

# SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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## **PART 1: INTRODUCTION**

South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) is currently working on its Local Development Framework, (LDF) covering the area outside the two national parks. When adopted the South Lakeland LDF will replace the South Lakeland Local Plan and Alteration. The Council needs to gather information on open space and sport provision in order to inform the formulation of policies and proposals in the LDF. This PPG17 compliant Audit and Needs Assessment provides the necessary evidence base to inform these documents. The final report will provide SLDC with clear strategic pathways for improvement, investment and protection of open spaces and outdoor sports provision.

The report provides an audit based assessment of both quantitative and qualitative open space, sport and recreation facilities in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 and the Companion Guide entitled “Assessing Needs and Opportunities” published in September 2002. The purpose of this study is to:

- ❑ Assess the existing quantity, quality and accessibility of open space as described in PPG17.
- ❑ Provide an accurate assessment of supply and demand for playing pitches.
- ❑ Suggest local standards for the quantity, quality and accessibility of different types of open space, taking into account local needs and priorities, in accordance with PPG 17.
- ❑ Identify any surpluses or shortfalls in the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space and provide recommendations for their resolution.

The study follows the five stages as outlined in “Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG 17”. The five stages in summary are:

- ❑ Reviewing existing strategies and policies and consultation with communities to establish current and future priorities and needs.
- ❑ Auditing the quantity, quality and accessibility of existing open space.
- ❑ Setting standards of provision for open space to include quantitative; qualitative and accessibility measures.
- ❑ Applying standards of provision to identify surpluses and (or) deficiencies.
- ❑ Assessing strategic options and preparing draft policies for inclusion in the Local Development Framework.

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## ***Report structure***

### *Open spaces*

The first section of this report considers the supply and demand issues for open spaces facilities in South Lakeland LDF area. Each part contains relevant typology specific data. Further description of the methodology on open spaces can be found in Part 2. The report as a whole covers the predominant issues for all the typologies defined in 'Assessing Needs & Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG 17' and is structured as follows:

- Part 3: General open space issues.
- Part 4: Parks and gardens.
- Part 5: Natural and semi-natural greenspaces.
- Part 6: Green corridors.
- Part 7: Amenity greenspace.
- Part 8: Provision for children and young people.
- Part 9: Allotments, community gardens and city farms.
- Part 10: Cemeteries, churchyards and other burial grounds.
- Part 11: Civic spaces.

### *Outdoor sports facilities*

The study also incorporates a playing pitch assessment in accordance with the methodology provided in the Sport England 'Towards a Level Playing Field – A guide to the production of playing pitch strategies' for assessing demand and supply. Further description of the methodology adopted is provided in Part 12: Sports Facilities. It provides a quantitative summary for the provision of outdoor sports facilities in South Lakeland LDF area. It also provides information about the availability of facilities to the local community and the governing body of each sport and regional strategic plans (where they exist).

The findings of club consultation and key issues for each sport are summarised and structured as follows:

- Part 12: Sport facilities.
- Part 13: Football.
- Part 14: Cricket.
- Part 15: Rugby league.
- Part 16: Rugby union.
- Part 17: Hockey
- Part 18: Bowls.
- Part 19: Tennis.
- Part 20: Golf.
- Part 21: Education provision.

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### ***Context***

PPG17 describes the role of the planning system in assessing opportunities and needs for sport and recreation provision and safeguarding open space that has recreational value.

The guidance observes that it is part of the function of the planning system to ensure that through the preparation of development plans adequate land and water resources are allocated for organised sport and informal recreation.

It says that local planning authorities should take account of the community's need for recreational space, having regard to current levels of provision and deficiencies and resisting pressures for development of open space where such development would conflict with the wider public interest.

It discusses the role of all levels of plan, planning agreements, and the use of local authority land and compulsory purchase powers. It discusses provision in urban areas, the urban fringe, Green Belts and the countryside and of particular sports including football stadia, water sports and golf. (Original release date September 1991).

'Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17' reflects the Government policy objectives for open space, sport and recreation, as set out in PPG17. The long term outcomes of PPG17 aim to deliver:

- ❑ Networks of accessible, high quality open spaces and sport and recreation facilities, in both urban and rural areas that meet the needs of residents and visitors, are fit for purpose and economically and environmentally sustainable.
- ❑ An appropriate balance between new provision and the enhancement of existing provision.
- ❑ Clarity and reasonable certainty for developers and landowners in relation to the requirements and expectations of local planning authorities in respect of open space and sport and recreation provision.

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This assessment covers the following open space typologies as set out in 'Assessing needs and opportunities: Planning Policy Guidance 17 companion guide.'

*Table 1.1: PPG17 definitions*

	PPG17 typology	Primary purpose
<b>Greenspaces</b>	Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
	Natural and semi-natural greenspaces, including urban woodland	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.
	Green corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration.
	Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.
	Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.
	Allotments, community gardens and urban farms	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.
	Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.
<b>Civic spaces</b>	Civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.
<b>Sports facilities</b>	Outdoor sports facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as football, cricket, tennis and bowls.

A detailed exploration of the national, regional and local context for open space provision is provided in Section 1: Introduction and context.

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PPG17 also takes into account indoor sports facilities and accessible countryside sites that have been excluded from this study.

### *Accessible countryside*

Although not directly included within study, the consultation and recommendations in this Report recognise the existence of such sites and the impact these may have on patterns of usage for some typologies for example, a lack of natural and semi natural greenspace sites in an area may not have an impact on usage of open spaces if accessible countryside exists in the area. The close proximity to The National Parks will have a significant impact on the usage and demand for particular types of open spaces.

### *Indoor facility assessment*

It was decided by SLDC that due to resource limitations, and the fact that indoor facilities in SLDC are currently satisfactory based on Sport England recognised indicators, an indoor facility assessment was not of high a priority. However, when a full assessment is completed in the future, the results will feed into iterations/future reviews of the relevant policies.

The Sport England indicator shows that for South Lakeland in 2006, 49.97% of the population live within 20 minutes travel time (urban walking, rural by car) of at least three types of sports facility, at least one of which has achieved a quality mark. This puts South Lakeland in the top quartile nationally. Previous year's data shows the percentage has increased since 2004. South Lakeland is also best of the nearest geographical local authority neighbours and all of the Cumbrian authorities and is in the top half when assessed against the audit commission's designated set of similar authorities nationally. The sports facilities that achieved the quality mark in South Lakeland in terms of this indicator are Kendal leisure centre, Ulverston leisure Centre and Low Wood Leisure club, the latter is outside the LDF area but is likely to be used by residents in the LDF area.

Another indicator, advocated by Sport England is the gauge of residents' satisfaction, showing that, in a national residents survey 93.44% of South Lakeland residents thought that for their local area, sports and leisure facilities had got better or remained the same in the past three years.

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## **PART 2: OPEN SPACE METHODOLOGY AND BACKGROUND**

### **Identifying local need**

#### ***Background information***

An extensive range of background information has been reviewed and incorporated into the assessment of key issues for each typology. The national, regional and local policy context is detailed in Section 1. Other background documentation reviewed for the study is listed below:

- ❑ A Shared Vision for the Future: The Community Strategy for South Lakeland 2004-2024.
- ❑ Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB Heritage Trail.
- ❑ Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB Management Plan April 2004.
- ❑ Arnsdale Village Society Factsheet.
- ❑ Children's Information Service – Parent and Toddler Report: South Lakeland District Area.
- ❑ Cycle & See: Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB.
- ❑ Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy.
- ❑ Cumbria Sport Partnership: A strategic framework for sport and physical activity in Cumbria 2006-2009.
- ❑ Cumbria Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- ❑ Grange-over-Sands Community Orchard Management Plan 2003-2006.
- ❑ Kendal Support Group 2007 Newsletter.
- ❑ Leighton Moss Nature Reserve - Whats on 2007.
- ❑ Planning Cumbria: Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001-2016 – Adopted Plan, April 2006.
- ❑ Roadside verges in Cumbria.
- ❑ South Lakeland Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Issues and Options – November 2005.
- ❑ South Lakeland Local Development Framework: Annual Monitoring Report – December 2006.
- ❑ South Lakeland Local Development Framework: Statement of Community Involvement.
- ❑ South Lakeland Local Plan 2006.
- ❑ The Arnsdale & Silverdale Landscape: Landscape Assessment - Countryside Commission.

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### ***Consultation***

Local needs have been assessed via:

- ❑ Community consultation (face-to-face or telephone interviews and focus groups) with key officers, agencies and stakeholders.
- ❑ Market research.

### ***Community consultation***

The core of this phase revolved around extensive consultation with over 100 stakeholders, including key individuals, interest and community groups, sports clubs, SLDC officers, Cumbria County Council (CCC) and agencies working in and around South Lakeland. Qualitative in-depth interviews were conducted either face-to-face or by telephone with a list of consultees provided by SLDC and those uncovered by KKP during consultation. A full list of consultees is included in Appendix 6.

The key findings of the consultation with stakeholders are presented under key issues within the individual typology sections. Key issues covered include the following:

- ❑ Attitudes towards open spaces in terms of quality of provision.
- ❑ Opinions towards open spaces in terms of the amount of provision.
- ❑ Time taken/distance travelled to open spaces.
- ❑ Attitudes towards open spaces in terms of how accessible provision is.
- ❑ Future provision and what it should look like.

The presentation of key issues emerging from the consultation is driven by a broad understanding of open space. KKP brings a pragmatic approach to the consultation in order to manage the expectations of stakeholders and presents a realistic picture of issues, together with the aspirations of residents and users.

### ***Residents and visitors survey***

As a key component to identifying local needs, KKP carried out a street survey to identify the attitudes and needs of the broader local community. The survey provides a robust sample of both users and non users of open space, sport and recreation spaces across the District including the rural areas. KKP gained 600 responses from across the South Lakeland LDF area, broken down as follows:

- |                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| ❑ Kendal Town Centre            | 120 |
| ❑ Milnthorpe Town Centre        | 120 |
| ❑ Kirkby Lonsdale Town Centre   | 120 |
| ❑ Grange Over Sands Town Centre | 120 |
| ❑ Ulverston Town Centre         | 120 |

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Within the figures above the following respondents were recorded as being from a rural area:

Arnside	3	Ulverston	136
Broughton in Furness	1	Killington	1
Burneside	2	Barrow	3
Burton in Kendal	2	Old Hutton	1
Endmoor	2	Pennington	1
Flookburgh	6	Coniston	1
Grange OverSands	95	Ambleside	2
Holme	4	Staveley	1
Kendal	97	Storth	1
Kirkby in Furness	2	Windermere	1
Kirkby Lonsdale	107	Other	2
Natland	1	Oxenholme	5
Levens	1	Milnthorpe	122
Total 600			

An even number of respondents were attributed to each area in order to provide sample sizes that could be compared to each other. However, to reflect the local demographics, responses were broken down by gender, age and ethnicity to enable sound sub-analysis and provide a representation of respondents. The age and gender splits for each area are as follows:

	Total	Age groups						Gender	
		16-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-59	60+	Male	Female
Total	600	31	33	76	97	184	179	284	316
Grange	120	4	6	8	19	39	44	54	66
Kendal	120	8	6	21	21	37	27	58	62
Kirkby Lonsdale	120	7	8	18	13	37	37	58	62
Milnthorpe	120	8	4	20	21	34	33	56	64
Ulverston	120	4	9	9	23	37	38	58	62

The minimum age for survey participants is 16. Consultation with children and young people for the study has been covered through focus groups with representative groups such as youth clubs.

Variations between sub-groups are highlighted in the analysis of the individual typologies. In particular, the data gathered from the street survey is used as a starting point to generate travel time catchments around the different types of open spaces.



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Key issues covered include the following:

- ❑ Current usage of open spaces.
- ❑ Reasons for usage/non-usage of open spaces.
- ❑ Time taken/distance travelled to open spaces.
- ❑ Attitudes to open spaces (e.g., adequacy, quality, accessibility).

The results (generic issues, which cut across more than one typology) of the survey have been analysed and are presented in graph format with commentary below. Questions relevant to individual typologies are covered in the relevant sections of the Report.

### ***Database development***

All information relating to open spaces in South Lakeland is collated in the project open space database (supplied as an electronic file). Sites were originally identified and provided by SLDC. Additional sites identified during consultation have also been added to the database. Each site has been identified and classified based on its primary open space purpose, so that each type of space is counted only once.

As recommended in PPG17, sites under 0.2 hectares have been excluded from the assessment as they are deemed to have less recreational value. However, where sites less than 0.2ha in size were identified during consultation as being of high value to residents, they have been included within the assessment, e.g. all allotments have been included due to their important contribution to the overall provision and consultation also identifies the need to include them.

The database details for each site:

#### **Data held on open spaces database (summary)**

- ❑ KKP reference number (used for mapping).
- ❑ Site name.
- ❑ Local authority reference number.
- ❑ Nearest road/settlement.
- ❑ Ownership.
- ❑ Typology.
- ❑ Size (hectares).
- ❑ Access.
- ❑ Site visit data.

Sites are identified using road names and locations as opposed to official site names. For the key sites, identification has been enhanced with actual site names. However, for some typologies, this is impossible, e.g. amenity greenspaces and natural and semi natural sites, which, in the main, do not have official names anyway.

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### ***Site visits***

In total, 264 open space assessments were carried out to evaluate the quality and value of sites. The open space assessment form used is tailored to reflect the individual characteristics of different open spaces and a scoring system (i.e. different maximum scores) is applied to each typology to provide a more meaningful evaluation. Examples of the different assessment forms used can be found in the appendices document.

KKP assesses quality and value separately during site visits. Quality and value are fundamentally different and can be completely unrelated. For example, a high quality space may be located where it is inaccessible and therefore be of little value; while, if a run down space is the only one in an area, it may be immensely valuable. Therefore, quality and value are also treated separately in terms of scoring. Each type of open space assessed receives a quality score and a separate value score.

### ***Analysis of quality***

Data collated from site visits has been utilised to calculate a quality score for each site visited. Scores in the database are presented as a total score and percentage figure.

### ***Open space assessment form***

The criteria used for the main open space assessments are summarised below and are based upon those used for Green Flag (national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, operated by the Civic Trust) and 'Green Space Strategies: A good practice guide', published by CABESpace (2004).

#### **Open space site visit criteria for quality (summary)**

- ☐ Physical access, e.g., public transport links, directional signposts.
- ☐ Access-social, e.g., appropriate minimum entrance widths.
- ☐ Parking, e.g., disabled parking.
- ☐ Information signage, e.g., presence of up to date site information.
- ☐ Equipment and facilities, e.g., assessment of both adequacy and maintenance of provision such as seats, benches, bins, toilets.
- ☐ Location value, e.g., proximity of housing, other greenspace.
- ☐ Site problems, e.g., presence of vandalism, graffiti.
- ☐ Healthy, safe and secure, e.g., staff on site.
- ☐ Maintenance and cleanliness, e.g., condition of landscape.
- ☐ Typology specific profile, e.g., presence of environmental education facilities (natural/semi-natural provision).
- ☐ Groups that the site meets the needs of, e.g., elderly, young people.
- ☐ Site potential.

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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### ***Analysis of value***

The value of sites has been assessed by analysis of two sets of criteria: (i) site visit assessment data; and (ii) other data and information as detailed in the table below. Scores in the database are presented as a total score and percentage figure.

PPG17 describes value of sites as relating to the following three issues:

- ❑ Context of the site, i.e. its accessibility, scarcity value and historic value.
- ❑ Level and type of use.
- ❑ The wider benefits it generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment.

#### **Value - site visit criteria (summary)**

- ❑ Level of use (observations only).
- ❑ Context of site in relation to other open spaces.
- ❑ Structural and landscape benefits.
- ❑ Ecological benefits.
- ❑ Educational benefits.
- ❑ Social inclusion and health benefits.
- ❑ Cultural and heritage benefits.
- ❑ Amenity benefits and a sense of place.
- ❑ Economic benefits.

#### **Value - non site visit criteria (summary)**

- ❑ Designated site such as LNR or SSSI.
- ❑ Educational programme in place.
- ❑ Historic site.
- ❑ Listed building or historical monument on site.
- ❑ Registered 'friends of group' to the site.

### ***Weighting and scoring system***

KKP utilises one site visit assessment sheet to assess all typologies of open space (allotments, amenity greenspace, parks and gardens, green corridors, natural and semi natural greenspace). It has developed a weighting and scoring system to take account of the individual typologies and reflect their different natures and characteristics (each typology will therefore have a different maximum score). For example, the maximum score for allotments does not include scores for picnic benches. Similarly, the maximum score for amenity greenspace does not include scores for toilets.

## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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The maximum scores achievable for each typology are set out below together with the equivalent data for value.

*Table 2.1: Maximum scores for quality and value of open spaces in South Lakeland*

Typology	Quality - maximum score	Value – maximum score
Allotments	117	105
Amenity greenspace	110	100
Cemeteries	150	100
Children's play areas	75	55
Civic spaces	135	100
Green corridors	80	100
Parks and Gardens	154	110
Semi / Natural greenspaces	127	110

On the assessment form itself some elements receive a direct score (1 – 5 scale) and other elements simply have a tick option if present (receiving a score of 3 for every tick). Some tick options are simply collated and analysed as additional data, receiving no score. Examples of the applied scoring and weighting can be found in the appendices document.

### ***Setting thresholds for quality and value***

In order to determine sites as high or low quality and value, (as suggested by PPG17) the database colour codes each site visited against a set threshold as detailed below.

### ***Quality score thresholds***

The database colour codes quality scores against a threshold. Sites classed as red have a quality score below the threshold for that typology; those identified as green are above the threshold. The only available national benchmark for assessing the quality of open spaces is that set by the pass mark for the Green Flag Award scheme (60%). For some typologies 60% threshold could be considered too high, e.g. for natural and semi-natural greenspaces and amenity greenspaces, because Green Flag criteria is a particularly high standard primarily aimed at parks and gardens. Some elements of the criteria, which form the basis of the site quality assessments, are not relevant to these types of open spaces (for example car parking and toilets are in the main not appropriate for some typologies). Therefore, for some typologies the scoring and weighting has been amended to reflect this. However, the threshold to identify high and low quality sites remains at 60%.

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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### ***Value score thresholds***

The threshold for assessing value has been set at 20%. There are no national benchmarks available for assessing value and therefore, this is based on KKP's experience and expertise in carrying out PPG17 assessments and has been tried and tested with a number of local authorities. The threshold for assessing value is set much lower than the quality threshold (60%). This reflects that if a site scores highly for one element (i.e. education benefits) the site will be deemed high value.

### ***Using value scores***

As a result of the analysis of sites against the assessment criteria, sites with a low value score are identified for further detailed consideration to assess their potential future role.

Value scores provide a rational basis for determining where to focus investment in order to maximise the value of a space. The assessment of value allows an objective approach to identifying those spaces that should be given the highest level of protection in the planning system, those that require enhancement and those that may no longer be needed for their present purpose.

## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### *Settlement hierarchy by typology*

PPG17 and the Companion Guide 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' note that, in rural areas, there can be villages with small populations and significant distances between settlements. It is rarely possible for every settlement to have the full range of facilities and some forms of provision tend to be concentrated in larger villages or towns. This example adopts the principle of a settlement hierarchy for some typologies of open space. This is used to inform the identification of deficiencies in provision. The settlement hierarchy takes into account the findings of the community consultation undertaken for the study and is based on options presented by SLDC Core Strategy Options & Issues Paper 2005. SLDC asked that Ulverston be moved to category 1 so that Kendal and Ulverston are treated equally as the two Main Towns in the District. Please refer to the appendices for a breakdown of settlements by category.

### *Settlement hierarchy:*

	Formal provision			Informal provision	
	Parks and gardens	Provision for children and young people	Civic spaces	Natural/semi-natural greenspace	Amenity greenspace
<b>Category 1</b>	✓	✓ (minimum LEAP provision)	✓	✓	✓
<b>Category 2</b>	✓	✓ (minimum LEAP provision)	✓		✓
<b>Category 3</b>		✓ (minimum casual play)			✓
<b>Category 4</b>	✓				

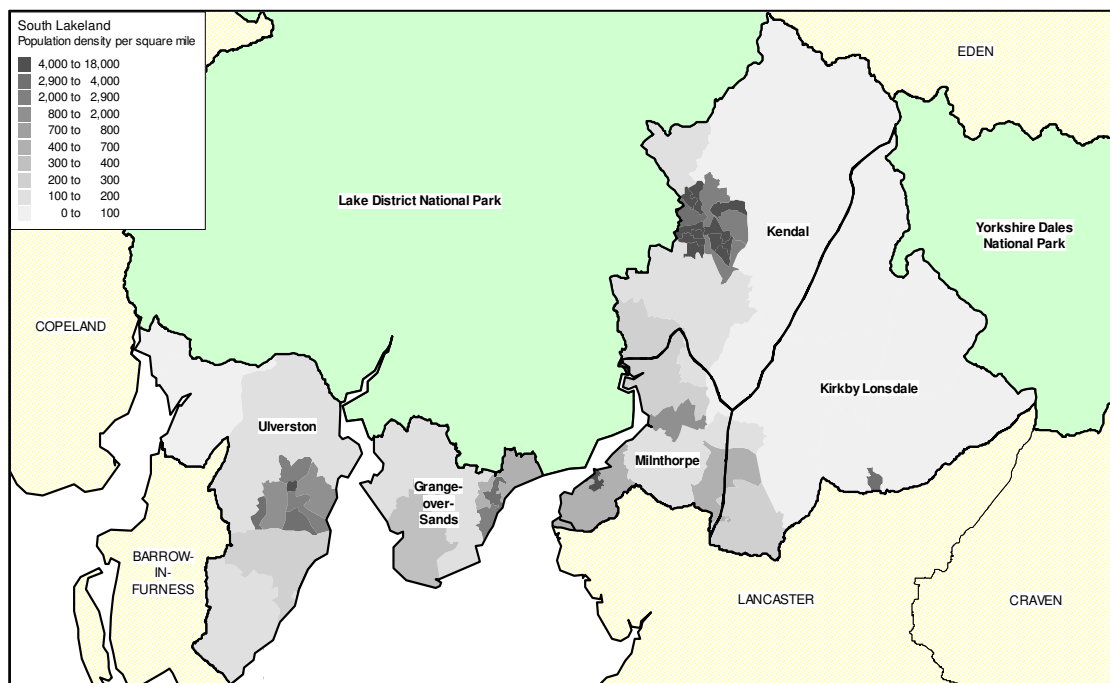
Please note that cemeteries, green corridors and allotments are not included within the settlement hierarchy. In terms of cemetery provision, quantitatively, provision should be driven by the need for burial space. However, it should still be recognised that cemeteries can also contribute and fulfil an informal recreational provision where provision already exists. In terms of green corridors, due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to include green corridors within the hierarchy. For allotments, it is possible to assess and quantify demand for allotment provision. Consequently, no minimum provision for allotments is identified for individual settlements.

# **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

## ***Analysis areas***

The Study divides South Lakeland LDF area into analysis areas. These have been adopted to create a more localised assessment of provision and for examination of open space/facility surplus and deficiencies at a local level. The use of analysis areas allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. Using natural boundaries and reflecting the major settlement areas, South Lakeland LDF area has been divided into five analysis areas (shaded grey below).

*Figure 2.1: Analysis areas in South Lakeland LDF area*



The starting point for creating the analysis areas was to highlight the key service centres as presented by SLDC Core Strategy Options & Issues Paper 2005. This initially led to the creation of four analysis areas, Ulverston and surrounding area, Grange over Sands and surrounding area, Kendal and surrounding area and Kirkby Lonsdale and surrounding area. However, initial consultation suggested that a further split to reflect travel patterns should create a fifth analysis area of Milnthorpe and surrounding area.

In terms of defining the boundaries of the analysis areas, the rural nature and hinterland makeup helped to define some natural boundaries such as Ulverston and Grange over Sands which are almost separate areas of land (i.e. not joined to other areas of the South Lakeland LDF area). The A40 main road was seen as a boundary that affects how residents travel to and use open spaces and is used to create Milnthorpe analysis area. The single largest boundary to affect travel across the LDF area is seen as the motorway (M6), which divides Kendal and Kirkby Lonsdale and was used to define the boundary between the two areas.

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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In order to allow local circumstances and issues to be taken account of, the analysis areas were used to divide up the consultation, both in terms of the street survey respondents and community groups. For example, two youth groups and two residents associations were consulted with in each analysis area and the street survey quota responses were tailored to fit with the analysis areas.



# SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

## PART 3: GENERAL OPEN SPACE ISSUES

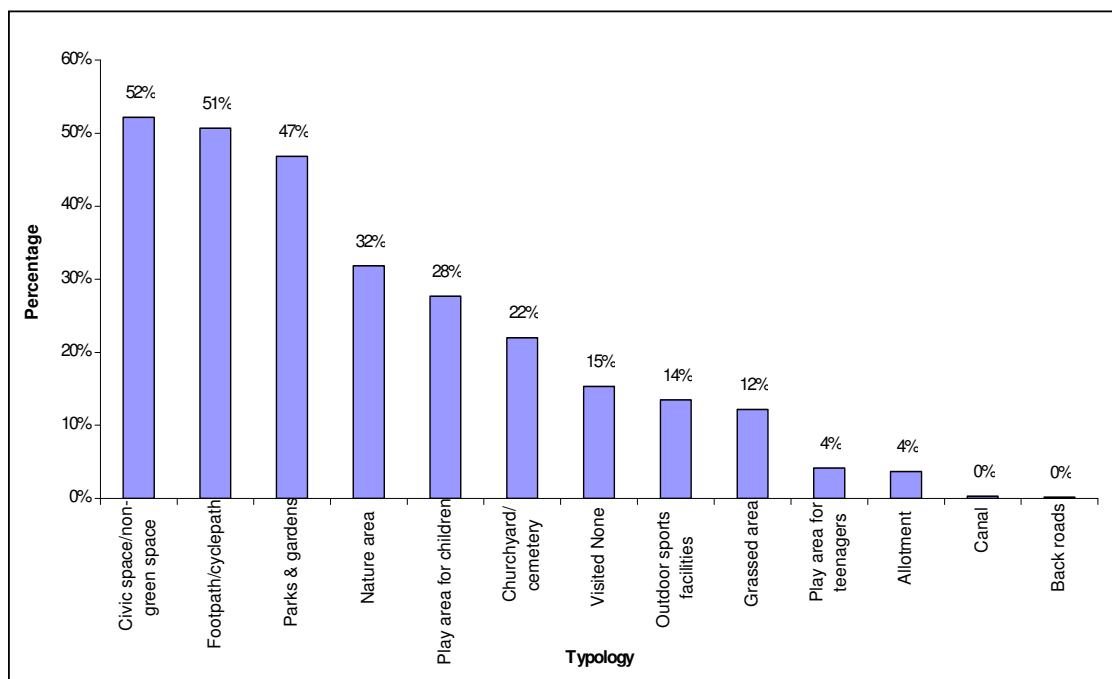
During consultation with users and non-users of open spaces in South Lakeland LDF area, many issues concerning open spaces in the LDF area have been raised and discussed with KKP. Typology and site specific issues are covered in the relevant sections of this report. This section sets out generic issues that cut across more than one typology, including summary of the resident and visitor survey.

Open space is owned and managed by a wide variety of agencies in the South Lakeland LDF area, including South Lakeland District Council (SLDC), Cumbria County Council (CCC), a large number of town and parish councils and external agencies such as Cumbria Wildlife Trust (CWT) and English Heritage. Developing an accurate picture of open spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area is, therefore, complex. For example, many parish council records are dated and the quality of information gathered has often been dependent on the clerk's local knowledge. There is evidence of good partnership working between SLDC and external agencies.

### *Usage*

The most popular typologies visited in the last twelve months are civic spaces (52%), footpaths (51%) and parks (47%). Sizeable proportions have also visited nature areas (32%) and play areas for children (28%). Only a very small proportion have visited an allotment (4%) in the past year or a play area for teenagers (also 4%). No residents of South Lakeland LDF area report having visited a canal or back road.

*Figure 3.1: Types of open spaces visited in the previous 12 months*

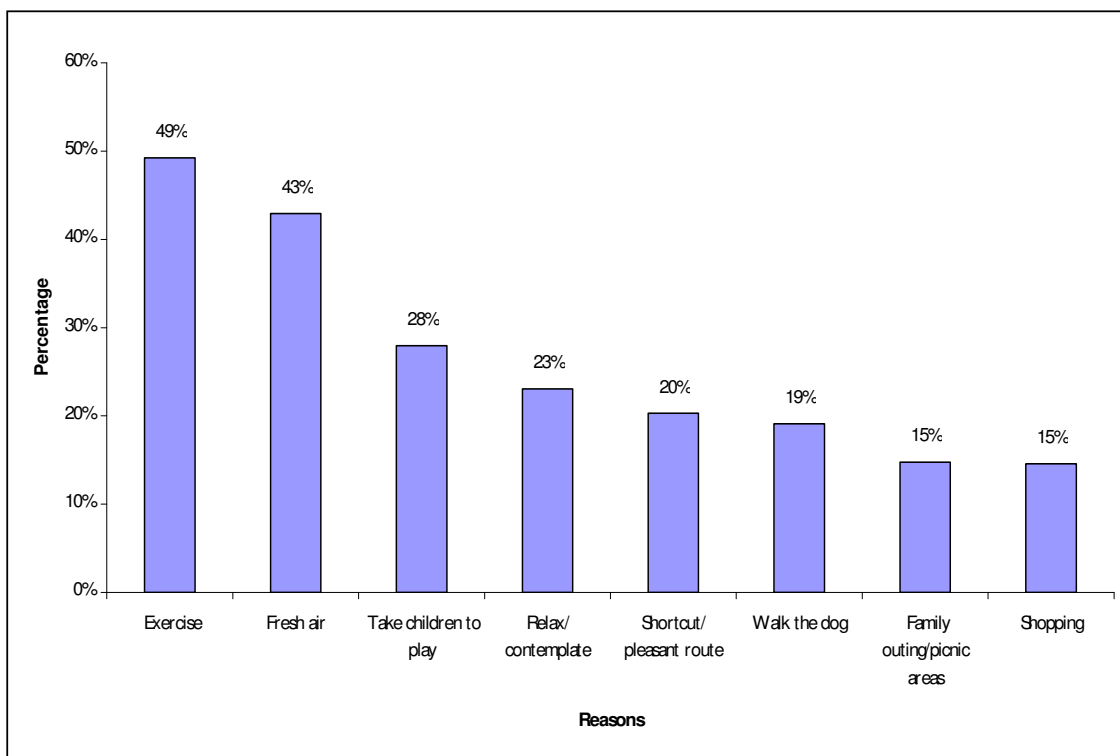


## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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The most popular reason for visiting open spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area is for exercise, with just under half (49%) of users stating this. Over two fifths (43%) use open spaces to take fresh air and over a quarter (28%) to take children to play. A similar proportion (23% and 20% respectively) uses open spaces to relax or as a short cut. Other popular reasons for having visited open spaces are dog walking (19%), family outings (15%) and shopping (15%). Ownership of a private garden does have some significance in relation to visiting open spaces for relaxation/contemplation as people who have access to a communal garden or who do not have a garden at all are more likely to use open spaces for these purposes.

*Figure 3.2: Reasons for usage of open space in the previous 12 months*

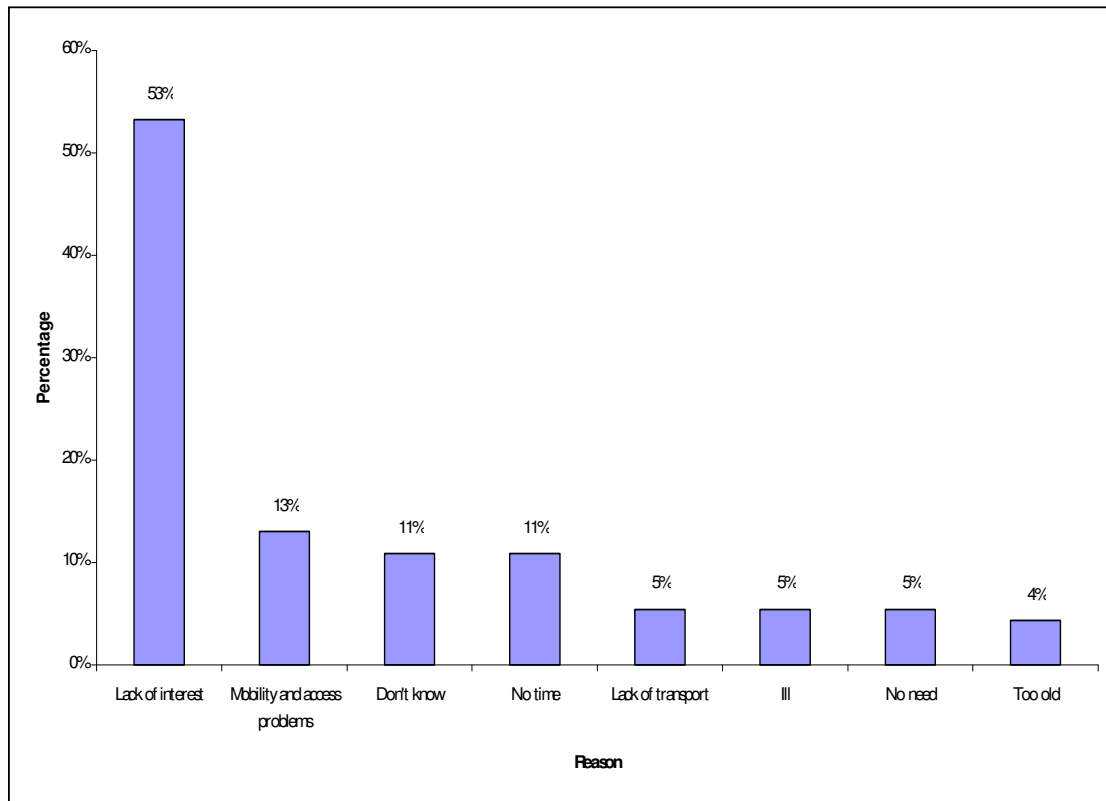


## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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Over half (53%) of those who have not visited an open space cite a lack of interest as the main reason for this. Other reasons highlighted include problems with mobility (13%) and a lack of time (11%). A similar proportion (11%), are unable to provide a reason. Only a small proportion of residents (5%) cite a lack of transport as a reason for not visiting open spaces.

*Figure 3.3: Reasons for non-usage of open spaces (proportion of all respondents)*

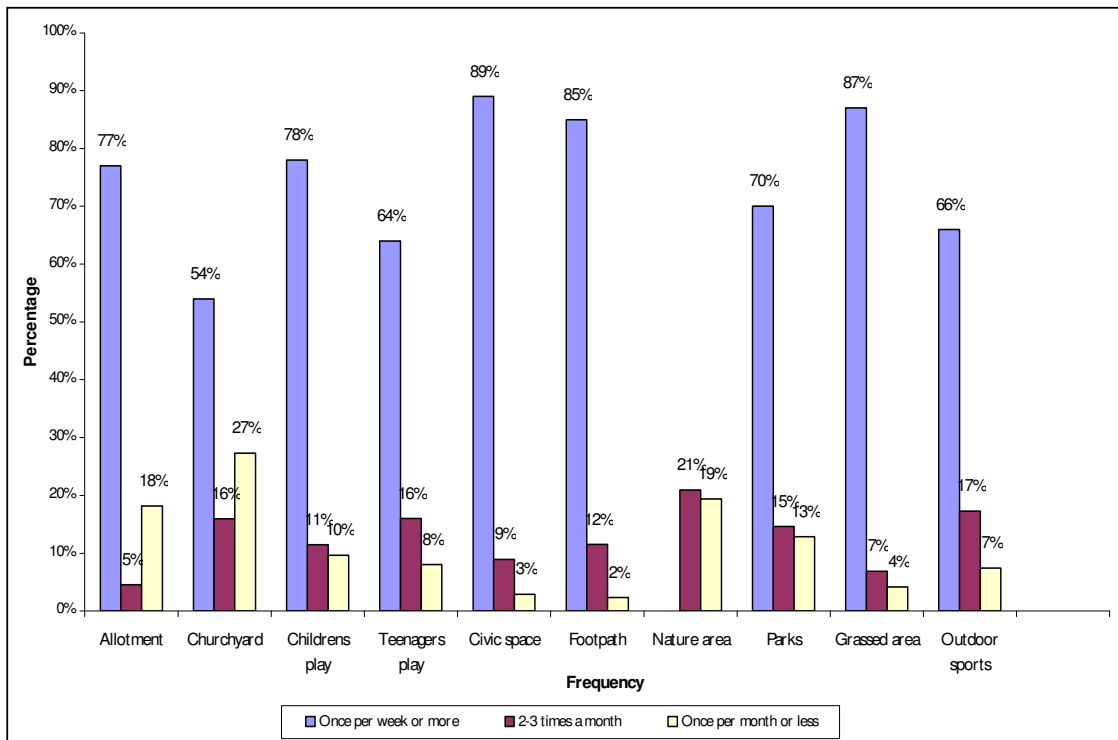


## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

### ***Accessibility***

The typologies with the most frequent visitors are civic spaces and grassed areas, visited by 89% and 87% of users respectively once a week or more often. Footpaths (85%), children's play areas (78%) and allotments (77%) are also visited by large proportions of users once or more per week. There are no typologies where the proportion that visits once a week or more is less than half. This indicates that open spaces are well used by those residents that do visit them.

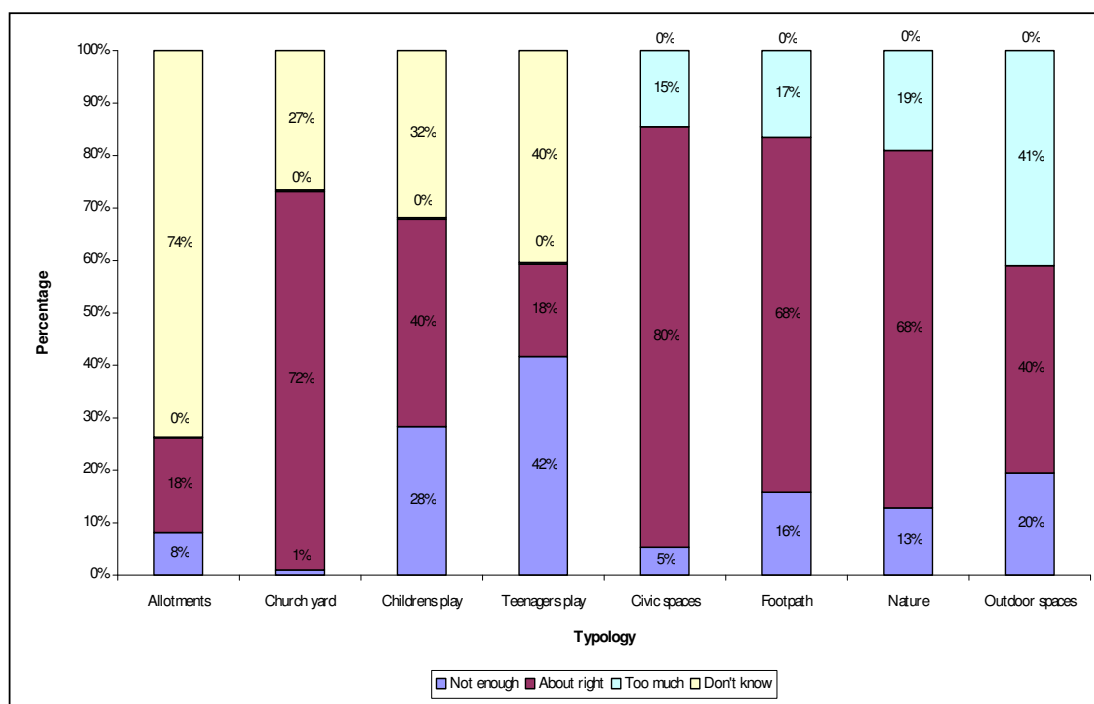
*Figure 3.4: Frequency of usage of open spaces in the previous 12 months*



## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

When asked to rate the availability of provision, the most common response for most typologies is that it is about right (e.g. civic spaces 80% and both churchyards and nature areas, 68%). The exceptions to this are varied – for example, almost three-quarters (74%) are unable to rate the availability of allotments, reflecting the fact that only a relatively small percentage of the population are allotment users. Provision for teenage play is considered to be inadequate by over two-fifths of residents (42%); the proportion stating that there is not enough children's play provision also exceeds a quarter (28%). There is a clear contrast in terms of outdoor sports facilities – 41% state there is too much and a fifth (20%) that there is not enough.

*Figure 3.5: Availability of open spaces*



Consultation identifies a perception amongst residents that the South Lakeland LDF area is well provided for in terms of open space, with particular reference being made numerous times to the proximity of the Lake District National Park, the Arnside and Silverdale AONB and the easy access to the countryside offered throughout the area, particularly in regards to access land. Interpretation panels are currently being installed on all open access land to promote use of open access land in the LDF area. However, when asked to consider provision of open space in terms of individual typologies, consultees consider there to be a lack of formal open space provision in the urban centres/residential areas of the LDF area. In particular residents deem there to be a lack of park and garden provision, provision for children and young people and also allotment provision. This perception is supported through mapping, which demonstrates significant catchment gaps for all three typologies (see part four, part eight and part nine).

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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Residents express concern regarding loss of open space to development. There is demand for greater protection of current provision. In particular, residents in Arnside fear that a number of open spaces that are in private ownership and are not currently publicly accessible could be under threat from development. Although there may be little public access to these sites at present, the local community regards the open spaces as valuable aesthetic assets to the area.

One of the greatest barriers for potential users of open space is a lack of awareness of provision, particularly in relation to the wildlife, health and education benefits that open spaces can provide. The residents' survey shows that a significant proportion of respondents are unable to comment on questions such as availability of provision, suggesting that there is a lack of awareness. This is particularly true for allotments (74% being unable to comment on availability), provision for young children (32% being unable to comment on availability) and teenage provision (40% being unable to comment on availability). However, in the latter two cases, this also reflects an absence of children of the appropriate age being interviewed.

The SLDC and CCC websites have a role to play in overcoming this barrier through improvement of information provided. There is an opportunity to promote the valuable open space resources throughout the LDF area through better marketing. Consultation highlights that the tourist information centres can work to increase awareness of open spaces in the different areas and the facilities and benefits offered by them. It also identifies a need to improve signage and interpretation opportunities at sites to raise awareness of, for example, the wildlife value, health benefits and educational opportunities.

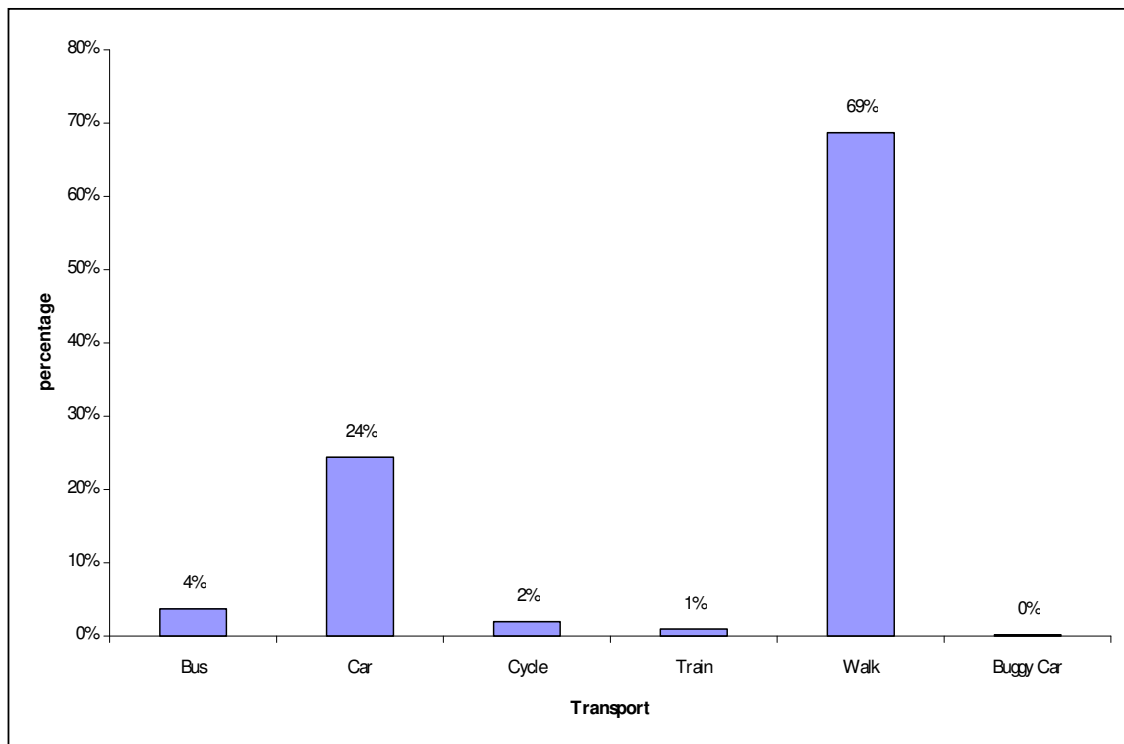
## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### *Travelling to open spaces*

The majority of people (69%) travel to open spaces on foot in the South Lakeland LDF area. There is an even spread across the age groups, with this figure being fairly consistent. The highest proportion of users who travel to open spaces on foot were interviewed in Milnthorpe Town Centre (89%) and the lowest in Kendal Town Centre (48%). This figure may reflect the fact that Kendal is the main shopping centre in the LDF area and users are more likely to travel by car for a range of purposes. Travel by car (24%) is the only other significant means of transport used by South Lakeland LDF area residents to access open space.

*Figure 3.6: Travelling to open spaces*



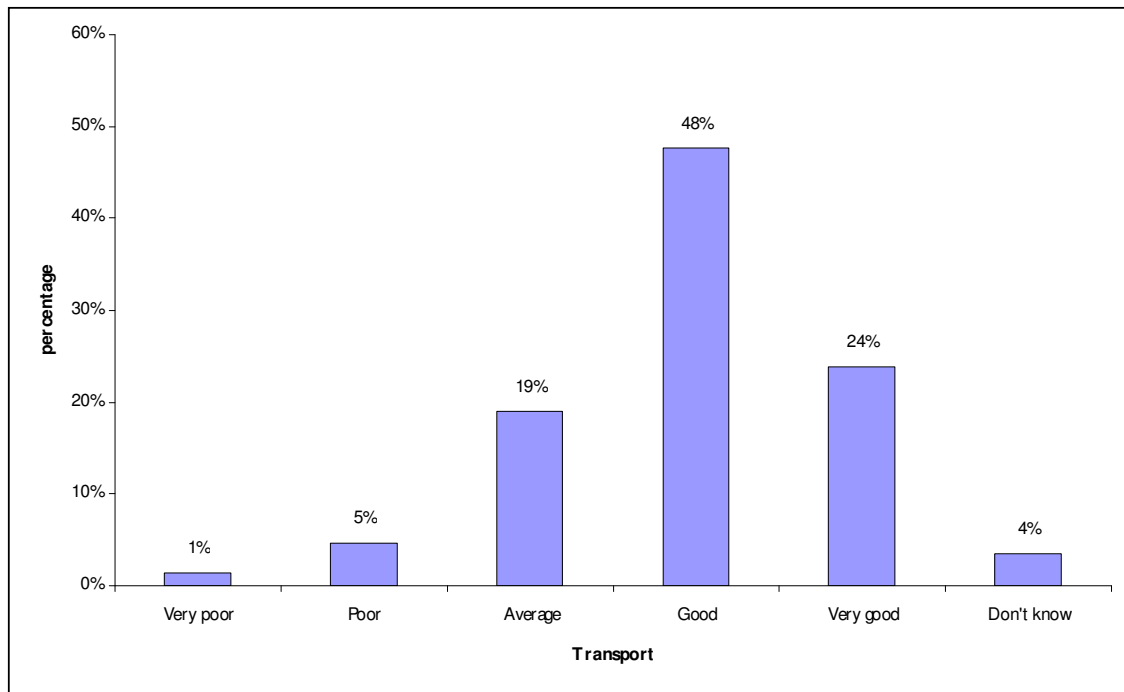
Consultation identified a need to improve public transport links from rural settlement areas to provision in the major service areas e.g. Kendal, Ulverston and Grange-over-Sands. There is demand for more affordable and regular transport links to allow residents to access provision easily.

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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The majority of residents rate the ease of travelling to open spaces in South Lakeland LDF area as good or very good (72%). Just under a fifth (19%) rate it as average and only a very small proportion (6%) rate it as poor to any degree. There is very little variation by age, gender or location.

*Figure 3.7: Ease of travelling to open spaces*





## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of all the quality assessment for open spaces in South Lakeland LDF area. The only available national benchmark for assessing the quality of open spaces is that set by the pass mark for the Green Flag Award scheme (60%). However, for some typologies 60% threshold is not a particularly realistic level, e.g. for natural and semi-natural greenspaces and amenity greenspaces, because Green Flag criteria is a particularly high standard primarily aimed at parks and gardens. Some elements of the criteria, which form the basis of the site quality assessments, are not relevant to these types of open spaces (for example car parking and toilets are in the main not appropriate for some typologies).

*Table 3.1: Quality scores for all open space typologies*

Typology	QUALITY Scores					Number:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	Below the threshold (60%)	Above the threshold (60%)
Allotments	117	21%	49%	66%	44%	26	3
Amenity greenspace	110	17%	45%	77%	60%	63	15
Cemeteries	150	16%	56%	74%	58%	11	15
Childrens play areas	75	27%	64%	87%	60%	14	45
Civic spaces	135	42%	60%	75%	32%	1	3
Green corridors	80	63%	74%	80%	17%	0	5
Parks and Gardens	154	32%	60%	74%	42%	9	7
Semi / Natural greenspaces	127	24%	49%	64%	40%	19	4

The average quality scores for the different typologies of open space vary greatly across the South Lakeland LDF area, from 74% for green corridors to only 45% for amenity greenspace. The mean score for half of the typologies, children's play areas, civic spaces, green corridors and parks and gardens, lies on or above the 60% threshold.

Over three quarters (83%) of amenity greenspace has been assessed as poor quality. This may be an artificially low score because the criteria against which amenity greenspaces were assessed covers elements such as seating, litterbins and paths, which are not appropriate to all sites e.g highway verges. Site assessments note that seating provision will be of benefit/appropriate to 10 amenity greenspaces currently without any.

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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Not uncommon throughout the Country, the use of quad bikes/off-road motorbikes is an issue across the South Lakeland LDF area open spaces, particularly natural/semi-natural sites and amenity open spaces. This issue was raised numerous times through consultation. Local residents feel that there is need for greater enforcement of illegal use of open spaces by quad bikes and motorbikes. There is demand for greater publicity regarding penalties and enforcement of illegal use of motorbikes on public open spaces. In restricting motorbike access to open space, care must be taken not to compromise access issues, particularly for wheelchairs. In the past, access controls such as fencing and gates have not deterred motorbike users and have been illegally removed in order gain access e.g. Arnside Knott Arnside.

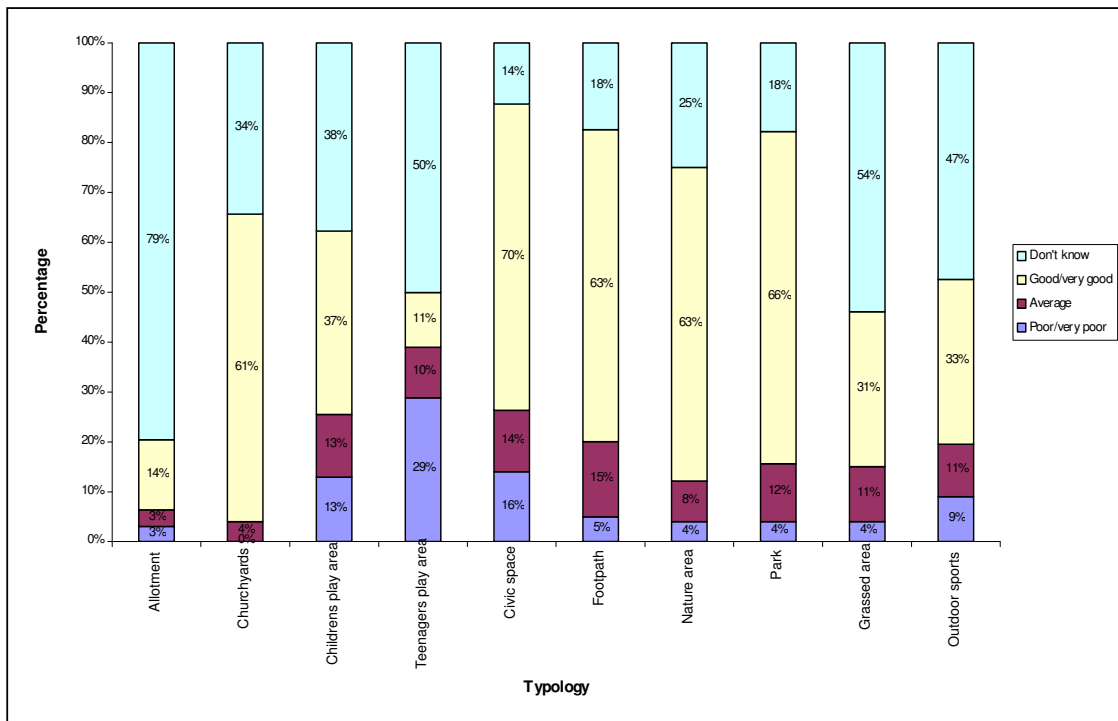
Consultation with residents associations, community groups and officers identifies a problem with youth congregation on a number of open spaces across the LDF area, particularly parks and gardens e.g. Lightburn Park, Ulverston. As a result there are also problems with litter and broken glass. Youth consultation identifies that this is a result of a lack of youth provision across the South Lakeland LDF area, especially areas for young people to 'hang out' and socialise.

Grounds maintenance of SLDC open spaces is contracted out to Continental Landscapes. There is also a horticulturalist and a play area engineer whose services are contracted. The contractors work to compulsive competitive tendering (CCT) specifications that have been altered slightly to be less strict and more efficient. There is no resource within SLDC to have an in-house team for grounds maintenance. Some concern has been expressed about the presence of horticultural skills and site ownership with the contractor which is impacting upon site quality.

## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

In the South Lakeland LDF area civic spaces are largely regarded as of being good or very good quality (70%). Other well-rated typologies include parks (66%), nature areas (63%), footpaths (63%) and churchyards (61%). The most poorly rated provision, teenagers' play areas is rated by almost one third (29%) of respondents as poor or very poor. Due to the relatively low proportion of the population who are users of allotments, a large proportion of respondents did not have an opinion on the quality of provision, though the majority of those that did feel that provision is good/very good.

*Figure 3.8: Quality of provision of open spaces*



## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### *Value*

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for open spaces across South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 3.2: Value scores for all open space typologies*

Typology	VALUE Scores					Number:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	Below the threshold (20%)	Above the threshold (20%)
Allotments	105	8%	26%	44%	36%	3	26
Amenity greenspace	100	4%	27%	52%	48%	28	50
Cemeteries	100	13%	33%	61%	48%	2	24
Children's play areas	55	11%	33%	58%	47%	3	56
Civic spaces	100	16%	33%	58%	42%	2	2
Green corridors	100	46%	54%	62%	16%	0	5
Parks and Gardens	110	17%	40%	65%	48%	1	15
Semi / Natural greenspaces	110	13%	29%	53%	40%	5	18

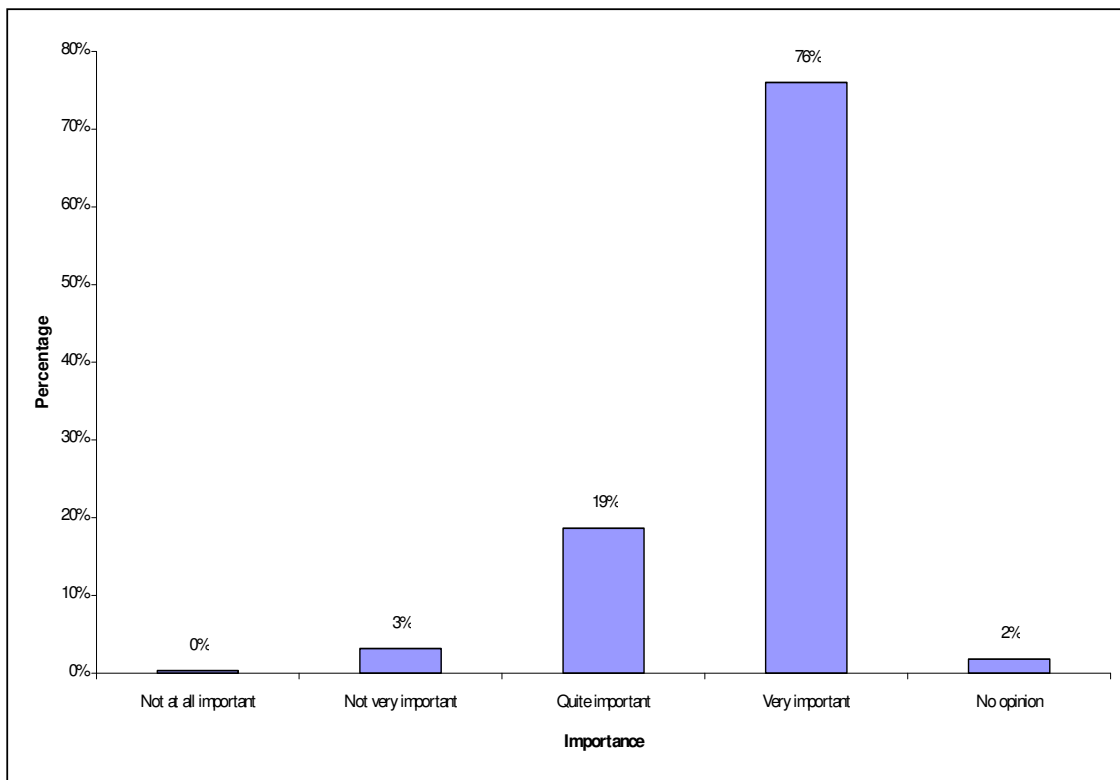
Consultation highlights that open spaces are a valuable resource to residents across South Lakeland LDF area. Generally, value scores across all the typologies are high. Site assessments recognise the health, social and well-being benefits offered by open space and reflected this in the site assessment scoring with all mean scores lying above the value threshold (20%). A large number (61%) of sites that are assessed as low quality have in fact been assessed as high value. This reinforces that low quality sites can be of high value to local communities, particularly if they are the only accessible provision in an area.

## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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The vast majority of respondents view open spaces and sports and recreation facilities to be very or quite important (95%). This highlights the high value placed on such provision by the residents of the LDF area and investment in it by the Council and other providers in the area. A very small proportion (3%) does not consider open spaces to be important – generally, these are non-users due to poor mobility, old age or no interest. There is little variation by gender, age, ethnicity or location.

*Figure 3.9: Importance of open spaces*

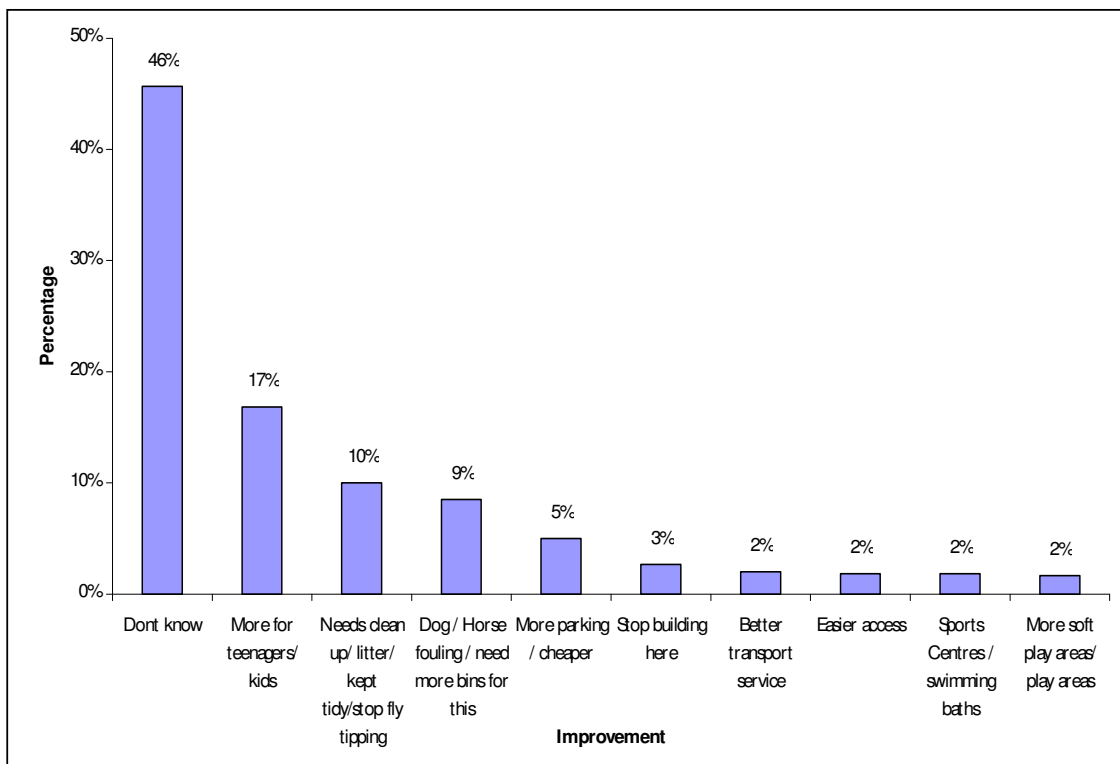


## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

### *Improvements to open spaces*

Just under half (46%) of respondents have no opinion on how to improve open spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area. Those who did pass comment state that more activities/areas for children and teenagers would be an improvement (17%). This reflects views on the availability of such provision, which highlight that residents consider there is not enough in the LDF area. Cleaning up areas, reducing littering and stopping fly tipping is cited by a tenth of residents (10%), with addressing dog and horse fouling the other key area for improvement (9%).

*Figure 3.10: Improvements to open spaces in South Lakeland LDF area*



# SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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## PART 4: PARKS AND GARDENS

### Introduction

The typology of parks and gardens, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide, covers urban parks, country parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide 'accessible high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.'

### Key issues

#### *Current provision*

There are 16 sites classified as parks and gardens totalling just over 315 hectares. Parks and gardens have been classified in the following ways to identify their effective catchment:

#### *Classification*

- ❑ District park – sites between 20 and 60 ha, large specialised areas, attracting a large number of visitors from a wide area.
- ❑ Local park – sites between 2 and 20 ha, areas that attract a significant proportion of users from particular parts of the local area, designed principally for passive recreation, serving the recreational needs of the local population.
- ❑ Settlement park – sites of 2 ha or less, smaller areas that attract almost all users from a particular area and are normally located on the edge of housing estates and serve the immediate population.

*Table 4.1: Distribution of parks and gardens sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	District park		Local park		Settlement park		TOTAL provision	
	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)
Grange-over-Sands	1	107.35	-	-	4	2.69	5	110.04
Kendal	-	-	2	35.01	4	3.32	6	38.34
Kirkby Lonsdale	-	-	-	-	1	1.16	1	1.16
Milnthorpe	2	160.35	-	-	-	-	2	160.35
Ulverston	-	-	1	4.37	1	1.67	2	6.05
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>267.70</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>39.39</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12.50</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>315.96</b>

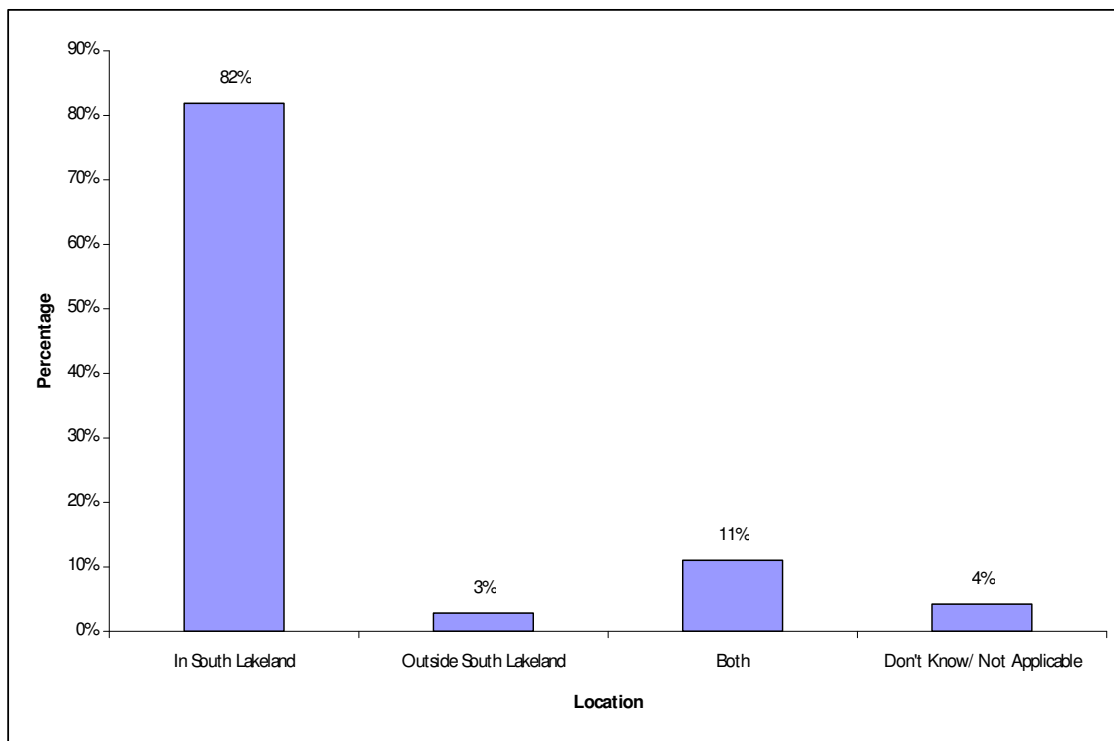
## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### *Usage*

Just under half (47%) of the respondents use parks. Though visiting parks is a popular pastime throughout South Lakeland LDF area, respondents from Grange (55%) and Ulverston (53%) visit parks more than those from the other areas. Of all users, the vast majority visit parks and gardens within the South Lakeland LDF area (93%). Only a very small proportion of residents visit such sites solely outside the LDF area (3%). There is no specific pattern of usage in terms of age and gender.

*Figure 4.1: Location of visits to parks and gardens*



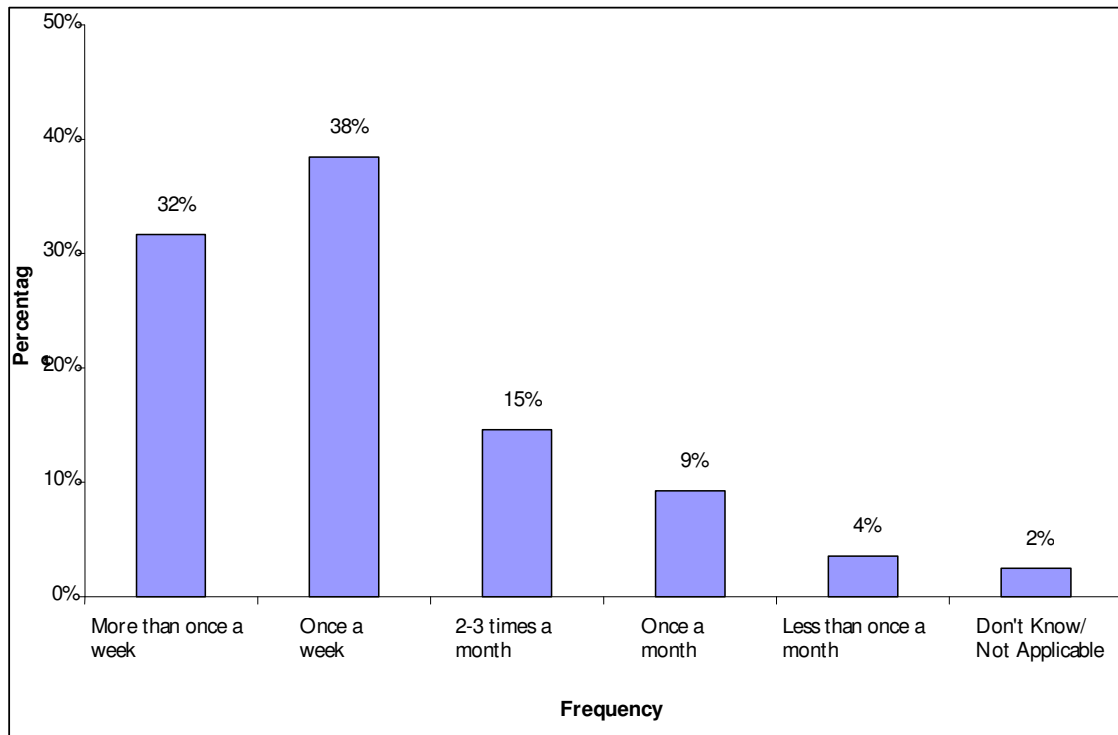
Of the people who visited parks in the South Lakeland LDF area during the last 12 months, over two thirds (70%) visit once a week or more often. Those interviewed in Milnthorpe and Kirkby Lonsdale use parks the most as 53% and 49%, respectively visit parks more than once per week.



