

## Appendix 6 - Open Space Strategy 2017

### Open Space Audit - Design Quality

The criteria used for auditing the design quality was:

Audit Criteria	Comments
Provision of pedestrian and cycle routes into and around the site of appropriate widths and surface materials.	Consider size of site, pressure of use and residential needs within the natural catchment area.
Level of DDA all-weather access into and around the site appropriate and shared with other users.	Consider the natural topography of the site and any special provision needed for disabled users.
Provision of site furniture, seats, tables, fencing, bins, signage adequate and in sympathetic style.	Consider size of site, pressure of use residential needs and landscape context within the natural catchment area.
Balance and location of planting (grassland types, shrubs, trees).	Consider size of site, pressure of use residential needs and landscape and ecological context within the natural catchment area.
Balance of formality to informal space.	Consider landscape context and character of immediate surroundings.
Site safety- hazards, magnitude and type of risks.	Consider unseen or low visibility hazards which all visitors might not recognise.
Informal play and sports provision.	Consider size of space and local residential need.
Formal Play provision.	Consider size of space local/strategic residential need, natural catchment area and other local provision.
Formal sports provision.	Consider size of space local/strategic residential need, natural catchment area and other provision within the area.
Other formal provision, toilets, refreshments, parking, indoor activities.	Consider size of space strategic needs, natural catchment area and other provision within the area.
Legibility - you can find your way around immediate area without signage.	Consider size of space and important routes through it. Potential to get lost.
Identity - clearly public space with obvious and inviting entrances.	Consider design and layout rather than signage.

Each criteria was given a score based on the following:

- 0-1 Very poor
- 1.1-2 Poor
- 2.1-3 Satisfactory
- 3.1-4 Good
- 4.1-5 Very Good

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### Open Space Audit - Condition Quality

The criteria used for auditing the condition quality was:

Audit Criteria	Comments
Paths in good condition and clean.	Consider context, pressure and type of use and how good they need to be.
Site furniture in good repair.	Always needs to be safe and not overgrown with vegetation. For cosmetics consider the context.
All boundaries in good repair and well maintained	Always needs to be safe and not overgrown with vegetation. For cosmetics consider the context. Include condition and maintenance of hedgerows
Trees well established and free from strimmer/mower damage.	Consider degree of damage and general health.
Shrub areas properly pruned and free from weeds.	Consider proportion of established perennial weeds and general health and performance of the border.
Site free from dog fouling	Consider pressure of use
Site free from litter, fly tipping and other refuse.	Consider whole site including entrances, litter traps, hot spots, and general pressure of use.
Mowing frequencies and quality appropriate for the various grassland types.	Consider variety of appropriate mowing regimes, edge treatments, disposal of arisings and quality and frequency of work.
Management – is a site management plan in place?	Management Plans only appropriate for the larger sites - e.g. strategic parks, green corridor, hub areas

Each criteria was given a score based on the following:

- 0-2 Very poor
- 1.1-2 Poor
- 2.1-3 Satisfactory
- 3.1-4 Good
- 4.1-5 Very Good