



STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE STUDY UPDATE REPORT

AUGUST 2017

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Open Space Interim Update Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC). It is an initial reporting on the findings of the research, consultation, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpin the study to date.

The Report provides detail with regard to what provision exists in the area, its distribution and general quality. The Strategy (to follow the assessment reports for open spaces) will give direction on the future provision of accessible, high quality, sustainable provision for open spaces in Staffordshire Moorlands.

Although there is no national guidance dictating how often an Open Space Assessment Report should be conducted, an appropriate time scale for review is every 5-10 years. This Open Space Assessment report is an update of the 2009 Open Space, Sport and Recreation study.

In order for planning policies to be 'sound' local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities. We advocate that the methodology to undertake such assessments should still be informed by best practice including the Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) Companion Guidance; *Assessing Needs and Opportunities* published in September 2002.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has replaced PPG17. However, assessment of open space facilities is still normally carried out in accordance with the Companion Guidance to PPG17 as it still remains the only national best practice guidance on the conduct of an open space assessment.

Under paragraph 73 of the NPPF, it is set out that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite paragraph 74 of the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation sites, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

In accordance with best practice recommendations a size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied to the inclusion of some typologies within the study. This means that, in general, sites that fall below this threshold are not audited.

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The table below details the open space typologies included within the study:

Table 1.1: Open space typology definitions

	Typology	Primary purpose
Open spaces	Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.
	Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness. Includes urban woodland and beaches, where appropriate.
	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, MUGAs, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.
	Allotments	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.
	Civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians including the promenade	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.

The open space typology of green corridors is not included within the scope of the report. SMDC are currently preparing a Green Infrastructure (GI) Network Strategy which looks to cover the provision of green corridors. The aim of the GI Strategy is to develop an integrated network of high quality and multi-functional green infrastructure. This open space update is therefore a key supporting document to the GI Strategy.

1.1 Report structure

Open spaces

This report considers the supply and demand issues for open space provision across Staffordshire Moorlands. Each part contains relevant typology specific data. Further description of the methodology used can be found in Part 2. The report as a whole covers the predominant issues for all open spaces originally defined in 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17'; it is structured as follows:

- Part 3: Parks and gardens
- Part 4: Natural/ semi-natural greenspace
- Part 5: Amenity greenspace
- Part 6: Provision for children/young people
- Part 7: Allotments
- Part 8: Cemeteries/churchyards
- Part 9: Civic space

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Associated strategies

The study sits alongside the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) which is also being undertaken by KKP (provided in a separate report). The open space typology of formal outdoor sports is covered within the associated PPS. The PPS is undertaken in accordance with the methodology provided in Sport England's Guidance 'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance' for assessing demand and supply for outdoor sports facilities (October, 2013).

1.2 National context

National Planning Policy Framework

The NPPF sets out the planning policies for England. It details how these are expected to be applied to the planning system and provides a framework to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It establishes that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

Under paragraph 73 of the NPPF, it is set out that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite paragraph 74 of the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation sites, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

1.3 Local context

This study and its findings are important in their contribution to the council's core strategy and emerging Local Plan up to 2031. They form an integral part of identifying and regulating the open space infrastructure. Through recognising open space provision in plan form, it can be assessed in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility, whilst strengthening its presence in planning policy for the future and maximising opportunities for investment.

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Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Core Strategy March 2014 and Emerging Local Plan

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council adopted its Core Strategy in March 2014. The Strategy is a strategic District wide plan which influences how and where the Staffordshire Moorlands will develop in the future. It sets out what the District Council would like to achieve in each of the main towns and the rural areas outside the Peak District National Park.

The Core Strategy states that in order to take account of the longer-term requirements of the District, the Council will undertake an early and comprehensive review. This review is underway and incorporates site allocation work to deliver a single comprehensive Local Plan to 2031.

As part of plan preparation, the Council consulted on site options between 6th July and 14th September 2015. Over 5,500 responses were received regarding site and boundary options for housing, employment, mixed-use, open space, town centres, retail frontages, settlement boundaries and infill.

Preferred options for sites and development boundaries were consulted on between 28th April and 13th June 2016. Over 8,600 representations were received and were reported to the Council on the 19th July 2017.

Consultation on the Preferred Options Local Plan was undertaken between the 31st July and the 22nd September 2017 which included site allocations and updated policies. It is anticipated that formal representations will be invited on the publication Local Plan during February and March 2018 with submission to the Secretary of State expected in June 2018.

Evidence base

A Staffordshire Moorlands Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facility Assessment was prepared by consultants PMP in March 2009. The study formed part of the evidence base for the Core Strategy and emerging Local Plan and looked at future open space requirements to 2026. It was also the intention to use the evidence to help shape the strategic direction of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on the provision of open space in new developments.

As part of the 2009 study, an audit of existing open space across Staffordshire Moorlands was conducted, identifying local needs and aspirations through consultation, as well as providing recommended standards of provision (quantity, quality and accessibility) in accordance with PPG17, and evidence to inform the future enhancement and management of green spaces.

Alongside the assessment, a site database with details such as area, typology, condition and accessibility, which has enabled the Council to keep the data relatively up to date. This has been taken forward into the update of the present Open Space Study.

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Adopted Core Strategy Policy C2 – Sport, Recreation and Open Space refers to the Open Space, Sport and Recreation (OSSR) SPD. It states that:

- ◀ The council will promote the provision of high quality recreational open space, that will protect and improve the quantity, quality and accessibility in accordance with the adopted minimum standards set out in the OSSR SPD.
- ◀ Where there is a proven deficiency, qualifying new development will be expected to make provision or a contribution ... in accordance with the adopted minimum standards set out in the OSSR SPD.
- ◀ In terms of new facilities ... development should be consistent with the Council's Sports and Physical Activity Strategy and the guidance in the OSSR SPD.

The supporting text states that the council will establish local standards for all types of provision within an updated Open Space, Sport and Recreation SPD. This will be used to set the open space, sports and recreation facilities requirement for planning applications or alternatively, the amount of contribution payable in lieu of that provision into the Council's Open Space Sports and Recreation Facilities Fund.

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PART 2: METHODOLOGY

2.1 Study area

The area of Staffordshire Moorlands consists of the major conurbations of Biddulph, Cheadle and Leek. A large proportion of the areas can be classified as rural in character (including the Peak District National Park). Five analysis areas are prescribed to reflect the main settlements and rural nature of the local area. These are also further broken down in to wards as demonstrated in the table below:

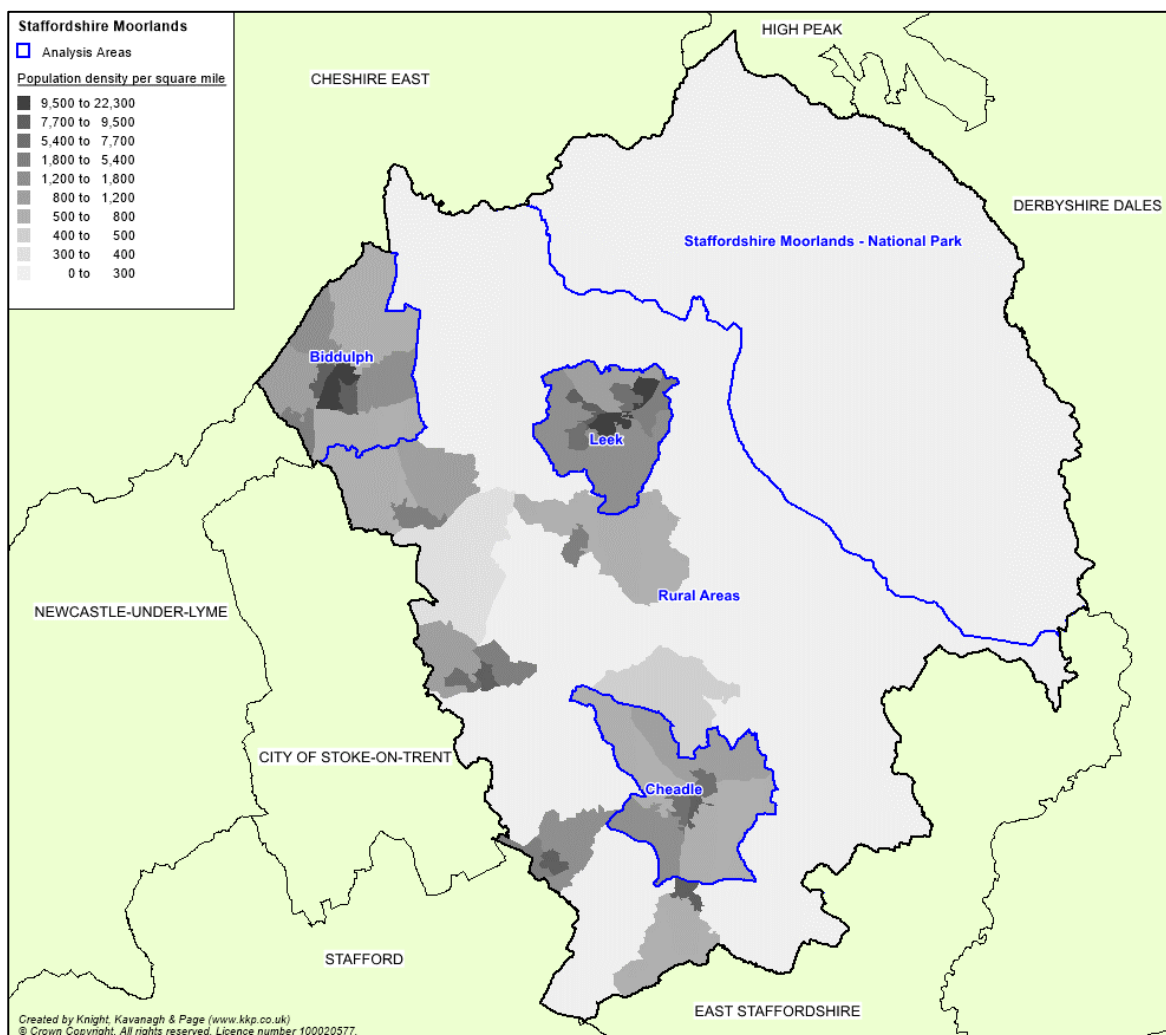
Table 2.1: Population and wards within each conurbation

Conurbation	MYE 2015	Ward
Biddulph	20,153	Biddulph East
		Biddulph Moor
		Biddulph North
		Biddulph South
		Biddulph West
Cheadle	12,175	Cheadle North East
		Cheadle South East
		Cheadle West
Leek	21,025	Leek East
		Leek North
		Leek South
		Leek West
Rural	39,308	Alton
		Bagnall and Stanley
		Brown Edge and Endon
		Caverswall
		Cellarhead
		Checkley
		Cheddleton
		Churnet
		Forsbrook
		Horton
		Ipstones
		Werrington
National Park	5,220	Dane
		Hamps Valley
		Manifold
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	97,881	

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For mapping purposes and audit analysis, Staffordshire Moorlands is divided into five analysis areas (based on the major conurbations). These allow more localised assessment of provision in addition to examination of open space surplus and deficiencies at a more local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. Figure 2.1 shows the population density of each analysis area.

Figure 2.1: Staffordshire Moorlands analysis areas



Maps within the typology specific sections have a density population background. The darker grey areas on these maps indicate a higher population density and the light grey areas show where the population density is lower. This helps to determine gaps in catchment mapping for each typology throughout the report.

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2.2 Auditing local provision (supply)

A desktop update of the audit has been completed and takes into account any changes identified through consultation with council officers and parish/town councils.

In total, 236 open spaces (including provision for children and young people) are identified, mapped and assessed to evaluate existing provision. This has increased since 2009 study, due to new provision and identification of additional sites.

Each site is classified based on its primary open space purpose, so that each type of space is counted only once. The audit, and the report, identify the following typologies:

1. Parks and gardens
2. Natural and semi-natural greenspace
3. Amenity greenspace
4. Provision for children and young people
5. Allotments
6. Cemeteries/churchyards
7. Civic space

The provision of formal outdoor sports is contained within the associated Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS).

In accordance with best practice recommendations a size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied to the inclusion of some typologies within the study. This means that, in general, sites that fall below this threshold are not audited. However, any sites below the threshold (i.e. those that are identified through consultation as being of significance) are included. The table below details the threshold for each typology:

Typology	Size threshold
Parks and gardens	no threshold
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	0.2 ha
Amenity greenspace	0.2 ha
Provision for children and young people	no threshold
Allotments	no threshold
Cemeteries/churchyards	no threshold

Database development

All information relating to open spaces is collated in the project open space database (supplied as an Excel electronic file). All sites assessed, identified and assessed as part of the audit are recorded on it. The database details for each site are as follows:

Data held on open spaces database (summary)
◆ KKP reference number (used for mapping)
◆ Site name
◆ Ownership
◆ Management
◆ Typology
◆ Size (hectares)
◆ Quality mark

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Sites are primarily identified by KKP in the audit using official site names, where possible, and/or secondly using road names and locations.

2.3 Quality

A sites quality can be based on a range of factors including, accessibility, ancillary features and facilities, overall site maintenance, leisure opportunities and user safety.

Analysis of quality

In the 2009 study, each element of quality was rated on a scale of very good (5 points) to poor (1 point) and a total percentage score was then calculated. Where an element of provision (such as toilets) was considered to be not applicable, it was removed from the calculation of the percentage score.

These scores were then weighted (multiplied either by 4, 3, 2 or 1) to reflect the importance of each factor for each type of open space. These weightings were derived from the findings from consultation. Factors that were given higher weightings are perceived to be the most important and to have the largest impact on the quality of the site according to local residents.

As part of this update study, consultation with council officers and parish/town councils has been used to highlight any changes in site quality since the last study. Where sites are deemed to have improved, their quality rating is increased and where sites are believed to have declined in quality, their quality rating is reduced. Any new sites are rated based on perception of quality from consultation. All sites are scored as being of high or low quality where possible.

2.5 Identifying local need (demand)

Consultation to update local need for open space provision has been conducted with key local authority officers. Consultation has also been carried out via surveys to all parish councils and face to face meetings with all town councils. An example survey used to consult with parish councils is set out in Appendix One. A summary of demand for open space provision highlighted by parish or town councils is set out in Appendix Two.

The findings of the consultations are used, reviewed and interpreted to further support the results of the quality scoring and to help inform setting of standards.

