ha in 2008 (reducing slightly to 6.4ha in 2025). The wards in the South and West Areas have an overall surplus of provision when assessed against the quantity standard, whereas the wards in the North and East of the borough have a combined deficiency of almost 7ha. The most deficient wards in terms of quantity are Highbury West, St George's and Finsbury Park wards.

5.42. In total, nine wards meet/exceed the quantity standard whilst seven wards are currently deficient in provision. This remains unchanged at 2025, although there will be an erosion in the quantity of provision per head of population as the population grows. In order to meet the quantity standard at 2025, an additional 6.401ha of parks and gardens need to be created. This takes into account the current provision

of both parks and gardens and typology H (cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds).

Quality of parks and gardens in Islington

- 5.43. Each site has been attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in **Appendix 9**). The resulting value/quality (VQ) ratings for parks and gardens are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 12** and the distribution of these ratings is shown on **Map 10** and broken down by ward in **Table 13**.

Table 12: Parks and gardens value/quality ratings by hierarchy

VQ Rating	No. of A* sites	No. of A1 sites	No. of A2 sites	No. of A3 sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/high quality			5	14	19
+ - High value/Low quality	1	6	11	33	51
- + Low Value/High quality			2		2
-- Low value/Low quality		1	5	13	19

- 5.44. The table shows that 70 of the 91 parks and gardens (77%) were rated as **below the quality threshold** suggesting that improvements to the condition of existing parks and gardens provision across all levels of the hierarchy should be a priority.
- 5.45. 21 parks and gardens (23%) are rated **below the value threshold** suggesting there is scope for new facilities or improved landscaping at these sites to improve their appeal to users. 19 of these fall **below both the value and quality thresholds** and should be a priority for review of their design and function.
- 5.46. The spatial distribution of the VQ ratings is further summarised by Ward in **Table 13**. There are high value/high quality sites in each Area Committee with over 40% located in the wards in the South Area. The below value/below quality parks and gardens are also concentrated in wards in the South (eight sites) together with sites in the West (seven sites) and four sites in the North Area. Caledonian Park in Holloway Ward (West Area) stands out as the only major park and garden falling below both the value and quality thresholds. This site serves a significant proportion of the West Area Committee and, together with Bingfield Park and Market Road Gardens, in neighbouring Caledonian Ward (also falling below the thresholds), results in a concentration of lower value/quality sites in this area.

Table 13: Parks and gardens value/quality ratings by ward

Ward	++ High value/ high quality	+ - High value/ Low quality	- + Low Value/ High quality	-- Low value/ Low quality
Barnsbury		6		1
Bunhill	2	4		2
Caledonian	1	1	1	3
Canonbury	1	2		4
Clerkenwell	3	3		2
Finsbury Park	1	2	1	
Highbury East		1		
Hillrise		3		3
Holloway	1	2		2
Junction		4		
Mildmay	1	2		
St. George's		2		
St. Mary's	3	8		1
St. Peter's	3	8		
Tollington	3	3		1

- 5.47. The Green Space Assessment and associated Action Plan, together with the audit reports from this study, provide greater detail about specific quality issues and enhancements needed to parks and gardens, including ideas to extend the value of spaces which are currently meeting the quality standard as well as those which are falling below. A wide range of issues arose in the Green Space study as needing addressing, including general maintenance, dog fouling and control of dogs, accessibility (both physical barriers and community safety concerns), signage, sustainability, equipment/facility renewal, nature and heritage conservation and communication/links with users.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

- 5.48. The wards in the South Area Committee have little or no access to larger, more multifunctional parks and gardens. In this densely urban part of the borough there is little scope to create a new large park. This may mean that smaller parks and gardens are under greater pressure and need to 'punch above their weight' to provide facilities which would normally be expected of larger spaces. It is notable that 9 of the 16 parks and gardens in Clerkenwell Ward and Bunhill Ward are classed as being below quality which may reflect such pressures. It is recommended that planning obligations/council funds should be used to enhance the quality of parks and gardens in these wards, given the lack of scope to create new larger spaces.

- 5.49. In summary, there is a coincidence of **lack of access** to larger, more multi-functional parks and gardens in the south Area Committee, and poorer quality of some spaces (e.g. King Square Gardens, Finsbury Square and Duncan Terrace Gardens) in this area. However, overall quantitative provision is adequate in this part of the borough. Therefore the priority in the South Area should be on improving the quality and functionality of the small parks and gardens.
- 5.50. The majority of people use their most local green space (classified as being within a 10 minute walk) more often than travelling further to a larger park. Therefore it is vital that the residents of Islington have access to good quality green space on their doorstep. As illustrated in **Map 9**, there is a band across the borough (crossing through St Georges/Finsbury Park Wards), together with a large area of St Peter's Ward and a small area of Bunhill Ward deficient in access to small local parks and gardens (and to an extent major parks and gardens and neighbourhood gardens/squares too). It should be noted that these deficiencies may be lessened to some extent by the presence of other types of open space and by parks and gardens outside of the borough boundary, specifically the catchments of Finsbury Park and Clissold Park which extend into the East Committee Area wards of Finsbury Park, Highbury West and Highbury East (see section 17 for a discussion of all public open space).
- 5.51. There may be scope for the neighbourhood gardens/squares and open spaces of other typologies to step up to provide the multi-functionality expected of a small local park and garden. Otherwise, with no substitute for small local parks and gardens, residents in these areas will have to travel further to appreciate the more multifunctional qualities of parks and gardens.
- 5.52. Quantitative deficiencies are greatest in wards in the North and East of the borough, which have a combined deficiency of almost 7ha. The most deficient wards in terms of quantity are Highbury West, St George's and Finsbury Park wards.
- 5.53. 77% of parks and gardens fall below the quality threshold suggesting that improvements to the condition of existing parks and gardens provision across all levels of the hierarchy should be a priority. 23% are rated below the value threshold suggesting there is scope for new facilities or improved landscaping at these sites to improve their appeal to users.
- 5.54. In terms of the spatial distribution of value and quality, there are high value/high quality sites in each Area Committee, but over 40% of these are located in the wards in the South Area. The below value/below quality parks and gardens are also concentrated in wards in the South (eight sites) together with sites in the West (seven sites) and four sites in the North Area. Caledonian Park in Holloway Ward (West Area) stands out as the only major park and garden falling below both the value and quality thresholds. This site serves a significant proportion of the West Area Committee, and together with Bingfield Park and Market Road Gardens, in neighbouring Caledonian Ward (also falling below the thresholds), results in a concentration of lower value/quality sites in this area.
- 5.55. There are several areas with poor access to parks and gardens which coincide with quantitative deficiencies in provision. These include a band across the

northern/central part of the borough made up of St George's, Finsbury Park, Highbury West wards (which have the highest quantitative deficiencies of all wards) and St Peter's ward (which is the fifth most deficient ward). The priority should be, where possible, to increase quantitative provision. Highbury West ward is notable in that it contains no provision of parks and gardens, although it does include Gillespie Park which is a high quality area of semi-natural space, which in part helps to address the deficiencies in this ward in terms of lack of parks and gardens.

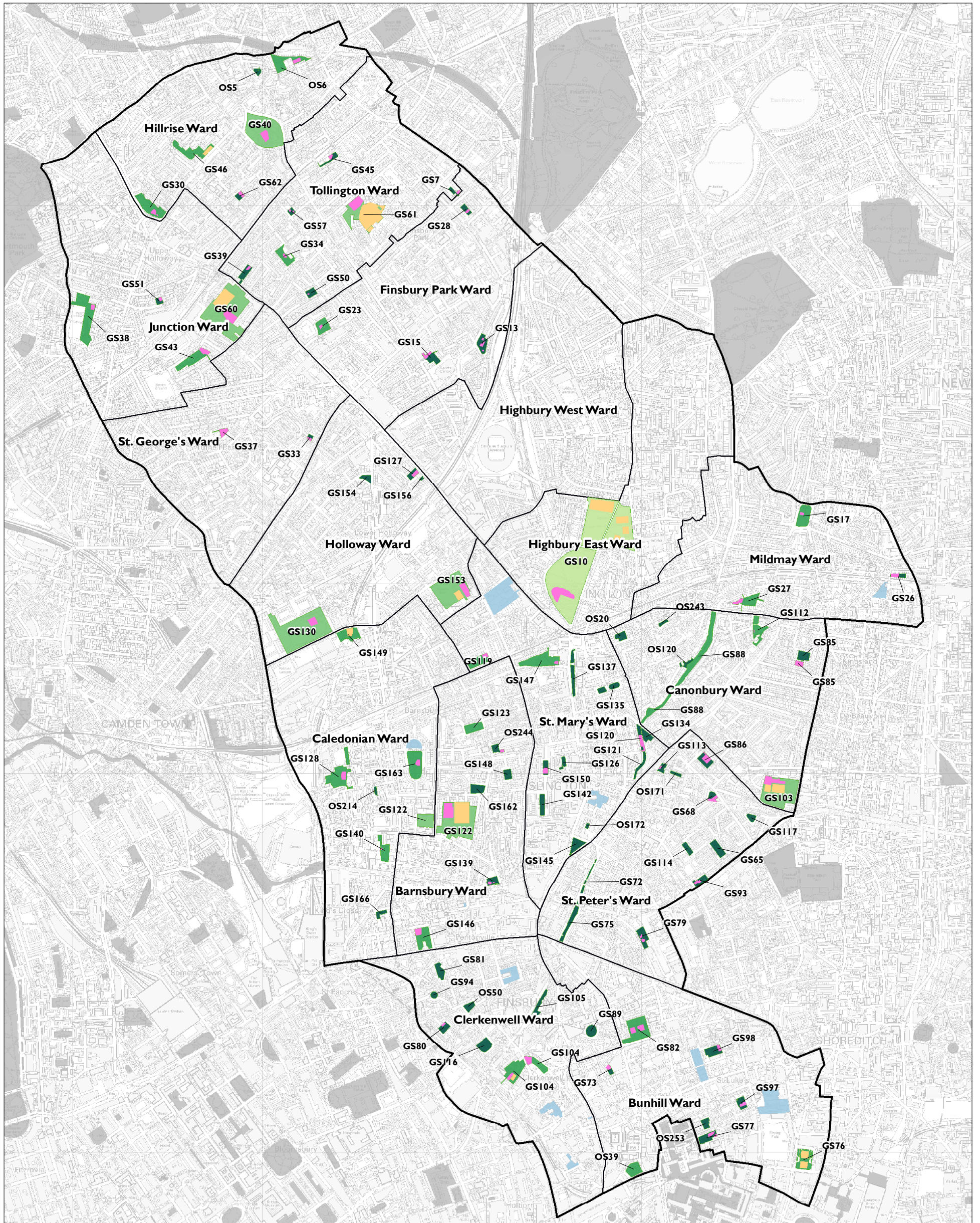
- 5.56. Where it is not possible to increase quantitative provision in the areas noted above, efforts should be made to increase the quality and functionality of existing parks and gardens where these fall below the VQ thresholds.
- 5.57. The Action Plan detailed in the Green Space Assessment identifies scope for improving the quality and value of spaces managed by Greenspace Services. The actions within this Action Plan should be prioritised in light of the findings of this study to ensure that improvements to quality and value are, in the first instance, focussed in those areas which have quantitative and/or accessibility deficiencies to parks and gardens (and other types of open space). Underused areas of housing sites which might be able to perform an open space function in future should also be identified. This would ensure that the best use is made of existing open spaces to widen their appeal and to meet local needs in areas where accessibility or quantitative deficiencies cannot readily be addressed (for example, by improving facilities such as entrance signs, toilets, provision of cafes and play equipment, to a standard which might normally be expected of a larger space).
- 5.58. Opportunities to improve the functionality of other typologies, such as cemeteries and disused churchyards (Typology H), to act as parks and gardens should be considered. Typology H sites are focussed towards the south and centre of the borough, which coincides with the areas most deficient in terms of parks and gardens. Scope to introduce facilities such as small scale play and café facilities should be considered, as appropriate. The nature of provision within Typology H is considered further in Chapter 11, however, it is notable that all sites were found to be below the quality threshold, suggesting that there is scope to make these sites more attractive to people.
- 5.59. In order to maintain the existing level of provision (which is the level at which the quantity standard has been set) as the population grows, an additional 6.401 ha of parks and gardens will be needed by 2025. In such a densely urban borough it will be difficult to secure such high levels of additional space. In addition there are already wards, particularly in the north and east of the borough which are deficient in quantity of parks and gardens. To address this issue will require imaginative solutions combined with maximising the value of the existing public open space resource.
- 5.60. Good standards of maintenance were highlighted in consultation as an important factor affecting people's satisfaction with green spaces. As highlighted in the Green Space Assessment, the existing revenue funding for general maintenance is insufficient, which affects the overall condition of infrastructure and standards of maintenance on Greenspace managed sites. Improving the quality of the existing parks and gardens should be a priority, ensuring all sites are welcoming, safe, secure, clean and well maintained.

5.61. There is also scope to increase the value of the existing parks and gardens in terms of the facilities, amenities and biodiversity benefits they offer. A number of parks and gardens were highlighted in the Green Space Assessment as requiring a redesign/masterplanning exercise and capital improvement project to maximise their value. The majority of people who responded to the consultation said they would rather see investment spread across a large number of sites to raise the standard of existing green spaces rather than focusing on a small number of key sites.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

A.i	Explore opportunities to increase the quantity of provision in the seven wards which are not meeting the quantity standard, focusing particularly on Highbury West, St George’s, Finsbury Park and St Peter’s wards as a priority as they are also deficient in access to small local parks and gardens (consider whether other types of space can substitute to partially address deficiency).
A.ii	<p>Improve the quality of existing parks and gardens across the borough (with reference to the recommendations detailed in Appendix 5 of the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan), particularly focussing on those which fall within areas which are deficient in terms of quantity of provision and/or accessibility of provision. Key priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overall priority should be to improve the quality, value and functionality of spaces in the northern/central part of the borough (made up of St George’s, Finsbury Park, Highbury West and St Peter’s wards). This has the poorest access to parks and gardens and the most pronounced quantitative deficiencies, falling below the quality/value threshold. • Improving Caledonian Park in Holloway Ward (West Area) which is the only major park and garden falling below both the value and quality thresholds. • Improving the quality and functionality of the small parks and gardens in the South Area.
A.iii	Review design and function of parks and gardens falling below the value threshold, particularly sites in the wards in the south, west and north areas of the borough which achieved a ‘-/’ v/q rating (with reference to the Green Space Assessment and audit reports).
A.iv	Review opportunities for increasing the value of existing parks and gardens as a means of increasing the capacity of these spaces and potentially the catchment they serve (consider how this might be measured in terms of ‘quantifying’ the benefits and how this might

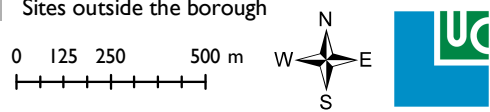
	contribute to addressing quantity deficiencies).
A.v	Ensure that potential housing sites identified through the LDF include a sufficient level of onsite provision wherever possible, or contribute to enhancing the value and accessibility of parks and gardens within the vicinity of new developments where onsite provision is not appropriate. This is particularly important in those wards facing quantitative deficiencies (in particular St Georges, Finsbury Park, Highbury West Wards).
A.vi	Ensure that funds secured through planning obligations and other funding is directed towards the above priorities.
A.vii	Review priorities in the Green Space Assessment (which focussed on quality improvements) to ensure quality improvements are focussed in those areas with most pronounced deficiencies (as measured by quantity, accessibility and quality of spaces) and ensure opportunities to address accessibility/quantitative deficiencies are also included in investment plans.

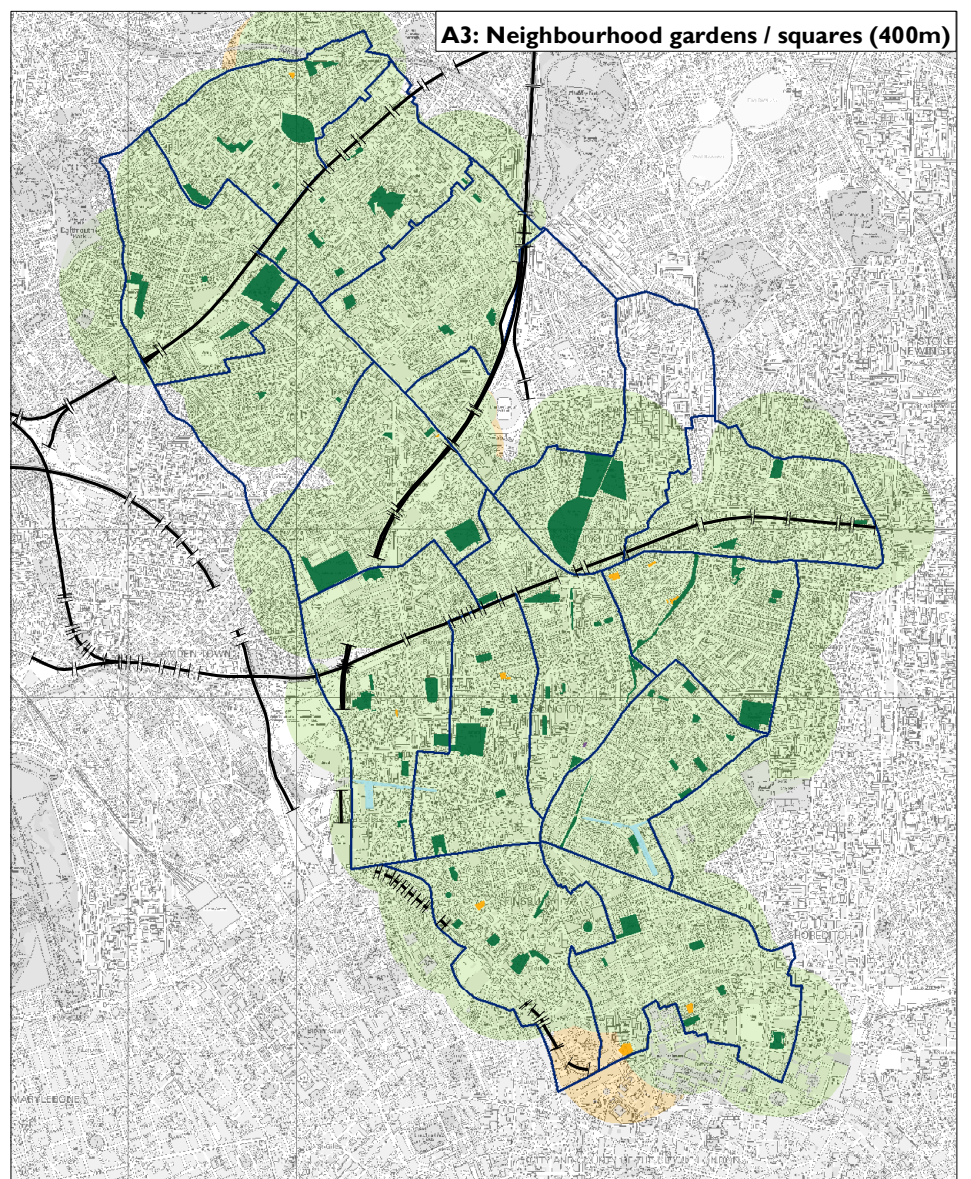
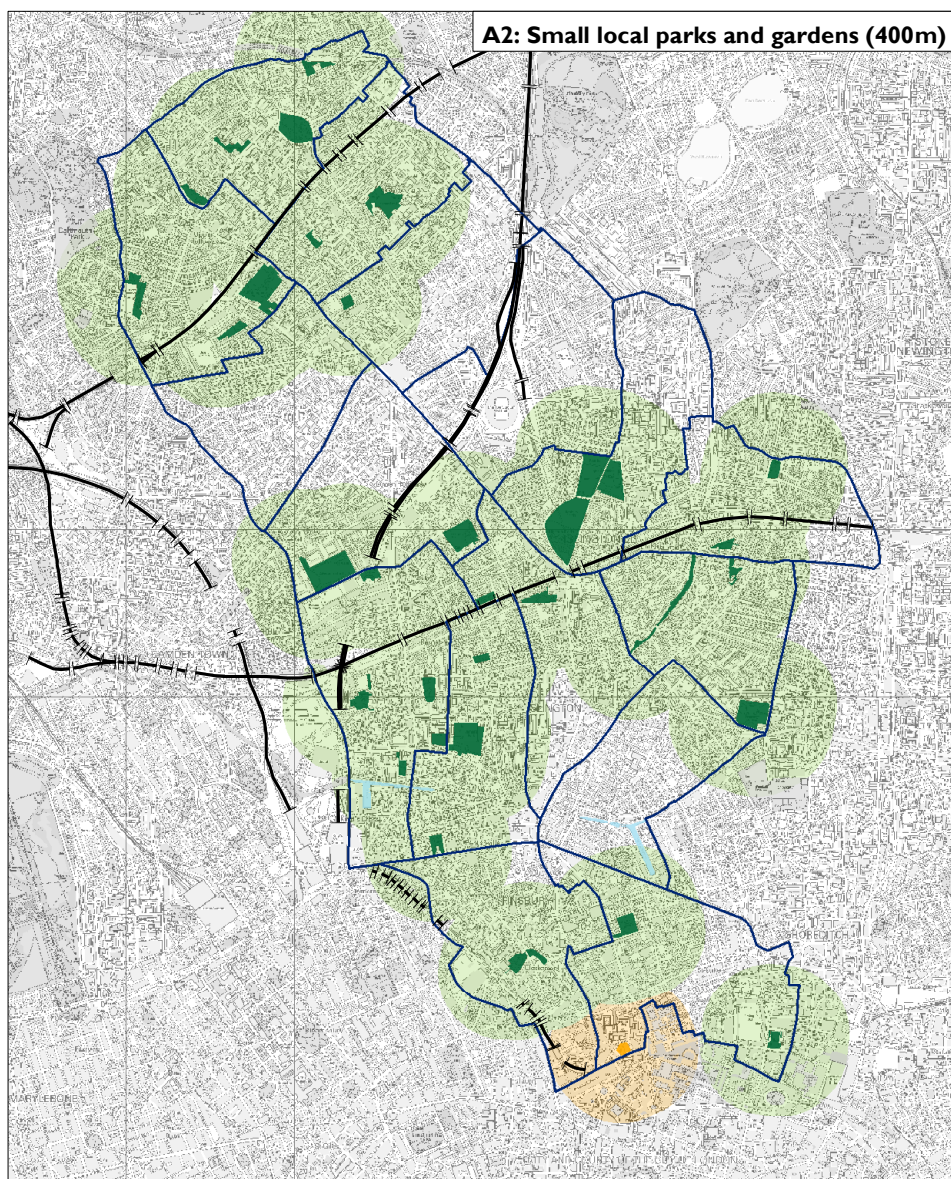
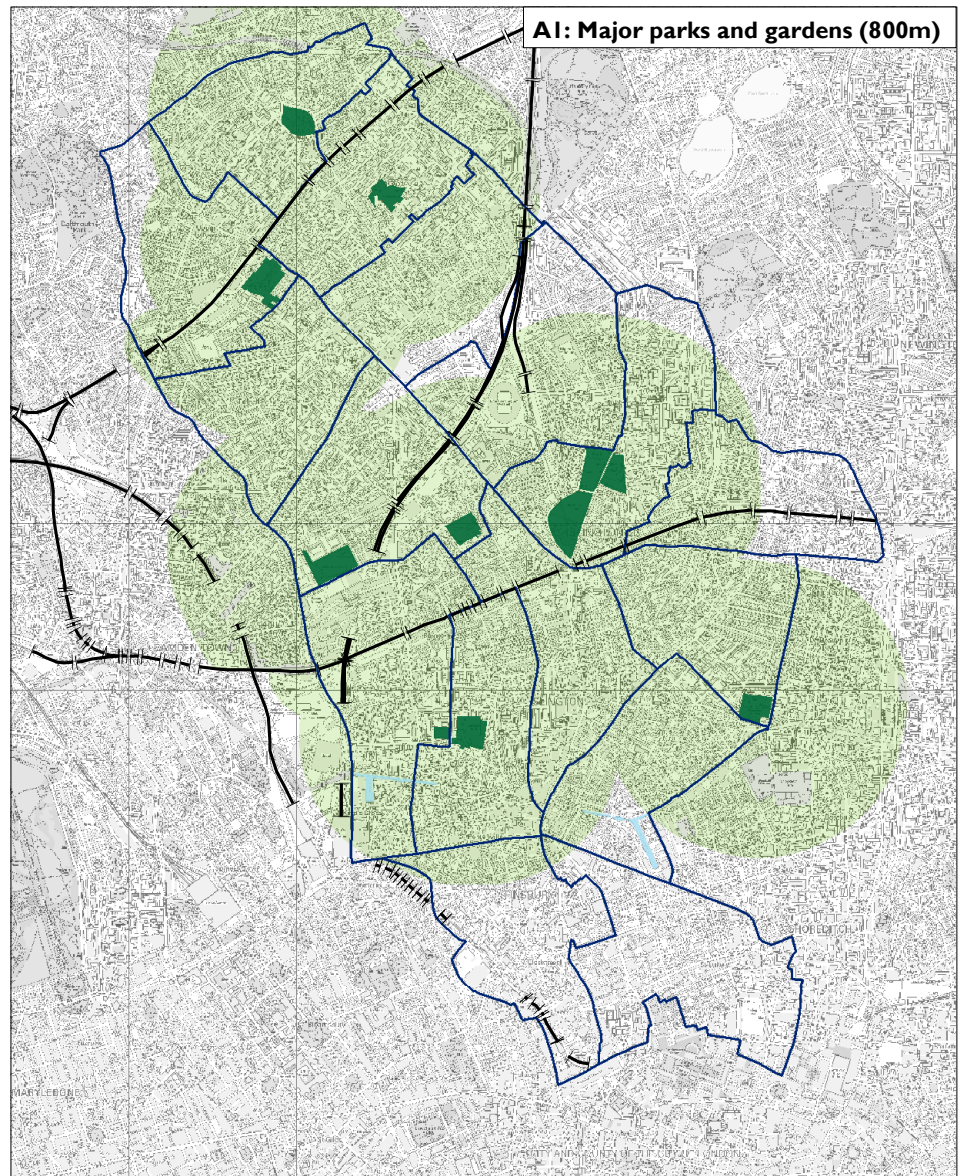
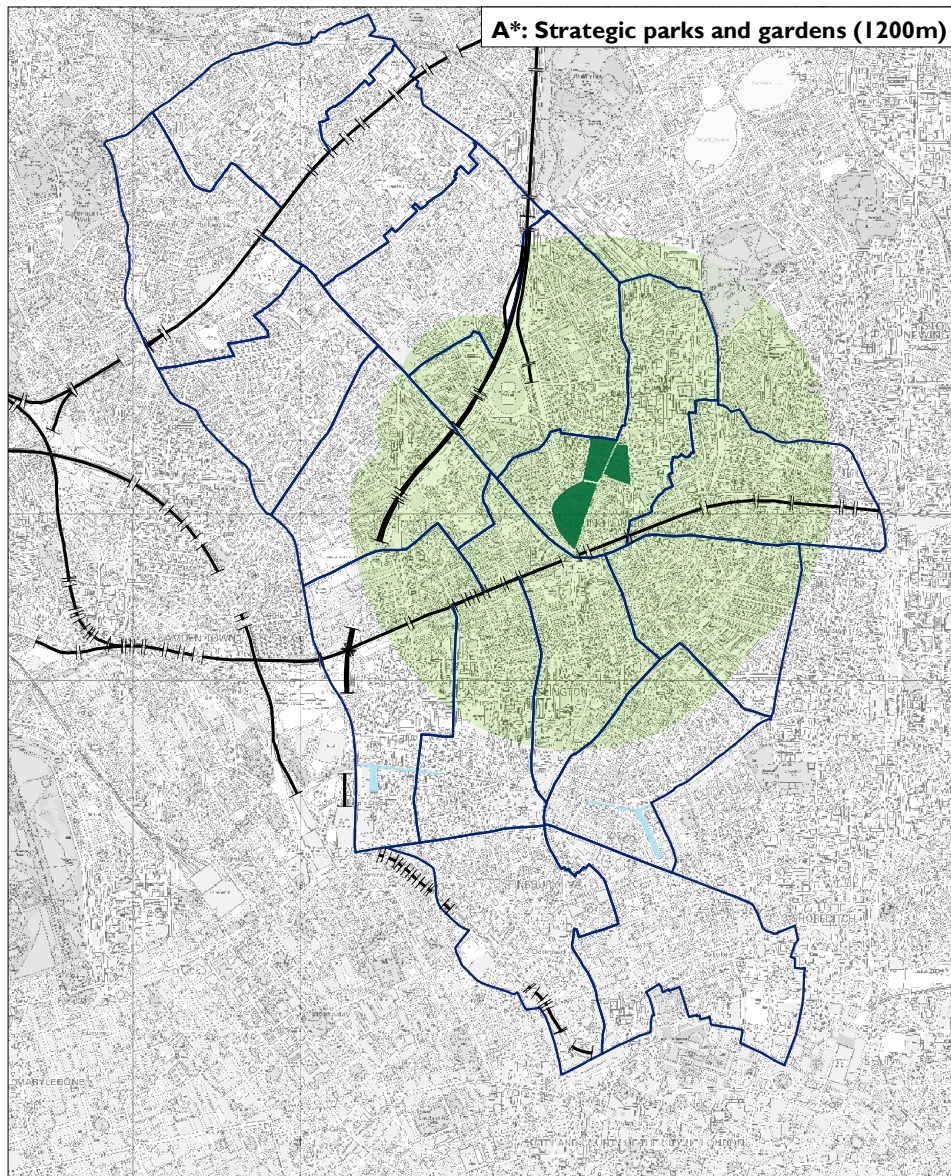


Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 8: Typology A: parks and gardens by hierarchy

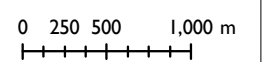
Key

London Borough of Islington	Parks and gardens by hierarchy	Secondary typologies within parks and gardens	Other sites in 'equivalent typologies' (cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds)
Ward boundaries	A*. Strategic parks	Play and youth facilities (within parks and gardens)	Sites outside the borough
	A1. Major parks and gardens	Formal MUGAs and outdoor sports facilities (within parks and gardens)	
	A2. Small local parks and gardens		
	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares		





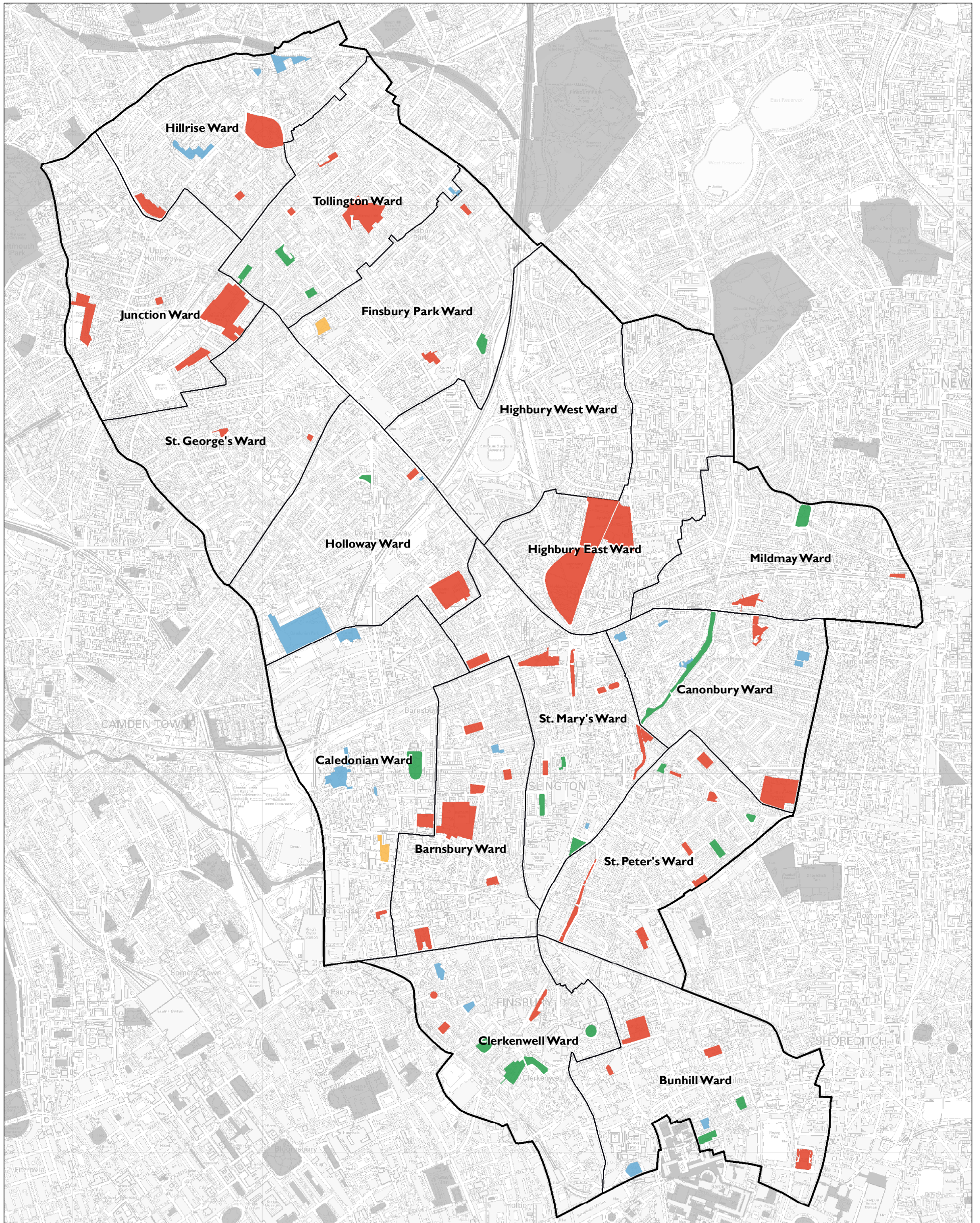
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 9: Typology A: parks and gardens accessibility



Key

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Railway | Site accessibility | Site catchments | Sites outside the borough |
| Canal | Publicly accessible | Publicly accessible | |
| Ward boundaries | Limited access | Limited access | |
| | No public access | No public access | |

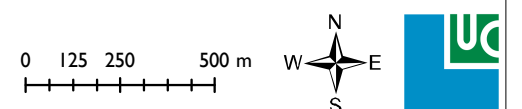




Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 10: Typology A: parks and gardens value/quality ratings

Key

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| London Borough of Islington | Value/quality rating | Below value/above quality (- +) |
| Ward boundaries | Above value/above quality (+ +) | Below value/below quality (- -) |
| Sites outside the borough | Above value/below quality (+ -) | |



6. B. NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREEN SPACE

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 6.1. Although a number of typologies include areas with nature conservation value, natural and semi-natural green spaces are distinguishable by their primary focus on wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education. Although the majority of users visit open spaces for relaxation and fresh air, a number of users consulted also cite nature appreciation as the reason for their visit. Young people appreciate having access to the natural environment, for example a number of young people pointed out that they enjoy collecting beetles and observing butterflies.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 6.2. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of natural and semi-natural green space. Firstly, a summary of the quantity of provision is presented by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the natural and semi-natural green spaces, together with summary details, is provided in **Appendix 6**.
- 6.3. **Map 11a** shows the distribution of the four natural and semi-natural green space sites throughout the borough, which are Gillespie Park, Barnsbury Wood, Fife Terrace Moorings and a site near Hillrise Road.

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 6.4. There are four sites which are predominantly natural and/or semi-natural in character.

Table 14: Existing provision of natural and semi-natural green space

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
B1. Local natural / semi-natural green spaces	1	3.163	191,300	0.017
B2. Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	3	0.578	191,300	0.003
TOTAL	4	3.741	191,300	0.020

- 6.5. As shown in **Table 14**, the total area of the four natural and semi-natural green spaces is 3.741 ha. The majority of this area is concentrated at one site, Gillespie Park. The current provision of natural and semi-natural green space is 0.02 ha per

1000 population when all access types (publicly accessible, limited access and no public access) are taken into account.

By Ward

Table 15: Existing provision of natural and semi-natural green space by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (ha)	Existing provision per 1000 population	Additional area of no access sites (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300				
	Highbury East	11,150				
	Highbury West	13,850	1	3.163	0.229	
	Mildmay	12,050				
North	Hillrise	11,900	1			0.138
	Junction	11,500				
	St. George's	11,850				
	Tollington	13,200				
South	Bunhill	11,200				
	Canonbury	10,600				
	Clerkenwell	10,350				
	St. Peter's	11,900				
West	Barnsbury	11,000	1	0.079	0.007	
	Caledonian	12,700	1	0.362	0.028	
	Holloway	13,600				
	St. Mary's	11,250				
TOTAL		191,300	4	3.603	0.019	0.138

- 6.6. **Table 15** above shows that whilst there is some provision in the North, East and West Areas, there are no sites in the South Area. 3 of the sites are accessible, whilst one has no public access (site near Hillrise Road). Overall provision of sites with public access equates to 0.019 ha per 1000 population.

Key characteristics of natural and semi-natural green space

- 6.7. Two of the natural and semi-natural green spaces are managed by Islington's Greenspace Services (Gillespie Park and Barnsbury Wood). The importance of these sites for nature conservation is recognised through their designation as Local Nature Reserves. Gillespie Park is also designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation (SMI) and Barnsbury Wood designated as a Borough Grade I Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The importance to the community of

these sites is reinforced by the involvement of Friends Groups at both Gillespie Park and Barnsbury Wood.

- 6.8. The ownership of the other 2 sites (Fife Terrace Moorings and the site near Hillrise Road) is not known.

B1: Local natural / semi-natural green spaces

- 6.9. Gillespie Park (3.163ha) is the only site at this level of the hierarchy, and accounts for over 85% of the natural and semi-natural green space in this typology. The site is designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation (SMI) and as a Local Nature Reserve, and has received a Green Flag Award. The site contains an ecology centre providing education for schools, events and courses for the public, and advice on all aspects of sustainable living. Gillespie Park contains a wide range of habitats, of considerably greater variety than the other sites in this typology. The community survey highlighted that Gillespie Park is one of the most popular large spaces in Islington.

- 6.10. In summary, local natural/semi-natural green spaces typically have:

- A very broad/extensive range of habitats
- Provision for informal recreation.
- Some visitor facilities and basic amenities (e.g. nature trail, visitor centre, toilets, seating etc.)
- May be designated at Metropolitan level for Nature Conservation.

B2: Pockets of natural / semi-natural green spaces

- 6.11. The three sites at this level of the hierarchy account for just less than 15% of the area of natural and semi-natural green space. The sites are Barnsbury Wood (0.362ha), Fife Terrace Moorings (0.079ha) and a further small, inaccessible, site near Hillrise Road (0.138ha). Barnsbury Wood is a much smaller space than Gillespie Park, and is not designed for such extensive public use; the site is currently only open on Tuesdays and Saturdays. This site contains a wide range of habitats and is designated as a Borough Grade I Site of Importance for Nature Conservation and as a Local Nature Reserve. Fife Terrace Moorings has limited access, and is for the use of boat owners only. The site falls within the Regent's Canal (West) SMI. The site near Hillrise Road is not accessible to the public, and is an unmanaged piece of land. It is situated adjacent to the Parkland Walk (see section 7 – Green corridors).

- 6.12. In summary, pockets of natural / semi-natural green space typically have:

- A broad range of habitats
- Provision for informal recreation
- No formal visitor facilities likely, but some basic amenities (e.g. seating)
- May be designated at borough level for nature conservation

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

- 6.13. The table below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured (subdivided by hierarchy). Justification for the standards is set out in **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** by typology.

Table 16: Natural and semi-natural green space - Provision standards

Accessibility standards	B1: Local natural / semi-natural green space	1000m
	B2: Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	400m
Quantity standards	B: Natural and semi-natural green space	0.019ha per 1000 population
Quality standards	B1: Local natural / semi-natural green space	Value threshold: 34 Quality threshold: 27
	B2: Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	Value threshold: 18 Quality threshold: 22

- 6.14. The accessibility standards for natural and semi-natural green space have been informed by the GLA's Access to Nature guidance and benchmarking with other local authorities as well as benchmarking against other typologies of similar size (pocket parks). The standards have been tested against the results of consultation and a review of the locally specific conditions in Islington.
- 6.15. The quantity standard has been developed based on the existing provision of natural and semi-natural green space in the borough, opportunities for increasing provision and benchmarking.
- 6.16. To assess the quality of existing audited provision a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold tests the **value** of a site i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics common to that level of the hierarchy in terms of types of facilities, amenities and biodiversity benefits and also tests the **quality** of a site in terms of its presentation, how safe it feels and overall condition. This enables identification of sites which should be protected by the planning system, which require enhancement, and which sites require a review of their design and present purpose.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

- 6.17. **Map 11b - d** shows the accessibility catchments for natural and semi-natural green space at both levels of the hierarchy and a summary of the quality assessment of the sites.

Accessibility to natural and semi-natural green space in Islington

- 6.18. The accessibility catchments of the four natural and semi-natural sites are shown on **Maps 11b and 11c**. At the local level of the hierarchy, it can be seen that although Gillespie Park is the largest site, its accessibility catchment is limited to the north eastern area of the borough (Tollington, Finsbury Park, Highbury West, Highbury

East and a small section of Holloway Wards). All other wards are deficient in access at this level of the hierarchy. The railway line that it abuts acts as a barrier, which has the effect of reducing the catchment, although there is still some access from north of the railway line via footpaths and bridges. The areas of deficiency in the south of the borough accord with the deficiencies identified in the GLA's Access to Nature report (see Section 3 of this report) as illustrated in **Map 5d**.

- 6.19. At the lower level of the hierarchy, deficiencies in access to natural and semi-natural green space are even more pronounced. Although two of the sites are located in the southern half of the borough, they have limited public access. These sites have not been included in the GLA Access to Nature map due to their limited accessibility. Due to its inaccessibility, the small site off Hillrise Road does not help to reduce the significant areas of deficiency within the borough.
- 6.20. Wards which have no access to publicly accessible or limited access natural and semi-natural green space at any level of the hierarchy are Junction, Mildmay, Hillrise, Canonbury, St. Peter's, Bunhill and Clerkenwell.
- 6.21. It should be noted that there is scope for sites of other types to fulfil some of this deficiency (Green corridors, churchyards and parks and gardens in particular). Sites of these typologies have been considered as part of the GLA Access to Nature report. There are also a number of sites outside of the borough that are used by Islington residents which serve to reduce this deficiency. Consultation indicated that the most popular large parks outside of the borough are Clissold Park and Finsbury Park to the east, and Hampstead Heath to the west - all of which have some natural/semi natural features.

Quantity of natural and semi-natural green space in Islington

- 6.22. **Table 17** below summarises how the provision of natural and semi-natural green space measures up against the suggested quantity standard of 0.019ha per 1000 population now and at 2025 taking into account population growth. The table shows that most wards in the borough are deficient in natural and semi-natural green space. The only wards that exceed the standard are Highbury West and Caledonian. These two wards will also exceed the standard in 2025 despite the expected population growth. The most deficient wards in terms of quantity are Finsbury Park and Holloway wards, both of which are partially within the catchment of Gillespie Park. In order to meet the standard at 2025, an additional 0.387ha of natural and semi-natural space will need to be created.

Table 17: Future provision of natural and semi-natural green space by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Hectares of provision per 1000 population in 2008	Surplus/shortfall in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Surplus/shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	0.000	-0.250	15,300	-0.288
	Highbury East	0.000	-0.210	11,950	-0.225
	Highbury West	0.229	2.903	17,300	2.838
	Mildmay	0.000	-0.227	12,500	-0.236
North	Hillrise	0.000	-0.224	13,550	-0.255
	Junction	0.000	-0.217	12,450	-0.234
	St. George's	0.000	-0.223	11,600	-0.219
	Tollington	0.000	-0.248	14,800	-0.279
South	Bunhill	0.000	-0.211	12,800	-0.242
	Canonbury	0.000	-0.199	11,050	-0.208
	Clerkenwell	0.000	-0.195	9,900	-0.186
	St. Peter's	0.000	-0.224	14,300	-0.269
West	Barnsbury	0.007	-0.129	11,650	-0.141
	Caledonian	0.028	0.122	14,300	0.092
	Holloway	0.000	-0.256	16,750	-0.316
	St. Mary's	0.000	-0.212	11,650	-0.220
TOTAL		0.019	0.000	211,850	-0.387

Quality of natural and semi-natural green space in Islington

- 6.23. On application of the quality standard each site is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in **Appendix 9**). The resulting value/quality ratings for the four sites are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 18** and illustrated on **Map 11d**.

Table 18: Value and quality ratings

VQ Rating	No. of B1 sites	No. of B2 sites	Total number of sites
+ + High value/High quality	1	1	2
+ - High value/Low quality			
- + Low value/High quality			
- - Low value/Low quality	1	1	2

- 6.24. Both of the Greenspace managed natural and semi-natural green spaces in the borough (Gillespie Park and Barnsbury Wood) are rated as above value/above quality and should be protected by the planning system. Although the two sites are already highly valued (particularly for their nature conservation and associated educational benefits) and are maintained in good condition there is still scope for enhancement and a need for continuing good standards of management and maintenance.
- 6.25. Some key issues that emerged from the site audits in terms of quality are that there are some physical barriers to access at both Greenspace managed sites, requiring enhancements in-keeping with their character. Limited visitor access to Barnsbury Wood which is only open two days a week was also raised as an issue.
- 6.26. Both of the non-Greenspace managed sites natural/semi-natural green spaces (Fife Terrace Moorings in Barnsbury ward and the site near Hillrise Road in Hillrise ward) in the borough are rated as below value/below quality – one appearing to be unmanaged with poor overall design. Their low scores reflect the access restrictions, as well as their unmanaged nature.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

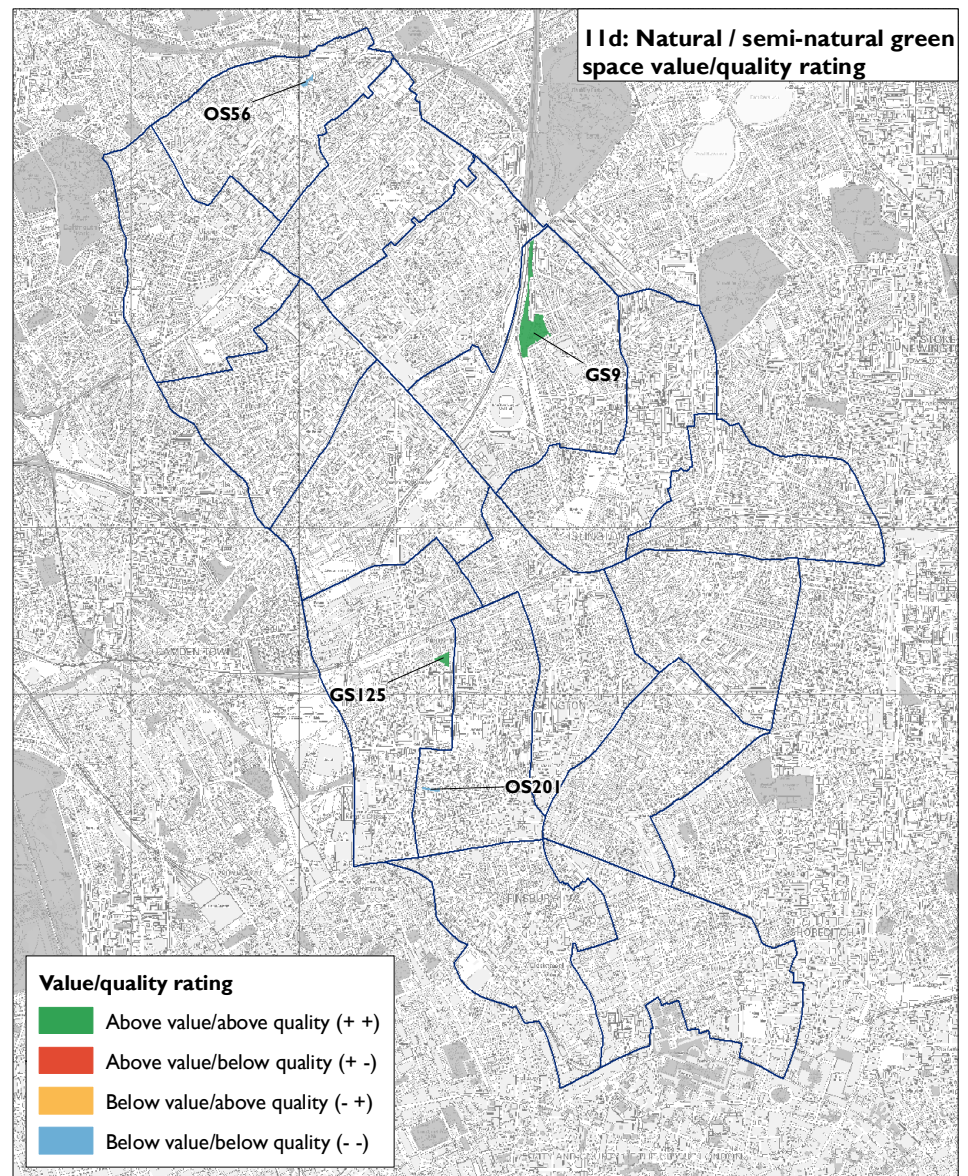
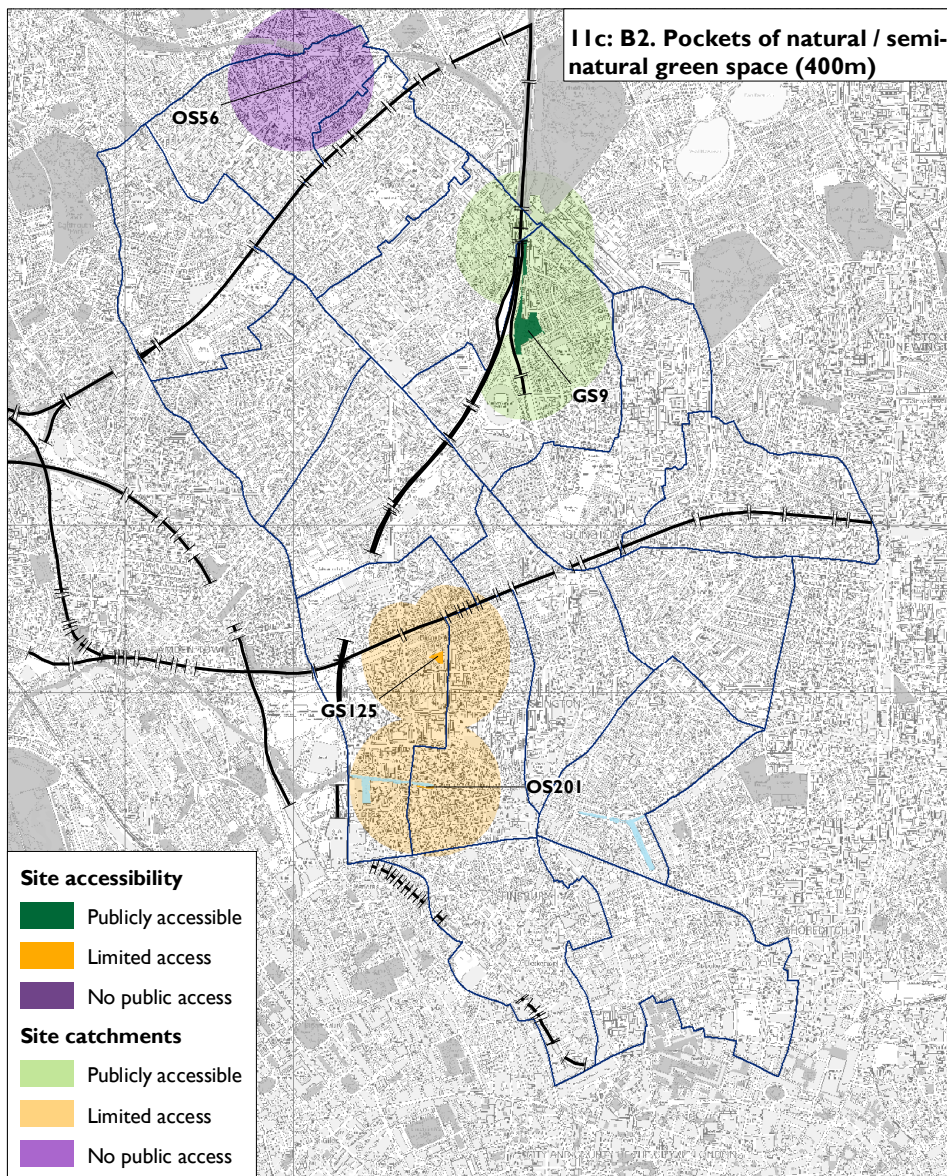
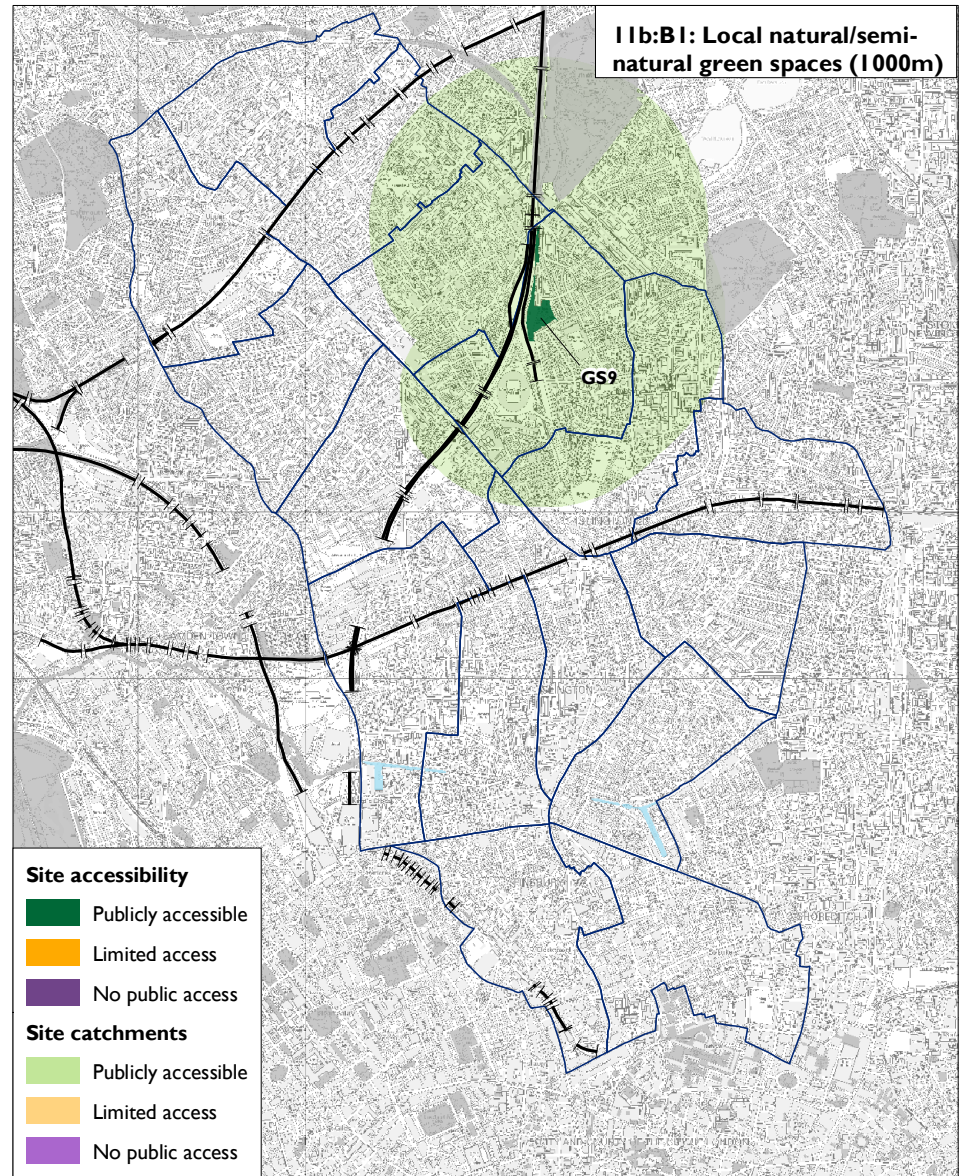
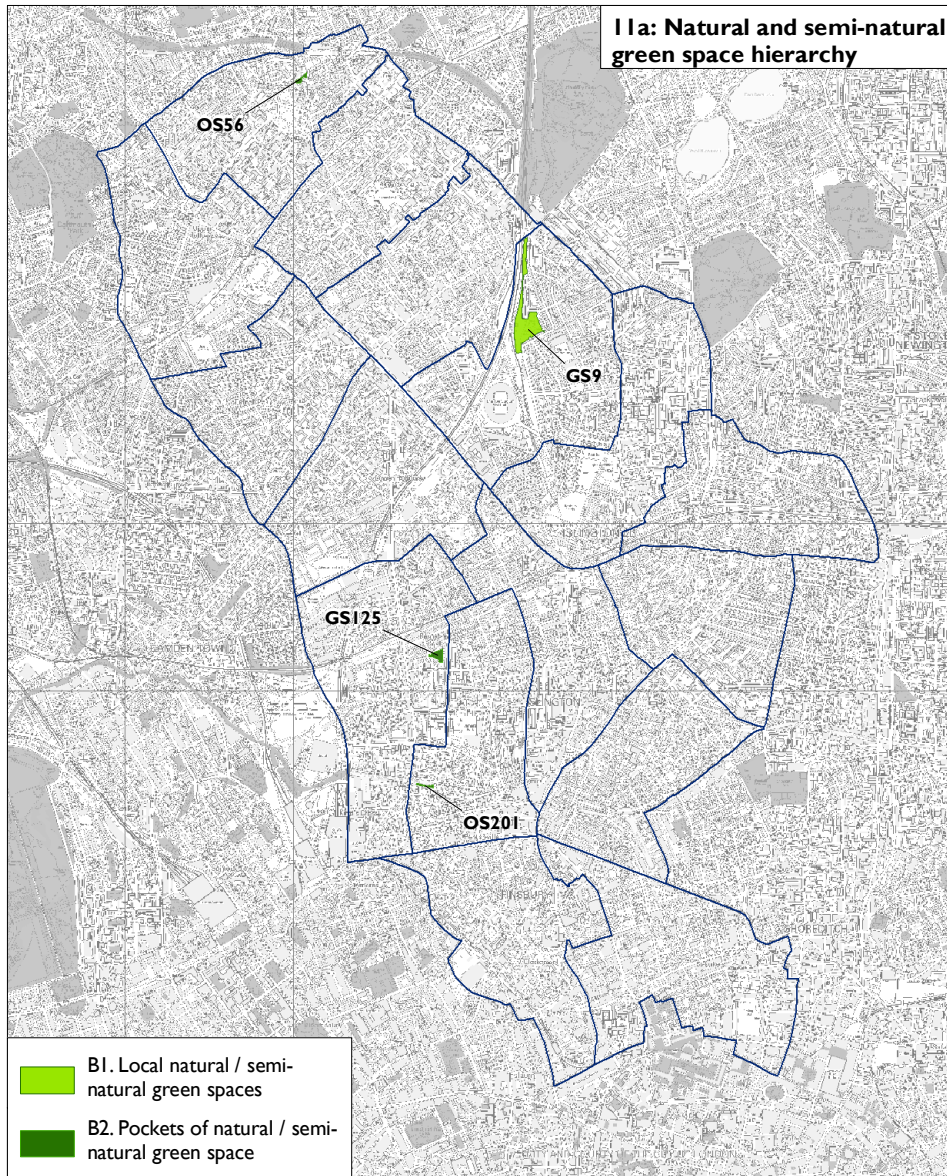
- 6.27. Given the low provision of sites within this typology (four sites in total), it is suggested that the two non-Greenspace managed sites (Fife Terrace Moorings and the site near Hillrise Road) are seen as a priority for quality and access improvements. Improving and allowing access to the small unmanaged site in the north of the borough (site near Hillrise Road), will help to deliver enhanced access to this typology.
- 6.28. Creation of new semi-natural spaces should focus on opportunities in the south of the borough. Opportunities to provide access to natural and semi-natural green

space within other typologies, for example, on a smaller scale in parks and gardens and amenity green space, should be explored.

- 6.29. Consideration should be given to the interrelationship with Green corridors (see section 7), particularly designated sites such as the Parkland Walk, in fulfilling a similar role to natural and semi-natural green spaces. There is scope within other typologies to enhance the value to wildlife and to enhance the 'experience of nature' for visitors.
- 6.30. All of the existing natural and semi-natural green spaces within the borough should be protected by the planning system to ensure there is no net loss of this typology. Due to the pressures placed on the small number of sites in the borough, it should be an aspiration to keep these sites above the quality and value thresholds expected of sites within this typology.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

B.i	Review the accessibility to visitors of Barnsbury Wood (in Caledonian ward) to enhance its role within the community.
B.ii	Review accessibility, ownership and management at the two non-Greenspace managed sites (Fife Terrace Moorings in Barnsbury ward and the site near Hillrise Road in Hillrise ward) to secure their provision as typology B sites.
B.iii	Consider voluntary/community involvement to enhance the quality/value of non-greenspace managed sites (Fife Terrace Moorings in Barnsbury ward and the site near Hillrise Road in Hillrise ward).
B.iv	Explore opportunities in the South of the borough for provision of new sites or opportunities to deliver natural and semi-natural type spaces within other typologies e.g. Bunhill Fields.
B.v	Focus delivery of any new provision within areas of no access i.e. particularly in the south of the borough, and also in the many deficient areas through the rest of the borough.
B.vi	Ensure opportunities for onsite provision of biodiversity interest are encouraged through LDF policy and via development control in pre-application discussions.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map I I: Typology B: natural and semi-natural green space hierarchy, accessibility and value/quality ratings

0 250 500 1,000 m

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Sites outside the borough

W N E S

UC

7. C. GREEN CORRIDORS

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 7.1. As well as being destinations in their own right, green corridors provide opportunities for walking and/or cycling in pleasant surroundings, and are generally well used for informal recreation. They also provide important opportunities for wildlife migration as recognised by the nature conservation designations covering these sites. The importance of green corridors within the borough has been highlighted through both community consultation and the Greenspace Services 2006 Analysis of Parks and Open Spaces Usage and Satisfaction report. Within these reports, there was particular mention of the popularity of Regent's Canal.
- 7.2. The primary purpose of green corridors is to provide attractive and natural through-routes for pedestrians. There are other 'green strips' within the borough which are currently inaccessible and have not been audited as part of this study e.g. railway corridors, which may serve wider visual and biodiversity functions. A large proportion of park users use green corridors as through routes (or shortcuts), reinforcing the idea that people enjoy walking through a 'green corridor' to get to their destination.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 7.3. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of green corridors. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is provided by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the green corridors together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.
- 7.4. **Map 12a** shows the distribution of the four green corridors throughout the borough which are the two sections of the Regent's Canal Towpath, Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk and Petherton Road Verge (north and south).

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 7.5. There are four sites in total which are classed as Green Corridors, and as shown in **Table 19**, these can be further divided into 'Local Green Corridors', of which there is one in Islington and 'Small Local Green Corridors' of which there are three in the borough.
- 7.6. As shown in **Table 19**, the total area of the four green corridors is 4.2ha. This equates to provision of 0.022 ha per 1000 population.

Table 19: Existing provision of green corridors

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
C1. Local green corridors	1	2.501	191,300	0.013
C2. Small local green corridors	3	1.699	191,300	0.009
TOTAL	4	4.200	191,300	0.022

By Ward**Table 20: Existing provision of green corridors by ward**

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (ha)	Existing provision per 1000 population	Additional area of no access sites (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300				
	Highbury East	11,150				
	Highbury West	13,850				
	Mildmay	12,050	1	0.617	0.051	
North	Hillrise	11,900	1	2.501	0.210	
	Junction	11,500				
	St. George's	11,850				
	Tollington	13,200				
South	Bunhill	11,200				
	Canonbury	10,600				
	Clerkenwell	10,350				
	St. Peter's	11,900	1	0.722	0.061	
West	Barnsbury	11,000				
	Caledonian	12,700	1	0.359	0.028	
	Holloway	13,600				
	St. Mary's	11,250				
TOTAL		191,300	4	4.200	0.022	0.000

- 7.7. All of the green corridors are publicly accessible. There is one site in each of the Area Committees, although most of the provision within this typology, in terms of area, is accounted for by the Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk which is at the extreme north of the borough in Hillrise ward.

Key characteristics of green corridors

C1: Local green corridors

- 7.8. The one Local green corridor in the borough is Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk (2.5ha) which is a strategic site which forms part of a wider corridor designated as Metropolitan Open Land stretching from Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace. Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk is designated a Local Nature Reserve and also forms part of the wider Site of Metropolitan Importance which stretches along the route of the old Victorian railway to Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood in neighbouring Haringey.
- 7.9. Local green corridors typically have:
- Broad range of habitats and may be designated at Metropolitan level for Nature Conservation
 - Provision for informal recreation, including e.g. nature trail
 - Would expect entrance & interpretation signage (although none currently present)
 - Basic facilities should include bins / dog bins and seating.

C2: Small local green corridors

- 7.10. The two Regent's Canal Towpath sites (Caledonian/Murial St/York Way and Danbury, Packington, Vincent), and Petherton Road Verge are classified as small local green corridors. The two Regent's Canal Towpath sites form part of the wider London Canals Site of Metropolitan Importance.
- 7.11. All the small local green corridors fall within designated Conservation Areas highlighting the contribution these spaces make to the character of the borough. In addition, the east entrance to the Islington tunnel on the Danbury, Packington, Vincent section of the Regent's Canal Towpath is a Grade II Listed feature. All three sites also benefit from the involvement of Friends Groups.
- 7.12. Small local green corridors typically have:
- Limited range of habitats may be designated at Metropolitan or Local level for Nature Conservation
 - Provision for informal recreation, including walking/jogging, cycling, etc
 - Entrance and interpretation signage
 - Basic facilities should include bins / dog bins and seating

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

- 7.13. **Table 21** below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured (subdivided by hierarchy and/or sub-type as applicable). Justification for the standards is set out in **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** by typology.

Table 21: Green corridors – Provision standards

Accessibility standards	C1: Local green corridors	1000m
	C2: Small local green corridors	400m
Quantity standards	C: Green corridors	0.022ha per 1000 population
Quality standards	C1: Local green corridors	Value threshold: 24 Quality threshold: 25
	C2: Small local green corridors	Value threshold: 17 Quality threshold: 22

- 7.14. The accessibility standards for local green corridors have been informed by the GLA's Access to Nature guidance (see Section 3), whilst the standard for small local green corridors has been guided by a benchmarking exercise against other typologies. The standards have been tested against the findings of the consultation and a review of the locally specific conditions in Islington.
- 7.15. The quantity standard has been guided by the existing provision of green corridors in the borough and the need to prevent any net loss as a result of population growth within the borough.
- 7.16. To assess the quality of existing audited provision a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold tests the **value** of a site i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics common to that level of the hierarchy in terms of types of facilities, amenities, biodiversity benefits and also tests the **quality** of a site in terms of its presentation, how safe it feels and overall condition. This enables identification of sites which should be protected by the planning system, which require enhancement, and sites which require a review of their design and purpose.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

- 7.17. **Map 12b-d** show the accessibility catchments for green corridors at both levels of the hierarchy and the quality ratings.

Accessibility to green corridors in Islington

- 7.18. At the top level of the hierarchy, the accessibility catchment for Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk reaches only two Wards, Hillrise and Tollington. Its location at the northern extreme of the borough as well as its connection to the larger Parklands Walk will have the effect of drawing in visitors from neighbouring boroughs (Hackney and Haringey).

- 7.19. At the small local level of the hierarchy, the two Regent's Canal Towpaths provide a swathe of access east to west across the borough and provide catchments both north and south of the canal. Highbury East and Mildmay wards fall within the accessibility catchment of Petherton Road Verge.
- 7.20. Despite the geographic spread of the four sites throughout the borough, there are a number of wards (Junction, St. George's, Holloway, Clerkenwell and Highbury West wards) which have no access to green corridors at either level of the hierarchy.

Quantity of green corridors in Islington

- 7.21. **Table 22** below demonstrates how provision of green corridors measures up against the suggested standard of 0.022ha per 1000 population now and at 2025 taking into account projected population growth. The table shows that most wards in the borough are deficient in green corridors, with the exception of Mildmay, Hillrise, St. Peter's and Caledonian wards which exceed the standard at present, and are likely to do so in the future. In order to meet the quantity standard at 2025, an additional 0.451 ha of green corridor will be required.

Table 22: Future provision of green corridors by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Hectares of provision per 1000 population in 2008	Surplus/shortfall in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Surplus/shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	0.000	-0.291	15,300	-0.336
	Highbury East	0.000	-0.245	11,950	-0.263
	Highbury West	0.000	-0.304	17,300	-0.379
	Mildmay	0.051	0.353	12,500	0.343
North	Hillrise	0.210	2.240	13,550	2.204
	Junction	0.000	-0.253	12,450	-0.273
	St. George's	0.000	-0.260	11,600	-0.255
	Tollington	0.000	-0.290	14,800	-0.325
South	Bunhill	0.000	-0.246	12,800	-0.282
	Canonbury	0.000	-0.232	11,050	-0.242
	Clerkenwell	0.000	-0.227	9,900	-0.217
	St. Peter's	0.061	0.461	14,300	0.408
West	Barnsbury	0.000	-0.242	11,650	-0.256
	Caledonian	0.028	0.081	14,300	0.045
	Holloway	0.000	-0.298	16,750	-0.368
	St. Mary's	0.000	-0.247	11,650	-0.256
TOTAL		0.022	0.000	211,850	-0.451

Quality of green corridors in Islington

- 7.22. Each site is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in **Appendix 9**). The resulting value/quality ratings for the four sites are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 23** and illustrated in **Map 12d**.

Table 23: Value and quality ratings

VQ Rating	No. of C1 sites	No. of C2 sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality			
+ - High value/Low quality	1	3	4
- + Low value/High quality			
-- Low value/Low quality			

- 7.23. All four green corridors are rated as above value/below quality. Repairs and improvements to the quality of these spaces should be prioritised and the sites protected by the planning system.
- 7.24. All sites within this typology were highlighted as having potential for enhancements to accessibility. Three of the sites audited could benefit from improved signage, boundary features and entrances.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

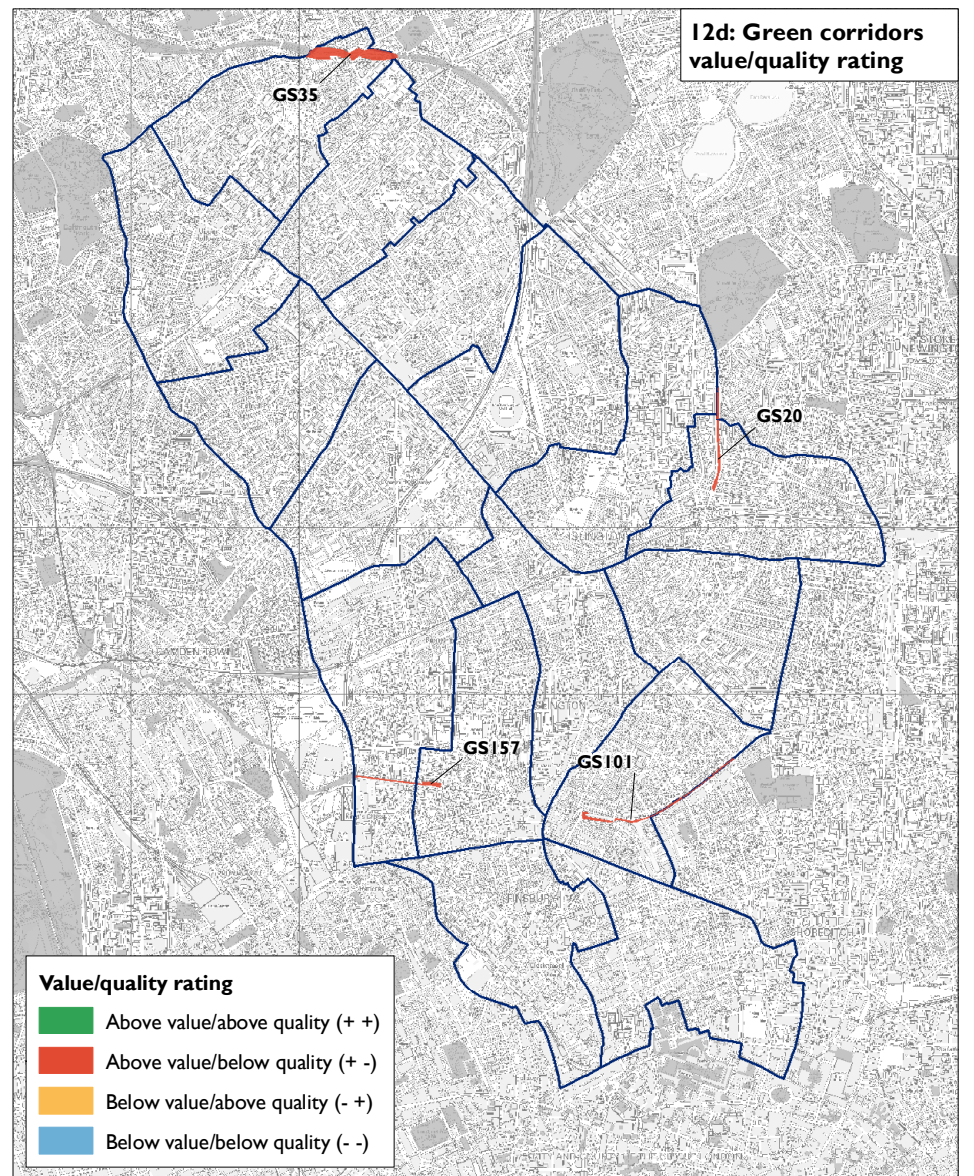
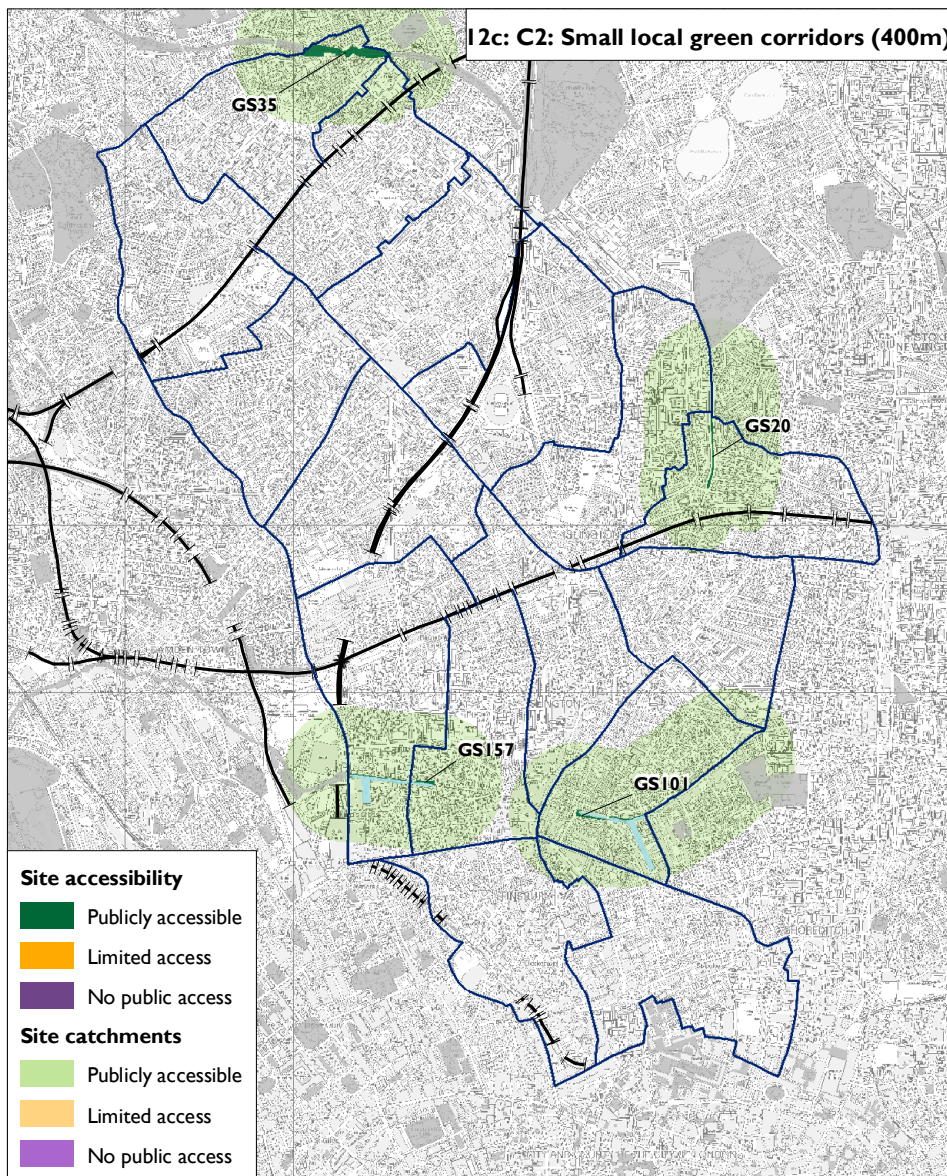
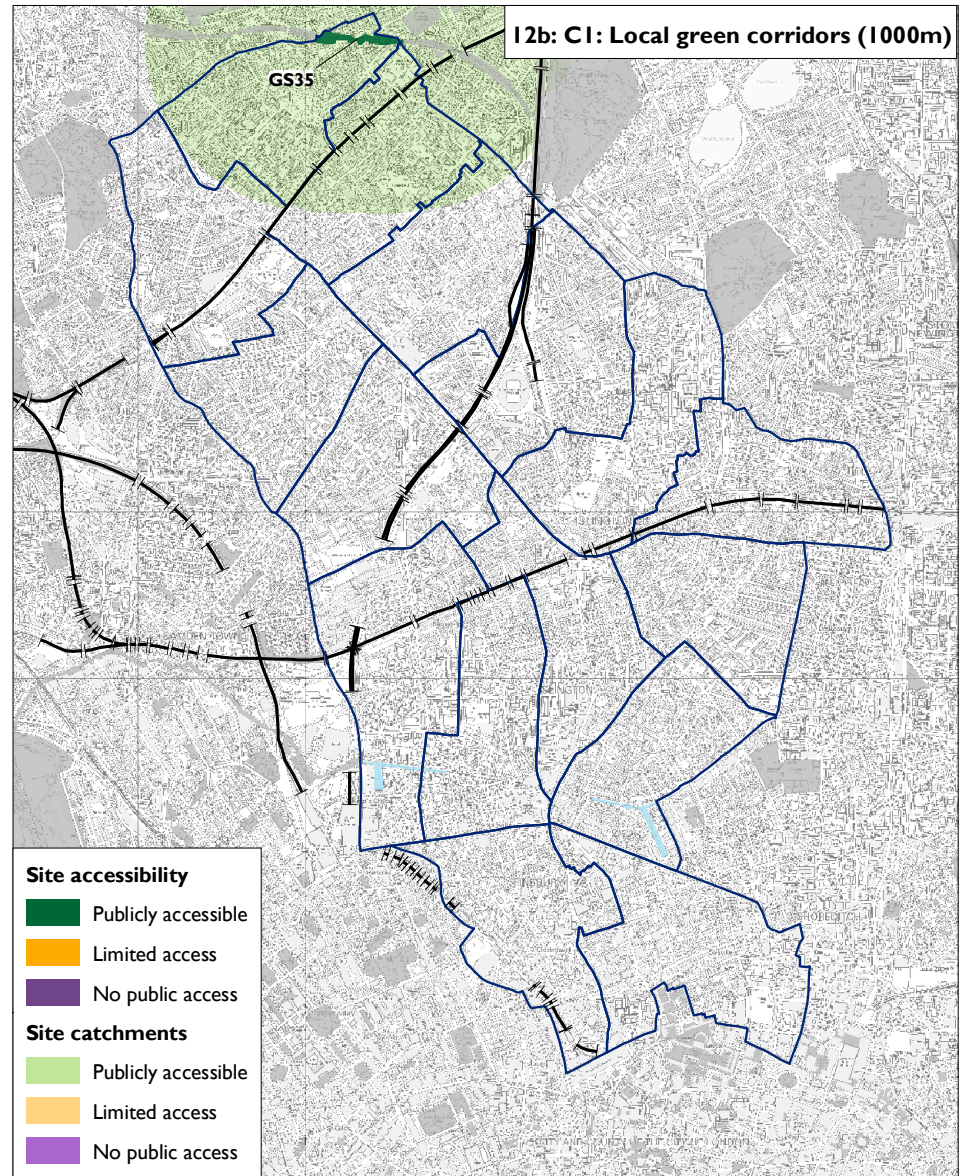
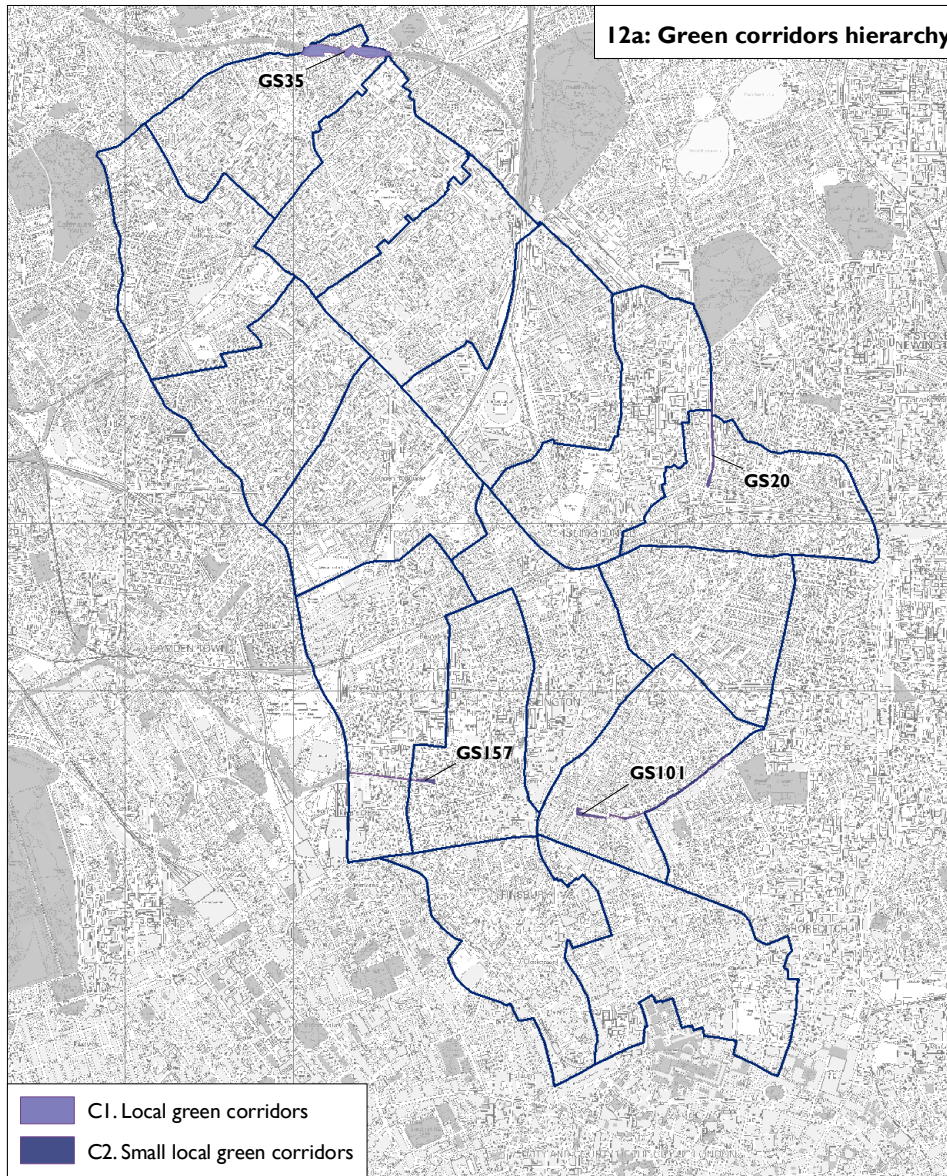
- 7.25. Provision is very low in the borough, with only four sites in total, located on the fringes of the borough in St Peter's, Caledonian, Mildmay and Hillrise wards. All other wards are deficient in terms of quantitative provision and access.
- 7.26. Currently inaccessible railway corridors (including Gifford Street Embankment in the west of the borough) may provide an opportunity for increasing the quantity of provision within this typology, particularly within the centre of the borough. This requires further investigation by the Greenspace team.
- 7.27. Given the low level of provision of sites within this typology, it is essential that the quality issues highlighted through the Green Space Assessment are addressed to make the best possible use of this resource. Given the location of the Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk in Hillrise ward within an area of high health deprivation (see

Map 4b), quality improvements alongside improved signage/promotion could be used to encourage walking and cycling to improve health and fitness.

- 7.28. It will be challenging to increase the provision of green corridors in the borough, aside from the railway corridors noted above, given the dense urban fabric of the borough. However, given the importance of green corridors to residents for recreation, access and sustainable living, which was highlighted through community consultation, it is recommended that the council investigates the scope to improve walking and cycling links in the borough generally. Improvements could be in terms of safety (providing separate cycle paths), visual improvements (such as planting street trees and grass verges) or improved access (for example, by creating new signed links through existing open spaces and by ensuring new developments provide sustainable links to existing networks). Greenspace Services should work to identify options to improve walking and cycling networks.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

C.i	Review scope to open up access to railway cuttings and corridors (including Gifford Street Embankment) to create further green corridors in Islington.
C.ii	Review the functionality of green corridors to develop an integrated strategy for creating and managing green links through the borough and beyond. This should consider how green corridors may be integrated into a network to allow people to travel between open spaces and other areas of interest, and how improved ‘branding’, signage and publicising of routes may improve the functionality of green corridors. Ensure any such strategy works with existing strategies including the AI Borough Strategy and Greening the Grey.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 12: Typology C: green corridors hierarchy, accessibility and value/quality ratings

0 250 500 1,000 m

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Sites outside the borough



8. D. OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 8.1. 'Outdoor sport facilities' represents one of the broadest typologies included within the PPG17 Companion Guide. It includes all natural or artificial surfaces, either publicly or privately owned, used for outdoor sport and recreation. Types of outdoor sports facilities include grass sports pitches, synthetic turf pitches (STPs), tennis courts, bowling greens, multi-use games areas (MUGAs) and golf courses.
- 8.2. For auditing and standard setting purposes, formal MUGAs were assessed separately from other facility types. They are therefore reviewed as a sub-type of outdoor facilities throughout this report under the three main headings of quality, quantity and accessibility.
- 8.3. Informal MUGAs are audited under the play and youth chapter. For reference purposes, formal MUGAs are defined as those that users have to pre-book and pay for. This is in contrast to informal MUGAs where users can just turn up and use the facilities free of charges, without having to pre-book.
- 8.4. For reference purposes, there are no golf courses within the borough. This is largely due to Islington being an inner-London borough, which means that outdoor space is limited.
- 8.5. The number and quality of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity are increasingly being linked to the achievement of other important objectives such as the need to reduce crime, improve community health, raise levels of self-esteem and provide employment opportunities. Increasing levels of physical activity is therefore becoming increasingly important, both locally and nationally, for a wide range of stakeholder organisations.
- 8.6. The provision of outdoor sports facilities is very much demand-led and, as a consequence, the application of local quantity and accessibility standards should only be used to understand broad planning needs (i.e. to identify the overall adequacy/level of provision), rather than detailed provision requirements. For example, should a specific area of Islington be identified as in need of further provision of outdoor sport facilities in order to have a level of provision that is equivalent to other areas within the borough, the specific nature of this provision (be it pitches, MUGAs, greens, courts etc) should be based on locally identified demand.
- 8.7. To further assess local demand, the findings of this section will be compared with other previous, relevant research where available. In particular, the Islington Leisure Needs Analysis Study (2006), which considered the local combined demand for STPs and grass playing pitches, has been reviewed. However, it should be noted that, although the Leisure Needs Study's borough wide catchment analysis undertaken is directly related to this study, it also incorporated a one mile buffer zone and considered some neighbouring local authority facilities, which this study does not consider.

- 8.8. The land required to deliver new outdoor sport facilities can be sizeable. Provision of sports facilities in some of the more developed areas of the borough can therefore be challenging. Maximising the use of facilities at school sites represents a key opportunity for the council. Both the Extended Schools Programme and Building Schools for the Future (BSF) will facilitate the delivery of sport at school sites to ensure that facilities in existing schools are made more accessible, and those to be included in new schools are designed with community sport and physical activity use in mind.

Context

- 8.9. Key issues for outdoor sports facilities and MUGAs arising from a review of strategic documents include the following:
- Sport England's demand parameters recommend that one full size floodlit STP should be provided for every 60,000 people within a 20-minute drivetime catchment;
 - The Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) highlights ' % of the population within 20 minutes of a range of three different sports facility types, one of which must be quality assured' as one of their key performance indicators. Sport England's interim scores for June 2007 Choice and Opportunity Scores reveal the current figure for Islington is 98.4%;
 - There is currently only one bowls green within the borough and only one athletics facility, which is a grass track at Tufnell Park. The main athletics facility for Islington residents lies just beyond the boundary at Finsbury Park, within the London Borough of Haringey.
- 8.10. A summary of the relevance of other key strategic documents is provided below:

Islington Unitary Development Plan (2002)

- 8.11. The UDP states that local park and play space provision will be improved and will be extended where possible to form green links, footways and cycle ways. Additionally, the UDP states that open spaces should be well designed to ensure they are safe, secure, attractive and interesting.

Islington Council Sports and Leisure Strategy (2002)

- 8.12. This strategy reinforces that the council's sport and leisure facilities, whether purpose built multi-use leisure centres or small kick-about areas on housing estates, vary in age and quality. Many are ageing, have suffered from years of under investment and are in significant need of investment or renewal.

Planning for open space, sport and recreation (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2002)

- 8.13. This document states that when planning or developing new areas of open space, sports and recreational facilities, local authorities should:

- Improve the quality of existing facilities;
- Assess the impact of new facilities on social inclusion;
- Consider the scope for using any surplus land for open space, sport or recreational use, weighing this against alternative uses.

Spatial Planning for Sport and Recreation (Sport England, 2005)

- 8.14. Sport England provides advice on what type of sports facilities are needed for communities in the future. They also advise on how to protect and improve the current stock of facilities, in particular protecting playing fields.
- 8.15. Sport England sees spatial planning as an opportunity to deliver a planned approach to the provision of facilities, helping to reach sustainable development goals. These goals include identifying opportunities for delivering an enhanced quality of facility.

The Islington Proactive Strategy (undated)

- 8.16. This strategy highlights the need for both high quality facilities and joint working with schools to help achieve the increased participation targets set out in the action plan. In addition, the strategy identifies target groups such as young people, that need to be engaged through appropriate facility provision and programming.

Leisure Needs Assessment Study (2006)

- 8.17. The leisure needs assessment conducted in 2006 identified the following findings of relevance to outdoor sports facility provision:
- Residents indicated an aspiration for a travel time of 10 minutes walk to sports fields;
 - If the LTA recommended quantity parameters were applied to Islington, there would be a shortfall of both outdoor and indoor tennis provision;
 - All STPs should be retained and kept well maintained, given the demand for pitch space and the limited number of grass pitches within the borough.
- 8.18. Key findings from the Leisure Needs Study's STP and grass playing pitch supply and demand assessment were as follows:

Table 24: STP supply and demand modelling – borough catchment (2006)

Scenarios	Demand (no. of STPs)	Supply (no. of STPs)	Oversupply/shortfall (no. of STPs)
Existing	2.7	4	Oversupply 1.3
Full development scenario 2016 (assumes all planned developments come to fruition)	3.5	4.75	Oversupply 1.2
Most likely scenario 2016 (assumes only developments which have received planning permission come to fruition)	3.5	4.75	Oversupply 1.2

- 8.19. As detailed in **Table 24**, demand modelling in 2006 indicated that there was an oversupply of STPs in the borough, which decreased slightly by 2016. The slight oversupply at that time would also decrease by 2016, if all planned facilities came to fruition. Three of the planned new STPs were at school sites, and it was recommended that community access should be made available to maximise usage of the facilities.
- 8.20. However, this did not provide a true picture of provision in the borough given that consultation in the needs analysis assessment highlighted high levels of STP usage and a demand for additional provision. There are a limited number of grass pitches in the borough, which highlights the importance of adequate borough wide STP provision and negates the oversupply indicated by the model.
- 8.21. When assessed with the addition of a one mile buffer catchment the overall level of both supply and oversupply of STPs is more than doubled, however this assumes both that all planned new facilities come to fruition and that there is public access to them.

Participation rates

- 8.22. Increasing the quantity of sports facilities to meet local needs, increasing the quality of sports facilities to improve local perception and improving the accessibility to sport and recreation facilities is likely to have a positive socio-economic impact on the Islington community in terms increased levels of sports participation. Highlighted below are the current sports participation rates for Islington.
- 8.23. The Active People Survey, conducted by Ipsos MORI on behalf of Sport England, is the largest survey of sport and active recreation. It is a telephone survey of 363,724 adults in England and provides reliable statistics on participation in sport and active recreation. It also allows detailed analysis that was not previously available.
- 8.24. However, the findings do not provide statistically reliable data on levels of participation for different sports for each local authority. Instead, we have applied the average participation rate across those sports reviewed within this study.

8.25. Participation is defined as taking part in sport or physical activity at least three times a week for 30 minutes. The key findings one can draw from the Active People Survey are that:

- The Islington participation rate is 24%;
- The national average participation rate is 21%;
- Islington participation is therefore 3% higher than the national rate.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION

8.26. A full audit of existing outdoor sports facilities including MUGAs was conducted utilising information from the Leisure Needs Assessment and information provided by the council, supplemented by desk research.

8.27. All sites identified were then visited for the purpose of completing a site assessment.

Existing outdoor sports facilities provision (excluding MUGAS)

8.28. The current provision of outdoor sports facilities is summarised in **Table 25**.

Table 25: Provision of outdoor sports facilities across Islington

Analysis areas	Population (2008)	Total provision (hectares)	Number of sites	Hectares per 1,000 population
West Area	48,550	2.087	2	0.043
East Area	50,300	0.453	1	0.009
South Area	44,050	3.463	7	0.078
North Area	48,400	4.607	7	0.095
Total	191,300	10.61	17	0.055

8.29. Key points arising from the analysis of existing outdoor sports provision include:

- The current level of provision is 10.61 ha spread across 17 sites, which equates to an average site size of 0.62 ha. This results in a current level of provision of 0.055 ha per 1,000 population
- The largest number of sites are in the North and South areas and the smallest in the East area
- Due to the nature of this typology, the size of sites varies significantly. The smallest site is Spa Fields (Site ID SP15) at 0.062 ha and the largest is the grass pitches at the Honourable Artillery Company (Site ID SP2) at 2.44 ha.

Existing MUGAs provision

- 8.30. There are currently six formal MUGA sites in Islington. Publicly accessible MUGA sites and school sports facilities with secured community use have been included within the PPG17 audit.
- 8.31. The current provision of MUGAs is summarised in **Table 26**.

Table 26: Provision of MUGAs across Islington

Analysis areas	Population (2008)	Total provision (hectares)	Number of sites	Hectares per 1,000 population
West Area	48,550	1.056	2	0.022
East Area	50,300	0.692	1	0.014
South Area	44,050	0.120	1	0.003
North Area	48,400	0.230	2	0.005
Total	191,300	2.098	6	0.011

- 8.32. Key points arising from the analysis of existing MUGA provision include:
- Household survey responses mirror showed the the largest amount of dissatisfaction as being in the East Area where 30.7% of residents said there were not enough facilities. This reflects the joint lowest number of MUGAs in the East Area, although the second highest hectarage due to the size of the one site. The highest satisfaction ('more than enough' or 'about right') was in the North area of the borough, which boasts the joint highest amount of MUGAs (two) and by far the largest hectarage;
 - The current level of provision is 2.098 ha spread across six sites, which equates to an average site size of 0.35 ha. This results in a current level of provision of 0.011 ha per 1,000 population;
 - Due to the nature of the typology, the size of sites varies significantly. The smallest site is Wray Crescent (Site ID SP20) at 0.058 ha and the largest is the MUGA at Barnard Park (Site ID SP5) at 0.895 ha.

Consultation

Outdoor sports

- 8.33. Consultation specific to outdoor sports provision provides an indication of public opinion and some meaningful statistics to inform standard setting.
- 8.34. 430 people responded to a survey sent to 10,000 randomly selected households in the borough, which explored a range of issues relating to Islington's outdoor sports provision.

- 8.35. Sports clubs were also invited to complete surveys. However, despite two attempts, only seven responses were received. Where applicable, club survey statistics and comments have been included in the text, however these should be taken in context and may not be reflective of the views of sports clubs as a whole. It should also be noted that while sports clubs gave general responses to some of the questions, only three of the clubs who responded mentioned specific outdoor sports facilities.
- 8.36. 16 outdoor sport facilities across Islington qualified for inclusion in this analysis. Publicly accessible outdoor sports facility sites and school sports facilities with secured community use have been included within the PPG17 audit.
- 8.37. The consultation undertaken highlighted the following key issues:
- 35.7% of respondents to the household survey believe there is insufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities, with 25.2% perceiving current levels of provision to be either 'more than enough' or 'about right'. 39.2% of respondents had no opinion;
 - This indicates that perceptions of levels of provision, in terms of the quantity of outdoor sports facilities, is divided. When discounting those participants from the household survey that had no opinion, over half (59.9%) were dissatisfied with the current levels of provision, whereas the remaining 41.1% perceived provision to be 'more than enough' or 'about right';
 - This divided opinion is reflected across the individual analysis areas (North, South, East, West), where there is little variation in terms of respondents perceiving provision to be either adequate or not. Only in the North Area of the borough do a significant number of respondents (26.2%) feel that provision is 'about right'. In each of the remaining three analysis areas more than 35% of respondents perceived there to be 'not enough' outdoor facilities;
 - Comments added to the household survey reveal that a high proportion of residents not only feel that increased provision is required in the borough, but also that the council needs to make using the facilities more appealing via organised competitions and leagues.

Grass playing pitches

- 48.2% of respondents to the household survey perceived there to be 'not enough' grass pitches across the borough, which was the largest perceived lack of facilities across the outdoor sports typology as a whole;
- This opinion is reflected across the four areas of the borough. Only in the North Area did more than a quarter (26.3%) of respondents perceive provision to be 'about right'. The poorest response was in the South Area where just 14.6% of residents believed the provision to be 'about right'.

Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)

- Overall, 4.2% of respondents believed there to be 'more than enough' STPs across the borough. This represented the highest perception of 'more than enough' provision across this typology; 23% believed provision to be 'about right' and 29% believed there to be 'not enough'
- This opinion is reflected across the four analysis areas. Only in the South Area did more people (32.1%) of respondents believe provision to be 'about right' or 'more than enough' than 'not enough'.

Bowling greens

- 11% of residents across the borough perceive the provision of bowling greens to be 'more than enough' or 'about right'. However, this finding should be taken into context as 60% of survey participants had no opinion;
- When discounting those respondents that had no opinion from the analysis, the South Area has the highest percentage of respondents that perceived there to be 'not enough' bowling facilities. This is despite the borough's only bowling green being located in the South Area of the borough.

Tennis courts

- over a third (36.6%) of respondents believe the provision of tennis courts in the borough to be 'about right', which is higher than any of the other facilities within this typology;
- one outdoor tennis facility is located within each area of the borough, so unsurprisingly this perception was reflected across all four analysis areas. The exception to this is in the South Area where the perception of 'not enough' facilities is slightly higher at 47.6%.

MUGAs

- Over 25% of respondents perceived there to be 'not enough' MUGAs, as opposed to 21.6% who believe existing levels of provision to be either 'more than enough' or 'about right'. 52.7% of respondents had no opinion;
- This view is reflected across the analysis areas. The only area in which more than a quarter of respondents perceive there to be 'enough' or 'more than enough' provision is in the North Area of the borough;
- When discounting those participants that had no opinion, the majority (54.3%) perceived there to be a general dissatisfaction in the quantity of MUGAs across Islington;
- The above must be taken in context, particularly as only 7% of respondents use MUGAs more than once a month, with 83% stating they do not use them at all;

- Whilst the findings of the household survey reveal that the majority of residents are unsure of the quality of MUGAs within the borough, just 4.2% perceived the quality to be good.

