

East Dunbartonshire Open Space Audit 2020



(Final Version, February 2020)

Ecology | Green Space | Arboiculture | GIS

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East Dunbartonshire Open Space Audit 2020

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

This Open Space Audit has been undertaken by Ethos Environmental Planning, to inform the development of a new Open Space Strategy for East Dunbartonshire Council which will replace the existing Open Space Strategy (2015- 2020). The 2013 Open Space Audit requires reviewing in order to ensure that the development plan is informed by relevant, up-to-date audits, strategies and action plan, in accordance with Scottish Planning Policy (SPP). There is also a need to better align the open space quality assessment and criteria with the aims and objectives of the East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy (2017-2022).

The audit has been undertaken in accordance with SPP and PAN 65 (which provides supplementary advice for SPP, setting out how local authorities should prepare open space strategies and audits).

PAN 65 states *‘Open spaces are important for our quality of life. They provide the setting for a wide range of social interactions and pursuits that support personal and community well-being. They allow individuals to interact with the natural environment and provide habitats for wildlife. They can also be important in defining the character and identity of settlements. Connecting them in a green network can provide enhanced benefits for people, the environment and biodiversity. New areas of open space of enduring quality and value have, however, been the exception rather than the rule and existing spaces are under pressure not just from physical development but also from poor management and maintenance.’*

The overall aim of the commission is to audit the quality, quantity and accessibility of existing open space within East Dunbartonshire; and to develop local standards (quality, quantity and accessibility) for the provision of open space.

The report is structured in line with the key stages of the Methodology (set out in Section 2 below), as summarised below:

- Audit of open space provision (quantity and quality) and community consultation;
- Development of local quality, quantity and accessibility standards;
- Application of local standards; and
- Summary of key issues and priorities.

1.2 Study Area and Analysis Areas

Open space within the Study Area has been analysed by settlement area (of which there are 9 in total), as shown in Figure 1 below. The total population within settlements is 105,540 (2016 estimates)¹. The population breakdown by settlement is shown in Table 1 below.

¹ Although the total District population is 107,540 (2016 estimate), this figure has not been used in the analysis, as the Study only covers the 9 settlements identified in Figure 1.

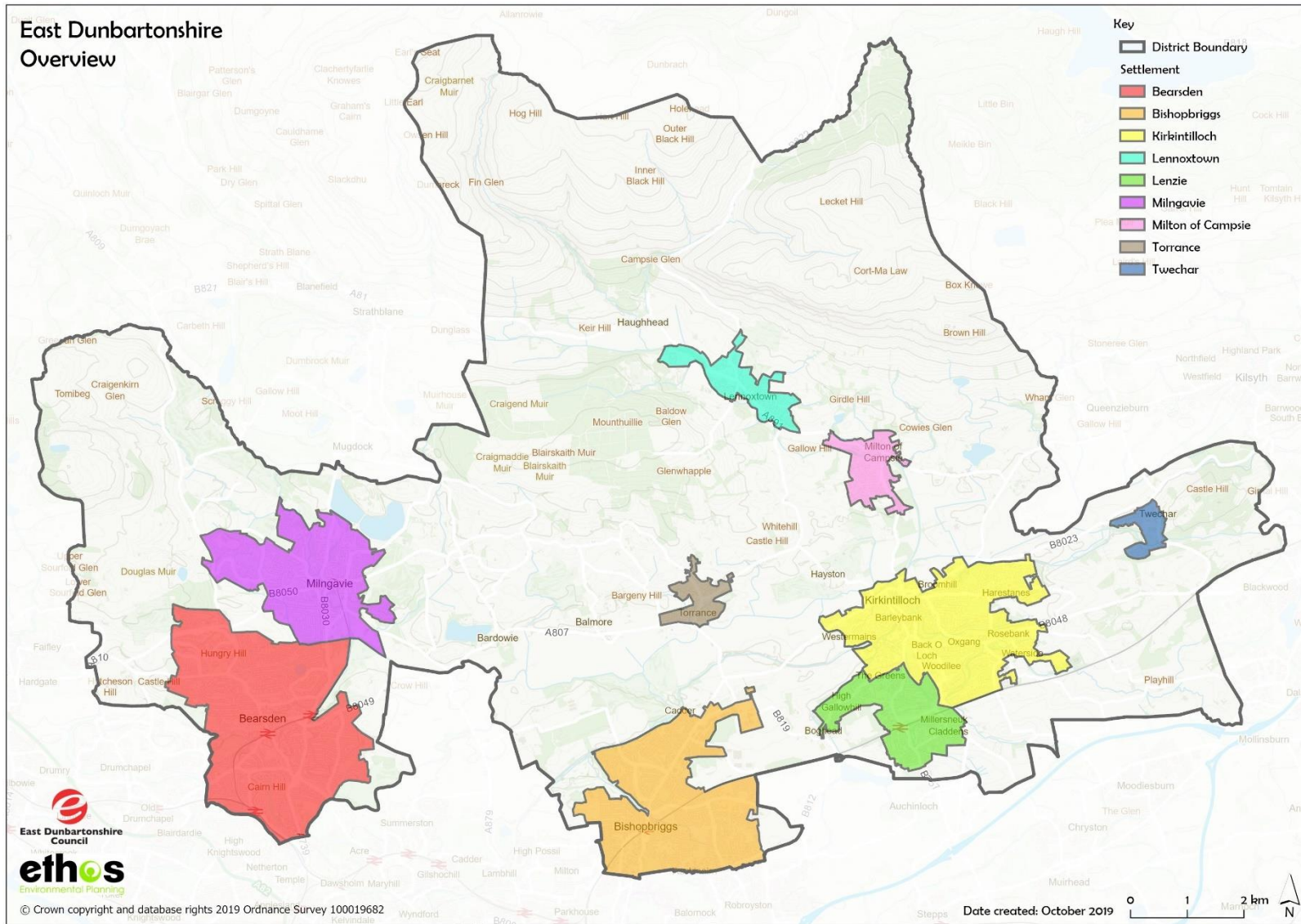


Figure 1. Study area and settlement boundaries

Table 1. Population (2016) breakdown by settlement

Settlement	Area (Ha)	Population
Bearsden	911.83	28120
Bishopbriggs	642.61	23540
Kirkintilloch	627.02	21380
Lennoxtown	130.76	4140
Lenzie	244.86	8070
Milngavie	468.52	12940
Milton of Campsie	108.2	3840
Torrance	68.27	2290
Twechar	47.68	1220

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Overview

The open space audit has been undertaken using the following methodology, in accordance Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and PAN 65:

- Audit of open space provision and community consultation²
- Development of local quality, quantity and accessibility standards
- Application of local standards and analysis by settlement area
- A summary of key issues and priorities

2.2 Audit of open space provision and community consultation

2.2.1 Defining the scope of the audit

In order to build up an accurate picture of the current open space and provision in East Dunbartonshire, an initial desktop audit of the open space asset was carried out, this included:

- analysis of existing GIS data held by East Dunbartonshire Council;
- desktop mapping of open space from aerial photography and the Ordnance Survey Greenspace layer;
- liaison with council officers.

Following this, site visits were undertaken during September 2019 by Ethos at 207 open spaces to assess the quality of open spaces (and ground check the accessibility/boundaries of open spaces). The quality audit was based on the Greenspace Scotland and Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership (GCVGNP) guidance, “Greenspace Quality: A Guide to Assessment, Planning and Strategic Development”, which was adopted in the 2015 Open Space Strategy. Some small refinements were made in agreement with the project team. The audits were undertaken using a standardised methodology and consistent approach. However, audits of this nature can only ever be a snap-shot in time and their main purpose is to provide a consistent and objective assessment of a site’s existing quality rather than a full asset audit.

Following the site visits, a draft open space audit report was produced, which was used as the basis for consultation with community groups (the full report is provided at Appendix 4). The consultation revealed a number of missing sites, which were included in the mapping and visited in January 2020. The mapping which underpins this assessment was signed off by the Council in January 2020.

² Workshops with community groups were undertaken during December 2019. The workshops included a presentation of the results of the audit to identify any missing sites and to identify views on the value of open spaces and aspirations for their future role. Following the workshops, the open space mapping was updated and subsequently signed off by the Council, to produce the final GIS database that underpins this report. The consultation report is provided at Appendix 4.

In addition to the quality audit (site visit criteria), the project team are also considering how a set of value criteria (GIS/desk based) can be applied alongside the quality audits, so that the wider benefits of the open space/green infrastructure network can be factored into the assessment i.e. the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership (GCVGNP) analysis around flooding issues, habitat network connectivity, access network connectivity and Social Indices of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). This will be taken forward through the preparation of the Open Space Strategy.

2.2.2 Approach to open space mapping

Only ‘publicly useable/accessible’ open spaces of at least 0.2ha in size³ and with an access point within 400m of a settlement⁴ have been included as part of the audit.

The basis of the mapping review was the 2013 open space audit data provided by the Council, which was checked against aerial photography and the Ordnance Survey GreenSpace layer and resultant queries raised and resolved with the council (at the initial desktop mapping stage, and then following site visits). The mapping was signed off by the Council in January 2020 following several further stages including community consultation workshops (December 2019) and final site visits (January 2020).

Buildings and car parks have been included as part of open spaces where they are an integral part of the space or are associated with the space. Areas of water e.g. lakes, ponds have also been included where they fall within an open space.

Only open spaces within the ED boundary were mapped as part of the audit. Their contribution to the local and regional green network is recognised, and wider analysis of the green network by GCVGNP has been undertaken which will be fed into the ‘value’ assessment of open space at the next stage in the preparation of the Open Space Strategy.

The mapping of open space was undertaken using a multifunctional approach, by categorising open spaces into the following typologies, in accordance with PAN 65 and in agreement with the project team:

- Parks and Gardens
- Sports Areas (excluding golf courses)
- Amenity Green Space (Residential)
- Private Gardens or Grounds
- Children’s Play Spaces
- Youth Play Spaces

³ There are a small number of exceptions, with 6 amenity green spaces falling below 0.2ha as follows: Demonstration Garden in Torrance; Maple Walk O.S.2 in Milton of Campsie; Castleview and Crosshill Street Amenity Greenspace in Lennoxton; Coronation Gardens in Lenzie; and Lyle Square O.S. in Milngavie.

⁴ There are a small number of open spaces that were requested by the Council to be included within the mapping, but these fall outside of 400m of a major settlement boundary (i.e. those settlements analysed in this study) and therefore have not been included within the quantity analysis for each settlement. These are: Castleview, Campsie Glen, Glenorchard Wood, Croft Road, Baldernock Cemetery and Schoenstadt.

- Green Corridors
- Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space
- Civic space
- Cemeteries

In addition, each open space has been assigned a hierarchy – local, neighbourhood or regional (in agreement with the Council).

Allotments have been excluded as these are not publicly accessible. Community food growing areas within open spaces have been noted within the site description (as part of the quality audit), but only a couple of sites were noted⁵.

Playing pitches have been included as part of the open space within which they fall (and not mapped separately).

Further detail regarding the open space typologies and which typologies are included in the development of standards is provided in Section 3 of this report.

In addition to the polygon mapping, a review of the access point data was also undertaken, to ensure the accuracy of the accessibility analysis.

2.2.3 Set and apply provision standards

Local provision standards have been set, with three components, embracing:

- access;
- quality; and
- quantity.

Access

Evidence from previous studies and consideration of national benchmarks are used to develop access standards for open space.

Drive time standards have not been proposed as these are normally only appropriate for strategic sites such as sports hub sites. Drive time standards generally do not work well for analysing access to local facilities/open space, as they do not generally show where the gaps in access are.

A series of maps assessing access for different typologies are presented in Section 5.3 of this report. They show the walk time buffers for each open space typology, using the access point data that was reviewed as part of the audit. The walk time buffers are created using QGIS and the OSM Tools plugin which relies on the openstreetmap paths and street network to accurately map realistic potential walking routes i.e. they take account of barriers to access such as rivers (compared to the traditional straight line distance buffer, which does not).

⁵ In Twechar Public Park And Milngavie Library O.S.

Quality

Quality standards have been developed drawing on the Greenspace Scotland and GCVGNP guidance, “Greenspace Quality: A Guide to Assessment, Planning and Strategic Development”, and the standards set with the East Dunbartonshire 2015 Open Space Strategy. A summary of the results from the quality audits are provided in Section 5.4, with the full quality audit spreadsheet provided at Appendix 2.

Separate quality audits (and standards) for play spaces (children and youth) have not been undertaken by Ethos as part of the 2019 open space quality audits, as these are covered within a separate Play Park Audit and Strategy (currently underway) commissioned by the Council, however, they have been considered as part of the overall quality where they fall within an open space.

Quantity

The GIS database and mapping has been used to assess the existing provision of open space across the study area. Open space provision maps by study area and settlement are provided. The existing levels of provision are considered alongside findings of previous studies, and consideration of existing and national standards or benchmarks. The key to developing robust local quantity standards is that they are locally derived, based on evidence and most importantly achievable. Typically, standards are expressed as hectares per 1000 people. The recommended standards are then used to assess the supply of each type of open space across the study area and by settlement (see Section 5.2).

3.0 AUDIT OF EXISTING OPEN SPACE ASSETS AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

3.1 Open Space Typologies

This section sets out the open space typologies which will have standards developed or have been included within the quantitative or access analysis. The typologies of open space have drawn on guidance provided within PAN 65, and through discussions with the project team. The agreed list of typologies are seen to be locally derived and appropriate for the type and range of open spaces that exist within East Dunbartonshire.


