

Milton Keynes Open Space Assessment



Milton Keynes Open Space Assessment 2017

A Open Space Assessment to inform Plan:MK

Final Report
Milton Keynes Council
Civic Offices
Milton Keynes
MK9 3EJ

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Executive Summary

Throughout 2016 – 2017 Milton Keynes Council undertook a detailed Open Space Assessment with the intent to reflect the changes to national planning policy and proposed population growth. The findings of this study have informed the Council's new Local Plan.

Plan:MK is the new local plan currently being prepared by the Council. Part of the process is to gather a full evidence base for all services and provision across a wide range of opportunities and constraints within the Milton Keynes policy area. The Open Space Assessment forms an essential component of the emerging plan.

Milton Keynes Council has a long tradition of enhancing and providing a network of open space for its residents and visitors. The Council recognises that open spaces are essential components of the City's infrastructure and fabric that can help reduce health inequalities; spur economic growth and energise community engagement promoting community cohesion.

This study provides a robust and up to date assessment of open space across the Milton Keynes area.

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1 Introduction

Milton Keynes Council (MKC) is preparing a new local plan for the Borough. This new plan will be known as [Plan:MK](#). The plan sets out the Council's strategy for meeting the Borough's needs until 2031 and intends to deliver a minimum of 26,500 new homes within the planning period.

In order to ensure that there is an adequate amount of high quality open space to meet current and future needs for the population of Milton Keynes. MKC have produced an Open Space Assessment (OSA).

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) recognises that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. It requires local planning authorities to set out policies to help enable communities to access high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation. These policies must be based on a thorough understanding of the local needs for such facilities and opportunities available for new provision.

Study Aim and objectives

The study aimed to provide a robust assessment of the needs and deficiencies in open spaces in order to establish local provision standards and to create an up to date evidence base. In turn, this will inform the emerging Development and Allocations Plan and the standards will form the basis for redressing quantitative and qualitative deficiencies through the planning process.

The study is based on the formally allocated as recreation and open space on the 2005 Local Plan Proposals Map¹.

This study did not assess the quality of wildlife corridors, deploying energy uses or provide recommendations for future Green Infrastructure. This will be addressed in separate evidence based studies, for example, MKC Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Green Energy Mapping.

Furthermore, the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre are in the process of preparing a study on Milton Keynes Local Wildlife Sites. This study looks at the environmental qualities of the existing wildlife sites and has been used as part of the evidence base for Plan:MK.

¹ The scope of the study included all publicly accessible open spaces over 0.1ha in size. 'Private open spaces including school playing fields were also excluded from the assessment.

Planning Policy - National

The NPPF states that:

- Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision
- Existing open space *'should not be built on unless an assessment clearly shows the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements'*. The OSA will help to define whether there is any surplus open space in the Borough
- Development should be delivered on *'land of less environmental value'*. The Assessment will identify which land delivers environmental, social and economic benefits to Milton Keynes.

Paragraph 73 - emphasises the importance of access to high quality open spaces for 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.

Paragraph 74 - sets out the only circumstances in which an open space can be developed for different uses. It clarifies that existing open space should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements; or
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- Development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

Paragraph 76 - outlines how local communities through local 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.

As outlined above, the NPPF provides guidance for local authorities to protect some open spaces under a 'Local Green Space' designation (e.g. paras 76-77), outlining high level criteria for such a designation.

Based on the above, local development plan or a neighbourhood development plan can designate smaller areas of green space. These spaces should be local in character, of importance to the community and demonstrably special, for example, due to beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field),

tranquillity or richness of wildlife. However, Plan:MK is not currently proposing to allocate Local Green Spaces as many of the green spaces within the borough are already protected through their designations as either Open Spaces or other types of nature conservation site such as Local Wildlife Sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. In total, there are twelve made (adopted) neighbourhood plans:

- Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan (Made 18 October 2017)
- Central Milton Keynes Business Neighbourhood Plan (Made 10 June 2015)
- Great Linford North Neighbourhood Plan (Made 23 March 2016)
- Great Linford South Neighbourhood Plan (Made 23 March 2016)
- Lakes Estate Neighbourhood Plan (Made 21 October 2015)
- Newport Pagnell Neighbourhood Plan (Made 8 June 2016)
- Olney Neighbourhood Plan (Made 19 July 2017)
- Sherington Neighbourhood Plan (Made 18 October 2017)
- Walton Neighbourhood Plan (Made 11 January 2017)
- Woburn Sands Neighbourhood Plan (Made 16 July 2014)
- Wolverton Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan (Made 16 September 2015)
- Woughton Neighbourhood Plan (Made 22 November 2017)

All of the above 12 plans include local policies that aim to protect or improve existing open space within neighbourhood areas. The OSA will take into consideration any guidance relevant to open space included in any adopted neighbourhood plans.

Planning Policy - Local

Milton Keynes development plan currently consists of the Local Plan (2005), Core Strategy (2013), Minerals Policy, Waste Development Plan (2017) and Neighbourhood Plans (as stated above). There are also a number of development frameworks, Supplementary Planning Documents and Supplementary Planning Guidance documents providing more detailed guidance.

The 2005 Local Plan includes policies that aim to protect, enhance and extend the city's strategic green infrastructure such as linear and district parks (Policies S12 and L1).

