

URN: 22-108

Subject: Draft Open Space Needs Assessment

Report to: Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee – 14 July 2022

Report by: Nick Fountain, Principal Strategic Planner

SUBJECT MATTER

Draft Open Space Needs Assessment

RECOMMENDATION

That the Housing & Neighbourhoods Committee:

- Approves the content & recommendations contained within the Open Space Needs Assessment for consultation

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Policy H4 of the adopted Local Plan Part 2 requires new residential development to provide or contribute to the provision of new public open space. The Borough Council is currently using 2013 Open Space Study and 2015 Sport, Play & Leisure Strategy to determine how much open space should be required and where it should be located. This evidence requires updating to reflect the current circumstances.
- 1.2. A revised Open Space Needs Assessment has been carried out to identify the open space needs of the Borough. There are multiple types of open space included within this report. As part of this assessment such spaces have been categorised into play spaces, informal amenity green space, allotments, parks and gardens, and accessible natural green space.
- 1.3. The needs have been assessed using the open space standards adopted through the Local Plan Part 2. The standards determine a surplus or deficit of open space needs based on an assessment of the quantity (amount), quality and accessibility (distance to access) of each space. The intention of the document is to identify where across the Borough open space needs to be improved to meet standards. The Open Space Needs Assessment concludes with recommendations for each type of open space within each Ward. It is important to note that while the report considers the Borough's open spaces this does not commit the Borough Council to deliver any specific facilities; it highlights where shortfalls can potentially be addressed. Such work could be undertaken by the Borough Council or any other body, such as a community organisation.

- 1.4. The assessment will help with the implementation of Policy H4 of the new Local Plan which requires new residential developments to improve the provision of open spaces through on-site provision and developer contributions. The assessment will inform an Open Space Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which will provide further detail to Policy H4 and guide how and when open space will be provided on or off-site, which types of open spaces are required within each Ward, how much off-site open space provision may cost, and which mechanisms can be used to secure such contributions.
- 1.5. It is proposed that both documents are subject to concurrent public consultation to consider their content and recommendations. The Open Space Needs Assessment can then be adopted as an evidence document. The SPD will be subject to the regulatory procedures and ultimately adopted to support the implementation of the local plan (via Policy & Resources Committee). It should be noted at this stage the recommendations are just initial suggestions and it is likely that engagement with the public, ward councillors and Parish Council's will refine the recommendations.
- 1.6. A Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy is being prepared by specialist consultants to identify the needs for outdoor sport including football, rugby, golf, cricket, tennis, bowls and athletics. The strategy will sit alongside the Open Space Needs Assessment. It is envisaged that this strategy will be finalised in the coming weeks and a final report can be presented to members at the next Committee.
- 1.7. It is expected that the Open Space Needs Assessment and Playing Pitch Strategy will support the preparation of the new Local Plan and act as evidence to support funding bids for improvements to open spaces.

2. Member engagement

- 2.1. Members were presented with the initial quantitative and qualitative open space findings at Environment Committee on 16th February 2022. The Open Space Needs Assessment pulls the needs information into a comprehensive evidence document. The assessment was listed on the action plan for further engagement with members. The quantity findings remain the same as presented previously, however, the quality findings have been refined following a more in-depth assessment of each space. The accessibility findings and ultimate recommendations for each Ward have yet to be presented.
- 2.2. Furthermore, the Open Space Needs Assessment and Open Space SPD was presented to Local Plan Working Party (LPWP) on 28 June 2022 for discussion and endorsement for this Committee to consider the officer recommendations.

3. Open Space Needs Assessment

- 3.1. The Open Space Needs Assessment has assessed the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces within each Ward of the Borough. A 'deficit' in open space need has been determined for any Ward where open spaces have fallen short of the quantity, quality and accessibility standards. In general, most types of open space in most parts of the Borough have a needs deficit:

Open Space Needs by Ward					
Ward	Formal Play Space	Informal Amenity Greenspace	Allotments	Parks & Gardens	Accessible Natural Greenspace
Bradwell North	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Bradwell South & Hopton	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Caister North	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Caister South	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Central & Northgate	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit
Claydon	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit
East Flegg	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Surplus
Fleggburgh	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Gorleston	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Lothingland	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Magdalen	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit
Nelson	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Ormesby	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Southtown & Cobholm	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Surplus
St Andrews	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
West Flegg	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Yarmouth North	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Surplus	Deficit

- 3.2. While this means that many of the Borough's open spaces are not meeting the defined standards, it does provide the opportunity for new residential development to provide new open space and/or contribute to enhancements of existing spaces. This is particularly important given that the Inspector examining the Local Plan Part 2 modified the open space requirements to ensure that provision or contributions from new development could only be sought where there are identified deficits.

- 3.3. The assessment report is structured by each type of open space, with the results for each Ward presented. Section 9 of the report brings together recommendations for each Ward across the types of open space.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Policy H4 of the Local Plan Part 2 requires the off-site delivery of new open space where this cannot be met on-site as part of new residential development. Such contributions received by the Borough Council will be used to provide new and enhance existing open spaces. The Open Space Needs Assessment will be crucial in determining the level of need and focus for funding open space projects across the Borough. The assessment could also be used to help support future funding bids or projects by community groups to improve open spaces.
- 4.2. Alongside this work, processes will be updated in terms of prioritisation of spend of developer contributions towards open space.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1. A draft Open Space Needs Assessment has been prepared and is ready for public consultation subject to member endorsement.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Open Space Needs Assessment

Areas of consideration: e.g. does this report raise any of the following issues and if so how have these been considered/mitigated against?

Area for consideration	Comment
Monitoring Officer Consultation:	n/a
Section 151 Officer Consultation:	n/a
Existing Council Policies:	Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy, Local Plan Part 2
Financial Implications (including VAT and tax):	See Section 4
Legal Implications (including human rights):	n/a
Risk Implications:	n/a
Equality Issues/EQIA assessment:	n/a
Crime & Disorder:	n/a
Every Child Matters:	n/a

Draft Great Yarmouth Borough Open Space Needs Assessment 2022



Contents

1. Introduction	5
2. Background	6
Geographic, Social & Economic Context.....	6
National Planning Policy, Guidance	9
Fields in Trust – Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2015)	10
The Green Flag Award.....	10
Natural England.....	11
Public Health England	11
Local Planning Policy	11
Biodiversity	13
3. Required standards.....	13
Quantity Standards	13
Quality Standards.....	16
Accessibility Standards.....	17
4. Children’s play space.....	18
Quantity of equipped play space	19
Quality of play spaces	21
Accessibility of play space.....	24
5. Informal Amenity Green Space	39
Quantity of informal amenity green space	40
Quality of informal amenity green space	42
Accessibility of informal amenity green space	43
6. Allotments.....	55
Quantity of allotments.....	56

Quality of allotments	59
Accessibility of allotments	61
7. Parks & Gardens.....	63
Quantity of parks & gardens	64
Quality of parks & gardens.....	65
Accessibility of parks & gardens	67
8. Accessible Natural Green Space.....	68
Quantity of accessible natural green space	68
Quality of Accessible Natural Green Space.....	70
Accessibility of Accessible Natural Green Space.....	70
Other Accessibility Standards	80
9. Recommendations	82
Recommendations for Bradwell North Ward	82
Recommendations for Bradwell South & Hopton Ward	83
Recommendations for Caister North Ward	84
Recommendations for Caister South Ward	85
Recommendations for Central & Northgate Ward.....	86
Recommendations for Claydon Ward.....	87
Recommendations for East Flegg Ward.....	88
Recommendations for Fleggburgh Ward.....	89
Recommendations for Gorleston Ward.....	89
Recommendations for Lothingland Ward.....	90
Recommendations for Magdalen Ward.....	91
Recommendations for Nelson Ward.....	92
Recommendations for Ormesby Ward	93
Recommendations for Southtown & Cobholm Ward.....	94

Recommendations for St Andrews Ward	95
Recommendations for West Flegg Ward	96
Recommendations for Yarmouth North Ward	97
Summary of Surplus/Deficit for each type of open space by Ward	98

DRAFT

1. Introduction

1.1. This Open Space Needs Assessment forms part of the evidence base supporting Great Yarmouth Borough Council's Local Plans and planning policies. This assessment does not seek to redetermine the existing adopted set of open space standards but audit existing open spaces across the Borough and to consider how they align with the standards and requirements set out in the Local Plan Part 2. In doing this, the assessment clearly identifies where there are surpluses or deficits in open space provision and how and where such deficits can be redressed. This assessment is a strategic approach and looks forward to 2041.

1.2. Open spaces have been assessed in light of 3 standards:

- Quantity – how much open space there should be
- Quality – how good the open space is
- Accessibility – how far someone would expect to travel to use open space

1.3. This assessment excludes outdoor sports (formal sports provision) open spaces as these spaces are being assessed in a separate **Playing Pitch Strategy** which will sit alongside this assessment. The Open Space Needs Assessment includes assessment of the following categories of open space:

- **Children's play space** - Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.
- **Informal amenity green space** - Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas which are publicly accessible.
- **Parks & gardens** - Accessible, high quality, tend to be formally planned out, opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
- **Allotments** - Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.
- **Accessible Natural Greenspace** - Areas with a predominant feeling of 'naturalness' important for wildlife conservation, biodiversity, and environmental education and awareness, which are accessible to the public.

1.4. It is also important to acknowledge open spaces and other types of infrastructure or resources which contribute to meeting recreation needs that are outside of the above categories. These include:

- Churchyards & cemeteries
- Private amenity space (e.g. surrounding communal housing)
- Public House & Tourist Accommodation play/open spaces
- School grounds (with the exception of sports provision covered by the Play Pitch Strategy)
- Blue spaces, waterways (ponds, rivers, the Broads and the sea)
- Civic spaces (hard surfaced seating/performance areas, such as Great Yarmouth Market Place)
- Beaches (with the exception of Winterton-Horsey Dunes which is an Accessible Natural Greenspace)
- Green corridors, Public Rights of Way & pathways
- Local Green Spaces identified in neighbourhood plans (where they do not meet the categorisation of the typologies covered in this assessment)

1.5. An audit of each open space typology (those listed in paragraph 1.3) has been carried out. Each open space has been mapped and recorded with its own reference number.

1.6. Finally, this report will make recommendations following a detailed assessment of needs for each type of open space in each of the Borough's Wards. The intention is that the recommendations provide a mechanism to focus investment (particularly from funds raised through off-site developers contributions under Policy H4 of the Local Plan Part 2) on open spaces to those areas that need it most. It is important to note that the recommendations do not, however, predetermine or commit any specific works by the Council or other body. However, they will be used to help prioritise the spend of developer contributions and other funding sources which may come available.

2. Background

Geographic, Social & Economic Context

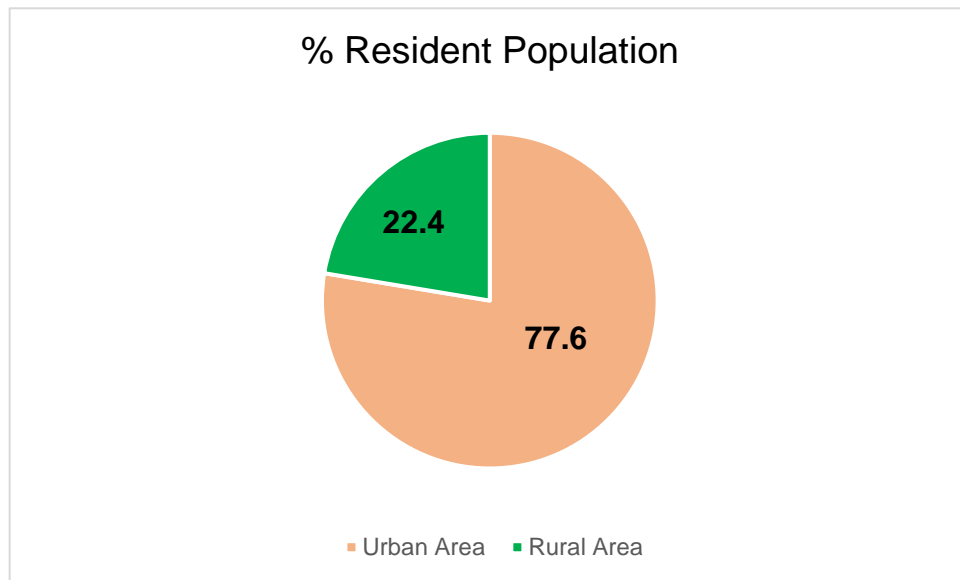
2.1. Located in the East of England, the Borough of Great Yarmouth is bounded by the North Sea to the east, the city of Norwich to the west and the coastal town of

Lowestoft to the south. The town of Great Yarmouth is a well-established coastal tourist resort; with many other resorts along the borough's 24 kilometres of coastline. The hinterland of the borough is rural and forms part of the protected Broads landscape and also includes part of the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty at Winterton-on-Sea.

- 2.2. The Borough is consequently rich in 'Blue Infrastructure' with a long stretch of coastline offering plentiful space for recreational access. Part of The Broads network spans through the Borough with The River Yare, River Bure, River Thurne, and River Waveney flowing through or around the Borough. In addition to the main watercourses, The Broads comprises a network of dykes and lakes. One of the more significant features (referred to later within this document) is Breydon Water which connects the Rivers Yare, Bure and Waveney and is recognised for its biodiversity importance and is designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar Site, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and Local Nature Reserve. In addition to its nature conservation importance, The Broads is also a key tourist attraction.
- 2.3. Great Yarmouth Borough covers over 17,000 hectares with a population in the region of just approximately 99,200. The largest settlements are Great Yarmouth and Gorleston which combined form the third largest urban area in Norfolk. Adjoining Gorleston is Bradwell, which is the next largest settlement in the borough, and the rural areas of the borough are intermittently scattered with small and medium-sized settlements.
- 2.4. The 2014-based population projections identified a population increase of 3,079 people representing a 2.94% increase between 2022 and 2030 (these have been used to align with the 2014-based household projections which were used to calculate the Borough's housing needs). To 2039 (the latest year available in the published data), the projected increase is 6,800 people or 6.71%.
- 2.5. The latest, 2018-based population projections over the same period suggest this may be an increase of 2,309 people representing a 2.39% increase. To 2041, the projected increase is 5,395 people or 5.35%. In both of the year based scenarios the base year population is projected to be higher than the actual existing population.
- 2.6. The Local Plan Part 2 plans for 7,020 homes between April 2013 and March 2030. However, some of those houses have been built over the past nine years. Therefore, between April 2022 and March 2030, the plan forecasts that approximately 4,250 homes will remain to be built. The houses will be distributed in accordance with the Core Strategy settlement hierarchy which focuses growth on the main towns, key service centres and then to the primary villages.
- 2.7. Great Yarmouth, Gorleston, Bradwell and Caister form the 'urban' areas for the purpose of this assessment. As can be seen from below, the urban areas are home

to over three quarters of the population of the Borough. Meanwhile, the actual built extent of these areas only represents 11% of the area within the Borough boundary (or 1,970ha as defined by the Development Limits within the Local Plan). The implication of this distribution of population is that the densely populated urban areas will have a greater need or pressure to provide open space with limited available land to meet such needs.

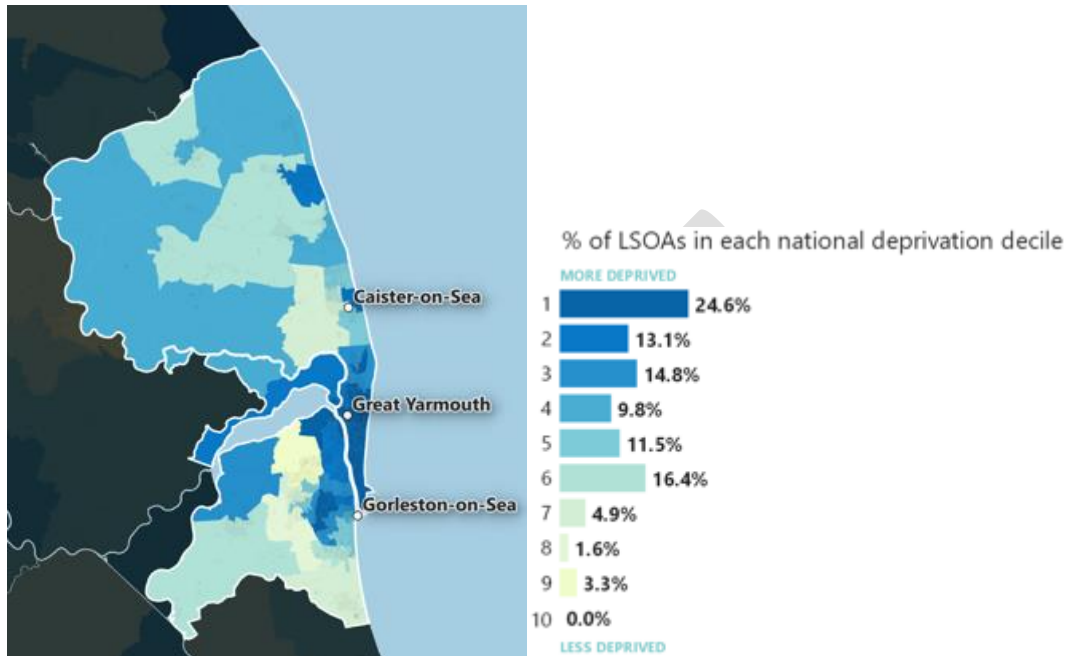
Percentage of population split between urban and rural areas



- 2.8. Great Yarmouth is a principal centre for retail, services and employment, including port related activities. Gorleston is the secondary town in the borough and contains a well-functioning high street and is also a popular seaside resort. There are two sites of Enterprise Zone status within the borough, at Beacon Park, Gorleston and South Denes, Great Yarmouth providing opportunities to further strengthen the boroughs economy in terms of the energy sector.
- 2.9. Tourism is still one of the key pillars to the local economy. While the town of Great Yarmouth is the primary destination for most tourists, there is a significant tourism offer up and down the coast, also within the Borough with the Broads network, and in other rural destinations. Some of the Borough's open spaces are tourist destination in their own right, a good example being the recently restored 'Venetian' Waterways, a Grade II listed structure and registered Park and Garden, which holds a prestigious Green Flag award.
- 2.10. The Borough has high levels of multiple deprivation (the authority being ranked as the 24th most deprived in the country out of 317 local authorities in 2019), concentrated upon health and disability, crime and skills and training and is largely polarised in the inner urban wards of Great Yarmouth and Gorleston. The diagram below shows this pattern with the darker shading reflecting areas with

higher deprivation; with approximately a quarter of the areas assessed (Lower Super Output Areas) falling within the greatest deprivation decile.