Although sites have been categorised into different typologies, the multifunctionality of different types of open space is important to recognise e.g. amenity green space, natural green space, parks and recreation grounds may all provide numerous functions and benefits such as providing space for recreation, habitat for wildlife conservation, flood alleviation, improving air quality, reducing heat stress, providing food growing opportunities, and improving health and wellbeing. These types of considerations are picked up within the GCVGNP analysis which will feed into a separate assessment of the value of open space (alongside the quality assessment).

The following open space typologies have been used in the audit, as agreed by the project team:

Table 2. Overview of East Dunbartonshire Open Space Typologies and Sub Typologies⁶

Typologies and sub typologies mapped with standards	Typologies and sub typologies mapped but no standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Parks and Gardens • Amenity green space • Play Space (Children) • Play Space (Youth) • Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Areas • Private Gardens or Grounds • Green Corridors • Civic Space • Cemeteries




Table 3. East Dunbartonshire Open Space Typologies and Sub Typologies

Typology	Description
Public Parks and Gardens 	<p>Areas of land normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park or garden. May be owned or managed by community groups.</p> <p>Those parks and gardens which are within the regional hierarchy include sites that contain part of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site, and sites that include key historic attractions, sites of nature conservation interest, sport and outdoor recreation sites, or geological sites.</p>

⁶ Detail regarding the development of standards is provided in Section 4.

Typology	Description
<p>Peel Park, Kirkintilloch</p>	<p>The neighbourhood hierarchy includes larger areas of urban/formal parks, usually in a central location and designed and managed as a public park. They can provide some or all of the following: active and passive recreation opportunities, social and community purposes, such as sports activities, walking, cycling, children’s play, jogging and limited events.</p> <p>The hierarchy includes often small parks, providing opportunities for children’s play, seating, etc. and possibly limited conservation areas or informal sport. They are often well used with a distinct local catchment area, within walking distance of the immediate residential population.</p>
<p>Amenity Green Space</p>  <p>Watermill Avenue, Kirkintilloch</p>	<p>Landscaped areas in/around residential areas, used for a variety of informal or social activities such as sunbathing, picnics or kickabouts.</p>
<p>Children’s play space</p>  <p>Children’s Play Space at High Park, Lennoxtown</p>	<p>Equipped areas of play that cater for the needs of children up to and around 12 years. These have been mapped separately, but not cut out from the areas of open space they fall within.</p>
<p>Youth play space</p>  <p>MUGA at Twechar Public Park, Twechar</p>	<p>Informal recreation opportunities for, broadly, the 13 to 16/17 age group, and which might include facilities (sub-typologies) such as skateparks, bmx tracks basketball courts and ‘free access’ Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs). These have been mapped separately, but not cut out from the areas of open space they fall within.</p>
<p>Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space</p>	<p>Areas of undeveloped or previously developed land with residual natural habitats or which have been planted or colonised by vegetation and wildlife, including woodland and wetland areas. The focus is on sites with public access</p>

Typology	Description
 <p data-bbox="204 667 563 734">Merkland Local Nature Reserve, Kirkintilloch</p>	<p data-bbox="678 230 1310 297">that have defined boundaries, rather than the wider countryside/PROW network.</p>
<p data-bbox="204 741 376 775">Sports Areas</p>  <p data-bbox="204 1178 501 1211">Colquhoun Park, Bearsden</p>	<p data-bbox="678 741 1390 1021">Large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed surfaces used primarily for designated sports (including playing fields, golf courses, tennis courts and bowling greens) and which are generally bookable. Playing fields and Tennis and Bowls have been included (but not mapped separately/cut out) where they fall within an open space. Golf courses are excluded as generally these are not publicly useable.</p>
<p data-bbox="204 1218 579 1252">Private Gardens or Grounds</p>  <p data-bbox="204 1704 483 1733">Schoenstatt, Haughhead</p>	<p data-bbox="678 1218 1382 1352">Areas of land normally enclosed and associated with a house or institution and reserved for private use (includes school/university grounds). Three publicly useable spaces have been identified and are included within the mapping.</p>
<p data-bbox="204 1740 421 1774">Green Corridors</p>	<p data-bbox="678 1740 1390 1944">Routes including canals, river corridors and old railway lines, linking different areas within a town or city as part of a designated and managed network and used for walking, cycling or horse riding, or linking towns and cities to their surrounding countryside or country parks. These may link green spaces together.</p>

Typology	Description
 <p data-bbox="204 557 596 584"><i>Forth and Clyde Canal, Kirkintilloch</i></p>	
<p data-bbox="204 591 344 618">Civic Space</p>  <p data-bbox="204 1046 416 1072"><i>Milngavie precinct</i></p>	<p data-bbox="683 591 1391 725">Squares, streets and waterfront promenades, predominantly of hard landscaping that provide a focus for pedestrian activity and can make connections for people and for wildlife. Also includes war memorials.</p>
<p data-bbox="204 1079 347 1106">Cemeteries</p>  <p data-bbox="204 1438 560 1460"><i>Campsie cemetery, Lennoxton</i></p>	<p data-bbox="683 1079 1254 1106">Cemeteries and churchyards with public access.</p>

3.2 Existing Provision of Open Space

The existing provision of open space is based on the desktop mapping and site surveys undertaken by Ethos Environmental Planning which included:

- Analysis of existing GIS data held by EDC and from other sources such as the Ordnance Survey Greenspace layer;
- desktop mapping of open space from aerial photography;
- liaison with council officers;
- site visits to check accessibility, boundaries, typologies and complete quality audits; and
- community consultation workshops.

3.2.1 Provision across the Study Area

Figure 2 below provides an overview of the provision of open space across the Study Area. This map is intended to be indicative, with further detail by settlement provided at Appendix 3, and a GIS database has also been provided to the Council. Further information regarding the quantity (ha and ha per 1000 population and numbers of sites) is provided in Table 2 and Figure 3.

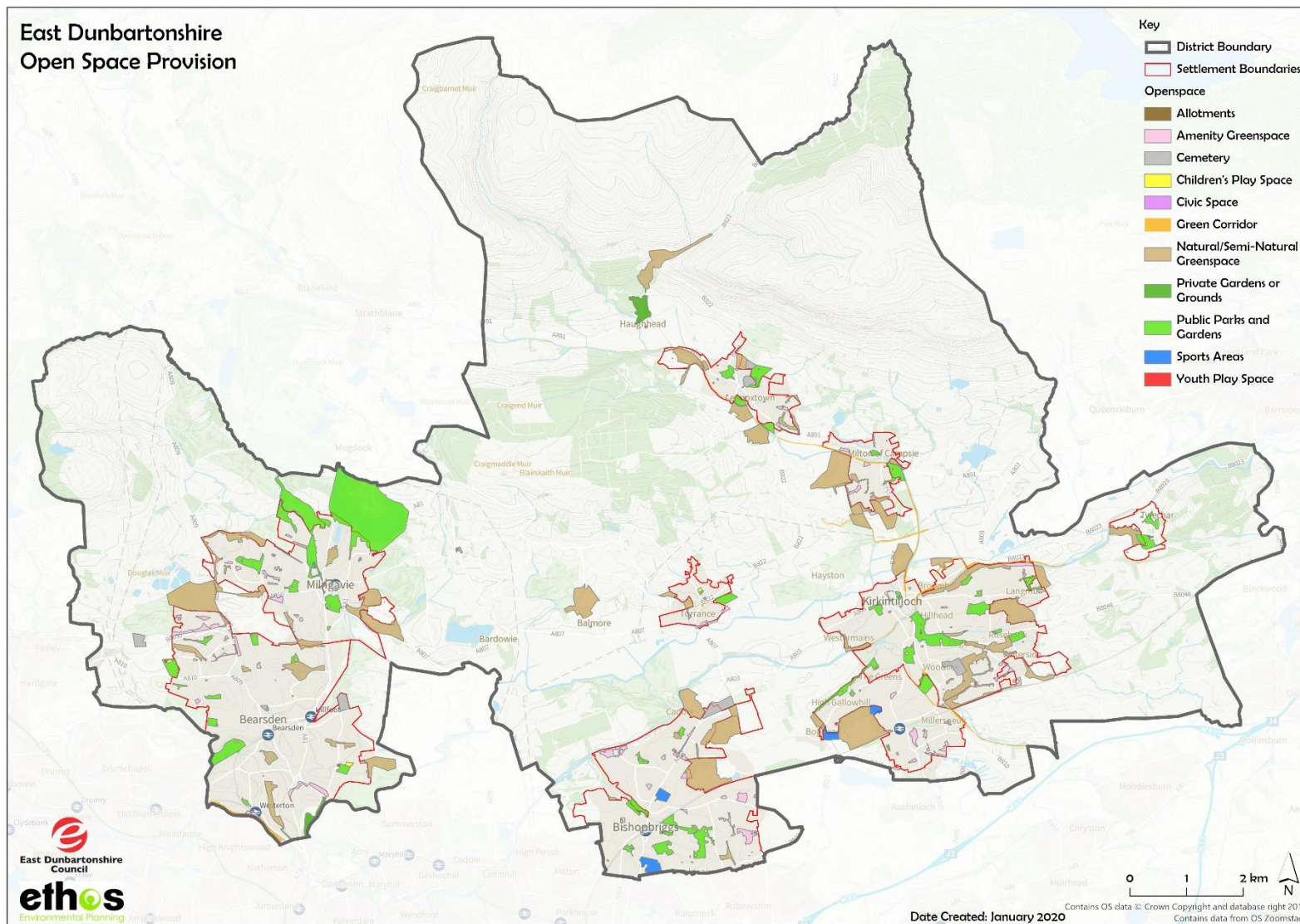


Figure 2. Provision of open space across the ED Study area

Table 4. Quantity of open space across the Study Area

Typology	Number of Sites	Area (Ha)	Area (Ha/1000)
Amenity Greenspace	74	65.13	0.62
Cemeteries	7	30.30	0.29
Children's Play Space	92	7.10	0.07
Civic Space	2	0.91	0.01
Green Corridor	9	46.01	0.44
Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	61	466.30	4.42
Private Gardens or Grounds	2	5.95	0.06
Public Parks and Gardens	49	332.25 ⁷	3.15
Sports Areas	4	17.71	0.17
Youth Play Space	12	0.79	0.01
Total	312	972.45	9.24

⁷ Figure includes Mugdock Reservoir in Milngavie which is 123.23ha or 1.17ha/1000.

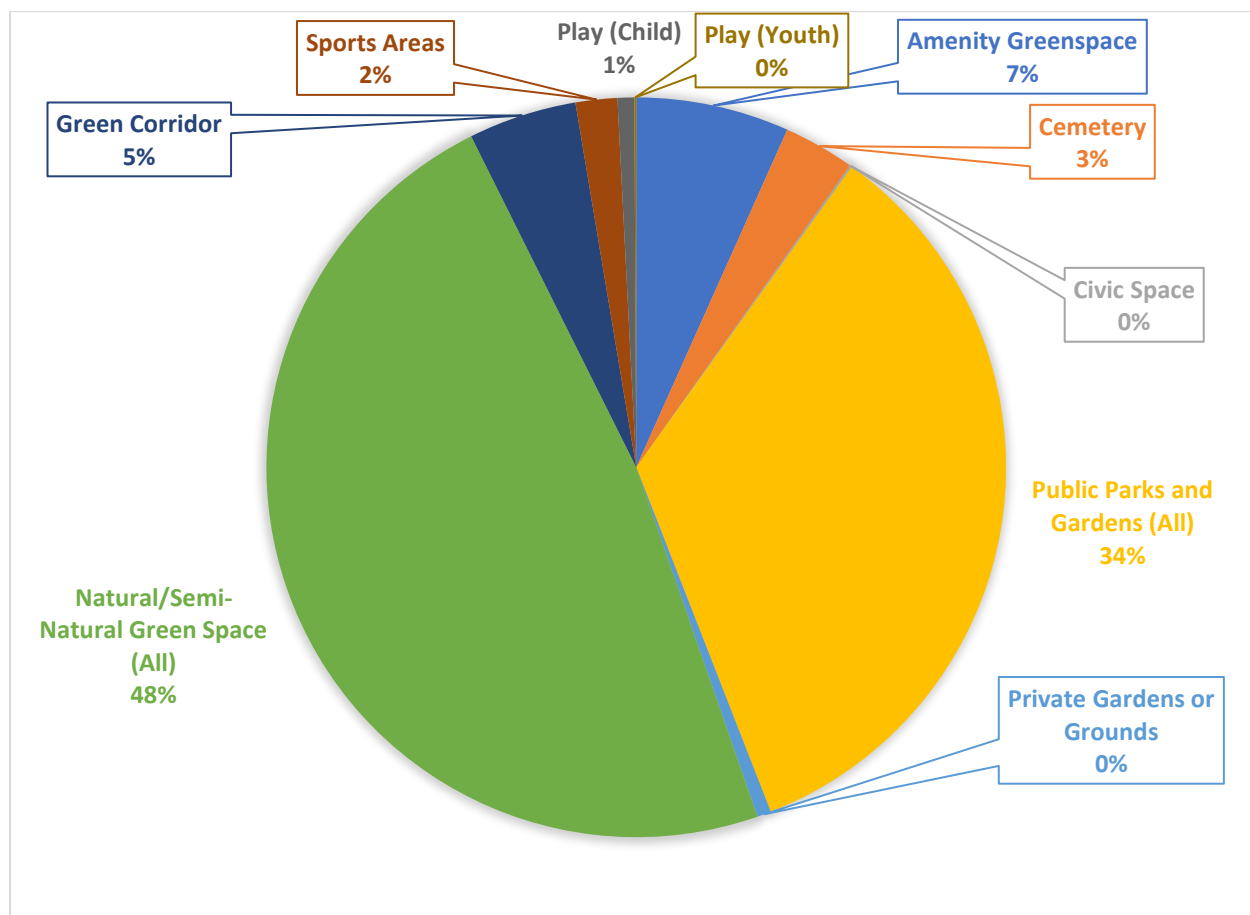


Figure 3. Quantity (% of total hectareage) of each type of open space across the Study Area

The total amount of open space across East Dunbartonshire is 972.45 hectares (849.22 hectares excluding Mugdock Reservoir in Milngavie), with the breakdown provided in Table 4 and Figure 3. As can be seen, the largest category of open space with East Dunbartonshire's settlements is Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (48%), followed by Public Parks and Gardens (34%, including Mugdock Reservoir).

