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Hart Open Space Study

Prepared by LUC

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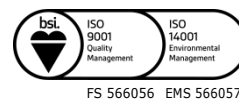
Hart Open Space Study

Prepared by LUC
June 2016

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Appendix 2: Scored audit form

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Hart District Council commissioned Continuum Sport and Leisure (CSL) and LUC to prepare an Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs and Opportunities Assessment for the District. The preparation of the study has involved a collaborative approach to utilise the strengths of Hart District Council, CSL and LUC to ensure that local knowledge and wider expertise are shared across the team. This Open Space Study is one of three separate studies that together comprise the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs and Opportunities Assessment.

Scope and objectives for the study and strategy

- 1.2 The purpose of this study is to provide a robust assessment of the quality, quantity and accessibility of existing provision for publicly accessible open spaces in Hart. The study will provide detailed evidence for the protection and improvement of the public open space and recreational facilities. The results of this study will be used to develop detailed policies within the emerging Hart Local Plan and will inform the determination of planning applications.

- 1.3 The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To identify deficiencies or surpluses in the provision and options for addressing these.
- To use the audit and assessment to set locally derived open space and recreation provision standards for quantity, quality and accessibility including possible thresholds above which developers should be required to provide on-site open space
- To provide a robust and comprehensive evidence base to underpin the development of detailed planning policies in the Hart Local Plan and to inform the development of Neighbourhood Plans.
- To provide information to justify the collection of developer contributions towards open space.
- To provide information to help inform the spending of Community Infrastructure Levy receipts.

- 1.4 The report comprises five main sections:

- A. Methodology and context - sets out the methodology used to identify the sites and facilities to be included in the audit and the methodology for auditing the sites. It also describes the development of typologies which have been used to categorise the sites and structure the data analysis. This section also establishes the context for the study, in terms of relevant plans and strategies which inform the study. It also provides an overview of open space, sport and recreation needs, based on socio-economic data and public consultation;
- B. Framework for analysis – describes the open space typologies and hierarchy of sites used to frame the analysis;
- C. Assessment of open space provision – reviews each typology in turn, describes how provision standards have been set, applies the standards and identifies key issues to be addressed in terms of future management and delivery of new facilities;
- D. Assessment of indoor and outdoor sport provision - sets out the quantity, quality and accessibility for each indoor sports facility type. It also outlines the key findings of the supply and demand analysis non-technical quality assessment, accessibility assessment, and consultation process (identifying local needs).
- E. Conclusions and recommendations – provides an overview of the key issues identified through the study and sets out recommendations for addressing deficiencies.

2 Approach to the study

- 2.1 This section describes the approach and methods adopted for the assessment of open spaces in Hart, which was developed with the Council to ensure it focused on the needs of the District.

Approach to the assessment of open space provision in Hart

- 2.2 The methodology for the assessment of open spaces reflects the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and follows the five steps as set out in the Practice Guidance to Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (PPG17): Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation Companion Guide. Although the PPG17 has been cancelled, the guidance is still extant and is recognised as the best available guidance and provides useful direction on the process for determining appropriate open space standards for local authorities.
- 2.3 The method was refined, based on experience elsewhere, and enhanced to reflect the local circumstances within Hart. An overview of the tasks taken in the preparation of the open space strategy is provided in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1 Approach to the assessment of open space provision

Task	Scope
Task 1: Policy review, contextual information and consultation	<p>A review of the relevant national and local planning policy context was undertaken to identify the land use implications of policies and strategies for open space.</p> <p>To provide an understanding of the specific needs of the District, information was collated on the geographic, demographic and socio-economic context of Hart which could influence the level of need. This contextual information is detailed in this section.</p>
Task 2: Assessment of local needs	<p>In order to understand the needs, attitudes and expectations of local people towards existing provision of open spaces, a programme of community consultation was undertaken. This entailed online surveys, workshops with stakeholders and organisations associated with the planning and management of open spaces. Parish councils were also consulted as part of the process through the use of online surveys and direct communication including emails, meetings and telephone conversations. The approach to consultation and the findings are detailed further in Section 4.</p>
Task 3: Existing open space provision	<p>Data on potential open space sites was provided by Hart District Council. This data was derived from previous open space studies including the 2006 open space study produced by Kit Campbell Associates and Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2012). To supplement this data, a review of the aerial photography for the District was undertaken, and any additional significant open space sites were identified. Parish councils were also provided with an opportunity to review and comment on the list of open spaces identified. During the site audits and consultation with the parish councils, a number of additional sites were identified and mapped.</p> <p>The open space sites needed to be categorised into a typology. The typology set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide was used as a basis for this. This is set out as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Parks and Gardens B. Natural and semi-natural green space C. Green corridors D. Amenity green space

Task	Scope
	<p>E. Allotments F. Cemeteries and churchyards G. Provision for children and young people H. Roadside verges K. Outdoor sport facilities</p> <p>Sites within the original data set that would not be considered as open space sites were excluded, this included categories such as after school clubs, children’s centres, and indoor sites.</p> <p>Outdoor sports facilities (typology K) were identified separately, as these were to be audited as part of the playing pitches strategy (to be carried out separately).</p> <p>A number of MOD managed sites were identified as being used for informal recreation. These sites were not included within the site audits but the importance of these sites has been considered in assessing the provision of public open spaces in the District. Likewise there are a number of other open spaces which provide some level of public access such as the Forestry Commission land at Bramshill Plantation.</p> <p>A number of small sites within the database were contained within other sites (e.g. playgrounds and an allotment garden site). These sites were audited as part of the larger, containing site.</p> <p>Within three types of spaces, any sites which were less than 0.4ha in area were excluded. These types were:</p> <p>B. Natural and semi-natural green space D. Amenity green space H. Roadside verges</p> <p>Hart has a significant amount of small open spaces (e.g. some amenity green space in and around housing estates), and given the limited resources of the project, it was considered sensible to exclude these sites from a full audit. These excluded sites generally did not contain any facilities, such as benches, bins and play equipment.</p> <p>Sites which were excluded from analysis will be referred to in relevant sections, either to show additional potential open space (e.g. space that is currently inaccessible and in private ownership) or to show examples of existing public open space that was too small to be audited (e.g. Amenity green space < 0.4ha).</p> <p>No Civic Space sites were identified within the district.</p> <p>A full list of sites audited is included in Appendix 1.</p> <p>The site audit form was developed (see example in Appendix 2) based around the themes of the Green Flag Award criteria, which is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. The use of the Green Flag themes ensured sufficient information was gathered in order to understand the quality and value of existing spaces. The Green Flag themes and a brief description of each are set out below.</p> <p>Much of the district is within the catchment area for sites which must provide mitigation against any likely impact on the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. One element of mitigation provided by Hart district and other affected local authorities is the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGS). The management and enhancement of these spaces is supported through a separate funding stream and policies. These sites were therefore not included in the site audit work to assess quality and value.</p> <p>The open space audit comprised a comprehensive audit of all categories of open space, building on the Council’s existing work, in terms of:</p>

Task	Scope
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality and value • Quantity • Accessibility
Task 4: Setting and applying provision standards and application	<p>All audit findings were compiled in an integrated geodatabase and supported by a map of the site location and images of the site.</p> <p>Having identified the types of open spaces in Hart, a detailed hierarchy was drawn up to develop a framework for analysis. This was developed with reference to national and regional guidance (e.g. Natural England's ANGSt, Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy) but with consideration of the characteristics of the District to be locally relevant.</p> <p>Combined analysis was then completed for quality and value findings, and implications for future provision in Hart. Conclusions were drawn on current accessibility of District's open spaces in order to inform priorities for future management. Locally-derived standards were defined for quality and value, quantity, and accessibility. General conclusions were also drawn on the adequacy of provision in Hart, for open space categories where it is difficult to define a quantified standard (e.g. Green Corridors).</p>
Task 5: Recommendations for Hart's Local Plan	<p>The findings of the open space assessment informed the development of policy recommendations regarding sites for protection/enhancement in the emerging Local Plan. The policy recommendations respond to the application of the open space standards, and provide suggestions on areas of Hart where there is adequate open space, deficient open space, or a surplus of poor quality open space. These findings have informed priorities for future provision and/or investment in open space.</p>

Audit of open space provision

- 2.4 Site audits were carried out in the period January – September 2015. Audits were carried out for all publicly accessible open spaces over a prescribed threshold size depending on the type of open space. A number of other sites where there is restricted access (e.g. open times) were also included in the site audit. Sites were selected using the data provided by the Council. Overall, 192 spaces were audited and the characteristics of the sites are discussed further below. Figure 5-1 indicates the location of all open spaces included in the audit.
- 2.5 A site audit form was developed (see **Appendix 2**) based around the criteria of the Green Flag Award, which is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. The use of the Green Flag themes ensured sufficient information was gathered in order to understand the quality of existing spaces. The Green Flag themes and a brief description of each are set out below:

Green Flag Award criteria
<p>1. A Welcoming Place</p> <p>Welcoming, good & safe access, signage, equal access for all</p>
<p>2. Healthy, Safe and Secure</p> <p>Safe equipment & facilities, personal security, dog fouling, appropriate provision of facilities, quality of facilities</p>
<p>3. Clean and Well Maintained</p> <p>Litter & waste management, grounds maintenance & horticulture, building & infrastructure maintenance, equipment maintenance</p>
<p>4. Sustainability</p> <p>Environmental sustainability, pesticides, peat use, waste minimisation, arboriculture & woodland management</p>

5. Conservation and Heritage

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

6. Community Involvement

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

7. Marketing

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

8. Management

Implementation of management plan

- 2.6 A Microsoft Access database was developed to hold all of the information from the site audits, including addresses and further site specific information drawn from the consultation. The database is linked to a GIS dataset of the sites to enable spatial analysis and can be updated as changes to the open space network in Hart occur.

Application of standards for open space provision

- 2.7 The standards were applied to the open space data for each typology to identify:
- Areas which do and do not have access to different types of spaces by virtue of their geographic location;
 - Sites and facilities which are performing well and less well in terms of quality and value.
- 2.8 Part of the process of developing open space standards, has been to benchmark the proposed Hart standards against those of other local authorities. This is a useful reality-check on standards considered acceptable and feasible in other parts of the country.

3 Policy and strategic context

National planning policy context

- 3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) explains the statutory provisions and provides guidance to local authorities and others on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.
- 3.2 Open space is defined in the NPPF as space of public value, not just land, but areas of water – rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs – which provide visual amenity and offer opportunities for sport and recreation. The delivery of multifunctional open spaces for wildlife, health, recreation, flood risk mitigation, carbon storage and food production is highlighted as a core planning principle of the NPPF. Paragraph 73 emphasises the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation for the health and well-being of communities; it stresses the need for robust and up-to-date assessments of local open space, sports and recreation facility, demand and opportunity, assessments which identify specific deficits or surpluses to determine what is needed where.
- 3.3 The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) which aims to provide simplified guidance on how to implement statutory provisions. The NPPG suggests that Sport England’s guidance may be referred to when assessing sports and recreation facilities. However the NPPG does not currently recommend an appropriate guidance document for the assessment of publicly accessible open spaces. As a result the former PPG17 Companion Guide is therefore still widely acknowledged as the most robust methodology for assessment of open space provision.

Protecting open spaces

- 3.4 Paragraph 76 of the NPPF outlines how local communities through local and neighbourhood plans can identify green areas for special protection and designate land as ‘Local Green Space’, safeguarding land from new development other than in exceptional circumstances consistent with green belt policy.
- 3.5 In order to designate land as ‘Local Green Space’ communities must demonstrate that the land in question is demonstrably special to a local community holding particular local character and significance for beauty, history, recreational value, tranquillity or richness of wildlife. The space cannot be an extensive tract of land and can only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed.
- 3.6 The planning system is not the only route available to local groups wanting to protect the community spaces they value, local communities can make the legal case for designating open green spaces as ‘assets of community value’ under the Localism Act 2011 or ‘Town or Village Greens’ under the Commons Act 2006.

Regional planning policy

South East Plan

- 3.7 The former regional spatial strategy for the South East, the South East Plan, was adopted in May 2009 to set out a vision for the region on strategic issues such as housing, the economy and environment. In February 2013, a Partial Revocation order was placed on the South East Plan which came in to force in March 2013 revoking all but Policy NRM6: Thames Basin Heath SPA, which remains a material consideration in Hart.
- 3.8 The Thames Basin Heath Special Protection Area (SPA) is designated under European Directive 79/409/EEC because of its populations of three heathland species of birds – Dartford Warbler, Nightjar and Woodlark.

- 3.9 Policy NRM6 requires new residential development that is likely to have a significant effect on the Special Protection Area (SPA) to put in place suitable measures to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects. Of specific relevance to the Open Space Strategy is the provision of Suitable Accessible Natural Greenspaces (SANGs). **8 hectares of SANG are required for every 1,000 new occupants.** SANGs are areas of existing, or new, publicly accessible open space that have been identified for enhancement so that they can be made more accessible and attractive to visitors, with the intention of providing alternatives for outdoor recreation and therefore resulting in no additional impact on the protected Thames Basin Heaths.

South East Green Infrastructure Framework from Policy into Practice

- 3.10 The framework was developed by Natural England to provide the policy context needed to allow for high quality green infrastructure in emerging and existing communities as well as its maintenance through the planning system. Guidance is provided on how green infrastructure might be delivered effectively through the Local Plan process from the establishment of an evidence base, to policy development and delivery. Green infrastructure in the South East Plan is defined as being broadly equivalent to open space, sports and recreational facilities as defined in the former PPG17. The framework places emphasis on the importance of evidence gathering and the formation of partnerships which can utilize partners' expertise, financial resources and land-ownership to provide local green infrastructure.

Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership: The State of Hampshire's Biodiversity

- 3.11 In October 2006 the Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership reported on the status of Hampshire's biodiversity: specifically the state of habitats and species in the County. The report identified that 15% of the county was urban or suburban with the most heavily built up areas being in the north-east of the County towards Fleet-Farnborough-Aldershot), and around the settlements of Southampton to Portsmouth. Of these built up areas 27% were made up of gardens, 8% grasslands and 7% woodlands. Of the rest of the county 37% of the land mass was covered by arable land, 20% was grassland, 19% was woodland and 4% heathland.

Hampshire Strategic Infrastructure Statement

- 3.12 Hampshire County Council produced this statement to highlight the level of investment required in new infrastructure to meet local needs and promote economic development and new development. Specific to Hart District and open space in the District is the requirement for greater connectivity between open countryside spaces for those involved in horse riding. Additionally the Hart Countryside Access Plan is highlighted as a guiding tool which should be used to improve connectivity and sustainable transport in the rural network.

Hampshire County Council: Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy 2008–18

- 3.13 The Community Strategy was produced in December 2008 to provide an overview of how the County was envisaged at the time, how local people saw the County at the time and challenges which were to be faced moving forward. As such those living in the County identified value in the ease of access the County provided to the countryside, country parks and open space. At the time of survey 86% of those questioned stated that they were satisfied to be living in Hampshire.

Biodiversity Action Plan for Hampshire, Volumes 1 & 2

- 3.14 The Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership produced Volumes 1 and 2 of the action plan in 1998 and 2000 respectively to respond to growing concern for the state of biodiversity throughout the UK. The document approaches this objective by undertaking an audit of biodiversity and issues affecting biodiversity in the County at the time and then detailing actions to undertake to ensure the maintenance of priority habitats and species.
- 3.15 The document provided information on Designated Nature Conservation Sites in Hampshire. Of the land mass covered by the county of Hampshire 12.7% had been designated as SSSI sites. Pressure for new development and changes in agricultural practices were highlighted as the main factors having adverse effect on biodiversity as indicated by the loss of 50% of ancient semi-natural woodland within the County in the previous 50 years.

- 3.16 Volume 2 of the document detailed habitat action plans and species action plans which were to be prepared to ensure that no further loss occurred in terms of quantity or quality and to improve knowledge of these biodiversity features. In total 22 habitat action plans were to be prepared for key habitats identified and 43 species action plans were to be prepared for priority species identified.

Countryside Access Plan for the Forest of Eversley

- 3.17 Countryside Access Plan (CAP) for the Forest of Eversley (2015 -2025) forms part of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for the county of Hampshire. The Forest of Eversley covers 26,000 hectares including the northern part of Hart District extending to the M3. The Vision for conserving access in the forest is to ensure local residents are able to access and enjoy the 'countryside on their doorstep' through:

- Provision of integrated information for all sections of the community on the wide variety of permissive and statutory access in the area including guidance on how to use the countryside responsibly
- Improving sustainable opportunities to get to and use high quality countryside in the forest
- Meeting the needs and demands of users whilst maximising benefits of land owners
- Ensuring no adverse effects on sensitive habitats, in particular SPA, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).

- 3.18 Nine main issues with access were identified as follows:

- Publicly-managed countryside sites and MOD land provide a significant proportion of the access available.
- People have difficulty in finding information on local routes.
- There is an undersupply of access available to legitimate motorised vehicle users, but they are often not welcomed in the countryside.
- There is demand for greater connectivity of horse riding routes.
- Lack of confidence is affecting some people's participation and enjoyment of the countryside.
- Many farmers and landowners find that providing more public access entails a workload and financial burden.
- Some members of the public lack an understanding of their responsibilities when using the countryside.
- Public access to the countryside can have a negative impact on land management for conservation and the sustainability of vulnerable species and habitats.

- 3.19 Recommendations for the alleviation of each of the issues are set out within the CAP in the form of aims and action plans. The aims are as follows:

1. Encourage wider involvement in the improvement and management of access.
2. Identify and secure new access that will provide high quality, useful 'missing links' in the network.
3. Ensure information is easy to find and understand.
4. Encourage wider involvement in the improvement and management of access.
5. Provide good quality alternatives to road use for non-motorised users.
6. Encourage and support car-free travel.
7. Ensure information is easy for all to find and understand.
8. Identify and secure new access that will provide high quality, useful 'missing links' in the network.

9. Encourage wider participation in the countryside recreation through targeted activity.
10. Ensure information is easy for all to find and understand.
11. Target information appropriately to promote wider participation in countryside recreation.
12. Encourage wider involvement in the improvement and management of access.
13. Optimise the provision and management of parking.
14. Minimise the financial burden of access management.
15. Encourage wider involvement in the improvement and management of access
16. Encourage cooperation and understanding among users and between users and land managers.
17. Encourage cooperation and understanding among users and between users and land managers.
18. Ensure that access improvements do not adversely affect heritage or wildlife conservation and seek, where possible, to enhance biodiversity.
19. Encourage wider involvement in the improvement and management of access.

Local planning policy context

The existing evidence base

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment (2012)

- 3.20 The assessed the quantity, quality and accessibility of the existing open space, sport and recreation provision within Hart District. The attributes which underpin the assessment of the local provision of open space in Hart were the accessibility of sites, the quality of sites in terms of meeting their identified purpose and the quantity of sites in a given area. The assessment concluded that satisfaction among local people in terms of the quantity of provision was fairly low, although this level was generally higher than the ratings for quality of provision. Parish and Town Councils provided feedback on the quality and value of the open space sites within their boundaries and overall summarised that these sites were of reasonable quality. The assessment also recommended that efforts to improve open space within Hart should involve improving the quality existing sites rather than increasing the quantity of these spaces.
- 3.21 Yateley was identified as having the highest level of provision of unrestricted open space in the District with 15.74ha per 1000 residents. In comparison the largest settlement in the District, Fleet, has 3.13ha of open space per 1000 residents. The findings of the assessment indicate that there is more limited access to open space within rural areas of the District. Overall across the District there is also an identified need for further children's play areas and youth provision. A requirement for some tennis courts and allotments in terms of accessibility has also been identified. In relation to accessibility of open space sites the assessment highlighted that standards set within Hart do not vary considerably in comparison to those set in other authority areas.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule

- 3.22 Hart District Council intends to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Once introduced, the Levy will be spent on infrastructure that is needed to support future development within the District. Infrastructure has been defined by Section 216 of the Planning Act 2008 as amended as including 'road and other transport facilities, flood defences, schools and other educational facilities, medical facilities, sporting and recreational facilities and open spaces'.
- 3.23 Developer contributions are currently collected for the provision of affordable housing, transportation infrastructure, open space/ leisure facilities, education facilities and mitigation strategies for the protection of SPA (with specific consideration given to the Thames Basin Heaths).

Hart Biodiversity Action Plan (2012 - 2017)

3.24 The Biodiversity Action Plan is the Government response to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Hart Biodiversity Action Plan provides a summary of the biodiversity resource in the district and sets out specific aims for ongoing management and enhancement. The specific actions outlined in the plan fall within four broad categories:

- Development control and planning policy
- Monitoring and survey work
- Land management and enhancement
- Education and awareness

3.25 In Hart District 2,696ha have been designated as SSSI which equates to 12.5% of the District. The sixteen SSSIs which lie wholly or partially within Hart District are as follows:

- Basingstoke Canal
- Blackwater Valley
- Bourley and Long Valley
- Bramshill
- Butter wood
- Castle Bottom to Yateley and Hawley Common
- Fleet Pond
- Foxlease and Ancells Meadows
- Greywell Fen
- Greywell Tunnel (Basingstoke Canal)
- Hazeley Heath
- Heath Brow
- Hook Common and Bartley Heath
- Odiham Common with Bagwell Green and Shaw
- Warnborough Green
- West Minley Meadow

3.26 An area of 1,935ha of the district is covered by a total of 254 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). Three Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) have been designated within Hart District and these are Elvetham Heath, Fleet Pond and Zebon Copse.

Hart District Local Plan (Replacement) 1996-2006 and First Alterations to the Hart District Local Plan (Replacement) 1996-2006

3.27 Hart District Council withdrew the Local Plan: Core Strategy 2011-2029 on 30 September 2013 and is currently in the process of producing a new Local Plan Strategy and Sites document. In the meantime the Council set out the saved policies from the original Replacement Local Plan and the First Alterations in a single document in April 2009. These saved policies will continue to hold weight in planning decisions until such time as they are superseded by replacement policies.

3.28 Policies which are of direct strategic importance to the Open Space Strategy in Hart include:

- URB21 - Loss of amenity & recreation open space
- URB22 - Change of use of small open space areas
- URB23 - Open space requirements with new development
- CON22 - Setting of settlements and recreation
- Policies CON1 to CON3 which address European, National and Local Designations in the District

Interim Avoidance Strategy for the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area

- 3.29 Hart District Council introduced this strategy in November 2010 in order to facilitate residential development in areas that are affected by the Thames Basin Heaths SPA designation while ensuring that significant adverse effects on the integrity of the SPA are avoided. The Thames Basin Heaths SPA covers over 2500ha within Hart District.
- 3.30 An Inner Exclusion Zone of within 400m of the SPA in which there is a presumption against new residential development, as well as a Zone of Influence of within 5km of the SPA in which an Avoidance Strategy has been put into effect have been established. The Avoidance Strategy consists of two elements: Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) and Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMM). SANG involves the provision of either new or existing open spaces which are designed to encourage residents to use these areas rather than the SPA. SAMM involves a visitor management plan which should in turn be coordinated with a monitoring process across the section of the SPA which is accessible to the public. SANG measures must be provide at a standard of at least 8ha per 1000 population with a minimum SANG size of 2ha. SAMM measures are funded by contributions from any new additional residential dwellings within 5km of the SPA.

Yateley Village Design Framework

- 3.31 Yateley Village Design Framework SPD was adopted in June 2009 and is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications in the centre of Yateley. The document provides a long term planning and design framework to guide development in the centre of Yateley until 2026. One of the guiding principles of the SPD is to care for the environment through the protection of local features including but not limited to open spaces. Section 3 of the document sets out the key characteristics of the village which should be reflected in any new development. Importantly for the protection of open spaces these characteristics include "open meadow and verge areas of grassland heathland scrub and hedges".

4 Local Needs Assessment

- 4.1 Local needs should be assessed to ensure sufficient open space is available as a resource to current and future generations. This has been carried out by means of studying current population trends, the socio-economic deprivation index, demographic indicators and, future development and population forecasts. The findings relevant to this assessment are set out below.

Local Authority Profile

Current Population

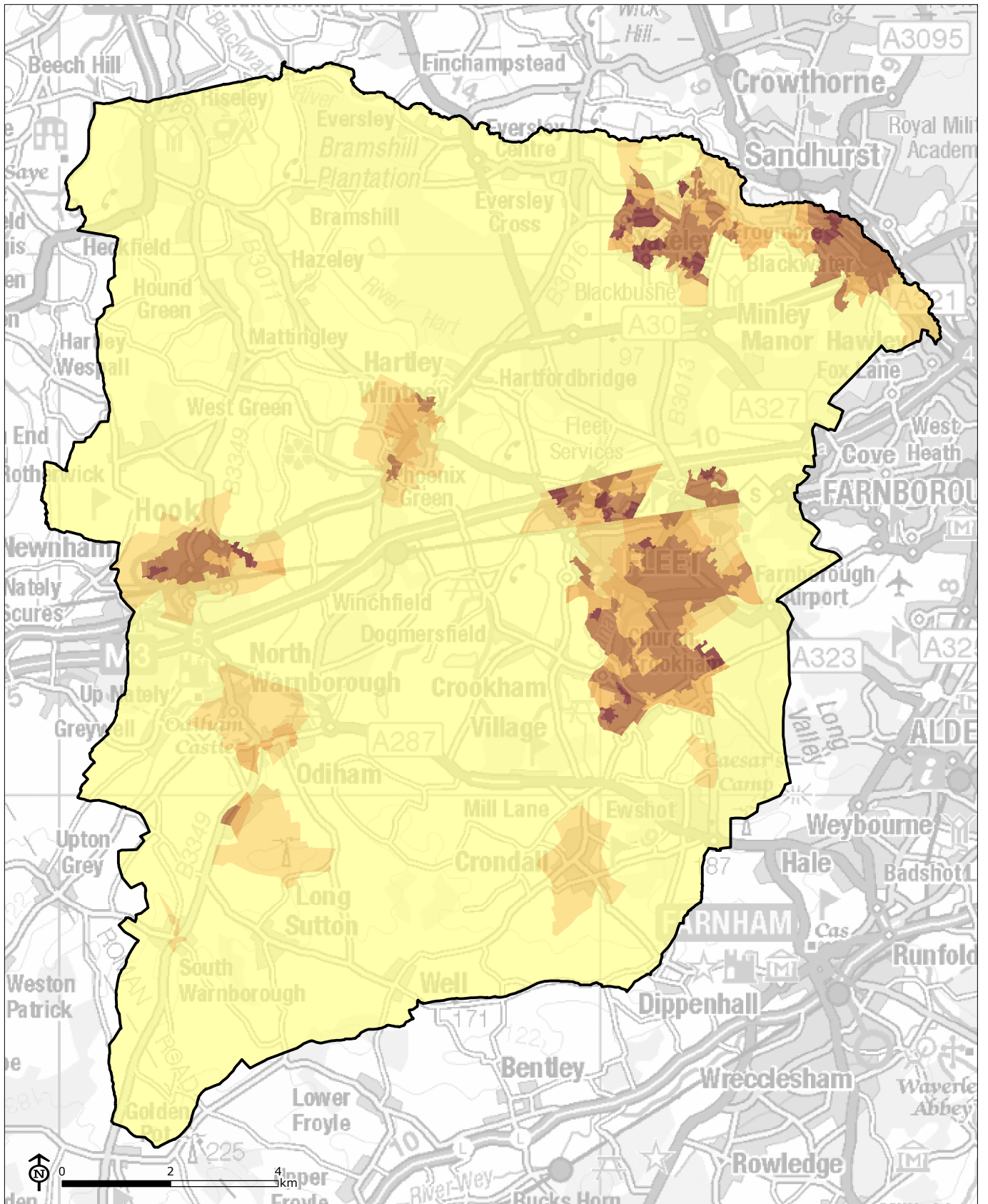
- 4.2 Based on the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (December 2014), which forecasts estimates of population in Hart from 2011 to 2032, Hart had a population of 91,662 in 2011.
- 4.3 As shown in Figure 4-1, the population density varies throughout the district, with the main concentration of population centred around the urban centres of Fleet, Yateley and Blackwater, with between 10.87 and 37.95 persons per hectare. Much of the rest of the district has a relatively low population density of between 0.26 and 10.86 persons per hectare (2013).
- 4.4 Based on the 2011 census, states that there are on average 4.2 people per hectare.
- 4.5 Hart District also has significant areas of land owned by the Ministry of Defence (MOD), which includes a population of military service personnel and their families.
- 4.6 For the purposes of this study, the SHMA 2011 population figures have been used as a baseline in preference to the 2011 census data. The reason for this is that the SHMA has made allowance for unattributed population change which was not captured in the ONS figures for 2011. However, in order to explore the nature of the District in terms of diversity, age profile and housing profile, the 2011 Census figures have been interrogated.

Ethnic diversity

- 4.7 In terms of ethnicity, the 2011 census states that 90.7% of Hart's resident population is estimated to be of ethnic group 'White British'. The same census records a relatively small Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) community. These characteristics have changed somewhat over recent years due to a significant increase in the Nepalese and Eastern European communities in Hart and surrounding area.
- 4.8 The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2013, states that Hart district has two of Hampshire County Council's four authorised permanent gypsy and traveller sites, one at Star Hill, and the other at Penny Hill, both of which have 20 pitches each. In addition to the county owned sites there are two authorised private sites at Crondall and Yateley. It was recommended in the GTAA that 24 new permanent pitches and two transit pitches be provided in Hart by 2017.

Health Profile

- 4.9 The Public Health England profile for Hart (2014) states that although deprivation is lower than average for England, overall around 6.4% (1,100) children live in poverty. Life expectancy for both men and women is also higher than the England average.
- 4.10 In Year 6, 13.7% (129) children are classed as obese and in 2012 around 16.7% of adults are classed as obese. Whilst these figures are better than the average for England, open space provision has a major role to play in tackling health issues relating to obesity and reducing these figures.



□ Hart district boundary

Number of persons per hectare

- 0.15 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 15.0
- 15.1 - 30.0
- 30.1 - 60.0
- 60.1 - 101.8

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

**Figure 4-1
Population Density (2011)**

Source: ONS

LUC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

Age Profile

- 4.11 The SHMA (December 2014) forecasts an ageing population with a 66.7% increase in the 65-85+ age group by 2032. The age group showing the least growth is the 0-4 age group at 1.5% in the same time frame. It is forecast that by 2032 there will be 25,354 elderly people compared to 20,610 young people (0-15 year olds) in Hart.

Socio-Economic

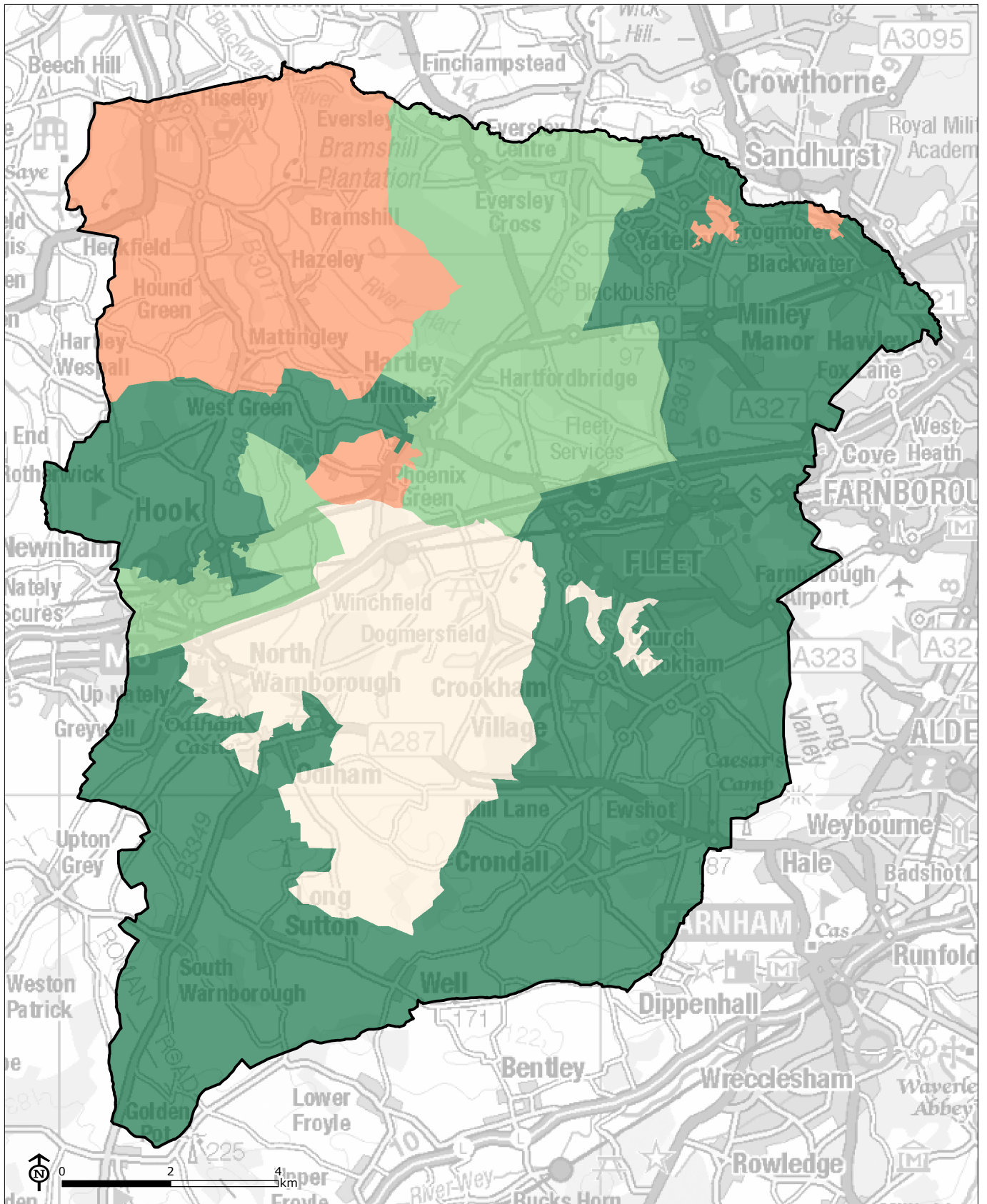
Index of Multiple Deprivation

- 4.12 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) (2011) shows that less than 20% of the district falls within the least deprived 20-40% of the county, with an 80% majority proportion within the least deprived 20% nationwide. The levels of 20-40% least deprived relate largely to the more rural areas of the borough as shown in Figure 4-2.
- 4.13 When considering individual domains of the IMD relative to this assessment, the following are directly relevant to the open space strategy:
- Living Environment Indoor (Sub-domain) Deprivation;
 - Living Environment Outdoor (Sub-domain) Deprivation; and
 - Health Deprivation and Disability Domain.
- 4.14 The domain of the IMD concerned with Living Environment considers the four following indicators: condition of social and private housing, houses without central heating, air quality and road traffic accidents. These are all relevant factors to consider, for the purpose of the assessment, for the following reasons. If there is a considerable amount of social and private housing in poor condition, the importance of access to good quality open space becomes even greater. Similarly, if air quality is poor, open space can act as a buffer against road derived air pollution, such as that generated by the M3 corridor.
- 4.15 Figure 4-3 contains the IMD Living Environment data for the district. The IMD – Living Environment Indoor reveals the distribution of deprivation relating to the Living Environment Indoor, within the Hart district. Generally, the district is located within the middle quintile – 20% least deprived for living environment indoor, with an area centred on Heckfield, which indicates higher levels, within the 20-40% most deprived. Generally, the district is located within the middle quintile – 20% least deprived for living environment outdoor, with a pocket around Blackwater and Yateley, which indicates higher levels, within the 20-40% most deprived.
- 4.16 The domain of the IMD concerned with Health considers the four following indicators: morbidity, disability, physical and mental health. Given that there is considerable evidence to link physical activity and exercise to an improvement in health, with open space providing an important facility for exercise based activities' this is a relevant factor to consider for the purpose of the assessment.
- 4.17 Figure 4-4 (IMD - Health) shows the district of Hart to be in the 20% least deprived quintile of the country. This is largely due to the higher percentage of rural areas within the Hart the surrounding area, in comparison to urban areas.

Demographic Indicators

Rural and Urban Profile

- 4.18 The 2004 Rural and Urban Classification for Hart, shows that 19% of the district is classed as urban and 81% of the district is classed as rural. However the SHMA (December 2014) states that half the overall population of Hart live within the two largest towns of Fleet and Yateley, 32,000 and 21,000 populations, respectively.
- 4.19 The towns of Fleet, Yateley and Blackwater are located within the wider Blackwater Valley which also comprises the Farnborough/ Aldershot Built up Area. In 2001 this area had a population of over a 250,000 people, the 29th largest urban area in England and Wales.