2019 Indices of Deprivation for the Borough of Great Yarmouth



- 2.11. There are also deprivation issues which concern accessing services in the rural hinterland. While deprivation is more often associated with indices such as income and employment, health and living environment are also key indices. The provision of good, accessible open spaces can contribute to improvements within deprived areas.
- 2.12. There are 16 wards within the Borough which provide ideal catchment areas. Consequently, this is how much of the localised data has been collected. This provides the ability to compare facilities with the associated ward population and is particularly useful in Great Yarmouth and Gorleston as they are large unparished areas.

National Planning Policy, Guidance

- 2.13. There is a strong link between open space, human health and the state of the environment. The [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) requires planning authorities to have planning policies and decisions that aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places. This includes access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision.

- 2.14. Open spaces are community facilities and will be generally protected unless there is a clear reason for their loss or where they are appropriately compensated. Paragraphs 101-103 of the NPPF supports the designation of Local Green Spaces for communities to identify which green spaces are most important to them.
- 2.15. National practice guidance builds on the NPPF and suggests working with other bodies including Sport England to assess the need for sports and recreation facilities.
- 2.16. Land within the Borough falls under three identified National Character Areas (NCAs) to describe the landscape:
- [North East Norfolk and Flegg](#)
 - [The Broads](#)
 - [Suffolk Coast and Heaths](#)

Broadly speaking, the Borough is characterised by a flat rural landscape comprising waterways (The Broads) with long a long stretch of coast that includes dune systems.

Fields in Trust – Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2015)

- 2.17. Fields in Trust (FiT) is a national independent charity that works with the government, local authorities, landowners and community groups to protect and enhance parks and green spaces. In 2015, FiT published open space standards and benchmarking guidance for England.

The Green Flag Award

- 2.18. The 'Green Flag Award' scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world. It assesses the quality of green spaces through the following categories:
- Welcoming place
 - Health, safe and secure
 - Well maintained and clean
 - Environmental management
 - Biodiversity, landscape and heritage
 - Community involvement

- Marketing and communication
- Management

Natural England

- 2.19. Natural England is in the process of updating its guidance for providing Green Infrastructure (GI), its new standards. This follows the publication of the Government's [25 Year Environment Plan](#). Natural England has developed a set of [GI Principles](#) that underpin the GI Framework. In addition, Natural England has prepared a new [GI Mapping Tool](#) to assist local planning authorities to identify needs within their area.

Public Health England

- 2.20. Public Health England published its report 'Improving access to greenspace: A new review for 2020'. The report seeks to highlight the role of greenspace in supporting healthy lifestyles and reducing inequality, to support engagement across local government and communities and to recommend actions to facilitate improved access to greenspaces. The report identifies the link between deprivation and poor access to good quality public green space. Clearly, the recent Covid-19 pandemic has further reinforced the importance of greenspaces for local communities.

Local Planning Policy

- 2.21. The Core Strategy seeks to improve access to and the provision of open spaces and sports facilities. Core Strategy Policy CS15 seeks to provide and protect community assets and infrastructure. The Core Strategy also identifies that open spaces are integral to enhancing the natural environment and ensuring that new development contributes to well-designed, distinctive places. Building on this, the Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) introduces: 'Policy H4: Open space provision for new housing development'.

Policy H4 on Open Space Provision for New Housing Development

Policy H4: Open space provision for new housing development

New residential developments will be expected to make provision for publicly accessible recreational open space to the following standards.

- a. **103 square metres per dwelling, comprising approximately:**
 - 24% for outdoor sport;
 - 18% for informal amenity green space;
 - 6% for suitably equipped children's play space;
 - 2% for allotments;
 - 10% for parks and gardens; and
 - 40% for accessible natural green space.

- b. This provision will generally be expected to be provided on site, except to the extent that the size, circumstances and surroundings render this impractical or undesirable, in which case an equivalent financial contribution will be required for the improvement or enhancement of public open space provision in the locality.
- c. Flexibility may be provided in the balance between on and off-site provision, and between the types of open space, in the light of the nature of the development and the availability of existing recreational play space in the vicinity. Developments of 20 dwellings and above, however, will generally be expected to meet the requirement for children's play space on or adjacent to the site (i.e. other requirements may, subject to the foregoing criteria, be provided elsewhere).
- d. Robust arrangements for the management and maintenance of the on-site provision in perpetuity will be required to be demonstrated. (This will not be relevant where a financial contribution is accepted in lieu of the whole of normal on-site provision.) This requirement may be met by:
 - the Borough Council's agreement to adopt recreation space, which will require a minimum of 20 years financial contribution paid to it for by the developer in advance of adoption; or
 - an agreement with the relevant Parish or Town Council for it to adopt the space and commit to (for which it may require an appropriate financial contribution from the developer); or
 - the establishment of an adequately funded private management entity with responsibility for its maintenance and management in perpetuity.
- e. Acceptability of a financial contribution in lieu of on-site provision will be dependent on meeting the following additional requirements:
 - a development that contains sufficient space to ensure a high standard of layout and amenity to the residents and neighbours of the proposed development and to ensure it integrates well into the wider landscape or townscape setting; and
 - a reasonable prospect of delivery of appropriate off-site provision in the locality in the near future, having regard to the amount of the financial contribution, the existence of administrative arrangements for delivery, and (where relevant) the availability of suitable land.
- f. All types of outdoor open space should seek to enhance biodiversity by improving the potential for habitat connectivity.
 A Supplementary Planning Document will be produced by the Borough Council to provide further detail and guidance on providing open space in new residential development.

2.22. The requirement is 103 square metres, and this is split down into percentages of different types of open space. The following section will explain how this quantity standard has been calculated.

- 2.23. Policy E3 protects open spaces largely in line with national policy.

Biodiversity

- 2.24. Biodiversity is a collective term that refers to all of the natural world and all living organisms within it, including plants, animals, bacteria and micro-organisms. Clearly, open spaces have an impact on biodiversity, particularly in urban areas where opportunities for habitats may be extremely limited. Open spaces form part of a wider network of green infrastructure, supporting green corridors and wildlife networks. Some open spaces provide much better value for biodiversity than others.
- 2.25. National planning policy seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity, avoiding harm or loss to the most important habitats. The emerging Environmental Act brings forward biodiversity net gain which will require new development to secure measurable improvements for biodiversity on or off site. Local Nature Recovery Strategies will be prepared to map out current biodiversity levels and identify opportunities for enhancement.
- 2.26. 'Policy GSP5: Internationally protected habitats and species impact avoidance and mitigation' and 'Policy GSP6: Green Infrastructure' – may seek further open space provision (beyond Policy H4) where it is necessary to mitigate potential impacts on internationally designated sites of biodiversity importance.
- 2.27. Further work is being undertaken at a more strategic level, across the County, to identify opportunities to enhance areas of strategic importance and mitigate County-wide impacts upon National Site Network designated habitat sites from recreational disturbance caused by residential and tourist development.

3. Required standards

Quantity Standards

- 3.1. The open space standards and requirements are already established through a combination of evidence documents including the 'Open Space Study' (2013) and 'Sport, Play and Leisure' Strategy (2015), combined with best practice set out in the [Fields in Trust \(FiT\) standards – 'Guidance for outdoor sport and play: Beyond the six acre standard'](#).
- 3.2. With the exception of accessible natural greenspace, the open space standards are based on the findings and recommendations of these local evidence documents. This is because evidence had indicated a much higher standard (approximately 16ha per 1,000 population) which was based on access to existing semi-natural areas that on reflection are not considered to be easily accessible (primarily the Broads network).

- 3.3. The standards are still considered to be appropriate based on the updated audit and there is no available evidence to suggest they should change.

Open Space Study (2013) Recommendations

Open Space	Ha/Per 1000 Population	m2/per 1000 Population	m2/Per Person
Urban Parks & Gardens	0.4	4,000	4
Accessible Natural Greenspace	16	160,000	160
Outdoor Sport	1.2	12,000	12
Amenity Greenspace	0.8	8,000	8
Children's Play Space	0.2	2,000	2
Allotments	0.18	1,800	1.8
Totals	18.78	18,7800	187.8

- 3.4. The 2015 Sport, Play and Leisure Strategy sought to drill down further the open space needs covering indoor sport and leisure provision, children's play and open space, and outdoor playing pitches. The strategy provided a set of recommendations for local standards as follows:

Sport, Play and Leisure Strategy (2015) Recommendations

Open Space	Ha/Per 1000 Population	m2/per 1000 Population	m2/Per Person
Grass Pitch Provision	1.067	10,670	10.67
Children's Play Space	0.2	2,000	2
Informal Amenity Greenspace	0.8	8,000	8
Accessible Natural Greenspace	16	160,000	160
Allotments	0.18	1,800	1.8
Totals	18.247	182,470	182.47

- 3.5. While both local evidence documents provided a strong platform to meet open space needs with clear standards, there is a concern that both documents seek to

over-provide 'accessible natural greenspace'. This may have been misrepresented through the audit of existing spaces by including areas of the Borough around the Broads network that are not publicly accessible. A further complication arises in that it would be extremely difficult to provide this high standard of 160sqm per person (estimated at 370sqm per household), owing to both the lack of space within the Borough to provide such spaces and the limited viability of development to afford such requirements.

- 3.6. The FiT benchmark standards are similar, with the exception of accessible natural greenspace, which is significantly lower.

Fields in Trust 'benchmark' standards (2015)

Open Space	Ha/Per 1000 Population	m2/per 1000 Population	m2/Per Person
Outdoor Sport	1.60	16,000	16
Children's Play Space	0.55	5,500	5.5
Informal Amenity Greenspace	0.6	6,000	6
Allotments	0.3	3,000	3
Parks and Gardens	0.8	8,000	8
Accessible Natural Greenspace	1.8	18,000	18
Totals	5.65	56,500	56.5

- 3.7. The accessible natural green space standard from the Fields and Trust is a much more realistic target for provision in the Borough and this will align provision with national best practice. The remaining standards appear to broadly align with the FiT benchmarks. On this basis, the accessible natural greenspace figure of 1.8ha per 1,000 population (or 18m per person) is taken to be a more appropriate requirement and is to be combined with the local standard recommendations.

Combined open space policy requirements

Open Space	GY Ha/Per 1000 Population	m2/per 1000 Population	m2/Per Person
Outdoor Sport	1.067	10670	10.67
Children's Play Space	0.2	2000	2

Informal Amenity Greenspace	0.8	8000	8
Allotments	0.18	1800	1.8
Parks and Gardens	0.4	4000	4
Accessible Natural Greenspace	1.8	18000	18
Totals	4.447	44470	44.47

3.8. To set a requirement per household, the above standards have been applied to the average household size (current ONS data calculates this as 2.31 persons per household), this can be done by simply multiplying the metre squared requirement by person by the average household size. The result is 103 square metres of open space per household.

3.9. The policy has proportioned the requirements across each type of open space. The proportions were rounded up as appropriate to total 100%.

Open space requirements per household

Open Space	GY Ha/Per 1000 Population	m2/per 1000 Population	m2/Per Person	m2/Per Household	% Requirement for Policy
Outdoor Sport	1.067	10670	10.67	24.65	24
Children's Play Space	0.2	2000	2	4.62	6
Informal Amenity Greenspace	0.8	8000	8	18.48	18
Allotments	0.18	1800	1.8	4.16	2
Parks and Gardens	0.4	4000	4	9.24	10
Accessible Natural Greenspace	1.8	18000	18	41.58	40
Totals	4.447	44470	44.47	103	100

Quality Standards

3.10. To assess quality, a set of criteria has been identified, having regard to national and local guidance (such as the Green Flag Award). Each of the criteria were then scored 1-5 based on a consistent, objective assessment. The scores were then appropriately weighted according to the most important criteria associated with the typology of open space.

Accessibility Standards

3.11. Accessibility standards are set out in Appendix D of the Local Plan Part 2 and are derived from the Open Space Study (2013) and Sport, Play & Leisure Strategy (2015). These standards were set following a previous audit of the Borough's open spaces using the methodology suggested in PPG17 and national benchmark standards. The standards remain relevant in the Fields in Trust national benchmarks and have therefore been carried forward to this assessment.

3.12. **Children's play space** can vary according to the intended age range; therefore, accessibility is considered in straight line distances as follows:

- Junior (ages 0-8) up to 100m
- Intermediate (ages 6-12) up to 300m
- Senior (ages 8-14) up to 600m
- Teen facilities up to 1km.

3.13. **Informal amenity green space** should be considered accessible by residents or workers within the following straight line distances:

- Sites up to 1ha within 150m
- Sites 1-3ha within 200m
- Sites 3-10ha within 500m

3.14. **Parks & Gardens** are primarily located in urban areas, and should be considered accessible based on the following:

Percentage Population	Catchment Radius	Park Size
20%	500m	Neighbourhood
25%	1km	Middle order
55%	2km	Strategic

3.15. **Allotments** are local facilities serving local catchment populations, in

particular those with little garden space, it was assumed that an acceptable distance to travel would be about 900 metres (which equates to roughly a 15 minute walk or a short car journey).

3.16. The Borough Council applies the Natural England recommended standards for **Accessible Natural Green Space**. Every person should have access to:

- At least 2 ha in size, no more than 300 metres (5 mins walk) from home
- At least one accessible 20 ha site within 2 km of home
- One accessible 100 ha site within 5 km of home
- One accessible 500 ha site within 10 km of home
- A minimum of 1 ha of statutory Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population

3.17. The standards are still considered to be appropriate based on the updated audit and there is no available evidence to suggest they should change.

4. Children's play space

4.1. Children's play spaces are areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters. They are usually formally laid out and often feature equipment and are enclosed/fenced areas.

4.2. The play areas in the borough are defined according to age groupings of 0-8 years (Junior), 6-12 years (Intermediate), 8-14 years (Senior), and 14+ (Teen). Fields In Trust (FiT) has identified three categories of equipped play:

- Local Areas for Play (LAPs) – small area of play (approx. 100m²)
- Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAPs) – play area (approx. 400m²)
- Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAPs) – large play area (approx. 1,000m²) with at least 8 types of play equipment

4.3. Broadly speaking, LAPs will be appropriate only for junior ages, LEAPs are suitable for some junior and intermediate children, while NEAPs can cater for junior, intermediate and senior children. It is anticipated that achieving a junior play space that is accessible for all residents within 100m is highly unlikely. While this report can make recommendations towards better provision, this particular standard is somewhat aspirational.

4.4. There are also Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) which are enclosed hard surfaced areas to be used for playing sports such as football, tennis, basketball, and netball. Skate parks are purpose built play area to support activities using skateboards,

scooters, in-line skates and BMX cycles usually containing half and quarter pipes, sliding rails, bowls, and banking and other hard surfaced equipment. Such facilities have the potential to cater for some of the need in each of the age categories, including teens.

Quantity of equipped play space

4.5. Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Policy H4 requires **0.2ha per 1,000 population**, which equates to 2m² per person or 4.62m² per household.

4.6. There are currently 97 publicly accessible children's play areas in the Borough across a total area of 14.15ha. Though provision is not distributed evenly across the Borough, both in terms of area and the population that it serves. Only three wards within the Borough have a surplus in provision (note that Fleggburgh has been rounded and is just below the standard), those being the wards of Gorleston, Lothingland, and Magdalen. However, in these wards the surpluses are likely to turn to deficits due to the allocations in the Local Plan and existing committed development.

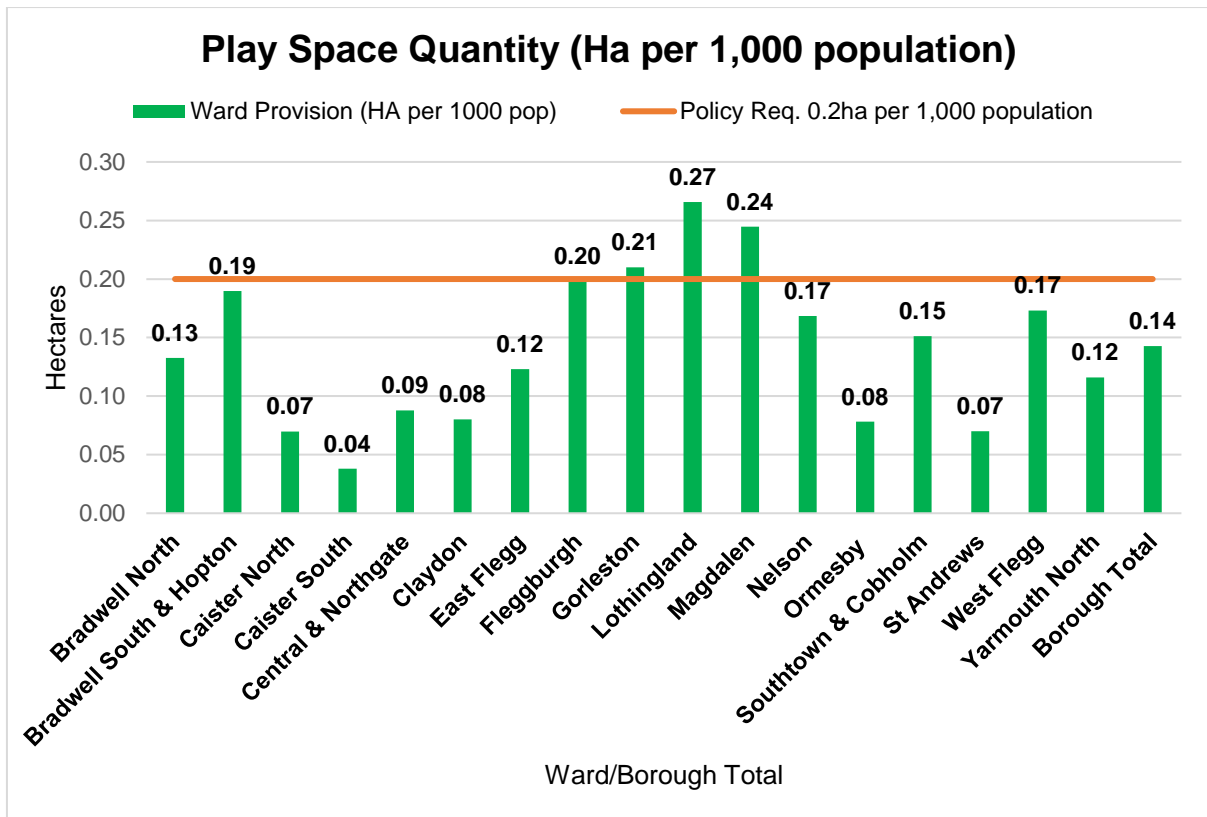
Play space provision

Ward	Provision (Ha)	Population ¹	Ward Provision (Ha per 1000 pop)	Surplus / Deficit (Ha)
Bradwell North	0.84	6355	0.13	-0.07
Bradwell South & Hopton	1.39	7307	0.19	-0.01
Caister North	0.31	4382	0.07	-0.13
Caister South	0.17	4592	0.04	-0.16
Central & Northgate	0.78	8853	0.09	-0.11
Claydon	0.61	7605	0.08	-0.12
East Flegg	0.59	4809	0.12	-0.08
Fleggburgh	0.50	2525	0.20	0.00

¹ 2020 Ward Level Population Estimates (Source ONS)

Ward	Provision (Ha)	Population ¹	Ward Provision (Ha per 1000 pop)	Surplus / Deficit (Ha)
Gorleston	1.10	5249	0.21	0.01
Lothingland	1.39	5222	0.27	0.07
Magdalen	1.84	7530	0.24	0.04
Nelson	1.62	9608	0.17	-0.03
Ormesby	0.34	4313	0.08	-0.12
Southtown & Cobholm	0.90	5931	0.15	-0.05
St Andrews	0.37	5304	0.07	-0.13
West Flegg	0.87	5039	0.17	-0.03
Yarmouth North	0.53	4574	0.12	-0.08
Borough Total	14.15	99198	0.14	-0.06

Bar chart identifying play space provision



- 4.7. There is no clear pattern to where there is a surplus or deficit in play space provision. Though clearly, it is easier to meet play space needs in a ward such as Fleggburgh where the population is much smaller and therefore the needs can be met with fewer sites and less land. Conversely, a densely packed urban ward may have limited space for play and a large population to provide for, such as in the wards of Claydon and Central & Northgate.
- 4.8. Investment into new play space provision will be required in Wards where there is an identified quantity deficit. Where possible, consideration needs to be given to improving existing site offers where appropriate and having regard to the accessibility of surrounding residents. For example, this could be achieved on runoff areas of play fields or other types of open space, to expand children's play.
- 4.9. There may be the potential to consolidate the offer of play space in the Wards of Gorleston, Lothingland and Magdalen. This will be subject to further consideration of accessibility for residents including those from adjacent Wards where there may be an identified deficit. The other crucial indicator is the provision of play spaces between age groups as some Wards lack facilities for older children in particular.

