



**KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

**OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT**

**MARCH 2015**

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the assessment report prepared by Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP) to deliver a demand assessment of open spaces on behalf of Kirklees Council (KC). The report presents the findings of a demand based study and analyses the views and perceptions of local people towards the provision of open spaces within Kirklees.
- 1.2 The assessment considers demand for each of the following types of open spaces:

*Table 1.1: Types of open space*

Type of open space	Primary purpose
Parks & public gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. Includes urban parks, country parks, formal gardens, country and recreation grounds.
Natural & semi-natural greenspace	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness. Includes woodlands and local nature reserves.
Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas. Includes grassed areas in housing estates and village greens.
Allotments and Community food growing	Opportunities for people to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. Includes allotments, community gardens and community orchards.
Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, multi-use-games areas, skateboard areas and teen shelters.
Outdoor facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, includes informal playing fields and water based sports.
Cemeteries & churchyards	Quiet contemplation and burial, often linked to wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
Green corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration. Includes greenways, cycleways and pedestrian routes, towpaths along canals and riverbanks, bridleways and rights of way.
Civic Space	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events. Includes civic squares, market squares and war memorials.

- 1.3 The Kirklees Open Space Study (2007 & 2010) provided a comprehensive assessment of the supply and demand for open spaces across Kirklees. The council is now updating evidence on the supply and demand for open spaces across the district to provide an updated Open Space Study which will help inform the preparation of the council's Local Plan. The Local Plan will form the development plan for Kirklees and will set out a strategy and identify sites to meet needs for development over the next 15-20 years. It will also identify open space, sport and recreation facilities to be protected from development and set out related planning policies that will be used to guide investment and assess planning applications. For this reason, it is important that the evidence of supply and demand for open space is sufficiently robust, up to date and objectively assessed.

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- 1.4 The collation and assessment of the supply of open space is being undertaken in-house by the council. This report forms the assessment of demand information for open spaces across Kirklees and will form part of the council's updated Open Space Study which will help inform other council strategies such as an updated Parks and Open Space Strategy.
- 1.5 The study identifies the views and expectations of local residents, communities and key stakeholders on the provision of open spaces across Kirklees. This is intended to achieve an in-depth understanding of local views about existing provision, the quality and accessibility of sites, perceived deficiencies and expectations for additional and/or improved provision.
- 1.6 An update of the council's Playing Pitch Strategy has been undertaken separately to this report and considers the supply and demand for playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities across Kirklees. This includes football, cricket, rugby league and rugby union pitches, hockey/artificial grass pitches, bowling greens and tennis courts.
- 1.7 A Built Leisure and Sports Facility Strategy has also been undertaken to assess formal indoor sports facility needs in Kirklees. This covers sports halls, health and fitness, gymnastics and dance, indoor bowls, indoor tennis, athletics, cycling, golf, combat sports and snow and ice.

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### 2. CONTEXT

#### *National*

- 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the governments planning policies and the National Planning Practice Guidance provides further clarity on how they are expected to be applied. The NPPF recognises that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.
- 2.2 Open space, as defined in the NPPF, is “All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity”.
- 2.3 The NPPF requires planning policies in local plans to be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of local needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision are required.
- 2.4 Paragraph 74 of NPPF is concerned with the protection of existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields. One of the matters set out is that such buildings and land should not be built on unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements or unless replacement provision is provided.

#### *Local*

#### ***Kirklees Development Plan***

- 2.5 Kirklees Council has an adopted Unitary Development Plan (UDP) that sets out the council's policies and proposals for the use and development of land and buildings. The plan was adopted on 1 March 1999 and constitutes the statutory development plan. It includes saved planning policies for the protection of land designated as urban greenspace (UDP policy D3), green corridor (UDP policy D6), allotments (UDP policy R9) and public open space, private playing fields or land last used as private playing fields (UDP policy R7A).
- 2.6 The council is preparing a new Local Plan to replace the UDP. This plan will be prepared in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework and will set out policies and proposals relating to the protection of open space, sport and recreational facilities in accordance with the framework.
- 2.7 Once adopted, the Local Plan will become the development plan for Kirklees and will set out a strategy and identify sites to meet needs for development over the next 15-20 years. It will also identify open space, sport and recreation facilities to be protected from development and set out related planning policies that will be used to guide investment and assess planning applications.

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### ***Kirklees Corporate Plan 2015– 2016***

- 2.8 The vision in Kirklees Council's Corporate Plan (2015-2016) is for Kirklees to be “a district which combines a strong, sustainable economy with a great quality of life – leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity and low inequality where people enjoy better health throughout their lives”. The Corporate Plan also states that the objectives of the Kirklees Economic Strategy and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be delivered which are both relevant to the open space issues.

### ***Kirklees Economic Strategy 2014 – 2020***

- 2.9 The purpose of the Economic Strategy is to create wealth and revenue streams that will enable quality service provision, enhance the district and help to reduce inequalities into the future. It aims to create a district with a strong and sustainable economy, with thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity and low inequality where people enjoy better health throughout their lives.

There are five priorities to deliver the vision:

- ◀ Precision engineering and innovative manufacturing
- ◀ Innovation and enterprising businesses
- ◀ Workforce, skill and employment
- ◀ Infrastructure
- ◀ Quality places

Six initiatives are intended to drive transformational change:

- ◀ Consolidate Kirklees as the heart of a growing innovative manufacturing and engineering cluster in LCR
- ◀ Maximise the impact of a suite of high quality innovation and enterprise assets
- ◀ Enhance enterprise, skills and opportunities for young people
- ◀ Strategic employment sites to stimulate jobs and growth, with focus on manufacturing and engineering
- ◀ Revitalise Huddersfield town centre
- ◀ Kick start the transformation of Dewsbury.

### ***Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) 2014-2020***

- 2.10 The JHWS sets out the vision for improving the health and wellbeing of local people while reducing inequalities at every stage of people's lives by 2020: “No matter where they live, people in Kirklees live their lives confidently, in better health, for longer and experience less inequality”. The strategy is informed by the issues and inequalities that have been identified through the Kirklees Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The desired outcomes for local people are that by 2020:

- ◀ People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible, both physically and psychologically, through
  - Having the best possible start in life through every child and young person being safe, loved, healthy, happy, are supported to be free from harm; and have the chance to make the most of their talents, skills and qualities to fulfil their potential and become productive members of society.
  - Encouraging the development of positive health and social behaviours.

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- Identifying issues as soon as possible that affect health and wellbeing.
- Enhancing self-care: people being increasingly independent, self-sufficient and resourceful so able to confidently manage their needs and maximise their potential.
- ◀ Local people can control and manage life challenges through:
  - Being resilient: having a sense of purpose, self-esteem, confidence, adaptability; be emotionally aware; taking responsibility for their own physical and emotional needs; being supportive and compassionate; being connected to others. So resilience is developed in individuals, families, communities and organisations.
  - Feeling safe and positively included.
  - Being able to navigate through life: being able to participate and contribute to society by being able to:
    - Understand and communicate;
    - Take advantage of opportunities and achieve goals;
    - Increase their potential, including for work
    - Constantly learning and adapting
- ◀ People have a safe, warm, affordable home in a decent physical environment within a supportive community through:
  - Continuing to work in partnership to deliver an appropriate supply of homes and jobs to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population.
  - Working with communities and individuals to enable and support independent living and an environment which promotes good physical and emotional health and wellbeing.
  - Improving homes and neighbourhoods through encouraging greater involvement and joint action.
- ◀ People take up opportunities that have a positive impact on their health and wellbeing through:
  - People experience seamless health and social care appropriate to their needs
  - strong communities
  - Healthy schools
  - Taking up opportunities to wider learning
  - Active and safe travel
  - Access to green and open spaces and leisure services
  - Improved regulation of factors that affect health and wellbeing e.g. takeaways, air pollution
  - Spatial planning supporting a place based approach to improving health and wellbeing encouraging health promoting environments.

2.11 The JHWS also specifically mentions the role of open spaces in encouraging physical activity and supporting positive emotional wellbeing. In addition for health and social care:

- ◀ People experience integrated health and social care appropriate to their needs
- ◀ The JHWS provides a strategic framework which can be used to assess the impact of the Sport and Physical Activity strategy on all JSNA issues.

#### ***Everyone Active: Kirklees Physical Activity and Sport Plan 2015 – 2020***

2.12 The vision for the plan is that by 2020 everyone will be physically active through work, play, sport, travel or leisure. It adopts a life course approach based on the aims of Starting to be Active, Staying Active and Achieving Ambitions at all life stages: Early Years, Children and Young People, Adults and Older Adults. The assets to be used to achieve this are people, places, organisations and communication. The plan sets out to:

- ◀ Increase the number, skills and confidence of those working to enable people to take part in physical activity and sport.
- ◀ Improve the places to be active and create active environments

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- ◀ Improve community capacity to support and deliver a wider range of opportunities in physical activity and sport
- ◀ Increase awareness and understanding to enable people to take part in physical activity and sport

### ***Kirklees Parks and Open Spaces Strategy***

2.13 The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy is currently being reviewed. The aims from the strategy include:

- ◀ Retain and maintain a network of accessible parks and open spaces, which contribute to the recreational needs of all Kirklees residents.
- ◀ Maintain, and develop the horticultural structure and landscape infrastructure of parks and open spaces in consultation with the community, and others.
- ◀ Recognise the historical landscape importance and architectural quality of Kirklees parks and respond accordingly.
- ◀ To ensure that Kirklees parks and open spaces support the Kirklees Environment Partnership objectives by sustaining biodiversity and enabling residents, particularly young people to participate in the conservation of plant and animal life.

### ***Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) for Kirklees 2010-2020***

2.14 The Plan is intended to identify changes to the public rights of way (PROW) network in line with the Governments aims for better provision for walkers, horse riders, cyclists and people with mobility and other problems. It identifies changes that could be made in respect of the management and improvement to the local PROW network. No duty to implement the plan is required.

2.15 It recognises and acknowledges the different uses and demands of the network in order to meet the social, recreational and transportation needs of a variety of users. As part of the document a number of key points are highlighted in order to address related issues:

- ◀ Development and improvement of access for users with limited mobility.
- ◀ Encourage non-users to use the PROW network and other access facilities.
- ◀ Develop the PROW network to meet with the Governments, Kirklees Council's and Local Transport Plan aims and objectives to:
  - Reduce the 'carbon footprint' of Kirklees
  - Encourage 'greener travel'
- ◀ Provide better provision for horse riders

### ***Green Streets***

2.16 The concept looks at the promotion and practical methods of integrating trees and other green features in urban settings such as streets. The focus is on but not limited to, areas of deprivation and job growth as well as along transport corridors such as cycle routes in order to maximise the impact and benefits of such provision.

2.17 It promotes the need to link new developments to existing green spaces through for instance tree lining routes. This could provide a greater level of local aesthetics and a sense of place in areas as well as the associated health benefits (i.e. people walking to and from connecting sites or destinations).

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### Approach

2.18 The demand assessment has used a variety of consultation methods to achieve a representative sample of local people. This included consultation with users and non-users of provision to ascertain the needs of different communities and areas. Consultation methods utilised included:

- ◀ An online questionnaire
- ◀ Interviews
- ◀ Telephone and paper questionnaires

2.19 The following paragraphs provide a brief summary of each approach.

2.20 The primary source of information was an online questionnaire. This was used to attain local residents and users views towards open space provision. It was advertised on the landing page of the council's website for approximately eight weeks from November 2014 to January 2015. The questionnaire was also promoted through various council social media formats.

2.21 Paper versions of the questionnaire were also hosted at various libraries across the Kirklees area. This helped ensure alternative opportunities to access the questionnaire as well as providing a greater geographical spread of respondents. A copy of the questionnaire can be seen in Appendix 1.

2.22 In addition, a KKP representative attended a number of libraries and strategic open space sites across Kirklees in order to encourage people to participate in the questionnaire and to discuss their views and thoughts towards open space provision. Locations hosted and attended included:

*Table 2.1: Consultation locations in Kirklees*

District Area	Committee	Location	In person	Questionnaire hosted
Batley & Spen		Batley Library		✓
		Cleckheaton Library	✓	✓
		Heckmondwike Library		✓
		Oakwell Hall Country Park	✓	✓
Dewsbury & Mirfield		Crow Nest Park	✓	✓
		Dewsbury Library		✓
		Mirfield Library	✓	✓
Huddersfield		Greenhead Park	✓	✓
		Huddersfield Library & Art Gallery	✓	✓
Kirklees Rural		Denby Dale Library	✓	✓
		Holmfirth Library	✓	✓
		Kirkburton Library		✓
		Shepley Library		✓
		Slaithwaite Library	✓	✓

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- 2.23 Completed questionnaire responses were complimented by consultation with Kirklees Council officers relevant to the provision of open spaces; for example, Park Managers, Allotments Officer, Environment Officer and Bereavement Operational Officers.
- 2.24 In addition, contact was also made with a number of specific voluntary groups and organisations associated and interested in the management and quality of open spaces. This also included local organisations able to offer insight into the views and thoughts of the communities they serve. Such groups included parish councils, friends of groups and local forums. The response rate for these voluntary groups was mixed. A list of those groups consulted is set out in Appendix 2.
- 2.25 For the purposes of the document any views from the questionnaire are referred to as 'respondents', whilst the views from the groups and organisation consultations are referred to as 'wider community consultation'.
- 2.26 Furthermore, this work should be seen as an update to a number of surveys relating to the quality and demand of open spaces that the council has undertaken although with more of a focus on the quality, quantity and accessibility of open spaces.

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### Presentation of Analysis

- 2.27 With a population of 425,500, Kirklees is the 11<sup>th</sup> highest populated district in England. The 408,600 square kilometres area is made up of a network of settlements varying in landscape, social and demographic profile.
- 2.28 To try and provide a more detailed analysis of local views and opinions the analysis is presented at a number of levels. Findings are firstly given for Kirklees as a whole then followed by District Committee Area. This helps to reference and benchmark against more local levels of analysis. These local levels of analysis (i.e. District Committee Areas) utilise the 23 Wards that make up Kirklees. Summaries are given where possible for individual Wards and/or the four District Committee Areas (a grouping of Wards).

Table 2.2: Kirklees Analysis areas

District Committee Areas	Wards
<b>Batley &amp; Spen</b>	Batley East
	Batley West
	Birstall & Birkenshaw
	Cleckheaton
	Heckmondwike
	Liversedge & Gomersal
<b>Dewsbury &amp; Mirfield</b>	Dewsbury East
	Dewsbury South
	Dewsbury West
	Mirfield
<b>Huddersfield</b>	Almondbury
	Ashbrow
	Crosland Moor & Netherton
	Dalton
	Greenhead
	Lindley
	Newsome
<b>Kirklees Rural</b>	Colne Valley
	Denby Dale
	Golcar
	Holme Valley North
	Holme Valley South
	Kirkburton

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Figure 1: District Committee Area boundaries



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- 2.29 A sample size calculator was used to determine how many people needed to respond in order to get results that reflect the target population as precisely as needed (or conversely calculate the accuracy of the results achieved).
- 2.30 To ensure acceptable error margins and confidence limits for a population as in Kirklees (425,500<sup>1</sup>) a sample of 600 people would allow a 99% confidence that any statements arising from the questionnaire are within +/- 5.3% of the figure quoted.
- 2.31 For example, if 60% of respondents say they would like to see more open space provision the 'true figure' (with a 99% confidence) lies between 55% and 65%.
- 2.32 Alternatively a sample size of 600 would allow 95% confidence in any statements as being within +/- 4% of any figures quoted. Meaning, for instance, if 60% of respondents prefer the colour green the 'true figure' (with a 95% confidence) lies somewhere between 56% and 64%.
- 2.33 To ensure a strong response rate and to allow a robust analysis to be undertaken for Kirklees a minimum return of 600 questionnaires was required. The open space questionnaire received a total of 638 responses. On this basis, at a confidence of 99% we can be sure that any statements given are within +/- 5.1% of figures quoted.

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<sup>1</sup> ONS 2012-based sub-national population projections

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### 3. KIRKLEES SUMMARY

- 3.1 The following provides a summary and breakdown of the views towards open space provision across Kirklees. Responses to the questionnaire are utilised as a starting point and supplemented with qualitative information attained during the consultation process. The question number for the questionnaire is listed in the graph headings (e.g. Q1). The table below sets out the number of responses by District Committee Area.

*Table 3.1: Responses by District Committee Area*

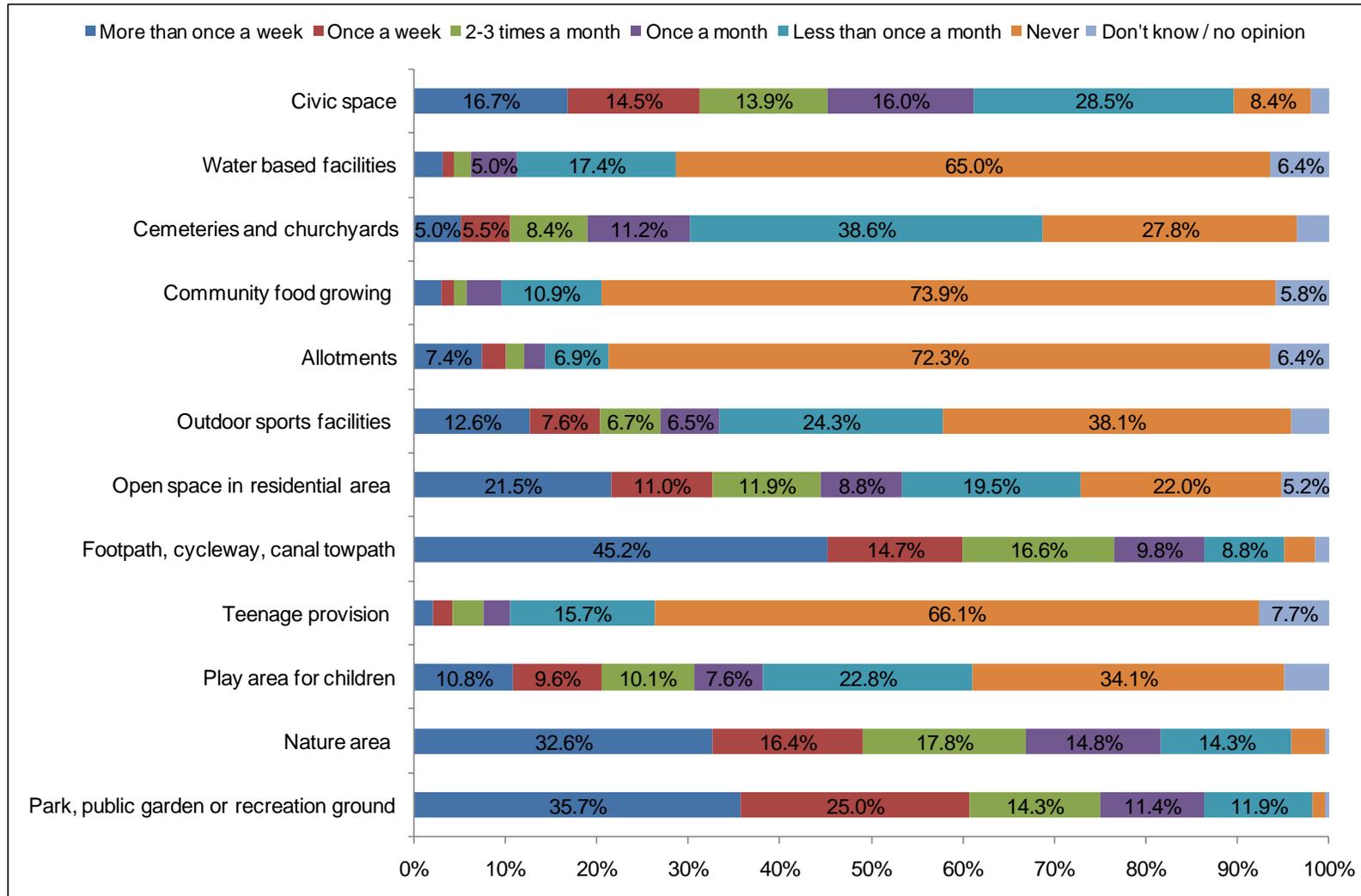
District Committee Area	Number of responses
Batley & Spen	89
Dewsbury & Mirfield	55
Huddersfield	175
Kirklees Rural	270
Outside/did not state	49

#### Usage

- 3.2 Respondents to the questionnaire demonstrate that certain types of open space are visited more often in comparison to some other types (Graph 1). For instance, the typologies of civic space (89.6%), footpaths, cycleways or canal towpaths (95.1%), nature areas (95.9%) and parks (98.3%) are all generally well visited with only a small percentage of respondents either indicating no opinion or that they never visit such provision.
- 3.3 In contrast, typologies such as water based facilities (65.0%), community food growing (73.9%) and teenage provision (66.1%) are never visited. Open spaces of this type are considered to have niche appeal as they are predominantly for specific users with a particular interest in the use of such types of provision.
- 3.4 From the questionnaire, 72.3% of respondents have also never visited an allotment. However, people are unlikely to visit this type of provision unless they have access to an allotment plot. Relatively low levels of usage of allotments portrayed by the online questionnaires should not be taken as an indication of a low level of demand. Information on demand for allotments is identified through the number of people on waiting lists and comments made as part of the wider consultation as covered later in this report.
- 3.5 The three types of open space visited most frequently (i.e. more than once a week and once a week) are parks (60.7%), footpaths, cycleway and canal towpaths (59.9%) and nature areas (49.0%). Other forms of open space are still visited but on a more infrequent bases. For example, civic space, cemeteries and open space in residential areas are visited less frequently; with civic space (28.5%) and cemeteries (38.6%) tending to be visited less than once a month. The frequency of visits to different types of open space can be seen as a reflection of their role and usage by communities. In some cases, however, such as civic spaces, the low response rate may be a reflection of people passing through and not regarding this use of the space as a visit.

