



North Tyneside Council

Working in partnership with
CAPITA



North Tyneside Council Green Space Strategy

February 2015



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I Introduction

- I.1** Green spaces are a major contributor to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of local communities. They are the most widely used facility that the Council provide and are the settings for work, recreation, education, social interaction and biodiversity.
- I.2** It is therefore imperative that green spaces are provided that are accessible, attractive, safe and well-managed.
- I.3** Green, or open space (the terms are interchangeable throughout the document) is described in the NPPF⁽¹⁾ as:

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

- I.4** The Strategy sets out the current provision of different types of green space across the Borough, and by setting local provision standards, identifies where there are deficiencies in existing quantity, distribution or quality of green space. It also includes the results of a Borough-wide assessment of the quality and value of all publicly accessible green spaces. This information will help to determine where new or improved provision is needed.
- I.5** This data can be used to guide the planning process and secure funding by justifying developer contributions or by supporting bids to external funders.
- I.6** For more information on this document please contact the Planning Policy team:

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Information can also be provided in other languages and alternative formats for example, Braille, audiotape and large print. For further information please telephone 0191 643 2310 or fax 0191 643 2426.

2 . Setting the Scene



2 Setting the Scene

A Unique Landscape

2.1 North Tyneside is in the North East of England and is one of five metropolitan districts within the Tyne and Wear conurbation. The Borough embraces a unique combination of urban, urban fringe, coastal and riverside environments. It has the North Sea to the east, the River Tyne to the south, Newcastle City to the west and Northumberland to the north.

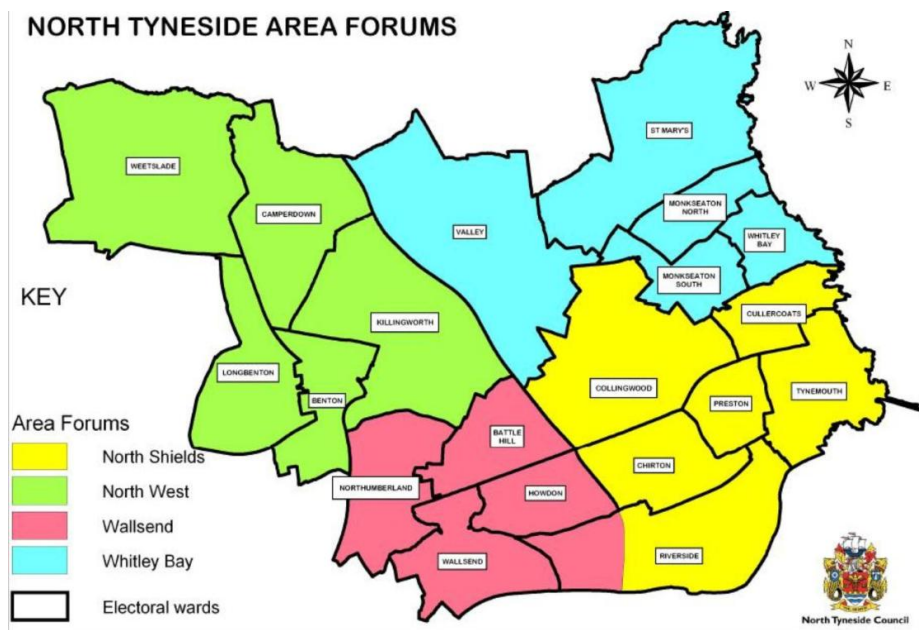


Green belt eastwards from Earsdon Village

2.2 The northern fringe is largely open countryside of which 1,670 hectares (ha), or 20% of the Borough's area, is designated as Green Belt in the UDP⁽²⁾. Within the existing built-up area are many UDP-designated areas of green space, including allotments, cemeteries and general open space.

2.3 The Borough covers 8,367ha with an estimated population (in 2011) of 201,200 and approximately 95,500 dwellings. Projections see a future rise in population and housing demand in North Tyneside; these are essential factors to consider when considering current and future provision of green spaces.

2.4 North Tyneside is made up of twenty wards and is split into four area forums, as illustrated below.





Biodiversity

- 2.5** Wildlife corridors intersect North Tyneside but also reach beyond into Newcastle and Northumberland, forming strategic, regionally important wildlife corridors. The significance of this is illustrated in the production of a cross-boundary BAP⁽³⁾ jointly prepared by Newcastle City and North Tyneside Councils in 2011. Within the BAP, ten habitat action plans and twelve species action plans have been drawn up that set out objectives for the protection and enhancement of each.
- 2.6** The Borough also boasts two Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 22 Local Wildlife Sites, 30 Sites of Local Interest and seven Local Nature Reserves.



Northumberland Park has a range of habitats

Historic and Culturally Important Sites

- 2.7** North Tyneside is rich in history and culture, and many of its historic and cultural sites feature green space that makes a large contribution to the special character of the heritage sites themselves, and to the overall green space of the Borough.
- 2.8** North Tyneside has 17 designated conservation areas, which are "...areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance"⁽⁴⁾. The special character of a conservation area derives not only from its buildings, but the spaces in-between them.
- 2.9** Many of the Borough's listed buildings, locally registered buildings and scheduled ancient monuments are surrounded by green space, enhancing their settings. Notable examples include Tynemouth Priory and Castle, Backworth Hall, Burradon Tower and Wallsend Civic Hall.



Tynemouth Priory and surrounding green space

- 2.10** North Tyneside features part of Hadrian's Wall, an internationally significant World Heritage Site (WHS), extending coast to coast from the River Tyne to Cumbria. Hadrian's Wall is part of a transnational WHS called Frontiers of the Roman Empire. Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths and Museum feature the most excavated Fort along the Wall.

3 Biodiversity Action Plan, Newcastle City Council and North Tyneside Council, 2011
 4 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, section 69

2 . Setting the Scene



- 2.11** North Tyneside has no nationally registered parks or gardens but within the local register there are 19 parks, gardens, greens, cemeteries/churchyards and other open areas, reflecting the local strength of feeling towards such spaces.

The Coast

- 2.12** The coastal area is one of the Borough's most important areas of open space, combining beaches and many other varieties of open space. The wealth of biodiversity found along North Tyneside's coastline is vast and it also includes areas important for geological conservation. It has many areas of national and international significance; it is essential that these sites are protected and enhanced in order for wildlife to flourish.



Longsands, Tynemouth

- 2.13** The North Tyneside coastline contains parts of the Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site, which due to its rare geology, supports internationally important numbers of wintering birds purple sandpiper and turnstone, along with Little Tern. This site has been created under the European Union Birds Directive and in the UK forms part of a larger European network called Natura 2000.



2.14 The coastline, with its beauty, wildlife, visitor attractions and cultural offer has large tourist appeal. Tourism is a key driver of the local economy: it is estimated that the industry is worth £262million, supporting over 3700 jobs ⁽⁵⁾.

2.15 A significant draw for tourists is St. Mary's Lighthouse and Island, which houses a popular visitor centre. The Island is surrounded by a Nature Reserve containing rock pools, cliff top grassland, a beach and a wetland habitat. The



St.Mary's Island

Island itself, with its extensive area of rock pools, possesses a diverse range of marine life. It is also an important vantage point from which to observe seabird movements, while the inter-tidal area is a favourite feeding and resting place for many waders, terns and gulls. Waders also favour the wetland on the cliff top at Curry's Point and the site is an important landfall for passing migrants in spring and autumn. The cliff top is also one of the few remaining semi-natural grasslands in North Tyneside and has some good examples of maritime and sub-maritime flora.

2.16 The St. Mary's area contains two different Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs): unit one of the Tynemouth to Seaton Sluice site, and units nineteen and twenty of the Northumberland Shore site. The former was first notified as a site of national Geological interest in 1965 and was revised in 1989 as an SSSI. The latter was designated as a SSSI in 1992 for its role in providing an internationally important habitat for a number of shorebird species.

Country Parks

2.17 The Rising Sun Country Park is a 160ha natural green oasis set in the heart of North Tyneside. It boasts an Organic Farm, Nature Reserve, Countryside Centre, numerous ponds, woodlands and extensive areas of grassland. The Country Park provides a resource for healthy outdoor activities, promotes healthy food and encourages sustainable practices. The Country Park is a Green Flag Award winner, highlighting the high environmental standards achieved within an excellent recreational green area.

2 . Setting the Scene



Rising Sun Country Park

- 2.18** The Weetslade Country Park, also a Green Flag Award winner, lies partially on the former pit heap of Weetslade Colliery in the north west of the Borough. The 24ha site opened in June 2006 after extensive reclamation work. The Park features woodland, grassland and wetland habitats, along with a network of paths and cycleways.
- 2.19** Silverlink Country Park occupies approximately 18ha in the centre of Cobalt Business Park, just off the A19. The Park was created in 1996 on the site of a former rubbish tip and has significant biodiversity value with woodland, scrub and hedgerow, grassland and tall herb, wetland and exposed rock habitats.



3 What the Strategy Covers

- 3.1** The Strategy looks at all publicly accessible green space of at least 0.1ha, regardless of owner or manager. The Strategy does not include private gardens, countryside and farmland.
- 3.2** There is a great diversity in the nature of green space within the Borough. For the purposes of this Strategy however, the following categories are used:
- Parks and public gardens
 - Natural and semi-natural green spaces
 - Green corridors
 - Outdoor recreational facilities
 - Amenity green space
 - Provision for children and young people
 - Allotments
 - Cemeteries and churchyards
 - Beaches and foreshore



4 Aims and Links

Aims

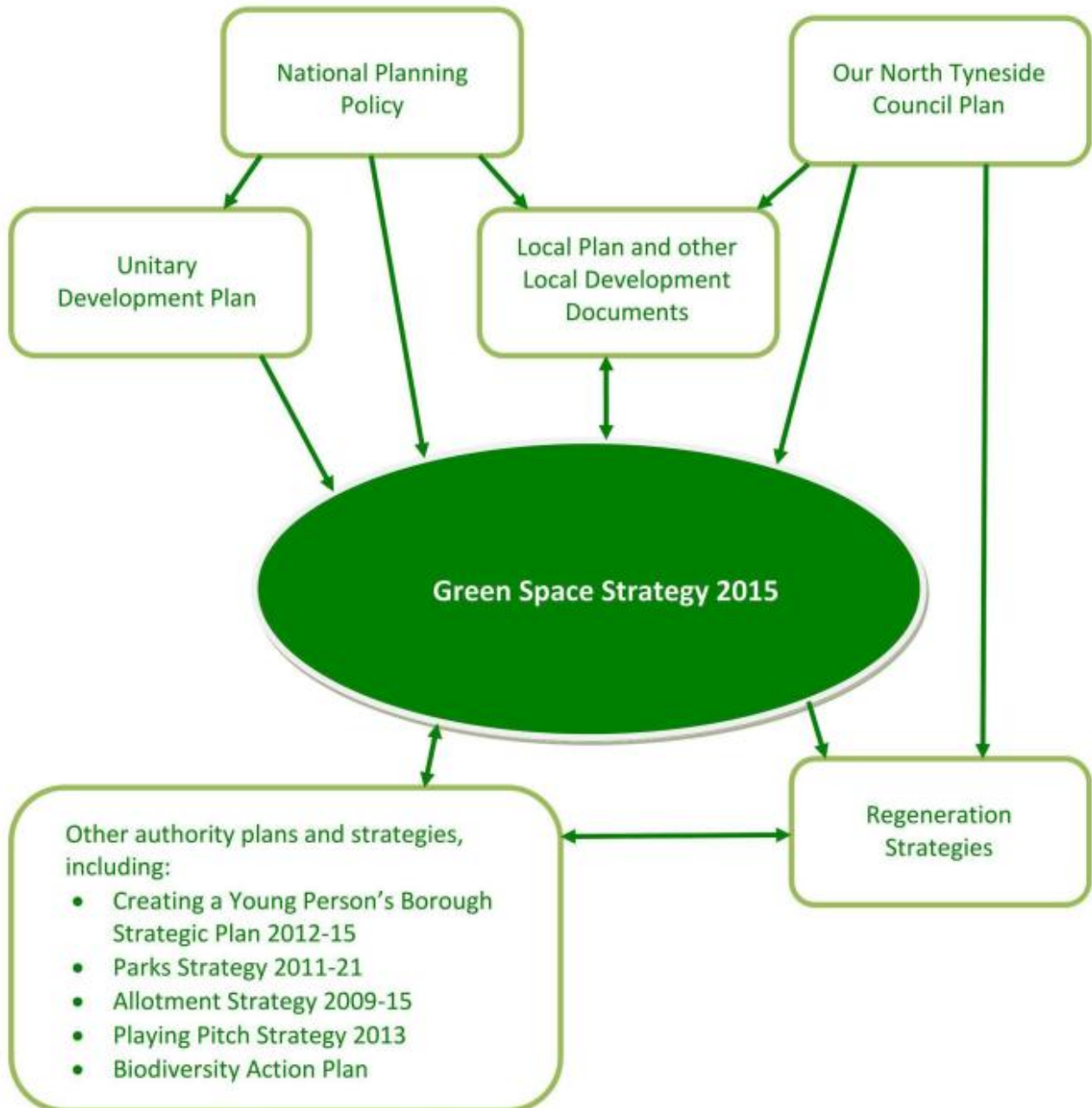
- 4.1** The aim of this Strategy is to provide the information that can assist in making green spaces attractive, safe, accessible and well managed. It will achieve this aim by:
- Assessing all publicly accessible green spaces in the Borough to ascertain their quality and value, thus understanding which need to be improved, retained, adapted or possibly redeveloped;
 - Setting provision standards for some types of green space in order to achieve and maintain a high level of accessibility in the Borough;
 - Setting out objectives for good design, management and maintenance, and provision in new housing sites.
- 4.2** The Green Space Strategy has been developed as advised in the NPPF⁽⁶⁾. The NPPF sets out that Local Authorities should:
- Undertake robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for green space; and
 - Use the assessments to identify specific needs, deficits or surpluses of green spaces⁽⁷⁾.

Links to Other Strategies

- 4.3** The Green Space Strategy is not a standalone document; it is informed by and informs a number of other national and local strategies and plans. They will all achieve their aims most effectively if they work together, and throughout this document, several others will be referred to. The figure below illustrates where the Green Space Strategy fits in amongst these other documents.

6 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012

7 *ibid.*, para. 73



Our North Tyneside Council Plan

4.4 The Our North Tyneside Council Plan 2013⁽⁸⁾ identifies the priorities for the Borough up to 2017. It will be delivered through a partnership between the Council, local people, communities, businesses, and local voluntary and public sector organisations.

8 http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse-sub-cat.shtml?p_subjectCategory=1576

4 . Aims and Links



4.5 The Plan sets out four themes, within which are aims and the actions needed to achieve those aims. The four themes are:

1. Our people
2. Our places
3. Our economy
4. Our partners

4.6 The Green Space Strategy plays a part in achieving the aims of the Our North Tyneside Council Plan, especially in the "Our people" theme, which aims to increase the health of residents and promote access to our parks, open spaces and playsites.

North Tyneside Unitary Development Plan (2002)

4.7 The North Tyneside UDP⁽⁹⁾ is a statutory plan and policy document, adopted in 2002. It sets out a strategy for the Borough including policies for the improvement of its physical environment, conservation of its natural beauty and management of traffic. Chapter 9 of the UDP sets out the general strategy and specific policies relating to open space and recreation.

Local Plan

4.8 North Tyneside Council is currently preparing a Local Plan, which will replace the UDP. The Local Plan is proposed to be adopted in mid-2016. Until the Local Plan is in place, some policies of the UDP are 'saved' to ensure that comprehensive planning policy coverage remains in place. Saved policies of the UDP remain in force and will be used in determining planning applications until replaced.

4.9 The Local Plan will provide a planning policy framework to help achieve sustainable development, the core principle underlying planning, appropriate to the distinctive characteristics and needs of North Tyneside. It will set out the development needs of the Borough and provide guidance on how they can be met. The priorities that the Local Plan will address include:

- The homes and jobs needed in the Borough.
- Retail, leisure and other commercial development.
- Infrastructure provision for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water, flood risk, coastal change, minerals and energy.
- Provision of health facilities, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Conservation and enhancement of natural and built environment.

4.10 The GSS provides evidence on the amount of green space in the Borough and any deficiencies or over-provision. This evidence will be used in formulating the policies of the Local Plan. The guidance within the GSS will be used to give greater detail when those policies are being applied.

⁹ North Tyneside Council Unitary Development Plan, North Tyneside Council, 2002
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse.shtml?p_subjectCategory=775



- 4.11** The most recent consultation draft version of the Local Plan was published in February 2015. For further information on this and other stages of the Local Plan's production, please see the relevant page on the Council's website⁽¹⁰⁾.

National Planning Policy Framework

- 4.12** Central government published the NPPF in March 2012⁽¹¹⁾. At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, with the planning system performing an economic role, social role and environmental role simultaneously.
- 4.13** The NPPF specifically advises that local planning authorities require robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.
- 4.14** Previous to the NPPF, the Planning Policy Guidance note that guided green space planning was PPG17⁽¹²⁾ and its companion guide⁽¹³⁾. Although now obsolete, the advice and recommendations within PPG17 were still of use in guiding the format of this Strategy, in addition to the relevant chapter of the NPPF⁽¹⁴⁾.

National Planning Practice Guidance

- 4.15** In 2014, Central government released Planning Practice Guidance.
- 4.16** The guidance on "Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space" ⁽¹⁵⁾ is specific to the management of green space, with "Health and wellbeing"⁽¹⁶⁾ and "Natural Environment" ⁽¹⁷⁾ also having relevance.
- 4.17** The guidance states "It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the duty to cooperate where open space serves a wider area.". Working co-operatively with our neighbouring authorities is discussed further from 6.4.
- 4.18** This 2014 guidance does not give a specific recommendations on how to carry out assessments. PPG17⁽¹⁸⁾ and its companion guide⁽¹⁹⁾ are still considered as useful and relevant guidance in this respect, and it is considered appropriate to continue to be advised by them.

10 Planning>Planning Policy>Local Plan http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse.shtml?p_subjectCategory=182

11 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

12 Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation, DCLG, 2002

13 Assessing Needs and Opportunities, DCLG, 2001

14 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012, Chapter 8 Promoting healthy communities

15 DCLG, 2014 <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

[blog/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities/](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities/)

16 DCLG, 2014 <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

[blog/guidance/health-and-wellbeing/what-is-the-role-of-health-and-wellbeing-in-planning/#paragraph_004](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/health-and-wellbeing/what-is-the-role-of-health-and-wellbeing-in-planning/#paragraph_004)

17 DCLG, 2014 <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

[blog/guidance/natural-environment/biodiversity-ecosystems-and-green-infrastructure/](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/biodiversity-ecosystems-and-green-infrastructure/)

18 Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation, DCLG, 2002

19 Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17, DCLG, 2001

5 . Quality and Value of Green Spaces



5 Quality and Value of Green Spaces

Quality Assessment

5.1 Sites were classed as a particular typology based on their characteristics as set out in the table below. These typologies were defined in PPG17's companion guide⁽²⁰⁾ and will be used here in consistency with our previous Green Space Strategies.