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS - QUANTITY

Outdoor sports

- 8.38. The recommended local quantity standard for outdoor sports facilities has been derived from the local needs consultation and the audit of provision and is summarised overleaf. Full justification for the local standard is provided within **Appendix 8**.

Quantity standard (see Appendix 8)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.055 ha per 1,000 population	0.07 ha per 1,000 population
Justification	
<p>The current level of outdoor sports provision is equivalent to 0.055 ha per 1,000 population. Although many school sports sites are not accessible at the current time, they are identified as important resources and therefore have been included in the calculations. It is therefore important that the council facilitate secured community access at these sites so that all outdoor sports provision is accessible.</p> <p>The extended schools programmes may offer opportunities to address future shortfalls of provision and ensure additional facilities are available for community use. The previous needs assessment study also highlighted that the council should consider seeking to increase community access to school sites prior to investing in the development of new facilities.</p> <p>Due to the broad nature of this typology, this standard should be used as guidance only, as provision of this type of open space is demand led. Further detailed club development work and strategic planning to meet these clubs needs should therefore be used to inform any additional investment in provision.</p> <p>In reflecting the demands placed on outdoor sports facilities, and the nature of this standard, it has been recommended that the standard is set slightly higher than the current level of provision at 0.07 ha per 1,000 population.</p>	

MUGAs

- 8.39. The recommended local quantity standard for MUGAs has been derived from the local needs consultation and audit of provision and is summarised overleaf. Full justification for the local standard is provided within **Appendix 8**.

Quantity standard (see Appendix 8)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.011 ha per 1,000 population	0.011 ha per 1,000 population (as per current provision)
Justification	
<p>The current level of MUGAs in the borough is 0.011 ha per 1,000 population. There are six sites in the Borough.</p> <p>It is recommended that the council maintain the current level of provision at 0.011 ha per 1,000 population. This standard reinforces the council's commitment to existing provision, with future investment focussed on improving the standard and quality of MUGAs provided.</p> <p>Combined with an improved quality standard, this approach will ensure that the borough's MUGA provision meets the future needs of Islington residents.</p>	

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS - QUALITY

Consultation

Outdoor sports facilities

8.40. Key issues emerging from the consultation relating to the quality of outdoor sports facilities include:

- On average 32% of respondents feel the quality of outdoor sports facilities is either good or satisfactory, whilst 13.4% indicated quality to be poor;
- Specific comments by respondents on quality mainly focused on the poor maintenance of facilities. For example, one specific comment referenced the poor nets at the Highbury Fields tennis courts;
- The top five most important features identified by household survey respondents for outdoor sports are maintenance, cleanliness, value for money, ease of booking and range of activities;
- 83% of sports club survey responses indicated that they felt the quality of their facilities were average. Due to the low response rate to this particular area of consultation this findings should be treated with caution.

Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)

- over half (53.3%) of household survey respondents did not have an opinion on the quality of STPs. However, of those respondents that had an opinion, almost three quarters (73.8%) perceived the quality to be either good or satisfactory

- the highest perception of quality was in the East Area of the borough where over a quarter (26.3%) of respondents stated the quality of STPs to be 'good'.

Bowling greens

- from the facilities outlined in the outdoor sports typology, bowling greens had the highest number of respondents with no opinion on quality (83.8%). This indicates that only a small number of residents have used the bowling facility
- of those respondents that had an opinion, 69.2% perceived the quality of bowling greens to be poor. This must be taken in context as only 13 respondents had an opinion.

Tennis courts

- when discounting those participants that did not have an opinion, the majority of respondents (85.5%) perceive the quality of outdoor tennis facilities to be either 'good' or 'satisfactory'
- of those participants that had an opinion, 43.8% perceived the facilities as 'poor' in the South Area of the borough.

MUGAs

8.41. Key issues emerging from the consultation relating to the quality of MUGAs include:

- The majority of residents are unsure of the quality of MUGAs within the borough. 4.2% perceived the quality of MUGAs to be good, whilst 13.4% rated them satisfactory and 11.4% rated them as 'poor';
- Within the East Area of the borough, no respondents felt that the quality of MUGAs was 'good'. Participants residing in the North Area of the borough were the most satisfied with the quality of MUGAs, with 26.7% responding either 'good' or 'satisfactory';
- The five most important features for MUGA facilities, as identified by participants, are maintenance, cleanliness, value for money, ease of booking and range of activities;
- Comments added to the household survey reveal that a number of residents are intimidated by the groups of youths that 'hang around' MUGAs which often prevents others from using them.

Quality of existing provision

Outdoor sports

8.42. The quality of outdoor sport facilities in Islington is summarised in **Table 27**. Quality was assessed through site assessments and therefore it is important to note that site assessments are conducted as a snap shot in time and are therefore reflective of the quality of the site on one specific day.

Table 27: Quality of outdoor sports facilities across Islington

Analysis area	Number of sites	Range of quality scores (%)	Average quality scores (%)
West Area	2	71.0% - 71.4%	71.2%
East Area	1	75.6%	75.6%
South Area	7	86.7% - 95.6%	89.4%
North Area	7	48.9% - 80.0%	70.8%
Overall	17	48.9% - 95.6%	78.63%

Table 28: Quality of highest and lowest scoring outdoor sports facilities across Islington

Analysis area	Lowest quality site	Highest quality site
West Area	Market Road STP, site ID SP7, score 71.0%	Islington Tennis Centre, site ID SP16, site score 71.4%
East Area	Highbury Fields tennis courts, site ID SP8, site score 75.6%	
South Area	Spa Fields (ID SP15) and Rosemary Gardens STP (SP4), site score 86.7%	Honourable Artillery Company grass pitches, ID SP2, site score 95.6%
North Area	Hillside Park grass pitches, site ID SP14, score 48.9%	Wray Crescent grass pitches, ID SP10, site score 80%

- 8.43. Specific issues with poor quality of sites generally related mainly to damaged fencing and facilities looking tired. Positive findings related to the quality of the park in which the facility was located and well maintained playing facilities.
- 8.44. The key issues emerging relating to the quality of outdoor sports facilities include:
- The range of quality scores across Islington portrays a variation in the quality of provision in the borough. A number of outdoor facilities have particularly high quality scores and the council should focus upon maintaining these. Only one site across the borough scored less than 50% (Hillside Park grass pitches 48.9%). The enhancement of this site needs to be addressed to ensure the perception of the residents is improved;

- The seven sites in the South Area of the borough are noted to be of particularly high quality scoring an average of 89.4%. The Honourable Artillery Grass pitches attained the top quality score in the borough of 95.6%.

MUGA facilities

- 8.45. The quality of MUGA facilities in Islington is summarised in **Table 29**. This was assessed through site assessments and it is important to note that site assessments are conducted as a snap shot in time and are therefore reflective of the quality of the site on one specific day.

Table 29: Quality of multi-use games areas across Islington

Analysis area	MUGA site
West Area	Barnard Park, site ID SP5, score 67% Paradise Park, site ID SP6, score 67%
East Area	Highbury Fields, site ID SP9, score 64%
South Area	Rosemary Gardens, site ID SP3, score 60%
North Area	Holloway School, site ID SP18, score 94% Wray Crescent, site ID SP20, score 80%

- 8.46. Key issues emerging from consultations and site assessment of MUGA facilities include:
- The six sites display a range of quality scores from 60% to 94%. Rosemary Gardens site in the South Area of the borough received the lowest quality score of 60%;
 - The two MUGAs in the North Area of the borough have particularly high quality scores and the council should focus upon maintaining these. The Holloway School site attained the top score across all six facilities with 94%.

QUALITY STANDARDS

Outdoor sport facilities

- 8.47. The recommended local quality standard for outdoor sports facilities is summarised below. Full justifications and consultation relating to the quality of provision for the local standard is provided within **Appendix 9**.

Quality standard (see Appendix 9)

Recommended standard	
Essential features:	Desirable features:
Reflects Sport England's best practice	Accessible routes
Well maintained	Ease of booking

Good standard of cleanliness Value for money	Range of activities
Justification	
<p>Household consultation highlighted that the key issues for users of existing sites are for the sites to be kept clean and well maintained and represent good value for money. In addition, national governing body guidance for sporting sites should be used to ensure that appropriate playing area dimensions, maintenance and safety guidelines are followed where appropriate. This will help to ensure that the quality of outdoor sports facility sites across the borough is improved, in order to address the current perception by borough residents that sites are typically of only average quality.</p> <p>Ensuring that there is adequate ancillary provision, such as car parking, toilets and changing will help to support an increase in levels of satisfaction for borough residents.</p> <p>It is also important to consider that many quality grievances may have arisen out of quantity deficiencies and subsequent pressure on site maintenance.</p>	

MUGA facilities

- 8.48. The recommended local quality standard for MUGA facilities is summarised below. Full justifications and consultation relating to the quality of provision for the local standard is provided within **Appendix 9**.

Quality standard (see Appendix 9)

Recommended standard	
Essential features:	Desirable features:
Reflects Sport England's best practice	Accessible routes
Well maintained	Ease of booking
Good standard of cleanliness	Range of activities
Value for money	
Justification	
<p>There was clear support for each of the essential and desirable features identified and these are also consistent with national guidance.</p>	

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS - ACCESSIBILITY

Consultation

Outdoor sports facilities

8.49. Key issues emerging from the consultation relating to the accessibility of outdoor sports facilities include:

- The majority (88%) of household survey respondents stated their preferred method of access to these facilities to be on foot. This is not surprising when considering the condensed nature of the borough. The fact that no respondents cycle to outdoor facilities is considered unusual for an urban area;
- A review across the four analysis areas indicates that this preferred mode of travel follows a similar pattern to the results given at a borough-wide level, which is largely due to the relatively small size of the borough and its urban nature;
- Comments added to the household survey reveal that a high proportion of residents are largely unaware of the types of outdoor facilities across the borough. There was a general consensus that if they were made more aware of the facilities they would be more likely to utilise them.

Grass playing pitches

- On average 57.1% of respondents stated that their preferred method of travel to grass pitches is walking. The least preferred method of transport is by car (9.2%);
- This response is reflected across the individual analysis areas. The greatest variation in terms of the range between walking and driving is in the West area of the borough, which has the largest number of respondents who preferred walking (66%) and the smallest number of residents that preferred travelling by car (2.2%).

Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)

- Over half of household survey respondents (51.5%) expect to walk to STPs, followed by 18.6% who prefer to travel by bus;
- The greatest number of respondents that travel to STP's (31.6%) expect a travel time of 10-14 minutes. No respondents that use STPs stated they would travel more than 25 minutes.

Bowling greens

- Household survey results indicate that the preferred method of travel to outdoor bowling facilities is walking followed by bus, cycling and then car;

- Although the borough contains just one bowling green, there is little variation between the preferred method of travel to bowling greens across the four analysis areas. The preferred method is always walking followed by bus.

Tennis courts

- 36.5% of respondents that use tennis facilities stated they expect to travel 5-9 minutes. Just 9.5% of respondents stated that they would travel for more than 20 minutes;
- The preferred method of transport to outdoor tennis facilities is walking, followed by the bus, cycling then car;
- Comments added to the household survey reveal a small number of families that feel the tennis provision is not as accessible as it could be due to the pricing policies that are currently used.

MUGAs

8.50. Key issues emerging from the consultation relating to the accessibility of MUGAs include:

- The majority (58%) stated that they currently walk to formal MUGA sites. In terms of the duration of travel, 58% indicated a travel time of less than 10 minutes, with a further 17% indicating 10 to 15 minutes and another 17% 15 to 20 minutes;
- Just 7% of respondents use MUGAs more than once a month and 83% of respondents stated that they do not use this typology at all. Therefore responses presented in this typology must be taken in context;
- Only 6% of respondents to the household survey indicated that they use formal MUGAs more frequently than any other typology. This is not surprising given that usage of this typology is very specific to its function.

ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

Outdoor sports facilities

- 8.51. The accessibility of sites is paramount in maximising usage, as well as providing an opportunity for all people to use the site. The recommended local standard is set in the form of a distance threshold and is derived directly from the findings of the local consultations.
- 8.52. Site specific accessibility issues were also analysed as part of the programme of site visits where information, signage, transport and general accessibility issues were assessed.
- 8.53. The third quartile is the level recommended by the PPG17 companion guide as the upper limit of people's propensity to travel, therefore standards should always be set below this. The third quartile is calculated by setting all the preferred travel times

from consultation in order from low to high, and finding the point $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down the list. For outdoor sports facilities, this figure falls at a 20 minute travel time for synthetic turf pitches, outdoor tennis courts and bowling greens. This reduces to 15 minutes for grass pitches. This is generally reflected across all analysis areas where the third quartile is either 15 or 20 minutes for each type of facility. The only exception can be found in the North Area where the third quartile for bowling greens is 30 minutes.

- 8.54. The recommended local accessibility standard for outdoor sports facilities is summarised below. Full justification for the standard is provided within **Appendix 7**.

Accessibility standard (see Appendix 7)

Recommended standard
Grass pitches, STPs, tennis courts and bowls: 15 mins walk
Justification
<p>There are a number of factors to consider in setting a standard for outdoor sports facilities. Most pertinent is the extensive range of facilities that comprise this typology, which makes it difficult to make a meaningful standard that can be applied across the board as per PPG17 requirements. For example, residents have differing expectations in relation to specialist sites (for which they are willing to travel further) than they do for grass pitches, for which there is an assumption of more localised provision.</p> <p>The majority of residents highlighted walking as the preferred mode of transport for all types of outdoor sports facilities. This is reflected across all analysis areas. Given the general consensus that a 15 minute walk time is reasonable for most facilities, it is recommended that a 15 minute walk time standard be set for outdoor sports facilities.</p>

MUGA facilities

- 8.55. A review of borough-wide findings in relation to how far residents are willing to walk to a MUGA site, identifies a modal response of 10 minutes. The third quartile was higher at 20 minutes walk.
- 8.56. The recommended local accessibility standard for MUGA facilities is summarised below. Full justification for the local standard is provided within **Appendix 7**.

Accessibility standard (see Appendix 7)

Recommended standard
15 minute walk time
Justification
52% of respondents to the household survey stated that they would expect to walk to formal MUGAs. This is in line with current user patterns, as evidenced through

the household survey, and therefore it is recommended that a walk time be set as the local standard.

A 15 minute walk time is recommended in line with the consultation responses. The modal response highlighted 10 minutes walk, while the third quartile showed 20 minutes. Setting a standard at 15 minutes will cater for the needs of the majority of residents. Such a standard will ensure that residents have access to local facilities in line with local expectations, whilst simultaneously providing a realistic and achievable challenge which will ensure that adequate levels of accessible provision is balanced with quality.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS

- 8.57. In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those analysis areas where local needs are not met, the quality, quantity and accessibility standards are applied and interpreted together.

Outdoor sports facilities

- 8.58. The future level of provision required across Islington to satisfy the local quantity standard is summarised in **Table 30**. There are differences across the analysis areas. As a consequence, the application of a borough wide quantity standard creates a scenario with both surpluses and deficiencies.

Table 30: Future provision of outdoor sports facilities by Area Committee

Area Committee	Hectares of provision per 1000 population in 2008	Total surplus/shortfall in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Total surplus/shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	0.009	- 3.07	57,050	- 3.54
North	0.095	1.21	52,400	0.94
South	0.078	0.35	48,050	0.096
West	0.043	- 1.31	54,350	- 1.74
Total	0.055	- 3.18	211,850	- 4.237

- 8.59. The consultation exercise revealed a division in perception with regard to the quantity of outdoor sports facilities. However, when discounting those participants that registered no opinion, the general perception was that the borough is not adequately provided for in terms of outdoor sports facilities.

- 8.60. The application of the local standard for quantity results in the following issues:

- Current levels of provision equate to circa 0.055 ha per 1,000 population. The local quantity standard has been set slightly higher at 0.07;

- Applying the recommended local quantity standard against the projected population in 2025 reveals that there are likely to be deficiencies in two of the four analysis areas;
 - Given projected increases in population, a potential total shortfall of 4.237 hectares has been identified borough wide by 2025.
- 8.61. It is recognised that barriers such as railways will impact on the accessibility of certain sites. The barriers identified are:
- The railway Line passing through Junction ward and Tollington ward;
 - The railway line passing through Caledonian ward, Holloway ward, and Highbury west ward;
 - The railway line passing though St Mary’s ward and Mildmay ward.
- 8.62. **Map 13** shows that overall, most of the borough is within the catchment of at least one outdoor sports facility. However, results vary significantly when looking at individual types of facility.
- 8.63. There is only one outdoor bowling green, located at the southern end of the borough, therefore the vast majority of residents do not have access to a bowling facility within the recommended catchment.
- 8.64. For grass pitches, of the five sites identified, four are located within the North Area, and one in the South Area. The majority of East and West Areas fall outside the catchment for this type of facility.
- 8.65. The provision of STPs and outdoor tennis courts is more evenly spread than the other types of facilities. The majority of the borough is therefore within the catchment of at least one STP and outdoor tennis court. There are however a few location deficiencies:
- Parts of Hillrise, Tollington and Finsbury Park wards are outside the catchment of outdoor tennis courts, as well as areas within St Peter’s and St Mary’s wards. The east side of Bunhill ward falls also just outside the recommended catchment;
 - Most of Highbury East Ward, large parts of Highbury West Ward, Mildmay Ward and Barnsbury Ward and a small area of St Marys Ward all fall outside the catchment of an STP;
- 8.66. Quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance.
- 8.67. While some of the different facilities within the typology were well catered for, others showed large gaps in provision.
- 8.68. Consultation indicated that the quantity of outdoor facilities is dissatisfactory for 58.5% of respondents.

- 8.69. The quality standards highlighted a need to improve some of the existing sites, which was reflected by the mixed opinion regarding the quality of facilities.
- 8.70. Quality scores varied from site assessment visits, with the South area scoring the highest at between 86.7% and 95.6% and the North area the lowest at between 48.9% and 80%. The main cause of poor scores surrounded issues with fencing and tired looking facilities. High scores were reflective of findings of well maintained playing facilities in good quality parks.
- 8.71. This contrasts with the quantity findings, where the North area was identified as having the highest level of provision.
- 8.72. Consultation gave rise to mixed responses regarding the quality of provision. 73.8% of respondents who gave an opinion perceived the quality of STPs to be good or satisfactory, with the East area scoring the highest. The figure was higher again at 85.5% for outdoor tennis courts, although this figure dropped to only 43% in the South area.
- 8.73. Overall, the number of responses to quality questions was low, with a large proportion of survey respondents unable to comment, which may explain the mixed feedback.
- 8.74. The following are key sites in their respective analysis areas, all of which should be retained and their quality improved in line with the recommended local standard:
 - Highbury Field Tennis Courts (Site ID SP8). This is the only outdoor sports facility in the East Area, it is considered essential that this site is retained;
 - Market Road (Site ID SP7) . This site located in the West Area is the largest STP in the borough;
 - Wray Crescent (Site ID SPI0) and Tuffnell Park Playing Fields (Site ID SPI3). These two facilities provide the largest sites for grass playing pitches across the borough. Both are located in the North Area;
 - Finsbury Leisure Centre (site ID SP21) is the only STP provision in the South Area and it is essential that this site remains well cared for.
 - Finsbury Square (Site ID SPI) contains the only bowls facility in the borough and therefore its retention is supported by this study.
- 8.75. As there are likely to be few opportunities for improving quantity and accessibility deficiencies due to the urban nature of the borough, the initial focus should be on the enhancement of existing facilities.

OSF I	Strive to improve the quality of all outdoor sports facilities, to achieve the quality standard. This should ensure that all are fit for their intended purpose.
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- 8.76. The distribution of facilities illustrated in **Map 13** shows that most areas of the borough are within the recommended catchment area of at least one type of outdoor sports facility. This suggests that on the whole, quantity issues raised in the consultation may relate to the capacity of existing facilities to accommodate the level of demand from local residents, the ability of residents to access facilities, or the specific type of facility required, rather than an overall shortfall.
- 8.77. This reinforces the need to maximise the number of sites that are accessible to local residents, including access to school facilities. This is particularly critical in the analysis areas that have overall quantitative deficiencies in provision (East Area).

OSF 2	In locations where there is expressed demand for increased sporting provision (which varied across the different facility types within this typology), and in areas which lack access to certain types of facilities, it is imperative that the council ensures schools continue to hire out their facilities to the public to avoid any further deficiencies. Where school facilities could be made available to the public but are not currently, the council should consider the feasibility of formalising community-use agreements.
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- 8.78. In order to address geographical quantitative issues, consideration should be given to the opportunities for new provision within the different areas of the borough.
- 8.79. The application of the local quantity standards has revealed an approximate requirement for 4.237 ha of new provision across the Borough up to 2025 to account for the increases in the Islington population. The West and East analysis areas all have shortfalls below the recommended minimum level of provision by 2025 at circa 1.74 ha, and 3.54 ha respectively therefore the priority for any new facilities should be given to these analysis areas.
- 8.80. Space for new sites may be limited due to the urban nature of all the analysis areas and expansion of existing facilities may be more appropriate. In the first instance it is therefore important that access to existing facilities is maximised through ensuring that transport connections are maintained or improved to allow local residents to access sites outside of these analysis areas.

OSF 3	Further investigate the demand for, and the potential to deliver further provision of, outdoor sport facilities in the West and East areas.
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MUGAs

- 8.81. **Table 31** displays the distribution of MUGAs across the borough.

Table 31: Future provision of MUGAs by Area Committee

Area Committee	Hectares of provision per 1000 population in 2008	Total surplus/shortfall population in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Total surplus/shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	0.014	0.15	57,050	0.057
North	0.005	- 0.29	52,400	- 0.37
South	0.003	- 0.35	48,050	- 0.43
West	0.022	0.53	54,350	0.43
Total	0.011	0.000	211,850	- 0.21

8.82. There is a perception amongst those that engaged through the consultation exercise that the borough is not adequately provided for in terms of MUGAs.

8.83. The application of the local standard for quantity results in the following issues:

- Current levels of provision equate to 0.011 ha per 1,000 population;
- The local quantity standard has been set at the current level of provision;
- Applying the recommended local quantity standard against the projected population in 2025 reveals that two areas (North and South) of the borough are likely to have a deficiency by 2025 (0.37 ha and 0.43 ha respectively);
- Provision in the South and North analysis areas are less than the minimum standard by a small margin, while the East and West analysis areas exceed the minimum standard. Overall this provides firm evidence for maintaining these sites for the future;
- An increase in the population by 2025 would create a potential total shortfall of circa 0.21 hectares across the borough.

8.84. The key issues arising from the accessibility mapping regarding the distribution of sites are outlined below.

8.85. A number of areas are identified as deficient in terms of accessibility:

- The north western parts of Junction ward and Hillrise ward in the North Area fall outside the catchment;
- Most of the Bunhill ward and the majority of Clerkenwell ward in the South Area is also deficient in terms of accessibility;
- The eastern part of Mildmay ward in the East Area is also outside any catchments.

8.86. Quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those

deficiencies are of high importance. It must be noted here that standards and recommendations are limited for this particular typology as there are only six MUGA sites across the borough.

- 8.87. Consultation indicated that the quantity of MUGA facilities needs to be improved, with 54.3% of respondents stating that they were dissatisfied with the current provision of facilities in the borough.
- 8.88. The quality standards highlighted that the majority of residents are unsure of the quality of MUGAs, as opinion was very much divided. The lack of respondents that had an opinion regarding the quality of MUGAs, coupled with that fact that there are only four MUGA sites across the borough, limits the evidence base on which recommendations can be developed.
- 8.89. Site visits gave mixed scores for quality with the lowest being the South area site at 60% and the highest one of the North area sites at 94%.
- 8.90. The distribution of facilities illustrated in **Map 14** demonstrates that the few MUGA facilities that exist cover a large part of the borough, with the southern most area being the exception.
- 8.91. There is a need to maximise the number of sites that are accessible to local residents, in particular focusing on access to school facilities for local residents.

MUGA 1	In areas where there is expressed demand for further sporting provision (all except the North Area), and North and South Areas where some residents cannot access a MUGA within the recommended catchment area, where school facilities could be made available to the public but are not currently, the council should consider the feasibility of formalising community-use agreements at school sites prior to seeking delivery of a new MUGA facility.
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- 8.92. Consultation indicated that the quality of MUGAs is perceived to be poor, Only in the North Area (which contains two MUGAs) did more than a quarter (26.7%) of respondents think the quality was 'good' or 'satisfactory'.

MUGA 2	Strive to improve the quality of MUGA facilities, to achieve the quality standard. This should ensure that all are fit for their intended purpose.
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KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

- 8.93. Outdoor sports facilities is a wide-ranging category of open space which includes both natural and artificial surfaces for sport and recreation that are owned and managed by sports associations, schools and individual sports clubs. Examples include playing pitches, bowling greens and formal MUGAs with the primary purpose of participation in outdoor sports.

8.94. Throughout this report formal MUGAs and outdoor sports (tennis courts, grass pitches, bowling greens, STPs) have been analysed as separate entities with standards being set for both formal MUGAs and outdoor sports. This method of assessment allowed us to set different standards for each type which presented a greater depth of understanding relating to where the greatest surpluses and deficiencies are in terms of specific facility types.

Outdoor sports facility summary

8.95. Consultation highlighted issues with both the quantity and quality of outdoor facilities, which is supported by analysis of the existing provision:

- There is significant variation in the quality of facilities across the borough, with site assessment scores ranging from 48.9% to 95.6%. This is in line with household survey responses, which showed a mixed opinion relating to quality across the borough;
- The application of the local quantity standards recommends a Borough wide increase of 3.18 hectares in the near future, but a requirement of circa 4.2 hectares of new provision up to 2025. This was reinforced by the household survey whereby over half of the respondents stated they were dissatisfied with the current level of provision.

8.96. The application of the quantity and accessibility standards highlights that the distribution of outdoor sports facilities as a whole is fairly evenly spread across the borough. Residents in all analysis areas are able to access a minimum of one type of outdoor sports facility within the recommended distance threshold of 15 minutes.

There is, however, an imbalance in the number of facilities in each area. The North and South areas are the best served with seven each and the East area the worst, served by only one.

8.97. Deficiencies in some types of facility (bowls and grass pitches) are greater than others (tennis courts and synthetic turf pitches):

- The majority of the East and West areas do not have access to grass pitches and there is only one outdoor bowling facility which is located in the South area;
- Highbury East ward is the only ward falling outside the catchment of an STP;
- Small parts of Hillrise, Tollington, St Peters, St Mary's and Bunhill wards fall outside the catchment for outdoor tennis courts.

8.98. While there are few overall accessibility deficiencies in terms of outdoor sports, consideration should be given to providing an additional 3.07 hectares of provision in the East Area of the borough, which currently has the lowest provision of outdoor facilities (0.453 ha) coupled with the highest populated area of the borough (50,300), to bring it up to the recommended standard. Before investing in the development of new facilities the council should instead look to either extend current facilities or seek to further increase community access to school sites.

8.99. A large part of the evidence from this study supports the recommendation to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities across the borough. This is particularly important considering that the evidence to support this recommendation was largely formed in response to information received from the household survey which was later reinforced by the site assessment scores.

OSF 1	Strive to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities, to achieve the quality standard. This should ensure that all are fit for their intended purpose.
OSF 2	In locations where there is expressed demand for increased sporting provision (which varied across the different facility types within this typology), and in areas which lack access to certain types of facilities, it is imperative that the council ensures schools continue to hire out their facilities to the public to avoid any further deficiencies. Where school facilities could be made available to the public but are not currently, the council should consider the feasibility of formalising community-use agreements.
OSF 3	Investigate the demand for and the potential to deliver further provision of outdoor sport facilities in the West and East analysis areas.

MUGAs summary

8.100. Consultation highlighted issues with both the quantity and quality of MUGAs, which is supported by analysis of the existing provision:

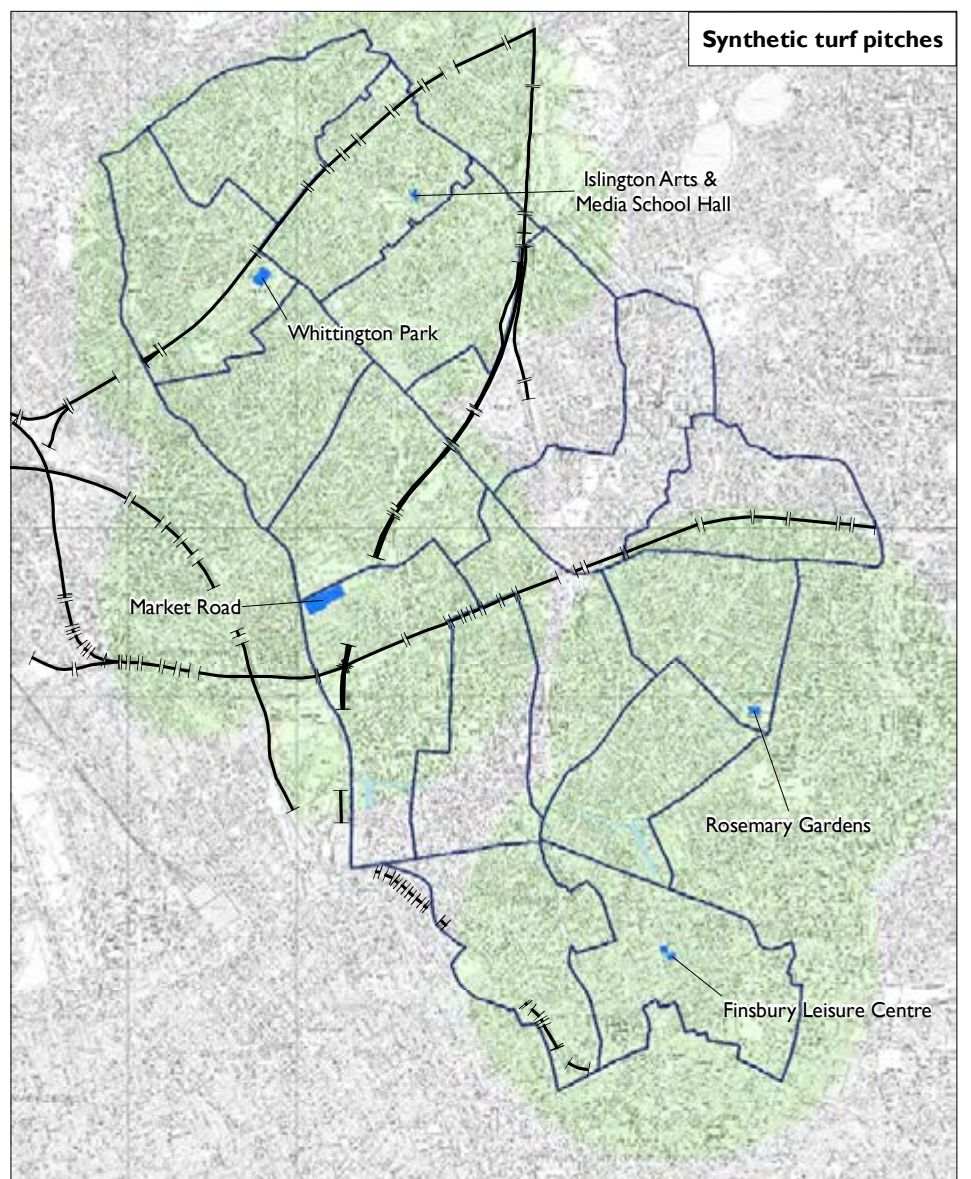
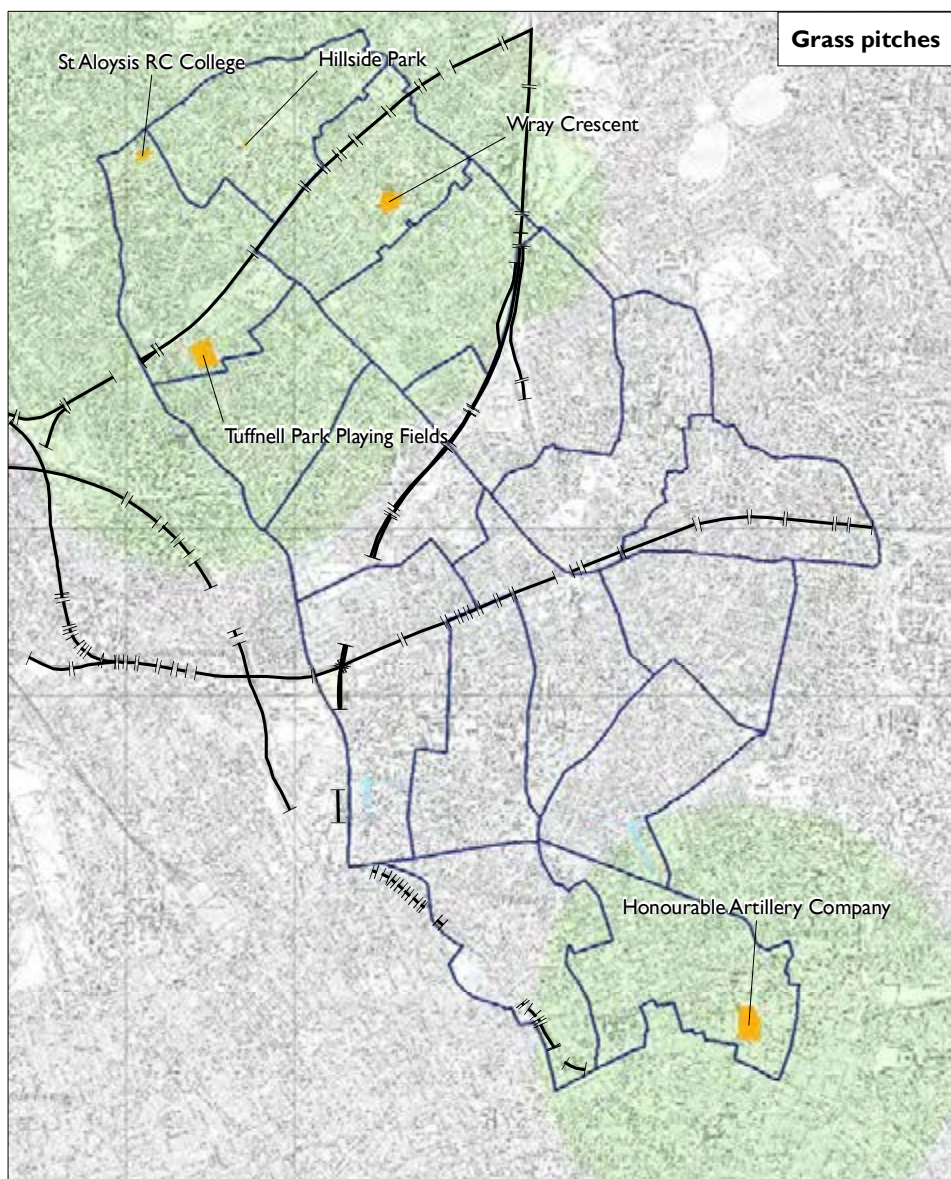
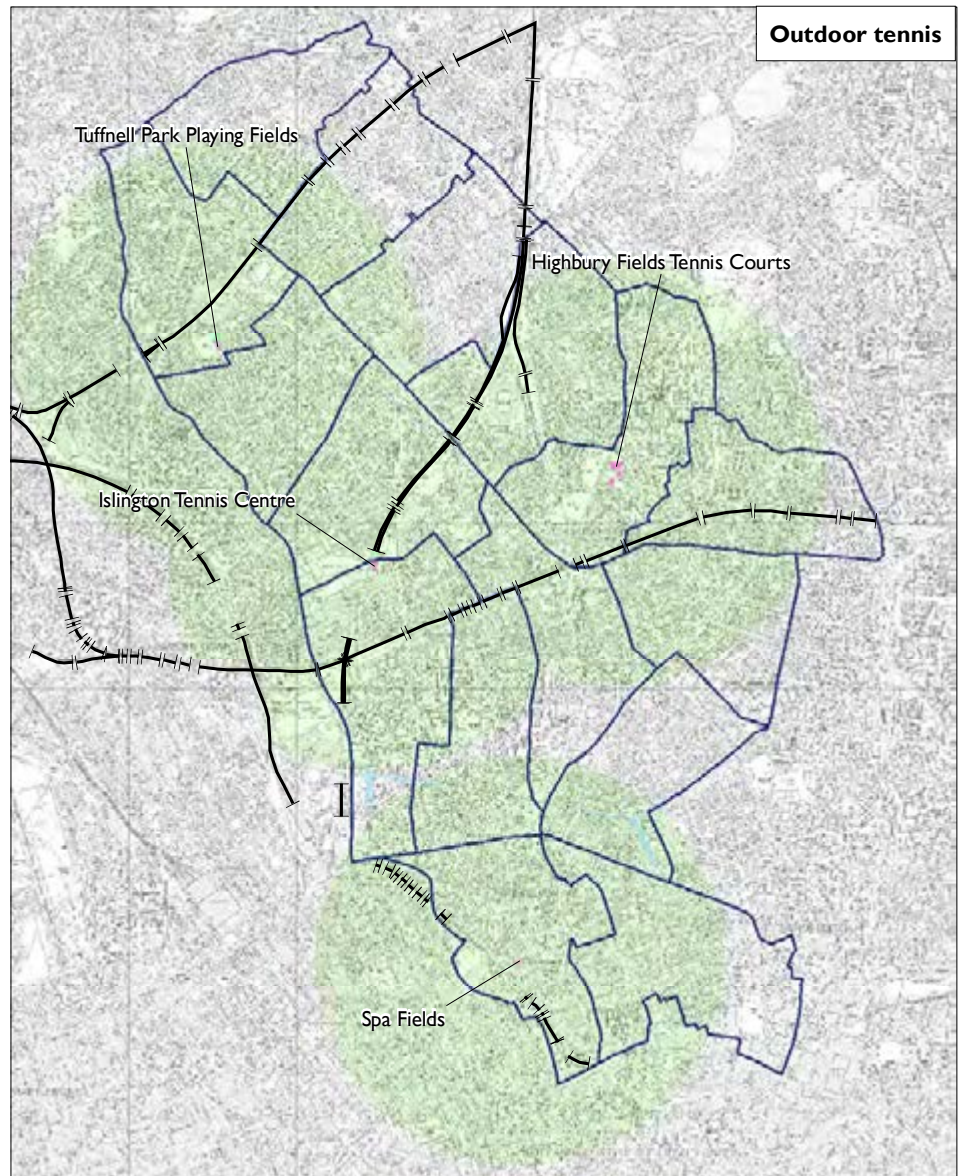
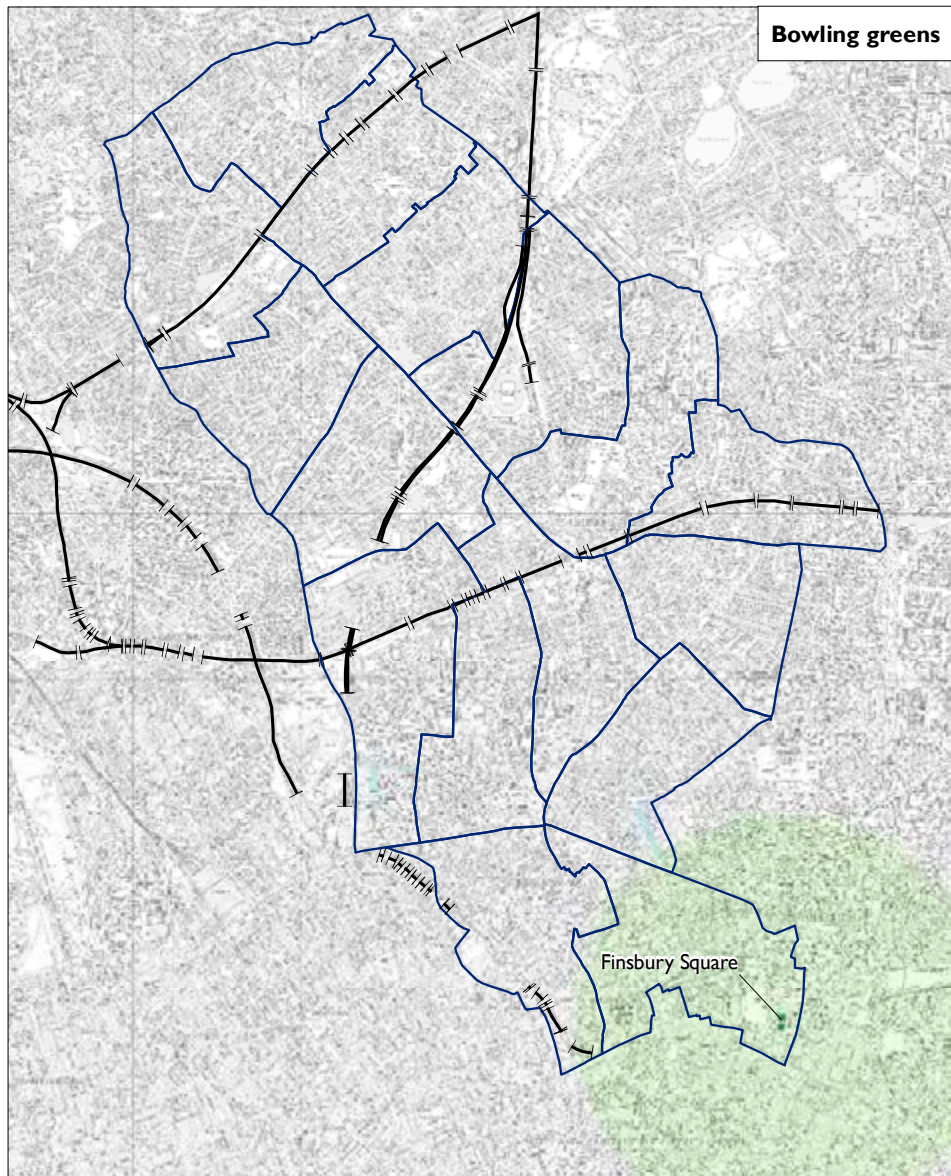
- The area in which the highest number of respondents said there was ‘not enough’ MUGA provision was in the East Area (where there is one large site). Analysis of existing provision showed a shortfall in the North and South Areas;
- Consultation highlighted a mixed opinion regarding the quality of MUGAs. This was mirrored in the site assessment scores which showed a variation in the quality of MUGAs with scores ranging from 60% to 94%.

8.101. It has been recommended that the council should maintain the current total level of provision at 2.098 ha. This reinforces the council’s commitment to existing provision, with future investment focussed on improving the standard and quality of MUGAs provided. Existing deficiencies in the North and South Areas will only worsen as the population levels increase, therefore the council should consider, where possible extending the current sites that are accessible to local residents, in particular focusing on access to school facilities for local residents.

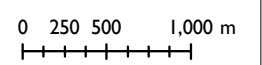
8.102. The application of the quantity and accessibility standards highlights that the distribution of MUGAs is fairly evenly spread across the borough. However, due to the limited provision, many residents in the South Area are unable to access a MUGA site within the recommended distance threshold.

8.103. While there are few accessibility deficiencies for MUGAs, and therefore few clear priorities for new provision, consideration should be given to improving the quality in line with the household survey responses that highlighted maintenance and cleanliness as the most essential quality aspirations.

MUGA 1	In areas where there is expressed demand for further sporting provision (all except the North Area), and North and South Areas where some residents cannot access a MUGA within the recommended catchment area, where school facilities could be made available to the public but are not currently, the council should consider the feasibility of formalising community-use agreements at school sites prior to seeking delivery of a new MUGA facility.
MUGA 2	Strive to improve the quality of MUGA facilities, to achieve the quality standard. This should ensure that all are fit for their intended purpose.



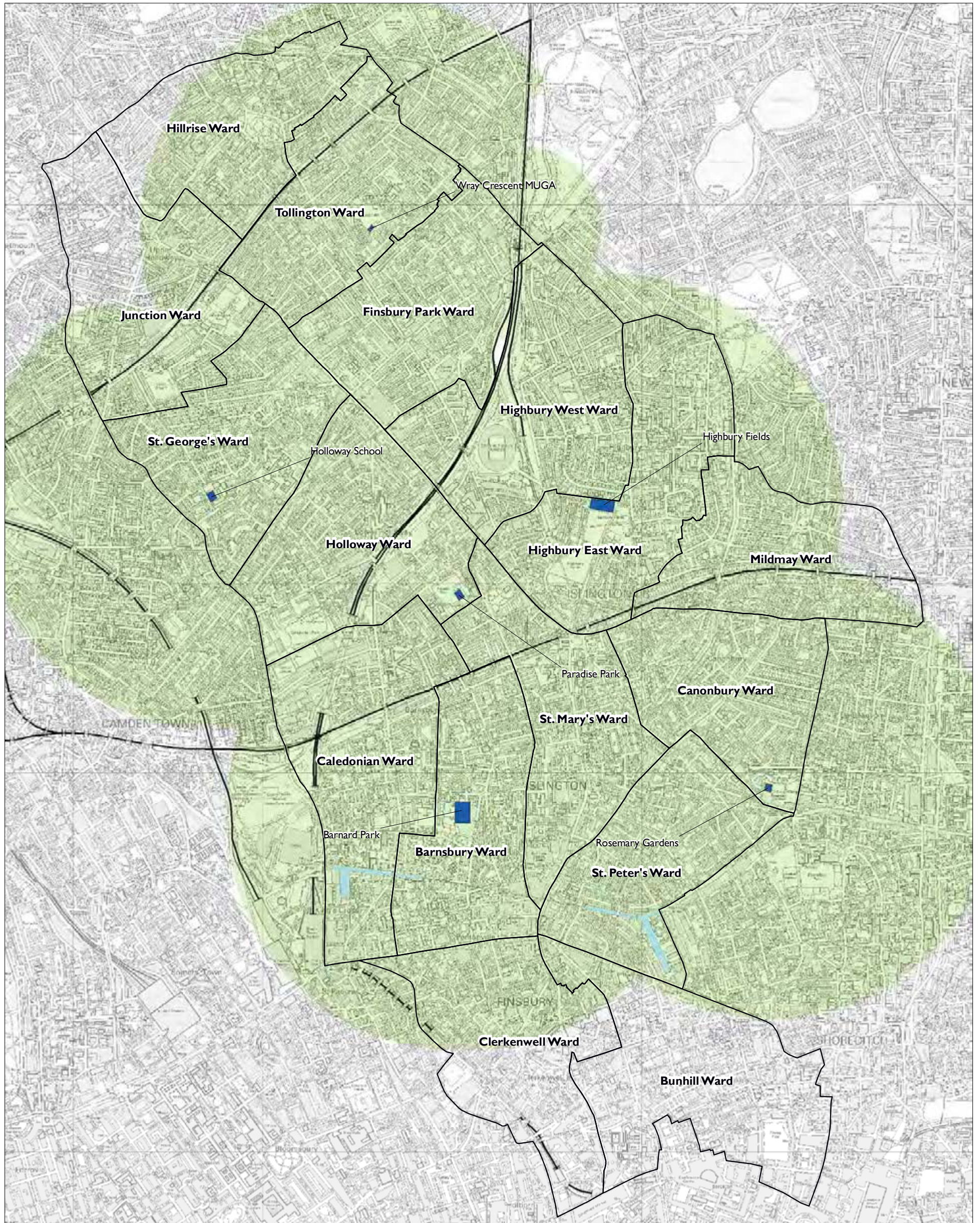
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 13: Typology D: outdoor sports facilities accessibility



Key

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Ward boundaries | Outdoor sports facilities sub-type | Outdoor sports facility catchments |
| Railway | Bowling greens | |
| Canal | Grass pitches | |
| | Outdoor tennis | |
| | Synthetic turf pitches | |





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 14: Typology D: formal multiuse games areas (MUGAs) accessibility

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Formal MUGAs
- Railway
- Canal
- Formal MUGA catchments

0 125 250 500 m

9. E. AMENITY GREEN SPACE

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 9.1. Amenity green space offers opportunities for informal activities close to home or work, for example, informal play and dog walking. These spaces provide a comparable experience to housing amenity space (Typology J, see **chapter 13**), although amenity green spaces in comparison are generally open to all Islington residents, and not limited to residents who live in housing estates.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 9.2. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of amenity green space. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is summarised by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of amenity green spaces together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.
- 9.3. **Map 15a** shows the distribution of amenity green space throughout the borough. It can be seen that these spaces (of which there are only 19 in total) are scattered throughout the borough, with most wards having one or two such sites. Map 15a also shows the distribution of housing amenity sites, since these provide a similar function. These are considerably more common and are again relatively evenly spread across the borough (this typology is further considered in section 13).

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 9.4. There are a total of 19 amenity green space sites, and as shown in **Table 32**. All 19 amenity green spaces are less than 0.5ha in size. They have all been classified within one level of the hierarchy. The 2.125ha of amenity green space throughout the borough equates to 0.011ha of provision per 1000 population.

Table 32: Existing provision of amenity green space

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	19	2.125	191,300	0.011
TOTAL	19	2.125	191,300	0.011

By Ward

Table 33: Existing provision of amenity green space by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (ha)	Existing provision per 1000 population	Additional area of no access sites (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300	1	0.497	0.037	
	Highbury East	11,150	1	0.046	0.004	
	Highbury West	13,850				
	Mildmay	12,050	1	0.025	0.002	
North	Hillrise	11,900	2	0.297	0.025	
	Junction	11,500	1	0.059	0.005	
	St. George's	11,850	1	0.117	0.010	
	Tollington	13,200	1	0.014	0.001	
South	Bunhill	11,200	3	0.370	0.033	
	Canonbury	10,600				
	Clerkenwell	10,350	2	0.143	0.014	
	St. Peter's	11,900	2	0.290	0.024	
West	Barnsbury	11,000	2	0.151	0.014	
	Caledonian	12,700				
	Holloway	13,600	1	0.077	0.006	
	St. Mary's	11,250	1	0.042	0.004	
TOTAL		191,300	19	2.125	0.011	0.000

- 9.5. 18 of the amenity green spaces are accessible to the public, and one offers limited access. They are distributed fairly evenly throughout the borough, although 3 wards (Highbury West, Canonbury and Caledonian) have no provision in this typology. Finsbury Park has the largest site which surrounds Sobell Leisure Centre.

Key characteristics of amenity green space

E1: Small local / pockets of amenity green space

- 9.6. These pockets of amenity green space provide a less formal green space experience than the parks and gardens, with less biodiversity interest. However, the sites provide important spaces for informal recreation close to where people live or work, and where access to a park may not be available. Just over half of the amenity green spaces are located within designated Conservation Areas suggesting they contribute to the character of the neighbourhood. Mountford Terrace (together with the nearby Barnsbury Square) is designated as a Local Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. Holloway Road amenity space forms part of Archway Road Cutting which is a site of Grade I Nature Conservation Importance.

- 9.7. In summary, amenity green space typically provides:
- Basic provision for informal recreation (seating, bins and dog-bins)
 - Entrance signs for enclosed spaces including no dog fouling notices
 - Limited range of habitats.

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

- 9.8. **Table 34** below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured (subdivided by hierarchy or sub-type as applicable). Justification for the standards is set out in **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** by typology.

Table 34: Amenity green space – Provision standards

Accessibility standards	EI: Small local / pockets of amenity green space	400m
Quantity standards	E: Amenity green space	0.011ha per 1000 population
Quality standards	EI: Small local / pockets of amenity green space	Value 14, Quality 23

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

- 9.9. **Map 15b - d** illustrate the accessibility catchments for amenity green space and the quality and value ratings.

Accessibility to amenity green space in Islington

- 9.10. It can be seen from **Map 15b** that large areas of the borough fall outside the 400m catchments of amenity green spaces. The catchments of the 19 sites form 5 separate clusters of areas with adequate access, located at regular intervals throughout the borough, covering approximately one third of its geographical area. The remaining two-thirds of the borough are deficient in access to this typology.
- 9.11. It is recognised that housing amenity space provides a similar function, with a number of the housing amenity spaces also being publicly accessible, and therefore serving the wider community. It can be seen from **Map 15c** that when typologies E and J are combined, the picture in terms of accessibility to amenity space is far better. There are still, however, pockets of deficiency where there is no amenity space or there is limited access particularly affecting the four wards in the east of the borough, smaller areas of St. Mary's Ward in the centre of the borough, Junction and Hillrise Wards in the north of the borough and Clerkenwell and Bunhill Wards in the south. It should be noted however that a number of these areas are within 400m of parks and gardens which lessens the significance of a lack of amenity space. This supports the idea that spatial deficiencies in one type of public open space may be 'plugged' by other types. This is considered further in **Section 17**.

Quantity of amenity green space in Islington

- 9.12. **Table 35** below summarises how the existing provision of amenity green space measures up against the suggested standard of 0.011ha per 1000 population now and at 2025 taking into account projected population growth. The table shows that 10 wards in the borough are deficient in amenity green space. In terms of the spatial distribution of quantitative deficiencies, only the northern and southern tips of the borough exceed the quantity standard (Hillrise and Finsbury Park wards in the north, and Barnsbury, St Peter's, Clerkenwell and Bunhill wards in the south). The central part of the borough is all deficient in provision of amenity green space. The wards that meet and exceed the standard in 2008 will continue to exceed the standard in 2025 despite the expected population growth. In order to meet the standard at 2025, an additional 0.228ha of amenity green space needs to be created.

Table 35: Provision of amenity green space by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Hectares of provision per 1000 population in 2008	Surplus/shortfall in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Surplus/shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	0.037	0.349	15,300	0.327
	Highbury East	0.004	-0.078	11,950	-0.087
	Highbury West	0.000	-0.154	17,300	-0.192
	Mildmay	0.002	-0.109	12,500	-0.114
North	Hillrise	0.025	0.164	13,550	0.146
	Junction	0.005	-0.069	12,450	-0.080
	St. George's	0.010	-0.014	11,600	-0.012
	Tollington	0.001	-0.133	14,800	-0.151
South	Bunhill	0.033	0.245	12,800	0.227
	Canonbury	0.000	-0.118	11,050	-0.123
	Clerkenwell	0.014	0.028	9,900	0.033
	St. Peter's	0.024	0.158	14,300	0.131
West	Barnsbury	0.014	0.028	11,650	0.021
	Caledonian	0.000	-0.141	14,300	-0.159
	Holloway	0.006	-0.074	16,750	-0.109
	St. Mary's	0.004	-0.083	11,650	-0.088
TOTAL		0.011	0.000	211,850	-0.228

Quality of amenity green space in Islington

Table 36: Value and quality ratings

VQ Rating	No. of EI sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality	2	2
+ - High value/Low quality	15	15
- + Low value/High quality		
-- Low value/Low quality	2	2

- 9.13. It can be seen from **Table 36**, and **Map 15d** that 17 of the 19 areas of amenity green space are rated as being below the quality standard. The two sites which exceed the quality standard are located in the southern half of the borough. The poor quality scores reflect a range of issues including a lack of provision and/or maintenance of infrastructure such as bins, seating and planting. Only two sites, Holloway Road amenity space in the north of the borough and City Forum in the south, fall below the value threshold.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

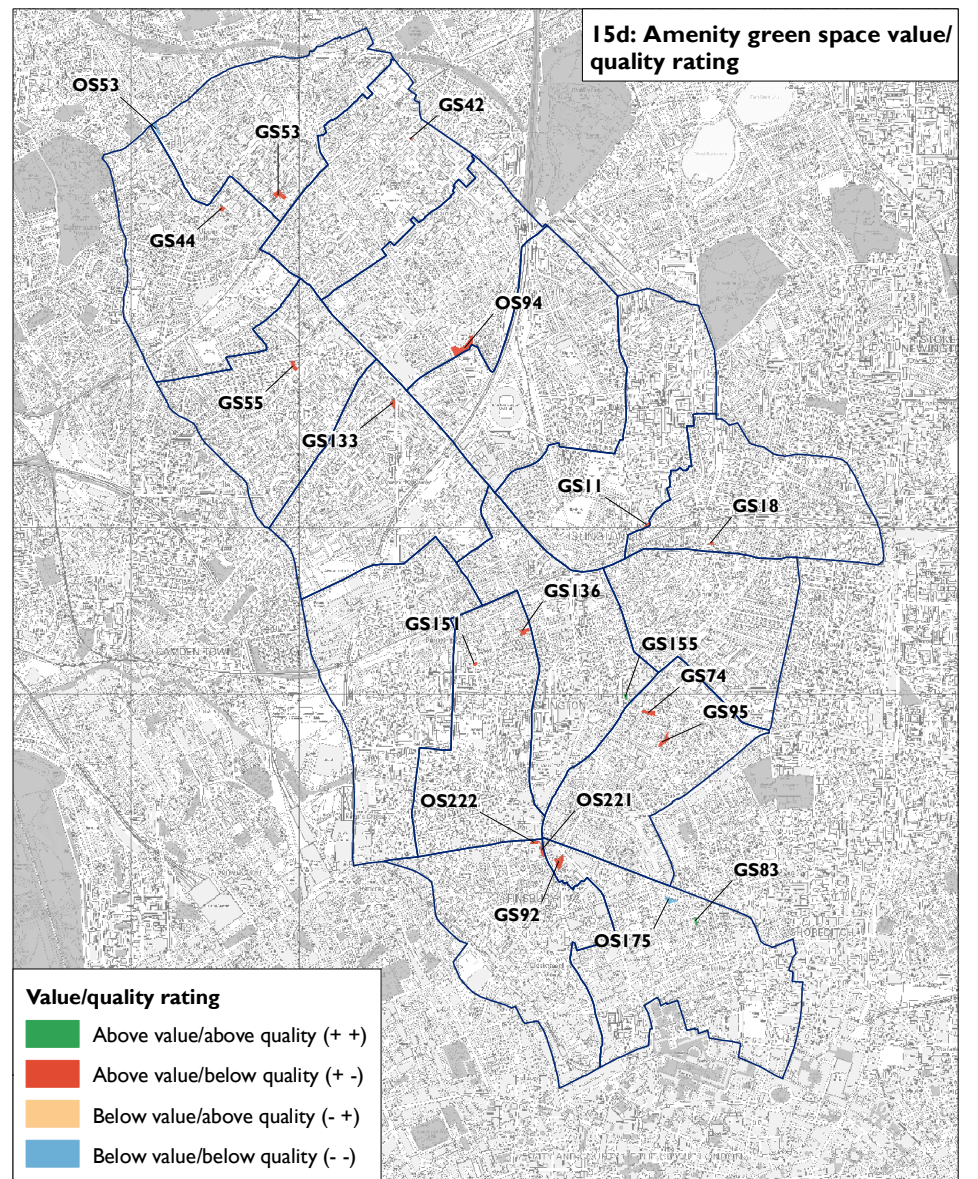
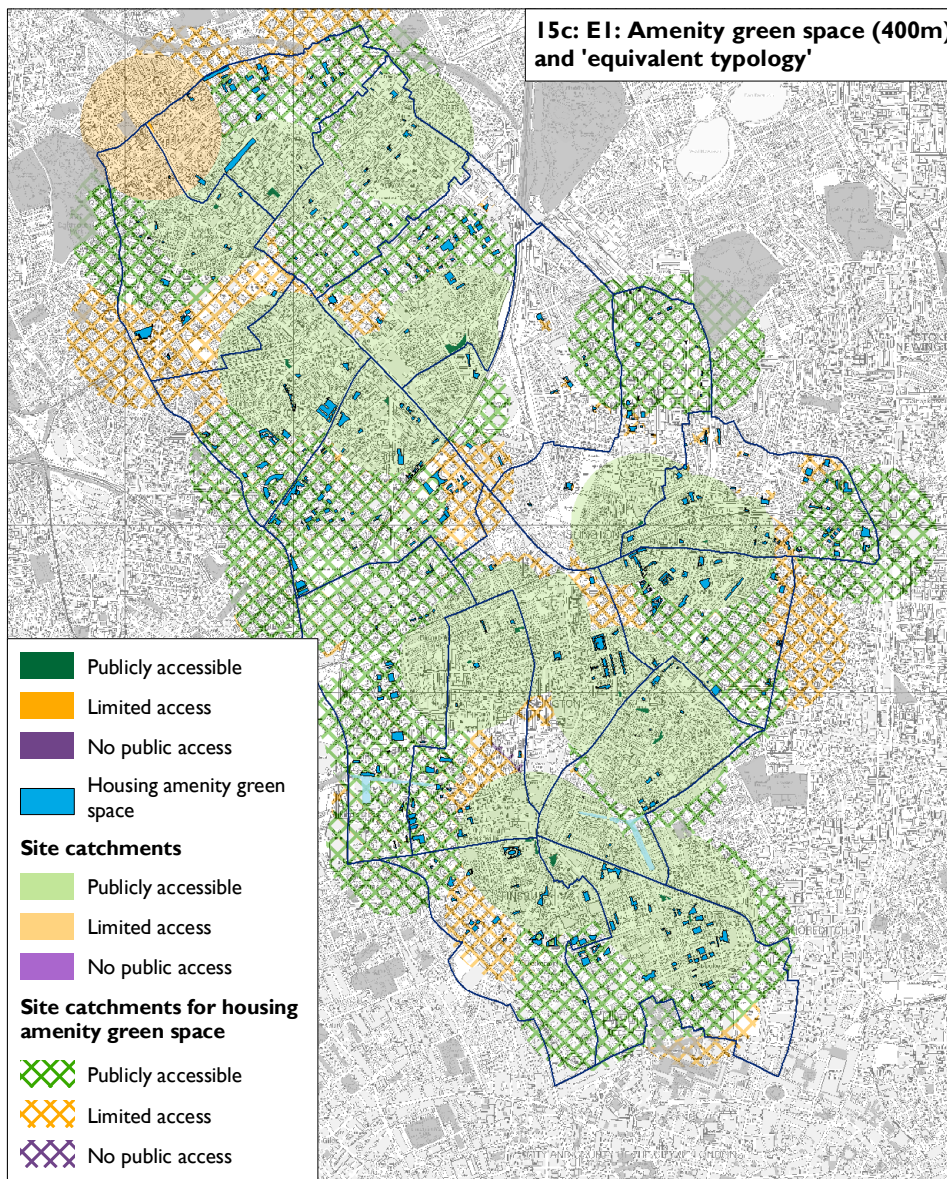
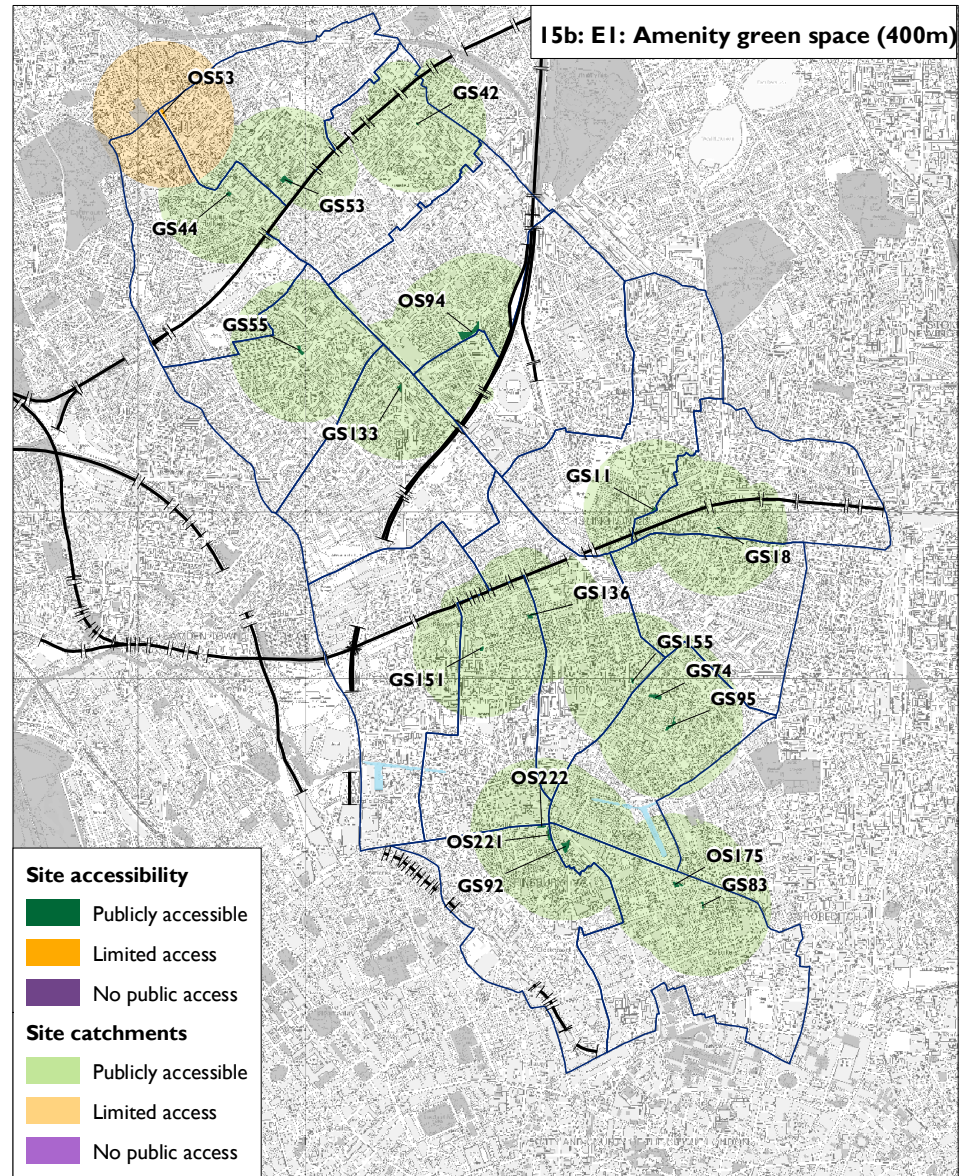
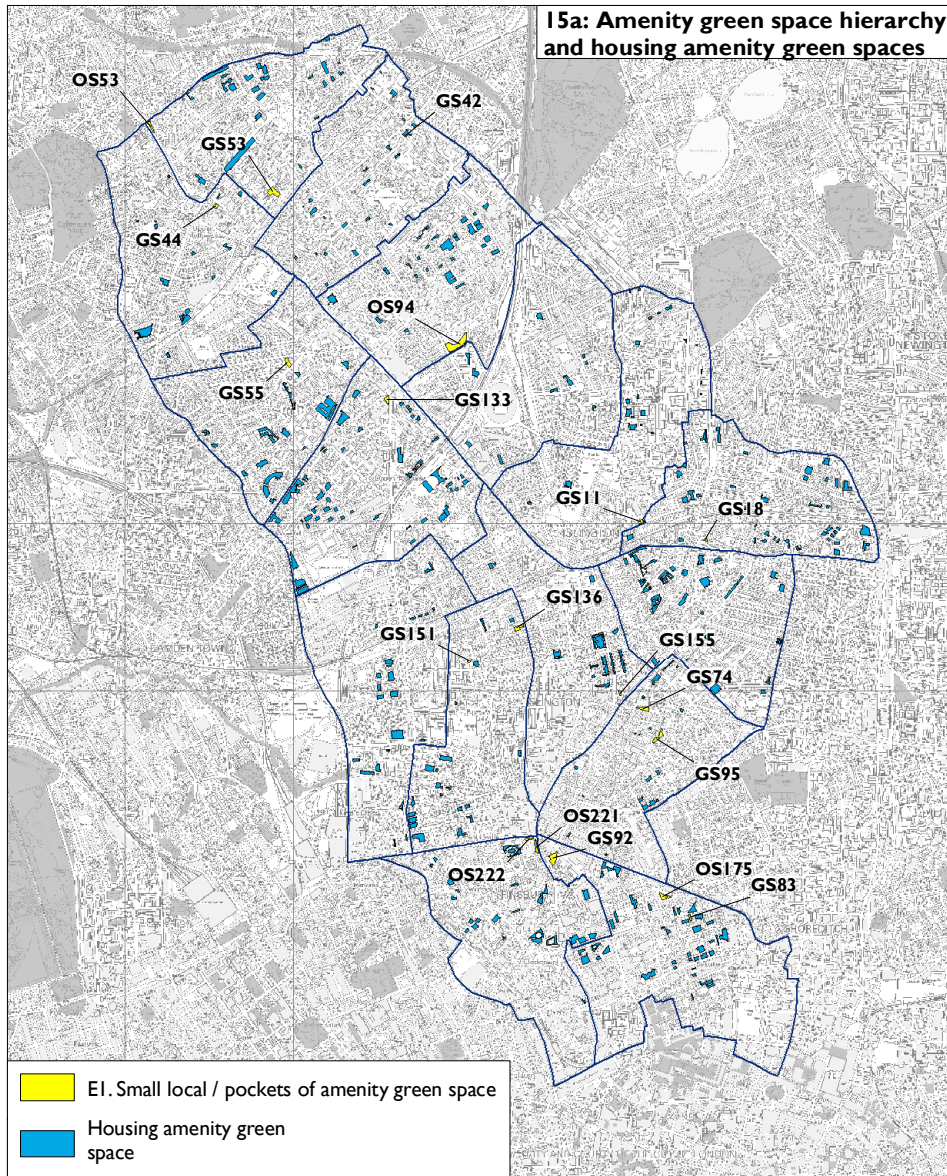
- 9.14. Community consultation highlighted the desire of Islington residents to have access to good quality green space close to their homes. Provision of amenity green space is limited to 19 small sites scattered throughout the borough, resulting in around two-thirds of the geographic area of the borough having no access (i.e. falling outside the 400m catchments of these sites).
- 9.15. In terms of the spatial distribution of quantitative deficiencies, only the northern and southern tips of the borough exceed the quantity standard (Hillrise and Finsbury Park wards in the north, and Barnsbury, St Peter's, Clerkenwell and Bunhill wards in the south). The central part of the borough is deficient in provision of amenity green space.
- 9.16. Quantitative and accessibility deficiencies coincide in the centre of the borough, along the boundaries between Caledonian, St Marys, Canonbury, Midmay, Highbury East, Highbury west and Holloway wards.
- 9.17. Housing amenity space, much of which is accessible to the wider public, provides a similar function and is far more extensive in terms of provision (totalling 407 sites covering 30.423 ha). However, even when taken together, there are still pockets within the borough where residents do not enjoy access to amenity green space

within 400m of their homes or access is limited. The largest area of deficiency in access to this type of provision affects Highbury West Ward with smaller areas of deficiency within the other three eastern wards, St. Mary's Ward in the centre of the borough, Junction and Hillrise Wards in the north and Clerkenwell and Bunhill Wards in the south. It should be noted that a number of these areas have good access to parks and gardens which lessens the significance of the lack of amenity space for these wards, for example, deficiencies in the eastern wards are partially addressed by the presence of Finsbury and Clissold Parks in neighbouring boroughs, and Highbury Fields.

- 9.18. Although these sites are relatively simplistic, they should still be of high quality, but the majority of amenity sites currently fall below the quality threshold (although the majority are rated as being above the value threshold indicating that although facilities exist, they are of a poor standard. The Green Space Assessment highlighted several quality issues in terms of barriers to access which could be addressed in order to achieve higher quality ratings at these sites. Several opportunities for improving basic amenities were also highlighted.
- 9.19. In order to meet the quantity standard as the population grows, provision of new amenity green space should be prioritised within the areas of current deficiency within Highbury West and Mildmay Wards in the east of the borough, parts of St. Mary's Ward in the centre of the borough and Junction and Hillrise Wards in the north of the borough.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

E.i	The scope and appropriateness of opening up access to housing amenity spaces (Typology J) which are currently limited to residents should be considered, particularly in areas experiencing both quantitative and accessibility deficiencies in the central part of the borough (Caledonian, St Marys, Canonbury, Mildmay, Highbury West and Holloway wards).
E.ii	Improving the quality of the 17 (of the total 19) amenity spaces which are below the quality threshold should be prioritised.
E.iii	Potential to increase provision by identifying areas of housing land which are currently under used and which could be developed as amenity space should be explored, particularly in areas of spatial and quantitative deficiencies in the central part of the borough (Caledonian, St Marys, Canonbury, Mildmay, Highbury West and Holloway wards).



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 15: Typology E: amenity green space hierarchy, accessibility and value/quality ratings

0 250 500 1,000 m

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Sites outside the borough

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Date: 22/08/2008

10. G. ALLOTMENTS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 10.1. The primary purpose of sites within this typology is to provide opportunities for people to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. The sites contribute to the well-being of Islington's residents through enabling outdoor exercise and community interaction, and enabling the production of sustainable, healthy food. As many of the sites (particularly the community gardens) have basic amenities such as seating and litter bins, they can also provide additional green spaces for the borough's residents to enjoy. In addition to allotments and community gardens, there is one urban farm in Islington.
- 10.2. Reflecting the increased popularity of the 'grow your own' movement, Islington currently has a waiting list for allotments that exceeds 10 years. Given the high density of flats in Islington (as illustrated in **Map 4d**), and by proxy, the limited access to private gardens, community gardens and allotments are an invaluable resource.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 10.3. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of allotments and community gardens. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is summarised by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the allotments and community gardens together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.
- 10.4. **Map 16a** shows the distribution of the 12 allotments and community gardens throughout the borough (including the urban farm).

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 10.5. Eleven allotments and community gardens were audited, as shown in **Table 37**. These can be divided into one small local allotment/ community garden and ten neighbourhood allotments/ community gardens. The urban farm is included in this study, but, due to the unique nature of this site, an audit was not undertaken. The urban farm, Freightliners Farm, falls within the top level of the hierarchy and is situated centrally in the borough.

Table 37: Existing provision of allotments and community gardens

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
G1. Small local allotments / community gardens	2	0.966	191,300	0.005
G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	10	1.466	191,300	0.008
TOTAL	12	2.432	191,300	0.013

10.6. The 12 sites in this typology can be further broken down into three sub-types:

- Allotments (4 sites);
- Community gardens (7 sites); and
- Urban farms (1 site)

10.7. All of the allotments have limited access (restricted to keyholders only), whereas the majority of the community gardens are publicly accessible. The urban farm is publicly accessible.

By Ward

Table 38: Existing provision of allotments and community gardens by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Allotments (ha)	Community gardens (ha)	Urban farm (ha)
East	Finsbury Park			
	Highbury East	0.310	0.537	
	Highbury West	0.164		
	Mildmay		0.235	
North	Hillrise		0.400	
	Junction			
	St. George's			
	Tollington	0.073		
South	Bunhill			
	Canonbury			
	Clerkenwell			
	St. Peter's			
West	Barnsbury		0.273	
	Caledonian			
	Holloway			0.440
	St. Mary's			
TOTAL		0.547	1.445	0.440
Current provision (ha per 1000 population)		0.003	0.008	n/a

10.8. As shown in **Table 38**, the total area covered by sites within this typology is 2.432ha, split between the three typologies.

Key characteristics of allotments and community gardens

10.9. Many of the sites (particularly the community gardens) have basic amenities such as seating and litter bins. As well as providing opportunities for residents to grow their own produce, these sites can also provide additional green spaces for the borough's residents to enjoy. These spaces are also recognised for their biodiversity benefits with six of the sites designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (Olden Gardens and Arvon Road Allotments are both Borough Grade I, King Henry's Walk, Culpeper Community Garden, Sunnyside Community Garden and Freightliners Farm all Borough Grade II). In addition, Thornhill Bridge Community Garden, located alongside Regent's Canal, falls within the London Canals Site of Metropolitan Importance.

GI: Small local allotments / community gardens

10.10. The two sites at this level of the hierarchy are:

- Olden Gardens (0.53ha): this site is a community garden which is designated as a Grade I Site of Importance to Nature Conservation. This is a self-managed community garden. Olden Gardens is not fully publicly accessible, and access is limited by a locked gate.
- Freightliners Farm (0.44ha): this urban farm has not been audited and provides a unique experience for residents and visitors. The farm boasts a 'taste of country life in the city'. The Farm is open all year round from Tuesday to Sunday, with the exception of Christmas. According to the website <http://www.freightlinersfarm.org.uk>, the farm enjoys 45 000 visitors, 200 school visits and numerous volunteers each year. Its purpose is to provide an educational and recreational resource for the community, promoting social welfare and quality of life through a collaborative and inclusive community project.

10.11. Typically, small local allotments / community gardens have:

- Entrance signs and public notice board
- Basic amenities might include litter bins and/or seating (particularly in community gardens)
- Green waste composting facilities
- A range of habitats and may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation.

G2: Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens

- 10.12. Of the 10 sites at this level of the hierarchy, 4 sites are allotments, and the remaining 6 are community gardens. One of the community gardens (Thornhill Bridge Community Gardens) has some play provision which accounts for a little over 25% of the total area of this site.
- 10.13. The 4 allotment sites are:
- Arvon Road allotments (0.31ha), which is self-managed, and was audited to have 33 plots, all of which appear to be in active use. These plots are not included as part of the Islington 'stock' of allotment plots as they are not council managed;
 - Quill Street Allotments (0.14ha), which is managed by Greenspace Services. This allotment site has 15 plots;
 - Evershot Road Allotments (0.073ha), which is managed by Greenspace Services. This site has 10 plots. At the time of the audit, one plot was not being used; and
 - Monsell Road Allotments (0.022ha), which is managed by Greenspace Services and has 6 plots. At the time of the audit, one of the six plots was not being used.
- 10.14. The total number of Greenspace managed plots in Islington is 31. Currently, 29 are being used. The average plot size is 50m². There is a minimum ten year waiting list highlighting the demand for plots.
- 10.15. The 6 community gardens are:
- Sunnyside Gardens (0.39ha) which was audited as part of the Green Space Assessment, but is largely managed by a community group. The site has 10 allotment plots which are self-managed and not included as part of the Islington 'stock' of plots;
 - King Henry's Walk (0.24ha), which was audited as part of the Green Space Assessment and Action plan study, but is largely managed by a community group;
 - Culpeper Street Community Garden (0.2ha), which was audited as part of the Green Space Assessment, but is largely managed by a community group. The site has 15 allotment plots which are self-managed and not included as part of the Islington 'stock' of plots;
 - Thornhill Bridge Community Gardens (0.10ha), which was audited as part of the Green Space Assessment, but is largely managed by a community group;
 - Community Gardens (Arvon Road) (0.011ha) which was audited as part of the Green Space Assessment, but is largely managed by a community group; and
 - Whitehall Community Garden (0.01ha) which was audited as part of the Green Space Assessment, but is largely managed by a community group.
- 10.16. Within the community gardens above, there is a further resource of 25 allotment plots which are not currently under the management of Greenspace Services. This

brings the total number of allotment plots in Islington to 89 (31 Greenspace managed and 58 self-managed).

10.17. Typically, neighbourhood allotments / community gardens have:

- Entrance signs
- Basic amenities might include litter bins and/or seating (particularly in community gardens)
- Green waste composting facilities
- Limited range of habitats may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation.

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

10.18. The table below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured (subdivided by hierarchy or sub-type as applicable). N.b. it is only considered appropriate to set standards for quality as explained below.

Table 39: Allotments and community gardens – Provision standards

Accessibility standards	G1: Small local allotments / community gardens	Urban farm n/a Community garden n/a
	G2: Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	Community garden n/a Allotment n/a
Quantity standards	G: Allotments and community gardens	Urban farm n/a Allotments: n/a Community gardens: n/a
Quality standards	G1: Small local allotments / community gardens	Urban farm n/a Community garden: value threshold: 10 quality threshold: 26
	G2: Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	Community gardens and allotments: Value threshold: 8 Quality threshold: 24

10.19. No accessibility standard has been set for this typology. In the case of the urban farm, there is only one such facility in the borough, and it is considered inappropriate to set a standard for this unique site. It cannot substitute for another type of provision so therefore it is not appropriate to apply an accessibility standard. It is also not considered appropriate to set an accessibility standard for allotments and community gardens as the number of residents that a site can provide for is dependant on the number of plots available. No data was available on the profile of allotment holders in the borough to determine how far a resident might travel to their plot or community garden.

10.20. While no accessibility standard has been set for allotments, it should be noted that all 31 plots managed by Greenspace Services are situated in just two wards: Tollington and Highbury West. There is further provision of self-managed plots in Highbury

East (Arvon Road Allotments), Barnsbury (Culpepper Street Community Gardens) and Hillrise (Sunnyside Gardens).

- 10.21. The number of allotments and community gardens required in any area is a function of demand and therefore the existing provision of allotments has been considered alongside the waiting list maintained by the council. Given the extremely low provision of plots in the borough (0.16 plots per 1000 population for Greenspace managed plots and 0.47 plots per 1000 population when all 89 plots are considered), and the 10 year waiting list, it is not possible to set a realistic quantity standard. It is recommended that every opportunity to increase the council stock of plots be pursued. For the purposes of comparison, provision in neighbouring boroughs is detailed in **Table 40**. It can be seen that provision is slightly higher in Hackney than in Islington. Whilst data for Haringey is less complete, it can be seen that the total number and area of sites is considerably higher.

Table 40: Allotment provision in neighbouring boroughs

Borough	Number of allotment sites	Number of allotment plots	Total area of allotments	Plots per 1000
Haringey	25	Not known	42.38 ha	Not known
Hackney	9	125	0.873 ha	0.56
Camden	9	194	Not known	Not known
City of London	0	0	0	0
Westminster	0	0	0	0
Islington	4	89	0.547 ha	0.47
London total	737	36,000 (with the majority in outer London)	Not known	Not known

Source: Haringey and Hackney PPG17 Studies and A Lot to Lose: London's Disappearing Allotments (Oct 2006), London Assembly

- 10.22. To assess the quality of existing audited provision a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold tests the **value** of a site i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics common to that level of the hierarchy in terms of types of facilities, amenities, biodiversity benefits and also tests the **quality** of a site in terms of its presentation, how safe it feels and overall condition. This enables identification of sites which should be protected by the planning system, which require enhancement, and which sites require a review of their design and present purpose. A quality standard has not been set for urban farms due to the unique nature of this site.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

Quality of allotments and community gardens in Islington

- 10.23. On application of the quality standard each site (except Freightliners Farm) is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in **Appendix 9**). The resulting value/quality ratings for the sites is summarised by hierarchy in **Table 4I** and illustrated in **Map 16b**.

Table 4I: Value and quality ratings

VQ Rating	No. of G1 sites	No. of G2 sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality		4	4
+ - High value/Low quality	1	6	7
- + Low value/High quality			
-- Low value/Low quality			
n/a	1		1

- 10.24. The four allotment sites are rated above value/below quality (+-). Three of the community gardens are rated above value/below quality (+-). The other four community gardens are rated above value/above quality (++) . Of the seven sites falling below the quality threshold, six are located in the East Committee Area (and one in the North Area) including three of the four allotment sites and Olden Gardens, the largest community garden site in the borough. The quality of all of the allotment sites and three of the seven community gardens needs to be addressed through repairs and maintenance improvements to raise the standard of this type of provision. All sites need to be protected by the planning system.

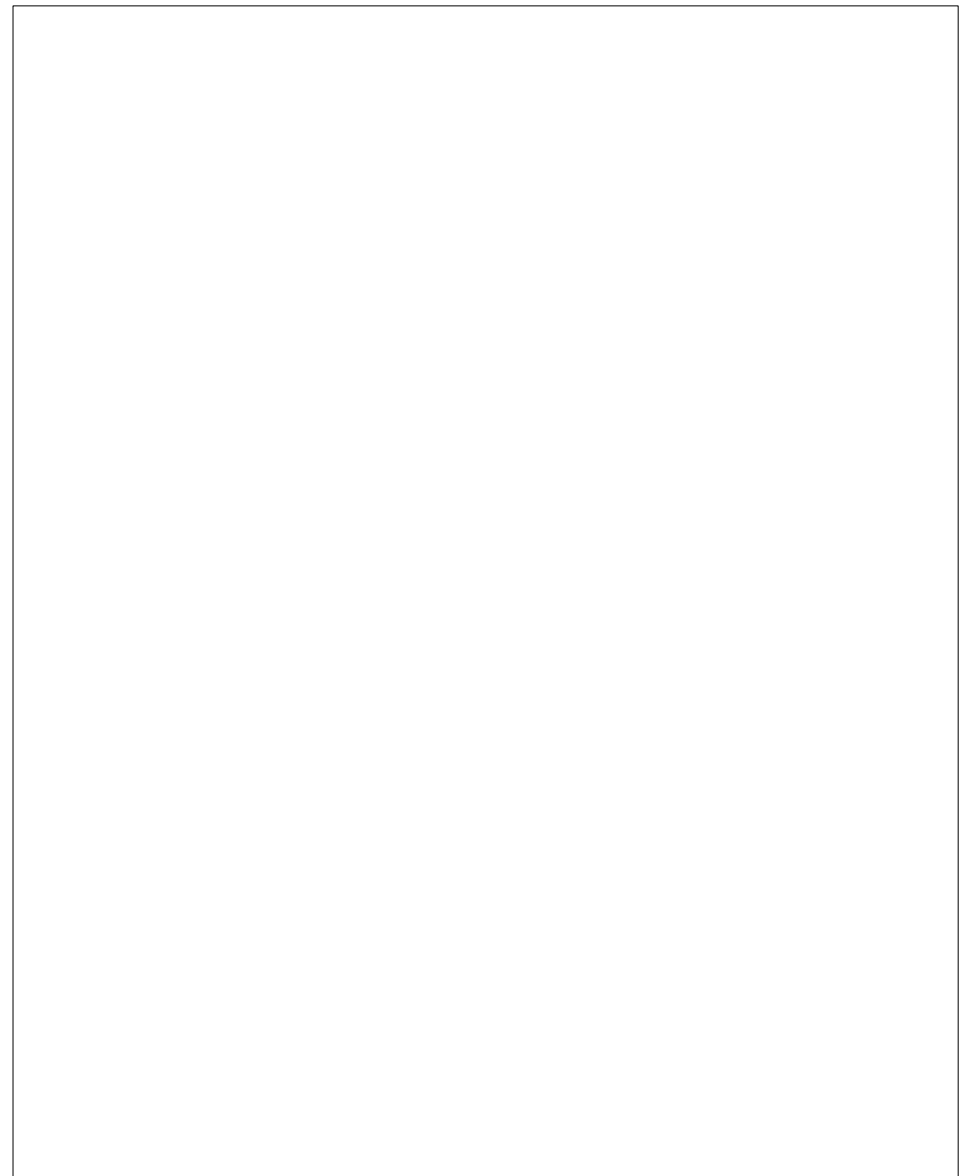
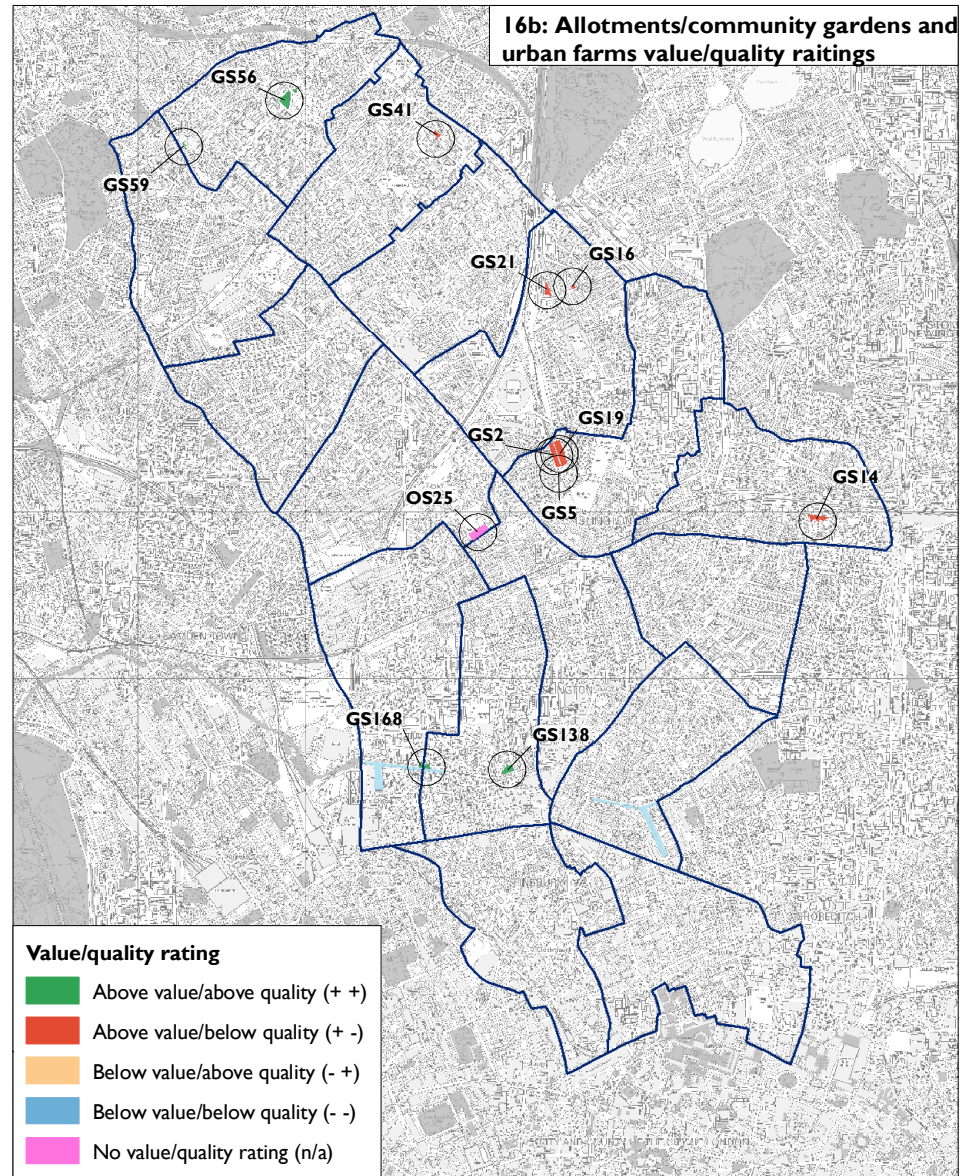
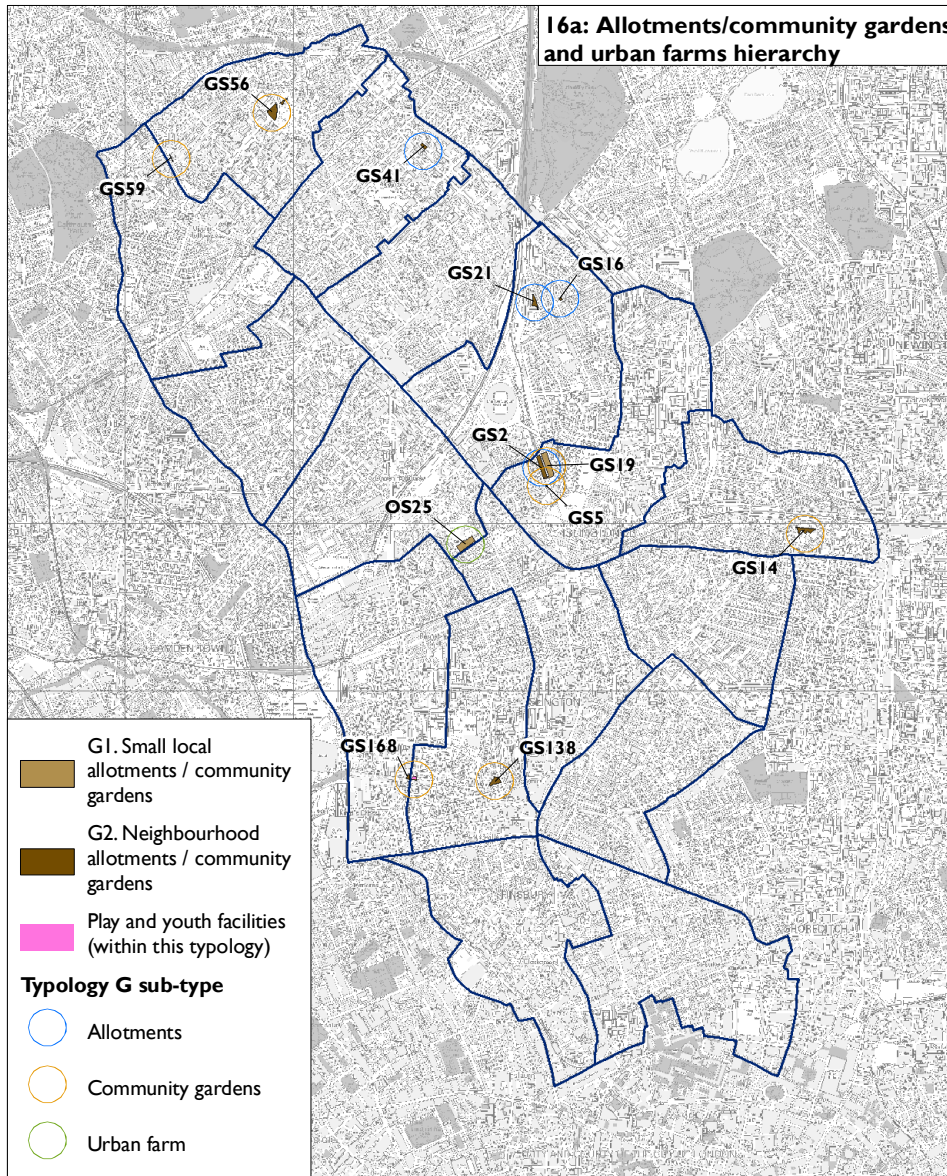
Key issues and recommendations for addressing future need

- 10.25. Overall provision of allotments and community gardens in the borough is limited (there are 4 allotment sites, containing a total of 89 plots and 7 community gardens, as well as an urban farm). Provision appears to be more restricted than in neighbouring boroughs (where data for comparison is available), with provision being slightly higher in Hackney and considerably higher in Haringey.
- 10.26. Given the extremely high demand for allotment plots within the borough (the waiting list exceeds 10 years), Greenspace Services works closely with the community managers of the 58 plots which are owned, but not managed by Greenspace, to ensure that these plots continue to operate as growing plots, and keep up-to-date records of their ownership to ensure that all plots are in active use.

- 10.27. Quality issues should be addressed at the four allotment sites (Quill Street Allotments, Evershot Road Allotments, Monsell Road Allotments and Arvon Road Allotments) and at the three community gardens (Olden Gardens, King Henry's Walk and the community gardens in Arvon Road) which are above value, below quality. The audit work undertaken as part of the Green Space Assessment highlighted that some allotment plots have potential for enhancement in terms of maximising the use of plots. The audit noted that there might be scope for creation of new plots at Olden Gardens. It may also be possible to develop allotments within existing open spaces, for example the 19 areas of amenity space (Typology E) which currently fall below the quality threshold.
- 10.28. In line with the recommendations of the GLA report 'A lot to lose: London's disappearing allotments (2006)' it is recommended that Greenspace Services consider sub-dividing plots as they become vacant to increase the total number of plots and provide greater opportunities for more people to enjoy allotment gardening. This would also reduce waiting lists.
- 10.29. The council should also seek to promote innovative solutions for local food production, such as roof allotments and growing boxes within estates.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

G.i	Ensure there is agreement between Greenspace Services and the community managers of the 58 allotment plots owned, but not managed, by the council, in terms of their continued operation as allotments. Scope to increase the number of plots/review each site's function may be appropriate given the level of demand. Consideration should be given to subdividing plots.
G.ii	Maintain one centralised waiting list in tandem with a centralised register of current ownership to ensure efficient transfer of ownership when plots become available.
G.iii	Seek to provide further plots wherever possible to meet latent demand, including considering the scope to create plots within other open space typologies (such as amenity green space (Typology E) and housing amenity space (Typology J))
G.iv	Make use of s106 agreements to ensure housing developments contribute to the creation of new allotments, or as a minimum incorporate some form of space for food production.
G.v	Work with Homes for Islington and RSLs to develop roof top allotments and growing boxes, and consider opportunities for making better use of areas of hard standing for food production.
G.vi	Greenspace Services to consider the practicality of creating new plots at Olden Gardens.
G.vii	Address quality issues at the four allotment sites (Quill Street Allotments, Evershot Road Allotments, Monsell Road Allotments and Arvon Road Allotments) which fall below quality standards and at the community gardens falling below the quality standard (Olden Gardens, King Henry's Walk, and the community gardens in Arvon Road).



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 16: Typology G: allotments/community gardens and urban farms hierarchy and value/quality ratings

0 250 500 1,000 m

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Sites outside the borough

11. H. CEMETERIES, DISUSED CHURCHYARDS AND OTHER BURIAL GROUNDS

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 11.1. The primary purpose of spaces within this typology is to provide space for quiet contemplation and burial of the dead. Promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity is also often important for such sites. As discussed in section 5, churchyards provide a comparable amenity and recreational function to parks and gardens in the borough. As well as fulfilling their original, primary purpose of a burial ground, the sites in this category also provide spaces for informal recreation, walking through-routes and places to sit.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 11.2. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is summarised by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.
- 11.3. **Map 17a** shows the distribution of the cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds throughout the borough. The sites are coloured according to their level of the hierarchy.

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 11.4. The 11 cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds can be divided into two hierarchy levels, as shown in **Table 42**. Nine sites were audited as part of the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan, and a further two sites as part of this study. The total area of the sites in this typology is 6.62ha, with the vast majority of the space being provided by the six H1 sites at the top level of the hierarchy. Not taking into account any access restrictions, this equates to 0.035ha per 1000 population, as shown in **Table 42**.

Table 42: Existing provision of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	6	5.673	191,300	0.030
H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	5	0.947	191,300	0.005
TOTAL	11	6.620	191,300	0.035

By Ward

- 11.5. **Table 43** below summarises the current provision of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds by ward. There is no provision within this typology in the North Area of the borough, and there is only one site in the East Area, and this site is not accessible to the public (Jewish Cemetery).
- 11.6. **Map 17a** illustrates the general concentration of sites within this typology in the southern half of the borough. This is a consequence of the sites being situated near the historic core of the borough. The provision of publicly accessible and limited access sites (i.e. limited in terms of opening hours) of this type equates to 0.033ha per 1000 population.

Table 43: Existing provision of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (ha)	Existing provision per 1000 population (ha)	Additional area of no access sites (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300				
	Highbury East	11,150				
	Highbury West	13,850				
	Mildmay	12,050	1			0.357
North	Hillrise	11,900				
	Junction	11,500				
	St. George's	11,850				
	Tollington	13,200				
South	Bunhill	11,200	2	2.246	0.200	
	Canonbury	10,600				
	Clerkenwell	10,350	4	1.165	0.113	
	St. Peter's	11,900				
West	Barnsbury	11,000	1	0.023	0.002	
	Caledonian	12,700	1	0.331	0.026	
	Holloway	13,600				
	St. Mary's	11,250	2	2.498	0.222	
TOTAL		191,300	11	6.263	0.033	0.357

Key characteristics of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds

- 11.7. With the exception of the Jewish Cemetery, all of the sites have traditional iron railing boundaries, and they impart a sense of place, providing a setting for the churches and memorials they contain. The contribution of these sites to the character of the borough is highlighted by the fact that all eleven sites fall within

Conservation Areas. The heritage significance is further demonstrated by the number of sites with Listed Building status.

HI: Small local cemetery / burial ground

- 11.8. Five of the six small local cemetery/burial grounds are managed by Greenspace Services. All sites within this typology are listed below (from largest to smallest):
- St. Mary Magdalene Church Gardens
 - Bunhill Fields Cemetery (not Greenspace managed)
 - St. Luke's Church Gardens (north and south)
 - St. Mary's Church Gardens
 - Myddelton Square
 - St. James, Clerkenwell.
- 11.9. At St Luke's Church Gardens the church is Grade I Listed and the churchyard railings and gates together with the Caslon family tomb are Grade II Listed. At St Mary Magdalene Church Gardens the church and attached railings are Grade II* Listed. The green space around St James's church, Clerkenwell, falls within a Scheduled Ancient Monument, the location of a Benedictine Nunnery, founded c1100.
- 11.10. Myddelton Square has consistently been included in the list of most popular parks in the Parks and Open Spaces Usage and Satisfaction Surveys.
- 11.11. These sites are also recognised for their biodiversity value with St Mary's Church Gardens and Bunhill Fields Cemetery designated as a Borough Grade II Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and a further four sites designated for their Local importance.
- 11.12. In summary, a small local cemetery / burial ground typically has:
- Good provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of litterbins and seating
 - A range of habitats and may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation
 - Traditional iron railing boundary and landmark feature(s) presenting a sense of place.
 - Heritage value acknowledged by inclusion in Conservation Area and may be subject to Listed Building designation
 - Entrance signs and public notice board.

H2: Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground

- 11.13. Four of the five neighbourhood cemetery/burial grounds are managed by Greenspace Services. The sites in this level of the hierarchy are:
- Jewish cemetery (not managed by Greenspace Services)
 - Thornhill Crescent Gardens
 - St. John's Garden, Benjamin Street
 - St. Silas Church Gardens
 - St. John's Church Yard.
- 11.14. St Andrew's Church, which is located within Thornhill Crescent Gardens, is Grade II Listed. Thornhill Crescent Gardens and St. John's Garden are both designated as SINCs.
- 11.15. The Jewish Cemetery audited as part of this study is not currently publicly accessible. It is however recognised as a Borough Grade II Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.
- 11.16. In summary, neighbourhood cemetery / burial grounds typically have:
- Good provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of litterbins and seating
 - A range of habitats and may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation
 - Traditional iron railing boundary and landmark feature(s) presenting a sense of place
 - Heritage value acknowledged by inclusion in Conservation Area and may be subject to Listed Building designation
 - Entrance signs.