2.6 Accessibility

Accessibility catchments for different types of provision are a tool to identify communities currently not served by existing facilities. It is recognised that factors that underpin catchment areas vary from person to person, day to day and hour to hour. For the purposes of this process this problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchments', defined as the distance that is willing to be travelled by the majority of users.

Guidance on appropriate walking distance and times is published by Fields in Trust (FIT) in its document *Beyond the Six Acre Standard (2015)*. These guidelines have been converted in to an equivalent time travel catchment in the table below and applied to each typology within the relevant section of the report.

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Table 2.3: FIT walking guidelines

Open space typology	Walking guideline	Approximate time equivalent
Parks and gardens	710m	9 minute
Amenity greenspace	480m	6 minute
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	720m	9 minute
Provision for children and young people	100m (LAP)	1 minute
	400m (LEAP)	5 minutes
	1,000m (NEAP)	13 minutes

No catchment is set for the typologies of cemeteries or civic spaces. It is difficult to assess such typologies against catchment areas due to their nature and usage. For cemeteries, provision should be determined by demand for burial space.

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PART 3: PARKS AND GARDENS

The typology of parks and gardens covers urban parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide accessible high-quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.

3.1 Current provision

There are currently two park sites, totalling just under 14 hectares. Leek Brough Park makes up the majority of this hectarage with 13.45 hectares. Leek Brough Park is classified as a district park, whereas Birch Gardens, Leek is classified as a smaller local park.

In the 2009 study there were five sites classified as parks and gardens. However, the current study refers to two sites due to reclassification of some sites to other typologies (amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace) in order to better suit their character.

A point to note, county parks can also be viewed as a form of park provision; however, for the purpose of this study, sites are placed in a typology based on their primary purpose. Given that country parks often provide habitats for both plant and animal species and have less formal characteristics, they are included within the natural and semi-natural typology. Despite this, country parks are still acknowledged for the opportunities for recreation that they can provide.

Table 3.1: Distribution of parks by analysis area

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Biddulph	-	-	-
Cheadle	-	-	-
Leek	2	13.89	0.66
Rural	-	-	-
National Park	-	-	-
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	2	13.89	0.14

Both parks and gardens sites within Staffordshire Moorlands are located in the Leek Analysis Area. As a whole, Staffordshire Moorlands has a current provision of 0.14 hectares per 1,000 head of population. The Leek Analysis Area has a current provision of 0.66 hectares per 1,000 head of population.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. On this basis, there could potentially be a shortfall of such provision across the area. It is reasonable to accept that areas of less population density may not have access to formal open space provision such as parks and gardens. However, in larger settlements such as Leek it may be appropriate to aspire to achieve the FIT standard. It is however more important that quality and access to existing provision is sufficient.

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The 2009 study recommended a standard of 0.23 hectares per 1,000 population. However, this was based on there being five sites classified as parks (three of which have been reclassified as part of this update study). It would have also utilised a different set of population figures. Further exploration of the recommended quantity standards will be set out in the Standards paper to follow.

3.2 Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a nine-minute walk (710 metres) has been set across Staffordshire Moorlands to reflect best practice guidelines as set out by Fields in Trust: Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play. Figure 3.1 overleaf shows parks and gardens mapped against the analysis areas with these accessibility catchments.

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Figure 3.1: Parks and gardens mapped against analysis area

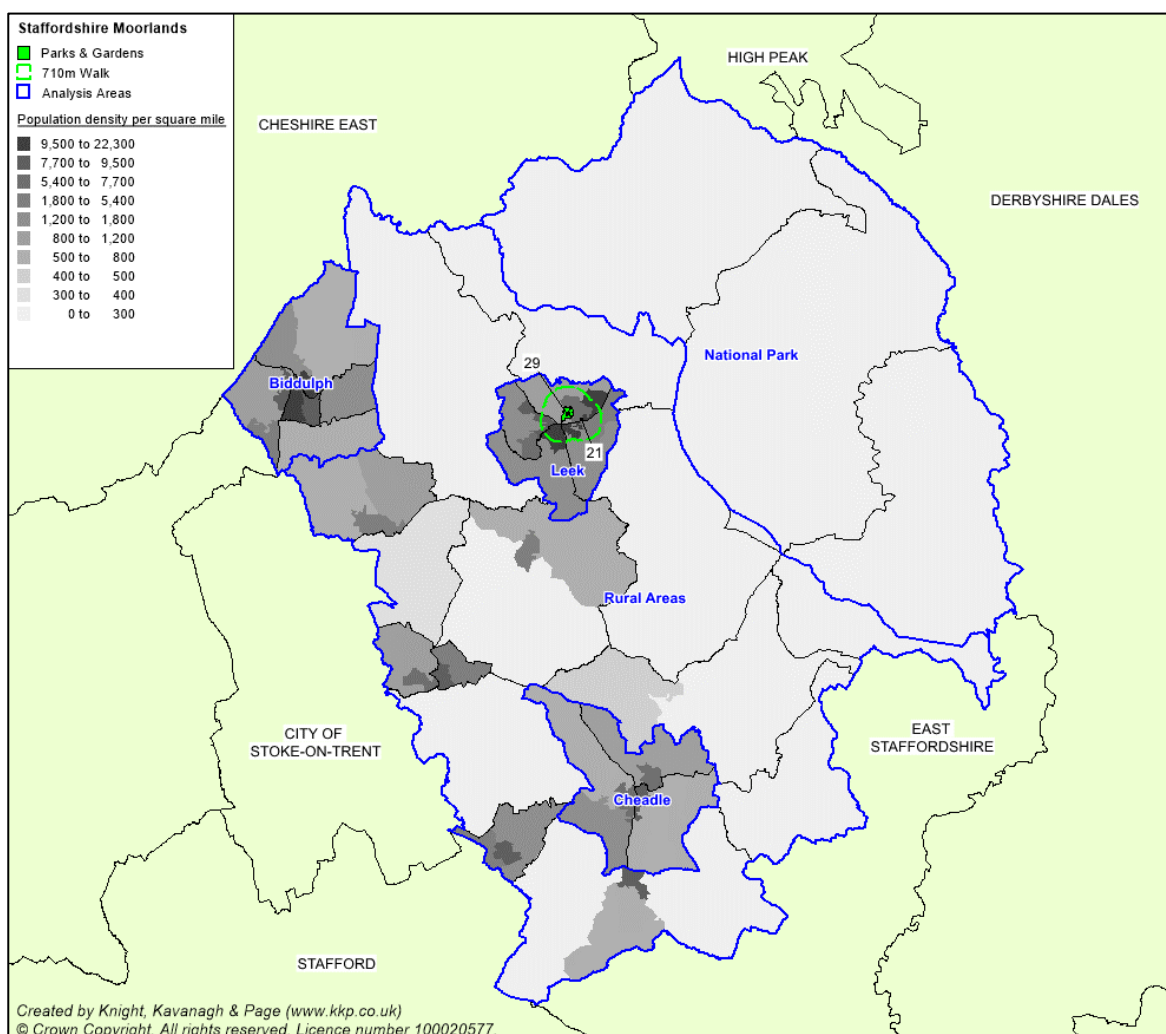


Table 3.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
21	Birch Gardens	Leek
29	Leek Brough Park	Leek

Given that parks and gardens provision is only identified in the Leek Analysis Area, catchment gaps are seen in the remaining three analysis areas.

However, they are all well served by other forms of open space provision, such as amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace. These forms of open space can offer similar recreational opportunities to those of parks and gardens and as such, it is not likely any additional parks and gardens provision is required based on accessibility mapping.

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3.3 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the 2009 site assessments have been colour-coded against a threshold (high being green and low being red).

Any known changes which are considered to have had an impact on a sites overall quality, have been used to reflect changes to the quality score since the 2009 study. As such, quality scores between the previous and current study may differ. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 3.3: Quality ratings for parks

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
21	Birch Gardens	Leek	Red	Green
29	Leek Brough Park	Leek	Green	Green

Leek Brough Park scored high for value in the 2009 study. Since then, the site has retained a good standard of quality and as such, still scores high for quality. However, consultation with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council highlights that the park has somewhat lowered in quality since the last assessment; despite overall being of a good standard. This is attributed to the age of some features and facilities, as well as it falling below its full potential as the main park site within the District and what it could offer visitors. The Council believes although it is a good site, there is room for improvement, especially with the site being the only formal park in the area. Consultation with Leek Town Council also highlights the potential enhancement of the park. SMDC has aspirations to obtain a Heritage Lottery Fund grant in order to enhance the site.

Leek Brough Park currently has a play area on site and hosts a range of community events. The site is reported as having historical links and is also adjacent to Leek Leisure Centre. A friends group is active on site, helping to fundraise, organise events and engaging with local organisations and schools.

Birch Gardens is a small site, which functions more as a garden than a park. Since the last study, the site has undergone significant improvements, resulting in it moving from low quality to high quality. The site is more of an ornamental garden. It has a friends group which has helped to improve the sites overall quality and use.

Green Flag

The Green Flag Award scheme is licensed and managed by Keep Britain Tidy. It provides national standards for parks and greenspaces across England and Wales. Public service agreements, identified by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) highlight the importance placed on Green Flag status as an indicator of high quality. This in turn impacts upon the way parks and gardens are managed and maintained.

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A recent survey by improvement charity GreenSpace highlights that parks with a Green Flag Award provide more satisfaction to members of the public compared to those sites without it. The survey of 16,000 park users found that more than 90% of Green Flag Award park visitors were very satisfied or satisfied with their chosen site, compared to 65% of visitors to non-Green Flag parks.

Staffordshire Moorlands currently has one Green Flag site; however, this is not a formal park and garden site. The site; Ladderedge Country Park, Leek, is included in this study as a natural and semi-natural greenspace and is therefore further discussed in the relevant section.

Should the Council wish to increase its number of Green Flag sites, given the status and consistent high scores achieved by Leek Brough Park, the site could be considered. It is possible that should aspirations to obtain a Heritage Lottery Grant be realised and subsequent improvements be made, Green Flag status may be more achievable. It is however noted that there are many criteria to be met in order to receive Green Flag status which would need consideration.

Community involvement

Parks and gardens are more often than not highly valued within communities. This is evidenced by the fact that Birch Gardens and Leek Brough Park have dedicated Friends groups. Friends of groups are often created due to a desire for community members to be involved with local sites. This kind of group and subsequent outdoor activity, can have a positive impact on wellbeing. Therefore, encouraging such groups is recommended. Moreover, a site having an associated friends group is key in a sites consideration for the Green Flag Award.

3.5 Conclusions

Summary

- ◀ There are two sites classified as parks and gardens totalling just under 14 hectares. Leek Brough Park makes up the majority of this hectarage with 13.45 hectares.
- ◀ The only analysis area to have parks and gardens provision is Leek. As a whole, Staffordshire Moorlands has a current overall provision of 0.14 hectares per 1,000 head of population.
- ◀ Given that parks and gardens provision is only identified in the Leek Analysis Area, catchment gaps are seen in the remaining three analysis areas; however, they are all well served by other forms of open space provision, such as amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- ◀ Leek Brough Park scored high for quality in the 2009 study. Since then, the site has retained a good standard of quality and as such, still scores high for quality. Consultation does highlight that the site has the potential to be even better.
- ◀ Since the last study, Birch Gardens, Leek has undergone significant improvements, resulting in it moving from low quality to high quality.
- ◀ Whilst shortfalls are potentially identified in terms of quantity and accessibility across the District; none are considered to be a significant issue. The focus for parks provision should be on ensuring quality of existing sites as a priority.

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PART 4: 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 can provide wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

4.1 Current provision

In total, there are 38 open spaces classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces in the Staffordshire Moorlands area, totalling over 502 hectares.

In the 2009 study there were 30 sites classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces; however, ten additional sites have been added into the current update study.

Table 4.1: Distribution of natural and semi-natural greenspaces sites by analysis area

Analysis area	Natural and semi-natural greenspace		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Biddulph	10	120.62	5.99
Cheadle	5	31.73	2.61
Leek	8	42.71	2.03
Rural	14	293.62	7.47
National Park	1	14.18	2.72
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	38	502.86	5.44

The Rural Analysis Area has the highest number of natural and semi-natural greenspace sites and also has the largest amount of provision in terms of hectareage (293.62 hectares). Subsequently, the analysis area has a current provision of 7.36 hectares per 1,000 head of population, which is the highest standard of all five analysis areas. This is followed by Biddulph Analysis Area with a current provision of 5.99 hectares per 1,000 head of population. Both the Biddulph and Rural analysis areas have a greater level of provision than Staffordshire Moorlands as a whole, which has 5.44 hectares per 1,000 head of population.

The analysis area with the least natural and semi-natural greenspace provision is Cheadle. The analysis area has seven sites equating to 31.73 hectares. Despite this; however, it is Leek which has the lowest proportional provision per 1,000 head of population with 2.03 hectares per 1,000 population.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 4.1 shows that overall Staffordshire Moorlands is sufficient on this basis. All individual analysis areas are also sufficient against the FIT standard.

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The 2009 study recommended a standard of 0.75 hectares per 1,000 population. In 2017, the current provision per 1,000 population is 5.44 hectares. The change in values is likely to reflect the difference in the number of sites and hectares of provision. There were 30 sites included within the 2009 study giving a total of 67.25 hectares. In the 2017 update, there are 38 sites providing a total of 502.86 hectares. In addition, population figures utilised as part of the calculations to determine standards will also have changed.

Designations

Staffordshire Moorlands currently has seven sites designated as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR). These sites are:

- ◀ Ladderedge Country Park
- ◀ Marshes Hill Common, Brownedge
- ◀ Brough Park Fields
- ◀ Biddulph Valley Way (Whitemoor)
- ◀ Hoften's Croft Meadow
- ◀ Cecilly Brook
- ◀ Hales Hall Pool

4.2 Accessibility

Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. They recommend that people living in towns and cities should have:

- ◀ An accessible natural greenspace of at least two hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home.
- ◀ At least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home.
- ◀ One accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home.
- ◀ One accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home.
- ◀ One hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.

On this basis, a population such as Staffordshire Moorlands (97,881) is recommended to have approximately 98 hectares of LNR. As it stands, Staffordshire Moorlands falls short of this suggested standard, with 70 hectares of LNR.