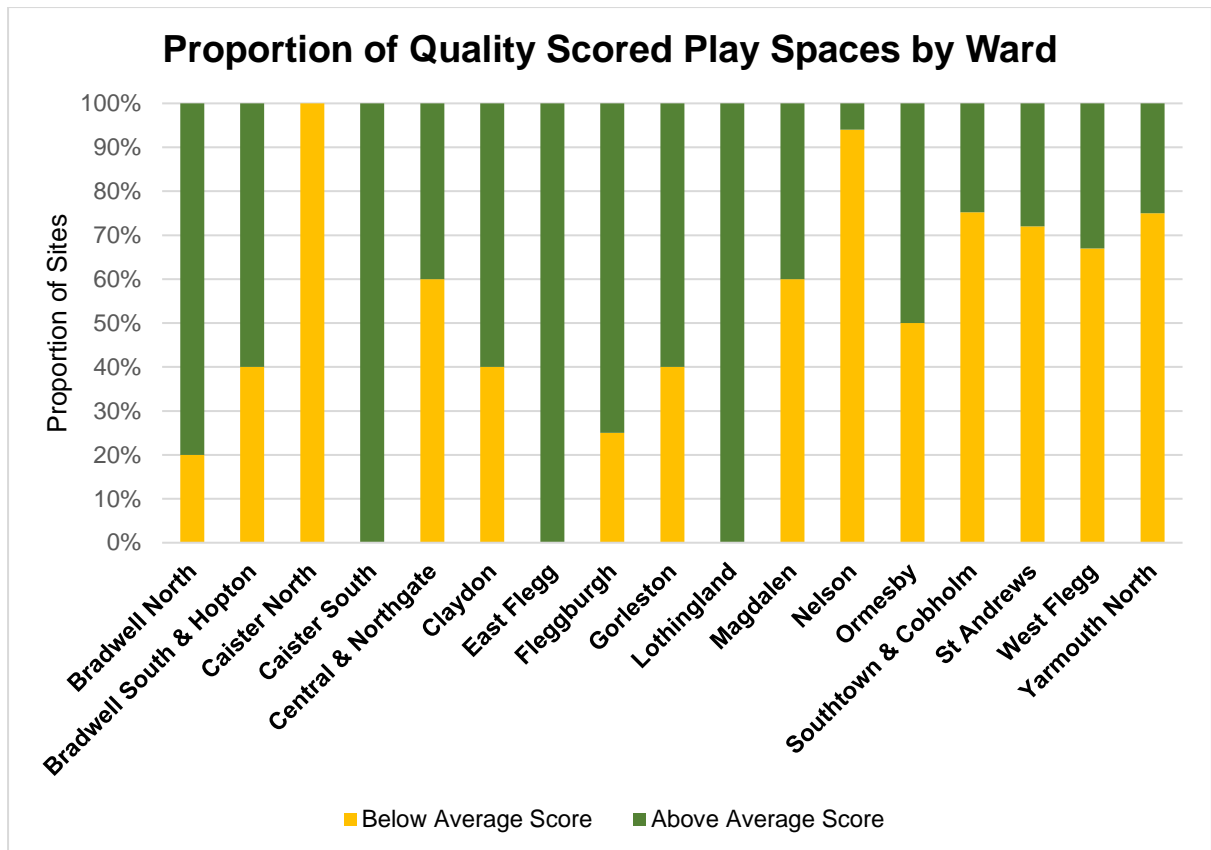
Quality of play spaces

- 4.10. Each of the play space sites has been assessed by 11 quality criteria having had regard to the [Green Flag](#) and [Play England](#) standards. These were:

- Play equipment variety
- Play equipment condition
- Safety of equipment and facilities
- Access and facilities for those with disabilities
- Landscaping & planting
- Site security
- Benches
- Bins
- Visual appeal
- Litter & graffiti
- Lighting

4.11. The criteria were then scored 1-5 with the exception of the top four criteria in the above list which had double score weighting to reflect their importance (over the other criteria) in understanding the overall quality of each site. The maximum number of points scored for an individual site was 75. The score was then calculated as a percentage to simplify quality categorisation. Anything above a 50% score (broadly the median score for the borough) is considered to meet the quality standard

4.12. There is no clear spatial pattern between the Wards as to which scored better in quality. Generally, however, the urban Wards have scored worse, with Great Yarmouth Wards unable to score within the good to very good categories. These findings are not necessarily surprising as these will be more populous areas under greater pressure for use. This does highlight the need to improve the quality of play spaces, not just in Great Yarmouth but across the Borough. The below chart illustrates the findings as a proportion of the sites surveyed within each Ward.



4.13. While there are clear deficits in most Wards, with the exceptions of Caister South, East Flegg and Lothingland, there are some Wards in greater need of quality enhancement. Priority areas to improve quality could include those Wards with high proportions of below average spaces. However, more focused attention will need to be given to a site by site level. The Wards with particularly low quality of play spaces include:

- Caister North
- Central & Northgate
- Magdalen
- Nelson
- Southtown & Cobholm
- St Andrews
- West Flegg
- Yarmouth North

Accessibility of play space

4.14. As set out in section 1, the accessibility of play spaces is further sub-categorised by the age of the children that the site caters for:

- Junior (ages 0-8) up to 100m
- Intermediate (ages 6-12) up to 300m
- Senior (ages 8-14) up to 600m
- Teen facilities up to 1km.

4.15. Each play space will differ as to whether it is suitable for use within the age categories. Some play spaces can cater for multiple ages, others have much more age focused equipment.

4.16. The full accessibility results can be viewed on a map [here](#). The following paragraphs provide a summary of how accessible each type of play space is within each Ward.

Accessibility of play space – Bradwell North Ward

4.17. There are five identified play space sites within this ward.

Bradwell North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	12	88
Intermediate	55	45
Senior	68	32
Teen	99	1

4.18. Only a small proportion (12%) of properties have access to the junior play spaces within the ward within 100m. Provision is concentrated to the west of Mill Lane and either side of Gapton Hall Road. Consequently, there are gaps in accessibility around Willow Avenue, Homefield Avenue, the east side of Mill Lane and Victoria Avenue.

4.19. There are five identified intermediate sites in this ward. The 200m catchments have a reasonably good coverage, although there is a gap in accessibility around Homefield Avenue up to Wren Drive.

- 4.20. There are two adjacent senior children's play areas at the playing field west of Mill Lane. The resulting inaccessible spots are north of Burgh Road and north and south of Lynn Grove High School.
- 4.21. The teen facilities (adjacent areas) at the playing field west of Mill Lane are accessible to all residential properties within the ward at the 1km catchment.
- 4.22. It should be noted that some of the areas lacking provision are within the proximity of Lynn Grove High School and Hillside Primary School. The schools themselves may contain open space facilities (often including play equipped space) but these are not generally available for public use and have therefore been excluded from the assessment.
- 4.23. Despite the lack of accessibility for junior and intermediate play spaces, the ward does have a reasonable spread of play facilities. The extent of existing development will limit opportunities for further provision within the ward. However, there could be scope for additional provision through new allocations as part of a review of the Local Plan

Accessibility of play space – Bradwell South & Hopton Ward

- 4.24. There are ten sites within the ward, with a split between the provision in the parishes of Bradwell and Hopton.

Bradwell South & Hopton Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	17	83
Intermediate	62	38
Senior	86	14
Teen	99	1

- 4.25. Only a small proportion (17%) of properties have access to the nine junior play spaces within the ward within 100m. Provision is concentrated around Green Lane, Primrose Way and Burnet Road in Bradwell and Anglian Way, Seafields Drive, Julian Way and Watsons Close in Hopton. There are consequently accessibility gaps north of Sun Lane and Clover Way in Bradwell. Provision around Beacon Park will come forward through the development of the housing allocation. There are gaps in Hopton around Potters Drive and Old Church Road.

- 4.26. Nine sites cater for intermediate age play. This provides reasonable coverage with a few gaps along Chestnut Avenue and south of Kings Drive in Bradwell, as well as south of Misburgh Way in Hopton.
- 4.27. Five sites provide good coverage at senior age play with Bradwell mostly being covered, bar a few small pockets of housing falling outside the 600m buffer, such as along Howards Way. There are a few remaining gaps, such as around Seaview Rise in Hopton.
- 4.28. The five teen facilities cover nearly all properties within the ward.
- 4.29. Despite the lack of accessibility for junior play spaces, the ward does have a reasonable spread of play facilities. The extent of existing development will limit opportunities for further provision within the ward. However, there could be scope for additional provision through new allocations as part of a review of the Local Plan

Accessibility of play space – Caister North Ward

- 4.30. There are three main play sites within the ward.

Caister North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	5	95
Intermediate	31	69
Senior	59	41
Teen	100	0

- 4.31. Junior facilities are only accessible to 5% of residents within the ward within the 100m catchment. Consequently, accessibility is constrained to only a limited number of properties adjacent the recreation ground to the west side of the ward and along Webster Way.
- 4.32. Intermediate play jumps to just under a third of the surrounding properties with provision focussed just north of John Grant School and Webster Way. There are consequent gaps north of Halt Road and south of St George's Drive.
- 4.33. Some properties in the south of the ward benefit from senior play provision within Caister South. Gaps remain around Second Avenue as well as south and south-west of Breydon Way.

- 4.34. Teen facilities have full ward coverage at a 1km catchment and the south part of Caister North benefits from coverage that extends into it from Caister South ward.
- 4.35. While opportunities for junior and intermediate play are limited within the ward, there are alternative forms of open space which unequipped, may help to meet some recreational needs. There are also further play spaces located within school grounds and holiday parks, though as these are not publicly accessible they have been excluded from the identified sites.

Accessibility of play space – Caister South Ward

- 4.36. There are two main play sites within the ward.

Caister South Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	5	95
Intermediate	41	59
Senior	62	38
Teen	96	4

- 4.37. Junior facilities are only accessible to 5% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, accessibility is constrained to only a limited number of properties adjacent the King George's Field and along the Coxswain Road Way area of the ward.
- 4.38. Intermediate play rises significantly to 41% of the surrounding properties. There are consequent gaps south of Norwich Road and either side of the High Street.
- 4.39. Senior play caters for approximately two thirds of the ward, with gaps remaining around the Upper Grange Crescent area and south of Buildings Road.
- 4.40. Teen facilities cover nearly all properties within the ward.
- 4.41. Opportunities for junior play, in particular, are limited within the ward. There are alternative forms of recreation space which unequipped, may help to meet some of these play needs including the beach, Caister Junior School, Caister Academy, the fields below Westerley Way, and the nearby Caister Roman Fort.

Accessibility of play space – Central & Northgate Ward

- 4.42. There are five play sites within the ward, with the Middlegate estate considered as a sing

Central & Northgate Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	13	87
Intermediate	68	32
Senior	53	47
Teen	92	8

- 4.43. Junior facilities are accessible to 13% of residents within the Ward at the 100m catchment, with only properties around George Street, Town Wall Road, the north part of Alderson Road and a small part of North Denes Road to the north having coverage.
- 4.44. Intermediate play jumps to 68% of the surrounding properties. Some of the catchment provision is received from Nelson Ward sites. There are still consequent gaps through Great Yarmouth Town Centre, north of Middle Market Road and west of North River Road.
- 4.45. Only one site caters for senior children's play, this being located along North Drive. There is a consequent gap in provision in the north-west of the ward, east and west of Northgate Street.
- 4.46. Teen facilities cover nearly all properties within the ward.
- 4.47. Opportunities for junior play, in particular, are limited within the ward. There are alternative forms of recreation space which unequipped, may help to meet some of these play needs including the whole of Beaconsfield Recreation Ground and the beach.
- 4.48. The facility at George Street has limited accessibility, and any play space facilities delivered as part of redevelopment of North Quay may help to provide a better offer to nearby residents.

Accessibility of play space – Claydon Ward

- 4.49. There are five play sites within the ward.

Claydon Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	11	89
Intermediate	62	38
Senior	76	24
Teen	100	0

- 4.50. Junior facilities are accessible to 11% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment, leaving big gaps in coverage throughout the ward.
- 4.51. Intermediate play jumps to 62% of the surrounding properties. There are still gaps around Burnt Lane, Burgh Road, Westbrook Avenue and Mayflower Way.
- 4.52. Whilst the only senior play space within the ward is at Southtown Common to the north of the ward, the ward benefits from play space catchments within adjacent wards. A gap in provision still remains around the Claydon Grove area.
- 4.53. Teen facilities have full ward coverage at a 1km catchment.
- 4.54. The ward generally has good accessibility to play spaces, though the junior space is limited. The two spaces south of Crab Lane are close together with overlaying catchments serving the same community, which may suggest that there may be the potential to consolidate the offer. The gaps in accessibility may be to some extent mitigated by alternative spaces such as Wroughton Junior Academy and Veronica Green, and nearby areas such as Meadow Park and Gorleston Recreation Ground. It is therefore otherwise recommended that the play facilities within the ward are maintained.

Accessibility of play space – East Flegg Ward

- 4.55. There are four play sites within the ward.

East Flegg Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	9	91
Intermediate	45	55
Senior	58	42

Teen	0	100
------	---	-----

- 4.56. Junior facilities are only accessible to 9% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment therefore most properties are located outside of the accessible catchment. This is more likely to be an issue in the parishes of Winterton-on-Sea and Hemsby which are much larger settlements than Somerton.
- 4.57. Intermediate play jumps to 45% of the surrounding properties at the 300m catchment. Again, there is significant difference between the settlements as Somerton and Winterton-on-Sea have good coverage, whilst Hemsby has clear accessibility gaps in the north, east and western points of the settlement.
- 4.58. There are only two senior play sites, one each within Hemsby and Winterton-on-Sea. There are consequent gaps in the east of Hemsby and the settlement of Somerton.
- 4.59. There are no teen facilities within the East Flegg Ward. As the most populous settlement within the ward, if such provision were provided then Hemsby would be the most appropriate place to do this.
- 4.60. While junior play accessibility is limited within the ward, it is a rural area and local residents would be more likely to travel a bit further to access facilities. Additionally, alternative open spaces within the settlements may help to meet such needs.

Accessibility of play space – Fleggburgh Ward

- 4.61. There are four play sites within the ward.

Fleggburgh Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	6	94
Intermediate	32	68
Senior	31	69
Teen	34	66

- 4.62. Junior facilities are only accessible to 6% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, accessibility is limited and does not meet the standards of many residents within the settlements of Fleggburgh and Filby. In addition, Thrigby and Billockby have no coverage at all.

- 4.63. Intermediate play rises to 32% of properties. There are gaps around The Village to the east of Burgh St Margaret and to its north in the Margaret's Way area and east and west of Rollesby Road. Coverage gaps exist south of Filby along Thrigby Road, starting from half-way between York Villa Close and The Loke and continuing further south. There is also a significant gap to the east of Filby along Main Road to the north and south respectively. There are gaps around Low Road and Barn Lane in Runham as well as north-east of Stokesby along Mill Road and to its east along Filby Road. Again, there is no coverage at all in Thrigby or Billockby.
- 4.64. The only senior play area is situated in Burgh St Margaret in the north-west of the ward.
- 4.65. Teen facilities cover nearly all properties within Burgh St Margaret but there is no other teen play space coverage in the rest of the ward.
- 4.66. While play space accessibility is limited within the ward, it is a very rural area comprising smaller settlements and local residents would be more likely to travel a bit further to access local facilities, particularly in the larger villages of Fleggburgh and Filby. Additionally, alternative open spaces within the settlements may help to meet such needs.
- 4.67. Opportunities could be explored to expand on Filby's play space offer to cater for older children, though it is unlikely that demand will be particularly high given the small size of the settlement. Demand in Stokesby and Runham is likely to be very limited.

Accessibility of play space – Gorleston Ward

- 4.68. There are five main play sites within the ward, with each being located along Gorleston Cliffs.

Gorleston Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	7	93
Intermediate	33	67
Senior	59	41
Teen	98	2

- 4.69. Junior facilities are only accessible to 7% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, accessibility is out of range for most properties north of Park Road and to the south of the ward, south of Bridge Road.
- 4.70. Intermediate play rises to 33% of the surrounding properties. There are consequent gaps south of Arnott Avenue, in the Kennedy Avenue area and south of Cliff Park Ormiston Academy.
- 4.71. Senior play caters for over half of the ward with gaps lying in the north of the ward around the Upper Cliff Road area and in the south of the ward around Links Road. The south-west of the ward benefits from some adjacent ward coverage.
- 4.72. Teen facilities cover nearly all properties within the ward with the only gap situated around the Kennel Loke area.
- 4.73. Play spaces within this Ward are centred around the cliffs. However, these areas do benefit from access to other spaces that may help to meet needs including: the former rail trackway running alongside Vitoria Road to Bridge Road, Cliff Park Academy, the open space at Mariner's Compass, Beacon Park Playground, and any potential further space delivered through the development south of Links Road (which is allocated in the Local Plan Part 2).