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

- 11.17. **Table 44** below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured (subdivided by hierarchy and/or sub-type as applicable). Justification for the standards is set out in **Appendices 7, 8 and 9**.

Table 44: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds - Provision standards

Accessibility standards	H1: Small local cemetery / burial ground	400m
	H2: Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	400m
Quantity standards	H: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and burial grounds	n/a (since no further provision is proposed and existing provision is incorporated into the parks and gardens typology in terms of quantification)
Quality standards	H1: Small local cemetery / burial ground	Value threshold: 17 Quality threshold: 32
	H2: Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	Value threshold: 15 Quality threshold: 30

- 11.18. The accessibility standards for cemeteries, disused churchyards and burial grounds have been guided by the GLA benchmark standard for small local parks and confirmed through Groundwork's consultation.
- 11.19. No quantity standard has been set for this typology as it is not expected that new sites of this typology will be provided in the future. However, as discussed in section 5 in relation to Typology A Parks and Gardens, these sites contribute greatly to the existing baseline of parks and gardens, and have therefore been quantified within typology A.
- 11.20. To assess the quality of existing audited provision, a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold (set out in Appendix 9) tests the **value** of a site i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics common to that level of the hierarchy in terms of types of facilities, amenities, biodiversity benefits and also tests the **quality** of a site in terms of its presentation, how safe it feels and overall condition. This enables identification of sites which should be protected by the planning system, which require enhancement, and which sites require a review of their design and present purpose.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

Accessibility to cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds in Islington

- 11.21. **Map 17b and c** show the accessibility catchments for sites within this typology at both levels of the hierarchy. As expected, the majority of the wards in the north of the borough are in an area of deficiency in terms of this access to this typology.

Quantity of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds in Islington

- 11.22. No quantity standard has been set for this typology as it is not expected that there will be any new provision of this type of site in the future. As the population grows however, this will result in a net loss of provision of this typology in the borough per head of population. Whilst ensuring that the existing sites in this typology are retained, it is recommended that new space should be provided within other typologies so there is no overall net loss of provision of open space within the borough. This is described in more detail in section 5 in relation to quantitative standards for parks and gardens.

Quality of cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds in Islington

- 11.23. Each site is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in **Appendix 9**). The resulting value/quality ratings for the eleven sites are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 45** and illustrated in **Map 17d**.

Table 45: Value and quality ratings

VQ Rating	No. of H1 sites	No. of H2 sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality			
+ - High value/Low quality	6	4	10
- + Low value/High quality			
-- Low value/Low quality		1	1

- 11.24. Ten of the eleven cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds are rated above value/below quality (+-) and therefore need repair, conservation and maintenance attention to improve the standard of these sites. One site (Jewish Cemetery) has scored below value/below quality. This is symptomatic of its poor access, which also limited the extent of the audit.
- 11.25. All sites in this typology should be protected by the planning system, acknowledging their value as informal recreational spaces but also their important heritage and biodiversity value.

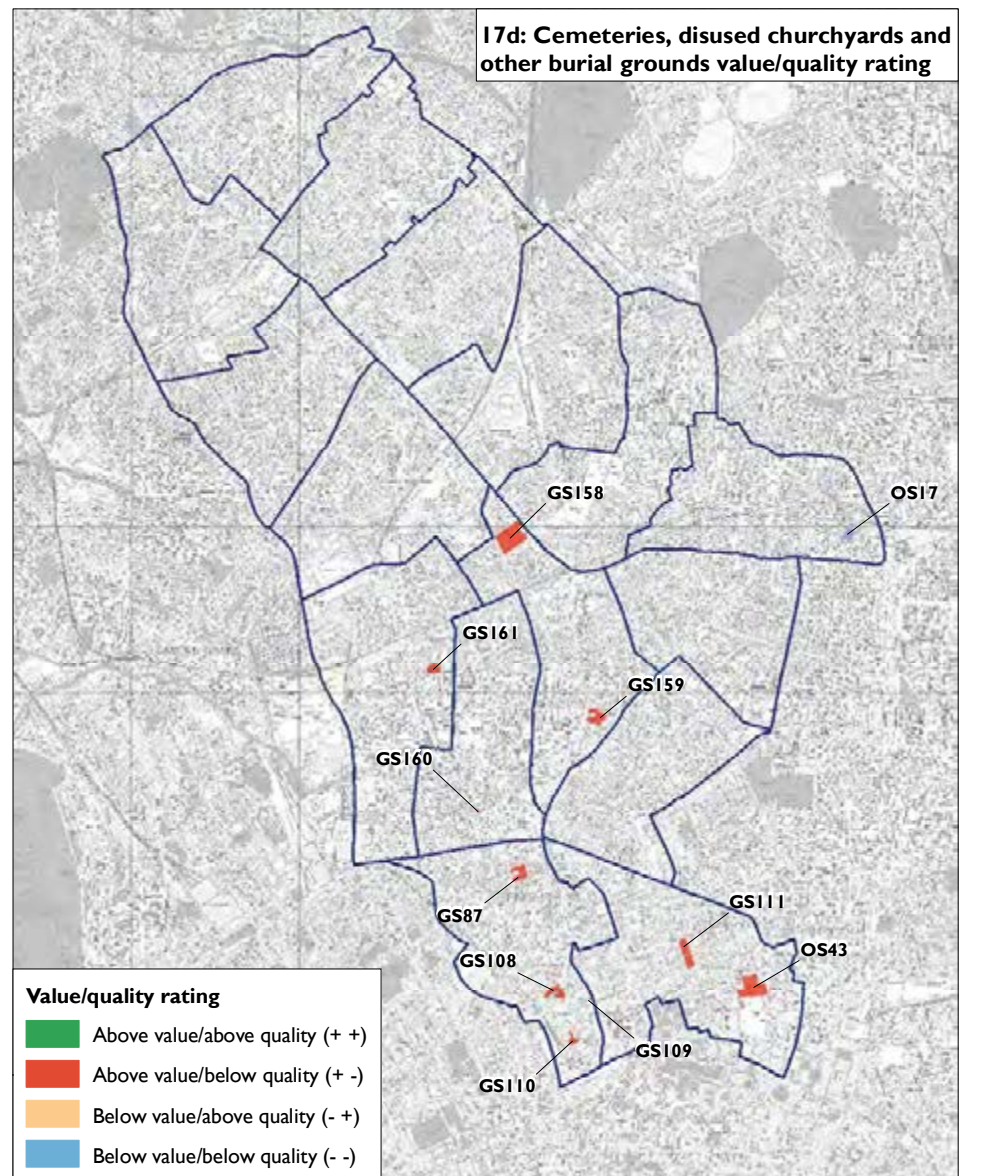
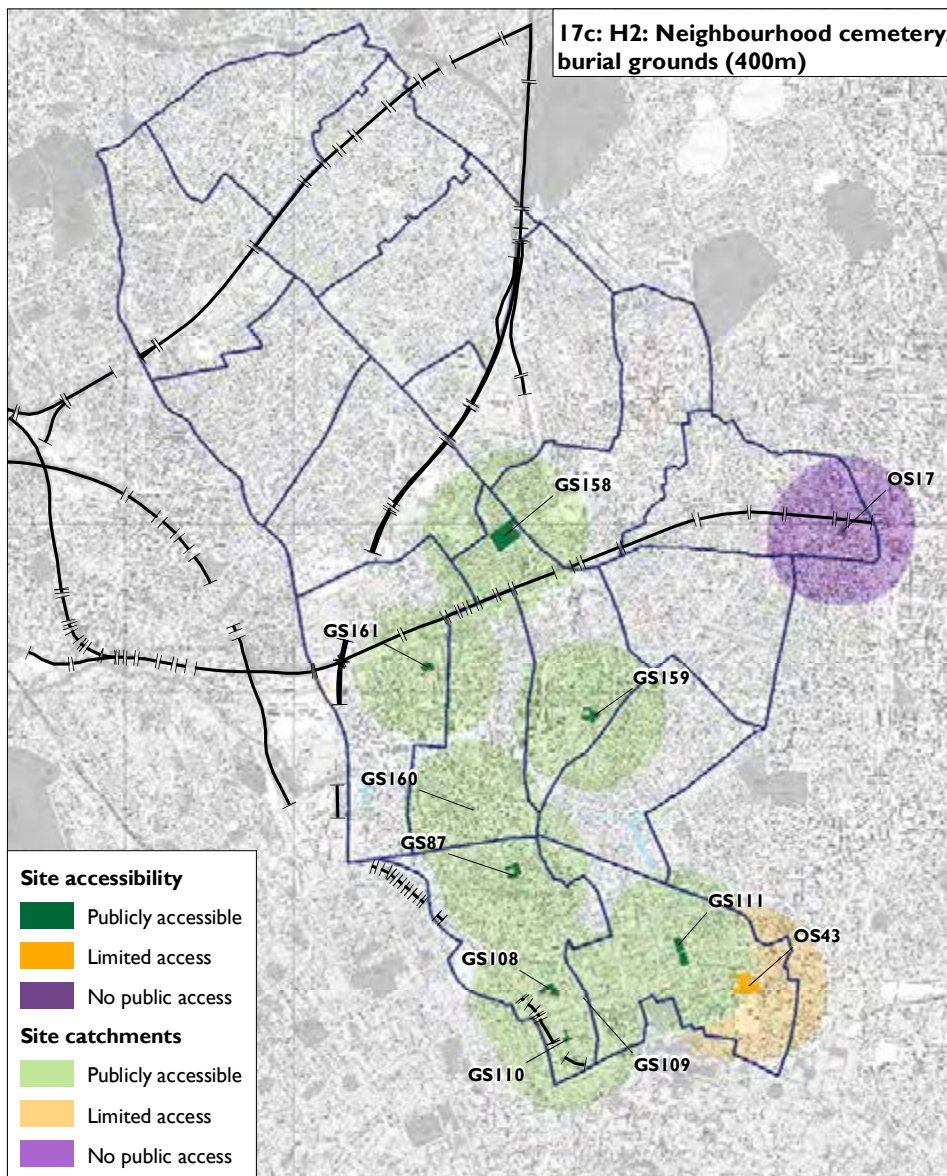
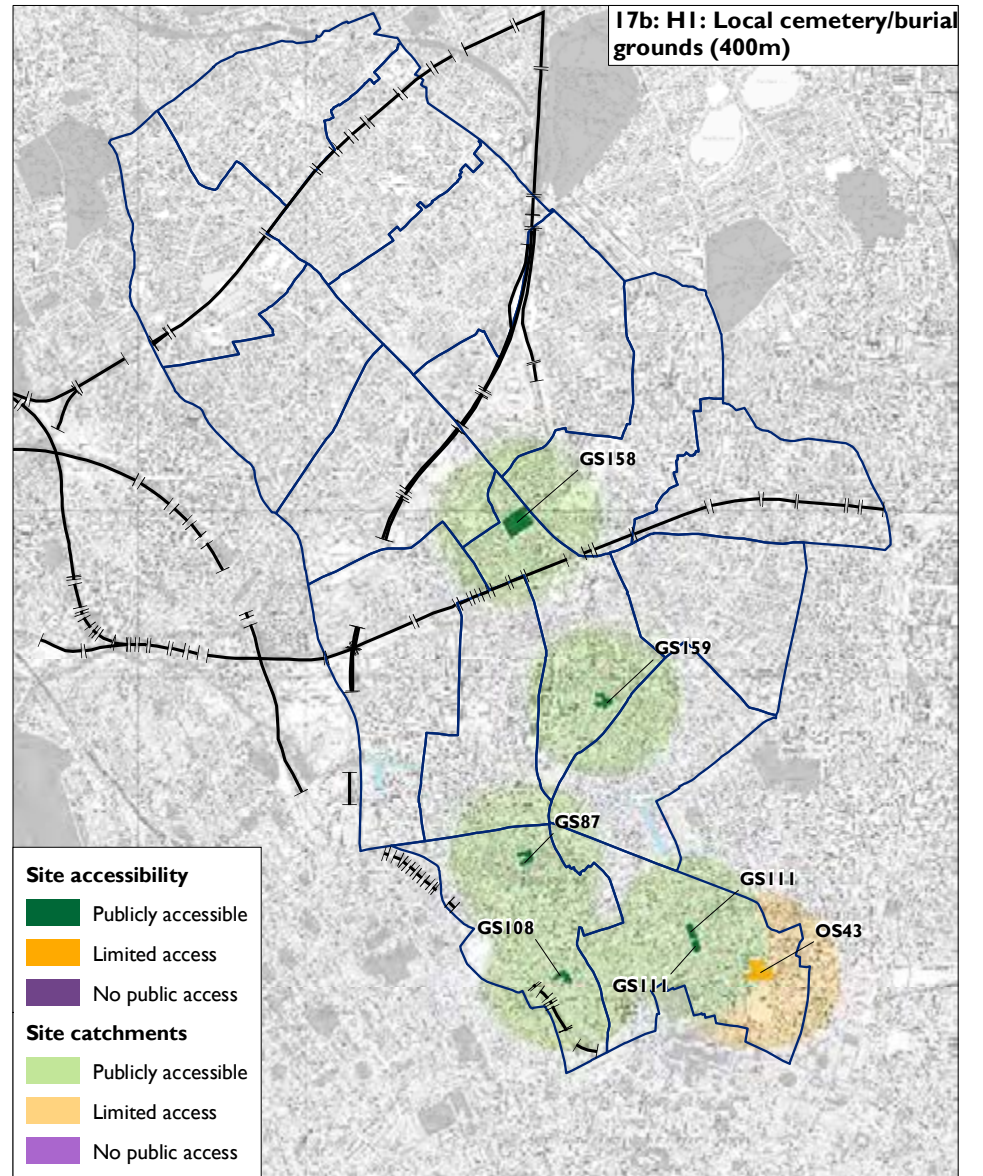
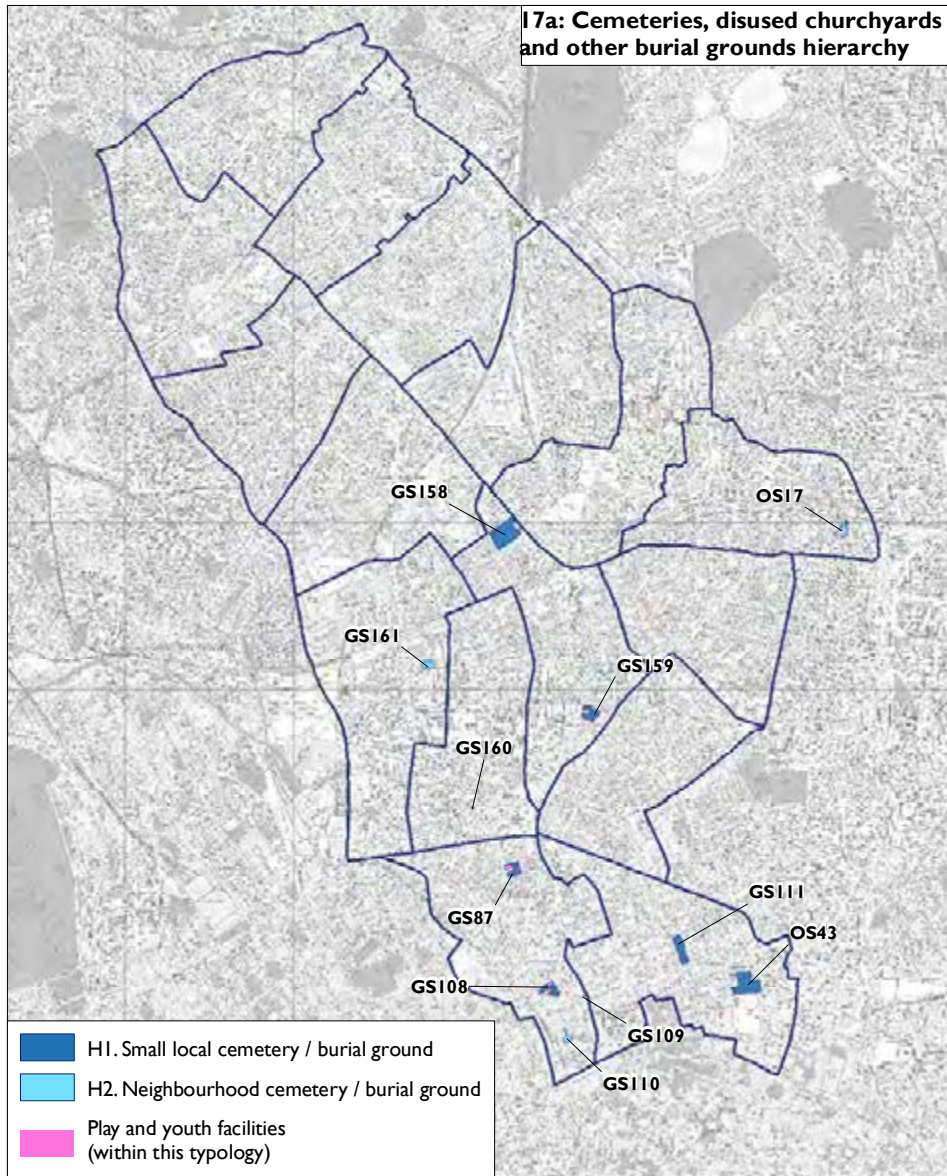
KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

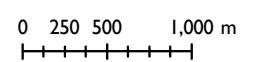
- 11.26. The majority of the wards in the north of the borough are deficient in terms of this access to this typology.
- 11.27. Ten of the eleven cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds are rated above value/below quality and therefore need repair, conservation and maintenance attention to improve the standard of these sites. One site (Jewish Cemetery) has scored below value/below quality. This is symptomatic of its poor access, which also limited the extent of the audit.
- 11.28. Given that creation of new sites of this typology is unlikely, it is essential that the potential of the existing resource is enhanced and maximised. The Green Space Assessment raised site specific issues that should be addressed in order to increase the quality of the sites.
- 11.29. The possibility of opening the Jewish Cemetery up to the public should be reviewed. This would have the effect of expanding the catchment of the existing resource and allowing residents/visitors in the east of the borough the opportunity to benefit from the rich historic and biodiversity experience that sites within this typology can offer.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

H.i	Quality of existing sites within this typology should be maximised as per Green Space Assessment and Action Plan to ensure that the 10 sites which are rated as being below the quality threshold (of the total 11 sites) are brought up to the expected standard.
H.ii	Review access to the Jewish Cemetery in order to maximise the extent of provision within this typology.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 17: Typology H: cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds hierarchy, accessibility and value/quality ratings



Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Sites outside the borough



12. I. CIVIC SPACE

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 12.1. The primary role of civic spaces is to provide a setting for civic buildings and community events. They can also provide space for relaxation. These spaces are typically hard surfaces.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 12.2. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the provision of civic space. Firstly, a summary of the quantity of provision is presented by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the civic spaces together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.
- 12.3. **Map 18a** shows the distribution of the ten civic spaces throughout the borough. The sites are coloured according to their level of the hierarchy.

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 12.4. As shown in **Table 46**, the majority of the total area of civic space is concentrated at one site (Arsenal Podium) which is 2.507ha. The remaining nine neighbourhood civic spaces are all less than 0.15ha each. Provision of civic space is currently 0.016ha per 1000 population.

Table 46: Existing provision of civic space

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
I*. Local civic space	1	2.507	191,300	0.013
II. Neighbourhood civic space	9	0.537	191,300	0.003
TOTAL	10	3.044	191,300	0.016

By Ward

- 12.5. **Table 47** below shows the geographic spread of these sites across the borough. A number of Wards have no civic spaces (Finsbury Park, Highbury East, Hillrise, Junction, Tollington, Canonbury, St. Peter's, Barnsbury and Holloway). The largest site, Arsenal Podium is situated in Highbury West Ward. All of the civic spaces are publicly accessible.

Table 47: Existing provision of civic spaces by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (ha)	Existing provision per 1000 population	Additional area of no access sites (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300				
	Highbury East	11,150				
	Highbury West	13,850	1	2.507	0.181	
	Mildmay	12,050	2	0.100	0.008	
North	Hillrise	11,900				
	Junction	11,500				
	St. George's	11,850	1	0.040	0.003	
	Tollington	13,200				
South	Bunhill	11,200	2	0.247	0.022	
	Canonbury	10,600				
	Clerkenwell	10,350	1	0.051	0.005	
	St. Peter's	11,900				
West	Barnsbury	11,000				
	Caledonian	12,700	2	0.046	0.004	
	Holloway	13,600				
	St. Mary's	11,250	1	0.054	0.005	
TOTAL		191,300	10	3.044	0.016	0.000

Key characteristics of civic spaces

12.6. These sites are hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, all the sites have paving slabs and/or block paving, with one site also containing cobble stones. All of the sites are used regularly as thoroughfares. Almost all of the civic spaces give a 'sense of place' to the surroundings.

1*: Local civic space

12.7. Arsenal Podium is the largest of the civic spaces. This site surrounds the new Emirates Stadium and as such has a large visitor draw.

12.8. A local civic space typically has:

- An area 0.4 – 8ha
- No restrictive boundary, fence or hedge
- Mainly hard surfaced
- Provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of seating and bins
- Street tree planting and otherwise limited range of habitats.

12: Neighbourhood civic space

12.9. The eight neighbourhood civic spaces are listed in below:

- Old Street Promenade of Light
- Angel/Clocktower
- Canonbury Station Forecourt
- NI Centre Civic Space
- Vernon Square
- Lady Margaret Open Space
- St Paul's Road Enclosure
- Caledonian Road Enclosure
- Treaty Street.

12.10. All of the sites are freely accessible to the public.

12.11. In summary, a neighbourhood civic space should typically have:

- No restrictive boundary, fence or hedge
- Mainly hard surfacing
- Provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of seating and bins
- Street tree planting and otherwise limited range of habitats.

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

12.12. **Table 48** below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured (subdivided by hierarchy or sub-type as applicable). Justification for the standards is set out in **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** by typology.

Table 48: Civic space - Provision standards

Accessibility standards	I*: Local civic space	n/a
	II: Neighbourhood civic space	n/a
Quantity standards	I: Civic space	n/a
Quality standards	I*: Local civic space	n/a
	II: Neighbourhood civic space	Value threshold: 12 Quality threshold: 17

12.13. It is not appropriate to set an accessibility standard for civic spaces. Although these sites contribute greatly to the amenity of the borough, people would not generally be expected to travel specifically to see or use these sites.

- 12.14. It is not possible to quantify the demand for civic spaces. As PPG17 states: “They are normally provided on an opportunistic and urban design-led basis. Accordingly, it is desirable for planning authorities to promote urban design frameworks for their town and city centre areas.” No quantity standard has been set for this typology.
- 12.15. To assess the quality of provision a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold tests the **value** of a site i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics common to that level of the hierarchy in terms of types of facilities and amenities and also tests the **quality** of a site in terms of its presentation, how safe it feels and overall condition. This enables identification of sites which should be protected by the planning system, which require enhancement, and which sites require a review of their design and present purpose. The one Local civic space (Arsenal Podium) has not been given a value/quality rating as it is a unique facility in the borough and it is not possible to compare it to any other civic spaces.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

Quality of civic spaces in Islington

- 12.16. On application of the quality standard each site is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in Appendix 9). The resulting value/quality ratings for the four sites are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 49** and illustrated in **Map 18b**.

Table 49: Value and quality ratings

VQ Rating	No. of I* sites	No. of II sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality		5	5
+ - High value/Low quality		4	4
- + Low value/High quality			
-- Low value/Low quality			
n/a	1		1

- 12.17. As can be seen in the table above, four of the civic spaces (St. Paul’s Road Enclosure, Angel/Clocktower, Lady Margaret Open Space and Caledonian Road Enclosure) are rated above value/below quality (+-) which reflects the fact that there is scope for enhancement at these sites. The other five sites (NI Centre Civic Space, Treaty Street, Old Street Promenade of Light, Vernon Square and Canonbury Station Forecourt) are rated above value/above quality (++), which reflects the fact that these are well designed, well used sites. Arsenal Podium has not been rated as it is the only site of its type in the borough.

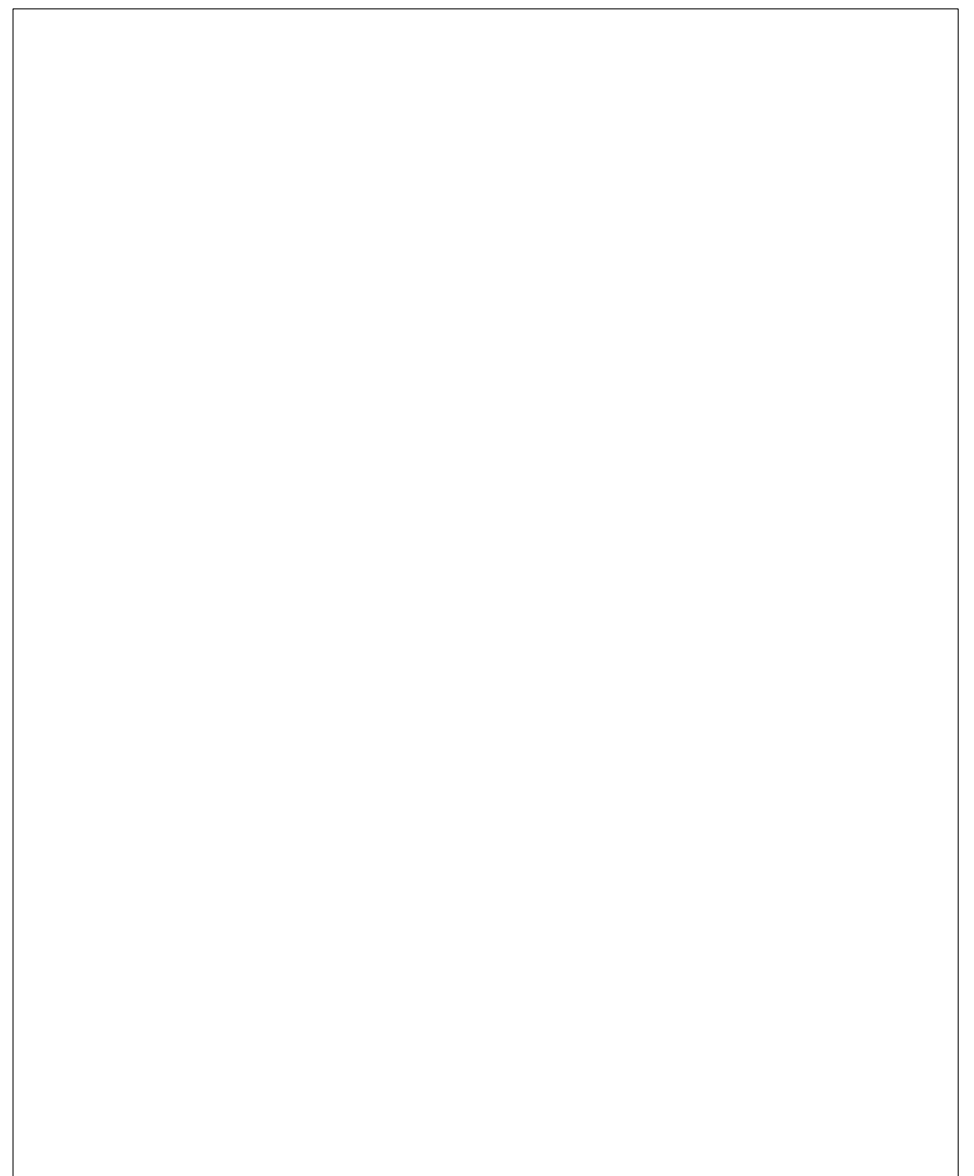
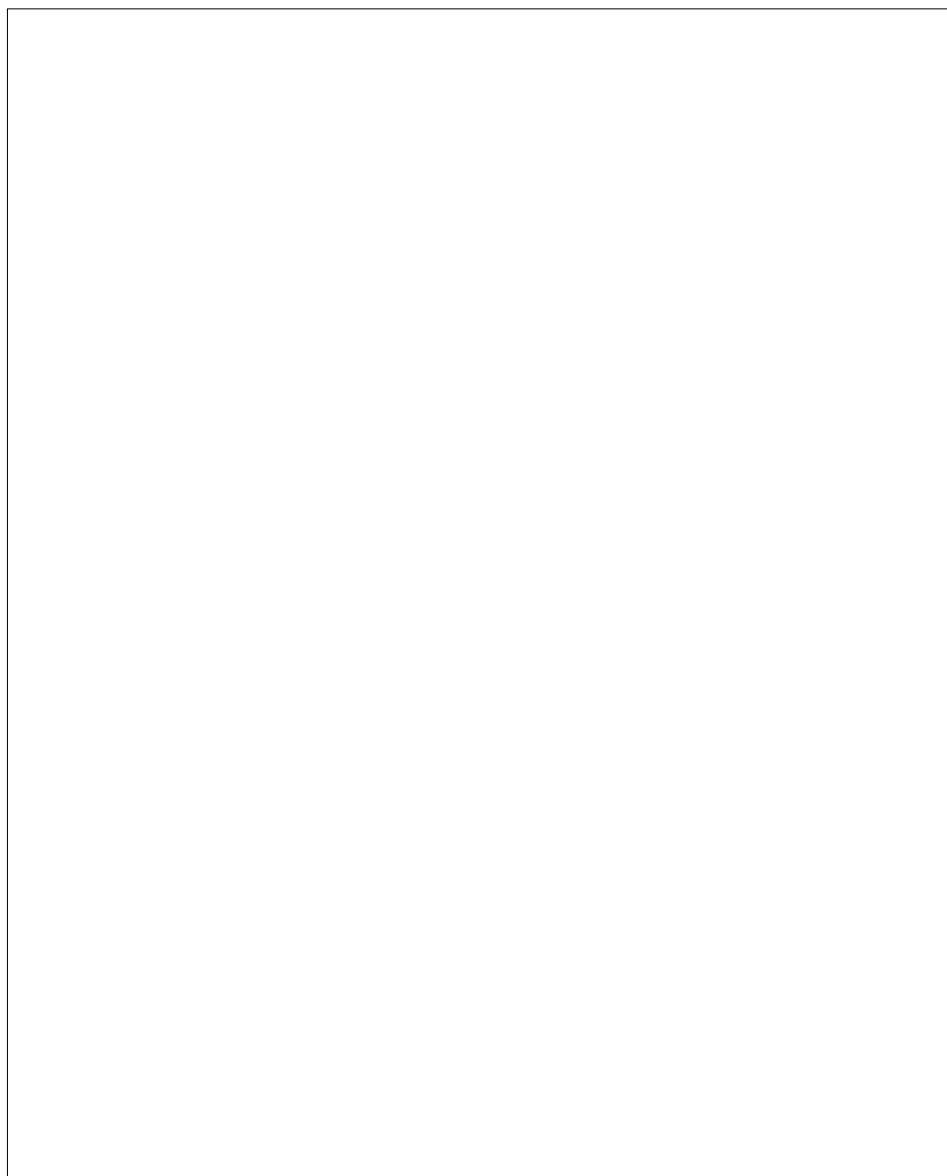
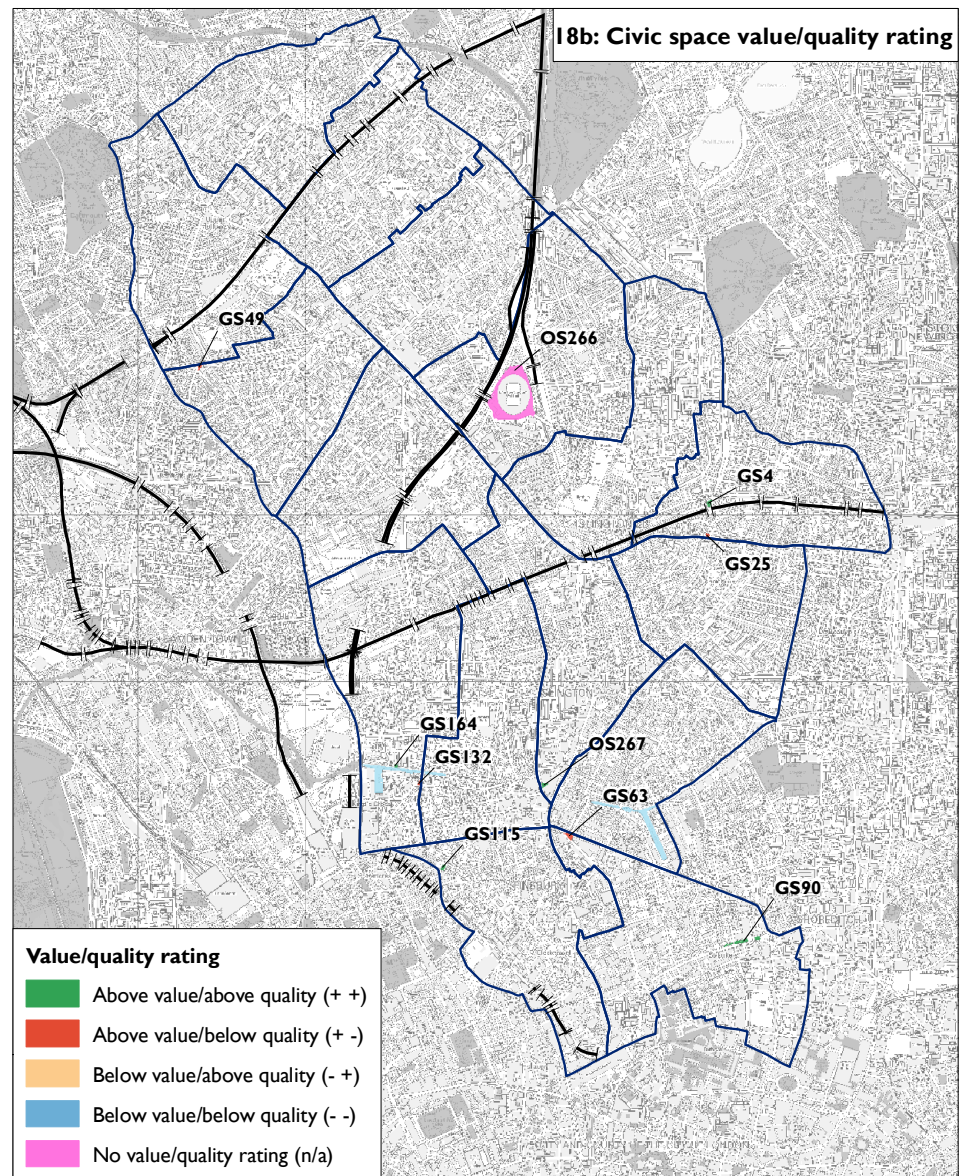
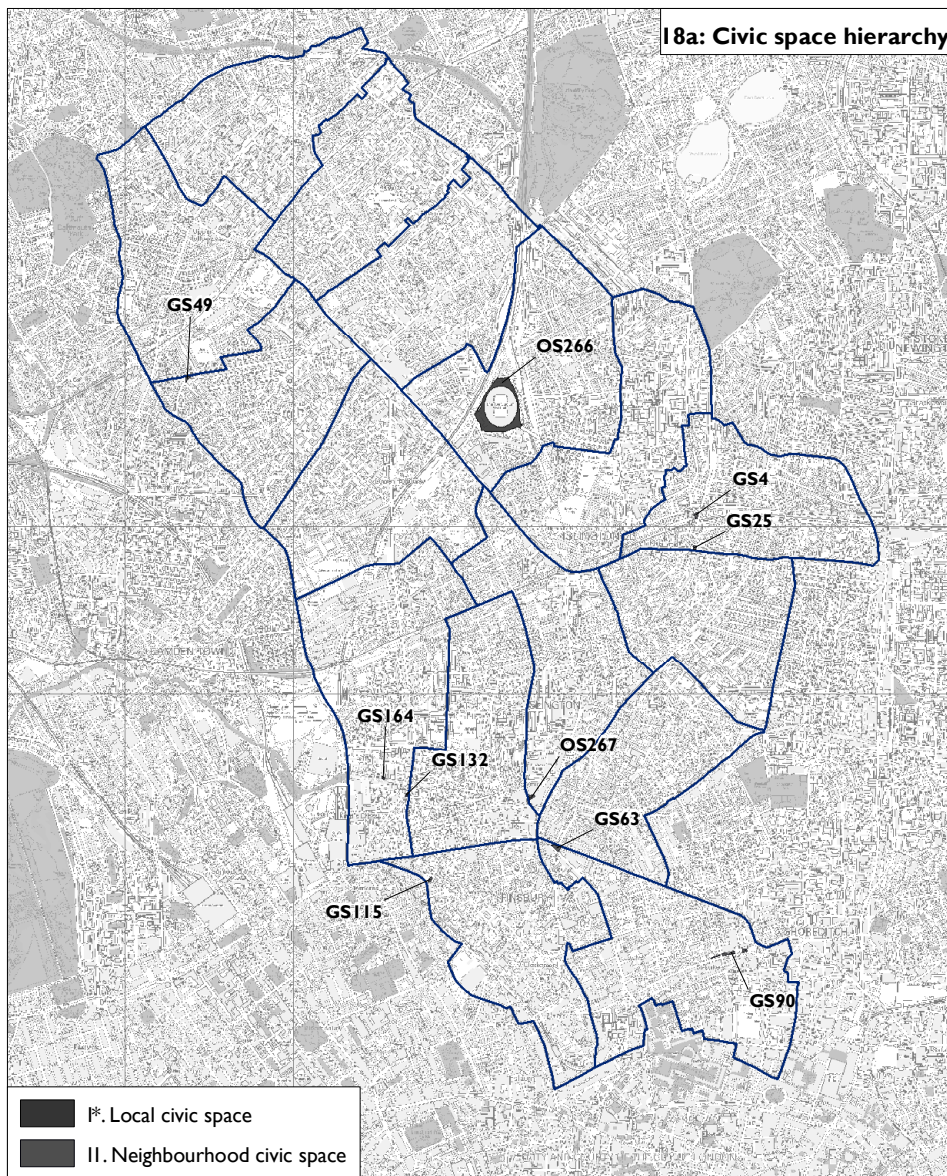
KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

- 12.18. Of the 10 civic spaces in the borough, four sites fall below the quality threshold (St. Paul's Road Enclosure, Angel/Clocktower, Lady Margaret Open Space and Caledonian Road Enclosure) and therefore require maintenance attention and design improvements.
- 12.19. Barriers to accessibility (such as difficult pedestrian access at Angel/Clocktower, or uneven steps at St. Paul's Road Enclosure) and improvements to signage (for example at Angel/Clocktower) that were identified through the audit work should be addressed in order to maximise the potential of these sites.
- 12.20. High quality urban design benefits the community as well as increasing property values and attracting economic activity. Opportunities to create civic spaces within new development should be maximised, in line with the Islington Urban Design Guide (2006) which provides the design framework for the borough.
- 12.21. Civic spaces take on increased importance in areas with little green space. Therefore where increased green space is not practical or possible, either in existing urban areas, or new developments, opportunities should be sought to secure civic spaces. This use may be appropriate on small areas of land, for example, within housing estates, where management and maintenance of small grassed areas may be impractical.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

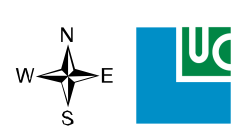
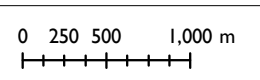
I.i	Utilise the Islington Urban Design Guide for the borough in creating new civic spaces and improving existing ones.
I.ii	Invest in sites to ensure they meet quality standards (in particular investment should be focussed on St. Paul's Road Enclosure, Angel/Clocktower, Lady Margaret Open space and Caledonian Road Enclosure). Action should be implemented in line with the Greenspace Action Plan which covers the 8 civic spaces managed by the Greenspace Team.
I.iii	Ensure new civic space is provided as appropriate in new housing, employment and mixed use developments. This is particularly important in a dense urban area such as Islington, where small green spaces may be impractical to manage and maintain.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 18: Typology I: civic space hierarchy and value/quality ratings

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Sites outside the borough



13. J. HOUSING AMENITY SPACE

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 13.1. The primary purpose of housing amenity space within housing estates is to provide opportunities for informal recreation for residents within very close proximity of their homes, since they have no access to private gardens. Housing amenity spaces are simplistic spaces such as courtyard gardens and seating areas, with little or no provision of formal facilities. Housing amenity space is sometimes located alongside play space or MUGAs.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 13.2. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of housing amenity space in Islington. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is set out by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A list of the housing amenity spaces together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 13.3. There are a total of 407 housing amenity spaces, as shown in **Table 50** which have been identified across approximately 226 housing estates. Based on the size of the spaces, they fall into two hierarchy levels. There are six larger spaces of over 0.4ha each which are categorised as J1 (small local housing amenity spaces) and 401 smaller spaces which are categorised as J2 (pockets/very small housing amenity spaces) (see **Map 19**). In total this typology covers an area of just over 30ha which equates to 0.159ha of housing amenity space per 1000 population, representing 30% of total public open space in the borough.

Table 50: Existing provision of housing amenity space

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (ha)	Current population	Existing provision per 1000 population
J1. Small local housing amenity space	6	3.307	191,300	0.017
J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	401	27.115	191,300	0.142
TOTAL	407	30.423	191,300	0.159

By Ward

- 13.4. **Table 51** details the distribution of the 30ha of housing amenity space by ward in terms of numbers of sites and area of sites. It can be seen that there is 0.158ha of housing amenity space per 1000 head of population in the borough as a whole, with

some wards showing a greater than average level of provision, such as Holloway and Bunhill wards.

Table 51: Existing provision of housing amenity space by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites* (ha)	Area with no public access (to residents or non-residents) (ha)	Existing provision (publicly accessible and limited access) per 1000 population (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	13,300	28	2.059		0.155
	Highbury East	11,150	23	0.777		0.070
	Highbury West	13,850	11	0.679		0.049
	Mildmay	12,050	42	2.572		0.213
North	Hillrise	11,900	24	2.455	0.107	0.206
	Junction	11,500	19	1.253		0.109
	St. George's	11,850	16	2.331		0.197
	Tollington	13,200	25	0.805		0.061
South	Bunhill	11,200	39	3.035		0.270
	Canonbury	10,600	31	2.713	0.087	0.256
	Clerkenwell	10,350	24	2.189		0.211
	St. Peter's	11,900	18	0.661		0.056
West	Barnsbury	11,000	18	1.540	0.046	0.140
	Caledonian	12,700	22	1.549		0.122
	Holloway	13,600	51	4.148		0.305
	St. Mary's	11,250	16	1.416		0.126
TOTAL		191,300	407	30.182	0.241	0.158

* Limited access sites are defined as sites with de-facto public access or sites restricted to residents only.

Key characteristics of housing amenity space

- 13.5. Approximately 90% (363) of the 407 spaces are managed by Homes for Islington (the organisation which manages London Borough of Islington housing estates). The remainder are managed by other Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) including Peabody and Keniston Housing Association.
- 13.6. Of the 407 spaces, just over 10% adjoin play areas and just over 5% adjoin a MUGA, therefore enhancing their functionality. Play and youth provision is reviewed in greater detail in section 14.
- 13.7. Small local (J1) and pockets (J2) of housing amenity space typically exhibit the following characteristics:

- Small local housing amenity spaces are 0.4-2ha in size
- Pockets/ very small spots of housing amenity space are <0.4ha in size.
- Access is limited to residents only.
- Provide space for relaxation/ informal recreation of residents.
- Limited range of habitats i.e. grass, trees and shrubs.
- Areas of hard surfacing e.g. paths, paved seating areas.
- Seating.

13.8. A brief summary of the audit findings, by hierarchy level, is detailed below.

J1: Small local housing amenity space

- 13.9. There are six larger housing amenity spaces which all fall within the West and North Area Committees. Only one of these is publicly accessible with the remainder limited to use by residents only.
- 13.10. Although larger than pockets of housing amenity space, they are very similar in character. The features are limited to a landscape of grass and trees with occasional seating. Although these larger spaces differ little in character from the smaller housing amenity spaces, due to their size they may offer greater scope for improvement/adding value in the future.

J2: Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space

- 13.11. Over 98% of the housing amenity spaces (401 sites) are less than 0.4ha. Of these 53 are accessible to the public, 343 are limited in access to residents only and 5 were found to have no public access.
- 13.12. Nearly a third of the 401 pockets of housing amenity space fall within or adjoin Conservation Areas, highlighting the contribution these spaces can make to the character of the local area. In addition, 4% of the sites are covered by, or are in close proximity to spaces with, nature conservation designations, highlighting the existing value or potential to extend the biodiversity value of these spaces.
- 13.13. Over half of the spaces audited were considered to contribute to the sense of place of the surrounding estates and the majority of spaces felt open and secure with good natural surveillance.
- 13.14. The most evident use of these spaces at the time of audit was sitting and relaxing, followed by walking/dog walking and childrens' play, emphasising the informal recreational role of these spaces.
- 13.15. Overall they are simplistic spaces, with the majority of sites consisting of short amenity grass often with scattered trees and shrub planting, occasionally featuring veteran trees and/or more mixed planting or hedging. Over three quarters of sites

also had areas of hard surfacing and a few spaces were dominated by tarmac or paving.

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

- 13.16. **Table 52** below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured. A full description of the role and purpose of accessibility, quantity and quality standards is provided in Chapter 2 (Methodology). **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** provide further discussion on how the standards were developed.

Table 52: Housing amenity space – Provision standards

Accessibility standards	J1: Small local housing amenity space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400m for freely accessible sites • up to estate boundary for residents only sites
	J2: Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400m for freely accessible sites • up to estate boundary for residents only sites
Quantity standards	J: Housing amenity space	0.158ha per 1000 population
Quality standards	J1: Small local housing amenity space	Value threshold: 6 Quality threshold: 19
	J2: Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	Value threshold: 5 Quality threshold: 19

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

Accessibility to housing amenity space in Islington

- 13.17. **Map 20a and b** illustrate the accessibility catchments of housing amenity space. There is limited access to small local scale sites (J1), confined to the central part of the borough, due to there only being six such sites in the borough. Access to very small housing amenity spaces (J2) is wider, due to the larger number of sites (401). Furthermore a significant proportion of these (99%) are either fully accessible or have limited access to non-residents. However, there are deficiencies in access in the east of the borough (in parts of Highbury East, Highbury West and Mildmay wards), although it should be noted that the east of the borough does contain several areas of housing amenity green space which serve estate residents only (such spaces include Arthenaeum Court, Ronalds Road/Highbury Terrace and Gillespie). There are also small areas of deficiency in parts of St. Mary's and Barnsbury wards.
- 13.18. Of the 331 LBI housing estates, 194 have some form of housing amenity space, meaning that 137 estates have no provision of housing amenity space (although they may include some form of play or youth facilities)
- 13.19. In order to consider actual deficiencies in terms of amenity space, it is necessary to consider housing amenity space in combination with the general amenity space (typology E), since these perform a similar function in terms of providing simple open space close to where people live. **Map 20c** combines these typologies. It can be seen that, when both types of amenity space are considered together, deficiencies

remain for residents in parts of the East Area wards of Highbury East, Highbury West and Mildmay. However, it should be noted that Highbury East ward has good access to parks and gardens including Clissold Park in the neighbouring borough, and Highbury Fields.

- 13.20. However, it should be recognised that considering amenity space as a distinct typology means that the informal, local recreation function provided by parks and gardens is omitted. **Section 17** addresses this issue by analysing provision of all types of open space together.

Quantity of housing amenity space in Islington

- 13.21. **Table 53** summarises how the existing provision of housing amenity space performs against the quantity standard of 0.158ha per 1000 population now and at 2025, taking into account projected population growth.

Table 53: Future provision of housing amenity space by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Provision per 1000 population in 2008 (ha)	Shortfall/surplus in 2008 compared to quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population	Shortfall/surplus in 2025 compared to quantity standard (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	0.155	-0.035	15,300	-0.355
	Highbury East	0.070	-0.983	11,950	-1.110
	Highbury West	0.049	-1.503	17,300	-2.047
	Mildmay	0.213	0.671	12,500	0.599
North	Hillrise	0.206	0.577	13,550	0.317
	Junction	0.109	-0.561	12,450	-0.710
	St. George's	0.197	0.465	11,600	0.498
	Tollington	0.061	-1.276	14,800	-1.528
South	Bunhill	0.270	1.265	12,800	1.012
	Canonbury	0.256	1.043	11,050	0.973
	Clerkenwell	0.211	0.556	9,900	0.630
	St. Peter's	0.056	-1.213	14,300	-1.593
West	Barnsbury	0.140	-0.199	11,650	-0.299
	Caledonian	0.122	-0.453	14,300	-0.709
	Holloway	0.305	2.005	16,750	1.504
	St. Mary's	0.126	-0.359	11,650	-0.425
TOTAL		0.158	0.000	211,850	-3.242

- 13.22. The table above highlights that the quantity standard is currently not met in nine wards including Highbury West, Tollington and St Peter's (demonstrating the highest deficiencies). However, this data must be interpreted with care, since one would not expect significant provision of housing amenity space in areas with little estate housing. It can be seen from **Map 19** (which shows London Borough of Islington

housing estate boundaries) that some wards have a lesser concentration of estates, such as Highbury West Ward, which therefore makes the apparent deficiency less concerning. However, other wards with deficiencies, such as Caledonian Ward, have significant areas of estate housing, and it can be seen from **Map 19** that there are several estates with little or no amenity space. There are significant areas of estate housing in Hillrise Ward, Junction Ward, Tollington Ward, Highbury East Ward, Caledonian Ward and St Peter's Ward which have little or no amenity space within their boundaries. A key priority should therefore be to create or increase provision on estates with no little or no provision.

- 13.23. Quantitative and accessibility deficiencies coincide particularly in Highbury East Ward where the majority of housing amenity space is limited to estate boundaries, and there is no provision of general amenity space. However, this ward does have good access to small local parks and gardens (the majority of the geographical area of this ward is within 400m of Highbury Fields in Islington and Clissold Park in Hackney). **Section 17** further considers the overall provision of public open space.

Quality of housing amenity space in Islington

- 13.24. Each site is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in the methodology in section 2). The resulting value/quality ratings for housing amenity space are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 54**.
- 13.25. The distribution of value/quality ratings is shown on **Map 20d**. It is noticeable that in some wards, the majority of housing amenity spaces are above value/below quality or below value/below quality (i.e. Junction ward, Tollington ward and St. Peter's ward).

Table 54: Housing amenity space value/quality ratings by hierarchy

VQ Rating	No. of J1 sites	No. of J2 sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality	1	90	91
+ - High value/Low quality	2	180	182
- + Low value/High quality		19	19
-- Low value/Low quality	3	112	115

- 13.26. **Table 54** shows that 297 (73%) of the 407 housing amenity spaces audited are rated below the quality threshold. This suggests that improvements could be made to their condition either through repairs and planting and/or through improved levels of maintenance.

- 13.27. 134 (33%) of the housing amenity spaces are also rated below the value threshold suggesting that they are currently offering limited value to residents in terms of basic amenities and generally welcoming spaces for informal recreation.
- 13.28. 115 sites fall below both the value and quality threshold suggesting that their design and function would benefit from review to ensure they are providing the amenity benefits expected of this type of space.

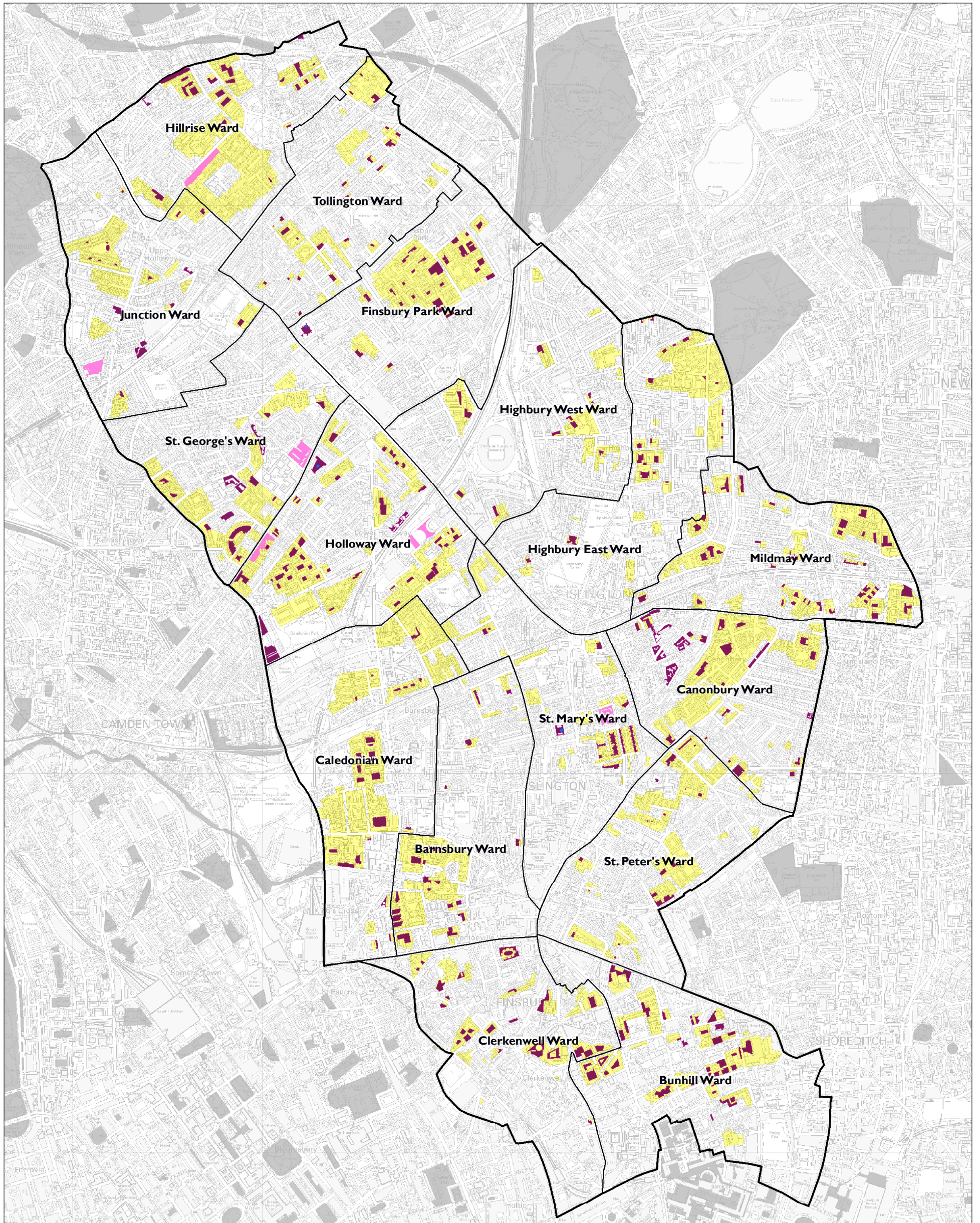
KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

Key issues

- 13.29. As highlighted by consultation, the community wants good quality open space close to their homes. Many residents have access to housing amenity space in estates, supplemented by general amenity space (typology E) within an appropriate distance of their homes (which has been defined through this study as 400m). However some areas of the borough, particularly in the East Area Committee in parts of Highbury East, Highbury West and Mildmay wards, fall outside the 400m localised catchment areas of these spaces and residents therefore do not have appropriate access close to where they live. Section 17 considers spatial patterns in accessibility deficiencies for all types of open space, recognising the fact that amenity space is only one type of open space, and that parks and gardens, for example, also provide for local, informal recreation.
- 13.30. A significant number of housing estates have no amenity space within their boundaries, which is considered to be an issue, since the purpose of this type of space is to provide a very local level of access close to where people live, which is especially important considering many estates consist of flats with no private gardens. This is a particular issue on estates in Junction, Tollington, and St Peter's Wards, and the northern and southern ends of St. Mary's Ward, parts of Highbury East Ward, and parts of Canonbury Ward. Publicly accessible amenity green space outside of these estates helps to mitigate some of these deficiencies but areas of St Mary's Ward and Highbury East Ward have no access to this type of provision. A key priority should therefore be to create or increase provision on estates in these areas with no little or no provision.
- 13.31. Quantitative and accessibility deficiencies coincide particularly in Highbury East Ward, where the majority of housing amenity space is limited to estate boundaries, and there is no provision of general amenity space. However, this ward has good access to parks and gardens including Clissold Park in the neighbouring borough, and Highbury Fields.
- 13.32. In areas where housing amenity space is provided it is of variable quality and in some instances is of very limited recreational or visual amenity benefit (i.e. Junction, Tollington and St. Peter's wards). The design and function of these spaces needs to be reviewed together with the provision of other types of provision, particularly play and youth facilities, on housing estates to ensure they add value to the lives of people in these areas.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

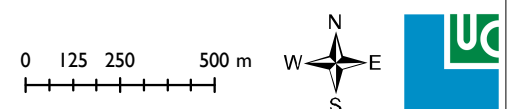
J.i	LBI to work with Homes for Islington (HFI) and RSLs to identify opportunities to create amenity space on housing estates that currently have no provision, and to increase provision on estates with very little provision. This is a particular issue in Junction, Tollington, and St Peter's Wards, and a zone in the centre of the borough including the northern part of St. Mary's Ward, parts of Highbury East Ward, and parts of Canonbury ward.
J.ii	Work to ensure areas deficient in access to housing amenity space (primarily found in parts of Highbury East, Highbury West and Mildmay wards) have good access to other types of space providing similar informal recreational opportunities.
J.iii	Identify priorities in light of the overall spatial deficiencies highlighted in this study to ensure that efforts are made to improve the value and quality of housing amenity sites in areas which are deficient in overall quantitative provision (this is a particular issue in Hillrise, Junction, Tollington, Highbury East, Caledonian and St Peter's Wards where quantitative deficiencies coincide with a number of estates with no provision of amenity space). This is important to ensure that the greatest value is achieved from existing spaces, particularly where there is little scope to increase provision.
J.iv	Improve the maintenance of housing amenity space and review the design and function particularly of those sites rated as below value and below quality (-/-).

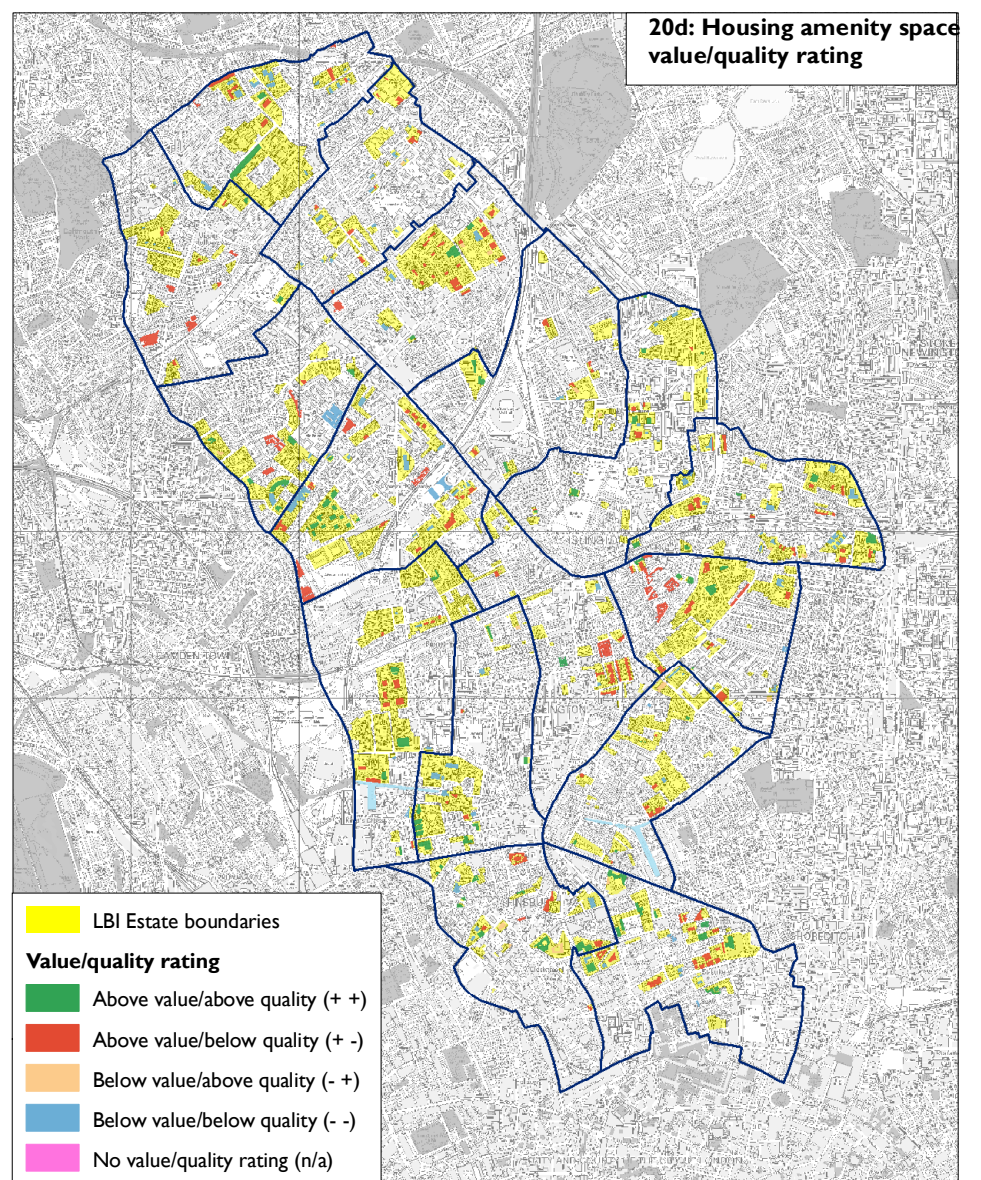
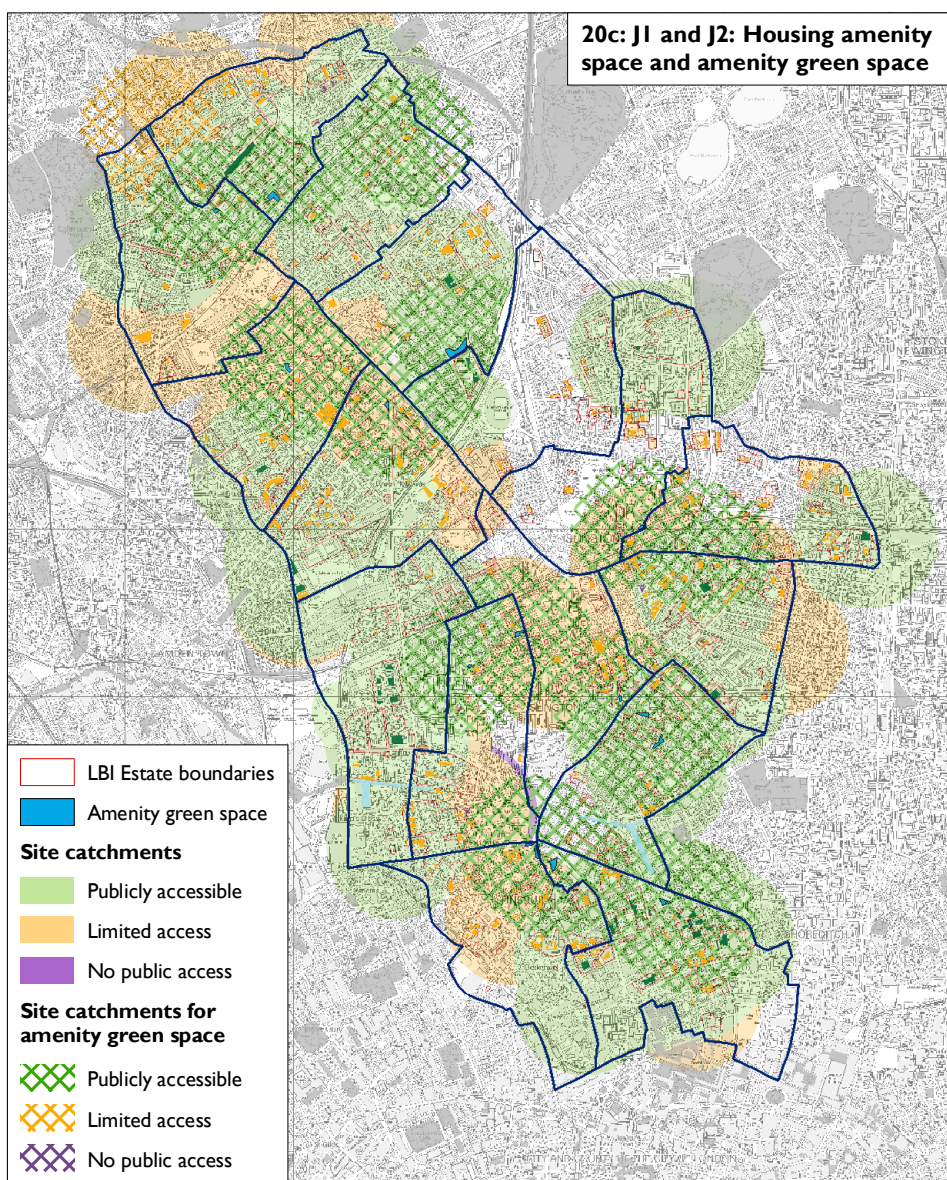
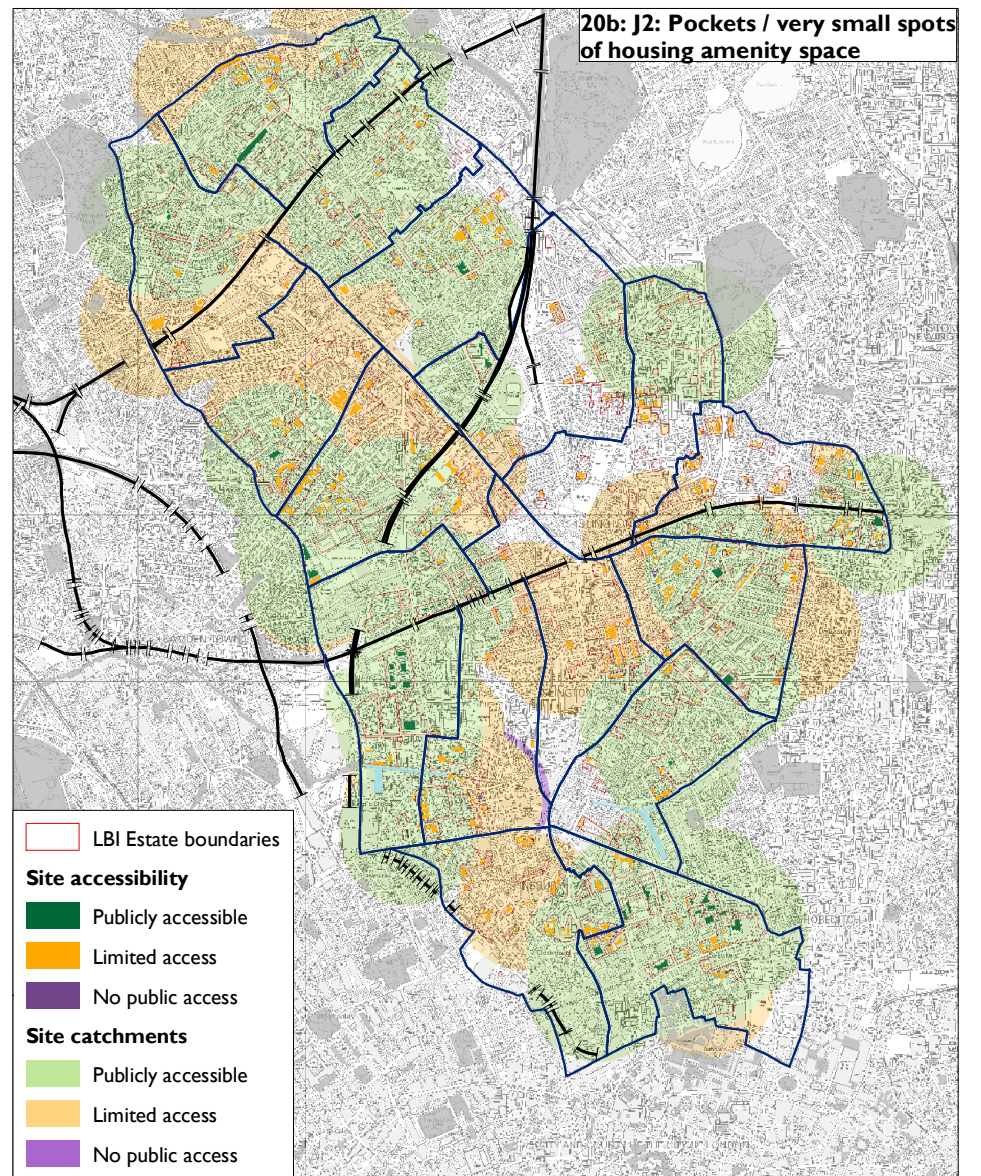
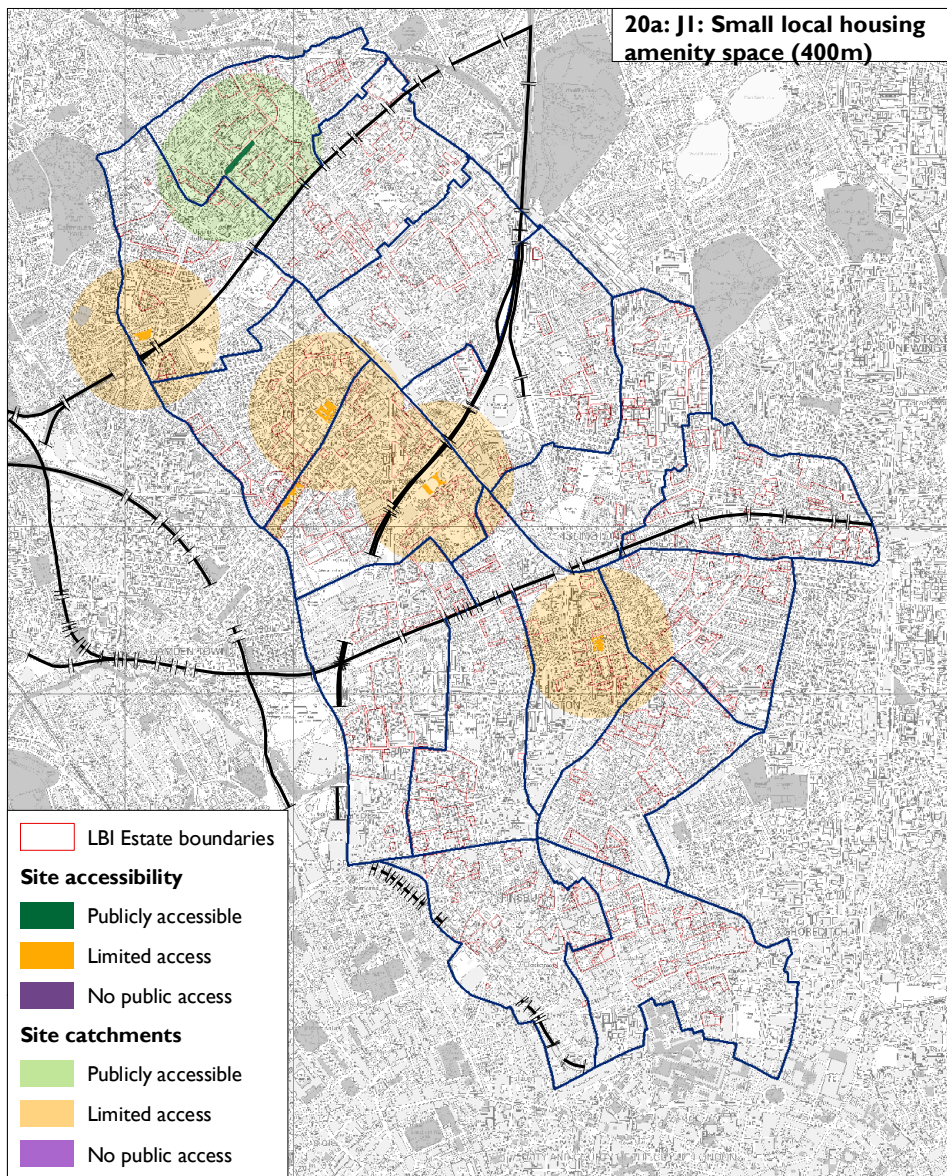


Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 19: Typology J: housing amenity space by hierarchy

Key

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| London Borough of Islington | Housing amenity sites by hierarchy | Sites outside the borough |
| Ward boundaries | J1. Small local housing amenity space | Play and youth facilities (within this typology) |
| LBI Estate boundaries | J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space | |





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 20: Typology J: housing amenity space accessibility and value/quality ratings

0 250 500 1,000 m

- Key**
- Blue outline: Ward boundaries
 - Black line: Railway
 - Light blue: Canal
 - Grey: Sites outside the borough



14. K. PLAY AND YOUTH FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 14.1. The primary purpose of play and youth facilities is to provide areas for children and young people to play and socially interact. This includes facilities such as equipped play areas, adventure play areas, small multi-use games areas (MUGAs), skateboard parks and teenage shelters. It should be noted that sports facilities (including formal, full-size MUGAs) are considered under a separate typology in section 8 of this study. Community facilities which can also provide opportunities for play are considered in section 16.
- 14.2. This section includes play and youth facilities which occur within parks and gardens or other open spaces, i.e. where play and/or youth is a secondary typology. As indicated earlier, these facilities contribute importantly to the larger multifunctional spaces but have been isolated here to enable more detailed analysis and review of all play and youth provision across Islington.
- 14.3. There are 12 'Adventure Playgrounds' which fall within this typology. Six are managed directly by the London Borough of Islington Children's Services, the other six are run on a voluntary basis. These sites are subject to annual safety inspection resulting in detailed reports of the play structures and their condition. The sites are also managed in accordance with London Play's 'Quality in Play' assurance scheme, overseen by Children's Services. It has therefore not been considered necessary to carry out further site assessments of these sites, rather to draw on existing data available.
- 14.4. The hierarchy for play and youth facilities in Islington has been developed with reference to the GLA's Supplementary Planning Guidance published in March 2008¹⁹. On this basis the sites that solely provide youth facilities are dealt with in separate categories (K1ii and K3ii) to sites which provide a range of play equipment and a more general 'playable space'. Due to the small size of some of the facilities in Islington, additional hierarchy categories have been created to reflect this local characteristic. Play and youth facilities have also been assessed by age range, particularly in developing and applying the accessibility standard.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION (PPG17 STEP 2)

- 14.5. The following paragraphs, accompanying tables and illustrative maps describe the existing provision of play and youth facilities. Firstly a summary of the quantity of provision is set out by hierarchy and then further broken down by ward. A description of the physical attributes/characteristics of provision at each level of the hierarchy is then provided. A list of the play and youth facilities together with summary details is provided in **Appendix 6**.

¹⁹ Supplementary Planning Guidance Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation, Greater London Authority, March 2008

Existing quantity of provision

Borough-wide by hierarchy

- 14.6. A total of 276 sites were audited. These have been categorised by size and function into a hierarchy of playable or youth space as shown in **Table 55** and illustrated on **Map 21**. The area of provision is presented in metres and assessed against the current population of children in Islington i.e. 0-18 year olds. As shown in the table there is currently a total of 182,667m² of play and/or youth provision which equates to 4.771m² per child. The largest proportion of this area (67%) is provided by the 99 larger neighbourhood playable spaces.

Table 55: Existing provision of play and youth facilities

Hierarchy	Number of sites	Area of sites (m ²)	Current population (0-18 years)	Existing provision (m ²) per child (0-18 years)
K*. Strategic playable space	1	5,006	38,300	0.131
K1i. Neighbourhood playable space	99	121,949	38,300	3.185
K1ii. Youth space	55	27,862	38,300	0.728
K2. Local playable space	33	12,972	38,300	0.339
K3i. Doorstep playable space	66	12,781	38,300	0.334
K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	8	1,109	38,300	0.029
K4. Very small playable space	14	988	38,300	0.026
TOTAL	276	182,667	38,300	4.771

By Ward

- 14.7. **Table 56** shows the distribution of play and youth facilities by ward in terms of numbers of sites, total area and area per child (0-18yrs).

Table 56: Existing provision of play and youth facilities by ward

Area Committee	Ward	Current population (0-18 years)	Number of sites	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (ha)	Area of publicly accessible and limited access sites (m ²)	Existing provision (m ²) per child (0-18 years)	Additional area of no access sites (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	3,100	18	0.790	7,903	2.532	
	Highbury East	2,350	6	0.638	6,379	2.728	
	Highbury West	3,100	7	0.315	3,148	1.019	
	Mildmay	2,650	23	1.179	11,787	4.418	
North	Hillrise	2,900	21	1.043	10,431	3.577	
	Junction	2,100	20	1.036	10,362	4.948	
	St. George's	1,950	17	1.365	13,650	6.987	
	Tollington	2,600	20	1.260	12,595	4.800	
South	Bunhill	2,200	19	1.331	13,309	6.028	
	Canonbury	2,200	13	1.384	13,844	6.348	
	Clerkenwell	1,500	18	1.169	11,688	7.894	
	St. Peter's	2,350	27	1.607	16,066	6.872	
West	Barnsbury	2,300	14	1.905	19,050	8.313	
	Caledonian	2,600	23	1.762	17,623	6.764	
	Holloway	2,450	17	0.971	9,708	3.959	
	St. Mary's	1,950	13	0.512	5,124	2.661	
TOTAL		38,300	276	18.267	182,667	4.771	0.000

14.8. The table above shows that the distribution of play and youth facilities varies greatly across the borough. St Peter's ward in the West Area has the most play and youth facilities in terms of number of sites (27 sites) but Barnsbury ward has the greatest quantity of provision in total area with 19,050m² equating to 8.313m² per child. In contrast, Highbury West ward has just seven sites, which when assessed against the relatively high child population, is the equivalent of 1.019m² per child. Finsbury Park, St Mary's and Highbury East wards also have notably low play and youth provision per child.

Key characteristics of play and youth facilities

14.9. There are currently 276 sites providing play and/or youth facilities in Islington. Over three quarters of these (213) feature fixed play equipment of which 31 feature some other kind of play or youth provision. The remaining 63 sites solely feature youth facilities, over 85% of which are multiuse games areas (MUGAs).

14.10. The age ranges catered for by the facilities in this typology are summarised in the following bullet points and explored together with further detail about the audited features in the following paragraphs by hierarchy.

- 24 sites (9%) cater for all ages
- 85 sites (31%) cater for two age groups the majority (72%) of which provide for under 5yrs and 5-11yrs.
- 167 (61%) sites cater for a single age group relatively evenly split with 35% just under 5yrs, 26% just 5-11yrs and 39% just over 11yrs.

14.11. A large proportion of the facilities in this section have been considered in the Green Space Assessment and Groundwork audits carried out in 2007/8. The majority (198 of the 276 sites) fall within Homes for Islington managed housing estates, 56 sites are managed by Greenspace Services, with an additional 22 facilities which have been considered as part of this study. Details of the audited facilities are set out below (by hierarchy) together with a bullet point list of the desirable characteristics of each hierarchy level.

K*: Strategic playable space

14.12. Highbury Fields in Highbury East Ward is the only strategic park in Islington, considerably larger than other open spaces in the borough and drawing people from a wide area. In line with the general characteristics of the park, the play area footprint is relatively large (500m²) and, with 21 items of fixed play equipment offering a comprehensive range of play activities, together with interactive water play feature and run about space, it is estimated the play area could accommodate around 130 children. The equipment was audited as catering for all ages and although no specific youth provision was audited as part of the 'playable space' there are tarmac sports pitches and courts in the park which could fulfil this need (see section 8).

14.13. In summary a strategic playable space should exhibit the following characteristics:

- Over 500m² in area
- Caters for all ages (under 5 yrs, 5-11yrs and 11+)
- Forms a destination feature as part of a strategic park serving borough and metropolitan needs, predominantly visited by borough residents
- Features an extensive range of play equipment which provides an engaging variety of play activities/flexible use and is capable of catering for very large groups of children, including additional run around space
- Provides some kind of youth provision e.g. MUGA, wheeled sports area
- Seating and litter bins
- Dog free
- Associated landscaping
- Freely accessible to the public or may be supervised

Kli: Neighbourhood playable space

- 14.14. There are 99 play facilities which have been categorised as ‘neighbourhood playable space’. These sites all currently provide or have potential to provide ‘playable space’ to a wide neighbourhood area. Sites have mainly been included based on their size, the majority audited to be larger than 500m² in area. There are however seven smaller sites, all forming part of larger parks and gardens, which have also been included in this hierarchy because they provide a comprehensive suite of play and youth facilities serving a neighbourhood playable space function.
- 14.15. Neighbourhood playable spaces are present in all wards except for Highbury East. There is a strategic playable space in Highbury East to partially fulfil this role but there is still the lowest level of provision at this level of the hierarchy in the East Area with a total of 16 sites. This compares to 31 in the South, 28 in the North and 24 in the West. The greatest ward based concentration of this level of provision is in St Peter’s Ward (14 sites).
- 14.16. 38 of the 99 sites form part of wider open spaces managed by Greenspace Services including, major parks, small local parks, neighbourhood gardens/ squares and one play area in a churchyard (Myddelton Square). 47 sites fall within Homes for Islington (HFI) managed housing estates. In addition, two further sites have been identified on housing estates together with 12 adventure playgrounds.
- 14.17. The 12 adventure playgrounds are supervised, with secure facilities providing outdoor play opportunities together with indoor facilities offering a wide range of activities e.g. arts and crafts. The majority of these sites cater for children over five years old and are generally open after school hours in the week and for limited hours on Saturdays. Five of the sites charge for certain uses but the rest are free. There is one adventure playground in the East Area (Mildmay Ward), three in the North, three in the South and five in the West Area. The concentration of these sites in the West Area includes three sites in Caledonian Ward.
- 14.18. Of the 87 other neighbourhood playable spaces (excluding the adventure playgrounds) 40 are publicly accessible, the rest located on housing estates with access limited to residents.
- 14.19. Ideally neighbourhood playable spaces would cater for all ages, however at present only 21 of the 87 sites do so. There are 34 sites that currently cater for under 5yrs and 5-11yrs but contain no provision for older children and the remaining sites are targeted at a single age group with 14 sites catering for 5-11yrs and the remaining 10 sites providing for under 5yrs only.
- 14.20. All 87 sites contain fixed play equipment, ranging from single multiplay units up to 19 items of equipment (at Barnard Park), providing a wide range of activities. It is estimated that some cater for just 10-20 children, some for up to 40-60, and Whittington Park play area is estimated to cater for around 100 children at any one time.
- 14.21. As well as fixed play equipment 50 of the 87 sites also contained space for general run about. 22 sites featured MUGAs, one of these also had a youth shelter and another had table tennis. In addition, a teenage hangout area was audited at Spa

Fields Gardens; interactive water play features were recorded at Whittington Park, Barnard Park and King Square Gardens (including a sandpit); and a paddling pool at Rosemary Gardens. Barnard Park also featured a one o'clock club for under 5's.

14.22. In summary a neighbourhood playable space should exhibit the following characteristics:

- Usually over 500m² in area
- Caters for all ages (under 5 yrs, 5-11 yrs and 11+)
- Serves a wide neighbourhood area, located in major, small local or neighbourhood parks (or equivalent typology), residential areas and housing estates
- Features a wide range of play equipment which provides for different physical activities/flexible use and is capable of catering for large groups of children, including additional run around space.
- Usually provides some kind of youth provision e.g. MUGA, wheeled sports area.
- Seating and litter bins
- Dog free
- Associated landscaping
- Freely accessible to the public or may be supervised (e.g. Adventure Play Areas)

K1ii: Youth space

14.23. 55 sites provide facilities specifically for 12 years and older, providing an area of over 200m² for informal sport and recreational activities.

14.24. 52 of the 55 are located on housing estates, two facilities at Bingfield Park and Mitcheson/Baxter Open Space were audited as part of the Green Space Assessment, plus one facility at Crouch Hill audited as part of this study. 48 of the facilities on housing estates are limited access, either 'de-facto' or restricted for residents use; the remainder are freely accessible to the public.

14.25. The youth spaces are evenly spread between the four Area Committees, some wards featuring more than others e.g. Tollington Ward has one facility while neighbouring Hillrise Ward has six.

14.26. 49 of the 55 sites are multi-use games areas (MUGAs) the other 6 sites featuring a general kickabout area or rebound wall. The majority of these facilities have a tarmac surface with three synthetic turfed MUGAs (including new facilities at Andover Estate in Finsbury Park Ward, Harvist Estate in Highbury West Ward and an older facility at

Spa Fields in Clerkenwell Ward), and one redgra²⁰ surfaced MUGA at Alderwick Court, Caledonian Ward. The remainder are unsurfaced/ grass areas. 23 of the sites featured multigoals whilst 11 sites had single sport goals (football or basketball). They varied in size, 41 sites noted as being suitable for competitive play. No youth shelters were noted in the audit but 12 have some form of seating.

14.27. In summary a youth space should exhibit the following characteristics.

- Over 200m² in area
- Suitable for 12+ year olds
- Serves a wide neighbourhood area, major, small local or neighbourhood parks (or equivalent typology), residential areas and housing estates
- Features facilities for informal sport or recreational activities e.g. MUGA, wheeled sports area.
- Seating areas and/or youth shelter(s)
- Associated landscaping
- No formal supervision

K2: Local playable space

14.28. 33 sites have been categorised as local playable space. They are mainly categorised by size, between 300 and 500m² in area, and by the existing or potential local role they play providing for children between 0 to 11 years old.

14.29. Distribution of these sites is slightly higher in the North (11 sites) and South (10 sites) Area Committees with six sites in both the East and West Areas. At ward level, there are currently no local playable spaces in Highbury East, Highbury West or in St Mary's Ward.

14.30. Of the 33 sites included at this hierarchy level, 12 sites were audited as catering for 0-5yrs only and 7 sites for 5 to 11yrs, whilst 11 were audited as catering for both age brackets. The audit recorded between 1 and 14 items of fixed play equipment across these sites, catering for between 5 and 30 children at any one time. The equipment was recorded as offering a range of play activities; particularly climbing, balancing, sliding and social play.

14.31. 26 of the 33 local playable spaces were fenced enclosures. Of those audited, 30 featured impact absorbing surfacing, 24 had seating and 19 had litter bins. 16 of the 33 sites also have space for informal runabout.

14.32. In summary a local playable space should exhibit the following characteristics.

²⁰ Redgra is a limestone based material used to surface sports facilities such as running tracks and outdoor sports courts.

- 300-500m² in area
- Caters for 0 to 11 yrs
- Serves a wide local area, located in small local parks or neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates
- Features a range of play equipment which provides for a variety of physical activities/flexible use and is capable of catering for medium sized groups of children
- Seating and litter bins
- Dog free
- Associated landscaping
- Freely accessible to the public, no formal supervision

K3i: Doorstep playable space

- 14.33. 66 sites have been categorised as doorstep playable spaces, primarily on the basis of their smaller size (100 to 300m² in area), and are likely to be serving a more local area than the larger sites. The majority are located on HFI managed housing estates. The sites on housing estates are largely recorded in the audit as having ‘de-facto’ access with a few restricted to residents only.
- 14.34. In terms of distribution, there is a doorstep playable space in every ward but a lower total number of spaces in the wards in the East Area (12 sites) with just one site in Highbury East ward. The sites are quite evenly split across the North (17 sites), South (17 sites) and West Areas (20 sites).
- 14.35. Of the 66 sites audited, 29 were recorded as catering for 0 to 5yrs, 20 sites for 5 to 11yrs and 16 sites which cater for both of these age ranges. In addition, two sites were recorded as catering for 5 to 11yrs and 11yrs+ and Edward Square was noted as catering for all three age ranges as it has a basketball hoop for older children.
- 14.36. The doorstep play spaces audited provided between 1 and 8 items of equipment, catering for between 1 and 25 children at any one time. Climbing, sliding and social play were the play activities most common across the sites in this hierarchy. 44 of the 66 doorstep playable spaces were within fenced enclosures. Of those audited, 56 featured impact absorbing surfacing, 40 had seating and 30 had litter bins. 22 of the 66 sites also have space for informal runabout.
- 14.37. In summary a doorstep playable space should exhibit the following characteristics.
- 100-300m² in area
 - Caters for 0 to 5 yrs (and may cater for older children too)
 - Serves immediate local area, located in neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates

- Features a range of play equipment which provides for a variety of physical activities/flexible use for small groups of young children
- Seating and litter bins
- Dog free
- Associated landscaping
- Freely accessible to the public, no formal supervision

K3ii: Pockets of / very small youth space

- 14.38. Eight sites have been categorised as pockets of/very small youth spaces. These sites solely provide youth facilities and are distinguishable from the K1ii youth spaces hierarchy by their considerably smaller size (all less than 200m²). This small number of sites includes three in Junction Ward (North), two in Mildmay and one in Highbury East (East), one in Barnsbury and one in St Mary's (West). There are no smaller youth facilities in the South Area.
- 14.39. All eight sites are located on housing estates. Half were audited as having access restricted to residents use and half were noted in the audit as having 'de-facto' access. Five of the sites were recorded as MUGAs and three as general kickabout areas. They were all fenced, with tarmac surface (except one with loose chippings) and ranged in length from 11-22m and width 7-12m. Only four were recorded to have pitch markings and goal posts and only one site had seating.
- 14.40. In summary pockets of/ very small youth space should exhibit the following characteristics.
- Less than 200m² in area
 - Suitable for 12+ year olds
 - Serves immediate local area, located in neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates
 - Features small-scale facilities for informal sport or recreational activities e.g. single sport court/goal post, rebound wall
 - Seating area

K4: Very small playable space

- 14.41. 14 sites have been categorised as very small playable spaces. These are sites smaller than 100m² in area. 12 of the 14 sites are on housing estates, the other two located within Greenspace Services managed parks and gardens. Of the sites on housing estates, three were recorded as limited to residents use, whilst nine were noted as having 'de-facto' access.
- 14.42. This relatively small number of sites includes two sites in each of the East and West Areas with four sites in the North and six sites in the South.

14.43. The sites mainly cater for a single age group with eight of the 14 sites for under 5yrs and three for 5 to 11yrs. In addition the play area at Landseer Gardens was audited as catering for all ages, St Paul’s South Open Space for both 5 to 11 and over 11yrs and one housing site was audited as catering for under 5yrs and 5-11yrs.

14.44. The sites in this hierarchy provide between one to five items of fixed play equipment catering for three to 15 children at any one time (except St Paul’s South Open Space, audited as catering for 25 children). Climbing, social play, balancing, sliding and jumping were the predominant play activities. In addition a ‘rebound wall/performance area’ at Landseer Gardens and a raised earth ring at St Paul’s South Open Space were noted as other play features. Four of the sites were within fenced enclosures. Of those audited, 10 featured impact absorbing surfacing, 7 had seating and 3 had litter bins. 4 of the 14 sites also have space for informal runabout.

14.45. In summary a strategic playable space should exhibit the following characteristics.

- Less than 100m² in area
- Caters for 0 to 5 yrs
- Serves immediate area, located in neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates
- Features a few items of play equipment which provide for a variety of physical activities/flexible use for small number of young children
- Seating and litter bins
- Dog free
- Associated landscaping
- Freely accessible to the public, no formal supervision

SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 3)

14.46. **Table 57** below sets out the standards against which current and future provision can be measured. The rationale for the standards is set out below the table and further detailed in **Appendices 7, 8 and 9** by typology.

Table 57: Play and youth facilities – Provision standards

Accessibility standards	K*: Strategic playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m
	K1i: Neighbourhood playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m
	K1ii: Youth space	11+ yrs 800 metres
	K2: Local playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m

	K3i: Doorstep playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m
	K3ii: Pockets of / very small youth space	11+ yrs 400 metres
	K4: Very small playable space	100m
Quantity standards	K. Play and youth facilities	4.771m ² per child
Quality standards	K*: Strategic playable space	Value threshold: 39 Quality threshold: 3
	K1i: Neighbourhood playable space	Value threshold: 32 Quality threshold: 3
	K1ii: Youth space	Value threshold: 6 Quality threshold: 13
	K2: Local playable space	Value threshold: 19 Quality threshold: 3
	K3i: Doorstep playable space	Value threshold: 13 Quality threshold: 3
	K3ii: Pockets of / very small youth space	Value threshold: 4 Quality threshold: 13
	K4: Very small playable space	Value threshold: 8 Quality threshold: 3

14.47. The **accessibility standards** are based on the benchmark standards recommended in the GLA's Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation Supplementary Planning Guidance. These are based on the age groups a play area provides for, set as walking distances for each of the three age bands. This recognises that older children are willing to travel further to a facility than the younger age bands where facilities need to be closer to where people live. In Islington there are a number of spaces which are very small in size and due to the more limited provision of equipment are unlikely to draw children from wider distances. The standards for K3ii: Pockets of / very small youth space and K4: Very small playable space reflect this.

14.48. The GLA's SPG recommends a quantity standard of 10m² per child to cover both formal play/youth facilities and 'informal recreational space'²¹. Through this PPG17 assessment all formal play spaces have been captured and classified as typology K. Informal play space will have been captured as part of other typologies (in particular typology 'A' parks and gardens), but has not been specifically quantified. The **quantity standard** for typology 'K' therefore relates specifically to more formal provision and is based on sustaining the existing level of provision within this typology at 4.771m² per child, given the general satisfaction from consultees with the level of provision and given that this provision compares well when benchmarked against other inner London boroughs.

14.49. To assess the quality of existing audited provision a threshold score has been set against which each site can be tested. The threshold tests the **value** of a facility i.e. whether a site is exhibiting the key characteristics expected of that level of the

²¹ The GLA SPG standard does not provide guidance on the proportion of the 10m² per child of formal and informal provision.

hierarchy in terms of the range of play equipment/activities and other amenities. The threshold also assesses the **quality** of a site in terms of its overall condition.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS (PPG 17 STEP 4)

Accessibility to play and youth facilities in Islington

14.50. **Map 22** applies the accessibility standards in the form of catchment areas (as described in the methodology in section 2). The first three maps in the sequence show the extent of the borough that has access to facilities for each age group. The distance buffers are coloured to reflect the type of access. Those which are freely accessible are shown in green whilst those facilities, particularly on housing estates, which have limited access are shown in orange. It should be noted that a large proportion of the limited access facilities were audited as 'de-facto access' which means that although they feel like they are part of a particular estate are not gated and so could be used by people living beyond the estate boundary. The likelihood of non-residents actually using these sites varies from site to site depending on the characteristics and locations of the play areas in the wider estate setting. **Table 58** summarises the number of facilities in each ward catering for the different age groups (some facilities cater for more than one age group) and key deficiencies are described below by age group.

Table 58: Distribution of play and youth facilities by age group

Area Committee	Ward	No. of sites catering for under 5yrs	No. of sites catering for 5-11yrs	No. of sites catering for 11+ yrs
East	Finsbury Park	10	9	7
	Highbury East	2	1	5
	Highbury West	2	4	2
	Mildmay	9	7	12
North	Hillrise	9	10	10
	Junction	13	11	7
	St. George's	8	10	6
	Tollington	12	11	7
South	Bunhill	11	11	7
	Canonbury	6	8	5
	Clerkenwell	8	8	8
	St. Peter's	19	19	8
West	Barnsbury	7	9	6
	Caledonian	12	13	10
	Holloway	11	11	6
	St. Mary's	8	7	7

Access to play facilities for 0-5 years (100m accessibility standard)

14.51. **Map 22a** shows that play provision for 0-5 year olds is scattered across the borough with marked deficiencies. Large areas, equating to 1009ha or 68% of the borough,

are outside of the recommended catchment of a facility for this age group. There are also large areas of the borough which are only within reach of a facility of limited access. Of the 147 sites providing for this age group, only 50 were audited as being freely accessible to the public. The largest area of deficiency is in the East Area; as shown in **Table 58** there are only two sites in each of Highbury East and Highbury West wards catering for 0-5 year olds and of these sites only one site in Highbury East (at Highbury Fields) has been audited as being fully accessible to the public. In contrast, St Peter's ward has a total of 19 sites providing for 0-5 years, the majority (14 sites) on housing estates. Even with this higher total provision when represented spatially on the accessibility map, there are areas of deficiency.

Access to play facilities for 5-11 years (400m accessibility standard)

- 14.52. **Map 22b** shows that there is generally good access to facilities catering for 5-11 years across the borough. However, Highbury East and West wards stand out again as a notable area deficient in access to provision for this age group. Highbury Fields is the only site in Highbury East along with four limited access play areas on housing sites in Highbury West.
- 14.53. In addition there are some very small areas on the western boundary of the borough and in Canonbury and St Mary's wards with no access to facilities for this age group.
- 14.54. Of the 151 sites catering for this age group, 48 were audited as being freely accessible to the public. There are relatively small areas which are only covered by provision in housing estates which often has access restricted to residents only.

Access to play or youth facilities for 11+ years (800m accessibility standard)

- 14.55. **Map 22c** shows generally good coverage of the borough, the majority within the recommended catchment of freely accessible provision for children over 11 years old. A total of 112 facilities were audited as catering for this age range, 39 of which are publicly accessible. As indicated on the map, there are areas which are only within the catchment of limited access facilities which may mean there are people living outside of housing estates in these areas with no access to provision for this age group. This is particularly noticeable in the East Area; Highbury West only has two sites, both limited access and four of the five facilities in neighbouring Highbury East are limited access.

Quantity of play and youth facilities in Islington

- 14.56. **Table 59** summarises how the existing provision of play and youth facilities measures up against the suggested quantity standard of 4.771m² per child now and at 2025.

Table 59: Future provision of play and youth facilities by ward

Area Committee	Ward	provision (m ²) per child (0-18 years) 2008	Surplus/shortfall in 2008 against the quantity standard (ha)	Projected 2025 population (0-18 years)	Surplus/shortfall in 2025 against the quantity standard (ha)
East	Finsbury Park	2.532	-0.699	3,500	-0.889
	Highbury East	2.728	-0.478	2,600	-0.605
	Highbury West	1.019	-1.160	4,050	-1.617
	Mildmay	4.418	-0.094	2,800	-0.164
North	Hillrise	3.577	-0.348	3,050	-0.407
	Junction	4.948	0.037	2,350	-0.088
	St. George's	6.987	0.433	1,750	0.536
	Tollington	4.800	0.008	2,650	0.005
South	Bunhill	6.028	0.278	2,600	0.086
	Canonbury	6.348	0.344	2,450	0.219
	Clerkenwell	7.894	0.462	1,400	0.511
	St. Peter's	6.872	0.491	2,650	0.348
West	Barnsbury	8.313	0.812	2,550	0.693
	Caledonian	6.764	0.519	2,900	0.384
	Holloway	3.959	-0.199	2,950	-0.432
	St. Mary's	2.661	-0.406	2,000	-0.433
TOTAL		4.771	0.000	42,150	-1.853

14.57. The table shows that based on the 2008 child population a total of nine wards meet/exceed the quantity standard whilst seven are currently deficient in provision (illustrated in **Map 23**). This includes all four wards in the East Area Committee, Holloway and St Mary's in the West and Hillrise in the North. The child population (0-18 years) is projected to increase in Islington by 10% by 2025 which has the effect of increasing the level of deficiency in these seven wards and results in Junction Ward no longer meeting the standard.

14.58. If the current provision of play and youth facilities remained the same this would result in a reduction in provision from 4.771m² to 4.331m² per child, a shortfall in provision of 18,528m² (1.85ha). This equates to the need for the equivalent of 37 new neighbourhood playable spaces by 2025 to sustain the existing level of provision.

14.59. As shown in **Map 3b and c** in **Chapter 3** the child population density is projected to shift by varying degrees across Islington. The deficiencies will be exacerbated in Highbury West Ward where a 31% increase in child population is anticipated by 2025. There are also high increases projected in Holloway (20%) and Bunhill (18%) (illustrated in **Map 24**). Taking in to account the projected population growth, 4577m² (25%) of the 18,528m² deficit will be concentrated in Highbury West, 2,334m² (12.6%) in Holloway, 1919m² in Bunhill (10%) and 1901m² in Finsbury Park (10%).

14.60. It should be noted that this increase in the level of deficiency of play and youth facilities is not replicated in all wards. In St George's Ward the opposite is anticipated; the existing surplus projected to increase if the child population decreases as projected.

Quality of play and youth facilities in Islington

14.61. On application of the quality standard each site is attributed a value/quality rating showing whether it has scored above (+) or below (-) the scoring thresholds (as set out in the methodology in Chapter 2). The resulting value/quality ratings for play and youth facilities are summarised by hierarchy in **Table 60** and the distribution of these ratings is shown on **Map 25**.