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Graph 1: Visits to open spaces and outdoor recreation facilities within Kirklees in the last 12 months (Q1)

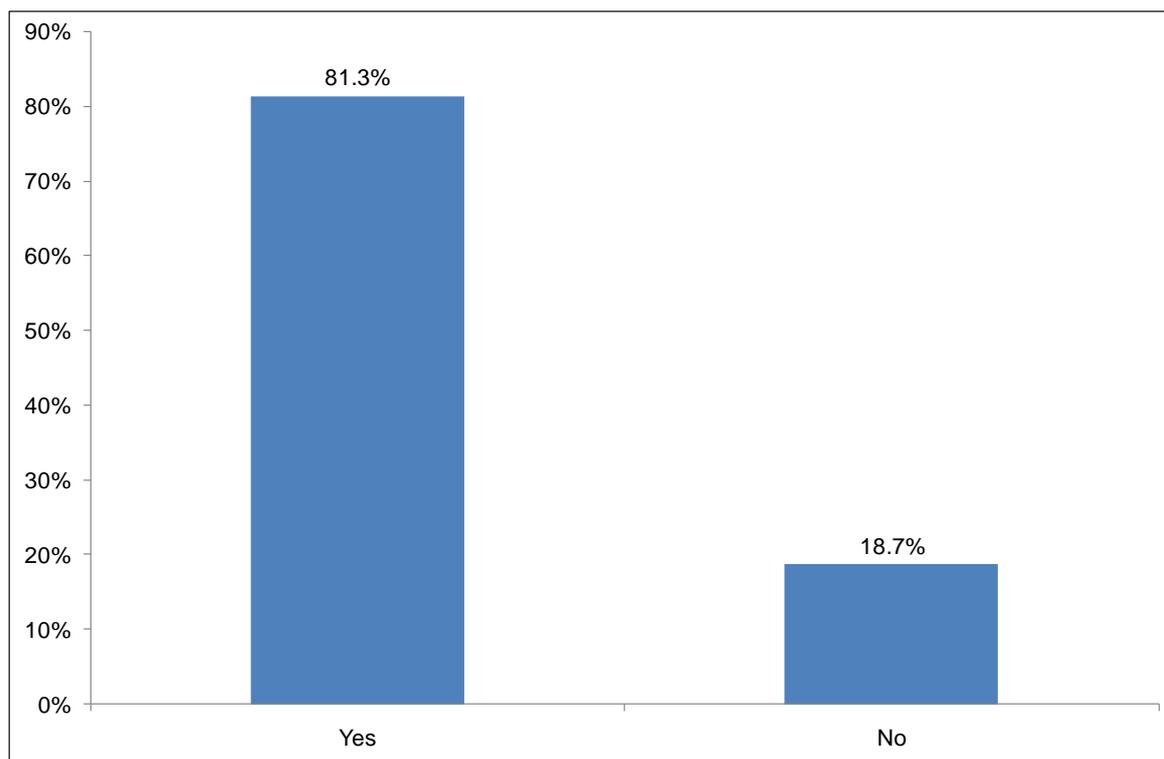


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- 3.6 Over four fifths of respondents (81.3%) state they have visited open space or outdoor recreation facilities outside of the Kirklees area in the last 12 months. Respondents were asked to specify where and for what reason. Some of the most common sites outside of Kirklees cited include:
- ◀ Pugneys Country Park, Wakefield
  - ◀ Roundhay Park, Leeds
  - ◀ Newmillerdam Country Park, Wakefield
  - ◀ Shibden Hall, Halifax
  - ◀ Cannon Hall Farm, Barnsley
  - ◀ Nostell Priory and Parkland, Wakefield
- 3.7 Broader areas are also cited such as the Lake District, Peak District, North Yorkshire and the Yorkshire Dales. Often these are cited as destinations for holidays or day trips.
- 3.8 The most common activity mentioned as a reason for visiting sites outside of Kirklees is walking; with nearly a third of respondents (29.5%) stating so. Other reasons cited include cycling and to meet with friends.
- 3.9 Nearly a fifth of respondents (18.7%) state they have not visited provision outside of Kirklees (Graph 2). A third of respondents living in the Dewsbury & Mirfield District Committee area cite they have not visited provision outside of Kirklees; much higher in comparison to other District Committee areas. This could be a reflection of the perceived availability of provision in that local area (explored later).

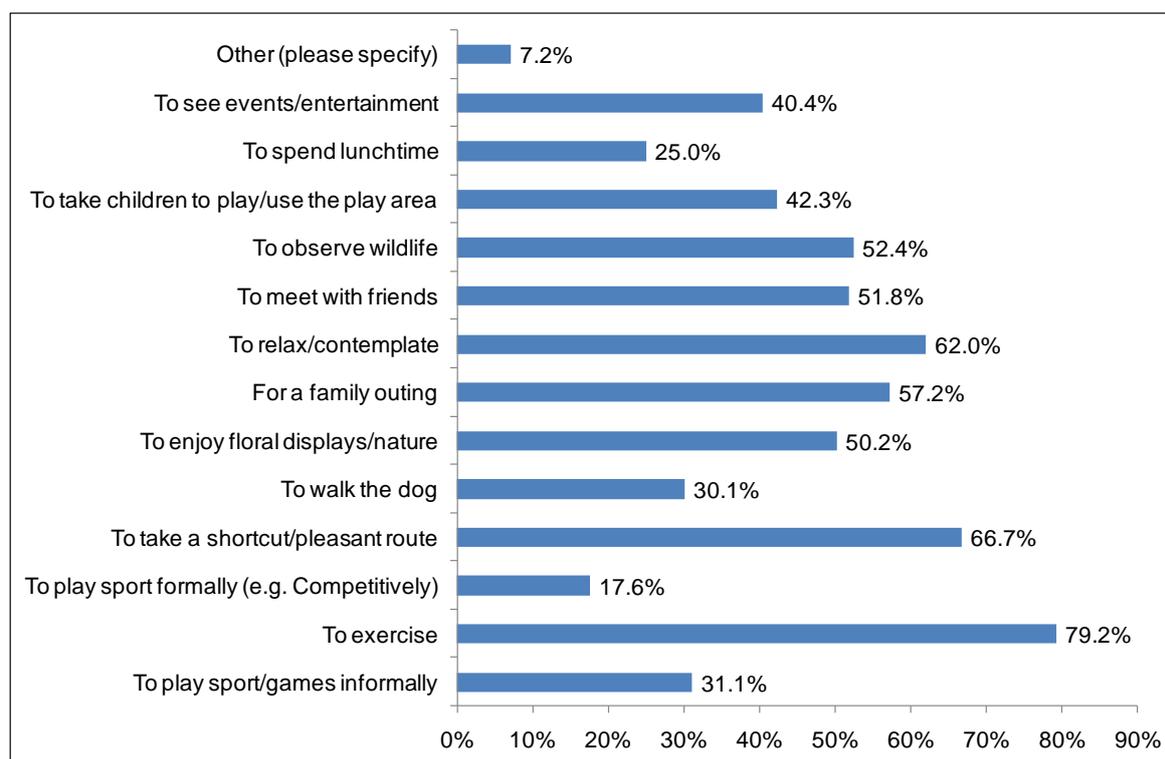
*Graph 2: Have you visited open space/outdoor recreation facilities outside Kirklees in the last 12 months? (Q2)*



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- 3.10 The most common reason for visiting an open space within Kirklees (Graph 3) is to exercise (79.2%). This is followed by to take a shortcut/ pleasant route (66.7%) and to relax/ contemplate (62.0%).
- 3.11 Other popular reasons for visiting provision include for family outings (57.2%), to observe wildlife (52.4%) and to meet with friends (51.8%). Such reasons highlight the importance of open spaces as places for social interaction as well as offering benefits relating to physical and mental health and wellbeing. Comments from the consultation support the reasons as to why people visit different forms of open space. There is also a recognition that 'green' open spaces help provide pleasant areas not just to visit but also in which we live and work.
- 3.12 Interestingly all respondents from the Batley & Spen District Committee area cite exercising as a reason for visiting provision; the highest of any District Committee area.

*Graph 3: Reasons for visiting facilities (Q3)*

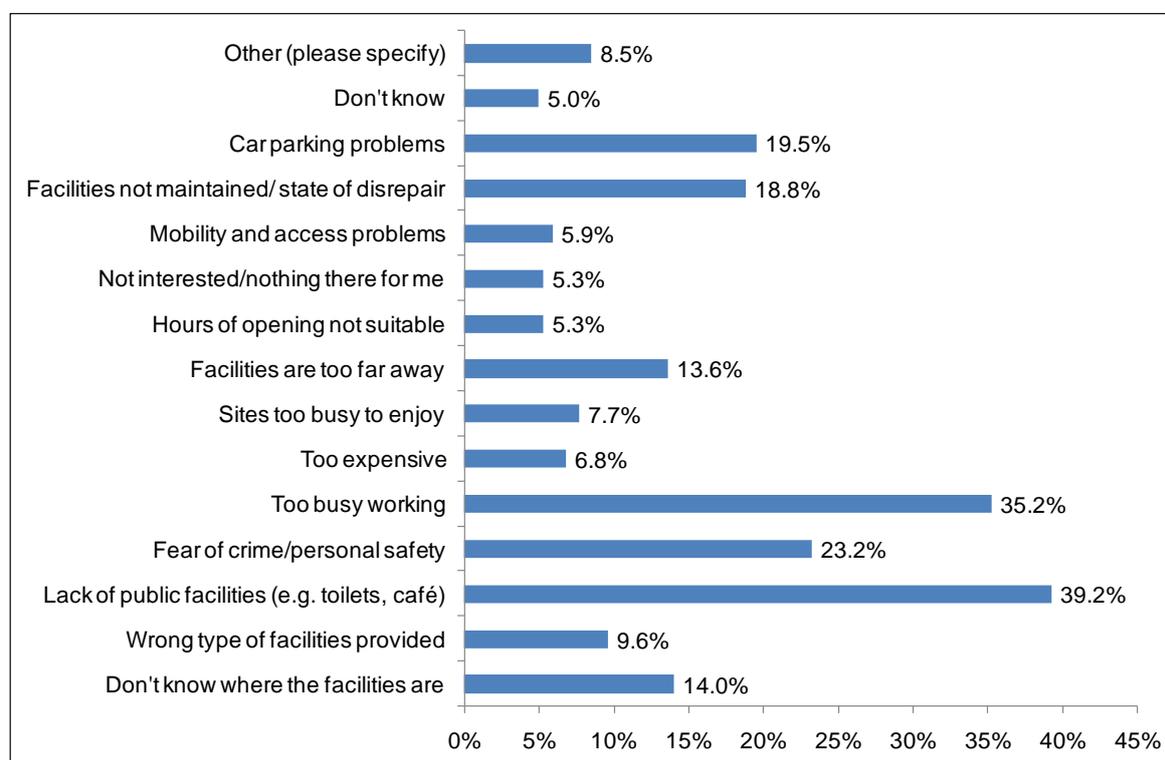


- 3.13 The two most common reasons mentioned as preventing use of facilities across Kirklees (Graph 4) are a lack of public facilities, e.g. toilets/ cafe, (39.2%) and people being too busy working (35.2%).
- 3.14 Of the 39.2% of respondents citing lack of public facilities, most are from the Kirklees Rural District Committee area (44.7%). However, this is proportional for the total number of respondents from this area and is in-keeping with the trends from the other District Committee areas. The exception is for the Huddersfield District Committee area, where a smaller proportion of respondents from the area (20%), in comparison to other areas, cite a lack of public facilities as an issue preventing use.

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- 3.15 This suggests that sites in the Huddersfield area are perceived to be better catered for in terms of ancillary facilities (such as toilets and cafes). The most common reason for preventing use given from respondents from the Huddersfield District Committee area is an individual being too busy to visit such sites.
- 3.16 Proportionally a slightly higher percentage of respondents from the Batley & Spen (22%) and Dewsbury & Mirfield (20%) District Committee areas suggest facilities are not maintained or are in a state of disrepair. This is higher compared to respondents from Huddersfield (8.6%) or Kirklees Rural (14.4%) areas. This may suggest that there is a difference in the perception of quality of provision between these areas (explored later).
- 3.17 Similarly, a higher proportion of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield District Committee area (27%) cite fear of crime/personal safety as a preventative issue. This is slightly higher compared to Batley & Spen (19%), Kirklees Rural (17%) or Huddersfield (14%). Again this may be an indication of people's perception of quality of provision influencing how they perceive the level of personal security when using open spaces.

*Graph 4: Main reasons preventing facility use (Q4)*

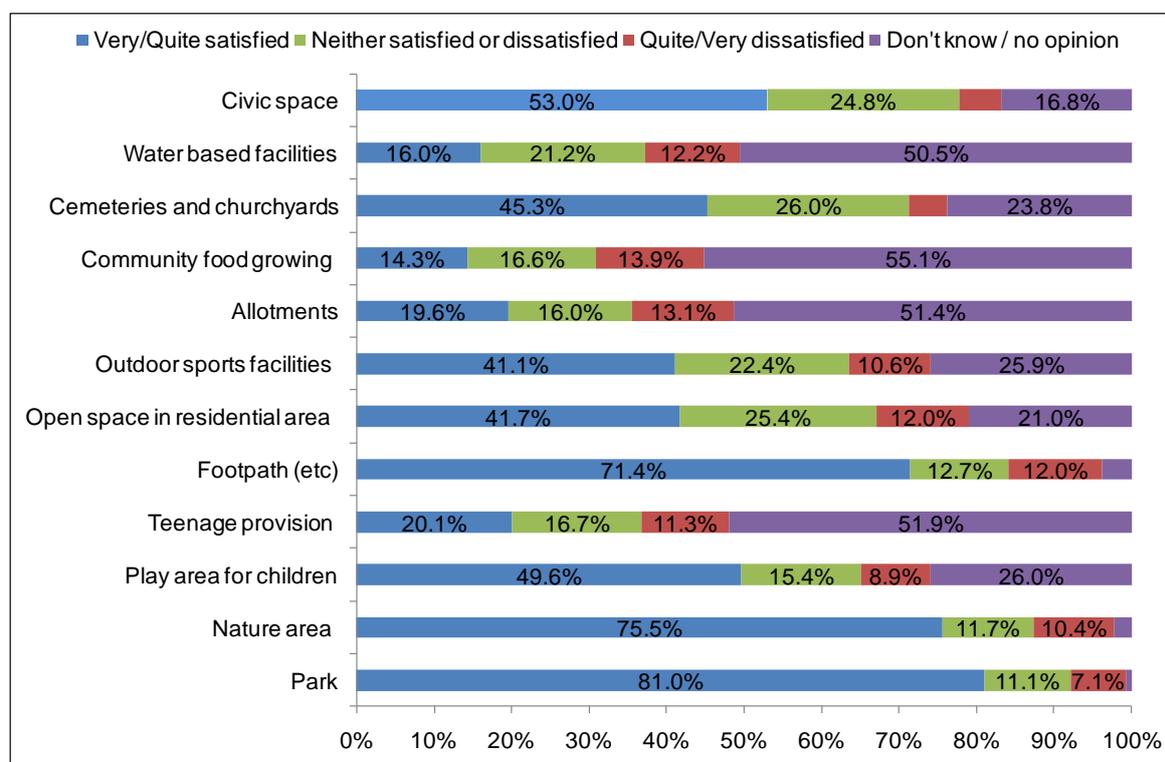


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## Quantity

- 3.18 The level of satisfaction to the availability of most typologies is generally good (Graph 5). Respondents were either very or quite satisfied with the availability of parks (81.0%), nature areas (75.5%) and footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths (71.4%)
- 3.19 Other typologies such as civic space (53.0%), play areas (49.6%) and cemeteries (45.3%) also tend to rate positively for availability (i.e. most respondents are very or quite satisfied). Whilst responses for some other open spaces are more mixed. For instance, less than half of respondents were very or quite satisfied with open spaces in residential areas and outdoor sports facilities although more than a fifth of respondents did not offer an opinion on the availability of these open spaces.
- 3.20 Furthermore, a significant proportion of respondents' state they do not know or have no opinion on the availability of provision for water based facilities (50.5%), allotments (51.4%), teenage provision (51.9%) or community food growing (55.1%). This is not unusual as such forms of open space have a niche appeal and are predominantly for specific users with a particular interest in the use of such types of provision. Non users of such sites are therefore unlikely to have an opinion.

Graph 5: Level of satisfaction with availability of provision (Q7)



- 3.21 The level of satisfaction in terms of the availability of parks is generally consistent across each District Committee area. However, a slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Huddersfield area (85.1%) are very or quite satisfied compared to the other areas.

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Table 3.2: Level of satisfaction with availability of open spaces in Kirklees

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Satisfied (%)		
	Parks	Nature areas	Footpaths, cycleways & canal towpaths
Batley & Spen	73.0%	66.3%	64.0%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	74.5%	69.1%	74.5%
Huddersfield	85.1%	72.4%	72.4%
Kirklees Rural	77.8%	76.7%	66.7%

- 3.22 Across all four District Committee areas the Batley & Spen area has the lower percentages for each of the three typologies; suggesting the level of satisfaction is not quite as high in comparison to other areas of Kirklees.
- 3.23 This is further supported by the proportion of respondents from the Batley & Spen area who view availability of these forms of provision as very or quite dissatisfactory (table 3.3). Although it is important to acknowledge that the percentages are still relatively low. In addition, respondents from the Kirklees Rural area also display slightly higher percentages particularly for footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths (16.3%).
- 3.24 Relating to this, consultation with council officers highlighted a lack of connectivity of green spaces within the north Kirklees area especially in Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw. This is in contrast to the rest of the district and may partly explain such results.