3.2.2 Provision by Settlement

Maps showing open space provision by settlement are provided at Appendix 3. Table 5 provides further information on the quantity (in ha and ha per 1000 population and numbers of sites).

Table 5. Provision of open space by settlement

Settlement	Typology	Number of Sites	Area (Ha)	Area (Ha/1000)
Bearsden	Amenity Greenspace	15	16.05	0.57
	Cemetery	3	9.81	0.35
	Children's Play Space	14	2.21	0.08
	Green Corridor	1	11.1	0.40
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	10	81.38	2.89
	Private Gardens or Grounds	1	5.48	0.19

Settlement	Typology	Number of Sites	Area (Ha)	Area (Ha/1000)
	Public Parks and Gardens	10	31.23	1.11
	Youth Play Space	3	0.34	0.01
Bearsden Total		57	157.60	5.60
Bishopbriggs	Amenity Greenspace	16	17.63	0.75
	Cemetery	1	8.95	0.38
	Children's Play Space	22	1.09	0.05
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	7	72.56	3.08
	Public Parks and Gardens	8	30.21	1.28
	Sports Areas	2	11.18	0.48
	Youth Play Space	2	0.05	0.00
Bishopbriggs Total		58	141.68	6.02
Kirkintilloch	Amenity Greenspace	6	7.87	0.37
	Cemetery	1	6.33	0.30
	Children's Play Space	24	1.67	0.08
	Civic Space	1	0.14	0.01
	Green Corridor	2	8.76	0.41
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	11	103.17	4.83
	Public Parks and Gardens	10	42.88	2.01
	Youth Play Space	4	0.28	0.01
Kirkintilloch Total		59	171.11	8.02
Lennoxton	Amenity Greenspace	6	2.19	0.53
	Cemetery	2	5.20	1.26
	Children's Play Space	7	0.38	0.09
	Green Corridor	1	12.84	3.10
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	7	38.57	9.32
	Public Parks and Gardens	4	15.37	3.71
	Youth Play Space	1	0.03	0.01
Lennoxton Total		28	74.58	18.02
Lenzie	Amenity Greenspace	10	7.82	0.97
	Children's Play Space	4	0.18	0.02
	Green Corridor	1	6.54	0.81
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	2	44.26	5.49
	Public Parks and Gardens	4	13.77	1.71
	Sports Areas	2	6.53	0.81
Lenzie Total		23	79.11	9.81
Milngavie	Amenity Greenspace	12	6.73	0.52
	Children's Play Space	10	0.45	0.03
	Civic Space	1	0.77	0.06
	Green Corridor	1	1.34	0.10

Settlement	Typology	Number of Sites	Area (Ha)	Area (Ha/1000)
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	10	60.05	4.64
	Private Gardens or Grounds	1	0.47	0.04
	Public Parks and Gardens ⁸	6	54.98	4.25
	Youth Play Space	1	0.06	0.00
Milngavie Total		42	124.85	9.64
Milton of Campsie	Amenity Greenspace	7	3.92	1.02
	Children's Play Space	4	0.25	0.07
	Green Corridor	1	4.01	1.04
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	11	53.65	13.97
	Public Parks and Gardens	2	7.32	1.91
Milton of Campsie Total		25	69.15	18.01
Torrance	Amenity Greenspace	2	2.92	1.28
	Children's Play Space	3	0.53	0.23
	Green Corridor	1	0.50	0.22
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	2	3.99	1.74
	Public Parks and Gardens	3	4.70	2.05
Torrance Total		11	12.65	5.52
Twechar	Children's Play Space	4	0.33	0.27
	Green Corridor	1	0.92	0.75
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	1	8.66	7.10
	Public Parks and Gardens	2	8.55	7.01
	Youth Play Space	1	0.03	0.02
Twechar Total		9	18.49	15.15

3.3 Community consultation

The final mapping layer (signed off by the Council in January 2020) which underpins the open space figures in the tables throughout this report was informed by two community workshops which were undertaken during December 2019 (the full report is provided at Appendix 4).

Workshop 1 covered Bearsden and Milngavie and workshop 2 covered Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch, Lennoxton, Lenzie, Milton of Campsie, Torrance and Twechar. The workshops were invitation only events with participants who had an interest in open space being invited. All Community Councils in East Dunbartonshire were invited to the events along with groups with an interest or involvement in local open spaces.

⁸ Numbers exclude Mugdock Reservoir, which skew the figures for public parks and gardens due to its large size. If included, the total hectareage of public parks and gardens within Milngavie is 178.21ha or 13.77ha/1000.

The three themes for discussion were: identifying missing sites; uses and functionality of open spaces; and issues within open spaces. The second part of the workshop was led by GCVGNP focussing on priorities for the future.

There were 8 sites that were identified as either sites that had been missed from the audit or required changes to the site boundary.

Uses and functions of open space in East Dunbartonshire

Some of the key uses and functions of open space identified by participants are as follows:

- Meeting friends/socialising
- Watching wildlife
- Walking and dog walking
- Commuting
- Wildflower areas
- Playing
- Ball games
- Quiet reflection
- Sports

Issues with open space in East Dunbartonshire

Participants were asked to think about the issues found within open spaces based on the themes scored in the quality audit. Biodiversity was the most common issue highlighted, followed by the attractiveness of open space and then access.

Participants also provided further information regarding issues with specific sites and areas – details are provided within the consultation report (Appendix 4).

4.0 DEVELOPMENT OF OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

4.1 Overview

Following the audit of provision (mapping and quality audits) new standards of provision for open space are proposed below. This section explains how the standards for ED have been developed and provides specific information and justification for each of the typologies where standards have been proposed.

The standards for open space have been developed in-line with SPP and PAN 65. Standards comprise the following components:

- **Accessibility standards:** Spaces likely to be used on a frequent and regular basis need to be within easy walking distance and to have safe access. Other facilities where visits are longer but perhaps less frequent, for example country parks, can be further away. Consideration is also given to existing local or national standards and benchmarks.
- **Quality standards:** Quality is a key component of open space. Open spaces need to be “fit for purpose” and serve local communities by providing a level of service and functional provision to meet informal leisure and recreational needs. The quality standard is based on the Greenspace Scotland and GCVGNP guidance, “Greenspace Quality: A Guide to Assessment, Planning and Strategic Development”, which was adopted in the 2015 Open Space Strategy.
- **Quantity standards:** These are determined by the analysis of existing quantity and consideration of existing local and national standards and benchmarks. It is important that quantity standards are locally derived and are realistic and achievable. The recommended standards need to be robust, evidence based and deliverable through new development and future mechanisms of contributions through on-site or off-site provision.

The standards that have been set are for **minimum guidance levels of provision**. So, just because geographical areas may enjoy levels of provision exceeding minimum standards does not mean there is a surplus, as all such provision may be well used. It is also important to note that the quantity, accessibility and quality standards need to be considered together – they should not be considered in isolation. For example, even if there may be sufficient supply of a particular open space typology against the quantity standard, there may still be gaps in access, or the existing provision may be poor quality/not fit for purpose – and therefore there would still be shortfalls against the standards.

4.2 Proposed Access Standards

4.2.1 Existing national and local standards

The East Dunbartonshire Open Space Strategy (2015-2020) sets the following access standards:

- Regional Space: 2km (25 minutes walk time)
- Neighbourhood Park: 840m (10 – 11 minutes walk time)

- Local Park: 400m (5 minutes walk time)
- NEAP: 800m (10 minutes walk time)
- LEAP: 400m (5 minutes walk time)

The Fields in Trust (FIT) (Previously known as the National Playing Fields Association) Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play report 'Beyond the Six Acre Standard' proposes the following benchmark accessibility guidelines⁹:

- Amenity green space: 480m
- Parks and gardens: 710m
- Accessible natural greenspace: 720m
- Equipped/designated play areas: 100m for LAPs, 400m for LEAPs and 1000m for NEAPs
- MUGAs and Skateparks: 700m
- All outdoor sports 1,200m

4.2.2 Benchmarking

Consideration of access standards in other local authorities within the Scottish Central Belt have been considered in Table 6 below.

Table 6. Benchmarking Access

Stirlings Green Network (2014)	Falkirk Council Open Space Strategy (2010-2015)
<p>Sets the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenity greenspace: 5 minutes' walk (300m straight-line distance) • Playspace: 5-10 minutes' walk (500 metres straight line distance) • Natural/semi natural greenspace and woodland: 10 minutes' walk (500m straight line distance). • Public Parks and Gardens: 5 minutes' walk (400 m straight-line distance). • Sports Areas: 10 minutes' walk (400 m straight-line distance). 	<p>Sets the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People should live no more than 400m (5 minutes' walk) from a surveyed open space which scores 3.0 or better in the fitness for purpose assessment. • People should live no more than 400m (5 minutes' walk) from a public park, garden or amenity space of greater than 2000m². • People should live no more than 800m (10 minutes' walk) from an open space containing a playspace. • People should live no more than 1200m (15 minutes' walk) from an open space containing sports area. • People should live no more than 1200m (15 minutes' walk) from a natural/semi natural open space. <p>The walking distance times noted in the accessibility standards are based on travelling at a rate of 3mph.</p>

⁹ FIT recommend that the guidelines are adjusted to take account of local circumstances.

4.2.3 Proposed Access Standards

Considering the existing standards and benchmarking, access standards for the different typologies of open space have been proposed in Table 7 below.

Table 7. Proposed Access Standards for East Dunbartonshire

Typology	Hierarchy	Proposed Access Standard (walk time and straight-line distance)
Public Parks and Gardens	Open Spaces of Regional Importance	25 minutes or 1200 metres
	Neighbourhood Park	10 minutes or 480 metres
	Local Park	5 minutes or 240 metres
Amenity Green Space	Local	5 minutes or 240 metres
	Neighbourhood	10 minutes or 480 metres
Children's Play Space	N/A	5 minutes or 240 metres
Youth Play Space	N/A	15 minutes or 720 metres
Natural Green Space	Local	5 minutes or 240 metres
	Neighbourhood	10 minutes or 480 metres
	Regional	25 minutes or 1200 metres

4.3 Proposed Quality Standards

The quality audit and standard is based on the Greenspace Scotland and GCVGNP guidance, "Greenspace Quality: A Guide to Assessment, Planning and Strategic Development", which was adopted for the 2015 Green Space Strategy.

The quality/fitness for purpose criteria were refined slightly, in agreement with the project team. These criteria tie in with the 4 objectives of the ED Green Network Strategy (2017-2022), as required by the project brief, and as demonstrated below:

		Quality criteria headings/Indicators				
East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy objectives	Access	Attractiveness/Place Appeal	Biodiversity	Functionality	Community Benefits	
	Supporting sustainable communities	Supporting sustainable economy	Safeguarding biodiversity	Mitigating and adapting to climate change	Supporting sustainable communities	
	Supporting sustainable economy	Safeguarding biodiversity		Supporting sustainable communities		

There are 5 headline Criteria/Indicators (Access, Attractiveness/Place Appeal, Biodiversity, Functionality and Community Benefits), which each contain a series of questions. Each question was given a score of between 1 and 5 (or 0 if not applicable). The average (mean) of all the scores given for each site were calculated and an overall percentage score given for each site.

The bands within the previous quality audit were reviewed, and slight changes were recommended in order to ensure that sites were falling into the appropriate category e.g. it was considered that a site scoring only 50% should not fall into Band C 'Good', and that Band 'D' would be more appropriate. The previous (2013) bands and new bands are shown in Table 8 below.

The full list of quality/fitness for purpose criteria and scoring guide is provided at Appendix 1.

Table 8. Fitness for purpose quality scoring

2013 Quality Audit Bands			2019 Quality Audit Bands (proposed as part of this current audit)
<i>Fit for purpose</i>			<u>Fit for purpose</u> Band A (Excellent): 80% or more Band B (Very Good): 70%-79% Band C (Good): 55%-69% <u>Not fit for purpose</u> Band D (Fair): 45%-54% Band E (Poor): Less than 45%
Band A	Score of 75% or more	Excellent	
Band B	Score of 65% – 75%	Very Good	
Band C	Score of 50% – 65%	Good	
<i>Not fit for purpose</i>			
Band D	Score of 50% – 40%	Fair	
Band E	Score of less than 40%	Poor	

The full results of the quality audits are provided at Appendix 2.

Table 9 below shows the existing (2013) quality standards for East Dunbartonshire. It is considered that these standards are reasonable, and therefore they have been carried forward as the basis for developing quality standards within this current audit. In addition, it is also recommended that all remaining typologies achieve at least Band C.