In terms of catchments, the following ANGSt standards are met in terms of households:

ANGSt benchmarks met*	
A	16% of households within Staffordshire Moorlands with access to a site of at least 2 hectares within 300 metres
B	58% of households within Staffordshire Moorlands with access to a site of at least 20 hectares within two kilometres
C	23% of households within Staffordshire Moorlands with access to a site of at least 100 hectares within five kilometres
D	0% of households within Staffordshire Moorlands with access to a site of at least 500 hectares within 10 kilometres

* Table does not include any of the national park within its catchments.

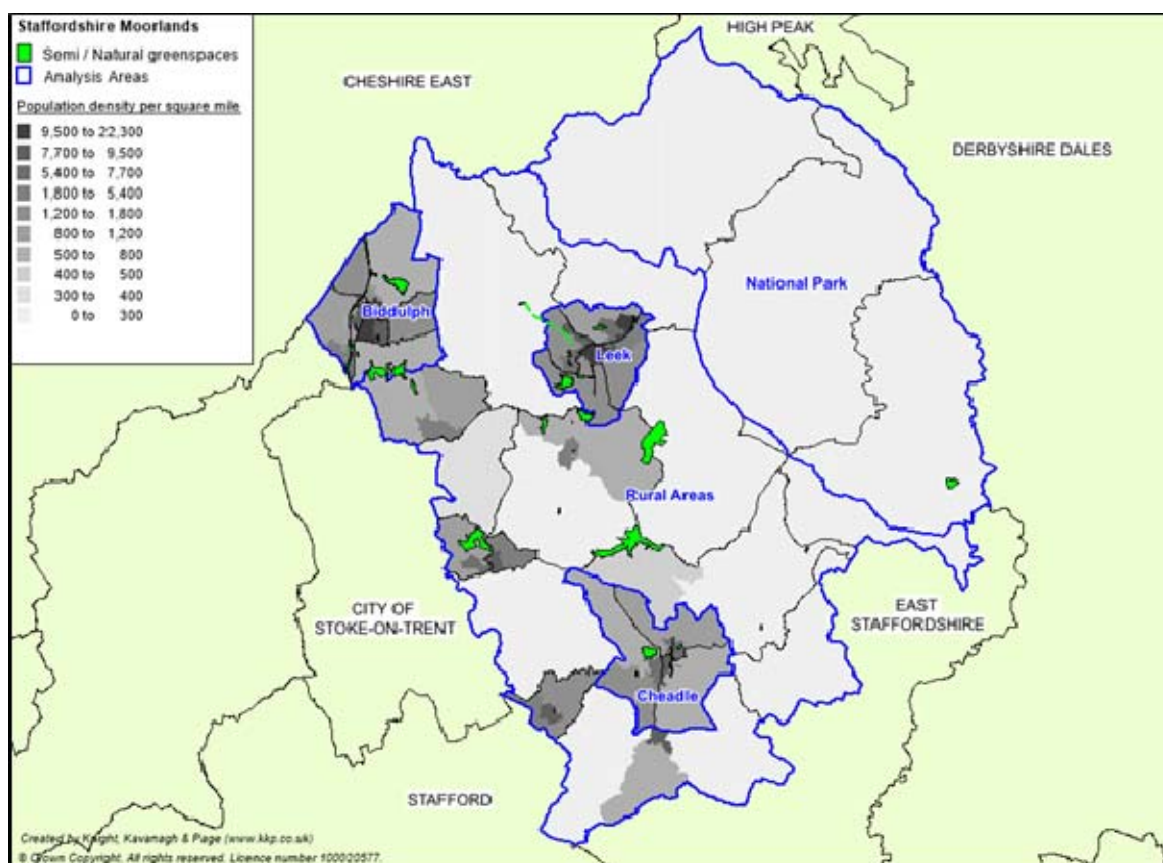
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Using the above results, it is possible to determine that 87% of households within Staffordshire Moorlands meet at least one of the ANGSt requirements.

It is also possible to calculate that 13% of households within Staffordshire Moorlands do not meet any of the ANGSt requirements (i.e. households not covered by any ANGSt catchment).

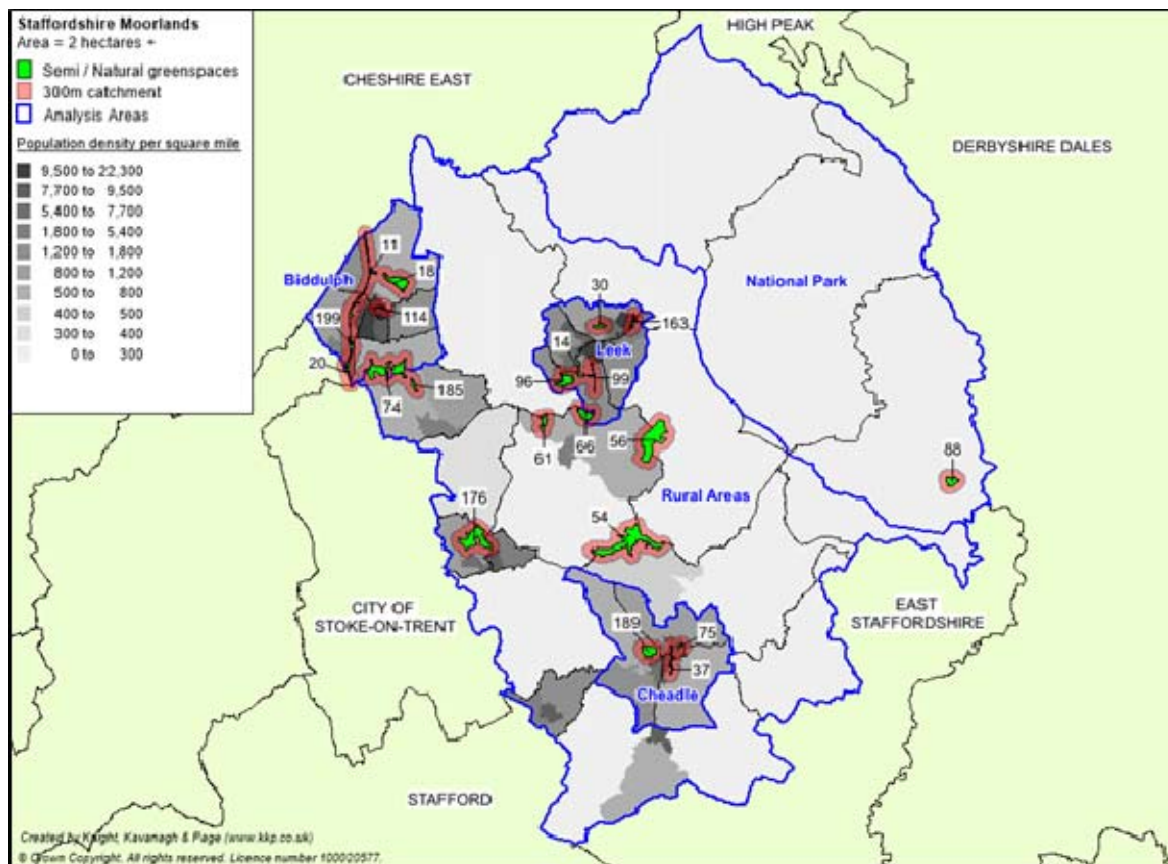
The ANGSt is used as part of the catchment mapping to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located. Figure 4.2 shows a 300m walk time to sites over two hectares in size. Figure 4.3 shows a two kilometre walk time to sites over 20 hectares. Figure 4.4 shows a five kilometre walk time to sites over 100 hectares. Figure 4.5 shows a 10 kilometre walk time to sites over 500 hectares.

Figure 4.1: Natural and semi-natural greenspaces mapped against analysis area



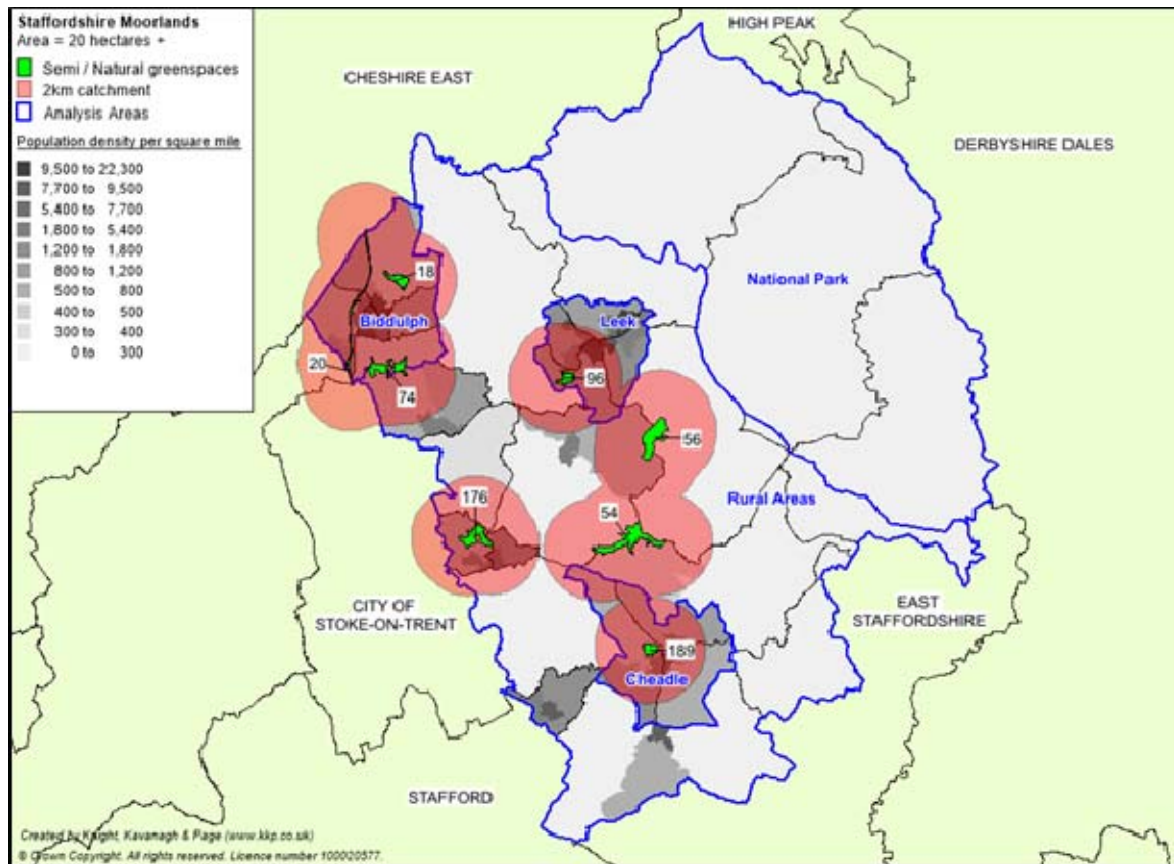
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Figure 4.2: Natural greenspaces of at least two hectares with 300m catchment



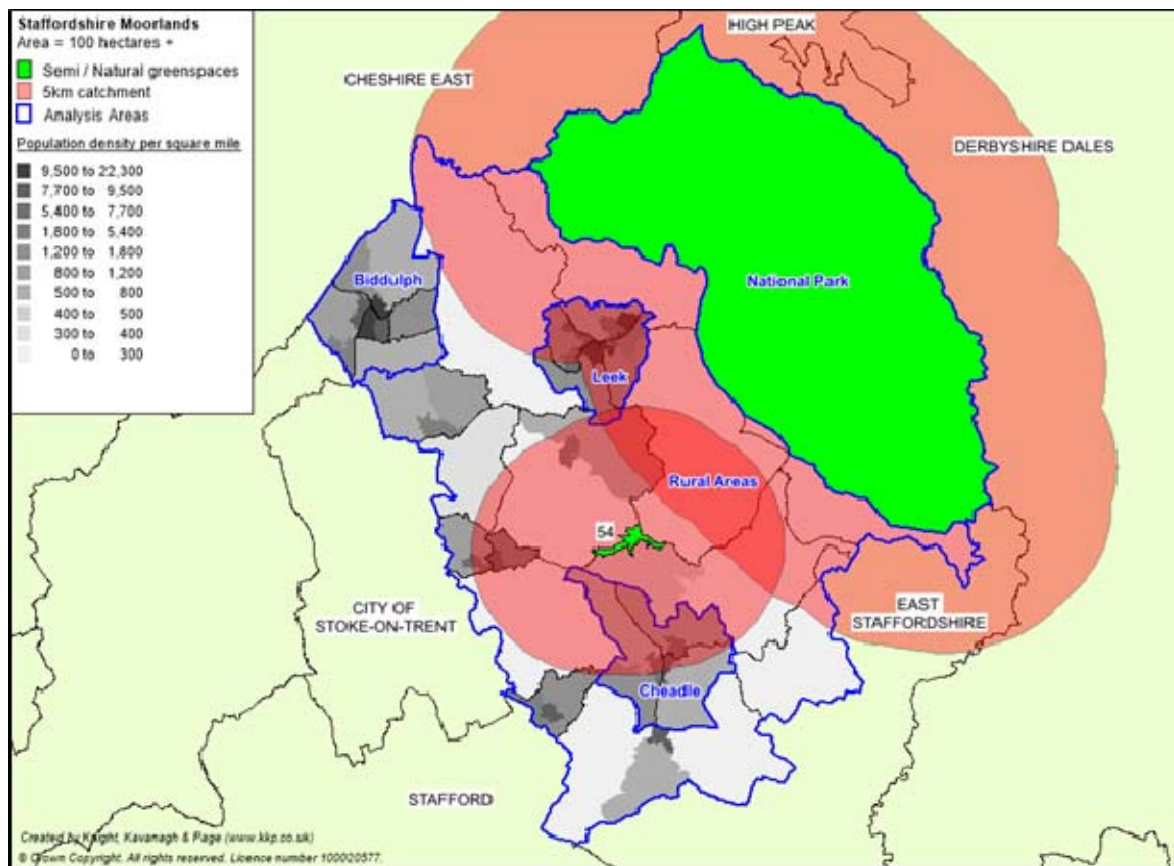
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Figure 4.3: Natural greenspaces of at least 20 hectares with two kilometre catchment



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Figure 4.4: Natural greenspaces of at least 100 hectares with five kilometre catchment



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Figure 4.5: Natural greenspaces of at least 500 hectares with 10 kilometre catchment