▭ Hart district boundary

Deprivation Percentile

- 0 - 60% (Most deprived)
- 60 - 70%
- 70 - 80%
- 80 - 90%
- 90 - 100% (Least deprived)

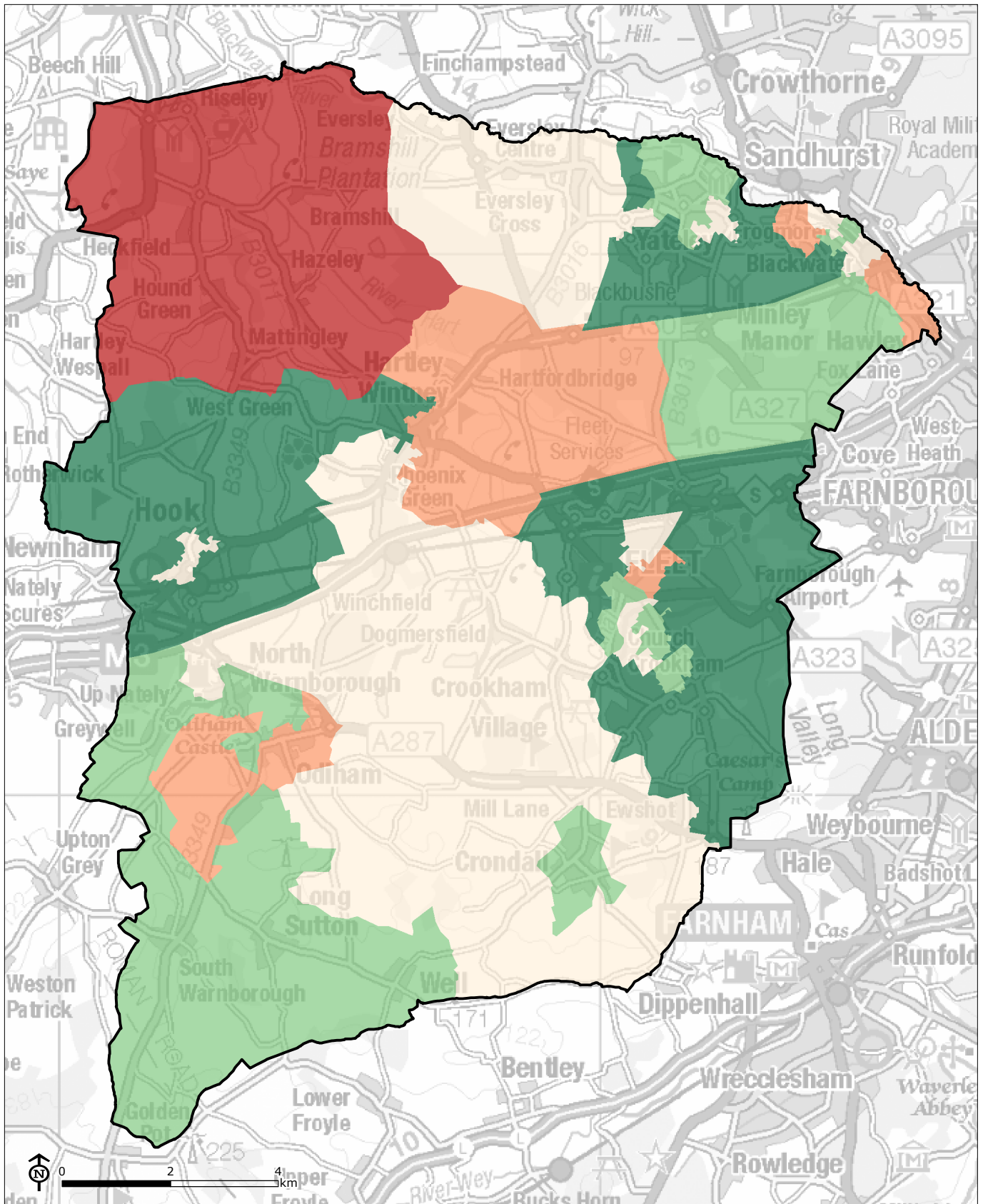
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 4-2
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010

Source: ONS

LUC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



□ Hart district boundary

Living environment indicator (Percentile - England wide)

- 0 - 60% (Most deprived)
- 60 - 70%
- 70 - 80%
- 80 - 90%
- 90 - 100% (Least deprived)

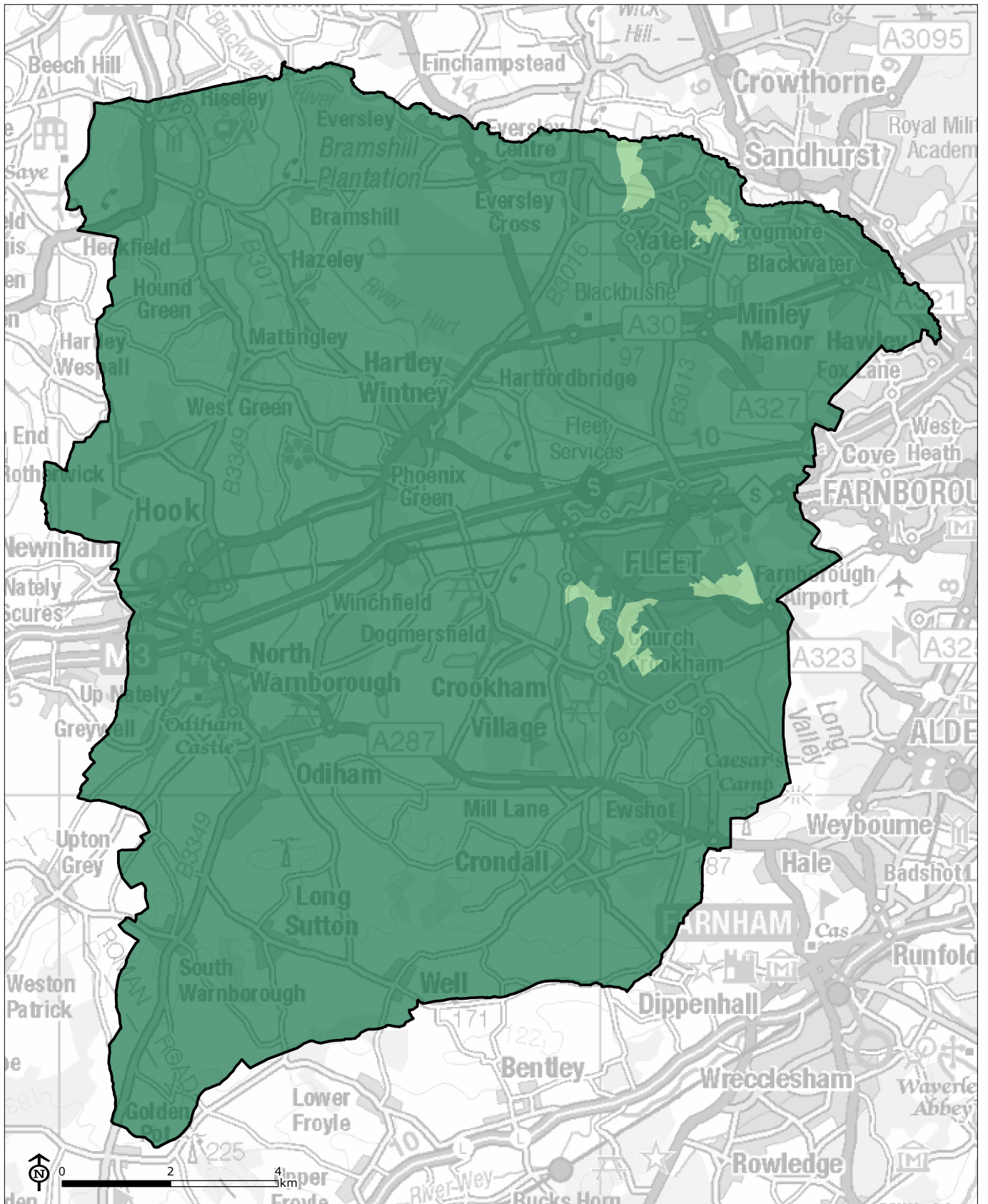
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 4-3
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 - Living Environment

Source: ONS

LUC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



▭ Hart district boundary

Health indicator (Percentile - England wide)

- 0 - 80% (Most deprived)
- 80 - 90%
- 90 - 100% (Least deprived)

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 4-4
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 - Health Indicator

Source: ONS



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

Housing and Private Gardens Profile

- 4.20 The 2011 census states that there are 35,510 households in the Hart district. The SHMA (December 2014) suggests that 370 dwellings will need to be provided per annum to meet demand. Census data from 2011 makes it possible to use housing type as a proxy for the proportion of households which are unlikely to have access to a private garden. For the purposes of the census, housing type is differentiated into the following three main categories:
- Whole house or bungalow (including detached, semi-detached and terraced);
 - Flat, maisonette or apartment (including purpose built flats, converted or shared houses and flats within commercial properties); and
 - Caravans or other mobile or temporary structure.
- 4.21 The 2011 census data states that 87% of dwellings fall into the first category, 10% into the second category and 2% into the final category.
- 4.22 For the purpose of this assessment we have worked on the assumption that most whole houses and bungalows will have access to a private garden, with other housing types deemed not to have access to a private garden.
- 4.23 Figure 4-5 (Proportion of Households Unlikely to have Access to a Private Garden) shows throughout the district there is a high proportion of households, which are likely to have access to a private garden. It is mainly in urban areas where the highest concentration of housing types unlikely to have access to a private garden are located. This accounts for around 12% of all households in the Hart district. It follows that in these identified areas there is a greater need for good quality, accessible open space.
- 4.24 Between 2001 and 2011 there has been an increase of 25% or 2,320 detached/ semi-detached and terraced dwellings, with detached houses being the largest number of dwellings added to the housing stock, at 1,000 houses. In Hart, between 2001 and 2013, 76% of new dwellings have been houses with three or more bedrooms.

Visitor and Tourism Profile

- 4.25 In 2011 there were 1,000,000 tourism day visits to Hart, both domestic and inbound visitors. Hart was the second least visited local authority in Hampshire in 2011, second to Rushmoor, with 4% domestic trips and 5% inbound trips.

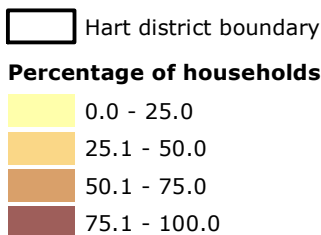
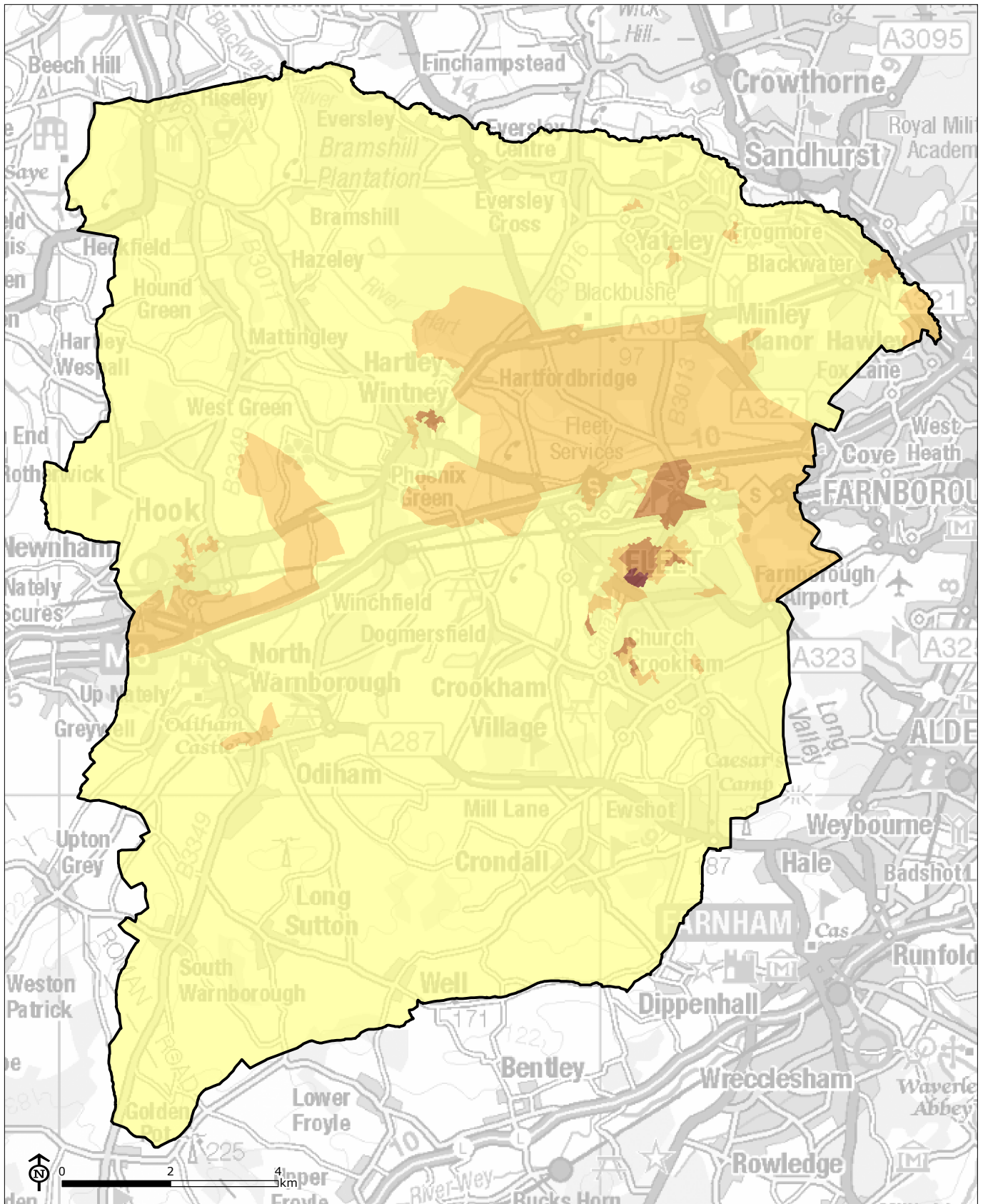
Future Population and Anticipated Changes

Population Projections

- 4.26 Based on SHMA (December 2014), the population of Hart is forecast to grow from 91,662 in 2011 to 107,986 by 2032, an increase of 16,324 persons. The projections suggest that the greatest percentage increase in population will be within the +85 age group.
- 4.27 **Table 4.4** sets out the expected population growth between 2011 and 2032.

Table 4.1: Population projections based on Strategic Housing Market Assessment (December 2014)

Age Group	Population 2011	Projected population at 2016	Projected population at 2021	Projected population at 2026	Projected population at 2031	Projected population at 2032
0-4	5,687	6,103	6,083	5,993	5,803	5,733
5-15	12,693	13,467	14,599	15,097	14,917	14,837
16-29	13,207	13,442	12,989	13,140	14,021	14,269
30-44	19,606	19,458	20,218	20,951	20,854	20,646



Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 4-5
Proportion of Households Unlikely to have Access to a Private Garden

Source: ONS



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

Age Group	Population 2011	Projected population at 2016	Projected population at 2021	Projected population at 2026	Projected population at 2031	Projected population at 2032
45-64	25,247	25,959	27,160	27,453	27,067	27,108
65-74	8,566	10,096	9,958	9,819	11,350	11,584
75-84	4,783	5,829	7,215	8,609	8,565	8,358
85+	1,873	2,366	3,030	3,865	4,998	5,412
Total	91,622	96,719	101,251	104,927	107,574	107,986

Key findings from open space consultation

- 4.28 The purpose of the consultation was to understand the needs of the community and the perceptions of the community regarding the current levels of provision. It was therefore important that a wide range of open space users in the district had the opportunity to comment on provision. Consultation was carried out using a number of different mechanisms including online surveys and workshops, together with the use of emails and telephone conversations.
- 4.29 To capture responses from a wider group, a web based consultation was held for 14 weeks from March 2015 to June 2015. There were 437 respondents to the survey. Of the respondents who chose to answer the question, 40% were male and 60% female. Of those who chose to answer the question, the ten year age band 35-44 had the most respondents (36%), followed by the band 45-54 (32%). Fewer than 7% of respondents (26 people) were under 25. A small group of responses came from those aged between 55 and 64 (14%), and 12% were over 65. 20% of respondents chose not to give their age. Very few (6%) who answered considered themselves to have conditions or disabilities which limit their daily activities.
- 4.30 The overwhelming majority of respondents consider themselves White British. The next biggest group (3%) were those that elected not to state their ethnicity. 41% of the respondents had lived in Hart for over 20 years, and 33% had lived in the district for between 11 and 20 years. A little over 10% of the respondents had lived in Hart for less than 5 years.

Key findings from stakeholder workshops

- 4.31 Hart District Council hosted two workshops with key stakeholders to discuss how the open spaces in Hart are used and to identify key issues and opportunities.
- 4.32 The first workshop held in April 2014 helped inform the preparation of the brief for the open space, sport and recreation study. This workshop was attended by representatives of local sports groups, national governing bodies, parish and town councils, and local community groups (e.g. Friends groups and Societies). Hart Officers were also present. A summary of the findings of this workshop is provided below.
- Generally the district contains good quantity of open space but there is little provision in the southwest of the district where the population density is low and agriculture is prominent.
 - The management of open spaces is delivered through the Council, Parish and Town Councils and other major landowners such as the MOD and the Forestry Commission.
 - Open spaces are generally accessible by foot throughout the district and good open spaces include:
 - Green corridors:
 - Blackwater Valley
 - River Hart Valley

- Basingstoke Canal
- Semi-natural green spaces:
 - Forestry Commission land – Bramshill Forest
 - Fleet ponds
 - Hartley Witney – large area
 - MOD
 - Yateley Heath and Warren Heath
- The SANGs are well-funded and therefore considered to be good quality and highly valued open spaces.
- There appears to be a good diversity of open space provision throughout the district with each Parish offering its own allocation of open space.
- There are opportunities to provide a broader range of play provision offering greater recreational opportunities for teenagers and offering challenging play experiences.

Challenges

4.33 Open space provision:

- Some of the rural areas do not have access to well-designed parks and gardens. There appears to be an assumption that there is good access to countryside and therefore there is not a need for parks. It was felt that developers should carry out greater consultation with Parish Councils about the type of provision and design matters.
- Many of the open spaces are used by people from outside of the district who tend to travel to sites by car.
- There are concerns about the long term funding and whether open spaces need to generate their own income.
- It was felt that there was adequate cemetery provision throughout the district.
- Open spaces will need to be multifunctional to respond to changing use and climate.
- There is development pressure on existing open space provision and there appears to be a tendency for developers to locate play spaces away from their site.
- Whilst there is a Fleet Pond Society and several other small 'friends of' groups exist, there are not many community groups involved in the management of open spaces and the Council has experienced difficulties managing groups which often have different objectives. However the Basingstoke Canal has a very active community group.

4.34 Allotments:

- There is need for a greater quantity of allotment plots in the district. This could be achieved through increasing the number of allotment sites, better site management and improving accessibility.
- Allotment provision could form part of development contributions and should be secured at an early stage of planning.
- There may be potential to use allotments to generate revenue.

4.35 Sport provision:

- It was felt that all open spaces are dominated by sport pitches and there is need for sports pitches to be separate to other informal open spaces.
- It was questioned whether there are sufficient facilities to support sport activities. It was felt that sport spaces tended to be male dominated.
- There could be better links with schools to share playing fields and open spaces.
- Seek opportunities to improve lighting of sport pitches and play spaces.

4.36 MOD land:

- There is currently a good level use of MOD land with much of it forming part of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area. However attendees to the workshop felt that there is need to improve communication links with the MOD.

Opportunities

- Hart District Council should aim to retain Green Flag status for Elvetham Heath, Hartley Wintney Common and Fleet Ponds and to achieve the award for Edenbrook Country Park. Hartley Wintney Common has also won a Green Heritage award for its heritage features and is now the only such site in Hampshire and one of 10 in the South east region.
- There are opportunities to strengthen relationships with special interest groups such as cycling groups (off road), water sports and skateboarders.
- There could be better promotion of the district’s open space network through having a single website outlining the types of provision and circular walks etc.

4.37 A second workshop was held at Hart District Council’s offices in March 2015. This event was again attended by key stakeholders including the Friends groups, Parish and Town Councils and other land managers such as the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. This workshop enabled the project team to feedback on progress on the project and to discuss the types of open spaces identified. During the workshop, stakeholders were encouraged to discuss the current issues affecting open space provision and to consider solutions. Having discussed possible solutions, attendees were encouraged to prioritise enhancement measures. A summary of the key findings from this workshop are listed below.

- Raise awareness of the open space network in Hart.
- Increase connectivity to open spaces through signage and use of green corridors/ use of rights of way.
- Increase diversity of facilities within open spaces including facilities such as teenage play areas, cycling tracks and all-weather running track.
- Improve accessibility to open spaces by providing safe crossing points.
- Provide public toilets in larger open spaces.
- Concerns over continued public use of MOD land.
- Introduce a ranger service to liaise with community groups and oversee the appropriate management of wildlife areas.
- Ensure new open spaces provide suitable facilities for the local community and are fully accessible for public use.

Summary of findings from consultation with Parish and Town Councils

4.38 The Parish and Town Councils are key providers of publicly accessible open spaces within the district. It was therefore important to ensure each council was given the opportunity to share their thoughts and aspirations for open space provision in the district. Consultation with the councils was carried out through an online survey and stakeholder workshops (as described above). The councils were also asked to review and comment on the list of open spaces identified in their parish or town. A summary of the responses received from the parish councils to the online questionnaire is provided below.

Hook Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hartletts Park (also included in the Playing Pitch Strategy) • Wellworth Park • Varndell • KGV (also included in the Playing Pitch Strategy)

Hook Parish Council	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitchell's Field • Bassetts Mead
Quantity	Good
Quality	Good
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	No
Any plans to improve open spaces	Bassetts Mead becoming SANG Open spaces involved in new planning permission – NE Hook, High Ridge Farm

Hartley Wintney Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x allotment sites • Burial ground • Orchard • 3 x Play area
Other organisations responsible for management	Hart DC Hartley Wintney Cricket Club
Quantity	Excellent
Quality	Good
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	No
Any plans to improve open spaces	Yes: Commons management plan cover the proposed improvements. Parish is hoping to extend the community orchard and improve pond site.

Church Crookham Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Driver Sports Ground (picked up in Playing Pitch Strategy) • Azalea Park • Sian Close – small grass area • Chesilton Woods • Will be taking on the management of open spaces at Crookham Park – athletics track and open spaces
Other organisations responsible for management	Yes: Merlin - management company at Crookham Park MOD – Quetta Park
Quantity	Good
Quality	Good
Accessibility	Average

Church Crookham Parish Council	
Other issues	Parking spaces area required at Azalea Park
Any plans to improve open spaces	New provision from Crookham Park Development: 7.6 hectares formal open space and 14 hectares informal open space SANGS

Crondall Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hook Meadow Recreation Ground (also included in the Playing Pitch Strategy) • Crondall Burial Ground • Farnham Road Football and Recreation Ground (included in Playing Pitch Strategy)
Other organisations responsible for management	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crondall Bowls Club • Crondall School • Crondall Scouts • Hart DC – Closed Churchyard
Quantity	Excellent
Quality	Excellent
Accessibility	Poor
Other issues	Yes: Dog fouling and accessibility
Any plans to improve open spaces	Yes: The Parish Council works hard to try to improve provision all the time. There are plans to improve the cremation area of the burial ground.

Elvetham Heath Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village green • Turners Way recreation area • Mounts Way recreation area • Giffard Lane recreation area • Small area of green space throughout the parish
Other organisations responsible for management	Yes: Hart District Council – the nature reserve
Quantity	Good
Quality	Average
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	Regular use by commercial fitness groups/ boot camps who cause disturbance to residents and occasionally some damage.
Any plans to improve open spaces	No

Winchfield Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	No
Other organisations responsible for management	Basingstoke Canal Authority
Quantity	Good
Quality	Good
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	Canal needs more investment
Any plans to improve open spaces	No

Odiham Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation Field • Recreation Road • Various play areas • Chamberlain Gardens • Odiham Beacon Field • Odiham The First, Odiham
Other organisations responsible for management	Yes: Hart District Council - Odiham and Broad Oak Commons Hampshire County Council – Rye Common/ Odiham Castle/ Basingstoke Canal in conjunction with Surrey County Council, including the Wharf in Odiham. Hants and IoW wildlife trust – part of Bartley Heath Common
Quantity	Excellent
Quality	Average
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	Yes: The Wharf is looking rather run down
Any plans to improve open spaces	No
Other comments	The Neighbourhood Plan is looking at this area with a view to deciding on which sites to allocate for housing and what open space might be providing within the sites chosen. The maintenance of public footpaths which give access to open spaces is a cause of some concern as Hants CC [Hampshire Cricket Board] says it does not have the money to maintain them all, priorities have to be decided upon.

Fleet Town Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancells Farm Park (also included in Playing Pitch Strategy) • Oakley Park • Basingbourne Park • The View • Calthorpe Park (also included in Playing Pitch Strategy) • The cemetery
Other organisations responsible for management	Yes: Hart District Council manages Fleet Pond Basingstoke Canal Authority
Quantity	Average
Quality	Good
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	Yes: More of it
Any plans to improve open spaces	Yes: If more land becomes available

Greywell Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	No
Other organisations responsible for management	No
Quantity	Very Poor
Quality	Very Poor
Accessibility	Very Poor
Other issues	No: There are none
Any plans to improve open spaces	No: As above

Crookham Village Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: See Parish Plan (http://www.crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk/Documents/PPlan/CVparishplan2010.pdf)
Other organisations responsible for management	Yes Parts of the Basingstoke Canal (Basingstoke Canal Authority) Zebon Copse Emerging Poulterers Meadow SANGS

Crookham Village Parish Council	
	See Parish Plan
Quantity	Average
Quality	Average
Accessibility	Average
Other issues	Yes See Parish Plan
Any plans to improve open spaces	Yes: See Parish Plan

Eversley Parish Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x play areas • Lower Common Eversley Centre • Cross Green • Chequers Green
Other organisations responsible for management	No
Quantity	Good
Quality	Average
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	No
Any plans to improve open spaces	Yes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a project to add to the Lower Common Playground area. Addition of slide awaits the availability of funding. 2. There is a project to improve the surface and extend the area of the car park on Church Green. 3. A current project is to procure benches for the play areas. Grant funding investigations are in hand. Projects such as this and allotments are all managed by the Parish Council Open Spaces Committee. We understand that more comprehensive these matters will shortly be given in a workshop that will be carried out under the same umbrella as this survey.

Blackwater and Hawley Town Council	
Responsible for management of open spaces	Yes: Small areas in Blackwater Common and Hawley Meadow and Shepherd Meadows maintained by the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership.
Other organisations responsible for	Yes:

Blackwater and Hawley Town Council	
management	See above
Quantity	Good
Quality	Good
Accessibility	Good
Other issues	No
Any plans to improve open spaces	No Don't understand the question. If you are implying open space for sports pitches there is no arable land in our area for this. But we would be particularly interested in 4G replacement of our existing sport pitches.

Hampshire County Council

- 4.39 A meeting was held with Hampshire County Council in May 2015 to discuss the management of the open spaces within the Hart and to identify any issues affecting provision as well as to consider possible opportunities to enhance provision. A summary of this discussion is provided in the paragraphs below.
- 4.40 The MOD and the Forestry Commission are responsible for managing large areas of open spaces which offer opportunity for informal recreation and are part of the Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Project which support the conservation management of SPA sites and the promotion of SANGs. The sites that these organisations manage are an important part of open space network in the district. These sites are used for horse riding and mountain biking.
- 4.41 There is significant change in how the MOD is managing and using large tracts of open spaces which have in recent years been used by the public for informal recreation. There is evidence that public access is being deterred with car parks and footpaths being closed and new signage installed at entrances. The recent closure of these spaces for public use is increasing pressure on other sensitive open spaces such as Yateley Common Country Park.
- 4.42 Many sites which form part of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA are still being used heavily by dog walkers. It is felt there is a need to raise awareness of sensitivity of these protected open spaces and to encourage use of alternatives sites such as SANGs. Interventions could include the installation of signage both within and to open spaces as well as increased information on websites.
- 4.43 Access to open spaces could also be improved through the promotion and strengthening of the public rights of way network with rural open spaces used as a stepping stone to the wider rights of way network. This should extend not only to sites within the district but also to surrounding authorities. The rights of way network should be used to promote sustainable transport routes such as cycle ways.
- 4.44 There is only intermittent access along the River Whitewater with much of the riverside in private ownership and managed as part of fisheries.

Basingstoke Canal Authority

- 4.45 The Basingstoke Canal is a popular feature of the district linking Greywell in the west and Fleet in the east. The towpath is a Greenway and the canal is used for walking, cycling, boating, canoeing and fishing. A peripatetic counter installed next to the bridge at Reading Road car park in Fleet in 2013/14 recording a visitor count of 57,583.
- 4.46 There are some instances of conflicts between different user groups along the Basingstoke Canal towpath. In response the Basingstoke Canal Authority has started the Share the Space campaign to encourage cyclists in particular to be more aware of other users.

- 4.47 Although the Canal is heavily used (particularly in the Fleet area), there are opportunities to improve signage to the Canal throughout the district and to link with the wider open space and rights of way network.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

- 4.48 A member of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust attended one of the stakeholder workshops and provided a written response. The full written response is contained with **Appendix 3** and a summary provided below.

Fresh Air and Exercise report

- In 2012 the Wildlife Trust completed a study on the provision of open space for informal recreation in Hampshire. The study revealed that throughout county the provision of open space available to the public to use has not kept up with population growth.

Review of existing open spaces

- Only land which is owned or managed by Hart District Council and the Parish and Town Councils should be included in the study as, whilst other land is available for public use there is no guarantee that this will always be available.
- The open space study should acknowledge that not all publicly owned land will be suitable for public access and the district contains a number of areas of wildlife importance and are vulnerable from the impact of recreation. This includes local wildlife sites as well as the Thames Basin Heaths.
- Up to date and comprehensive ecological information should be used to assess the site's sensitivity to recreational impacts prior to allocating any land as public open space or carrying out enhancement projects. The wider landscape context of the open space should also be considered to ensure its ecological role is understood.
- Ecological information gathered for the site should include landowner and local knowledge of the site.

Public awareness of existing open spaces

- It was apparent from comments made at the stakeholder workshop that the public are not fully aware of the open space on their doorstep. The Wildlife Trust feels a priority should be to increase awareness and improve management of existing sites rather than building new spaces.
- Greater public awareness is needed of the importance of SANGS and that these spaces are there for recreation.

SANGS provision

- SANGS should be managed as alternatives to the protected landscapes and as such should offer different recreational opportunities to more formal open spaces.
- The Wildlife Trust would like to review the management of SANGS and whether these spaces are working as well as they should be.
- The Wildlife Trust would look to Hart District Council to ensure monitoring is in place to ensure that SANGS continued to be managed as public open space that meet the SANGS standards.

Management of open spaces

- The Wildlife Trust would look to Hart District Council and the Parish and Town Councils to regularly monitor the management of open spaces to ensure they continue to function as areas which the public wish to use.
- The Wildlife Trust would be happy to provide advice on the management of open spaces if required.

Hart Allotment Association

- 4.49 The Hart Allotment Association currently has 196 people on the waiting list and have estimated that people have been waiting for allotment for nearly 20 years. It is hoped there will be increased provision at Edenbrook Country Park once this has been completed.
- 4.50 In order to help alleviate demand, the association linked up with local farmers at Pilcot Farm to create the Pilcot Allotments. However this provision is considered only to be temporary until the allotments at Edenbrook are completed. However it is hoped that if there is sufficient interest and support, the Pilcot Allotments can continue. The Pilcot allotments are privately run through the Hart Allotment Association.
- 4.51 Allotment provision in Hart is managed on a parish/ town basis so are only available to residents of that parish/ town. Therefore access to allotment provision can vary throughout the district.

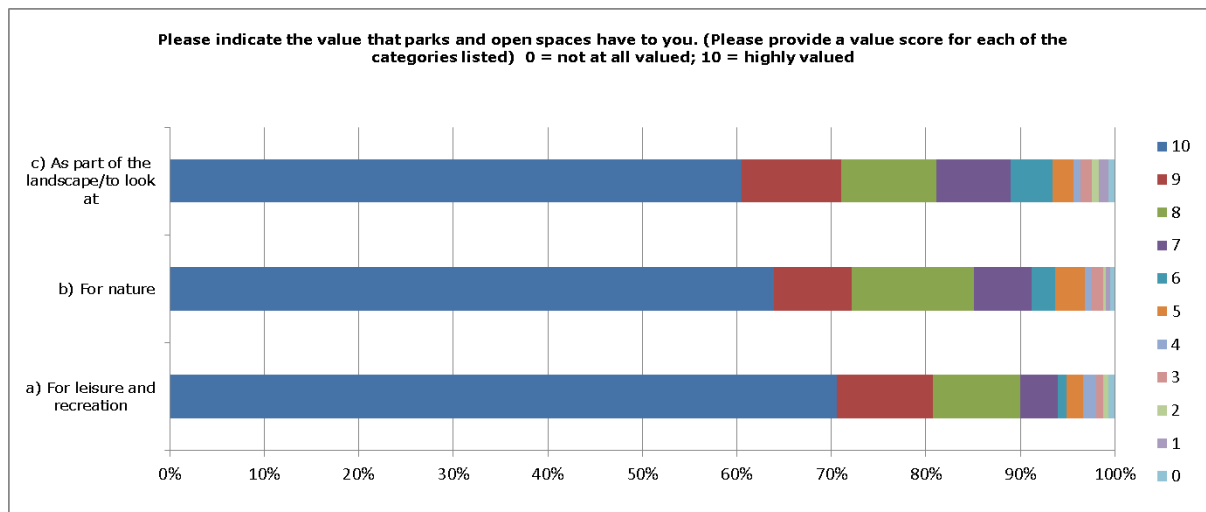
Key findings from public online survey

- 4.52 It must be noted that although 437 respondents started the survey, each question had a differing response rate (not everyone answered every question). Where percentages are presented, this represents the percentage of respondents who answered that particular question.

Parks and open spaces

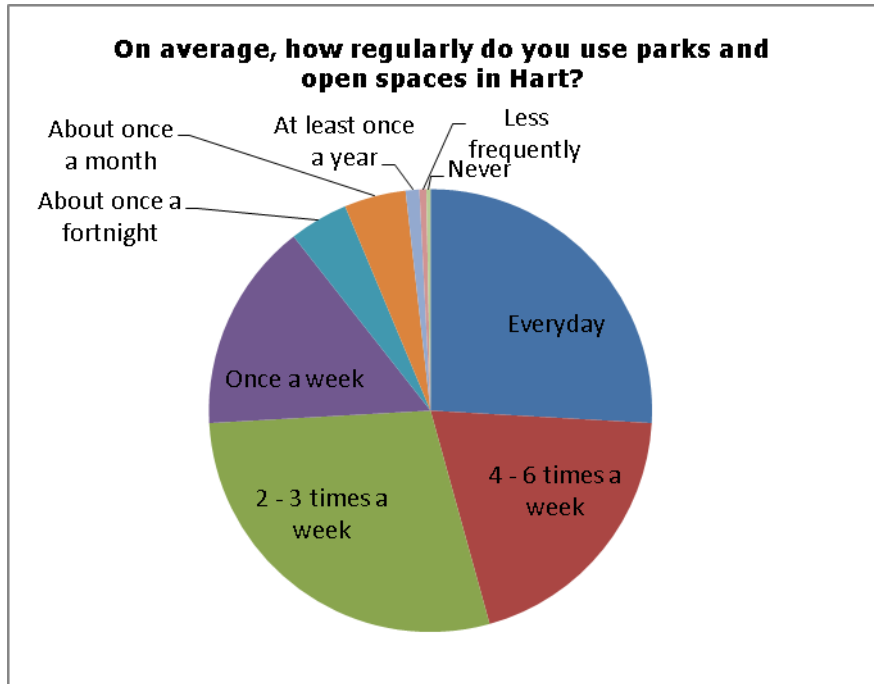
- 4.53 As shown in Table 4.2 people value parks and open spaces highly for all three categories (as part of the landscape / to look at, for nature and for leisure and recreation). Leisure and recreation was rated 8 and over (highly valued) by 90% of respondents, slightly higher than the other two categories. Being valued as part of the landscape/to look at had the highest number of respondents giving a rating of 5 and under (less valued) (7%).

Table 4.2: The value that parks and open spaces have to you



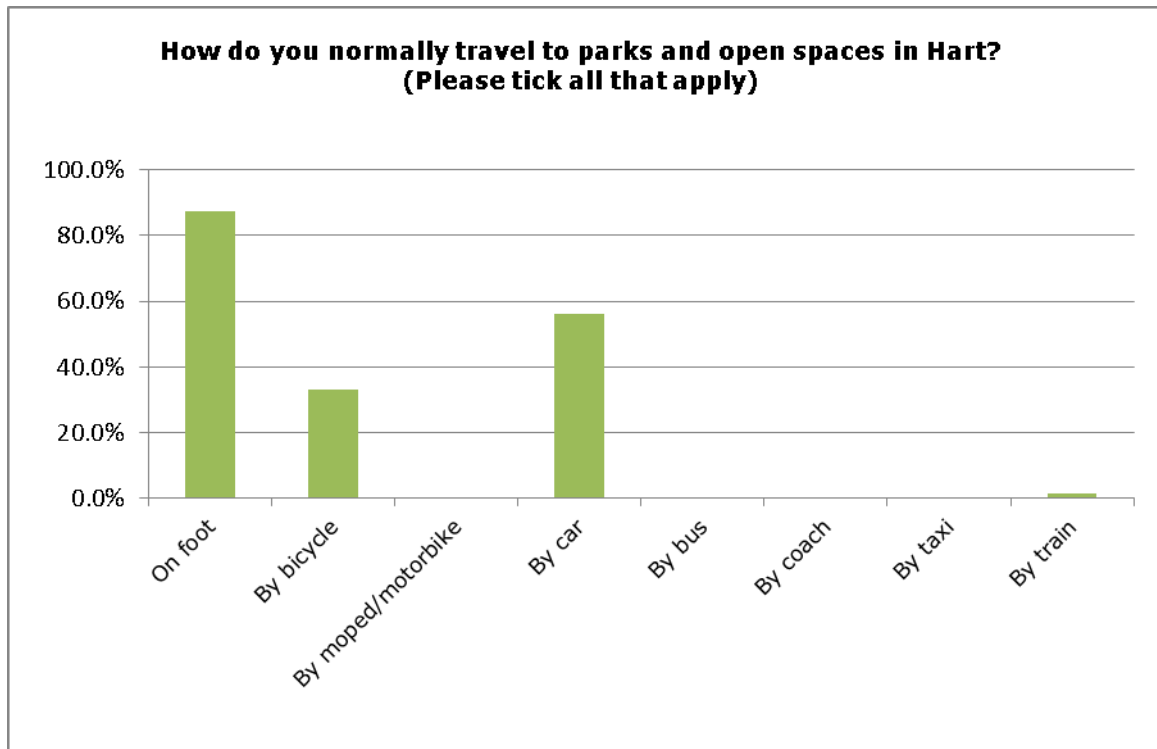
- 4.54 As shown in Table 4.3, a little over a quarter of respondents use parks and open spaces in Hart every day, with almost 90% using them at least once a week. Only one respondent never used parks and open spaces in Hart. 45% of respondents usually spend between one and two hours per visit, 28% spending between half an hour and one hour. A small number of respondents use parks and open spaces for less than half an hour (7%) or more than 4 hours (4%).
- 4.55 Parks and open spaces are visited at all times of the day with a peak on the weekends (73%) and lower usage over lunchtime (between 11am and 2pm). Almost half the respondents use parks in the evenings (after 5pm). Some respondents said that the time of their visits varies; with the weather, working hours and school holidays noted as influencing factors.