Typology	Primary purpose/use
Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events
Natural and semi-natural green spaces	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness
Green corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities to migrate
Outdoor sports facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as sport pitches, tennis, bowls athletics or countryside and water sports
Amenity green space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential and other areas
Provision for children and young people	Areas designated primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters
Allotments	Opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce as part of a long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion
Cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity
Beaches and foreshore	Areas of coastline used for informal recreation and sport, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity

20 Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17, DCLG, 2001, para.2.6



5.2 Each green space was assessed on site using a criteria unique to its typology. Factors that were assessed included cleanliness, access and facilities. See Appendix 9 for assessment criteria. This process resulted in each site gaining a percentage score rating its quality. A high, medium or low rating was assigned to each site depending on the percentage score (0-49% = low quality, 50-69% = medium quality, 70-100% = high quality).

Value Assessment

5.3 The value of a site relates mainly to three factors:

Context: a space or facility which is inaccessible is almost irrelevant to potential users and therefore may be of little value, irrespective of its quality. Similarly, if there is significantly more high quality provision in an area than needed, some of it may well be of relatively little value and conversely if there is very little provision in an area, even a space or facility of mediocre quality may well be valuable. Green spaces that form an integral part of historic environments, however, will almost always be of value, irrespective of their accessibility or condition.

Level and type of use: (in terms of primary purpose): poorly used spaces or facilities may be of little value while well used spaces and facilities are always of high value. Species richness can be taken as a specific form of high level 'use'.

Wider benefits: generally include: structural and landscape benefits, ecological benefits, education benefits, social inclusion and health benefits, cultural and heritage benefits, amenity benefits and a 'sense of place', and economic benefits.

5.4 Taking all the above into account, a decision was made on whether the site was of high, medium or low value.

Combining the Assessments

5.5 The scorings for both quality and value are combined in a simple grid to ascertain an overall rating for each space, as set out here:

B High Value Low Quality	A High Value Medium Quality	A High Value High Quality
B Medium Value Low Quality	A Medium Value Medium Quality	A Medium Value High Quality
D Low Value Low Quality	C Low Value Medium Quality	C Low Value High Quality

5 . Quality and Value of Green Spaces



- 5.6** Sites that fall in the orange "B" sections are well valued but are at present are of low quality, and would therefore require the most investment. Sites categorised into the blue "C" sections are unlikely to require more investment in their quality but steps may be required to alter their purpose or improve accessibility to increase their value.
- 5.7** Any sites falling in the green "A" sections would not necessarily require any large scale investment unless it would be to provide a high quality space for an area which at present it is lacking provision. In general these sites would not require further attention except to monitor and maintain them to prevent the quality value to decrease.
- 5.8** Sites falling in the red "D" section are of little value and quality. These are the sites whose future role needs to be carefully considered, whether through investment to provide a type of open space that would be valued in that area, or by making it available for other uses.

Objective 1: Quality and Value of Green Spaces

All green spaces should be at least of medium quality and medium value.

Quality and Value Outcomes

- 5.9** Set out in Appendix I are the numbers and land area of green spaces across the Borough. Appendix 2 sets out how many/much of these spaces are considered as being of low quality and low value, that is, a space that falls within the red "D" section in the grid above, and how many/much of them fall in the green "A" sections. The results are displayed in the accompanying graphs and in Map I.
- 5.10** The results show that on an Area Forum-basis, percentages of poor quality and value space are low. The worst performing Area is Wallsend and the best is Whitley Bay.
- 5.11** The Boroughwide average is 4.15%. Positively, most Wards have less than this, with three Wards (Killingworth, Monkseaton South and Northumberland) having no areas falling in this category and many others with very low totals. The Borough average is inflated by some Wards having significantly higher totals than the others. These Wards are Riverside, Howdon, Longbenton and Chirton.
- 5.12** It follows that those Wards also perform poorly when looking at those featuring the most green space of high/medium quality and value. Valley, Camperdown and Benton also perform below the Borough average. Tynemouth, Cullercoats, Monkseaton South and Northumberland have high results.



6 Provision Standards

Setting Provision Standards

- 6.1** The use of provision standards promotes social inclusion by seeking to ensure that the population all have similar levels of access to a range of green space, and helps to ensure the distance that people need to travel is acceptable, thus encouraging use of such facilities and reducing the use of private car (with consequent positive impacts on health by encouraging more walking and cycling, and reducing air pollution, and levels of congestion).
- 6.2** Central Government believes that open space standards should be based on a local assessment of the supply and demand for such facilities⁽²¹⁾. Therefore, local standards for the Borough have been developed using other North Tyneside Council strategies, standards still considered relevant that were set as part of previous Green Space Strategies, with national standards such as those produced by Fields in Trust⁽²²⁾ providing useful guidance.
- 6.3** There are some types of green space set out in paragraph 5.1 that are unsuitable to have provision standards set specifically for them. They will be included in a general provision standard however. They are:
- Green corridors: The need for green corridors arises from the need to promote environmentally sustainable forms of transport such as walking and cycling within urban areas. They can also serve as green buffers between built up or busy areas. They are therefore dependent on the amount and layout of developed land in an area.
 - Cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds: These are dependent on the location of churches and population.
 - Beach: These cannot be created or have their location controlled.

Cross Boundary Considerations

- 6.4** Government guidance in NPPF⁽²³⁾ encourages local planning authorities to consider issues that exist across local boundaries. As discussed above, national Planning Practice Guidance also advocates this approach.
- 6.5** North Tyneside shares a boundary to the west with Newcastle City, to the north with Northumberland County and to the south (across the River Tyne) with South Tyneside. These boundaries, particularly across to Newcastle and Northumberland, do not inhibit residents' usage of open spaces. Some key sites in neighbouring authority areas attract visitors from far and wide due to their size and interest; many of these sites physically link to North Tyneside: Jesmond Dene, Gosforth Park, Town Moor, Big Waters Nature Reserve, River Tyne and associated banksides, Holywell Dene, Coast and Seaton Delaval Hall.

21 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012, para.73

22 www.fieldsintrust.org/

23 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012, paras.178-181

6 . Provision Standards



- 20
- North Tyneside Council | Green Space Strategy 2015
- 6.6** Areas within North Tyneside identified in this document that appear to have particularly low provision may be within the catchment of good provision just outside the boundary. Similarly, areas identified as having acceptable provision may actually have an over-provision when looking beyond the boundary. This will be explored further when looking at each type of green space provision in subsequent chapters of this document. This will be aided by the information within the Northumberland County Council *PPG17 openspace, sport and recreation assessment*⁽²⁴⁾ and the Newcastle City Council *Green Space, Sport and Recreation 2009 Assessment and 2013 Addendum*⁽²⁵⁾. Cross boundary usage and provision should be considered on specific applications or projects.
- 6.7** As they continue in the productions of their LDFs, all north of Tyne planning authorities are working together to ensure an aligned approach to the management of green spaces, especially those that link across or are in proximity to boundaries.

24 <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=3458#collapse17>

25 <http://onecorestrategyng.limehouse.co.uk/file/2631399>



7 Equipped Areas for Play

7.1 This chapter looks at equipped areas for play; that is, areas for children with equipment for them to play on such as slides, swings and climbing frames. The equipped areas for play that this Strategy looks at are: Local area for play (LAP), Local equipped areas for play (LEAP), Neighbourhood equipped areas for play (NEAP) and Strategic equipped areas for play (SEAP). The Borough also features several multi use games areas (MUGAs), skateparks and water play facilities. Whilst these are usually contained within a wider equipped play area, some do exist on their own. Where this is the case, they will not count towards equipped play coverage in the Borough.

Objective 2: Equipped Areas for Play

All households should be within an acceptable distance to some kind of equipped play area. This will be calculated using the following distance thresholds:

Play Area Type	Min. Size of Play Area	Min. No. Of Play Units	Radial Straight Line Distance
LAP	100m ²	Designated playspace with 4 or less play units	120m
LEAP (1)	400m ²	5	240m
LEAP (2)	600m ²	6	360m
LEAP (3)	800m ²	7	480m
NEAP (1)	1,000m ²	8	600m
NEAP (2)	1,200m ²	9	750m
NEAP (3)	1,400m ²	10	900m
SEAP	1,600m ²	11	+1,000m

Equipped children's play space should be created within a safe and easy walking distance, minimising the need to cross roads and other significant barriers.

Wherever practicable, there should be a distance between the play space and the curtilage of the nearest residential property of at least 30 metres.

Equipped children's play space should provide a sufficient variety of play facilities to offer enjoyment for all within the target age range. Encompassing, as appropriate: fixed equipment; innovative facilities that encourage experimental play and social exchange; and features for passive recreation.

Existing LEAP, NEAP, SEAPs will be protected and improved where necessary.

New on-site provision should be delivered as part of new housing developments where necessary.

7 . Equipped Areas for Play



In areas that are deficient in equipped play space for younger children, and where sites are unlikely to become available for new LEAPs, consideration will be given to the introduction of smaller play areas.

Justification

7.2 Play is fundamental to the development and wellbeing of children and young people. It is a means by which they explore their environment, their roles and relationships. It encourages healthy emotional and physical development, and has both educational and social benefits. Play may encourage social inclusion and offer opportunities for children and young people of different backgrounds and abilities to meet and interact, and be instrumental in lowering the occurrence of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

7.3 It is also important to people living near to play facilities to have their amenity protected from noise and disturbance. Objective 2 above aims to seek the correct balance between these potentially conflicting factors.

7.4 The standards above are based on the Fields in Trust (formally the National Playing Fields Association)⁽²⁶⁾ play area categories and their characteristics, but they have been adapted to meet local circumstances, as established in the Council's former Play Policy and Strategy⁽²⁷⁾. The LEAP and NEAP categories have been subdivided into three categories, resulting in a positive progression in the minimum size of equipped play area, the minimum number of play units and distance. This allows for consideration that sites will be of differing sizes and the assumption that people will travel greater distances to sites that have a greater number and variety of facilities. Finally, to take account of larger play areas, the SEAP category has been identified.



Play equipment, Rising Sun Country Park

7.5 The LAP type of play space does not necessarily provide valuable opportunities for play relative to a larger site and is often a major maintenance and budgetary problem. A LAP should only be considered for development if there is a genuine need based on local demand. The category has been included here though because there are several LAPs in the Borough that are currently providing a local resource for play.

7.6 The excellent opportunities for play offered by MUGAs, skateparks and water play facilities are recognised. However, to count these towards the overall equipped play coverage across the Borough would not represent an accurate picture, due to the specific nature of the kind of play they offer that may not be suitable for everyone.

26 Planning and Design for Outdoor Space and Play, Fields in Trust/National Playing Fields Association, 2008

27 Things to do and places to hang out - North Tyneside Council Play Policy and Strategy, North Tyneside Council, 2007



- 7.7** It is recognised that opportunities for children's play are not just found within equipped sites but in more informal places such as the open spaces near their homes. Their importance is recognised and their presence within the Borough is encouraged, but as informal play can occur in a countless number of spaces it is not possible to designate them. See Chapter 12 of this Strategy that considers the wider informal uses of green spaces and the expected provision standards.

Provision in North Tyneside

- 7.8** There are currently 52 sites within the Borough that meet the LAP, LEAP, NEAP and SEAP criteria. Of this, 21 are in the North West area, six are in the North East area, 13 are in the South East area and 12 are in the South West area.
- 7.9** In addition, there are three standalone MUGAs (one each in the North East, South East and South West), six skateparks (two each in the North West and South West, one each in the North East and South East), and water play facilities in the North East and South West.
- 7.10** Existing provision is set out in Appendix 3. At present there are no further proposed equipped areas for play for the Borough.
- 7.11** Using the standards set out in Objective 2, the coverage of equipped areas for play across the Borough were examined. The results are set out in Appendix 3 and are identified in Map 2.
- 7.12** The table in Appendix 3 showing existing coverage by Area Forum sets out that the North Shields and Whitley Bay Area Forums perform worst, with average coverage less than the Boroughwide average. This outcome disguises some more localised differences however. Indeed, some of the highest performing Wards are within the North Shields and Whitley Bay Area Forums, as set out in the Ward table and accompanying graph in Appendix 3.
- 7.13** Overall, the outcomes are mostly positive. 11 of the 20 Wards have 90% or over of households within catchment areas of equipped playsites. No Ward is “perfect” but Valley and Chirton Wards are very close with 99.9% and 99.6% respectively.
- 7.14** Some Wards do perform badly, notably Collingwood, St. Mary’s, Preston and Monkseaton South. The affected areas are noticeable on Map 2. This document cannot name sites or designate space for playsites, but it is clear that there are deficiencies in these areas that could be addressed through targeted provision there. New sites could be provided but catchment totals could be somewhat increased through the improvement of the existing facilities that currently surround those areas that suffer deficiencies.
- 7.15** Looking at Map 2, equipped playsites found over the Borough boundary are unlikely to make a difference to catchment coverage within North Tyneside. This can be mostly attributed to the presence of the Green Belt along the northern boundary that represents a large area with few households. This is with the exception of the Brunswick Green area in the north west of the Borough, which is cut off from nearby facilities within Wideopen by the A1. The *Newcastle Green Space, Sport and Recreation 2009 Assessment and 2013 Addendum* ⁽²⁸⁾ illustrated that in 2009, there

7 . Equipped Areas for Play



24 were two playsites very close to the boundary, with the southernmost's catchment taking in most of the Brunswick Green area⁽²⁹⁾. However the 2013 Addendum illustrates that the site is no longer there, leaving only the northernmost site⁽³⁰⁾ that only just protrudes over into North Tyneside and thus has little impact in providing access to residents in this area.

29 ibid. Page 75

30 ibid. Page 19



8 Parks

- 8.1** PPG17's companion guide defined the purpose of a park as providing "accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events"⁽³¹⁾. It goes on to suggest that parks could include landscaping (including water) with a mixture of colours, scents and sounds, and could contain seats, paths, shelters and toilets, with some areas designated for specific activities such as sport or children's play⁽³²⁾. It can include urban parks, country parks and formal gardens.

Objective 3: Parks

All households should be within 900 metres straight line walking distance of a park.

Justification

- 8.2** The parks within North Tyneside are set out in the Council's Parks Strategy⁽³³⁾. The Strategy discusses how parks are an essential element of the Borough's cultural offer and contribute significantly to improving the quality of life of residents. Parks in North Tyneside provide space for free play, sports, activities and events, and also spaces for quiet relaxation and the preservation, celebration and enjoyment of our cultural heritage and nature.

- 8.3** The Parks Strategy does not set accessibility standards for parks but does recognise that having close-to-home access to parks is an important factor influencing whether people will become active and stay that way, and the importance of no-one missing out on the opportunity to use and enjoy parks simply because of where they live or how much money they have.

- 8.4** Previous North Tyneside Green Space Strategies defined two different kinds of park, each with its own provision standard. These were Borough Parks and Neighbourhood Parks, the former generally being larger and possibly offering more facilities than the latter. The respective provision standards were:



Benton Quarry Park

- All households should be within 2,200 metres straight line walking distance of a Borough Park.
- All households should be within 900 metres straight line walking distance of a Neighbourhood Park.

31 Assessing Needs and Opportunities, DCLG, 2001, page 11

32 ibid. page 22

33 Healthy Parks, Healthy People, Healthy Communities: A Parks Strategy for North Tyneside 2011-2021, North Tyneside Council, 2011



8.5 It is now considered to combine the two kinds of park and consider them under one grouping. This is being pursued for the following reasons:

- It represents a simpler way in which to analyse provision.
- It represents a more accurate picture of access to park facilities.
- Differences between Borough and Neighbourhood parks can be negligible.
- PPG17 typology and the neighbouring authorities of Northumberland and Newcastle consider all parks within one grouping.

8.6 The provision standard for all parks has been set at a catchment of 900 metres. This mirrors the previous Green Space Strategy's standard for Neighbourhood Parks so applying it now to all parks represents a more demanding standard. It is a standard consistent with those set out for park provision for Newcastle (800 metres) and Northumberland (1,000 metres).

Provision in North Tyneside

8.7 As identified in the North Tyneside Parks Strategy⁽³⁴⁾, there are currently 26 parks within the Borough. Of this, seven are in the North West area, eight are in the North East area, eight are in the South East area and five are in the South West area. Please note, Rising Sun Country Park and Silverlink Biodiversity Park are each counted twice due to straddling area forum boundaries.

8.8 Existing provision is set out in Appendix 4. At present there are no further proposed parks for the Borough.

8.9 Using the standards set out in Objective 3, the coverage of parks across the Borough were examined. The results are set out in Appendix 4 and are identified in Map 3.

8.10 The table in Appendix 4 showing existing coverage by Area Forum sets out that the North West and Whitley Bay Area Forums perform worst, with average coverage less than the Boroughwide average. This outcome disguises some more localised differences however. Indeed, some of the highest performing Wards are within those Area Forums, as set out in the Ward table and accompanying graph in Appendix 4.

8.11 Overall, the outcomes are mostly positive. 13 of the 20 Wards are over the Boroughwide average of 78.7% of households within the acceptable catchment, 10 of which are over 90%. Whitley Bay and Tynemouth wards both have 100% of their households within the acceptable catchment.

8.12 Some Wards do perform badly, notably Collingwood, Howdon, Camperdown, Valley and Longbenton who all have totals of under 50%. Longbenton in particular performs very poorly with only 31%.

8.13 Due to provision in neighbouring authorities, some areas of this Borough may not be as deficient in coverage as appears, however. As illustrated in the *Newcastle Green Space, Sport and Recreation 2009 Assessment and 2013 Addendum*⁽³⁵⁾ the catchment area of Big Waters Country Park takes in many properties in the Weetslade Ward that are not covered by North Tyneside facilities. A small part of the particularly deficient Longbenton Ward falls within the outer catchment of Jesmond

34 Healthy Parks, Healthy People, Healthy Communities: A Parks Strategy for North Tyneside 2011-2021, North Tyneside Council, 2011

35 <http://oncorestrategyng.limehouse.co.uk/file/2631399>, page 20



Dene; whilst making a small difference this still leaves much of the Ward lacking in park provision. Northumberland County Council's *PPG17 openspace, sport and recreation assessment* ⁽³⁶⁾ sets out that some of their park provision's catchment would fall within the north eastern boundary of this Borough, but as a mostly non-developed area, few households would be affected.