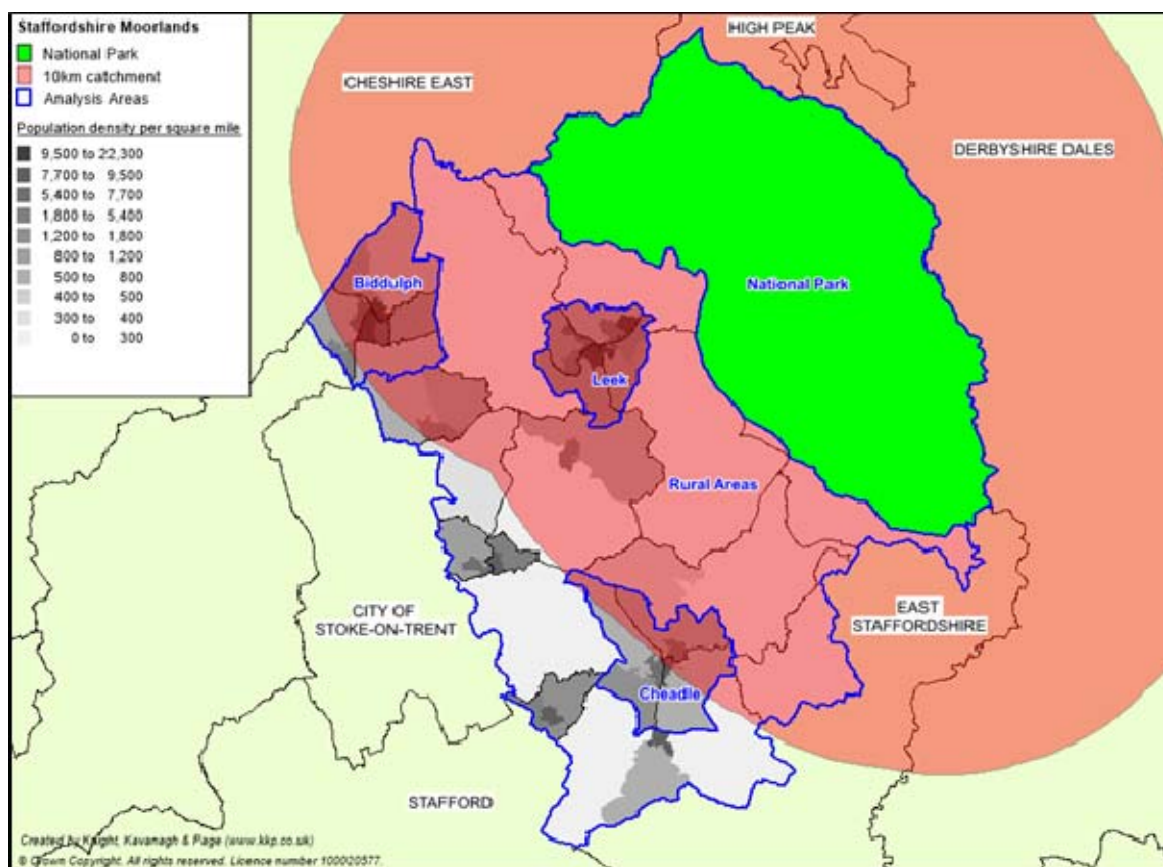


Table 4.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
11	Bailey's Wood, Biddulph	Biddulph
14	Barnfields Ladderedge Country Park	Leek
18	Biddulph Grange Country Park	Biddulph
20	Biddulph Valley Way	Biddulph
24	Bracket Wood, Oakamoor	Rural
30	Brough Park Fields, Leek	Leek
37	Cecilly Brook	Cheadle
41	Cheadle Road, Wetley Rocks	Rural
54	Consall Valley Nature Park, Kingsley	Rural
56	Coombes Valley Nature Reserve, Cheddleton	Rural
57	Crabtree Avenue	Biddulph
61	Deep Hayes Country Park, Cheddleton	Rural
66	East Drive Woodland, Cheddleton	Rural
69	Field View, Biddulph	Biddulph
74	Greenway Bank Country Park, Biddulph	Biddulph

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
75	Hales Hall Pool Local Nature Reserve, Cheadle	Cheadle
88	Ilam Country Park	National Park
95	Knypersley Pool	Biddulph
96	Ladderedge Country Park, Leek	Leek
99	Leekbrook line	Leek
100	Lorien Close, Leek	Leek
103	Moorland Road, Cheddleton	Rural
105	Mount Road, Forsbrook	Rural
108	Newmarket, Cheadle	Cheadle
114	Palmerston Way, Biddulph	Biddulph
125	Rudyard Greenway	Rural
126	Rudyard Lake	Rural
131	Springfield Road, Biddulph	Biddulph
155	Tennyson Close, Cheadle	Cheadle
159	The Old Cheddleton Asylum Burial Ground, Cheddleton	Rural
163	The Waste Recreation Ground	Leek
168	Wallbridge Drive, Leek	Leek
172	Westwood Park Drive, Leek	Leek
176	Wetley Moor Common	Rural
183	Hofen's Croft Meadow	Rural
185	Marshes Hill Common, Brown Edge	Rural
189	Cheadle Park Wood	Cheadle
199	Newpool Meadows, Biddulph	Biddulph

There is a reasonably good spread of natural and semi-natural greenspace identified across Staffordshire Moorlands.

Application of the ANGSt 5-minute walk time (Figure 4.2) demonstrates that there are large parts of the Staffordshire Moorlands area deficient in terms of accessibility to natural greenspace (including more urban areas).

Against the two-kilometre catchment (Figure 4.3), gaps in provision are noted to the north of the Leek Analysis Area as well as parts of the Cheadle Analysis Area. Large parts of the rural and national park analysis areas are also note covered.

Against the five-kilometre catchment (Figure 4.4), the same parts of the Cheadle Analysis Areas are still deficient in terms of accessibility. The Biddulph Analysis Area is also shown to have a gap in catchment mapping at this level. is less prominent.

Against the 10 kilometre catchment (Figure 4.5) parts of the Cheadle Analysis Areas are still deficient in terms of accessibility. Werrington is also not covered at this level (although it is at smaller site levels).

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The proximity of the Peak District National Park provides a significant contribution to the access to natural and semi-natural forms of provision in the area.

4.3 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the 2009 site assessments have been colour-coded against a threshold (high being green and low being red).

Any known changes which are considered to have had an impact on a sites overall quality, have been used to reflect changes to the quality score since the 2009 study. As such, quality scores between the previous and current study may differ. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

A point to note, some sites were not assessed as part of the 2009 study and as such have no 2009 quality rating. Where possible consultation has been used to provide an indicator to a sites overall quality.

Table 4.3: Quality ratings for natural and semi-natural provision

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
11	Bailey's Wood, Biddulph	Biddulph	Green	Green
14	Barnfields Ladderedge Country Park	Leek	White	Green
18	Biddulph Grange Country Park	Biddulph	Green	Green
20	Biddulph Valley Way	Biddulph	White	Green
24	Bracket Wood, Oakamoor	Rural	Green	Green
30	Brough Park Fields, Leek	Leek	White	Green
37	Cecilly Brook	Cheadle	Green	Green
41	Cheadle Road, Wetley Rocks	Rural	Green	Green
54	Consall Valley Nature Park, Kingsley	Rural	White	Green
56	Coombes Valley Nature Reserve, Basford Green	Rural	White	Green
57	Crabtree Avenue	Biddulph	Red	Green
61	Deep Hayes Country Park, Cheddleton	Rural	White	Green
66	East Drive Woodland, Cheddleton	Rural	Green	Green
69	Field View, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Red
74	Greenway Bank Country Park	Biddulph	White	Green
75	Hales Hall Pool Local Nature Reserve, Cheadle	Cheadle	Green	Green
88	Ilam Country Park	National Park	White	Green
95	Knypersley Pool	Biddulph	Red	Red
96	Ladderedge Country Park	Leek	Red	Green

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
99	Leekbrook line	Leek		
100	Lorien Close	Leek		
103	Moorland Road, Cheddleton	Rural		
105	Mount Road, Forsbrook	Rural		
108	Newmarket, Cheadle	Cheadle		
114	Palmerston Way, Biddulph	Biddulph		
125	Rudyard Greenway	Rural		
126	Rudyard Lake	Rural		
131	Springfield Road	Biddulph		
155	Tennyson Close	Cheadle		
159	The Old Cheddleton Asylum Burial Ground, Cheddleton	Rural		
163	The Waste Recreation Ground	Leek		
168	Wallbridge Drive	Leek		
172	Westwood Park Drive	Leek		
176	Wetley Moor Common	Rural		
183	Hofen's Croft Meadow	Rural		
185	Marshes Hill Common, Brown Edge	Rural		
189	Cheadle Park Wood	Cheadle		
199	Newpool Meadows	Biddulph		

One site; Newpool Meadows does not receive a quality score due to being a new site, which was included in the late stages of the project. This site holds Village Green Status and has an active Friends of Group associated to it. Therefore, it is assumed it would receive a high quality score.

Over two thirds (68%) of natural and semi-natural provision is rated as high quality. Four sites given a quality in the 2009 study have increased in quality since the last study:

- ✦ Bailey's Wood
- ✦ Cecilly Brook
- ✦ Crabtree Avenue
- ✦ Ladderedge Country Park

Consultation suggests that Cecilly Brook is now well managed and maintained through the support of Friends of Cecilly Brook. The site is a combination of three sites owned by the Council and the Environment Agency.

Bailey's Wood is reported to have some of the same issues noted in the previous study such as motorbike use on site; however, it is described as being more popular. As a result, local residents have become more interested in working to prevent unofficial use. Its increase usage does appear to be having a positive impact on activity on the site. This is believed to be attributed to more natural surveillance.

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Hales Hall Pool Local Nature Reserve scored high for quality in the previous study and is believed to have further increased in quality. This is thought to be a result of a dedicated friends of group as well as a new car park.

Sites which are highlighted as being of particularly good quality are:

- ◀ Rudyard Lake
- ◀ Coombes Valley Nature Reserve, Basford Green
- ◀ Biddulph Grange Country Park
- ◀ Ladderedge Country Park, Leek

Ladderedge Country Park, Leek has Green Flag Award status, demonstrating an excellent level of quality. The site has an active friends group and since the 2009 study has received a Countryside Stewardship Grant.

Both Ladderedge Country Park and Biddulph Grange Country Park are managed by a dedicated countryside team, which ensure they receive appropriate levels of maintenance to ensure quality, whilst also protecting conservation.

Biddulph Grange Country Park is split into two sections, one of which is owned by the National Trust. This area of the site is an ornamental, historic garden, in the grounds of a manor house. The other section of the park is accessible without an entry fee; however, like the gardens is grade one listed. The Town Council are currently looking into submitting a bid for a Heritage Lottery Fund for the site, in order to enhance the sites quality and use as well as to further recognise its local importance.

Rudyard Lake is described by the Council as being well managed and well used due to a café, sailing club and miniature railway on site, whilst Coombes Valley Nature Reserve is well used for educational purposes.

Like parks and gardens provision, natural and semi-natural greenspace are often highly valued within communities. For many settlements, natural and semi-natural provision provide some of the key opportunities to access open space provision. For example, Biddulph whilst having no formal parks provision is served by two forms of natural greenspace, Biddulph Grange and Greenway Bank Country Park, helping to offer access to various recreational and social opportunities.

4.5 Conclusions

Summary

- ◀ In total there are 38 natural and semi-natural greenspaces, totalling over 502 hectares.
- ◀ There is a good spread of natural and semi-natural greenspace identified across Staffordshire Moorlands. Application of ANGSt walk times shows a potential gap in provision to the south of Cheadle. The presence of the Peak National Park plays a significant factor in access to provision across the area.
- ◀ Staffordshire Moorlands currently has seven sites designated as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR). Based on Natural England's ANGSt, a population such as Staffordshire Moorlands (97,881) is recommended to have approximately 98 hectares of LNR. As it stands, Staffordshire Moorlands falls short of this, with 70 hectares of LNR.
- ◀ Over two thirds (68%) of natural and semi-natural provision is rated as high quality. A number of sites have increased in quality since the 2009 study.
- ◀ Like parks and gardens provision, natural and semi-natural greenspace are often highly valued within communities helping to offer access to recreational opportunities.

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PART 5: AMENITY GREENSPACE

Introduction

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

Current provision

There are 73 amenity greenspace sites totalling over 98 hectares of amenity greenspace across Staffordshire Moorlands. In the 2009 study there were 39 sites classified as amenity greenspaces. Due to reclassification of some sites to this typology (some sites were previously classified as outdoor sports, parks and gardens or natural and semi-natural greenspace), in order to better suit their character, the current study now refers to 73 sites.

Table 5.1: Distribution of amenity greenspace sites by analysis area

Analysis area	Amenity greenspace		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Biddulph	17	29.05	1.44
Cheadle	11	11.14	0.91
Leek	13	20.99	1.00
Rural	29	34.74	0.88
National Park	3	2.95	0.57
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	73	98.88	1.07

Most amenity greenspaces within Staffordshire Moorlands are located in the Rural Analysis Area (29 sites). However, it has the second lowest current provision with 0.88 hectares of provision per 1,000 population.

The Biddulph Analysis Area has the greatest amount of provision per 1,000 head of population with 1.44.

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 5.1 shows that overall Staffordshire Moorlands is sufficient on this basis. All individual analysis areas, accept National Park are also sufficient against the FIT standard. This level of sufficiency is likely to help serve the quantity shortfalls identified in other forms of provision such as parks and gardens.

The 2009 study recommended a standard of 0.30 hectares per 1,000 population. In 2017, the current provision per 1,000 population is 1.07 hectares. The change in values is likely to reflect the difference in the number of sites and hectares of provision. There were 39 sites included within the 2009 study giving a total of 26 hectares. In the 2017 update, there are 73 sites identified providing a total of 98 hectares. In addition, population figures utilised as part of the calculations to determine figures will also have changed.

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5.3 Accessibility

For catchment mapping the FIT walking distance of 480m (approximately 6-minute walk-time) has been applied. Figure 5.1 overleaf shows the catchment applied to amenity greenspace to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located.