Table 4.3: Regularity of use



4.56 As shown in Table 4.4, the majority of respondents travel to parks and open spaces on foot (87%), 56% by car and a third by bicycle. Very few use public transport to travel to parks. A couple of respondents travel by horse.

Table 4.4: Travel to parks and open spaces

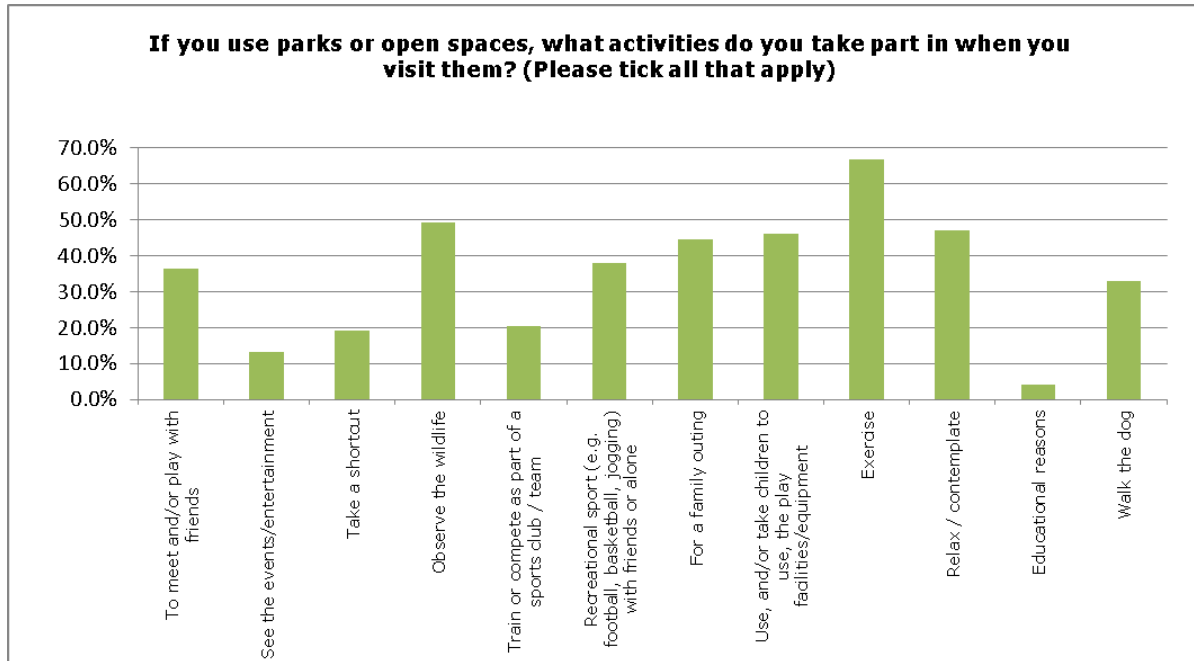


4.57 The majority of respondents visit parks and open spaces with their family (63%), partner (39%) or friends (37%). A large percentage (40%) goes alone or with pets (32%). Almost a quarter of respondents visit parks and open spaces with sports and social clubs – some naming archery and horse riding as their reason for visiting.

4.58 As shown in Table 4.5, respondents use parks and open spaces for a diverse range of activities. Two thirds use them for exercise, almost half to observe the wildlife and around 45% using them

for family outings, children’s play or to relax. Very few respondents use parks and open spaces for educational reasons (4%). Other activities listed include archery, horse riding, photography, cycling and orienteering.

Table 4.5: Activities within parks and open spaces



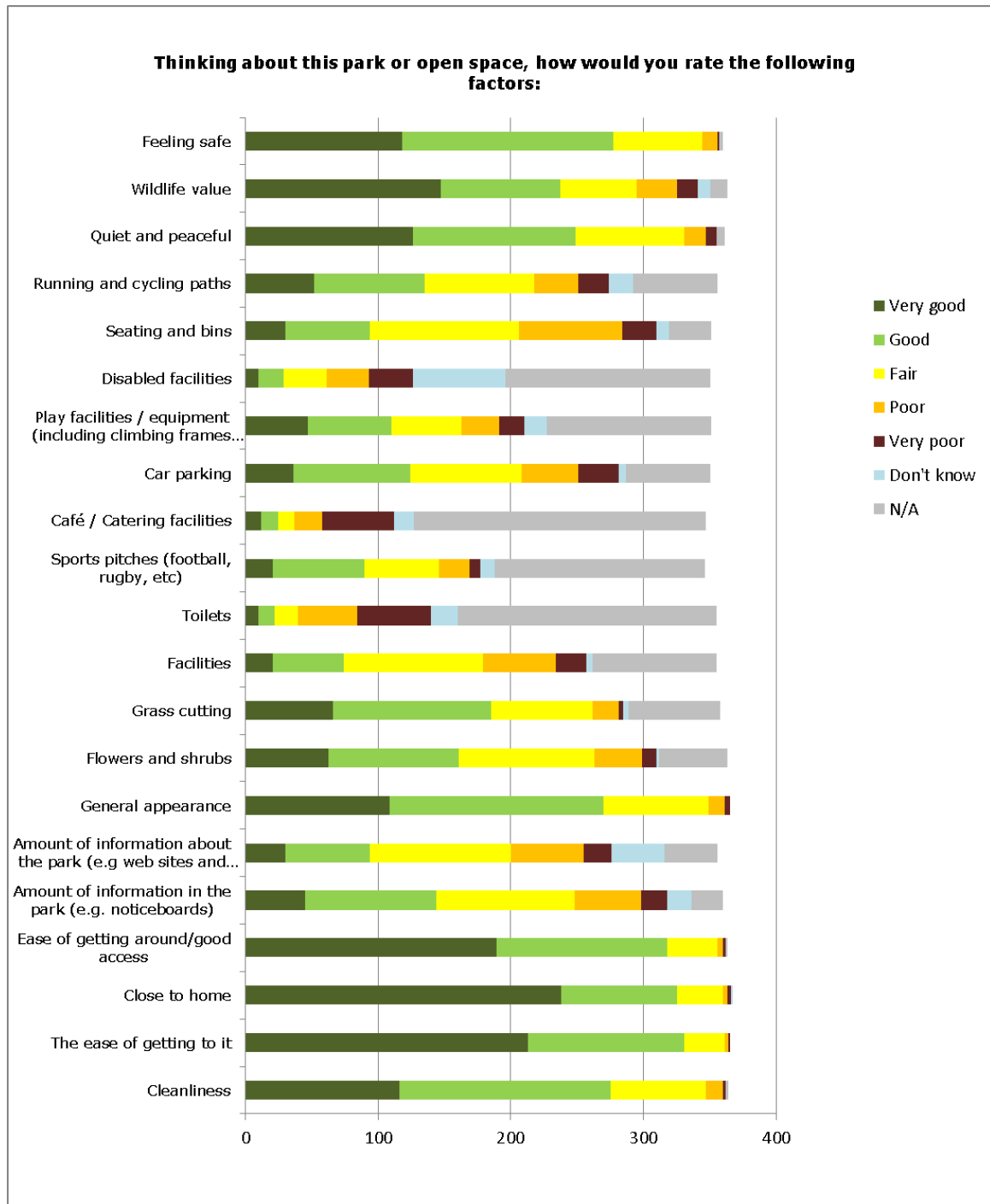
4.59 Less than 10% of respondents stated that they didn’t use parks and open spaces regularly (i.e. once a month or less). Of these respondents, the majority cited lack of time as the reason (19 respondents), with ten stating that the parks and open spaces do not meet their leisure and recreational needs and they go elsewhere for this purpose. A small number cited negative factors such as litter/dog fouling and general appearance as off putting factors.

4.60 Popular parks and open spaces included:

- Basingstoke canal
- Calthorpe Park
- Elvetham Heath
- Fleet Pond
- Hartletts Park
- Oakley Park
- Yateley Green/Common

4.61 Respondents were asked to rate the park or open space they use most frequently. The results of this are illustrated in Table 4.6. 76% of respondents rated the cleanliness of their park as good or very good. Cleanliness was very important to 79% of respondents. The majority also stated that their park was easy to get to, and around, and was close to home – all of these were important factors for respondents.

Table 4.6: Rating of factors for local parks and open spaces



4.62 Almost 20% of respondents thought that the amount of information within the park was poor or very poor. Almost half said that this was fairly important or fairly unimportant. A similar number of respondents (21%) felt that information about the park was poor or very poor. This was only considered very important by 9% of respondents, but fairly important by 35%.

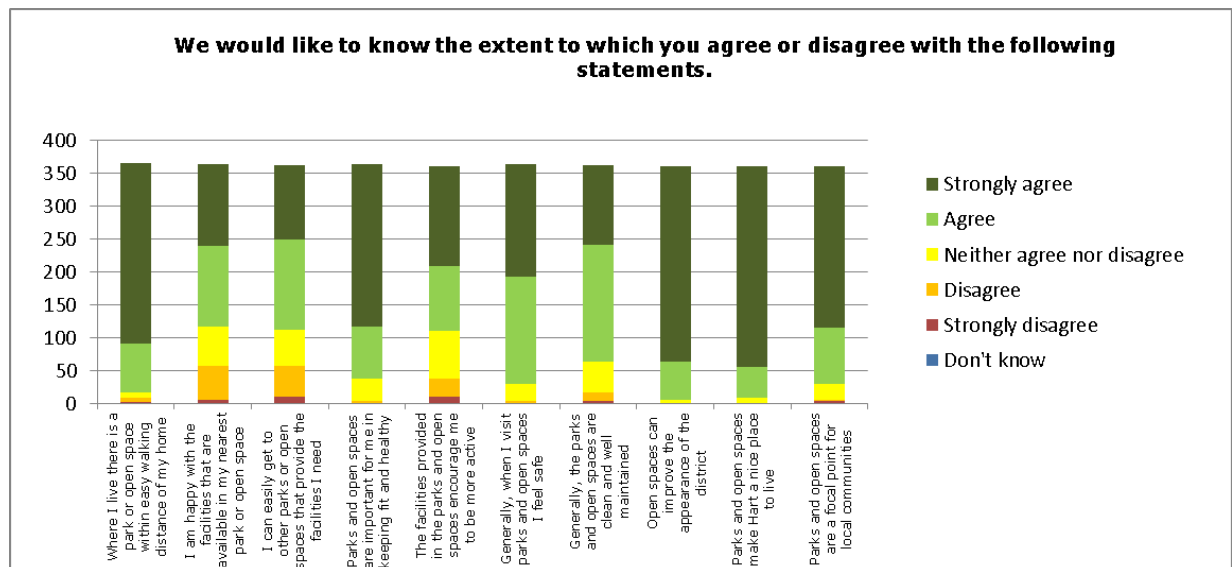
4.63 Almost three quarters of respondents felt that the general appearance of the park or open space was good or very good. 69% of respondents felt that general appearance is very important. Only 21% of respondents rated the facilities in their park as good or very good – the majority of respondents rating them as fair. 28% rated the toilet facilities as poor or very poor, with the majority saying this was not applicable (presumably as there are no facilities).

4.64 Almost a third rated the play facilities and equipment as good or very good, whereas 13% rated them as poor or very poor. Play facilities and equipment was considered fairly or very important to 65% of respondents. Only a quarter rated the seating and bin facilities as good or very good,

with a slightly higher percentage (30%) rating those as poor or very poor. 84% of respondents consider this an important or very important consideration.

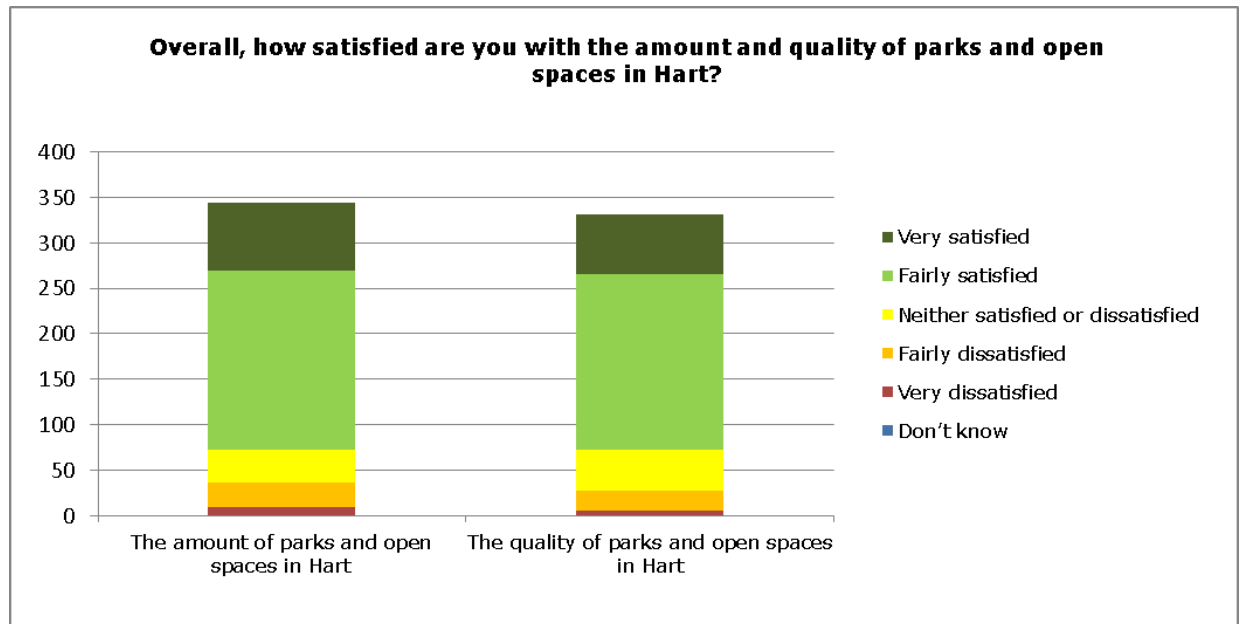
- 4.65 A little over two thirds (69%) consider their parks to be quiet and peaceful and 65% thought the wildlife value is good or very good. Over three quarters (77%) feel safe in the park that they use most frequently, and a feeling of safety was considered very important by 81% of respondents.
- 4.66 As illustrated in Table 4.7, when asked to state the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with various statements, 95% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that there is a park or open space within easy walking distance of their home. Over two thirds (68%) were also happy with the facilities in their nearest park or open space. 15% were unhappy with the facilities. A similar percentage of respondents (69%) felt that they can easily get to other parks or open spaces that provide the facilities they need, with 15% stating that they can't.
- 4.67 The majority of respondents (89%) feel that parks and open spaces are important in the pursuit of fitness and better health and 69% feel that the facilities provided in the parks and open spaces encourage them to be more active. The majority of respondents (92%) feel safe when visiting parks and open spaces and 82% consider the parks to be clean and well maintained.
- 4.68 Almost all respondents agree/strongly agree that open spaces can improve the appearance of the district and make Hart a nice place to live providing a focal point for local communities.

Table 4.7: Extent of agreement on statements



- 4.69 Sites noted as needing improvement include:
 - The Views
 - Calthorpe Park
 - Oakley Park
 - Basingbourne Park
- 4.70 Overall, 79% of respondents feel fairly or very satisfied with the quantity of parks and open spaces in Hart – as illustrated in Table 4.8. A similar percentage (78%) is fairly or very satisfied with the quality. Two thirds of respondents feel that more parks and open spaces are required in Hart versus a third who feel that provision is adequate – although almost a quarter of those who responded to the questionnaire overall did not answer this question.

Table 4.8: Extent of satisfaction with quantity and quality of open spaces and parks in Hart



4.71 Where respondents felt that more open spaces are needed, 61% would like green corridors, 54% would like more natural and semi-natural green space and 51% would like provision for children and young people. Allotments (21%) and civic spaces (24%) were the least favoured form of new provision.

4.72 A little over two thirds of respondents think that existing parks and open spaces need improving, and of these, the most common suggestion (62%) was for increased facilities that encourage people to be more active. The second most popular improvement was to improve appearance and cleanliness (52%) followed by the provision of more facilities for children and young people (46%). Provision of public art and improved safety and security were the least popular suggestions.

Allotments

4.73 5.8% of respondents use an allotment in Hart (21 responses). A further 8 respondents are currently on a waiting list for an allotment. 13% of respondents stated that they would be interested in managing a plot. Of those who chose to answer the question, 68% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the current waiting times for allotments. 34% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. One respondent stated that they had been on a waiting list for 24 years.

4.74 When prompted to choose from a list of potential improvements, the most common suggestions were improvements to paths within the sites (43%) and improvements to on-site parking (45%). Provision of water and power (37.5%), locker storage areas (35%) and more opportunities to get involved in the management of allotments (33%) were also popular choices.

4.75 When unprompted, suggested improvements included:

- More provision in Fleet
- Making them more welcoming and providing lessons on how to get the most out of a plot
- Provision of toilets
- Improvements to access points to make them safer

Equipped play areas

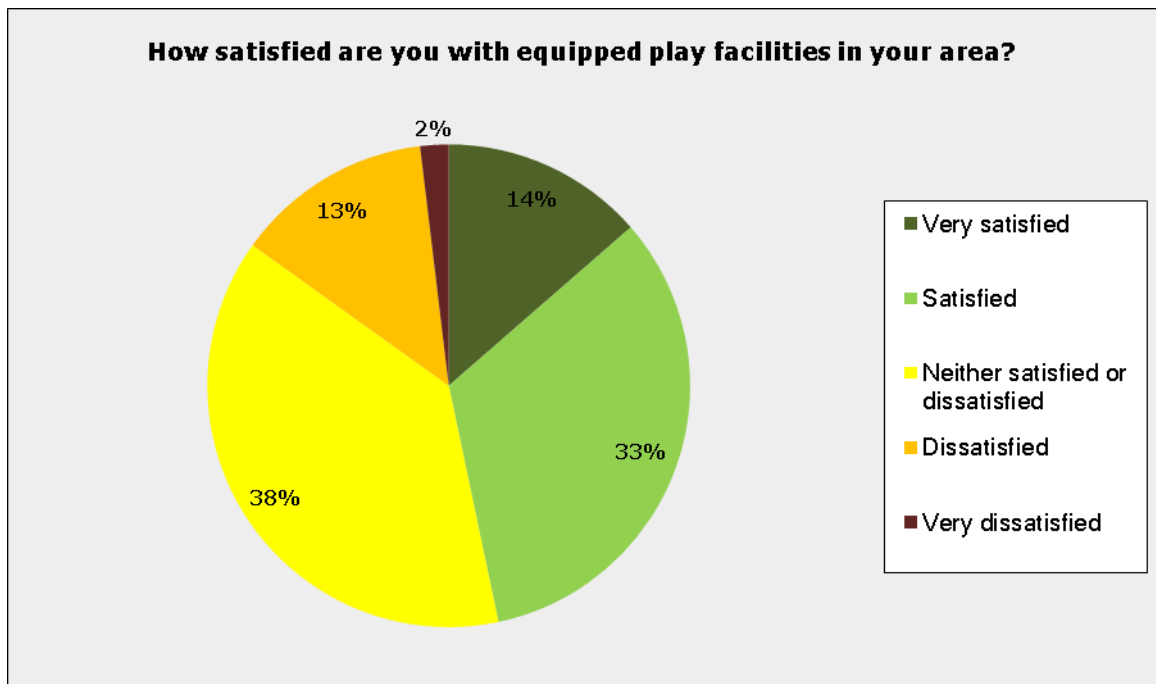
4.76 Just under half of respondents use equipped play facilities in Hart (46%). The most popular play areas included:

- Ancells Park

- Oakley Park
- Yateley Green
- Hartletts Park
- Basingbourne Park

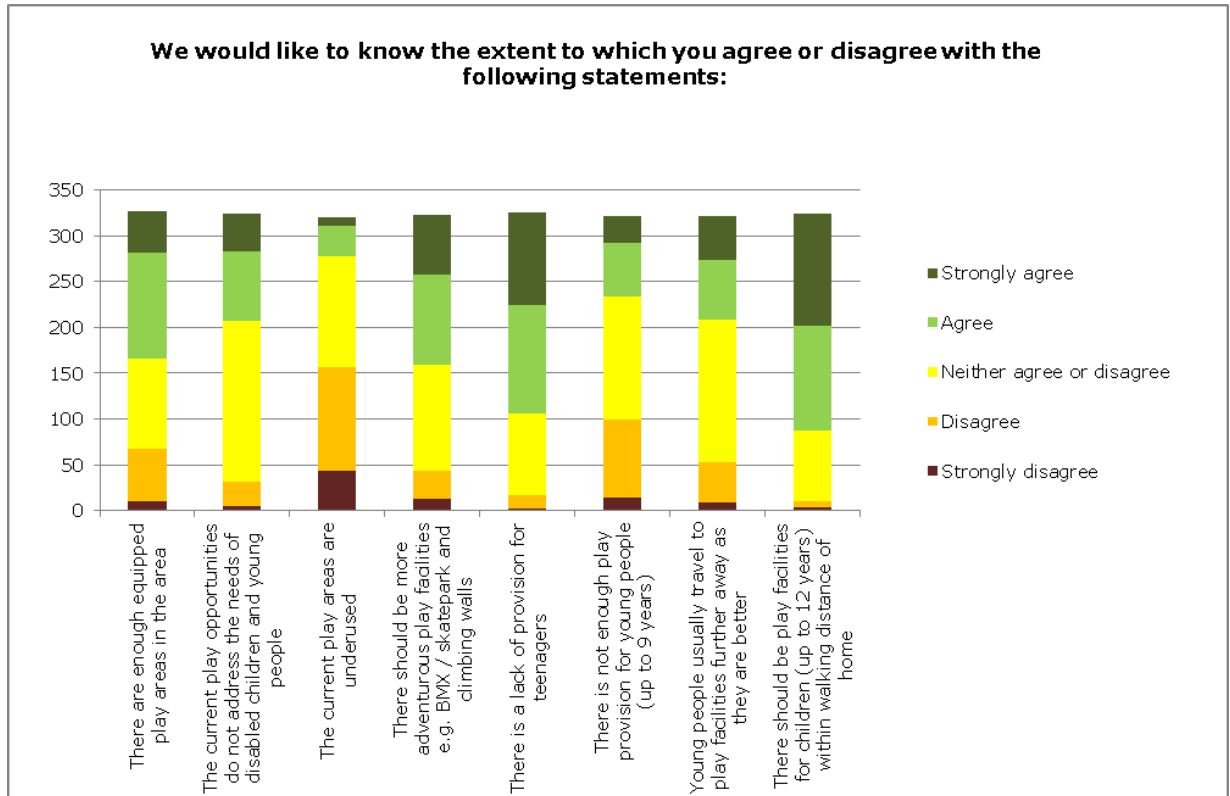
4.77 Most respondents use the facilities between two and three times a week, with 65% using them once a week or more. In terms of satisfaction with equipped play facilities, 47% were satisfied or very satisfied. 15% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied; with a large proportion neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (38%) – as shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9: Extent of satisfaction with equipped play facilities



4.78 As shown in Table 4.10, when asked the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with various statements about play provision in Hart, 73% agreed or strongly agreed that there should be play facilities for children within walking distance of home. 67% agreed or strongly agreed that there is a lack of provision for teenagers. Almost half of respondents felt that there are enough equipped play areas with a large proportion neither agreeing nor disagreeing (21%). Only 13% felt that current play areas are underused.

Table 4.10: Extent of satisfaction with equipped play facilities



4.79 When given a choice of potential improvements to play areas, improving the condition of existing equipment was the most popular choice (59%). New equipment and cleanliness were also popular choices. Popular comments received on improvements to play provision included:

- Need to increase facilities for teenagers
- Provide multi-age equipment
- Include more adventurous play elements such as BMX, rock climbing and skate parks
- Provide areas of water play and sand

5 Existing open space provision

- 5.1 This section of the report presents the results of the audit of existing open spaces within the district of Hart. The audit was undertaken using guidance set out in PPG17 Companion Guidance (PPG17 CG) and the Green Flag Award criteria. Although this guidance has now been replaced by National Planning Policy Guidance, PPG17 CG is still widely acknowledged as the most robust approach to the assessment of open space provision.
- 5.2 The completed audit forms were entered into an Access Database, which is available on request.
- 5.3 The purpose of the audit is to identify the current provision, ascribe a typology and assess the quantity, accessibility, quality and value of existing open space. This is an essential process in the identification of worst and best spaces and facilities, current quantity of provision in an area, and to ensure sufficient provision of accessible, high quality open space exists for the current population and inform planning for future population needs.

Typologies

- 5.4 The PPG17 CG sets out a typology of provision into which open space can be categorised, as set out in Table 5.1. For the purpose of this assessment, open space, whilst in some instances multi-functional, has been categorised by 'primary purpose' to ensure it is counted only once during the audit process. This follows recommendations set out in PPG17 CG.
- 5.5 The purpose of typologies is to encourage assessment of the need for all the different types of open space, so that spaces can be located, designed and subsequently managed to accommodate primary use.

Quantity of Provision

- 5.6 Quantity is measured in terms of the amount of provision available per number of the population.

Accessibility of Provision

- 5.7 Accessibility relates to the location, use and the methods currently available to safely access the open space (e.g. car, bicycle, on foot, public transport). There may be open spaces, which though inaccessible, contribute to the appearance, environmental quality, biodiversity and amenity of an area. Accessibility also includes for access for all and ties into wider strategies relating to sustainable transport, green infrastructure and community safety.

Quality and Value of Provision

- 5.8 Quality relates to the range of features or facilities on the site, their basic characteristics, and their condition. As stated in PPG17 CG 'Quality depends on two things, the needs and expectations of users (all social and cultural groups, all abilities, including wildlife), and design management and maintenance'. There is a requirement for open space to be fit for purpose and sustained by good management and maintenance.
- 5.9 Value relates not to monetary value but to the value of a site to people and the environment (eg bio-diversity, conservation); to its cultural and heritage value; and to its strategic value.
- 5.10 It should be noted that quality and value are fundamentally different and can be completely unrelated. As stated in PPG17 CG 'For example, a high quality facility or open space may be located where it is inaccessible and therefore of little value; while if a run-down or derelict facility is the only one in an area it may be immensely valuable'.
- 5.11 The above standards of quantity, accessibility, quality and value will be elaborated upon in Chapter 7 Setting Future Provision Standards, of this document.

Management and Ownership

Introduction

- 5.12 To gain an understanding of how open space in Hart currently functions it is important to understand current ownership and management of open space. The open space audit includes only sites owned and managed by the following bodies: Hart District Council, Parish and Town councils, Hampshire County Council, and Basingstoke Canal Authority. This covers all open spaces which are primarily managed to provide public access and use.
- 5.13 However, land owned by other individuals/ organisations will be mentioned in this chapter, to gain an understanding of the quantity of open space managed by others (e.g. MOD, Forestry Commission etc.) and to demonstrate the importance of this provision in providing access to open space in Hart.

Hart District Council

- 5.14 Hart District Council is responsible for managing some green spaces in the district, under their ownership, including road side verges, mainly in the form of general maintenance grass cutting, shrub pruning, hedge cutting and weed control. This is carried out by the Hart Grounds Maintenance team, with grass cutting of highway verges, under contract for Hampshire County Council.
- 5.15 Hart District Council also manages open spaces, nature reserves and wildlife areas through the Countryside Services Team. The team mainly manage Fleet Pond, Elvetham Heath Nature Reserve, Hartley Wintney Commons, Hazeley Heath in Hartley Wintney, Odiham Common, Royal Oak Valley and Ashwells Copse amongst others.

Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA)

- 5.16 The SPA is a network of heathland sites which are designated under the European Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive, which provides a habitat for internationally important bird species of woodlark, nightjar and Dartford warbler. There are 2,500 hectares of the SPA located within Hart, covering Hazeley Heaths, Bramshill, Castel Bottom to Yateley and Hawley Commons, and parts of Bourley and Long Valley, and Eelmoor Marsh.
- 5.17 Hart District Council together with surrounding local authorities, the former South East England Partnership Board, Natural England and other bodies established the Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership (JSP). The JSP has responsibility for protecting and avoiding significant adverse effects on the SPA, whilst enabling the delivery of housing in the vicinity.

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs)

- 5.18 Hart District Council is responsible for ensuring the provision of SANGs. The SANG approach was established as part of the avoidance measures for the protection of Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) from impacts of development. SANGs perform this function by providing areas of open space designed to attract new residents away from the SPA.
- 5.19 The broad principles of SANG provision are as follows:
- SANG should be provided on the basis of at least 8ha per 1000 population;
 - SANG should be of at least 2ha in size, and located within a wider open space or network of spaces;
 - SANG provision should be funded by developer contributions or alternatively, by developers for individual developments;
 - SANG should be provided on new or existing public open space, taking into account the availability of land and its potential for improvement;
 - Developments of 10 or more net new dwellings can only contribute towards a SANG if they are located within the SANG's catchment; and
 - Developments of less than 10 dwellings net do not need to be within the catchment of a SANG provided that there is available SANG capacity.

5.20 Along with the SANG there is also the Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMM) project which will provide a strategic visitor management and monitoring service across the SPA, funded by a Section 106 tariff per net additional dwelling collected by Hart District and associate authorities. This overall aim of the SAMM project is to 'protect the SPA from new recreational pressures arising from new housing development through education and the diversion of users to alternative SANG sites'.¹

5.21 SANGS in Hart include:

- Edenbrook Country Park
- Hawley Meadows and Blackwater Park
- Crookham Park/ Queen Elizabeth Barracks
- Queen Elizabeth Fields, Dilly Lane
- Swan Lakes Park, Clarks Farm

5.22 Further SANGS are proposed at Poulter's Meadow, Whitewater Meadows and at Hawley Park (subject to Section 106 agreement). All sites will be managed by Hart District Council. It is hoped that Bassetts Meads will perform as a SANG in due course.

Parish and Town Councils

5.23 The 21 parishes within Hart have varying responsibilities for maintaining and managing smaller open spaces within the district including amenity green spaces, play areas and sport pitches.

Hampshire County Council

5.24 Hampshire County Council is responsible for the management of the public rights of way network throughout Hampshire. The County Council is also responsible for the management of open spaces at:

- Yateley Country Park
- Castle Bottom National Nature Reserve

5.25 Both sites form part of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA. Hampshire County Council also manages Zebon Copse.

RSPB

5.26 The RSPB currently manage Hazeley Heath in Mattingley taking on management responsibility from Hart District Council. Hazeley Heath is a nature reserve located near to Hartley Wintney and forms part of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA and is also designated as a SSSI.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

5.27 The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is responsible for the management of a number of open spaces in Hart. These include:

- Ancells Farm
- Hook common and Bartley Heath
- Warnborough Greens
- Whitehouse meadow

Basingstoke Canal Authority (BCA) and Basingstoke Canal Society

5.28 The Basingstoke canal runs for 32 miles, from Greywell Village in Hampshire to Woodham in Surrey. The canal runs through the centre of Hart district entering the district at Farnborough in the East, running West to the Greywell Tunnel and onward to Basingstoke, passing Fleet, Crookham Village, Odiham and North Warnborough.

¹ Interim Avoidance Strategy for the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area; November 2010

- 5.29 The Basingstoke Canal is jointly owned by Surrey County Council and Hampshire County Council (HCC), with the BCA set up in 1992 to manage the Canal as a maintaining agent on behalf of the two County Councils. The BCA is funded by HCC and there is a service level agreement between the BCA and the partnership of local authorities.
- 5.30 The partnership also comprises six local funding boroughs and district councils; these are Hart, Rushmoor, Guildford, Surrey Heath, Woking, and Runnymede. Hart is further comprised of local Parishes and Fleet Town Council, who contribute revenue funding to maintaining the canal.
- 5.31 The BCA work to create a 'thriving natural environment for wildlife and public enjoyment and a vibrant recreation and heritage resource. Central to the vision is the creation of an accessible waterway, serving the public', thorough working to the following:
- Strategic development framework;
 - Conservation management plan;
 - Canal visitor centre and recreational development plan;
 - Service plan; and
 - Asset management plan.
- 5.32 The Basingstoke Canal Society also promotes and campaigns to raise funds for maintenance and improvement works undertaken by Society voluntary work parties, and secure a sustainable future for the Canal.

Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust (BVCT) and Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership (BVCP)

- 5.33 The Blackwater Valley Strategy Area open space runs approximately 30 km, from the source of the River Blackwater near Aldershot in the South, northwards to Swallowfield where the river joins the River Whitewater and then the River Loddon. The valley provides an important green corridor for local residents of surrounding urban areas, contains the SSSI's of the Blackwater Valley and Basingstoke Canal, three nature reserves and areas of recognised ecological importance.
- 5.34 The Valley strategy area straddles the Hart border from north of Farnborough to its joining with the River Whitewater, to the west of Eversley.
- 5.35 The BVCT is a registered charity working for the conservation, protection and improvement of the Blackwater Valley. Working closely with the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership (BVCP), local authorities and local groups, the BVCT works to conserve, protect and improve and enhance the environment for both people and wildlife throughout by:
- Promoting public access to the countryside by means of a programme of events, including walks and talks;
 - Identifying improvement projects and raising funds to progress them; and
 - Encouraging volunteers to assist with projects.
- 5.36 The Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership (BVCP) is responsible for co-ordinating work in the Valley. The role of the BVCP is to deliver an expert, experienced and centralised resource to:
- Co-ordinate projects and actions of all involved parties and stakeholders in the Blackwater Valley, for mutual benefit;
 - Increase sustainable usage of the Blackwater Valley, especially for informal outdoor recreation; and
 - Ensure wildlife and landscape protection.
- 5.37 The BVCP is also active in the local planning process and has a role in commenting on local plans and individual planning applications to ensure the Blackwater Valley remains a non-fragmented, continuous green space attractive to wildlife and the community.
- 5.38 The Blackwater Valley Countryside Strategy 2011-2015, prepared by the BVCP, contains general policy guidelines for conservation and recreation and provides a framework for action in the Valley.

- 5.39 The core funding for the BVCP work is provided by a partnership of the local authorities which border the River Blackwater.
- 5.40 Hart District Council is one of 13 local authority funding partners, which also includes Rushmoor Borough Council, Farnham Town Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and Hampshire County Council. Funding for special projects can also be obtained from a variety of sources such as the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- 5.41 Work to improve the Valley has also been supported by local landowners, voluntary organisations and individual community volunteers.

Hart Allotment Association (HAA)

- 5.42 HAA are an organisation based in Hart, committed to increasing the provision of allotments to the district population, in areas where allotments are not currently available. HAA work with local communities and Hart District Council.
- 5.43 In addition to the HAA there are local allotment associations located in Church Crookham and Hook. These associations are responsible for the management and administration of allotments within these parishes.

Other Land Managers

- 5.44 There are also other land managers such as the Forestry Commission (Bramshill Plantation) and the Ministry of Defence. These organisations are responsible for the management of large tracts of land where access is permitted. These sites are currently very popular for walking (with and without dogs), horse riding and mountain biking. However public access could be prevented at any time.
- 5.45 There is a particular issue in Hart at the moment with the MOD land; the closure of British barracks in Germany has resulted in troops returning to the area. As a result, the MOD has started closing public car parks on their land and deterring access so that these sites can be used for training purposes. This could have a significant impact on the use of other open spaces in the district, particularly putting pressure on other sensitive landscapes (e.g. SPA sites).
- 5.46 There are also a number of historic parkland estates in the area where access is controlled. Some of these sites are managed as visitor destinations (e.g. National Trust owned West Green Garden) but run for other commercial activities such as hotels and conference centres.
- 5.47 The northern part of the district contains a number of open spaces which provide additional recreation opportunities including children’s play and angling e.g. Wellington Country Park and Trilakes Country Park. However access to the park is restricted and there is an admission charge for visitors.

Classification by Type

Open Space Typologies

- 5.48 The open space categories, by primary purpose, are set out Table 5.1 below, and in Figure 5-1, based upon the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce (UGSTF) typologies.