9 . Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces



9 Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces

- 9.1 PPG17's companion guide defined natural and semi-natural green spaces as those that offered wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness⁽³⁷⁾. These kind of areas can include urban woodlands. Natural England define natural spaces as “places where human control and activities are not intensive so that a feeling of naturalness is allowed to predominate”⁽³⁸⁾. When using this definition, actually deciding at which point a feeling of naturalness predominates may be difficult to determine, although for advice, Natural England suggest that those areas designated for their biodiversity quality, woodlands, country parks and open land could fall within the definition⁽³⁹⁾.

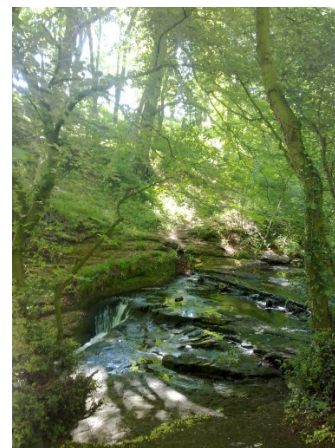
Objective 4: Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces

All households should be within:

- 300m of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size
- 2km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size
- 5km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size
- 10km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 500ha in size

Justification

- 9.2 The presence of natural and semi-natural green spaces protect and enhance biodiversity and therefore they contribute to achieving the objectives set out in the BAP⁽⁴⁰⁾. The aim of the BAP is to ensure that we manage the natural environment more effectively to protect natural resources and to leave a legacy that will benefit present and future generations.
- 9.3 As well as the biodiversity benefits these areas have to offer, those that are accessible are valuable to tourism and the local economy.
- 9.4 Chapter 11 of the NPPF⁽⁴¹⁾ sets out the Government guidance, which requires planning policies and decisions to minimise impact on and provide net gains in biodiversity⁽⁴²⁾



Holywell Dene

37 Assessing Needs and Opportunities, DCLG, 2001, page 11

38 Nature Nearby - Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance, Natural England, page 48
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/95015>

39 ibid.

40 Biodiversity Action Plan, Newcastle City Council and North Tyneside Council, 2011

41 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012, Chapter 11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

42 ibid., para. 109



- 9.5** The provision standards set out in Objective 4 mirror the Natural England Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt)⁽⁴³⁾. ANGSt is advocated in the PPG17 companion guide⁽⁴⁴⁾. It does, however, acknowledge the standards can be difficult and sometimes impossible to achieve.

Provision in North Tyneside

Households within 300m of natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size

- 9.6** Using the standards set out in Objective 4, the coverage of natural and semi-natural green space of at least 2ha was examined. The results are set out in Appendix 5 and are identified in Map 4. The Boroughwide average is that 35.8% households are within the acceptable catchment.
- 9.7** The table in Appendix 5 showing existing coverage by Area Forum sets out that three of the four Area Forums perform better than the Boroughwide average, with the fourth, North Shields, pulling that average down with its very low figure of 20.8%.
- 9.8** Map 4 illustrates that large parts of the Longbenton, Monkseaton, and Howdon areas, and most of the wider North Shields area suffer from deficiencies in smaller natural and semi-natural green spaces. This is mirrored in the Ward table and graph in Appendix 5, with Wards in those areas achieving low totals.
- 9.9** Other areas of the Borough do perform much better, notably immediately along the coast, the Camperdown/Killingworth area and the Wallsend area, which although a reasonably densely-built area, benefits from the Rising Sun Country Park and the green spaces surrounding Wallsend Burn that runs through the town. However, no area performs very well, the highest percentage achieved being only 74.6% in St. Mary's Ward.

Households within 2km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size

- 9.10** Using the standards set out in Objective 4, the coverage of natural and semi-natural green space of at least 20ha was examined. The results are set out in Appendix 6 and are identified in Map 5. The Boroughwide average is that 74.5% households are within the acceptable catchment.
- 9.11** The table in Appendix 6 showing existing coverage by Area Forum sets out that Wallsend and Whitley Bay Area Forums perform very well; the former reaching almost 100% coverage. The North West sees around average results whilst North Shields performs poorly with 48.2% of homes within the suitable catchment. This is due to the only natural or semi-natural green space in this area being along the coastal strip.
- 9.12** 11 out of 20 Wards have catchments of over 90%, 7 of which have 100%. However, those that perform poorly can perform very poorly indeed. Map 5 illustrates that large parts of the Longbenton area and most of the wider North Shields area suffer from deficiencies in access to this size of natural and semi-natural green spaces. This is mirrored in the Ward table and graph in Appendix 6, with Wards in those areas achieving low totals. Chirton's total of 6.4 % is particularly low.

43 'Nature Nearby' Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance, Natural England, 2010

44 Assessing Needs and Opportunities, DCLG, 2001, page 62

9 . Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces



Households within 5km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size

- 30
- North Tyneside Council | Green Space Strategy 2015
- 9.13** Using the standards set out in Objective 4, the coverage of natural and semi-natural green space of at least 100ha was examined. The results are set out in Appendix 7 and are identified in Map 6. The Boroughwide average is that 75.8% households are within the acceptable catchment.
- 9.14** The only space in the Borough within this size bracket is the Rising Sun Country Park. Its catchment covers a great deal of the Borough. Its location, slightly to the west of the Borough, means however the the coastal area falls out of the catchment, as does a lot of the reasonably isolated north west area. This is illustrated in Map 6.
- 9.15** The table in Appendix 7 sets out that 14 of 20 wards have 100% coverage. Most of the others have low totals, bringing the Borough average down.
- 9.16** As discussed above, it is officially acknowledged that the targets of Objective 4 are difficult and sometimes impossible to achieve. It seems unlikely that those areas currently lacking in provision of spaces of at least 100ha will see that provision filled. There is simply no public land available to fulfil that role. This is also the case for spaces of at least 500ha, for which the standards expect a catchment distance of 10km. The Town Moor in Newcastle just about falls within that distance (for parts of North Tyneside) but is less than 500ha in size. It would appear very unlikely that a new 500ha public semi-natural or natural open space could be created nearer to or in North Tyneside.

Adjoining authorities

- 9.17** Due to provision in neighbouring authorities, some areas of this Borough may not be as deficient in coverage as appears (although it must be remembered however that Newcastle and Northumberland have used different provision standards to those set out in Objective 4). As illustrated in the *Newcastle Green Space, Sport and Recreation 2009 Assessment and 2013 Addendum* ⁽⁴⁵⁾ the catchment area of Big Waters Country Park takes in many properties in the Weetslade Ward that are not covered by North Tyneside facilities. A small part of the particularly deficient Longbenton Ward falls within the outer catchment of Jesmond Dene. Northumberland County Council's *PPG17 openspace, sport and recreation assessment* ⁽⁴⁶⁾ sets out that some of their semi-natural and natural space's catchments would fall within the north eastern boundary of this Borough, but as a mostly non-developed area, few households would be affected.

45 <http://oncorestrategynl.limehouse.co.uk/file/2631399>, page 20

46 <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=3458#collapse17>, page 281



10 Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Playing Pitches

10.1 The playing pitches that are covered within this section are football, cricket, rugby union, rugby league and hockey.

Objective 5: Playing Pitches

The standards for quality, quantity and management set out in the North Tyneside Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-23⁽⁴⁷⁾ should be followed.

Justification

- 10.2** Regular participation in sports can increase people's physical fitness, health, well-being and self-esteem. North Tyneside Council also believe in the wider benefits sport can play such as aiding community development, relieving social deprivation and poverty, and contributing to regeneration and economic development⁽⁴⁸⁾.
- 10.3** The provision of outdoor sports facilities is demand- and participation-led; it is therefore not simple to calculate a provision standard. The North Tyneside Playing Pitch Strategy involved extensive research into the quality, adequacy, supply and demand of pitches in the Borough and it is therefore deemed appropriate to look towards it for appropriate standards.

Provision in North Tyneside

10.4 A summary of the findings of the Playing Pitch Strategy are as follows. Readers are directed the document itself⁽⁴⁹⁾ for a complete overview.

Football

- There are a total of 272 teams playing on pitches in North Tyneside.
- 36 sites are available for community use, providing a total of 109 pitches.
- Distribution of provision generally reflects the patterns of population density throughout the Borough.
- Team generation rates (TGRs) highlight that participation rates in North Tyneside are higher than national averages. Future TGRs suggests an increase in senior men's football (15 teams) and mini-soccer (7.3 teams).

47 North Tyneside Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-23, North Tyneside Council, 2013
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=553126

48 Sport North Tyneside Strategy 2011–2014, North Tyneside Council, 2011, section 2.1

49 North Tyneside Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-23, North Tyneside Council, 2013
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=553126

10 . Outdoor Recreation Facilities



- A third (33%) of clubs report that if more pitches were available at their home ground they would have more teams. Similarly over a quarter (27%) of clubs believe better ancillary facilities at their home ground would mean they would have more teams.
- Site assessments suggest that generally the quality of pitches across North Tyneside is 'mixed'. Consultation in general supports this.
- Consideration should be given to changing the designation of some senior pitches to cater for junior and mini football.
- In general, there is a need to improve the quality of existing playing pitch stock, ancillary facilities and the provision of more all weather facilities.

Cricket

- There are nine cricket pitches available for community use in North Tyneside, accommodating 41 teams (including seniors and juniors).
- TGRs shows that there is likely to be an additional three senior men's teams and one junior team for cricket in 2023.
- Site assessments generally score the quality of pitches as good.
- There is a need for access to at least one better quality cricket pitch in North Tyneside given the demand expressed by clubs.

Rugby

- There are nine rugby union grass pitches and one rugby league grass pitch available for community use in North Tyneside. Rugby union pitches are predominately located in North Shields.
- There are 13 senior rugby union teams playing across North Tyneside.
- The majority of training for senior teams as well as a large number of junior teams occurs on competitive grass rugby pitches in North Tyneside (due to a lack of designated training facilities), which further adds pressure on pitches.
- TGRs suggest there will be an additional 1.4 junior boys and 1.1 senior men's rugby union teams up to 2023.
- Quality of provision is in general deemed to be of a sufficient level.
- Due to the large number of teams training on match pitches in North Tyneside, most pitches are overplayed. More pitches and ancillary facilities are needed to meet both current and future demand.

Hockey

- There are six full size artificial grass pitches (AGPs) in North Tyneside. Four are suitable and available for competitive hockey; all are rated as good quality with floodlights.
- Marden Bridge Sports Centre is not used by a hockey club. The resurfacing of the all-weather pitch at Marden Bridge Sports Centre is a priority.
- There are two hockey clubs in North Tyneside fielding a total of 11 senior teams. Both have junior membership.



- All AGPs are available for community use. There is significant football use (for training) of all AGPs in North Tyneside that further adds to the wear and tear of carpets/surfaces.
- Consultation does not identify the need for more provision but it does identify the need to retain the current level of hockey surfaces (at a good level of quality).

Other Outdoor Facilities

10.5 Other outdoor facilities can cover a wide range facilities, including:

- Bowling greens
- Golf courses
- Tennis courts
- Athletics tracks
- Basketball courts
- Youth shelters
- All-weather pitches
- Skateboarding/wheeled activity facility
- Multi use games areas (MUGAs)
- Water parks

10.6 This range of facilities illustrates the varied needs of communities but is by no means an exhaustive list.

10.7 It is likely that these facilities will be located within existing green spaces such as parks.

Objective 6: Other Outdoor Facilities

A range of outdoor facilities should be available within an appropriate travelling distance for all.

Justification

10.8 The importance of sport and physical activity is outlined above in paragraph 10.2. It is imperative that a range of facilities is available to meet the needs of all groups in the community so everyone can participate in such activity.

10.9 Provision standards have not been set as part of this objective for the following reasons:

10 . Outdoor Recreation Facilities



- There are no national standards that can be used as a template for developing local standards,
- The range of facilities available will almost certainly never be a complete or static list,
- This Strategy would be unwieldy and over-complex if provision standards were set for many types of facility.



11 General Standard

- 11.1 This objective takes into account the requirement for accessible green spaces for informal recreation and relaxation: activities such as jogging, sunbathing, dog walking, and children's play. These activities can take place in areas that already serve a "main" purpose, such as those already discussed in this Strategy. They could take place in amenity green space: spaces that perhaps do not have a main defined role. All these can provide accessible green space for informal use and for the purposes of this Strategy, such spaces will be referred to as "informal green space".

Objective 7: General Standard

All properties should be within 300 metres of at least 0.1 ha of accessible, free and usable green space.

It is likely that informal green spaces will also fall into another typology discussed in this Strategy. All spaces should first and foremost be assessed under the provisions of their individual typology.

Justification

- 11.2 There are no national accessibility standards for informal green space. 300 metres straight line walk equates to around five minute's journey time and this is felt appropriate for access to informal green space. This standard was acknowledged as acceptable as part of the 2008 Strategy⁽⁵⁰⁾ and therefore it is felt that it is acceptable to continue with it now.
- 11.3 The need for informal green space is not confined to residential areas; the Borough's town centres and employment areas require provision so visitors and workers have spaces to relax and enjoy recreation in. For this reason the standard is based on all properties in the Borough, not just households.
- 11.4 Cemeteries are not included within this standard. Whilst their green space benefits are recognised, the extent to which one can fully use them for recreation is limited.

Provision in North Tyneside

- 11.5 Using the standards set out in Objective 7, the present provision of informal green space is identified in Map 7 and set out in Appendix 8.
- 11.6 The table in Appendix 8 showing existing coverage by Area Forum sets out that the Borough generally performs well. The Whitley Bay Area Forum performs worst and looking at Map 7 it is visible that this lower outcome is borne from lack of green space at Monkseaton Village and Whitley Bay town centre. Unfortunately it is challenging to create green spaces in such established built-up areas. It is however reassuring to note that good quality spaces lie just outside the catchments of these areas such as at Churchill Playing Fields and Whitley Park. It is important that for areas where green space can't be provided, those spaces lying outside of the catchment should be of high quality spaces to justify that longer journey.

11 . General Standard



- 36
- North Tyneside Council | Green Space Strategy 2015
- 11.7** At Ward level, as set out in the table and graph in Appendix 8, Wards within the Whitley Bay Area Forum where the deficiencies described above are (Monkseaton north, Monkseaton South and Whitley Bay) do not perform well. The Ward with the lowest outcome is Wallsend, with 90.2% of properties within the 300m catchment of an accessible green space. This total is caused by a deficiency around the western boundary of the Borough with Newcastle. Some of this deficiency will be covered by the nearby Swans Recreation Ground on Eastfield Avenue in Walkergate.
- 11.8** Overall though, the outcomes are positive. 13 of the 20 Wards are over the Boroughwide average of 97.9% of properties within the acceptable catchment, which in itself is high. Riverside, Battle Hill and Howdon Wards all have 100% of their properties within the acceptable catchment, with several others just behind.



12 Allotments

- 12.1** An allotment is generally defined as a plot of land rented to individuals so that they can grow fruit and vegetables for themselves and their families to eat.

Objective 8: Allotments

North Tyneside's allotments will be provided, maintained and managed in line with the North Tyneside Allotment Strategy 2009-15⁽⁵¹⁾ and its associated Good Allotment Standard⁽⁵²⁾.

Justification

- 12.2** Allotments are of great value to communities and areas. They advocate exercise, good mental health, healthy eating, learning, community cohesion and biodiversity.

- 12.3** The North Tyneside Allotment Strategy 2009-2015 sets out the Council's commitment and vision for allotments. The Strategy identifies:

- What the Council wants to achieve through the allotment service for current and future plot holders and other North Tyneside residents,
- How the Council will work with plot holders, site associations, members of the local community and other voluntary and statutory organisations to make its vision a reality,
- The resource implications of the Strategy and how the Council plans to attract those resources⁽⁵³⁾

- 12.4** The number of allotments required in any area is a function of demand and therefore it will be appropriate to use a demand-led methodology, based on local authority records, to ascertain provision standards. The Allotment Strategy acknowledges this and sets out the supply and demand with the Borough.



Allotments

- 12.5** Quality and value assessments of the Borough's allotments have not been carried out as part of the Green Space Strategy. The Allotment Team has developed their own Good Allotment Standard⁽⁵⁴⁾ that they use to undertake their own assessments. The Standard considers if allotments have good access, good security, well-maintained paths, adequate water provision and are free from neglected plots.

51 Allotment Strategy 2009-2015, North Tyneside Council, 2009
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=509804

52 http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=526399

53 *ibid.*, para.2.4

54 http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=526399



13 Design of Green Spaces

Objective 9: Design of Green Spaces

Green spaces should be designed to:

- Be accessible to all;
- Ensure their facilities that are accessible to all;
- Maximise safety and minimise the potential for anti-social behaviour through maximising casual surveillance, preventing any sense of isolation or insecurity and using appropriate lighting;
- Minimise any detrimental impact on the amenity of nearby residents;
- Deliver biodiversity benefit through integrated habitat areas within the space and its borders to support and allow movement of wildlife;
- Promote, where appropriate, the use of sustainable transport corridors such as wagonways, cycleways and bridle paths;
- Protect and, where appropriate, enhance any green space that is of heritage value in its own right, or that is important to the setting of any heritage asset;
- Implement, where appropriate, flood storage or sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) to negate flood risk issues.

Justification

- 13.1** Good design is advocated in Chapter 7 of NPPF⁽⁵⁵⁾ and in the North Tyneside Design Quality SPD⁽⁵⁶⁾. It can create safe, accessible and enjoyable spaces and offer a range of positive social, environmental and economic impacts.
- 13.2** The above objective has been prepared so that North Tyneside's green spaces, whether newly created or improved, can be as functional and attractive as possible.

55 National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012, Chapter 7 Requiring good design

56 Design Quality Supplementary Planning Document, North Tyneside Council, 2010

http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/pls/portal/NTC_PSCM.PSCM_Web.download?p_ID=518208



I4 Green Space Provision Associated With New Housing

Objective I0: Green Space Provision Associated With New Housing Provision

Within new residential developments, green space will be provided to meet the standards of this Strategy and secured by planning obligations (delivered through Section 106 Agreements⁽⁵⁷⁾) as set out in the Planning Obligations SPD⁽⁵⁸⁾.

Justification

- 14.1** New residential development can place increased pressure on green space and recreation provision within the Borough. It is the Council's responsibility to enable and co-ordinate the provision of these facilities to ensure they are in the correct location and of appropriate quality. Planning obligations play an essential role in ensuring that facilities are available and of a standard to cope with additional demand placed upon them by new development.

57 Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004)

58 Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document, North Tyneside Council, 2009
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse-display.shtml?p_ID=224202&p_subjectCategory=811



I5 Management and Maintenance

Objective I I: Management and Maintenance

No scheme that creates new green space or improves existing should proceed until the funding to secure its maintenance and management has been identified.

