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Plymouth Policy Area Open Space Assessment



Final report
Prepared for Plymouth City Council by LUC
February 2017

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Client: Plymouth City Council

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1 Executive summary

Study aims

1.1 During 2015 – 2017 Plymouth City Council undertook a detailed Open Space Assessment. With the changes to national planning policy and the notable changes to Plymouth in terms of population growth and housing development, Plymouth City Council is currently developing a Joint Local Plan together with South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council. Part of this process is to gather a full evidence base for all services and provision across a wide range of opportunities and constraints within the Plymouth Policy Area. The Open Space Assessment will form an essential component of the emerging Joint Local Plan.

1.2 The Councils have a long tradition of supporting the provision and enhancement of the open space network for its residents and visitors. The Councils recognise that open spaces are essential components of the City's infrastructure which both drive and respond to growth, change and improvement.

1.3 The Councils are committed to improving the quality of life for all of their communities. A network of good quality open space can significantly help to reduce health inequalities, spur economic growth and energise community engagement.

1.4 The Open Space Assessment offers a robust and up to date assessment of open space across the Plymouth Policy Area.

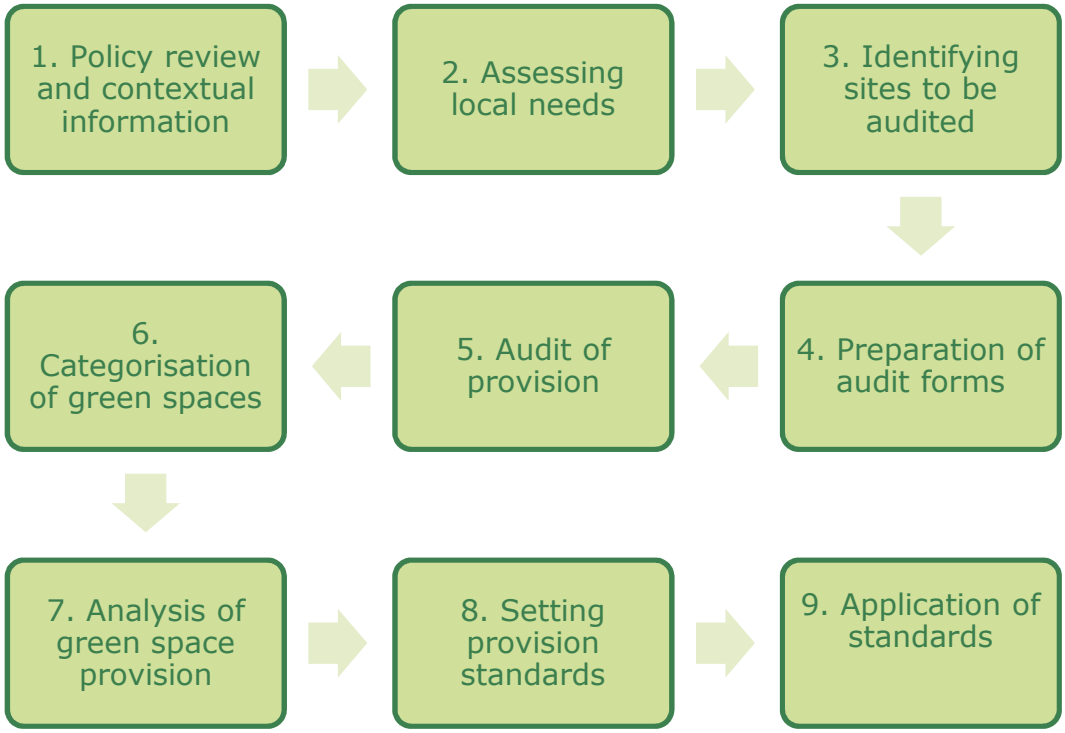
Methodology

1.5 The methodology for the assessment of open spaces reflects the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework[1] (NPPF) and broadly follows the five steps as set out in the Practice Guidance to Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation Companion Guide[2]. This provides useful guidance on the process for assessing the provision of open space for local authorities.

1.6 LUC refined this method, based on experience elsewhere, and enhanced it to reflect the needs/opportunities within the Plymouth Policy Area. Specifically, the method was adapted to include an assessment of the functionality of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area. An overview of the tasks taken in the preparation of the open space assessment is provided overleaf.

[1] National Planning Policy Framework, Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012.

[2] http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120919132719/www.communities.gov.uk/archived/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance17



Quantity and distribution of open space

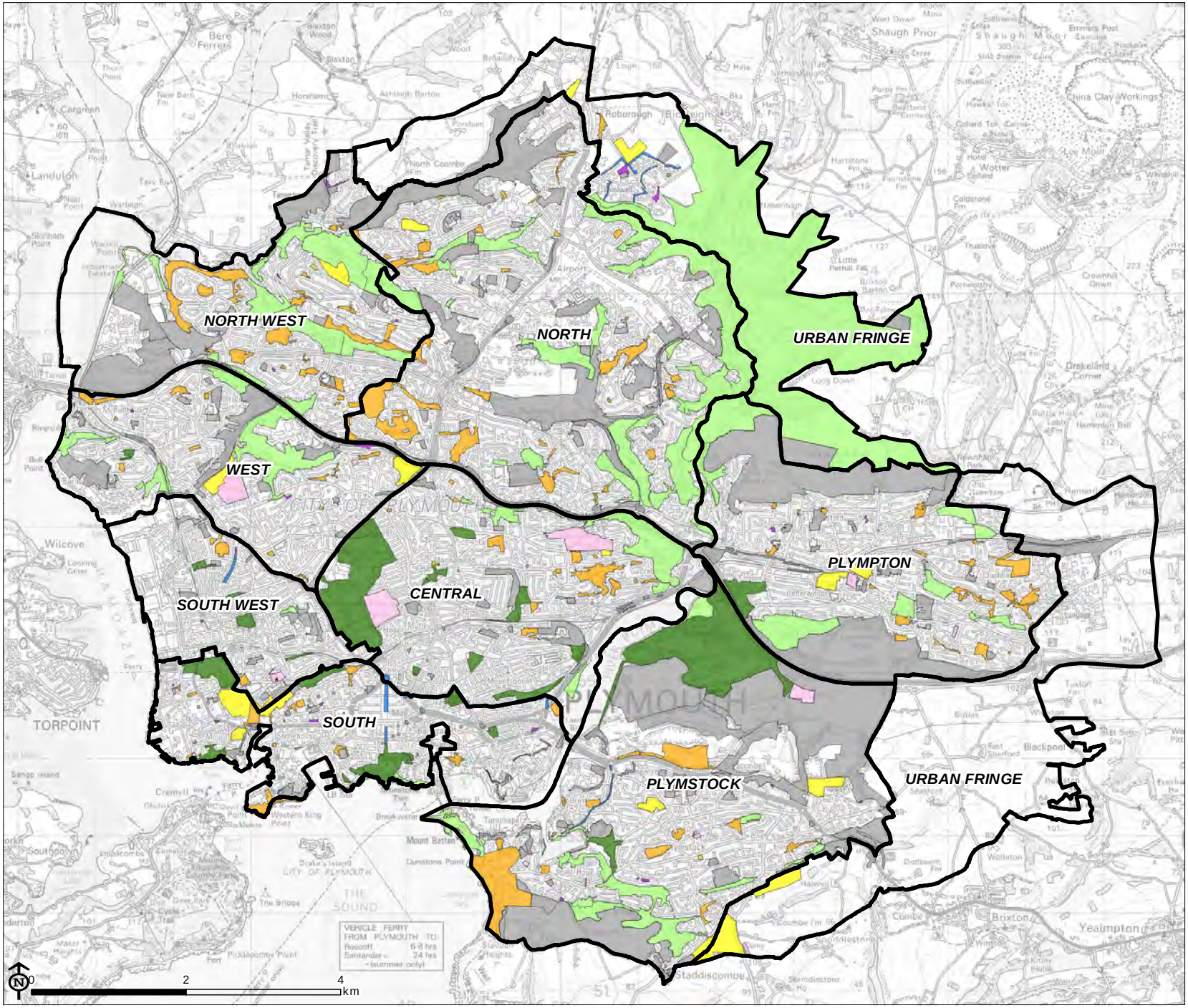
1.7 The assessment considers the quality, quantity and accessibility of existing open spaces across 489 sites within the Plymouth Policy Area. Each of these sites was audited by Plymouth City Council and categorised into one of nine primary typologies. The overall quantity of green space recorded in the Plymouth Policy Area is shown in **Table 1.1** below. As shown in the table, of the almost 3,500ha of green space in the study area, 58% is accessible to the public. The remaining 42% is not accessible; much of which is outdoor sports facilities and agricultural land.

1.8 Natural and semi-natural green space comprises almost half of the overall open space resource, and a little over half of the publicly accessible resource.

Table 1.1: Quantity of open space recorded in the Plymouth Policy Area

Typology	Number of sites	Accessible (ha)	Not accessible (ha)	Total area (ha)	% of overall provision
Parks and Gardens	36	317.13	5.27	322.40	9.22%
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	113	1242.45	420.47	1662.93	47.54%
Green Corridors	17	11.60	42.12	53.72	1.54%
Amenity Greenspaces	160	292.23	72.59	364.81	10.43%
Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	24		23.64	23.64	0.68%
Churchyards and Cemeteries	14	55.13	5.59	60.72	1.74%
Provision for Children and Young People	23	5.92		5.92	0.17%
Outdoor Sports Facilities	91	108.16	198.83	306.99	8.78%
Agricultural Land	11		696.53	696.53	19.91%
Total	**489**	**2032.61**	**1465.04**	**3497.65**	**100.00%**

1.9 For the purposes of this assessment, the Plymouth Policy Area has been divided into nine Analysis Areas. The distribution of accessible open space is shown in **Table 1.2** and illustrated on **Figure 1.1**.



Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 1.1:
All accessible open spaces by typology

- Analysis areas
- Green spaces that are not accessible

Accessible open space by typology

- Parks and gardens
- Natural and semi-natural green space
- Green corridors
- Amenity greenspaces
- Churchyards and cemeteries
- Provision for children and young people
- Outdoor sports facilities

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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Table 1.2: Area (ha) of accessible open spaces by typology in each Analysis Area

Typology	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
Parks and Gardens	108.9			12.9	138.7	47.5	7.5	1.5	**317.1**	0	**317.1**
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	52.2	287.4	132.3	58.4	84.9	7.9	1.2	66.3	**690.6**	551.8	**1242.5**
Green Corridors	0.5				1.8	3.5	1.4		**7.2**	4.4	**11.6**
Amenity Green spaces	23.0	70.6	57.8	30.5	73.7	19.8	4.8	10.1	**290.4**	1.8	**292.2**
Churchyards and Cemeteries	31.2			2.8	6.0		1.8	12.7	**54.5**	0.6	**55.1**
Provision for Children and Young People		0.0	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.1	1.2	**4.4**	1.5	**5.9**
Outdoor Sports Facilities	1.2	4.0	7.2	11.0	16.1	13.8	6.9	14.0	**74.1**	34.0	**108.2**
Total	**217.1**	**362.1**	**198.3**	**116.1**	**321.9**	**93.2**	**23.7**	**105.9**	**1438.4**	**594.2**	**2032.6**
% of overall total	11%	18%	10%	6%	16%	5%	1%	5%	71%	29%	100%

1.10 29% of accessible open space is found within the Urban Fringe (the majority of which is natural and semi-natural green space) whereas the South West Analysis Area supports only 1% of the accessible open space resource.

Open space standards

1.11 Analysis has been completed to assess the provision of publicly accessible open space within Plymouth Policy Area. To develop a framework for analysis of the sites, sites were classified using a combination of their size and typology. The size groups used are:

- Large: Over 10ha
- Medium: 2-10ha
- Small: Under 2ha

1.12 Each type and size group of open space was assessed to identify the current quantity, quality, accessibility and value. Having an understanding of the baseline information enables the setting of locally derived standards which aim to guide the future provision of open space in Plymouth.

1.13 There are four types of open space standard:

- Accessibility: the maximum distance residents should be required to travel to use an open space of a specific typology.

- Quantity: the provision (measured in m^2 or hectares) of each open space typology which should be provided as a minimum per 1,000 population.
- Quality: the quality of open space provided within each typology, assessed using the green flag criteria.
- Value: the value of open space provided in each typology.

Quantity standard

1.14 Provision has been assessed against the existing accessible green space standards as set out in the Green Space Strategy 2009. New standards have not been defined as part of this study as no consultation was undertaken to support the development of new standards. Standards for allotments, which are not publicly accessible, have been increased from 0.12 to 0.15 ha / 1,000 population to align with South Hams and West Devon. The types used to categorise green spaces in the Green Space Strategy 2009 have been aligned with the typologies used in this study as shown below.

Table 1.3: Open space quantity standards by typology

Types set out in the Green Space Strategy 2009	Typologies used in this study	Hectares per 1000 population
Informal Green Space	Amenity green space	1.44
Parks and Gardens	Parks and gardens	1.15
Local Nature Reserves	Natural and semi-natural green space	2.5
Natural Green Space		
Total accessible green space		**5.09**
Allotments	Allotments, community gardens and urban farms	0.15

Accessibility standards

1.15 In terms of accessibility, the current relevant policy requires that residents have access to a high quality open space within 400m walking distance of where they live. This has been approximated by mapping 240m (radius/buffer) catchments around accessible open spaces.

Quality and value standards

1.16 The site audit included information to be evaluated as part of the value assessments such as the value of play spaces, the presence of community facilities and the biodiversity value of habitats. The relevant audit information was reviewed to develop a value threshold score specific to the different types of open space in the Plymouth Policy Area. A list of key characteristics was developed which could be expected of sites of a particular typology and size.

1.17 As part of the site audit, each publicly accessible open space was assessed for quality against the Green Flag criteria, and the condition of the various components of a site rated as good, fair or poor. This assessment was then transposed through a scoring system into a quality score. In order to develop a quality standard which is appropriate for the type and function of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area, the existing quality of provision was reviewed by typology and size. A threshold score has been defined for each type and size category reflecting the ideal score scenario for a good quality site.

Application of open space standards

1.18 An assessment of current provision against the open space standards has been undertaken to identify and illustrate where surpluses/deficiencies can be found.

1.19 Considering the three types of accessible natural green space that are considered in the current green space quantity standard (**Parks and Gardens, Natural and semi-natural Green Space and Amenity Greenspace**), a summary of provision is shown in **Table 1.4**. The provision

figures have been shaded according to whether provision is above or below the **existing standard of 5.09/1000 population**.

Table 1.4 Accessible open space per 1,000 population

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1000 population
Central	184.20	60,102	3.06
North	358.06	40,122	8.92
North West	190.08	24,743	7.68
Plympton	101.83	29,899	3.41
Plymstock	297.31	24,758	12.01
South	75.11	27,602	2.72
South West	13.59	22,495	0.60
West	78.02	26,663	2.93
Plymouth Total	**1298.19**	**256,384**	**5.06**
Urban Fringe	553.61	3,130	176.87
Plymouth Policy Area	**1851.80**	**259,514**	**7.14**

1.20 Overall provision of allotments, community gardens and urban farms is 0.09ha/1,000 people, which is below the quantity standard for this typology of 0.15ha/1,000. However, there exist spatial differences across the Policy area, and North West, South West and Urban Fringe Analysis Areas have a level of provision that exceeds the quantity standard.

1.21 **Table 1.5** summarises the findings of the quality and value assessment.

Table 1.5: Evaluation of value and quality scores for all accessible open space

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central	2	8		23
North	5	2	3	35
North West	2	6	4	22
Plympton	3	7	1	22
Plymstock	5	6		15
South	6	12	1	12
South West		3		5
West	2	4	1	12
Plymouth	**25**	**48**	**10**	**146**
Urban Fringe		1	1	2
Plymouth Policy Area	**25 (11%)**	**49 (21%)**	**11 (5%)**	**148 (64%)**

1.22 75% of the Allotments, community gardens and urban farms in the study area fell below the value thresholds. Quality was not assessed as part of this study.

1.23 Whilst 11% of accessible open spaces have been found to be exceeding the quality and value thresholds, there are a large number of spaces that would benefit from improvements and

investment. The outputs of this study include site level assessment sheets that provide further information on what these improvements could be.

2 Introduction

Purpose of this study

2.1 Plymouth City Council, South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Councils are currently preparing a new Local Plan known as The Joint Local Plan. . As part of this Plan Plymouth City Council is pursuing a growth agenda that will see its population rise from 256,000 to 309,000 by 2031. In order to accommodate this population it is estimated that an additional 22,000 homes will need to be provided along with space for 18,600 jobs and associated infrastructure. The National Planning Policy Framework, published in 2012, sets out that:

> *"Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities, and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area."*

2.1 Plymouth's open spaces *(including parks, nature reserves, woodlands and allotments)* and blue spaces *(including rivers, streams, the coast and sea)* form the City's natural network. These open spaces provide an attractive healthy environment and a high quality of life for communities within Plymouth. These spaces are intrinsically linked to spaces in the Urban Fringe area.

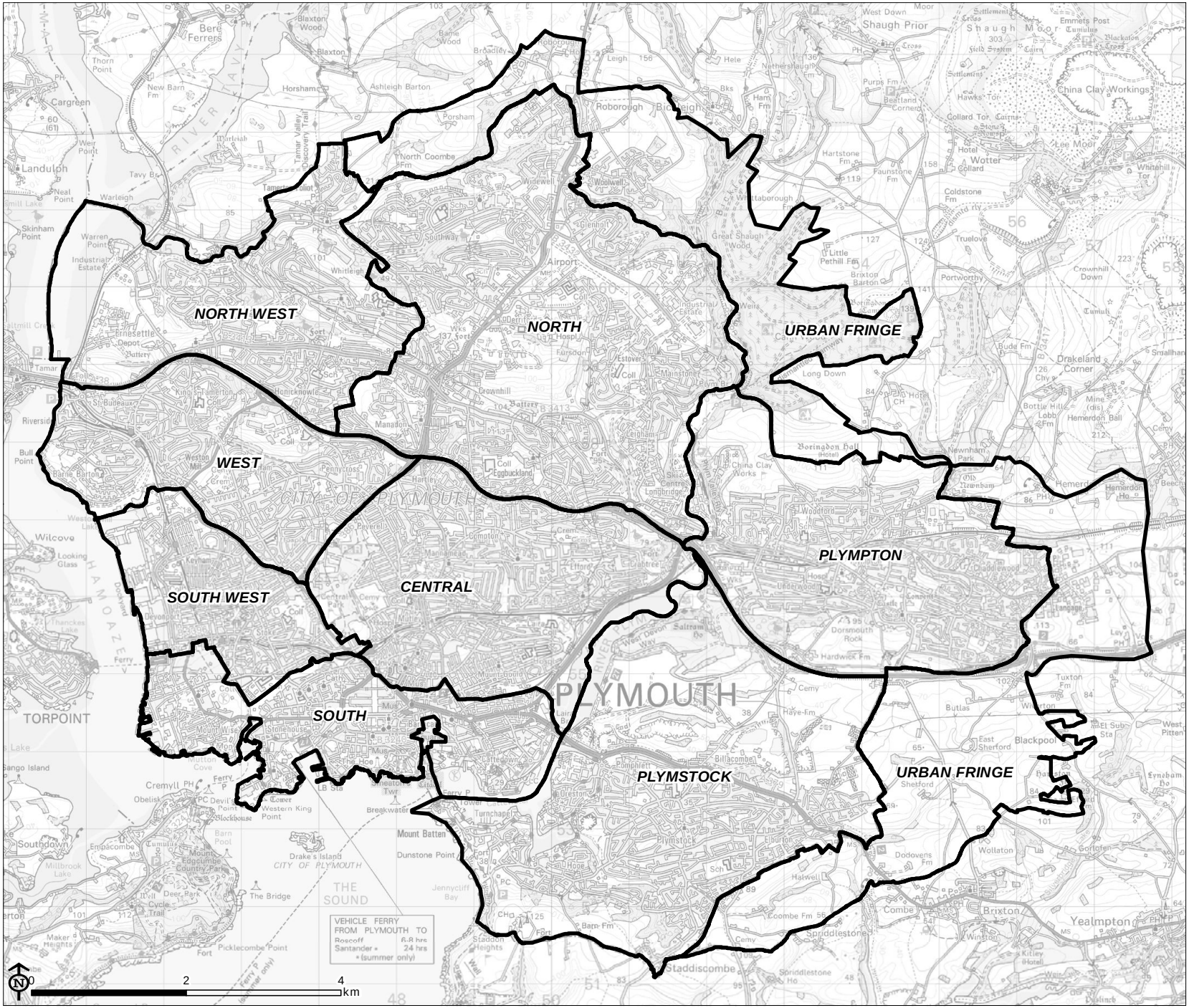
2.2 LUC was appointed by Plymouth City Council to assist them in gathering a robust evidence base as part of the Joint Local Plan process. This open space assessment will form part of that evidence base and will be the main source of information on open space in Plymouth and parts of South Hams District that border Plymouth. It updates and pulls together previous work undertaken on the city's open spaces including Plymouth's Green Space Strategy 2009[1] and the Green Space Assessment 2000/2004[2].

2.3 A thorough audit of the city's **489 open spaces** was undertaken; starting in the Spring of 2015 by Plymouth City Council and further audits within Plymouth and the South Hams were undertaken in the Autumn of 2016. This report sets out the results from this work. It does not attempt to undertake detailed analysis of the findings, but sets out headline results. In order to ensure that the results of the assessment are as accessible as possible, and that the report is made use of by the widest possible audience, results from the assessment are recorded at three spatial scales:

- **City** – to enable planning policy officers to draw conclusions about the provision and state of open space across the city as a whole, including areas bordering in the South Hams and strategic sites of regional importance.
- **Analysis Area (Plan Area)** – to enable planning policy and development management officers to understand variations in open space provision (in terms of both quantity and quality) in order to target both policies and interventions. There are nine Analysis Areas (eight within the city and one in the area bordering the city).
- **Open space** – to enable planning policy and development management officers and the City's Parks team to understand the challenges facing individual open spaces.