Table 5.1 Open Space Typologies

	Type of Open Space	Primary Purpose
	Parks and Gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events
	Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education awareness. Such spaces also provide opportunities for active recreation including cycling and horse riding.
	Green Corridor	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration

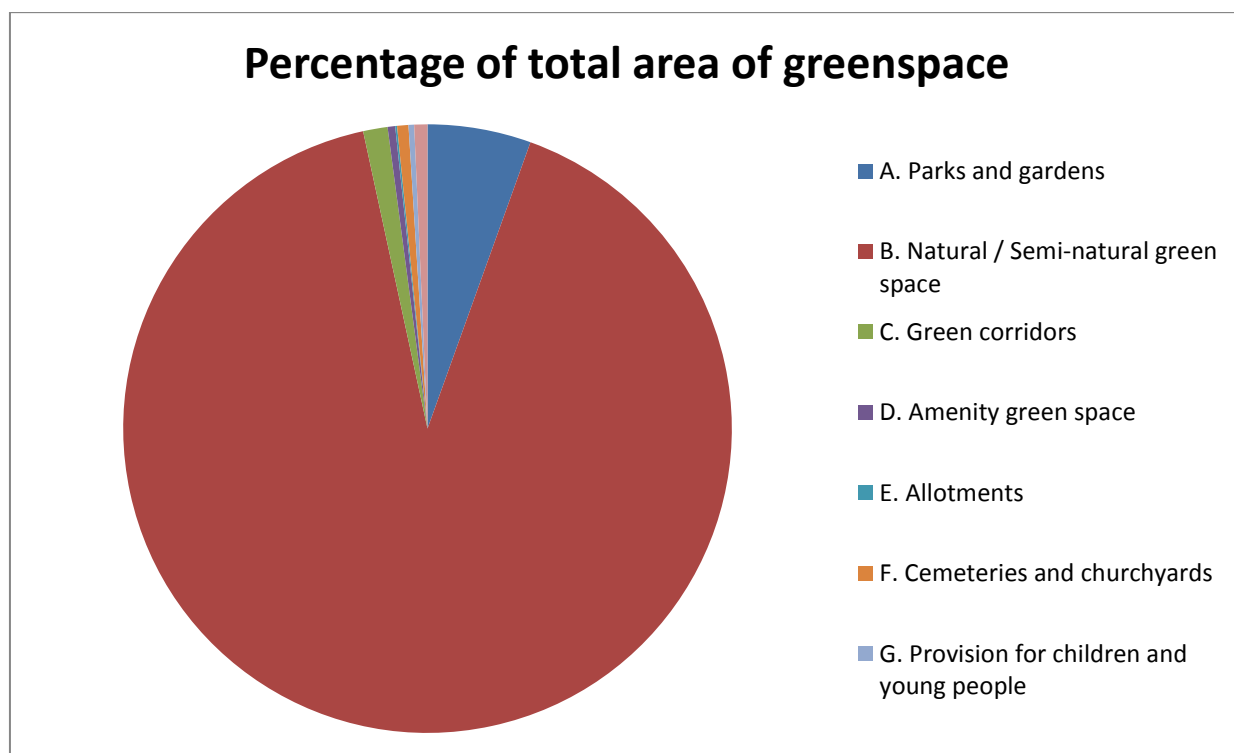
	Type of Open Space	Primary Purpose
Greenspaces	Amenity Greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work
	Allotments	Opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion
	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity
	Provision for Children and Young People	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters
	Roadside Verges	Act as a buffer to local transport routes of industry, provide nature conservation and contribute to local character
	Outdoor Sport Facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls, netball, or countryside and water sports
Civic Spaces	Civic Space	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.

5.49 Table 5.2 and Table 5.3 record the quantity of publicly accessible open space within each typology. By far the greatest quantity of open space in the district falls within the Natural/ Semi-natural green space with the 57 open spaces accounting for over 90% of total area of greenspace.

Table 5.2 Quantity of Publicly Accessible Open Space Recorded in Hart

Type	Number of sites	Total area (ha)	Percentage of total area of greenspace
A. Parks and gardens	29	78.18	4.62%
B. Natural / Semi-natural green space	55	1,543.88	91.20%
C. Green corridors	4	30.88	1.82%
D. Amenity green space	9	3.81	0.23%
E. Allotments	8	4.93	0.29%
F. Cemeteries and churchyards	22	11.37	0.67%
G. Provision for children and young people	53	5.02	0.30%
H. Roadside verges	9	14.80	0.87%
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Part of a separate playing pitch strategy	Part of a separate playing pitch strategy	-
Civic Space	0	0	0
Number of Sites	189	1,692.88	100%

Table 5.3: Percentage of total area of greenspace in Hart



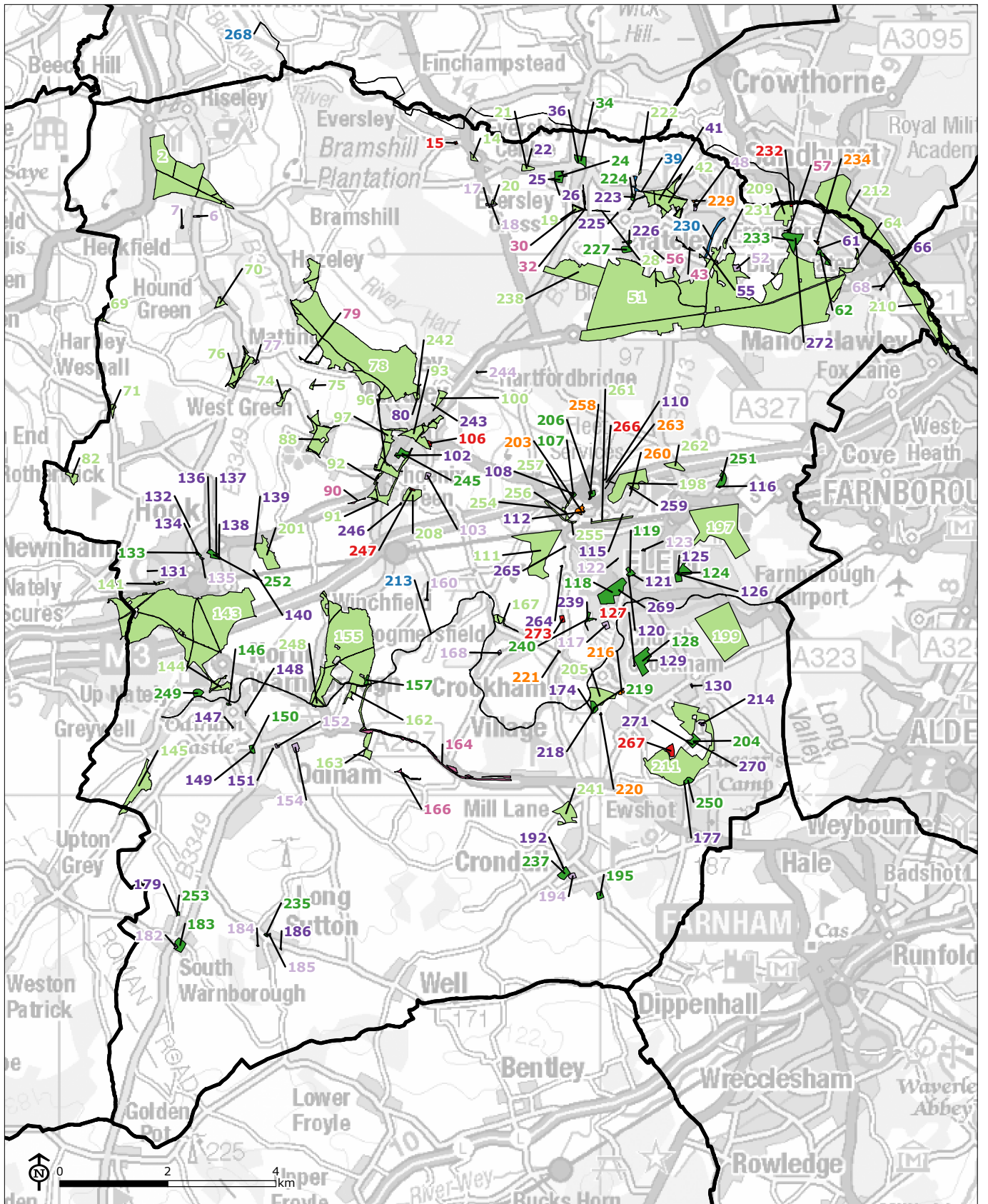
6 Developing a hierarchy

- 6.1 To develop a framework for analysis of the sites, a detailed hierarchy was developed, for the purpose of this assessment, using a combination of the size of the sites and the typologies set out in Section 5 of this document. The hierarchy structure has been developed with reference to existing example standards, and is set out in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1: Hierarchy for Analysis

Type	Regional Provision	District Provision	Local Provision		Small Local Provision
A. Parks and Gardens	N/A	N/A	A2. Local Parks and Gardens		A3. Small Local Parks and Gardens
Thresholds (ha)	60.1>	20.1-60	2.1-20		0.1-2
B. Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	B1. Regional Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	B2. District Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	B3. Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace		B4. Small Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace
Thresholds (ha)	90.1-500	12.1-90	2.1-12		0.4-2
C. Green Corridors	Further division of Green Corridors into a hierarchy was not deemed appropriate, for the purposes of this assessment.				
Thresholds (ha)	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
D. Amenity Greenspace	Further division of Amenity Greenspace into a hierarchy was not deemed appropriate, for the purposes of this assessment, as this is predominantly a local provision.				
Thresholds (ha)	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
E. Allotments	Further division of Allotments into a hierarchy was not deemed appropriate, for the purposes of this assessment, as this is predominantly a local provision.				
Thresholds (ha)	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
F. Cemeteries and Churchyards	Further division of Cemeteries and Churchyards into a hierarchy was not deemed appropriate, for the purposes of this assessment, as this is predominantly a district provision.				
Thresholds (ha)	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
G. Provision for Children and Young People*			NEAP	LEAP	LAP
Thresholds (ha)			0.1>	0.09-0.04	0.01-0.039
H. Roadside Verges	Further division of Roadside Verges into a hierarchy was not deemed appropriate, for the purposes of this assessment, as this is predominantly a local provision, provided where opportunity arises.				
Thresholds (ha)	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
I. Outdoor Sports Facilities	Part of a separate playing pitch strategy for Hart District.				
J. Civic Space	No civic space has been identified within Hart District.				
* Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play; Fields in Trust; 2006.					

- 6.2 Each of these categories is examined in greater detail below, with a summary of the quantity, and key characteristics of provision, at each level of hierarchy, also provided.



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| District boundary | D. Amenity green space |
| Open space typology | E. Allotments |
| A. Parks and gardens | F. Cemeteries and churchyards |
| B. Natural / Semi-natural green space | G. Provision for children and young people |
| C. Green corridors | H. Roadside verges |

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 5-1
All Open Space by Type

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

A. Parks and Gardens

A2. Local Parks and Gardens

- 6.3 Size: 2.1-20 hectares.
- Quantity: 16 sites.
- Key Characteristics:
- Serves the needs of the local community and is predominantly visited by district residents;
 - Contributes to the character of the surrounding area and may be recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation;
 - Provides a welcoming place to all park users with boundaries well defined and in good condition;
 - Provides good access enabling all sectors of the community to use and enjoy the open space;
 - Active and passive recreation, mostly contain play equipment (where appropriate to the character of the site) of at least LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play) standard, providing for at least two age groups, may contain sporting provision;
 - Range of habitats which contribute to local biodiversity and may be acknowledged SINC designation;
 - Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins and entrance signs. May contain public toilets and community buildings; and
 - Accessible to the local community.
- Summary:
- This type of provision therefore currently provides the greatest quantity of parks and gardens within the district. These sites generally provide opportunities for play and active recreation and often contain a pavilion, car parking and sports pitches.
- Most of the sites are formed of large areas of short amenity grassland, often interspersed with veteran trees and may contain low hedgerows. The sites may also contain features of biodiversity value including small woodland compartments and ponds. However, there are few areas of ornamental planting or wildflower meadows.

A3. Small Local Parks and Gardens

- 6.4 Size: 0.1-2 hectares.
- Quantity: 13 sites.
- Key Characteristics:
- Serves the needs of the local community and predominantly visited by district residents;
 - Contributes to the character of the surrounding area and may be recognised through inclusion in Conservation Area designation;
 - Provides a welcoming place to all park users with entrances and boundaries well defined and in good condition;
 - Provides good access enabling all sectors of the community to use and enjoy the open space;
 - Active and passive recreation, mostly contain play equipment (where appropriate to the character of the site) of at least

LAP (Local Area for Play) standard (although on a smaller scale to the district and local parks and gardens), may contain sporting provision;

- Range of habitats which contribute to local biodiversity and may be acknowledged SINC designation;
- Good provision of basic amenities including seating, litter bins and entrance signs; and
- Accessible to the local community.

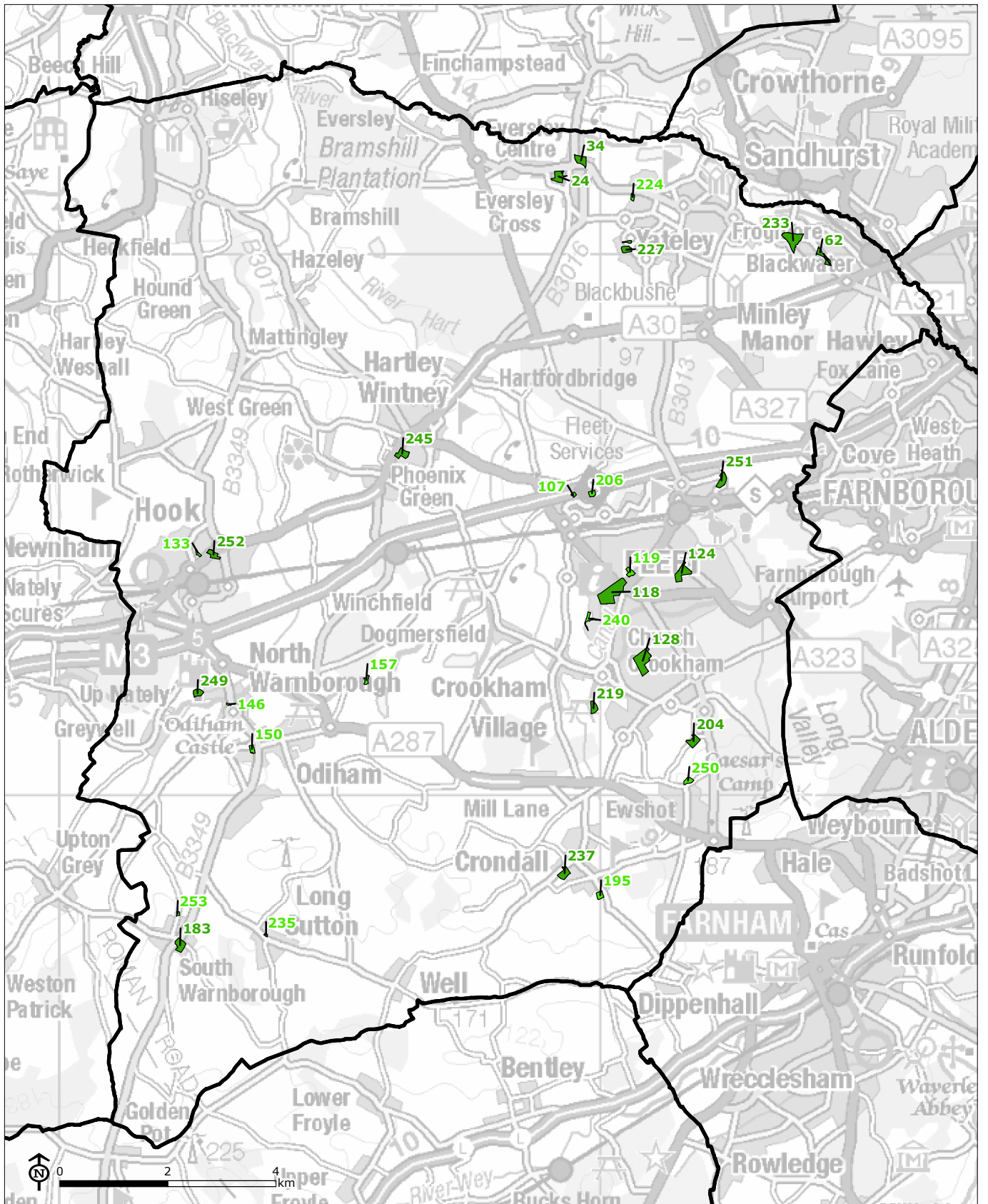
Summary:

This type of provision therefore currently provides the least quantity of parks and gardens within the district. These sites often provide a range of facilities for use by local residents, including space for informal play and possibly some provision for active recreation such as a junior football pitch or goal posts. Sites generally contain site furniture such as litter bins and seating.

6.5 Table 6.2 summarises the Parks and Gardens within the district, divided into the hierarchy set out above in Table 6.1. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites within each level of the hierarchy is also shown.

Table 6.2: Parks and Gardens by Hierarchy

	A2. Local Parks and	A3. Small Local Parks and Gardens
Size (ha)	2.1-20	0.1-2
Total number of sites (ha)	16	13
Total area of sites (ha)	66.21	11.96



□ District boundary

A. Parks and gardens

- A2. Local parks and gardens
- A3. Small local parks and gardens

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

**Figure 6-1
Type A. Parks and Gardens
by Hierarchy Level**

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

B. Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace

B1. Regional Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace

- 6.6 Size: 90.1-500 hectares.
- Quantity: 14 sites.
- Key Characteristics:
- Attracts visitors from throughout the region and within the district;
 - Provides a broad range of habitats;
 - Contains marked walking routes; and
 - Sufficient facilities to enable long stay e.g. car park and litter bins.
- Summary: This type of provision therefore currently provides the greatest quantity of natural and semi-natural greenspace within the district.
- Fleet Pond SSSI and Nature Reserve managed by Hart District Council Countryside Ranger Service and Fleet Pond Society, Elvetham Heath Local Nature Reserve managed by Hart District Council Countryside Ranger Service.

B2. District Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace

- 6.7 Size: 12.1-90 hectares.
- Quantity: 4 sites.
- Key Characteristics:
- Attracts visitors from both outside and inside the district;
 - Provides a broad range of habitats;
 - Contains marked walking routes; and
 - Sufficient facilities to enable long stay e.g. car park and litter bins.
- Summary: This type of provision therefore currently provides the second greatest quantity of natural and semi-natural greenspace within the district.

B3. Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace

- 6.8 Size: 2.1-12 hectares.
- Quantity: 17 sites.
- Key Characteristics:
- Serves local needs and predominantly visited by local residents;
 - Provides a range of habitats;
 - Provides an area for informal recreation; and
 - Basic amenities include seating, litter bins and entrance signage.
- Summary: This type of provision therefore currently provides the third greatest quantity of natural and semi-natural greenspace within the district.

B4. Small Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace

- 6.9 Size: 0.4-2 hectares.

Quantity: 20 sites.

Key Characteristics:

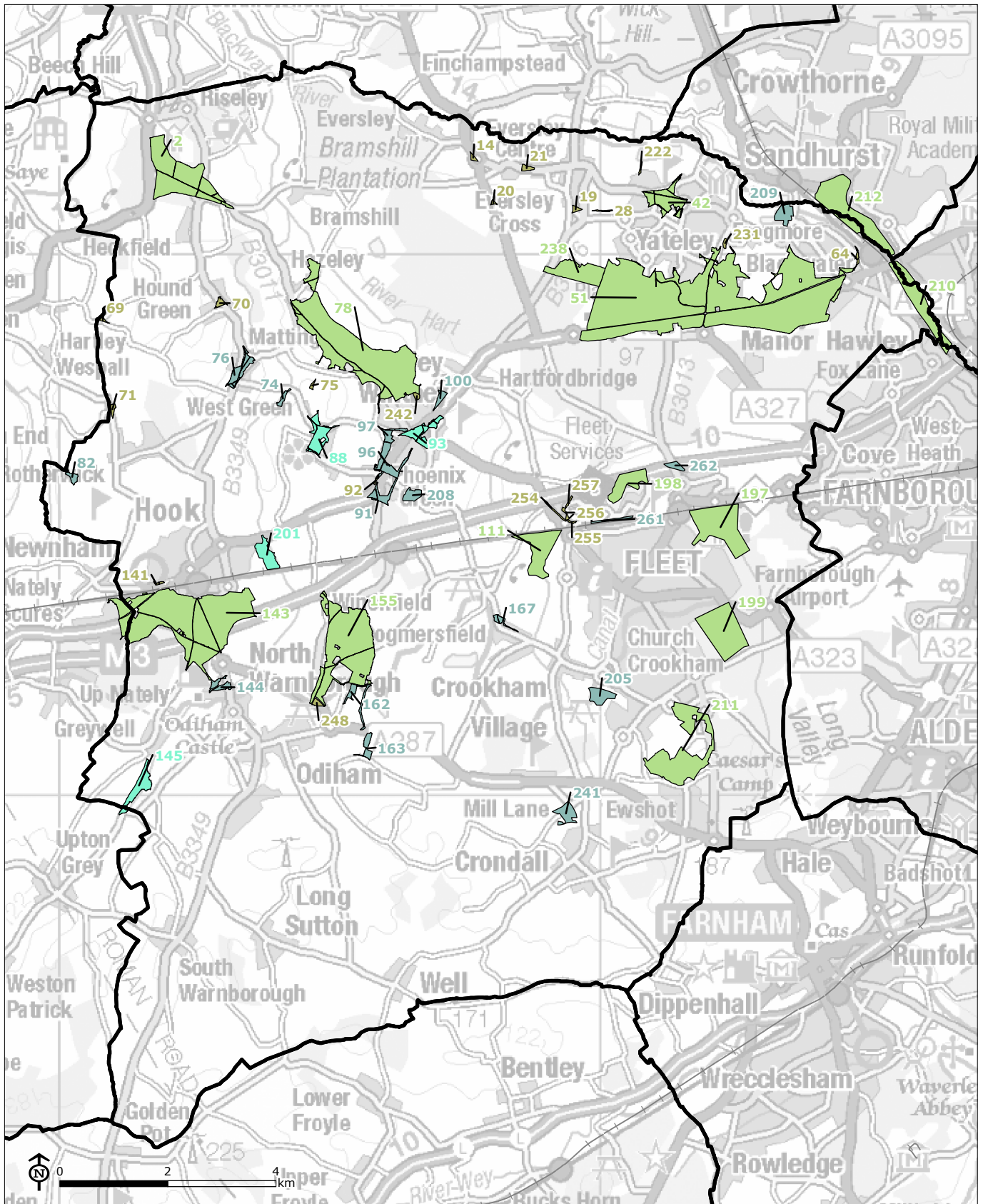
- Serves local needs;
- Limited range of habitats;
- Provision for informal recreation; and
- Basic amenities include seating, litter bins and entrance signage.

Summary: This type of provision therefore currently provides the least quantity of natural and semi-natural greenspace within the district.

6.10 Table 6.3 summarises the Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace within the district, divided into the hierarchy set out above in Table 6.1. These sites are illustrated in Figure 6-2. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites within each level of the hierarchy is also shown. These figures include SANGS which provide an important contribution to the open space network in Hart.

Table 6.3: Natural and Semi-natural green space by hierarchy

	B1. Regional Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	B2. District Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	B3. Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	B4. Small Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace
Size (ha)	90.1-500	12.1-90	2.1-12	0.4-2
Total number of sites (ha)	14	4	17	20
Total area of sites (ha)	1,365	55.40	102.64	20.76



□ District boundary

B. Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- B1. Regional natural and semi-natural greenspace
- B2. District natural and semi-natural greenspace
- B3. Local natural and semi-natural greenspace
- B4. Small Local natural and semi-natural greenspace

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-2
Type B. Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Source: Hart District Council



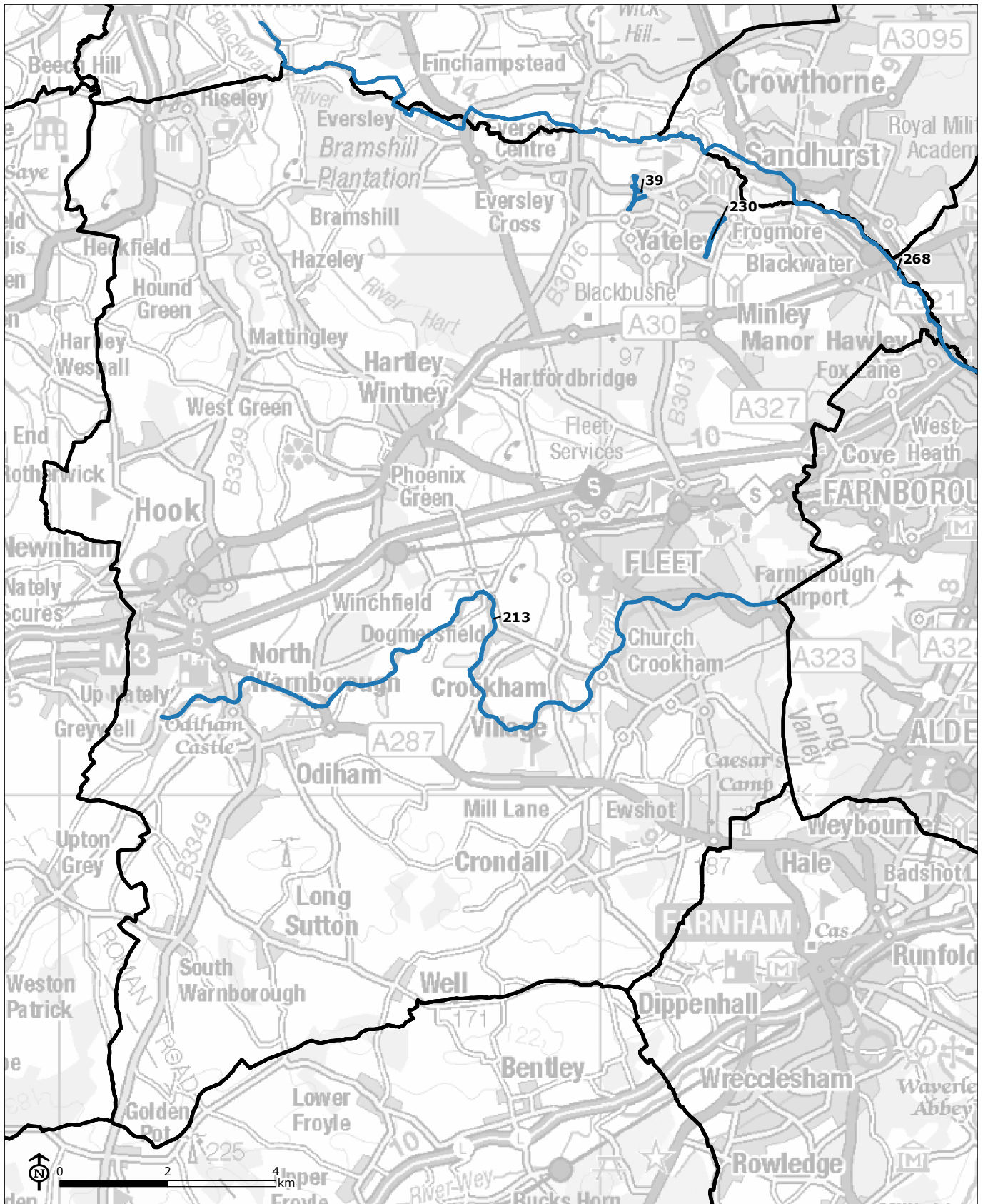
Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



C. Green Corridors

- 6.11 Size: Varies
- Quantity: 4 sites.
- Key Characteristics:
- Attracts visitors from throughout the region and within the district;
 - Contain a range of habitats for nature conservation;
 - Provides for informal recreation and public rights of way;
 - Contribute to local character; and
 - Act as a buffer to urban development and transport routes of industry.
- Summary: Green corridors provide important barriers to development, green routes along transport and public rights of way. They may support a range of habitats, be important for nature conservation and provide for informal recreation. These include the Castor Court Woods, Royal Oak Valley, and the Basingstoke Canal.
- 6.12 Table 6.4 summarises the Green Corridors within the district, as described above in Table 6.1. These sites are illustrated in Figure 6-3.

Table 6.4: Green Corridors

	Green Corridors
Size (ha)	n/a
Total number of sites (ha)	4
Total area of sites (ha)	30.88



-  District boundary
-  C. Publicly accessible green corridors*

*Width of linear sites exaggerated for clarity

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-3
Type C. Publicly Accessible Green Corridors

Source: Hart District Council



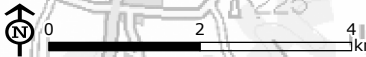
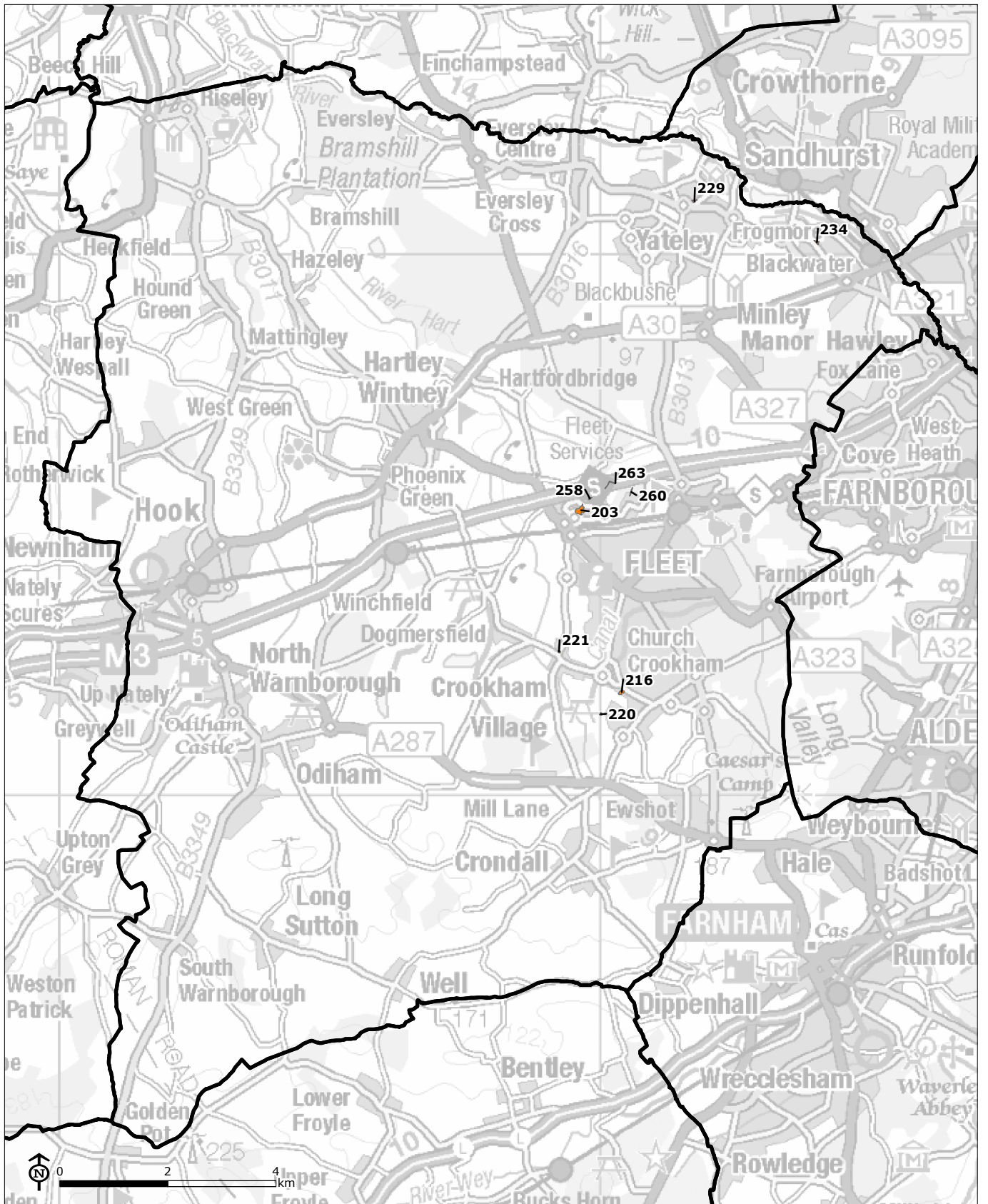
Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



D. Amenity Greenspace

- 6.13 **Size:** Local provision.
- Quantity:** 9 sites.
- Key Characteristics:**
- Provide basic provision for information recreation, e.g. litter bins and seating;
 - Entrance signs for enclosed places including no dog fouling notices; and
 - Limited range of habitat.
- Summary:** Amenity greenspaces include Church Green, Chequers Green and Eversley Cross Village Green. Amenity greenspaces provide a less formal experience than parks and gardens and generally fewer habitats. However, the sites provide important spaces for informal recreation, close to where people work and live.
- 6.14 Figure 6.4 shows the Amenity Greenspace within the district, as described above in Table 6.1. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites within each level of the hierarchy is also shown in Table 6.5.

Table 6.5: Amenity Greenspace

	Amenity Greenspace
Size (ha)	Local provision
Total number of sites (ha)	9
Total area of sites (ha)	3.81



-  District boundary
-  D. Amenity greenspace

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-4
Type D. Amenity Greenspace

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

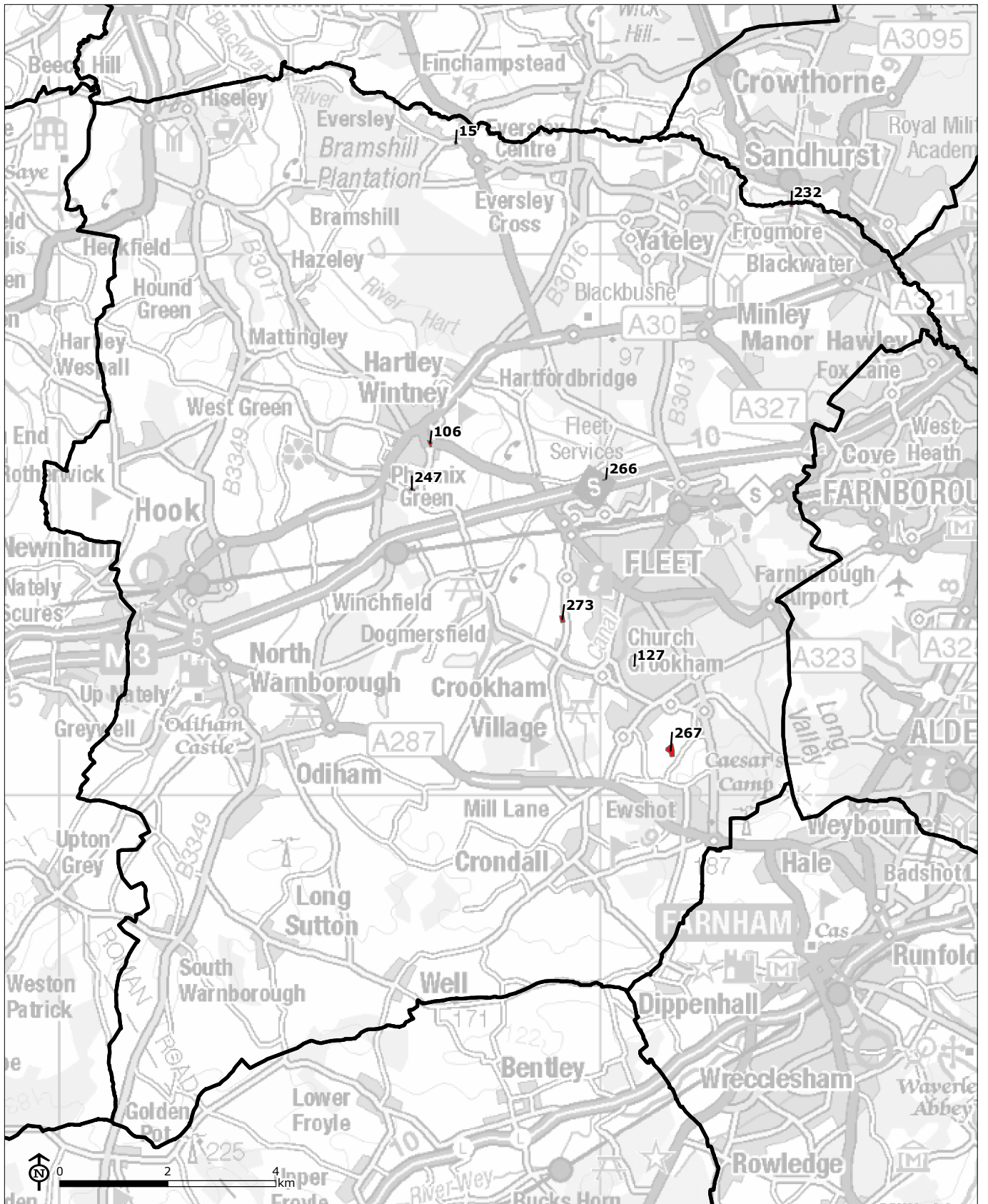
E. Allotments



- 6.15 **Size:** Local provision.
Quantity: 8 sites.
Key Characteristics:
- Entrance signs and public notice board;
 - Basic amenities might include litter bins and/ or seating;
 - Green waste composting facilities; and
 - Range of habitats.
- Summary:** In general, allotment sites in Hart provide basic facilities such as green waste recycling, signage and public notice boards. Some sites also provide space for the storage of tools and limited on site car parking. They should have secure, well presented boundaries and entrances complete with signage providing contact and membership details.
- At present the allotment site at Hitches Lane is only temporary feature. Its long term future depends on Hart Allotment Association agreeing revised terms with the land owner.
- 6.16 Figure 6-5 shows the Allotments within the district, as described above in Table 6.1. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites is shown in Table 6.6.

Table 6.6: Allotments

	Allotments
Size (ha)	Local provision
Total number of sites (ha)	8*
Total area of sites (ha)	4.93

*An additional allotment site are planned as part of the proposed Edenbrook Country Park.