Figure 5.1: Amenity greenspace mapped against analysis area

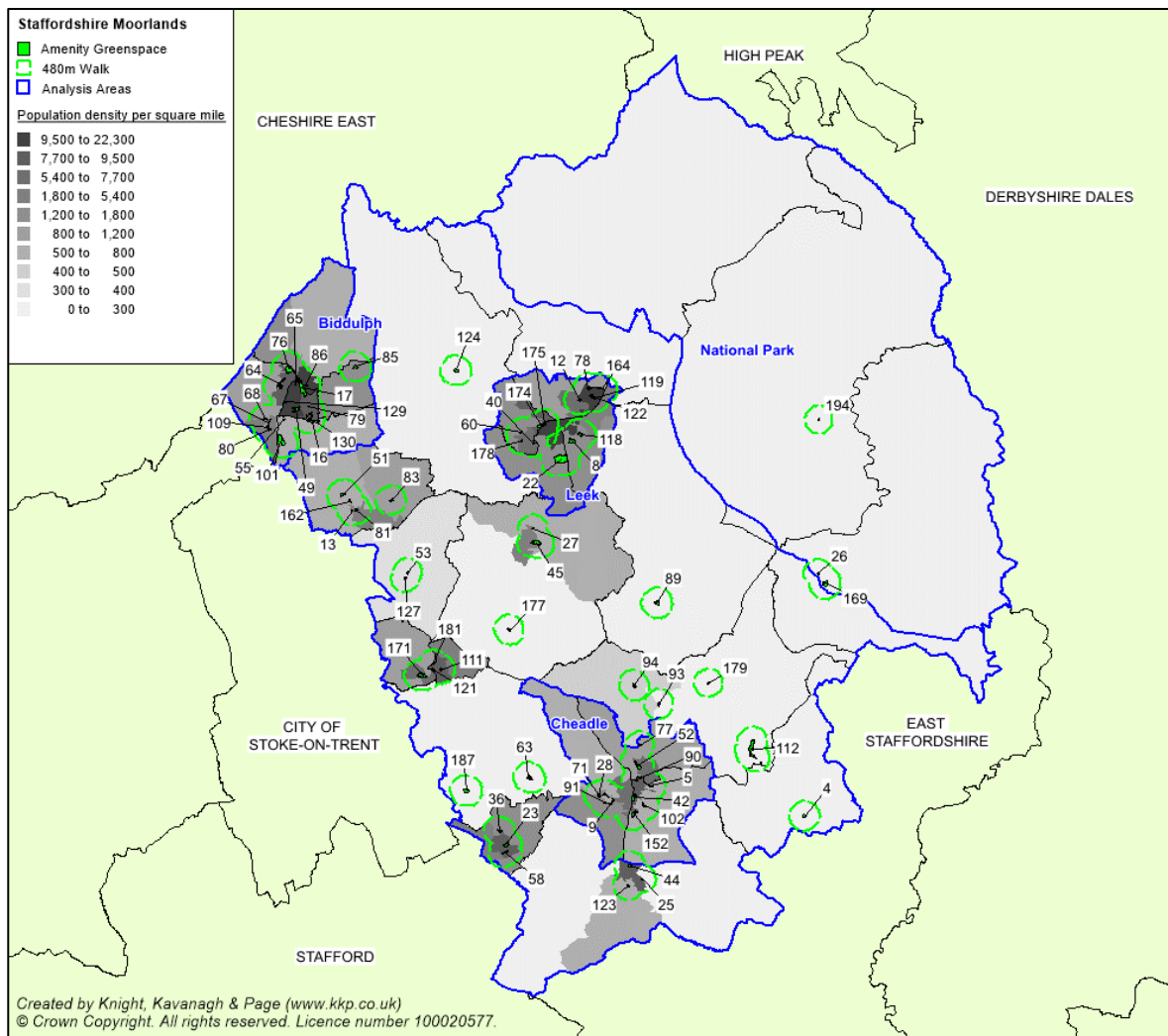


Table 5.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
4	Alton Village Hall Playing Field	Rural
5	Arundel Drive, Cheadle	Cheadle
8	Ashcombe Way Village Green	Leek
9	Austin Close, Cheadle	Cheadle
12	Ball Haye Green Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek
13	Bank End, Brown Edge	Rural
16	Behind St David's Way, Biddulph	Biddulph

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
17	Biddulph Brook	Biddulph
22	Birchall Playing Fields, Leek	Leek
23	Blythe Bridge Recreation Ground	Rural
25	Branfield Road, Upper Tean	Rural
26	Breech Close Open Space, Waterhouses	National Park
27	Bridge Eye Playing Field, Cheddleton	Rural
28	Brookhouse Way, Cheadle	Cheadle
36	Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook	Rural
40	Charnwood Close, Leek	Leek
42	Tean Road Recreation Ground, Cheadle	Cheadle
44	Checkley Parish Council Playing Field	Rural
45	Cheddleton Playing Fields	Rural
49	Church Road Playing Fields, Biddulph	Biddulph
51	Church Road Playing Fields, Brown Edge	Rural
52	Churchill Road Recreation Ground, Cheadle	Cheadle
53	Clewlovs Bank Playing Field, Bagnall	Rural
55	Conway Road, Biddulph	Biddulph
58	Crossfield Avenue, Blythe Bridge	Rural
60	Curzon Rise, Leek	Leek
63	Dilhorne Recreation Ground Playing Field	Rural
64	Dorset Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph
65	East Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph
67	Endon Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph
68	Farnworth Close, Biddulph	Biddulph
71	Glebe Road, Cheadle	Cheadle
76	Hall's Road Sports Ground, Biddulph	Biddulph
77	Hammersley Hayes Road, Cheadle	Cheadle
78	Haregate Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek
79	Hawthorn Grove, Biddulph	Biddulph
80	Healey Avenue, Biddulph	Biddulph
81	High Lane Playing Field, Brown Edge	Rural
83	Hillswood Playing Field, Endon	Rural
85	Hot Lane Recreation Ground, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph
86	Humber Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph
89	Ipstones Recreation Ground	Rural
90	Kelling Road, Cheadle	Cheadle
91	Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle	Cheadle
93	Kingsley Holt Recreation Ground	Rural
94	Kingsley Recreation Ground	Rural
101	Mill Hayes Sports Ground, Biddulph	Biddulph
102	Millhouse Drive, Cheadle	Cheadle

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
109	Newpool Terrace Young People, Biddulph	Biddulph
111	Oak Mount Road, Werrington	Rural
112	Oakamoor Park	Rural
118	Pickwood Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek
119	Prince Charles Avenue, Leek	Leek
121	Radley Way, Werrington	Rural
122	Ramsham View, Leek	Leek
123	Riverside Road, Upper Tean	Rural
124	Rudyard Football Pitch	Rural
127	School Road, Bagnall	Rural
129	Slater Street, Biddulph	Biddulph
130	Springfield Road AGS, Biddulph	Biddulph
152	Stanfields Playing Field, Cheadle	Cheadle
162	The Rocks, Brown Edge	Rural
164	Thornccliffe View, Leek	Leek
169	Waterhouses Sports Ground	National Park
171	Werrington Playing Fields	Rural
174	Westwood Recreation Ground Playing Field, Leek	Leek
175	Westwood Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek
177	Wetley Rocks Playing Field	Rural
178	Wettenhall Drive, Leek	Leek
179	Whiston Eaves Playing Field	Rural
181	Whitmore Avenue, Werrington	Rural
187	The Dams, Caverswall	Rural
194	Wetton Road Playing Field	National Park

Catchment mapping shows a good level of coverage across the area. All settlements with areas of greater population density appear to be well served by amenity greenspace.

5.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the 2009 site assessments have been colour-coded against a threshold (high being green and low being red).

Any known changes which are considered to have had an impact on a site's overall quality, have been used to reflect changes to the quality score since the 2009 study. As such, quality scores between the previous and current study may differ. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

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Table 5.3: Quality ratings for amenity greenspaces

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
4	Alton Village Hall Playing Field	Rural		
5	Arundel Drive, Cheadle	Cheadle		
8	Ashcombe Way Village Green	Leek		
9	Austin Close, Cheadle	Cheadle		
12	Ball Haye Green Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek		
13	Bank End, Brown Edge	Rural		
16	Behind St David's Way, Biddulph	Biddulph		
17	Biddulph Brook	Biddulph		
22	Birchall Playing Fields, Leek	Leek		
23	Blythe Bridge Recreation Ground	Rural		
25	Branfield Road, Upper Tean	Rural		
26	Breech Close Open Space, Waterhouses	National Park		
27	Bridge Eye Playing Field, Cheddleton	Rural		
28	Brookhouse Way, Cheadle	Cheadle		
36	Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook	Rural		
40	Charnwood Close, Leek	Leek		
42	Tean Road Recreation Ground, Cheadle	Cheadle		
44	Checkley Parish Council Playing Field	Rural		
45	Cheddleton Playing Fields	Rural		
49	Church Road Playing Fields, Biddulph	Biddulph		
51	Church Road Playing Fields, Brown Edge	Rural		
52	Churchill Road Recreation Ground, Cheadle	Cheadle		
53	Clewlows Bank Playing Field, Bagnall	Rural		
55	Conway Road, Biddulph	Biddulph		
58	Crossfield Avenue, Blythe Bridge	Rural		
60	Curzon Rise, Leek	Leek		
63	Dilhorne Recreation Ground Playing Field	Rural		
64	Dorset Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph		
65	East Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph		
67	Endon Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph		
68	Farnworth Close, Biddulph	Biddulph		
71	Glebe Road, Cheadle	Cheadle		
76	Hall's Road Sports Ground, Biddulph	Biddulph		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
77	Hammersley Hayes Road, Cheadle	Cheadle	Red	Red
78	Haregate Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
79	Hawthorn Grove, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Green
80	Healey Avenue, Biddulph	Biddulph	Green	Green
81	High Lane Playing Field, Brown Edge	Rural	Red	Green
83	Hillswood Playing Field, Endon	Rural	Green	Green
85	Hot Lane Recreation Ground, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph	Red	Red
86	Humber Drive, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Red
89	Ipstones Recreation Ground	Rural	Red	Red
90	Kelling Road, Cheadle	Cheadle	Green	Green
91	Kenilworth Walk	Cheadle	Green	Green
93	Kingsley Holt Recreation Ground	Rural	White	White
94	Kingsley Recreation Ground	Rural	Red	Red
101	Mill Hayes Sports Ground, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Green
102	Millhouse Drive, Cheadle	Cheadle	Red	Red
109	Newpool Terrace, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Green
111	Oak Mount Road, Werrington	Rural	Red	Red
112	Oakamoor Park	Rural	Red	Red
118	Pickwood Recreation Ground, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
119	Prince Charles Avenue, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
121	Radley Way, Werrington	Rural	Red	Red
122	Ramsham View, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
123	Riverside Road, Upper Tean	Rural	White	Green
124	Rudyard Football Pitch	Rural	Red	Red
127	School Road, Bagnall	Rural	Red	Red
129	Slater Street, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Red
130	Springfield Road AGS, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Red
152	Stanfields Playing Field, Cheadle	Cheadle	Red	Red
162	The Rocks, Brown Edge	Rural	Red	Red
164	Thornccliffe View, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
169	Waterhouses Sports Ground	National Park	White	Green
171	Werrington Playing Fields	Rural	Red	Red
174	Westwood Recreation Ground Playing Field, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
175	Westwood Recreation Ground	Leek	Green	Green
177	Wetley Rocks Playing Field	Rural	Red	Red
178	Wettenhall Drive, Leek	Leek	Red	Red

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
179	Whiston Eaves Playing Field	Rural		
181	Whitmore Avenue, Werrington	Rural		
187	The Dams, Caverswall	Rural		
194	Wetton Road Playing Field	National Park		

Three sites are blank as they received no score in the previous 2009 study and no recent information is provided through consultation with Parish Councils or SMDC officers.

Halls Road Sports Ground scored low for quality in the 2009 study. Since then, the site has had new play equipment. Similarly, Newpool Terrace has gained more play provision; therefore, the wider site now scores high for quality. Consultation with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council highlights that there have been improvements to the paths and the play area at Hawthorn Grove. Consequently, it now also scores high for quality.

Similarly, High Lane Playing Field has had a new play area which was grant-funded and Birchall Playing Fields has had drainage improvements which has enhanced the quality of the site.

Clewlows Bank Playing Field is currently being updated, therefore, likely to score high for quality once works have been completed.

5.5 Conclusion

Summary

- ◀ A total of 73 amenity greenspace sites are identified in Staffordshire Moorlands, totalling over 98 hectares of amenity space.
- ◀ Most amenity greenspace sites are located in the Rural Area (29). However, Biddulph Analysis Area has the greatest amount of provision proportionally per 1,000 populations with 1.44 (compared to 1.07 for Staffordshire Moorlands as a whole).
- ◀ All analysis areas sufficiently meet the FIT standard of 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population.
- ◀ There are no significant gaps in provision identified from catchment mapping.
- ◀ Since the last study, a number of sites have had improvement works. For example, Hall's Road Sports Ground has undergone significant improvements, resulting in it moving from low quality to high quality.
- ◀ Quantity and accessibility are considered to be sufficient. The focus for amenity greenspace is therefore on ensuring quality standards are met.

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PART 6: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

6.1 Introduction

The typology of provision for children and young people, 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’.

Provision for children is deemed to be sites consisting of formal equipped play facilities typically associated with play areas. This is usually perceived to be for children under 12 years of age. Provision for young people can also include equipped sites that provide more robust equipment catering to older age ranges. It can include facilities such as skateparks, BMX, basketball courts, youth shelters, MUGAs and informal kick-about areas.

6.2 Current provision

A total of 57 sites for provision for children and young people are identified across Staffordshire Moorlands which combines to create a total of 6.84 hectares. Out of the 57 sites, there are four sites which were not assessed in the 2009 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study. Therefore, these sites do not currently have a quality score.

Table 7.1: Distribution of provision for children and young people by analysis area

Analysis area	Provision for children and young people		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Biddulph	10	1.03	0.05
Cheadle	9	0.41	0.03
Leek	13	3.38	0.16
Rural Area	23	1.75	0.04
National Park	2	0.27	0.05
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	57	6.84	0.07

The Rural Analysis Area has the highest number of sites (23). Despite this, the Leek Analysis Area has the greatest amount of provision per 1,000 populations with 0.16 (compared to 0.07 for Staffordshire Moorlands as a whole).

Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 6.1 shows that overall Staffordshire Moorlands has a shortfall on this basis. However, the FIT standard also takes into account the land surrounding play equipment as an extension of play provision. If the area of amenity greenspace sites identified as containing a play area is also included (54.94 hectares) there is an equivalent to 0.56 hectares per 1,000 population.