2.4 A map of the study area is shown in **Figure 2.1**.

[1] Plymouth's Green Space Strategy, 2008-2023. Background report. Plymouth City Council – Parks Services. April 2009. http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/green_space_strategy_2008_2023.pdf
[2] Greenspace Strategy Update for the City of Plymouth. Plymouth City Council Final Report. LUC, June 2004. http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/update_report___appendices_1_-_3,_june_2004-2.pdf



Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 2.1:
Study area

Analysis areas

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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Structure of this report

2.5 Section three of this report sets out the methodology used to undertake this study. Sections four and five set out the policy and strategic context for this study and provide an understanding of the local need for open space.

2.6 Section six provides a detailed account of the existing open space resource in the Plymouth Policy Area. Each typology is defined and the approach to evaluating quality, value and functionality is defined. The open space resource is examined in terms of quantity and accessibility of open space by typology.

2.7 Subsequent sections set out the approach to setting standards for the provision of open space in the Plymouth Policy Area and how the existing provision compares.

Definitions

2.8 In order to help understand the data presented in this report, it has been categorised in a number of ways. **Table 2.1** summarises the key definitions used throughout this report.

Table 2.1 Definitions used in this report

Definition	Explanation
Open space	Open spaces are vegetated land and include parks, gardens, playing pitches, natural areas, grassed areas, cemeteries, allotments, green corridors, agricultural land, vacant land and derelict land. Gardens attached to private dwellings have been excluded from this study.
Public open space	For the purpose of this study, public open space is considered to be all vegetated green space which is managed for, and freely accessible to, the public. This may include parks, gardens, grassed areas, cemeteries, allotments and green corridors. It does not include agricultural land, vacant land or derelict land.
Typology	The PPG17 Companion Guide (PPG17 CG) sets out a typology of provision into which open space can be categorised, as set out in **Table 6.1**. For the purpose of this assessment, open space, whilst in some instances multi-functional, has been categorised by 'primary purpose' to ensure it is counted only once during the audit process. This follows recommendations set out in PPG17 CG. The purpose of typologies is to encourage assessment of the need for all the different types of open space, so that spaces can be located, designed and subsequently managed to accommodate primary use.
Size groups	Large or high quality spaces or facilities tend to attract users from a wider area than small or poor quality ones and tend to have a higher local profile. This gives rise to the concept of a size-based hierarchy of provision. They can be defined using three key characteristics: size, effective catchment and essential characteristics.
Accessibility	Accessibility relates to the location, use and the methods currently available to safely access the open space (e.g. car, bicycle, on foot, public transport). There may be open spaces, which though inaccessible, contribute to the appearance, environmental quality, bio-diversity and amenity of an area. Accessibility also includes for access for all and ties into wider strategies relating to sustainable transport, green infrastructure and community safety.
Quantity	Quantity is measured in terms of the amount of provision available per number of the population.
Functionality	Whilst each site has been assigned a primary typology, the different types of open space might provide a wide range of different functions and benefits to the people of Plymouth. In line with the Lawton Principle it is important that this multi-functionality is protected and encouraged. The UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011) provides a useful summary of the services that the environment can potentially provide in an urban setting and these have formed the basis for the functions and benefits that open space in Plymouth can perform.

Definition	Explanation
Coastal sites	Sites that are within 50m of the High Water Mark have been defined as contributing to Plymouth's coastal character.
Quality/Value	Quality relates to the range of features or facilities on the site, their basic characteristics, and their condition. As stated in PPG17 CG 'Quality depends on two things, the needs and expectations of users (all social and cultural groups, all abilities, including wildlife), and design management and maintenance'. There is a requirement for open space to be fit for purpose and sustained by good management and maintenance. Value relates not to monetary value but to the value of a site to people and the environment (e.g. bio-diversity, conservation); to its cultural and heritage value; and to its strategic value. It should be noted that quality and value are fundamentally different and can be completely unrelated. As stated in PPG17 CG 'For example, a high quality facility or open space may be located where it is inaccessible and therefore of little value; while if a run-down or derelict facility is the only one in an area it may be immensely valuable'.

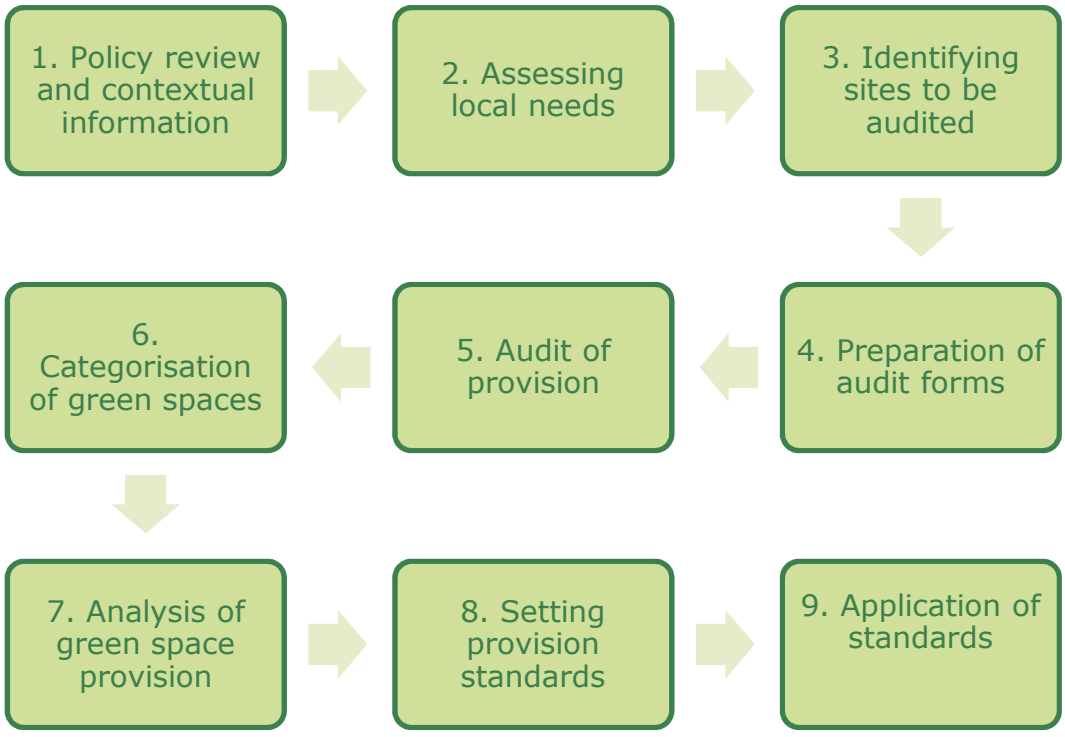
3 Methodology

3.1 This section describes the approach and methods adopted for the assessment of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area.

Methodology used to undertake the audit

3.2 The methodology for the assessment of open spaces reflects the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework[3] (NPPF) and broadly follows the five steps as set out in the Practice Guidance to Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation Companion Guide[4]. This provides useful guidance on the process for assessing the provision of open space for local authorities.

3.3 LUC refined this method, based on experience elsewhere, and enhanced it to reflect the needs/opportunities within the Plymouth Policy Area. Specifically, the method was adapted to include an assessment of the functionality of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area. An overview of the tasks taken in the preparation of the open space assessment is provided below.



Task 1: Policy review and contextual information

3.4 A review of the relevant national and local planning policy context was undertaken to identify the land use implications of policies and strategies for open space, sport and recreation.

3.5 The results of this task are set out in **Section 4** of this report.

[3] National Planning Policy Framework, Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012.

[4] http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120919132719/www.communities.gov.uk/archived/publications/planningandbuilding/planningpolicyguidance17

Task 2: Assessing local needs

3.6 Demographic data was interrogated to generate a population profile of the Plymouth Policy Area.

Task 3: Identifying sites to be audited

3.7 This task involved identifying the existing open space resource in the Plymouth Policy Area. The open space sites to be included in the study were identified by Plymouth City Council (PCC). Sites were primarily drawn from those included in the Greenscape Assessment (2000 & 2008 update) and Green Space Strategy. This was supplemented to take into account recent changes in provision. During the site audits, a number of additional sites were identified and mapped.

Task 4: Preparation of audit forms

3.8 Audit forms were prepared to identify the characteristics of each open space. The forms were developed to reflect the information recorded during the preparation of the Greenscape Assessment 2000. The two audit forms included:

- An audit form to be completed for all open spaces.
- An additional audit form to be completed for open spaces that are publicly accessible.

Audit form for all open spaces

3.9 The first part of this form was completed as part of the desk assessment and the second part of the form was completed during the site assessment. Each question on the form was scored to identify the sites which contain the greatest number of features and therefore could be considered to have higher value to the Plymouth Policy Area. The audit form and supporting guidelines can be seen in **Appendix 1**.

Publicly accessible open spaces

3.10 For sites which are publicly accessible, a second audit form was completed which evaluated the quality of the open space. This audit form was developed based around the criteria of the Green Flag Award, which is the national standard for parks and open spaces in England and Wales. The use of the Green Flag themes ensured sufficient information was gathered in order to understand the quality of existing spaces. The Green Flag themes and a brief description of each are set out below:

Green Flag Award criteria
1. A Welcoming Place
Welcoming, good & safe access, signage, equal access for all
2. Healthy, Safe and Secure
Safe equipment & facilities, personal security, dog fouling, appropriate provision of facilities, quality of facilities
3. Clean and Well Maintained
Litter & waste management, grounds maintenance & horticulture, building & infrastructure maintenance, equipment maintenance
4. Sustainability
Environmental sustainability, pesticides, peat use, waste minimisation, arboriculture & woodland management
5. Conservation and Heritage
Conservation of nature features, wild flora & fauna, conservation of landscape features, conservation of buildings & structures
6. Community Involvement
Community involvement in management & development including outreach work, appropriate provision for the community
7. Marketing
Marketing & promotion, provision of appropriate information, provision of appropriate educational interpretation/information

8. Management

Implementation of management plan

Task 5: Audit of open space provision

3.11 The audit of open space was carried out by members of the PCC's Natural Environment team. Site audits were carried out in the period April 2015 – October 2016. Audits were carried out for all open spaces over a prescribed threshold size of 0.2ha. Some sites that fell below this size threshold were included in the audit in due to their typology.

3.12 Overall, 489 spaces were audited and **Figure 3.1** indicates the location of all open spaces included in the audit.

3.13 A Microsoft Access database was developed to hold all of the information from the site audits, and the desk-based assessment. The database is linked to a GIS dataset of the sites to enable spatial analysis.

Task 6: Categorisation of open spaces

Typologies for open space

3.14 The Green Space Strategy (2009) sets out different typologies of open space and sets out a quantity standard for each of them. Where possible, the typologies from the original study were transferred to the new dataset. Where gaps existed, typologies were assigned based on a review of aerial photography, audit information and site names. These types were compared with those set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide.

3.15 Whilst many sites included in this study have more than one purpose/function, all sites were assigned a typology based on the primary purpose of that site. This was based on the majority use of the site. The typologies were assigned as follows:

A: Parks and gardens

B: Natural and semi-natural green space

C: Green corridors

D: Amenity green space

E: Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

F: Churchyards and cemeteries

G: Civic space

H: Provision for children and young people

K: Outdoor sport facilities

3.16 Outdoor sports facilities (typology K) have been identified and audited but provision has been assessed in detail as part of a separate Plan for Playing Pitches 2015[5].Likewise, sites which are typology H: Provision for children and young people have been recorded but assessed in more detail in a separate study.

3.17 Civic Space sites (typology G) were not included in the study as they are generally hard surfaced community areas which primarily provide settings for public events and do not provide any natural functionality.

3.18 School sites with playing pitches were included within the outdoor sports facilities (typology K) and referred to within the playing pitch assessment.

3.19 In addition to the PPG17 typologies, agricultural sites were included in the study as they provide important additional natural functionality.

3.20 These primary typologies were reviewed and updated by PCC. Descriptions for each of these typologies are included in Section 6 of this report.

[5] Plan for Playing Pitches. 2015. http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/planforpitches

Size of open spaces

3.21 Understanding the relative size of open space in an area helps provide a further layer of information to understand how open space is used and experienced. The area (in hectares) of each open space is calculated in GIS. The sites were additionally categorised into groups according to their size. The size groups used in this assessment are:

- Small sites = less than 2ha
- Medium sites = more than 2ha, but less than 10ha
- Large sites = more than 10ha

3.22 Combining the typologies and size groups has enabled the development of a framework for analysis as set out in Section 6.

Accessibility of open space

3.23 Open Spaces were assessed to determine their level of accessibility. The access categories included on the green space audit form are included in the **Table 3.1** below. As accessibility can vary across the site, PCC provided an overall 'Accessible' or 'Not accessible' categorisation for each site. This was based on the accessibility of the majority of the site.

Table 3.1: Access categories

Audit category	Schedule category
Freely accessible	Accessible
De-facto public access	Not accessible
Restricted access	Accessible
No public access	Not accessible

Task 7: Analysis of open space provision

3.24 Data has been analysed in a number of ways as set out below. The results of this analysis are set out in **Sections 6 to 8** of this report in a series of tables supported by maps. The analysis has been undertaken at a number of spatial scales:

- Plymouth Policy Area
- Nine analysis areas that includes eight within Plymouth and one consisting of the urban fringe.

3.25 At the site specific level, a detailed proforma for each site has been prepared based on the information collected during the audit. These site proformas are available in the accompanying Access database prepared for this study and included in **Appendix 2**.

Quantity of provision

3.26 Following the categorisation of all of the open spaces in Task 5, analysis of provision was undertaken. This included an assessment of the amount of each typology overall, as well as by Analysis Area.

Quality and value of provision

3.27 Based on the information collected through the audit, scores were assigned to the various audit questions and totalled to generate a value score for each site. For those sites that are publicly accessible, a quality score has also been calculated based on information collected during the audit. The scores associated with each question in the audit form are shown in **Appendix 1**.

Accessibility of provision

3.28 Accessibility buffers were generated in GIS and applied to the sites. These distance buffers were generated in line with the accessibility standards set out in the Green Space Strategy 2009.

Functionality of open space

3.29 Whilst each site has been assigned a primary typology, the different types of open space might provide a wide range of different **functions and benefits** to the people of Plymouth. In line with the Lawton Principle it is important that this multi-functionality is protected and encouraged. The UK National Ecosystem Assessment[6] (2011) provides a useful summary of the services that the environment can potentially provide in an urban setting and these have formed the basis for the functions and benefits that open space in the Plymouth Policy Area can perform.

3.30 As part of the audit, each site was assigned a primary and secondary benefit/service. Additionally, other information collected during the audit can contribute to our understanding of the following potential functions/benefits[7] that each site can provide:

Table 3.2: Function/benefits of sites

Function	Description
Biodiversity and geodiversity	Role of the area in supporting habitats and wildlife. Role of different land uses in supporting the presence and abundance of natural pollinators such as bees. Animal and plant breeding, gene banks.
Productive green environments	Food products from agriculture, horticulture, collection from the wild. Role of different land uses in supporting the presence and abundance of natural pollinators such as bees.
Air quality regulation	Contribution to air quality, for example by filtering airborne pollutants.
Noise regulation	Influence on noise levels.
Local climate regulation	Influence on micro-climate, for example through shelter.
Flood and water quality regulation	Influence on patterns of flooding and hazards to life, property and businesses. Influence on water quality, for example in terms of the origin and amelioration chemical pollution.
Recreation & Tourism	The opportunities for recreation and the experience provided by land in the study area. The opportunities for tourism and the experience provided by land in the study area.
Cultural heritage	Preservation, interpretation or understanding of the area's past and present cultural heritage.
Health and well being	The role of land and land uses in contributing to people's health and well-being.
Aesthetic values	The role of land and land uses in contributing to people's aesthetic experience e.g. scenery.
Education	Opportunities for formal education, research interpretation and lifelong learning.

3.31 The questions from the audit form that have been used to inform this assessment are included in **Appendix 3**.

Task 8: Setting provision standards

3.32 Quantity and accessibility standards were drawn from the Green Space Strategy 2009. These standards are set out in **Section 7** of this report.

3.33 In addition, combined analysis was completed for the quality and value findings. By setting out the sites by typology and size group and ordering them by their quality/value scores, a threshold

[6] http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/

[7] Adapted from UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011) Broad Habitat Type - Urban

for both quality and value has been set in order for sites to be classified as above/below quality and value.

3.34 The value and quality thresholds have been set based on:

- Input from PCC open space managers in terms of which sites are believed to be of high quality and value;
- Expectations of the range of features and quality expected for Green Flag Sites;
- A review of the range of scores achieved by sites during the audit.

3.35 The quality and value thresholds have been set out in **Section 7** of this report.

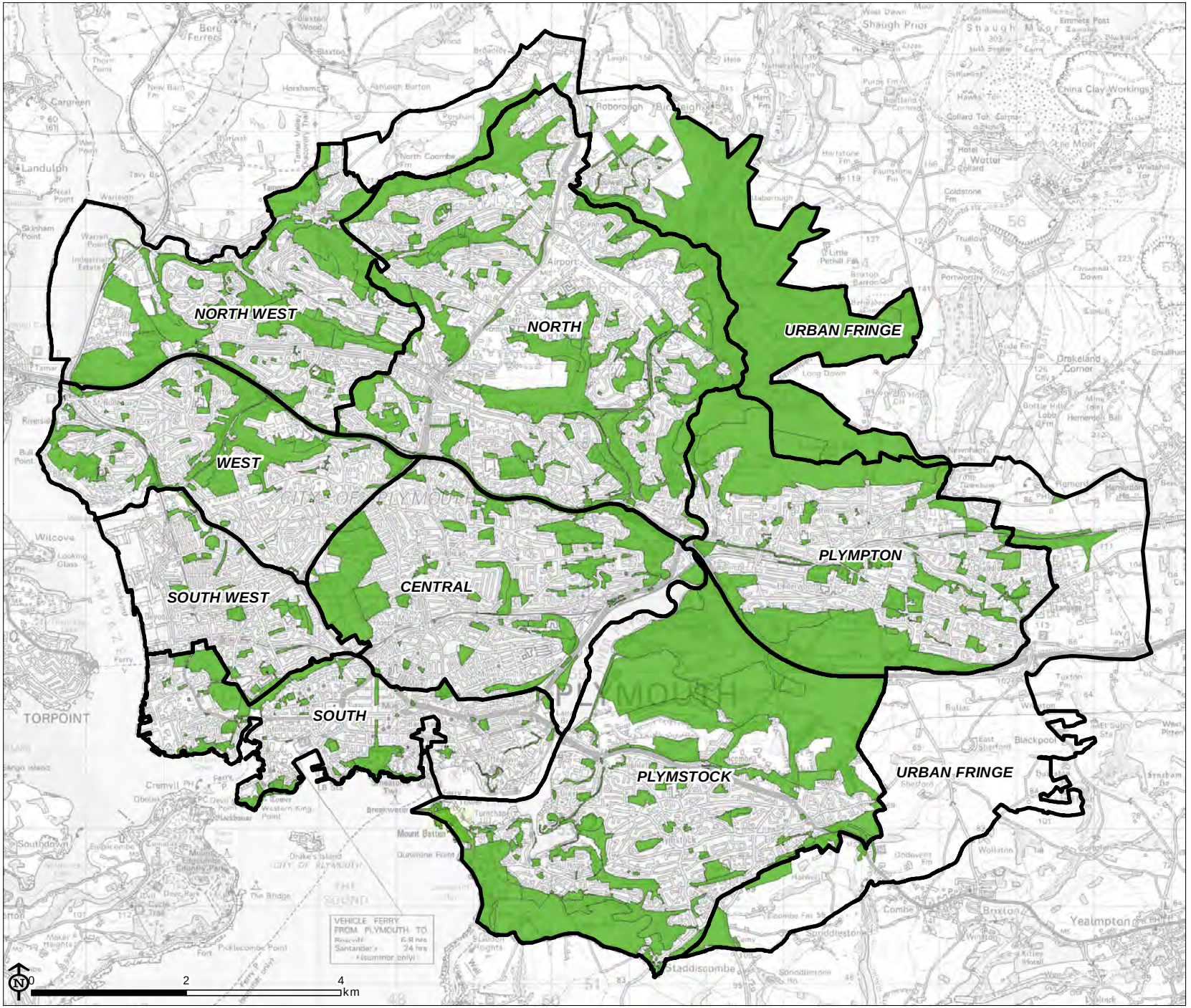
Task 9: Application of standards for open space provision

3.36 The standards were applied to the open space data for each typology to identify:

- Areas which do and do not have access to different types of spaces by virtue of their geographic location;
- Parts of the Plymouth Policy Area which have above or below the recommended standard in terms of quantity of provision per 1,000 people;
- Sites and facilities which are performing well and less well in terms of quality and value.

3.37 Conclusions can be drawn on the current quantity, quality/value, functionality and accessibility of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area in order to inform priorities for future management.

3.38 General conclusions were also drawn on the adequacy of provision in the Plymouth Policy Area, for open space categories where it is difficult to define a quantified standard (e.g. Green Corridors). The findings are set out in **Section 8** of this report.



Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 3.1:
All open spaces in Plymouth

Analysis areas

Open space

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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4 Policy and strategic context

National planning policy context

4.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in March 2012 to replace the older Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs). The NPPF explains the statutory provisions and provides guidance to local authorities and others on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.

4.2 Open space is defined in the NPPF as space of public value, not just land, but areas of water – rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs – which provide visual amenity and offer opportunities for sport and recreation. The delivery of multifunctional open spaces for wildlife, health, recreation, flood risk mitigation, carbon storage and food production is highlighted as a core planning principle of the NPPF. Paragraph 73 emphasises the importance of access to high quality open spaces for the health and well-being of communities; it stresses the need for robust and up-to-date assessments of local open space, sports and recreation facility, demand and opportunity, assessments which identify specific deficits or surpluses to determine what is needed where.

4.3 The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) which aims to provide simplified guidance on how to implement statutory provisions. However the NPPG does not currently recommend an appropriate guidance document for the assessment of publicly accessible open spaces. Although the form PPSs and PPGs have been revoked, the best practice guidance and companion guides are still extant. As a result the former PPG17 Companion Guide is therefore still widely acknowledged as the most robust methodology for assessment of open space provision.

Protecting open spaces

4.4 Paragraph 76 of the NPPF outlines how local communities through local and neighbourhood plans can identify green areas for special protection and designate land as 'Local Green Space', safeguarding land from new development other than in exceptional circumstances consistent with green belt policy.

4.5 In order to designate land as 'Local Green Space' communities must demonstrate that the land in question is demonstrably special to a local community holding particular local character and significance for beauty, history, recreational value, tranquillity or richness of wildlife. The space cannot be an extensive tract of land and can only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed.

4.6 The planning system is not the only route available to local groups wanting to protect the community spaces they value, local communities can make the legal case for designating open green spaces as 'assets of community value' under the Localism Act 2011 or 'Town or Village Greens' under the Commons Act 2006.

Local planning policy context

4.7 This document builds on data gathered from the following reports:

Name	Date	Description	Link
Greenscape Assessment	2000	140 sites surveyed to set policy for the First Deposit Local Plan	Unavailable
Greenscape Assessment Update	2004	194 sites surveyed and refresh of data	http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/update_report__appendices_1_-_3,_june_2004-2.pdf

Name	Date	Description	Link
		gathered in 2000	
Plymouth's Green Space Strategy, 2008-2023. Background report.	2009	Background information/methodology to accompany the Green Space Strategy	http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/green_space_strategy_background_report.pdf.pdf
Plymouth's Green Space Strategy, 2008-2023.	2009	Evidence base for all Plymouth's publicly accessible land. Sets objectives and standards	http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/green_space_strategy_2008_2023.pdf
Plymouth's Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan	2010	Sets the vision for strategic green space projects	http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/green_infrastructure_delivery_plan.pdf

Table 4.1: Overview of development of existing evidence base

5 Understanding local need

The Natural Environment

5.1 Plymouth is a fairly compact city formed from the coalescence of three settlements; mostly contained within the confines of the surrounding rivers and estuaries of the Tavy, Tamar and Plym which flow into the natural harbour of Plymouth Sound. The Sound and estuaries are a classic example of a drowned valley system (ria), where sea level has risen and drowned the lower levels of the river valley. The surrounding seascape has had a profound maritime influence on the character and historic evolution of the city, including through its nationally important associations with the city's long-standing military and naval presence.

5.2 The city is surrounded by and has extensive views to numerous high quality landscapes, including four which are nationally designated: Dartmoor National Park, Tamar Valley AONB, South Devon AONB and Cornwall AONB (as shown in **Figure 5.1**). Several elevated and often characteristically wooded ridgelines frame the city and offer long distance panoramic views over Plymouth and the Sound. Longer views out of the city contribute greatly to its unique sense of place, including towards the dramatic uplands of Dartmoor and in clear conditions, towards the distinctive mass of Bodmin Moor in Cornwall.

5.3 Throughout the city, wooded stream and river valleys are often found feeding into the main, larger rivers and creating distinctive wooded skylines and areas of tranquillity and wildlife havens amongst urban development. Amongst the dense development of the inner city, public parks dating from Victorian times and the early 20th century offering a variety of recreational and amenity facilities, including Devonport Park, Victoria Park and Central Park. The wider countryside surrounding Plymouth has several areas of designed parkland associated with historic estates such as Saltram, Boringdon Hall and Hemerdon House – all creating valued areas of green space for urban residents. Pockets of remnant pastoral farmland remain in some areas within and surrounding the city, although these are often interspersed with more modern land uses to create a varied tapestry, such as formal sports grounds. The biodiversity context is shown on **Figure 5.2**.

5.4 Plymouth has one of the most unique and diverse natural environments of any city in the country. This provides an enviable setting and a distinctive collection of assets that can support the growth of Plymouth. The city boasts a distinctive and world class waterfront location and over 40 per cent of the city is identified as green space. These spaces provide places to play, to learn, to relax and participate in sports. They also support businesses through the encouragement of inward investment and providing a high quality of life for workers. Open spaces that are healthy and able to function naturally also provide solutions to climate change impacts, including reducing flooding, improving water quality and enabling wildlife to thrive.

Demographic profile

5.5 The 2011 Census records a population of 256,384 in Plymouth. The average population density for the City is 32.1 people per hectare. There are 39 neighbourhoods in Plymouth. Together with the Urban Fringe, these neighbourhoods have been grouped into nine Analysis Areas. The population (at 2011) of each of these Analysis Areas is shown in **Table 5.1** below.

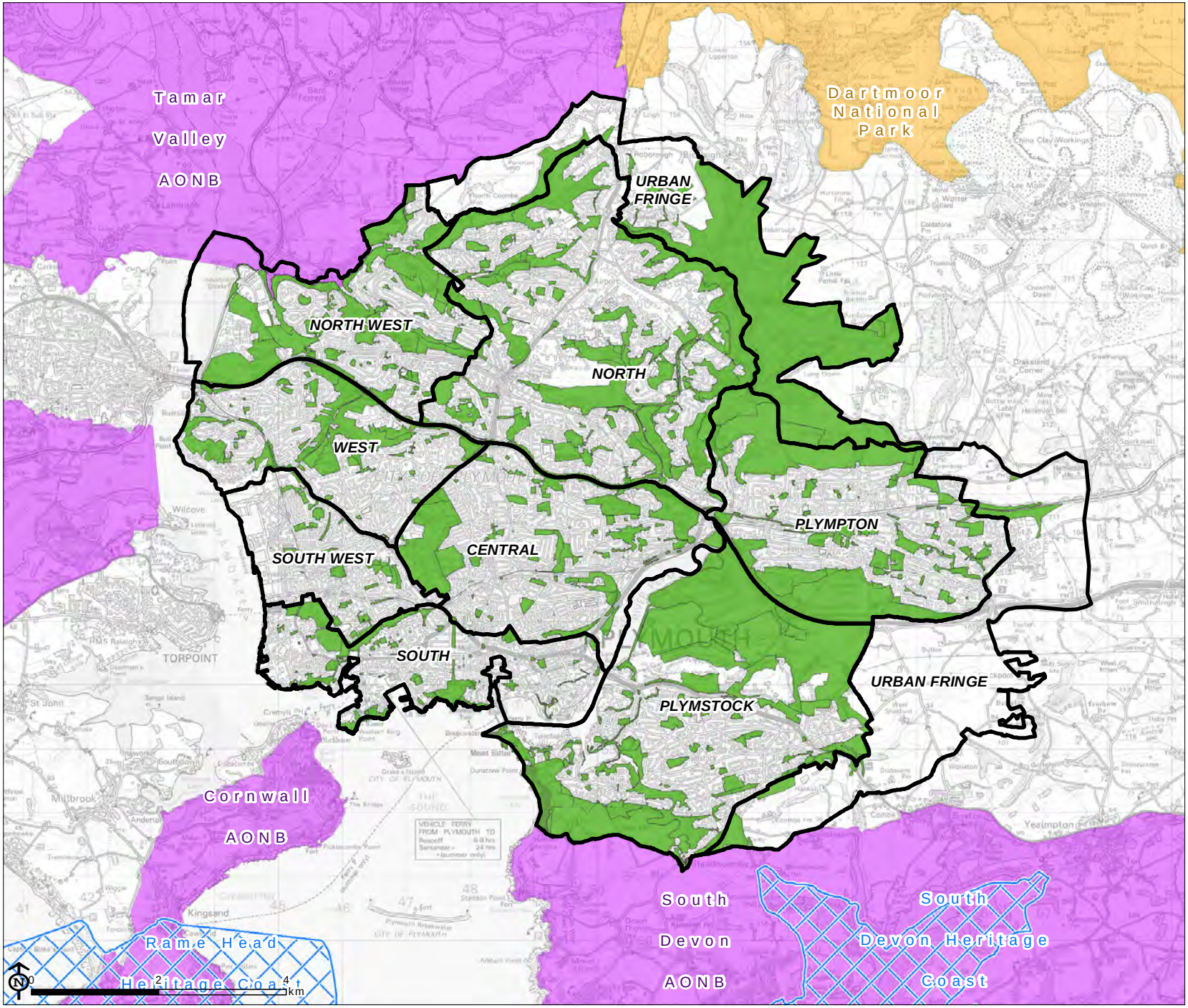
Table 5.1: Population of Plymouth Policy Area

Analysis Area	Population 2011
Central	60,102
North	40,122

Analysis Area	Population 2011
North West	24,743
Plympton	29,899
Plymstock	24,758
South	27,602
South West	22,495
West	26,663
Plymouth	**256,384**
Urban Fringe	3,130
Plymouth Policy Area	**259,514**

5.6 Whilst no data are currently available on the projected population for the Urban Fringe, the population of Plymouth is expected to grow to 300,000 by 2016 and 309,000 by 2014.

5.7 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (2015) shows that the west of the Plymouth Policy Area has higher levels of deprivation than the east. A significant portion of the area is amongst the most deprived in England. Deprivation levels are shown in **Figure 5.3**.



Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 5.1:
Landscape context

- Analysis areas
- Open space
- Heritage Coast
- National Park
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Source: OS, PCC, NE

Map Scale @ A4: 1:85,000

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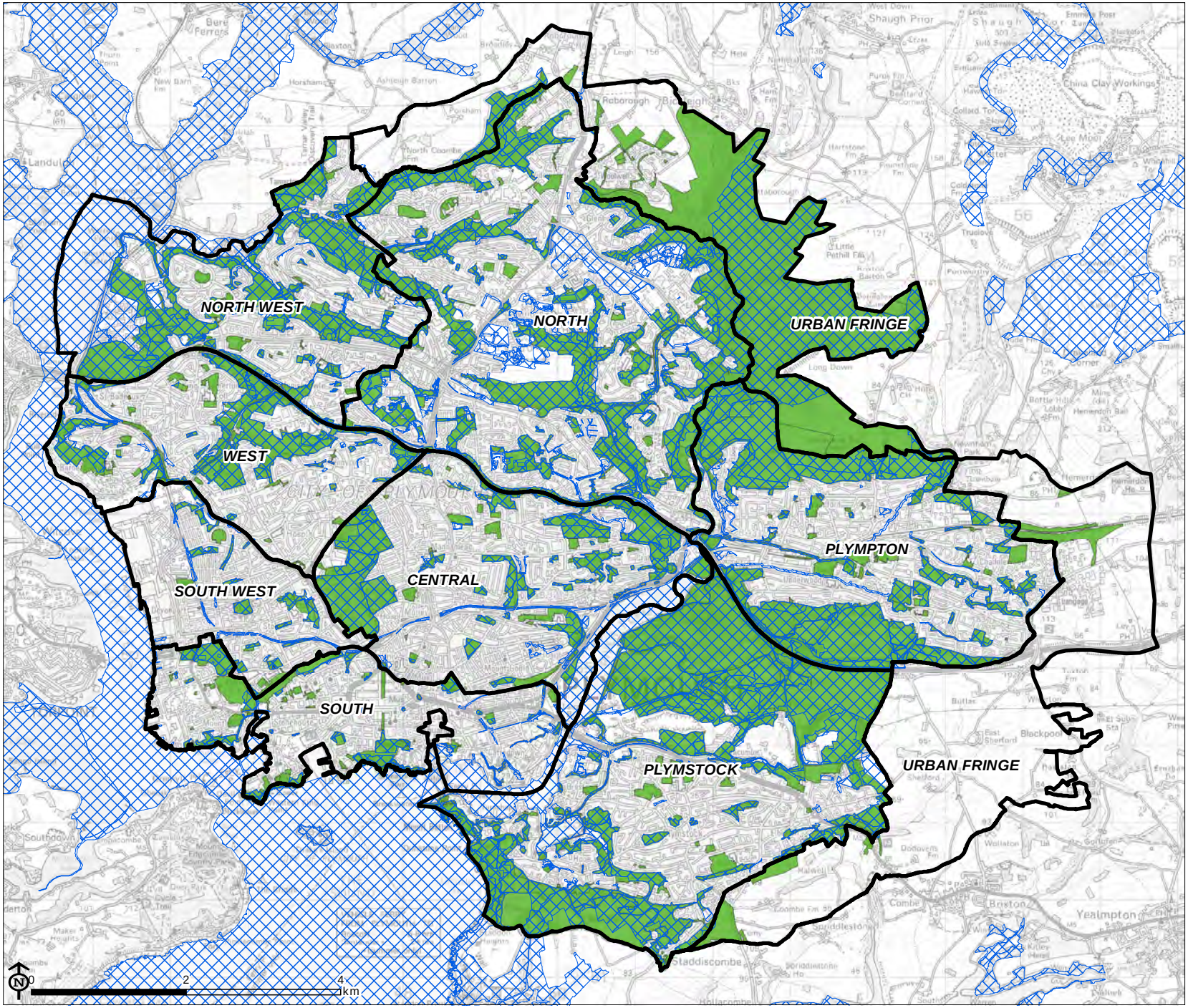

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 5.2:
Biodiversity context

Analysis areas
Biodiversity Network
Open space

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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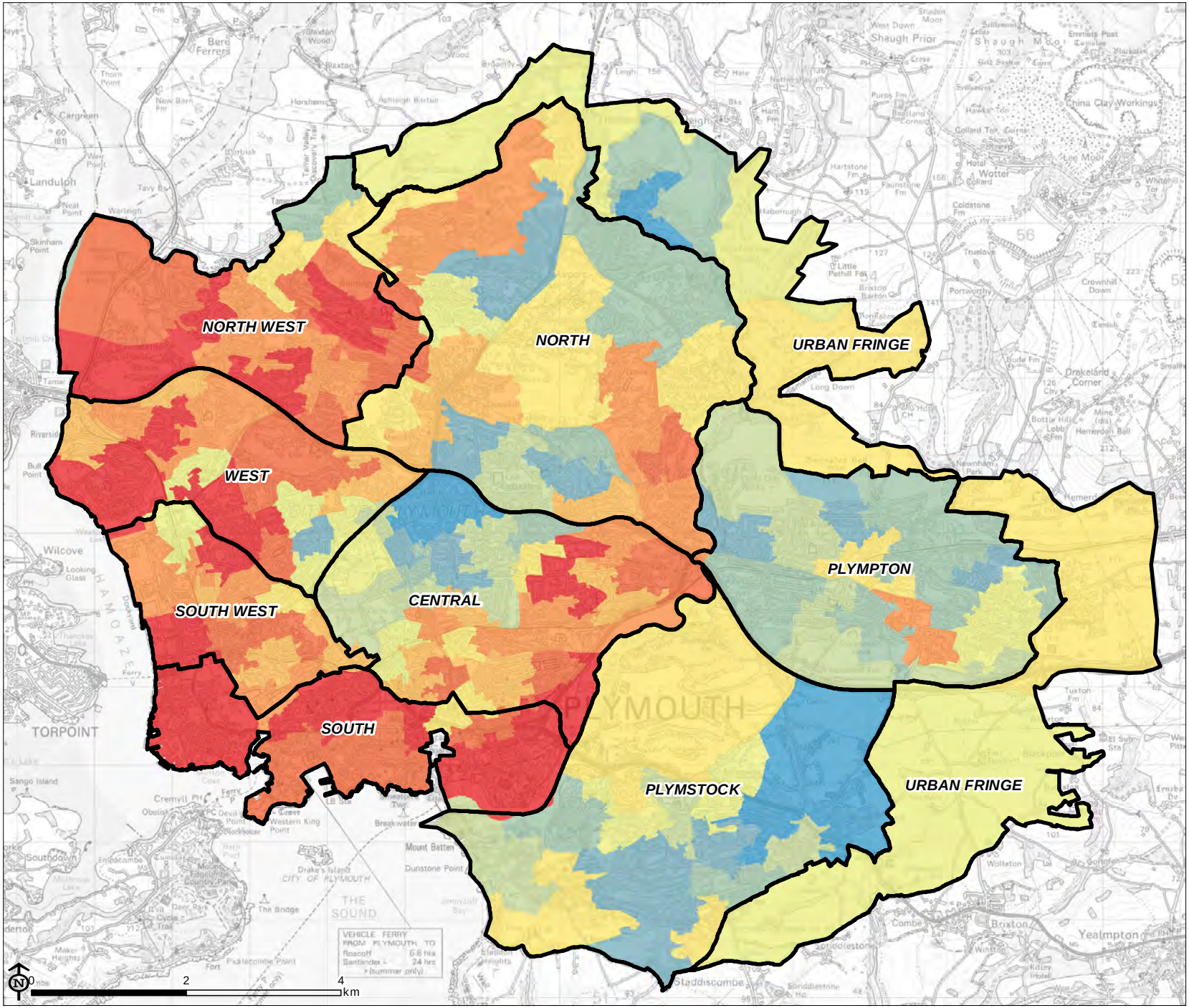

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 5.3:
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015

Analysis areas

Deprivation Percentile

- 0 - 10% (most deprived)
- 10 - 20%
- 20 - 30%
- 30 - 40%
- 40 - 50%
- 50 - 60%
- 60 - 70%
- 70 - 80%
- 80 - 90%
- 90 - 100% (least deprived)

Source: OS, PCC, LUC, ONS

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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6 Quantity of existing open space provision in the Plymouth Policy Area

6.1 This section of the report presents the results of the audit of existing open spaces within the Plymouth Policy Area. As described in the methodology, the audit was undertaken using guidance set out in PPG17 Companion Guidance and the Green Flag Award criteria. Although this guidance has now been replaced by National Planning Policy Guidance, PPG17 Companion Guidance is still widely acknowledged as the most robust approach to the assessment of open space provision. This section provides further information on how spaces have been categorised.

6.2 The purpose of the audit was to identify the current provision, ascribe a typology and assess the quantity, accessibility, quality and value of existing open space. This is an essential process in the identification of worst and best spaces and facilities, current quantity of provision in an area, and to ensure sufficient provision of accessible, high quality open space exists for the current population and inform planning for future population needs.

6.3 This section details the quantity of open space in the Plymouth Policy Area as a whole and by Analysis Area.

Classification by type

6.4 The open space categories are set out in **Table 6.1** below, and shown on **Figure 6.1**. Within these typologies, there is potential for secondary typologies to exist. For example, many parks and gardens will contain play areas for children, or outdoor sports pitches.

6.5 The open space categories, by primary purpose, are set out in **Table 6.1** below.

Table 6.1 Open Space Typologies Recorded in Plymouth

	Type of Open Space	Primary Purpose
Open spaces	Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events
	Natural and semi-natural green space	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education awareness
	Green corridor	Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration
	Amenity green space	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work
	Allotments, community gardens and urban farms	Opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion
	Churchyards and cemeteries	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity
	Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters
	Outdoor sport facilities	Participation in outdoor sports, such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls, athletics, or countryside and water sports

	Type of Open Space	Primary Purpose
	Agricultural Land	Land used to support agricultural industries (e.g. arable fields, pony paddocks etc.) that are not available for public recreational use.

Quantity of open space by primary typology

Quantity of open space in the Plymouth Policy Area

6.6 The quantity of open space by each typology has been set out below. This table separates sites by their accessibility to give further information on how much of this space is accessible to the public for recreation.

Table 6.2: Quantity of open space recorded in the Plymouth Policy Area

Typology	Number of sites	Accessible (ha)	Not accessible (ha)	Total area (ha)	% of overall provision
Parks and Gardens	36	317.13	5.27	322.40	9.22%
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	113	1242.45	420.47	1662.93	47.54%
Green Corridors	17	11.60	42.12	53.72	1.54%
Amenity Greenspaces	160	292.23	72.59	364.81	10.43%
Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	24		23.64	23.64	0.68%
Churchyards and Cemeteries	14	55.13	5.59	60.72	1.74%
Provision for Children and Young People	23	5.92		5.92	0.17%
Outdoor Sports Facilities	91	108.16	198.83	306.99	8.78%
Agricultural Land	11		696.53	696.53	19.91%
Total	**489**	**2032.61**	**1465.04**	**3497.65**	**100.00%**

Quantity of accessible open space by Analysis Area

6.7 The quantity of **accessible** open **space** by each typology in each Analysis Area has been set out below. **Table 6.3** shows the area of accessible open space by typology and **Table 6.4** shows the area of sites in the Plymouth Policy Area that are not accessible to the public. **Figure 6.2** shows where accessible open space can be found in the Plymouth Policy Area.