Table 3.3: Level of dissatisfaction with availability of open spaces in Kirklees

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Dissatisfied (%)		
	Parks	Nature areas	Footpaths, cycleways & canal towpaths
Batley & Spen	8.9%	13.5%	10.1%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	5.5%	12.7%	9.9%
Huddersfield	5.7%	9.2%	7.5%
Kirklees Rural	8.1%	10.4%	16.3%

- 3.25 Respondents stating that they were very dissatisfied with the availability of provision were asked to provide further details. Those respondents in the Kirklees Rural area who were very dissatisfied with the availability of footpaths commented on the lack of dedicated cycle ways and/or towpaths in the Colne Valley and Holme Valley areas.
- 3.26 The availability (as well as quality) of footpath, cycleways and towpaths is a significant topic from the questionnaire responses as well as through the wider consultation. A recurring theme is the desire and potential for a better connected and quality network of provision. It's recognised that the existing forms of provision are generally a unique and an excellent feature for the Kirklees area. However, as discussed above some areas are perceived to be lacking in such forms of provision.

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- 3.27 Related to this is the Green Streets work to ensure sites and new developments are linked through schemes such as tree planting along transport routes. Whilst not a typical form of open space this can help sites to form linkages, maximise urban forestry and provide visually attractive environments.
- 3.28 Graph 5 shows that no significant proportions of respondents view the availability of provision for any type of open space as very or quite dissatisfactory. However, the typologies most specifically cited or referred to within the comments box are play areas and teenage provision. Often these comments refer to a perceived lack of provision.
- 3.29 Examining the results at a District Committee level (Table 3.4) shows some notable differences in the opinion of the availability of these forms of provision. There are proportionally fewer respondents that are very or quite satisfied with play or teenage provision from the Batley & Spen area in comparison to the other District Committees. The highest level of satisfaction is with respondents from the Huddersfield area.

*Table 3.4: Level of satisfaction with availability of children's play and teenage provision*

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Satisfied (%)		Very or Quite Dissatisfied (%)	
	Play	Teenage	Play	Teenage
Batley & Spen	33.7%	8.9%	13.5%	11.2%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	47.3%	12.7%	7.3%	5.5%
Huddersfield	51.1%	23.6%	5.7%	4.0%
Kirklees Rural	47.0%	17.0%	9.6%	16.3%

- 3.30 Conversely there are a greater percentage of respondents from the Batley & Spen area who are very or quite dissatisfied with the availability for play (13.5%) and teenage provision (11.2%). In addition, there are 16.3% of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area who view the availability of teenage provision as very or quite dissatisfactory; indicating a perception towards a lack of such forms of open space. The perceived lack of provision catering towards teenagers is one of the most common themes mentioned during the consultation process along with footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths.
- 3.31 Consultation with Kirklees Council officers highlights that the amount of provision for children and teenagers across the four district committee areas is generally considered to be sufficient. However, the form of provision is very age specific and can therefore be limiting in the range of equipment. The approach looking to be undertaken by the council is to amalgamate smaller forms of play on sites within close proximity to one another into destination sites which offer a greater range of play provision.
- 3.32 It is also highlighted that there is a need to promote the creation and awareness of non-equipped forms of play space. Not all play needs to be in the form of designated equipped provision and options of incorporating play features in landscape elements should be encouraged and explored where possible.
- 3.33 Consultation with Kirklees Bereavement Services highlights there are 14 council sites classified as cemeteries. Six of these sites are closed (i.e. have reached capacity) or are close to capacity.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 3.5: Council cemetery provision

Cemetery	Approximate remaining plots	Approximate years remaining
Batley Cemetery	580	10
Cleckheaton (New) Cemetery	500	63
Cleckheaton (Old) Cemetery	Closed to new burials	
Dewsbury Cemetery	2000	48
Earlsheaton Cemetery	Closed to new burials	
Heckmondwike Cemetery	900	113
Liversedge Cemetery	800	45
Almondbury Cemetery	Closed to new burials	
Edgerton Cemetery	Closed to new burials	
Hey Lane Cemetery	1100	17
Kirkheaton Cemetery	Closed to new burials	
Lockwood Cemetery	12	<1
Skelmanthorpe Cemetery	175	27
Slathwaite Cemetery	23	3

- 3.34 Spare capacity is identified at several cemetery sites including Batley, Dewsbury, Heckmondwike, Cleckheaton (New), Skelmanthorpe and Hey Lane Cemetery, Almondbury. Both Hey Lane Cemetery and Batley are the two sites with the most demand (i.e. sites that receive a higher frequency of burials). Hey Lane Cemetery, being a relatively new site, has approximately 15-20 years burial provision remaining; whilst Batley has ten years. However, there is adjacent land which could be used to expand provision to provide approximately 18 years capacity. The suitability and viability of the expansion area is dependent upon the land quality which would need to be explored further.
- 3.35 In the long term there is likely to be a need for an additional new burial site to serve the south of Kirklees. No potential sites have been identified but for access reasons a location towards the Huddersfield area would be preferred.
- 3.36 The majority of allotment sites in Kirklees are managed by the council. There are also a number of additional sites which are managed by Parish Councils or are privately owned. Nearly all Kirklees Council sites are highlighted as having waiting lists suggesting supply does not meet demand. A breakdown of the numbers of people on waiting lists for council allotments is provided below:

Table 3.6: Council allotments

District Committee Area	Council Allotments	
	Sites with waiting list	Numbers on waiting lists
Batley & Spen	13	321
Dewsbury & Mirfield	4	44
Huddersfield	45	191
Kirklees Rural	20	332

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 3.37 In total there are circa 900 people identified as being on waiting lists for council allotments. This may not be a true reflection of demand as individuals can be on more than one waiting list at the same time. Subsequently there are likely to be some duplication.
- 3.38 Overall respondents' perceptions of the availability of provision for both cemeteries and allotments are good. However, for the Batley & Spen area a lower percentage of respondents are very or quite satisfied with the availability for allotments. This may reflect the number of sites and the waiting list numbers identified above.
- 3.39 Similarly the 17% of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area that are very or quite dissatisfied could reflect the high number of people identified on the waiting lists for sites in the area.

*Table 3.7: Level of satisfaction with availability of cemeteries/churchyards & allotments*

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Satisfied (%)		Very or Quite Dissatisfied (%)	
	Cemeteries/ churchyards	Allotments	Cemeteries/ churchyards	Allotments
Batley & Spen	41.6%	7.9%	4.5%	12.4%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	43.6%	18.2%	10.9%	7.3%
Huddersfield	45.9%	25.8%	2.9%	7.5%
Kirklees Rural	40.0%	16.3%	4.8%	17.0%

### Quality

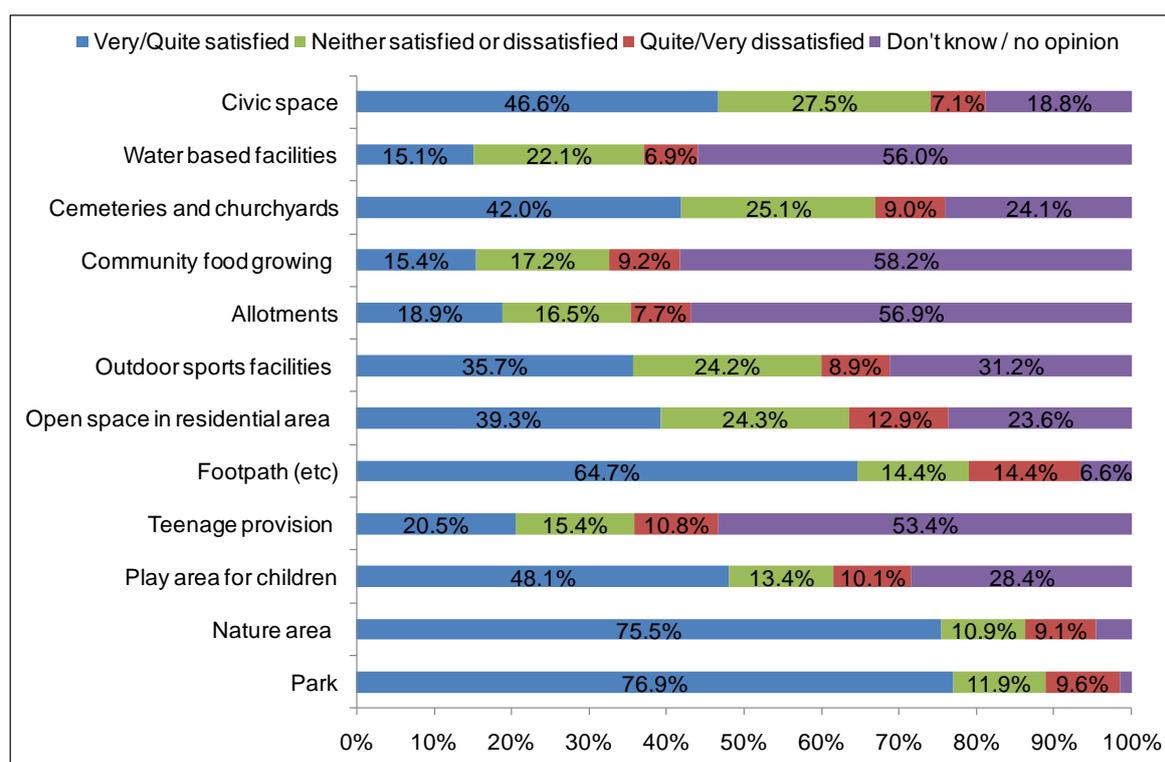
- 3.40 Similar to availability, the level of satisfaction to the quality of most typologies is positive overall (Graph 6). In particular respondents generally stated that they were very or quite satisfied with the quality of provision of parks (76.9%), nature areas (75.5%) and footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths (64.7%).
- 3.41 Part of this for parks and nature areas can be attributed to the four Green Flag Award<sup>2</sup> sites in Kirklees (i.e. Oakwell Hall, Crow Nest Park, Greenhead Park and Beaumont Park) as well as the added benefit provided by local Friends of Groups (FOG).
- 3.42 Many sites referred to through the consultation process are identified as also having a FOG. In particular the four Green Flag Award sites are regularly mentioned as being highly regarded and visited by people.
- 3.43 Away from these types of provision there are also a number of local voluntary groups which provide added assistance to other forms of open space and local areas in general. Many undertake activities such as litter picking and site tidying which contribute to the appearance and quality of open spaces across the local area.
- 3.44 Other typologies such as play areas (48.1%), civic space (46.6%), cemeteries (42.0%), open space in residential areas (39.3%) and outdoor sports facilities (35.7%) also rate positively for quality (i.e. most respondents are very or quite satisfied).

<sup>2</sup> The Green Flag Award scheme recognises and rewards the best green spaces in the country

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 3.45 Responses for the latter three typologies (cemeteries, open space in residential areas and outdoor sports facilities) are slightly more mixed in comparison. For instance, all three forms of provision receive slightly higher percentages for neither satisfied nor dissatisfied or don't know/ no opinion. This is likely a reflection of peoples use of such open spaces and the role they provide to people (i.e. they are visited less often).
- 3.46 A significant proportion of respondents state they do not know or have no opinion on the quality of provision for community food growing (58.2%), allotments (56.9%), water based facilities (56.0%) or teenage provision (53.4%). Again as highlighted earlier this is not unusual as such forms of open space have a niche appeal and non users of such sites are therefore unlikely to have an opinion.

Graph 6: Level of satisfaction with quality of provision (Q8)



- 3.47 The level of satisfaction to the quality of parks is generally consistent across each District Committee area (Table 3.7). However, a greater proportion of respondents from the Huddersfield area are very or quite satisfied compared to the other areas. This may be a reflection on people's perception of provision of this kind due to key sites such as Greenhead Park and Beaumont Park being situated within this District Committee area.
- 3.48 Similar patterns of responses can be seen for nature areas and footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths across the District Committee areas.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 3.8: Level of satisfaction with the quality of open spaces in Kirklees

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Satisfied (%)		
	Parks	Nature areas	Footpaths
Batley & Spennethorpe	69.7%	62.9%	52.8%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	69.0%	60.0%	60.0%
Huddersfield	85.6%	78.7%	64.9%
Kirklees Rural	71.9%	77.8%	61.9%

- 3.49 The trend appears to be for respondents from the Batley & Spennethorpe and Dewsbury & Mirfield District Committee areas to not be as satisfied with the quality of these types of provision in comparison to other areas. As explored earlier, both areas have proportionally a slightly higher percentage of respondents citing facilities as not being maintained or being in a state of disrepair as reasons preventing use of open spaces.
- 3.50 This is further supported by the slightly higher proportion of respondents from the Batley & Spennethorpe and Dewsbury & Mirfield areas who view the quality of these forms of provision as very or quite dissatisfactory. Although it is important to acknowledge that, in general, the percentages are still relatively low. In addition, responses from the Kirklees Rural area also demonstrate similar percentages to the perceived quality of parks (11.5%) and footpaths (15.9%).

Table 3.9: Level of dissatisfaction with the quality of open spaces in Kirklees

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Dissatisfied (%)		
	Parks	Nature areas	Footpaths
Batley & Spennethorpe	12.4%	12.4%	14.6%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	16.4%	12.7%	14.5%
Huddersfield	4.6%	6.9%	10.3%
Kirklees Rural	11.5%	8.5%	15.9%

- 3.51 Respondents stating that they were very dissatisfied with the quality of provision were asked to provide further details. As highlighted earlier respondents from the Kirklees Rural area stating that they were very disappointed with footpaths commented on the lack of dedicated cycle ways and/or towpaths in the Colne Valley and Holme Valley areas. In addition, they also reflect on the perceived poor surface quality and lack of sufficient maintenance of existing provision of this type.
- 3.52 Graph 6 shows that no significant levels of respondents view the quality of provision for any type of open space as very or quite dissatisfactory. Despite this, the typology most specifically cited or referred to within the comments box is teenage provision. However, often these comments refer to a perceived lack of provision so are more reflective of the lack of availability perceived by respondents rather than the quality of provision.
- 3.53 Examining the results at a District Committee level shows some notable differences in respondents' opinions of the quality of these forms of play provision. There are proportionally fewer respondents that are very or quite satisfied with play or teenage provision from the Batley & Spennethorpe and Dewsbury & Mirfield areas in comparison to the other District Committees; suggesting potential issues with quality of provision. The highest level of satisfaction is shown by respondents from the Huddersfield area.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

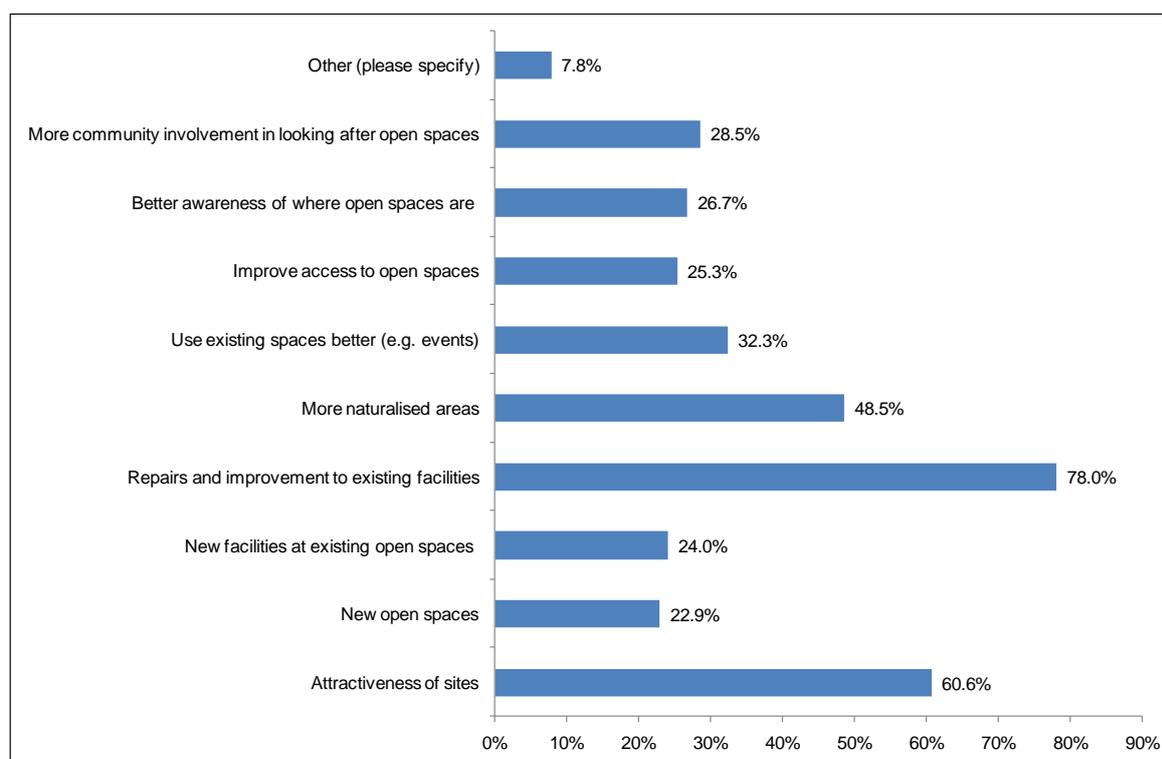
3.54 Conversely, fewer respondents from the Huddersfield area view the quality of teenage provision (4.0%) as very or quite dissatisfactory. This is noticeably less in comparison to the other District Committee areas; suggesting potentially there are fewer issues in terms of quality of provision in the area compared to others.

*Table 3.10: Level of satisfaction with the quality of children's play areas and teenage provision*

District Committee Area	Very or Quite Satisfied (%)		Very or Quite Dissatisfied (%)	
	Play	Teenage	Play	Teenage
Batley & Spennethorpe	33.7%	11.2%	12.4%	10.1%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	40.0%	10.9%	9.1%	10.9%
Huddersfield	51.7%	25.9%	5.7%	4.0%
Kirklees Rural	45.9%	17.4%	11.5%	13.7%

3.55 Respondents were asked to identify what the most important priorities were to them for open space provision in Kirklees (Graph 7). The two most important aspects are ensuring repairs and improvements to existing facilities (78%) and the attractiveness of sites (60.6%). This was consistent across all four District Committee areas and through the wider consultation.

*Graph 7: Priorities for open spaces (Q9)*



3.56 Views about the need for additional open space provision in Kirklees can be examined by looking at responses to the questionnaire by District Committee area. As shown in table 3.10, the main priority for open space provision in Kirklees is new open spaces and new facilities at existing sites.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 3.11: Priorities for open spaces

District Committee Area	New open spaces as a priority	New facilities at existing open spaces
Batley & Spen	20.2%	25.8%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	29.1%	25.5%
Huddersfield	19.5%	22.9%
Kirklees Rural	23.3%	21.5%

3.57 The percentages are relatively close between the four District Committee Areas. However, more respondents in the Dewsbury & Mirfield area state a priority for additional provision of open spaces when compared to other areas. This may relate to the perceptions of the availability and quality of provision in this area. However, in many instances, and as set out earlier, the Batley & Spen area displayed slightly greater percentages of dissatisfaction in terms of availability than respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area.

### Accessibility

3.58 A higher percentage of the respondents indicating a time for how far they are willing to travel in order to visit provision state they would travel by transport as opposed to walking. For many typologies a journey time of over 30 minutes by transport is the most common answer. This is supported from the consultations in which people identify a willingness to travel in order to access certain forms of provision; particularly some of the more popular open space sites such as Greenhead Park and Oakwell Hall.

3.59 In particular the typologies highlighted as being most often visited in the last 12 months (see Q1), such as parks, nature areas and footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths all have a high proportion of respondents willing to travel further in order to access provision. In all three cases most respondents cite they would travel over 30 minutes in order to visit parks (28.4%), nature areas (45.5%) or footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths (30.2%).

