



**HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**OPEN SPACE STUDY UPDATE REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 2017**

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

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### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the updated Open Space Assessment Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for High Peak Borough Council. It focuses on reporting the findings of the research, consultation, site assessments, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpin the study.

The Assessment Report provides detail with regard to what provision exists in the area, its condition, distribution and overall quality. It considers the demand for provision based upon population distribution, planned growth and consultation findings. 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 High Peak.

Although there is no national guidance dictating how often an Open Space Assessment Report should be conducted, an appropriate time scale for review is 5-10 years. This Open Space Assessment report is an update of the 2008 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. Exceptions to this are made if a site is identified as being significant through consultation.

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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
Greenspaces	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.
	Green corridors	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration.
	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 spaces	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.

### 1.1 Report structure

#### *Open spaces*

This report considers the supply and demand issues for open space provision across High Peak. 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 4: Parks and gardens
- Part 5: Natural/ semi-natural greenspace
- Part 6: Amenity greenspace
- Part 7: Provision for children/young people
- Part 8: Allotments
- Part 9: Cemeteries/churchyards
- Part 10: Civic space
- Part 11: Green corridors

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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 Framework 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 Framework sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

Under paragraph 73 of the Framework, 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 Framework states that 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**

The High Peak Local Plan, adopted in 2016, contains key policies around open space and areas of recreation.

The High Peak landscapes are a defining characteristic of the plan area. They define a sense of place and strongly influence the area's identity and local distinctiveness. The landscapes within the Local Plan area are of exceptionally high value and share many of the characteristics of the neighbouring Peak District National Park and includes designated landscapes of national and international importance, such as Buxton's Pavilion Gardens, as well as those with strong and distinctive landscape characteristics such as the rolling moorlands of the Dark Peak.

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The landscapes establish the character of the area and are a key asset in attracting economic development, enhancing social well-being as well as driving the local tourist economy.

The Council will seek to protect, maintain and where possible enhance existing open spaces, sport and recreational buildings and land including playing fields in order to ensure their continued contribution to the health and well-being of local communities.

Access to high quality open spaces and sports facilities can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities, providing a range of benefits including biodiversity, visual amenity and opportunities for sport and recreation.

Where possible, opportunities should be taken to make a positive contribution to the Green Infrastructure of the Borough by linking to existing networks of biodiversity and Green Infrastructure in accordance with Local Plan Policy EQ8. This will be achieved by:

- ◀ Requiring that development will not have a detrimental effect on the amount or function of existing green infrastructure unless replacement provision is made that is to be of equal or greater value than that lost through development; taking particular account of appropriate levels of mitigation where development would result in habitat fragmentation
- ◀ Requiring that development proposals, where appropriate, contribute towards the creation of new or enhancement of existing green infrastructure, including public and private open space, recreation areas, parks and formal outdoor sports facilities, local nature reserves, wildlife sites, woodlands, allotments, bridleways, cycle ways and local green spaces
- ◀ Working with the Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area and other partners to help create better access routes linking High Peak settlements into the surrounding countryside for tourism and recreation
- ◀ Identifying and protecting key wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect sites of importance for biodiversity, including creating or restoring habitats of nature conservation value, in accordance with Local Plan Policy EQ5

In order to tailor aims and objectives, the High Peak Local Plan area is split into four sub-areas with individual priorities regarding open spaces:

### *Buxton*

Protecting and enhancing sites designated for their environmental value, including Ashwood Park, Pavilion Gardens, Buxton Country Park, Local Nature Reserves, local and European wildlife sites, public open spaces, recreation areas, playing fields and outdoor sports facilities and allotments. Developer contributions will be sought towards improvements where appropriate.

### *Central*

Protecting and enhancing sites designated for environmental value, including Memorial Park, Whaley Bridge and High Lea Park, New Mills, public open spaces, playing fields and outdoor sports facilities, Local Nature Reserves, local and European wildlife sites, recreation areas and allotments.

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### *Glossopdale*

Protecting and enhancing sites designated for environmental value, including Manor Park, Howard Park and Bankswood Park, public open spaces, playing fields and outdoor sports facilities, local and European wildlife sites, recreation areas and allotments.

### *Peak District National Park*

Development proposals within the High Peak Local Plan area must also have regard to the National Park. High Peak Borough Council has a duty to have regard to the purposes of the National Park as specified in the Environment Act 1995, namely;

- (i) to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the national parks; and
- (ii) to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities [of the parks] by the public.

Promoting the Peak District Tourism and Culture will be achieved by:

- ◀ Strengthening the tourism role of the Plan Area by supporting and supplementing the tourism offer of the Peak District National Park.
- ◀ Supporting tourism and provision for visitors which is appropriate to the settlements and countryside and consistent with environmental objectives.

### **Summary of local policy context**

High Peak is biodiversity rich predominantly due to its rural character. Since there are several SSSIs, local wildlife sites and nature reserves, it is pivotal to protect these areas comprised of priority species and habitats. The Council will act to help create, protect, enhance and manage networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure as part of the Council's strategy for the development of sustainable and inclusive communities.

Ecological and green infrastructure networks have a key role to play in providing opportunities for outdoor recreation and social interaction, improving accessibility through safe and attractive routes for walking and cycling and supporting local biodiversity.

The core message is the requirement to protect and if possible, to enhance open spaces which continue to contribute to the health and well-being of communities and offer a myriad of benefits such as biodiversity, conservation, sport and recreation opportunities.

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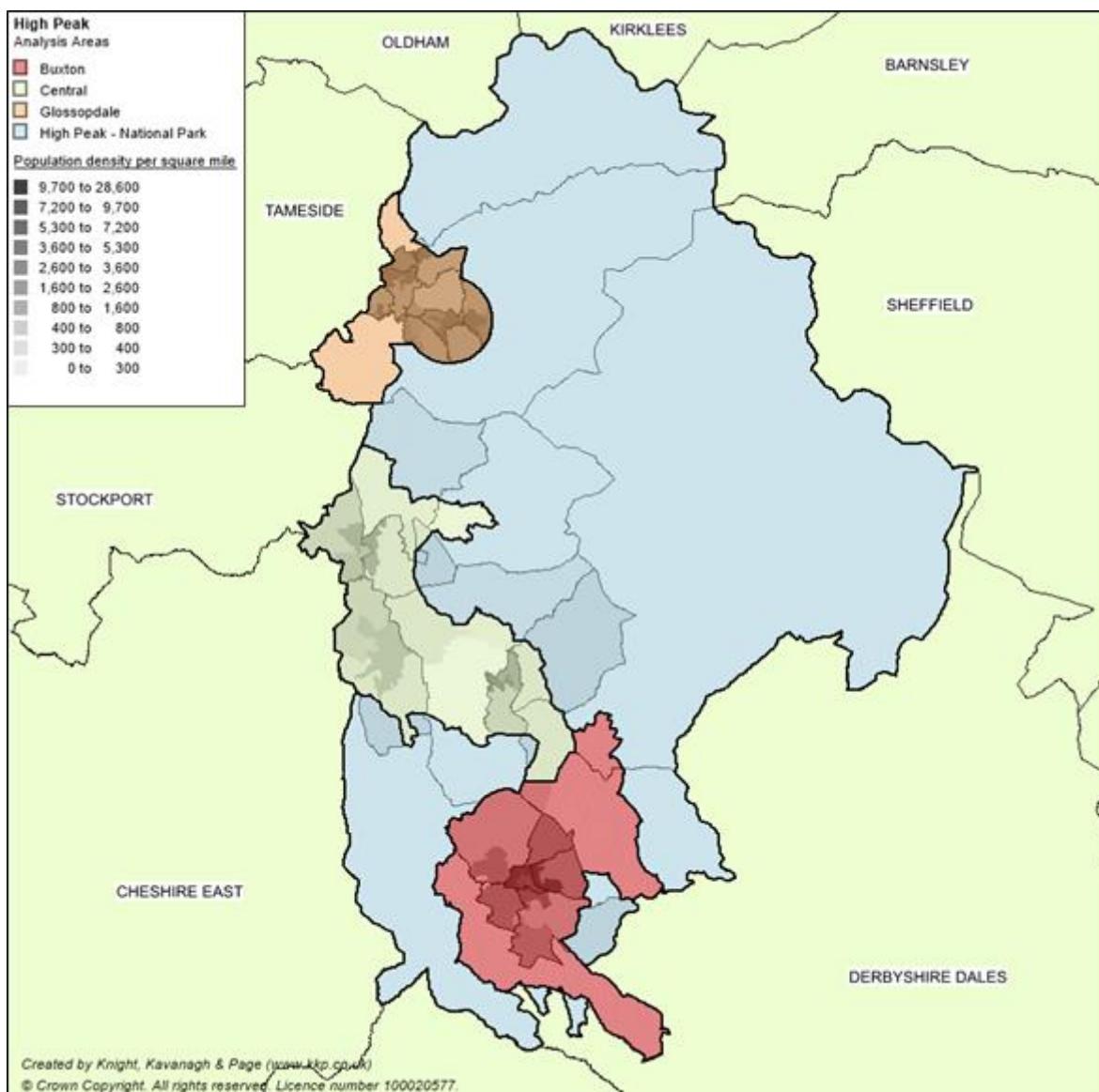
### PART 2: METHODOLOGY

#### 2.1 Study area

For mapping purposes and audit analysis, High Peak is divided into four analysis areas; Glossopdale, High Peak National Park, Central and Buxton. These analysis areas reflect the geographic and demographic nature of the area and allow more localised assessment of provision. It enables examination of open space surplus and deficiencies at a more local level. The use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. Break down of analysis areas are shown in Figure 2.1 and Table 2.1.

Figure 2.1 shows the breakdown of analysis areas. It also shows the population density of each analysis area. The darker grey areas highlight 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.

*Figure 2.1: High Peak analysis areas*



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*Table 2.1: High Peak population by analysis area*

Analysis area	Current population*
Buxton	20,572
Central	22,485
Glossopdale	29,309
High Peak-National Park	19,130
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>91,496</b>

The analysis areas used within this 2017 update differ from those used in the 2008/09 study. The previous study was a joint commission between High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council. Consequently, no direct comparison of provision standards can be drawn between this study and the previous study.

### **2.2 Auditing local provision (supply)**

The current study is an update report, based on the previous Open Space, Sport & Recreation Study, conducted in 2008/09. This study combines both a desktop update of the original audit as well as sample of field based site visits for a cross section of 27 sites identified by the Council as being in areas of priority. These 27 sites have undergone an up-to-date site assessment for both quality and value. Consultation with stakeholders has provided information of any significant changes or developments on the remaining sites. This has been taken into account when considering any changes to previous quality and value scores.

The thresholds for quality have been altered to reflect the function and purpose of each individual typology. For example, parks and gardens are held to a higher quality threshold (66%, to reflect the pass rating for the national Green Flag Award); whereas, amenity greenspace, which often provides more basic recreation space has a threshold of 40%. This differs in comparison to the quality thresholds from the 2008 study which were all set at the higher threshold of 66%.

In total, 232 open spaces (including provision for children and young people) are identified, mapped and assessed to evaluate site value and quality. 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 Spaces
8. Green Corridors

\* Source: ONS Mid-2015 Population Estimates for Lower Layer Super Output Areas in England and Wales by Single Year of Age and Sex

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The provision of formal outdoor sports (previously an open space typology within PPG17) 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
Civic Spaces	No threshold
Green Corridors	No threshold

### ***Database development***

All information relating to open spaces is collated in the project open space database (to be supplied as an Excel electronic file). All sites identified and assessed as part of the audit are recorded within 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 (if known)
- ◀ Management (if known)
- ◀ Typology
- ◀ Size (hectares)
- ◀ Site visit data summary

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 and value**

Quality and value are fundamentally different and can be unrelated. For example, a high-quality space may be inaccessible and, thus, be of little value; while, a poor quality space may be the only one in an area and thus be immensely valuable. As a result, quality and value are also treated separately in terms of scoring.

Each type of open space receives separate quality and value scores. This also allows for application of a high and low quality/value matrix to further help determine prioritisation of investment and to identify sites that may be surplus within and to a particular open space typology.

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If a site has not been visited as part of the 2017 update, its quality and value is assumed to be on a par with its previous score from the 2008 study. The exceptions are if consultation with council officers and parish/town councils has highlighted any changes in site quality since the last study (i.e. known improvements/investment or where sites are believed to have declined in quality).

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

Data collated in relation to quality is initially based upon those derived from the Green Flag Award scheme (a national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales, operated by Keep Britain Tidy). This is utilised to calculate a quality score for each site visited. Scores in the database are presented as percentage figures. The quality criteria used for the open space assessments carried out are summarised in the following table.

#### **Quality criteria for open space site visit (score)**

- ◀ Physical access, e.g., public transport links, directional signposts,
- ◀ Personal security, e.g., site is overlooked, natural surveillance
- ◀ Access-social, e.g., appropriate minimum entrance widths
- ◀ Parking, e.g., availability, specific, disabled parking
- ◀ Information signage, e.g., presence of up to date site information, notice boards
- ◀ Equipment and facilities, e.g., assessment of both adequacy and maintenance of provision such as seats, benches, bins, toilets
- ◀ Location value, e.g., proximity of housing, other greenspace
- ◀ Site problems, e.g., presence of vandalism, graffiti
- ◀ Healthy, safe and secure, e.g., fencing, gates, staff on site
- ◀ Maintenance and cleanliness, e.g., condition of general landscape and features
- ◀ Groups that the site meets the needs of, e.g., elderly, young people

For the provision for children and young people, criteria are also built around Green Flag. It is a non-technical visual assessment of the whole site, including general equipment and surface quality/appearance plus an assessment of, for example, bench and bin provision. This differs, for example, from an independent RosPA review, which is a more technical assessment of equipment in terms of play and risk assessment grade.

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

Site visit data plus desk based research is calculated to provide value scores for each site identified. Value is defined in the Companion Guide (withdrawn) in relation to the following three issues:

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

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The value criteria set for audit assessment is derived as:

### **Value criteria for open space site visits (score)**

- ◀ Level of use (observations only), e.g., evidence of different user types (e.g. dog walkers, joggers, children) throughout the day, located near school and/or community facility
- ◀ Context of site in relation to other open spaces
- ◀ Structural & landscape benefits, e.g. well located, high quality defining the identity/ area
- ◀ Ecological benefits, e.g. supports/promotes biodiversity and wildlife habitats
- ◀ Educational benefits, e.g. provides learning opportunities on nature/historic landscapes
- ◀ Social inclusion & health benefits, e.g., offers opportunities to interact, exercise & socialise
- ◀ Cultural & heritage benefits, e.g. historic elements/links (e.g. listed building, statues)
- ◀ Amenity benefits & a sense of place, e.g. attractive places that are safe and well maintained; helping to create specific neighbourhoods and landmarks
- ◀ Economic benefits, e.g. enhances property values, promotes economic activity and attracts people from near and far

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

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

Children's and young people play provision is scored for value as part of the audit assessment. Value, in particular is recognised in terms of size of sites and the range of equipment it hosts. For instance, a small site with only one or two items is likely to be of a lower value than a site with a variety of equipment catering for wider age ranges.

## **2.4 Quality and value thresholds**

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the results of the site assessments are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The primary aim of applying a threshold is to identify sites where investment and/or improvements are required. It can also be used to set an aspirational quality standard to be achieved at some point in the future and to inform decisions around the need to further protect sites from future development (particularly when applied with its respective value score in a matrix format).

The baseline threshold for assessing quality can often be set around 66%; based on the pass rate for Green Flag criteria (site visit criteria also being based on Green Flag). This is the only national benchmark available for quality of parks and open spaces. However, the site visit criteria used for Green Flag is not appropriate for every open space typology as it is designed to represent a sufficiently high standard of site. Quality thresholds are, thus, worked out so as to better reflect average scores for each typology. Consequently, the baseline threshold for certain typologies is amended to better reflect this.

For value there is no national guidance on the setting of thresholds. The 20% threshold applied is derived from our experience and knowledge in assessing the perceived value of sites. Whilst 20% may initially seem low, it is a relative score - designed to reflect those sites that meet more than one aspect of the criteria used for assessing value (as detailed earlier). A table setting out the quality and value scores for each typology is provided overleaf.

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*Table 2.2: Quality and value thresholds by typology*

Typology	Quality threshold	Value threshold
Parks and gardens	66%	20%
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	35%	20%
Amenity greenspace	40%	20%
Provision for children and young people	50%	20%
Allotments	40%	20%
Cemeteries/churchyards	45%	20%
Civic Spaces	60%	20%
Green Corridors	66%	20%

### 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 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 catchment

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.

*Table 2.3: FIT walking guidelines*

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

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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.

Accessibility standards in the 2008/09 study were informed by the findings of a street survey undertaken as part of the study. No street survey has been carried out as part of the 2017 update. Accessibility catchments for the update report are instead informed by guidance published by Field in Trust in its document *Beyond the Six Acre Standard* (2015); these did not exist at the time of the previous study. Further exploration of the recommendations for accessibility standards is provided in the Standards Paper.

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### PART 3: GENERAL OPEN SPACE SUMMARY

This section sets out a summary of the quality and value ratings for each typology. It describes any issues that cut across more than one typology. Site and typology specific issues are covered in the relevant sections later in the report.

Two tables are provided for both quality and value. Tables 3.1 and 3.3 show the combined results from the sample cross section of 27 sites undertaken as part of the 2017 visits and the updated results from the 2008 study. Tables 3.2 and 3.4 show only the ratings for those sites assessed as part of the 2017 update visits.

#### 3.1 Quality

The methodology for assessing quality is set out in Part 2. The table below summarises the results of all the quality assessment for open spaces across High Peak.

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

Typology	Threshold	No. of sites	
		Low	High
Allotments	40%	13	8
Amenity greenspace	40%	13	27
Cemeteries/ churchyards	45%	6	7
Provision for children and young people	50%	14	47
Civic Spaces	60%	1	1
Green Corridors	66%	0	3
Parks and gardens	66%	5	5
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	35%	14	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>66</b>	<b>103</b>

Over half (60%) of sites with a quality score rate above the threshold for quality. This is a slight increase on the 55% of sites assessed as above the quality threshold in the previous 2008 study. The slight increase is due to a combination of additional sites being assessed and added to the audit result as well as some recognised improvements/investment to certain sites since the last study.

Greater proportion of lower scores are observed for natural and semi-natural greenspace and amenity greenspace typologies. This is a reflection of the number of sites without any specific ancillary features or facilities. Sites for the typology of natural and semi-natural greenspace also tend to score low for personal security given they are often in isolated locations and not overlooked by other land uses. Often sites deliberately have very little ongoing recreational management or maintenance in order to provide, for example, wildlife habitats. However, keeping on top of issues such as litter and dog fouling is important to maintain higher quality scores.

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There is a noticeable improvement in the quality of parks and gardens since the last study. In 2008, 67% of park sites rated below the quality threshold. In 2017, the number of parks is evenly split between higher and lower quality. This is considered a reflection to the improvements made at a number of park sites since the previous study in 2008.

Similarly, the quality of provision for children and young people has also increased; 82% of sites score above the threshold for quality in 2017 compared to 75% of sites which scored high for quality in 2008.

A noticeable number of allotments rate below the threshold for quality. No allotments have been reassessed as part of the 2017 update.

As mentioned in the earlier methodology section, the quality weighting and threshold from the previous study has been brought into line with the current assessment of quality. The typologies to proportionally have the most sites scoring below the threshold for quality were natural and semi-natural greenspace, parks and gardens, allotments and cemeteries.

*Table 3.2: Quality scores for 27 assessed sites in 2017*

Typology	Threshold	No. of sites	
		Low	High
Amenity greenspace	40%	2	4
Provision for children and young people	50%	3	14
Parks and gardens	66%	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>

Of the 27 assessed sites as part of the 2017 update, over three quarters (74%) of sites score above the threshold for quality.

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### 3.2 Value

The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for open spaces across High Peak.

Table 3.3: Value scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	No. of sites	
		Low	High
Allotments	20%	3	18
Amenity greenspace		4	36
Cemeteries/ churchyards		2	11
Provision for children and young people		0	61
Civic Spaces		1	1
Green Corridors		0	3
Parks and gardens		0	10
Natural and semi-natural greenspace		8	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>18</b>	<b>151</b>

A total of 89% of sites rate above the threshold for value. This is in line with the 88% of sites assessed as higher value in the previous 2008 study.

A high value site is considered to be one that is well used by the local community, well maintained (with a balance for conservation), provides a safe environment and has features of interest; for example, play equipment and landscaping. Sites that provide for a cross section of users and have a multi-functional use are considered a higher value than those that offer limited functions and that are thought of as bland and unattractive.

For a handful of typologies, all assessed sites are rated as above the threshold for value. All parks and gardens, green corridors as well as provision for children and young people score above the value threshold. In addition, the majority of all other open space typologies also rate high for value; reflecting their roles to local communities.

Natural and semi-natural greenspace has a higher proportion of low value sites. This often reflects the number of sites within these typologies which lack any ancillary features and have lower levels of personal security. These elements assessed as part of site quality, can impact on the perceived value of a site; however, it must be noted that such sites are valuable in ecological benefits they provide.

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*Table 3.4: Value scores for the assessed 27 sites in 2017*

Typology	Threshold	No. of sites	
		Low	High
Amenity greenspace	20%	0	6
Provision for children and young people		0	4
Parks and gardens		0	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>

All sites assessed as part of the 2017 update rate above the value thresholds. Additional sites have been assessed and added to the audit result along with any known improvements/investment to sites since the last study.

### General summary

- ◀ In total, there are 232 sites identified as open space provision in the High Peak area, equating to over 471 hectares.
- ◀ A total of 169 sites are allocated a quality and value rating. Site ratings are established through either updating of the previous 2008 ratings or via the 27 assessments carried out as part of the 2017 update.
- ◀ These 27 sites were identified by the Council as being in priority areas and consisted of sites from the typologies of parks and gardens, children's play areas and amenity greenspace.
- ◀ Any sites without a quality or value score are either new sites identified through consultation, or have not been assessed as part of either the 2008 or 2017 study.
- ◀ Over half (60%) of sites score above the threshold for quality; a slight increase on the 55% previously identified in the 2008 study. The increase is due to additional sites assessed as high quality being added to the audit and/or a reflection to the improvements undertaken at certain sites.
- ◀ The majority of assessed sites (89%) rate above the threshold for value. This is in keeping with the 88% of sites above the value threshold in the 2008 study.

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### PART 4: PARKS AND GARDENS

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

#### 4.1 Current provision

There are currently 11 park sites, totalling over 90 hectares. Buxton Country Park makes up the majority of this hectare with 41.68 hectares; however, not all of this is accessible without a charge.

There were nine sites classified as parks and gardens in the 2008 study. Within this update report there are 11 park sites due to identification of new sites.

*Table 4.1: Distribution of parks by analysis area*

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	3	54.66	2.66
Central	4	12.40	0.55
Glossopdale	4	23.72	0.81
High Peak - National Park	-	-	-
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>90.78</b>	<b>0.99</b>

The High Peak-National Park Analysis Area currently has no parks and gardens provision. Aside from this, there is generally a good distribution of parks and gardens in terms of number of sites across High Peak.

In terms of hecitarage, the Buxton Analysis Area currently has the most provision (54.66 hectares). Subsequently, this analysis area also has the largest provision per 1,000 head of population (2.66 hectares). The largest contributor to this is Buxton Country Park.

The analysis area with the least provision in terms of hecitarage is the Central Analysis Area, with 12.40 hectares. As a result, this analysis area also has the lowest provision per 1,000 head of population (0.55 ha).

As a whole, High Peak has a current provision of 0.99 hectares per 1,000 head of population. Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity provision. On this basis, there is potentially a sufficient amount of parks provision across High Peak. However, the Central Analysis Area has a shortfall against this standard. An aspiration may be to aspire to achieve the FIT standard; however, it may be more important that quality and access to existing provision is sufficient.

The 2008/09 study recommended a standard of 1.15 hectares per 1,000 population. In 2017, the current provision per 1,000 population is 0.99 hectares. The change is due to different analysis areas being prescribed as well as an increase in the number of sites and changes in population figures.

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The 2008/09 study had two analysis areas; High Peak INSIDE the National Park and High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park. To calculate an updated version of provision levels for these analysis areas, the population associated with the National Park Analysis Area can be separated from the other three analysis areas used in the 2017 update. In effect, the Buxton, Central and Glossopdale analysis areas form the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area.