Table 9. Existing (2015) East Dunbartonshire Council Quality Standard, used in this audit

Open Space Asset	Quantity Standard
Overall quality of Multi-functional Open Space and Amenity Greenspace, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Spaces of Regional Importance • Public Parks and Gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Neighbourhood Park – Local Park • Amenity Greenspace <p>Application: Distribution of open space that are fit for purpose across the region and within each settlement.</p>	Provision of the following quality of facility: Band A or B Band A or B Band A, B or C

4.4 Proposed Quantity standards

4.4.1 Existing national and local standards

The East Dunbartonshire Open Space Strategy (2015-2020) sets the following quantity standard:

- 1.5 – 1.8ha per 1000 population of multi-functional¹⁰ open space.

The Fields in Trust (FIT) (Previously known as the National Playing Fields Association) Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play report 'Beyond the Six Acre Standard' proposes the following benchmark quantity guidelines¹¹:

- Amenity Green Space: 0.6 ha/1000
- Parks and Gardens: 0.8 ha/1000
- Natural Green Space: 1.8 ha/1000
- Children's Play: 0.25 ha/1000
- MUGA's and Skate Parks: 0.30 ha/1000
- All outdoor sports: 1.6ha/1000

4.4.2 Benchmarking

Consideration of quantity standards in other local authorities within the Scottish Central Belt have been considered in Table 10 below. Few Local authorities within this area appear to have quantity standards broken down into individual open space typologies.

Table 10. Benchmarking Quantity

West Dunbartonshire Open Space Strategy	East Renfrewshire Supplementary Planning Document: Green Network and Environmental Management (June 2015)
<p>The Open Space Strategy did not set specific quantity or access standards, although one of the Objectives identified was to 'establish the proportion of households with an accessible greenspace of at least 2ha in size within 300m and work to achieve target of 100%'.</p> <p>The West Dunbartonshire Local Plan (2010) (Policy R2) sets the following quantity standards for provision of open space in new development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.4 ha/1000, of which 1.6 for outdoor sport and 0.8ha for children's play space/amenity space 	<p>Sets the following standard for amenity green space (inclusive of active open space):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25m²-30m² per dwelling <p>It did not set specific access standards.</p>

¹⁰ Multi-functional open space includes Regional spaces, neighbourhood parks and local parks only.

¹¹ FIT recommend that the guidelines are adjusted to take account of local circumstances.

Stirlings Green Network (2014)	Falkirk Council Open Space Strategy (2010-2015)
<p>Sets the following standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenity greenspace: 8 sqm per person (N.B. this equates to 0.8ha/1000) (minimum size 500 sqm). • Playspace: 2 sqm per person (N.B. this equates to 0.2ha/1000) (minimum size 1500 sqm for urban/rural equipped playspaces, with at least 5 items of equipment; and minimum size 2500 sqm for strategic city neighbourhood equipped play areas, with at least 10 types of equipment). • Natural/semi natural greenspace and woodland: 20 sqm per person (N.B. this equates to 2.0ha/1000) (minimum size 20,000 sqm (2ha) for natural/semi natural greenspace and 2500 sqm (0.25ha) for woodland). • Public Parks and Gardens: 5 sqm per person (N.B. this equates to 0.5ha/1000), minimum size 0.5 ha (5000 sqm). • Sports Areas: 10 sqm per person (N.B. this equates to 1.0ha/1000). <p>The access standards are set out in Table 6.</p>	<p>Sets the following open space quantity standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each community should have access to open space at a rate equivalent to 5 hectares per 1000 people <p>The access standards are set out in Table 6.</p>

4.4.3 Proposed quantity standards

Considering the provision of open space by typology, existing standards and benchmarking, quantity standards have been proposed in Table 11 below.

Table 11. Proposed quantity standards for East Dunbartonshire

Typology	Proposed Quantity Standard (ha/1000)	Justification
Parks and Gardens	2.0	In line with existing level of provision (see Table 4) (excluding the figure for Milngavie Reservoir, which is a very large site and therefore skews the figures).
Amenity Green Space	0.6	In line with existing level of provision and the FIT standard.
Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	2.0	A standard based on existing provision levels (4.42ha/1000) is not considered to be realistic or achievable in terms of new provision. A standard in line with the FIT standard (1.8ha/1000) and the Stirling natural/semi natural greenspace and woodland standard (2.0ha/1000) is considered to be achievable in terms of new provision, and will highlight any areas that are particularly lacking in provision.
Children's Play Spaces	0.07	In line with existing level of provision.
Youth Play Spaces	0.07	Generally, across all of the studies we have completed, there is an identified shortfall/need for more youth provision. The existing level of provision is 0.01, which is in line with other studies. In our experience, a standard of around 0.07 results in achievable and realistic provision and brings it in line with the standard for children's play space.
Sports Areas	No standard	These are areas that are solely laid out as sports pitches. The detailed requirements for sports pitches is not part of the scope of this audit.
Private Gardens or Grounds	No standard	There are only 3 spaces recorded within the study area and it is not appropriate to set standards for new provision of private space.
Green Corridors	No standard	It is not appropriate to develop standards of provision for green corridors as part of this audit. This would be covered by GI policy/strategy.
Civic Space	No standard	It is not part of the remit of this study to develop standards for civic space.
Cemeteries	No standard	It is not part of the remit of this study to develop standards for cemeteries.
Total requirement for new open space provision	4.74 ha/1000	

4.5 Summary of proposed open space standards

Table 12 below provided a summary of the quantity, accessibility and quality standards proposed.

Table 6. Summary of proposed ED open space standards

Typology	Quantity Standard (ha/1000)	Access Standard (Walk time)	Quality Standard
Public Parks and Gardens	2.0	Regional Parks: 25 minutes Neighbourhood Parks: 15 minutes Local Parks: 5 minutes	Band A or B
Amenity Green Space	0.6	Local: 5 minutes Neighbourhood: 10 minutes	Band A, B or C
Children's Play Space	0.07	5 minutes	N/A – assessed as part of open space
Youth Play Space	0.07	15 minutes	N/A – assessed as part of open space
Natural Green Space	2.0	Regional: 25 minutes Neighbourhood: 10 minutes Local: 5 minutes	Band A, B or C
Green Corridor	N/A	N/A	Band A, B or C
Private Gardens or Grounds	N/A	N/A	Band A, B or C
Sports Areas	N/A	N/A	Band A, B or C
Civic Space	N/A	N/A	Band A, B or C
Cemeteries	N/A	N/A	Band A, B or C
Total requirement for new provision	4.74		

5.0 APPLICATION OF STANDARDS

5.1 Introduction

This part of the report uses the recommended standards to analyse provision across the study area and by each settlement area. This section includes:

Access analysis

This section of the report provides analysis of the recommended access standards for each typology across the study area. The maps and analysis provide an overall picture of provision and highlight any key issues by settlement.

Quality analysis

This section of the report makes analysis of each typology against the recommended quality standards.

Separate quality audits (and standards) for play spaces (children and youth) have not been undertaken by Ethos as part of the 2019 open space quality audits, as these are covered within a separate Play Park Audit and Strategy (currently underway) commissioned by the Council, however, they have been considered as part of the overall quality where they fall within an open space.

Quantity analysis

The quantity of provision is assessed using the recommended quantity standards for each of the typologies where a quantity standard has been developed. Recommended standards are expressed as hectares of open space per 1000 people.

The quantity assessment looks at the existing levels of provision, then uses the recommended standard to assess the required level of provision. From this a calculation is made of the supply, which will either be sufficient or insufficient.

Positive figures show where the settlements meet the quantity standard for the open space typology, and negative figures show where there is a shortfall in supply against the quantity standard.

Although these figures highlight where there are shortfalls in supply against the quantity standards and therefore where new provision should be sought, in many cases new provision may not be achievable (unless, for example, through new development). These figures can help inform decisions about the form of new open spaces and improvements to existing open spaces, rather than it being imperative that every settlement must achieve a ‘+’ number.

Just because a typology is shown as being in sufficient supply against a standard, does not mean it can be considered as surplus to requirements, as the standard is for minimum levels

of provision and the access and quality of open space also needs to be considered, as well as other considerations such as a site’s contribution to the green network, place making/enhancing the character of an area, biodiversity value, or cultural/historic interest for example.

5.2 Application of Access Standards

This section provides an overview of access to different types of open space typologies across the study area, using the proposed access standards summarised in Table 15.

The maps show the walk time buffers for each open space typology and also all open spaces grouped by hierarchy. They are created using QGIS and the OSM Tools plugin which relies on the openstreetmap paths and street network to accurately map realistic potential walking routes. The buffers are based on a walk time of 5 kilometres/3.1 miles an hour¹², and use the reviewed access point data.

The table below shows how walk time relates to straight line distances and pedestrian route distances. The straight line walking distances do not take into account roads or barriers to access and so the actual route walked (the pedestrian route) is generally further i.e. straight line distances are around 60% of actual distances.

The access maps also show Census 2011 Output Areas (OAs). Each OA centroid is the lowest level of geography from the census which contains roughly 129 households. By using this point dataset, it is possible to clearly indicate those households that fall outside open space access buffers i.e. where the key gaps in access are.

Table 7. Standard walk times and distances

walk time (minutes)	Pedestrian Route (metres)	Straight line (metres)
1	100	60
2	160	96
3	240	144
4	320	192
5	400	240
6	480	288
7	560	336
8	640	384
9	720	432
10	800	480
11	880	528
12	960	576
13	1040	624
14	1120	672
15	1200	720
16	1280	768
17	1360	816
18	1440	864

¹² This is in line with the British Heart Foundation state as an average walking pace on country and forestry footpaths: <https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/events/training-zone/walking-training-zone/walking-faqs>

walk time (minutes)	Pedestrian Route (metres)	Straight line (metres)
19	1520	912
20	1600	960