Accessibility of play space – Lothingland Ward

- 4.74. There are four main play sites within the ward.

Lothingland Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	11	89
Intermediate	37	63
Senior	67	33
Teen	76	24

- 4.75. Junior facilities are accessible to 11% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, accessibility is not available to many properties in Burgh Castle as a whole as well as in the west of Belton and around the St Georges Road area to its north-east. Areas to the north of Fritton, north of Forest Mount off New Road have no coverage, as well as to the area south-west of the Decoy Tavern Public House and east of it along Beccles Road and Church Lane.

- 4.76. Intermediate play rises to 37% of surrounding properties. Whilst there is slightly more coverage in Burgh Castle, large parts of it remain inaccessible to intermediate play space. There are gaps also in the south of Belton, north of Station Road South, to the east (north and south of Heather Gardens) and to the north-east (in the area west of Church Lane).
- 4.77. There is only one senior play area in the ward which covers almost all properties in Belton. This leaves gaps in Burgh Castle and Fritton.
- 4.78. The one teen facility covers all properties within Belton but again leaves gaps everywhere else in the ward.
- 4.79. While play space accessibility is limited within the ward, it is a very rural area comprising smaller settlements and local residents would be more likely to travel a bit further to access local facilities, particularly in the larger village of Belton. Alternative open spaces within the settlement of Belton may help to meet needs outside of the accessibility range.
- 4.80. Burgh Castle is a small, dispersed settlement with likely a small corresponding demand. The play space along Church Road will cater for residents in that part of the village, with residents in the south benefitting from foot access to Belton. Fritton, another small settlement is catered by a single site. Neither settlement is likely to have sufficient demand to justify further play facilities for older children/teenagers.
- 4.81. St Olaves lacks an equipped play space. The village is small and unlikely to have great demand, however, should major residential development occur within the village, then such a facility could be delivered.

Accessibility of play space – Magdalen Ward

- 4.82. There are five main play sites within the ward.

Magdalen Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	9	91
Intermediate	52	48
Senior	94	6
Teen	100	0

- 4.83. Junior facilities are accessible to only 9% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, accessibility is not in range of properties east and west of St Annes Crescent, there is no coverage in the area north of James Paget Hospital or along the east side of the ward.
- 4.84. Intermediate play rises significantly to over half of properties covered in the catchment area. There are still gaps north of James Paget Hospital and south of Clare Avenue and Stanley Avenue. The Elmgrove Road area to the east of the ward has no coverage either as well as the north-west side of the ward, north of Ormiston Herman Academy.
- 4.85. Senior play caters for 94% of the ward with the only pockets not covered situated in the Stanley Avenue and Gresham Close area to the east of the ward.
- 4.86. Teen facilities cover all properties within the ward with additional coverage from adjacent wards.
- 4.87. Despite the lack of properties benefitting from junior play space, accessibility is generally very good within the Ward.
- 4.88. The ward also benefits from good provision of amenity greenspaces such as Crowhall Green and at Elm Avenue, which may help to meet some remaining recreational needs. It is therefore otherwise recommended that all play facilities within the ward are maintained.

Accessibility of play space – Nelson Ward

- 4.89. There are sixteen play sites within the ward, though twelve of these are located within the Middlegate estate.

Nelson Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	35	65
Intermediate	95	5
Senior	100	0
Teen	100	0

- 4.90. Junior facilities are accessible to 35% of residents within the ward which is a much higher proportion than in other wards across the Borough for Junior play space. The gaps lie west of Marine Parade to the north of the ward, around the Newcastle Road area and south of Battery Road.

- 4.91. Intermediate play rises exponentially to 95% of the surrounding properties. The remaining gaps lie mainly to the south of Suffling Road and a few other tiny pockets of non-coverage scattered around the ward.
- 4.92. Senior play and teen facilities accommodate every property within the ward.
- 4.93. The ward generally has excellent accessibility to play spaces, with the exception of junior spaces. Clearly, the Middlegate Estate provides the potential to consolidate the provision of play spaces. Beyond those, the sites provide a decent distribution and are supported by other open spaces including St George's Park, Medieval Town Halls Open Space, St Nicholas Recreation Ground and the beach.

Accessibility of play space – Ormesby Ward

- 4.94. There are four main play sites within the ward.

Ormesby Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	7	93
Intermediate	34	66
Senior	20	80
Teen	9	91

- 4.95. Junior facilities are only accessible to 7% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, there is no accessibility in the ward west of West Road in Ormesby St Margaret, rendering Ormesby St Michael and the surrounding area uncovered. The residential area north of California has no coverage too as well as significant parts of Ormesby St Margaret, mainly north and south of Station Road and north of Cromer Road.
- 4.96. Intermediate play rises to just over a third of the surrounding properties covered by the catchment area. There are still gaps around the Spruce Avenue area to the west of Ormesby St Margaret and around the Leathway area to its east. There is still no coverage at all in the west part of the ward including Ormesby St Michael or east and south of Scratby Road.
- 4.97. The one senior play site covers the west side of Ormesby St Margaret only including most of Leathway and properties north and south of Station Road and part of Yarmouth Road is covered too. The rest of the ward is not covered.

- 4.98. There are no teen facilities in the ward but there is small coverage in the south-east of the ward in the Whitby Road, Yarmouth Road and Pascoe Drive area due to overlapping coverage from Caister North ward.
- 4.99. Play space provision within the ward is generally limited to accessibility within the settlement of Ormesby St Margaret only. Consequently, the settlement of Scratby would clearly benefit from equipped play provision. There may be potential for this to be provided on the village hall grounds.
- 4.100. The settlement of Ormesby St Michael is unlikely to create sufficient need to justify the provision of play facilities given its small size.
- 4.101. Within the settlement of Ormesby St Margaret there is a decent spread of younger children's play facilities, but a lack of any teen facilities. Therefore, enabling development should consider the potential to provide teen facilities. It may be possible to achieve this on the existing main recreation space, The Edgar Tennant playing field.

Accessibility of play space – Southtown and Cobholm Ward

- 4.102. There are eight play sites within the ward.

Southtown and Cobholm Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	30	70
Intermediate	92	8
Senior	98	2
Teen	100	0

- 4.103. Junior facilities are accessible by just under a third of properties within the ward at the 100m catchment. The main gaps in coverage lie around the Waveney Road area to the south of the ward; from Gordon Road to Anson Road; and the Granville Road area.
- 4.104. Intermediate play enjoys an impressive 92% coverage of the surrounding properties. There are a few tiny pockets not covered around the ward and the main gap lies in the south-west Brinell Way area.
- 4.105. Senior play covers 98% of the ward and teen facilities cover all properties within the ward.

- 4.106. While junior play space accessibility is low amongst residents, the sites are dispersed across the ward. The main exception to this is at around Tollgate Road where there are two sites with overlapping access, which have the potential to be consolidated. Opportunities to expand provision are otherwise limited, but the ward does benefit from other open spaces at Cobholm Island, Herbert Barnes Park, the allotments, East Coast College, and Southtown Common just to the south of the ward.

Accessibility of play space – St Andrews Ward

- 4.107. There are seven main play sites within the ward.

St Andrews Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	20	80
Intermediate	59	41
Senior	67	33
Teen	100	0

- 4.108. Junior facilities are accessible to a fifth of all properties in the ward. Consequently, four fifths of the ward is not covered and the main gaps in coverage lie south of Duke Road all the way south to Downing Road to the ward's south. The England's Lane area and the area north of Baker Street to the east of the ward lack coverage too.
- 4.109. Intermediate play rises to 59% coverage with the Suffield Road area being the main gap in coverage.
- 4.110. Senior play caters for approximately two thirds of the ward with the main gaps lying in the Bells Road and Bells Marsh Road areas.
- 4.111. The one teen facility covers all properties within the ward and there is additional coverage provided by adjacent wards.
- 4.112. While junior play space accessibility is low amongst residents, the sites are reasonably well dispersed across the ward. There is, however, some overlap between the catchment of sites at East Anglia Way which may allow for the consolidation of spaces given their close proximity to each other. The equipment at Gorleston Recreation Ground provides a single destination offer.

- 4.113. Opportunities to expand provision are otherwise limited, but the ward does benefit from other open spaces at Gorleston Recreation Ground, Priory Gardens, St Andrew's Church, Middleton Gardens, and the Gorleston Pier area.

Accessibility of play space – West Flegg Ward

- 4.114. There are six main play sites within the ward.

West Flegg Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	7	93
Intermediate	38	62
Senior	40	60
Teen	59	41

- 4.115. Junior facilities are only accessible to 7% of residents within the ward at the 100m catchment. Consequently, large parts of Martham are not covered such as the area around east and west of White Street; around Staithe Road to the north; the Sycamore Avenue area to the south; and many properties to the west, north and south of Station Gardens. The areas north of Low Road in Rollesby and to its east lack coverage as well as a large area to the north of Bastwick around High Road and Grove Road.
- 4.116. Intermediate play rises to over a third of the surrounding properties. The area east of Alder Avenue in Martham is still covered, however, as well as the area to its north around Bradfield Drive. The Romany Close area and the area to its south in Rollesby also do not have accessibility to intermediate play areas, as well as the area north of Bastwick. The vast majority of Thurne has coverage though.
- 4.117. The one senior play area caters for most of Martham except to its most westerly point and from Grove Road northwards. 60% of properties remain inaccessible to senior play space throughout the rest of the ward.
- 4.118. The one teen facility covers the majority of Martham but 41% of properties in the remainder of the ward are outside the catchment area.
- 4.119. While junior play accessibility is limited within the ward, it is a rural area and local residents would be more likely to travel a bit further to access facilities. Martham is also likely to benefit from new play space provision as part of recently permitted development schemes. Rollesby Neighbourhood Plan seeks to expand the

open space offer as part of its residential development to join the two sections of the village. Such provision along with alternative open spaces within the settlements may help to meet such recreational needs.

Accessibility of play space – Yarmouth North Ward

4.120. There are four main play sites within the ward.

Yarmouth North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Play Space	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Junior	18	82
Intermediate	7	93
Senior	0	100
Teen	4	96

4.121. Junior facilities are accessible to 18% of residents within the ward; the main gaps lie throughout the ward north of Jellicoe Road and to its immediate south.

4.122. Intermediate play only covers 7% of the ward to its south around the Salisbury Road area, rendering the vast majority of the ward inaccessible to intermediate play coverage.

4.123. There is no senior play accessibility in the ward at all and whilst there are no teen facilities in the ward, some coverage to the south is provided by an adjacent ward around the Salisbury Road area.

4.124. While the ward lacks accessibility to equipped play space, it does have good access to alternative open spaces including Bure Park, Barnard Bridge Sports Ground, North Denes (dunes and beach) and the local schools. Opportunities to provide senior children's and teenager play spaces should be explored. There may be potential to achieve this within existing open space sites such as Bure Park or Fisher Avenue.

5. Informal Amenity Green Space

5.1. Informal amenity green space describes green space that is designed to soften the urban fabric, provide a setting for buildings, provide small wildlife habitats and allows for informal leisure activities. Amenity green spaces are public open spaces whose primary purpose is to improve and enhance the appearance of the local environment and improve the well-being of local residents.

- 5.2. Such spaces can be as simple as a grassed area with or without trees, benches, bins, and other features. They can be used for all sorts of recreation such as dog walking or for quiet reflection, but also casual play areas for children. Spaces that were extremely small or that provided no real amenity function, such as a verge separating road and pathway, have been excluded from the assessment.

Quantity of informal amenity green space

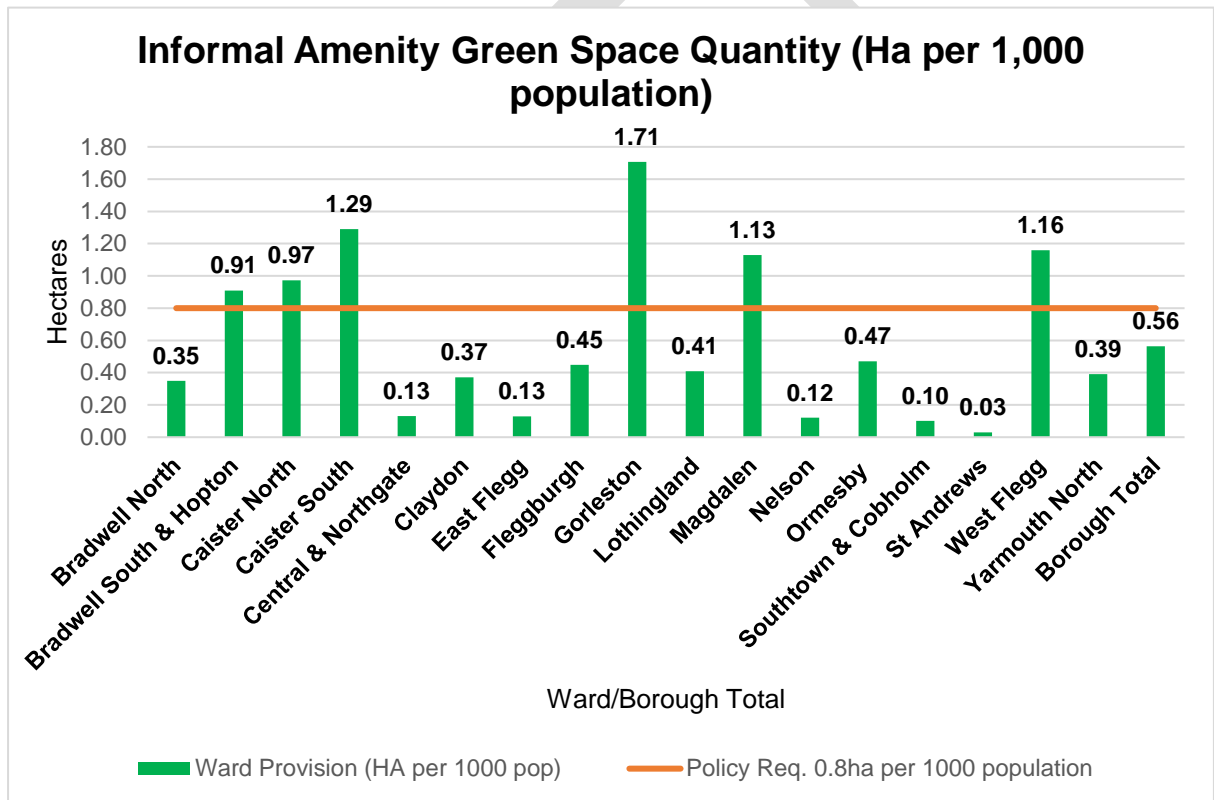
- 5.3. Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Policy H4 requires **0.8ha per 1,000 population**, which equates to 8m per person or 18.48m per household.
- 5.4. 200 Publicly accessible informal amenity green spaces have been recorded across the Borough. This represents a total area of 55.98ha across the Borough. Provision is, however, not distributed evenly across the Borough, both in terms of area and the population that it serves. There are identified surpluses in six wards, with a deficit in the remaining wards and within the Borough taken as a whole.

Informal amenity green space provision

Ward	Provision (Ha)	Population	Ward Provision (Ha per 1000 pop)	Surplus / Deficit (Ha)
Bradwell North	2.22	6355	0.35	-0.45
Bradwell South & Hopton	6.65	7307	0.91	0.11
Caister North	4.26	4382	0.97	0.17
Caister South	5.93	4592	1.29	0.49
Central & Northgate	1.15	8853	0.13	-0.67
Claydon	2.83	7605	0.37	-0.43
East Flegg	0.62	4809	0.13	-0.67
Fleggburgh	1.13	2525	0.45	-0.35
Gorleston	8.96	5249	1.71	0.91
Lothingland	2.14	5222	0.41	-0.39
Magdalen	8.50	7530	1.13	0.33
Nelson	1.16	9608	0.12	-0.68

Ormesby	2.03	4313	0.47	-0.33
Southtown & Cobholm	0.60	5931	0.10	-0.70
St Andrews	0.16	5304	0.03	-0.77
West Flegg	5.84	5039	1.16	0.36
Yarmouth North	1.79	4574	0.39	-0.41
Borough Total	55.98	99198	0.56	-0.24

Bar chart identifying informal amenity green space provision



5.5. There is no obvious pattern to explain where there is a surplus or deficit in informal amenity green space provision. It does, however, appear that deficits are more likely within the urban wards where there is a lack of space (and a larger resident population to serve). Gorleston Ward is urban but has the largest provision, this is reflective of the extensive informal amenity green space that runs along Gorleston cliffs.

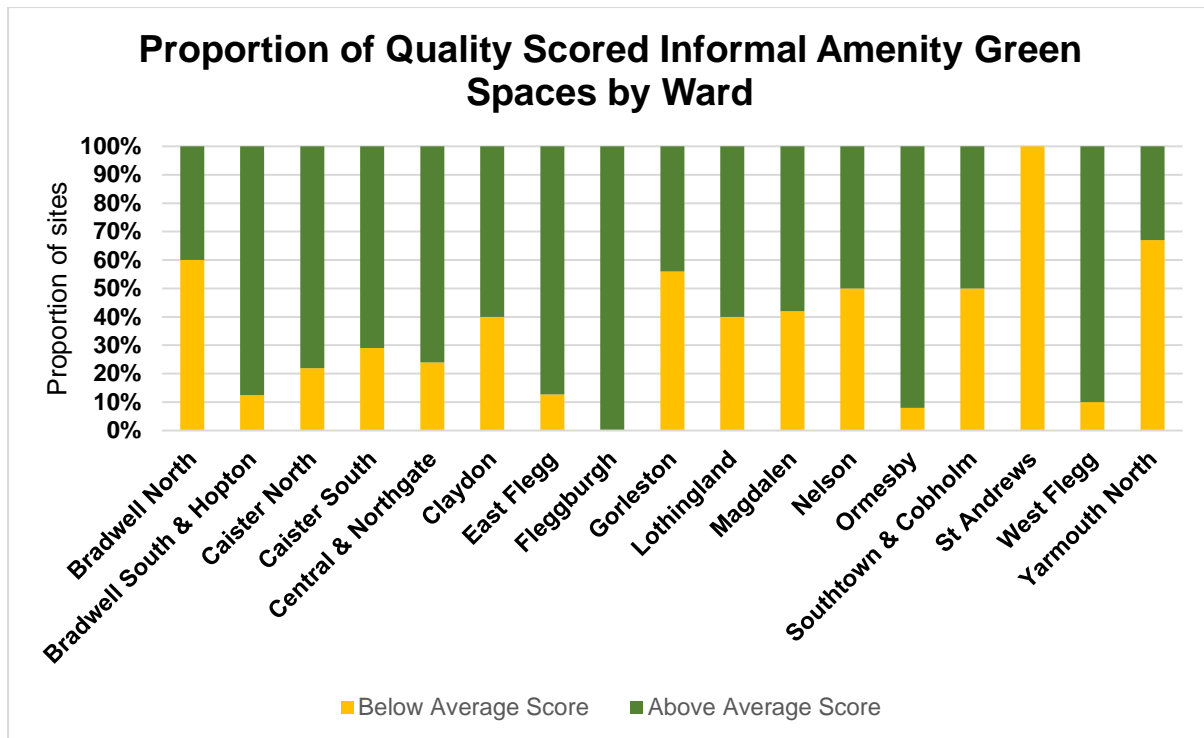
Quality of informal amenity green space

5.6. Each of the amenity space sites has been assessed by 9 quality criteria having had regard to the Green Flag standards. These were:

- Landscaping & planting
- Site security
- Benches
- Bins
- Visual appeal
- Safety of equipment and facilities
- Access and facilities for those with disabilities
- Litter & graffiti
- Lighting

5.7. The criteria were then scored 1-5 with the exception of the top five criteria in the above list which had doubled weighted scores to reflect their importance (over the other criteria) in understanding the overall quality of each site. The maximum number of points scored for an individual site was 70. The score was then calculated as a percentage to simplify quality categorisation. Anything above a 50% score (broadly the median score for the borough) is considered to meet the quality standard

5.8. There is no clear spatial pattern between the Wards as to which scored better in quality. Generally, however, the urban Wards have scored worse. These findings are not necessarily surprising as these will be more populous areas under greater pressure for use. This does highlight the need to improve the quality of informal amenity green spaces, not just in Great Yarmouth but across the Borough. The below chart illustrates the findings as a proportion of the sites surveyed within each Ward.



