



ADUR AND WORTHING OPEN SPACE STUDY

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT REPORT

MARCH 2014

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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Glossary

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act
DPD	Development Plan Document
FIT	Fields in Trust
FOG	Friends of Group (including users groups and advisory groups)
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
MUGA	Multi-use Games Area (an enclosed area using a synthetic grass or hard surface for playing sports)
NHS	National Health Service
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NSALG	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PROW	Public Rights of Way
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
SDNP	South Downs National Park
SOA	Super Output Areas
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
WAM	Worthing Allotment Management
WADAGA	Worthing and District Allotment Gardeners Association

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Open Space Assessment Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Adur and Worthing Councils (AWC). It focuses on reporting the findings of the research, consultation, site assessments, data analysis and GIS mapping that underpins the study.

It forms part of a suite of reports that focus on open space, sport and recreation facilities. Together these three documents make up the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy. The documents are:

- ◀ Open Spaces
- ◀ Playing Pitches
- ◀ Indoor Built Facilities

The Assessment Reports provide detail with regard to what exists in Adur and Worthing, its condition, distribution and overall quality. It also considers the demand for provision based on population distribution, planned growth and consultation findings. The Strategy (which will follow this assessment report) will provide direction on the future provision of accessible, high quality, sustainable provision for open spaces, sport and recreation in Adur & Worthing.

This study replaces a previous set of reports, referred to as the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study, which predominately focused on identifying local needs in relation to quantity and accessibility.

The original Open Space, Sport and Recreation Studies (including Playing Pitch Strategies) for Adur and Worthing were carried out in 2005 and 2006 respectively. Both Strategies were partially reviewed in 2009. For Worthing this review was progressed to provide an update for the Core Strategy Examination. For Adur this was necessary in relation to the preparation of the Shoreham Harbour Joint Area Action Plan and Adur Councils Local Development Framework (LDF).

This audit based assessment of both quantitative and qualitative open space facilities are carried out in accordance with the Planning Policy Guidance 17 Companion Guide entitled 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities' published in September 2002.

Through recognising the provision of open spaces in plan form, provision can be assessed in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility, strengthening their protection in planning policy from future encroachment and maximising opportunities for improvement.

This is not to say open space outside of the recognised provision should be seen as secondary or surplus. Sites can be of equal significance to the neighbourhoods they service and/or be of wider strategic importance to the area. This should be reflected in policy, which should aim to provide better linkages and standards of provision where appropriate.

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This assessment covers the following open space typologies as set out in 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG17'

Table 1.1: PPG17 definitions

	PPG17 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.

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1.1 Report structure

Open spaces

This report considers the supply and demand issues for open space facilities in Adur and Worthing. 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 defined in 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG 17'; it is structured as follows:

- Part 3: General open space summary
- Part 4: Parks and gardens
- Part 5: Natural and semi-natural greenspace
- Part 6: Amenity greenspace
- Part 7: Provision for children and young people
- Part 8: Allotments
- Part 9: Cemeteries/churchyards
- Part 10: Civic space
- Part 11: Green corridors

Associated strategies

The study sits alongside the Playing Pitch Strategy and Indoor Built Facilities Strategy being undertaken by KKP. The former is in accordance with the methodology provided in the Sport England's 'Towards a Level Playing Field – A guide to the production of playing pitch strategies' for assessing demand and supply for outdoor sports facilities. Both Strategies are provided in separate reports.

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OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

1.2 National context

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system and provides a framework for local people and their councils 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 focus on the three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that local plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

Under the promoting healthy communities theme, it is set out that planning policies should be based on robust, 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 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 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 PPG17 Companion Guide.

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

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

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1.3 Local context

This study and its audit findings are important in the contribution to the production of each of the Adur and Worthing Councils Local Development Frameworks (LDF) and is an integral part of identifying and regulating the open space infrastructure. Through recognising the provision of open spaces in plan form, provision can be assessed in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility, whilst strengthening its presence in planning policy for the future and looking to maximise opportunities for investment. Below is the local context in which the study has been undertaken.

Worthing Core Strategy

The document sets out the long-term planning and development in the area up to 2026. It is designed to help inform decision making on all planning applications and will provide the context for all relevant Local Development Documents.

Regeneration is identified as the key focus within the document; setting out strategic development at West Durrington as well as at 12 other Areas of Change. Identified within the Strategy are the seven Strategic Objectives which relate to the priorities for the Worthing area. These include:

- ◀ Strategic Objective 1 - Protect the natural environment and address climate change
- ◀ Strategic Objective 2 - Revitalise Worthing's town centre and seafront
- ◀ Strategic Objective 3 - Delivery a sustainable economy
- ◀ Strategic Objective 4 - Meet Worthing's housing needs
- ◀ Strategic Objective 5 - Reduce social and economic disparities and improve quality of life for all
- ◀ Strategic Objective 6 - Deliver high quality distinctive places
- ◀ Strategic Objective 7 - Improve accessibility

Revised Draft Adur Local Plan

The Adur Local Plan will provide a clear strategy for development in Adur up to 2031. It will form the context for future neighbourhood planning and will set out the vision and objectives for the area as well as site specific policies (including site allocations). It does not include areas of Adur covered by the South Downs National Park.

Some of the key issues relating to open spaces set out the in Revised Draft Local Plan include the need to:

- ◀ Facilitate regeneration of Adur
- ◀ Improve infrastructure
- ◀ Balance development and regeneration against the limited physical capacity of Adur without detriment to the environment quality
- ◀ Meet identified housing needs
- ◀ Address deprivation
- ◀ Address climate change and flood risk
- ◀ Improve health and well being
- ◀ Maintain and enhance the quality of the built, historic and natural environment

Consultation on the Revised Draft version was undertaken in late 2013.

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PART 2: METHODOLOGY

2.1 Analysis areas

For mapping purposes and audit analysis, Adur and Worthing is divided into four analysis areas (reflecting the geographical and demographical nature of the area).

These allow more localised assessment of provision in addition to examination of open space/facility surplus and deficiencies at a more local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. Adur and Worthing is therefore, broken down as follows:

Table 2.1: Population by analysis area

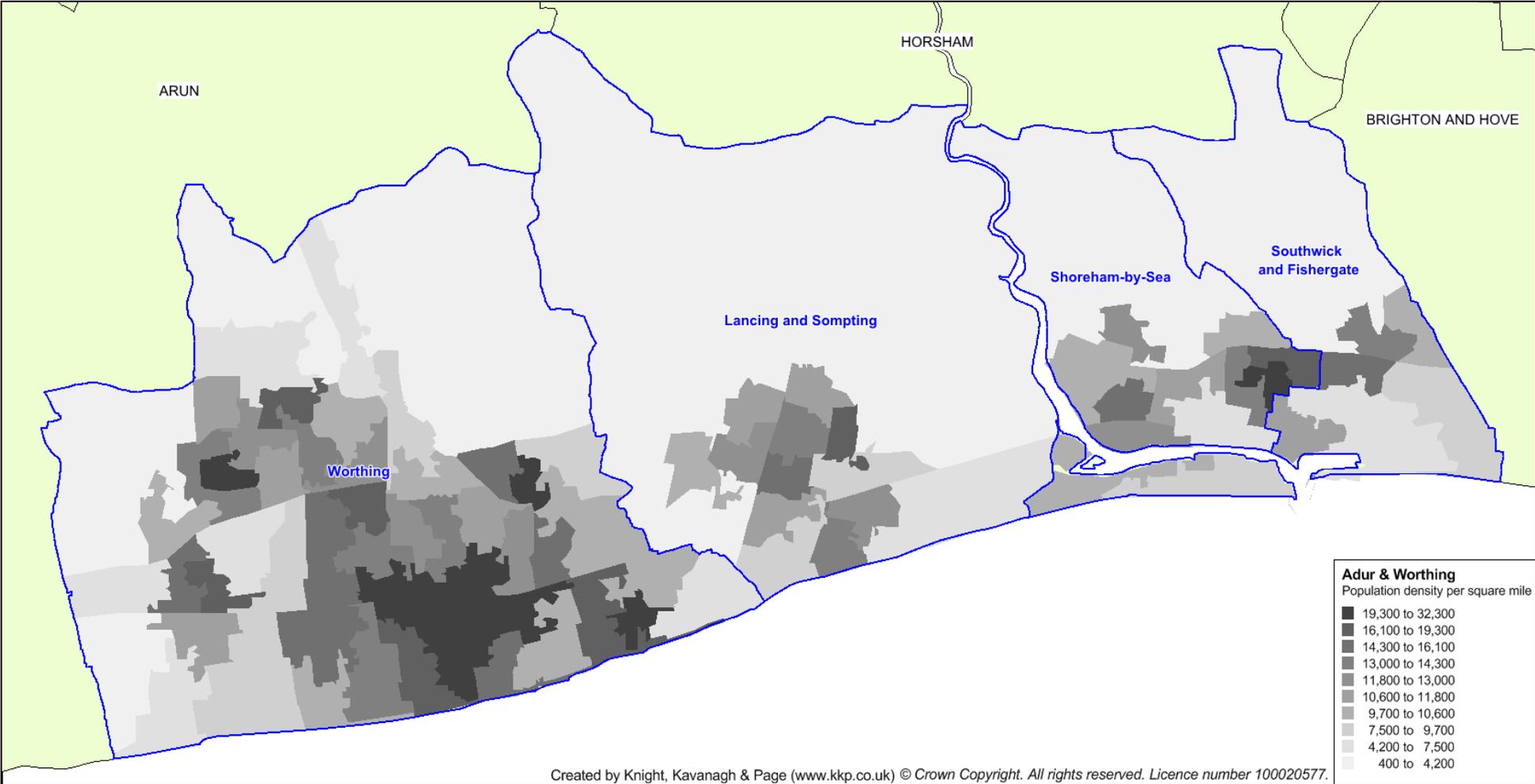
Analysis area	Population (2011)*
Lancing and Sompting	27,371
Shoreham-by-Sea	20,547
Southwick and Fishergate	13,264
Worthing	104,640
ADUR AND WORTHING	165,822

Figure 2.1 shows the map of analysis areas with population density.

* Source: ONS Interim 2011 based population projections

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Figure 2.1: Analysis areas in Adur and Worthing



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2.2 Auditing local provision (supply)

The site audit for this study was undertaken by the KKP Field Research Team. In total, 283 open spaces (including provision for children and young people) are identified, plotted on GIS 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 therefore the report, utilise the following typologies in accordance with guidance:

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

In accordance with PPG17: Companion Guidance 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, some sites below the threshold (i.e. those that are identified through consultation as being of significance or identified from the previous study) are included. The list below details the threshold for each typology:

- ◀ 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 space – no threshold

Database development

All information relating to open spaces across Adur and Worthing is collated in the project open space database (supplied as an Excel electronic file). All sites included within the audit, as identified and assessed, are included 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
- ◀ Management
- ◀ Typology
- ◀ Size (hectares)
- ◀ Site visit data

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

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2.3 Quality and value

Quality and value are fundamentally different and can be unrelated. For example, a high quality space may be in an inaccessible location and, thus, be of little value; while, if a rundown (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 as follows. This will also allow application of a high and low quality/value matrix to further help determine prioritisation of investment and to identify sites that may be surplus to a particular open space typology.

Analysis of quality

Data collated from site visits 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 the Green Flag Plus Partnership). 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 & features
- ▶ Groups that the site meets the needs of, e.g., elderly, young people
- ▶ Site potential

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

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Analysis of value

Using data calculated from the site visits and desk based research a value score for each site is identified. Value is defined in PPG17 Companion Guide 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.

The value criteria set is derived from PPG17 Companion Guide. It is summarised below:

<p>Value criteria for open space site visits (score)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◀ Level of use (observations only), e.g., evidence of different user types (e.g. dog walkers, joggers, children) throughout day, located near school and/or community facility◀ Context of site in relation to other open spaces◀ Structural and landscape benefits, e.g., well located, high quality defining the identity and character of the area◀ Ecological benefits, e.g., supports/promotes biodiversity & wildlife habitats◀ Educational benefits, e.g., provides learning opportunities on nature/historic landscapes, people & features◀ Social inclusion and health benefits, e.g., promotes civic pride, community ownership and a sense of belonging; helping to promote well-being◀ Cultural and heritage benefits, e.g., historic elements/links (e.g. listed building, statues) and high profile symbols of local area◀ Amenity benefits and 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
<p>Value - non site visit criteria (score)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◀ 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

2.4 Quality and value thresholds

In order to determine whether sites are high or low quality (as recommended by guidance). The results of the site assessments have been 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 base line threshold for assessing quality can, for most typologies, often be set around 60%; 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 always appropriate for every open space typology as it is designed to represent a sufficiently high standard of site.

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Therefore the baseline threshold for certain typologies is amended to better reflect this.

Table 2.2: Quality and value thresholds by typology

Typology	Quality threshold	Value threshold
Parks and gardens	50%	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 space	50%	20%

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 the threshold of 20% may initially sound low; It is designed to reflect those sites that meet more than one aspect of the criteria used for assessing value (as detailed earlier).

2.5 Identifying local need (demand)

Consultation to identify local need for open space provision has been carried out through face-to-face meetings, telephone interviews and postal surveys. A resident survey has also been created and used to gather the wider views of people. We have therefore utilised the findings of the resident survey carried out as part of this to further support the results of the quality and value assessment. This has also been supplemented by face-to-face and/or telephone interviews with key local authority officers responsible for the management and development of sites relating to each typology.

In addition, face to face meetings were held with the two parish and town councils; Lancing and Sompting. This helped to pick up on issues, problems and concerns relating to open space provision at a more local level, as well as identifying the attitudes and needs of the broader local community. It also allowed any local issues and aspirations to be identified.

Surveys

An online survey was commissioned as part of the study. This was designed to identify the attitudes and needs of the broader local community. The survey provides a robust sample of both users and non-users of open spaces across the area. A total of 431 survey responses were gained from across both Adur and Worthing.

The resident survey was hosted online and sent to members of the Citizen Panels for Adur and Worthing. It was also distributed via online social media outlets. The results of the survey have been analysed and are presented in graph format with commentary throughout the report.

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2.6 Accessibility standards

Accessibility standards 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. This problem is overcome by accepting the concept of 'effective catchments', defined as the distance that would be travelled by the majority of users.

Guidance is offered by the Greater London Authority (GLA) (2002): 'Guide to preparing open space strategies' with regard to appropriate catchment areas for authorities to adopt. However, in order to make accessibility standards more locally specific to Adur and Worthing, we propose to use data from the survey consultation to set appropriate catchments. The following standards are recorded in the survey in relation to how far residents are willing to travel to access different types of open space provision.

Table 2.4: Accessibility standards to travel to open space provision

Typology	KKP applied standard
Parks and gardens	15 minute walk time (1200m)
Natural and Semi-natural	15 minute walk time (1200m)
	30 minute drive time
Amenity greenspace	5 minute walk time (400m)
Provision for children and young people	15 minute walk time (1200m)
Allotments	10 minute walk time (800m)
	10 minute drive time
Cemeteries	No standard set
Civic spaces	No standard set
Green corridors	No standard set

Most typologies are set as having an accessibility standard of a 15 minute walk time. For the open space typologies of natural and semi-natural greenspace and allotments dual walk and drive time accessibility standards have been set. This is designed to reflect the nature of use for these types of provision; with users often being willing to travel by transport as well as by foot.

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

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PART 3: GENERAL OPEN SPACE SUMMARY

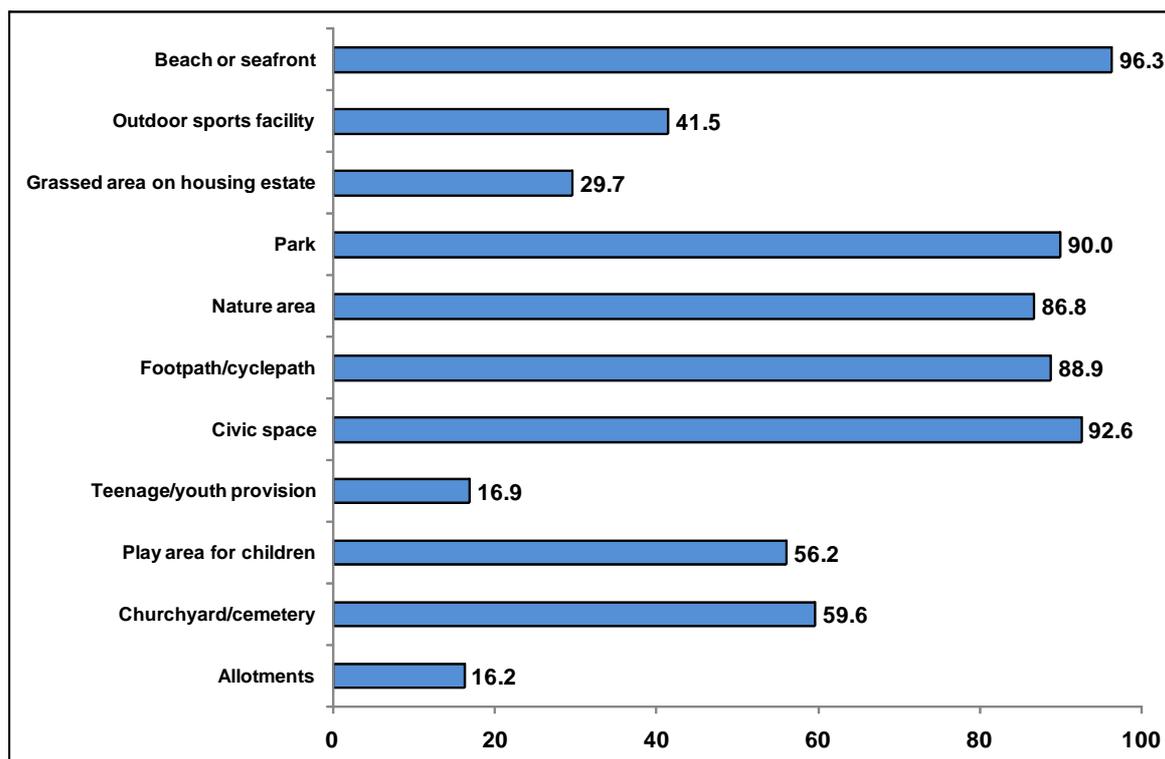
This section describes generic trends and findings from the quality and value ratings for each typology in Adur and Worthing. It describes the generic issues that cut across more than one typology, including a summary of the resident survey. Typology and site specific issues are covered in the relevant sections of this report.

3.1 Usage

The most popular open space types visited in the last twelve months by residents of Adur and Worthing are beach or seafronts (96%), civic space/non-green space (93%) and parks (90%). Both nature areas and footpaths/cycle paths are also well visited typologies, with 87% and 89% respectively.

Contrastingly, a smaller proportion of respondents have, in the last year, visited teenage/youth provision (17%) or an allotment (16%). This is consistent with the findings from other local authority areas and reflects the user profile of these types of open spaces.

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



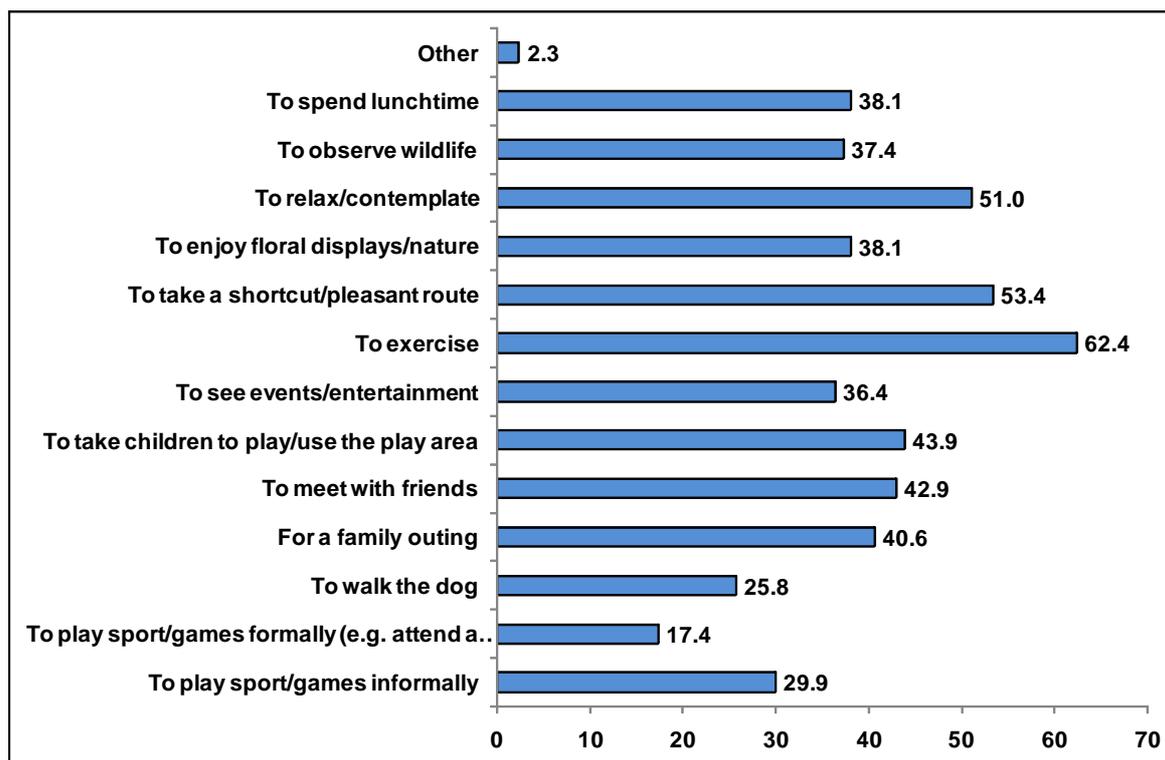
The most popular reason for visiting open spaces in Adur and Worthing is to exercise; with over three fifths (62%) of respondents giving this reason. The second highest reason is to take a shortcut/pleasant route (53%). This may also reflect why certain typologies such as footpaths/cycle paths and beach/seafronts are some of the more popular types of open space.

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The role of open spaces in providing social interaction is also reflected in the results, with a significant proportion of respondents using open spaces to take children to play (44%), to meet with friends (43%) or for family outings (41%).

Other popular reasons for visiting open spaces are to relax/contemplate (51%), to spend lunchtime (38%) or to enjoy nature (38%). All these indicate the value of open spaces as focal areas for local communities.

Figure 3.2: Reasons for visiting open spaces in last 12 months



Respondents to the survey were also asked what the main reasons preventing use of open spaces are in Adur and Worthing. The most common reason given is due to an individual being too busy working. Nearly a quarter of respondents (24%) cite this.

Other factors highlighted by respondents include a lack of interest (12%), a perception of facilities not being maintained (13%) and too expensive (15%). The latter may be a reflection on cost associated with travelling to and from sites; as in general most provision does not have a fee attached for use.

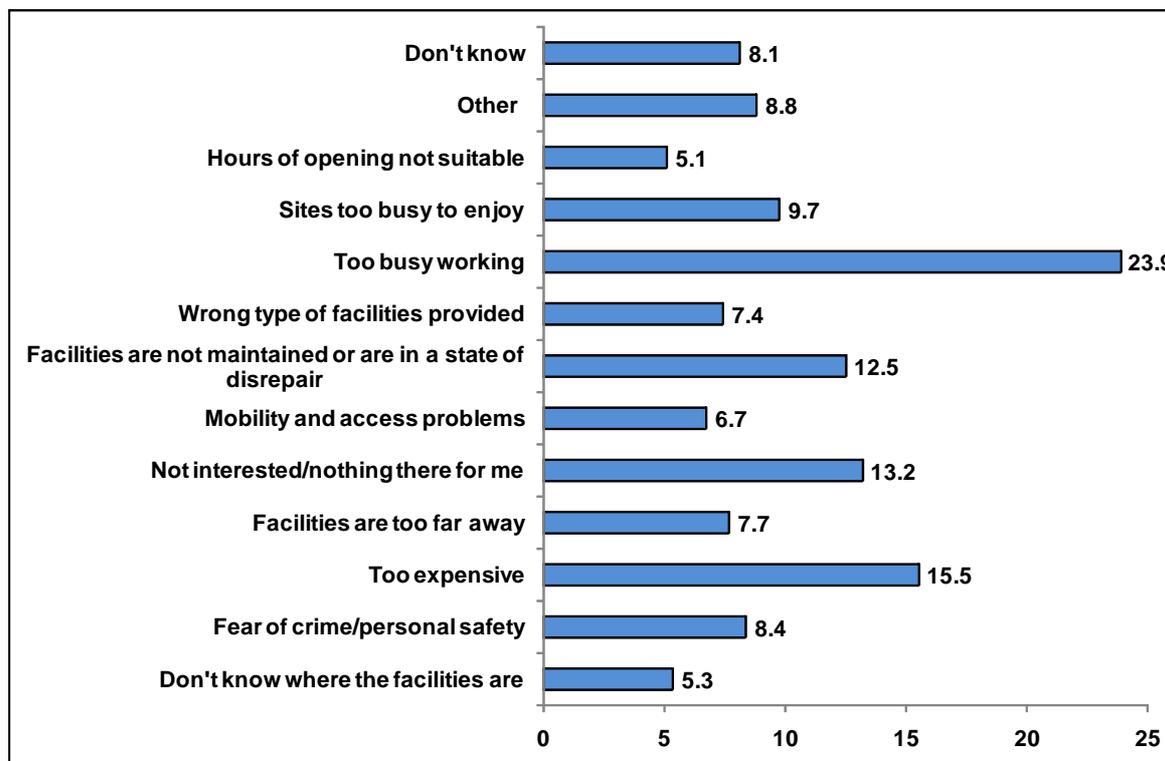
Furthermore, a small proportion of respondents (9%) state “other” as their reason for not visiting open space provision. Some reasons given by the 53% of users who stated “other” included:

- ◀ Dogs off leash/ dog foul.
- ◀ Health restrictions.