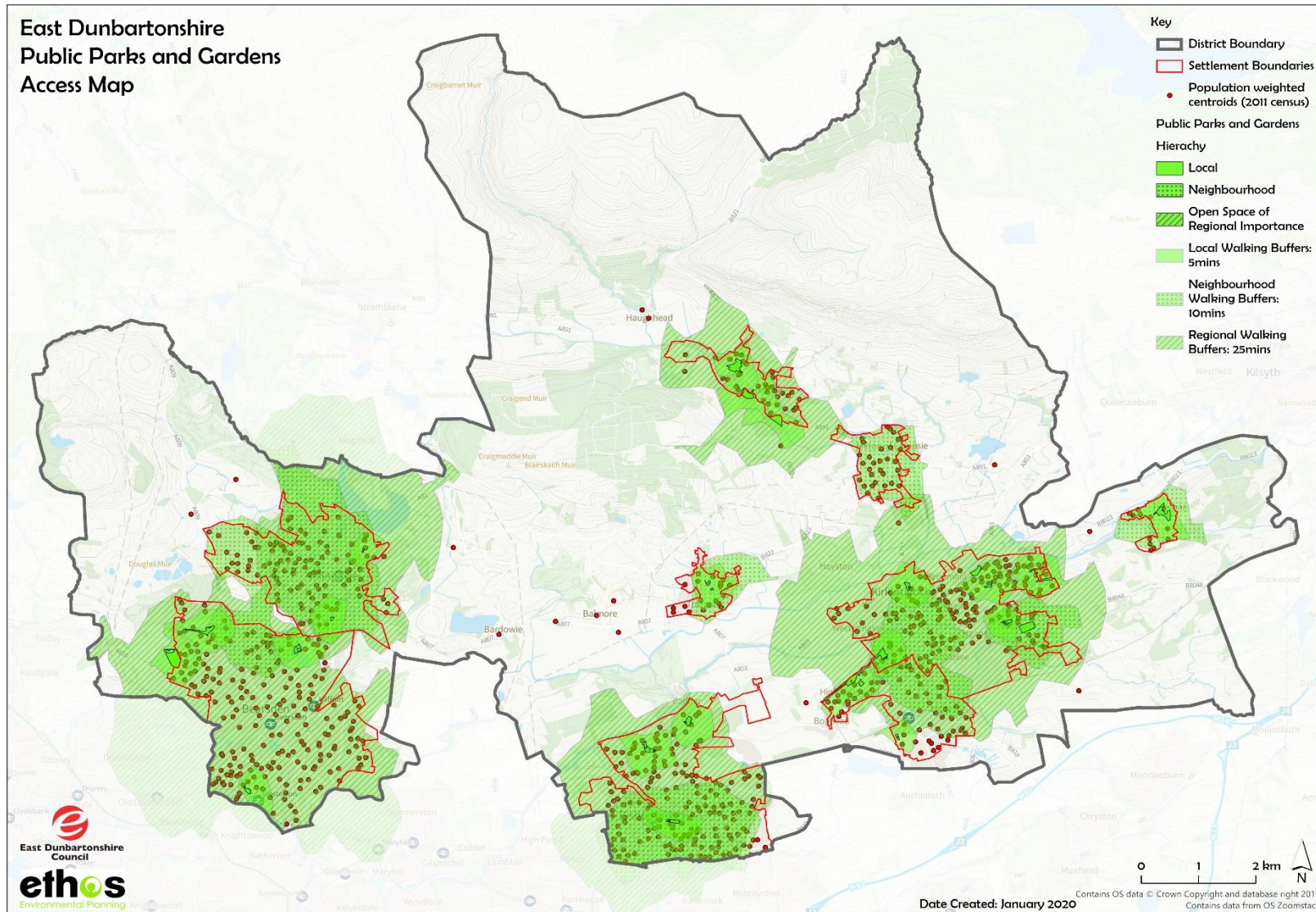


Figure 4. Access to Parks and Gardens

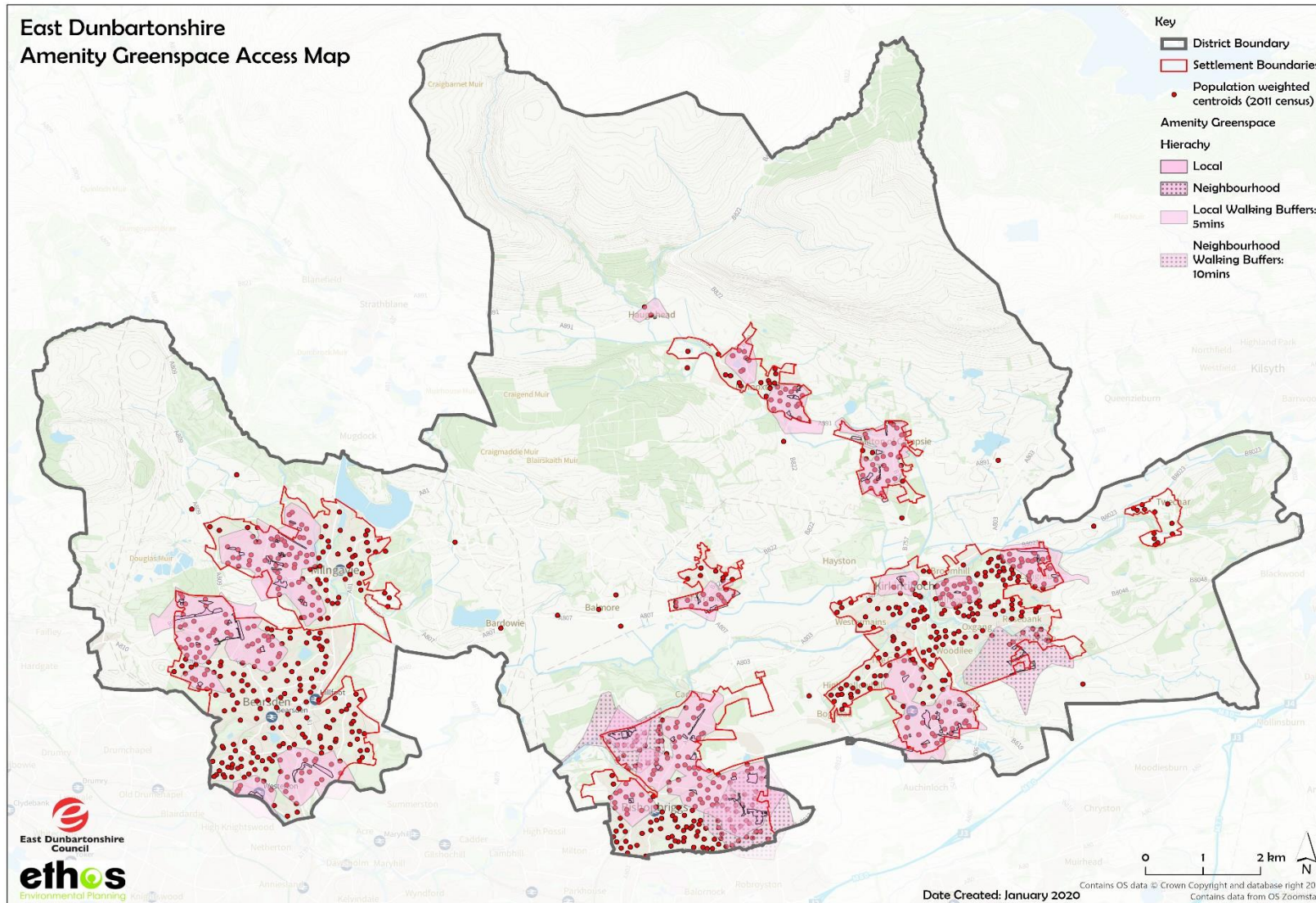


Figure 5. Access to Amenity Green Space

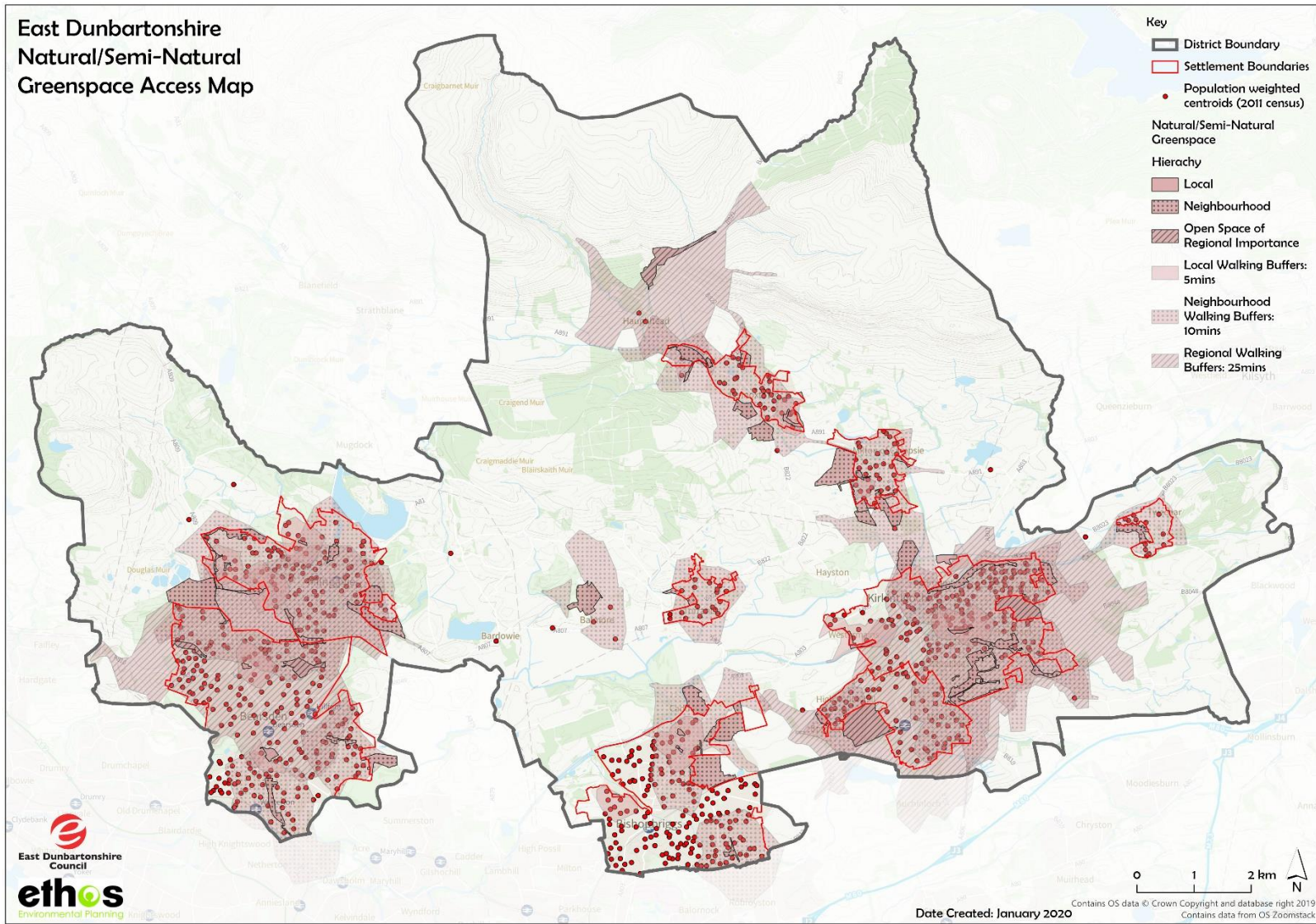


Figure 6. Access to Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space

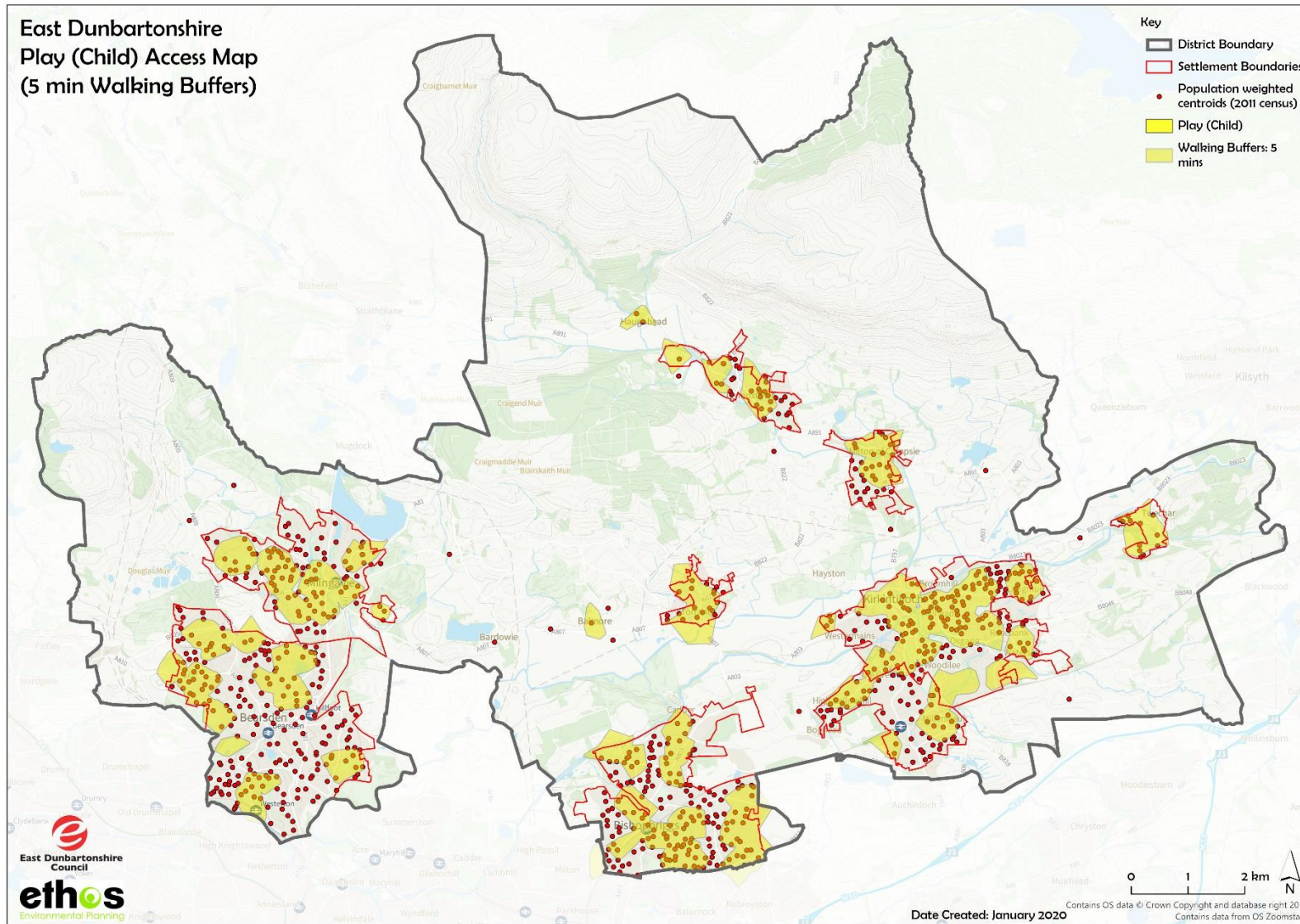


Figure 7. Access to Children’s Play Space

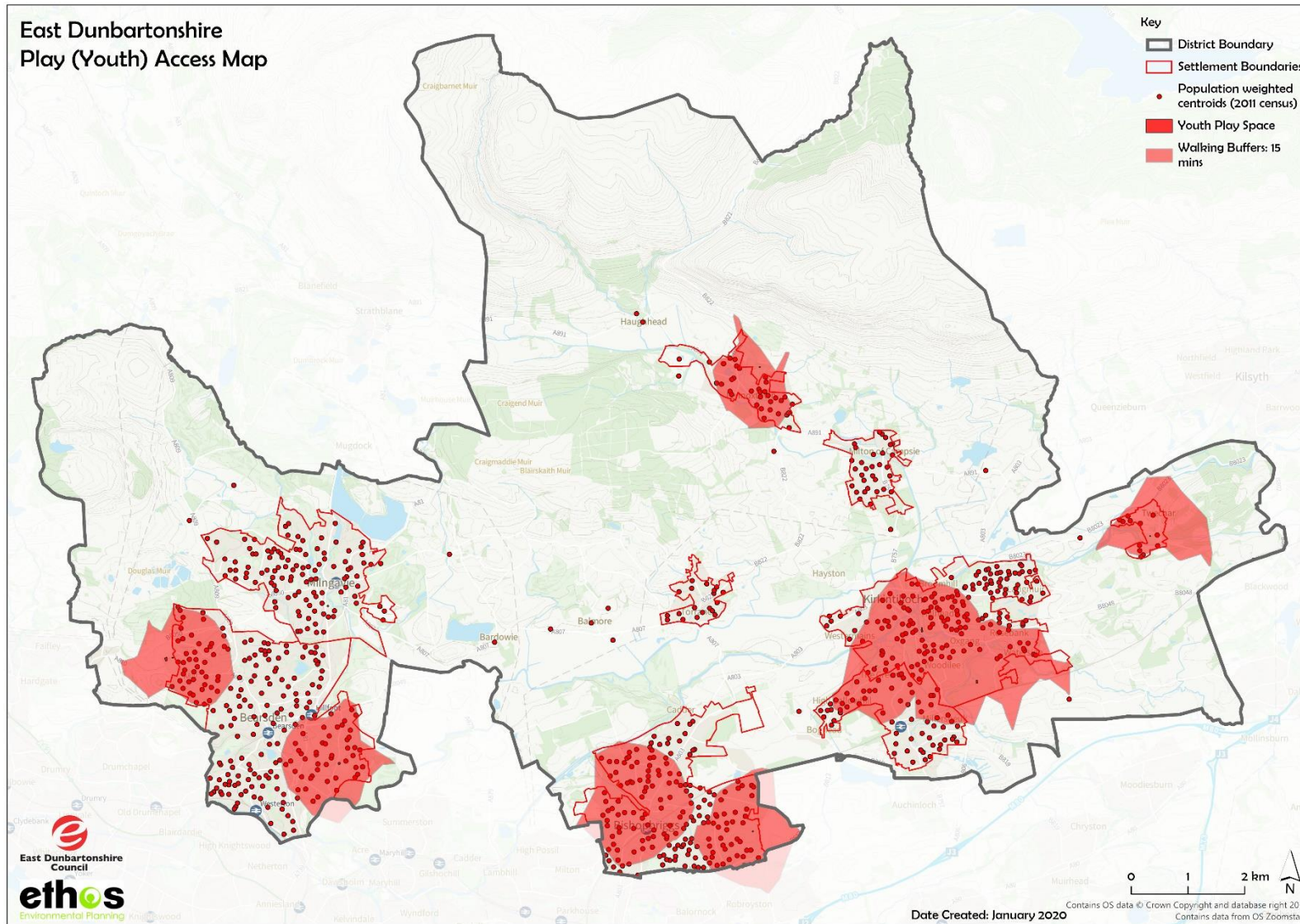