5.9. With the exception of Fleggburgh, every Ward has an identified deficit in quality, as emphasised by those spaces scoring below average. Priority areas to improve quality could include those Wards with higher proportions of below average spaces. However, more focused attention will need to be given at a site by site level. The Wards with particularly low quality of spaces include:

- Bradwell North
- Claydon
- Gorleston
- Lothingland
- Magdalen
- Nelson
- Southtown & Cobholm
- St Andrews
- Yarmouth North

Accessibility of informal amenity green space

5.10. As set out in section 1, informal amenity green space should be considered accessible by residents or workers within the following straight line distances:

- Sites up to 1ha within 150m
- Sites 1-3ha within 200m
- Sites 3-10ha within 500m

- 5.11. The full accessibility results can be viewed on a map [here](#). The following paragraphs provide a summary of how accessible each type of play space is within each Ward.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Bradwell North Ward

- 5.12. There are twenty identified informal amenity space sites within this ward.

Bradwell North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	52	48
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.13. Just over half of the properties in the area lie within the 150m catchment area for access to up to 1 hectare of informal amenity green space.
- 5.14. The main gaps in coverage lie in the Hewett Road area west of Gapton Hall Road to the north of the ward, as well as north and east of Hillside Primary School to the south of the ward.
- 5.15. Almost half of the residents within the ward are therefore outside of the accessibility range for amenity space. There is, however, a large playing field west of Mill Lane which provides significant activity space including sports and children's play, and the Lynn Grove High School contains a significant amount of open field space (albeit with a lack of public access).
- 5.16. Based on the availability of these alternative spaces, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Bradwell South & Hopton Ward

- 5.17. There are sixteen identified sites within the ward, with a split between the provision in the parishes of Bradwell and Hopton.

Bradwell South & Hopton Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	54	46

1-3ha within 200m	13	87
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

5.18. Over half of properties in the ward enjoy good access to informal amenity space and Bradwell is particularly well covered. The areas to the north of Long Lane and Lord's Lane fall outside of the informal open space catchment areas. The Mace Road area to the south-east of Bradwell is also not covered, though this is within the Bradwell urban extension development under construction and may benefit from new open space provision as part of the development.

5.19. The area north-west of Hopton around Anglian Way is not covered as well as the Beach Road area. However, Hopton Recreation Ground is just west of Anglian Way, providing significant activity space including sports and children's play.

5.20. There is a 1-3 hectares area of informal greenspace north and west of Ormiston Venture Academy in which 13% of properties within the ward fall within its catchment area.

5.21. Based on the generally good coverage in Bradwell South and Hopton, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Caister North Ward

5.22. There are 9 identified sites within the ward.

Caister North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	40	60
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	53	47

5.23. Two fifths of properties in the ward fall within the 1 hectare catchment area to access this amenity space whilst gaps lie to the north of the ward in the Second Avenue and Drift Road areas. The St Nicholas Drive area is also not covered.

5.24. There is a 3-10 hectare greenspace area in the Ward in which over half the properties in the ward fall inside its catchment area.

5.25. There is, however, significant provision of amenity provided by other forms of open space including access to the beach, Caister Cemetery and the full grounds of Caister Roman Fort.

5.26. Based on the availability of these other types of open space, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Caister South Ward

5.27. There are seven identified main sites within the ward.

Caister South Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	44	56
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	49	51

5.28. 44% of properties lie within 150 metres of informal amenity greenspace up to 1 hectare in size with gaps in coverage north and south of West Road, around the west side of the Braddock Road area and around Tan Lane.

5.29. There is one site 3-10 hectares in size and almost half of the properties within the ward lie within 500 metres of it.

5.30. While there is a lack of medium informal amenity greenspaces, accessibility gaps within the ward will be supplemented by other forms of open space such as the Caister Beach, King George V Playing Field and Caister Cemetery. On this basis, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Central & Northgate Ward

5.31. There are thirteen identified sites within the ward.

Central & Northgate Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	37	63
1-3ha within 200m	0	0

3-10ha within 500m	0	0
--------------------	---	---

- 5.32. Over a third of properties lie within 150 metres of informal amenity greenspace up to 1 hectare in size; the main gaps lie around the Middle Market Road and St Francis Way areas to the south and west of Belvidere Road to the west of the New Cemetery.
- 5.33. There are no larger areas of amenity greenspace within the ward. There are, however, significant other types of open space including the sports fields at Beaconsfield Road, Wellesley Recreation Ground, North Denes, the Venetian Water Ways, and the Cemetery and Minster Grounds. As such, the lack of open space amenity provision is really focused in the southern area of the ward around North Quay and the town centre. Whilst these areas may lack natural forms of open space, they do contain civic spaces (often hard surfaces) that provide opportunities for recreation and enjoyment.
- 5.34. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Claydon Ward

- 5.35. There are fifteen identified sites within the ward.

Claydon Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	68	32
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.36. Over two thirds of properties within the ward are within the 150m catchment area to access the amenity greenspace across the ward. The main pockets lie in the Common Road area to the north-east of the ward, in the Cherry Road area and around the Selwyn Road area and to its east in the south-west portion of the ward.
- 5.37. There are no larger areas of amenity greenspace between 1 and 10 hectares in the ward. There are, however, significant other types of open space including the sports fields at Southtown Common, Gorleston Cemetery and in the adjacent Ward, Gorleston Recreation Ground.

- 5.38. Based on the availability of other types of open space, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – East Flegg Ward

- 5.39. There are fourteen identified sites within the ward.

East Flegg Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	40	60
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.40. Two fifths of properties within the ward lie within the 150m catchment area for informal amenity greenspace up to 1 hectare in size. Winterton has particularly good coverage with small pockets outside the catchment area, such as Low Road to the north and around the Bush Road area.
- 5.41. Hemsby has relatively good coverage but there are large areas not covered specifically by informal amenity spaces. There are, however, sites such as the playing field around the village hall, St Mary's Church, the beach and countryside access which also have the ability to meet peoples amenity space needs.
- 5.42. Somerton lacks any informal amenity provision but benefits from good access to the countryside and a play space adjacent the village hall.
- 5.43. Whilst there are no larger areas of amenity greenspace between 1 and 10 hectares in the ward, there is access to the beach, such as Winterton-Horsey Dunes, and the wider countryside with public rights of way.
- 5.44. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Fleggburgh Ward

- 5.45. There are four identified sites within the ward.

Fleggburgh Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	18	82
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.46. Only 18% of properties are within the 150m catchment area for informal amenity greenspace up to 150 metres, leaving over three quarters of properties outside of it. The Pound Lane, Main Road area of Filby has good coverage as does the area to the east of it from Grange Farm Close to Poplar Drive but all other housing in Filby to the east and west of those areas are outside the 150m catchment. Runham has fairly good coverage with two pockets on Mautby Lane and south of Short Lane not covered and Stokesby has reasonable coverage with areas on Mill Road and Filby Road falling outside of the catchment.
- 5.47. There are no larger areas of amenity greenspace between 1 and 10 hectares in the ward, though given the limited size of each settlement this is not unexpected.
- 5.48. There are, however, alternative forms of space within good catchment areas such as the playing field at Fleggburgh Village Hall, the recreation ground at Filby Village Hall, play spaces, churchyards and cemeteries and wider countryside access.
- 5.49. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards..

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Gorleston Ward

- 5.50. There are nine identified main sites within the ward.

Gorleston Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	58	42
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	69	31

- 5.51. Over half of properties in Gorleston ward are within 150m of informal amenity greenspace up to 1 hectare in size and the ward benefits from some

coverage from an adjacent ward. North Road, and the area south of Links Road are outside of the catchment areas.

5.52. Whilst there are no sites 1-3 hectares in size in the ward, there are two sites 3-10 hectares in size that cover over two thirds of properties in the ward within the 500m catchment range. Only the area in the south-west of the ward around Mariner's Compass is not covered. There are, however, other areas such as Bluebell Woods and Beacon Park Playground (albeit located in the adjacent ward), which help to address informal amenity space needs.

5.53. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Lothingland Ward

5.54. There are fifteen identified sites within the ward.

Lothingland Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	59	41
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

5.55. Whilst there are no sites between 1 to 10 hectares in size in the ward, the fifteen sites up to a hectare in size cover almost 60% of properties in the ward.

5.56. Belton has particularly good coverage with small gaps situated in the area to the immediate south of Moorlands Church of England Primary Academy, the St James Crescent area and to the west of the settlement around River Way, The Loke and Sharmans Loke.

5.57. Burgh Castle and Fritton lack any informal amenity spaces, but St Olaves has reasonable coverage with gaps existing on the west side of Priory Road and in the Priory Gardens area. This is, however, less of an issue when the accessible natural greenspaces are factored in, including the Roman Fort at Burgh Castle, Belton Common, areas at Fritton, and Lound Lakes.

5.58. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Magdalen Ward

5.59. There are nineteen identified sites within the ward.

Magdalen Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	69	31
1-3ha within 200m	18	82
3-10ha within 500m	32	68

5.60. Over two thirds of the ward are covered by informal amenity sites up to a hectare in size with pockets outside the catchment area around the Hertford Way area in the north-west of the ward and there are other small pockets scattered around.

5.61. The ward benefits from a site between 1-3 hectares in size in the south of the ward just north of James Paget University Hospital covering almost a fifth of properties in the ward in total.

5.62. There is also a site to the east of the ward between 3-10 hectares in size which covers around a third of properties in the ward which are within 500 metres of it.

5.63. Whilst there is an accessibility issue from some properties in the north-west corner of the ward, there is the potential to access Magdalen Lawn Cemetery. The ward also benefits from a significant area of space at Magdalen Recreation Ground.

5.64. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Nelson Ward

5.65. There are twelve identified sites within the ward.

Nelson Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	55	45

1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

5.66. Whilst there are no sites of 1 to 10 hectares in size within the ward, the twelve sites up to a hectare in size cover over half of properties within the ward.

5.67. The areas outside the catchment range mainly lie north and south of Yarmouth Way, Alexandra Road and Crown Road in the north as well as the area around Newcastle Road down to Main Cross Road further south in the ward. The ward does, however, benefit from access to alternative open spaces including St George's Park and St Nicholas Recreation Ground. The ward has access to a long stretch of Great Yarmouth Beach and significant areas of civic spaces (i.e. those hard surfaced).

5.68. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is limited need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity space – Ormesby Ward

5.69. There are twelve identified sites within the ward.

Ormesby Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	32	68
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	4	96

5.70. Around a third of properties are covered within the catchment for sites up to a hectare in size in Ormesby ward. Ormesby St Margaret has reasonable coverage with gaps lying north and south of Station Road to the east of the settlement and in the Conifer Close area. There is also reasonable coverage in the west of the ward around the Eels Foot Road area of Main Road.

5.71. The main part of the Ormesby St Michael settlement has no coverage though as well as the vast majority of the residential area to the north of California (Scratby) to the east of the ward. There is some coverage, however, in California. Scratby does, however, benefit from excellent access to the beach which no doubt provides a significant contribution to local recreational needs.

- 5.72. Whilst there are no sites 1-3 hectares in size, there is a site in an adjacent ward which provides coverage to 4% of properties to the south of California within Ormesby ward.
- 5.73. Ormesby St Margaret does benefit from The Edgar Tennant Recreation Ground on Station Road, which while on the periphery of the village, will meet some of the needs arising from the east of the village (and beyond) where there is no short distance access to informal amenity greenspace.
- 5.74. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is limited need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – Southtown and Cobholm Ward

- 5.75. There are eight identified sites within the ward.

Southtown and Cobholm Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	50	50
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.76. Only half the ward has access to informal amenity greenspace within the ward and all sites are up to a hectare in size. The main gaps in coverage lie between Pasteur Road south to Gordon Road, and Waveney Road. There are no other sites over a hectare in size in the ward.
- 5.77. Space within the ward is limited, with Pasteur Road and Harfrey's Industrial Estate comprising employment, Gapton Hall Retail Park and Edward Worlledge Community Primary School. The Ward does, in addition, offer access to Cobholm Park, Lichfield Park and just to the south, Southtown Common.
- 5.78. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is limited need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – St Andrews Ward

- 5.79. There are three identified sites within the ward.

St Andrews Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	33	67
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	15	85

- 5.80. Only a third of properties in the ward are within 150m of a site up to a hectare in size with sizable gaps in coverage situated between School Lane to the ward's north all the way down to Downing Road to the south. The area north of Lower Cliff Road also lacks coverage.
- 5.81. Whilst there are no sites 1-3 hectares in size, the ward benefits from coverage from sites within adjacent wards to the south over 3 hectares in size, which covers 15% of properties in the southern part of St Andrews ward.
- 5.82. The ward also benefits from other forms of open space among the gaps where there is a lack of informal amenity greenspace, including Priory Gardens; Gorleston Recreation Ground; St Andrews Church; and civic spaces along the quay.
- 5.83. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is limited need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity green space – West Flegg Ward

- 5.84. There are twenty-one identified sites within the ward.

West Flegg Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	52	48
1-3ha within 200m	8	92
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.85. Over half the properties in the ward are within 150m of amenity greenspace up to 1 hectare in size with good coverage in Martham and Repps with Bastwick. There is no coverage, however, in Thurne.

- 5.86. There are two sites between 1-3 hectares in size, one to the south of Repps with Bastwick and one east of Rollesby that have 8% of properties within the ward within 200 metres of them. There are no sites between 3 to 10 hectares in size.
- 5.87. Further open space is, however, provided through the playing fields at Rollesby Road in Martham, sports fields in Rollesby, various churchyards and countryside walking routes.
- 5.88. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is limited need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Accessibility of informal amenity space – Yarmouth North Ward

- 5.89. There are six identified sites within the ward.

Yarmouth North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Informal Amenity Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
Up to 1ha within 150m	23	0
1-3ha within 200m	0	0
3-10ha within 500m	0	0

- 5.90. Less than a quarter of properties in the ward are within the catchment space of 150m and they are located along the eastern area of the ward.
- 5.91. Whilst there is no coverage of 1-10 hectare informal amenity greenspaces, the ward does, however, benefit from access to other open spaces including Bure Park, Fisher Avenue Play Park, Barnard Bridge Sports Ground, Beaconsfield Recreation Ground, Wellesley Recreation Ground, Great Yarmouth Cemetery, allotments, North Denes beach and civic spaces.
- 5.92. Based on the availability of these alternatives, there is no need to increase provision of informal amenity space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

6. Allotments

- 6.1. Allotments can improve the well-being and quality of life of communities by providing a cheap source for growing food, healthy outdoor exercise and social interaction, and enhance the biodiversity and green infrastructure in an area. They

are particularly useful where residents may not have access to their own private garden or have limited opportunity to grow their own food.

- 6.2. Unlike the other open space typologies, allotments are defined plots that can be let out for private use. The actual level of demand, or take up within a locality, can vary considerably. Nationally, there are indications that demand is on the rise with people seeking to grow their own food and reduce potential environmental impacts. The COVID-19 pandemic may also have contributed to demand with a greater appreciation in such open spaces and wellbeing.

Quantity of allotments

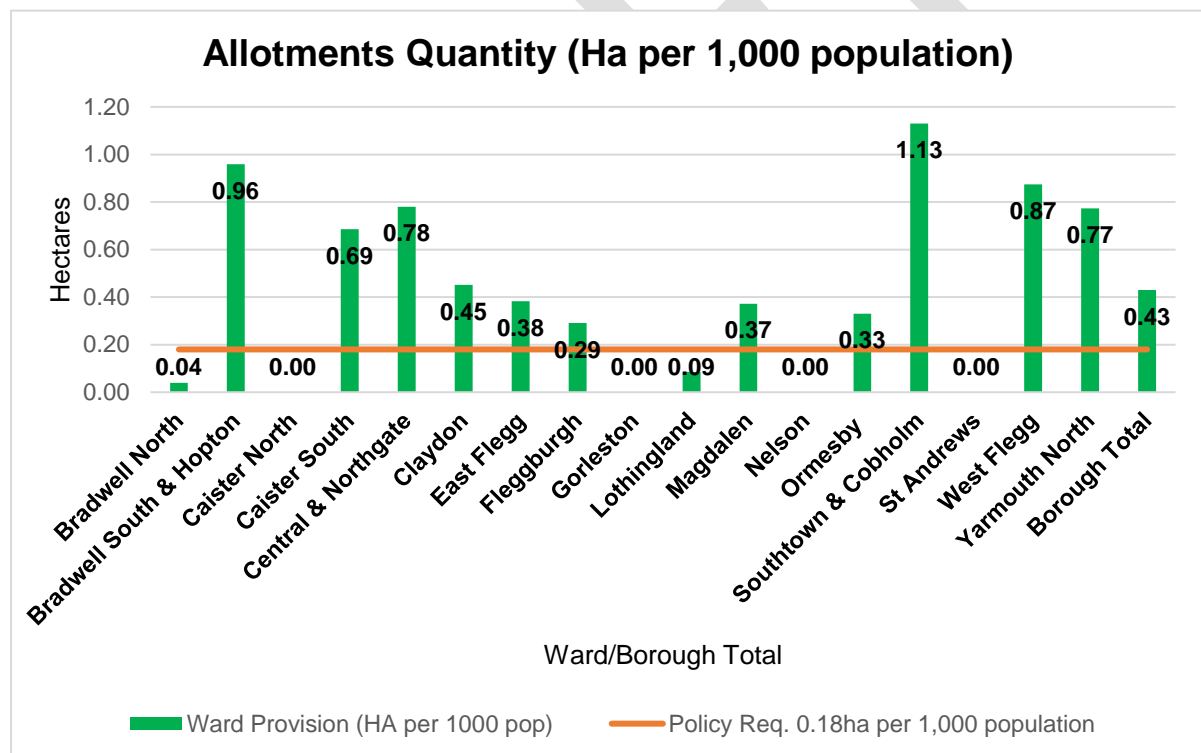
- 6.3. Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Policy H4 requires **0.18ha per 1,000 population**, which equates to 1.8m per person or 4.16m per household.
- 6.4. There are currently 24 allotment sites across the Borough totalling 42.63ha of land. There is largely good provision across the Borough with deficits in only six of the wards.