Policy L2 - aims to protect existing areas of open space from development and also to ensure that development proposals address any unmet need for community facilities. This policy distinguishes between and defines recreational open space, amenity open space and leisure and recreational facilities.

The Council's open space provision standards are set out in **Policy L3** and **Appendix L3** of the Local Plan. These standards are used to determine the type and size of open space that new developments are meant to provide or contribute to.

Table 1.1: Overview of Development of Existing Evidence Base

Name	Date	Description
Planning Obligations for Leisure, Recreation and Sports Facilities (SPG)	2005	This SPG identifies the main requirements for Leisure, Recreation and Sport, which will be required as a consequence of new residential development within the Borough. It also sets out the financial contributions, which will be sought by the Council from applicants seeking planning consent for development, where that development generates a need for such facilities. A new SPG is currently being developed.
Open Space Strategy	2007	The Open Space Strategy accords with other MKC adopted policies including the Playing Pitch Strategy for Outdoor Sports Facilities (June 2003), The Local Plan (adopted 2001), Walking and Cycling, MK Landscape Character Study (1999) and The Landscape Character Assessment (2007).
Green Infrastructure Plan	2008	This plan identifies a range of important wildlife habitats within the Milton Keynes area as well as areas of opportunity that should be taken into account when considering any strategic sites. A new Green Infrastructure plan is currently being prepared.
Vision for Green Infrastructure in Buckinghamshire	2016	Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire Natural Environment Partnership published a report 'Vision for Green Infrastructure in Buckinghamshire', along with a set of 9 Principles which should be followed to achieve the Vision by 2030.
Public Open Space: A Strategy for Milton Keynes	2012	The strategy sets out the vision and the overarching principles for the management and operation of public open space.
MK Public Open Space: Management Framework	2013-2023	Provides the overarching principles for the management and operation of public open space. In turn, four strategic themes have been developed and to each theme priorities and actions have unfolded.
MK Play Area Action Plan	2013-2023	To guide the improvement of existing play area facilities and to identify new opportunities for future facilities across the Borough.
MK Sport & Active Communities Strategy	2014-2023	Captures three main areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing sporting opportunities • Maximising the use of facilities including community centres • Preserving, enhancing and providing playing pitches
MK Tree Management Strategy	2017-2027	This emerging Strategy provides a basis for the Council to manage its tree resource in the future, and ensure that the MK tree resource is sustained and enhanced.
Green Infrastructure Strategy	Emerging	To provide a broader overview of the environmental services offered by the Borough's natural resources, and where these should be protected and enhanced to support the residents of Milton Keynes in the future.

2 Method

A simple three stage designed method was used to ensure that a robust evidence base was compiled. This included:

Stage 1: Identification of local needs

Stage 2: Mapping and audit of local provision

Stage 3: Setting of provision standards

Brief Overview of the Stages

Stage 1: Involved the identification and agreement of the open space typologies to be included in the study, by consulting stakeholders. Our team then consulted stakeholders, to ensure that all known open spaces were correctly defined in the mapped information.

A sample of open spaces was then selected to be audited to help establish qualitative criteria per typology, ensuring that examples of all typologies and from all parishes were included. The audit form content was agreed, ensuring that the approach was consistent with the full open space audit completed in 2017.

A combination of mapped datasets in our GIS project and relevant local studies and strategies were reviewed to help us understand the current and future needs and opportunities in the borough.

A range of stakeholders were asked to take part in Stage 1.

- a. An initial workshop was held with councillors and parish and town council's to determine appropriate typologies of open space.
- b. A survey was undertaken with all parish and town councils on quantity, quality and accessibility to open space, please refer to Appendix A. This included: internal partners at Milton Keynes Council, key open space management partners including town and parish councils, Members, and external partners, primarily planning and open space officers in neighbouring authorities, all of which was in line with the Duty to Cooperate.

Finally, a workshop with stakeholders (e.g. MKC colleagues, town and parish councils, Members, and external partners, primarily planning and open space officers in neighbouring authorities) was held to shape the open space typologies and identify needs within MKC. A consultation survey questionnaire was used to help us gather more information about open space in the Borough and capture views of the local communities on the quality and value of the open space.

Stage 2: All parishes within MKC were individually audited with respect to mapping the existing typologies. . The audit also included identifying how much open space exists per person per parish (please see Appendix B).

The findings were originally mapped in illustrator to present the findings of the audit and then, converted into Geographic Information Systems (GIS) format for policies L1 and L2 for the purpose of Plan:MK. The detailed maps indicated the different open space typologies across the borough, and the proposed provision standards.

Stage 3: Standards of provision were established

3 Typologies and Characteristics

In order to quantify and assess the provision of open space within Milton Keynes, open space provision into typologies evolved. As this study is an update to an existing study, it was necessary to utilise the typologies used in the previous study. This allowed the sample site audit to be integrated and analysed alongside the original data.

Table 3.1 provides an overview of the typologies used for this study where Table 3.2 outlines the open space standards.