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The 2009 study recommended a standard of 0.08 hectares per 1,000 population. In 2017, the current provision per 1,000 population is 0.07 hectares. The change in values is likely to reflect the difference in the number of sites and hectares of provision. There were 41 sites included within the 2009 study giving a total of 2.80 hectares. In the 2017 update, there are 57 sites identified providing a total of 6.84 hectares. In addition, population figures utilised as part of the calculations to determine standards will also have changed.

Play areas can be classified in the following ways to identify their effective target audience utilising Fields in Trust (FIT) guidance. FIT provides widely endorsed guidance on the minimum standards for play space.

- ◀ **LAP - a Local Area of Play.** Usually small landscaped areas designed for young children. Equipment on such sites is specific to age group in order to reduce unintended users.
- ◀ **LEAP - a Local Equipped Area of Play.** Designed for unsupervised play and a wider age range of users; often containing a wider range of equipment types.
- ◀ **NEAP - a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play.** Cater for all age groups. Such sites may contain MUGA, skate parks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and are often included within large park sites.
- ◀ **Youth provision** - These include areas providing only forms of provision for young people such as skate parks/basketball courts/games walls

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Figure 6.1: Provision for children and young people (equipped/designated) mapped

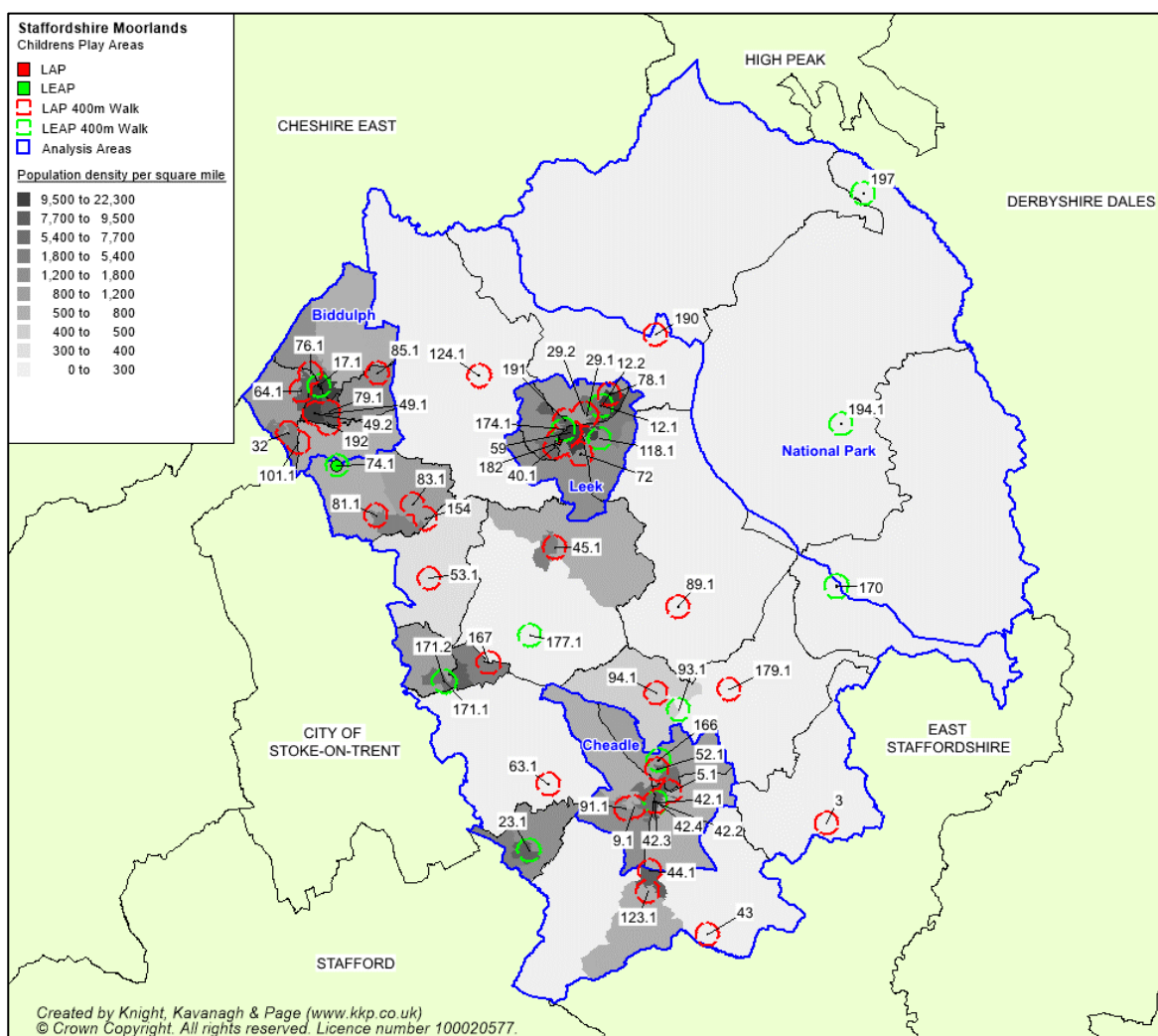


Table 6.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-type
3	Alton Adventure Play Area	Rural	LAP
5.1	Arundel Drive Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP
9.1	Austin Close Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP
12.1	Ball Haye Green MUGA, Leek	Leek	Youth Provision
12.2	Ball Haye Green Recreation Ground play area, Leek	Leek	LEAP
17.1	Biddulph Valley Leisure Centre Play Area	Biddulph	LEAP
23.1	Blythe Bridge Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LEAP
29.1	Brough Park Leisure Centre Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP
29.2	Leek Brough Park Skate Park	Leek	Youth Provision
32	Brown Lees Play Area	Biddulph	LAP

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-type
40.1	Charnwood Close Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP
42.1	Cheadle Town Park Younger Children's Play Area	Cheadle	LEAP
42.2	Tean Park Rec	Cheadle	LEAP
42.3	Cheadle Town Park Skate Park	Cheadle	Youth Provision
42.4	Tean Road Recreation Ground MUGA	Cheadle	Youth Provision
43	Checkley Community Centre Play Area	Rural	LAP
44.1	Checkley Parish Council Playing Field Play Area	Rural	LAP
45.1	Cheddleton Playing Fields Play Area	Rural	LAP
49.1	Church Road Children's Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP
49.2	Church Road MUGA, Biddulph	Biddulph	Youth Provision
52.1	Churchill Road Recreation Ground Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP
53.1	Clewlovs Bank Play Area	Rural	LAP
59	Cruzo Street Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP
63.1	Dilhome Recreation Centre Play Area	Rural	LAP
64.1	The Paddock Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP
72	Glebeville Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP
76.1	Hall's Road Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP
78.1	Haregate Recreation Ground Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP
79.1	Hawthorn Grove Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP
81.1	High Lane Playing Field Play Area, Brown Edge	Rural	LAP
83.1	Hillswood Playing Field Play Area, Endon	Rural	LAP
85.1	Hot Lane Recreation Ground Play Area, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph	LAP
89.1	Ipstones Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LAP
91.1	Kenilworth Walk Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP
93.1	Kingsley Holt Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LEAP
94.1	Kingsley Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LAP
101.1	Mill Hayes Sports Ground Skatepark, Biddulph	Biddulph	Youth Provision
118.1	Pickwood Recreation Ground Play Area, Leek	Leek	LEAP
123.1	Riverside Road Play Area, Upper Tean	Rural	LAP
124.1	Rudyard Football Pitch Play Area	Rural	LAP
154	Station Road Play Area, Endon	Rural	LAP
166	Thorpe Rise Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LEAP
167	Toll Bar Playing Field Play Area, Werrington	Rural	LAP
170	Waterhouses Sport and Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LEAP
171.1	Werrington Playing Fields Play Area	Rural	LEAP
171.2	Werrington Playing Fields MUGA	Rural	Youth Provision

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-type
174.1	Westwood Recreation Ground Play Area	Leek	LEAP
177.1	Wetley Rocks Playing Field Play Area	Rural	LEAP
179.1	Whiston Eaves Playing Field Play Area	Rural	LAP
191	Alma Street Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP
190	Bluestones Play Area, Thorncliffe	Rural	LAP
192	Trim trail St Davids Way, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP
182	Woodcroft, Leek	Leek	LAP
74.1	Greenway Bank Country Park Play Area, Brown Edge	Rural	LEAP
194.1	Wetton Road Playing Field Play Area	National Park	LEAP
197	Buxton Road Longor Play Area	National Park	LEAP
29.3	Brough Park MUGA, Leek	Leek	Youth Provision

There are minor gaps in catchment mapping in all five analysis areas for provision for children and young people (equipped/designated).

6.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the 2009 site assessments have been colour-coded against a threshold (high being green and low being red).

Any known changes which are considered to have had an impact on a site's overall quality, have been used to reflect changes to the quality score since the 2009 study. As such, quality scores between the previous and current study may differ. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 6.4: Quality ratings for provision for children and young people

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
3	Alton Adventure Play Area	Rural	LAP		
5.1	Arundel Drive Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP		
9.1	Austin Close Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP		
12.1	Ball Haye Green MUGA, Leek	Leek	Youth Provision		
12.2	Ball Haye Green Recreation Ground play area, Leek	Leek	LEAP		
17.1	Biddulph Valley Leisure Centre Play Area	Biddulph	LEAP		
23.1	Blythe Bridge Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LEAP		
29.1	Brough Park Leisure Centre Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
29.2	Leek Brough Park Skate Park	Leek	Youth Provision		
32	Brown Lees Play Area	Biddulph	LAP		
40.1	Charnwood Close Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP		
42.1	Cheadle Town Park Younger Children's Play Area	Cheadle	LEAP		
42.2	Tean Park Rec	Cheadle	LEAP		
42.3	Cheadle Town Park Skate Park	Cheadle	Youth Provision		
42.4	Tean Road Recreation Ground MUGA	Cheadle	Youth Provision		
43	Checkley Community Centre Play Area	Rural	LAP		
44.1	Checkley Parish Council Playing Field Play Area	Rural	LAP		
45.1	Cheddleton Playing Fields Play Area	Rural	LAP		
49.1	Church Road Children's Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP		
49.2	Church Road MUGA, Biddulph	Biddulph	Youth Provision		
52.1	Churchill Road Recreation Ground Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP		
53.1	Clewloes Bank Play Area	Rural	LAP		
59	Cruzo Street Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP		
63.1	Dilhorne Recreation Centre Play Area	Rural	LAP		
64.1	The Paddock Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP		
72	Glebeville Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP		
76.1	Hall's Road Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP		
78.1	Haregate Recreation Ground Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP		
79.1	Hawthorn Grove Play Area, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP		
81.1	High Lane Playing Field Play Area, Brown Edge	Rural	LAP		
83.1	Hillswood Playing Field Play Area, Endon	Rural	LAP		
85.1	Hot Lane Recreation Ground Play Area, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph	LAP		
89.1	Ipstones Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LAP		
91.1	Kenilworth Walk Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LAP		
93.1	Kingsley Holt Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LEAP		
94.1	Kingsley Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LAP		
101.1	Mill Hayes Sports Ground Skatepark, Biddulph	Biddulph	Youth Provision		
118.1	Pickwood Recreation Ground Play Area, Leek	Leek	LEAP		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
123.1	Riverside Road Play Area, Upper Tean	Rural	LAP		
124.1	Rudyard Football Pitch Play Area	Rural	LAP		
154	Station Road Play Area, Endon	Rural	LAP		
166	Thorpe Rise Play Area, Cheadle	Cheadle	LEAP		
167	Toll Bar Playing Field Play Area, Werrington	Rural	LAP		
170	Waterhouses Sport and Recreation Ground Play Area	Rural	LEAP		
171.1	Werrington Playing Fields Play Area	Rural	LEAP		
171.2	Werrington Playing Fields MUGA	Rural	Youth Provision		
174.1	Westwood Recreation Ground Play Area, Leek	Leek	LEAP		
177.1	Wetley Rocks Playing Field Play Area	Rural	LEAP		
179.1	Whiston Eaves Playing Field Play Area	Rural	LAP		
191	Alma Street Play Area, Leek	Leek	LAP		
190	Bluestones Play Area, Thorncliffe	Rural	LAP		
192	Trim Trail St Davids Way, Biddulph	Biddulph	LAP		
182	Woodcroft, Leek	Leek	LAP		
74.1	Greenway Bank Country Park Play Area, Brown Edge	Rural	LEAP		
194.1	Wetton Road Playing Field Play Area	National Park	LEAP		
197	Buxton Road Longor Play Area	National Park	LEAP		
29.3	Brough Park MUGA	Leek	Youth Provision		

A point to note, some sites were not assessed as part of the 2009 study and as such have no 2009 quality rating.

Four sites are identified by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council as having decreased in quality since the 2009 study:

- ◀ Arundel Drive Play Area, Cheadle
- ◀ Austin Close Play Area, Cheadle
- ◀ Cheddleton Playing Fields Play Area.
- ◀ The Paddock Play Area, Biddulph

Consultation highlights that the equipment at Arundel Drive Play Area is at the end of its lifespan and thus has declined in quality since 2009.

The quality of equipment at Austin Close Play Area has also been highlighted as being worse, therefore the site now scores low for quality.

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The Paddock Play Area in Biddulph scored low for quality in the previous study and is believed to have further declined in quality. This is thought to be a result of it being situated in an isolated area and its small amount of equipment. Consequently, vandalism is often cited as an issue at the site.

Similar reasons for low quality scores are also identified at Alma Street Play Area and the Trim Trail St David's Way.

There are however several sites that have improved and increased in quality since the 2009 study. Some of these are listed below:

- ◀ Glebeville Play Area, Leek
- ◀ Woodcroft, Leek
- ◀ Charnwood Close Play Area, Leek
- ◀ Werrington Playing Fields Play Area

Glebeville Play Area and Charnwood Close Play Area have improved as a result of surface improvements. The latter has also improved from additional swings. Similarly, the Woodcroft site has had a new cable way installed. The play equipment at Werrington Playing Fields Play Area is also understood to have been improved.

Sites which are highlighted as being of particularly good quality are:

- ◀ Checkley Community Centre Play Area
- ◀ Ball Haye Green Recreation Ground, Leek
- ◀ Hall's Road Play Area, Biddulph
- ◀ Mill Hayes Sports Ground Skatepark, Biddulph

Consultation highlights that there has been a substantial amount of investment at Hall's Road Play Area, Biddulph and equipment has been refurbished recently at Ball Haye Green Recreation Ground, Leek.