Allotment provision

Ward	Provision (Ha)	Population	Ward Provision (Ha per 1000 pop)	Surplus/ Deficit (Ha)
Bradwell North	0.25	6355	0.04	-0.14
Bradwell South & Hopton	7.01	7307	0.96	0.78
Caister North	0.00	4382	0.00	-0.18
Caister South	3.15	4592	0.69	0.51
Central & Northgate	6.91	8853	0.78	0.60
Claydon	3.43	7605	0.45	0.27
East Flegg	1.84	4809	0.38	0.20
Fleggburgh	0.73	2525	0.29	0.11
Gorleston	0.00	5249	0.00	-0.18
Lothingland	0.45	5222	0.09	-0.09

Magdalen	2.80	7530	0.37	0.19
Nelson	0.00	9608	0.00	-0.18
Ormesby	1.42	4313	0.33	0.15
Southtown & Cobholm	6.70	5931	1.13	0.95
St Andrews	0.00	5304	0.00	-0.18
West Flegg	4.40	5039	0.87	0.69
Yarmouth North	3.54	4574	0.77	0.59
Borough Total	42.63	99198	0.43	0.25

Bar chart identifying allotment provision



6.5. Many of the wards with a deficit have no provision at all. This is not a surprise in urban areas where land may not be available. Some wards such as, North Caister, may benefit from provision in an adjacent ward.

6.6. A small survey was sent out to allotment providers (those that managed allotment sites, predominantly parish councils or associations). Not all providers responded. This included a snapshot of provision and use and quality considerations. The following paragraphs provide information on use.

Use of Belton Allotments

- 6.7. The site contains 31 allotments, all of which are currently in use. There are 10 people currently on a waiting list which has been about the same over the past two years. The land is currently leased, and it is likely that at some point another piece of land will be required with funding to provide allotments.

Use of Bradwell Allotments

- 6.8. The site contains 136 allotments, all of which are currently in use. There are 10 people currently on a waiting list. Demand appears to have picked up since Covid-19 with all allotments rented out and a waiting list.

Use of Caister Allotments

- 6.9. The site contains 6 allotments, all of which are currently in use. There are 8 people currently on a waiting list, which is consistent with previous years.

Use of Filby Allotments

- 6.10. The site contains 20 garden plots and 8 field plots, all of which are currently in use. There is 1 person currently on a waiting list, which is similar to previous years.

Use of Repps with Bastwick Allotments

- 6.11. The site contains 29 plots, though only 16 are in use as the others are rented by a local farmer to extend his field. All 16 are in use. There is 1 person currently on a waiting list, having had 3 the previous year (each of which now have plots).

Use of Rollesby Allotments

- 6.12. The site contains 11 plots, all of which are currently in use. There is no one currently on waiting list.

Allotment usage conclusions

- 6.13. Of the sites surveyed, there are no vacant plots and small waiting lists. Some sites reported that capacity had only been reached over the last 1-2 years indicating a small increase in demand during/following the Covid-19 pandemic. However, overall, the demand appears to be relatively low, and the supply of plots is sufficient to meet that demand.
- 6.14. An increase in the resident population and a sustained increase in demand for allotments following the Covid-19 pandemic may put pressure on the existing supply of plots. There is also the possibility of further demand following the increase

in food prices and/or people seeking to reduce the carbon footprint of food by growing their own.

- 6.15. It is recommended that demand is monitored annually or bi-annually at all sites to identify any substantial changes. The results can be reviewed to consider whether further plots are required, and the best locations chosen to meet such demand.

Quality of allotments

- 6.16. A small survey was sent out to allotment providers (those that managed allotment sites, predominantly parish councils or associations). Not all providers responded. This included a snapshot of provision and use and quality considerations. The following paragraphs summarise the information obtained on site quality and flag actions or recommendations to consider further.

Quality of Belton Allotments

- 6.17. The site has good soil quality, access to the sun, utilities provision (with the exception of toilets), and good accessibility. The site is kept to a good standard, allotment holder working party members report any repairs needed to the Parish Council. Some of the bordering vegetation is in poor condition, the site has no gate or fencing to secure it, there is no refuse provision or signage to deter fly tipping.
- 6.18. The site could benefit from quality upgrades, though consideration should also be given to the longevity of the location given the leasehold situation referred to above (in the section on use).

Quality of Bradwell Allotments

- 6.19. The site has good soil quality, access to the sun, water provision, notice boards, and good accessibility though the gate is padlocked which may prove difficult for some site users. One of the sites is bordered by patchy hedging which may pose a security risk.
- 6.20. With the exception of the latter concern, the sites appear to be in a decent qualitative state.

Quality of Caister Allotments

- 6.21. The site has good soil quality, access to light, the site is surrounded by dykes, grassland and trees. There is no security, access to utilities or refuse provision.
- 6.22. The site could benefit from quality upgrades.

Quality of Filby Allotments

- 6.23. The site has good soil quality, access to the sun, the site is fenced and gated, and has a designated refuse area. The allotments are kept in good order by tenants, and this is monitored by the parish council. There is no access to utilities.
- 6.24. The latter feedback needs to be investigated further.

Quality of Repps with Bastwick Allotments

- 6.25. The site has good soil quality and access to the sun. There is no security, access to utilities or refuse facilities. Disabled access is poor. Most plot holders maintain the paths themselves and mow any grass paths, with rare requests for maintenance.
- 6.26. The site could benefit from quality upgrades.

Quality of Rollesby Allotments

- 6.27. The site has good soil quality and access to the sun. There is no security, access to utilities or refuse facilities. Plot holders request little by way of maintenance and the site runs well.
- 6.28. The site could benefit from quality upgrades.

Quality conclusions

- 6.29. Of the sites that have been surveyed there seems to be a good level of self-sufficiency indicating that the quality of the sites is reasonable. This is expected, as most tenants will take good care of plots that they are renting.
- 6.30. There are some common themes which indicate that there is room for improvement in the Borough's allotment sites. Further consideration should be given in respect of allotment site access (where it does not already exist) to:
- Utilities - water connection
 - Refuse facilities
 - Signage (accessibility, services, refuse points)
 - Site security (as appropriate to each location)
 - Disabled access

Accessibility of allotments

6.31. As set out in section 1, the accessibility of allotments is based on an acceptable travel distance of approximately 900 metres (which equates to roughly a 15 minute walk or a short car journey). For urban Wards with one or two sites, the density of population means that most of these wards have adequate access. These include:

- Bradwell North
- Claydon
- Gorleston
- Magdalen
- Southtown & Cobholm
- St Andrews
- Yarmouth North

6.32. The following paragraphs provide more detail on those wards lacking accessibility in some areas.

Allotment accessibility – Bradwell South & Hopton Ward

6.33. This ward benefits from 3 allotment sites and therefore has a surplus in the quantity of provision, but each site is located just off the A143 in the northern part of the ward. There is no provision in the parish of Hopton-on-Sea which means that residents would currently be required to seek such provision in Gorleston or Great Yarmouth, which would require a 1.5 - 2km travel distance. Consideration could be given to the provision of allotments in the settlement of Hopton-on-Sea. This could be considered through development associated with Policy GN1 of the Local Plan Part 2.

Allotment accessibility – Caister North Ward

6.34. Caister North has no provision of allotments, with the closest facilities located in Caister South and Ormesby. The Ward comprises a built up area with little remaining land as the only undeveloped areas are other forms of open spaces. Consequently, opportunities to provide better access within this ward are constrained. If sufficient demand is identified, then opportunities could be sought to provide a site which is more accessible to residents within the ward (than the 1km+ travel distance to Caister South).

Allotment accessibility – Caister South Ward

- 6.35. Caister South has a quantity surplus in provision with two sites located towards the south of the ward. There is an accessibility gap in the northern area of the ward surrounding Caister Academy and Braddock Road. This does not, however, extend the travel distance for such residents significantly (approximately 300m) to access existing facilities. Based on the availability of this alternative, there is no need to increase provision of allotment space within this ward to meet accessibility standards.

Allotment accessibility – Central & Northgate Ward

- 6.36. Central & Northgate Ward has a quantity surplus in provision with three sites located in the north-west of the built up area. There is a consequent accessibility gap in the south-east corner of the ward south of Euston Road. This, however, would only represent a small increased travel distance of 100-200m to access existing facilities. Should a clear surplus in provision be identified within the ward, this may present an opportunity to consolidate the allotment site offer as the three current sites have overlapping catchments which provide little accessibility benefit.

Allotment accessibility – East Flegg Ward

- 6.37. East Flegg is a large rural ward that comprises three rural settlements. There are two allotment sites, one in each of the more populous settlements of Hemsby and Winterton-on-Sea. There are consequent accessibility gaps for residents in the north of Hemsby and the smaller settlement of Somerton. The ward does, however, benefit from a quantity surplus in allotment provision in a rural area serving a relatively small number of residents. On this basis, an increased travel distance of approximately 300m is considered reasonable to access existing facilities.

Allotment accessibility – Fleggburgh Ward

- 6.38. Fleggburgh is a large rural ward comprising several rural settlements, therefore accessibility to allotments is anticipated to be patchy for smaller rural communities. There are two allotment sites, one in each of the more populous settlements of Fleggburgh and Filby. For small rural settlements such as Stokesby, Runham and Clippesby there will be an increased travel distance to access allotments. The ward does, however, benefit from a quantity surplus in allotment provision in a rural area serving a relatively small number of residents. Given the relatively small number of residents that this would impact upon an increased travel distance is justified.

Allotment accessibility – Lothingland Ward

- 6.39. Lothingland is a large rural ward comprising several rural settlements, with provision located in the most populous settlement of Belton. Consequently, there is

an increased travel distance for St Olaves, Fritton, Browston and Burgh Castle to access allotments. There is currently a quantitative deficit in allotment provision serving the ward. Consideration should be given to increasing provision, though this may still be better located in Belton than the smaller settlements unless sufficient demand can be demonstrated.

Allotment accessibility – Nelson Ward

- 6.40. Nelson Ward is a densely built up urban area, comprising Great Yarmouth's port and harbour in addition to residential properties. There is no allotment provision within this ward and the closest site is on the opposite side of the river, of which access will be improved by the completion of the third river crossing. It is unlikely that any space will become available or be suitable for allotment provision within Nelson Ward. Consequently, such provision will be reliant on increased travel distances to adjacent wards where there is also a quantitative surplus in allotment provision, such as at Southtown & Cobholm.

Allotment accessibility – Ormesby Ward

- 6.41. Ormesby is a rural ward that comprises the three rural settlements of Ormesby St Margaret, Ormesby St Michael and Scratby, but also the tip of Caister-on-Sea. The former is the most populous centre within the Ward, and this is where a single large allotment site is located. There is a consequent gap in accessibility for the smaller settlements of Ormesby St Michael and Scratby. The Ward does, however, benefit from a quantity surplus in allotment provision in a rural area serving a relatively small number of residents. Should a new development scheme within Scratby provide an opportunity to secure allotments in the settlement, this should be considered.

Allotment accessibility – West Flegg

- 6.42. West Flegg is a large rural ward comprising several rural settlements. There is good provision within the ward as in addition to the large site in Martham (the most populous settlement), there are sites at Rollesby and Repps with Bastwick. There are some accessibility gaps in the smaller nearby settlements such as Thurne and Ashby with Oby. Given the relatively small number of residents that this would impact upon an increased travel distance is justified.

7. Parks & Gardens

- 7.1. Parks and gardens are much more formally arranged open spaces provide accessible, high quality open space to be enjoyed by the general public. Characteristically they are enclosed, designed, constructed and maintained to be used by all sections of the community and catering for a range of formal and informal activities.

- 7.2. Some parks and gardens will appear on the register held by Historic England. The emphasis of the Register is on 'designed' landscapes, rather than on planting or botanical importance. In Great Yarmouth, the Venetian Waterways are designated as a Grade II listed park and garden.
- 7.3. Most parks, however, are not formally designated but have clear elements of a formal layout such as including planting, benches and other features such as bandstands. Existing recommended standards

Quantity of parks & gardens

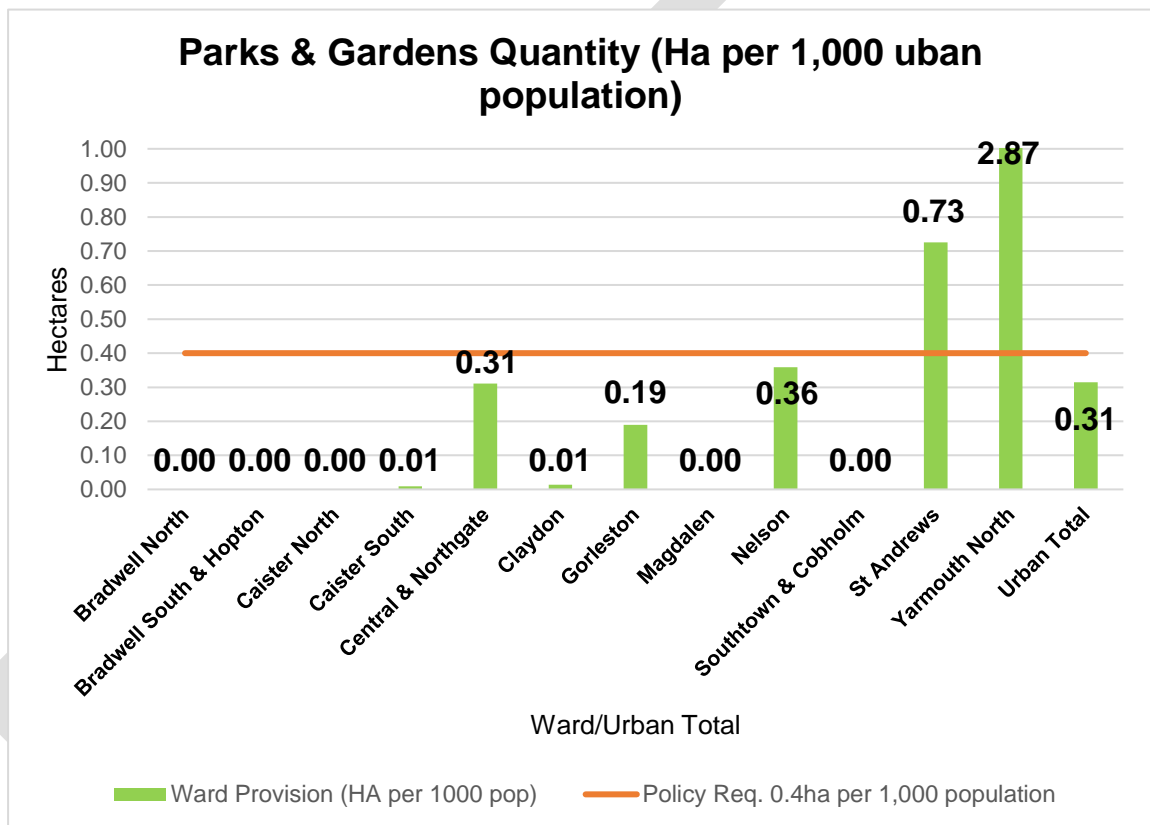
- 7.4. Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Policy H4 requires **0.40ha per 1,000 urban population**, which equates to 4m per person or 9.24m per household. Parks and gardens tend to be located in urban areas (areas with a population of over 10,000 according to ONS), and therefore provision is judged in relation to such urban wards.
- 7.5. The audit identified 21 parks and gardens across the Borough totalling 24.30ha of land. Unsurprisingly, provision is generally limited to only a small number of urban wards with Yarmouth North characterised by historic gardens and St Andrews comprising two large sites, Meadow Park and Priory Gardens.

Parks & gardens provision

Ward	Provision (Ha)	Population	Ward Provision (HA per 1000 pop)	Surplus/ Deficit m2
Bradwell North	0.00	6355	0.00	-0.40
Bradwell South & Hopton	0.00	7307	0.00	-0.40
Caister North	0.00	4382	0.00	-0.40
Caister South	0.04	4592	0.01	-0.39
Central & Northgate	2.75	8853	0.31	-0.09
Claydon	0.10	7605	0.01	-0.39
Gorleston	1.00	5249	0.19	-0.21
Magdalen	0.00	7530	0.00	-0.40
Nelson	3.44	9608	0.36	-0.04

Southtown & Cobholm	0.00	5931	0.00	-0.40
St Andrews	3.85	5304	0.73	0.33
Yarmouth North	13.12	4574	2.87	2.47
Urban Total	24.30	77290	0.31	-0.09

Bar chart identifying parks and gardens provision



7.6. It is unlikely that the quantity of parks and gardens will increase as most of the existing spaces are historic and located within Wards that are fully developed with no opportunity to extend. There may be an opportunity to provide a new park and garden should a new large-scale development come forward, but this would be balanced against the needs for all other types of open space.

