



# **Kirklees Local Plan Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016)**

## **Open Space Site Assessments and Plans**

**December 2017**

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# Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016)

## Open Space Site Assessments and Plans

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document provides the results and plans relating to the Open Space Assessment undertaken by the Council. It has been produced following a request from the Kirklees Local Plan Inspector (EX34 paragraph 13: Inspector's Note 5 to the Council November 2017).
- 1.2 In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraph 73), a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for open space, sport and recreation facilities has been carried out as part of the Kirklees Local Plan preparation work. This includes the following studies:-
- Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016) (LE119) and Open Space Demand Assessment (LE120);
  - Kirklees Playing Pitch Strategy (2015) (LE124 and LE126);
  - Kirklees Built Leisure and Sports Facilities Strategic Framework (2015) (LE121 and LE122); and
  - Kirklees Built Leisure and Sports Facilities Strategic Framework (2015) – Golf Needs Assessment Report (LE123).
- 1.3 The Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016) includes a quantitative and qualitative assessment of open spaces and recreation facilities across Kirklees. This document gives further information on the quality assessments that have been carried out to evaluate the physical, social, environmental and visual qualities of each open space to determine its public value. Assessments have been undertaken for different types of open space including:
- all parks and recreation grounds;
  - natural and semi-natural greenspace (except woodlands) of 0.2 ha or above in size;
  - amenity greenspaces of 0.2 ha or above in size; and
  - all allotments (together with a quality condition assessment).
- 1.4 Provision for children and young people has only been assessed where such facilities form part of a park, recreation ground or amenity greenspace.
- 1.5 This document is set out in three parts and includes:
- Appendix 1 - the open space assessment results and plans for sites where an assessment has been carried out for the whole or part of the site (explained in section 2 below);
  - Appendix 2 - location plans for whole sites not subject to an open space assessment (explained in section 3 below); and
  - Appendix 3 - location plans of small sites, below 0.2 hectares in size, listed in Appendix 7 and 8 of the Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016). Information about the small sites is set out in section 4 below.

## **2 Sites with an open space assessment for the whole or part of the site**

- 2.1 This document includes a plan of each site showing the classification(s) of open space present within the site and their assessment(s). The plans are intended for illustrative purposes only. Some sites contain more than one classification of open space and these are indicated on the site plan. Each site has an overall open space reference number (the OLS number is set out in the top left hand corner of the plan) and a separate open space 'classes' reference number relating to each separate classification of open space within the site, where these occur.
- 2.2 The relevant open space assessments are shown together with the plans. This includes the site specific scoring assessed against a range of open space qualities and shows the overall score, percentage score and a high, medium or low value rating.
- 2.3 As part of the assessment, the wider benefits of each open space have been evaluated. These are set out under 'high benefits' in the open space site assessment sheet. The methodology established in the initial Open Space Study carried out by consultants in 2007 requires only high benefits to be recorded as part of this wider assessment. A score of 5 is recorded where this is the case. Where benefits are not high a score of 0 is recorded. In some cases additional comments have been recorded against specific benefits where they provide some value but are not sufficient for a high score of 5. For example, a site may have some ecological or amenity/sense of place benefits but which are not considered sufficient to score as high.
- 2.4 Further details regarding the site assessment methodology, site assessment sheet and guidelines used to undertake the open space site assessments are set out in Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016) Assessment Report (LE119).

## **3 Sites not subject to an open space assessment**

- 3.1 Due to the size of the district it has not been feasible to assess all types and sizes of sites included in the Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016). Those not assessed are:
  - sites in educational use (school playing pitches have been assessed separately as part the Playing Pitch Strategy (2015));
  - woodlands;
  - cemeteries and churchyards;
  - stand-alone play areas;
  - green corridors;
  - outdoor sports facilities such as playing pitches including football, rugby, cricket and hockey pitches which together with bowling greens and outdoor tennis courts have been assessed separately as part the Playing Pitch Strategy (2015); and
  - some small sites (see section 4).
- 3.2 For the purposes of identification, this document includes location plans showing whole sites where no open space assessment has been undertaken.

## **4 Small sites**

- 4.1 For identification purposes, this document also includes plans showing the location of natural/semi-natural greenspaces and amenity greenspace below 0.2 hectares listed as small sites in Appendices 7 and 8 of the Kirklees Open Space Study 2015 (Revised 2016) (LE119).