Table 3.1: Open Space Typologies

Typology	Characteristics
District Parks	These are spaces that actively attract visitors from a wide catchment, typically further than 10 kilometres. They offer unique or novel experiences that extend visiting time.
Local Parks	Urban parks, rural parks and formal gardens, open to the general public that provide opportunities for various informal recreation and community events. A local park may include children's play, sitting out areas, landscaped environment, community events area, kickabout area and playing fields if the park is large enough. Local Parks will vary in size, but will be expected to be a minimum of 1-2ha.
Pocket Parks	Includes small areas of inviting public space that has an overall coherent landscape design approach and tend to be well integrated into and have a positive relationship with the surrounding development. Provides for informal play and passive recreation. Should include seating. Can include play areas but they should not take up more than 50% of the park.
Amenity Open Space	Commonly found in housing areas, they predominantly comprise grass areas. The primary purpose of these spaces is to provide opportunities for informal activities close to home or work, as well as visual amenity to help break up the built form. Can be used to incorporate on street parking.
Local Play Areas (LPAs)	Includes equipped play areas predominantly for those under the age of 8 years, close to their homes. This provides opportunities for play, physical activity and social interaction.
Neighbourhood Play Areas (NPAs)	Includes equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters with the primary purpose of providing opportunities for play, physical activity and social interaction involving both children and young people. Can include multi-use game areas (MUGAs). MUGAs are totally enclosed games areas which provide facilities for a range of sports, normally 5-a-side football, basketball, netball etc. MUGAs are available for free public use all year round.
Playing fields and Outdoor Sports Facilities (Does not include school playing fields as these are not publicly accessible).	As per provision standards included in most recent Playing Pitch Strategy. The required standard for the quantity of provision for playing field area is 0.52 ha per 1000. (Playing Pitch Strategy, 2015)
Allotments and Community Growing Areas	Allotments and Community Growing Areas.
Sports Facilities	As per provision and quality standards included in most recent Sports and Active Communities Strategy.

Linear Parks	Key structural component of MK, following the water bodies across the city, they have an important green infrastructure role: mitigating flood events, preserving archaeology, as pedestrian and cycle corridors, for wildlife and recreation. The feel of the corridors change across the city; more formal in urban areas and more agricultural on the periphery. They are often multi-functional to include for example playing fields, play areas, paddocks and allotments.
Green Access Links	Provide green corridors along certain transport routes and public rights of way (footpaths, redways, roads other than grid roads) as well as historic hedgerows. They may support a range of habitats important for nature conservation and / or provision for walking, running and cycling.
Areas of Wildlife interest – Natural and semi natural	Space includes woodlands, copses of trees, scrubland, grasslands (e.g. meadows and non-amenity grassland), wetlands and river corridors, ponds, lakes, nature reserves and brown field land with a primary purpose of wildlife conservation and biodiversity. They also perform visual amenity functions and depending on size can provide an important recreation function. They can include formal and/or informal pedestrian routes.
Transport Corridors	Define the urban form of Milton Keynes, flanking the main grid roads they buffer local communities from the noise and visual impact of passing vehicles and providing an attractive landscape feature to the motorist. Also provide key wildlife habitats.
Paddocks	Includes small fenced outdoor pasture area where a horse is kept. A paddock may have a dirt or grass surface. For the purpose of the Open Space Assessment only paddocks within the settlement boundaries are being considered.
Civic Spaces	Includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced community areas designed for pedestrians. The primary purpose of providing a setting for civic buildings, public gatherings and community events.

Table 3.2: Open Space Standards Proposed

Typology	Minimum Size	Catchment Area or standard (the latter applicable only to playing fields)
District Parks	District Parks – minimum 20ha	1200m
Local Parks	Minimum 1-2ha	600m
Pocket Parks	Up to 1ha	300-400m
Amenity Open Space	Up to 1000m ²	400m
Local Play Areas (LPAs)	0.04ha (excluding 20m separation buffer between activity zone and residential properties)	300m
Neighbourhood Play Areas (NPAs)	0.1ha (excluding 30m separation buffer between activity zone and residential properties)	600m
Playing fields and Outdoor Sports Facilities (Does not include school playing fields as these are not publicly accessible).	N/A	As per provision standards included in most recent Playing Pitch Strategy. The required standard for the quantity of provision for playing field area is 0.52 ha per 1000. (Playing Pitch Strategy, 2015)
Allotments and Community Growing Areas	In areas of high demand; based on current allotments waiting lists.	700-1000m
Sports Facilities	As per provision and quality standards included in most recent Sports and Active Communities Strategy.	
Linear Parks	N/A	N/A
Green Access Links	Depends on existing site features	N/A
Areas of Wildlife interest – Natural and semi natural	Depends on existing site features	N/A
Transport Corridors	Refer to Transport Policy	N/A
Paddocks	To be required and assessed on a case by case basis.	To be required and assessed on a case by case basis.
Civic Spaces	To be required and assessed on a case by case basis.	To be required and assessed on a case by case basis.