Table 60: Play and youth facilities value/quality ratings by hierarchy

VQ Rating	No. of K* sites	No. of K1i sites	No. of K1ii sites	No. of K2 sites	No. of K3i sites	No. of K3ii sites	No. of K4 sites	Total number of sites
++ High value/High quality	1	7	11	5	18	1	6	49
+ - High value/Low quality		4	14	5	24		8	55
- + Low value/High quality		31	1	11	3			46
-- Low value/Low quality		45	29	12	18	7		111
n/a ²²		12			3			15

14.62. The table shows that 166 of the play and youth facilities across the hierarchy were rated **below the quality threshold** suggesting that improvements to the condition of these sites such as repair or renewal of equipment should be a priority.

14.63. 157 play or youth facilities are rated **below the value threshold**. This suggests that facilities are not currently delivering the range of equipment/play activities and amenities or catering for the age ranges expected for their size. The ratings suggest that sites are not currently delivering the maximum play value for the scale of facility. This is particularly evident with the ratings of 'K1i. neighbourhood playable spaces'.

²² The 12 Adventure Playgrounds have not been audited and therefore not attributed a quality rating. These sites are subject to regular safety inspections and are managed in accordance with London Play's Quality Assurance scheme

14.64. 111 of the 157 sites fall **below both the value and quality thresholds** suggesting that they are deteriorating in condition or poorly maintained and would benefit from a design/function review to maximise the role of these sites in contributing to the borough's play and youth provision.

14.65. The spatial distribution of the VQ ratings is further summarised by ward in **Table 61**.

Table 61: Play and youth value/quality ratings by ward

Area Committee	Ward	++	+ -	- +	--	n/a	Total no. sites
		High value/High quality	High value/Low quality	Low value/High quality	Low value/Low quality		
East	Highbury West	3	0	1	3	0	7
	Highbury East	1	1	0	4	0	6
	Finsbury Park	2	5	5	5	1	18
	Mildmay	4	5	5	8	1	23
North	Tollington	3	3	8	4	2	20
	Hillrise	4	8	1	7	1	21
	St. George's	2	3	1	11	0	17
	Junction	1	4	3	12	0	20
South	Bunhill	6	4	5	3	1	19
	Canonbury	3	1	3	6	0	13
	Clerkenwell	4	2	1	10	1	18
	St. Peter's	1	9	4	12	1	27
West	Barnsbury	4	2	3	3	2	14
	Caledonian	5	4	4	7	3	23
	St. Mary's	2	3	0	8	0	13
	Holloway	4	1	2	8	2	17

14.66. The table shows the ratings are spread across the wards. Of the sites falling below the value and quality threshold (-/-) the greatest numbers are in Junction and St George's wards in the North Area and St Peter's and Clerkenwell in the South Area. There are also relatively high concentrations of '-/-' sites in Mildmay, St Mary's and Holloway wards in the East and West.

14.67. Of the '-/+ ' sites the greatest number are in Tollington ward in the North Area with the same number of sites falling below the quality threshold in neighbouring Hillrise ward (also in the north).

14.68. The audit reports from the Green Space Assessment (together with the additional audits carried out as part of this study) provide greater detail about specific quality issues and enhancements needed. Issues highlighted included the need to improve accessibility, renew equipment and safety surfacing, provide more varied and interesting play provision, integrate play areas better with the surrounding space,

redesigning them to make them more attractive, providing bins and benches and improving maintenance.

KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

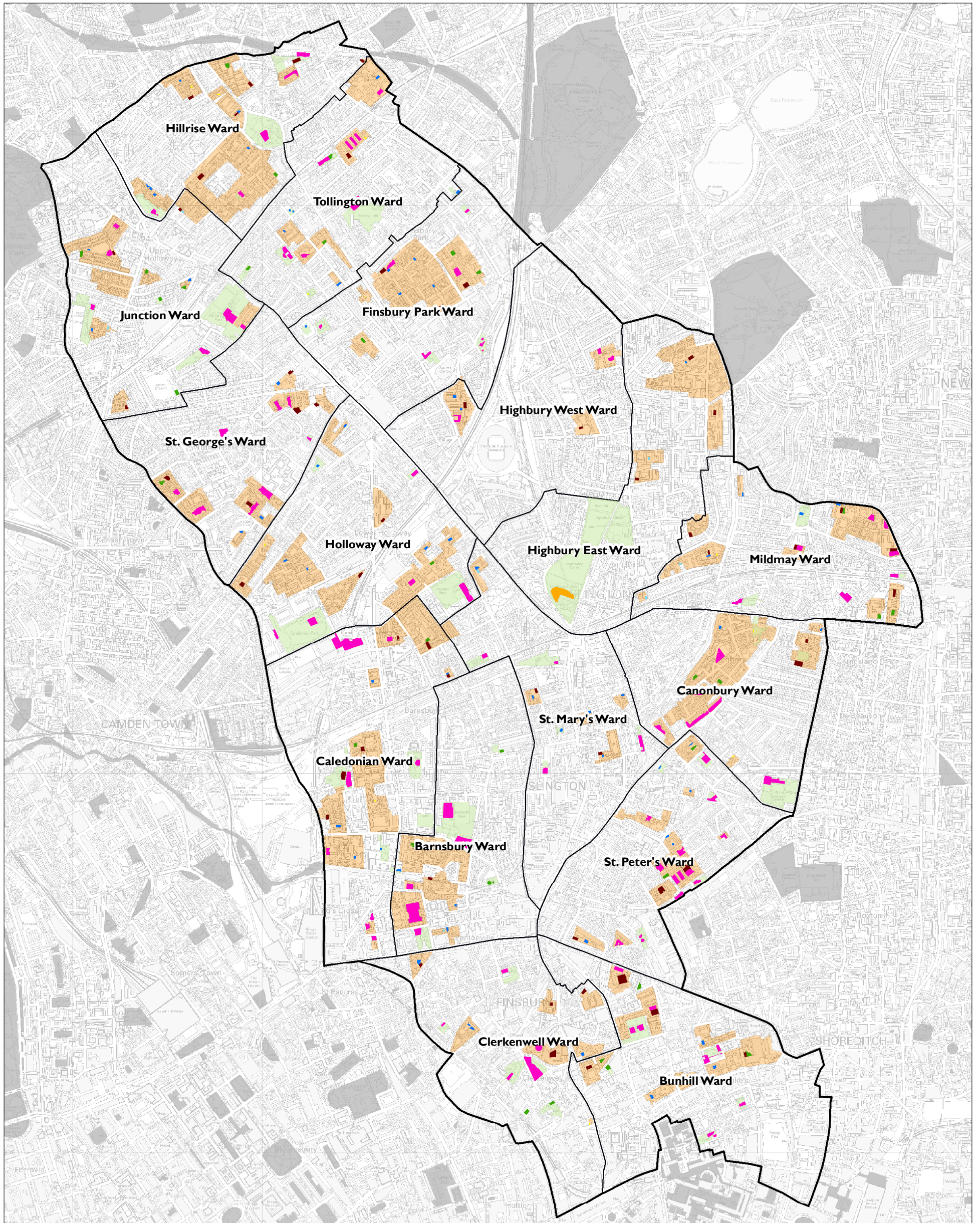
Key issues

- 14.69. 68% of the borough is outside of the recommended catchment of play facilities for 0 to 5 years. This to an extent ties in with comments in the Play Strategy consultation that people want more play space, particularly very local to where they live. This needs addressing firstly through reviewing limitations affecting access to facilities on housing estates to ensure where appropriate these are freely accessible to people living in neighbouring areas. Then opportunities need to be explored for creating new facilities for 0-5 year olds. Firstly this should focus on expanding the range of provision on existing sites; in particular there are 31 'K1i' neighbourhood playable spaces, 10 K2 local playable spaces and 21 doorstep playable spaces which currently do not cater for this age group.
- 14.70. Large areas of Highbury West and Highbury East wards have little or no access to play and youth provision catering for the three age groups, particularly 0-5 years and 5-11 years. Facilities in Clissold Park and Finsbury Park may be able to reduce the deficiency in access to facilities for older children but this still leaves a gap in provision for younger children. There is limited open space provision in this area but there may be housing amenity space that has potential to be developed into play facilities.
- 14.71. Ensure facilities for 11+ years in the east area which are mainly located on estates are welcoming and accessible to non-estate residents.
- 14.72. There are currently quantitative deficiencies in the East Area and in wards in the North and West. Opportunities need to be explored to create new formal play and/or youth facilities to reduce these deficiencies. This should focus primarily on Highbury West which has the greatest deficiency in access to play and youth facilities.
- 14.73. In order to maintain the overall existing level of play and youth provision (which is the level the quantity standard has been set) an additional 18,528m² (1.85ha) will be needed by 2025. In such a densely built urban borough it will be difficult to secure such high levels of additional space. Opportunities should be sought for accommodating play and youth facilities within existing spaces of different typologies. This will increase the overall value of these spaces. Areas for particular consideration will be those areas where the highest child population growth is projected (i.e. Highbury West, Holloway, Bunhill and Finsbury Park) to ensure the deficiencies do not become further exacerbated by 2025.
- 14.74. A large proportion of the audited sites were rated below both the value and quality thresholds, this reflects some of the comments in consultation about the variable condition of existing spaces. Improving the quality of existing spaces should be a priority, ensuring all sites are welcoming, safe, secure, clean and well maintained.

14.75. The VQ ratings showed that many sites are not providing the play value anticipated of a site of their particular size. A review of the design and function of these sites should be initiated focusing firstly on those sites affected by deficiencies in access and quantity of provision. The greatest number of ‘-/-’ sites were those in the K1i neighbourhood playable space hierarchy where there should be potential to increase value for all three age groups. This ties in with the recommendations of the Play Strategy to largely focus on improving existing facilities.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

K.i	Agree list of sites where play provision could be created for 0 to 5 year olds to address the deficiency in access to this level of provision across the borough focusing primarily on existing sites where this level of provision could be accommodated e.g. play areas currently not catering for this age group and spaces of other typologies which could benefit from the addition of play.
K.ii	Explore opportunities to create new/enhance existing spaces to increase the provision of play facilities in Highbury West and Highbury East wards, particularly for 0-11 years.
K.iii	Explore opportunities to ensure facilities for 11+ years in the east area which are mainly located on estates are welcoming and accessible to non-estate residents.
K.iv	Sustain the existing level of formal play and youth provision and enhance the informal recreational value of other types of space, particularly where formal play exists within a larger space.
K.v	Explore methods of quantifying the existing provision of ‘informal recreational space’ to enable provision to be measured in the future.
K.vi	Improve and maintain the quality of play and youth facilities ensuring they provide welcoming and well maintained spaces for play and recreational activity.
K.vii	Ensure that children and young people are involved in decision making and any design/ review of current facilities and provision of new ones.

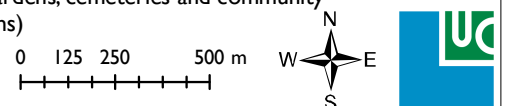


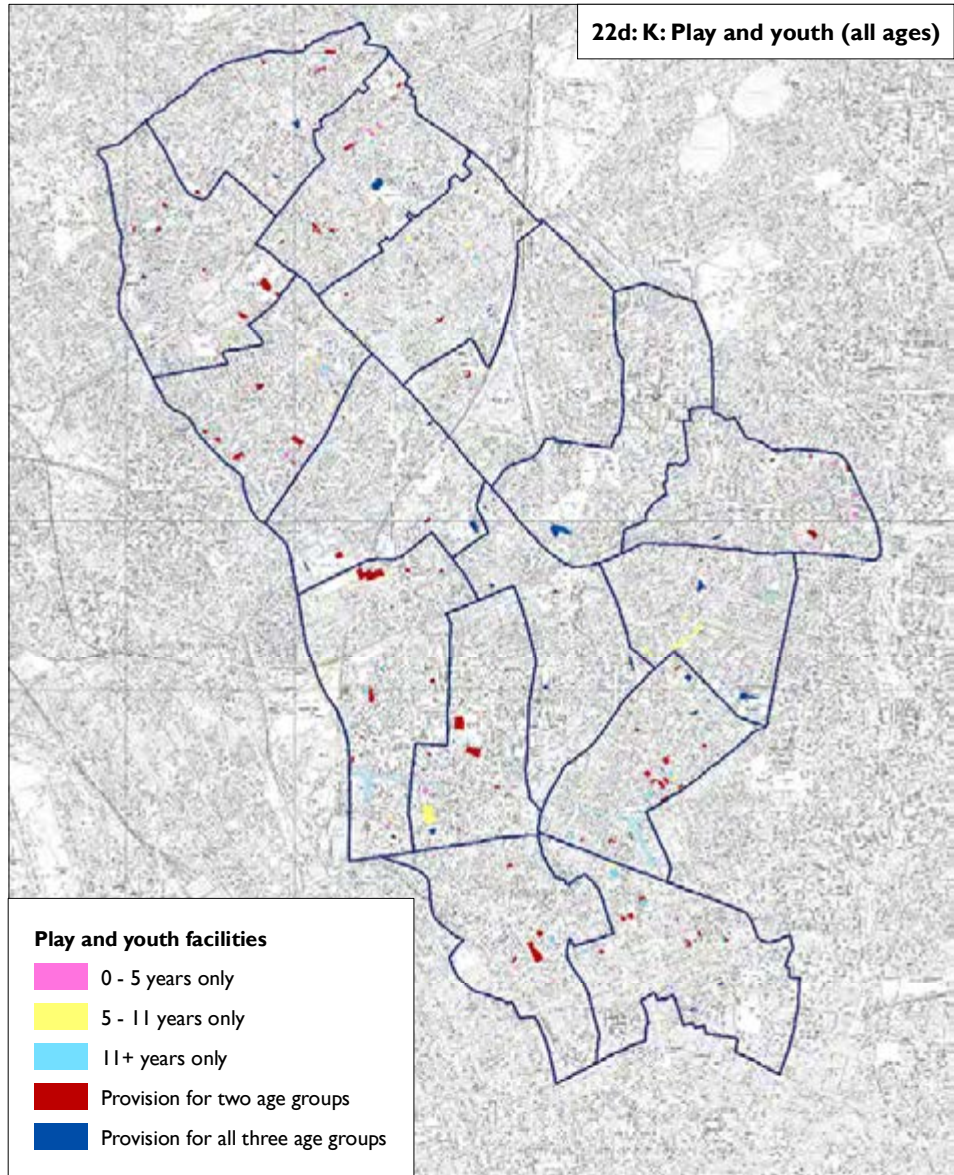
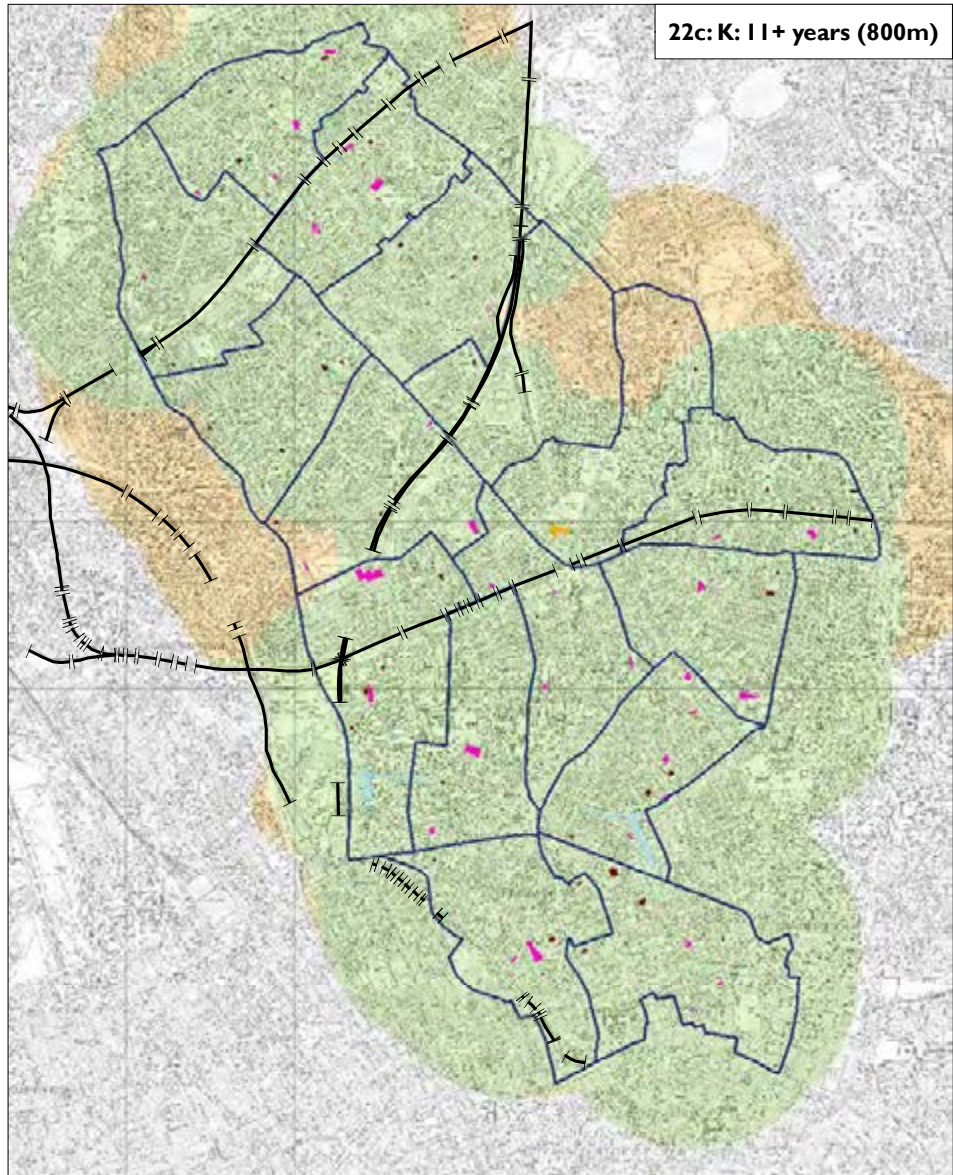
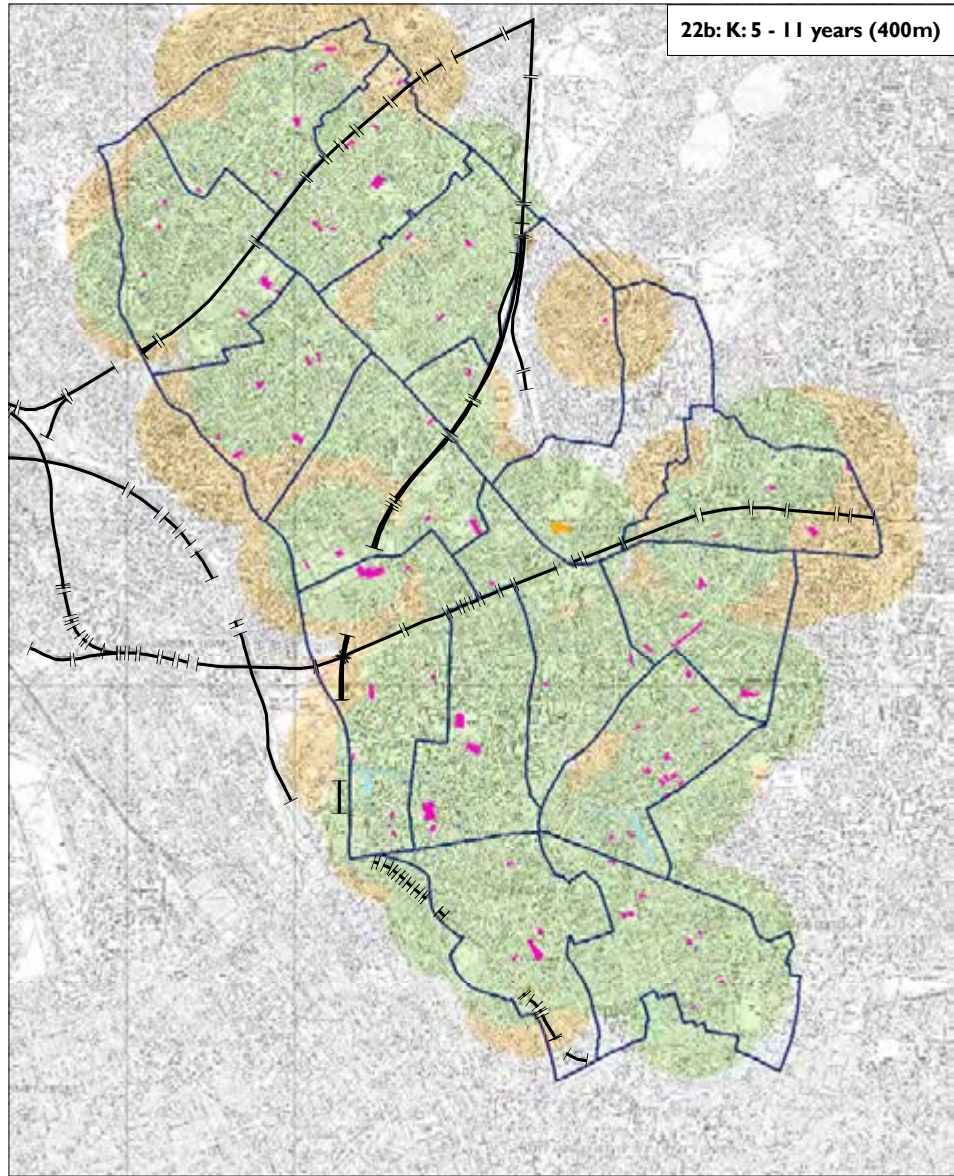
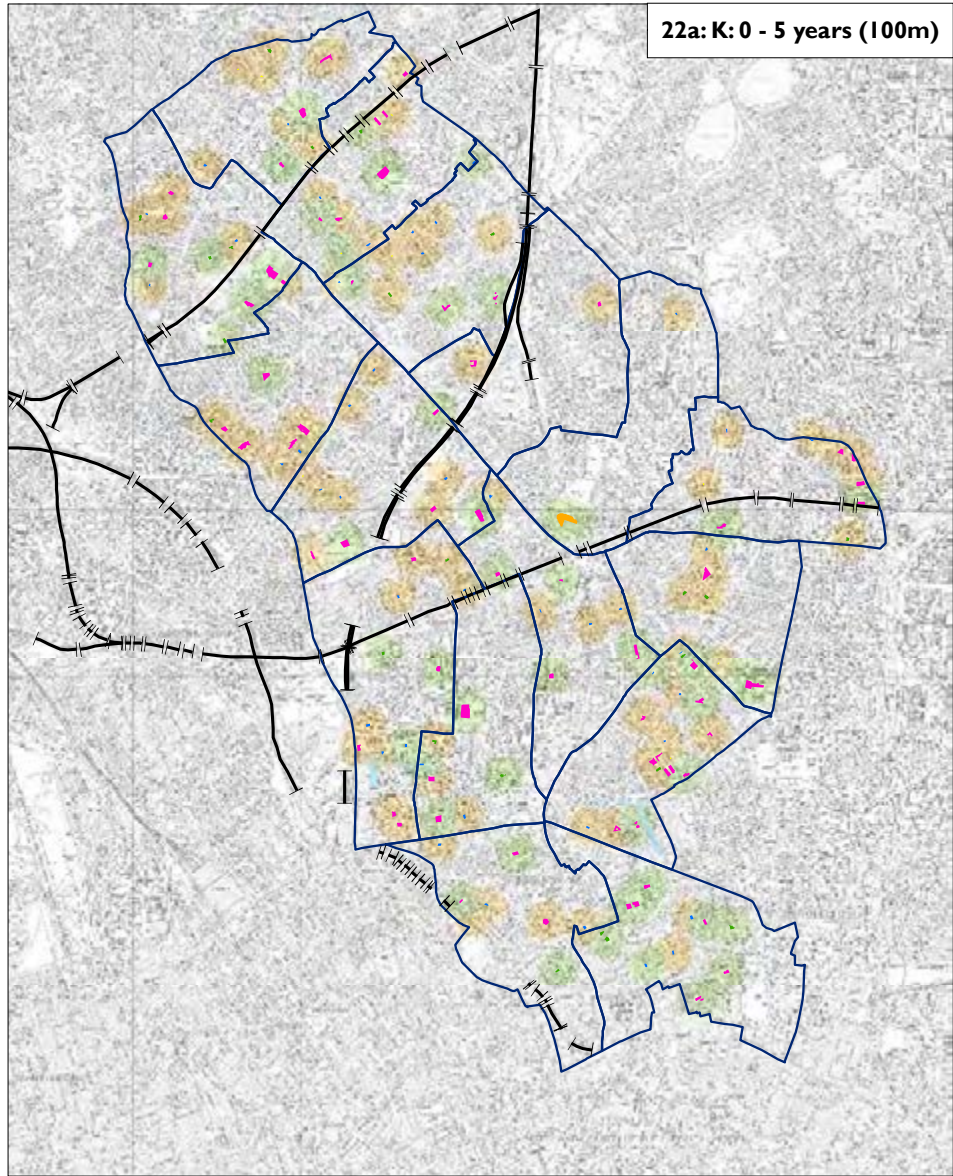
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 21: Typology K: play and youth by hierarchy

Key

London Borough of Islington	Play and youth facilities	K2. Local playable space	LBI Estates which contain play and youth facilities
Ward boundaries	K*. Strategic playable space	K3i. Doorstep playable space	Sites in other typologies that contain play and youth facilities (e.g. parks and gardens, cemeteries and community gardens)
Sites outside the borough	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	
	K1ii. Youth space	K4. Very small playable space	





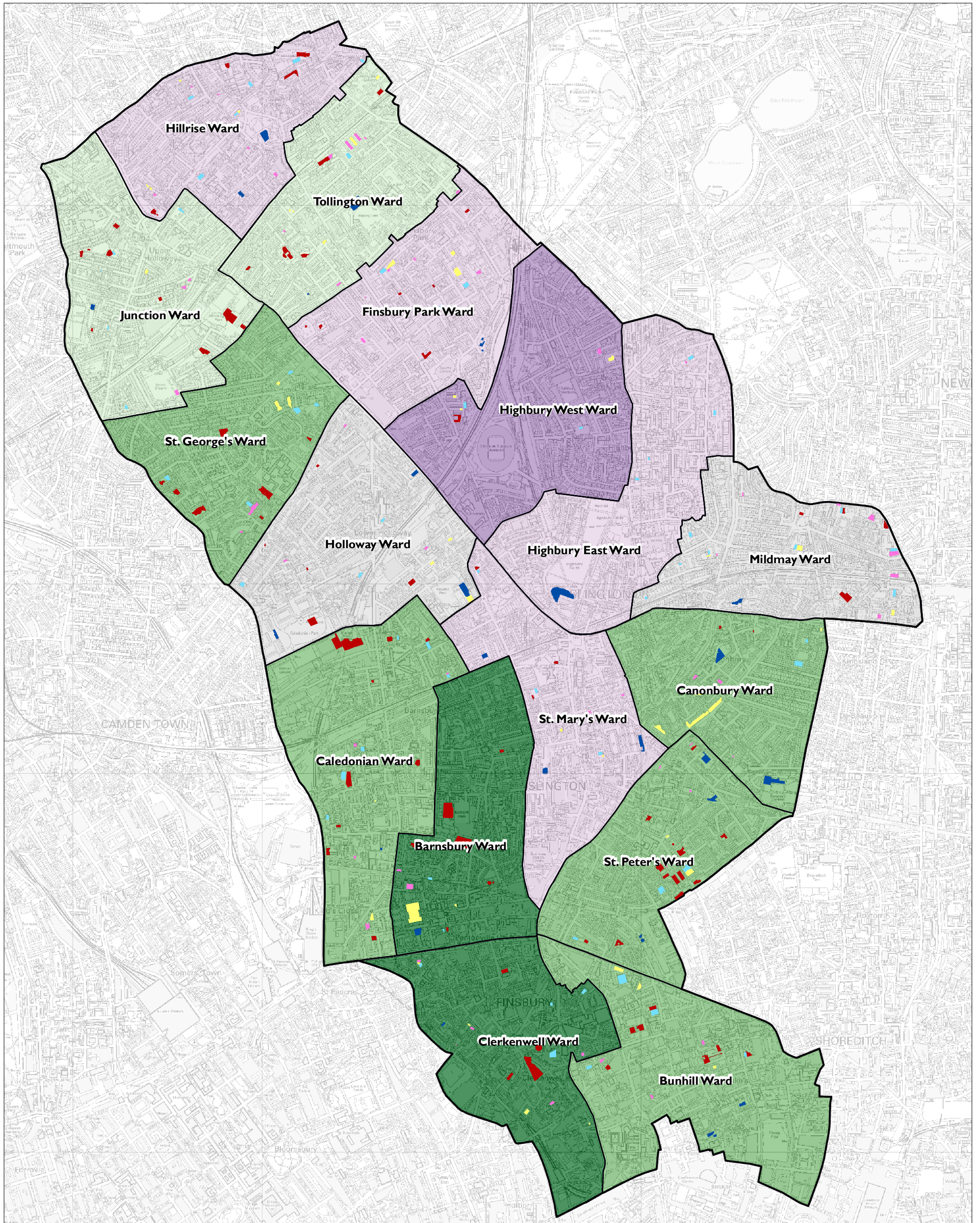
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Map 22: Typology K: play and youth accessibility

0 250 500 1,000 m

Key

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|------------------------|
| Canal | Play and youth facilities (a-c) | K2. Local playable space | Site catchments |
| Ward boundaries | K*. Strategic playable space | K3i. Doorstep playable space | Publicly accessible |
| | K1i. Neighbourhood playable space | K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space | Limited access |
| | K1ii. Youth space | K4. Very small playable space | No public access |

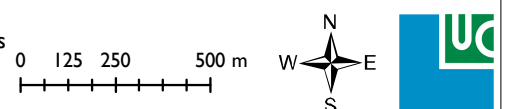


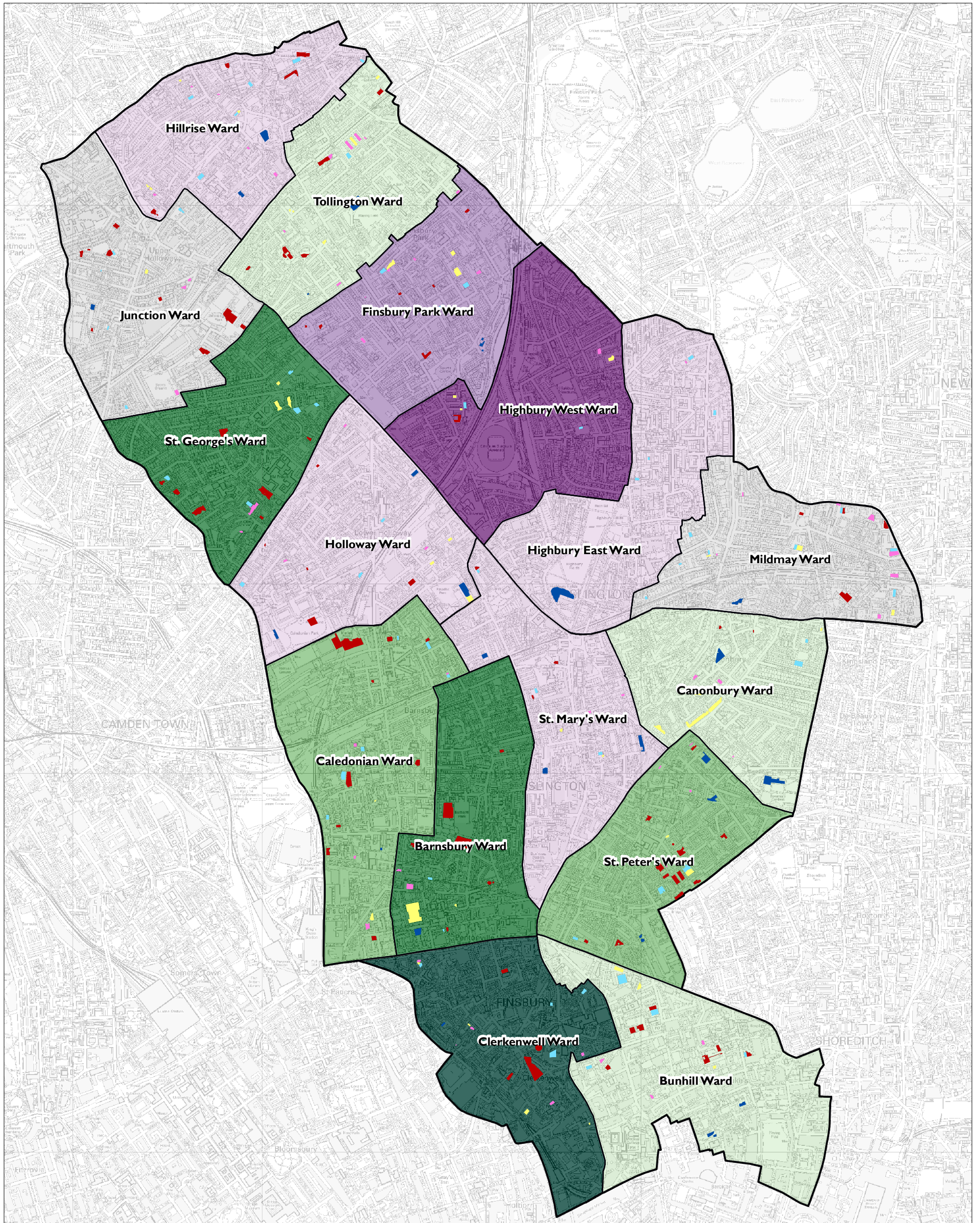


Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 23: Shortfall/surplus in existing provision at 2008 against quantity standard for formal play and youth facilities (4.771 m²/child)

Key

London Borough of Islington	-0.999 - 0.000	Play and youth facilities 0 - 5 years only	11+ years only
Shortfall/surplus in existing provision (2008) against quantity standard (m²/child)	0.001 - 1.000	5 - 11 years only	Provision for two age groups
-3.752 - -2.500	1.001 - 2.500	Provision for all three age groups	
-2.499 - -1.000	2.501 - 3.572		



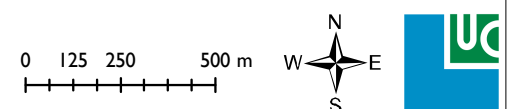


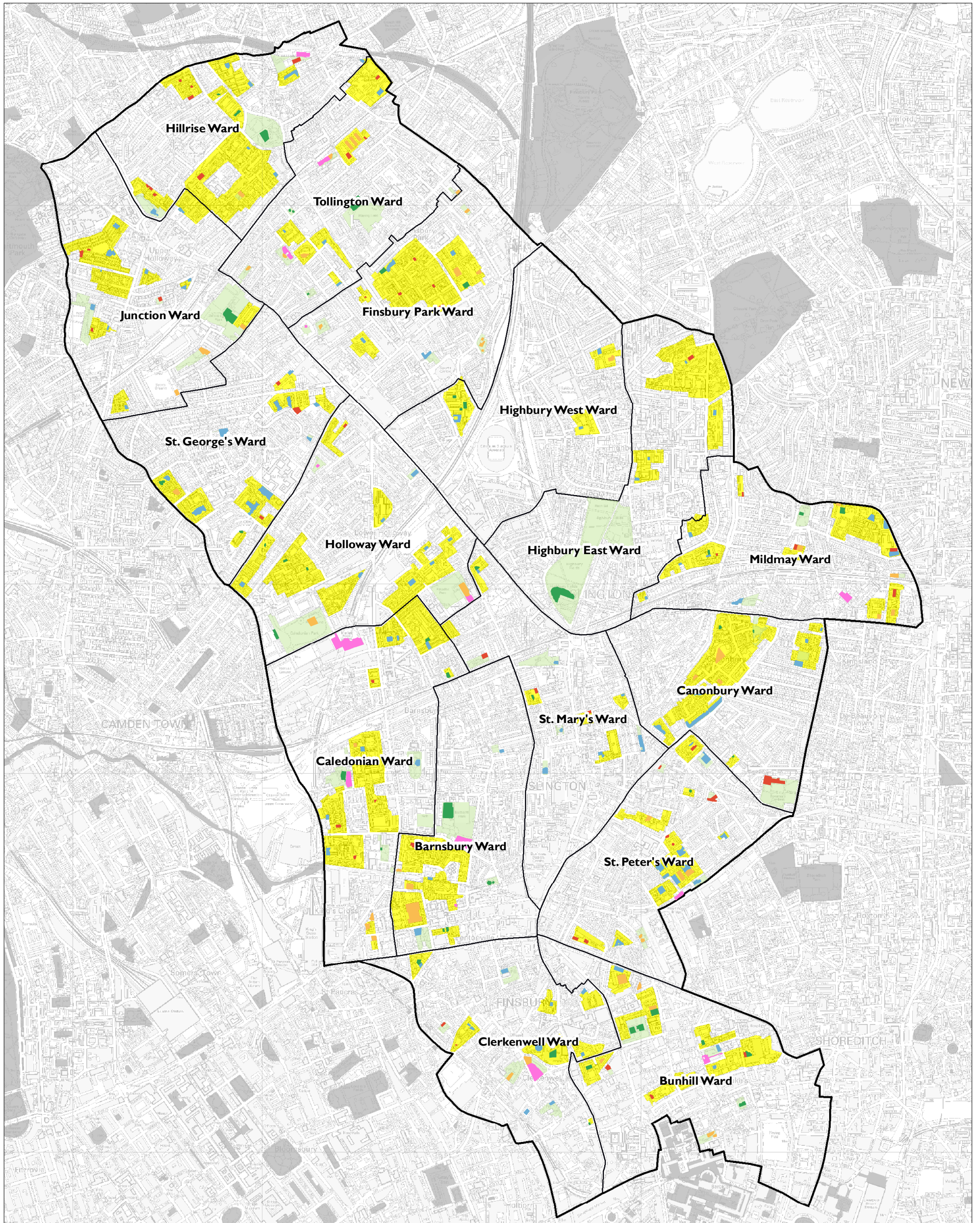
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 24: Shortfall/surplus in future provision at 2025 against quantity standard for formal play and youth facilities (4.771 m²/child)

Key

London Borough of Islington	-0.999 - 0.000	Play and youth facilities	11+ years only
Shortfall/surplus in future provision (2025) against quantity standard (m²/child)	0.001 - 1.000	0 - 5 years only	Provision for two age groups
-3.993 - -3.572	1.001 - 2.500	5 - 11 years only	Provision for all three age groups
-3.571 - -2.500	2.501 - 3.572		
-2.499 - -1.000	3.573 - 3.702		





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 25: Typology K: play and youth value/quality ratings

Key

- London Borough of Islington
- Ward boundaries

- Sites in other typologies that contain play and youth facilities (e.g. parks and gardens, cemeteries and community gardens)
- LBI Estates which contain play and youth facilities

- Value/quality rating**
- Above value/above quality (+ +)
 - Above value/below quality (+ -)
 - Below value/above quality (- +)
 - Below value/below quality (- -)
 - No value/quality rating (n/a)
 - Sites outside the borough

0 125 250 500 m

15. L. INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 15.1. PPG17 states that it is essential to consider the role that indoor sports facilities play in meeting the needs of local residents. It states that the provision of swimming pools, indoor sports halls, indoor bowls and indoor tennis should be considered as part of the local supply and demand assessment. For the purpose of this study we have also considered ice rinks and gyms to ensure a balanced view of the indoor facilities in Islington.
- 15.2. The methodology for the assessment of indoor facilities is slightly different to other PPG17 typologies in that specific demand modelling can be undertaken in line with Sport England parameters. Nevertheless, while these national standards are taken into account, the emphasis and focus remains on the development and application of local standards, which are representative of the needs and expectations of local residents.

Context

- 15.3. As detailed above, it is important to consider the provision of indoor sports facilities in relation to local need. The local context is considered below, where key strategic documents have been summarised along with headline findings from the local consultation.

Islington Council Sports and Leisure Strategy (2002)

- 15.4. The council's sport and leisure facilities, whether purpose built multi-use leisure centres or small kick-about areas on housing estates, vary in age and quality. In many cases they are ageing, have suffered from years of under investment and are in significant need of investment or renewal.

Spatial Planning for Sport and Recreation, Sport England (2005)

- 15.5. Sport England's key aims are for a larger proportion of the population to become involved in sport and to provide more places to play sport. Sport England seeks to foster, support and promote the development of facilities.
- 15.6. Sport England provide advice on what type of sports facilities are needed for communities in the future. They will also advise on how to protect and improve the current stock of facilities, in particular protecting playing fields.
- 15.7. Sport England sees spatial planning as an opportunity to deliver a planned approach to the provision of facilities, helping to reach sustainable development goals. These goals include identifying opportunities for delivering an enhanced quality of facility.

The Islington Proactive Strategy (date not available)

- 15.8. The strategy highlights the need for both high quality facilities and joint working with schools to help achieve the increased participation targets set out in the action plan.

In addition, the strategy identifies target groups, such as young people, that will need to be engaged through appropriate facility provision and programming.

Islington Leisure Needs Assessment (2006)

- 15.9. The needs assessment study outlined that there was a current shortage of both swimming pool and sports hall provision, which is set to worsen in the period to 2016. The study highlights that much of the sports hall provision is on school sites and the council needs to work with schools to encourage community access to these facilities.
- 15.10. The current provision of health and fitness stations and squash courts is considered as either adequate or exceeding demand. However there is no athletics provision within the borough (the needs of Islington residents are currently met by provision at Finsbury Park).
- 15.11. The needs assessment study highlighted a number of quality issues particularly with reference to swimming pools. Quality of provision, particularly Cally Pool and the suitability of leisure water at Archway Leisure Centre, was highlighted in consultation as more significant than quantity of provision. The study recommended that the council should consider either refurbishing current pool provision or replacing it with a new development.

Participation rates

- 15.12. The outcome of this study is to assess opportunities and needs for sport and recreation provision, whilst safeguarding open space which has recreational value. Increasing the quantity to meet local needs, increasing the quality to improve local perception and improving the accessibility to sport and recreation facilities is likely to have a positive socio-economic impact on the community in terms increased levels of sports participation. Highlighted below are the current sports participation rates for Islington.
- 15.13. The Active People Survey, conducted by Ipsos MORI on behalf of Sport England, is the largest ever survey of sport and active recreation to be undertaken in Europe. It is a telephone survey of 363,724 adults in England (aged 16+) and provides reliable statistics on participation in sport and active recreation for all 354 local authorities in England.
- 15.14. The survey provides by far the largest sample size ever established for a sport and recreation survey and allows levels of detailed analysis previously unavailable. It identifies how participation varies from place to place and between different groups in the population. The questionnaire was designed to enable analysis of the findings by a broad range of demographic information, such as gender, social class, ethnicity, household structure, age and disability. It allows a comparison to be made between the levels of participation in all local authority areas in England.
- 15.15. However, the findings do not provide statistically reliable data on levels of participation for different sports for each local authority. Instead, we have applied the average participation rate across those sports reviewed within this study.

- 15.16. Participation is defined as taking part in sport or physical activity at least three times per week for 30 minutes. The key findings one can draw from the Active People Survey are that:
- The Islington participation rate is 24%
 - The average Central London Sub-regional Partnership participation rate is 24.7%
 - Islington participation is 0.7% lower than the London rate
 - The national average participation rate is 21%
 - Islington participation is 3% higher than the national rate.
- 15.17. These statistics all serve to illustrate that participation rates amongst Islington residents are higher than the national average, but slightly lower than the average rates for Central London.
- 15.18. A broad review of indoor sport and recreation facilities has been undertaken to guide future planning within Islington based on the Active Places database. This overview provides an evidence base for planning purposes.
- 15.19. Provision of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor tennis, indoor bowls, council gyms and ice rinks has been considered in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility. Local standards for quantity and accessibility are specific to each type of facility and are detailed in the paragraphs that follow. An overarching quality standard has also been set for indoor facilities and follows at the end of the section.
- 15.20. It should be noted that for the purposes of mapping accessibility, the standards applied on the maps have been applied in straight lines, i.e. a 20 minute walk time is mapped as a 20 minute straight line radius from the site in question, which is considered appropriate given the high level of connectivity in Islington. However, in some cases it is possible that catchments may be slightly overestimated where connectivity is less good. Maps should therefore be viewed and interpreted with this in mind and other factors such as quantity and quality assessments considered alongside accessibility.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION

- 15.21. The Leisure Needs Analysis referenced previously was used as the basis for informing the indoor sports facility audit, however this was supplemented through information provided by the council and desk research to confirm the current provision of indoor sports facilities and check the access policies.
- 15.22. For the purposes of being thorough and providing a balanced view, all indoor sports facilities were audited including those outside the scope of PPG17, thus ice rinks and gyms have also been included in both the audit and the analysis.
- 15.23. All council run indoor sports facilities were visited for site assessment purposes, as were those schools whose facilities match the criteria and who offer public access.

- 15.24. Consultation specific to indoor sports provision in Islington provides an indication of public opinion and some meaningful statistics.
- 15.25. 430 people responded to a survey sent to 10,000 randomly selected residents in the borough, which explored a range of issues relating to Islington's indoor sports provision.
- 15.26. Sports clubs were also invited to complete surveys. However, despite two attempts, only seven responses were received. Where applicable, statistics and comments from the survey have been included in the text but it should be noted that these might not be reflective of the views of sports clubs as a whole. It should be noted that while sports clubs gave general views to some of the questions, only two of the clubs who responded actually use indoor sports facilities as their main facility.
- 15.27. Key findings from the consultation inform the setting of local standards against local needs.
- 15.28. Results from the consultation differed across the types of indoor facility for adequacy of provision and these are explored further in the individual facility type sections below. However, the majority of respondents who had an opinion perceive overall provision of indoor sports facilities in the borough to be 'about right' (31%). 5.5% felt that there was 'more than enough' and 28.5% that there was 'not enough'. 35% offered no opinion.
- 15.29. The responses by area were similar, with the highest response of 'not enough' being in the South Area (30.3%) and the lowest being in the East Area (27.1%). It should be noted that the highest response of 'no opinion' was also in the South Area.
- 15.30. In addition to references to the individual facilities detailed later in this section, there were a number of recurrent comments in the open comments section of the survey relating to quantity provision in general:
- Overcrowding or inability to access preferred activities (by far the greatest number of responses)
 - The need for more athletics tracks
 - The need to raise awareness of facilities
 - The need for improved access to school sports facilities.

Structure of this chapter

- 15.31. Indoor sports provision differs from many of the other typologies due to the inclusion of very different types of facility within one typology. The structure of this chapter therefore differs slightly from the others and is structured as follows:
- An introduction to the setting of quantity standards
 - A section for each of the facilities types consisting of:

- introduction to the facility type
 - setting future provision standards for quantity
 - setting future provision standards for accessibility
 - summary and recommendations (including applying the standards)
- Setting an overarching quality standard that applies to each facility type
 - Key issues and recommendations.

Setting future provision standards – quantity

15.32. In order to derive quantity standards for each type of indoor sports facility, the level of supply is compared to an estimated demand. The foundations of demand assessments are based on an analysis of the demographic nature of the resident population within a catchment area of the site. Demand models are also used in the development of provision standards. The application of these provision standards will be critical in meeting the needs of the local community.

Analysis of supply and demand

15.33. A comparative analysis to establish the adequacy of current facility provision in meeting local demand has been undertaken. The process involved three stages:

- Preparation of a full audit of current facilities within the borough to establish the level of supply, using Sport England’s Active Places database;
- Plotting of all facilities to illustrate the geographical spread of facilities across the borough (see **Map 26**);
- Use of demand modelling techniques based on Sport England’s Facilities Calculator to calculate whether the level of current supply adequately meets demand or whether there is under or over provision. This toolkit has been devised to provide an indication of the expected level of provision, based on populations within the local authority boundary.

15.34. The demand modelling is based around the following premise:

- There are X people in the catchment area who would be willing to use a particular type of sports facility (based on total population and propensity to participate in that sport);
- At the same time, there are Y units of the relevant sports facilities (e.g. swimming pool water area, health and fitness stations, etc) in the catchment area;
- The relationship between X and Y indicates the surplus or shortfall in terms of the number of units.

- 15.35. Supply and demand analysis has been completed for sports halls, swimming pools, indoor bowls, indoor tennis, ice rinks and gyms. This only includes facilities that are located within the borough boundary.
- 15.36. The different roles and accessibility (both perceived and actual) of public and private facilities have been reflected within the demand modelling, with private facilities being excluded from sports hall and swimming pool provision.
- 15.37. In addition, it is assumed that school facilities available to the public have their accessibility reduced by 25%, in line with Sport England modelling parameters, to take into account their limited availability. Under this approach a four-court sports hall becomes a three-court hall in terms of modelling. This reflects both the unavailability of the facility during daytime hours, and the perception that the facilities are designated for school use and are therefore not available to the general population of Islington.
- 15.38. It is also assumed that the total number of people entering the borough from outside to participate in sport and exercise will broadly equate to the number of residents leaving the borough to participate.
- 15.39. A point to note on this subject relates to the number of private gyms, particularly in the South Area, which exist primarily to serve workers in the City. From a supply and demand perspective this provision skews the results slightly, indicating a large oversupply.
- 15.40. **Map 26** shows the location of all the indoor sports facilities in Islington to show the geographical spread of facilities across the borough.

SPORT HALLS

- 15.41. The current provision of sports halls in the borough is summarised in **Table 62**.

Table 62: Provision of sports halls

Analysis area	Population (2008)	Number of courts	Courts per 1000 population
West Area	48,550	-	0
East Area	50,300	18.25	0.36 courts per 1,000
South Area	44,050	10	0.23 courts per 1,000
North Area	48,400	3	0.06 courts per 1,000
Overall	191,300	31.25	0.16

- 15.42. There are currently 16 sports halls in the borough. However only five of these have at least three courts and therefore these are the only facilities included in our calculations, as per Sport England modelling parameter guidance. The facilities are:

- Islington Arts and Media School
- Highbury Grove School
- Finsbury Leisure Centre
- Saddlers Sports Centre
- Sobell Leisure Centre.

15.43. A significant proportion of sports hall provision within the borough is located on school sites and comprises of sports halls that are two badminton courts or less in size.

15.44. The first two sites above are dual use facilities. As a result, usage capacity has been reduced by 25% (i.e. from 3 courts to 2.25 courts) to reflect the perceived and actual unavailability of courts during the day.

15.45. Total sports hall supply in the borough is therefore considered to be 31.25 courts. This equates to 0.16 courts per 1,000 population.

15.46. The Sport England Facility Calculator considers the capacity of sports halls to meet demand for the local population. Findings reveal that there is currently demand for 60.8 courts, or 15.2 four-court sports halls in the borough. This equates to 0.32 courts per 1000 population. If we adjust the model to include the projected population for 2025, demand increases to 67.4 courts (just under 16.84 four court sports halls).

Sport England Facility Calculator demand	Current supply	Surplus/deficiency
60.8 courts	31.25 courts	30.3 courts shortfall

15.47. It should be noted that provision at facilities exclusively for club use, village halls and community facilities gives additional supply. This is analysed in Section 16 (community facilities).

15.48. Facility size and accessibility for public use are key factors taken into consideration when assessing the current level of supply. Sports hall facilities that are below three badminton courts in size are not included within the audit due to the restrictions this puts on the mix of sports that can be played in the hall.

Setting future provision standards - sports halls quantity

15.49. There was approximately a 50/50 split from household survey responses between those responding that provision was adequate (33%) and inadequate (36%). 31% of respondents indicated no opinion.

15.50. There was a significant difference between the analysis areas with the highest responses of ‘about right’ being from the North Area at 45% and the lowest from the West area at 22%.

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.16 courts per 1,000 population	0.32 courts per 1,000 population
Justification	
<p>Results from the household survey indicate that 33% of respondents believe the provision of sports halls in the borough is about right or more than enough. However, 35.9 % believe it is not enough.</p> <p>The demand modelling conducted as part of the leisure needs assessment showed there to be a shortfall in the quantity of sports hall provision in Islington.</p> <p>It is therefore recommended that the local quantity standard is set higher than the existing provision and in line with the level of demand as set by Sport England’s Facilities Calculator (i.e. at 0.32 courts per 1,000 population).</p> <p>This reflects the current undersupply and the need to meet current and future demand.</p>	

15.51. This means that there is a need to provide additional sports hall facilities in the borough to address the shortfall in provision and support the needs of a growing and more active population. There is also a need to ensure that, during any redevelopment of facilities, the existing number of courts are either retained or increased.

15.52. One final comment from the open section of the household survey relates to Arsenal Football Club and a perception that developers were going to provide public sports facilities as part of their new stadium deal, which has not happened.

Setting future provision standards - sports halls accessibility

Recommended standard
20 mins walk
Justification
<p>Sport England research indicates that all residents should be within a 15-minute drive time of a sports hall. In terms of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) accessibility target, 98.4% of residents in Islington are within 20 minutes walk of a range of three different sports facility types of which one has achieved a quality assured standard.</p> <p>A standard of a 15-minute drive time is in line with the third quartile²³ level calculated through the household survey responses, however the 15-minute drive time, whilst a national standard, does not represent the aspirations of local residents within Islington, of whom only 10% travel by car.</p> <p>The results of the consultation found that 55% of respondents indicated that they prefer to walk to sports halls. 43% of respondents indicated that they preferred to travel less than 10 minutes and 87% less than 20 minutes.</p> <p>This reiterates the importance of localised provision and that the close proximity of facilities to where people live will increase the likelihood that they will visit and become more active. In this respect sports hall provision is closely aligned to that of other community facilities.</p> <p>It is important, therefore, to consider the need for local facilities and in this respect a local accessibility standard of a 20-minute walk time is more appropriate and in line with the third quartile. This is also in line with CPA recommendations for an urban area, which would apply to the borough.</p>

15.53. As mentioned previously, it is important to recognise the valued contribution made by smaller provision such as community halls within the borough. These may allow certain sporting activities to take place and may be located much closer than the walk time standard, but are not included within the analysis because the Active Places definition of a sports hall assumes three or more badminton courts. These facilities are analysed separately in Section 16.

15.54. **Map 27** summarises the provision of sports halls within Islington and illustrates any existing deficiencies based on the standards that have been set.

²³ The third quartile is the level recommended by the PPG17 companion guide as the upper limit of people's propensity to travel, therefore standards should always be set below this. The third quartile is calculated by setting all the preferred travel times from consultation in order from low to high, and finding the point $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down the list.

15.55. It is recognised that barriers such as railways will impact on the accessibility of certain sites. The barriers identified are:

- The railway Line passing through Junction ward and Tollington ward;
- The railway line passing through Caledonian ward, Holloway ward, and Highbury west ward;
- The railway line passing though St Mary's ward and Mildmay ward;
- The Grand Union Canal.

15.56. It can be seen that the 20 minute walktime standard covers the majority of the borough, which means that a majority of the borough residents are within the recommended accessibility catchment for sports hall provision in Islington.

15.57. The notable exception to this is Caledonian Ward, which for the majority of the ward is outside all the 20 minute catchment buffers.

15.58. It should be noted that several wards are not within 20 minutes of a fully accessible public sports centre. In the centre of the borough these include most of Mildmay and Canonbury wards and half of St Mary's and Barnsbury wards. In the north this includes Junction and Hillrise wards.

15.59. A number of other deficiency areas can also be identified:

- Due in part to the railway barrier, the majority of the Junction and Hillrise wards have no access to a public sports hall facility, although they do have access to the school facility at Mount Carmel College and there is club access to the Islington Arts and Media School hall;
- Mildmay and Canonbury wards, and parts of Highbury East, St Mary's and Barnsbury wards are also outside the catchment of a public sports hall. They are within the buffer zone for the sports hall at Highbury Grove school, however this school hall currently only offers club access and not access to the general public.

Sports halls summary and recommendations

15.60. A local quantitative standard of 0.32 courts per 1,000 population has been set for sports hall provision in the borough. This is in line with Sport England's Facilities Calculator, a modelling tool that estimates what provision should be for a local authority area, based on their current and future populations.

15.61. The standard has been set higher than the existing supply to reflect the findings of the supply and demand analysis, which identifies that there is currently an undersupply of sports halls.

15.62. Future plans should seek to address the shortfall, with a focus on those wards that are outside the recommended catchment of a fully publicly accessible sports hall.

15.63. As levels of active participation increase in line with local and national strategic objectives, consideration should be given to the maximisation of resources on school sites and access by the community. Programmes such as Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and the extended schools programme also offer opportunities. There are two sports halls that are currently reserved just for club use, at which public access could be improved.

ISF 1	Work in partnership with education providers in the borough to facilitate better community access to sports hall provision on school sites and maximise opportunities through the BSF and extended schools programmes where appropriate.
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15.64. It is important that quantity and accessibility are considered parallel to quality and providers of all indoor sports facilities should strive to achieve the quality vision that is set out at the end of this section. Where possible and not already achieved, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality.

ISF 2	Strive to improve the quality of provision of sports halls. Where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality. (Currently none of the sites in Islington have achieved this).
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SWIMMING POOLS

15.65. The current provision of swimming pools in the borough is summarised in **Table 63**.

Table 63: Provision of swimming pools

Analysis area	Population (2008)	Number of publicly accessible swimming pools	sqm pool water per 1000 population
West Area	48,550	1	3.27sqm per 1,000
East Area	50,300	1	1.31sqm per 1,000
South Area	44,050	1	2.04sqm per 1,000
North Area	48,400	1	3.23sqm per 1,000
Total	191,300	4	9.75sqm per 1,000

15.66. There are currently 11 swimming pools in the borough. Of these, four are publicly accessible. Five of the other six facilities are private facilities and the sixth one is at a school and reserved for dedicated club use only. These have therefore been excluded from our analysis.

15.67. The four public indoor swimming pools in the borough are:

- Archway Leisure Centre
- Ironmonger Row Baths
- Highbury Pool
- Cally Pool

15.68. The current level of public provision in Islington is equivalent to 1865 m² of water space.

15.69. Based on the current population of 191,300, the Sport England Facility Calculator reveals a requirement for 2131.85 m² of water space.

15.70. Based on the current level of provision, this analysis reveals a shortfall of 266.85 m².

Sport England facility calculator demand	Current supply	Surplus/deficiency
2131.85 m ²	1865 m ²	Shortfall of 266.85 m ²

15.71. Based on a future population of 211,850 in 2025, the Sport England Facility Calculator reveals a requirement for 2360.83 m² of water space, equivalent to 44.44 lanes and 11.11 25m pool units.

Setting future provision standards - swimming pools quantity

15.72. The greatest levels of satisfaction from the household survey related to the level of provision of swimming pools in the borough, where 56% of household survey respondents indicated provision to be adequate.

15.73. There were no significant differences between the analysis areas, with all scores for 'about right' being between 49% and 56%.

15.74. There were several comments in the open comments section of the household survey relating to the need for additional swimming facilities in the borough:

- More pools in general needed (x 6 references)
- More 50m pools needed (x 3 references)
- More outdoor swimming pools needed (x 3 references).

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
9.75 m² water space per 1,000 population	9.75 m² water space per 1,000 population

Justification
<p>55.3% of respondents to the household survey stated that the provision of swimming pools in the borough is about right or more than enough. 37% believed it was not enough and 7.7% gave no opinion.</p> <p>The household survey revealed that the majority of Islington residents indicated that they perceived the provision of swimming pools to be sufficient.</p> <p>The supply and demand analysis identified that a shortfall exists but that this is equivalent to one pool only, and therefore has the potential to be addressed through improved access to school facilities.</p> <p>Participation has been identified as high in the borough (30.4% as opposed to 23% nationally). By recommending a standard in line with current provision it will ensure that this is maintained and that current provision is preserved to meet the needs of the future population.</p> <p>Current provision within the Borough is 9.75 sqm per 1,000 population. In light of the above findings it is recommended that the standard be set at the current level.</p>

- 15.75. Based on the demand modelling, the supply of swimming pools in the borough is calculated as being 1865m². There is, however, one swimming pool on a school site, Highbury Grove School, which is not currently publicly accessible. Facilitating community use at this site would help to address the current shortfall identified by the supply and demand analysis, as it would provide an additional 250 sqm of pool water space.
- 15.76. Whilst consultation indicates that borough residents are satisfied with the current levels of provision, in order to meet increased levels of participation, there is a need to ensure that the future needs and expectations of borough residents are addressed.

Setting future provision standards - swimming pools accessibility

Recommended standard
20 mins walk
Justification
<p>Sport England research indicates that all residents should be within a 20-minute drive time of a swimming pool. In terms of the CPA accessibility target, 98.4 % of residents in Islington are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas – by walk; rural areas – by car) of a range of three different sports facility types, of which one has achieved a quality assured standard (standard suggests between 30% and 50%).</p> <p>Results from the consultation found that 60% of respondents indicated that they preferred to walk to swimming pools. 47% of respondents indicated that they</p>

preferred to travel less than 10 minutes and 90% less than 20 minutes.

PPG17 guidance recommends that standards be set in line with the third quartile. It is therefore recommended that the local accessibility standard should be set at a 20 minute walk time, which reflects this and is representative of the expectations and aspirations of local residents within Islington.

- 15.77. **Map 28** summarises the provision of swimming pools within Islington and illustrates any existing deficiencies based on the standards that have been set.
- 15.78. As with sports halls, it is recognised that barriers such as railways will impact on the accessibility of certain sites.
- 15.79. It can be seen, however, that virtually all residents can access facilities within the recommended distance threshold with just a couple of small areas of deficiencies:
- Small parts of St George's and Finsbury Park wards' residents do not have access to a swimming pool, although it should be noted that this represents only a very small percentage of the population of the borough.
- 15.80. It should be noted here that the swimming pool serving the North Area of the borough, Archway Leisure Centre, is a freeform leisure pool rather than a traditional pool suitable for lessons and fitness swimming, therefore caters for less of the needs of the populations living within it's catchment than other pools in the borough.

Swimming pools summary and recommendations

- 15.81. The quantity standard for swimming pools is set at 9.75 m² of water space per 1,000 population. This is in line with the level of demand as calculated through the Sport England Facility Calculator analysis, and the same as the existing supply of publicly accessible water provision in the borough.
- 15.82. Current levels of swimming pool provision in Islington are good and well spread throughout the borough. This means that the majority of borough residents are within the recommended local accessibility walk time catchment of a swimming pool facility.
- 15.83. While the accessibility mapping shows that virtually all residents are within the recommended catchment area of a pool, the supply and demand analysis indicates that there is an under provision of pool water space.
- 15.84. There is a school facility that could help meet the swimming needs of borough residents and encouraging community access to this facility would enable the council to increase current participation levels in the borough.
- 15.85. Setting the standard in line with demand will ensure that the level of water provision in the borough is maintained and that increased levels of participation can be accommodated.

- 15.86. Encouraging community access at the one school site in the borough with swimming facilities will raise the current level of supply to help address the shortfall identified in the supply and demand analysis.

ISF 3	Work in partnership with Highbury Grove School to facilitate community access to swimming pool provision on site.
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- 15.87. As detailed previously, providers of all indoor sports facilities should strive to achieve the quality vision that is set out at the end of this section and, where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality. None have achieved Quest accreditation to date.

ISF 4	Strive to improve the quality of provision at swimming pools. Where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality.
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INDOOR BOWLS

- 15.88. There are currently no indoor bowls facilities in Islington borough. The nearest facility is located less than one mile away at Mansfield Indoor Bowls Centre.
- 15.89. When asked their views on the provision of indoor bowls in the borough, 73% of respondents to the household survey did not give an opinion. 16.8% stated there was not enough provision and 10.3% indicated that provision was adequate.
- 15.90. Based on the current borough population (191,300), the Sport England Facility Calculator reveals a requirement for 8.4 rinks (equivalent to 1.4 indoor bowls centres).

Sport England facility calculator demand	Current supply	Surplus/deficiency
8.4 rinks	0 rinks	Shortfall of 8.4 rinks

- 15.91. Based on a future population of 211,850 in 2025, the Sport England Facility Calculator reveals that the requirement will grow to 9.32 rinks (equivalent to 1.55 indoor bowls centres).

Setting future provision standards – indoor bowls quantity

- 15.92. The poorest levels of overall satisfaction related to indoor bowls where only 10.3% indicated that the provision was adequate. However, this should be viewed in the context that 73% offered no opinion. Therefore, the absolute number of people who thought there was insufficient provision was actually very low.
- 15.93. There was some variation between analysis areas with the highest scores of ‘about right’ being the North area at 14.9% and the lowest the South area at 3.8%.

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0 bowls rinks per 1,000 population	0.04 bowls rinks per 1,000 population
Justification	
<p>Based on the above findings, there is a strategic need for an indoor bowls facility to be provided in the borough to meet demand as outlined by the Sports Facility Calculator results.</p> <p>Provision standards per 1000 population can be calculated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current population of Islington – 191,300 • therefore demand per 1,000 people = $(8.4 \text{ rinks} / 191,300) * 1000$ • demand per 1,000 population = 0.04 rinks. <p>Setting a standard at 0.04 rinks per 1000 population will help to highlight the need for an indoor facility for the borough but will also represent a realistic target as some residents may make use of facilities located outside of the borough.</p> <p>In addition, it is important to consider that opinion during consultation on indoor bowls facility provision was limited. The household survey responses indicated a balanced view on whether there was adequate or too little provision and 73% of respondents gave no opinion. This suggests that demand for such a facility in the borough is not high and should not be considered a priority for development.</p>	

Setting future provision standards – indoor bowls accessibility

Recommended standard
20 mins walk
Justification
<p>Sport England research indicates that all residents should be within a 15-minute drive time of a bowls hall. In terms of the CPA accessibility target, 98.4 % of residents in Islington borough are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas – by walk; rural areas – by car) of a range of three different sports facility types of which one has achieved a quality assured standard (standard suggests between 30% and 50%).</p> <p>The results of the consultation found that 53% of respondents who gave an opinion indicated that they prefer to walk to indoor bowls centres. 41% indicated that they preferred to travel less than 10 minutes and 83% less than 20 minutes.</p> <p>In line with PPG17 recommendations, the third quartile level was a 20-minute walk</p>

time. As a result, the recommended local accessibility standard has been set at a 20 minute walk time to reflect this.

Indoor bowls summary and recommendations

- 15.94. There is currently no provision of indoor bowls facilities in Islington.
- 15.95. A local quantity standard of 0.04 rinks per 1,000 population has been set to highlight the need for an indoor facility in the borough. Based on public consultation, there is no overwhelming demand for an indoor bowls facility at the present time, therefore this should not be considered a priority. A sports specific strategy would be a better determinant of strategic need for additional provision.
- 15.96. The local accessibility standard has been set at a 20 minute walk time to reflect findings from local consultation. This is in line with national standards.
- 15.97. Due to the lack of perceived demand it is not recommended that indoor bowls be a priority for development. Should it be considered in the future, analysis should be done in the surrounding area to identify which wards within Islington are already covered by bowls rinks in neighbouring boroughs.

INDOOR TENNIS

- 15.98. Islington currently has only one indoor tennis facility, the Islington Tennis Centre, which has six indoor courts. There are two further indoor courts within one mile of the borough.
- 15.99. The Sport England Facility Calculator does not consider indoor tennis facilities but Sport England will in the future be extending its demand model to incorporate tennis. In the interim PMP has developed its own model based on assumptions from the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and our prior experience. It is suggested that these projections be viewed as indicative, and subject to review upon publication of the Sport England parameters.
- 15.100. The following contributing factors should be noted:
- LTA research shows that 2% of the population regularly participate in tennis and that the average supply of indoor courts in the UK is currently 1 court per 63,000;
 - The LTA recommend the following demand parameters for different facility types:
 - one outdoor floodlit court per 60 regular tennis players
 - one indoor court per 200 regular tennis players.
- 15.101. The LTA has a target drive time of 30 minutes for indoor tennis facilities:

“the LTA will target suitable locations for both expansion of existing facilities and the building of indoor tennis centres within a 30 minute drive.” (National Tennis Facilities Strategy, LTA, 1998-2002, p12)

15.102. Using data from the Active People Survey results, the number of people in the borough with a propensity to participate in tennis has been estimated. We have applied a tennis demand model developed from LTA research ('The Need for Covered Tennis Courts', LTA 1998) to quantify the level of unmet demand in the area. This model quantifies demand in terms of the number of indoor courts that should be provided to meet the LTA's stated targets.

15.103. The Active People Survey results for Islington found that 11.9% of the sample surveyed in Islington have a propensity to participate in tennis which is higher than the national average of 5.1%. We also know from national LTA research that 2% of the population play tennis regularly. Using the Active People Survey results, it is therefore reasonable to assume that around 2% of the adult population of Islington play tennis regularly i.e. about 3087 adults.

15.104. Using these figures, the demand for indoor tennis courts within the local catchment area of the site is:

Local adult population	=	154,329
Number of local regular tennis players	=	2 %
	=	3087
Number of tennis players served per indoor court	=	200
Number of indoor tennis courts required	=	3087 /200
	=	15.43 courts required

Setting future provision standards – indoor tennis quantity

15.105. Indoor tennis scored slightly poorer than other facilities in the household survey, with 31% responding that provision was 'not enough' and only 22% responding that there was adequate provision. Significantly, 45% indicated no opinion.

15.106. Scores were reasonably even across the analysis areas, with the highest percentage responding that there was 'not enough' being in the South area (36%) and the lowest being in the East area (24%).

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.03 courts per 1,000 population	0.03 courts per 1,000 population

Justification
<p>There is currently only one public indoor tennis facilities in Islington which equates to 0.03 courts per 1,000 population, which is lower than the standards recommended by the LTA.</p> <p>Although 31% of people surveyed indicated that they believed there was insufficient provision, setting a standard higher than the current provision is not considered realistic for Islington. Therefore it is recommended that the standard be set at the current provision level to protect existing provision.</p>

Setting future provision standards – indoor tennis accessibility

Recommended standard
20 mins walk
Justification
<p>LTA research indicates a target drive time of 30 minutes for indoor tennis facilities.</p> <p>The local consultation undertaken reveals that 51% of respondents would expect to walk to an indoor tennis facility, while only 9% would expect to drive. 38% of respondents indicated that they preferred to travel less than 10 minutes and 85% less than 20 minutes.</p> <p>It is recommended that the local accessibility standard is set at a 20 minute walk time, which reflects local expectation and the fact that there is currently only one facility within the borough which is unlikely to increase.</p>

15.107. **Map 29** summarises the provision of indoor tennis within Islington and illustrates the deficiencies based on the standards that have been set.

15.108. As there is only one facility of this type in the borough, a great proportion of residents will fall outside the recommended accessibility threshold.

15.109. While the accessibility catchment covers much of the middle of the borough, most of the North and South Areas are not covered. The East Area is partly provided for, while most of the West Area is within the facility's catchment.

Indoor tennis summary and recommendations

15.110. There is currently only one indoor tennis facility in Islington. A local standard of 0.03 courts per 1,000 population has been set to protect the current provision while recognising that it is not realistic to provide additional facilities.

15.111. Should a new indoor tennis facility be considered in the future it is recommended that further analysis be done to establish which wards in the borough are not covered by the one existing centre or others in neighbouring boroughs.

ISF 5	Investigate the feasibility of providing another indoor tennis facility in the borough in order to address the current deficiency in provision.
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ICE RINKS

15.112. The assessment of ice rinks is not part of the standard PPG17 process but has been included as a relevant part of the overall study of indoor sports facilities in Islington.

15.113. There is currently one undersized ice rink in the borough at the Sobell Centre in the Finsbury Park ward.

15.114. When asked their views on the provision of ice rinks in the borough, 41% of respondents to the household survey did not give an opinion. 34% stated there was not enough provision and 25% indicated that provision was adequate.

15.115. The Sport England Facility Calculator does not cover ice rinks, therefore it is not possible to conduct a statistical supply and demand assessment. On this basis, demand has only been identified from consultation results and by looking at the current level of provision.

Setting future provision standards – ice rinks quantity

15.116. Ice rinks scored slightly poorer in the household survey than most other facilities, with 34% responding that provision was ‘not enough’ and only 24% responding that there was adequate provision. Significantly, 40% indicated no opinion.

15.117. The scores were split across the analysis areas with the highest response of ‘not enough’ being from the South area at 41% and the lowest from the East Area at 28%. This reflects the location of the only ice rink in the borough at the moment.

15.118. It should be noted that the current ice rink is due to close in 2009. However there are plans in development for the site on which it is located which may result in either an ice rink being retained or the only ice rink in the borough being lost.

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
3.57 m² per 1,000 population	3.57 m² per 1,000 population

Justification
<p>There is currently one ice rink in the borough, with a size of 683 m², the equivalent of 3.57m² per 1,000 population.</p> <p>Due to the very specific function of this type of facility, it is recommended that a standard be set at current levels of provision to preserve the existing facility, and cater for population growth in the future.</p>

Setting future provision standards – ice rinks accessibility

Recommended standard
25 mins walk
Justification
<p>In terms of the CPA accessibility target, 98.4 % of residents in Islington borough are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas – by walk; rural areas – by car) of a range of three different sports facility types of which one has achieved a quality assured standard (standard suggests between 30% and 50%).</p> <p>The results of the consultation found that 46% of respondents who gave an opinion indicated that they prefer to walk to ice rinks centres. 30% indicated that they preferred to travel less than 10 minutes and 73% less than 20 minutes.</p> <p>In line with PPG17 recommendations, the third quartile level borough wide was a 25-minute walk time. As a result, the recommended local accessibility standard has been set at a 25 minute walk time to reflect this.</p>

15.119. **Map 30** summarises the provision of ice rinks within Islington and illustrates the deficiencies based on the standards that have been set.

15.120. As can be seen, the whole of South Area is outside the recommended catchment buffer.

15.121. Much of the West and East Areas also fall outside the catchment.

15.122. The North Area, however, is almost entirely within the recommended catchment, apart from the extreme northern tips of Junction and Hillrise wards.

Ice rinks summary and recommendations

15.123. There is currently one ice rink in Islington, which is currently scheduled for closure in 2009.

15.124.A local quantity standard of 3.57 m² per 1,000 population has been set to reflect and protect the current provision, and recognise the very specific function of this type of facility.

15.125.The local accessibility standard has been set at a 25 minute walk time to reflect findings from local consultation. This is also in line with national standards.

15.126.Further consultation should be conducted to ascertain the need to preserve the provision of an ice rink before plans for redevelopment of the existing site are finalised.

GYMS

15.127.The assessment of gyms is not part of the standard PPG17 process but has been included as a relevant part of the overall study of indoor sports facilities in Islington.

15.128.There are currently 26 gyms in Islington borough of which eight are council run and the remainder are private. Three of the privately owned gyms offer public pay and play access at the present time and are therefore included under 'public' provision for the purposes of this study. It should, however, be noted that continued public access to privately owned facilities cannot be guaranteed for the future.

15.129.When the consultation was completed, the distinction was made between council owned and privately owned gyms, reflecting the inability of the council to influence these facilities, therefore the three publicly accessible but privately owned gyms would be considered as part of the private gyms sector.

15.130.The responses from the consultation were different for council run and private gyms. 43% of respondents stated there were sufficient council gyms and 65% thought there were sufficient private gyms. 34% thought there were not enough council gyms and only 10% that there were not enough private gyms.

15.131.Based on the current adult borough population (154,329), PMP's in-house model reveals a requirement for 716 stations²⁴. Based on a future adult population of 175,337 in 2025, the Sport England Facility Calculator reveals that the requirement will grow to 813 stations.

15.132.The following assumptions were made by the model:

- A potential penetration rate²⁵ of 19% was used
- The average health and fitness session is one hour
- 65% of use is during peak times
- Peak times are 5-9pm Monday to Friday and 9am-5pm weekends (36 hours in a week)

²⁴ A station is defined as an individual piece of resistance or cardiovascular gym equipment.

²⁵ Potential penetration rate is the proportion of the total number of potential purchasers of a product or service who are either aware of its existence or actually buy it.

- The average user participates on average 1.5 times per week or six times a month
- The capacity of a health and fitness facility at a given time is calculated by the ratio of one user per station.

Calculated demand	Current supply	Surplus/deficiency
Current: 716 stations	1757 stations	Oversupply of 1041 stations
Future: 813 stations	1757 stations	Oversupply of 944 stations

Setting future provision standards – gyms quantity

- 15.133. Council gyms received approximately a 50/50 split between those responding that provision was adequate and inadequate. 23% of respondents indicated no opinion.
- 15.134. The split between analysis areas of responses of 'about right' ranged from 32% in the South Area to 45% in the North Area.
- 15.135. There were several points raised in the open comments section of the survey stating the need for more council run gyms.

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
<p>9.07 stations per 1,000 population</p> <p>(6.31 private, 2.76 council)</p>	<p>9.07 stations per 1,000 population</p> <p>(6.31 private, 2.76 council)</p>
Justification	
<p>Consultation highlighted that provision of gyms is considered by the majority to be adequate, particularly for private gyms.</p> <p>These findings supported those of the previous needs assessment, which identified a significant over supply of health and fitness stations within the borough.</p> <p>It has to be noted, however, that there is a high number of private facilities servicing the influx of workers in certain areas of the borough. It is therefore recommended that a standard equivalent to the overall current provision of 9.07 stations per 1,000 population is set.</p> <p>This will encourage current provision to be maintained as well as cater for future population growth.</p>	

Setting future provision standards – gyms accessibility

Recommended standard
20 mins walk
Justification
<p>In terms of the CPA accessibility target, 98.4 % of residents in Islington borough are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas – by walk; rural areas – by car) of a range of three different sports facility types of which one has achieved a quality assured standard (standard suggests between 30% and 50%).</p> <p>The results of the consultation found that 65% of respondents indicated that they prefer to walk to a private gym and 62% a council gym. 60% indicated that they preferred to travel less than 10 minutes to a private gym and 56% to a council gym. 82% indicated they would like to travel for less than 15 minutes to a private gym and 80% for council gyms.</p> <p>The recommended local accessibility standard has been set at a 20 minute walk time to reflect CPA accessibility targets and to reflect that research has identified that there is currently an oversupply of gyms.</p>

- 15.136. **Map 31** summarises the provision of gyms within Islington and illustrates any existing deficiencies based on the standards that have been set.
- 15.137. It can be seen that the 20 minute walk time standard covers the whole of the borough with the exception of the far east corner of Mildmay ward. It is possible that this small area would be covered by a public gym in a neighbouring borough and it is covered by one of the private gyms in Islington.
- 15.138. This means that the majority of borough residents are within the recommended accessibility catchment for public gym provision in Islington and overall the borough is well provided for in terms of both public and private gyms.

Gyms summary and recommendations

- 15.139. There are currently a large number of gyms in the borough and statistically an oversupply, although this reflects the large influx of daytime workers in certain areas.
- 15.140. A local quantity standard of 9.07 stations per 1,000 population has been set to maintain the current provision and cater for future needs.
- 15.141. The local accessibility standard has been set at a 20 minute walk time to reflect CPA accessibility targets while recognising the current oversupply.

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS – QUALITY

15.142. The PPG17 Companion Guide reinforces that design and management are factors integral to the successful delivery of a network of high quality sport and recreation, stating that:

“Quality depends on two things: the needs and expectations of users on the one hand, and design, management and maintenance on the other.”

Benchmarking and design specifications

15.143. In line with PPG17 recommendations, in addition to establishing a quality vision for sports facilities based on local community needs, a quality standard for indoor sport and recreation facilities has been set using national benchmarks, Sport England Technical Design Guidance Notes and Quest Best Practice Standards. Key objectives underpinning this quality standard are:

- To provide clear guidance relating to facility specifications, ensuring suitability of design for the targeted range of sports and standards of play as well as individual requirements for specialist sports and uses;
- To ensure high standards of management and customer service are attained, which meet or exceed customer expectation and lead to a quality leisure experience for all users of facilities.

15.144. The quality standard is therefore split into two components:

- QS1 – design and technical
- QS2 – management and operational.

15.145. It can be seen that some elements of the quality standard, derived from local needs and aspirations, are linked to the specifications detailed in QS1 and QS2.

QS1: Quality standard (design and technical)

QS1: All new build and refurbishment schemes to be designed in accordance with Sport England Guidance Notes, which provide detailed technical advice and standards for the design and development of sports facilities.

15.146. A full list of Sport England Design Guidance Notes can be found on, and are available to download free from, the Sport England website.

http://www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/resource_downloads/design_guidelines.htm

15.147. The space requirement for most sports depends on the standard of play. Generally, the higher the standard, the larger the area required. Although the playing area is usually of the same dimensions, there is a need to build in provision for increased safety margins, increased clearance height, spectator seating, etc. Similarly, design specification varies according to level of competition with respect to flooring type and lighting lux levels, for example.

15.148. Sport England Design Guidance Notes are based on eight standards of play. Consideration should be given to the desired specification of the facility in question at the outset.

QS2: Quality standard (facility operation and management)

QS2: All leisure providers to follow industry best practice principles in relation to a) Facilities Operation, b) Customer Relations, c) Staffing and d) Service Development and Review. The detail of the internal systems, policies and practices underpinning implementation of these principles will correlate directly to the scale of facility, varying according to the position of the facility within the levels of the established hierarchy.

15.149. Improvements to the quality of existing indoor sports facilities in the borough were highlighted as being of greater importance than increases in the overall quantity of provision in the leisure needs assessment.

15.150. The quality standard for indoor facilities should reflect the views and aspirations of the local community and should be linked to the national benchmark and design criteria.

Consultation

15.151. Key findings from the household survey relating to quality issues help to inform the setting of local standards for quality.

15.152. Results differed across the types of indoor facility for quality however the main findings are summarised below.

15.153. Household survey respondents were asked what the most important features were to them at each of the indoor sports facilities. 1,326 responses were made in total, with many people listing more than one important feature. The most common responses were as follows:

- Cleanliness: 249, of which 157 specifically related to swimming pools
- Maintenance of facilities: 204, of which 120 specifically related to swimming pools
- Value for money: 198
- Welcoming staff: 138
- Range of activities: 119

15.154. Other issues for which there were more than 50 responses included accessible routes, designed for purpose, ease of booking and information available.

15.155. The feature considered most important by the sports clubs who responded was value for money.

15.156. Respondents were also asked to rate each of the indoor facilities overall for quality. The results are shown in **Table 64**.

Table 64: Quality of facilities

Indoor facility	Don't know	Good	Average	Poor
Swimming pools	17.5%	32.9%	46.5%	20.6%
Sports halls	45.9%	24.5%	56.5%	19.0%
Private gyms	50.6%	58.3%	33.9%	7.7%
Council gyms	47.9%	34.6%	45.6%	19.8%
Indoor tennis	70.3%	43.0%	42.0%	15.0%
Ice rinks	66.1%	21.4%	47.3%	31.3%
Indoor bowls	83.6%	11.1%	59.3%	29.6%
Average	54.6%	32.3%	47.3%	20.4%

15.157. As can be seen, on average over half of the respondents did not know the quality of local indoor sports facilities. Significantly, very few respondents were able to comment on the quality of indoor bowls, indoor tennis and ice rinks while a high percentage were able to comment on the quality of swimming pools.

15.158. The percentage of people unable to respond is liable to skew the other percentages, therefore the good, average and poor scores have been calculated excluding those who were unable to respond.

15.159. As there is also no indoor bowls facility in the borough, for the purposes of comparison of facilities against each other this facility type has been ignored.

15.160. Private gyms received the highest proportion of good ratings for quality by respondents (58.3%), and ice rinks scored the lowest proportion with 21.4%.

15.161. All the facilities except ice rinks scored a higher percentage of good responses than poor responses.

15.162. Significantly, responses of 'average' are the highest in the majority of cases, suggesting that respondents are not overly dissatisfied but also not 'wowed' by the facilities.

15.163. Swimming pools received the largest number of responses with 82.5% able to offer an opinion.

15.164. The South area of the borough had the highest proportion of good ratings for facilities at 23.5%.

15.165. 30.4% of respondents in the West Area of the borough highlighted that swimming pools were of a good standard, which is significantly higher than other areas of the borough. The South Area has a significantly lower score at 17.5%.

15.166. Private gyms scored most highly in the South Area where 41.8% of respondents rated facilities as being of a good standard however across the rest of the borough responses were lower with between 22 and 29% of responses rating facilities as good.

15.167. Council gyms were most highly rated in the East Area where 27.6% of respondents highlighted facilities to be of a good standard whilst across the remainder of the borough only between 12 and 17% of respondents rated facilities as good.

15.168. In all other cases the scores were similar across all the areas.

15.169. The majority of the comments given in the household survey concerned the condition of the changing rooms at swimming pools, where cleanliness was cited as a particular issue.

15.170. Recurring comments from the open section of the household survey which relate to the quality of indoor sports facilities are as follows:

Table 65: Number of comments relating to quality of indoor facilities

Comment context	Number of responses
Comments relating to poor cleanliness of changing facilities and/ or swimming pools.	25
Comments relating to a need for lower costs or subsidised prices:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gyms (several of these comments included a reference to the cost of council gyms in comparison to private gyms who provided better value for money) 	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • swimming 	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tennis 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilities in general. 	6
Comments relating to poor overall quality of facilities, maintenance or condition of facilities.	11

15.171. The sports club survey indicated that the most important areas for improvement were availability of facilities and facilities that were fit for purpose.

15.172. Six out the seven respondents to the sports club survey rated the overall quality of facilities as average.

Site assessment

15.173. Site assessments were carried out for all council run indoor sports facilities. They were assessed across the following areas: access, cleanliness, housekeeping/ presentation, maintenance and standard of facilities.

15.174. In each case they were scored between one and five across a range of criteria within each area.

Site assessment results

- The average score across all the indoor centres for all quality aspects surveyed was 65%;
- The average score across the sites for access was 60% with Sobell scoring the highest at 77% and Cally Pool the lowest at 46%;
- Cleanliness scored an average of 67% with Highbury Pool and Cally Pool being the highest at 71% and Sobell, Ironmonger Row and Archway the lowest at 60%;
- Housekeeping and presentation scored an average of 68% with Highbury Pool the highest at 80% and Archway and Saddlers the lowest at 60%;
- Maintenance scored an average of 64% with Islington Tennis Centre the highest at 73% and Sobell the lowest at 53%;
- The standard of the facilities achieved an average of 66%. Cally pool fared the best with 77%, and Saddlers the worst at 54%.

QUALITY STANDARD

15.175. The quality standard for indoor facilities should reflect the views and aspirations of the local community and should also be linked to national benchmark and design criteria.

15.176. The household survey and site assessments both raised similar issues for users relating to cleanliness and maintenance of facilities and overall quality and condition of facilities.

15.177. The aspirations identified above have been combined with good practice guidance to identify the following essential and desirable features of indoor sports facilities in Islington borough:

Essential	Desirable
Reflects Sport England’s best practice	Accessible routes
Well maintained facilities	Range of activities
Increased levels of cleanliness	Welcoming staff
Value for money / affordable provision	

15.178. Further detail on the views and aspirations of the local community, alongside the recommendations for the local quality standards can be found in **Appendix 9**.

15.179. It should also be noted that none of Islington’s indoor facilities have achieved Quest accreditation, although they have not currently applied.

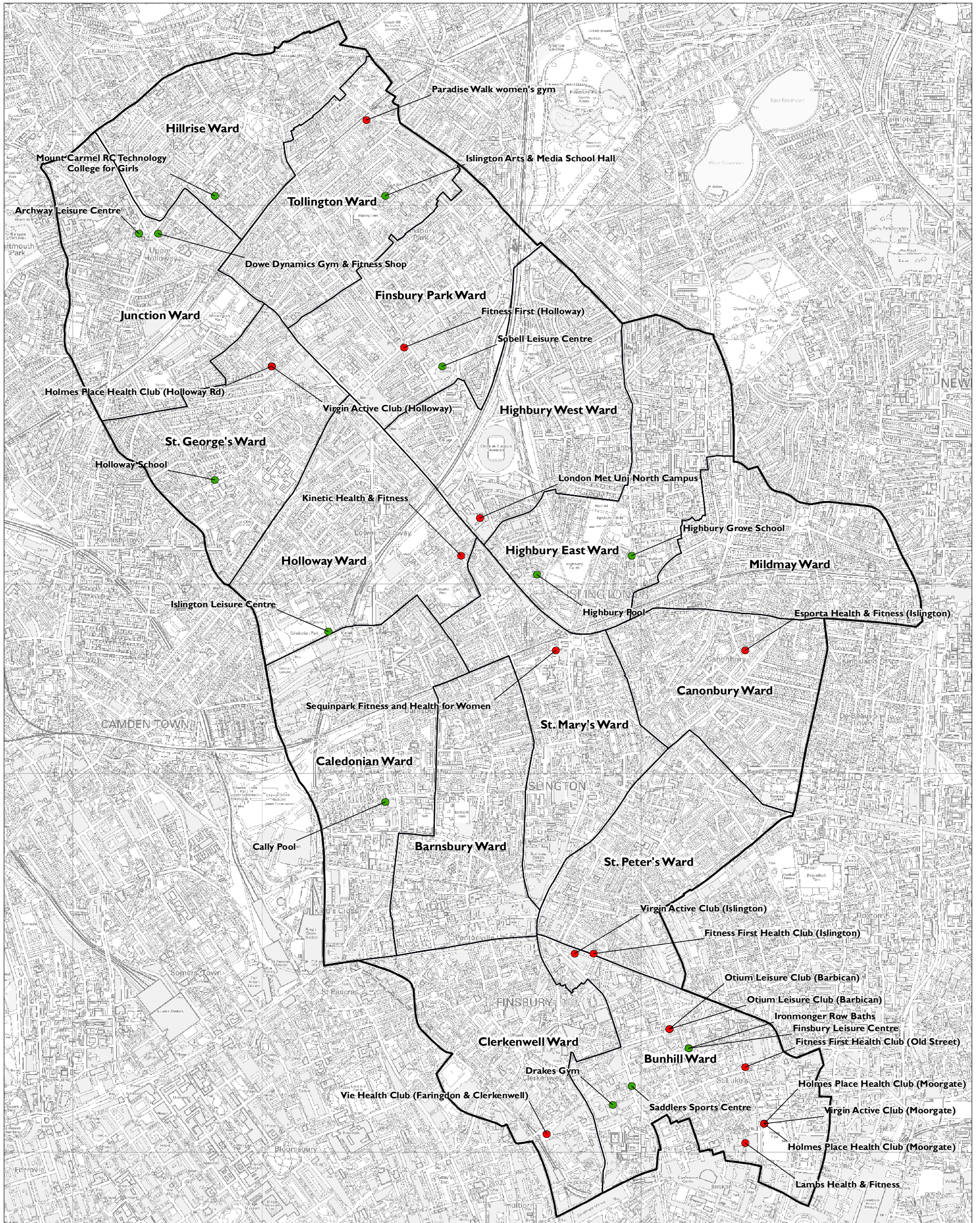
ISF 6	Strive to improve the quality of indoor sports facilities in the borough, particularly in the area of cleanliness and maintenance, to meet the recommended quality standard.
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KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

- 15.180. An analysis of the quantity and accessibility of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor tennis, indoor bowls, ice rinks and gyms within Islington has been undertaken and current provision has been measured against identified demand, enabling an understanding of any additional provision required.
- 15.181. The analysis of sports halls found that while the majority of the borough was provided for within the recommended standard, there were several wards in the north and centre of the borough that do not currently have access to fully accessible public sports halls. A shortfall in current provision was identified which is likely to grow in the future. The need for additional sports hall provision equivalent to 11 new four court sports halls was identified in the Islington Leisure Needs Analysis (2006) and suggestions for addressing this need through individual facilities in the borough were made.
- 15.182. The analysis of swimming pools found that virtually the entire borough was provided for within the recommended standard. However, it was noted that those in wards in the North Area only currently have access to a leisure pool which may not fulfil the needs of all sections of the community. A small shortfall equivalent to one 25m pool in current provision was identified, which is likely to increase in the future. The need for additional swimming pool water equivalent to one new 25m pool at the current time and two in 2016, taking account of physical activity targets and population growth, was also identified in the Islington Leisure Needs Analysis (2006). Suggestions for how to address the shortfall were made in detail as part of that report.
- 15.183. The analysis of gyms found that, with the exception of a very small area of Mildmay ward, all Islington residents have access to a public gym within the recommended standard and it is likely that this small corner may be served by a gym in a neighbouring borough. An oversupply of gyms was identified, however, it is recognised that many of these serve the working rather than residential population.
- 15.184. In the cases of ice rinks, bowls rinks and indoor tennis, there is currently only one ice rink and indoor tennis centre and no bowls rinks. Therefore, as would be expected, there are large areas of the borough that are not provided for. It was recognised, however, that there is little potential for expanding the number of these facilities, therefore the focus is on retaining the existing provision.
- 15.185. An overarching quality vision has been set in line with local community needs and aspirations, Quest and Best Value principles.

- 15.186. The development and application of the local quantity and accessibility standards should be considered a basis for the future strategic planning of indoor sports facilities in Islington.
- 15.187. Further detailed user consultation at key centres across the borough, and detailed analysis into the size and characteristics of the resident population that each centre is serving, should be conducted. This information should then be supplemented with the local standards.
- 15.188. To meet the needs of an increasing population, focus should be placed on the community use of school suites. Programmes such as Building Schools for the Future and the extended schools programme also offer opportunities. This echoes recommendation 8 in Section 8 of the Islington Leisure Needs Analysis (2006) which recommended that enhanced dual use agreements be pursued and increased opening hours and access be sought.