Consultation with Cheadle Town Council indicates that Cheadle Town Park Skate Park is looking to be replaced. Currently play equipment for teenagers is being installed.

Despite Mill Hayes Sports Ground Skatepark's (Biddulph) age, which suggests quality may be slightly lower, it remains high quality. Likewise, Biddulph Valley Leisure Centre Play Area has some minor wear and tear, nevertheless, remains high quality.

Consultation with Friends of Brough Park highlights the potential for the play equipment on site to be improved.

6.5 Conclusions

Summary

- ◀ There is a total of 57 sites across Staffordshire Moorlands identified as play provision.
- ◀ The highest number of play sites is in the Rural analysis area (23). However, the Leek Analysis Area has the greatest amount of provision per 1,000 population with 0.16.
- ◀ FIT standard of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population is not met if only play equipment is recorded; across Staffordshire Moorlands an equivalent of 0.07 hectares per 1000 population exists. If play equipment and the area of the parent site it is located are used than a current provision of 0.56 hectares per 1000 population is observed.
- ◀ There are minor gaps in catchment mapping in all five analysis areas for provision for children and young people (equipped/designated). Further investigation into the catchment mapping is need to determine any actual gaps in provision.
- ◀ Quality of play provision is mixed. However, there have been several sites improved since the last study.

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PART 7: ALLOTMENTS

7.1 Introduction

The typology of allotments, community gardens and city farms, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide (withdrawn) 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.

7.2 Current provision

There are 16 allotment sites totalling nearly 12 hectares of provision across Staffordshire Moorlands. In the 2009 study there were nine sites classified as allotments. The increase in numbers is due to additional sites being identified.

Table 7.1: Distribution of allotment sites by analysis area

Analysis area	Allotments		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Biddulph	3	1.24	0.06
Cheadle	1	0.69	0.06
Leek	8	7.74	0.37
Rural	3	1.51	0.04
National Park	-	-	-
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	16	11.90	0.12

All analysis areas have provision. The majority of allotment provision is located in the Leek Analysis Area, equating to 7.74 hectares. It also has the most provision per 1,000 population (0.37).

The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (i.e. 20 allotments per 2,000 people based on two people per house) or one allotment per 200 people. This equates to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population based on an average plot-size of 250 metres squared (0.025ha per plot).

Based on the current population of 97,881 people (ONS 2015 mid-term estimates) Staffordshire Moorlands, as a whole, does not meet the NSALG standard. Using the suggested national standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision for Staffordshire Moorlands is 24.47 hectares. The existing provision of 11.90 hectares therefore does not meet the standard.

However, this shortfall is unlikely to be as much of a deficient as it may initially appear. Whilst waiting lists exist at sites across Staffordshire Moorlands, an indicator to demand, average waiting periods are relatively short. Leek Town Council for example identify that average waiting times for a plot at one of their sites is approximately 12 months.

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The 2009 study recommended a standard of 0.097 hectares per 1,000 population. In 2017, the current provision per 1,000 population is 0.12 hectares. The change in values is likely to reflect the difference in the number of sites and hectares of provision. There were nine sites included within the 2009 study giving a total of 7.90 hectares. In the 2017 update, there are 16 sites identified providing a total of 11.90 hectares. In addition, population figures utilised as part of the calculations to determine standards will also have changed.

7.3 Accessibility

No national accessibility catchment is set for allotment provision. Figure 7.1 therefore only shows the location of allotments.

Figure 7.2: Allotments mapped against analysis areas

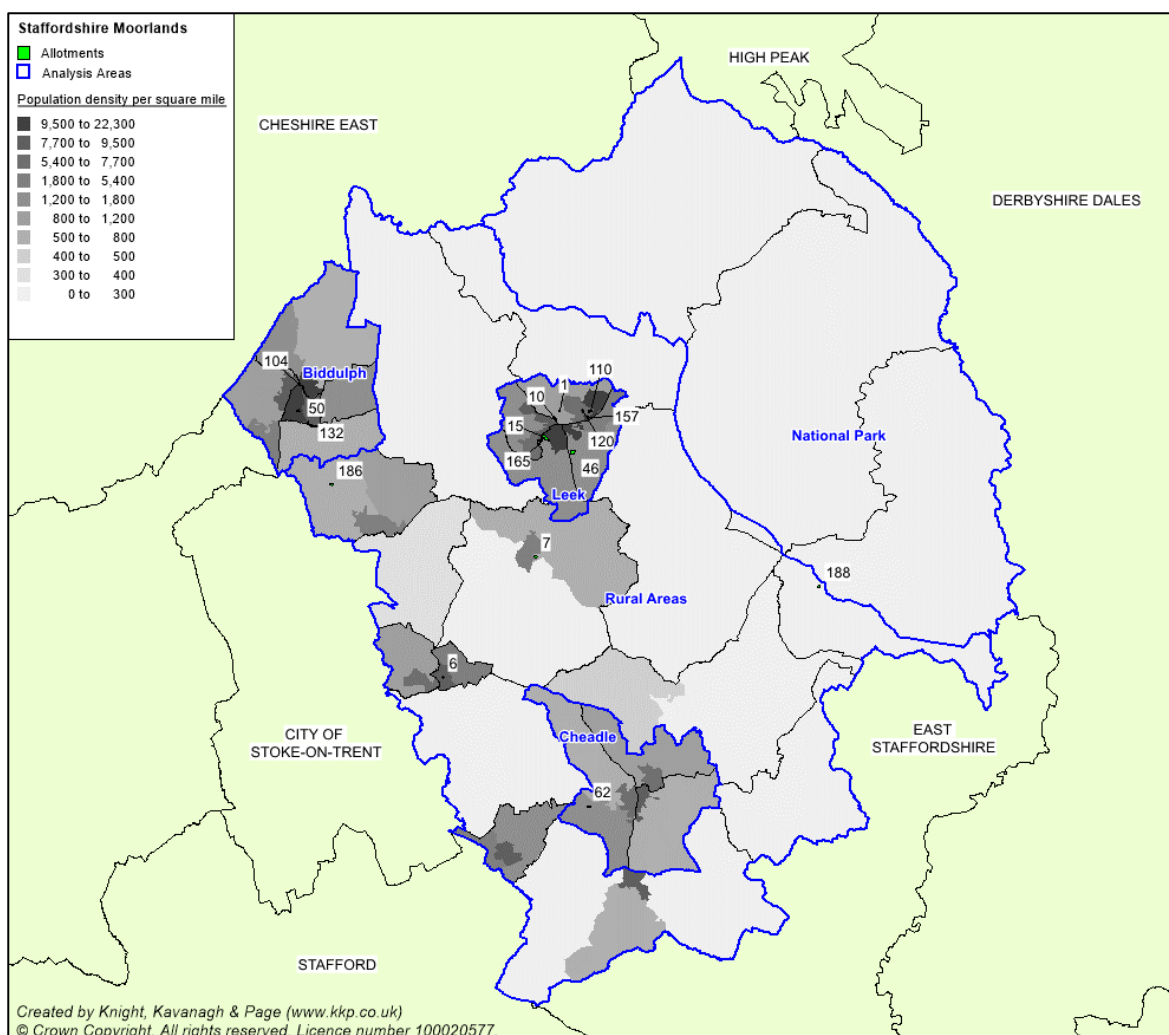


Table 7.3: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
1	Abbey View Allotments, Leek	Leek
6	Ash Bank Road Allotments, Werrington	Rural
7	Ashcombe Road Allotments, Cheddleton	Rural

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
10	Badnall Street Allotments, Leek	Leek
15	Beggars Lane Allotments, Leek	Leek
46	Cheddleton Road Allotments, Leek	Leek
50	Church Road Community Garden, Biddulph	Biddulph
62	Delphouse Road Allotments, Cheadle	Cheadle
104	Moorland Road Allotments, Biddulph	Biddulph
110	Novi Lane Allotments, Leek	Leek
120	Pump Street Allotments, Leek	Leek
132	Squirrel Hayes Avenue Allotments, Biddulph	Biddulph
157	The Crescent Allotment Gardens, Leek	Leek
165	Thornhill Road Allotments, Leek	Leek
186	Tongue Lane Allotments, Brown Edge	Rural
188	Waterhouses Allotments	Rural

Catchment mapping shows that the three settlements are all served by forms of allotment provision.

7.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the 2009 site assessments have been colour-coded against a threshold (high being green and low being red).

Any known changes which are considered to have had an impact on a sites overall quality, have been used to reflect changes to the quality score since the 2009 study. As such, quality scores between the previous and current study may differ. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Table 7.3: Quality ratings for allotments

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
1	Abbey View Allotments, Leek	Leek	Green	Green
6	Ash Bank Road Allotments, Werrington	Rural	White	Green
7	Ashcombe Road Allotments, Cheddleton	Rural	Red	Red
10	Badnall Street Allotments, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
15	Beggars Lane Allotments, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
46	Cheddleton Road Allotments, Leek	Leek	Red	Red
50	Church Road Community Garden, Biddulph	Biddulph	Red	Green
62	Delphouse Road Allotments, Cheadle	Cheadle	White	Green

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2009 Quality	2017 Quality
104	Moorland Road Allotments, Biddulph	Biddulph		
110	Novi Lane Allotments, Leek	Leek		
120	Pump Street Allotments, Leek	Leek		
132	Squirrel Hayes Avenue Allotments, Biddulph	Biddulph		
157	The Crescent Allotment Gardens, Leek	Leek		
165	Thornhill Road Allotments, Leek	Leek		
186	Tongue Lane Allotments, Brown Edge	Rural		
188	Waterhouses Allotments	National Park		

Three new sites are included since the 2009 study; Ash Bank Road Allotments Werrington, Delphouse Road Allotments Cheadle and Moorland Road Allotments Biddulph. As all three are newly identified sites, they are assumed to be good quality.

Consultation highlights that Delphouse Road Allotments, Cheadle has fresh water supply and portable toilets. The site is understood to have a waiting list of nine; which is increasing. Moorland Road Allotments also has fresh water supply.

Church Road Community Garden is highlighted by Biddulph Town Council as having had some refurbishment works since the previous study. It is therefore rated as higher quality.

7.5 Conclusions

Summary

- ◀ A total of 16 sites are classified as allotments in Staffordshire Moorlands. All major settlements are served by allotment provision.
- ◀ The NSALG standard is not met across any analysis area. However, consultation with parish and town councils suggests supply and demand is fairly evenly balanced. A steady demand for plots exists with waiting lists in operation. However, waiting times are reasonable.
- ◀ Quality of provision is considered to be roughly the same as in the previous report. However, improvements to sites is often undertaken by the associations found on sites.

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PART 8: CEMETERIES, CHURCHYARDS AND BURIAL GROUNDS

8.1 Introduction

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

8.2 Current provision

There are 47 cemetery and churchyard sites totalling over 30 hectares of provision across Staffordshire Moorlands. In the 2009 study there were 35 sites identified as cemeteries and churchyards. The increase in numbers is due to additional sites being identified.

Table 8.1: Distribution of cemeteries by analysis area

Analysis Area	Churchyards/Cemeteries	
	Number of sites	Hectares
Biddulph	4	2.62
Cheadle	3	3.57
Leek	4	8.65
Rural	34	14.81
National Park	2	0.97
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	47	30.62

Cemeteries and churchyards can be a significant open space provider in some areas particularly in rural areas. Indeed, there are a large number of sites for this type of open space due to most settlements, regardless of size, containing a church.

The largest contributor to burial provision in Staffordshire Moorlands is Leek Cemetery which is 5.42 hectares in size.

Within the identified provision there are a significant number of closed churchyard sites. This is a site which is no longer able to accommodate any new burials.

8.3 Accessibility

No accessibility catchment is set for the typology of cemeteries and churchyards. Furthermore, there is no realistic requirement to set accessibility standards for such provision. Instead provision should be based on burial demand.

Figure 8.1 shows cemeteries and churchyards mapped against the analysis area.

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Figure 8.1: Cemetery sites mapped against analysis area