*Table 4.2: Current provision levels using 2017 and 2008 analysis areas*

Analysis areas (2017)	2017 update		Using 2008 analysis areas	
	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	54.66	2.66		
Central	12.40	0.55	90.78	1.25
Glossopdale	23.72	0.81		
High Peak - National Park	-	-	-	-
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>90.78</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>90.78</b>	<b>0.99</b>

The 2008 study recommended a standard of 1.15 hectares per 1,000 population for the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area. In 2017, the equivalent current provision per 1,000 population is 1.25 hectares. The change is due to an increase in the number of sites and use of more up to date in population figures.

### 4.2 Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a nine-minute walk (710 metres) has been set across High Peak to reflect best practice guidelines as set out by Fields in Trust: Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play. Figure 4.1 shows parks and gardens mapped against the analysis areas with these accessibility catchments.

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Figure 4.1: Parks and gardens mapped against analysis area

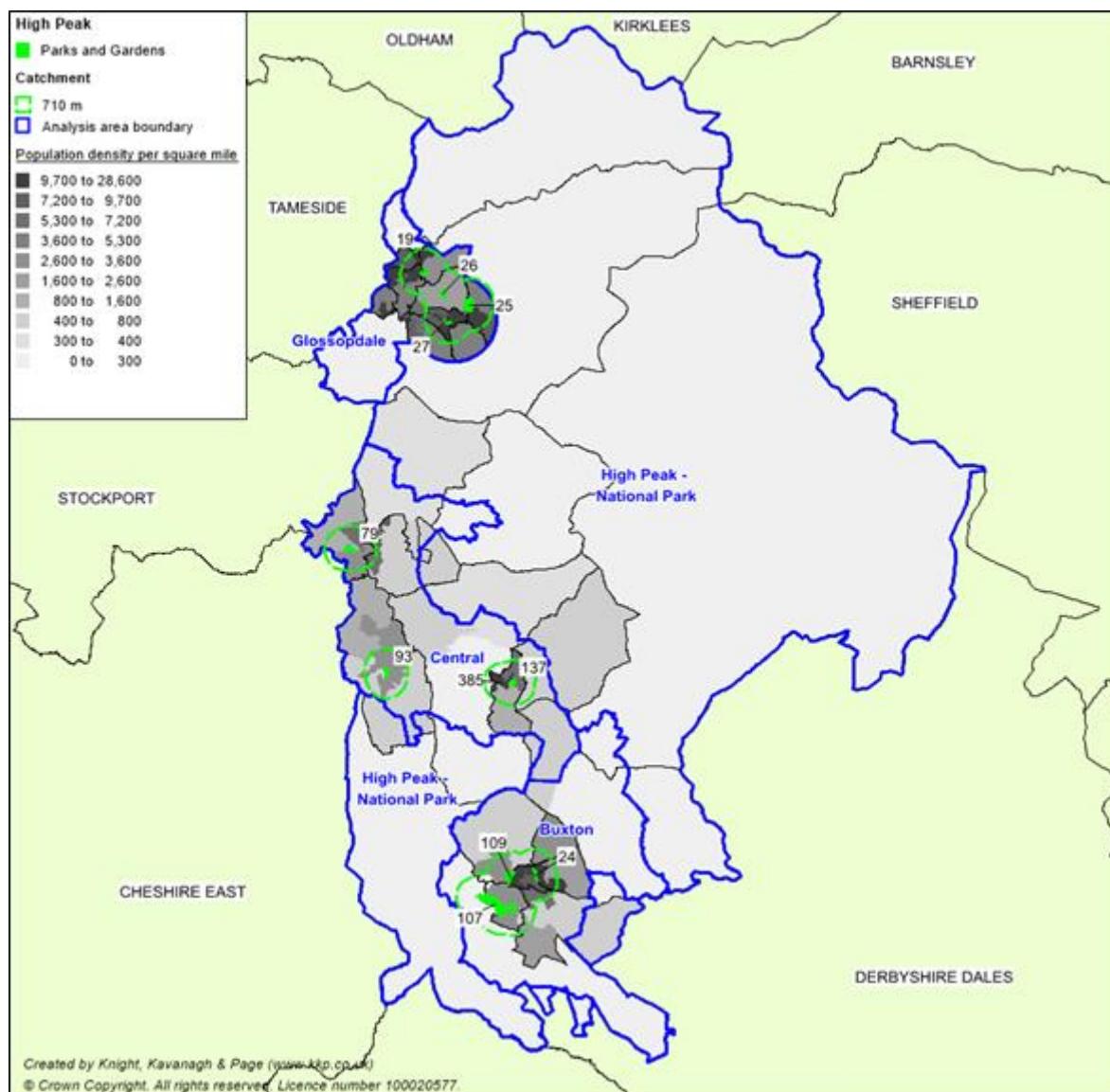


Table 4.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
19	Bankswood Park	Glossopdale
24	Ashwood Park	Buxton
25	Manor Park	Glossopdale
26	Howard Park	Glossopdale
27	Philip Howard Park (also known as Harehills Park)	Glossopdale
79	High Lea Park	Central
93	Memorial Park	Central

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
107	Buxton Country Park	Buxton
109	Pavilion Gardens	Buxton
137	Chapel Memorial Park	Central
385	Tramps Garden	Central

There are some notable gaps in provision within the densely populated areas of the Glossopdale Analysis Area. These gaps can be seen to the south of the analysis area. Despite this, other forms of open space such as amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural greenspace serve some of the gaps. For example, Whitfield Rec (KKP 10) and Long Clough (KKP 336). These other typology sites may help to offer functions and opportunities similar to those of parks and gardens.

### 4.3 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks and gardens in High Peak, for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 66% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 4.3: Quality ratings for parks by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
19	Bankswood Park	Glossopdale	58.6%	55.6%
24	Ashwood Park	Buxton	53.0%	
25	Manor Park*	Glossopdale	70.0%	87.4%
26	Howard Park	Glossopdale	70.0%	
27	Philip Howard Park	Glossopdale	61.9%	
79	High Lea Park	Central	41.3%	
93	Memorial Park*	Central	54.0%	
107	Buxton Country Park	Buxton	64.1%	
109	Pavilion Gardens*	Buxton	75.0%	
137	Chapel Memorial Park*	Central	60.4%	66.3%
385	Tramps Garden	Central		

Any sites not assessed as part of the current study are assumed to be of the same quality, unless evidence has been provided to state otherwise (hence no quality score for these sites is stated). If evidence indicates a change in quality, the site quality has been amended to either above (green) or below (red) the threshold set for quality (66%). Sites where quality is highlighted as having changed are identified using an asterisk. Details of these changes are set out in the following paragraphs.

\* Sites that have had investment/refurbishment that are likely to score higher than in 2008.

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Two of the four park sites assessed as part the 2017 study have significantly increased in quality. Manor Park now receives a quality score of 87% and Chapel Memorial Park receives a score of 66%.

Manor Park is noted as having a wide range of facilities and features including wildlife areas, a large pond, shop, café, benches, picnic tables, disabled friendly pathways and bins. Moreover, there are unique features to the park, such as the miniature railway and crazy golf which attracts tourists to the area in addition to local residents.

The quality of the site is further heightened due to the active friends of group associated with the site. The group are involved with a number of fundraising events, which support the cost of improvements to the site as well as helping with running events.

The site also has a variety of recreation and play opportunities for all age groups, with tennis and basketball courts, bowling greens, a popular skate park and play area for up to 12-year olds. Further to the above, Manor Park has excellent entrances, signage, safe crossing places, good car parking and is serviced by number of bus stops. In addition, quality is further heightened due to the active friends group helping to run events and undertaking fundraising to improve the site.

Chapel Memorial Park, a parish council owned site, is now rated as being above the quality threshold. This is due to significant refurbishments, including new signage, with maps, site marketing and historic information, as well as benches and attractive floral landscaping. In addition, the play area has also been refurbished and a MUGA has been installed. The MUGA was funded through a lottery grant obtained through the support of the Friends of Memorial Park. There are currently aspirations to gain a further grant, which would support further site improvements, including the refurbishment of the skate park.

Despite Bankswood Park declining slightly in its quality score since the 2008 study, it remains as having no major issues. Moreover, despite the site remaining below the quality threshold, it is reported as having good overall cleanliness and maintenance, areas of attractive landscaping, good pathways (suitable for all abilities), informative signage and sufficient numbers of bins and benches. In addition, from the site assessment, it is observed that the site is used for local events and contained within the site is a good quality play area for children up to 12 years of age.

Another site worth mentioning is Memorial Park, located in Whaley Bridge. In the 2008 study, the site scored below the threshold for quality, with 54%; however, since 2008, the site has largely improved through the efforts of both the Council and the Friends of Memorial Park.

In 2010, the Council received a substantial amount of lottery funding. This saw the Friends of Memorial Park being fully established and kick start a major project to restore the park's original layout and landscaping features, as well as funding a new children's play area. In addition, the funding allowed for the recruitment of a park ranger.

Consultation with Friends of Memorial Park highlights the importance of the park ranger in looking after the site. The Group also reports how it contributes to maintaining flowerbeds, litter picking and maintenance of the dry-stone walls on site.

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Memorial Park has not undergone a site assessment as part of the 2017 study; however, it is now a Green Flag Award site and as such, it is assumed this site would sufficiently meet the 66% quality threshold.

In the previous 2008 study, Ashwood Park scored 59%, meaning it falls below the 66% quality threshold. Consultation with the Buxton Town Team highlights that the park is key to the area; however, it is in need of some refurbishment and care. In order to address this, the Ashwood Park Regeneration project, coordinated by Buxton Town Team, aims to make the site more appealing to visit. Buxton Town Team believes the site has lots of potential and should its work, alongside needed refurbishments take place, the site could score above the threshold for quality.

Another park which is highly significant within High Peak is Pavilion Gardens; a formal park with ornamental planting and lakes. The site is popular with residents and is also well visited by tourists. It offers a broad range of features such as floral displays, promenades, play areas, outdoor gym equipment and historic landscapes, making it the perfect backdrop for regular events. Pavilion Gardens also has an active friends group, which has worked to improve many facilities in the gardens. For these reasons, the site is assumed to be of higher quality.

### ***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 open spaces are managed and maintained.

High Peak currently has one Green Flag park site; Memorial Park in Whaley Bridge. Should the Council wish to increase its number of Green Flag sites, given the status and consistent high scores achieved by Manor Park, this site could be considered. It is noted; however, that there are many criteria to be met in order to receive Green Flag status, as well as an application cost. The scores should only be used as an initial indicator. Other aspects would need consideration and are best being considered by local authority officers..

In addition to Memorial Park, the community orchard within High Lea Park also holds Green Flag Award Status. However, the park as a whole does not hold the Award.

The Bugsworth Basin site, a natural and semi-natural greenspace site, also has a Green Flag Award. This site is further discussed in the natural and semi-natural greenspace section of the report.

### ***Community involvement***

Parks and gardens are often highly valued within communities. This is evidenced by the number of park sites with an active friends of group. Such groups are often created due to a desire for community members to be involved with local sites. These groups and their activity and involvement at sites 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 site's consideration for the Green Flag Award.

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The parks within High Peak with an associated friends group are:

- ◀ Memorial Park
- ◀ Manor Park
- ◀ Pavilion Gardens
- ◀ Chapel Memorial Park
- ◀ Howard Park

In addition, Friends of Memorial Park highlight in consultation that a junior friends of group is now also associated with the park.

Friends of Memorial Park, formed in 2005, describe how significant Memorial Park is to the community with major events taking place here such as Park Run, Lantern Parade and Party in the Park. The group work hard to help maintain and improve the site, as well as making it an enjoyable place for all ages and abilities.

Consultation with Friends of Manor Park demonstrates that they undertake various activities on site including general planting and upkeep of key areas. Moreover, they undertake fundraising events to support other organisations using the park.

The Friends of Howard Park are a committed group who support the park. They organise and run events such as their annual Carols in the Park event, take part in practical planting activities and work with local schools to encourage educational opportunities.

Friends of Pavilion Gardens magnify the importance of Pavilion Gardens to the community expressing that the park is a vital open space at the heart of Buxton for all ages to enjoy.

Although Tramps Garden does not have a friends of group, it is currently being partly maintained by the Chapel-en-le-Frith Women's Institute. The site is also identified as being designated as a Local Green Space in the Chapel-en-le-Frith Neighbourhood Plan.

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### 4.4 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the value assessment for parks and gardens in High Peak, for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 4.4: Value ratings for parks and gardens by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
19	Bankswood Park	Glossopdale	42.7%	63.6%
24	Ashwood Park	Buxton	50.0%	
25	Manor Park*	Glossopdale	50.0%	68.2%
26	Howard Park	Glossopdale	50.0%	
27	Philip Howard Park	Glossopdale	54.0%	
79	High Lea Park	Central	40.9%	
93	Memorial Park*	Central	65.5%	
107	Buxton Country Park	Buxton	32.7%	
109	Pavilion Gardens*	Buxton	48.2%	
137	Chapel Memorial Park*	Central	44.5%	63.6%
385	Tramps Garden	Central		

As mentioned in the quality section above, three of the sites assessed in the 2008 study and which have been assessed as part of the 2017 update are all noted as having enhanced scores for value. All parks which have been site assessed are identified as being of high value from the site visit assessments in both studies.

One of the key aspects of the value placed on parks provision is their ability to function as a multipurpose form of open space provision. Parks provide opportunities for local communities and individuals to socialise and undertake a range of different activities, such as exercise, dog walking and taking children to the play area. Parks also provide the perfect backdrop for many events, which is evidenced with a number of parks in High Peak holding regular and annual community events, often organised by friends of groups.

Furthermore, park sites have ecological value, providing habitats for a variety of wildlife. All of this taken into account, parks and gardens are regularly recognised as being heavily integrated into people's everyday lives.

All sites assessed in 2017 score above the threshold for value. This is mirrored in the 2008 study. The highest scoring site is Manor Park (68%). The site provides a broad range of activities including a mini golf course, children's play provision, sensory garden and miniature railway. All of which are set in beautiful settings with areas of natural woodland and floral displays. It also has an orienteering course; however, this is not currently utilised to its full potential. The site has an active friends group. Through consultation, it is clear that Manor Park is an integral recreation area for local people and others.

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Memorial Park is also a high scoring site. Although not assessed as part of the 2017 study, it is likely the sites value will have increased as a result of enhancements through funding and the addition of a dedicated friends of group. The site is evidently an asset to the community with weekly Parkrun events, use by both Cubs and Scouts as well as local schools using the on-site orchard as a lesson resource.

In addition, Memorial Park has historical value due to its war memorial, as well as containing wildlife habitats, promoting higher ecological value.

Despite High Lea Park not being re-assessed in 2017 it would likely remain high in value and even increase further. Consultation with New Mills Town Council highlights that the park holds events for example firework displays and a Brass and Bubbles event. The community orchard within the site has a Green Flag Award.

Buxton Country Park surprisingly scored the lowest for value in 2008 (33%) for this typology. However, it is evident it would score significantly higher if re-assessed. The site would score particularly high for its ecological value, with a multitude of common woodland species thriving here. The site is designated as a SSSI. Its woodland trails provide opportunities for individuals to be active, demonstrating high health benefits. In addition, the site has educational and historic value and also ecological value to the area through its café and cavern tours. However, parts of Buxton Country Park are not freely accessible and require payment to enter.

Tramps Garden is assumed to have high value as it is designated as a Local Green Space (LGS) in the Chapel-en-le-Frith Neighbourhood Plan due to its historic interest.

It is evident through both site assessment and consultation that all sites provide opportunities for a wide range of users and demonstrate the high social inclusion, health benefits, sense of place and ecological value that parks can offer.

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### 4.5 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ There are 11 sites classified as parks and gardens totalling over 90 hectares. Buxton Country Park makes up the majority of this hectarage with 41.69 hectares; however, not all of this is accessible without a charge.
- ◀ High Peak has current provision of 0.99 ha per 1,000 head of population. This meets the FIT standard of 0.80 ha per 1,000 population; however, the Central Analysis Area (0.55 ha per 1,000 population) does not.
- ◀ A standard of 1.15 ha per 1,000 population is set by HPBC. Only the Buxton Analysis Area (2.66 ha per 1,000 population) meets this standard. If the equivalent analysis areas to the last study are used current provision (1.25 ha per 1,000 population) meets the existing standard.
- ◀ There are no parks and garden provision in High Peak-National Park Area; however, the area is well served by accessible countryside and informal greenspace.
- ◀ General quality of provision is good, half of sites now rating above the quality threshold. Two of the four sites assessed as part of the 2017 update score high for quality. It is, however, important to note that the quality threshold for parks and gardens is set high (66%) to better align with the Green Flag Award pass score.
- ◀ Since the last study, Manor Park, Chapel Memorial Park, and Memorial Park Whaley Bridge have undergone significant improvements, resulting in all three being of high quality with the latter two parks moving from low to high quality.
- ◀ Memorial Park has Green Flag status; furthermore, the community Orchard in High Lea Park also holds a Green Flag Award. Should the Council wish to increase its number of Green Flag sites, Manor Park could be considered given the status and consistent high scores.
- ◀ All the parks score high for value in the 2017 study (as they did in 2008).
- ◀ It is evident through both site assessment and consultation that all sites provide opportunities for a wide range of users and demonstrate the high social inclusion, health benefits, sense of place and ecological value that parks can offer.

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

#### Introduction

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

#### 5.1 Current provision

In total, there are 44 open spaces classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces across High Peak, totalling over 263 hectares.

In the 2008 study there were 33 sites classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace. As part of the 2017 update, an 11 additional sites have been added.

*Table 5.1: 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)
Buxton	14	40.24	1.96
Central	18	81.11	3.61
Glossopdale	5	67.16	2.29
High Peak-National Park	7	74.99	3.92
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>263.50</b>	<b>2.88</b>

The Central Analysis Area has the highest number of natural and semi-natural greenspace sites and subsequently has the largest amount of provision in terms of hectarage (81.11 hectares). This analysis area has a current provision level of 3.61 hectares per 1,000 head of population, which is the second highest provision per 1,000 population of all four analysis areas.

The highest current level of provision of all analysis areas is High Peak-National Park with 3.92 hectares per 1,000 head of population. Both the Central and High Peak-National Park analysis areas have a greater level of provision than High Peak as a whole, which has 2.88 hectares per 1,000 head of population.

The analysis area with the least natural and semi-natural greenspace provision per 1,000 head of population is Buxton (1.96 hectares per 1,000 population). The analysis area contains 14 sites equating to 40.24 hectares. The Glossopdale Analysis Area has the lowest number of sites (5) and has a current level of provision of 2.29 hectares per 1,000 population.

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Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 5.1 shows that overall, High Peak is sufficient on this basis. All individual analysis areas are also sufficient against the FIT standard.

The 2008 study had two analysis areas; High Peak INSIDE the National Park and High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park. To calculate an updated version of provision levels for these analysis areas, the population associated with the National Park Analysis Area can be separated from the other three analysis areas used in the 2017 update. As the Buxton, Central and Glossopdale analysis areas form the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area.

*Table 5.2: Current provision levels using 2017 and 2008 analysis areas*

Analysis areas (2017)	2017 update		Using 2008 analysis areas	
	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	40.24	1.96		
Central	81.11	3.61	188.51	2.60
Glossopdale	67.16	2.29		
High Peak - National Park	74.99	3.92	74.99	3.92
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>263.50</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>263.50</b>	<b>2.88</b>

This would result in a current provision level of 2.60 hectares per 1,000 population for the former High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area (now covering the analysis areas of Buxton, Central and Glossopdale).

The 2008 study recommended a standard of 1.18 hectares per 1,000 population for the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area. In 2017, the equivalent current provision per 1,000 population is 2.88 hectares. The change in value is due to an increase in the number of sites and use of more up to date in population figures.

### ***Designations***

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

- ◀ Goytside Meadows LNR
- ◀ Stubbins Park LNR
- ◀ Brookfield Pond LNR
- ◀ Ferneydale Grassland LNR
- ◀ Bluebell Wood Local Nature Reserve
- ◀ Mousley Bottom LNR
- ◀ Watford Lodge LNR

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### 5.2 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 High Peak (91,496) is recommended to have approximately 91 hectares of LNR. As it stands, High Peak falls short of this standard, with 38.21 hectares of LNR.

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

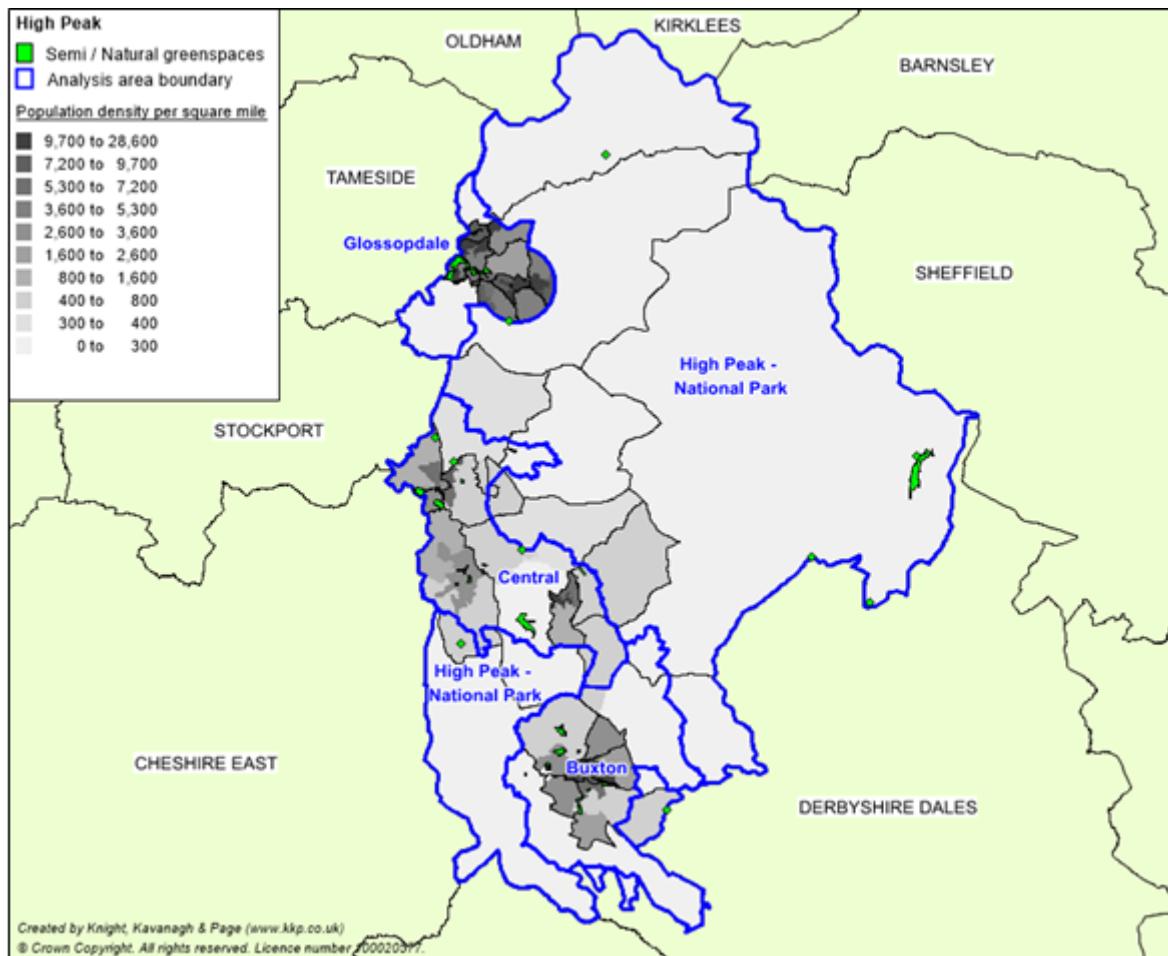
ANGSt benchmarks met	
A	14% of households within High Peak with access to a site of at least 2 hectares within 300 metres
B	32% of households within High Peak with access to a site of at least 20 hectares within two kilometres
C	100% of households within High Peak with access to a site of at least 100 hectares within five kilometres
D	100% of households within High Peak with access to a site of at least 500 hectares within 10 kilometres

Using the above results, it is possible to determine that 100% of households within High Peak meet at least one of the ANGSt requirements.

The ANGSt is used as part of the catchment mapping to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located. Figure 5.2 shows a 300m walk time to sites over two hectares in size. Figure 5.3 shows a two kilometre walk time to sites over 20 hectares. Figure 5.4 shows a five kilometre walk time to sites over 100 hectares. Figure 5.5 shows a 10 kilometre walk time to sites over 500 hectares.