Table 6.3: Area (ha) of accessible open spaces by typology in each Analysis Area

Typology	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
Parks and Gardens	108.9	0.0	0.0	12.9	138.7	47.5	7.5	1.5	**317.1**	0.0	**317.1**
Natural and Semi-natural Green	52.2	287.4	132.3	58.4	84.9	7.9	1.2	66.3	**690.6**	551.8	**1242.5**

Typology	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
Space											
Green Corridors	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	3.5	1.4	0.0	**7.2**	4.4	**11.6**
Amenity Green spaces	23.0	70.6	57.8	30.5	73.7	19.8	4.8	10.1	**290.4**	1.8	**292.2**
Churchyards and Cemeteries	31.2	0.0	0.0	2.8	6.0	0.0	1.8	12.7	**54.5**	0.6	**55.1**
Provision for Children and Young People	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.1	1.2	**4.4**	1.5	**5.9**
Outdoor Sports Facilities	1.2	4.0	7.2	11.0	16.1	13.8	6.9	14.0	**74.1**	34.0	**108.2**
Total	**217.1**	**362.1**	**198.3**	**116.1**	**321.9**	**93.2**	**23.7**	**105.9**	**1438.4**	**594.2**	**2032.6**
% of overall total	11%	18%	10%	6%	16%	5%	1%	5%	71%	29%	100%

Table 6.4: Area (ha) of inaccessible open spaces by typology in each Analysis Area

Typology	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
Parks and gardens	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.9	0.0	**5.3**	0.0	**5.3**
Natural and semi-natural green space	17.4	183.9	20.0	11.0	145.2	4.0	2.4	5.7	**389.7**	30.8	**420.5**
Green corridors	1.0	9.1	27.5	3.3	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	**42.1**	0.0	**42.1**
Amenity green spaces	0.0	20.0	7.8	4.8	3.1	2.1	2.2	27.1	**67.1**	5.5	**72.6**
Allotments, community gardens and urban Farms	3.5	2.8	3.0	1.0	1.2	0.0	8.2	2.3	**21.9**	1.7	**23.6**
Churchyards and	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	**5.6**	0.0	**5.6**

Typology	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
cemeteries											
Outdoor sports facilities	14.0	51.1	26.3	14.4	24.7	4.8	9.3	33.5	**178.0**	20.9	**198.8**
Agricultural land	0.0	0.0	119.0	273.2	304.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	**696.5**	0.0	**696.5**
Total	**36.8**	**267.0**	**203.7**	**313.2**	**478.4**	**15.5**	**23.0**	**68.6**	**1406.1**	**58.9**	**1465.0**

6.8 **From this point on, this study will report on publicly accessible open space only**. Provision for children and young people and outdoor sports facilities are being considered within a Playing Pitch Strategy and Play Strategy respectively. Therefore these sites will not be analysed further as part of this study.

Public Open Space typology and size analysis

6.9 An analysis of the public open spaces by size, function and value was undertaken.

6.10 To develop a framework for analysis of the sites, sites were grouped using a combination of the size of the sites and the type classifications shown in **Table 6.1** above. The size categories used are:

- Small sites = less than 2ha
- Medium sites = more than 2ha, but less than 10ha
- Large sites = more than 10ha

6.11 Combining the typologies and size categories has enabled further analysis of public open space in the study area. **Table 6.5** (below) sets out the resultant framework for analysis.

Table 6.5: Framework for analysis of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area

Typology	Small sites	Medium sites	Large sites
Parks and Gardens (see Figure 6.3)	Small Parks and Gardens 0-2ha	Medium Parks and Gardens 2–10ha	Large Parks and Gardens More than 10ha
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space (see Figure 6.4)	Small Natural and Semi-natural Green Space 0-2ha	Medium Natural and Semi-natural Green Space 2–10ha	Large Natural and Semi-natural Green Space More than 10ha
Green Corridors (see Figure 6.5)	Further division into size groups was not deemed appropriate for this typology		
Amenity Green spaces (see Figure 6.6)	Small Amenity Green spaces 0-2ha	Medium Amenity Green spaces 2–10ha	Large Amenity Green spaces More than 10ha
Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms (see Figure 6.7)	Further division into size groups was not deemed appropriate for this typology		

Typology	Small sites	Medium sites	Large sites
Churchyards and Cemeteries (see Figure 6.8)	Further division into size groups was not deemed appropriate for this typology		
Provision for Children and Young People (see Figure 6.9)	Further division into size groups was not deemed appropriate for this study		
Outdoor Sports Facilities (see Figure 6.9)	Further division into size groups was not deemed appropriate for this study		
Agricultural Land (see Figure 6.9)	Further division into size groups was not deemed appropriate for this study		

6.12 The quantity (ha) of accessible open space in each size group is set out in **Table 6.6** below.

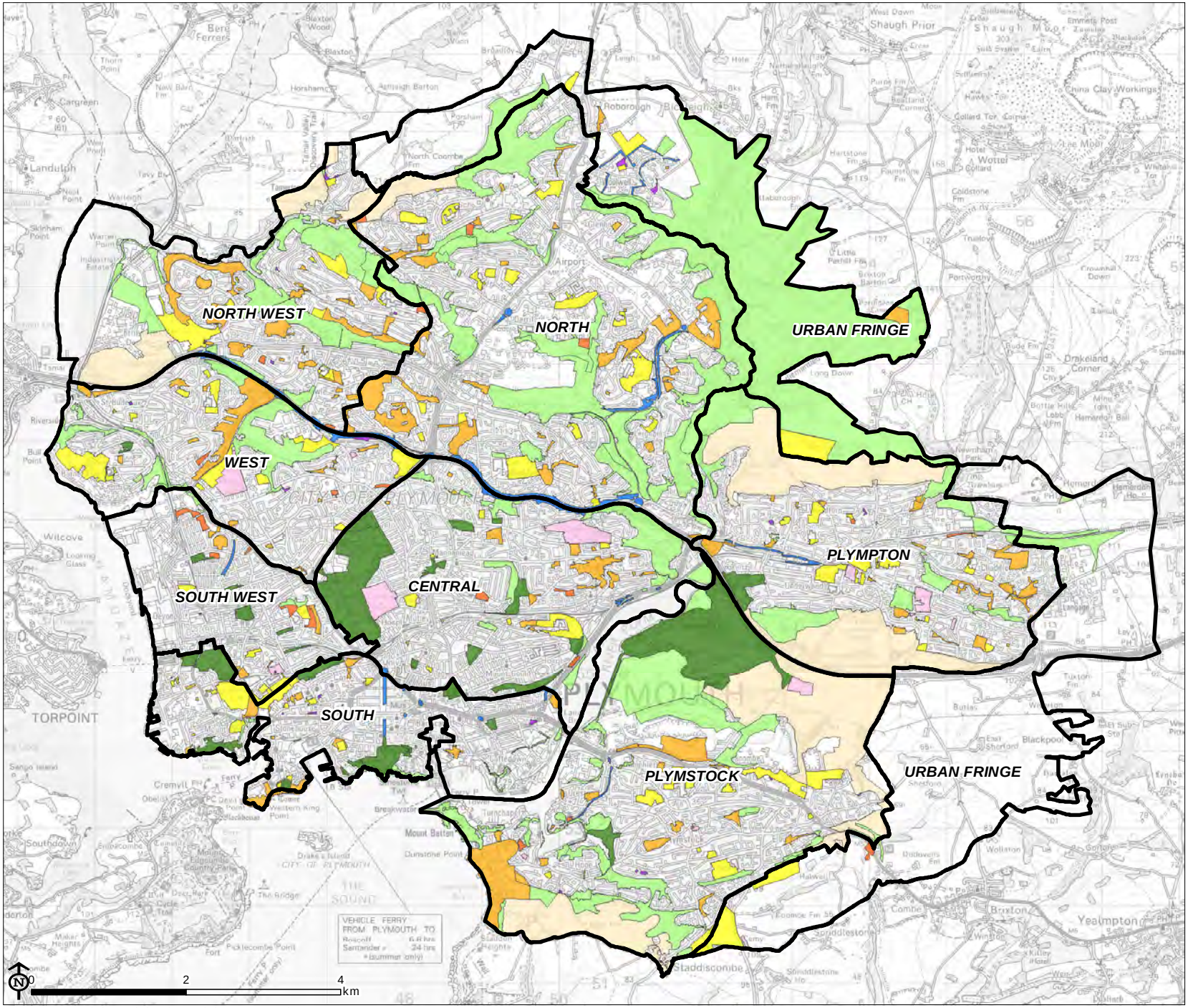
Table 6.6: Quantity (ha) of open space by size and typology for each Analysis Area

Size group	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
Parks and gardens											
Large: More than 10ha	77.6	0.0	0.0	12.9	131.9	29.0	0.0	0.0	**251.3**	0.0	**251.3**
Medium: 2-10ha	27.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	14.2	3.4	0.0	**52.3**	0.0	**52.3**
Small: Less than 2ha	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	4.1	1.5	**13.5**	0.0	**13.5**
Natural and semi-natural green space											
Large: More than 10ha	39.0	271.2	117.5	29.1	56.1	0.0	0.0	43.0	**556.0**	548.3	**1104.3**
Medium: 2-10ha	12.5	10.7	13.7	29.0	28.0	5.3	0.0	23.3	**122.6**	3.5	**126.1**
Small: Less than 2ha	0.7	5.5	1.1	0.2	0.7	2.6	1.2	0.0	**12.0**	0.0	**12.0**
Green corridors											
n/a	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	3.5	1.4	0.0	**7.2**	4.4	**11.6**
Amenity greenspaces											
Large: More than 10ha	10.6	23.6	23.7	0.0	59.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	**117.7**	0.0	**117.7**
Medium: 2-10ha	3.0	32.4	20.8	14.3	3.3	9.6	2.7	0.0	**86.1**	0.0	**86.1**
Small: Less than 2ha	9.4	14.6	13.3	16.3	10.6	10.1	2.1	10.1	**86.6**	1.8	**88.4**
Churchyards and cemeteries											
n/a	31.2	0.0	0.0	2.8	6.0	0.0	1.8	12.7	**54.5**	0.6	**55.1**
Provision for children and young people											
n/a	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.1	1.2	**4.4**	1.5	**5.9**
Outdoor sports facilities											
n/a	1.2	4.0	7.2	11.0	16.1	13.8	6.9	14.0	**74.1**	34.0	**108.2**

6.13 The number of accessible open spaces by type and size group is set out in **Table 6.7** below.

Table 6.7: Number of accessible open spaces by size and typology for each Analysis Area

Size group	Central	North	North West	Plympton	Plymstock	South	South West	West	Total Plymouth	Urban Fringe	Total Plymouth Policy Area
Parks and gardens											
Large: More than 10ha	1			1	1	2			5		5
Medium: 2-10ha	6				1	3	1		11		11
Small: Less than 2ha	4					7	3	2	16		16
Natural and semi-natural green space											
Large: More than 10ha	1	6	5	1	2			1	16	1	17
Medium: 2-10ha	3	3	3	5	7	1		3	25	1	26
Small: Less than 2ha	1	5	1	1	2	2	1		13		13
Green corridors											
n/a	1				1	3	1		6	2	8
Amenity greenspaces											
Large: More than 10ha	1	2	2		2				7		7
Medium: 2-10ha	1	7	5	4	1	2	1		21		21
Small: Less than 2ha	15	22	18	21	10	14	2	13	115	2	117
Churchyards and cemeteries											
n/a	2			3	3		1	2	11	1	12
Provision for children and young people											
n/a		1	4	2	4	6	1	3	21	2	23
Outdoor sports facilities											
n/a	2	1	2	2	4	2	1	2	16	4	20



Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.1:
All open spaces by typology

Analysis areas

Typology

- Parks and gardens
- Natural and semi-natural green space
- Green corridors
- Amenity greenspaces
- Allotments, Community gardens and urban farms
- Churchyards and cemeteries
- Provision for children and young people
- Outdoor sports facilities
- Agricultural land

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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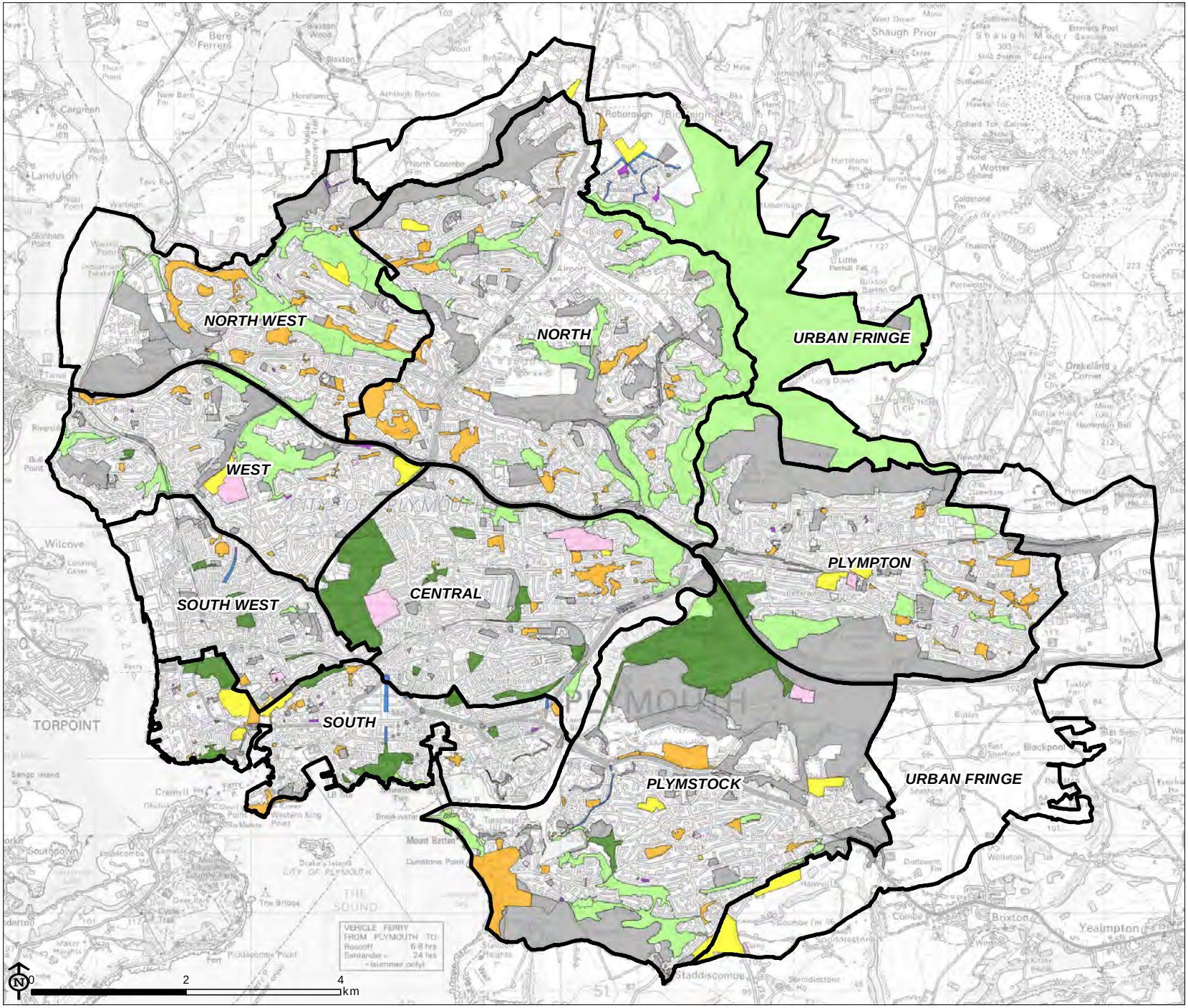

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.2:
All accessible open spaces by typology

- Analysis areas
- Open spaces that are not accessible

Accessible open space by typology
- Parks and gardens
- Natural and semi-natural green space
- Green corridors
- Amenity greenspaces
- Churchyards and cemeteries
- Provision for children and young people
- Outdoor sports facilities

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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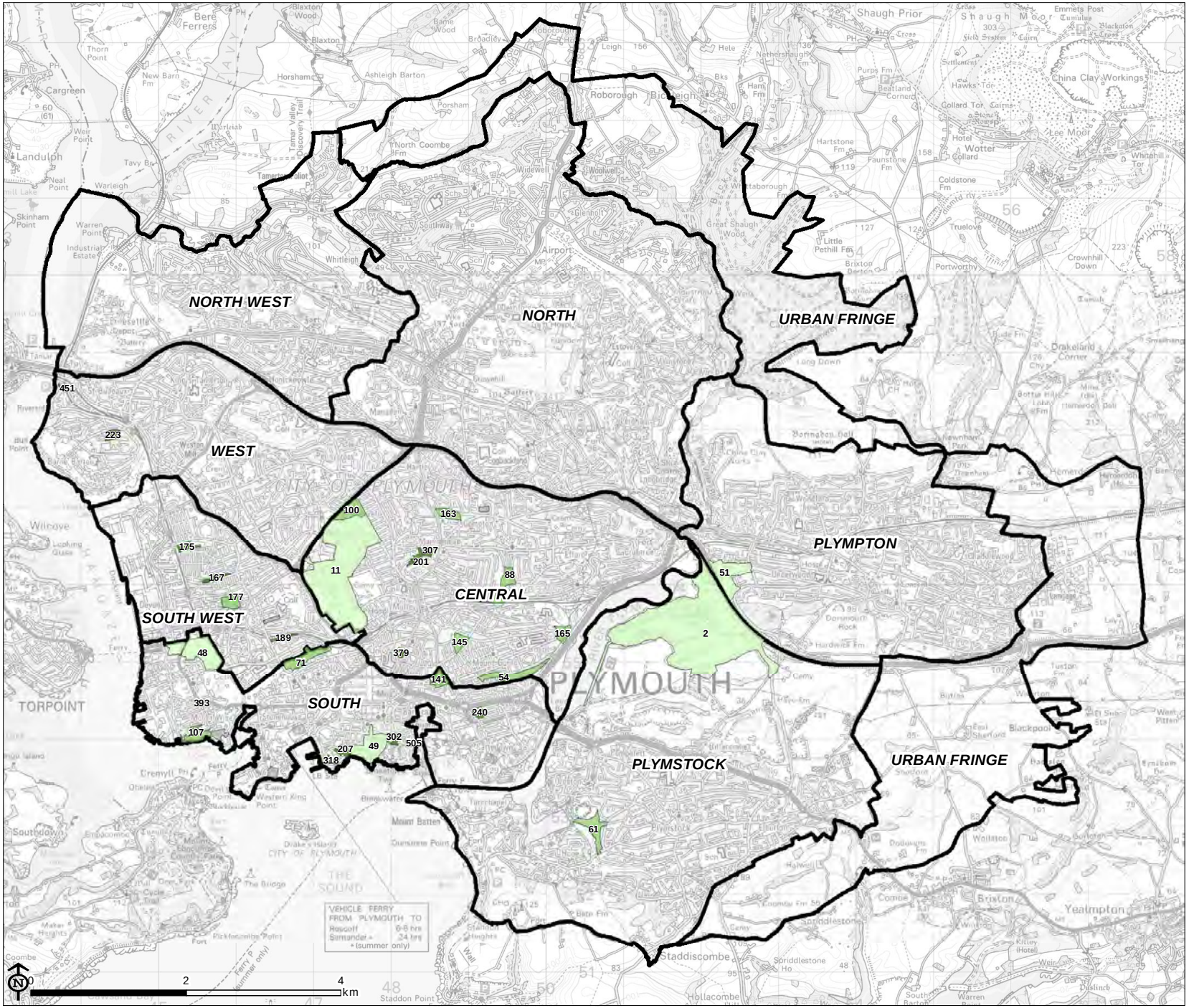

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.3:
Parks and gardens by size group

Analysis areas

Hierarchy

- Large (More than 10ha)
- Medium (2010ha)
- Small (Less than 2ha)
- Not accessible to public

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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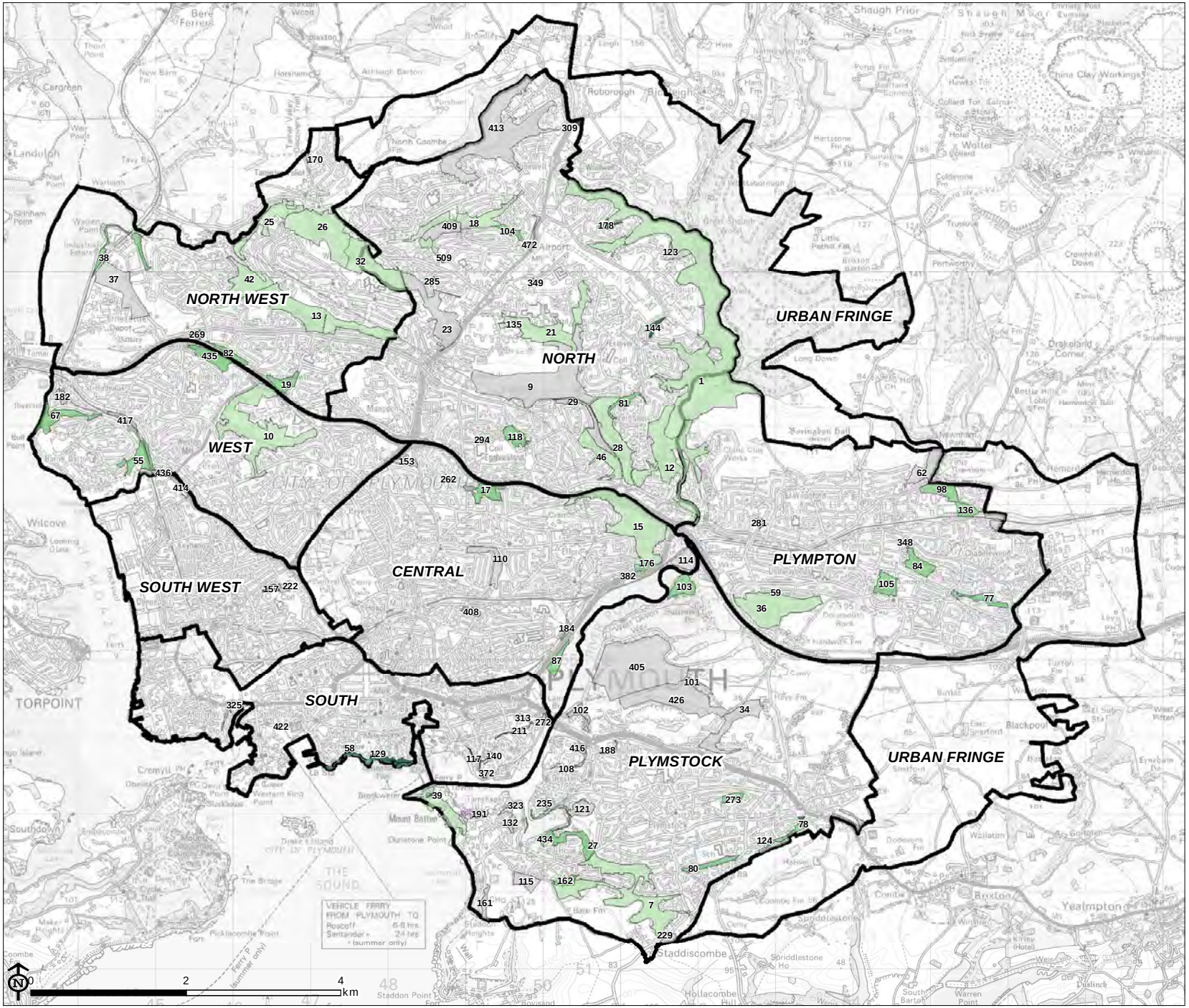