Where funding will be secured by planning obligations, the guidelines set out in the Planning Obligations SPD⁽⁵⁹⁾ will be followed.

Justification

- 15.1** It is aimed that all green spaces be of the highest quality and value to ensure they offer the best to their users. This can only be achieved through correct management and maintenance. The resources involved in the provision of new and improved green spaces would go to waste if they were not appropriately managed and maintained.
- 15.2** A management and maintenance plan can provide the clarity and reassurance for the local community about how the green space will remain safe and usable.

59 Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document, North Tyneside Council, 2009
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse-display.shtml?p_ID=224202&p_subjectCategory=811



16 Loss of Green Space

Objective 12: Loss of Green Space

Any proposal that would result in the loss of green space will be determined in accordance with paragraph 74 of the NPPF⁽⁶⁰⁾.

Justification

- 16.1** This objective aims to protect green spaces by not permitting their loss where they are needed.
- 16.2** The objective recognises that some green spaces can be surplus to requirements but their loss can offer an opportunity to remedy deficiencies in provision of or poor quality or value in another green space, including through securing contributions through Section 106 Agreements.

17 . Implementation



17 Implementation

Planning Decisions

- 17.1** It is primarily through the planning process that the Green Space Strategy will be implemented. The Strategy will be an important material consideration when determining planning applications and will inform decisions regarding the protection of existing sites, their improvement, and the provision of new and replacement facilities.

New Development

- 17.2** New development will form a major implementation mechanism for the Green Space Strategy as this will be where appropriate contributions will be made for the provision of new or improvement of existing green spaces.

Regeneration Activity

- 17.3** Major regeneration initiatives will provide opportunities for wide-ranging enhancement and development of green spaces within the Borough. Due to the possible large scale of expenditure available there is a huge potential for existing green spaces to be enhanced on a scale that would otherwise not be possible, and there would also be potential to create new green spaces in an area to meet deficiencies. Therefore it is essential that the Green Space Strategy and its associated objectives and standards be taken into consideration when developing regeneration schemes.

Grant Funding

- 17.4** Grant funding is an essential mechanism in order to enhance the green spaces within the Borough. The deficiencies in some areas and low quality and value spaces that are identified in this Strategy can form a sound justification in bidding to acquire grant funding. The Strategy also provides a framework for spending grant funding to ensure that it is invested in a manner that aids those areas that most need improvements.

Partnership Working

- 17.5** An aim of the Green Space Strategy is to promote and support partnership working. It is hoped that these partners will have regard to this Strategy, and will align their own plans and strategies with it where feasible. This should ensure greater clarity, confidence and better outcomes in developing green spaces.

Timescale

- 17.6** This document sets out a long-term strategy for the green space of North Tyneside. This document has a key reliance on new development to assist in the funding and delivering of new and improved provision. The feasibility and deliverability of new development is dependent on many factors and therefore it is likely it will take many years for the proposed standards to be reached.



18 Monitoring and Review

- 18.1** The Green Space Strategy in itself monitors current performance in meeting quality, value and provision standards and therefore frequent revisions are crucial in ensuring its objectives are monitored and reviewed.
- 18.2** The Strategy should be reviewed every two years, including a full assessment of all green spaces. Such a frequent review will take into account new Council strategies, planning policy and guidance. It will also take into account new developments in the Borough that may affect the amount, quality and value of green spaces.
- 18.3** The information within Green Space Strategy will be reported annually in the Annual Monitoring Report⁽⁶¹⁾.

61 North Tyneside Annual Monitoring Reports webpage:
http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/browse-display.shtml?p_ID=17580&p_subjectCategory=182

19 . Appendix I: All Green Spaces



19 Appendix I: All Green Spaces

Number and Area of Green Spaces by Area Forum

Area	Number	Area by Hectare
North West	274	505.79
North Shields	257	434.73
Whitley Bay	194	484.81
Wallsend	208	454.43
Borough Total	933	1879.76

Number and Area of Green Spaces by Ward

Ward	Number	Area by Hectare
Benton	35	65.80
Camperdown	59	82.17
Longbenton	53	67.09
Killingworth	48	165.00
Weetslade	79	125.74
Monkseaton North	20	55.65
Monkseaton South	34	41.64
St Mary's	42	184.79
Valley	67	155.55
Whitley Bay	31	47.19
Battle Hill	52	104.15
Howdon	44	79.34
Northumberland	42	149.14
Wallsend	49	87.62
Chirton	26	46.26



Ward	Number	Area by Hectare
Collingwood	67	72.63
Cullercoats	34	46.86
Preston	25	45.36
Tynemouth	60	154.83
Riverside	66	102.98
Borough Total	933	1879.76



20 Appendix 2: Quality and Value of Sites

Amount of Low Quality and Low Value Spaces by Area Forum

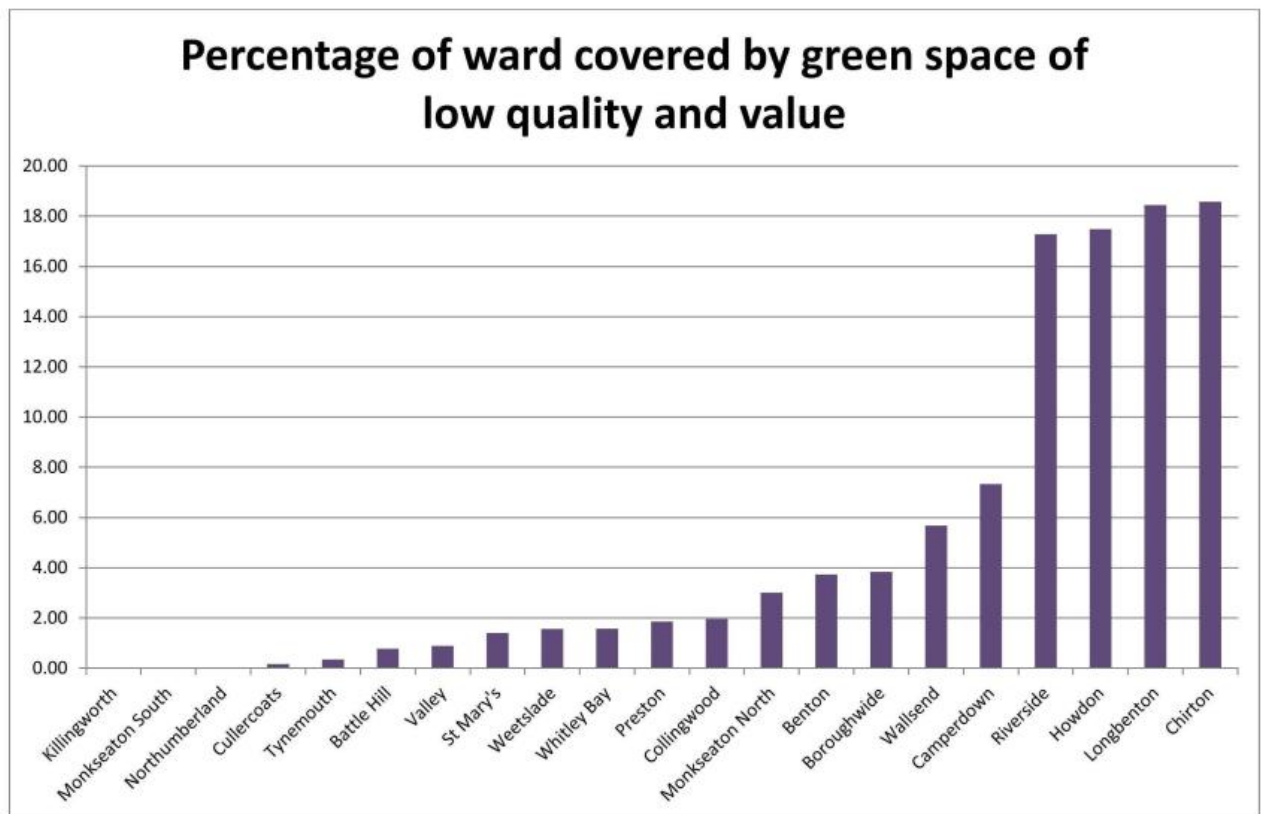
Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
North Shields	15	21.62	4.97
North West	21	22.8	4.51
Wallsend	10	27.25	6
Whitley Bay	11	6.36	1.31
Boroughwide	57	78.03	4.15

Amount of Low Quality and Low Value Spaces by Ward

Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
Benton	5	2.45	3.72
Camperdown	7	6.02	7.33
Longbenton	4	12.37	18.44
Killingworth	0	0	0
Weetslade	5	1.96	1.56
Monkseaton North	2	1.67	3
Monkseaton South	0	0	0
St. Mary's	2	2.58	1.4
Valley	5	1.37	0.88
Whitley Bay	2	0.74	1.57
Battle Hill	1	0.8	0.77
Howdon	3	13.87	17.48
Northumberland	0	0	0
Wallsend	3	4.97	5.67
Riverside	8	17.79	17.28



Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
Chirton	3	8.59	18.57
Collingwood	4	1.42	1.95
Cullercoats	1	0.07	0.16
Preston	1	0.84	1.85
Tynemouth	1	0.52	0.34
Boroughwide	57	78.03	4.15



Amount of High/Medium Quality and High/Medium Value Spaces by Area Forum

Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
North Shields	234	404.01	92.93
North West	213	446.19	88.2
Wallsend	165	396.77	87.31

20 . Appendix 2: Quality and Value of Sites



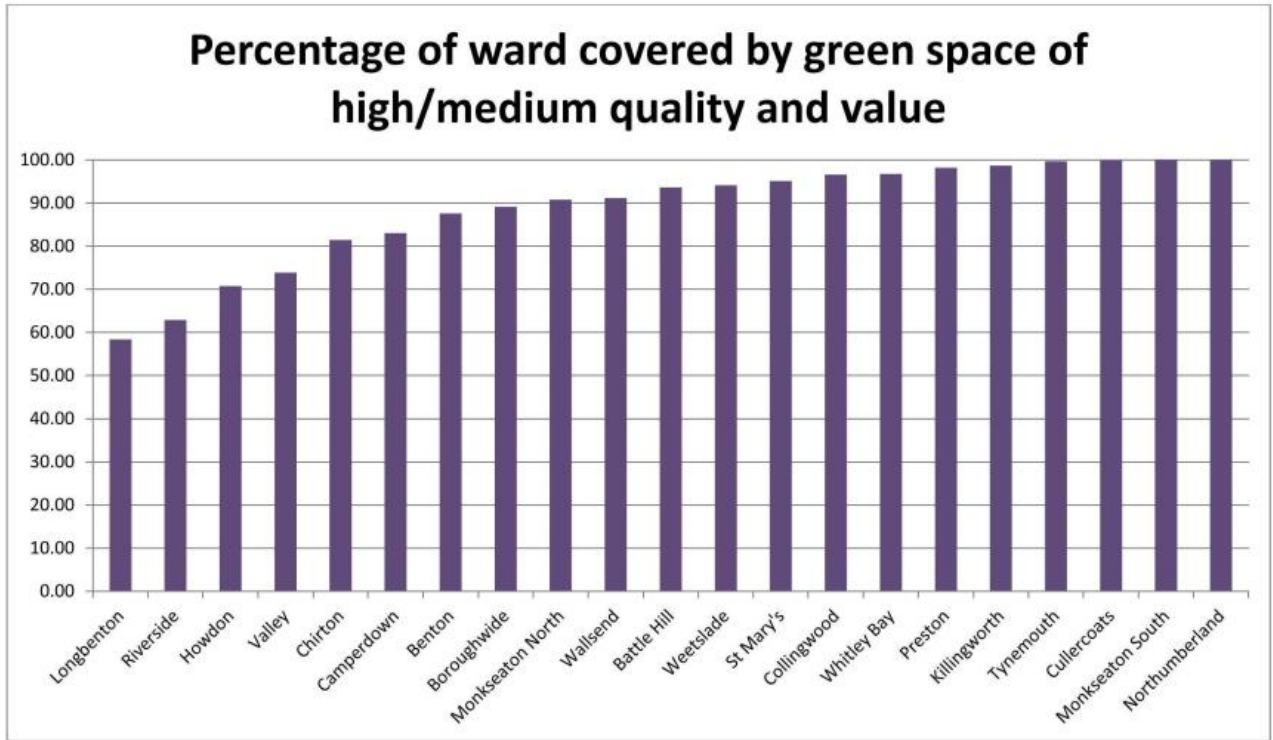
Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
Whitley Bay	158	428.4	88.36
Boroughwide	770	1675.37	89.13

Amount of High/Medium Quality and High/Medium Value Spaces by Ward

Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
Benton	26	57.62	87.57
Camperdown	40	68.23	83.03
Longbenton	34	39.17	58.39
Killingworth	46	162.8	98.67
Weetslade	67	118.37	94.14
Monkseaton North	14	50.5	90.75
Monkseaton South	34	41.64	99.99
St. Mary's	36	175.72	95.09
Valley	49	114.88	73.85
Whitley Bay	25	45.66	96.76
Battle Hill	38	97.48	93.6
Howdon	31	56.1	70.7
Northumberland	42	149.14	100
Wallsend	165	396.77	87.31
Riverside	48	64.76	62.89
Chirton	23	37.67	81.43
Collingwood	60	70.14	96.57
Cullercoats	33	46.79	99.86
Preston	24	44.52	98.15
Tynemouth	59	154.31	99.67



Area	Number of Spaces	Area in Hectares	Percentage of area
Boroughwide	770	1675.37	89.13



21 . Map I: Quality and Value of Sites

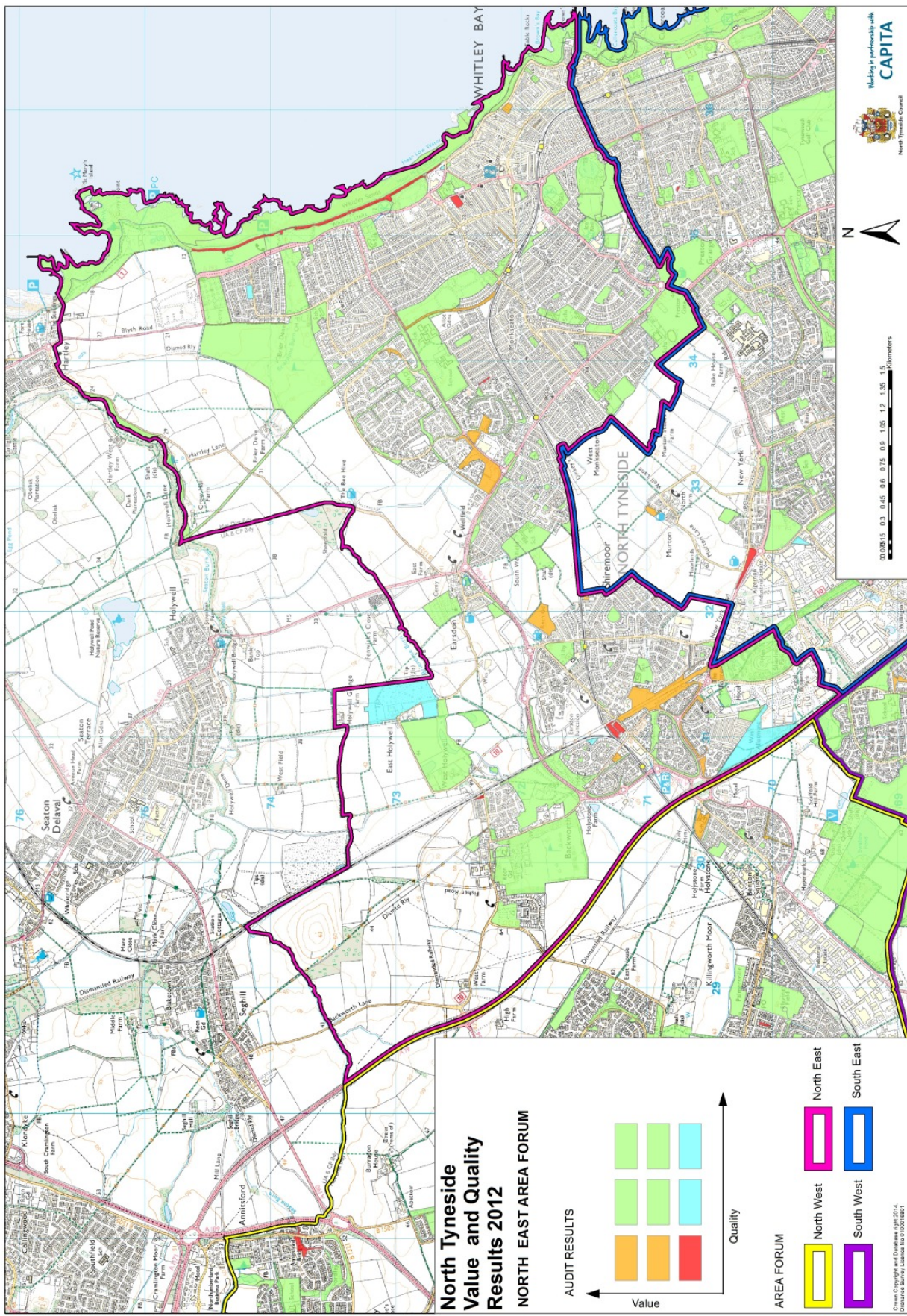


21 Map I: Quality and Value of Sites

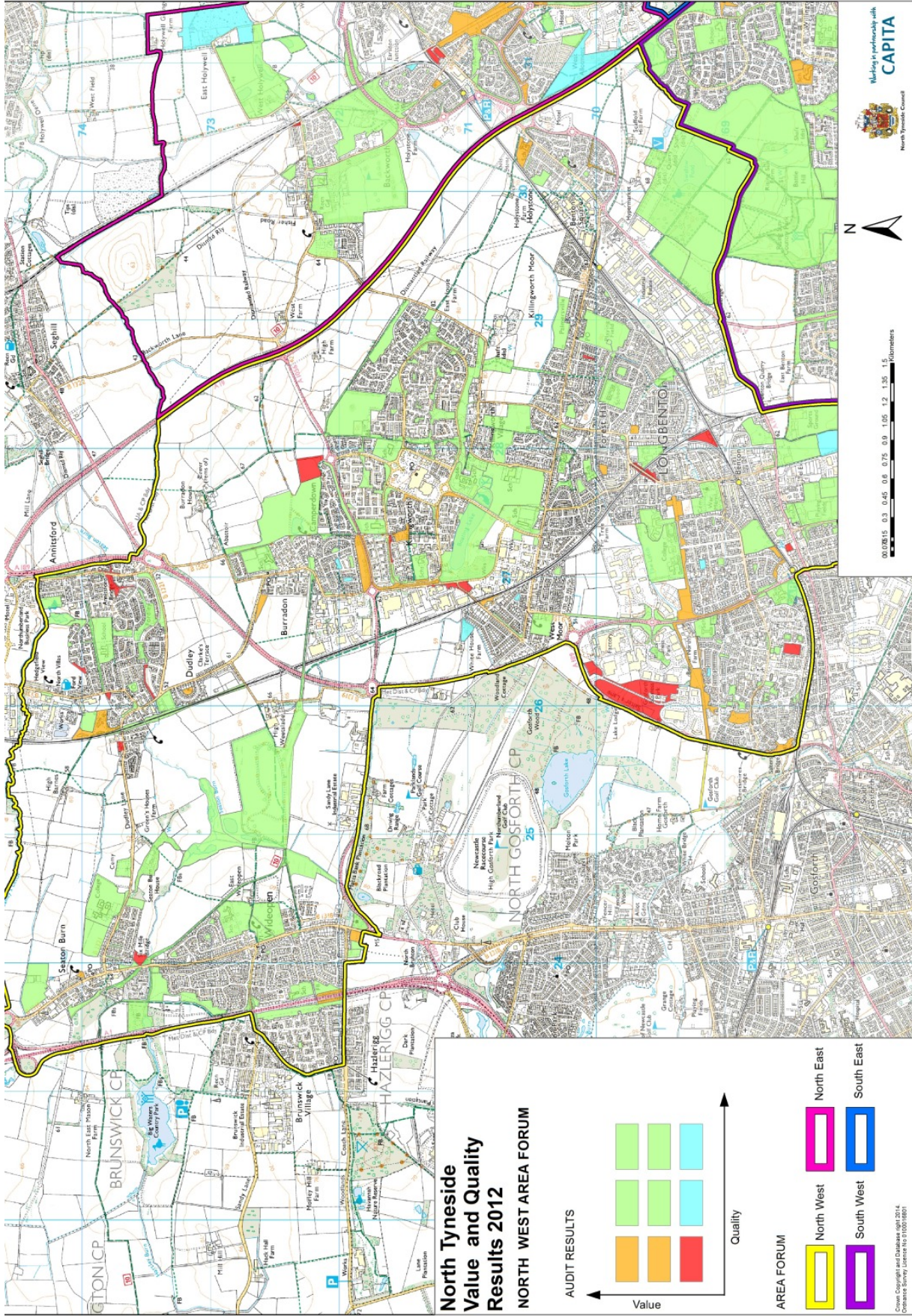
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21. Map 1: Quality and Value of Sites