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*Figure 4.2: Frequency of usage of parks in the previous 12 months*



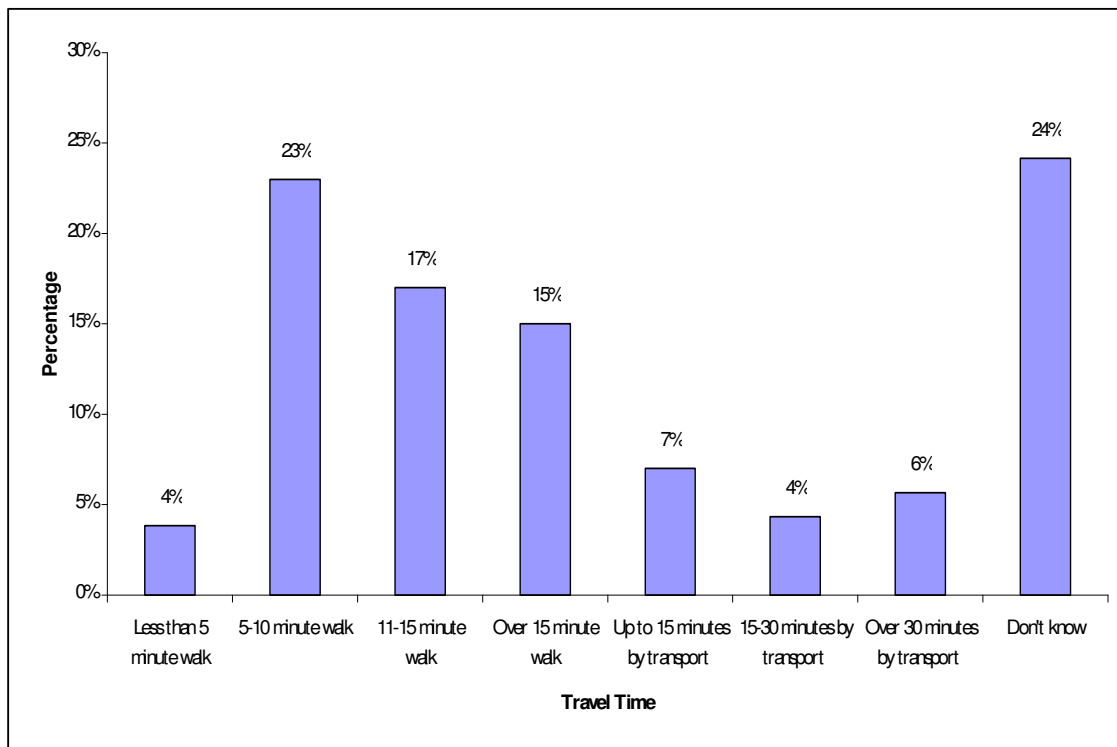
## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### ***Accessibility***

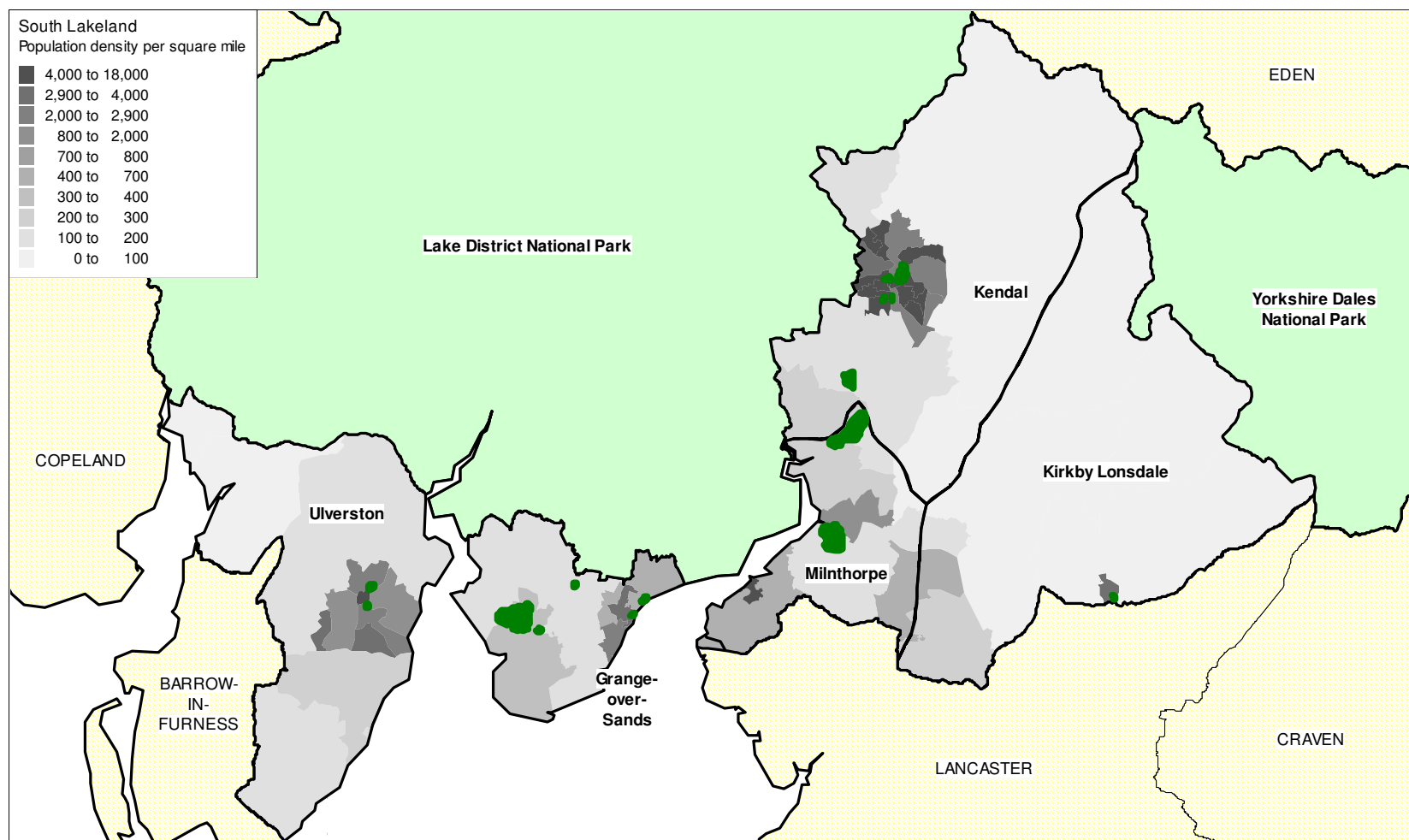
In terms of travel time, just under half of residents (44%) would be prepared to walk for no further than 15 minutes to access a park or garden. Only small proportions would prefer to travel by car. This reflects the fact that the majority of residents access open space by foot.

*Figure 4.3: Time prepared to travel to access a park*



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Figure 4.4: Parks and gardens mapped against analysis areas

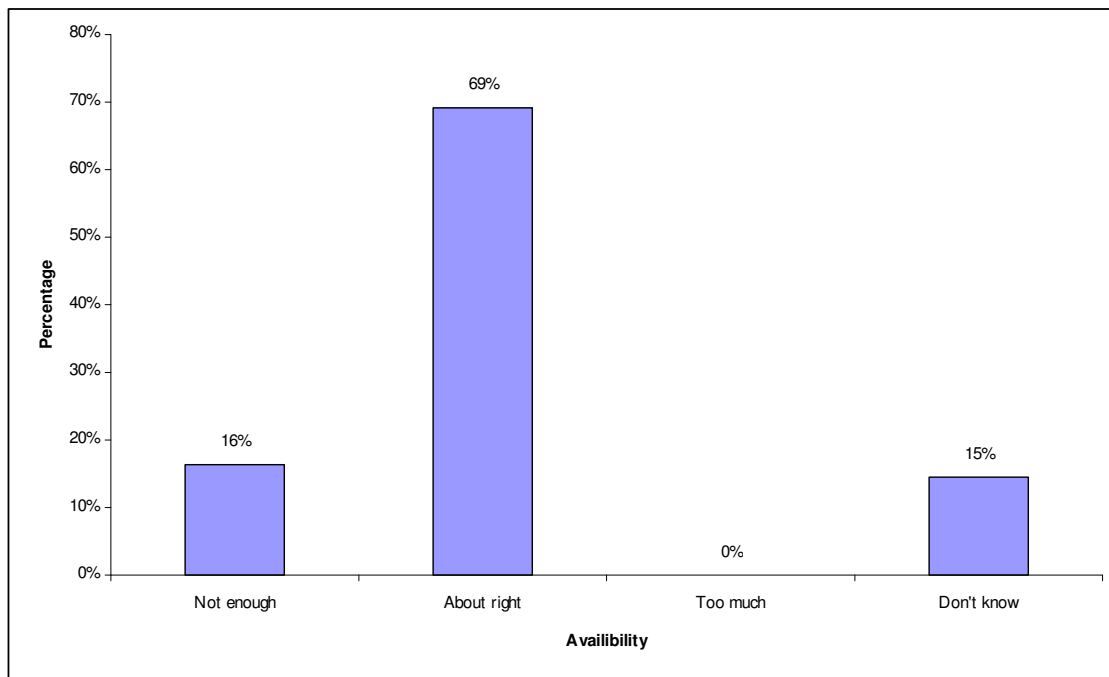


## **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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Over two thirds of respondents (69%) rate the provision of parks in the South Lakeland LDF area in terms of quantity as about right. The remainder either rate provision of parks as not enough or do not have an opinion. There is no significant reduction in the rating of availability by age or gender, though the proportion of respondents in Milnthorpe Town Centre stating that there are not enough parks is higher than in other parts of the LDF area (27%). Although significant provision exists in Milnthorpe (Dallam Tower which is classified as country park and Levens Hall and Gardens which is also classified as country park), both sites could be deemed to have restricted access. At Levens Hall for example, access is via designated footpath provision only and the site is closed in the evenings. It is probably accurate to say that these sites do not adequately meet the needs of local residents in terms of park and garden provision due to access issues.

*Figure 4.5: Availability of parks*



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### ***Management***

The Parks and Open Spaces Department within SLDC is responsible for overseeing the general operational management and day-to-day maintenance of parks and gardens throughout the District. Grounds maintenance is contracted out to Continental Landscapes Ltd., which carries out tasks following specifications utilised under CCT. The contractors and SLDC recognise the restrictions of CCT specifications and allow flexibility in order to undertake tasks at the most appropriate time.

The Green Flag Award Scheme, managed by the Civic Trust, provides a national standard for parks and greenspaces across England and Wales. Public service agreements, identified by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) highlight the national importance placed on working towards Green Flag status as an indicator of high quality parks. This in turn has an impact on the way in which parks and gardens are being managed and maintained.

Kendal Castle Hill Park has successfully achieved Green Flag Status and Green Heritage Status for three consecutive years and Park Road Gardens in Grange-over-Sands successfully achieved Green Flag status for the first time in 2007. Reflecting this, these are the only two parks in the LDF area to have written management plans in place. Working towards a written management plan has ensured that relevant policies and regimes, required to be successful in achieving the Green Flag Award, are in place.

SLDC has aspirations to produce a management plan for all the major parks and gardens within the LDF area. However, a lack of resources restricts progress on such work. The qualitative scores from site visits undertaken by KKP suggest that a number of sites across the LDF area, including Ford Park, Ulverston, Abbot Hall and Sizergh Castle, both in Kendal, have a good chance of success in the field assessment element of the award if considered for Green Flag entry in the future.

### ***Staffing***

There is currently no park ranger service or permanent staff presence in any of the parks within the LDF area. Consultation identifies demand for a presence in parks but, due to lack of resources (funding), SLDC has not signed up to the Cabe Parkforce Pledge. SLDC also feels that providing a ranger service to cover the parks across the LDF area would be difficult due to the small size and distribution of sites across the LDF area. There is identified potential for a mobile open space warden to cover the parks and other significant open spaces within Kendal. However, user consultation identifies particular demand for a ranger presence in the major park sites across the LDF area e.g. Lightburn Park, Ulverston.

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### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks and gardens in South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%; this is based on Green Flag criteria. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 4.2: Quality scores for parks and garden sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	154	41%	60%	74%	33%	2	3
Kendal	154	42%	57%	74%	31%	3	3
Kirkby Lonsdale	154	55%	55%	55%	0%	1	0
Milnthorpe	154	32%	41%	49%	18%	2	0
Ulverston	154	56%	62%	68%	13%	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>

Although all of the parks and gardens scored well (score of 4 or above) for overall maintenance and cleanliness and landscape design and maintenance, a large proportion of sites (59%) are assessed as low quality. The local authority mean score lies just below the threshold set at 60%. The low quality sites generally fail against criteria such as toilet provision, car parking and lighting.

Community consultation identifies few issues or concerns impacting upon the quality and usage of park and garden provision across the South Lakeland LDF area. Over half (57%) of the resident survey respondents regard the quality of provision to be good. There is a perception that site infrastructure requires attention across the LDF area to enhance all sites to the same high quality standard. There is demand for basic improvements such as internal path improvements to enhance access and provision of more and better quality furniture.

Youth congregation and anti-social behaviour is also an issue associated with a number of sites within the South Lakeland LDF area. As will be discussed later in the report, there is a lack of provision for young people in the LDF area. Young people report that they have nowhere to go to meet friends and spend their free time and they therefore often congregate in open spaces, particularly local parks. Although the young people may not be creating a nuisance or be involved in anti-social behaviour, consultation suggests that their presence, in large numbers, creates an intimidating environment for other users and deters usage. There are also issues concerning vandalism associated with the congregation of young

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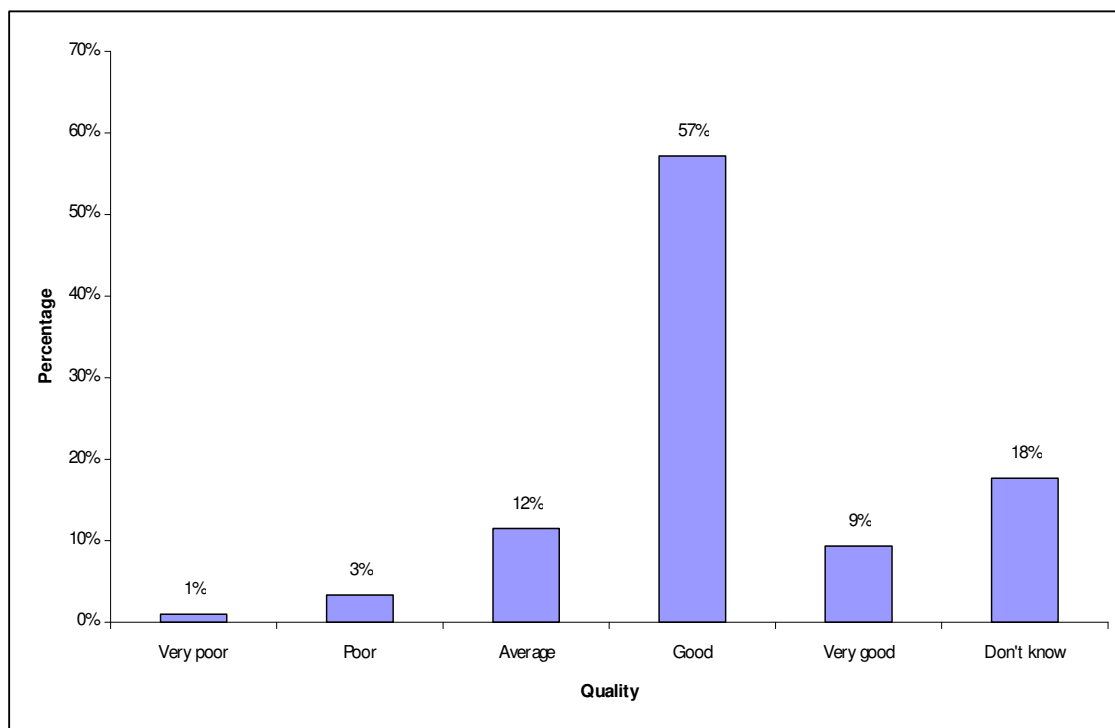
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people in parks impacting on the quality of the sites e.g. Lightburn Park, Ulverston. Consultation has identified that engaging with young people through activities will be an important element to resolving this issue.

The site assessment for Lightburn Park in Ulverston indicates that it falls just below the quality threshold (with a score of 56%). Consultation highlights a perception amongst residents that the site is poorly maintained and of poor quality. There is also a negative safety perception associated with the site, particularly due to usage by groups of young people in the evenings. This impacts upon the genuine usage of the site.

Two thirds of respondents, (66%) rate the quality of parks in the South Lakeland LDF area as good or very good. Almost one fifth (18%) have no opinion, indicating that they do not use parks, the majority of these being those interviewed in Grange Town Centre. A quarter (25%) of those who had no opinion do not have access to a car. A very small percentage (4%) consider the quality of parks to be either poor or very poor. There is no significant variation in the rating of quality by age or gender.

*Figure 4.6: Quality of provision of parks*



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### **Value**

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for parks and gardens in South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 4.3: Value scores for parks and garden sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	110	22%	39%	57%	35%	0	5
Kendal	110	17%	43%	65%	48%	1	5
Kirkby Lonsdale	110	46%	46%	46%	0%	0	1
Milnthorpe	110	24%	26%	28%	5%	0	2
Ulverston	110	37%	45%	53%	15%	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	110	17%	40%	65%	48%	1	15

In terms of value, the average score across the South Lakeland LDF area lies well above the 20% threshold, ranging from 65% for Kendal Castle, to just 17% for Gillinggate in Kendal and the Sunken Garden in Grange-over-Sands. Recognising the social inclusion and health benefits, ecological value and amenity and sense of place offered by parks and gardens, site assessments find 76% of sites across the LDF area to be of high value. All of the four sites classified as low value (Cartmel Priory in Cartmel and the Sunken Garden in Grange-over-Sands, Dallam Tower in Milnthorpe and Gillinggate in Kendal) are also assessed as being low quality.

### **Community involvement**

There is currently a lack of community involvement in the management and operation of parks and gardens in the South Lakeland LDF area. There are currently only two 'friends of' groups associated with specific sites - Park Road Gardens in Grange-over-Sands and Kendal Castle, Kendal. Community engagement is particularly important in sustaining high quality and well-used sites. The Green Flag award recognises the importance of community involvement and it is a criteria against which the quality and management of parks is assessed as part of the award. This community interest and ownership at the two sites has resulted in, and continues to lead to, site improvements. It has also been instrumental in the sites both achieving the Green Flag Award for 2007/08. Evidence collected through the user and community consultation demonstrates that the successful



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engagement of the local community results in high quality, well used valuable sites that local residents take greater ownership over and pride in.

Consultation identifies that there is a lack of environmental activities provided in parks across the LDF area. A teachers' pack and interactive display is provided at Kendal Castle Hill and a CD resource is sent out to every school in the local area to encourage schools to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the site. Ford Park Community group has aspirations to engage local schools once the proposed restoration project is complete at the site, if funding is successfully achieved. It is hoped that the restoration project will result in greater educational value and opportunities being offered.

### ***Summary of site consultation***

This section collates issues raised during consultation regarding provision of parks and gardens in the South Lakeland LDF area. This is presented alongside site visit quality and value scores for comparison. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation.

Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Jubilee Park, Kirkby Lonsdale	55%	46%	The site has only been in use as a public park for the past seven years. Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council has aspirations to create a hard surfaced pathway through the site to facilitate access to the river for users in wheelchairs and parents with pushchairs.  It is well used by local children and families for informal play.
Abbot Hall, Kendal	65%	62%	Consultation identifies that the site does suffer from use by undesirables and anti-social behaviour.  The site hosts a number of community events popular with both residents and visitors.

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Ford Park, Ulverston	68%	53%	<p>This valuable open space resource in Ulverston is owned and managed by Ford Park Community Group, a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. The Group formed to protect the site and retain it as a community space.</p> <p>Consultation highlights that this is an important greenspace that is well used for recreation by local residents, particularly for dog walking, access to Hoad Hill and as a space for young people to meet friends. The Park hosts a number of events throughout the year, such as the Lantern Procession, music gigs and open-air theatre. It is also home to weekly car boot sales, which help to generate income to be reinvested into the site.</p> <p>The building within the Park, which is a grade two listed building, has been transformed into a well used community centre, creating a focal point for the site. Ford Park Community Group is in the process of putting together a bid for Heritage Lottery Funding for a major restoration project.</p> <p>Proposed plans include an extension to the community centre to house a youth hostel, café, community/conference room, an interpretation centre with car parking, complete restoration of the garden and grounds, removal of overgrown vegetation and replanting. The application is to be submitted in September 2007 with work due to start in June 2008 if successful. The Community Group hopes that the restoration project will encourage greater school engagement taking advantage of the educational value offered by the site.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Kendal Castle Hill, Kendal	72%	66%	<p>The site, which has an active 'friends of' group, has successfully achieved Green Flag and Green Heritage status for the third consecutive year.</p> <p>The 'friends of' group is mainly concerned with the remains of the castle but it does also have aspirations to see the site as a whole fully utilised.</p> <p>The 'friends of' group has a long-term aspiration to provide a small number of disabled car parking spaces to the north side of the site with a plan to provide an access road up to the Castle. Currently disabled access to the Castle is poor and it is felt that provision of an access road would enhance accessibility and also facilitate greater community activities at the site. The absence of toilet facilities restricts school use and the potential of the site to host events.</p> <p>The 'friends of' group feels limited in the activities that it can provide at the site and improvements they can make due to restrictions imposed by English Heritage. It feels that the site needs to become more appealing as an open space to residents and visitors. There are plans to organise a music event and a firework display to raise the profile of the site and increase its functionality.</p> <p>The site does suffer from vandalism associated with young people congregating in the area and drinking at the weekends. The poor access to the site restricts the impact of police enforcement.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Lightburn Park, Ulverston	56%	37%	<p>Consultation with users and local residents indicates that there is a negative safety perception associated with this site. It is considered to be run-down and in need of enhancement and the evening drinking culture associated with the Park deters legitimate users, particular the elderly and parents with young children. There is demand for greater policing and enforcement regarding the drinking that takes place and the associated anti-social behaviour and intimidation caused as a result. It is felt that, following the removal of the warden service, which in the past provided an official presence within the site, anti-social behaviour has increased and the site quality and usage declined.</p> <p>SLDC and Ulverston Town Council have attempted, unsuccessfully, to generate community interest in establishing a site specific 'friends of' group. It is felt that the establishment of such a group would be able to drive forward site development and improvement and encourage greater community ownership There is a need for SLDC to proactively support and encourage greater community ownership and involvement with the site to facilitate improvements.</p>
Ornamental Gardens, Grange-over-Sands	64%	44%	<p>User and local resident consultation identifies demand for the site to be enhanced. The pond edging has deteriorated and requires improvements as it poses a danger to visitors and there is a need for the pond to be cleared at the Southern end particularly.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Park Road Gardens, Grange-over-Sands	70%	57%	<p>Recognising the high quality and management standards, as well as the high community involvement with the site, it has successfully achieved its first Green Flag Award this year. The 'friends of' group is very proactive and was highly involved in the sites Green Flag success. The Group also undertakes regular litter picks and site enhancements such as planting to ensure that the park remains of high quality.</p> <p>The site hosts a number of annual musical and community events, such as the Edwardian Festival. The Victorian bandstand, which acts as a focal point, is fully utilised and the events are popular with both residents and visitors to Grange-over-Sands. There is also a sensory garden within the site, created as a Millennium project, which transformed a run-down rose garden into a fully accessible and interesting feature.</p> <p>There are toilet facilities within the site but these are presently closed due to lack of resources to have them open. Consultation identifies demand for toilet provision to be re-instated due to the high usage the site experiences.</p> <p>There is also opportunity to enhance the wildlife value of the site through erection of bird and bat boxes. The 'friends of' group is keen to see greater interpretation opportunities at the site to inform visitors of the history of the site and draw attention to particular features of interest such as the bandstand and tree variety.</p> <p>Users highlight that visitors in wheelchairs or parents with pushchairs have difficulty accessing the bandstand and the area around the storage hut where refreshments are sold during the summer. There is demand for access improvements to be made in this area to facilitate easier usage.</p>

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### **Parks and gardens summary**

- ❑ There are 16 sites classified as parks and gardens totalling 315ha across the South Lakeland LDF area. Nine are identified as low quality and seven as high quality. In terms of value only one is identified as low value and 15 as high value.
- ❑ Residents suggest that Green Flag sites, Kendal Castle Hill and Park Road Gardens as setting a standard for the quality of parks and gardens across the LDF area.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access parks and gardens provision.
- ❑ There is no permanent staff presence in any of the parks across the LDF area. There is demand from users for a ranger presence in the major sites across the LDF area e.g. Lightburn Park.
- ❑ Youth congregation and anti-social behaviour are issues identified to impact upon the usage of current provision. This is, to some extent, due to a lack of youth provision across the LDF area. Consultation has identified that engaging with young people through activities is an important element to resolving the issue.
- ❑ Greater community involvement in the management of parks and gardens should be encouraged to drive site enhancements and create community ownership.

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## **PART 5: NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREENSPACES**

### **Introduction**

The typology of natural and semi natural greenspaces, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g. downland, meadow), heath or moor, wetlands (e.g. marsh, fen), open running water, wastelands (including disturbed ground), and bare rock habitats (e.g. cliffs, quarries, pits). These provide 'wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.'

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

In total, there are 21 open spaces classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces in the South Lakeland LDF area, totalling just over 470 hectares.

*Table 5.1: Distribution of natural and semi-natural greenspaces sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Natural/semi-natural greenspaces	
	Number	Size (ha)
Grange-over-Sands	4	253.87
Kendal	5	18.99
Kirkby Lonsdale	4	119.55
Milnthorpe	5	21.53
Ulverston	3	60.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>474.84</b>

South Lakeland LDF area has a large proportion of locally and regionally important semi-natural sites. There are 23 sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), including sites such as Arnside Knott, , Humphrey Head near Grange-over-Sands and Hutton Roof Crags near Kirkby Lonsdale. There are also three National Nature Reserves (NNRs) - Park Wood and Clawthorpe Fell near Kirkbly Lonsdale and Roudsea Wood and Mosses near Grange-over-Sands and also two sites, Holme Park Quarry and Killington Bridge, both near Kirkby Lonsdale, designated as Local Nature Reserves (LNRs). In 1996, English Nature (now Natural England) recommended that there should be one hectare of designated LNR per 1,000 population. To put this into local context, with a population of 70,186 (2001 census data), South Lakeland LDF area should have at least 70ha of LNR. The two designated sites cover 6ha, leaving a shortfall of some 64 hectares. There are a number of sites that have been identified for potential future LNR designation including Scout Scar and

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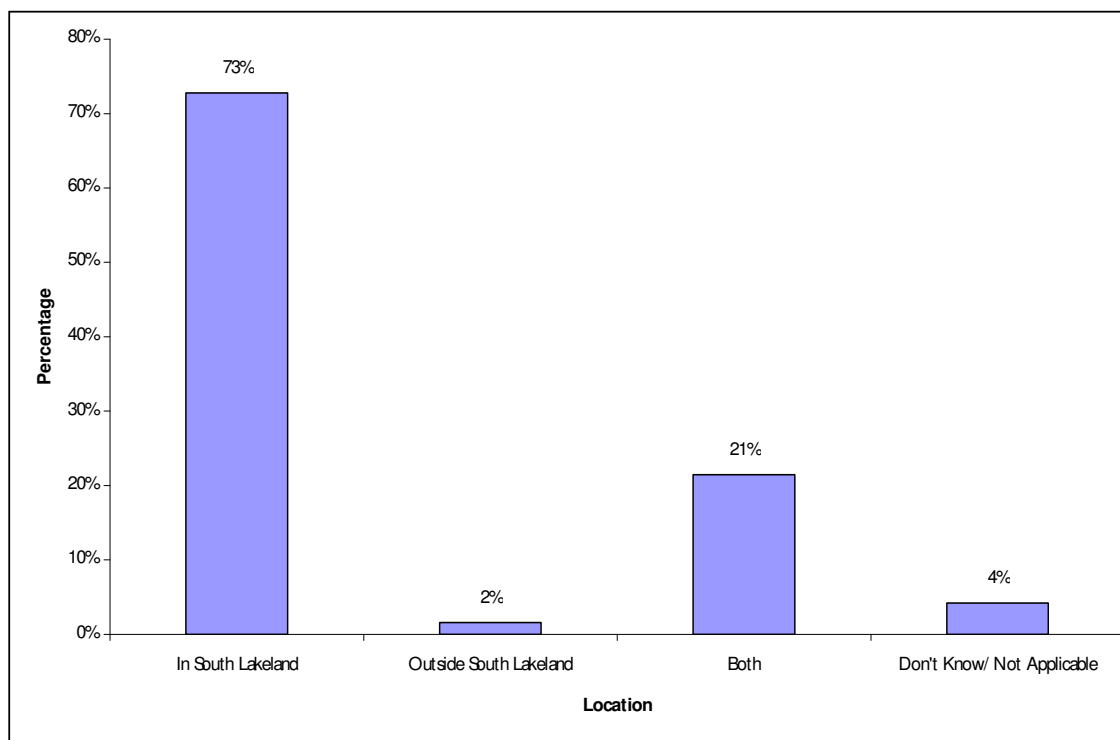
Serpentine Woods in Kendal and Hoad Hill in Ulverston. Killington Bridge LNR is designated under the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and Holme Park Quarry LNR is designated under CCC. CCC leases Holme Park Quarry LNR from Aggregate Industries under a Section 106 agreement. A written management plan is in place and practical management is undertaken via a local community volunteer group.

In addition, CWT owns four and manages six nature reserves in the LDF area, which total 161ha. All the reserves are open for public access and are managed to maintain and enhance their particular habitats. These sites do not have the statutory designation of LNR but will meet a similar need in terms of accessible natural and semi-natural open space as the reserves are open access.

### **Usage**

In the South Lakeland LDF area one third (32%) of residents have used nature areas in the previous year. There is only a slight variation in overall usage and frequency of usage by age and gender. Although the majority of visits to nature areas take place in South Lakeland LDF area (94%), a sizeable proportion (23%) visits sites outside the LDF area, which is to be expected given the proximity of the Lake District National Park and the rural nature of the surrounding areas.

*Figure 5.1: Location of visits to nature areas*



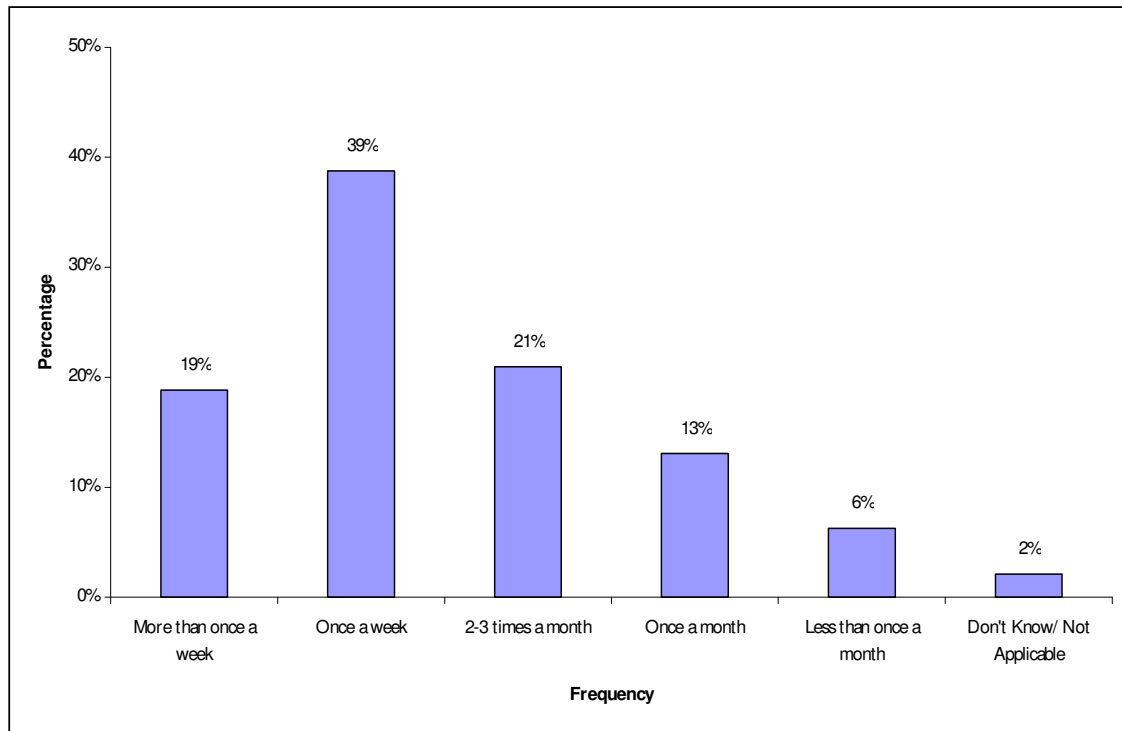


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In the South Lakeland LDF area more than half (58%) of visitors to nature areas do so once a week or more. One fifth of respondents visit a nature area 2-3 times per month (21%). There is only a slight variation in frequency of usage by age and gender. All those interviewed in the Milnthorpe Town Centre use nature areas at least once per week.

*Figure 5.2: Frequency of usage of natural areas in the previous 12 months*

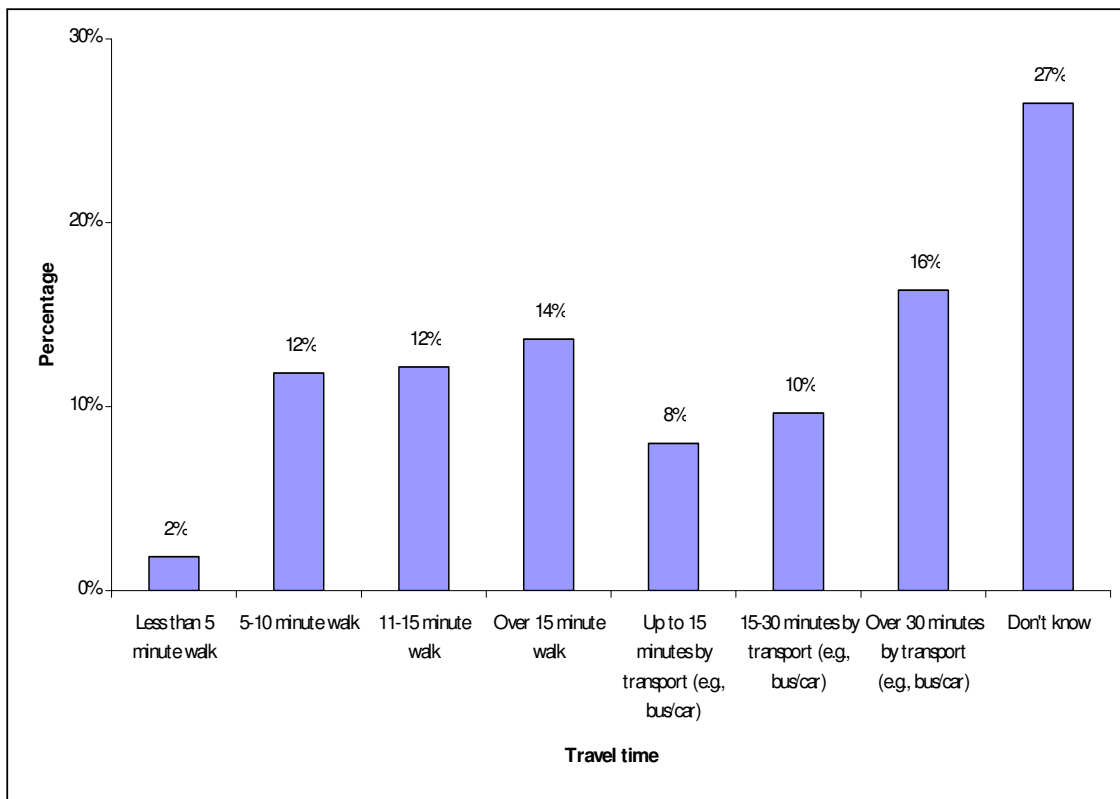


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### ***Accessibility***

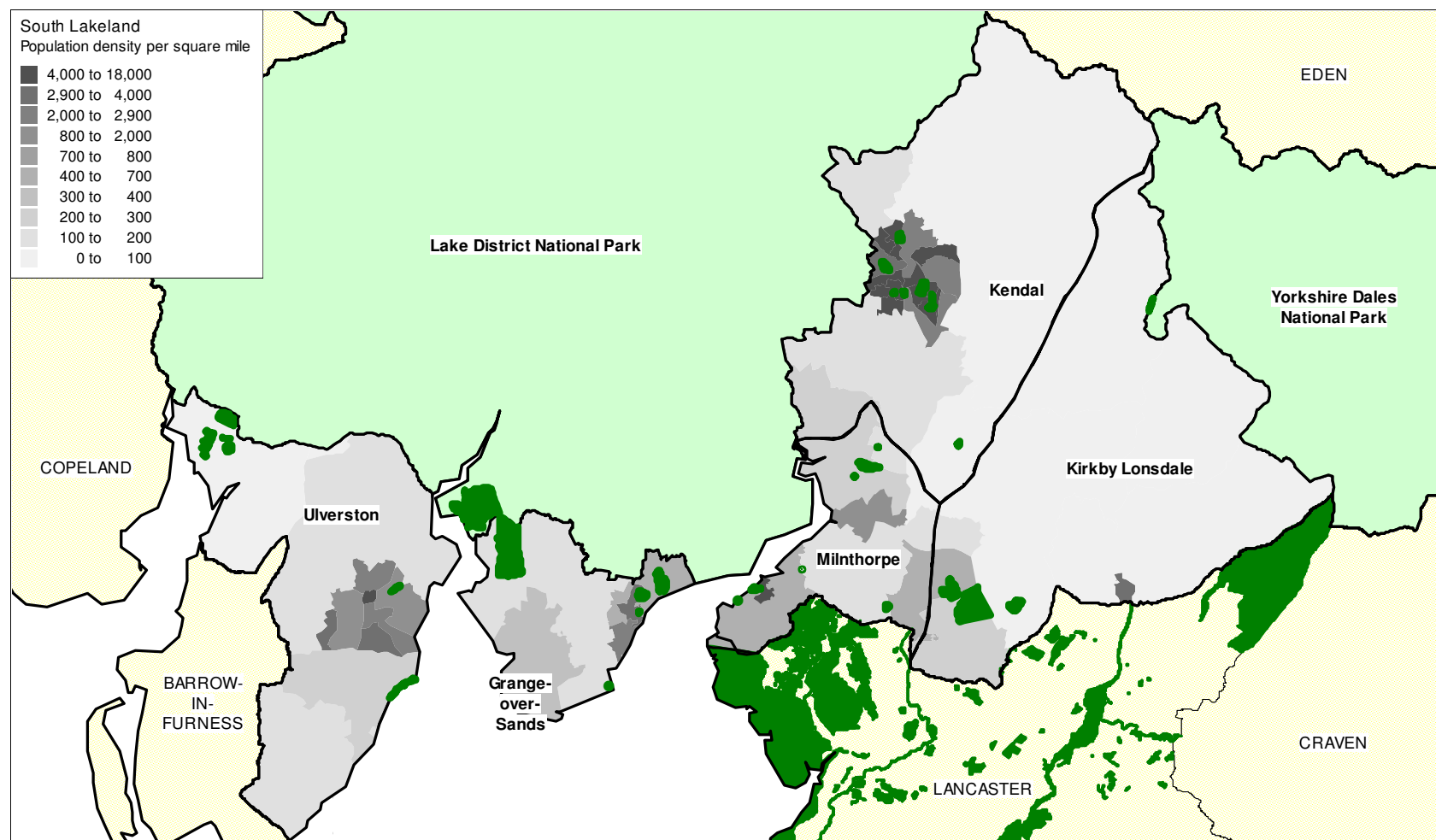
There is significant variation in how long residents are prepared to travel to reach a nature area in the LDF area. Just over a quarter (26%) would walk for no more than 15 minutes, but an identical proportion would be prepared to travel by transport for 15 minutes or more. Just over a quarter (27%) of residents are unable to give a response, reflecting levels of use. Almost half of those who had no opinion (41%) do not have access to a car. Reflecting findings in relation to car travel, residents interviewed in the Kendal Town Centre area are the most likely to travel for 30 minutes or more to reach a nature area.

*Figure 5.3: Time prepared to travel to reach a nature area*



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Figure 5.4: Natural and semi-natural greenspaces mapped against analysis areas

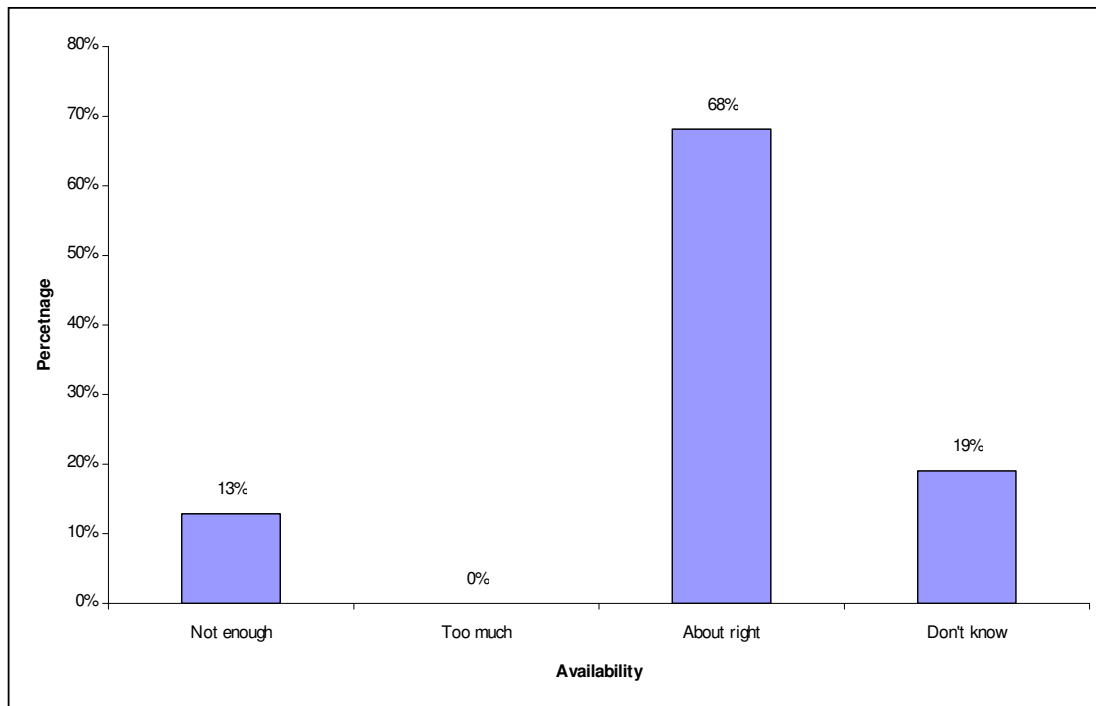


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Over two-thirds of the respondents (68%) in the LDF area rate the availability of nature areas as about right with only 13% stating there is not enough provision. Although the mapping reflects this to some extent, it is likely that residents in rural areas see the countryside as an increased opportunity to access nature areas. There is little significant variation in age or gender. Respondents in the Milnthorpe (18%) and Kendal (22%) town centre areas are slightly more likely to rate the availability of nature areas as not enough than those in other locations. Surprisingly, provision in Kendal is greater than other major settlements and this could indicate that a lack of awareness of provision is an issue. Those interviewed in Kirkby Lonsdale are the happiest with the provision of nature areas as 87% of respondents rate provision as being about right in regards to availability. It is likely that residents of Kirkby Lonsdale may also travel to the neighbouring Lancaster City authority area to access provision.

*Figure 5. 5: Availability of natural and semi-natural greenspaces*



As noted earlier, quad bikes and motorbikes are an issue across many open spaces in South Lakeland LDF area. Semi-natural sites are particularly vulnerable. Abuse by quad/motor bikes is prevalent within woodland sites and a number of the nature reserves, resulting in damage and deterring visitors. There is demand from user groups for greater access controls (where this is possible and does not interfere with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance) and also greater enforcement in partnership with the Police to tackle the problem. Options could be explored for the potential to develop an official site for motorbike use, although this would not necessarily resolve all problems.

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As well as providing important nature conservation and biodiversity value, many sites, classified as natural/semi-natural open spaces are well used for recreational purposes, e.g., Serpentine Woods, Kendal. They provide a valuable open space resource for the community across the LDF area. The promotion of access to sensitive sites such as the LNRs and SSSIs has to be managed in accordance with protecting the wildlife habitats.

### ***Management***

There is a wide range of land ownership/management of the natural/semi-natural open space provision throughout the South Lakeland LDF area, including SLDC, National Trust, CWT, Woodland Trust and the Forestry Commission. A significant proportion of management of natural and semi-natural open spaces takes place through partnerships between these organisations and voluntary sector groups.

Strategic management of SLDC woodland sites is currently lacking. In the main, this is due to lack of resources and the absence of a dedicated woodland officer. An urban tree policy, covering publicly owned trees in the urban landscape, and a woodland management policy, covering management of woodland sites under SLDC control, have been written but are not currently adopted. It is acknowledged that tree cover in SLDC woodlands has diminished, both in quantity and quality, over recent years and there is an aspiration to retain and enhance current provision through improved strategic management. The proposed woodland management policy recognises that woodlands provide nature conservation value as well as recreational and educational opportunities for the community and it is therefore recommended by KKP that both of the proposed policies are adopted by SLDC to initiate strategic woodland management and to ensure that the benefits and opportunities offered by woodland provision are utilised.

SLDC's proposed woodland management policy outlines objectives to enhance public access to woodland sites under the Council's control. This includes:

- ❑ Create/provide adequate access routes, such as recognisable paths, access points and interpretation signs appropriate to the site.
- ❑ Provide correct waymarking.
- ❑ Address problems for disabled access where appropriate.
- ❑ Promote public awareness of specific woodlands in the area.

Holme Park Quarry LNR near Kirkby Lonsdale has a written management plan. This sets out the management objectives for the site and outlines key actions required to maintain the site in a favourable condition.

Each of the nature reserves managed by CWT have 5 year management plans guiding the strategic management of each site to ensure that the individual specific habitats and features are retained and protected.

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The CWT nature reserves are well used by local residents and visitors to the LDF area. In particular Hutton Roof Crag, Grubbins Wood, Brown Robin and Humphrey Head are popular as all have easy access via car and are promoted through leaflets.

CWT strives to enhance access to the nature reserves within the LDF area by replacing stiles with kissing gates as and where possible. CWT has future aspirations to carry out an access audit covering the reserves to identify possible opportunities to enhance access to the sites. This may include undertaking physical access improvements such as path widening and resurfacing or may incorporate improved awareness and interpretation through improved signage and greater promotion.

### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspaces in the South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 5.2: Quality scores for natural and semi-natural greenspaces sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	127	41%	50%	57%	16%	4	0
Kendal	127	40%	52%	64%	24%	4	1
Kirkby Lonsdale	127	47%	58%	64%	17%	2	2
Milnthorpe	127	24%	41%	62%	38%	4	1
Ulverston	127	42%	46%	49%	7%	3	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>

The average quality score sits well below the threshold set at 60%. Sites are therefore of generally poor quality. As would be expected, both of the LNRs have been assessed as high quality. Many other sites, such as the CWT nature reserves, are of high quality in terms of providing for nature but fail to score against criteria such as seating and litterbin provision and therefore the total score reflects poor quality.

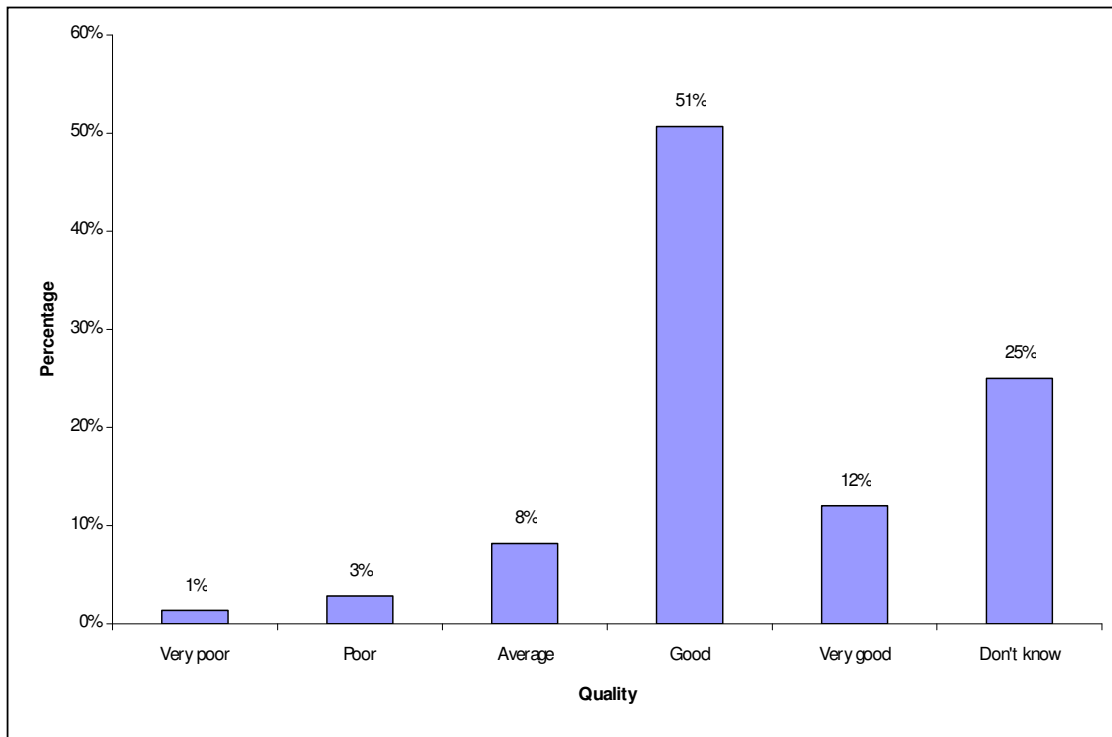
Almost two-thirds (63%) of users rate the quality of nature areas in South Lakeland LDF area as good or very good with a much smaller proportion (4%) rating it as

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poor or very poor. A significant proportion (25%) is unable to comment. Of these the majority were interviewed in either Grange or Ulverston town centres. The proportion unable to comment is highest amongst those who do not have access to a car (32%).

*Figure 5.6: Quality of provision of nature areas*



As noted earlier, quad bikes and motorbikes are an issue across many open spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area. This is a particular issue impacting on the quality and usage of natural/semi-natural open spaces. Abuse by quad/motor bike users is prevalent within woodland sites and on access and common land, resulting in damage and deterring visitors. There is demand from user groups for greater access controls, where possible, and without interfering with DDA compliance. However, in the past, access controls such as fencing and gates have not deterred motorbike users and have, in fact, been illegally removed in order gain access e.g. Arnside Knott, Arnside.

Consultation identifies that natural and semi-natural open spaces are one of the more popular types of open space for dog exercise. Local residents and users raise the problem of dog foul as a general concern as it impacts on quality and usage of natural and semi-natural open spaces. In particular, the issue of dog foul and irresponsible dog owners affects a number of nature reserves and areas of common and access land throughout the LDF area. As dog foul is no longer classified as hazardous waste it can be disposed of using general waste litterbins. Awareness of this can be raised to encourage responsible dog ownership.

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However, the site assessments identify that only two sites currently have litter bin provision. CCC is promoting responsible usage of common land and access land through interpretation boards and press releases.

Fly tipping is a problem impacting on the quality of a number of natural/semi-natural open spaces in South Lakeland LDF area. Resident and officer consultation highlights that, in particular, common land suffers from regular fly tipping, due to the large number of access points to the sites. There is demand for greater enforcement of the issue to aid commoners in tackling the problem and consultation identifies the need for greater education and awareness regarding the issue and the impact upon the quality and usage of open spaces.

### **Value**

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspaces in South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 5.3: Value scores for natural and semi-natural greenspaces by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	110	23%	30%	36%	14%	0	4
Kendal	110	13%	30%	53%	40%	2	3
Kirkby Lonsdale	110	15%	31%	46%	32%	1	3
Milnthorpe	110	13%	23%	36%	24%	1	4
Ulverston	110	32%	34%	38%	6%	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>

The importance of natural and semi natural greenspaces in the South Lakeland LDF area is reinforced by the fact that over half (64%) of the sites have been classed as high value. In fact, the mean score lies above the 20% threshold. All the nature reserves assessed, as would be expected, have high value scores. The majority of sites score highly for ecological/biodiversity value but lack value for environmental education opportunities.



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### ***Community involvement***

There is good community involvement in the management of natural and semi-natural open spaces across the LDF area. A number of projects, such as the alphabet trail at Serpentine Woods in Kendal, encourage local school children, community groups and residents to become involved with enhancing sites for both local biodiversity and benefits to local residents. The projects work towards creating high quality and well used open spaces that offer environmental education opportunities and promote healthy living.

Although there are no formal environmental education programmes offered at the CWT nature reserves, officers do undertake environmental educational activities within schools.

Volunteer groups are a valuable resource in the physical habitat management and conservation tasks undertaken at a number of natural/semi-natural open spaces across the LDF area. Through the different partnership organisations operating in the South Lakeland area, there is a large amount of community engagement in the management of natural/semi-natural open space. The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), the National Trust and CWT proactively involve local community groups and schools in improvement work projects within the nature reserves and woodlands across South Lakeland LDF area. These external organisations also manage an extensive environmental education programme that aims to engage schools and community members in issues around nature conservation and the wider environment.

There are also a number of sitespecific conservation groups dedicated to protecting and enhancing natural and semi-natural greenspace in South Lakeland LDF area, e.g., the Fellside Forum and Holme Park Quarry LNR. These groups provide a valuable resource as members actively undertake conservation tasks to help in the protection and enhancement of the sites.

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### *Summary of site consultation*

This section collates issues raised during consultation regarding provision of natural and semi-natural greenspaces in South Lakeland LDF area. This is presented alongside site visit quality and value scores for comparison. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation.

Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Ash Meadow, Arnside, Milnthorpe	62%	36%	<p>Consultation indicates that the site has undergone recent enhancement including provision of seating areas and signage improvements. The site assessment notes that this is a “beautiful woodland and walled garden, maintained as flower meadow”. The site is used by Arnside parent and toddler group for play sessions.</p> <p>Local resident and user consultation identifies that there is an opportunity to improve interpretation opportunities at the site through the provision of nature trails suitable for children.</p>
Hutton Roof Crag, Kirkby Lonsdale	58%	23%	<p>There is demand for a car park to be provided to ease the pressure of parking on roadside verges around the site.</p>
Serpentine Woods, Kendal	64%	53%	<p>Consultation highlights that this is a well used and valued site for the local community. The site provides an important link between Fellside, Greenside, Kendal and the adjacent Kendal Fell.</p> <p>The site, owned by SLDC, is managed in accordance with the written management plan. There is high community ownership of the site as the Fellside Forum plays an active role in managing and enhancing the woodlands through monthly work parties of local volunteers. The work parties undertake improvement work such as restoring overgrown footpaths, scrub clearance and litter removal. Future aspirations include improving the interpretation of the Woods, removing young trees from the flower-rich meadow and restoring some of the Victorian features.</p> <p>A recent achievement for the Fellside Forum is the provision of an interactive alphabet art trail. This has been created with input and involvement from local residents and school children, who were engaged in the design and production process. An interpretive leaflet has been designed to promote the trail and encourage visitors to explore the site. The trail has proved very successful and is well commended by users of the site and local residents in Kendal.</p>

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### **Natural and semi-natural greenspace summary**

- ❑ There are 21 open spaces classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces in the South Lakeland LDF area, totalling 470 hectares. In terms of quality, 17 sites are identified as low quality and four sites identified as high quality. In terms of value, 17 sites are identified as high value, reinforcing the importance of these sites, and nine are identified as low value.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 30 minutes by transport (bus/car) to access nature areas.
- ❑ Usage of quad bikes and motorbikes impact on the quality and usage of natural/semi-natural open spaces, in particular woodland sites and on access and common land, resulting in damage and deterring visitors. Demand exists for greater access controls and greater enforcement.
- ❑ There is demand to raise the profile of semi-natural sites for the potential recreational benefits. Some sites will benefit from additional facilities such as interpretation boards.
- ❑ There is demand to address the quality issue of dog foul through greater enforcement and awareness of the problem.
- ❑ There are opportunities for the development of environmental education and schools involvement.

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## **PART 6: GREEN CORRIDORS**

### **Introduction**

The typology of green corridors, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes sites that offer opportunities for 'walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration'. This also includes river and canal banks, road and rail corridors, cycling routes within towns and cities, pedestrian paths within towns and cities, rights of way and permissive paths.

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

In total there is just under two hectares of green corridor provision identified within this study across the South Lakeland LDF area. In addition, there is a Public Rights of Way (PROW) network, the total length of which cannot currently be identified as the definitive map is still in the process of being completed by CCC. It is recommended that, once the definitive map for Cumbria is complete, the information relevant to the South Lakeland LDF area should be incorporated into the study.

*Table 6.1: Distribution of green corridors sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Green corridors/ PROW
	Size (ha)
Grange-over-Sands	-
Kendal	1.10
Kirkby Lonsdale	0.10
Milnthorpe	-
Ulverston	0.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.63</b>

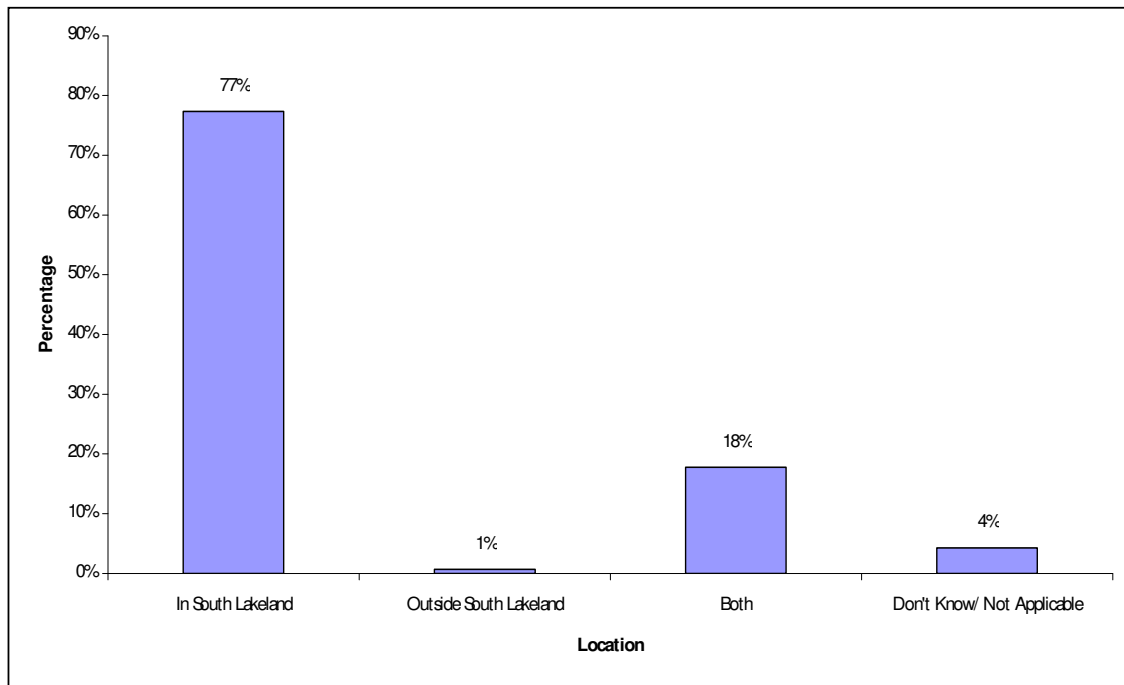
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### *Usage*

Usage of foot and cycle paths in the South Lakeland LDF area is strong, with just over half (51%) having visited such a site in the previous 12 months. Usage is lower by those interviewed in Milnthorpe (43%) and amongst those who do not have access to a car (33%). Though usage of routes in the LDF area is high, just under a fifth (19%) use sites outside the LDF area. It should also be noted that the majority of these also use foot/cycle paths in the area.

*Figure 6.1: Location of visits to foot/cycle path*

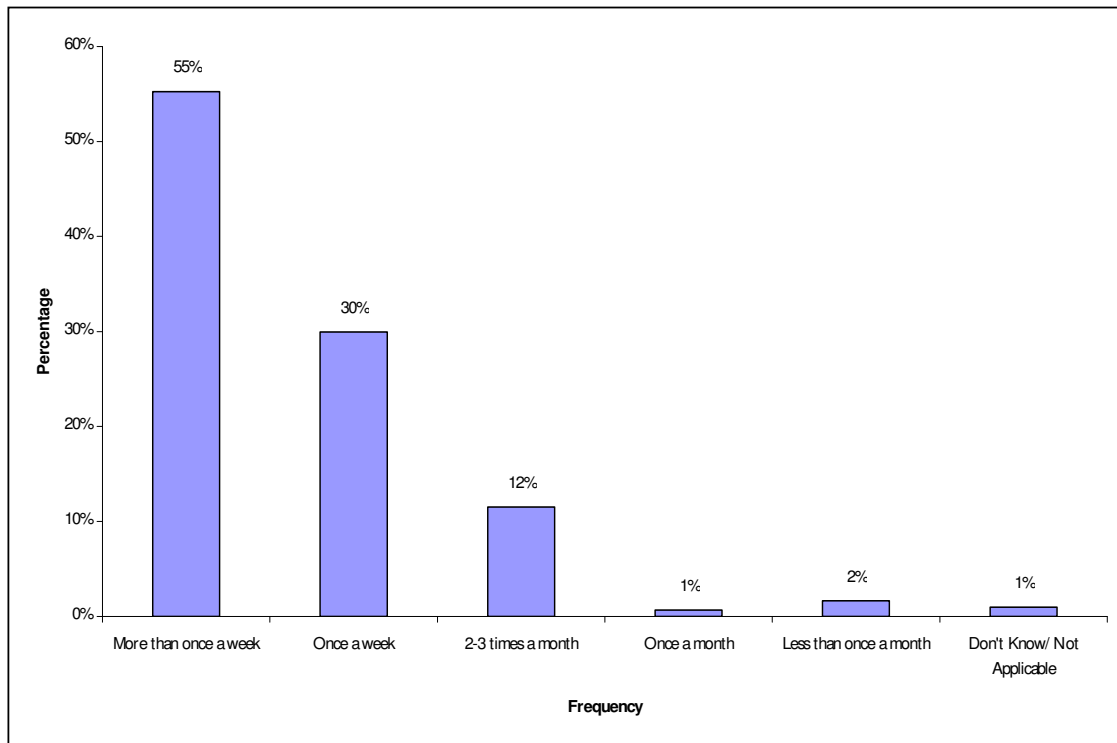


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Frequency of usage of foot/cycle paths is strong with over four fifths (85%) using such provision once a week or more. This highlights the importance of maintaining high quality green corridor networks in the LDF area – a large proportion of the population uses them and does so regularly.

*Figure 6.2: Frequency of usage of footpaths/cycle paths in the previous 12 months*

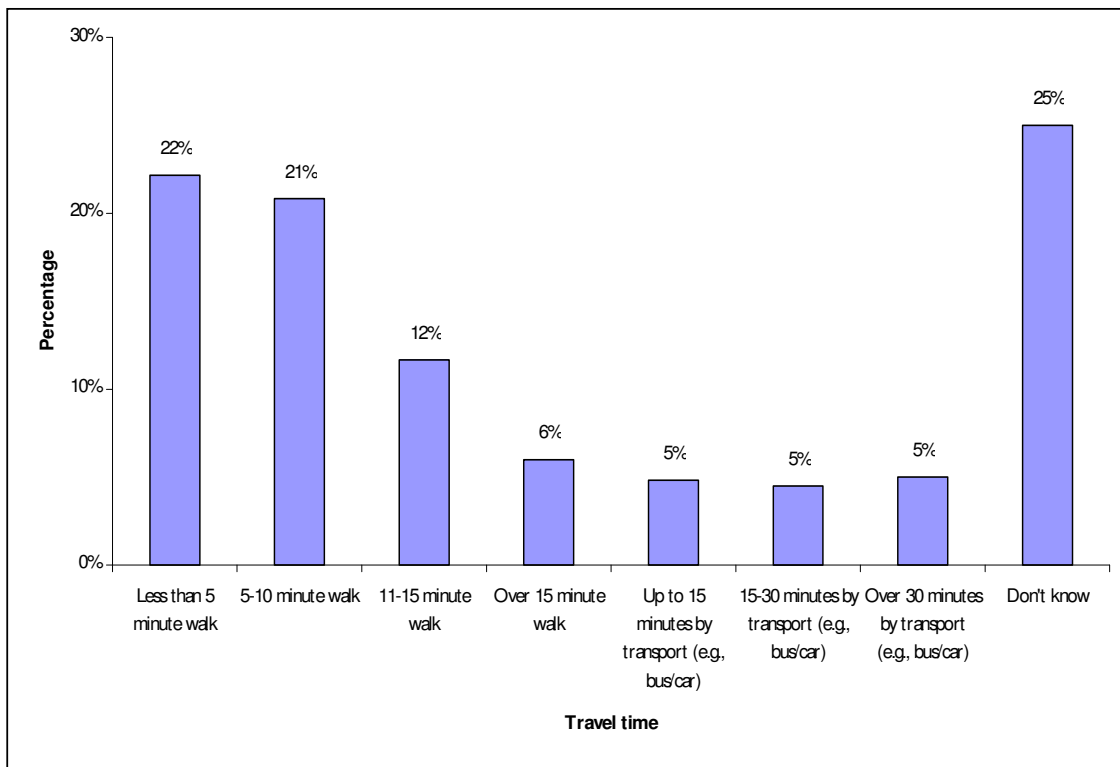


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### ***Accessibility***

It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to the very nature and usage of green corridors, as often they provide access to other open spaces. However, almost half (43%) of residents would walk for no more than 10 minutes to use this typology. This reflects the fact that foot/cycle paths are generally seen as localised provision. A small proportion of residents are willing to travel to foot/cycle paths via the use of transport (15%). A further quarter of respondents in the South Lakeland LDF area are unable to comment, the majority of these coming from the 60+ age group.

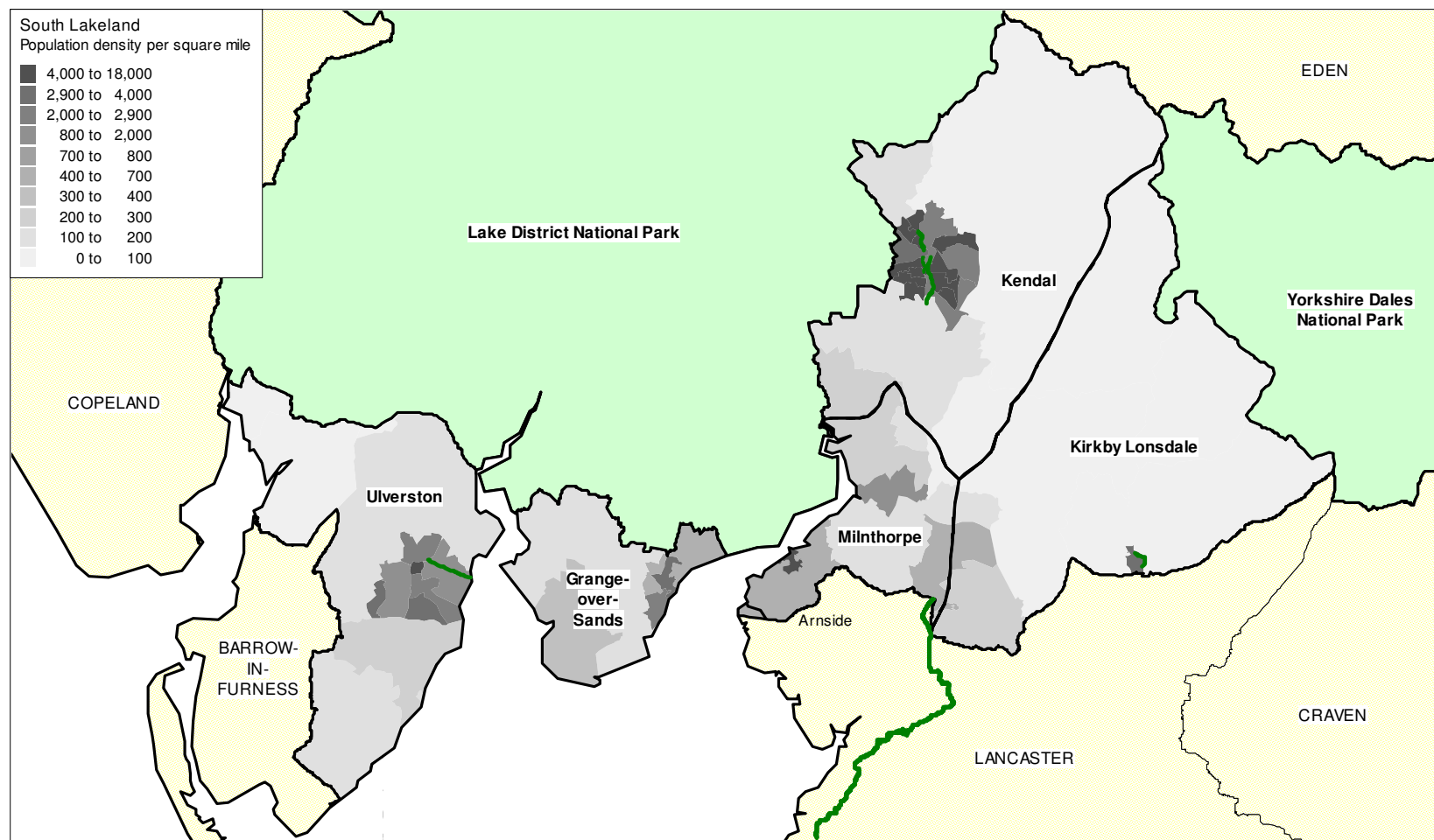
*Figure 6.3: Time prepared to travel to reach a footpath/cycle path*



The map below demonstrates the coverage of the existing provision within the South Lakeland LDF area.

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Figure 6.4: Green corridors mapped against analysis areas





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As the PROW information is currently unavailable only the sites identified as green corridors have been mapped.

Consultation identifies that PROW users consider the limited bridleway network in the LDF area to be fragmented, impeding usage. There is demand for the connectivity of the bridleway network to be improved through upgrade and re-designation of intersecting footpaths to bridleway status. Users express desire for priority to be given to those footpaths that, if upgraded to bridleway status, would create off-road circular horse riding and off road cycling provision and linkages, for which there is identified demand. Users and officers hope that improvements to the bridleway network will be initiated and guided through the implementation of the rights of way improvement plan (RoWIP).