ISF 1	Work in partnership with education providers in the borough to facilitate better community access to sports hall provision on school sites and maximise opportunities through the BSF and extended schools programmes where appropriate.
ISF 2	Strive to improve the quality of provision of sports halls. Where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality.
ISF 3	Work in partnership with Highbury Grove School to facilitate community access to swimming pool provision on site.
ISF 4	Strive to improve the quality of provision at swimming pools. Where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality.
ISF 5	Investigate the feasibility of providing another indoor tennis facility in the borough in order to address the current deficiency in provision.
ISF 6	Strive to improve the quality of indoor sports facilities in the borough, particularly in the area of cleanliness and maintenance, to meet the recommended quality standard.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

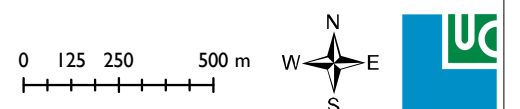
Map 26: Typology L: geographical spread of indoor sports facilities in Islington

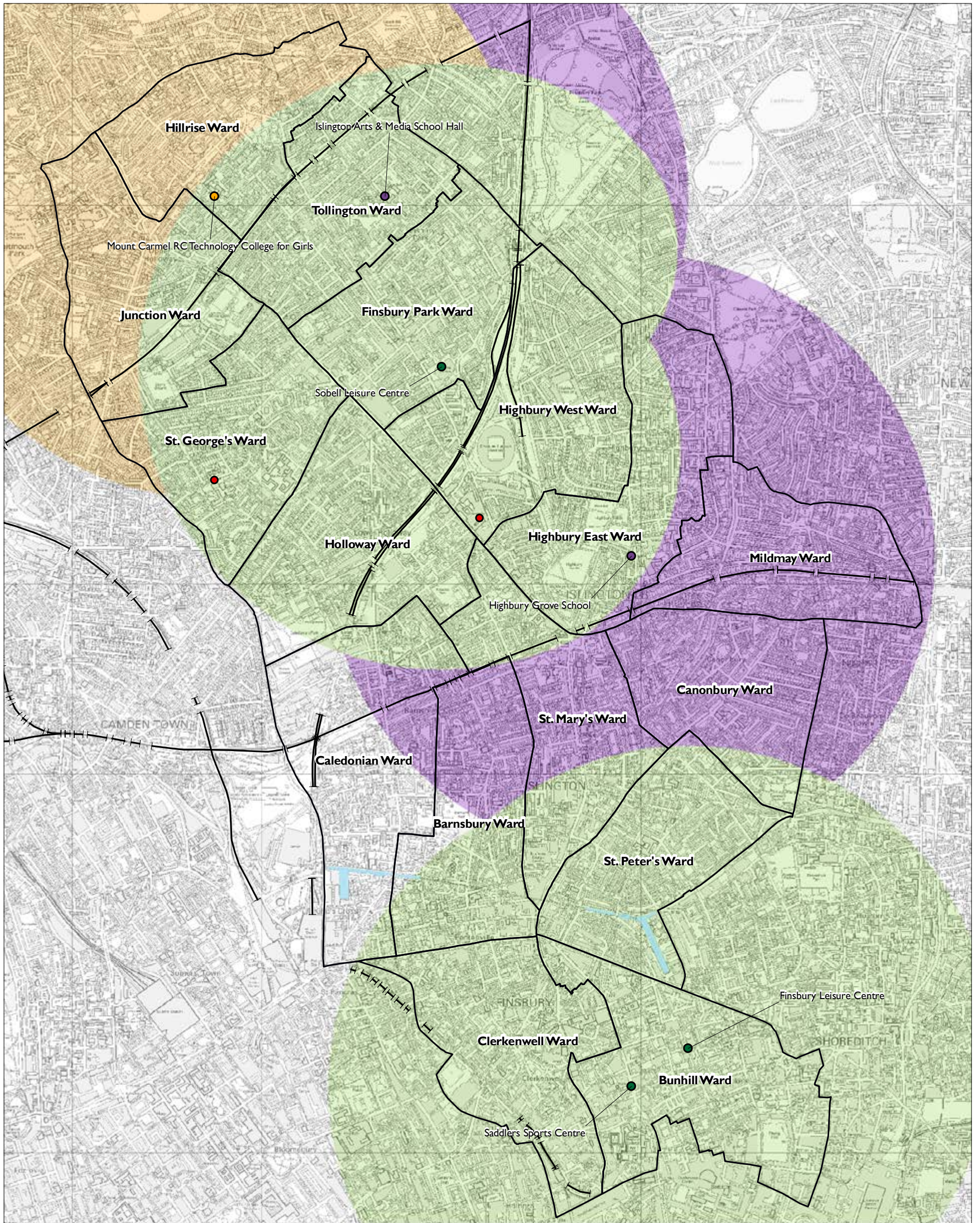
Key

-  London Borough of Islington
-  Ward boundaries

Sports Centres

-  private
-  public

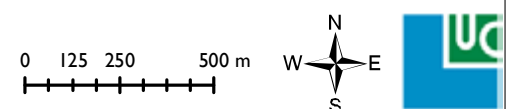


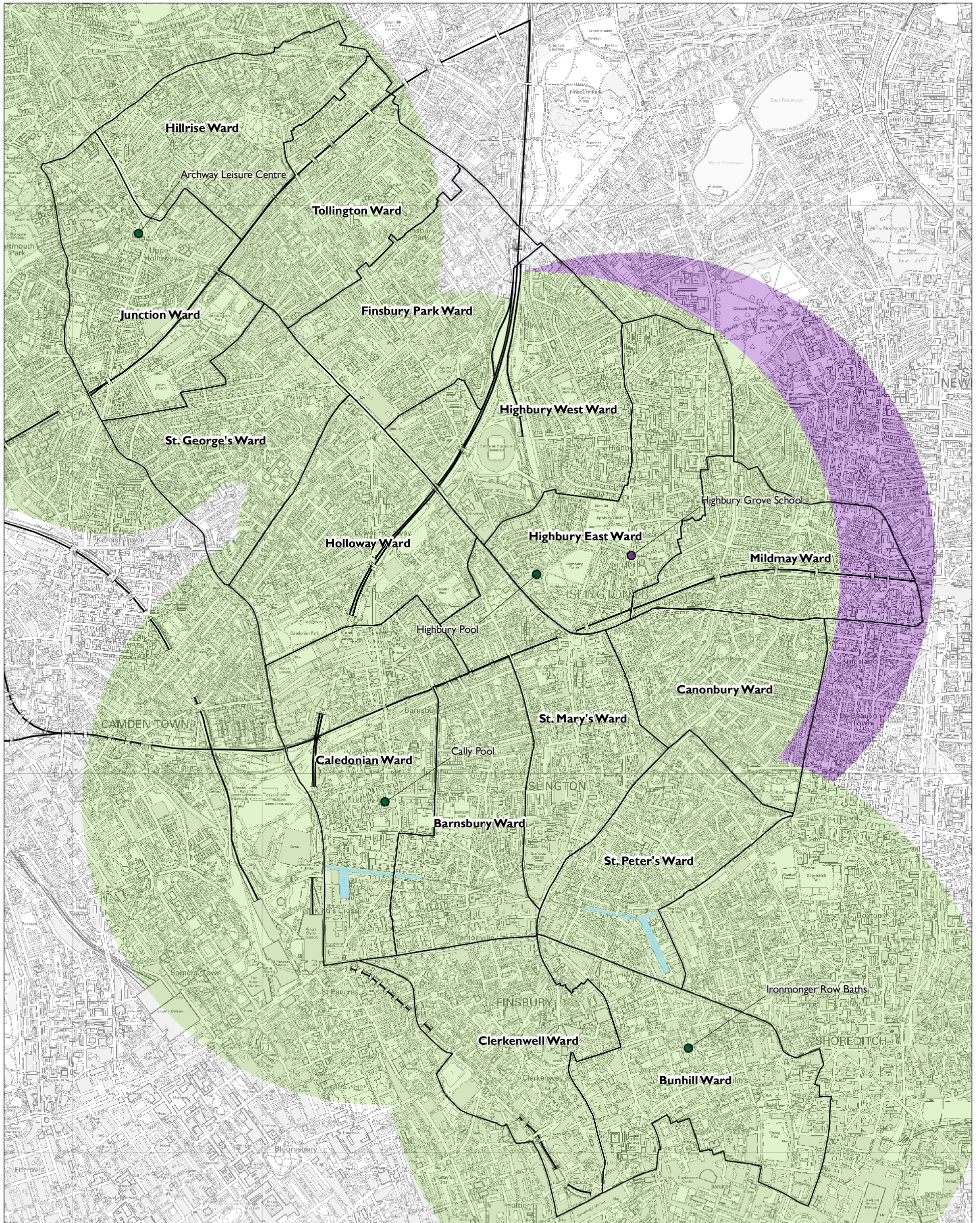


Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 27: Typology L: current provision of sports halls in Islington (2008)

Key

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | Ward boundaries | Sports halls | Sports halls catchments | | Sports halls excluded from analysis/
modelling as they are too small |
| | Railway | | Public | | Public access |
| | Canal | | Dual | | Dual access |
| | | | Club | | Club access |





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 28: Typology L: current provision of swimming pools in Islington (2008)

Key

Ward boundaries	Swimming pool catchments	Swimming pools
Railway	Public access	Public
Canal	Club access	Club

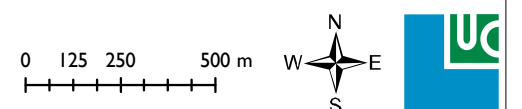
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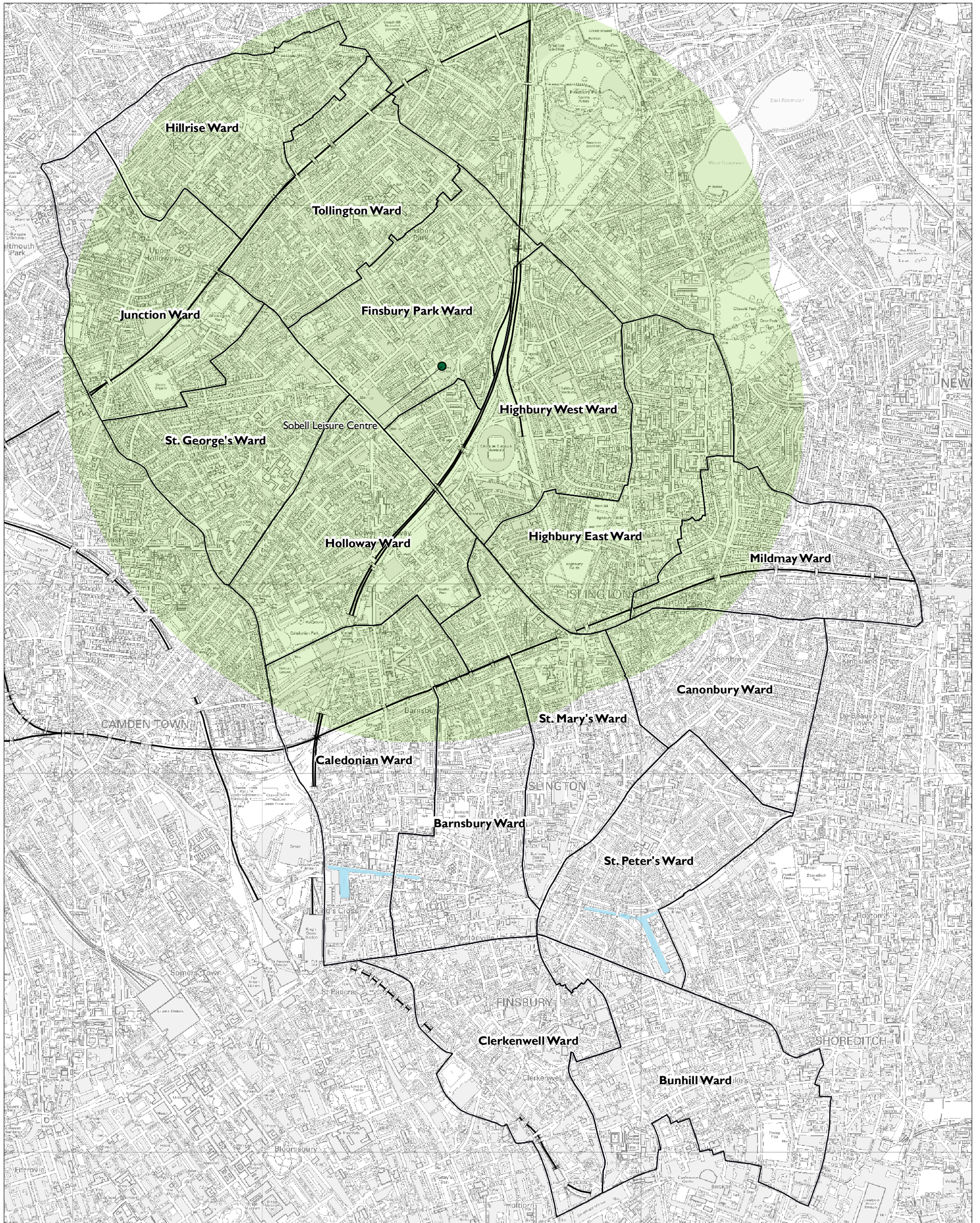


Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 29: Typology L: current provision of indoor tennis in Islington (2008)

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Indoor tennis
- Public
- Indoor tennis catchments
- Public access





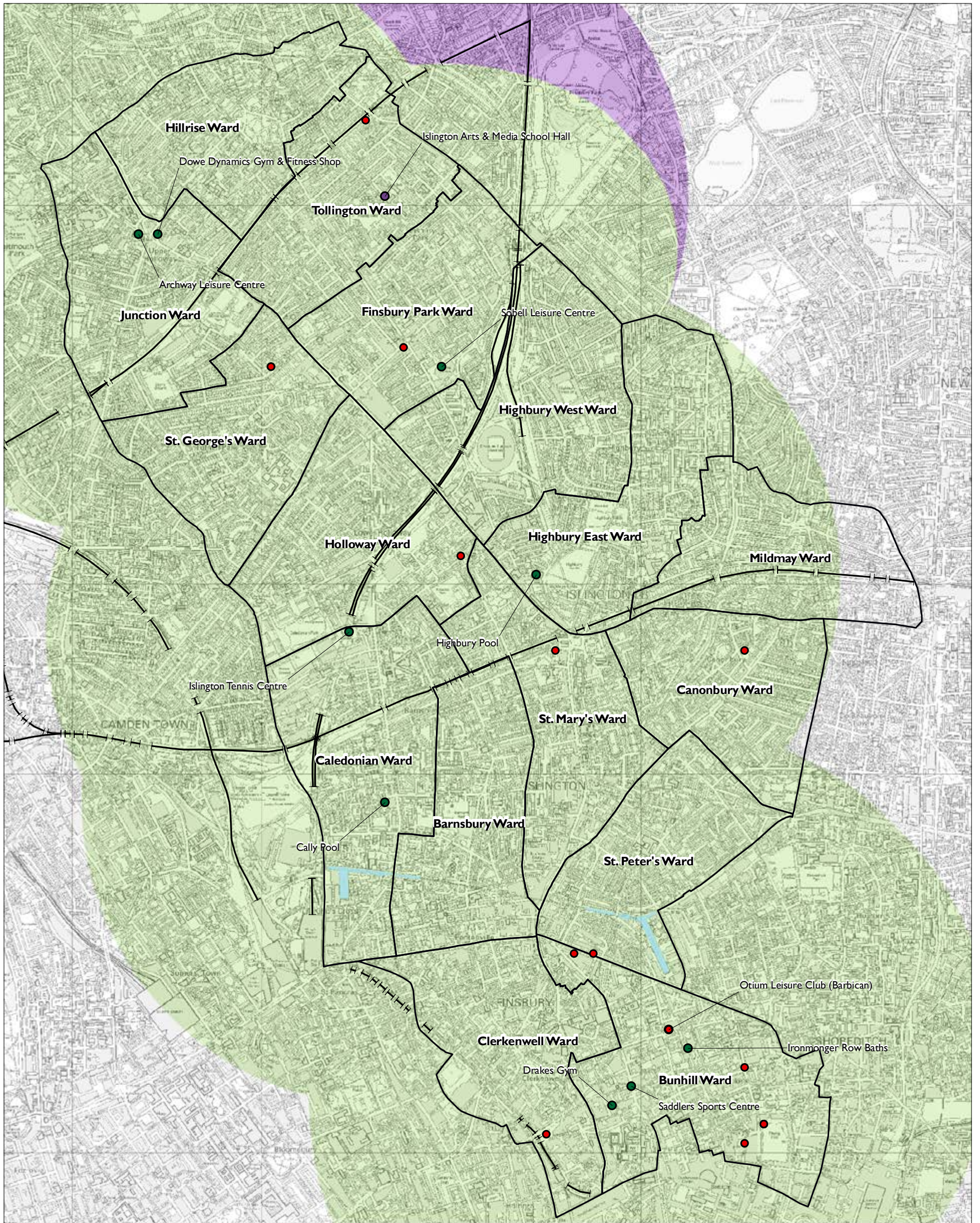
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 30: Typology L: current provision of ice rinks in Islington (2008)

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Ice rinks
- Sports halls catchments
- Railway
- Public
- Public access
- Canal

0 125 250 500 m

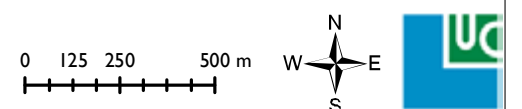
W N E S



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 31: Typology L: current provision of gyms in Islington (2008)

Key

- Ward boundaries
- Railway
- Canal
- Private and council gyms**
 - Public
 - Club
- Private and council gym catchments**
 - Public access
 - Club access
- Facilities excluded from analysis / modelling as access is restricted to private membership only



16. M. COMMUNITY FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION TO TYPOLOGY

- 16.1. This section considers the provision of indoor community facilities across Islington.
- 16.2. Community halls serve multiple purposes including space to offer sport and exercise, meeting space, youth activities, parties and events and a host of other community based activities.
- 16.3. For the purpose of this study, this typology includes all indoor community halls and areas, regardless of size, and indoor youth centres.
- 16.4. The review of community facilities has been undertaken to guide future planning across Islington. Provision of community facilities has been considered in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility.
- 16.5. It should be noted that while a full audit of community facilities was conducted, it was not possible to complete site assessments of all facilities due to being unable to gain access. Since the size and quality of many of the community centres could not be accurately assessed those not visited have been classified as 'small/medium' for the purposes of mapping unless we have been able to ascertain otherwise by other means.
- 16.6. Gaining entry to sites was problematic for a variety of reasons. In many cases we were unable to obtain accurate contact details or make contact with site managers and although in some cases site visits were made without prior arrangement this did mean that many of the facilities were closed and could not be assessed.
- 16.7. The findings and analysis in this section of the report must be considered in context of site assessments undertaken and, in terms of quantity, supporting assumptions drawn.

Context

- 16.8. PPG17 identifies community and village halls as a highly important community resource. Statistics from the national General Household Survey indicate that nine per cent of women take part in sport in an indoor venue such as a church hall, community centre or village hall.
- 16.9. There are over 9,000 village halls and community centres recognised as charities in England and Wales. "RS9 - Village Halls and Community Centres" (Charity Commission for England and Wales, December 2004) presents the findings of research into the way in which these charities are changing. Best practice examples are used to illustrate how charities are adapting to meet the needs of their local communities.
- 16.10. The report identified a number of issues affecting the future viability of some village halls and community centres, primarily those located in rural areas but some of the same principles apply to those in urban areas:

- Falling demand for services due to:
 - ageing populations
 - lack of interest among younger people
 - lack of interest among new residents in commuter villages
 - competition from nearby towns and cities due to improved accessibility and transport links.
- Financial constraints leading to:
 - decreasing revenue streams
 - difficulties in funding building repairs and maintenance
 - difficulties in financing modernisation programmes in line with regulatory changes relating to disability access and health and safety.

16.11. It was emphasised that village hall charities in particular were faced with the need to adapt their services and facilities. There was evidence of a move away from the traditional village hall concept to a community based ethos of charities combining to provide a broad service – the creation of a ‘community hub’.

16.12. Many of these issues will be key challenges for Islington.

16.13. There are no specific national standards for community facilities. However, “Shaping Neighbourhoods: A Guide for Health, Sustainability and Vitality” suggests that the catchment population required to sustain one community centre is circa 4,000. As Islington is a highly populated inner-city London borough, the catchment area needed to sustain a community centre is likely to reach this threshold. The number of community centres, location, management, funding and maintenance present more significant issues for Islington.

16.14. At a local level, the council’s Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) includes the vision “to build stronger sustainable communities”. As a result, the importance of community facilities is emphasised, with the intention, where possible, to create new facilities that benefit the local community. With more than 180,000 people living and working in Islington, a community focus should be considered highly important, and a network of community centres in place that meets the needs of all members of Islington’s diverse cultural community.

Consultation

16.15. Consultation specific to community facility provision provides an indication of public opinion and some meaningful statistics.

16.16. It must be highlighted that although 432 surveys were returned from the household survey, sent to a random sample of 10,000 residents in the borough, around 50% of the respondents had no opinion or were unable to make a judgement on community facilities. This must be taken into account when considering the findings.

16.17. Key findings from the consultation conducted have helped to inform the development of the recommended local standards.

AUDIT OF LOCAL PROVISION

Quantity of existing provision

- 16.18. There are 57 community facilities distributed across the borough. Many of the facilities are multi functional, providing local space for public meetings, private functions and community activities. Some of the larger facilities also offer sport and recreation opportunities.
- 16.19. For the purposes of this study, community facilities in the borough have been categorised as follows:
- Large hire space (caters for over 80 people), for functions, parties, weddings, dances, church gatherings, sport and recreation;
 - Medium hire space (up to 80 people), for meetings, lectures, presentations, discussion groups, training, small parties, sport and recreation;
 - Small hire space (up to 20 people), for meetings, lectures, presentations, training courses;
 - Indoor youth clubs;
 - Playgroup facilities.
- 16.20. Of the community facilities audited, only two are listed as youth centres: White Lion Youth Centre and Highbury Roundhouse Youth and Community Centre. This is not to say that other community centres do not act as youth clubs as one of their functions.
- 16.21. Although attempts were made to schedule visits by prior arrangement it was not possible to obtain contact details or make contact with site managers at all of the community facilities in the borough. As a result, in many cases where appointments were not made, many facilities were not accessible.
- 16.22. Site visits were carried out to a total of 26 facilities, of which access was possible internally to 16. **Table 66** details those community centres visited where access was possible. Community facilities not visited or accessed have been omitted from Table 66 but are included in the overall analysis. As stated previously, where entry was not possible, community centres have been classified as ‘small/medium’ for the purposes of mapping unless there was evidence to the contrary from another source.

Table 66: Community facilities visited

Large hall/hire space	Medium hall/hire space	Small hall/hire space
Hargrave Hall	Almora Community Centre Bentham Court Community Centre	Birchmore Hall Caledonian Estate Community Hall

Large hall/hire space	Medium hall/hire space	Small hall/hire space
	Christ Church Community Centre	Rahere House Community Centre
	Half Moon Community Centre	Aubert Court Community Centre
	Harry Rice Hall	Mayville Community Centre
	Jean Stokes Hall	
	Sebbon Street Community Hall	
	Tealby Court Hall	
	Westbourne Community Centre	
	Whittington Community Centre	

16.23. **Table 66** indicates a good supply of medium sized community facilities and a lack of large facilities within the borough.

16.24. Analysis of community facilities by area (**Table 67**) shows a relatively equal geographical spread. The least number of facilities are located in the North Area of the borough, which accounts for 21% of the total provision.

Table 67: Spread of community facilities in Islington

Facility area	Number of facilities	% by area
North Area	12	21%
South Area	17	30%
East Area	13	23%
West Area	15	26%

16.25. There are no wards without a community centre and all areas of the borough are well provided for. However, only one large community centre serves the north of the borough and the two youth centres serve only the middle of the borough.

16.26. Household survey results indicated an overriding perception among residents of an overall lack of provision in terms of community facilities. Of those expressing an opinion (c 155 respondents) more than two thirds (67.8%) stated that provision within the borough was 'not enough'.

16.27. The survey results show significant differences in opinion across the analysis areas. Only 8.5% of respondents in the West Area believe there to be sufficient provision compared to 24.2% of respondents in the North Area. Of note here is that the area with the highest perceived lack of provision, the West Area, has the joint highest number of facilities located within it.

16.28. The respondents from the household survey perceive the largest gap in community facility provision to relate to indoor youth clubs and projects, where just 9% believed

provision to be 'more than enough' or 'about right' as opposed to 43.8% believing there to be 'not enough'.

- 16.29. This was strongly echoed in the general comments section of the survey, where there were 32 references to the need for more youth clubs and youth facilities. In over 50% of cases it was perceived that this lack of provision was related to gangs or groups of young people hanging around on streets or causing trouble.
- 16.30. The only other recurring theme from the general comments related to the need to provide free or subsidised activities for young people. This links again to the above point.
- 16.31. The highest levels of satisfaction in terms of quantity of provision are found for playgroup/nursery spaces, with 22% stating provision is 'about right' or 'more than enough'.
- 16.32. Small community spaces are the most frequented type of community facilities (33.9%), followed by medium size community spaces (22.9%) and playgroup space (21.1%).

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS – QUANTITY

- 16.33. The level of supply is compared to an estimated demand for each type of facility. The foundations of all demand assessments are based on an analysis of the demographic profile of the resident population of the borough. The demand assessment is then used in the development of provision standards. The application of these provision standards will be critical in meeting the current and future needs of the local community.
- 16.34. The population of Islington is 191,300, therefore based on the Shaping Neighbourhoods guidance, Islington could sustain around 48 community centres. The current supply is 57 community centres, although it should be noted that these are of differing size. This equates to 0.30 community facilities per 1000 population.
- 16.35. The recommended local quantity standard for community facilities has been derived from the local needs consultation and the audit of provision, and is summarised below. Full justification of the local standard is provided in **Appendix 8**.

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.30 community facilities per 1000 population	0.30 community facilities per 1000 population
Justification	
<p>Provision of community facilities in Islington appears higher than the Shaping Neighbourhoods guidance, although the guidance is unclear as to the definition of a community facility. Consultation, however, indicated that a high proportion of borough residents perceive the current levels of provision to be 'not enough'.</p> <p>This indicates that there may be a lack of awareness of the community facilities available as opposed to a lack of provision. Less than half of the household survey</p>	

respondents were able to give an opinion about community centres suggesting that people do not visit or do not know about these facilities. It also reflects the view from the general comments section that there are insufficient youth centres and with different types of community facilities being grouped together this can sometimes skew the results.

The focus should therefore be on raising awareness of community facilities and ensuring that all sections of the community have access to quality facilities, as opposed to increasing the number of community facilities.

It should secondly be on increasing the number of opportunities for young people to access activities, either through the creation of new youth centres or the utilisation of existing community centres for youth projects.

It is therefore recommended that the local quantity standard is set at the current level of provision with a focus on quality improvements and raising awareness, which will encourage greater attendance at the existing sites.

- 16.36. Other reasons for the perceived lack of community facilities from household survey respondents could be related to opening hours and accessibility (which also proved to be problematic when trying to carry out site assessments). If community facilities are only open a limited number of times per week, this could lead to a perception from residents that there is a lack in the number of facilities.

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS – QUALITY

- 16.37. The PPG17 Companion Guide reinforces that design and management are factors integral to the successful delivery of a network of high quality sport and recreation facilities, stating that:

“Quality depends on two things: the needs and expectations of users, on the one hand, and design, management and maintenance on the other.”

- 16.38. 237 survey respondents provided feedback on the factors most important to them in relation to the quality of community facilities. The findings indicated that the highest rated quality aspirations for community facilities were:

- Cleanliness – 73 responses (30%)
- Maintenance – 59 responses (25%)
- Accessibility – 30 responses (13%).

- 16.39. The remaining issues, receiving between 11 and 20 responses, were childcare, parking, social facilities, flexible hire space and refreshments. Around 50% of survey respondents were unable to comment with regards to the quality of community halls within Islington, highlighting that these facilities have a limited user base and are potentially under-utilised.

- 16.40. Of those who did rate them, 5.8% of respondents rated community halls as good, 14.7% average and 7.9% poor.

16.41. There was not a lot of variation between areas with regards to the quality of community centres. The key differences included:

- The quality of all community centres was rated as good by a higher proportion of people from the East and West areas than the North and South;
- The South Area consistently gave the lowest rate of good responses for all the different community centre types except playground/nursery space;
- The West Area consistently gave the highest rate of good responses for all the different community centre types except youth clubs and playground/nursery space.

16.42. There were very few comments relating to quality in the general comments section of the survey, with responses being more geared towards quantity.

Site assessment

16.43. The community facilities visited were assessed for quality across a range of areas: access, cleanliness, housekeeping/ presentation, maintenance, information, main hall and changing area. Within each of these areas several factors were evaluated. The full site assessment quality results matrix can be found in **Appendix 9**. Key findings are summarised in **Table 68** below.

Table 68: Summary of Site Assessment Scores

Assessment area	Average across all sites	Highest score	Lowest score
Access	70%	White Lion – 89%	Rahere – 43%
Cleanliness	74%	Half Moon – 93%	Bentham Court & Sebbon Hall – 40%
Housekeeping	81%	White Lion – 100%	Almorah – 60%
Maintenance	81%	Half Moon – 95%	Aubert Court & Almorah – 60%
Information	77%	White Lion – 100%	Sebbon Hall – 40%
Main hall	71%	Highbury Roundhouse & White Lion – 100%	Westbourne – 52%
Changing area	Only two centres visited had changing accommodation which scored 50% and 60%		
Overall	73%	Highbury Roundhouse – 91% White Lion – 89%	Sebbon Hall – 48% Bentham Court – 57%

16.44. The following facilities were found to have the highest quality ratings overall, however it should be noted that the facilities differ greatly from each other, so they are not always directly comparable:

- Highbury Roundhouse (91%)
- White Lion Youth Centre (89%).

16.45. Facilities with the lowest quality ratings were:

- Sebbon Street Hall (48%)
- Bentham Court Community Centre (57%).

16.46. As would be expected, the results varied greatly across the different centres and between the different elements in each assessment area.

16.47. Notable results under ‘access’ included car parking and bicycle storage which scored an average of only two out of five.

16.48. ‘Cleanliness’ scored an average of four out of five for most elements however it should be noted that most facilities did not have showers or changing rooms.

16.49. All areas of ‘housekeeping/ presentation’ scored an average of four, hence the overall high percentage score.

16.50. All areas of ‘maintenance’ also scored an average of four out of five.

16.51. ‘Information’ scored an average of four for those which had information available, however over 50% had none on display therefore results are slightly skewed as they could have been scored as zero which would significantly effect the overall rating.

16.52. Under ‘main hall’, height for badminton and impact absorbency of the floor both scored an average of three out of five, with all other areas scoring an average of four. It should be noted that in many cases, a high number of the criteria in this category were not applicable (i.e. there were no court markings or the ceiling was not high enough for badminton).

16.53. The recommended local quality standard for community facilities is summarised below. Full justification and consultation findings relating to the quality of provision for the local standard is provided in **Appendix 9**.

Recommended standard	
<p>Essential features</p> <p>Well maintained</p> <p>Good levels of cleanliness</p> <p>Value for money</p>	<p>Desirable features</p> <p>Designed for purpose</p> <p>Welcoming staff</p>
Justification	
<p>Improvements to the quality of existing community facilities in the borough were highlighted during consultation as being of greater importance than addressing quantity or accessibility issues.</p> <p>The recommended standard provides an overarching target for the future provision of community facilities and sets a benchmark for existing facilities based on the local aspirations identified through consultation.</p>	

In line with PPG17 recommendations, the recommended standard reflects community aspirations but consideration is also given to the achievement of national best practice standards and the compliance with recognised technical guidelines.

SETTING FUTURE PROVISION STANDARDS - ACCESSIBILITY

- 16.54. The need for community facilities to be located at the hub of local communities is essential, whereby provision should be easily accessible and provide a range of activities/uses that will encourage community cohesion.
- 16.55. The accessibility of sites is paramount in ensuring people have the opportunity to use local facilities and for maximising usage. The recommended local standard is set in the form of a distance threshold and is derived from the findings of the local consultation.
- 16.56. Key findings with regard to accessibility include:
- 65% of household survey respondents highlighted walking as the overall preferred method of travel to all types of community facilities with the remainder evenly split between cycling, bus and car. This view was reflected across all four analysis areas;
 - The distance respondents are willing to travel to access indoor community facilities varied for the different types of community facilities. The majority in each case was five to 10 minutes with over 60% giving this answer for small community spaces, youth clubs and playgroups and over 40% for medium and large community spaces. Again this view was reflective of all four analysis areas;
 - The 75% threshold was a 15 minute walk time for small community spaces, youth clubs and playgroups, and 20 minutes for medium and large community spaces.

Accessibility standard

Community facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 minute walk for small and medium community spaces, indoor youth clubs/projects and playgroup space • 20 minute walk for large community spaces.
Justification
<p>Given the varying nature of the different types of community hall facilities, it is considered appropriate to set different accessibility standards for the larger and smaller facilities.</p> <p>In line with the 75th percentile threshold, a 15-minute and a 20-minute walk time are recommended for the differing community facility types. CPA guidance suggests a 20 minute travel time for community facilities.</p> <p>In order to be realistic about medium sized spaces, a 20 minute walk time has been</p>

recommended for these along with large community spaces, which is in line with national guidance. Small community spaces, youth clubs and playgroups have been set at the 75% threshold of 15 minutes.

- 16.57. The geographical distribution of community facilities is illustrated in **Map 32**.
- 16.58. As is evident from **Map 33**, all borough residents are comfortably able to access a small or medium sized community facility within the recommended distance threshold.
- 16.59. It reinforces, however, the finding that there is poor provision of large community facilities and youth centres, with many areas of the borough not being adequately served:
- Only the wards in the North Area of the borough are served by the one large community space;
 - The two youth centres, while located quite a distance from each other, cover only the central areas of the borough leaving a large gap in the North Area and smaller gaps in the three other areas.

APPLICATION OF PROVISION STANDARDS

Quantity

- 16.60. Taking account of the results of the audit, the following recommendations are made with regards to quantity:

COMM 1	Raise awareness of community facilities and ensure that access to them meets the needs of the community.
COMM 2	Explore opportunities to increase the number of youth centres and large community centres particularly in the north of the borough for youth centres and the middle and south of the borough for large community centres.
COMM 3	Consider further analysis in order to fully investigate the perceptions of the community to help the council understand why the perceived number of community facilities is so low compared to the actual number.

- 16.61. The study findings present the council with the opportunity to further investigate the perceptions of the community and understand why the perceived number of community facilities is so low compared to the actual number.
- 16.62. Community focus groups and consultation with key figures in the borough would facilitate the production of an effective action plan for the future improvement of

community facilities to ensure they fully meet the demands and needs of the residents.

Quality

16.63. Key objectives for both new and refurbishment projects should be to:

- Provide clear guidance relating to facility specifications, ensuring suitability of design for the full range of uses;
- Ensure high standards of management and customer service are attained, which meet or exceed customer expectations and lead to a quality experience for all users;
- Ensure that the condition of facilities meets modern standards, including the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), and they are 'fit for purpose'.

16.64. Taking account of the findings from the quality analysis the following recommendations are made:

COMM 4	Improve parking and bicycle storage facilities where possible.
COMM 5	Improve suitability for sports / physical activity where possible and encourage greater use of facilities for sporting activities.

Accessibility

16.65. Any future plans for providing community facilities should take account of the existing facilities, the shortfalls highlighted, and look for ways to address the shortfalls.

16.66. Opportunities should be sought to extend existing facilities to create larger spaces in the areas that currently don't have any large community facilities and also to create youth clubs at existing community facilities. Due to the large number of community facilities overall this would be preferable to building new provision.

16.67. The findings from the accessibility study reinforce the recommendations from the quantity assessment:

COMM 2 (adjusted)	Explore opportunities to increase the number of youth centres and large community centres in areas where there is currently a lack of accessibility, through extending facilities where possible, and setting up youth programmes in existing centres.
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KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING FUTURE NEED

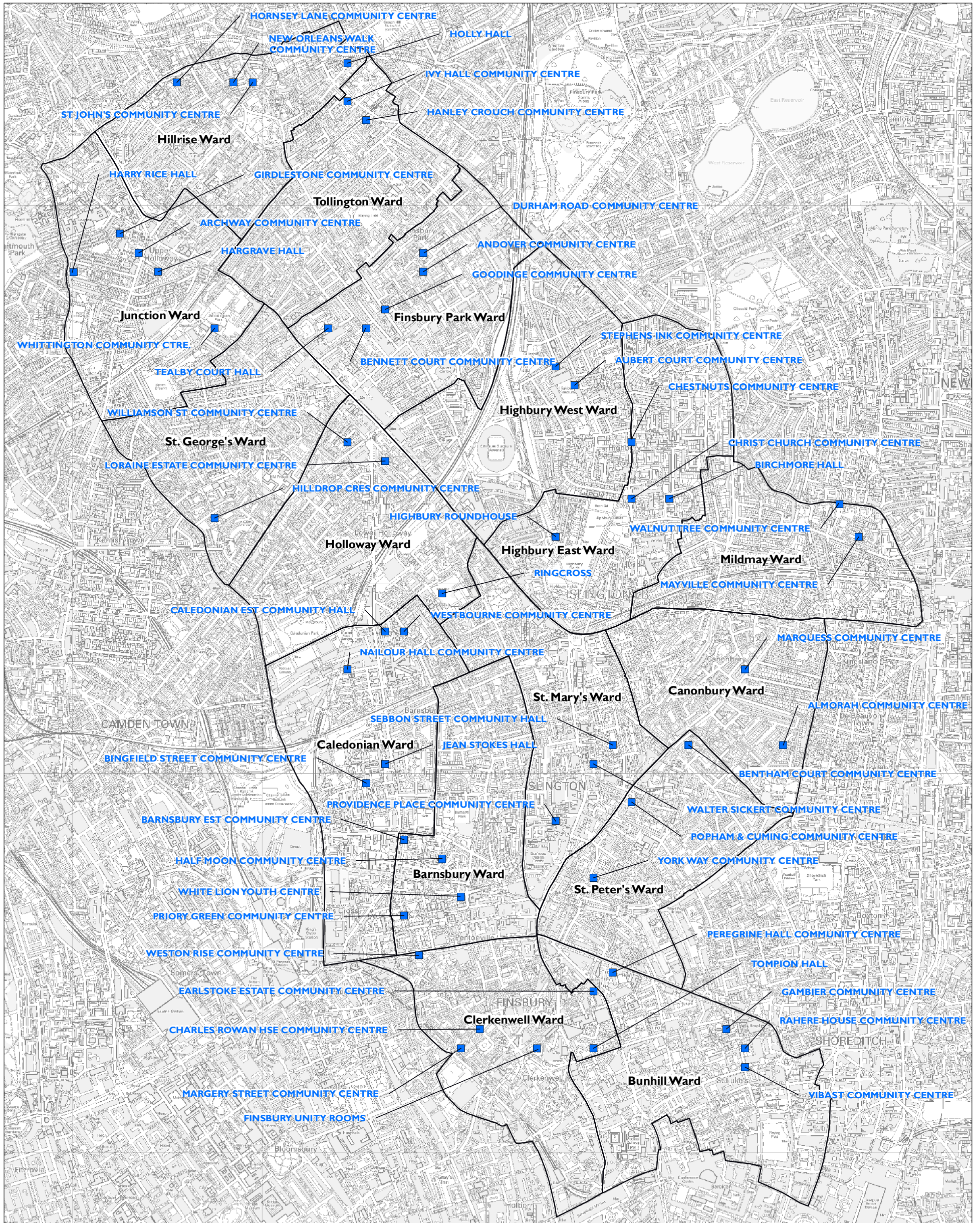
16.68. It is apparent that there is a good number and geographical spread of small and medium sized community facilities across the borough, however this was not

reflected in the views of those consulted suggesting either a lack of awareness or lack of access.

- 16.69. In contrast, there is a lack of large community facilities (only one in the borough) and indoor youth centres (only two centres specifically called youth centres) and therefore poorer coverage. The lack of youth centres was clearly highlighted in the community consultation.
- 16.70. Given the number of community facilities in the borough and the distribution of these facilities, the majority of residents have sufficient access to meet their expectations in respect of the 15-minute walk time to small and medium sized facilities. There are, however, noticeable gaps in provision with regards to indoor youth facilities (the North and South areas are not provided for) and large community spaces (the only one being located in the North area).
- 16.71. When considering the number of overlapping catchments for small and medium sized community facilities, thought should be given to whether these facilities are offering complementary activities or if there is duplication of resource, in which case rationalisation of facilities may prove a more sustainable option. This supports the recommendation of expanding selected facilities to provide larger, flexible facilities that could meet the needs of users living within the catchment of more than one facility currently.
- 16.72. It is also important to consider the various activities that will be provided and potential for different uses of each type of facility. Smaller community facilities will often be used primarily as a meeting place, whereas larger or more specialist ones may be able to play a key role in offering local sporting opportunities.
- 16.73. In relation to sporting usage, it is important to consider community facilities in light of the recommendation that all residents are within the appropriate walk time catchment of larger scale formal indoor sports provision. Where gaps exist in formal provision, suitable community facilities can offer sporting opportunities in addition to facilities for private functions and public meetings. There are some areas of Islington where community facilities of an appropriate size and quality could be of benefit in this way.
- 16.74. Analysis of the quality of community facilities suggests that, of those facilities visited, most are of reasonable quality overall. However many are not suitable for sporting activity. This is considered a priority area to address as it would encourage a greater level of usage.
- 16.75. In addition to considering the location of community facilities across the borough, it is also important to ensure that sites meet the recommended quality visions and therefore meet expectations of local residents.
- 16.76. The following summarises the recommendations for community facilities:

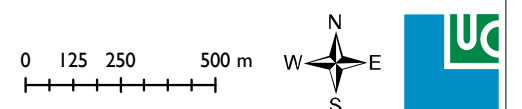
COMM 1	Raise awareness of community facilities and ensure that access to them meets the needs of the community.
COMM 2	Explore opportunities to increase the number of youth centres and

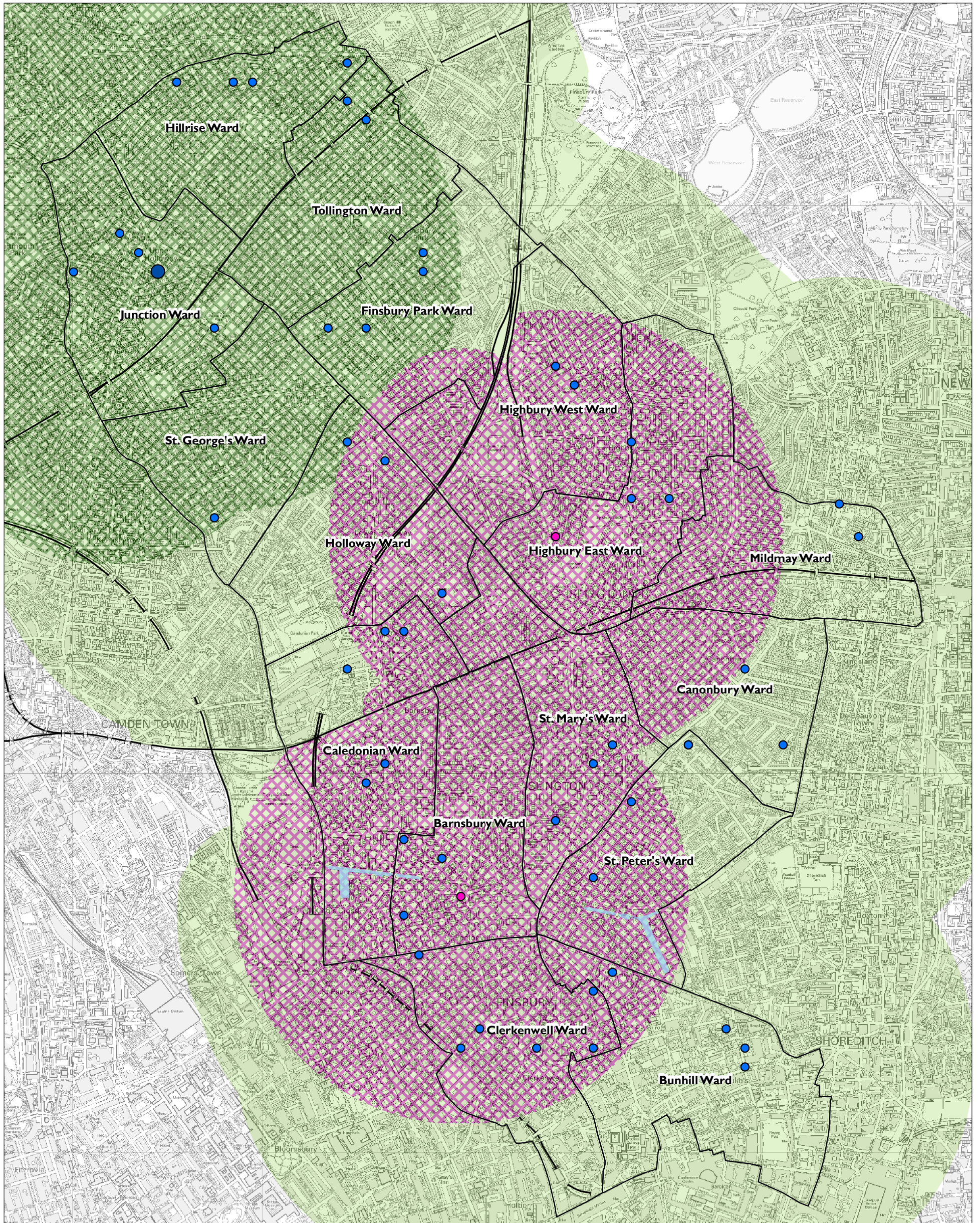
	large community centres in areas where there is currently a lack of accessibility through extending facilities, where possible, and setting up youth programmes in existing centres.
COMM 3	Consider further analysis in order to fully investigate the perceptions of the community to help the council understand why the perceived number of community facilities is so low compared to the actual number.
COMM 4	Improve parking and bicycle storage facilities where possible.
COMM 5	Improve suitability for sports / physical activity where possible and encourage greater use of facilities for sporting activities.
COMM 6	The council should consider further consultation with regards to the provision of community facilities.



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 32: Typology M: current community facilities in Islington (2008)

- Key**
- Community Halls
 - Ward boundaries





Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 33: Typology M: current accessibility catchments for community facilities in Islington (2008)

Key

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ward boundaries | Large community space | Catchments |
| Railway | Small and medium community space | Small and medium community space |
| Canal | Indoor youth centre | Large community space |
| | | Indoor youth centres |

0 125 250 500 m

**PART FOUR: CONCLUSIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

17. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1. This section provides an overview of the key findings and recommendations for each typology of open space, sport and recreation facility. It also presents an overarching analysis of 'public open space' provision, which amalgamates typologies A, B, C, E, H and J, given that to some degree these spaces have an overlapping function of providing open space for people to use for general recreation, walking and informal play.
- 17.2. It concludes with a number of high level recommendations for taking forward the findings of the assessment into relevant strategies and Local Development Framework policy development, and the partnership working which will be necessary to achieve successful provision, management and maintenance of open space, sport and recreation facilities.

COMBINED PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (TYPOLOGIES A, B, C, E, H, & J)

- 17.3. As noted above, to some degree certain typologies have an overlapping function of providing public open space for people to use for general recreation, walking and informal play. The Planning Obligations SPD which the council is preparing also considers a level of contribution which developers should make to such a category, rather than to individual typologies.
- 17.4. An overarching quantitative standard for open space has been defined as 0.521ha/1000 people (which is the sum of standards for typologies A, B, C, E, H and J).
- 17.5. **Map 34** illustrates deficiency/surplus at 2008 for public open space by ward. **Map 36** illustrates the deficiency/surplus at 2025. It can be seen that that the north east of the borough is the most deficient, with St George's Ward, Tollington Ward, Finsbury Park Ward, and Highbury West Ward all exhibiting a shortfall in quantitative provision. Mildmay Ward, Caledonian Ward and St Peter's Ward also exhibit deficiencies. With population growth, by 2025 these wards see an increasing deficiency with Junction Ward also moving from having a surplus to being deficient in open space.
- 17.6. In terms of the picture of accessibility to any type of public open space, it can be seen from **Map 35** that at the strategic level, and taking into account strategic sites outside the borough boundary, the central and eastern parts of the borough are well served, with the northern fringes also within the accessibility catchments of strategic spaces. The latter are spaces outside the borough boundary, including Hampstead Heath, Clissold Park and Finsbury Park. The remainder of the borough falls outside the catchments of strategic scale provision.
- 17.7. The deficiencies in terms of access to strategic scale spaces, coincide with wards facing quantitative deficiencies – namely, St George's Ward, Caledonian Ward and St

Peters Ward, suggesting that these wards are particularly deficient and rely on a number of smaller scale spaces (often housing amenity spaces), which are under pressure in terms of the numbers of people they serve.

- 17.8. In terms of local scale provision, the whole borough is well served in terms of accessibility, with the exception of the southern tip (Clerkenwell Ward and Bunhill Ward). All parts of the borough fall within the catchments of small local provision and pocket/very small provision, with the exception of the southern part of St George's Ward. However, whilst all wards have good geographical access to smaller localised spaces, those with quantitative deficiencies (St George's Ward, Tollington Ward, Finsbury Park Ward, Highbury West Ward, Mildmay Ward, Caledonian Ward and St Peter's Ward, as detailed above) are likely to have spaces which are under most pressure in terms of number of users, which may well be reflected in lower quality ratings.
- 17.9. In order to meet quantity standards in future, an additional 10.71 ha of public open space is required (broken down across the various typologies, as detailed below).
- 17.10. In terms of quality and value standards, it can be seen from **Map 37** that in some wards, the majority of the spaces are currently below quality (e.g. Junction ward and Hillrise ward).
- 17.11. **Map 38** draws together the findings of the combined Public Open Space assessment and the detailed findings and recommendations for the typologies which make up public open space (A, B, C, E, H, & J) to identify spatial priorities for action. These priorities should be delivered through LDF policy, funds secured through planning obligations, and the actions of other key delivery partners, including council services, such as Greenspace Services, and other organisations such as Homes for Islington (in relation to housing amenity sites). Overarching recommendations for delivery are provided at the end of this section.
- 17.12. The spatial priorities for action may be summarised as follows:

Priority areas for increasing Public Open Space provision

- Combined with an overall quantitative deficiency, St George's, Finsbury Park, Highbury West, St Peter's, and the northern part of Holloway have the greatest deficiency in terms of access to parks and gardens, particularly the important multi-functional small local parks and gardens and in some areas there is also no access to amenity green space. These wards together form the highest priority areas for action (the 'primary Priority Areas' shown on Map 38). Within these areas open space is heavily focussed on housing amenity space which is often small in scale and of limited function. The priority in this zone is therefore to:
 - increase provision of small local parks and gardens where possible as well as increasing access to them (recognising that this may be difficult given the dense urban fabric)
 - create new spaces on housing estates (making use of underused land)
 - secure new provision on the several potential new housing sites identified

- a further means of increasing the quality and function of open space available to everyone is to enhance housing amenity spaces to provide a public open space function (**Objective/priority Ai**).
- Seek to increase overall provision of all types of open space in Junction, Tollington, St George's, Finsbury Park, Highbury West, Mildmay, Caledonian and St Peter's wards as these wards are deficient in overall provision (the 'Secondary Priority Areas' shown on Map 38).
- Where green space is not considered appropriate, for example, in a very small site with the potential for some form of open space use, or in very heavily populated areas, creation of new civic spaces should be considered as an alternative (**Objective/priority Iiii**).
- Any opportunities which may emerge for creating new green corridors and natural/semi-natural spaces e.g. at Gifford Street Railway Embankment should be capitalised on throughout the borough given the overall significant deficiencies in these typologies (**Objective/priority Ci, Cii**).

Priority areas for improving quality/functionality of spaces

- The priority in the southern tip of the borough (Clerkenwell and Bunhill wards) should be to increase the quality and functionality of small parks and gardens due to the lack of strategic/major parks, and to increase access to natural/semi-natural spaces (for example through creating less managed areas within existing spaces) to provide access to nature. Overall quantitative provision of open space is adequate in this area. (**Action Aii; Biv**)
- The assessment has identified a significant number of spaces throughout the borough which are either deficient in terms of their quality or value. The Green Space and Assessment and Action Plan identifies detailed actions to improve quality (and a number of actions related to specific sites are detailed below). However, priority should be given to improving quality in those areas identified above as facing quantitative and/or accessibility deficiencies in the first instance. This is because improving quality will help to improve the appeal and potentially the capacity of these sites, and will therefore go some way to addressing open space deficiencies where it is not possible to increase the quantity of provision.

17.13. Several site specific actions have been identified due to particular circumstances within certain wards (N.B. the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan sets out further detailed actions for specific sites):

- Improve the quality of Caledonian Park in Holloway Ward as this is the only major park and garden below the quality and value threshold.
- Consider the scope to open up railway cuttings/corridors at Gifford Street Railway Embankment to increase provision of green corridors.

PARKS AND GARDENS (TYPOLOGY A)

Key issues

- 17.14. The wards in the South Area Committee have little or no access to larger, more multifunctional parks and gardens. In this densely urban part of the borough there is little scope to create a new large park. This may mean that smaller parks and gardens are under greater pressure and need to 'punch above their weight' to provide facilities which would normally be expected of larger spaces. It is notable that 9 of the 16 parks and gardens in Clerkenwell Ward and Bunhill Ward are classed as being below quality which may reflect such pressures. It is recommended that planning obligations/council funds should be used to enhance the quality of parks and gardens in these wards, given the lack of scope to create new larger spaces.
- 17.15. In summary, there is a coincidence of lack of access to larger, more multi-functional parks and gardens in the south Area Committee, and poorer quality of some spaces (e.g. King Square Gardens, Finsbury Square and Duncan Terrace Gardens) in this area. However, overall quantitative provision is adequate in this part of the borough. Therefore the priority in the South Area should be on improving the quality and functionality of the small parks and gardens.
- 17.16. The majority of people use their most local green space (classed as being within a 10 minute walk) more often than travelling further to a larger park. Therefore it is vital that the residents of Islington have access to good quality green space on their doorstep. There is a band across the borough (crossing through St Georges/Finsbury Park Wards), together with a large area of St Peter's Ward and a small area of Bunhill Ward deficient in access to small local green space (and to an extent major parks and gardens and neighbourhood gardens/ squares too). It should be noted that these deficiencies may be lessened to some extent by the presence of other types of open space.
- 17.17. There may be scope for the neighbourhood gardens/squares and open spaces of other typologies to 'step up' to provide the multi-functionality expected of a small local parks and gardens. Otherwise, with no substitute for small local parks and gardens, residents in these areas will have to travel further to appreciate the more multifunctional qualities of parks and gardens.
- 17.18. Quantitative deficiencies are greatest in wards in the North and East of the borough, which have a combined deficiency of almost 7ha. The most deficient wards in terms of quantity are Highbury West, St George's and Finsbury Park wards.
- 17.19. 77% of parks and gardens fall below the quality threshold suggesting that improvements to the condition of existing parks and gardens provision across all levels of the hierarchy should be a priority. 23% are rated below the value threshold suggesting there is scope for new facilities or improved landscaping at these sites to improve their appeal to users.
- 17.20. In terms of the spatial distribution of value and quality, there are high value/high quality sites in each Area Committee, but over 40% of these are located in the wards in the South Area. The below value/below quality parks and gardens are also concentrated in wards in the South (eight sites) together with sites in the West

(seven sites) and four sites in the North Area. Caledonian Park in Holloway Ward (West Area) stands out as the only major park and garden falling below both the value and quality thresholds. This site serves a significant proportion of the West Area Committee, and together with Bingfield Park and Market Road Gardens, in neighbouring Caledonian Ward (also falling below the thresholds), results in a concentration of lower value/quality sites in this area.

- 17.21. There are several areas with poor access to parks and gardens which coincide with quantitative deficiencies in provision. These include a band across the northern/central part of the borough made up of St George's, Finsbury Park, Highbury West wards (which have the highest quantitative deficiencies of all wards) and St Peter's ward (which is the fifth most deficient ward). The priority should be, where possible, to increase quantitative provision. Highbury West ward is notable in that it contains no provision of parks and gardens, although it does include Gillespie Park which is a high quality area of semi-natural space, which in part helps to address the deficiencies in this ward in terms of a lack of parks and gardens.
- 17.22. Where it is not possible to increase quantitative provision in the areas noted above, efforts should be made to increase the quality and functionality of existing parks and gardens where these fall below the VQ thresholds.
- 17.23. The Action Plan detailed in the Green Space Assessment identifies the scope for improving the quality and value of spaces managed by Greenspace Services. The Action Plans should be prioritised in light of the findings of this study to ensure that improvements to quality and value are, in the first instance, focussed in those areas which have quantitative and/or accessibility deficiencies to parks and gardens (and other types of open space). Underused areas of housing sites which might be able to perform an open space function in future should also be identified). This would ensure that the best use is made of existing open spaces to widen their appeal and to meet local needs in areas where accessibility or quantitative deficiencies cannot readily be addressed (for example, by improving facilities such as entrance signs, toilets, provision of cafes and play equipment, to a standard which might normally be expected of a larger space).
- 17.24. Opportunities to improve the functionality of other typologies, such as cemeteries and disused churchyards (Typology H), to act as parks and gardens should be considered. Typology H sites are focussed towards the south and centre of the borough, which coincides with the areas most deficient in terms of parks and gardens. Scope to introduce facilities such as small scale play and café facilities should be considered, as appropriate. The nature of provision within Typology H is considered further in Chapter 11, however, it is notable that all sites were found to be below the quality threshold, suggesting that there is scope to make these sites more attractive to people.
- 17.25. In order to maintain the existing level of provision (which is the level at which the quantity standard has been set) as the population grows, an additional 6.401ha of parks and gardens will be needed by 2025. In such a densely urban borough it will be difficult to secure such high levels of additional space. In addition there are already wards, particularly in the north and east of the borough which are deficient in

quantity of parks and gardens. To address this issue will require imaginative solutions combined with maximising the value of the existing public open space resource.

17.26. Good standards of maintenance were highlighted in consultation as an important factor affecting people’s satisfaction with green spaces. As highlighted in the Green Space Assessment, the existing revenue funding for general maintenance is insufficient, which affects the overall condition of infrastructure and standards of maintenance on Greenspace managed sites. Improving the quality of the existing parks and gardens should be a priority, ensuring all sites are welcoming, safe, secure, clean and well maintained.

17.27. There is also scope to increase the value of the existing parks and gardens in terms of the facilities, amenities and biodiversity benefits they offer. A number of parks and gardens were highlighted in the Green Space Assessment as requiring a redesign/masterplanning exercise and capital improvement project to maximise their value. The majority of people who responded to the consultation said they would rather see investment spread across a large number of sites to raise the standard of existing green spaces rather than focusing on a small number of key sites.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

<p>A.i</p>	<p>Explore opportunities to increase the quantity of provision in the seven wards which are not meeting the quantity standard, focusing particularly on Highbury West, St George’s, Finsbury Park and St Peter’s wards as a priority as they are also deficient in access to small local parks and gardens (consider whether other types of space can substitute to partially address deficiency).</p>
<p>A.ii</p>	<p>Improve the quality of existing parks and gardens across the borough (with reference to the recommendations detailed in Appendix 5 of the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan), particularly focussing on those areas which fall within areas which are deficient in terms of quantity of provision and/or accessibility of provision. Key priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overall priority should be to should be to improve the quality, value and functionality of spaces in the northern/central part of the borough (made up of St George’s, Finsbury Park, Highbury West and St Peter’s wards) (which have the poorest access to parks and gardens and the most pronounced quantitative deficiencies) which are falling below the quality/value threshold in line with the notes at Appendix 5 of the Green Space Assessment and Action Plan. • Improving Caledonian Park in Holloway Ward (West Area) which is the only major park and garden falling below both the value and quality thresholds. • Improving the quality and functionality of the small parks and gardens in the South Area.

A.iii	Review design and function of parks and gardens falling below the value threshold, particularly sites in the wards in the south, west and north areas of the borough which achieved a ‘-/-’ v/q rating (with reference to the Green Space Assessment and audit reports).
A.iv	Review opportunities for increasing the value of existing parks and gardens as a means of increasing the capacity of these spaces and potentially the catchment they serve (consider how this might be measured in terms of ‘quantifying’ the benefits and how this might contribute to addressing quantity deficiencies).
A.v	Ensure that that potential housing sites identified through the LDF include a sufficient level of onsite provision wherever possible, or contribute to enhancing the value and accessibility of parks and gardens within the vicinity of new developments where onsite provision is not appropriate. This is particularly important in those wards facing quantitative deficiencies (in particular St Georges, Finsbury Park, Highbury West Wards).
A.vi	Ensure that funds secured through planning obligations and other funding is directed towards the above priorities.
A.vii	Review priorities in the Green Space Assessment (which focussed on quality improvements) to ensure quality improvements are focussed in those areas with most pronounced deficiencies (as measured by quantity, accessibility and quality of spaces) and ensure opportunities to address accessibility/quantitative deficiencies are also included in investment plans.

NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREEN SPACE (TYPOLOGY B)

Key issues

- 17.28. Given the low provision of sites within this typology (four sites in total), it is suggested that the two non-Greenspace managed sites (Fife Terrace Moorings and the site near Hillrise Road) are seen as a priority for quality and access improvements. Improving and allowing access to the small unmanaged site in the north of the borough (site near Hillrise Road), will help to deliver enhanced access to this typology.
- 17.29. Creation of new semi-natural spaces should focus on opportunities in the south of the borough. Opportunities to provide access to natural and semi-natural green space within other typologies, for example, on a smaller scale in parks and gardens and amenity green space, should be explored.

- 17.30. Consideration should be given to the interrelationship with Green corridors (see section 7), particularly designated sites such as the Parkland Walk, in fulfilling a similar role to natural and semi-natural green spaces. There is scope within other typologies to enhance the value to wildlife and to enhance the ‘experience of nature’ for visitors.
- 17.31. All of the existing natural and semi-natural green spaces within the borough should be protected by the planning system to ensure there is no net loss of this typology. Due to the pressures placed on the small number of sites in the borough, it should be an aspiration to keep these sites above the quality and value thresholds expected of sites within this typology.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

B.i	Review the accessibility to visitors of Barnsbury wood (in Caledonian ward) to enhance its role within the community.
B.ii	Review accessibility, ownership and management at the two non-Greenspace managed sites (Fife Terrace Moorings in Barnsbury ward and the site near Hillrise Road in Hillrise ward) to secure their provision as typology B sites.
B.iii	Consider voluntary/community involvement to enhance the quality/value of non-greenspace managed sites (Fife Terrace Moorings in Barnsbury ward and the site near Hillrise Road in Hillrise ward).
B.iv	Explore opportunities in the south of the borough for provision of new sites or opportunities to deliver natural and semi-natural type spaces within other typologies e.g. Bunhill Fields.
B.v	Focus delivery of any new provision within areas of no access i.e. particularly in the south of the borough, and also in the many deficient areas through the rest of the borough.
B.vi	Ensure opportunities for onsite provision of biodiversity interest are encouraged through LDF policy and via development control in pre-application discussions.

GREEN CORRIDORS (TYPOLOGY C)

Key issues

- 17.32. Provision is very low in the borough, with only four sites in total, located on the fringes of the borough in St Peter’s, Caledonian, Mildmay and Hillrise wards. All other wards are deficient in terms of quantitative provision and access.
- 17.33. Currently inaccessible railway corridors (including Gifford Street Embankment in the west of the borough) may provide an opportunity for increasing the quantity of

provision within this typology, particularly within the centre of the borough. This requires further investigation by the Greenspace team.

- 17.34. Given the low level of provision of sites within this typology, it is essential that the quality issues highlighted through the Green Space Assessment are addressed to make the best possible use of this resource. Given the location of the Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk in Hillrise ward within an area of high health deprivation (see **Map 4b**), quality improvements alongside improved signage/promotion could be used to encourage walking and cycling to improve health and fitness.
- 17.35. It will be challenging to increase the provision of green corridors in the borough, aside from the railway corridors noted above, given the dense urban fabric of the borough. However, given the importance of green corridors to residents for recreation, access and sustainable living, which was highlighted through community consultation, it is recommended that the council investigates the scope to improve walking and cycling links in the borough generally. Improvements could be in terms of safety (providing separate cycle paths), visual improvements (such as planting street trees and grass verges) or improved access (for example, by creating new signed links through existing open spaces and by ensuring new developments provide sustainable links to existing networks). Greenspace Services should work to identify options to improve walking and cycling networks.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

C.i	Review scope to open up access to railway cuttings and corridors (including Gifford Street Embankment) to create further green corridors in Islington.
C.ii	Review the functionality of green corridors to develop an integrated strategy for creating and managing green links through the borough and beyond. This should consider how green corridors may be integrated into a network to allow people to travel between open spaces and other areas of interest, and how improved ‘branding’, signage and publicising of routes may improve the functionality of green corridors. Ensure any such strategy works with existing strategies including the AI Borough Strategy and Greening the Grey.

OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES (TYPOLOGY D)

Key issues

- 17.36. Outdoor sports facilities is a wide-ranging category which includes both natural and artificial surfaces for sport and recreation. Examples include pitches, bowling greens and MUGAs, all with the primary purpose of participation in outdoor sports.
- 17.37. Throughout the report, formal MUGAs and outdoor sports (tennis courts, grass pitches, bowling greens, STPs) have been analysed as separate entities, with different

standards being set. This method of assessment gives a greater insight into where the surpluses and deficiencies are in terms of specific facility types.

Outdoor sports facility summary

- 17.38. Consultation highlighted issues with both the quantity and quality of outdoor facilities, which was supported by the audit and analysis of existing provision:
- site assessments showed a significant variation in the quality of facilities across the borough. This was supported by household survey responses;
 - the application of the local quantity standards recommends a Borough wide increase of 3.18 hectares in the near future, but a requirement of circa 4.2 hectares of new provision up to 2025. This was reinforced by the household survey responses.
- 17.39. The application of the quantity and accessibility standards highlights that the distribution of outdoor sports facilities as a whole is fairly evenly spread across the borough. Residents in all analysis areas are able to access a minimum of one type of outdoor sports facility within the recommended distance threshold of 15 minutes walk time.
- 17.40. Deficiencies in some types of facility (bowls and grass pitches) are greater than others (tennis courts):
- The majority of the East and West areas do not have access to grass pitches and there is only one outdoor bowling facility which is located in the South area;
 - Most of Highbury East Ward, large parts of Highbury West Ward, Mildmay Ward and Barnsbury Ward and a small area of St Marys Ward all fall outside the catchment of an STP;
 - Small parts of Hillrise, Tollington, St Peters, St Mary's and Bunhill wards fall outside the catchment for outdoor tennis courts.
- 17.41. The East Area of the borough currently has the lowest provision of outdoor facilities (0.453 ha) and yet the highest population density (50,300).
- 17.42. Before investing in the development of new facilities, the council should look to either extend current facilities or seek to further increase community access to school sites.
- 17.43. A large part of the evidence from this study supports the recommendation to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities across the borough. This is particularly important considering that the evidence to support this recommendation was largely formed in response to information received from the household survey, which was later reinforced by the site assessment scores.

Objectives/priorities:

OSF 1	Strive to improve the quality of outdoor sports facilities, to achieve the quality standard. This should ensure that all are fit for their intended purpose.
OSF 2	In locations where there is expressed demand for increased sporting provision (which varied across the different facility types within this typology), and in areas which lack access to certain types of facilities, it is imperative that the council ensures schools continue to hire out their facilities to the public to avoid any further deficiencies. Where school facilities could be made available to the public but are not currently, the council should consider the feasibility of formalising community-use agreements.
OSF 3	Investigate the demand for and the potential to deliver further provision of outdoor sport facilities in the West and East analysis areas.

MUGA summary

- 17.44. Consultation highlighted issues with both the quantity and quality of MUGAs, which was supported by the audit and analysis of existing provision:
- the area in which the highest number of respondents said there was ‘not enough’ MUGA provision was in the East Area. Analysis of existing provision showed a shortfall in the North and South Areas;
 - consultation highlighted a mixed opinion regarding the quality of MUGAs. This was mirrored in the site assessment scores which showed a significant variation in the quality of provision.
- 17.45. It is recommended that as a minimum the council should maintain the current total level of provision at 2.098 hectares. This standard reinforces the council’s commitment to existing provision, with future investment focussed on improving the standard and quality of MUGAs provided.
- 17.46. However, with a deficiency identified in the North and South Areas, which will only worsen as population levels increase, the council should seek to ensure, where possible, that existing facilities such as school sites are accessible for use by local residents.
- 17.47. The application of the quantity and accessibility standards highlights that the distribution of MUGAs is fairly evenly spread across the borough. However, due to limited provision in the South Area many residents in these parts of the borough are unable to access a MUGA site within the recommended distance threshold.
- 17.48. While there are some accessibility deficiencies for MUGAs, it is recommended that primary consideration be given to improving the quality in line with the household

survey responses that highlighted maintenance and cleanliness as the most essential quality aspirations.

Objectives/priorities:

MUGA 1	In areas where there is expressed demand for further sporting provision (all except the North Area), and North and South Areas where some residents cannot access a MUGA within the recommended catchment area, where school facilities could be made available to the public but are not currently, the council should consider the feasibility of formalising community-use agreements at school sites prior to seeking delivery of a new MUGA facility.
MUGA 2	Strive to improve the quality of MUGA facilities, to achieve the quality standard. This should ensure that all are fit for their intended purpose.

AMENITY GREEN SPACE (TYPOLOGY E)

Key issues

- 17.49. Community consultation highlighted the desire of Islington residents to have access to good quality green space close to their homes. Provision of amenity green space is limited to 19 small sites scattered throughout the borough, resulting in around two-thirds of the geographic area of the borough having no access (i.e. falling outside the 400m catchments of these sites).
- 17.50. In terms of the spatial distribution of quantitative deficiencies, only the northern and southern tips of the borough exceed the quantity standard (Hillrise and Finsbury Park wards in the north, and Barnsbury, St Peter’s, Clerkenwell and Bunhill wards in the south). The central part of the borough is deficient in provision of amenity green space.
- 17.51. Quantitative and accessibility deficiencies coincide in the centre of the borough, along the boundaries between Caledonian, St Marys, Canonbury, Mildmay, Highbury East, Highbury west and Holloway wards.
- 17.52. Housing amenity space, much of which is accessible to the wider public, provides a similar function and is far more extensive in terms of provision (totalling 407 sites covering 30.423 ha). However, even when taken together, there are still pockets within the borough where residents do not enjoy access to amenity green space within 400m of their homes. The largest area of deficiency in access to this type of provision affects Highbury West Ward with smaller areas of deficiency within the other three eastern wards, St. Mary’s Ward in the centre of the borough, Junction and Hillrise Wards in the north and Clerkenwell and Bunhill Wards in the south. It should be noted that a number of these areas have good access to parks and gardens which lessens the significance of the lack of amenity space for these wards, for

example, deficiencies in the eastern wards are partially addressed by the presence of Finsbury and Clissold Parks in neighbouring boroughs, and Highbury Fields.

- 17.53. Although these sites are relatively simplistic, they should still be of high quality, but the majority of amenity sites currently fall below the quality threshold (although the majority are rated as being above the value threshold indicating that although facilities exist, they are of a poor standard. The Green Space Assessment highlighted several quality issues in terms of barriers to access which could be addressed in order to achieve higher quality ratings at these sites. Several opportunities for improving basic amenities were also highlighted.
- 17.54. In order to meet the quantity standard as the population grows, provision of new amenity green space should be prioritised within the areas of current deficiency within Highbury West and Mildmay Wards in the east of the borough, parts of St. Mary's Ward in the centre of the borough and Junction and Hillrise Wards in the north of the borough.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

E.i	The scope and appropriateness of opening up access to housing amenity spaces (Typology J) which are currently limited to residents should be considered, particularly in areas experiencing both quantitative and accessibility deficiencies in the central part of the borough (Caledonian, St Marys, Canonbury, Midlmay, Highbury West and Holloway wards).
E.ii	Improving the quality of the 17 (of the total 19) amenity spaces which are below the quality threshold should be prioritised.
E.iii	The potential to increase provision by developing under used areas of housing land which could be developed as amenity space should be reviewed, particularly in areas of spatial and quantitative deficiencies in the central part of the borough (Caledonian, St Marys, Canonbury, Mildmay, Highbury West and Holloway wards).

ALLOTMENTS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS (TYPOLOGY G)

Key issues

- 17.55. Overall provision of allotments and community gardens in the borough is limited (there are 4 allotment sites, containing a total of 89 plots and 7 community gardens, as well as an urban farm). Provision appears to be more restricted than in neighbouring boroughs (where data for comparison is available), with provision being slightly higher in Hackney and considerably higher in Haringey.
- 17.56. Given the extremely high demand for allotment plots within the borough (the waiting list exceeds 10 years), Greenspace Services works closely with the community

managers of the 58 plots which are owned, but not managed by Greenspace, to ensure that these plots continue to operate as growing plots, and keep up-to-date records of their ownership to ensure that all plots are in active use.

- 17.57. Quality issues should be addressed at the four allotment sites (Quill Street Allotments, Evershot Road Allotments, Monsell Road Allotments and Arvon Road Allotments) and at the three community gardens (Olden Gardens, King Henry’s Walk and the community gardens in Arvon Road) which are above value, below quality. The audit work undertaken as part of the Green Space Assessment highlighted that some allotment plots have potential for enhancement in terms of maximising the use of plots. The audit noted that there might be scope for creation of new plots at Olden Gardens. It may also be possible to develop allotments within existing open spaces, for example the 19 areas of amenity space (Typology E) which currently fall below the quality threshold.
- 17.58. In line with the recommendations of the GLA report ‘A lot to lose: London’s disappearing allotments (2006)’ it is recommended that Greenspace Services consider sub-dividing plots as they become vacant to increase the total number of plots and provide greater opportunities for more people to enjoy allotment gardening. This would also reduce waiting lists.
- 17.59. The council should also seek to promote innovative solutions for local food production, such as roof allotments and growing boxes within estates.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

G.i	Ensure there is agreement between Greenspace Services and the community managers of the 58 allotment plots owned, but not managed, by the council, in terms of their continued operation as allotments. Scope to increase the number of plots/review each site’s function may be appropriate given the level of demand. Consideration should be given to subdividing plots.
G.ii	Maintain one centralised waiting list in tandem with a centralised register of current ownership to ensure efficient transfer of ownership when plots become available.
G.iii	Seek to provide further plots wherever possible to meet latent demand, including considering the scope to create plots within other open space typologies (such as amenity green space (Typology E) and housing amenity space (Typology J))
G.iv	Make use of s106 agreements to ensure housing developments contribute to the creation of new allotments, or as a minimum incorporate some form of space for food production.
G.v	Work with Homes for Islington and RSLs to develop roof top allotments and growing boxes, and consider opportunities for making better use of areas of hard standing for food production.
G.vi	Greenspace Services to consider the practicality of creating new

	plots at Olden Gardens.
G.vii	Address quality issues at the four allotment sites (Quill Street Allotments, Evershot Road Allotments, Monsell Road Allotments and Arvon Road Allotments) which fall below quality standards and at the community gardens falling below the quality standard (Olden Gardens, King Henry's Walk, and the community gardens in Arvon Road).

CEMETERIES, DISUSED CHURCHYARDS AND OTHER BURIAL GROUNDS (TYPOLOGY H)

Key issues

- 17.60. The majority of the wards in the north of the borough are deficient in terms of this access to this typology.
- 17.61. Ten of the eleven cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds are rated above value/below quality and therefore need repair, conservation and maintenance attention to improve the standard of these sites. One site (Jewish Cemetery) has scored below value/below quality. This is symptomatic of its poor access, which also limited the extent of the audit.
- 17.62. Given that creation of new sites of this typology is unlikely, it is essential that the potential of the existing resource is enhanced and maximised. The Green Space Assessment raised site specific issues that should be addressed in order to increase the quality of the sites.
- 17.63. The possibility of opening the Jewish Cemetery up to the public should be reviewed. This would have the effect of expanding the catchment of the existing resource and allowing residents/visitors in the east of the borough the opportunity to benefit from the rich historic and biodiversity experience that sites within this typology can offer.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

H.i	Quality of existing sites within this typology should be maximised as per Green Space Assessment and Action Plan to ensure that the 10 sites which are rated as being below the quality threshold (of the total 11 sites) are brought up to the expected standard.
H.ii	Review access to the Jewish Cemetery in order to maximise the extent of provision within this typology.

CIVIC SPACES (TYPOLOGY I)

Key issues

- 17.64. Of the 10 civic spaces in the borough, four sites fall below the quality threshold (St. Paul's Road Enclosure, Angel/Clocktower, Lady Margaret Open Space and Caledonian Road Enclosure) and therefore require maintenance attention and design improvements.
- 17.65. Barriers to accessibility (such as difficult pedestrian access at Angel/Clocktower, or uneven steps at St. Paul's Road Enclosure) and improvements to signage (for example at Angel/Clocktower) that were identified through the audit work should be addressed in order to maximise the potential of these sites.
- 17.66. High quality urban design benefits the community as well as increasing property values and attracting economic activity. Opportunities to create civic spaces within new development should be maximised, in line with the Islington Urban Design Guide which provides the design framework for the borough.
- 17.67. Civic spaces take on increased importance in areas with little green space. Therefore where increased green space is not practical or possible, either in existing urban areas, or new developments, opportunities should be sought to secure civic spaces. This use may be appropriate on small areas of land, for example, within housing estates, where management and maintenance of small grassed areas may be impractical.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

I.i	Utilise the Urban Design Guide for the borough in creating new civic spaces and improving existing ones.
I.ii	Invest in sites to ensure they meet quality standards (in particular investment should be focussed on St. Paul's Road Enclosure, Angel/Clocktower, Lady Margaret Open space and Caledonian Road Enclosure). Action should be implemented in line with the Greenspace Action Plan which covers the 8 civic spaces managed by the Greenspace Team.
I.iii	Ensure new civic space is provided as appropriate in new housing, employment and mixed use developments. This is particularly important in a dense urban area such as Islington, where small green spaces may be impractical to manage and maintain.

HOUSING AMENITY SPACE (TYPOLOGY J)

Key issues

- 17.68. As highlighted by consultation, the community wants good quality open space close to their homes. Many residents have access to housing amenity space in estates, supplemented by general amenity space (typology E) within an appropriate distance of

their homes (which has been defined through this study as 400m). However some areas of the borough, particularly in the East Area Committee in parts of Highbury East, Highbury West and Mildmay wards, fall outside the 400m localised catchment areas of these spaces and residents therefore do not have appropriate access close to where they live.

- 17.69. A significant number of housing estates have no amenity space within their boundaries, which is considered to be an issue, since the purpose of this type of space is to provide a very local level of access close to where people live, which is especially important considering many estates consist of flats with no private gardens. This is a particular issue on estates in Junction, Tollington, and St Peter's Wards, and the northern and southern ends of St. Mary's Ward, parts of Highbury East Ward, and parts of Canonbury Ward. Publicly accessible amenity green space outside of these estates helps to mitigate some of these deficiencies but areas of St Mary's Ward and Highbury East Ward have no access to this type of provision. A key priority should therefore be to create or increase provision on estates in these areas with no little or no provision.
- 17.70. Quantitative and accessibility deficiencies coincide particularly in Highbury East Ward, where the majority of housing amenity space is limited to estate boundaries, and there is no provision of general amenity space. However, this ward has good access to parks and gardens including Clissold Park in the neighbouring borough, and Highbury Fields.
- 17.71. In areas where housing amenity space is provided it is of variable quality and in some instances is of very limited recreational or visual amenity benefit (i.e. Junction, Tollington and St. Peter's wards). The design and function of these spaces needs to be reviewed together with the provision of other types of provision, particularly play and youth facilities, on housing estates to ensure they add value to the lives of people in these areas.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

J.i	LBI to work with Homes for Islington (HFI) and RSLs to identify opportunities to create amenity space on housing estates that currently have no provision, and to increase provision on estates with very little provision. This is a particular issue in Junction, Tollington, and St Peter's Wards, and a zone in the centre of the borough including the northern part of St. Mary's Ward and parts of Highbury East Ward, and parts of Canonbury ward.
J.ii	Work to ensure areas deficient in access to housing amenity space (primarily found in parts of Highbury East, Highbury West and Mildmay wards) have good access to other types of space providing similar informal recreational opportunities.
J.iii	Identify priorities in light of the overall spatial deficiencies highlighted in this study to ensure that efforts are made to

	improve the value and quality of housing amenity sites in areas which are deficient in overall quantitative provision (this is a particular issue in Hillrise, Junction, Tollington, Highbury East, Caledonian and St Peter's Wards where quantitative deficiencies coincide with a number of estates with no provision of amenity space). This is important to ensure that the greatest value is achieved from existing spaces, particularly where there is little scope to increase provision.
J.iv	Improve the maintenance of housing amenity space and review the design and function particularly of those sites rated as below value and below quality (-/-).

PLAY AND YOUTH (TYPOLOGY K)

Key issues

- 17.72. 68% of the borough is outside of the recommended catchment of play facilities for 0 to 5 years. This to an extent ties in with comments in the Play Strategy consultation that people want more play space, particularly very local to where they live. This needs addressing firstly through reviewing limitations affecting access to facilities on housing estates to ensure where appropriate these are freely accessible to people living in neighbouring areas. Then opportunities need to be explored for creating new facilities for 0-5 year olds. Firstly this should focus on expanding the range of provision on existing sites; in particular there are 31 'K1i' neighbourhood playable spaces, 10 K2 local playable spaces and 21 doorstep playable spaces which currently do not cater for this age group.
- 17.73. Large areas of Highbury West and Highbury East wards have little or no access to play and youth provision catering for the three age groups, particularly 0-5 years and 5-11 years. Facilities in Clissold Park and Finsbury Park may be able to reduce the deficiency in access to facilities for older children but this still leaves a gap in provision for younger children. There is limited open space provision in this area but there may be housing amenity space that has potential to be developed into play facilities.
- 17.74. Ensure facilities for 11+ years in the east area which are mainly located on estates are welcoming and accessible to non-estate residents.
- 17.75. There are currently quantitative deficiencies in the East Area and in wards in the North and West. Opportunities need to be explored to create new formal play and/or youth facilities to reduce these deficiencies. This should focus primarily on Highbury West which has the greatest deficiency in access to play and youth facilities.
- 17.76. In order to maintain the overall existing level of play and youth provision (which is the level the quantity standard has been set) an additional 18,528m² (1.85ha) will be needed by 2025. In such a densely urban borough it will be difficult to secure such high levels of additional space. Opportunities should be sought for accommodating play and youth facilities within existing spaces of different typologies. This will

increase the overall value of these spaces. Areas for particular consideration will be those areas where the highest child population growth is projected (i.e. Highbury West, Holloway, Bunhill and Finsbury Park) to ensure the deficiencies do not become further exacerbated by 2025.

- 17.77. A large proportion of the audited sites were rated below both the value and quality thresholds, this reflects some of the comments in consultation about the variable condition of existing spaces. Improving the quality of existing spaces should be a priority, ensuring all sites are welcoming, safe, secure, clean and well maintained.
- 17.78. The VQ ratings showed that many sites are not providing the play value anticipated of a site of their particular size. A review of the design and function of these sites should be initiated focusing firstly on those sites affected by deficiencies in access and quantity of provision. The greatest number of ‘-/-’ sites were those in the K1i neighbourhood playable space hierarchy where there should be potential to increase value for all three age groups. This ties in with the recommendations of the Play Strategy to largely focus on improving existing facilities.

Objectives/priorities to be addressed for this typology:

K.i	Agree list of sites where play provision could be created for 0 to 5 year olds to address the deficiency in access to this level of provision across the borough focusing primarily on existing sites where this level of provision could be accommodated e.g. play areas currently not catering for this age group and spaces of other typologies which could benefit from the addition of play.
K.ii	Explore opportunities to create new/enhance existing spaces to increase the provision of play facilities in Highbury West and Highbury East wards, particularly for 0-11 years.
K.iii	Explore opportunities to ensure facilities for 11+ years in the east area which are mainly located on estates are welcoming and accessible to non-estate residents.
K.iv	Sustain the existing level of formal play and youth provision and enhance the informal recreational value of other types of space, particularly where formal play exists within a larger space.
K.v	Explore methods of quantifying the existing provision of ‘informal recreational space’ to enable provision to be measured in the future.
K.vi	Improve and maintain the quality of play and youth facilities ensuring they provide welcoming and well maintained spaces for play and recreational activity.
K.vii	Ensure that children and young people are involved in decision making and any design/ review of current facilities

and provision of new.

INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES (TYPOLOGY L)

Key issues

- 17.79. An analysis of the quantity and accessibility of sports halls, swimming pools, indoor tennis, indoor bowls, ice rinks and gyms within Islington has been undertaken and current provision has been measured against identified demand, enabling an understanding of any additional provision required.
- 17.80. The analysis of sports halls found that while the majority of the borough was provided for within the recommended standard, there were several wards in the north and centre of the borough that do not currently have access to fully accessible public sports halls. A shortfall in current provision was identified which is likely to grow in the future.
- 17.81. The analysis of swimming pools found that virtually the entire borough was provided for within the recommended standard however it was noted that those in wards in the North Area only currently have access to a leisure pool which may not fulfil the needs of all sections of the community. A small shortfall in current provision was identified which is likely to increase in the future.
- 17.82. The analysis of gyms found that with the exception of a very small area of Mildmay ward, all Islington residents have access to a public gym within the recommended standard and it is likely that this small corner may be served by a gym in a neighbouring borough. An oversupply of gyms was identified overall, however it is recognised that many of these serve the working rather than residential population.
- 17.83. In the cases of ice rinks, bowls rinks and indoor tennis, there is currently only one ice rink and indoor tennis centre and no bowls rinks, therefore as would be expected there are large areas of the borough that are not provided for. It was recognised, however, that there is little potential for expanding the number of these facilities, therefore the focus is on retaining the existing provision.
- 17.84. Consultation highlighted that the most important quality aspects for indoor facilities were cleanliness, maintenance and value for money.
- 17.85. All the facilities except ice rinks scored a higher percentage of good responses than poor and the South area had the highest proportion of good ratings overall, although it rated swimming pools the lowest.
- 17.86. 30.4% of respondents in the West Area of the borough highlighted that swimming pools were of a good standard, which is significantly higher than other areas of the borough. The South Area has a significantly lower score at 17.5%.
- 17.87. Private gyms scored most highly in the South Area where 41.8% of respondents rated facilities as being of a good standard however across the rest of the borough

responses were lower with between 22 and 29% of responses rating facilities as good.

- 17.88. Council gyms were most highly rated in the East Area where 27.6% of respondents highlighted facilities to be of a good standard whilst across the remainder of the borough only between 12 and 17% of respondents rated facilities as good.
- 17.89. In all other cases the scores were similar across all the areas.
- 17.90. An overarching quality vision has been set in line with local community needs and aspirations, Quest and Best Value principles.
- 17.91. The development and application of the local quantity and accessibility standards should be considered the basis for future strategic planning of indoor sports facilities in Islington.
- 17.92. Further detailed user consultation at key centres across the borough, and detailed analysis into the size and characteristics of the resident population that each centre is serving, should be conducted. This information should then be supplemented with the local standards.
- 17.93. To meet the needs of an increasing population, focus should be placed on the community use of school sites. Programmes such as Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and the Extended Schools programme also offer opportunities.

Objectives/priorities:

ISF 1	Work in partnership with education providers in the borough to facilitate better community access to sports hall provision on school sites and maximise opportunities through the BSF and Extended Schools programmes where appropriate.
ISF 2	Strive to improve the quality of provision of sports halls. Where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality.
ISF 3	Work in partnership with Highbury Grove School to facilitate community access to swimming pool provision on site (already happens to some extent).
ISF 4	Strive to improve the quality of provision at swimming pools. Where possible, larger sites should work towards Quest accreditation, the national benchmark for quality.
ISF 5	Investigate the feasibility of providing another indoor tennis facility in the borough in order to address the current deficiency in provision.
ISF 6	Strive to improve the quality of indoor sports facilities in the borough, particularly in the area of cleanliness and maintenance, to meet the recommended quality standard.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES (TYPOLOGY M)

Key issues

- 17.94. It is apparent that there is a good number and geographical spread of small and medium sized community facilities across the borough, however this was not reflected in the views of those consulted through the household survey suggesting either a lack of awareness or access.
- 17.95. In contrast, there is a lack of large community facilities (only one in the borough) and indoor youth centres (only two centres specifically called youth centres) and therefore poorer coverage. The lack of youth centres was highlighted strongly in the community consultation.
- 17.96. Given the number of community facilities in the borough and the distribution of these facilities, the majority of residents have sufficient access to meet their expectations in respect of the 15-minute walk time to small and medium sized facilities. There are, however, noticeable gaps in provision with regards to indoor youth facilities (the North and South areas are not provided for) and large community spaces (the only one being located in the North area).
- 17.97. When considering the number of overlapping catchments for small and medium sized community facilities, thought should be given to whether these facilities are offering complementary activities or if there is duplication of resource, in which case rationalisation of facilities may prove a more sustainable option. This supports the recommendation of expanding selected facilities to provide larger, flexible facilities that could meet the needs of users living within the catchment of more than one smaller facility currently.
- 17.98. It is also important to consider the various activities that will be provided and potential for different uses of each type of facility. Smaller community facilities will often be used primarily as a meeting place, whereas larger or more specialist ones may be able to play a key role in offering local sporting opportunities.
- 17.99. In relation to sporting usage, it is important to consider community facilities in light of the recommendation that all residents are within the appropriate walk time catchment of larger scale formal indoor sports provision. Where gaps exist in formal provision, suitable community facilities can offer sporting opportunities in addition to facilities for private functions and public meetings. There are some areas of Islington where community facilities of an appropriate size and quality could be of benefit in this way.
- 17.100. Analysis of the quality of community facilities suggests that, of those facilities visited, most are of reasonable quality overall. However many are not suitable for sporting activity. This is considered a priority area to address as it would encourage a greater level of usage.
- 17.101. Consultation found that the highest overall level of satisfaction with community centres was in the West area and the lowest was in the South area.

17.102. In addition to considering the location of community facilities across the borough, it is also important to ensure that sites meet the recommended quality visions and therefore meet expectations of local residents.

Objectives/priorities:

COMM 1	Raise awareness of community facilities and ensure that access to them meets the needs of the community.
COMM 2	Explore opportunities to increase the number of youth centres and large community centres in areas where there is currently a lack of accessibility through extending facilities, where possible, and setting up youth programmes in existing centres.
COMM 3	Consider further analysis in order to fully investigate the perceptions of the community to help the council understand why the perceived number of community facilities is so low compared to the actual number.
COMM 4	Improve parking and bicycle storage facilities where possible.
COMM 5	Improve suitability for sports / physical activity where possible and encourage greater use of facilities for sporting activities.
COMM 6	The council should consider further consultation with regards to the provision of community facilities.

OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DELIVERY

Informing strategies, action plans and partnership working

17.103. One role of undertaking a PPG17 complaint assessment is to form the starting point for establishing effective strategies for open space, sport and recreation. As discussed in the preface to this assessment, the borough has already prepared a number of strategies which are together aiming to guide the provision and management of a range of facilities. The following recommendations relate to reviewing existing strategies, considering the need for additional thematic strategies and the role of partnership working within and beyond the council.

Updating existing strategies/action plans

- Review the Green Space Action Plan, and emerging Play Strategy to ensure objectives and priorities are valid in light of the overall analysis presented in the PPG17 assessment.

Preparation of new strategies/action plans

- In areas of accessibility deficiency review walkability/cyclability, and how pleasant/well signed routes are to spaces further afield.
- Work with Transport for London to identify scope to develop new road/railway footbridges and cycle/footpaths in areas of need.

- Consider the scope to enhance green corridors (for people and wildlife) through the borough.
- Consider the need to prepare a strategy addressing green corridors, and walking and cycling links.
- Consider the merits of preparing an action plan to guide the provision, management and maintenance of sport and recreation facilities.

Partnership working

- Greenspace Team to work with Homes for Islington and RSLs to increase access to open space in housing developments, to identify spaces which are currently under/poorly used which could be enhanced to provide a specific function in line with the PPG17 typologies and standards.
- Ensure the Greenspace and Leisure teams work closely together to plan for the delivery and management and maintenance of outdoor sports facilities, which are often located in parks and gardens.
- Greenspace Team to develop/maintain links with organisations which own/manage other spaces within the borough, to ensure that enhancements in line with the PPG17 audits, are delivered.
- Ensure planning contributions are secured for provision/enhancement of open spaces, play spaces, sport and recreation facilities, which will require close working between the Greenspace Team, the Young People's Division, the Leisure Team and Planning Team. Also ensure that contributions are sought for specific improvements where appropriate e.g. new footbridges to open up access between developments and existing facilities where access is currently precluded by a barrier.

Informing LDF policy

17.104.A further key aim of undertaking a PPG17 compliant assessment is to form a starting point for developing appropriate policies in development plans. The key findings of the study should be used to inform the Islington Core Strategy, Planning Obligations SPD and other development plan documents (DPDs). **Appendix 10** provides an overview of guidance on preparing policies on open space, sport and recreation.

Islington LDF policy preparation

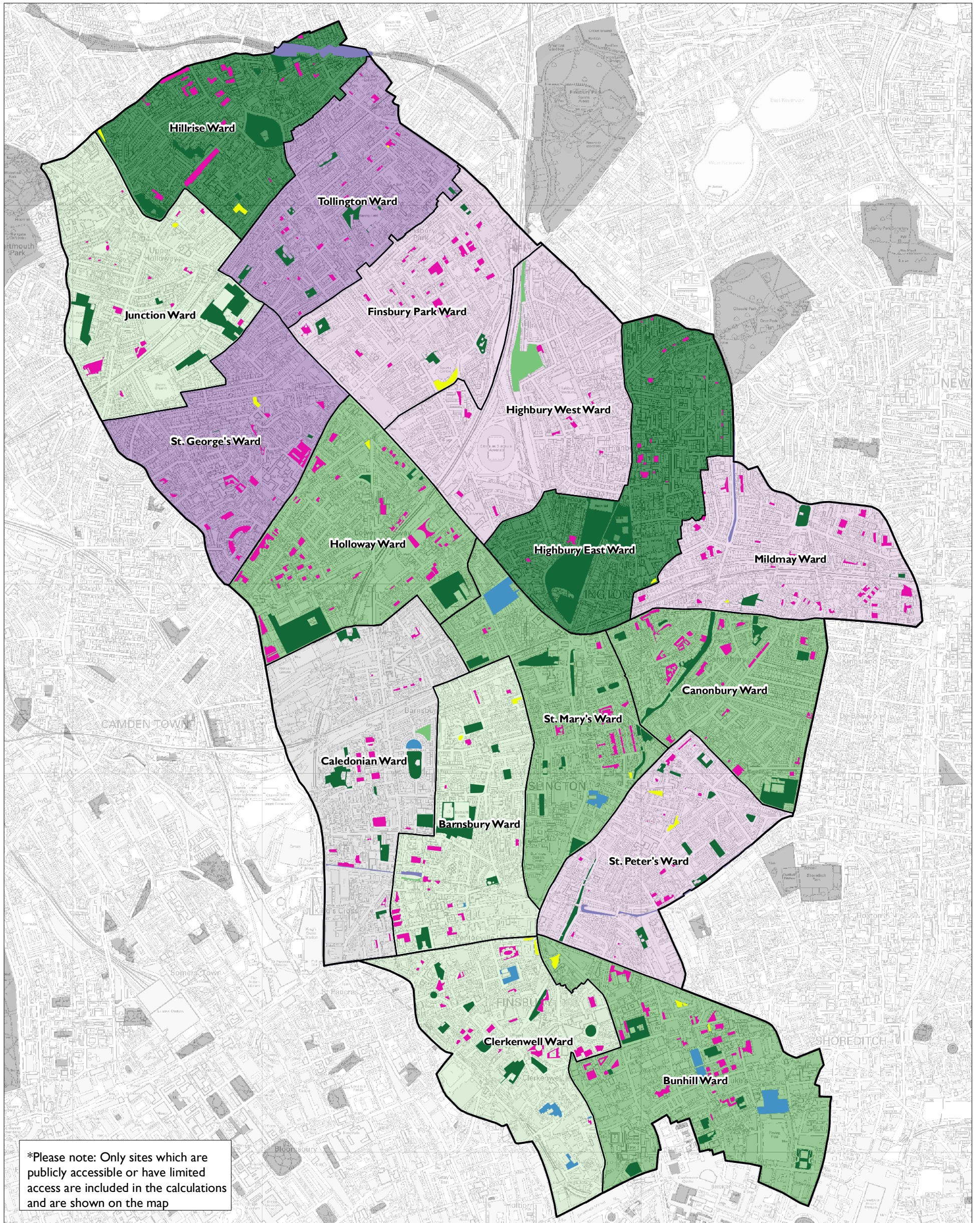
17.105.In terms of drafting policies the following key points are made, in line with the guidance on drafting policies set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide:

- The assessment has shown that the vast majority of existing provision is serving a function (in some cases which could be enhanced) and should therefore be protected (provision by typology could be illustrated on maps within the LDF). The GLA Best Practice Guidance on Open Space Strategies suggests that this could be categorised as 'Local Open Space' and protected;

- In many cases there is a need for existing provision to be enhanced, which planning policy/planning obligations should seek to address, in line with the detailed recommendations set out in this assessment;
- No recommendations are made with respect to existing provision to be relocated in order to meet local needs more effectively or make better overall use of land, since all spaces/facilities are considered to be serving a function. The only exception is with respect to community facilities, where there may be scope to rationalise provision, but this would require further community consultation to decide on the best course of action;
- Proposals for new provision:
 - New provision should be sought to address spatial deficiencies where possible (as described in the preceding sections of the assessment). Policy could indicate that proposals for new sports and recreation facilities will be considered favourably particularly in areas of deficiency;
 - New provision of all types of open space, sport and recreation facilities should be sought in new developments wherever possible (see planning obligation SPD suggestions below). Alternatively planning obligations should be used to provide offsite provision/enhancements in line with the assessment presented here and the relevant Strategies and Action Plans (quantitative, qualitative and accessibility provision standards should be set out in policy, or an indication given that standards are set out in an SPD);
 - Policy could also make reference to the fact that (certain) areas of land currently managed by Homes for Islington, which have potential for use as open space, will be promoted for this use.
 - Development briefs/frameworks/masterplans could also be used to secure new open space provision/enhancements and links to the surrounding area in specific places. Design guidance should be detailed to ensure new open spaces and play areas address safety and other key issues of concern to local people in line with quality standards.
- No land has been identified as being surplus to requirements.
- Given the constrained, urban nature of the borough, it is recommended that design guidance would also be beneficial to ensure that design of the public realm includes measures to increase the sense of 'openness' and of proximity to nature, for example, provision of green roofs and walls, and wildflower planting of verges etc.
- It is recommended that the LDF also includes policies to enhance provision for walking and cycling and connectivity within the borough, to ensure that where there are deficiencies in provision of open spaces, efforts are made to enhance access.

Informing planning obligations and use of contributions

- 17.106. Recommendations for standards for provision of open space and play space in new residential development (or securing contributions for offsite provision) to be included in an SPD on planning contributions are included in **Appendix 11**. Standards for provision of indoor and outdoor sports facilities, which may be taken forward through the SPD, are detailed within the typology sections in this report (Chapters 8 and 15, respectively). In line with guidance in PPG17 the analysis presented in this study considers the quantitative provision of open space, sports and leisure facilities in terms of the resident population of the borough. However, given the importance of Islington as an employment centre it is recognised that people working in the borough also place a demand on these facilities. Appendix 11 includes a recommendation as to the level of provision of open space to be secured through developments of employment space.
- 17.107. In terms of sports and leisure facilities there is likely to be an above average usage of some sports and leisure facilities by the influx of the daily working population, who may not be residents of the borough. This would clearly affect supply and demand calculations if considered statistically, and would likely indicate a higher demand level than that based solely on the residential population. Experience suggests, however, that the working population usage of sports and leisure facilities is primarily of gyms, with a smaller element of swimming and synthetic turf pitch usage, and that the majority of usage is during the daytime, thus not conflicting highly with residential use. The inclusion of working population statistics, with the associated complexity of understanding which facilities are used by whom and when, is outside the remit of this study, and would require further analysis in order for recommendations to be made for additional provision of sports and leisure facilities taking this into account. However, this population should clearly not be overlooked when the wider picture of provision of sports and leisure facilities is considered.
- 17.108. In terms of how contributions should be spent, where onsite provision is not appropriate, this should be informed by the recommendations set out in this report and the associated Strategies and Action Plans. Islington Council should determine the geographical extent to which contributions should relate to the development location, and within this area use the contribution to fund either new provision or enhancements in line with priorities and opportunities.