3.60 Typologies such as cemeteries (13.3%), water based facilities (23.5%) and civic spaces (15.9%) also have a high percentage of respondents willing to travel over 30 minutes by transport. This relates to the frequency of usage identified by respondents (i.e. individuals may be more willing to travel further to certain provision that they visit less frequent). For cemeteries, an individual's willingness to travel is likely to be determined by personal circumstances.

3.61 However, there is an expectation for certain types of open space to be provided at a more localised level. For instance, play areas, open spaces in residential areas and allotments all receive a greater proportion of respondents willing to walk 5-10 minutes or over 11-15 minutes. In the case of open space in residential areas there were 18.9% of respondents willing to walk less than 5 minutes. This is the highest for any typology and stresses the role for provision of this kind to be locally available.

3.62 There are no significant differences between the responses for play areas on a District Committee level. However, a slightly higher proportion of respondents from the Batley & Spen (8%) and Dewsbury & Mirfield (9%) areas are willing to walk less than 5 minutes in comparison to those from Huddersfield (4%) or Kirklees Rural (5%) areas.

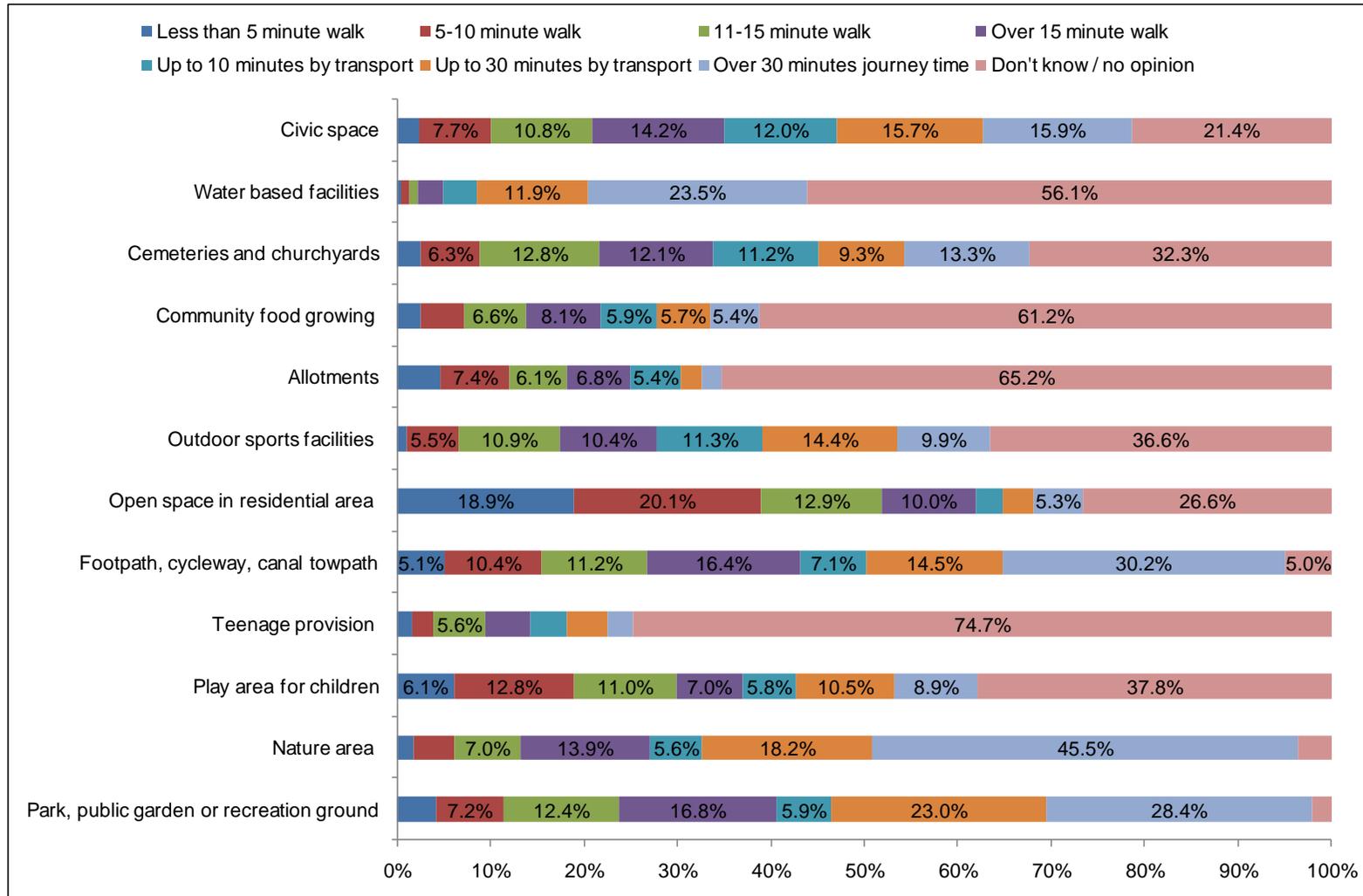
## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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- 3.63 Similarly for Parks, 20.2% of respondents from the Batley & Spen District Committee area are willing to travel over a 30 minute travel time. This is slightly lower in comparison to other areas such as Dewsbury & Mirfield (32.7%), Huddersfield (29.9%) and Kirklees Rural (25.6%). The most common travel time in order to visit a park from respondents in the Batley & Spen District Committee is actually over a 15 minute walk (21.3%). It is worth recognising that this could be a reflection on individuals' access to transportation.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Graph 8: Willingness to travel to visit provision (Q5)

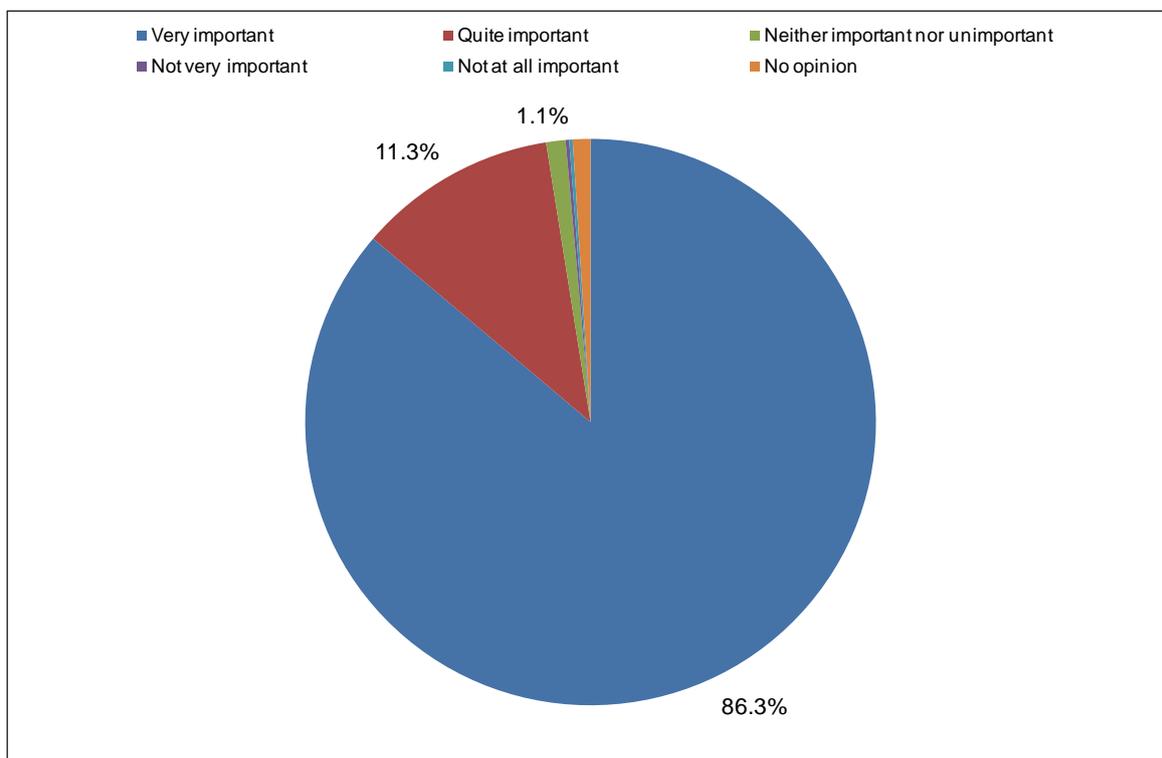


# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

## Importance

3.64 Open spaces are obviously very important to the people of Kirklees (Graph 9); with over four fifths of respondents (86.3%) stating so. A further 11.3% consider open spaces to be quite important; whilst very few respondents view open space provision as either not very important (0.2%) or not at all important (0.2%).

Graph 9: Importance of open spaces (Q6)



3.65 At a District Committee level a similar high proportion of respondents' rate open spaces as being very important:

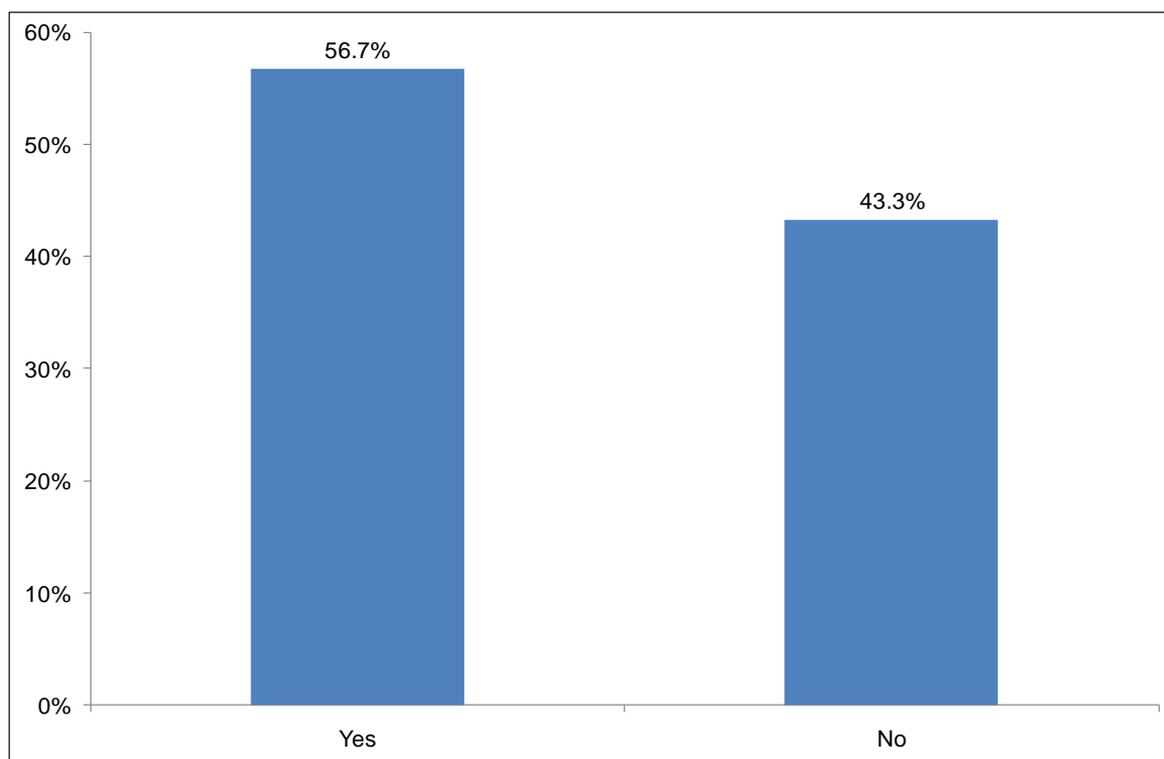
Table 3.12: Importance of open spaces in Kirklees

District Committee Area	Percentage of respondents rating open spaces as important
Batley & Spen	89.9%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	81.8%
Huddersfield	83.3%
Kirklees Rural	86.7%

3.66 Participants in the questionnaire were asked if they would be willing to play an active role in looking after an open space site near where they live. Over half of respondents (56.7%) said they would.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Graph 10: Willingness to play an active role (Q10)



3.67 At a District Committee level the proportion of respondents are in keeping with the average across Kirklees (56.7%).

Table 3.13: Willingness to play an active role

District Committee Area	Percentage of respondents willing to play an active role
Batley & Spen	55.1%
Dewsbury & Mirfield	60.0%
Huddersfield	59.2%
Kirklees Rural	53.7%

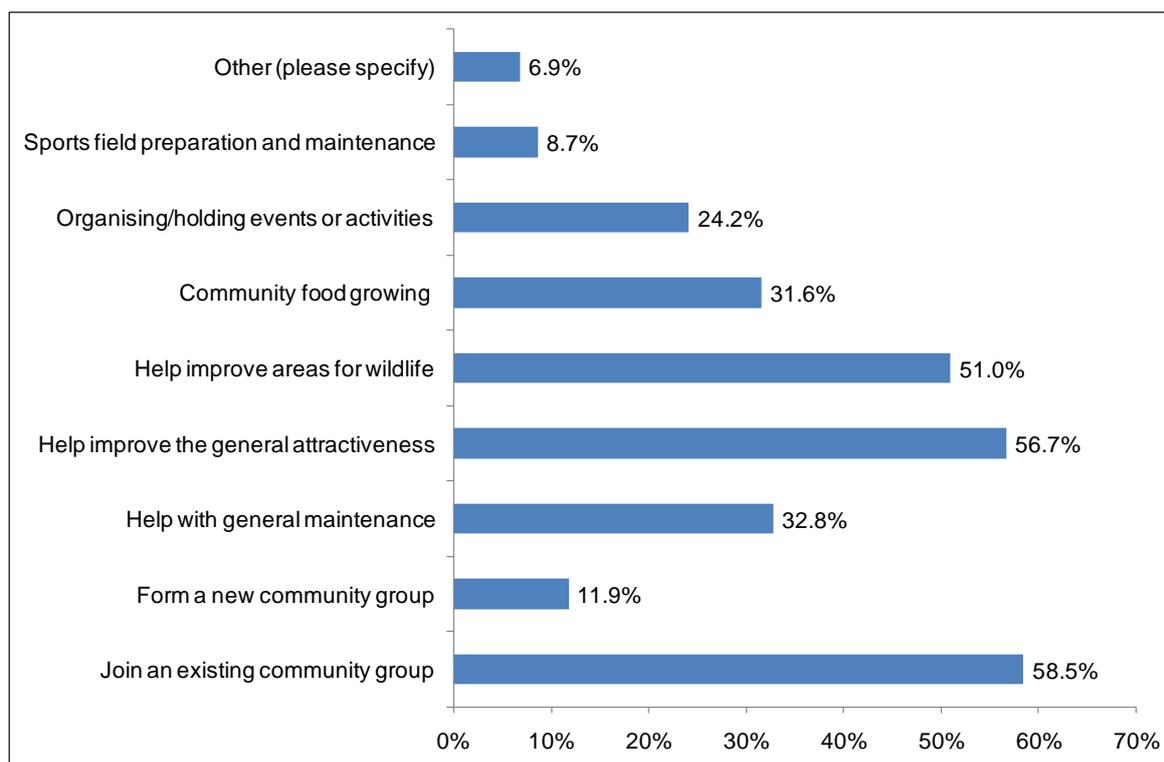
3.68 Those respondents who said they would be willing to play an active role were asked in what way they would like to be involved. The most common answers included:

- ▶ Joining an existing community group (58.5%)
- ▶ Helping improve the general attractiveness (56.7%)
- ▶ Helping improve areas of wildlife (51.0%)

3.69 The answers show there is a willingness to help in the management and maintenance of open spaces within Kirklees (Graph 11). The second most common response of respondents being willing to help improve general attractiveness (56.7%) is testament to this. It is also likely a reflection of some respondents' views of the quality of certain types of provision.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Graph 11: Ways to be involved (Q11)



3.70 The responses indicated that there is less of a willingness to be involved with regard to methods requiring higher levels of responsibility. For example, fewer respondents stated they were willing to form a new group (11.9%), prepare/maintain sports fields (8.7%) or organise events (24.2%). Results would suggest that respondents are generally willing to provide additional value and benefits to sites but fewer respondents appear to be willing to be fully responsible for management of provision. Furthermore, wider community consultation comments often referred to the lack of free time and/or desire from individuals to be able to commit on a regular basis to the management or maintenance of an open space.

### **Kirklees summary**

- ▶ The most visited forms of open spaces in Kirklees are parks (98%), nature areas (96%) and footpath, cycleways and towpaths (95%). Such forms of provision tend to be visited more frequently than others i.e. more than once a week.
- ▶ Civic space (90%) is also a popular type of open space. However, rates of visits tend to be less frequent i.e. less than once a month.
- ▶ The most common reasons for visiting open space within Kirklees is to exercise (79%), take a shortcut/ pleasant route (67%) and to relax/ contemplate (62%).
- ▶ Common reasons cited as preventing use of open space across Kirklees are a lack of public facilities e.g. toilets/cafe (39%) and people being too busy working (35%).
- ▶ The level of satisfaction to the availability and quality of open space is generally positive. Provision of parks, nature areas and footpath, cycleways and towpaths are perceived very positively with high satisfaction levels noted for availability and quality.
- ▶ Ensuring repairs and improvements to existing facilities (78%) and the attractiveness of sites (61%) are the two main priorities for respondents with regard to open spaces.
- ▶ Demand for greater allotment provision is evidenced by high waiting list numbers at sites across Kirklees.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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- ◀ In the longer term there is an identified need for additional burial provision in order to service the wider South Kirklees area which may impact on the future of provision in Huddersfield. Provision at Batley Cemetery has the potential to be expanded which could help to meet future need.
- ◀ A higher percentage of respondents indicate a willingness to travel over 30 minutes by transport in order to access most forms of provision. However, play areas, open spaces in residential areas and allotments all receive a greater proportion of respondents willing to walk 5-10 minutes or over 11-15 minutes.
- ◀ Over four fifths of the questionnaire participants (86%) view open spaces as very important.
- ◀ Over half of respondents (57%) said they would be willing to play an active role in looking after an open site near where they live. The most common ways included joining an existing community group (59%), improving general attractiveness (57%) and improving areas of wildlife (51%).

### 4. BATLEY & SPEN SUMMARY

- 4.1 The Batley & Spen District Committee area is made up of six council wards. These include Batley East, Batley West, Birstall & Birkenshaw, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike and Liversedge & Gomersal.
- 4.2 In addition to the council officer consultation covering the wider Kirklees area, KKP representatives also attended in person at Cleckheaton Library and Oakwell Hall Country Park to encourage people to participate in the questionnaire and to discuss their views and thoughts relating to open space provision. Paper versions of the questionnaires were also hosted at both sites in addition to Heckmondwike Library and Birstall Library. A total of 89 completed questionnaires were identified as being from the area.
- 4.3 Consultation was also undertaken with local area groups such as Little Gomersal Community Association, UK Ambassadors, Friends of Scholes Recreation Ground, Cleckheaton Walking Society and the Pakistan & Kashmir Welfare Association.

#### *Frequency of visits*

- 4.4 Questionnaire respondents from the Batley & Spen area demonstrate that certain types of open space are visited more often in comparison to other types. In keeping with the Kirklees wide trend, the most popular types of open spaces visited by Batley & Spen area respondents are parks (98%), nature areas (92%), footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths (89%), and civic space (88%). These types of provision are also visited the most frequently (i.e. more than once a week) by respondents with the exception of civic space which can also be visited less frequently.
- 4.5 Other forms of popular provision visited by Batley & Spen respondents include cemeteries and churchyards (66%) and open space in residential areas (63%). However, for the former these tend to be visited less frequently (i.e. less than once a month).
- 4.6 The types of open space least likely to be visited by respondents from Batley & Spen area are water based facilities (21%), teenage provision (15%) and allotments (8%). The rate of visits for these typologies is infrequent with any visits tending to be less than once a month.