Appendix A – Questionnaire

Open Space Assessment Questionnaire

1. Thinking about parks and open spaces included on the map of your Parish Area in Appendix A which ones do you believe are of particularly good quality? What are the contributing factors of your judgement e.g.
 - Cleanliness
 - The ease of getting to it
 - Amount of information
 - General appearance/good design
 - How safe it feels
 - Facilities
 - Wildlife value
 - Toilets
 - Playing pitches (Football, Rugby etc.)
 - Catering
 - Car parking
 - Play facilities/equipment (including climbing frames and skate parks)
 - Disabled facilities
 - Seats and bins
 - Grass cutting
 - Flowers and shrubs

Please provide examples

2. Thinking about parks and open spaces included on the map of your Parish Area in Appendix A do you believe there are any of particularly poor quality? If yes, which ones and what are the contributing factors?
- Cleanliness
 - The ease of getting to it
 - Amount of information
 - General appearance/good design
 - How safe it feels
 - Facilities
 - Wildlife value
 - Toilets
 - Playing pitches (Football, Rugby etc.)
 - Catering
 - Car parking
 - Play facilities/equipment (including climbing frames and skate parks)
 - Disabled facilities
 - Seats and bins
 - Grass cutting
 - Flowers and shrubs

Please provide examples

3. What in your opinion makes a successful open space? How important are the following features?

Features	Score	Rank
Convenience/close to home		
Feel safe e.g. houses look onto them, or there is passing pedestrian / and or vehicular traffic		
Play equipment		
Café, community hall, sports pavilion etc.		
Toilet facilities		
Well maintained, e.g. free of litter		
Easy to get to and around / good access		
Benches & seats		
Quiet & peaceful		
Visual Appeal, lawn & flower beds		
Sports facilities (Football, Rugby etc.)		
Play facilities/equipment (including climbing frames and skate parks)		

Very important – score 5

Fairly important – score 4

Fairly unimportant –score 3

Not at all important –score 2

No opinion – score 1

Summary

In terms of what makes a successful open space, spaces that well maintained (eg free of litter), convenient / close to home and feeling safe were highlighted as the most important criteria whilst the inclusion of sports facilities, cafes/community halls and sports pavilions and toilet facilities were seen as least important.

It should be noted that the feature of open space that was seen as least important, ie toilet facilities still scored an average of 2.95 which meant that it wasn't classed as "not important at all" but rather virtually met "fairly unimportant".

4. Please tick below whether you feel there is SUFFICIENT or INSUFFICIENT provision for each type of recreation and open space within your Parish and within the Borough

More than sufficient – score 5

About right – score 4

Nearly sufficient – score 3

Not sufficient – score 2

No opinion – score 1

Parish Area

Type of open space	Score	Rank
Local parks		
Natural areas e.g. local wildlife sites, woodlands, ponds etc.		
Playing fields and sport grounds		
Amenity areas		
Allotments		
Orchards & urban farms		
Churchyards and cemeteries		
Civic spaces		

Summary

Within the individual parish area, playing fields and sports grounds followed by local parks and amenity areas were seen as most sufficiently provided whilst churchyards/cemeteries, civic spaces and orchards/urban farms were viewed as the most insufficiently provided.

It is worth noting however that across all responses there was not much variation in scores, in fact all types of open spaces were viewed as between “nearly sufficient” and “about right”.

It is also worth noting that no types of open space were seen as “more than sufficiently provided”.

Borough Area

Type of open space	Score	Rank
Linear Parks		
District Parks		
Local parks		
Natural areas e.g. local wildlife sites, woodlands, ponds etc.		
Playing fields and sport grounds		
Amenity areas		
Allotments		
Orchards & urban farms		
Churchyards and cemeteries		
Civic spaces		

Summary

At a Borough level, playing fields and sports grounds/facilities followed by District and Local Parks were seen as most sufficiently provided whilst Orchards/urban farms followed by churchyards and cemeteries as well as civic space spaces were viewed as the most insufficiently provided.

While no types of open space were viewed as being “more than sufficiently provided” orchards/urban farms/churchyards and cemeteries and civic spaces were seen as less than “nearly sufficiently provided”. There was thus a slightly wider variation in views on whether types of open space were sufficiently provided for the Borough than the Parish people lived in.

5. How would you rate the demand for different types of open space in your Parish and within the Borough?

High demand – score 5

Medium demand – score 4

Low demand – score 3

No demand – score 2

No opinion – score 1

Parish area

Type of open space	Score	Rank
Local parks		
Natural areas e.g. local wildlife sites, woodlands, ponds etc.		

Playing fields and sport grounds		
Amenity areas		
Allotments		
Orchards & urban farms		
Churchyards and cemeteries		
Civic spaces		

Summary

The highest demand within a Parish Area is for Local Parks followed, followed by Natural Area (e.g. local wildlife sites and woodland) and playing fields/sports facilities, with the least demand within a Parish area expressed for churchyards/cemeteries followed by amenity areas and orchards/urban farms.

It should be noted that even for the typology of open space that had the lowest demand (churchyards/cemeteries) it still had an average score of 3.56 so scored between low and medium demand. On average (across all responses received) there was no low demand for any typologies of open space.

Borough Area

Type of open space	Score	Rank
Linear Parks		
District Parks		
Local parks		
Natural areas e.g. local wildlife sites, woodlands, ponds etc.		
Playing fields and sport grounds		
Amenity areas		
Allotments		
Orchards & urban farms		
Churchyards and cemeteries		
Civic spaces		

Summary

At a Borough wide level, the greatest demand was expressed for Natural Areas (eg local wildlife sites, woodlands) followed by Linear Parks and then Local Parks. The least demand was expressed for civic spaces, followed by churchyards/cemeteries and then orchards and urban farms.

As for the Parish Area, it should be noted that even for the typology of open space that had the lowest demand (civic spaces) it still had an average score of 3.4 so scored between low and medium demand. On average there was no low demand for any typologies of open space.