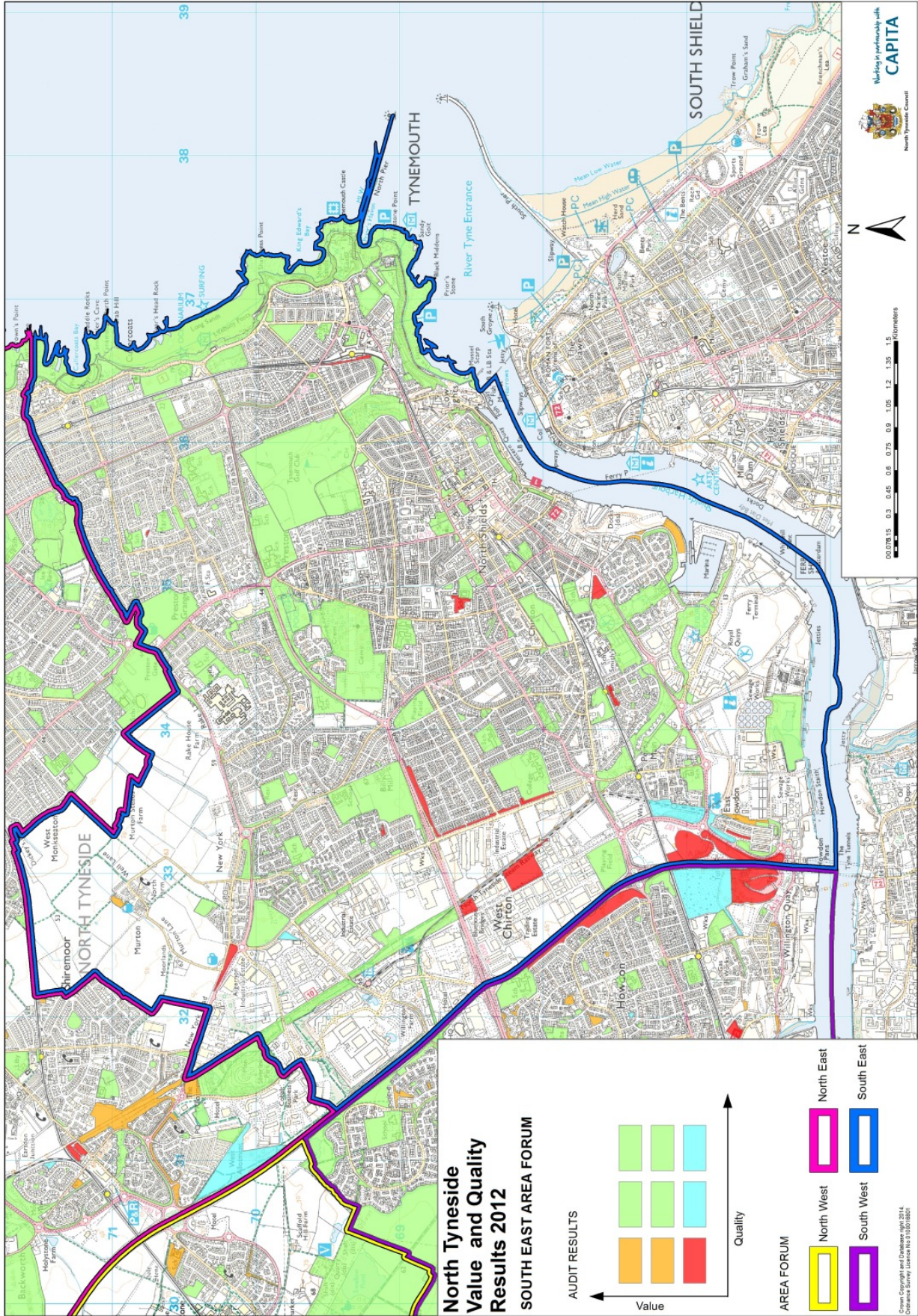


21 . Map I: Quality and Value of Sites

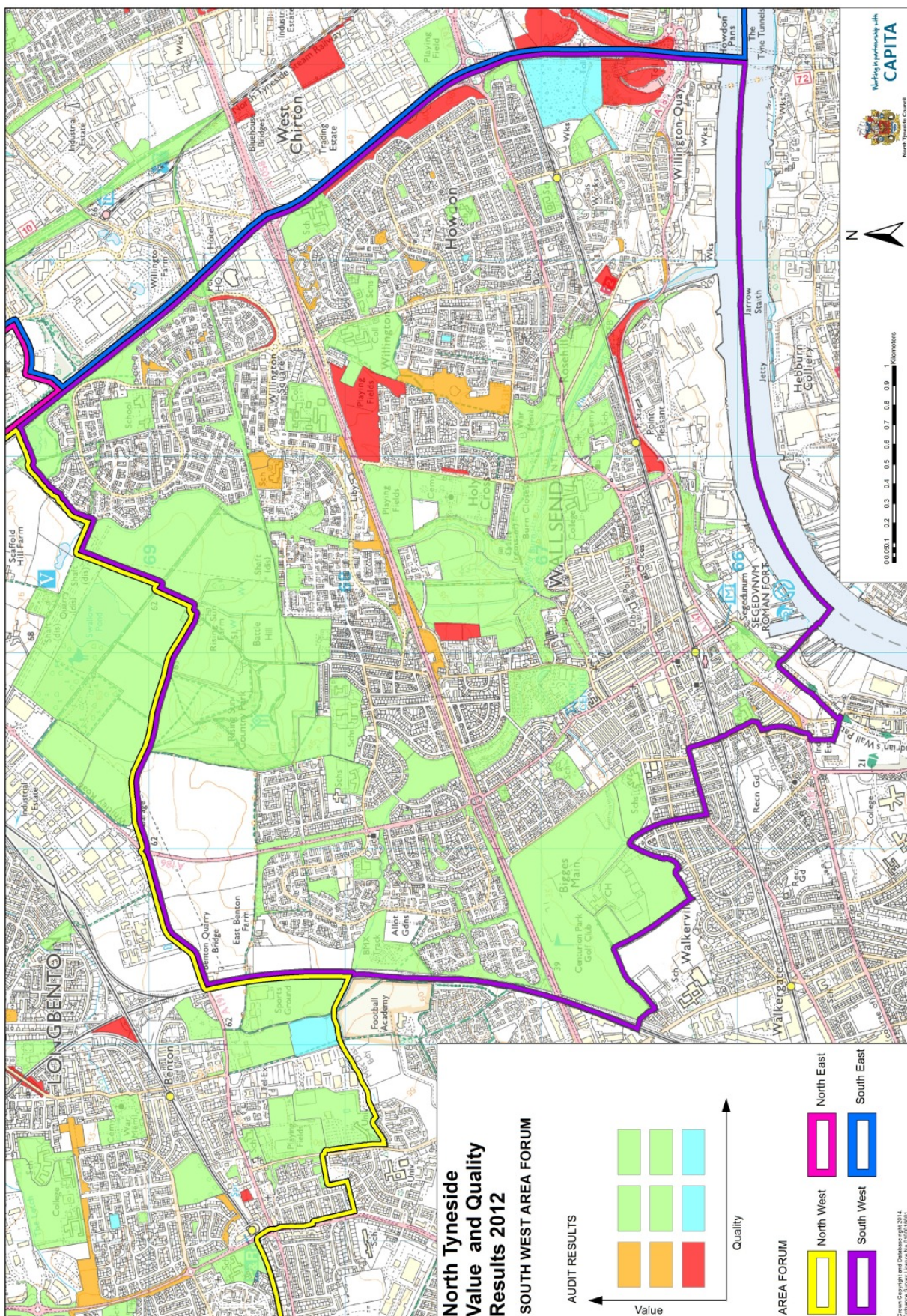


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21. Map 1: Quality and Value of Sites



21 . Map I: Quality and Value of Sites





22 Appendix 3: Equipped Areas for Play

Existing Provision

North West Area

Location	Ward	Play space type
Merlin Place, Longbenton, NE12 8YQ	Longbenton	LAP
Murrayfield, West Allotment, NE27 0RD	Valley	LAP
Shiremoor Trim Track, Stanton Drive, NE27 0PW	Valley	LEAP (1)
Stonelea, Holystone Grange, Holystone, NE27 0UX	Killingworth	LEAP (2)
Killingworth Park, East Bailey Road, NE12 0HJ	Killingworth	NEAP (1)
Castle Square, Backworth, NE27 0AZ	Valley	NEAP (1)
Benton Quarry, Grange Avenue, Benton, NE12 9PN	Benton	NEAP (3)
Springfield Park, Station Road North, Forest Hall, NE12 0AS	Benton	NEAP (3)
Killingworth Lake, Lakeshore, Killingworth, NE12 0UE	Camperdown	NEAP (3)
Holystone, Rising Sun Country Park, NE12 9SS	Killingworth	NEAP (3)
Bamburgh Road, Palmersville, NE12 9EX	Killingworth	NEAP (3)
Annitsford, Jubilee Court, Annitsford, NE23 7RP	Weetslade	NEAP (3)
Seaton Burn, Meadow Drive, NE13 6HN	Weetslade	NEAP (3)
Burradon Community Primary School and Recreation Centre, NE23 7NG	Camperdown	SEAP
West Moor Community Centre, Benton Lane, NE12 6GT	Longbenton	SEAP
Oxford Centre, West Farm Avenue, Longbenton, NE12 8LT	Longbenton	SEAP with MUGA
Adventure Playground, Brenkley Avenue, Shiremoor, NE27 0PR	Valley	SEAP with MUGA
West Allotment, Preston Terrace, NE27 0DT	Valley	SEAP with MUGA
Moorside, Station Road, Backworth, NE27 0RY	Valley	SEAP with MUGA

22 . Appendix 3: Equipped Areas for Play



Location	Ward	Play space type
John Willie Sams Centre, Weetslade Road, Dudley, NE23 7HT	Weetslade	SEAP with MUGA
Lockey Park, Great North Road, Wideopen, NE13 6LH	Weetslade	SEAP with MUGA
Burradon Skatepark, Burradon Primary School and Recreation Centre, NE23 7NG	Camperdown	Skatepark
John Willie Sams Centre, Weetslade Road, NE23 7HT	Weetslade	Skatepark

North East Area

Location	Ward	Play space type
Rockcliffe Park, Windsor Terrace, Whitley Bay, NE26 8DD	Whitley Bay	LEAP (2)
Marmion Terrace, Whitley Bay, NE25 8AS	Monkseaton South	NEAP (1)
Churchill Playing Fields, Hartley Avenue, Monkseaton, NE26 3NS	Monkseaton North	NEAP (3)
Wilton Drive, South Wellfield, NE25 9QJ	Monkseaton North	NEAP (3)
West View, Earsdon, NE25 9LJ	St. Mary's	NEAP (3)
Whitley Park, Park Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 1EJ	Whitley Bay	SEAP with MUGA
Langley Playing Fields, Drumoyne Gardens, NE25 9DL	Monkseaton North	MUGA
Panama Skatepark, Links, Whitley Bay, NE26 1RS	Monkseaton North	Skatepark
Whitley Bay Water Park, Park Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 1EJ	Whitley Bay	Water Park

South East Area

Location	Ward	Play space type
Holmlands, Haswell Gardens, North Shields, NE30 2DR	Preston	LEAP (1)
Pool Park, Beach Road, North Shields, NE29 9LS	Preston	LEAP (1)
Bolam Grove, Marden Estate, NE30 3PZ	Cullercoats	LEAP (2)



Location	Ward	Play space type
Pearson Park, Pearson Place, North Shields, NE30 IEW	Preston	LEAP (2)
Beverley Terrace, Cullercoats, NE30 4NT	Cullercoats	LEAP (3)
Alexander Scott Park, William Street West, North Shields, NE29 6RL	Riverside	NEAP (3)
Nelson Terrace, Percy Main, NE29 6JB	Riverside	NEAP (3)
Northumberland Park, Tynemouth Road, North Shields, NE30 2HA	Tynemouth	NEAP (3)
Links Road, Cullercoats, NE30 3TG	Tynemouth	NEAP (3)
Tynemouth Park, Grand Parade, NE30 4JS	Tynemouth	NEAP (3)
Norham Community Technology College, Alnwick Avenue, North Shields, NE29 7BU	Chirton	SEAP with MUGA
Hilltop Millennium Green, Near Dereham Way, North Shields, NE29 8EJ	Collingwood	SEAP with MUGA
East Howdon, Lesbury Street, NE28 0JX	Riverside	SEAP with MUGA
East Howdon, Community Centre, Chatton Street, NE28 0JT	Riverside	MUGA
The Parks Leisure Centre, North Shields, NE29 6TL	Riverside	Skate Park

South West Area

Location	Ward	Play space type
Oak Grove, Wallsend, NE28 6PW	Wallsend	LAP
Winifred Gardens, Wallsend, NE28 6EF	Wallsend	LAP
Wilberforce Street, Wallsend, NE28 6BS	Wallsend	LAP
Curzon Street West, Wallsend, NE28 6AS	Wallsend	LAP
Kings Road South, Wallsend, NE28 7RB	Wallsend	LAP
Howdon Community Centre, Denbigh Avenue, NE28 0DR	Howdon	LAP

22 . Appendix 3: Equipped Areas for Play



Location	Ward	Play space type
Tall Trees, Broomfield Avenue, Battle Hill, NE28 9AF	Battle Hill	LEAP (2)
Richmond Gardens, Howdon, NE28 7AW	Howdon	NEAP (3)
Hadrian Park Primary School, Addington Drive, Wallsend, NE28 9RT	Battle Hill	SEAP with MUGA
Station Road, Wallsend, NE12 0AS	Northumberland	SEAP with MUGA
Howdon Park, Howdon Lane, NE28 0BE	Riverside	SEAP with MUGA
Richardson Dees Park, Park View, Wallsend, NE28 8DD	Wallsend	SEAP with MUGA and water play
North Terrace, Wallsend, NE28 6PY	Wallsend	MUGA
Howdon Park, Howdon Lane, NE28 0BE	Riverside	Skate Park
Richardson Dees Park, Park View, Wallsend, NE28 8DD	Wallsend	Skate Park

Existing Coverage by Area Forum

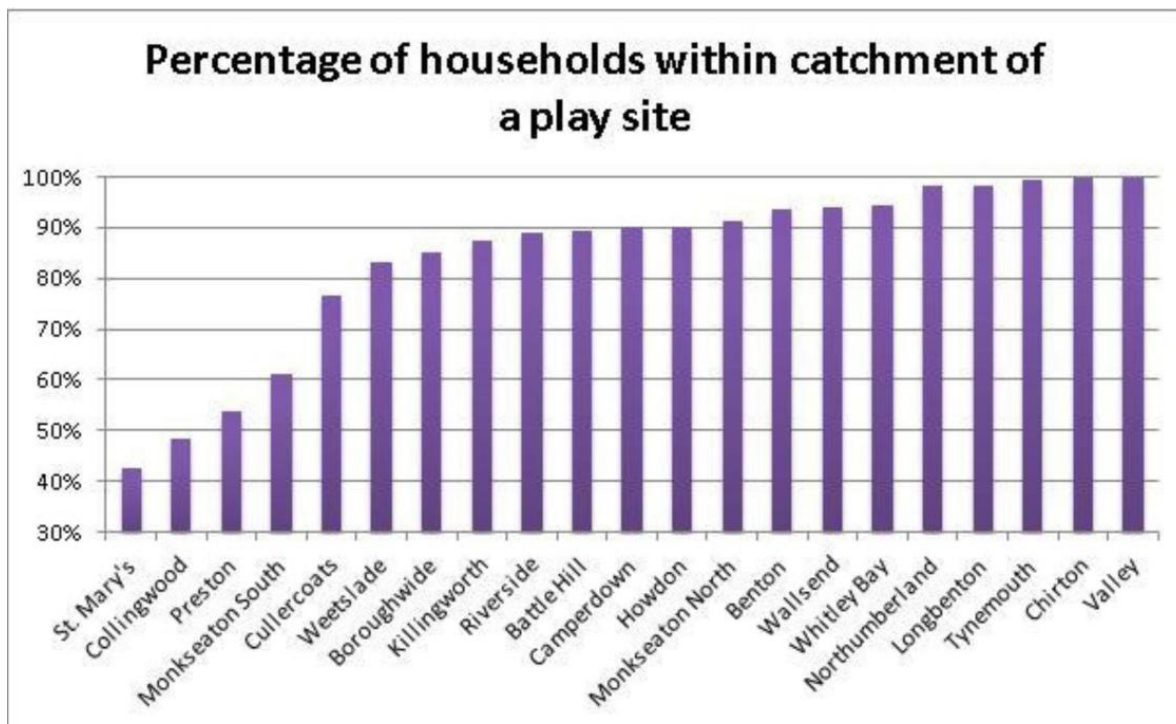
Area	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a play site	Percentage of households within catchment of a play site
North Shields	29,002	22,919	79.0%
North West	23,729	21,509	90.6%
Wallsend	21,501	20,058	93.3%
Whitley Bay	21,288	16,881	79.3%
Boroughwide	95,520	81,367	85.2%