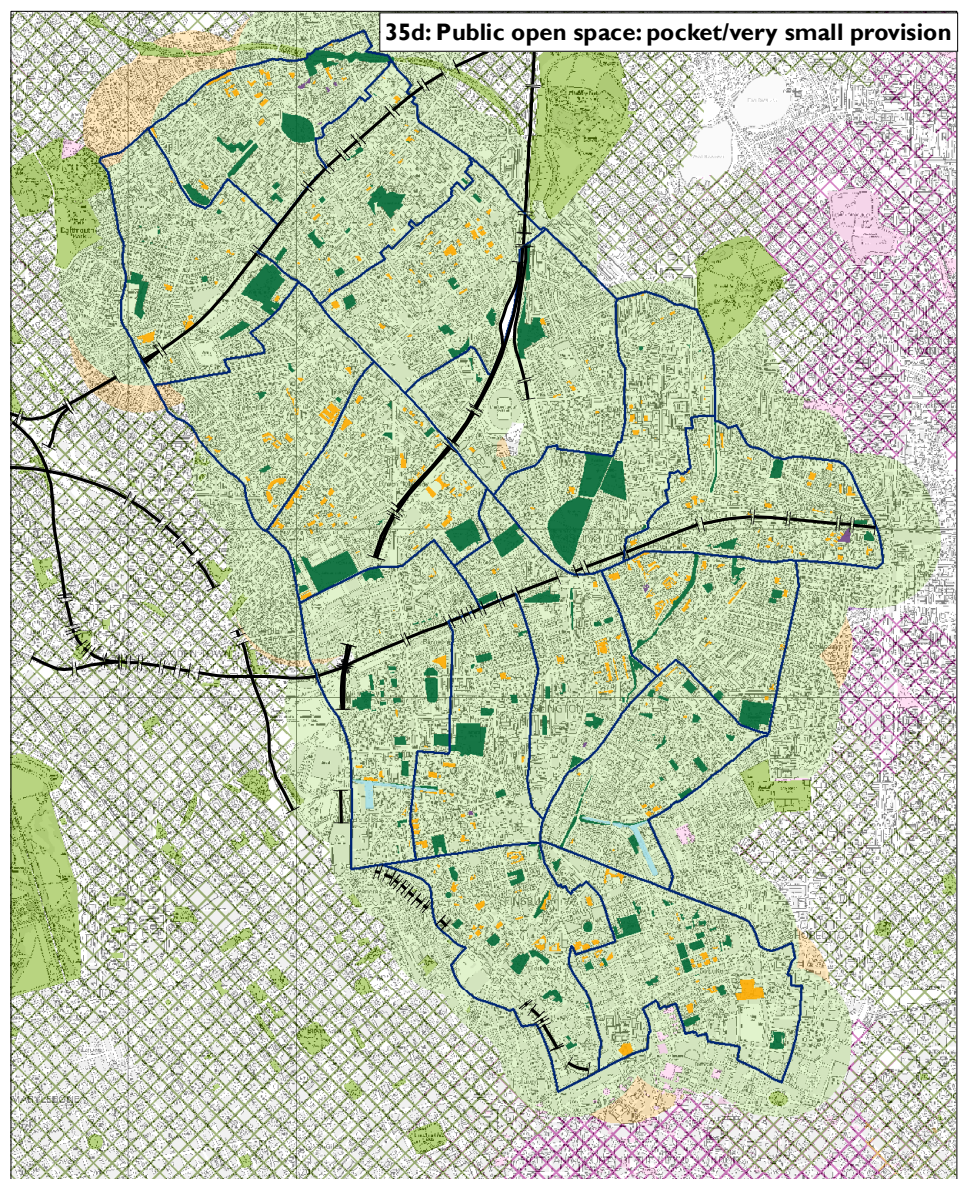
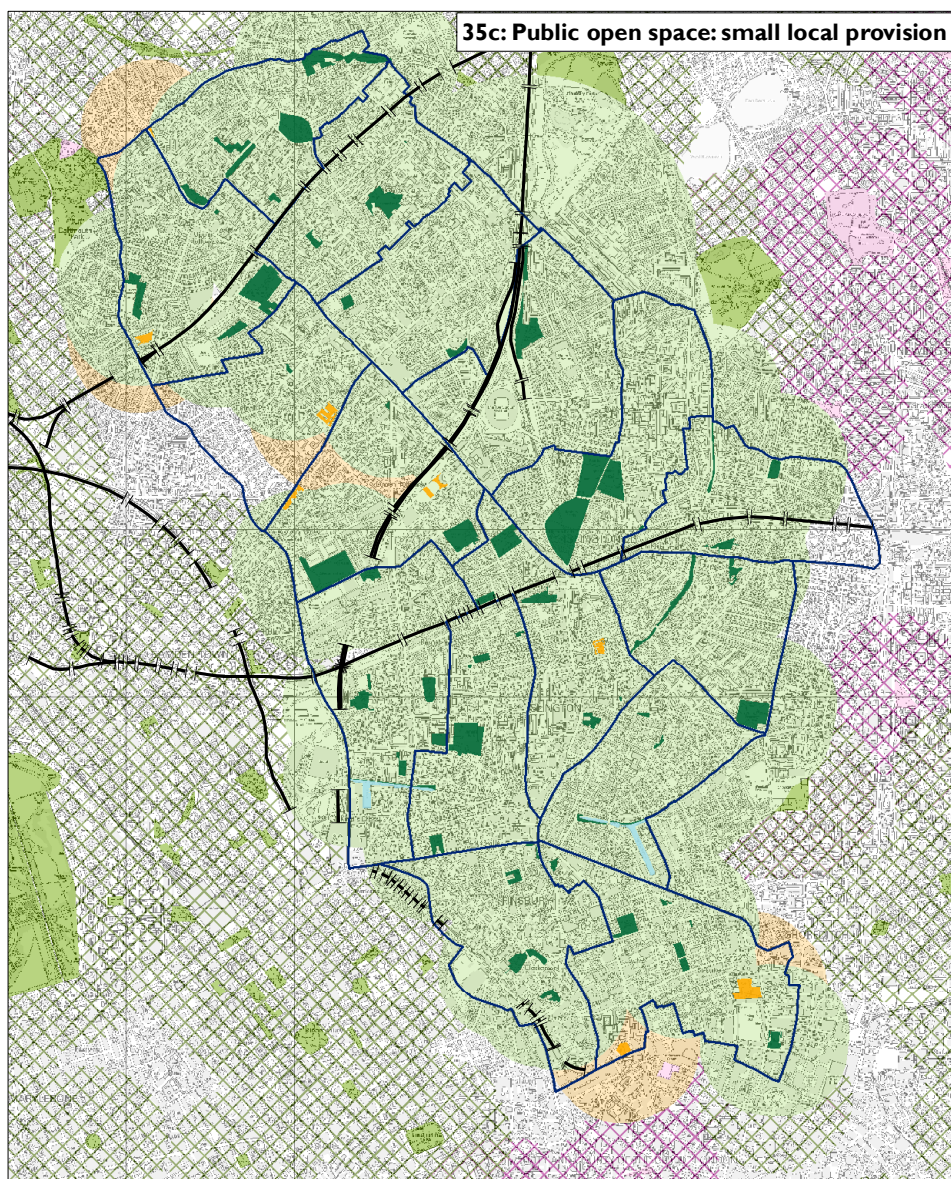
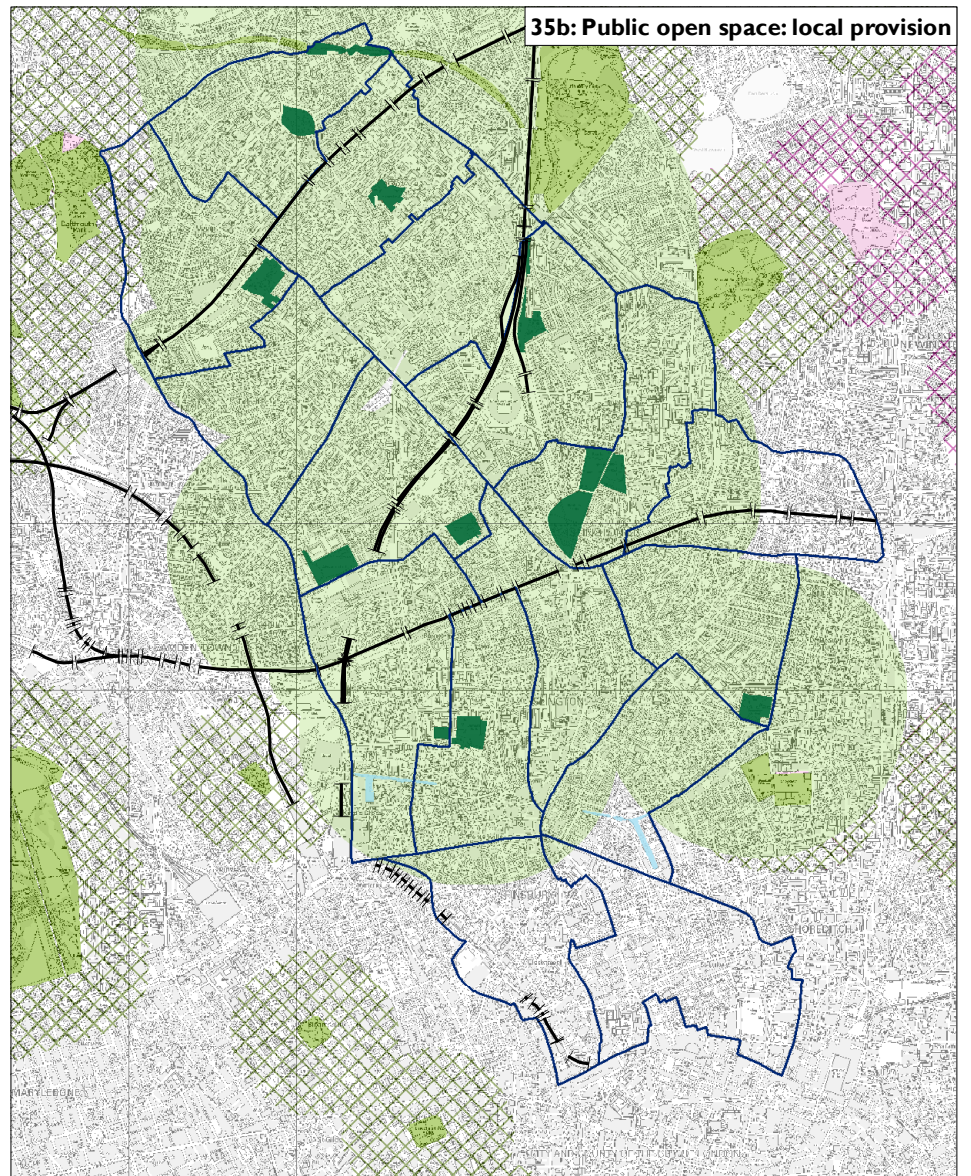
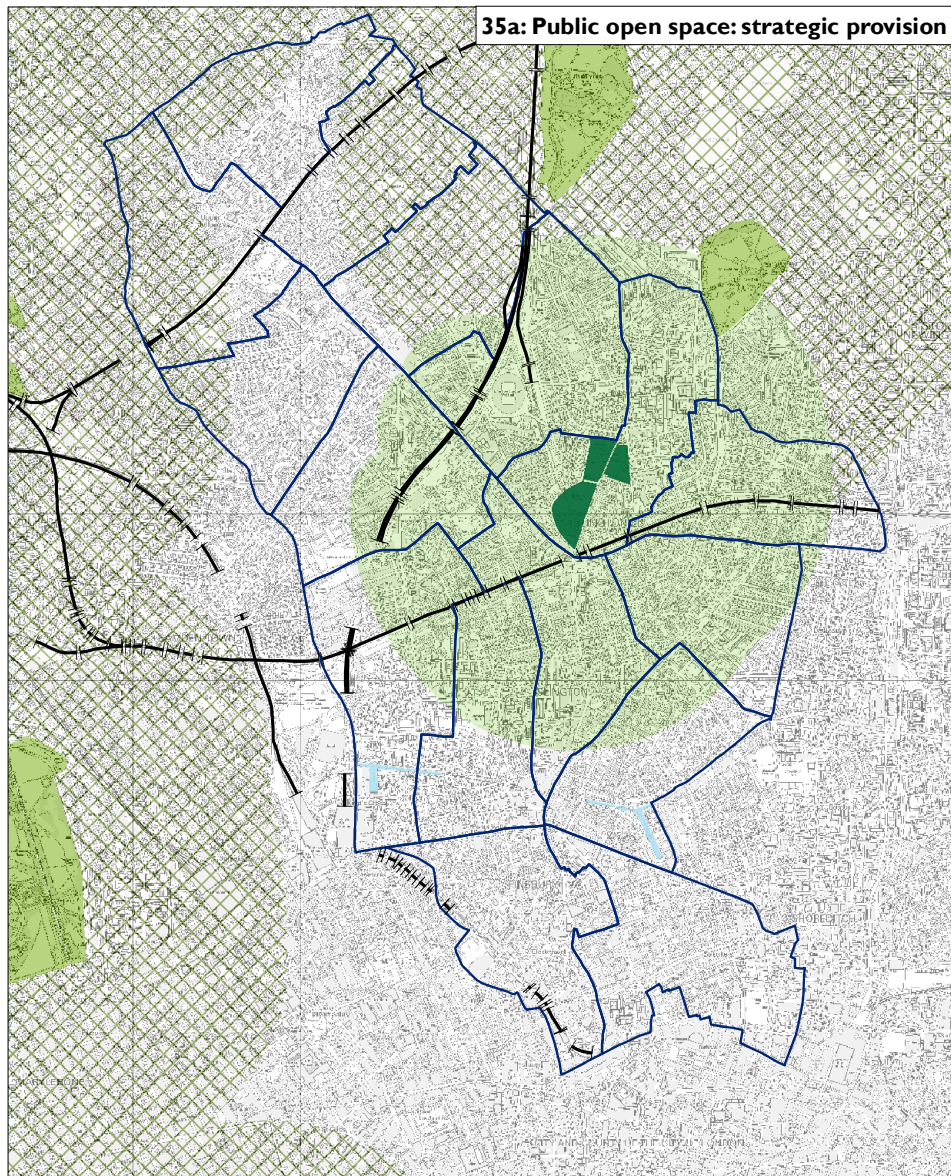
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 34: Shortfall/surplus in exiting provision at 2008 against quantity standard for public open space (0.521ha/1000 people)

Key

London Borough of Islington	-0.099 - 0.000	Typologies used to quantify public open space*	E: Amenity green space	Public open space in neighbouring boroughs
Shortfall/surplus in existing provision (2008) against quantity standard (ha/1000)	0.001 - 0.100	A: Parks and Gardens	H: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	
-0.330 - -0.250	0.101 - 0.250	B: Natural and semi-natural greenspace	J: Housing amenity space	
-0.249 - -0.100	0.251 - 0.500	C: Green Corridor		

0 125 250 500 m



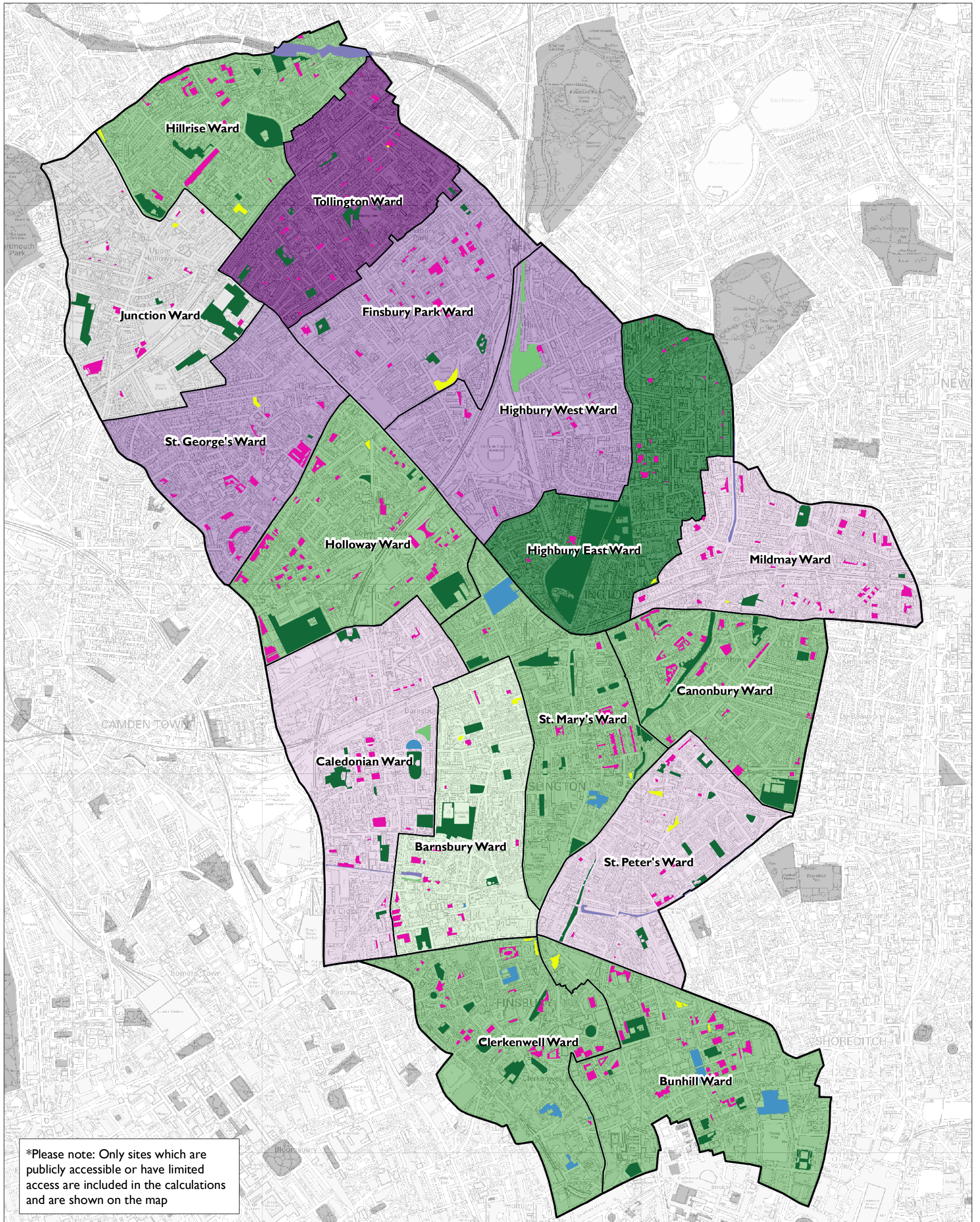
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 35: Open space: application of accessibility standards

0 250 500 1,000 m

Key

Railway	Public open space	Public open space catchments	Public open space in neighbouring boroughs	GLA catchments for public open spaces in neighbouring boroughs
Canal	Publicly accessible	Publicly accessible	Publicly accessible	Publicly accessible
Ward boundaries	Limited access	Limited access	Limited access	Limited access
	No public access	No public access	Unknown access	Unknown access





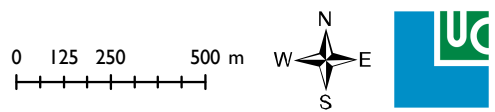
*Please note: Only sites which are publicly accessible or have limited access are included in the calculations and are shown on the map

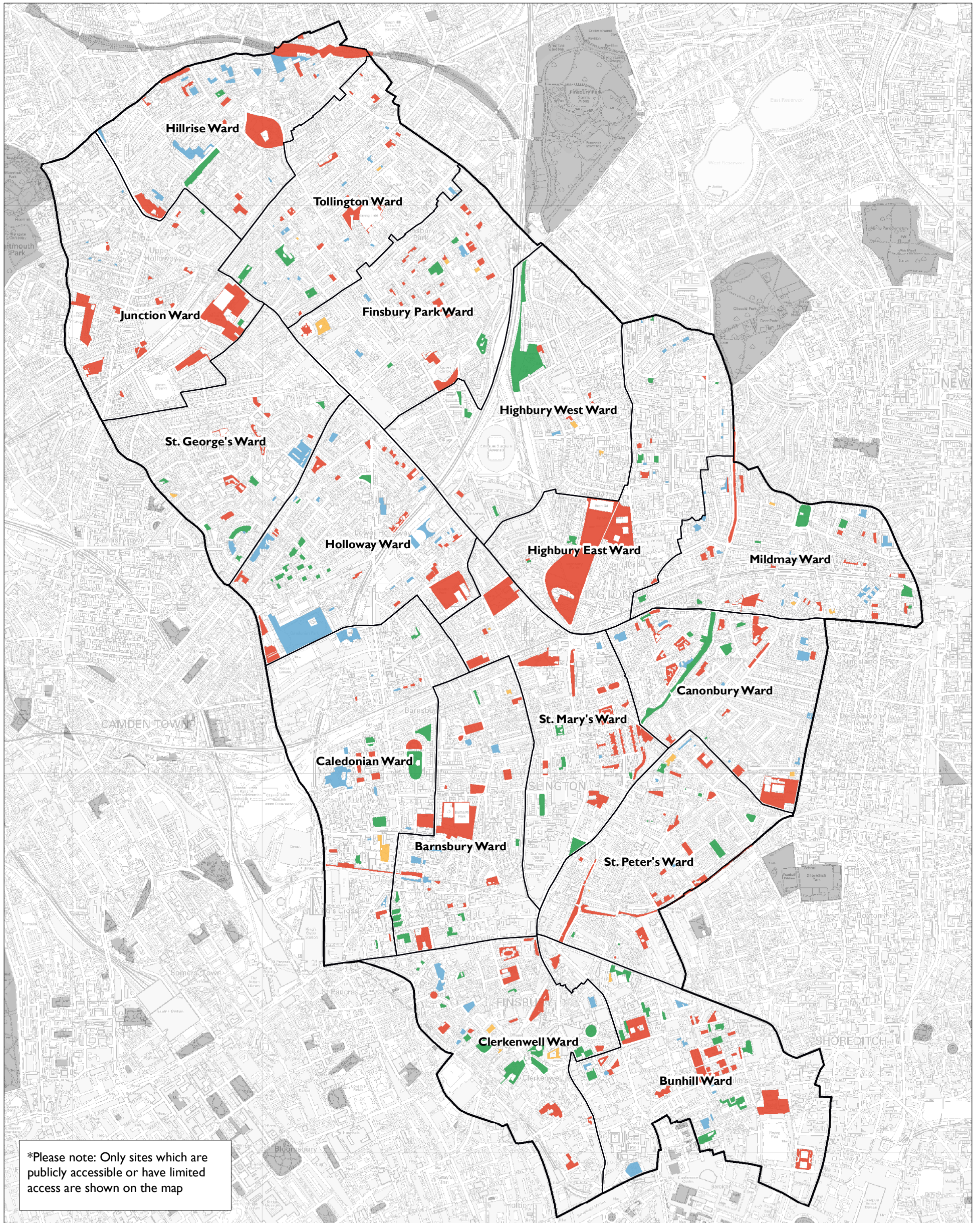
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 36: Shortfall/surplus in provision at 2025 against quantity standard for public open space (0.521 ha/1000 people)

Key

London Borough of Islington	-0.099 - 0.000	Typologies used to quantify public open space*	E: Amenity green space	Public open space in neighbouring boroughs
-0.351 - -0.331	0.001 - 0.100	A: Parks and Gardens	H: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	
-0.330 - -0.250	0.101 - 0.250	B: Natural and semi-natural greenspace	J: Housing amenity space	
-0.249 - -0.100	0.251 - 0.500	C: Green Corridor		









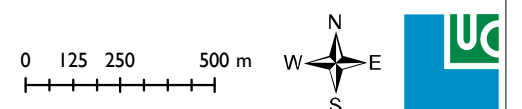


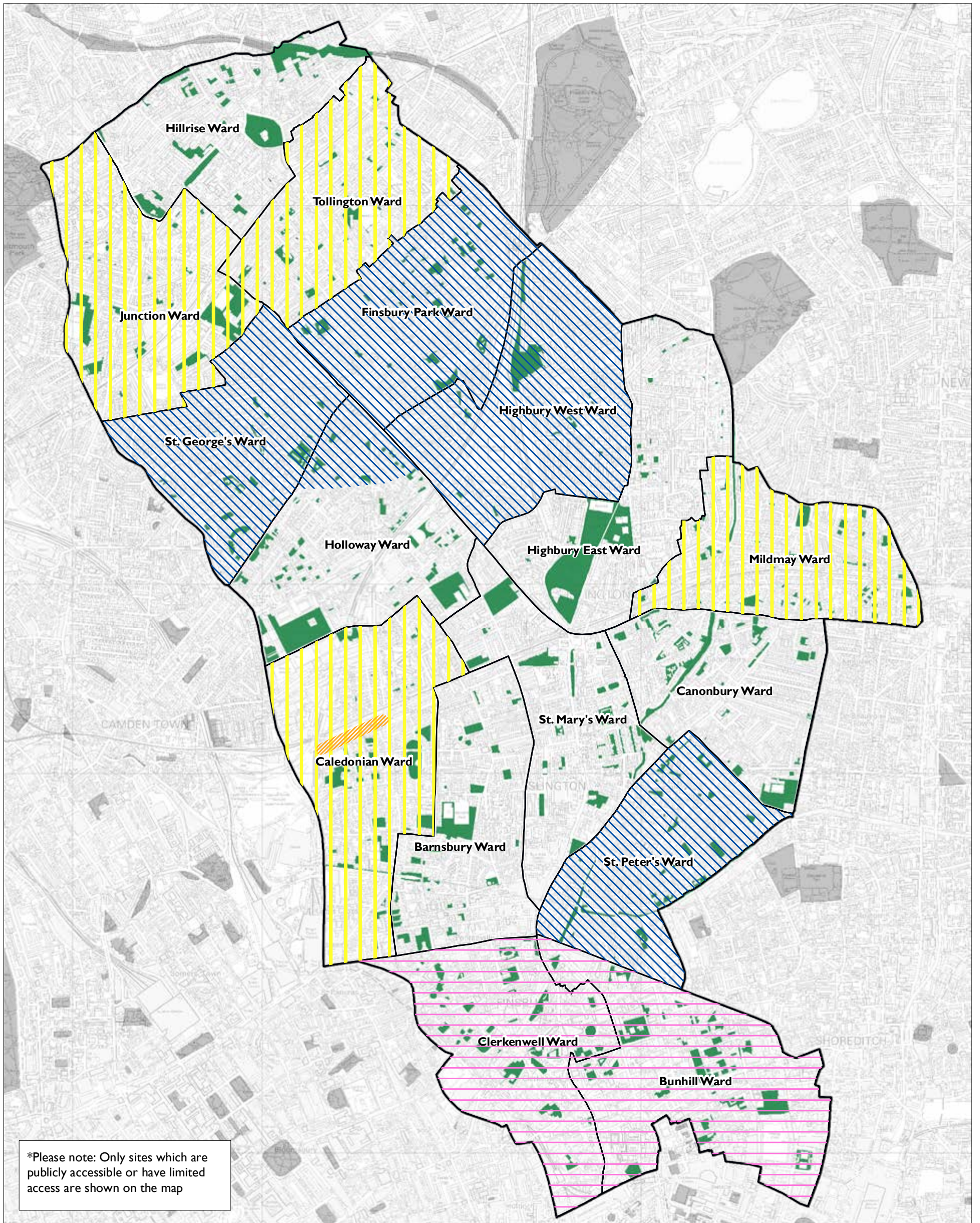
Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Map 37: Public open space value/quality ratings

Key








	London Borough of Islington	Value/quality rating
	Public open space in neighbouring boroughs	 Above value/above quality (+ +)
		 Above value/below quality (+ -)
		 Below value/above quality (- +)
		 Below value/below quality (- -)



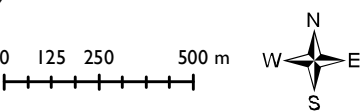



Islington Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study
Map 38: Public open space (POS) priorities

Key

-  London Borough of Islington
-  Public open space
-  Public open space in neighbouring boroughs
-  Primary priority areas for increasing provision of POS, ideally in form of parks and gardens (these areas are deficient in all types of POS, and parks and gardens in particular)
-  Secondary priority areas for increasing provision of POS (these areas are all deficient in POS provision)
-  Priority area for increasing quality and functionality of existing spaces
-  Explore potential for a green corridor at Gifford Street Embankment

0 125 250 500 m

**LONDON BOROUGH OF
ISLINGTON**

**OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND
RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

PART 2: APPENDICES

**Prepared for London Borough of
Islington
by
Land Use Consultants
and PMP**

October 2009

43 Chalton Street
London NW1 1JD
Tel: 020 7383 5784
Fax: 020 7383 4798
luc@landuse.co.uk

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- Appendix 1: PMP Household survey form
- Appendix 2: PMP Sports Club survey form
- Appendix 3: Groundwork open space survey report
- Appendix 4: Open space audit forms
- Appendix 5: Sport and recreation audit forms
- Appendix 6: List of all sites (incl. ID, name, size, type, hierarchy, ward, area committee, value/quality rating)
- Appendix 7: Accessibility standards – development described by typology with justification
- Appendix 8: Quantity standards – development described by typology with justification
- Appendix 9: Quality standards – development described by typology with justification
- Appendix 10: Guidance on planning policy formulation
- Appendix 11: Recommendations for an SPD on planning obligations for open space

APPENDIX I

PMP Household survey form

Islington Council - indoor and outdoor sports facility, community centre and youth club/ project survey

SECTION 1 – OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Definitions of outdoor sports facilities:

Grass pitches - football, rugby, cricket and other sporting pitches which have posts, are marked out and are available to hire for club use

Synthetic turf pitches - artificial grass pitches (with sand/ water based or 3G surfaces) available to hire for formal club use

Tennis courts - both informal access courts in parks/ on housing estates, as well as higher quality paid facilities on leisure, park and club sites

Bowling greens - grass bowling greens in parks and at bowling clubs

MUGAs (informal) - hard surfaced fenced multi-use games areas in parks/ housing estates used for basketball, 5-a-side football, netball etc on an informal/ unpaid basis

MUGAs (formal) - higher quality multi-use games areas in parks and on other leisure sites available for hire for formal club use.

Q1 Please tick below whether you feel there is ENOUGH OR NOT ENOUGH provision of each of the following facilities within Islington and, if possible, explain briefly the reason(s) for your answer (eg not enough in your area/quality is poor/inaccessible).

	More than enough	About right	Not enough	No opinion
Grass pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Synthetic turf pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Bowling greens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
MUGAs (informal/ unpaid use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
MUGAs (formal/ paid club use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				

Q2 Please write the length of TIME that you would expect to travel, and the type of transport you would expect to use, when travelling to outdoor sports facilities in Islington (Please state ONE TIME AND TRAVEL MODE FOR EACH FACILITY TYPE).

	Walk	Cycle	Public transport	Car
Grass pitches	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Synthetic turf pitches	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Tennis courts	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Bowling greens	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
MUGAs (informal/ unpaid use)	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
MUGAs (formal/ paid club use)	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins

Q3 How OFTEN do you use each of the following types of facility? (Please tick one box only for each type of facility).

	More than once a month	Once a month or less	Don't use
Grass pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Synthetic turf pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bowling greens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MUGAs (informal/ unpaid use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MUGAs (formal/ paid club use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 How would you rate the quality of the following types of facility in Islington?

	Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Don't know
Grass pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Synthetic turf pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bowling greens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MUGAs (informal/ unpaid use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MUGAs (formal/ paid club use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have any general or site specific quality issues, please detail here:

Q5 If you were describing your ideal features within outdoor sports facilities, what would be the TOP FEATURES you think should be provided? (please only tick up to FIVE)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Accessible routes to facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> | Ease / security of parking..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Ease of booking <input type="checkbox"/> | Range of activities <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maintenance of facilities..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Social facilities (bar, community events, etc.)..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Information available <input type="checkbox"/> | Value for money..... <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cleanliness..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Refreshments / vending services..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Welcoming staff <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please state)..... <input type="checkbox"/> |

THESE QUESTIONS RELATE TO THE TYPE OF OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITY YOU MOST FREQUENTLY USE

Q6 Please indicate which facility TYPE you use MOST FREQUENTLY in Islington? (PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Grass pitches <input type="checkbox"/> | Tennis courts..... <input type="checkbox"/> | MUGAs (informal/ unpaid use)..... <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Synthetic turf pitches <input type="checkbox"/> | Bowling greens <input type="checkbox"/> | MUGAs (formal/ paid club use)..... <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you do not use any of these facilities go to Q12, as Q7-Q11 do not apply.

Q7 Please name the facility SITE you use MOST FREQUENTLY and where it is located:

Site name

Location

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS RELATE TO THE OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITY TYPE YOU MOST FREQUENTLY USE AS INDICATED IN QUESTION 6

Q8 How do you normally TRAVEL to this type of facility? (please tick one box only)

- Walk..... Public transport..... Car/ motorcycle Cycle.....

Q9 How LONG does it take you to reach this type of facility? (please tick one box only)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Less than 5 minutes..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Between 10-14 minutes..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Between 20-24 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Between 5-9 minutes..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Between 15-19 minutes..... <input type="checkbox"/> | 25 minutes or more <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q10 Would any of the following factors improve the SAFETY of using this type of facility (please tick a maximum of three)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| Good quality lighting..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Staff on site <input type="checkbox"/> | Overlooked by housing <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Clear route to facility..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Reputation of area/space..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Other users <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CCTV..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Clear boundaries eg fencing <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please state)..... <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q11 If you were describing your ideal features within this type of facility, what would be the TOP FEATURES you think should be provided? (please only tick up to FIVE)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Accessible routes to facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> | Ease / security of parking..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Ease of booking <input type="checkbox"/> | Range of activities <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Maintenance of facilities..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Social facilities (bar, community events, etc.)..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Information available <input type="checkbox"/> | Value for money..... <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cleanliness..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Refreshments / vending services..... <input type="checkbox"/> | Welcoming staff <input type="checkbox"/> | Clear signage <input type="checkbox"/> |

Other (please state):.....

SECTION 2 – INDOOR FACILITIES (SPORTS, COMMUNITY & YOUTH)

Q12 Please tick below whether you feel there is **ENOUGH OR NOT ENOUGH** provision of each of the following indoor sport, community centre and youth club facilities in your local area and, if possible, explain briefly the reason(s) for your answer.

	More than enough	About right	Not enough	No opinion
Swimming pools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Sports halls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Private health and fitness (gyms)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Council health and fitness (gyms)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Indoor tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Indoor bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Ice rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Small community space for meetings, lectures, presentations, clubs, training etc (under 20)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Medium community space for meetings, lectures, presentations, clubs, training, events, sporting activities and parties etc (under 80)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Large community space for functions, parties, clubs, events, sporting activities, weddings, dances, church gatherings etc (80+)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Indoor youth clubs/ projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				
Playgroup/nursery space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for answer				

Q13 Please write the length of **TIME** that you would expect to travel, and the type of transport you would expect to use, when travelling to facilities in Islington (Please state **ONE TIME AND TRAVEL MODE FOR EACH FACILITY TYPE ONLY**)

	Walk	Cycle	Public transport	Car
Swimming pools	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Sports halls	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Private gyms	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Public gyms	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Indoor tennis	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Indoor bowls	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Ice rinks	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Small community space	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Medium community space	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Large community space	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Indoor youth clubs/ projects	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins
Playgroup/nursery space	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins	__ mins

Q14 How OFTEN do you use each of the following types of facility? (Please tick one box only for each type of facility)

	More than once a month	Once a month or less	Don't use
Swimming pools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports halls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private gyms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council gyms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small community space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medium community space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large community space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor youth clubs/ projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playgroup/nursery space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q15 How would you rate the QUALITY of the following types of facilities in Islington? (Please tick one box only for each type of facility)

	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Swimming pools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports halls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private gyms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council gyms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small community space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medium community space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large community space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor youth clubs/ projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playgroup/nursery space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have any general or site specific quality issues, please detail here:

THESE QUESTIONS RELATE TO THE TYPE OF INDOOR SPORT FACILITY YOU MOST FREQUENTLY USE

Q16 Please indicate which INDOOR SPORT facility TYPE you use MOST FREQUENTLY in Islington? (PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE)

Swimming pools	<input type="checkbox"/>	Council gyms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ice rinks.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports halls.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Indoor tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please state)	
Private gyms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Indoor bowls.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If you do not use any of these facilities go to Q22, as Q17-Q21 do not apply.

Q17 Please name the facility SITE you use MOST FREQUENTLY and where it is located:

Site name

Location

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS RELATE TO THE INDOOR SPORTS FACILITY TYPE YOU MOST FREQUENTLY USE AS INDICATED IN QUESTION 16

Q18 How do you normally TRAVEL to this type of facility? (please tick one box only)

Walk..... Public transport..... Car/motorcycle..... Cycle.....

Q28 If you have any other **COMMENTS** that you would like to make regarding outdoor and indoor sports facilities, community centres and youth clubs/ projects in Islington, please write them in the box below.

SECTION 3 - SOME DETAILS ABOUT YOU

- Q29** Are you:
Male..... Female.....
- Q30** How old are you?
Under 16..... 25-39 60-75
16-24..... 40-59 75+
- Q31** Which of the following best describes your ethnic origin?
White (British or Irish)..... Asian (Indian, Pakistani or Bangladeshi)..... Black (Caribbean).....
White (other)..... Asian (Other)..... Black (other).....
Mixed background..... Black (African)..... Chinese.....
Other (please specify):.....
- Q32** Do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?
Yes No
- Q33** Are there any children under 16 years old in your household?
Yes No

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.
Please return it in the prepaid envelope provided by Monday 31 March 2008.

To be entered into the prize draw for a £50 M&S voucher, please provide your contact details below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone and email: _____

This information will only be used for the purpose of this prize draw and will not be provided to any third parties.

APPENDIX 2

PMP Sports Club survey form

Islington Borough Council Sports Club Survey

Please spare a few moments of your time to complete this questionnaire on behalf of your club/organisation. Please tick boxes or fill in as appropriate. Thank you.

Q1 Please state the name of your organisation:

Q2 Which of these activities does your club participate in? (You may tick more than one box) If you represent a club offering more than one activity, please feel free to complete separate forms for each activity

Football

Netball

Gymnastics

Athletics

Cricket

Cycling

Swimming

Walking

Rugby

Tennis

Bowls

Martial arts

Hockey

Dance

Badminton

Other

If other please specify:

Q3 How many members do you currently have?

Q4 Do you have a waiting list and if so, how many people are on it?

Q5 Is this number increasing, decreasing, or stable?

Increasing

Decreasing

Stable

Q6 What type of facility does your club primarily use?

Synthetic turf pitch

Bowling green

Tennis court

Swimming pool

Sports hall

Other

Grass pitch (inc. Football, Rugby, Hockey)

please specify

Q7 Of your chosen facility type (Q6), please indicate whether you feel there is enough or not enough provision in the District?

More than enough

Nearly enough

About right

Not enough

Q8 Please name the facility that you use most often: (provide site name and location)

Q9 If there is a second facility that you use on a regular basis please state it here: (provide site name and location)

Q10 What mode of transport do the majority of your members use to travel to the above facility (Q8)?

Walk

Bus

Taxi

Motorcycle

Cycle

Car

Train

Other (Please specify)

Q11 How long do you think is reasonable for members to have to travel to participate in that activity at that facility (e.g. ten minutes to the local playing pitch for a pub football team) ?

0-5

10-15

20-25

30+

5-10

15-20

25-30

Q12 Do the existing leisure facilities you use meet all the needs of your club/organisation?

Yes

No

Q13 If no, what features do you think should be improved?

Availability

Cost

Fit for purpose

Other

Location

please specify:

Q14 What types of leisure facilities would you like to see more of, and/or think there is a demand for in your local area? (You may tick more than one option)

Swimming pool
(Lane swimming)

Leisure pools

Sports halls

Outdoor tennis
courts

Synthetic turf/All
weather pitches

Outdoor multi-use
games areas

Grass pitches

Health & Fitness
gym

Youth facilities

Indoor bowls

Indoor tennis
courts

Squash courts

Other (Please specify)

Q15 How would you rate the overall provision of leisure facilities in terms of **QUALITY** within your local area?

- Very good Average Very poor
 Good Poor

Please explain the reason for this choice:

Q16 What top two features would you prioritise within the provision of new/improved leisure facilities?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Well maintained grass | <input type="checkbox"/> Ease/security of parking | <input type="checkbox"/> Ease/security of cycle storage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Range of activities on offer | <input type="checkbox"/> Organised coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping prices low |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Fit for purpose |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Level surfaces/good drainage | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshment facilities | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Changing facilities | |

Q17 Do any of your members have a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?

- Yes No

Q18 If you have any general comments that you would like to make us aware of regarding the provision of leisure facilities please use the space provided below and specify the area you are commenting on:

PMP are registered under the Data Protection Act (1998) and all your responses will remain confidential. The results of this survey will only be used in aggregated form, and you will not be contacted about your responses, nor will they be used for any purpose other than those stated in the cover letter, unless you give your explicit consent.

APPENDIX 3

Groundwork open space survey report

Executive Summary

Groundwork acted as sub consultants to Land Use Consultants to help inform the development of a Green Space Strategy for Islington Council. The Green Space Strategy will set out Islington's overall vision and objectives for its parks and open spaces, methods and time needed to achieve the vision and objectives. Groundwork carried out community consultation to ensure that residents' opinions can be fed into the development of the Green Space Strategy.

Community consultation aimed to ascertain opinions of both parks users and those who currently do not use parks or green spaces. Face to face surveys were carried out in four parks at different days and different times and door to door surveys were carried out in each of the committee areas. Residents were also able to complete the questionnaire survey at either Groundwork's or LB Islington's website. Five focus groups were carried out with groups who might be difficult to reach through other means, including older and disabled residents, young people and residents from minority ethnic communities.

Community consultation found that the majority of those who currently use parks or green spaces visit sites that are within walking distance of their homes more frequently than green spaces that require them to travel more than 15 minutes. Relatively few people are prepared to travel to larger parks on a regular basis even if they boast better facilities. The questionnaire survey showed that while 54% of park users visit their local park at least 2-3 times a week, only 15% visit larger parks that often. Access to a good quality green space close to people's homes is therefore vitally important.

People spoken to value parks and green spaces for the formal and informal recreational opportunities they provide. People consulted use parks to get fresh air, for peace and quiet, to go for a walk or to simply enjoy the beauty of the surroundings. Parents mainly visit with their children, while visiting with friends and family were also popular.

Most respondents visit on both weekdays and the weekend, with slightly more people visiting exclusively on the weekend compared to weekdays. Slightly more people visit parks and green spaces as part of a group compared to those who prefer to visit on their own.

The main consideration when visiting parks as well as the main barrier to accessing parks and green spaces is safety. The majority of

respondents indicated that they felt either very safe or safe when visiting parks they are familiar with. Focus groups showed that familiarity with a park and proximity to people's homes affects perceptions of safety. Residents perceive parks and greens spaces that are located close to their homes and those they visit frequently to be safe, whereas parks that are located further away and that they are less familiar with are frequently perceived to be dangerous. People are less likely to visit parks that they perceive to be dangerous.

Other considerations that were important to people visiting parks were convenience, a good standard of maintenance, accessibility and play areas.

People identified addressing the issue of dog fouling as a key improvement priority. Dog fouling contributes to people feeling unsafe, acts as a barrier to people accessing parks and green spaces and spoils people's enjoyment of these spaces. Other improvement priorities revolved around addressing safety and security issues, improving parks and green spaces' appearance, lighting and seating improvements.

The majority of residents would like investment to be focused on existing green spaces, rather than the creation of new ones.

Community consultation has found that of those who expressed a preference, the majority would like to see investment spread across a larger number of sites, including pocket parks and squares, rather than to focus investment on a small number of key sites. As the vast majority of people travel less than 10 minutes to the park they use most regularly, good quality green spaces close to people's homes are key to ensure that people's satisfaction with green spaces remains high or to increase satisfaction ratings.

Islington Greenspace Strategy Community Consultation

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Focus group template

Appendix 2: Community Questionnaire- Door to door

Appendix 2: Community Questionnaire- Park Survey

Introduction

Groundwork acted as sub consultants to Land Use Consultants to help inform the development of a Green Space Strategy for Islington Council. The Green Space Strategy will set out Islington's overall vision and objectives for its parks and open spaces, methods and time needed to achieve the vision and objectives. Groundwork carried out community consultation to ensure that residents' opinions can be fed into the development of the Green Space Strategy.

Aims

- To ascertain residents' opinions regarding existing green space provision
- To identify additional latent demand
- To identify and elicit further information from current users and non users of green spaces
- To identify improvement priorities
- To elicit information from residents to help guide future investment in parks and green spaces

2. Methodology

2.1 Desktop Research

Desktop research collates information obtained from recent surveys commissioned by LB Islington aimed at establishing residents' levels of satisfaction with parks and open spaces in Islington. This section reviews existing data and identifies major issues of concern to parks users and local residents.

The following documents were reviewed:

- Customer Satisfaction with Environment and Regeneration, ORC, 2006
- Analysis of Parks and Open Spaces Usage and Satisfaction, KMC, 2006
- Results from Questionnaire Survey on Users and Safety issues within St. Mary Magdalene Church Gardens, LBI, 2006

The 2006 MORI poll carried on behalf of LB Islington had not been released in time to be included in this report.

2.2 Focus Group with Hard to Reach Groups

Focus groups were carried out with groups who might be hard to reach through other means, to ensure their opinions can be fed into the Green Space Strategy (Appendix 1). The following groups were consulted

- **Islington Chinese Association**, 22nd February 2007, at the Islington Chinese Association Community Centre, N19. 8 adults participated in the focus group.
- **Barnard Park Youth Club**, 6th March 2007, at Barnard Park Adventure Playground, N1. 15 young people between the ages of 10-15 and 1 youth worker attended the consultation event.

- **New River Green Parent's Group**, 5th March 2007, at new River Green Children's Centre, N1. The focus group was attended by 8 parents.
- **Dorcas Project**, a project working with older people and disabled people, 1st February 2007, at the Walter Sickert Community Centre, N1. The focus group was attended 14 older and disabled people.
- **Holloway Women's Group** at The Old Fire Station, N7. The focus group was attended by 4 Afro Caribbean women.

Disability Action Islington are currently carrying out an access audit. This audit will consist of consultation with local disabled people and relevant local groups representative of disabled people to assess the current barriers faced by disabled people when using parks and open spaces and their proposed solutions to some of the identified problems. Access audits will be carried out of 13 parks or open spaces. Results from this audit will complement findings from the Green Space Strategy and contribute towards improving accessibility of Islington's Parks and open spaces.

2.3 Community Questionnaire Survey

A community questionnaire survey was developed to ascertain residents' satisfaction with the quality and quantity of green spaces, usage pattern and to help guide future investment in parks and green spaces. The questionnaire survey was agreed with LBI Greenspace and Land Use Consultants (Appendix 2 and 3).

In total 162 completed questionnaire surveys were received, 106 surveys were completed face to face or were posted back to Groundwork, 31 questionnaire surveys were completed in parks and 25 surveys were completed online (6 on LB Islington's website and 19 on Groundwork's website).

2.3.1 Door to door survey

Door to door surveys were carried out for 4 hours in each of the four committee areas. Surveyors carried out door to door surveys on housing estates for 2 hours and focused on street properties for another two hours per shift. Surveyor left a copy of the questionnaire survey with a pre paid envelope for residents not home. 1000 units were door knocked, 250 per committee area. Residents were also able to complete the questionnaire survey online on either Groundwork's or

LB Islington's website. In total 131 responses were received- a response rate of 13.1%.

The door to door surveys were aimed at eliciting opinions about parks and open spaces from park users and those who currently do not use parks or green spaces.

The following streets and social housing blocks of flats were covered:

South Area, 12 February 2007. 18 responses were received

- Langdon Court
- Kestral House
- Jessop Avenue
- Theseus Way
- Sudley Street
- Graham Road
- City Garden Row

North Area, 14 February 2007

- Wedmore Gardens Estate. 17 responses were received.
- Weatherby House
- Morcombe House
- Davenant Road
- Kiver Road
- Yerbury Road

East Area, 15 February 2007. 52 responses were received.

- Avenell Mansions
- Aubert Court
- Highbury New Park
- Avenall Road
- Aubert Park
- Conewood Street
- Elwood Road
- Leg Road
- Aubert Road

West Area, 16 February 2007. 19 responses were received.

- Cornelia Street
- Caister House

- Roman Way
- Barnsbury Garden
- Offord Road

2.3.2 Park User Survey

Park user surveys were carried out in four parks specified by LB Islington, one in each committee area. Surveys were carried out at the following parks:

Elthorne Park (North): weekday am, weekend am. 11 responses were received.

Fortune Park (South): weekday pm, weekend pm. 9 responses were received.

Newington Green (East): weekday am. 3 responses were received (surveys at Newington Green were carried out on a rainy day).

Paradise Park (West): weekday pm, weekend am. 8 responses were received.

31 questionnaire surveys were carried out with park users in total

3. Results

3.1 Desktop Research

The London Borough of Islington regularly commissions surveys to ascertain residents' satisfaction with services provided by the council. Results from surveys aim to inform service improvement planning, to help determine resource allocation, to ascertain any differences in perception of service provision across the borough's diverse communities and to look at what service improvements would increase residents' satisfaction.

Park usage and satisfaction with parks and open spaces

The 2006 parks and open spaces usage and satisfaction survey showed that 70% of respondents currently use an Islington owned park. Over a quarter of parks users (28%) use a park daily.

The majority of residents stated that they do not visit parks or green spaces at a particular time of day. Of those who expressed a preference, the most popular time was the afternoon, from 1pm to dusk.

The majority of respondents (28.8%) said that they tend to visit parks for 30 minutes to one hour, followed by those who stay for less than 30 minutes (21.6%).

By far the most popular park was Highbury Fields (21.4%), followed by Barnard Park (3.7%), Whittington Park (3.6%) and Elthorne Park (3.1%). The popularity of Highbury Fields and the drop to the next most popular site can be explained by the fact that Highbury Fields is by far the largest site in Islington and boasts the most facilities.

The majority of residents are very or fairly satisfied with the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces (59% and 63% respectively). White British residents were more satisfied with the quality of parks and open spaces (70%) compared with other minority ethnic groups as

a whole (53%). Black and Asian residents were the least satisfied (45% and 35% respectively).

Residents in the north and east of the borough were more satisfied with the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces, compared to the west and the south. Residents in the north of the borough are the most satisfied with the quantity of parks and open spaces (69%), while residents in the East were the most satisfied with the quality of parks and open spaces (70%). Residents in the south were the least satisfied with both the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces (50% and 55% respectively), (Customer Satisfaction Survey with environment and regeneration in Islington, 2006).

Reasons for visiting parks and satisfaction with facilities

The most popular reason for visiting a park was to relax (22.9%), followed by those who visit parks to exercise (15.71%). 14.5% use parks as a shortcut, while 14.2% take their children to play. 4.1% of parks users are dog walkers.

The majority of users walk to the park at least some of the time (92%).

The parks and open space usage and satisfaction survey asked residents to rank facilities between 2 (very poor) to 10 (very good). Overall park users were satisfied with the overall appearance of parks and green spaces. Grass cutting received the highest score (7.41), followed by cleanliness (7.24). Respondents expressed a high level of satisfaction with play provision and site furniture. Play areas were rated 7.19 out of 10, this compares favourably to the national average of 6.88. Seats and bins received a satisfaction rating of 6.46 (compared to the national average of 6.09). The only categories that scored lower than 5 were toilets 4.38 and car parking 4.99. All other factors received a rating of at least 6 (=fair).

Safety and Security

Nearly three quarter of parks users (73%) feel very safe or safe when using parks or green spaces, while 15% of respondents stated that they feel unsafe and 3% that they feel very unsafe.

Of those who do not feel safe, the main reasons stated were young people loitering and problems caused by irresponsible dog ownership (Parks and Open Spaces Usage and Satisfaction, 2006).

3.2 Focus Group with Hard to Reach Groups

Usage and satisfaction with green spaces

Four out of five groups spoken to use parks and green spaces regularly. Women from the Holloway women's group were the only ones who never or only rarely visit parks and green spaces. The majority of people spoken to use green spaces nearest to their homes most often, with occasional trips to larger parks further afield. The young people's group spoken to, for example, use Barnard Park most days of the week, as it is across the road from where they live. Older people spoken to indicated that they predominately use local parks within walking distance of their homes.

For parents and young people spoken to parks and green spaces are a destination in themselves, while older people mainly use them en route to the shops or on their way to and from the bus stop. Parents visit parks mainly for their play facilities. It takes parents on average under 15 minutes to walk to parks they visit frequently.

Young people spoken to visit Barnard Park and Barnard Park Adventure Playground most days. They regard both the park and the adventure playground as places where they are free to do as they please without being constrained by adults. Young people clearly value the recreational opportunities that both the park and the adventure playground provide. They also appreciate the natural environment, for example a number of young people pointed out that they enjoy collecting beetles and observing butterflies.

While young people use green spaces throughout the year, older people stated that they mainly use green spaces during the summer months, when they frequently spend whole afternoons in the park reading a book, chatting to friends or simply enjoying the sunshine. Many said that they use green spaces as a cut through and do so in all weathers.

Older and disabled people spoken to liked Rosemary Gardens and felt that it is well maintained. They were however concerned about the re-development of the park and felt they were not adequately informed about plans for the re-development of Rosemary Gardens.

Overall older people spoken to liked New River Walk:

" it's lovely", "it's a treat to see a bit of park"

A few thought that *" it is being neglected, the water smells and it's dirty", "you have to ignore the drunks"*. A few people felt that there are not enough seats along the New River Walk, but they were unsure whether more seating should be added, as they were concerned that young people might vandalise any new seating.

None of the women from the Holloway women's group visit parks regularly. Reason given for not using parks were because they are too busy to visit parks, that there are no attractive parks near them and a lack of interest. All of the women said that they used to visit parks when their children were small, but no longer feel they have a reason for visiting parks. They occasionally visit parks when there is a fair or festival taking place.

Women who attend the Islington Chinese Community Centre undertake guided health walks to Elthorne Park every Wednesday and Friday. A few also use the park early mornings and in the afternoon. While other stated that they do not feel safe enough to use it on their own.

Accessibility and barriers to accessing parks and green spaces

All focus group participants stated that they find it easy to access parks, including older and disabled residents accessing parks on their mobility scooters. The vast majority of people spoken to mainly use local parks and use larger parks only infrequently.

Older residents and disabled residents visit larger parks less frequently because getting there requires them to take a bus or taxi. They felt that it is easy to get around parks and green spaces and stated that they gain much enjoyment from riding around green spaces on their mobility scooters and do so frequently. One man mentioned that while he can walk, he cannot walk very far and needs to sit down frequently and added that *"seats every couple of hundred yards would be great"*.

Parents spoken to live within easy walking distance or a short bus ride away from their local park.

Young people were the only ones who identified access as an issue at least some of the time. While most of the young people spoken to live close to their local park (Barnard Park), they feel vulnerable walking home at dusk. However, this does not prevent them from accessing the adventure play ground and park in the late afternoon. Youth workers have devised a coping strategy to enable young people to visit the park throughout the year - they accompany children home if they leave the park after dark.

While the women from the Holloway women's group do not currently use parks on a regular basis, they did not identify accessibility as an issue.

Safety and Security

Overall, most people spoken to felt safe when using parks and green spaces during the day, but would not use them after dark. The vast majority of people spoken to felt safe using their local green spaces, but did not feel as comfortable using green spaces outside of their neighbourhood.

While the Chinese women use Elthorne Park regularly as a group, they perceived it to be quite dangerous. The majority do not visit Elthorne Park on their own. The main reasons why they felt unsafe were:

- Young people loitering and harassing other park users.
- Not enough people using the space, which made them feel unsafe.
- People consuming alcohol openly and homeless people.
- The women also expressed concern that the park feels too enclosed. One of the women suggested that because of tall trees and dense vegetation around the perimeter of the site people might not realise that the park is there. The women also pointed out that obscured sightlines could act as a barrier to people accessing Elthorne Park. They suggested thinning out trees to improve sightlines to encourage more people to visit the park, which would in turn improve (perceived) safety.

Highbury Fields was mentioned by older people as a dangerous park, one person spoken to was mugged there while another older person referred to it as "*a place where you get mugged*" and a "*no go area*".

Fear of crime was identified by the Holloway women's group as a barrier to accessing green spaces. They were particularly concerned about people taking drugs and feared for their personal safety:

"you never know what they(drug users) could do, they are prepared to kill for drugs", "drug users make a lot of trouble, so people keep away", "I don't want to take any chances".

Improvement suggestions

Many of the improvement suggestions revolved around improving safety and security, which everyone agreed were paramount.

Improvement suggestions common to all groups and parks were:

- Toilet facilities.
- A shelter, possibly in the form of a café/ somewhere to buy a drink.
- Address issues of dog fouling and irresponsible dog ownership.
- Better policing of green spaces, suggestions included through rangers, police community support officer, volunteer rangers or by improving green spaces to encourage more people to use them and thereby making them feel safer.
- Address issues of people loitering and people consuming alcohol openly.
- More events and activities in parks.

Park specific improvement suggestions

- Union Square: one resident felt that dense vegetation acts as a barrier to people accessing the square.
- Barnard Park: a new play structure and ropes (in the adventure playground), an astro turf football pitch, new goal posts and basketball hoops, play markings, for example hop-scotch on the football pitch for younger children and fruit trees.
- One woman mentioned that the green space by Almorah Community Centre, which is currently not publicly accessible, could be transformed into a community resource: *"it's a nice little area, you could encourage people to help plant up the space, so that it's theirs".*
- Whittington Park: The Chinese women spoken to felt that as the play area in Whittington Park can get very crowded, it should be improved and enlarged.

- Highbury Field: Chinese women spoken to felt that more facilities should be created at Highbury Fields, similar to recent improvement carried out in Finsbury Park.
- Elthorne Park: improve sightlines and thin trees around the perimeter of the park. More and better facilities, including toilets and a café.
- New River Walk: benches or seats.

Investment in Parks and Green Spaces

People spoken to were satisfied with the quantity of parks and green spaces in Islington and felt that there is no space for the creation of new parks. Nearly everyone spoken to felt that investment should be focused on maintaining and improving existing green spaces, rather than creating new ones:

"there is quite a bit of green, we should make the most of what we've got"

Older people strongly felt that the focus should be on improving and safeguarding existing parks. Residents were concerned that the council appears to sell off pockets of green space to private developers, citing the example of a new residential development on Barnsbury Road, which encroached on Barnsbury Wood. One man added *"it's important to keep what we've got."*

Everyone agreed that parks close to people's home are important. Most people spoken to would like to see investment spread across a large number of sites, to ensure that everyone has access to a good quality green space within easy reach of their home.

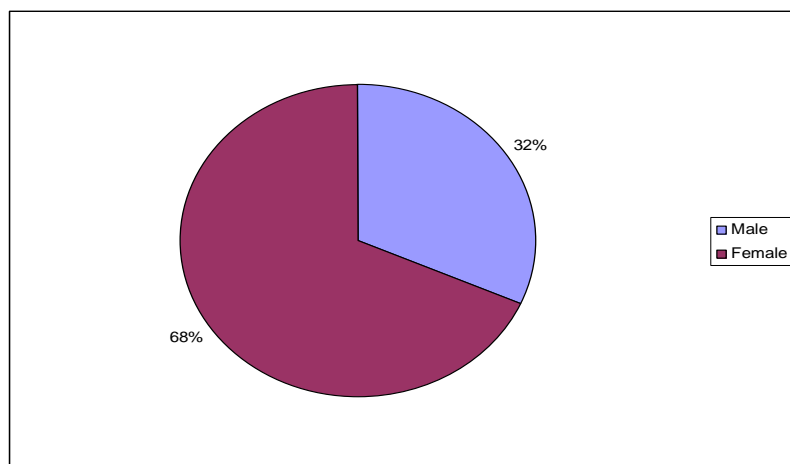
Most of the parents spoken to would like to see resources concentrated on existing local parks as they are easy to get to and are at the heart of the community. One parent wanted the bigger parks improved because she thought that they are used by more people.

3.3 Community Questionnaire Survey

Sample

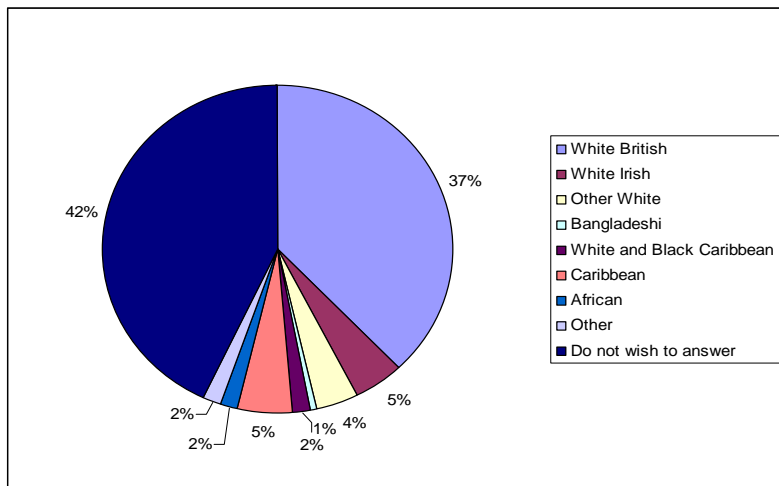
In total 162 responses were received, this includes questionnaire surveys completed face to face, postal surveys, surveys carried out in parks and surveys completed online.

Graph one shows that the majority of respondents were female (68%), while 32% were male.



Graph1: Gender

Graph two shows the ethnic breakdown of respondents:



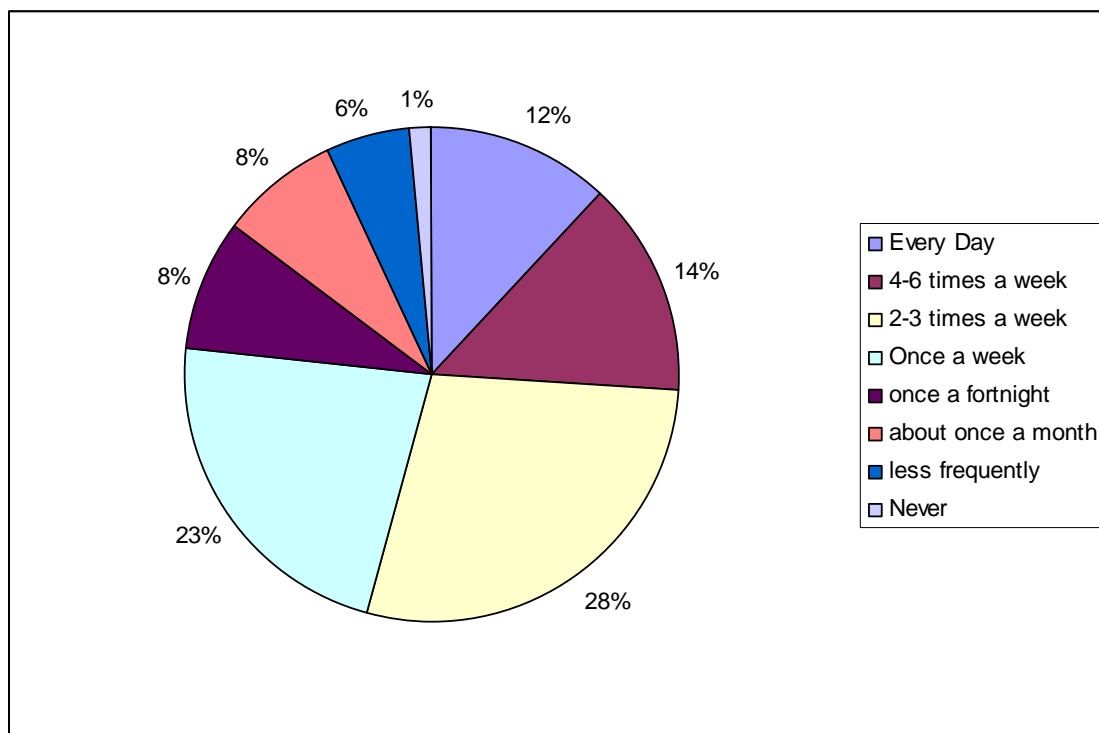
Graph 2: Ethnicity

Usage Pattern

Which parks or green spaces do you visit most often? How often do you visit your local park or green space (nearest park or green space within walking distance of your house)?

The vast majority of respondents, 87.7%, use parks and open spaces regularly.

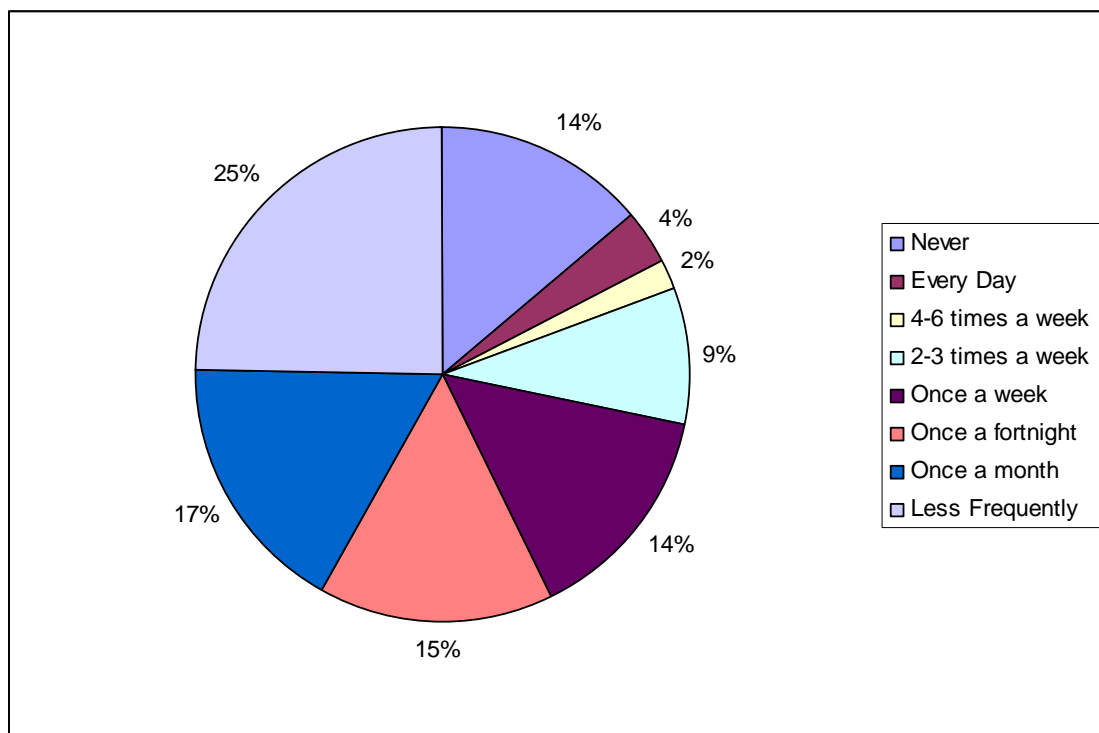
Graph 3 shows that nearly a quarter of respondents use their nearest park or green space 2-3 times a week (28%), followed by those who visit parks once a week (23%), those who visit 4-6 times a week (14%) and those who visit daily (12%).



Graph 3: Frequency of use of local park

How often do you travel to a larger park (including parks outside of Islington)?

Graph 4 shows that most residents use larger parks, including parks outside of Islington, albeit less frequently than they use their local park. The majority of respondents indicated that they use larger parks less than once a month (25%), followed by those who use larger parks once a month (17%) and once a fortnight (15). 14% of respondents never use larger parks. This breaks down into 10.4% of those who completed postal questionnaire or were interviewed at their door step and 25.8% of those who were interviewed in parks.



Graph 4: Frequency of use of larger park

The most popular larger parks visited in Islington were Highbury Fields, Gillespie Park, Thornhill Square and Whittington Park.

The most popular larger parks visited outside of Islington were, Clissold Park, Finsbury Park, Hampstead Heath, Regent's Park, Hyde Park and Victoria Park.

Why don't you visit parks or green spaces?

12.3% of respondents do not visit parks regularly. Of those who do not visit parks or green spaces regularly, 40% did not feel safe when visiting parks, 30% felt that they did not have enough time to visit parks, while another 30% stated that parks are badly maintained. 15% of respondents stated that they are difficult to get to. 10% of those who currently do not visit parks regularly cited poor health as a barrier, a further 10% did not feel like visiting parks or green spaces and 10% felt that they are too far away.

On what days of the week do you tend to visit parks in Islington?

Over half of all respondents use parks on both weekdays and on the weekend (56%), with more people using parks exclusively on the weekend (25%) compared to weekdays (19%).

What Islington park or green space do you visit most often?

Table 1 shows that 49 respondents named Highbury Fields as the park or green space they visit most often, followed by Whittington Park (14) and Paradise park (10).

Park	Number of respondents
Highbury Fields	49
Whittington Park	14
Paradise Park	10
Elthorne Park	4
Graham Street	4
Arundel Square	3
King Square	3
Newington Green	2
Colebrook Row	2
New River Walk	2
Waterlow Park	2
St. Mary Magdalene Gardens	2
Waterlow Park	2
Market Road	1
Barnsbury Square	1
Davenant Road	1
Fortune Park	1
Thornhill Park	1
Regent's Canal Towpath	1
Davenant Road Open Space	1
Duncan Terrace	1
Corum Fields	1
Laycock Street	1
Royal Northern Gardens	1
Cornwallis Square	1
Charterhouse Square	1
Thornhill Park	1

Table 1: Islington Parks visited most frequently by respondents

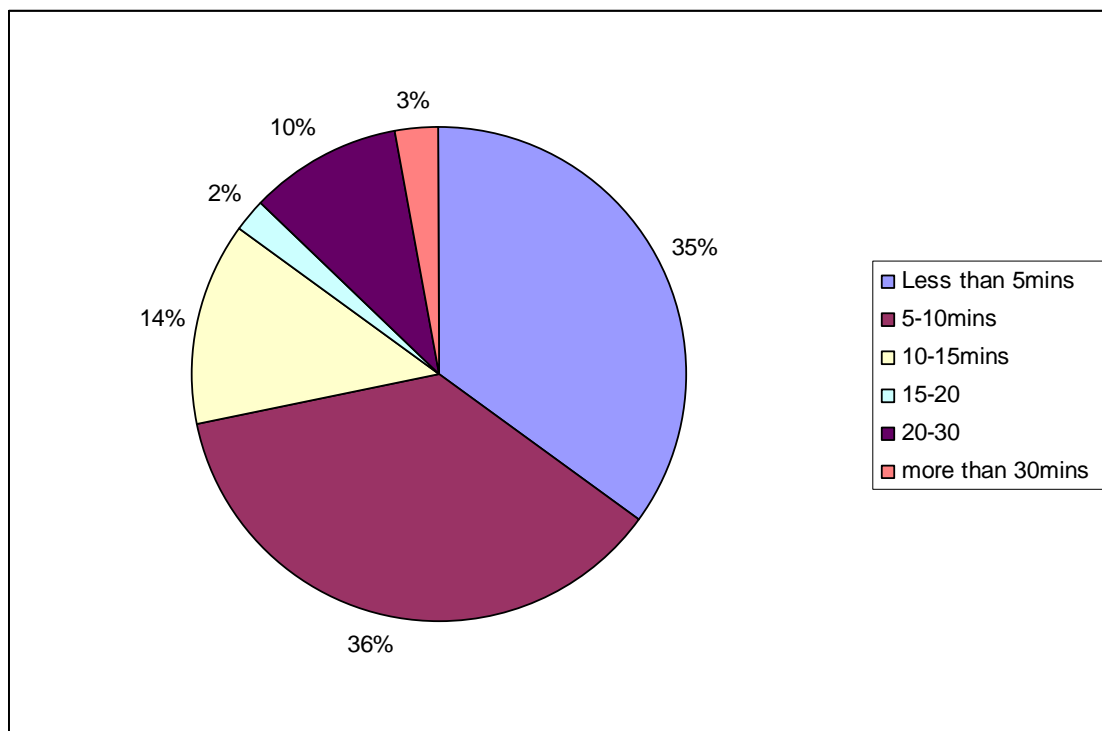
Accessing parks and attitudes to parks

Respondents were asked a number of questions relating to the park they visit most often.

How long does it usually take you to travel to this park? How do you normally get to this park?

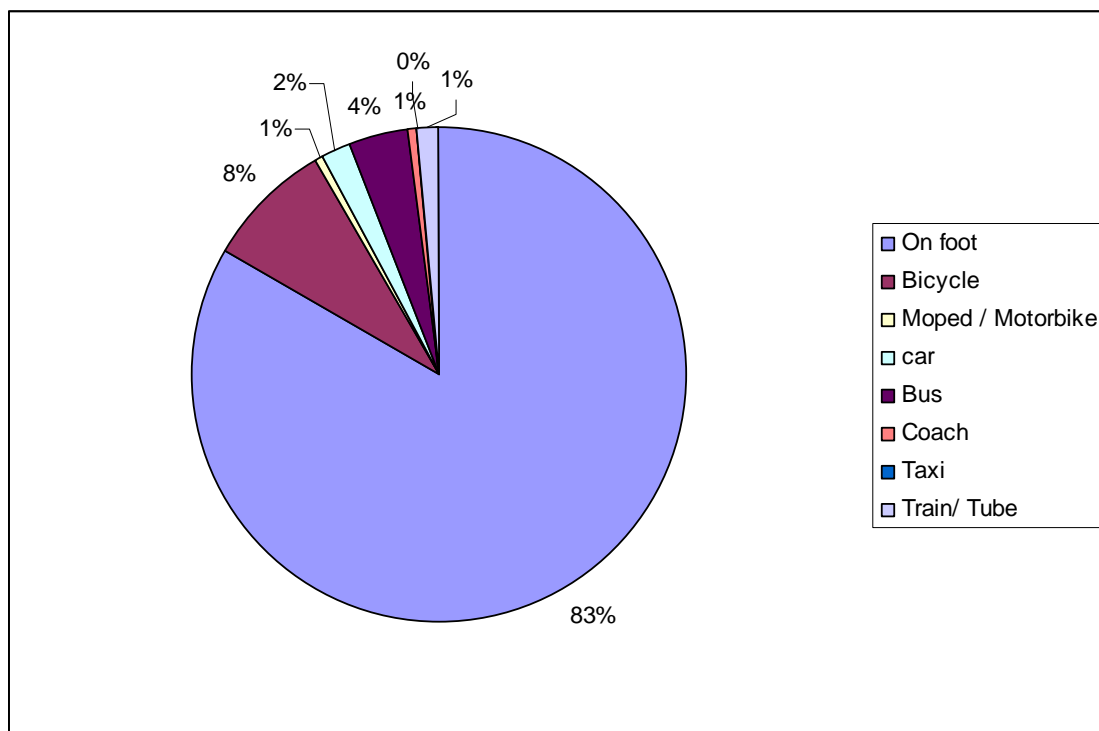
Graph 5 shows that over one third (36%) of respondents travel 5-10 minutes to reach the parks they visit most frequently. Nearly as many (35%) are able to reach the park they visit most often in under 5 minutes.

10% of respondents stated that it takes them 20-30 minutes to travel to the park they visit most frequently. This suggests that either this group travels to a larger park or green space regularly, or that accessibility to locally placed green spaces is an issue.



Graph 5: Length of time traveled to access parks

Graph 6 shows that the vast majority of people walk to parks (83%). 8% cycle to parks, followed by those who take the bus (4%) and those who get to the park they visit most often by car (2%).



Graph 6: Mode of transport

Respondents clearly value parks and green spaces that are easily accessible and within walking distance of their homes:

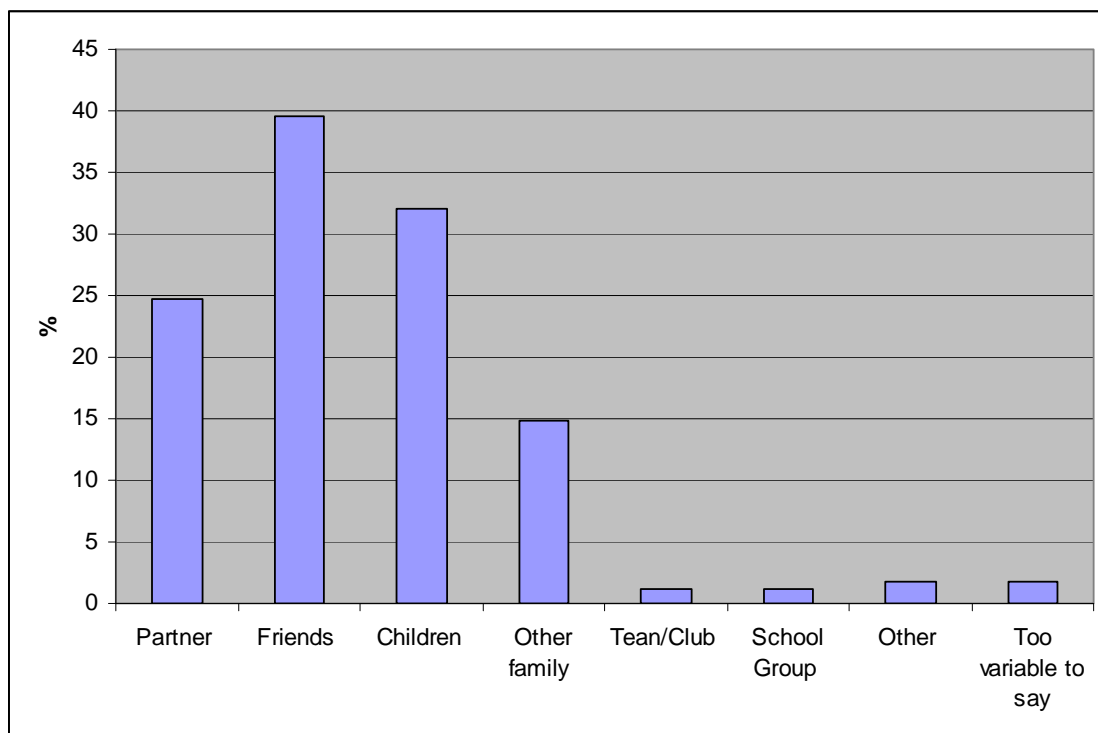
"the nearness of green spaces is vital for health and well being".

Do you usually visit this park on your own or as part of a group?

When you visit with other people, who normally visits the park or green space with you?

35% stated that they usually visit parks or green spaces as part of a group, 33% that they tend to visit on their own, while 32% said that they visit both on their own and as part of a group.

Graph 7 shows that the majority of those who visit as part of a group visit with friends (39.5%), followed by those who visit with children (32.1%) and those who visit with their spouse or partner (24.7%).



Graph 7: Park usage with other people

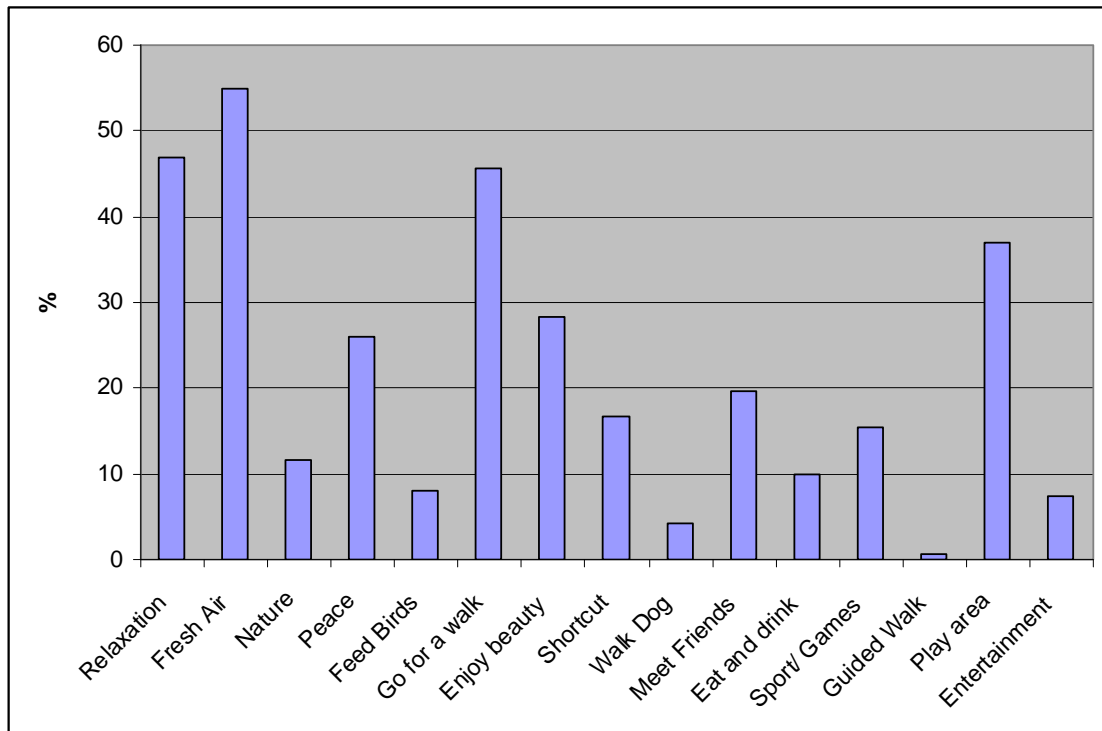
What are your main reasons for visiting this park?

Residents regard Islington's parks and green spaces as oases in a built up environment and value them for the recreational opportunity they provide, as well as for their aesthetic quality and wildlife benefit:

"It is very important to be able to visit park and escape from an overcrowded city to be able to sit in the shade of a tree on a summers day or walk over the heath on a frosty winters day, it helps to release the stress of our busy lives".

"... I would like to see more green spaces at the sides of roads, attractively planted, ideally full of birds and flowers, not necessarily with public access, but visible from the pavement, something nice to look at, constantly litter-picked. I would also like to see more nature reserves like Gillespie Park to support biodiversity within the Borough..."

Graph 8 shows that people's main reason for visiting parks and green spaces is to get some fresh air (54.9%), to relax (46.9%), to go for a walk (45.7%) and to visit play areas (37%).



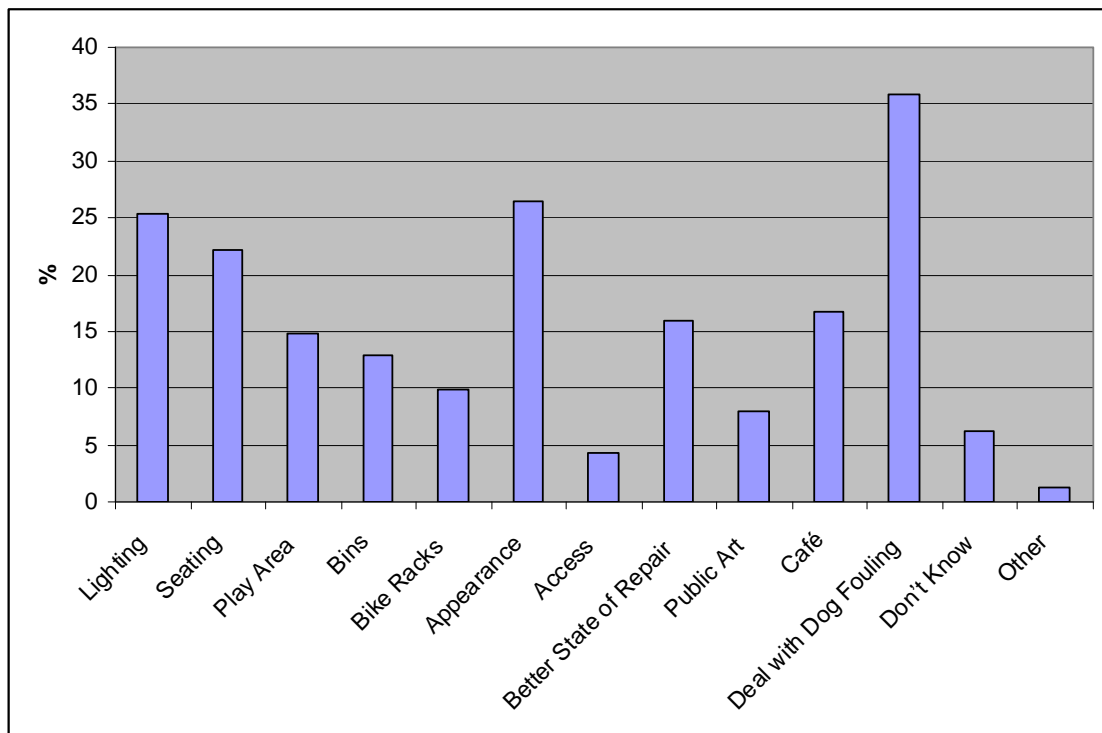
Graph 8: Reason for visiting parks

What improvements would you like to see carried out in this park?

Graph 9 shows that park users first improvement priority is to address the issue of dog fouling (35.8%) which contributes to people feeling unsafe, acts as a barrier to people accessing parks and green spaces and spoils people's enjoyment of these spaces.

"dogs are the key problem in parks/green spaces, emphasis should be on owners taking responsibility and cleaning up after and controlling their pets. Aside Barnsbury Woods there are few or no green spaces without dog nuisance."

Respondents second improvement priority is improving parks and green spaces' appearance overall (26.5%), followed by lighting improvements (25.4%) and seating (22.2%).



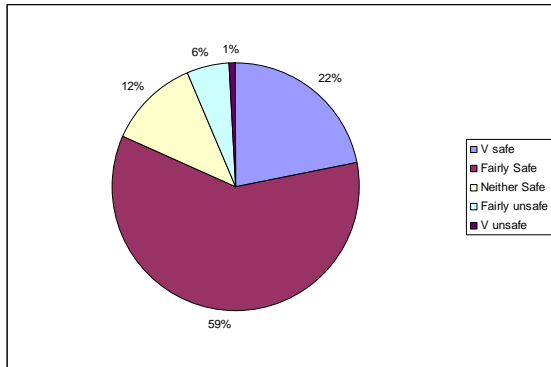
Graph 9: Improvement Priorities

**How safe do you feel when visiting this park or green space?
What makes you feel unsafe?**

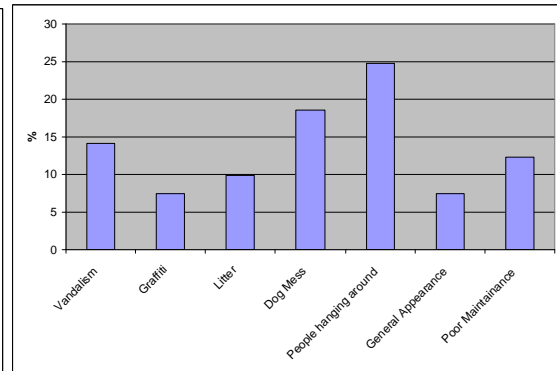
Graph 10 shows that the majority of respondents feel either very or fairly safe when visiting parks (81%). 12% feel neither safe nor unsafe, while 6% feel fairly unsafe and 1% very unsafe.

Graph 11 showed that nearly a quarter (24.7%) of all respondents feel unsafe because of people loitering, followed by dog mess (18.5%), vandalism (14.2%), poor maintenance (12.3%) and litter (9.9%).

Interestingly, many more people chose to answer the question relating to what makes them feel unsafe, than indicated that they feel fairly or very unsafe. This suggests that even those park users who feel at least fairly safe have some security concerns.



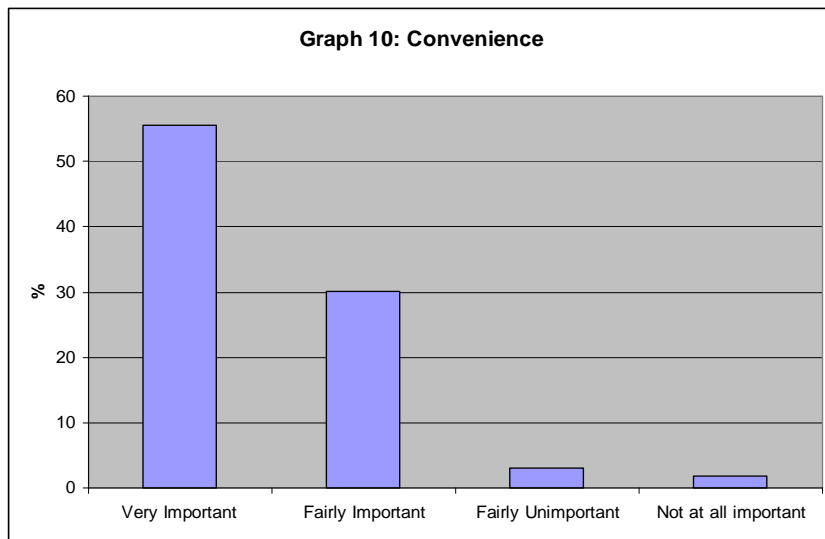
Graph 10: Perception of safety unsafe



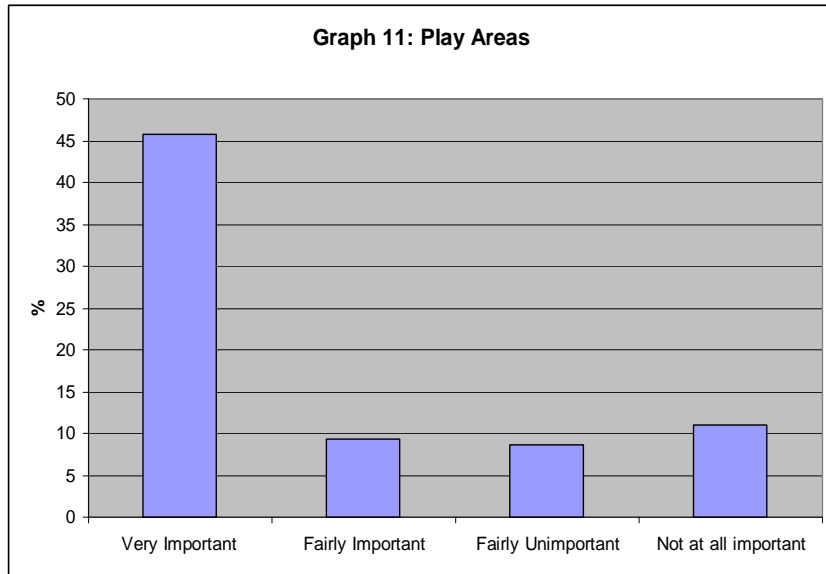
Graph 11: Reason for feeling unsafe

When visiting this park or green space, how important are the following considerations?

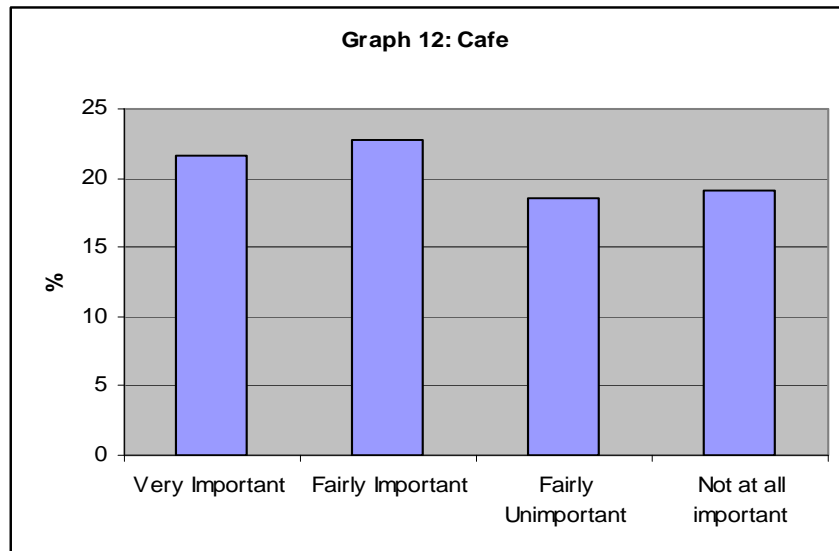
Graphs 12-22 shows what considerations are important to people when visiting parks and green spaces



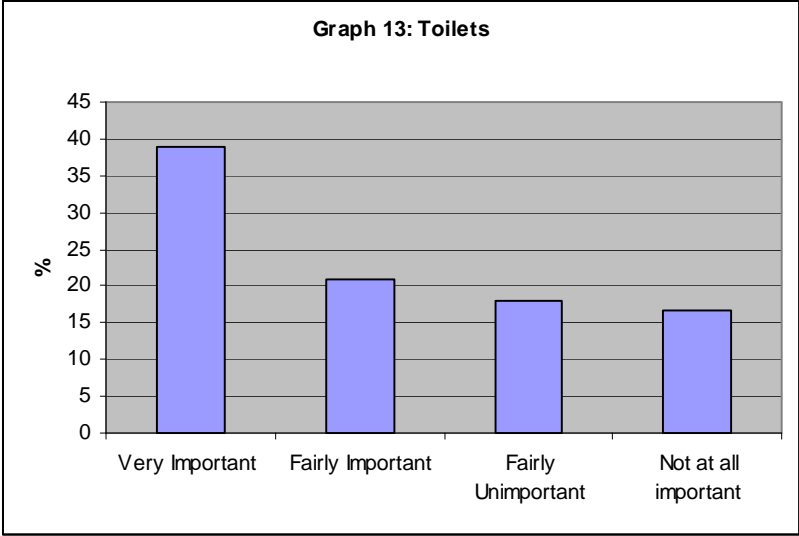
Graph 12: Convenience



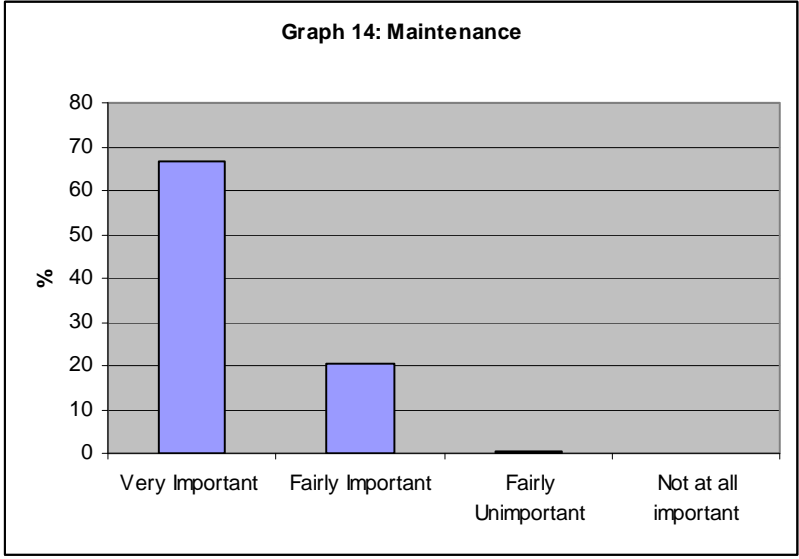
Graph 13: Play Area



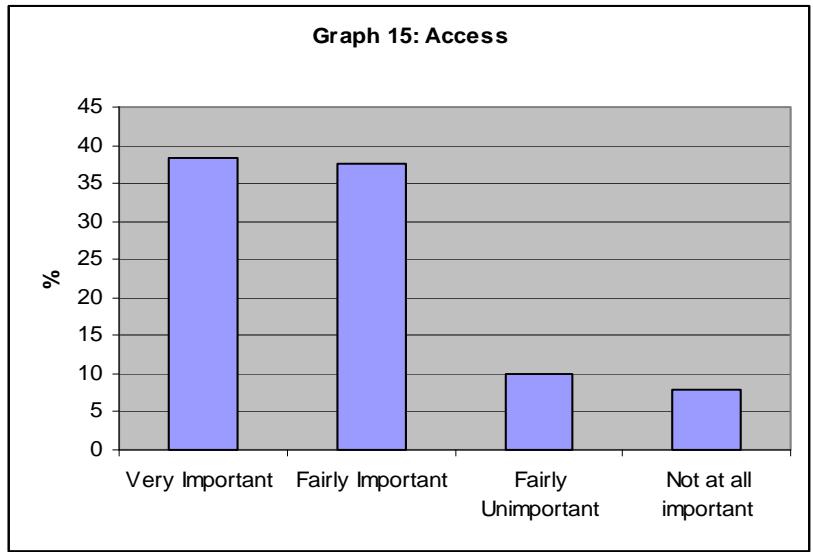
Graph 14: Café



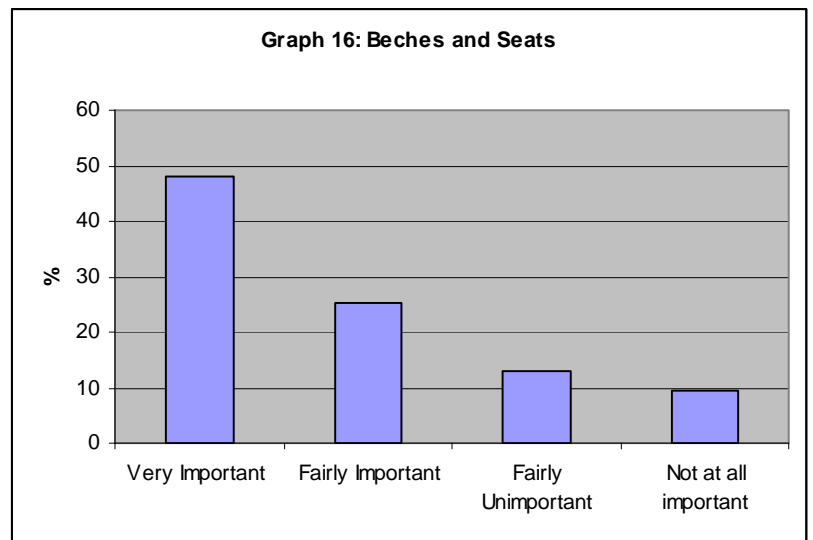
Graph 15: Toilets



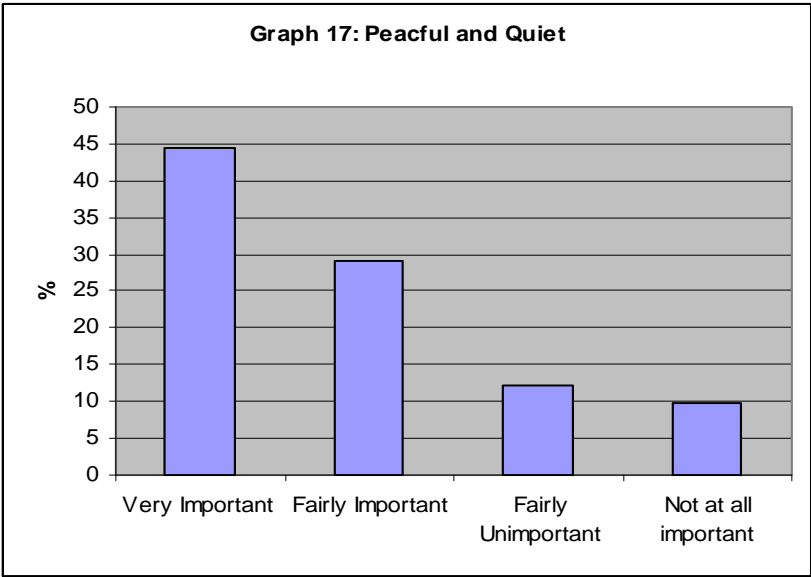
Graph 16: Maintenance



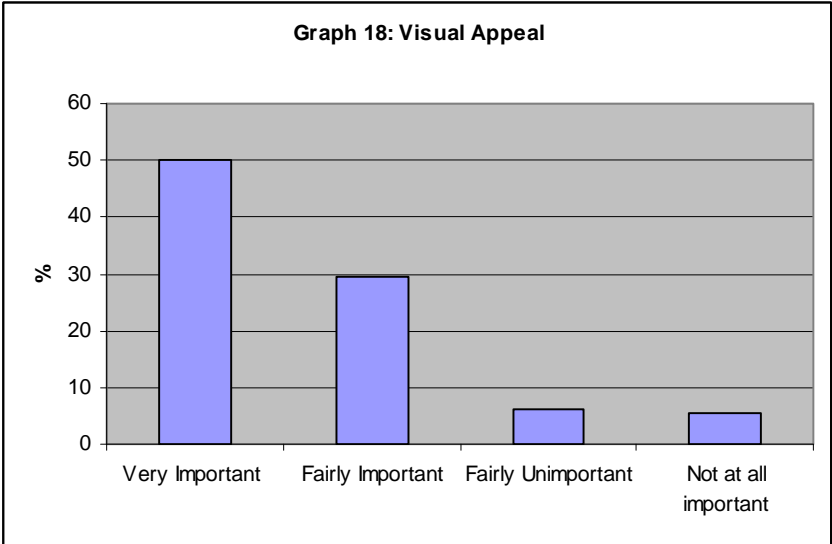
Graph 17: Access



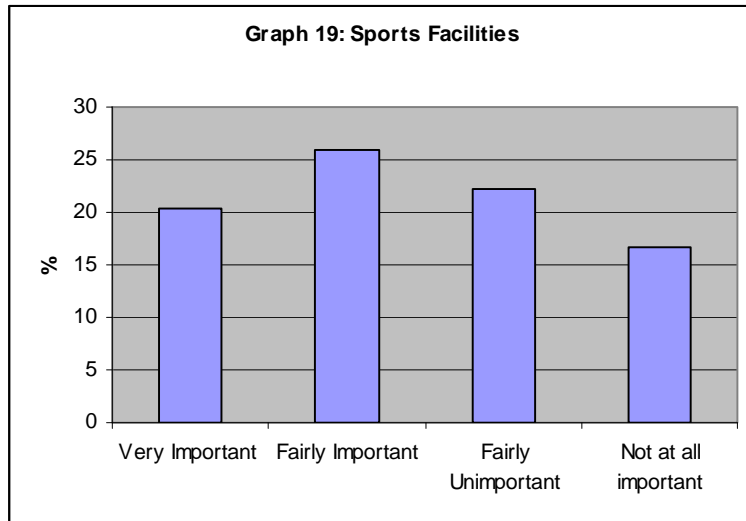
Graph 18: Benches and Seats



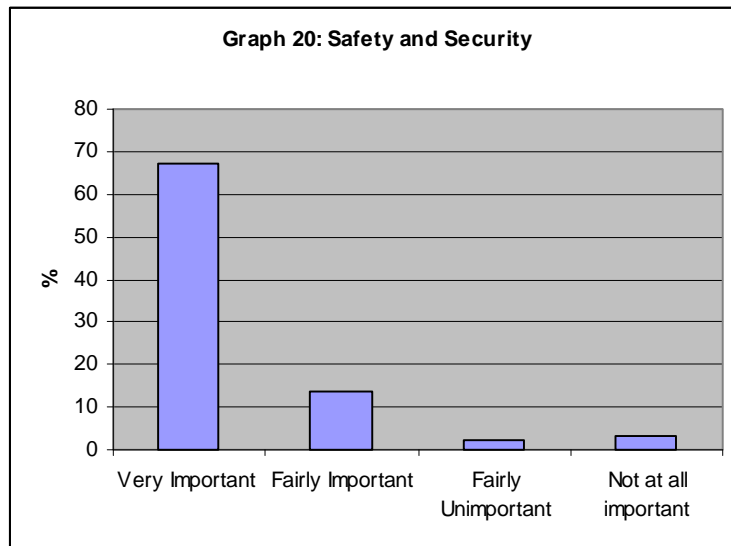
Graph 19: Quiet and Peaceful



Graph 20: Visual Appeal



Graph 21: Sports Facilities



Graph 22: Safety and Security

- Safety and security

Considerations relating to safety and security were vitally important to people. 80.9% of respondents identified feeling safe as either very important or important. A number of respondents suggested staff or volunteer presence in parks to improve safety and perceptions of safety and to encourage more people to use parks and green spaces:

" most of the parks feel empty and uncared for - we need adult presence - gardeners, park keepers, rangers etc so that children and families feel happy there".

87.1% of respondents felt that a good level of maintenance was very important or important, while visual appeal was important to 79.6% of respondents. A good standard of maintenance directly relates to how safe people feel when visiting parks, impacts on how frequently people visit parks and green spaces and on how positive an experience they will have. Further, attractive and good quality green spaces are regarded as highly valued local assets:

"well maintained parks are key in giving people outdoor things to do and instilling a sense of civic pride. They help to civilize our society. "

- Convenience and access

The vast majority of respondents (85.8%) identified convenience, i.e. easy access to a good quality green space close to their home, as an important consideration when visiting parks or green spaces.

- Site furniture and facilities

Benches and seats were identified by nearly three quarters of respondents (73.4%) as very important or important.

55% stated that play areas are very important or important, while 19.7% play areas were either fairly unimportant or not at all important.

59.8% of people felt that toilets were important, while 34.6% did not feel toilets were important.

Nearly three quarters of respondents (73.4%) were looking for peace and quiet when visiting parks. A number of respondents stressed that parks and green space should not be over developed to provide a natural environment for local people to relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings:

"important that some green spaces are maintained to provide tranquility and relaxation, away from activities which are helpful and useful for health but do impact on a quiet spot".

Can you think of anything that would encourage you to use parks and green spaces in Islington more often or stay for longer?

The majority of comments related to improving safety and security, especially in regards to dog fouling and irresponsible dog ownership. A better state of repair and better maintenance, i.e. well maintained lawns, planting and litter free parks, were also mentioned by many. Other suggestions included more activities, including for people with learning disabilities, more seating, better lighting, a sculpture area, exhibitions and ranger or volunteer ranger presence.

Investment Priorities

Do you think investment in parks in Islington should be focused on improving existing parks and green spaces or creating new ones?

The majority of respondents (64.2%) were of the opinion that investment in Islington's parks and green spaces should be focused on improving existing parks rather than creating new ones. This includes 62.3% of people who were interviewed on their door step or returned a postal survey and 77.4% of those who were interviewed in parks. 22.2% felt that investment should be focused on creating new parks. 13.6% did not express a preference or did not have a strong opinion.

Do you think investment in Islington's parks should be focused on a small number of key sites, or should investment be spread more evenly across a large number open spaces, including smaller parks and squares?

Of those who expressed a preference, 43.8% would like to see investment spread across a large number of sites, including smaller parks,

"key issue is that current investment in existing green spaces is maintained, it does not suffer as a result of any new initiatives".

"improvement of small parks is more beneficial for local people and elders"

29.6% would like to see investment focused on a small number of key sites:

"Choose key sites for improvements with a view to improving this environment. Once established the idea should be moved on to other areas for improvements when funds are accessible".

26.6% did not express a preference or did not have a strong opinion.

Conclusions

Community consultation carried out has confirmed many of the findings from previous research commissioned by Islington Council.

Nearly all the people consulted stated that they use green spaces that are within walking distance of their homes more frequently than green spaces that require them to travel more than 15 minutes. Relatively few people are prepared to travel to larger parks on a regular basis even if they boast better facilities. The questionnaire survey showed that while 54% of park users use their local park at least 2-3 times a week, only 15% visit larger parks that often. Access to a good quality green space close to people's homes is therefore vitally important.

Overall, park users are satisfied with the quality and quantity of green spaces in Islington. The majority of park users are also satisfied with the maintenance of parks and green spaces.

People spoken to value parks and green spaces for the formal and informal recreational opportunities they provide. People consulted use parks to get some fresh air, for peace and quiet, to go for a walk or to simply enjoy the beauty of the surroundings. Parents mainly visit with their children, while visiting with friends and family were also popular.

Safety and security were identified as key factors influencing what parks and green spaces, if any, people visit. People are more inclined to visit parks that are well maintained and used by a large number of people. A high level of maintenance resulting in well looked after, tidy and attractive parks and open spaces, directly relates to how safe people feel when using parks, which in turn impacts on people's park usage overall.