#### *Parks, public gardens and recreation grounds*

##### *Availability*

- 4.7 Satisfaction of the availability of parks is high. The majority of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (73.0%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability. However, this is the lowest of the four District Committee areas.
- 4.8 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (8.9%) view the availability of parks as very or quite dissatisfactory. However, this is slightly higher than in any other District Committee.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

*Table 4.1: Level of satisfaction with availability of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Batley & Spen*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
73.0%	14.6%	8.9%	1.0%

- 4.9 Consultation regularly highlights Oakwell Hall Country Park, and to some extent Wilton Park, as being prominent and well visited sites serving local communities in the area.
- 4.10 Wider community consultation identifies that individuals do access parks provision outside of Kirklees with sites such as Roundhay Park in Leeds and Pugneys Country Park being cited as well as parks in Bradford.

### *Quality*

- 4.11 Similar to availability satisfaction with the quality of parks is also high. The majority of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (69.7%) are either very or quite satisfied with quality.

*Table 4.2: Level of satisfaction with the quality of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Batley & Spen*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
69.7%	16.9%	12.4%	-

- 4.12 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (12.4%) consider quality to be very or quite dissatisfactory. Those dissatisfied with quality of parks seems to be a reflection on perceived levels of maintenance and/or a lack of ancillary features such as play provision.

### *Accessibility*

- 4.13 The preference for respondents from the Batley & Spen area in terms of access to parks is evenly split between those willing to travel by transport (47.2%) and those willing to walk (47.1%). Similarly responses show that 21.3% will walk over 15 minutes and 20.2% will travel over 30 minutes to access provision.

*Table 4.3: Time prepared to travel to access parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Batley & Spen*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
3.4%	6.7%	15.7%	21.3%	9.0%	18.0%	20.2%

- 4.14 This may be reflecting a difference in the types of parks provision people access. For instance, people may be willing to walk in order to access local park provision but will also travel further in order to access larger parks or other sites outside of Kirklees.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### Nature areas

#### Availability

- 4.15 Satisfaction with the availability of nature areas is high. The majority of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (66.3%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability. This is the lowest of the four District Committee areas and would suggest that whilst there is perceived to be a sufficient level of provision in terms quantity; in comparison to other District areas the level of satisfaction is less.

Table 4.4: Level of satisfaction with availability of nature areas in Batley & Spen

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
66.3%	14.6%	13.5%	2.3%

- 4.16 Further supporting the general level of satisfaction in terms of availability, only a small percentage of respondents from the Batley & Spen area were very or quite dissatisfied with the availability of nature areas (13.5%). Wider community consultation does not highlight any issues with regard to availability of nature area provision.

#### Quality

- 4.17 Similar to availability satisfaction with the quality of nature areas is also positive. A total of 62.9% of respondents from the Batley & Spen area are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of nature areas. This is the second lowest of the four District Committee areas (only slightly higher than the figure for the Dewsbury & Mirfield District Committee area). This may suggest that there is a perception that quality of provision is not as high as other District Committee areas. However, only 12.4% of respondents were very or quite dissatisfied with quality.

Table 4.5: Level of satisfaction with quality of nature areas in Batley & Spen

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
62.9%	18.0%	12.4%	3.4%

#### Accessibility

- 4.18 Most respondents in the Batley & Spen area indicate a willingness to travel by transport (68.6%) rather than walking (23.6%) to access nature areas. The greatest percentage of respondents will travel over 30 minutes by transport (37.1%); suggesting people within the area are prepared to travel further in order to access provision of this type.

Table 4.6: Time prepared to travel to access nature areas in Batley & Spen

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
-	3.4%	5.6%	14.6%	12.4%	19.1%	37.1%

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### ***Footpaths, Cycleways and Canal Towpaths***

#### *Availability*

- 4.19 Satisfaction with the availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths is high. The majority of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (64.0%) are either very or quite satisfied with availability. However, this is the lowest of the four District Committee areas. This could suggest a lack of provision in the area or a lack of awareness to provision.

*Table 4.7: Level of satisfaction with availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Batley & Spen*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
64.0%	16.9%	10.1%	4.5%

- 4.20 A small percentage of respondents from the area (10.1%) view the availability as very or quite dissatisfactory; further suggesting availability of provision is viewed positively in this District Committee area.
- 4.21 Wider community consultation highlights that sites such as the Spen Valley Greenway and Ringway are excellent forms of provision. It is recognised that such provision is popular for recreational activities to local communities. However, it is acknowledged that areas such as Batley historically do not have as prevalent a PROW network compared to the other district committee areas of Kirklees.

#### *Quality*

- 4.22 Respondents' views of the quality of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths are also high. Just over half of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (52.8%) are either very or quite satisfied in terms of quality. However, this is the lowest of the four District Committee areas. This may be a reflection on people's lack of awareness of provision; as the 19.1% of respondents that are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with quality is the highest for any of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 4.8: Level of satisfaction with quality of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Batley & Spen*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
52.8%	19.1%	14.6%	7.9%

- 4.23 Similar to availability there is a relatively small percentage of respondents who stated they were very or quite dissatisfied with the quality (14.6%).

#### *Accessibility*

- 4.24 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Batley & Spen area are willing to walk (47.2%) to access provision rather than travel by transport (41.6%). However, the highest proportion of respondents will travel over 30 minutes by transport (22.5%) to access provision. This is closely followed by those willing to walk over 15 minutes (18.0%)

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 4.9: Time prepared to travel to access footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Batley & Spen

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
5.6%	14.6%	9.0%	18.0%	9.0%	10.1%	22.5%

- 4.25 This may reflect the typologies varying role and uses. For instance, it can include a greenway with a formal tarmac path or a more informal countryside route. Subsequently it is likely that individuals will have a different view on how far they will travel depending on the type of provision.

### **Provision for Children and Young People**

#### *Availability*

- 4.26 A third of respondents (33.7%) are very or quite satisfied with play areas, which is the lowest of the four District Committee areas. However, it should be noted that 35.9% of respondents did not provide an opinion on the availability of play areas.

Table 4.10: Level of satisfaction with availability of provision for children and young people in Batley & Spen

	Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
Play areas	33.7%	11.2%	13.5%	35.9%
Teenage provision	8.9%	12.4%	11.2%	55.1%

- 4.27 Only 8.9% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with teenage provision. However, in-keeping with the Kirklees average, there are a high percentage of respondents that do not know or have no opinion regarding teenage provision (55.1%). This is not unusual as provision of this kind is considered to have a niche appeal as it is predominantly for specific users with a particular interest in the use of such provision.
- 4.28 A handful of respondents dissatisfied with the availability of play areas and teenage provision provide a comment on the perceived lack of provision. They cite that there is a lack of play provision in the Hartshead and Heckmondwike areas.
- 4.29 However, this again may be a reflection to a lack of awareness as wider community consultation recognises that there are forms of play provision in the Heckmondwike area. Sites such as Firth Park are highlighted as a good example of an open space with a variety of play equipment.
- 4.30 Relating to the popularity of the wider site, the play provision at Oakwell Hall Country Park is highlighted as an excellent site. In a similar fashion, the play equipment at Wilton Park is also highlighted as being to a good standard with a lot of varying equipment. The appeal in both these cases refers to the wider range and access to ancillary facilities, for example, both sites have car parking, toilets and opportunities to refreshments.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### Quality

- 4.31 Similar to availability, opinions relating to the quality of play are satisfactory. Just over a third of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (33.7%) are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of play areas. However, it should be noted that 36.0% of respondents did not provide a view on the quality of play areas.

*Table 4.11: Level of satisfaction with quality of provision for children and young people in Batley & Spen*

	Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
Play areas	33.7%	12.4%	12.4%	36.0%
Teenage provision	11.2%	10.1%	10.1%	60.7%

- 4.32 The questionnaire responses relating to the quality of teenage provision is less conclusive. This is not unexpected given the targeted nature of teenage provision with 60.7% of respondents in this area providing no opinion on the quality of teenage provision.

### Accessibility

- 4.33 Over a third of respondents from the Batley & Spen area (36.0%) are willing to walk as opposed to travel by transport (21.3%) to access play area provision. The results are similar for teenage provision but are not conclusive, 15.8% will walk and 9% will travel by transport.

*Table 4.12: Time prepared to travel to access provision for children and young people in Batley & Spen*

	Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
	<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
Play areas	7.9%	10.1%	10.1%	7.9%	6.7%	7.9%	6.7%
Teenage provision	2.3%	3.4%	4.5%	5.6%	4.5%	4.5%	-

- 4.34 Respondents demonstrate a willingness to travel 5-10 minutes (10.1%) and 11-15 minutes (10.1%) in order to access children's play provision. This suggests a need for provision to be locally accessible (i.e. within walking distance). This view is also supported from wider community consultation which highlights the preference for play and teenage provision to be available within walking distances of local communities.

### Allotments

#### Availability

- 4.35 The Batley & Spen area has 13 allotment sites with waiting lists. The total number of people on the waiting list for council allotment sites in the Batley & Spen area is 321. However, individuals can be on more than one waiting list at the same time therefore waiting list numbers may not be as high as they initially seem but there is still an obvious demand for allotment provision. There are also a number of additional sites which are managed by Parish Councils or are privately owned.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 4.13: Council allotments in Batley & Spen

District Committee Area	Council Allotments	
	Sites with waiting list	Numbers on waiting lists
Batley & Spen	13	321

- 4.36 Sites with the greatest waiting list numbers are located in the Birstall & Birkenshaw area. Both the Station Lane (Birkenshaw) and Victoria Street (Birstall) sites have a total of 40 individuals on the waiting list respectively. High numbers are also noted at Clough Lane (Liversedge), North Bank Road (Batley), New North Road (Heckmondwike) and Whitechapel Road (Cleckheaton).
- 4.37 Wider community consultation with council officers also highlights a particular demand for greater allotment provision in the Cleckheaton and Liversedge areas.
- 4.38 Respondents from the Batley & Spen area demonstrate a more mixed view on the availability of allotment provision in comparison to other typologies. This is most likely a reflection of the specific appeal and use; as 51.7% do not know or have no opinion. However, 19.1% of respondents are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with availability. Again this is likely to be a reflection of the specific appeal of such provision.

Table 4.14: Level of satisfaction with availability of allotments in Batley & Spen

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
7.9%	19.1%	12.4%	51.7%

### Quality

- 4.39 In keeping with views of availability from respondents to the questionnaire, nearly two thirds of respondents from the area (65.2%) do not know or have no opinion on the quality of allotment provision.

Table 4.15: Level of satisfaction with quality of allotments in Batley & Spen

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
7.9%	11.2%	7.9%	65.2%

- 4.40 The wider community consultation highlights no specific issues with regard to the quality of provision. However, in general at allotment sites across Kirklees as a whole, wider community consultation cites a rise in the number of thefts being reported at sites.

### Accessibility

- 4.41 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Batley & Spen area are willing to walk (13.6%) to access allotments rather than travelling by transport (10.1%). The travel times are all relatively close but do suggest a preference for allotment provision within the Batley & Spen area to be locally accessible (i.e. within walking distance).

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 4.16: Time prepared to travel to access allotments in Batley & Spen

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
3.4%	5.6%	2.3%	2.3%	7.9%	1.1%	1.1%

### Cemeteries and Churchyards

#### Availability

- 4.42 Consultation with Bereavement Operational Officers at Kirklees Council identifies that there is approximately ten years burial capacity at Batley Cemetery. However, there is adjacent land which may provide the opportunity for expansion which could provide approximately 18 years capacity. The suitability and viability of the expansion area is dependent upon the quality of the land which is yet to be explored. The site is identified as the main form of future provision in the area.
- 4.43 Respondents from the Batley & Spen area appear to be generally very or quite satisfied with the availability of cemeteries and churchyards (41.6%). This is in line with the trend for Kirklees as a whole. Underlining the positive view towards provision is the small proportion of respondents that are very or quite dissatisfied (4.5%).

Table 4.17: Level of satisfaction with availability of cemeteries and churchyards in Batley & Spen

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
41.6%	18.0%	4.5%	30.3%

#### Quality

- 4.44 The level of satisfaction regarding the quality of cemeteries is also generally positive, despite over a quarter of respondents not knowing or having no opinion. A total of 34.8% of respondents from the area are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of cemeteries and churchyards. In addition, only a smaller percentage (12.4%) state being very or quite dissatisfied.

Table 4.18: Level of satisfaction with quality of cemeteries and churchyards in Batley & Spen

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
34.8%	18.0%	12.4%	27.0%

- 4.45 A few specific comments regarding the quality of provision are noted in the questionnaire responses. Cemetery and Churchyard provision in Heckmondwike and Cleckheaton are cited by some respondents as being in poor condition due not being well maintained.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### *Accessibility*

- 4.46 The preference for respondents from the Batley & Spennings Dale area in order to access cemeteries and churchyards is evenly split between those willing to travel by transport (28.1%) and those willing to walk (28.0%).

*Table 4.19: Time prepared to travel to access cemeteries and churchyards in Batley & Spennings Dale*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
4.5%	5.6%	6.7%	11.2%	12.4%	5.6%	10.1%

- 4.47 The figures are less definitive compared to other typologies and may reflect the difference in the perceived forms of provision of this type. For instance, cemetery and churchyard provision can include a small non-active churchyard or a more formal large cemetery site. Subsequently an individual's willingness to travel may vary depending on the type and location of site.

### **Other**

- 4.48 No significant issues were expressed from the questionnaire or wider consultations about other types of open space (i.e. civic space, water based facilities, outdoor sports facilities, open space in residential areas). The councils Playing Pitch Strategy should be used for more in-depth analysis of outdoor sport facilities.
- 4.49 However, respondents tend to be very or quite satisfied with the availability (51.7%) and quality (46.1%) of civic space provision.
- 4.50 Similarly questionnaire results are generally positive for the availability and quality of provision of open space in residential areas. A total of 33.7% of respondents from the Batley & Spennings Dale area are very or quite satisfied with availability. In addition a third (32.6%) views quality of open space in residential areas as very or quite satisfactory.

### **General Findings**

- 4.51 Respondents from the Batley & Spennings Dale area state the most common reason for visiting an open space within Kirklees is to exercise (77.5%). This is followed by to take a shortcut/ pleasant route (60.7%), for family outings (60.7%) and to relax/ contemplate (60.7%). Other popular reasons for visiting provision include to observe wildlife (50.6%) and to meet with friends (46.1%).
- 4.52 The most common reasons cited by respondents from Batley & Spennings Dale as preventing use of facilities across Kirklees are a lack of public facilities, e.g. toilets/ cafe, (33.7%) and being too busy working (27.0%). Other reasons preventing use include facilities not being maintained or in a state of disrepair (22.5%) and fear of crime (19.1%).
- 4.53 Participants to the questionnaire from the Batley & Spennings Dale area were asked to identify what the most important priorities were to them for open space provision in Kirklees. The two most important aspects are ensuring repairs and improvements to existing facilities (74.1%) and the attractiveness of sites (71.9%).

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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4.54 Respondents from Batley & Spen were asked if they would be willing to play an active role in looking after an open space site near where they live. Over half of respondents (55.0%) state they would whilst 41.6% cite they would not. The most common ways in which respondents from the area would want to be involved are by:

- ◀ Joining an existing community group (29.2%)
- ◀ Helping improve the general attractiveness (23.6%)
- ◀ Helping improve areas of wildlife (22.5%)

### ***Batley & Spen Summary***

- ◀ The provision of parks, footpath, cycleways and towpaths as well as nature areas is perceived very positively with high satisfaction levels noted in terms of availability and quality.
- ◀ Despite being positive the level of satisfaction for availability and quality is not as high for many typologies as it is in other District Committee areas. Consultation with council officers highlighted a lack of connectivity of green spaces in the north Kirklees area especially in Batley, Birstall and Birkenshaw. This may partly explain respondent trends.
- ◀ Only Hartshead is highlighted as an area perceived to be lacking in play provision for children. There are also conflicting views on play in Heckmondwike which suggests a potential lack of awareness regarding such provision.
- ◀ There is a need for additional burial provision to serve the area; potential expansion at Batley Cemetery has been identified. Questionnaire responses also raise a perception that some sites are not as well maintained as they could be.
- ◀ Demand for greater allotment provision is evidenced by high waiting list numbers across sites. Consultation highlighted demand across the area.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### 5. DEWSBURY & MIRFIELD SUMMARY

- 5.1 The Dewsbury & Mirfield District Committee area is made up of four council wards. These include Dewsbury East, Dewsbury South, Dewsbury West and Mirfield.
- 5.2 In addition to the council officer consultation covering the wider Kirklees area, KKP representatives also attended in person at Mirfield Library and Crow Nest Park to encourage people to participate in the questionnaire and to discuss their views and thoughts regarding open space provision. Paper versions of the questionnaires were hosted at both sites as well as Dewsbury Library. A total of 55 completed questionnaires were identified as being from the area.
- 5.3 Consultation was undertaken with Mirfield Town Council as well as with local area groups such as Ravensthorpe Residents Action Group, North Kirklees Phab Club and site specific groups such as the Friends of Crow Nest Park.

#### ***Frequency of visits***

- 5.4 Questionnaire respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area demonstrate that certain types of open space are visited more often in comparison to other types. In keeping with the Kirklees wide trend, the most popular types of open spaces visited by Dewsbury & Mirfield area respondents are parks (96%), nature areas (93%), footpaths, cycleways and canal paths (89%), and civic space (85%). These types of provision are also visited the most frequently (i.e. more than once a week) by respondents with the exception of civic space which tends to be visited less than once a month.
- 5.5 Other forms of popular provision visited by Dewsbury & Mirfield respondents include open space in residential areas (75%) and cemeteries and churchyards (69%). However, both these types of open space tend to be visited less frequently (i.e. less than once a month).
- 5.6 The types of open space least likely to be visited by respondents from Dewsbury & Mirfield area are allotments (18%), teenage provision (16%) and water based facilities (13%). The rate of visits for these typologies is infrequent with any visits tending to be less than once a month.

#### ***Parks, public gardens and recreation grounds***

##### *Availability*

- 5.7 Satisfaction with the availability of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds is high. The majority of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (74.5%) are either very or quite satisfied towards the availability; the third highest of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 5.1: Level of satisfaction with availability of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
74.5%	18.2%	5.5%	1.8%

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 5.8 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (5.5%) view the availability of parks as very or quite dissatisfactory. Consultation recognises that there is only a small amount of local park provision in the Mirfield area. However, this does not seem to be an issue, as existing sites such as Ings Grove Park are viewed as being of a good quality. Supporting this, wider community consultation does not highlight any issues with regard to availability of parks provision.
- 5.9 Wider community consultation identifies that individuals do access parks provision outside of Kirklees with sites such as Roundhay Park in Leeds, Pugneys Country Park and Newmillerdam Country Park in Wakefield being cited.

### *Quality*

- 5.10 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of parks is also high. The majority of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (69.0%) are either very or quite satisfied with quality.

*Table 5.2: Level of satisfaction with quality of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
69.0%	9.1%	16.4%	3.6%

- 5.11 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (16.4%) consider quality to very or quite dissatisfactory. However, this is the highest of the four District Committees. This may be a reflection on the percentage of respondents from this area citing facilities as not being maintained or are in a state of disrepair as reasons preventing use of open spaces.

### *Accessibility*

- 5.12 In order to access parks provision most respondents in the Dewsbury & Mirfield area indicate a preference to travel by transport (60.0%) rather than walking (31.0%). A larger percentage of respondents are willing to travel 10-30 minutes by transport (21.8%) or over 30 minutes (32.7%).