6. How would you rate overall accessibility to parks and open spaces in your Parish and within the Borough?

Very easy to access – score 5

Easy to access – score 4

Difficult to access – score 3

Very difficult to access – score 2

Neither easy nor difficult to access – score 1

Parish Area

Type of open space	Score	Rank
Local parks		
Natural areas e.g. local wildlife sites, woodlands, ponds etc.		
Playing fields and sport grounds		
Amenity areas		
Allotments		
Orchards & urban farms		
Churchyards and cemeteries		
Civic spaces		

Summary

In terms of accessibility, within the Parish Area, residents of that Parish Area claimed local parks, followed by Natural Areas and then Playing Fields and Sports Grounds were the easiest to access, while orchards/urban farms, followed by civic spaces and then allotments were the most difficult to access.

This is perhaps understandable as these latter 3 typologies tend to be more infrequently located.

It should also be pointed out that orchards and urban farms which were identified as the least accessible typology of open space still scored on average 3.6 which put them closer to “easy to access” than “difficult to access”.

Borough Area

Type of open space	Score	Rank
Linear Parks		
District Parks		
Local parks		
Natural areas e.g. local wildlife sites, woodlands, ponds etc.		
Playing fields and sport grounds		
Amenity areas		

Allotments		
Orchards & urban farms		
Churchyards and cemeteries		
Civic spaces		

Are there any barriers to accessing the open space? Please provide examples.

Summary

At the Borough scale, Linear Parks followed by Local Parks then District Parks were viewed as easiest to access, while orchards/urban farms followed by Natural Areas (eg wildlife sites and woodlands) were viewed as the most difficult to access.

One striking difference with the Parish assessment is that Natural Areas within the Borough appear a lot more difficult to access than within the Parish Area. When looking at the actual average scores they are not however that different (4.43 to 4.05).

The least accessible spaces at the Borough level were seen as Orchards/Urban Farms followed by Natural Areas then Allotments.

As with the Parish scale these least accessible spaces need to be put in context – Orchards and Urban Farms still scored an average score of 3.69 which that typology closer to “easy to access” than “difficult to access”.

7. Overall, how satisfied are you with the amount, quality and accessibility of parks and open spaces in your Parish and within the Borough.

Very satisfied – score 5

Fairly satisfied – score 4

Fairly dissatisfied – score 3

Very dissatisfied – score 2

Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied – score 1

	Parish	Borough	Score	Rank
The amount of parks and open spaces				
The quality of parks and open spaces				
The accessibility of				

parks and open spaces				
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Please provide examples

Summary

Regarding the amount or quantity of open space provided, respondents said at both parish and borough scale that they were between fairly satisfied and very satisfied with respondents slightly more satisfied with the quantity on offer at the Borough scale than the Parish scale. This can possibly be explained because at the Borough level, there is an appreciation of the benefits of the Linear Parks (which may not be located within their specific Parish).

Regarding the quality of the same spaces the scores were virtually the same across Borough and Parish scale but the scores were lower on average than for either amount/quantity or accessibility to open space with average scores of 3.62 and 3.65 placing respondents between “fairly dissatisfied” and “satisfied” (although closer to the latter than former).

Regarding accessibility to open space respondents were slightly more satisfied with accessibility to open spaces within their Parish Area (than Borough). This is possibly understandable as open spaces are by definition normally more accessible within a Parish Area than across the entire Borough. For both geographic areas however a minimum average score of “fairly satisfied” was still met.

- 8. Are there any amenity open spaces within your Parish that you believe are of a high quality and/or value to your community and should be included within the ‘Local Parks and Open Space’ category and covered by the Audit?

Please name the site and provide its location

- 9. Can you identify any areas of open space that should be added to the maps in Appendix A?

Please name the site and provide its location

Overall Summary

Received feedback from Parish and Town Councils and Ward Members on identified areas of open space – this include comments about any discrepancies that may have occurred, about qualitative characteristics of these areas, suggestions on whether any areas should be added to the Assessment and if so why local open space standards that should be considered for Plan:MK local demand for open space, what types of open space we do not have enough of and what types might not meet our residents' expectations and be surplus to their requirements.

Comments / returned questionnaires were received from the following Parish Town Councils

1. Loughton and Great Holm
2. Campbell Park
3. West Bletchley
4. Gayhurst
5. Simpson and Ashland
6. Old Woughton
7. Woburn Sands
8. Newport Pagnell
9. Emberton
10. Bow Brickhill
11. Kents Hill and Monkston
12. CMK Town Council
13. Olney Town Council

There were comments received from 2 civic groups – The Parks Trust and Xplain
There were 26 additional comments from members of the public

Summary of Comments:

1. There were requests to include open space currently allocated as Open Countryside. While there maybe exceptions such as Bury Field, Newport Pagnell and Edgewick Farm, Woburn Sands will be included, it is not generally intended to include any land identified as Open Countryside as Open Space on the Plan:MK Proposals Map. The intention is that this land will remain protected as Open Countryside.
2. In terms of What makes a Successful Open Space

Appendix B – Open Space Provision (per person)