Quality of parks & gardens

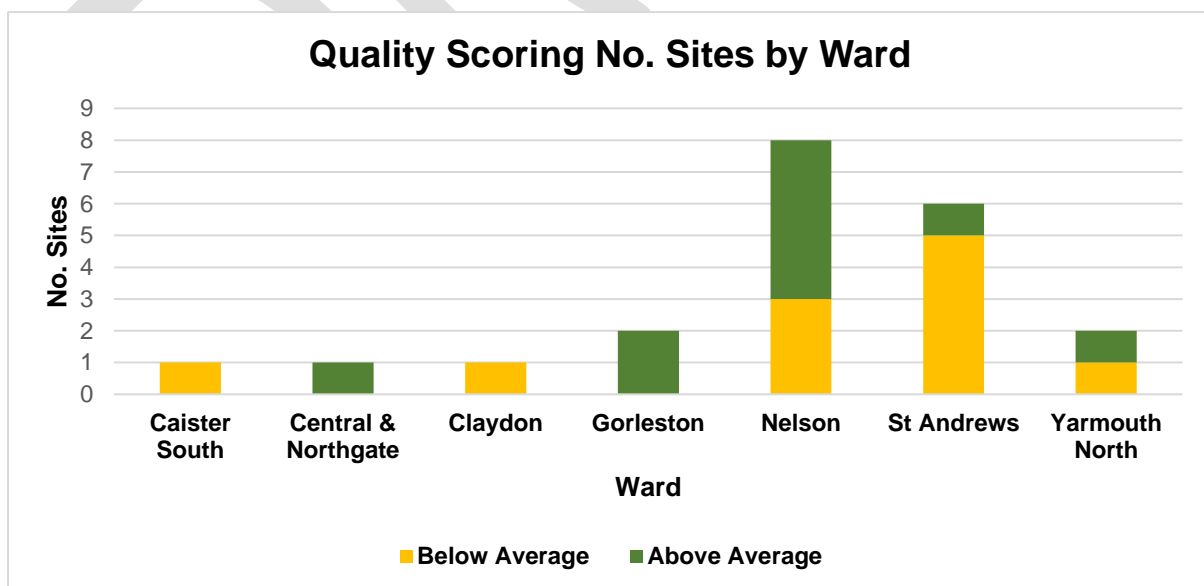
7.7. Each of the play space sites has been assessed by 9 quality criteria having had regard to the Green Flag standards. These were:

- Landscaping & planting

- Benches
- Bins
- Visual appeal
- Site security
- Safety of equipment and facilities
- Access and facilities for those with disabilities
- Litter & graffiti
- Lighting

7.8. The criteria were then scored 1-5 with the exception of the top four criteria in the above list. Landscaping and planting had a treble weighted score and benches, bins and visual appeal double weighted to reflect their importance (over the other criteria) in understanding the overall quality of each site. The maximum number of points scored for an individual site was 70. The score was then calculated as a percentage to simplify quality categorisation. Anything above a 64% score (broadly the median score for the Borough) is considered to meet the quality standard.

7.9. The Borough's Parks & Gardens are generally well maintained and in decent condition which is reflective of their role as part of the tourist attraction offer. A clear example of excellent quality is the recently restored Venetian Waterways which has Green Flag status.



- 7.10. There is no clear pattern between the quality of sites and their location. Only Gorleston and Central Northgate wards have no deficits in the quality of provision.

Accessibility of parks & gardens

- 7.11. As set out in section 1, 20% of the population should have access to parks and gardens within 500m, 25% within 1km and 55% within 2km. The existing parks and gardens provide good coverage across the towns of Great Yarmouth and Gorleston and have the ability to meet the accessibility needs to serve the resident population. The settlements of Bradwell and Caister lack such provision but would not necessarily be expected to given the cultural and historic significance of the adjacent main towns.

- 7.12. At a 500m catchment parks & gardens are accessible to most of the population within the Wards of Yarmouth North, Central & Northgate, Nelson, Claydon. This together with other catchments, comfortably meets the standard to be accessible to 20% of the population.

- 7.13. At a 1km catchment there is parks & gardens coverage within the following Wards which comfortably will meet the needs of at least 25% of the population:

- Caister North
- Caister South
- Yarmouth North
- Central & Northgate
- Southtown & Cobholm
- Nelson
- Claydon
- Bradwell North
- St Andrews
- Magdalen
- Gorleston

- 7.14. At 2km catchment, this in addition to the above, includes part of Bradwell South & Hopton. Again, this easily meets the standard to be accessible to at least 55% of the population.

- 7.15. There is a case that the catchment areas of some 'strategic' parks and gardens is clearly greater than 2km as such spaces have the ability to meet Borough-wide needs. Such areas include the Venetian Waterways and event spaces along Great Yarmouth seafront and Gorleston seafront areas. These areas are 'destination' parks and gardens as they are spaces that people will travel to from all over the Borough (and even from outside of it).
- 7.16. The potential to provide new parks and gardens is limited; though opportunities may arise where new strategic-scale development may come forward. Planned new development is generally focused on the main settlements of Great Yarmouth, Gorleston, Bradwell and Caister; each being Wards where existing provision is focussed.
- 7.17. The emphasis should, therefore, be to protect and enhance existing parks and gardens. The recommendation is that off-site contributions can be collected Borough-wide to support this aim.

8. Accessible Natural Green Space

- 8.1. Accessible natural green space comprises areas with a predominant feeling of 'naturalness' important for wildlife conservation, biodiversity, and environmental education and awareness, which are accessible on foot to the public. Such spaces promote biodiversity and nature conservation, but they are also important for environmental education and awareness.
- 8.2. Natural England have provided their own guidance on this with an emphasis on 'Nature Nearby' (accessibility), the standards are known as ANGSt. Its three principles are to improve access, naturalness and connectivity. There can, however, be a tension on sites where they are designated biodiversity assets, as recreational pressures can harm sites and often need to be managed. Winterton-Horsey Dunes Special Area of Conservation is a good local example of this tension.

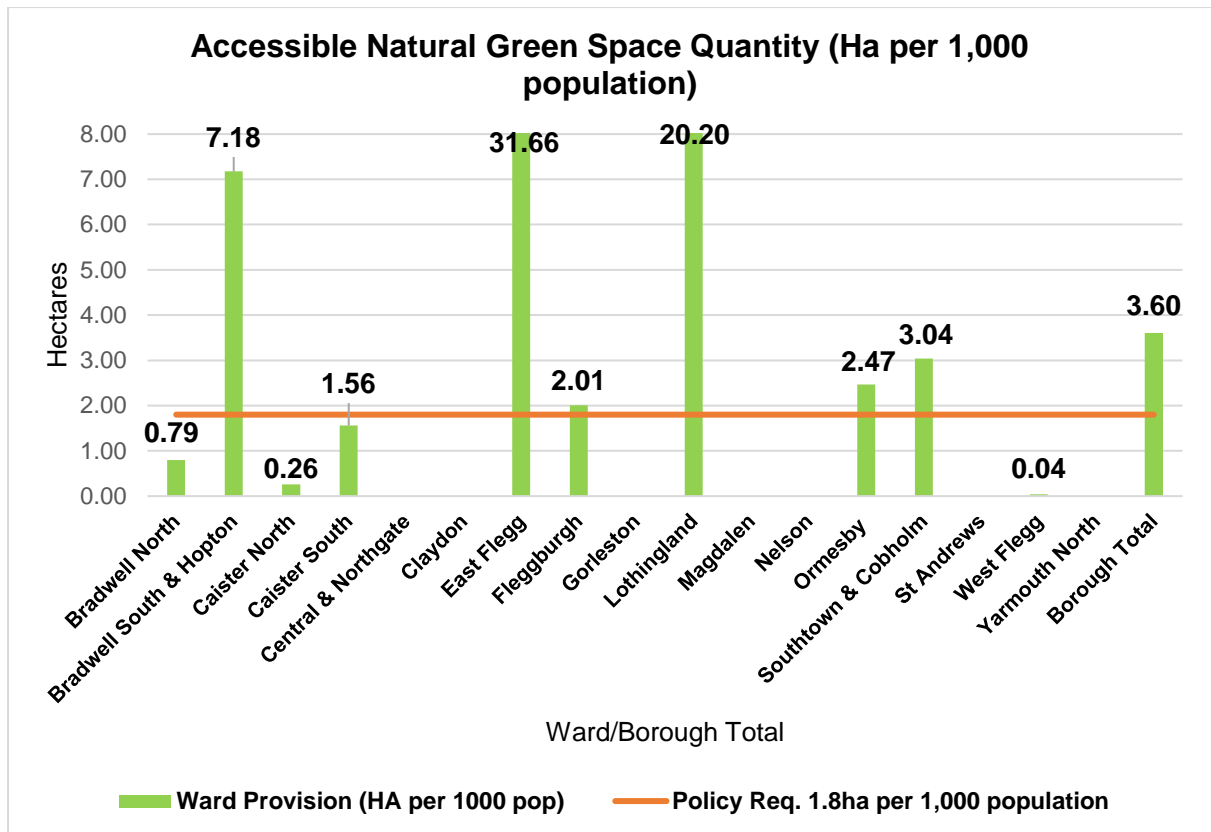
Quantity of accessible natural green space

- 8.3. Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2) Policy H4 requires **1.8ha per 1,000 population**, which equates to 18m per person or 41.58m per household.
- 8.4. The audit identified 28 accessible natural greenspace sites across the Borough totalling 357.46ha of land. The Borough as a whole has a surplus in provision, though this provision is generally rurally located, with little or no provision in densely populated urban wards.

Accessible natural green space provision

Ward	Provision Hectares	Population	Ward Provision (HA per 1000 pop)	Surplus/ Deficit m2
Bradwell North	5.04	6355	0.79	-1.01
Bradwell South & Hopton	52.44	7307	7.18	5.38
Caister North	1.14	4382	0.26	-1.54
Caister South	7.17	4592	1.56	-0.24
Central & Northgate	0.00	8853	0.00	-1.80
Claydon	0.00	7605	0.00	-1.80
East Flegg	152.25	4809	31.66	29.86
Fleggburgh	5.07	2525	2.01	0.21
Gorleston	0.00	5249	0.00	-1.80
Lothingland	105.47	5222	20.20	18.40
Magdalen	0.00	7530	0.00	-1.80
Nelson	0.00	9608	0.00	-1.80
Ormesby	10.64	4313	2.47	0.67
Southtown & Cobholm	18.04	5931	3.04	1.24
St Andrews	0.00	5304	0.00	-1.80
West Flegg	0.20	5039	0.04	-1.76
Yarmouth North	0.00	4574	0.00	-1.80
Borough Total	357.46	99198	3.60	1.80

Bar chart identifying accessible natural green space provision



8.5. Six of the Borough's wards have a surplus in Accessible Natural Green Space (ANGS) provision. In those wards where there is a large surplus it is usually the result of a single large site such as Winterton Dunes in East Flegg or Burgh Castle's Roman Fort in Lothingland. It is unsurprising that there is a lack of provision in urban wards where space is extremely limited.

8.6. The lack of space in urban wards is somewhat offset by the access to wide-sandy beaches which form a similar recreational function.

Quality of Accessible Natural Green Space

8.7. There are no quality standards that have been set for accessible natural green spaces. Natural England also does not set any specific quality standards to be followed. Clearly though, the quality of physical environment (onsite biodiversity), accessibility into and through the site, where appropriate the provision of supporting facilities and the usage of the site will determine the relative quality of each site.

Accessibility of Accessible Natural Green Space

8.8. As set out in section 1, the Borough Council applies the Natural England recommended standards for Accessible Natural Green space. Every person should have access to:

- At least 2 ha in size, no more than 300 metres (5 mins walk) from home
- At least one accessible 20 ha site within 2 km of home
- One accessible 100 ha site within 5 km of home
- One accessible 500 ha site within 10 km of home
- A minimum of 1 ha of statutory Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population

8.9. The full accessibility results can be viewed on a map [here](#). The following paragraphs provide a summary of how accessible each type of play space is within each Ward.

ANGS accessibility – Bradwell North Ward

8.10. There are three sites within this ward.

Bradwell North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	15	85
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

8.11. Bradwell North ward has three sites of accessible natural greenspace within its boundary and enjoys more than 100 hectares of greenspace within 5 kilometres of every residential property within the ward.

8.12. 15% of properties lie within 300 metres of land at Blake Drive. While there is an accessibility gap in the south of the ward for a site of up to 2ha, there is a smaller site located south of El Alamein Way which may help to meet local needs. In conclusion, while there is an accessibility deficit evidenced by the above standard, the overall accessibility of ANGTS within this urban Ward is reasonable.

ANGS accessibility – Bradwell South & Hopton Ward

8.13. There are three sites within the ward.

Bradwell South & Hopton Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment

More than 2ha within 300m	2	98
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

8.14. Bluebell Wood on the eastern boundary of the ward caters for 71 out of the 4,549 properties within the ward, just 2% of the overall total of properties in the ward. It also has access to Beacon Park Woodlands to the north of Bluebell Wood, but this area is under 2 hectares in size so is not included in the figures.

8.15. The ward benefits from more than 100 hectares of greenspace within 5 kilometres of every property in the ward.

8.16. While there is a lack of smaller ANGS sites within the ward, the ward does benefit from access to two large ANGS sites and Hopton beach may help to meet some local needs. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGS accessibility – Caister North Ward

8.17. There is one site within the ward.

Caister North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	9	91
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	0	0

8.18. Just 9% of properties within the ward are within 300m of the California Coastal Strip that lies adjacent but within in Ormesby Ward to the north. The properties within 300m of it are all in the north-east of the ward around the Second Avenue and Winifred Way area.

8.19. With no other coverage from sites more than 20 or 100 hectares in size in the ward, natural greenspace is not accessible for over 90% of properties within it.

8.20. The Caister Roman Fort lies in the south-west of the ward, but it is under 2 hectares in size, so it is not included within the above ANGS catchment figures. In addition, residents will have access to Caister Beach and public rights of way routes towards Caister castle and The Broads beyond it. Clearly, these sites have the

potential to meet some ANGTS needs. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGTS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGTS accessibility – Caister South Ward

8.21. There is one site within the ward.

Caister South Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	20	80
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	0	0

8.22. A fifth of properties in Caister South Ward are within 300m of the dunes east of Great Yarmouth and Caister Golf Course.

8.23. With no other coverage from sites more than 20 or 100 hectares within 2 kilometres or 5 kilometres respectively, this leaves 80% of properties within the Ward outside of the ANGTS catchment. However, residents will have access to Caister Roman Fort, Caister Beach and public rights of way routes towards Caister castle and The Broads beyond it. Clearly, these sites have the potential to meet some ANGTS needs. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGTS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGTS accessibility – Central & Northgate Ward

8.24. There are no sites within the ward.

Central & Northgate Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	2	98
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	0	0

8.25. Whilst there are no sites within the ward, the ward benefits from a small amount of coverage with 2% of all properties falling within the catchment area of Cobholm Island. With no other coverage from sites more than 20 or 100 hectares

within 2 kilometres or 5 kilometres respectively, this leaves 98% of properties within the Ward outside of the ANG catchment.

- 8.26. The built extent of the Ward in the heart of Great Yarmouth will prevent any potential provision of new ANG. Residents will, however, benefit from existing access to Great Yarmouth Beach, North Denes dunes, Breydon Water, river walks and Great Yarmouth Cemetery which may help to address local needs.

ANGS accessibility – Claydon Ward

- 8.27. There are no sites within the ward.

Claydon Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	4	96
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

- 8.28. Whilst Claydon ward has no sites of accessible natural greenspace within it, every property is within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural greenspace.
- 8.29. 4% of properties within the ward are within 300 metres of land at Blake Drive in Bradwell North Ward. The Ward is centrally located and built up leaving no opportunity to provide smaller ANG. There are, however, other forms of space which may help to address such needs including Gorleston Cemetery, Magdalen Recreation Ground, Crowhall Green, and the woods at Beacon Park. Consequently, accessibility of ANG within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGS accessibility – East Flegg Ward

- 8.30. There are three sites within the ward.

East Flegg Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	3	97
More than 20ha within 2km	97	3

More than 100ha within 5km	100	0
----------------------------	-----	---

- 8.31. Whilst only 3% of properties lie within 300 metres of more than 2 hectares of natural greenspace; this is in the south-east of the ward where coverage is received from land at Esplanade in Ormesby St Margaret Ward.
- 8.32. 97% of properties lie within 2 kilometres of more than 20 hectares of natural greenspace: Winterton Valley.
- 8.33. Every property lies within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of greenspace: Winterton Dunes.
- 8.34. East Flegg is rich in large ANGTS sites. In addition, Hemsby benefits from access to the beach and Broads network leading to Ormesby Broad, and Somerton with rights of way access up to Horsey. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGTS within this Ward is very good.

ANGTS accessibility – Fleggburgh Ward

- 8.35. There are two sites within the ward.

Fleggburgh Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	0	0

- 8.36. There are two small sites within the Stokesby with Herringby area but there are no properties within the catchment areas.
- 8.37. With no other catchment coverage from sites more than 20 or 100 hectares within 2 kilometres or 5 kilometres respectively, ANGTS is not accessible for any of the properties across the Ward. However, as a rural Ward it is rich in access to the wider countryside including public rights of way along around the Broads and along Bure River.
- 8.38. In conclusion, while the Ward lacks accessible ANGTS sites, Fleggburgh is rich enough in natural assets that it can comfortably meet such needs of residents.

ANGS accessibility – Gorleston Ward

8.39. There are no sites within the ward.

Gorleston Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

8.40. Whilst there are no accessible natural greenspace sites within Gorleston Ward, every property within it is within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural greenspace in adjacent wards.

8.41. The Ward does also benefit from access to Gorleston beach and the woods at Beacon Park. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGS accessibility – Lothingland Ward

8.42. There are eight sites within the ward and two – Lound Lakes and Herringfleet Hills – on the edge of the ward in East Suffolk District.

Lothingland Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	100
More than 20ha within 2km	82	18
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

8.43. Whilst no properties lie within 300 metres of the greenspace more than 2 hectares in size in the ward, over three quarters of properties lie within 2 kilometres of the Burgh Castle Roman Fort to the north of the ward and all properties lie within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of greenspace in adjacent wards.

8.44. Residents of Fritton and St Olaves do have access to smaller ANGS sites. The Ward is generally rich in ANG and benefits from a corridor of green infrastructure following the River Waveney.

ANGS accessibility – Magdalen Ward

8.45. There are no sites within the ward.

Magdalen Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

8.46. Whilst there are no accessible natural greenspace sites within Gorleston Ward, every property within it is within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural greenspace in adjacent wards. The Ward does also benefit from access to the woods at Beacon Park at approximately 3km and Gorleston beach at approximately 1km.

8.47. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGS accessibility – Nelson Ward

8.48. There are no sites within the ward.

Nelson Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	0	0

8.49. Whilst the southern part of the ward is within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural greenspace, there are no residential properties in that part of the ward. None of the properties within Nelson Ward therefore have access to ANG at the specified catchments.

8.50. The properties do, however, benefit from access to Great Yarmouth beach (including North Denes) which may help to meet some local needs. There will not be any opportunity to provide ANGS within this Ward given the extent of built

environment which contains the historic call of the town of Great Yarmouth. An increased travel distance from this Ward to access ANGTS is therefore unavoidable.