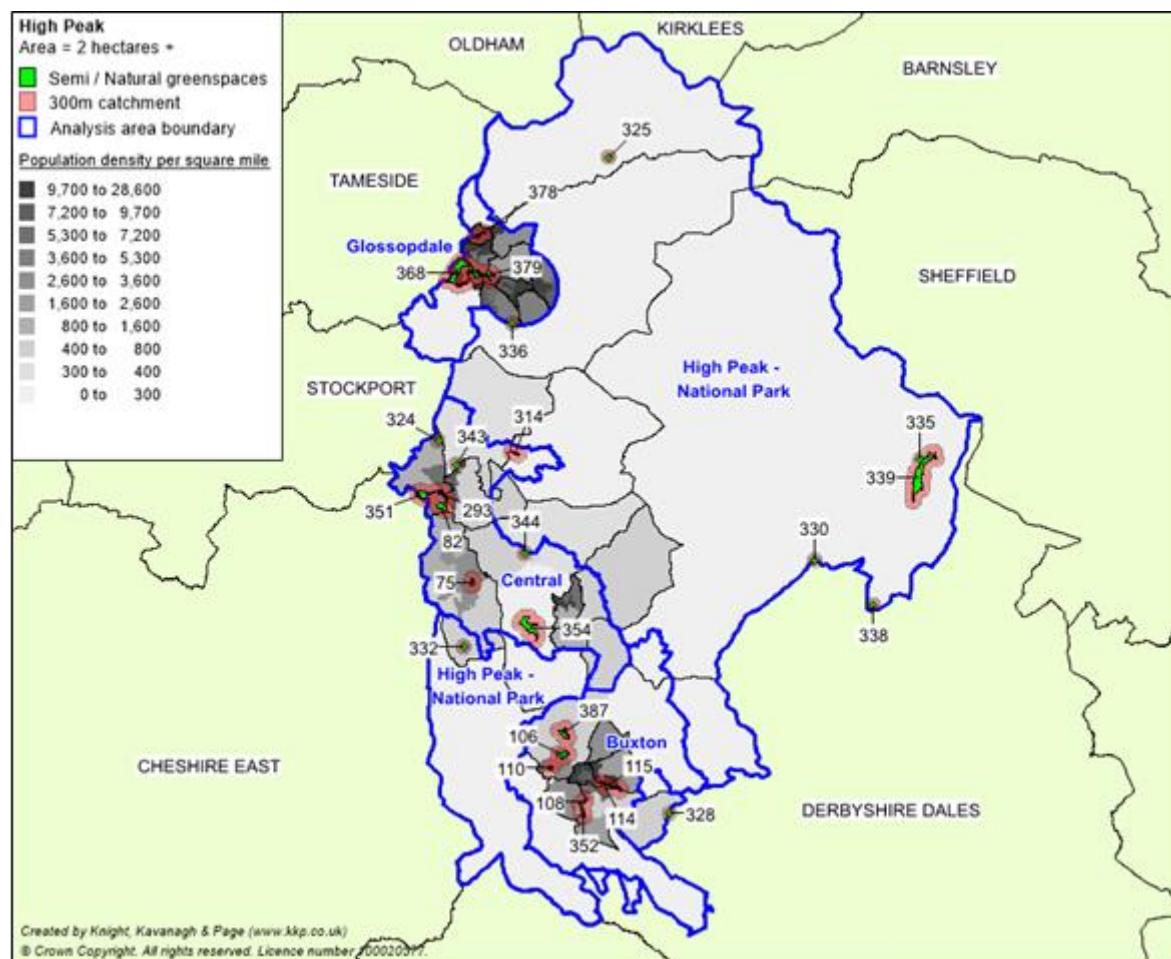
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Figure 5.1: Natural and semi-natural greenspaces mapped against analysis area



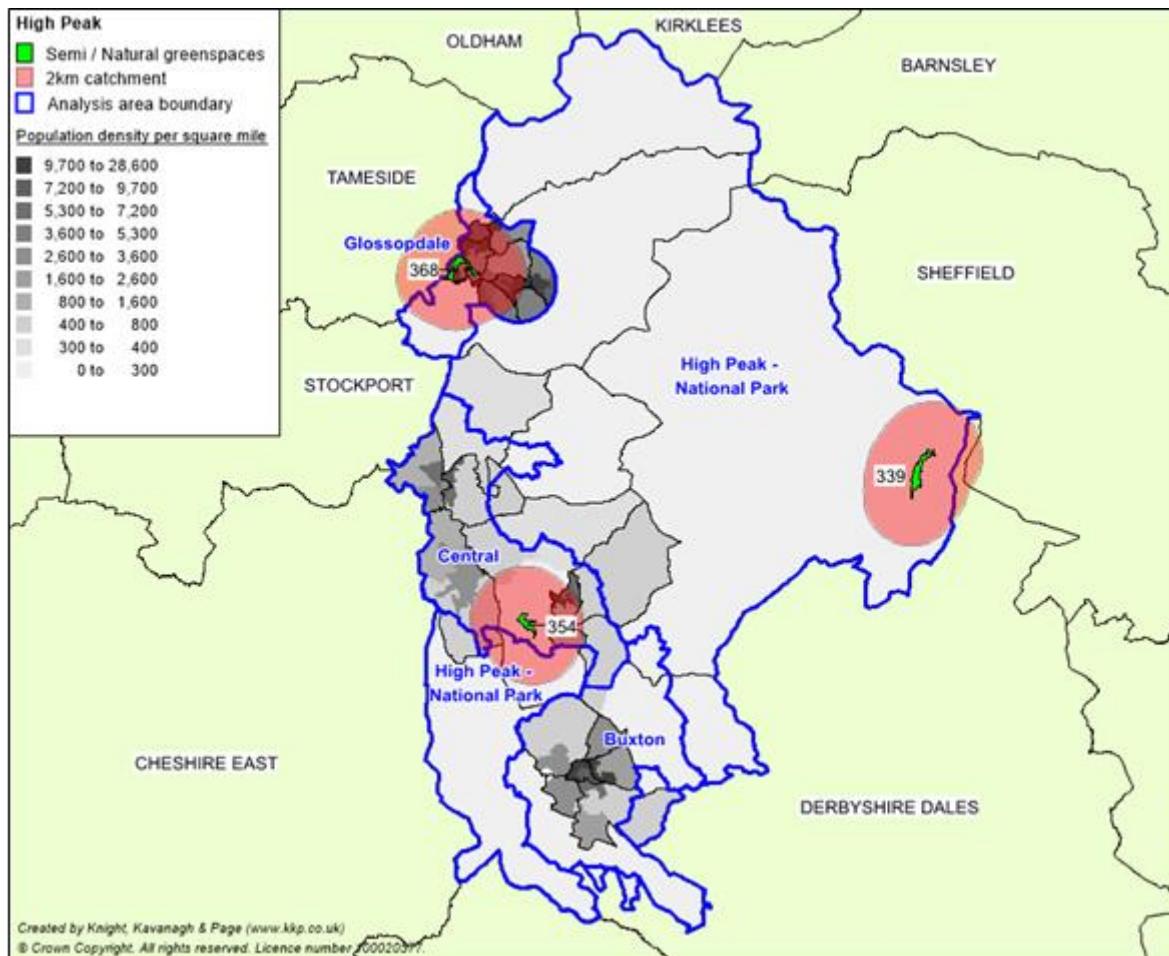
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Figure 5.2: Natural greenspaces of at least two hectares with 300m catchment



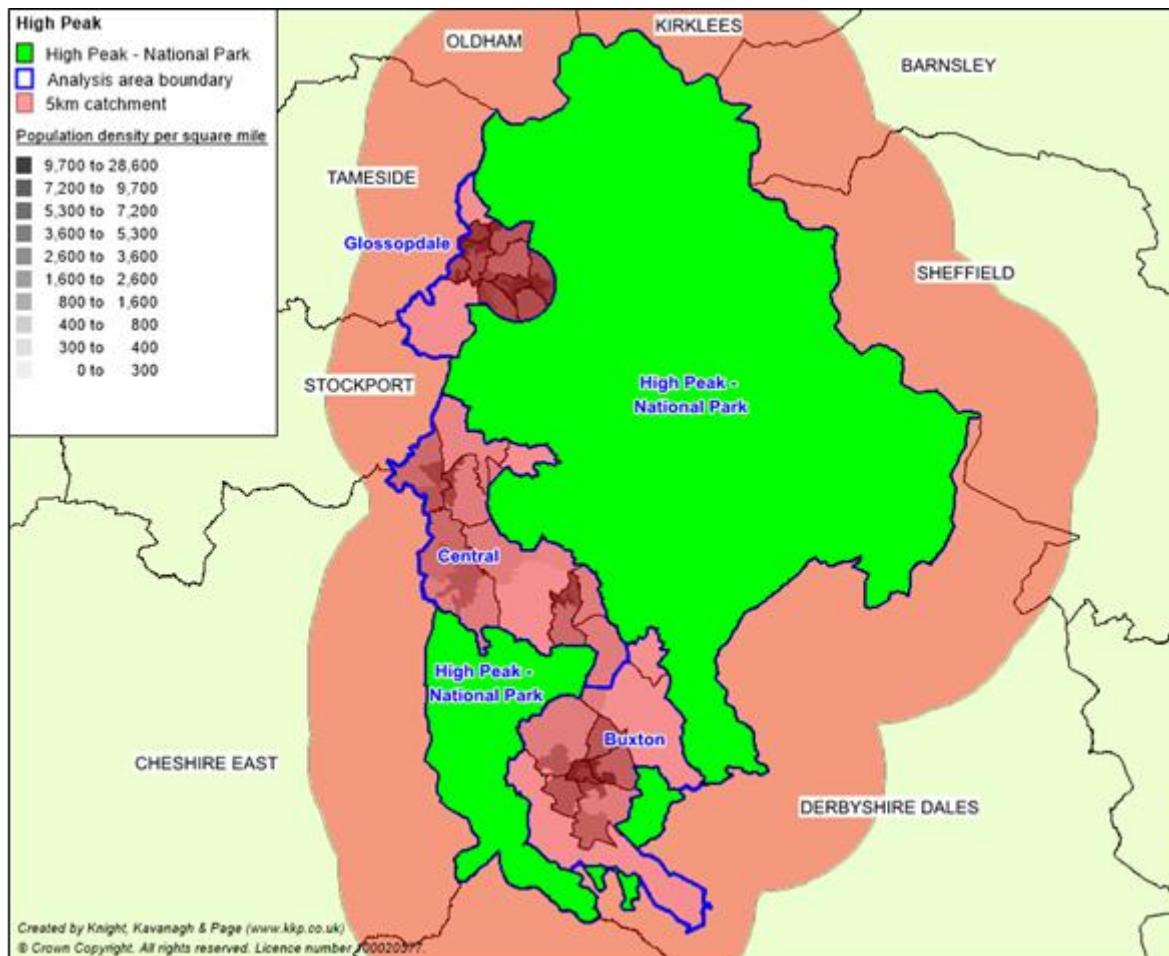
# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

Figure 5.3: Natural greenspaces of at least 20 hectares with two kilometres catchment



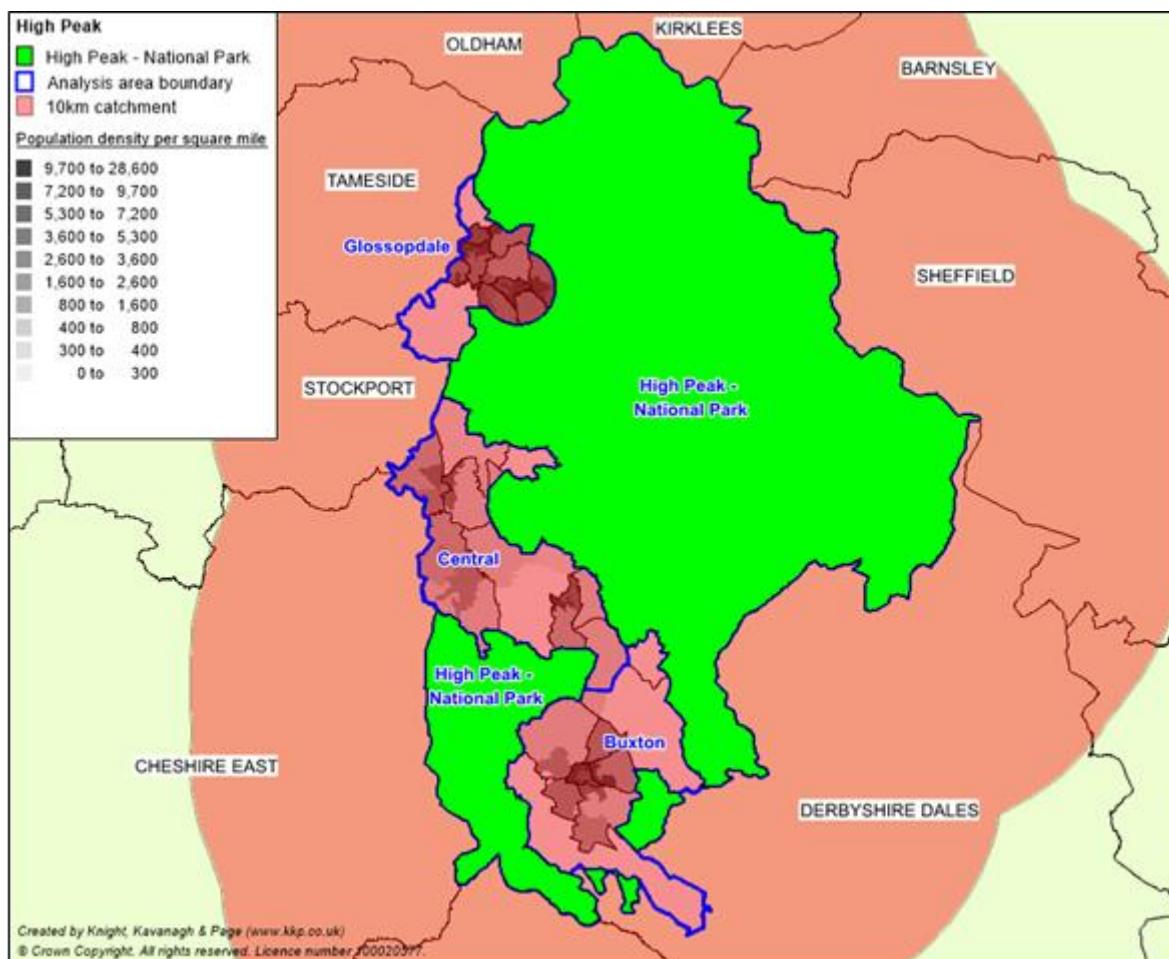
# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

Figure 5.4: Natural greenspaces of at least 100 hectares with five kilometres catchment



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*Figure 5.5: Natural greenspaces of at least 500 hectares with 10 kilometres catchment*



*Table 5.3: Key to sites mapped*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
75	Bings Wood	Central
76	Whaley Bridge Canal Basin	Central
77	Hockerley Clough	Central
82	Goytside Meadows LNR	Central
87	Brookfield Pond LNR	Central
103	Shay Lodge	Buxton
104	Millbank	Buxton
106	Corbar Woods	Buxton
108	Sherbrook Plantation	Buxton
110	Brickyard Plantation	Buxton
111	Gadley Plantation	Buxton
112	Wye Head Close	Buxton

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
113	Hogshaw Wood	Buxton
114	Lovers Leap	Buxton
115	Ashwood Dale	Buxton
293	The Torrs Riverside Park	Central
314	Bluebell Wood Local Nature Reserve	Central
318	Hawk Road, New Mills	Central
324	Broadhurst Edge Wood	Central
356	Bugsworth Basin	Central
325	Brockholes Wood	High Peak-National Park
328	Deep Dale and Topley Pike	High Peak-National Park
330	Hadfields Quarry	High Peak-National Park
332	Hillbridge And Park Wood	High Peak-National Park
335	Ladybower Wood	High Peak-National Park
336	Long Clough	Glossopdale
338	Overdale	High Peak-National Park
339	Priddock Wood	High Peak-National Park
343	Watford Lodge LNR	Central
344	Stubbins Park LNR	Central
351	Mousley Bottom LNR	Central
352	Ferneydale Grassland LNR	Buxton
354	Combs Reservoir	Central
356	Bugsworth Basin	Central
360	Burnside Avenue	Central
364	Linear Park	Central
367	Watford Wood	Buxton
368	Melandra Castle	Glossopdale
371	George Street Woods	Glossopdale
377	South of Sherwood Road	Buxton
378	Woodland, Woolley Bridge Road	Glossopdale
379	Dinting Vale Wood	Glossopdale
386	Woodland Junc Bowden Lane	Central
387	Lightwood	Buxton
391	Bowden Lane Orchard	Central

There is a good spread of natural and semi-natural greenspace identified across High Peak.

Application of the ANGSt 5-minute walk time (Figure 5.2) demonstrates that there are large parts of the High Peak deficient in terms of accessibility to natural greenspace (including all urban areas).

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Against the two-kilometre catchment (Figure 5.3), gaps in provision are noted to the Buxton Analysis Area, north of the Central Analysis Area and east of the Glossopdale Analysis Area. Large parts of the rural and national park analysis areas are also not covered.

Against the five-kilometre and 10 kilometre catchments (Figure 5.4 and 5.5), no gaps are highlighted.

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.

### 5.3 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace in High Peak, for the 2008 study. A threshold of 35% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

No natural and semi-natural greenspace sites are assessed as part of the 2017 study.

*Table 5.4: Quality ratings for natural and semi-natural by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
75	Bings Wood	Central	19.7%	
76	Whaley Bridge Canal Basin	Central	23.5%	
77	Hackerley Clough	Central	19.7%	
82	Goytside Meadows LNR	Central	65.9%	
87	Brookfield Pond LNR	Central		
103	Shay Lodge	Buxton	23.5%	
104	Millbank	Buxton	19.7%	
106	Corbar Woods	Buxton	31.1%	
108	Sherbrook Plantation	Buxton	33.3%	
110	Brickyard Plantation	Buxton	29.5%	
111	Gadley Plantation	Buxton	22.0%	
112	Wye Head Close	Buxton	32.6%	
113	Hogshaw Wood	Buxton	31.1%	
114	Lovers Leap	Buxton	13.6%	
115	Ashwood Dale	Buxton	15.9%	
293	The Torrs Riverside Park	Central	50.8%	
314	Bluebell Nature Reserve	Central	46.2%	
318	Hawk Road, New Mills	Central	33.3%	
324	Broadhurst Edge Wood	Central		
325	Brockholes Wood	High Peak-National Park		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
328	Deep Dale And Topley Pike	High Peak-National Park		
330	Hadfields Quarry	High Peak-National Park		
332	Hillbridge And Park Wood	High Peak-National Park		
335	Ladybower Wood	High Peak-National Park		
336	Long Clough	Glossopdale		
338	Overdale	High Peak-National Park		
339	Priddock Wood	High Peak-National Park		
343	Watford Lodge LNR	Central		
344	Stubbins Park LNR*	Central		
351	Mousley Bottom LNR	Central		
352	Ferneydale Grassland LNR	Buxton		
354	Combs Reservoir	Central		
356	Bugsworth Basin *	Central		
360	Burnside Avenue	Central		
364	Linear Park	Central		
367	Watford Wood	Buxton		
368	Melandra Castle	Glossopdale		
371	George Street Woods	Glossopdale		
377	South of Sherwood Road	Buxton		
378	Woodland, Woolley Bridge Road	Glossopdale		
379	Dinting Vale Woods	Glossopdale		
386	Woodland Junc Bowden Lane	Central		
387	Lightwood	Buxton		
391	Bowden Lane Orchard	Central		

None of the 27 assessed as part of the 2017 update are identified as natural or semi-natural sites. The 27 sites comprise of amenity greenspaces, parks and gardens and play areas.

Out of the assessed 17 natural and semi-natural greenspaces in 2008, over three quarters (82%), scored below the threshold for quality. Low scores obtained by natural and semi - natural sites can be partly due to a lack of ancillary features and facilities such as toilets, benches and lighting, as well as lower levels of personal security. This is often because of the purpose of such sites to act as a habitat for wildlife. As such, natural and semi-natural sites which score below the threshold do not always have specific quality issues.

The highest scoring sites for quality were Goytside Meadows LNR and The Torrs Riverside Park. These sites scored 66% and 51% respectively. Goytside Meadows LNR was the highest scoring site within this typology.

Goytside Meadows LNR scored well due to its good levels of overall maintenance and cleanliness, pathways accessible for all users, informative signage and additional features, such as benches.

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The lowest scoring sites from the 2008 scores were:

- ◀ Lovers Leap (14%)
- ◀ Ashwood Dale (16%)

These sites were reported to both have a steep gradient with no additional features and facilities such as signage, bins and benches. In addition, both sites had less passable pathways and Ashwood Dale was observed as having lower levels of overall cleanliness and maintenance. The nature of High Peak results in some sloping greenspaces therefore, it is important that there are sufficient green spaces available that are accessible for those with restricted mobility.

Stubbins Park LNR has not been assessed as part of either the 2008 or 2017 study. However, if assessed, it is likely to score high for quality. Consultation with Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council highlights that they own and manage the nature reserve, which due to a recent refurbishment, is of good quality.

### ***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 open spaces are managed and maintained.

Bugsworth Basin has Green Flag status and is discussed further and in the value section below.

### ***Community involvement***

There is currently one Friends of Group associated with natural and semi-natural sites; the Friends of Chinley Park. This site is audited as KKP 344 Stubbins Park LNR but is known more locally as Chinley Park Nature Reserve.

Goytside Meadows forms part of a wider project within New Mills to promote education and help people understand their heritage as part of the volunteer and Friends of Groups.

Bugsworth Basin has a large amount of community involvement through adoption groups, volunteer days and links to schools and colleges. This is discussed further in the value section.

### **5.4 Value**

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace in High Peak, for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

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*Table 5.5: Value ratings for natural and semi-natural by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
75	Bings Wood	Central	12.7%	
76	Whaley Bridge Canal Basin	Central	17.3%	
77	Hackerley Clough	Central	10.9%	
82	Goytside Meadows LNR	Central	38.2%	
87	Brookfield Pond LNR	Central		
103	Shay Lodge	Buxton	21.8%	
104	Millbank	Buxton	10.0%	
106	Corbar Woods	Buxton	32.7%	
108	Sherbrook Plantation	Buxton	31.8%	
110	Brickyard Plantation	Buxton	28.2%	
111	Gadley Plantation	Buxton	28.2%	
112	Wye Head Close	Buxton	23.6%	
113	Hogshaw Wood	Buxton	17.3%	
114	Lovers Leap	Buxton	16.4%	
115	Ashwood Dale	Buxton	10.0%	
293	The Torrs Riverside Park	Central	25.5%	
314	Bluebell Nature Reserve	Central	31.8%	
318	Hawk Road, New Mills	Central	14.5%	
324	Broadhurst Edge Wood	Central		
325	Brockholes Wood	High Peak-National Park		
328	Deep Dale And Topley Pike	High Peak-National Park		
330	Hadfields Quarry	High Peak-National Park		
332	Hillbridge And Park Wood	High Peak-National Park		
335	Ladybower Wood	High Peak-National Park		
336	Long Clough	Glossopdale		
338	Overdale	High Peak-National Park		
339	Priddock Wood	High Peak-National Park		
343	Watford Lodge LNR	Central		
344	Stubbins Park LNR *	Central		
351	Mousley Bottom LNR	Central		
352	Ferneydale Grassland LNR	Buxton		
354	Combs Reservoir	Central		
356	Bugsworth Basin	Central		
360	Burnside Avenue	Central		
364	Linear Park	Central		
367	Watford Wood	Buxton		
368	Melandra Castle	Glossopdale		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
371	George Street Woods	Glossopdale		
377	South of Sherwood Road	Buxton		
378	Woodland, Woolley Bridge Road	Glossopdale		
379	Dinting Vale Woods	Glossopdale		
386	Woodland Junc Bowden Lane	Central		
387	Lightwood	Buxton		
391	Bowden Lane Orchard	Central		

Over half of natural and semi-natural sites (53%) assessed in 2008 scored above the threshold for value. Natural and semi-natural sites often score high for value as a result of the ecological benefits provided. Even sites of this typology which have little to offer in terms of recreation, are important for promotion of biodiversity.

As previously mentioned, natural and semi-natural sites often score lower for quality due to fewer features and facilities, as a result of habitat management and ensuring sites are fit for their primary purpose of conservation. Given that quality often directly impacts on value, with sites having less to offer users, being presumed to offer less opportunity, this explains why 47% of assessed sites scored low for value.