The provision of footpaths is felt to be sufficient in terms of quantity. However, as with bridleways, there is user demand for the network to be better connected with improved linkages, particularly to create off-road circular routes and routes that reach a destination and link settlements. This is one of the main concerns expressed by users and there is demand for this to be a priority.

User consultation identifies a perception amongst cyclists that Cumbria in general and Kendal in particular lags behind many other counties and towns (especially Lancashire and Lancaster) in the level of cycling provision. Kendal is thought to be ideal to develop greater cycling provision as the town is of a size which results in journeys to work from anywhere within the town boundary being of an ideal distance for cycle use. The local transport plan emphasises cycling provision in service centres and the Kendal and District Cycle Scene (KDCS) is working extensively with SLDC and CCC in developing plans to expand the cycle network within the Kendal area to meet need. This has resulted in the Kendal Cycle Network Action Plan, which details a convenient cycle network for work, shopping, school and leisure. The plan outlines a pressing need for official cycle routes running around the edge of Kendal, from Nether Bridge to Miller Bridge and from the south end of the canal route to Natland.

Obstructions as a result of barriers imposed by landowners and/or lack of maintenance are a common obstacle to access in South Lakeland LDF area. Consultees report a number of incidents of PROW being obstructed through the erection of fencing and locked gates, the use of barbed wire and poorly maintained gates and stiles preventing passage. Some users report that there are incidents of 'bull' warning signs being erected when there are no animals present in order to deter usage of PROW passing through private land. CCC attempts to contact all arable farmers annually to request that they do not over-crop PROW running through their land in order to ensure that they remain accessible but consultation highlights that this is limited due to the lack of land ownership details available to CCC.

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There are a number of highly promoted and well-used routes passing through the South Lakeland LDF area including the Cumbria Way, the Cumbria Coastal Way and the Dales Way. These provide links between settlements and the countryside and attract users from outside of the LDF area.

Consultation suggests that there is demand for greater promotion of green corridors through better signage and way marking on the ground in order to provide a more connected and accessible network. The Cumbria Way and Cumbria Coastal Way are good examples of how well-managed, well-publicised public rights of way can be beneficial to the area and well used as a tourist attraction. Although the CCC website does promote access and the Ramblers Association promotes walks that it uses, users express desire for awareness of local walks and the limestone link walks to be raised through production and distribution of leaflets with good quality route maps and information.

CCC is striving to improve access for all on the green corridor network throughout the County. The Countywide access strategy outlines the aim to “provide, develop and promote access opportunities for all in an open and welcoming countryside”. The County Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) also outlines the County Council’s commitment to improving access for all users and one of the initiatives that has been implemented to date is the development of ‘miles without stiles’ routes. These routes will be as accessible as possible for users with mobility difficulties e.g. wheelchair users and users with pushchairs and detailed information about distances, surfaces, and gates or stiles that might be encountered will be given. This is in response to consultation findings feeding into the ROWIP, which identifies demand for greater information provision regarding accessibility of routes. However, although many users of the PROW network commend this, consultation also identified potential conflict as there are also users who wish for the PROW to remain in their natural state and feel that access improvements are creating artificial routes.

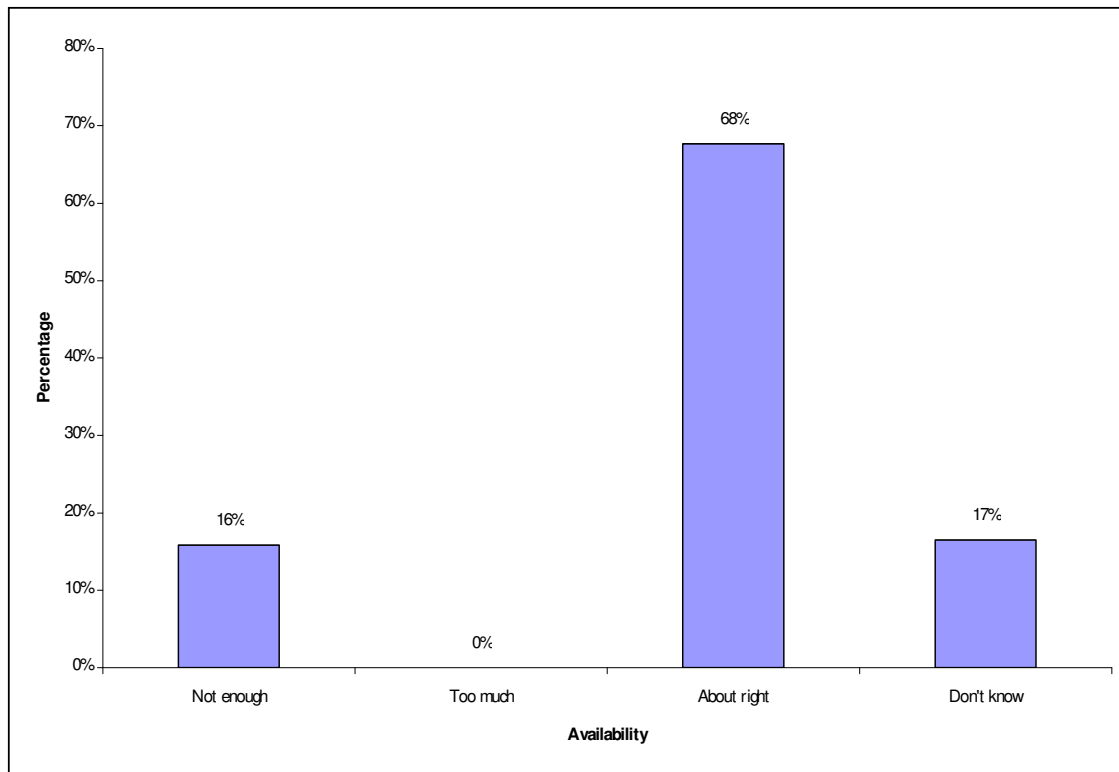
The Ramblers Association, on behalf of CCC, undertakes an inspection of a random 5% of the County-wide PROW network for BVPI 178, which considers a number of issues that affect the ability of the public to use the routes with ease, such as signage, surface condition, obstructions and the condition of gates and stiles. The current score for the County is 64% and CCC has a target of a 2% improvement each year.

The residents survey shows that two thirds of respondents (68%) rate the availability of foot/cycle paths as about right in the South Lakeland LDF area. A small proportion (16%) of residents say the provision is not enough. The 20-24 and 60+ age groups are less likely to be able to rate the availability of foot or cycle paths (24% and 25% citing ‘don’t know’ respectively), indicating lower levels of usage for these age groups. Significantly, those interviewed in Grange (28%) and Ulverston (29%) town centres are more likely to cite that they have no opinion and those in Milnthorpe (26%) to rate provision of foot and cycle paths as inadequate.

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Figure 6.5: Availability of footpaths/cyclepaths



### **Management**

CCC is the Highway Authority for the whole of Cumbria. However, management and maintenance of the PROW network in the South Lakeland LDF area is carried out in partnership with Capita Symonds Ltd following a four-year maintenance program. User consultation identifies a consensus that the management of the PROW in South Lakeland LDF area has and is continuing to improve, particularly in relation to maintenance.

The definitive map covering the South Lakeland LDF area is dated 1976. This is currently being consolidated with the definitive map covering the Lake District National Park (LDNP) to create a map covering the whole of Cumbria. The map is not considered complete at the present time and is in the process of constant review and updating.

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The Cumbria Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) covers South Lakeland LDF area and identifies a number of actions to be undertaken over a five year period to improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of the PROW network across Cumbria and meet the needs of users, as identified through the extensive consultation feeding into it. There are seven areas for improvement identified in the ROWIP:

- ❑ Better information, interpretation and route maps.
- ❑ Improvements for walkers including better signage and creation of new footpaths.
- ❑ Improvements for equestrians including creation and promotion of new horse riding routes and links.
- ❑ Improvements for cyclists including development of family-friendly routes and completion of the national and regional cycle network within Cumbria.
- ❑ All-ability improvements that serve wider needs such as barrier reduction and creation and promotion of 'miles without stiles' routes.
- ❑ Guided and group activities promoting health walks and activities with schools and community groups.
- ❑ Other improvements such as promotion of public transport links with countryside access and improved access to rivers and the coast.

### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for green corridors in the South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%; this is based on Green Flag criteria. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 6.2: Quality scores for green corridors by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kendal	80	75%	76%	80%	5%	-	3
Kirkby Lonsdale	80	63%	63%	63%	-	-	1
Milnthorpe	80	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	80	79%	79%	79%	-	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>

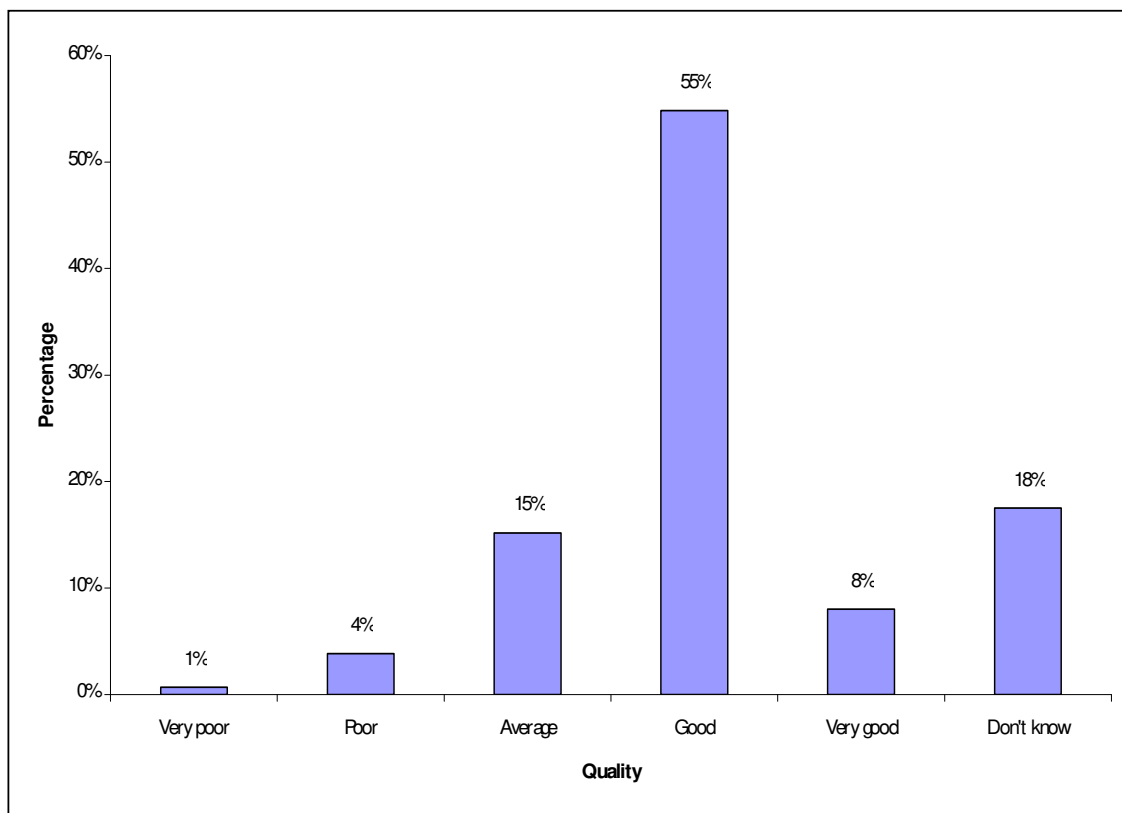
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All the sites assessed receive high quality scores with the mean score for the LDF area sitting above the quality threshold (74%). The sites score highly for litterbin and seating provision, signage and overall maintenance.

Residents generally rate the quality of foot/cycle paths in the South Lakeland LDF area as good or very good (63%). This is significantly higher than the proportion that rate provision as poor or very poor (5%). Reflecting the strong level of usage, only 18% are unable to rate provision.

*Figure 6.6: Quality of provision of footpath/cycle path*



User consultation indicates that the high quality of provision within the Lake District National Park (LDNP) raises expectations of the quality and extent of provision that should be available outside of the LDNP area. A number of user groups believe that PROW provision in South Lakeland LDF area falls short, in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility, when compared to provision within the LDNP. As the definitive map is currently being consolidated to cover the whole of Cumbria, both within and outside of the National Park boundary, there is opportunity for greater partnership working to ensure that quality routes do not cease at the National Park boundary. This is important in encouraging visitors to the National Park to explore other areas within South Lakeland.

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The majority of users commend the improvements that are being made to the quality of the PROW network in South Lakeland LDF area. In particular walkers have noted improved signage and way marking of routes. Although significant advances have been made in the upkeep and maintenance of the PROW, there remains a need for continual improvement and investment. Overgrowth is an issue that walkers report encountering on routes that are not particularly popular and are not frequently used. There is demand for greater enforcement and deterrent measures to reduce the impact of usage by scrambler bikes, quad bikes and 4x4 vehicles. This unofficial usage results in the surface of PROW being churned up impacting upon the surface quality of routes and impeding usage for others. Users note that there are occurrences when businesses rent out scrambler and quad bikes to large groups for use on bridleways.

### **Value**

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for green corridors in the South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 6.3: Value scores for green corridors by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kendal	100	52%	56%	62%	10%	-	3
Kirkby Lonsdale	100	46%	46%	46%	-	-	1
Milnthorpe	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	100	59%	59%	59%	-	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>

All the green corridors score high in terms of value. This is due to the ecological value associated with green corridors as wildlife corridors and also the amenity and health benefits offered by the provision.

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### ***Community involvement***

CCC promotes active community involvement in the management of the PROW network. To ensure that users have the opportunity to input into the management of the PROW in Cumbria there is a Cumbria Local Access Forum. The Forum, the meetings of which are open to the public, comprises representatives of user groups, landowners, local authority elected members and other organisations with an interest in countryside access issues. It meets several times a year to consider and advise on access issues affecting the areas outside of the Lake District National Park (LDNP) and Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) including close involvement in the ROWIP and advising on new legislation. The Forum is popular and attendance is high. It is a successful method of user engagement.

### ***Summary of site consultation***

This section collates issues raised during consultation regarding provision of green corridors in the South Lakeland LDF area. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation, which may not, in their entirety, have been assessed for quality and value.

<b>Site</b>	<b>Comments</b>
The Cumbria Coastal Way	Consultation highlights that the route, much of which is on permissive paths, is very popular but suffers from litter and debris washed up from the coast and incidents of fly tipping which impacts on its visual quality. There is demand for more litter picking and beach cleaning activities to be arranged with greater engagement with the local community to educate potential users on the problems and impacts.
River Kent, Kendal.	The path following the River Kent through Kendal is a well used route for both recreational purposes and as a linkage through the town. There is demand from local residents and users for the route to be made more accessible for users with pushchairs and users in wheelchairs. Consultation suggests that current access barriers restrict usage. There is demand for the route to be upgraded to a standard suitable for users in electric wheelchairs and for cyclists.
River Lune footpath, Kirkby Lonsdale	The footpath leading from Devil's Bridge along the River toward the town of Kirkby Lonsdale is in need of remedial work to address erosion. The town Council has been in communication with Capita Symonds Ltd regarding this and there are hopes that improvements will be made in the near future to enhance quality and access.

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### **Green corridors summary**

- ❑ In total there are two hectares of green corridor provision identified across the South Lakeland LDF area. In addition there is an extensive PROW network providing opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding. The PROW information for the South Lakeland LDF area is currently unavailable as the Cumbria County definitive map is incomplete. It is recommended that once the definitive map is complete the information relevant to the study area is incorporated into the assessment.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel less than 5 minute walk to access green corridor provision.
- ❑ There is a shortfall of bridleway and off-road cycling provision across the South Lakeland LDF area. Footpath provision is generally good in terms of quantity and the need to investigate the feasibility of upgrading PROW to cater for more uses was identified.
- ❑ The quality of the PROW network across the LDF area is improving. Users commend the improvements that are being made in regards to signage and way marking. However, there remain a number of concerns regarding the maintenance standards and connectivity of the network. There is demand for greater development of off-road circular routes.
- ❑ Consultation highlights a need for better use of the network to improve non-car based linkages to local facilities and services such as schools, work places and open spaces.
- ❑ The use of scrambler bikes and 4x4 vehicles impacts upon the surface quality of the off-road PROW.



# **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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## **PART 7: AMENITY GREENSPACE**

### **Introduction**

The typology of amenity greenspace, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes sites that offer 'opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas' are classed as amenity greenspace. These include informal recreation spaces, housing green spaces, village greens and other incidental space.'

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

There are 76 amenity greenspace sites totalling just over 83 hectares of amenity greenspace across the South Lakeland LDF area. Amenity greenspaces in South Lakeland LDF area are most often found in housing estates and function as informal recreation spaces.

*Table 7.1: Distribution of amenity greenspace sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Amenity greenspaces	
	Number	Size(ha)
Grange-over-Sands	9	14.72
Kendal	48	50.53
Kirkby Lonsdale	4	1.30
Milnthorpe	4	4.92
Ulverston	11	12.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>83.89</b>

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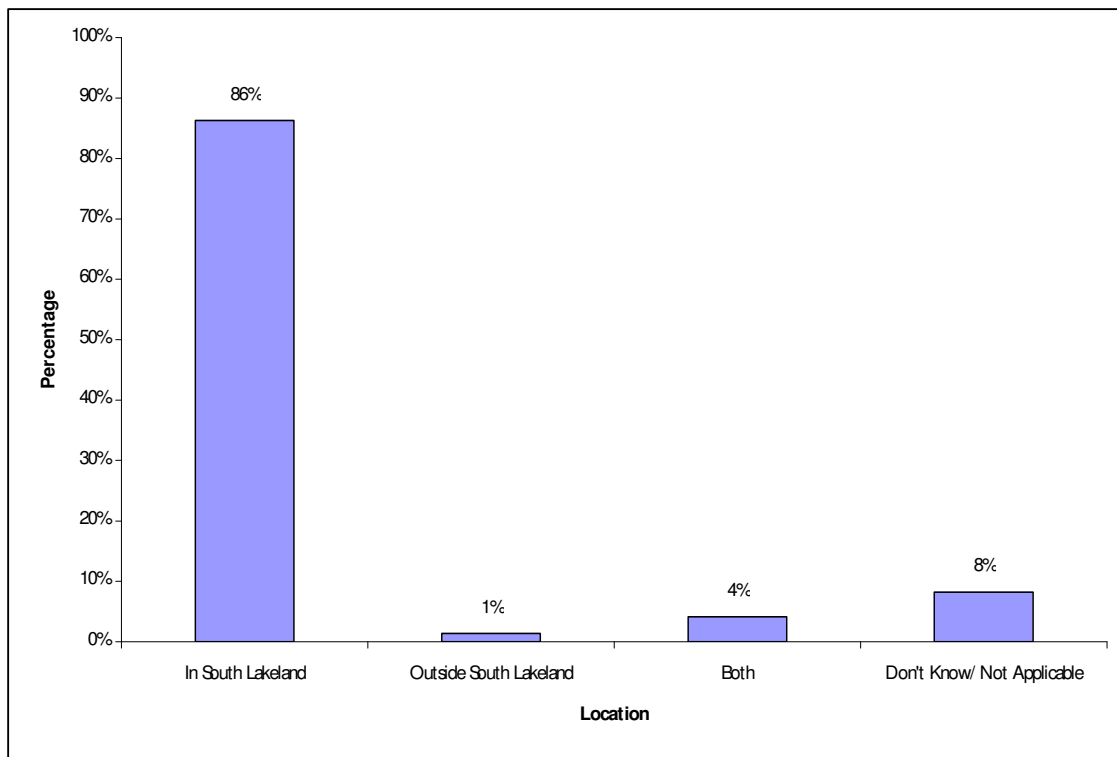
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### *Usage*

Just over a tenth of residents (12%) have visited a grassed area on a housing estate in the previous 12 months. Although this is a low level, it is consistent with other local authorities and reflects, to a degree, a lack of understanding about the typology. Of those who do visit this typology a third are aged 16-19. At the other end of the age scale, the 60+ age group has the lowest level of usage at just 6%.

Although there is a low level of usage, 90% of those who do use this typology do so within the South Lakeland LDF area.

*Figure 7.1: Location of visits to grassed area on a housing estate*

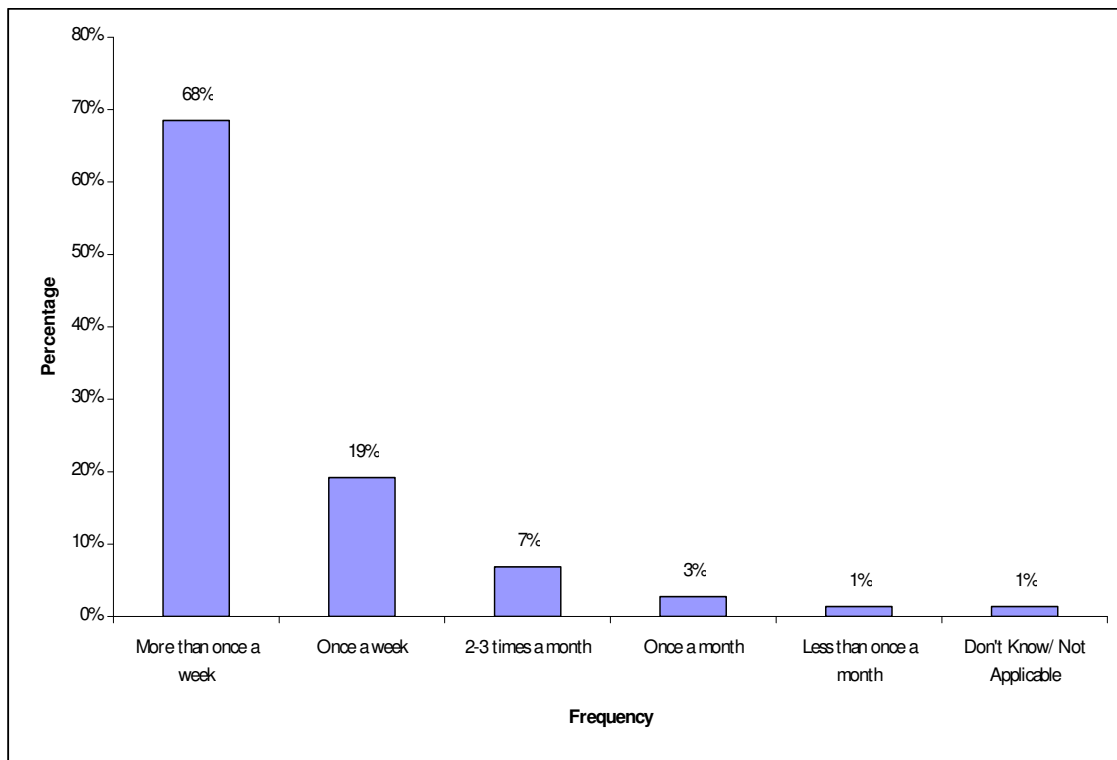


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Over four fifths (87%) visit this typology once a week or more showing that those who utilise this space do so regularly. There are no significant issues in regard to gender, access to transport, ethnicity or ownership/access to a garden.

*Figure 7.2: Frequency of usage of grassed area on housing estate in the previous 12 months*

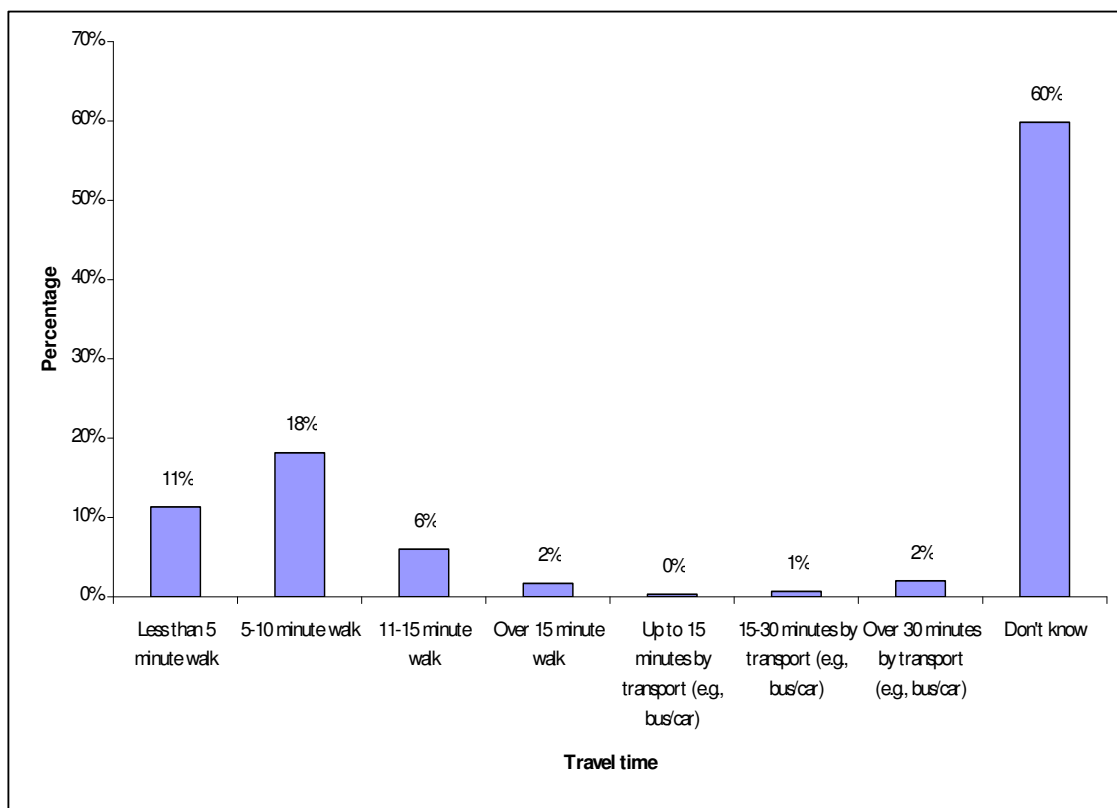


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### ***Accessibility***

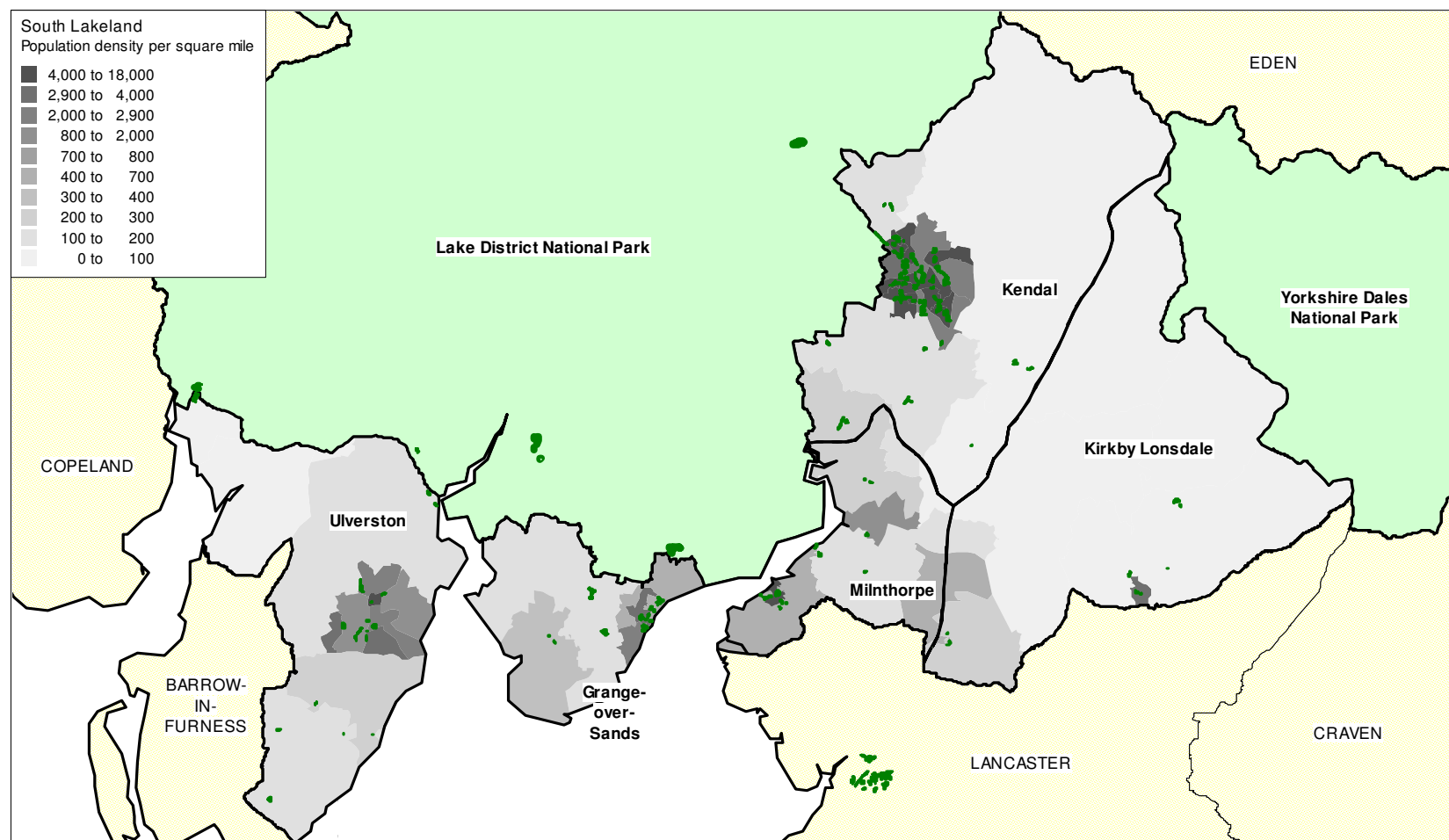
A large proportion of residents in South Lakeland LDF area are not able to comment on how long they are prepared to travel to grassed areas on housing estates. This reflects the fact that such provision is generally localised and on residents' doorsteps, meaning that travel time is not really an issue. This is further reflected by the proportion (29%) stating that they would walk no further than ten minutes to access such provision and that only 3% of residents are prepared to travel via transport to this typology.

*Figure 7.3: Time prepared to travel to reach a grassed area on housing estate*



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Figure 7.4: Amenity greenspace sites mapped against analysis areas



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The mapping shows that generally, the main settlement area, where there is greatest population density, contains an amenity greenspace. However, there appears to be a lack of provision in Milnthorpe. It is likely that some provision in the neighbouring National Park area will service residents in the LDF area, particularly in Grange-over-Sands.

There is an open space in Kendal, known as the old playing fields (KKP Ref 198), which has, in the past, been an open community open space, well used for informal recreation. Currently, the site is owned by a developer and access has been closed to the public. Local residents express concerns regarding the potential loss of this open space resource, which is considered to be very valuable to the community. A local action group is campaigning for the site to be designated as a 'town green' to ensure that it remains an open community green space. It is in the process of collating evidence regarding the extent to which the site has, in the past, been used as a public open space and is gathering support regarding the value of the site for informal recreation. Community consultation identifies much support for this and there is demand for the site to be open for community use.

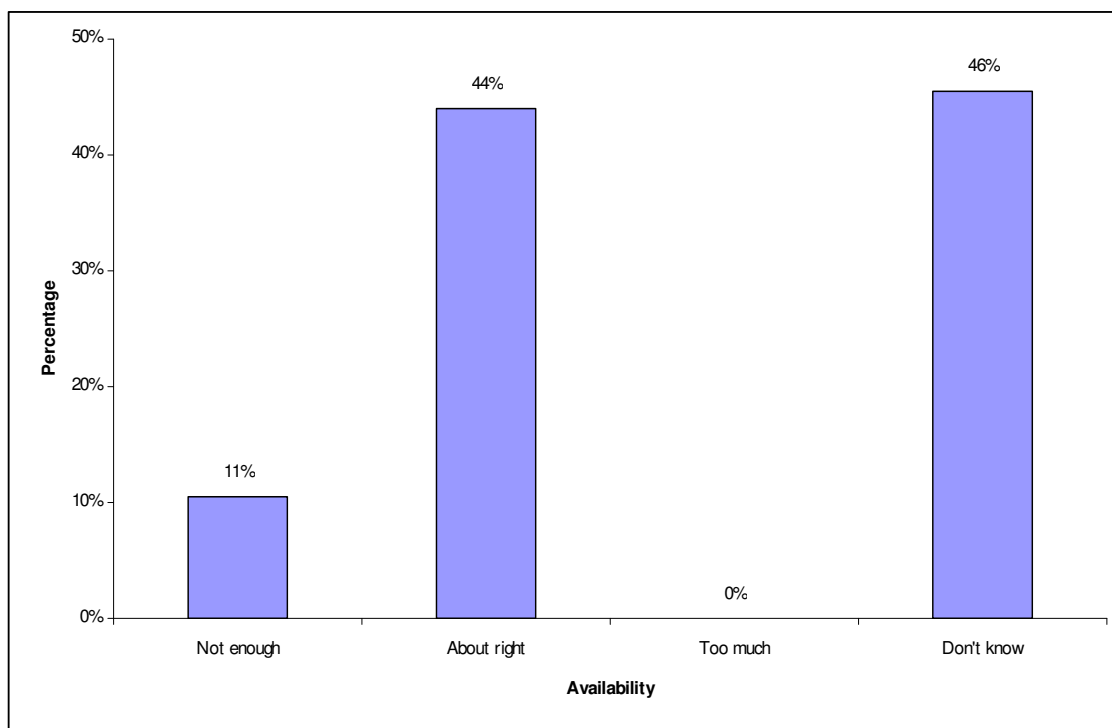
There is an open space enhancement project planned for Kent Place in Kendal Town Centre. Plans have been submitted to Kendal Town Council to re-design the green space to provide hard landscaping, seating areas and an amphitheatre area overlooking the River Kent. The open space will be fully accessible to wheelchairs and users with pushchairs. Funding for the project has been secured and it is hoped that plans will be taken forward in the near future. The site, once complete, will provide a valuable amenity open space close to the town centre with good views to Kendal Castle and will be linked to the River Kent Walk.

There is a perceived deficiency of amenity greenspace in Arnside. The main publicly accessible open space for local residents is Arnside Playing Fields. There are a number of amenity open space sites in the settlement area that are privately owned with closed or restricted access e.g. land to North of Dobbs Hall and land to North-West of Heathcliffe Court. Consultation identifies that even though these sites are closed to public access they provide a valuable visual amenity for the area and residents express concern over the potential loss of these sites through development.

Opinion in regard to the availability of grassed areas is divided. Almost half (44%) cite that provision is about right and a similar number (46%) state that they have no opinion. One in ten people (11%) rate provision of grassed areas on housing estates as insufficient in the South Lakeland LDF area. Lower proportions of residents interviewed in the Ulverston (33%) and Grange (21%) areas state that provision is about right.

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*Figure 7.5: Availability of grassed area on housing estate*



### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspaces in South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 7.2: Quality scores for amenity greenspace sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	110	33%	46%	65%	32%	8	1
Kendal	110	17%	46%	77%	60%	35	13
Kirkby Lonsdale	110	42%	49%	62%	20%	3	1
Milnthorpe	110	36%	42%	52%	15%	4	0
Ulverston	110	27%	39%	56%	29%	11	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	110	17%	45%	77%	60%	61	15

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Although over two thirds (67%) of amenity greenspace scored well (score of 4 or above) for overall maintenance and cleanliness, over four fifths (83%) of the sites have been assessed as poor quality as they fail to score against criteria such as seating, litterbin and lighting provision. Site assessments note that seating provision will be of benefit/appropriate at ten amenity greenspaces currently without any.

Community groups highlight that good quality amenity greenspaces are well-used, valuable assets, providing social focal points for the community. The amenity greenspace located adjacent to Kendal Leisure Centre (KKP Ref 234) is a high quality and well used recreational open space. Consultation with local residents indicates that it is a valuable open space to the local community.

Amenity greenspaces are popular sites for recreational dog walking. The associated issue of dog foul is a common concern amongst residents and other users of such space, e.g. users and local residents highlight that the problem at Gooseholme in Kendal impacts negatively on the usage of the site, particularly by children for informal play and organised groups such as the local scouts. Site assessments note that the provision of dog foul bins will be of benefit at 18% of the amenity greenspaces visited that do not currently have them. This indicates that dog foul was evident at these sites during assessment. However, the resource implications of providing dog foul bins are significant, as they require regular emptying, particularly in summer. As dog waste is no longer considered hazardous waste it can now be disposed off in ordinary litterbins. Awareness of this could be raised to encourage responsible behaviour by dog owners.

A significant proportion of the amenity greenspace in the South Lakeland LDF area is composed of grass verges adjacent to housing. Consultation identifies that residents consider this type of open space provision to be particularly valuable for the visual environs of housing estates and residential areas. However, there is identified demand to provide more functional types of amenity greenspace, which could offer residents opportunities to socialise. In the Endmoor housing estate, Summerlands, a local resident group is working to enhance the functionality of an existing amenity greenspace. Currently the site, located on Warwick Drive/Eskrigg Lane, is a fenced grassed area where a children's play area was once located. This fell into disrepair and was removed and not replaced. A goal post remains which local children do make use of. However, there remains demand for provision of an equipped children's play area at the site. The open space is already a valuable community orientated site and there is desire for the functionality to be further enhanced, e.g. through the provision of picnic benches.

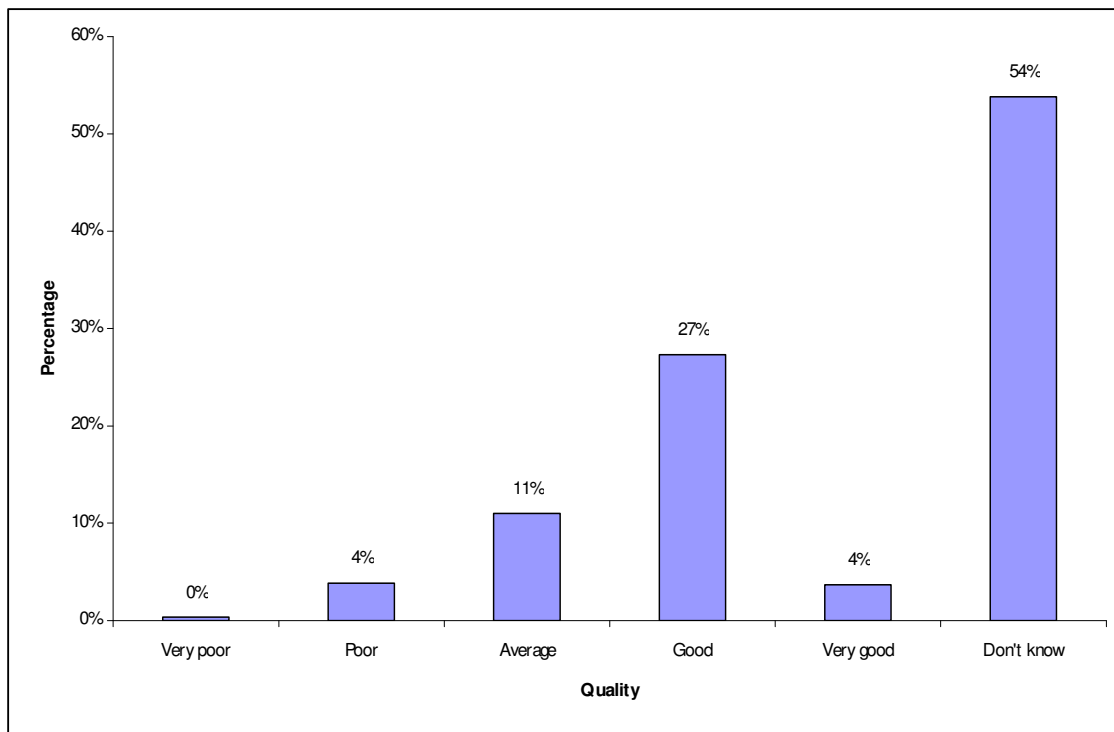


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The resident survey finds that grassed areas on housing estates in the South Lakeland LDF area are viewed as either good (27%) or average (11%). Very few rate this typology as poor or very poor (4%). Over half of respondents have no opinion (54%) indicating low usage of these areas, though those that do use them are generally happy with the quality of provision. Of all of the areas in the LDF area, respondents in Milnthorpe Town Centre rate the quality of grassed areas on housing estates highest in the LDF area (68% rating it as good or very good).

*Figure 7.6: Quality of grassed area on housing estate*



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### *Value*

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for amenity greenspaces in South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 7.3: Value scores for amenity greenspaces by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	100	11%	19%	47%	36%	6	3
Kendal	100	4%	30%	52%	48%	16	32
Kirkby Lonsdale	100	19%	29%	51%	32%	1	3
Milnthorpe	100	14%	25%	45%	31%	2	2
Ulverston	100	15%	23%	35%	20%	3	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>48</b>

Although 83% of the sites are identified as low quality, over half are assessed as high value with the mean score (27%) for the LDF area sitting above the value threshold. Site assessments recognise the landscape and ecological/biodiversity value, social inclusion and health benefits and the sense of place that amenity greenspaces offer. There are a number of amenity greenspaces in the South Lakeland LDF area that function as informal recreation spaces. Playing fields and recreation grounds form an intrinsic aspect of the supply of amenity greenspace. Interest groups in South Lakeland LDF area consistently identify the importance of amenity greenspaces to local people. These spaces play an important role both in terms of their physical and aesthetic value to communities. Residents perceive a need for preservation and ownership of these spaces.

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### *Summary of site consultation*

This section collates issues raised during consultation regarding provision of amenity greenspaces in the South Lakeland LDF area. This is presented alongside site visit quality and value scores for comparison. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation.

Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Noble's Rest, Kendal	65%	62%	Due to its secluded location consultation highlights that the site suffers from misuse by undesirables and antisocial behaviour. This does deter genuine users and concerns local residents. To tackle the issue SLDC is investigating the feasibility of installing lighting at the site following the development of an adjacent housing estate, SLDC works in partnership with the Crime Reduction Partnership and the Police who do go into the site and deal with any problems.
Gooseholme , Kendal	77%	47%	This site is registered common land. The site can hold community events but this does face opposition from residents. Consultation identifies that residents feel that the site is not utilised to its best potential. However, due to the site being common land there are restrictions to the facilities that can be provided.
Fletcher Square, Kendal	60%	42%	Consultation with local residents highlights concerns regarding the use of the site by young people. It is a popular site with children and young people for riding bikes due to the undulating terrain. There is demand for provision of a BMX track in the area to facilitate this popular activity and alleviate the pressure on this site.  The site acts as a valuable link to Kendal Castle Hill and is well used by dog walkers. There is demand for vegetation clearance and increased functionality through seating provision.
Arnside Playing Fields, Arnside	41%	45%	This is an important and very valuable open space for the local community. The site is well used as it provides the only equipped play area in the area and provides a number of recreational opportunities, e.g., football pitch, tennis courts, cricket pitch and bowling green.
Victoria Road Rose Garden, Ulverston	56%	26%	Although the site assessment indicates that the site is of high quality, local community consultation perceptions are that the garden appears neglected. This could relate to the fact that site assessment noted that general maintenance and cleanliness is adequate but could be improved. The garden is also a popular congregation area for local young people and therefore does suffer from occasional incidents of vandalism and graffiti.

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Yewbarrow Lodge community orchard, Grange-over-Sands	59%	21%	<p>The local Civic Society has a contract to manage the orchard on behalf of SLDC. It is open to public access and is a popular site with local residents for dog walking. There is demand for a dog foul bin to be provided at the site to encourage dog owners to be responsible.</p> <p>The Civic Society has aspirations to engage local schools with planting and picking.</p>

### Amenity greenspace summary

- ❑ There are 76 amenity greenspace sites totalling just over 83 hectares of amenity greenspace across the South Lakeland LDF area. In terms of quality 62 sites are identified as low quality and 15 sites identified as high quality. For value, 28 sites are identified as low value and 49 sites are identified as high value.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access amenity greenspace provision.
- ❑ Community groups highlight that good quality amenity greenspaces are well-used, valuable assets, providing social focal points for the community.

# **SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT**

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## **PART 8: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Introduction**

The typology of provision for children and young people, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes 'areas designated primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.'

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

In total, there are 58 sites classified as provision for children and young people throughout the LDF area, totalling just under four hectares.

Play areas have been classified in the following ways utilising National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) guidance to identify their effective catchment.

- ❑ Unclassified. This area is classified as such when there is less than 0.01 hectares of play area.
- ❑ No equipment.
- ❑ A local area for play (LAP). This area must contain more than or equal to 0.01 hectares and more than or equal to one piece of play equipment.
- ❑ A local equipped for play (LEAP). This area must contain more than or equal to 0.04 hectares and more than or equal to five pieces of play equipment.
- ❑ A neighbourhood equipped area for play (NEAP). This area must contain more than or equal to 0.1 hectares and more than or equal to eight pieces of play equipment. This area may contain includes MUGA, skateparks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and is often included within large park sites.
- ❑ A settlement equipped play area (SEAP) caters for all ages and contains more than or equal to ten pieces of play equipment. This is likely to contain includes multi-use games areas (MUGAs), skateparks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and is often included within large park sites.

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*Table 8.1: Distribution of play areas by analysis area.*

Analysis area	LAP		LEAP		NEAP		SEAP		Total no. of sites	
	total	Size (ha)	total	Size (ha)	total	Size (ha)	total	Size (ha)	total	Size (ha)
Grange-over-Sands	5	0.16	3	0.25	-	-	-	-	8	0.42
Kendal	15	0.80	13	0.80	2	0.45	2	0.32	32	2.38
Kirkby Lonsdale	-	-	1	0.04	2	0.20	-	-	3	0.24
Milnthorpe	2	0.08	3	0.22	1	0.10	-	-	6	0.40
Ulverston	5	0.21	4	0.26	-	-	-	-	9	0.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>3.93</b>

Included in the table above, are two skateparks located at Beezon Road and Tram Lane Recreation Ground, both identified under NEAP provision.

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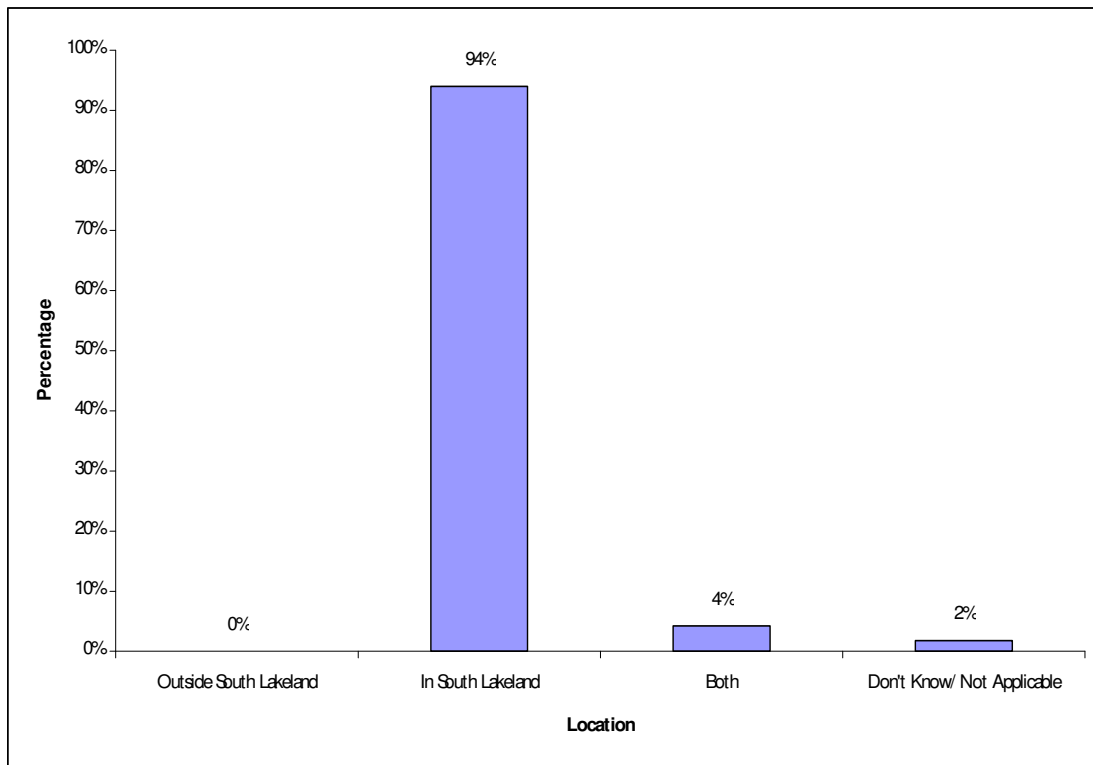
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### *Usage*

Overall, 28% of residents have visited a children's play area in the previous 12 months. Usage reflects that parents regularly visit play areas with their children, with the proportion of visitors to children's play areas being highest among the 25-34 age groups (47%) and 35-44 age groups (52%).

In the South Lakeland LDF area, people who use children's play areas usually do so within the LDF area (98%). However, 4% also visit children's play areas outside of the LDF area. It is interesting to note that none of the respondents only use play areas outside of the LDF area.

*Figure 8.1: Location of visits to children's play areas*

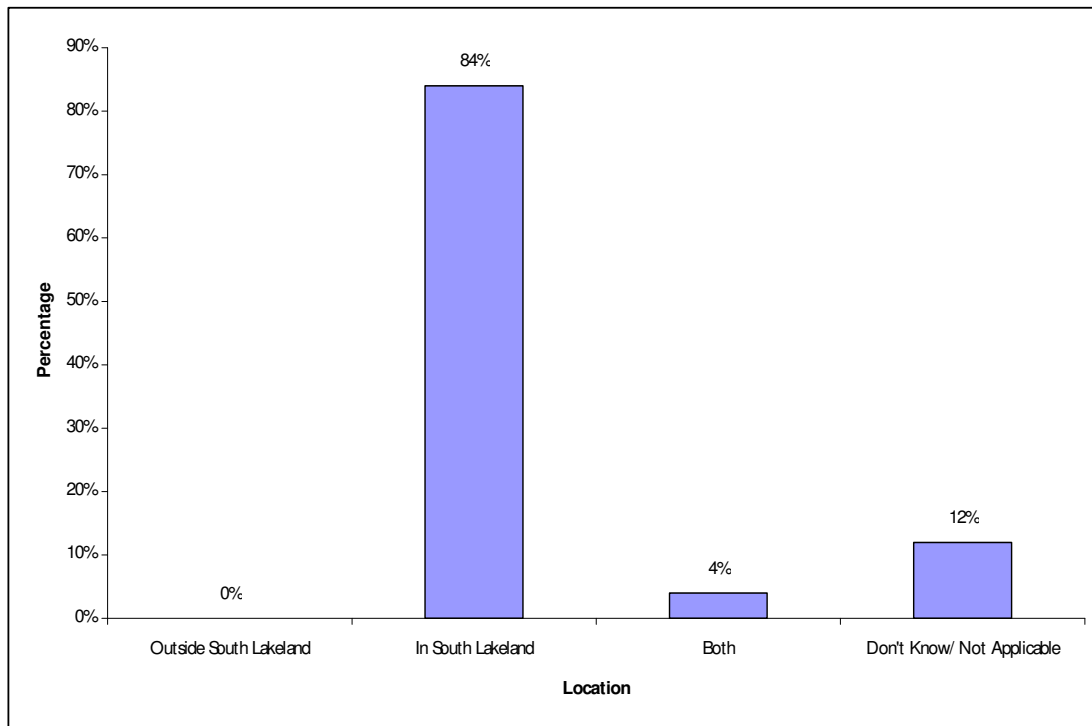


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Just 4% of respondents have visited a teenage play area in the previous 12 months. This reflects the sample profile (only those aged 16+ were interviewed) and the fact that parents/adults are unlikely to visit such provision, even if they have children of the appropriate age.

*Figure 8.2: Location of visits to teenage play areas*



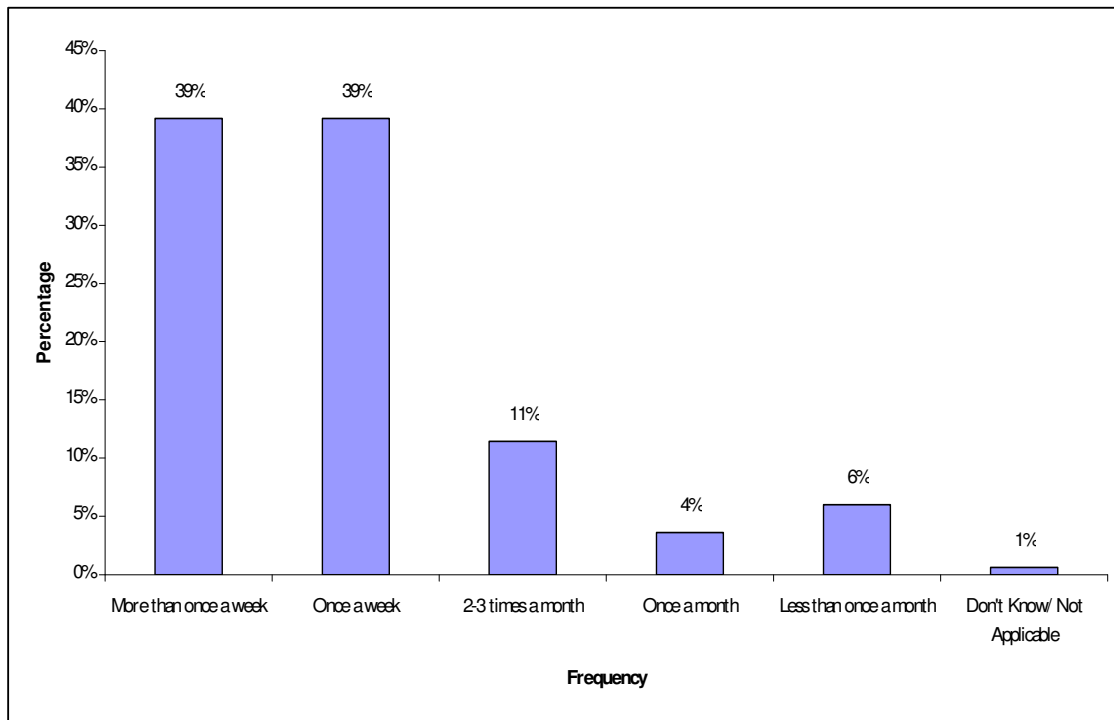


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The frequency of usage amongst users is strong, with over three-quarters (78%) visiting children's play areas once a week or more. This probably reflects the nature of usage and is borne out by the fact that 92% of the 25-34 age group and 84% of the 35-44 age group use provision more than once a week.

*Figure 8.3: Frequency of usage of children's play areas in the previous 12 months*

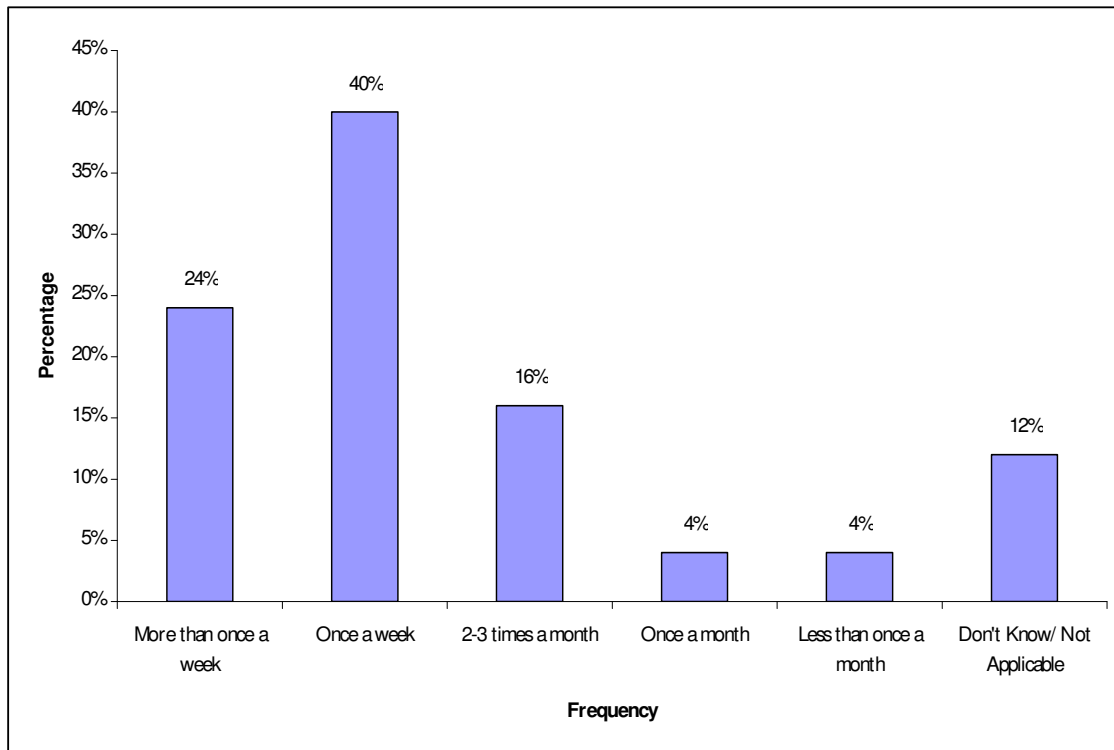


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Frequency of usage of teenage play areas is good amongst those who do use them. Almost two thirds (64%) visit such provision once a week or more. Usage is higher amongst the 16-19 age groups (57% using them more than once per week) and also in the Milnthorpe town where 100% of users visit a teenage play area once per week.

*Figure 8.4: Frequency of usage of teenage play areas in the previous 12 months*



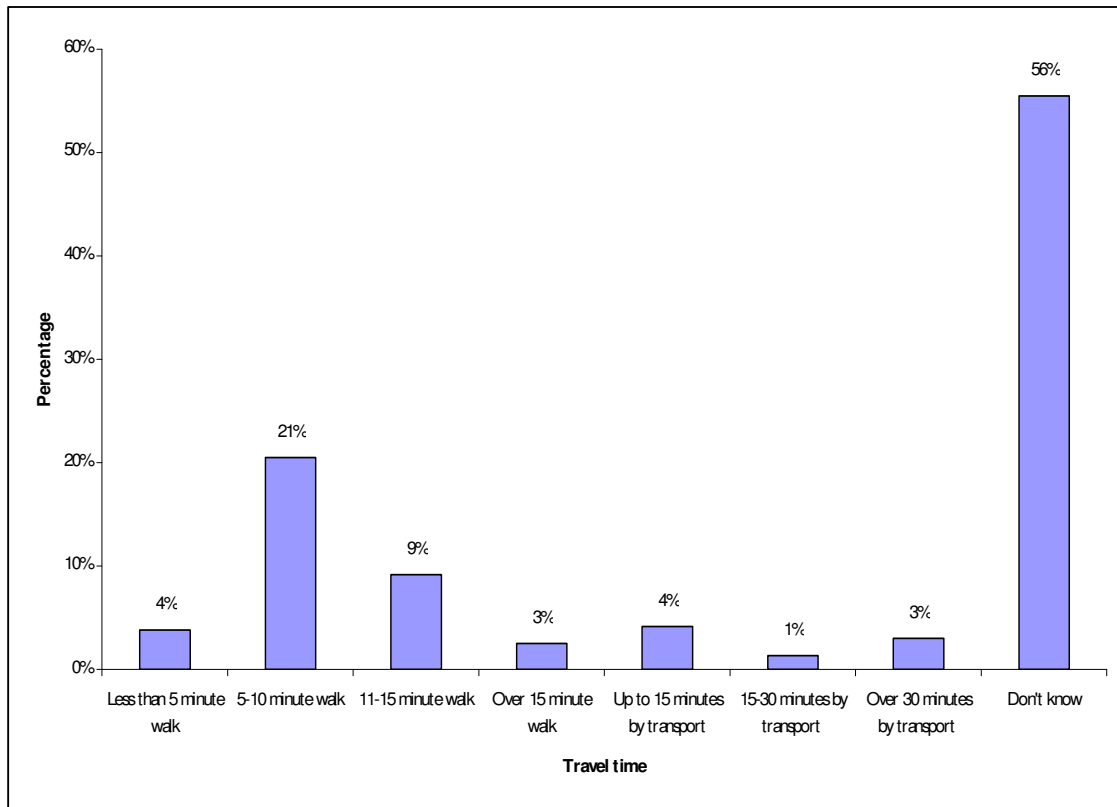
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### ***Accessibility***

Just over a third (34%) are prepared to walk for no more than 15 minutes to reach a children's play area. The high proportion unable to give a response (56%) reflects usage levels and the absence of children being interviewed.

*Figure 8.5: Time prepared to travel to reach a children's play area*

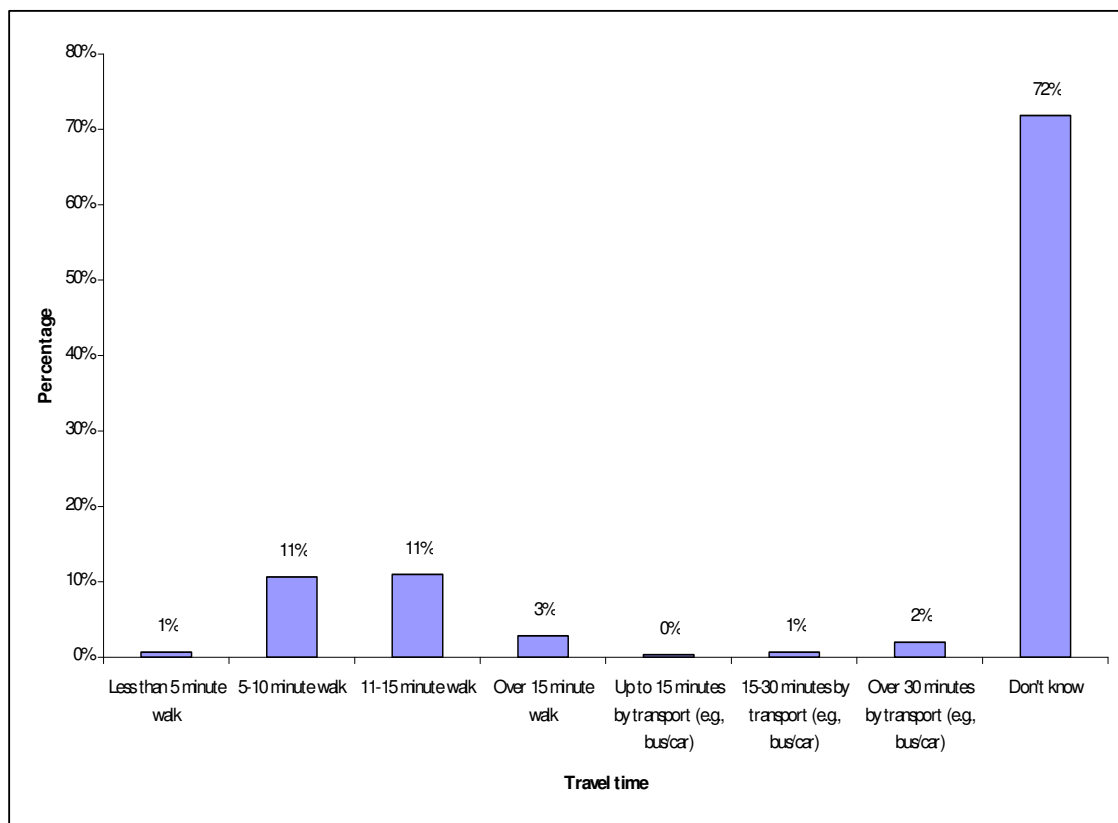


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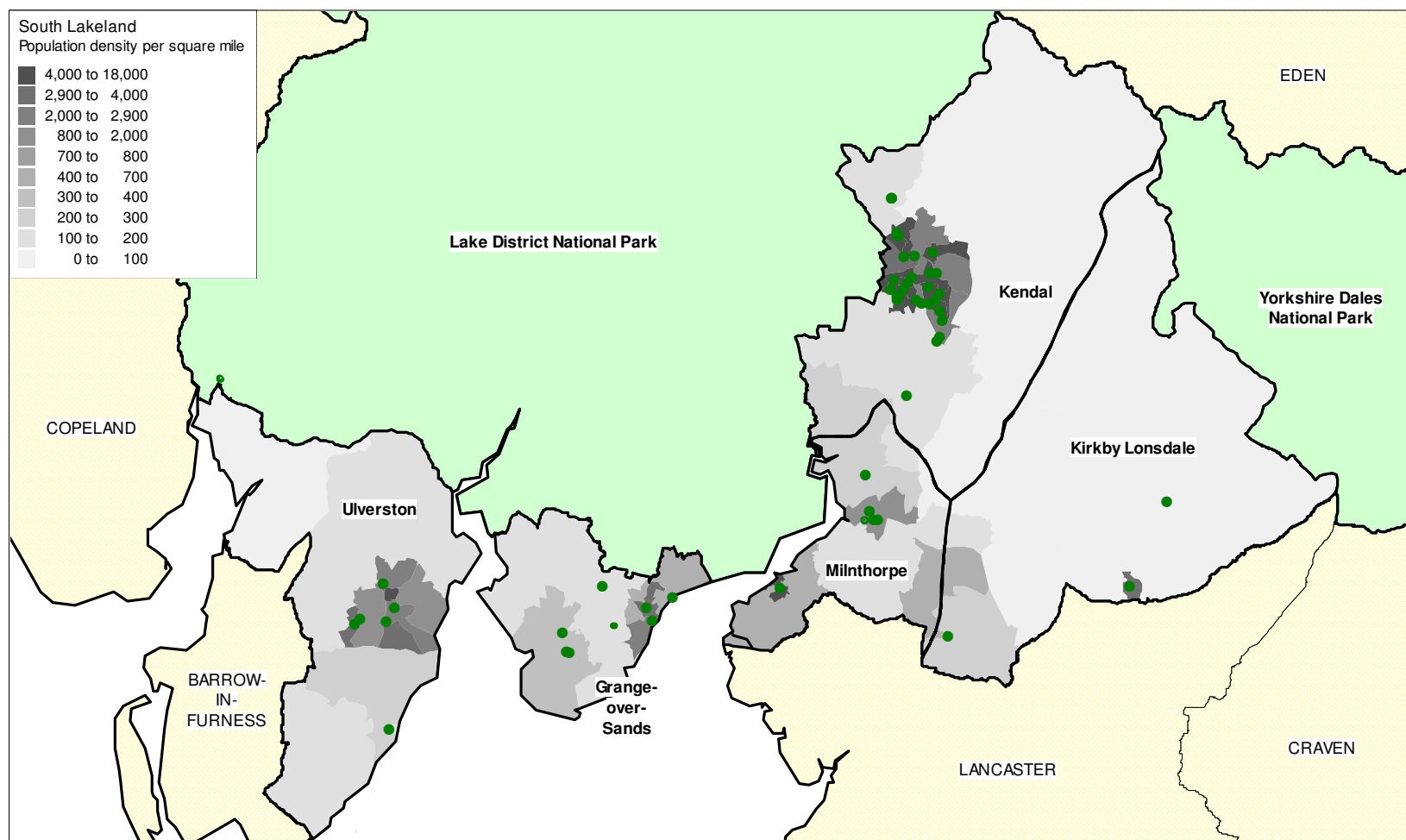
Just under a quarter (23%) would walk for no more than 15 minutes to reach a teenager play area. The high proportion not providing a rating (72%) reflects the low levels of use.

*Figure 8.6: Travel time to teenagers play areas*



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Figure 8.7: Equipped play areas mapped against analysis areas



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Mapping highlights that there are a number of settlements without any play provision. Kendal analysis area provides the majority of provision, reflecting the densely populated areas.

As demonstrated by the mapping and also highlighted during consultation, there is a deficiency in the provision for children and young people in Arnside. There is one equipped play area, located on the playing fields, which caters for children up to the age of ten. There is demand from local children and residents for greater provision to serve the area. The playing field does provide informal play opportunities and the natural open space resources, such as the coastline and woodlands are utilised by children for play. However, there remains demand for more formal provision to be provided within these open spaces, for example, obstacle courses, BMX tracks and interactive activities such as nature trails. Due to limited play opportunities in Arnside, parents and children report travelling to sites outside of the LDF area to access provision. In particular, the play area in Silverdale, which is in Lancaster City Local Authority area, is popular.

In general, consultation identifies a perception that children under 11 years of age are well catered for but that there is a gap in provision for over 11's. There is an identified lack of equipped play areas and youth provision in Flookburgh. This has occasionally lead to youth nuisance in the area and following spates of vandalism at the Village Hall, CCTV has been installed to monitor youth congregation and activity. The closest equipped play area is located in Cark, which is considered to be too far away to meet local need and only offers limited equipment. There is a children's play area located within the grounds of Flookburgh CE Primary School, however, community access to this ceased following frequent problems with youth congregation resulting in vandalism and problems with litter and glass on the site.

Consultation and mapping indicates that there is also a lack of open space in Flookburgh offering informal play opportunities. The Parish Council is in the process of purchasing a piece of agricultural land from CCC. Consultation indicates that this is a potential location for provision of recreational facilities such as sport facilities/playing fields and a children's play area. There is currently an unused hut within the site and residents suggest that there is potential for this to house a youth club or meeting area. There is demand for a skate park/BMX track in the area and the Parish Council is to investigate the possible provision that the land can facilitate. In order to provide any valuable recreational facilities on the land there is a need for drainage improvements.