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.4:
Natural and semi-natural green space by size group

Analysis areas

Natural and semi-natural green space

- Large (More than 10ha)
- Medium (2-10ha)
- Small (Less than 2ha)

Not accessible to public

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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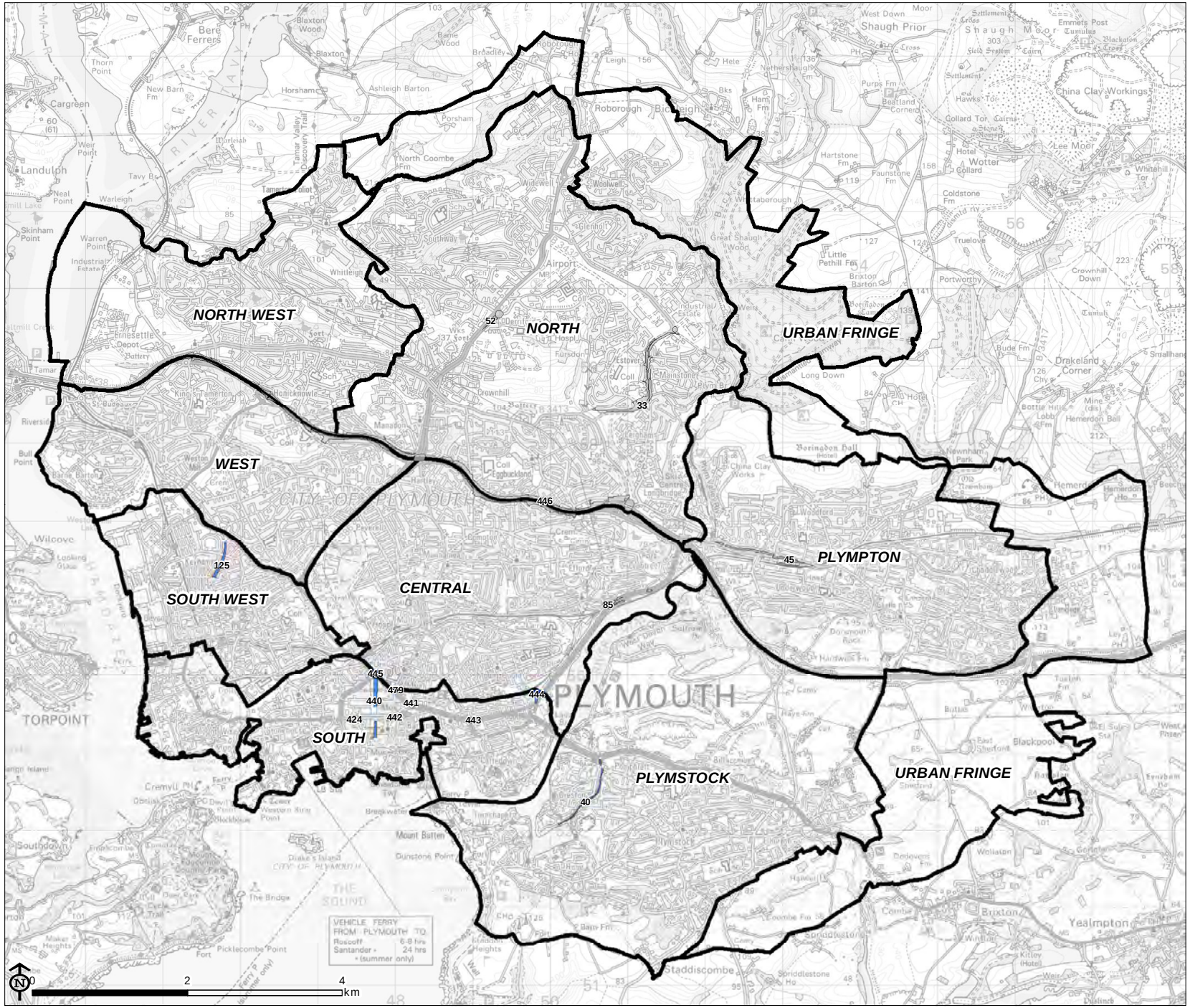

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.5:
Green corridors

Anlaysis areas

Green corridors

Not accessible to public

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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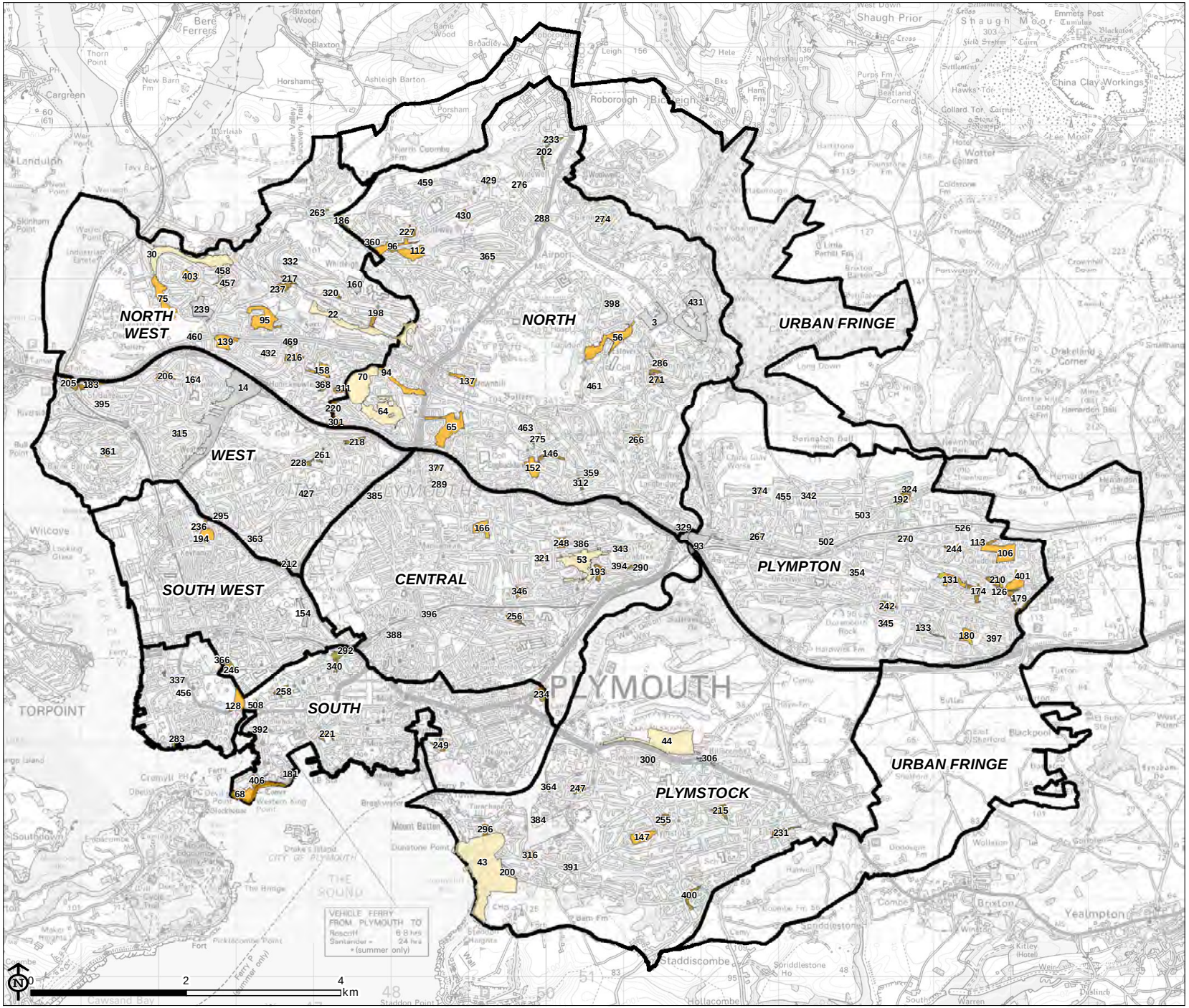

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.6:
Amenity green spaces by size group

Analysis areas

Amenity green spaces

- Large (More than 10ha)
- Medium (2-10ha)
- Small (Less than 2ha)

Not accessible to public

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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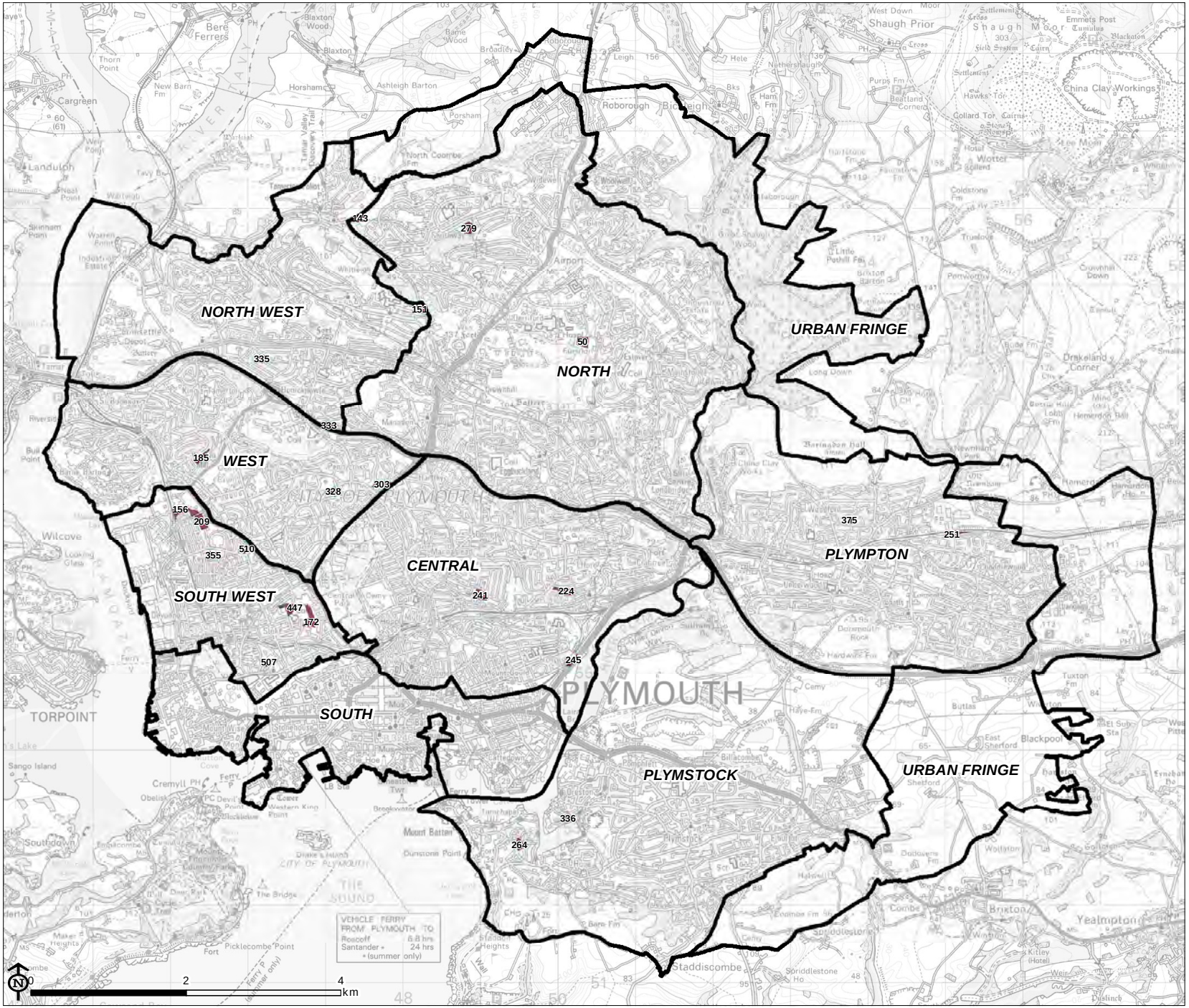

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.7:
Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Analysis areas

Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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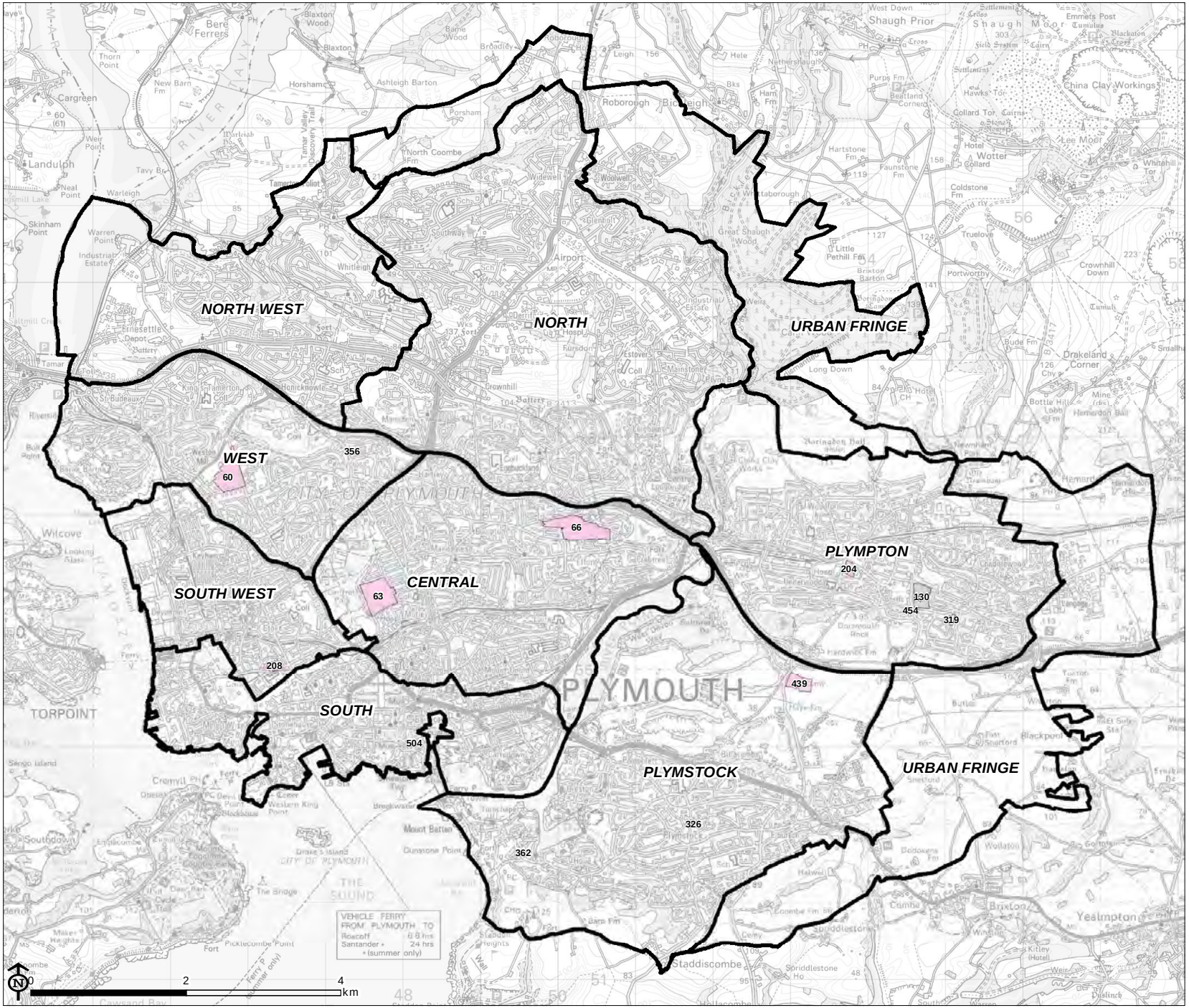

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.8:
Churchyards and cemeteries

Anlaysis areas

Churchyards and cemeteries

Not accessible to public

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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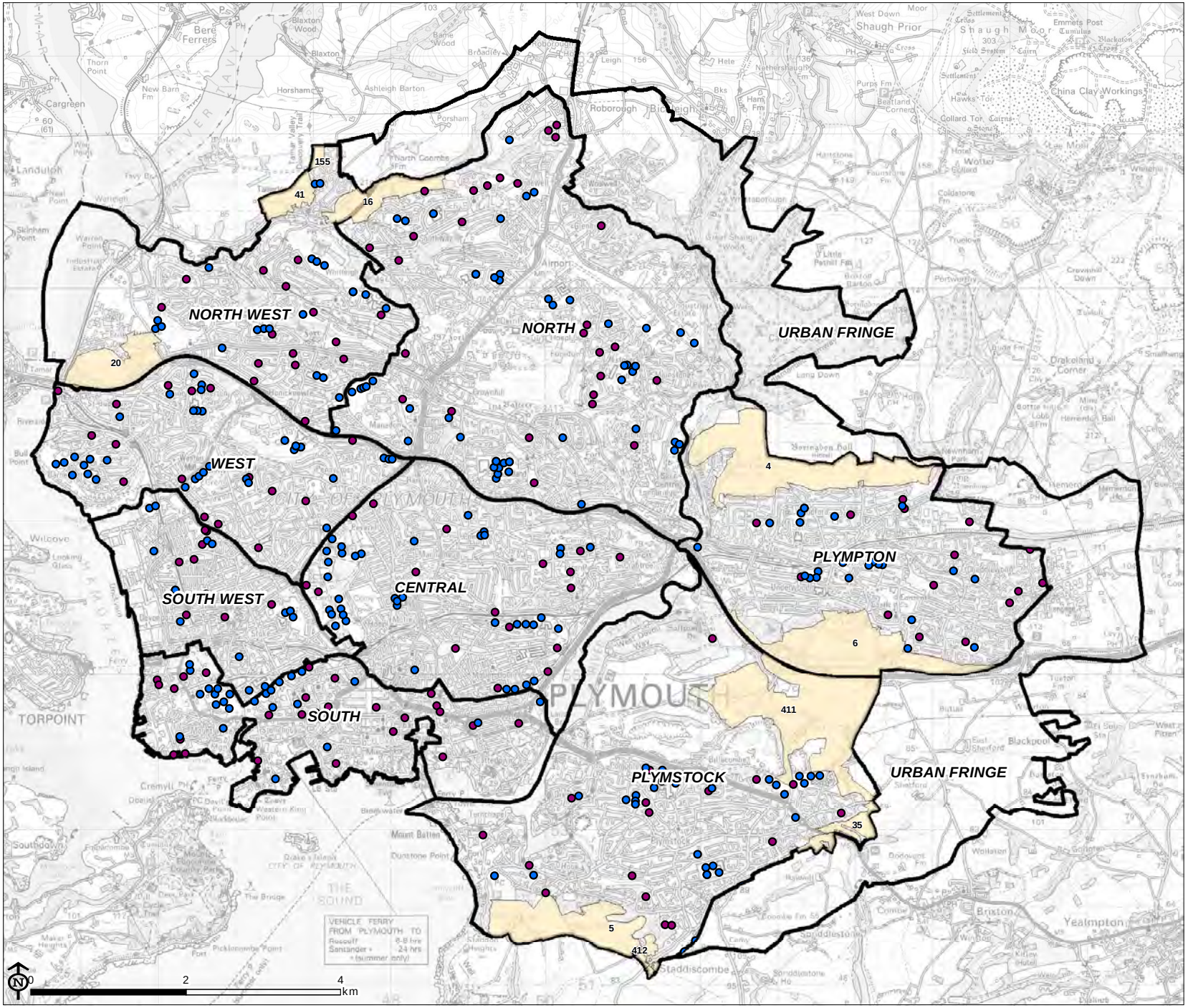

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 6.9:
Other typologies not analysed in this study

Analysis areas

Typology

Agricultural land (not accessible)

Playing pitches

Play spaces

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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7 Open space standards

7.1 This section reviews the existing open space quantity and accessibility standards that exist in Plymouth and sets out the approach to evidencing a locally appropriate quality and value thresholds for sites across the Plymouth Policy Area.