-  District boundary
-  E. Allotments

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-5
Type E. Allotments

Source: Hart District Council



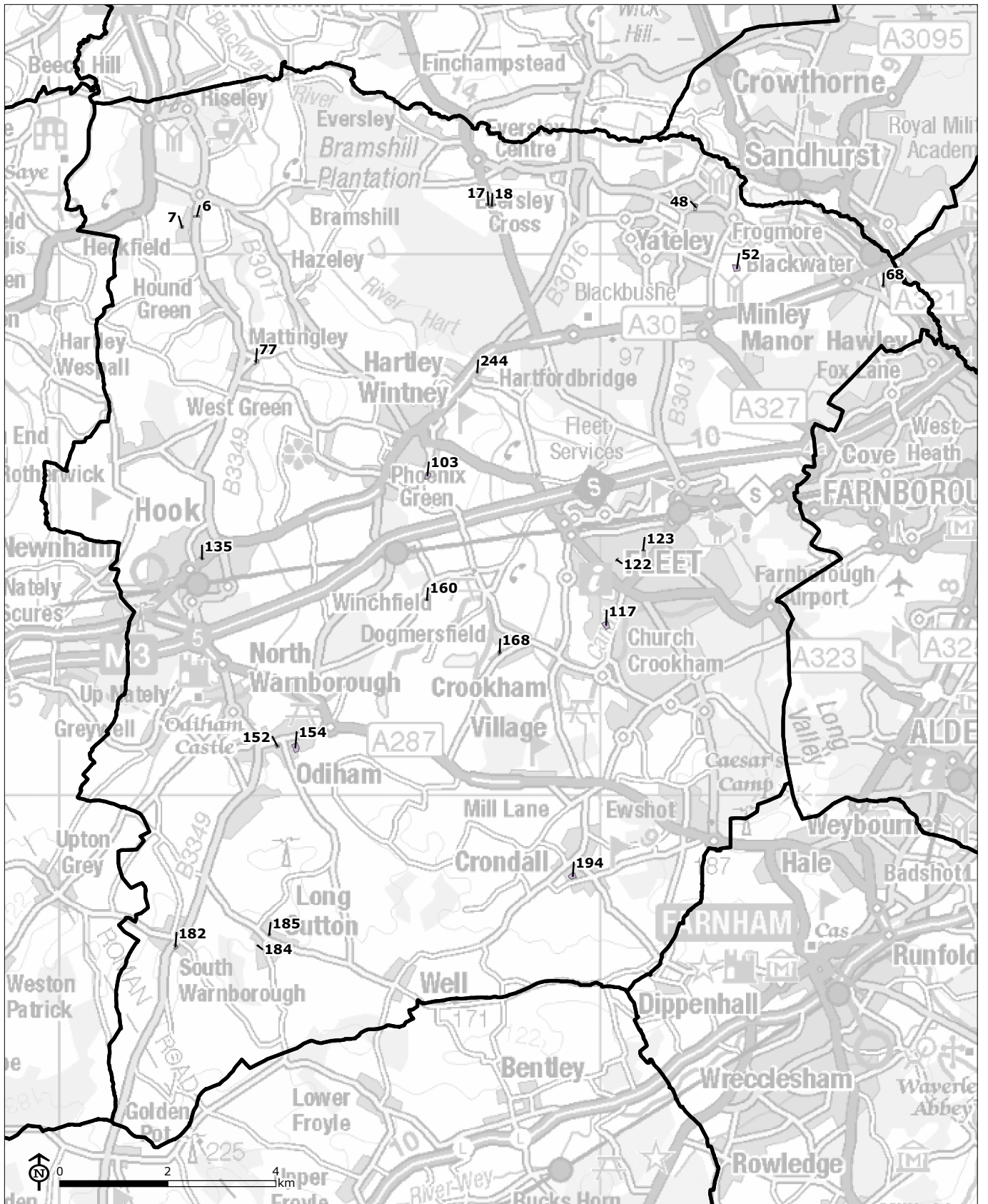
Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



F. Cemeteries and Churchyards

- 6.17 **Size:** District provision.
- Quantity:** 22 sites.
- Key Characteristics:**
- Provision for informal recreation including basic amenities of litter bins and seating;
 - Landmark feature(s) present sense of place;
 - Heritage value acknowledged by inclusion on Conservation area or subject to Listed Building designation;
 - Entrance signage and public notice boards; and
 - Range of habitats.
- Summary:** As well as fulfilling their original, primary role of a burial ground, the sites in this category may also provide space for informal recreation, in terms of places to sit and as places of quiet reflection. They may also contain a range of wildlife habitats. This study considers the provision cemeteries and churchyards in relation to the contribution these spaces make to the publicly accessible open space network in Hart.
- 6.18 Figure 6-6 shows the Cemeteries and Churchyards within the district, as set out above in Table 6.1. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites is shown in Table 6.7.

Table 6.7: Cemeteries and Churchyards

Cemeteries and Churchyards	
Size (ha)	Local provision
Total number of sites (ha)	22
Total area of sites (ha)	11.37



-  District boundary
-  F. Cemeteries and churchyards

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-6
Type F. Cemeteries and churchyards

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

G. Provision for Children and Young People

NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play)

- 6.19 Size: NEAP.
- Quantity: 14 sites.
- Key Characteristics*:
- An area of open space specifically designated, arranged and equipped mainly for older children but with play opportunities for younger children also;
 - Destination play spaces intended for use by older children of relative independence, who have the freedom to range further from home;
 - Minimum activity zone is 1000m², comprising of features to enable formal play activities, and a hard surfaced area of at least 465m² (the minimum needed to play 5-a-side football);
 - Designed to provide a stimulating and challenging play experience that may include equipment and other features providing opportunities for balancing, rocking, climbing, overhead activity, sliding, swinging, jumping, crawling, rotating, imaginative play, social play, play with natural materials such as sand and water, ball games, wheeled areas or other activities; and
 - The number and nature of equipment and structures is a matter for local consultation and decision though provision for a minimum number of nine play experiences is recommended.
 - Provides a greater variety of opportunity for both active and passive play. It can provide play equipment, and a hard surface area for ball games, or wheeled activities such as roller skating or cycling;
 - May provide other facilities such as a ramp for skateboarding, a rebound wall, shelter for meeting and socialising; and
 - Linked facilities on the one site to allow children of all ages and abilities to take part in a range of activities.
- * Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play; Fields in Trust; 2006.

LEAP (Local Equipped Area for Play)

- 6.20 Size: LEAP.
- Quantity: 19 sites.
- Key Characteristics*:
- An area of open space specifically designated and arranged with features including equipment for children who are beginning to go out and play independently close to where they live;
 - Play features including equipment are an integral part of the LEAP and the attractiveness of such spaces, though it is also important that the space can be used for physical activity and games; and
 - Minimum activity zone is 400m².
- * Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play; Fields in Trust; 2006.

Summary: There are currently 20 LEAPS within the district, totalling 1.49 hectares.

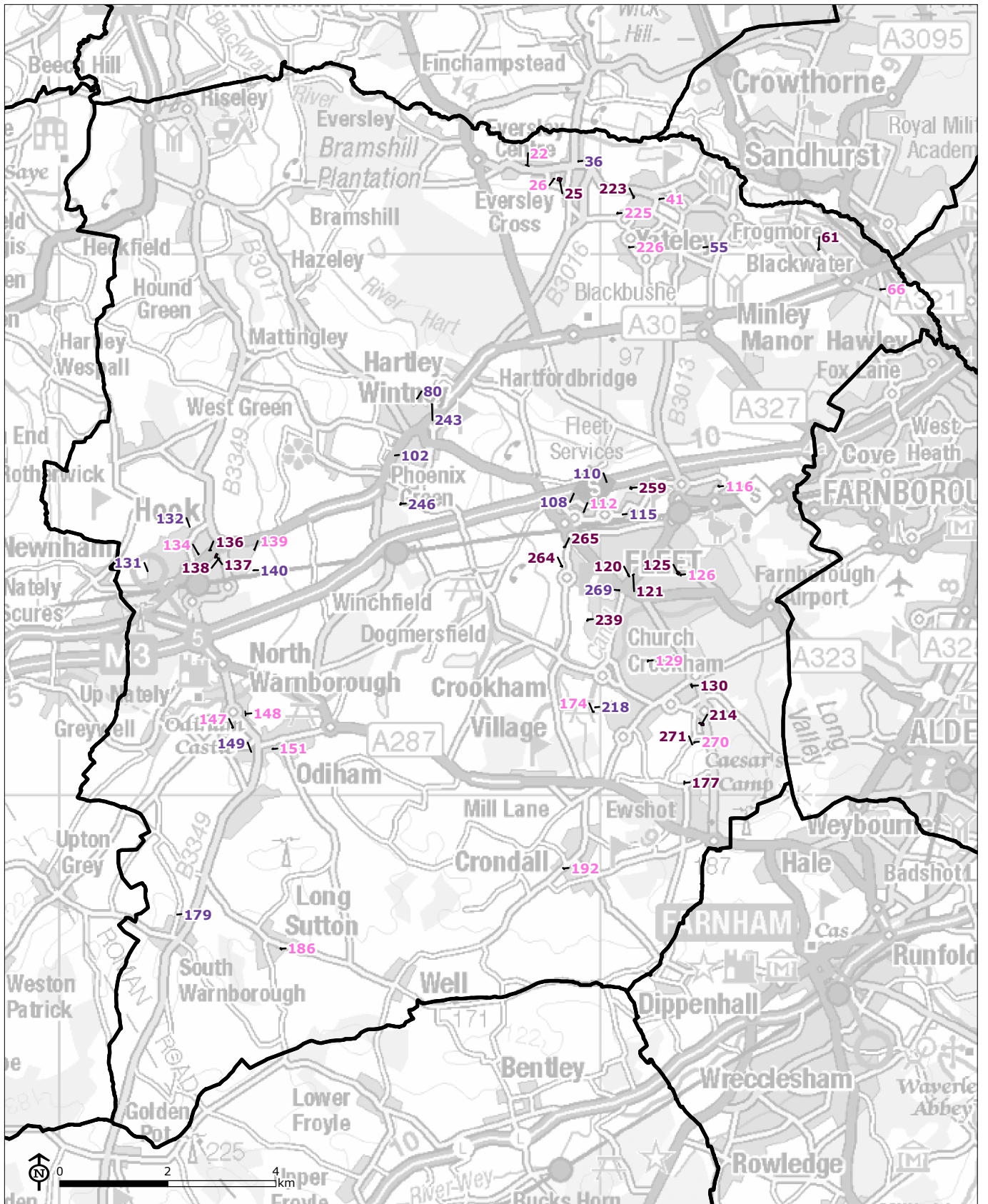
LAP (Locally Area for Play)

- 6.21 Size: LAP.
- Quantity: 16 sites.
- Key Characteristics*:
- Primarily for children up to the age of 6;
 - Minimum activity zone is 100m²;
 - Small area of open space specifically designated and primarily arranged for very young children, to play close to where they live;
 - Doesn't require play equipment as such, relying on demonstrative features indicating play is positively encouraged;
 - It may contain demonstrative features that allow young children to identify and claim the space as theirs;
 - There should be a sign indicating that the area is for children's play and that dogs are not allowed; and
 - Depending on the location it may have a 600mm guardrail, low fence or planting to indicate the perimeter.
- * Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play; Fields in Trust; 2006.

6.22 Figure 6-7 shows the Provision for Children and Young People within the district, divided into the hierarchy set out above in Table 6.1. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites within each level of the hierarchy is also shown in Table 6.8.

Table 6.8: Provision for Children and Young People by Hierarchy

Size (ha)	Children and Young People		
	NEAP	LEAP	LAP
Total number of sites (ha)	14	19	16
Total area of sites (ha)	3.16	1.32	0.51



□ District boundary

G. Provision for children and young people

- LAP
- LEAP
- NEAP

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-7
Type G. Provision for Children and Young People

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

H. Roadside Verges

- 6.23 **Size:** Local provision >0.4ha
Quantity: 9 sites
Key Characteristics:
 - Contribute to local character;
 - Act as a buffer to local transport routes of industry; and
 - Contain a range of habitats for nature conservation.**Summary:** There are currently 9 Roadside Verges within the district, totalling 14.80 hectares.
 The larger roadside verges covered in the audit tend to contain areas of short amenity grassland with individual trees or occasional copse. The nature of these sites makes them unsuitable for recreation, generally providing a buffer to transport routes and public rights of way.
- 6.24 Figure 6.8 shows the Roadside Verges within the district. Quantitative information on total number and total area of sites is shown in Table 6.9.

Table 6.9: Roadside Verges

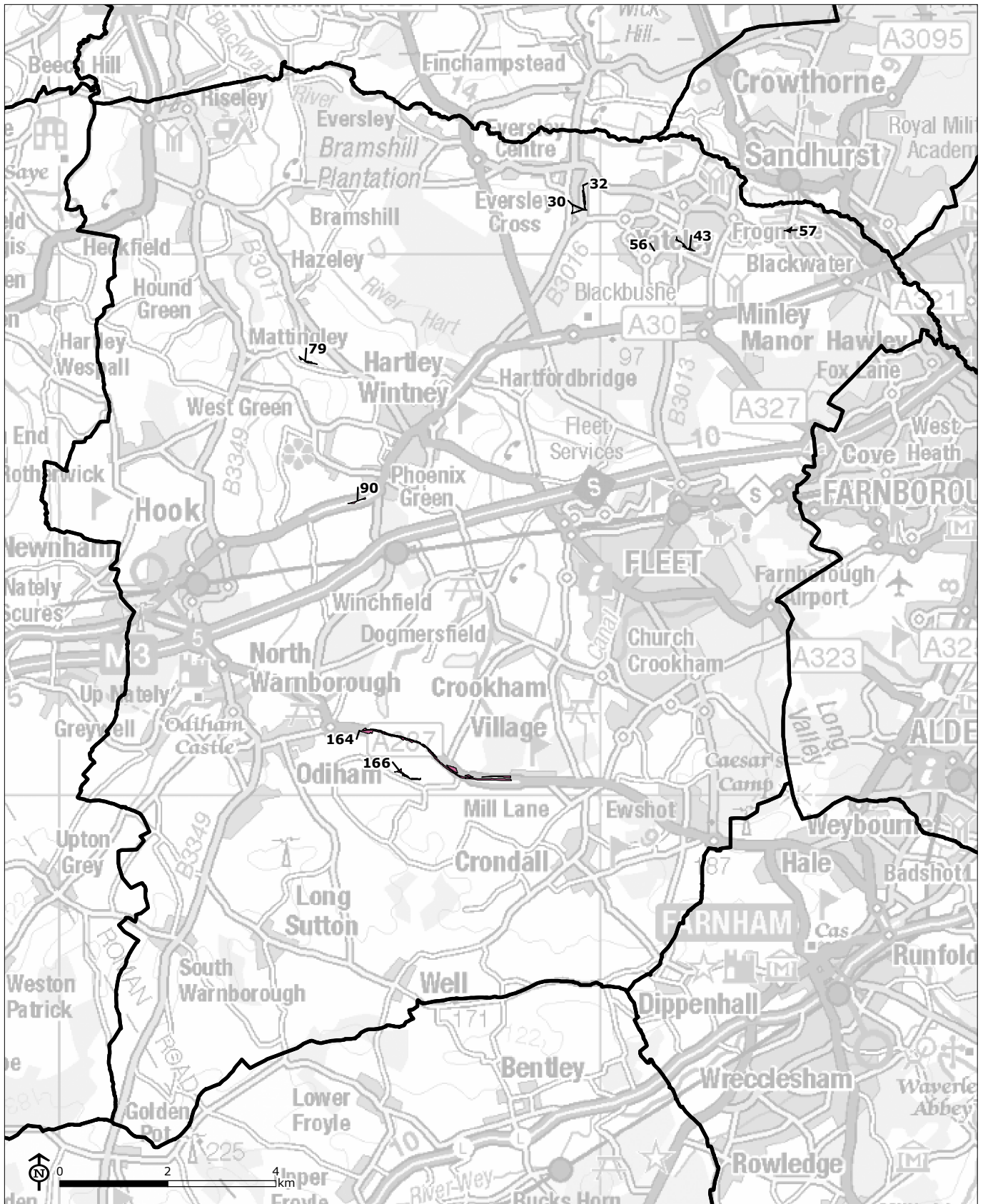
	Roadside Verges
Size (ha)	Local provision
Total number of sites (ha)	9
Total area of sites (ha)	14.80



I. Outdoor Sports Facilities

- 6.25 Open space offering outdoor sports facilities will be considered as part of the separate playing pitch strategy for Hart.

J. Civic Space

- 6.26 No civic spaces have been identified within the district of Hart.



-  District boundary
-  H. Roadside verges

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-8
Type H. Roadside Verges

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

7 Setting future provision standards

- 7.1 This section sets out the open space provision standards for Hart. These have been defined through a review of the existing provision of open space, alongside the comments received through consultation. Nationally recognised provision standards have also been considered. There are four types of open space standard:
- Accessibility: the maximum distance residents should be required to travel to use an open space of a specific typology
 - Quantity: the provision (measured in m² or hectares) of each open space typology which should be provided as a minimum per 1,000 population
 - Quality: the quality of open space provided within each typology, assess using the green flag criteria
 - Value: the value of open space provided in each typology
- 7.2 National standards relating to open spaces are the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) standards and Natural England's Accessible Natural Green Space (ANGsT) standards. These standards cover the accessibility and quantity elements of open space. We have also considered the standards recommended by the Greater London Authority and those recommended for Thames Basin Heath Special Protection Area.
- The standards were applied to the open space data for each typology to identify:
 - Areas of which do and do not have access to different types of open spaces by virtue of geographic location
 - Open spaces which are performing well and less well in terms of quality and value
- 7.3 Quantity and accessibility standards have not been prepared for churchyards and cemeteries, green corridors or roadside verges. This reflects the fact that these spaces offer limited opportunity for recreation and the proximity to such spaces is not generally considered to be a requirement. However it is important to record such spaces as it may be desirable to "enhance" these sites in areas deficient in other open space typologies.

Accessibility standard

- 7.4 The accessibility standard defines the maximum distance that users can be reasonably expected to travel to each type of provision. This can be presented spatially by use of an 'accessibility catchment' which is effectively a mapped buffer around facilities and spaces. Accessibility standards are based on relevant national and local information as well as the context of Hart and the results of consultation. The NPFA Six Acre Standard provides guidance on the distance thresholds for different size categories of open space.
- 7.5 The 'accessibility catchments' have been mapped by applying a radius around the site as per the accessibility standard e.g. 400m for a local park. Where barriers such as busy roads and railway lines are apparent, these have been illustrated on the maps. The accessibility standards have been developed through the review of:
- Existing national guidance
 - Benchmarking against other local authorities
 - Review of feedback received through public consultation
- 7.6 Table 7.1 below provides a summary of the accessibility standards adopted by local authorities which have similar geographic and/ or demographic characteristics to Hart.

Table 7.1: Accessibility standards adopted by comparable local authorities

Typology	Wokingham Borough Council	Surrey Heath Borough Council	Vale of Whitehorse	Waverley Borough Council	East Hampshire District Council
Parks and gardens	Settlement classification – Major: All residents to live within 10 min walk of high quality park provision. Settlement classification – Modest/Limited: All residents to live within 10 min drive of high quality park provision.	Walking: 10 minutes/800m	Walking: 15 minutes/900m Cycling: 15 minutes/2250 m Driving: 15 minutes/5625 m	Walking: 15 minutes’ walk/approximately 800m	650m
Natural green space	Settlement classification – Major: All residents to live within 10 min drive of natural/semi-natural provision. Settlement classification – Modest/Limited: All residents to live within 20 min drive of natural/semi-natural provision.	Walking: 15 minutes/1.2 km	Walking: 15 minutes/900m	Walking: 15 minutes’ walk/approximately 800m	300m (From GI Strategy 2013)
Green Corridors	440m (Guide not applied as set standards)	No data available	No data available	No data available	No data available
Amenity Green Space	Settlement classification – Major: All residents to live within 10 min walk of amenity greenspace provision. Settlement classification – Modest/Limited: All residents to live within 10 min drive of amenity greenspace	Walking: 5-10 minutes/400 m – 800m	Walking: 5 minutes/300m	Walking: 15 minutes’ walk/approximately 800m	700m

Typology	Wokingham Borough Council	Surrey Heath Borough Council	Vale of Whitehorse	Waverley Borough Council	East Hampshire District Council
	provision.				
Allotments	No data available	Walking: 10-15 minutes/800m - 1km	Walking: 10 minutes/600m Cycling: 10 minutes/1,500m Driving: 10 minutes/3,750m	Walking: 15 minutes/approximately 800m	480m
Children and young peoples' space	Settlement classification – Major: All residents to live within 10 min walk of at least a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play (NEAP). Settlement classification – Modest: All residents to live within 10 min walk of at least a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) sized, high quality equipped play area (including youth provision). Settlement classification – Limited: All residents to have access to at least informal provision.	Walking: 10 minute walk/800m	Activity spaces/formal play provision: Walking: 10 minutes/600m Activity spaces: Youth facilities: Walking: 15 minutes/900m Cycling: 15 minutes/2,250m	LAPs: Walking distance 100m (straight line distance 60m). LEAPs: walking distance 400m (straight line distance 240m). NEAPs: walking distance 1,000m (straight line distance 600m).	480m Toddler and Junior 650m Youth

- 7.7 The standards aim to guide provision to ensure people have access to open space of suitable types and size. It aims to ensure appropriate types of open spaces are in appropriate locations to be accessed by the people of the district.
- 7.8 The proposed accessibility standards for Hart District are provided in Table 7.2. Standards are provided for the types and hierarchy of open spaces as outlined in Section 6.

Table 7.2 Proposed accessibility standards

Hierarchy level	Size range of sites	Other types to considered within standard	Distance of accessibility buffer	Justification and relevant guidance
A2. Local parks and gardens	2-20ha	A1	800m/ 10 min walk/ 4 min cycle	Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents in town/ parish. These open spaces should provide for the local community and therefore be within walking distance.
A3. Small local parks and gardens	0.4-2ha	A1, A2	400m/ 5 min walk/ 2 min cycle	Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents within the local neighbourhood. Such spaces should therefore be within easy walking distance.
B1. Regional natural and semi-natural green space	20-400ha	None	5km/ 1hr walk/ 20 min cycle	Regional natural and semi-natural green spaces attract visitors from throughout the region and within the district. Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy 2012: SANG of 20ha catchment of 5km.
B2. District natural and semi-natural green space	12-20ha	B1	4km/ 50 min walk/ 15 min cycle	Serves district needs and although predominantly visited by the district's residents, the site attracts visitors from further afield. Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy 2012: SANG of 12-20ha catchment of 4km.
B3. Local natural and semi-natural green space	2-12ha	B1, B2	2km/ 25min walk/ 10 min cycle	Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents in town/ parish. Smaller open spaces should provide for the local community and therefore be within walking distance. Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy 2012: SANG of 2-12ha catchment of 2km.
B4. Small local natural and semi-natural green space	0.4 – 2ha	B1, B2, B3	400m/ 5 min walk/ 2 min cycle	Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents within the local neighbourhood. Such spaces should therefore be within easy walking distance.
C. Green corridors	Variable sizes (0.3 – 14ha)	n/a	n/a	Accessibility buffers are not relevant to this type of space. This reflects the purpose of green corridors as access routes, rather than a destination to

Hierarchy level	Size range of sites	Other types to considered within standard	Distance of accessibility buffer	Justification and relevant guidance
				which residents should have good access.
D. Amenity green space	Generally 0.4 – 3ha. Some sites below 0.4ha threshold have been included if they include equipment.	A1, A2, A3, A4.	400m/ 5 min walk/ 2 min cycle	Site provides basic provision for informal recreation for the local neighbourhood. Such spaces should therefore be within easy walking distance.
E. Allotments	Variable sizes, size is not relevant to catchment as access to individual plots is more significant	None	800m	There are no nationally recommended standards for access to allotments. However this standard is comparable to those adopted by similar local authorities.
F. Cemeteries and Churchyards	(Accessibility catchment not appropriate)	n/a	n/a	Proximity is not considered to be a requirement of this open space type.
G. Provision for children and young people				
LAPS	100m2	None	60m	Play England Guidance: A technical guide to Play England local play indicators. October 2009.
LEAPS	400m2	LAPS	240m	Play England Guidance: A technical guide to Play England local play indicators. October 2009.
NEAPS	1000m2	LEAPS LAPS	600m	Play England Guidance: A technical guide to Play England local play indicators. October 2009.
H. Roadside verges	(Accessibility catchment not appropriate)	n/a	n/a	Green roadside verges are considered to be appropriate wherever there is opportunity, but it is not desirable to have an accessibility catchment to roadside verges.

Quantity standards for open space provision

- 7.9 The quantitative standards define the amount of open space that should be available to the communities of Hart. The standards provide a measure against which existing provision can be assessed and guidance for additional provision in new development. Published guidance provides a useful reference for setting the quantity standard, but, in order to ensure the standards are relevant to Hart, they reflect the findings of the audits in terms of existing levels of provision and take into account consultation findings to gauge whether the community considers the level of existing provision to be sufficient or not. The PPG17 Companion Guide states that quantity standards can be expressed as "a combination of a unit of 'useful area' of provision and a population" e.g. x hectares of parks per 1,000 people.

Current quantity of open space in Hart

- 7.10 The current quantities of open space for Hart are set out by type of space in Table 7.3. Two quantities have been given for open spaces within the natural and semi-natural green space and green corridor typologies. The first quantity includes sites which are designated as SPA or SSSI and the second excludes these sites.
- 7.11 These quantities do not include land owned by MOD, National Trust and Forestry Commission as these sites are either not freely accessible to the public or longer term access is not guaranteed.

Table 7.3: Current quantity of open space within Hart per 1,000 head of population

Type	Hart quantity per 1,000 head of population (ha)
Parks and gardens	0.85
Natural and semi-natural green space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including designated sites: • Excluding designated sites: 	16.84 6.92
Green Corridors	0.34
Amenity green space	0.04
Allotments	0.05*
Cemeteries and churchyards	0.12
Roadside verges	0.16
Total open space provision per 1000 head of population	
Including designated sites:	18.40
Excluding designated sites:	8.25

*The quantity for allotments excludes the addition plots proposed at Edenbrook Country Park.

Table 7.4: Population used for calculation of quantity for the provision for children and young people in Hart

Age group	Population
Number of people aged between 0 to 4 in Hart	5,687

Age group	Population
Number of people aged between 5 to 15 in Hart	12,693
Number of people aged between 16-29 in Hart	13,207

Source: Population data based on Strategic Housing Market Assessment (December 2014)

- 7.12 Table 7.5 sets out the quantity of provision for children and young people in Hart by LAP, LEAP and NEAP. Due to the availability of population data, the provision of LEAPs has been calculated using the figures for people aged between 5 and 15 Hart. Likewise for NEAP, there are not any population figures for the number of people aged between 15 and 19 years old. Therefore this provision has been calculated using figures for people aged between 16 and 29.

Table 7.5: Quantity of provision for children and young people facilities in Hart

Type of provision for children and young people	Number of sites	Number of sites per 1000 head of population within appropriate age group
LAP	16	2.81 sites per 1000 head of population within 0 to 4 age group
LEAP	19	1.49 sites per 1000 head of population within 5 to 15 age group
NEAP	14	1.10 sites per 1000 head of population within 16 to 29 age group

- 7.13 The quantity of provision in Hart was compared to open space standards adopted by comparable local authorities as shown in Table 7.6.

Table 7.6: Current quantity of provision in Hart compared to quantity standards adopted by comparable local authorities

Typology	Quantity standards by comparable Local Authority (ha per 1000 head of population)					
	Existing quantity in Hart	Wokingham Borough Council	Surrey Heath Borough Council	Vale of Whitehorse	Waverley Borough Council	East Hampshire District Council
Parks and gardens	0.85 ha	1.10 ha	Urban: 0.35 ha	Rural: 0.65ha Urban: 1.3ha	0.2 ha	1.0 ha (0.5 ha for outdoor space)
Natural green space	Including designated sites: 16.84 ha Excluding designated sites: 6.92 ha	Including country parks: 4.11 ha Excluding country parks: 2.84 ha	Rural: 47.72 ha Urban: 11.53 ha	Rural: 0.65 ha Urban: 1.3 ha	No quantity standard	1 ha
Green Corridors	0.34 ha	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard
Amenity Green Space	0.04 ha	1.19 ha	Rural: 0.5 ha Urban: 0.9 ha	Rural: 0.65 ha Urban: 1.3 ha	0.8 ha	1 ha

Typology	Quantity standards by comparable Local Authority (ha per 1000 head of population)					
	Existing quantity in Hart	Wokingham Borough Council	Surrey Heath Borough Council	Vale of Whitehorse	Waverley Borough Council	East Hampshire District Council
Allotments	0.05 ha	No quantity standard	0.14 ha	0.325 ha	No quantity standard	0.2 ha
Cemeteries and churchyards	0.12 ha	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard
Children and young peoples' space	0.27 ha	No quantity standard	0.08 ha	Activity spaces/formal play provision: 0.04 ha Activity spaces: Youth facilities: 0.05 ha	0.25 ha	0.25 ha
Roadside verges	0.16 ha	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard	No quantity standard
Total open space provision per 1000 head of population	Including designated sites: 18.67 ha Excluding designated sites: 8.75 ha	Including country parks: 6.4 ha Excluding country parks: 5.13 ha	Rural: 48.44 ha Urban: 13 ha	Rural: 2.365 ha Urban: 4.315 ha	1.25 ha	3.45 ha

- 7.14 Having reviewed the quantity standards of other local authorities, Hart appears to have the second highest quantity of open space per 1,000 head of population with 8.51ha (excluding sensitive designated sites). This falls between 6.4ha per 1,000 head of population in Wokingham, and 13ha per 1,000 head of population (urban areas) in Surrey Heath. Hart's provision of open space is above the standards adopted by Vale of Whitehorse which aims for 4.315 ha per 1,000 head of population and East Hampshire Council which has 3.45ha per 1,000 head of population. Waveney Borough Council has adopted a standard of 1.25ha per 1,000 head of population. However it should be noted that the calculation of the provision in Hart includes open spaces in typologies that other authorities have not included.
- 7.15 Public consultation carried out as part of this study revealed that respondents are happy with the quantity of open space within Hart (e.g. 95% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that there is a park or open space within easy walking distance of their home and 79% of respondents state that they are very or fairly satisfied with the amount of open space in Hart). When asked whether

more parks and open spaces are required in Hart, 65% said 'Yes'. In conjunction with the previous question about being satisfied with the amount of open space in the district, this could be interpreted as a potential lack of a particular typology of open space. This suggests that provision should be focused on increasing facilities at existing open spaces rather than increasing the quantity of open spaces.

- 7.16 Consultation with stakeholders at workshops and with Hart Allotment Association highlighted a need for more allotment plots in Hart. Only small numbers of respondents to the public survey answered questions about allotments, but additional provision in Fleet was mentioned in the commentary. However temporary allotments have been provided at Hitches Lane and additional 200 allotment plots are to be provided as part of the proposed Edenbrook Country Park. This additional provision is expected to meet current demand as evidenced by the number of people currently on the waiting list.
- 7.17 Although some of the designated sites support informal recreation activities, there is a limit to how much usage these sites can support without impacting on a site's ecological value. It is therefore suggested the quantity standard for Hart should be based on the quantity of open space which is not designated as a SPA or SSSI.
- 7.18 Due to the characteristics of churches and cemeteries and roadside verges it was considered that it would not be appropriate to provide quantity standards for these sites.
- 7.19 Consultation revealed that whilst there is adequate open space provision in Hart, there is demand to have access to more formal open space such as parks and gardens, as well as provision for active recreation (e.g. bmx cycle tracks, skate parks etc.). There is also a need to provide a linked network of open spaces to allow for movement throughout the District.
- 7.20 The quantity standards for Hart are set out by type in the Table below.

Table 7.7: Quantity standards for Hart

Type	Hart quantity per 1000 head of population (ha)
Parks and gardens	0.85
Natural and semi-natural green space (excluding designated sites)	6.92
Green Corridors	0.34
Amenity green space	n/a
Allotments	0.05*
Cemeteries and churchyards	n/a
Roadside verges	n/a
Total open space provision per 1000 head of population (excluding designated sites within natural and semi-natural green spaces)	8.16*
Provision for children and young people	
LAP	2.81 sites per 1000 head of population within 0 to 4 age group
LEAP	1.49 sites per 1000 head of population within 5 to 15 age group

Type	Hart quantity per 1000 head of population (ha)
NEAP	1.10 sites per 1000 head of population within 16 to 29 age group

*The quantity for allotments excludes the additional plots proposed at Edenbrook Country Park. This should be added to the quantity standard once facility has been delivered/ size is known.

Future provision of publicly accessible open space in Hart

- 7.21 It is anticipated that the population of Hart will increase from 91,662 residents in 2011 to 107,986 residents in 2032². Table 7.8 below compares the quantity of open space per 1,000 head of population based on Hart's population in 2011 with its projected population in 2032. Table 7.6 also indicates the quantity of additional provision needed to maintain the current quantity per 1,000 head of population.

Table 7.8: Implications of population changes in Hart

Type	Total area (ha)	Quantity of open space per 1,000 head of population in 2011 (based on a population of 91,662)	Quantity of open space per 1,000 population in 2032 (based on a projected population of 107,986)	Anticipated additional provision needed to sustain current quantity standard (ha / 1,000 head of population)
A. Parks and gardens	78.18	0.85	0.72	0.13
B. Natural and semi-natural green space (excluding designated sites)	634.34	6.92	5.87	1.05
C. Green corridors	10.05	0.34	0.29	0.05
D. Amenity green space	3.81	0.04	0.04	0.011
E. Allotments	4.93	0.05*	0.05*	0.007*
Total quantity of all types of open space (excluding designated sites within natural and semi-natural green space typology)	731.31	8.2	6.77	1.25

*Excludes proposed provision at Edenbrook Country Park

Quality and value standards for open space provision

- 7.22 The quality and value standard provides a benchmark against which the existing condition and need for enhancement of existing spaces can be measured. It can also provide a guide to the qualitative attributes that should be expected of a newly created space.

² Population data based on Strategic Housing Market Assessment (July 2015)

Quality assessment

7.23 As part of the site audit, each site was assessed for quality against the Green Flag criteria, and the condition of the various components of a site rated as good, fair or poor. This assessment was then transposed through a scoring system into a quality score. Quality benchmark standards have been developed for open spaces by typology and hierarchy. Through reviewing the range of the quality scores it was possible to form a quality threshold score i.e. a minimum level of quality which should be achieved at any open space. A benchmark standard has been provided for each level of the hierarchy reflecting the ideal score scenario for a good quality open space.

Value assessment

7.24 Value is fundamentally different from quality; a space can be valued for a range of reasons even if it is of low quality. As set out the PPG17 Companion Guide, 'value' mainly relates to the following:

- **Context:** for example, an easily accessible site is higher value than one that is inaccessible to potential users, equally the value of a space may diminish if it is immediately adjacent to several others which provides the same function
- **Level and type of use:** the primary purpose and associated use of a space
- **Wider benefits:** i.e. the benefits a space generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment including the following – landscape, ecological, education, social inclusion and health benefit, cultural and heritage, amenity benefits, 'sense of place' and economic benefits.

7.25 The site audit included information to be evaluated as part of the value assessments such as the value of play spaces, the presence of community facilities and the biodiversity value of habitats. The relevant audit information was reviewed to develop a value threshold score specific to the different types of open space in Hart. A list of key characteristic was developed which could be expected of the sites of a particular typology and at a particular level of the hierarchy.

7.26 In order to assess the sites consistently the audit forms were scored. These scores for each site were separated into factors that related to the quality and value. It is important to understand the difference between quality and value, for example an open space may be of **high quality** but if it is not accessible it is of **little value**, while if an open space is **poor quality** but has a wide range of facilities it is potentially of **high value**.

7.27 When assessing the scored sites, it should be noted that the scoring varies according to the complexity of the site as well as the condition of the site which limits the extent to which one should directly compare scores across different types of space. In essence this means that the quality score for a good quality park or garden will be different from that of a good quality amenity green space, reflecting the different provision that can be expected within each.

7.28 The value and quality scoring can be reviewed by total score or by the audit themes (linked to the Green Flag Criteria). Each site was audited using a standard form with scores allocated to the relevant criteria.

Development of quality and value standards

7.29 The quality and value standards have been derived from the results of the audit data, consideration on the community views and a judgement on the quality of which can be delivered. Both standards are aspirational and provide benchmarks against which to measure the quality and value of any existing open space in order to determine the need for enhancement and to ensure there a consistent level of provision across the District and to set priorities in a transparent manner. They can also be used to monitoring improvements over time a part of the Best Value process. The standards also provide a useful starting point in negotiations with developers over on-site provision.

7.30 The quality and value standards for Hart are based on the expert judgement of the open space provision in the District. This was informed by the following methodology:

- Identification of appropriate features and qualities of each typology and hierarchy using the Green Flag Award criteria to give an ideal score;
- Reviewing of the overall range of scores or open spaces within each typology and hierarchy and calculation of the mean average scores;
- Identification of sites which achieve the mean average score and comparing these with sites which were considered to have been performing well during the site audits.

Quality and value ratings combined

7.31 Using a combination of the value and quality ratings it is possible to identify site which are performing above the required standards and should be protected, sites which require enhancement, and sites which may no longer be needed for their present purpose. Each site has therefore been rated with a combined Value and Quality band and grouped into banding using the format of +/- symbols to annotate each band (i.e. high value/ high quality is shown as ++. High value / low quality is shown as +-). Table 7.7 suggests the future management approach to open spaces within each band.