Local Area (Grid Square)	Local Council (Parish)	GRASS m2	SHRUBS m2	WOODLAND m2	HARDSURFACE m2
KILN FARM	ABBEY HILL	4309	735	5993	0
TWO MILE ASH	ABBEY HILL	3453	12166	17963	167
WYMBUSH	ABBEY HILL	34	16	1746	0
ASTWOOD	ASTWOOD	944	12	0	364
HARDMEAD	ASTWOOD AND HARDMEAD	1062	0	0	704
BLUE LAGOON	BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD	0	0	0	0
CENTRAL BLETCHLEY	BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD	17630	3478	0	635
DENBIGH NORTH	BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD	0	0	0	0
GRANBY	BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD	23	888	4877	0
LAKES ESTATE (Water Eaton)	BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD	242137	13246	1385	3531
MOUNT FARM	BLETCHLEY AND FENNY STRATFORD	1102	181	1433	0
BOW BRICKHILL	BOW BRICKHILL	162	6	2336	0
BRADWELL	BRADWELL	4676	7365	8325	123
BRADWELL ABBEY	BRADWELL	0	0	0	0
BRADWELL COMMON	BRADWELL	3952	8941	3447	38
HEELANDS	BRADWELL	21154	15017	9113	81
ROOKSLEY	BRADWELL	0	0	0	0
ATTERBURY/BROUGHTON	BROUGHTON AND MILTON KEYNES	4513	1442	110	0
BROOKLANDS/BROUGHTON RURAL	BROUGHTON AND MILTON KEYNES	0	0	0	0
BROUGHTON GATE	BROUGHTON AND MILTON KEYNES	483	502	0	59
MIDDLETON/MKV	BROUGHTON AND MILTON KEYNES	4607	2853	1176	570
NORTHFIELD	BROUGHTON AND MILTON KEYNES	1921	78	0	0
OAKGROVE	BROUGHTON AND MILTON KEYNES	0	0	0	0
CALVERTON	CALVERTON	0	0	0	0
FISHERMEAD	CAMPBELL PARK	77085	19955	9942	565
NEWLANDS	CAMPBELL PARK	0	0	0	0
OLDBROOK	CAMPBELL PARK	14841	11460	189	1148
SPRINGFIELD	CAMPBELL PARK	58266	7916	12664	4346
WILLEN	CAMPBELL PARK	10991	0	4508	0
WINTERHILL	CAMPBELL PARK	4008	59	15340	0
WOOLSTONE	CAMPBELL PARK	10641	2081	663	14
CASTLETHORPE	CASTLETHORPE	2150	235	0	436
CAMPBELL PARK	CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES	0	0	0	0
CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES	CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES	5311	3937	1083	1473
CHICHELEY	CHICHELEY	3138	7	104	388
CLIFTON REYNES	CLIFTON REYNES	505	3	0	0
COLD BRAYFIELD	COLD BRAYFIELD	347	0	0	0
EMBERTON	EMBERTON	1585	128	0	0
FAIRFIELDS	FAIRFIELDS	0	0	0	0
GAYHURST	GAYHURST	31	44	0	0
BLAKELANDS	GREAT LINFORD	1899	1384	4323	0
BOLBECK PARK	GREAT LINFORD	3374	801	7	0
CONNIBURROW	GREAT LINFORD	40663	6896	9948	554
DOWNHEAD PARK	GREAT LINFORD	3739	3826	2295	204
DOWNS BARN	GREAT LINFORD	21727	7740	5706	1174
GIFFARD PARK	GREAT LINFORD	7576	7709	2177	1012
GREAT LINFORD	GREAT LINFORD	20892	5617	5110	26
NEATH HILL	GREAT LINFORD	14024	5150	990	0