In relation to value, a site in particular worth noting, is Bugsworth Basin. This site is owned by the Canal and River Trust and is a Green Flag site. This site has an abundance of cultural and heritage value and on a daily basis, is managed by the Bugsworth Basin Heritage Trust, which also runs a small visitors centre and museum.

Consultation with the Canal and River Trust highlighted the significance of this site within the local community, acting as a venue for local events such as Buxworth Fun Day. In addition, this site offers numerous opportunities for locals to socialise and be active through boating, fishing, canoeing and walking groups, as well as the opportunity for local groups (adoption groups) to adopt areas of the wider site, known as the Upper Peak Forest Canal, to look after.

These adoption groups take on small sections of the Upper Peak Forest Canal and help maintain it. The Canal and River Trust will provide tools and training to support these groups. Further to these adoption groups, monthly working group days are held at the site, allowing volunteers to do their part to care for the site. As such, this site is evidently valued by many people in the local area.

This site; however, is not only valued by local people, with the site attracting more than 50,000 visitors per annum, as well as seeing many holiday makers on canal boats passing through, further supporting the area's economy. Furthermore, this site holds high ecological value, acting as a habitat for many species of wildlife.

Goytside Meadows scored highest for value in 2008, with 38%. Goytside Meadows is a LNR, which contributes to the High Peak Biodiversity Action Plan and includes marsh/wet grassland, semi-natural broad-leaved woodland, scrub and hedgerows. The mosaic of semi-natural grassland habitats makes the reserve a valuable site for conservation with over 400 recorded plant and invertebrate species.

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Although not assessed, it is presumed Stubbins Park LNR (locally known as Chinley Park Nature Reserve), would score particularly high for value as a result of its associated community involvement. The site has a recognised high social value provided by being part of Friends of Chinley Park (formed in 2005) and the events and activities it helps to organise, such as Picnic in the Park and wildlife quizzes.

Bowden Lane Orchard, Burnside Avenue and land around Combs Reservoir are all designated Local Green Spaces in the Chapel-en-le-Frith Neighbourhood Plan. It is therefore, these sites score high for value despite not being assessed. George Street Woods is also designated as a Local Green Space in the High Peak Local Plan. It too is also assumed to score high for value.

### 5.5 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ In total there are 44 natural and semi-natural greenspaces, totalling over 263 hectares.
- ◀ No shortfalls in quantity provision is identified against benchmarks such as FIT.
- ◀ A standard of 1.18 ha per 1,000 population is set by HPBC. All individual analysis areas meet this standard. If the equivalent analysis areas to the last study are used, current provision (2.60 ha per 1,000 population) is still above the existing standard.
- ◀ Catchment mapping portrays an excellent level of coverage across High Peak as a whole. Given the rural characteristics of the area and the large expanse of National Park. Overall, there is thought to be sufficient access to natural and semi-natural greenspace provision.
- ◀ With a population of 85,749, High Peak is recommended to have approximately 86 hectares of LNR. As it stands, High Peak falls short of this standard, with 38.21 hectares of LNR.
- ◀ Out of the assessed 17 natural and semi-natural greenspaces, over three quarters (82%), scored below the threshold for quality.
- ◀ Low scores obtained by natural and semi-natural sites can be partly due to a lack of ancillary features and facilities such as toilets, benches and lighting, as well as lower levels of personal security. This is often because of the purpose of such sites to act as a habitat for wildlife. As such, natural and semi-natural sites which score below the threshold do not always have specific quality issues
- ◀ Over half (59%) of natural and semi-natural sites assessed score above the threshold for value. Natural sites often score high for value as a result of the ecological benefit provided. Even sites of this typology which have little to offer in terms of recreation, are important for promotion of biodiversity. The highest scoring site for value was Goytside Meadows (38%).
- ◀ Although not assessed for value in either the 2017 update or the 2008 study, consultation with the Canal and River Trust, highlights the valuable asset of Bugsworth Basin to the area.

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### PART 6: 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. These include informal recreation spaces, housing green spaces, village greens and other incidental space.

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

There are 55 amenity greenspace sites totalling over 55 hectares of amenity greenspace across High Peak.

In the 2008 study, there were 45 sites classified as amenity greenspaces. The identification of new sites has increased this by ten sites.

In accordance with best practice recommendations a size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied to the inclusion of amenity greenspaces. 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.

*Table 6.1: Distribution of amenity greenspace sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Amenity greenspace		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	9	9.44	0.46
Central	18	19.27	0.86
Glossopdale	18	16.82	0.57
High Peak-National Park	10	9.80	0.51
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>55.34</b>	<b>0.60</b>

It is important to note that whilst the majority of provision is considered as being small grassed areas in and around housing or visual landscaped space, there is some variation of sites within this typology. For example recreation grounds can be included under amenity greenspace, such as Birch Vale Recreation Ground (Central). These serve a different purpose to grassed areas in housing estates and often provide an extended range of opportunities for recreational activities compared to grass areas. In addition, these sites are often larger in size.

Glossopdale and Central analysis areas have the most provision in terms of the number of sites (18 sites). The Central Analysis Area has the greatest amount of hectarage with 19.27 hectares. Proportionally it also has the highest current provision with 0.86 hectares per 1,000 population. The Buxton Analysis Area has the lowest current provision level with 0.46 hectares per 1,000 population.

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Fields In Trust (FIT) suggests 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. Table 6.1 shows that overall High Peak is sufficient on this basis. However, the Buxton Analysis Area (0.46) is noted as having a shortfall against the FIT standard.

The 2008 study had two analysis areas; High Peak INSIDE the National Park and High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park. To calculate an updated version of provision levels for these analysis areas, the population associated with the National Park Analysis Area can be separated from the other three analysis areas used in the 2017 update. As the Buxton, Central and Glossopdale analysis areas form the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area.

*Table 6.2: Current provision levels using 2017 and 2008 analysis areas*

Analysis areas (2017)	2017 update		Using 2008 analysis areas	
	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	9.44	0.46		
Central	19.27	0.86	45.53	0.63
Glossopdale	16.82	0.57		
High Peak - National Park	9.80	0.51	9.80	0.51
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>55.34</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>55.34</b>	<b>0.60</b>

This would result in a current provision level of 0.60 hectares per 1,000 population for the former High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area (now covering the analysis areas of Buxton, Central and Glossopdale).

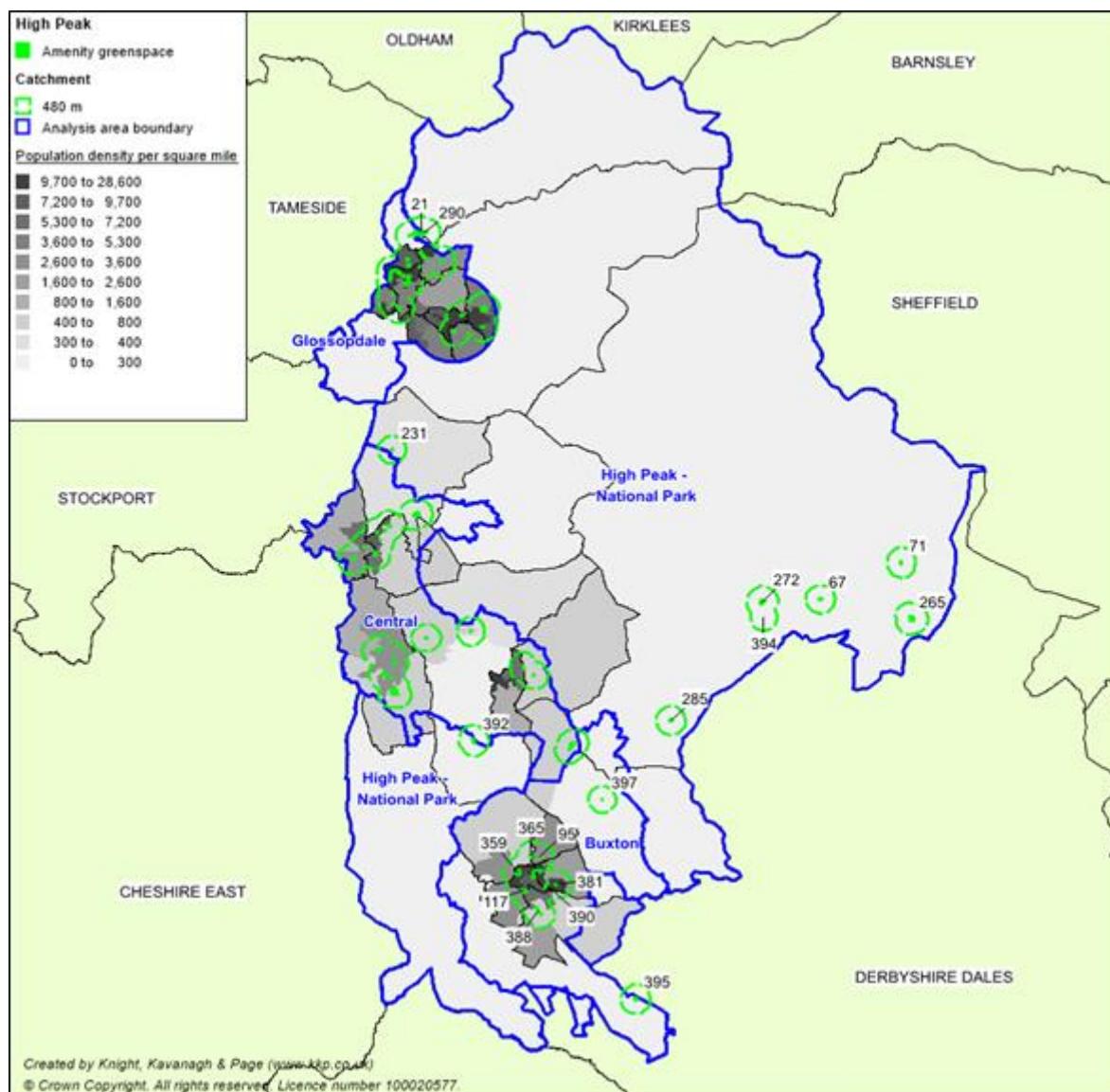
The 2008 study recommended a standard of 0.44 hectares per 1,000 population for the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area. In 2017, the equivalent current provision per 1,000 population is 0.63 hectares. The change is due to an increase in the number of sites, hectares and use of more up to date population figures. For instance, in 2008 the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area (now covering the analysis areas of Buxton, Central and Glossopdale) was identified as having 35.89 hectares of provision. For the 2017 update, the same area has a total of 45.53 hectares identified.

### 6.3 Accessibility

An accessibility catchment of a six minute walk time (480 metres) has been applied across High Peak to reflect best practice guidelines as set out by Fields in Trust: Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play.

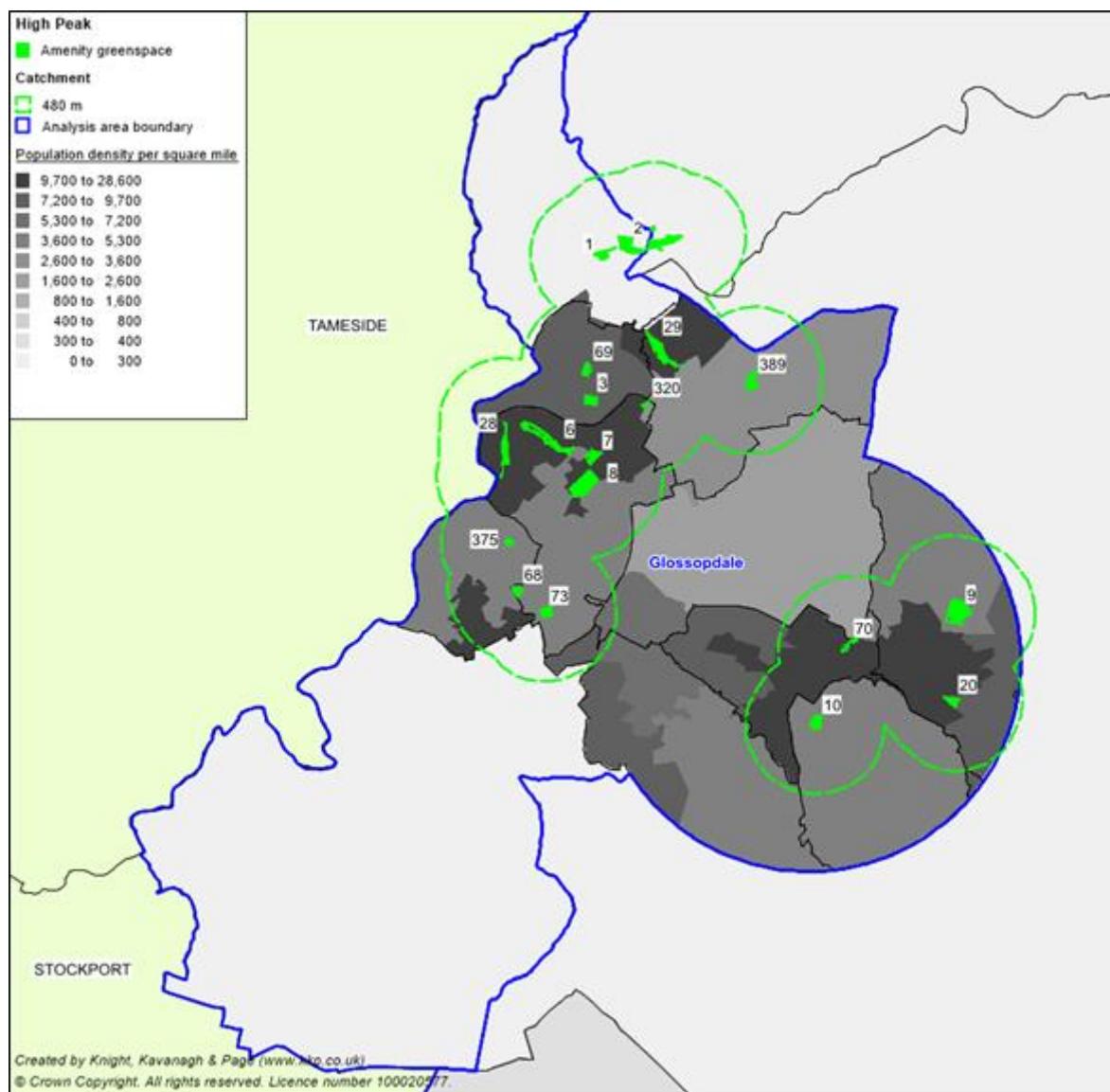
# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

Figure 6.1: Amenity greenspace mapped against analysis area



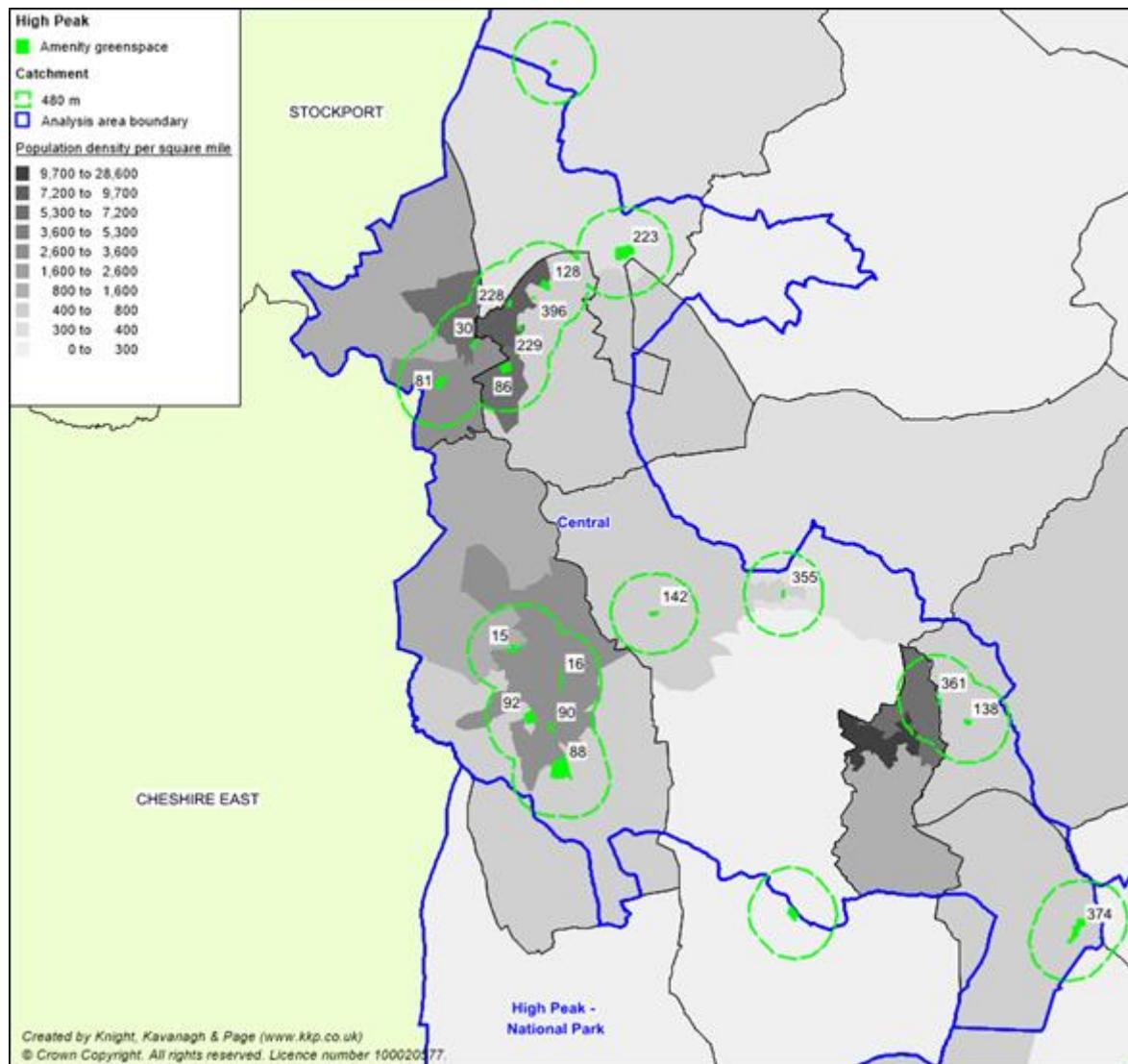
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Figure 6.2: Amenity greenspace mapped against Glossopdale Analysis Area



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*Figure 6.3: Amenity greenspace mapped against Central Analysis Area*



*Table 6.3: Key to sites mapped*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
1	Conduit Street	Glossopdale
2	Sexton Street Rec	Glossopdale
3	Chapel Lane Rec	Glossopdale
6	Lockes Open Space	Glossopdale
7	Newshaw Lane Open Space	Glossopdale
8	Newshaw Lane Rec Ground	Glossopdale
9	Pyegrove Rec	Glossopdale
10	Whitfield Recreation Ground	Glossopdale
15	Meadowfield Open Space	Central
16	Linear Park	Central

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<b>Site ID</b>	<b>Site name</b>	<b>Analysis area</b>
20	Shirebrook Park	Glossopdale
21	War Memorial	High Peak - National Park
28	Woolley Bridge O.S.	Glossopdale
29	Roughfields OS, Hadfield*	Glossopdale
30	Leisure Centre	Central
67	Eccles Close	High Peak - National Park
68	Edale Close	Glossopdale
69	Greenbank, Hadfield	Glossopdale
70	King Edward Avenue	Glossopdale
71	Parsons Gate/Bemrose Gate	High Peak - National Park
73	Cottage Lane	Glossopdale
81	New Town Recreation Ground	Central
86	Bakehurst Recreation Ground	Central
88	Carrs Field	Central
90	Horwich End Open Space	Central
92	Memorial Park Recreation Ground	Central
95	The Green, Buxton	Buxton
117	Cote Heath Recreation Ground	Buxton
128	Portland Road Recreation Ground	Buxton
138	Needhams Recreation Ground*	Central
142	Buxworth Rec	Central
223	Birch Vale Recreation Ground	Central
228	Ollersett Playing Fields	Central
229	Bowden Crescent	Central
231	Goddard Lane amenity greenspace	High Peak - National Park
265	Bamford Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park
272	Castleton Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park
285	Peak Forest Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park
290	Tintwistle	High Peak - National Park
320	St Andrew's Church	Glossopdale
355	Squirrel Green	Central
356	Bugsworth Basin	Central
359	The Slopes	Buxton
361	South Head Drive	Central
365	Hogshaw Rec	Buxton
374	Doves Holes Amenity	Central
375	Roman Garden, Gamesley	Glossopdale
381	Granby Road Open Space	Buxton

\* Site allocated for housing or mixed used development of 102 dwellings in High Peak Local Plan

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
388	Ripon Gardens	Buxton
389	Padfield Local Greenspace	Glossopdale
390	The Launt	Buxton
392	Combs School Field	High Peak - National Park
394	Three Roofs Café Open Space	High Peak-National Park
395	Sterndale Moor Open Space	Buxton
396	Poplar Avenue	Central
397	Memorial Garden Peak Dale	Buxton

Catchment mapping with a 6-minute walk time applied shows a reasonable level of coverage across High Peak as a whole. In most instances, areas with a greater population density have access to provision. However, some gaps are identified due to the accessibility catchment for amenity greenspace being relatively small (as provision is often deemed to be locally significant). These gaps are mainly noted in Glossopdale and the south east of the Central Analysis Area.

These gaps are; however, served by other forms of open space provision such as natural and semi-natural greenspace and parks and gardens. For example; in Glossopdale, identified gaps in amenity greenspace are served by Dinting Vale Woods. In the Central Analysis Area, Tramps Garden meets the gap identified in an area of higher population density.

### 6.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspace in High Peak, for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 40% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 6.4: Quality ratings for amenity greenspaces by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
1	Conduit Street	Glossopdale	45.4%	Green
2	Sexton Street Rec	Glossopdale	43.2%	Red
3	Chapel Lane Rec	Glossopdale	35.0%	42.6%
6	Lockes Open Space	Glossopdale	39.9%	Red
7	Newshaw Lane Open Space	Glossopdale	49.0%	Green
8	Newshaw Lane Rec Ground	Glossopdale	36.7%	33.6%
9	Pyegrove Rec	Glossopdale	45.5%	44.8%
10	Whitfield Recreation Ground	Glossopdale	47.1%	44.5%
15	Meadowfield Open Space	Central	45.1%	Green
16	Linear Park	Central	56.0%	Green

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
20	Shirebrook Park	Glossopdale	59.8%	
21	War Memorial	High Peak - National Park	52.9%	
27	Philip Howard Park	Glossopdale	61.9%	
28	Woolley Bridge O.S.	Glossopdale	51.9%	
29	Roughfields OS, Hadfield	Glossopdale	35.1%	
30	Leisure Centre Hyde Bank Road, New Mills	Central	51.2%	
67	Eccles Close	High Peak - National Park	60.8%	
68	Edale Close	Glossopdale	42.6%	
69	Greenbank, Hadfield	Glossopdale	16.4%	
70	King Edward Avenue	Glossopdale	42.1%	
71	Parsons Gate/Bernrose Gate	High Peak - National Park	54.2%	
73	Cottage Lane	Glossopdale	43.4%	
81	New Town Recreation Ground	Central	27.1%	
86	Bakehurst Recreation Ground	Central		
88	Carrs Field	Central		
90	Horwich End Open Space	Central	23.0%	
92	Memorial Park Recreation Ground*	Central	26.8%	
95	The Green, Buxton	Buxton	32.5%	
117	Cote Heath Recreation Ground *	Buxton	35.7%	
128	Portland Road Recreation Ground	Central	57.0%	37.7%
138	Needhams Recreation Ground *	Central	37.7%	
142	Buxworth Rec	Central		
223	Birch Vale Recreation Ground	Central	65.2%	
228	Ollersett Playing Fields	Central	45.1%	
229	Bowden Crescent	Central	45.6%	
231	Goddard Lane amenity greenspace	High Peak - National Park	35.4%	
265	Bamford Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park	53.4%	
272	Castleton Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park	32.0%	
285	Peak Forest Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park	41.8%	
290	Tintwistle	High Peak - National Park	23.8%	
320	St Andrew's Church	Glossopdale	36.1%	
355	Squirrel Green	Central		
356	Bugsworth Basin	Central		
359	The Slopes	Buxton	61.2%	
361	South Head Drive	Central		
365	Hogshaw Rec	Buxton		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
374	Doves Holes Amenity	Central		
375	Roman Garden, Gamesley	Glossopdale		39.3%
381	Granby Road Open Space	Buxton		41.3%
388	Ripon Gardens	Buxton		
389	Padfield Local Greenspace	Glossopdale		
390	The Launt	Buxton		
392	Combs School Field	High Peak - National Park		
394	Three Roofs Café Open Space	High Peak-National Park		
395	Sterndale Moor Open Space	Buxton		
396	Poplar Avenue	Central		
397	Memorial Garden Peak Dale	Buxton		

A total of 66% of sites assessed as part of the 2017 update score high for quality. In 2008, 61% of assessed amenity greenspace sites scored above the threshold. This demonstrates a generally high standard of provision of this type across the High Peak area.