Quantity of public open space per 1,000 population

7.2 A quantitative standard defines the amount of publicly open space that should be available to the communities of the Plymouth Plan Policy Area. The standards provide a measure against which existing provision can be assessed and provide guidance for additional provision in new development. The PPG17 Companion Guide states that quantity standards can be expressed as *"a combination of a unit of 'useful area' of provision and a population"* e.g. x hectares of parks per 1,000 people.

Existing green space standards

7.3 The Green Space Strategy 2009 sets out standards for accessible green space provision by the types used in the Green Space Strategy. The tables below set out these standards and show how these types relate to the typologies used in this study:

Table 7.1: Green space quantity standards from the Green Space Strategy 2009

Types set out in the Green Space Strategy 2009	Hectares per 1'000 population
Informal Green Space	1.44
Parks and Gardens	1.15
Local Nature Reserves	1.0
Natural Green Space	1.5
Total accessible green space	**5.09**
Allotments	0.12

7.4 The standard reflects existing city-wide green space provision in Plymouth at the time of preparation of the Green Space Strategy 2009 and is broken down into standards for different types of green space to ensure that a balance of provision is maintained.

7.5 The standard excludes land set aside for play areas, playing pitches and allotments as these specialist functions have their own standards.

Proposed open space quantity standards

7.6 As no consultation has been undertaken as part of this study, no new standards have been established, and this study carries forward the existing standards from the Green Space Strategy, with the exception of allotments, which has been increased to align standards across the three Councils. The types used to categorise green spaces in the Green Space Strategy 2009 have been aligned with the typologies used in this study as shown below.

Table 7.2: Open space quantity standards by typology

Types set out in the Green Space Strategy 2009	Typologies used in this study	Hectares per 1,000 population

Types set out in the Green Space Strategy 2009	Typologies used in this study	Hectares per 1,000 population
Informal Green Space	Amenity green space	1.44
Parks and Gardens	Parks and gardens	1.15
Local Nature Reserves	Natural and semi-natural green space	2.5
Natural Green Space		
Total accessible green space		**5.09**
Allotments	Allotments	**0.15**

7.7 An assessment of how the existing provision compares to the quantity standards above is provided in **Section 8**.

Accessibility standard

7.8 An accessibility standard defines the maximum distance that users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of provision. This can be presented spatially by use of an 'accessibility catchment' which is effectively a mapped buffer around facilities and spaces. Accessibility standards have been drawn from the Green Space Strategy 2009.

7.9 Accessibility catchments were mapped by applying a radius around the site as per the accessibility standard. The accessibility standards aim to guide provision to ensure that people have access to local green space.

7.10 The Green Space Strategy 2009 set out the following access standard for local green space:

- Everyone living and working in Plymouth should have an accessible green space within **400m** of where they live or work which is easy and safe to reach.

7.11 The open space standard has been clarified that 400m relates to a walking distance to the nearest accessible natural space and that this equates to a 240m radius / buffer. Local policy standards will be detailed in an SPD to be published. These standards have been applied and the resultant maps are included in **Section 8** of this report.

Value and quality scores of open space provision in the Plymouth Policy Area

7.12 As set out in the former PPG17 Companion Guide, 'value' mainly relates to the following:

- **Context:** e.g. an easily accessible space is higher value than one that is inaccessible to potential users, equally the value of a space may diminish if it is immediately adjacent to several others which provides the same function.
- **Level and type of use:** the primary purpose and associated use of a space can increase its value - well used spaces are of high value to people, similarly spaces with diverse habitats can be well used by wildlife and can be interpreted as having a higher value.
- **Wider benefits:** i.e. the benefits a space generates for people, biodiversity and the wider environment including the following –landscape, ecological, education, social inclusion and health benefit, cultural and heritage, amenity benefits, 'sense of place' and economic benefits.

7.13 The site audit included information to be evaluated as part of the value assessments such as the value of play spaces, the presence of community facilities and the biodiversity value of habitats. The relevant audit information was reviewed to develop a value threshold score specific to the different types of open space in the Plymouth Policy Area. A list of key characteristics was

developed which could be expected of sites of a particular typology and size. The key characteristics can be seen in **Appendix 4**.

7.14 In order to assess the sites consistently the audit forms were scored. The scores for each site were separated into factors that relate to quality and value. Information relating to quality was only collected for publicly accessible sites. As set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide "quality and value are fundamentally different and can be completely unrelated". For example, an open space may be of high quality but if it is not accessible it is of little value, while if an open space is poor quality but has a wide range of facilities it is potentially of high value.

7.15 When assessing scored sites, it should be noted that the scoring varies according to the complexity of the site as well as the condition of the site which limits the extent to which one should directly compare scores across different types of space. In essence this means that the quality score for a good quality park or garden will differ from that of a good quality amenity green space, reflecting the different provision that can be expected within each.

7.16 The value and quality scoring can be reviewed by total score or by the audit themes. Each site was audited using a standard form with scores allocated to relevant criteria. The breakdown of the scoring can be seen in **Appendix 1**.

7.17 As part of the site audit, each publicly accessible open space was assessed for quality against the Green Flag criteria, and the condition of the various components of a site rated as good, fair or poor. This assessment was then transposed through a scoring system into a quality score. In order to develop a quality standard which is appropriate for the type and function of open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area, the existing quality of provision was reviewed by typology and size group. Through reviewing the range of quality scores it was possible to form a quality threshold score, i.e. a minimum level of quality which should be achieved at any open space. A threshold score has been defined for size group reflecting the ideal score scenario for a good quality site.

7.18 The diagram overleaf captures the process followed for establishing quality and value thresholds in the Plymouth Policy Area.

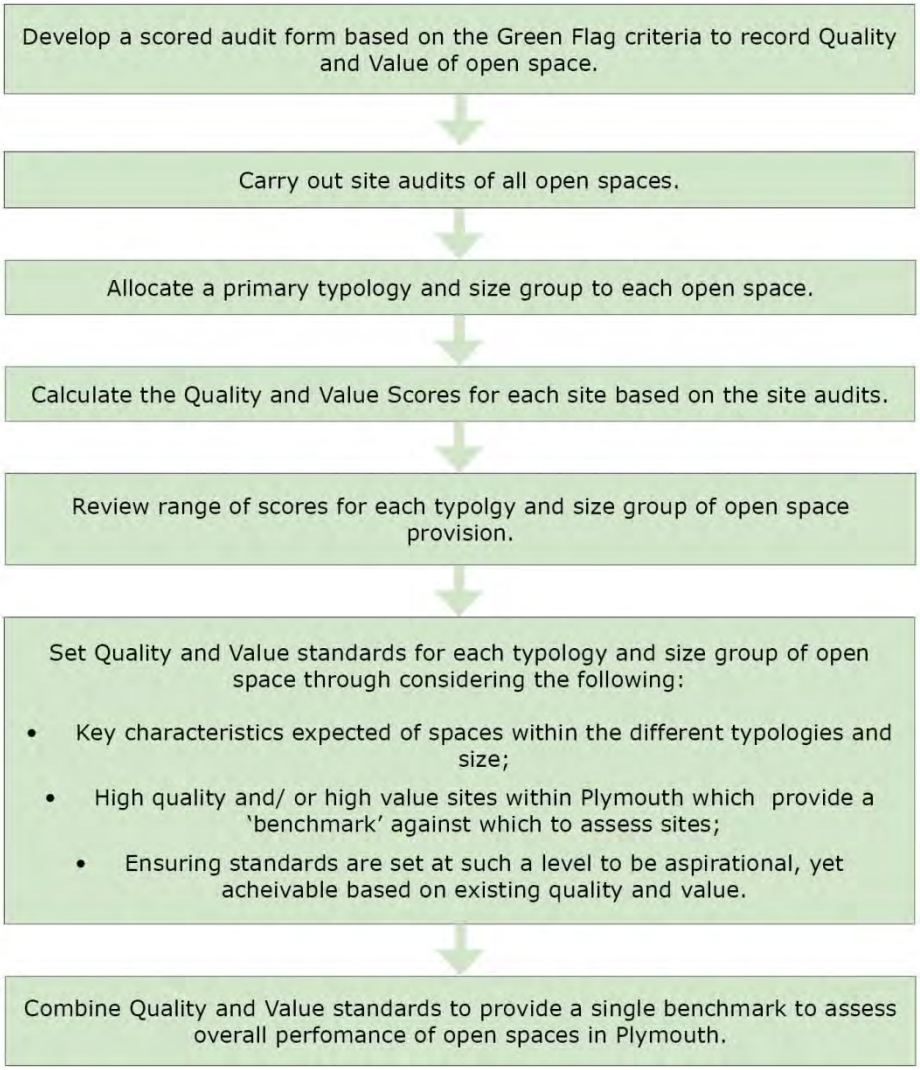


Figure 7.1 Process for establishing quality and value thresholds

Existing quality and value by size and typology

7.19 **Table 7.3** provides a summary of the types of open space recorded in the Plymouth Policy Area by typology and size group. The number of sites recorded in each is provided together with the range of Value and Quality scores received during the audit process. Every site audited has been scored in terms of value, whilst only accessible sites have been scored in terms of quality. The value scores in the table below have been taken from all sites (accessible and not accessible) whereas the quality scores are from accessible sites only.

Table 7.3: Quality and value scores for accessible open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area

Size Criteria	Number of sites (number in brackets is the number of sites given a quality score)	Min Value Score	Max Value Score	Min Quality Score	Max Quality Score
Parks and Gardens					
Large: More than 10ha	5 (5)	46	70	38	73
Medium: Less than 10ha	11(11)	23	46	23	61
Small: Less than 2ha	20 (16)	9	40	13	59

Size Criteria	Number of sites (number in brackets is the number of sites given a quality score)	Min Value Score	Max Value Score	Min Quality Score	Max Quality Score
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space					
Large: More than 10ha	25 (17)	12	58	20	55
Medium: Less than 10ha	43 (26)	9	48	8	48
Small: Less than 2ha	45 (13)	3	40	11	42
Green Corridors					
All sizes	17 (8)	5	29	9	56
Amenity Green spaces					
Large: More than 10ha	9 (7)	25	59	23	47
Medium: Less than 10ha	27 (21)	13	55	20	52
Small: Less than 2ha	124 (117)	2	41	8	56
Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms					
All sizes	24 (0)	5	19	n/a as not accessible	
Churchyards and Cemeteries					
All sizes	14 (12)	2	33	20	56

Proposed quality and value standards by size and typology

7.20 Following a review of the scored audit data, and the range of scores for each type of site, a threshold was set. These thresholds relate to the key characteristics of each type of site (and size group) as set out in **Appendix 4** of this report.

7.21 It should be noted that the thresholds are aspirational and have been set reasonably high to reflect the desire to ensure that the residents and visitors to Plymouth have access to a network of high quality open space.

7.22 The following table sets out the proposed thresholds.

Table 7.4: Quality and value thresholds for accessible open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area

Size and typology	Value threshold	Quality threshold
Parks and Gardens		
Large: More than 10ha	48	67
Medium: 2-10ha	33	58
Small: Less than 2ha	25	58
Natural and Semi-natural Green Space		
Large: More than 10ha	43	42
Medium: 2-10ha	43	42
Small: Less than 2ha	24	41
Green Corridors		
All sizes	25	44
Amenity Green spaces		
Large: More than 10ha	38	42
Medium: 2-10ha	30	41
Small: Less than 2ha	20	39
Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms		
All sizes	14	n/a

Size and typology	Value threshold	Quality threshold
Churchyards and Cemeteries		
All sizes	24	53

7.23 An assessment of how the existing provision compares to the proposed quality and value standards above is provided in **Section 8**.

8 Applying open space standards

8.1 This section of the report applies the standards that were set out in the previous section to identify and illustrate where surpluses/deficiencies can be found. This will provide an indication of which areas of the Plymouth Policy Area has adequate provision of open space, and where there is a need for enhancement. **Figures 8.1 - 8.7** show the open space provision by typology. The key below provides an indication of the colour coding used to denote the quality and value rating of each open space by typology and size group.

++	Above Value/ Above Quality/ Above Quantity
+-	Above Value/ Below Quality
-+	Below Value/ Above Quality
--	Below Value/ Below Quality/ Below Quantity

8.2 The results are presented by typology and are summarised to assess:

- Plymouth Policy Area provision
- Provision by Analysis Area

8.3 Site level information is available in **Appendix 2**. Individual value and quality scores are set out in **Appendix 5** and colour coded according to the table above.

8.4 The quantity figures presented are for <u>publicly accessible open spaces only</u>.

Parks and gardens

Quantity

8.5 The quantity of parks and gardens per 1,000 population is set out below. The provision figures have been shaded according to whether provision is above or below the **existing standard of 1.15ha/1,000 population**.

Table 8.1: Level of provision of parks and gardens

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	108.94	60,102	1.81
North		40,122	-
North West		24,743	-
Plympton	12.90	29,899	0.43
Plymstock	138.70	24,758	5.60
South	47.49	27,602	1.72
South West	7.54	22,495	0.34
West	1.55	26,663	0.06
Plymouth Total	**317.13**	**256,384**	**1.24**
Urban Fringe		3,130	-
Plymouth Policy Area Total	**317.13**	**259,514**	**1.22**

Accessibility

8.6 The results of applying the accessibility standard of 240m to parks and gardens in the Plymouth Policy Area are illustrated in **Figure 8.1**.

Quality and value

8.7 This section sets out the results of applying the quality and value standards to parks and gardens in the Plymouth Policy Area. **Table 8.2** below summarises the quality and value scores for Parks and Gardens in the Plymouth Policy Area.

Table 8.2: Evaluation of value and quality scores for Parks and Gardens in the Plymouth Policy Area

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central	1	3		7
North				
North West				
Plympton				1
Plymstock	1	1		
South	2	5		5
South West		2		2
West	1			1
Plymouth	**5**	**11**		**16**
Urban Fringe				
Plymouth Policy Area	**5**	**11**		**16**

8.8 **Figure 8.1** shows the results of applying the open space standards for parks and gardens. As can be seen, only six of the Analysis Areas have access to Parks and Gardens. There is no provision in the northern Analysis Areas and very limited provision in Plympton and West Plan Areas. There is also no provision in the Urban Fringe.

8.9 Whilst there is good provision in Central, South and South West Plan Areas, some quality improvements are required in order to improve the provision in these areas. Large sections of these Analysis Areas have sites that are both below value and quality.

8.10 Only three of the Analysis Areas exceed the existing quantity standard, but there is an overall city-wide surplus of Parks and Gardens in 2011.

Natural and semi-natural green space

Quantity

8.11 The quantity of natural and semi-natural green space per 1,000 population is set out below. The provision figures have been shaded according to whether provision is above or below the **existing standard of 2.5ha/1,000 population.**

Table 8.3: Level of provision of natural and semi-natural green spaces

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	52.25	60,102	0.87
North	287.43	40,122	7.16
North West	132.28	24,743	5.35
Plympton	58.38	29,899	1.95
Plymstock	84.90	24,758	3.43
South	7.85	27,602	0.28
South West	1.21	22,495	0.05
West	66.33	26,663	2.49
Plymouth Total	**690.64**	**256,384**	**2.69**
Urban Fringe	551.81	3,130	176.30
Plymouth Policy Area Total	**1242.45**	**259,514**	**4.79**

Accessibility

8.12 The results of applying the accessibility standard of 240m to natural and semi-natural green spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area are illustrated in **Figure 8.2**.

Quality and value

8.13 This section sets out the results of applying the quality and value standards to natural and semi-natural green spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area. **Table 8.4** below summarises the quality and value scores for natural and semi-natural green spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area.

Table 8.4: Evaluation of value and quality scores for natural and semi-natural green spaces

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central		1		4
North	1		2	11
North West		2	1	6
Plympton			1	6
Plymstock	2	2		7
South	1	2		
South West				1
West	1			3
Plymouth	**5**	**7**	**4**	**38**
Urban Fringe		1		1
Plymouth Policy Area	**5**	**8**	**4**	**39**

8.14 **Figure 8.2** shows the results of applying the open space standards for natural and semi-natural green space. All of the Analysis Areas have access to some natural and semi-natural green space. Residents in the Urban Fringe, North, North West and Plymstock Analysis Areas have the highest quantity per 1,000 population.

Green Corridors

Quantity

8.15 The quantity of green corridors per 1,000 population is set out below. There is no existing standard relating to green corridors.

Table 8.5: Level of provision of green corridors

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	0.55	60,102	0.01
North		40,122	-
North West		24,743	-
Plympton		29,899	-
Plymstock	1.78	24,758	0.07
South	3.49	27,602	0.13
South West	1.37	22,495	0.06
West		26,663	-
Plymouth Total	**7.19**	**256,384**	**0.03**
Urban Fringe	4.41	3,130	1.41
Plymouth Policy Area Total	**11.60**	**259,514**	**0.04**

Accessibility

8.16 Accessibility buffers are not relevant to this type of space. This reflects the purpose of green corridors as access routes, rather than a destination to which residents should have good access.

Quality and value

8.17 This section sets out the results of applying the quality and value standards to green corridors in the Plymouth Policy Area. The Table below summarises the quality and value scores for green corridors in the Plymouth Policy Area.

Table 8.6: Evaluation of value and quality scores for green corridors

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central			1	
North				
North West				
Plympton				
Plymstock		1		
South	1			2
South West				1
West				

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Plymouth	**1**	**1**	**1**	**3**
Urban Fringe				2
Plymouth Policy Area	**1**	**1**	**1**	**5**

8.18 **Figure 8.3** shows the results of applying the open space standards for green corridors. As can be seen on the map, there are very few accessible green corridors in the Plymouth Policy Area. All of the existing green corridors are in the south of the Policy Area. Improvements to value and quality are required.

Amenity Green Space

Quantity

8.19 The quantity of amenity green space per 1000 population is set out below. The provision figures have been shaded according to whether provision is above or below the **existing standard of 1.44ha/1,000 population**.

Table 8.7: Level of provision of amenity green space

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	23.00	60,102	0.38
North	70.63	40,122	1.76
North West	57.80	24,743	2.34
Plympton	30.54	29,899	1.02
Plymstock	73.71	24,758	2.98
South	19.76	27,602	0.72
South West	4.84	22,495	0.22
West	10.14	26,663	0.38
Plymouth Total	**290.43**	**256,384**	**1.13**
Urban Fringe	1.80	3,130	0.57
Plymouth Policy Area Total	**292.23**	**259,514**	**1.13**

Accessibility

8.20 The results of applying the accessibility standard of 240m to amenity green space in the Plymouth Policy Area are illustrated in **Figure 8.4**.

Quality and value

8.21 This section sets out the results of applying the quality and value standards to amenity green spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area. The Table below summarises the quality and value scores for amenity green spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area.

Table 8.8: Evaluation of value and quality scores for amenity green space

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central	1	4		12
North	4	2	1	24
North West	2	4	3	16
Plympton	3	7		15
Plymstock	2	3		8
South	3	5	1	7
South West		1		2
West		4	1	8
Plymouth	**15**	**30**	**6**	**92**
Urban Fringe			1	1
Plymouth Policy Area	**15**	**30**	**7**	**93**

8.22 **Figure 8.4** shows the results of applying the open space standards for amenity green space. The figure additionally shows the locations of parks and gardens as these can be seen as higher value substitutes for amenity green spaces.

8.23 There is good coverage of amenity green spaces throughout the Plymouth Policy Area. The quality is variable and the network of spaces would benefit from improvements in terms of quality and value. Parks and gardens provide a good substitute where there are gaps in provision of amenity green space.

8.24 In terms of quantity, three of the Analysis Areas exceed the current quantity standard of 1.44 hectares/1,000 people (North, North West and Plymstock).

Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Quantity

8.25 The quantity of allotments, community gardens and urban farms per 1000 population is set out below. The provision figures have been shaded according to whether provision is above or below the **existing standard of 0.15ha/1,000 population**.

Table 8.9: Level of provision of Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	3.47	60,102	0.06
North	2.84	40,122	0.07
North West	2.97	24,743	0.12
Plympton	0.98	29,899	0.03
Plymstock	1.20	24,758	0.05
South		27,602	-
South West	8.17	22,495	0.36
West	2.29	26,663	0.09
Plymouth Total	**21.92**	**256,384**	**0.09**

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Urban Fringe	1.72	3,130	0.55
Plymouth Policy Area Total	**23.64**	**259,514**	**0.09**

Accessibility

8.26 Accessibility buffers have not been applied to these sites as they are generally open only to plot-holders.

Value

8.27 This section sets out the results of applying the value standard to allotments, community gardens and urban farms in the Plymouth Policy Area. As none of these sites are publicly accessible, quality has not been evaluated.

Table 8.10: Evaluation of value scores for Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Analysis Area	Above Value +	Below Value -
Central	1	2
North	1	1
North West		4
Plympton		2
Plymstock	1	1
South		
South West	3	4
West		3
Plymouth	**6**	**17**
Urban Fringe		1
Plymouth Policy Area	**6**	**18**

8.28 It should be noted that although these sites are high in terms of value, their quality has not been assessed a part of this study and some of these sites may require investment.

8.29 **Figure 8.5** shows that there are no allotments in the South Analysis Area. The South West Analysis Area residents have access to seven sites, three of which exceed the value threshold. Plympton has the lowest provision per 1,000 people, and the two existing sites are below the value threshold.

Churchyards and cemeteries

Quantity

8.30 The quantity of churchyards and cemeteries per 1,000 population is set out below. There is no existing quantity standard for this typology.