Of those who do not use parks regularly, the majority identified crime and fear of crime as barriers to using green spaces. If people perceive a park to be unsafe they will not use it. Focus groups showed that frequency of use and familiarity have a substantial impact on how safe people feel when visiting parks. Older people for example, who rarely visit Highbury Fields perceived it to be dangerous, while those whose nearest park it is, overwhelmingly feel safe visiting Highbury Fields.

In terms of addressing safety and security issues, many residents suggested better surveillance, either through staff presence, volunteer presence or by improving parks and their facilities to encourage more people to use them, thereby increasing natural surveillance and

making people feel safer. People also identified a high level of maintenance, effective vegetation management, lighting and addressing issues of dog fouling and irresponsible dog ownership as key issues to be addressed to improve safety and security.

In terms of improvement priorities, most people mentioned the above identified safety and security improvements, as well as improving green spaces overall appearance, improving the play areas and providing additional seating.

The majority of residents would like investment to be focused on existing green spaces, rather than the creation of new ones.

Community consultation has found that of those who expressed a preference, the majority would like to see investment spread across a larger number of sites, including pocket parks and squares, rather than to focus investment on a small number of key sites. As the vast majority of people travel less than 10 minutes to the park they use most regularly, good quality green spaces close to people's homes are key to ensure that people's satisfaction with green spaces remains high or to increase satisfaction ratings.

Appendix 1

Islington Greenspace Strategy Focus Group Template

Land Use Consultants (LUC) have teamed up with environmental charity Groundwork to develop a Green Space Strategy for Islington Council.

The Green Space Strategy will set out Islington's overall vision and objectives for its parks and green spaces, methods and time needed to achieve the vision and objectives. The Strategy will include an action plan to improve the quality of green space and seek to address deficiencies in the amount of green space within the borough. LUC and Groundwork will undertake an audit of each green space within the Borough and carry out other relevant research. Alongside this, a community consultation programme will include a series of surveys in parks and with local residents, and a small number of focus group sessions to make sure local people's views are being reflected by the strategy.

To complete the community survey please go to www.groundwork-surveys.org.uk/greenspaces

Themes for discussion

1. Do you and your group visit local parks or open spaces? Which open spaces do you and your group use most often?
2. What do you and your group use the space for?
3. What do you like/ don't you like about these spaces? Are there any issues you would like to see addressed?
4. How easy is it to get to and from these spaces and to get around these spaces?
5. What improvements would you like to see carried out to these spaces?
6. Do you think investment should be focused on creating new parks and open spaces or on improving existing ones?



Appendix 2

What do you think about parks and green spaces in Islington?

Land Use Consultants (LUC) have teamed up with environmental charity Groundwork to develop a Green Space Strategy for Islington Council.

The Green Space Strategy will set out Islington's overall vision and objectives for its parks and green spaces, methods and time needed to achieve the vision and objectives. The Strategy will include an action plan to improve the quality of green space and seek to address deficiencies in the amount of green space within the borough. LUC and Groundwork will undertake an audit of each green space within the Borough and carry out other relevant research. Alongside this, a community consultation programme will include a series of surveys in parks and with local residents, and a small number of focus group sessions with people who may be hard to reach by other means.

We are keen to hear from as many Islington residents as possible to find out what local people think about parks and green spaces in the borough. To make sure local people's views and priorities are reflected in the strategy and to have your say please complete the survey below by **Friday 2nd March 2007** and return it in the pre paid envelope provided. For more information please contact Sandra Hoisz at Groundwork on 020 7239 1389.



ISLINGTON

1. Do you regularly visit parks or green spaces?

- Yes (go to Q2) No (go to Q1b)

1b Why do you not visit parks or green spaces?

- I am too busy not enough time
- They are too difficult to get to
- Poor health
- I don't like parks and open spaces
- They are badly maintained
- They are too far away
- Lack of suitable transport
- They do not interest me
- I don't feel safe visiting park and open spaces
- Other, please specify-----

2a. What parks or green spaces do you regularly visit in Islington ?

Please specify-----

2b. What Islington park or green space do you visit most often?

Please specify-----

3. How often do you use your local park (nearest park or green space within walking distance of your house)?

- Every day 4-6 times a week 2-3 times a week
- once week about once a fortnight about once a month
- less frequently Never, Why not? -----
-
-
-

4. How often do you travel to a larger park (inc. parks outside of Islington)?

- Never Every day 4-6 times a week
- 2-3 times a week once week about once a fortnight
- about once a month less frequently

Which ones?-----

5. On what days of the week do you tend to visit parks in Islington (tick all that apply)

- Weekday Weekend Both

Please answer questions 6- 13 in relation to the park or green space you visit most often.

6. How long does it usually take you to travel to this park?

- Less than 5 mins 5-10 mins 10-15 mins
- 15-10 mins 20-30 mins more than 30 mins

7a. How safe do you feel when visiting this park?

- Very safe Fairly safe Neither safe nor unsafe
- Fairly unsafe (go to question 7b) Very unsafe (go to questions 7b)

7b. If applicable: What makes you feel unsafe?

- Vandalism Graffiti Litter Dog mess People hanging around General appearance Poorly maintained
 Other, please specify-----

8. How do you normally get to this park ?

- On foot By Bicycle by moped/ motorbike by car
 by bus by coach by taxi by train or tube

9. Do you usually visit this park on your own or as part of a group?

- Alone As part of a group Both/ too variable to say
 No comment

10. When you visit as part of a group, who normally visits the park with you (tick all that apply)?

- Partner Friends Children Other family Team/club
 School group Other, please specify Too variable to say

11. When visiting this park, how important are the following considerations?

	Very Important	Fairly Important	Fairly Unimportant	Not at all important
Convenience-close to my home				
Play area				
Café				
Toilet				
Well maintained, e.g. litter				

Easy to get around/ good access				
Benches & seats				
Quiet & peaceful				
Visual Appeal, lawn & flower beds				
Sport facilities				
Feeling safe				
Any other factors that are important? Please specify ----- ----- ----- -----				

12. What are your main reasons for visiting this park (please tick up to 5 reasons)?

- Relaxation to get some fresh air Nature study/ observing
 peace and quiet feed the birds and ducks go for a walk enjoy the beauty of the surroundings shortcut walk the dog meet friends eat and drink sports/games guided walk play area/ take the children entertainment

13. What park improvements would you most like to see carried out (please tick 3 only)?

- Lighting Seating Play area more bins bike racks

- appearance access, e.g. paths better state of repair
 - public art café Deal with dog mess Other
- please specify-----

Don't know/ no comment

14. Can you think of anything that would encourage you to use parks in Islington more often or stay for longer?

Yes, please specify-----

No

15. Do you think investment in Islington parks should be focused on improving existing parks and green spaces or on creating new ones?

- Existing park New Park Don't know

16. Do you think investment in Islington's parks should be focused on a small number of key sites (this would mean that the available improvement budget for parks would be spent on improving a small number of parks, to make sure that they cater for a wide range of different users, for example new or improved play areas, sports pitches, nature trails, etc.), or should investment be spread more evenly across a large number of open spaces, including small parks and squares (this would mean that smaller, less noticeable improvements would be carried out across a large number of parks and open spaces)?

- Investment in key sites
- Spread investment across larger number of sites
- Don't know

Any other comments

Thank You!

Monitoring information (optional & confidential)

1. Which of the following categories best describes your age (please tick one only)?

- 16 or under 17-19 20-29 30-39 40-49
 50-59 60-74 75 or over

2. Are you male or female?

- Female Male

3. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- Yes No Rather not answer

4. Which of the following best describes your ethnic group?

White	Mixed
<input type="checkbox"/> White British <input type="checkbox"/> White Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Other White, please specify ----- ----- -----	<input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African <input type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed, please specify ----- ----- -----
Asian, Asian British	Black, Black British
<input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian, please specify ----- ----- -----	<input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> African <input type="checkbox"/> Other Black, please specify ----- ----- ----- -----
Chinese	Other ethnic group
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify ----- ----- -----

5. Are you a resident of Islington?

- Yes No Rather not say

Appendix 3

Park User Survey

Site Specific Information & usage pattern

1. How often do you visit -----(name of park)?

- Everyday 4-6 times a week 2-3 times a week
 Once a week 2-3 times a month once a month less often

2. How long do you normally stay in the park?

- Less than 10 minutes 10-30 mins 30mins- 1hour
 more than an hour between 1-2 hours more than 2 hours

3. Where do you usually travel from?

- Home Work Shops Hotel School
 Uni/ college Other, please specify

4. How would you normally travel to and from----- (name of park)

- On foot By Bicycle by moped/ motorbike
 by car by bus by coach by taxi by train or tube

5. How long does it normally take to travel to----- (name of park)?

- Under 5mins 5-10 min 10-15 mins 15-20 mins
 20mins-30mins more than 30 mins

6. What are your main reasons for visiting-----(name of park) today (please tick up to 5)?

- Relaxation to get some fresh air Nature study/ observing
- peace and quiet feed the birds and ducks go for a walk
- enjoy the beauty of the surroundings shortcut walk the dog meet friends
- eat and drink sports/games guided walk
- play area/ take the children entertainment

Usage of parks and green spaces (other than the site at which the respondent is being interviewed)

7a. Do you visit any other parks and green spaces regularly in Islington?

- Yes (go to Q 7b) No (go to Q9)
- Please specify-----

7b. What Islington park or green space do you visit most often?

Please specify-----

8. How often do you use your local park (nearest park or green space within walking distance of your house)?

- Every day 4-6 times a week 2-3 times a week once week
- about once a fortnight about once a month less frequently
- Never, Why not? -----

9. How often do you travel to a larger park (inc. parks outside of Islington)?

- Never Every day 4-6 times a week
- 2-3 times a week once week about once a fortnight
- about once a month less frequently

Which ones?-----

10. On what days of the week do you tend to visit parks in Islington?

- Weekday Weekend Both

11 . How long does it usually take you to travel to (name of park visited most often)?

- Less than 5 mins 5-10 mins 10-15 mins
- 15-20 mins 20-30 mins more than 30 mins

12 a. How safe do you feel when visiting (name of park visited most often)?

- Very safe Fairly safe Neither safe nor unsafe
- Fairly unsafe Very unsafe

If fairly or very unsafe

12b. If applicable: What makes you feel unsafe?

- Vandalism Graffiti Litter Dog mess
- People hanging around General appearance Poorly maintained
- Other, please specify-----

13. How do you normally get to (name of park visited most often) ?

- On foot By Bicycle by moped/ motorbike by car
 by bus by coach by taxi by train or tube

14. Do you usually visit (name of park visited most often) on your own or as part of a group?

- Alone As part of a group Both/ too variable to say
 No comment

15. When you visit as part of a group, who normally visits the park with you (tick all that apply)?

- Partner Friends Children Other family Team/club
 School group Other, please specify Too variable to say

16. When visiting (name of park visited most often), how important are the following considerations?

	Very Important	Fairly Important	Fairly Unimportant	Not at all important
Convenience-close to my home				
Play area				
Café				
Toilet				
Well maintained, e.g. litter				
Easy to get around/ good access				
Benches & seats				
Quiet & peaceful				
Visual Appeal, lawn & flower beds				
Sport				

facilities				
Feeling safe				
Any other factors that are important? Please specify ----- -----				

17. What are your main reasons for visiting (name of park visited most often) (please tick up to 5 reasons)?

- Relaxation to get some fresh air Nature study/ observing
- peace and quiet feed the birds and ducks go for a walk enjoy the beauty of the surroundings shortcut walk the dog meet friends eat and drink sports/games guided walk play area/ take the children entertainment

18. Thinking about (name of park visited most often), what park improvements would you most like to see carried out (please tick 3 only)?

- Lighting Seating Play area more bins bike racks appearance access, e.g. paths better state of repair public art café Deal with dog mess
- Other please specify-----

- Don't know/ no comment

19. Can you think of anything that would encourage you to use parks in Islington more often or stay for longer?

- Yes, please specify-----

- No

20. Do you think investment in Islington parks should be focused on improving existing parks and green spaces or on creating new ones?

- Existing park New Park Don't know

21. Do you think investment in Islington's parks should be focused on a small number of key sites (this would mean that resources would be focused on improving a small number of parks, to make sure that they cater for a wide range of different users, for example new or improved play areas, sports pitches, nature trails, etc.), or should investment be spread more evenly across a large number of open spaces, including small parks and squares (this would mean that smaller, less noticeable improvements would be carried out across a large number of parks and open spaces)?

- Investment in key sites Spread investment across larger number of sites Don't know

Any other comments

Monitoring information

1. Which of the following categories best describes your age (please tick one only)?

- 16 or under 17-19 20-29 30-39 40-49
 50-59 60-74 75 or over

2. Are you male or female?

- Female Male

3. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- Yes No Rather not answer

4. Which of the following best describes your ethnic group?

White	Mixed
<input type="checkbox"/> White British <input type="checkbox"/> White Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Other White, please specify ----- ----- -----	<input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African <input type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed, please specify ----- ----- -----
Asian, Asian British	Black, Black British
<input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian, please specify ----- ----- -----	<input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> African <input type="checkbox"/> Other Black, please specify - ----- ----- -----
Chinese	Other ethnic group
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify ----- -----

5. Are you a resident of Islington?

- Yes** **No** **Rather not say**

APPENDIX 4

Open space audit forms

B1 Site ID: B2 Site Name:

THEME I: A WELCOMING PLACE

S1 Audit Date & Time: S5_Photo_ref:
S2 Time spent surveying: (minutes) B1 Ia Type
S3 Name of Surveyor: (see attached list):
S4 Survey Site Access: Access to whole site Access to part of site No access to site

Site Access

S6a Site access Freely accessible to pub
 De-facto public access
 Restricted access

S6b If restricted access, what kind of restriction? Opening hours
 Limited to particular areas
 Other (please describe)

SITE ACCESS: Tick if scope for enhancement

Site boundary / entrances

S7a Site boundary: Site is open to access (no boundary fence or hedge)
 Limited entry points

If limited entry points:
S7b No. of entrances: S7c How many are gated?

S7d Boundary type: Traditional style iron railing
 Other metal railing
 Chainlink
 Shrubbery
 Hedge
 Wall
 Mixture
 Other (please list)

S7e To what extent are the entrances presented clear of litter, tidy and well maintained Good Fair Poor

SITE BOUNDARY / ENTRANCES: Tick if scope for enhancement

Accessibility / barriers to access

S8a Path Type: Tarmac or similar bound material
 Paving slabs
 Gravel
 Other/Mixture (please list)...

S8b Number of step free entrances

S8c Are the paths through the site uneven (such that they would inhibit access for a visitor with mobility difficulties)?

S8d Are there any other barriers to access? S8e If so, what?

S8f Is there a busy trafficked road immediately adjacent to the green space?

S8g Is there provision for pedestrians to cross safely?

S8h Is there disabled parking?

ACCESSIBILITY / BARRIERS TO ACCESS: Tick if scope for enhancement

B1 Site ID:

B2 Site Name:

Signage/interpretation

S9a Number of entrances with information signs:

If entrance information signs are present:

S9b Is there a site plan locating the main facilities and features?

S9c Are the (entrance) signs clear and legible?

S9d Are the (entrance) signs an appropriate size and height?

S9e Is there other signage on site?

If so, what sort?

S9f Interpretation

S9g Information Notice

S9h Warning/Bylaw Notice

S9i Are these other signs clean and legible?

S9j Are these other signs an appropriate size and height?

If there is interpretation signage on site:

S9k does it provide nature/environmental interpretation?

S9l does it provide historic interpretation?

S9m is the content up to date?

S9mi Overall Provision of Signage:

Good Fair Poor

S9n Is the Green Space easy to locate?

S9o Is there signage to the site?

SIGNAGE / INTERPRETATION: Tick if scope for enhancement

S10 Notes / comments about specific enhancements needed:

B1 Site ID:

B2 Site Name:

THEME 2: HEALTHY, SAFE AND SECURE

Play Provision

SI Ia Is there play equipment on site?

If so,

SI Ib How many separate items of equipment? (a multi-play unit = 1)

SI Ic Is it for under 5 years? SI Id 5 to 11 years? SI E Over 11 years?

SI If Estimate number of children who could use equipment at any one time:

What play activities are provided for?

- SI Igi Balancing SI Igiv Sliding SI Igvii Rotating SI Igx Counting
- SI Igii Rocking SI Igv Social_Play SI Igviii Jumping SI Igxi Touching
- SI Igiii Climbing/Agility SI Igvi Swinging SI Igix Viewing

SI Ih Is there impact absorbing surfacing around the equipment?

SI Ii Is it fenced off from the rest of the green space?

If so:

- SI Iji Are there benches within the enclosure? SI Ijiv Is there a play area notice at the entrance stating dog free, children only and emergency contacts?
- SI Ijii Are there litterbins within the enclosure?
- SI Ijiiia Are gates outward opening? SI Ijv Is there space within the enclosure, separate from the equipped area, for informal play/general runabout?
- SI Ijiiib Are gates self closing?

SI Ik Overall condition of play equipment? Good Fair Poor

SI Il Is there other provision for play on site?

If so, what?

- SI Imi MUGA G F P
- SI Imii Interactive water play feature: G F P
- SI Imiii Rebound wall G F P
- SI Imiv Skateboarding ramps G F P
- SI Imv Youth shelter: G F P
- SI Imvi Other:

SI In Overall condition of other play provision? Good Fair Poor

PLAY PROVISION: Tick if scope for enhancement

Active recreation / sport provision

Sports pitches and courts (note number of each)

	Astro	Redgra	Tarmac	Grass	Floodlit
Football mini	S12ai <input type="checkbox"/>	S12aii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12aiii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12aiv <input type="checkbox"/>	S12av <input type="checkbox"/>
Football junior	S12bi <input type="checkbox"/>	S12bii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12biii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12biv <input type="checkbox"/>	S12bv <input type="checkbox"/>
Football full size	S12ci <input type="checkbox"/>	S12cii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12ciii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12civ <input type="checkbox"/>	S12cv <input type="checkbox"/>
Rugby	S12di <input type="checkbox"/>	S12dii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12diii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12div <input type="checkbox"/>	S12dv <input type="checkbox"/>
Hockey	S12ei <input type="checkbox"/>	S12eii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12eiii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12eiv <input type="checkbox"/>	S12ev <input type="checkbox"/>
Cricket	S12fi <input type="checkbox"/>	S12fii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12fiii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12fiv <input type="checkbox"/>	S12fv <input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis	S12gi <input type="checkbox"/>	S12gii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12giii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12giv <input type="checkbox"/>	S12gv <input type="checkbox"/>
Athletics Track	S12hi <input type="checkbox"/>	S12hii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12hiii <input type="checkbox"/>	S12hiv <input type="checkbox"/>	S12hv <input type="checkbox"/>

	Astro	Redgra	Tarmac	Grass	Floodlights
Overall condition of pitches	S12ji <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S12jii <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S12jiii <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S12jiv <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S12jv <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P
S12k Are there changing facilities? (note condition)	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> Locked				
S12l Is there a bowling green?	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P				
S12m Other active recreation/sport provision:	<input type="checkbox"/>				
S12n Overall condition of other sports facilities:	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor				

ACTIVE RECREATION: Tick if scope for enhancement

Evidence of informal recreational use at time of audit

S13a Walking / Dog Walking	<input type="checkbox"/>	S13d Sitting/relaxing	<input type="checkbox"/>	S13g Skateboarding	<input type="checkbox"/>
S13b Children's play	<input type="checkbox"/>	S13e Desire lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	S13h Cycling	<input type="checkbox"/>
S13c Teenagers 'hanging out'	<input type="checkbox"/>	S13k Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>		
S13l Overall provision for informal recreation:	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor				

INFORMAL RECREATION: Tick if scope for enhancement

Basic amenities / Site furniture provision

S14a Operational Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	S14b Disabled Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>
S14ai General Toilets Condition:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> Locked	S14bi Disabled Toilets Condition:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> Locked
S14d Onsite car parking:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S14g Rangers office:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P
S14e Offsite car parking:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S14h Kiosk:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P
S14f Cafe:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S14i Community centre:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P
S14ki Litter Bins Overall Condition:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S14ni Nature Trail:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P
S14li Dog bins Overall Condition:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P	S14nii Trim Trail:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P
S14mi Seating Overall Condition:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P		
Other basic amenities			
S14o Drinking water fountain:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P		
S14p Lifebelt:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P		
S14oii Public Telephone:	<input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> P		
S14ri Other basic amenities:	<input type="checkbox"/>		
S14rii Overall condition of other basic amenities:	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor		

BASIC AMENITIES: Tick if scope for enhancement

Community safety/sense of security

- S15a Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties or roads?
- S15b Do the approaches to the site feel open and secure?
- S15c Are there vulnerable areas, dark corners on site with potential hiding places which could make users feel insecure?
- S15d Is lighting provided?
- S15e At the time of audit were there Rangers or maintenance contractors visibly present on site?
- S15f At the time of audit was there evidence that the site is used regularly as a thoroughfare?

COMMUNITY SAFETY: Tick if scope for enhancement

Dog fouling

- S16a Is dog fouling evident on site?
- S16b Are there 'no dog fouling' notices on site?
- S16c Is there a defined dog free area? (not inc. enclosed play area)

DOG FOULING: Tick if scope for enhancement

S17a In your opinion are there any significant Health and Safety issues (apparent from a visual inspection) inherent in the design of the space that should be prioritised?

S17 Notes/comments about specific enhancements needed:

B1 Site ID:

B2 Site Name:

THEME 3: CLEAN AND WELL MAINTAINED

Litter / Cleanliness

S18a Litter evident on the ground?

S18b State of litter bins?

Empty Over half full Overflowing

S18c State of dog bins?

Empty Over half full Overflowing

S18d Graffiti evident?

S18e Vandalism evident?

S18f Overall level of cleanliness?

Good Fair Poor

LITTER / CLEANLINESS: Tick if scope for enhancement

Horticultural maintenance

Are planted and grass areas:

S19a Weed free

S19d Grass edges trimmed

S19b Pruned

S19e Grass mown

S19c Mulched

S19f Overall condition/quality of planted areas:

G F P

(based on tidiness of presentation, appropriate density of planting, health of plants, etc.)

S19g Overall condition/quality of grass areas:

G F P

HORTICULTURAL MAINTENANCE: Tick if scope for enhancement

Water features maintenance

S20 Quality of water, and associated edge treatment (if water features present):

Good Fair Poor

WATER FEATURES MAINTENANCE: Tick if scope for enhancement

Allotments

S21a No. of plots

S21b Estimated number of plots in use:

0-25%; 26-50%; 51-75%; 76-100%

ALLOTMENTS: Tick if scope for enhancement

Buildings and Infrastructure

S22a Are there any buildings or built structures on site?

If so, what?

S22b Building

S22d Bandstand/shelter

S22c Walls

S22e Sculpture/public art/memorial

S22f Other (please enter type)

S22g Overall condition of buildings and infrastructure

Good Fair Poor

S22h Are paths weed free?

BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Tick if scope for enhancement

S23 Notes /comments about specific enhancements needed:



B1 Site ID:

B2 Site Name:

THEME 4: SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental Role

Does the green space provide a buffer for/absorb noise or air pollution from:

S24a Nearby traffic

S24b Nearby industry

S24c Other

ENVIRONMENTAL ROLE: Tick if scope for enhancement

Recycling

S25a Is there a green waste composting area on site?

S25b Are there recycling facilities for site users?

RECYCLING: Tick if scope for enhancement

Tree management

Is there evidence of tree/woodland management through:

S26a Individual branch removal

S26b Pollarding

S26c Recent felling

S26d Coppicing

S26e Recent tree planting

S26f Is there any evidence of strimmer/mower damage around the base of trees?

TREE MANAGEMENT: Tick if scope for enhancement

S27 Notes/comments about specific enhancements needed:

B1 Site ID:

B2 Site Name:

THEME 5: CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE

Vegetation cover/type

Grassland

- S28ai Very short grass / fine ornamental lawn
- S28aii Short amenity grassland
- S28aiii Tall meadow grassland
- S28aiv Ruderal or ephemeral
- S28av Tall herbs
- S28avi Bracken
- S28avii Heathland

Trees and woodland

- S28bi Broadleaved woodland
- S28bii Coniferous woodland
- S28biii Woodland edges/trees and shrubs forming shelter belt
- S28biv Tree groups/scattered trees
- S28bv Veteran trees or significant individual mature trees
- S28bvi Orchard
- S28bvii Deadwood

Scrub, shrubs and hedgerows

- S28ci Shrub plantings
- S28cii Mixed shrub and herbaceous planting (in defined beds)
- S28ciii Scrub (informal/native shrubbery)
- S28civ Hedge

Flower beds

- S28di Annual bedding displays
- S28dii Perennial planting beds
- S28diii Rose beds

Water and wetlands

- S28ei Running water (rivers and streams)
- S28eii Canal
- S28eiii Pond/lake
- S28eiv Ditches (water filled)
- S28ev Bog
- S28evi Wet marginal vegetation

Brownfield land

- S28fi Bare soil and rock
- S28fii Derelict wasteland

Allotments

- S28gi Allotments (active)
- S28gii Allotments (abandoned)

S28h Other vegetation cover type:

VEGETATION COVER/TYPE: Tick if scope for enhancement

Structural/townscape role

What is the general character of the green space?

S29a Open or closed: Open Closed

S29b Shaded or exposed: Shaded Partially shaded Exposed

S29c Does the green space contribute to the 'sense of place' of the immediate local area?

S29d Is the green space visible from adjacent main road/railway/public transport route?

S29e Does the greenspace feature any recognisable landmark features of local importance?

S29ei If so, what

S29f Is the green space visually attractive?

STRUCTURAL/TOWNSCAPE ROLE: Tick if scope for enhancement

Conservation

S30a Is there indication that the natural features are being managed for nature conservation?

S30b Is the overall design of the green space good, fair or poor?

Good Fair Poor

S30c Is there indication that historic buildings and structures are being conserved?

CONSERVATION: Tick if scope for enhancement

Threats/Disturbances/Issues

What threats/disturbances/issues are affecting the 'attractiveness' of the site?

S31a Road noise

S31b Rail noise

S31c Pollution

S31d Invading plants

S31e Erosion

S31f Intrusive buildings

S31g Motorcycle scrambling

S31h Rubbish tipping

S31i Other:

THREATS/DISTURBANCES/ISSUES: Tick if scope for enhancement

S32 Notes/comments about specific enhancements needed for Conservation and Heritage

B2 Site Name:

B1 Site ID:

THEME 6: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

S33a Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site?

S33b If so, are up to date notices displayed?

S33c Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments?

S33d If so, are they up to date?

S34 From the site audit visit, what is the predominant recreational use? Active Passive None

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Tick if scope for enhancement

S35 Notes/comments about specific enhancements needed for Community Involvement

B2 Site Name:

B1 Site ID:

THEME 7: MARKETING

Cultural role

Are any of the following social facilities located on site?

S36a Community centre

S36b Youth centre

S36c Meeting hall

S36d Indoor sports hall/leisure centre

S36ei Other social facility?

S36e Is there a dedicated outdoor performance area on site?

S36ei If so, indicate scale of performance Large scale Small scale

S36f Is there an adventure playground/closed youth facility adjacent to the site?

S36fi Is there a school adjacent to the site?

S36g Is there public art on site?

S36gi If so, how many pieces?

MARKETING: Tick if scope for enhancement

S37 Notes/comments about specific enhancements needed for Marketing:

APPENDIX 5

Sport and recreation audit forms

ISLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Name of Community hall

Date of visit

Address

Type of community hall facility

1	Small hire space for meetings, lectures, presentations, training courses (up to 20)
2	Medium hire space for meetings, lectures/, presentations, discussion groups, training and small parties (under 80)
3	Large hire space for functions, parties, weddings, dances, church gatherings
4	Youth centre

INDOOR features available (tick as appropriate)

Main hall (approx. size)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Office	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grass pitch changing provision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entrance foyer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Showers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fitness training room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equipment & furniture store	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing provision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Billiards & snooker room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Licensed bar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Community health facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stage (permanent or temporary)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daytime centre for the elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disabled toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting or club rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cleaner's store	<input type="checkbox"/>	Village shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	Post office	<input type="checkbox"/>

OUTDOOR features available (tick as appropriate)

Playground	<input type="checkbox"/>	MUGA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grass pitches (specify nos.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>				

USAGE activities available (tick as appropriate)

Badminton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Playgroups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Concerts	<input type="checkbox"/>
Short mat bowls	<input type="checkbox"/>	Table tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conferences/ meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gymnastics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Five-a-side	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dance classes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aerobics/keep fit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Short tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drama/ films	<input type="checkbox"/>
Martial arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Discos	<input type="checkbox"/>	Receptions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yoga	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clubs/societies meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private functions	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
On-site car parking arrangements (Are there enough car parking spaces, clearly marked, adequate lighting etc.)	5	4	3	2	1		
Public transport	5	4	3	2	1		
On foot/pedestrian routes	5	4	3	2	1		
Bicycle (Are there cycle routes, lock up parking, clearly marked etc)	5	4	3	2	1		
Disabled access (Is there a viable route, disabled car parking spaces etc)	5	4	3	2	1		
Road signage	5	4	3	2	1		
Footpaths to reception (Is there a clear, even walkway)	5	4	3	2	1		

Cleanliness of provision

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
Toilets	5	4	3	2	1		
Showers	5	4	3	2	1		
Changing rooms	5	4	3	2	1		
Reception	5	4	3	2	1		
Circulation areas	5	4	3	2	1		
Café/vending	5	4	3	2	1		
Main hall	5	4	3	2	1		
External areas/car park (Any graffiti, litter etc)	5	4	3	2	1		

Housekeeping/presentation

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
External/directional signage (Is there clear visible signage from the car park)	5	4	3	2	1		
Internal/directional signage (Is there clear, logical signage)	5	4	3	2	1		
Tidy and safe presentation (Is the facility generally presented in a tidy and safe fashion)	5	4	3	2	1		
Litter collection/bins	5	4	3	2	1		
Dedicated storage area	5	4	3	2	1		

Maintenance

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
Décor (Is the facility well decorated and maintained)	5	4	3	2	1		
Floor (Is the flooring surface appropriate, in good condition)	5	4	3	2	1		
Lighting (Is there sufficient lighting for purposes)	5	4	3	2	1		
Equipment (Does the equipment appear to be well maintained)	5	4	3	2	1		
Roof (Is it in good condition, any leaks)	5	4	3	2	1		
Windows (Is it in good condition, any broken)	5	4	3	2	1		
Building in general (Does it appear to be well maintained)	5	4	3	2	1		

Information

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
Display leaflets (leaflets available)	5	4	3	2	1		
Notice boards (showing contact details)	5	4	3	2	1		

Main hall

	Yes/No	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
High enough for badminton clearance		5	4	3	2	1		
Impact/energy absorbing floor		5	4	3	2	1		
Court markings eg badminton		5	4	3	2	1		
Flush-faced walls		5	4	3	2	1		
Appropriate lighting		5	4	3	2	1		
Storage		5	4	3	2	1		

Changing area

	Yes/No	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
Changing room capacity		5	4	3	2	1		
Showers		5	4	3	2	1		

Overall impression

INDOOR FACILITY SITE VISIT CHECKLIST

Name of Centre

Date of visit

Type of facility

1	Swimming pool
2	Sports hall
3	Ice rink
4	Health & Fitness

5	Indoor bowls
6	Indoor tennis
7	Community centre
8	Climbing wall

Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
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Access

Car parking arrangements <small>(Are there enough car parking spaces, clearly marked, adequate lighting etc.)</small>	5	4	3	2	1	
Public transport <small>(within 100m)</small>	5	4	3	2	1	
On foot	5	4	3	2	1	
Bicycle <small>(racks, etc..)</small>	5	4	3	2	1	
Wheelchair <small>(Is there a viable route, disabled car parking spaces etc)</small>	5	4	3	2	1	
Road signage	5	4	3	2	1	

Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
-----------	------	---------	------	-----------	-----	----------

Footpaths to reception (Is there a clear, even walkway)	5	4	3	2	1		
--	---	---	---	---	---	--	--

Cleanliness

Toilets	5	4	3	2	1		
Showers	5	4	3	2	1		
Changing rooms	5	4	3	2	1		
Reception	5	4	3	2	1		
Circulation areas	5	4	3	2	1		
Café/vending	5	4	3	2	1		
Poolside	5	4	3	2	1		
Dryside	5	4	3	2	1		
External areas/car park (Any graffiti, litter etc.)	5	4	3	2	1		

Housekeeping/presentation

External/directional signage (Is there clear visible signage from the car park, footpath signage)	5	4	3	2	1		
Internal/directional signage (Is there clear, logical signage, noticeboards, etc.)	5	4	3	2	1		

Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
-----------	------	---------	------	-----------	-----	----------

Tidy and safe presentation (Is the facility generally presented in a tidy and safe fashion)	5	4	3	2	1		
Staff presentation (Uniform, name badge, pride)	5	4	3	2	1		
Litter collection/bins (quantity of bins)	5	4	3	2	1		

Maintenance

Décor (Is the facility well decorated and maintained)	5	4	3	2	1		
Floor (Is the flooring surface appropriate, in good condition)	5	4	3	2	1		
Lighting (Is there sufficient lighting for purposes)	5	4	3	2	1		

Standard of Facilities

Sports (Are the sports facilities 'fit for purpose', well-lit and maintained, multi-lined etc.)	5	4	3	2	1		
Changing rooms (are there enough, are the showers, lockers/showers in working order, child friendly, disabled)	5	4	3	2	1		
Equipment (Does the equipment appear to be well maintained)	5	4	3	2	1		
Café/vending	5	4	3	2	1		

Information

	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	n/a	Comments
Display leaflets (leaflets available)	5	4	3	2	1		
Customer charter (Is this displayed)	5	4	3	2	1		
Notice boards	5	4	3	2	1		

Overall Impression

APPENDIX 6

List of all sites
(incl. ID, name, size, type, hierarchy, ward, area committee,
value/quality rating)

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

A: Parks and Gardens

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS10	Highbury Fields	A*. Strategic parks	11.75800585	Highbury East	East	+ -	K*. Strategic playable space; Outdoor Tennis; STP
GS103	Rosemary Gardens	A1. Major parks and gardens	2.563208416	Canonbury	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space; STP; Formal MUGA
GS122	Barnard Park (and extension)	A1. Major parks and gardens	3.768901615	Barnsbury	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space; STP
GS130	Caledonian Park	A1. Major parks and gardens	4.06932098	Holloway	West	- -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS153	Paradise Park	A1. Major parks and gardens	2.371507779	Holloway	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space; Formal MUGA
GS40	Elthorne Park (Incl Peace Garden and Boys Boxing Club)	A1. Major parks and gardens	2.645523785	Hillrise	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS60	Whittington Park	A1. Major parks and gardens	3.891884652	Junction	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space; STP
GS61	Wray Crescent	A1. Major parks and gardens	2.19674555	Tollington	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space; Grass Pitches; Formal MUGA
GS104	Spa Fields Gardens (and extension)	A2. Small local parks and gardens	1.265442796	Clerkenwell	South	+ +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space; Outdoor Tennis
GS112	St. Paul's South Open Space (and extension)	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.511005587	Canonbury	South	+ -	K4. Very small playable space
GS119	Arundel Square Gardens	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.494215572	St. Mary's	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS128	Bingfield Park	A2. Small local parks and gardens	1.121866111	Caledonian	West	- -	K1ii. Youth space
GS140	Edward Square	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.462228364	Caledonian	West	- +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
GS146	Joseph Grimaldi Park	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.726254761	Barnsbury	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS147	Laycock Street Open Space	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.996371161	St. Mary's	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS149	Market Road Gardens	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.608995171	Caledonian	West	- -	Outdoor Tennis
GS163	Thornhill Square	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.964031608	Caledonian	West	+ +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS17	Newington Green Gardens	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.6626279	Mildmay	East	+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
GS23	Royal Northern Gardens	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.428917891	Finsbury Park	East	- +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS27	St. Paul's Shrubbery	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.506702081	Mildmay	East	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS30	Archway Park	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.865101695	Hillrise	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS34	Cornwallis Park	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.428180974	Tollington	North	+ +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS38	Dartmouth Park	A2. Small local parks and gardens	1.408581063	Junction	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS43	Foxham Gardens	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.7443693	Junction	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS46	Hillside Park	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.760116166	Hillrise	North	- -	Grass Pitches
GS82	King Square Gardens	A2. Small local parks and gardens	1.260923027	Bunhill	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
OS6	Crouch Hill Recreation Ground	A2. Small local parks and gardens	0.71857924	Hillrise	North	- -	K1ii. Youth space
GS123	Barnsbury Square	A2. Small local parks and gardens (no play)	0.404968472	Barnsbury	West	+ -	
GS76	Finsbury Square	A2. Small local parks and gardens (no play)	0.695667988	Bunhill	South	+ -	Bowls
GS88	New River Walk (Short and Long section)	A2. Small local parks and gardens (no play)	1.472386786	Canonbury	South	+ +	
OS39	Charterhouse Square	A2. Small local parks and gardens (no play)	0.42604585	Bunhill	South	- -	
GS113	Tibby Place	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.133184183	St. Peter's	South	+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
GS120	Astey's Row Playground	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.246266747	St. Mary's	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS127	Biddestone Road Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.190326434	Holloway	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS13	Isledon Road Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.378339405	Finsbury Park	East	+ +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS139	Culpeper Street Open Space (incl rosebed)	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.230586951	Barnsbury	West	+ -	K2. Local playable space
GS15	Kinloch Street Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.34605856	Finsbury Park	East	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS150	Milner Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.19702294	St. Mary's	West	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS156	Pollard Close Playground	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.030446283	Holloway	West	- -	
GS26	St. Jude's Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.148139452	Mildmay	East	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS28	Woodfall Road Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.153162523	Finsbury Park	East	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS33	Chambers Road Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.069424137	St. George's	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS37	Dalmeny Park	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.153565777	St. George's	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS39	Davenant Rd Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.267216261	Tollington	North	+ +	K2. Local playable space
GS45	Grenville Road Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.183796536	Tollington	North	+ -	K2. Local playable space
GS50	Landseer Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.194004924	Tollington	North	+ +	K4. Very small playable space
GS51	Pemberton Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.114406565	Junction	North	+ -	K2. Local playable space
GS57	Sussex Way Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.101290183	Tollington	North	+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
GS62	Zoffany Park	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.139411017	Hillrise	North	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS68	Basire Street Playground	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.193781489	St. Peter's	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS7	Eversleigh Street Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.108770985	Tollington	North	- -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
GS73	Compton Street Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.110446857	Bunhill	South	+ -	K2. Local playable space
GS77	Fortune Street Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.37161833	Bunhill	South	+ +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS79	Graham Street Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.388522007	St. Peter's	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS80	Granville Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.2021022	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS81	Holford Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.281666402	Clerkenwell	South	- -	
GS85	Mitcheson/Baxter Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.391299443	Canonbury	South	- -	K1ii. Youth space
GS86	Morton Road Playground	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.383300527	St. Peter's	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS93	Packington Square Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.253108858	St. Peter's	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS97	Quaker Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.24486434	Bunhill	South	+ +	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
GS98	Radnor Street Open Space	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.384558374	Bunhill	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
OS244	Lofting Road Recreation Ground	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	0.178306364	Barnsbury	West	- -	K2. Local playable space
GS105	Spa Green Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.350803045	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	
GS114	Union Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.17614717	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
GS116	Wilmington Square Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.383025543	Clerkenwell	South	+ +	
GS117	Wilton Square Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.139587954	St. Peter's	South	+ +	
GS121	Astey's Row Rock Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.186121267	St. Mary's	West	+ -	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS126	Battishill Street Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.118919983	St. Mary's	West	++	
GS134	Canonbury 'D' Site	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.233293945	St. Mary's	West	+-	
GS135	Canonbury Square (East and West)	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.25927909	St. Mary's	West	+-	
GS137	Compton Terrace Gardens (North and South)	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.360344187	St. Mary's	West	+-	
GS142	Gibson Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.291013658	St. Mary's	West	++	
GS145	Islington Green	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.34701353	St. Mary's	West	++	
GS148	Lonsdale Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.192223681	Barnsbury	West	+-	
GS154	Penn Road Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.1503529	Holloway	West	++	
GS162	Thornhill Road Garden	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.312572453	Barnsbury	West	+-	
GS166	Winton School Site	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.135495473	Caledonian	West	+-	
GS65	Arlington Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.34937712	St. Peter's	South	++	
GS72	Colebrooke Row Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.199182646	St. Peter's	South	+-	
GS75	Duncan Terrace Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.370908791	St. Peter's	South	+-	
GS89	Northampton Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.27505471	Clerkenwell	South	++	
GS94	Percy Circus	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.103217367	Clerkenwell	South	+-	
OS120	Irving Mews Garden	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.117486615	Canonbury	South	--	
OS171	Tibberton Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.089037868	St. Peter's	South	+-	
OS172	Andersons Square Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.043360885	St. Mary's	West	--	
OS20	John Spencer Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.214470282	Canonbury	South	--	
OS214	Bingfield Street	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.050884375	Caledonian	West	--	
OS243	Alwyne Square	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.07723825	Canonbury	South	--	
OS253	Enclosed garden, Peabody Court, Roscoe Street	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.192153744	Bunhill	South	--	
OS5	Hornsey Rise Communal Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.0975025	Hillrise	North	--	
OS50	Lloyd Square Gardens	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (no play)	0.186656051	Clerkenwell	South	--	
B: Natural and semi-natural green space							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS9	Gillespie Park	B1. Local natural / semi-natural green spaces	3.16305614	Highbury West	East	++	
GS125	Barnsbury Wood	B2. Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	0.361568529	Caledonian	West	++	
OS201	Fife Terrace Moorings	B2. Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	0.07866825	Barnsbury	West	--	
OS56	Site near Hillrise Road	B2. Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	0.137543	Hillrise	North	--	
C: Green Corridors							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS35	Crouch Hill Cutting / Parkland Walk	C1. Local green corridors	2.501274861	Hillrise	North	+-	
GS101	Regent's Canal Towpath (Danbury, Packington, Vincent)	C2. Small local green corridors	0.721978154	St. Peter's	South	+-	
GS157	Regent's Canal Towpath (Caledonian/Murial St/York Way)	C2. Small local green corridors	0.359206174	Caledonian	West	+-	
GS20	Petherton Road Verge (north and south)	C2. Small local green corridors	0.617442358	Mildmay	East	+-	
D: Outdoor sports facilities							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Typology	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
SP1	Finsbury Square	Bowls	0.295658819	Bunhill			A2. Small local parks and gardens
SP10	Wray Crescent	Grass pitches	1.238740731	Tollington			A1. Major parks and gardens
SP11	Whittington Park	STP	0.6934665	Junction			A1. Major parks and gardens
SP12	Tuffnell Park Playing Fields	Outdoor tennis	0.109617304	Junction			
SP13	Tuffnell Park Playing Fields	Grass pitches	1.856449934	Junction			
SP14	Hillside Park	Grass pitches	0.106196375	Hillrise			A2. Small local parks and gardens
SP15	Spa Fields	Outdoor tennis	0.061687385	Clerkenwell			A2. Small local parks and gardens
SP16	Islington Tennis Centre	Outdoor tennis	0.124014976	Caledonian			A2. Small local parks and gardens
SP17	St Aloysius RC College	Grass pitches	0.421513189	Junction			
SP18	Holloway School	MUGA	0.171928209	St. George's			
SP19	Islington Arts & Media School Hall	STP	0.181191125	Tollington			
SP2	Honourable Artillery Company	Grass pitches	2.442726574	Bunhill			
SP20	Wray Crescent MUGA	MUGA	0.058253237	Tollington			A1. Major parks and gardens
SP3	Rosemary Gardens	MUGA	0.120079341	Canonbury			A1. Major parks and gardens

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
SP4	Rosemary Gardens	STP	0.29466485	Canonbury			A1. Major parks and gardens
SP5	Barnard Park	MUGA	0.895482374	Barnsbury			A1. Major parks and gardens
SP6	Paradise Park	MUGA	0.16111875	Holloway			A1. Major parks and gardens
SP7	Market Road	STP	1.962387734	Caledonian			
SP8	Highbury Fields Tennis Courts	Outdoor tennis	0.45314869	Highbury East			A*. Strategic parks
SP9	Highbury Fields	MUGA	0.691715575	Highbury East			A*. Strategic parks
SP21	Finsbury Leisure Centre	STP *	0.375	Bunhill			(Also see IS2)
E: Amenity green space							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS11	Highbury New Park Island	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.046295473	Highbury East	East	+ -	
GS133	Camden Road Open Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.076666251	Holloway	West	+ -	
GS136	Carfree Open Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.102066525	Barnsbury	West	+ -	
GS151	Mountford Terrace	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.048836177	Barnsbury	West	+ -	
GS155	Pleasant Place	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.04182916	St. Mary's	West	++	
GS18	Northampton Park Triangle	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.024526833	Mildmay	East	+ -	
GS42	Evershot Road Open Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.013670958	Tollington	North	+ -	
GS44	Giesbach Road Open Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.05850514	Junction	North	+ -	
GS53	Scholefield Road Open Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.214289857	Hillrise	North	+ -	
GS55	St. George's Theatre Site	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.116896016	St. George's	North	+ -	
GS74	Dibden Street Open Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.134618772	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
GS83	Lever Street Garden/St. Lukes Library	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.03687285	Bunhill	South	++	
GS92	Owens Field	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.215799881	Bunhill	South	+ -	
GS95	Prebend Street Island	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.155230463	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
OS175	City Forum	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.117271125	Bunhill	South	--	
OS221	Amenity Green Space on A401 Upper Street	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.09207681	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	
OS222	Amenity Green Space on A401 Upper Street	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.0507575	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	
OS53	Holloway Road Amenity Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.0823543	Hillrise	North	--	
OS94	Sobel Leisure Centre Amenity Space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	0.496633349	Finsbury Park	East	+ -	
G: Allotments, community gardens and urban farms							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS19	Olden Gardens	G1. Small local allotments / community gardens	0.526173732	Highbury East	East	+ -	
OS25	Freightliners Farm	G1. Small local allotments / community gardens	0.439865143	Holloway	West	n/a	
GS138	Culpeper Street Community Garden	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.200241906	Barnsbury	West	++	
GS14	King Henry's Walk	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.235093005	Mildmay	East	+ -	
GS16	Monsell Road Allotments	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.022362143	Highbury West	East	+ -	
GS168	Thornhill Bridge Community Gardens	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.100715367	Barnsbury	West	++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
GS2	Arvon Road Allotments	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.309584927	Highbury East	East	+ -	
GS21	Quill Street Allotments	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.142044482	Highbury West	East	+ -	
GS41	Evershot Road Allotments	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.073021592	Tollington	North	+ -	
GS5	Community Gardens	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.010837768	Highbury East	East	+ -	
GS56	Sunnyside Gardens	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.389303432	Hillrise	North	++	
GS59	Whitehall Community Garden	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	0.010318408	Hillrise	North	++	

* Finsbury Leisure Centre STP is made up of three small STPs. In Chapter 8, these have been treated as individual sites, but they are combined under the Site ID SP21 in this Appendix.

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
H: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS108	St. James, Clerkenwell	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	0.493756946	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	K2. Local playable space
GS111	St. Luke's Church Gardens (north and south)	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	0.75944377	Bunhill	South	+ -	
GS158	St. Mary Magdalene Church Gardens	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	1.938477842	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
GS159	St. Mary's Church Gardens	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	0.559919618	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
GS87	Myddelton Square	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	0.533607104	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space
OS43	Bunhill Fields Cemetery	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	1.486539972	Bunhill	South	+ -	
GS109	St. John's Church Yard	H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	0.017071858	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	
GS110	St. John's Garden, Benjamin Street	H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	0.219339907	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	
GS160	St. Silas Church Gardens	H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	0.02278016	Barnsbury	West	+ -	
GS161	Thornhill Crescent Gardens	H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	0.330695737	Caledonian	West	+ -	
OS17	Jewish cemetery	H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	0.357310815	Mildmay	East	- -	
I: Civic space							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
OS266	Arsenal Podium	I*. Local civic space	2.507105332	Highbury West	East	+ -	
GS115	Vernon Square	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.050616219	Clerkenwell	South	+ +	
GS132	Caledonian Road Enclosure	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.024729142	Caledonian	West	+ -	
GS164	Treaty Street	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.020890009	Caledonian	West	+ +	
GS25	St Paul's Road Enclosure	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.034175536	Mildmay	East	+ -	
GS4	Canonbury Station Forecourt	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.065490426	Mildmay	East	+ +	
GS49	Lady Margaret Open Space	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.039741232	St. George's	North	+ -	
GS63	Angel/Clocktower	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.098807596	Bunhill	South	+ -	
GS90	Old Street Promenade of Light	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.14862799	Bunhill	South	+ +	
OS267	NI Centre Civic Space	II. Neighbourhood civic space	0.054114435	St. Mary's	West	+ +	
J: Housing amenity space							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS24C1	ELTHORNE ESTATE	J1. Small local housing amenity space	0.73784249	Hillrise	North	+ +	
HS77C1	CAMDEN ESTATE	J1. Small local housing amenity space	0.447590473	Holloway	West	- -	
OS2	Palmer Fields	J1. Small local housing amenity space	0.489537045	Junction	North	+ -	
OS23	Barton House Amenity Housing Space	J1. Small local housing amenity space	0.441275729	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
OS247	Holloway Estate Civic and Amenity Space	J1. Small local housing amenity space	0.445245602	Holloway	West	- -	
OS8	City of London Holloway Estate	J1. Small local housing amenity space	0.745867673	St. George's	North	- -	
HS100C1	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.011367174	Highbury East	East	+ +	
HS100C2	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01239708	Highbury East	East	+ -	
HS100C3	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.05276437	Highbury East	East	+ +	
HS100C4	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.028627025	Highbury East	East	- -	
HS100C5	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.014759656	Highbury East	East	- -	
HS100C6	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.028167434	Highbury East	East	- -	
HS100C7	QUADRANT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02155279	Highbury East	East	- -	
HS101C1	HERBERT CHAPMAN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.016696158	Highbury West	East	+ -	
HS101C2	HERBERT CHAPMAN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026895158	Highbury West	East	+ -	
HS104C1	DRAKELEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.071194902	Highbury West	East	- +	
HS104C2	DRAKELEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.036303125	Highbury West	East	+ -	
HS105C1	TAWNEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.050031406	Highbury West	East	- -	
HS106C1	THE CHESTNUTS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.046419986	Highbury East	East	+ -	
HS107C1	WOODSTOCK HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.019635061	Highbury East	East	+ -	
HS108C1	Travener Estate	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0697105	Highbury East	East	+ +	
HS108C2	Travener Estate	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.103862537	Highbury East	East	+ +	
HS109C1	GARDNER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.014737157	Highbury East	East	- -	
HS109C2	GARDNER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.010750304	Highbury East	East	- -	
HS109C3	GARDNER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.1082525	Highbury East	East	+ -	
HS10C1	LEYDEN MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.049630815	Hillrise	North	- -	
HS10C2	LEYDEN MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.036596444	Hillrise	North	- -	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS10C3	LEYDEN MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022245042	Hillrise	North	+ -	
HS111C1	JACK WALKER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.030052812	Highbury West	East	- +	
HS114C1	THE WOODLANDS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.006666157	Highbury East	East	--	
HS116C1	PARK VIEW	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.011001856	Highbury East	East	--	
HS116C2	PARK VIEW	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.013357046	Highbury East	East	--	
HS116C3	PARK VIEW	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.018273882	Highbury East	East	--	
HS117C1	ARTHENAEUM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.066216318	Mildmay	East	--	
HS118C1	ORWELL COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.058202728	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS119C1	NEW RIVER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.118969555	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS120C1	LEXFIELD HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.016046799	Mildmay	East	--	
HS121C1	MASEFIELD COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02991534	Mildmay	East	- +	
HS124C1	BESANT COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.117446147	Mildmay	East	--	
HS125C1	MAYVILLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.165539887	Mildmay	East	--	
HS125C2	MAYVILLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.060209112	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS125C3	MAYVILLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02754748	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS125C4	MAYVILLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.113171788	Mildmay	East	--	
HS125C5	MAYVILLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.14559102	Mildmay	East	++	
HS125C6	MAYVILLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.051017125	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS127C1	WELLS COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.021452554	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS127C2	WELLS COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.069153534	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS128C1	BERESFORD LODGE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.027053733	Mildmay	East	++	
HS129C1	SEAFORTH CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.088750853	Mildmay	East	--	
HS129C2	SEAFORTH CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.044257975	Mildmay	East	--	
HS130C1	HIGHBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.037174923	Mildmay	East	--	
HS130C2	HIGHBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.091750728	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS130C3	HIGHBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.123083111	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS137C1	COURTNEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.071269538	Highbury West	East	++	
HS138C1	BAKER/MANNING HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.015590494	Highbury East	East	++	
HS138C2	BAKER/MANNING HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01732052	Highbury East	East	+ -	
HS13C1	HOLLY PARK	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.098468817	Tollington	North	+ -	
HS13C2	HOLLY PARK	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01125524	Tollington	North	+ -	
HS13C3	HOLLY PARK	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.016497572	Tollington	North	+ -	
HS145C1	STOCK ORCHARD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.213229166	Holloway	West	--	
HS148C1	THORNTON COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.023495631	Holloway	West	++	
HS149C1	NORTH ROAD, 12-17	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.031564453	Holloway	West	++	
HS149C2	NORTH ROAD, 12-17	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.038366382	Holloway	West	++	
HS149C3	NORTH ROAD, 12-17	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.035347625	Holloway	West	++	
HS149C4	NORTH ROAD, 12-17	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.061842873	Holloway	West	++	
HS149C5	NORTH ROAD, 12-17	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.047400494	Holloway	West	++	
HS150C1	SHEARLING WAY	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.020837786	Holloway	West	--	
HS150C2	SHEARLING WAY	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.051680437	Holloway	West	+ -	
HS151C1	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.104951953	Holloway	West	++	
HS151C2	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.114164214	Holloway	West	++	
HS151C3	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.053562622	Holloway	West	++	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS151C4	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039029992	Holloway	West	++	
HS151C5	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.093221688	Holloway	West	++	
HS151C6	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.008093	Holloway	West	++	
HS151C7	GOODINGE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.036591336	Holloway	West	++	
HS153C1	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.027333008	Holloway	West	--	
HS153C2	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.008870773	Holloway	West	--	
HS153C3	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.021670277	Holloway	West	+-	
HS153C4	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029333854	Holloway	West	+-	
HS153C5	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.064981235	Holloway	West	+-	
HS153C6	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.109476881	Holloway	West	+-	
HS153C7	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.135668983	Holloway	West	+-	
HS153C8	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.050991994	Holloway	West	--	
HS153C9	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.049112814	Holloway	West	+-	
HS155C1	WESTBOURNE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.079138706	Caledonian	West	++	
HS158C1	WILLOW COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.047161994	Holloway	West	--	
HS15C1	SHELLEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.091627956	Tollington	North	+-	
HS15C3	SHELLEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.032595396	Tollington	North	+-	
HS15C4	SHELLEY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.017633138	Tollington	North	--	
HS160C1	WATKINSON COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.014489021	Holloway	West	--	
HS162C1	CENTURION CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.017758108	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS162C2	CENTURION CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.020880411	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS162C3	CENTURION CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.020798777	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS162C4	CENTURION CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.03082196	Caledonian	West	--	
HS163C1	BOSTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.007139875	Caledonian	West	--	
HS164C1	NAILOUR STREET ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.017385627	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS165C1	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.32357379	Caledonian	West	++	
HS165C2	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.1333385	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS165C3	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.07139975	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS165C4	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.06248877	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS165C5	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.144174412	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS165C6	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.130676379	Caledonian	West	++	
HS165C7	BEMERTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0634905	Caledonian	West	+-	
HS166C1	THORNHILL HOUSES	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.065749917	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS169C1	LEGION CLOSE (INC 150-160 OFFO	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039229843	Barnsbury	West	-+	
HS16C1	COTMAN HOUSE/STUBBS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.046097767	Tollington	North	--	
HS172C1	BARNES COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.077185542	Barnsbury	West	--	
HS175C1	JOHN KENNEDY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.08105512	Clerkenwell	South	+-	
HS175C2	JOHN KENNEDY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.193197818	Clerkenwell	South	+-	
HS176C1	PRIORY GREEN	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.094909418	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS176C2	PRIORY GREEN	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.111664828	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS176C3	PRIORY GREEN	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.091854881	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS176C4	PRIORY GREEN	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.06970926	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS179C1	YORK WAY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.090058627	Caledonian	West	++	
HS179C2	YORK WAY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.143415718	Caledonian	West	+-	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS179C3	YORK WAY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.056707665	Caledonian	West	+	
HS180C1	LION COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01341811	Caledonian	West	-	
HS182C1	PRIORS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.215338515	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS183C1	BARNSBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.337859356	Barnsbury	West	-	
HS184C1	HALFMOON CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.014367125	Barnsbury	West	+	
HS184C2	HALFMOON CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.08461756	Barnsbury	West	-	
HS184C3	HALFMOON CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029016475	Barnsbury	West	+	
HS186C1	STUART HILL HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.032513168	Caledonian	West	++	
HS187C1	O.M.RICHARDS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.119650234	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS188C1	WHINFIELD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.064369634	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS189C1	MATILDA ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.023475582	Caledonian	West	-	
HS190C1	OLIVE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.056849335	Barnsbury	West	++	
HS191C3	WESTON RISE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.016609875	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS191C4	WESTON RISE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026954211	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS192C1	BEVIN COURT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.144482469	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS192C5	BEVIN COURT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.055184148	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS195C1	PRIDEAUX HOUSE (NEW RIVER ESTA	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.042416747	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS195C2	PRIDEAUX HOUSE (NEW RIVER ESTA	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022362275	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS196C1	NEW RIVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.036418522	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS197C1	SPA FIELDS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.199175014	Clerkenwell	South	+	
HS19C1	REYNOLDS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.007890733	Tollington	North	-	
HS19C2	REYNOLDS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.021644549	Tollington	North	-	
HS1C1	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.126988622	Hillrise	North	-	
HS1C2	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.129183781	Hillrise	North	+	
HS1C3	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.045210992	Hillrise	North	-	
HS1C4	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.300980113	Hillrise	North	+	
HS201C1	EARLSTOKE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.148633864	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS202C1	BRUNSWICK CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.170011282	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS202C2	BRUNSWICK CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.119739035	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS202C3	BRUNSWICK CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.104938467	Clerkenwell	South	+	
HS203C1	FINSBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.284174463	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS203C2	FINSBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.139538363	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS204C1	GREENWOOD HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.018733709	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS208C1	CHARLES ROWAN HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.104241291	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS209C1	MARGERY STREET	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.034712	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS209C2	MARGERY STREET	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.083821921	Clerkenwell	South	++	
HS209C3	MARGERY STREET	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.047995215	Clerkenwell	South	-	
HS209C4	MARGERY STREET	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.041955237	Clerkenwell	South	+	
HS20C1	ELAINE HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.012634866	Tollington	North	+	
HS20C2	ELAINE HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.03437817	Tollington	North	-	
HS211C1	MALLORY BUILDINGS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.027655673	Clerkenwell	South	+	
HS214C1	CALSHOT STREET, 13-53	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.023705221	Caledonian	West	+	
HS215C1	RICHMOND CRESCENT, 23-24	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.018556607	Barnsbury	West	+	
HS217C1	AMBER COURT / FORREST COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.009202183	St. Mary's	West	-	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS217C2	AMBER COURT / FORREST COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.053652399	St. Mary's	West	+	
HS218C1	RINGCROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.071604358	Highbury West	East	+	
HS21C1	GAINSBOROUGH HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.00905552	Tollington	North	--	
HS21C2	GAINSBOROUGH HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.027313047	Tollington	North	-+	
HS223C1	DIXON CLARK COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.082124949	St. Mary's	West	--	
HS225C1	SINCLAIR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.097991393	Mildmay	East	++	
HS226C1	TENSING HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.055989348	Canonbury	South	+	
HS227C1	ELIZABETH KENNY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.06711597	Canonbury	South	++	
HS227C2	ELIZABETH KENNY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.078286846	Canonbury	South	+	
HS228C1	MARIE CURIE HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.058070163	Canonbury	South	++	
HS229C1	LILIAN BAYLIS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.089163819	Canonbury	South	++	
HS230C1	DOUGLAS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.238662125	Canonbury	South	++	
HS233C1	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.121680901	Canonbury	South	+-	
HS233C2	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.070641395	Canonbury	South	++	
HS233C3	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.160359824	Canonbury	South	+-	
HS233C4	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022925287	Canonbury	South	--	
HS236C1	JOHN KENNEDY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02622275	Mildmay	East	--	
HS237C1	JOHN KENNEDY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.014794899	Mildmay	East	--	
HS237C2	JOHN KENNEDY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.044773025	Mildmay	East	--	
HS237C3	JOHN KENNEDY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.031956045	Mildmay	East	-+	
HS238C1	MILDMAY STREET/HALIDAY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01534177	Mildmay	East	+-	
HS238C2	MILDMAY STREET/HALIDAY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.016143675	Mildmay	East	+-	
HS238C3	MILDMAY STREET/HALIDAY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.059222263	Mildmay	East	+-	
HS239C1	TUDOR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.025366583	Mildmay	East	--	
HS239C2	TUDOR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.025488719	Mildmay	East	--	
HS239C3	TUDOR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.060037962	Mildmay	East	--	
HS239C4	TUDOR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029569032	Mildmay	East	--	
HS239C5	TUDOR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022426233	Mildmay	East	--	
HS239C6	TUDOR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.058392337	Mildmay	East	--	
HS23C1	FAIRBRIDGE/ELTHORNE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.016144589	Hillrise	North	--	
HS240C1	HAWTHORNE CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.04315975	Mildmay	East	+-	
HS240C2	HAWTHORNE CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.087439684	Mildmay	East	+-	
HS242C1	BURDER CLOSE/5-39 BOLEYN ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.2500697	Mildmay	East	++	
HS242C2	BURDER CLOSE/5-39 BOLEYN ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02273825	Mildmay	East	++	
HS242C3	BURDER CLOSE/5-39 BOLEYN ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.06398475	Mildmay	East	+-	
HS244C1	DOVERCOURT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.11412675	Canonbury	South	--	
HS244C2	DOVERCOURT ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.095969387	Canonbury	South	+	
HS249C1	CEDAR COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.047542459	Canonbury	South	+-	
HS251C1	SOUTHGATE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.043590973	Canonbury	South	--	
HS252C1	DOWNHAM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.048003449	Canonbury	South	-+	
HS255C1	ROTHERFIELD COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.205481157	Canonbury	South	+-	
HS256C1	WALKINSHAW COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.011004148	Canonbury	South	--	
HS258C1	BENTHAM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.060182881	St. Peter's	South	--	
HS258C2	BENTHAM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.007160252	St. Peter's	South	--	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS25C2	HILLSIDE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.081777803	Hillrise	North	+ -	
HS260C1	NEWBURY ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.098044026	Canonbury	South	+ -	
HS261C1	ROTHERFIELD STREET	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.008378977	Canonbury	South	++	
HS269C1	HALTON MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.047537855	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS269C2	HALTON MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.062370125	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS269C3	HALTON MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.04015429	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS269C4	HALTON MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029768096	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS269C5	HALTON MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.044772281	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS269C6	HALTON MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026511246	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS26C1	MIRANDA ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.14195729	Hillrise	North	--	
HS270C1	HUME COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.105022527	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS271C1	CANONBURY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.023412013	St. Mary's	West	--	
HS271C2	CANONBURY COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.2216791	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS274C1	WAKELIN HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.041333429	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS276C1	SPRIGGS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.055836866	St. Mary's	West	+ -	
HS279C1	COLINDALE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.027721864	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS27C1	GROVEDALE ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.043479382	Junction	North	++	
HS282C1	CUMMING ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.003801703	St. Peter's	South	++	
HS282C2	CUMMING ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.010078173	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS283C1	POPHAM ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.132523207	St. Peter's	South	- +	
HS283C2	POPHAM ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.025173875	St. Peter's	South	++	
HS284C1	PARKER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.002399748	St. Peter's	South	++	
HS287C1	PACKINGTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.040524979	St. Peter's	South	--	
HS287C2	PACKINGTON ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.056154078	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS288C1	CLUSE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.049341317	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS288C2	CLUSE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.078830493	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS288C3	CLUSE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.101863299	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS28C1	BOWERMAN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.028325835	Junction	North	+ -	
HS290C1	ASMAN HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.003285943	St. Peter's	South	- +	
HS295C1	LANGDON COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.008320349	St. Peter's	South	+ -	
HS296C1	NELSON PLACE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.008095626	St. Peter's	South	++	
HS297C1	WIDFORD HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.025712467	St. Peter's	South	++	
HS29C1	WHITEHALL MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.011829139	Junction	North	--	
HS2C1	REDWOOD COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.092203188	Hillrise	North	--	
HS300C1	CITY ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.278071186	Bunhill	South	++	
HS300C2	CITY ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.048829839	Bunhill	South	- +	
HS301C1	KING SQUARE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.143444115	Bunhill	South	++	
HS301C2	KING SQUARE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.104396545	Bunhill	South	++	
HS301C3	KING SQUARE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.073797519	Bunhill	South	++	
HS303C1	MACCLESFIELD HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.048368412	Bunhill	South	++	
HS305C1	PLEYDELL	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.155729931	Bunhill	South	++	
HS305C2	PLEYDELL	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0593117	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS305C3	PLEYDELL	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.053904995	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS306C1	CITY ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.049918324	Bunhill	South	+ -	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS306C2	CITY ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.013259477	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS306C3	CITY ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026290257	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS307C1	CITY ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.127238742	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS308C1	CHADWORTH HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.014107749	Bunhill	South	--	
HS309C1	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.215150969	Bunhill	South	++	
HS309C2	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.041130267	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C3	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.13222188	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C4	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.050832129	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C5	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.085242135	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C6	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.05944214	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C7	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026157004	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C8	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.04249297	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS309C9	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.028122048	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS30C1	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.008130321	Junction	North	+ -	
HS30C2	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.007573635	Junction	North	--	
HS30C3	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0091485	Junction	North	--	
HS30C4	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01193925	Junction	North	--	
HS30C5	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0089975	Junction	North	--	
HS30C6	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039964144	Junction	North	+ -	
HS310C1	WENLAKE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.018690477	Bunhill	South	--	
HS310C2	WENLAKE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.043751193	Bunhill	South	--	
HS311C1	ROYLEY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.009564366	Bunhill	South	--	
HS312C1	WHITECROSS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022641899	Bunhill	South	--	
HS313C1	STAFFORD CRIPPS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.222839753	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS314C1	THE TRIANGLE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.103337026	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS315C1	PERCIVAL ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.093553398	Bunhill	South	+ -	
HS315C2	PERCIVAL ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.063036986	Bunhill	South	--	
HS315C3	PERCIVAL ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.19290028	Bunhill	South	++	
HS316C2	CYRUS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039596375	Bunhill	South	--	
HS317C1	LENTON TRC/CLIFTON TRC FONTHIL	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.066867709	Finsbury Park	East	+ -	
HS324C1	BLAIR CLOSE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.04249125	Mildmay	East	++	
HS327C1	BANNER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.063791159	Bunhill	South	++	
HS327C2	BANNER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.054108131	Bunhill	South	++	
HS327C3	BANNER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.052527462	Bunhill	South	++	
HS328C1	TOLLINGTON WAY, 21 - 25	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.023837416	Tollington	North	+ -	
HS332C1	RONALDS ROAD/HIGHBURY TERRACE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.12596912	Highbury East	East	++	
HS333C1	HADLEIGH HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039326974	Mildmay	East	- +	
HS334C1	GROSVENOR AVENUE/NEWINGTON GRE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022752442	Mildmay	East	+ -	
HS33C1	BROOKSIDE PLACE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.021184375	Junction	North	+ -	
HS36C1	SYCAMORE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.028696472	Junction	North	+ -	
HS37C1	18-20 HORNSEY RISE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.020826703	Hillrise	North	--	
HS38C1	WEDMORE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.071605702	Junction	North	++	
HS39C1	OAKDALE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.019679646	Tollington	North	--	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS3C1	NEW ORLEANS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.025374955	Hillrise	North	--	
HS3C2	NEW ORLEANS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.059709191	Hillrise	North	--	
HS3C3	NEW ORLEANS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.186800487	Hillrise	North	--	
HS40C1	LARCHAM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.010089655	Tollington	North	--	
HS41C1	ST PAUL'S COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026221789	Tollington	North	--	
HS42C1	112-114 MARLBOROUGH RD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.002491891	Tollington	North	--	
HS43C1	CONSTABLE HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029944336	Tollington	North	+-	
HS44C1	BLENHEIM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.010583289	Tollington	North	+-	
HS44C2	BLENHEIM COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.088131891	Tollington	North	--	
HS47C1	LANDSEER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.065069191	Tollington	North	+-	
HS49C1	CHRISTIE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.030166901	Tollington	North	--	
HS4C1	MANCHESTER MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.107693847	Hillrise	North	++	
HS50C1	SEDGLEY HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.017453643	Tollington	North	--	
HS51C1	RINGMAR GARDENS (BAVARIA)	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.065410248	Tollington	North	+-	
HS54C1	SIMMONS HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.065713996	Finsbury Park	East	--	
HS55C1	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.031982867	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C10	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.026830035	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C11	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.024285129	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C12	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.26020118	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C2	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02636432	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C3	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.018819988	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C4	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022862531	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C5	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.021503625	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C6	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.037904894	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C7	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.038977686	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C8	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039828425	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS55C9	ANDOVER ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.322416674	Finsbury Park	East	++	
HS57C1	SIX ACRES	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.043204625	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS57C2	SIX ACRES	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.152296377	Finsbury Park	East	--	
HS57C3	SIX ACRES	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.080331875	Finsbury Park	East	++	
HS57C4	SIX ACRES	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039055814	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS57C5	SIX ACRES	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.03265442	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS58C1	HADEN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.097024783	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS58C2	HADEN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.061852457	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS58C3	HADEN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022381334	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS58C4	HADEN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.093368312	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS58C5	HADEN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.088273348	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS5C1	HORNSEY RISE ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.116673487	Hillrise	North	+-	
HS60C1	MEDINA COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.059657461	Finsbury Park	East	+-	
HS61C1	HOOD COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.042253799	Finsbury Park	East	++	
HS62C1	BENNETT COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.077849167	Finsbury Park	East	--	
HS65C1	PALMERS ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.03645456	Junction	North	+-	
HS68C1	BRECKNOCK ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.043224148	St. George's	North	+-	
HS68C2	BRECKNOCK ROAD ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.058441809	St. George's	North	++	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS69C1	HILLDROP	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.13775263	St. George's	North	++	
HS69C2	HILLDROP	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02111375	St. George's	North	--	
HS6C1	HILLRISE MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029204237	Hillrise	North	--	
HS70C1	66-150 BRECKNOCK ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.061776488	St. George's	North	++	
HS72C1	HILLDROP CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.169621943	St. George's	North	--	
HS72C2	HILLDROP CRESCENT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.289528257	St. George's	North	++	
HS73C1	MOELWYN HUGHES COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.01107775	St. George's	North	--	
HS76C1	BELMORE HOUSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.048334545	St. George's	North	++	
HS77C2	CAMDEN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.036161889	Holloway	West	--	
HS77C3	CAMDEN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.190546831	Holloway	West	+-	
HS78C1	FAIRDENE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.034206043	Holloway	West	+-	
HS78C2	FAIRDENE COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.020629316	Holloway	West	+-	
HS79C1	POYNDER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.025050347	Holloway	West	++	
HS79C2	POYNDER COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.019544206	Holloway	West	--	
HS7C1	WARLTERSVILLE MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.137625806	Hillrise	North	+-	
HS80C1	KEIGHLEY CLOSE / STAVELEY CLOS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.041416605	Holloway	West	+-	
HS81C1	FIELD COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.02988945	Holloway	West	--	
HS85C1	DAREN COURT	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.045819575	St. George's	North	+-	
HS88C1	PARKHURST / TUFNELL PARK ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.091227158	St. George's	North	++	
HS89C1	WILLIAMSON STREET	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.119891	Holloway	West	--	
HS8C1	COLEMAN MANSIONS	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.006371126	Hillrise	North	--	
HS90C1	LORAIN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.029400905	Holloway	West	+-	
HS90C2	LORAIN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.023274375	Holloway	West	+-	
HS90C3	LORAIN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.039876621	Holloway	West	+-	
HS90C4	LORAIN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.030861369	Holloway	West	+-	
HS90C5	LORAIN ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.033866875	Holloway	West	+-	
HS91C1	POLLARD CLOSE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.054251655	Holloway	West	--	
HS92C1	HARVIST ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.113398335	Highbury West	East	++	
HS92C2	HARVIST ESTATE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.092349404	Highbury West	East	++	
HS93C1	GILLESPIE	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.099260498	Highbury West	East	+-	
HS96C1	40-50,53-69 WYATT ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.018016011	Highbury East	East	++	
HS97C2	40-50,53-69 WYATT ROAD	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.007718162	Highbury East	East	--	
HS9C1	LOCHBIE/BRAMBLEDOWN	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.013251998	Hillrise	North	--	
OS112	St. Paul's Road Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.073648	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS113	Allwyne Square Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.07759475	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS114	Allwyne Square Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.071735525	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS116	Alwyne Road	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.2934705	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS117	Grange Grove Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.09486253	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS118	Canonbury Park South Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.16924295	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS119	Canonbury Park South Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.058570675	Canonbury	South	+-	
OS125	Hilldrop Road Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.157533475	St. George's	North	+-	
OS127	Travers House Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.114993375	St. George's	North	+-	
OS13	Statham Court Residential Flats Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.177138709	Finsbury Park	East	+-	K3i. Doorstep playable space
OS135	Yorkway Estate Amenity Housing Site	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.196070275	Holloway	West	+-	

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
OS136	Yorkway Estate Amenity Housing Site	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.203490125	Holloway	West	+ -	
OS137	Yorkway Estate Amenity Housing Site	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.193887175	Holloway	West	+ -	
OS150	Heddington Grove Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.05125695	Holloway	West	+ -	
OS151	Heddington Grove Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.041356975	Holloway	West	+ -	
OS152	Heddington Grove Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.051062625	Holloway	West	+ -	
OS164	Essex Road Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0684315	Canonbury	South	+ -	
OS165	Essex Road Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.05927675	Canonbury	South	+ -	
OS166	Essex Road Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.061690875	Canonbury	South	+ -	
OS167	De Beauvoir Court Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.049660125	Canonbury	South	--	
OS177	Lever Street Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.10870672	Bunhill	South	++	
OS184	Amenity Space for Hardwick Street	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.044602175	Clerkenwell	South	+ -	
OS195	Garden at rear of Community Hall, Chalbury Walk	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.046138125	Barnsbury	West	--	
OS198	Amenity Green Space Behind Properties on Calshot Street	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.042747125	Caledonian	West	--	
OS242	Grange Grove Amenity Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.087368125	Canonbury	South	+ -	
OS246	Amenity surrounding Southside Residential Building	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.194145008	St. George's	North	+ -	
OS248	Open space at Silver Court	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.125960302	Junction	North	+ -	
OS249	Open space (Bunhill House)	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.046274991	Bunhill	South	--	
OS251	Greenman Street (Peabody) former play area	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.0194826	St. Peter's	South	--	
OS254	Peabody Court	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.022191838	Bunhill	South	--	
OS255	Wynford Estate Open Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.049427023	Barnsbury	West	+ -	
OS256	Sutton Estate Housing Amenity Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.153014378	St. Mary's	West	++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
OS54	Fortior Court Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.043514772	Hillrise	North	+ -	
OS57	Albert Mansion Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.04356475	Hillrise	North	+ -	
OS72	Gerrard Place Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.062008815	Junction	North	+ -	
OS73	Gerrard Place Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.04085753	Junction	North	+ -	
OS74	Gerrard Place Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.150198459	Junction	North	+ -	
OS80	Church Garth Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.057353875	Junction	North	+ -	
OS87	Bakers Field Amenity Housing Space	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.140349325	St. George's	North	+ -	
OS9	City of London Holloway Estate	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	0.275859876	Holloway	West	+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
K: Play and youth facilities							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
GS10	Highbury Fields	K*. Strategic playable space	0.500554263	Highbury East		++	A*. Strategic parks
GS103	Rosemary Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.311650476	Canonbury		+	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS104	Spa Fields Gardens (and extension)	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.19523749	Clerkenwell		+	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS119	Arundel Square Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.066510908	St. Mary's		+	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS120	Assey's Row Playground	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.134255002	St. Mary's		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS122	Barnard Park (and extension)	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.408754095	Barnsbury		++	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS127	Biddestone Road Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.068427035	Holloway		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS13	Isledon Road Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.060084982	Finsbury Park		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS130	Caledonian Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.163037935	Holloway		+	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS146	Joseph Grimaldi Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.124405213	Barnsbury		--	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS147	Laycock Street Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.029884698	St. Mary's		--	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS15	Kinloch Street Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.088665715	Finsbury Park		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS150	Milner Square	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.078927788	St. Mary's		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS153	Paradise Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.226473701	Holloway		+	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS163	Thornhill Square	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.068365512	Caledonian		--	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS23	Royal Northern Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.031195761	Finsbury Park		+	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS26	St. Jude's Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.072184203	Mildmay		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS27	St. Paul's Shrubbery	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.090400071	Mildmay		--	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS28	Woodfall Road Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.02997768	Finsbury Park		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS30	Archway Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.064843683	Hillrise		--	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS33	Chambers Road Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.030281077	St. George's		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS34	Cornwallis Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.030527659	Tollington		+	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS37	Dalmeny Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.140594686	St. George's		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS38	Dartmouth Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.057340441	Junction		--	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS40	Elthorne Park (Incl Peace Garden and Boys Boxing Club)	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.176383469	Hillrise		++	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS43	Foxham Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.118807103	Junction		+	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS60	Whittington Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.320527704	Junction		++	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS61	Wray Crescent	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.329170712	Tollington		++	A1. Major parks and gardens
GS62	Zoffany Park	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.058735635	Hillrise		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS68	Basire Street Playground	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.088124257	St. Peter's		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS77	Fortune Street Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.075465484	Bunhill		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS79	Graham Street Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.046959051	St. Peter's		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS80	Granville Square	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.02528255	Clerkenwell		+	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS82	King Square Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.172971479	Bunhill		++	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS86	Morton Road Playground	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.136493584	St. Peter's		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS87	Myddelton Square	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.066404746	Clerkenwell		--	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground
GS93	Packington Square Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.058129519	St. Peter's		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS97	Quaker Gardens	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.057467238	Bunhill		++	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS98	Radnor Street Open Space	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.054917478	Bunhill		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
HS124A1	BESANT COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.078728925	Mildmay		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS125A1	MAYVILLE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.110749717	Mildmay		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS125A2	MAYVILLE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.076854443	Mildmay		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS125A5	MAYVILLE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.065811141	Mildmay		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS13A1	HOLLY PARK	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.063730028	Tollington		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS14A2	CROUCH HALL COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.070432008	Tollington		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS14A3	CROUCH HALL COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.078990731	Tollington		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS14A4	CROUCH HALL COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.079237797	Tollington		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS153A3	RINGCROSS ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.080292229	Holloway		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS154A1	CALEDONIAN ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.066081104	Caledonian		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS176A1	PRIORITY GREEN	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.637345212	Barnsbury		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS179A2	YORK WAY COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.066292818	Caledonian		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS184A1	HALFMOON CRESCENT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.09370604	Barnsbury		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS185A1	BONNINGTON HOUSE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.06089373	Caledonian		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS186A1	STUART HILL HOUSE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.055128036	Caledonian		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS203A1	FINSBURY ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.102674125	Clerkenwell		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS230A1	DOUGLAS ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.193558679	Canonbury		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS259A1	SICKERT COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.102740125	Canonbury		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS259A2	SICKERT COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.41370798	Canonbury		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS260A1	NEWBERY ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.103933361	Canonbury		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS282A1	CUMMING ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.053706352	St. Peter's		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS286A1	ARBON COURT	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.052282654	St. Peter's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS287A11	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.10769434	St. Peter's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS287A5	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.102970229	St. Peter's		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS287A6	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.10938413	St. Peter's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS287A7	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.055870175	St. Peter's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS287A8	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.095158067	St. Peter's		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS287A9	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.105412785	St. Peter's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS296A1	NELSON PLACE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.078240495	St. Peter's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS300A1	CITY ROAD ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.089735241	Bunhill		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS301A1	KING SQUARE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.075377186	Bunhill		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS30A1	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.05580925	Junction		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS30A2	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.074781301	Junction		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS38A1	WEDMORE ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.051374476	Junction		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS46A1	SUSSEX CLOSE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.059215136	Tollington		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS55A3	ANDOVER ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.094670532	Finsbury Park		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS57A3	SIX ACRES	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.118077472	Finsbury Park		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS68A1	BRECKNOCK ROAD ESTATE	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.07552048	St. George's		+	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS69A1	HILLDROP	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.227295655	St. George's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS69A3	HILLDROP	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.1306714	St. George's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space
HS69A4	HILLDROP	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space	0.18365082	St. George's		--	K.li. Neighbourhood playable space

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS6A1	HILLRISE MANSIONS	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.116032896	Hillrise		--	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
HS86A1	TUFNELL PARK ESTATE	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.081003894	St. George's		--	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
HS86A2	TUFNELL PARK ESTATE	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.099506378	St. George's		--	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
HS92A1	HARVIST ESTATE	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.097589762	Highbury West		--	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
HS95A1	BLACKSTOCK ESTATE	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.059394181	Highbury West		+	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
HS95A2	BLACKSTOCK ESTATE	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.051635555	Highbury West		--	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS138	Haywards Adventure Playground - Kidsactive	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.498582626	Caledonian		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS19	King Henry's Walk Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.187139183	Mildmay		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS199	Killick Street Play Area	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.054407505	Caledonian		+	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS245	York Way Estate Play Area and MUGA	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.0698123	Holloway		++	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS259	Barnard Park Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.396320079	Barnsbury		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS260	Martin Luther King Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.086848432	Holloway		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS261	Cape Play and Youth Project	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.146288757	Hillrise		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS262	Lumpy Hill Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.240204854	Caledonian		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS263	Waterside Play and Youth Project	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.079178516	St. Peter's		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS264	Timbaktu Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.127013004	Tollington		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS265	Crumbles Castle Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.202115123	Caledonian		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS37	Three Corners Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.38341859	Clerkenwell		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS46	Toffee Park Adventure Playground	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.125436688	Bunhill		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
OS84	Cornwallis Play and Youth Project	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space	0.137308767	Tollington		n/a	K.Ii. Neighbourhood playable space
GS128	Bingfield Park	K.Iii. Youth space	0.100198825	Caledonian		++	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS85	Mitcheson/Baxter Open Space	K.Iii. Youth space	0.108485618	Canonbury		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
HS100B1	QUADRANT ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.047258	Highbury East		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS103B1	AUBERT COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.025574	Highbury West		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS109B1	GARDNER COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.026739	Highbury East		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS116B1	PARK VIEW	K.Iii. Youth space	0.038815375	Highbury East		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS124B1	BESANT COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.03846875	Mildmay		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS125B1	MAYVILLE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.054527732	Mildmay		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS125B2	MAYVILLE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.03801675	Mildmay		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS129B1	SEAFORTH CRESCENT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.03881838	Mildmay		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS130B1	HIGHBURY ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.023140822	Mildmay		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS13B1	HOLLY PARK	K.Iii. Youth space	0.026763024	Hillrise		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS145B1	STOCK ORCHARD	K.Iii. Youth space	0.02726875	Holloway		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS14B1	CROUCH HALL COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.054808	Tollington		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS150B1	SHEARLING WAY	K.Iii. Youth space	0.037443601	Holloway		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS154B1	CALEDONIAN ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.0219515	Caledonian		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS155B1	WESTBOURNE ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.063256325	Caledonian		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS156B1	ALDERWICK COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.026884462	Caledonian		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS165B1	BEMERTON ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.04554	Caledonian		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS177B1	DELHI/OUTRAM ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.036397096	Caledonian		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS183B1	BARNBURY ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.023437509	Barnsbury		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS184B1	HALFMOON CRESCENT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.029370384	Barnsbury		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS191B1	WESTON RISE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.028717217	Clerkenwell		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS197B1	SPA FIELDS	K.Iii. Youth space	0.02223925	Clerkenwell		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS1B1	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.03895816	Hillrise		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS201B1	EARLSTOKE ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.042585665	Clerkenwell		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS203B1	FINSBURY ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.109580981	Clerkenwell		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS220B1	HASLAM CLOSE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.0337	St. Mary's		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS241B1	KERRIDGE COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.05503971	Mildmay		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS244B1	DOVERCOURT ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.02472	Canonbury		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS24B1	ELTHORNE ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.06940525	Hillrise		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS271B1	CANONBURY COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.03227414	St. Mary's		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS27B1	GROVEDALE ROAD	K.Iii. Youth space	0.024755906	Junction		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS287B1	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.100709838	St. Peter's		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS288B1	CLUSE COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.098999491	St. Peter's		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS298B1	ELIA STREET 24-137/ELIA MEWS	K.Iii. Youth space	0.0366795	St. Peter's		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS300B1	CITY ROAD ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.19724335	Bunhill		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS301B1	KING SQUARE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.110181197	Bunhill		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS309B1	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.033866875	Bunhill		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS30B1	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.02681025	Junction		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS315B1	PERCIVAL ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.049821425	Bunhill		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS3B2	NEW ORLEANS	K.Iii. Youth space	0.041219125	Hillrise		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS55B1	ANDOVER ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.06020425	Finsbury Park		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS55B2	ANDOVER ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.02849575	Finsbury Park		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS57B1	SIX ACRES	K.Iii. Youth space	0.070484375	Finsbury Park		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS5B1	HORNSEY RISE ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.025343613	Hillrise		++	K.Iii. Youth space
HS65B1	PALMERS ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.028451225	Junction		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS68B1	BRECKNOCK ROAD ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.0524335	St. George's		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS69B1	HILLDROP	K.Iii. Youth space	0.057192053	St. George's		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS77B1	CAMDEN ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.046976737	Holloway		--	K.Iii. Youth space
HS86B1	TUFNELL PARK ESTATE	K.Iii. Youth space	0.094012427	St. George's		+-	K.Iii. Youth space
HS87B1	MARGERY FRY COURT	K.Iii. Youth space	0.037750696	St. George's		--	K.Iii. Youth space

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS88B1	PARKHURST / TUFNELL PARK ROAD	K.II. Youth space	0.041698267	St. George's		--	K.II. Youth space
HS92B1	HARVIST ESTATE	K.II. Youth space	0.050329675	Highbury West		++	K.II. Youth space
OS6	Crouch Hill Recreation Ground	K.II. Youth space	0.082168633	Hillrise		+ -	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS108	St. James, Clerkenwell	K2. Local playable space	0.032469914	Clerkenwell		--	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground
GS139	Culpeper Street Open Space (incl rosebed)	K2. Local playable space	0.041273847	Barnsbury		++	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS39	Davenant Rd Open Space	K2. Local playable space	0.033061114	Tollington		- +	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS45	Grenville Road Open Space	K2. Local playable space	0.038855556	Tollington		- +	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS51	Pemberton Gardens	K2. Local playable space	0.032362339	Junction		+ -	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS58	Tufnell Park Playing Fields	K2. Local playable space	0.047594447	Junction		- +	K2. Local playable space
GS73	Compton Street Open Space	K2. Local playable space	0.048331691	Bunhill		+ -	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
HS125A3	MAYVILLE	K2. Local playable space	0.034149375	Mildmay		++	K2. Local playable space
HS153A2	RINGCROSS ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.032377221	Holloway		--	K2. Local playable space
HS155A1	WESTBOURNE ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.031161402	Caledonian		++	K2. Local playable space
HS165A2	BEMERTON ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.0304395	Caledonian		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS183A1	BARNSBURY ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.043716171	Barnsbury		+ -	K2. Local playable space
HS233A2	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.037510964	Canonbury		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS233A3	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.04138065	Canonbury		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS23A1	FAIRBRIDGE/ELTHORNE	K2. Local playable space	0.032932015	Hillrise		--	K2. Local playable space
HS240A1	HAWTHORNE CLOSE	K2. Local playable space	0.038409634	Mildmay		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS241A1	KERRIDGE COURT	K2. Local playable space	0.048828915	Mildmay		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS258A2	BENTHAM COURT	K2. Local playable space	0.036977375	St. Peter's		+ -	K2. Local playable space
HS287A10	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.04761675	St. Peter's		--	K2. Local playable space
HS309A1	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.049317351	Bunhill		++	K2. Local playable space
HS30A3	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.046420919	Junction		+ -	K2. Local playable space
HS315A1	PERCIVAL ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.03416925	Bunhill		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS33A1	BROOKSIDE PLACE	K2. Local playable space	0.03246523	Junction		--	K2. Local playable space
HS34A2	JOHN KING COURT	K2. Local playable space	0.033633784	Junction		--	K2. Local playable space
HS3A1	NEW ORLEANS	K2. Local playable space	0.049650545	Hillrise		--	K2. Local playable space
HS51A1	RINGMAR GARDENS (BAVARIA)	K2. Local playable space	0.030525875	Tollington		--	K2. Local playable space
HS57A1	SIX ACRES	K2. Local playable space	0.0386	Finsbury Park		- +	K2. Local playable space
HS57A2	SIX ACRES	K2. Local playable space	0.045633124	Finsbury Park		--	K2. Local playable space
HS62A1	BENNETT COURT	K2. Local playable space	0.04019125	Finsbury Park		--	K2. Local playable space
HS68A2	BRECKNOCK ROAD ESTATE	K2. Local playable space	0.041792804	St. George's		++	K2. Local playable space
OS239	Pickard Street Play Area	K2. Local playable space	0.048153277	Bunhill		- +	K2. Local playable space
OS244	Lofing Road Recreation Ground	K2. Local playable space	0.030916755	Barnsbury		--	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
OS49	Peabody Estate	K2. Local playable space	0.046294425	Clerkenwell		--	K2. Local playable space
GS113	Tibby Place	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.013606261	St. Peter's		+ -	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS140	Edward Square	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.010464431	Caledonian		++	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS168	Thornhill Bridge Community Gardens	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.027920095	Barnsbury		- +	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens
GS17	Newington Green Gardens	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.027270704	Mildmay		++	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS57	Sussex Way Gardens	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.019463236	Tollington		++	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
GS7	Eversleigh Street Open Space	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.027710014	Tollington		- +	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
HS100A1	QUADRANT ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01165575	Highbury East		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS119A1	NEW RIVER COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.016967254	Mildmay		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS125A4	MAYVILLE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.023222393	Mildmay		- +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS130A2	HIGHBURY ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.017764661	Mildmay		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS13A2	HOLLY PARK	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.024821125	Tollington		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS142A1	MERSEY ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.029887065	St. Mary's		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS144A1	11-75 EDEN GROVE / 1-13 GEARY	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.023423924	Holloway		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS149A1	NORTH ROAD, 12-17	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.0134565	Holloway		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS151A1	GOODING ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01972625	Holloway		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS153A1	RINGCROSS ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.029260418	Holloway		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS156A1	ALDERWICK COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.012376933	Caledonian		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS163A1	BOSTON ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.017167	Caledonian		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS177A1	DELHI/OUTRAM ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.028580375	Caledonian		- +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS179A1	YORK WAY COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01931949	Caledonian		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS187A1	O.M.RICHARDS ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.024132796	Barnsbury		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS191A1	WESTON RISE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.014426701	Clerkenwell		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS191A2	WESTON RISE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.024860783	Clerkenwell		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS1A2	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.012638971	Hillrise		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS202A1	BRUNSWICK CLOSE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.026262671	Clerkenwell		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS209A2	MARGER Y STREET	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.013107135	Clerkenwell		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS209A3	MARGER Y STREET	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.02375725	Clerkenwell		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS220A1	HASLAM CLOSE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.017459751	St. Mary's		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS233A1	NEW RIVER GREEN ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.019341375	Canonbury		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS243A1	THREADGOLD HOUSE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.013994875	Canonbury		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS24A1	ELTHORNE ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.0128755	Hillrise		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS258A1	BENTHAM COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.014503255	St. Peter's		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS26A1	MIRANDA ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.018603024	Hillrise		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS26A2	MIRANDA ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.018667075	Hillrise		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS26A3	MIRANDA ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.014954756	Hillrise		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS271A1	CANONBURY COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.010644645	St. Mary's		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS272A1	TYNDALE MANSIONS	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.019633411	St. Mary's		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS276A1	SPRIGGS HOUSE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01750705	St. Mary's		--	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS284A1	PARKER COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01422076	St. Peter's		++	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS287A1	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01468494	St. Peter's		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
HS287A2	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.0166404	St. Peter's		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS298A1	ELIA STREET 24-137/ELIA MEWS	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.029904255	St. Peter's		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS305A1	PLEYDELL	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.029969349	Bunhill		+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS309A2	ST LUKE'S ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.027239803	Bunhill		- -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS30A4	GIRDLESTONE ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.011517	Junction		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS310A1	WENLAKE ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.023986	Bunhill		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS313A1	STAFFORD CRIPPS	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.027293625	Bunhill		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS32A1	TREMLETT GROVE ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.018139744	Junction		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS34A1	JOHN KING COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.021655117	Junction		- -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS44A1	BLenheim COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.01093625	Tollington		- -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS47A1	LANDSEER COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.026909165	Tollington		- -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS55A1	ANDOVER ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.017015358	Finsbury Park		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS55A2	ANDOVER ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.016321	Finsbury Park		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS55A4	ANDOVER ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.019421078	Finsbury Park		- -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS55A5	ANDOVER ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.014930625	Finsbury Park		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS5A1	HORNSEY RISE ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.017869354	Hillrise		+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS69A2	HILLDROP	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.027657488	St. George's		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS73A1	MOELWYN HUGHES COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.016228621	St. George's		+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS87A1	MARGER Y FRY COURT	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.02772894	St. George's		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS89A1	WILLIAMSON STREET	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.019385753	Holloway		+ -	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS92A2	HARVIST ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.011788	Highbury West		+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
HS92A3	HARVIST ESTATE	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.018483	Highbury West		+ +	K3i. Doorstep playable space
OS13	Statham Court Residential Flats Amenity Housing Space	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.012548231	Finsbury Park		n/a	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space
OS252	Wynford Estate Play area	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.012366114	Barnsbury		n/a	K3i. Doorstep playable space
OS256	Sutton Estate Housing Amenity Space	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.021945248	St. Mary's		- -	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space
OS9	City of London Holloway Estate	K3i. Doorstep playable space	0.019381918	Holloway		n/a	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space
HS108B1	Travener Estate	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.012879675	Highbury East		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS131B1	SPRING GARDENS	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.014347125	Mildmay		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS142B1	MERSEY ESTATE	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.019758771	St. Mary's		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS187B1	O.M.RICHARDS ESTATE	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.01131295	Barnsbury		+ +	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS225B1	SINCLAIR COURT	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.018944085	Mildmay		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS27B2	GROVEDALE ROAD	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.012226173	Junction		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS31B1	HARGRAVE PARK ESTATE	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.005171375	Junction		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
HS32B1	TREMLETT GROVE ESTATE	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	0.016308172	Junction		- -	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space
GS112	St. Paul's South Open Space (and extention)	K4. Very small playable space	0.006486075	Canonbury		+ +	A2. Small local parks and gardens
GS50	Landseer Gardens	K4. Very small playable space	0.007487814	Tollington		+ +	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares
HS130A1	HIGHBURY ESTATE	K4. Very small playable space	0.00847925	Mildmay		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS14A1	CROUCH HALL COURT	K4. Very small playable space	0.009260117	Tollington		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS165A1	BEMERTON ESTATE	K4. Very small playable space	0.006514338	Caledonian		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS1A1	ASHMOUNT ESTATE	K4. Very small playable space	0.009088699	Hillrise		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS209A1	MARGER Y STREET	K4. Very small playable space	0.003528882	Clerkenwell		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS211A1	MALLORY BUILDINGS	K4. Very small playable space	0.007912703	Clerkenwell		+ +	K4. Very small playable space
HS256A1	WALKINSHAW COURT	K4. Very small playable space	0.006888886	Canonbury		+ +	K4. Very small playable space
HS287A3	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K4. Very small playable space	0.00605575	St. Peter's		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS287A4	PACKINGTON ESTATE	K4. Very small playable space	0.006375818	St. Peter's		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS4A1	MANCHESTER MANSIONS	K4. Very small playable space	0.00964298	Hillrise		+ +	K4. Very small playable space
HS54A1	SIMMONS HOUSE	K4. Very small playable space	0.003831568	Finsbury Park		+ -	K4. Very small playable space
HS77A1	CAMDEN ESTATE	K4. Very small playable space	0.00724275	Holloway		+ +	K4. Very small playable space
L: Indoor sports facilities							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
IS1	Highbury Grove School	Swimming Pool; Sports Hall			East		
IS10	Islington Tennis Centre	Fitness and Indoor Tennis			West		
IS11	Mount Carmel RC Technology College for Girls	Sports Hall			North		
IS12	Islington Arts & Media School Hall	Fitness; Sports Hall			North		
IS13	Drakes Gym	Fitness			South		
IS14	Archway Leisure Centre	Swimming Pool; Fitness			North		
IS2	Finsbury Leisure Centre	Sports Hall			South		(Also see SP21)
IS3	Ironmonger Row Baths	Swimming Pool; Fitness			South		
IS4	Saddlers Sports Centre	Fitness; Sports Hall			South		
IS5	Otium Leisure Club (Barbican)	Fitness			South		
IS6	Cally Pool	Swimming Pool; Fitness			West		
IS7	Dowe Dynamics Gym & Fitness Shop	Fitness			North		
IS8	Sobell Leisure Centre	Ice Rink; Fitness; Sports Hall			East		
IS9	Highbury Pool	Swimming Pool; Fitness			East		
M: Community facilities							
PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
CH1	ALMORAH COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH10	CHARLES ROWAN HSE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH11	CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH12	EARLSTOKE ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
CH13	GAMBIER COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH14	GIRDLESTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH15	GOODINGE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH16	HALF MOON COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH17	HANLEY CROUCH COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH18	HARGRAVE HALL	Large community space			North		
CH19	HARRY RICE HALL	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH2	ANDOVER COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH20	HILLDROP CRES COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH21	HOLLY HALL	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH22	HORNSEY LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH23	IVY HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH24	JEAN STOKES HALL	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH25	LORAIN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH26	MARGER Y STREET COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH27	MARQUESS COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH28	MAYVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH29	NAILOUR HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH3	ARCHWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH30	NEW ORLEANS WALK COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH31	PEREGRINE HALL COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH32	PRIORY GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH33	RAHERE HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH34	RINGCROSS	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH35	SEBBON STREET COMMUNITY HALL	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH36	ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH37	STEPHENS INK COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH38	TEALBY COURT HALL	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH39	TOMPION HALL	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH4	AUBERT COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH40	VIBAST COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH41	WALTER SICKERT COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH42	WESTBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH43	WESTON RISE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH44	WHITTINGTON COMMUNITY CTRE.	Small and medium community spaces			North		
CH45	WILLIAMSON ST COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH46	YORK WAY COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH47	Highbury roundhouse	Youth centre			East		
CH48	White Lion Youth Centre	Youth centre			West		
CH49	Bennett Court Community Centre	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH5	BARNSBURY EST COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH50	Bentham Community Centre	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH51	Brunswick Community Centre	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH52	Chestnuts Community Centre	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH53	Durham Road Community Room (Tollington Project Office)	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH54	Finsbury Unity Room	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH55	Popham & Cumming Community Centre	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH56	Providence Place Community Centre (AKA Liz McKeown Centre)	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH57	Walnut Tree Community Centre	Small and medium community spaces			East		

Appendix 6 List of all sites (by typology and hierarchy)

PPG17 ID	Site Name	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Ward	Area Committee	VQ Rating	Other provision
CH6	BENTHAM COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			South		
CH7	BINGFIELD STREET COMMUNITY CENTRE	Small and medium community spaces			West		
CH8	BIRCHMORE HALL	Small and medium community spaces			East		
CH9	CALEDONIAN EST COMMUNITY HALL	Small and medium community spaces			West		

APPENDIX 7

Accessibility standards
(Development of standards described by typology with justification)

APPENDIX 7 ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

The **accessibility standard** defines the maximum distance that users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of provision. The GLA Best Practice Guidance of the London Plan (for access to public open space) draws on the NPFA Six Acre Standard and gives guidance on distance thresholds for different size categories of open space.

This appendix summarises relevant national and local standard information as well as strategic context and consultation findings to inform the development of accessibility standards for each of the typologies considered. Good practice examples for the rest of the country have also been taken into account. Based on this information, the recommended accessibility standards and related justification for each typology is provided.