As demonstrated by the mapping there is a gap in provision for children and young people in Ulverston. There is a perception amongst parents with young children that there are insufficient play opportunities provided for children under the age of 5. There is demand for more play equipment to be provided for younger children, particularly in Lightburn Park. Consultation also indicates that residents living in North Ulverston feel poorly served in terms of play provision and identify demand for a children's play area to be located within Ford Park. Following community consultation undertaken in 2001, Ford Park Community Group investigated

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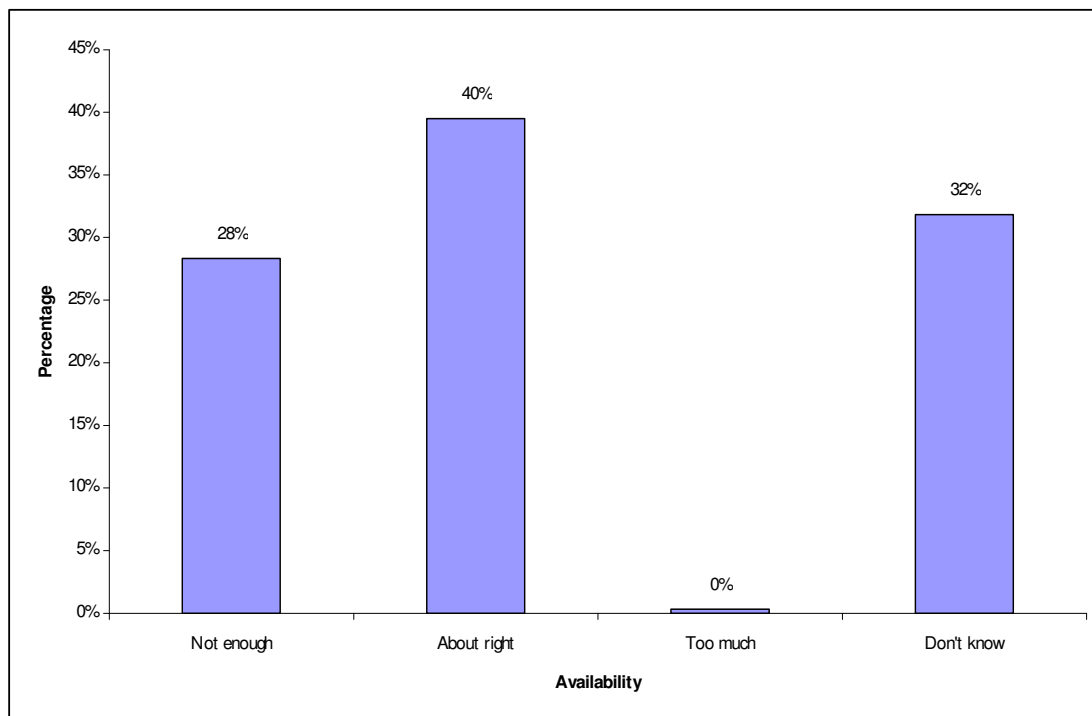
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providing an adventure play area, skate park, a bandstand and a sensory trail. However, funding attempts were unsuccessful and therefore plans have not been taken forward.

Mapping also demonstrates a gap in equipped play provision in the North Kendal area. Consultation highlights that residents in this area travel to Abbot Hall to access outdoor play facilities. There is demand for more local provision.

There is a piece of land located within Summerlands housing estate in Endmoor that local residents would like to enhance to provide play opportunities for children in the area. The grassed area, located on Warwick Drive/Eskrigg Lane, is fenced and in the past has been the location of an equipped play area. However, local residents report that the play area fell into disrepair and was removed for safety reasons but has not been replaced. Local children do currently use the site for informal play e.g. ball games. The site provides a community focus and is the location for an annual bonfire event for residents. The local residents association is currently campaigning to raise funding to provide an equipped play area at the site. This would meet a catchment gap/deficiency. The closest play area is located two miles away from the estate and access involves crossing a main road.

*Figure 8.8: Availability of children's play areas*



The residents' survey shows that two-fifths (40%) rate the provision of children's play areas as about right. A similar number do not know about the availability of provision of this typology (32%) and a further quarter believe that there is not

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enough provision in the LDF area (28%). More respondents in Kirkby Lonsdale town centre than any other location rate children's play areas as about right (54%). Those aged 25-34 and 35-44 are more likely to consider that more children's play areas are needed (37% of both age groups citing that there is not enough provision).

Mapping identifies gaps in provision for young people across the South Lakeland LDF area. Consultation with young people and residents identifies strong demand for youth provision. In particular, young people would like sites designated for their use so that they do not get moved on from place to place. There is also demand for more supervised activities such as youth clubs, more wheeled sport provision and adventurous play provision such as climbing facilities and zip wires.

Older children and young people in Ulverston consider there to be little provision currently to meet their needs. There is desire for greater provision of adventurous and challenging play facilities with suggestions including ariel runways, climbing apparatus, tunnels, large slides, and roundabouts. Young people suggest that there is demand for youth shelters, BMX/dirt trails and skate facilities. In response to the need for skate and wheeled sports provision in Ulverston, an action group has come together and is currently campaigning to install a skate park in Lightburn Park. The plans are to utilise the currently disused tennis courts in the Park to meet the needs of local young people.

Consultation with young people in Grange-over-Sands highlights demand for greater provision in the area. Young people report that currently there is nothing for them to do in their free time and that they constantly get asked to move from area to area by the Police and local residents who perceive them to be a nuisance. There is demand for a site to be provided for young people in the area to meet and socialise with friends and to undertake recreational activity. To meet this need for youth provision in Grange, the Town Council and Young Cumbria are currently working with local young people on creating a youth recreation zone. SLDC have agreed to lease the disused tennis courts on the promenade to the Town Council and, following consultation with and engagement of local young people, plans for a skateboard area, a revamped ball court area and a youth shelter/seating area are being taken forward. There is also demand highlighted for more adventurous play/recreational facilities such as a zip wire and climbing apparatus.

Mapping and consultation highlights a need for youth provision in the Swarthmoor area. There is demand for a skate facility and a potential site is available next to the play area on Park Road. This is currently used by local young people as an area to meet and consultation indicates that it is the most appropriate location for youth provision in the area. However, there has, in the past, been limited success in engaging local residents and parents to support the potential provision.

South Lakes Housing has plans to install two MUGAs on two of Kendal's housing estates (Hallgarth and Sandylands) to meet the need for informal play and recreational opportunities for children and young people in the area. The plans are

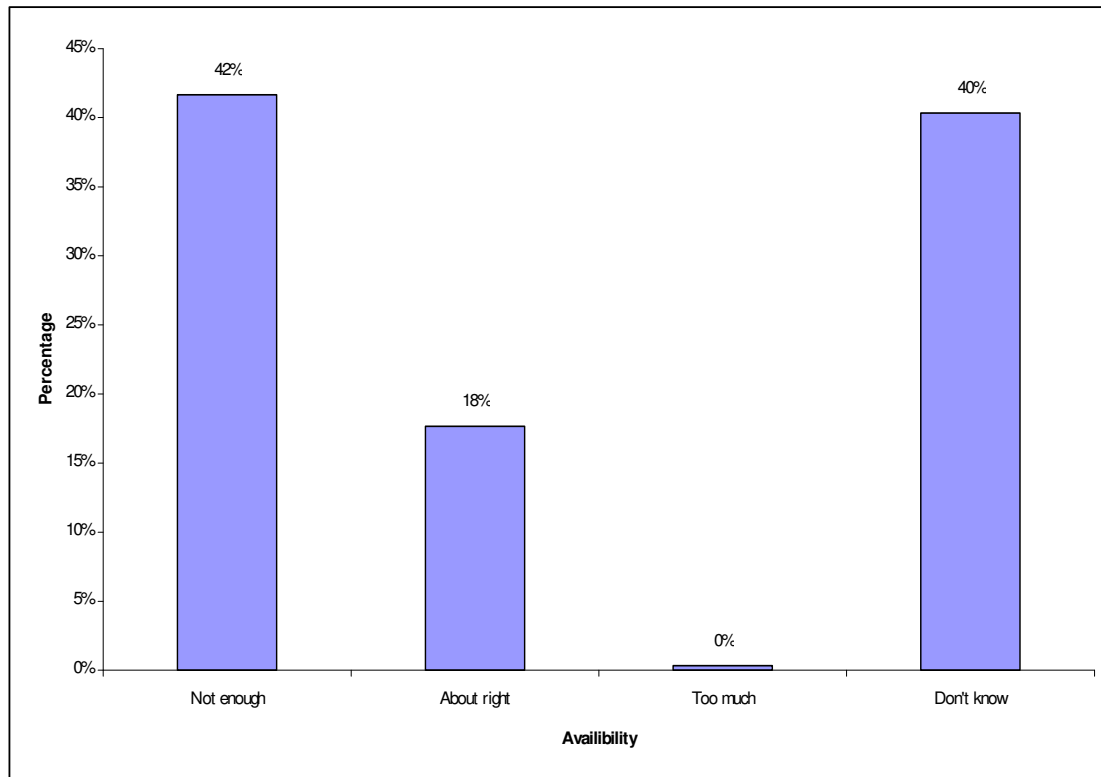


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currently going through a public consultation phase before they are taken forward. Consultation identifies support for this additional provision that will meet need in the two locations.

*Figure 8.9: Availability of teenage play areas*



The residents survey finds that just under half of respondents state that availability of teenage play areas is inadequate (42%) in South Lakeland LDF area. Not surprisingly, this is highest in the 16-19 age group (65%), but it is still at 28% for the 60+ age group. Of significance is the particularly high proportion of respondents in Milnthorpe (72%) reporting that there is insufficient teenagers' play provision in the area.

### Management

Provision for children and young people in South Lakeland LDF area is provided by SLDC, a number of town and parish councils and South Lakes Housing. Play areas falling under the maintenance responsibility of SLDC are inspected weekly with grounds maintenance operatives undertaking visual inspections when on-site.

SLDC has been allocated £200,000 funding from the Big Lottery Fund Children's Play Programme. To access funding for this programme a District-wide Play Strategy, covering play opportunities for children up to 19 years, is currently being developed by SLDC. It will focus upon supporting external agencies and

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town/parish councils in the delivery of additional and enhanced play opportunities throughout the District. A play partnership has been set up to drive the strategy forward and to ensure and oversee the implementation of the Strategy's 5-year action plan. It focuses on local needs and plans to create, improve and develop good accessible children's play services and facilities throughout the District.

### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for children's play areas in South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 8.3: Quality scores for play areas sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	75	52%	67%	78%	26%	1	7
Kendal	75	27%	64%	87%	60%	9	23
Kirkby Lonsdale	75	59%	67%	75%	16%	1	2
Milnthorpe	75	54%	65%	71%	16%	1	5
Ulverston	75	50%	64%	72%	22%	1	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>45</b>

Consultation and site assessments identify that the quality of play areas varies across the LDF area with a variation of 60 percentage points between the highest and lowest quality scores.

There are a number of issues that impact on the quality of play provision across the LDF area. A lack of resources can lead to equipment being removed from sites following damage or when they reach the end of their life and not being replaced, e.g. consultation indicates that play equipment has been removed from play areas at Lowther Park play area and Michaelson Road, both in Kendal, and has not been replaced to date.

Vandalism is an intermittent issue in certain areas but consultation indicates that is it not a common concern District-wide. However, where problems do occur, much of this is associated with usage of the sites by young people. Consultation indicates that play areas are particular targets for youth congregation due to the lack of youth facilities across the LDF area. In turn this leads to further issues that impact upon the quality of sites e.g. graffiti and glass bottles. In some instances constant incidents of vandalism can lead to the potential closure of a play area e.g. Owlett Ash play area in Milnthorpe, due to the maintenance costs being incurred.

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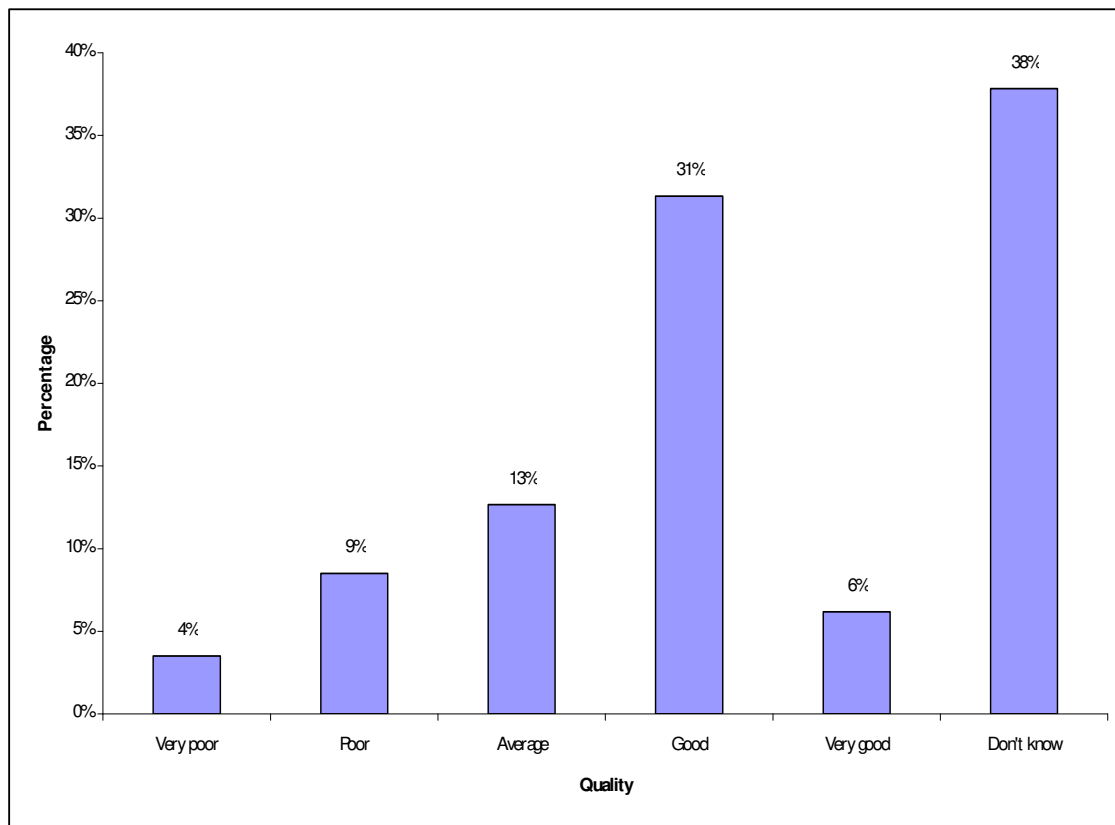
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Consultation identifies that these issues result in negative quality and safety perceptions surrounding particular sites e.g. Lightburn Park play area, and can lead to decreased genuine usage by children and their parents.

A number of sites across the South Lakeland LDF area have play bark safety surfaces or grass surfaces under the equipment. These include Vicars Field play area in Kendal, Beck Side play area in Ulverston and Yew Tree play area in Grange-over-Sands. Consultation highlights that parents have concern regarding the use of bark as a play surface, as it can conceal items such as broken glass, and the use of grass, as it provides less cushioning if children fall. Parents indicate that they prefer play areas that have the wetpore type of safety surface.

The residents' survey shows that one third of respondents (31%) rate the quality of children's play areas in the South Lakeland LDF area as good and a further 6% as very good. Almost two fifths (38%) have no opinion, indicating that they do not use this typology. This is higher amongst those interviewed in Grange Town Centre (52%). A small percentage (13%) considers the quality of children's play areas to be either poor or very poor.

*Figure 8.10: Quality of children's play areas*

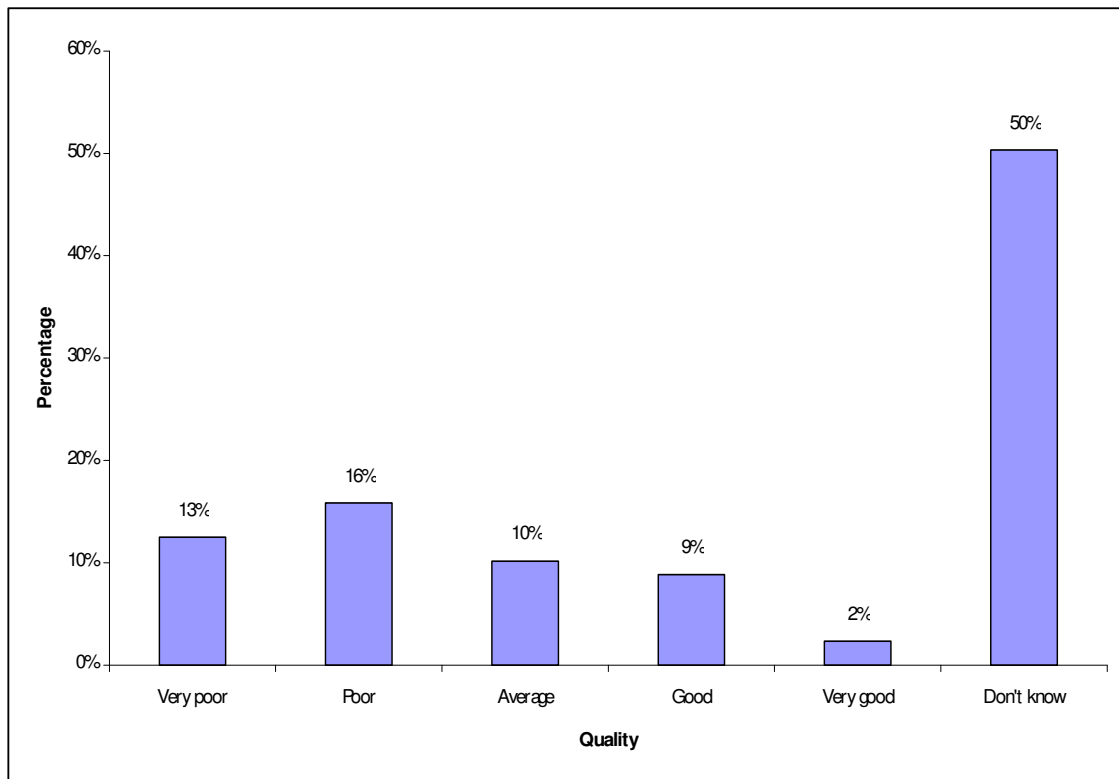


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Of those who are able to rate the quality of teenage play areas, the majority rate it as poor or very poor (29%). This is particularly true for those within the target age group for this type of provision i.e. 16-19 year olds (49%). This also reflects the views collated during the consultation and a general lack of provision.

*Figure 8.11: Quality of teenage play areas*



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### **Value**

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for children's play areas in South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 8.4: Value scores for play areas by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	55	24%	37%	51%	27%	-	8
Kendal	55	11%	29%	58%	47%	3	29
Kirkby Lonsdale	55	44%	53%	58%	15%	-	3
Milnthorpe	55	20%	28%	40%	20%	-	6
Ulverston	55	35%	41%	49%	15%	-	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>55</b>

Reflecting the importance of play opportunities in the South Lakeland LDF area, the majority (95%) of existing provision for children and young people is assessed as being of high value.

### **Summary of site consultation**

This section collates issues raised during consultation with community groups regarding provision for children and young people in South Lakeland LDF area. This is presented alongside site visit quality and value scores for comparison. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation.

Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Abbot Hall Park and Play Area, Kendal	<b>79%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<p>It is the park and play area most frequently visited in the Kendal area due to its provision and central location. Consultation highlights that users consider it to be a good quality and high value site.</p> <p>Users are satisfied with the provision for older children (slides, zip slide, see-saws, climbing/activity frames etc). However, they are less satisfied with the provision in the toddler/ young children's play area. Parents feel play opportunities for under 5's are limited and there is a need more equipment to entertain the younger children.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Allithwaite Play Area, Allithwaite	72%	27%	<p>Consultation with parents highlights demand for greater provision of equipment suitable for children under the age of five. In particular, parents feel that the current equipment is basic and there is desire for provision of more stimulating types of equipment.</p> <p>Parents report that during the day there is often glass and litter remaining following youth congregation at the site during the previous evenings. This impacts on the usage of the site.</p>
Arnside Playing Field Play Area, Arnside	54%	40%	<p>Arnside Parish Council is in the process of applying for funding to develop a toddler zone at the play area to provide greater toddler play equipment to meet demand for play opportunities for younger children.</p> <p>Consultation with local children identifies demand for a greater variety of play equipment with suggestions including roundabout, zip wire, tunnel slide, balancing equipment, climbing wall and monkey bars.</p>
Beezon Road Skateboard Area, Kendal	27%	29%	<p>Although the skate park is in a poor condition it is a well used facility. There is demand from users for the site to be re-located as at present it is vulnerable to flooding due to the close proximity of the river.</p>
Castle Drive Play Area, Kendal	80%	40%	<p>Consultation with local residents and young people highlights the perception that the play area is tired with limited play value due to damaged equipment. However, the site assessment notes that the equipment is of good quality but that the surface bark required topping up.</p>
Croftlands Play Area, Ulverston	86%	44%	<p>Local children and young people consider this site to be uninteresting and run down and therefore underused. Older children and young people would like adventurous and challenging play equipment to be provided e.g. BMX/dirt jumping and climbing apparatus.</p>
Fell Close Play Area, Grange-over-Sands	62%	42%	<p>Users consider this to be a good quality play area but there is demand from local children to brighten the site and provide a greater variety of equipment such as roundabouts and seesaws.</p> <p>Youth congregation at the play area results in glass being left at the site and swings being unusable due to them being wrapped around the frame.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Lightburn Park Play Area, Ulverston	70%	47%	<p>Equipment has been removed in the past due to incidents of vandalism. Parents highlight concerns over holes that remain in the play surface where this equipment has been removed and not replaced. Users consider the quality of the remaining play equipment to be good and this is also recognised by the site assessment. There is demand for greater provision of equipment that is suitable for young children under the age of 5 years.</p> <p>Some parents report that they no longer use Lightburn Park play area due to problems with dog foul in the play area itself and intimidation from the congregation of young people in the site.</p> <p>Consultation and mapping highlights that there is a lack of youth provision in Ulverston. Young people identify that there is a storage shed located within Lightburn Park that they would like to use as a youth base within the site. There is potential to investigate this further to meet demand for youth provision at the site. There is also identified demand for a skate park at the site, utilising the currently disused tennis courts, plans for which are currently being taken forward by a local action group with support from SLDC.</p>
Mill Close Play Area, Cark	78%	24%	<p>Consultation identifies that the play equipment is of adequate quality but that there is user demand for greater provision of a variety of equipment. There is demand for more toddler equipment.</p> <p>Due to the play surface being grass, parents report difficulty accessing equipment with pushchairs during inclement weather.</p>
Milnthorpe Playing Field Play Area, Milnthorpe	70%	33%	<p>There is demand for the site to undergo a revamp and for greater provision of play equipment targeted at the under 5 age range.</p>
Park Road, Swarthmoor	72%	35%	<p>There is use by teenagers, which is intimidating to parents and young children and results in litter being left.</p> <p>Users consider the play area to be good quality with a variety of equipment offering play value for a range of ages. It is a well used community resource.</p> <p>There is demand for youth provision, for example a wheeled sports area, to be provided at the site adjacent to the play area.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Mill Dam Play Area, Ulverston	60%	42%	<p>Although users consider this to be a good quality play area of high value to the local community there remains demand for enhancement. The surface is considered to be uneven, presenting trip hazards which deters parents allowing their children to play freely. There is also demand for greater variety of equipment to be provided, suitable for older children, such as a large slide.</p> <p>Consultation identifies that parents have concerns regarding the entrance/exit gate at the site. Parents feel that the gate presents a safety issue as it opens outwards onto the passing road rather than inwards towards the play area. Parents understand that the gate may have been installed this way to prevent access by dogs. However, they fear that children can easily run out of the play area. This issue was raised a number of times through consultation with different user groups and there is strong demand for this to be reassessed.</p> <p>Older children go into play areas to play ball games. There is a stoned area at the site which one parent highlighted as having potential as a teenage hang out area.</p>
Tram Lane Recreation Ground & Play Area, Kirkby Lonsdale	70%	56%	<p>Local children report that they do not use this play area very often. It is perceived to be un-clean with limited equipment suitable for different ages. Consultation identifies that there is graffiti at the site. There is demand for the play area to be closed at night and there is a perceived need for CCTV to deter congregation and vandalism.</p> <p>Goal posts have been removed due to them attracting youth congregation and disruptive behaviour. However, there is demand for these to be reinstated and for greater informal play opportunities to be provided.</p>
Acre Moss Lane, Kendal	53%	44%	<p>Consultation identifies that the limited play equipment caters for older children. Play provision for toddlers and young children is felt to be limited, particular following the removal of toddler swings due to vandalism.</p> <p>Parents report a number of concerns regarding the usage of the site by young people. There is a perceived issue with frequent vandalism, needles, graffiti, broken glass and litter within the play area and the park. Because of these issues parents prefer to travel to Abbott Hall to allow their children to access play provision.</p> <p>There is demand from parents in the area for the problems associated with the site to be dealt with. Users would like increased provision for young people and for zoning of areas for different ages. There is demand for a greater response to vandalism incidents and more frequent collections of litter.</p>



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### **Provision for children and young people summary**

- ❑ In total, there are 58 play areas in the LDF area, totalling just under 4 hectares. Two skateparks have also been identified within this total. Of these, 45 are identified as high quality and 13 are identified as low quality. In terms of value, 55 are identified as high value and 3 are identified as low value. This reinforces the importance of play areas across South Lakeland LDF area.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access children's play area provision.
- ❑ A key factor in the significant gaps in provision for children and young people is that just under half of the provision (43%) comprises LAPS, and a further 41% comprises LEAP provision, which have relatively small catchment areas.
- ❑ There is a lack of provision for young people in rural parishes in the LDF area, for example in Flookburgh and Endmoor. Consultation has identified that this is an issue that needs to be addressed. Encouraging parish councils to communicate/share when hiring mobile activities would be beneficial.
- ❑ Consultation has identified a shortfall in provision for over 11's and also of formal play opportunities.

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## **PART 9: ALLOTMENTS, COMMUNITY GARDENS AND CITY FARMS**

### **Introduction**

The typology of allotments, community gardens and city farms, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes sites, which provide 'opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social interaction.'

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

There are 29 sites classified as allotments in South Lakeland LDF area equating to just over 20 hectares.

*Table 9.1: Distribution of allotment sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Allotments	
	Number	Size(ha)
Grange-over-Sands	3	0.35
Kendal	15	9.12
Kirkby Lonsdale	1	0.62
Milnthorpe	4	2.69
Ulverston	6	7.86
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20.67</b>

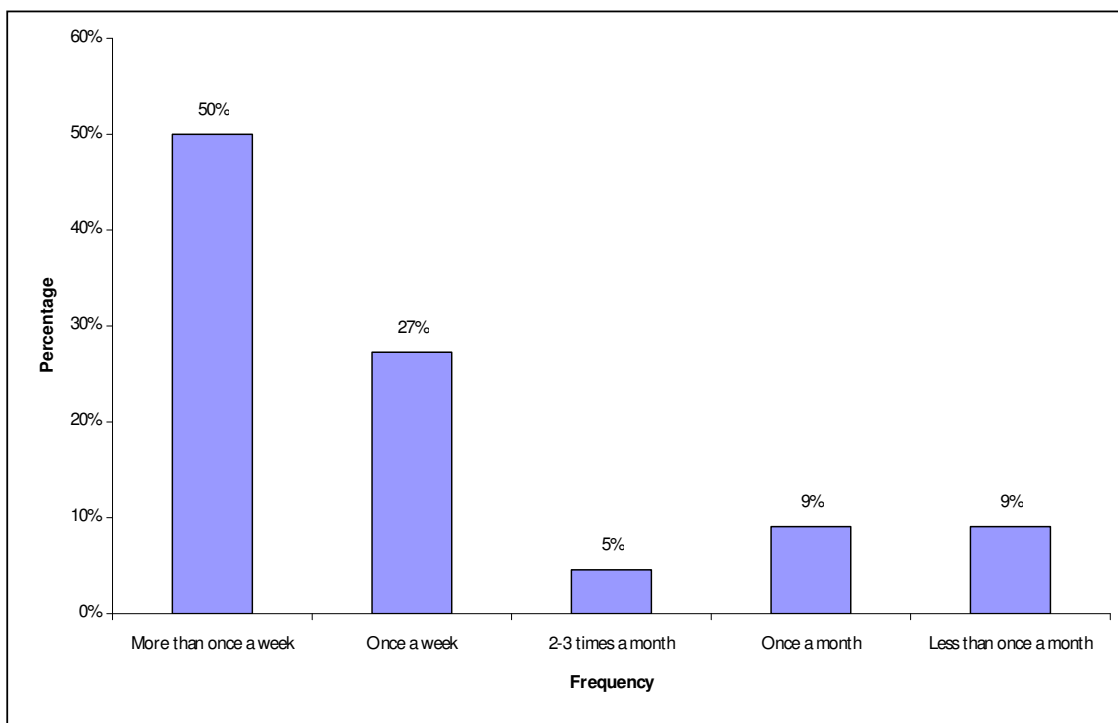
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### *Usage*

Only 4% of residents report visiting an allotment in the previous 12 months. However, this level is consistent with that seen in other local authorities. Although overall levels of usage are low, those that use allotments tend to visit them regularly (77% visiting once a week or more). All of these visits to allotments were within the South Lakeland LDF area; none of the respondents visited an allotment outside of the South Lakeland LDF area.

*Figure 9.1: Frequency of usage of allotments in the previous 12 months*

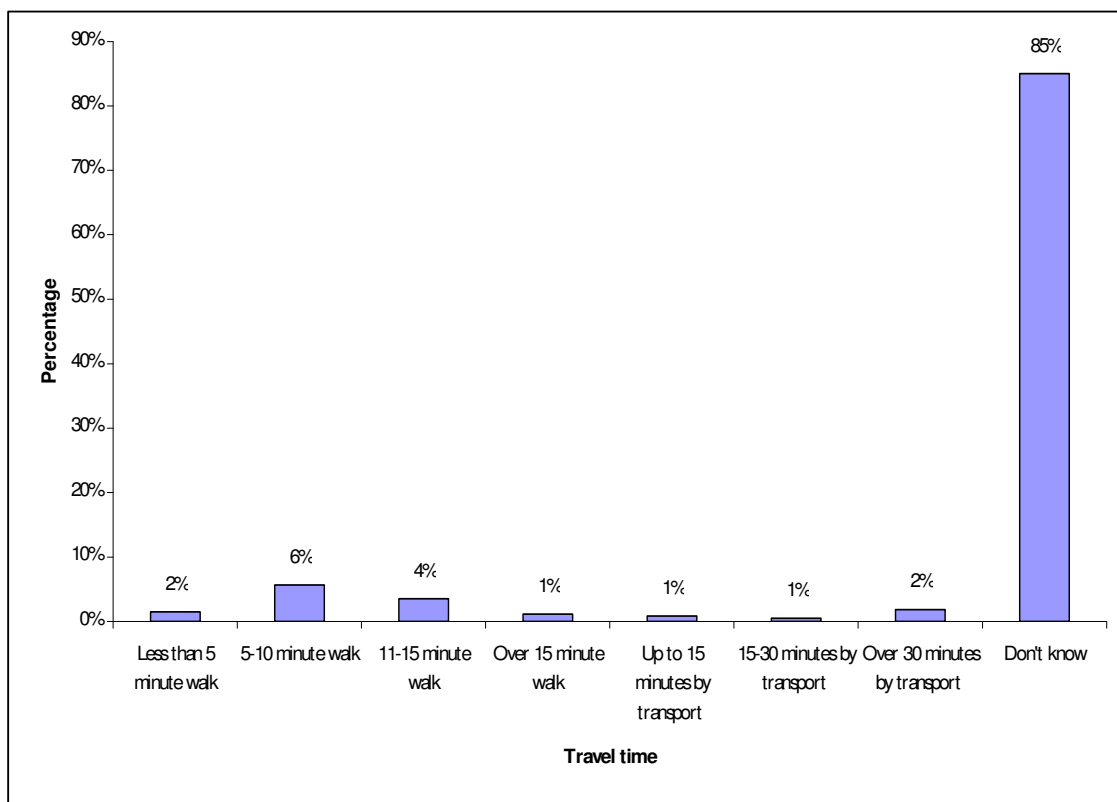


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### ***Accessibility***

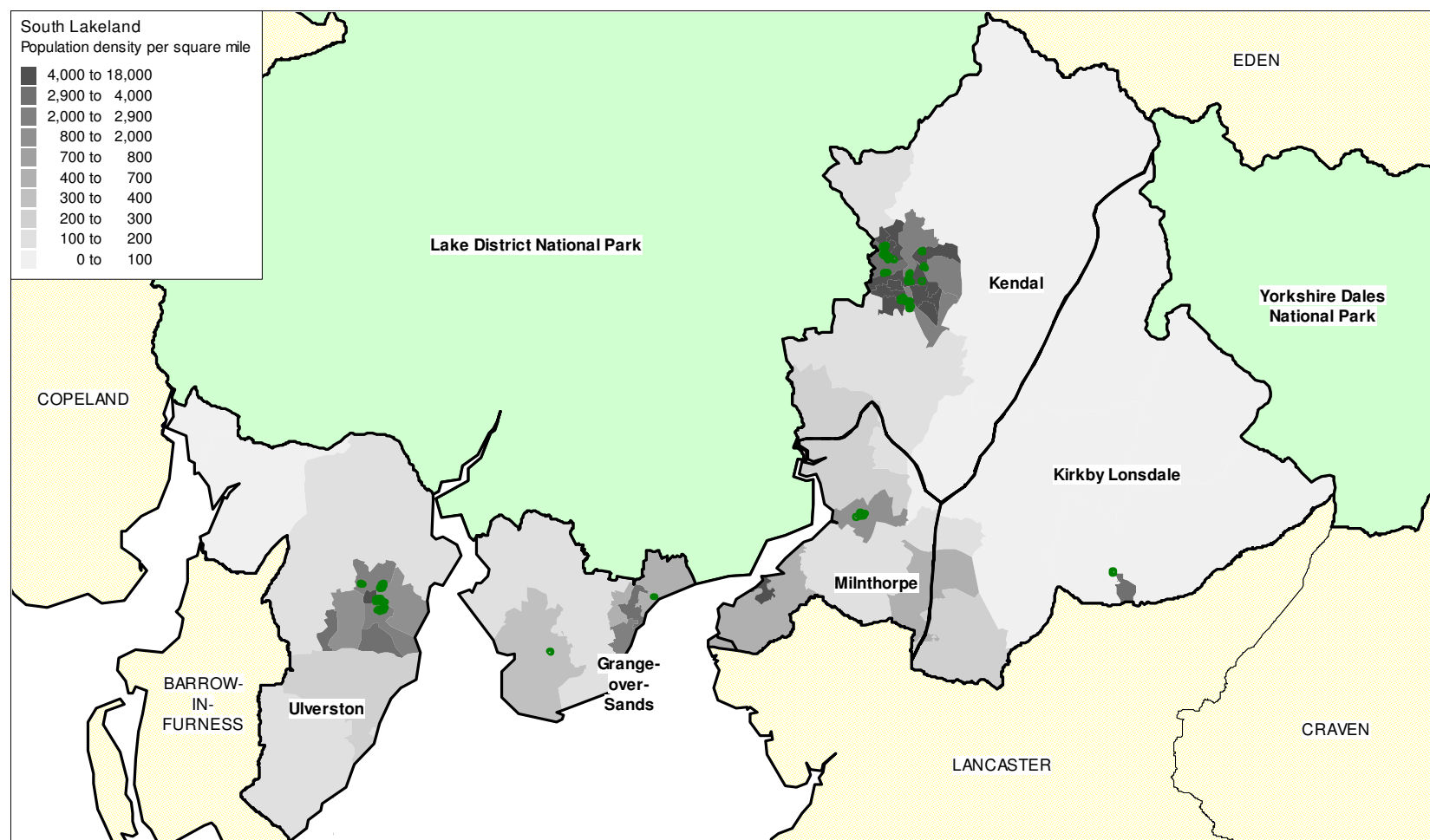
Reflecting the relatively small proportion of the population that use allotments,, the majority of residents (85%) are unable to state how far they would travel to access an allotment in South Lakeland LDF area. However, user consultation indicates that allotment tenants tend to be residents from the local area living within a 10 minute walk of the site that they use. There are a small number of plot holders in Ulverston who travel from Barrow to access provision South Lakeland LDF area due to the rent being cheaper.

*Figure 9.2: Time prepared to travel to access an allotment*



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Figure 9.3: Allotment sites mapped against analysis areas



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Although provision exists in all analysis areas, the mapping appears to suggest that there is a lack of allotments in Kirby Lonsdale and Milnthorpe analysis areas.

The majority of allotment sites are currently operating at almost 100% capacity, for example, Greenside Allotments in Kendal and Tank Field Allotments in Ulverston. The combined allotment waiting list, across the LDF area, of 293 demonstrates that the high demand for allotments is not currently being met by provision. In particular, consultation identifies demand for greater provision in Ulverston and Grange-over-Sands. There are also calls for greater provision in Kendal where there is a combined waiting list of 229 and Grange-over-Sands where there is only provision of ten allotment plots and a waiting list of 14. Grange Town Council has aspirations for development of an additional allotment site and is in the process of investigating possible locations.

Throughout the LDF area there is a lack of promotion of allotments and the associated health and well being benefits. There is a need for raised awareness to improve access to provision. This can be achieved through increased information accessible on the SLDC website, production and distribution of a promotional leaflet and establishment of allotment starter packs to provide relevant information for new tenants with tips regarding how to cultivate plots and achieve maximum benefit. However, as current provision cannot meet the high demand that already exists it may not be in the best interest of users, for the time being, to promote the benefits of taking up an allotment as further demand may be generated.

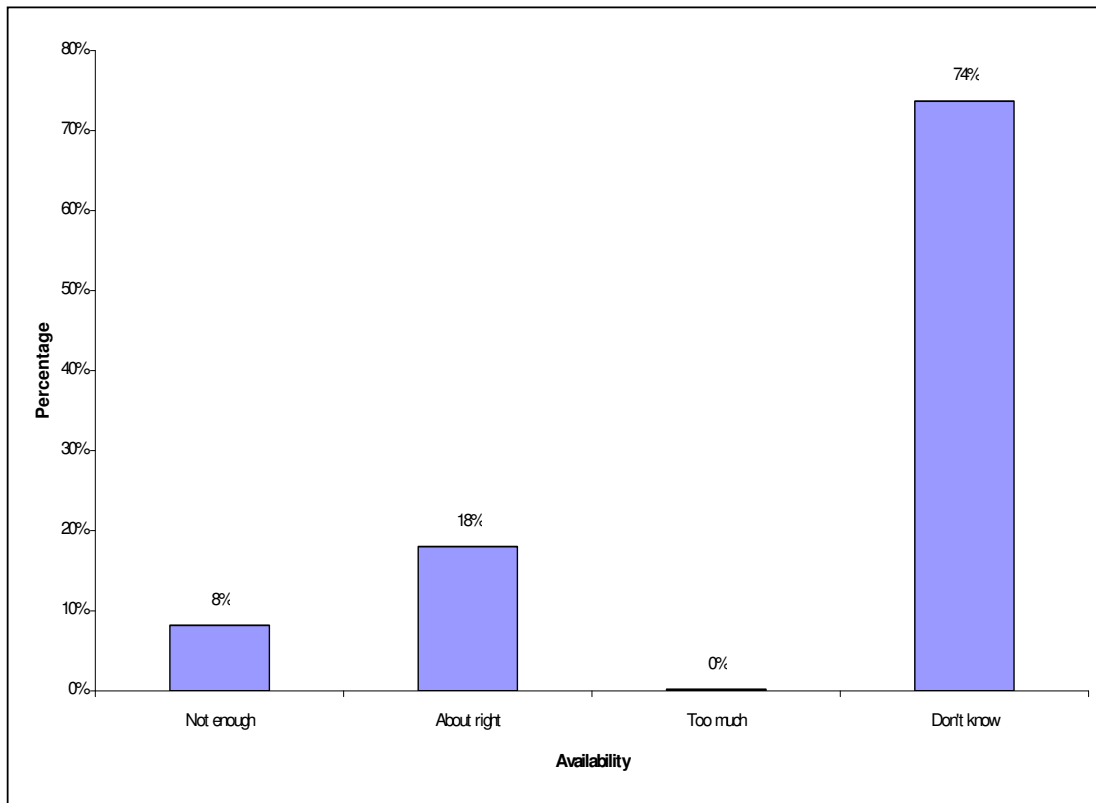
During consultation no demand was expressed for raised plots. However, there is no such provision at any current sites and this is an area that SLDC and the town and parish councils with responsibility for provision should consider investigating further to ensure that there is fully inclusive provision. This could be in the form of a policy stating that if demand for raised beds arose, SLDC or the relevant allotment authority would endeavour to provide for that demand if and where possible.

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Almost three quarters of respondents (74%) are unable to comment on the availability of allotments. Again, this may reflect a lack of awareness of allotment provision. One in five respondents (18%) rate the availability of allotments as about right compared to the smaller proportion (8%) that state there is not enough provision.

*Figure 9.4: Availability of allotments*



### *Cost*

The cost of a plot on allotment sites varies from parish to parish. A typical plot costs around £20.00 per annum, including water. This is lower, in comparison to Barrow Borough Council, which charges £75.00 for a plot, Copeland Borough Council, which charges £29 and Lancaster City Council which charges between £20-40 depending on the plot size. The majority of plot holders in South Lakeland LDF area regard allotment plots as 'value for money' and are happy with rent charges.

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### ***Management***

The majority of allotment sites in the LDF area are owned or leased from SLDC and managed by the town and parish councils. Management responsibilities fall to the parish clerks who undertake administration tasks including waiting list management, tenancy agreements and collection of rents. Internal site maintenance e.g. of footpaths falls to individual tenants while the managing authority has responsibility for maintenance and repairs of the water supply and boundary fencing. SLDC retains responsibility for the management of only one site, Priory Road allotments in Ulverston.

There is currently no allotment strategy for the LDF area and there are no plans for the drafting of one. This results in a lack of strategic management of allotments in terms of maintenance and development. However, there is no evidence that this impacts negatively on the quality or usage of provision. Consultation finds that users are, in the main, content with the quality and management of allotment provision, although waiting list figures indicate that current provision is not meeting demand.

There is currently only one allotment association, Milnthorpe Allotment Association, established in the LDF area of South Lakeland. User consultation indicates that it would be beneficial to set up a District wide allotment forum or federation to help share information and ideas, pass on best practice tips and improve site management.

### ***Vacant plot management***

In general, vacant plot management is efficient and vacant plots are allocated to meet waiting list demand as and when they become available. In some instances, tenants report that plots may fall out of use while still under lease and this can lead to them becoming neglected and overgrown. It is a daunting task for a new tenant to take over plots in such a condition. However, as an incentive, it is common for the town and parish councils to offer a rent-free year for any tenant taking on a plot in unfavourable condition. Consultation suggests that this proves successful in most instances. However, there are currently two vacant plots at the Ellers Allotment site in Ulverston that are overgrown. Users express a need for investment to carry out basic clearance of neglected plots to encourage new tenants. Kendal Town Council implements a proactive and effective 'yellow and red card' management system to caution tenants that do not abide to the tenancy agreement. A yellow card acts as an initial warning to a tenant to improve the upkeep of their plot while the issuing of a red card can result in the tenancy being terminated. To ensure that plots do not fall out of use and become overgrown bi-annual site inspections are also undertaken. There are now very few plots that are uncultivated.



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### *Waiting lists*

In total, there is a combined waiting list of 293 for allotment sites in the South Lakeland LDF area. Even considering the issue of double counting, as potential plot holders are permitted to sign up to more than one waiting list, these figures demonstrate high demand for provision, which is supported by consultation findings. Currently there are 664 individual plots provided across the sites in the LDF area, the majority of which are tenanted. Consultation highlights efficient waiting list management by the town and parish councils, with few sites having vacant plots that are not being utilised to meet waiting list demand.

User consultation highlights that the large size of plots is an issue that requires addressing. Examples have been identified where plots that are of particularly large sizes could be split to create more manageable areas and cater for more users. Ulverston Town Council recognises that there is an opportunity to rationalise allotment plots and split the larger plots into two to cater for more tenants and is gradually carrying this out, where possible, at its sites. The opportunity for this exists at a number of allotment sites throughout the LDF area e.g. Dragley Beck allotments, Ulverston. In order to alleviate some of the burden on the waiting list for sites in Ulverston, the Town Council has recently agreed a new tenancy agreement that restricts allotment allocation to residents of Ulverston only. Tenants may lease a plot on the proviso that they vacate if they move outside the town boundary.

### *Quality*

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments in South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 9.2: Quality scores for allotment sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	117	40%	49%	56%	15%	3	0
Kendal	117	21%	49%	66%	44%	12	3
Kirkby Lonsdale	117	49%	49%	49%	0%	1	0
Milnthorpe	117	33%	44%	50%	17%	4	0
Ulverston	117	46%	54%	60%	14%	6	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>

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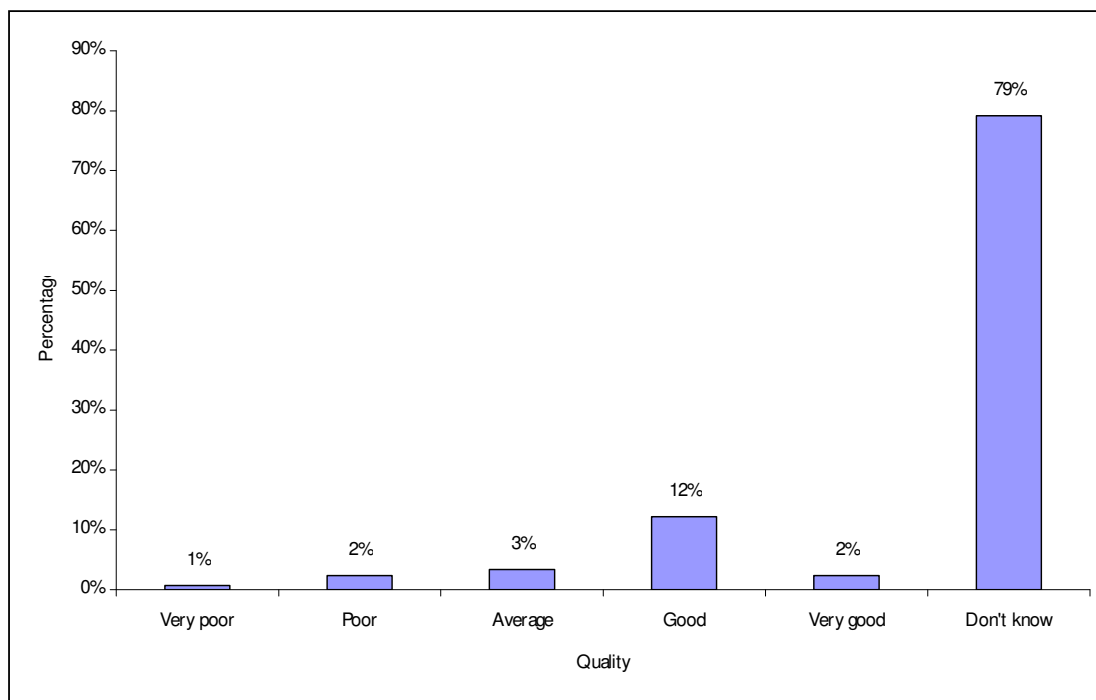
Over three quarters (89%) of allotment provision in the LDF area has been assessed as poor quality, with a mean score of 49%. This is, in part, due to poor quality paths within sites and general visual quality of the sites. Although the majority of sites have been assessed as low quality, user consultation identifies very few concerns.

The majority of allotment sites have access to a water supply. There is no demand for additional provision of water taps, with the exception of Yewbarrow allotments in Grange-over-Sands where tenants expressed desire for one additional water point to compliment the current provision.

The main quality issue identified by plot holders is the presence of and disposal of rubbish generated by the tenants themselves. There is demand for increased provision for the disposal of rubbish e.g. provision of a skip. However, the town councils do provide skips to sites when necessary, such as when clearing overgrown plots.

Again, a significant proportion of residents (79%) are unable to rate quality, reflecting usage and, probably, awareness. Amongst those that do rate provision, a significantly higher percentage consider it to be good (14%) than poor (3%).

*Figure 9.5: Quality of provision of allotments*



## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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### *Value*

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for allotments in South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 9.3: Value scores for allotment sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	Below 20%	Above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	105	26%	26%	27%	1%	0	3
Kendal	105	8%	30%	44%	36%	3	12
Kirkby Lonsdale	105	26%	26%	26%	0%	0	1
Milnthorpe	105	20%	20%	21%	1%	0	4
Ulverston	105	20%	21%	22%	2%	0	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>

Although 89% of allotment sites scored poorly on quality, 89% have been assessed as high value, with the average value score across the LDF area being above the value threshold (26%). This is due to the associated social inclusion and health benefits of allotments and also the amenity benefits and sense of place offered by the provision.

### *Community involvement*

There is currently little community group use of allotment provision within the LDF area. Consultation identifies that there is opportunity to encourage greater usage of allotments by school groups and community groups which should be encouraged to utilise the educational, social well being and healthy living aspects of tending to plots.

Consultation identifies potential to engage Grange Primary School with Yewbarrow allotments in Grange-over-Sands. However, the School has not expressed any interest and there is a need for SLDC and the town and parish councils to be more proactive in encouraging take up of plots by schools and community groups. In Ulverston a school has expressed interest in a plot at the Ellers allotment site. This is something that should be encouraged.

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### *Summary of site consultation*

This section collates issues raised during consultation regarding allotments in the South Lakeland LDF area. This is presented alongside site visit quality and value scores for comparison. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation.

Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Dragley Beck Allotments, Ulverston	46%	21%	<p>The site is fully tenanted at present with a waiting list of 16. There is an area of land at the bottom of the site, which provides a wildlife habitat but also has the potential to provide an additional three or four plots.</p> <p>The allotment does experience periodic spates of vandalism and theft of machinery and produce but tenants report that this is not a particular issue or concern as it is not a common occurrence.</p> <p>Ulverston Town Council has plans to tarmac the road into the site to enhance access.</p> <p>Consultation with users indicates that toilet facilities would be a useful addition to the site but there is no specific demand for this provision.</p>
Rinkfield Allotments, Kendal	44%	20%	<p>Current tenants at the site have been served with notices to vacate their plots as the site is going to be dug up as part of drain laying work for a nearby housing development. KKP is currently unaware where tenants are being transferred to.</p>
Tankfield Allotments, Ulverston	52%	21%	<p>Some of the plots on this site are very large in size. Tenants suggest splitting some of the larger plots to create smaller, more manageable plots and to cater for the demand for allotment provision in the area.</p>
The Ellers Allotments, Ulverston	53%	21%	<p>Users consider the site to be very good in terms of meeting the needs of users. Few problems with vandalism or theft are experienced at the site as there is a lot of natural surveillance from surrounding housing.</p> <p>The main concern for tenants is the disposal of rubbish arising from the plots. Presently an area towards the back of the site is being used as a rubbish heap. Users have concerns regarding the safety of this and fear that the rubbish may soon slip into the beck running past and cause a blockage. There is demand for the Town Council to remove the rubbish and to provide a skip at the years end when plot holders tidy their plots.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Yewbarrow Allotments, Grange-over-Sands	40%	27%	<p>The site is owned by SLDC but leased by Grange Town Council, which has responsibility for site management. The site, containing 10 plots, is fully tenanted with 14 on the waiting list. All the plots at the site are cultivated and well maintained. Tenants report that the plots are one third the size of a standard plot and are therefore considered to be very manageable.</p> <p>The allotments are within a former walled garden. Physical access is therefore poor as it is via steps. However, the boundary wall and lockable gate provides sufficient security and users report that the site experiences no vandalism. It is very valuable to users.</p> <p>There is a water supply at the site with one water tap provided. An additional water point located at the opposite end of the site would be beneficial to tenants.</p> <p>The main issue at the site is allocation for parking. At present plot holders have to park on the surrounding streets. However, users identify that there is a piece of unused land adjoining the site that has potential to accommodate the parking of a small number of cars. Currently this is a grassed area, which has little value to the local residents. The tenants at the site have already been investigating the possibility of using this piece of land and have gained provisional permission. This should be further investigated.</p>

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### **Allotments summary**

- ❑ There are 29 sites classified as an allotment in the South Lakeland LDF area equating to just over 20 hectares. The majority of sites, 26, are identified as low quality with only three identified as high quality. In terms of value, all nearly all the sites, 26, are identified as high value and only three are identified as low value. This reinforces the importance of allotment provision with the LDF area.
- ❑ A demand based equation is identified in the calculation of standards to determine the future requirements for allotments. This will take into account that some areas of the LDF area, notably Arnsdale, Kirkby Lonsdale and Grange-over-Sands and also smaller areas in Ulverston and on the outskirts of Kendal, have no access to allotment provision.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access allotment provision.
- ❑ Management of allotment sites is split between SLDC and respective town/parish councils. There is a lack of strategic management of provision across the LDF area. However, this does not appear to impact on the quality or usage of provision.
- ❑ Users are, in the main, content with the quality and management of allotment provision. However, consultation and waiting list figures indicate that current provision is not meeting demand.
- ❑ Investment is needed to carry out basic clearance of neglected plots to encourage new tenants. Opportunity exists to split some large sized plots into smaller plots to encourage greater take up, as smaller plots are more manageable, and to work towards meeting waiting list demand.
- ❑ The promotion of the health benefits of allotments is currently a gap to be filled.
- ❑ Users indicate that it would be beneficial to have an allotment forum or federation to help share and improve site management.

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## **PART 10: CEMETERIES, CHURCHYARDS AND BURIAL GROUNDS**

### **Introduction**

The typology of cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes areas for 'quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.'

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

There are 25 sites classified under this typology equating to just over 32 hectares of provision in the South Lakeland LDF area.

*Table 10.1: Distribution of cemeteries sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Cemeteries	
	Number	Size(ha)
Grange-over-Sands	4	7.67
Kendal	9	10.43
Kirkby Lonsdale	4	4.29
Milnthorpe	4	2.88
Ulverston	4	7.49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>32.78</b>

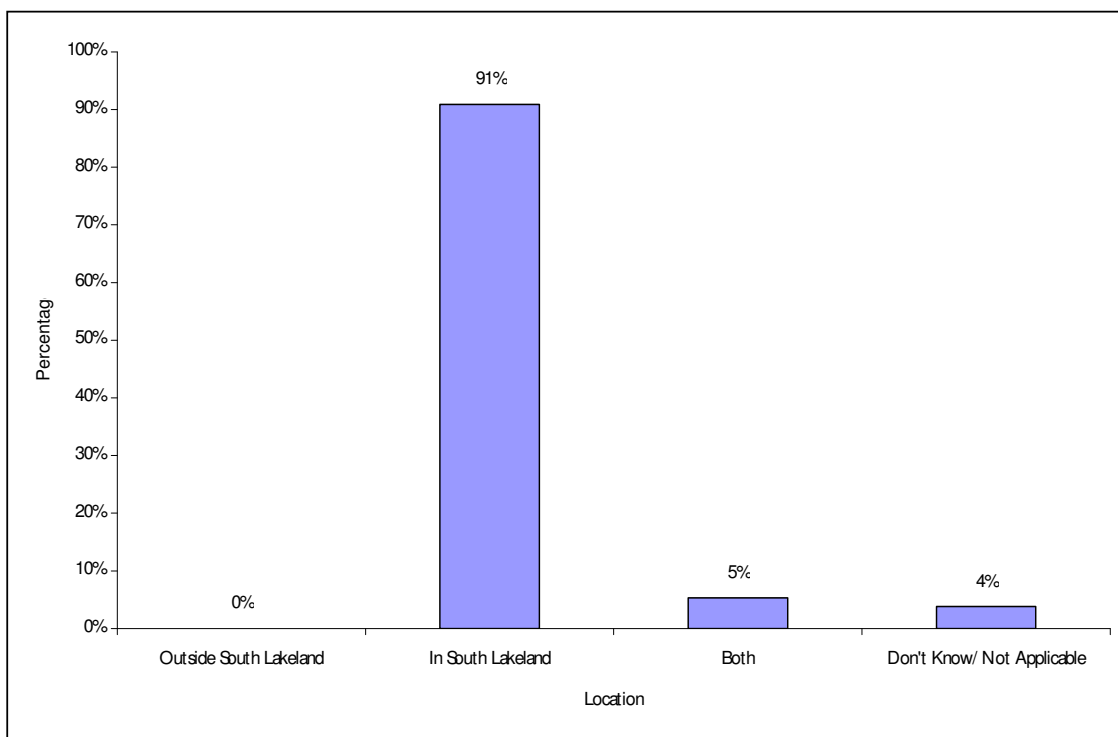
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### *Usage*

Overall, just over a fifth (22%) of residents in the South Lakeland LDF area have visited a churchyard or cemetery in the previous 12 months. Residents interviewed in the Kirkby Lonsdale (33%) and Ulverston (29%) areas visit churchyards and cemeteries more than those in other locations. The proportion is lowest in Milnthorpe (8%). Of the visits made, the majority are to sites in South Lakeland LDF area (96%), although a small proportion (5%) also visits sites outside the LDF area.

*Figure 10.1: Location of visits to cemeteries and churchyards*



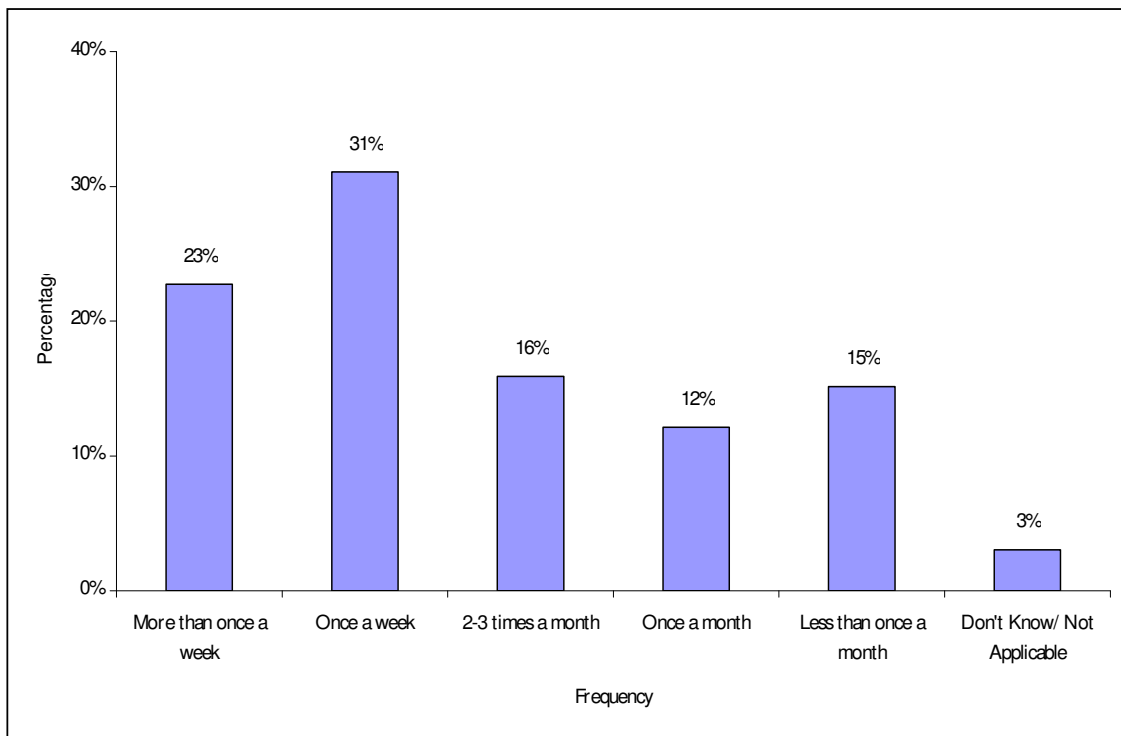


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Overall, just over half (54%) of users visit cemeteries or churchyards once a week or more. A sizeable proportion (27%) visits once a month or less, reflecting the nature of many visits to such provision. Younger residents are much less likely to visit cemeteries or churchyards frequently (67% of 20-24 year olds visit that this typology do so less than once a month).

*Figure 10.2: Frequency of usage of cemeteries/churchyards in the previous 12 months*



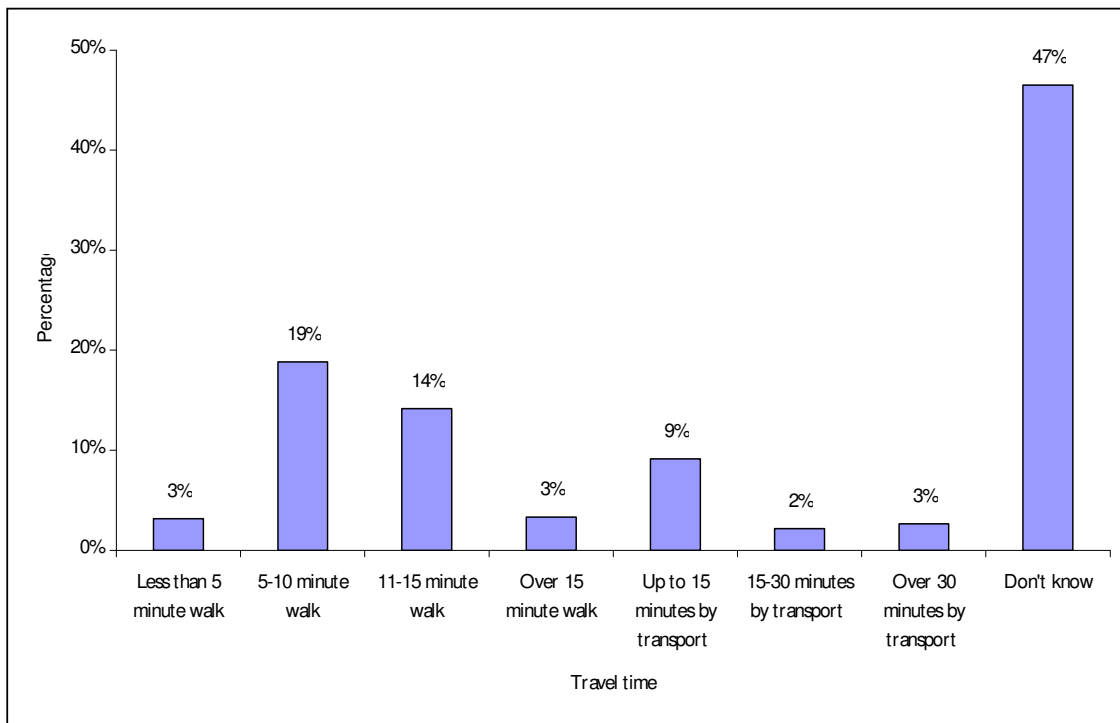
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### ***Accessibility***

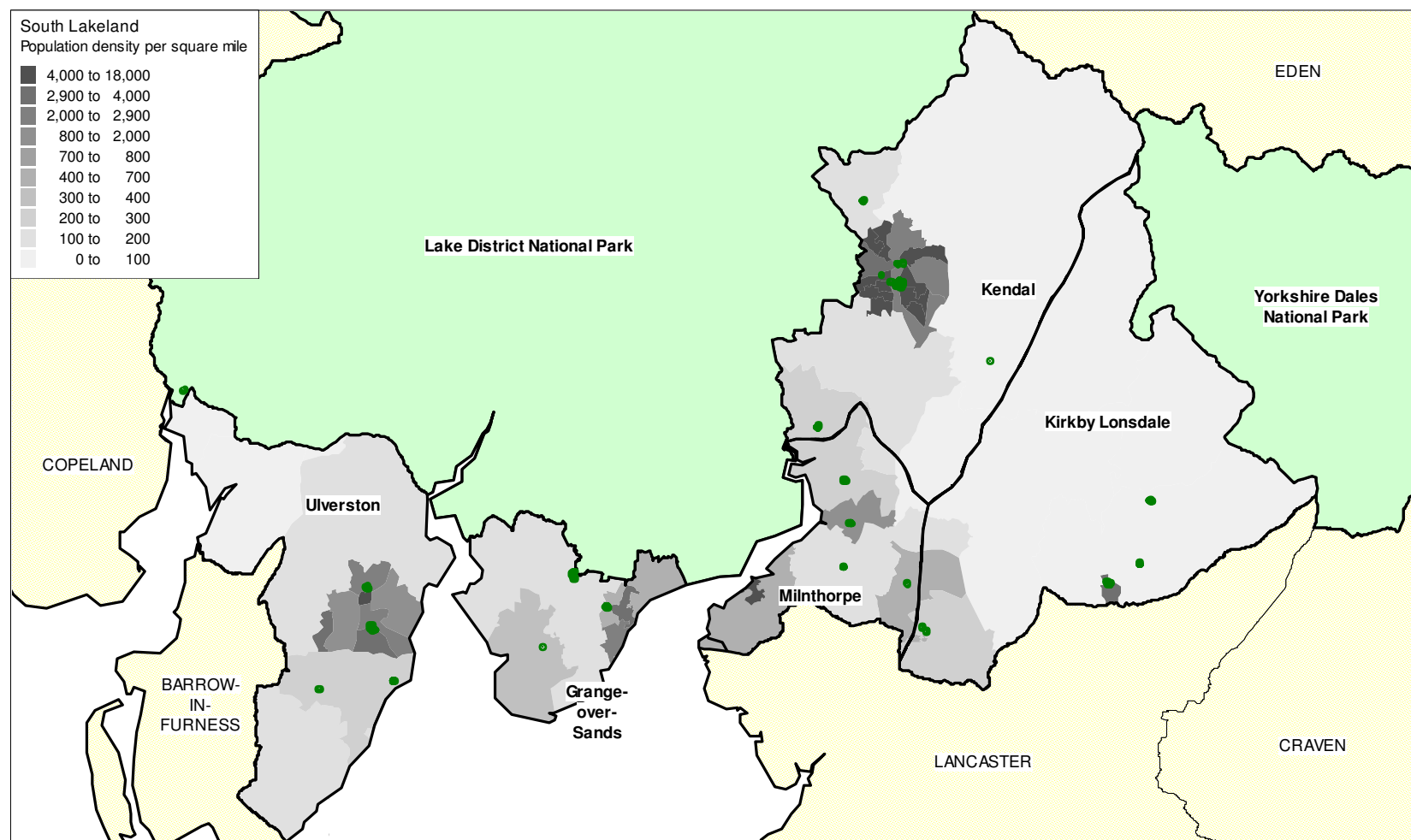
Almost half of the respondents (47%) to the residents survey are unable to state for how long they would travel to reach a cemetery or churchyard. Of those who do, over a third (36%) are willing to walk for no longer than 15 minutes to reach this typology. A much smaller proportion would travel by transport.

*Figure10.3: Time prepared to travel to reach a cemetery/churchyard*



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*Figure 10.4: Cemeteries sites mapped against analysis areas*



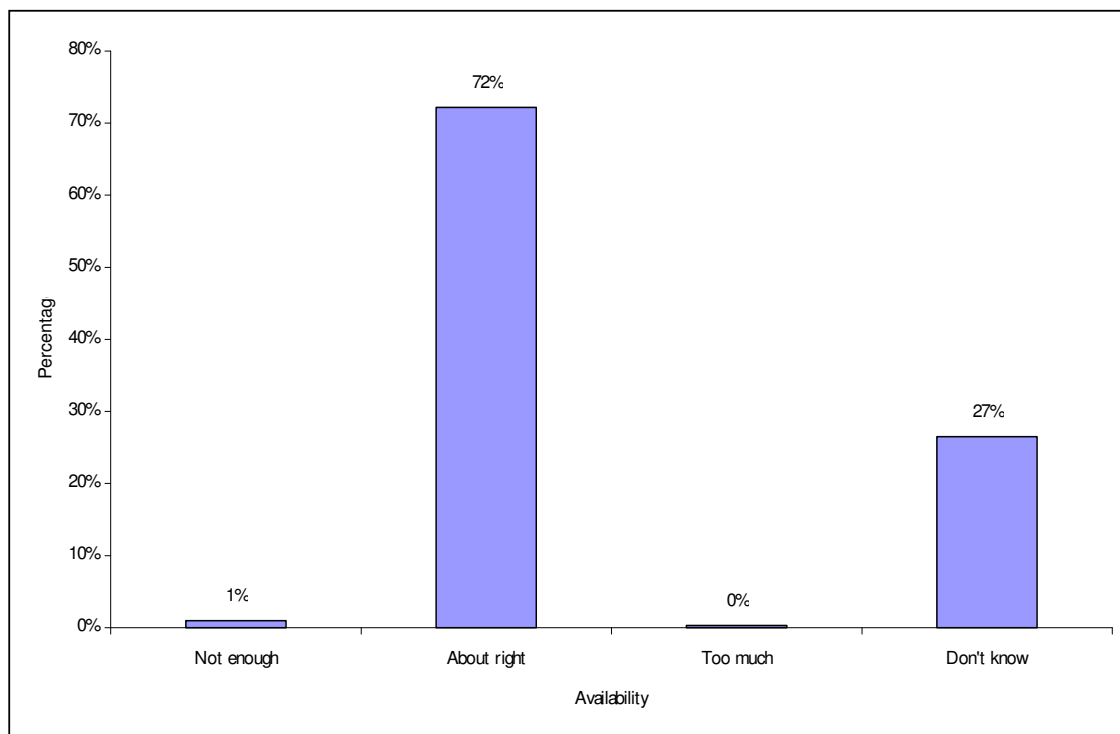
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In terms of cemeteries, churchyards and disused burial grounds mapping shows there is provision in the main settlement areas, particularly Kendal and Ulverston. The main deficiency in a populated area appears to be in Arnside, the remaining gaps are associated with rural areas. For cemetery provision, need is driven by burial capacity requirement.

Residents generally rate the availability of cemeteries or churchyards as about right (72%). Figures vary across the age ranges, with the youngest groups having a lower rating of availability being about right (54%), mainly due to an increase in the proportion not able to give a response. Respondents in Kirkby Lonsdale are the most likely to respond that provision is about right (89%).