PENNYLAND	GREAT LINFORD	411	803	338	0
REDHOUSE PARK	GREAT LINFORD	0	0	0	0
TONGWELL	GREAT LINFORD	0	28	256	0
WILLEN PARK	GREAT LINFORD	2909	1109	660	0
HANSLOPE & TATHALL END	HANSLOPE	4716	261	284	864
HAVERSHAM/LITTLE LINFORD	HAVERSHAM CUM LITTLE LINFORD	1087	14	1241	324
BRINKLOW	KENTS HILL, MONKSTON & BRINKLOW	0	0	0	0
KENTS HILL	KENTS HILL, MONKSTON & BRINKLOW	6549	5456	0	777
KINGSTON	KENTS HILL, MONKSTON & BRINKLOW	0	0	0	0
MONKSTON	KENTS HILL, MONKSTON & BRINKLOW	2870	1056	0	719
LATHBURY	LATHBURY	528	12	0	20
LAVENDON	LAVENDON	4271	1062	28	0
LITTLE BRICKHILL	LITTLE BRICKHILL	85	32	0	45
GREAT HOLM	LOUGHTON	4107	1895	6617	227
KNOWLHILL	LOUGHTON	2144	54	229	126
LOUGHTON & L. LODGE	LOUGHTON	10328	6601	11266	132
MOULSOE	MOULSOE	1790	0	405	185
NEW BRADWELL	NEW BRADWELL	26182	5171	4874	1240
NEWPORT PAGNELL	NEWPORT PAGNELL	130729	16058	8652	6303
NEWTON BLOSSOMVILLE	NEWTON BLOSSOMVILLE	226	0	79	0
NORTH & LITTLE CRAWLEY	NORTH CRAWLEY	1520	107	0	474
WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	OLD WOUGHTON	2796	230	241	41
WOUGHTON PARK	OLD WOUGHTON	3632	201	2055	464
OLNEY	OLNEY	31253	3291	2416	896
RAVENSTONE	RAVENSTONE	934	46	0	445
EMERSON VALLEY	SHENLEY BROOK END	7592	3863	275	880
FURZTON	SHENLEY BROOK END	17698	3938	1409	870
KINGSMEAD	SHENLEY BROOK END	2430	525	0	1500
SHENLEY BROOK END	SHENLEY BROOK END	7592	3863	275	880
SHENLEY LODGE	SHENLEY BROOK END	4232	3648	1545	1048
TATTENHOE	SHENLEY BROOK END	1599	1150	32	647
TATTENHOE PARK	SHENLEY BROOK END	0	0	0	0
WESTCROFT	SHENLEY BROOK END	3085	259	0	166
CROWNHILL	SHENLEY CHURCH END	1405	3535	148	3451
GRANGE FARM	SHENLEY CHURCH END	2500	59	11	581
HAZELEY	SHENLEY CHURCH END	0	0	0	0
MEDBOURNE	SHENLEY CHURCH END	755	207	335	332
OAKHILL	SHENLEY CHURCH END	2403	111	962	92
OXLEY PARK	SHENLEY CHURCH END	10	0	0	0
SHENLEY CHURCH END	SHENLEY CHURCH END	12373	5485	1135	299
SHENLEY WOOD	SHENLEY CHURCH END	1269	1318	932	0
WOODHILL	SHENLEY CHURCH END	0	0	0	0
SHERINGTON	SHERINGTON	4688	132	160	590
ASHLAND	SIMPSON & ASHLAND	0	0	0	0
SIMPSON	SIMPSON & ASHLAND	8688	1851	492	2158
WEST ASHLAND	SIMPSON & ASHLAND	0	0	0	0
BANCROFT	STANTONBURY	4348	2747	1246	0
BANCROFT PARK	STANTONBURY	2490	920	3938	0
BLUE BRIDGE	STANTONBURY	6149	2331	333	0

BRADVILLE	STANTONBURY	125263	9329	13788	2398
LINFORD WOOD	STANTONBURY	0	0	0	0
OAKRIDGE PARK	STANTONBURY	0	0	0	0
STANTONBURY & S. FIELDS	STANTONBURY	83445	6484	12895	6979
STOKE GOLDINGTON	STOKE GOLDINGTON	2389	173	0	845
FULLERS SLADE	STONY STRATFORD	63731	5277	7971	118
STONY STRATFORD	STONY STRATFORD	36510	9066	895	1849
TYRINGHAM WITH FILGRAVE	TYRINGHAM WITH FILGRAVE	3793	18	0	333
BROWNS WOOD	WALTON	717	1107	611	273
CALDECOTTE	WALTON	3462	5186	149	660
OLD FARM PARK	WALTON	2373	1144	614	455
TILBROOK	WALTON	0	0	0	0
WALNUT TREE	WALTON	7472	3348	0	2738
WALTON & W PARK	WALTON	807	1076	0	215
WALTON HALL	WALTON	0	0	0	0
WAVENDON GATE	WALTON	5331	2641	1259	782
WARRINGTON	WARRINGTON	0	0	0	0
WAVENDON & CROSS END	WAVENDON	3619	206	0	275
WOBURN SANDS	WAVENDON	6508	3004	1753	511
FAR BLETCHLEY	WEST BLETCHLEY	112705	10189	989	4384
WEST BLETCHLEY	WEST BLETCHLEY	111395	9320	11038	2327
WESTON UNDERWOOD	WESTON UNDERWOOD	270	0	0	37
WHITEHOUSE	WHITEHOUSE	0	0	0	0
WOBURN SANDS	WOBURN SANDS	0	0	0	0
HODGE LEA	WOLVERTON & GREENLEYS	12152	4929	11773	1918
STACEY BUSHES	WOLVERTON & GREENLEYS	16994	7337	1485	1098
STONEBRIDGE	WOLVERTON & GREENLEYS	4491	6452	153	5
WOLVERTON	WOLVERTON & GREENLEYS	18704	2085	709	60
BEANHILL	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	31277	10231	5729	2158
BLEAK HALL	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	684	929	239	17
COFFEE HALL	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	40797	10566	9980	2826
EAGLESTONE	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	17711	11412	2755	1090
LEADENHALL	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	3978	2237	409	98
NETHERFIELD	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	72743	7639	5029	1395
PEARTREE BRIDGE	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	12223	7550	472	822
REDMOOR	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	2612	610	0	0
TINKERS BRIDGE	WOUGHTON ON THE GREEN	35710	3912	1243	1184

Totals category quantities per grid m2	Total category quantities per grid ha
11037	1.1037
33749	3.3749
1796	0.1796
1320	0.132
1766	0.1766
0	0
21743	2.1743
0	0
5788	0.5788
260299	26.0299
2716	0.2716
2504	0.2504
20489	2.0489
0	0
16378	1.6378
45365	4.5365
0	0
6065	0.6065
0	0
1044	0.1044
9206	0.9206
1999	0.1999
0	0
0	0
107547	10.7547
0	0
27638	2.7638
83192	8.3192
15499	1.5499
19407	1.9407
13399	1.3399
2821	0.2821
0	0
11804	1.1804
3637	0.3637
508	0.0508
347	0.0347
1713	0.1713
0	0
75	0.0075
7606	0.7606
4182	0.4182
58061	5.8061
10064	1.0064
36347	3.6347
18474	1.8474
31645	3.1645
20164	2.0164