Birch Vale Recreation Ground scored the highest for quality in 2008 due to it being an attractive site. It also provided ancillary features such as benches, signage and bins as well as having excellent user security. In addition, its footpaths were well maintained and disabled user friendly.

In general, the quality scores of sites assessed in the 2017 study have stayed consistent with those scores obtained in 2008. Chapel Lane Rec has seen a significant improvement, now receiving a score of 43% compared to 35% in the previous study. In contrast, Portland Road Recreation Ground has seen a significant decrease in quality, receiving a score of 38%, compared to 57%.

The improvement in score at Chapel Lane Rec can be attributed to instillation of boundary fencing and some controls to prevent illegal use, resulting in higher levels of user security. A point to note; however, the paths at this site still remain poor and there is still a lack of ancillary features such as benches.

Portland Road Recreation Ground has seen some deterioration since the previous study, with graffiti on an onsite equipment shed, overgrown areas of grass and a lack of defined pathways. Furthermore, as noted in 2008, the site has few ancillary features such as benches and bins. The latter resulting in some issues around litter. This site appears to be used by local young people for informal football, with goal posts sprayed onto the surrounding fence; however, there is a lack of any official goal posts. This would suggest there is potential for this site to be better utilised.

The highest scoring sites in the 2017 study are Pyegrove Rec and Whitfield Recreation Ground, both scoring 45%. Both these sites have good user security, having boundary fencing and are noted as being well-maintained with good levels of cleanliness. Furthermore, Pyegrove Rec has parking provision. It is; however, worth noting both these sites have seen a slight decrease in quality due to some deterioration in both path quality and presence of natural features which promote conservation.

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Needhams Recreation Ground scored low for quality in the 2008 study; however, Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council highlights that Needhams Recreation Ground has been recently refurbished. As such, it is assumed that it would receive a higher quality score if reassessed. The site scored 38% in 2008, which is close to the threshold of 40%. Based on consultation with the parish council, this would suggest the site would now score above the threshold.

Similarly, Cote Heath Recreation Ground scored 36% in 2008, sitting just below the threshold for quality; however, consultation with Buxton Town Team highlights that Cote Heath Recreation Ground now has a Friends of Group. Given the positive impact a friends of group can have on the quality of a site, it is likely this site would now score higher for quality and subsequently move above the 40% quality threshold. In addition, the Council have identified Cote Heath Recreation Ground as a key site, in that it could be further developed to provide provision for young people in the area.

Despite scoring high in 2008, consultation with Friends of Conduit Street would suggest that Sexton Street Rec (in the Glossopdale Analysis Area) would score significantly lower for quality if it were to be re-assessed. The Group express that the site is in a poor general state and is largely unused as a result. Tintwistle Parish Council have recently purchased the land with the intention of refurbishing the community building on the site and the open space around it, creating a village green area.

### 6.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the value assessment for amenity greenspace in High Peak, for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 6.5: Value ratings for amenity greenspaces by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
1	Conduit Street	Glossopdale	48.0%	
2	Sexton Street Rec	Glossopdale	37.0%	
3	Chapel Lane Rec	Glossopdale	34.0%	44.0%
6	Lockes Open Space	Glossopdale	42.0%	
7	Newshaw Lane Open Space	Glossopdale	32.0%	
8	Newshaw Lane Rec Ground	Glossopdale	28.0%	43.0%
9	Pyegrove Rec	Glossopdale	48.0%	55.0%
10	Whitfield Recreation Ground	Glossopdale	34.0%	39.0%
15	Meadowfield Open Space	Central	47.0%	
16	Linear Park	Central	35.0%	
20	Shirebrook Park	Glossopdale	31.0%	
21	War Memorial	High Peak - National Park	36.0%	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
27	Philip Howard Park	Glossopdale	54.0%	
28	Woolley Bridge O.S.	Glossopdale	41.0%	
29	Roughfields OS Hadfield	Glossopdale	43.0%	
30	Leisure Centre Hyde Bank Road, New Mills	Central	31.0%	
67	Eccles Close	High Peak - National Park	41.0%	
68	Edale Close	Glossopdale	27.0%	
69	Greenbank, Hadfield	Glossopdale	5.0%	
70	King Edward Avenue	Glossopdale	47.0%	
71	Parsons Gate/Bemrose Gate	High Peak - National Park	46.0%	
73	Cottage Lane	Glossopdale	26.0%	
81	New Town Recreation Ground	Central	21.0%	
86	Bakehurst Recreation Ground	Central		
88	Carrs Field	Central		
90	Horwich End Open Space	Central	9.0%	
92	Memorial Park Recreation Ground*	Central	21.0%	
95	The Green, Buxton	Buxton	21.0%	
117	Cote Heath Recreation Ground*	Buxton	47.0%	
128	Portland Road Recreation Ground	Central	34.0%	43.0%
138	Needhams Recreation Ground*	Central	25.0%	
142	Buxworth Rec	Central		
223	Birch Vale Recreation Ground	Central	57.0%	
228	Ollersett Playing Fields	Central	33.0%	
229	Bowden Crescent	Central	29.0%	
231	Goddard Lane amenity greenspace	High Peak - National Park	30.0%	
265	Bamford Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park	27.0%	
272	Castleton Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park	32.0%	
285	Peak Forest Recreation Ground	High Peak - National Park	27.0%	
290	Tintwistle	High Peak - National Park	16.0%	
320	St Andrew's Church	Glossopdale	16.0%	
355	Squirrel Green	Central		
356	Bugsworth Basin	Central		
359	The Slopes	Buxton	50.0%	
361	South Head Drive	Central		
365	Hogshaw Rec	Buxton		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
374	Doves Holes Amenity	Central		
375	Roman Garden, Gamesley	Glossopdale		37.3%
381	Granby Road Open Space	Buxton		34.0%
388	Ripon Gardens	Buxton		
389	Padfield Local Greenspace	Glossopdale		
390	The Launt	Buxton		
392	Combs School Field	High Peak - National Park		
394	Three Roofs Café Open Space	High Peak-National Park		
395	Sterndale Moor Open Space	Buxton		
396	Poplar Avenue	Central		
397	Memorial Garden Peak Dale	Buxton		

Only four sites are rated as scoring below the threshold for value, with Greenbank Hadfield receiving the lowest score (5%). This site was observed in the previous study as hardly being used due to being inaccessible. People are less likely to use this site if accessibility is a problem. It was also steep sloping and perceived to be poorly managed and maintained. Steep gradients can lower social inclusion and health benefits by reducing movement for some users. Consequently, amenity value can also be low. The nature of High Peak results in some sloping greenspaces therefore, it is important that there are sufficient green spaces available that are accessible for those with restricted mobility.

All re-assessed sites have increased in value. Amenity sites can often score low for quality due to being small and basic, with few ancillary features; but can often score highly for value. This is a result of their role in often providing visual amenity and breaking up the urban form. For example, Roman Garden, Gamesley scores low for quality but high for value.

South Head Drive is assumed to score high for value due it being a LGS in the Chapel-en-le-Frith Neighbourhood Plan.

Birch Vale Recreation Ground was the highest scoring site for value in 2008 (57%). This was due to its multifunctional purpose. The site was not reassessed as part of the 2017 study.

The multipurpose function of recreation grounds is often reflected in the high value scores of recreation grounds. Pyegrove Rec scores the highest for value in 2017 (55%). It has high ecological value and medium biodiversity due to numerous surrounding trees and a large grassed area. Also, the recreation ground contains marked out football pitches and a play area. It therefore has high social value with opportunities for exercise, team sport and social interaction. With a wide range of people able to use the site along with good parking, this site scores very high for value and is inevitably well used.

Amenity greenspace should be recognised for its multi-purpose function, offering opportunities for a variety of leisure and recreational activities. It can often accommodate informal recreational activity such as casual play and dog walking.

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### 6.6 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ A total of 55 amenity greenspace sites are identified in High Peak, totalling over 55 hectares of amenity space.
- ◀ High Peak has 0.60 ha per 1,000 population. Only the Buxton (0.46) and Glossopdale (0.57) analysis areas are identified as not meeting the FIT standard (0.60 ha per 1,000 population).
- ◀ A standard of 0.44 ha per 1,000 population is set by HPBC. All individual analysis areas meet this standard. Even if the equivalent analysis areas to the last study are used, the existing standard is still met by current provision (0.63 ha per 1,000 population).
- ◀ Catchment mapping with a 6-minute walk time applied shows a reasonable level of coverage across High Peak as a whole. In most instances areas with a greater population density have reasonable access to provision. However, some gaps are identified due to the accessibility catchment used being relatively small (as provision is often deemed to be locally significant).
- ◀ Two thirds (66%) of assessed sites score high for quality. In 2008, 61% of assessed amenity greenspace sites scored above the threshold. This demonstrates a generally high standard of this type of provision across the High Peak area.
- ◀ Since the last study, Portland Road Recreation Ground has significantly declined in quality resulting in it moving from high quality to low quality.
- ◀ In addition to the multifunctional role of sites, amenity greenspace provision is, in general, particularly valuable towards the visual aesthetics for communities. The contribution these sites provide as a visual amenity and for wildlife habitats should not be overlooked.

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### PART 7: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

#### 7.1 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.

#### 7.2 Current provision

A total of 66 sites for provision for children and young people are identified across High Peak which combines to create a total of over 11 hectares. In the previous study 64 play areas were identified.

*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)
Buxton	12	2.60	0.13
Central	27	2.61	0.12
Glossopdale	18	3.77	0.13
High Peak-National Park	9	2.51	0.13
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>11.49</b>	<b>0.13</b>

Proportionally, there is a relatively even distribution of play provision across the High Peak area. The Central Analysis Area has the highest number of sites (27). However, it has a slightly lower current provision per 1,000 head of population (0.12 hectares) compared to the other analysis areas.

The 2008 study had two analysis areas; High Peak INSIDE the National Park and High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park. To calculate an updated version of provision levels for these analysis areas, the population associated with the National Park Analysis Area can be separated from the other three analysis areas used in the 2017 update. As the Buxton, Central and Glossopdale analysis areas form the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area.

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*Table 7.2: Current provision levels using 2017 and 2008 analysis areas*

Analysis areas (2017)	2017 update		2008 analysis areas	
	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)	Size (ha)	Current provision (ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	2.60	0.13		
Central	2.61	0.12	8.98	0.12
Glossopdale	3.77	0.13		
High Peak - National Park	2.51	0.13	2.51	0.13
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>11.49</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>11.49</b>	<b>0.13</b>

This would result in a current provision level of 0.12 hectares per 1,000 population for the former High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area (now covering the analysis areas of Buxton, Central and Glossopdale).

The 2008 study recommended a standard of 0.11 hectares per 1,000 population for the High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park Analysis Area. In 2017, the equivalent current provision per 1,000 population is 0.12 hectares. The change in value is due to an increase in the number of sites, hectares and use of more up to date in population figures.

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 is normally age group specific 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 a MUGA, skate parks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and are often included within large open space sites.

LAP's are considered to not have significant high value compared to LEAP's and NEAP's. These small play areas offer little value and use. The approach is for LEAP and NEAP provision to be encouraged. However, there are existing LAP's so these have been included.

Play provision in the Area is summarised using the FIT categories. Most is identified as being of LEAP (57%) classification; sites with a wider amount and range of equipment; designed to predominantly cater for unsupervised play.

It is important to recognise that sites classified as LEAP and NEAP may also contain youth provision equipment aimed at older age ranges.

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*Table 7.3: Distribution of provision for children and young people by FIT category*

Analysis area	Provision for children and young people				
	LAP	LEAP	NEAP	Stand-alone youth provision	TOTAL
Buxton	4	7	1	-	12
Central	7	15	4	1	27
Glossopdale	7	6	5	-	18
High Peak-National Park	-	9	-	-	9
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>66</b>

### 7.3 Accessibility

In order to identify any deficiencies in provision for children and young people the FIT accessibility benchmark standards for children's play space has been applied. Table 7.4 sets out these standards in distance (meters).

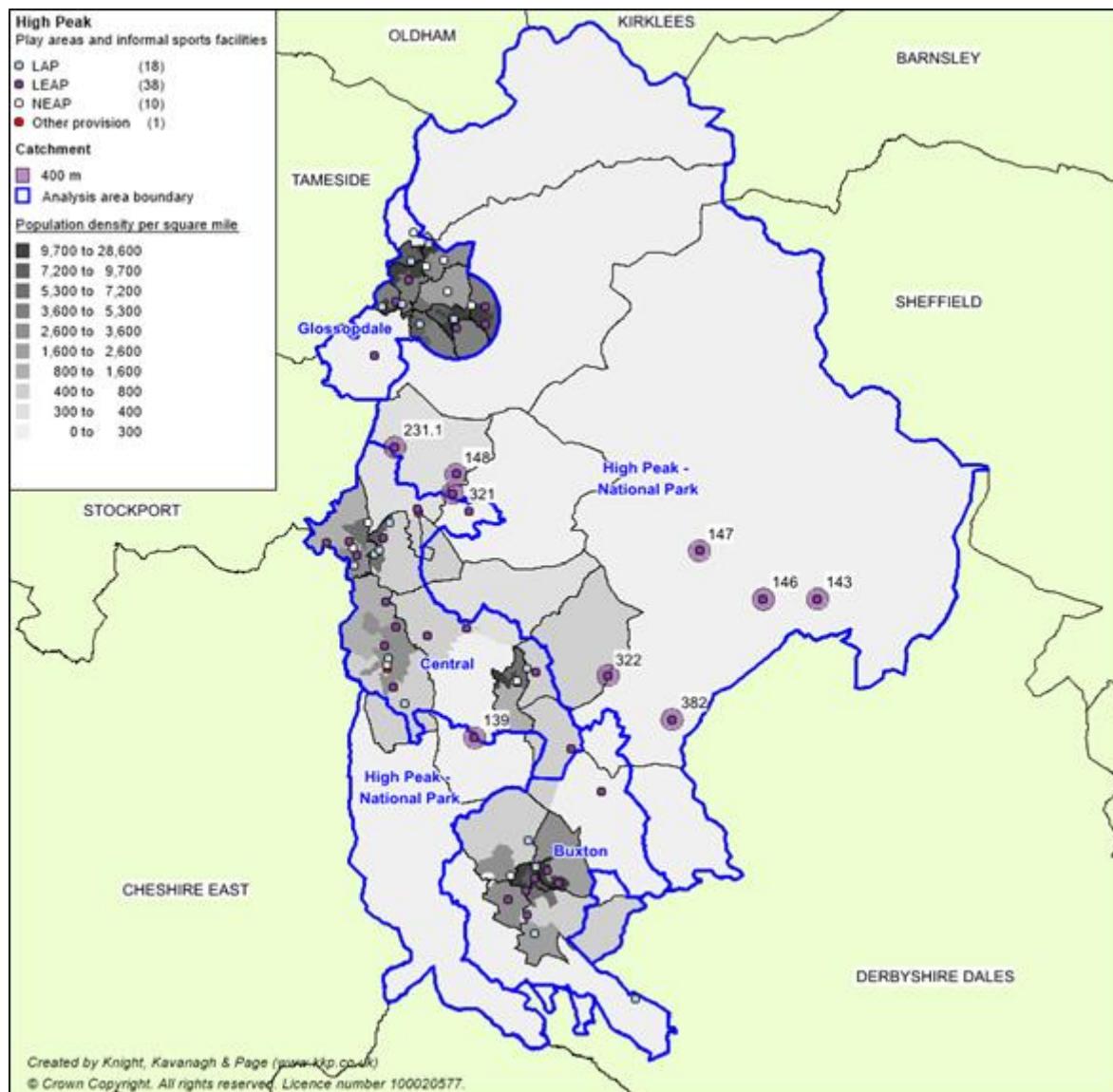
*Table 7.4: FIT accessibility standards*

Type of space	Distance (meters)
LAP	100m
LEAP	400m
NEAP	1000m
Other provision	700m

Figure 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.4 shows the standard applied to help inform where deficiencies in provision may be located.

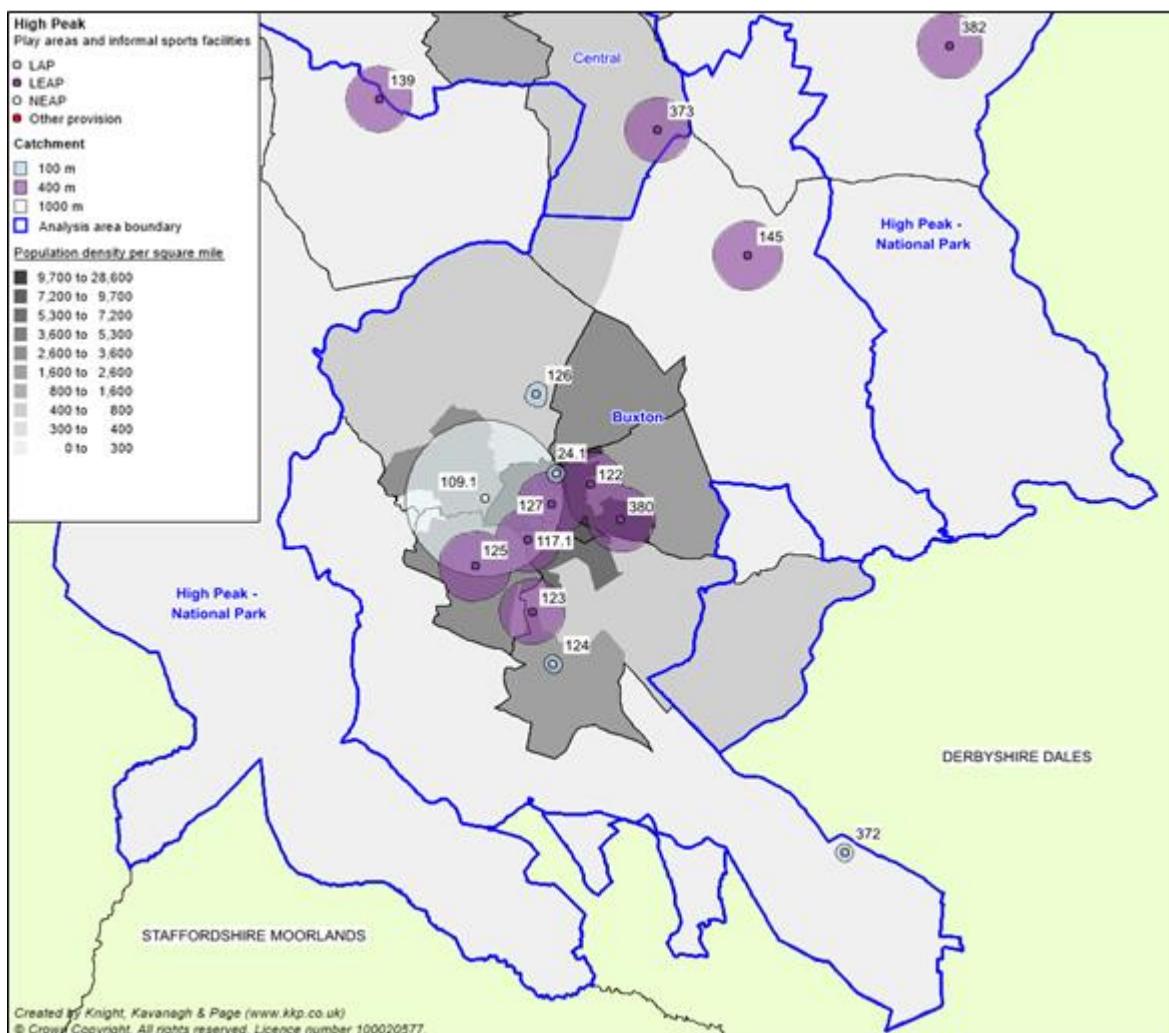
# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

*Figure 7.1: Provision for children and young people (equipped/designated) mapped against analysis areas*



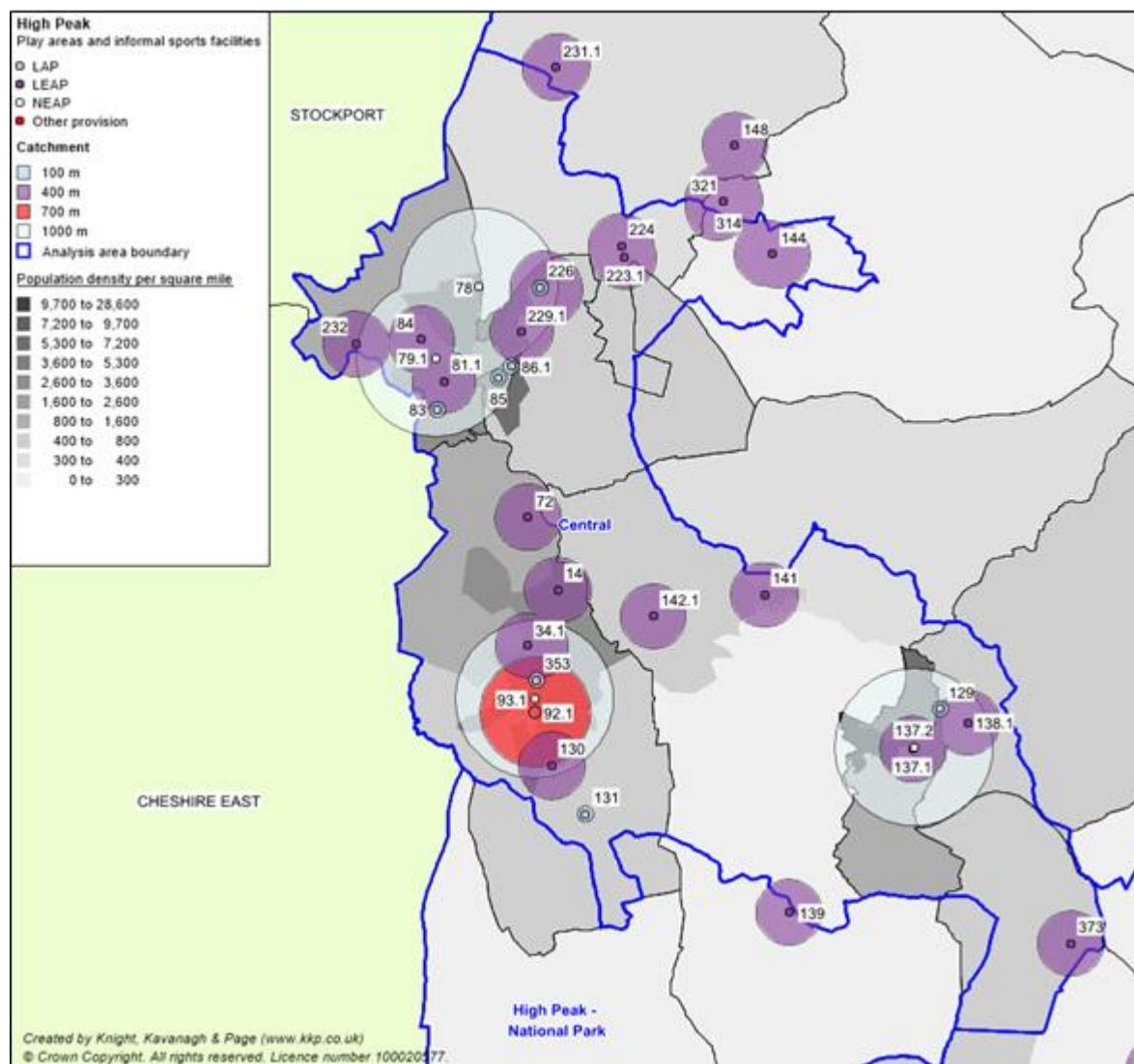
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Figure 7.2: Provision for children and young people (equipped/designated) mapped against Buxton Analysis Area