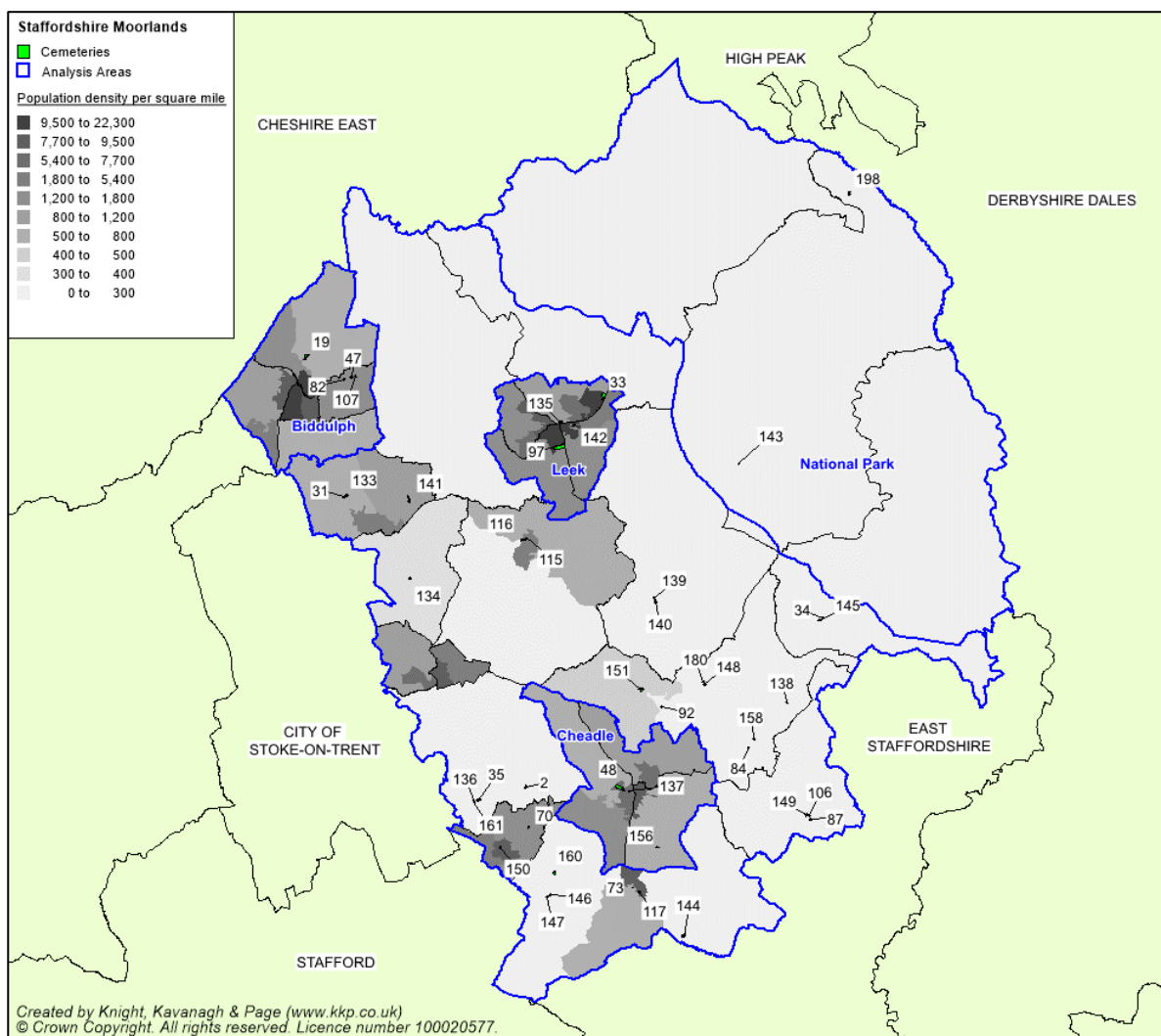


Table 8.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
2	All Saint's Church, Dilhorne	Rural
19	Biddulph Town Burial Ground	Biddulph
31	Brown Edge Lawn Cemetery	Rural
33	Buxton Road Cemetery, Leek	Leek
34	Cauldon Cemetery	Rural
35	Caverswall Cemetery	Rural
47	Christ Church, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph
48	Church of St Giles The Abbot, Cheadle	Cheadle
70	Forsbrook Cemetery	Rural
73	Graveyard, New Road, Tean	Rural
82	Hill Top Methodist Church, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
84	Holy Trinity, Oakmoor	Rural
87	Hurstons Lane Cemetery, Alton	Rural
92	Kingsley Holt Chapel	Rural
97	Leek Cemetery	Leek
106	New Cemetery Extension, Alton	Rural
107	New Road Methodist Church, Biddulph Moor	Biddulph
115	Parish Church of St Edward, Cheddleton	Rural
116	Parish Church of St Edward Cemetery, Cheddleton	Rural
117	Parish Church of Upper Tean/Checkley Cemetery	Rural
133	St Anne's Brown Edge	Rural
134	St Chad's, Bagnall	Rural
135	St Edward's Churchyard, Leek	Leek
136	St Filumena's RC Church, Caverswall	Rural
137	St Giles Roman Catholic Church, Cheadle	Cheadle
138	St John's, Cotton	Rural
139	St Leonard's Church, Ipstones	Rural
140	St Leonard's Graveyard, Ipstones	Rural
141	St Luke's Church, Endon	Rural
142	St Luke's Church Yard, Leek	Leek
143	St Luke's, Onecote	National Park
144	St Mary's and All Saints Church, Checkley	Rural
145	St Mary's Church, Cauldon	Rural
146	St Mary's Graveyard, Draycott in the Moors	Rural
147	St Mary's RC Church, Draycott in the Moors	Rural
148	St Mildred's Church, Whiston	Rural
149	St Peter's Alton Churchyard, Alton	Rural
150	St Peter's Church Blythe Bridge, Forsbrook	Rural
151	St Werburgh's Church, Kingsley	Rural
156	The Church of St Chad, Freehay	Cheadle
158	The Memorial Free Church, Oakmoor	Rural
160	The Parish Church of St Margaret, Draycott in the Moors	Rural
161	The Parish of St Peter's Caverswall	Rural
180	Whiston Methodist Church	Rural
193	Alston (St John) Roman Catholic Churchyard	Rural
196	St Michael and All Angels, Horton	Rural
198	St Bartholomew's Church, Longnor	National Park

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In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates a fairly even distribution across the area. As noted, the need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

Leek Cemetery and Buxton Road Cemetery are the two active burial sites managed by Staffordshire Moorlands. It is understood Leek Cemetery is nearing capacity with room only then available for cremated remains. Buxton Road has 20 years burial capacity with 15 years of landscaped areas unused. A further 40 years of capacity is highlighted as being available in council owned land adjacent to the site.

All churchyards are closed for new burials with the exception that some still take reopened family graves and cremated remains.

8.4 Quality

Assigning a quality to cemeteries and churchyards is not necessarily applicable as the main focus for burial provision is whether there is a sufficient level of supply.

However, it is recognised that the two main burial sites, Leek Cemetery and Buxton Road Cemetery, are well maintained and have a generally good quality appearance.

8.5 Conclusions

Summary

- ◀ There are 47 sites classified as churchyards or cemeteries; an equivalent to nearly 30 hectares.
- ◀ The largest contributor to burial provision is Leek Cemetery which is 5.42 hectares in size.
- ◀ Leek Cemetery is understood to be nearing burial capacity. However, Buxton Road Cemetery has approximately 20 years remaining; with potential for expansion into adjacent land in order to create additional burial provision in the future.

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PART 9: CIVIC SPACE

9.1 Introduction

The civic space typology includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.

9.2 Current provision

There are three civic spaces totalling less than one hectare of provision across Staffordshire Moorlands. In the 2009 study there were two sites identified as civic spaces. An additional civic space known as Sparrow Park has recently been developed in Leek.

Table 9.1: Distribution of civic space by analysis area

Analysis Area	Churchyards/Cemeteries	
	Number of sites	Hectares
Biddulph	1	0.03
Cheadle	2	0.21
Leek	-	-
Rural	-	-
National Park	-	-
STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS	3	0.24

There are sites and areas that will function in a secondary role as civic space provision. For example, parks and gardens provision such as sites like Brough Park in Leek provide uses associated with civic spaces such as local community events.

Sparrow Park in Leek is a new form of civic space having recently only been created.

Consultation with Biddulph Town Council highlights aspirations to make better use of the land in front of the Town Hall (partly owned by Sainsburys). The desire is to try and improve the overall offer of the town centre; especially on Saturdays.

9.3 Accessibility

No accessibility catchment has been set for civic spaces. Figure 9.1 shows the location of the three civic spaces.

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Figure 9.1: Civic space sites mapped against analysis area

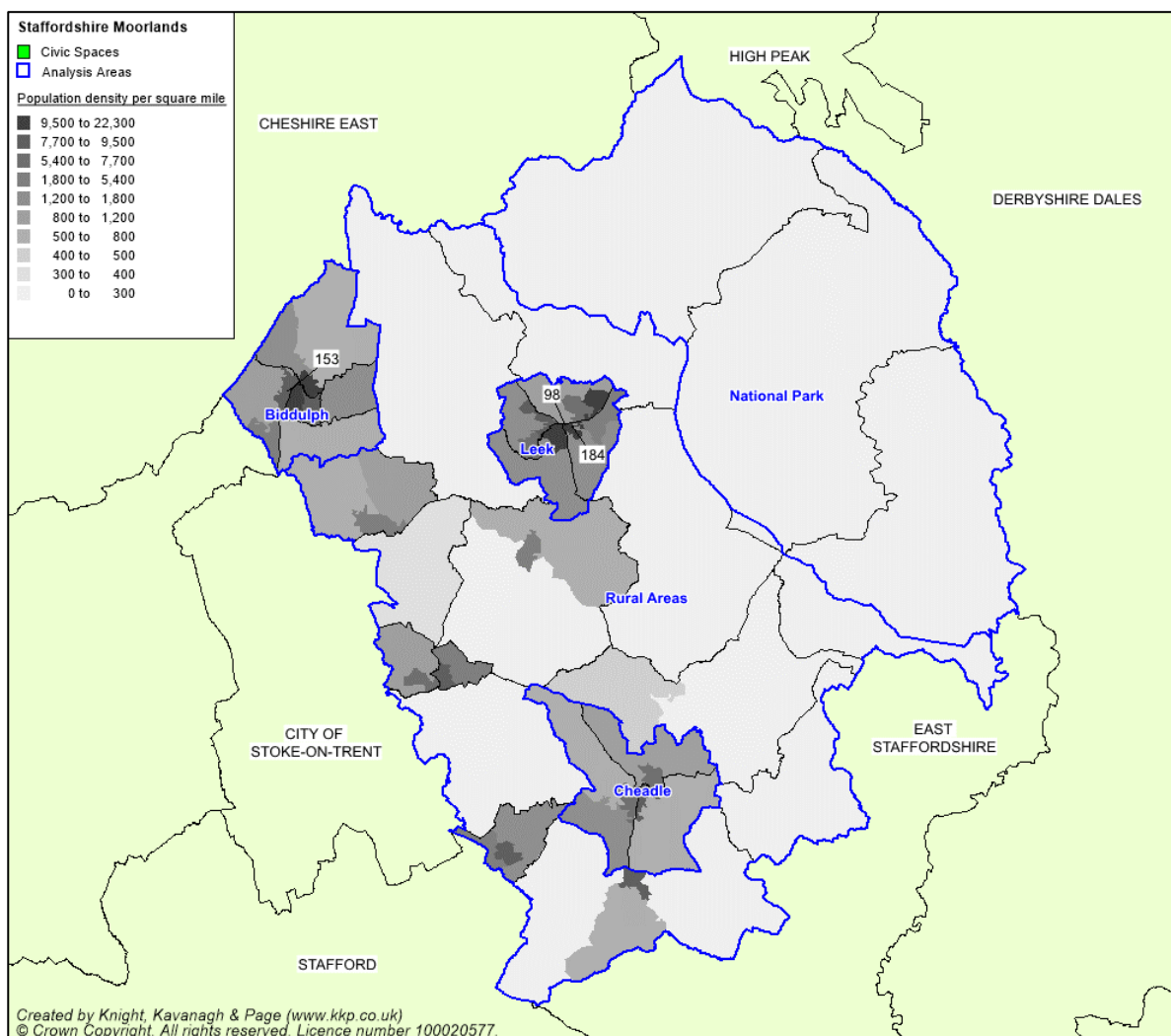


Table 9.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
98	Leek Market Square	Leek
153	Station Road Civic Space, Biddulph	Biddulph
184	Sparrow Park, Leek	Leek

9.4 Quality

No quality scores were assigned as part of the previous 2009 study. Therefore, it is not possible to allocate a quality score to the sites. As Sparrow Park is a new form of civic space, having only been created relatively recently, it is considered to be of good quality.

9.5 Conclusions

- There are three sites classified as civic space; an increase of one site since the previous study. This is due to a new form of provision being developed called Sparrow Park.

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APPENDIX ONE: EXAMPLE PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY

PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of Parish Council	
Parish Clerk, contact details	

SECTION ONE - OPEN SPACES

SUMMARY OF OPEN SPACES OWNED/LEASED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

Name and location of site	Type of site	Site owned or leased by the Parish Council?	Size of site (in ha)	How would you rate the quality of this open space - good, adequate, poor

Examples of types of open space:

Allotments, Parks and Gardens, Play areas, Natural and semi natural green spaces (i.e. wildlife sites, woodlands), Green corridors (i.e. footpaths, cycleways, bridleways), Cemeteries, Amenity greenspace (i.e. village greens, recreation grounds).

Open Space General Information	Yes	No
Are there any plans to develop new or existing open spaces in the Parish? (including non parish owned spaces)		
If yes, please provide details		
Do you feel that there is enough open space in the Parish to meet the needs of residents?	Yes	No
If no, please detail which type of open space?		
How do you rate the quality of open spaces in your Parish area? (including non parish owned spaces)		

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If aware of any allotments, please indicate approximately the number of plots on site and the number of people on a waiting list.	Number of plots: Number on waiting list:
Do any play sites in the area feature equipment which caters for older age ranges i.e. skate parks/ ramps, BMX track, Multi-use Games Area (often caged)? If so, please state the sites and the type of equipment:	
Please record any other comments about open spaces here:	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Is there a Parish Plan? If so can this be made available to KKP or can you please detail any specific references to open space or sport facilities.	
If you have any additional comments regarding open space, sport or recreation provision please state here	

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE SURVEY

Please return to kkp

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APPENDIX TWO: SUMMARY OF DEMAND FROM PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL

Parish/Town Council	Is there enough open space in the Parish?	Detail
Alton Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Bagnall Parish Council	Yes. Quality in Parish cited as excellent.	Playing field was in process of being upgraded.
Biddulph Town Council	Yes; although aspiration to enhance civic space.	Desire to make land in front of town hall (partly owned by Sainsburys) more useful as a civic site.
Blore with Swinscoe Parish Meeting	Yes. Excellent.	Cite part of parish is in Peak National Park.
Bradnop Parish Council	Not answered	No demand highlighted
Brown Edge Parish Council	Yes.	Provision is of good quality.
Butterton Parish Council	Yes.	-
Caverswall	Yes.	Provision is of good quality.
Cheadle Town Council	No. More play equipment needed. Failed bid to renew skate park. Need complete refurbishment of tennis court at Teen Road Rec.	Teen Road Rec: Teenage equipment being installed. Aspire to replace skate park. Desire to convert a tennis court to MUGA Need for shower block/facilities
Checkley Parish Council	Yes.	Overall good quality. Play site at village hall rated poor. Applying for grants
Consall Parish Council	Yes.	No demand highlighted.
Dilhorne Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Farley Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Fawfieldhead Parish Council	Not answered.	Accessible moorlands/countryside. Aspirations for a set of swings
Forsbrook Parish Council	Yes.	Good quality. No demand highlighted.
Heaton Parish Council	Yes.	No demand highlighted.
Hollinsclough Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Horton Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Ilam Parish Council	Yes.	Good quality. No demand highlighted.
Leek Town Council	No.	Average waiting list for allotments is a year. Leek Brough Park lacks provision for its role as main park site. It hosts events but there are access issues.
Longnor Parish Council	Yes.	No demand highlighted.
Longsdon Parish Council	Yes.	No demand highlighted.
Onecote Parish Council	No.	No open space with exception of cemetery. Also, poor sports facilities.
Quarnford Parish Council	Yes	Cite in middle of Peak National Park.

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Parish/Town Council	Is there enough open space in the Parish?	Detail
Rushton Parish Council	Yes.	No demand highlighted.
Sheen Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Warslow and Elkstones Parish Council	Not answered.	Village school has land which used to be a football pitch. Hoping to re-instate as a public open space with play equipment.
Waterhouses Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.