*Table 5.3: Time prepared to travel to access parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
5.5%	5.5%	12.7%	7.3%	5.5%	21.8%	32.7%

- 5.13 This could be suggesting a potential lack of parks provision in the area which means people have to travel further in order to access provision; or it could be that individuals are willing to travel further in order to reach better quality forms of provision.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### **Nature areas**

#### *Availability*

- 5.14 Satisfaction regarding the availability of nature areas is high. The majority of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (69.1%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability. This is the third highest of the four District Committee areas and would suggest that there is perceived to be a sufficient level of provision in terms of quantity.

*Table 5.4: Level of satisfaction with availability of nature areas in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
69.1%	14.5%	12.7%	1.8%

- 5.15 Furthermore, there are only a small percentage of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (12.7%) that are very or quite dissatisfied with the availability of nature areas.
- 5.16 Wider community consultation does not highlight any issues with regard to availability of nature area provision. It is worthwhile recognising that a number of respondents mention visiting areas further afield, such as the Yorkshire Dales and North Yorkshire Moors, which provide opportunities associated with nature areas.
- 5.17 Recognition of the potential to further add to this type of provision is also given through the wider consultation. For example, the Dewsbury Country Park site is noted as a relatively recent addition to the area. It is highlighted as having continuing features and improvements with, for example, extra tree planting taking place. This reflects the recent project undertaken by the Council working with the White Rose Forest partnership, Woodland Trust and the Forestry Commission.

#### *Quality*

- 5.18 Similar to availability satisfaction with the quality of nature areas is also positive. A total of 60.0% of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area are either very or quite satisfied with quality. This is the lowest of the four District Committee areas (followed closely by respondents from the Batley & Spen District Committee area). This may suggest that there is a perception that quality of provision is not as high as other District areas. However, there are only 12.7% of respondents that are very or quite dissatisfied with quality.

*Table 5.5: Level of satisfaction with quality of nature areas in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
60.0%	16.4%	12.7%	9.1%

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### Accessibility

- 5.19 Most respondents in the Dewsbury & Mirfield area indicate a willingness to travel by transport (63.6%) rather than walking (23.6%) to access nature areas. The greatest percentage of respondents will travel over 30 minutes by transport (41.8%); suggesting people within the area are prepared to travel further in order to access provision of this type.

Table 5.6: Time prepared to travel to access nature areas in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
-	3.6%	12.7%	7.3%	3.6%	18.2%	41.8%

### Footpaths, Cycleways and Canal Towpaths

#### Availability

- 5.20 Satisfaction with the availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths is high. The majority of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (74.5%) are either very or quite satisfied with availability; the highest of the four District Committee areas.

Table 5.7: Level of satisfaction with availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
74.5%	10.9%	9.9%	3.6%

- 5.21 Furthermore, a small percentage of respondents from the area (9.9%) view the availability as very or quite dissatisfactory which further suggests availability of provision is viewed positively.

#### Quality

- 5.22 Respondents' views of the quality of footpaths are also high. Most respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (64.9%) are either very or quite satisfied in terms of quality.

Table 5.8: Level of satisfaction with quality of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
60.0%	16.4%	14.5%	7.3%

- 5.23 Similar to availability there is a small percentage of respondents that rate quality as being negative (14.5%). The only specific comment received from the questionnaire refers to footpaths being overgrown and not maintained. However, this should not detract away from the large proportion of respondents that view quality as satisfactory.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### Accessibility

- 5.24 A greater proportion of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area are willing to walk (50.8%) to access provision rather than travel by transport (38.1%). Nearly a third of respondents, the single highest proportion, will travel over 30 minutes by transport (29.0%) to access provision.

*Table 5.9: Time prepared to travel to access footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
3.6%	20.0%	12.7%	14.5%	3.6%	5.5%	29.0%

- 5.25 Interestingly 20% of respondents are willing to walk 5-10 minutes. Such a percentage is not in-keeping with the wider trend for Kirklees (10%) or is as noticeable in other District areas. This could be a reflection on the proximity of provision in the area evidenced through the positive ratings for availability (as Dewsbury & Mirfield has the highest satisfaction for availability of the four Districts).

### Provision for Children and Young People

#### Availability

- 5.26 Availability of play provision is generally satisfactory. The highest proportion of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area is very or quite satisfied with play provision for children (47.3%) whilst 21.8% of respondents did not know or did not provide an opinion. This is second highest of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 5.9: Level of satisfaction with availability of provision for children and young people in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

	Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
Play areas	47.3%	16.4%	7.3%	21.8%
Teenage provision	12.7%	20.0%	5.5%	54.5%

- 5.27 For teenage provision, 20% of respondents are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. However, in-keeping with the Kirklees average, there are a high percentage of respondents that do not know or have no opinion in relation to teenage provision (54.5%). This is not unusual as provision of this kind is considered to have a niche appeal as it is predominantly for specific users with a particular interest in the use of such provision.
- 5.28 A few respondents dissatisfied with the availability of play areas and teenage provision provide comments on the perceived lack of provision. They cite that there is a lack of play provision in the Dewsbury West and Dewsbury South areas.
- 5.29 Wider community consultation tends to suggest that there are areas and sites with provision catering to a range of ages. For instance, Crow Nest Park is recognised as having a number of different pieces of equipment which varying ages can enjoy. The adventure playground at the site is in particular highlighted as a unique and popular form of provision.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### Quality

- 5.30 Similar to availability, satisfaction regarding the quality of play is also satisfactory. A total of 40% of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of play areas.

*Table 5.10: Level of satisfaction with quality of provision for children and young people in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

	Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
Play areas	40.0%	16.4%	9.1%	29.1%
Teenage provision	10.9%	16.4%	10.9%	54.5%

- 5.31 The questionnaire responses relating to the quality of teenage provision is less conclusive. This is not unexpected given the targeted nature of teenage provision.

### Accessibility

- 5.32 Over a third of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (37.2%) are willing to walk as opposed to travel by transport (21.2%) to access play area provision. The results for teenage provision are not conclusive.

*Table 5.11: Time prepared to travel to access provision for children and young people in Dewsbury & Mirfield*

	Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
	<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
Play areas	9.1%	10.1%	7.3%	5.5%	12.7%	7.3%	7.3%
Teenage provision	5.5%	-	3.6%	5.5%	-	1.8%	-

- 5.33 A total of 12.7% of respondents will travel up to 10 minutes in order to access children's play provision. This is closely followed by those respondents willing to walk 5-10 minutes (10.1%). Whilst this highlights people are willing to travel a short distance by transport it also suggests a need for provision to be locally accessible. This view is also supported from wider community consultation which highlights the preference for play and teenage provision to be available within walking distances of local communities.

### Allotments

#### Availability

- 5.34 The Dewsbury & Mirfield area has four council allotment sites with a waiting list. The total number of people on the waiting list for council sites in the Dewsbury & Mirfield area is 44. However, individuals can be on more than one waiting list at the same time. Therefore the total number of people on waiting list may not be as high as the figures imply but there is still an obvious demand for allotment provision. There are also a number of additional sites which are managed by Parish Councils or are privately owned.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 5.12: Council allotments in Dewsbury & Mirfield

District Committee Area	Council Allotments	
	Sites with a waiting list	Numbers on waiting list
Dewsbury & Mirfield	4	44

- 5.35 Wider community consultation also highlights a particular demand for greater allotment provision. The Dewsbury West area is highlighted as an area with high demand for additional allotment provision. This is supported from the waiting list numbers for sites which shows the two sites in the area (Field Lane, Raventhorpe and Park Parade, Westtown) as accounting for 39 out of the 44 on the waiting list.
- 5.36 Respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area demonstrate a more mixed view on the availability of allotment provision in comparison to other typologies. This is most likely a reflection of the specific appeal and use of such provisions; as 54.5% do not know or have no opinion. However, 18.2% of respondents view availability as very or quite satisfactory. This is the second highest percentage out of the four District Committee areas.

Table 5.13: Level of satisfaction with availability of allotments in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
18.2%	10.9%	7.3%	54.5%

### Quality

- 5.37 In keeping with views regarding availability from respondents to the questionnaire, well over half of respondents from the area (58.2%) do not know or have no opinion on the quality of allotment provision.

Table 5.14: Level of satisfaction with quality of allotments in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
16.4%	14.5%	3.6%	58.2%

- 5.38 The wider community consultation highlights no specific issues with regard to the quality of provision. However, in general at allotment sites across Kirklees as a whole, wider community consultation cites a rise in the number of thefts being reported at sites.

### Accessibility

- 5.39 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area are willing to walk (14.5%) to access allotments rather than travelling by transport (3.6%). The travel times are all relatively close but do suggest a preference for allotment provision within the Dewsbury & Mirfield area to be locally accessible (i.e. within walking distance).

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 5.15: Time prepared to travel to access allotments in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
1.8%	5.5%	3.6%	3.6%	1.8%	-	1.8%

### Cemeteries and Churchyards

#### Availability

- 5.40 The availability of cemeteries and churchyards is generally seen as being very or quite satisfactory by respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area (43.6%). This is in line with the trend for Kirklees as a whole. Underlining the positive view of provision is the small proportion of respondents that are very or quite dissatisfied (10.9%). This is slightly higher compared to other District areas and is likely a reflection on their only being one cemetery site in the Dewsbury & Mirfield area.

Table 5.16: Level of satisfaction with availability of cemeteries and churchyards in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
43.6%	21.8%	10.9%	18.2%

- 5.41 Consultation with Bereavement Operational Officers at Kirklees Council identifies no concerns of demand issues with regard to existing burial sites in the area.

#### Quality

- 5.42 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of cemeteries is also generally positive. A total of 38.2% of respondents from the area are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of cemeteries and churchyards. In addition, only a smaller percentage (14.5%) states that they are very or quite dissatisfied.

Table 5.17: Level of satisfaction with quality of cemeteries and churchyards in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
38.2%	25.5%	14.5%	18.2%

#### Accessibility

- 5.43 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area are willing to walk (34.5%) than travel by transport (30.9%) to access cemeteries.

Table 5.18: Time prepared to travel to access cemeteries and churchyards in Dewsbury & Mirfield

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
1.8%	7.3%	10.9%	14.5%	12.7%	7.3%	10.9%

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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5.44 The figures are less definitive compared to other typologies and may reflect the difference in the perceived forms of provision of this type. For instance, cemetery and churchyard provision can include a small non-active churchyard or a more formal large cemetery site. Subsequently an individual's willingness to travel may vary depending on the type and location of site.

### ***Other***

5.45 No significant issues were expressed from the questionnaire or wider consultations about other types of open space (i.e. civic space, water based facilities, outdoor sports facilities, open space in residential areas). The councils Playing Pitch Strategy should be used for more in-depth analysis of outdoor sport facilities.

5.46 It is worth noting that questionnaire results are generally positive particularly for the availability and quality of provision of open space in residential areas. A total of 40.0% of respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area are very or quite satisfied with availability. In addition just over a third (36.4%) view quality of open space in residential areas as very or quite satisfactory.

5.47 Similarly outdoor sports facilities also rate positively for availability (30.9%) and quality (29.1%) with most respondents viewing provision as very or quite satisfactory. Multifunctional sites such as the Memorial Ground in Mirfield are highlighted as being of particular local importance.

### ***General Findings***

5.48 Respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area state the most common reason for visiting an open space within Kirklees is to exercise (63.6%). This is followed by to relax/ contemplate (60.0%), to take a shortcut/ pleasant route (56.4%). Other popular reasons for visiting provision include enjoying floral displays/nature (54.5%), for family outings (50.9%), to observe wildlife (49.15) and to meet with friends (47.3%).

5.49 The most common reason cited by respondents from Dewsbury & Mirfield as preventing use of facilities across Kirklees is a lack of public facilities, e.g. toilets/ cafe, (43.6%). This is the highest response from any District Committee area and may suggest a perception that provision in the area lacks ancillary facilities compared to other areas. Other reasons preventing use include fear of crime (25.5%), being too busy working (20.0%) and facilities not being maintained or in a state of disrepair (20.0%).

5.50 Participants to the questionnaire from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area were asked to identify what the most important priorities were to them for open space provision in Kirklees. The two most important aspects are ensuring repairs and improvements to existing facilities (63.6%) and the attractiveness of sites (54.5%).

5.51 Dewsbury & Mirfield respondents were asked if they would be willing to play an active role in looking after an open space site near where they live. Three fifths of respondents (60.0%) state they would whilst 36.4% cite they would not. The most common ways in which respondents from the Dewsbury & Mirfield area would want to be involved are:

- ◀ Helping improve the general attractiveness (32.7%)
- ◀ Joining an existing community group (32.7%)
- ◀ Helping improve areas of wildlife (30.9%)

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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### ***Dewsbury & Mirfield Summary***

- ◀ The provision of parks, footpath, cycleways and towpaths as well as nature areas is perceived very positively with high satisfaction levels noted in terms of availability and quality.
- ◀ There is a minor perception about the lack of play provision for children in the Dewsbury area that may require further investigation.
- ◀ A higher proportion of respondents from the area cite lack of public facilities as a reason preventing use of sites in comparison to other areas.
- ◀ Demand for greater allotment provision is evidenced by high waiting list numbers across sites. Consultation highlighted demand for allotments in the Dewsbury West area.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### 6. HUDDERSFIELD SUMMARY

- 6.1 The Huddersfield District Committee area is made up of seven council wards. These include Almondbury, Ashbrow, Crosland Moor & Netherton, Dalton, Greenhead, Lindley and Newsome.
- 6.2 In addition to the council officer consultation covering the wider Kirklees area, KKP representatives also attended in person at Huddersfield Library and Greenhead Park to encourage people to participate in the questionnaire and to discuss their views and thoughts relating to open space provision. Paper versions of the questionnaires were also hosted at both sites. A total of 175 completed questionnaires were identified as being from the area.
- 6.3 Consultation was also undertaken with local area groups such as Huddersfield Civic Society and Newsome Ward Community Forum as well as site specific groups such as the Friends of Beaumont Park, Friends of Greenhead Park and Friends of Tolson and Ravensknowle.

#### *Frequency of visits*

- 6.4 Questionnaire respondents from the Huddersfield area demonstrate that certain types of open space are visited more often in comparison to other types. In keeping with the Kirklees wide trend, the most popular types of open spaces visited by Huddersfield area respondents are parks (98%), footpaths, cycleways and canal paths (92%), nature areas (90%) and civic space (90%). These types of provision are also visited the most frequently (i.e. more than once a week) by respondents with the exception of civic space which tends to be visited less than once a month.
- 6.5 Other forms of popular provision visited by Huddersfield respondents include cemeteries and churchyards (68%) and open space in residential areas (65%). However, both these types of open space tend to be visited less frequently (i.e. less than once a month).
- 6.6 The types of open space less likely to be visited by respondents from Huddersfield area are allotments (21%), teenage provision (20%) and water based facilities (23%). The rate of visits for these typologies is infrequent with visits tending to be less than once a month.

#### *Parks, public gardens and recreation grounds*

##### *Availability*

- 6.7 Satisfaction with the availability of parks is high. The majority of respondents from the Huddersfield area (85.1%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability; the highest of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 6.1: Level of satisfaction with availability of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Huddersfield*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
85.1%	4.6%	5.7%	2.9%

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 6.8 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Huddersfield area (5.7%) view the availability of parks as very or quite dissatisfactory. Supporting this, consultation with local groups does not highlight any issues with regard to availability of parks provision. Strategic sites such as Greenhead Park and to a certain extent Beaumont Park and Ravensknowle Park are regularly referenced as being prominent and well visited.
- 6.9 Wider community consultation identifies that individuals do access parks provision outside of Kirklees with sites such as the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Pugneys Country Park in Wakefield as well as Shibden Hall in Halifax being cited.

### *Quality*

- 6.10 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of parks is also high. The majority of respondents from the Huddersfield area (85.6%) are either very or quite satisfied with quality. Again this is the highest of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 6.2: Level of satisfaction with quality of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Huddersfield*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
85.6%	7.5%	4.6%	2.3%

- 6.11 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Huddersfield area (4.6%) consider quality to very or quite dissatisfactory.

### *Accessibility*

- 6.12 In order to access parks provision most respondents in the Huddersfield area indicate a preference to travel by transport (55.7%) rather than walking (42.5%). A noticeable percentage of respondents are also willing to travel 10-30 minutes by transport (19.5%) or over 15 minutes walk (19.0%).

*Table 6.3: Time prepared to travel to access parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Huddersfield*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
3.4%	5.7%	14.4%	19.0%	6.3%	19.5%	29.9%

### **Nature areas**

#### *Availability*

- 6.13 Satisfaction with the availability of nature areas is high. The majority of respondents from the Huddersfield area (72.4%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability. This is the second highest of the four District Committee areas and suggests that there is perceived to be a sufficient level of provision in terms quantity.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 6.4: Level of satisfaction with availability of nature areas in Huddersfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
72.4%	12.1%	9.2%	5.2%

- 6.14 Furthermore, there are only a small percentage of respondents from the Huddersfield area (9.2%) that are very or quite dissatisfied with the availability of nature areas. Consultation with local groups does not highlight any issues with regard to availability of nature area provision.
- 6.15 A site mentioned during wider community consultation as being unique for its location so close to a town centre is Snow Island. It is noted as being a highly regarded, loved and unspoilt site.

### Quality

- 6.16 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of nature areas is also high. A total of 78.7% of respondents from the Huddersfield area are either very or quite satisfied with quality. This is the highest of the four District Committee areas (followed closely by respondents from the Kirklees Rural District Committee area).

Table 6.5: Level of satisfaction with quality of nature areas in Huddersfield

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
78.7%	7.5%	6.9%	5.7%

### Accessibility

- 6.17 Most respondents in the Huddersfield area indicate a willingness to travel by transport (71.9%) rather than walking (23.5%) to access nature areas. Nearly half of respondents are willing to travel over 30 minutes by transport (48.9%). This is much higher than compared to any other timeframe; suggesting people within the Huddersfield area are more prepared to travel further in order to access provision of this type. This may be a reflection of people's willingness to travel outside of the urban area to access provision.

Table 6.6: Time prepared to travel to access nature areas in Huddersfield

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
0.6%	3.4%	6.3%	13.2%	5.2%	17.8%	48.9%

### Footpaths, Cycleways and Canal Towpaths

#### Availability

- 6.18 Satisfaction regarding the availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths is high. The majority of respondents from the Huddersfield area (72.4%) are either very or quite satisfied with availability; the second highest of the four District Committee areas.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

*Table 6.7: Level of satisfaction with availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Huddersfield*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
72.4%	10.3%	7.5%	6.9%

- 6.19 Furthermore, a particularly small percentage of respondents from the Huddersfield area (7.5%) view the availability as very or quite dissatisfactory. This further suggests availability of provision is viewed positively. Respondents were asked to provide reasons for rating availability as very dissatisfied. Only one comment was received which expressed a view about a general lack of cycle paths in Lindley.
- 6.20 Wider community consultation highlights that some parts of area, such as Lockwood to Aspley, are well served by river corridors and that there is a long term aspiration from some local groups to improve the access of such provision in terms of recreation and relaxation.

### *Quality*

- 6.21 Respondents' views relating to the quality of footpaths are also high. Most respondents from the Huddersfield area (64.9%) are either very or quite satisfied in terms of quality. This is the highest of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 6.8: Level of satisfaction with quality of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Huddersfield*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
64.9%	13.2%	10.3%	6.9%

- 6.22 Similar to availability there is a small percentage of respondents that rate quality as being negative (10.3%). A handful of comments received from the questionnaire refer to respondents concerns of the incompleteness of routes and poor surface quality. However, this should not detract away from the large proportion of respondents that view quality as satisfactory.
- 6.23 Wider community consultation supports the generally positive view of existing provision. However, the opportunity to further improve access and quality of the network is often highlighted by local groups.