*Figure 10.5: Availability of cemeteries/churchyards*



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### ***Management***

Within the South Lakeland LDF area, SLDC manages and maintains four operational cemeteries and has a maintenance liability for seven churchyards that have been closed to further burials. Three of the sites (St. Mary's in Ulverston, Holy Trinity/Parish Church in Kendal and St George's in Kendal) are maintained directly by SLDC contractors while the churches themselves, with a yearly grant from SLDC, undertake routine maintenance at St Mary's in Kirkby Lonsdale, St Thomas's in Kendal and St Cuthbert's in Kirkby Ireleth. There is no permanent staff presence at any site in terms of site gardeners. However, the grounds maintenance contractor has offices located within Ulverston Cemetery and Kendal (Parkside) Cemetery, thus providing an informal presence and point of call for queries or problems. To ensure that high standards are maintained across the sites and to identify any issues SLDC visually inspects each site on a monthly basis.

### ***Quality***

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries in South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 10.2: Quality scores for cemeteries sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	150	51%	56%	61%	11%	2	2
Kendal	150	16%	51%	71%	55%	5	4
Kirkby Lonsdale	150	61%	65%	74%	14%	0	4
Milnthorpe	150	43%	56%	67%	23%	2	2
Ulverston	150	42%	57%	72%	30%	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>

Although the mean score for quality of cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds lies below the quality threshold for South Lakeland LDF area the majority of sites are assessed as being of high quality (score more than 60%). Almost all of the sites score highly for landscape design and maintenance and overall maintenance and cleanliness. While site assessments identify 11 sites as being of low quality, due to scoring low against criteria such as toilet facilities and furniture, consultation does not identify any particular concern regarding the quality of cemeteries and churchyards in the LDF area.

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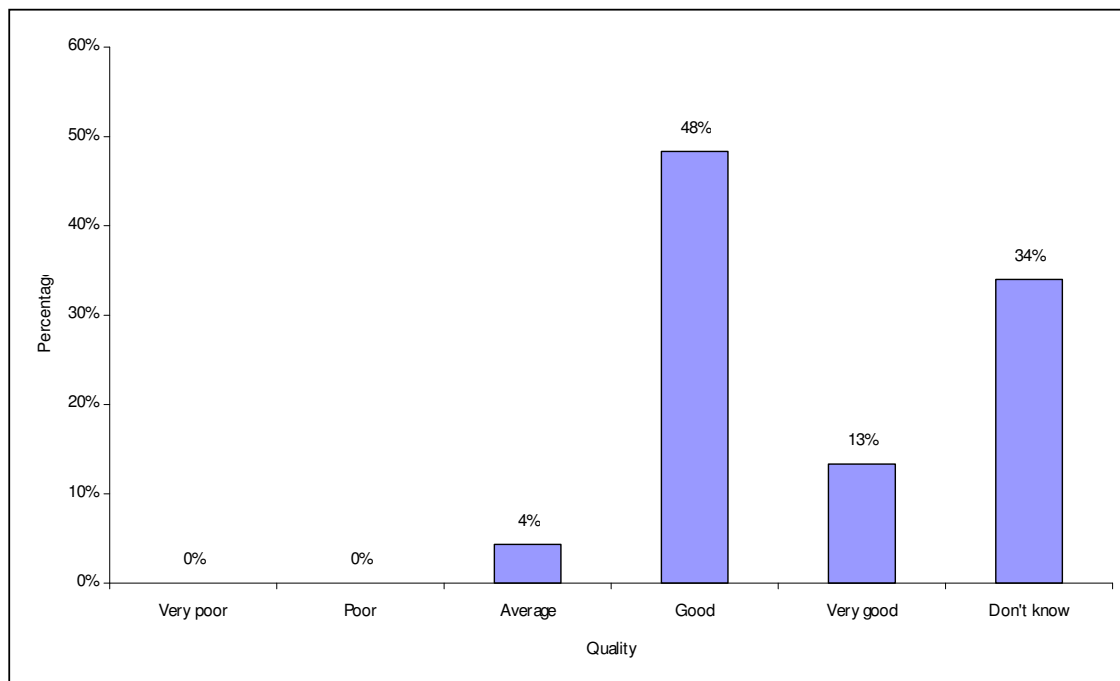
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Indeed consultation identifies that the quality of provision across the South Lakeland LDF area is considered to be good. This is supported by the findings of the resident survey. Grounds maintenance standards are deemed adequate and SDLC receives few complaints regarding the visual quality and upkeep of sites. There is little vandalism and consultation highlights that, although some of the sites e.g. Ulverston Cemetery, do experience occasional problems with children and young people creating a nuisance, it is not considered to be a pertinent issue that impacts upon quality and usage of provision.

The site assessments indicate that internal footpath quality is good across the sites, facilitating easy access, particularly for users in wheelchairs.

Over a third of the respondents of the residents' survey view the quality of this typology to be good or very good (61%). A third of respondents (34%) are unable to comment on this, indicating that they do not use this typology. Only a small proportion (4%) views the quality as average and none rate it as poor to any degree. The proportion rating provision as good or very good tends to increase with age, reaching 75% for those aged 60+. This is mainly the result of larger proportions of young people being unable to rate provision (probably reflecting its primary usage). Provision is particularly highly rated in Kirkby Lonsdale (84% rating it as good or very good).

*Figure 10.6: Quality of provision of cemetery/churchyard*



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### *Value*

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for cemeteries in South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 10.3: Value scores for cemeteries by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	100	16%	25%	32%	16%	1	3
Kendal	100	13%	35%	51%	38%	1	8
Kirkby Lonsdale	100	39%	47%	61%	22%	0	4
Milnthorpe	100	24%	33%	44%	20%	0	4
Ulverston	100	20%	24%	26%	6%	0	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>

In terms of value, the average score across the South Lakeland LDF area lies above the value threshold of 20% ranging from 61% for St Mary's Church in Kirkby Lonsdale to only 13% for Scottish Burial Ground in Kendal. A number of the sites have high ecological/biodiversity value, high cultural and heritage value and also high amenity and landscape benefits. This recognises the variety of opportunities that a cemetery can offer. In total, only one site, Scottish Burial Ground, falls below the 20% threshold and this is, in part, due to the restricted access impeding the site assessment.

There is potential for the value of cemeteries in the LDF area to be recognised through increased educational opportunities and wildlife habitats. Cemeteries can also offer a valuable amenity resource and can be used by local residents for walking and uncovering historical interest. There is a need to encourage this informal use of cemeteries through, for example, the provision of seating areas where it is currently lacking. This would be of benefit at Parkside Cemetery, St George's Church and Castle Street Cemetery, all in Kendal. There is a disused chapel within Castle Street Cemetery, Kendal, which has potential to be brought back into use. It is a listed building but currently has no electricity or water supply. There is also an opportunity to promote Kendal Parkside Cemetery as an amenity open space for the local community and visitors. Consultation highlights the potential to link the site with the canal walk to encourage greater usage and appreciation. Lord Wakefield is buried at the site and there is potential to build on this opportunity for historical interpretation and education.

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There are examples of where SLDC supports the development of wildlife value at sites e.g. following a request from a local community group a strip of land within Grange Cemetery now remains un-mown to encourage the establishment of a wildflower area. There is also an area within Kendal Cemetery that remains uncut until July to allow development of a wildlife area.

To enhance and encourage the wildlife and habitat value offered at sites, CWT has recently initiated a three year project to engage local volunteers in the undertaking of wildlife surveys within churchyards and cemeteries across the County. Community groups and local schools will be involved and education opportunities will be facilitated. SLDC has an aspiration to identify tree species within the cemetery sites and disused churchyards and to incorporate this into an interpretation leaflet to raise awareness of the interest available at sites.

### **Cemeteries summary**

- ❑ There are 25 sites classified under this typology equating to 32 hectares of provision in the South Lakeland LDF area. 14 sites are identified as high quality and 11 as low quality. In terms of value, 23 sites are identified as high value and two as low value.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access cemetery provision.
- ❑ Consultation identifies few quality issues impacting upon the usage of sites.
- ❑ Opportunities exist to utilise sites for greater amenity value and to encourage greater use of sites as an open space resource. There is also an opportunity to engage local communities and schools to explore the educational benefits offered by the sites in terms of the historical/heritage value.
- ❑ CWT is in the early stages of a three year county wide project which will include the involvement of local residents and schools in undertaking wildlife surveys at a number of churchyards.



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## **PART 11: CIVIC SPACES**

### **Introduction**

The typology of civic space, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.

### **Key issues**

#### ***Current provision***

Four sites have been identified as civic spaces within the South Lakeland LDF area, equating to two hectares<sup>1</sup> of civic space provision.

*Table 11.1: Distribution of civic space by analysis area*

Analysis area	Civic spaces	
	number	Size(ha)
Grange-over-Sands	2	2.08
Kendal	1	0.03
Kirkby Lonsdale	1	0.17
Milnthorpe	-	-
Ulverston	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2.29</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Figures rounded up

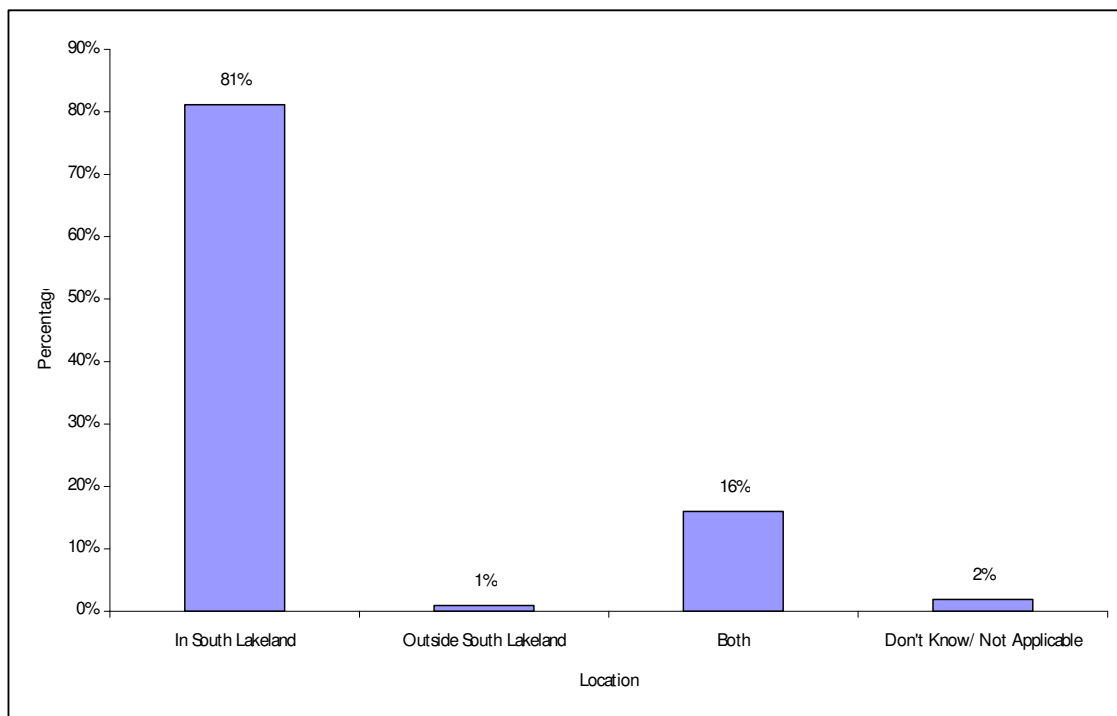
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### *Usage*

Over half of respondents (52%) have visited civic spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area in the previous twelve months. The highest proportion is in the 45-59 age group (62%). This figure reduces as respondents get younger, but significantly so amongst the 20-24s (21%). The vast majority of users (97%) visit civic/non-green spaces in South Lakeland LDF area; a reasonably sized proportion (17%) also visits sites outside the LDF area.

*Figure 11.1: Location of visits to civic/non-green spaces*

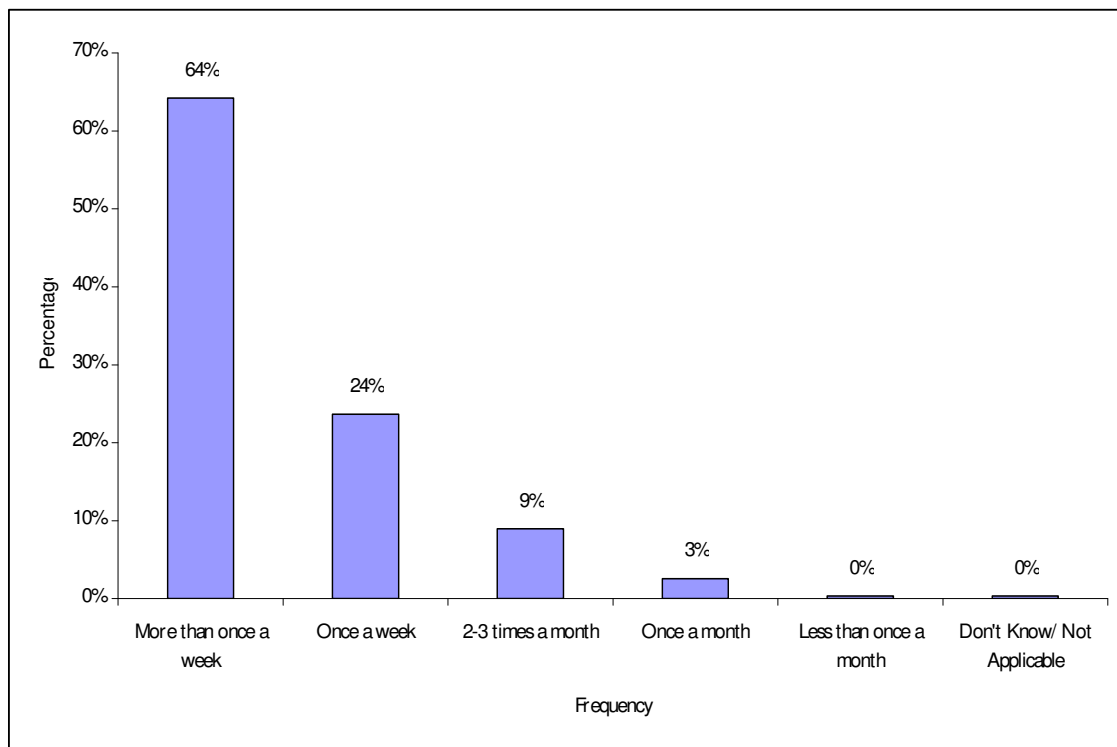


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There is a significant proportion of residents that visit civic space once a week or more (88%). Civic space is the most visited and frequently visited typology in the South Lakeland LDF area. Civic space is used most regularly by those interviewed in Milnthorpe (96% visiting once a week or more) and least by those interviewed in Kendal (76%), although the level of usage remains strong.

*Figure 11.2 Frequency of usage of civic space/non-green spaces in the previous 12 months*



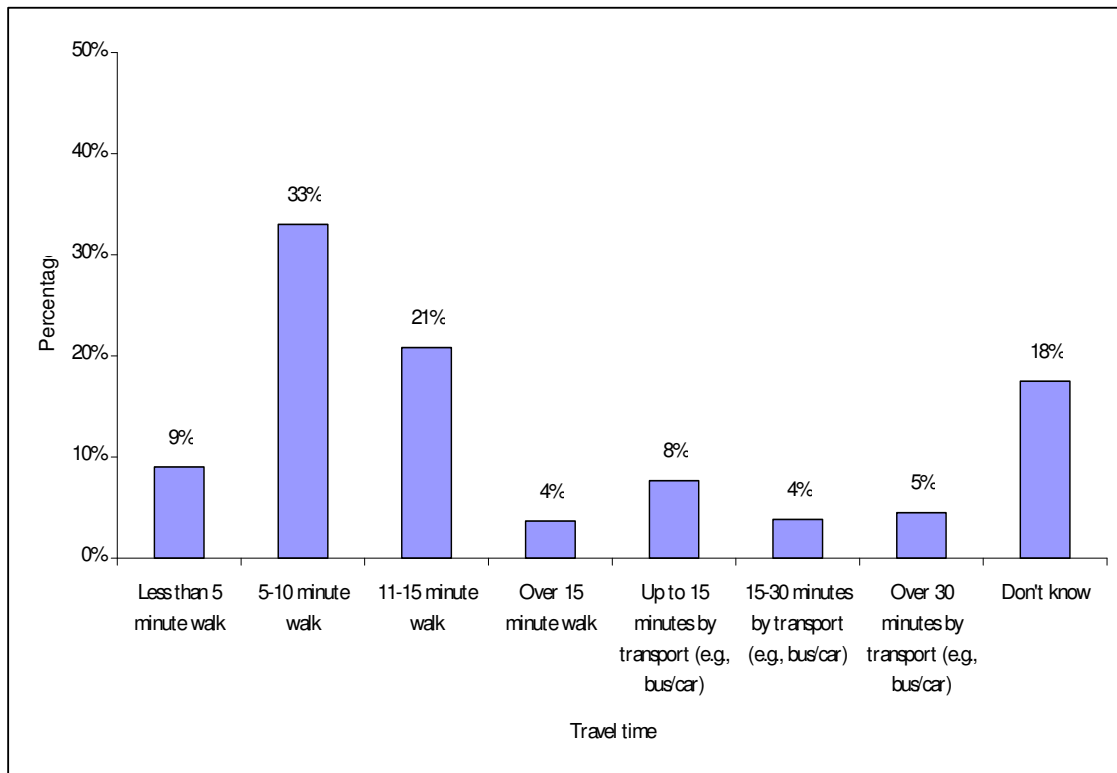
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### ***Accessibility***

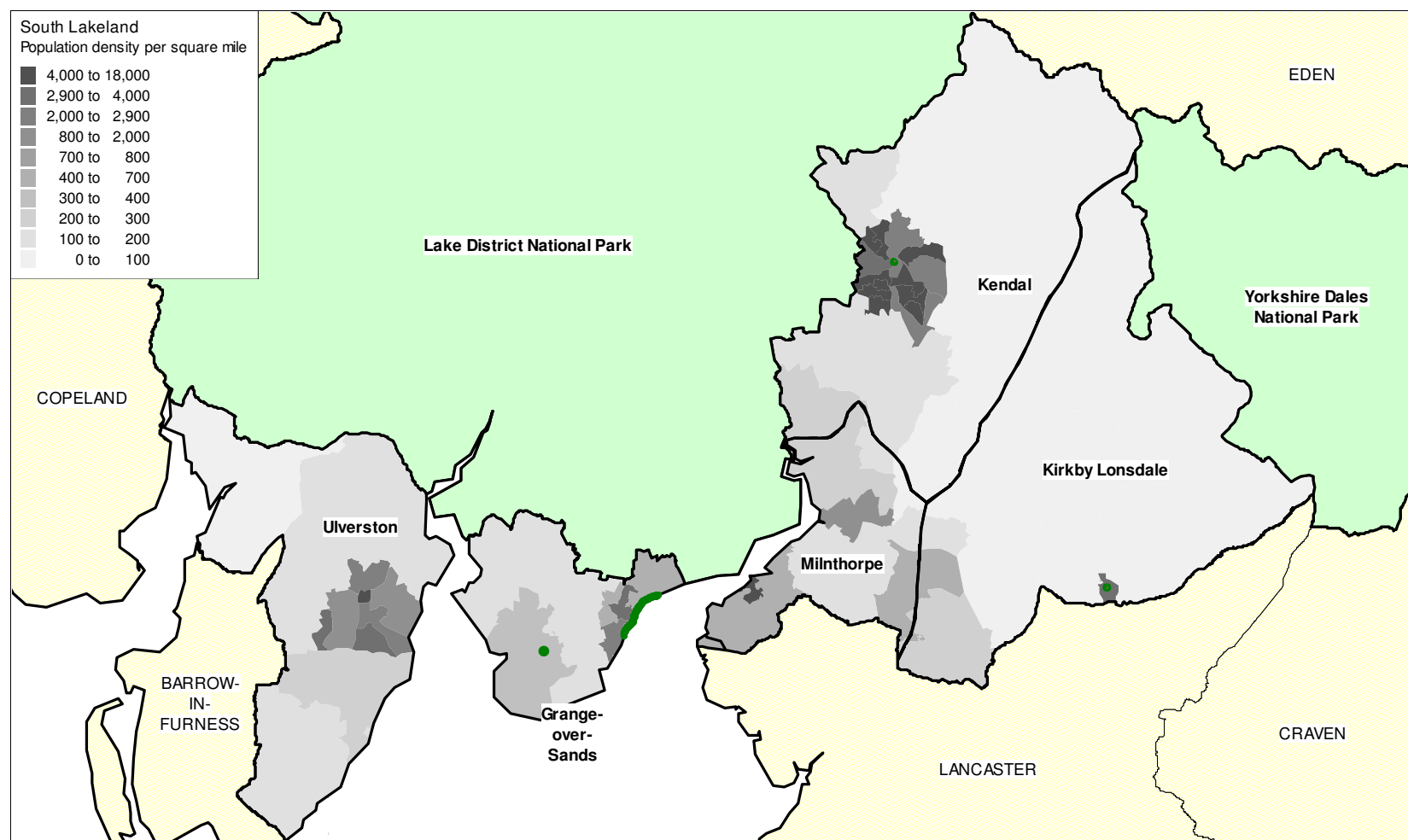
Two thirds of people (67%) are willing to walk to this typology, the majority (63%) being prepared to walk for no more than 15 minutes.

*Figure 11.3: Time prepared to travel to reach a civic space/non-green space*



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Figure 11.4: Civic space sites mapped against analysis areas



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No civic spaces are identified in Ulverston or Milnthorpe. Consultation identifies that there are a number of additional spaces (not included within the assessment) within Kendal, Grange-over-Sands and Ulverston town centres that provide a setting for community events and are considered by residents to be civic space or non-green open space. This includes the War Memorial/Market Cross in Ulverston and the 'bird cage' area in Kendal. No shortfall in provision has been identified through consultation, suggesting that there is no demand for additional civic spaces to be developed in the South Lakeland LDF area.

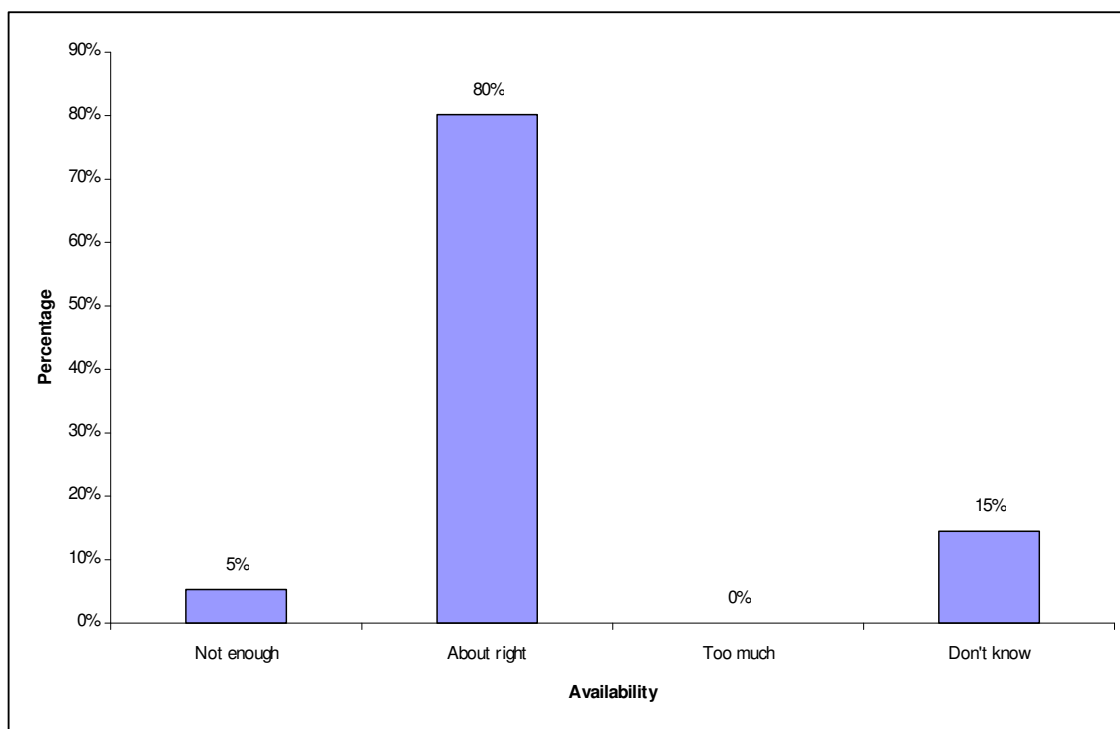
There is an enhancement scheme being taken forward at County Square in Ulverston. Proposals include creating a public open space with public access and installation of a Stan Laurel statue to celebrate the heritage of the town. It is hoped that the scheme will create a focal point for the town centre and will host community events. Part funding has been secured and design plans are currently being worked upon in consultation with the local community. Currently the War Memorial/Market Cross area acts as the main focal point for the town and hosts events and town festivals. There is potential to enhance the site through levelling in order to improve access.

Consultation identifies concerns regarding the pedestrian access area on Stricklandgate in Kendal. The presence and layout of street furniture, trees and bicycle stands makes walking around this area very difficult, particularly for users in wheelchairs, with pushchairs or with a visual impairment. Consultation has identified the street furniture is not colour contrasting and is marked in a way that is recognisable for people with impaired vision.

The vast majority of respondents in South Lakeland LDF area rate the availability of civic space as about right (80%). A small number (15%) are not able to give an opinion and only 5% consider that there is not enough. Respondents in Milnthorpe are more likely to rate availability as about right (91%). Respondents in Grange have the lowest rating of availability being about right (66%), although this remains strong.

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Figure 11.5: Availability of civic space/non-green space



### **Management**

Town centre management is currently limited throughout the LDF area with responsibility falling with the Market Town Initiative officer for Ulverston. Consultation identifies a perception amongst residents that there is little town centre management in the Key Service Centres in the LDF area e.g. Kendal, Grange-over-Sands and Ulverston. There is demand for a lead on the strategic management and development of the centres. Local residents commend the work undertaken by the Market Towns Initiative Officer/Regeneration Manager based in Ulverston and there is demand for a similar officer dedication in other major town centres, in particular Grange-over-Sands. To meet this need SLDC is investigating the possibility of setting up 'Town Teams' in each major service area as a means of structuring and managing existing service delivery.

### **Events**

A number of organised events and exhibitions utilise civic spaces in the town centres of Kendal, Grange-over-Sands and Ulverston. These include events such as the Kendal International Street Art Festival, Ulverston Charter Festival and PROM ART, which takes place on the Grange-over-Sands promenade. Providing high quality, accessible civic spaces facilitates the hosting of these events and encourages the use by both residents and visitors to the areas.

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### **Quality**

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for civic spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area. The threshold for assessing quality has been set at 60%; this is based on Green Flag criteria. Individual site summaries can be found at the end of this section.

*Table 11.2: Quality scores for civic spaces sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Grange-over-Sands	135	62%	69%	75%	12%	-	2
Kendal	135	42%	42%	42%	-	1	-
Kirkby Lonsdale	135	60%	60%	60%	-	-	1
Milnthorpe	135	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	135	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	135	42%	60%	75%	32%	1	3

All of the sites score highly for the quantity and quality of street furniture provision such as seating and litterbins. The one site that falls below the quality threshold, Stramongate Bridge in Kendal, does so due to the presence of graffiti, glass and evidence of vandalism and in particular poor street furniture. The site assessment does note that a section of the site is closed off and undergoing repair. This work may lead to the site having a lower quality rating.

Local residents and users consider Grange-over-Sands Promenade, to be a key feature and open space for the town. Grange Town Council has aspirations to enhance the quality of the Promenade and gardens as part of a potential £3 million renovation project. The main concern raised during consultation regarding the site is the poor access following the closure of the linking bridges. Responsibility for the bridges lies with SLDC Property Services. However, following the bridges falling into disrepair they have been either closed or demolished. This has resulted in access points only being available at either end of the Promenade and residents consider that this undermines the opportunities offered by the site. There is strong demand amongst residents of Grange-over-Sands for the bridges to be reinstated in order to enhance access to the Promenade.

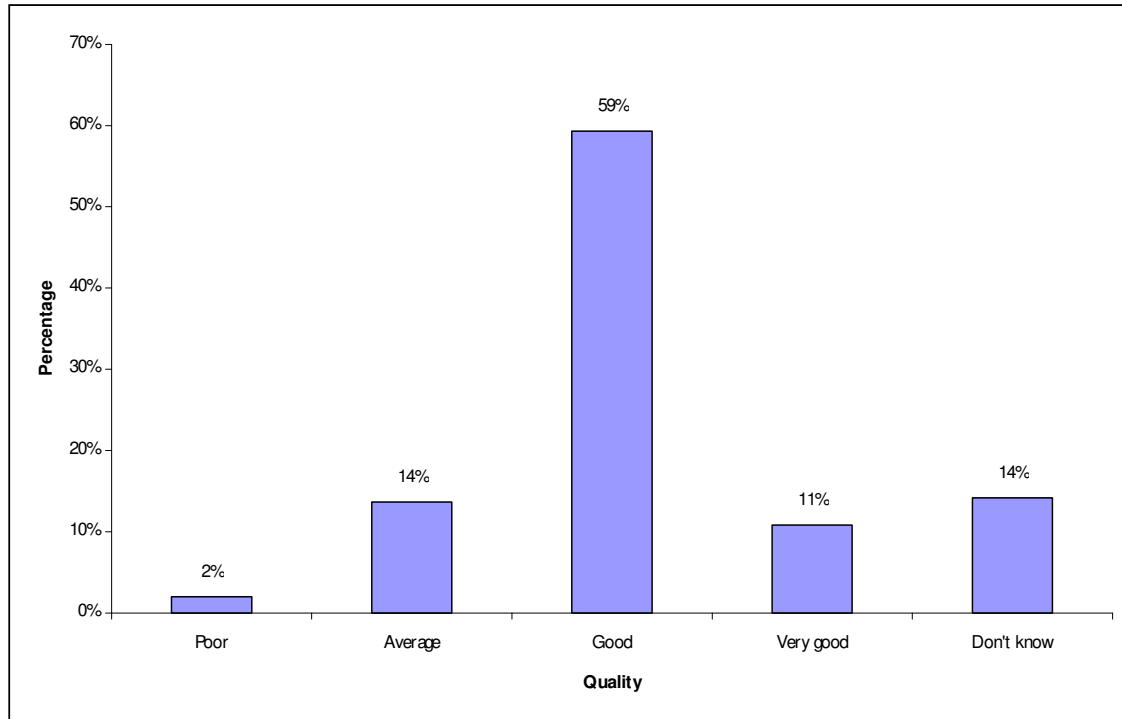


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Over two thirds (70%) of residents perceive the quality of civic spaces to be good or very good, compared to just under a fifth (16%) who rate provision to be poor or have no opinion (14%). Ratings of civic space are consistent throughout the age groups, although the proportion is lower for 20-24 year olds (48% rating it as good or very good).

*Figure 11.6: Quality of provision of civic space/non-green space*



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### **Value**

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for civic spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A full list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the threshold can be found in the appendices document.

*Table 11.3: Value scores for civic spaces by analysis area*

Analysis area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Grange-over-Sands	100	18%	38%	58%	40%	1	1
Kendal	100	11%	11%	11%	-	1	-
Kirkby Lonsdale	100	41%	41%	41%	-	-	1
Milnthorpe	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

Two of the civic spaces in the South Lakeland LDF area fall below the 20% threshold. However the average score for the LDF area lies above the threshold at 32%. Site assessments note that Flookburgh Village Square is used as a car park and therefore has little value to the local community as a functional open space. Stramongate Bridge in Kendal, has also been identified as low value due to the poor quality of the site and the lack of facilities to encourage use e.g. seating and litter bin provision. However, both sites do meet a community need in terms of accessibility to provision.

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### **Civic spaces summary**

- ❑ There are four sites classified under this typology equating to two hectares of provision the South Lakeland LDF area. Of these, one site is identified as low quality and three as high quality. In terms of value, two sites are identified as low value and two sites are identified as high value.
- ❑ Although there are significant catchment gaps in the provision of civic spaces across the LDF area, No shortfall in provision has been identified through consultation, suggesting that there is no need for additional civic spaces to be developed in the South Lakeland LDF area.
- ❑ Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access civic space provision.
- ❑ There is demand for town centre managers in the major service centres (Kendal, Grange-over-sands and Ulverston) to lead on the strategic management and development of the centres.
- ❑ There are a number of spaces within Kendal, Grange-over-Sands and Ulverston town centres which provide a setting for community events and are considered by residents to be civic space or non-green open space. Civic spaces play a valuable role in facilitating town centre communitiy events.

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## **PART 12: PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

### **Introduction**

This section of the assessment report is the Playing Pitch Assessment and covers outdoor sports facilities. It predominately focuses on reporting the findings of the extensive research, consultation, site assessment, data analysis and GIS mapping work. It does not, at this stage, incorporate provision standards or site-specific recommendations (in relation to meeting deficiencies and dealing with surpluses). Once the facts outlined in this report (including site information, number of teams etc.) have been agreed, a strategy and action plan will be developed.

### **National context**

#### ***Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 17***

PPG 17 defines outdoor sports facilities as those with either natural or artificial surfaces and either publicly or privately owned and should include:

- ❑ Sports pitches.
- ❑ Tennis courts.
- ❑ Bowling greens.
- ❑ School and other institutional playing fields.
- ❑ Other outdoor sports areas.

As outlined in the introduction to the accompanying 'Open Spaces Assessment Report', PPG 17 recognises the value of outdoor sports facilities along with other types of open spaces in delivering the following broad Government objectives:

- ❑ Supporting an urban renaissance.
- ❑ Supporting rural renewal.
- ❑ Promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion.
- ❑ Health and well-being.
- ❑ Promoting more sustainable development.

#### ***Assessing Needs & Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG 17***

The Companion Guide states the long-term outcomes, which PPG 17 aims to deliver as:

- ❑ Networks of accessible high quality open spaces and sport and recreation facilities, in both urban and rural areas, which meet the needs of residents and visitors, are fit for purpose and economically and environmentally sustainable.
- ❑ An appropriate balance between new provision and the enhancement of existing provision.

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- ❑ Clarity and reasonable certainty for developers and landowners in relation to the requirements and expectations of local planning authorities in respect of open space and sport and recreation provision.

In order to deliver these aims, each local authority needs to establish local needs and opportunities and develop and apply provision standards in a way, which is equitable to both developers and local communities.

The Companion Guide outlines a five-step approach to deliver the aims:

- ❑ Step 1: Identifying local needs.
- ❑ Step 2: Auditing local provision.
- ❑ Step 3: Setting provision standards.
- ❑ Step 4: Applying provision standards.
- ❑ Step 5: Drafting policies.

### *Towards a Level Playing Field*

The aims and objectives outlined in Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG 17) and the Companion Guide are reiterated in the Sport England playing pitch strategy methodology, 'Towards a Level Playing Field' (February 2003).

It should be noted that 'Towards A Level Playing Field' only deals with the assessment of playing pitch provision and does not cover assessments for other outdoor sports facilities. However, the principles and basic methodology can be applied to the assessment of these other sports.

The benefits of having a playing pitch strategy are identified as follows:

### *Corporate and strategic*

- ❑ It ensures a strategic approach to playing pitch provision.
- ❑ It provides robust evidence for capital funding.
- ❑ It helps deliver government policies.
- ❑ It helps demonstrate the value of leisure services.
- ❑ It helps the Best Value process.

### *Planning*

- ❑ It provides a basis for establishing new pitch requirements arising from new housing developments.
- ❑ It is one of the best tools for the protection of pitches.
- ❑ It provides a holistic approach to open space improvement and protection.

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### *Operational*

- ❑ Can result in more efficient use of resources.
- ❑ Quality of provision can be enhanced.

### *Sports development*

- ❑ It helps identify where community use of school sports pitches is most needed.
- ❑ It provides better information to residents and other users of sports pitches.
- ❑ It promotes sports development and can help unlock latent demand.

The approach and guidance outlined in 'Towards A Level Playing Field' are fully endorsed by Sport England and the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) as the appropriate methodology to provide detailed local assessments of playing pitch requirements and as such have been used in this study.

### ***National Playing Fields Association (NPFA)***

Both PPG 17 and 'Towards A Level Playing Field' identify the need to develop local standards of provision for playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities.

Traditionally, the NPFA 'Six Acre Standard' (reviewed in 2001) has been used. This recommends a minimum standard of 1.6 hectares (four acres) per 1,000 people for outdoor sports. Within this, there is to be a specific allocation of at least 1.2 hectares (three acres) of land for pitch sports. The balance (i.e. 0.4 hectares or one acre) is required for non-pitch sports including athletics, tennis and bowls.

However, PPG 17 now requires local authorities to undertake detailed local assessments to provide evidence as a basis for developing a local standard, taking into account the quality, capacity and accessibility of outdoor sports facilities rather than just the quantity.

'Towards A Level Playing Field' does not give definitive instruction on how to calculate local standards for sports pitches but advises that the following need to be taken into consideration:

- ❑ Only pitches available for community use should be included.
- ❑ Quality of pitches.
- ❑ Provision of changing facilities.
- ❑ Pitch capacity.
- ❑ Future population estimates.

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### ***Playing pitch strategy methodology***

The assessment and analysis in this report are based on Sport England's (SE) playing pitch strategy methodology, 'Towards A Level Playing Field' (2003). This document outlines specific criteria for assessing the quantity, quality, capacity and accessibility of playing pitches and ancillary facilities. These criteria and the principles of the assessment have also been applied to outdoor sports facilities other than pitches.

'Towards A Level Playing Field' provides clear guidance on the assessment of supply and demand for sports pitches and the types and levels of analysis, which need to be carried out in order for the local authority to plan effectively to meet local needs. These include:

- ❑ The playing pitch model (PPM).
- ❑ Team generation rates (TGRs).
- ❑ Local standards for provision.

### ***Playing Pitch Model (PPM)***

The PPM is a temporal supply and demand analysis and is largely used as a numerical, model. There are three main ways in which the model is used:

- ❑ To reflect the existing situation using data on existing teams and pitches.
- ❑ To test the adequacy of current provision by manipulating the variables in the model.
- ❑ To predict future requirements for pitches, by incorporating planned pitches and projected changes in population and participation.

An eight-stage process is outlined to produce the PPM:

- Stage 1: Identify teams/team equivalents.
- Stage 2: Calculating home games per team per week.
- Stage 3: Assessing total home games per week.
- Stage 4: Establishing temporal demand for games.
- Stage 5: Defining pitches used/required on each day.
- Stage 6: Establishing pitches available.
- Stage 7: Assessing the findings.
- Stage 8: Identifying policy options and solutions.

The first seven stages of this process are covered in this report. Stage 8 will be covered in the final report.

The 'electronic toolkit', which accompanies 'Towards A Level Playing Field', provides tools for collecting some of the information above.

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Identifying teams has been undertaken through consultation with leagues, local authority officers (pitch booking records), as well as with governing bodies and clubs.

'Team equivalents' refers to use of pitches by groups other than those playing formal matches. This includes school games lessons, club and school training sessions, sports development sessions etc. By including these in the 'demand equation' a more accurate picture is presented. Information from schools and clubs is collected using the electronic toolkit school and club questionnaires.

Establishing how many pitches are available is largely done through site visits. All local authority playing pitch sites have been visited by KKP, either accompanied by local area grounds maintenance managers or unaccompanied. All secondary schools in the South Lakeland LDF area have also been visited. Audit information for private and voluntary sector clubs was gathered in a variety of ways:

- ❑ Face to face consultation/site visit.
- ❑ Postal questionnaire.
- ❑ Telephone questionnaire.

### *Pitch quality information*

It should be noted that the club and school questionnaires and the non-technical pitch assessment sheet in the electronic toolkit all have different scales for rating the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities. On this basis, KKP uses the 'non-technical pitch assessment sheet' to assess **all** pitches in order that consistent information is presented.

The pitch assessment sheet is a 'tick box' assessment, which rates various elements of pitch quality with a separate assessment sheet for changing accommodation. It should be noted the pitch assessment also takes into account whether changing rooms and car parking exist on the site. However, the total pitch score is not significantly affected.

This information is scored, converted into a percentage (of the highest score possible) and also into a qualitative rating. The qualitative ratings for pitch quality are:

90% +	An excellent pitch
64-90%	A good pitch
55-64%	An average pitch
30-54%	A below average pitch
Less than 30%	A poor pitch

For ease of analysis KKP has reduced this to a three-point scale. In this report pitches are rated as:



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- ❑ An excellent pitch or good pitch = **good quality**.
- ❑ An average pitch = **adequate quality**.
- ❑ A below average pitch or poor pitch = **poor quality**.

The qualitative ratings for changing accommodation quality are listed as:

90% +	Excellent
60-89%	Good
40-59%	Average
30-39%	Poor
Less than 30%	Very poor

Copies of the assessment sheets can be found in the appendices.

### *Capacity*

KKP has developed a capacity rating for each pitch site i.e. football and rugby based on the quality rating given to pitches on the site and the number teams currently playing at the site (identified through league handbooks, local authority booking sheets and consultation with clubs). These capacity ratings will assist with the identification of sites for improvement/development, rationalisation etc.

*Play* refers to temporal demand or when the teams play. A figure of 1.0 in this column for instance would be representative of two teams using that pitch on a home and away basis (every other week). This means that that pitch is receiving one game at that time every week. This is taken from the 2004/05 season.

Calculation of *capacity* is based on the qualitative ratings. Taking into consideration SE guidelines<sup>1</sup> on capacity the following was concluded:

- ❑ If a pitch is rated as 'good' its capacity is specified as two matches per week.
- ❑ If a pitch is rated as 'acceptable' its capacity is specified as one match per week.
- ❑ If a pitch is rated as 'poor' its capacity is specified as one match every other week.

School pitches have been issued with a different capacity rating. This is due to the fact that school pitches generally have more usage because of curricular and extra curricular school based use and therefore generally have higher levels of maintenance. School pitches have thus been identified to have the following capacity ratings:

- ❑ If a pitch is rated as 'good' its capacity is specified as four matches per week.
- ❑ If a pitch is rated as 'acceptable' its capacity is specified as two matches per week.
- ❑ If a pitch is rated as 'poor' its capacity is specified as one match per week.

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<sup>1</sup> Sport England – 'Towards A Level Playing Field'

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A colour coded *rating* is then given by comparing the above information:

- ❑ **Red - the pitch is being used over capacity.**
- ❑ **Amber - the pitch is played to capacity.**
- ❑ **Green - the pitch is being used under capacity.**

Where it is indicated that the level of provision is 'sufficient', this indicates that none of the pitches in the area (for the particular sports), are rated as poor quality and/or played 'over capacity', neither has any latent demand been identified by users. This is not to say that improvements to sites are not required. Conversely, where an insufficient level of provision has been identified this is because one or more sites/pitches have been rated as poor quality and/or are being over-played and/or latent demand has been expressed.

Following consultation with league secretaries it is noted U15, U16 and U17 teams play on senior sized football pitches. The capacity rating does not take into account this type of play i.e. juniors playing on senior pitches. Where a large number of junior/mini teams are playing on a site, particularly if they are playing on senior pitches this often results in pitches being overplayed on the capacity rating. Many pitches are able to withstand more matches being played on by junior/mini teams than senior teams.

There are a number of provisos that need to be taken into account as there may be some discrepancies between the SE visual rating and the consultation comments:

- ❑ Schools may have been rated as poor via the SE rating and acceptable/good through consultation. This may arise as the SE quality assessment increases rating if there is changing accommodation available. A number of the schools however have no changing accommodation available for community use.

### *Team generation rates (TGRs)*

TGRs indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team based on current population and participation. TGRs for each pitch sport and each age group have been calculated.

TGRs can be used with the PPM for modelling purposes, e.g., by looking at population projections, future TGRs can be estimated. If these are entered into the PPM, it is possible to predict whether current supply would meet future demand.

### *Consultation*

A variety of consultation methods have been used to collate information about leagues, clubs, county associations and national/regional governing bodies.

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They are generally as follows:

Consultee	Method of consultation
Local authority officers	Face to face interview
League/county association representatives	Face to face/ telephone interview
Football clubs	Face to face, postal questionnaire, telephone interview
Cricket/rugby/hockey/tennis clubs	Face to face, postal questionnaire, telephone interview
Bowls clubs	Postal questionnaires, telephone interview
Secondary schools	Face to face interview
Primary and junior schools	Postal questionnaire
Regional governing body officers	Face to face, telephone interview

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs should be included in the face-to-face consultation. Issues identified by football clubs returning questionnaires were also followed up by telephone or face-to-face interviews.

### **Sports specific summary**

The following sections summarise the local administration of the main outdoor sports in the South Lakeland LDF area.

This section provides a quantitative summary of provision and a map showing the distribution of facilities. It also provides information about the availability of facilities to the local community and, the governing body of each sport and regional strategic plans (where they exist). Details of local leagues are provided in order to outline the competitive structure for each sport. The findings of club consultation and key issues for each sport are summarised.

KKP has covered all sport for which there is currently organised, structured play on outdoor facilities. It is recognised that there are additional outdoor sports that could also be developed on facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area. Therefore, the sports covered are as follows:

- ☐ Football.
- ☐ Cricket.
- ☐ Rugby league.
- ☐ Rugby union.
- ☐ Hockey.
- ☐ Bowls.
- ☐ Tennis.

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## PART 13: FOOTBALL

### Introduction

The Westmorland County Football Association (WCFA) is responsible for the development of football in the South Lakeland LDF area. There are four main leagues in the South Lakeland LDF area providing football from U7's through to open age, for both males and females.

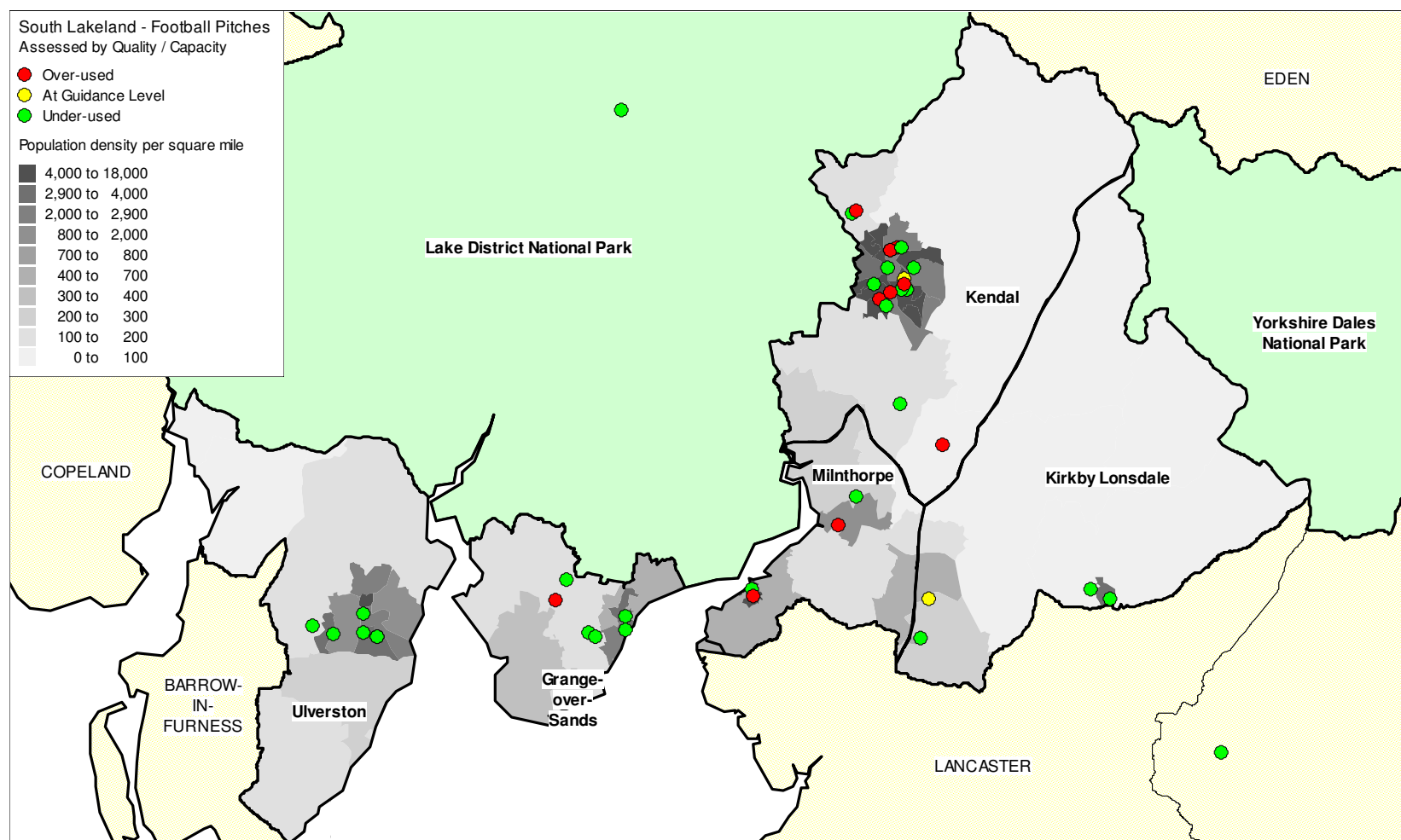
*Table 13.1: Summary of pitches available for community use and teams by analysis area*

Analysis area	No. of available pitches			No. of teams				
	Senior	Junior	Mini	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls	Mini-soccer
Kirkby Lonsdale	3	3	1	4	-	1	-	-
Kendal	22	8	1	24	-	47	7	10
Grange-over-Sands	5	1	1	3	-	7	2	4
Ulverston	6	3	-	3	-	16	-	2
Milnthorpe	6	2	-	6	-	12	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>

As the summary indicates, the majority of pitches and teams are based in the Kendal analysis area. Although there appears to be a significant number of analysis areas where junior and women's football is not played, this is because it is often targeted at central venue sites, particularly in Kendal, where segregated changing accommodation is accessible. Numbers are also relatively low in some analysis areas because some leagues play outside the South Lakeland LDF area at central venue sites. This may be the case for Ulverston, where teams tend to play in leagues in Barrow. It is also important to note that, although mini pitches are not available in Ulverston and Milnthorpe, teams can participate in mini-soccer by playing across senior pitches.

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*Figure 13.1: Location of football pitches*



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*Table 13.2: Key to map of football pitches*

Site name	KKP ref.	Analysis area	Total senior	Total junior	Total mini
Bentham Moor Road Recreation Field	136	External	1		
Allithwaite C of E Primary School	106	Grange-over-Sands	1		
Allithwaite Playing Fields	27	Grange-over-Sands	1		1
Cartmel Park	28	Grange-over-Sands	1		
Cartmel Priory CE School	99	Grange-over-Sands	1		
Grange CE School	128	Grange-over-Sands		1	
Yew Tree Road Playing Fields	35	Grange-over-Sands	1		
Bulmire & Stripes	43	Kendal	1		1
Burneside FC	49	Kendal	1		
Burneside Recreation Ground	57	Kendal	1		
Castle Park School	130	Kendal		1	
Crosscrake CE School	129	Kendal		1	
Dean Gibson Primary School	125	Kendal	1		
Ghyllside School	131	Kendal		1	
Heron Hill Primary School	105	Kendal		1	
Jubilee Playing Field, Kendal	51	Kendal	3		
Kendal Millennium Playing Field	53	Kendal	3	1	
Kendal Town FC	55	Kendal	1		
Kirkbie Kendal School	96	Kendal	1		
Parkside Road	61	Kendal	2		
Pump House Playing Field	121	Kendal	2		
Queen Katherine School	100	Kendal	5		
Stramongate School	107	Kendal		1	
Wattsfield Recreation Ground	91	Kendal		2	
Woodside Road Playing Fields	42	Kendal	1		
Burton Morewood	109	Kirkby Lonsdale		2	
Curwen Woods	1	Kirkby Lonsdale	1		

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Site name	KKP ref.	Analysis area	Total senior	Total junior	Total mini
Lunefield Park	5	Kirkby Lonsdale	2		1
St Mary's C of E Primary School	126	Kirkby Lonsdale		1	
Arnside Primary School	122	Milnthorpe		1	
Dallam High School	98	Milnthorpe	4		
Park Road Recreation Ground	32	Milnthorpe	1	1	
War Memorial Playing Fields	31	Milnthorpe	1		
The Lakes School	132	Lake District National Park	1		
Croftlands	10	Ulverston	1		
Pennington CE school	127	Ulverston		1	
Swarthmoor Football Club	24	Ulverston	2	1	
Ulverston Leisure Centre	25	Ulverston	1		
Ulverston Sports Club	26	Ulverston	1		
Ulverston Victoria High School	97	Ulverston	1	1	

### ***Development***

WCFA has highlighted a number of priorities for the development of football across the County, which are directly relevant for South Lakeland LDF area and provide the context for the development of football in the area.

*Table 13.3: WCFA priorities and their impact on South Lakeland LDF area*

County vision	Impact
Availability of good quality pitches	Continue to support improvements to pitches. WCFA continues to work with SLDC on resolving the levelling and drainage work, which has been carried out Jubilee Fields.
Availability of floodlit pitches	Only two pitches in the South Lakeland LDF area are floodlit (Milnthorpe Corinthians and Kendal Town) which restricts midweek play and training, increasing the demand for pitches at peak times.  WCFA is working with the FA Charter Standard clubs based at Dallam School on the provision of a third generation synthetic turf pitch (3G STP).
Provision of MUGAs	WCFA is working with project partners in South Lakeland to develop a number of MUGAs in the South Lakeland LDF area. These offer young people the opportunity to participate in structured and un-structured activity.

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### *County development*

WCFA appointed a full-time football development officer and a girls' and women's officer to deliver the national football development initiatives in line with local needs.

The key areas of football development include the following:

- ❑ County coaching centre.
- ❑ Mini soccer.
- ❑ Charter standard.
- ❑ Education.
- ❑ Coach education.
- ❑ Equity.
- ❑ Volunteer development.
- ❑ Girls and women's football.
- ❑ Football foundation.

There are ten Charter Standard clubs in South Lakeland LDF area, including two FA Charter Standard Community Clubs (Kendal Community Club and Milnthorpe Community Club), three FA Charter Standard Adult Clubs, four FA Charter Standard Youth Clubs and a Charter Standard Development Club. Milnthorpe & District Junior Football Club (M&DJFC) and Wattsfield Junior Football Club (WJFC) are both FA Charter Standard youth clubs. Consultation identifies that both clubs have to use a number of different sites in order to accommodate the large number of teams.

### *Local Football Partnership*

The Westmorland Local Football Partnership (LFP) is made up of regional stakeholders involved in football, including local authorities, the Local Education Authority (Cumbria County Council), The Football Association and local community clubs. The role of the LFP is to manage the direction and implementation of the Westmorland County Facilities Strategy and football development strategy through developing effective links with key stakeholders within the County.

### *Facility development*

Developed in 2003, the Westmorland County Facility Strategy sets out a clear vision for football facility development in the County for the next four years. The key strategic facility issues identified include:

- ❑ Football facilities on school sites are generally inaccessible to community football, with the Register of English Football Facilities indicating just 5% community use.
- ❑ The County is short of the regional average for senior grass pitches.
- ❑ Growth in mini soccer has seen demand for the game exceed supply of mini-pitches.



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- ❑ Changing provision is substandard or non-existent on many sites.
- ❑ Poor drainage is a key issue on many existing sites a problem compounded by the above national annual average rainfall for the County.
- ❑ There is just one floodlit grass pitch in the County creating problems for the hosting of mid-week games, cup finals and other key representative games.
- ❑ There is no 3G STP in the LDF area.

In 2005, WCFA carried out a review of its investment priorities and added the provision of new pitches and changing rooms at Holme FC to the priority list. This decision was made following the donation of land to the community by a local land owner.

### *Womens' and girls' football*

Womens' and girls' football is comparatively strong in comparison with the county as a whole. The South Lakeland Girls' League provides football opportunities for girls. The following clubs currently have womens' and girls' teams: Arnside YFC, Endmoor YFC, Ibis FC Grange & District YFC and Milnthorpe YFC.

The South Lakes Girls' League operates two age groups (U12 and U14), culminating in an annual competition with the Barrow and District League. The Cumbria girls' school league, which is Cumbria-wide, operates at U14 and U16 age groups. The league is tailored to be accommodated on the facilities available at schools. There is demand for venues to be to be better equipped and match-ready.

### *Disability football*

The County is keen to provide football opportunities for children with physical disabilities. In South Lakeland the disability tournament was organised with children from Queen Katherine, Kirkbie Kendal and Dallam schools attending.

### ***Pitch management***

SLDC owns and manages twelve sports fields in the South Lakeland LDF area including the following locations, which are available for clubs to rent on a yearly basis:

- ❑ Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal.
- ❑ Croftlands Recreation Ground, Ulverston.
- ❑ Yew Tree Playing Field, Grange.

In addition to the above, a number of smaller pitch sites such as Bulmire and Stripes, Kendal are leased by SLDC on a longer term basis to local clubs. These sites are managed by Norfolk Property Services (NPS) as an extension of the long established agreement between SLDC and NPS, which also undertakes estate management on behalf of the Council. Establishing the management of these sites as an external function is considered, by SLDC, to be an effective means of

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management. Kendal United FC has recently applied for a new lease, for 25 years, at Bulmire and Stripes to enable the Club to secure external funding for the development of new changing facilities.

### *Priority access to pitches*

There is a historical booking system in place in South Lakeland LDF area, whereby the clubs that have traditionally played at a site tend to get priority usage at the same site every year. This system does not reward better quality clubs (i.e. those offering young people development opportunities and playing in competitive league structures with requirements for changing provision), which are recognised by the FA as clubs that have achieved the Charter Standard accreditation. There are aspirations to develop to this type of booking system in the future.

### *Football Foundation Goalpost Safety Scheme*

The Goalpost Safety Scheme aims to replace goals that fail to meet the British Standards (BS8462) requirements. Any goalposts that do not meet the above criteria are eligible to apply for funding up to £1,500. Applicants must match-fund the application by 50%.

Applications have been passed to the Football Foundation for the following sites:

- ❑ Stramongate Primary School.
- ❑ The Queen Katherine School.
- ❑ Settlebeck High School – Sedbergh – not in the LDF area.
- ❑ John Ruskin School – Coniston – not in the LDF area.
- ❑ Wattsfield JFC.
- ❑ The Lakes School, Troutbeck Bridge – not in the LDF area.
- ❑ Burton Thistle FC.

From the start of the 2007/08 season any unsafe goalposts will be condemned and matches will not be sanctioned on those pitches.

### *Provision of multi use games areas (MUGAs)*

The Provision of MUGAs project seeks to provide young people with “quality space where they can play and take part in activity in their own communities”<sup>1</sup>. The MUGAs have been designed as an accessible facility with the aim of tackling social issues such as anti-social behaviour in communities. The project originated following the successful implementation of the “Kick Off” project, which provides structured football competition offering diversionary activities for young people.

Subsequently, the project partnership submitted a request to South Lakes Housing to assist in funding the provision of five community-based MUGAs within wards that are classified as hotspots by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. These

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<sup>1</sup> Multi Use Games Area Project Plan 2007-2012 South Lakeland

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have consistently included Kendal Underley and Highgate wards and Ulverston East ward. The project is awaiting final approval from SLDC in anticipation that the first of the MUGAs will be developed following this decision.

### **Key issues for football**

#### ***Demand***

League consultation across South Lakeland LDF area suggests there have been several fluctuations in the number of teams participating over the last five years, particularly at senior level. However, the Kendal and District Sunday Football League (K&DSFL) is the only league to report a decline in the number of teams participating. Sunday football is no longer regarded a popular time to play and over the previous five years the League has increasingly struggled to retain its existing teams and attract new teams. Furthermore, teams in K&DSFL play on local authority pitches. K&DSFL believes that the poor quality of playing facilities in the Kendal area does not encourage participation. However, it is important to note that the K&DSFL is not focused upon increasing participation but provides a management structure for Sunday football in the area. In comparison, The Westmorland Football League (WFL), which plays on Saturdays and accommodates the majority of senior football in the County, reports a slight growth in the number of teams applying for the 2007/2008 season.

The increasingly popularity of junior and mini football across the South Lakeland LDF area is reflected in the continued increase in teams participating in leagues. Kent Valley Junior Football League (KVJFL) now caters for 67 teams from the South Lakeland area, playing across five divisions. Unsurprisingly, the League has seen the most significant increases in the mini football sections, which now has 19 teams. Many clubs enter several teams, for example, WJFC enters two teams across each age group.

The growth of junior and mini soccer has seen clubs having to play across a number of different sites in order to accommodate current demand. WJFC is no exception and plays across three sites, including Wattsfield Recreation Ground, Kendal, Howard Street, Kendal and Dean Gibson School, Kendal. M&DJFC also has at least two teams across each age group and identifies latent demand for a further four teams (U8s, U12s, U14s and girls). In common with WJFC, M&DJFC plays across at least four sites to accommodate all of its teams. This inhibits the social development of clubs and has significant implications when applying for funding for improvements. WJFC plans to provide toilet facilities at Howard Street, Kendal and also to carry out improvements to pitch drainage at Dean Gibson School, Kendal.

KVJFL has recently expanded to incorporate an U18's division in order to help bridge the progression from youth to senior football. However, despite requests from a number of clubs there does not appear to be significant demand to develop this further.

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There is a perceived lack of pitches available in the Ulverston area. Ulverston ARLFC has received a number of requests for use of its pitches from football teams in the area which are unable to find any other pitch space. Ulverston Rangers Junior Football Club, which provides 12 teams playing in the Barrow and District Junior League, is also examining the potential of developing pitches adjacent to the STP at Ulverston Leisure Centre. Consultation suggests that, although the area of land is flat, the quality of the pitches would be poor and would require significant work.

### *Latent demand*

Latent demand is defined as the number of teams that could be fielded if there was access to a sufficient number of pitches. Consultation reveals that a number of clubs currently have latent demand that cannot be met to due a lack of access to good quality facilities.

This level of additional demand will be taken into account later in this section and assessed against current levels of overplay.

### *Pitch quality*

Leagues report that there is significant variation in the quality of pitches across the South Lakeland LDF area, usually reflected by ownership/management. For instance, the football pitches at Parkside Road, owned privately by Netherfield Cricket Club and Ulverston Sports Club, are regarded to be of particularly high quality. Both employ a groundsman to carry out regular maintenance of the pitches (pitches scored 77% and 83% respectively). By comparison, a number of concerns are expressed regarding SLDC owned Jubilee Fields, Kendal. The site is currently out of use due to stones on the pitch. The stones are naturally occurring and rising from the surface of the pitch. However, site assessments rate the site as good quality (scored 71%). Generally, privately owned sites tend to score slightly higher than local authority owned sites. However, local authority owned sites at Lunefield Park, Kirkby Lonsdale and Ulverston Leisure Centre also scored highly (79%).

Consultation suggests that there is both demand and scope to improve the Millennium Playing Fields, Kendal and Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal to create a large, flagship multi pitch site. Together twenty-four teams use these sites. Although the pitches at Millennium Playing Fields, Kendal score as good quality there is a significant amount of overplay at the site. Whilst additional capacity has been identified at Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal this site has been closed due to the problem with stones on the pitches. Improving the quality of the pitches at Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal and providing good quality changing accommodation to service the pitches would enable teams to play at one site as opposed to playing at disparate sites throughout the South Lakeland LDF area. The nearest such site is provided by neighbouring Eden District Council at Frenchfields, Penrith.

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### *Drainage*

A common issue across the South Lakeland LDF area is the inadequate drainage on pitches. To some extent this is due to the inclement weather and the geography of the South Lakeland LDF area. For example, on Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal 58% of Ibis A.F.C's matches were called off last season, due to standing water on one end of the pitch. Although there is some evidence that drainage systems exist, during inclement weather the pitches do not drain well, creating surface water. WJFC also reports drainage as an issue at Dean Gibson School, Kendal although the Club does not have a record of the number of games cancelled.

### *Dog fouling*

Clubs in South Lakeland LDF area report that dog fouling regularly impinges on the quality of local authority sites. Open, accessible sites on recreation grounds tend to be affected, including Wattsfield Recreation Ground, Kendal, Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal and Dean Gibson School, Kendal. However, this problem is not confined to recreation grounds. Swarthmoor Social FC, Ulverston also reports dog fouling to be an issue despite the ground being fenced and on privately owned land.

### ***Site-specific developments***

#### *Dallam High School, Milnthorpe*

The School is working to develop its sports facilities. This proposed project is part of a larger scheme to improve the School sports facilities and includes the provision a full size floodlit 3G STP and associated changing for Milnthorpe Community Club (Corinthians FC, Dallam School and M&DJFC). The project will be based at the school's site in Milnthorpe and is shortly to be submitted for planning permission with a proposed implementation date of September 2008. The 3G STP will result in the loss of one senior pitch at the School.

WCFA has worked closely with the Milnthorpe Community Club to develop plans for the facility. As identified in the Westmorland County Facility Strategy, this development will address the lack of 3G STP in the South Lakeland LDF area. However, there are concerns from other national governing bodies of sport that the 3G STP surface will be unable to accommodate other sports such as hockey.

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### *Jubilee Fields*

WCFA acknowledges that the improvements to the Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal have not been as successful as anticipated. Stones are currently being cleared from pitch two on a regular basis although the problem is likely to be much more long standing. This pitch has also been verti-drained to break up an area of compacted soil caused by heavy plant, which should ameliorate the drainage problem in addition to the repair of a surface water drain. However, following a recent inspection by the FA, the entire site has now been closed for the second occasion due to the problem with stones, which makes play extremely dangerous and the FA will not sanction matches at the site.

### *Kirkbie Kendal School, Kendal*

The School has proposed a project for the development of new pitches to the rear of the School. The development will provide two additional junior football pitches for community use at Aikrigg, Kendal. The School is funding the project and not seeking additional funding. The lease on the land requires the School to give community access to the site. However, it will have full access during curriculum time.

### *Kendal United JFC*

Kendal United JFC plays at Bulmire and Stripes, Kendal, which currently has one senior pitch and one mini pitch. The Club has worked to improve the quality of the senior pitch at the site. However, following its growth, there is demand to improve the quality of the changing accommodation at the site. The Club has recently secured funding to carry out this development.

### ***Ancillary facilities***

There is a perception that there is a lack of changing facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area and teams often have to use changing accommodation at different venues. For example, the absence of changing facilities at Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal causes significant issues. Teams playing at this site are required to use changing facilities at neighbouring private clubs. For example, IBIS AFC currently uses IBIS Sports & Social Club, Kendal approximately quarter of a mile from the ground and Kendal Celtic travels to Kendal Cricket Club to access changing accommodation. Kendal Neighbourhood Forum has awarded £900 towards the repair of the pavilion roof at Kendal Millennium Playing Fields, adjacent to Jubilee Fields, Kendal, which should encourage clubs to use these facilities.

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### ***Education sites***

There are few, if any, formal use agreements in place for the use of education owned playing fields by football clubs in South Lakeland LDF area. A small number of secondary school playing fields are used competitively by football clubs, including Cartmel Priory CE School, Grange-over-Sands used by Grange and District Youth FC. Some schools state that their outdoor pitches are available for community use but are currently not in use for example, Queen Katherine School, Kendal. Although this provides some spare capacity, it would appear that there are a variety of reasons why clubs are currently not using the sites, relating to access to changing accommodation, a lack of awareness of availability and a lack of use. Schools are reluctant to permit use of the pitches, particularly by senior clubs. There is a perception that allowing senior clubs use of their pitches would have an acute negative impact on the quality of the pitches. The pitches tend not to be let out in order to relieve some of the pressure of curricular use.

Despite the overall lack of formal use of grass pitches, consultation highlights the significant use of STPs at school sites for training purposes. For instance, Kendal United FC, Burneside YFC, Kendal Burneside FC, Kendal and Endmoor Kendal Green Rovers train at Queen Katherine School, Kendal and the facility is fully booked throughout the week by football and hockey clubs. Queen Elizabeth School, Kirkby Lonsdale also holds an agreement with Kirkby Lonsdale FC to permit use of the STP.

League consultation highlights demand for more school pitches to be made available for community use. K&DSFL believes that pitches at Queen Katherine School, Kendal could be used in order to alleviate some of the identified overplay on pitches in Kendal such as Kendal Millennium Playing Fields and Pump House Field, Kendal. Ibis FC also expresses demand to use pitches at the site.

Primary school sites could hold the potential capacity to cater for mini and junior football demand. Only a small number of primary schools sites are currently being used for community use. Access to appropriate changing accommodation remains an issue at primary school sites.



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### Provision of football pitch sites assessed by quality and capacity

Calculation of *capacity* is based on the qualitative ratings. Taking into consideration SE guidelines on capacity the following was concluded:

If a pitch is rated as 'good' its capacity is specified as two matches per week.	Green
If a pitch is rated as 'acceptable' its capacity is specified as one match per week.	Amber
If a pitch is rated as 'poor' its capacity is specified as one match every other week.	Red

This section presents the current pitch stock available for football in the South Lakeland LDF area. It illustrates:

- ❑ Number of pitches rated as Good (G), Average (A) and Poor (P) on each site.
- ❑ The type of pitch(es) on the site (senior, junior, mini).
- ❑ The column entitled 'matches per week' is split into three sections – play, capacity and rating:
  - The current level of play per week (0.5 for each match played at the site, assuming half of matches will be played 'away').
  - The capacity of the pitches on each site.
  - The rating of the pitches, which indicates if pitches are played under capacity (green), played at capacity (amber) or played over-capacity (red).



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*Table 13.4: Football provision and level of community use*

KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Mini			Matches per week			Consultation comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
27	Allithwaite Playing Fields	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1						1			-	4.0		Currently no teams allocated to this site.
28	Cartmel Park	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1									1.5	2.0		Cartmel and District FC plays at the site.
35	Yew Tree Road Playing Fields	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1									0.5	2.0		Used By Grange FC. Spare capacity at this site that could cater for identified overplay/ demand from elsewhere.
99	Cartmel Priory CE School	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1									6.0	2.0		The site is used extensively by Grange and District Youth FC and Grange United Youth FC.
106	Allithwaite C of E Primary School	Grange-over-Sands	Yes			1							-	0.5		Currently no teams allocated to this site.
42	Woodside Road Playing Fields	Kendal	Yes		1								2.5	1.0		Endmoor K.G.R. FC plays at the site. The pitch is only rated as adequate. Increasing pitch quality would accommodate overplay.
43	Bulmire & Stripes	Kendal	Yes	1							1		3.0	3.0		Kendal United FC is pursuing plans to re-develop the changing accommodation at the site.
49	Burneside FC	Kendal	Yes	1									1.5	2.0		The pitch is used by Burneside FC.