Figure 8. Access to Youth Play Space

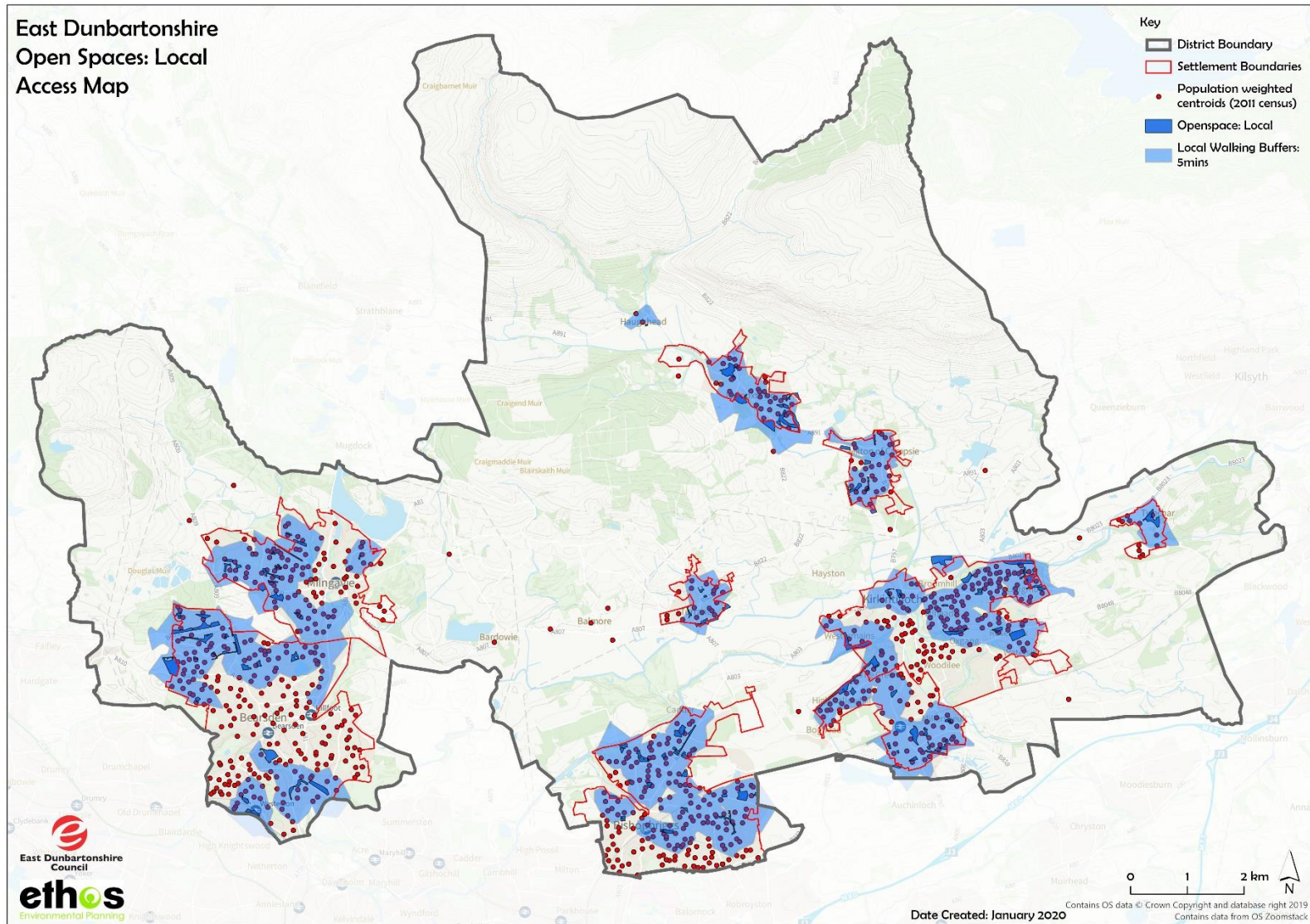


Figure 9. Access to all 'local' open spaces (5 minutes walk time)

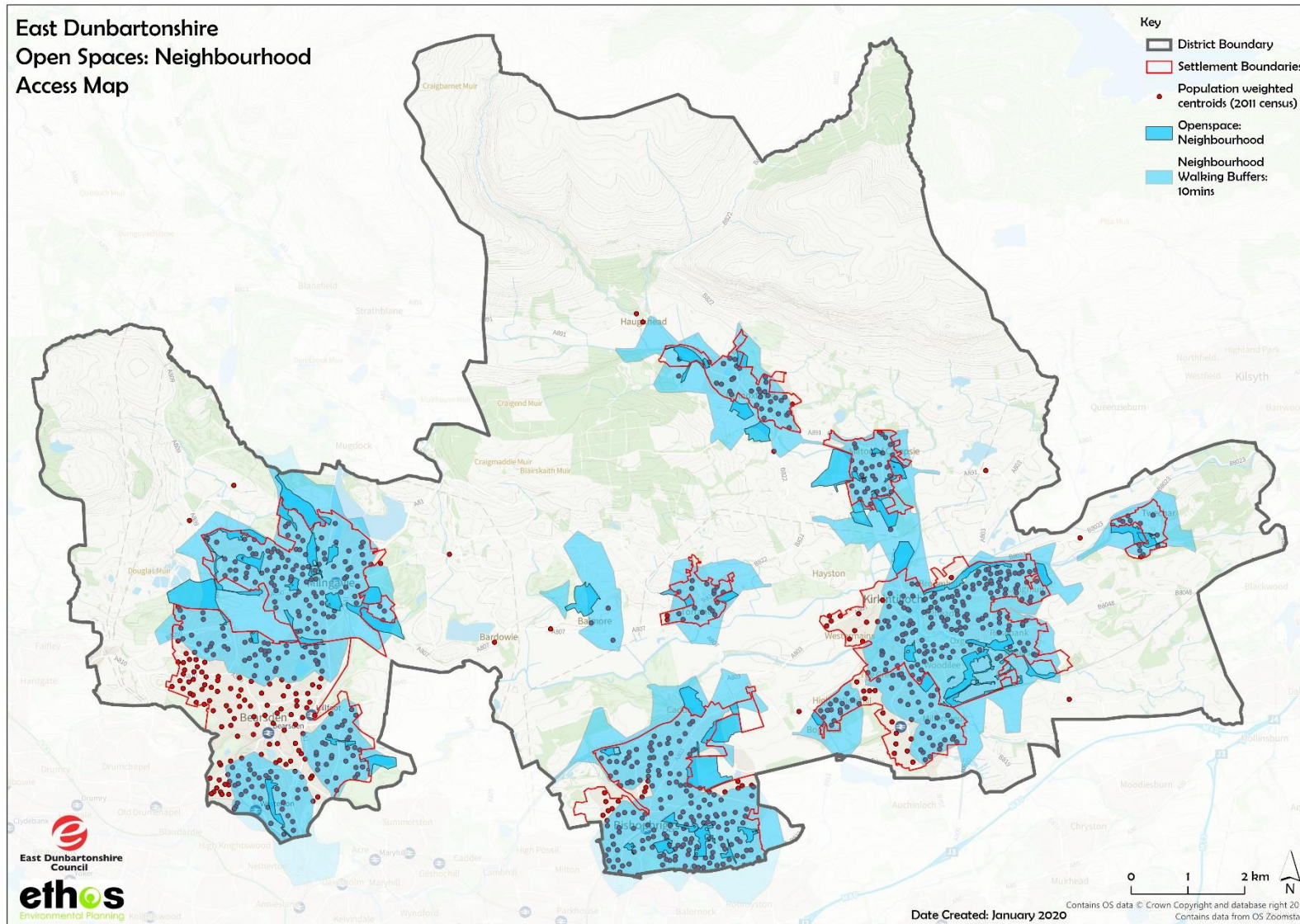


Figure 10. Access to all 'neighbourhood' open spaces (10 minutes' walk time)

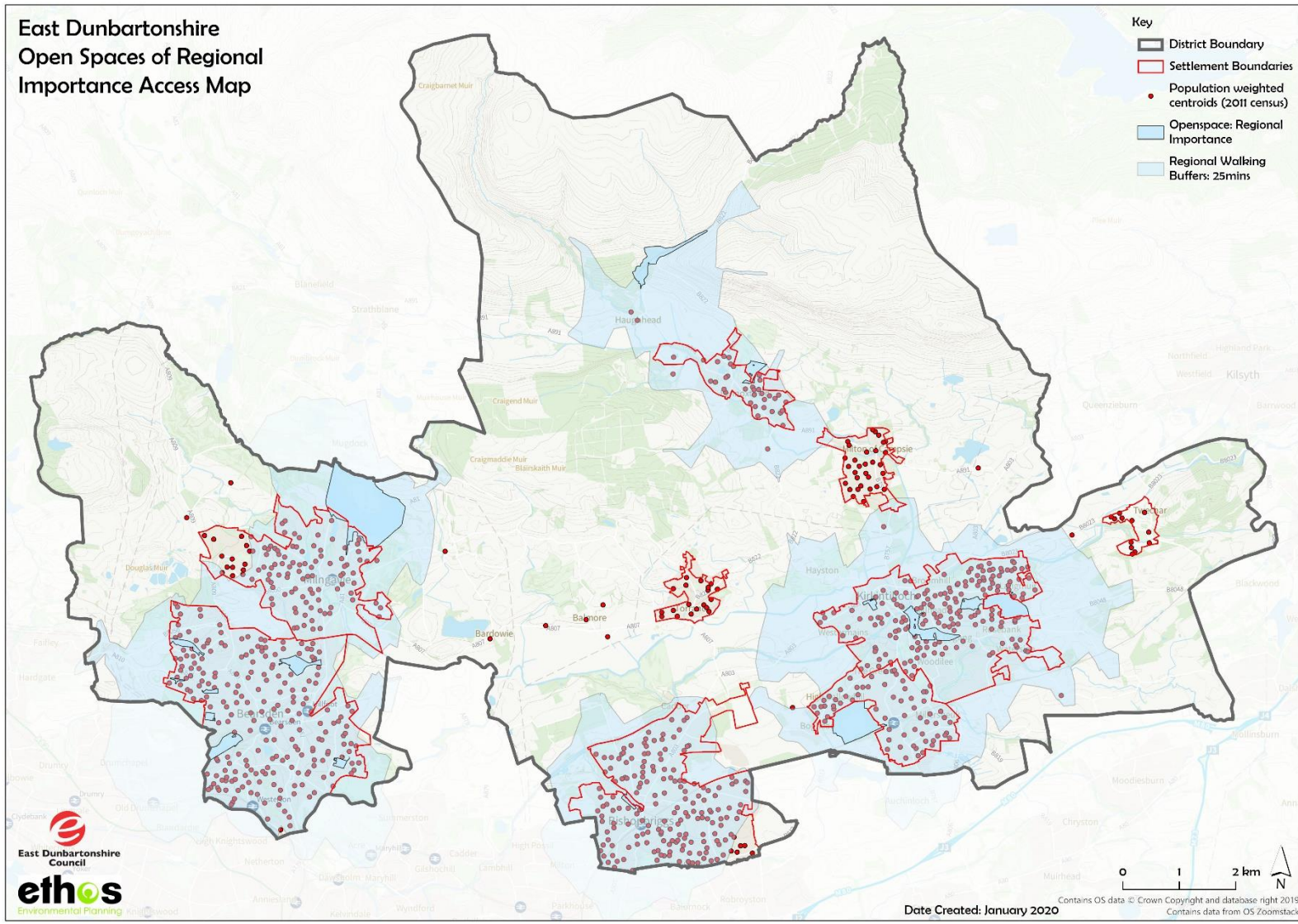


Figure 11. Access to all 'regional' open spaces (25 minutes walk time)