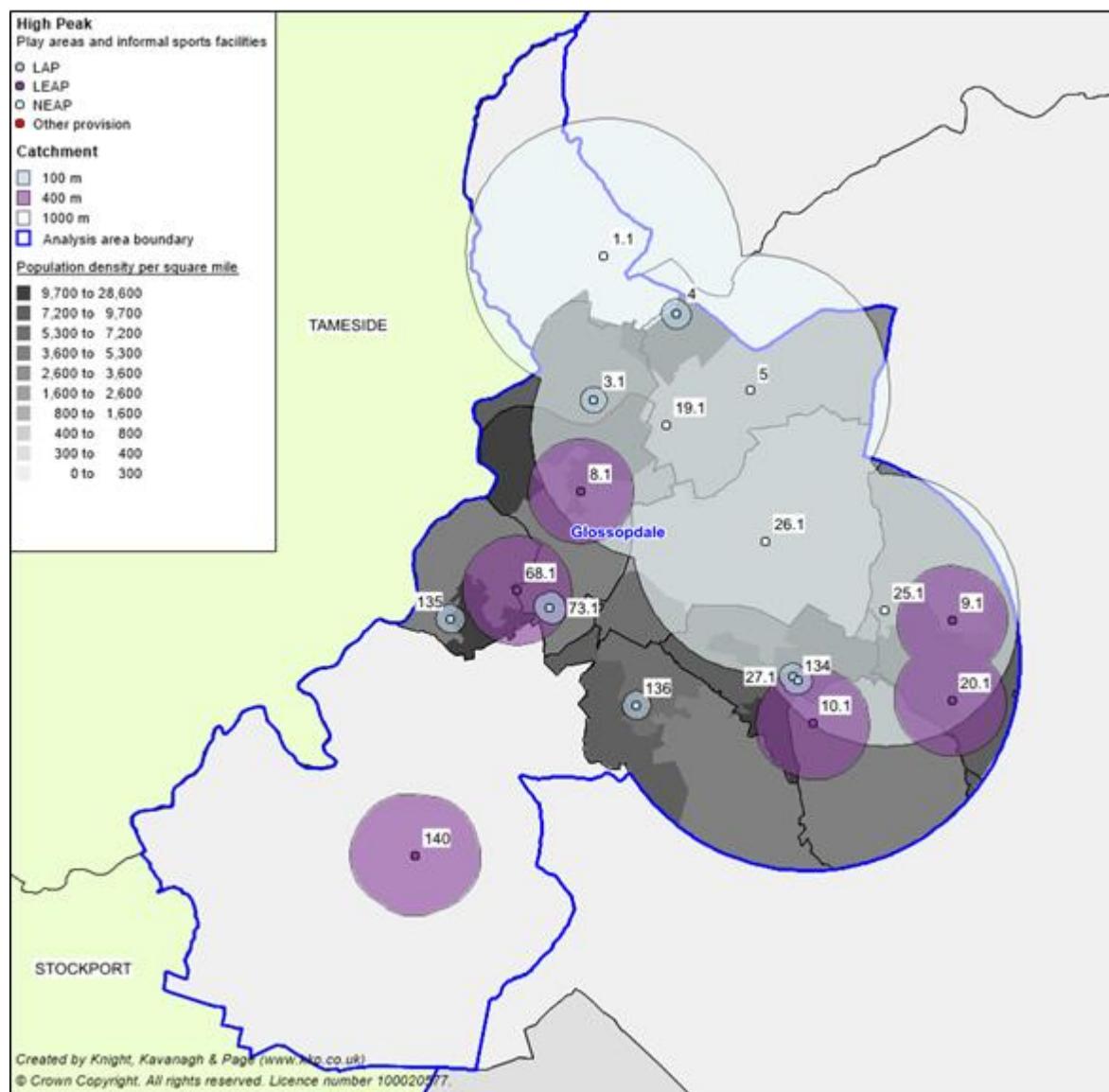
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*Figure 7.3: Provision for children and young people (equipped/designated) mapped against Central Analysis Area*



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*Figure 7.4: Provision for children and young people (equipped/designated) mapped against Glossopdale Analysis Area*



*Table 7.5: Key to sites mapped*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology
24.1	Ashwood Park Play Area	Buxton	LAP
109.1	Pavilion Gardens Play Area	Buxton	NEAP
117.1	Cote Heath Play Area	Buxton	LEAP
122	Bench Road Play Area	Buxton	LEAP
123	Trent Avenue Play Area	Buxton	LEAP
124	Harpur Hill Play Area	Buxton	LAP
125	Green Lane Play Area	Buxton	LEAP
126	Brown Edge Road Play Area	Buxton	LAP
127	Ashwood Close Play Area	Buxton	LEAP

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology
145	Peak Dale Play Area	Buxton	LEAP
372	Sterndale Moor Play Ground	Buxton	LAP
380	Granby Road Play Area	Buxton	LEAP
14	Bridgemont Play Area	Central	LEAP
34.1	Jodrell Road Play Area	Central	LEAP
72	Furness Vale Play Area	Central	LEAP
78	White Road Play Area	Central	NEAP
79.1	High Lea Park Play Area	Central	NEAP
81.1	New Town Recreation Ground Play Area	Central	LEAP
83	Redmoor Lane Play Area	Central	LAP
84	Alsfield Way Play Area	Central	LEAP
85	Yates Road Play Area	Central	LAP
86.1	Bakenhurst Recreation Ground play area	Central	LAP
92.1	Whaley Bridge Skatepark and BMX	Central	Other
93.1	Memorial Park Play Area	Central	NEAP
129	South Head Drive Play Area	Central	LAP
130	Mevril Road Play Area	Central	LEAP
131	Elnor Lane Play Area	Central	LAP
137.1	Chapel Memorial Park play, BMX and MUGA	Central	LEAP
138.1	Needhams Recreation Ground Play Area	Central	LEAP
141	Chinley Recreation Ground	Central	LEAP
142	Buxworth Play Area	Central	LEAP
144	Valley Road Play Area	Central	LEAP
223.1	Birch Vale Recreation Ground play area	Central	LEAP
224	Spinnerbottom play area	Central	LEAP
226	Derby Road Play Area	Central	LAP
229.1	Bowden Crescent play area	Central	LEAP
232	Hague Bar - The Torrs play area	Central	LEAP
353	Orchard Road Play Area	Central	LAP
373	Dove Holes Play Area	Central	LEAP
1.1	Conduit Street Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP
3.1	Chapel Lane Rec play area	Glossopdale	LAP
4	Brosscroft Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP
5	Temple Street Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP
8.1	Newshaw Lane Rec Ground play area	Glossopdale	LEAP
9.1	Pyegrove Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP
10.1	Whitfield Recreation Ground Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP
19.1	Bankswood Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP
20.1	Shirebrook Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP
25.1	Manor Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP
26.1	Howard Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology
27.1	Philip Howard Park Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP
68.1	Edale Close Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP
73.1	Cottage Lane Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP
134	Harehills Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP
135	Centurion Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP
136	Pennine Road Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP
140	Charlesworth Recreation Ground	Glossopdale	LEAP
139	Combs Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
143	Hope Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
146	Castleton Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
147	Edale Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
148	Slacks Lane Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
231.1	Rowarth play area	High Peak	LEAP
321	Lea Road Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
322	Sparrowpit Play Area	High Peak	LEAP
382	Peak Forest Recreation Ground Play Area	High Peak	LEAP

There are notable gaps in catchment mapping in three analysis areas; Central, Glossopdale and Buxton for provision for children and young people (equipped/designated). These gaps are highlighted in areas which are more densely populated, most significantly in Glossopdale (to the west and south) and Buxton (to the south).

### 7.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the quality assessment for play provision for children and young people in High Peak for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 50% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of the quality scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

Quality assessments of play sites do not include a detailed technical risk assessment of equipment.

*Table 7.6: Quality ratings for provision for children and young people*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
24.1	Ashwood Park Play Area	Buxton	LAP		
109.1	Pavilion Gardens Play Area	Buxton	NEAP	72.5%	
117.1	Cote Heath Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	68.5%	
122	Bench Road Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	61.0%	63.2%
123	Trent Avenue Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	61.0%	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
124	Harpur Hill Play Area**	Buxton	LAP	63.0%	
125	Green Lane Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	65.0%	
126	Brown Edge Road Play Area	Buxton	LAP	53.0%	
127	Ashwood Close Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	58.5%	
145	Peak Dale Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	54.0%	75.5%
372	Sterndale Moor Play Ground	Buxton	LAP		
380	Granby Road Play Area	Buxton	LEAP		
14	Bridgemont Play Area	Central	LEAP	53.0%	
34.1	Jodrell Road Play Area	Central	LEAP	64.5%	
72	Furness Vale Play Area	Central	LEAP	51.5%	
78	White Road Play Area	Central	NEAP	61.3%	
79.1	High Lea Park Play Area*	Central	NEAP	29.9%	
81.1	New Town Recreation Ground Play Area	Central	LEAP	31.9%	
83	Redmoor Lane Play Area	Central	LAP	33.8%	
84	Alsfield Way Play Area	Central	LEAP	46.6%	
85	Yates Road Play Area	Central	LAP	36.8%	
86.1	Bakenhurst Recreation Ground play area	Central	LAP	45.1%	
92.1	Whaley Bridge Skatepark and BMX*	Central	Other	50.0%	
93.1	Memorial Park Play Area*	Central	NEAP	56.0%	
129	South Head Drive Play Area	Central	LAP	55.0%	
130	Mevril Road Play Area	Central	LEAP	56.0%	
131	Elnor Lane Play Area	Central	LAP	41.5%	
137.1	Chapel Memorial Park play, BMX and MUGA	Central	LEAP	70.0%	82.4%
138.1	Needhams Recreation Ground Play Area*	Central	LEAP	60.0%	
141	Chinley Recreation Ground	Central	LEAP	73.0%	
142.1	Buxworth Play Area*	Central	LEAP	62.0%	
144	Valley Road Play Area	Central	LEAP	67.0%	
223.1	Birch Vale Recreation Ground play area	Central	LEAP	54.4%	
224	Spinnerbottom play area	Central	LEAP	42.6%	
226	Derby Road Play Area	Central	LAP	64.1%	63.7%
229.1	Bowden Crescent play area	Central	LEAP	47.7%	
232	Hague Bar - The Torrs play area*	Central	LEAP	58.7%	

\*\* Sites that have had investment/refurbishment that are likely to score higher than in 2008 but have not been assessed as part of the present study.

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
353	Orchard Road Play Area	Central	LAP		
373	Dove Holes Play Area	Central	LEAP		79.4%
1.1	Conduit Street Play Area*	Glossopdale	NEAP	66.0%	
3.1	Chapel Lane Rec play area	Glossopdale	LAP	30.4%	44.1%
4	Brosscroft Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	63.5%	51.5%
5	Temple Street Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	59.0%	
8.1	Newshaw Lane Rec Ground play area	Glossopdale	LEAP	37.7%	54.4%
9.1	Pyegrove Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	63.0%	63.9%
10.1	Whitfield Recreation Ground Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	54.5%	63.3%
19.1	Bankswood Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	50.0%	50.0%
20.1	Shirebrook Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	38.5%	
25.1	Manor Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	73.0%	76.5%
26.1	Howard Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	65.0%	
27.1	Philip Howard Park Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	22.5%	
68.1	Edale Close Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	64.0%	56.9%
73.1	Cottage Lane Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP		27.5%
134	Harehills Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP		58.3%
135	Centurion Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	54.5%	53.4%
136	Pennine Road Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	58.5%	
140	Charlesworth Recreation Ground	Glossopdale	LEAP	67.0%	
139	Combs Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	64.0%	
143	Hope Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	65.0%	
146	Castleton Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	54.0%	
147	Edale Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	66.0%	
148	Slacks Lane Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	67.0%	
231.1	Rowarth Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	42.3%	
321	Lea Road Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	63.0%	
322	Sparrowpit Play Area*	High Peak National Park	LEAP	53.0%	
382	Peak Forest Recreation Ground Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP		

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Four sites do not receive a quality or value score. This is due to either not being assessed as part of the 2008 study, or being a newly identified site and not selected for site assessment as part of the 2017 study. These sites are; however, taken into account for quantity and accessibility analysis.

In the 2008 study, 75% of assessed sites scored above the threshold for quality, with the highest scoring sites being Manor Park Play Area and Chinley Recreation Ground. Both these sites received a quality score of 73%.

In the 2017 study, 88% of assessed sites score above the threshold for quality, with the highest scoring sites being Chapel Memorial Park Play Area and Dove Holes Play Area. These sites score 82% and 74% respectively. This is likely attributed to these sites having a range of well-maintained equipment, as well as having ancillary features such as benches, bins, signage and boundary fencing with safety barriers. Furthermore, they have sufficient disabled access with Dove Holes Play Area benefiting from a car park.

Chapel Memorial Park play area scores particularly high due to its broad range of equipment to cater for a wide range of age groups, including a skate park and MUGA. In addition, some of the equipment has been recently upgraded through a combination of funds raised by the Friends of Chapel Memorial Park, town council money and Section 106 money.

In relation to Chapel Memorial Park play area, the Town Council are due to submit a Heritage Lottery bid in August 2017 for Chapel Memorial Park. If successful in obtaining a grant, there are plans to refurbish the skate park at the site.

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council highlight that Pyegrove Play Area has been refurbished. The increase in quality is mirrored in the assessment score of this site which has increased since the 2008 study.

Consultation with Chapel-en-le-Frith Town Council and Dove Holes Skate Park Group report a demand for a skate park at Dove Holes Play Area. This demand is suggested to be particularly prominent due to the rural location of the village, combined with a lack of youth provision. Dove Holes Skate Park Group stated how young people are travelling as far as Buxton to access skate park provision.

In 2006, planning permission was granted for a skate park on the site; however, due to a lack of funds, nothing materialised. The land on which the skate park would be located is owned by a community association, which, it is reported, has shown interest in such a development. Local children are currently working to raise funds through fund raising events; however, based on drawn up plans for the site, around £70,000 is needed. As such, the group is looking elsewhere for additional funding, including potential Section 106 money from local housing developments and grant opportunities.

The majority of sites assessed in the current study have either improved in quality or been assumed to have stayed the same. The sites which have decreased in quality are:

- ◀ Brosscroft Play Area
- ◀ Edale Close Play Area
- ◀ Centurion Play Area

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The only sites in the 2017 study visits to fall below the quality threshold are Chapel Lane Rec play area (44%) and Cottage Lane Play Area (28%). This is a result of a limited range of equipment, with Cottage Lane Play Area having just two toddler swings. Furthermore, the sites lack additional features such as benches, signage, boundary fencing and safety barriers.

There are a number of sites which despite not being assessed, are presumed to have increased in quality since the 2008 study as a result of investment or refurbishment:

- ◀ Harpur Hill Play Area
- ◀ Needhams Recreation Ground Play Area
- ◀ Memorial Park Play Area
- ◀ Buxworth Play Area
- ◀ Hague Bar - The Torrs play area
- ◀ High Lea Park Play Area
- ◀ Conduit Street Play Area
- ◀ Sparrowpit Play Area

In 2012, the Council received lottery funding for Memorial Park in Whaley Bridge. As part of this funding, a new equipped children's play area was installed, as well as a skate park.

A £23,500 project to improve the Harpur Hill Play Area was co-ordinated by Harpur Hill Residents Association and High Peak Borough Council. Improvements included the installation of new fencing and the removal of trip hazards to create a flat level surface, together with the installation of a new set of swings and new benches and litter bins. This project was funded through developer contributions.

Conduit Street Play Area has also undergone a refurbishment project. The project was jointly funded by Veolia Environmental Trust (£40,000), the Council (£10,000) and the Tesco's Bags of Help Scheme (£10,000). The latter was secured by the Friends of Conduit Street.

Sparrowpit Play Area and Needhams Recreation Ground Play Area were upgraded in 2016. The upgrade to Sparrowpit Play Area was funded by CMEX, whilst the upgrade to Needhams Recreation Ground Play Area was funded by developer contributions. A refurbishment was also undertaken at Hague Bar - The Torrs play area, using £60,000 of funding received due to the removal of an old rail track.

### 7.5 Value

In order to determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The following table summarises the results of the value assessment for play provision for children and young people in High Peak for both the 2008 and 2017 study. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of the value scoring and thresholds can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

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*Table 7.7: Value ratings for provision for children and young people*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2008 Value	2017 Value
24.1	Ashwood Park Play Area	Buxton	LAP		
109.1	Pavilion Gardens Play Area	Buxton	NEAP	34.0%	
117.1	Cote Heath Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	31.7%	
122	Bench Road Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	34.0%	50.9%
123	Trent Avenue Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	34.0%	
124	Harpur Hill Play Area*	Buxton	LAP	34.0%	
125	Green Lane Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	34.0%	
126	Brown Edge Road Play Area	Buxton	LAP	34.0%	
127	Ashwood Close Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	28.3%	
145	Peak Dale Play Area	Buxton	LEAP	34.0%	50.9%
372	Sterndale Moor Play Ground	Buxton	LAP		
380	Granby Road Play Area	Buxton	LEAP		
14	Bridgemont Play Area	Central	LEAP	25.0%	
34.1	Jodrell Road Play Area	Central	LEAP	38.3%	
72	Furness Vale Play Area	Central	LEAP	34.0%	
78	White Road Play Area	Central	NEAP	20.0%	
79.1	High Lea Park Play Area*	Central	NEAP	40.0%	
81.1	New Town Recreation Ground Play Area	Central	LEAP	21.7%	
83	Redmoor Lane Play Area	Central	LAP	21.7%	
84	Alsfield Way Play Area	Central	LEAP	20.0%	
85	Yates Road Play Area	Central	LAP	25.0%	
86.1	Bakenhurst Recreation Ground play area	Central	LAP	38.3%	
92.1	Whaley Bridge Skatepark and BMX*	Central	Other	34.0%	
93.1	Memorial Park Play Area*	Central	NEAP	34.0%	
129	South Head Drive Play Area	Central	LAP	34.0%	
130	Mevril Road Play Area	Central	LEAP	34.0%	
131	Elnor Lane Play Area	Central	LAP	34.0%	
137.1	Chapel Memorial Park play, BMX and MUGA	Central	LEAP	34.0%	54.5%
138.1	Needhams Recreation Ground Play Area*	Central	LEAP	34.0%	
141	Chinley Recreation Ground	Central	LEAP	34.0%	
142.1	Buxworth Play Area*	Central	LEAP	34.0%	
144	Valley Road Play Area	Central	LEAP	53.3%	
223.1	Birch Vale Recreation Ground play area	Central	LEAP	40.0%	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2008 Value	2017 Value
224	Spinnerbottom play area	Central	LEAP	48.3%	
226	Derby Road Play Area	Central	LAP	48.3%	43.6%
229.1	Bowden Crescent play area	Central	LEAP	70.0%	
232	Hague Bar - The Torrs play area*	Central	LEAP	25.0%	
353	Play Area	Central	LAP		
373	Dove Holes Play Area	Central	LEAP		36.4%
1.1	Conduit Street Play Area*	Glossopdale	NEAP	63.3%	
3.1	Chapel Lane Rec play area	Glossopdale	LAP	40.0%	41.8%
4	Brosscroft Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	38.3%	
5	Temple Street Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	36.7%	50.9%
8.1	Newshaw Lane Rec Ground play area	Glossopdale	LEAP	36.7%	50.9%
9.1	Pyegrove Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	34.0%	50.9%
10.1	Whitfield Recreation Ground Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	34.0%	50.9%
19.1	Bankswood Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	36.7%	50.9%
20.1	Shirebrook Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	34.0%	
25.1	Manor Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	34.0%	54.5%
26.1	Howard Park Play Area	Glossopdale	NEAP	34.0%	
27.1	Philip Howard Park Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	40.0%	
68.1	Edale Close Play Area	Glossopdale	LEAP	34.0%	50.9%
73.1	Cottage Lane Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP		21.8%
134	Harehills Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP		50.9%
135	Centurion Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	34.0%	47.3%
136	Pennine Road Play Area	Glossopdale	LAP	34.0%	
140	Charlesworth Recreation Ground	Glossopdale	LEAP	34.0%	
139	Combs Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	
143	Hope Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	
146	Castleton Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	
147	Edale Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	
148	Slacks Lane Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	
231.1	Rowarth Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	45.0%	
321	Lea Road Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	
322	Sparrowpit Play Area*	High Peak National Park	LEAP	34.0%	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Sub-typology	2008 Value	2017 Value
382	Peak Forest Recreation Ground Play Area	High Peak National Park	LEAP		

Four sites do not receive a quality or value score. This is due to either not being assessed as part of the 2008 study, or being a newly identified site and not being selected for site assessment as part of the 2017 study. These sites are; however, taken into account for quantity and accessibility analysis.

In both the 2017 and 2008 study, all assessed sites score high for value. This a reflection of the key role play provision, for children of all ages, has in encouraging young people to be active, as well as providing opportunity for social interaction and child development.

The highest scoring sites for value in the 2017 study are Manor Park Play Area and Chapel Memorial Park play area, both scoring 55%. These well-equipped sites have a sense of place within the community, evidenced by their good levels of use. In addition, they provide educational and social interaction opportunities, as well as significant health benefits; for example, at Chapel Memorial Park play area there is a good sized MUGA with a range of sport markings.

It is very important to recognise the benefits that play provides in terms of healthy, active lifestyles, social inclusion and interaction between children plus its developmental and educational value. It is essential that parents, carers and members of the public are made aware of the importance of play and of children's rights to play in their local communities.

Diverse equipment to cater for a range of ages is also essential. Provision such as the skate parks and BMX tracks are highly valued forms of play. Opportunities to further expand these types of provision, such as the Dove Holes Play Area site, which cater towards older age ranges, should be explored and encouraged where possible.

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### 7.6 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ A total of 66 sites for provision for children and young people are identified across High Peak which combines to create a total of over 11 hectares. In the previous study 64 play areas were identified.
- ◀ Play provision is summarised using the FIT categories. Most is identified as being of LEAP (57%) classification; sites with a wider amount and range of equipment; designed to predominantly cater for unsupervised play.
- ◀ The Central Analysis Area has the highest number of sites (27). However, it is slightly lower per 1,000 population (0.16 hectares) in comparison to other analysis areas.
- ◀ A standard of 0.11 ha per 1,000 population is set by HPBC. All individual analysis areas meet this standard. Even if the equivalent analysis areas to the last study are used, the existing standard is still met by current provision (0.12 ha per 1,000 population).
- ◀ There are notable gaps in catchment mapping in three analysis area; Central, Glossopdale and Buxton for provision for children and young people (equipped/designated). These gaps are highlighted in areas which are more densely populated, most significantly in the south and west of both the Glossopdale and Buxton analysis areas.
- ◀ A total of 84% of assessed sites score above the threshold for quality, with the highest scoring sites being Chapel Memorial Park play area and Dove Holes Play Area. These sites score 82% and 74% respectively.
- ◀ The majority of sites with a score in the 2017 study (79%) have either improved in quality or stayed the same. The sites which have decreased in quality are; Brosscroft Play Area, Edale Close Play Area and Centurion Play Area.
- ◀ The only sites in the 2017 assessed sites to fall below the quality threshold are Chapel Lane Rec play area (44%) and Cottage Lane Play Area (28%).
- ◀ There are a number of sites which despite not being assessed, are presumed to have increased in quality since the 2008 study as a result of investment or refurbishment.
- ◀ In both the 2017 and 2008 study, all assessed sites score high for value. This a reflection of the key role play provision, for children of all ages, has in encouraging young people to be active, as well as providing opportunity for social interaction and child development.

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### PART 8: ALLOTMENTS, COMMUNITY GARDENS AND CITY FARMS

#### 8.1 Introduction

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

#### 8.2 Current provision

There is a total of 26 sites equating to over 22 hectares of allotments in High Peak. The 2008 study identified 17 sites as allotments. The additional nine sites have been added to the present study through consultation and desk-based research.

Three sites (St Mary's Road Allotments, Gamesley Allotments and Dinting Lane Allotments) have been added following consultation with Glossopdale Action for Allotments (GAFA). Another site; Buxworth Allotments, was identified through consultation with Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council.

*Table 8.1: Distribution of allotment sites by analysis area*

Analysis area	Allotments		
	Number of sites	Size (ha)	Current provision (Ha per 1,000 population)
Buxton	5	9.83	0.48
Central	8	5.39	0.24
Glossopdale	12	6.41	0.22
High Peak-National Park	1	0.37	0.02
<b>High Peak</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>0.24</b>

All analysis areas have provision. The majority of allotment provision in terms of hectares is located in the Buxton Analysis Area, with 9.83 hectares. It also has the most provision per 1,000 population (0.48 hectares).

High Peak-National Park has the least allotment provision with one site, equating to 0.37 hectares. Subsequently, this analysis area also has the lowest provision per 1,000 head of population (0.02 hectares).

A standard of 0.22 ha per 1,000 population is adopted by HPBC. All individual analysis areas meet this standard with the exception of the High Peak National Park Analysis Area. Even if the equivalent analysis areas to the last study are used, the existing standard is still met by current provision (0.30 ha per 1,000 population).