OPEN SPACES: TYPOLOGIES A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I, J AND K

Type	Hierarchy	Accessibility standard (stated as distance radius m)	Source/justification for standard
A. Parks and Garden	A*: Strategic parks and gardens	1200m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard ¹ for 'District' parks as, although smaller in size, Highbury Fields provides equivalent role and draws people from a wide catchment, as indicated through Groundwork's consultation.
	AI: Major parks and gardens	800m	Guided by combination of GLA benchmark standard for 'District' (1200m) and 'Local' parks (400m) as although Islington's 'major parks' are relatively small in size they are key sites serving a more strategic function than a 'local park', as indicated through Groundwork's consultation.

¹ Guide to preparing Open Space Strategies – Best practice guidance of the London Plan, March 2004
 Islington open space, sport and recreation assessment
 Appendix 7 Accessibility standards

Type	Hierarchy	Accessibility standard (stated as distance radius m)	Source/justification for standard
	A2: Small local parks and gardens	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for small local parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation.
	A3: Neighbourhood gardens/ squares	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for pocket parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation.
B. Natural and semi-natural green space	B1: Local natural/semi-natural green spaces	1000m	GLA Access to Nature report ² suggests all Londoners should be within 1km walking distance of contact with nature (assessed as sites of Borough or Metropolitan Importance for nature conservation). The sites in this hierarchy meet these requirements and are unique sites in Islington, so it seems appropriate to use the Mayor's benchmark standard.
	B2: Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for pocket parks as these sites provide equivalent provision to a 'neighbourhood garden/square'. (The sites in this hierarchy do not appear to have been captured in the GLA Access to Nature mapping, most of these falling in areas of deficiency to Access to Nature. It is assumed that they were discounted due to site size, quality or restrictions in opening times and so are unlikely to draw people from 1km away.)
C. Green corridor	C1: Local Green Corridors	1000m	Guided by GLA Access to Nature report. The site in this hierarchy is of Metropolitan Importance.

² Improving Londoners' Access to Nature, London Plan Implementation Report, February 2008

Type	Hierarchy	Accessibility standard (stated as distance radius m)	Source/justification for standard
	C2: Small Local Green Corridors	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for pocket parks. (The sites in this hierarchy do not appear to have been captured in the GLA Access to Nature mapping, most of these falling in areas of deficiency to Access to Nature. It is assumed that they were discounted due to site size and are unlikely to draw people from 1km away.)
D. Outdoor sports facilities	See below		
E. Amenity green space	E1: Pockets of amenity green space	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for pocket parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation.
<i>(F. Green space for visual amenity)</i>	<i>(F1: Pockets of / very small spots of green space for visual amenity)</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>Not applicable, these sites contribute greatly to the visual amenity of the Borough but people would not be expected to travel specifically to see or use these sites.</i>
G. Allotments and community gardens	G1: Small local allotments / community gardens	n/a	No accessibility standard has been set for this typology. It is not considered appropriate to set an accessibility standard for allotments and community gardens as the amount of residents that a site can provide for is dependant on the number of plots available. No data was available on the profile of allotment holders in the borough to determine how far a resident might travel to their plot or community garden. Freightliners Farm is considered to be a unique attraction in

Type	Hierarchy	Accessibility standard (stated as distance radius m)	Source/justification for standard
	G2: Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	n/a	the borough and therefore likely to have a much wider catchment. It cannot substitute for another type of provision so therefore it is not appropriate to apply an accessibility standard.
H. Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	H1: Local cemetery / burial ground	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for small local parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation.
	H2: Neighbourhood cemetery / burial grounds	400m	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for pocket parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation.
I. Civic space	I*: Local civic spaces	n/a	<i>Not applicable, these sites contribute greatly to the amenity of the Borough but people would not be expected to travel specifically to see or use these sites.</i>
	II: Neighbourhood civic spaces	n/a	
J. Housing amenity space	J1. Small local housing amenity space	400m for freely accessible sites (up to estate boundary for residents only sites)	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for small local parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation. This standard will not be applied to those spaces which are subject to restrictions of estate residents only access.
	J2. Pockets of / very small spots of housing amenity space	400m for freely accessible sites (up to estate boundary for residents only sites)	Guided by GLA benchmark standard for pocket parks and as confirmed through Groundwork's consultation. This standard will not be applied to those spaces which are subject to restrictions of estate residents only access.

Type	Hierarchy	Accessibility standard (stated as distance radius m)	Source/justification for standard
K. Play and youth facilities (including those captured under other typologies)	K*: Strategic playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m	Based on GLA guidance ³ which provides benchmark accessibility standards of maximum walking distances to play or youth provision for three age bands.
	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m	
	K1ii: Youth space	11+ yrs 800 metres	
	K2: Local playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m	
	K3i: Doorstep playable space	11+ yrs 800 metres 5-11 yrs 400m 0-5 yrs 100m	
	K3ii: Pockets of / very small youth space	11+ yrs 400 metres	
	K4: Very small playable space	100m	
L. Indoor sport	See below		
M. Community facilities	See below		

³ Providing for Children and Young People's play and Informal Recreation, SPG, Mayor of London, March 2008

SPORTS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES: TYPOLOGIES D, L AND M

For each typology, this information is set out as follows:

Field	Comment
National standards	Details of any existing national standards for each typology usually provided by national organisations. For example, Natural England makes recommendations of access for 'Natural Greenspace'.
Existing local accessibility standards and strategic context	Any existing local standards and context information that will need to be taken into account and used as a guidance benchmark when setting new local standards.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	These are figures detailing other local accessibility standards set by PMP within other PPG17/ open space projects and provide another comparison benchmark when setting local standards for other local authorities. Where possible, benchmark data for similar local authorities have been included.
Step 1 consultation findings	Comprises statistical information derived from the household questionnaire. This includes the duration that the 75 th percentile ⁴ of respondents are willing to travel, as recommended by the PPG17 Companion Guide.
Recommendation	Recommended local standard. The standard will be in time and/or distance.
Justification	Reasoning and justification for the local standard that has been recommended.

Accessibility standards assumptions

The following assumptions have been used in developing the accessibility standards:

- average walking speed of 3 mph

⁴ A percentile is the value of a variable below which a certain percent of observations/responses fall. So the 75th percentile is the value below which 75 percent of the observations/responses may be found.

Walking distance conversion

Time (mins)	Miles	Metres
5	0.25	400
10	0.50	800
15	0.75	1200
20	1.00	1600
25	1.25	2000
30	1.50	2400

Typology D: Outdoor sports facilities

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities																							
National standards	No national standards are available, although the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) highlights the “% of the population within 20 minutes of a range of 3 different sports facility types, one of which must be quality assured” as one of their key performance indicators. Sport England’s Interim scores for June 2007 Choice and Opportunity Scores reveal the current figure for Islington borough as 98.4%.																						
Existing local accessibility standards and strategic context	The Leisure Needs Assessment Study (2006) indicated an aspiration of residents for a travel time of 10 minutes walk to sports fields.																						
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	Manchester – 15 minute walk	Ipswich– 10 minute walk	Broxbourne – 15 minute walk																				
	Wolverhampton – 15 minute walk	Brighton – 10 minute drive																					
Step 1 consultation findings	<p>Current usage patterns</p> <p>The use of this type of open space is very specific to its function and is very much a demand-led typology. Grass pitches (36%) and tennis courts (36%) are the most frequently used types of facilities.</p> <p>In terms of travel mode, those who use this type of facility most often will mainly travel on foot (88%), followed by bus (9%) and car (3%). No respondents said they cycled.</p> <p>Preferred method of travel</p> <p>Responses from the household survey regarding preferred travel methods for the different types of open space highlighted variations between facility types as illustrated below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="4">Method of travel (% household survey responses)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Type of facility</th> <th>Walk</th> <th>Cycle</th> <th>Bus</th> <th>Car</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Grass pitches</td> <td>55%</td> <td>15%</td> <td>19%</td> <td>9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)</td> <td>51%</td> <td>18%</td> <td>22%</td> <td>9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Method of travel (% household survey responses)				Type of facility	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car	Grass pitches	55%	15%	19%	9%	Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)	51%	18%	22%	9%
	Method of travel (% household survey responses)																						
Type of facility	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car																			
Grass pitches	55%	15%	19%	9%																			
Synthetic turf pitches (STPs)	51%	18%	22%	9%																			

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities

Tennis courts	55%	16%	19%	9%
Bowling greens	51%	14%	24%	10%

These findings highlight that the majority of people in Islington expect to walk to all types of outdoor sports facilities. A review across the four analysis areas indicates that mode of travel expectations follow a similar pattern to the results given at a borough-wide level. This can be explained by the relatively small size of the borough and its urban nature.

Preferred duration of travel

Type of facility	Expected walking time					
	Less than 5 mins	5-10 mins	11-15 mins	16-20 mins	21-30 mins	30+ mins
Grass pitches	5%	51%	24%	8%	8%	3%
Synthetic turf pitches	5%	39%	30%	15%	10%	2%
Tennis courts	3%	40%	30%	16%	6%	4%
Bowling greens	1%	33%	26%	14%	16%	8%

The 75th percentile threshold is calculated at a 20 minute travel time for synthetic turf pitches, outdoor tennis courts and bowling greens. This falls to 15 minutes for grass pitches. This is generally reflected across all analysis areas where most thresholds are either 15 or 20 minutes for each type of facility. The only exception can be found in North Area where the 75th percentile for bowling greens is 30 minutes.

The modal response is calculated at 15 minutes for synthetic turf pitches and 10 minutes for all other types of outdoor sports.

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities	
Recommendation	15 minute walk time
Justification	<p>There are a number of factors to consider in setting a standard for outdoor sports facilities. Most pertinent is the extensive range of facilities that comprise this typology, which makes it difficult to make a meaningful standard that can be applied across the board as per PPG17 requirements. For example, residents have differing expectations in relation to specialist sites (for which they are willing to travel further) than they do for grass pitches, for which there is an assumption of more localised provision.</p> <p>The majority of residents highlighted walking as the preferred mode of transport for all types of outdoor sports facilities. This is reflected across all analysis areas. Given the general consensus that a 15 minute walk time is reasonable for most facilities, it is recommended that a 15 minute walk time standard be set for outdoor sports facilities.</p>

Formal multi-use games areas

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities – specifically formal MUGAs	
National standards	<p>FIT does not have a national standard specifically for formal use MUGAs</p> <p>FIT’s standard for Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAP), which often include informal MUGAs include: aged min 8, min area size 1000msq and located 1,000 metres or 15 minutes walking time along pedestrian routes (600 metres in a straight line).</p>
Existing local accessibility standards and strategic context	No existing standards
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	<p>There is no formal benchmark data available specific to formal use MUGAs. However, teenage facilities often include informal MUGAs and standards for these facilities in other local authorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manchester 15 mins walk • Wolverhampton 20 mins walk • Broxbourne 15 mins walk • Daventry 15 mins walk.
Step 1 consultation findings	<p>Current usage patterns</p> <p>Only 7% of respondents use MUGAs more than once a month. 83% of respondents stated that they do not use this typology. Only 6% of respondents to the household survey indicated that they use formal MUGAs more frequently than any other typology – this is not surprising given usage of this typology is very specific to its function.</p> <p>It should be noted that due to the low number of people using MUGAs, the following percentages need to be taken within context.</p> <p>The majority (58%) stated that they currently walk to formal MUGA sites. In terms of current duration of travel, 58% indicated a travel time of less than 10 minutes, with a further 17% indicating 10 to 15 minutes and another 17% 15 to 20 minutes.</p>

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities – specifically formal MUGAs

Preferred method of travel

Analysis of responses from the household survey regarding preferred methods of travel and realistic travel times to MUGAs highlighted walking as the modal response (52%). Only 21% of respondents stated travelling by car as a preferred option.

Preferred duration of travel

Expected walking travel time	Less than 5 mins	5-10 mins	11-15 mins	16-20 mins	21-30 mins	30+ mins
% responses	2%	44%	25%	16%	9%	4%

Feedback in terms of travel times to formal MUGA facilities indicates that 44% of respondents expect a walk time of between 5 to 10 minutes duration, with 25% less than 5 minutes and 16% between 10 to 15 minutes. An analysis of the breakdown of travel expectations across the four analysis areas reflects those at the borough-wide level. For example, 69% of respondents in the West Area believe that between 5 and 10 minute walk is appropriate to reach this type of facility.

A review of borough-wide findings in relation to how far residents are willing to walk to a MUGA site, identifies a modal response of 10 minutes. The 75th percentile threshold was higher at 20 minutes walk.

Recommendation

15 minute walk time

Justification

52% of respondents to the household survey stated that they would expect to walk to formal MUGAs. This is in line with current user patterns, as evidenced through the household survey, and therefore it is recommended that a walk time be set as the local standard.

A 15 minute walk time is recommended in line with the consultation responses. The modal response highlighted 10 minutes walk, while the 75th percentile showed 20 minutes. Setting a standard at 15 minutes will cater for the needs of the majority of residents. Such a standard will ensure that residents have access to local facilities in line with local expectations, whilst simultaneously providing a realistic and achievable challenge which will ensure that adequate levels of accessible provision is balanced with quality.

Typology L: Indoor sports facilities

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities			
National standards	<p>CPA targets measure the number of residents that are within a range of three different sports facility types.</p> <p>Sport England accessibility targets reinforce those measured for CPA and recommends standards as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 mins drive for sports halls • 20 mins drive for swimming pools. <p>In addition, the Lawn Tennis Association recommends a 30 mins drivetime for indoor tennis facilities.</p> <p>With regards to health and fitness gyms, industry guidelines indicate that people will travel between eight and twelve minutes to reach a health and fitness facility.</p> <p>For indoor bowls facilities, the English Indoor Bowling Association recommends a 20 minute drivetime.</p> <p>Note: it is recognised that drivetimes are not always appropriate in urban areas and localised standard setting is important.</p>		
Existing local accessibility standards and strategic context	<p>According to CPA scores, 98.4% of Islington residents are within 20 minutes walk of a range of three different sports facility types.</p> <p>The Leisure Needs Assessment Study (2006) indicated an aspiration of residents for a travel time of 10 minutes walk for all types of indoor sports facilities.</p>		
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	<p>Wolverhampton City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 mins walk for sports halls • 20 mins walk for pools 	<p>Sheffield City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 mins walk for sports halls • 15 mins walk for pools • 20 mins drive for indoor bowls • 20 mins drive for indoor tennis 	<p>Broxbourne Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 mins drive for sports halls • 15 mins drive for pools • 15 mins drive for indoor bowls • 30 mins drive for indoor tennis

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities

Step 1 consultation findings

Current usage patterns

The current mode of transport to indoor facilities is walking for the majority of respondents, with public transport the second preference and driving and cycling coming joint third. The majority of respondents currently travel between 5 and 15 minutes depending on the type of facility.

Type of facility	Current walking time (number of responses)					
	Less than 5 mins	5-10 mins	11-15 mins	16-20 mins	21-30 mins	30+ mins
Swimming pools	27	41	51	31	21	17
Sports halls	0	6	4	4	2	2
Private gyms	21	13	9	3	3	2
Council gyms	7	11	11	4	2	0
Indoor tennis	1	4	1	1	1	0
Indoor bowls	0	0	0	1	0	2
Ice rinks	0	1	2	1	0	0

Preferred method of travel

Responses from the household survey regarding overall preferred travel method for the different types of indoor facilities are as follows:

Type of facility	Method of travel (% household survey responses)			
	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car
Swimming pools	60%	14%	18%	8%
Sports halls	55%	16%	19%	10%
Private gyms	65%	13%	15%	8%

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities

Council gyms	62%	14%	15%	9%
Indoor tennis	51%	16%	22%	10%
Indoor bowls	53%	13%	25%	9%
Ice rinks	46%	13%	28%	14%

As evident in the table above, the majority of respondents expect to walk to indoor sports facilities, with similar responses for all analysis areas.

Preferred duration of travel

Type of facility	Expected walking time					
	Less than 5 mins	5-10 mins	11-15 mins	16-20 mins	21-30 mins	30+ mins
Swimming pools	4%	43%	25%	18%	8%	1%
Sports halls	3%	40%	26%	18%	9%	3%
Private gyms	4%	56%	22%	12%	4%	1%
Council gyms	4%	52%	24%	13%	6%	1%
Indoor tennis	3%	35%	29%	18%	10%	4%
Indoor bowls	2%	39%	26%	16%	13%	4%
Ice rinks	1%	29%	24%	19%	19%	7%

For the various types of indoor facilities, the 75th percentile threshold level varies between 15 minutes and 20 minutes walktime. On a borough level, respondents indicated a 20 minute walktime for swimming pools, sports halls, indoor tennis and indoor bowls facilities, and 15 minutes for health and fitness gyms. Ice rinks derived a 25 minute walk time.

On a borough-wide level, the modal response was 10 minutes for all types of facilities. There were, however,

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities	
	<p>some significant variations when looking at the different analysis areas. For example, the modal response for North Area was 15 minutes walk for sports halls, indoor bowls, indoor tennis and ice rinks and 10 minutes for swimming pools and gyms. East Area shows a 20 minutes walk time for sports halls, indoor bowls and ice rinks, and 10 minutes for swimming pools, gyms and indoor tennis.</p>
Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 mins walk for sports halls • 20 mins walk for pools • 20 mins walk for private and council gyms • 20 mins walk for indoor bowls • 20 mins walk for indoor tennis • 25 mins walk for ice rinks.
Justification	<p>Local consultation indicates an expectation to walk to indoor sports facilities, which is reflective of current usage patterns. As a result, a walk standard has been set at the 20-minute distance threshold for all types of facilities except for ice rinks, which is in line with the 75th percentile calculation. Due to the very specific nature of ice rinks, a larger standard has been set at 25 minutes walk.</p> <p>These standards are in line with the CPA criteria for an urban area. Sport England guidance on the implementation of the CPA standards suggests that the range of facilities is essential in giving people a choice. Greater choice in the different types of facilities, which people have access to and the proximity of these facilities to where they live will increase the likelihood that people will visit and become more active.</p>

Typology M: Community halls

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology M Community halls	
National standards	No national standards for accessibility. However, <i>Shaping Neighbourhoods: A Guide for Health, Sustainability and Vitality</i> , suggests that the catchment population required to sustain one community centre is circa 4,000.
Existing local accessibility standards and strategic context	No existing local standards.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	Sheffield City: 15 min walk for community centres Broxbourne Borough: 15 min walk for small scale facilities, 15 min drive for larger scale facilities.
Step 1 consultation findings	<p>Current usage patterns</p> <p>Currently, the majority of residents walk to all types of community facilities, and the most frequently stated travel time is less than 5 minutes.</p> <p>Small community spaces are the most frequented type of community facilities (33%), followed by medium size community spaces (23%) and playgroup space (21%).</p>

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology M Community halls

Preferred method of travel

Responses from the household survey regarding overall preferred travel method for the different types of community facilities are as follows:

Facility type	Method of travel (% household survey responses)			
	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car
Small community space	67%	12%	16%	5%
Medium community space	61%	14%	18%	6%
Large community space	60%	12%	20%	7%
Indoor youth clubs	67%	13%	14%	6%
Playgroup space	70%	11%	13%	6%

As illustrated in the table above, the majority of respondents indicated that they expect to walk to community facilities. This overall view is generally reflective across the four analysis areas.

Preferred duration of travel

Facility type	Expected walking time					
	Less than 5 mins	5-10 mins	11-15 mins	16-20 mins	21-30 mins	30+ mins
Small community space	4%	60%	18%	11%	5%	2%
Medium community space	5%	48%	20%	14%	9%	35
Large community space	2%	41%	26%	13%	13%	5%
Indoor youth clubs/projects	4%	64%	18%	8%	5%	1%
Playgroup space	5%	62%	18%	10%	3%	2%

SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS – Typology M Community halls	
	<p>In terms of how far respondents are willing to travel to access indoor community facilities, the 75% threshold level was a 15-minute walk time for the smaller scale facilities (small community space, indoor youth clubs and playgroup space), and 20 minutes for the larger types of facilities.</p> <p>In terms of modal response, the borough-wide results show a 10 minutes walk time. This is reflected across all analysis areas except for West Area, for which the modal response for large hire spaces is 15 minutes walk.</p>
Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 mins walk for small and medium community spaces, indoor youth clubs/projects and playgroup space • 20 mins walk for large community spaces.
Justification	<p>Given the varying nature of the different types of community hall facilities, it is considered appropriate to set different accessibility standards for the larger and smaller facilities.</p> <p>In line with the 75th percentile threshold, a 15-minute and a 20-minute walktime are recommended for the differing community facility types.</p>

APPENDIX 8

Quantity standards
(Development of standards described by typology with justification)

APPENDIX 8 QUANTITY STANDARDS

The quantity standard defines the amount of open space, sports and recreational facilities that should be available to the population living in Islington. The standard relates strongly to the planning of open space, providing a measure for protecting existing provision and providing guidance for additional provision in association with a new development. As with the accessibility standard, published guidance provides a useful reference for setting the quantity standard but in order for the standard to be directly relevant to Islington it needs to be based on comprehensive audit and analysis of the actual existing provision and based on consultation to gauge whether the community considers the level of current provision to be sufficient.

As indicated in the PPG 17 Companion Guide quantity standards can be expressed as “a combination of a unit of ‘useful area’ of provision and a population” e.g. X hectares per 1000 people. For some types of facilities the area is less relevant and is better expressed as a number of a certain type of facility per X people, particularly with regard to sports and community facilities.

The quantity standards have been developed for Islington through analysis of the existing quantity of provision and in light of the feedback received through consultation as to adequacy of the current provision.

This appendix summarises relevant national and local standard information as well as strategic context and consultation findings to inform the development of quantity standards for each typology (with the exception of typologies F, G, H and I for which quantitative standards have not been set, as explained in the report). Good practice examples for the rest of the country have also been taken into account. Based on this information, recommended quantity standards and a related justification for each typology is provided.

For each typology, this information is set out as follows:

Field	Comment
National standards	Details of any existing national standards for each typology usually provided by national organisations, such as Fields in Trust (FIT) for playing pitches.
Current provision (per 1,000 pop)	This is the current provision in hectares per 1,000 population within the Local Authority area.
Existing local standards and strategic context	Any existing local standards and context information that will need to be taken into account and used as a guidance benchmark when setting new local standards.
Benchmarking against other local	These are figures detailing actual provision and local standards within other PPG17/ open space projects. They

Field	Comment
authorities standards	provide a comparison benchmark when setting local standards for Islington. Where available, standards set by similar authorities have been included.
Step I consultation findings (quantitative analysis)	Statistical information from the household questionnaire used to inform detailed local analysis. This information relates to the current levels of provision ie too much/about right/not enough.
Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	Summary information on respondents' reasons for their views on existing levels of provision. PPG17 indicates that where local provision is regarded as inadequate it is important to establish why this is the case. Perceived deficiencies can sometimes be due to qualitative issues on existing open space sites rather than actual quantity issues. Any other qualitative findings are also included.
Recommendation	PMP/LUC's recommended local standard
Justification	PMP/LUC's reasoning and justification for the local standard that has been recommended.

A. PARKS AND GARDENS

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology A Parks and gardens	
National standards	No specific guidance
London wide guidance	No specific guidance
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.312 ha (including Typology H: Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds)
Existing local standards and strategic context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islington Unitary Development Plan, London Borough of Islington (June 2002): The Recreation and Leisure chapter of the UDP contains policies to increase the quantity and accessibility of public open space, but doesn't set out quantifiable standards. • Islington Local Area Agreement. SSC27: Number of hectares of publicly accessible parks and open spaces, sets out performance targets, which include a year on year increase in the area of parks and open spaces ('Out turn' 2004/05 - 83.78, 2006/07 – 84.28, 2007/08 – 84.78, 2008/09 - 85.28). I.e. a 0.5ha increase in open space year on year. • Sustainability Action Plan 2006-2010. The Plan aims to increase the amount of green space in the Borough by at least a further 1.5 hectares during the Plan period. • Greenspace and Leisure Division¹ Strategy 2006-2010. Objective 3: Green spaces, addresses the need to improve both the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces across the Borough through tackling the problem of deteriorating infrastructure and addressing the limited provision of green space by identifying new opportunities for creating public open spaces. With this in mind, the Strategy seeks to increase public open space in the Borough by at least 1 hectare (to comply with LAA objectives), develop a 5-year parks redevelopment programme and increase the quality of grounds maintenance. <p>For strategic context see Chapter 3 of PPG17 assessment.</p>

¹ Now called Public Realm Division

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology A Parks and gardens	
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hackney: 1.36ha per 1000 • Haringey: 1.65ha per 1000 • Wandsworth: 2.15ha per 1000 • Milton Keynes: 0.6ha of (local) park per 1000 – no standards for larger parks. <p>Overarching ‘public open space’ standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lambeth: 1.54ha of public open space per 1000, and 1.6ha per 1000 by 2016 • Westminster: aims to maintain 1.68ha per 1000 of public open space. • Tower Hamlets: minimum standard of provision of 1.2ha per 1000 (based on NPFA benchmark standards) and no net loss of open space. Defines open space in a broad sense, as per London Plan.public open space standards: • Camden: 9sqm per person in new development (includes amenity open space – green and civic for passive recreation; formal sport and recreation; children’s play; community gardens and allotments)
Step 1 consultation findings	<p>The Customer Satisfaction Survey, undertaken by the Council with regard to environment and regeneration undertaken in 2006, identified spatial variations in terms of satisfaction with the quantity of provision of open spaces in Islington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, 59% of residents were very or fairly satisfied with the quantity of parks and open spaces in the borough. A significant minority was less satisfied. • Residents in the north and east of the borough were more satisfied with the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces, compared to the west and the south. • Residents in the north of the borough are the most satisfied with the quantity of parks and open spaces (69%), while residents in the east were the most satisfied with the quality of parks and open spaces (70%). • Residents in the south were the least satisfied with both the quantity and quality of parks and open spaces (50% and 55% respectively). <p>It can be seen from this that a significant minority of residents are not satisfied with quantitative provision, and that this has a spatial manifestation with residents in the south and west of the borough generally being less satisfied.</p> <p>The Community Questionnaire Survey undertaken by Groundwork as part of the Green Space Assessment</p>

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology A Parks and gardens	
	<p>preparation process found that residents would generally prefer investment in parks in Islington to be focused on improving existing parks and green spaces, rather than creating new spaces (64% expressed this preference). 22.2% felt that investment should be focused on creating new parks. 13.6% did not express a preference or did not have a strong opinion.</p> <p>Based on the above findings it is suggested that a key aim for public open space should be to improve the quality of provision rather than seek to create significant areas of new open space. As a minimum, new provision should be secured to ensure that there is not a gradual decrease in provision per head as the population increases.</p>
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.312ha
Justification	The results of public consultation which indicate a general level of satisfaction with current provision, the additional space which will be required by 2025 if no 'net loss' of space is to occur as the population grows, the constrained nature of the Borough which means it will be difficult to create significant areas of additional open space, discussion with the project Steering Group, and the existing local targets for provision underpin the decision to set the provision standard for current and future provision at the current level of provision per head of population. The extent to which improving the quality and value of existing spaces may help to 'offset' the need for creating new provision as population increases should be considered.

B. NATURAL/SEMI-NATURAL GREEN SPACE

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology B Natural/semi-natural green space	
National standards	Natural England ANGSt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1000 people • Statutory Local Nature Reserves at a minimum level of one ha per 1000 people
London wide guidance	No specific guidance
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.019ha

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology B Natural/semi-natural green space	
Existing local standards and strategic context	See summary above for Typology A. For strategic context see Chapter 3 of PPG17 assessment.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	Hackney: 1ha per 1000 Haringey: 1.82 ha of SINC per 1000 Wandsworth: 1ha of SINC per 1000
Step 1 consultation findings	See summary above for Typology A.
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.019ha
Justification	The results of public consultation which indicate a general level of satisfaction with current provision, the additional space which will be required by 2025 if no ‘net loss’ of space is to occur as the population grows, the constrained nature of the Borough which means it will be difficult to create significant areas of additional open space, discussion with the project Steering Group, and the existing local targets for provision underpin the decision to set the provision standard for current and future provision at the current level of provision per head of population. The extent to which improving the quality and value of existing spaces may help to ‘offset’ the need for creating new provision as population increases should be considered.

C. GREEN CORRIDORS

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology C Green Corridors	
National standards	No specific guidance.
London wide guidance	No specific guidance
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.022ha
Existing local standards and	See summary above for Typology A.

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology C Green Corridors	
strategic context	For strategic context see Chapter 3 of PPG17 assessment.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	No comparable standards.
Step 1 consultation findings	See summary above for Typology A.
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.022ha
Justification	The results of public consultation which indicate a general level of satisfaction with current provision, the additional space which will be required by 2025 if no 'net loss' of space is to occur as the population grows, the constrained nature of the Borough which means it will be difficult to create significant areas of additional open space, discussion with the project Steering Group, and the existing local targets for provision underpin the decision to set the provision standard for current and future provision at the current level of provision per head of population. The extent to which improving the quality and value of existing spaces may help to 'offset' the need for creating new provision as population increases should be considered.

D: OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Formal multi-use games areas

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology D – Outdoor sports facilities – specifically formal MUGAs	
National standards	<p>No national standards are available specifically for formal MUGAs.</p> <p>Standards that include informal MUGA provision include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIT – Six Acre standard (2.43ha) per 1,000 population for 'playing space' consisting of two acres (ie 0.81 ha per 1,000 population) for children's playing space - includes areas designated for children and young people and

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology D – Outdoor sports facilities – specifically formal MUGAs	
	<p>casual or informal playing space within housing areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEAPs– activity zone of 1,000 square metres plus a 25 metre buffer zone on all residential sides. Sites should feature at least eight items of equipment, an equipped surface to comply with British standards, ‘kickabout’ area, areas for wheeled play such as rollerskates/skateboards, seating for adults/teenage meeting and landscaping. They should be within 15 minutes walktime. These facilities are mainly for older children 8-14 years but with opportunities for play for younger, older and children with special needs.
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.011 ha per 1,000 population. This is split across six sites.
Existing local standards and strategic context	No existing local standards.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	<p>There is no formal benchmark data available specific to formal use MUGAs. However, teenage facilities often include informal MUGAs and standards for these facilities in other local authorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wolverhampton: 0.05 Ha per 1,000 population • Broxbourne: 0.018 Ha per 1,000 population • Brighton: 0.06 Ha per 1,000 population.
Step 1 consultation findings (quantitative analysis)	Feedback from the household survey indicates that the majority of respondents that had an opinion (54.3%) were dissatisfied with the quantity of formal MUGAs within the Borough. 18.9% perceived that the number of MUGAs was “about right”. It should be noted that 52.7% of respondents had no opinion.

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology D – Outdoor sports facilities – specifically formal MUGAs						
	Analysis area	More than enough	About right	Not enough	No opinion	
	All areas	2.7%	18.9%	25.7%	52.7%	
	North	3.3%	24.4%	18.9%	53.3%	
	South	2.5%	16.5%	26.6%	54.4%	
	East	2.3%	18.2%	30.7%	48.9%	
	West	2.7%	16.8%	26.5%	54.0%	
Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	<p>Feedback from the household survey showed that of the 369 respondents, a slight majority were dissatisfied with the quantity of MUGAs within the Borough. Over 25% of respondents perceived their to be “not enough” MUGAs, as opposed to 21.6% who believe existing levels of provision to be either ‘more than enough’ or ‘about right’. 52.7% of respondents had no opinion.</p> <p>This overall view is reflective across the analysis areas. The only area in which more than a quarter of respondents perceive there to be “enough” of “more than enough” is in the North Area of the Borough.</p>					
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.011 ha per 1,000 population (as per current provision)					
Justification	<p>The current level of MUGAs in the borough is 0.011 ha per 1,000 population. There are six sites in the Borough. It is recommended that the Council maintain the current level of provision at 0.011 ha per 1,000 population. This standard reinforces the Council’s commitment to existing provision, with future investment focussed on improving the standard and quality of MUGAs provided.</p> <p>Combined with an improved quality standard, this approach will ensure that the borough’s MUGA provision meets the future needs of Islington residents.</p>					

Outdoor sports facilities

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology D – Outdoor sports facilities		
National standards	<p>FIT - 6 acre standard (2.43ha) per 1,000 population for 'playing space' consisting of 4 acres (i.e. 1.62 per 1,000 population) for outdoor sport - includes pitches, athletics tracks, bowling greens, tennis courts training areas and croquet lawns.</p> <p>FIT - in the past some authorities have added 1 acre (0.4ha) to this standard to cover 'amenity areas' and 'leisure areas' or something similar that may not be covered within the FIT standard. In almost all cases, this additional requirement is intended for residential areas and does not cover open spaces such as parks or allotments.</p> <p>The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) has set standards as one outdoor court per 65 regular tennis players and one outdoor floodlit court per 45 regular tennis players.</p> <p>The demand parameter from Sport England suggests that one full size floodlit STP should be provided for every 60,000 people within a 20-minute drivetime catchment.</p>	
Current Provision (per 1,000 population)	0.055ha per 1,000 population. This is split across 17 sites.	
Existing local standards and strategic context	<p>The Leisure Needs Assessment Study (2006) indicated an aspiration of residents for a travel time of 10 minutes walk for sports fields.</p> <p>The previous needs assessment study highlighted that if the LTA recommended quantity parameters were applied to Islington, there would be a shortfall of both outdoor and indoor tennis provision. However, no quantity issues regarding tennis provision were raised during the consultation process.</p> <p>There is currently only one bowls green within the borough and only one athletics facility which is a grass track at Tufnell Park. The main athletics facility for Islington residents lies just beyond the boundary at Finsbury Park, within the LB of Haringey.</p> <p>An additional recommendation of the previous study was that all STPs should be retained and kept well maintained, given the demand for pitch space and the limited number of grass pitches within the borough.</p>	
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	Brighton – 0.81 Ha	Broxbourne – 1.9 Ha
	Wolverhampton – 1.88 Ha	Ipswich – 1.47 Ha

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology D – Outdoor sports facilities					
Step I consultation findings (quantitative analysis)	Analysis area	More than enough	About right	Not enough	No opinion
	All areas	2.7%	22.5%	35.7%	39.2%
	North	2.13%	26.15%	31.20%	40.53%
	South	2.45%	18.10%	41.78%	37.68%
	East	3.3%	25.1%	35.2%	36.5%
	West	2.9%	20.7%	35.3%	41.2%
Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	<p>On average, for each type of outdoor sports facility, around 380 people responded. 35.7% of respondents believe that there is insufficient provision of outdoor sports facilities, with around 25% of respondents perceiving current levels of provision to be either ‘more than enough’ or ‘about right’. This divided opinion is reflective across most analysis areas, where there is little variation in terms of numbers believing provision to be either adequate or not. The North Area of the Borough is the least satisfied with over a third (41.78%) perceiving there to be not enough provision within their area. In each of the five analysis areas there is no a majority opinion (over 50%).</p>				
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	<p>0.07 ha per 1,000 population A small increase over current provision of circa 0.015 ha per 1,000 population is required. This equates to an additional 3.5 full size football pitches in the Borough.</p>				
Justification	<p>The current level of outdoor sports provision is equivalent to 0.055 ha per 1,000 population. Although many school sports sites are not accessible at the current time, they are identified as important resources and therefore have been included in the calculations. It is therefore important that the Council facilitate secured community access at these sites so that all outdoor sports provision is accessible. The extended schools programmes may offer opportunities to address future shortfalls of provision and ensure additional facilities are available for community use. The previous needs assessment study also highlighted that the council should consider seeking to increase community access to school sites prior to investing in the development of new facilities.</p> <p>Due to the broad nature of this typology, this standard should be used as guidance only as provision of this type of</p>				

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology D – Outdoor sports facilities	
	<p>open space is demand led. Further detailed club development work and strategic planning to meet these clubs needs should therefore be used to inform any additional investment in provision.</p> <p>In reflecting the demands placed on outdoor sports facilities, and the nature of this standard, it has been recommended that the standard is set slightly higher than the current level of provision at 0.07 ha per 1,000 population.</p>

E. AMENITY GREEN SPACE

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology E Amenity Green Space	
National standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific guidance
London wide guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific guidance
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.011 ha
Existing local standards and strategic context	See summary above for Typology A. For strategic context see Chapter 3 of PPG17 assessment.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	No comparable standards.
Step 1 consultation findings	See summary above for Typology A.
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.011 ha
Justification	The results of public consultation which indicate a general level of satisfaction with current provision, the additional space which will be required by 2025 if no ‘net loss’ of space is to occur as the population grows, the constrained nature of the Borough which means it will be difficult to create significant areas of additional open space, discussion with the project Steering Group, and the existing local targets for provision underpin the decision to set the provision standard for current and future provision at the current level of provision per head of population. The extent to which improving the quality and value of existing spaces may help to ‘offset’ the need for creating new provision as population increases should be considered.

J. HOUSING AMENITY SPACE

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology J Housing Amenity Space	
National standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific guidance.
London wide guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific guidance.
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.158ha
Existing local standards and strategic context	See summary above for Typology A. For strategic context see Chapter 3 of PPG17 assessment.
Benchmarking against other local authorities (ha per 1,000 population)	No comparable standards. 50sqm min area of useable communal space + 5sqm per additional unit over 5 units for new development.
Step 1 consultation findings	See summary above for Typology A.
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.158ha
Justification	The results of public consultation which indicate a general level of satisfaction with current provision, the additional space which will be required by 2025 if no ‘net loss’ of space is to occur as the population grows, the constrained nature of the Borough which means it will be difficult to create significant areas of additional open space, discussion with the project Steering Group, and the existing local targets for provision underpin the decision to set the provision standard for current and future provision at the current level of provision per head of population. The extent to which improving the quality and value of existing spaces may help to ‘offset’ the need for creating new provision as population increases should be considered.

K. PLAY AND YOUTH

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology K Play and youth	
National standards	<p>The NPFA six acre standard is often used as a proxy for setting open space standards. In summary the six acre standard is comprised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.4ha (6 acres) of outdoor playing space per 1000 people • Of this, outdoor sport should account for 1.6 ha (4 acres) e.g. pitches, greens, courts, athletics tracks etc. N.b. this includes a specific allocation of 1.2 ha (3 acres) per 1000 people for pitch sports. • Children’s playing space should account for 0.8 ha (2 acres), which could include designated areas for children and young people containing a range of facilities and an environment that has been designed to provide focused opportunities for outdoor play and casual or informal playing space within housing areas. <p>Areas should be custom designed for any new development, and the amount space required will depend on the design and layout of the development, the NPFA accessibility criteria (walking times) and the detailed criteria relating to Local Areas of Play (LAPs), Local Equipped Areas of Play (LEAPs) and Neighbourhood Equipped Areas of Play (NEAPs). The minimum size for each is as follows: 100 sqm, 400 sqm and 1000 sqm.</p> <p>It stresses that outdoor playing space is not the same as public open space: it is space that is safely accessible and available to the public, and of a suitable size and nature, for sport, active recreation or children’s play. It is therefore a significant component, but not the only form, of open space.</p>
London wide guidance	<p>Mayor of London SPG: Providing for children and young people’s play and informal recreation (March 2008) sets a minimum standard of 10 sqm of dedicated play space per child, which consists of formal and informal play space. No indication is given as to what the split between the two should be.</p> <p>The SPG indicates that the benchmark standards (provided within the SPG) are intended to provide a tool for local authorities assisting in the development of local standards in the context of their open space and play strategies.</p> <p>N.b. the SPG notes that NPFA standards are unlikely to be achievable within existing highly urbanized areas and in higher density schemes.</p> <p>It also sets out a Playable Space Typology (Table 4.6) which provides guidance on types of spaces, minimum sizes and suggested facilities.</p>

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology K Play and youth	
Current provision (per children)	4.771sq m formal play space per child (no figure for informal play space)
Existing local standards and strategic context	No existing local standards. For strategic context see Chapter 3 of PPG17 assessment.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (ha per 1,000 population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wandsworth: 0.021 ha per 1000 • Haringey: 3sqm of play space per child in new development • Southwark: 3sqm per child in new development • Wandsworth: NPFA standard of 0.8ha per 1000 for play space in new development • Tower Hamlets: 3sqm of play space per child in new developments with potential for 10+ child bed spaces
Step 1 consultation findings	<p>Extensive consultation has been undertaken by the Council in order to prepare the Play Strategy for Islington, and through various other Council activities. The Play Strategy identifies the following themes emerging from the consultation with children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are generally high levels of satisfaction and continued use of adventure playgrounds by children and young people who do engage. • A wish for more play opportunities, more of the time for all children and young people, especially for the older age group and those with disabilities. • Affordability. • Involvement in decision-making, both in new and existing settings. • Real and perceived barriers that restrict children’s play: environmental and hygiene factors; fear of crime, strangers and bullying.

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology K Play and youth

- More choice: especially sports, arts, computers and music.
- Most favoured place for out of school activities was adventure playgrounds, youth clubs and leisure facilities.
- The Strategy also identifies that whilst there is wide acknowledgement of the rich diversity of play provision in the borough, most respondents said they want more play space, especially very local to where they live.
- Children and young people identified a need for facilities suitable for 8-14 year olds; much provision is aimed at younger children, or used by older children who are intimidating.

Consultation with stakeholders (adults ranging from disability coordinators to teachers) identify the following issues and barriers to play:

- Lack of open space and poor or variable condition of many of those spaces.
- More use could be made of the play spaces there are, particularly if more were supervised, especially for children and young people with disabilities and those from black and ethnic minority communities.
- Acknowledgement of the national trends in the restrictions on children's freedom to play: real and perceived threats to safety, environmental and social factors.
- Lack of understanding of play, its value and benefits.
- Lack of strategic planning, especially around funding and the use of S106 monies, although all acknowledge that the Play Strategy addresses this.

The Strategy concludes that *'we already have a relatively generous resourcing and provision of play opportunities in Islington'* and goes on to identify a number of areas for improvement, many of which are related to better management of existing spaces.

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology K Play and youth	
Recommendation (per child)	4.771 sq m informal play space per child (no standard set for informal play space, which will be provided within other primary typologies)
Justification	The results of public consultation which indicate a general level of satisfaction with current provision, the additional space which will be required by 2025 if no ‘net loss’ of play space is to occur as the population grows, the constrained nature of the Borough which means it will be difficult to create significant areas of additional play space, and discussion with the project Steering Group, underpin the decision to set the provision standard for current and future provision at the current level of provision per child.

L: INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities	
National standards	<p>Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) research shows that 2% of the population regularly participate in tennis and that the average supply of courts in the UK is currently one court per 63,000 people. The LTA recommends 1 indoor court per 200 regular tennis players (1 per 63,000 population).</p> <p>Other available (NGB and Sport England) national standards for sports halls, swimming pools, health and fitness and indoor bowls are calculated using supply and demand models rather than on a per 1000 population basis.</p>
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	<p>Sports halls: 0.16 courts per 1,000 population</p> <p>Swimming pools: 9.75 sqm of water space per 1,000 population</p> <p>Indoor bowls: none</p> <p>Indoor tennis: 0.03 courts per 1,000 population</p> <p>Private health and fitness gyms: 6.31 stations per 1,000 population</p> <p>Council health and fitness gyms: 2.76 stations per 1,000 population</p> <p>Ice rinks: 3.57 sqm per 1,000 population</p>
Existing local standards and strategic context	Policy R17 of the Islington UDP highlights that the Council supports the provision of additional facilities for indoor sports, fitness and active leisure pursuits. In particular, it will seek a wider spread of activities across the

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities	
	<p>borough, and will make full use of any links that may be available via home and education facilities and by developing existing estate and school facilities.</p> <p>The Islington needs assessment study conducted in 2006 outlined that there is a planned development of a 25m six lane pool due for completion in January 2009 as one of three school developments within phase I of the LB Islington Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. Furthermore as part of this programme there are two planned sports hall developments within Islington at Holloway and Highbury Fields School.</p> <p>Regarding sports halls specifically, the needs assessment highlighted that prior to considering new facility provision the Council should seek to work with schools to increase community access at these sites.</p> <p>The supply and demand modelling undertaken in the previous needs assessment study highlighted that there is currently adequate water space, but a shortfall in the number of badminton courts (-23). The proposed developments at Sobell Leisure Centre outlined in the Sobell Options Appraisal (2007), might result in a change in supply of badminton courts depending on the specifications of the redeveloped site. Additionally there was an identified oversupply of health and fitness facilities and STPs but a shortfall in the number of indoor tennis facilities.</p>
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	<p>Sheffield City Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37.1sqm per 1,000 population for sports halls • 10.6sqm of water space per 1,000 population for swimming pools • 0.03 courts per 1,000 population for indoor tennis • 0.02 rinks per 1,000 population for indoor bowls. <p>Broxbourne Borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.29 courts per 1,000 for sports halls • 10.38 sqm of water space per 1,000 population for swimming pools • 0.06 rinks per 1,000 population for indoor bowls

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities																																													
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.01 indoor tennis courts per 1,000 population. 																																												
Step I consultation findings (quantitative analysis)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of facility</th> <th>More than enough</th> <th>About right</th> <th>Not enough</th> <th>No opinion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Swimming pools</td> <td>2.6%</td> <td>52.7%</td> <td>37.0%</td> <td>7.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sports halls</td> <td>1.1%</td> <td>32.2%</td> <td>35.9%</td> <td>30.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indoor tennis</td> <td>1.3%</td> <td>22.1%</td> <td>31.3%</td> <td>45.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indoor bowls</td> <td>1.9%</td> <td>8.4%</td> <td>16.8%</td> <td>73.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Private gyms</td> <td>26.9%</td> <td>37.6%</td> <td>10.2%</td> <td>25.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council gyms</td> <td>2.7%</td> <td>39.8%</td> <td>34.2%</td> <td>23.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ice rinks</td> <td>2.4%</td> <td>23.3%</td> <td>33.8%</td> <td>40.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of facility	More than enough	About right	Not enough	No opinion	Swimming pools	2.6%	52.7%	37.0%	7.7%	Sports halls	1.1%	32.2%	35.9%	30.8%	Indoor tennis	1.3%	22.1%	31.3%	45.3%	Indoor bowls	1.9%	8.4%	16.8%	73.0%	Private gyms	26.9%	37.6%	10.2%	25.3%	Council gyms	2.7%	39.8%	34.2%	23.3%	Ice rinks	2.4%	23.3%	33.8%	40.5%				
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	Indoor tennis	1.3%	22.1%	31.3%	45.3%																																								
	Indoor bowls	1.9%	8.4%	16.8%	73.0%																																								
	Private gyms	26.9%	37.6%	10.2%	25.3%																																								
	Council gyms	2.7%	39.8%	34.2%	23.3%																																								
	Ice rinks	2.4%	23.3%	33.8%	40.5%																																								
Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	<p>Consultation specific to indoor sports provision in Islington borough provides an indication of public opinion whilst providing some meaningful statistics. Key findings from consultation provide a justification for setting local standards against local needs and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the majority of household survey respondents indicated that they perceive provision of swimming pools in the borough to be ‘about right’ of those that had an opinion, over half perceive there to be a lack of sports halls within the Borough 																																												

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in terms of Council run gyms, over 40% of respondents believed that the level of provision was “more than enough” or “about right” • currently there are no indoor bowls facilities within the Borough, indicating an under provision in the area • the under-sized ice rink at Sobell Leisure centre is the only rink in the Borough. Over 33% of respondents perceived there to be a lack of ice rinks in the Borough • the lowest levels of satisfaction relate to the level of provision of sports halls in the borough, where over two thirds of household survey respondents who had an opinion indicated provision to be dissatisfactory • unsurprisingly, compared to other indoor facilities, there is a general consensus among respondents (64.5%) that the number of private gyms in the Borough is “more than enough” or “about right”. <p>There was a more balanced view on the adequacy of indoor tennis and ice rink provision in the borough, with a similar percentage of household survey respondents indicating provision is either adequate or not enough. Significantly, in both cases, over 40% of respondents indicated no opinion.</p>
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sports halls: 0.32 courts per 1,000 population (halls with 3 or more courts only) • swimming pools: 9.75 sqm water space per 1,000 population • indoor tennis: 0.03 courts per 1,000 population • indoor bowls: 0.04 rinks per 1,000 population • ice rink: current provision of 3.57 sqm per 1,000 population • private gyms: 6.31 stations per 1,000 population • council gyms: 2.76 stations per 1,000 population.
Justification	<p>Sports halls: Current provision of sports hall space in the borough is lower than demand as highlighted in the previous needs</p>

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities

assessment study. Therefore in order to meet current and future demand the standard should be increase to 0.32 badminton courts per 1000.

Swimming Pools:

In order to preserve current provision and ensure that the needs of future population are met, it is recommended that the standard be set at the current level of provision, ie 9.75 sqm of water space per 1,000 population.

Indoor tennis:

The current provision of 0.03 courts per 1,000 population is lower than the standards recommended by the Lawn Tennis Association. Although consultation highlighted that a majority of people believe there is not enough provision, setting a standard higher than current provision is considered unrealistic for Islington. It is therefore recommended that the standard be set at 0.03 courts per 1000 population.

Indoor bowls:

There is currently no indoor bowls provision in Islington. The Sport England Facility Calculator has identified in the previous needs assessment study a demand for 0.04 rinks per 1,000 population. It is therefore recommended that a standard based on Sport England's calculated demand be set.

Health and fitness gyms:

Consultation highlighted that provision is adequate, particularly for private gyms where 65% of respondents stated that provision was enough or more than enough. These findings supported those of the previous needs assessment which identified a significant over supply of health and fitness stations within the borough. It has to be noted, however, that there is a high number of private facilities servicing the influx of workers in certain areas of the borough. It is therefore recommended that a standard equivalent to the overall current provision of 9.07 stations per 1,000 population is set. This will enable current provision to be maintained as well as cater for

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities

future population growth.

Ice rinks:

There is currently one ice rink in the borough, with a size of 683 sqm, the equivalent of 3.57sqm per 1,000 population. Due to the very specific function of this type of facility, it is recommended that a standard be set at current levels of provision to preserve the existing facility, and cater for population growth in the future.

M: COMMUNITY HALLS

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology M – Community halls																																		
National standards	<i>Shaping Neighbourhoods: A Guide for Health, Sustainability and Vitality</i> , suggests that the catchment population required to sustain one community centre is circa 4,000.																																	
Current provision (per 1,000 population)	0.30 community facilities per 1,000 population.																																	
Existing local standards and strategic context	No existing standards.																																	
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards	Sheffield City: 0.06 community centres per 1,000 population Broxbourne Borough: 0.55 community centres per 1,000 population																																	
Step I consultation findings (quantitative analysis)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of facility</th> <th>More than enough</th> <th>About right</th> <th>Not enough</th> <th>No opinion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small community space</td> <td>1.1%</td> <td>17.0%</td> <td>29.9%</td> <td>52.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium community space</td> <td>0.5%</td> <td>15.0%</td> <td>30.0%</td> <td>54.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Large community space</td> <td>0.8%</td> <td>10.8%</td> <td>30.0%</td> <td>58.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indoor youth clubs / projects</td> <td>1.4%</td> <td>7.6%</td> <td>43.8%</td> <td>47.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playgroup/ nursery space</td> <td>3.5%</td> <td>18.7%</td> <td>28.2%</td> <td>49.6%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Type of facility	More than enough	About right	Not enough	No opinion	Small community space	1.1%	17.0%	29.9%	52.1%	Medium community space	0.5%	15.0%	30.0%	54.5%	Large community space	0.8%	10.8%	30.0%	58.4%	Indoor youth clubs / projects	1.4%	7.6%	43.8%	47.3%	Playgroup/ nursery space	3.5%	18.7%	28.2%	49.6%
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Playgroup/ nursery space	3.5%	18.7%	28.2%	49.6%																														
Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	On average, for each type of community facility around 360 people responded. Consultation findings indicated a																																	

SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS – Typology M – Community halls	
	<p>general consensus that there are not enough community facilities across the Borough. However, this data maybe skewed somewhat as nearly half of the respondents for each facility had no opinion.</p> <p>The highest levels of satisfaction are found for playgroup/nursery spaces, with 22% stating provision is ‘about right’ or ‘more than enough’.</p> <p>The respondents perceive the largest gap in community facility provision to relate to indoor youth clubs and projects, where less than 10% perceived provision to be “more than enough” or “about right” in terms of the number of facilities, against 44% believing provision to be insufficient.</p>
Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.30 community facilities per 1,000 population
Justification	<p>Consultation indicated that the majority of borough residents perceive the current levels of provision to be ‘not enough’. However, provision of community facilities in Islington is currently equivalent to the Shaping Neighbourhoods guidance.</p> <p>Furthermore, wider consultation findings and the site assessment process, reinforced that quality issues are a key issue across many community facilities.</p> <p>It is therefore recommended that the local quantity standard is set at the current level of provision to enable a focus on quality improvements, which will encourage greater attendance at the existing sites.</p>

APPENDIX 9

Quality standards
(Development described by typology with justification)

APPENDIX 9 QUALITY STANDARDS

This appendix defines and develops the quality standards firstly for the **open space typologies** followed by the **sport and community facilities**. A quality standard provides a benchmark against which the existing condition and need for enhancement of existing spaces or facilities can be measured and can provide a guide to the qualitative attributes that should be expected of a newly created space or facility.

OPEN SPACES: TYPOLOGIES A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I, J AND K

The site audit form used to assess the open space typologies in Islington was developed by LUC in conjunction with Groundwork and the project steering group and was based around the themes of the Civic Trust's Green Flag Award criteria (see example in Appendix 4). The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, developed by The Civic Trust. In order to assess consistently both the value and the quality of the sites, the questions on the audit form were scored to facilitate the analysis. The scoring system is set out on the example site audit form available in Appendix 4¹. The resulting scores have been used as a basis for developing the quality standards for each typology. The paragraphs below explain what the open space quality standards consist.

Quality assessment

As part of the site audit each site was assessed for quality against the Green Flag criteria and the condition of the various components of a site rated as good, fair or poor. The quality assessment criteria, around which the audit form was structured, are summarised in **Table A9.1** below.

Table A9.1: Summary of quality assessment criteria (for open space typologies)

<p>A Welcoming Place: Welcoming entrances, presented clear of litter, tidy and well maintained. Good and safe access for all (considering barriers affecting access to and around a site). Appropriate provision of signage.</p> <p>Healthy, Safe and Secure: Facilities, equipment and amenities are appropriate to the type of open space and where present are safe and in good condition. Open space feels safe and is free of dog fouling.</p>

¹ Note the scoring format shown in the audit form was adapted for the more detailed analysis of play and youth facilities. It should also be noted that the housing amenity and youth spaces were audited using a slightly different audit form but scored to enable the resulting analysis to be compared across typologies.

Clean and Well Maintained: Good level of cleanliness and maintenance of soft landscape areas, buildings and infrastructure.

Sustainability: Evidence of good tree/woodland management (where relevant to the type of open space)

Conservation and Heritage: Evidence of management for nature conservation, conservation of historic features and good overall design and visual quality appropriate to type of open space. Consider external threats/disturbances which may reduce the quality of the space.

Community Involvement: Adequate provision of information for the community/open space users through presence of public notice boards with up to date notices (where appropriate to the type of open space).

The extent to which each open space met the relevant quality assessment criteria was transposed from the audit data through a scoring system (illustrated in **Appendix 4**) into a **quality score**. Through reviewing the resulting range of quality scores in each typology and hierarchy alongside the more detailed qualitative information recorded in the audit it has been possible to define a quality standard in the form of a **quality threshold score** appropriate to the type and function of open space. A threshold has been defined for each level of the hierarchy reflecting the ideal score scenario for a good quality site. The resulting quality thresholds are set out in the **Table A9.3** below.

Value assessment

Value is fundamentally different from quality; a space can be highly valued for a range of reasons even it is of low quality or vice versa. As set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide 'value' mainly relates to the following three things:

- **Context:** e.g. an easily accessible space is higher value than one that is inaccessible to potential users, equally the value of a space may diminish if it is immediately adjacent to several others which provide the same functions.
- **Level and type of use:** the primary purpose and associated use of a space can increase its value – well used spaces are of high value to people, similarly spaces with diverse habitats can be well used by wildlife and can be interpreted as having higher value.
- **Wider benefits:** i.e. the benefits a space generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment including the following - structural and landscape, ecological, education, social inclusion and health benefits, cultural and heritage, amenity benefits and 'sense of place', economic benefits.

The process for assessing the 'value' of sites was iterative in nature. Until an understanding of the characteristics of sites in Islington had been built up through site visits, the characteristics contributing to 'value' were not known. Therefore the audit form gathered a range of data which could inform a rating of value (e.g. details of habitats which indicate value from a biodiversity perspective). Following the collection of

data, a set of key ‘valued’ characteristics were identified, common to, or expected of, sites of a particular typology, at a particular level of the hierarchy.

The subsequent desk-based analysis of the audit data, to derive a scoring of ‘value’, reflected the presence or absence of valued characteristics, augmented by professional judgement and the findings of consultation in terms of what people expect of open spaces.

The characteristics or value attributes for each typology used to score ‘value’ are listed in each typology chapter under the relevant hierarchy heading and are drawn together in Table A9.2 below.

Table A9.2: Key characteristics/value attributes by hierarchy level (for open space typologies)

Typology & hierarchy	Primary purpose & key characteristics (value attributes) expected of sites of each typology & hierarchy
A. Parks and gardens: Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.	
A*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to character of surrounding area recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation • Provide for active and passive recreation – contain a wide range of play equipment and provision for young people, together with sporting provision • Feature a range of habitats which contribute to the local biodiversity acknowledged by SINC designation • Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins, dog bins, recycling facilities and entrance signs, public notice board, together with toilets, a café and onsite base for staff.
A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to character of surrounding area recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation • Active and passive recreation – contain wide range of play equipment usually for all ages and provision for young people, and frequently contain sporting provision • Range of habitats which contributes to the local biodiversity acknowledged by SINC designation • Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins, dog bins, recycling facilities and entrance signs, public notice board, may contain toilets, a café and onsite base for staff.
A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to character of surrounding area, in particular the 19th century squares, and may be recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation • Active and passive recreation – mostly contain play equipment providing for two age groups (where appropriate to the character of the site), may contain sporting provision • Range of habitats which contributes to local biodiversity and may be acknowledged by SINC designation • Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins and entrance signs.
A3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to character of the surrounding area, in particular the 19th century squares, recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation • Active and passive recreation – may contain play equipment (where appropriate to the character of the site) with over four items of equipment/five

Typology & hierarchy	Primary purpose & key characteristics (value attributes) expected of sites of each typology & hierarchy
	activities providing for one age group, but no sporting provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More limited range of habitats which contributes to local biodiversity and may be acknowledged by SINCC designation • Limited provision of basic amenities, usually including seating and litter bins.
B. Natural and semi-natural green space: Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education awareness.	
B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very broad/extensive range of habitats • Provision for informal recreation. • Some visitor facilities and basic amenities (e.g. nature trail, visitor centre, toilets, seating etc.) • May be designated at Metropolitan level for Nature Conservation.
B2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad range of habitats • Provision for informal recreation. • No formal visitor facilities likely, but some basic amenities (e.g. seating). • May be designated at borough level for nature conservation.
C. Green corridor: Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration.	
C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad range of habitats and may be designated at Metropolitan level for Nature Conservation • Provision for informal recreation, including e.g. nature trail • Would expect entrance & interpretation signage (although none currently present) • Basic facilities should include bins / dog bins and seating.
C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited range of habitats may be designated at Metropolitan or Local level for Nature Conservation • Provision for informal recreation, including walking/jogging, cycling, etc • Entrance and interpretation signage • Basic facilities should include bins / dog bins and seating
E. Amenity green space: Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work.	
E1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic provision for informal recreation (seating, bins and dog-bins) • Entrance signs for enclosed spaces including no dog fouling notices • Limited range of habitats.
G. Allotments and community gardens: Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.	
G1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance signs and public notice board • Basic amenities might include litter bins and/or seating (particularly in community gardens) • Green waste composting facilities • A range of habitats and may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation.
G2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance signs • Basic amenities might include litter bins and/or seating (particularly in community gardens)

Typology & hierarchy	Primary purpose & key characteristics (value attributes) expected of sites of each typology & hierarchy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green waste composting facilities Limited range of habitats may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation.
H. Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds: Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.	
H1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of litterbins and seating A range of habitats and may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation Traditional iron railing boundary and landmark feature(s) presenting a sense of place. Heritage value acknowledged by inclusion in Conservation Area and may be subject to Listed Building designation Entrance signs and public notice board.
H2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of litterbins and seating A range of habitats and may be designated at Borough or Local level for Nature Conservation Traditional iron railing boundary and landmark feature(s) presenting a sense of place Heritage value acknowledged by inclusion in Conservation Area and may be subject to Listed Building designation Entrance signs.
I. Civic space: Providing a setting for civic buildings and community events	
I*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictive boundary, fence or hedge Mainly hard surfaced Provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of seating and bins Street tree planting and otherwise limited range of habitats
II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictive boundary, fence or hedge Mainly hard surfaced Provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of seating and bins Street tree planting and otherwise limited range of habitats.
J. Housing amenity green space: Opportunities for informal activities within housing estates (mainly for residents use)	
J1 & J2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access is limited to residents only. Provide space for relaxation/ informal recreation of residents. Limited range of habitats i.e. grass, trees and shrubs (<i>J1 has greater scope for range of habitats due to larger size</i>). Areas of hard surfacing e.g. paths, paved seating areas. Seating.
K. Play and youth facilities: Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.	
K*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 500m² in area Caters for all ages (under 5 yrs, 5-11 yrs and 11+)

Typology & hierarchy	Primary purpose & key characteristics (value attributes) expected of sites of each typology & hierarchy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forms a destination feature as part of a strategic park serving borough and metropolitan needs, predominantly visited by borough residents • Features an extensive range of play equipment which provides an engaging variety of play activities/flexible use and is capable of catering for very large groups of children, including additional run around space • Provides some kind of youth provision e.g. MUGA, wheeled sports area • Seating and litter bins • Dog free • Associated landscaping • Freely accessible to the public or may be supervised
K1i	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually over 500m² in area • Caters for all ages (under 5 yrs, 5-11 yrs and 11+) • Serves a wide neighbourhood area, located in major, small local or neighbourhood parks (or equivalent typology), residential areas and housing estates • Features a wide range of play equipment which provides for different physical activities/flexible use and is capable of catering for large groups of children, including additional run around space. • Usually provides some kind of youth provision e.g. MUGA, wheeled sports area. • Seating and litter bins • Dog free • Associated landscaping • Freely accessible to the public or may be supervised (e.g. Adventure Play Areas)
K1ii	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 200m² in area • Suitable for 12+ year olds • Serves a wide neighbourhood area, major, small local or neighbourhood parks (or equivalent typology), residential areas and housing estates • Features facilities for informal sport or recreational activities e.g. MUGA, wheeled sports area. • Seating areas and/ or youth shelter(s) • Associated landscaping • No formal supervision
K2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300-500m² in area • Caters for 0 to 11 yrs • Serves a wide local area, located in small local parks or neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates • Features a range of play equipment which provides for a variety of physical activities/flexible use and is capable of catering for medium sized groups of children • Seating and litter bins • Dog free • Associated landscaping • Freely accessible to the public, no formal supervision

Typology & hierarchy	Primary purpose & key characteristics (value attributes) expected of sites of each typology & hierarchy
K3i	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100-300m² in area • Caters for 0 to 5 yrs (and may cater for older children too) • Serves immediate local area, located in neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates • Features a range of play equipment which provides for a variety of physical activities/flexible use for small groups of young children • Seating and litter bins • Dog free • Associated landscaping • Freely accessible to the public, no formal supervision
K3ii	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 200m² in area • Suitable for 12+ year olds • Serves immediate local area, located in neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates • Features small-scale facilities for informal sport or recreational activities e.g. single sport court/goal post, rebound wall • Seating area
K4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 100m² in area • Caters for 0 to 5 yrs • Serves immediate area, located in neighbourhood gardens/squares, residential areas and housing estates • Features a few items of play equipment which provide for a variety of physical activities/flexible use for small number of young children • Seating and litter bins • Dog free • Associated landscaping • Freely accessible to the public, no formal supervision

The presence or absence of these attributes was recorded on the site audit form and scored as set out on the example audit form in appendix 4. A **value threshold score** was then set based on the number of points a site of a particular typology and hierarchy should score if the expected value attributes are present in terms of types of facilities, amenities and biodiversity benefits (see **Table A9.3** below for value threshold scores.)

Whilst reviewing the value scores for the A2. Small local parks and gardens and A3. Neighbourhood gardens/ squares it was clear that within these two levels of the hierarchy there was considerable variation in the scores between sites with play provision and those without. If a single value threshold were set then those without play would automatically fall below whilst they may actually be high value sites just of a different character. With reference to the detailed audit data, and with input from the Greenspace Services team (who have a good understanding of the spaces within these categories) it was agreed that it would not be appropriate to the character of all of the sites, particularly the smaller formal squares, to expect play provision. As a result, a two tiered value threshold was developed for A2 and A3 sites

which distinguishes between the sites where play could be expected and those where it would be inappropriate. The majority of sites affected by the adjusted threshold fall within the south and west Area Committees where there is a concentration of historic squares and similar spaces where play is not usually characteristic.

Resulting value and quality thresholds by hierarchy

The value and quality thresholds for each typology and associated level of the hierarchy are set out in **Table A9.3** below.

Table A9.3: Value and quality threshold standards by hierarchy level (for open space typologies)

Open space typology	Open space hierarchy	Value Threshold	Quality Threshold
A. Parks and Garden	A*. Strategic parks	85	46
	A1. Major parks and gardens	67	41
	A2. Small local parks and gardens	38	31
	A2. Small local parks and gardens (<i>select sites where play not appropriate/not scope to accommodate play</i>)	21	31
	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares	28	31
	A3. Neighbourhood gardens / squares (<i>select sites where play not appropriate/not scope to accommodate play</i>)	16	31
B. Natural and semi-natural green space	B1. Local natural / semi-natural green spaces	34	27
	B2. Pockets of natural / semi-natural green space	18	22
C. Green corridor	C1. Local green corridors	24	25
	C2. Small local green corridors	17	22
E. Amenity green space	E1. Small local / pockets of amenity green space	14	23
G. Allotments and community gardens	G1. Small local allotments / community gardens	10	26
	G2. Neighbourhood allotments / community gardens	8	24
H. Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	H1. Small local cemetery / burial ground	17	32
	H2. Neighbourhood cemetery / burial ground	15	30
I. Civic space	I*. Local civic space	n/a	n/a

Open space typology	Open space hierarchy	Value Threshold	Quality Threshold
	I1. Neighbourhood civic space	12	17
J. Housing amenity space	J1. Small local housing amenity space	6	19
	J2. Pockets / very small spots of housing amenity space	5	19
K. Play and youth facilities	K*. Strategic playable space	39	3
	K1i. Neighbourhood playable space	32	3
	K1ii. Youth space	6	13
	K2. Local playable space	19	3
	K3i. Doorstep playable space	13	3
	K3ii. Pockets of / very small youth space	4	13
	K4. Very small playable space	8	3

Open space VQ ratings - Value and Quality Combined

Each site audited has been assessed against the **Value** and **Quality** thresholds.

Value

Based on the thresholds established for Value scores in the table above, which have been set for each individual hierarchy class, each site has been rated as being above (+) or below (-) the value threshold for its class, based on the site audit form scores. As set out above, value relates strongly to context, the appeal to users, and the wider benefits a site generates for people and the environment.

Quality

Using a consistent methodology to the Value scoring, based on the threshold established for Quality scores in the table above, which have been set for each individual hierarchy class, each site has been rated as being above (+) or below (-) the quality threshold for its class, based on the site audit form scores.

Using a combination of the Value and Quality factors it is possible to identify which sites should be protected by the planning system, which require enhancement, and which sites require a review of their design and present purpose. Each site has therefore been rated with a

combined Value and Quality band. These bandings were used to help frame the priorities for the Action Plan in the Green Space Assessment and can be used to similarly review priorities for improvement in the other open spaces audited as part of this study. These bandings or ratings take the format of +/- symbols (i.e. high value/high quality is shown as + +, high value/low quality is shown as + -). The table below sets out the preferred policy approach towards the open spaces which have been classified in this way.

Quality and value matrix (adapted from PPG17 Companion Guide)

High value/high quality	Low value/High quality
+ +	- +
Ideally all spaces and facilities should come into this category and the planning system should then seek to protect them.	Wherever possible, the preferred policy approach to a space or facility in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary purpose. If this is not possible, the next best policy approach is to consider whether it might be of high value if converted to some other primary purpose. Only if this is also impossible will it be acceptable to consider a change of use.
High value/Low quality	Low value / Low quality
+ -	- -
The policy approach to these spaces or facilities should always be to enhance their quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.	Wherever possible, the policy approach to these spaces or facilities should be to enhance their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value. This may require a review of the design and present primary purpose of the space or facility to enable both value and quality to be enhanced.

SPORT AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES: TYPOLOGIES D, L AND M

The following part of this appendix focuses on typologies D, L and M. It summarises relevant national and local standard information as well as strategic context and consultation findings (residents were asked their opinions on the quality of each typology in their local area and key features of good quality provision) to inform the development of quality standards for each of the typologies considered. Good practice examples for the rest of the country have also been taken into account. Based on this information, the recommended quality standard and related justification for each typology is provided for client discussion and approval.

For each typology, this information is set out as follows:

Field	Comment
National standards	Details of any existing national standards for each typology usually provided by national organisations, such as Green Flag criteria for parks produced by the Civic Trust.
Existing local standards and strategic context	Any existing local standards that will need to be taken into account and used as a guidance benchmark when setting new local standards.
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (by PMP)	Benchmarking information on satisfaction levels of residents in other authorities with regards to the quality of their open space.
Step I consultation findings (quantitative analysis)	Quantitative results from the household survey with regards to the aspirations, needs and existing quality experiences of users.
Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	Qualitative findings from across the consultations undertaken with regards to quality issues for each typology.
Recommendation	PMP's recommended local quality standard for discussion and approval by the client.
Justification	PMP's reasoning and justification for the local standard that has been recommended.
CLIENT APPROVAL	Client to approve local standard.
LOCAL QUALITY STANDARD	Final local standard agreed and approved for inclusion in the final report.

For each typology, the recommended quality features have been divided into those that are deemed essential and those that are desirable, for attainment in Islington now and in the future. For each typology, two lists are therefore provided. An example is set out below:

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clean and litter free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • toilets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of seats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a range of equipment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of bins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an information board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • even footpaths 	

These lists set out the quality vision (as required by PPG17) which should be applied to all new sites, inform the enhancement of existing sites, and deliver a more applicable, measurable target moving forward.

The key quality issues considered within the site assessments have been categorised into the four overarching categories, specifically:

- cleanliness and maintenance
- vegetation
- ancillary accommodation
- security and safety.

The key elements of these categories are set out below:

Cleanliness and maintenance	Vegetation	Ancillary accommodation	Security and safety
Well kept grass	Flowers/trees	Changing facilities	Well lit
Clean/litter free	Nature features	Car parking	On-site security
Informal play area	Water features	Cycle parking	Good site access
Picnic area		Footpaths	
Dog free area		Events	

Cleanliness and maintenance	Vegetation	Ancillary accommodation	Security and safety
Dog walking area		Toilets	
Facilities for children		Café	
Level surface		Seating	
		Heritage information	
		Information boards	
		Litter bins	
		Dog mess bins	

Typology D: Outdoor sport, specifically formal multi-use games areas (MUGAs)

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities, specifically formal MUGAs	
<p>National standards</p>	<p>Sport England design guidance should be considered in developing high quality MUGAs. These guidelines detail the sports, surface and performance criteria that have been found to provide acceptable and safe playing environments.</p> <p>Other standards relating to informal MUGA provision include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • criteria set out by FIT in relation to LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs provide some quality aspirations in terms of seating for adults, a varied range of equipment and meeting places for teenagers • GREEN FLAG CRITERIA are also relevant to informal MUGA provision (as part of wide play provision) and include the following: welcoming place, healthy/ safe and secure, clean and well-maintained, sustainable, community involvement, marketing, management • evidence from CABE Space (<i>CABE Space Policy Note: Preventing anti-social behavior in public spaces</i>) shows that well designed, well maintained public spaces can contribute to reducing the incidence of vandalism and anti-social behavior, and result in long term cost savings.
<p>Existing local standards and strategic context</p>	<p>There are no existing local standards for MUGA provision.</p> <p>The previous needs assessment study highlighted that there are a number of MUGAs in the borough that provide an important function as informal and formal sports facilities. However MUGA quality aspirations were not highlighted within this study.</p>
<p>Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (by PMP)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Consultation (household survey - aspirations) (of those that rated formal MUGAs as their most frequently used open space – 52 responses)</p>	<p>Highest rated quality aspirations for MUGAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintenance (10) • cleanliness (8) • range of activities (7) • value for money (7) • welcoming staff (5) • accessible routes (4) • ease/security of parking (4)

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities, specifically formal MUGAs											
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ease of booking (3) • information available (2) • clear signage (1) • social facilities (1). 										
Step 1 consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	<p>The findings of the household survey reveal that the majority of residents are unsure of the quality of MUGA's within the borough. 4.2% perceived the quality of MUGA's to be good, whilst 13.4% rated them satisfactory and 11.4% rated them poor.</p> <p>Within the East Area of the borough, no respondents felt that the quality of MUGA's was 'good'. Respondents residing in the North Area of the borough were most satisfied with the quality of MUGAs, with 26.7% responding either 'good' or 'satisfactory'.</p> <p>Respondents to the household survey highlighted maintenance as the most essential quality aspiration for MUGA's. Cleanliness, range of activities and value for money were also highlighted as essential quality aspirations.</p>										
Recommendation	<p>Local consultation, national guidance and best practice therefore suggest that the following features are essential and desirable to local residents:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Essential</th> <th>Desirable</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>reflects Sport England best practice</td> <td>Welcoming staff</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Well maintained</td> <td>Accessible routes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Good standard of cleanliness</td> <td>Ease/security of parking</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Range of activities and value for money</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Essential	Desirable	reflects Sport England best practice	Welcoming staff	Well maintained	Accessible routes	Good standard of cleanliness	Ease/security of parking	Range of activities and value for money	
Essential	Desirable										
reflects Sport England best practice	Welcoming staff										
Well maintained	Accessible routes										
Good standard of cleanliness	Ease/security of parking										
Range of activities and value for money											
Justification	<p>There was clear support for each of the essential and desirable features identified and these are also consistent with national guidance.</p>										

Typology D: Outdoor sports facilities

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities								
National standards	<p>Green Flag criteria include welcoming place, healthy/ safe and secure, clean and well-maintained, sustainable, community involvement, marketing, management. The Green Flag award is recognised on the approved list of quality assurance schemes listed by Sport England.</p> <p>FIT suggest that in order to provide good quality sports facilities, which are fit for purpose, consideration should be given to the quality of provision including gradients, orientation, ancillary accommodation, planting and community safety.</p> <p>CPA choice and opportunity indicators stipulate that residents should be within three different sport and recreation facilities one of which is quality assured. Sport England’s Interim scores for June 2007 Choice and Opportunity Scores reveal the current figure for Islington borough as 98.4%.</p> <p>Parks containing pitches which have achieved the Green Flag award can therefore contribute to the achievement of this indicator.</p> <p>Sport England and National Governing body design guidance should be considered in developing high quality outdoor sports facilities.</p>							
Existing local standards and strategic context	<p>There are no existing local standards for outdoor sports facility provision.</p> <p>The previous needs assessment study highlighted that current synthetic turf pitch (STP) provision within the borough is adequate, and if all planned facilities come to fruition there will be an oversupply by 2016. In terms of quality, the study advises that all STPs should be retained and kept well maintained, given demand for pitch space and the limited number of grass pitches in the borough.</p> <p>There is no athletics provision within the borough with the needs of Islington residents currently met by provision at Finsbury Park. The needs assessment study highlighted that this facility would benefit from investment.</p>							
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (by PMP)	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Broxbourne: 21% good, 48% average</td> <td>Ipswich: 21% good, 42% average</td> <td>Brighton: 23% good, 55% average</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Crawley: 35% good, 50% average</td> <td>Colchester: 26% good, 51% average</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Broxbourne: 21% good, 48% average	Ipswich: 21% good, 42% average	Brighton: 23% good, 55% average	Crawley: 35% good, 50% average	Colchester: 26% good, 51% average	
Broxbourne: 21% good, 48% average	Ipswich: 21% good, 42% average	Brighton: 23% good, 55% average						
Crawley: 35% good, 50% average	Colchester: 26% good, 51% average							

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities							
<p>Consultation (household survey - aspirations) (of those that rated outdoor sports facility sites as their most frequently used open space – 710 responses)</p>	<p>Highest rated quality aspirations for outdoor sports facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintenance (128) • cleanliness (111) • value for money (96) • ease of booking (81) • range of activities (55) • accessible routes (54) • welcoming staff (53) • information available (38) • ease/security of parking (34) • refreshments/vending (22) • social facilities (20) • clear signage (16) • other (2). 						
<p>Step I consultation findings (qualitative analysis)</p>	<p>Responses from the household survey show a mixed opinion regarding the quality of the borough’s outdoor sports facilities. Whilst 32% of respondents to the household survey thought the quality of outdoor sports facilities to be either good or satisfactory, 13.4% indicated quality to be poor and 54% don’t know.</p> <p>Responses across the individual analysis areas show little variation in opinion. The greatest variation is in the South Area of the borough, where the proportion of respondents that believe the quality of outdoor sports facilities to be good is low at only 4.7%. In addition, approximately half the respondents highlighted that the quality of grass pitches as poor.</p> <p>With regards to specific comments on quality, reference was made to the poor maintenance of some outdoor sports facilities, such as the nets at the Highbury Fields tennis courts.</p>						
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>Local consultation, national guidance and best practice therefore suggest that the following features are essential and desirable to local residents:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Essential</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Desirable</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Reflects Sport England’s best practice</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Accessible routes</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Well maintained</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Ease of booking</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Essential	Desirable	Reflects Sport England’s best practice	Accessible routes	Well maintained	Ease of booking
Essential	Desirable						
Reflects Sport England’s best practice	Accessible routes						
Well maintained	Ease of booking						

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology D Outdoor sports facilities			
	Good standard of cleanliness	Range of activities	
	Value for money		
Justification	<p>Household consultation highlighted that the key issues for users of existing sites are for the sites to be kept clean and well maintained and represent good value for money. In addition, national governing body guidance for sporting sites should be used to ensure that appropriate playing area dimensions, maintenance and safety guidelines are followed where appropriate. This will help to ensure that the quality of outdoor sports facility sites across the borough is improved in order to address the current perception by borough residents that sites are typically of only average quality. Ensuring that there is adequate ancillary provision, such as car parking, toilets and changing will help to support an increase in levels of satisfaction for borough residents.</p> <p>It is also important to consider that many quality grievances may have arisen out of quantity deficiencies and subsequent pressure on site maintenance.</p>		

Typology L: Indoor sports facilities

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities	
National standards	<p>The PPG17 Companion Guide reinforces that design and management are factors integral to the successful delivery of a network of high quality sport and recreation, stating that: “Quality depends on two things: the needs and expectations of users, on the one hand, and design, management and maintenance on the other”.</p> <p>The Sport England Technical Design Guidance Notes and Quest Best Practice Standards key objectives underpinning this quality standard are:</p> <p><i>QS1: All new build and refurbishment schemes to be designed in accordance with Sport England Guidance Notes, which provide detailed technical advice and standards for the design and development of sports facilities.</i></p> <p><i>QS2: All leisure providers to follow industry best practice principles in relation to a) Facilities Operation, b) Customer Relations, c) Staffing and d) Service Development and Review. The detail of the internal systems, policies and practices underpinning implementation of these principles will correlate directly to the scale of facility, varying according to the position of the facility within the levels of the established hierarchy.</i></p> <p>Sport England CPA accessibility indicators reinforce the importance of quality provision by measuring:</p> <p><i>% of the population that are within 20 minutes travel time (urban areas – by walk; rural areas – by car) of a range of 3 different sports facility types of which one has achieved a quality assured standard, specifically:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quest • Green Flag • ISO 9001:2000 • Investors in Excellence • Chartermark. <p>Sport England’s Interim scores for June 2007 Choice and Opportunity Scores reveal the current figure for Islington borough as 98.4%.</p>
Existing local standards and strategic context	<p>Islington’s ProActive strategy highlights the need for both high quality facilities and joint working with schools to help achieve the increased participation targets set out in the action plan.</p> <p>The surveys conducted as part of the previous needs assessment study highlighted that over 80% of respondents</p>

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities	
	<p>who take part in sport/physical activity use one of the seven public leisure centres in Islington. Furthermore, a majority of respondents stated that a key factor in encouraging increased usage of leisure centres would be to improve the quality of facilities.</p> <p>Currently no indoor facilities within Islington have Quest accreditation.</p> <p>The previous needs assessment study highlighted a number of quality issues particularly with reference to swimming pools. Quality of provision, particularly at Cally Pool, and the suitability of leisure water at Archway LC, were highlighted in consultation as more significant issues than quantity of provision. The study recommended that the council should consider either refurbishing current pool provision or replacing it with a new development.</p> <p>The strategic assessment of need: 50m pools, highlights the current lack of 50m pool provision across London. There are currently proposals for Stratford and Wast Area London, but no plans for provision within the central London region. However Sport England is aware of the development opportunities surrounding Sobell LC and have highlighted this site as a possible 50m pool location.</p>
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (by PMP)	<p>An example quality standard for indoor sports facilities is as follows:</p> <p><i>“A clean and well maintained indoor sport facility providing a wide range of activities and good value for money. They should encompass adequate changing facilities, cycle and car parking and be easily accessible by public transport and by all sectors of the community.”</i></p>
Step 1 consultation findings (quantitative analysis – 1,326 responses)	<p>Highest rated quality aspirations for indoor sports facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleanliness (249) – 157 of these responses referred specifically to swimming pools • maintenance of facilities (204) – 120 of these responses referred specifically to swimming pools • value for money (198) • welcoming staff (138) • range of activities (119) • accessible routes (79) • designed for purpose (75) • ease of booking (58) • information available (57) • ease/security of parking (43)

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • childcare facilities (31) • social facilities (21) • refreshments/vending (20) • clear signage (13) • flexible space hire (11) • other (10). <p>The quality aspirations of respondents were very similar across all indoor facility types, with maintenance, cleanliness and value for money being the most regularly cited.</p>							
Step 1 consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	<p>The household survey highlighted that over half of the respondents don't know the quality of local indoor sports facilities. 15.6% of respondents highlighted the quality of indoor facilities as good, with 19.6% rating the facilities as average. 8.7% of local residents rated local facilities as poor.</p> <p>Private gyms received the highest proportion of good ratings by respondents (28.8% of respondents), with only 3.8% rating them as poor.</p> <p>Swimming pools received the largest number of responses, of which only 17.5% of respondents claimed they did not know the quality standard of the facility, which was significantly lower than any other facility type. 65.6% of respondents rated swimming pools as either good or average, with only 17% of respondents rating the quality of swimming pools as poor. The majority of the comments given in the household survey concerned the condition of the changing rooms at swimming pools, where cleanliness was cited as a particular issue.</p> <p>The South Area of the borough had the highest proportion of good ratings for facilities at 23.5%.</p> <p>With regards to specific facilities, 30.4% of respondents in the West Area of the borough highlighted that swimming pools were of a good standard, which is significantly higher than other areas of the borough.</p>							
Recommendation	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Essential</th> <th>Desirable</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Reflects Sport England's best practice</td> <td>Accessible routes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Well maintained facilities</td> <td>Range of activities</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Essential	Desirable	Reflects Sport England's best practice	Accessible routes	Well maintained facilities	Range of activities	
Essential	Desirable							
Reflects Sport England's best practice	Accessible routes							
Well maintained facilities	Range of activities							

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology L Indoor sports facilities			
	Increased levels of cleanliness	Welcoming staff	
	Value for money		
Justification	The quality standard for indoor facilities should reflect the views and aspirations of the local community and should also be linked to national benchmark and design criteria. The aspirations identified through the household survey, and as listed above, have been combined with good practice guidance to identify the above essential and desirable features of indoor sports facilities in Islington borough.		

Typology M: Community halls

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology M Community halls	
National standards	<p>National standards based on Sport England Guidance Notes.</p> <p>No other specific quality standards are available for community halls.</p>
Existing local standards and strategic context	<p>Whilst there is no existing local standard for community halls, the previous needs assessment study highlighted that within Islington there are a wide range of smaller community halls available, which whilst not ideal for high impact sports and aerobics, are suitable for recreational badminton and other low impact activities.</p> <p>The Islington sustainable community strategy highlights the importance of these facilities in helping to prevent anti-social and criminal behaviour by young people by providing a safe environment for them, and increasing opening hours for youth clubs and after-school activities.</p> <p>The site visit to the Mayville Community Centre, Woodville Road revealed that there are significant redevelopment works planned at the facility within the next 12-18 months. Furthermore the site visits revealed that many of the community centres have limited opening hours making them less accessible.</p>
Benchmarking against other local authorities standards (by PMP)	<p>Broxbourne Borough Council has set a quality standard for community facilities in line with the Sport England Technical Design Guidance Notes and Quest Best Practice Standards. The essential features recommended in this study were that community facilities should be clean and well maintained and have affordable prices. The desirable features included offer a range of community focused activities and reflects Sport England villages and community halls design guidance.</p>
Step 1 consultation findings (419 responses)	<p>Highest rated quality aspirations for community facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleanliness (73) • maintenance (59) • value for money (42) • welcoming staff (38) • designed for purpose (33) • accessible routes (30) • range of activities (30) • information available (22) • childcare facilities (20)

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology M Community halls									
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ease of booking (20) • ease/security of parking (16) • social facilities (15) • refreshments/vending (11) • clear signage (10). <p>There was also an emphasis on the need for welcoming staff at the smaller facilities such as indoor youth clubs and playgroup spaces.</p>								
Step 1 consultation findings (qualitative analysis)	<p>The household survey highlights that 71.6% don't know the quality of community halls within Islington, highlighting that these facilities currently have a very limited user base and are potentially under-utilised. Only 5.78% of respondents rated community halls as good, with 14.7% rating them average and 7.9% poor.</p> <p>The household survey revealed that small community halls (33.9%) were the most commonly used community facility and large community spaces were the East Area commonly used with only 9.17% of responses.</p> <p>Within the South Area of the borough, 11.7% of respondents rated the quality of community halls as poor with only 3.1% of respondents rating the facilities as 'good', which was the lowest rating across the four analysis areas.</p> <p>However, responses regarding the quality of indoor facilities were largely similar throughout all the analysis areas with 'don't know' being the most common response.</p>								
Recommendation	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Essential</th> <th>Desirable</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Well maintained</td> <td>Designed for purpose</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Increased levels of cleanliness</td> <td>Welcoming staff</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Value for money</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Essential	Desirable	Well maintained	Designed for purpose	Increased levels of cleanliness	Welcoming staff	Value for money	
Essential	Desirable								
Well maintained	Designed for purpose								
Increased levels of cleanliness	Welcoming staff								
Value for money									
Justification	<p>Improvements to the quality of existing community facilities in the borough were highlighted during consultation as being of greater importance than addressing quantity or accessibility issues. The recommended standard provides an overarching target for the future provision of community facilities and sets a benchmark for existing</p>								

SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS – Typology M Community halls	
	<p>facilities based on the local aspirations identified through consultation.</p> <p>In line with PPG17 recommendations, the recommended standard reflects community aspirations but consideration is also given to the achievement of national best practice standards and the compliance with recognised technical guidelines. The key objectives should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide clear guidance relating to facility specifications, ensuring suitability of design for the full range of usages • to ensure high standards of management and customer service are attained, which meet or exceed customer expectations and lead to a quality experience for all users • to ensure that the condition of facilities meet modern standards, including DDA, and are fit for the purpose they are intended.

APPENDIX 10
Guidance on planning policy formulation

APPENDIX 10

GUIDANCE ON PLANNING POLICY FORMULATION

1. PPG17 and Companion Guide do not provide specific advice on policy wording or where policies should be included in an LDF, but provide an overarching policy approach. Key policy principles in PPG17 are set out in the box below.

PPG17 key principles to guide policy

- Local authorities should: avoid any erosion of recreational function and maintain or enhance the character of open spaces; ensure that open spaces do not suffer from increased overlooking, traffic flows or other encroachment; protect and enhance rights of way that might benefit open space; and consider the impact of any development on biodiversity and nature conservation.
- Local standards should include quantitative elements (how much new provision may be needed); a qualitative component (against which to measure the need for enhancement of existing facilities; accessibility (including distance thresholds). Standards should be included in Development Plans [now LDFs].
- Open space and sports and recreational facilities that are of high quality, or of particular value to a local community, should be recognised and given protection by local authorities through appropriate policies in plans.
- PPG17 includes discussion as to when it may be allowable to develop existing open space, sports and recreational buildings (or a part of them).
- PPG17 sets out principles to identify where to locate new areas of open space, sports and recreational facilities.
- PPG17 also provides specific policy direction in relation to mixed-use sport, recreation and leisure facilities; stadia and major developments; local facilities; open spaces; urban fringe areas; rural areas; sports and recreation provision in designated areas; sport and recreation requiring natural features and water; and recreational rights of way.

2. Within the PPG17 Companion Guide Chapter 8 (Drafting Policies) and Chapter 9 (Implementation) provide guidance on policy making for open space.
3. The Companion Guide indicates that planning policy should be developed on the basis of identifying a range of strategic options, through a consideration of audit and analysis of provision. These might include:
 - Existing provision to be protected
 - Existing provision to be enhanced

- Existing provision to be relocated in order to meet local needs more effectively or make better overall use of land
 - Proposals for new provision.
 - Some strategies may also identify land surplus to requirements.
4. Paragraph 8.16 goes on to suggest how policies might then be drafted.

Other Government policy and guidance in terms of open space, sport and recreation policy

Core strategy/ Generic Development Control Policies

5. PPS 12 Local Development Frameworks does not provide any specific advice on the coverage of policies. The key guidance it provides is the detail/type of policy which should be included in each policy document. In summary, the Core Strategy should set out ‘the key elements of the planning framework for the area’ and clear and concise core policies for delivery in the strategy. Guidance to support PPS12 identifies policy themes for inclusion in DPDs, which includes policy to support open space and leisure strategy.
6. PPS12 recommends that the focus of generic DC policies should be on a topic-related basis.
7. Policies for Spatial Plans by the Planning Officers Society sets out further guidance on the level of detail/scope of core strategy policies and DC policies. It does not seek to provide detailed advice across all policy topic areas, but it does provide some advice on open space, sport and recreation policies.
8. The guidance provides example policies, and includes one to guide provision in new development. For example, appropriate policy wording may be along the lines of ‘*planning permission for schemes including one or more new dwellings will be granted where schemes provide open space having regard to the standards adopted by the local planning authority*’. The example policy goes on to note that where suitable recreational and amenity open space cannot be provided on the development site, developers must provide a suitable open space elsewhere in the settlement or, if the council decides this is not practicable, must make a commuted payment to the District Council. The supporting text explains why such an approach is required, and cross refers to a Supplementary Planning Document on open space which details the Council’s guidance on open space standards, requirements for on-site or off-site provision and commuted payments.
9. The guidance also includes a policy to cover the circumstances in which development on recreational or amenity open space will only be permitted, and again cross-refers to SPD for further details of policies on recreational open space.

The adopted proposals map/illustrative maps

10. PPS12 indicates that the adopted proposals map should identify areas of protection and illustrate locations and identify sites for particular land use and development proposals included in any adopted DPD and set out the areas to which specific policies apply. PPS12 Annex A Illustrative Material notes that other maps/plans/diagrams may only be used within DPDs to clarify factual information such as the distribution of open spaces etc. PPS12 guidance also notes that open space and leisure uses could be given spatial expression through maps.

APPENDIX II

Recommendations for an SPD on planning
obligations for open space

APPENDIX I I: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AN SPD ON PLANNING OBLIGATIONS FOR OPEN SPACE

1. This appendix sets out recommendations for standards for open space and play space to be included in an SPD on planning obligations. Standards for provision of leisure facilities and outdoor sport facilities are covered elsewhere in this study.

Open space in residential development

2. In terms of setting a standard for provision of open space in new residential development discussion has taken place between the PPG17 assessment team and the project steering group. It is recommended that a standard is used which amalgamates the standards set for the following typologies which make up 'open space': Parks and gardens or equivalent (typology A and H), B: Natural and semi-natural greenspace, C: Green Corridor, E: Amenity green space and J: Housing amenity space. This equates to a standard of 5.21 m² of open space per new resident.
3. This standard would be set for onsite provision where possible or could be translated into a financial contribution for offsite provision. Alternatively, this contribution could be used to improve the quality of open spaces.
4. It should be noted that if there are going to be many circumstances where the quantitative standard is translated into an offsite contribution and used to improve quality (rather than quantity), it might be appropriate to consider how a contribution could be based on the costs of undertaking those improvements.

Open space in employment and hotel development

5. Given the importance of Islington as an employment centre, consideration is also required in terms of needs, demands and pressures on open spaces from people working in the Borough, as well as residents. In terms of the typologies A-M it is considered realistic to assume that people working in Islington would place a demand on a sub-set of these: primarily those which form 'public open space' (in particular A, B, C, and E); housing amenity space (typology H) and play and youth (typology K) would not typically have specific demand from employees. PMP are addressing built sports and community facilities which are also likely to see considerable demand from those working in the Borough.
6. A summary of employment and demographic data used to underpin the data analysis is shown in **Table I**.

Table I: Quantifying the extra demands on open space from employees and hotel occupants

Indicator	Value	Source
2001 Islington population	175797	Census 2001
2001 All commuters from outside Islington	111643	Islington Statistics report 2006, based on ONS Census 2001 table SWS103
2001 All commuters leaving Islington	53174	Islington Statistics report 2006, based on ONS Census 2001 table SWS104
Net inflow (2001)	58469	Commuters in minus commuters out
Total net in flow of commuters plus residents = approximate daytime population (2001)	234266	
Uplift in 'daytime population' compared to residential population (2001)	33.26%	
2008 resident population	191302	GLA 2007 projections
33% uplift in 'daytime population' (2008)	254929	
Hotel residents	5105	Atkins Islington Hotel Survey (2005) sets out the number of hotel, apart hotel, b&b, guesthouses in Islington in 2005 - total - 38 - no of rooms -3072. The hotel 'population' can be worked out assuming that the majority of rooms will be for two persons and using the average 2007 occupancy rate for London (HotelBenchmark(tm) Survey by Deloitte) which is 83.1. This comes out at 5105 people using 2005 figures.
Derived total daytime population for Islington including residents, commuters and hotel guests	260034	Residents + commuters + hotel guests

7. Islington has a significant employment base, and there is a net in-flow of commuters to the Borough based on census returns. Using the Islington Statistics report 2006, based on ONS Census 2001, it is possible to gauge the

level of net in-commuting, and the extent to which this 'swells' the population of the borough during working hours. In 2001 the population was 175,797, and there were 111,643 commuters coming into the borough to work, whilst 53,174 Islington residents commuted out of the Borough (i.e. a net inflow of 58,469 commuters). This represents an uplift of approximately 33% in the number of people located within the borough (and potentially placing demands on open spaces) during working hours. Applying this ratio to the 2008 population, the population during a working day is in the order of 255,000 (compared to a resident population of 191,302).

8. There is a further demand on open spaces from hotel guests. The Islington Hotel Survey (Atkins, 2005) sets out the number of hotels, apartment hotels, B & Bs and guesthouses in Islington in 2005, with a total of 38, and a total number of rooms at 3072. This is projected to grow to 55 by 2016. Taking an average of the number of rooms per establishment in 2005, this works out at 4446 rooms in 2016. The hotel 'population' can be worked out assuming that the majority of rooms will be for two persons and using the average 2007 occupancy rate for London (HotelBenchmark(tm) Survey by Deloitte) which is 83.1. This comes out at 5105 hotel occupants at any one time (2005 figures) and 7389 hotel occupants at any one time (2016 figures).
9. Therefore overall 'daytime' population is currently in the order of 260,034 people. Open space per 1000 head of population reduces to 0.4 ha/1000 if total provision is divided by this higher 'daytime population'.

An SPD standard for employment and hotel development

10. It is recommended that the SPD should seek a contribution from new employment space to address the pressures placed on open spaces by workers and reflect the benefit they derive from having access to open space. In addition to this consideration, there is also evidence to indicate that commercial properties benefit from open spaces in a number of ways, which suggests that commercial properties should contribute to the creation and maintenance of such spaces. **Annex I** summarises the evidence base.
11. It is recommended that the contribution for employment space (and per hotel occupant) should be set at a lower level than for residential development (i.e. the standard per employee/hotel occupant compared to per resident). This reflects the fact that employees are likely to use open spaces for more limited time spans than residents (e.g. 1 hour at lunchtime, and possibly after work e.g. for informal sport, such as jogging, and relaxation), and typically only during the working week (typically Monday to Friday).
12. A suitable standard could be set at 50% of that for residential development i.e. 2.6m² per employee or hotel occupant.

Play space in residential development

13. The mayor's guidance 'Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation: Supplementary Planning Guidance' (SPG) (March 2008) identifies a standard of 10m² per child based on a mix of formal and informal

play (with no prescribed breakdown between the two). The spaces that have been audited for this work are essentially the formal play component of this. It is not possible to quantify the amount of existing informal play in the borough.

14. There is currently provision of 18.267 ha of formal play, which equates to 4.771 m² of play space per child in 2008. Given the general satisfaction from consultees with the level of provision and given that this provision compares well when bench-marked against the inner London Boroughs, the standard used in the PPG17 assessment for assessing provision of formal play space in each ward has been set at 4.771 m² per child.
15. It is recommended that a standard for play space in new developments in the SPD should be set at 10m² per child, with a requirement that a mix of formal and informal play opportunities should be provided, in line with the guidance provided in the Mayor's SPG.

Contributions to sport and recreation facilities

16. The Council is also intending to produce contribution standards for provision of sport and recreation facilities.
17. Standards for indoor and outdoor recreation provision are set out in the document which can be used to ascertain the level of additional facilities necessary to address impacts of increases in population resulting from new development. In addition to resident use of sports and leisure facilities, information provided by LBI Leisure indicates that people working in the borough account for a significant proportion of usage, with available figures indicating a 63:37 resident: employee split. LBI have suggested that along with the standards set out in the Assessment they may use these to derive standards for the necessary levels of leisure provision for additional employees resulting from new development.

ANNEX I: ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF GREEN SPACE INVESTMENT IN URBAN AREAS

18. The restoration or creation of green spaces can improve the perception of an area, and in deprived areas is often seen as a metaphor for the rehabilitation of the entire community. This sense of renewal improves confidence in and prospects for an area. In most cases, the cost of investing in green space creation and other environmental improvements can be partly or completely offset by uplifts in land value. In areas such as Islington, where there is high housing demand, and affluent sections of the community who aspire to live in a high quality environment, attractive green spaces can add as much as 15% to the value of property¹.
19. People want to live, work and shop in attractive areas and this helps to increase property prices and stimulate the local economy in areas with good quality greenspace. In a MORI poll, the government found that liveability

¹ CABE Space (2005) *Does Money Grow on Trees?*

issues (including improved parks) were one of the top four responses to the question 'what would improve quality of life in your area?'² Attractive surroundings encourage businesses to relocate in a region, and a study showed that over 35% of businesses relocating to the South West region quoted environmental attractiveness as the key reason for their move³.

20. Some examples of areas where green space investment has been advantageous to commercial interests include:

- The restoration of Queen's Square in Bristol resulted in increases of 5-10% in rent prices for commercial buildings overlooking the square.
- The creation of a 'sensory park' at Boston Square in Hunstanton led to considerable increases in profit for the local tourism industry, 7% uplift on properties overlooking the square, and the redevelopment of a previously derelict hotel into new apartments.
- In Tower Hamlets, the creation of Mile End Park attracted a range of new businesses to the vicinity, all of which are paying property rent significantly higher than the surrounding area. An area which was previously wasteland and attracted crime, Mile End Park is now attracting professional businesses such as solicitors and estate agents.
- The restoration of Lister Park in Bradford had a significant impact on the price of property in the area. As a result of the restoration of this historic park, a derelict Grade II* listed building associated with the park has been identified as the preferred location for restoration and conversion into high quality apartments, new offices and studio space.

² ODPM (2003) *Sustainable Communities: Building for the future*.

³ Plymouth Business School (1996) *The South West Economy: Trends and Prospects*.