### *Accessibility*

- 6.24 A greater proportion of respondents from the Huddersfield area are willing to travel by transport (56.3%) to access footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths rather than via walking (34.4%). Over a third of respondents, the single highest proportion, will travel over 30 minutes by transport (33.9%) to access provision.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 6.9: Time prepared to travel to access footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Huddersfield

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
2.3%	4.6%	10.3%	17.2%	6.3%	16.1%	33.9%

- 6.25 This is in-keeping with the responses for Kirklees as a whole; which may reflect the role provision has to individuals as a destination site. For instance, the trend suggests that people may travel to such provision in order to undertake a recreational activity such as walking or exercise (77.7% of respondents from Huddersfield state exercise as one of the main reasons for accessing open spaces; followed by 72% who cite to take a pleasant route). The 72% who state to take a pleasant route are slightly higher in comparison to the Kirklees average of 66.7%

### **Provision for Children and Young People**

#### *Availability*

- 6.26 Availability of play provision is generally satisfactory. The highest proportions of respondents from the Huddersfield area are very or quite satisfied with play (51.1%) and teenage provision (23.6%). This is highest of the four District Committee areas for both typologies. However, in-keeping with the Kirklees average, there are higher percentages of respondents that do not know or have no opinion about play areas (28.2%) or teenage provision (52.3%).

Table 6.10: Level of satisfaction with availability of provision for children and young people in Huddersfield

	Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
Play areas	51.1%	8.6%	5.7%	28.2%
Teenage provision	23.6%	12.1%	4.0%	52.3%

- 6.27 This is not unusual as provision of this kind is considered to have a niche appeal as it is predominantly for specific users with a particular interest in the use of such provision.
- 6.28 Only a couple of respondents dissatisfied with the availability of play areas and teenage provision provide comments on a perceived lack of provision. In particular comments are made about the perceived lack of play provision for children in the Almondbury area and the lack of a dedicated BMX track in the Huddersfield area.

#### *Quality*

- 6.29 Similar to availability, satisfaction regarding the quality of play is also satisfactory. Just over half of respondents from the Huddersfield area (51.7%) are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of play areas. This is the highest of the four District Committee areas.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 6.11: Level of satisfaction with quality of provision for children and young people in Huddersfield

	Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
Play areas	51.7%	7.5%	5.7%	27.6%
Teenage provision	25.9%	12.1%	4.0%	48.3%

- 6.30 However, the questionnaire responses relating to the quality of teenage provision are less conclusive. This is not unexpected given the specific users of teenage provision. Despite this, a quarter of respondents from the Huddersfield area (25.9%) are very or quite satisfied with quality of teenage provision. Again this is the highest of the four District Committee areas.

### Accessibility

- 6.31 Over half of respondents from the Huddersfield area (51.1%) will travel by transport as opposed to walking (30.4%) to access play area provision. The results for teenage provision are evenly spread and not conclusive.

Table 6.12: Time prepared to travel to access provision for children and young people in Huddersfield

	Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
	<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
Play areas	4.0%	8.6%	10.3%	7.5%	4.0%	10.9%	36.2%
Teenage provision	0.6%	2.3%	4.0%	2.9%	2.9%	3.4%	2.3%

- 6.32 Over a third of respondents from the Huddersfield area (36.2%) are willing to travel over 30 minutes by transport in order to access children's play area provision. This is in-keeping with the trend for Kirklees as a whole.

### Allotments

#### Availability

- 6.33 The Huddersfield area has 45 council allotments with a waiting list. The total number of people on the waiting list for council sites in the Huddersfield area is 191. However, individuals can be on more than one waiting list at the same time. Therefore the number of people on waiting lists may not be as high as initially indicated but there is still an obvious demand for allotment provision. There are also a number of additional sites which are managed by Parish Councils or are privately owned.

Table 6.13: Council allotments in Huddersfield

District Committee Area	Council Allotments	
	Sites with waiting list	Numbers on waiting lists
Huddersfield	45	191

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 6.34 Wider community consultation also highlights a particular demand for greater allotment provision. Lindley and Greenhead are both highlighted as areas with high demand for allotment provision. This is supported from the waiting list numbers for sites which shows individual sites with the highest waiting list figures as being located in Lindley and Greenhead.

*Table 6.14: Level of satisfaction with availability of allotments in Huddersfield*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
25.8%	13.8%	7.5%	47.7%

- 6.35 Respondents from the Huddersfield area demonstrate a more mixed view on the availability of allotment provision in comparison to other typologies. This is most likely a reflection of the specific appeal and use of such provision; as 47.7% do not know or have no opinion. However, over a quarter of respondents (25.8%) do view availability as very or quite satisfactory. This is the highest percentage for any of the four District Committee areas.

### *Quality*

- 6.36 In keeping with views regarding availability from respondents to the questionnaire, nearly half of respondents from the Huddersfield area (47.7%) do not know or have no opinion on the quality of allotment provision.

*Table 6.15: Level of satisfaction with quality of allotments in Huddersfield*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
22.9%	14.4%	7.5%	47.7%

- 6.37 The wider community consultation highlights no specific issues with regard to the quality of provision. However, in general at allotment sites across Kirklees as a whole, wider community consultation cites a rise in the number of thefts being reported at sites.

### *Accessibility*

- 6.38 A greater proportion of respondents from the Huddersfield area are willing to walk (26.4%) to access allotments rather than travelling by transport (8.0%). A slighter higher percentage of respondents are willing to walk 5-10 minutes (9.8%). This suggests a preference for allotment provision within the Huddersfield area to be locally accessible (i.e. within walking distance).

*Table 6.16: Time prepared to travel to access allotments in Huddersfield*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
6.3%	9.8%	5.7%	4.6%	4.6%	1.1%	2.3%

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

## ***Cemeteries and Churchyards***

### *Availability*

- 6.39 Consultation with Bereavement Operational Officers at Kirklees Council identifies that in the long term there is likely to be a need for an additional new burial site to serve the south of Kirklees. No potential sites have been identified but for access reasons a location towards the Huddersfield area is preferred.
- 6.40 In the short term, spare capacity is identified at several sites including Skelmanthorpe Cemetery and Hey Lane Cemetery, Almondbury. Hey Lane Cemetery has the most demand (i.e. sites that receive a higher frequency of burials). It is a relatively new site and has approximately 15-20 years burial provision remaining.

*Table 6.17: Level of satisfaction with availability of cemeteries and churchyards in Huddersfield*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
45.9%	24.1%	2.9%	21.8%

- 6.41 The availability of cemeteries and churchyards is generally seen as being very or quite satisfactory by respondents from the Huddersfield area (45.9%). This is in line with the trend for Kirklees as a whole. Underlining the positive view of provision is the very small proportion of respondents that are very or quite dissatisfied (2.9%).

### *Quality*

- 6.42 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of cemeteries and churchyards is also generally positive. A total of 40.2% of respondents from the Huddersfield area are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of cemeteries and churchyards. In addition, only a smaller percentage (8.6%) state being very or quite dissatisfied.

*Table 6.18: Level of satisfaction with quality of cemeteries and churchyards in Huddersfield*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
40.2%	20.1%	8.6%	24.7%

### *Accessibility*

- 6.43 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Huddersfield area are willing to travel by transport (35.7%) than walk (29.3%) to access cemeteries. This is a more definitive trend for the Huddersfield area compared to other District Committee areas.

*Table 6.19: Time prepared to travel to access cemeteries and churchyards in Huddersfield*

<b>Walk time (minutes)</b>				<b>Transport time (minutes)</b>		
<b>&lt;5</b>	<b>5-10</b>	<b>11-15</b>	<b>Over 15</b>	<b>Up to 10</b>	<b>10-30</b>	<b>&gt; 30</b>
2.9%	5.2%	12.6%	8.6%	12.1%	7.5%	16.1%

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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### ***Other***

- 6.44 No significant issues were expressed from the questionnaire or wider consultations about other types of open space (i.e. civic space, water based facilities, outdoor sports facilities, open space in residential areas). The councils Playing Pitch Strategy should be used for more in-depth analysis of outdoor sport facilities.
- 6.45 It is worth noting that questionnaire results are generally positive particularly for the availability and quality of civic space provision. A total of 56.3% of respondents from the Huddersfield area rate availability as very or quite satisfied. In addition just under half (49.4%) view quality of civic space as very or quite satisfactory.
- 6.46 Similarly outdoor sports facilities also rate positively for availability (47.7%) and quality (41.4%) with most respondents viewing provision as very or quite satisfactory. However, a couple of comments cite the perceived poor quality of pitches and ancillary facilities in the Crosland Moor and Netherton area.
- 6.47 Similarly for open space in residential areas, respondents are very or quite satisfied in terms of availability (40.8%) and quality (39.1%). Sites highlighted through consultation as being of particular local importance are the Lockwood and Salford village green and the recreation ground at Ashenhurst. Both are recognised as being important for local communities to enjoy for recreational and relaxing activities.

### ***General Findings***

- 6.48 Respondents from the Huddersfield area state the most common reason for visiting an open space within Kirklees is to exercise (77.7%). This is followed by to take a shortcut/pleasant route (72.0%). Other popular reasons for visiting provision include to relax/contemplate (29.3%), for family outings (27.0%), to meet with friends (27.0%) and to see events/entertainment (24.7%).
- 6.49 The two most common reasons cited by respondents from Huddersfield as preventing use of facilities across Kirklees are being too busy working (24.7%) and a lack of public facilities, e.g. toilets/ cafe, (20.1%). Other reasons cited include fear of crime (14.4%), not knowing where facilities are (10.9%), facilities being too far away (10.9%) and car parking problems (10.3%).
- 6.50 Participants to the questionnaire from Huddersfield area were asked to identify what the most important priorities were to them for open space provision in Kirklees. The two most important aspects are ensuring repairs and improvements to existing facilities (81.0%) and the attractiveness of sites (60.3%).
- 6.51 Huddersfield respondents were asked if they would be willing to play an active role in looking after an open space site near where they live. Over half of respondents (59.2%) state they would whilst 39.1% cite they would not. The most common ways in which respondents from the Huddersfield area would want to be involved are:
- ◀ Helping improve the general attractiveness (34.5%)
  - ◀ Helping improve areas of wildlife (30.5%)
  - ◀ Joining an existing community group (29.3%)

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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### ***Huddersfield Summary***

- ◀ The provision of parks and nature areas are perceived very positively with high satisfaction levels noted in terms of availability and quality.
- ◀ The multifunctional offer and use of key sites is regularly recognised; particularly for popular sites such as Greenhead Park, Beaumont Park and Ravensknowle Park.
- ◀ The provision of footpath, cycleways and towpaths are also highly regarded in terms of availability and quality. In keeping with a common view across different areas of Kirklees the potential for further improvement and greater use is highlighted.
- ◀ Long term there is an identified need for additional burial provision in order to service the wider South Kirklees area which may impact on the future of provision in Huddersfield.
- ◀ Demand for greater allotment provision is evidenced by high waiting list numbers across sites. Consultation highlighted specific demand for allotments in the Lindley and Greenhead areas.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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### 7. KIRKLEES RURAL SUMMARY

- 7.1 The Kirklees Rural District Committee area is made up of six council wards. These include Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Golcar, Holme Valley North, Holme Valley South and Kirkburton.
- 7.2 In addition to the consultation covering the wider Kirklees area (e.g. council officers), KKP representatives also attended in person at Denby Dale Library, Holmfirth Library and Slaithwaite Library to encourage people to participate in the questionnaire and to discuss their views and thoughts relating to open space provision. Paper versions of the questionnaires were hosted at all three sites as well as at Kirkburton Library and Shepley Library. A total of 270 completed questionnaires were identified as being from the area.
- 7.3 Consultation was also undertaken with local area groups such as Holme Valley Civic Society, South Kirklees Walking Group and Friends of Meltham Greenway as well as parish councils such as Denby Dale Parish Council, Kirkburton Parish Council, Meltham Town Council and Holme Valley Parish Council.

#### *Frequency of visits*

- 7.4 Questionnaire respondents from the Kirklees Rural area demonstrate that certain types of open space are visited more often in comparison to other types. The most popular types of open spaces visited are parks (96%), nature areas (96%) and footpaths, cycleways and canal paths (94%). These types of provision are also visited the most frequently (i.e. more than once a week) by respondents.
- 7.5 Other forms of popular provision visited by Kirklees Rural respondents includes civic space (85%) and open space in residential areas (76%). However, both these types of open space tend to be visited less frequently (i.e. less than once a month).
- 7.6 The types of open space less likely to be visited by respondents from Kirklees Rural area are allotments (27%), teenage provision (30%) and water based facilities (32%). The rate of visits for these typologies is infrequent with visits tending to be less than once a month.

#### *Parks, public gardens and recreation grounds*

##### *Availability*

- 7.7 Satisfaction regarding the availability of parks is high. The majority of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (77.8%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability; the second highest of the four District Committee areas.
- 7.8 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (8.1%) view the availability of parks as very or quite dissatisfactory. Supporting this, consultation with parish councils also highlights no issues with regard to availability of parks provision. Meltham Town Council specifically identifies a good amount of quantity due to prominent sites such as the Robert Ashton Memorial Park; which provide a multiple role and use of open space provision. In addition to being a park the site also contains outdoor sports, play and allotment provision.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

*Table 7.1: Level of satisfaction with availability of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Kirklees Rural*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
77.8%	11.5%	8.1%	2.6%

- 7.9 Wider community consultation identifies that individuals do access parks provision outside of Kirklees with sites such as the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in Wakefield, Shibden Hall in Halifax and Cannon Hall Farm in Barnsley being mentioned.

### *Quality*

- 7.10 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of parks is also high. The majority of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (71.9%) are either very or quite satisfied with quality. Again this is the second highest of the four District Committee areas.

*Table 7.2: Level of satisfaction with quality of parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Kirklees Rural*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
71.9%	13.0%	11.5%	1.1%

- 7.11 Furthermore, only a small percentage of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (11.5%) consider quality to be very or quite dissatisfactory. Those dissatisfied with quality of parks seems to be a reflection on perceived levels of maintenance and/or a lack of ancillary features such as play provision.

### *Accessibility*

*Table 7.3: Time prepared to travel to access parks, public gardens and recreation grounds in Kirklees Rural*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
4.4%	8.8%	9.6%	15.6%	5.2%	25.9%	25.6%

- 7.12 In order to access parks provision most respondents in the Kirklees Rural area indicate a preference to travel by transport (56.7%) rather than walking (38.4%). In terms of parks, respondents are willing to travel over 30 minutes by transport (25.6%) or 10-30 minutes by transport (25.9%). Given the geographic spread of the area this is not surprising.

### **Nature areas**

#### *Availability*

- 7.13 Satisfaction regarding the availability of nature areas is high. The majority of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (76.7%) are either very or quite satisfied with the availability. This is the highest of the four District Committee areas and suggests that there is perceived to be a sufficient level of provision in terms quantity.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

*Table 7.4: Level of satisfaction with availability of nature areas in Kirklees Rural*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
76.7%	9.6%	10.4%	0.4%

- 7.14 There are only a small percentage of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (10.4%) that are very or quite dissatisfied with the availability of nature areas. Consultation with the parish councils highlights no issues with regard to availability of nature area provision.
- 7.15 In addition, it is highlighted throughout the wider community consultation and group consultations that the Kirklees Rural area is generally thought to be well served by the surrounding countryside. Recognition is given to the relative ease of access; with comments highlighting the popularity of activities such as walking.
- 7.16 It is important to appreciate that there is a crossover of typologies in the eyes of individuals and groups in relation to the definition of 'nature areas'. For many the term also relates to river path ways and bridleways. These are also relevant to the provision of nature areas but also footpaths, cycle ways and canal tow paths (views relating to such provision are set out later). Nature sites identified as being of particular importance are those allocated to the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust as well as many of the woodland sites, such as Longley Woods, Highfields Orchard and Nag Wood; the latter are supported by friends of groups.
- 7.17 Other forms of provision provided by non-council bodies such as the National Trust and Yorkshire Water are also recognised in the Kirklees Rural District. For instance, the latter is responsible for Scammonden Reservoir which provides a circular walking route around the reservoir taking in woodlands and pastures. Previously the woodlands have been expanded through work of the White Rose Forest Project; which is a Kirklees council led Leeds City region wide partnership that aims to facilitate the planting of new community woodlands for economic and social regeneration.

### *Quality*

- 7.18 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of nature areas is also high. A total of 77.8% of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area are either very or quite satisfied with quality. This is the second highest of the four District Committee areas but is only 0.9% behind the District Committee area to score the highest (Huddersfield).

*Table 7.5: Level of satisfaction with quality of nature areas in Kirklees Rural*

<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
77.8%	8.5%	8.5%	2.6%

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

### Accessibility

- 7.19 Most respondents in the Kirklees Rural area indicate a willingness to travel by transport (64.4%) rather than walking (30.0%) to access nature areas. A significant proportion of respondents are willing to travel over 30 minutes by transport (43.3%). This is much higher than compared to any other timeframe; suggesting people within the Kirklees Rural area are more prepared to travel further in order to access provision. This is not surprising given the geographic spread of the area.

Table 7.6: Time prepared to travel to access nature areas in Kirklees Rural

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
3.0%	5.9%	6.3%	14.8%	4.1%	17.0%	43.3%

### Footpaths, Cycleways and Canal Towpaths

#### Availability

- 7.20 Satisfaction regarding the availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths is high. The majority of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (66.7%) are either very or quite satisfied with availability; the third highest of the four District Committee areas. Wider community consultation with local groups also highlights the positive perception of provision. Many comments refer to the good quantity of provision classified as footpaths (i.e. canal tow paths, river paths).

Table 7.7: Level of satisfaction with availability of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Kirklees Rural

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
66.7%	11.9%	16.3%	2.2%

- 7.21 A small percentage of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (16.3%) view the availability as very or quite dissatisfactory. Respondents were asked to provide reasons for rating availability as very dissatisfied. Responses included a lack of dedicated cycle ways and/or towpaths in the Colne Valley and Holme Valley areas.
- 7.22 However, this could be a reflection on some people's lack of awareness to provision of this type; as a considerable large percentage of respondents suggest availability is sufficient. In addition, wider community consultation also highlights a number of existing routes.

#### Quality

- 7.23 Respondents' views regarding the quality of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths are also high. Most respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (61.9%) are either very or quite satisfied in terms of quality. Again this is the second highest of the four District Committee areas; second only to the respondents from the Huddersfield area.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 7.24 Similar to availability there is a small percentage of respondents that rate quality as being negative (15.9%). The main comment from the questionnaire appears to be on a perceived poor quality and lack of sufficient maintenance of existing provision of this type. However, wider community consultation suggests provision is generally of a positive quality; in keeping with the high level of respondents satisfied with quality. Again, similar to availability, those rating dissatisfied for quality may be more a reflection of people's lack of awareness to provision.

*Table 7.8: Level of satisfaction with quality of footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Kirklees Rural*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
61.9%	11.9%	15.9%	4.8%

- 7.25 Both the River Holme and River Colne are highlighted as excellent features of the local area. Furthermore, the Meltham Greenway is also cited as a popular and well used form of this type of open space provision.

### *Accessibility*

- 7.26 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area are willing to travel by transport (51.2%) to access footpaths rather than via walking (42.9%). The figures are much closer than other typologies which may reflect the typologies varying role and uses. For instance, it can include a greenway with a formal tarmac path and a more informal countryside route. Subsequently it is likely that individuals will have a different view on how far they will travel.

*Table 7.9: Time prepared to travel to access footpaths, cycleways and canal towpaths in Kirklees Rural*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
6.3%	10.7%	12.2%	13.7%	7.8%	15.6%	27.8%

- 7.27 The single highest proportion of respondents will travel over 30 minutes by transport (27.8%) to access provision. This is not surprising given the rural characteristics of the area but may also be in-keeping with the responses for Kirklees as a whole.

### ***Provision for Children and Young People***

#### *Availability*

- 7.28 Availability of play provision is generally satisfactory. The highest proportions of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area are very or quite satisfied for play (47.0%) and teenage provision (17.0%). However, there are a high percentage of respondents that do not know or have no opinion relating to teenage provision (41.9%).