5.2.1 Summary of key access issues

Typology	Key access issues (by settlement)
Public parks and gardens	Access to local parks, neighbourhood parks and regional open spaces combined provides good access against the standards across the study area. Torrance has a gap in the west of the settlement and Bishopbriggs has a small gap in access in the south eastern corner of the settlement.
Amenity Green Space	The majority of settlements have good access to amenity green space within a 10-minute walk time except for Twechar which has no access within the 10-minute walk time. In the west of the District, Milngavie has a lack of access in the eastern edge of the settlement, whereas Bearsden has a gap through the middle of the settlement and in part of the northern edge with no access. Bishopbriggs and Lenzie both have access issues in the south. Kirkintilloch has patchy access with small pockets of access in south eastern corner, north eastern corner and far northern boundary.
Natural/Semi-Natural Greenspace	Access is very good across the entire District except for in Bishopbriggs where there is a gap in access across the southern and north western part of the settlement.
Children's Play Space	The majority of settlements have some access to children's play spaces within 5-minutes, but all have gaps in access. Twechar, Torrance and Lennoxton have good access with only slight gaps. Kirkintilloch, Lenzie and Bishopbriggs overall have good access with some gaps through the central section of the settlements. Milngavie has a gap in the northern part of settlement. Access to children's play space is poor in Bearsden with only small pockets in the north of the settlement having access to children's play space within 5-minutes.
Youth Play Space	There are significant access gaps across the District with the whole of Milngavie, Milton of Campsie, and Torrance having no access to youth play space within a 15-minute walk time. A significant proportion of the central Bearsden settlement also lacks access. Bishopbriggs, Lennoxton, Lenzie and Kirkinintilloch settlements mostly have good access but there are some parts which lack access, notably northern Bishopbriggs, northern Kirkintilloch and southern Lenzie.
Local Spaces	Access to local open spaces is good across all settlements with only small gaps in access. Kirkintilloch and Bearsden have the most significant gaps in access across central parts of the settlements. Milngavie has a gap in access in the north as does Lennoxton. Bishopbriggs also has a lack of access to local open spaces in the south of the settlement.
Neighbourhood Spaces	All settlements have good access to neighbourhood open spaces except for Bearsden, which has a large gap across the central section of the settlement. Kirkintilloch and Bishopbriggs have a small gap in access in the far western corners of the settlements. Lenzie also has a small access gap to neighbourhood spaces in the southern corner.
Regional Spaces	All settlements except for Milton of Campsie, Twechar and Torrance have access to regional spaces within 25-minutes. Milngaive has a small gap in access to regional spaces in the western corner.

5.3 Application of Quality Standards

5.3.1 By Study area

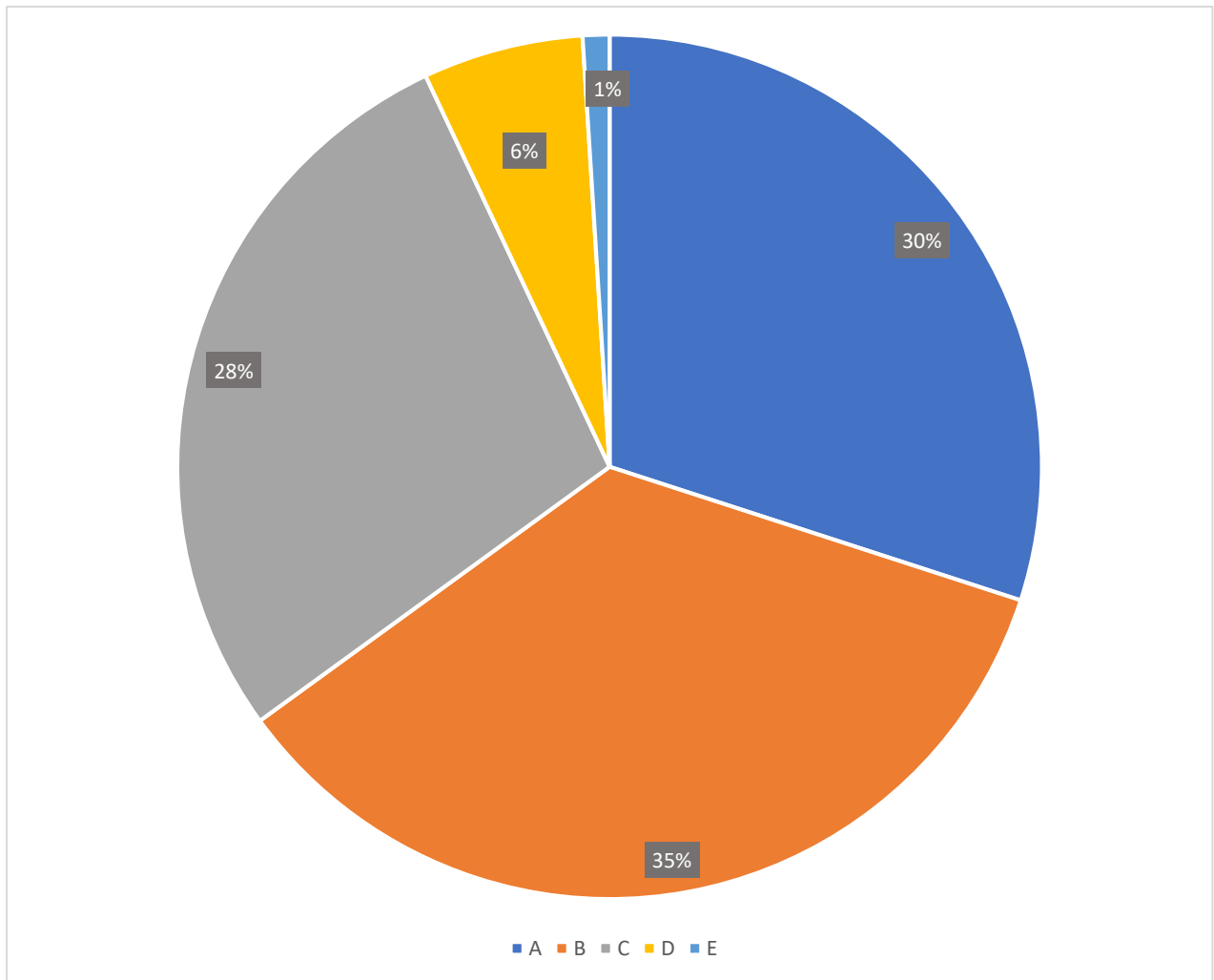


Figure 12. Quality analysis across the study area

Band A (Excellent) = 63 sites (30%)

Band B (Very good) = 73 sites (35%)

Band C (Good) = 58 sites (28%)

Band D (Fair) = 12 sites (6%)

Band E (Poor) = 1 sites (1%)

As can be seen, the majority of sites have been assessed as being either good, very good or excellent quality (93%). However, 13 sites (7%) have been assessed as not fit for purpose (in Band D or E). The breakdown by typology and settlement is shown in the table below, with the detailed quality audit results provided at Appendix 2.

5.3.2 By Settlement

Table 8. Quality analysis by settlement

Settlement	Typology	Grade	Number of Sites
Bearsden	Amenity Greenspace	A	3
		B	4
		C	9
	Cemetery	A	1
		B	2
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	1
		B	1
		C	4
		D	2
	Private Gardens or Grounds	A	1
	Public Parks and Gardens	A	3
		B	5
		C	1
D		1	
Bishopbriggs	Amenity Greenspace	A	3
		B	6
		C	5
		E	1
	Cemetery	B	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	1
		B	1
		C	5
	Public Parks and Gardens	A	1
		B	3
		C	4
	Sports Areas	B	1
		C	1
Kirkintilloch	Amenity Greenspace	A	1
		B	3
		C	1
	Cemetery	A	1
	Civic Space	A	1
	Green Corridor	A	1
		C	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	2
		B	5
		C	1
		D	1
	Public Parks and Gardens	A	3
		B	4
C		2	

Settlement	Typology	Grade	Number of Sites
		D	1
Lennoxton	Amenity Greenspace	A	1
		B	5
	Cemetery	A	1
		B	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	1
		B	2
		C	5
	Private Gardens or Grounds	A	1
Public Parks and Gardens	A	2	
	C	2	
Lenzie	Amenity Greenspace	A	3
		B	5
		C	2
	Green Corridor	B	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	2
	Public Parks and Gardens	A	1
		B	3
	Sports Areas	B	1
C		1	
Milngavie	Amenity Greenspace	A	6
		B	1
		C	3
		D	2
	Cemetery	A	1
	Civic Space	A	1
	Green Corridor	A	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	4
		B	2
		C	3
		D	1
Private Gardens or Grounds	C	1	
Public Parks and Gardens	A	6	
	D	1	
Milton of Campsie	Amenity Greenspace	A	4
		B	2
		C	1
	Green Corridor	A	1
		D	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	1
		B	6
		C	2
D		2	

Settlement	Typology	Grade	Number of Sites
	Public Parks and Gardens	A	1
		B	1
Torrance	Amenity Greenspace	B	1
	Green Corridor	C	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	A	1
		B	1
		C	2
	Public Parks and Gardens	B	2
C		1	
Twechar	Green Corridor	B	1
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space	B	1
	Public Parks and Gardens	A	1
		B	1

5.4 Application of quantity standards

5.4.1 Analysis of open space supply against existing (2015) quantity standard

Table 18 below shows the existing supply of open space against the existing (2015) quantity standard, at the study area and settlement level. The supply is calculated using the population figures (2016) and the quantity of open space compared to what the requirements for open space are against the existing quantity standard:

- Current Standard: 1.5 – 1.8ha per 1000 population of multi-functional¹³ open space.

Table 18. Supply (ha and ha per 1000) by settlement and study area against the existing 1.5 quantity standard (public parks and gardens only).

	Existing (Ha)	Existing (Ha/1000)	Required (Ha)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)
Bearsden	31.23	1.11	42.18	-10.95	-0.39
Bishopbriggs	30.21	1.28	35.31	-5.10	-0.22
Kirkintilloch	42.88	2.01	32.07	10.81	0.51
Lennoxtown	15.37	3.71	6.21	9.16	2.21
Lenzie	13.77	1.71	12.11	1.66	0.21
Milngavie	54.98	4.25	19.41	35.57	2.75
Milton of Campsie	7.32	1.91	5.76	1.56	0.41
Torrance	4.70	2.05	3.44	1.26	0.55
Twechar	8.55	7.01	1.83	6.72	5.51
District	209.02	1.98	158.31	50.71	0.48

¹³ Multifunctional open space was defined as including Regional Spaces, Neighbourhood Parks and Local Parks in the ED 2015 Strategy. Therefore, the analysis in Table 18 only includes the parks and gardens typology. In Table 19 the analysis also includes amenity green space, natural green space and children's play space.

Table 19. Supply (ha and ha per 1000) by settlement and study area against the existing 1.5 quantity standard (all multi-functional open space – public parks and gardens, amenity green space, natural green space and children’s play space).

	Existing (Ha)	Existing (Ha/1000)	Required (Ha)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)
Bearsden	130.87	4.65	42.18	88.69	3.15
Bishopbriggs	121.49	5.16	35.31	86.18	3.66
Kirkintilloch	155.60	7.28	32.07	123.53	5.78
Lennoxtown	56.51	13.65	6.21	50.30	12.15
Lenzie	66.04	8.18	12.11	53.93	6.68
Milngavie	122.21	9.44	19.41	102.80	7.94
Milton of Campsie	65.14	16.96	5.76	59.38	15.46
Torrance	12.15	5.3	3.44	8.71	3.8
Twechar	17.55	14.38	1.83	15.72	12.88
District	747.56	7.08	158.31	598.00	5.58

As can be seen, when considering only public parks and gardens, there are shortfalls in supply (against the standard of 1.5ha per 1000) in Bearsden and Bishopbriggs (Table 18), but when amenity green space, natural green spaces and children’s play spaces are included within the analysis (Table 19), there is sufficient supply of ‘multi-functional’ open space across all settlements, against the 1.5ha per 1000 standard.

5.4.2 Analysis of supply against proposed quantity standards

This section sets out the supply of each open space typology by settlement, using the proposed quantity standards summarised in Table 12.