On a positive note, overall responses for reasons people do not visit are low, implying that in general provision seems to meet people’s needs; with the exception of peoples work schedules.

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Figure 3.3: Reasons for not visiting open spaces



Availability

Consultation and the survey findings identify a perception amongst residents that Adur and Worthing are well provided for in terms of open space. Particular reference is made to its coastal position offering easy access to the seafront and beaches. Furthermore, the close proximity of the South Downs National Park is also recognised as providing a unique and convenient amenity to the population.

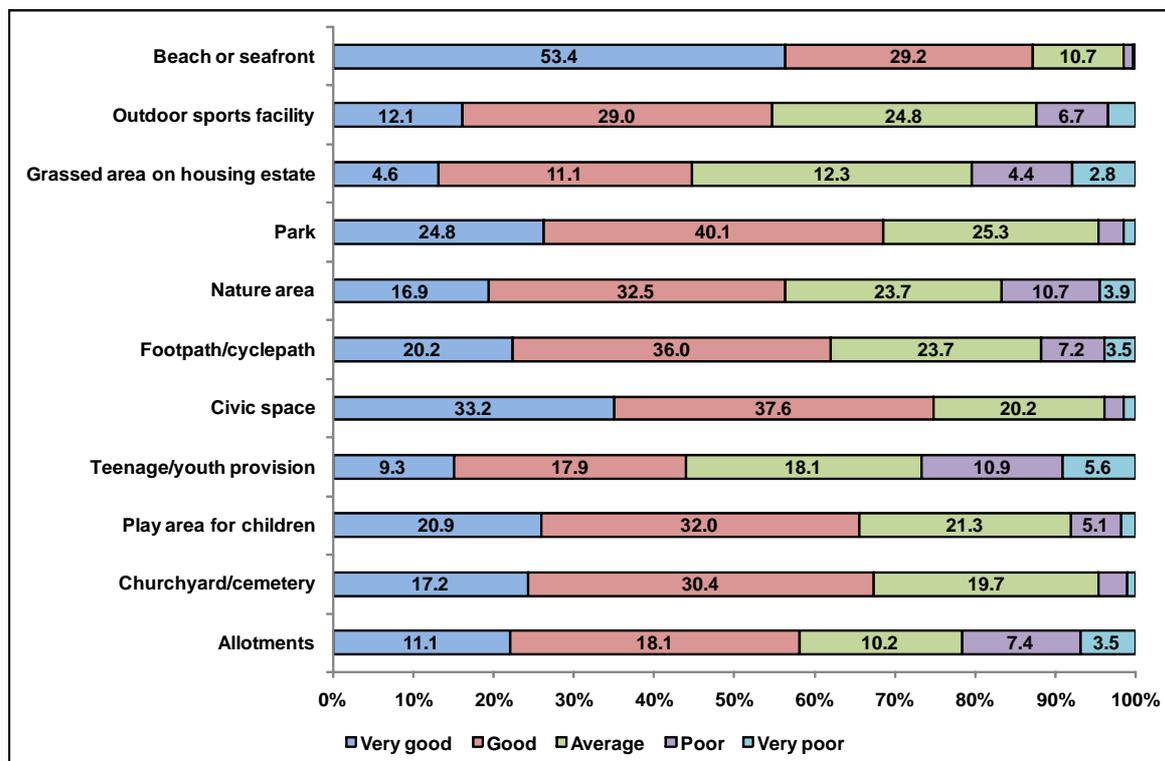
When rating availability of provision, the vast majority of respondents consider the availability of each typology to be very good or good. In particular, the typologies of beaches and seafront (53%) as well as civic space (33%) are perceived as being very good in terms of availability. Nearly all other open space types of provision are rated as having a good level of availability.

The exception is for the typologies of teenage/youth provision and grassed areas on housing estates (i.e. amenity greenspace). For both types of open spaces more respondents rate the availability of such provision as average; a total of 18% and 12% respectively. This is not significant for these typologies as they are only slightly higher compared to the proportion of respondents that rate availability as good (teenage/youth provision is 18% and grassed areas is 11%). However, it does show in comparison to other open space types that provision is not viewed as being as readily available.

The general positive view towards the availability of provision is further supported by the small percentages of those respondents that give a rating of either poor or very poor. Only teenage/youth provision receives any noticeable scores; with 11% and 6% of respondents rating availability as poor or very poor.

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Figure 3.4: Availability of open spaces



3.2 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 Adur and Worthing.

Table 3.1: Quality scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Maximum score	Lowest score	Highest score	Low	High
Allotments	40%	124	35%	72%	1	23
Amenity greenspace	40%	121	16%	85%	35	74
Cemeteries/churchyards	45%	161	35%	71%	2	14
Provision for children and young people	50%	97	27%	89%	17	45
Civic space	50%	146	53%	74%	-	5
Park and gardens	50%	159	43%	88%	3	20
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	35%	117	12%	82%	12	29
TOTAL	-	161	12%	89%	70	210

There are three sites which do not receive a score for quality. This is because they were inaccessible at the time of the site visits.

Nearly three quarters (75%) of assessed open spaces in Adur and Worthing score high for quality. More natural and semi-natural greenspace sites and amenity greenspace sites score low for quality compared to other typologies. This is a reflection of the number of

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sites for these typologies without any specific ancillary features or facilities. Sites for the typology of natural and semi-natural greenspace (i.e. woodlands, open grassland) can 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 management or maintenance in order to provide, for example, unmanaged habitats.

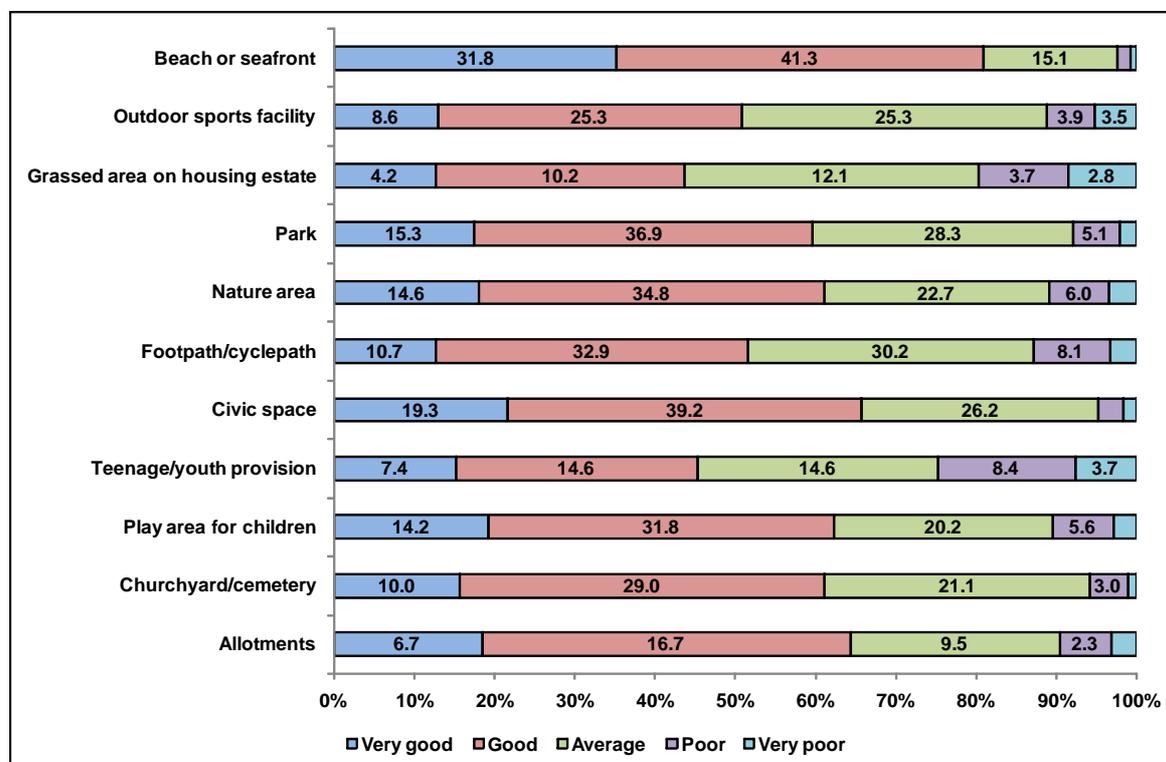
The typologies of allotments, cemeteries, civic space and parks are generally all of a good quality. In particular the proportion of allotments and parks rated as being of a high quality is noticeable.

All survey participants were asked to rate the quality of each type of open space. This resulted in a high level of “don’t know” responses; subsequently the graph only shows those responses that provided a rating.

The resident survey results show that nearly all open space typologies are rated as being of a good or very good quality. The open space type of beaches and seafronts is especially viewed as being of an excellent condition. Most respondents rate such provision as good (41%) or very good (32%). Similar trends can be seen for most of the other open space typologies.

The exception is for the typologies of teenage/youth provision (15%) and grassed areas on housing estates (12%). Both open space types receive slightly higher average ratings in comparison to other typologies; parallel to the trends seen for availability.

Figure 3.5: Quality of open space provision



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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 Adur and Worthing.

Table 3.2: Value scores for all open space typologies

Typology	Threshold	Maximum score	Lowest score	Highest score	Low	High
Allotments	20%	105	21%	57%	-	24
Amenity greenspace	20%	100	8%	80%	26	83
Cemeteries/churchyards	20%	100	21%	59%	-	16
Provision for children and young people	20%	55	20%	64%	-	62
Civic space	20%	100	47%	60%	-	5
Park and gardens	20%	110	24%	81%	-	23
Natural and semi-natural greenspace	20%	110	15%	72%	4	37
TOTAL	20%	110	8%	81%	30	250

The majority of sites (89%) are assessed as being of high value. Similar to the quality scores; natural and semi-natural as well as amenity greenspaces have a higher proportion of low value sites. This reflects the number of sites that lack any particular ancillary features - especially for the amenity greenspaces typology which has a number of smaller sized sites. However, the value these sites play in providing a visual amenity and a break from the built form remains important in a wider context.

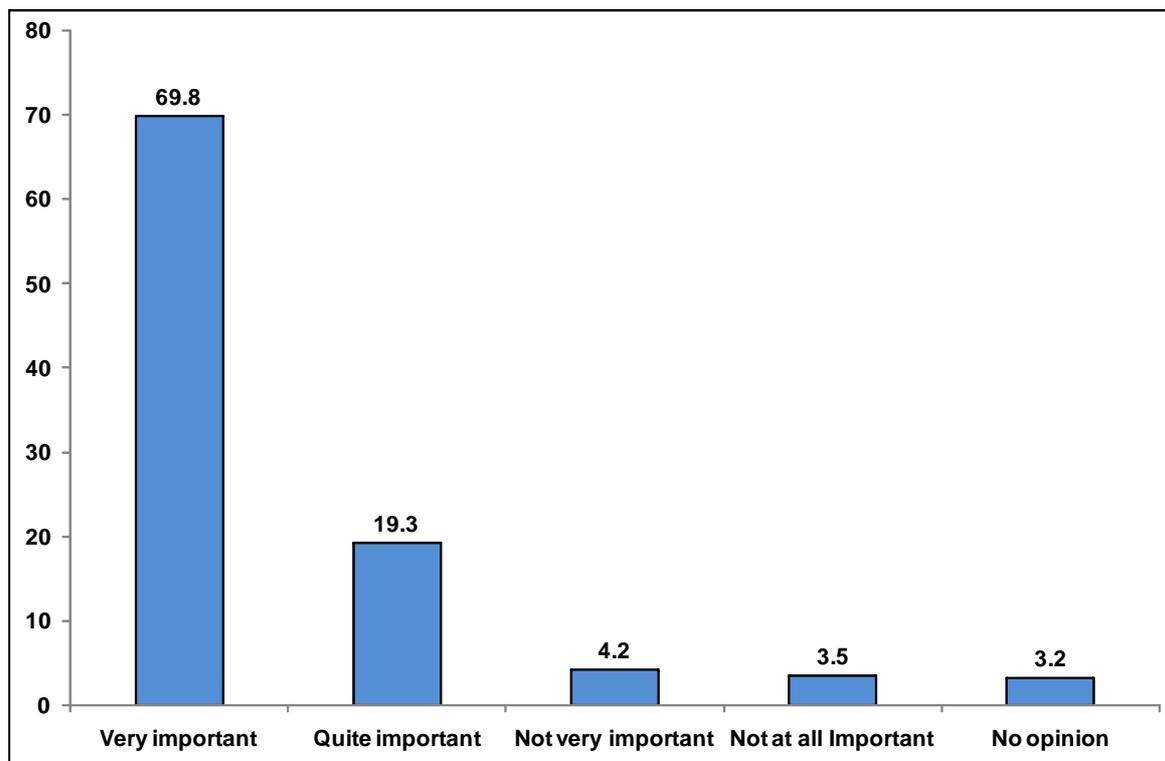
A high value site is considered to be one that is well used by the local community, well maintained (with a balance for conservation), provides a safe environment and has features of interest; for example play equipment and landscaping. Sites that provide for a cross section of users and have a multi-functional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

Consultation highlights that open spaces are a valuable resource for residents and visitors across Adur and Worthing. Most resident survey respondents (70%) view open spaces to be very important. This is followed by a further 19% that rates provision to be quite important. This highlights the high value placed on such provision by respondents, and the reasons for continued investment in open spaces by the Council and other providers.

The importance of open spaces is further recognised by the small proportion of respondents who view open space to be not very (4%) or not all important (4%).

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Figure 3.6: Importance of open spaces



3.3 Summary

General summary

- ◀ In total there are 283 sites identified in Adur and Worthing as open space provision. This is an equivalent of over 663 hectares across the area.
- ◀ Most typologies are set as having an accessibility standard of a 15 minute walk time. The typologies of allotments and natural and semi-natural greenspace also have a drive time catchment applied.
- ◀ The majority of typologies are perceived as having a good level of availability by survey respondents, with the exception of teenage provision and to some extent amenity greenspace. In particular, provision for teenagers is felt to be lacking.
- ◀ Three quarters of all open spaces score high for quality. More amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural sites score low for quality compared to other typologies. This is due to sites of this type tending to lack ancillary features. Maintenance of open spaces is, in general, considered to be to a sufficient standard.
- ◀ The majority of all open spaces are assessed as being of high value. Reflecting the importance of provision; nearly all sites with the exception of some for the typologies of amenity greenspace and natural and semi-natural score high for value.

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PART 4: PARKS AND GARDENS

4.1 Introduction

As set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide, the typology of parks and gardens generally covers urban parks, country parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide 'accessible high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events'. No country parks are identified as being in existence within the Adur and Worthing area.

4.2 Key issues

Current provision

There are 23 sites classified as parks and gardens across Adur and Worthing, an equivalent of over 42 hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and, as such, all sites have been included within the typology.

Table 4.1: Distribution of parks by analysis area

Analysis area	Parks and gardens		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current standard (ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	3	5.95	0.22
Shoreham-by-Sea	2	15.00	0.73
Southwick and Fishergate	2	0.49	0.04
Worthing	16	20.93	0.20
ADUR AND WORTHING	23	42.37	0.26

The largest single site contributor to provision in Adur and Worthing is Buckingham Park in Shoreham, equating to 14.8 hectares of provision.

Other significant sized sites include Lancing Manor Park (4.4 hectares), Homefield Park (3.8 hectares), Beach House Park (3.5 hectares) and High Down Gardens (3.4 hectares). The last three sites are all located in Worthing.

Proportionally both Shoreham-by-Sea (0.73) and the Lancing and Sompting (0.22) analysis areas have more provision per 1,000 populations of head compared to the Worthing analysis area (0.17). This is despite both having fewer sites, two and three respectively, in contrast to Worthing; which has a total of 16 sites.

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Accessibility

Consultation through the residents' survey found the most common travel time that respondents are willing to travel is an 11-15 minute walk (24%). This is closely followed by a further 22% that would be willing to walk over 15 minutes to access provision. We have therefore applied a 15 minute walk time for accessibility mapping.

Only a small proportion of respondents' state they would be willing to travel by transport to reach a park or garden. A total of 11% cite they would travel up to 30 minutes whilst an additional 8% are willing to travel 10 minutes by transport.

Furthermore, as an indicator towards the general popularity of parks provision, only 11% of respondents state they do not know how far they are willing to travel.

Figure 4.1: Time prepared to travel to access a park and garden

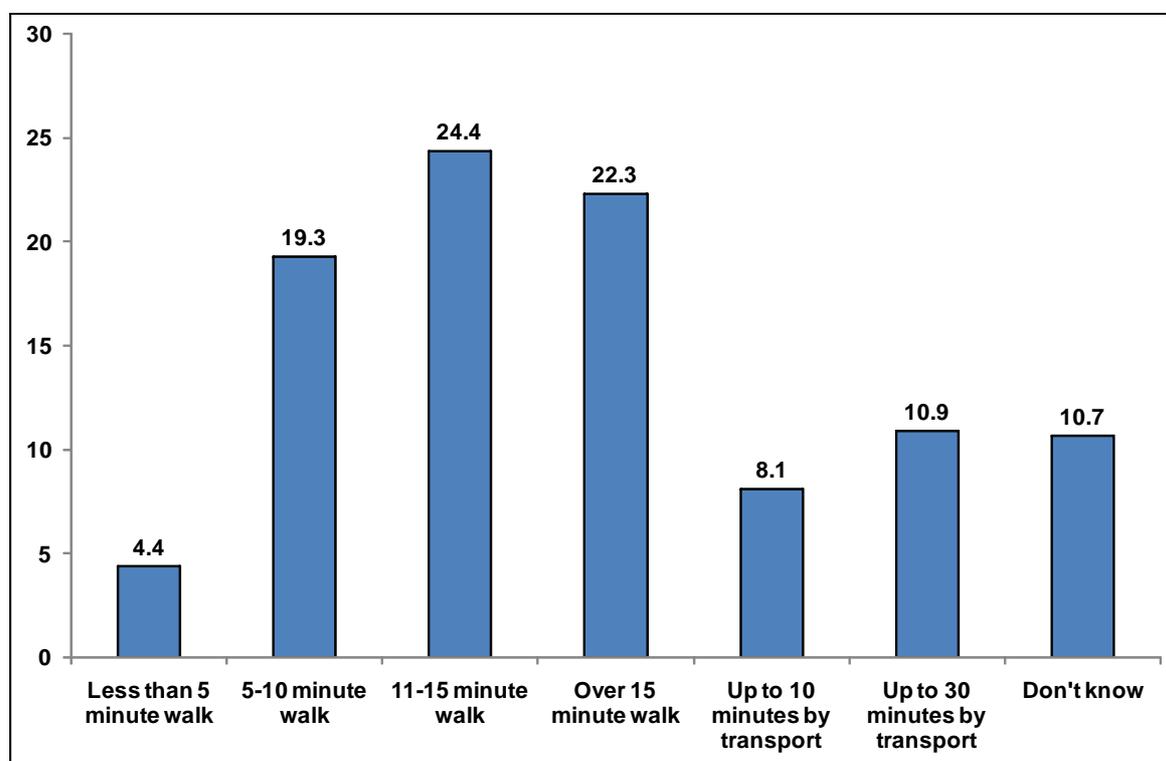
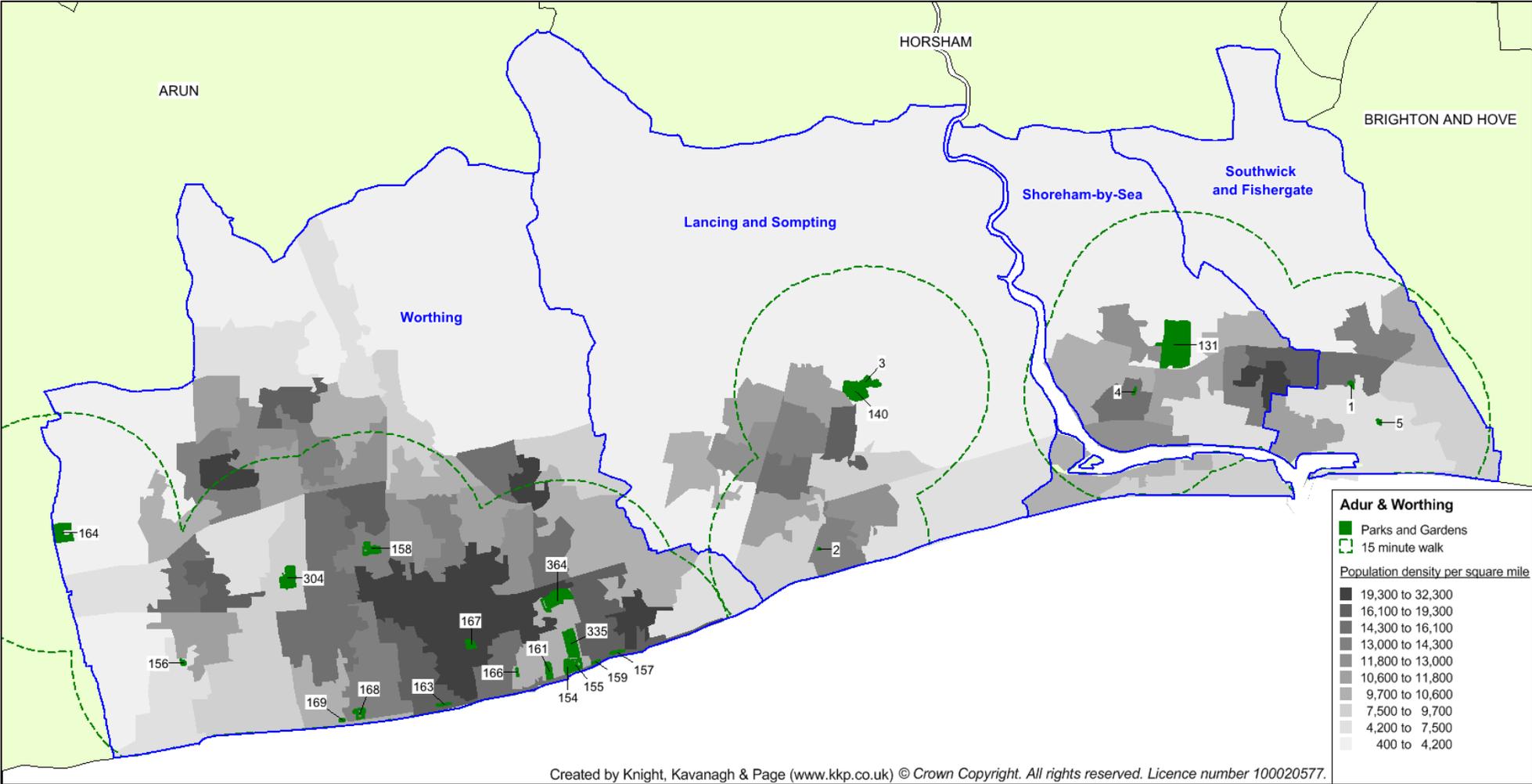


Figure 4.2 shows parks and gardens mapped against the analysis areas with an accessibility catchment of 15 minute walk time.

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Figure 4.2: Parks and gardens mapped against analysis area



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Table 4.2: Key to sites mapped

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
1	Cross Road Rest Garden	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	57%	32%
2	Headborough Gardens	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	45%	32%
3	Lancing Manor Park	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	73%	62%
4	Windlesham Gardens	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	50%	31%
5	Croft Avenue Rest Gardens	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	50%	44%
131	Buckingham Park	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	74%	55%
140	Lancing Manor Park OSF	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	76%	57%
154	Denton Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	63%	33%
155	Beach House Grounds	Worthing	Worthing	52%	38%
156	Molson Community garden	Worthing	Worthing	43%	46%
157	The Esplanade	Worthing	Worthing	52%	38%
158	Tarring Rec Ground	Worthing	Worthing	67%	53%
159	New Parade	Worthing	Worthing	52%	58%
161	Steyne Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	75%	72%
163	Heene Terrace	Worthing	Worthing	66%	61%
164	Highdown Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	72%	81%
166	Liverpool Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	66%	52%
167	Amelia Park	Worthing	Worthing	72%	53%
168	Marine Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	60%	24%
169	Roberts Marine Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	49%	28%
335	Beach House Park	Worthing	Worthing	88%	73%
304	Field Place	Worthing	Worthing	82%	62%
364	Homefield Park	Worthing	Worthing	56%	34%

The majority of both the Southwick and Fishergate and the Shoreham-by-Sea analysis areas are covered by the accessibility catchment of a 10 minute walk time. Minor gaps are noted to the south of the latter analysis area. However, the need for new provision to address these deficiencies is not recommended. As these 'gaps' are served by provision of other types of open space which likely to provide recreational opportunities and value in these areas.

There is a small catchment gap to the west of Lancing. For Worthing, catchment deficiencies are noted to the north of the analysis area; such as in the Salvington and Offington ward areas. However, all three gaps in park provision are well served by other typologies such as amenity greenspace and natural/semi-natural sites. These will offer recreational opportunities and could be formalised in order to help meet the minor gaps.