ANGTS accessibility – Ormesby Ward

8.51. There are five sites within the ward.

Ormesby Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	10	90
More than 20ha within 2km	12	88
More than 100ha within 5km	77	23

8.52. Just 10% of properties are within 300m of more than 2 hectares of natural greenspace in the Ward and only 12% are within 2 kilometres of more than 20 hectares from East Flegg ward to the north.

8.53. Over three quarters of properties in the Ward, however, are within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural greenspace. The southern part of the Ward south of Main Road to the west of the ward, and around Yarmouth Road to the east falls outside any catchment area.

8.54. Despite limited accessibility to small ANGTS sites, the Ward is rich in natural assets with accessibility to the beach, Ormesby Broad and other countryside walking routes. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGTS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGTS accessibility – Southtown and Cobholm Ward

8.55. There are two sites within the ward.

Southtown and Cobholm Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	28	72
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	2	98

8.56. Over a quarter of properties lie within 300m of the natural greenspace at Herbert Barnes Park and in the Breydon Road/Mill Road, Cobholm Island area to the north of the ward. Only 2% in the Southtown area live within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares. This leaves over two thirds of the ward outside of the catchment areas altogether.

8.57. The Ward is predominantly built up, with the northern tip bordering Breydon Water which offers a good walking route. To the south is a smaller ANGS site at Blake Drive. Accessibility to these sites is reasonable given the extent of built environment.

ANGS accessibility – St Andrews Ward

8.58. There are no sites within the ward.

St Andrews Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	100	0

8.59. Whilst there are no accessible natural greenspace sites within St Andrews ward, every property within it is within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural greenspace in adjacent wards. An increased travel distance from this Ward to access ANGS is therefore unavoidable.

8.60. The Ward is built up but does contain Meadow Park, a vacant space south of East Anglian Way and Gorleston Recreation Ground which may help to meet some needs.

ANGS accessibility – West Flegg Ward

8.61. There is one site within the ward.

West Flegg Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0

More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	64	36

8.62. Whilst there are no properties within 2 kilometres or 5 kilometres of more than 2 hectares or more than 20 hectares of natural greenspace respectively, almost two thirds of the ward's properties are within 5 kilometres of more than 100 hectares of natural green space in adjacent wards.

8.63. West Flegg is, however, a rural ward rich in natural assets. There is an extensive network of public rights of way that enable recreation around the River Thurne, Rollesby Broad and Ormesby Broad. In conclusion, accessibility of ANGSS within this Ward is reasonable.

ANGS accessibility – Yarmouth North Ward

8.64. There are no sites within the ward.

Yarmouth North Ward – Accessibility by % of properties within catchment

Type of Accessible Natural Greenspace	% Properties within catchment	% Properties outside catchment
More than 2ha within 300m	0	0
More than 20ha within 2km	0	0
More than 100ha within 5km	0	0

8.65. With no properties within 2 kilometres or 5 kilometres of sites more than 20 hectares in size or more than 100 hectares respectively, natural greenspace is not accessible within the catchments for any of the 2,102 properties across the whole Ward. An increased travel distance from this Ward to access ANGSS is therefore unavoidable.

8.66. Yarmouth North does, however, benefit from access to North Denes dunes and beach, River Bure walking routes, and Bure Park which may help to meet some local needs.

Other Accessibility Standards

One accessible 500ha site within 10km of each home

8.67. There are no accessible natural green space sites of 500ha or more in the Borough. The Borough is a relatively small administrative area (in comparison to other Norfolk authorities) and incorporates some of the Broads network which

further reduces space. Consequently, it is not feasible to have such a site within the Borough. Winterton-Horsey Dunes is the largest site which is just short of 500ha in area (when those parts of the site within North Norfolk are factored in).

A minimum of 1ha Statutory Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population

- 8.68. There is only one single statutory Local Nature Reserve (LNR) within the Borough, this being Breydon Water. The site is predominantly a waterbody and access is largely restricted to just a perimeter walking route.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1. This section of the report pulls together the key recommendations from each type of open space to identify actions, priorities and direct potential funding. The recommendations are ordered by Ward as this will help to prioritise funding from new development. At the end of the section there are those recommendations that will apply to the whole Borough or all Wards as relevant.
- 9.2. It is important to note that these recommendations do not, however, predetermine or commit any specific works to open spaces by the Council or other body. At present there are no identified sources of funding as new provision and/or enhancement will be funded by new residential development where there are identified open space needs.
- 9.3. One common recommended enhancement across each type of open space (and location) that could be explored is to improve access to people with disabilities. Some sites will be much better equipped than others to achieve this and on some sites it may not be practicable.

Recommendations for Bradwell North Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Potential to consolidate, expanding the space at Whimbrel Drive (and/or Mill Lane) and remove the space at Hunter Drive (at end of life) provided a quantitative enhancement is delivered. This could also help address quality issues across the ward.
 - On-site requirement as part on any new development (where practicable)
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - El Alamein Way
- In terms of accessibility for residents, accessibility is good and there is potential for the consolidation of spaces.

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
 - On-site requirement as part on any new development (where practicable)
 - Consolidation of play spaces may provide more amenity space.
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Robin Close
 - El Alamein Way
 - Hogarth Close
 - Market Road
 - Gainsborough Avenue (two sites)

- Victory Avenue
- Sunninghill Close
- Royal Sovereign Crescent
- Land between Blue Sky Close and Victory Avenue
- Lowry Close
- Cotman Drive
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity deficit in allotment provision, though sites in adjacent Wards can meet needs (including accessibility standards).
- Provision of allotments is anticipated to be made at East Anglian Way

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of existing sites elsewhere in the Borough which serve the ward.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for Bradwell South & Hopton Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Play space is anticipated to be delivered on urban extension north of Beaufort Way
 - Potential for play space to be delivered north of Longfulans Lane, Hopton and potential to remove equipment from Watsons Close and St Clare Court (at the end of life, given their close proximity to the main recreation ground, with the latter already identified as having a quality deficit) provided a quantitative and qualitative enhancement is delivered at the recreation field.
 - Potential to remove equipment from Buttercup Drive (at end of life) and consolidate Burnet Road and/or Primrose Way as an enlarged and improved site.
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required:
 - Falklands Way
 - Lowestoft Road (two sites), Hopton
 - St Clare Court, Hopton (subject to above)
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces (subject to the above) should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - Ellis Drive/Tubby Close
 - Watsons Close
- There is an identified surplus of spaces in terms of quantity and accessibility within the Ward which may provide the opportunity for alternative uses (though note this is more specific to Bradwell not Hopton)
 - Falklands Way (potential to expand crematorium)

Allotments

- There is a small waiting list (10 people) demonstrating a small level of additional demand that is not being met by Bradwell Allotments
- While there is a surplus in quantity, there is a deficit in accessibility for the residents of Hopton-on-Sea. Opportunities to provide allotments in the parish of Hopton-on-Sea should be considered where there is demand
 - Potential for allotments to be delivered south of Links Road (site allocation GN1) which may help to address needs in Hopton

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of existing sites elsewhere in the Borough which serve the ward.
- Improvements to amenity spaces in terms of formal planting and facilities could provide an opportunity to create a small park or garden.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Existing accessible natural green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Recommendations for Caister North Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Potential for new provision at Pointers East
 - Potential for new facilities through new development (allocation CA1)
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Caister Recreation Ground, Diana Way (two sites)
 - Webster Way
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - Fairisle Drive
 - Roman Fort & Saxon Settlement
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity and accessibility deficit in allotment provision
- Opportunities to provide a site adjacent to the ward may need to be considered subject to demand. Expansion of the Caister South site may help to meet needs (albeit beyond the accessible range)
 - Potential to deliver on new development (e.g. allocation CA1)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of existing sites elsewhere in the Borough which serve the ward.
- Improvements to amenity spaces in terms of formal planting and facilities could provide an opportunity to create a small park or garden

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for Caister South Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Potential to expand offer at Coxswain Road Way
 - Or potential to use land south of Westerley Way as an alternative site
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - West Road/Westerley Way
 - Manor Road
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- There is a small waiting list (8 people) demonstrating a small level of additional demand that is not being met, though the parish council ran site only contains 6 plots
- Expansion of the existing site could help to address demand from the parish (including Bradwell North)
- Caister Allotments could benefit from enhanced boundaries/security, refuse provision, water connection and signage to improve the quality of the site

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, retain all existing sites
- Improvements to amenity spaces in terms of formal planting and facilities could provide an opportunity to create a small park or garden

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for Central & Northgate Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, increased play space required where possible although opportunities are limited. Therefore, focus should be on quality improvements.
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Ferrier Road
 - George Street
 - Basketball Court, Great Yarmouth Seafront
- Otherwise, in terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required, although opportunities are limited. Therefore, focus should be on quality improvements.
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - Beaconsfield Road
 - Britannia pier, Marine Parade
 - Ferrier Close
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity and accessibility surplus, opportunities to consolidate the site(s), however, given there is no provision in the neighbouring Nelson ward, existing provision should be retained.

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward with limited scope to provide additional space. However, ward benefits from the beach and North Denes dunes.

Recommendations for Claydon Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, increased play space required where possible
 - Potential for expansion of facilities at Southtown Common
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required
 - Southtown Common Skatepark
 - Southtown Common Recreation Ground
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained where possible and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
 - Delivery of amenity spaces on former Claydon High School development site
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Harfrey's Road/Suffolk Road
 - Burgh Road
 - Beccles Road
 - Shrublands
 - Suffolk Road/Beccles Road
 - Beccles Road/Burnt Lane
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected where in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of existing sites elsewhere in the Borough which serve the ward.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for East Flegg Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Provision of new teen facilities at Hemsby Recreation Ground should help to address the lack of any such facilities within the East Flegg Ward
 - Potential for use of space to be delivered at the Yarmouth Road or former Pontins developments in Hemsby, which could replace the space at Ryelands (due to quality deficit) with a larger site
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - Ryelands (subject to the above)
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
 - Potential for amenity spaces to be delivered on the former Pontins development in Hemsby
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - Haycroft, Hemsby
 - Somerton Road, Winterton
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, no provision within Ward, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites that serve the Borough

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Existing accessible natural green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Recommendations for Fleggburgh Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Potential to increase provision at Fleggburgh and Filby Recreation Grounds (subject to availability of space and alternative uses on these sites)
 - Opportunities could be explored to expand on Filby's play space offer to cater for older children (subject to evidence of local demand)
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - The Green, Stokesby
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- The survey indicated that there may be a lack of utilities on Filby Allotment site which if addressed could improve its quality (quality deficit)
- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, no provision within Ward, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites that serve the Borough

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Existing accessible natural green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Recommendations for Gorleston Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required
 - Gorleston Cliffs (two sites), including the basketball court
- Potential for play space to be delivered south of Links Road (site allocation GN1) which may help to address needs in the south of the Ward

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required
 - Springfield Road/Victoria Road
 - Victoria Road
 - Bridge Road/Newton Cross
 - Marine Parade Crescent, Arnott Avenue/ Marine Parade
 - Orde Avenue
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity deficit in allotment provision, though sites in adjacent Wards can meet needs (including accessibility standards).

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites
- Maintain quality of park & garden at good/very good standard

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for Lothingland Ward

Play spaces

- In terms of accessibility for residents
 - Potential to remove equipment at Nursery Close (at end of life) and consolidate, enlarge and improve provision at Bell Lane.
 - Although there is a current surplus of provision, new development associated with the Local Plan Part 2 may lead to a deficit. Allocation BN1 provides an opportunity for provision of an equipped play space.
 - Otherwise, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
 - On-site requirement as part on any new development (where practicable)
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Rosedale Gardens, Belton (two sites)

- Fern Gardens, Belton
 - Caledonian Way/Crofters Walk, Belton
 - Heather Road, Belton (two sites)
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity deficit in allotment provision
- There is a small waiting list (10 people) demonstrating a small level of additional demand that is not being met
- A new site may be required at Belton Allotments in the coming years as the local church requires the land for cemetery expansion
 - On-site requirement as part on any new development (where practicable)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of existing sites elsewhere in the Borough which serve the ward.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Existing accessible natural green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Recommendations for Magdalen Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Hertford Way
 - Magdalen Recreation Ground, Edinburgh Avenue
 - Woodfarm Lane

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Wadham Road
 - Greenacres/Woodfarm Lane
 - Bridge Road/Victoria Road
 - Leman Road
 - Wedgewood Court/Lowestoft Road
 - Lowestoft Road (two sites)
 - Viking Close
- There is an identified surplus of spaces in terms of quantity and accessibility within the Ward which may provide the opportunity for alternative uses

Allotments

- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, no provision within Ward, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites that serve the Borough

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for Nelson Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required where possible although opportunities are limited. Therefore, focus should be on quality improvements.
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Middlegate Estate (Nelson Ward) has the potential to be consolidate play spaces to perhaps one or two sites to meet local needs.
 - St George's Park
 - Howard Steet South
 - Blackfriars West
 - Louise Close (subject to the consideration of Middlegate enhancements)
 - St Nicholas Recreation Ground
 - Peggotty Road
- Otherwise, in terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained where possible and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required, although opportunities are limited. Therefore, focus should be on quality improvements.
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - St Peters Road
 - Trinity Place/Charles Street
 - Blackfriars Road
 - Mariners Road/Blackfriars Road
 - St Nicholas Recreation Ground
 - Victoria Place/Lancaster Road
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity deficit in allotment provision
- Unlikely to identify a site to meet needs within Ward, therefore will rely on supply from adjacent Wards to meet arising need

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites which serve the ward.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward with limited scope to provide additional space. However, ward benefits from the beach and North Denes dunes.

Recommendations for Ormesby Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Scratby would benefit from equipped play provision, there is potential at the village hall grounds.
 - Potential to provide teen facilities at The Edgar Tennant Recreation Ground to address the lack of any such facilities in the Ormesby Ward
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, quality enhancements required
 - The Edgar Tennant Recreation Ground Station Road
 - Sharpe Way
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
 - On-site requirement as part on any new development (where practicable) such as site allocation OT1
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - Spruce Avenue
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Retain site subject to demand (lack of vacancy)
- Note that Scratby is reliant on Ormesby St Margaret site to meet its needs, this is a deficit in accessibility

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, off-site contributions to support improvement of existing sites elsewhere in the Borough which serve the ward.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Existing accessible natural green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Recommendations for Southtown & Cobholm Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required.
 - Potential to expand provision at Cobholm Island and Southtown Common
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - The Tollgate Road area has two sites which have the potential to be consolidated at Admirals Quay and Anchor Court
 - Critten's Road
 - Beavans Court
 - Coronation Road
 - Lichfield Park
 - Gapton Hall Road
- Otherwise, in terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required, although opportunities are limited. Therefore, focus should be on quality improvements.
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Depot/Mill Road
 - Beavans Court
 - Tollgate Road
 - Gapton Hall Retail Park
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy, including needs arising from adjacent Wards that cannot meet their own needs such as Nelson Ward)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, no provision within Ward, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites that serve the Borough

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Existing accessible natural green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Recommendations for St Andrews Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Potential to consolidate and expand provision at East Anglian Way and Gorleston Recreation Ground and Priory Gardens
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required
 - The three sites at East Anglia Way (St Andrews) may allow for the consolidation to just one space.
 - Gorleston Recreation Ground, Church Lane (two sites)
 - Pier Plain
- Otherwise, in terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - East Anglian Way
 - Riverside Road/Icehouse Hill
 - Pier Plain
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Identified quantity deficit in allotment provision, though sites in adjacent Wards can meet needs (including accessibility standards).

Parks & gardens

- Identified quality deficit, raise quality of parks & gardens to good/very good standard
- While there is a surplus in quantity and accessibility for residents within the Ward, this provision helps to meet deficits in adjacent Wards. Existing sites should therefore be retained

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations).

Recommendations for West Flegg Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Potential to expand provision on existing open space sites or through the delivery of new development sites within Martham
 - Potential to expand play space on Rollesby Recreation Ground or through the development allocations proposed in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan
 - Potential to expand play space on Repps with Bastwick Recreation Ground
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Oak Tree Close, Martham
 - Playing Field Lane, Martham (two sites)
 - The Street, Thurne
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, quality enhancements required at:
 - The Green, Martham
 - Kirby Close, Martham
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- The Repps with Bastwick and Rollesby allotment sites could benefit from enhanced boundaries/security, refuse provision, water connection and signage to improve the quality of the site (quality deficit)
- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy)

Parks & gardens

- Identified quantity deficit, no provision within Ward, off-site contributions to support improvement of all existing sites that serve the Ward.

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward, new development sites of more than 50 houses will be required to provide on-site provision (note that the required space may be increased to respond to Habitat Regulations)

Recommendations for Yarmouth North Ward

Play spaces

- Identified quantity deficit in play space provision, more play space required
 - Opportunities to provide senior children's and teenager play spaces could be explored, e.g. at sites such as Bure Park and Fisher Avenue
- Identified quality deficit in play space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Bure Park
 - Fisher Avenue
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing play spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Informal Amenity Green Space

- Identified quantity deficit in informal amenity green space provision, more green space required where possible, although opportunities are limited. Therefore, focus should be on quality improvements.
- Identified quality deficit in informal amenity green space provision, prioritised quality enhancements required at:
 - Milton Road
 - Shakespeare Road
 - Barnard Bridge
 - North Drive
- In terms of accessibility for residents, existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3

Allotments

- Retain sites subject to demand (lack of vacancy, including needs arising from adjacent Wards that cannot meet their own needs such as Caister South Ward)

Parks & gardens

- Raise quality of parks & gardens to good/very good standard
- While there is a surplus in quantity and accessibility for residents within the Ward, this provision helps to meet deficits in adjacent Wards (as destination parks). Existing sites should therefore be retained

Accessible Natural Green Space

- Quantity deficit within Ward with limited scope to provide additional space. However, ward benefits from the beach and North Denes dunes.

Summary of Surplus/Deficit for each type of open space by Ward

9.4. In accordance with Policy H4, this report based on assessment of need identified in quantity, quality and accessibility is able to identify surpluses and deficits in the Borough's Wards as follows:

Ward	Formal Play Space	Informal Amenity Greenspace	Allotments	Parks & Gardens	Accessible Natural Greenspace
Bradwell North	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Bradwell South & Hopton	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Caister North	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Caister South	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Central & Northgate	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit
Claydon	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit
East Flegg	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Surplus
Fleggburgh	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Gorleston	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Lothingland	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus
Magdalen	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Deficit
Nelson	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Ormesby	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus

Ward	Formal Play Space	Informal Amenity Greenspace	Allotments	Parks & Gardens	Accessible Natural Greenspace
Southtown & Cobholm	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Surplus
St Andrews	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
West Flegg	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit	Deficit
Yarmouth North	Deficit	Deficit	Surplus	Surplus	Deficit