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KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Mini			Matches per week			Consultation comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
51	Jubilee Playing Field, Kendal	Kendal	Yes	3									2.5	6.0		There are no changing rooms at this site and in effect the site is deemed inadequate for competitive use and therefore the capacity of the site has been reduced. Ibis FC and Kendal Celtic are the prime users of this site. Following a recent FA inspection the pitches, the site has been closed due to the problem with stones.
53	Kendal Millennium Playing Field	Kendal	Yes	3			1						9.5	8.0		The site is considered a key site and carries a significant amount of usage. However, the site is overplayed. Overplay is due to the large number of junior teams playing in the Kent Valley Junior League allocated to play at the site.
57	Burneside Recreation Ground	Kendal	Yes		1								4.5	1.0		Overplay is due to the large number of junior teams from Burneside Youth FC currently allocated to play at the site. The pitch is rated as adequate quality, which does not maximise the number of matches that could be played on the site. Increasing the pitch quality would cater for overplay.

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KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Mini			Matches per week			Consultation comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
61	Parkside Road	Kendal	Yes	2									6.5	4.0		Overplay is due to the large number of junior teams from Wattsfield Youth FC currently allocated to play at the site. However, teams using the site commented that the pitches are well maintained and of good quality and can therefore accommodate the overplay.
91	Wattsfield Recreation Ground	Kendal	Yes				2						3.5	4.0		The site is used by Wattsfield Youth FC. There is an issue with dog fouling and un-authorised use of the site.
96	Kirkbie Kendal School	Kendal	Yes	1									2.5	2.0		The site is used for girls' football.
100	Queen Katherine School	Kendal	Yes	5									3.0	10.0		The site is currently used by Kendal United Youth FC. There is significant spare capacity for further teams to use the site if required.
121	Pump House Playing Field	Kendal	Yes			2							2.0	1.0		The site is booked by The Kendal and District Sunday Football League. Increasing pitch quality would cater for overplay.
125	Dean Gibson Primary School	Kendal	Yes			1							1.0	0.5		The site is booked by Wattsfield Youth FC. Teams using the site report that the pitches do not drain adequately and suffer from overplay.

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KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Mini			Matches per week			Consultation comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
1	Curwen Woods	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes		1								1.0	1.0		Site assessments report that the pitch does not seem to have been used recently although teams are allocated to the site.
5	Lunefield Park	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes	2						1			1.5	6.0		Kirkby Lonsdale FC junior and mini play at the site.
109	Burton Morewood	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes						2				-	1.0		Although available for community use, there are currently no teams allocated to play here. This is likely to be due to the poor quality of the junior pitches.
31	War Memorial Playing Fields	Milnthorpe	Yes	1									2.5	2.0		The site is used by Arnside FC and Milnthorpe United FC.
32	Park Road Recreation Ground	Milnthorpe	Yes			1	1						3.5	2.5		The site is used by Corinthians FC and Milnthorpe and District Youth FC. The quality of the senior pitch could be improved to accommodate overplay.
98	Dallam High School	Milnthorpe	Yes	4									3.0	8.0		The site is used Milnthorpe and District Youth FC.
132	The Lakes School	OUTSIDE	Yes		1								-	1.0		Currently no formal community use of this site.
10	Croftlands	Ulverston	Yes	1									-	2.0		Currently no teams allocated to this site. No access to changing accommodation.

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KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Mini			Matches per week			Consultation comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
24	Swarthmoor Football Club	Ulverston	Yes	2			1						4.0	6.0		Used by Swarthmoor Social FC, there is spare capacity for the Club to further develop teams. The Club has plans to increase the numbers of teams to include U13s, U14s and U16s. Consultation suggests that the second pitch needs drainage and levelling. Changing accommodation at the site has recently been improved.
25	Ulverston Leisure Centre	Ulverston	Yes	2									6.0	4.0		The site is used by Ulverston Rangers JFC.
26	Ulverston Sports Club	Ulverston	Yes	1									-	2.0		Currently no formal community use of this site.

### Summary

There are no formal pitches marked out at the following sites but these sites are available for casual use: Sandylands Playing Fields, Kendal, Levens Playing Fields, Kirkby in Furness Community Centre and Yans Lane, Milnthorpe.

It should be noted that sites listed above, with no access to changing accommodation, are deemed as inadequate to cater for competitive use. Although the Sport England assessment of pitch quality does take into account if changing rooms are present/available on site, it is not significant enough to affect the scoring.

Six sites listed above reported as available for use, but are currently not being used. They do have the potential to be used in the future. The majority of these are school sites where the School has not identified any demand the local area.

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### Shortfall, adequacy and requirement

#### *Summary of current demand*

The table below summaries the sites in each area that are currently being played beyond their capacity. The capacity of the site is calculated by applying a carrying capacity (i.e. matches per week) that should be played on the pitch based on its current quality.

*Table 13.5: Summary of pitch overplay by analysis area*

Site	Analysis area	Weekly overplay of matches
Cartmel Priory CE School	Grange-over-Sands	4.0
Woodside Road Playing Fields	Kendal	1.5
Kendal Millennium Playing Field	Kendal	1.5
Burneside Recreation Ground	Kendal	5.0
Parkside Road	Kendal	2.5
Kirkbie Kendal School	Kendal	0.5
Pump House Playing Field	Kendal	1.0
Dean Gibson Primary School	Kendal	0.5
War Memorial Playing Field	Milnthorpe	0.5
Park Road Recreation Ground	Milnthorpe	1.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>18 matches</b>

In total, there is an overplay of 18 matches per week on the pitches in the South Lakeland LDF area. Although a number of pitches are only slightly overplayed, Cartmel Priory CE School, Grange-over-Sands and Burneside Recreation Ground, Kendal are significantly overplayed. The sites are both used by junior clubs. Improving the quality of the pitch at Burneside Recreation Ground, Kendal would accommodate some of the overplay at this site. For the majority of sites, overplay is due to poor quality pitches, for example at Pump House Playing Field, Kendal, Dean Gibson Primary School, Kendal and Park Road Recreation Ground, Milnthorpe. Additionally, the pitches at Bulmire and Stripes, Kendal and Curwen Woods, Kirkby Lonsdale are currently played to capacity. It is important to note that during the study period the Millennium Playing Fields were taken in and out of commission, which is reflected in the capacity and provides a snapshot over time.

A number of sites are not currently played to capacity. Where possible, it is recommended that overplay (as indicated above) is directed to these sites. Such

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recommendations will be included in the Strategy and Action Plan document and will be site specific.

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### *Summary of future/latent demand*

The table below summaries the latent demand which has emerged from consultation.

*Table 13.6: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs*

Club	Analysis area	Site	Latent demand	Pitch requirement
Milnthorpe & District Junior Football Club	Milnthorpe	Dallam School Arnside Football Club Storth Playing Field Milnthorpe Playing Field	3 junior teams 1 senior teams	1 junior pitch 0.5 senior pitch
Dun Horse Football Club	Kendal	Pump House Playing Fields	2 senior teams	1 senior pitch
Castle Rangers FC	Kendal	Millennium Playing Fields	2 senior teams	1 senior pitch
Swarthmoor Social FC	Ulverston	Swarthmoor Social FC	2 junior teams	0.5 junior pitch
Kendal United FC	Kendal	Bulmire & Stripes	2 junior teams	0.5 junior pitch
Wattsfield Junior Football Club	Kendal	Wattsfield Recreation Ground Parkside Road Dean Gibson School	2 junior teams	0.5 junior pitch
<b>Total</b>			<b>2.5 x senior pitches 2.5 x junior pitches</b>	



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### Football team generation rates (TGRs)

TGRs indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables a comparison of participation to be made between different analysis areas and where similar studies have been undertaken. TGRs can help to target sports development activities to a particular area where participation may be low.

The following current TGRs have been calculated for each of the analysis area based on the current supply and demand. Where no TGR is shown this indicates that no teams operate at that age group, for football, in that area.

*Table 13.7: Football TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior men (16-45)	Senior women (16-45)	Junior boys (10-15)	Junior girls (10-15)	Mini soccer (6-9) mixed
Kirkby Lonsdale	1:209	-	1:229	-	-
Kendal	1:273	-	1:27	1:161	1:171
Grange-over-Sands	1:287	-	1:19	1:95	1:69
Ulverston	1:1,026	-	1:40	-	1:402
Milnthorpe	1:198	-	1:17	1:117	1:149
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:313</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>1:224</b>	<b>1:182</b>
<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>1:452</b>	<b>1:19,647</b>	<b>1:195</b>	<b>1:4,038</b>	<b>1:431</b>

As demonstrated above, the TGRs vary from analysis area to analysis area. Relative to the national average, participation rates are high, particularly at a senior male and junior boys level. Senior men's participation rate in Ulverston is the weakest.

Where there is no TGRs for junior girls' and senior women's football, this is indicative of the fact that play is still at a developmental level rather than formally competitive in the majority of areas. However, this is the case across the Country, not just an issue for SLDC to overcome.

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### *Future TGRs (2012)*

By taking into account potential increases in participation and applying TGRs to the projected population for 2012 (projected increase of 5%), we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated in the future, and therefore the expected demand on the facilities. Additional other potential increases include:

- ❑ SLDC Sports Development Team offers support and assistance on the development opportunities in sport for clubs, schools, voluntary organisations and community groups. It also co-ordinates and supports the provision of a wider range of outreach events, training courses and activity programmes.
- ❑ Sport England's North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004 - 2008 main aim is to increase participation by 1% year on year, leading to 50% participation across the North West by 2020.

Therefore, it is assumed for modelling purposes that there will be an additional 5% increase in participation over the next five years to cater for this potential demand.

These increases are applied below to give an indication as to how many additional football teams will be generated in 2012 if these aspirations are met.

*Table 13.8: Future football TGRs*

<b>Analysis areas</b>	<b>Senior men (16-45)</b>	<b>Senior women (16-45)</b>	<b>Junior boys (10-15)</b>	<b>Junior girls (10-15)</b>	<b>Mini soccer (6-9) mixed</b>
<b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b>	<b>1:209</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:229</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
No. of additional teams	0.4	-	0.1	-	-
<b>Kendal</b>	<b>1:273</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:27</b>	<b>1:161</b>	<b>1:171</b>
No. of additional teams	2.4	-	4.9	0.7	1.0
<b>Grange-over-Sands</b>	<b>1:287</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:19</b>	<b>1:95</b>	<b>1:69</b>
No. of additional teams	0.3	-	0.8	0.2	0.4
<b>Ulverston</b>	<b>1:1,026</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:402</b>
No. of additional teams	0.3	-	1.8	-	0.2
<b>Milnthorpe</b>	<b>1:198</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:17</b>	<b>1:117</b>	<b>1:149</b>
No. of additional teams	0.6	-	1.5	0.2	0.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:313</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>1:224</b>	<b>1:182</b>
No. of additional teams	4.0	-	8.4	1.1	1.8

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Where TGRs already exist, they are comparatively high (with a few exceptions) and should be maintained. However, SLDC should adopt the national average TGR for senior men's future participation in Ulverston and the South Lakeland LDF area average TGR for mini football future participation in Ulverston.

It is also recommended that SLDC adopt the national average TGRs for senior women's participation on a District wide basis. This will allow the flexibility to either target participation increase where it already exists informally or to provide teams in analysis areas where there is currently no participation.

### *Playing Pitch Model (PPM) modelling*

Sport England's PPM is used to assess whether supply of pitches will be sufficient at peak times in the future (up to 2012). The future/aspirational TGRs discussed above are applied to the PPM model to forecast the future shortfall of pitches, assuming the supply of pitches and capacity of pitches does not alter over this time.

A summary of surpluses and deficiencies is shown below and takes account of the additional teams estimated to require pitches if TGR targets are achieved.

*Table 13.9: Future PPM summary*

Analysis area	Football		
	Senior pitches	Junior pitches	Mini football
Kirkby Lonsdale	0.8	2.5	1.0
Kendal	14.3	-18.0	-4.5
Grange-over-Sands	3.3	-2.9	-1.2
Ulverston	2.3	-5.9	-2.4
Milnthorpe	4.4	-4.7	-1.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	25.1	-29.0	-8.2

It should be noted that these surplus/deficit predications should be treated with caution and should not be used in isolation, but rather put within the context of other findings/outcomes of the report.

Across South Lakeland LDF area, there is anticipated to be a significant surplus of senior pitches, but a significant deficit of junior football pitches. The deficit of junior pitches can be equated for in the surplus of senior pitches, as the majority of juniors are playing on senior sized pitches. Even taking this into account there is anticipated to be shortfall of 12.1 junior pitches by 2012.

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### Football summary

- ❑ There is anticipated to be a shortfall of 12 junior pitches in the future.
- ❑ There are 65 playing pitches available in South Lakeland (including senior, junior and mini) accommodating over 150 teams.
- ❑ In total, 11 sites are currently overplayed in South Lakeland on a weekly basis. In the main, pitches are only slightly overplayed. There are a significant number of multi pitch sites owned or leased by SLDC that are overplayed due to poor quality and also have no changing accommodation or where changing accommodation is available it is of a poor quality, such as Millennium Playing Fields, Kendal (owned by the Millennium Playing Fields Association).
- ❑ Changing facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area are limited. A number of sites do not have any access to changing facilities such as Jubilee Playing Fields, Kendal. Clubs are often required to use changing facilities at private clubs some distance from the pitches.
- ❑ There is demand to establish a multi pitch site which could accommodate larger junior clubs which often have a number of teams in each age group.
- ❑ Five clubs have expressed latent demand, which equates to the additional requirement of 2.5 senior pitches and 2.5 junior pitches.
- ❑ There are a number of sports facility developments occurring in the South Lakeland LDF area, which will increase the provision of pitches. The two major developments are both based at school sites. It is important that these facilities are made available for community use, as there is a perception that school facilities are currently not made available to clubs.

*Table 13.10: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Significant amount of pitch overplay recorded.	To increase the capacity of sites, particularly in the Kendal area to meet current demand and alleviate some of the overplay at local authority sites.	Encourage and work with schools in the Kendal area to further develop community use agreements for use of football pitches.
Shortfall of junior football pitches identified in the future.	Increase the number of junior football pitches available for community use.  Access to two junior football pitches.	Work with Kirkbie Kendal School to ensure that the facilities are made available for community use by junior teams based in Kendal.
Lack of availability of education sites.	Facilitate the development of community use agreements between schools and clubs.	Encourage schools to work with local clubs to permit use of the facilities and raise awareness of availability.
Lack of quality changing provision.	Improved changing facilities across a number of existing pitch sites.	Develop and implement, in partnership with WCFA and using the findings of this assessment report, a hierarchical upgrade programme for the improvement of changing provision at existing pitch sites.

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Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Quality of Jubilee Playing Fields/Millennium Playing Fields.	Improved quality of playing pitches, including ancillary facilities.	<p>Add to, and improve, the facilities at Jubilee Playing Fields.</p> <p>In the short term, immediate remedial action is required to resolve the issue of stones occurring on the surface of the pitches.</p> <p>In the long term, assess the feasibility of creating a large multi-pitch site incorporating Millennium Playing Fields.</p>
Availability of proposed 3G STP at Dallam School.	To provide a good quality training facility available to the community.	Work with the School to ensure that the facilities are made available for community use, with priority access given to those clubs currently working towards club accreditation.
Provision of multi use games areas (MUGAs).	Provision of five community-based MUGAs to provide structured football competition offering diversionary activities for young people in identified hotspot areas.	Continue to support the provision of additional MUGAs across the District.

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## PART 14: CRICKET

### Introduction

Cumbria Cricket Board (CCB) is responsible for the development and governance of cricket in the South Lakeland LDF area. Traditionally, the majority of senior league cricket is played on Saturdays and junior cricket is predominantly played midweek. SLDC provides four cricket pitches although the majority of cricket pitches in South Lakeland LDF area are privately owned.

The Westmorland Cricket League (WCL) is the main provider of opportunity for junior and senior cricket for teams in South Lakeland LDF area. Kendal Cricket Club and Netherfield Cricket Club, which are considered to be the two strongest clubs in the District, also play in Northern Premier Cricket League.

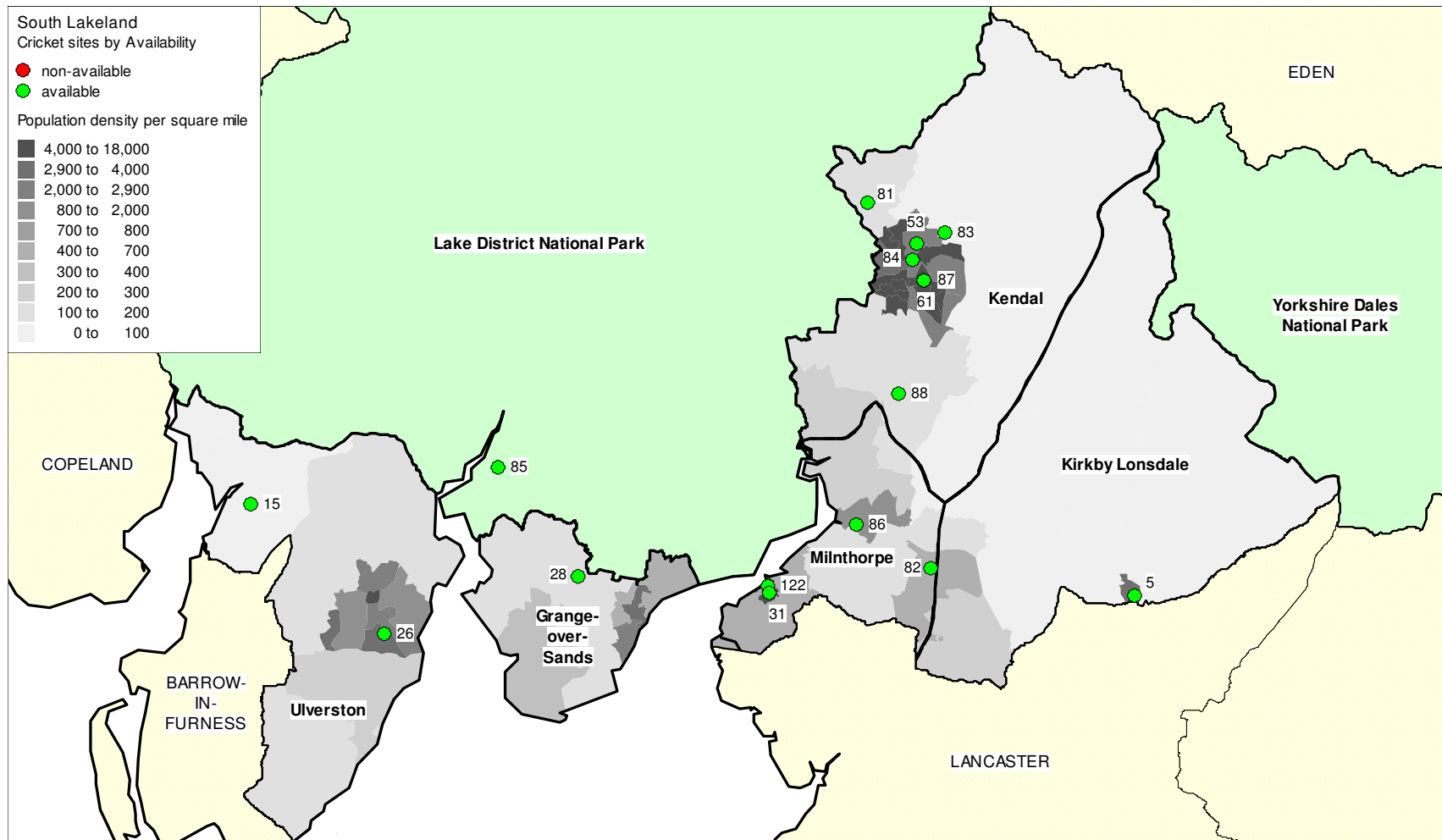
*Table 14.1: Summary of pitches available for community use and teams by analysis area*

Analysis area	No. of available pitches			No. of teams			
	Senior	Junior	Mini	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls
Kirkby Lonsdale	1	-	-	2	-	2	-
Kendal	6	-	-	10	-	20	2
Grange-over-Sands	1	-	-	2	-	2	-
Ulverston	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milnthorpe	3	2	-	6	-	5	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>

Although there are two junior cricket pitches available in Ulverston, no formal use of these facilities has been identified.

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*Figure 14.1: Location of cricket pitch sites in South Lakeland LDF area*



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*Table 14.2: Key to site location map*

Site name	KKP ref	Analysis area	Community Use	Senior cricket	Junior cricket
Cartmel Park	28	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1	
Burneside Cricket Club	81	Kendal	Yes	1	
Ibis CC	83	Kendal	Yes	1	
Kendal Cricket Club	84	Kendal	Yes	1	
Kendal Millennium Playing Field	53	Kendal	Yes	1	
Netherfield Cricket Club	87	Kendal	Yes	1	
Parkside Road	61	Kendal	Yes	1	
Sedgwick Cricket Club	88	Kendal	Yes	1	
Lunefield Park	5	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes	1	
Arnside Primary School	122	Milnthorpe	Yes		2
Holme Cricket Club	82	Milnthorpe	Yes	1	
Milnthorpe Cricket Club	86	Milnthorpe	Yes	1	
War Memorial Playing Fields	31	Milnthorpe	Yes	1	
Leven Valley CC	85	Lake District National Park	Yes	1	
Kirkby-in-Furness Community Centre	15	Ulverston	Yes	1	
Ulverston Sports Club	26	Ulverston	Yes	1	

### ***Development***

#### *South Lakeland Cricket Development Group (SLCDG)*

SLCDG is a group of partners including clubs, coaches, and CCB. The aim of the Group is to increase the participation in cricket and provide more opportunities for young people to be involved in the sport. Throughout consultation, a number of clubs confirmed the efficiency and significance of the Group in the promotion and delivery of the sport. It is considered to be one of the reasons clubs in the District have generally experienced a growth in junior membership. For instance, Kendal Cricket Club comment that the annual two day game which is hosted by SLCDG for juniors in the area is considered to provide an opportunity for young people to get involved in the game.



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### *Junior development*

Focus clubs have been identified strategically by the CCB as clubs that are committed to long-term junior development. This includes the adoption of a development plan and achieving (or working towards) Clubmark accreditation. In return, clubs receive support, both technical and financial, from the CCB. Three clubs in South Lakeland LDF area are classified as focus clubs:

- ❑ Netherfield Cricket Club.
- ❑ Kendal Cricket Club.
- ❑ Arncliffe Cricket Club.

CCB also acknowledges that other clubs in the area have taken positive steps and are 'working towards' accreditation, including Ambleside Cricket Club, outside the LDF area, Burnside Cricket Club and Cartmel Cricket Club.

### *School Cricket*

Kwik Cricket competition in primary schools is delivered in South Lakeland LDF area by CCB, which regards the competition as an important development initiative for introducing cricket to juniors. The CCB also provides four hours coaching time alongside the competition and are supported by local clubs. Secondary schools also compete in indoor inter-cricket competition, although this can be limited due to the lack of appropriate facilities, as outlined below.

Clubs are encouraged and supported to establish a school club link through delivery of coaching sessions in primary and secondary schools. Netherfield Cricket Club has worked closely with CCB in delivering Kwik Cricket at Kirkby Stephen Primary School outside the LDF area. Coaching sessions are usually undertaken indoors using school halls. However, clubs report that delivery can be difficult, particularly in primary schools, where the availability of either indoor or outdoor space is limited.

### *Womens' and girls' cricket*

Although CCB provides Kwik Cricket Competition in primary schools, this tends not to be followed up with active exit routes into a club environment as there is a lack of competitive girls' cricket. The CCB is working to promote District girls' teams on a countywide basis. 'The Lakers' is the only girls' club based in South Lakeland LDF area. The Club has teams at U11 and U13, and has recently joined the Westmorland Junior Cricket League (WJCL) and play at Kendal CC.

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### **Key issues for cricket**

#### ***Demand***

Consultation and analysis of supply/demand suggests that there is a sufficient number of cricket pitches in South Lakeland LDF area to meet current levels of demand. Many of the clubs already have junior sections, and therefore future demand is unlikely to increase significantly. However, latent demand expressed by clubs such as Milnthorpe Cricket Club, for additional senior teams and for senior 20-20 teams suggests that access to pitches may become increasingly difficult.

League consultation across South Lakeland LDF area suggests that there has been a reversal in the decline in the number of teams participating over the last three years. The increasing popularity of cricket in the South Lakeland LDF area is reflected in the continuing increase in teams participating. WCL accommodates 32 clubs in total, providing 56 senior teams, playing across four divisions. The League has identified demand to develop a fifth league if two additional teams join the League in the future. In common with football there have been significant increases in junior cricket. Many clubs in South Lakeland LDF area now also field at least two junior teams.

Consultation with the Westmorland Cricket League highlights pitch capacity as an issue. There is demand for the development of a midweek senior 20-20 league in South Lakeland LDF area. However, due to the facilities already being played to capacity to accommodate junior play, it is unlikely that facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area could accommodate any additional midweek play.

On the whole, clubs report that the number of senior teams has remained static over the last three years, whilst junior membership has increased, and is reflected in the development of the Westmorland Junior Cricket League.

#### ***Pitch quality***

Consultation and site assessments rate the quality of cricket pitches in South Lakeland LDF area as good. Most clubs play at private sites and, therefore, are responsible for maintaining facilities in-house. Many clubs have groundsmen, either employed or acting voluntarily, to carry out cutting and maintenance. For instance, the cricket pitches at Netherfield Cricket Club, which is privately owned, are regarded as being of particularly high quality. This is also reflected in the site assessment score (84%). The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Pitch Adviser and trailer of facilities is a mobile service for use by all clubs in the South Lakeland LDF area. Consultation identifies that this is a useful scheme as the pitch adviser has the knowledge and capacity to inform upon the need for improvements to pitches in the area. The ECB Pitch Advisory Scheme is funded by Sport England and the ECB to address the issue of groundsmanship, in particular at recreational/non-professional level<sup>2</sup>. In comparison the pitch at Queen Katherine

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<sup>2</sup> ECB County Pitch Adviser Scheme Terms of Reference

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School, Kendal used by Ibis CC is rated as average quality (site assessment score 60%). The site assessment indicates that a small area of outfield is overmarked as a football pitch. School facilities are unlikely to receive the level of specialist maintenance such as that in a club environment.

### ***Ancillary facilities***

The Westmorland Cricket League specifies that clubs playing in the two highest divisions must have access to male and female toilet facilities, changing accommodation of a reasonable standard and scoring facilities. WCL has a management committee (WCLMC), which assesses each club's capacity to comply with the League standard. It regularly carries out inspections and umpires are asked to score facilities each week. WCLMC believes that this encourages clubs to strive for continuous improvement. Consultation identifies that changing accommodation at Coniston CC, Cartmel CC (outside the LDF area) and Kirkby Lonsdale CC is considered to be poor. The ECB Loan Scheme allows focus clubs to apply for loans to improve facilities that are considered to contribute to increased participation in cricket and CCB would encourage clubs to take advantage of this scheme to carry out improvements<sup>3</sup>.

### ***Indoor training facilities***

Consultation highlights the high demand for indoor cricket nets in South Lakeland LDF area. There are no indoor training facilities with nets in the Kendal area and this has forced clubs to facilities elsewhere (such as Dallam School in Milnthorpe and The Lakes School in Troutbeck Bridge, which is outside the LDF area) to access suitable training during the winter months. The lack of indoor facilities in the LDF area therefore places pressure on those that do exist.

Aware of the difficulties facing clubs in accessing indoor nets, the CCB carried out a District Centre and Facilities and Equipment Audit in 2006 to determine the quality of facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area and provide a framework for a strategic vision for investment in the future. The audit takes account of the centres used to deliver cricket coaching and coach education programmes. The CCB acknowledges that the use of, and demand for these centres has increased and that designated centres must be able to demonstrate demand from local clubs, schools, coaches, district development groups and local authorities whilst complementing the provision of cricket facilities locally. The CCB has identified the need for one designated centre in each district. The audit will begin the process for the production of a Cumbria Cricket Facilities Development Plan. CCB has allocated £25,000 for improvements to be made to school facilities. The Dallam School and Ulverston Victoria High School have been identified as recommended centres. Other centres have been identified at Kendal Leisure Centre and The Lakes School, Troutbeck Bridge (outside the LDF area). The audit identified need for investment at Dallam School to improve the quality of the nets, mats and

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<sup>3</sup> Interest Free Loan Scheme Guidance Notes

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lighting. Similarly at Ulverston Victoria High School there is a perceived requirement to upgrade the nets and mats.

Demand has also been expressed for the development of an indoor winter cricket league to allow play to continue throughout the year. Consultation suggests that this would improve retention levels during the winter. However, due to the limited availability and relatively poor quality of indoor facilities, the league is unable to pursue this development further.

### ***Club development***

#### ***Kendal Cricket Club***

The Club is currently in discussion with The Millennium Playing Fields Association regarding moving to the Millennium Playing Fields as part of the proposed development of a sports village complex at this site. A vote is due to be held at the beginning of September at the Club to make the decision as to whether they move, or stay at the existing ground. If the Club decide to move, it is unlikely that this move will occur before 2010 given the complexities involved in the development of a high quality cricket pitch. Given the current uncertainties about the Club's future location it is felt that some of the facilities have been neglected and, should the Club decide to stay at their site there is demand to develop a three lane net complex and to update the pavilion.

#### ***Netherfield Cricket Club***

Netherfield Cricket Club has an extensive site on Parkside Road. The Club is considered to be one of the strongest in the South Lakeland LDF area with two teams playing in the Northern League. There are plans in place to improve the facilities at the Club which include:

- ❑ Providing a new changing facility with six rooms to Sport England specification to service both the cricket and football teams playing at the site. The current changing facilities servicing the second pitch are very poor quality.
- ❑ A proposal to develop a new caged practice facility that may incorporate a 5-a-side floodlit football pitch.

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### Provision of cricket pitch sites assessed by quality and capacity

There is no capacity for cricket pitches as it is not possible to determine the number of matches that can be played on a particular pitch. This is due to the length of matches, which cannot always be determined.

*Table 14.3: Cricket provision and level of community use*

KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Pitches	Matches					Peak use	Comments
					Sat am	Sat pm	Sun am	Sun pm	Other		
28	Cartmel Park	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1	-	1.0	-	-	1.0	100%	Good quality site. The outfield overlaps football pitch and is also used for funfair etc at race meetings.
53	Kendal Millennium Playing Field	Kendal	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	-		Site is good quality and the outfield overlaps the junior football pitch.
61	Parkside Road	Kendal	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	-		Site is good quality and the outfield overlaps the junior football pitch.
81	Burneside Cricket Club	Kendal	Yes	1	-	1.0	-	-	1.0	100%	
83	Ibis CC	Kendal	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	-		Site is average quality and the outfield overlaps the junior football pitch.
87	Netherfield Cricket Club	Kendal	Yes	1	-	2.0	-	-	4.5	450%	The cricket pitch is part of a multi-sport site with tennis courts, bowling and football. The site is excellent quality and is served well by generally good quality ancillary facilities.

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KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Pitches	Matches					Peak use	Comments
					Sat am	Sat pm	Sun am	Sun pm	Other		
88	Sedgwick Cricket Club	Kendal	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	2.5	250%	Site is good quality.
5	Lunefield Park	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes	1	-	1.0	-	-	1.0	100%	The site is part of a multi-sport site in Kirkby Lonsdale.
31	War Memorial Playing Fields	Milnthorpe	Yes	1	-	1.0	-	-	1.5	150%	The site is used by Arnside Cricket Club. Tennis, bowls and football are also played at the site.
82	Holme Cricket Club	Milnthorpe	Yes	1	-	1.0	-	-	-	100%	Site is good quality.
86	Milnthorpe Cricket Club	Milnthorpe	Yes	1	-	1.0	-	-	1.0	100%	The site is good quality and part of the outfield is shared with a football pitch.
85	Leven Valley CC	OUTSIDE	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	-		Site assessments rate the pitch as good quality.
15	Kirkby-in-Furness Community Centre	Ulverston	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	-		Site assessments rate the pitch as good quality.
26	Ulverston Sports Club	Ulverston	Yes	1	-	-	-	-	-		The site assessment suggests that the off-pitch nets may not be in use. Portable nets are used on the artificial strip at the edge of the square.

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### ‘Shortfall, adequacy and requirement ’

#### ***Latent demand***

Latent demand is defined as the number of teams that could be fielded if there was access to a sufficient number of pitches. The table below summarises specific latent demand expressed by clubs for additional pitches.

*Table 14.4: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs*

Club	Site	Level of latent demand	Pitch requirement
Milnthorpe Cricket Club	Milnthorpe Cricket Club	1 senior teams	1 cricket pitch
<b>Total</b>			<b>1 cricket pitch</b>

#### ***Cricket team generation rates (TGRs)***

TGRs indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables a comparison of participation to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken.

The following current TGRs have been calculated for each of the analysis areas. Where no TGR is shown this indicates that no teams operate at that age group, for cricket, in that area.

*Table 14.5: Cricket TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior men (18-55)	Senior women (18-55)	Junior boys (11-17)	Junior girls (11-17)
Kirkby Lonsdale	1:589	-	1:127	-
Kendal	1:861	-	1:70	1:636
Grange-over-Sands	1:614	-	1:79	-
Ulverston	-	-	-	-
Milnthorpe	1:277	-	1:50	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:845</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:97</b>	<b>1:1,418</b>
<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>1:1,415</b>	<b>1:54,815</b>	<b>1:1,480</b>	<b>21,052</b>

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There is no identified cricket being played in Ulverston analysis area. There are no women's teams playing competitively within South Lakeland LDF area. Relative to the national averages, participation rates are high, particularly at a junior boys level. Senior men's participation rate in Milnthorpe is significant.

### ***Future TGRs (2012)***

By taking into account potential increases in participation and applying TGRs to the projected population for 2012, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated in the future. Potential increases include:

- ❑ SLDC Sports Development Team offers support and assistance on the development opportunities in sport for clubs, schools, voluntary organisations and community groups in South Lakeland. It also co-ordinates and supports the provision of a wider range of outreach events, training courses and activity programmes.
- ❑ Sport England's North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004 - 2008 main aim is to increase participation by 1% year on year, leading to 50% participation across the North West by 2020.

Therefore, it is assumed for modelling purposes that there will be an additional 5% increase in participation over the next five years to cater for this potential demand.

These increases are applied below to give an indication as to how many additional cricket teams will be generated in 2012 if these aspirations are met.

*Table 14.6: Future cricket TGRs*

<b>Analysis areas</b>	<b>Senior men (18-55)</b>	<b>Senior women (18-55)</b>	<b>Junior boys (11-17)</b>	<b>Junior girls (11-17)</b>
<b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b>	<b>1:589</b>	-	<b>1:127</b>	-
No. of additional teams	0.2	-	0.2	-
<b>Kendal</b>	<b>1:861</b>	-	<b>1:70</b>	<b>1:636</b>
No. of additional teams	1.0	-	2.2	0.2
<b>Grange-over-Sands</b>	<b>1:614</b>	-	<b>1:79</b>	-
No. of additional teams	0.2	-	0.2	-
<b>Ulverston</b>	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-
<b>Milnthorpe</b>	<b>1:277</b>	-	<b>1:50</b>	-
No. of additional teams	0.6	-	0.5	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:845</b>	-	<b>1:97</b>	<b>1:1,418</b>
No. of additional teams	2.0	-	2.8	0.2



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Where TGRs already exist, they are comparatively high (with a few exceptions) and should be maintained. In addition to the future TGRs applied above, it is recommended that SLDC adopt national average TGRs for senior women's cricket on a LDF area-wide level, as there are currently no teams playing competitively and the South Lakeland LDF area average TGR for junior girls participation, where junior boys teams already exist.

### *Playing Pitch Model (PPM) modelling*

Sport England's PPM is used to assess whether supply of pitches will be sufficient at peak times in the future (up to 2012). The future/aspirational TGRs are applied to the PPM model to forecast the future shortfall of pitches, assuming the supply of pitches and capacity of pitches does not alter over this time.

A summary of surpluses and deficiencies is shown below and takes account of the additional teams estimated to require pitches if TGR targets are achieved.

*Table 14.7: Future PPM summary*

Analysis area	Cricket pitches
Kirkby Lonsdale	-0.2
Kendal	-3.5
Grange-over-Sands	-0.1
Ulverston	2.0
Milnthorpe	1.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0.1

It should be noted that these deficit predications should be treated with caution and should not be used in isolation, but rather put within the context of other findings/outcomes of the report. There is not a significant undersupply or oversupply of cricket pitches in the LDF area.

## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

### Cricket summary

- ❑ There are 13 pitches in the District accommodating over 50 teams including junior cricket.
- ❑ Consultation suggests that there is a sufficient number of cricket pitches to meet current levels of demand. However, the Westmorland Cricket League believes that if the current levels of increasing participation continue, then there is likely to be demand for pitches in the future. The PPM calculations show that there is not a significant undersupply or oversupply of cricket pitches in the LDF area.
- ❑ Overall the quality of cricket pitches in South Lakeland LDF area is good. The majority of cricket tends to be played at private sites where grounds men carry out maintenance work. South Lakeland is also serviced by an ECB pitch adviser who can provide more specialist advice to clubs.
- ❑ The League has received interest to develop an adult 20-20 league. However, this play cannot be accommodated on the current facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area due to the volume of junior matches that are played during the week.
- ❑ The lack of indoor practice facilities creates difficulties for clubs. Clubs tend to access facilities at either The Dallam School, Milnthorpe or The Lakes School, Troutbeck Bridge (outside the LDF area). Not only are there significant travel implications, clubs also report difficulties in accessing these facilities at peak times.

*Table 14.8: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Support facility developments at focus clubs.	To accommodate any potential future demand for facilities.  Netherfield CC - Access to new changing accommodation to accommodate increased development in role as a Focus Club.  Kendal CC – Proposed move to new venue and development of Millennium Playing Fields.	Work with both clubs to provide support in possible land negotiations and funding applications.
Potential latent demand. Large volumes of junior matches, inhibiting development of senior leagues.	To alleviate use of cricket pitches in order to accommodate potential demand.	Assess the feasibility of developing artificial cricket wickets to accommodate junior matches.
Lack of indoor training facilities.	Ensure cricket clubs have proportional access to indoor facilities through influencing the facility timetable.	Work closely with CCB using their District Centre and Facilities and Equipment Audit to identify priority sites for investment and improvement. This should include the establishment of a venue in Kendal that can provide indoor cricket nets.

# SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

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## PART 15: RUGBY LEAGUE

### Introduction

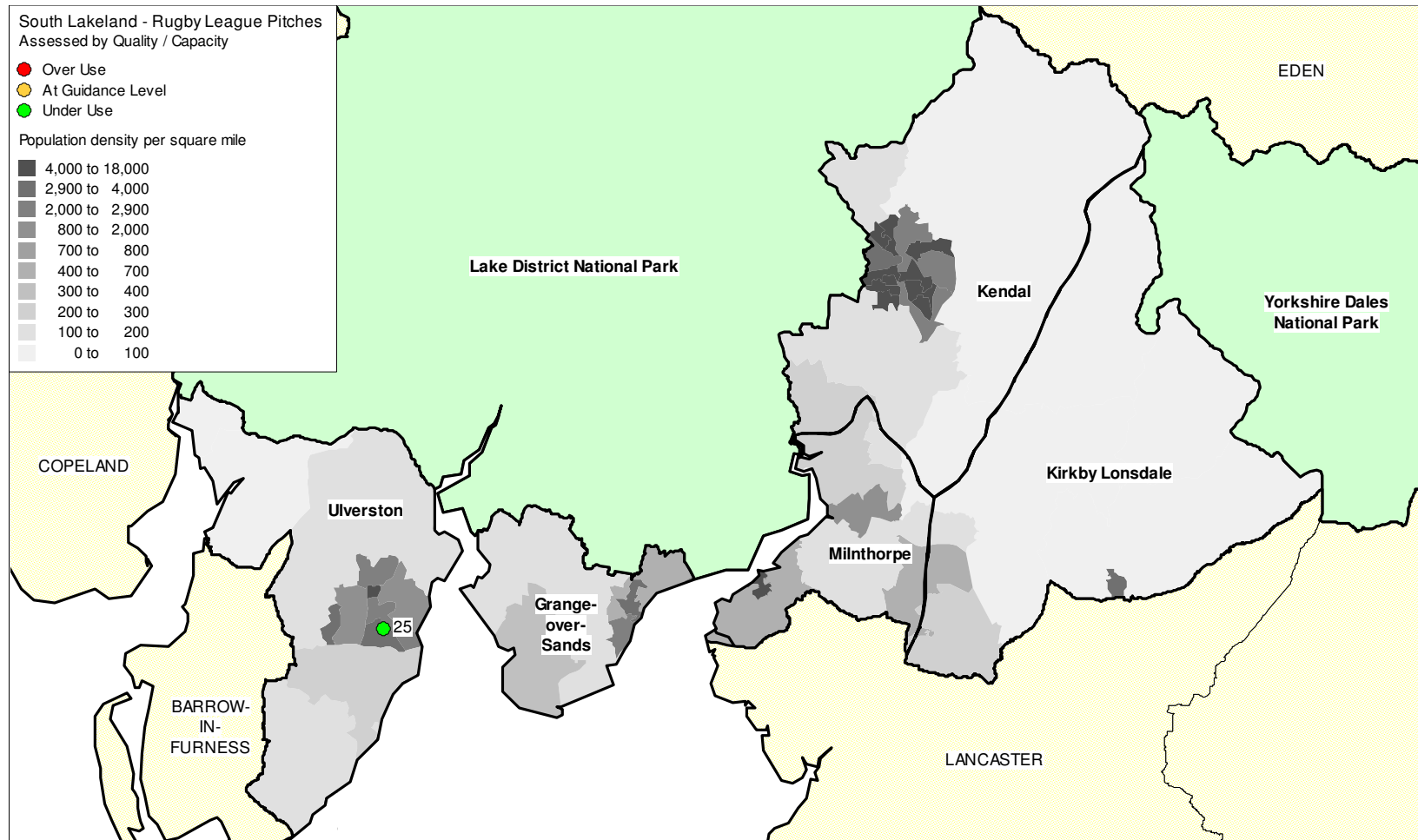
There is just one rugby league club playing in the South Lakeland LDF area, at Ulverston. Rugby league in Cumbria tends to be focused within the neighbouring Barrow District where there are a high number of clubs operating from grassroots through to a professional level. The Rugby Football League (RFL), in conjunction with British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA), is responsible for the development of the sport across England, from the national team to grassroots development. The North West Counties League is the main league servicing the Barrow District, in which Ulverston Amateur Rugby League Football Club plays. The League covers a geographical area stretching from Cumbria in the North, through Lancashire, Cheshire, Liverpool, Manchester and parts of Derbyshire.

*Table 15.1: Summary of pitch and team information in rugby league*

Analysis area	No. of available pitches			No. of teams				
	Senior	Junior	Mini	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls	Mini rugby
Kirkby Lonsdale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kendal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grange-over-Sands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	1	1	-	2	-	5	-	-
Milnthorpe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

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Figure 15.1: Location of rugby league pitches in South Lakeland LDF area



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*Table 15.2: Key to map*

Site name	KKP reference	Analysis area	Community use	Senior rugby league	Junior rugby league
Ulverston Leisure Centre	25	Ulverston	Yes	1	1

### ***Development***

#### *Barrow and South Lakes Service Area*

The development of rugby league is supported by the Barrow and South Lakes Service Area, which is represented through a full time service co-ordinator and supported by the education sector, a junior development forum and professional clubs. The service area offers player development and representative pathways for young players and support for senior players within the game, as well as club and coach development opportunities. It also leads rugby league development in schools and with women and girls.

The Barrow and South Lakes Service Area Co-ordinator is working to promote rugby league in primary schools in South Lakeland LDF area and delivering coaching sessions in six-week blocks of activity. Consultation has highlighted that exit routes into clubs is limited in South Lakeland LDF area as Ulverston ARLFC is the only club operating in the South Lakeland LDF area. Young people wishing to participate in the game tend to travel to Barrow where there are more opportunities to participate at a competitive level.

#### *Junior development*

Due to the extensive junior development being carried out in the South Lakeland LDF area Ulverston ARLFC reports that membership levels have increased over the last five years, particularly at a junior level. The Club boasts an extensive junior section, operating five junior teams.

### **Key issues for rugby league**

#### ***Ulverston ARLFC***

Ulverston ARLFC has a long-term lease on one full-size pitch and one junior-size pitch based at Ulverston Leisure Centre. During winter, the Club hires the STP at Ulverston Leisure Centre for training purposes. The Club is also able to use second junior pitch at Ulverston Sports Club.

The Club uses changing accommodation and clubhouse facilities at Ulverston Sports Club, which adjoins the playing pitches at Ulverston Leisure Centre.

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### ***Demand***

Consultation with Ulverston ARLFC highlights latent demand of one junior team, equating to 0.5 junior pitch. As the only club in the South Lakeland LDF area, Ulverston ARLFC provides the only exit route for young people to participate in the sport competitively.

Ulverston ARLFC has also successfully established links with Ulverston Victoria High School and Croftlands Infant and Junior Schools. Linking with schools benefits the Club by:

- ❑ Increasing recruitment numbers and levels of membership of young people
- ❑ Creating opportunities to share school facilities, expertise and equipment.

### ***Pitch quality***

Ulverston ARLFC suggests that the quality of its designated pitch has deteriorated since the management of the pitch has transferred from South Lakeland District Council to South Lakeland Leisure Trust. There is a perception that the Trust is less accommodating to community clubs than had been the case when South Lakeland District Council was managing the facilities at Ulverston Leisure Centre. The Club now maintains its pitches and has purchased mowing equipment to enable them to carry out its own maintenance. Site assessments rate the pitches as good quality (80%).

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### Provision of rugby league pitch sites assessed by quality and capacity

*Table 15.3: Rugby league provision and level of community use*

KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Matches per week			Facilities comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
25	Ulverston Leisure Centre	Ulverston	Yes	1			1			3.5	4.0		Ulverston ARFLC has a lease on its own site and maintains the pitches to a high quality. The site is fenced and there are also coaches dugouts and a scoreboard.

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### Shortfall, adequacy and requirement

#### *Summary of current demand*

The capacity of the site is calculated by applying a carrying capacity (i.e. matches per week) that should be played on the pitch based on its current quality. However, there have been no instances of overplay identified in the South Lakeland LDF area. This is because there is just one site in the South Lakeland LDF area and this site has some spare capacity.

#### *Summary of future/latent demand*

##### *Latent demand*

Latent demand is defined as the number of teams that could be fielded if there was access to a sufficient number of pitches. The table below summarises specific latent demand expressed by clubs for additional pitches.

*Table 15.4: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs*

Club	Site	Latent demand	Pitch requirement
Ulverston ARLFC	Ulverston Leisure Centre	1 youth team (U18s)	0.5 junior pitch

This level of additional demand will be taken into account later in this section and assessed against current levels of overplay. It would appear that latent demand is relatively low. However, this may be due to the fact that the competitive structure for rugby league is limited in the area as there is just one club. It is likely that increasing pitch quality will accommodate the majority of latent demand identified above.



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### *Rugby league team generation rates (TGRs)*

TGRs indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables a comparison of participation to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken.

The following current TGRs have been calculated for each of the analysis area. Where no TGR is shown this indicates that no teams operate at that age group, for rugby, in that area.

*Table 15.5: Rugby league TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior men (18-45)	Senior women (18-45)	Junior boys (13-17)	Junior girls (16-17)
Kirkby Lonsdale	-	-	-	-
Kendal	-	-	-	-
Grange-over-Sands	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	1:1,444	-	1:101	-
Milnthorpe	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:5,894</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:390</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>1:5,078</b>	<b>1:47,625</b>	<b>1:657</b>	<b>1:5,077</b>

Relative to the national average, South Lakeland LDF area has relatively good participation rates for rugby league, where play exists. However, with just one club, play is focused in one analysis area, Ulverston.

There are no womens' or girls' teams playing competitively which is indicative of the fact that play is still at a developmental level rather than formally competitive.

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### ***Future TGRs (2012)***

By taking into account potential increases in participation and applying TGRs to the projected population for 2012, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated in the future. Potential increases include:

- ❑ SLDC Sports Development Team offers support and assistance on the development opportunities in sport for clubs, schools, voluntary organisations and community groups in South Lakeland. It also co-ordinates and supports the provision of a wider range of outreach events, training courses and activity programmes.
- ❑ Sport England's North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004 - 2008 main aim is to increase participation by 1% year on year, leading to 50% participation across the North West by 2020.

Therefore, it is therefore assumed for modelling purposes that there will be a 5% increase in participation over the next five years. This increase is applied below to give an indication as to how many additional rugby teams will be generated in 2012 if these aspirations are met.

*Table 15.6: Future rugby league TGRs*

<b>Analysis areas</b>	<b>Senior men (18-45)</b>	<b>Senior women (18-45)</b>	<b>Junior boys (13-17)</b>	<b>Junior girls (16-17)</b>
<b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b>	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-
<b>Kendal</b>	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-
<b>Grange-over-Sands</b>	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-
<b>Ulverston</b>	<b>1:1,444</b>	-	<b>1:101</b>	-
No. of additional teams	0.2	-	0.5	-
<b>Milnthorpe</b>	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:5,894</b>	-	<b>1:390</b>	-
No. of additional teams	0.2	-	0.5	-

It is unlikely that rugby league participation will be created in other analysis areas in the future and play will continue to focus and grow with Ulverston analysis area only. Therefore, where TGRs already exist, they are comparatively high and should be maintained. In addition to the future TGRs applied above, it is recommended

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that SLDC adopt the analysis area equivalent TGRs for senior women's and girls in Ulverston.

### *Playing Pitch Model (PPM) modelling*

Sport England's PPM is used to assess whether supply of pitches will be sufficient at peak times in the future (up to 2012). The future/aspirational TGRs are applied to the PPM model to forecast the future shortfall of pitches, assuming the supply of pitches and capacity of pitches does not alter over this time.

A summary of surpluses and deficiencies is shown below and takes account of the additional teams estimated to require pitches if TGR targets are achieved.

*Table 15.7: Future PPM summary*

Analysis area	Rugby union pitches	
	Senior pitches	Junior pitches
Kirkby Lonsdale	0	0
Kendal	0	0
Grange-over-Sands	0	0
Ulverston	-0.9	-2.8
Milnthorpe	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-2.8</b>

It should be noted that these surplus/deficit predications should be treated with caution and should not be used in isolation, but rather put within the context of other findings/outcomes of the report.

Unsurprisingly, given the aspirational TGRs set, there is anticipated to be a small shortfall of senior and junior rugby league pitches in Ulverston in the future.

Rugby league summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ There is just one club and one site providing for rugby league in South Lakeland, based at Ulverston Leisure Centre. The pitches at the site are rated as good quality.</li> <li>❑ There is anticipated to be a small shortfall of senior and junior rugby league pitches in Ulverston in the future.</li> <li>❑ Ulverston ARLFC provides the only competitive structure for rugby league in the South Lakeland LDF area. There are high levels of junior participation at the Club. Latent demand has been identified equating to the additional requirement of 0.5 pitches.</li> </ul>

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*Table 15.8: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Limited exit routes for young people wishing to participate in the sport at a competitive level.	Establishment of satellite teams in the Ulverston area.	Work with the Barrow and South Lakes Service Area co-ordinator to assess the potential of establishing a new/satellite club without compromising the existing development work occurring at Ulverston ARLFC.
Anticipated shortfall of senior and junior rugby league pitches in Ulverston in the future.	To meet future demand for pitches which may be a result of the establishment of satellite teams.	In the long term, assess the feasibility of creating additional pitches.

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## PART 16: RUGBY UNION

### Introduction

Rugby union in South Lakeland LDF area is administered by the Cumbria Rugby Football Union (CRFU). There are several high standard clubs in South Lakeland LDF area. All currently used rugby union pitches are provided at privately owned sports grounds or schools.

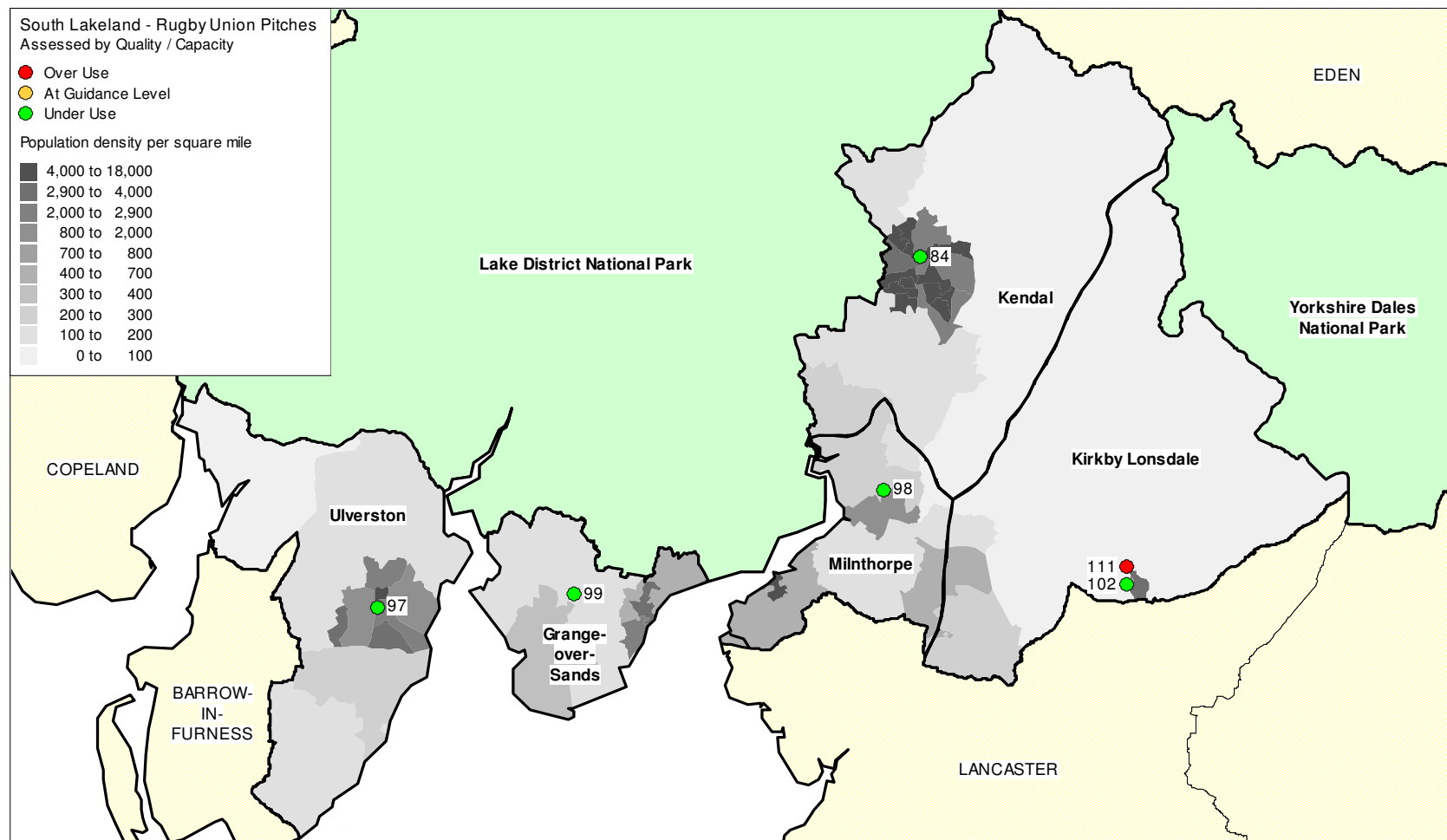
*Table 16.1: Summary of pitch and team information in rugby union*

Analysis area	No. of available pitches			No. of teams				
	Senior	Junior	Mini	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls	Mini rugby
Kirkby Lonsdale	3	1	-	3	-	5	-	6
Kendal	2	-	-	3	1	2	-	-
Grange-over-Sands	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milnthorpe	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>

The summary suggests that mini pitches are not available in the South Lakeland LDF area. However, mini rugby is played across senior pitches or informal areas are marked out.

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*Figure 16.1: Location of rugby union pitches in South Lakeland LDF area*



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*Table 16.2: Key to map*

Site name	KKP reference	Analysis area	Community use	Senior rugby	Junior rugby
Cartmel Priory CE School	99	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1	
Kendal Cricket Club (Kendal RUFC)	84	Kendal	Yes	2	
Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	111	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes	3	
Queen Elizabeth School	102	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes		1
Dallam High School	98	Milnthorpe	Yes	3	
Ulverston Victoria High School	97	Ulverston	No	1	

### Development

The Community Rugby Coach for the South Lakeland area, employed by the RFU and Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC, has a remit to develop rugby union in the area through the delivery of coaching sessions in schools and clubs. Over 370 sessions have been delivered in South Lakeland between August 2006 and July 2007. There have been 6717 participants, and notably nearly half of these were girls. To date, this delivery has been focused on schools but will shift to club delivery during the next year. Development work in clubs, such as Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC and Kendal RUFC, has been occurring concurrently to ensure that the infrastructure is in place to accommodate the anticipated demand. CRFU has hosted festivals at these clubs to introduce young people to the club environment.

There is a perception amongst rugby union clubs that there is a lack of funding available for facility development and improvements. Clubs feel that, because they tend to own their facilities, there is a perception that they can afford to carry out improvements. However, the Rugby Football Foundation can provide loans to clubs to help finance capital projects that are considered to contribute to the recruitment and retention of players.

### *Women and girls*

Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC provides opportunities for girls to participate, whilst Kendal RUFC operates a women's team. However, there are no girls' rugby union teams competing in South Lakeland LDF area. Girls' rugby is slowly developing through targeted training/coaching sessions delivered by the Community Rugby Coach.

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### **Key issues for rugby union**

#### ***Demand***

Based on the development work currently underway in the South Lakeland LDF area and the high levels of participation at sessions delivered by the community coach, it is fair to assume that there will be an increase in the number of teams at a junior level over the next few seasons. Consultation with Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC, for example, identifies latent demand of one junior team. At present there is not the pitch capacity available to accommodate a potential increase as pitches at the site are already overplayed. New pitches will have to be developed in order to accommodate the latent demand.

#### ***Quality***

CRFU has a facilities strategy in place to assist every club to have:

- ❑ A satisfactory first team pitch.
- ❑ Adequate changing accommodation.
- ❑ A training area with lights.

Extending the changing facilities at Kirkby Lonsdale is included on the North West Facility Group's priority list. CRFU is aware of the Club's comprehensive plans to develop additional pitches at the site. However, CRFU is unable to consider this as a priority at present given that its first team pitch is of satisfactory quality. As referenced in previous sections there is latent demand for these pitches from the high levels of junior participation.

#### ***Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC***

Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC provides opportunities for junior participation and hosts training sessions each week. It has also achieved Level 3 Seal of Approval accreditation. The Club part funds the work of the Community Coach. Both the RFU and the Club acknowledge the difficulties in accommodating this junior demand using the current facilities. The current changing facilities do not provide separate changing areas for seniors and juniors, or male and female changing. Showering facilities are also extremely limited and cannot accommodate junior teams.

The Club has a strong community ethos and works to ensure good community links. For instance, it allows Queen Elizabeth School to use its facilities for matches on Saturday and Wednesday and also supplies coaching staff to work with pupils.

The Club works hard to improve its facilities and has carried out significant work. However, changing accommodation at the site falls short of Sport England requirements and is considered to be inadequate for the high levels of participation. Consultation suggests that the development of a girls' team was inhibited by the lack of facilities. Improvements to the changing accommodation are considered by



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the RFU to be high priority for investment. The Club will therefore begin developing the changing accommodation in the closed season.

Pitch space at the site is limited. The Club has identified additional areas to the front of the clubhouse that could be used for mini-rugby to reduce pressure on the senior pitches. Further pitch space has also been identified for development in an area running alongside the clubhouse and the Club is removing stones from these areas, which will also require topsoil and re-turfing to make the area playable. The Club reports latent demand for a girls' team, equating to the need for 0.5 junior pitch.

### ***Kendal RUFC***

The facilities at the Club are considered to be in need of updating, particularly as it is trying to develop a youth team. The changing facilities are very outdated. The Club would like to develop a 3G STP and the RFU is currently looking into the possibility of providing this facility or a second pitch.

### ***Latent demand***

Latent demand is defined as the number of teams that could be fielded if there was access to a sufficient number of pitches. The table below summarises specific latent demand expressed by clubs for additional pitches.

*Table 16.3: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs*

Club	Site	Latent demand	Pitch requirement
Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	1 junior girls team	0.5 junior pitch

This level of additional demand will be taken into account later in this section and assessed against current levels of overplay.

It would appear that latent demand is relatively low. However, this may be due to the fact that it is suppressed due to the issues with current demand.

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### Provision of rugby union pitch sites assessed by quality and capacity

Table 16.4: Rugby union provision and level of community use

KKP ref	Site name	Analysis area	Community use	Senior			Junior			Mini			Matches per week			Consultation comments
				G	A	P	G	A	P	G	A	P	play	cap	rating	
99	Cartmel Priory CE School	Grange-over-Sands	Yes	1									-	2.0		There is currently no community use of the site. Site assessments identify the quality of the posts as poor quality.
84	Kendal RUFC	Kendal	Yes		2								3.0	2.0		Site assessments indicate that the second pitch is out of use and that the spectator stand is antiquated.
102	Queen Elizabeth School	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes						1				-	0.5		There is currently no community use of the site. Site assessments indicate that the pitch is poor quality. There is a PROW running directly through the site.
111	Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes	3									7.0	6.0		The Club has a long-term lease on the site. The pitches are overplayed. The Club is developing informal areas to provide additional pitch space.
98	Dallam High School	Milnthorpe	Yes	3									-	6.0		These pitches are overmarked with other pitches.

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### Shortfall, adequacy and requirement

#### *Summary of current demand*

The table below summaries the sites in each area that are currently being played beyond their capacity. The capacity of the site is calculated by applying a carrying capacity (i.e. matches per week) that should be played on the pitch based on its current quality.

*Table 16.5: Summary of pitch overplay by analysis area*

<i>Site</i>	<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Weekly overplay of matches</b>
Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	Kirkby Lonsdale	1.0
Kendal RUFC	Kendal	1.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>2.0 match</b>

#### *Summary of future/latent demand*

The table below summaries the latent demand which has emerged from consultation.

*Table 16.6: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs*

<b>Club</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Latent demand</b>	<b>Pitch requirement</b>
Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC	1 junior girls team	0.5 junior pitch
<b>Total</b>			<b>0.5 junior pitch</b>

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### *Rugby union team generation rates (TGRs)*

TGRs indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables a comparison of participation to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken.

The following current TGRs have been calculated for each of the analysis area. Where no TGR is shown this indicates that no teams operate at that age group, for rugby, in that area.

*Table 16.7: Rugby union TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior Men's (18-45)	Senior Women's (18-45)	Junior Boys (13-17)	Junior Girls (16-17)	Mini-rugby (8-12) Mixed
Kirkby Lonsdale	1:256	-	1:35	-	1:59
Kendal	1:1,551	-	1:486	-	-
Grange-over-Sands	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	-	-	-	-	-
Milnthorpe	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:1,684</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:279</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:693</b>
<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE</b>	<b>1:7,032</b>	<b>1:43,770</b>	<b>1:2,105</b>	<b>1:19,524</b>	<b>-</b>

Relative to the national average, South Lakeland LDF area has high participation rates for rugby union, where play exists. However, play is focused in Kirkby Lonsdale and Kendal.

There are no womens' or girls' teams playing competitively which is indicative of the fact that play is still at a developmental level rather than formally competitive.

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### *Future TGRs (2012)*

By taking into account potential increases in participation and applying TGRs to the projected population for 2012, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated in the future. Potential increases include:

- SLDC Sports Development Team offers support and assistance on the development opportunities in sport for clubs, schools, voluntary organisations and community groups in South Lakeland. It also co-ordinates and supports the provision of a wider range of outreach events, training courses and activity programmes.
- Sport England's North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004 - 2008 main aim is to increase participation by 1% year on year, leading to 50% participation across the North West by 2020.

Therefore, it is therefore assumed for modelling purposes that there will be a 5% increase in participation over the next five years. This increase is applied below to give an indication as to how many additional rugby teams will be generated in 2012 if these aspirations are met.

*Table 16.8: Future rugby union TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior men (18-45)	Senior women (18-45)	Junior boys (13-17)	Junior girls (16-17)	Mini-rugby (8-12) Mixed
<b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b>	<b>1:256</b>	-	<b>1:35</b>	-	<b>1:59</b>
No. of additional teams	0.3	-	0.5	-	0.7
<b>Kendal</b>	<b>1:1,551</b>	-	<b>1:486</b>	-	-
No. of additional teams	0.4	-	0.2	-	-
<b>Grange-over-Sands</b>	-	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Ulverston</b>	-	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Milnthorpe</b>	-	-	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:1,684</b>	-	<b>1:279</b>	-	<b>1:693</b>
No. of additional teams	0.7	-	0.7	-	0.6

It is unlikely that rugby union participation will be created in other analysis areas in the future and play will continue to focus and grow in Kirkby Lonsdale and Kendal analysis areas. Therefore, where TGRs already exist, they are comparatively high and should be maintained. In addition to the future TGRs applied above, it is

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recommended that SLDC adopt the analysis area equivalent TGRs for senior women's and girls where play already exists.

### *Playing Pitch Model (PPM) modelling*

Sport England's PPM is used to assess whether supply of pitches will be sufficient at peak times in the future (up to 2012). The future/aspirational TGRs are applied to the PPM model to forecast the future shortfall of pitches, assuming the supply of pitches and capacity of pitches does not alter over this time.

A summary of surpluses and deficiencies is shown below and takes account of the additional teams estimated to require pitches if TGR targets are achieved.

*Table 16.9: Future PPM summary*

Analysis area	Rugby union pitches		
	Senior pitches	Junior pitches	Mini pitches
Kirkby Lonsdale	1.7	-1.8	-3.3
Kendal	-1.9	-1.5	0
Grange-over-Sands	1.0	0	0
Ulverston	1.0	0	0
Milnthorpe	3.0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	4.8	-3.3	-3.3

It should be noted that these surplus/deficit predications should be treated with caution and should not be used in isolation, but rather put within the context of other findings/outcomes of the report.

Across South Lakeland LDF area, there is anticipated to be a surplus of senior pitches, but a deficit of junior pitches. The deficit of junior pitches can be equated for in the surplus of senior pitches, as the majority of juniors are playing on senior sized pitches. Taking this into account, there is anticipated to be shortfall of 1.8 junior pitches by 2012.

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### Rugby union summary

- ❑ There are 11 rugby pitches in South Lakeland LDF area accommodating 20 teams.
- ❑ Just one site is currently overplayed in South Lakeland on a weekly basis. This pitch is only slightly overplayed and this appears to be a genuine need for additional pitches.
- ❑ There is an anticipated shortfall of 1.8 junior pitches by 2012.
- ❑ The RFU community coach has delivered over 300 sessions in South Lakeland, which has targeted over 6,000 pupils. Although almost half of the participants were girls, there are no girl's teams in the South Lakeland LDF area to provide exit routes into a club environment.
- ❑ Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC has been identified as a priority for improvements to changing accommodation. Following this it is hoped that the Club will have the infrastructure to service the latent demand identified for a girls team.

*Table 16.10: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC.	Provision of additional pitch space at Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC to ensure the Club has sufficient access to pitches to sustain current levels of junior development.	Support the facility developments at the Club including extending the changing accommodation (as cited on the CRFU North West Facility Group's priority list) and developing additional pitch space in the areas adjacent to the clubhouse.
Lack of opportunities for girls' to participate in the sport within a club structure.	Development of girls' team at Kirkby Lonsdale RUFC.	Work with the Club and CRFU to ensure that the appropriate structures and facilities are in place to enable this development.
Expansion of development work delivered by the RFU community coach.	Extension of the work currently delivered by the community coach to focus upon delivery in the club environment in 2007/2008.	Support the projects delivered by the community coach. This will also include supporting facility developments at clubs to increase the capacity of the pitches in order to accommodate latent demand identified.

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## PART 17: HOCKEY

### Introduction

Governance of the sport is devolved by England Hockey (EH) at a regional and local level to regional and county associations. There are six clubs in South Lakeland LDF area:

- ❑ Ambleside Hockey Club – not in the LDF area, although play in Kendal.
- ❑ Kendal Hockey Club.
- ❑ Kirkby Lonsdale Hockey Club.
- ❑ Ulverston Hockey Club.
- ❑ Windermere Hockey Club – not in the LDF area.
- ❑ Glaxo Hockey Club.

There are a number of leagues covering South Lakeland LDF area, including the Cumbria Women's Hockey League, Netherwood Division One, Cumbria County Cup Men's and the Cumbria Sunday Association. The Netherwood League has been established as a development league where juniors can play alongside seniors and is considered to bridge the gap to senior hockey.

Hockey is played on synthetic turf pitches (STPs). At present, EH does not sanction the use of 3G STP pitches for hockey matches. The map below indicates the location of STPs in South Lakeland LDF area. Sport England recommends a 15-minute drive-time catchment for STPs and this has been taken into account in this assessment. It should, however, be noted, that this is merely an indicative standard and does not take into account usage levels of each facility.