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 (0.025 hectares per plot).

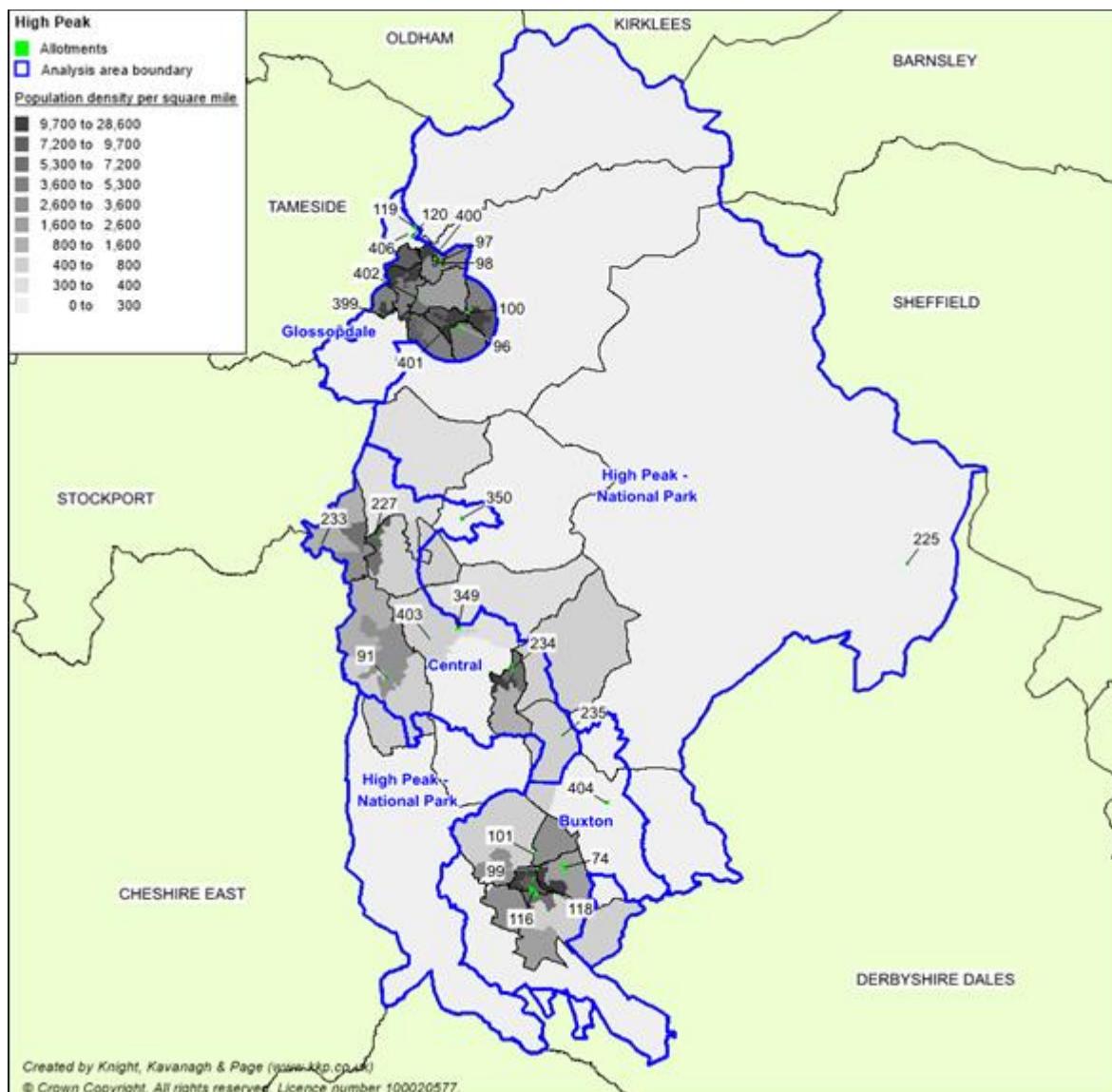
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Based on the current population of 85,749 people, (ONS 2015 mid-term estimates) High Peak, as a whole, does meet the NSALG standard. Using the suggested national standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision for High Peak is 21.44 hectares. The existing provision of 22.00 hectares therefore does meet the standard.

## 8.3 Accessibility

No accessibility catchment has been set for this typology. Provision should be based on demand. Figure 8.1 shows allotments mapped against analysis areas.

*Figure 8.1: Allotments mapped against analysis areas*



*Table 8.2: Key to sites mapped*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
74	Cunningdale Allotments	Buxton
80	New Mills Community Orchard	Central

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
91	Sunnybank Allotments	Central
96	Highfield Road Allotments, Glossop	Glossopdale
97	Padfield Allotments 1	Glossopdale
98	Padfield Allotments 2	Glossopdale
99	Victoria Park Road Allotments	Buxton
100	Jordan Street Allotments, Glossop	Glossopdale
101	Nunsfield Allotments	Buxton
116	Cote Heath Allotments	Buxton
118	Silverlands Allotments	Buxton
119	Arnfield Lane Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale
120	New Road Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale
225	Allotment gardens, Hope Valley	High Peak - National Park
227	Ollersett Allotments	Central
233	Hague Bar allotments	Central
234	The Courses allotments	Central
235	Dove Holes allotments	Central
349	Chinley Allotments	Central
350	Chapel Road Allotments, Hayfield	Central
399	Gamesley Allotments	Glossopdale
400	Platt Street Allotments	Glossopdale
401	St Mary's Road Allotments	Glossopdale
402	Dinting Lane Allotments	Glossopdale
403	Buxworth Allotments	Glossopdale
404	Upper End Road Allotments	Central
406	Speedwell Allotments	Glossopdale

Although gaps in mapping can be seen across High Peaks, demand for allotment provision is best informed by quantity figures and waiting lists. This is further discussed in the demand section below.

### **Demand**

Prior to the Dinting Lane and Gamesley allotment sites opening in October 2016, there was a waiting list in the area of 187 individuals, equating to approximately 37 years. No waiting list exists since the sites are now in operation. Dinting Lane also has six of the 98 plots still available.

As these sites become more established, it is believed that demand will increase and a waiting list is expected to develop over the next six months; however, it will not reach the levels of the previous waiting list.

Chinley Allotment Association divide plots as they became vacant, in an attempt to try and accommodate demand and a rising waiting list at Chinley Allotments. Currently, there is a mixture of full sized, half sized and quarter sized plots, totalling 26 tenancies. There are currently eight people on the waiting list.

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Table 8.3 illustrates that there are 13 sites with waiting lists. Six of these have known waiting lists numbers; Sunnybank Allotments has the highest waiting list of 25 compared to Upper End Road Allotments, which has the lowest waiting list of two. However, Jordan Street Allotments has a long waiting lists. Exact numbers are unknown for seven of the 13 allotments sites with waiting lists.

### ***Ownership/management***

Allotment provision in High Peak is owned and/or managed by a number of organisations. For example, Buxworth Allotments are owned by Chinley, Buxworth and Brownsidge Parish Council, whilst Chapel Road Allotments, Hayfield, are owned by Hayfield Parish Council. Upper End Road Allotments is owned by Wormhill and Green Fairfield Parish Council. Cunninghamdale Allotments and Jordan Street Allotments are rented directly from High Peak Borough Council.

*Table 8.3: Allotment plot numbers, management, waiting list in High Peak:*

<b>Site ID</b>	<b>Site name</b>	<b>Management</b>	<b>Number of plots</b>	<b>Waiting list numbers</b>
74	Cunningdale Allotments	Council run	87	Waiting list (number unknown)
91	Sunnybank Allotments	Whaley Bridge Town Council	30	25
96	Highfield Road Allotments, Glossop	-	41 approx	-
97	Padfield Allotments 1	Padfield Community Allotments	4 approx	-
98	Padfield Allotments 2	Padfield Community Allotments	10 approx	-
99	Victoria Park Road Allotments	Victoria Park Allotment Association	10 approx	-
100	Jordan Street Allotments, Glossop	Council Run	10	Long waiting list
101	Nunsfield Allotments	Nunsfield Allotment Association	20	Waiting list (number unknown)
116	Cote Heath Allotments	Cote Heath Allotment Association	125	Waiting list (number unknown)
118	Silverlands Allotments	Independent Allotment Association	10	Waiting list (number unknown)
119	Arnfield Lane Allotments, Tintwistle	Tintwistle Allotment Gardeners' Association	45	Waiting list (number unknown)
120	New Road Allotments, Tintwistle	Tintwistle Allotment Gardeners' Association	24	Waiting list (number unknown)
225	Allotment gardens	-	-	-
227	Ollersett Allotments	New Mills Allotment and Gardening Society	31	-

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Site ID	Site name	Management	Number of plots	Waiting list numbers
233	Hague Bar allotments	New Mills Allotment and Gardening Society	26	-
234	The Courses allotments	Leased by Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council	40 approx	-
235	Dove Holes allotments	Leased by Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council	16 approx	Couple of people
349	Chinley Allotments	Chinley Allotments Association	20	8
350	Chapel Road Allotments, Hayfield	Hayfield Parish Council.	20 full size plots	12
399	Gamesley Allotments	GAFA	31	0 (demand expected to grow)
400	Platt Street Allotments	Independent Allotment Association	10	-
401	St Mary's Road Allotments	GAFA	9	11
402	Dinting Lane Allotments	GAFA	98	0 (demand expected to grow)
403	Buxworth Allotments	Buxworth Allotments Association	17	0
404	Upper End Road Allotments	Wormhull and Green Field Parish Council	32	2
406	Speedwell Allotments, Tintwistle	Allotment Gardeners' Association	10 approx	-

## 8.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments in High Peak. A threshold of 40% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

No allotments are assessed as part of the 2017 study. Consequently, Table 8.4 and 8.5 show no updated quality or value scores site visit assessments for 2017. However, ratings from the previous study are provided and updated using consultation information where available.

Table 8.4: Quality ratings for allotments by analysis area

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
74	Cunningdale Allotments *	Buxton	19.5%	Green
91	Sunnybank Allotments	Central	21.0%	Red

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
96	Highfield Road Allotments, Glossop	Glossopdale	39.0%	
97	Padfield Allotments 1	Glossopdale	22.0%	
98	Padfield Allotments 2	Glossopdale	22.0%	
99	Victoria Park Road Allotments	Buxton	24.9%	
100	Jordan Street Allotments, Glossop	Glossopdale	29.3%	
101	Nunsfield Allotments	Buxton	22.0%	
116	Cote Heath Allotments	Buxton	20.0%	
118	Silverlands Allotments	Buxton	25.9%	
119	Arnfield Lane Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale	34.6%	
120	New Road Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale	26.8%	
225	Allotment gardens, New Road, Hope Valley	High Peak - National Park	15.1%	
227	Ollersett Allotments	Central	65.4%	
233	Hague Bar Allotments	Central	31.2%	
234	The Courses Allotments	Central	39.5%	
235	Dove Holes Allotments	Central	50.7%	
349	Chinley Allotments	Central		
350	Chapel Road Allotments, Hayfield	Central		
399	Gamesley Allotments	Glossopdale		
400	Platt Street Allotments	Glossopdale		
401	St Mary's Road Allotments	Glossopdale		
402	Dinting Lane Allotments	Glossopdale		
403	Buxworth Allotments	Glossopdale		
404	Upper End Road Allotments	Central		
406	Speedwell Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale		

Gamesley Allotments and Dinting Lane Allotments were not included in the previous study as they are new sites established in 2016. The sites along with St Mary's Road Allotments have been identified through consultation with GAFA.

Consultation with Chinley, Buxworth and Brownsidge Parish Council identifies Buxworth Allotments as a new site. Planning approval for the site was granted in December 2011. An alternative location for parking provision was identified and planning permission granted in August 2015. This site is described as being in good condition, with secure fencing. Access to water supply is being created. It also reported that plots are available.

Quality of these new sites is assumed to be good given their recent creation.

Previously only three of the assessed allotments in High Peak (20%) scored highly. The highest scoring site; Ollersett Allotments, scored 65% for quality. Dove Holes Allotments also scored high for quality, with 51%.

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Ollersett Allotments scored well due to being well kept and demonstrating good levels of cleanliness, as well as having good controls to prevent illegal use, boundary fencing and adequate parking provision for users. This site is reported as still being well-maintained by the allotment society and situated in a tranquil setting. As such, it is likely if re-assessed, this site would still score above the quality threshold.

Likewise, Dove Holes Allotments also scores well due to boundary fencing and overall maintenance. In addition, the site is flat with good pathways.

It is worth noting that a few allotments were close to the threshold. For example, Arnfield Lane Allotments, Tintwistle. Therefore, any positive changes to maintenance may have seen some sites move above the quality threshold.

The lowest scoring site for quality previously was Allotment Gardens, Hope Valley due to it being very overgrown with nettles, weeds and brambles. It is reported that the whole site may have been converted to woodland. Consequently, if re-assessed, this site may have a different typology and not be counted as an allotment.

Cunningdale Allotments also scored below the threshold for quality due to low personal security, no signs and adequate levels of overall maintenance. However, no significant issues were observed at the site. It has been highlighted that some improvements have been made to this allotment site, including access to a mains water supply, therefore, it is assumed this allotment would score a higher if it was re-assessed.

Other allotments with fresh water supply in High Peak are:

- ◀ Highfield Road Allotments
- ◀ Chinley Allotments
- ◀ Ollersett Allotments
- ◀ Dinting Lane Allotments

Consultation with GAFA highlights that St Mary's Road Allotment is a new site providing nine small plots of good quality.

Gamesley is also a new site established in 2016. It has a total of 31 plots with just two plots identified as being empty. There are also 15 car parking spaces and completed pathways running around the site. GAFA reports that it would like toilets on site; however, this would require more funding, as well as a mains water supply. An application for funding for the latter is currently in process. In addition to the allotments on site, a community orchard is planned with the objective of 23 trees to be planted in autumn 2017.

Dinting Lane Allotments, which also opened in 2016, is a very large site containing 98 plots and car parking for 40 cars. Path quality is currently being worked on but there is access to fresh water supply. The Council provided the car park and water and the GAFA has developed the infrastructure. Despite it being a new site, security is an issue as the fence is only 1m high. Vandalism is also an issue on site. The association has applied for lottery funding for a compost toilet. The GAFA realises that the provision of the new allotment sites has taken away some wildlife habitats. Consequently, it is looking to provide a wildlife corridor with wildlife areas and tree planting as a replacement.

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Chinley Allotment Association reports during consultation the quality of the allotments is not the best due to the steep gradient of the land. There is a high-water table, as a result of being situated at the bottom of a hill, leading to drainage being a major problem. Individual holders have installed their own drainage solutions where possible. The Parish Council has assisted but unfortunately the land makes it difficult to fully resolve.

### 8.5 Value

In order to determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for allotments in High Peak. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 8.5: Value ratings for allotments by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
74	Cunningdale Allotments	Buxton	27.6%	
80	New Mills Community Orchard	Central	42.9%	
91	Sunnybank Allotments	Central	30.5%	
96	Highfield Road Allotments, Glossop	Glossopdale	37.1%	
97	Padfield Allotments 1	Glossopdale	8.6%	
98	Padfield Allotments 2	Glossopdale	30.5%	
99	Victoria Park Road Allotments	Buxton	19.0%	
100	Jordan Street Allotments, Glossop	Glossopdale	21.9%	
101	Nunsfield Allotments	Buxton	26.7%	
116	Cote Heath Allotments	Buxton	26.7%	
118	Silverlands Allotments	Buxton	27.6%	
119	Arnfield Lane Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale	31.4%	
120	New Road Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale	24.8%	
225	Allotment gardens, Hope Valley	High Peak - National Park	12.4%	
227	Ollersett Allotments	Central	46.7%	
233	Hague Bar allotments	Central	35.2%	
234	The Courses allotments	Central	28.6%	
235	Dove Holes allotments	Central	30.5%	
349	Chinley Allotments	Central		
350	Chapel Road Allotments, Hayfield	Central		
399	Gamesley Allotments	Glossopdale		
400	Platt Street Allotments	Glossopdale		
401	St Mary's Road Allotments	Glossopdale		
402	Dinting Lane Allotments	Glossopdale		
403	Buxworth Allotments	Glossopdale		
404	Upper End Road Allotments	Central		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
406	Speedwell Allotments, Tintwistle	Glossopdale		

The majority of assessed allotments (85%) are assessed as high value. This is a reflection of the associated social inclusion and health benefits, amenity value and the sense of place offered by such types of provision.

Ollersett Allotments scores the highest for value as well as quality. New Mills Community Orchard scored the second highest for value.

Padfield Allotments 1 scored the lowest for value with it reported to appearing disused. Allotment Gardens, Hope Valley scored the second lowest for value due to being overgrown. There is no signage or indication of ownership on site. The disused and overgrown nature of the two sites is therefore hugely limiting of usage and accessibility.

Despite Gamesley Allotments and Dinting Lane not being assessed due to being new sites, it is assumed that these would score above the threshold for value as well as quality. External groups use these sites; for example, Gamesley Allotments is accessed by a council sponsored group, which provides support for children and families in the area. The plots accessed by the group are used to run educational courses.

Dinting Lane is used by three external groups: BeWell, Men in Sheds and Glossopdale Furniture Project. Men in Sheds is an association for the bereaved of Glossop. The Group use the site to refurbish tools and make containers. Glossopdale Furniture Project plans to offer courses for individuals with both learning and physical disabilities.

The third of the GAFA sites; St Mary's Road Allotments is used by schools for educational courses. Taking the amount of community activity across all three GAFA sites, it is evident they have significant value within the local community. Buxworth Allotments is also assumed to be highly valued as a new form of provision. Should these new sites be assessed they would most likely score high for value.

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### 8.6 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ A total of 26 sites are classified as allotments in High Peak, equating to more than 22 hectares. This meets the NSALG recommended standard of 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population.
- ◀ A standard of 0.22 ha per 1,000 population is set by HPBC. All individual analysis areas meet this standard with the exception of the High Peak National Park Analysis Area. Even if the equivalent analysis areas to the last study are used, the existing standard is still met by current provision (0.30 ha per 1,000 population).
- ◀ There are also several waiting lists within High Peak, suggesting demand for allotments still exists across the area.
- ◀ Gaps in mapping exist in all four analysis areas. However, waiting lists are best placed to determine demand for new provision. Across High Peak there is a current waiting list of 58 individuals. In addition, several other sites also highlight the presence of waiting lists but are unable to give an exact figure.
- ◀ Over a third of sites (38%) rate above threshold for quality, an increase to the 20% noted in the 2008 study.
- ◀ The majority of allotments (86%) in High Peak are highly valued reflecting the associated social inclusion and health benefits, amenity and sense of place offered by provision.

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## OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

### PART 9: CEMETERIES, CHURCHYARDS AND BURIAL GROUNDS

#### 9.1 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.’

#### 9.2 Current provision

There are 17 sites classified under this typology. These sites are made up of open and closed churchyards and cemeteries. Of these sites, 13 were assessed for quality and value during the 2008 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study.

*Table 9.1: Distribution of cemeteries by analysis area*

Analysis Area	Churchyards/Cemeteries
	Number of sites
Buxton	4
Central	6
Glossopdale	2
High Peak-National Park	5
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>17</b>

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 High Peak is Glossop Cemetery which is 5.87 hectares in size.

Within the identified provision there are closed churchyard sites. These are listed below:

- ◀ St. Edmund's Churchyard, Castleton
- ◀ All Saints, Glossop
- ◀ St. Peter's Closed Churchyard
- ◀ St James Church, Taxal
- ◀ St Peter's Church

These are sites which are no longer able to accommodate any new burials.

#### 9.3 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 9.1, overleaf, shows cemeteries and churchyards mapped against the analysis area.

# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

Figure 9.1: Cemetery sites mapped against analysis areas

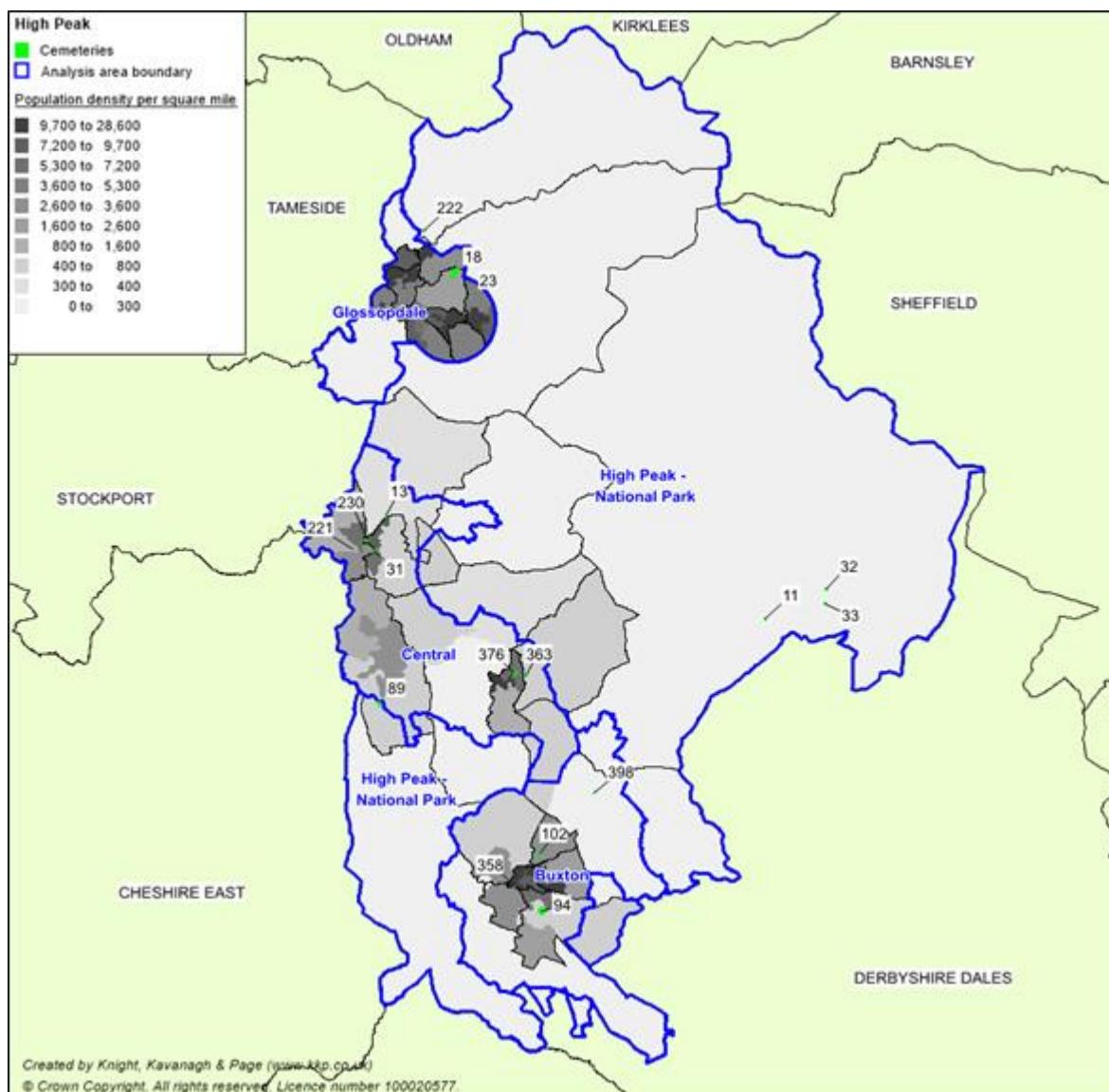


Table 9.2: Key to sites mapped

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
11	St. Edmund's Church Yard Castleton	High Peak - National Park
13	Thornsett Cemetery	Central
18	Glossop Cemetery	Glossopdale
23	All Saints, Glossop	Glossopdale
31	St. Georges Church Yard, New Mills	Central
32	Hope Cemetery (Green Drive)	High Peak - National Park
33	St. Peter's Closed C.Y., Hope	High Peak - National Park
89	St James Church, Taxal	High Peak - National Park
94	Buxton Cemetery	Buxton

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
102	St Peter's Church	Buxton
221	St Marys RC Church, New Mills	Central
222	Independent Chapel graveyard, Tintwistle	High Peak - National Park
230	Hidebank Burial Ground, New Mills	Central
358	St Anne's Churchyard	Buxton
363	Warmbrook Road Chapel	Central
376	St Thomas Becket Church, Chapel-en-le-Frith	Central
398	Church of the Holy Trinity	Buxton

In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates that most densely populated areas are served by forms of burial provision. Burial demand and capacity at active sites should be used to determine the need for additional burial provision. Table 9.3 sets out the known remaining burial capacity at cemetery sites across High Peak.