1552	0.1552	
0	0	
284	0.0284	
4678	0.4678	
6125	0.6125	
2666	0.2666	
0	0	
12782	1.2782	
0	0	
4645	0.4645	33749
560	0.056	1796
5361	0.5361	
162	0.0162	
12846	1.2846	
2553	0.2553	
28327	2.8327	
2380	0.238	
37467	3.7467	
161742	16.1742	
305	0.0305	
2101	0.2101	
3308	0.3308	
6352	0.6352	
37856	3.7856	
1425	0.1425	
12610	1.261	
23915	2.3915	
4455	0.4455	
12610	1.261	
10473	1.0473	
3428	0.3428	
0	0	
3510	0.351	
8539	0.8539	
3151	0.3151	
0	0	
1629	0.1629	
3568	0.3568	
10	0.001	
19292	1.9292	
3519	0.3519	
0	0	
5570	0.557	
0	0	
13189	1.3189	
0	0	
8341	0.8341	
7348	0.7348	
8813	0.8813	

150778	15.0778	
0	0	
0	0	
109803	10.9803	
3407	0.3407	
77097	7.7097	
48320	4.832	
4144	0.4144	
2708	0.2708	
9457	0.9457	
4586	0.4586	
0	0	
13558	1.3558	
2098	0.2098	
0	0	33749
10013	1.0013	1796
0	0	
4100	0.41	
11776	1.1776	
128267	12.8267	
134080	13.408	
307	0.0307	
0	0	
0	0	
30772	3.0772	
26914	2.6914	
11101	1.1101	
21558	2.1558	
49395	4.9395	
1869	0.1869	
64169	6.4169	
32968	3.2968	
6722	0.6722	
86806	8.6806	
21067	2.1067	
3222	0.3222	
42049	4.2049	

Parish	Local Plan Areas Totals m2	Amenity Land Totals (Landscape) (excluding highways)	Highway (Landscape) Amenity Land Totals	Totals m2	Population 2016
Abbey Hill	780847	46582	48603	876032	4200
Astwood and Hardmead	5068	3086	9232	17386	250
Bletchley and Fenny Stratford	2222855	290546	63757	2577158	18050
Bow Brickhill	604188	2504	9396	616088	550
Bradwell	460636	82232	125111	667979	9550
Broughton and Milton Keynes	1682474	18314	96378	1797166	12900
Calverton	446205	0	10089	456294	150
Campbell Park	2276453	266682	175001	2718136	15400
Castlethorpe	95689	2821	9440	107950	1100
Central Milton Keynes	481693	11804	115612	609109	3950
Chichley	0	3637	5374	9011	100
Clifton Reynes and Newton Blossomville	16505	813	5695	23013	450
Cold Brayfield			3003	3003	100
Emberton	607143	1713	25402	634258	600
Fairfields	497097	0	80	497177	300
Gayhurst	9042	75	3093	12210	150
Great Linford	1498679	193057	351448	2043184	20450
Hanslope	58969	6125	29709	94803	2400
Haversham-cum-Little Linford	3813686	2666	15991	3832343	900
Kents Hill, Monkston and Brinklow	398136	17427	80055	495618	8400
Lathbury	0	560	5045	5605	150
Lavendon	19178	5361	8253	32792	1300
Little Brickhill	24966	162	9437	34565	400
Loughton	947317	43726	90421	1081464	6350
Moulsoe	1676757	2380	7351	1686488	300
New Bradwell	724960	37467	17766	780193	3200
Newport Pagnell	815190	161742	76877	1053809	15200
North Crawley	34336	2101	12128	48565	750
Old Woughton	1269305	9660	13935	1292900	700
Olney	836259	37856	40979	915094	6500
Ravenstone	5434	1425	6953	13812	200
Shenley Brook End	1981045	66991	235222	2283258	26200
Shenley Church End	938050	39708	129090	1106848	14550
Sherington	22315	5570	12307	40192	950
Simpson and Ashland	453773	13189	12741	479703	1750
Stantonbury	1162454	285083	122904	1570441	10700
Stoke Goldington	18451	3407	10215	32073	560
Stony Stratford	716697	125417	31843	873957	7900
Tyringham and Filgrave	0	4144	5130	9274	250
Walton	1377128	42420	195560	1615108	12300
Warrington	0	0	0	0	50
Wavendon	300630	15876	18712	335218	800
West Bletchley	1233856	262347	157022	1653225	22600
Weston Underwood	1425	307	0	1732	250
Whitehouse	652535	0	1119	653654	300
Woburn Sands	74394	0	6823	81217	3500

Wolverton and Greenleys	2204129	90345	96739	2391213
Woughton Community (Woughton on the Green)	235964	308267	135302	679533
Totals	33681913	2515595	2642343	38839851

13950
13250
264700

Total m2 per person

209
70
143
1120
70
139
3046
176
98
154
90
51
30
1057
1657
81
100
39
4258
59
37
25
86
170
5622
244
69
65
1847
140
69
87
76
42
274
147
57
110
37
131
0
419
73
7
2179
23

171
51
147