*Table 17.1: Summary of pitches available for community use by analysis area*

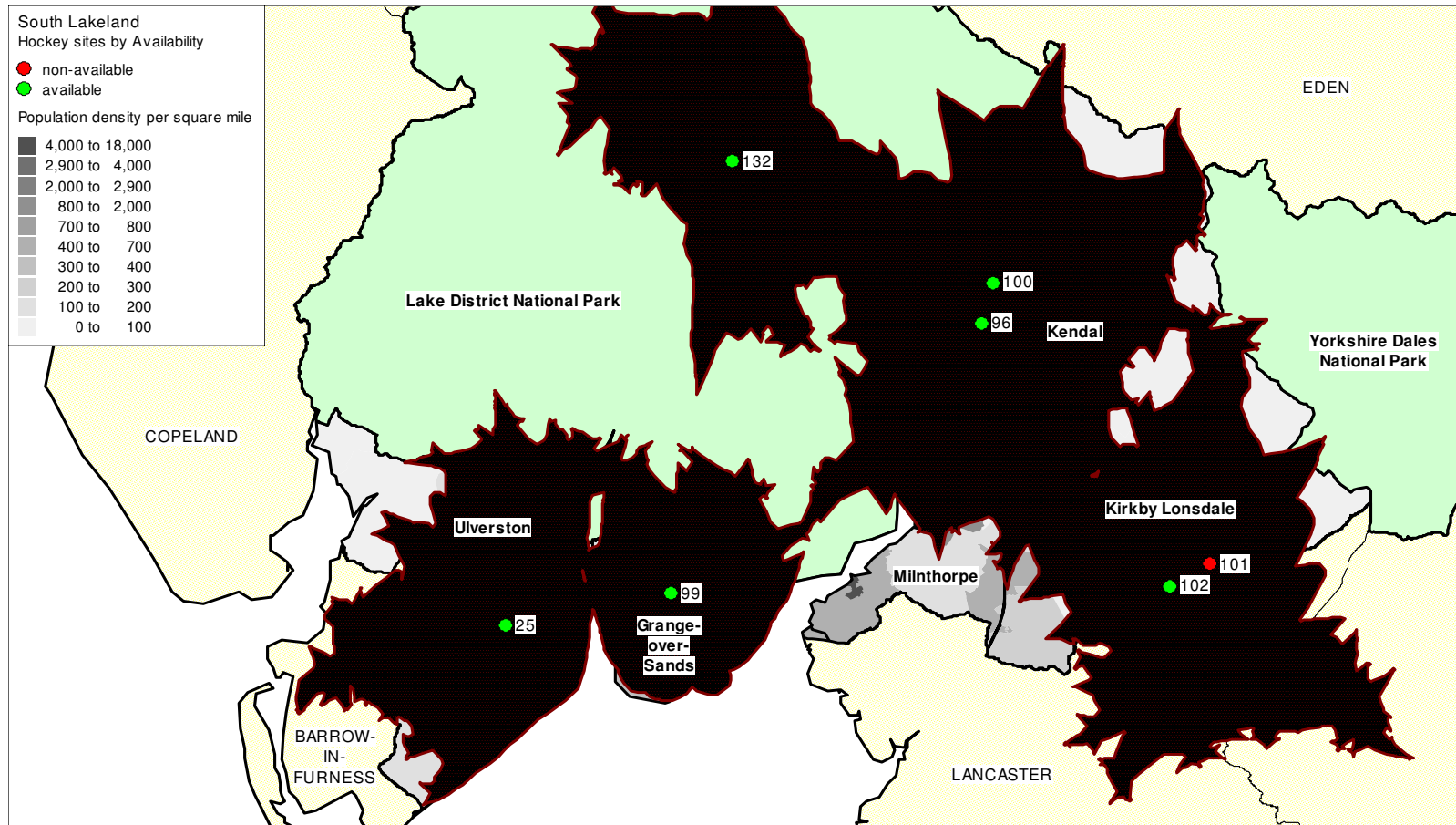
Analysis area	No. of available STPs	No. of teams			
		Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls
Kirkby Lonsdale	2	-	1	-	4
Kendal	2	2	4	-	9
Grange-over-Sands	-	-	-	-	-
Ulverston	1	2	2	-	3
Milnthorpe	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16</b>

In addition to the STP provision identified above, there are four grass hockey pitches located in South Lakeland LDF area. Two are located at Casterton School, near Kirkby Lonsdale and two are located at Cartmel Priory CE School, near Grange-over-Sands. However, none of these are being used for community use.



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*Figure 17.1: Provision of hockey sites across South Lakeland LDF area showing 20-minute drive time catchment of available facilities*



## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT

*Table 17.2: Key to hockey map*

Site name	KKP ref.	Analysis area	Community use	Grass pitches	STP
Cartmel Priory CE School	99	Grange-over-Sands	No	2	
Kirkbie Kendal School	96	Kendal	Yes		1
Queen Katherine School	100	Kendal	Yes		1
Casterton School	101	Kirkby Lonsdale	No	2	1
Queen Elizabeth School	102	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes		1
The Lakes School	132	Lake District National Park	Yes		1
Ulverston Leisure Centre	25	Ulverston	Yes		1

### ***Junior development***

Junior hockey is strong in South Lakeland LDF area with the majority of the clubs playing in the South Lakeland LDF area based at school sites. Kendal Hockey Club, Kirkby Lonsdale Hockey Club and Ulverston Hockey Club have at least two junior teams each. Kirkby Lonsdale Hockey Club has one of the strongest junior sections currently operating four junior teams and regularly attracts up to 100 young people for training.

Ulverston Hockey Club is the first club in Cumbria to receive Clubs 1<sup>st</sup>. Clubs 1<sup>st</sup> is the England Hockey accreditation scheme for clubs which can demonstrate that they are working towards minimum operating standards. The Club is developing their junior section and has teams competing at U12 and U14. This is regarded as a result of the Club's involvement in local schools.

England Hockey believes that the proposed MUGAs project would be suitable for developing junior hockey and training, particularly for those MUGAs that are based in the Kendal area.

### **Key issues for hockey**

#### ***Pitch quality***

There are five STPs in South Lakeland LDF area at Ulverston Leisure Centre, Casterton School, Queen Katherine School, Queen Elizabeth School and Kirkbie Kendal School plus one further STP at The Lakes School, Troutbeck Bridge (this site is out of the immediate catchment area of the study but is important in the provision of facilities) and Ulverston Leisure Centre are good quality.

Queen Katherine School is anticipating re-carpeting its STP, which is coming towards the end of its lifespan, and also carry out repairs to the fencing. There is significant demand for this facility to be re-carpeted from Ambleside Hockey Club,

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which currently has to split the Club across two sites due to capacity issues relating to the quality of the carpet. The Club's junior teams continue to play at Queen Katherine School whilst Ambleside Hockey Club Ladies play at Kirkbie Kendal School.

Ulverston Hockey Club's pitch was replaced in November 2006.

### ***Ancillary quality***

Clubs are generally able to access changing facilities at school sites. However, Kirkby Lonsdale Hockey Club is not able to access changing facilities at Queen Elizabeth School because of the nature of the school building. In order for a club to access the changing facilities at the school there would be a significant area of the site that would have to remain open.

### ***Demand***

There is demand to upgrade the STP carpet in order to increase capacity at Queen Katherine School. Improvements to this facility would enable Ambleside Hockey Club to host both their junior and senior sections at the same site. Kendal Hockey Club has also relocated to Kirkbie Kendal due to the poor quality of the carpet at Queen Katherine School, Kendal.

Furthermore county fixtures require two pitches in close proximity. At present these county fixtures cannot be fulfilled in Kendal due to the deterioration of the quality of the STP at Queen Katherine School, Kendal.

### **Shortfall, adequacy and requirement**

There is currently no current or latent demand identified for hockey in South Lakeland LDF area that can be quantified in terms of pitch requirements.

### ***Hockey team generation rates (TGRs)***

TGRs indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables a comparison of participation to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken.

The following current TGRs have been calculated for each of the analysis area. Where no TGR is shown this indicates that no teams operate at that age group, for hockey, in that area.

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*Table 17.3: Hockey TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior (16-45) Men's	Senior (16-45) Women's	Juniors (11-15)
Kirkby Lonsdale	-	1:764	1:62
Kendal	1:3,279	1:1,305	1:104
Grange-over-Sands	-	-	-
Ulverston	1:1,539	1:1,203	1:171
Milnthorpe	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:3,130</b>	<b>1:1,430</b>	<b>1:128</b>
<b>NATIONAL AVERAGE</b>			

Relative to the national average, South Lakeland LDF area has relatively good participation rates for hockey, where play exists.

There are no womens' or girls' teams playing competitively which is indicative of the fact that play is still at a developmental level rather than formally competitive.

### ***Future TGRs (2012)***

By taking into account potential increases in participation and applying TGRs to the projected population for 2012, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated in the future. Potential increases include:

- ❑ SLDC Sports Development Team offers support and assistance on the development opportunities in sport for clubs, schools, voluntary organisations and community groups in South Lakeland. It also co-ordinates and supports the provision of a wider range of outreach events, training courses and activity programmes.
- ❑ Sport England's North West Plan for Sport and Physical Activity 2004 - 2008 main aim is to increase participation by 1% year on year, leading to 50% participation across the North West by 2020.

Therefore, it is therefore assumed for modelling purposes that there will be a 5% increase in participation over the next five years. This increase is applied below to give an indication as to how many additional hockey teams will be generated in 2012 if these aspirations are met.

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*Table 17.4: Future hockey TGRs*

Analysis areas	Senior (16-45) Men's	Senior (16-45) Women's	Juniors (11-15)
<b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b>	-	<b>1:764</b>	<b>1:62</b>
No. of additional teams	-	0.1	0.4
<b>Kendal</b>	<b>1:3,279</b>	<b>1:1,305</b>	<b>1:104</b>
No. of additional teams	0.2	0.4	0.9
<b>Grange-over-Sands</b>	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-
<b>Ulverston</b>	<b>1:1,539</b>	<b>1:1,203</b>	<b>1:171</b>
No. of additional teams	0.2	0.2	0.3
<b>Milnthorpe</b>	-	-	-
No. of additional teams	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1:3,130</b>	<b>1:1,430</b>	<b>1:128</b>
No. of additional teams	0.4	0.7	1.6

It is unlikely that hockey participation will be created in other analysis areas in the future and play will continue to focus where current provision exists. Therefore, where TGRs already exist, they are comparatively high and should be maintained. In addition to the future TGRs applied above, it is recommended that SLDC adopt the analysis area equivalent TGRs for junior boys participation.

### **Hockey summary**

- ☐ The majority of STP provision is located at school sites.
- ☐ Current and anticipated future demand is/can be met by the current STP provision, if appropriate community use and hockey development time continues to be secured.
- ☐ The STP located at Queen Katherine School is rated as poor quality. The carpet is likely to need replacing over the next year. KKP site visits confirm that the pitch is rated as below average.

*Table 17.5: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Poor quality STPs.	Re-carpet the STP at Queen Katherine School to support the development of hockey in the Kendal area.	Support Queen Katherine School in re-carpeting its STP and repairing fencing. These improvements will also support the availability of the facility for other sports. There is high demand for floodlit STP training facilities in Kendal and this cannot always be accommodated by Kirkbie Kendal School.

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### PART 18: BOWLS

#### Introduction

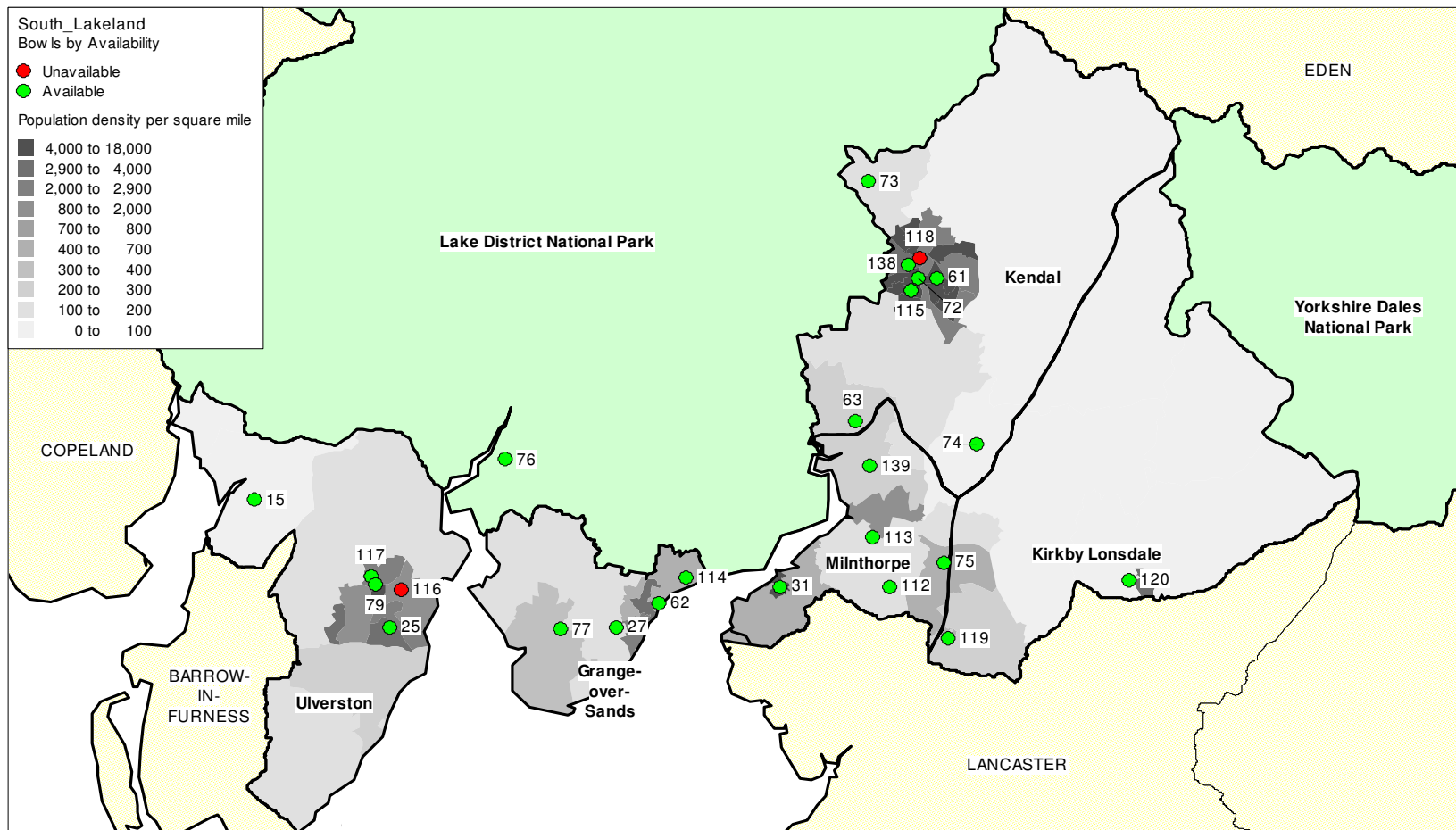
The British Crown Green Bowling Association is the governing body with overall responsibility for ensuring the effective governance of the sport. Locally, it is administered by eight leagues covering the South Lakeland LDF area, each is affiliated to Cumbria Crown Green Bowling Association, including the Kendal & District League, South Westmorland Senior League, South Lakeland Rural League and The Rothay League.

*Table 18.1: Summary of greens available for community use by analysis area*

Analysis area	No. of available non-pitches	
	Crown bowling	Lawn bowling
Kirkby Lonsdale	2	-
Kendal	9	-
Grange-over-Sands	4	-
Ulverston	4	1
Milnthorpe	5	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>

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*Figure 18.1: Location of bowls greens in South Lakeland LDF area*



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*Table 18.2: Key to bowls map*

Site name	KKP ref.	Analysis Area	Crown green bowls	Flat green bowls
Allithwaite Playing Fields	27	Grange-over-Sands	1	
Lindale Bowling Club	114	Lake District National Park	1	
Lower Holker Bowling Club	77	Grange-over-Sands	1	
The Promenade	62	Grange-over-Sands	1	
Abbot Hall Bowling Club	72	Kendal	2	
Burneside Bowling Club	73	Kendal	1	
Endmoor Bowling Club	74	Kendal	1	
Kings Head Bowling Club	115	Kendal	1	
Levens Playing Fields	63	Kendal	1	
Parkside Road	61	Kendal	1	
Subscription Bowling Club	138	Kendal	1	
Victoria Bowling Club	118	Kendal	1	
Burton Bowling Club	119	Kirkby Lonsdale	1	
Kirkby Lonsdale Bowling Club	120	Kirkby Lonsdale	1	
Heversham Bowling Club	139	Milnthorpe	1	
Holme Bowling Club	75	Milnthorpe	1	
Kings Arms Bowling Club	112	Milnthorpe	1	
Milnthorpe Bowling Club	113	Milnthorpe	1	
War Memorial Playing Fields	31	Milnthorpe	1	
Leven Valley Bowling Club	76	Lake District National Park	1	
Glaxo Bowling Club	116	Ulverston	1	
Kirkby Bowls Club	117	Ulverston	1	
Kirkby-in-Furness Community Centre	15	Ulverston	1	
Ulverston Conservative Bowling Club	79	Ulverston	1	
Ulverston Leisure Centre	25	Ulverston		1



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### **Key issues for bowls**

The table below summarises information gathered from postal questionnaires. In total, questionnaires were sent to 26 clubs and 17 responded, which equates to a response rate of over two thirds (65%). Questionnaires were also sent to clubs lying outside the Local Development Framework area. This distribution sample reflects the need for information on the current provision of, and demand for facilities to incorporate clubs lying outside this area as they may also have an impact upon the level of demand for provision. However their responses have not been included in the summary below, which incorporates the responses from thirteen clubs:

- ❑ The average membership level per club is 56 members.
- ❑ The majority of players travel 2-5 miles to play at their home ground.
- ❑ Average levels of membership have increased over the last few years. All clubs reported that their levels of membership had either 'increased' or 'stayed the same' over the previous five years.
- ❑ Several clubs report an increase in junior membership, whilst four clubs have plans to increase the number of playing members, particularly junior members.
- ❑ The majority of clubs report that the quality of their designated green has improved since last season. Just three clubs report a decline in green quality.
- ❑ Almost half of the clubs comment that they have facility/development plans that include proposals to develop new clubhouses and also for the provision of shelters around the green.

### ***Demand***

The majority of bowling leagues servicing South Lakeland LDF area have experienced an increase in the number of clubs participating over the past three years. The leagues do not operate a waiting list and endeavour to accommodate demand. As referenced above, analysis of club membership levels shows that half (50%) of clubs consulted report that membership has increased whilst half also report that membership remained static over the last three years. The increase in membership is considered to be due to the increasing popularity of the sport and the demographic structure of the area. Abbot Hall Bowling Club, Kendal for example, comments that the Club has formed a senior team this year due to the increase in members who have recently retired to the area. The increase in participation at the Club is also believed to be due to the improvement in the facilities available.

Such increases in participation have led to a significant increase in the provision of greens available. New facilities including a green and pavilion have been developed at Heversham Bowling Club, Milnthorpe and Lindale Bowling Club (outside LDF area). Following increasing local demand, greens have also been re-instated at Levens Bowling Club and Burton-in-Kendal Bowling Club.

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Abbot Hall Bowling Club, Kendal, Kirkby Lonsdale Bowling Club and Ulverston Conservative Bowling Club express plans to increase the number of playing members/teams. It is envisaged that any increase will be accommodated at the clubs existing facilities.

### ***Junior development***

Analysis of membership within clubs in South Lakeland LDF area shows there is a moderate level of junior participation. In total, 22 juniors are members, belonging to a Club in the South Lakeland LDF area. Holme Bowling Club has the highest levels of junior membership standing at seven. Junior membership has grown due to the close links that the Club has established with local primary schools. Levens Bowling Club is also keen to develop the participation of juniors. The Club currently has two junior members but, given the close proximity of the Club to Levens CE School, there is a perception that this could be developed further. There is no junior specific competition in the South Lakeland LDF area and junior members tend to play competitively against senior teams.

The Cumbria County Crown Green Bowling Association has a set of small bowls, which are loaned to clubs. Leagues believe that increasing the provision of this type of equipment would also encourage junior development.

Junior development needs to continue in order to sustain demand for facilities. Abbot Hall Bowling Club, Kendal, Coniston Bowling Club (outside LDF area) and Kirkby Lonsdale Bowling Club have expressed plans to increase the number of junior playing members.

### ***Quality***

Overall, the quality of greens in the South Lakeland LDF area is good. Volunteers invest significant time and expense in cutting and maintaining greens. Site assessments show just one site has been assessed as below average. This is located at the Promenade, Grange-over-Sands. The site assessment suggests that the site is no longer in use as a bowling green. In comparison, eight greens score as excellent quality including Burneside Bowling Club, War Memorial Playing Fields, Arnside, Lower Holker Bowling Club, Allithwaite Playing Fields, Leven Valley Bowling Club, Kirkby-in-Furness, Ulverston Leisure Centre and Burton Bowling Club). These are both public and privately owned bowling greens. The remaining greens across South Lakeland LDF area are rated as good or average.

Abbot Hall report that the quality of the designated green has improved slightly through the employment of a qualified green keeper. Prior to this maintenance was carried out on an ad hoc basis.

The majority of clubs playing in the Kendal and District Bowling League have fenced greens and instances of vandalism are rare. However, site assessments indicate that four sites do not have perimeter fencing. These are located at Levens

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Bowling Club, The Promenade (Grange), Abbot Hall Bowling Club and Parkside Road, both in Kendal. Abbot Hall Bowling Club has experienced a number of incidences of vandalism in the last year. The Club reports that youths often congregate at the site and leave behind cans, bottles and general litter. The Police are informed regularly. Whilst there is some fencing of the site, it is considered insufficient. The Club has identified demand to increase the provision of surrounding fencing and strengthen the existing fence in order to help prevent vandalism at the site and to provide security to players. The site assessment rates the quality of the green as average quality and also highlights cycle tracks on the green as evidence of inappropriate use.

Consultation suggests that improvements to fencing have been an important tool in alleviating the levels of vandalism. South Lakeland Rural Bowling League also indicates that the development work with juniors is promoting a sense of ownership of the greens and decreasing acts of vandalism.

League consultation suggests that disabled access could be improved at Milnthorpe Bowling Club and Allithwaite Bowling Club through upgrading the path quality around the greens.

### ***Ancillary facilities***

Consultation identifies that where ancillary facilities are available at greens they tend to be good quality. A number of clubs also access ancillary facilities at other sites. For instance Allithwaite Bowling Club uses Allithwaite Community Centre. Leagues believe that clubs in the South Lakeland LDF area have been pro-active in upgrading their facilities, largely through self-help. Ancillary facilities at Milnthorpe Bowling Club would benefit from improvements to toilet facilities. The facilities are currently accessed via steep stairs, which can cause difficulties for disabled users. Site assessments confirm that access for disabled players is poor.

The clubhouse at Abbot Hall is due for completion shortly. The Club believes that the improvements to the facilities should entice players to return to the site, in particular the local ladies teams who left the site due to the lack of facilities. Heversham Bowling Club and Holme Bowling Club are both considering the potential to provide sheltered areas for players and spectators.

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*Table 18.3: Summary of site-specific issues*

Site name	KKP ref	Comments
Abbot Hall Bowling Club, Kendal	72	Demand for better fencing at the Site to prevent access and reduce vandalism. Quality has improved since the employment of a qualified green keeper.
Burneside Bowling Club	73	Consultation reports that the green is used by young people riding bicycles.
Holme Bowling Club	75	The Club has plans for development, which include the provision of sheltered areas for spectators.
Levens Bowling Club	63	Consultation reports the green is used by young people riding bicycles.
Parkside Road	61	Netherfield Bowling Club is liaising with Netherfield Cricket Club to develop a new clubhouse.

### **Bowls summary**

- ❑ Participation levels are increasing across South Lakeland due to the demographic structure of the area and the popularity of the game. Additional greens have been developed to accommodate this demand. Population projections for South Lakeland indicate that by 2014, 40% of the population will be aged 60 or above, increasing to almost 50% by 2029. Given that current membership trends (i.e. age composition of participants) within clubs in South Lakeland provide an indicative account of participation trends in the sport, it suggests that there is likely to be demand for greens in the future.
- ❑ Bowling clubs in South Lakeland are becoming increasingly aware of the need to promote junior development of the sport in order to sustain the relatively high levels of demand. Several clubs have significant levels of junior membership.
- ❑ Overall, the quality of greens is good. Many clubs invest significant time and money on ground keeping.

*Table 18.4: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Lack of junior development.	Increase junior participation and further secure the future development of the sport within the District.	Work closely with local clubs and schools to ensure that opportunities are created to develop school-clubs link where a club expresses aspirations to develop junior players.
Poor security of bowling greens.	To reduce vandalism to bowling greens.	Work with Abbott Hall BC, Levens BC and Netherfield BC (based at Parkside Road) to develop a rolling programme to fence bowling greens.

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## **PART 19: TENNIS**

### **Introduction**

The Cumbria Lawn Tennis Association (CLTA) administers, and is responsible for, the development of tennis across South Lakeland LDF area. In total, there are nine affiliated clubs, which are listed in table 19.4. Three clubs (Heversham and Milnthorpe Tennis Club, Kendal Tennis Club and Kirkby Lonsdale Tennis Club) are also mini tennis accredited.

There are 34 tennis courts available across 14 sites. There are five affiliated tennis clubs playing on private facilities with the remaining clubs using school or public facilities. Ulverston Leisure Centre is the only facility in the South Lakeland LDF area to provide more than four courts at one venue. This is also the only tennis performance centre in the area and is the largest centre in Cumbria.

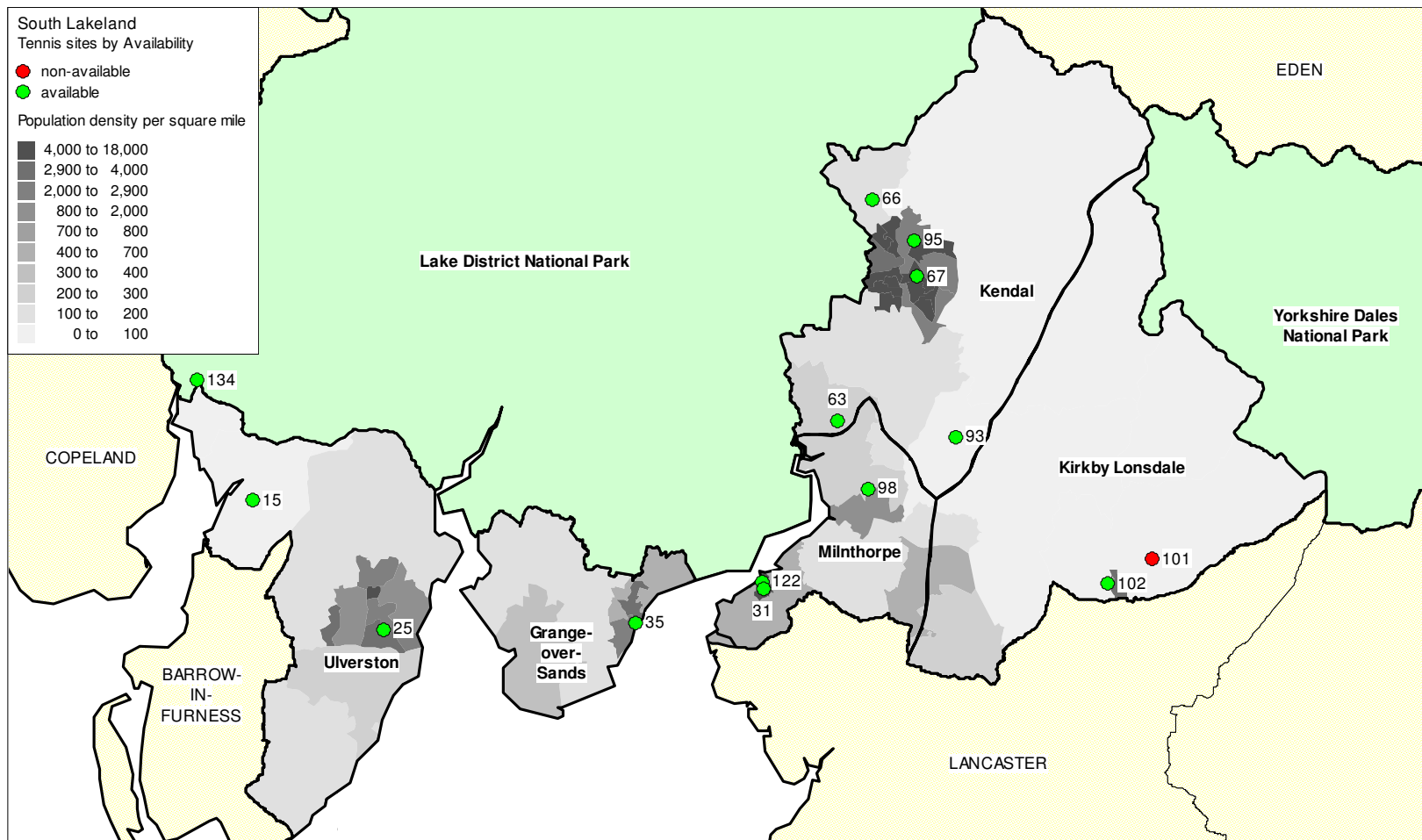
### ***Current provision***

*Table 19.1: Summary of courts by analysis area*

<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Number of Courts</b>
Kirkby Lonsdale	6
Kendal	12
Grange-over-Sands	3
Ulverston	6
Milnthorpe	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>

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*Figure 19.1: Location of tennis courts in South Lakeland LDF area*



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*Table 19.2: Key to tennis map*

Site name	KKP ref.	Analysis area	Total number of courts
Yew Tree Road Playing Fields	35	Grange-over-Sands	3
Burneside Lawn Tennis Club	66	Kendal	2
Endmoor and District Tennis Club	93	Kendal	2
Kendal Lawn Tennis Club	95	Kendal	4
Levens Playing Fields	63	Kendal	2
Netherfield Lawn Tennis Club	67	Kendal	2
Casterton School	101	Kirkby Lonsdale	4
Queen Elizabeth School	102	Kirkby Lonsdale	2
Arnside Primary School	122	Milnthorpe	1
Dallam High School	98	Milnthorpe	4
War Memorial Playing Fields	31	Milnthorpe	2
Broughton (In Furness) Tennis Club	134	Lake District National Park	2
Kirkby-in-Furness Community Centre	15	Ulverston	2
Ulverston Leisure Centre	25	Ulverston	4*

\*Additional courts at the site are indoor. Therefore although the indoor courts are referred to, they have not been included as part of assessment.

### **Key issues for tennis**

#### ***Development***

The Kendal and District Tennis League (K&DTL) provides competitive opportunity in the area. There are seven divisions comprising 52 teams from 22 clubs, of which seven clubs are based in the LDF area. The seven divisions include three men's leagues, three mixed leagues and two ladies leagues. Female membership at clubs is low and considerably lower than male membership.

#### ***Junior development***

The K&DTL also operates a junior section. The majority of junior development is focused around Heversham with Milnthorpe Tennis Club and Kendal Lawn Tennis Club, both of which are mini tennis accredited and provide coaching sessions for juniors. Kendal Lawn Tennis Club regularly hosts junior coaching sessions. The Club believes that there is latent demand for juniors in the area, although this is difficult to quantify.

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Taster sessions are also offered to primary schools by a number of clubs, for example, Kendal Lawn Tennis Club invites primary schools to attend coaching sessions. Clubs comment that these programmes do not attract as many participants as would be hoped. Both Heversham with Milnthorpe TC and Kendal LTC have introduced “Buddy” membership for parents who wish to play tennis with their children, as junior members, but do not require senior tennis. It is felt that this is a good means of introducing junior members to the Club. Ulverston Tennis Club, which uses three courts at Ulverston Leisure Centre, reports difficulties in attracting junior members because the indoor tennis centre at Ulverston Leisure Centre is considered to be a more popular choice for juniors wishing to participate in the tennis development programmes offered there.

Juniors are increasingly participating in senior leagues where the skill level is of an appropriate standard. Third teams are increasingly functioning as development teams and allows juniors to participate alongside senior players.

### *School club links*

A number of clubs are based at school facilities, making school club links relatively well developed. For instance, Heversham with Milnthorpe TC is based at Dallam School and Kirkby Lonsdale Tennis Club at Queen Elizabeth School. These clubs have relatively strong junior sections and deliver coaching sessions in the schools. However this tends to work through the South Lakeland Head Coach rather than the Club per se. Consultation with clubs identifies a drop off in membership levels aged 18-21 year olds when members may leave the area to attend further or higher education.

### *Ulverston Indoor Tennis Centre*

The Ulverston Indoor Tennis Centre is the largest in Cumbria. A number of clubs report that they use it for training purposes during the winter months. However, for clubs based in the east of the South Lakeland LDF area there is a perception that the facility is too distant to enable regular use of the facility.

### ***Demand***

K&DTL report an increase in the number of teams competing in the League for the season 2007. The League comments that a further increase in the number of men's teams competing in it will result in demand for an additional division to be created. The League is only able to accommodate eight teams per division at any one time due to the capacity at clubs for play to take place during daylight hours. Most clubs in the South Lakeland LDF area have access to only two courts. This can cause difficulties when fulfilling league fixtures. It is considered good practice to have one court available for club use whilst league fixtures are being played on two courts.

Tennis courts owned by SLDC in Lightburn Park, Ulverston and also along the promenade at Grange-over-Sands have been identified as sites for the



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establishment of skateparks. This suggests that there is no current demand for these courts. Consequently there will shortly be no publicly owned courts in the LDF area. However, many club facilities are available for the public to hire on an hourly basis. For instance, courts at North Lonsdale Tennis Club (based at Yew Tree Road Playing Fields, Grange-over-Sands), Burneside Tennis Club and Kendal Tennis Club are available for public hire and can be booked through the Club.

In the instances where clubs are based at school sites, there is a perception that the social development of the sport is inhibited as courts are often not available for long periods during the day when casual play is most likely to occur.

Burneside Tennis Club has established a link with Kendal LTC, which enables members from Burneside TC (which does not have any floodlit courts), wishing to participate throughout the winter, to join Kendal LTC on winter membership. The floodlighting of courts is estimated to increase the number of playing hours by 35 per cent between November and April<sup>4</sup>. For instance the provision of floodlighting at Kendal LTC allows the Club to provide structured coaching sessions for members each Tuesday evening throughout the year.

LTA guidelines state that club facilities should be able to accommodate 40 members per court and 60 members per floodlit court. The following table highlights current levels of membership at the seven main clubs in South Lakeland LDF area.

*Table 19.3: Demand for club courts in South Lakeland LDF area*

<b>Site</b>	<b>No. of courts</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Current membership</b>
Burneside Tennis Club	2	80	60
Endmoor Tennis Club	2	80	100
Heversham with Milnthorpe Tennis Club	4	240	80
Kendal Lawn Tennis Club	4	240	130
Levens Tennis Club	2	80	12
North Lonsdale Tennis Club	3	160	100
Ulverston Tennis Club	3	180	22

This table suggests the majority of tennis clubs in South Lakeland LDF area are currently below capacity. Endmoor Tennis Club is the only club that indicates that the facility is operating over its current capacity. However, it is important to note that both Heversham with Milnthorpe TC and Kendal LTC accommodate curricular use as both clubs have agreements with schools to permit use during the school day and this is not taken into account in the table above.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.lta.org.uk/Community/Clubs/Facilities/Floodlights/>

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### **Quality**

In general, the majority of private clubs now have access to very good quality courts, investment in which has taken precedence over ancillary improvements over the previous years. As referenced earlier, a number of clubs in South Lakeland LDF area are based on or close to school sites and agreements are made with schools to enable their curricular use of these facilities. Kendal LTC, for example, allows Queen Katherine School to use its facilities during the school day, although the Club has programmed in time to give the members access to these facilities on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

*Table 19.4: Summary of key quality issues*

<b>Club</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Accreditations</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Arnside TC	1 x artificial grass floodlit 1 x artificial grass	Full county affiliation	The courts have recently been floodlight, which has increased their capacity.
Burneside TC	2 x macadam	Full county affiliation	The courts have been re-surfaced in the past five years
Burton in Kendal TC	2 x floodlit macadam	Full county affiliation	
Heversham with Milnthorpe TC	4 x floodlit macadam	Full county affiliation Raw tennis accredited Mini tennis accredited	The Club is based at Dallam School and has access to indoor and changing facilities at the School.
Kendal LTC	4 x floodlit macadam	Full county affiliation Mini tennis accredited	The Club has good quality facilities, which have been resurfaced. Furthermore additional floodlighting was installed in 2004, providing lighting on all four courts. The Club has identified demand for additional car parking to be provided to the rear of the site. Parking at the School is difficult as space is limited.

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Club	Facilities	Accreditations	Comments
Kirkby Lonsdale TC	4 x macadam	Full county affiliation Mini tennis accredited	The Club is based at Queen Elizabeth School. At present two courts are out of use due to sinking and the remaining two courts are due to be resurfaced.
Levens TC	2 x macadam	Full county affiliation	The facilities at the Club are very good quality. It has aspirations to floodlight the courts as the posts are already in place. However, the Club has been unable to raise the funds to do so and the low levels of membership suggest that there is not the demand for this development.
Netherfield TC	2 x macadam	Full county affiliation	The Club has recently disbanded due to internal difficulties and decreasing levels of membership. However, the facilities remain available for use.
North Lonsdale TC	1 x artificial grass 2 x floodlit artificial grass	Full county affiliation	In the long-term the Club would like to develop a fourth court and install floodlighting on the third court.  The Club has planning permission to extend its clubhouse, which could provide formal access to changing accommodation.
Ulverston TC (also incorporating Ulverston Leisure Centre)	2 x floodlit artificial grass 3 x indoor macadam 2 x macadam	Performance accredited  Raw tennis accredited  Mini tennis accredited	The Club is based at Ulverston Leisure Centre and has access to good quality facilities

### ***Club developments***

#### *Kendal Lawn Tennis Club*

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The Club is located across the road from Queen Katherine School and has a 20 year lease on the site which is owned by the School. There is a small clubhouse on the site that is owned by the Club, although access is granted to the School. The Club has highlighted that parking is an issue at the site. There is no designated parking at the Club and parking at the School is very difficult given the limited space. An area of land to the rear of the Club could be developed to provide additional parking and it believes that this would be supported by the School.

The Club expresses difficulties in accessing indoor courts. There is demand to use the indoor courts at Queen Katherine School but it comments that this facility operates at capacity. The Club has considered a temporary airhall structure to provide indoor tennis. Although the space is available to develop this, it highlights costs to be the prohibitive factor.

The Club is conscious of the lack of disabled facilities within the clubhouse. Plans have been drawn up to accommodate a disabled toilet and it will pursue funding to make these alterations.

### **Tennis summary**

- ❑ There are 34 tennis courts available for play in South Lakeland.
- ❑ No latent demand was identified throughout the consultation with clubs. Current levels of demand are already met by the existing facilities. Although population projections indicate that the population is likely to increase, it is envisaged that any future demand can be accommodated by existing facilities where there is significant capacity available in many instances.
- ❑ There are no publicly accessible courts in the LDF area. However, the majority of private clubs make their facilities available for the public to hire on an hourly basis.

*Table 19.5: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Junior development.	To strengthen school-club tennis links across the District.	<p>Work closely with Kendal LTC and Queen Katherine School and Heversham with Milnthorpe TC and Dallam School to ensure that strong school-club links are formed.</p> <p>Work with local tennis clubs and schools to help promote coaching activity offered to primary schools.</p>

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## **PART 20: GOLF**

### **Introduction**

There are eight golf courses in South Lakeland, all of which are Parkland type. Beckside Golf Club is located just outside the LDF area, in the Lake District National Park. Kendal Golf Club is also situated close to the boundary of the LDF area, but remains within the 20 minute drive-time catchment. Carus Green, opened in 1996, is one of the newest facilities in South Lakeland. It is the only municipal golf course in the area and is currently managed by a leisure management company on behalf of SLDC.

In addition Carus Green Golf Club has a floodlit driving range and there are also stand-alone driving ranges in Kendal and Ulverston.

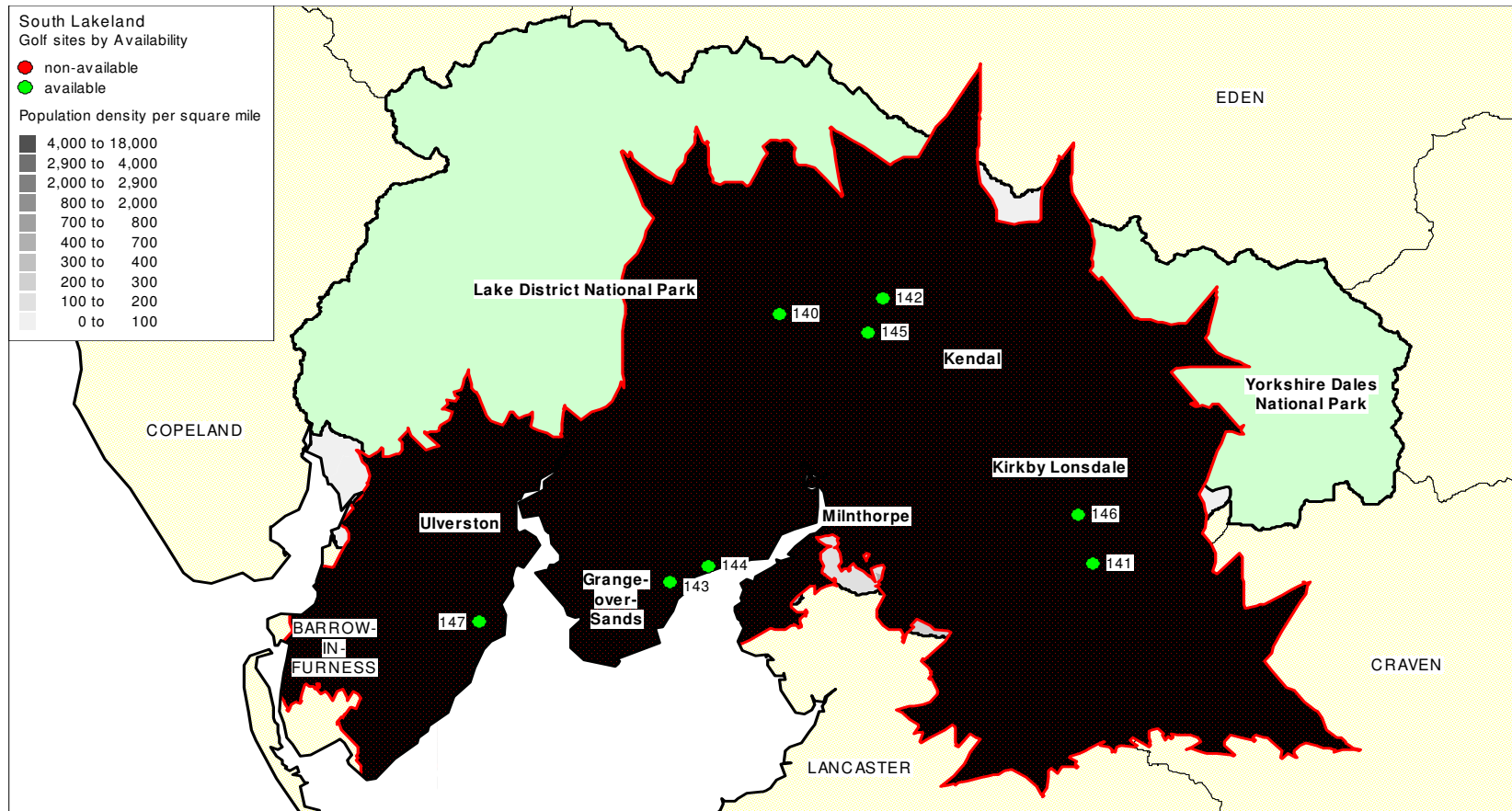
### **Current provision**

*Table 20.1: Summary of golf facilities in South Lakeland*

<b>Site name</b>	<b>KKP reference</b>	<b>Analysis area</b>	<b>Community Use</b>
Beckside Golf Club	140	Lake District National Park	Yes
Carus Green Golf Club	142	Kendal	Yes
Casterton Golf Club	141	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes
Grange Fell Golf Club	143	Grange-over-Sands	Yes
Grange-over-Sands Golf Club	144	Grange-over-Sands	Yes
Kendal Golf Club	145	Kendal	Yes
Kirkby Lonsdale Golf Club	146	Kirkby Lonsdale	Yes
Ulverston Golf Club	147	Ulverston	Yes

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Figure 20.1: Summary of golf facilities in South Lakeland with 20 minute drive time



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*Table 20.2: Summary of golf facilities in South Lakeland*

KKP ref	Golf club	18 hole	9 hole	Driving range	Practice areas		
					Bunker	Putting	Net
140	Beckside Golf Club		✓			✓	
141	Casterton Golf Club		✓			✓	✓
142	Carus Green Golf Club	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Grange Fell Golf Club		✓			✓	
144	Grange-over-Sands Golf Club	✓			✓	✓	✓
145	Kendal Golf Club	✓			✓	✓	✓
146	Kirkby Lonsdale Golf Club	✓				✓	✓
147	Ulverston Golf Club	✓			✓	✓	✓

### Key issues for golf

Sport England recommends that the drive-time catchment for golf courses be set at 20 minutes. Mapping of the courses South Lakeland shows that the current level of supply is sufficient. It also shows that there are significant overlaps in catchment areas in Grange-over-Sands, Kendal, and Kirkby Lonsdale.

It is important to note that golf is an important leisure and recreation attraction for tourists staying in the area and as such many courses will be played on by visiting players on a pay and play basis. Recreational golf is also available through pitch and putt facilities at Ambleside, Windermere and Grange-over-Sands.

The English Golf Union (EGU) distributes the Golf Club Membership Questionnaire to all affiliated golf clubs every two years as part of their research strategy. Although the comments below report on Cumbria on a county wide basis it is important to note that of the 52% response rate, almost a third of responses were from golf clubs in South Lakeland (Casterton Golf Club, Grange Fell Golf Club, Grange-over-Sands Golf Club, Kendal Golf Club and Kirkby Lonsdale Golf Club) and therefore provide a representation of the key trends in South Lakeland with regards to facilities and membership.

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*Table 20.2: Summary of EGU/ELGA golf club membership questionnaire 2006  
Cumbria County Breakdown*

	Cumbria (%)	North (%)	National (%)
<b>Facilities</b>			
Golf clubs with a Practice Ground	71	79	78
Golf clubs with a Chipping/Pitching area	71	73	74
Golf clubs with a Practice Bunker(s)	53	68	70
Golf clubs with a Practice Holes	12	10	10
Golf clubs with a Putting Green	88	91	92
Golf clubs with a Driving Range	12	17	28
<b>Membership</b>			
Golf clubs with membership vacancies	100	86	87
Golf clubs who's membership has increased	18	23	27
Golf clubs who's membership has decreased	59	41	35
Golf clubs who's membership has remained unchanged in the last two years	23	36	38
Golf clubs actively seeking more members	94	78	77
Junior membership as a percentage of total membership	11	10	9

### ***Demand***

Consultation with private clubs suggests that current levels of demand are low. Membership levels at most clubs tend to be declining or static. This is also evidenced in the table above, almost three-fifths of the clubs who responded in Cumbria reported a decrease in their membership. Clubs report that the increase in the number of courses in the area over the past ten years has lowered the level of demand. Kendal Golf Club currently has over 400 members (including a junior section with 60 members and a comparatively large, and an increasing ladies section with 70 members). As identified in the table above, all clubs in South Lakeland currently have memberships vacancies.

Non-handicap players are able pay to play at Beckside Golf Club and Carus Green Golf Club. This accommodates demand for players wishing to participate without belonging to a club.



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### **Quality**

The maintenance of private courses tends to be very good as many clubs may employ grounds people. A number of clubs consulted comment that they tend to make improvements to the course throughout the year. This ensures that any issues that arise are dealt with immediately.

Kendal Golf Club has two public rights of ways (PROW) that run across the course. There are occasional, minor instances of flag theft and petty vandalism. The Club tends to remedy these quickly. In the long term the Club hopes to complete its green renewal programme which it is three quarters of the way through at present.

Ancillary facilities have been improved at a number of clubs recently and now offer good quality facilities including shower facilities.

### **Development**

Overall, there is little development work at clubs in South Lakeland aside from the coaching available through the professionals. Kendal Golf Club is working towards EGU GolfMark/Clubmark accreditation and, in doing so works with a number of schools in the area offering coaching to pupils through the club professional. The Club hopes that the 40-50 young people who receive coaching will convert to full junior membership in the future.

SLDC has piloted Tri-golf this year as part of the 'Multi Sports Mania' summer scheme, which is offered to children and young people in the District.

#### **Golf summary**

- ❑ There are eight golf courses and three driving ranges in South Lakeland (Beckside Golf Club lies outside the LDF area). The courses are privately owned and managed.
- ❑ Current levels of demand are low and all clubs report membership vacancies.
- ❑ Kendal Golf Club is working towards GolfMark/Clubmark accreditation. The Club actively encourages junior participation.

*Table 20.3: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Junior development.	Increase junior participation and further secure the future development of the sport within the District.	Work closely with local clubs and schools to ensure that opportunities are created to develop school-clubs link where a club expresses aspirations to develop junior players.  Support Kendal Golf Club in achieving GolfMark/Clubmark accreditation and encourage other local clubs to work towards this standard.

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Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Static and/or declining levels of membership	Promote club membership.	Extend and develop the Tri-golf programme which was piloted his summer.  Support clubs in promoting membership.

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## **PART 21: EDUCATION PROVISION**

### **Introduction**

All secondary schools were visited and facilities assessed. KKP met with either the head of PE or in some cases with either the head and/or deputy head of the school. Questionnaires were distributed to all primary schools with a 51% response rate. Schools have been considered both in relation to curricular use of sports facilities and community use.

### **Outdoor provision**

The provision of pitches at schools and colleges can make an important contribution to the overall stock of playing pitches within a particular catchment area. It is therefore important to have accurate information about the number, type, quality and availability of pitches within the education sector in South Lakeland LDF area.

The new Education and Inspection Act (2006) came into force this year and replaces the existing legislation within the Schools Standards and Framework Act (SSFA) 1998, which was originally introduced by the Government requiring all schools to seek approval from the Secretary of State for Education and Employment (Education and Skills since July 2001) for the sale or change of use of their playing fields. Section 77 of the SSFA seeks to protect school playing fields against disposal or change of use by requiring the prior consent of the Secretary of State before disposal or change of use may take place. The School Playing Fields General Disposal and Change of Use Consent (No.3) 2004 order highlights some limited circumstances in which the requisite approval has been delegated to the relevant governing body (i.e. local authority), which can decide whether the disposal or change of use meets the circumstances and criteria set out in the Consent order.

Full and detailed guidance can be accessed at  
<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/docbank/index.cfm?id=11600>.

### ***School sports partnerships (SSP)***

The School Sports Partnership (SSP) programme is part of the national Physical Education (PE), School Sport and Club Links (PESSCL) Strategy, led by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), to widen participation, raise standards and improve the quality of PE and school sport.

The objective of the strategy - a joint DfES/DCMS public service agreement target - is to ensure that by 2008, 85% of 5-16 year olds in England are spending a minimum of two hours each week doing high-quality PE and school sport within and beyond the curriculum.

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There is one specialist sports college in the South Lakeland area, located at The Lakes School and Sports College, Troutbeck Bridge (located outside the LDF area but servicing it). The Partnership came into inception in September 2005 with the hub site at The Lakes School and Sports College. The following table shows the structure of the SSP:

*Table 21.1: Summary of SSP*

Specialist Sports College	Secondary schools	Primary schools
The Lakes School and Sports College	Cartmel Priory CE School	Allithwaite, Cartmel, Flookburgh, Grange, Leven Valley (outside LDF area), Lindale (outside LDF area).
	Dallam School	Arnside, Heversham, Holme, Levens, Milnthorpe, Storth, Beetham, Dean Barwick (outside the LDF area).
	John Ruskin School (Outside LDF area)	Coniston, Hawkshead, Langdale (All outside LDF area).
	Kirkbie Kendal School	Crosscrake, Ghyllside, Heron Hills, St Mark's, Vicarage Park, Dean Gibson
	Sandgate	
	Settlebeck (Outside LDF area)	Sedbergh, Dent (All outside LDF area).
	The Lakes School and Sports College (Outside LDF area)	Ambleside, Goodly Dale, Grasmere, St Cuthbert's, Staveley (All outside LDF area).
	Queen Katherine	Castle Park, Stramongate, Grayrigg, Selside, St Oswald's, St Thomas's, Crosthwaite (outside LDF area).
	Queen Elizabeth	Burton Morewood, Old Hutton, St Mary's, St Patrick's

The SSPs have set a number of targets to achieve by 2010, with individual key performance indicators (KPIs). These are an:

- ❑ Increase in participation in high quality PE particularly at Key Stage 4.
- ❑ Increase in participation in high quality out of school hours learning (OSHL).
- ❑ Increase in participation in high quality informal physical activity. This will be achieved through better access to facilities e.g. youth clubs, churches etc.
- ❑ Increase in participation in high quality competition and performance through increased competitive opportunities in non traditional sports.

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- ❑ Improvement in attitude, behaviour and attendance in PE and sport through the provision of structured activities during break and lunchtimes alongside increased training opportunities for teachers, support staff, Adults Other Than Teacher's (AOTT's) and school sports leaders to deliver high quality play times.
- ❑ Increase in attainment and achievement in and through PE, OSHL and sport through increased opportunities to develop leadership skills through Junior Sport leadership courses and coaching courses.
- ❑ Increase in participation in community based sport through creating more opportunities for girls to get involved in community clubs.

### ***Capital upgrade programme***

Building Schools for the Future (BSF) is the biggest single government investment in improving school buildings for over 50 years. Every secondary school in England will be subject to a re-build or replacement, depending on the identified need, over a 10-15 year period. BSF funding will reach South Lakeland in years 10 to 12 of the 15-year programme, with an estimated start date of 2012. This will have implications for sports facilities in the South Lakeland LDF area, but it is too early for these to be quantified.

### ***Current provision***

As acknowledged in the South Lakes SSP Development Plan, facilities for PE and school sport vary considerably in range from primary schools which may have very limited if any outdoor provision, to secondary schools which have large sports hall and all weather pitches.

### ***Community use***

The following schools are currently available for community use, i.e., they actually have a team playing competitively on its grass pitches:

- ❑ Cartmel Priory CE School (Grange and District Youth FC and Girls teams and Grange United Youth FC teams)
- ❑ Queen Katherine School (Kendal United FC U8's and U10's teams)

In addition to the above, a number of schools state that, if approached, their playing fields would be available for community use but, as such, do not advertise the availability of facilities. For those schools that do not allow community use, this tends to be due to poor quality facilities that are unable to withstand the additional wear and tear created by community use.

Community use of playing pitches at school sites tends to be on an ad hoc basis and there are few formal community use agreements drawn up for the use of outdoor sports facilities, other than at those sites identified above. Schools also tend to adopt a policy that playing fields are only to be used by those aged 18 or under and therefore only cater for junior use. In the main this is due to pitches not

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being able to withstand the wear and tear often created by senior use. However, there is demand from senior teams for use of school facilities.

In the majority of instances, where pitches are available and in use, access to changing accommodation is limited or non-existent.

Formal community use of school facilities tends to focus on use of the STPs. The STPs are an essential facility for hockey teams playing in the South Lakeland LDF area. STPs at Kirkbie Kendal School, Queen Elizabeth School and Queen Katherine School are booked by hockey teams playing in the Netherwood league and Cumbria county leagues.

### **Secondary School Summary**

*Table 21.2: Summary of secondary school provision in South Lakeland LDF area*

School	Facilities	Issues
Cartmel Priory CE School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Senior football pitch.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Senior rugby pitch.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two senior grass hockey pitches.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Three outdoor cricket nets.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artificial cricket square</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hardcourt area with four tennis courts, overmarked as two netball courts.</li> </ul>	<p>The pitches at the School are well used by local football clubs. The School is keen to develop a STP, given that the nearest facility is located at Ulverston Leisure Centre.</p> <p>The School is also keen to develop a new sports hall.</p>
Casterton School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Full-size sand based floodlit STP.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two senior grass hockey/lacrosse pitches.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Four tennis courts (Three floodlit).</li> </ul>	<p>Community use of the School's facilities is limited.</p> <p>The STP is used occasionally by England Hockey to fulfil county fixtures.</p>
Dallam School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two senior football pitches.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two junior football pitches.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Junior grass hockey pitch.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artificial cricket square.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Four floodlit tennis courts.</li> </ul>	<p>The School is working in partnership with M&amp;DJFC to develop a 3G STP at it's Milnthorpe site. The development has been given the go-ahead and is due for completion by September 2008. The development of the 3G STP will result in the loss of one junior football pitches.</p> <p>Heversham Tennis Club is also based at the School.</p>

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School	Facilities	Issues
Kirkbie Kendal School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Full-size sand based floodlit STP.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Senior football pitch.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Small hardcourt area.</li> </ul>	<p>The School is hoping to develop two junior pitches, which will be available for community use.</p> <p>There is extensive community use of the STP. Consultation suggests that the school is unable to accommodate demand for the pitch. The facility is increasingly used for training due to the poor quality of the carpet at Queen Katherine School.</p>
Queen Elizabeth School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Full-size sand based floodlit STP.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Junior rugby union pitch.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two tennis courts.</li> </ul>	<p>Pitch space at the School is limited. It uses football pitches off-site at Lunefield Park.</p> <p>There is extensive community use of the STP, mainly by local clubs for training purposes.</p>
Queen Katherine School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Full-size sand based floodlit STP.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Five senior football pitches.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Four long jump lanes.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artificial cricket square.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Four tennis courts (use of facilities at Kendal TC)</li> </ul>	<p>The STP is hired out on a commercial basis. Consultation suggests that there is a need to re-carpet the STP. KKP site visits confirm that the quality of the pitch is below average. Ibis Cricket Club is based at the site and maintains the cricket square. Consultation with clubs playing in the K&amp;DSFL suggests there is demand for use of School's pitches.</p>
Ulverston Victoria High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Senior football pitch</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Junior football pitch</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Various hardcourt areas (eight tennis courts overmarked as five netball courts)</li> </ul>	<p>The pitches are regarded as poor quality and therefore not hired out to the community. The school reports that the maintenance of the pitches is inadequate.</p>

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### Primary school summary

Questionnaires were sent to all primary schools in the South Lakeland LDF area in order to complete a quantitative and qualitative audit of formal outdoor pitches. KKP received 21 responses from primary schools.

### Key issues for primary schools

This section provides a summary of the key issues with outdoor sports facilities at primary schools in South Lakeland LDF area:

- ❑ Sixteen of the schools that responded have access to formal grass pitches either on their site or within walking distance.
- ❑ A number of primary schools have access to generic grass areas and do not have any formal pitches marked out. These schools have not been taken in to account in this study.
- ❑ All pitches located on primary school sites are junior pitches. This does present opportunities for mini-soccer development in particular.
- ❑ Milnthorpe Primary School has recently had its playing field levelled. The School hopes to make it available for community use by the local clubs for girls or U8's football. There is potential for this site to be used by M&DJFC, which has several teams at U8's.

*Table 21.3: Summary of key issues and recommendations*

Key issue	Proposed outcome objective	Recommended action
Lack of formal community use agreements.	Provision of good quality outdoor sports facilities (of a suitable standard to carry both curriculum and community weekly usage) efficiently managed by the external leisure provider.	Provide a central contact to organise the community hire of sports pitches at secondary schools. This will allow SLDC to retain an overview of usage at different sites and allocate demand in a strategic manner to those sites with sufficient quality pitches to accommodate additional play.  The quality of the sports pitches, and their associated carrying capacity on top of the curriculum demands, should be taken into account at all times.
Poor quality STP at Queen Katherine School.	Re-carpet the STP at Queen Katherine School to provide training facilities for hockey and football.	Support Queen Katherine School in re-carpeting its STP and repairing fencing.



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## **PART 22: SETTING PROVISION STANDARDS**

### **Introduction**

Target quantity standards provide a guideline as to how much open space, sport and recreation provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the District over the next ten years. Standards for each type of provision have been created in relation to demand, access and future population growth and are provided on an analysis area basis.

Quality and accessibility standards are also provided per type of provision, where appropriate. For green corridors for example, due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to set provision standards in terms of quantity and accessibility. Therefore, only a quality standard has been recommended.

Where a quality standard is provided, it is based on the audit and assessment of sites and provides a minimum level of quality (percentage score), which sites should achieve. An accessibility standard is also provided based on catchment areas and how far people should be expected to travel to visit each type of provision.

KKP has applied a composite approach to the setting of open space provision standards in South Lakeland LDF area. It has taken account of the other possible options including the application of national standards and believes that this is the most appropriate way to produce locally derived standards for South Lakeland LDF area and conforms to the guidance set out by PPG17 and the Companion Guide 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities'.

Development of standards has been carried out on an individual typology basis as opposed to grouping similar types of open spaces together such as formal (parks, cemeteries and allotments) and informal (amenity greenspace, natural and semi natural greenspace) in order to recognise the different values placed on each typology as identified during site visits and as placed on by residents during the consultation. However, on a local level some similar typologies such as amenity greenspace and natural and semi natural greenspace have been compared within the process and are recognised as providing a similar function.

This report is a 'living document' and the recommendations contained within it are to be reviewed on a regular basis as outlined in PPG17 and the Companion Guide 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' and to take account of adopted housing allocations and windfall developments as and when required.

The standards have been developed in conjunction with the key findings of the consultation in order to provide a locally endorsed picture of provision in the future. For example, a significant proportion of consultation across different types of open space highlights where residents perceive deficiencies in provision to exist. In the majority of cases the mapping and applied settlement hierarchy also reflects this. For example, young people in Grange-over-Sands highlight demand for greater

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provision in provision for children and young people. Consultation also finds that Ulverston has a lack of access to open space provision. In particular, the consultation highlighted a lack of children's play provision. The applied hierarchy supports this, showing that both areas are deficient in play provision.

### Quantity standards

The Study divides South Lakeland LDF area into analysis areas. These have been adopted to create a more localised assessment of provision and for examination of open space/facility surplus and deficiencies at a local level. The use of analysis areas allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account.

The following example calculation is applied to each typology to calculate how much open space provision per 1,000 people is needed to strategically serve the LDF area over the next ten years.

Analysis area	Current provision (ha) <sup>2</sup>	Current standard (ha/1,000) multiplied by 2007 population <sup>1</sup>	Low value sites where further investigation is required to determine ways of increasing quality/value (ha)	Provision to meet settlement hierarchy gaps (ha)	Total future provision (ha)	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1.					A-C+D		E/F*1,000
2.					A-C+D		E/F*1,000
3.					A-C+D		E/F*1,000
4.					A-C+D		E/F*1,000

For green corridors, due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to set provision standards in terms of quantity and accessibility. Therefore, only a quality standard has been recommended.

#### *The current level of provision (column A + B)*

The current level of provision has been calculated using the information collected and is presented earlier within the report and analysed using the open spaces database.

The starting point to calculating quantitative standards is the total current provision within a given analysis area. Current provision has a high impact on the aspirational

<sup>2</sup> Taken from the project database, supplied as an electronic file.

<sup>1</sup> The current population figures are based on the latest sub-national population projections available for England from the 2004 mid year population estimates (published 20 December 2005) and equates to 72,561 people across the LDF area in 2007.

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future standard and it is likely that the higher the total hectarage, the higher the local standard will be.

### *Surpluses (column C)*

Low value sites are identified from the catchment mapping, as sites, which do not meet a catchment gap of provision, i.e. the catchment area overlaps with another site and may be surplus to requirements of that particular type of open space. All sites falling below the value threshold (20%) have been examined in further detail to help determine a greater perspective of value. This process has had regard to such matters as Conservation Area status and Tree Preservation Orders. Further consideration of the value of these sites has been discussed with SLDC officers, taking into account current usage and demand (where possible). A recommendation has then been made by KKP, as to the future of the site.

Those showing that change of use is an option are deducted from the quantitative standard calculation and deemed as surplus to the requirements of that particular typology. That is not to say that they are surplus to the requirements of open spaces but further investigation is required to determine the future of the site for a change of typology or use.

### *Deficiencies (column D)*

Two ways of calculating deficiency have been applied. The settlement hierarchy is the main method to demonstrate which areas are deficient in open space provision. However, if consultation identifies a need for more open space, over and above that identified against the settlement hierarchy, this would also be added into the calculation. However, in this instance, issues regarding quality and accessibility were deemed to be more important to address and no additional deficiencies were identified during consultation. Deficiency against the settlement hierarchy is calculated by identifying gaps/areas not covered by the minimum level of open space provision, this may be captured as a distance for example; all residents must live within a specified area of a site or to have access to a particular number of sites.

If a settlement does not have access to the required level of open space provision (as stated with the hierarchy) it is deemed deficient. KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size, are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision.

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### *Allotments*

In contrast to most other open space typologies, it is possible to quantify demand for allotments. The principles of standard development are the same as for other typologies, but in calculating a standard for allotment provision the following is taken into consideration in calculating the requirement for future provision:

- ❑ Latent suppressed demand – as expressed by the number of residents on waiting lists.
- ❑ Latent potential demand – to calculate this, the size of population not covered by an existing allotment site and its catchment is calculated; the current participation rate (total number of occupied plots/total current population) is applied to this population figure to calculate how many plots are required.
- ❑ Marketing/participation increase – allotments are growing in popularity nationally; to cater for this an allowance is made for participation/take-up to increase by 5% by 2025.

### *Outdoor sports facilities*

Within local plans/unitary development plans, many local authorities use the NPFA guidelines in setting local standards for outdoor sports provision. This is usually based on a number of hectares per 1,000 population, which should be protected and maintained as formal outdoor sports provision and designated as such in the local plan/LDF. The NPFA outlines 1.21 hectares of formal outdoor sports pitches as an aspiration for provision. Local authorities can then use this figure as a benchmark.

However, taking this analysis a step further to identify within the pitch stock, adequate and inadequate provision and levels of latent demand in the area, makes the standard significantly more representative of the local situation. By factoring in this information a 'qualitative local standard' can be derived. That is to say a local standard that takes into account local qualitative information.

The qualitative local standard is calculated by adding the hectareage of pitch stock available for community use to the identified shortfall/surplus of pitches (latent and future demand). It also takes into account the amount of inadequate pitches within the existing stock.

It is advised that the qualitative local standards are adopted as part of the LDF and used as supplementary planning guidance in the context of planning applications such as the following:

- ❑ Where applicants propose the removal/relocation of playing pitches, which will affect the amount of provision in a given area.
- ❑ Where developer contributions can be gained to improve the quality of existing facilities.

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It is important that all levels of analysis are kept up to date. In line with recommendations in PPG 17: Planning for Open Space Sport & Recreation and that SLDC has a current audit and assessment of provision in order to respond appropriately to the needs of the local community.

Outdoor sports facilities standards have been calculated in line with Sport England guidance set out in 'Towards A Level Playing Field.' As with allotments, playing pitches are bookable facilities and demand can also be quantified more accurately. Within this report local standards or 'local aspirations targets for provision' in hectares per 1,000 population are derived as follows:

Existing provision (within this a recognition of 'poor quality' provision)	+	Additional provision to meet current unmet demand	+	Additional provision to meet future demand	=	Local aspirational target for provision
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### Summary of Quantity standards

#### *Parks and gardens*

The aspiration for parks and gardens is to meet catchment gaps as identified earlier. Due to the importance and high value placed on parks and gardens provision across the area, there are no sites identified for change of use.

Parks and gardens							
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current standard (ha/1,000)	Low value sites recommended for change of use.	Provision to meet hierarchy gaps	Total future provision	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
Grange-over-Sands	110.05	14.10	-	1.00	111.05	7,803	14.23
Kendal	38.35	1.16	-	2.00	40.35	33,068	1.22
Kirkby Lonsdale	1.16	0.15	-	-	1.16	7,868	0.15
Milnthorpe	160.36	21.88	-	-	160.36	7,329	21.88
Ulverston	6.05	0.39	-	2.00	8.05	15,651	0.51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>315.96</b>	<b>4.41</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>320.96</b>	<b>71,719</b>	<b>4.48</b>

The proposed standards for Grange-Over-Sands and Milnthorpe are particularly high because the total current provision includes significant sized sites such as Holker Hall, Holker near Grange-Over-Sands (107.3 hectares in size) and Levens Hall Park near Milnthorpe (83.8 hectares in size). The standard for Kirkby Lonsdale is relatively low because there is one small settlement park in the area, which meets the settlement hierarchy needs, so no additional provision is required.

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### *Natural and semi-natural greenspace*

The aspiration for natural and semi-natural greenspace is to meet identified catchment gaps.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace							
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current standard (ha/1,000)	Low value sites recommended for change of use.	Provision to meet hierarchy gaps	Total future provision	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
Grange-over-Sands	253.88	32.54	-	0.40	254.28	7,803	32.59
Kendal	18.99	0.57	-	0.40	19.39	33,068	0.59
Kirkby Lonsdale	119.56	15.20	-	-	119.56	7,868	15.20
Milnthorpe	21.53	2.94	0.38	0.40	21.55	7,329	2.94
Ulverston	60.88	3.89	-	1.20	62.08	15,651	3.97
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>474.84</b>	<b>6.62</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>2.40</b>	<b>476.86</b>	<b>71,719</b>	<b>6.65</b>

The proposed standard for Kirkby Lonsdale is particularly high because the total current provision includes the significantly sized, Hutton Roof Craggs Nature Reserve (99 hectares in size).

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### *Amenity greenspace*

The aspiration for amenity greenspaces is to meet catchment gaps.

Amenity greenspace							
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current standard (ha/1,000)	Low value sites recommended for change of use.	Provision to meet hierarchy gaps	Total future provision	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
Grange-over-Sands	14.72	1.89	0.37	0.40	14.75	7,803	1.89
Kendal	50.54	1.53	0.43	0.40	50.51	33,068	1.53
Kirkby Lonsdale	1.30	0.17	0.00	0.00	1.30	7,868	0.17
Milnthorpe	4.92	0.67	0.00	0.40	5.32	7,329	0.73
Ulverston	12.42	0.79	0.04	1.60	13.98	15,651	0.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83.90</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>85.86</b>	<b>71,719</b>	<b>1.20</b>

The proposed standard for Grange-Over-Sands is particularly high because the total current provision includes significant sized sites such as Yew Tree Playing Fields (3.49 ha) and Yewbarrow Lodge (3.85 ha). Although the standard identifies sites for change of use (0.37 ha), there is also additional provision required in the area to meet hierarchy deficiencies (0.40 ha).