Overall, the residents' survey found that the majority of respondents consider the availability of parks provision positively. A quarter of participants' rate provision as very good, whilst 40% think availability of parks is good; a minimal proportion rate availability as poor (3%) or very poor (1%).

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Parks and gardens are managed as part of the open spaces portfolio by the in-house maintenance team. Sites receive a regular maintenance visit which includes regimes such as grass cutting and general site preservation (e.g. bin emptying, path checks).

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for parks in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 50% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Table 4.3: Quality ratings for parks by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low <50%	High >50%
Lancing and Sompting	159	45%	61%	76%	31%	1	2
Shoreham-by-Sea	159	50%	62%	74%	24%	-	2
Southwick and Fishergate	159	50%	54%	57%	7%	-	2
Worthing	159	43%	66%	88%	39%	2	14
ADUR AND WORTHING	159	43%	66%	88%	39%	3	20

The majority of park sites in Adur and Worthing (87%) score high for quality against the criteria. All sites in Shoreham-by-Sea and the Southwick and Fishergate analysis area are assessed as high quality.

Sites are generally assessed highly; this is shown by the average scores for sites in most analysis areas being above 60%. However, there are three sites to score low for quality. All three are just outside the 50% threshold. These are:

- ✦ Headborough Gardens, Lancing and Sompting (45%)
- ✦ Molson Community Garden, Worthing (43%)
- ✦ Roberts Marine Gardens, Worthing (50%)

The lowest scoring site is Molson Community Garden in Worthing with a score of 43%. Site observations suggest this is due to a lack of regular maintenance and natural surveillance. It is also noted to not have any ancillary facilities such as benches. The site is believed to be held in trust by the adjacent St Mary's Church. Reclassification of the site as an amenity greenspace is likely to increase its quality score given its characteristics.

Headborough Gardens in the Lancing and Sompting analysis area scores low due to a general scruffy appearance. However, the small garden site is considered to have the potential to be enhanced with improvements to its overall cleanliness.

The Roberts Marine Gardens site, Worthing, receives a score of 49.5%; just on the set threshold of 50%. The site is recognised as a small landscaped garden featuring a number of shrubs and benches. It is noted that the site has a lack of bin provision.

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The highest scoring sites are Field Place (88%) and Beach House Park (82%) in Worthing. The former is noted as having a range of facilities including good equipped play provision as well as tennis courts and bowling greens. Beach House Park is one of the larger parks in Adur and Worthing and is noted as providing a wide range of good quality features such as several bowling greens, memorials and landscaped gardens. However, the tennis courts on site are currently closed and in need of attention. The sites high quality is likely a result of it having its own onsite gardener as well as being locked everyday at dusk.

Highdown Gardens in Worthing is also identified as having its own onsite gardening team as well as being locked daily. As a result the site rates high for quality with a score of 72%. It is nationally unique as it is home to a rare collection of plant and tree species. In addition, the site is the only one in Adur and Worthing to have Green Flag status. Further demonstrating the site's high quality is its use to host events such as open air theatre productions which further add to its overall appeal and value.

There are currently aspirations for a restoration project in Homefield Park. The site was the first municipal park in Worthing and dates back to the late 19th Century. It contains a number of features including sports facilities, play areas and a skate park. Events, such as fairs and carnivals, are also held on the site. In the summer of 2013 a bid for a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant was unsuccessful. The project planned to include improvements to boundary fencing, planting and entrances. It would have also have involved restoration of a historic rockery as well as creation of a new ornamental garden. It is intended for the work put into the bid process to be used for opportunities in any future funding applications. Comments are received through the consultation of the site having a reputation for anti-social behaviour (i.e. people drinking/drug taking). This is deemed to have improved however broken glass was noted during the site visit.

Both Amelia Park and Denton Gardens in Worthing are also observed in the site visit assessments as showing signs they are used for people to drink alcohol in. This does not however impact on the sites overall quality.

The consultation identifies other sites such as Steyne Gardens (Worthing), Buckingham Park (Shoreham) and Lancing Manor as good quality. This is further supported by the site visit assessments which recognise the attractive and high standard of provision. All three score over 70%. It is highlighted that the Buckingham Park and Lancing Manor offer a range of onsite facilities including opportunities for sport (e.g. bowls, football and cricket) and play equipment to an overall good quality. The Steyne Gardens site in Worthing is regarded as an attractive and well maintained park. In particular, it is well used for events such as open air concerts and is identified as housing an ice rink in the winter.

Green Flag

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

A recent survey by improvement charity GreenSpace highlights that parks with a Green Flag Award provide more satisfaction to members of the public compared to those sites without it. The survey of 16,000 park users found that more than 90% of Green Flag

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Award park visitors were very satisfied or satisfied with their chosen site, compared to 65% of visitors to non-Green Flag parks.

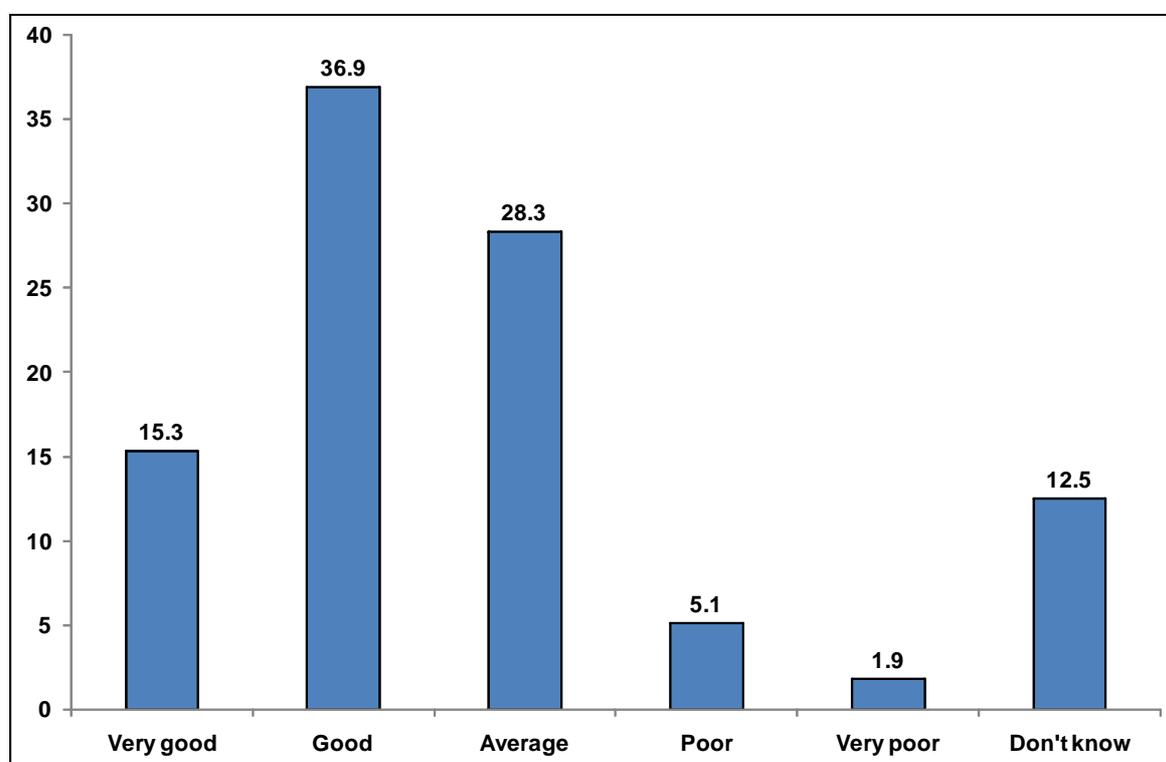
There is currently only one site in Adur and Worthing identified as achieving Green Flag status. This is Highdown Gardens in Worthing. As highlighted earlier, the site is maintained to a high standard with the work of both the onsite gardening team and friends of group being important in the sites continued achievement.

Site assessments show that a number of other park sites in Adur and Worthing would be appropriate and are likely to score well if they were to be submitted for the Green Flag Award scheme. The Council is conscious that a number of sites could pass; having had aspirations previously for additional sites to achieve Green Flag. However, resources have not allowed.

Other sites that may be best placed to potentially achieve accreditation are high scoring quality sites such as Beach House Park (Worthing), Buckingham Park (Shoreham) and Lancing Manor Park. A stipulation of Green Flag is for sites to have a Friends of Group; something that would need to be established for these three sites.

Overall, the resident survey found a positive perception towards the quality of parks. There are over a third of respondents (34%) that rate provision as being good with a further 15% rating quality as very good. A strong proportion of respondents (28%) also rate provision as average for quality. This is much higher compared to those residents that rate parks as being of a poor (5%) or very poor (2%) quality.

Figure 4.3: Quality of parks



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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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for parks in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Table 4.4: Value scores for parks by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low <20%	High >20%
Lancing and Sompting	159	32%	47%	62%	30%	-	3
Shoreham-by-Sea	159	31%	43%	55%	24%	-	2
Southwick and Fishergate	159	32%	38%	44%	12%	-	2
Worthing	159	24%	53%	81%	57%	-	16
ADUR AND WORTHING	159	24%	47%	81%	57%	-	23

All parks are assessed as being of high value from the site visit assessments. This is supported in consultation with Council officers. It demonstrates the high social inclusion and health benefits, ecological value and sense of place park sites offer.

One of the key aspects towards the value of parks provision is that they are used to accommodate events. There are a number of sites across both Adur and Worthing that are used to host a range of local and seasonal events. For instance, Steyne Gardens in Worthing often has a yearly ice rink and car show.

Reflecting the role sites play in providing a range of facilities and events/festivals. The value of parks in Adur and Worthing is further demonstrated in the resident survey with respondents citing they visit parks once a week (14%) or more (30%).

4.3 Summary

Parks and gardens

- ◆ There are 23 sites classified as parks and gardens totalling over 42 hectares.
- ◆ From the resident survey it is established that the majority of respondents are willing to walk in order to access parks provision, nearly a quarter (24%) will walk 11-15 minutes.
- ◆ The availability of parks is viewed positively with a greater proportion of respondents rating availability of provision as good (40%). A further 25% rate provision as very good.
- ◆ Most parks score high for quality (87%). Only three sites score low; Molson Community Garden, Headborough Gardens and Robert Marine Gardens. All three are assessed as lacking appropriate ancillary facilities as well as in appearance.
- ◆ There is currently one park site in Adur and Worthing with Green Flag status; Highdown Gardens. A number of other sites are also identified as having the potential to be submitted for Green Flag accreditation in the future if chosen.
- ◆ All parks are assessed as being of high value, with the important social inclusion and health benefits, ecological value and sense of place sites offer being acknowledged.

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PART 5: NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL GREENSPACE

5.1 Introduction

As set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide, the natural and semi-natural greenspace typology includes woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g. down-land, 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.'

5.2 Key issues

Current provision

In total 42 sites are identified as publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace, totalling just over 411 hectares of provision. These totals may not include all provision in Adur and Worthing as a site size threshold of 0.2 hectares has been applied. Guidance recommends that sites smaller than this may be of less recreational value to residents.

Table 5.1: Distribution of natural and semi-natural greenspace by analysis area

Analysis area	Natural and semi-natural greenspace		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current standard (ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	5	62.53	2.28
Shoreham-by-Sea	6	47.90	2.33
Southwick and Fishergate	5	32.57	2.46
Worthing	26	268.40	2.57
ADUR AND WORTHING	42	411.40	2.48

Proportionally the analysis areas all have a similar current standard of hectares per 1,000 population.

Adur and Worthing has a variety of natural and semi-natural sites including woodlands, grasslands and beaches. To better reflect local provision within the audit, the typology includes local nature reserves (LNRs) and beaches/coastal fronts. Furthermore, specific individual sites located within the South Downs National Park are identified and included.

Furthermore, the Adur Estuary is not included as an open space site but is acknowledged as an important ecological provision to the region. This is demonstrated by the area being designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

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Accessibility

Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) provides a set of benchmarks for ensuring access to places near to where people live. These standards 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

In some areas, this may be difficult to achieve in the short term, but it could be a long-term aim for authorities to work towards this standard. This study, in order to comply with guidance uses locally informed standards derived from consultation (explained on p13). It does not focus on the ANGSt Standard as this uses a different methodology for identifying accessible natural greenspace to that advocated in guidance.

In the resident survey nearly a third of respondents' (31%) state they are willing to travel up to 30 minutes by transport. This is followed closely by 24% that are willing to walk over 15 minutes to access provision. This has resulted in a 15 minute walk time and 30 minute drive time accessibility standard being set.

Figure 5.1: Time prepared to travel to natural and semi-natural greenspace

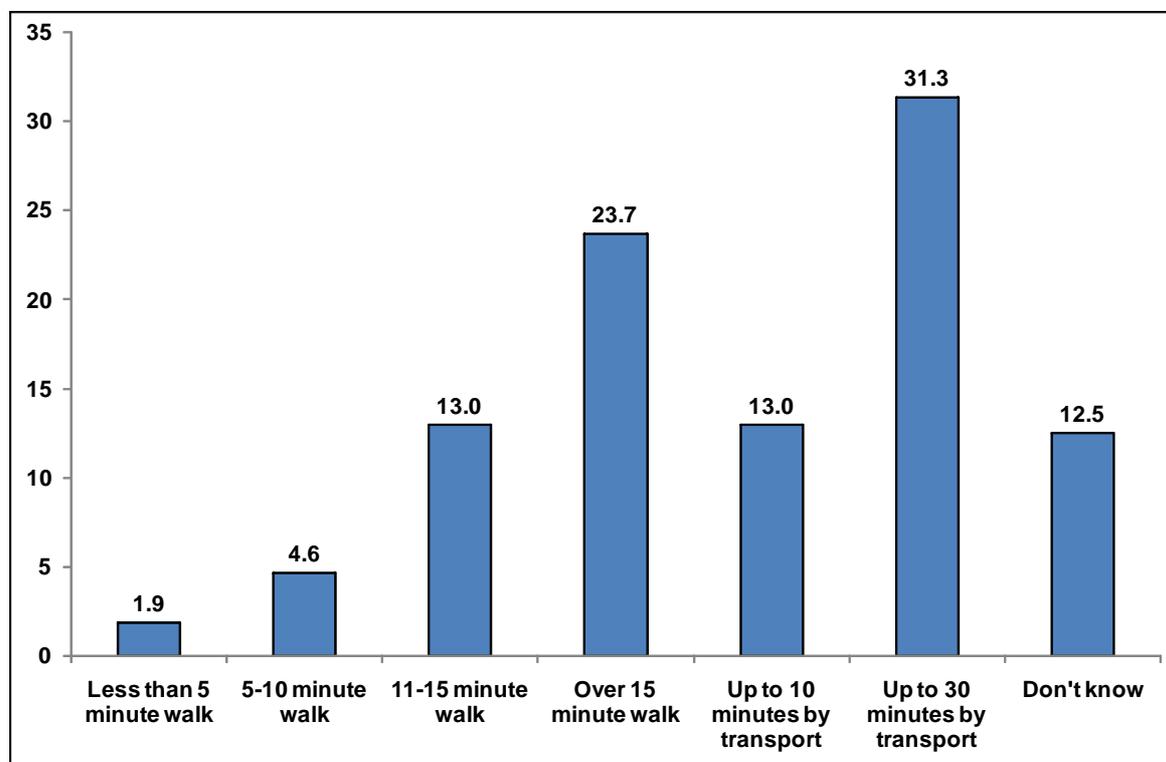
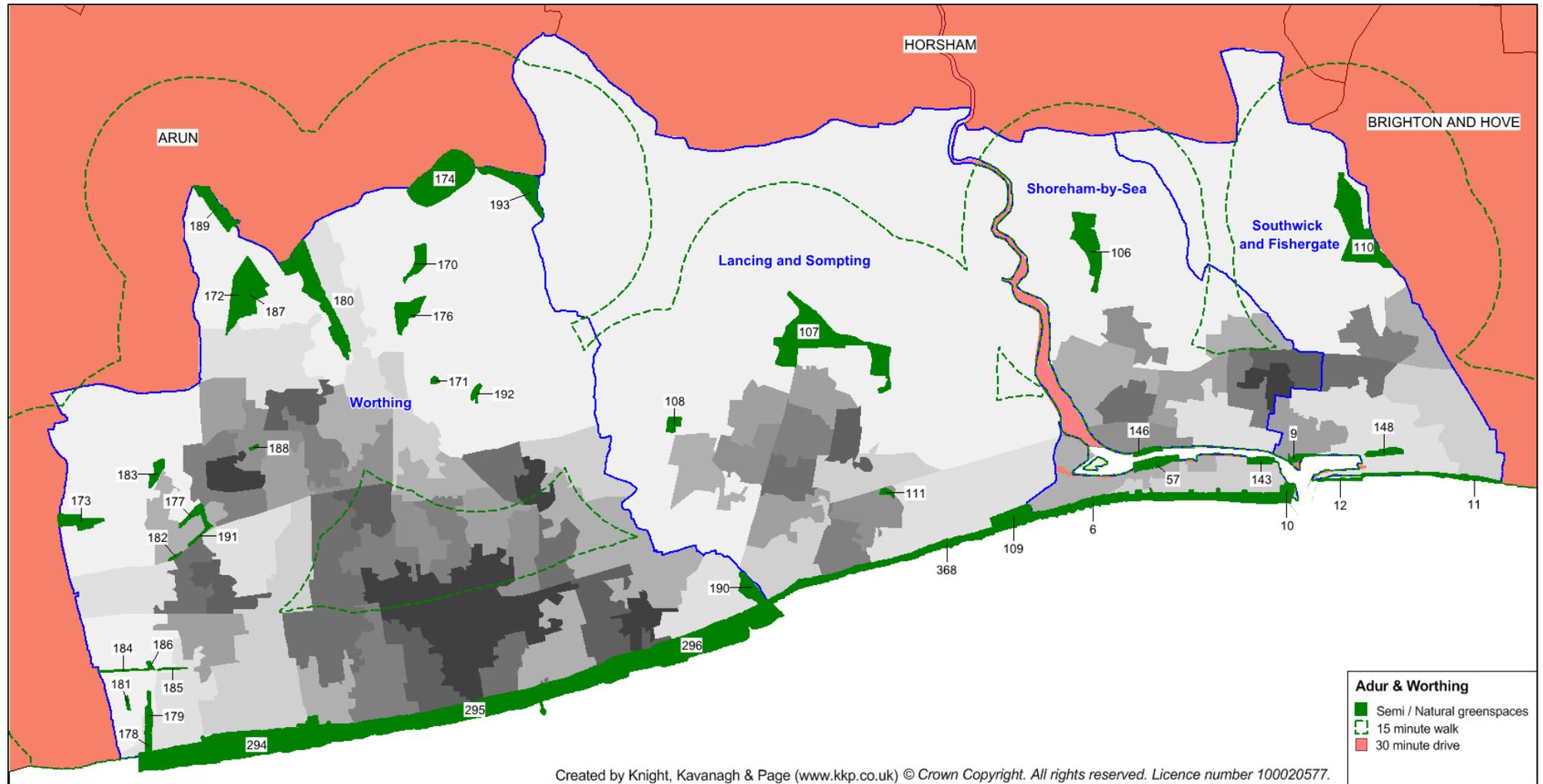


Figure 5.1 shows natural and semi-natural greenspace mapped against analysis areas with the above accessibility standards.

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Figure 5.2: Natural and semi-natural greenspace mapped against analysis areas



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Key to sites mapped:

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
6	Lancing Beach (Shoreham)	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	64%	72%
9	Kingston Beach	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	45%	29%
10	Shoreham Old Fort	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	52%	64%
11	Southwick Beach (Adur DC)	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	49%	39%
12	Southwick Beach (Port Authority)	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	47%	40%
57	Lower Beach Road Moorings	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	32%	42%
106	Mill Hill Nature Reserve	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	64%	48%
107	Lancing Ring	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	53%	51%
108	Malthouse Meadow	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	47%	42%
109	Widewater Lagoon	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	60%	64%
110	Southwick Hill	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	37%	37%
111	The Paddocks	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	51%	47%
143	Harbour Way Moorings	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	33%	34%
146	Brighton Road Moorings	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	32%	47%
148	Riverside Moorings	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	38%	19%
170	Mount Carvey woods	Worthing	Worthing	21%	23%
171	Hill Lane Plantation	Worthing	Worthing	n/a	n/a
172	Honey Suckle Lane Wood NSN	Worthing	Worthing	50%	37%
173	High Down North Field	Worthing	Worthing	50%	48%
174	Cissbury Ring	Worthing	Worthing	44%	56%
176	Findon Valley NSN	Worthing	Worthing	32%	30%
177	Whitebeam Wood	Worthing	Worthing	32%	42%
178	The Plantation South	Worthing	Worthing	45%	46%
179	The Plantation North	Worthing	Worthing	48%	47%
180	The Gallops	Worthing	Worthing	36%	38%
181	Amberley Drive	Worthing	Worthing	14%	32%
182	Northbrook College West NSN	Worthing	Worthing	19%	16%
183	Fulbeck Avenue NSN	Worthing	Worthing	18%	18%
184	Fernhurst Drive	Worthing	Worthing	70%	56%
185	Ilex Way	Worthing	Worthing	57%	57%
186	Goring Hall	Worthing	Worthing	33%	20%
187	Honey Suckle Lane Scrub NSN	Worthing	Worthing	66%	36%
188	Pond Lane Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	44%	54%
189	New Plantation	Worthing	Worthing	22%	15%
190	Brooklands Lake	Worthing	Worthing	82%	29%
191	Northbrook College East NSN	Worthing	Worthing	12%	26%
192	Hill Barn Lane NSN	Worthing	Worthing	35%	26%

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KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
193	Offington Ward North East NSN	Worthing	Worthing	35%	30%
294	Borough Boundary to George V Avenue 2	Worthing	Worthing	55%	47%
295	George V Avenue - Splash Point Part	Worthing	Worthing	75%	71%
296	Splash Point	Worthing	Worthing	75%	68%
368	Lancing Beach	Worthing	Lancing and Sompting	63%	72%

Only one site was unable to be assessed for quality and value due to access not being gained; Hill Lane Plantation in Worthing. The site is within the grounds of the Hill Barn Golf Course which meant access could not be obtained.

All analysis areas are covered by the 30 minute drive time catchment. In addition, most analysis areas are sufficiently covered by the accessibility catchment standard of a 15 minute walk time. However, gaps in provision are highlighted in central Worthing and to the East of Shoreham-by-Sea. Both areas are deficient against the walk time but are sufficiently covered by the drive time. As these areas are well served by amenity greenspace sites it could be appropriate to look to provide greater natural and semi-natural features at these existing sites.

Furthermore, the South Downs National Park to the north of all the analysis areas significantly contributes to access towards natural greenspace provision.

The South Downs National Park is England's newest National Park having become operational in 2011. Responsibility of the area is carried out by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA). The body works in partnership with local communities, organisations, local authorities and landowners in order to ensure a sustainable and successful future for the park. There are seven Special Qualities that form the cornerstone of the SDNPAs work, these include:

- ◀ Diverse, inspirational landscapes and breathtaking views
- ◀ A rich variety of wildlife and habitats including rare and internationally important species
- ◀ Tranquil and unspoilt places
- ◀ An environment shaped by centuries of farming and embracing new enterprise
- ◀ Great opportunities for recreational activities and learning experiences
- ◀ Well conserved historical features and a rich cultural heritage
- ◀ Distinctive towns and villages, and communities with real pride in their area

For Adur and Worthing, the areas of land predominantly to the North of the A27 are covered by the South Downs National Park. This is land more rural in characteristic with less built development, as in keeping with the designation of a National Park.

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In terms of other national designations, there are four publically accessible local nature reserves (LNRs) identified in Adur and Worthing. These are:

- ◀ Shoreham Beach, Shoreham-by-Sea (KKP Ref 6)
- ◀ Mill Hill Nature Reserve, Shoreham-by-Sea (KKP Ref 106)
- ◀ Lancing Ring, Lancing and Sompting (KKP Ref 107)
- ◀ Widerwater Lagoon, Lancing and Sompting (KKP Ref 109)

LNRs provide a clear signal to local communities of the commitment towards nature conservation and access to it by a local authority. In addition, LNRs can help local authorities meet Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAP) and Sustainable Development targets.

LNRs contribute a total of 79.6 hectares to natural provision in Adur and Worthing. In 1996, Natural England (formerly English Nature) recommended that there should be one hectare of designated LNR per 1,000 populations. To put this into local context, with a population of 165,822 (ONS 2011 mid-term estimates), across Adur and Worthing there should be provision of least 166 hectares of LNR provision.

From the residents' survey, a third of respondents (33%) rate the availability of natural and semi-natural provision as good. This is followed by a further 17% rating availability as very good; suggesting that the quantity is about right or more than sufficient. Supporting this is the low percentage of respondents that rate availability as poor (11%) or very poor (4%). Also, over half of respondents (53%) rate availability of beaches as very good.

Management

A total of 411 hectares of natural and semi-natural greenspace is identified across Adur and Worthing, including LNRs. Management of these sites is the responsibility of a variety of organisations. Aside from each local authority, site management is also the responsibility of Shoreham Port Authority, West Sussex County Council, Lancing Parish Council, the National Trust and private landowners.

Both Lancing Parish Council and the National Trust are responsible for the management of two and one site respectively. Lancing Parish Council is responsible for the Widerwater Lagoon and Lancing Beach sites. The National Trust manages the Cissbury Ring site just north of Worthing. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is covered by the SDNP. The historic site is recognised for its important habitats for migrating birds as well as supporting a variety of butterflies.

Some additional maintenance is undertaken by associated voluntary conservation and 'friends of groups'. For instance, friends of groups or conservation groups are identified for the Honeysuckle Lane Wood (Worthing), Shoreham Beach, Shoreham Fort and Lancing Ring sites. These are just a few examples in existence. These groups provide a valuable input to the regular upkeep of sites. Groups such as these assist with maintaining sites and help to manage evasive species, sustain footpaths, coppice flora to encourage healthy growth and install beneficial features (e.g. bird boxes, benches).

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 35% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Table 5.3: Quality rating for natural and semi-natural greenspace by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low <35%	High >35%
Lancing and Sompting	117	47%	55%	62%	15%	-	5
Shoreham-by-Sea	117	32%	48%	64%	32%	3	3
Southwick and Fishergate	117	37%	43%	49%	12%	-	5
Worthing	117	12%	48%	82%	70%	9	16
ADUR AND WORTHING	117	12%	47%	82%	70%	12	29

The majority of sites (71%) score high for quality rather than low. All provision in the Lancing and Sompting and the Southwick and Fishergate analysis areas scores high for quality. However, half of the sites in Shoreham-by-Sea score below the threshold. The three sites are all identified as being moorings; Lower Beach Mooring, Harbour Way Moorings and Brighton Road Moorings. The low score of these sites is due to their general poor level of maintenance and cleanliness. All three are recognised as having the potential to be enhanced.

The lowest scoring site is Northbrook College East natural and semi-natural site in Worthing. It receives a quality score below the threshold with 12%. The site scores particularly low for personal security and level of use. This is mostly due to the sites role in acting as a highway verge.

Other low scoring sites such as Goring Hall, New Plantation and Mount Carvey Woods, all in Worthing, are generally noted as being poor in appearance and lacking maintenance and appropriate pathways. Often sites of this typology deliberately have very little ongoing management or regular maintenance in order to provide, for example, unmanaged habitats. To reflect this, the quality threshold has intentionally been set low. However, it is important that a balance between these sites is set between recognising their purpose and function against their overall quality.

Amberley Drive in Worthing is the only low scoring site (14%) to be observed in the audit assessment as suffering from fire damage. This is considered to be due to the sites isolated location away from any natural surveillance. However, it is noted to be popular with dog walkers.

The only other site to be noted as suffering from any noticeable site problems is the Hill Barn Lane NSN site in Worthing. Evidence of the site being used for motorbike/quads is present; despite this the site rates just above the set threshold with a score of 35%.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

A total of 29 sites score high for quality. The highest scoring sites are Brooklands Lake and the two sites which make up the Worthing beach front (Splash Point and George V – Splash Point). These receive a score of 82%, 75% and 75% respectively. For all three, this is a reflection of the standard of facilities and features that can be found on site including excellent pathways, access and seating. The sites are especially recognised as key focal points attracting both residents and visitors alike. Other high scoring sites of note include:

- ◀ Fernhurst Drive, Worthing (70%)
- ◀ Honey Suckle Lane NSN, Worthing (66%)
- ◀ Mill Hill Nature Reserve, Shoreham-by-Sea (64%)
- ◀ Shoreham Beach, Shoreham-by-Sea (64%)
- ◀ Lancing Beach, Lancing and Sompting 62%

All the above sites are observed as being attractive and well maintained; offering a number of ancillary features such as bins, benches and pathways all to a high standard. In addition, they are noted as being particularly popular and well used facilities.

There are a number of sites that may be affected as part of the Shoreham Harbour Regeneration project. The development will look to consolidate port usage into one area of the harbour. Sites that potentially may be impacted on as part of the project include:

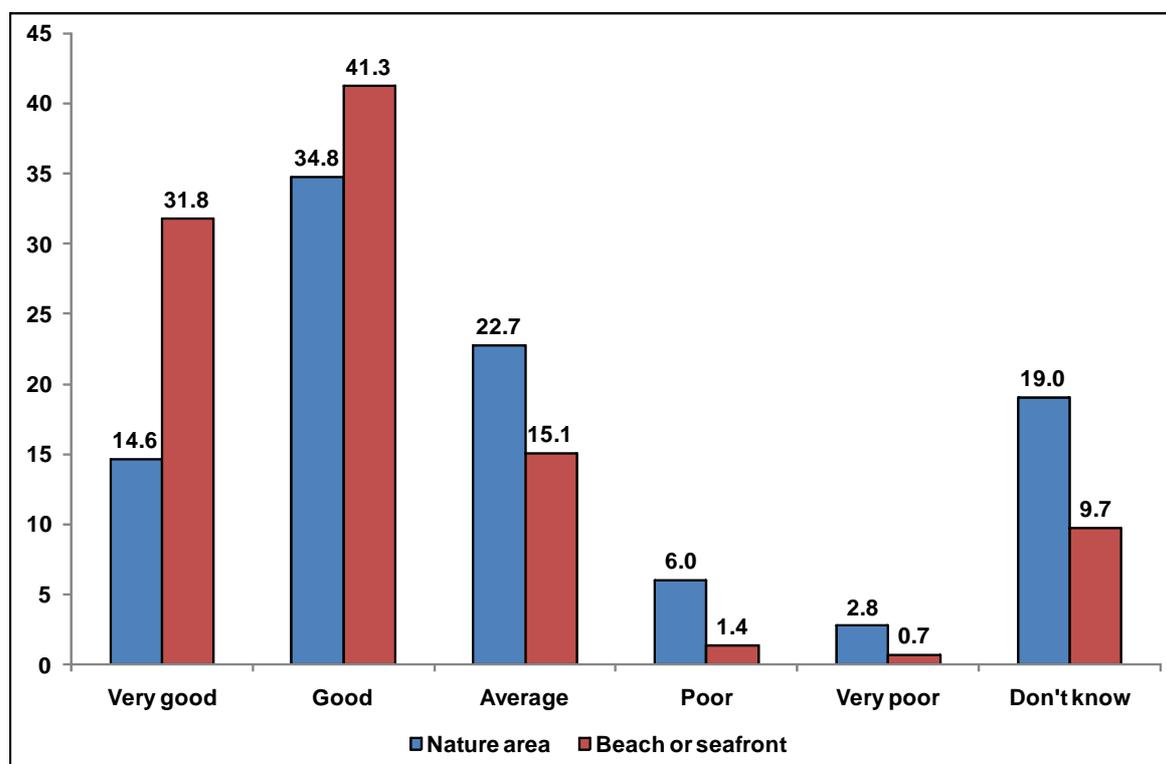
- ◀ Kingston Beach, Southwick and Fishergate (KKP Ref 9)
- ◀ Shoreham Old Fort, Shoreham-by-Sea (KKP Ref 10)
- ◀ Southwick Beach – Adur, Southwick and Fishergate (KKP Ref 11)
- ◀ Southwick Beach - Port Authority, Southwick and Fishergate (KKP Ref 12)
- ◀ Lower Beach Road Moorings, Shoreham-by-Sea (KKP Ref 57)
- ◀ Harbour Way Moorings, Shoreham-by-Sea (KKP Ref 143)
- ◀ Brighton Road Moorings, Shoreham-by-Sea (KKP Ref 146)
- ◀ Riverside moorings, Southwick and Fishergate (KKP Ref 148)

Public consultation on the Draft Joint Area Action Plan covering the area is scheduled for early 2014.

Respondents from the resident survey generally have a positive opinion of the quality of natural open spaces across Adur and Worthing. Over a third of respondents (35%) rates provision as good. Positive opinions are further noticeable for beaches with 41% rating them good for quality. Only 6% of residents consider the overall quality of natural provision to be poor. Even fewer respondents (1%) consider beaches as poor quality.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.3: Quality of natural and semi-natural greenspace including beaches



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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for natural and semi-natural greenspace in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Table 5.5: Value scores for natural and semi-natural greenspace by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<20%	>20%
Lancing and Sompting	110	42%	53%	64%	22%	-	5
Shoreham-by-Sea	110	34%	53%	72%	38%	-	6
Southwick and Fishergate	110	19%	29%	39%	18%	1	4
Worthing	110	15%	43%	71%	56%	3	22
ADUR AND WORTHING	110	15%	44%	72%	57%	4	37

There is one site unable to be assessed for quality and value due to access not being gained; Hill Lane Plantation in Worthing.

The majority of natural and semi-natural greenspace (90%) scores high for value. However, there is quite a considerable spread, 57%, between the lowest and highest scoring sites.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

In total there are four sites to score low for value, with Northbrook College West (16%) and New Plantation (15%), both in Worthing, scoring particularly low. These tend to be sites without any specific features or facilities and are therefore of less recreational value. Many of the sites which score low for value are observed as being unkempt, unvisited land and/or act as a buffer to a highway/busy road. New Plantation is noted as being used by dog walkers but still scores low for value. Subsequently three of the four sites to score low for value also score low for quality. The three sites to score low for quality and value are:

- ◀ Northbrook College West NSN, Worthing (16%)
- ◀ Fulbeck Avenue NSN, Worthing (18%)
- ◀ New Plantation, Worthing (15%)

As well as providing important nature conservation and biodiversity value, many natural and semi-natural sites in Adur and Worthing are well used for recreational purposes and are a valuable open space resource for local people. The highest scoring site for value is Shoreham Beach (72%). The site is observed as being well used by a variety of groups. It offers opportunities associated with a beach site but is also noted as being popular for cycling and walking within an attractive setting.

5.3 Summary

Natural and semi-natural greenspace summary

- ◀ Adur and Worthing is identified as having 42 individual natural and semi-natural greenspace sites including beaches. This totals over 411 hectares of provision.
- ◀ Accessibility standards of a 15 minute walk time and 30 minute drive time have been set. Minor walk time deficiencies are identified in central Worthing and to the east of Shoreham-by-Sea. However, it is unlikely new provision is needed due to the areas being served by the natural elements at other typologies such as amenity greenspace. In addition, the South Downs National Park is a significant form of provision within close proximity.
- ◀ There is a shortfall of 86 hectares of LNR provision across Adur and Worthing based on Natural England recommendations.
- ◀ Availability of provision is considered in general to be sufficient. A third of survey respondents (33%), rate availability as good. An even greater proportion of respondents' considers availability of beaches to be very good (53%) or good (29%).
- ◀ Natural greenspace sites are generally viewed as being of a good quality by respondents (35%). This is reflected in the audit assessment with the majority (71%) scoring above the threshold. Brooklands Lake scores the highest for quality with 82%; a reflection of its range of associated facilities and general level of standard.
- ◀ The majority of sites (90%) are rated as being of a high value. Although a handful of sites are identified as scoring below the thresholds for both quality and value. This tends to relate to a lack of features and usage on a site.
- ◀ As well as providing nature conservation and biodiversity value, natural and semi-natural sites are also recognised for their recreational value. Some of the highest scoring sites, such as Shoreham Beach and Worthing waterfront sites, provide a key focal point for residents as well as visitors.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 6: AMENITY GREENSPACE

6.1 Introduction

The amenity space typology, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide defines sites as offering '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.'

6.2 Key issues

Current provision

There are a total of 109 amenity greenspace sites identified in Adur and Worthing. This results in there being just over 135 hectares of provision.

Amenity spaces in Adur and Worthing are most often found in housing estates and function as informal recreation spaces or as open spaces along highways that provide a visual amenity. There are also a number of recreation grounds included within this open space typology.

Table 6.1: Distribution of amenity greenspace sites by analysis area

Analysis area	Amenity greenspace		
	Number	Size (ha)	Current standard (ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	14	19.75	0.72
Shoreham-by-Sea	22	16.73	0.81
Southwick and Fishergate	14	17.68	1.33
Worthing	59	81.33	0.78
ADUR AND WORTHING	109	135.49	0.82

Proportionally the Shoreham-by-Sea and Worthing analysis areas are close to the Adur and Worthing current standard. The Southwick and Fishergate analysis area, with a current standard of 0.72, exceeds the region standard.

Site sizes vary from the smallest incidental open space on housing estates, such as Silver Birch Drive AGS (0.02 hectares), to the largest, High Down Recreation Ground, at over seven hectares.

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

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Accessibility

The majority of survey respondents (68%) do not know how far they are willing to travel in order to access provision of this type. This may reflect a lack of use or a lack of knowledge for such provision.

Of those that did state how they are willing to travel, nearly a third (30%) cites they will walk in order to access provision. This is compared to 2.4% that state they will travel by transport. A greater proportion of respondents (13%) identify a willingness to walk less than five minutes.

Therefore an accessibility standard of a five minute walk has been applied across Adur and Worthing.

Figure 6.1: Time prepared to travel to access a grassed area in housing

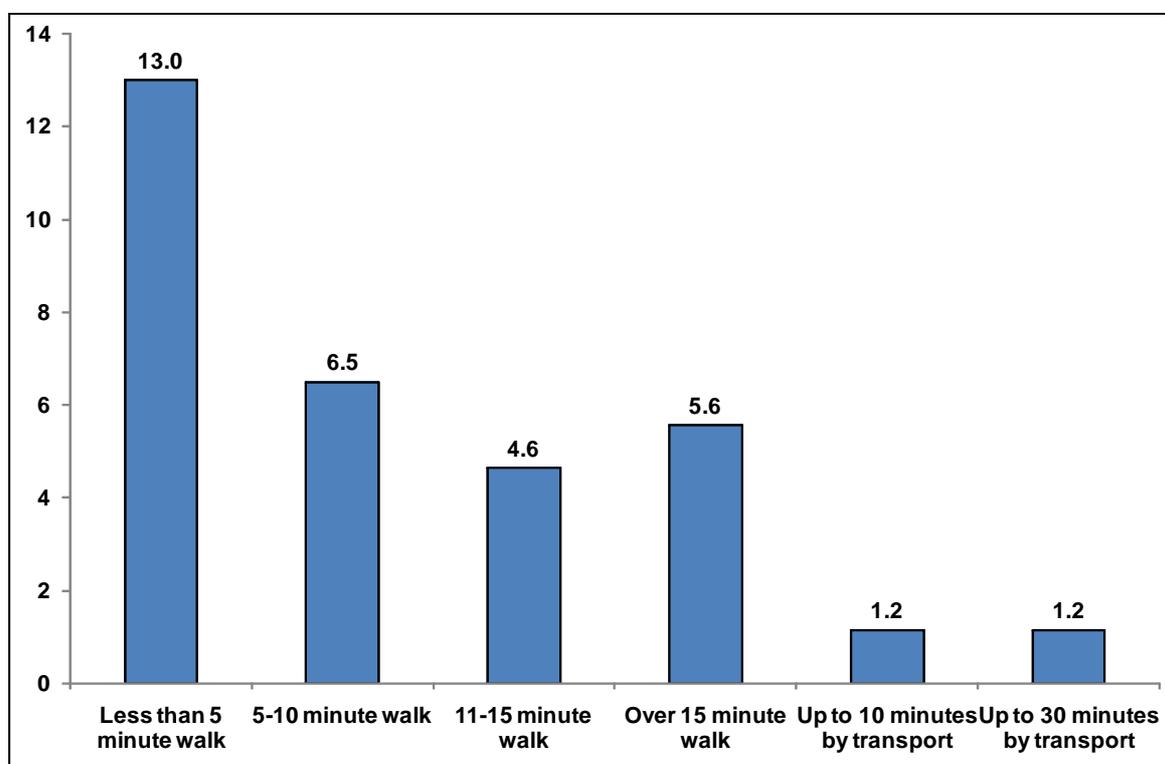
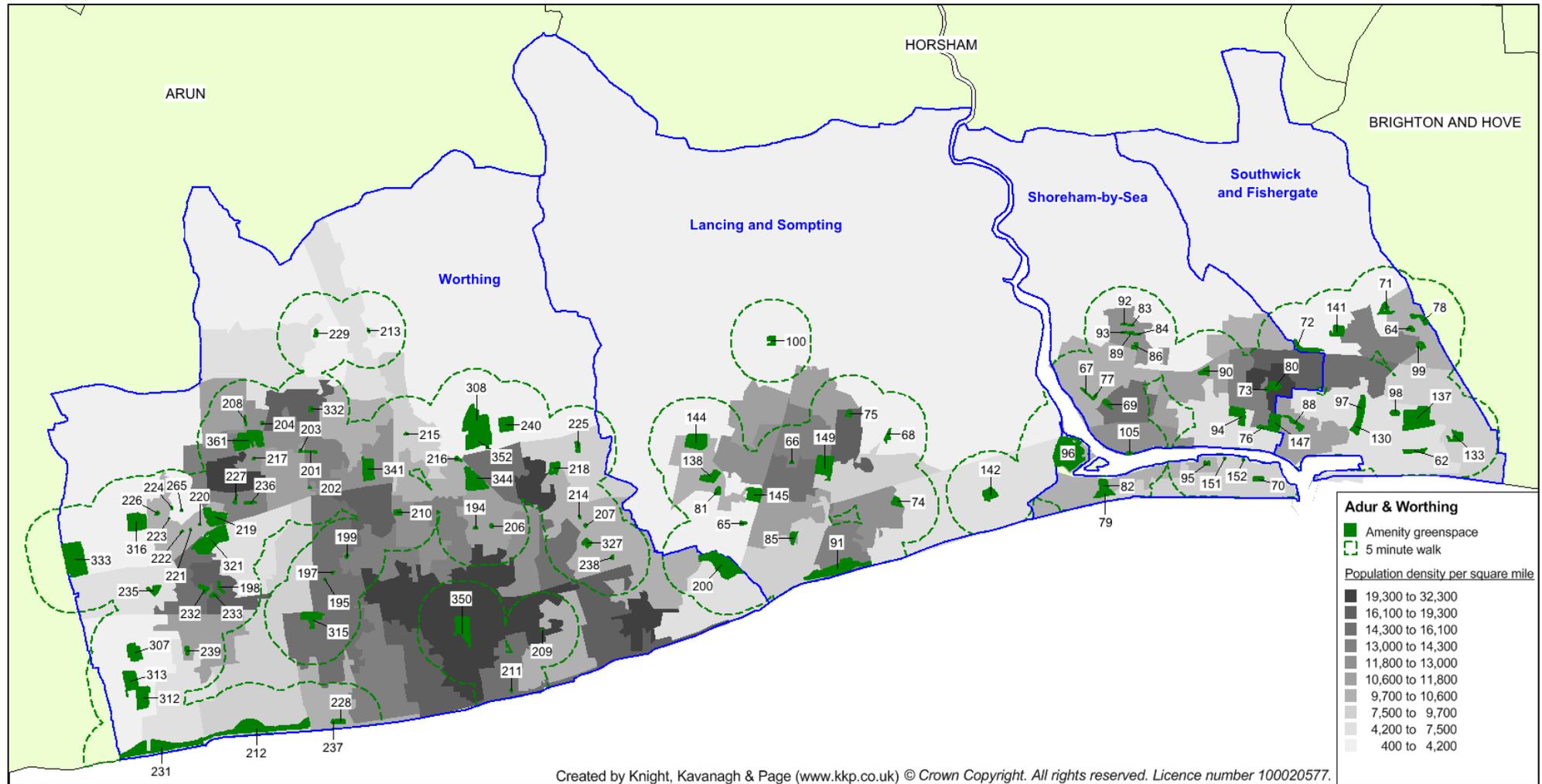


Figure 6.2 shows amenity greenspace sites mapped against the analysis areas.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Figure 6.2: Amenity greenspace mapped against analysis area



ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Key to sites mapped:

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
62	Albion Street Open Space	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	17%	21%
64	Highdown Open Space	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	25%	18%
65	Tower Road Open Space	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	45%	20%
66	Lancing Close Open Space	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	35%	16%
67	Green Acres Open Space B	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	45%	16%
68	Shadwells Road Open Space	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	68%	53%
69	The Meads Park	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	43%	21%
70	Falcon Close AGS	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	31%	20%
71	Cromleigh Way Recreation Ground	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	43%	27%
72	Kingston Broadway Open Space	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	50%	18%
73	Williams Road Amenity Greenspace	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	47%	37%
74	Larkfield Close Recreation Ground	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	65%	415
75	Manor Park Gardens	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	49%	42%
76	Kingsland Close AGS	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	315	29%
77	Green Acres Open Space C	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	415	20%
78	Ridgeway Open Space	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	19%	28%
79	Beach Green (Lido Sites)	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	41%	38%
80	Parklands Park	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	44%	41%
81	Grassmere Ave Open Space	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	45%	20%
82	Shoreham Beach Green	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	71%	50%
83	Chanctonbury Drive C	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	31%	19%
84	Downsway AGS	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	36%	17%
85	Elm Grove Park	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	53%	41%
86	The Dovecote	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	49%	21%
88	St Julians Lane AGS (Church Green)	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	42%	39%
89	Chanctonbury Drive D	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	31%	19%
90	Park Avenue Open Space	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	39%	22%
91	Beach Green, Lancing	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	65%	63%
92	Chanctonbury Drive A	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	31%	19%
93	Chanctonbury Drive B	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	27%	19%
94	Middle Road Recreation Ground	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	66%	41%

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KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
95	Anchor Close Open Space	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	41%	36%
96	Adur Recreation Ground	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	79%	43%
97	The Green North, Southwick	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	60%	48%
98	Glebe Close Open Space	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	31%	21%
99	Mile Oak Road Open Space	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	60%	30%
100	Halewick Park	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	74%	52%
105	Coronation Green	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	43%	47%
130	The Green South, Southwick	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	59%	36%
133	Fishergate Recreation Ground	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	58%	37%
137	Southwick Recreation Ground	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	59%	48%
138	Hamble Recreation Ground	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	67%	46%
141	Quayside Park	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	39%	24%
142	East Lancing Recreation Ground	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	47%	32%
144	Sompting Recreation Ground	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	69%	44%
145	Crowshaw Recreation Ground	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	65%	42%
147	Kings Manor Playing Field B	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	45%	18%
149	Monks Recreation Ground	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	52%	47%
151	Hopewell Close, Suxxex Wharf	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	43%	24%
152	East Sussex Wharf	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	46%	19%
194	Loder Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	26%	9%
195	Radnor Road AGS	Worthing	Worthing	40%	22%
197	Upton Gardens AGS	Worthing	Worthing	34%	22%
198	Grenville Close Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	33%	19%
199	Upton Road AGS	Worthing	Worthing	45%	22%
200	Brooklands Pleasure Park north	Worthing	Worthing	59%	39%
201	Roedean Road public open space	Worthing	Worthing	41%	50%
202	Roedean Road Open Space south	Worthing	Worthing	43%	13%
203	Twyford Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	36%	18%
204	Durrington Church AGS	Worthing	Worthing	52%	47%
206	Cortis Avenue Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	51%	63%
207	Russel Close	Worthing	Worthing	42%	29%
208	Ivydore Avenue	Worthing	Worthing	25%	21%

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
209	Little High Street AGS	Worthing	Worthing	49%	37%
210	Rectory Road AGS	Worthing	Worthing	50%	25%
211	Augusta Place	Worthing	Worthing	53%	13%
212	Marine Crescent	Worthing	Worthing	70%	70%
213	Ashford Avenue AGS	Worthing	Worthing	37%	16%
214	Harrison Road	Worthing	Worthing	34%	15%
215	Hall Close AGS	Worthing	Worthing	32%	15%
216	Offington Avenue AGS	Worthing	Worthing	41%	20%
217	Birkdale Close	Worthing	Worthing	40%	22%
218	Lyons Farm AGS	Worthing	Worthing	50%	39%
219	Longcroft Park/Durrington informal recreation	Worthing	Worthing	48%	37%
220	Juniper Close AGS (Highdown Copse Estate 1)	Worthing	Worthing	21%	165
221	Laurel Close AGS (Highdown Copse Estate 2)	Worthing	Worthing	21%	15%
222	Silver Birch Drive AGS (Highdown Copse Estate 3)	Worthing	Worthing	21%	15%
223	Winterbourne Way South Play Area	Worthing	Worthing	34%	25%
224	Winterbourne Way	Worthing	Worthing	32%	24%
225	Bramber Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	40%	20%
226	West Durrington/Mowlens	Worthing	Worthing	36%	20%
227	Hildon Close	Worthing	Worthing	44%	55%
228	West Parade open space	Worthing	Worthing	46%	37%
229	Hayling Gardens AGS	Worthing	Worthing	33%	19%
231	Marine Drive - Goring Gap	Worthing	Worthing	54%	64%
232	The Avenue Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	33%	8%
233	Maybridge Crescent Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	36%	37%
235	Goring Green	Worthing	Worthing	49%	21%
236	Tynes Estate	Worthing	Worthing	44%	30%
237	Bernard Road AGS	Worthing	Worthing	37%	17%
238	Thackery Road	Worthing	Worthing	30%	17%
239	Mersham Gardens	Worthing	Worthing	59%	58%
240	Charmedean Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	62%	52%
265	Jevington Close	Worthing	Worthing	16%	20%
307	Goring Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	67%	67%
308	Hillbarn Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	65%	77%
312	Goring Hall Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	48%	27%
313	Fernhurst Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	65%	54%
315	West Park Sports Centre AGS	Worthing	Worthing	80%	51%
316	Little Walks Park (Northbrook Recreation Ground)	Worthing	Worthing	53%	33%
321	Palantine Park	Worthing	Worthing	77%	80%
327	Dominion Road Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	47%	26%

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
332	Chiltern Crescent Playing Field	Worthing	Worthing	48%	44%
333	High Down Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	48%	38%
341	Durrington Rec Ground	Worthing	Worthing	71%	53%
344	Broadwater Green	Worthing	Worthing	60%	38%
350	Victoria park	Worthing	Worthing	59%	60%
352	Rotary Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	56%	69%
361	Pond Lane Recreation Ground	Worthing	Worthing	67%	55%

Catchment mapping of a five minute walk time shows a good level of coverage. In most instances areas with a greater population density generally have good access to provision. However, there are some minor gaps noted in the more central areas of Worthing as well as to the north of Lancing and Sompting. The two areas are served by other forms of open space provision such as parks (e.g. Marine Gardens, Beach House Park and Lancing Manor Park). Options to address identified deficiencies, if required, will be discussed further in the Strategy.

The resident survey found respondents' rate the availability of grassed area provision as either average (12%) or good (11%). In keeping with the responses for this typology, the majority of survey respondents (65%) do not know how they rate the availability of provision for this type. This may reflect a lack of use or a lack of knowledge for such provision.

Management

Similar to other open spaces (e.g. parks, natural and semi-natural greenspace) amenity greenspaces are managed as part of the wider open spaces portfolio by the in-house Council maintenance teams. Sites receive a regular maintenance visit which includes tasks such as grass cutting and general site preservation (e.g. bin emptying, path checks).

There are 10 sites identified from the assessment as being managed by an alternative body outside of Adur and Worthing Council. Four amenity greenspace sites are managed by Lancing Parish Council. These are Beach Green, East Lancing Recreation Ground, Crowshaw Recreation Ground and Monks Recreation Ground. All are viewed as being of a high quality.

In addition, there are six sites under ownership by Worthing Homes (WH). All except one of these is managed by WH. This is Cortis Avenue Open Space site which is managed by a local friend's of group. The group, established in 2009, is voluntary but under licence from WH and helps to provide regular maintenance of the site.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for amenity greenspaces in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 40% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Table 6.2: Quality ratings for amenity greenspaces by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<40%	>40%
Lancing and Sompting	121	35%	60%	85%	50%	1	13
Shoreham-by-Sea	121	27%	53%	79%	52%	8	14
Southwick and Fishergate	121	17%	39%	60%	43%	5	9
Worthing	121	16%	48%	80%	64%	21	38
ADUR AND WORTHING	121	16%	51%	85%	69%	35	74

The majority of amenity greenspaces in Adur and Worthing (68%) receive a high quality rating. In particular provision in Lancing and Sompting scores well, with 93% of sites being rated as high quality.

There are slightly more sites in the analysis areas of Worthing (36%) and Shoreham-by-Sea (36%) that score low compared to the other areas. Both analysis areas contain a number of sites that are small in size (i.e. below 0.2 hectares). Such sites often have a lack of ancillary facilities and features. Subsequently sites can be small, unattractive with a lack of reason to visit. However, it is important to recognise that despite scoring low for quality, sites still have the potential to be of a high value to the community. For instance, if a site is the only form of open space in that local area it may potentially be of high value given it is the only provision of its type.

The six lowest scoring amenity greenspace sites are:

- ◀ Albion Street Open Space, Southwick and Fishergate (17%)
- ◀ Ridgeway Open Space, Southwick and Fishergate (19%)
- ◀ Juniper Close AGS, Worthing (19%)
- ◀ Laurel Close AGS, Worthing (19%)
- ◀ Silver Birch Drive AGS, Worthing (19%)
- ◀ Jevington Close, Worthing (16%)

All six sites are observed as being fairly basic pockets of green space with a lack of ancillary facilities to encourage extensive recreational use. Only the Ridgeway Open Space is noted as featuring evidence of goalposts for football use. In addition it is viewed that the general maintenance of the six sites could be better. The Jevington Close site is noted as previously containing play equipment for children but this appears to have since been removed; a factor in the sites low quality score.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Further to those identified above, some issues relating to misuse are observed during the site assessments at a number of sites. This is considered to be a wider issue and not just specific to the sites identified below. However, at the time of the visits the following sites were noted as showing evidence of issues/problems:

- ◀ Quayside park, Southwick and Fishergate – fire damage
- ◀ Roedean Road public open space, Worthing – fire damage
- ◀ Lyons Farm AGS, Worthing - glass
- ◀ Palatine Park, Worthing – motorbike/quads
- ◀ Dominion Road Recreation Ground, Worthing – motorbikes/quads
- ◀ Chiltern Crescent Playing Field, Worthing - glass
- ◀ Rotary Recreation Ground, Worthing – fire damage

Despite this, only one of the sites is assessed as being below the threshold. This is Quayside park in Southwick and Fishergate which scores 32% for quality. This is due to a lack of enough seating and bins. It was also noted that there was evidence of the benches around the basketball facility showing signs of fire damage.

Interestingly, six out of the seven sites are located in Worthing. Suggesting the area has a greater issue with misuse compared to the other analysis areas. In particular, Chiltern Crescent Playing Field (a Worthing Homes site) is observed as appearing to suffer from a variety of misuse including it being used for drinking and smoking by youths. The site still scores high for quality (48%) due to the range and quality of facilities on site (i.e. skate park, basketball court). This appears to be part of a concerted effort to provide a wide choice of provision but seems to be being misused.

Dominion Road Recreation Ground in Worthing is highlighted as suffering from the use of mini-motorbikes in addition to a large amount of litter being present. The play area on site is also observed as suffering from fire damage to the rubber surfaces of the play equipment. Consultation identifies that a local community group is looking to be set up in order to try and resolve the issues associated on the site.

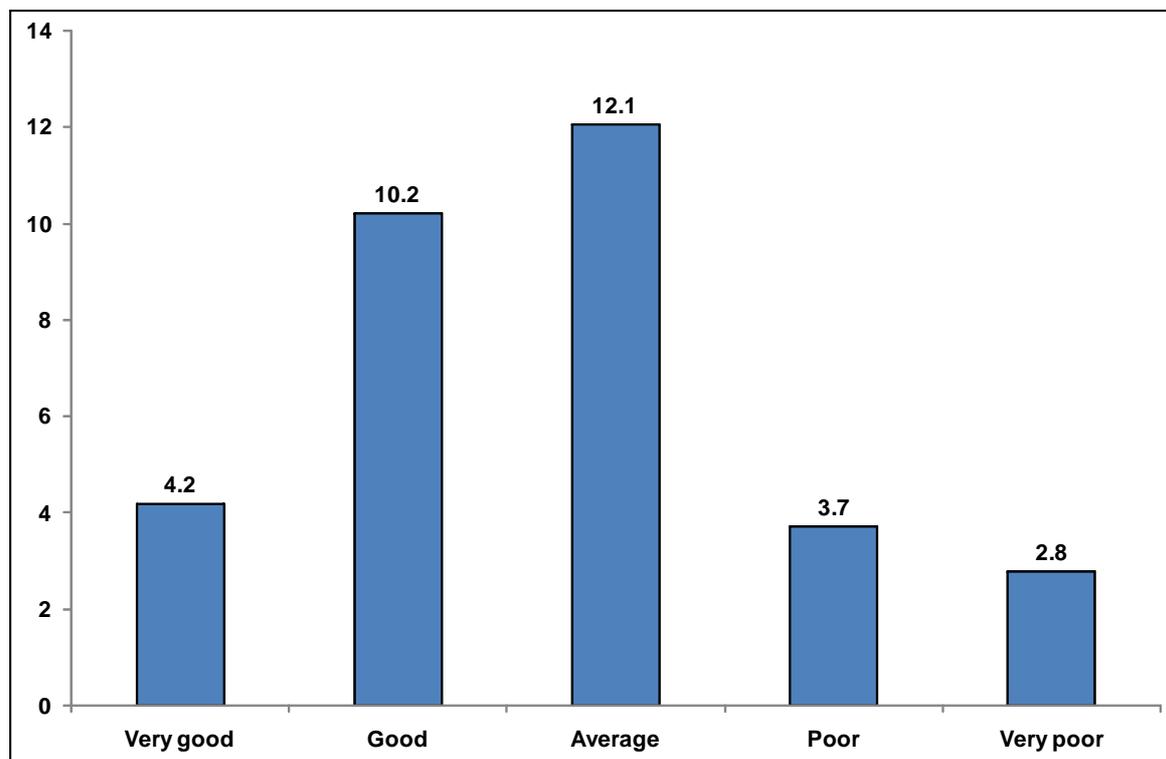
The highest scoring site is Beach Green in Lancing which scores 85% for quality. This is due to the range of facilities available as well as the high standard of appearance and maintenance on the site. It is identified as having good equipped play provision (including outdoor fitness equipment) in addition to ancillary facilities such as bins, seating and signage. Features such as these allow for a greater range of activities to take place and help to create more opportunities and reasons for people to access the site, contributing to their overall quality.

Cortis Avenue Open Space, in Southwick and Fishergate, is the only amenity greenspace site identified as being managed by a local community group. The site is owned by Worthing Homes but is licensed to the voluntary group. The agreement was established in 2009 following the sites history of neglect; cumulating in it being closed for seven years following on from it being misused (e.g. overgrown, fly tipping) for several years prior to this. As a result, the site is only open during certain hours of the day. It is now considered a thriving open space providing excellent ecological habitats demonstrated by the 17 different types of butterflies that have been counted on the site. It also offers opportunities for learning. Last year students from Northbrook College assisted with maintenance on site through weekly visits as part of their extracurricular activities.

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Resident survey respondents generally view the quality of amenity greenspace provision across Adur and Worthing as average (12%). However, this is closely followed by the 10% that rate provision as being good. As with the other respondent results, the majority (67%) do not know how they would rate the quality of provision.

Figure 5.3: Quality of amenity greenspace



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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for amenity greenspace in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Table 6.3: Value ratings for amenity greenspace by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<20%	>20%
Lancing and Sompting	100	16%	40%	63%	47%	1	13
Shoreham-by-Sea	100	16%	33%	50%	34%	7	15
Southwick and Fishergate	100	18%	33%	48%	30%	3	11
Worthing	100	8%	44%	80%	72%	15	45
ADUR AND WORTHING	100	8%	44%	80%	72%	26	83

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Similar to quality, the majority of amenity greenspaces are rated as being high value (76%). Slightly more sites are rated as high value than high quality. The four lowest scoring sites all receive a value rating of below 15%:

- ◀ Loder Gardens, Worthing (9%)
- ◀ Roedean Road Open Space South, Worthing (13%)
- ◀ Augusta Place, Worthing (13%)
- ◀ The Avenue Open Space, Worthing (8%)

Both Roedean Road and Augusta Place are sites viewed essentially as grassed areas with no other noticeable feature. Hence their low value scores. Both are acknowledged as providing some form of visual amenity; with the quality of both sites rated as above the threshold.

The two lowest scoring sites are Loder Gardens and The Avenue Open Space with value scores of 9% and 8% respectively. Both sites are identified as being managed by Worthing Homes. The low value scores are thought to be a reflection of the sites lack of ancillary features and general level of use. Individually they are also considered to be poorly maintained; resulting in them scoring low for quality as well.

There are a total of 20 sites which score low for both quality and value. The majority of these (14) are identified as being small in size (i.e. below 0.1 hectares). It is likely that this small size and lack of facilities to be found on site is a contributor to them scoring low. The remaining six sites to score low for quality and value are:

- ◀ Highdown Open Space, Southwick and Fishergate
- ◀ Chanctonbury Drive D, Shoreham-by-Sea
- ◀ Grenville Close Open Space, Worthing
- ◀ Hayling Gardens AGs, Worthing
- ◀ The Avenue Open Space, Worthing
- ◀ Thackery Road, Worthing

All the sites are identified as having no provision of bins or seating. Furthermore, there is a general lack of other features such as fencing or controls to prevent misuse. For instance the edges of the Highdown Open Space and Thackery Road sites are observed as being used for parking by the local houses situated adjacent. It is important to keep in mind that the main role for some sites is to simply act as a grassed area, providing breaks in the urban form. Subsequently such sites are likely to score lower compared to others.

The highest scoring sites for value in Adur and Worthing are:

- ◀ Palantine Park, Worthing (80%)
- ◀ Hillbarn Recreation Ground, Worthing (77%)
- ◀ Marine Crescent, Worthing (70%)

All three are located in Worthing. The highest scoring site for value outside of Worthing is Beach Green in Lancing and Sompting with a rating of 63%. The sites are all recognised for the variety of activities and recreational opportunities they offer. Added value is also gained through them catering towards a wide range of users (i.e. from children and young adults to families and elderly age groups).

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In general the role amenity greenspaces play as a form of open space provision is supported by the fact the majority of sites score high for value. Compared to quality where 68% of sites score above the threshold. This suggests even though a number of sites may score low for quality, they still receive a high value. Often the visual environment these sites provide is recognised.

Amenity greenspaces should also be recognised for their multi-purpose function, offering opportunities for a variety of leisure and recreational activities. They can often be used for informal recreational activity such as casual play and dog walking. Many amenity greenspaces in Adur and Worthing have a dual function; recreation grounds such as Rotary and Goring, for example, are used as amenity resources for residents but also provide formal outdoor sports provision for competitive sports such as football and cricket. For some sites such as Adur Recreation Ground, in Shoreham-by-Sea, a primary function is in order to accommodate regular events and activities.

These attributes add to the quality, accessibility and visibility of amenity greenspace. The greater these features, combined with the presence of facilities (e.g. benches, landscaping, trees), the greater sites are respected and valued by the local community.

6.3 Summary

Amenity greenspace summary

- ◀ A total of 109 amenity greenspace sites are identified in Adur and Worthing, totalling just over 135 hectares of amenity space.
- ◀ More amenity greenspace sites are located in Worthing (59). However, the Southwick and Fishergate analysis area has the greatest amount of provision proportionally per 1,000 populations with 1.33 (compared to 0.82 for Adur and Worthing).
- ◀ The multifunctional role of amenity greenspace to local communities is recognised and as such the expectation exists for provision to be locally accessible. Therefore an accessibility of a 5 minute walk has been set. Minor gaps in provision are observed in the more central areas of Worthing as well as to the north of Lancing and Sompting. Both areas are served by other open space typologies such as parks.
- ◀ Overall the quality of amenity greenspaces is generally positive. The majority of sites (71%) are rated as high for quality in the site visit audit. Furthermore, most respondents in the resident survey rate quality of provision as average or good.
- ◀ However, a number of sites do score low for quality and this is felt to reflect their classification as either roadside verges or small grassed areas, which by their nature lack any form of ancillary feature. A handful of sites are observed as suffering from problems such as misuse. This is considered a wider issue that is not just site specific. In total there are 20 sites that score low for both quality and value.
- ◀ In addition to the multifunctional role of sites, amenity greenspace provision is, in general, particularly valuable towards the visual aesthetics of residential areas. This is demonstrated by the 76% of sites which score high for value. 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

As set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide, 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 skate parks, BMX, basketball courts, youth shelters, MUGAs and informal kick-about areas.

7.2 Key issues

Current provision

A total of 63 sites for provision for children and young people are identified in Adur and Worthing. This combines to create a total of just less than nine hectares. The table below shows the distribution of provision in Adur and Worthing by area. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

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 standard (ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	11	1.04	0.04
Shoreham-by-Sea	10	0.91	0.04
Southwick and Fishergate	9	1.12	0.08
Worthing	33	5.75	0.05
ADUR AND WORTHING	63	8.81	0.05

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

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

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The table below summarises play provision in Adur and Worthing using the (FIT) classifications.

Table 7.2: Categorised distribution of provision for children and young people by area

Analysis area	Provision for children and young people					
	LAP	LEAP	NEAP	Youth	Unclassified /other	TOTAL
Lancing and Sompting	2	6	3	-	-	11
Shoreham-by-Sea	3	4	1	2	-	10
Southwick and Fishergate	1	4	2	2		9
Worthing	5	14	7	5	2	33
ADUR AND WORTHING	11	28	13	9	2	63

Most provision in Adur and Worthing is identified as being of LEAP classification, which is often viewed as sites with a reasonable amount and range of equipment; designed to predominantly cater for unsupervised play.

Accessibility

In the resident survey a large proportion of respondents' state they do not know how far they would travel to provision. As can be expected, this is likely to be an indicator towards a lack of use. Of those that do provide an answer, more cite they would be willing to walk 11-15 minutes to access a children play area (19%) or teenage/youth provision (10%).

Figure 7.1: Time prepared to travel to access play provision

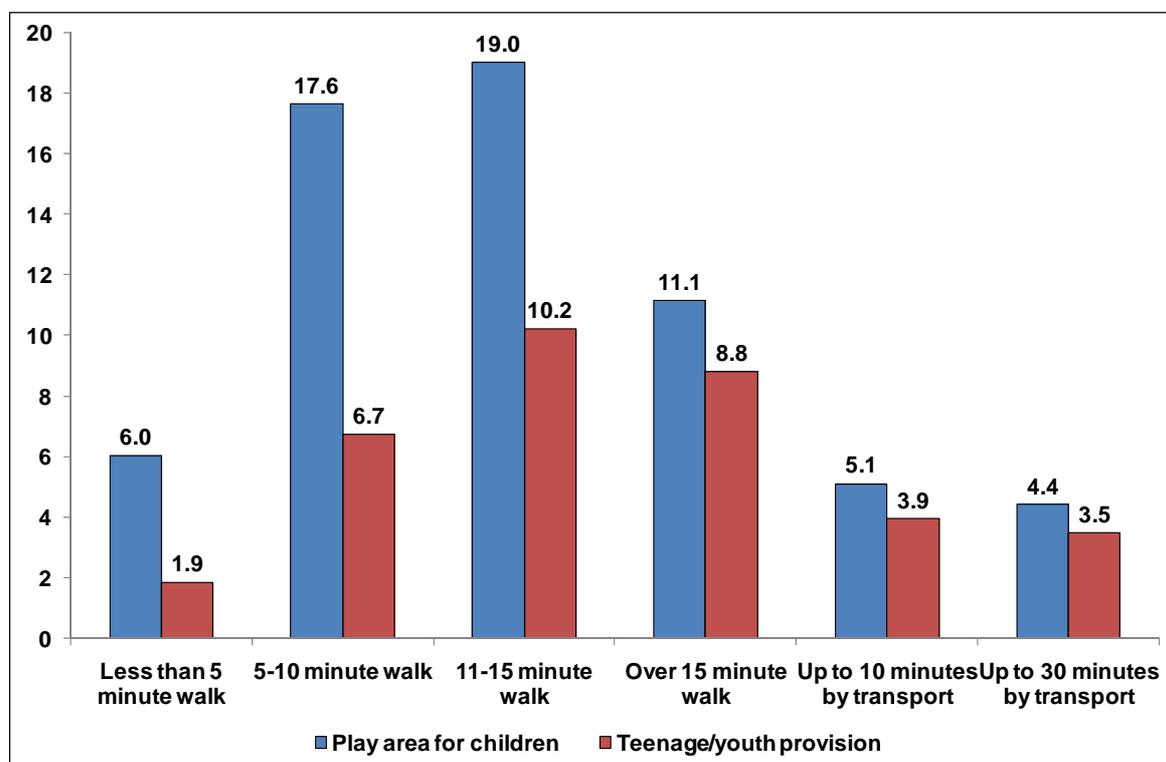
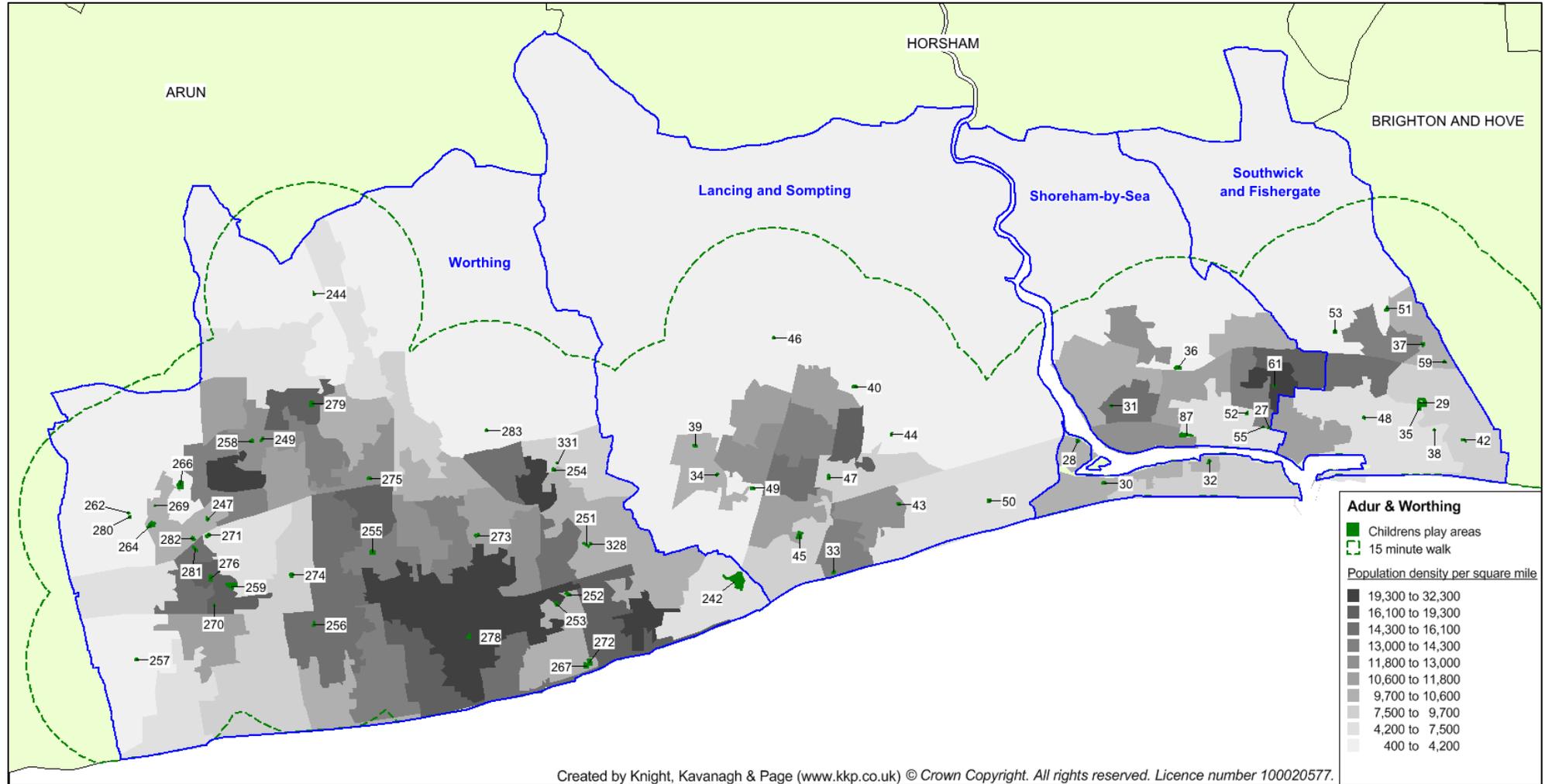


Figure 7.2 maps play provision against the analysis areas with a 15 minute walk time.

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Figure 7.2: Provision for children and young people mapped against analysis areas



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Table 7.3: Key to sites mapped

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
27	Kingsland Close	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	34%	38%
28	Adur Recreation Ground Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	80%	49%
29	Manor Hall County First School	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	74%	27%
30	Shoreham Beach Green Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	88%	55%
31	The Meads Park Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	45%	35%
32	Anchor Close Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	81%	55%
33	Beach Green Play Area, Lancing	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	55%	56%
34	Hamble Recreation Ground Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	72%	46%
35	Southwick Recreation Play Area	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	37%	35%
36	Buckingham Park Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	86%	60%
37	Mile Oak Road Play Area	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	69%	20%
38	Westbrook Way Play Area	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	78%	20%
39	Sompting Recreation Ground Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	71%	55%
40	Lancing Manor Park Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	79%	35%
42	Fishergate Recreation Ground Play Area B	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	70%	27%
43	Larkfield Rec Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	75%	49%
44	Shadwells Road Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	51%	58%
45	Elm Grove Park Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	67%	42%
46	Halewick Park Open Space Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	62%	46%
47	Monks Rec Ground Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	52%	49%
48	The Green Play Area, Southwick	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	80%	56%
49	Crowshaw Recreation Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	68%	38%
50	East Lancing Recreation Play Area	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	65%	36%
51	Cromleigh Way Play Area	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	54%	27%
52	Middle Road Recreation Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	69%	22%
53	Quayside Park Play Area	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	51%	20%

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KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
55	Kingsland Close Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	47%	29%
59	Prince Charles Close Play Area	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	31%	20%
61	Parklands Park Play Area	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	63%	38%
87	The Ham	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	68%	55%
242	Brooklands Pleasure Park play area	Worthing	Worthing	76%	44%
244	The Gallops play area	Worthing	Worthing	58%	35%
247	Longcroft Park/Durrington Play Area	Worthing	Worthing	57%	36%
249	Pond Lane Rec ground play area ii	Worthing	Worthing	52%	49%
251	Dominion Road Play Space	Worthing	Worthing	42%	29%
252	Homefield Park Playspace	Worthing	Worthing	70%	36%
253	Homefield Park Skatepark	Worthing	Worthing	44%	38%
254	Lyons Farm Play Space	Worthing	Worthing	56%	38%
255	Tarring Rec Ground play area	Worthing	Worthing	64%	33%
256	West park Sports Centre Play Space	Worthing	Worthing	54%	20%
257	Goring Recreation Ground Play Area	Worthing	Worthing	64%	46%
258	Pond Lane Play Area	Worthing	Worthing	72%	55%
259	Maybridge Boys Club*	Worthing	Worthing	n/a	n/a
262	Pennycress Avenue Play Area	Worthing	Worthing	37%	27%
264	Little Oaks Day Centre (Durrington Pond)	Worthing	Worthing	52%	20%
266	Bourne Close Play area	Worthing	Worthing	31%	36%
267	Pirates Play	Worthing	Worthing	54%	55%
269	Scotney Close/Samuel Lewis	Worthing	Worthing	44%	33%
270	The Quadrant play area	Worthing	Worthing	27%	27%
271	Palatine Park MUGA/basketball court	Worthing	Worthing	33%	42%
272	Waterwise Play Area	Worthing	Worthing	75%	40%
273	Queen Street Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	52%	64%
274	Field Place play area	Worthing	Worthing	89%	56%
275	Durrington Rec Ground Play area	Worthing	Worthing	72%	38%
276	Maybridge Square Open Space	Worthing	Worthing	57%	27%
278	Victoria Park play area	Worthing	Worthing	69%	49%
279	Chiltern Crescent	Worthing	Worthing	34%	38%
280	Northbrook rec ground play area	Worthing	Worthing	38%	24%
281	Palatine Park play area	Worthing	Worthing	81%	46%
282	Foxglove Walk play area	Worthing	Worthing	36%	27%
283	Hill Barn Rec Ground play area	Worthing	Worthing	61%	31%

* Unable to assess as site locked

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KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
328	Dominion Road Basketball Courts	Worthing	Worthing	42%	47%
331	Lyons Farm Basketball Courts	Worthing	Worthing	45%	42%

There is generally a good spread of provision across Adur and Worthing, with the greatest areas of population density within walking distance of some type of play provision. However, there is a slight gap in provision towards the seafront at Goring.

Overall, widespread new provision is not required with the potential exception for the gap in Goring area of Worthing. In addition, there is in general a perceived lack of appropriate provision catering for older age ranges across Adur and Worthing. Consultation did not highlight any specific areas as the perception is that it is a trend across the area.

There has nevertheless been a shift in recent years to provide a wider offer of play equipment designed to cater for various age ranges. For instance, there have been a number of new developments in the last few years intended to provide a greater range of equipment:

- ◀ A Parkour facility was opened in 2011 at Monks Recreation Ground
- ◀ Three sites providing outdoor gym/fitness equipment have been established. These are at Beach Green, Southwick Recreation Ground and Buckingham Park
- ◀ New play provision at Pond Lane Recreation Ground in 2013 and on the seafront at the Waterwise Play Area site in 2012.
- ◀ Creation of specific skate provision at sites such as Homefield Park and Ham Road

Anecdotal evidence through the consultation and from the site visit assessments suggests there is a minor issue with older children tending to use play equipment intended for smaller children. This can be disruptive and have a negative impact on the perception and use of such sites. This is discussed further in the quality section.

The residents' survey found that, in general, respondents rate the availability of play areas for children as sufficient; with nearly as third rating the level of provision as good (32%), a further 21% rate provision as very good. Furthermore, a minimal proportion rate availability as poor (5%) or very poor (1%). This is in line with most open space typologies.

However, in comparison, more respondents rate the availability of provision for teenagers as average (18%). Teenage/youth provision also receives a higher rating from those respondents' that rate availability as poor (11%). This suggests that in comparison to other open space types that provision is not viewed as being as readily available.

Management

Maintenance of play provision is carried out as part of the open space portfolio by grounds maintenance at the council. All play area sites receive an inspection visit of roughly three times a week. This involves a general maintenance check and tidy. In addition, there is an annual RoSPA inspection undertaken to assess the risk of equipment on each site.

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There is an existing strategy for play areas in both Adur & Worthing which details what the priorities are for refurbishment and upgrading for each council. It also identifies where the funding, if applicable, will come from i.e. Section 106 or capital funding bid.

Since the last study in 2005 there has been a move towards a rationalisation of provision. This is designed to provide bigger and better play sites whilst reducing the number of smaller facilities, as it is anticipated individuals are willing to travel further in order to access better quality and range of provision. This is demonstrated by the number of LEAP site being greater than the number of LAPs.

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for play provision for children and young people in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 50% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Quality assessments of play sites do not include a detailed technical risk assessment of equipment. For an informed report on the condition of play equipment the Annual Inspection Reports carried out by the Council should be sort.

Table 7.3: Quality ratings for provision for children and young people by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<50%	>50%
Lancing and Sompting	97	51%	62%	79%	34%	-	11
Shoreham-by-Sea	97	34%	61%	88%	54%	3	7
Southwick and Fishergate	97	31%	56%	80%	49%	2	7
Worthing	97	27%	58%	89%	62%	12	20
ADUR AND WORTHING	97	27%	58%	89%	62%	17	45

Maybridge Boys Club site in Worthing does not receive a quality or value score as the site could not be accessed at the time of the site visit. The gate at the entrance of the site was locked and the equipment was not viewable.

The majority of sites are assessed as high quality (72%) against the site visit criteria. However, there is a significant spread between the highest and lowest scoring sites, particularly in Worthing. The Quadrant Play Area site scores 27% compared, for instance, to the Field Place Play Area which scores 89%. The low score for the Quadrant site is a reflection of its poor fencing, which is identified as having severe gaps, as well as its poor general appearance and lack of equipment. In contrast, Field Place Play Area receives the highest score due to its condition of play equipment. The site also benefits from additional features such as car parking and seating. Furthermore, there is the miniature railway located adjacent; which adds a uniqueness to the site overall.

Other sites to receive high scores for quality include Shoreham Beach Green Play Area (88%), Buckingham Park Play Area (86%) and The Green Play Area in Southwick (80%). The sites are all noted as having an excellent range of equipment catering for different

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ages. In addition, equipment is in great condition as are the other features such as the benches, bins and car parking found on site.

Consultation with local authority officers also highlights a number of additional sites that are considered to be of a good standard as well as being popular/well used by children. This is supported from the site visit assessments which scores all the highlighted sites as good quality:

- ◀ Brookland Park Play Area, Worthing (76%)
- ◀ Homefield Park Play space, Worthing (70%)
- ◀ Goring Recreation Ground Play Area, Worthing (64%)

All three sites are identified as having a good general level of appearance. Brookland Park in particular is recognised through consultation as having equipment that is wheelchair accessible. The Homefield Park Play space was at the time of the site assessment undergoing an extension. This is part of the aspirations for the wider park restoration plans. Similarly, the play equipment at Goring Recreation Ground has recently (2013) been refurbished to a high standard.

Conversely a number of play sites are observed as having specific site issues. Often this is due to issues relating to misuse such as vandalism. Subsequently the scores of such sites reflect the problems identified. As such most sites are some of the lowest scoring for quality, for example:

- ◀ Homefield Park skate park, Worthing (44%) – vandalism/ anti-social behaviour
- ◀ Foxglove Walk play area, Worthing (36%) – lack of equipment/weeds through surface
- ◀ Bourne Close, Worthing (31%) – fire damage
- ◀ Dominion Recreation Ground play area and basketball, Worthing (42% & 33%) – mini motors/fire damage/litter
- ◀ Chiltern Crescent, Worthing (34%) – anti-social behaviour/litter
- ◀ Kingsland Close play area, Shoreham-by-Sea (34%) – damage to equipment/surfaces
- ◀ The Meads Park play area, Shoreham-by-Sea (45%) – anti-social behaviour

The Dominion Recreation Ground (also known as Kitty's Field) site, as highlighted above, is observed as having quite a bit of litter despite bins being present. It is also noticed that the use of mini-motorbikes and fire damage to the rubber surfaces of play equipment appears to be an issue. Consultation identifies that a local community group is looking to be established in order to try and tackle the issues.

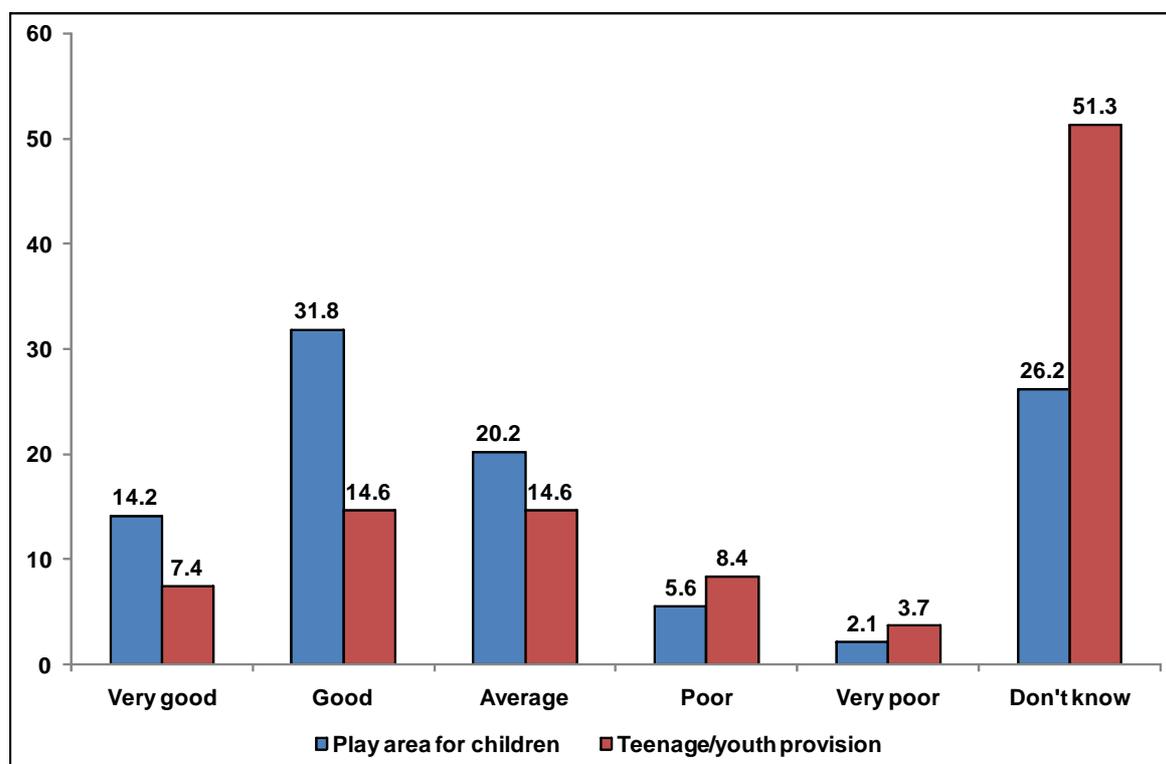
An issue of older children/young adults using sites for anti-social behaviour (drinking and smoking) is also evidenced at both the Mead Park Play Area and Chiltern Crescent.

The resident survey supports the general perception of play sites. It is identified that respondents view the quality of play facilities for children as relatively good; with nearly a third (32%) suggesting that play areas are of a good quality. A further 20% rates them as average quality.

In terms of teenage/youth provision the results are less clear. An equal percentage of respondents rate the quality of such provision as either good (15%) or average (15%). Just over half of survey respondents do not know how they would rate the quality of provision for teenagers. This may be a reflection on the level of interest respondents have towards provision but may also reflect the low levels of perceived availability.

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Figure 7.3: Quality of provision for children and young people



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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for children and young people in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Table 7.4: Value ratings for provision for children and young people by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<20%	>20%
Lancing and Sompting	55	31%	45%	58%	27%	-	11
Shoreham-by-Sea	55	22%	41%	60%	38%	-	10
Southwick and Fishergate	55	20%	33%	46%	26%	-	9
Worthing	55	20%	42%	64%	44%	-	32
ADUR AND WORTHING	55	20%	42%	64%	44%	-	62

Please note, the Maybridge Boys Club site in Worthing does not receive a value score as it could not be accessed at the time of the site visits

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

All play provision is rated as being of high value in Adur and Worthing. This demonstrates the role such provision provides in allowing children to play but also the contribution sites can offer in terms of creating aesthetically pleasing local environments, which give children and young people safe places to learn and to socialise with others.

Brooklands Park in Worthing is especially recognised through consultation as having equipment that is wheelchair accessible. This allows opportunities to play for all children regardless of physical ability.

It is also 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.

The value of play is further demonstrated by the rolling out of the Play Streets Initiative in 2014; following successful pilots the previous year. The scheme is a resident-led activity designed to let children play on a (temporarily closed) street near to where they live. It not only provides children with a safe place to play, whilst encouraging their health and wellbeing, but also promotes residential communities to work together.

Diverse equipment to cater for a range of ages is also essential. Unique provision such as outdoor gyms and skate parks at sites like Buckingham Park and the Ham, both in Shoreham-by-Sea, are often cited as highly valued forms of play. Opportunities to further expand this type of provision that can cater towards older age ranges should be explored.

7.3 Summary

Provision for children and young people summary

- Adur and Worthing contains a high proportion of LEAP (medium) sized play areas, many of which score high for quality and value. Proportionally Southwick and Fishergate has the highest amount of provision per 1,000 population. Although the actual greatest number of play sites is in Worthing.
- No major gaps in provision are identified against a 10 minute accessibility standard. However, there is, in general, a perceived lack of play provision for older age groups across Adur and Worthing. To combat this, there have been a number of new provisions created in recent years designed to cater for older aged children.
- The majority of play sites (72%) are assessed as being overall high quality. Although there are a number of sites which score low for quality. Often these sites are assessed as low due to issues with anti-social behaviour/misuse which has led to vandalism or damage.
- Generally respondents of the resident survey rate quality of play for children as good (32%). For teenage/youth provision it is less clear. Only 15% rates quality of such provision as good but another 15% rates quality as average.
- All play provision is rated as being of high value from the site visit audit.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

PART 8: ALLOTMENTS

8.1 Introduction

Allotments as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide is a typology which covers sites that 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.’ This may include provision such as allotments, community gardens and city farms.

8.2 Key issues

Current provision

There are 23 sites classified as allotments in Adur and Worthing, equating to over 26 hectares. No site size threshold has been applied to allotments and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 8.1: Distribution of allotment sites by analysis area

Analysis area	Allotments		
	Number of sites	Size (ha)	Current standard (Ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	4	2.63	0.10
Shoreham-by-Sea	5	5.42	0.26
Southwick and Fishergate	5	3.07	0.23
Worthing	9	15.51	0.15
ADUR AND WORTHING	23	26.63	0.16

Overall, there are a combined total of circa 1,741 plots, including half plots, at sites across Adur and Worthing. The number of plots offered at each site varies with the largest at the West Tarring site in Worthing (438 plots). Other significant contributors are; Chesswood (356 plots) and Humber (100 plots) sites in Worthing, as well as Hamfield (174 plots) and Lancing Manor (117 plots) in Shoreham-by-Sea and Lancing & Sompting respectively.

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 2 people per house) or 1 allotment per 100 people. This equates to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population based on an average plot-size of 250 square metres (0.025 hectares per plot).

Based on the current population of 165,822 (ONS 2011 mid-term estimates) Adur and Worthing, as a whole, does not meet the NSALG standard. Using the suggested national standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision for Adur and Worthing is 41.5 hectares. The existing provision of 26.63 hectares therefore does not meet the standard.

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Accessibility

The residents survey found the most common travel time expected by respondents would be a 5-10 minute walk (10.9%) or an 11-15 minute walk (10.9%). For those that would drive, residents expect to travel up to 10 minutes by transport. We have therefore applied a 10 minute walk and a 10 drive time for accessibility mapping.

Over half of respondents (54%) state they do not know how far they would be willing to travel in order to access an allotment. This is not uncommon as it is likely to reflect the niche attraction of such open space type.

Figure 8.1: Time prepared to travel to access an allotment

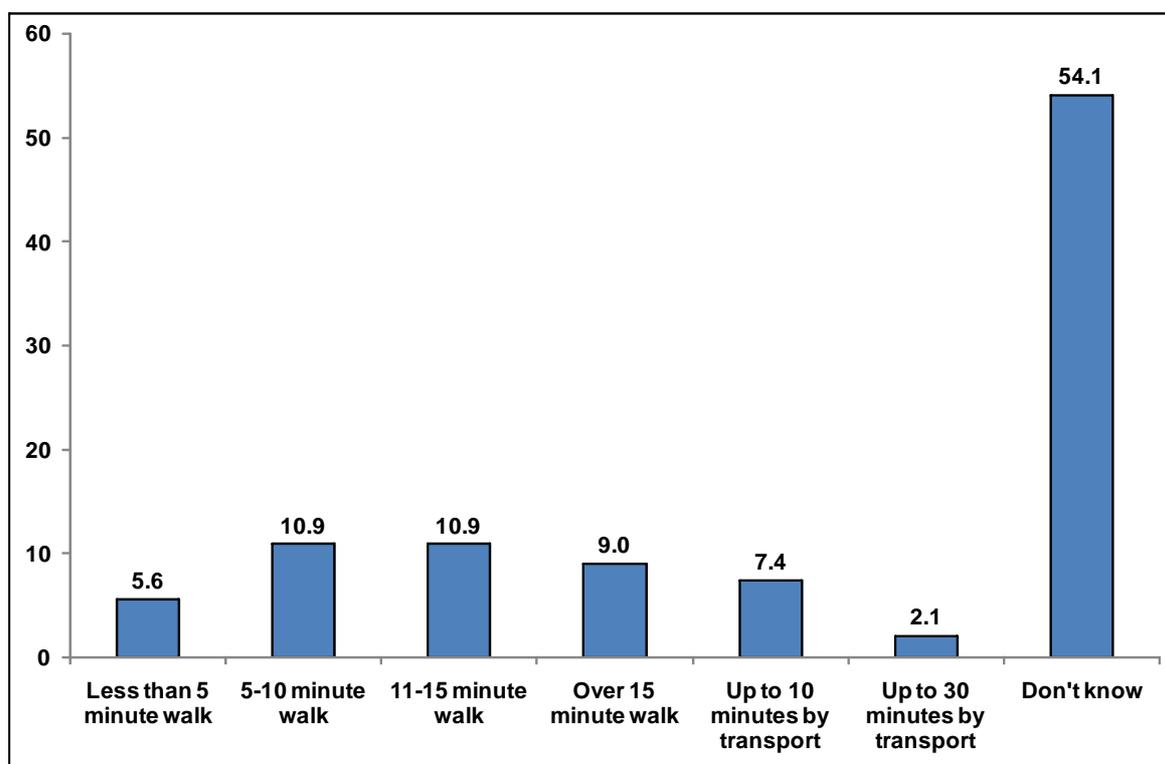
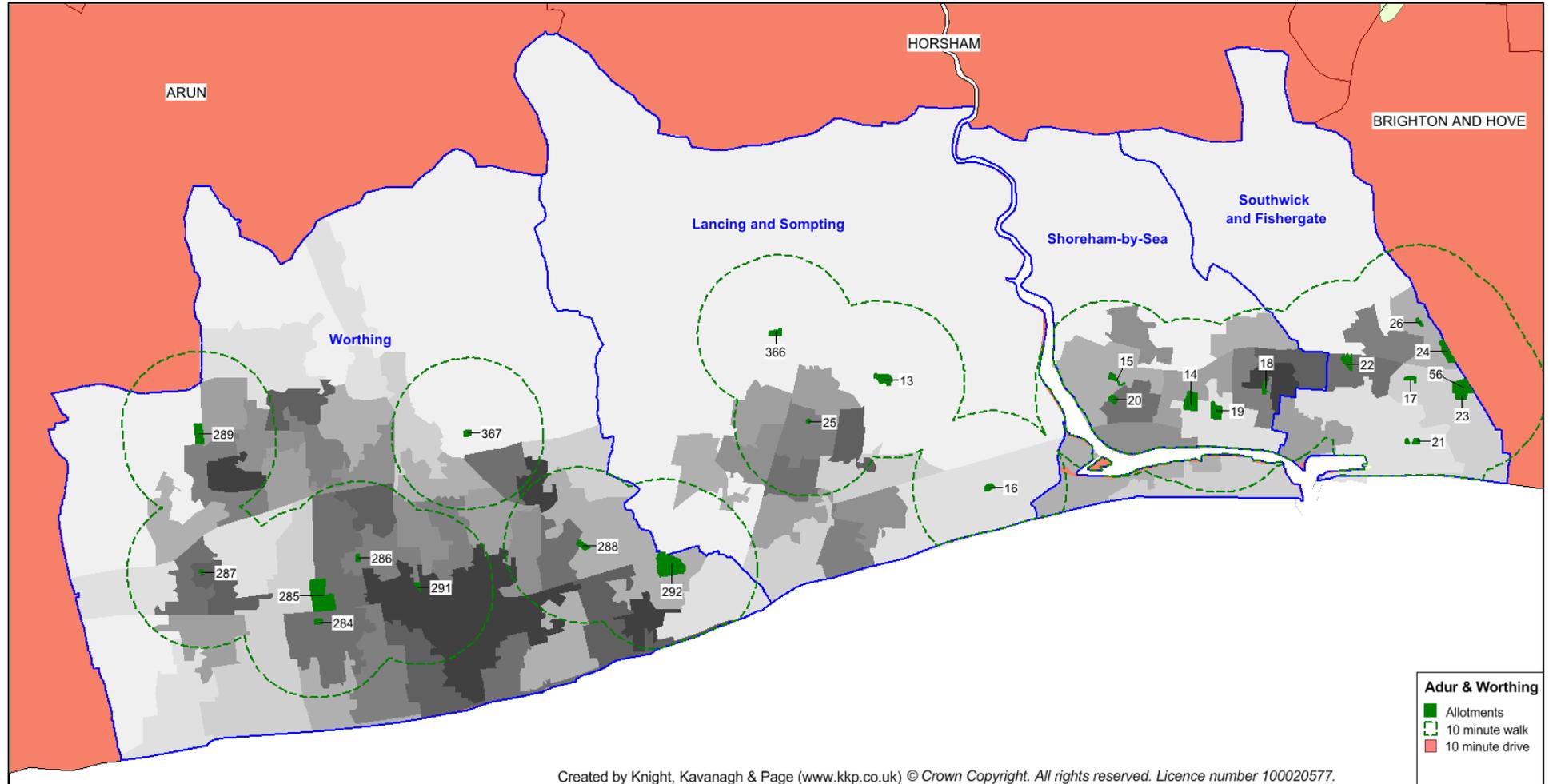


Figure 8.1 shows allotments mapped against the analysis areas as well as the above accessibility standards.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Figure 8.2: Allotments plotted against analysis areas



Please note sites 24 and 56 whilst mapped in the Adur area are owned by Brighton and Hove City Council and not available for use by Adur residents.

ADUR AND WORTHING COUNCILS OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Table 8.2: Key to sites mapped

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
13	Lancing Manor Allotments	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	48%	47%
14	Ham Fields Allotments	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	43%	39%
15	The Cemetary Allotments	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	58%	31%
16	Orient Road Allotments	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	48%	50%
17	Milton Drive Allotments	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	43%	25%
18	Williams Road Allotments	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	54%	30%
19	Middle Road Allotments	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	53%	27%
20	The Mead Allotments	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	48%	31%
21	The Gardens Allotments	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	41%	24%
22	Hillview Allotments	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	42%	25%
23	Manor Hall Allotment & The Pylons Allotment sites	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	44%	21%
24	St Louie Allotments*	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate		
25	Irene Avenue Allotments	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	48%	34%
26	Ridgeway (Highdown) Allotments	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	44%	21%
56	Former Eastbrook Allotments†	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate		
284	George V Avenue Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	55%	33%
285	West Tarring Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	72%	57%
286	St Andrews Road Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	52%	25%
287	May Close Allotments‡	Worthing	Worthing	n/a	n/a
288	Dominion Road Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	52%	33%
289	Humber Avenue Allotment	Worthing	Worthing	63%	26%
291	Haynes Road Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	65%	29%
292	Chesswood Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	35%	39%
366	Halewick Lane Allotments	Worthing	Lancing and Sompting	52%	32%
367	Hillbarn Lane Allotments	Worthing	Worthing	60%	28%

One site was unable to be assessed for quality and value (May Close Allotments in Worthing). It was not possible from the site visits to fully establish whether the sites are currently used for allotment provision. The site is run by Worthing Homes.

* Owned by Brighton and Hove City Council

† Owned by Brighton and Hove City Council

‡ Owned by Worthing Homes

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A further 36 plots have been made available on the Chesswood site in Worthing. This is as a result of recent clearing work carried out by voluntary working parties organised by the Worthing and District Allotments and Gardens Association (WADAGA).

As part of the proposals for the West Durrington Strategic Development in Worthing there may be the potential for extending provision at the Humber allotment site in the future.

All analysis areas are all covered by the 10 minute drive time catchment standard. However, a number of gaps are noted against the 10 walk time standard for the Worthing and Lancing and Sompting analysis areas. However, most of these gaps are in the more densely populated coastal areas of the region where it is unlikely that new provision could be sort. In addition the NSALG standard is currently not being met. On this basis, it is likely that new provision is needed to be provided.

Demand

Consultation with Council officers and allotment groups highlights a general demand for the creation of additional allotment provision across each council area.

There is a combined waiting list across Adur and Worthing councils' sites of circa 1,100. Waiting list numbers are compiled collectively by each Council; resulting in individual sites not having separate waiting lists. Previously waiting list numbers were collected on a site by site basis but due to people being able to apply for plots on more than one site, a combined system was created in 2009. However, it is recognised that West Tarring has the most significant individual waiting list of circa 150 according to the Worthing Allotment and District Association. Its popularity is thought to be due to its overall quality and site size (i.e. number of plots being 438).

Some clarity over the most up to date waiting list numbers and plots available is required across Adur and Worthing. User consultation suggests this is predominantly a reflection on the current management of sites. Currently there are no up to date records kept.

In addition, most allotments in Adur and Worthing are operating at 100% capacity with no vacant plots identified.

Table 8.3: Local authority owned and managed allotment plots

Analysis area	Number of local authority owned sites	Number of plots
Lancing and Sompting	4	170
Shoreham-by-Sea	5	350
Southwick and Fishergate	5	196
Worthing	9	1,025
ADUR AND WORTHING	23	1,741

Table 8.3 demonstrates that demand for plots differs between areas. This range in demand is thought to relate to the current level of provision and demand being a function of supply.

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The resident survey found there to be a generally positive perception towards the availability of allotment provision. A total of 18% of respondents rate the availability of provision as good. However, the majority of these, 65%, are non-users (i.e. identify that they have never visited allotment provision in the last 12 months). A proportion of the respondents that rate availability of provision as poor (7.4%) or very poor (3.5%) are noted as having a BN11 postcode (40%). This is a central Worthing postcode and to some extent the area can be expected to have less provision of allotments compared to other areas given its denser urban characteristic.

For respondents which identify they visit on a regular basis (i.e. more than once a week, once a week and 2-3 times a month) over a third rate availability as either very good (36%) with a further 28% rating availability as good. However, this is likely to be due to these individuals having a plot for their own use.

The combined waiting list across local authority sites, of circa 1,100, demonstrates that demand for allotments is not being met by current provision. This high demand for provision is long term and the growth of new plot holders is thought to represent an increase in demand for healthier living and home grown produce.

Ownership/management

Most sites in the area are owned and managed by Adur and Worthing Councils. Management of allotments was sub-contracted to Continental Landscapes but has since been taken in house by the Councils. The exception is the West Tarring site in Worthing which has recently been established as having self management (Oct 2013). It is currently the only allotment site to be self managed.

The Worthing Allotment Management (WAM) group is responsible, through a licence agreement, for managing the West Tarring site. As part of the agreement WAM takes the annual plot fees and is responsible for the running and maintenance of the site. This is a separate organisation to the Worthing and District Allotments and Gardens Association (WADAGA). The WADAGA is a voluntary association for plot holders from all allotment sites across Adur and Worthing. It has a non-management remit and looks to provide members with events such as an annual show, regular magazine and provision of three site shops.

Previously larger allotment sites have had a designated 'overseer'. This was a selected person intended to deal with the day to day issues and matters on their site. They also act as a point of reference between the Council and the site; with meetings taking place between the parties four times a year. As part of the role, 'overseers' receive a free plot and a £40 annual honorarium. 'Overseers' are not officially still in place with the exception at Humber and Chesswood sites.

There is currently an apparent move towards self management of sites in Worthing; although there are no discussions taking place over the potential of self-management in Adur. West Tarring is the only site at this time being self managed. The WAM signals an intention to roll out self management across further sites where possible in Worthing. It is expected that the group would be in a position to set up self management at other sites within the next 12 months. However, this is dependent upon support from the Council as well as allowing for six months 'bedding' in time for the West Tarring site. As part of the move the WAM group would like to reinstate the 'overseers' on sites in order to improve communication with the Council.

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There is currently no allotment strategy in place for Adur and Worthing. However, one is expected to be drafted by June 2014. This may look at the opportunity to potentially re-establishing the 'overseers' as part of the move to more self management. The regular meetings, as a result of this, could help to discuss relevant issues as well as helping to strengthen communication and relationships between the Council and the sites. It could also help to prioritise areas of action.

The average cost of renting a plot is £8 a rod with most plots being five rods; resulting in an annual price of around £40. A 30% discount is applicable for any members over the age of 65. This is slightly higher but still competitive compared to the annual fee for an equivalent five rod plot at neighbouring authorities such as Brighton and Hove City Council (£36) and Horsham District Council (£33).

There are currently two sites available for residents which are not Council managed. These are Orient Road Allotments owned by Lancing Parish Council and May Close Allotments owned by Worthing Homes. However, it has not been possible to verify if the May Close site is still being utilised as an allotment site. In addition, St Louie and Former Eastbrook Allotments located in Adur are owned by Brighton and Hove City Council (just within the study area).

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for allotments in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 40% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Please also note, as detailed earlier, the May Close site in Worthing was inaccessible and therefore did not receive a quality score.

Table 8.4: Quality ratings for allotments by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<40%	>40%
Lancing and Sompting	124	48%	50%	52%	4%	-	4
Shoreham-by-Sea	124	43%	51%	58%	15%	-	5
Southwick and Fishergate	124	41%	43%	44%	3%	-	5
Worthing	124	35%	54%	72%	37%	1	7
ADUR AND WORTHING	124	35%	51%	72%	37%	1	21

In terms of quality, most of the allotment sites in Adur and Worthing (95%) score highly. The highest scoring site is West Tarring Allotments in Worthing with a score of 72%. The site scores well due to its appearance and security (e.g. locked gate, parking and storage).

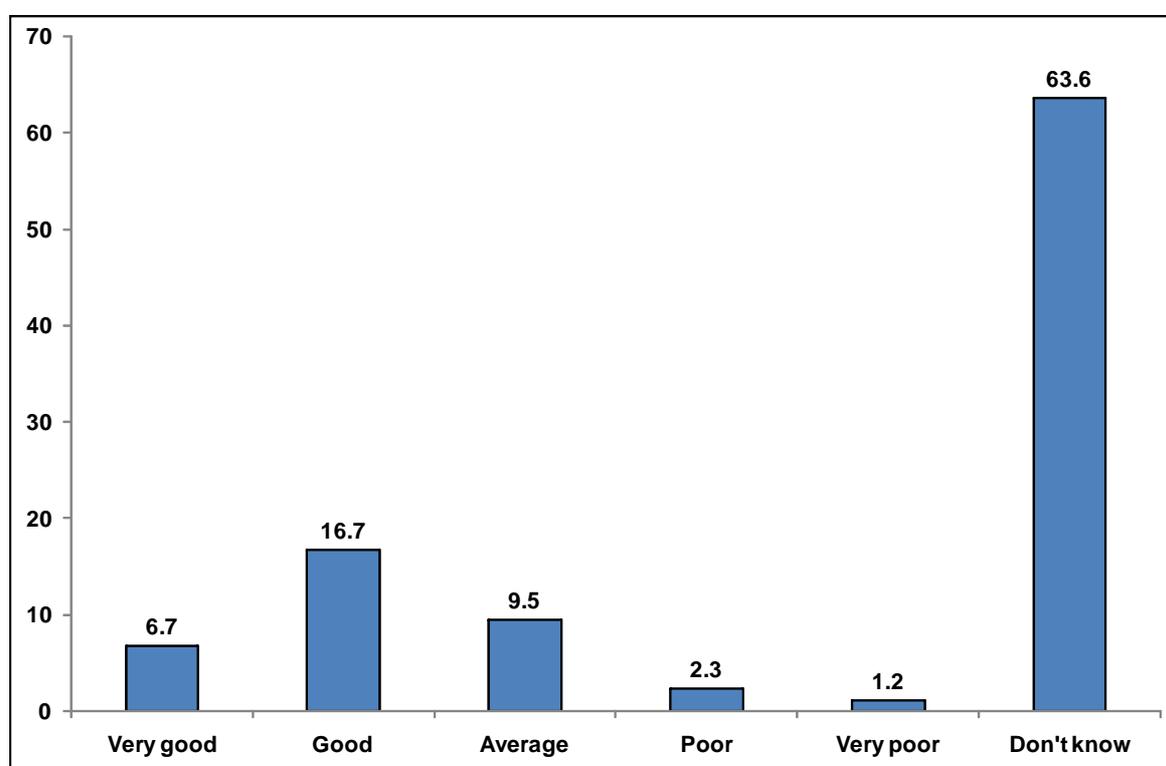
Only one allotment site in Adur and Worthing scores low for quality, Chesswood Allotments in Worthing. It scores low due to having a problem with Japanese knotweed and Hogweed (invasive species). This has led to some restrictions in terms of available plots. Furthermore, the site is apparently prone to flooding in some parts.

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In general, consultation highlights no significant problems with regard to the general quality of provision with all sites currently being used or with no vacant plots. However, consultation with WADAGA suggests there is an issue with organised break-ins occurring on sites. This is considered to be targeted towards sites with machinery housed within storage containers (i.e. thieves looking to sell on equipment) as opposed to petty vandalism such as broken windows.

Overall, the quality of allotments is perceived from the residents' survey to be sufficient. A total of 17% of residents indicate that provision is good; with a further 7% rating provision as very good. This is much higher compared to those residents that rate allotments as being of a poor (2%) or very poor (1%) quality.

Figure 8.3: Quality of allotments



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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for allotments in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

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Table 8.5: Value ratings for allotments by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<20%	>20%
Lancing and Sompting	105	32%	41%	50%	18%	-	4
Shoreham-by-Sea	105	28%	34%	39%	11%	-	5
Southwick and Fishergate	105	21%	23%	25%	4%	-	5
Worthing	105	25%	41%	57%	32%	-	8
ADUR AND WORTHING	105	21%	32%	57%	36%	-	22

Please also note, as detailed earlier, May Close site in Worthing was inaccessible and therefore did not receive a value score.

All allotments in Adur and Worthing 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. The value of allotments is further demonstrated by the large waiting lists identified in each area.

Allotments in Adur and Worthing are generally well used. Most are identified as having a willingness to establish self management in the future. This should be explored in order to explore and increase the level of communication and development of each site in the future.

8.3 Summary

Allotments summary

- ◀ A total of 23 sites are classified as allotments in Adur and Worthing, equating to just over 26 hectares. The majority of provision is owned and managed by the local authority; with some activity by groups such as the Worthing Allotment Management (WAM) group.
- ◀ The WAM group has been involved in the setting up of the self management arrangements at West Tarring Allotments. It is the only self managed site but aspirations are for more sites to become self managed in Worthing in the next 12 months.
- ◀ The current provision of 26 hectares is below the nationally recommended amount. There are also waiting lists totalling 1,100 for local authority owned sites suggesting demand for allotments is not currently being met by supply. In addition, no vacant plots are identified.
- ◀ There is currently no allotment strategy in place but one is expected to be drafted by in 2014. Overseers at sites (individuals designated as the go between for plot holders and the Council) only exist at Humber and Chesswood.
- ◀ The majority of allotments (95%) score high for quality. The exception is the Chesswood site in Worthing, which is identified as having an issue with invasive species.
- ◀ All allotments in Adur and Worthing are assessed as high value reflecting the associated social inclusion and health benefits, their amenity value and the sense of place offered by provision.

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PART 9: CEMETERIES/CHURCHYARDS

9.1 Introduction

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

9.2 Key issues

Current provision

There are 16 sites classified as cemeteries/churchyards, equating to just under 33 hectares of provision in Adur and Worthing. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all provision is identified and included within the audit.

Table 9.1: Distribution of cemeteries by analysis area

Analysis area	Cemeteries/churchyards		
	Number of sites	Size (ha)	Current standard (Ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	3	3.79	0.14
Shoreham-by-Sea	3	3.94	0.19
Southwick and Fishergate	3	2.48	0.19
Worthing	7	22.55	0.22
ADUR AND WORTHING	16	32.76	0.20

The largest contributors to provision in Adur and Worthing are Durrington Cemetery and Broadwater Cemetery in Worthing, equating to 14.9 and 5.6 hectares respectively. The largest site outside of Worthing is Mill Lane Cemetery in Shoreham-by-Sea, an equivalent to 2.7 hectares in size.

Within the identified provision there are a number of closed sites. These are sites that are no longer able to accommodate any new burials. A total of six sites are identified as being closed. These are:

- ◀ St Nicolas Church, Shoreham-by-Sea
- ◀ Broadwater Churchyard, Worthing
- ◀ Christchurch, Worthing
- ◀ Goring Churchyard, Worthing
- ◀ Heen Cemetery, Worthing
- ◀ Tarring Churchyard, Worthing

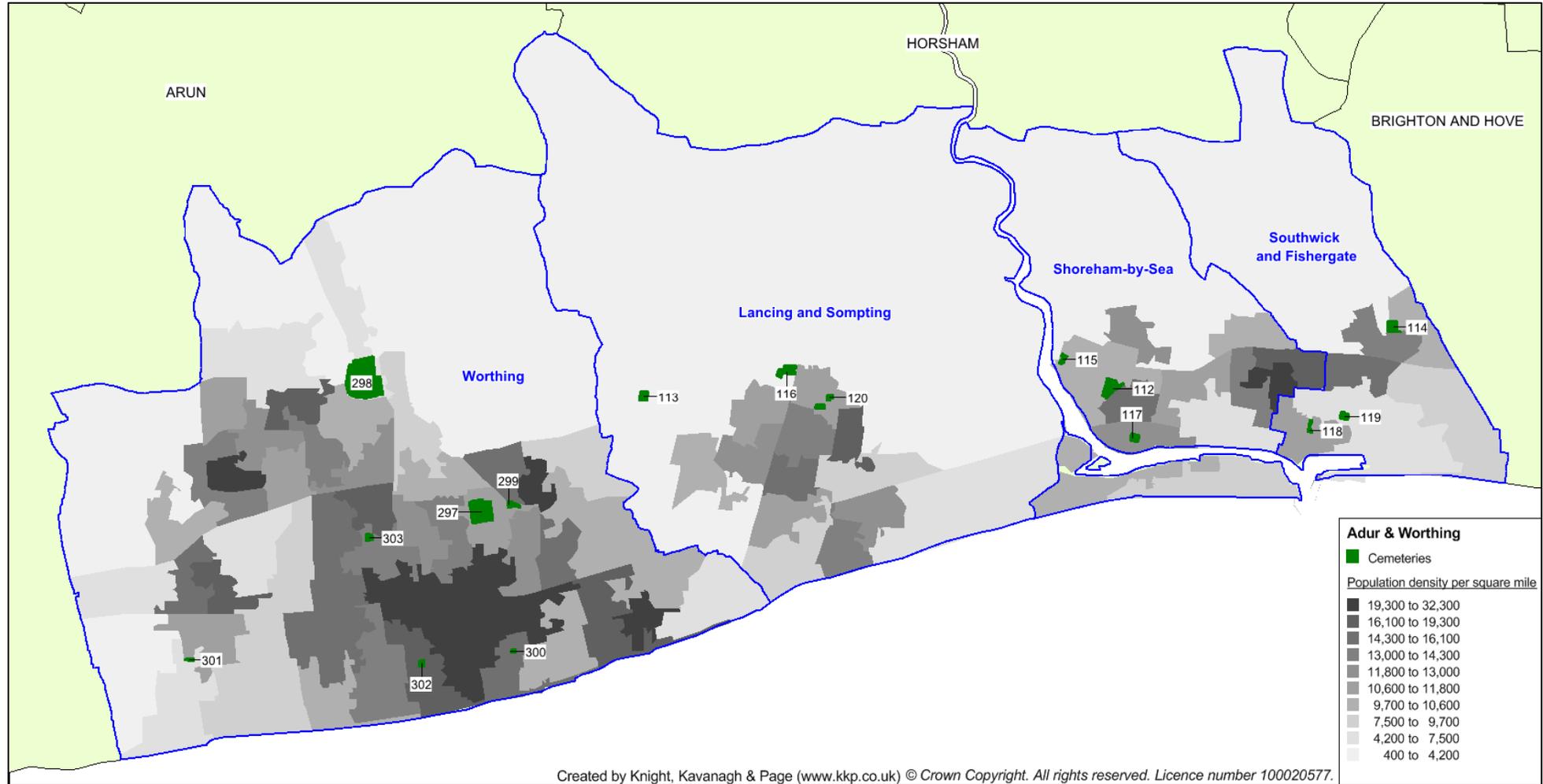
Accessibility

No accessibility standard 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 shows cemeteries mapped against analysis areas.

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Figure 9.1: Cemetery sites mapped against analysis area



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Table 9.2: Key to sites mapped

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
112	Mill Lane Cemetery	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	64%	23%
113	St Mary's Church	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	71%	59%
114	Southwick Cemetery	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	57%	22%
115	St Nicholas Church	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	53%	21%
116	Lancing and Sompting Cemetery	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	62%	25%
117	St Marys Churchyard	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	56%	34%
118	St Julians Churchyard	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	49%	27%
119	St Michael's Church	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	56%	21%
120	St James the Less Church	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	58%	42%
297	Broadwater Cemetery	Worthing	Worthing	65%	35%
298	Durrington Cemetery	Worthing	Worthing	69%	40%
299	Broadwater Churchyard	Worthing	Worthing	41%	23%
300	Christchurch	Worthing	Worthing	46%	23%
301	Goring Churchyard	Worthing	Worthing	65%	45%
302	Heene Cemetery	Worthing	Worthing	35%	24%
303	Tarring Churchyard	Worthing	Worthing	46%	24%

In terms of provision, mapping demonstrates it is fairly evenly distributed across the area. Worthing is identified as having a greater number of sites compared to other analysis areas. However, this is to be expected given population densities. The need for additional cemetery provision should be driven by the requirement for burial demand and capacity.

Management

The Councils are responsible for maintenance of most cemetery and churchyard sites. The exception is for the six sites believed to be managed by the Diocese of Chichester. All six sites are identified as being a churchyard:

- ◀ St Mary's Church, Lancing and Sompting
- ◀ St Nicolas Church, Shoreham-by-Sea
- ◀ St Marys Churchyard, Shoreham-by-Sea
- ◀ St Julian's Churchyard, Southwick and Fishergate
- ◀ St Michaels Church, Southwick and Fishergate
- ◀ St James the Less Church, Lancing and Sompting

Sites maintained by Adur and Worthing Councils can be categorised into two types; those providing active burial space and those designated as closed. Sites closed for burials receive a few grass cuts a year and any repairs for significant damage to headstones or other features. Active sites such as Durrington Cemetery in Worthing receive a more frequent level of maintenance given they are still operational.

Durrington Cemetery in Worthing is the only site to be identified as having onsite staff undertaking the maintenance work. Other sites are maintained by the Council at a visit rate similar to other types of open space. On average this is every two weeks. For the

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three active cemeteries in Adur there are three members of staff that provide a grave digging and ground maintenance service.

In terms of burial capacity, sites currently operational are understood to have sufficient interment space remaining for the next 30 years. Durrington Cemetery is identified as having 35 years left. Southwick Cemetery has 30 years following recent work to extend the site. In addition, other sites such as Lancing and Sompting Cemetery have the potential to be extended further beyond its current 30 year capacity.

Furthermore, the Councils recognise that further burial capacity could be provided if the ratio of cremations continues to increase. It is noted that the rate of burial has been slowing in recent years.

Broadwater Cemetery in Worthing is identified as being closed to any new burials. However, it is still available for burials at pre-designated family plots.

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for cemeteries in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 45% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Table 9.3: Quality ratings for cemeteries by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<45%	>45%
Lancing and Sompting	161	59%	65%	71%	12%	-	3
Shoreham-by-Sea	161	54%	59%	64%	10%	-	3
Southwick and Fishergate	161	49%	53%	57%	8%	-	3
Worthing	161	35%	50%	67%	32%	2	5
ADUR AND WORTHING	161	35%	53%	71%	36%	2	14

The majority of cemeteries in Adur and Worthing (88%) are rated as being of a high quality. Only two sites, both in Worthing, score below the quality threshold:

- ↳ Broadwater Churchyard, Worthing (41%)
- ↳ Heene Cemetery, Worthing (35%)

Both sites score lower due to an apparent lack of ancillary facilities such as seating. In addition, personal security is marked relatively low. At the time of the site visit Heene Cemetery was observed as being used by homeless people. Broadwater Churchyard was noted as having some areas in need of attention regarding path maintenance.

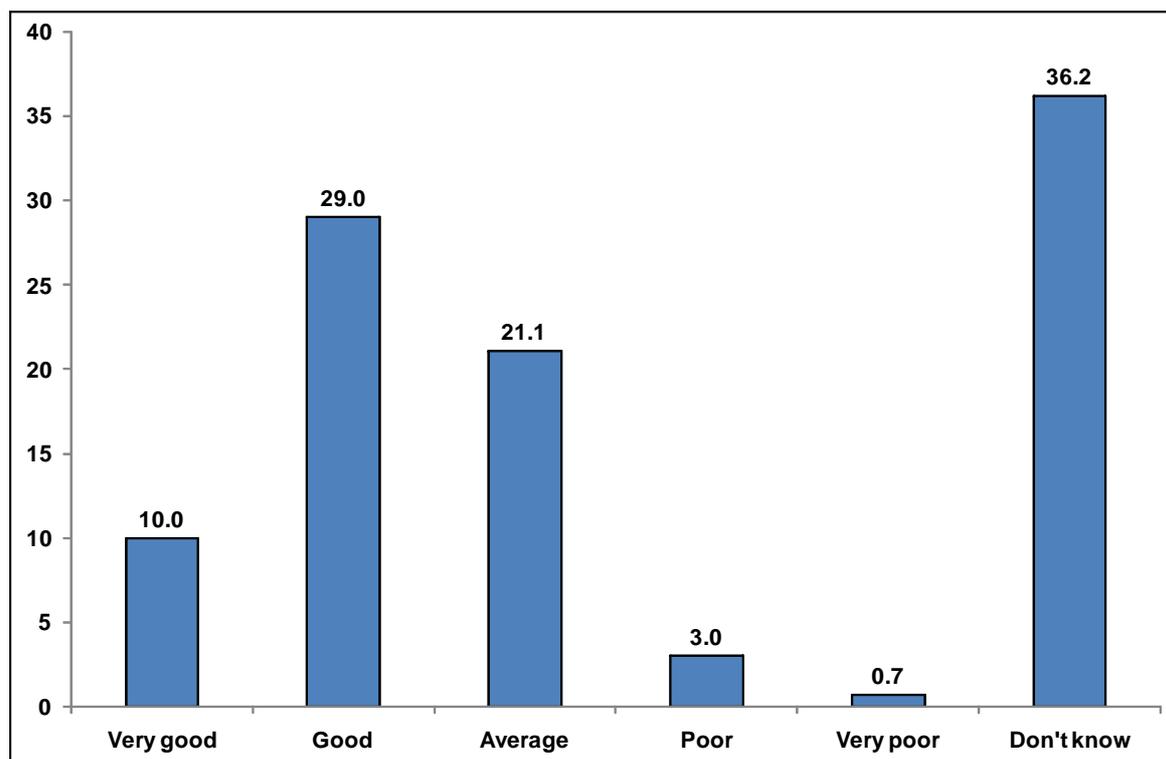
Four of the highest scoring sites for quality are St Mary's Church (71%), Durrington Cemetery (67%) and Broadwater Cemetery (65%) in Worthing as well as Goring Churchyard (65%) in Lancing and Sompting. The sites score well due to the presence and quality of features such as benches, signage and security. Maintenance of the sites is also identified as being high.

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Furthermore, Broadwater Cemetery is the only site of its kind to be identified as having a friends of group associated to it. This added benefit is recognised as playing a key role in the sites general appearance. The group regular holds working maintenance parties as well summer tours. It has a long-term aspiration to provide a heritage/educational centre in one of the chapels to the north of the site. At present the chapel is only used for storage. The idea would be to showcase the history of the Broadwater area, the work carried out by the group as well as being able to display a, currently hidden, stain glassed window from the early 20th Century. Short-term goals of the group are to further promote wildlife opportunities as well as path quality on site.

From the resident surveys, nearly a third (29%) of respondents rates the quality of cemeteries and churchyards as being good. A further fifth of respondents (21%) views provision as average quality. Only 3% considers them to be poor quality; suggesting that overall there are relatively positive perceptions of the quality of cemeteries and churchyards in Adur and Worthing.

Figure 9.2: Quality of cemeteries/churchyards



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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for cemeteries in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

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Table 9.4: Value ratings for cemeteries by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low <20%	High >20%
Lancing and Sompting	100	25%	42%	59%	34%	-	3
Shoreham-by-Sea	100	21%	28%	34%	13%	-	3
Southwick and Fishergate	100	21%	24%	27%	6%	-	3
Worthing	100	23%	34%	45%	22%	-	7
ADUR AND WORTHING	100	21%	40%	59%	38%	-	16

All cemeteries and churchyards are assessed as being of high value, reflecting the role they provide in peoples' lives. In addition, the cultural/heritage value of sites and the sense of place they provide to the local community are acknowledged in the site assessment data. The majority of sites receive a score for value from their contribution to wildlife/habitats or sense of place to the local environment.

Cemeteries and churchyards are important natural resources, offering both recreational and conservation benefits. As well as providing burial space, cemeteries and churchyards offer important recreational benefits.

9.3 Summary

Cemeteries summary

- ◀ Adur and Worthing is identified as having 16 sites classified as cemeteries, equating to just less than 33 hectares of provision.
- ◀ Management of sites is predominately undertaken by the Council. However, some individual (closed) churchyards are also responsible for their own maintenance.
- ◀ The majority of those sites identified as having active burial provision are recognised as having sufficient spare capacity in terms of future remaining burial space. Most sites are noted as having circa 30-35 years capacity.
- ◀ The majority of cemeteries are rated as high quality. However, two sites score below the quality threshold. This is a reflection of the lack of ancillary facilities (e.g. benches, signage), sense of security and general maintenance observed.
- ◀ Broadwater Cemetery is the only site identified as having active friends of group. This helps with regular maintenance and monitoring of the site and is felt to have had a positive impact on the site's overall quality.
- ◀ All cemeteries are assessed as high value in Adur and Worthing, reflecting that generally provision has cultural/heritage value and provide a sense of place to the local community.

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PART 10: CIVIC SPACE

10.1 Introduction

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

10.2 Key issues

Current provision

There are five formal civic space sites, equating to over two hectares of provision, identified in Adur and Worthing. In addition, there are likely to be other informal pedestrian areas or squares which residents may view as providing the same role as a civic space.

Table 10.1: Distribution of civic spaces by analysis area

Analysis area	Civic space		
	Number of sites	Size (ha)	Current standard (Ha per 1,000 population)
Lancing and Sompting	1	0.25	0.01
Shoreham-by-Sea	1	0.15	0.01
Southwick and Fishergate	1	0.58	0.04
Worthing	2	1.04	0.01
ADUR AND WORTHING	5	2.03	0.01

The majority of formal civic space is located in Worthing with a total of over one hectares of provision being found in the area. The remaining civic space is located in across the other three analysis areas. Given the nature of the typology it is understandable for civic space provision to be found in areas with a high population density.

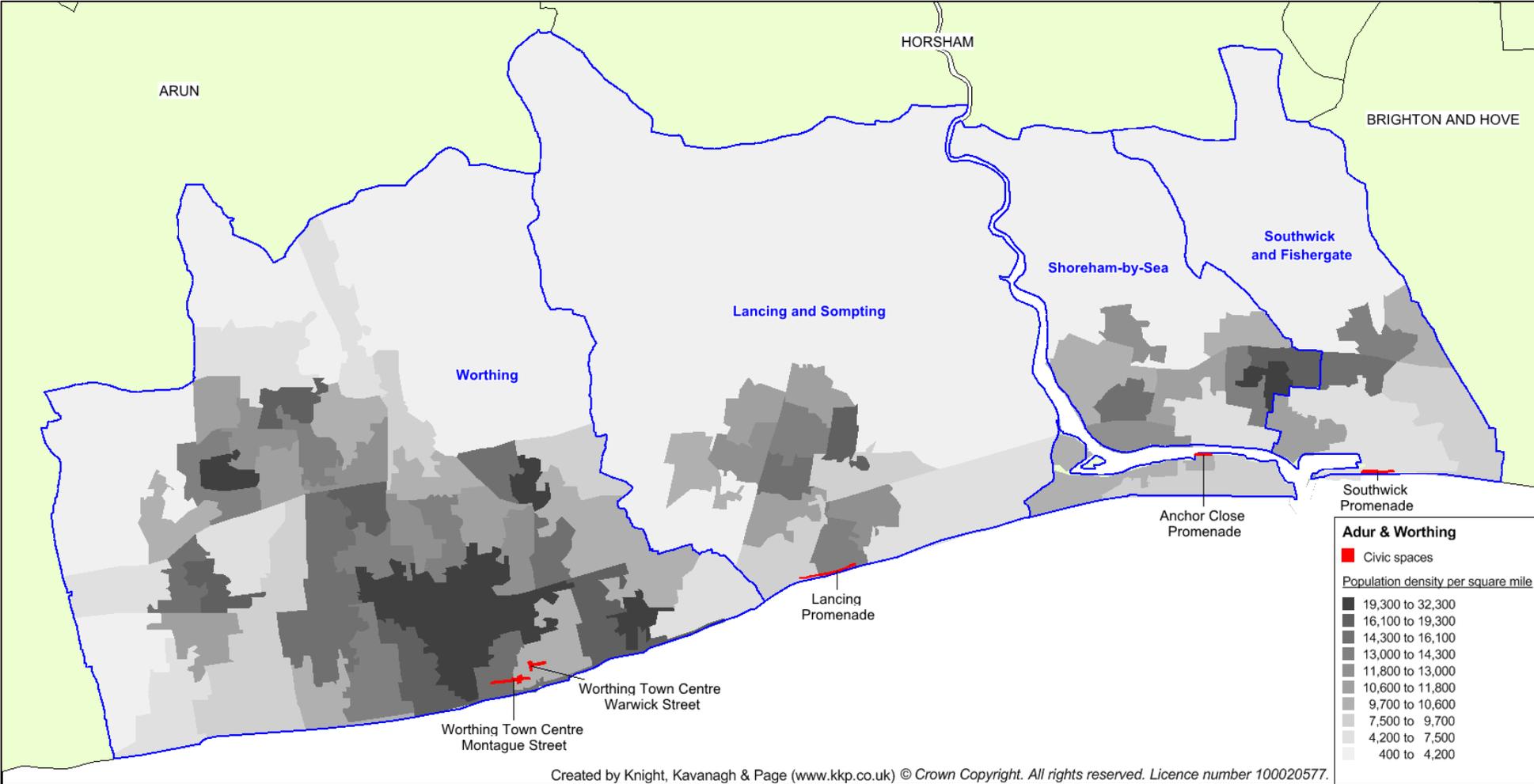
There are sites and areas that will function in a secondary role as civic space provision. For example, park sites such as Steyne Gardens in Worthing provide uses associated with civic spaces. For the purposes of this report sites such as these have not been classified primarily as civic space provision due to their wider use/value.

Accessibility

No accessibility standard has been set for civic spaces. Figure 10.1 shows civic spaces mapped against analysis areas.

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Figure 10.1: Civic spaces mapped against analysis areas



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Table 10.2: Key to sites mapped

KKP Ref	Site	Authority area	Analysis area	Quality score	Value score
7	Southwick Promenade	Adur	Southwick and Fishergate	64%	47%
9	Lancing Promenade	Adur	Lancing and Sompting	66%	56%
150	Anchor Close Promenade	Adur	Shoreham-by-Sea	53%	50%
369	Montague Street, Worthing	Worthing	Worthing	74%	60%
370	Warwick Street, Worthing	Worthing	Worthing	66%	55%

Resident survey respondents rate the availability of civic space positively. The highest proportion considers the availability of provision as good (38%) with an additional third (33%) suggesting it is very good.

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). Further explanation of how the quality scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the quality assessment for civic spaces in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 50% is applied in order to identify high and low quality.

Table 10.3: Quality ratings for civic spaces by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low <50%	High >50%
Lancing and Sompting	146	66%	66%	66%	-	-	1
Shoreham-by-Sea	146	53%	53%	53%	-	-	1
Southwick and Fishergate	146	64%	64%	64%	-	-	1
Worthing	146	66%	70%	74%	8%	-	2
ADUR AND WORTHING	146	53%	64%	74%	21%	-	5

All civic spaces are, in general, regarded as being of high quality. Sites are overall identified as having a good level of general maintenance observed by the well kept level of provision. In addition they are also noted as being well served by seating and bin provision as well as tending to meet the needs of a variety of user groups.

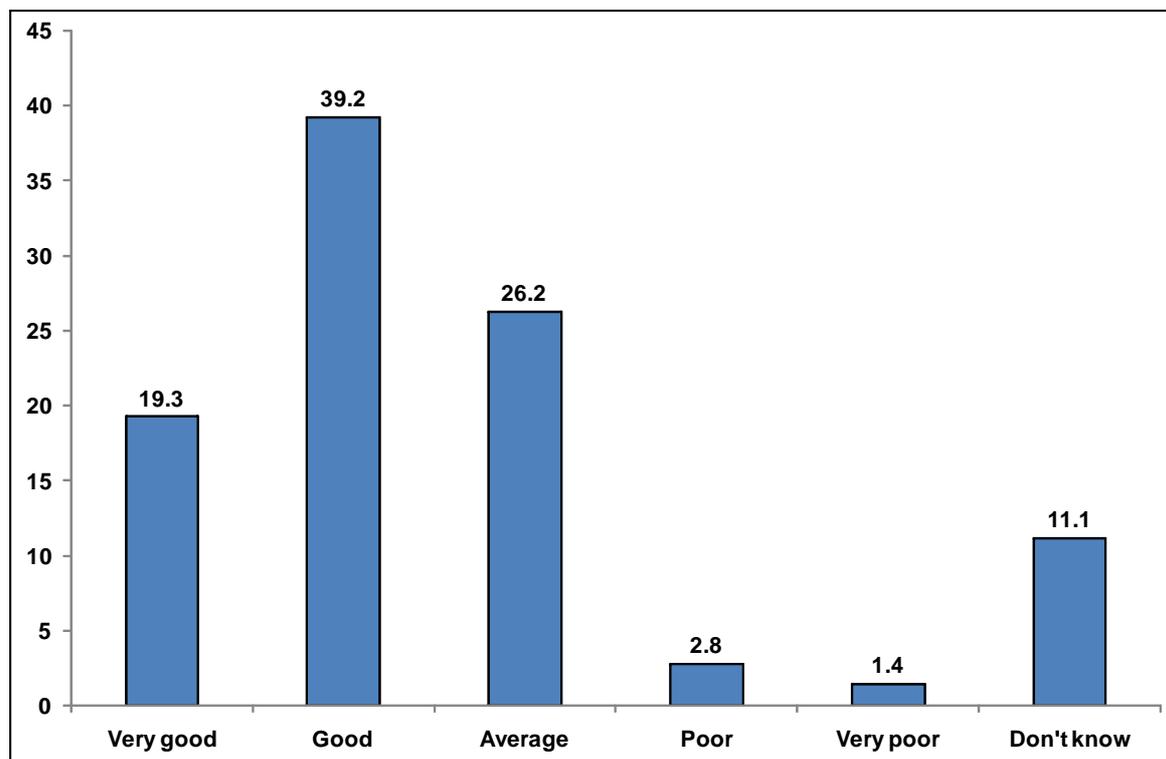
The highest scoring site, with 74%, is the Montague Street site in Worthing. It scores highly due to its high level of use and location, acting as the main high street, in the heart of the Town. The site is also noted as having heritage provision through hosting a weekly market every Wednesday.

It is noted that both the Lancing Promenade and Anchor Close Promenade sites, the latter in Shoreham-by-Sea, provide opportunities for cycling. The former is part of the National Sustrans Network.

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The quality of civic space is rated as good by nearly two fifths of survey respondents (39%). Just over a quarter (26%) views provision as being of an average condition. Similar to results for availability, only a small proportion rates provision as poor (3%) or very poor (1%).

Figure 10.2: Quality of civic space



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). Further explanation of how the value scores are derived can be found in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for civic spaces in Adur and Worthing. A threshold of 20% is applied in order to identify high and low value.

Table 10.4: Value ratings for civic spaces by analysis area

Analysis area	Maximum score	Lowest score	Ave score	Highest score	Spread	Low	High
						<20%	>20%
Lancing and Sompting	100	56%	56%	56%	-	-	1
Shoreham-by-Sea	100	50%	50%	50%	-	-	1
Southwick and Fishergate	100	47%	47%	47%	-	-	1
Worthing	100	55%	58%	60%	5%	-	2
ADUR AND WORTHING	100	47%	58%	60%	13%	-	5

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All identified civic spaces are assessed as being of high value, reflecting that provision has cultural/heritage value whilst also providing a sense of place to the local community. This is further supported by site visit observations, which confirms the social and cultural value of civic spaces through their use as attractive shopping and event spaces.

Many of the sites identified include a form of opportunity for socialising such as a weekly market or cycle route. Subsequently these sites have a role in allowing the local community to come together. Montague Street in Worthing is also noted as hosting a regular weekly market and seasonal events and unsurprisingly scores the highest for value (60%).

10.3 Summary

Civic space summary

- ◀ There are five sites classified as civic spaces in Adur and Worthing, equating to over two hectare of provision.
- ◀ Slightly more civic space provision is identified in Worthing.
- ◀ All civic spaces are regarded as being of high quality. Sites are identified as having overall a good level of general maintenance. Montague Street in Worthing is the highest scoring site predominantly due to its role as the main high street for the town.
- ◀ All civic spaces are assessed as high value, reflecting provision has a cultural/heritage value and provides a sense of place to the local community.

PART 11: GREEN CORRIDORS

11.1 Introduction

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

11.2 Key issues

Current provision

Currently there are a number of strategically and nationally important green corridors to be found in Adur and Worthing. A brief summary of each of these key sites is provided below.

Adur

Adur Valley

This green corridor is a 24km stretch of land following the main path of the River Adur. It covers an area including the source of the river at Shermanbury and Bines Bridge down to the estuary at Shoreham-by-Sea. A large part of the valley is within the South Downs National Park (SDNP). In addition, the estuary section is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This is due to it representing the only significant area of saltmarsh and its importance to a variety of wading birds.

Coastal Link Path

Linking the Adur Valley to the centre of Shoreham is the southern end of the Coastal Link Path. The riverside path runs along the banks of the River Adur and features a sculpture trail. The full extent of the Coastal Link is nearly 60km in distance and helps to connect the Downs Link, North Downs Way and South Downs Way.

Worthing

The Monarchs Way

It is a 615 mile (990km) long distance footpath – one of the longest in England. The route starts in Worcester and passes through Worthing (where it continues finishing in Shoreham-by-Sea). It approximately follows the escape route of King Charles II in 1651 after being defeated in the Battle of Worcester. It therefore follows a random path through much of the way. For West Sussex the route passes through Arundel and follows along the South Downs Way.

South Downs Way

The route runs for 99 miles (160km) from Winchester, in Hampshire, to Eastbourne, in East Sussex. Around half of the route is within West Sussex and forms part of the Monarch Way as identified above.

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Both the South Downs Way and The Monarchs Way span the northern edges of the South Downs National Park.

Local links

In addition to these national routes, there are further forms of local provision not included in this section of the report which are likely to contribute to the typology of green corridors. In particular, areas such as the seafront promenades and Public Rights of Way (PROW) provide local links between different areas as well as offering similar recreational opportunities associated with green corridor provision (e.g. walking, jogging and cycling).

For the purposes of this study individually or collectively defined sites such as promenades have been classified as other types of open space provision (e.g. natural and semi-natural greenspace). The importance of these sites in having a secondary function as a green corridor is significant and should be considered in any future decision making. This is especially the case for activities such as walking and cycling. Furthermore such provision should also be recognised in the use of linking other open space sites and ward areas together.

The table below identifies those open space sites that are likely to have a secondary role similar to green corridors.

Table 11.1: Other sites contributing to Green Corridor provision

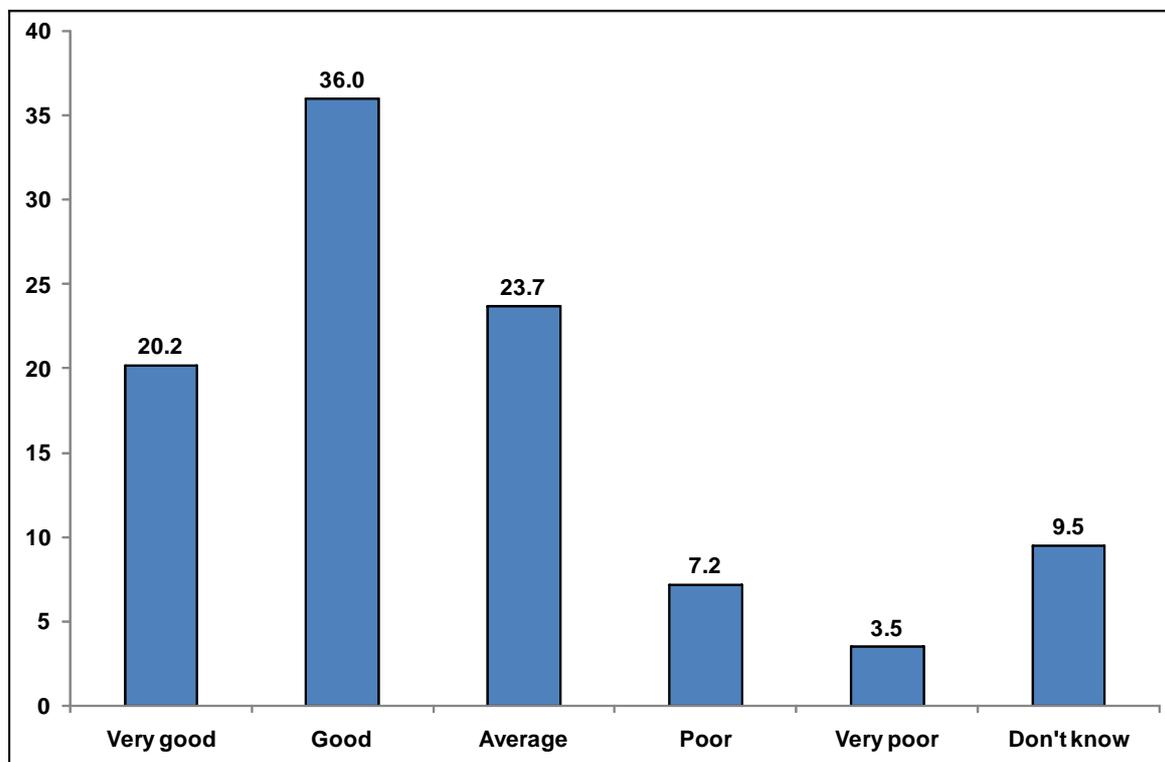
Analysis Area	Site name (KKP Reference Number)
Lancing and Sompting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Lancing Beach/Widewater Lagoon (368/109) ◀ Lancing Ring (107)
Shoreham-by-Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Lancing Beach – Shoreham/Shoreham Old Fort (6/10) ◀ Mill Hill Nature Reserve (106)
Southwick and Fishergate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Southwick Beach – port authority/Southwick Beach – Adur/Southwick Promenade (12/7/11) ◀ Southwick Hill (110)
Worthing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ The Plantation South/North (178/179) ◀ Ilex Way/Goring Hall/Fernhurst Drive (185/186/184) ◀ Seafront/promenades (294/295/296) ◀ The Gallops (180)

The biggest contributors to activities associated with green corridor provision are the combined sites that make up the seafront (Beach and Foreshore). This collection of sites forms a single connected ‘corridor’ in theory enabling for travel from the western end of Worthing to Shoreham.

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Reflecting the presence of these key national routes, over a third of respondents (36%) to the resident survey view the availability of green corridors as good. There is a further 20% that rates provision as very good in terms of availability.

Figure 11.1: Availability of Green Corridors



Accessibility

There is no national guidance provided which sets a current standard for green corridors provision due to their linear nature. Instead provision should be informed by demand and delivered through local policies. Therefore no catchment mapping has been created.

The PROW network will further contribute to the level of accessibility to provision associated with activities linked to green corridor provision. There is approximately 2,500 miles of PROW across West Sussex. The majority (1,714) is defined as footpaths.

Management

Statutory responsibility of the PROW network is with West Sussex County Council. Duties regarding this include:

- ◀ Way-marking
- ◀ Maintenance
- ◀ Updating the PROW records and Legal administration

To assist in these duties a voluntary ranger service exists in order to assist in carrying out improvement projects. The County Council has a Rights Of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP). The ROWIP 2007-2017 for West Sussex covers a large geographical area

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from Chichester, in the west, to East Grinstead, in the east. For further detail please refer to the ROWIP.

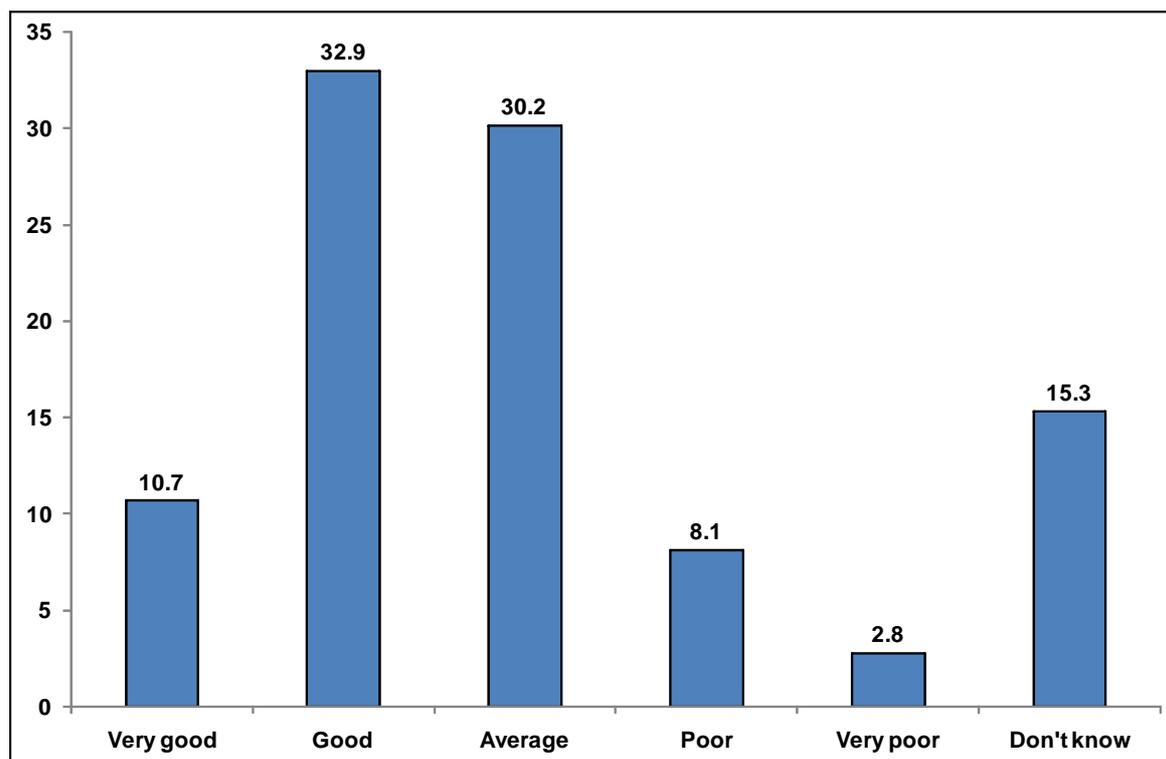
Quality

No site visits assessments have been undertaken for green corridors. Due to their linear nature it is not possible to effectively score each form of provision.

Consultation does not highlight any quality issues with regard to the general appearance and access of green corridors. This is not surprising given most of the long distance routes are of national importance and can be found within the SDNP area.

Further supporting this is the third of respondents (33%) from the resident survey that rate the quality of green corridor provision as good. As further support, only a small proportion of respondents view quality as poor (8%) or very poor (3%).

Figure 11.1: Quality of Green Corridors



Value

No sites have been scored for value. As detailed earlier no site visits assessments have been undertaken for green corridors. This is due to their linear nature resulting in it is not being possible to effectively score each form of provision.

Green corridors in Adur and Worthing are highlighted for their high value through their recognition as nationally important routes. In addition, areas such as the Adur Valley are designated as SSSI whilst paths such as the Monarch Way and South Downs Way are located within the SDNP.

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The importance of green corridors is highlighted during consultation as important in offering informal recreational opportunities to people. This is especially the case for activities such as walking and cycling. The value of provision is further recognised in the use of linking other open space sites and sport facilities together.

11.3 Summary

Green corridor summary

- ◀ There are a number of strategically important green corridors in Adur and Worthing. National routes such as Monarchs Way and the South Downs Way are located in the area.
- ◀ In line with guidance no catchment mapping is required due to the linear nature of provision.
- ◀ The PROW network for West Sussex contributes to the level of accessibility to activities associated with Green Corridors (i.e. walking, cycling). There is circa 2,500 miles of PROW across West Sussex.
- ◀ No quality or value scores have been undertaken. However, the quality and importance of provision is highlighted through consultation as well being highlighted by sites having SSSI designations and running through the SDNP.

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APPENDICES

Appendix One: Consultee list

Name	Designation	Organisation
Clive Bramble	Parks Manager	Adur and Worthing Council
Andy Edwards	Parks & Foreshore Manager	Adur and Worthing Council
Tracey Lillie	Pitch bookings/ Allotments	Adur and Worthing Council
Fiona Martin	Parks Support/ Grounds maintenance	Adur and Worthing Council
Pat Beresford	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Brian Boggis	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Joan Bradley	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Emma Evans	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Keith Dollemore	Member Councillor for Environment	Adur and Worthing Council
Daniel Humphreys	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Norah Fisher	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Jim Funnell	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Liza McKinney	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Janet Mockridge	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Neil Parkin	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Clive Roberts	Member Councillor for Environment	Adur and Worthing Council
Julie Searle	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Dave Simmons	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Hazel Thorpe	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Bryan Turner	Member Councillor	
Tom Wye	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Paul Yallop	Member Councillor	Adur and Worthing Council
Ian Moody	Principal Planning Officer (Worthing)	Adur and Worthing Council
Ben Daines	Planning Officer (Adur)	Adur and Worthing Council
Chris Bradley	Head of Parks & Foreshore	Adur and Worthing Council
Julian Stevens	Active Communities Manager	Adur and Worthing Council
Roger Ide	Sports Supervisor	Adur and Worthing Council
Steve Grey	Grounds Maintenance	Adur and Worthing Council
Sarah Garbutt	Consultation Officer	Adur and Worthing Council
Hille Cook	Secretary	Cortis Avenue Community Garden
Debra Hillman	Secretary	Friends of Broadwater and Worthing Cemetery
Colin Hunt	Clerk	Lancing Parish Council
David Porter	Clerk	Sompting Parish Council
Peter Crawford	Strategy Lead	Sussex Wildlife Trust
Paul Eustice	Secretary	Worthing and District Allotment Association
Jack Powis	Secretary	Worthing Allotment Management
Jane Noble	Access Officer	West Sussex County Council