*Table 9.3: Burial capacity summary*

Site	Burial capacity summary
Buxton Cemetery	Approximately 10 years left of landscaped grave area. 50 years of extension meadow owned but not yet landscaped
Glossop Cemetery	Approximately three years left. A 15-year extension is planned in 2018/19 with further 15-year extension land available
Hope Cemetery	Approximately five years left. Also 50 years of unused but landscaped grounds to extend into
Thornsett Cemetery	Approximately 25 years left of landscaped area (a recent extension). Also, a further 15 years capacity of land not currently landscaped

### 9.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries in High Peak assessed during the previous open space study. A threshold of 45% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

No cemetery, churchyard or burial sites are assessed as part of the 2017 study. Consequently, Table 9.4 and 9.5 show no quality or value scores for 2017; however, ratings from the previous study are provided.

*Table 9.4: Quality ratings for cemeteries by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
11	St. Edmund's Church Yard Castleton	High Peak - National Park	64.8%	
13	Thornsett Cemetery	Central	69.1%	

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
18	Glossop Cemetery	Glossopdale	68.7%	
23	All Saints, Glossop	Glossopdale	52.3%	
31	St. Georges Church Yard, New Mills	Central	52.6%	
32	Cemetery (Green Drive)	High Peak - National Park	44.4%	
33	St. Peter's Closed C.Y., Hope	High Peak - National Park	65.3%	
89	St James' Church, Taxal	High Peak - National Park	21.8%	
94	Buxton Cemetery	Buxton	46.5%	
102	St Peter's Church	Buxton	41.4%	
221	St Marys RC Church, New Mills	Central	30.5%	
222	Independent Chapel graveyard, Tintwistle	High Peak - National Park	34.7%	
230	Hidebank Burial Ground, New Mills	Central	26.8%	
358	St Anne's Churchyard	Buxton		
363	Warmbrook Road Chapel	Central		
376	St Thomas Becket Church, Chapel-en-le-Frith	Central		
398	Church of the Holy Trinity	Buxton		

Over half (54%) of the cemeteries in High Peak which underwent a non-technical assessment are rated as being above the threshold for quality. The highest scoring site for quality is Thornsett Cemetery and Glossop Cemetery (69%). Thornsett Cemetery scored high for boundary fencing, controls to prevent illegal use, good signage, evidence of site marketing, several benches that were all well-maintained. Unlike most of the other cemeteries, this site had a wildlife area and a garden of remembrance. It was also reported that this cemetery is beautifully kept with excellent paths.

The lowest scoring site for quality is St James Church, Taxal (22%). The site was reported to have no signage, poor personal security, quite a steep gradient, no bins or controls to prevent illegal use. Despite this, it was reported as an attractive greenspace, containing toilets and a garden of remembrance and child burial area. Therefore, this demonstrates that although this site scored below the threshold, it was lacking in ancillary features and facilities rather than having any major issues.

### 9.5 Value

In order to determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for cemeteries in High Peak assessed during the previous open space study. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

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*Table 9.5: Value ratings for cemeteries by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
11	St. Edmund's Church Yard Castleton	High Peak - National Park	64.8%	
13	Thornsett Cemetery	Central	47.0%	
18	Glossop Cemetery	Glossopdale	46.0%	
23	All Saints, Glossop	Glossopdale	27.0%	
31	St. Georges Church Yard, New Mills	Central	46.0%	
32	Cemetery (Green Drive)	High Peak - National Park	25.0%	
33	St. Peter's Closed C.Y., Hope	High Peak - National Park	41.0%	
89	St James Church, Taxal	High Peak - National Park	35.0%	
94	Buxton Cemetery	Buxton	31.0%	
102	St Peter's Church	Buxton	28.0%	
221	St Marys RC Church, New Mills	Central	16.0%	
222	Independent Chapel graveyard, Tintwistle	High Peak - National Park	26.0%	
230	Hidebank Burial Ground, New Mills	Central	10.0%	
358	St Anne's Churchyard	Buxton		
363	Warmbrook Road Chapel	Central		
376	St Thomas Becket Church, Chapel-en-le-Frith	Central		
398	Church of the Holy Trinity	Buxton		

No site assessment or visits to cemeteries or churchyards were undertaken as part of the 2017 update. Therefore, all value scores are from the 2008 study.

A total of 85% of the cemeteries and churchyards in High Peak, which underwent a non-technical assessment in 2008, were assessed as being of high value, reflecting the role they provide in communities lives as well as the cultural/heritage value of sites and the sense of place they provide to the local community.

Cemeteries and churchyards are important natural resources, offering both recreational and conservation benefits. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards can offer important low impact recreational benefits (e.g. habitat provision, wildlife watching).

The highest scoring site for value is St Edmund's Church Yard, Castleton. This can be attributed to its historic and cultural importance, surrounding a grade II listed building, as well as its ecological value and contribution to biodiversity, with mature trees, well-tended grass and stone walls, providing habitats and shelter. It is also located in the heart of a much-visited tourist village.

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In contrast, the lowest scoring site was Hidebank Burial Ground, New Mills. This was attributed to it being neglected, with trees, shrubs and brambles growing between broken gravestones. In addition, there was evidence of some antisocial behaviour, with some broken glasses and litter. Additionally, the entrance path was a sloping grassy ramp, whilst other paths were not passable by wheelchair, leading to restricted access for some users and ultimately, lowering the value.

### 9.6 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ There are 17 sites classified as churchyards or cemeteries. The largest contributor to burial provision in High Peak is Glossop Cemetery which is 5.87 hectares in size.
- ◀ It is understood all active cemetery sites have available burial capacity.
- ◀ Out of the assessed provision, seven cemeteries and churchyards are rated as high quality. The highest scoring sites for quality is Thornsett Cemetery, Glossop Cemetery and St Peter's Closed C.Y. The highest scoring site for quality is Thornsett Cemetery.
- ◀ The majority of cemeteries assessed were of high value in the Borough, reflecting that generally provision has cultural/heritage value and provide a sense of place to the local community

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## OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

### PART 10: CIVIC SPACE

#### 10.1 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.

#### 10.2 Current provision

There are five civic space sites, equating to less than one hectare of provision, identified in High Peak. In addition, there are likely to be other informal pedestrian areas, streets or squares which may be viewed as providing similar roles and functions as civic space.

*Table 10.1: Distribution of civic spaces by analysis area*

Analysis area	Civic space	
	Number of sites	Size (ha)
Buxton	1	0.04
Central	2	0.19
Glossopdale	1	0.11
High Peak-National Park	1	0.04
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.38</b>

Civic space provision is identified in all four analysis areas. All provision is identified as being relatively small in size.

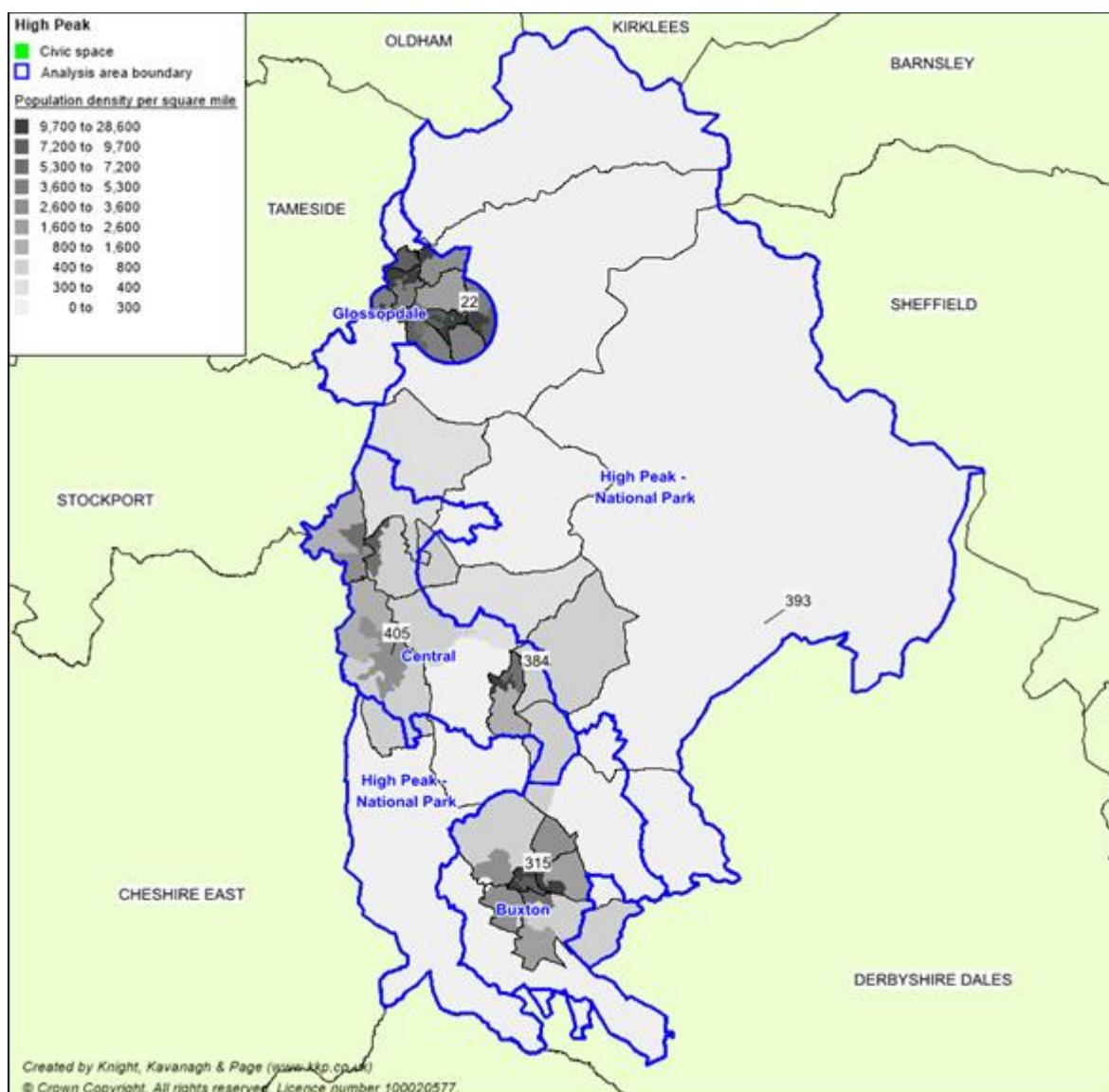
The largest form of provision is Transhipment Warehouse located in the Central Analysis Area. It is approximately 0.18 hectares in size. Consultation as part of the 2017 update identified the Transhipment Warehouse. The Grade II listed site is owned by the Canal and River Trust. Given its newly found role as a civic space, it is important to mention. The site hosts regular craft and food markets. In addition, the warehouse building is key for bat conservation, as well as being an important part of local heritage and culture.

#### 10.3 Accessibility

No accessibility catchment has been set for civic spaces. Figure 10.1 overleaf, shows civic spaces mapped against the analysis areas.

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*Figure 9.1: Cemetery sites mapped against analysis areas*



*Table 10.2: Summary of sites*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
22	Norfolk Square	Glossopdale
315	Eagle Parade market place	Buxton
384	Chapel Market Place	Central
393	Market Place, Castleton	High Peak-National Park
405	Transhipment Warehouse	Central

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### 10.4 Quality

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance); the scores from the site assessments have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for civic spaces in High Peak. A threshold of 60% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

No civic spaces are assessed as part of the 2017 study. Consequently, Table 10.3 and 10.4 show no quality or value scores for 2017; however, ratings from the previous study are provided.

*Table 10.3: Quality ratings for civic spaces by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
22	Norfolk Square	Glossopdale	62.1%	
315	Eagle Parade Market Place	Buxton	53.4%	
384	Chapel Market Place	Central		
393	Market Place, Castleton	High Peak-National Park		
405	Transhipment Warehouse	Central		

One out of two assessed sites from the 2008 study rated above the threshold set. The site, Norfolk Square, which scored 62% was reported to be a very attractive, beautifully maintained with neatly mown grass, well-kept flowerbeds and trees, a war memorial and good wide paths, as well as plenty of seating and bins.

Eagle Parade Market Place rated below the threshold. The site is a car park therefore inevitably lacks features, such as benches, which contribute to quality ratings; however, there were no significant issues reported. Furthermore, any features which did exist at the site, were scored positively. For example; it had a good amount of parking, bins and lighting. Additionally, the site was observed as being maintained to a good standard.

### 10.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) site assessment scores have been colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for civic spaces in High Peak. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and thresholds are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 10.4: Value ratings for civic spaces by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
22	Norfolk Square	Glossopdale	49.0%	
315	Eagle Parade Market Place	Buxton	14.0%	
384	Chapel Market Place	Central		
393	Market Place, Castleton	High Peak-National Park		

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
405	Transhipment Warehouse	Central		

Norfolk square scored well above the threshold for value due to it being a high-quality greenspace, in which local people can sit, giving it sense of place within the community. In addition, within the site is a war memorial adding to its cultural and heritage value.

Eagle Parade Market Place scored below the threshold for value. As previously mentioned, this site is a car park the majority of the time. However, is converted into a civic space on market days. As such, the main value of this site is economic and cultural/social; it is therefore assumed to be of higher value.

### 10.6 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ Five sites are classified as civic spaces in High Peak equating to less than one hectare of provision.
- ◀ Quality and value of provision is good with an acceptable maintenance and appearance. Sites are recognised as providing an important social, economic and amenity role to local communities and areas.

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## OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

### PART 11: GREEN CORRIDORS

#### 11.1 Introduction

The green corridors typology includes sites that offer opportunities for walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration. This includes river and canal banks, road and rail corridors, cycling routes within towns and cities, pedestrian paths within towns and cities, rights of way and permissive paths.

#### 11.2 Current provision

A total of seven sites are classified as green corridors, equating to over nine hectares.

*Table 11.1: Distribution of green corridors by analysis area*

Analysis area	Green Corridors	
	Number of sites	Size (ha)
Buxton	1	4.36
Central	5	4.48
Glossopdale	1	0.20
High Peak-National Park	-	-
<b>HIGH PEAK</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9.03</b>

Green corridor provision in High Peak ranges in size from 0.19 hectares to 3.73 hectares. The analysis area with the most provision is Central Analysis Area (4.48 hectares) followed by Buxton Analysis Area (4.36 hectares).

#### 11.3 Accessibility

It is difficult to assess green corridors against catchment areas due to their linear nature and usage, as they often provide access to other open spaces. Figure 11.1 shows green corridors mapped across High Peak.

# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

Figure 11.1: Green corridors mapped against analysis area

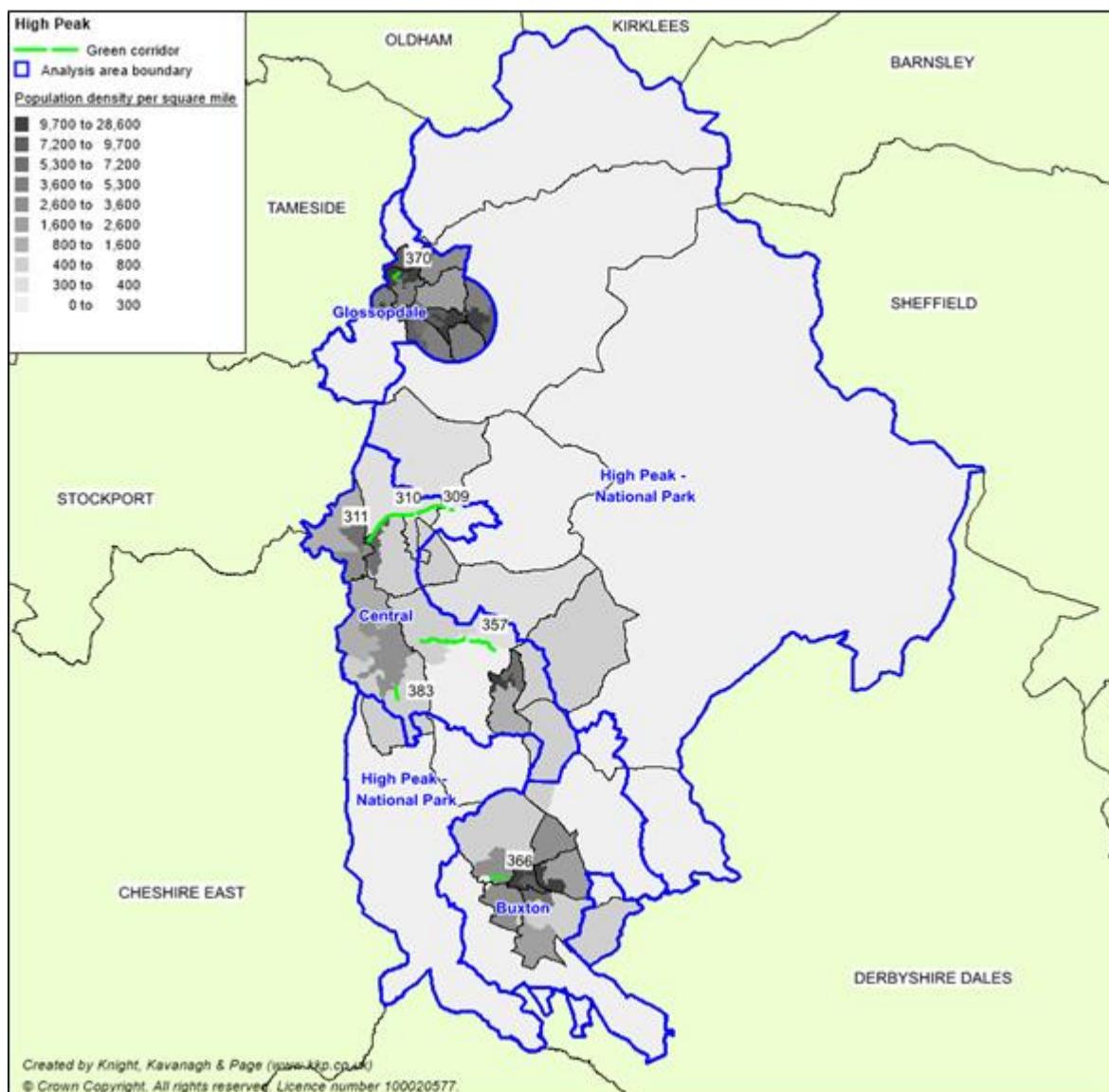


Table 11.2 Summary of sites

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area
309	Sett Valley Trail (part 1)	Central
310	Sett Valley Trail (part 2)	Central
311	Sett Valley Trail (part 3)	Central
357	Peak Forest Tramway Trail	Central
366	Serpentine Walk	Buxton
370	Lower Barn Road	Glossopdale
383	Shallcross Incline	Central

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There are also a number of long distance and local trails which are identified in the High Peak Local Plan. Several of these are national trails which will attract visitors. These have not been assessed but are listed in Table 11.3.

*Table 11.3: Identified Trails in the High Peak Local Plan*

Route	Type	Analysis area
Trans Pennine Trail	Long Distance Trail	Glossopdale
Midshires Way	Long Distance Trail	Central Area-Buxton
Pennine Cycleway	Long Distance Trail	Glossopdale-Central Area-Buxton
Pennine Bridleway	Long Distance Trail	Glossopdale-Central Area-Buxton
Peak Forest Canal	Canal	Central Area
Sett Valley Trail	Local Trail	Central Area
Goyt Way	Local Trail	Central Area
High Peak Trail	Local Trail	Buxton
Warmbrook Footpath	Local Trail	Central Area
Lyme to Longendale Link	Local Trail	Central Area
Peak Forest Tramway	Local Trail	Central Area
Glossop Trail	Local Trail	Glossopdale

## 11.4 Quality

To determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) (withdrawn) site assessments scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for green corridors in High Peak. A threshold of 66% is applied in order to identify high and low quality. Further explanation of how the quality scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

No green corridors are assessed as part of the 2017 study. Consequently, Table 11.4 and 11.5 show no quality or value scores for 2017; however, ratings from the previous study are provided.

*Table 11.4: Quality ratings for green corridors by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Quality	2017 Quality
309	Sett Valley Trail (part 1)	Central	66.1%	
310	Sett Valley Trail (part 2)	Central	98.2%	
311	Sett Valley Trail (part 3)	Central	98.2%	
357	Peak Forest Tramway Trail	Central		
366	Serpentine Walk	Buxton		
370	Lower Barn Road	Glossopdale		
383	Shallcross Incline	Central		

All of the sites previously assessed in 2008 score above the threshold for quality. Sett Valley Trail is one site but different sections of the trail have been assessed.

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All parts of the Sett Valley Trail scored high for quality. This was attributed to good ancillary features such as benches and bins along the route, as well as wide, well maintained pathways making the corridor accessible for a wide range of users.

### 11.5 Value

To determine whether sites are high or low value (as recommended by the Companion Guidance) (withdrawn) site assessment scores are colour-coded against a baseline threshold (high being green and low being red). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for green corridors in High Peak. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value. Further explanation of how the value scores and threshold are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology).

*Table 11.5: Value ratings for green corridors by analysis area*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	2008 Value	2017 Value
309	Sett Valley Trail (part 1)	Central	35.0%	
310	Sett Valley Trail (part 2)	Central	29.0%	
311	Sett Valley Trail (part 3)	Central	29.0%	
357	Peak Forest Tramway Trail	Central		
366	Serpentine Walk	Buxton		
370	Lower Barn Road	Glossopdale		
383	Shallcross Incline	Central		

All of the assessed green corridors in High Peak score above the threshold for value. Green corridors, as part of the wider green infrastructure network, is a valuable asset to the Borough. The network provides safe links between urban areas and green infrastructure, as well as easy access into the countryside.

Green corridors have high health benefits, encouraging people to walk and cycle rather than using the car, thus leading to healthier lifestyles. Green corridors also offer important habitat corridors and, therefore, the ecological benefits are recognised. Sett Valley Trail as a whole is a recreational trail for walkers, cyclists and horse riders linking New Mills and Hayfield.

### 11.6 Conclusions

#### Summary

- ◀ There are seven green corridors identified totalling over nine hectares.
- ◀ There are also a number of other long-distance trails set out within the Local Plan. Many of these are nationally recognised such as the Trans Pennine Trail.
- ◀ All the assessed green corridors in the Borough scored above the threshold for quality, two of which scored well above the threshold. Green corridors are highly valued open spaces. They provide safe links between urban areas and other forms of green infrastructure, as well as easy access into the countryside.
- ◀ Green corridors also offer important habitat corridors and wildlife benefits.

# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

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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)		

# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

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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:	
<b>Please record any other comments about open spaces here:</b>	

<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	
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	

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**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE SURVEY**

**Please return to kkp**

# HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

## OPEN SPACE STUDY – UPDATE REPORT

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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
Bamford with Thornhill Parish Council	Yes	Bamford Rec Ground is a large area meeting the parish's likely needs.
Castleton Parish Council	No	Lack of a children's play area in the centre of the village.
Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council	Yes	Room for expansion at St Thomas Beckett Church and a fair amount of burial capacity left. Combs Play Area quite underused but in good condition. Chapel Memorial Park being upgraded through Friends of Chapel Memorial fund raising. Submitting to HLF Lottery Fund. Grant would help refurbishment of site including the skate park.
Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council	Yes.	Good quality. We were recently unsuccessful in securing a National Lottery bid to build a new community centre including new children's play area. Further bids will be made when new funding options are announced. The scale of the project will unfortunately need to be scaled back.
Chisworth Parish Council	Yes	Plenty of open space of good quality.
Edale Parish Council	Yes	No demand highlighted.
Hartington Upper Quarter Parish Council	Not answered.	No demand highlighted.
Hayfield Parish Council	Yes	No demand highlighted.
Hope with Aston Parish Council	Yes	No demand highlighted.
King Sterndale Parish Meeting	Yes	No demand highlighted.
New Mills Town Council	No	The town/parish needs a MUGA. There is a MUGA style goal and basketball on grass area at Bakehurst Rec Ground but it is not enclosed and not a proper MUGA. Young people suffer from the lack of a MUGA, significant skatepark and decently drained football pitches.
Tintwistle Parish Council	Yes	Adequate quality open spaces and good quality outdoor sports facilities. Plans to develop Sexton Street Community Centre Council Offices.
Whaley Bridge Town Council	No	Waiting list for Sunnybank Allotments of up to three years.
Wormhill and Green Fairfield Parish Council	No	Village of Wormhill lacks a play area.