Table 8.11: Level of provision of churchyards and cemeteries

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	31.19	60,102	0.52
North		40,122	-
North West		24,743	-
Plympton	2.80	29,899	0.09
Plymstock	5.99	24,758	0.24
South		27,602	-
South West	1.80	22,495	0.08
West	12.71	26,663	0.48
Plymouth Total	**54.49**	**256,384**	**0.21**
Urban Fringe	0.63	3,130	0.20
Plymouth Policy Area Total	**55.13**	**259,514**	**0.21**

Accessibility

8.31 Proximity is not considered to be a requirement of this open space type.

Quality and value

8.32 This section sets out the results of applying the quality and value standards to churchyards and cemeteries in the Plymouth Policy Area.

8.33 The Table below summarises the quality and value scores for churchyards and cemeteries in Policy Area Plymouth.

Table 8.12: Evaluation of value and quality scores for churchyards and cemeteries

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central	1	1		
North				
North West				
Plympton		1		2
Plymstock	1			2
South				
South West		1		
West	1			1
Plymouth	**3**	**3**	**0**	**5**
Urban Fringe				1
Plymouth Policy Area	**3**	**3**	**0**	**6**

8.34 **Figure 8.6** shows the results of applying the open space standards for churchyards and cemeteries. The majority of the provision is within the Central and West Analysis Areas. The smaller sites within this typology are falling below the value and quality thresholds.

Provision for children and young people

8.35 A detailed assessment of this typology is outside of the scope of this study.

Outdoor sports provision

8.36 A detailed assessment of this typology is outside of the scope of this study.

Summary of accessible natural green space

8.37 Considering the three types of accessible natural green space that are considered in the current green space quantity standard (**Parks and Gardens, Natural and semi-natural Green Space and Amenity Greenspace**), a summary of provision is shown in **Table 8.13**. The provision figures have been shaded according to whether provision is above or below the **existing standard of 5.09/1,000 population**.

Table 8.13 Accessible open space per 1,000 population

Analysis Area	Area (ha)	Population 2011	Existing provision ha/1,000 population
Central	184.20	60,102	3.06
North	358.06	40,122	8.92
North West	190.08	24,743	7.68
Plympton	101.83	29,899	3.41
Plymstock	297.31	24,758	12.01
South	75.11	27,602	2.72
South West	13.59	22,495	0.60
West	78.02	26,663	2.93
Plymouth Total	1298.19	256,384	5.06
Urban Fringe	553.61	3,130	176.87
Plymouth Policy Area	**1851.80**	**259,514**	**7.14**

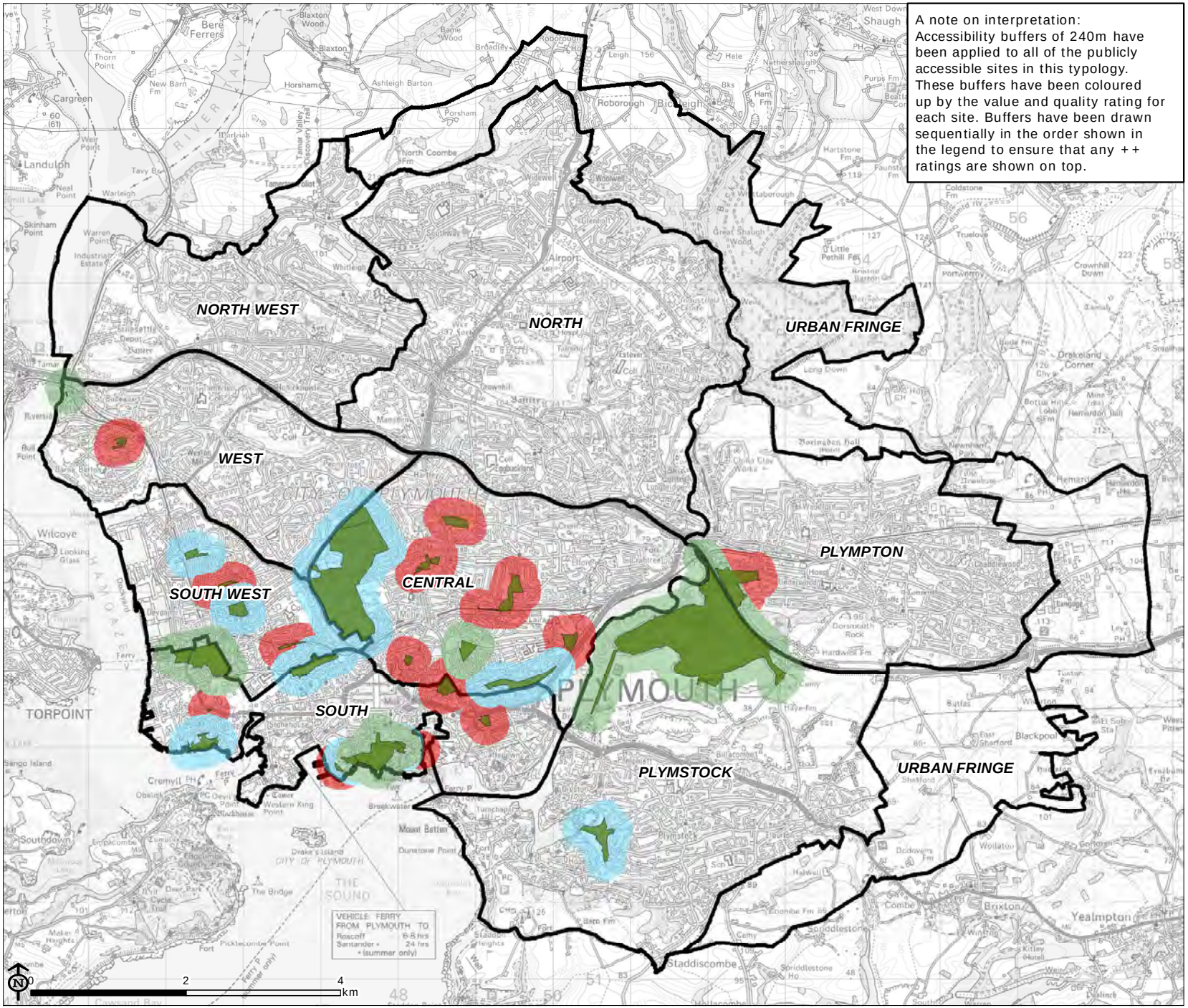
8.38 **Table 8.14** summarises the findings of the quality and value assessment.

Table 8.14: Evaluation of value and quality scores for accessible open space

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
Central	2	8		23
North	5	2	3	35
North West	2	6	4	22
Plympton	3	7	1	22
Plymstock	5	6		15
South	6	12	1	12
South West		3		5

Analysis Area	Above Value/ Above Quality ++	Above Value/ Below Quality +-	Below Value/ Above Quality -+	Below Value/ Below Quality --
West	2	4	1	12
Plymouth	**25**	**48**	**10**	**146**
Urban Fringe		1	1	2
Plymouth Policy Area	**25 (11%)**	**49 (21%)**	**11 (5%)**	**148 (64%)**

8.39 75% of the Allotments, community gardens and urban farms in the study area fell below the value thresholds.



A note on interpretation:
Accessibility buffers of 240m have been applied to all of the publicly accessible sites in this typology. These buffers have been coloured up by the value and quality rating for each site. Buffers have been drawn sequentially in the order shown in the legend to ensure that any ++ ratings are shown on top.

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

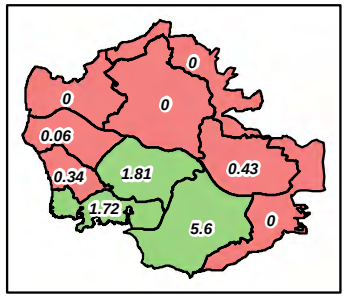
Figure 8.1:
Deficiency in access to high quality parks and gardens

Analysis areas

Parks and gardens accessible to the public

Accessibility catchments coloured by value and quality ratings

++ Above value/above quality
+- Above value/below quality
-+ Below value/above quality
-- Below value/below quality



Analysis areas

Above quantity standard

Below quantity standard

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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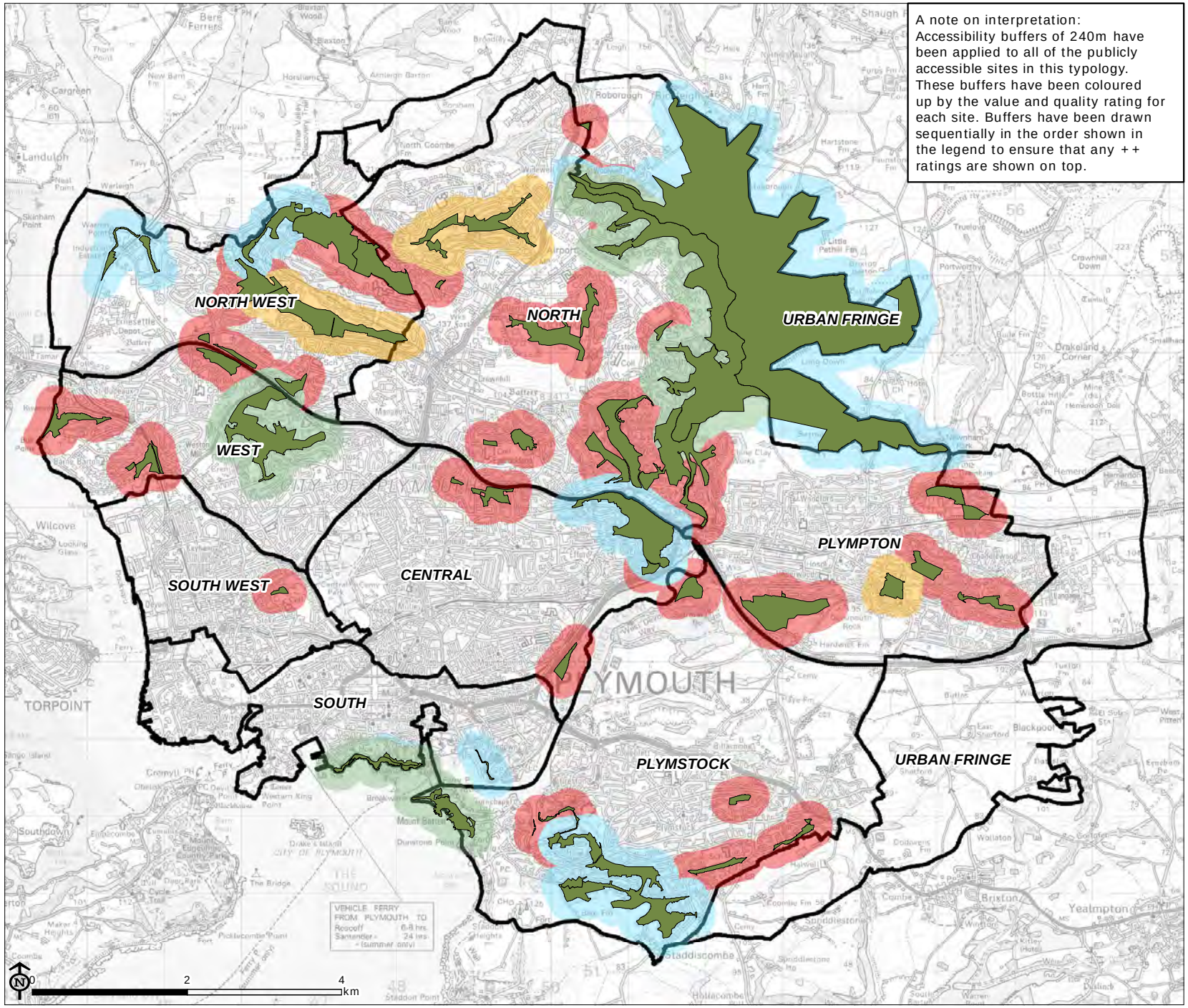


A note on interpretation:
Accessibility buffers of 240m have been applied to all of the publicly accessible sites in this typology. These buffers have been coloured up by the value and quality rating for each site. Buffers have been drawn sequentially in the order shown in the legend to ensure that any ++ ratings are shown on top.

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

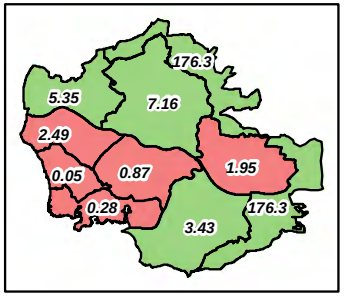
Figure 8.2:
Deficiency in access to high quality natural and semi-natural green space

Analysis areas

Natural and semi-natural green space accessible to the public

Accessibility catchments coloured by value and quality ratings

++ Above value/above quality
+- Above value/below quality
-+ Below value/above quality
-- Below value/below quality



Analysis areas

Above quantity standard

Below quantity standard

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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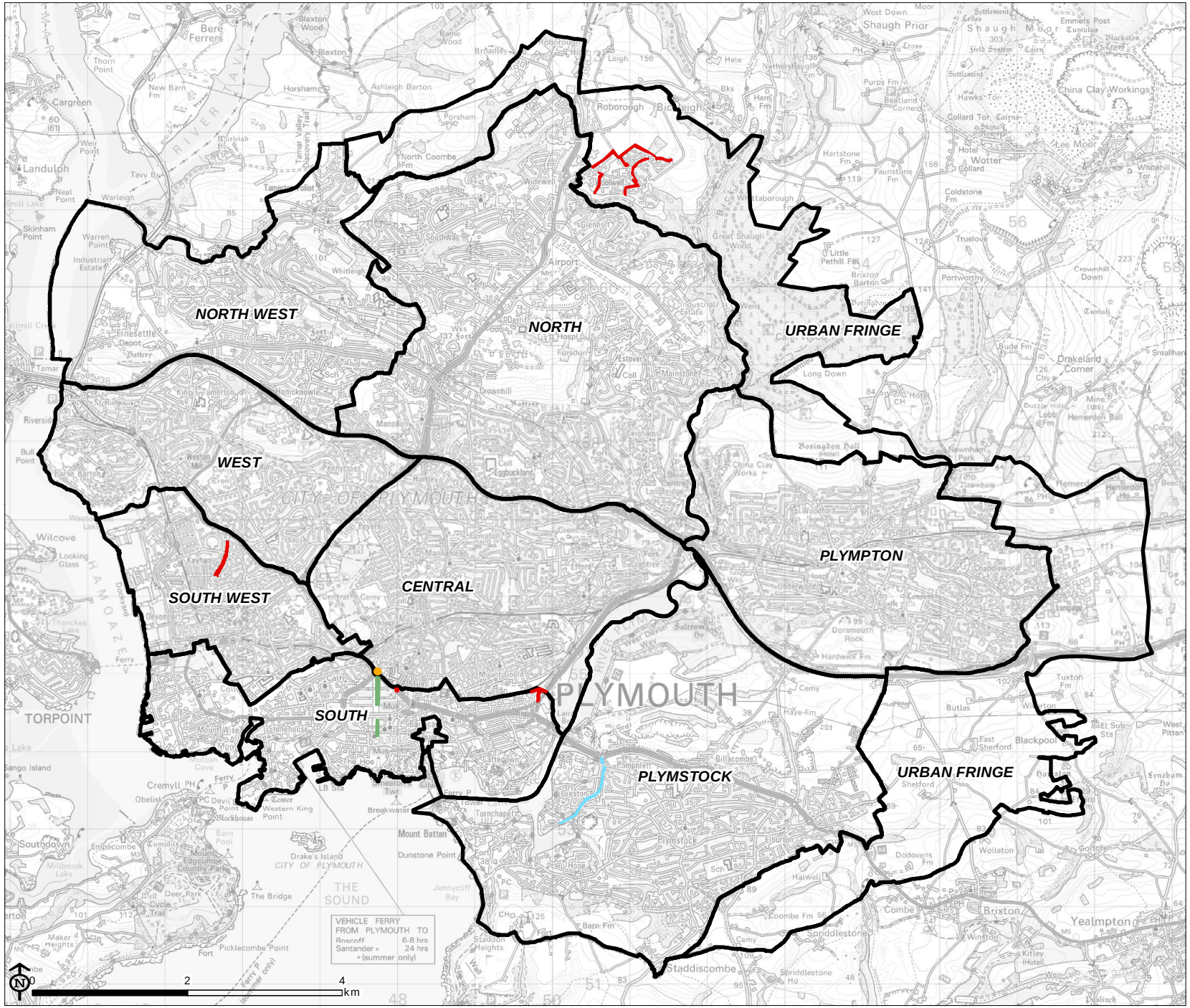
Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

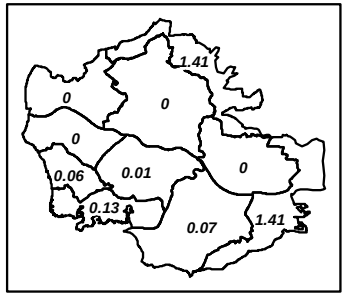
Figure 8.3:
Deficiency in access to high quality green corridors



Analysis areas

Green corridors coloured by value and quality ratings

- ++ Above value/above quality
- +- Above value/below quality
- -+ Below value/above quality
- -- Below value/below quality



Hectares/1000 people

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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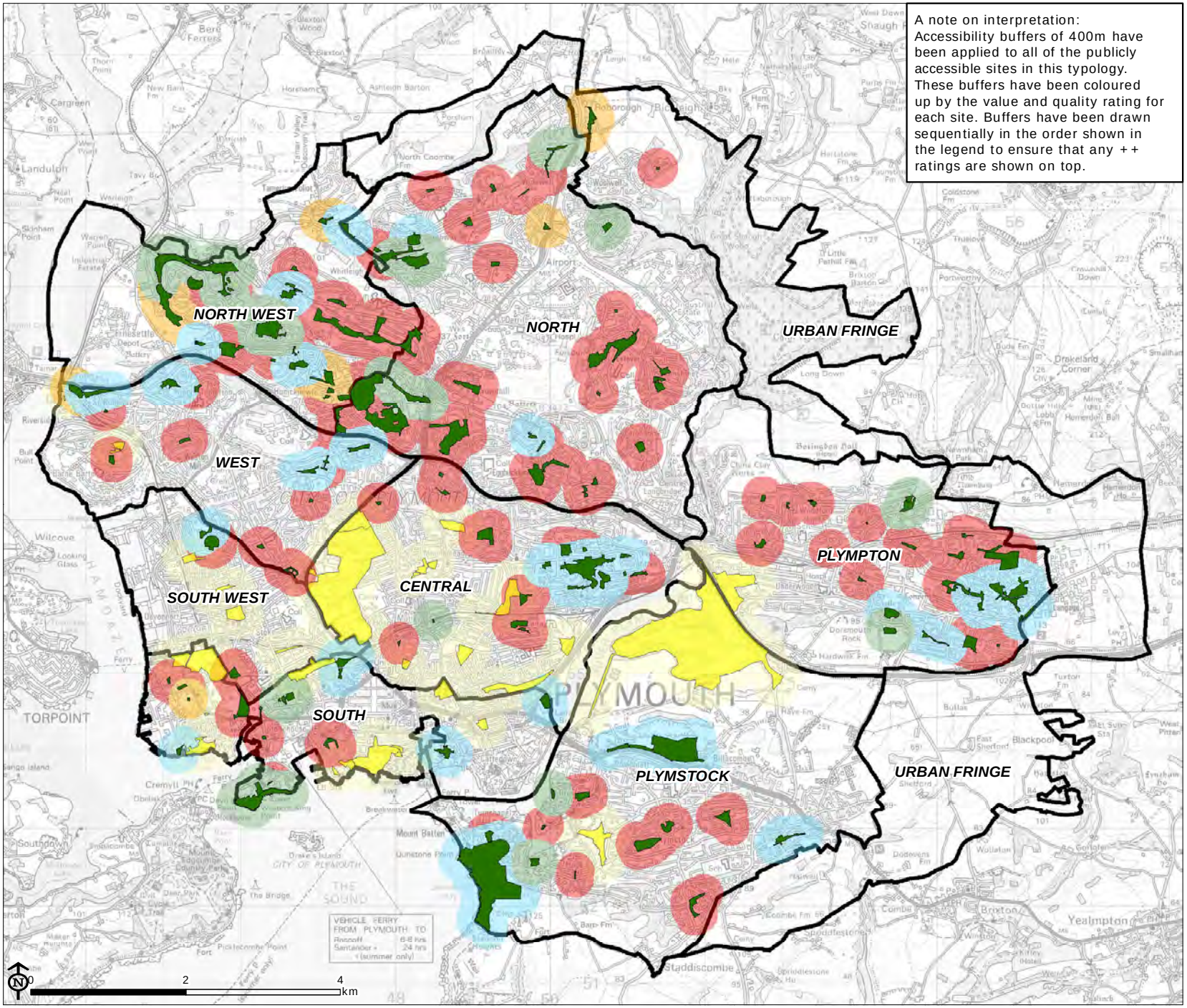


Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 8.4:
Deficiency in access to high quality amenity green space