Existing Coverage by Ward

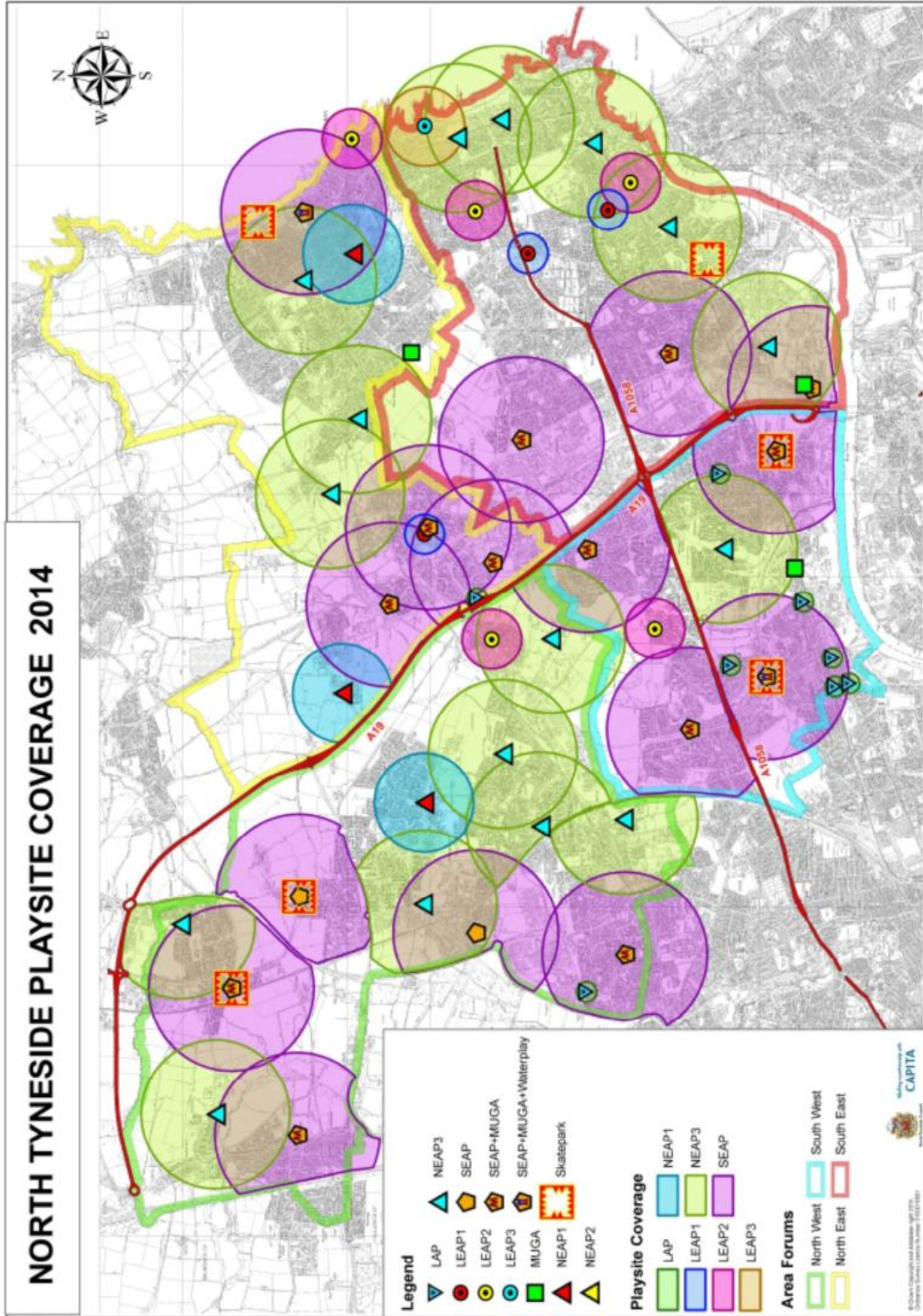
Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a play site	Percentage of households within catchment of a play site
Battle Hill	4,826	4,317	89.5
Benton	4,588	4,299	93.7
Camperdown	4,727	4,255	90.0
Chirton	5,552	5,528	99.6
Collingwood	4,981	2,405	48.3
Cullercoats	4,368	3,336	76.4
Howdon	5,154	4,637	90.0
Killingworth	4,674	4,083	87.4
Longbenton	5,160	5,070	98.3
Monkseaton North	3,733	3,400	91.1
Monkseaton South	4,433	2,705	61.0
Northumberland	3,832	3,763	98.2
Preston	4,149	2,235	53.9
Riverside	4,456	3,965	89.0
St. Mary's	3,641	1,553	42.7
Tynemouth	5,496	5,450	99.2
Valley	5,150	5,143	99.9
Wallsend	5,742	5,394	93.9
Weetslade	4,580	3,802	83.0
Whitley Bay	4,331	4,080	94.2
Boroughwide	95,520	81,367	85.2

22 . Appendix 3: Equipped Areas for Play





23 Map 2: Equipped Areas for Play





24 Appendix 4: Parks

Existing Provision

North West Area

Location	Ward
Lockey Park	Weetslade
Weetslade Country Park	Weetslade
Killingworth Lakeside Park	Camperdown/Killingworth
Killingworth Village Park	Killingworth
Springfield Park	Benton
Benton Quarry Park	Benton
Rising Sun Country Park	Battle Hill/Killingworth/Northumberland

North East Area

Location	Ward
Silverlink Biodiversity Park	Collingwood/Valley
Crawford Park	Monkseaton South
Churchill Playing Fields	Monkseaton North
Souter Park North	Monkseaton North
Souter Park South	Whitley Bay
Whitley Park	Whitley Bay
Rockcliffe Park	Whitley Bay
Marden Quarry Park	Whitley Bay

South East Area

Location	Ward
Silverlink Biodiversity Park	Collingwood/Valley



Location	Ward
Tynemouth Park	Tynemouth
Northumberland Park	Tynemouth
Heaton Terrace Park	Chirton
Alexander Scott Park	Riverside
The Parks	Riverside
Chirton Dene Park	Riverside
Redburn Dene Park	Riverside

South West Area

Location	Ward
Rising Sun Country Park	Battle Hill/Killingworth/Northumberland
The Arboretum	Northumberland/Wallsend
Richardson Dees Park	Northumberland/Wallsend
The Hall Grounds	Wallsend
Howdon Park	Riverside

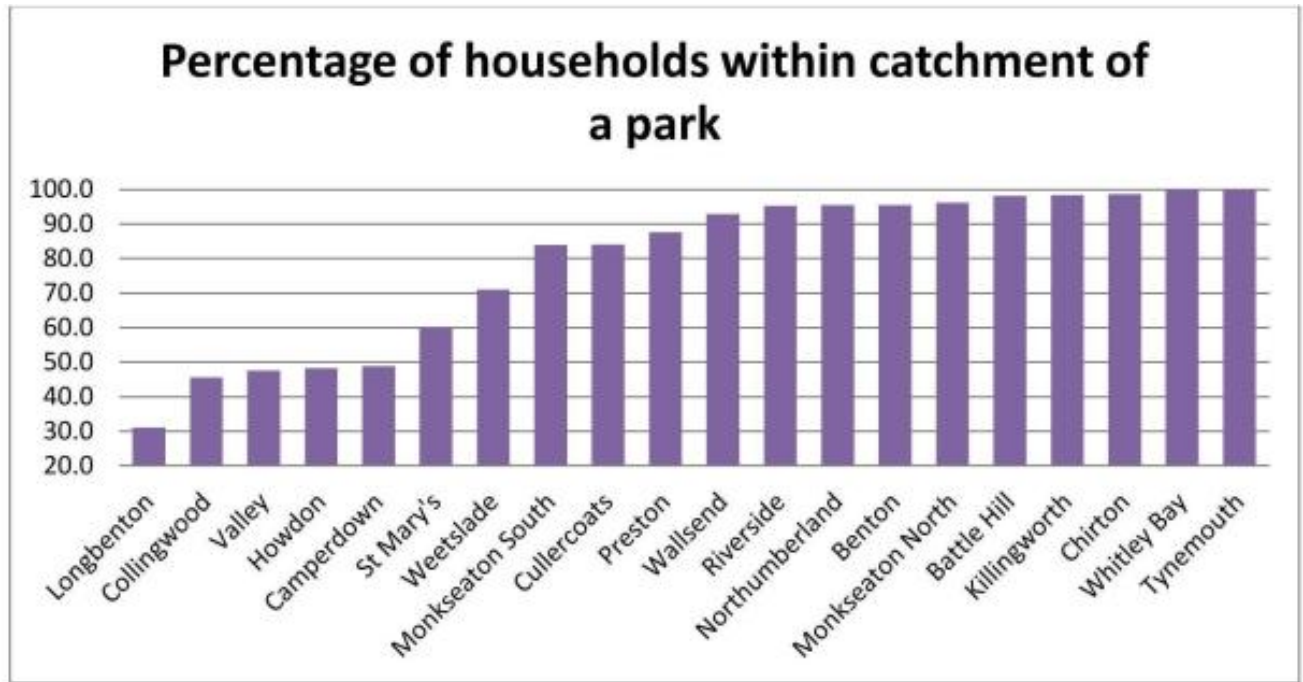
Existing Coverage by Area Forum

Area	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a park	Percentage of households within catchment of a park
North Shields	29,016	24,698	85.1
North West	23,787	16,169	68.0
Wallsend	21,401	18,058	84.4
Whitley Bay	21,344	16,301	76.4
Boroughwide	95,548	75,226	78.7



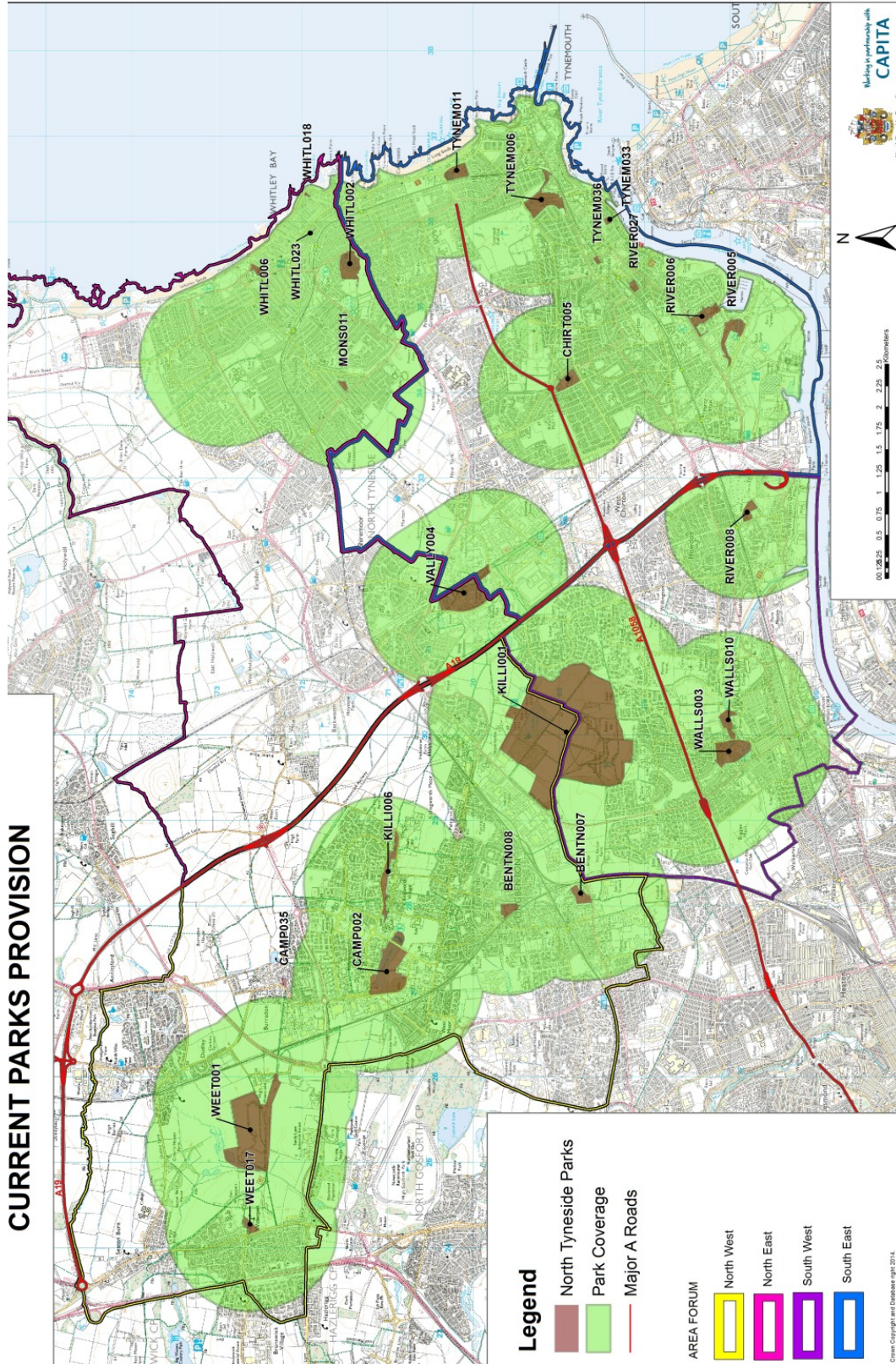
Existing Coverage by Ward

Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a park	Percentage of households within catchment of a park
Battle Hill	4,826	4,732	98.1
Benton	4,588	4,378	95.4
Camperdown	4,748	2,316	48.8
Chirton	5,548	5,467	98.5
Collingwood	4,981	2,266	45.5
Cullercoats	4,370	3,672	84.0
Howdon	5,155	2,485	48.2
Killingworth	4,687	4,609	98.3
Longbenton	5,160	1,599	31.0
Monkseaton North	3,733	3,589	96.1
Monkseaton South	4,433	3,719	83.9
Northumberland	3,843	3,658	95.4
Preston	4,160	3,644	87.6
Riverside	6,410	6,101	95.2
St. Mary's	3,650	2,187	59.9
Tynemouth	5,494	5,494	100.0
Valley	5,184	2,462	47.5
Wallsend	5,639	5,237	92.9
Weetslade	4,604	3,267	71.0
Whitley Bay	4,344	4,344	100.0
Boroughwide	95,548	75,226	78.7





25 Map 3: Parks





26 Appendix 5: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 2ha or under

Existing Coverage by Area Forum

Area	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size
North Shields	29,016	6,037	20.8
North West	23,787	9,641	40.5
Wallsend	21,401	10,279	48.0
Whitley Bay	21,344	8,202	38.4
Boroughwide	95,548	34,159	35.8

Existing Coverage by Ward

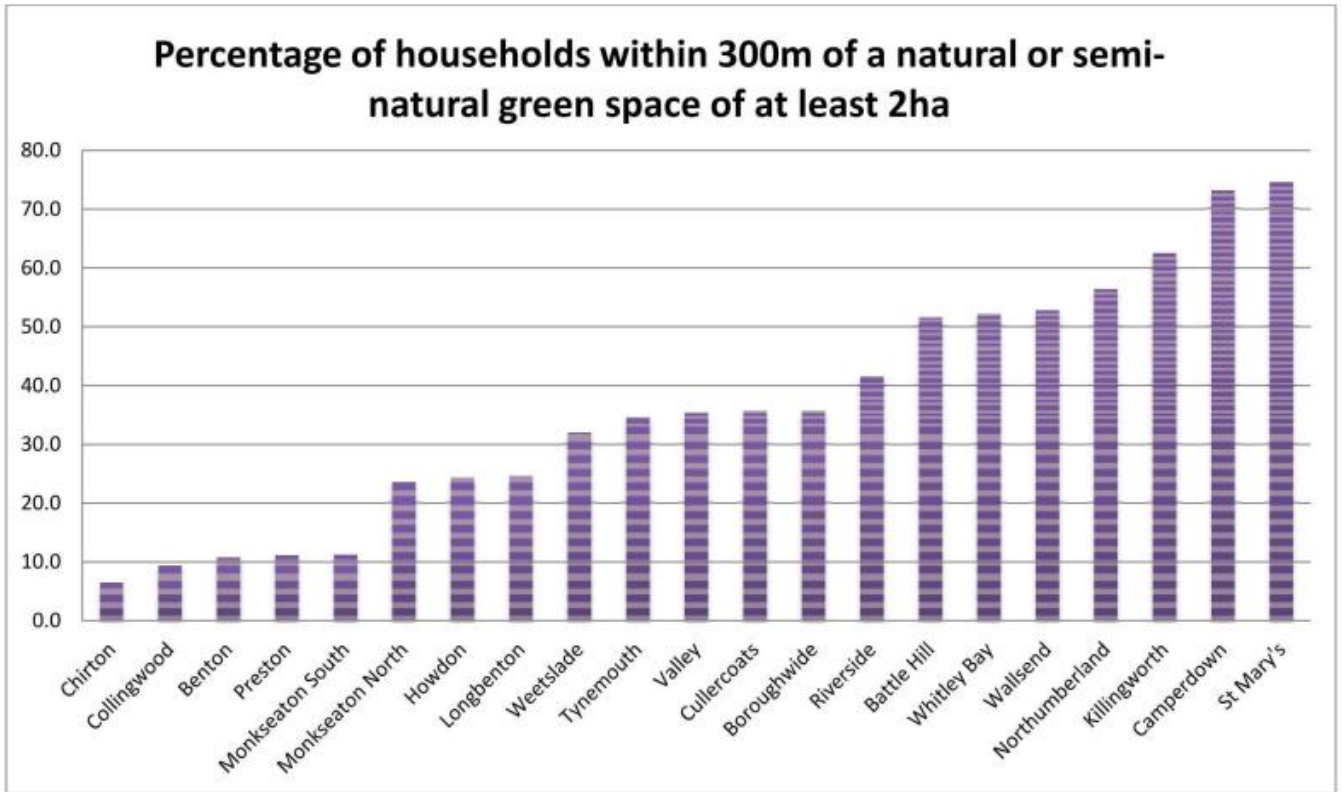
Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size
Battle Hill	4,826	2,492	51.6
Benton	4,588	493	10.7
Camperdown	4,748	3,476	73.2
Chirton	5,548	361	6.5
Collingwood	4,981	468	9.4
Cullercoats	4,370	1,562	35.7
Howdon	5,155	1,249	24.2
Killingworth	4,687	2,931	62.5
Longbenton	5,160	1,268	24.6
Monkseaton North	3,733	879	23.5