Table 7.9: Value and quality matrix

High value/ high quality	Low value/ high quality
++	-+
<p>These sites are considered to be best open spaces within the district offering the greatest value and quality for the surrounding communities.</p> <p>Future management should seek to maintain the standard for these spaces and ensure they continue to meet the requirements of the communities they serve.</p> <p>Ideally all spaces should fit into this category.</p>	<p>These sites have been scored as being of high quality but of a low value.</p> <p>Wherever possible the preferred management approach to a space in the category should to enhance its value in terms of its present primary typology or purpose.</p> <p>If this is not possible, the next best policy approach is to consider whether it might be of high value if converted to some other primary purpose.</p>
High value/ low quality	Low value/ low quality
+-	--
<p>These spaces meet or exceed the required value standard but fall below the required quality standard.</p> <p>Future management should therefore seek to enhance their quality to ensure that the open spaces are welcoming and safe for use by the local community.</p>	<p>These spaces are falling below the applicable value and quality standards and therefore their future enhancement should be considered to be a priority.</p> <p>If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.</p>

7.32 Table 7.8 displays the range of scores recorded within each typology and hierarchy together with the proposed benchmarks for quality and value.

Table 7.10: Quality and value scores by type and hierarchy

Type	Hierarchy level	Number of sites	Range of scores for value	Value standard	Range of scores for quality	Quality standard
A. Parks and gardens	A2. Local parks and gardens	16	53-79	66	33-83	58
	A3. Small local parks and gardens	13	39-77	62	20-69	46
B. Natural and semi-natural green space	B1. Regional natural and semi-natural green space	12	44-70	64	22-64	46
	B2. District natural and semi-natural green space	4	57-77	68	33-49	43
	B3. Local natural and semi-natural green space	17	41-71	50	20-50	31
	B4. Small local natural and semi-natural green space	20	37-66	54	25-52	32
C. Green corridors		4	50-66	59	32-59	51
D. Amenity green space		9	43-68	55	27-48	33
E. Allotments		7	42-78	59	19-43	32
F. Cemeteries and churchyards		22	32-75	60	15-41	33
G. Provision for children and young people	LAP	16	1-9	3	7-39	19
	LEAP	19	1-11	3	1-34	22
	NEAP	14	2-11	4	11-27	19
H. Roadside verges		9	35-61	46	17-46	26

8 Applying the standards

- 8.1 This section of the report applies the standards that have been established in the previous section to identify and illustrate where surpluses/ deficiencies can be found. This will provide an indication of which areas of Hart are adequately provided for open space, and where there is a need for enhancement. The key below provides an indication of the colour coding used to denote the quality and value rating of each open space by typology and hierarchy.

++	High Value/ High Quality/ Above Quantity
-+	Low Value/ High Quality
+-	High Value/ Low Quality
--	Low Value/ Low Quality/ Below Quantity

A. Parks and gardens

Quantity of parks and gardens in Hart

- 8.2 The quantity standard for parks and gardens in Hart is set out in the Table below together with a breakdown of the current quantity by parish/ town.

Table 8.1: Quantity of parks and gardens in Hart

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town (2016) ³	Quantity of parks and gardens in parish/town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hart	-	-	0.85
Blackwater and Hawley	4,531	0.00	0.00
Bramshill	117	0.00	0.00
Church Crookham	10,035	3.30	0.36
Crandall	1,649	4.44	2.64
Crookham Village	4,153	2.97	0.71
Dogmersfield	317	0.00	0.00
Elvetham Heath	5,163	1.65	0.31
Eversley	1,635	6.34	3.85
Ewshot	760	1.5	1.91
Fleet	23,167	31.67	1.39
Greywell	239	0.00	0.00

³ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town (2016) ³	Quantity of parks and gardens in parish/town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hartley Wintney	5,743	2.91	0.54
Heckfield	311	0.00	0.00
Hook	8,115	2.71	0.35
Long Sutton	740	0.23	0.32
Mattingley	527	0.00	0.00
Odiham	6,051	4.44	0.75
Rotherwick	554	0.00	0.00
South Warnborough	630	3.65	5.82
Winchfield	673	0.00	0.00
Yateley	20,118	12.36	0.61

- 8.3 There is significant variation in the provision of parks and gardens in Hart. Just five parishes/ towns meet or exceed the District wide standard of 0.85 ha/ 1,000 head of population. Eight parishes/ towns do not contain any parks and gardens. This may reflect the rural character of some parishes. However, Yateley is one of the most densely populated areas of the District but falls below the 0.85ha quantity standard.

A2. Local parks and gardens

- 8.4 The local scale parks and garden in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.2: Quality and value rating of local parks and gardens

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
249	Odiham Castle	74	66	++
219	Zebon Copse	76	55	+-
252	Ravenscourt Recreation Ground	79	76	++
227	Monteagle Open Space	53	56	--
62	Frogmore Open Space	58	68	+-
245	Green Lane	72	61	++
34	Eversley Cross Village Green	55	34	--
237	Hook Meadow Recreation Ground	74	55	+-
251	Ancells Road	73	73	++
204	Quetta Park	56	58	+-
183	South Warnborough Manor and Park	74	33	+-
24	Chequers Green	59	46	--
124	Oakley Park	68	78	++
233	Darby Green	66	40	+-

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
128	Basingbourne Park	65	83	+-
118	Calthorpe Park	60	44	--

Accessibility

- 8.5 16 local parks and gardens have been identified in Hart. These sites are predominantly located within the larger towns such as Fleet, Church Crookham, Hartley Wintney, Hook, Blackwater and Hawley and Yateley. Calthorpe Park is the largest site covering an area of 12.59ha with Basingbourne Park the second largest site covering an area of 8.81ha.
- 8.6 Sections of the population in the towns and villages in which the local parks and gardens are situated fall outside the adopted accessibility standard. This suggests that not all residents are within easy walking distance of a formal open space.

Value and quality

- 8.7 Five local parks and gardens achieve the required threshold standards for quality and value. These sites are located in Elvetham Heath, Fleet, Hartley Wintney, Hook and North Warnborough.
- 8.8 Fiver local parks and garden fall below the required threshold standards for quality and value. These are located in Church Crookham and in the north of the District around Eversley, Yateley, and Blackwater and Hawley. These also happen to be areas which are also deficient in local parks and gardens.

A3. Small local parks and gardens

8.9 The small local parks and gardens in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.3: Quality and value rating of small local parks and gardens

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
235	Long Sutton Pond	70	40	--+
146	North Warnborough Recreation Ground	39	20	--
253	South Warnborough Recreation Ground	68	51	++
107	The Mounts Open Space	70	40	--+
133	Wellworth Park Open Space	70	65	++
224	Fallowfield Open Space	47	45	--
157	Wilks Water Gardens	62	43	--+
206	Turner's Way Recreation Ground	58	32	--
150	Odiham Recreation Ground	58	51	+--
240	Lea Green	65	66	++
195	Farnham Lane Recreation Ground	50	26	--
250	Ewshot Recreation Ground	71	69	++
119	The Views Meadow	77	48	++

Accessibility

8.10 Parks and gardens are located in or close the centre of villages and towns. The largest quantity in terms both number of sites and area is located in the Fleet, Church Crookham and Crookham Village. There are few formal open spaces in the largely rural communities in Heckfield, Bramshill, Eversley and Mattingley.

Value and quality

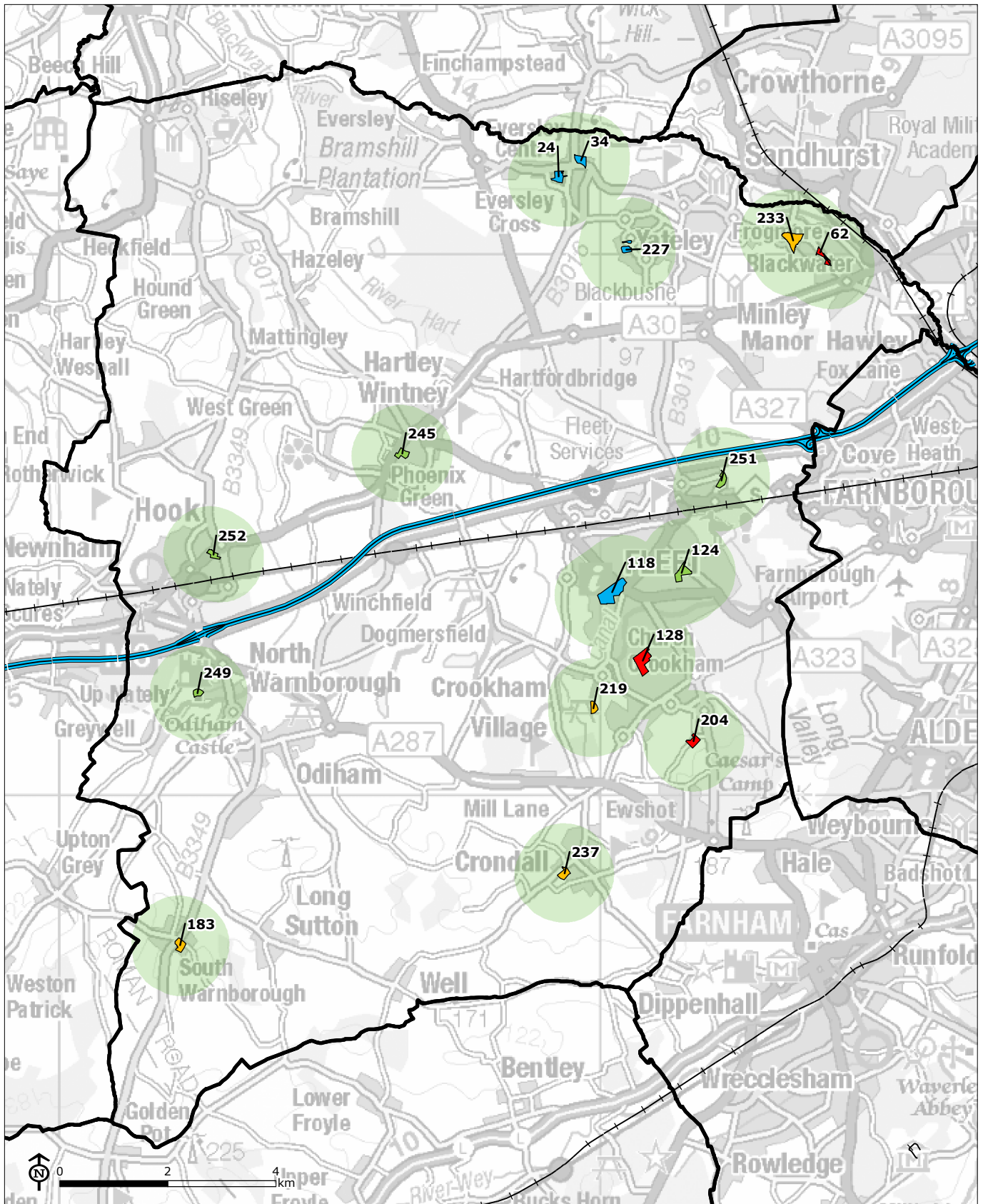
8.11 Five open spaces achieve scores about the threshold for both quality and value. However four sites fall below both threshold standards. Fallowfield Open Space is located in Yateley and scores below the quality and value thresholds. This site is located in Yateley and reflects the pattern of low quality and value open spaces in this area.

8.12 The two parks and gardens in Hook achieve the required benchmark threshold for both value and quality.

8.13 Odiham Recreation Ground achieves the required benchmark threshold for value but falls below the standard for quality. Long Sutton Pond, The Mounts Open Space and Wilks Water Gardens achieve the threshold standards for quality by fall below the standard for value.

Key findings: parks and gardens

- The formal parks and gardens are located in or close to the centre of villages and towns.
- There is limited provision in areas which are predominantly rural. For example there are no parks and gardens in the Winchfield, Dogmersfield, Mattingley, Bramshill and Everley.
- There are no parks and gardens in the north of the District which achieve the threshold standards for quality and value.
- Residential areas in Long Sutton and Odiham do not have access to parks and gardens as well as an eastern section of Hook.
- Not all of Hart's residents are within easy walking distance of formal parks and gardens. Therefore opportunities to increase the provision of such open spaces should be considered, particularly in parishes/ town which currently fall below the quantity standard for the District as a whole.
- A significant number of parks and gardens fall below the threshold benchmark standards for quality and/ or value.



- Local parks and gardens**
- Value and quality rating**
- High value/High quality
 - Low value/High quality
 - High value/Low quality
 - Low value/Low quality
 - Accessibility catchment - 800m

- District boundary
- Motorway
- Rail line

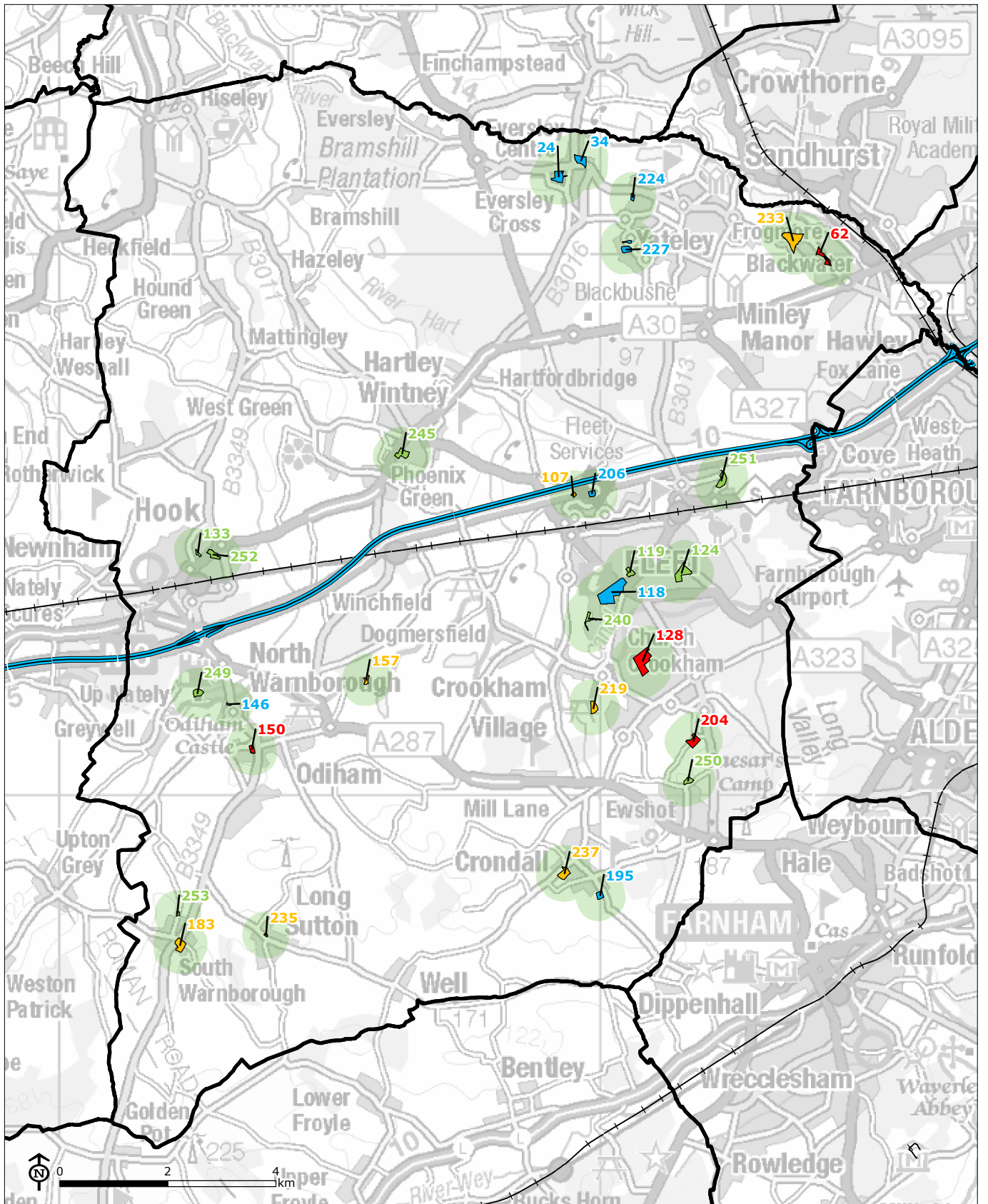
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-1
A2. Local Parks and Gardens

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



Local and small local parks and gardens

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality

Accessibility catchment - 400m

District boundary

Barriers to access

Motorway

Rail line

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

**Figure 8-2
A3. Small Local Parks and Gardens**

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

B. Natural and semi-natural green space

8.14 The quantity of natural and semi-natural green space within Hart is set out in the Table below.

Table 8.4: Quantity of natural and semi-natural green space

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town (2016) ⁴	Quantity of natural and semi-natural green space in parish/town (including designated sites)	Ha/ 1,000 head of population (including designated sites)
Hart	-	-	16.84 (proposed standard: 6.92 per 1,000 head of population excluding designated sites)
Blackwater and Hawley	4,531	166.90	36.84
Bramshill	117	0	0.00
Church Crookham	10,035	78.59	7.83
Crandall	1,649	9.66	5.86
Crookham Village	4,153	10.34	2.49
Dogmersfield	317	5.25	16.56
Elvetham Heath	5,163	30.38	5.88
Eversley	1,635	36.13	22.10
Ewshot	760	50.47	66.41
Fleet	23,167	85.70	3.70
Greywell	239	7.90	33.05
Hartley Wintney	5,743	146.27	25.47
Heckfield	311	76.62	246.36
Hook	8,115	167.02	20.58
Long Sutton	740	0	0.00
Mattingley	527	137.60	261.10
Odiham	6,051	171.33	28.32
Rotherwick	554	4.14	7.47
South Warnborough	630	5.33	8.46
Winchfield	673	8.12	12.06
Yateley	20,118	346.13	17.21

B1. Regional natural and semi-natural green space

8.15 The regional scale natural and semi-natural green space in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.5: Quality and value rating of regional natural and semi-natural green spaces

Site ID	Site name	Quality Rating	Value Rating	VQ rating
198	Elvetham Heath Nature Reserve	74	50	++
42	Yateley Green	62	40	--

⁴ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Site ID	Site name	Quality Rating	Value Rating	VQ rating
238	Castle Bottom Nature Reserve	72	58	++
199	Velmead	54	47	+-
197	Fleet Pond	78	53	++
212	Shepherd Meadow	67	52	++
2	Heckfield Heath	48	22	--
155	Odiham Common	65	45	-+
78	Hazeley Heath	66	47	++
143	Hook Common	44	29	--
51	Yateley Country Park	70	64	++
211	Queen Elizabeth Barracks (SANG)	n/a	n/a	n/a
210	Hawley Meadows and Blackwater Country Park (SANG)	n/a	n/a	n/a
111	Edenbrook Country Park (SANG)	n/a	n/a	n/a

Accessibility

- 8.16 The largest quantity of open space in Hart falls within the natural and semi-natural green space typology. The majority of these sites are located in the north of the district and the combined catchment areas extend as far south as South Warnborough. However seven of the sites within this hierarchy form part of the TBHSPA or designated as a SSSI where active recreational activities will need to be carefully managed. Three sites are SANGs.

Value and quality

- 8.17 Six of the 14 sites audited achieve the required benchmark standards for value and quality. These are:
- Eveltham Heath Nature Reserve
 - Castle Bottom Nature Reserve
 - Fleet Pond
 - Shepherd Meadow
 - Hazeley Heath
 - Yateley Country Park
- 8.18 Three sites fall below the benchmark standards for value and quality and one site falls below the benchmark standard for value. Odiham Common achieves the benchmark standard for quality but falls below the standard for value.

B2. District natural and semi-natural green space

8.19 The district natural and semi-natural green spaces in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.6: Quality and value ratings of borough natural and semi-natural green space

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
93	Hartley Wintney Commons	77	49	++
145	River Whitewater Flood Plain	69	47	++
88	West Green Common	57	33	--
201	Bassett's Mead Country Park (SANG)	n/a	n/a	n/a

Accessibility

8.20 Similarly to regional provision, the majority of Hart is within the catchment areas of district scale natural green space with only the southern extent of the district outside of the prescribed accessibility standard.

Value and quality

8.21 Four sites have been identified within this hierarchy with both Hartley Wintney Commons and the River Whitewater Flood Plain achieving the benchmark standards for value and quality. West Green Common scores significantly less than these sites for both value and quality.

B3. Local natural and semi-natural green space

8.23 The local natural and semi-natural green spaces in the Table below.

Table 8.7: Quality and value ratings of local natural and semi-natural green space

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
74	Diple Wood	52	38	++
261	Woodland Walk	51	31	++
82	Stroud Green	41	27	--
167	Dogmersfield Woodland	46	26	--
100	Hunts Common	51	22	+-
262	Woodland	49	34	+-
163	Hillside Woods	47	26	--
144	Tunnel Lane Green Space	55	43	++
208	Dilly Lane	50	30	+-
162	Park Wall Copse	55	37	++
96	Dilly Lane	45	24	--
91	Pheonix Green Woods	49	25	--
241	Hannam's Copse	44	20	--
205	Zebon Copse	71	50	++
76	Mattingley Green	53	31	++
97	Grange Lane Woodland	44	26	--
	Swan Park/ Clarks Farm (SANG)	n/a	n/a	n/a

Accessibility

8.24 Figure 8-5 shows that much of Hart is within the catchment area for local natural and semi-natural green space. However pockets of the district near Eversley and Hound Green fall outside the catchment area of these smaller open spaces. A large portion of the southern part of the district, including South Warnborough and Long Sutton, are also outside the catchment area.

Value and quality

8.25 16 local natural and semi-natural green spaces were audited with six open spaces achieving the benchmark standards for value and quality. These six sites are primarily located near to Fleet, Mattingley and Hartley Wintney, with another on the edge of Church Crookham and one near Odiham.

B4. Small local natural and semi-natural green space

8.27 The small local natural and semi-natural green spaces in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.8: Quality and value ratings of small local natural and semi-natural green space

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
28	Firgrove Road Green Space	47	27	--
92	A30 Green Space	66	30	+-
255	Woodland Walk	59	37	++
20	Eversley Green Space	49	25	--
222	Moulsham Green	54	34	++
141	Carleton Close Woods	58	36	++
257	Woodland Walk	59	34	++
75	Stoken Lane Woods	45	31	--
69	Hound Green Woods	37	26	--
14	Great A Village Green	45	26	--
231	Cricket Hill Pond	58	36	++
242	Springfield Avenue Woodland	56	52	++
256	Woodland Walk	59	37	++
64	Rosemary Lane Woods	55	39	++
19	Up Green Village Green	53	26	--
254	Woodland Walk	59	37	++
71	Lyde Green	46	26	--
248	Odiham Wharf	59	32	++
21	Eversley Centre Village Green	58	31	+-
70	Hound Green	48	28	--

Accessibility

8.28 20 sites have been identified within the small local natural and semi-natural green spaces hierarchy. These are primarily located within or on the edge of settlements with the communities within Hartley Wintney, Yateley, Blackwater and Hook all having good access. However parts of Fleet and Church Crookham have limited access to these smaller open spaces. There are no publicly accessible natural and semi-natural green spaces in the south of the district.

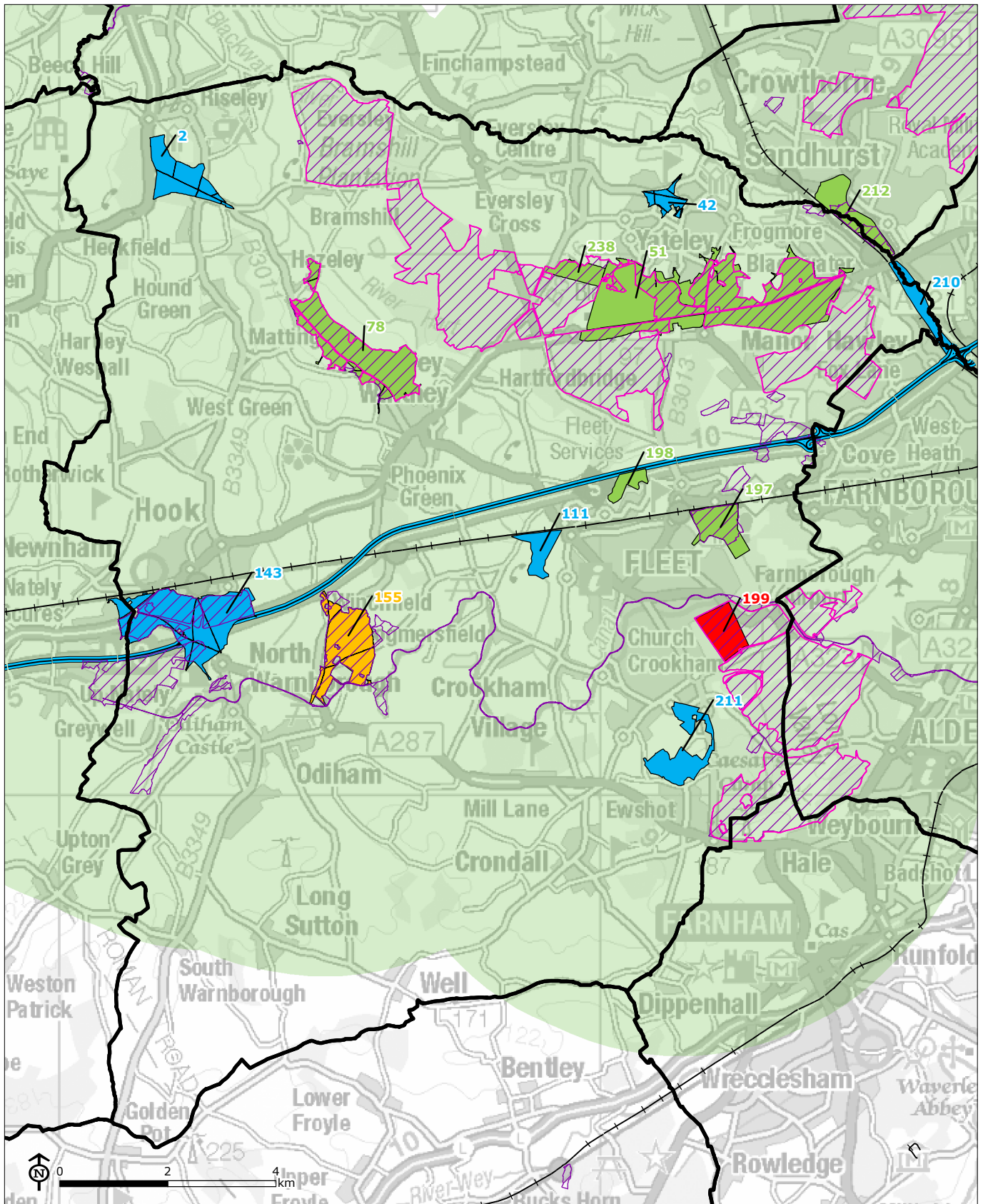
Value and quality

8.29 There is a fairly even split between those sites which achieve the benchmark standards for value and quality (10 sites) and those which fall below both these standards (8 sites). It appears that clusters of open spaces around Yateley and Eversley Cross fall below both benchmarks and there is a similar pattern to the south of Hartley Wintney. Eversley Village Green and the A30 Green Space achieve the benchmark standard for quality but fail to achieve the standard for value.

Key findings: natural and semi-natural green space

- There is a high quantity of natural and semi-natural green space in the district. Sites within this typology are also the largest open spaces in Hart and therefore likely to attract visitors from throughout district as well as the region. However many of these sites are designated as a SPA or SSSI so their use for recreation will need to be carefully managed. Where possible, opportunities should be sought to encourage people to use other open spaces in the district.
- The majority of the district is within the catchment area of a large natural or semi-natural green space. However there are not any open spaces within this typology in south of the district and communities in this area fall outside the catchment areas for the larger open spaces.

- There are clusters of open spaces which fall below the benchmark standards for quality and value around Yatley and Eversley Cross in the north of the district together with areas along the north eastern and eastern parts of Hart. Sites within the centre of the district are also in need of improvement to ensure these open spaces achieve the required standards.



Regional natural and semi-natural greenspace

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality
- Accessibility catchment - 5km

- District boundary
- Special Protection Area
- Site of Special Scientific Interest

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

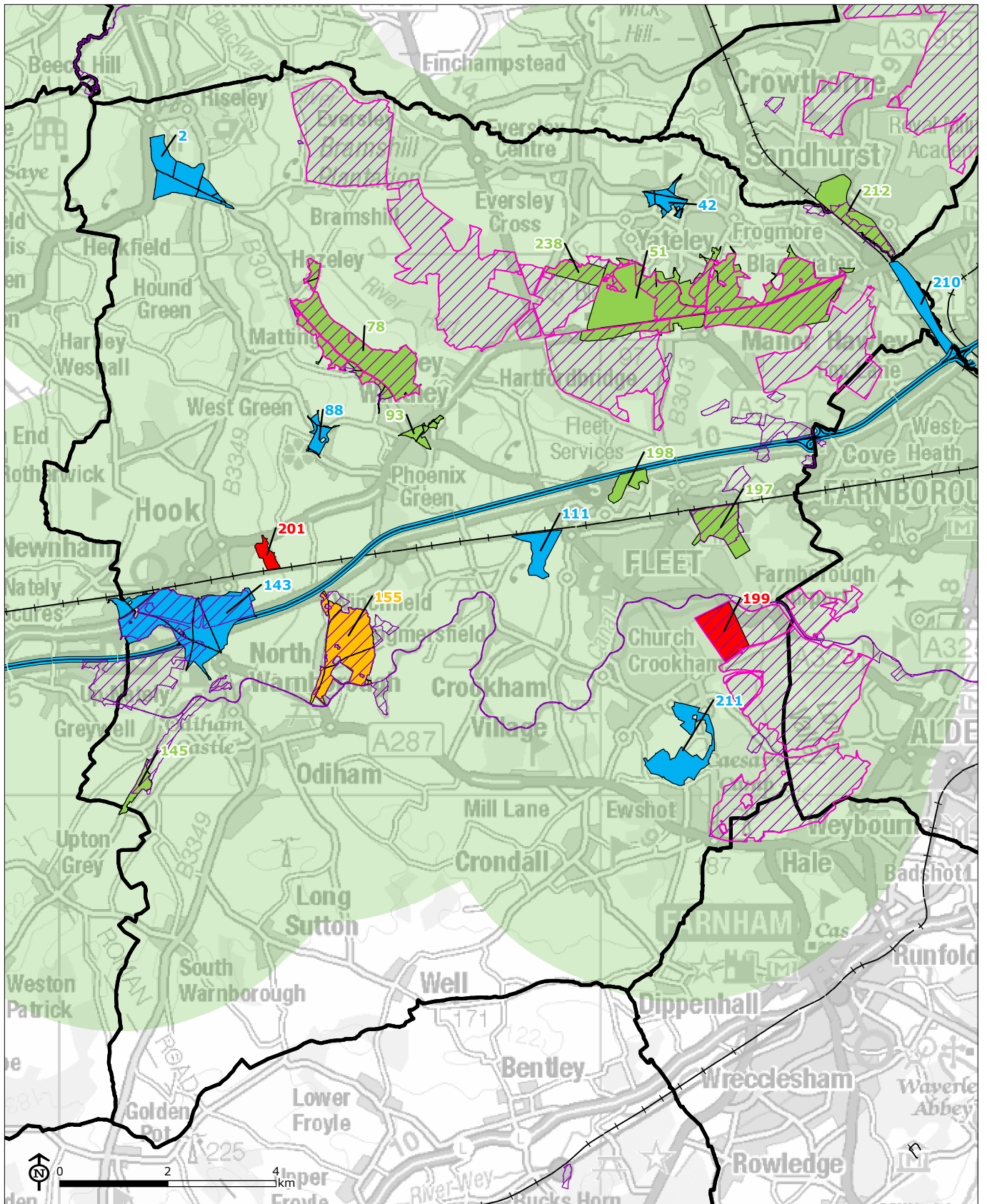
Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-3
B1. Regional Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Source: Hart District Council, Natural England





Regional and district natural and semi-natural greenspace Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality
- Accessibility catchment - 4km

- District boundary
- Special Protection Area
- Site of Special Scientific Interest

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

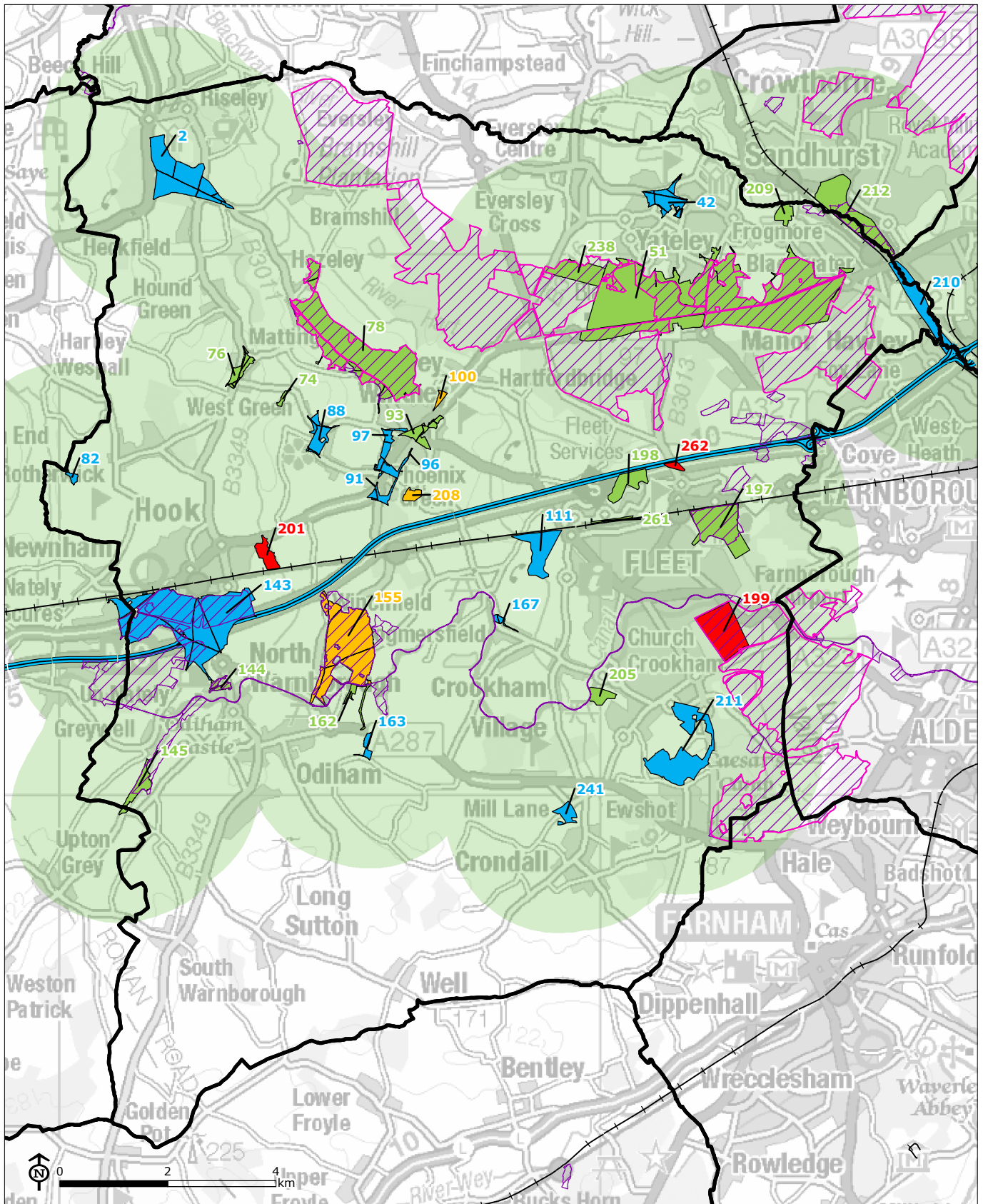
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-4 B2. District Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Source: Hart District Council, Natural England



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



Regional, district and local natural and semi-natural greenspace Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality

Accessibility catchment - 2km

- District boundary
- Special Protection Area
- Site of Special Scientific Interest

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

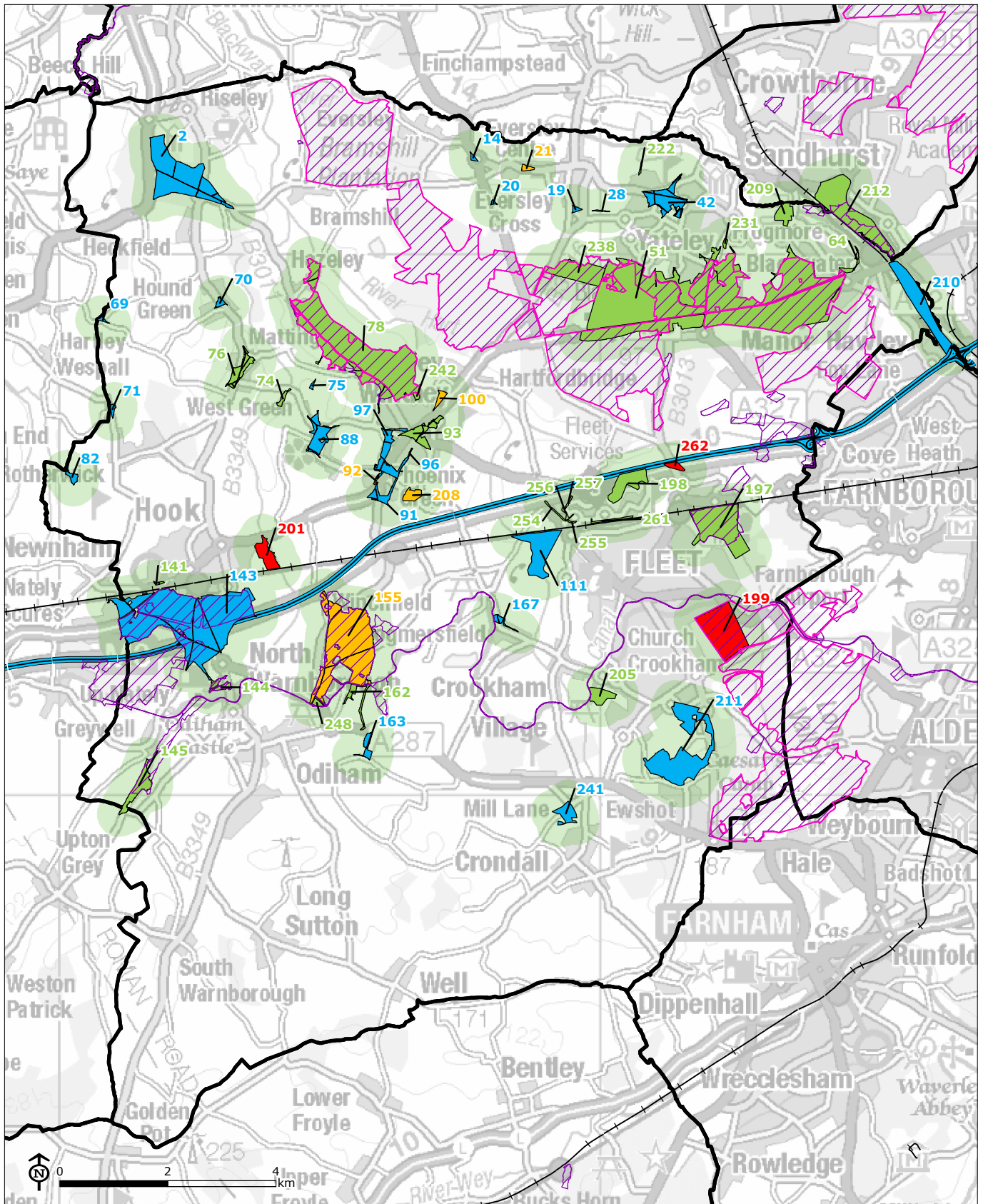
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-5 B3. Local Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Source: Hart District Council, Natural England



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



Regional, district, local and small local natural and semi-natural greenspace Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality

Accessibility catchment - 400m

- District boundary
- Special Protection Area
- Site of Special Scientific Interest

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

**Figure 8-6
B4. Small Local Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace**

Source: Hart District Council, Natural England



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

C. Green corridors

- 8.31 The quantity of green corridors by parish/ town compared to the required standard is set in the Table below.