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### *Provision for children and young people*

The aspiration for provision for children and young people is to meet identified catchment gaps; all gaps have sites of 0.04 ha identified (recommended new provision to be LEAP). Gaps in informal provision have also been identified, but are not included in the standard – it is assumed that such provision can be delivered through use of amenity greenspace and other areas.

Provision for children and young people							
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current standard (ha/1,000)	Low value sites recommended for change of use.	Provision to meet hierarchy gaps	Total future provision	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
Grange-over-Sands	0.42	0.05	-	0.04	0.46	7,803	0.06
Kendal	2.39	0.07	0.10	0.12	2.41	33,068	0.07
Kirkby Lonsdale	0.24	0.03	-	-	0.24	7,868	0.03
Milnthorpe	0.40	0.06	-	0.08	0.48	7,329	0.07
Ulverston	0.48	0.03	-	0.08	0.56	15,651	0.04
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.93</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>4.15</b>	<b>71,719</b>	<b>0.06</b>

The proposed standards set across the analysis areas are all similar in comparison even where the current provision is relatively high, for example, in Kendal, where there is the most provision (2.39 ha). This is because it is the only area where low value sites (LAP sized) are identified for change of use (0.10 ha). This reflects the consultation findings that residents in Kendal are more likely to walk past LAPs to access bigger, higher quality play areas. No additional provision is required in Kirkby Lonsdale, reflecting that there are no deficiencies when assessed against the settlement hierarchy.

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### *Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds*

The aspiration for cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds is to seek additional burial provision where required and as identified within the report.

Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds							
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current standard (ha/1,000)	Low value sites recommended for change of use.	Provision to meet hierarchy gaps	Total future provision	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
Grange-over-Sands	7.68	0.98	-	-	7.68	7,803	0.98
Kendal	10.43	0.32	-	-	10.43	33,068	0.32
Kirkby Lonsdale	4.29	0.55	-	-	4.29	7,868	0.55
Milnthorpe	2.89	0.39	-	-	2.89	7,329	0.39
Ulverston	7.50	0.48	-	-	7.50	15,651	0.48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32.79</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32.79</b>	<b>71,719</b>	<b>0.46</b>

The proposed standard for Kendal is particularly high because the total current provision includes a greater number of sites. Quantitatively, provision should be driven by the need for burial space and therefore this typology was not included within the settlement hierarchy so no gaps in provision were identified. Reflecting the high value placed on cemetery provision highlighted in the consultation, no low value sites were identified. The proposed standard therefore, just reflects the estimated increase in future population.

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### *Civic spaces*

The aspiration for civic spaces is to protect all existing provision and to seek additional provision where required and as identified within the report.

Civic spaces							
Analysis area	Current provision (ha)	Current standard (ha/1,000)	Low value sites recommended for change of use.	Provision to meet hierarchy gaps	Total future provision	Current population	Aspiration standard based on current demand (ha/1,000)
Grange-over-Sands	2.09	0.27	-	-	2.09	7,803	0.27
Kendal	0.03	-	-	-	0.03	33,068	0.0009
Kirkby Lonsdale	0.18	0.02	-	-	0.18	7,868	0.02
Milnthorpe	-	-	-	0.40	0.40	7,329	0.05
Ulverston	-	-	-	0.40	0.40	15,651	0.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>71,719</b>	<b>0.04</b>

The proposed standard in Grange-over-Sands is relatively high in comparison with the other analysis areas, reflecting that this is where most provision is located (2.09 ha). Current provision in Kendal is so small, coupled with the fact that there is no identified need for additional provision that the calculation provides a standard too small (0.0009) for use.

There is no current provision in Milnthorpe and Ulverston. However, this is identified as a gap in the settlement hierarchy and provision is made (0.40 ha in each area) to fill these gaps, giving the two areas a proposed quantitative standard. Consultation identifies that residents believe provision to already exist in these two areas. However, they have not been identified as such in this study. It is likely that with investment in infrastructure, to enable more events to be held for example, that meeting the gaps can be made without the need to locate addition land.

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## Allotments

The aspiration for allotments is to meet the needs of the population not served by current catchments and reduce waiting lists. The provision standard for allotments is derived through a demand assessment taking into account occupied plots, vacant plots and waiting lists (detailed calculations can be found in the study database). Therefore, in order to meet demand, the minimum plot size is identified as 0.025 hectares (national minimum size).

	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange- over- Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe <sup>1</sup>
<b>Current provision</b>					
Number of plots	20	420	10	214	-
Area	0.63	9.12	0.35	7.87	2.70
Current standard	0.08	0.28	0.05	0.50	0.37
Occupied plots	20	416	10	212	-
Vacant plots	0	4	0	2	-
Provision where further investigation is required to determine ways of increasing quality and value	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Latent demand</b>					
Number of residents on waiting list	2	229	14	48	-
Population not served by existing catchments – i.e., size of population living out with catchment of current provision	4,917	7,661	6,115	5,514	5,464
Current participation rate (number of currently occupied plots divided by current population)	0.0025	0.0126	0.0013	0.0135	-
Plots required to cater for those not covered by current catchments	12	96	8	75	-
Plots required to cater for growth in population (current participation multiplied by population growth)	1	24	1	12	-
Allowance for unexpressed latent demand (5% to allow for marketing work)	39	846	36	384	-
<b>New provision</b>					
Total number of plots required	19	426	26	170	-
Vacant plots	0	4	0	2	-
Total new plots required	58	1,272	61	553	-
Total area	1.27	19.12	1.03	11.83	2.70
Population projections (2025)	8,316	34,953	8,248	16,543	7,747
<b>Standard</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>0.35<sup>2</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Where blank, data could not be collated from current provision.

<sup>2</sup> As no demand has been added to the calculation (as data could not be collated in relation to the number of occupied plots in Milnthorpe allotments, the standard presented is in effect the current standard taking into account future population growth.

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### Outdoor sports facilities

#### *Kendal*

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Kendal analysis area.

Population (2004 mid year estimates) 33,216	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	22	22	19	3	2.0
Junior football	8	8	6	2	1.0
Mini football	1	1	1		
Senior rugby union	2	2	2		
Junior rugby union					
Senior cricket	6	6	6		
ATP	2	2	1	1	

The table below shows the breakdown of non-pitch provision within the Kendal analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	12	12	10	2	
Netball	2	2		2	
Crown bowling green	8	8	8		
MACA	3	3	1	2	

#### Kendal analysis area local standard calculation

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.53
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.11
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	<b>1.64</b>
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.11
<b>Local standard</b>	<b>1.75</b>
<b>LDF area standard</b>	<b>1.95</b>

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### *Kirkby Lonsdale*

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Kirkby Lonsdale analysis area.

Population (2004 mid year estimates) 31,024	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	3	3	3		
Junior football	3	3	1	2	
Mini football	1	1	1		
Senior rugby union	3	3	3		
Junior rugby union	1	1		1	0.5
Senior cricket	1	1	1		
Senior grass hockey	2	2	2		
ATP	2	2	2		

The table below shows the breakdown of non-pitch provision within the Kirkby Lonsdale analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	6	6	6		
Netball	3	3	3		
Crown bowling green	2	2	2		

Kirkby Lonsdale analysis area local standard calculation:

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	3.26
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.08
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	<b>3.34</b>
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.23
<b>Local standard</b>	<b>3.57</b>
<b>LDF area standard</b>	<b>1.95</b>

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### *Grange-over-Sands*

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Grange-over-Sands analysis area.

Population (2004 mid year estimates) 3,830	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	5	5	4	1	
Junior football	1	1	1		
Mini football	1	1	1		
Senior rugby union	1	1	1		
Junior rugby union					
Senior cricket	1	1	1		
Senior grass hockey	2	2	2		

The table below shows the breakdown of non-pitch provision within the Grange-over-Sands analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	3	3	3	0	
Crown bowling green	3	3	3	0	

Grange-over-Sands local standard calculation:

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.83
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	1
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	<b>1.83</b>
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.17
<b>Local standard</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>LDF area standard</b>	<b>1.95</b>

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### *Ulverston*

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Ulverston analysis area.

Population (2004 mid year estimates) 31,024	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	6	6	6		
Junior football	3	3	2	1	0.5
Mini football					
Senior rugby union	1	1	1		
Senior cricket					
Senior rugby league	1	1	1		0.5
Junior rugby league	1	1	1		
Senior cricket	2	2	2		
ATP	1	1	1		

The table below shows the breakdown of non-pitch provision within the Ulverston analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	6	6	6		
Crown bowling green	4	4	4		
Lawn bowling green	1	1	1		

Ulverston analysis area local standard calculation:

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	1.09
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.05
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	<b>1.14</b>
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.10
<b>Local standard</b>	<b>1.24</b>
<b>LDF area standard</b>	<b>1.95</b>



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### *Milnthorpe*

The table below shows the breakdown of pitch provision within the Milnthorpe analysis area.

Population (2004 mid year estimates) 31,024	Total number of pitches	Pitches available for community use	No. of adequate pitches available for community use	No. of inadequate pitches available for community use	No. of pitches required to meet latent/future demand or surpluses identified through PPM
Senior football	6	6	5	1	0.5
Junior football	2	2	1	1	1.0
Mini football					
Senior rugby union	3	3	3		
Senior cricket	3	3	3		1.0
Junior cricket	2	2		2	

The table below shows the breakdown of non pitch provision within the Milnthorpe analysis area.

	Total number of facilities	No. of facilities available for community use	No. of adequate facilities available for community use	No. of inadequate facilities for community use	No. of facilities required to meet latent demand
Tennis	7	7	7		
Crown bowling green	4	4	4		

Milnthorpe analysis area local standard calculation:

Pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	2.74
Required additions (ha per 1,000)	0.41
Playing pitch local standard (ha per 1,000)	<b>3.15</b>
Non-pitch space available for community use (ha per 1,000)	0.22
<b>Local standard</b>	<b>3.37</b>
<b>LDF area standard</b>	<b>1.95</b>

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### **Quality standards**

In order to determine open spaces sites as high or low quality, as suggested by PPG17, open space sites have been colour coded against a set threshold.

Sites classed as red have a quality score below the threshold for that typology; those identified as green are above the threshold (as shown throughout the report). The only available national benchmark for assessing the quality of open spaces is that set by the pass mark for the Green Flag Award scheme (60%).

For some typologies 60% threshold could be considered too high, e.g. for natural and semi-natural greenspaces and amenity greenspaces, because Green Flag criteria is a particularly high standard primarily aimed at parks and gardens. Some elements of the criteria, which form the basis of the site quality assessments, are not relevant to these types of open spaces (for example car parking and toilets are in the main not appropriate for some typologies). Therefore, for some typologies the scoring and weighting has been amended to reflect this. However, the threshold to identify high and low quality sites remains at 60% to reflect resident's aspirations to have access to high quality provision.

The standard is reinforced through the consultation findings, which suggests that green flag sites such as Kendal Castle Hill (72%) and Park Road Gardens (70%), are generally perceived, by residents, to be of a higher quality than the smaller sites such as Levens Park (49%) and Lightburn Park (56%). Consultation suggests that residents would expect high quality sites to be free from litter and vandalism, provide a range of facilities for the visitor and have car parking. The 60% threshold set tries to reflect the standard set by the residents of South Lakeland LDF area.

### **Accessibility standards**

All sites in the open spaces database have been mapped using MapInfo. Forming a part of the settlement hierarchy, catchment areas have been applied to sites depending on its typology and location (within the settlement hierarchy). These accessibility standards have been identified using data and guidance issued by the Greater London Authority (GLA) (2002): 'Guide to preparing open space strategies' and distances reinforced by the findings of the survey of residents.

The street survey found that for each typology, residents would expect to travel the following distances, to access good quality provision:

Typology	Consultation findings
Parks and gardens	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access parks and gardens provision.
Provision for children & young people	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access children's play area provision.

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Typology	Consultation findings
Civic space	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access civic space provision.
Natural/semi natural greenspace	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 30 minutes by transport (bus/car) to access nature areas.
Amenity greenspace	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access amenity greenspace provision.
Cemeteries	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access cemetery provision.
Green corridors	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel less than 5 minute walk to access green corridor provision.
Allotments	Consultation and street survey analysis suggests that residents are willing to travel 5 – 10 minute walk to access allotment provision.

For green corridors, cemeteries and allotments no specific access standard is set. It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to their linear nature and usage. For cemeteries, provision is determined by demand for burial space and for allotments, provision is assessed as part of a demand based calculation.

In order to convert the walk time catchment from the street survey into a radial distance for use as accessibility standards the following assumptions have been made:

- ❑ 10 minute walk time to be converted to radial distance of 750 metres (use of isochrones limited by absence of road network in parts of area).
- ❑ 15 minute walk time to be converted to radial distance of 1,000 metres (use of isochrones limited by absence of road network in parts of area).
- ❑ 20 minute walk time to be converted to radial distance of 1,250 metres (use of isochrones limited by absence of road network in parts of area).

Please refer to Appendix 6 for a comparison of other local authority area consultation/street survey results (carried out by KKP).

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Using the findings of the consultation and street survey, the following standards have been set within the settlement hierarchy as to far how residents are willing to travel to open spaces (walk times have been converted to distances in order to draw radial catchment areas):

Typology	Hierarchy category	Accessibility standard	Justification
Parks and gardens	1 and 2	All residents to be within 1,200 metres of high quality parks and gardens provision.	Street survey did not recognise the varying types/sizes of provision and therefore, GLA guidance for a district park is used.
Provision for children & young people	1 and 2	All residents to be within 750 metres of at least a LEAP sized, high quality equipped play area.	Maximum travel time (10 minutes) taken from the street survey. Also Recognises the low value placed on LAP provision by residents.
	3	All residents to be within 1,000 metres of high quality casual play provision.	Taken from street survey and NPFA guidance for access to casual play provision.
Civic spaces	1 and 2	All residents to be within 3,200 metres of high quality civic space provision.	Given that only a small number of sites have been identified, GLA guidance for district provision is used.
Natural/semi natural greenspace	1	All residents to be within 900 metres of natural/semi-natural provision.	Taken from street survey data – travel by car/public transport.
Amenity greenspace	1	All residents to be within 750 metres of amenity greenspace.	Maximum travel time (10 minutes) taken from the street survey.
Natural/semi natural greenspace or Amenity greenspace	2	All residents to be within 750 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.	Taken from above results, based on amenity greenspace maximum travel time.
	3	All residents to be within 900 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.	Taken from above results, based on natural/semi natural greenspace maximum travel time.

Please note that for category 4, all residents to be within 900 metres of at least one type of open space provision, but this is not a defined type of open space.

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### **Identifying deficiencies**

#### ***Applying the settlement hierarchy***

PPG17 and the Companion Guide 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' notes that, in rural areas, there can be villages with small populations and significant distances between settlements. It is rarely possible for every settlement to have the full range of facilities and some forms of provision tend to be concentrated in larger villages or towns. The hierarchy for South Lakeland LDF area adopts the principle of a settlement hierarchy for some typologies of open space.

The breakdown of settlements within the hierarchy is based on options presented by SLDC Core Strategy Options & Issues Paper 2005 and has been tested within the community consultation to ensure that it adequately reflects and represents the LDF area. The categorisation of settlements is set out in the appendices document.

Please note that cemeteries and green corridors are not included within the settlement hierarchy. In terms of cemetery provision, quantitatively, provision should be driven by the need for burial space. However, it should still be recognised that cemeteries can also contribute and fulfil an informal recreational provision where provision already exists. In terms of green corridors, due to their (generally) linear nature, it is not appropriate to include green corridors within the hierarchy. For allotments, it is possible to assess and quantify demand for allotment provision. Consequently, no minimum provision for allotments is identified for individual settlements.

Two ways of calculating deficiency have been applied. The settlement hierarchy is the main method to demonstrate which areas are deficient in open space provision. However, if consultation identifies a need for more open space, over and above that identified against the settlement hierarchy, this would also be added. However, in this instance, issues regarding quality and accessibility were deemed to be more important to address and no additional deficiencies were identified during consultation. Deficiency against the settlement hierarchy is calculated by identifying gaps/areas not covered by the minimum level of open space provision, this may be captured as a distance for example; all residents must live within a specified area of a site or to have access to a particular number of sites.

If a settlement does not have access to the required level of open space provision (as stated with the hierarchy) it is deemed deficient. KKP has estimated how many sites, of a minimum size, are needed to provide comprehensive access to this type of provision.

A significant proportion of consultation highlights where residents perceive deficiencies in provision to exist. In the majority of cases the applied settlement hierarchy mapping also reflects this.

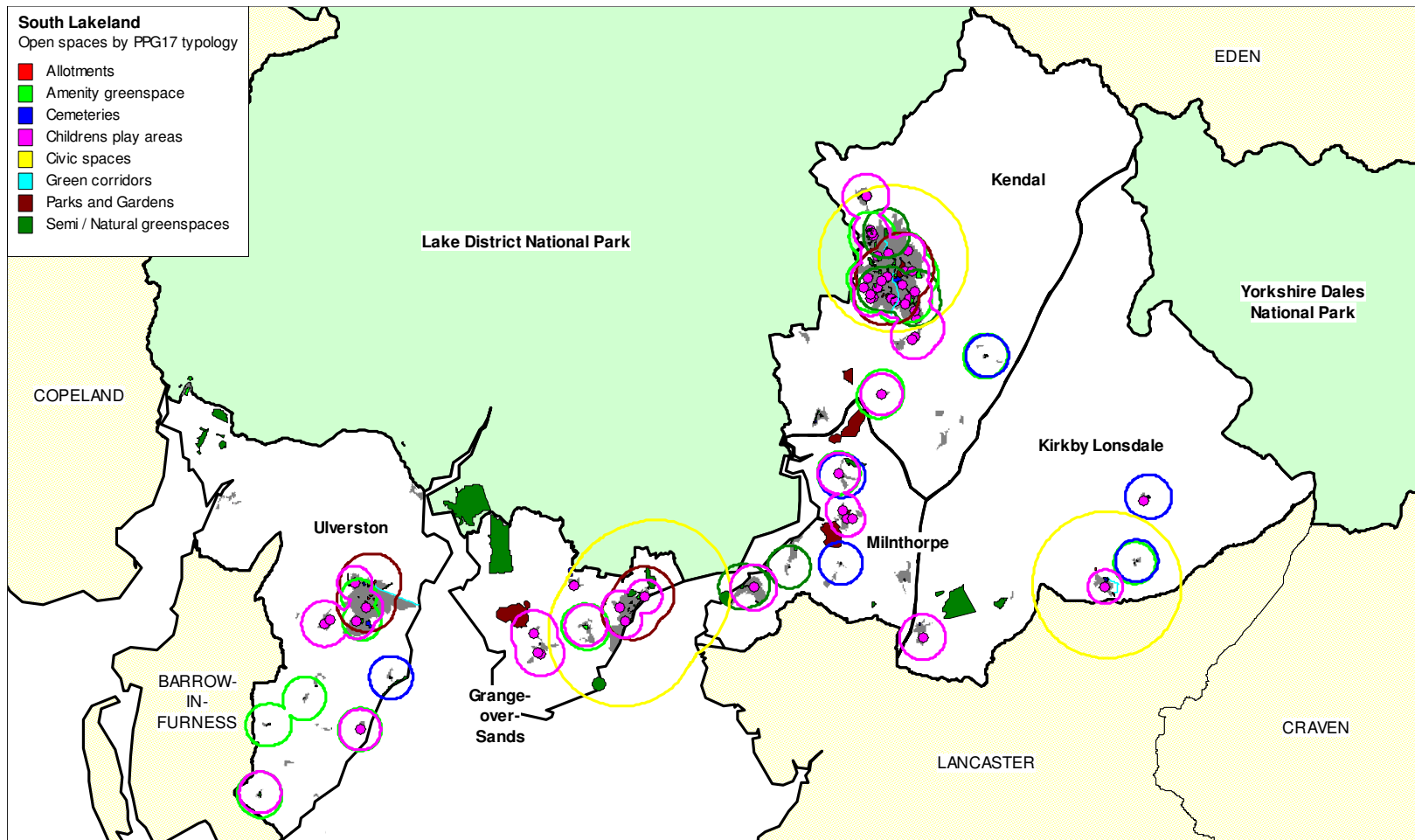
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For example, young people in Grange-over-Sands highlight demand for greater provision in provision for children and young people. Consultation also finds that Ulverston has a lack of access to open space provision. In particular, the consultation highlighted a lack of children's play provision. The applied hierarchy supports this, showing that both areas are deficient in play provision. Consultation also identifies a perceived lack of open space in Flookburgh. This is also supported by the mapping and the applied hierarchy, with no formal open spaces identified in the area.

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Figure 22.1: All sites with the applied settlement hierarchy





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### Category 1

The settlement hierarchy applied against category one settlements is set out below for all typologies included within the hierarchy.

Category	Typologies	Minimum level of provision	Gaps	Requirement
Category 1	Park and gardens	All residents to be within 1,200 metres of parks and gardens provision.	<input type="checkbox"/> North Kendal. <input type="checkbox"/> East Ulverston. <input type="checkbox"/> South Ulverston.	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 1 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 1 ha
	Provision for children & young people	All residents to be within 750 metres of at least a LEAP sized, play area.	<input type="checkbox"/> South Ulverston. <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast Kendal	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.04 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 0.04 ha
	Civic space	All residents to be within 3,200 metres of high quality civic space provision.	<input type="checkbox"/> No gaps	N/A
	Natural/semi natural greenspace	All residents to be within 900 metres of natural/semi-natural provision	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Kendal. <input type="checkbox"/> South Ulverston.	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha
	Amenity greenspace	All residents to be within 750 metres of amenity greenspace.	<input type="checkbox"/> Northeast Kendal. <input type="checkbox"/> East Ulverston.	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha

Assessment against the hierarchy shows that Kendal is generally well catered for with only minor gaps in provision that need to be addressed to ensure all residents live within the appropriate distances of provision. The most significant gaps in provision are within Ulverston, which has a shortfall of each type of open space within the hierarchy, of varying levels (except civic space). This supports the consultation findings that Ulverston has a lack of access to open space provision. In particular the consultation highlighted a lack of children's play provision.

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### Category 2

The settlement hierarchy applied against category two settlements is set out below for all typologies included within the hierarchy.

Category	Typologies	Minimum level of provision	Gaps	Requirement
Category 2	Park and gardens	All residents to be within 1,200 metres of parks and gardens provision.	❑ Grange Over Sands (south).	❑ 1 ha
	Provision for children & young people	All residents to be within 750 metres of at least a LEAP sized play area.	❑ Grange Over Sands.	❑ 0.04 ha
	Civic space	All residents to be within 3,200 metres of civic space provision.	❑ Milnthorpe.	❑ 0.4 ha
	Natural/semi natural greenspace	All residents to be within 750 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.	❑ Milnthorpe ❑ Kirby Lonsdale	❑ 0.4 ha
	Amenity greenspace			❑ 0.4 ha

Generally there is good provision of open spaces within the key service centres. Grange Over Sands and Milnthorpe both require two lots of new provision. There are small gaps in the provision of equipped play areas in Grange Over Sands and in Milnthorpe where no civic spaces have been identified. These gaps in particular support the consultation findings that young people in Grange-over-Sands highlight demand for greater provision

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### Category 3

The settlement hierarchy applied against category three settlements is set out below for all typologies included within the hierarchy.

Category	Typologies	Minimum level of provision	Gaps	Requirement
Category 3	Park and gardens	No minimum provision.	-	-
	Provision for children & young people	All residents to be within 1,000 metres of casual play provision.	<input type="checkbox"/> Levens. <input type="checkbox"/> Sandside & Storth. <input type="checkbox"/> Holme. <input type="checkbox"/> Great Urswick.	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4
	Civic space	No minimum provision.	-	-
	Natural/semi natural greenspace	All residents to be within 900 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.	<input type="checkbox"/> Holme. <input type="checkbox"/> Flookburgh. <input type="checkbox"/> Great Urswick. <input type="checkbox"/> Kirkby in Furness.	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha <input type="checkbox"/> 0.4 ha
	Amenity greenspace			

Assessment against the hierarchy shows that there are gaps in the provision of provision for children and young people and either natural and semi natural greenspace or amenity greenspace that need to be addressed to ensure all residents in the settlements have access to provision.

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### Category 4

The settlement hierarchy applied against category four settlements is set out below for all typologies included within the hierarchy.

Category	Typologies	Minimum level of provision	Gaps
Category 4	Park and gardens	All residents to be within 900 metres of at least one type of open space provision.	<input type="checkbox"/> Beetham & Slackhead. <input type="checkbox"/> Allithwaite. <input type="checkbox"/> Loppergarth. <input type="checkbox"/> Gleaston. <input type="checkbox"/> Newbiggin.
	Provision for children & young people		
	Civic space		
	Natural/semi natural greenspace		
	Amenity greenspace		

There is good provision of amenity greenspace and/or natural and semi natural greenspace in category four settlements. However, assessment against the hierarchy shows that six settlements do not have access to any of the typologies within the hierarchy and have gaps to be addressed. This can take the form of any of the typologies listed.

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### **Identifying surpluses**

#### ***Summary of low value evaluation***

Value scores provide a rational basis for determining where to focus investment in order to maximise the value of a space. The assessment of value allows an objective approach to identifying those spaces that should be given the highest level of protection in the planning system, those that require enhancement and those that may no longer be needed for their present purpose.

Low value sites are identified from the catchment mapping, as sites, which do not meet a catchment gap of provision, i.e. the catchment area overlaps with another site and may be surplus to requirements of that particular type of open space. All sites falling below the value threshold (20%) have been identified as low value and have been examined in further detail to help determine a greater perspective of their true value e.g. gained from specific local knowledge of the site, those that fall within conservation areas or those containing tree preservation orders.

A recommendation has then been made by KKP, as to the future of each site. Those showing that further investigation is required to determine ways of improving quality and value should be examined in more detail by SLDC on a site by site basis.

Where typologies are not considered within the low value evaluation, the site visits and/or consultation has identified these sites as valuable open spaces to the local community and should all be should be retained and protected and maintained to the standard set.

Stage 1 – apply radial catchments (how far residents are willing to travel to access provision) and apply coloured catchment circles according to its value status is green is high value and red is low value.

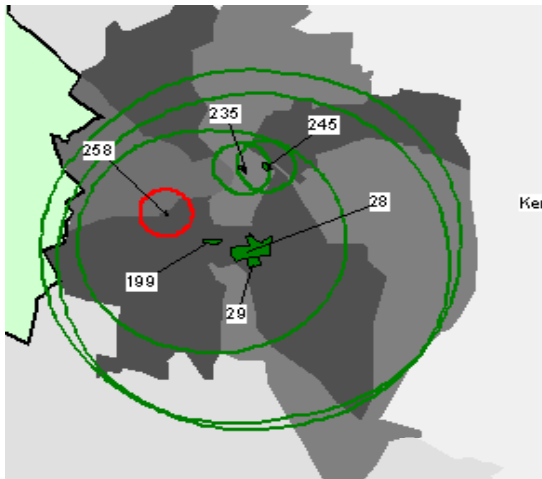
Stage 2 – identify those low value (red sites) where any change to the typology of the site would create a catchment gap. These sites serve a purpose and fulfil a catchment need and the recommendation is to increase site value.

Stage 3 – identify those low value (red sites) where any change to the typology of the site would not create a catchment gap. See example below where low value site 87 falls within the catchment of other high value provision for this typology. These sites are then examined in further detail, taking into consideration quality, usage and where possible, demand. This allows for an informed decision to be made regarding the future of the site.

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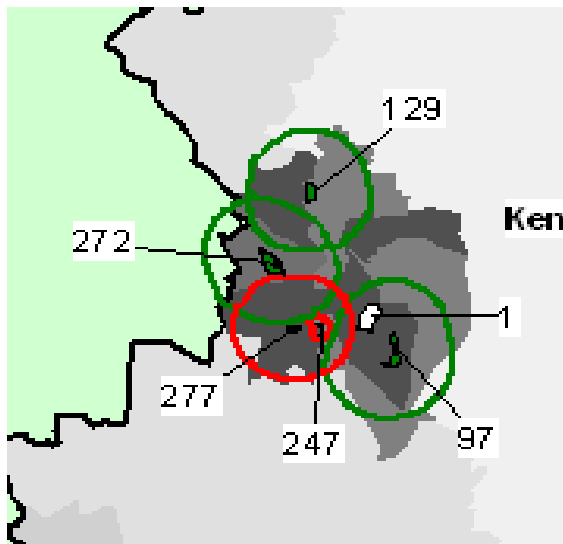
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*Figure 33.1: Example of catchment mapping*



Stage 4 - where a low value site is within the catchment area of a high value site but its catchment area extends beyond the catchment of a high value site, i.e. it only partially serves a catchment need and there is a partial overlap in the catchment circles of one or more sites (see Figure 33.2), depending on the extent to which the overlapping catchment services a settlement (grey shaded area) then the site is recommended to be retained, and its value increased.

*Figure 33.2: Example of catchment mapping*



Stage 5 – Once sites have been identified as potential for change of use, they are then tested against deficiencies in other typologies in the area. The majority of gaps in provision are outlined within the Ulverston analysis area, in which there is also a lack of low value sites and as such, no sites in Ulverston are identified as 'change of use'. Where deficiencies in provision are identified, this will often require the

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development of new land to fulfil the gap. However, there are a handful of 'change of use' sites that, with further investigation, could potentially be able to fulfil a gap in another typology. Where this is applicable, details are written against the site in the tables below.

Stage 6 – Finalise list of sites where 'consider change of use' is identified. Further detailed investigation is required to determine ways of improving quality and value, or whether an alternative use may be more appropriate.

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### *Parks and gardens*

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Kendal				
232	Gillinggate	42.2%	17.3%	Removal of site would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment areas of Kendal Castle (site 44) and Abbot Hall (site 46). The site is within Kendal Conservation area. Fact it is in a conservation area does not automatically mean it should be retained. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>

### *Natural/semi natural sites*

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Kendal				
247	Crow Tree Wood	55.9%	12.7%	Removal of site would create a catchment gap unless Vicarage Drive (KKP Ref 277) retained and value increased. However, this site is part of the linear Kendal Riverside foot and cycle route, removal of the site would fragment this well used route. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
277	Vicarage Drive Woodland	40.2%	12.7%	Removal would create a catchment gap. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>



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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Kirkby Lonsdale				
224	Holme Park Quarry LNR	63.8%	<b>10%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Hutton Roof Craggs nature reserve. However, the site is a designated LNR with high ecological value. The low value score is indicative of the proximity of a number of sites of the same typology.  <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
Milnthorpe				
248	Crow Wood	37%	<b>12.7%</b>	Site is made up of a mixture of trees and grassland. <b>TPO abutting (to north of site in the grounds of property Ariaken)</b> Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Heversham Head Plantation (KKP Ref 278).  <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>

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## *Amenity greenspace*

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Grange-over-Sands				
54	Land adjacent St Charles's Church, Kents Bank Road, Grange-over-Sands	38.2%	11%	Field/grassland, possibly agricultural land in the past. . Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Yew Tree Playing Fields and Yewbarrow Lodge (KKP Ref 222 and 164). However, site is located in Grange conservation area which may affect its change of use.  <b>Consider site for change of use. There is an identified gap in play area (minimum LEAP size) in Grange-over-Sands and this site is ideally situated to potentially contribute to this gap. Further investigation required.</b>
67	Land adjacent Wells House Farm, Cartmel	33.6%	15%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Town End Triangle, Cartmel (KKP Ref 284). However, it is located in Cartmel conservation area and should have a high ecological value.  <b>Consider site for change of use to another open space typology only (should not be considered for disposal). There is an identified gap in play area (minimum LEAP size) in Grange-over-Sands and this site is ideally situated to potentially contribute to this gap. Further investigation required.</b>
84	Land between Rockland Road and Fernleigh Road, Grange-over-Sands	50.6%	11%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Yew Tree Playing Fields and Yewbarrow Lodge (KKP Ref 222 and 164).  <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>

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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
85	Land between Vicarage Lane, Green Lane and Church Road, Allithwaite	33.6%	<b>19%</b>	Removal would create a significant catchment gap. Increasing quality may increase value. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
116	Land to South of Cartmel Methodist Church, Cartmel	52.6%	<b>14%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Town End Triangle, Cartmel (KKP Ref 284). However, it is located within Cartmel conservation area and should have a high ecological value. <b>Consider site for change of use to another open space typology only (should not be considered for disposal). There is an identified gap in play area (minimum LEAP size) in Grange-over-Sands and this site is ideally situated to potentially contribute to this gap. Further investigation required.</b>
265	Deardon Close, Grange	50%	<b>16%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Yew Tree Playing Fields and Yewbarrow Lodge (KKP Ref 222 and 164). However, it is in Grange conservation area and consists of grassed areas around housing with limited scope for change of use. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
Kendal				
37	Green at Hill Close, Sedgwick	28.2%	<b>13%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of Sedgwick Aqueduct and surrounding land (KKP Ref 145). Suggest limited scope for change of use. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
58	Land adjacent to Bolefoot, Oxenholme	29.5%	<b>4%</b>	Removal would create a catchment gap. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>

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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
65	Land adjacent to Westwood Avenue, Kendal	28.2%	17%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
66	Land adjacent to Whitbarrow Grove, Levens	27.3%	14%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. TPO on site. Part of this site has recently been developed for housing. <b>Consider site for change of use. There is an identified gap in play provision (minimum casual play) in Levens and this site is ideally situated to potentially contribute to this gap. Further investigation required.</b>
71	Land at corner of Hill Close and Well Heads Lane, Sedgwick	30%	14%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
82	Land between Acre Moss Lane, Moss Ghyll and Newbiggin, Kendal	34.1%	14%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. <b>Consider site for change of use. There is an identified gap in parks and gardens provision in Northwest Kendal and this site is ideally situated to potentially contribute to this gap. Further investigation required.</b>
88	Land off Aysgarth Close, Kendal	23.6%	19%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. However, this site contains a high value play area. It is likely that being located so close to the play area that increasing the quality of the site will increase its value. <b>Retain and increase quality and value.</b>

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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
92	Land running parallel with Underhill and Lowgate, Levens	24.1%	<b>19%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area.  Would suggest limited scope for other uses due to narrow, linear nature of site. Site is also quite steep. TPO on site.  <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
102	Land to North of Park Side Road, Kendal	30.5%	<b>19%</b>	Large site where removal would create a catchment gap. Increasing quality may increase value. TPO on site.  <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
108	Land to rear of 67 Low Mead, Kendal	16.8%	<b>13%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area.  <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
243	Beezon Road Riverbank	39.1%	<b>5%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. Possible limitations to changing use, including flood risk  <b>Consider site for change of use. There is an identified gap in natural/semi natural provision in Central Kendal and this site is ideally situated to potentially contribute to this gap. Further investigation required.</b>
233	Glebe Walk, Netherbridge Garden/beds	57.3%	<b>17%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. This site forms part of the 'green corridor' of the River Kent and the Kendal Riverside foot and cycle route, it is also part of the setting of Kendal Parish Church, Abbot Hall, the Nether Hall and the Kirkland Hall and is in Kendal Conservation area. Removing the site or changing its use would fragment this well used route.  <b>Retain and increase value.</b>

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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
244	Castle Green Lane	33.6%	<b>10%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. Narrow linear nature of site could limit change of use. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
246	Collinfield Lane Open Space	20%	<b>9%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. TPO on site. <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
249	Esthwaite Avenue	48.2%	<b>14%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. However, the site was adopted by SLDC a few years ago and should be retained. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
253	Levens Close	27.3%	<b>14%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. Access could limit possibilities for changing use. <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
254	Lingmoor Rise to Crummock Dr	35.5%	<b>8%</b>	Footpath leading from a larger grassed area. Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment is covered by the catchment area of various other sites in the area. Unable to change footpath use but open space element could be changed. <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
263	Vicarage Rd Drive open space (above school)	38.2%	<b>14%</b>	Removal may create a small catchment gap. Increasing quality may increase value. This site may belong to the School. TPO on site. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>

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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Kirkby Lonsdale				
256	Raygarth	34.1%	15%	Removal would create a small catchment gap. Increasing quality may increase value. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
279	Casterton Village Green	41.8%	19%	Removal would create a small catchment gap. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
Milnthorpe				
96	Land to East of Storth Road, Storth	36.4%	14%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap, site located close to the sea front. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
134	Playground adjacent Princes Way, Heversham	39.1%	14%	Removal would create a small catchment gap. Increasing quality may increase value. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
Ulverston				
50	Land adjacent Greenside Cottage, Baycliff	39.1%	15%	Consider in relation to Land, West of Fishermans Arms Hotel, Baycliff (KKP ref 124). Given that site 124 contains a play area, would suggest removal of this site will not create a catchment gap if site 124 is retained and value increased. However, there is limited scope to change the use of this site, therefore it is suggested that it is retained and value increased. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
124	Land, West of Fishermans Arms Hotel, Baycliff	45.2%	16%	Land contains a play area of high value and would therefore suggest that this site is retained and value increased. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>

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KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
269	Quay Street/Sunderland Terrace	42.9%	17%	Removal would create a minor catchment gap. Increasing quality may increase value. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
285	Scales Green	27.3%	16%	Land contains a play area of high value and would therefore suggest that this site is retained and value increased. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>



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## *Provision for children and young people*

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Kendal				
176	Greenwood Play Area	73.3%	<b>14.5%</b>	Removal of this LAP sized play area would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment areas of sites 165 and 168. Although the site is of high quality it offers limited play value. However, given the investment made in the site to make it high quality, retain and increase value.  <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
186	Michaelson Rd Play Area	44%	<b>14.5%</b>	Removal of this LAP sized play area would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment area of site 168. However, this site does offer casual play opportunities and site 168 does not – invest in site to create casual play and this site could be considered for change of use.  <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>
195	Yeats Close Play Area	58.7%	<b>10.9%</b>	Removal of this LAP sized play area would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment area of site 168. The site offers limited play value due to limited equipment provision.  <b>Consider site for change of use.</b>

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### ***Allotments***

Where sites have a waiting list and removal would not create a catchment gap, it is recommended to retain the site.

KKP ref	Site name	Quality score	Value score	Comment
Kendal				
13	Allotment Gardens at Hill Place, Oxenholme	21.4%	<b>7.6%</b>	Removal would create a catchment gap in a densely populated area. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
214	Shaw Brow Allotments	43.6%	<b>11.4%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment areas of a number of high value sites. The proximity of these may impact on the value score. However, this is a large site with a significant waiting list. This demand cannot be catered for at any other sites currently and therefore this site is meeting a need in the local area. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>
216	Sedbergh Road Allotments	51.3%	<b>19%</b>	Removal would not create a catchment gap. Its catchment area is covered by the catchment areas of a number of high value sites. The proximity of these may impact on the value score. However, this is a large site with a significant waiting list. This demand cannot be catered for at any other sites currently and therefore this site is meeting a need in the local area. <b>Retain and increase value.</b>

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### Summary of provision standards

The table below details the provision standards for open spaces and outdoor sports facilities across South Lakeland LDF area. The standards set are locally derived standards and are therefore reflective of local circumstance including current provision and demand. Although some quantity standards may seem particularly high, this is because the starting point (i.e. the current provision) is higher than other areas. It is also recognised that analysis area boundaries do not inhibit residents' usage of open spaces. Analysis areas that appear to have particularly low standards are such because large sites probably fall just outside the analysis area but still service people from within that area. Therefore, it is not always useful to compare one area with another area, but work towards the standards as locally derived standards.

Where there is no quantity standard, for example against civic spaces in Kendal, this shows that there is no current provision in this area for this typology.

#### *Local provision standards*

Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Parks and gardens	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	0.15	1.22	14.23	0.51	21.88
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	All Category 1 and 2 residents to be within 1,200 metres of parks and gardens provision.				

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Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Natural/semi-natural greenspace	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	15.20	0.59	32.59	3.97	2.94
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	<p>All Category 1 residents to be within 900 metres of natural/semi-natural provision.</p> <p>All Category 2 residents to be within 750 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.</p> <p>All Category 3 residents to be within 900 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.</p>				

Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Amenity greenspace	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	0.17	1.53	1.89	0.89	0.73
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	<p>All Category 1 residents to be within 750 metres of amenity greenspace.</p> <p>All Category 2 residents to be within 750 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.</p> <p>All Category 3 residents to be within 900 metres of either natural/semi-natural or amenity greenspace provision.</p>				

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Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Green corridors	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	N/A				
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	N/A				

Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Provision for children and young people	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	0.03	0.07	0.06	0.04	0.07
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	All residents in Category 1 and 2 to be within 750 metres of a LEAP sized equipped play area. All residents in Category 3 to be within 1,000 metres of casual play provision.				

Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Cemeteries	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	0.55	0.32	0.98	0.48	0.39
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	N/A				

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Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Civic spaces	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	0.02	0.0009	0.27	0.03	0.05
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	All Category 1 and 2 residents to be within 3,200 metres of civic space provision.				

Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Allotments	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	0.13	0.57	0.12	0.73	0.35
	Quality	Score of 60% or higher on qualitative site assessment				
	Accessibility	Demand based assessment carried out to inform accessibility issues. Address issues regarding lack of access to appropriate sites at relevant times				

Typology	Standard	Kirkby Lonsdale	Kendal	Grange-over-Sands	Ulverston	Milnthorpe
Outdoor sports facilities	Quantity (ha/1,000 people)	3.57	1.75	2.00	1.24	3.37
	Quality	Site quality rating of good (as defined by Sport England Electronic Toolkit)				
	Accessibility	Demand based assessment carried out to inform accessibility issues. Address issues regarding lack of access to appropriate sites at relevant times				

Please note that for all Category 4 residents are to be within 900 metres of at least one type of open space provision, but this is not a defined type of open space.

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### PART 23: POLICY OPTIONS

This table details policy options relating to individual sites and the need to enhance and develop new provision. Although all sites in the database are listed, action is not necessarily identified for all sites.

A substantial number of sites are recommended to be retained and their quality and/or value increased. The table below does not identify all quality and value improvements to be made. Specific details on how this is best achieved can be found in the accompanying study database. Typical issues to address in order to increase quality include examples such as increasing the regularity of maintenance at the site, provision of litterbins and provision of benches. Typical issues to address in order to increase value include examples such as raising awareness of the site, increasing overall quality and increasing community engagement in the site. Prioritisation of improvements should be led through the annual maintenance planning programme.

#### *Action plan*

KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b>Grange-over-Sands</b>				
<b>Allotments</b>				
2	Allotment Gardens adjacent Cartmel Village Hall, Cartmel	55.6%	25.7%	Work to increase quality to above the threshold. For example, this could be achieved through provision of on-site signage with basic up to date information.
3	Allotment Gardens adjacent Eccleston Meadow, Flookburgh	51.3%	25.7%	Increase quality to above the threshold. For example, this could be achieved through provision of on-site signage with basic up to date information.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
280	Yewbarrow Allotments, Grange-over-Sands	40.2%	26.7%	Although this is a well-maintained site, work towards increasing the quality score through, for example, the provision of on-site signage with basic up to date information.
<b>Amenity greenspaces</b>				
54	Land adjacent St Charles' Church, Kents Bank Road, Grange-over-Sands	38.2%	11%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
67	Land adjacent Wells House Farm, Cartmel	33.6%	15%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap the site is located within Cartmel conservation area and is to be retained. The low value score is not in relation to the quality of the site but due to the proximity of other amenity greenspace sites. The site has little function other than visual amenity; therefore, maintain current standards.
84	Land between Rockland Road and Fernleigh Road, Grange-over-Sands	50.6%	11%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
85	Land between Vicarage Lane, Green Lane and Church Road, Allithwaite	33.6%	19%	Retain and increase quality and value to above the thresholds. There is a high value children's play area within the site therefore enhancing quality, for example by providing seating, may increase the value.
116	Land to South of Cartmel Methodist Church, Cartmel	52.6%	14%	Removal would not create a catchment gap. The site is located within Cartmel conservation area. The low value score is not in relation to the quality of the site but due to the proximity of other amenity greenspace sites. However, increasing the quality, for example by improving the quality of the facilities such as seating provision, may increase the value of the site and encourage greater usage as amenity greenspace.
164	Yewbarrow Lodge and surrounding lodge, Grange-	59.1%	21%	Maintain to current standards.



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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
	over-Sands			
222	Yew Tree Playing Fields	64.5%	47%	Maintain to current standards.
265	Deardon Close, Grange	50%	16%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap the site is located within Grange conservation area and consists of grassed areas around housing with limited scope for change of use. Therefore the site is to be retained and, as the site has little function other than visual amenity, current standards should be maintained.
284	Town End Triangle, Cartmel	32.7%	20%	Work to increase site quality. It is likely that some of this can be achieved through the provision of seating, which the site assessment deemed as an appropriate enhancement.
<b>Cemeteries</b>				
26	Cartmel Priory and surrounding land, Cartmel	61.3%	16%	Increase value to above the threshold. This could be achieved, for example, through promoting and enhancing wildlife opportunities at the site and encouraging greater usage for informal recreation and education.
34	Flookburgh Church and surrounding land, Flookburgh	50.7%	27%	Increase quality to above the threshold
238	Fell Road Cemetery	60.2%	32%	Maintain current standards.
283	Cartmel Cemetery, Cartmel	51.6%	26%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
<b>Children's play areas</b>				
85.1	Allithwaite Play Area	71.6%	27.3%	Maintain current standards.
140.1	Promenade Play Area	73.3%	38.2%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
174	Fell Close Play Area	62.2%	41.8%	Maintain current standards.
175	Flookburgh, Play Area	60%	34.5%	Maintain current standards.
187	Mill Close, Cark	78.2%	23.6%	Maintain current standards.
196	Yew Tree Play Area	67.1%	45.5%	Maintain current standards.
206	Flookburgh Primary Play Area	72.4%	50.9%	Maintain current standards.
284.1	Town End Triangle CPA	52.4%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.
<b><i>Civic spaces</i></b>				
205	Flookburgh Village Square	62.5%	18%	Work to increase value to above the threshold.
241	Promenade, Grange	74.6%	58%	Maintain current standards.
<b><i>Parks and gardens</i></b>				
23	Bandstand, Park Road, Grange-over-Sands	69.5%	57.3%	Maintain current standards.
39	Holker Hall, Cartmel	74%	43.6%	Maintain current standards.
140	Public Gardens adjacent to Main Street, Grange-over-Sands	63.6%	43.6%	Maintain current standards.
237	Coxes Corner	41.3%	26.4%	Increase quality to above the threshold. This could be achieved, for example, through providing on-site signage with up-to-date information.
242	Sunken Garden	53%	21.8%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b><i>Semi/natural greenspaces</i></b>				
144.1	Roudsea Wood and Mosses (South)	40.9%	22.7%	Work to increase the quality to above the threshold. This could be achieved, for example, through the provision of on-site interpretation signage and information to raise awareness of the importance of the site and particular features.
226	Humphrey Head Nature Reserve	56.7%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.
229	Brown Robin Nature Reserve	52%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.
274	Yewbarrow Wood	48.8%	23.6%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Kendal</b>				
<b><i>Allotments</i></b>				
10	Allotment gardens adjoining Fletcher Square	55.6%	35.2%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
11	Allotment gardens adjoining Kendal Castle	46.2%	37.1%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
13	Allotment Gardens at Hill Place, Oxenholme	21.4%	7.6%	The site is meeting a catchment need and so is to be retained. It is currently poorly used with little cultivation. There is a need, therefore to encourage take up and improved up-keep of plots at the site to enhance quality and increase value above the thresholds.
14	Allotment Gardens off Fowl Ing Lane, Kendal	47.9%	36.2%	Increase quality to above the threshold. This can be achieved through enhancing path quality for example.
15	Allotment Gardens to rear of Castle Drive, Kendal	47%	40%	Increase quality to above the threshold. This can be achieved through provision of on-site information for example.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
17	Allotments adjoining Kendal Golf Course, Kendal	47.9%	41%	Increase quality to above the threshold. This can be achieved through provision of on-site information for example.
18	Allotments adjoining Recreation Ground at Wattsfield Lane	65.8%	43.8%	Maintain current standards.
19	Allotments adjoining St. Thomas's C of E School	49.6%	41%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
20	Allotments at Wattsfield Lane	63.2%	43.8%	Maintain current standards.
213	Town View Allotments	64.1%	36.2%	Maintain current standards.
214	Shaw Brow Allotments	43.6%	11.4%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap this is a large site with a significant waiting list. It is therefore contributing to meeting local need and is to be retained. The proximity of other allotment sites impacts on the value score. However, increasing quality may also increase its value. Value can also be increased through encouraging and promoting wildlife habitat opportunities.
215	Coley Barn Allotments	42.7%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold. This may be achieved through enhancing quality and maintenance of the paths.
216	Sedbergh Road Allotments	51.3%	19%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap this is a large site with a significant waiting list. It is therefore contributing to meeting local need and is to be retained. Increasing quality may also increase its value. Value can also be increased through encouraging and promoting wildlife habitat opportunities
217	Natland Road Allotments	47.9%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
218	Rinkfield Allotments	44.4%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
<b>Amenity greenspace</b>				
16	Town View Open Space	62%	43%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
33	Fletcher Square	60%	42%	Maintain current standards.
38	High Beast Banks, Kendal	63.3%	48%	Maintain current standards.
45	Kendal Green	66.1%	48%	Maintain current standards.
52	Land adjacent River Kent at Beezon Trading Estate, Kendal	31.8%	23%	Increase quality to above the threshold. It is likely that some of this can be achieved through the provision of litterbins.
53	Land adjacent River Kent, South of Ford Bridge, Burneside	63%	48%	Maintain current standards.
55	Land adjacent St. Oswalds View, Burneside	69.8%	48%	Maintain current standards.
56	Millenium Field & Play Area	60.9%	29%	Maintain current standards.
58	Land adjacent to Bolefoot, Oxenholme	29.5%	4%	As removal would create a catchment gap the site is to be retained. Work to increase quality and value to above the thresholds. It is currently being used as formal and informal car parking. Improve the functionality of the site to have a greater amenity greenspace function through, for example, seating provision, improved landscape design and improved maintenance. Improving the quality and encouraging greater usage may increase value.
63	Land adjacent to Queen's Road, Kendal	29.5%	24%	Increase quality to above threshold. There is little grounds maintenance of the site currently. Therefore, improving site management and providing additional facilities such as interpretation signage will increase quality. However, there is little scope to encourage greater usage of the site as it is a very steep grassed area and meets mainly a visual amenity with high ecological value.
65	Land adjacent to Westwood Avenue, Kendal	28.2%	17%	No identified need as open space, consider site for change of use.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
66	Land adjacent to Whitbarrow Grove, Levens	27.3%	14%	Consider change of use to cater for gap in the settlement hierarchy of casual play provision.
68	Land adjoining Vicarage Park School	52%	39%	Increase quality to above the threshold. This is a valuable amenity greenspace offering informal recreation opportunities. The provision of, for example, seating will increase the functionality and quality of the site.
70	Land at Bowling Fell, Kendal	56.1%	52%	Increase quality to above the threshold by providing dog foul bins/tackling the issue of dog foul and enhancing the level and quality of seating provision.
71	Land at corner of Hill Close and Well Heads Lane, Sedgwick	30%	14%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
72	Land at East View Court, Kendal	65.5%	42%	Maintain current standards.
75	Land at Goose Holme, Kendal	76.7%	47%	Maintain current standards.
76	Land at Hallgarth Circle, Kendal	34.2%	41%	Increase quality to above the threshold by providing seating, litterbins and tackling the issue of dog foul.
79	Land at Kirkbie Green, Kendal	57.3%	41%	Increase quality to above the threshold by providing seating, litterbins and tackling the issue of dog foul.
82	Land between Acre Moss Lane, Moss Ghyll and Newbiggin, Kendal	34.1%	19%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap the site has limited scope for change of use as it is very steep. There is little opportunity to increase the quality of the site as provision of seating, for example, is not deemed appropriate. Therefore maintain current standards.
88	Land off Aysgarth Close, Kendal	23.6%	19%	Increase quality and value to above the threshold.
89	Land on East side of	51.5%	24%	Increase quality to above threshold.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
	Aynam Road, Kendal			
92	Land running parallel with Underhill and Lowgate, Levens	24.1%	19%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap there is limited scope for change of use due to the narrow, linear and steep nature of the site. There is also a tree preservation order associated with it. Opportunities for improving quality are limited as provision of, for example, seating is not deemed appropriate. Therefore the site is to be retained and current standards maintained.
98	Land to North of Briarwood, Kendal	30.9%	25%	Work to improve quality above the threshold.
100	Land to North of Low Garth, Kendal	21.8%	20%	Work to improve quality above the threshold.
102	Land to North of Park Side Road, Kendal	30.5%	19%	Retain and increase quality and value to above threshold.
107	Land to rear of 1-36 Helmside Road, Oxenholme	44.5%	37%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold. This is a recreation ground providing informal recreation opportunities. Quality can be improved by enhancing the functionality of the site through the provision of seating and litterbins.
108	Land to rear of 67 Low Mead, Kendal	16.8%	13%	Consider change of use to cater for gap in the settlement hierarchy of park and garden provision. Create a more formal garden type site here through landscaping/planting etc
115	Land to South of Brigsteer Road, Kendal	55.5%	42%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold.
118	Land to South of Log Close, Kendal	52.4%	40%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
123	Land to West of Esthwaite Green and Valley Drive, Kendal	70.1%	51%	Maintain current standards.
128	Land off Acre Moss Lane, Kendal	42.7%	41%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing seating provision.
130	Noble's Rest, Kendal	57.1%	48%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing picnic benches and tackling the issue of dog foul.
142	Recreation Ground at Wattsfield Lane, Kendal	60.9%	41%	Maintain current standards.
143	Recreational Land at Sandylands, Kendal	61.2%	42%	Maintain current standards.
145	Sedgwick Aqueduct and surrounding land, Sedgwick	53%	25%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold.
160	The green, North-West of St Mark's Church, Natland	44.5%	39%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold.
197	Castle Drive Recreation Area	68.8%	36%	Maintain current standards.
233	Glebe Walk, Netherbridge Garden/beds	57.3%	17%	Increase quality and value to above thresholds.
243	Beezon Road Riverbank	39.1%	5%	Consider change of use to cater for gap in the settlement hierarchy of natural/semi-natural open space provision.
246	Collinfield Lane and Open Space	20%	9%	Increase quality and value to above thresholds.



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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
249	Esthwaite Avenue	48.2%	14%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
253	Levens Close	27.3%	14%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
254	Lingmoor Rise to Crummock Dr	35.5%	8%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
257	Rinkfield	32.4%	25%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold through, some of the quality could be increased by the provision of litterbins.
260	St John's View	38.5%	26%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold.
262	The Green	53.9%	21%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold.
263	Vicarage Rd open space (above school)	38.2%	14%	Increase quality and value to above thresholds.
<b>Cemeteries</b>				
28	Cemetery land to North of Park Side Road	61.8%	41%	Maintain current standards.
29	Cemetery land to south of Park Side Road, Kendal	46%	39%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold by, for example, improving the internal paths and providing seating.
149	St John the Baptist's Church, Old Hutton	46.7%	41%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold through, for example, on site signage and information provision.
153	St. John's Church and surrounding land, Levens	68.7%	24%	Maintain current standards.
158	St.Oswalds Church and surrounding land, Burneside	71.3%	51%	Maintain current standards.
199	Kendal Holy Trinity Church, Kendal	61.3%	48%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
235	St Georges Church	42.1%	23%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing seating to encourage the functionality of the site and encourage usage as an open space resource.
245	Castle St Cemetery	48.4%	33%	Work to improve quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing seating to encourage the functionality of the site and encourage usage as an open space resource.
258	Scottish Burial Ground	16%	13%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap all cemetery provision is to be retained due to the nature of this type of open space. Increase quality and value to above the threshold and further investigate access restrictions.
<b>Children's play areas</b>				
56.1	Millenium Field Sedgwick Play Area	76%	30.9%	Maintain current standards.
58.1	Playground adjacent to Bolefoot, Oxenholme	78.7%	58.2%	Maintain current standards.
63.1	Town View Hostel	57.3%	25.5%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing signage with relevant owner contact information as required by NPFA.
88.1	Acre Moss Play Area	52.9%	25.5%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing signage with relevant owner contact information as required by the NPFA.
128.1	Playground, Acre Moss Lane, Kendal	52.9%	43.6%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing the quality of equipment and replacing missing pieces of equipment.
143.1	Sandylands Play Area	66.2%	34.5%	Maintain current standards.
165	Abbot Hall Play Area	78.7%	32.7%	Maintain current standards.
166	Archers Meadow Play Area	70.7%	25.5%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
167	Beezon Road Skateboard Area	26.7%	29.1%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing litterbins, enhancing the quality of the equipment and also improving maintenance and general appearance of the site.
168	Brockbeck Play Area, Kirkbarrow	61.3%	29.1%	Maintain current standards.
170	Chambers Close	66.7%	21.8%	Maintain current standards.
173	Esthwaite Ave PlayArea	73.8%	34.5%	Maintain current standards.
176	Greenwood Play Area	73.3%	14.5%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
177.1	Hall Park Play Areas 1	70.7%	25.5%	Maintain current standards.
177.2	Hall Park Play Areas 2	60.4%	25.5%	Maintain current standards.
177.3	Hall Park Play Areas 3	59.1%	25.5%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
178	Helmside Gardens	64%	21.8%	Maintain current standards.
179	Howe Bank Play Area	72%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.
180	Kendal Parks Play Area	68%	30.9%	Maintain current standards.
181	Levens Close Play Area	66.7%	23.6%	Maintain current standards.
183	Low Mead Play Area	36.9%	23.6%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, installing boundary fencing and access controls, providing seating and on-site information with relevant contact information.
184	Lowther Park Play Area	68%	21.8%	Maintain current standards.
185	Maple Drive Play Area	67.1%	25.5%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
186	Michaelson Rd Play Area	44%	14.5%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap the site does offer casual play opportunities and therefore is to be retained. Work to increase quality and value above the thresholds.
189	Murley Moss Play Area	60%	30.9%	Maintain current standards.
191	Rinkfield Play Area	64%	27.3%	Maintain current standards.
193	Valley Drive PlayArea	86.1%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.
194	Vicars Field Play Area	60.9%	21.8%	Maintain current standards.
195	Yates Close PlayArea	58.7%	10.9%	No identified need as open space; consider site for change of use.
197.1	Castle Drive play Area	80.4%	40%	Maintain current standards.
275	Helmside Gardens	48%	29.1%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
286	Endmoor Play Area	67.6%	40%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Civic space</b>				
236	Stramongate Bridge	42.5%	11%	Increase quality and value to above the thresholds. The site is currently undergoing repair, which should result in improved quality. In turn this may increase value.
<b>Green Corridors</b>				
201	Aikrigg Avenue	79.6%	52%	Maintain current standards.
202	Sustrans National Cycle Route 6	74.6%	62%	Maintain current standards.
203	Kent Place, Riverside Path	75%	53%	Maintain current standards.

# SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT REPORT

KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b><i>Parks and Gardens</i></b>				
44	Kendal Castle and surrounding land, Kendal	72.2%	65.5%	Maintain current standards.
46	Abbot Hall	64.7%	61.8%	Maintain current standards.
73	Land at Ford Park, Kendal	46.1%	29.1%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, tackling the issue of dog foul.
77	Land at Hawesmead Avenue/Drive, Kendal	43.3%	40%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
146	Sizergh Castle, near Kendal	73.6%	46.4%	Maintain current standards.
232	Gillinggate	42.2%	17.3%	Removal of the site would not create a catchment gap. Site is located within Kendal Conservation area. The low value score is in relation to the proximity of other park and garden provision rather than being a factor of the quality score and therefore increasing quality may not increase value.  Change of use
<b><i>Semi/natural greenspaces</i></b>				
97	Land to East of Valley Drive, Kendal	58.3%	30.9%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing litterbins.
129	Mintsfeet Cottage and surrounding land, adjacent River Kent, Kendal	42.5%	42.7%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing entrances into the site.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
247	Crow Tree Wood	55.9%	12.7%	As the site is part of the linear Kendal Riverside foot and cycle route, removal would fragment this well used route. The site is to be retained therefore. Increase quality and value to above the threshold by, for example, providing on-site interpretation and information signage and providing seating.
272	Serpentine Wood/Queens Road	64.3%	52.7%	Maintain current standards.
277	Vicarage Rd Woodland	40.2%	12.7%	Increase quality and value to above the thresholds. This can be achieved through provision of on-site signage and interpretation and enhancement of the internal footpaths.
<b>Kirkby Lonsdale</b>				
<b>Allotments</b>				
281	Raygarth Allotments, Kirkby Lonsdale	48.7%	25.7%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing on-site signage and information.
<b>Amenity greenspace</b>				
48	Land adjacent Boon Town, Burton-in-Kendal	45.5%	26%	Increase quality to above the threshold by improving the general appearance and cleanliness of the site. Part of the site has recently been lost to affordable housing so could be a priority for improvement.
207	Tram Lane Recreation Ground & Play Area	46.8%	51%	Increase quality to above the threshold by improving drainage and maintenance of the torch brazier within the site.
251	Green Square	61.5%	20%	Maintain current standards.
279	Casterton Village Green	41.8%	19%	Increase quality and value to above the thresholds.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b><i>Cemeteries</i></b>				
41	Holy Trinity Church and surrounding land, Casterton	63.1%	46%	Maintain current standards.
148	St Bartholomew's Church and land to north-west of, Barbon	63.3%	41%	Maintain current standards.
152	St. James' Church and surrounding land, Burton-in-Kendal	60.9%	39%	Maintain current standards.
154	St. Mary's Church and land to North, Kirkby Lonsdale	74.4%	61%	Maintain current standards.
<b><i>Children's play areas</i></b>				
48.1	Play Area on Land adjacent Boon Town, Burton-in-Kendal	58.7%	43.6%	Maintain current standards. Part of the site has recently been lost to affordable housing so this site could be a priority for improvement.
207	Tram Lane Recreation Ground & Play Area	68.9%	56.4%	Maintain current standards.
221	Barbon Village Hall Play Area	74.7%	58.2%	Maintain current standards.
<b><i>Civic space</i></b>				
208	Kirkby Lonsdale Market Square	60.2%	41%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b>Green Corridors</b>				
200	Kirkby Lonsdale River Lune Path	62.9%	46%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Parks and Gardens</b>				
209	Jubilee Park, Kirkby Lonsdale	54.5%	46.4%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Semi/natural greenspaces</b>				
133	Park Wood	47.2%	41.8%	There is limited opportunity to increase quality through, for example, providing seating, due to the nature of the site and these features not being deemed as appropriate. Therefore maintain current standards.
224	Holme Park Quarry LNR	63.8%	14.5%	Although removal would not create a catchment gap this is a designated LNR with high ecological value. The low value score is indicative of the proximity of a number of sites of the same typology. Therefore maintain current standards.
225	Killington Bridge LNR	60.9%	46.4%	Maintain current standards.
230	Hutton Roof Craggs Nature Reserve	58.3%	22.7%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Milnthorpe</b>				
<b>Allotments</b>				
8	Allotment Gardens adjacent to Summerville Road, Milnthorpe	46.2%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, improving internal footpaths.



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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
12	Allotment Gardens at corner of Grisleymires Lane and Church Street, Milnthorpe	50.4%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, improving internal footpaths.
261	Stewart Close	53.9%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, improving internal footpaths.
252	Kirkhead	45.3%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing on-site information signage.
<b>Amenity greenspace</b>				
96	Land to East of Storth Road, Storth	36.4%	14%	Increase quality and value score to above thresholds.
134	Playground adjacent Princes Way, Heversham	39.1%	14%	Increase quality and value score to above thresholds.
220	Arnside Playing Fields	41.2%	45%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing signage and greater seating provision and also enhancing the quality of the paths.
259	Shaw Green	51.5%	25%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, improving internal paths.
<b>Cemeteries</b>				
43	Holy Trinity Church and surrounding land, Holme	66.7%	44%	Maintain current standards.
151	St Michael's Church and surrounding Land, Beetham	60%	39%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
156	St. Peter's Church and land to East, Heversham	52%	24%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
157	St. Thomas' Church, Milnthorpe	43.3%	24%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
<b>Children's play areas</b>				
134.1	Playground adjacent Princes Way, Heversham	69.3%	20%	Maintain current standards.
157.1	Chestnut Road	62.7%	20%	Maintain current standards.
172	Dallam Close	65.8%	23.6%	Maintain current standards.
190	Owlett Ash PlayArea	64.9%	32.7%	Maintain current standards.
220.1	Arnside Playing Fields Play Area	54.2%	40%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing signage with relevant contact information.
287	Milnthorpe Playing Field Play Area	70.7%	32.7%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Parks and Gardens</b>				
31	Dallam Tower, Milnthorpe	31.8%	19.1%	Increase quality and value to above threshold.
126	Levens Hall Park, Levens	49.4%	28.2%	Increase quality to above threshold. This site is a private garden, belonging to Levens Hall Estate, although limited public access is permitted.
<b>Semi/natural greenspaces</b>				
22	Ash Meadow and surrounding land, Arnside	62.2%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
95	Land to East of Keasdale Road, Carr Bank	24.4%	20%	Increase quality to above threshold by managing to improve access and ecological potential.
228	Hale Moss Nature Reserve	55.9%	26.4%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
248	Crow Wood	37%	12.7%	No identified need as open space, consider site for change of use.
278	Heversham Head Plantation	26%	20.9%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing signage and on-site interpretation.
<b>Ulverston</b>				
<b>Allotments</b>				
4	Allotment Gardens adjacent to Canal Street, Ulverston	58.1%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing internal paths.
5	Allotment Gardens adjacent to Garden Terrace, Ulverston	59.8%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing internal paths.
6	Allotment Gardens adjacent to Lund Road, Ulverston	53%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing on-site signage.
7	Allotment Gardens adjacent to Morecambe Road, Ulverston	52.1%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing internal paths.
9	Allotment Gardens adjacent to the A5087, Ulverston	53.8%	21.9%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing internal paths.
219	Dragley Beck Allotments	46.2%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, enhancing internal paths.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b><i>Amenity greenspace</i></b>				
21	Area of land at corner of Rowan Avenue and Central Drive, Ulverston	44.5%	26%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing seating and tackling the issue of dog foul.
50	Land adjacent Greenside Cottage, Baycliff	39.1%	15%	As there is limited scope for this site to change use it is to be retained. Work to increase quality and value to above the threshold.
91	Land opposite The Swan Public House, Little Urswick	37.3%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
124	Land, West of Fishermans Arms Hotel, Baycliff	45.2%	16%	As this site contains a high value and well-used play area and therefore is to be retained. Increase quality and value to above the threshold.
125	Leece Tarn and surrounding land, Leece	36.4%	26%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, providing on-site interpretation and information.
159	The Green, north of Long Lane, Stainton-with-Adgarley	30.9%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, increasing and improving the quality of seating provision.
239	Gill Banks	45.9%	35%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, resurfacing the path.
266	High & Low Kepplewray	30.9%	21%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
268	Park Ave, Swarthmoor	32.7%	29%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
285	Scales Green	27.3%	16%	As this site contains a high value and well-used play area it should be retained. Increase quality and value to above the threshold.
289	Victoria Road Rose Gardens	56.1%	26%	Increase quality to above the threshold through, for example, improved landscape maintenance.

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
<b><i>Cemeteries</i></b>				
42	Holy Trinity Church and surrounding land, Bardsea	52%	26%	Increase quality to above the threshold.
150	St Mary's Church, east of Church Road, Great Urswick	72.4%	26%	Maintain current standards.
155	St. Mary's Church, Ulverston	42%	20%	Increase quality to above the threshold by, for example, improving the quality of the internal paths.
162	Ulverston Cemetery adjacent A5087, Ulverston	63.3%	22%	Maintain current standards.
<b><i>Children's play areas</i></b>				
124.1	Playground, West of Fishermans Arms Hotel, Baycliff	65.8%	36.4%	Maintain current standards.
125.1	Leece Tarn and surrounding land, Leece CPA	66.7%	34.5%	Maintain current standards.
171	Croftlands Play Area	68.4%	43.6%	Maintain current standards.
182	Lightburn Park PA	69.8%	47.3%	Maintain current standards.
188	Mill Dam Play Area	60%	41.8%	Maintain current standards.
192	Trinkeld Ave, Swarthmoor	66.7%	41.8%	Maintain current standards.
210	Beck Side Play Area	60.9%	49.1%	Maintain current standards.
268.1	Park Ave, Swarthmoor CPA	71.6%	34.5%	Maintain current standards.

## SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL: OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION ASSESSMENT REPORT

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KKP Ref	Site name	Quality	Value	Action
285.1	Scales Green CPA	49.8%	38.2%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Green corridors</b>				
282	Ulverston Canal Towpath	79.2%	59%	Maintain current standards.
<b>Parks and Gardens</b>				
35	Ford Park, Ulverston	68.4%	52.7%	Maintain current standards.
127	Lightburn Park, Ulverston	55.8%	37.3%	Work to increase quality to above threshold. This can be achieved through improving safety perception associated with the site and tackling the evening drinking culture and congregation of young people. There is also potential to generate interest and community engagement through the formation and support of a site-specific 'friends of' group.
<b>Semi/natural greenspaces</b>				
32	Duddon Mosses	42.7%	31.8%	Limited potential to enhance quality, as provision such as seating is not considered appropriate due to the nature of the site, which is peatland and woodland managed by English Nature. Therefore maintain at current standards.
223	Bardsea Country Park	42%	38.2%	Limited potential to enhance quality due to the nature of the site. Therefore maintain at current standards.
231	Next Ness Nature Reserve	48.8%	32.7%	Limited potential to enhance quality, as provision such as seating is not considered appropriate due to the nature of the site. Therefore maintain at current standards.