26 . Appendix 5: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 2ha or under



Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size
Monkseaton South	4,433	497	11.2
Northumberland	3,843	2,165	56.5
Preston	4,160	463	11.1
Riverside	6,410	2,672	41.7
St. Mary's	3,650	2,722	74.6
Tynemouth	5,494	1,905	34.7
Valley	5,184	1,840	35.5
Wallsend	5,639	2,979	52.8
Weetslade	4,604	1,473	32.0
Whitley Bay	4,344	2,264	52.1
Boroughwide	95,548	34,159	35.8

26 . Appendix 5: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 2ha or under

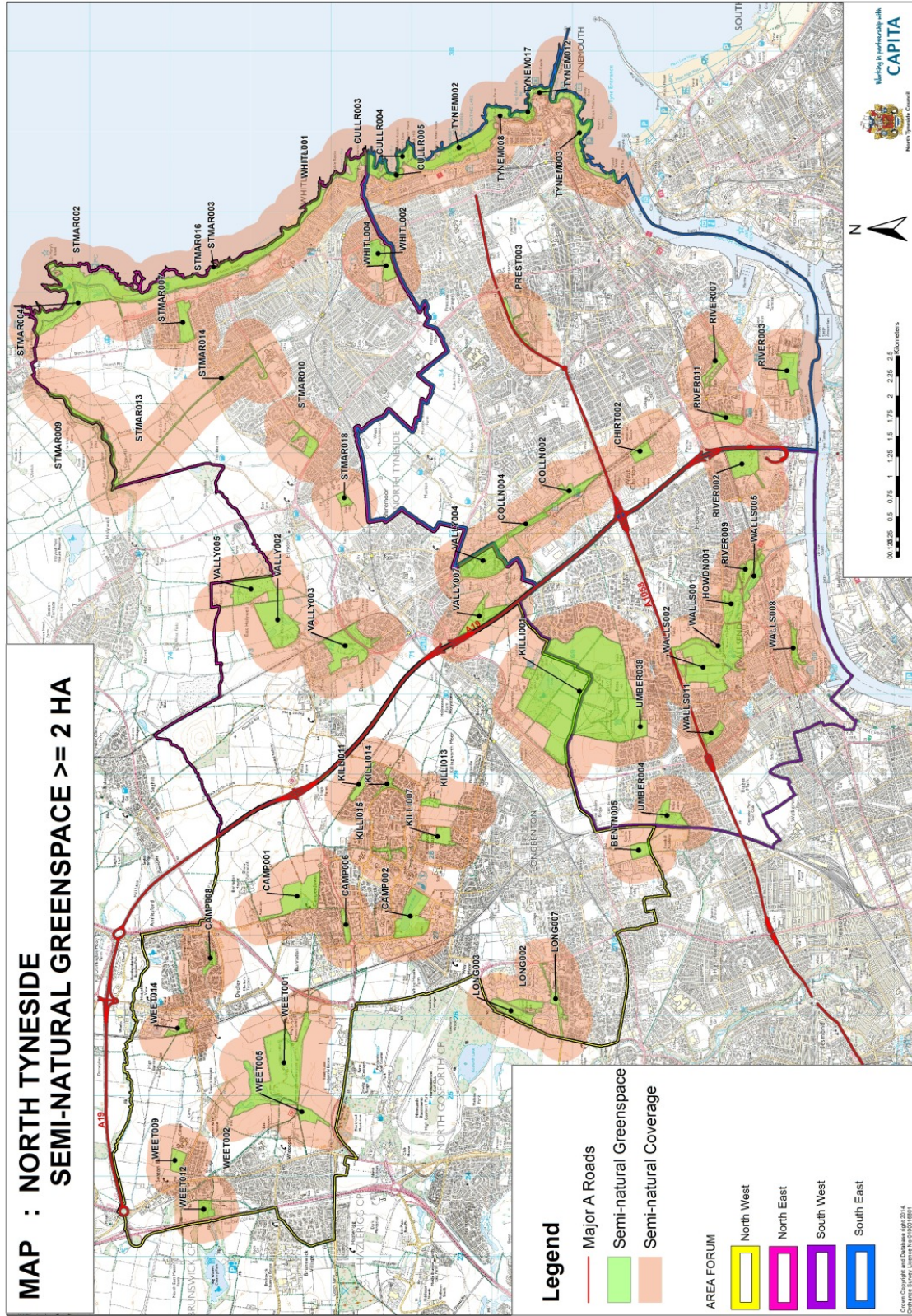


27 . Map 4: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 2ha or under



27 Map 4: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 2ha or under

70





28 Appendix 6: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 20ha or under

Existing Coverage by Area Forum

Area	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in
North Shields	29,016	12,426	42.8%
North West	23,787	17,630	74.1%
Wallsend	21,401	21,377	99.9%
Whitley Bay	21,344	19,755	92.6%
Boroughwide	95,548	71,188	74.5%

Existing Coverage by Ward

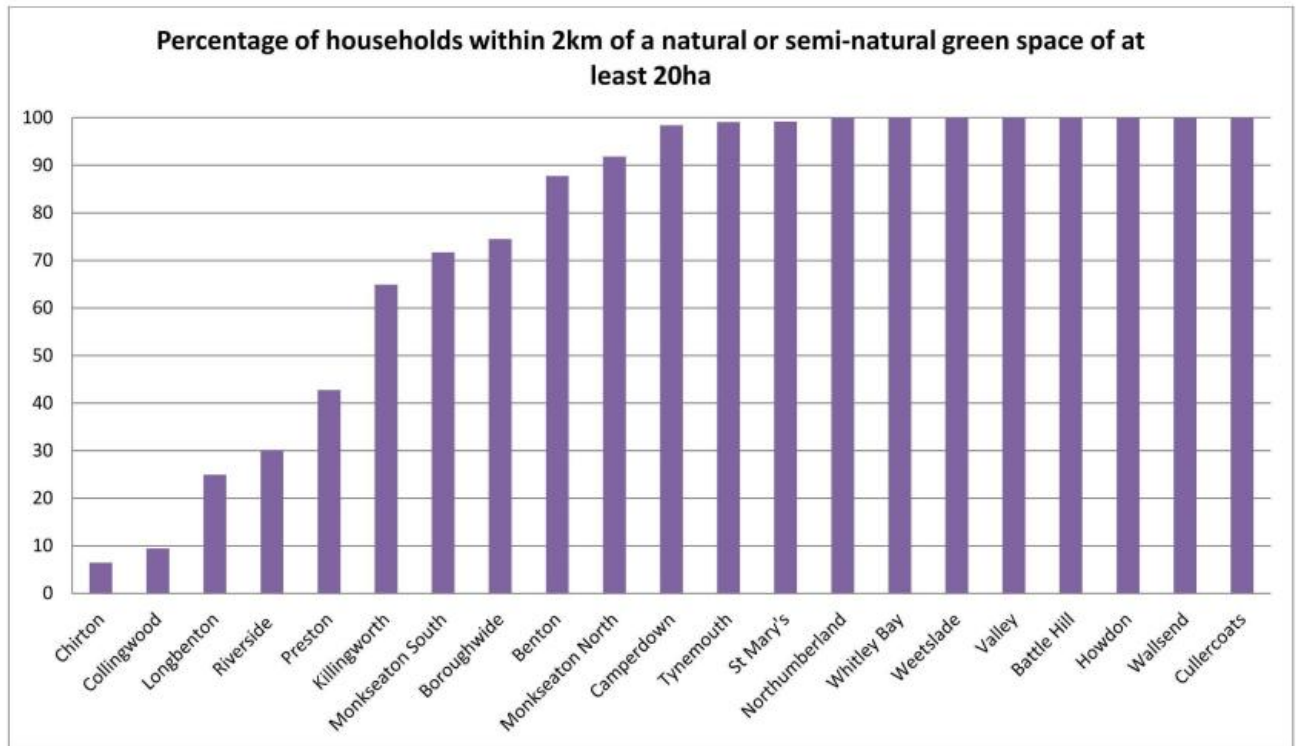
Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size
Battle Hill	4,826	4,826	100%
Benton	4,588	4,026	87.8%
Camperdown	4,748	4,672	98.4%
Chirton	5,548	357	6.4%
Collingwood	4,981	472	9.5%
Cullercoats	4,370	4,370	100%
Howdon	5,155	5,155	100%
Killingworth	4,687	3,042	64.9%
Longbenton	5,160	1,286	24.9%
Monkseaton North	3,733	3,428	91.8%

28 . Appendix 6: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 20ha or under



Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size
Monkseaton South	4,433	3,179	71.7%
Northumberland	3,843	3,832	99.9%
Preston	4,160	1,778	42.7%
Riverside	6,410	1,930	30.1%
St. Mary's	3,650	3,621	99.2%
Tynemouth	5,494	5,444	99.1%
Valley	5,184	5,184	100%
Wallsend	5,639	5,639	100%
Weetslade	4,604	4,604	100%
Whitley Bay	4,344	4,343	100%
Boroughwide	95,548	71,188	74.5%

28 . Appendix 6: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 20ha or under

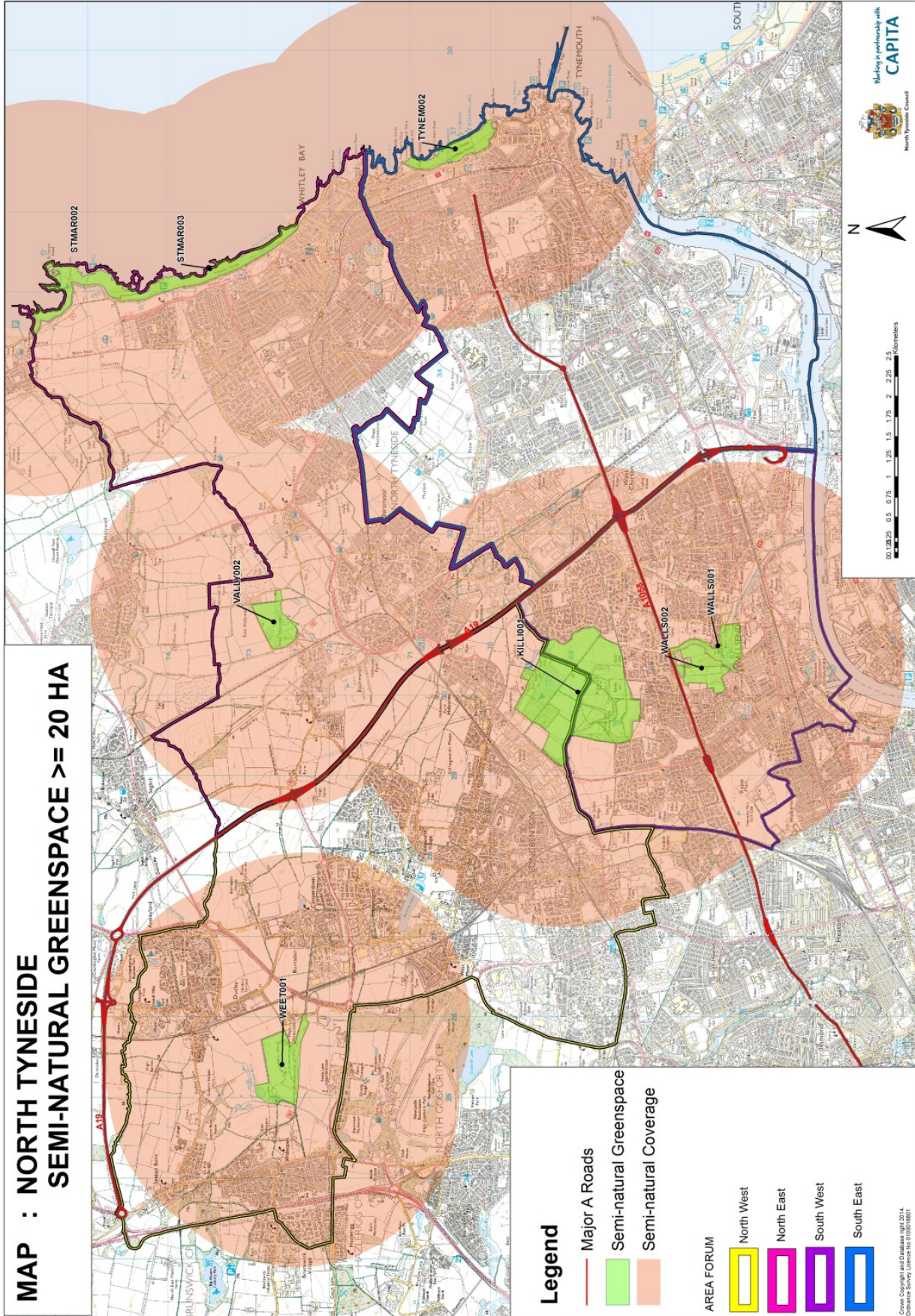


29 . Map 5: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 20ha or under



29 Map 5: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 20ha or under

29 . Map 5: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 20ha or under



30 Appendix 7: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 100ha or under

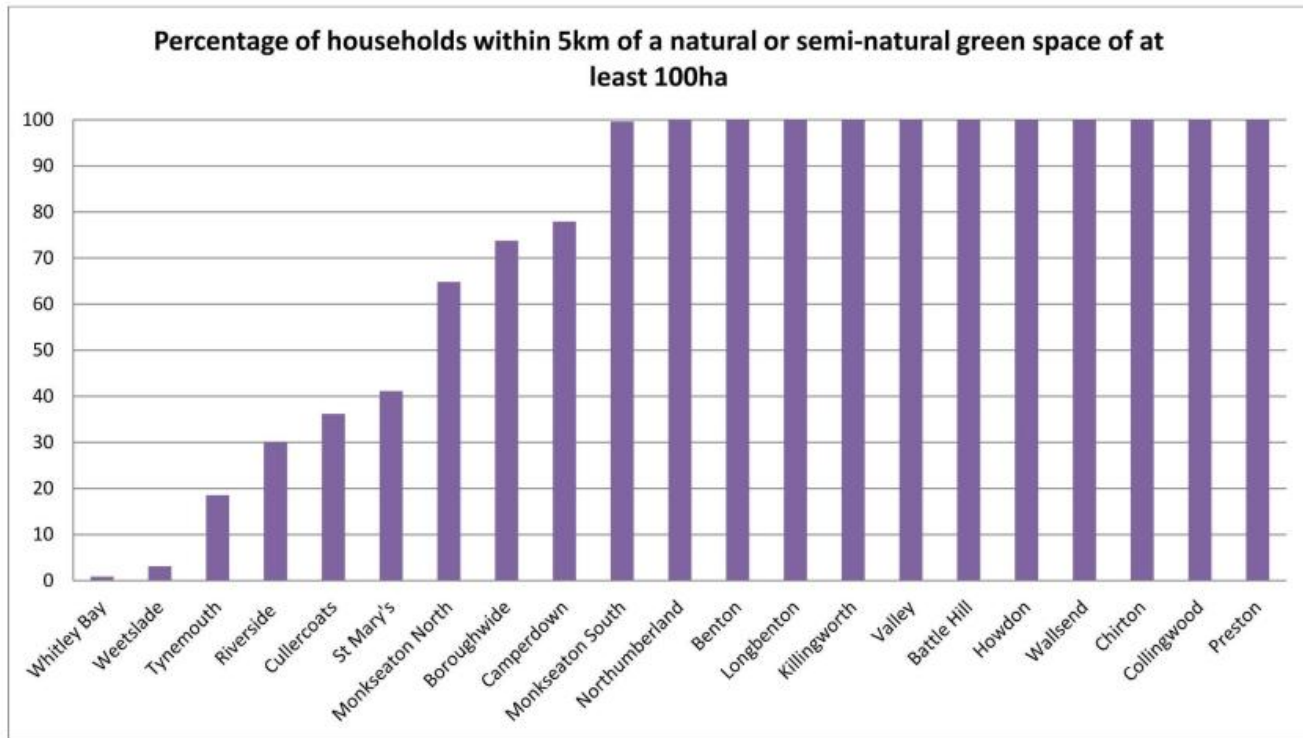
Existing Coverage by Area Forum

Area	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in
North Shields	29,016	17,296	59.6%
North West	23,787	18,279	76.8%
Wallsend	21,401	21,377	99.9%
Whitley Bay	21,344	13,561	63.5%
Boroughwide	95,548	70,513	75.8%

Existing Coverage by Ward

Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size
Battle Hill	4,826	4,826	100%
Benton	4,588	4,588	100%
Camperdown	4,748	3,700	77.9%
Chirton	5,548	5,548	100%
Collingwood	4,981	4,981	100%
Cullercoats	4,370	1,582	36.2%
Howdon	5,155	5,155	100%
Killingworth	4,687	4,687	100%
Longbenton	5,160	5,160	100%
Monkseaton North	3,733	2,419	100%

Ward	Total Households	Number of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size	Percentage of households within catchment of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size
Monkseaton South	4,433	4,418	100%
Northumberland	3,843	3,832	100%
Preston	4,160	4,160	100%
Riverside	6,410	1,020	100%
St. Mary's	3,650	1,501	41.1%
Tynemouth	5,494	1,020	18.6%
Valley	5,184	5,184	100%
Wallsend	5,639	5,639	100%
Weetslade	4,604	144	3.1%
Whitley Bay	4,344	39	0.9%
Boroughwide	95,548	70,513	73.8%