Table 8.9: Quantity of green corridors in Hart

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town (2016) ⁵	Quantity of green corridor in parish/town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hart	-	-	0.34 ha
Blackwater and Hawley	4,531	1.31	0.29
Bramshill	117	0.41	3.5
Church Crookham	10,035	0.99	0.10
Crandall	1,649	0	0.00
Crookham Village	4,153	2.74	0.66
Dogmersfield	317	4.17	13.15
Elvetham Heath	5,163	0	0.00
Eversley	1,635	1.12	0.69
Ewshot	760	0	0.00
Fleet	23,167	4.15	0.18
Greywell	239	1.02	4.27
Hartley Wintney	5,743	0	0.00
Heckfield	311	0	0.00
Hook	8,115	0	0.00
Long Sutton	740	0	0.00
Mattingley	527	0	0.00
Odiham	6,051	4.83	0.80
Rotherwick	554	0	0.00
South Warnborough	630	0	0.00
Winchfield	673	3.56	5.29
Yateley	20,118	6.55	0.32

- 8.32 The green corridors recorded in Hart are shown in the Table below.

Table 8.10: Quality and value ratings of green corridors in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
39	Castor Court Woods	32	54	--
230	Royal Oak Valley	50	36	--
268	Blackwater Valley Path	63	59	++
213	Basingstoke Canal	66	58	++

Accessibility

- 8.33 Accessibility standards have not been provided for green corridors

Value and quality

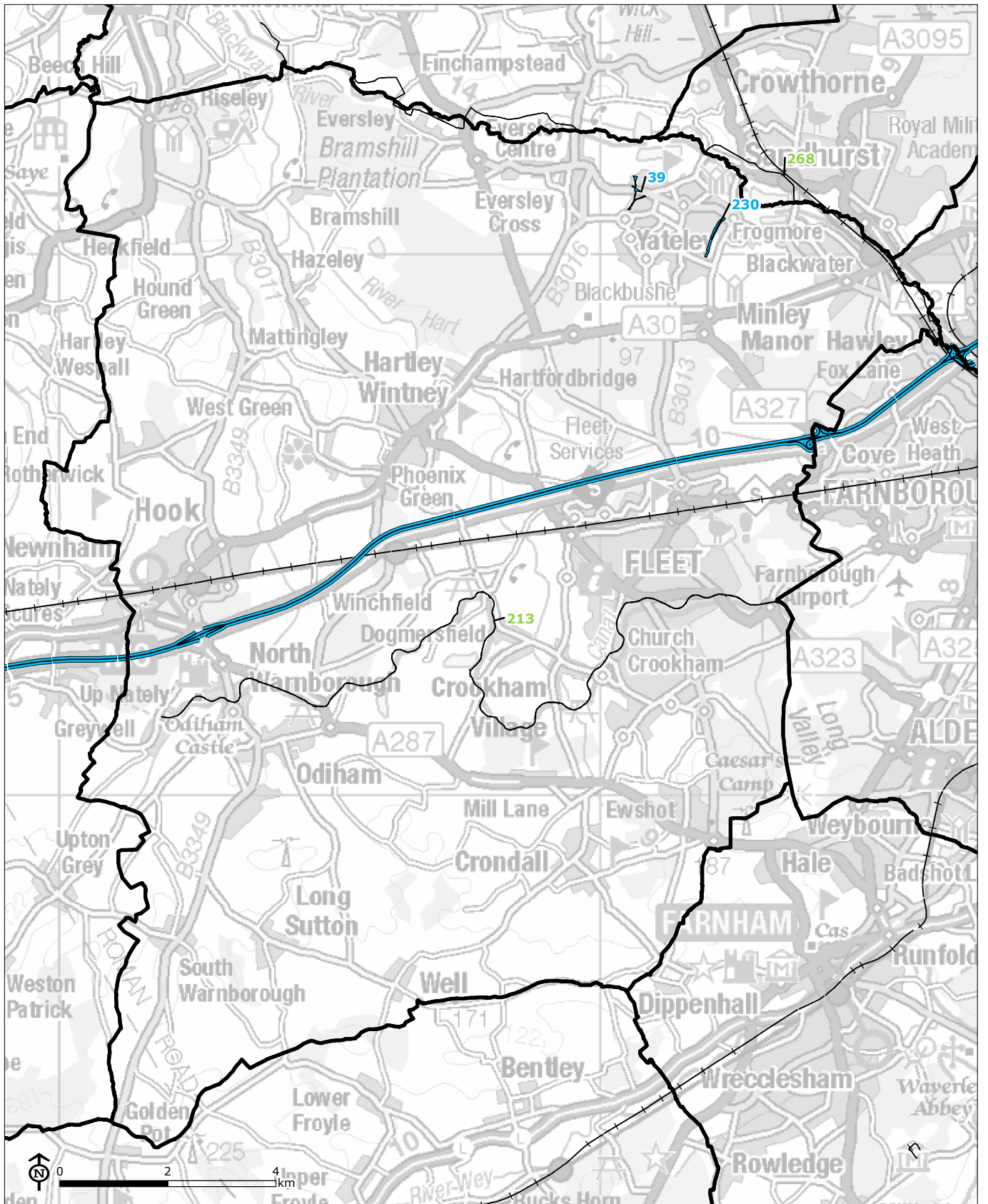
- 8.34 Four green corridors have been recorded in the Hart. Basingstoke Canal and the Blackwater Valley Path achieve the benchmark standards for quality and value as they provide for unrestricted public access and provide a range of facilities and features which allow for recreation

⁵ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

and biodiversity. However the smaller green corridors of Castor Court Woods and Royal Oak Valley fall below both the benchmark standards.

Key findings: green corridors

- Consultation with key stakeholders revealed opportunities to improve the connectivity of open spaces and the wider public rights of way network in Hart. Green corridors have the potential to form an important conduit to the connectivity of the open space network both for recreation and for biodiversity.
- There is limited provision of publicly accessible green corridors in Hart. Furthermore, of the four green corridors recorded in this study, only two sites have achieved the required quality and value benchmarks.
- Signage and better awareness of access points to the green corridors was identified as being an area which could be improved.



Green corridors

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality



District boundary

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-7
C. Green Corridors

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

D. Amenity green space

8.35 The amenity green spaces included within the open space audit are set out in the Table below.

Table 8.11: Quality and value ratings of amenity green spaces in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
258	Garden Walk	53	35	+-
220	Browning Road	43	28	--
221	Pilcot Road	51	27	--
260	Eveltham Heath Amenity Green Space	58	32	+-
229	Church End Green	53	36	+-
263	Eveltham Heath Amenity Green Space	54	29	--
234	Brinns Green	47	31	--
216	Church Crookham Amenity Green Space	65	34	++
203	Eveltham Heath Village Green	68	48	++

Accessibility

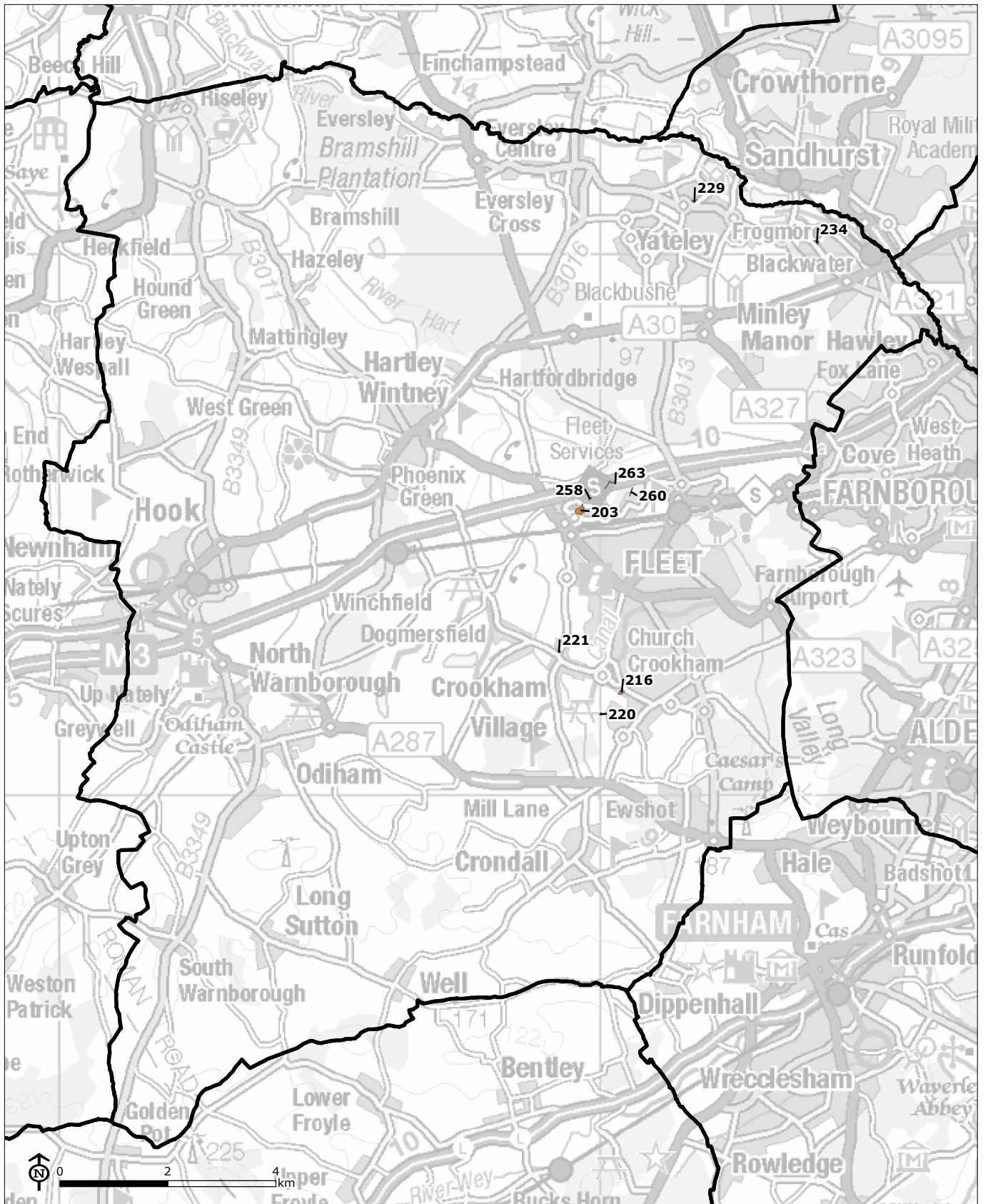
8.36 Figure 8-7 shows the spatial distribution of the amenity green spaces and parks and gardens within the district. Many of the residents within the larger villages and towns are within the 400m catchment area. However there are pockets within this areas which are outside the catchment area and many of the district's smaller villages do not have any amenity green spaces.



Value and quality

8.37 Only two of the amenity green spaces recorded within the district achieve the required standards for quality and value. Four sites fall below the standards for quality and value with two falling below the standard for quality and another site falling below the standard for value.

Key findings: Amenity green space

- Amenity green spaces contribute to the local setting of an area providing opportunities for informal recreation and often providing a valuable separation in residential areas.
- In addition to the amenity green spaces identified in this study, there are many smaller amenity green spaces which are of importance to the district's open space network. Such open spaces have the potential to provide opportunities for informal recreation and biodiversity.
- Amenity green spaces are perhaps of most importance in areas which fall outside the catchment areas for other types of open spaces such as formal parks and gardens and play spaces. In such instances amenity green spaces could be enhanced to provide a broader range of functions.



-  District boundary
-  D. Amenity greenspace

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-4
Type D. Amenity Greenspace

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

E. Allotments

- 8.38 The quantity of allotments by parish/ town compared to the required standard is set in the Table below.

Table 8.12: Quantity of allotments in Hart

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town (2016) ⁶	Quantity of allotments in parish town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hart	-	-	0.05
Blackwater and Hawley	4,531	0	0.00
Bramshill	117	0	0.00
Church Crookham	10,035	2.5	0.25
Crandall	1,649	0	0.00
Crookham Village	4,153	0.95	0.23
Dogmersfield	317	0	0.00
Elvetham Heath	5,163	0.07	0.01
Eversley	1,635	0.25	0.15
Ewshot	760	0	0.00
Fleet	23,167	0	0.00
Greywell	239	0	0.00
Hartley Wintney	5,743	0.78	0.14
Heckfield	311	0	0.00
Hook	8,115	0	0.00
Long Sutton	740	0	0.00
Mattingley	527	0	0.00
Odiham	6,051	0	0.00
Rotherwick	554	0	0.00
South Warnborough	630	0	0.00
Winchfield	673	0	0.00
Yateley	20,118	0.38	0.02

- 8.39 The results of the consultation indicate the current provision of allotments in Hart is sufficient. However this is based on the temporary provision at Hitches Lane and the proposed allotments at Edenbrook Country Park.
- 8.40 The allotments included within the open space audit are set out in the Table below.

Table 8.13: Quality and value rating of allotments in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
266	Elvetham Heath Allotments	58	33	+-
127	Grange Road	42	19	--
15	Warbrook Lane Allotments	52	25	--
247	Dilly Lane Allotments	54	32	--
232	Swan Lake Allotments	65	39	++
106	Vicarage Hill Allotments	67	35	++
267	Queen Elizabeth Barracks Allotments	78	43	++

⁶ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
273	Hitches Lane Allotments	50	30	--
	Edenbrook Allotments (To be delivered as part of Edenbrook Country Park)	n/a	n/a	n/a

Accessibility

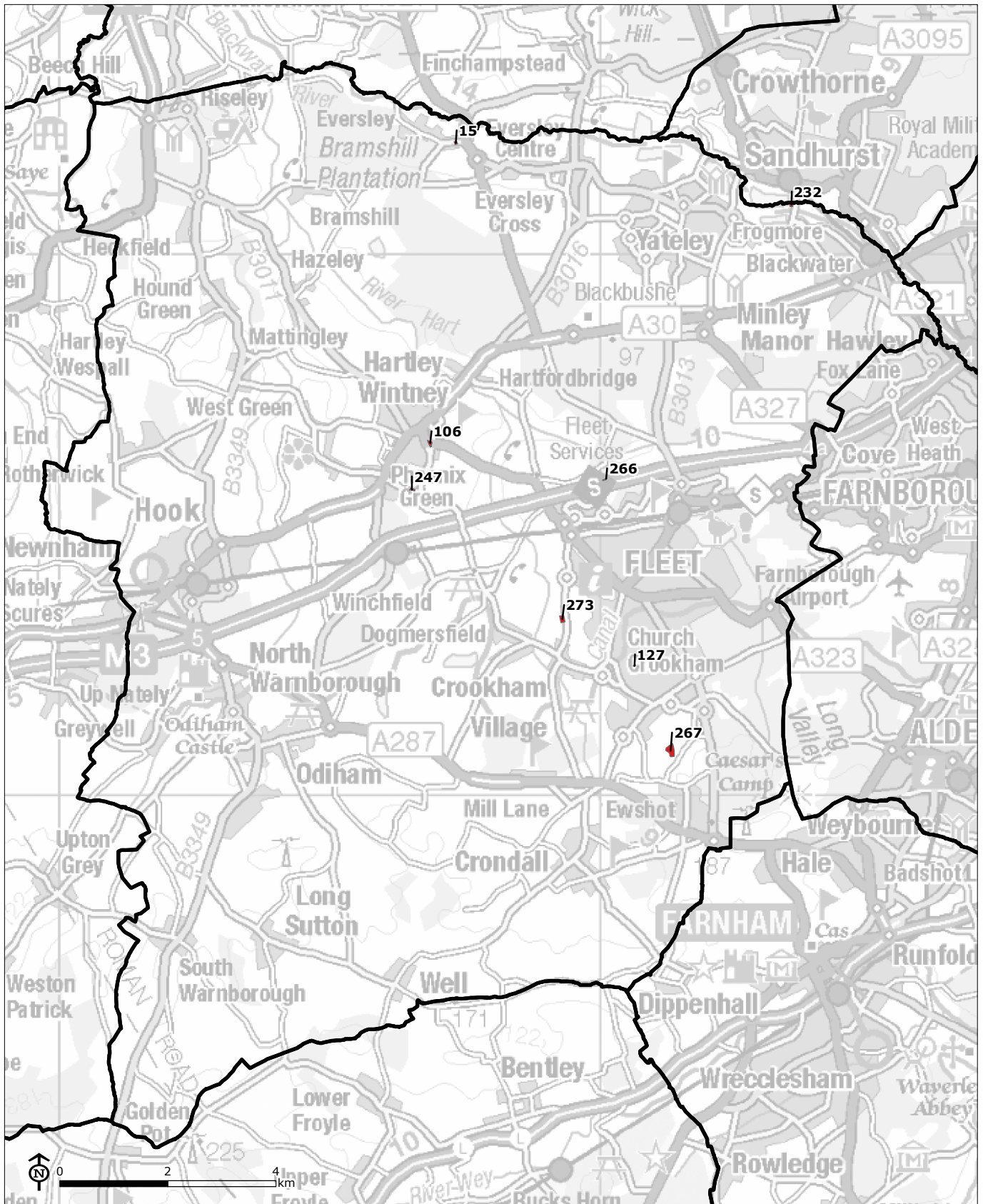
- 8.41 Only few parishes/ towns contain allotment sites with the greatest coverage in Church Crookham Eversley and Hartley Wintney. The demand for allotments in Fleet has been addressed recently thorough the provision of temporary allotment plots at Hitches Lane and a further site proposed at Edenbrook Country Park. Although current allotment provision is considered to be sufficient, future need should be regularly reviewed to ensure people are able to access allotment sites close to their homes.



Value and quality

- 8.42 Three allotment sites achieve the quality and value benchmarks for allotments as these sites have a good range of facilities and are actively being managed. However four sites fall below the benchmark standards for both quality and value and a further one site (Elvetham Heath allotments) achieves the benchmark standard for value but falls below the standard for quality.

Key findings: allotments

- Evidence gained through the consultation process suggests that, with the proposed allotment site at Edenbrook, there is sufficient allotment provision in Hart.
- The demand for allotment plots should be reviewed regularly to ensure supply meets demand keeping waiting times to a minimum.
- Any future provision should be located in close proximity to demand. Where new provision is not possible, consideration should be given to capacity at existing sites and opportunities to decrease plot size.



-  District boundary
-  E. Allotments

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 6-5
Type E. Allotments

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

F. Cemeteries and churchyards

8.43 The quantity of cemeteries and churchyards by parish/ town is set in the Table below.

Table 8.14: Quantity of cemeteries and churchyards in Hart

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town (2016) ⁷	Quantity of cemeteries and churchyards in parish/town
Hart	-	-
Blackwater and Hawley	4,531	0.23
Bramshill	117	0
Church Crookham	10,035	0
Crandall	1,649	1.12
Crookham Village	4,153	0
Dogmersfield	317	0.38
Elvetham Heath	5,163	0
Eversley	1,635	0.25
Ewshot	760	0
Fleet	23,167	0
Greywell	239	0
Hartley Wintney	5,743	1.07
Heckfield	311	0.57
Hook	8,115	0.27
Long Sutton	740	0.27
Mattingley	527	0.39
Odiham	6,051	2.05
Rotherwick	554	0
South Warnborough	630	0.45
Winchfield	673	0.14
Yateley	20,118	2.20

8.44 The cemeteries and churchyards included within the open space audit are set out in the Table below

Table 8.15: Quality and value rating of cemeteries and churchyards in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
122	Hope Cemetery	58	30	--
184	Long Sutton Graveyard	43	18	--
244	All Souls Burial Ground	50	30	--
160	Winchfield Church and Burial Ground	70	41	++
123	All Saints Church Cemetery	66	33	++
185	All Saints Church Cemetery	45	27	--
68	Hawley Cemetery	54	29	--
7	St Michael's Church	58	32	--
135	Hook Church Village Garden and Cemetery	75	38	++
17	St Mary's Church	61	38	++
6	Heckfield Burial Ground	32	15	--

⁷ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
18	Eversley Graveyard	70	33	++
168	All Saints Cemetery	55	36	+-
152	All Saints Church and Cemetery	68	40	++
77	Mattingley Church and Graveyard	64	35	++
182	St Andrews Cemetery	68	38	++
48	St Peter's Church Cemetery	55	34	+-
103	St Mary's Church	66	40	++
194	All Saints Cemetery	65	31	-+
117	Fleet Cemetery	72	32	++
52	Heathlands Cemetery	61	36	++
154	Odiham Cemetery	72	39	++

Accessibility

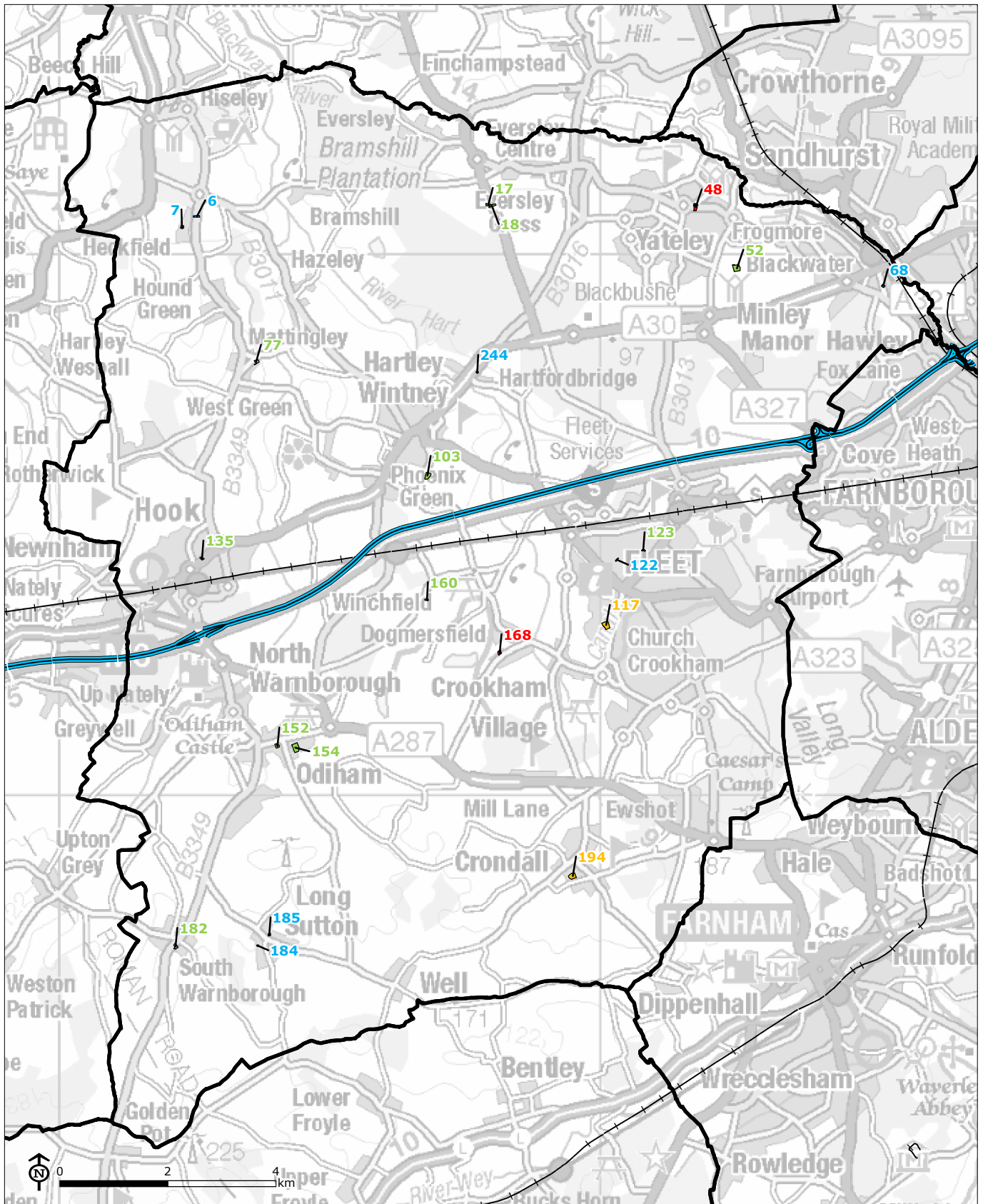
8.45 Accessibility standards have not been provided for cemeteries and churchyards.

Value and quality

8.46 22 cemeteries and churchyards have been identified in the district. 12 of these sites achieved the required benchmarks for value and quality. One site achieves the required standard for quality and two achieve the standard for value. However seven sites fall below the standards for quality and value.

Key findings: cemeteries and churchyards

- Cemeteries and churchyards have potential to contribute to Hart's open space network and provide opportunities for quiet contemplation and biodiversity. These are of particular importance in areas which fall outside the catchment area of other publicly accessible open spaces such as parks and gardens. In such incidences, the use of cemeteries and churchyards could be encouraged.



Cemeteries and churchyards

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality

District boundary

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-10
F. Cemeteries and Churchyards

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

G. Provision for children and young people

Neighbourhood equipped area for play

8.47 The quantity of neighbourhood equipped areas for play by parish/ town compared to the required standard is set in the Table below. The following parishes/ towns achieve or exceed the quantity standard of 1.10 sites per 1,000 head of population within 16-29 age group:

- Church Crookham
- Crookham Village
- Eversley
- Ewshot
- Fleet

Table 8.16: Quantity of Neighbourhood equipped areas for play in Hart

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town within 5 to 15 age group(2016) ⁸	Number of sites in parish/ town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hart	-	14	1.10 sites per 1,000 head of population within 16 to 29 age group
Blackwater and Hawley	504	0	0
Bramshill	8	0	0
Church Crookham	1,549	3	1.93
Crandall	228	0	0
Crookham Village	678	1	1.47
Dogmersfield	31	0	0
Elvetham Heath	1,171	1	0.85
Eversley	247	1	4.05
Ewshot	81	1	12.35
Fleet	2,868	4	1.47
Greywell	36	0	0
Hartley Wintney	776	0	0
Heckfield	40	0	0
Hook	1,162	1	0.98
Long Sutton	165	0	0
Mattingley	63	0	0
Odiham	784	0	0
Rotherwick	68	0	0
South Warnborough	84	0	0
Winchfield	73	0	0
Yateley	2,653	2	0.75

8.48 The NEAPS recorded in Hart are listed in the Table below.

⁸ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Table 8.17: Quality and value ratings of neighbourhood equipped areas for play in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
120 & 121	The Views	7	22	++
61	Frogmore Open Space Playground	2	26	+-
25	Chequers Green Youth Facilities	4	12	-+
125	Oakley Park Teenage Area	4	12	-+
130	Haig Lines (Azalea Gardens) Play Area	3	38	+-
177	Ewshot Recreation Ground Play Area	2	26	+-
271	Quetta Park rebound Wall	5	1	-+
265	Culver Copse Play Area 1	3	22	+-
214	High Trees	3	22	+-
136, 137 & 138	Hartletts Park	14	39	++
223	Fallowfield Play Area	2	18	--
239	Lea Green Play Area	11	30	++
259	Nature Reserve Play Area	3	21	+-
264	Culver Copse Play Area 2	3	15	--

Accessibility

- 8.49 The provision of NEAPs varies greatly across the district. The majority of these play spaces are located in or near to Fleet and Church Crookham. Other provision is located in Ewshot, Eversley, Elvetham Heath, Hook, Yateley and Blackwater. As a result the vast majority of the district's population are not with the prescribed catchment area of 600m.

Value and quality

- 8.50 Nine of the play areas achieve the benchmark standards for value. Three sites also achieve the benchmark standards for quality. Four play areas achieve the quality standard but fall below the standards for value.

Local equipped area for play

- 8.51 The quantity of local equipped areas for play by parish/ town compared to the required standard is set in the Table below. The following parishes/ towns achieve or exceed the quantity standard of 1.49 sites per 1,000 head of population within 5-15 age group:
- Blackwater and Hawley
 - Crondall
 - Eversley
 - Hook
 - Long Sutton
 - Odiham

Table 8.18: Quantity of local equipped areas for play

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town within 5 to 15 age group(2016) ⁹	Number of sites in parish/ town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hart	-	21	1.65 sites per 1,000 head of population within 5 to 15 age group
Blackwater and Hawley	504	1	1.98
Bramshill	8	0	0
Church Crookham	1,549	1	0.65
Crandall	228	1	4.39
Crookham Village	678	1	1.47
Dogmersfield	31	0	0
Elvetham Heath	1,171	1	0.85
Eversley	247	2	8.10
Ewshot	81	0	0
Fleet	2,868	4	1.31
Greywell	36	0	0
Hartley Wintney	776	0	0
Heckfield	40	0	0
Hook	1,162	3	2.49
Long Sutton	165	1	6.06
Mattingley	63	0	0
Odiham	784	3	3.83
Rotherwick	68	0	0
South Warnborough	84	0	0
Winchfield	73	0	0
Yateley	2,653	3	1.13

8.52 The LEAPS recorded in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.19: Quality and value ratings of local equipped area for play

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
186	Long Sutton Play Ground	3	19	++
192	Hook Meadow Playground	3	33	++
151	Chamberlain Gardens Equipped Play Area	2	17	--
270	Quetta Park Play Area	2	26	+-
22	Eversley Centre Village Green Play Area	2	15	--
148	Chapel Pond Drive Play Area	2	19	--
147	Buften Field Play Area	2	25	+-
174	Zebon Copse	6	19	++
66	Hawley Green Equipped Play Area	2	20	--

⁹ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
139	Anne Pitcher Play Area	4	20	--
41	Yateley Green Play Area	11	34	++
226	Monteagle Play Area	2	15	--
112	Elvetham Heath Green Play Area	8	16	--
225	Lower Canes Play Area	2	15	--
134	Wellworth Park Playground	1	25	+-
129	Basingbourne Recreation Area Playground	2	29	+-
126	Oakley Park Equipped Play Area	2	26	+-
116	Ancells Park Recreation Area	2	33	+-
26	Chequers Green Equipped Play Area	1	11	--

Accessibility

- 8.53 Only 11 of the parishes/ towns in Hart contain at least one LEAP. Although six of the parishes and districts exceed the quantity standard, sections of the population in these areas do not live within the 240m catchment area for these spaces.

Value and quality

- 8.54 Only eight of the 19 LEAPs audited achieve the benchmark standard for quality with a further eight sites achieving the value threshold. Hook Meadow Playground and Yateley Green Play Area are the only sites to achieve both standards. The following seven LEAPs fall below the standards for quality and value:

- Chamberlain Gardens Equipped Play Area
- Eversley Centre Village Green Play Area
- Chapel Pond Drive Play Area
- Hawley Green Equipped Play Area
- Monteagle Play Area
- Lower Canes Play Area
- Chequers Green Equipped Play Area

Local area for play

- 8.55 The quantity of local areas for play by parish/ town compared to the required standard is set in the Table below. The following six parishes/ towns exceed the quantity standard for LAPs:

- Crookham Village
- Elvetham Heath
- Eversley
- Hartley Wintney
- Hook
- South Warnborough

- 8.56 12 parishes/ towns do not contain any local areas for play.

Table 8.20: Quantity of local areas for play

Parish/ Town	Projected population of parish/ town within 0 to 4 age group(2016) ¹⁰	Number of sites in parish/ town	Ha/ 1,000 head of population
Hart	-	18	2.81 sites per 1,000 head of population within 0 to 4 age group
Blackwater and Hawley	247	0	0
Bramshill	3	0	0
Church Crookham	723	0	0
Crandall	91	0	0
Crookham Village	272	1	3.68
Dogmersfield	20	0	0
Elvetham Heath	442	3	6.79
Eversley	73	2	27.4
Ewshot	39	0	0
Fleet	1,273	1	0.79
Greywell	10	0	0
Hartley Wintney	349	4	11.46
Heckfield	14	0	0
Hook	457	4	8.72
Long Sutton	25	0	0
Mattingley	28	0	0
Odiham	469	1	2.13
Rotherwick	25	0	0
South Warnborough	26	1	38.46
Winchfield	24	0	0
Yateley	1,050	1	0.95

8.57 The LAPS recorded in Hart are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.21: Quality and value ratings of local areas of play in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
140	Dave Deadman Play Area	2	20	+-
218	Zebon Copse Play Area	2	21	+-
110	Twyford Close Play Area	2	20	+-
102	Mitchells Avenue Play Area	6	27	++
269	Calthorpe Park Play Area	2	7	--
132	John Morgan Close Equipped Play Area	1	17	--
80	Springfield Avenue Playground	2	23	+-
36	Eversley Cross Village Green Play Area	1	16	--

¹⁰ Projected population for parishes and towns provided by Hampshire County Environment Department's 2014 based Small Area Population Forecasts for 2016 (<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/factsandfigures/population-statistics/pop-estimates/small-area-pop-stats.htm>)

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
131	Playground next to bowling green	5	20	++
115	Giffard Lane Playground	2	18	--
179	South Warnborough Recreation Ground Play Area	9	17	-+
108	The Mounts Play Area	3	18	-+
55	Maple Gardens Playground	1	14	--
149	Odiham Recreation Ground Play Area	4	22	++
243	Haywarden Place Play Area	2	15	--
246	Hartney Wintney Play Area	3	14	-+

Accessibility

- 8.58 The provision of LAPs reflects the overall provision of play spaces within Hart. The greatest concentration of LAPs is within the largest settlements including Yateley, Eversley Cross, Elvetham Heath and Hook. However even in these locations, there significant sections of the community which are not within the 60m catchment area.