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

*Table 7.10: Level of satisfaction with availability of provision for children and young people in Kirklees Rural*

	<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
Play areas	47.0%	17.8%	9.6%	18.5%
Teenage provision	17.0%	15.6%	16.3%	41.9%

- 7.29 This is not unusual as provision of this kind is considered to have a niche appeal as it is predominantly for specific users with a particular interest in the use of such provision.
- 7.30 However, respondents dissatisfied with the availability of play areas and teenage provision commented on a perceived lack of provision. Wider community consultation also highlights a perception to the lack of provision particularly catering for teenagers. Holmfirth in particular is mentioned as not really having any facilities for older children. This can then sometimes be perceived to lead to disruptive and nuisance behaviour in the local area. However, in contrast it is recognised by other consultees that some areas, such as Meltham and Holmfirth, are well catered for with provision such as skate parks. The Sands Recreation Ground, Holmfirth was especially mentioned as a popular facility for older ages.

### *Quality*

- 7.31 Similar to availability, satisfaction with the quality of play is also satisfactory. A greater proportion of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (45.9%) are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of play areas. Again this is the second highest of the four District Committee areas (behind Huddersfield). Wider community consultation also suggests that in general the quality of play provision for smaller children is good.

*Table 7.11: Level of satisfaction with quality of provision for children and young people in Kirklees Rural*

	<b>Very or Quite satisfied</b>	<b>Neither satisfied or dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very or Quite dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't know/ no opinion</b>
Play areas	45.9%	15.6%	11.5%	21.9%
Teenage provision	17.4%	16.3%	13.7%	44.8%

- 7.32 However, the questionnaire responses relating to the quality of teenage provision are more varied. This is not unexpected given the specific users of teenage provision. In addition, wider community consultation also suggests there is a lack of good quality provision although this tends to be linked to people's views of availability. The skate park in Meltham is in particular acknowledged as being an excellent facility for young people to use.

### *Accessibility*

- 7.33 A slightly higher percentage of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (47.0%) will travel by transport as opposed to walking (36.6%) to access play area provision. The results for teenage provision are evenly spread and not as conclusive.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 7.12: Time prepared to travel to access provision for children and young people in Kirklees Rural

	Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
	<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
Play areas	5.2%	14.4%	11.1%	5.9%	4.1%	10.0%	32.9%
Teenage provision	1%	1.9%	6.3%	4.4%	4.4%	3.7%	3.3%

- 7.34 Nearly a third of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (32.9%) are willing to travel over 30 minutes by transport in order to access children's play area provision. This is in-keeping with the trend for Kirklees as a whole but is also not surprising given the rural characteristic of the District Committee. It is important to also recognise that a proportion of respondents will walk 5-10 minutes (14.4%) or 11-15 minutes (11.1%). This suggests a need for children's play provision to be locally accessible. For teenage provision, a slightly lower percentage of respondents' indicated a willingness to walk 11-15 minutes (6.3%) or over 15 minutes (4.4%). This view is supported from wider community consultation which highlights the preference for play and teenage provision to be available within walking distances of key population areas.

### Allotments

#### Availability

- 7.35 The Kirklees Rural area has 20 council allotment sites with a waiting list. The total number of people on the waiting list for council allotment sites in the Kirklees Rural area is 332. However, individuals can be on more than one waiting list at the same time. Therefore the total number of people on waiting lists may not be as high as the figures suggest but there is still an obvious demand for allotment provision. There are also a number of additional sites which are managed by Parish Councils or are privately owned.

Table 7.13: Council allotments in Kirklees Rural

District Committee Area	Council Allotments	
	Sites with waiting list	Numbers on waiting lists
Kirklees Rural	20	332

- 7.36 Parish and Town Councils such as Meltham Town Council also provide additional allotment plots in the District area. However, these are also highlighted as being fully occupied with waiting lists which further suggests demand outweighs supply. Meltham Town Council identifies a total of over 30 individuals on the waiting list across the two sites it provides within the Robert Ashton Memorial Park.
- 7.37 Consultation with council officers also highlights a particular demand for greater allotment provision in the Upper Colne Valley area. Responses from the questionnaire also support this with a number of respondents from the Colne Valley and Holme Valley areas identifying demand for allotments.
- 7.38 In general Kirklees Rural respondents demonstrate a mixed view on the availability of allotment provision. This is most likely a reflection of the specific appeal and use of such provision; as 44.4% do not know or have no opinion. However, as noted above there is a noticeable interest from some areas for greater provision.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Table 7.14: Level of satisfaction with availability of allotments in Kirklees Rural

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
16.3%	13.0%	17.0%	44.4%

### Quality

- 7.39 Not surprisingly over half of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area do not know or have no opinion on the quality of allotment provision; in keeping with views on availability.

Table 7.15: Level of satisfaction with quality of allotments in Kirklees Rural

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
17.0%	17.0%	7.8%	50.4%

- 7.40 The wider community consultation highlights no specific issues with regard to the quality of provision. However, in general at allotment sites across Kirklees as a whole, wider community consultation cites a rise in the number of thefts being reported at sites.

### Accessibility

- 7.41 A greater proportion of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area are willing to walk (24.8%) to access allotments rather than travelling by transport (10.0%). Slightly higher percentages suggest they will walk over 15 minutes (8.9%) or 11-15 minutes (7.0%). This suggests a preference for allotment provision within the Kirklees Rural area to be locally accessible (i.e. within walking distance).

Table 7.16: Time prepared to travel to access allotments in Kirklees Rural

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
3.7%	5.2%	7.0%	8.9%	4.8%	3.3%	1.9%

- 7.42 The wider community consultation also supports a preference for allotment provision to be available within walking distance from where people live. However, it is also recognised by consultees that the practicalities and logistics of this may not be realistic in some instances.

## Cemeteries and Churchyards

### Availability

- 7.43 Consultation with Bereavement Operational Officers at Kirklees Council identifies that in the long term there is likely to be a need for an additional new burial site to serve the south of Kirklees (including the Kirklees Rural area). No potential sites have been identified but for access reasons a location towards the Huddersfield area is preferred.

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- 7.44 The availability of cemeteries and churchyards is generally seen as being very or quite satisfactory by respondents from the Kirklees Rural area (40.0%). This is in line with the trend for Kirklees as a whole. Underlining the positive view of provision is the small proportion of respondents that are very or quite dissatisfied (4.8%).

*Table 7.17: Level of satisfaction with availability of cemeteries and churchyards in Kirklees Rural*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
40.0%	26.3%	4.8%	21.5%

### *Quality*

- 7.45 Similar to availability satisfaction regarding the quality of cemeteries is also generally positive. A total of 38.9% of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area are either very or quite satisfied with the quality of cemeteries and churchyards. In addition, only a smaller percentage (5.9%) state being very or quite dissatisfied.

*Table 7.18: Level of satisfaction with quality of cemeteries and churchyards in Kirklees Rural*

Very or Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Very or Quite dissatisfied	Don't know/ no opinion
38.9%	26.3%	5.9%	21.5%

### *Accessibility*

- 7.46 A slightly greater proportion of respondents from the Kirklees Rural area are willing to walk (33.3%) to access cemeteries rather than travel by transport (25.9%).

*Table 7.16: Time prepared to travel to access cemeteries and churchyards in Kirklees Rural*

Walk time (minutes)				Transport time (minutes)		
<5	5-10	11-15	Over 15	Up to 10	10-30	> 30
1.1%	6.3%	14.4%	11.5%	6.7%	8.2%	11.1%

- 7.47 The figures are less definitive compared than other typologies and may reflect the difference in the perceived forms of provision of this type. For instance, cemetery and churchyard provision can include a small non-active churchyard or a more formal large cemetery site. Subsequently it is likely that individuals will have a different view on how far they will travel depending on the type and location of site.

### **Other**

- 7.48 No noticeable issues or patterns were expressed from the questionnaire or wider consultations about other types of open space (i.e. civic space, water based facilities, outdoor sports facilities, open space in residential areas). The councils Playing Pitch Strategy should be used for more in-depth analysis of outdoor sport facilities.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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### **General Findings**

- 7.49 Respondents from the Kirklees Rural area state the most common reason for visiting an open space within Kirklees is to exercise (50.4%). This is followed by to take a shortcut/ pleasant route (46.7%) and to relax/ contemplate (37.8%). Other popular reasons for visiting provision include for family outings (34.4%), to meet with friends (33.7%) and to see events/entertainment (29.6%).
- 7.50 The most common reason given by respondents from Kirklees Rural as preventing use of facilities across Kirklees is a lack of public facilities, e.g. toilets/ cafe, (29.6%). Other reasons cited include too busy working (24.8%), fear of crime (16.7%) and facilities not being maintained or in a state of disrepair (14.4%).
- 7.51 Kirklees Rural respondents were asked to identify what the most important priorities were to them for open space provision in Kirklees. The two most important aspects are ensuring repairs and improvements to existing facilities (76.3%) and the attractiveness of sites (55.9%).
- 7.52 Participants to the questionnaire from Kirklees Rural were asked if they would be willing to play an active role in looking after an open space site near where they live. Over half of respondents (53.7%) said they would whilst 43.7% cited they would not. The most common ways in which respondents from Kirklees Rural area would want to be involved include:
- ◀ Joining an existing community group (33.7%)
  - ◀ Helping improve the general attractiveness (30.0%)
  - ◀ Helping improve areas of wildlife (28.1%)

#### **Kirklees Rural Summary**

- ◀ The provision of parks and nature areas are perceived very positively with high satisfaction levels noted in terms of availability and quality.
- ◀ The provision of footpath, cycleways and towpaths is generally perceived positively in terms of availability and quality; although significant potential for future improvement and greater use is identified.
- ◀ There is a lack of play provision catering for older children and teenagers, particularly noted in the Holmfirth area but is a general concern across the Kirklees Rural District Committee area.
- ◀ Long term there is an identified need for additional burial provision in order to service the wider South Kirklees area.
- ◀ Demand for greater allotment provision is evidenced by high waiting list numbers across sites. Consultation highlighted specific demand for allotments in the Colne Valley as well as Holme Valley areas.

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

## 8. APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 – Questionnaire



## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

This questionnaire is designed to provide you with the opportunity to give your views on the provision of open space and outdoor recreational facilities in Kirklees.

Please complete the survey by selecting the appropriate box(es) or by typing in your answer. All responses will be treated in the strictest confidence. Results will only be used for the purposes of the study and will not be used for any commercial purposes.

**Q1 How often have you visited each of these open space and outdoor recreation facilities within Kirklees in the last twelve months?**

Select ONE on each line

	More than once a week	Once a week	2-3 times a month	Once a month	Less than once a month	Never	Don't know / no opinion
Park, public garden or recreation ground .....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Nature area (e.g. woodland, wildlife site).....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Play area for children.....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Teenage provision (e.g. skatepark, teen shelter, basketball pod) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Footpath, cycleway, canal towpath.....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Open space in residential area (e.g. grassed area in housing estates, millennium or village green).....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g. football pitches, bowling greens & tennis courts).....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Allotments.....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Community food growing (e.g. community garden, community orchard, community farm) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Cemeteries and churchyards.....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Water based facilities (e.g. sailing, canoeing).....	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Civic space (e.g. civic or market square, war memorial).....	<input type="checkbox"/>						

**Q2 Have you visited open space/outdoor recreation facilities outside Kirklees in the last twelve months?**

Yes.....  No.....

If yes, please specify where and for what reason

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

■ **Q3 Thinking about the open spaces and outdoor recreation facilities you have visited, what are your reasons for visiting these facilities?**  
Please tick ALL that apply

- |  |                          |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| To play sport/games informally .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | To relax/contemplate.....                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To exercise.....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | To meet with friends.....                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To play sport/games formally (e.g. attend a class, play a competitive game)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | To observe wildlife .....                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To take a shortcut/pleasant route.....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | To take children to play/use the play area ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To walk the dog.....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | To spend lunchtime.....                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To enjoy floral displays/nature .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | To see events/entertainment.....                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| For a family outing .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify).....                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- Please specify.....

■ **Q4 What are the main reasons that prevent you from using open space and outdoor recreation facilities?**  
Please tick ALL that apply

- |  |                          |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Don't know where the facilities are.....             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hours of opening not suitable.....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wrong type of facilities provided.....               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Not interested/nothing there for me .....                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lack of public facilities (e.g. toilets, café) ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mobility and access problems.....                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fear of crime/personal safety .....                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Facilities are not maintained or are in a state of disrepair ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Too busy working .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Car parking problems.....  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Too expensive.....                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't know .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sites too busy to enjoy.....                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify).....  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Facilities are too far away .....                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |                          |
- Please specify.....

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

## OVERALL VIEWS

### Q5 How far are you willing to travel to visit the following?

Select ONE on each line

	Less than 5 minute walk	5-10 minute walk	11-15 minute walk	Over 15 minute walk	Up to 10 minutes by transport	Up to 30 minutes by transport	Over 30 minutes journey time	Don't know / no opinion
Park, public garden or recreation ground ....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Nature area (e.g. woodland, wildlife site) ....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Play area for children.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Teenage provision (e.g. skatepark, teen shelter, basketball pod) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Footpath, cycleway, canal towpath.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Open space in residential area (e.g. grassed area in housing estates, millennium or village green).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g. football pitches, bowling greens & tennis courts).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Allotments.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Community food growing (e.g. community garden, community orchard, community farm).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Cemeteries and churchyards.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Water based facilities (e.g. sailing, canoeing).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Civic space (e.g. civic or market square, war memorial).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

### Q6 Thinking about all the different types of open spaces, overall how important or unimportant are open spaces to you?

Please select ONE only

Very important.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not very important.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quite important.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not at all important.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neither important nor unimportant.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	No opinion.....	<input type="checkbox"/>

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

**Q7** How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the AVAILABILITY of each of the following in the area where you live?

Please select ONE on each line

	Very satisfied	Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know / no opinion
Park, public garden or recreation ground .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature area (e.g. woodland, wildlife site) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play area for children.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teenage provision (e.g. skatepark, teen shelter, basketball pod) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Footpath, cycleway, canal towpath.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open space in residential area (e.g. grassed area in housing estates, millennium or village green).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g. football pitches, bowling greens & tennis courts).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allotments .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community food growing (e.g. community garden, community orchard, community farm) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cemeteries and churchyards.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water based facilities (e.g. sailing, canoeing).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Civic space (e.g. civic or market square, war memorial) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you are 'very dissatisfied' with availability please provide further details

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

**Q8 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the QUALITY of each of the following in the area where you live?**

Please select ONE on each line

	Very satisfied	Quite satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know / no opinion
Park, public garden or recreation ground .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nature area (e.g. woodland, wildlife site) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play area for children.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teenage provision (e.g. skatepark, teen shelter, basketball pod) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Footpath, cycleway, canal towpath.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open space in residential area (e.g. grassed area in housing estates, millennium or village green).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor sports facilities (e.g. football pitches, bowling greens & tennis courts).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allotments.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community food growing (e.g. community garden, community orchard, community farm).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cemeteries and churchyards.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water based facilities (e.g. sailing, canoeing).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Civic space (e.g. civic or market square, war memorial).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*If you are 'very dissatisfied' with quality please provide further details*

**Q9 Thinking about where you live, what do you think is most important when it comes to the open spaces in your community?**

Please select up to 4

- |  |                          |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Attractiveness of sites, e.g. well-kept grass, flower beds and trees .....                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Use existing spaces better (e.g. for other activities or events) ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New open spaces .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Improve access to open spaces .....                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New facilities at existing open spaces .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Better awareness of where open spaces are .....                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Repairs and improvement to existing facilities (e.g. footpaths, seats, shelters, heritage features)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | More community involvement in looking after open spaces.....           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| More naturalised areas (e.g. for nature and wildlife).....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify).....  | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please specify.....

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

In the future your council will need to make some big decisions about changes to services and develop new ways of working. We are currently also running a consultation on options and ideas for the council's budget that will help us with planning for the financial savings we need to make - you can take part in this at [www.kirklees.gov.uk/budget2015](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/budget2015). At the same time we are continuing to look at different ways of working, including how we might work in new ways with local people.

**Q10** In the future, would you be willing to play an active role in looking after an open space near where you live?

Yes .....  No .....

**Q11** If yes, in which of the following ways would you like to be involved?

Please tick ALL that apply

Join an existing community group..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Help improve areas for wildlife..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Form a new community group..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Community food growing ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Help with general maintenance (e.g. cut grass, maintain flower beds/planting) ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Organising/holding events or activities ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Help improve the general attractiveness (e.g. litter picking)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Sports field preparation and maintenance ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify)..... <input type="checkbox"/>

Please specify.....

## ABOUT YOU

**Q12** Please select your gender

Female .....  Male.....

**Q13** Please select your age band

Under 16..... <input type="checkbox"/>	45-64 ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
16-24..... <input type="checkbox"/>	65+ ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
25-44..... <input type="checkbox"/>	

**Q14** To which of the following groups do you consider you belong?

Asian or Asian British ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	White ..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Black or Black British ..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Other ethnic group (including Chinese)..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed..... <input type="checkbox"/>	

**Q15** What is your full home postcode or the area you live? E.g. HD1 2TA

This information will only be used for the purposes of mapping the survey responses and will not be used for any other reason

Postcode

Area

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND CO-OPERATION

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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### Appendix 2 - Consultees

- ◀ Kirklees Council - Greenhead Park Manager
- ◀ Kirklees Council – Parks Development Officer
- ◀ Kirklees Council - Allotments Officer
- ◀ Kirklees Council - Environment Officer (Biodiversity)
- ◀ Kirklees Council - Operational Manager (Bereavement)
- ◀ Kirklees Council – Project Officer (Tour de France Legacy)
- ◀ Kirklees Council – Landscape and Forestry Manager
- ◀ Kirklees Council – Landscape Architect Manager
- ◀ Kirklees Council – White Rose Forest Project Manager
- ◀ Kirklees Council – Definitive Map Officer (PROW)
- ◀ Kirklees Council – Senior Community Play Officer
- ◀ Friends of Beaumont Park
- ◀ Friends of Crow Nest Park
- ◀ Friends of Greenhead Park
  
- ◀ Holme Valley Civic Society
- ◀ Huddersfield Civic Society
- ◀ Kirklees Wildlife and Landscape Advisory Forum
- ◀ Holme Valley Parish Council
- ◀ Denby Dale Parish Council
- ◀ Kirkburton Parish Council
  
- ◀ Little Gomersal Community Association
- ◀ Meltham Town Council
- ◀ Mirfield Town Council
- ◀ Sustrans (Volunteers Group)
- ◀ Newsome Ward Community Forum
- ◀ Ravensthorpe Residents Action Group
- ◀ Slaithwaite Community Association and Centre
- ◀ North Kirklees Phab Club
- ◀ Pakistan and Kashmir Welfare Association
- ◀ UK Ambassadors CIC
- ◀ Friends of Meltham Greenway
- ◀ Friends of Tolson and Ravensknowle
- ◀ South Kirklees Healthy Walking Group
- ◀ Cleckheaton Walking Group
- ◀ Friends of Scholes Recreation Ground

# KIRKLEES COUNCIL OPEN SPACE DEMAND ASSESSMENT

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## Appendix 3 – Consultation locations

- ◀ Batley Library
- ◀ Cleckheaton Library
- ◀ Heckmondwike Library
- ◀ Dewsbury Library
- ◀ Mirfield Library
- ◀ Huddersfield Library
- ◀ Holmfirth Library
- ◀ Slaithwaite Library
- ◀ Shepley Library
- ◀ Kirkburton Library
- ◀ Denby Dale Library
- ◀ Crow Nest Park
- ◀ Oakwell Hall Country Park
- ◀ Greenhead Park