Table 20. Supply (ha and ha per 1000) against the proposed quantity standards by typology

Settlement	Typology	Existing (Ha)	Existing (Ha/1000)	Required (Ha)	Standard (Ha/1000)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)
Bearsden	Amenity Greenspace	16.05	0.57	16.87	0.60	-0.82	-0.03
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	31.23	1.11	56.24	2.00	-25.01	-0.89
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	81.38	2.89	56.24	2.00	25.14	0.89
	Play (Child)	2.21	0.08	1.97	0.07	0.24	0.01
	Play (Youth)	0.34	0.01	1.97	0.07	-1.63	-0.06
	Total		131.22	4.66	133.29	4.74	-2.07
Bishopbriggs	Amenity Greenspace	17.63	0.75	14.12	0.60	3.51	0.15
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	30.21	1.28	47.08	2.00	-16.87	-0.72
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	72.56	3.08	47.08	2.00	25.48	1.08
	Play (Child)	1.09	0.05	1.65	0.07	-0.56	-0.02
	Play (Youth)	0.05	0.00	1.65	0.07	-1.60	-0.07
	Total		121.54	5.16	111.58	4.74	9.96
Kirkintilloch	Amenity Greenspace	7.87	0.37	12.83	0.60	-4.96	-0.23
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	42.88	2.01	42.76	2.00	0.12	0.01
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	103.17	4.83	42.76	2.00	60.41	2.83
	Play (Child)	1.67	0.08	1.50	0.07	0.17	0.01
	Play (Youth)	0.28	0.01	1.50	0.07	-1.22	-0.06
	Total		155.88	7.30	101.35	4.74	54.53
Lennoxtown	Amenity Greenspace	2.19	0.53	2.48	0.60	-0.29	-0.07
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	15.37	3.71	8.28	2.00	7.09	1.71
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	38.57	9.32	8.28	2.00	30.29	7.32
	Play (Child)	0.38	0.09	0.29	0.07	0.09	0.02
	Play (Youth)	0.03	0.01	0.29	0.07	-0.26	-0.06
	Total		56.54	13.66	19.62	4.74	36.92
Lenzie	Amenity Greenspace	7.82	0.97	4.84	0.60	2.98	0.37
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	13.77	1.71	16.14	2.00	-2.37	-0.29

Settlement	Typology	Existing (Ha)	Existing (Ha/1000)	Required (Ha)	Standard (Ha/1000)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	44.26	5.49	16.14	2.0	28.12	3.49
	Play (Child)	0.18	0.02	0.56	0.07	-0.38	-0.05
	Play (Youth)	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.07	-0.56	-0.07
	Total	66.04	8.19	38.24	4.74	27.08	3.45
Milngavie	Amenity Greenspace	6.73	0.52	7.76	0.60	-1.03	-0.08
	Public Parks and Gardens (All) ¹⁴	54.98	4.25	25.88	2.00	29.10	2.25
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	60.05	4.64	25.88	2.00	34.17	2.64
	Play (Child)	0.45	0.03	0.91	0.07	-0.46	-0.04
	Play (Youth)	0.06	0.00	0.91	0.07	-0.85	-0.07
	Total	122.27	9.44	61.34	4.74	60.93	4.70
Milton of Campsie	Amenity Greenspace	3.92	1.02	2.30	0.60	1.62	0.42
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	7.32	1.91	7.68	2.00	-0.36	-0.09
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	53.65	13.97	7.68	2.00	45.97	11.97
	Play (Child)	0.25	0.07	0.27	0.07	-0.02	0.00
	Play (Youth)	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.07	-0.27	-0.07
	Total	65.14	16.97	18.20	4.74	46.94	12.23
Torrance	Amenity Greenspace	2.92	1.28	1.37	0.60	1.55	0.68
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	4.70	2.05	4.58	2.00	0.12	0.05
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	3.99	1.74	4.58	2.00	-0.59	-0.26
	Play (Child)	0.53	0.23	0.16	0.07	0.37	0.16
	Play (Youth)	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.07	-0.16	-0.07
	Total	12.15	5.30	10.85	4.74	1.30	0.56
Twechar	Amenity Greenspace	0.00	0.00	0.73	0.60	-0.73	-0.60
	Public Parks and Gardens (All)	8.55	7.01	2.44	2.00	6.11	5.01
	Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space (All)	8.66	7.10	2.44	2.00	6.22	5.10

¹⁴ Figures exclude Mugdock Reservoir i.e. there is sufficient supply of public parks and gardens when the reservoir is excluded from the calculations.

Settlement	Typology	Existing (Ha)	Existing (Ha/1000)	Required (Ha)	Standard (Ha/1000)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)
	Play (Child)	0.33	0.27	0.09	0.07	0.24	0.20
	Play (Youth)	0.03	0.02	0.09	0.07	-0.06	-0.05
	Total	17.57	14.40	5.79	4.74	11.78	9.66

5.4.3 Summary of supply

Against the proposed quantity standards (summarised in Table 12), there is sufficient supply of natural/semi-natural green space in all settlements, with the exception of Torrance, where there is a small shortfall of 0.59ha. Conversely, there are shortfalls in the supply of youth play space within every settlement. The picture is more mixed for the other typologies (amenity green spaces, public parks and gardens and children's play spaces), with provision varying by settlement.

Against the overall (total) quantity standard for open space (4.74ha/1000), there is sufficient supply in all settlements with the exception of Bearsden where there is a shortfall of 2.07 ha of open space.

6.0 KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The table below provides a summary by settlement of the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces (against the proposed standards in Table 12), along with potential opportunities for reducing existing any shortfalls (not including through new development).

Table 9. Summary of key issues and opportunities by settlement

Settlement	Existing open space provision (quantity, accessibility and quality)	Key issues and opportunities
Bearsden	<p>Supply: Shortfalls in the supply of amenity green space, parks and gardens and youth play space. Sufficient supply of natural green space and children’s play space.</p> <p>Access: Good access to public parks and gardens, large gaps in access to amenity green space, especially in the central part of the settlement. Good access to natural green space, with a small gap in access in the south west of the settlement. Large gaps in access to children’s play space and youth provision across much of the area.</p> <p>Quality: The majority of open spaces meet the proposed quality standards, however 4 sites do not meet the standards.</p>	<p>Although there are shortfalls in supply and access to amenity green space, and a shortfall in supply of parks and gardens, there is good access to both parks and gardens and natural green space (of which there is also very good provision).</p> <p>There may be potential for existing amenity green spaces and/or parks and gardens to accommodate youth provision, to reduce the shortfalls in this typology. There may also be potential for these spaces (or even natural green space, if appropriate) to accommodate children’s play provision, in order to reduce the gaps in access.</p> <p>There is also the need to improve the following spaces to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roman Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band D. • Westerton Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C. • Bailie Drive (South) Open Space (Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space) currently falls within Band D. • Mains Plantation (Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space) currently falls within Band D.
Bishopbriggs	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of amenity green space and natural green space. Shortfalls in the supply of</p>	<p>Although there are shortfalls in the supply of most typologies with the exception of amenity green space and natural green space, there is good</p>

Settlement	Existing open space provision (quantity, accessibility and quality)	Key issues and opportunities
	<p>parcs and gardens, children’s play space and youth play space.</p> <p>Access: Good access to public parks and gardens, although there is a small gap in access in the south east of the settlement. Large gap in access to amenity green space in the south western part of the settlement. Large gaps in access to natural green space and children’s play space. Some relatively large gaps in access to youth provision in the northern part of the settlement.</p> <p>Quality: The majority of open spaces meet the proposed quality standards, however 5 sites do not meet the standards.</p>	<p>access to some form of open space across the settlement, especially parks and gardens.</p> <p>There may be potential for existing parks and/or amenity green space to accommodate child and youth provision, to reduce the shortfalls in supply and access. Due to the shortfalls in supply (but generally good access), the priority would be to improve the quality of existing spaces, in order to enhance their capacity. The following spaces have been identified as requiring improvements to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodhill Park 3 (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C • Etive Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C • Callieburn Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C • Springfield Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C • Park Avenue AGS (Amenity Green Space) currently falls within Band E
Kirkintilloch	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of natural green space, children’s play space and parks and gardens¹⁵. Shortfalls in the supply of amenity green space and youth provision.</p> <p>Access: Good access to public parks and gardens but large gaps in access to amenity green space. Good access to natural green space. Some relatively small gaps in access to</p>	<p>Despite the shortfalls in amenity green space, there is sufficient supply of and good access to natural green spaces and parks and gardens, and therefore the priority is to improve the quality of these spaces. There may be potential for parks and gardens to accommodate youth provision in order to reduce the shortfalls in supply and access to this typology.</p>

¹⁵ However, if approximately half (1.74ha) of Waterside Park (public park and garden) were to be lost to proposed development, this would result in a shortfall in supply of -1.62ha or -0.08ha/1000 population of parks and gardens within the settlement (currently the supply only just exceeds the standard of 2ha/1000).

Settlement	Existing open space provision (quantity, accessibility and quality)	Key issues and opportunities
	<p>children’s play space, and large gaps in access to youth provision within the north east and north west of the settlement.</p> <p>Quality: The majority of open spaces meet the proposed quality standards, however 4 sites do not meet the standards.</p>	<p>The following spaces have been identified as requiring improvements to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friarscroft (Natural Green Space) currently falls within Band D (although it was noted that the children’s play area is good quality). • Afton View Open Space (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C • Tintock Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band D • Rosebank Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C <p>The gaps in access and shortfall in supply of youth provision could be reduced through existing parks and gardens and/or amenity green space accommodating new youth provision.</p>
Lennoxton	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of parks and gardens, natural green space and children’s play space. Shortfalls in the supply of amenity green space and youth provision.</p> <p>Access: Good access to public parks and gardens and natural green space. Gaps in access to amenity green space, children’s play space and youth provision.</p> <p>Quality: The majority of open spaces assessed meet the proposed quality standards, with the exception of 2 sites.</p>	<p>Although there are some shortfalls in the supply of open space, there is generally good access to all open space typologies, and therefore, the priority would be to improve the quality of existing spaces, in order to enhance their capacity.</p> <p>The following spaces have been identified as requiring improvements to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferguson Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C. • Station Road Playing Fields (Public Park and Garden) currently falls in Band C.
Lenzie	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of amenity green space and natural green space. Shortfalls in the supply of parks and gardens, children’s play space and youth play space.</p>	<p>Although there are shortfalls in the supply of parks and gardens, there is generally good access to this typology, along with natural green space. There are shortfalls in the supply and access</p>

Settlement	Existing open space provision (quantity, accessibility and quality)	Key issues and opportunities
	<p>Access: Good access to natural green space and generally good access to parks and gardens, although there is a gap in access in the southern part of the settlement. Large gaps in access to amenity green space, children’s play space and youth provision.</p> <p>Quality: All open spaces assessed within this settlement meet the proposed quality standards.</p>	<p>to children’s play space, and there may be potential to expand existing facilities, and also introduce new facilities (perhaps natural play items) within Whitegates Park or existing amenity green spaces, if the demand is identified. There is currently no youth provision within the settlement, however a number of facilities in Kirkintilloch provide access to the northern part of the settlement only. There may be potential to upgrade the basketball area within Christine’s Way (Glenwood to Park Burn – which just crosses the border into Kirkintilloch), and Whitegates Park or amenity green spaces may also have potential to accommodate new provision.</p>
Milngavie	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of parks and gardens and natural green space. Shortfalls in amenity green space, children’s play space and youth play space.</p> <p>Access: Good access to parks and gardens and natural green space. Large gaps in access to amenity green space and children’s play space. No access or provision of youth play space.</p> <p>Quality: The majority of open spaces meet the proposed quality standards, however 4 sites do not meet the standards.</p>	<p>The gaps in access and shortfalls in supply of amenity green space are not an issue in the context of the good provision and access to parks and gardens, and also natural green space. Existing children’s play spaces could be expanded to reduce the shortfalls in supply, but new provision is also needed to reduce the shortfalls in access in the north of the settlement. There may be potential for Allander Park to accommodate new children’s provision, but any new provision would need to be sympathetic to the natural character of the site. There is no youth provision within the settlement, and there are a number of public parks and gardens, which may have potential to accommodate new provision.</p> <p>The following spaces have been identified as requiring improvements to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drumbeg Terr. Wood (Natural/Semi-Natural Green

Settlement	Existing open space provision (quantity, accessibility and quality)	Key issues and opportunities
		<p>Space) currently falls within Band D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakburn Park (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band D • Ashburn Gardens O.S. (Amenity Green Space) currently falls within Band D • Graham Drive (Amenity Green Space) currently falls within Band D
Milton of Campsie	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of amenity green space and natural green space. Shortfalls in parks and gardens, children’s play space and youth play space.</p> <p>Access: Good access to parks and gardens, amenity green space and natural green space. Gaps in access in the south to children’s play space and no provision/access to youth play space.</p> <p>Quality: The majority of open spaces meet the proposed quality standards, however 3 sites do not meet the standards.</p>	<p>Although there are shortfalls in the supply of parks and gardens, there is good access to this typology, in addition to good access (and supply) of amenity green space and natural green space. The shortfalls in supply and access to children’s play space could be reduced through expanding existing provision, and also providing new facilities in the southern part of the settlement e.g. within existing amenity green space. There is no provision of, or access to youth play space within the settlement, and potential to reduce shortfalls may exist through accommodating new provision within either of the parks. The following spaces have been identified as requiring improvements to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kincaid Wood (Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space) currently falls within Band D • Antermony Road (Natural/Semi-Natural Green Space) currently falls within Band D • Kelvin Valley Way (Green Corridor) currently falls within Band D
Torrance	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of amenity green space, parks and gardens, and children’s play space. Shortfalls in</p>	<p>Although there are gaps in access to amenity green space, there is sufficient supply of this typology and</p>

Settlement	Existing open space provision (quantity, accessibility and quality)	Key issues and opportunities
	<p>the supply of natural green space and youth play space.</p> <p>Access: Small gaps in access to parks and gardens and children’s play space, good access to natural green space, large gaps in access to amenity green space in the north of the settlement and no provision/access to youth play space.</p> <p>Quality: All open spaces assessed meet the proposed quality standards, with the exception of 1 site.</p>	<p>good access to natural green space and parks and gardens. Although there is a slight shortfall in the provision of natural green space, there is good access to this typology. With only small gaps in access to children’s play space, the priority would be to improve existing facilities e.g. play area in Daisy Field and play area off Kelvin Valley Way would benefit from upgrading. There may be potential for parks within the settlement to accommodate youth provision in order to reduce the shortfalls in supply and access.</p> <p>The following spaces have been identified as requiring improvements to bring them up to the quality standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration Garden (Public Park and Garden) currently falls within Band C
Twechar	<p>Supply: Sufficient supply of parks and gardens, natural green space and children’s play space. Shortfalls in amenity green space and youth play space.</p> <p>Access: Good access to parks and gardens, natural green space, children’s play space and youth play space. No provision/access to amenity green space.</p> <p>Quality: All open spaces assessed within this settlement meet the proposed quality standards.</p>	<p>The gaps in access and shortfalls in supply of amenity green space are not an issue in the context of the good provision and access to parks and gardens, and also natural green space. There is good supply and access to children’s play space, however there is potential to improve provision within Twechar Public Park (there are also two play spaces which fall outside of any open space, which were not quality audited). There may be potential for Twechar public park to accommodate additional youth provision to reduce the shortfall in supply.</p>