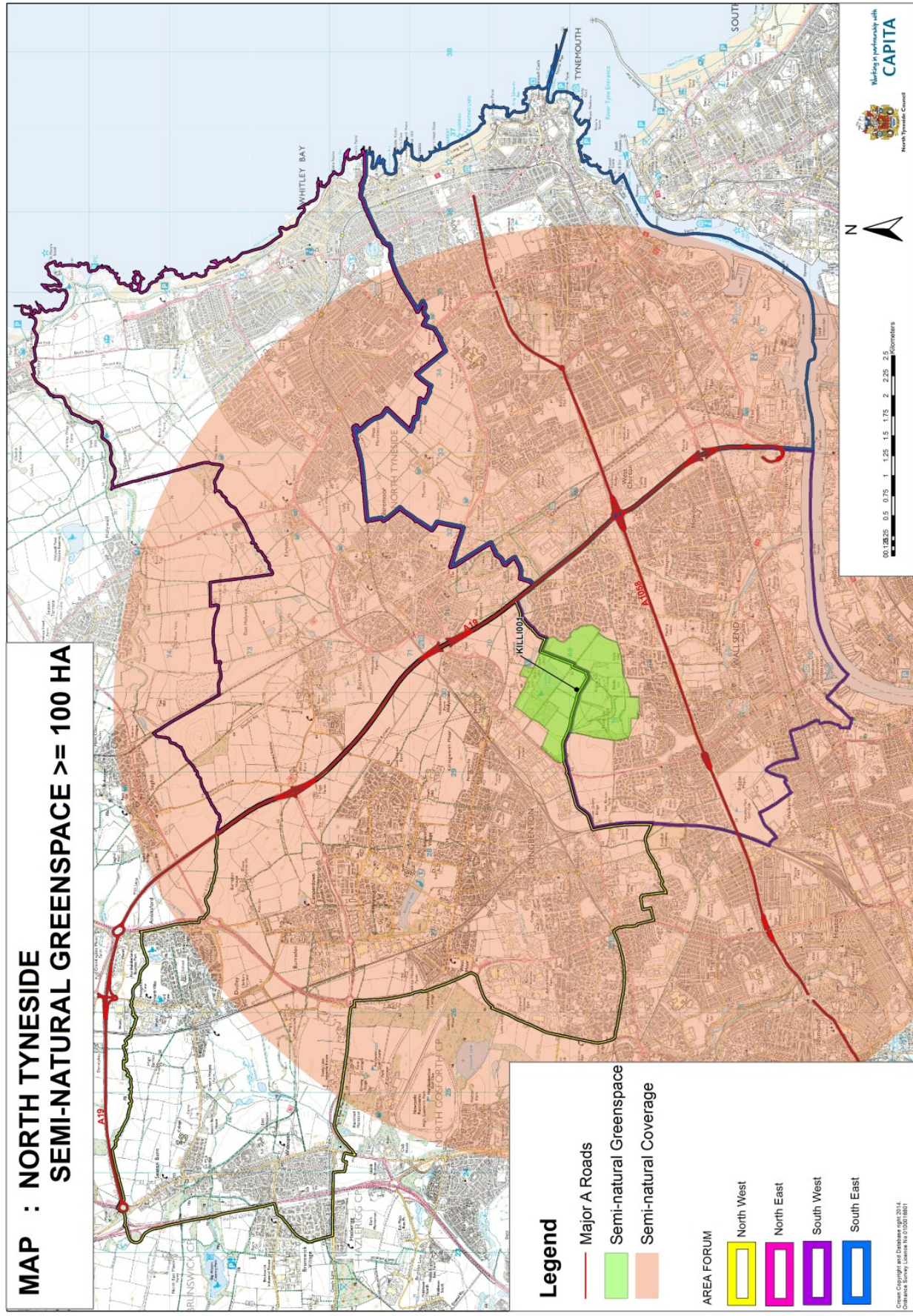


31 . Map 6: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 100ha or under



31 Map 6: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 100ha or under

31 . Map 6: Natural or Semi Natural Green Spaces 100ha or under



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32 Appendix 8: General Standard

Existing Coverage by Area Forum

Area	Number of Properties within 300m of accessible green space	Number of Properties in Area Forum	Percentage of Properties within 300m of accessible green space
North Shields	31,030	31,325	99.1
North West	24,677	25,047	98.5
Wallsend	21,767	22,407	97.1
Whitley Bay	21,615	22,476	96.2
Boroughwide	99,089	101,255	97.9

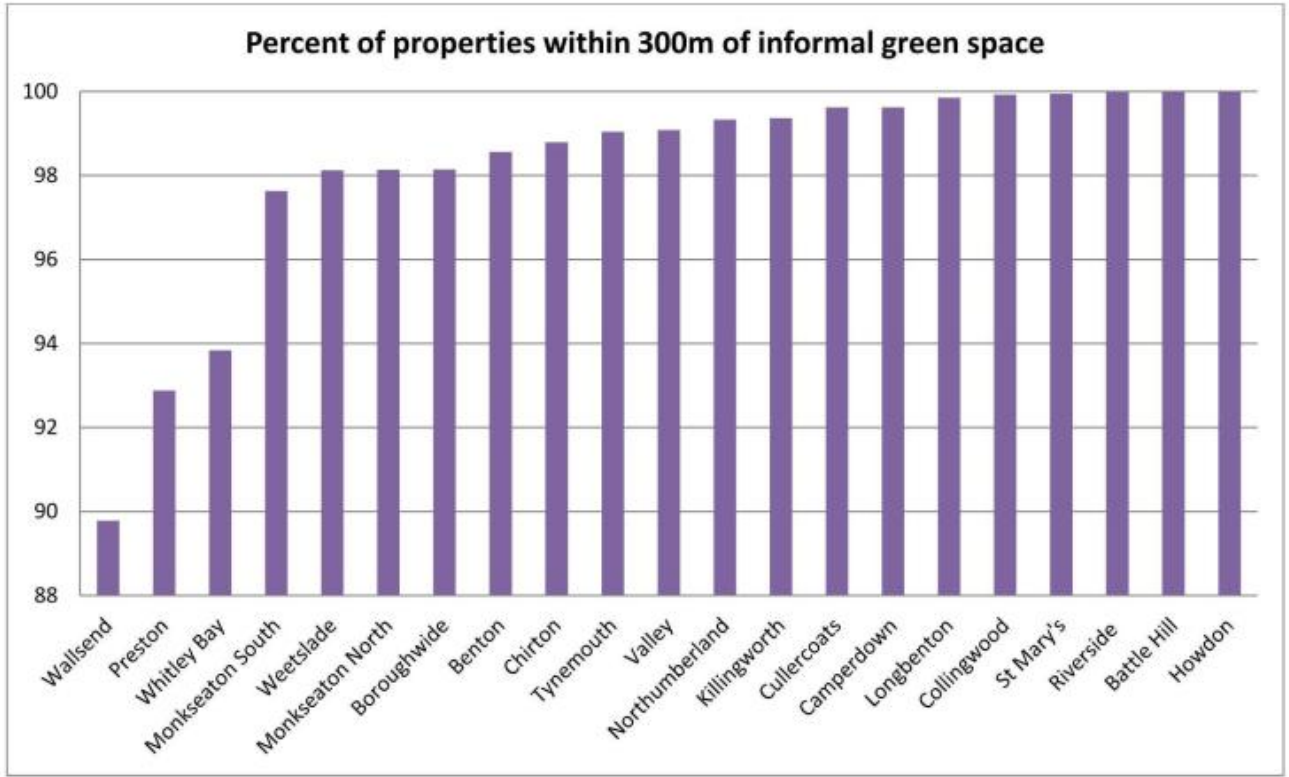
Existing Coverage by Ward

Ward	Number of Properties within 300m of accessible green space	Number of Properties in Ward	Percentage of Properties within 300m of accessible green space
Wallsend	5,669	6,283	90.2
Preston	4,120	4,271	96.5
Whitley Bay	4,676	4,982	93.9
Monkseaton South	4,338	4,602	94.3
Weetslade	4,731	4,847	97.6
Monkseaton North	3,567	3,807	93.7
Benton	4,707	4,800	98.1
Chirton	5,989	5,962	98.9
Tynemouth	5,997	6,055	99.0

32 . Appendix 8: General Standard



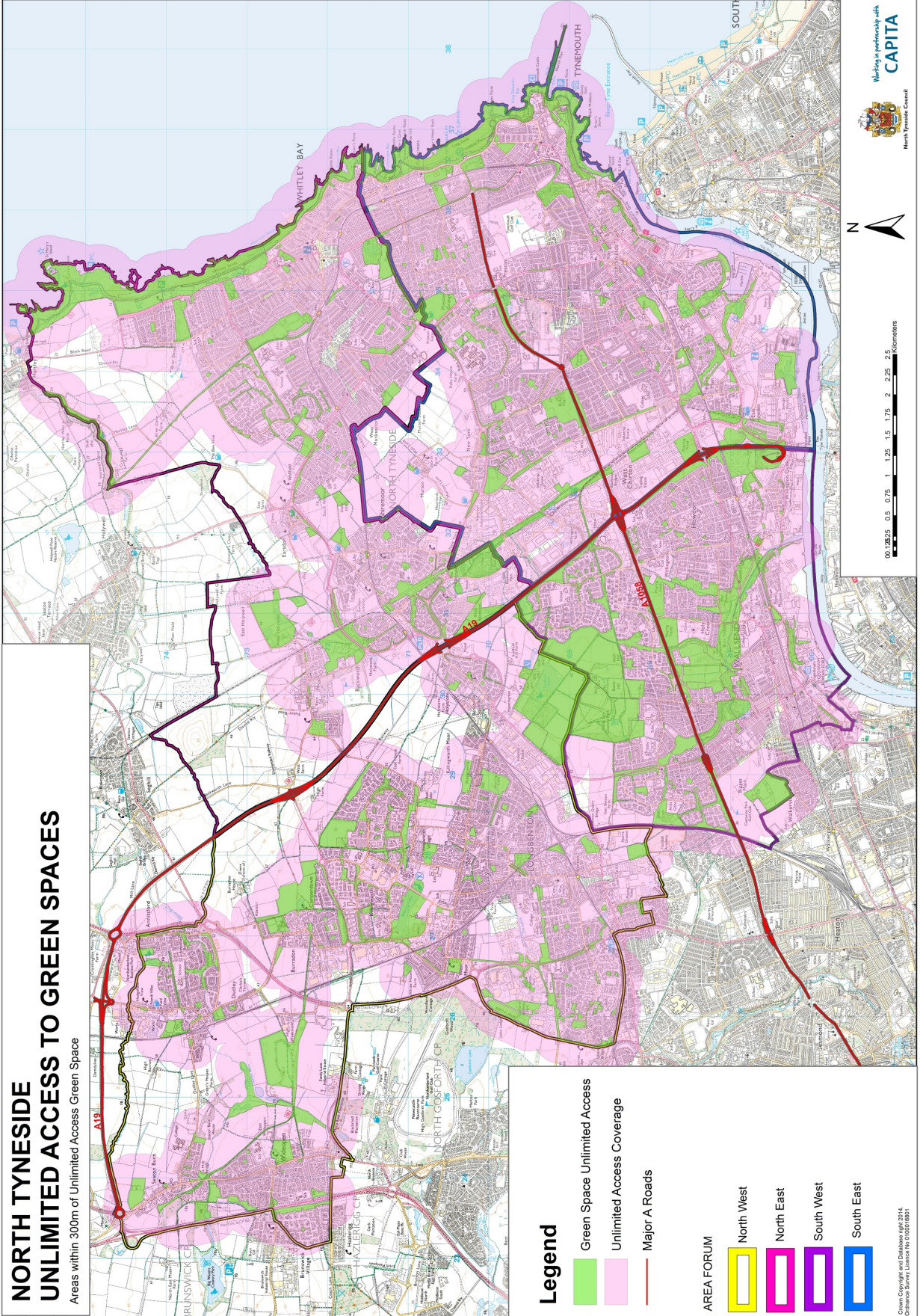
Ward	Number of Properties within 300m of accessible green space	Number of Properties in Ward	Percentage of Properties within 300m of accessible green space
Valley	5,305	5,354	99.1
Northumberland	3,880	3,906	99.3
Killingworth	4,906	5,035	97.4
Cullercoats	4,477	4,494	99.6
Camperdown	4,998	5,017	99.6
Longbenton	5,322	5,335	99.8
Collingwood	5,457	5,461	99.9
St Mary's	3,729	3,731	99.9
Riverside	7,128	7,129	100
Battle Hill	4,914	4,914	100
Howdon	5,257	5,257	100
Boroughwide	99,089	101,255	97.9



33 . Map 7: General Standard



33 Map 7: General Standard





34 Appendix 9: Quality Scoring System

Scoring System

Attribute	Description	Score
Entrance	Good access, well maintained and inviting, appropriate security	5
	Obvious, open, inviting and tidy	3
	Apparent as entrance	1
Main Entrance	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting	5
	Appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting	4
	Obvious, open inviting and clean	2
	Apparent as entrance	1
Enclosure and Boundaries	Boundary obvious and overlooked by many houses, all hedges or gates well maintained	5
	Clear Boundaries, overlooked by a number of houses, maintenance 'patchy'	4
	Not overlooked but boundaries well maintained and clear	2
	Not overlooked and boundaries in poor condition	1
Boundaries	All Clearly defined and well maintained	5
	All clearly defined, maintenance 'patchy'	4
	All clearly defined, maintenance needed	2
	Unclear boundaries	1
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access throughout. Surfaces clean, debris and weed free	5
	Suitable materials, level for safe uses, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas	4
	Suitable materials, disabled access in most areas	3
	Suitable materials but with some faults, limited disabled access	2
	Footpaths in correct place but in need of obvious repair, disabled access poor and very restricted	1



Attribute	Description	Score
Biodiversity	The number of habitats found on a site from the 12 habitats found in the 'Broad Habitat Type' list below will be scored as follows:	
	Seven + habitats	5
	Six habitats	4
	Four-five habitats	3
	Two-three habitats	2
	One habitat	1
Grassed Areas	Full grass cover, good colour, clean cut with no weeds	5
	Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident, some discreet bald patches, good colour and cleanly cut	4
	General grass cover good but some bald patches and thin areas, length excessive between cuts	3
	General grass cover average and patchy with some bald patches, cut infrequently or cut poorly	2
	General grass cover poor, wear has led to patchy and poor cover. Clippings obvious and cut quality poor	1
Planted Areas	Numerous plants and mature trees with an appropriate mix of plants, installed and maintained to a very high standard	5
	Numerous plants and mature, with a appropriate mix, installed and maintained to a reasonable standard	4
	Numerous plants with an appropriate mix, 'patchy' maintenance	3
	Limited range of plants with acceptable maintenance	2
	Limited planting with limited maintenance	1
Bins	Numerous and in good condition	5
	Numerous and in average condition	4
	Adequate in good/average condition	3
	Insufficient number but in good condition	2
	Insufficient and in poor condition	1
Seats	Numerous for size of site and in good condition	5

34 . Appendix 9: Quality Scoring System



Attribute	Description	Score
	Numerous, in average condition	4
	Adequate number in good/average condition	3
	Insufficient but in good condition	2
	Insufficient and in poor condition	1
Lighting	Good lighting scheme and well maintained	5
	Reasonable lighting scheme	3
	Poor lighting scheme	1
Information	Detailed information available on boards or easily accessed leaflets	5
	Limited information available off site	3
	No information available	1
Toilets	Provided within the park, easy to access, signed and well maintained	5
	Provided within or adjacent to the park, difficult to find, maintenance/condition is average	4
	Provided within or adjacent to the park and visible, but not well cared for and generally uninviting	3
	Provided within or adjacent to the park but in very poor condition and generally avoided by park users	2
	Temporary toilet provision	1
Parking	Parking provided integral to or adjacent to the park adequate spaces, clean, tidy, in good condition and well signposted	5
	Parking provided integral to, or adjacent to the park, adequate spaces but maintenance could be better	4
	Parking provided integral or adjacent to the park, limited spaces, maintenance good or reasonable	3
	Parking provided integral or adjacent to the park, limited space, and maintenance poor.	2
	Parking provision very limited	1
Equipment	Lots of good quality well maintained equipment that encourages use	5
	Sufficient quality equipment in average condition	4



Attribute	Description	Score
	Insufficient equipment in good/average condition	2
	Insufficient equipment poorly maintained	1
Cleanliness	No evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti	5
	Very limited evidence	4
	Moderate levels	3
	High levels	2
	Unacceptable levels	1
Sensory Perception	Attractive to look at, many natural smells and sounds of wildlife etc.	5
	Attractive with some smells and sounds	4
	No sounds or smells but attractive to look at	3
	Outside noise and smells infiltrating while still attractive to look at	2
	Unattractive sights and smells with lots of outside noise	1
Headstones	Clean, tidy, none broken or damaged	5
	Generally good condition with limited vandalism	3
	Many broken, high levels of vandalism	1

Broad Habitat Types

- Woodland (trees more than 5m in height)
- Scrub/shrubs (trees less than 5m in height)
- Grassland (non-amenity grassland), e.g. rough grasslands, meadows, road verges, railway cuttings and embankments if wide enough
- Marshy wet grasslands
- Ponds
- Running water, e.g. streams, watercourses and wet ditches
- Cultivated/disturbed land, e.g. cropland, nurseries, vegetable plots, flower beds, fresh ploughed land
- Derelict land (sites that have shallow stony soil with short patchy plants), e.g. quarries, railway ballast sites, old industrial sites etc.
- Hedgerows
- Walls
- Ditches

34 . Appendix 9: Quality Scoring System



- Buildings that could support wildlife such as bats or birds, e.g. farm buildings/outhouses, barns, tunnels, bridges, churches and derelict buildings

Audit Sheets

Amenity Green Space		1	2	3	4	5
Enclosure and Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Grassed Areas						
Planted Areas						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Equipment					
Cleanliness						
Score out of 40						
Score as %						

Beach and surrounding area		1	2	3	4	5
Entrance						
Enclosure and Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Biodiversity						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Information					
	Toilets					
	Parking					
Cleanliness						
Sensory Perception						
Score out of 55						
Score as %						



Cemeteries, Disused Churchyards and other Burial Grounds		1	2	3	4	5
Main Entrance						
Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Grassed Areas						
Planted Areas						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Parking					
	Lighting					
Biodiversity						
Cleanliness						
Headstones						
Score out of 58						
Score as %						

Green Corridors		1	2	3	4	5
Entrance						
Enclosure and Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Biodiversity						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Lighting					
	Information					
Cleanliness						
Sensory Perception						
Score out of 50						
Score as %						



Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces		1	2	3	4	5
Entrance						
Enclosure and Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Biodiversity						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Information					
Cleanliness						
Sensory Perception						
Score out of 45						
Score as %						

Parks and Gardens		1	2	3	4	5
Main Entrance						
Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Grassed Areas						
Planted Areas						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Toilets					
	Parking					
	Lighting					
	Equipment					
	Information					
Cleanliness						
Score out of 65						
Score as %						



Provision for Children and Young People		1	2	3	4	5
Entrance						
Enclosure and Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Grassed Areas						
Planted Areas						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Lighting					
	Equipment					
Cleanliness						
Score out of 50						
Score as %						

Outdoor Sports Facilities		1	2	3	4	5
Main Entrance						
Boundaries						
Footpaths, roads, cycle-ways and access						
Grassed Areas						
Planted Areas						
Facilities	Bins					
	Seats					
	Toilets					
	Parking					
	Lighting					
	Equipment					
Cleanliness						
Score out of 60						
Score as %						