Value and quality

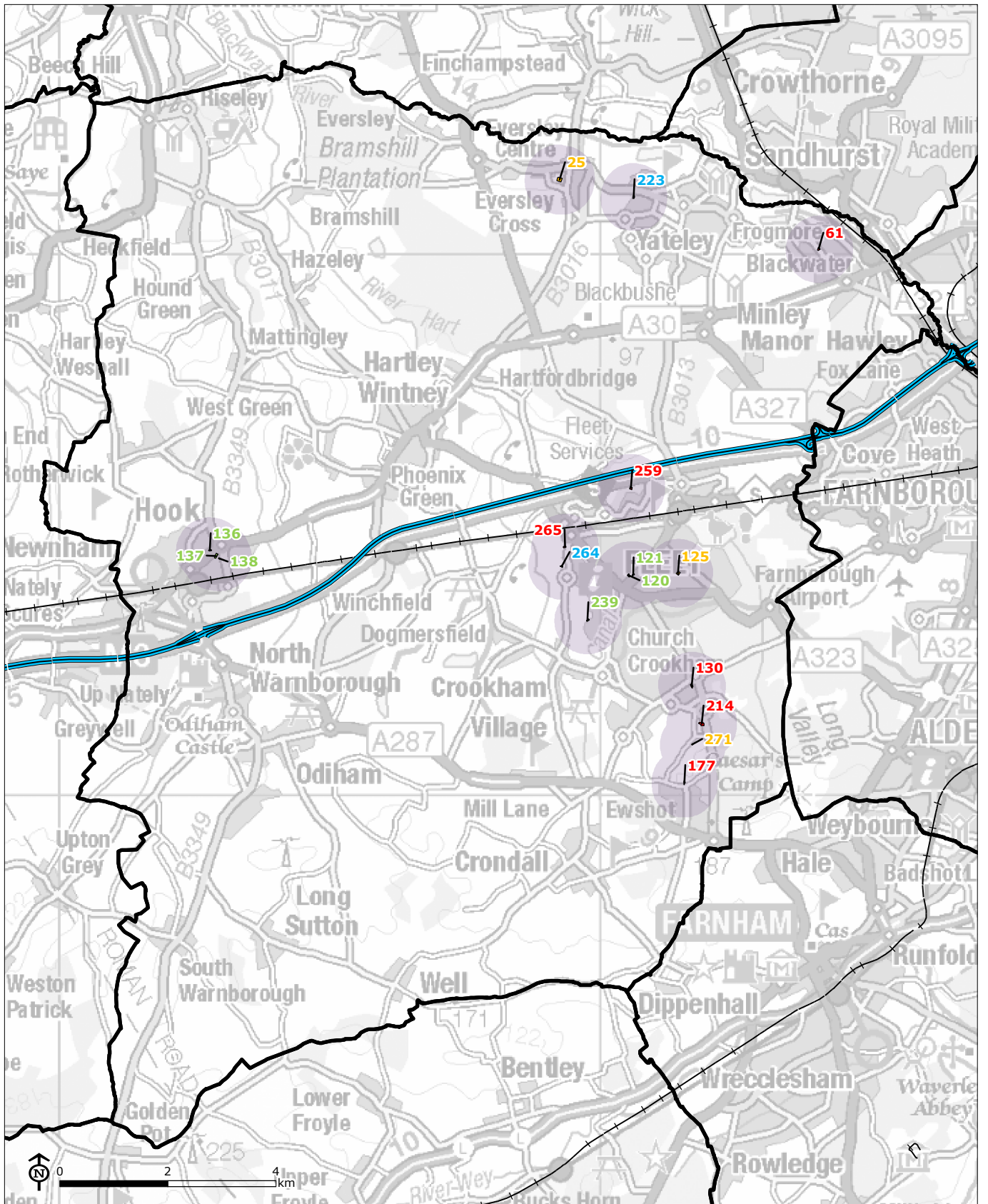
- 8.59 The condition of the LAPs in Hart could be improved with the site audits revealing that ten of the 16 LAPs do not achieve the quality standard. Only seven sites achieve the value standard with just four sites achieving both standards:

- Mitchells Avenue Play Area
- Playground next to bowling green
- Odiham Recreation Ground Play Area

- 8.60 Six sites fall below both standards.

Key findings: Provision for children and young people

- There is a range of play opportunities throughout the district but these tend to be clustered around the larger settlements such as Yateley, Fleet, Church Crookham, Hook and Odiham. Sections of the District do not have any play provision.
- The majority of play spaces within the district fall within the LEAP category with the fewest facilities falling with the NEAP category.
- Smaller play spaces should be located within close proximity of homes with all play spaces being within easy walking distance of residential areas.
- Increasing access to play spaces should be considered and all open spaces should provide a broad range of play value (e.g. natural play elements or traditional play equipment).
- Future provision should also consider the demands for other active recreation pursuits such as bmx, mountain biking and horse riding.



NEAPs

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality

Accessibility catchment - 600m

District boundary

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

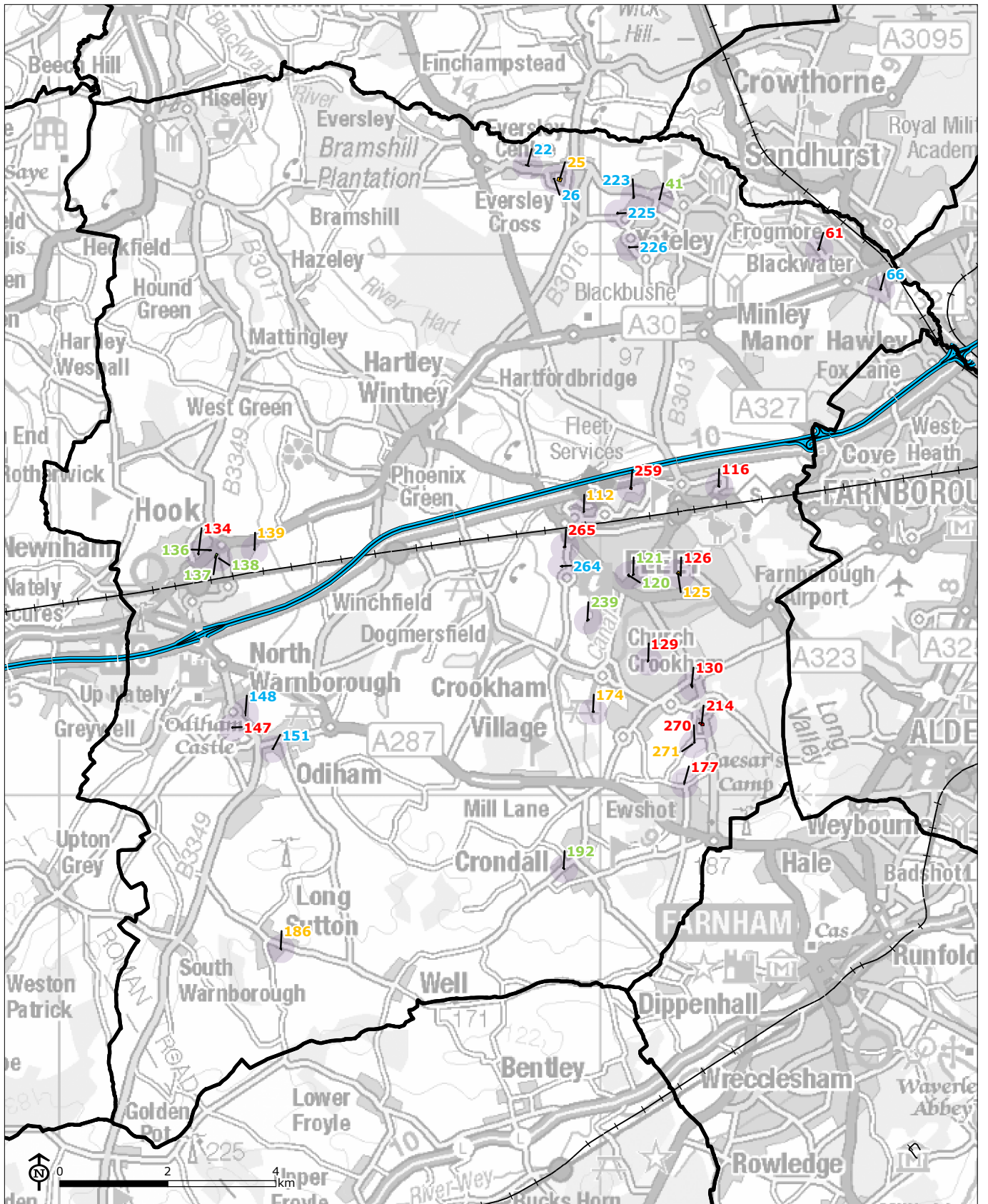
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-11
Accessibility Catchment
NEAPs

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



NEAP and LEAPs

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality
- Accessibility catchment - 240m

District boundary

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- ++ Rail line

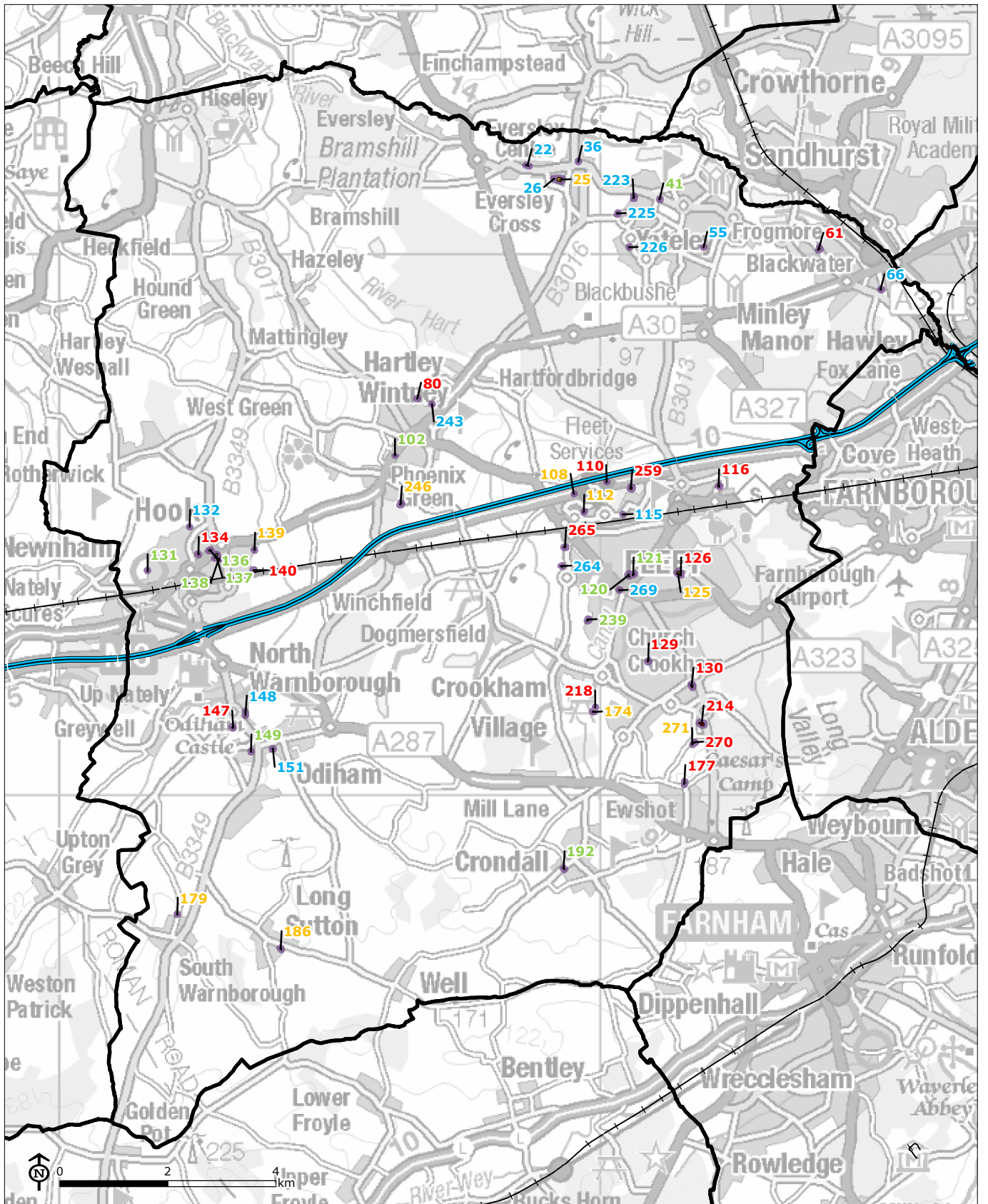
Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-12
Accessibility Catchment LEAPs

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000



- NEAPs, LEAPs and LAPs**
- Value and quality rating**
- High value/High quality
 - Low value/High quality
 - High value/Low quality
 - Low value/Low quality
 - Accessibility catchment - 60m

- District boundary
- Motorway
- Rail line

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-13
Accessibility Catchment
LAPs

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

H. Roadside verge

8.61 The roadside verges recorded during the audit are listed in the Table below.

Table 8.22: Quality and value ratings of roadside verges in Hart

Site ID	Site name	Quality score	Value score	VQ rating
56	Monteagle Open Space	46	21	+ -
57	Darby Green Lane	47	29	++
30	Up Green Verge	52	29	++
90	A30 Verge	35	17	--
79	Hazeley Bottom Verge	46	27	++
43	Handford Lane Verge	61	46	++
32	Marsh Lane Verge	46	28	++
166	Hillside Road Verge	38	18	--
164	Odiham Road Verge	47	21	+ -

Accessibility

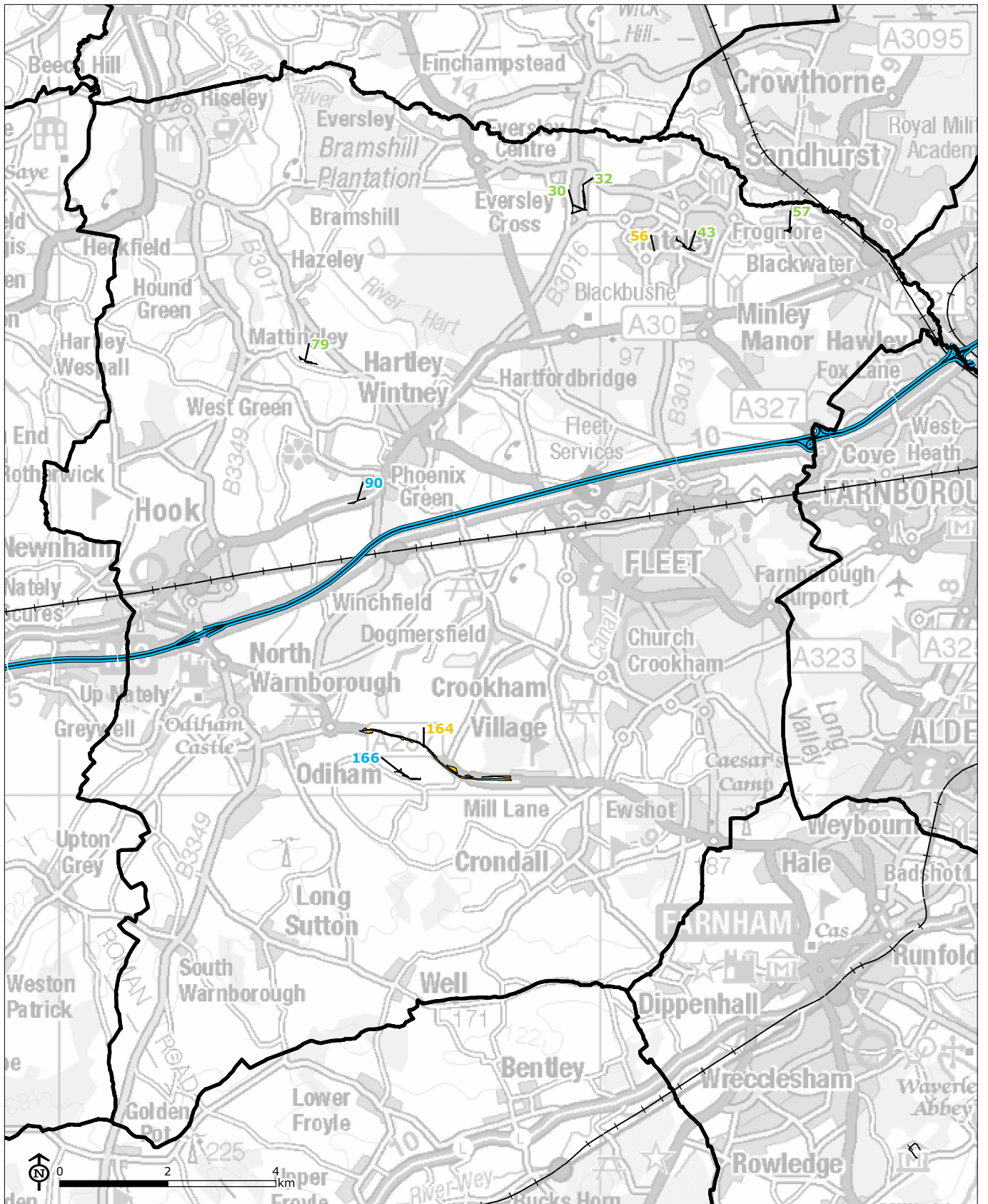
8.62 Accessibility standards have not been provided for roadside verges.

Value and quality

8.63 Nine roadside verges were audited as part of the study. Five of these sites achieved the quality and value thresholds. However two sites fell below the thresholds and two further sites fell below the thresholds for value.

Key findings: Roadside verges

- Nine significant roadside verges have been identified in this study. Roadside verges may offer opportunities for recreational activities and may adjoin public rights of way. They can also contain habitats for nature conservation, contribute to local character and act as a buffer to transport routes and industry.



Road verges

Value and quality rating

- High value/High quality
- Low value/High quality
- High value/Low quality
- Low value/Low quality



District boundary

Barriers to access

- Motorway
- Rail line

Hart Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study

Figure 8-14
H. Road Verges

Source: Hart District Council



Map Scale @ A4: 1:100,000

9 Recommendations for implementation

- 9.1 This section identifies the implications of the study for future open space provision within Hart. This study has provided a sound evidence base to inform the Local Plan. Key policy recommendations are outlined in the relation to the following:
- Key observations on the open space provision in Hart
 - Application of standards
 - Approach to funding and the Community Infrastructure Levy
- 9.2 Local Plan policies should be updated to reflect the specific standards that have been identified for each open space typology, the deficiencies identified, and the opportunities proposed to enhance provision in Hart.

Key observations on the open space provision in Hart

Ownership and management of open space provision

- 9.3 The District is divided into 21 parishes each having access to publicly accessible open spaces. Many of these spaces are managed by the relevant parish or town council. Hart District Council is just one of many organisations responsible for the management of publicly accessible open spaces in the District, with the Forestry Commission and the Ministry of Defence owning large tracts of natural and semi-natural green space. Other organisations such as Hampshire County Council, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Basingstoke Canal Authority, the National Trust and the Blackwater Valley Partnership are also responsible for the management of land under their guardianship. Furthermore Wellington Country Park and Tri-Lakes Country Park, both in the north of the district, are public open spaces but require an entrance fee.
- 9.4 All land that offers some form of public access contributes to the overall open space provision in the district. The future management and delivery of open spaces should therefore be coordinated to meet the aims and aspirations of each organisation as well as the residents of Hart, balancing the need to protect sites sensitive for nature conservation values whilst continuing to provide opportunities for active recreation. A coordinated approach could also enable land managers to share information as well as skills and knowledge.

Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area

- 9.5 Hart contains large tracts of land which form part of the Thames Basin Heath SPA, which is designated under European Directive 79.409/EEC because of its populations of heathland species. The saved South East Plan Policy NRM6: Thames Basin Heath SPA requires new residential development that is likely to have a significant effect on the SPA to put in place suitable measure to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects. Of specific relevance to the provision of open space in Hart is the provision of SANGs. Eight hectares of SANG are required for every 1,000 new head of population. SANG can either be areas of existing or new open spaces which can be made more accessible and attractive to visitors, with the intention of providing outdoor recreation and therefore resulting in no additional impact on the protected Thames Basin Heaths from the increased population associated with the development.

Quantity and accessibility of open space provision

Quantity

- 9.6 The largest quantity of open space in Hart falls within the natural and semi-natural green space typology. This is also the only typology to contain sites which are of sufficient size to be categorised as providing Regional or District scale provision. Larger sites tend to attract visitors throughout the region and district and provide opportunities for informal recreation such as dog

walking, cycling and horse riding. However much of the larger spaces within this typology form part of the TBHSPA and/ or designated a SSSI. The public use of these sites should be carefully managed and the potential impact of the anticipated increase in population should be mitigated.

- 9.7 SANGs should continue to be provided to comply with European legislation linked to the TBHSPA. However the provision of SANGs should not replace the need to provide more formal open space provision which offers opportunities for recreational activities.
- 9.8 It is therefore of great importance to ensure there is sufficient quantity of formal open space such as parks and gardens and that smaller open spaces (within all typologies) are able to respond to the anticipated increase in use.
- 9.9 Allotment provision within Hart is limited with many people on waiting lists for a plot. However new provision is proposed at Edenbrook Country Park and this new facility is expected to meet the current demand. The demand for allotment plots should be continued to be monitored to ensure waiting times are kept to a minimum. If new provision is not possible, efforts should be made to ensure all plots are actively managed and a reduction in the standard size of plots should be considered.

Accessibility

- 9.10 Open space provision varies across the district with some parishes not containing any publicly accessible open space. Opportunities for increasing provision in these areas will be restricted to the availability of land. In such areas the public rights of way network forms an important part of the open space provision. The protection and strengthening of this network should be a priority along with ensuring access is promoted to other open spaces within the district (and neighbouring areas).
- 9.11 Parts of the district fall outside the catchment areas for formal open spaces such as parks and gardens. Ensuring residential areas have easy access to a range of open spaces including spaces which provide opportunities for formal and informal recreational activities should be prioritised. Any new provision should be located close to developments.
- 9.12 Play spaces should also be provided within walking distance of population centres and could either take the form of traditional playgrounds or more natural play spaces. Consultation revealed a desire to provide a greater diversity of facilities for teenagers and young people. Many areas of the district fall outside of the catchment areas for these spaces.
- 9.13 The importance of the open spaces in Hart for active recreation activities such as cycling and horse riding should not be overlooked. At present much of these pursuits are carried out on land not owned/ managed by Hart and many of these sites form part of the TBHSPA. A priority for future open space provision should be to ensure that alternative sites are available (and promoted) for use of active recreation. Where possible, new sites (such as the proposed Edenbrook Country Park) should be of an appropriate size and design to provide a broad range of features and facilities.

Quantity and accessibility standards

- 9.14 Following the completion of a detailed and comprehensive assessment of open space and local needs analysis, the following open space standards are recommended for adoption in the future Local Plan:

Table 9.1: Open space standards for Hart

Type	Quantity standard	Accessibility standard
Parks and gardens	0.85 ha per 1,000 head of population	Local park and gardens: 800m Small local parks and gardens: 400m
Natural and semi-natural green space (excluding designated sites)	Areas within TBHSPA Zone of Influence: 8 ha per 1,000 head of population All other areas: 6.92 ha per 1,000 head of population	Regional natural and semi-natural green space: 5km District natural and semi-natural green space: 4km Local natural and semi-natural green

Type	Quantity standard	Accessibility standard
		space: 2km Small local natural and semi-natural green space: 400m
Green Corridors	0.34 ha per 1,000 head of population	n/a
Amenity green space	n/a	400m
Allotments	0.05 ha per 1,000 head of population	800m
Cemeteries and churchyards	n/a	n/a
Children and young peoples' space: LAPs	2.81 sites per 1,000 head of population within 0-4 age group	60m
Children and young peoples' space: LEAPS	1.49 sites per 1,000 head of population within 5-15 age group	240m
Children and young peoples' space: NEAPS	1.10 site per 1,000 head of population within 16 - 29 age group	600m
Roadside verges	n/a	n/a

- 9.15 These standards have been developed through reviewing those set by comparable boroughs as well as national standards and are underpinned by the analysis of the consultation process. The quantity standards should be used to enhance the open space network in Hart and to prioritise provision in areas which currently fall below the required standards for quantity and/or accessibility. The quantity standard should also be used to guide future provision in relation to new development.
- 9.16 The accessibility standards help to identify what type of open space is already provided in the vicinity of a proposed development, which will help to decide whether onsite provision is required, or whether an offsite contribution to provide enhancement may be more appropriate (e.g. this could be the case when a development already has good access to local scale open spaces).
- 9.17 However whilst these standards are recommended for future planning purposes, it is important that some flexibility is allowed with respect to provision standards to take into account individual circumstances. As such Hart Council may consider it is appropriate to enhance an existing facility rather than require new provision of a lesser facility.
- 9.18 Although this study has audited many open spaces in the district, there will inevitably be sites which were not audited in detail due to their size. These sites are generally found in the neighbourhood areas and provide for a range of uses including amenity green spaces, places for biodiversity and as play opportunities. These smaller open spaces are an important element of Hart's open space network, particularly in both urban and residential areas. Hart Council should consider on a case by case assessment of the significance of smaller scale sites to meet open space needs before considering the release of these sites for development.

Quality and value of open space provision

- 9.19 The quality and value standards provide a benchmark standard against which the need for enhancement of existing facilities can be measured. This will help provide guidelines for the quality of new open spaces which may be provided through new development. The audit scores will also help identify priorities for negotiating and allocating developer contribution.
- 9.20 There are open spaces within each typology and hierarchy which fall below the relevant benchmark standard. The future approach to open space planning should be to prioritise the

improvement of these spaces. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, Hart Council may consider the open space to be surplus to requirements in terms of its present primary use.

Strengthening the open space network

- 9.21 Although the responses from the consultation process carried out during the preparation of this study revealed that the majority of respondents are able to walk to a publicly accessible open space, it was also noted that provision was fragmented. It was also noted that there is often little awareness of the range of open spaces available in Hart.
- 9.22 Future management should aim to create a joined up and multi-functional network of open spaces which links to settlements. Enhancement of the Public Rights of Way Network has a role to play in this regard. Opportunities should also be considered to improve signage to, and at, open spaces (e.g. directional, welcoming and interpretative material) as well as ensuring greater information is provided on websites.

Recommendations for future open space provision

- 9.23 Hart Council should consider the following for inclusion in future planning policies:
1. Protect existing open spaces as an important community, nature conservation and heritage resource.
 2. Use the standards set out in this document to guide improvement to existing provision and to guide provision of new open spaces in the future (see Table 9.1 above) particularly in areas which currently fall below the required standards for quantity and accessibility.
 3. Provide open spaces that positively welcome people in terms of physical and social access.
 4. Ensure a healthy, safe and secure experience for users.
 5. Ensure sites which have been identified as falling below the thresholds for quality and/ or value are prioritised to ensure open spaces are well-maintained and meet the needs of the communities they serve.
 6. Promote the environmental qualities and the sustainability of open spaces through carrying out appropriate management practices.
 7. Maintain and enhance the landscape character and nature conservation value of Hart's open spaces whilst ensuring provision for contemporary users.
 8. Provide opportunities to increase community use and involvement in the management of open space (e.g. through events, education, interpretation and developing partnerships).
 9. Ensure effective promotion of the open space network in Hart.
 10. Seek to strengthen the open space network through close working with other land management organisations in the district and preparing a green infrastructure strategy to ensure provision meets the needs for the district's residents and nature conservation.
- 9.24 The findings of this study should also be used to inform priorities for future investment.

Application of open space standards to new developments

- 9.25 The application of the open space standards to new development in Hart should be appropriate to the scale of the development proposed. Large residential developments should be required to incorporate new open space which reflects the accessibility, quantity, quality and value standards outlined in this report. All new open space should be multi-functional meeting the requirements of the Thames Basin Heath SPA mitigation strategy (where appropriate) but also to ensure opportunities for active recreation are provided.
- 9.26 Other residential developments should be required to contribute funds towards the creation/ enhancement of open space on a per dwelling basis.

Community Infrastructure Levy

9.27 The Community Infrastructure Levy was introduced through the Planning Act in 2008 with the aim of supporting and incentivising new development. It is payable by developers towards the cost local and sub-regional infrastructure to support development. Open spaces are included in the types of infrastructure that are eligible for CIL funding. To apply CIL, Hart District Council will need to set a tariff for developers to contribute to open space provision. This could contribute to both the delivery of new open spaces but also for the ongoing maintenance. The broad approach would involve the following tasks:

- Identify future open space needs based on the application of standards set out in this report to the preferred option for development.
- Estimate the cost for the necessary open space investment needed.
- Identify funding likely to be available for open spaces and any funding gaps.
- Review the potential implications of the required CIL on the economic viability of new development in the district.
- Quantify the approximate open space tariff per household based on the total funding gap divided by the planned number of new dwellings.

Appendix 1

List of sites of open spaces included within this study

Site ID	Site Name
2	Heckfield Heath
6	Heckfield Burial Ground
7	St Michael's Church
14	Great A Village Green
15	Warbrook Lane Allotments
17	St Mary's Church
18	Eversley Graveyard
19	Up Green Village Green
20	Eversley Green Space
21	Eversley Centre Village Green
22	Eversley Centre Village Green Play Area
24	Chequers Green Amenity Greenspace
25	Chequers Green Youth Facilities
26	Chequers Green Equipped Play Area
28	Firgrove Road Green Space
30	Up Green Verge
32	Marsh Lane Verge
34	Eversley Cross Village Green
36	Eversley Cross Village Green Play Area
39	Castor Court Woods
41	Yateley Green Play Area
42	Yateley Green
43	Handford Lane Verge
48	St Peter's Church Cemetery
51	Yateley Country Park
52	Heathlands Cemetery
55	Maple Gardens Playground
56	Monteagle Open Space Play Ground
57	Darby Green Lane
61	Frogmore Open Space Playground
62	Frogmore Open Space
64	Rosemary Lane Woods
66	Hawley Green Equipped Play Area
68	Hawley Cemetery
69	Hound Green Woods
70	Hound Green
71	Lyde Green
74	Dipley Woods
75	Stoken Lane Woods
76	Mattingley Green
77	Mattingley Church and Graveyard
78	Hazeley Heath
79	Hazeley Bottom Verge
80	Springfield Avenue Playground
82	Stroud Green
88	West Green Common
90	A30 Verge
91	Pheonix Green Woods
92	A30 Green Space

Site ID	Site Name
93	Hartley Wintney Commons
96	Dilly Lane
97	Grange Lane Woodland
100	Hunts Common
102	Mitchells Avenue Play Area
103	St Mary's Church
106	Vicarage Hill Allotments
107	The Mounts Open Space
108	The Mounts Play Area
110	Twyford Close Play Area
111	Edenbrook Country Park
112	Elvetham Heath Green Play Area
115	Giffard Lane Playground
116	Ancells Park Recreation Area
117	Fleet Cemetery
118	Calthorpe Park
119	The Views Meadow
120	The Views Equipped Play Area
121	The Views Skate Park
122	Hope Cemetery
123	All Saints Church Cemetery
124	Oakley Park
125	Oakley Park Teenage Area
126	Oakley Park Equipped Play Area
127	Grange Road
128	Basingbourne Park
129	Basingbourne Recreation Area Playground
130	Haig Lines (Azalea Gardens) Play Area
131	Playground next to bowling green
132	John Morgan Close Equipped Play Area
133	Wellworth Park Open Space
134	Wellworth Park Playground
135	Hook Church Village Garden and Cemetery
136	Hartletts Park Skate Park
137	Hartletts Park MUGA
138	Hartletts Park Playground
139	Anne Pitcher Play Area
140	Dave Deadman Play Area
141	Carleton Close Woods
143	Hook Common
144	Tunnel Lane Green Space
145	River Whitewater Flood Plain
146	North Warnborough Recreation Ground Play Area
147	Bufton Field Play Area
148	Chapel Pond Drive Play Area
149	Odiham Recreation Ground Play Area
150	Odiham Recreation Ground
151	Chamberlain Gardens Equipped Play Area
152	All Saints Church and Cemetery

Site ID	Site Name
154	Odiham Cemetery
155	Odiham Common
157	Wilks Water Gardens
160	Winchfield Church and Burial Ground
162	Park Wall Copse
163	Hillside Woods
164	Odiham Road Verge
166	Hillside Road Verge
167	Dogmersfield Woodland
168	All Saints Cemetery
174	Zebon Copse
177	Ewshot Recreation Ground Play Area
179	South Warnborough Recreation Ground Play Area
182	St Andrews Cemetery
183	South Warnborough Manor and Park
184	Long Sutton Graveyard
185	All Saints Church Cemetery
186	Long Sutton Play Ground
192	Hook Meadow Playground
194	All Saints Cemetery
195	Farnham Lane Recreation Ground
197	Fleet Pond
198	Elvetham Heath Nature Reserve
199	Velmead
201	Bassett's Mead Country Park
203	Eveltham Heath Village Green
204	Quetta Park
205	Zebon Copse
206	Turner's Way Recreation Ground
208	Dilly Lane
209	Clarks Farm
210	Hawley Meadows and Blackwater Park
211	QEB SANG
212	Shepherd Meadow
213	Basingstoke Canal
214	High Trees
216	Church Crookham Amenity Green Space
218	Zebon Copse Play Area
219	Zebon Copse
220	Browning Road
221	Pilcot Road
222	Moulsham Green
223	Fallowfield Play Area
224	Fallowfield Open Space
225	Lower Canes Play Area
226	Monteagle Play Area
227	Monteagle Open Space
229	Church End Green
230	Royal Oak Valley

Site ID	Site Name
231	Cricket Hill Pond
232	Swan Lake Allotments
233	Darby Green
234	Brinns Green
235	Long Sutton Pond
237	Hook Meadow Recreation Ground
238	Castle Bottom Nature Reserve
239	Lea Green Play Area
240	Lea Green
241	Hannam's Copse
242	Springfield Avenue Woodland
243	Haywarden Place Play Area
244	All Souls Burial Ground
245	Green Lane
246	Hartney Wintey Play Area
247	Dilly Lane Allotments
248	Odiham Wharf
249	Odiham Castle
250	Ewshot Recreation Ground
251	Ancells Road
252	Ravenscourt Recreation Ground
253	South Warnborough Recreation Ground
254	Woodland Walk
255	Woodland Walk
256	Woodland Walk
257	Woodland Walk
258	Garden Walk
259	Nature Reserve Play Area
260	Elvetham Heath Amenity Green Space
261	Woodland Walk
262	Woodland
263	Elvetham Heath Amenity Green Space
264	Culver Copse Play Area
265	Culver Copse Play Area
266	Elvetham Heath Allotments
267	QEB Allotments
268	Blackwater Valley Path
269	Calthorpe Park Play Area
270	Quetta Park Play Area
271	Quetta Park rebound Wall
272	Frogmore Youth Shelter
273	Hitches Lane Allotments

Appendix 2
Scored audit form

Site ID:

Site Name:

Typology:

Section A - Survey Information

Date of audit:

Time spent surveying:

Surveyor:

Survey site access:

Section A - Site Information

Site ID:

Typology:

Site name:

Parish:

Area (Ha):

Owner:

Easting:

Stakeholder:

Northing:

Manager:

Section A - Baseline Assessment - Planning Designation

National (Statutory) - Score of 3 if present

- Listed building
- Scheduled Monument
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- National Nature Reserve (NNR)
- Green Belt
- Public Footpath
- AONB
- SPA
- SAC
- Ramsar

National (Non-statutory) - Score of 3 if present

- EH Register of Historic Parks and Gardens
- Sustrans Cycle Routes
- Within a Flood Risk Zone

County - Score of 2 if present

- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)

Local - Score of 1 if present

- Conservation Area
- Local Nature Reserve
- Building of Local Importance
- SANGS

Site ID:

Site Name:

Typology:

Section A - Baseline Assessment - Community Involvement

Is there a 'Friends of' group for this site?

Name of group:

Is there a programme of activities / events that take place at the site?

If so, score the quality of the events programme (0-5):

Section A - Baseline Assessment - Management

Is there a full-time staff presence on site?

Has the site achieved a Green Pennant award?

Has the site achieved a Green Flag award?

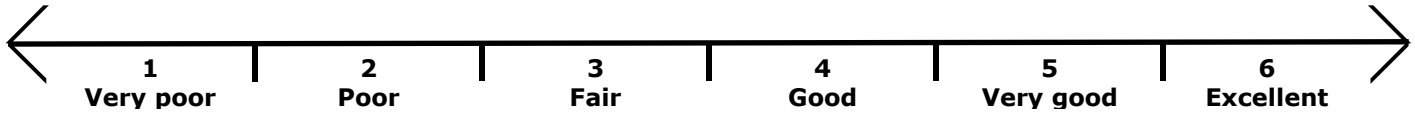
Has the site achieved a Green Heritage award?

Site ID:

Site Name:

Typology:

Section B - Field Assessment



A: Welcoming place

- 1. Welcoming:
- 2. Good and safe access:
- 3. Signage:
- 4. Equal access for all:
- 5. Site access:*

B: Healthy, safe and secure

- 6. Safe equipment and facilities:
- 7. Personal security in open space:
- 8. Dog fouling:
- 9. Appropriate provision of facilities:
- 10. Quality of facilities:

C: Clean and well maintained

- 11. Litter and waste management:
- 12. Grounds maintenance and horticulture:
- 13. Building and infrastructure maintenance:

D: Sustainability

- 14. Environmental sustainability:
- 15. Waste minimisation:
- 16. Arboriculture and woodland management:

E: Conservation and heritage

- 17. Conservation of natural features, wild fauna and flora:
- 18. Conservation of landscape features:
- 19. Conservation of buildings and structures:
- 20. Structural townscape role:

F: Community involvement

- 21. Community involvement in management and development:
- 22. Appropriate provision for community:

G: Marketing

- 23. Marketing and promotion:
- 24. Provision of appropriate information:
- 25. Provision of appropriate educational / information:

H: Comments

* Freely accessible = 5
 Restricted access = 2
 No public access = -1
 Opening hours = 2
 Other = 0

Site ID:

Site Name:

Typology:

Section C - Play Provision

1. If a play area is within site, please note type (if known):

2. Is there play equipment on site?

If so;

3. How many separate items of equipment?

+1 for each

4. Which age groups are catered for? +1 each

A. Under 5 years

B. 5 to 11 years

C. Over 11 years

5. Which play activities are provided for? +1 each

A. Balancing

E. Social Play

I. Viewing

B. Rocking

F. Swinging

J. Counting

C. Climbing / Agility

G. Rotating

K. Touching

D. Sliding

H. Jumping

6. Is there impact absorbant surfacing around the equipment?

+1

7. Is the play area fenced off from the rest of the open space?

+1

If so;

8. Are there benches within the enclosure?

+1

9. Are there litter bins within the enclosure?

+1

10. Are gates outward opening?

+1

11. Are gates self closing?

+1

12. Is there a play area notice at the entrance stating dog free, children only and emergencycontacts?

+1

13. Is there space within the enclosure, separate from the equipped area, for informal play/ general?

+1

14. Overall condition of play equipment (Score 1-3)

15. Is there other provision for play on site?

16. If so, what? (Note condition for each feature, score 1-5)

A. MUGA

B. Interactive water play feature

C. Rebound wall

D. Skateboarding ramps

E. Youth shelter

F. Other

G. Overall condition of other play provision

17. Tick if scope for enhancement?

Site ID:

Site Name:

Typology:

Quality and Value Summary

Quality Scores

Section A - Baseline Assessment

Section B - Field Assessment

Section C - Play Provision:

Overall Quality Score:

Value Scores

Section A - Baseline Assessment

Section B - Field Assessment

Section C - Play Provision:

Overall Value Score:

