

Newcastle under Lyme Open Space Strategy and Green Infrastructure Strategy

Appendix: Background Report on Recommended Standards

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Appendix: Background Report on Recommended Standards

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1: Introduction

1.1 Green infrastructure and open space types covered

This appendix provides background explanations on the recommended open space¹ and green infrastructure standards for Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council. The standards are common to both the Open Space and Green Infrastructure strategies and cover the following types:

- Parks and gardens;
- Amenity green space;
- Accessible natural and semi-natural green spaces;
- Designated play spaces for children and young people;
- Allotments;
- Green corridors; and
- Outdoor sports facilities.

Standards for sports playing pitches no longer apply. A separate Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) has been produced for Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council. It should be noted that Sport England no longer supports local standards in its approved methodology (Sport England 2013).

1.2 National planning policy context

The key relevant sections of the National Planning Policy Framework are:

- Paragraph 114 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which requires that Local Planning Authorities “*set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.*”
- Paragraph 73 of the NPPF planning policies requires local authorities to have robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. “*Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.*”

As referred to in 1.1 above, playing pitches are now dealt with outside the open space audit framework, in line with Sport England guidance. Although sport pitches can still be considered as an open space typology, Sport England guidance does not deal with non-pitch sport users of informal open space (such as MUGAs [*multiuse games area*] and Green Corridors). These categories are considered in this study as active recreation/non sport pitch uses; other examples include equestrian activities, mountain biking and water sports.

1.3 Local context: Newcastle under Lyme Open Space Audit (Urban 2007, Rural 2011 and Combined 2015)

In September 2007, Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council produced the North Staffordshire Green Space Strategy (jointly with the City of Stoke on Trent). As part of this study, 132 urban sites were visited and audited within Newcastle under Lyme. In 2011, rural open space sites were audited as part of a fresh study, when a total of 65 sites were visited and audited.

¹ It should be noted that sometimes the term ‘green space’ is used in place of ‘open space’ (e.g. NPPF para 73). In this study the terminology ‘green space’ and ‘open space’ are considered as interchangeable.

A critical review and data refresh was conducted by MD2 Consulting Ltd, (involving another set of site visits focusing on 'key' sites, many of which had been visited previously, some of which were visited in circumstances where investments and upgrades had taken place; and others which had not been visited before). The audits took place between August 2015 and February 2016 and a total of 179 sites were visited. In total, 26 new sites have been identified.

The Council now has an open space database identifying 553 sites. This currently comprises 326 urban sites and 227 rural sites (which includes 257 sites visited and audited). The resulting updated findings have provided the basis for understanding current levels of provision of open space and recreational facilities.

2: Newcastle under Lyme Green Infrastructure (GI) and Open Space (OS) Quantity and Access Standards.

2.1 General approach and factors considered

The evidence base for the green infrastructure/open space quantity and access standards for Newcastle under Lyme is drawn from four major sources:

- Benchmarking with national guidance: sources consulted to identify national standards are listed in the notes on sources and methodology at the end of this appendix.
- Benchmarking with similar authorities: the methodology used to identify similar authorities and sources consulted on their green infrastructure standards are presented in the notes on sources and methodology at the end of the appendix.
- Reflecting existing provision: background information for the figures used below can be found in the North Staffordshire Green Space Strategy Final Report Version 02 – September 2007.
- Reflecting consultation results: a detailed presentation of the Newcastle under Lyme Great Outdoor Survey and other consultation activities undertaken to support and inform the Newcastle under Lyme Open Space Strategy, including the recommended standards, can be found in this appendix. The analysis below particularly draws from the Newcastle under Lyme Great Outdoors Survey, which included questions about appropriateness of current levels of provision, preferred methods of travel to each type of provision, and expected travel time. A total of 544 responses (81 adult and 463 young people (ages 5-16)) were received.
- Street Scene Survey (2015 – 2016): each year the Council undertake a Street Scene Survey and the results are compiled online, via face to face interviews and via the Reporter. The current results obtained are based on 242 respondents, 110 from face to face surveys, 35 from the Reporter surveys and 97 from our e-panel and surveys carried out by the Street Scene Team.

Throughout the exercise, the following factors and assumptions were used:

- When having to translate national standards expressed on a per household basis (e.g. National Society of Allotments and Leisure Gardeners' standard for allotment) into a per person figure, the national average of 2.2 persons per household was used.
- Fields in Trust Guidelines - *Guidance for Outdoor Sports and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard*. The 2015 guidance backed up by research retains the same headline rates of provision, but draws out new recommendations for accessibility, the application of standards and the minimum dimensions of formal outdoor space. The standards also no longer differentiate between urban and rural areas. Using this current guidance will help to ensure that the provision of outdoor sport, play and informal open space is of a sufficient size to enable effective use; is located in an accessible location and in close proximity to dwellings; and of a quality to maintain longevity and to encourage its continued use.

The Fields in Trust Guidelines - *Guidance for Outdoor Sports and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard* recommends that Equipped/Designated Play Spaces be promoted in the form of:

- Local Areas for Play (LAPs) aimed at very young children;
- Locally Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs) aimed at children who can go out to play independently; and
- Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs) aimed at older children.

These can be complemented by other facilities including Multiuse Games Areas (MUGAs) and skateboard parks etc.

The insert table below sets out the Field in Trust Benchmark guidelines for open space and equipped play areas. These benchmarks reflect the findings of the survey of local standards for open space applied by local planning authorities. Note that just because geographical areas may enjoy levels of provision exceeding minimum standards does not mean there is a surplus, as all such provision may be well used. As a result, the quantity standards recommended below are for minimum guidance levels of provision.

Accessibility guidelines are provided as walking distance from dwellings. Indicative walking distances can be determined from the accessibility guidelines as set out below.

- 250m = 2 – 3 minutes walk;
- 400m = 5 minutes walk;
- 800m = 10 minutes walk;
- 1,200m = 15 minutes walk;
- 1,600m = 20 minutes walk.

It should be recognised that when applying these benchmarks, local features and obstacles to pedestrian and cycle movement should be taken into account. In doing so, accessible and sustainable play and sport facilities will be maximised.

OPEN SPACE TYPOLOGY	QUANTITY GUIDELINE (Hectares per 1,000 pop.)	WALKING GUIDELINE
Playing Pitches	1.20	1200m
All outdoor sports	1.60	1200m
Equipped/Designated Play Areas	0.25 (additional criteria for recommended minimum sizes)	LAP's – 100m LEAP's – 400m NEAP's – 1,000m
Other outdoor provision (MUGA & skateboard parks)	0.30	700m

With regards to outdoor sport pitches local standards are no longer accepted by Sport England so setting a new standard is meaningless and has been removed.

2.2 Overview of recommended quantity and access standards

The 2007 quantity and access standards covering open space types for Newcastle under Lyme are summarised in the table below.

OPEN SPACE TYPES	QUANTITY STANDARD (Hectares per 1,000 population unless indicated otherwise)	ACCESS STANDARD (measured in straight line)		
		Local 400m	Neigh 800m	District 1200m
*Parks and gardens	2.35			
*Amenity green space	No standard	No standard		
*Natural and semi-natural green space	3.60	600m		
*Designated play spaces for children and young people	0.76	LAP 220m	LEAP 400m	NEAP 800m
*Outdoor Sports Facilities	0.90	1200m		
*Allotments	No standard	No standard		
*Green Corridors	No standard	No standard		
TOTAL open space* (sum from above)	7.61	N/A		N/A

The recommended quantity and access green infrastructure standards (2016) covering open space types for Newcastle under Lyme are summarised below and discussed in detail within this appendix:

OPEN SPACE TYPES	QUANTITY STANDARD (Hectares per 1,000 population unless indicated otherwise)	ACCESS STANDARD (measured in straight line)		
		URBAN	RURAL*	
*Parks and gardens	3.10	Local 400m	Neigh 800m	District 1600m
*Amenity green space	0.90	220m [open green] & 700m [MUGA]		
*Natural and semi-natural green space	3.60	600m		
*Designated play spaces for children and young people	0.41	LAP 100m	LEAP 400m	NEAP 1,000m
*Outdoor Sports Facilities	No standard	No standard		
*Allotments	0.15	400m (5- 10 min walk)	*15 min drive	
Green Corridors	No standard	No standard		
TOTAL open space* (sum from above)	8.16	N/A		N/A

The current provision within Newcastle under Lyme is as follows:

Based on a population of 124,183 the current provision of open space per 1,000 head of population is as follows :			
Type	Count (no. of sites)	Area (ha.)	Current Provision (ha. per 1,000 population)
Accessible natural greenspace	181	1746.22	14.0
Allotments	12	13.60	0.11
Amenity greenspace	112	128.31	1.03
Green corridor	16	46.03	0.37
Park	35	436.29	3.51
Provision for children and young people	81	51.35	0.41

2.3 Nearest Neighbour Comparator Exercise

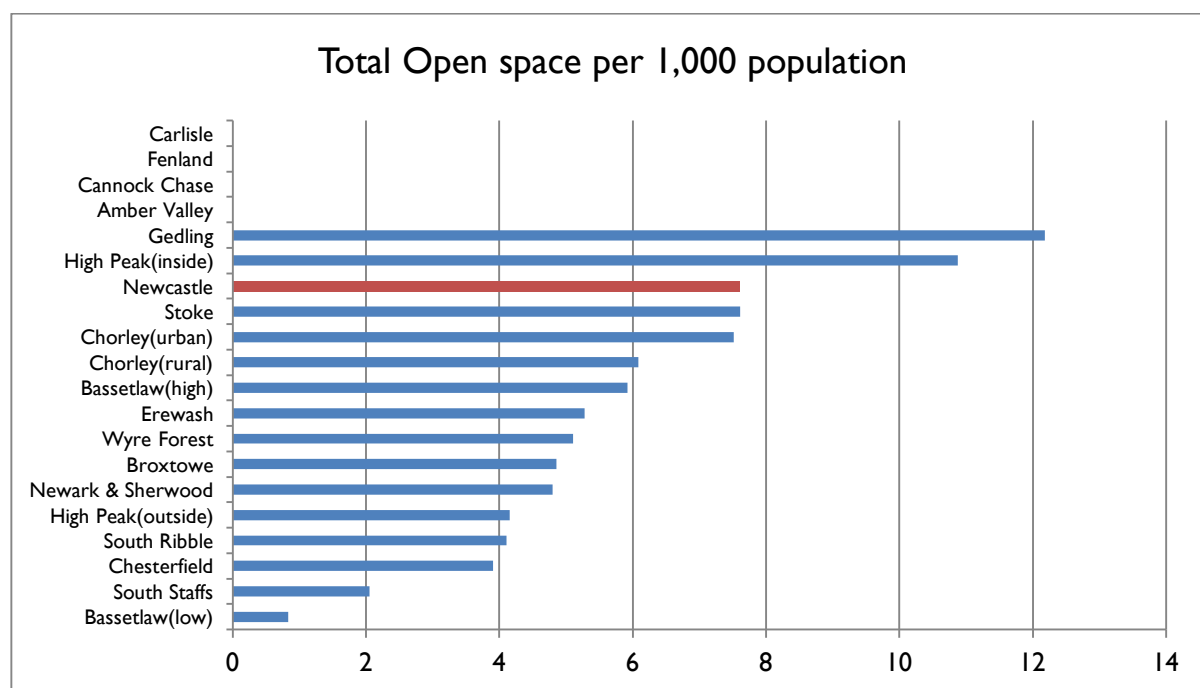
A total of 16 no. comparator local authorities have been included in benchmarking open space/green infrastructure provision. The authorities were identified through use of the CIPFA Nearest Neighbour (NN) model and are listed below:

- Amber Valley;
- Chorley;
- Wyre Forest;
- Erewash;
- Gedling;
- Broxtowe;
- Chesterfield;
- South Staffordshire;
- Cannock Chase;
- High Peak (inside and outside the National Park);
- Newark and Sherwood;
- Fenland;
- Bassetlaw;
- South Ribble;
- Carlisle;
- Stoke City (not in the NN exercise but included as the new Local Plan is joint with Stoke on Trent).

2.4 Total Open Space standards

Newcastle under Lyme's total historic figure of 7.61 for total open space quantity per 1,000 population (2007) is third highest with the requirements adopted by comparator authorities, as shown on figure A1 below. This is above average and only bettered by Gedling and High Peak (inside the National Park) - (N.B. Four comparator authorities did not have a total figure for open space):

Fig. A1: Benchmarking against other local authorities – total quantity requirement for open space



Note: The diagram above, as well other benchmarking charts below, only show standards figures when such figure exist for the typology considered and their format is conducive to comparisons. See the table at the rear of this appendix for further details on each comparator local authority's standards provision.

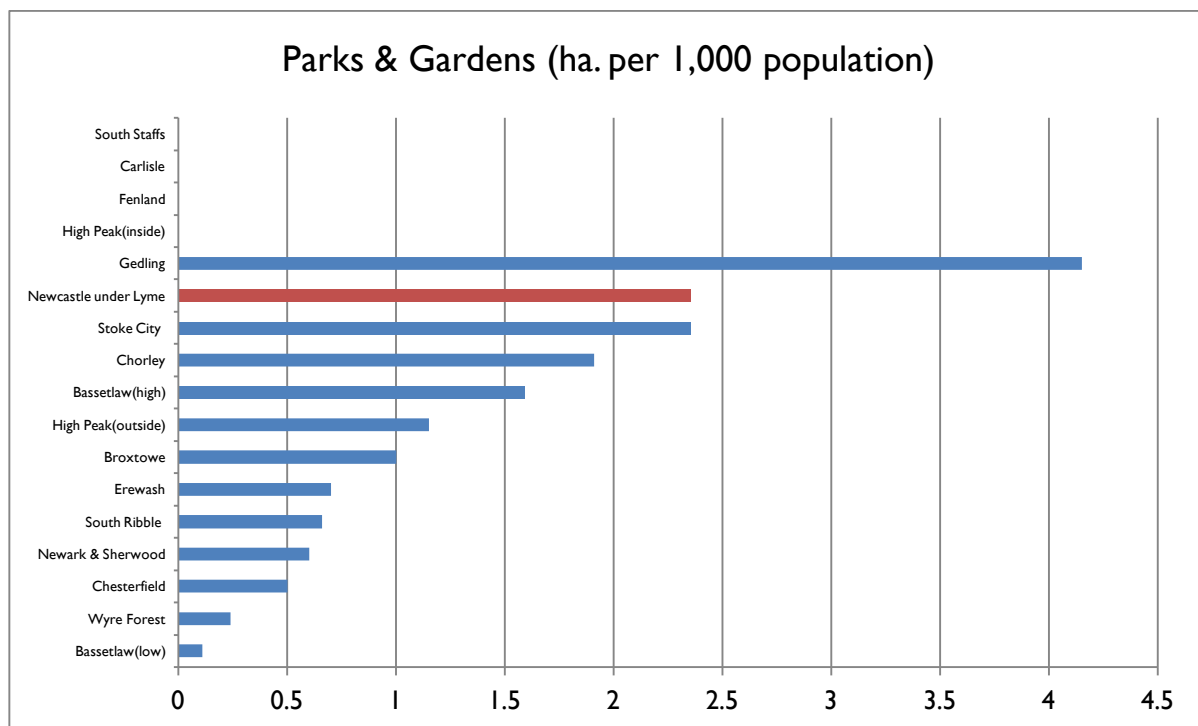
2.5 Parks and gardens

The recommended minimum quantity standard for parks and gardens in Newcastle under Lyme is 3.10 ha. per 1,000 people. The recommended associated access standard is 400 metres for a local park, 800 metres for a neighbourhood park and 1,200 metres for a district park.

National standards: none applicable. There is no national standard for benchmarking regarding this green infrastructure/open space type. Quantity standards used by 'Nearest Neighbour' local authorities range from 0.11 to 4.15 ha.

Standards for parks and gardens in neighbouring local authorities and other authorities with a similar profile to Newcastle under Lyme range from 0.11 to 4.15 ha. per 1,000 people with some authorities distinguishing standards between local, neighbourhood or district parks. Newcastle under Lyme's current standard is 2.35 ha. and the recommended standard of 3.10 ha. per 1,000 residents also sits within this range and is equal second highest behind Gedling which has a high standard of 4.15 ha.

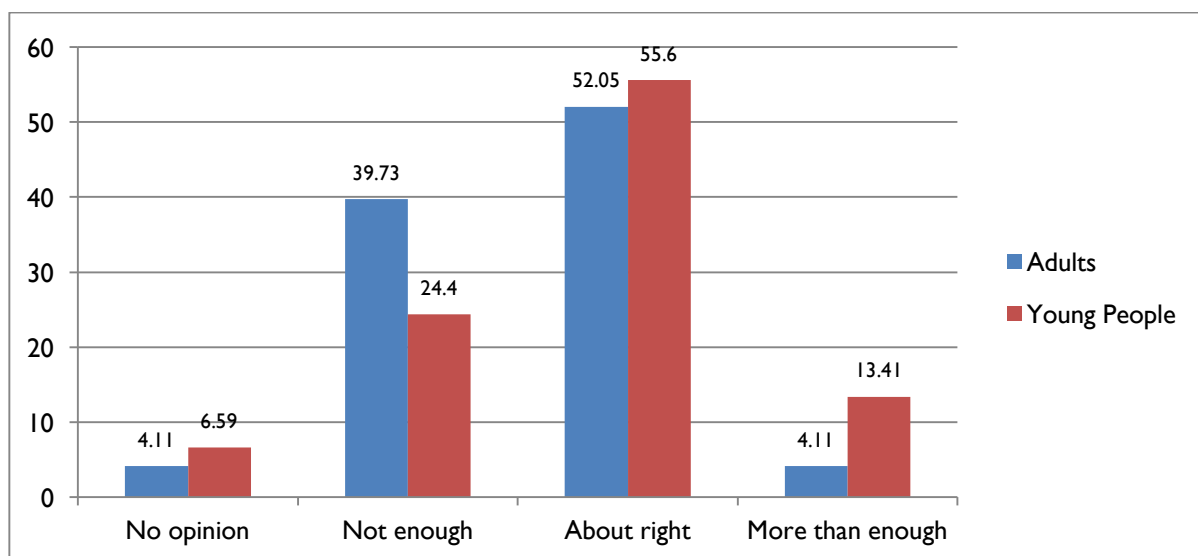
Fig. A2: Current Benchmarking against other local authorities – Parks and gardens quantity standards



Existing provision: 3.51 hectare per 1,000 person

Newcastle under Lyme currently has 436.29 ha. of Parks and gardens (based on a population of 124,183) which represents 3.51 ha. per 1,000 head of population. Based on 81 adult and 463 young people (age range 5 – 16) respondents to The Newcastle under Lyme’s Great Outdoors Survey 56% of adults and 69% of young people felt the provision was ‘about right ’ or ‘more than enough’. 39% of adults and 40% of young people felt there was ‘not enough’. Based on Streetscene Survey 80% of respondents were happy with the parks and felt they were safe and well maintained.

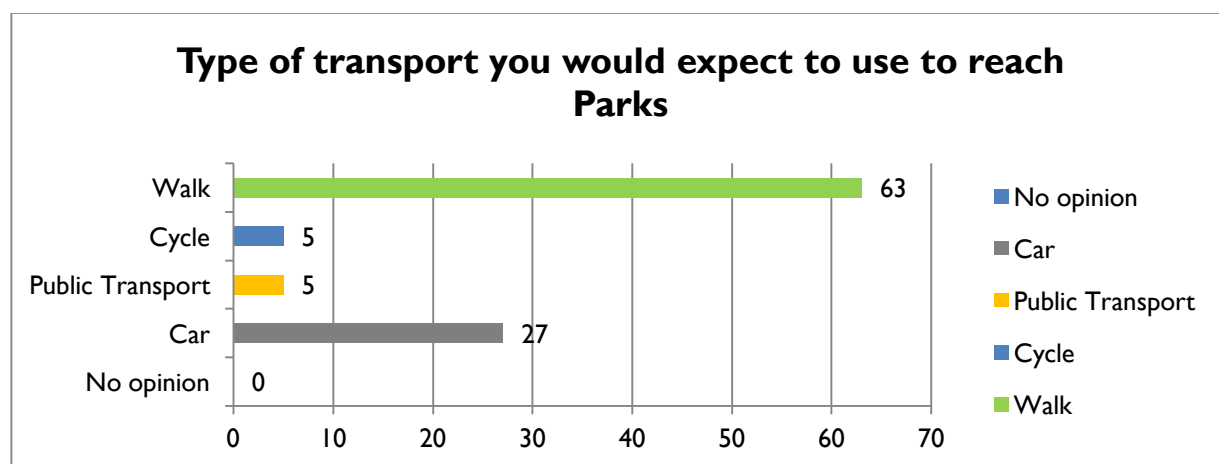
Fig. A3: % consultation result on quantity of parks and gardens in Newcastle under Lyme (Great Outdoors Survey)



Consultation results: 63% of adults prefer to walk to get there; 27% travel by car

The recommended minimum quantity standard for parks and gardens in Newcastle under Lyme is 3.10 ha. per 1,000 people. The current provision is 3.51 ha. per 1,000 people and 56% of adults and 69% of young people survey respondents believed this to be adequate and 80% of respondents from the Street Scene Survey felt the parks currently meet their expectations. This result shows that the provision is ‘about right’.

Fig. A4: % consultation results on preferred travel mode (Great Outdoors Survey)



Length of time willing to travel to parks

Fig. A5: % adult consultation results on expected travel time to parks & gardens (Great Outdoors Survey)

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
51%	40%	6%	2%

62% of adult respondents to the Newcastle under Lyme Great Outdoors survey indicated they expected to be able to get to parks and gardens by foot. The drop-off effect associated with travel time is only pronounced after 20 minutes: 51% of respondents expect to get there in 10 minutes or less, 40% in 20 minutes or less and 8% greater than 20 minutes.

Conclusions on standard justification

The recommended quantity standard (3.10 ha. per 1,000 population) for parks and gardens is in line with requirements adopted by comparator local authorities and slightly below the existing level of provision (3.51 ha. per 1,000 population), which a majority of people who took part in the consultation conducted to develop this standard are either satisfied with or consider it to be more than enough (56% of adults & 69% of young people) however it must be noted that 39% of adults and 40% of young people considered the current provision to be ‘not enough’. In contrast 80% of respondents to the Street Scene Survey felt that the current provision of parks met their expectations.

The recommended accessibility standard is directly derived from the consultation results and based on an “effective catchment” approach – i.e. the distance that 75% of people are willing to travel to something. This is generally regarded as a realistic compromise between the minimum and maximum range people are prepared to travel to different types of provision. 400 metres is a 5-minute walk and 800m is a 10-minute walk. 51% of respondents expect to reach a park within 10 minutes therefore the accessibility standard is set as 400m for a local park, 800m for a neighbourhood park and 1,600m for a district park.

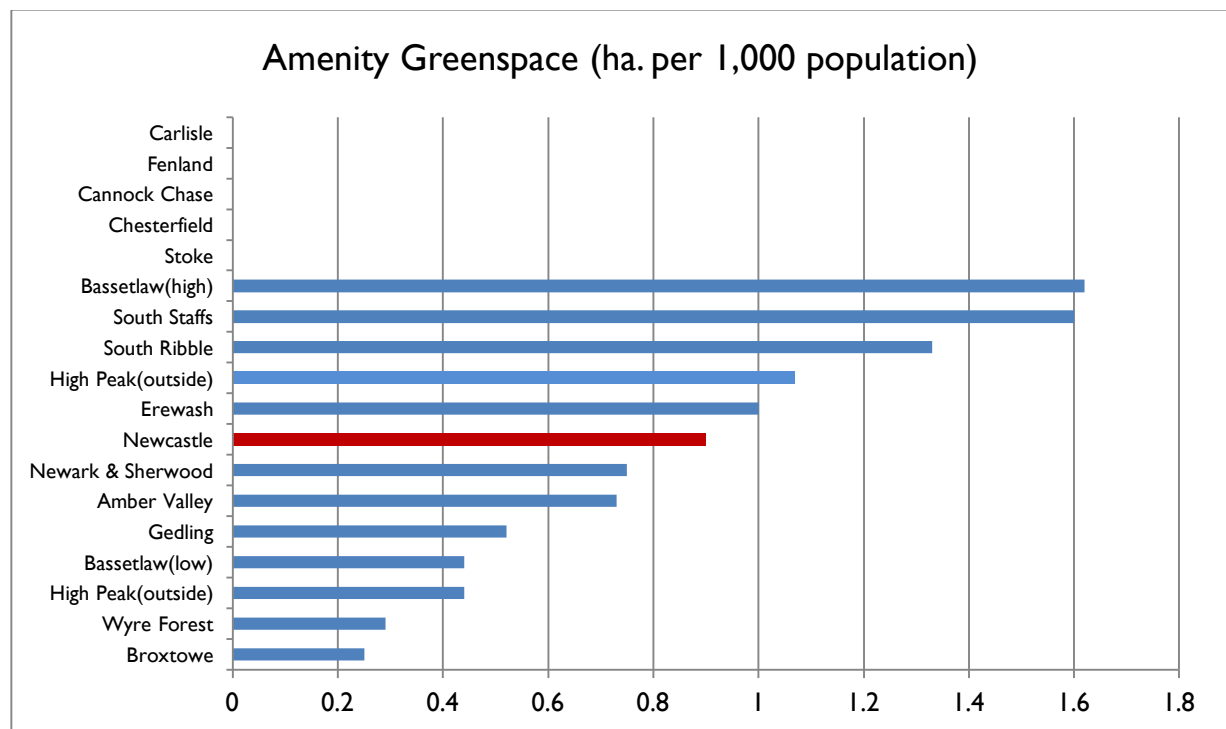
2.6 Amenity green space

The recommended minimum quantity standard for amenity green space in Newcastle under Lyme is 0.90 ha. per 1,000 people. The recommended associated access standard is 220 metres to an open green and 700m to a MUGA. Newcastle under Lyme has previously not had a standard for amenity green space.

National standard: Whilst there are no authoritative standards or guidelines for amenity green space categorisation can be difficult. Amenity green space may be incidental green space such as grassed verges, but can also include highly valuable spaces such as village greens. Standards used by similar local authorities range from 0.25 to 1.62 ha.

Standards for amenity green space in neighbouring local authorities and other authorities with a similar profile to Newcastle under Lyme range from 0.25 to 1.62 ha. per 1,000 people. Newcastle under Lyme's recommended standard of 0.90 ha. per 1,000 residents will sit midway within this range.

Fig. A6: Benchmarking against other local authorities – Amenity green space quantity standards (proposed standard included for Newcastle as currently no standard)



Current provision: 1.03 hectares per 1,000 people

Newcastle under Lyme currently has 128.31 ha. of amenity greenspace (based on a population of 124,183) this represents 1.03 ha. per 1,000 head of population.

The survey results identified a stark difference of opinion between adults and young people. 55% of adult respondents felt that the provision was 'not enough' and 30% felt it was 'about right' whilst 84% of young people felt the provision was 'about right' or 'more than enough'. In addition 80% of respondents to the Street scene survey felt the open space provision met their expectations.

Consultation results: 55% of adults are not satisfied with the existing provision whilst 84% of young people are satisfied.

Fig. A7: % consultation result on quantity of amenity green space in Newcastle under Lyme (Great Outdoors Survey)

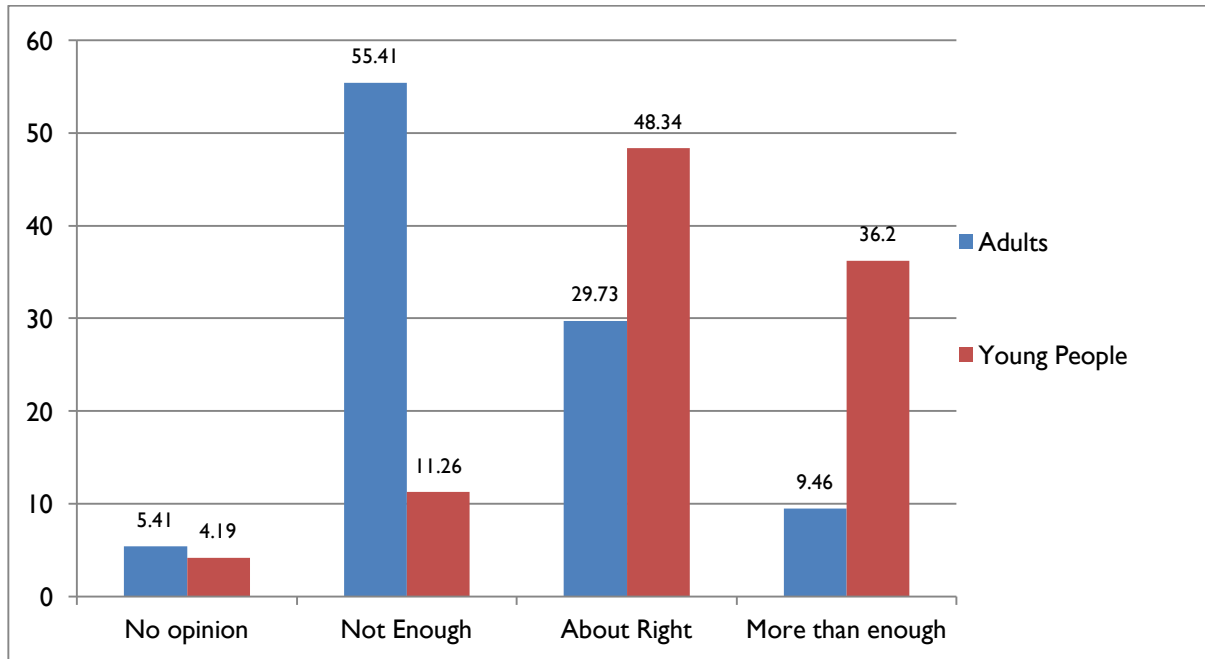
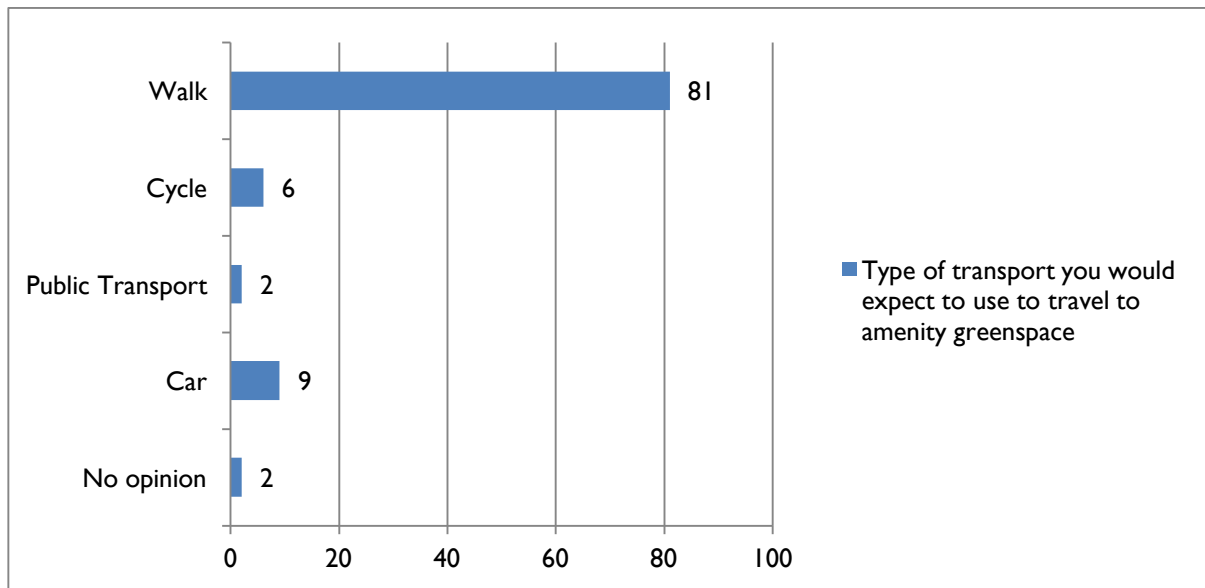


Fig A8: % adult consultation results on preferred travel mode (Great Outdoors Survey)



81% of adult respondents expect to walk to amenity green space.

Fig A9: % Length of time willing to travel to amenity green space: (Great Outdoors Survey)

0 -10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
71%	27%	2%	0%

Conclusions on standard justification

81% of adult respondents to the Newcastle under Lyme Great Outdoors survey indicated they expected to be able to get to amenity greenspace by foot. The drop-off effect associated with travel time is pronounced after 10 minutes: 71% of respondents expect to get there in 10 minutes or less, 27% in 20 minutes or less and 2% greater than 20 minutes.

The current provision is 1.03 ha. per 1,000 people and 55% of the adult survey respondents believed this was not enough whilst 84% of young people felt the provision was 'about right' or 'more than enough'. However 80% of respondents to the Streetscene Survey felt the provision for open space met their expectations.

Newcastle under Lyme's recommended quantity standard for amenity green space (0.90 ha. per 1,000 people) is comparable to that adopted by neighbouring or other similar local authorities. Newcastle under Lyme's access standard for amenity green space of 220m is also aligned with the consultation results. It is designed to ensure all residents – both rural and urban – have access to a 'doorstep green' within a 5 – 10 minute walk.

2.7 Natural and semi-natural green spaces

The recommended minimum standard for natural and semi-natural green spaces in Newcastle under Lyme is 3.60 hectare per 1,000 people. The recommended access standard is 600m.

National standards: ANGSt and WAST. Two types of national guidance are of relevance regarding natural and semi-natural green space: Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) and the Woodland Trust's Woodland Access Standard (WAST). Both standards are primarily driven by accessibility criteria.

ANGSt recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have:

- An accessible natural green space of at least 2 ha. in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes' walk) from home;
- At least one accessible 20-hectare natural green space site within two kilometres of home;
- One accessible 100 ha. natural green space site within five kilometres of home; and
- One accessible 500 ha. natural green space site within ten kilometres of home; plus
- One ha. of statutory Local Nature Reserve per thousand population.

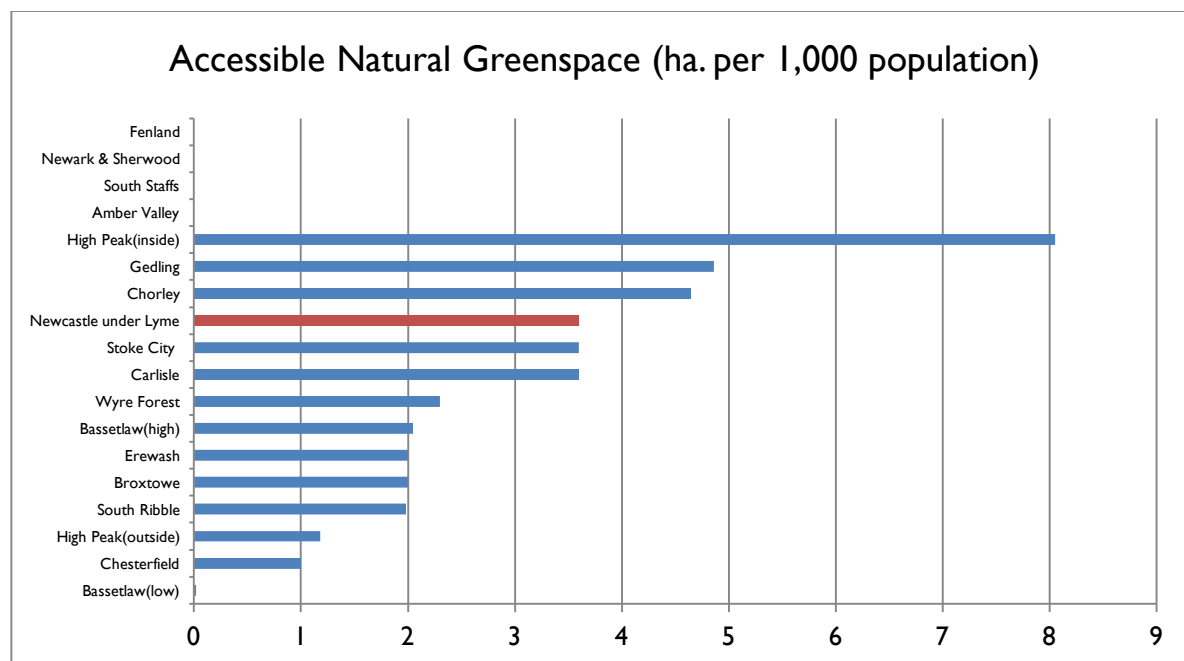
WAST is based on a similar principle of accessibility as ANGSt:

- No person should live more than 500 metres from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2 ha. in size;
- There should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20 ha. within 4 kilometres (8 km round-trip) of people's homes.

Standards used by similar local authorities

Standards for natural and semi-natural green space in neighbouring local authorities and other authorities with a similar profile to Newcastle under Lyme range from 0.02 to 8.05 ha. per 1,000 people. The higher figure is for High Peak inside the National Park therefore for the majority of authorities, the standard is between 1.00 and 4.86 ha. per 1,000 people. Newcastle under Lyme's recommended standard of 3.6 ha. per 1,000 residents falls to the higher end of this range.

Fig. A10: Benchmarking against other local authorities – natural and semi-natural green space



Existing provision: 14.0 ha. per 1,000

Newcastle under Lyme totals 1,746.22 ha. of natural and semi-natural green space, which translates to an average 14.0 ha. per 1,000 people.

Consultation results: 49% of respondents not satisfied with woodlands provision;

The Newcastle under Lyme Great Outdoor Survey invited respondents to express their view on existing provision by differentiating between three broad categories of natural and semi-natural green space:

- Woodland
- Wetland (like marshes)
- Other natural green spaces (grasslands, moorland, heathland)

As shown in figures A11, A12 and A13 below:

Woodland

50% of adults and 46% of young people are not satisfied with current provision of woodland and 43% of adults and 38% of young people feel provision is about right or more than enough.

Wetlands

A difference of opinion between adults and young people 52% of adult respondents are not satisfied with current provision of wetlands whilst 58% of young people feel provision is about right or more than enough. 36% of adults and 26% of young people feel it is about right.

Natural Greenspace – like grasslands, moorlands

49% of adults and 47% of young people respondents are not satisfied with current provision of other natural greenspace like grasslands, moorlands and heathlands and 40% of adults and 29% of young people

feel provision is about right or more than. Overall around 50% of adult and 39% of young people respondents feel that there is not enough accessible natural greenspace.

Fig. A11: % consultation results on quantity of woodlands in Newcastle under Lyme

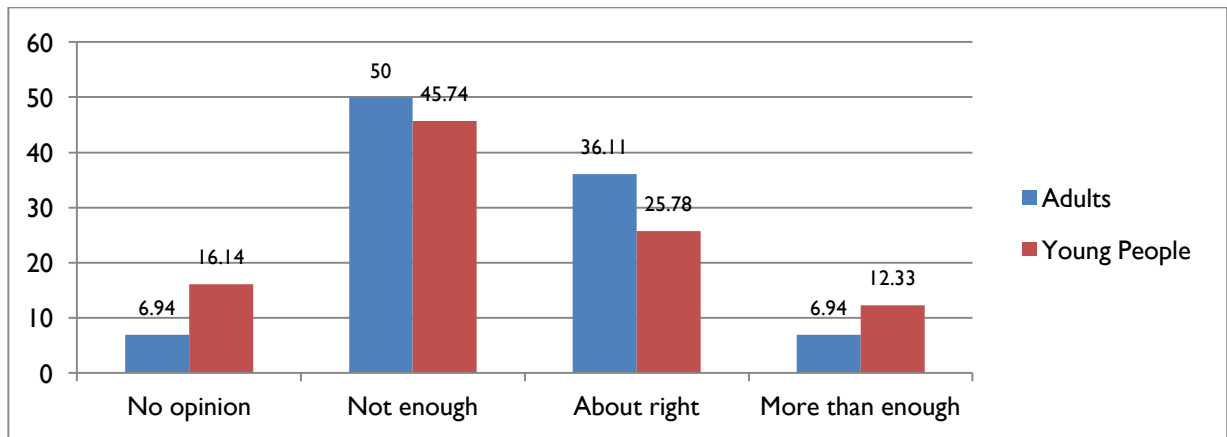


Fig. A12: % consultation results on quantity of wetland (like marshes) in Newcastle under Lyme

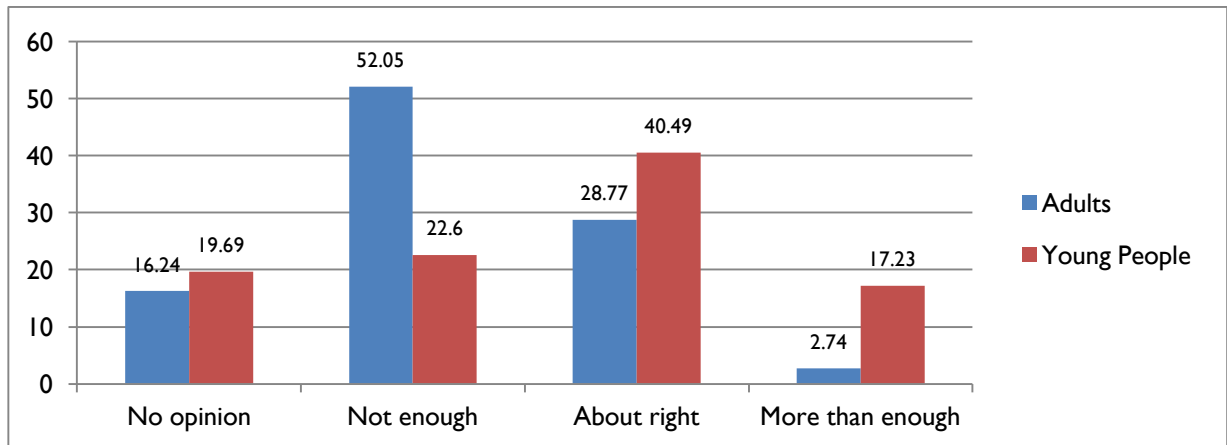
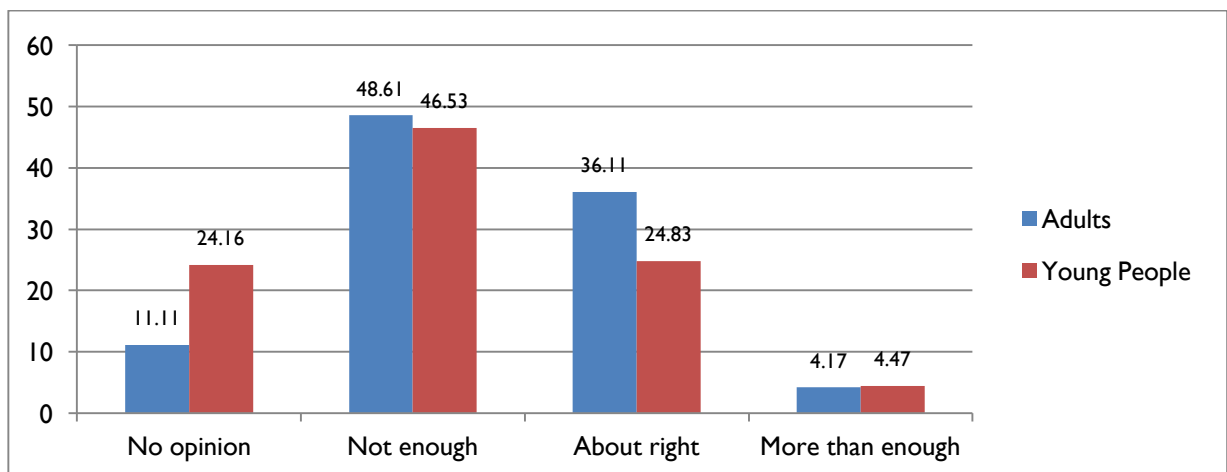


Fig. A13: % consultation results on quantity of other natural greenspaces in Newcastle under Lyme



When adults were asked how they expected to be able to get to natural and semi-natural sites, 50% of the adults respondents to the Newcastle under Lyme Great Outdoor Survey indicated they were happy

to walk to woodland however 46% expected to travel by car to wetlands and 48% expected to travel by car other natural green space. Only 5% expected to use public transport to access other natural greenspace.

Fig A14: % consultation results on preferred travel mode to woodlands

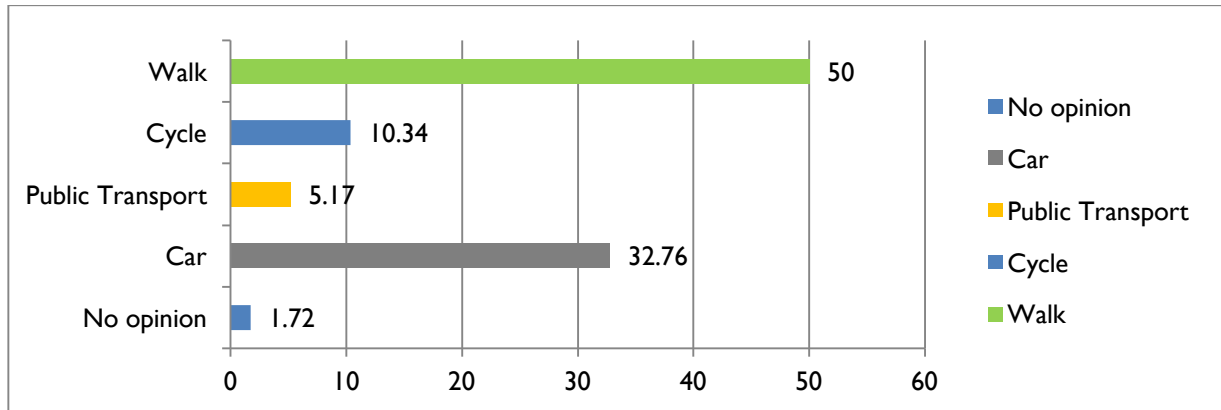


Fig A15: % consultation results on preferred travel mode to wetlands

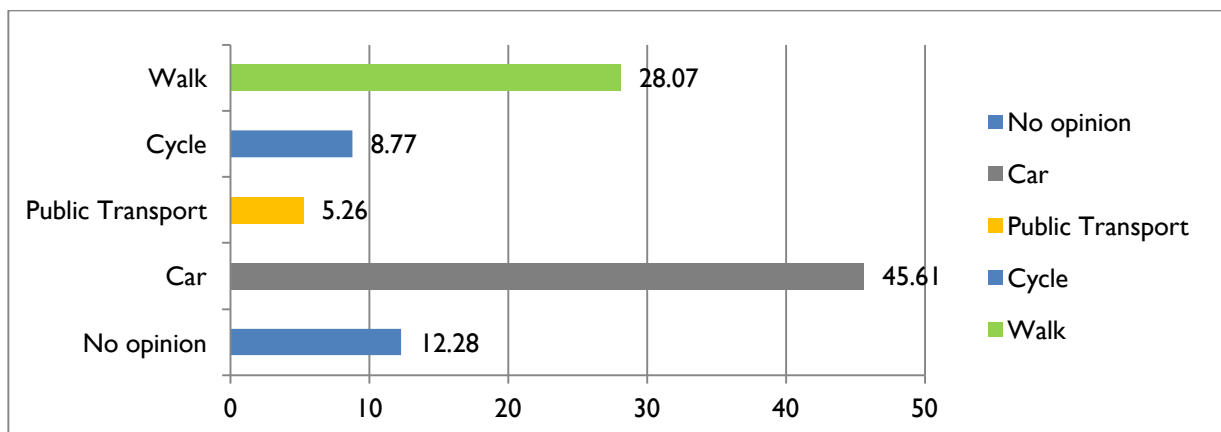
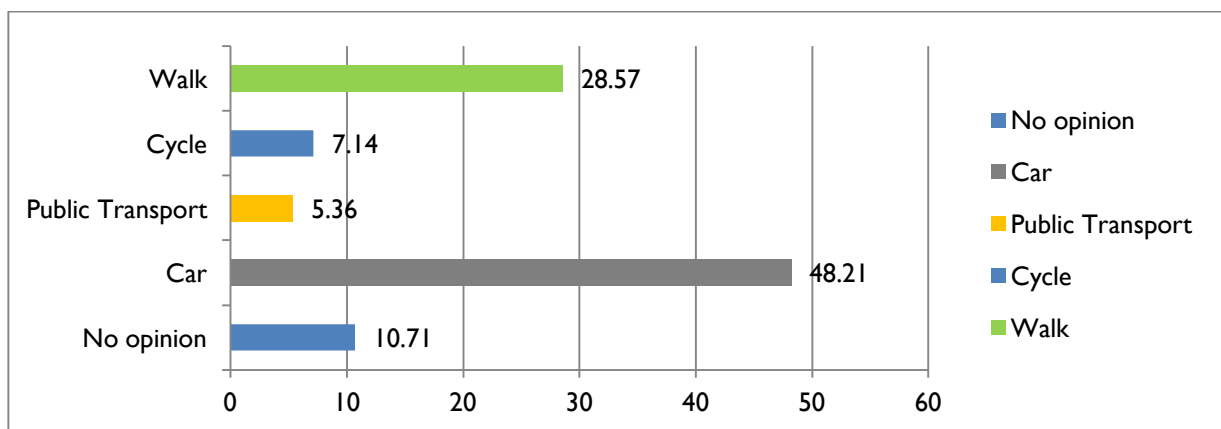


Fig A16: % consultation results on preferred travel mode to other natural greenspace



Length of time willing to travel to woodlands

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
32%	42%	13%	13%

Length of time willing to travel to wetlands

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
12%	40%	22%	13%

Length of time willing to travel to other natural greenspace

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
31%	33%	20%	16%

Overall the majority of people only expect to travel to accessible natural greenspaces within 20 minutes (74% to woodland within 20 minutes, 52% to wetland within 20 minutes and 64% to other natural greenspace within 20 minutes).

Conclusions on standard justification

Newcastle under Lyme's recommended quantity standard for natural and semi-natural green space (3.60 ha. per 1,000 population) is comparable to that adopted by other local authorities and actual current provision is 14.0 ha. per 1,000 population. It is above current average levels of provision. However, overall around 50% of respondents feel that there is not enough accessible natural greenspace; so given that the Borough already exceeds the standard any loss of natural green space is likely to lead to strong opposition. Furthermore, an excess of natural green space is beneficial to the Boroughs ecosystem services which are not presently valued in open space audits. The recommended distance standard of 600m reflects consultation results where overall the majority of people only expect to travel to accessible natural greenspaces within 20 minutes.

2.6 Designated play space for children and young people

The recommended minimum standard for designated play space for children and young people is 0.41 hectares per 1,000 people. The associated access standard is 100 metres for a Local Area for Play (LAP), 400m for a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) and 1,000m for a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP).

National standard: FIT's Benchmark Standards for Outdoor Sport and Play

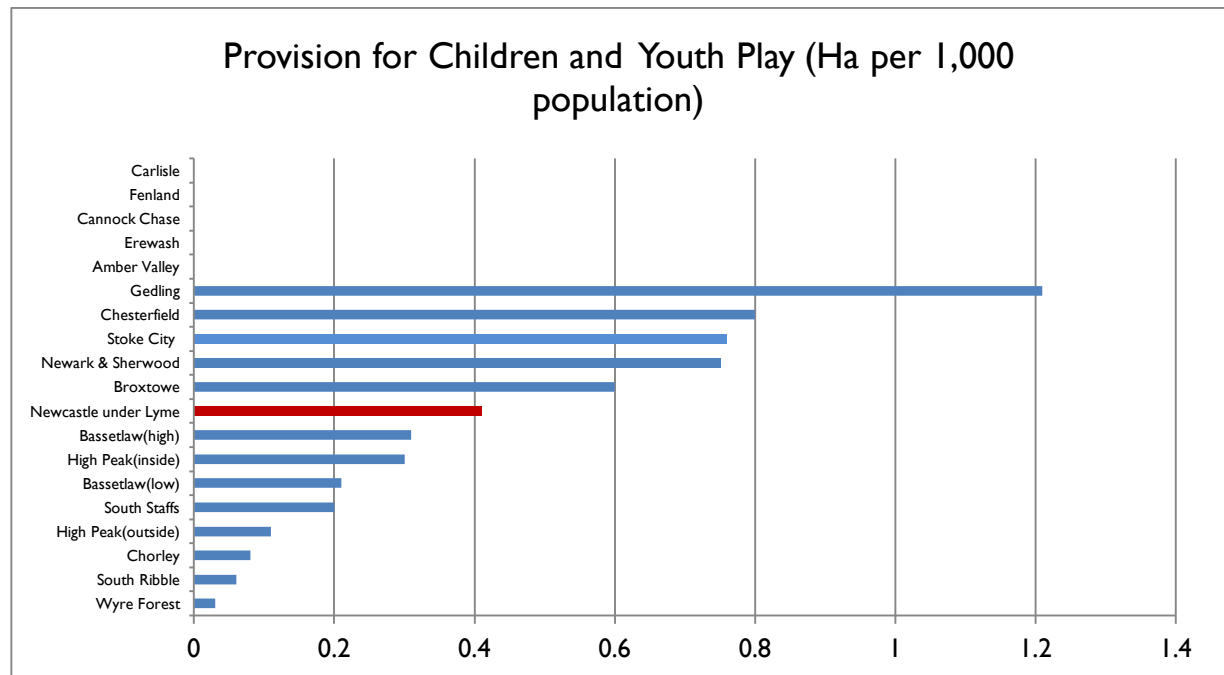
The National Playing Fields Association (now Fields in Trust, 'FiT')'s six-acre standard (2.43 ha.) per 1,000 population has been superseded by FIT's Benchmark Standards for Outdoor Sport and Play – Beyond the Six Acre Standard. The Standard recommends dedicating 1.20 Ha. for Playing Pitches, 1.60 Ha. for all outdoor sports (i.e. ha. per 1,000 population) and to children's play of which 0.25 ha. per 1,000 should be equipped space. 0.30 ha. is dedicated to other outdoor provision including MUGA's and skateboard parks.

Regarding accessibility, Beyond Six Acre Standard suggests that there should be a Local Area Play (LAP) within 100 metres of every home, Local Equipped Areas for Play (LEAP) within 400 metres, and a Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAP) within 1,000 metres.

Standards used by similar local authorities

Standards for designated play space for children and young people in neighbouring local authorities and other authorities with a similar profile to Newcastle under Lyme range from 0.03 to 1.21 hectares per 1,000 people. Newcastle's recommended standard of 0.41 hectares per 1,000 residents sits within this range.

Fig. A17: Benchmarking against other local authorities – designated play space for children and young people indicating proposed standard for Newcastle of 0.41



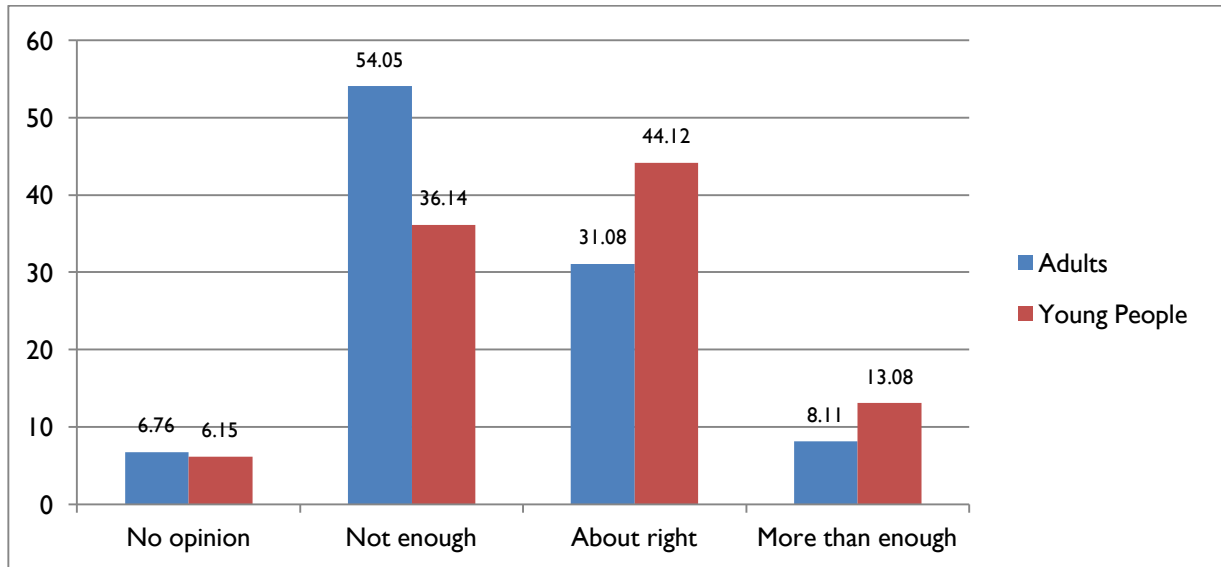
Existing provision: 0.41 hectare per 1,000 people

Newcastle under Lyme currently provides 51.35 hectares of designated play space, which translates to 0.41 hectares per 1,000 population.

Consultation results: 54% of adult respondents believe there is not enough Play space whilst 57% of young people are satisfied.

54% of adult and 36% of young people respondents believe there is not enough play space available. However, 57% of young people and 40% of adults felt the provision was 'about right' or 'more than enough'.

Fig. A18: % consultation results on quantity of designated play space for children and young people in Newcastle under Lyme

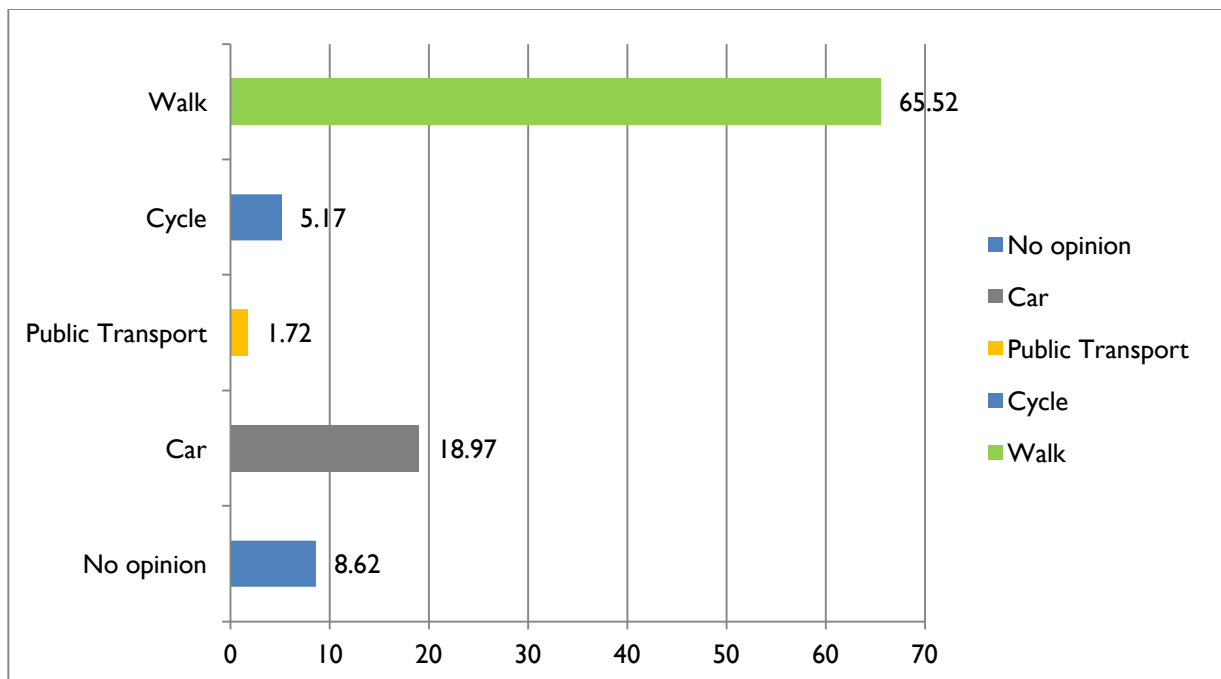


Regarding access, as with amenity green space, a very high proportion of adult respondents (66%) to the Newcastle Great Outdoors Survey indicated they expected to be able to get to designated play area by foot. 69 % also indicated they expected to travel no more than 10 minutes to get there.

Length of time willing to travel to play space

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
69%	20%	9%	2%

Fig A19: % adult consultation results on preferred travel mode



Conclusion on standard justification

Newcastle under Lyme's recommended standard for designated play space for children and young people (0.41 ha. per 1,000 population) is equal to the existing provision of 0.41 ha. per 1,000 population.

The adult consultation results show a large majority, 54%, believe that current provision is 'not enough', however 57% of young people feel the provision is 'about right' or 'more than enough'.

Many local authorities no longer put emphasis on providing LAPs so that better facilities with more to offer can be created and therefore improve opportunities for meaningful play spaces. This helps councils save time and money as the expenses of travelling to and maintaining many small sites with very limited equipment often far exceeds their benefits. However, there is an inbuilt contradiction as people clearly wish to be able to walk to play areas.

The associated access standard of 100 metres for a Local Area for Play (LAP), 400m for a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) and 1,000m for a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) reflect local expectations to be able to walk to play areas in approximately 10 minutes.

2.7 Allotments

Newcastle under Lyme's recommended minimum standard for allotments is 0.15 hectares per 1,000 population. The associated access standard is 400 metres (5 - 10-minute walk) in urban areas and a 15-minute drive in rural areas.

National standard: National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners' standard

Newcastle under Lyme Allotment Strategy 2014 states:

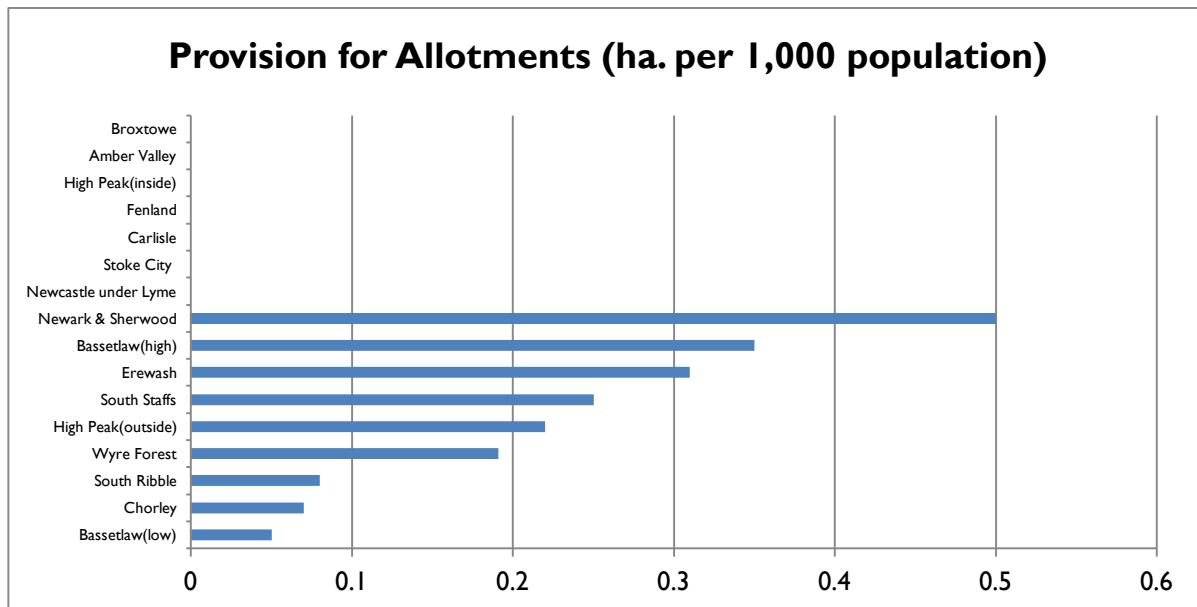
'As there are no nationally agreed standards for the provision of allotments either in terms of quality or quantity it is difficult to judge how well the Borough compares nationally. The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners suggest that there should be a minimum of 15 plots per thousand households (or 1 plot for every 65 households). For Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and other providers (Parish and Town Councils/voluntary and charitable organisations) there are 8.6 plots per thousand households. Other authorities compare the number of plots per thousand populations; this would give the Borough a figure of 3.9 plots per thousand population.'

It should be noted that the current standard equates to 0.0975 per thousand population and there is according to the allotment strategy a waiting list. Current levels are too low to meet demand and an increase is recommended. It is further recommended that for benchmarking purposes a switch should be made from considering plots/1,000 population to area/1,000 population which is a more common practice.

Standards used by similar local authorities

Standards for allotments in neighbouring local authorities and other authorities with a similar profile to Newcastle range from 0.07 to 0.31 hectares per 1,000 people. Two authorities have 20 and 21 plots per household.

Fig. A20: Benchmarking against other local authorities – allotments N.B. Gedling standard – 20 per 1,000 households in urban area, 30 per 1,000 households in rural area. Chesterfield standard – 21 per 1,000 households.

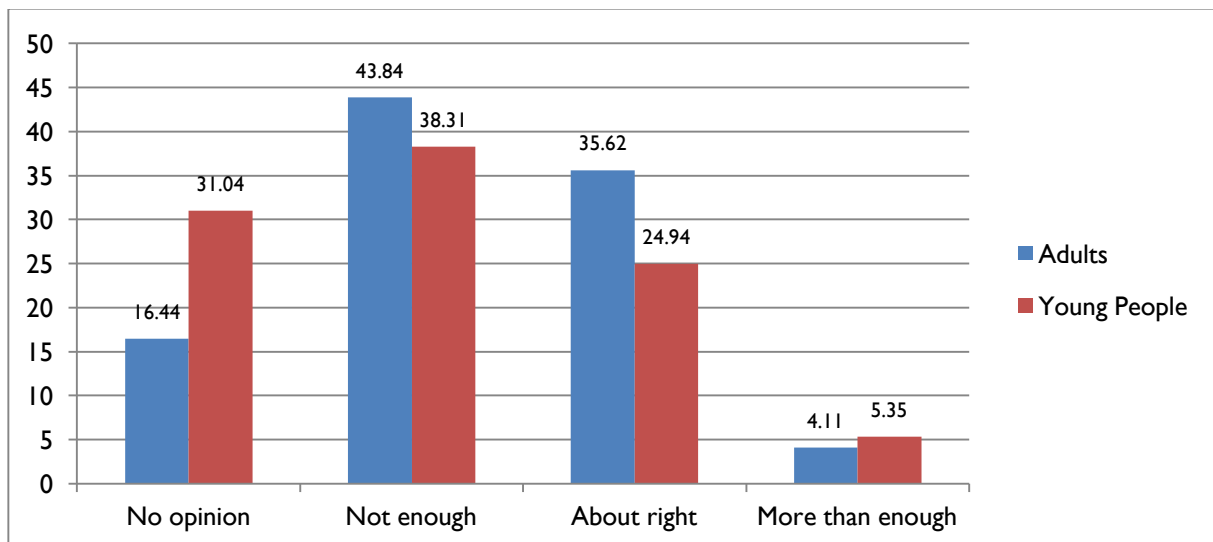


Existing provision:

For Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and other providers (Parish and Town Councils/voluntary and charitable organisations) there are 8.6 plots per thousand households. Other authorities compare the number of plots per thousand populations; this would give the Borough a figure of 3.9 plots per thousand population which a majority of respondents (44% of adults and 38% of young people) to the Newcastle Great Outdoors Survey felt is ‘not enough’ whilst 36% of adults and 25% of young people felt it was ‘about right’. However, 31% of young people had ‘no opinion’.

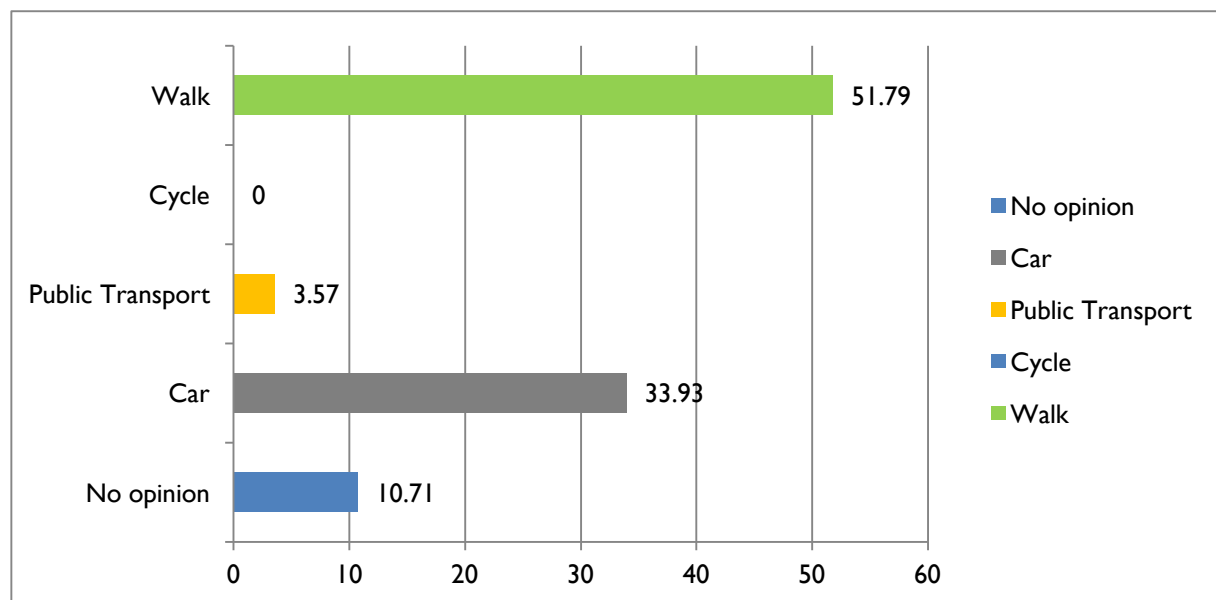
Consultation results: Average - 41% of respondents not satisfied; 31% about right

Fig A21. Consultation results on the quantity of allotments



Concerning preferred mode of travel to get there, walking came first amongst adult responses (50%), followed by driving (36%). Given the need to transport equipment to and from sites it is accepted that users may often need to drive to the site. A travel time within 20 minutes is acceptable as expressed by 91% of respondents (50% within 10 minutes, 41% within 20 minutes).

Fig. A22: Consultation results on preferred travel mode to allotments



Length of time willing to travel to allotment

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
50%	40%	4.5%	4.5%

Conclusion on standard justification

The recommended quantity standard of 0.15 allotments per 1,000 population is in line with requirements adopted by comparator authorities, but not especially generous. Nevertheless, achieving this standard will help meet demand from the local population.

The recommended access standard for allotments of 400m or 5-10-minute walk in urban areas or a 15-minute drive in rural areas reflects local expectations to be able to access this type of green infrastructure/green space in about 10-20 minutes either by foot or by car when transport of equipment is needed.

2.8 Green corridors

There is no recommended quantity standard for green corridors. There is no recommended access standard for green corridors.

National standard. There is no applicable national standard.

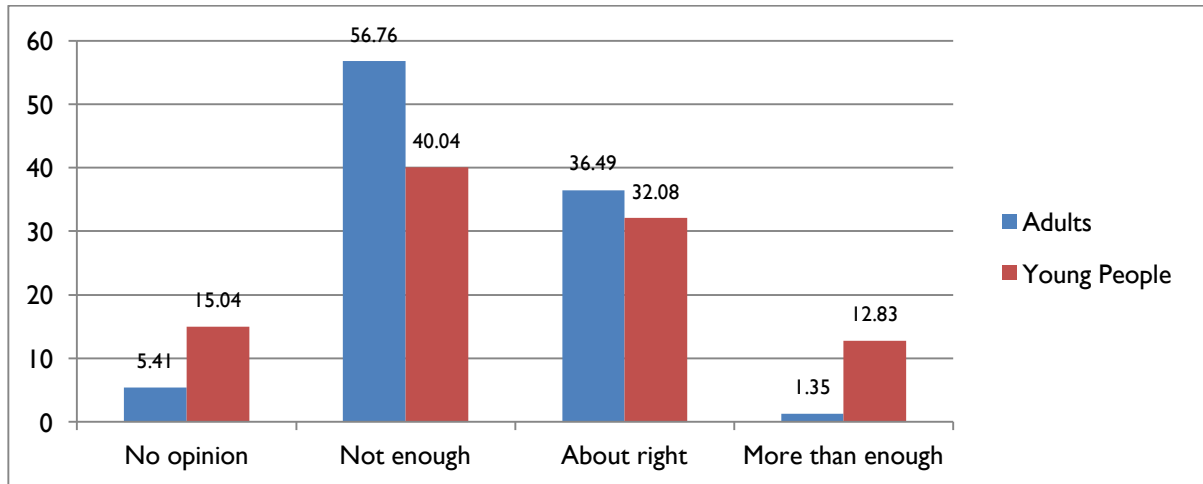
Standards used by other local authorities

Other comparator local authorities did not set quantity standards for green corridors.

Existing provision: There are 46.03 ha. of accessible green corridors in Newcastle under Lyme.

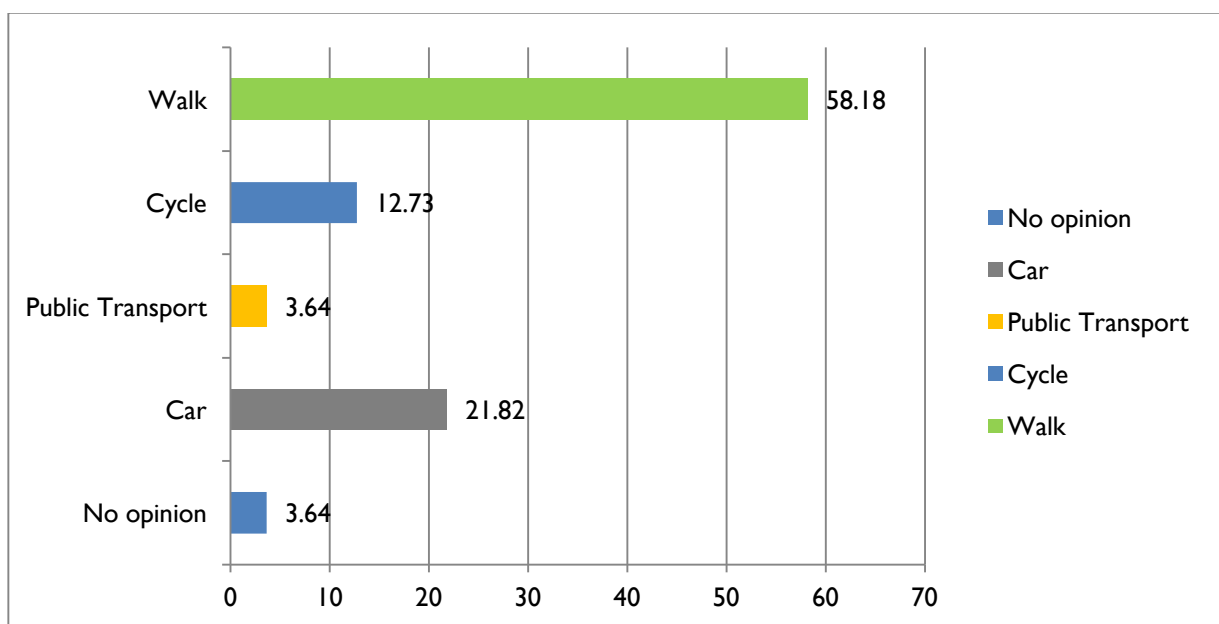
Consultation results: 57% of adults and 40% of young people feel there's 'not enough';

Fig. A24 Consultation results on quantity of green corridors



57% of adults and 40% of young people respondents to the Newcastle Great Outdoors Survey feel there is not enough, while 38% of adults and 45% of young people feel current provision is satisfactory. This is a semi negative result and it could be interpreted as meaning that there is an actual or perceived under-provision in the opinion of those surveyed. Green corridors include nature walks as well as routes used for recreational activities notably cycling and dog-walking. Green corridors are also a facility greatly used by horse-riders. There is a need to investigate the relationship between the location of livery/stables with bridleways to ascertain whether localised provision is adequate especially in urban fringe areas. Horses using public highways are dangerous to riders and motorists.

Fig. A25: % adult Consultation results on preferred travel mode to reach green paths and trails



Length of time willing to travel to green paths and trails

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
58%	28%	9%	5%

A majority of adults (58%) expect to be able to get to green corridors by foot. A non-negligible proportion of respondents to the Newcastle Great Outdoors Survey (13%) also mentioned cycling as a preferred travel mode to get to and enjoy green paths and corridors. A travel time of about 10 minutes meets 58% of respondents' expectations on how long it should take them to get there.

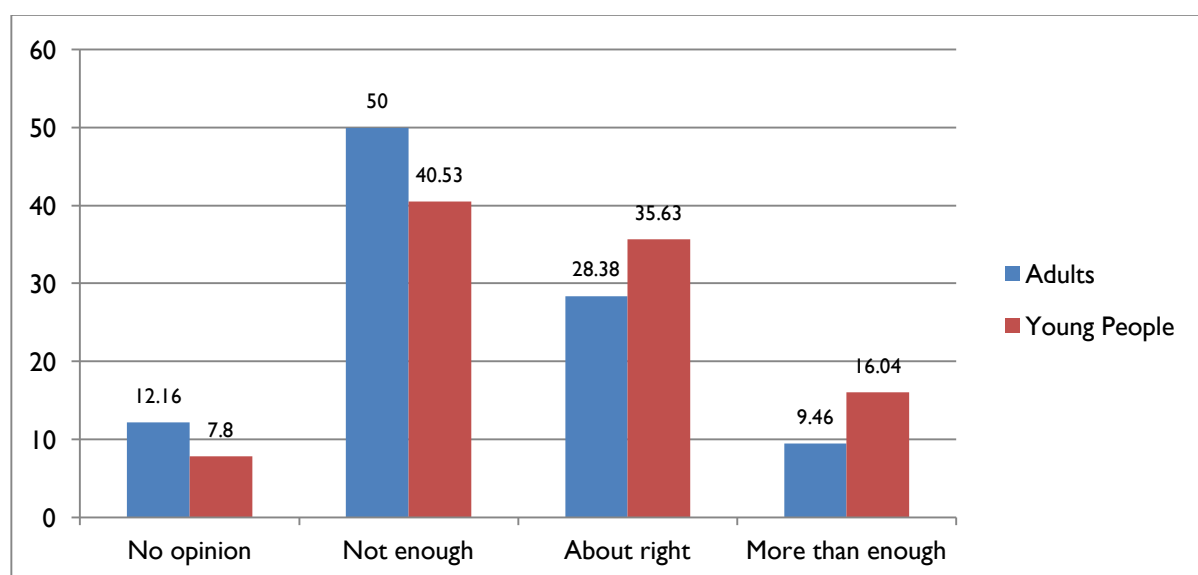
Conclusions on standard justification

In the absence of examples from the nearest neighbour exercise from elsewhere a standard has not been set. However, this is an area which the Council may wish to investigate further by undertaking a green corridors study and planning for new provision and better connectivity.

2.9 Outdoor Sports pitches

Local standards are no longer accepted by Sport England so setting a new standard is meaningless and has been removed.

Fig. A26: % Consultation results on quantity of Outdoor Sports pitches

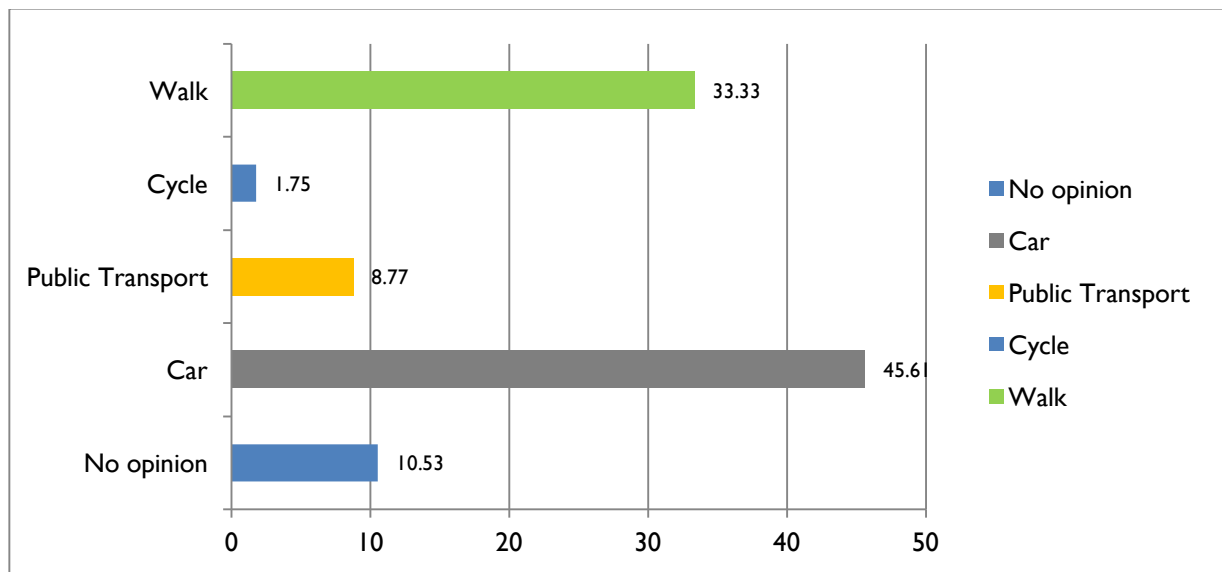


It should be noted that 50% of adults and 40% of young people respondents to the Newcastle Great Outdoors Survey feel there is not enough outdoor sports pitches, although 38% of adults and 52% of young people feel current provision is satisfactory. A majority of people (46%) expect to be able to get to outdoor sports pitches by car and 33% expect to walk. A travel time of about 10 - 20 minutes meets 80% of respondents' expectations on how long it should take them to get there.

Length of time willing to travel to outdoor sports pitches

0-10 min	11-20 min	21-30 min	Over 30 min
41%	39%	11%	9%

Fig. A27: % adult Consultation results on preferred travel mode to reach outdoor sports pitches



3: Newcastle under Lyme green infrastructure/green space quality standards

The Fields in Trust (FiT) Guidelines - Guidance for Outdoor Sports and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard recommends quality guidelines. These are recommended for the Newcastle under Lyme Open Space Strategy

- Quality appropriate to the intended level of performance, designed to appropriate technical standards.
- Located where they are of most value to the community to be served.
- Sufficiently diverse recreational use for the whole community.
- Appropriately landscaped.
- Maintained safely and to the highest possible condition with available finance.
- Positively managed taking account of the need for repair and replacement over time as necessary.
- Provision of appropriate ancillary facilities and equipment.
- Provision of footpaths.
- Designed so as to be free of the fear of harm or crime.
- Local authorities can set their own quality benchmark standards for playing pitches, taking into account the level of play, topography, necessary safety margins and optimal orientation.
- Local authorities can set their own quality benchmark standards for play areas using the Children's Play Council's Quality Assessment Tool.

3.1 Quality score improvement threshold

A strategic overview of the quality of Newcastle under Lyme's green infrastructure/open space is available in the Newcastle under Lyme Open Space Strategy 2016. It is recommended that open space sites scoring less than 80% of the potential total quality score are considered as needing qualitative improvements. There are good reasons to maintain high quality:

- Site usage, as measured by the number of visits and repeat visits, is higher when the site is of a good quality;
- A greater mix of people use sites of good quality, hence there is less social exclusion;
- It is a lower cost to maintain a site in a good condition than to let it decline and then have to invest a large amount of money to return it to a good quality;
- Good quality sites are more likely to secure the interest and involvement of volunteers in its maintenance and in running events;
- Good quality sites are a tourism asset and hence contribute to the visitor economy;
- Quality allows the Borough Council and its partners to seek recognition in the form of awards and grants. This in turn builds 'pride of place' in the community.

	Urban (no.)	% of urban	Rural (no.)	% of rural	Total (no.)	% Total
Total no. of sites	326		227		553	
Total no. of sites audited/scored	176		81		257	46.5
Score > 80%	104	59.1	8	9.81	112	43.5
70 – 80%	60	34.1	38	46.9	98	38.2
< 70%	12	6.8	35	43.2	47	18.3

Open space results from 2015/16 site audit:

Of the 176 sites audited in 2015/16 only 18.3% fell below a quality score of 70%; overall this is a very strong performance

3.2 Quantity comparison

OPEN SPACE TYPES	COUNT	AREA (HA.)	CURRENT PROVISION (Hectares per 1,000 population based on 124,381 pop)	PREVIOUS STANDARD (Hectares per 1,000 population)	PROPOSED QUANTITY STANDARD (Hectares per 1,000 population)	PROPOSED ACCESS STANDARD (measured in straight line)		
						URBAN	RURAL*	
*Parks and gardens	35	436.29	3.51	2.35	3.10	Local 400m	Neigh 800m	District 1600m
*Amenity green space	112	128.31	1.03	No standard	0.90	220m [open green] & 700m [MUGA]		
*Natural and semi-natural green space	181	1746.22	14.0	3.60	3.60	600m		
*Designated play spaces for children and young people	81	51.35	0.41	0.76	0.41	LAP 100m	LEAP 400m	NEAP 1,000m
Allotments	12	13.60	0.11	No standard in last audit	0.15	400m (5-10 min walk)		15 min drive
Green Corridors	16	46.03	0.37	No standard	No standard	No standard		
Outdoor Sport Facilities	NO STANDARD							

Applying the standards: key factors to take into consideration

4.1 Identifying surpluses and deficiencies

The green infrastructure/green space standards are central to the future planning and provision of facilities. The standards are used to identify:

- areas of quantitative deficiency or surplus;
- deficiencies in accessibility;
- quality deficiencies.

Results from the analysis of surpluses and deficiencies are available in the three 'Framework Plans'.

4.2 Determining how developer contributions towards green infrastructure will be collected (CIL vs Planning Obligations)

The quantity, quality and distance standards described above should also be used to guide investment and to calculate the level of developer contributions to ensure that adequate provision is made for open space/green infrastructure as a consequence of development. Since opportunities to provide additional green spaces in the urban areas in Newcastle under Lyme likely to be limited, it will be necessary in some cases to substitute the provision of new green infrastructure with a financial contribution. These financial contributions should be used to invest in existing green spaces to make them better and more useable, to increase the functionality of each space, and to improve their capacity to support ecosystem services.

To secure financial contributions, the Council could use the complementary mechanisms of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and/or planning obligations (as authorised under the Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990). Whereas CIL is intended to be used for general infrastructure contributions, S106 obligations are intended for site specific mitigation. Decisions on whether to adopt CIL should be taken within the context of the scaling back of S106 obligations and the potential income streams for funding infrastructure.

The CIL Regulations 2010 defined the circumstances where each can be used and where they are not appropriate. Subsequent changes in the regulations (amended 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014) and experience in setting and using CIL has led to a clearer picture of how they can be best utilised.

If an authority has a S106 based tariff system, it is very likely that it will be severely restricted in taking further contributions post April 2015 because of the Pooling Restrictions. When CIL is introduced by a Local Authority, pooled contributions may only be secured from up to five (5) separate planning applications for one item of infrastructure that is not intended to be covered by CIL. These five planning applications will also need to consider those agreements which have been entered into since 6th April 2010 which provide funding for this piece of infrastructure. It is also possible for the Council to collect five pooled S106 obligations for a piece of infrastructure and then after that add it to the list of infrastructure to be funded/part funded through CIL.

Contributions secured by planning obligations will need to meet the statutory test set out in Regulation 122 of the CIL Regulations:

- Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
- Directly related to the development; and
- Fairly and reasonably related in scale to the development.

Each individual case should be looked at carefully before seeking S106 tariff payments. If there is not sufficient evidence to meet the statutory tests the authority may risk challenge that the decision has been

taken unlawfully. It will also be vulnerable at any planning appeal. To make optimum use of the CIL and S106 requires pro-active infrastructure planning and funding.

The Council's approach in deciding whether all or some of the contribution are secured via planning obligations or via CIL will therefore need to factor what can actually be secured in terms of new GI/GS development which is manageable and significant without pooling finance from more than one development.

This might be resolved by defining a range of 'strategic projects' drawing from the Green Infrastructure Strategy proposal map. Alternatively, this might be considered on a type-by-type basis.

The Council may well find that Green Corridors, Parks and Gardens, Allotments, and Natural and Semi-natural Green Space might benefit from a strategic approach, based on pooling of contributions (i.e. CIL), while Children's Play Provision, Amenity Greenspace, and trees can be handled through Planning Obligations.

If the Council is minded to use CIL, interim requirements and procedures related to commuted sums might be required. This can be achieved through an SPD with pre and post CIL introduction provisions. All guidance relevant to on-site provision will remain applicable post CIL introduction.

CIL offers greater flexibility than Section 106 Agreements: it can make it easier to mitigate the impact of development by using CIL funds to provide new as well as enhance existing open space.

CIL is only be chargeable in respect of change of use applications where new floor space in excess of 100 square metres is being added, except where the change of use is creating one or more new dwellings, in which case it may be payable even if no new floorspace is being created. Should the Council decide to adopt CIL, it should capture its potential to improve open spaces and green infrastructure by commissioning a Supplementary Planning Document.

Even if a specific formula is agreed in an open space strategy, it must not compromise development viability, otherwise decisions may be challenged at appeal.

4.3 Determining the developments that qualify

Applying the standard will also require determining the type of development to which the standards apply.

The selection of types of development the standards should apply to will need to be informed by the scale, location and range of new developments anticipated for the new Local Plan period.

If the Council anticipates significant large commercial/business developments, it would be desirable to ensure such developments contribute to the Borough's green infrastructure by featuring an adequate canopy cover in their parking area, while contributing to other green infrastructure provision which might be used by their customers or employees (e.g. amenity green space and green corridors so that employees and customers can access the development by cycle).

If, however the Council only anticipates small scale commercial/business developments, an argument can be made in favour of concentrating on residential developments for the application of the standards through planning permission and build commercial and other development into CIL where the cumulative benefit could be directed to a significant new GI development defined by the authority. If the Council is aware of major non-residential sites or redevelopments, the open space requirement could also be secured through site specific allocation policies or development briefs.

The following are recommended as good practice measures for Newcastle under Lyme:

- A. For residential; 0.004 hectares (0.01 acres) per dwelling of amenity open space shall be provided for the total number of dwellings, irrespective of type or tenure; notwithstanding
- B. That such open space will be provided in areas of not less than 0.1 hectares (0.25 acres) regardless of development size;
- C. In circumstances where back-land development is deemed permissible on sites less than 0.1 hectare (0.25 acres) where there is ecosystem loss, it will still be necessary for developer contributions to be paid and pooled as may be appropriate in accordance with the requirements of the CIL regulations;
- D. Roadside landscaping will not be counted as open space towards this requirement;
- E. In locating open spaces within new developments due consideration should be given to the importance of open space within developments as integral design features. Accordingly, consideration should be given to good natural surveillance; incorporation of features of ecological interest; linkages with existing footpaths and open space networks and the need to avoid potential for nuisance to neighbouring residential properties. Where appropriate, a satisfactory scheme for the provision of open space in an alternative location may be acceptable;
- F. New policy needs to identify specific triggers for the provision of LAP, LEAP and NEAP in new developments.

Examples of criteria applied by a randomised sample of other authorities are listed below (unless otherwise mentioned, the provisions listed are part of an adopted SPD or Local Plan policy):

Central Lancashire (except South Ribble) [Lancashire]: all new developments are required to contribute towards open space and playing pitches provision, with the exception of nursing/rest homes, sheltered accommodation, replacement homes. There is no minimum size threshold for residential developments.

South Ribble [Lancashire]: open space and playing pitch provisions are only required for residential developments resulting in 5 new dwellings or more.

New Forest [Hampshire]: open space requirements only apply to proposals resulting in a net increase in dwelling units. Replacement dwellings or extensions to existing dwellings are not within the scope of application of the Council's open space standards.

Tendring [Essex]: As in South Ribble and New Forest, the Council's open space standards are applied where new residential development leads to a net gain in residential units. Extensions to existing dwellings do not require contributions; neither do homes for the elderly (except for informal open space), replacement dwellings, individual bedsits or nursing homes.

Rother [East Sussex]: All residential developments are expected to make a contribution.

Blackpool [Lancashire]: open space requirements apply only apply to residential developments of 3 dwellings of more, including conversions from non-residential use and replacement dwellings

Dover [Kent]: Dover's recommended Open Space Standards Proposal published alongside the Dover Green Infrastructure Strategy, the approach proposed is as follows:

	Open Space (parks, gardens, amenity space and green corridors)	Outdoor Sports	Children's Play Space	Community Gardens
Open Market Housing	✓	✓	✓	✓
Affordable Housing	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flats	✓	✓	✓	✓
Commercial Development	✓	✗	✗	✗
Active Elderly	✓	✓	✗	✓
Less Active Elderly	✓	✗	✗	✗

4.4 Off-site versus on-site provision

Applying the standards will also require determining under which circumstances (in respect to assessed deficiencies) and for which types of green infrastructure on-site green infrastructure will be sought. To a large degree, the choices made regarding green infrastructure to be covered through CIL will limit the range of choices to be made.

Examples of criteria applied by other authorities are listed below:

Central Lancashire: the only typologies for which a developer may be required to provide on-site provision are amenity green space and children's play provisions. Regarding amenity green space: onsite provision is expected for developments of 10 or more dwellings. In respect to children's Play, onsite provisions are expected for development of 100 or more dwellings.

New Forest: decided on a case by case basis, based on scale/viability of development

Tendring: decided on a case-by-case basis, based on the scale of the development and the assessed deficiency in green infrastructure in the surrounding area – except for residential development sites greater than 1.5 hectares.

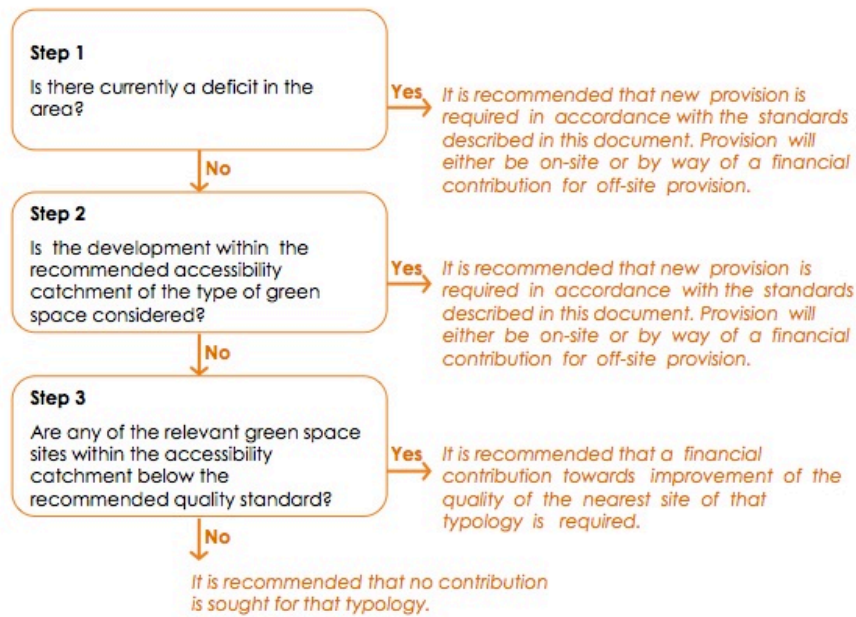
Rother: decided on a case-by-case basis, based on scale of development and existing surrounding provisions

Blackpool: A grading scale is provided, started with developments below 1 ha. (7 sq.m. of onsite children play/casual space for developments of more than 57 person, typically about 20 dwellings. In central Blackpool, where feasible the threshold for this is lowered to smaller sites of about 10 dwelling). The onsite requirement increases as the development size increases, with distinct provision for onsite play and onsite amenity green space.

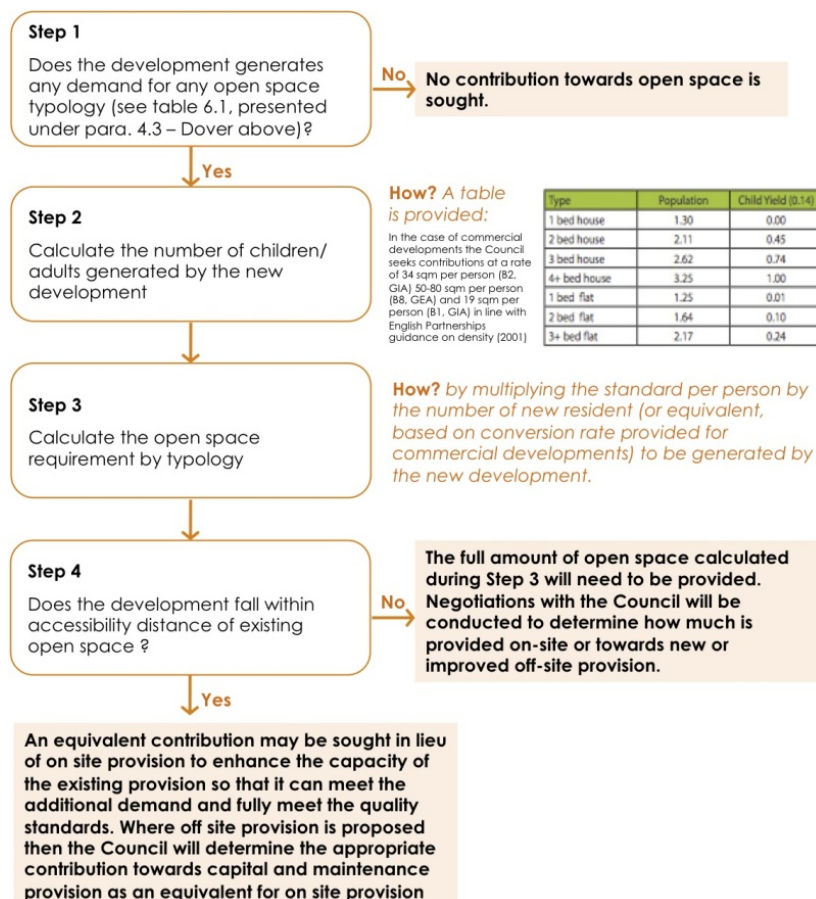
4.5 Defining the policy implementation process

Examples of processes Newcastle under Lyme Council might choose to adopt to define planning obligations in respect to the proposed green infrastructure/green space standards are outlined below.

Option 1:



Option 2:



4.6 Setting commuted sum payments

A cost model for off-site contributions will need to be defined. The resulting cost schedule should be indexed to inflation and account for both capital and maintenance costs over a defined period. For on-site provision, cash contribution towards maintenance of existing open space should be the minimum sought, unless private maintenance arrangements are proposed.

Amongst other authorities investigated through desk study, the sums required to cover maintenance costs range from 10 to 20 years:

- Central Lancashire: 10 years;
- New Forest: 10 years;
- Sefton: 10 years;
- Dover: 15 years;
- Teignbridge: 20 years;
- Tendring: 20 years.

4.7 Private maintenance arrangements

Given the financial situation that local authorities face and the possibility of long-term austerity then there is a strong argument in favour of seeking private maintenance contributions from occupiers which are transferrable upon sale. It will be important to ensure that robust means are needed to collect contributions (through direct debit) and agreement on who is responsible for undertaking the works. An SPD is recommended as the optimum way to address the implementation of private maintenance agreements. This may, for example, set out the method for delivery or provision of new greenspace, as well as the way that it will be maintained. It is important to note that delivery and maintenance are likely to be two separate but related issues.

Notes on sources and methodology

5.1 National standards guidance

For the avoidance of doubt the former PPG17 companion guide, still representing ‘good practice’ has been used in the preparation of the GI/OS strategies. It stresses that standards should be local and reflect local demand and needs. Notwithstanding this there is a range of national standards guidance which is referenced below.

The sources consulted on national standards and benchmarks for green infrastructure and open space are as follow:

Fields in Trust’s “Beyond the Six Acre Standard”

Reference document: *Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play*, FIT, 2015

Natural England’s “Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard”

Reference document: *Nature Nearby, Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance (NE265)*, Natural England, 2010

The Woodland Trust’s “Woodland Access Standard”

Reference document: *Space for People*, The Woodland Trust, 2004

National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners’ standard

Reference document: *Departmental Committee of Inquiry into Allotments*, H. Thorpe, 1969. Cmnd., 4166: Parliamentary Papers, London.

The Trees and Design Action Group best practice guides

Reference document: *Trees in the Townscape, A Guide for Decision Maker*, TDAG, 2012

5.2 Benchmarking with other local authorities

To allow for benchmarking comparisons, a cross-section of 15 local authorities was selected on the basis of the CIPFA Nearest Neighbour model which utilises the Nearest Neighbour algorithm and ONS datasets. This is widely regarded as an authoritative model and is used by the Audit Commission in their value for money profiling. In addition, the City of Stoke on Trent was included due to its geographic proximity and the fact that a joint local plan is being prepared with them. For each local authority selected, a review of the adopted green infrastructure/green space standards was carried out based on the supporting evidence, adopted strategies and/or planning policies.

* The office of National Statistics classifies Urban/Rural local authority in one of the following categories

- MU: Major Urban, the “most” urban authorities;
- LU: Largely Urban;
- OU: Other Urban;
- SR: Significant Rural, indicates that a district has between 26 and 50 percent of its population in rural settlements and large market towns;
- R50: Rural-50 authorities have between 50 and 80 percent of their population living in rural settlements or large market towns.

For the determining how developer contributions towards green infrastructure will be collected exercise, a different set of local authorities were investigated based on a previous and illustrative desk study undertaken by MD2 Consulting Ltd.

NEAREST NEIGHBOURS OPEN SPACE ACCESS STANDARDS COMPARISON REVIEW																						
		Total Population(2001 estimate)	Area(Ha.)	Population Density(based on 2011 estimate)(Number of persons per Ha.)	Greenspace Access Standards (measured as minimum distance to Greenspace)																Source	
				Parks		Amenity Greenspace		Accessible Natural Greenspace		Childrens Play		Youth Provision		Outdoor Sports Facilities		Allotments		Green Corridors		Total		
				Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban		Rural
1	Amber Valley	122,746	2,654,400	4.6	1200m		600m		1200m		600m		1200m		No standard		No standard		No standard		N/A	Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2013-2018. Amber Valley Play Strategy 2010-2015
2	Chorley	109,077	2,028,000	5.45	12 min. Walk	15 min. Drive	10 min. Walk	10 min. Drive	10 min. Walk (480m)	10 min. Walk (480m)	10 min. Walk (480m)	No standard		10 min. Walk	10 min. Drive	No standard		No standard		N/A	Open Space Strategy 2013-2018, Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-2018	
3	Wyre Forest	98,074	1,954,000	5.04	Town Park - Urban 15 min. walk(720m)/Rural 20 min. Drive	Local Park - Urban 10 min. walk(720m)/Rural 15 min. Drive	10 min. Walk (480m)		10 min. Walk (480m)		10 min. Walk (480m)		15 min. Walk (720m)		Grass Pitches - 10 min. walk(480m)/ 15 min. Drive to public outdoor facilities		10 min. Walk (480m)		No standard (National Guidance)		N/A	Wyre Forest Sport and Recreation Assessment 2008. (* 0.24 for Local Parks/0.33 for Town Parks)
4	Erewash	112,809	1,096,300	10.33	700m	1,000m	100m		300m		1-4 equipment - 1 min. Walk, 5-8 equip -5 min., 9+ - 15 min. Walk		15 min. Walk (720m)		No standard		100 plots - 1200m, 50 plots - 900m, 10 plots - 600m, 1-9 plots - 300m		No standard		N/A	Erewash Greenspace Strategy 2007, Open Space Sport and Recreation Assessment 2006
5	Gedling	114,052	1,199,800	9.57	14 min. Walk(510m)		8 min. Walk(386m)		16 min. Walk		5 min. Walk or 15 min. Walk for NEAP(Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play)		10 min. Walk	15 min. Drive	20 min. Walk/10 min. Drive		No standard		No standard		N/A	Gedling Greenspace Strategy 2012 - 2017
6	Broxtowe	110,716	801,000	13.88	500m		300m		500m		No standard		500m		No standard		No standard		No standard		N/A	Green Spaces Strategy 2009-2019
7	Chesterfield	103,782	660,400	15.75	Large Country Park - 3200m, Local Park - 10 min. Walk(480m)		No standard		720m		480m, 10 min. Walk		No standard		No standard		No standard		No standard		N/A	Chesterfield Parks and Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2024, Chesterfield Allotment Strategy 2012-2106
8	South Staffordshire	108,441	4,073,200	2.71	No standard		No standard		No standard		400m		No standard		No standard		No standard		No standard		N/A	South Staffordshire Open Space Audit April 2008, Playing Pitch Strategy October 2007
9	Cannock Chase	97,940	788,800	12.44	No standard																Cannock Chase Local Plan Adopted 2014 makes reference to delivering Standards in 2016	
10	High Peak (outside National Park)	91,118	5,391,400	1.69	15 min. Walk	20 min. Drive	10 min. Walk	10 min. Drive	20 min. Walk	20 min. Drive	10 min. Walk to LEAP, 10 min. Drive to NEAP. In rural access to at least informal provision.		20 min. Walk	10 min. Drive	10 min. Drive		No standard		N/A	Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study 2009 Standards Paper		
	High Peak (inside National Park)																No standard					
11	Newark & Sherwood	115,761	6,513,400	1.79	No standard		No standard		5 min. Walk/300m		No standard		No standard		No standard		No standard		No standard		N/A	Green Space Strategy 2007 - 2012
12	Fenland	95,996	5,464,500	1.77	Fenland ha.ve moved away from the National Standards and created a very detailed standard application to each site use based on developable space and distance to green space																Open Space Standards Evidence Base Report February 2013	

13	Bassetlaw	113,178	63,790	1.78	All residents to be within 20 minute drive time of high quality provision		All residents to be within 10 minute walk time of high quality provision	All residents to be within 20 minute drive time of high quality provision	All residents to be within 10 minute walk time of high quality provision		No standard	All residents to be within 10 minute walk time of high quality provision		No standard	N/A	Open Space Study March 2010	
14	South Ribble	108,971	1,129,600	9.64	12 min. Walk	15 min. Drive	10 min. Walk	10 min. Walk	10 min. Drive	10 min. Walk		No standard	10 min. Walk	10 min. Drive	No standard	N/A	Central Lancashire Open Space Study March 2012
15	Carlisle	107,952	10,393,100	1.04	All dwellings should be within 3000m of an open space of at least 20ha. which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting • all dwellings should be within 1,000m of an open space between 5 and 20 ha. which provides general facilities for recreation provision within a landscaped setting • all dwellings should be within 400 metres of an open space of between 2 and 10ha. which caters for informal recreational needs • all dwellings should be within 200 metres of a small formal or informal open space between 0.2 and 2 ha. that is suitable or informal use and has high amenity value.												Carlisle District Council Local Plan - Chapter 8
16	Stoke City	249,903	934,500	26.77	Local -400m,N'hood -800m,District - 1200m		No standard	600m		LAP - 220m, LEAP - 400m, NEAP - 800m		1200m		No standard	No standard	N/A	Stoke on Trent Greenspace Strategy May 2014 N.B. The standards for Stoke are also taken from North Staffordshire Greenspace Strategy 2007
17	Newcastle under Lyme	124,183	2,109,600	5.93	Local -400m,N'hood -800m,District - 1200m		No standard	600m		LAP - 220m, LEAP - 400m, NEAP - 800m		1200m		No standard	No standard	N/A	North Staffordshire Greenspace Strategy 2007, Newcastle Allotment Strategy 2014 - 2020

NEAREST NEIGHBOURS OPEN SPACE QUALITY STANDARDS COMPARISON REVIEW

	Total Population(2001 estimate)	Area(Ha.)	Population Density(based on 2011 estimate)(Number of persons per Ha.)	Greenspace Quality Standards (Ha. per 1,000 residents)																Source			
				Parks		Amenity Greenspace		Accessible Natural Greenspace		Childrens Play		Youth Provision		Outdoor Sports Facilities		Allotments		Green Corridors			Total		
				Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural	
1	Amber Valley	122,746	2,654,400	4.6	The threshold for the provision of Recreational Open Space is 36+ dwellings (10-35 dwellings contribution to off site facilities)				No standard		65+ dwellings requirements for provision		65-89 dwellings requirements for provision		90+ dwellings requirements for provision		No standard		No standard		N/A		Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2013-2018. Amber Valley Play Strategy 2010-2015
2	Chorley	109,077	2,028,000	5.45	1.91	No provision	0.73	No provision	4.64		0.08		0.08		1.21		0.07		No standard		7.51	6.08	Open Space Strategy 2013-2018, Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-2018
3	Wyre Forest	98,074	1,954,000	5.04	Town Park - 0.33	Local Park - 0.24	0.29		2.3		0.05		0.03		1.91		0.191		No standard (National Guidance)		5.1		Wyre Forest Sport and Recreation Assessment 2008. (* 0.24 for Local Parks/0.33 for Town Parks)
4	Erewash	112,809	1,096,300	10.33	0.7		1		2		4m ² of equipped play space/6m ² of informal play space per U16 child		4m ² of equipped play space/6m ² of informal play space per U16 child		1.25 - Playing Pitch, 0.02 - bowls, 0.01 - Tennis		0.31		No standard		5.28		Erewash Greenspace Strategy 2007, Open Space Sport and Recreation Assessment 2006
5	Gedling	114,052	1,199,800	9.57	4.15		0.52		4.86		1.21		1.44		20 per 1,000 households	30 per 1,000 households	No standard		12.18(not including allotments)		Gedling Greenspace Strategy 2012 - 2017		
6	Broxtowe	110,716	801,000	13.88	1		0.25		2		0.6		1		No standard		No standard		4.85		Green Spaces Strategy 2009-2019		
7	Chesterfield	103,782	660,400	15.75	0.5		No standard		1		0.8		1.6		21 per 1,000 households		No standard		3.9(not including allotments)		Chesterfield Parks and Open Space Strategy 2015 - 2024, Chesterfield Allotment Strategy		

													2012-2106
8	South Staffordshire	108,441	4,073,200	2.71	No standard(current provision 0.00004)	1.6	No standard(current provision 7.383)	0.2	Included within PPS	0.25	No standard	2.05	South Staffordshire Open Space Audit April 2008, Playing Pitch Strategy October 2007
9	Cannock Chase	97,940	788,800	12.44	No standard								Cannock Chase Local Plan Adopted 2014 makes reference to delivering Standards in 2016
10	High Peak (outside National Park)	91,118	5,391,400	1.69	1.15	0.44	1.18	Childrens Play Equipment - 0.11	1.05	0.22	No standard	4.15	Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study 2009 Standards Paper
	No standard				1.07	8.05	Childrens Play Equipment - 0.30	1.46	No standard	No standard	10.88		
11	Newark & Sherwood	115,761	6,513,400	1.79	0.6	0.75	Suggested 10 - however due to wide spread disparity of greenspace area it decided to use Distance from home parameters for differing sizes of greenspace	0.75	2.2	0.5	No standard	4.8	Green Space Strategy 2007 - 2012
12	Fenland	95,996	5,464,500	1.77	Fenland have moved away from the National Standards and created a very detailed standard application to each site use based on developable space and distance to green space								Open Space Standards Evidence Base Report February 2013
13	Bassetlaw	113,178	63,790	1.78	0.11 - 1.59	0.44 - 1.62	0.02 - 2.05	0.21 - 0.31	No standard	0.05 - 0.35	No standard	0.83 - 5.92	Open Space Study March 2010 - N.B. Bassetlaw has been sub divided into 5 areas each with a standard so the figures identified depict the range.
14	South Ribble	108,971	1,129,600	9.64	0.66	1.33	1.98	0.06	No standard	0.08	No standard	4.11	Central Lancashire Open Space Study March 2012
15	Carlisle	107,952	10,393,100	1.04	3.6ha. of land per 1,000 population of informal and formal grassed, wooded or landscaped land, and small amenity areas of public open space; • 1.86ha. of playing pitches per 1,000 population; • all dwellings should be within 3km of an open space of at least 20ha. which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting • all dwellings should be within 1km of an open space between 5 and 20 ha. which provides general facilities for recreation provision within a landscaped setting • all dwellings should be within 400 metres of an open space of between 2 and 10ha. which caters for informal recreational needs • all dwellings should be within 200 metres of a small formal or informal open space between 0.2 and 2 ha. that is suitable or informal use and has high amenity value.								Carlisle District Council Local Plan - Chapter 8
16	Stoke City	249,903	934,500	26.77	2.35	No standard	3.6	0.76	0.9	No standard	No standard	7.61	Stoke on Trent Greenspace Strategy May 2014
17	Newcastle under Lyme	124,183	2,109,600	5.93	2.35	No standard	3.6	0.76	0.9	No standard	No standard	7.61	North Staffordshire Greenspace Strategy 2007, Newcastle Allotment Strategy 2014 - 2020