Plymouth Plan Areas

Amenity green space accessible to the public

Parks and gardens accessible to the public

Accessibility catchments coloured by value and quality ratings

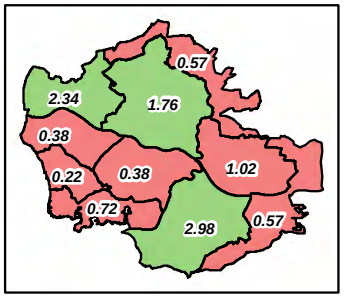
++ Above value/above quality

+- Above value/below quality

-+ Below value/above quality

-- Below value/below quality

Accesibility catchments for parks and gardens



Plymouth Plan Areas

Above quantity standard

Below quantity standard

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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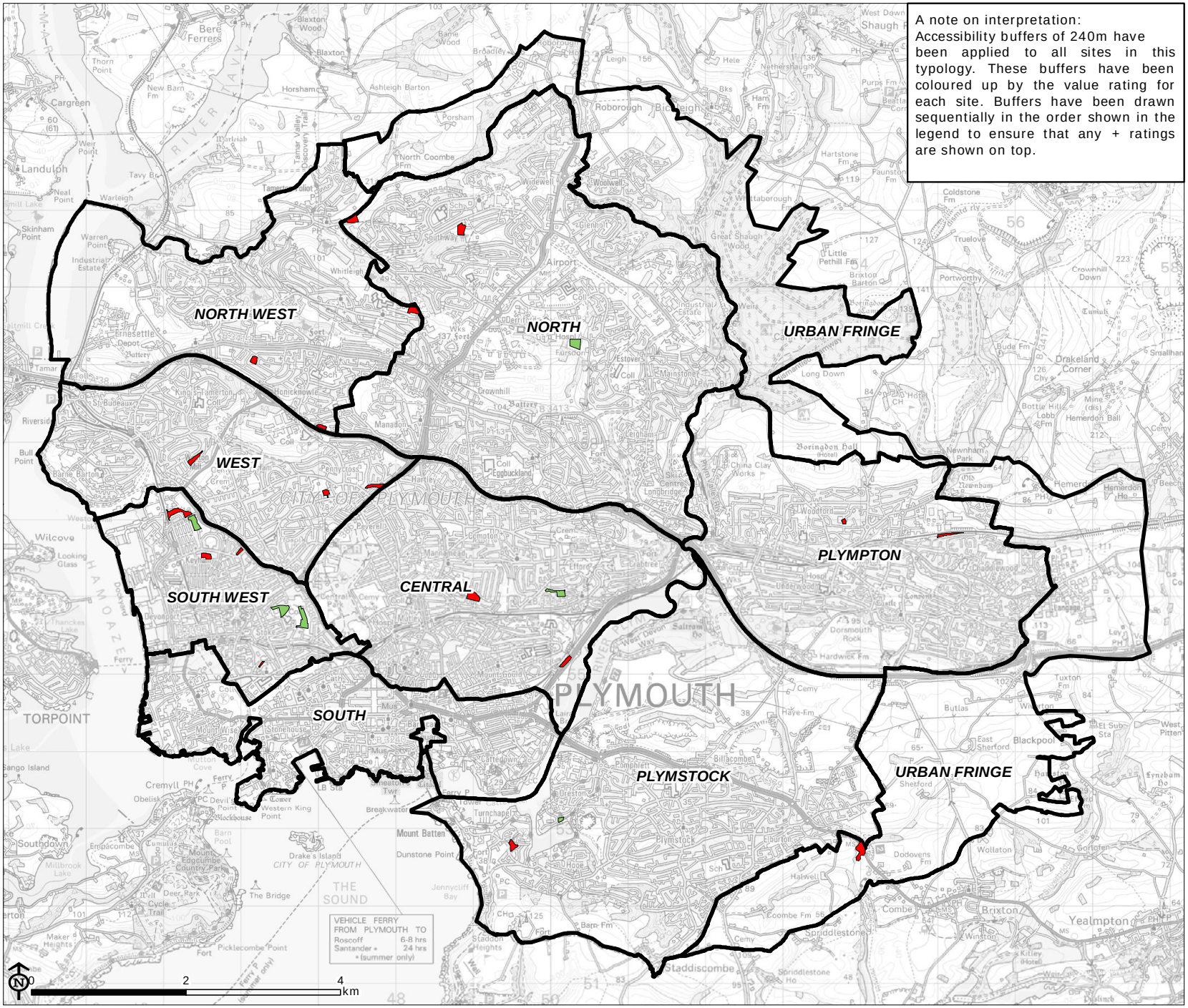

A note on interpretation:
Accessibility buffers of 240m have been applied to all sites in this typology. These buffers have been coloured up by the value rating for each site. Buffers have been drawn sequentially in the order shown in the legend to ensure that any + ratings are shown on top.

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 8.5:
Deficiency in access to high value allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Plymouth Plan Areas

Accessibility ratings coloured by value ratings

Above value (+)
Below value (-)

Please note that the quality of these sites has not been evaluated as part of this study. An above value site may still require investment in terms of it's quality.

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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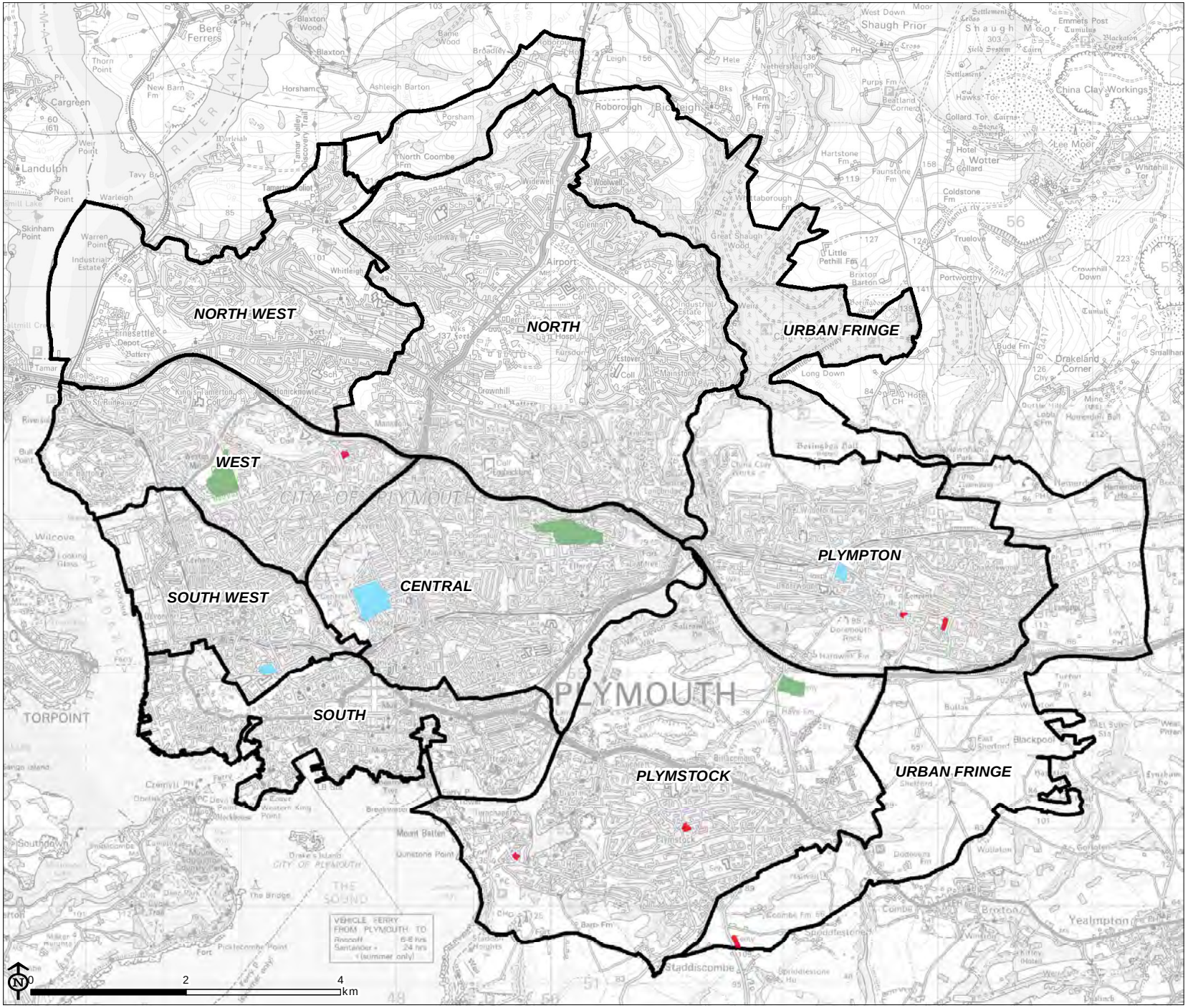


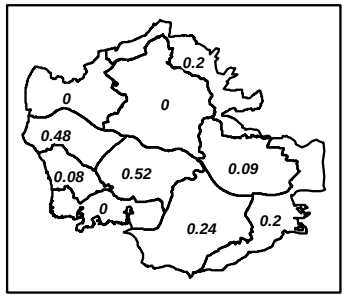
Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 8.6:
Deficiency in access to high quality churchyards and cemeteries

Analysis areas

churchyards and cemeteries coloured by value and quality ratings

++ Above value/above quality
+- Above value/below quality
-+ Below value/above quality
-- Below value/below quality



Hectares/1000 people

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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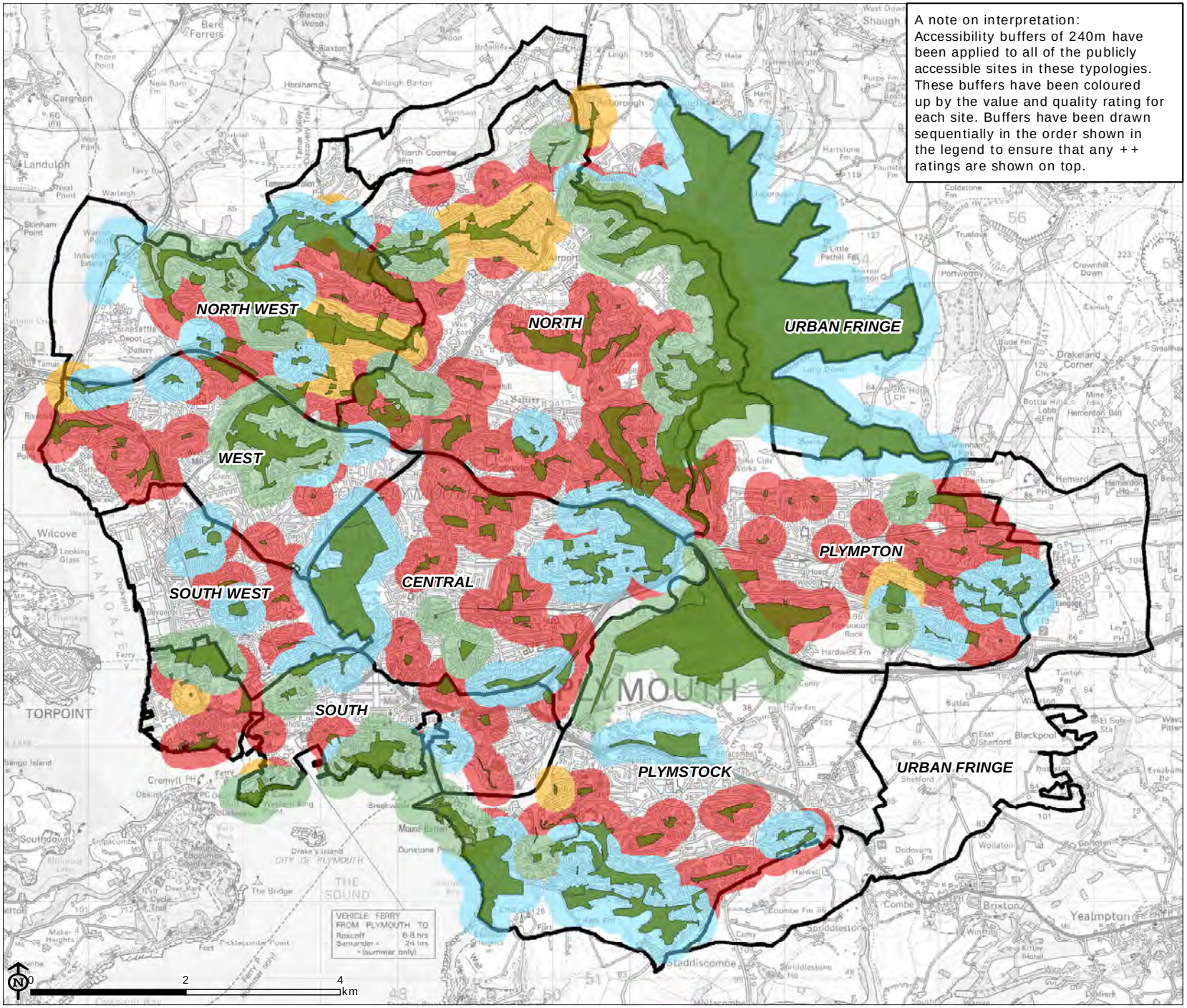

A note on interpretation: Accessibility buffers of 240m have been applied to all of the publicly accessible sites in these typologies. These buffers have been coloured up by the value and quality rating for each site. Buffers have been drawn sequentially in the order shown in the legend to ensure that any ++ ratings are shown on top.

Open Space Needs Assessment

Figure 8.7: Deficiency in access to high quality accessible natural green space

Analysis areas

Parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural green space and amenity green space accessible to the public

Accessibility catchments coloured by value and quality ratings

++ Above value/above quality

+- Above value/below quality

-+ Below value/above quality

-- Below value/below quality

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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9 Assessing the functionality of open spaces

9.1 Whilst each site has been assigned a primary typology, the different types of open space might provide a wide range of different functions and benefits to the people of Plymouth. In line with the Lawton Principle it is important that this multi-functionality is protected and encouraged. The UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011) provides a useful summary of the services that the environment can potentially provide in an urban setting and these have formed the basis for the functions and benefits that open space in the Plymouth Policy Area can perform.

9.2 Each open space has been evaluated in terms of the functions set out in Table 3.2 of this report. The number of sites recorded as providing a function in each (i.e. score greater than 0) is provided together with the range of Function scores received during the audit process.

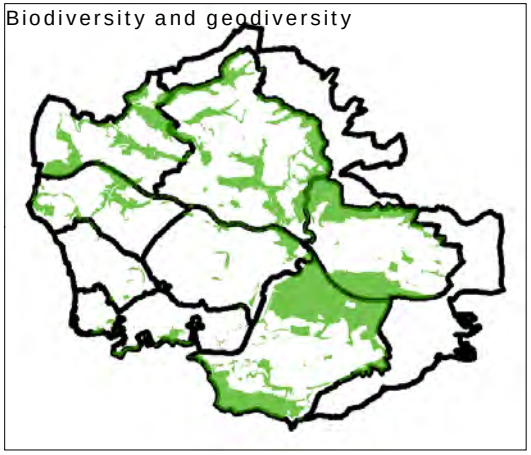
9.3 A standard has not been set for functionality, but an analysis of the range of functions provided by open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area is presented in this section.

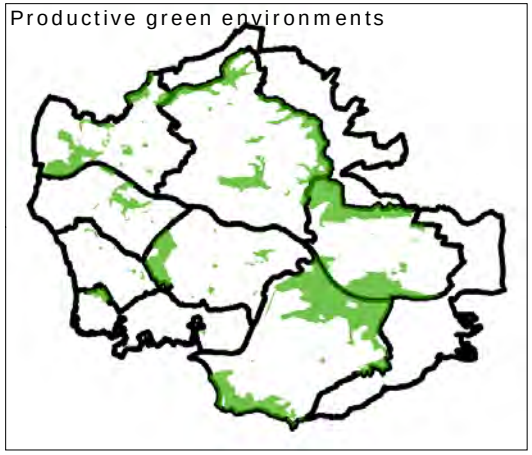
Table 9.1: Range of functionality scores

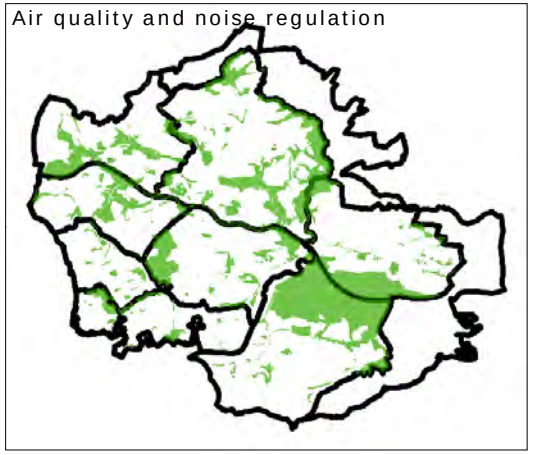
Function	Number of sites performing this function
Biodiversity and geodiversity	170
Productive green environments	77
Air quality and noise regulation	226
Local climate regulation	489
Flood and water quality regulation	169
Recreation	409
Cultural heritage	407
Health and well-being	296
Aesthetic values	301
Education	87

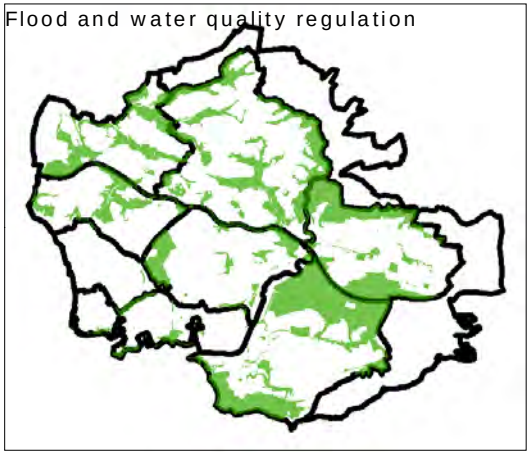
9.4 **Figure 9.1** shows the spatial distribution of sites performing the above functions. For each site, a cumulative score has been calculated, counting the number of functions that it provides. **Figure 9.2** shows the range of scores and provides an overview of the multi-functionality of the open space network.

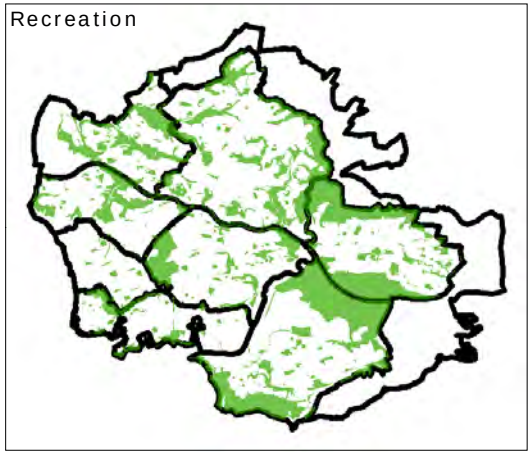
9.5 98% of the open spaces in the Plymouth Policy Area perform three or more functions, with a quarter of them performing seven or more functions.

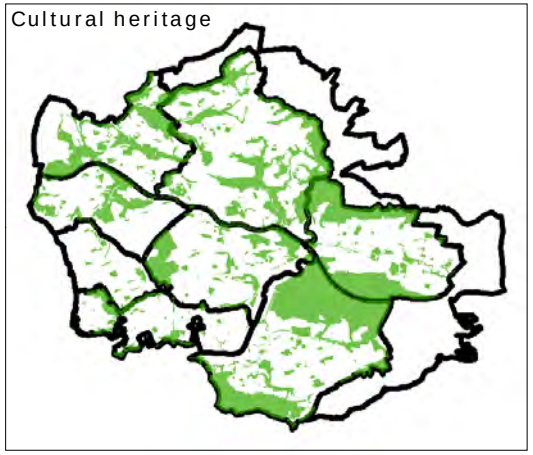


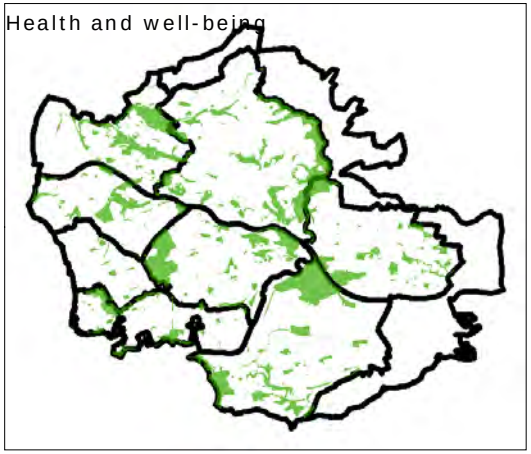


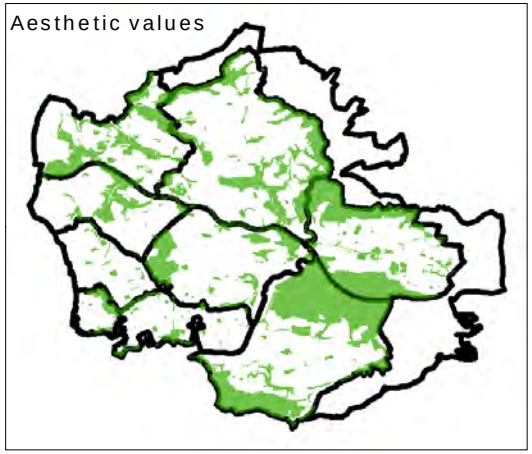


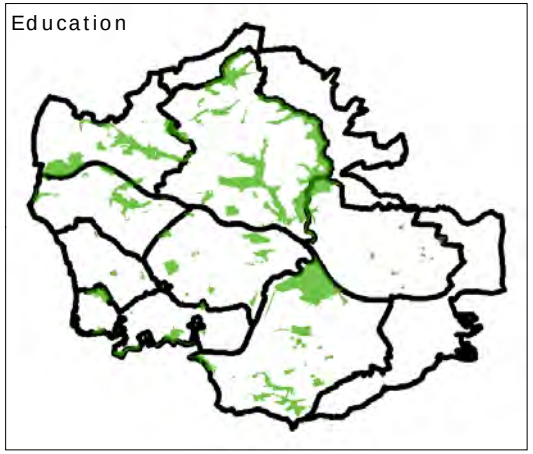












Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 9.1:
Overview of functions performed by green spaces in Plymouth

Plymouth Plan Areas

Sites performing the specified function

Source: OS, PCC

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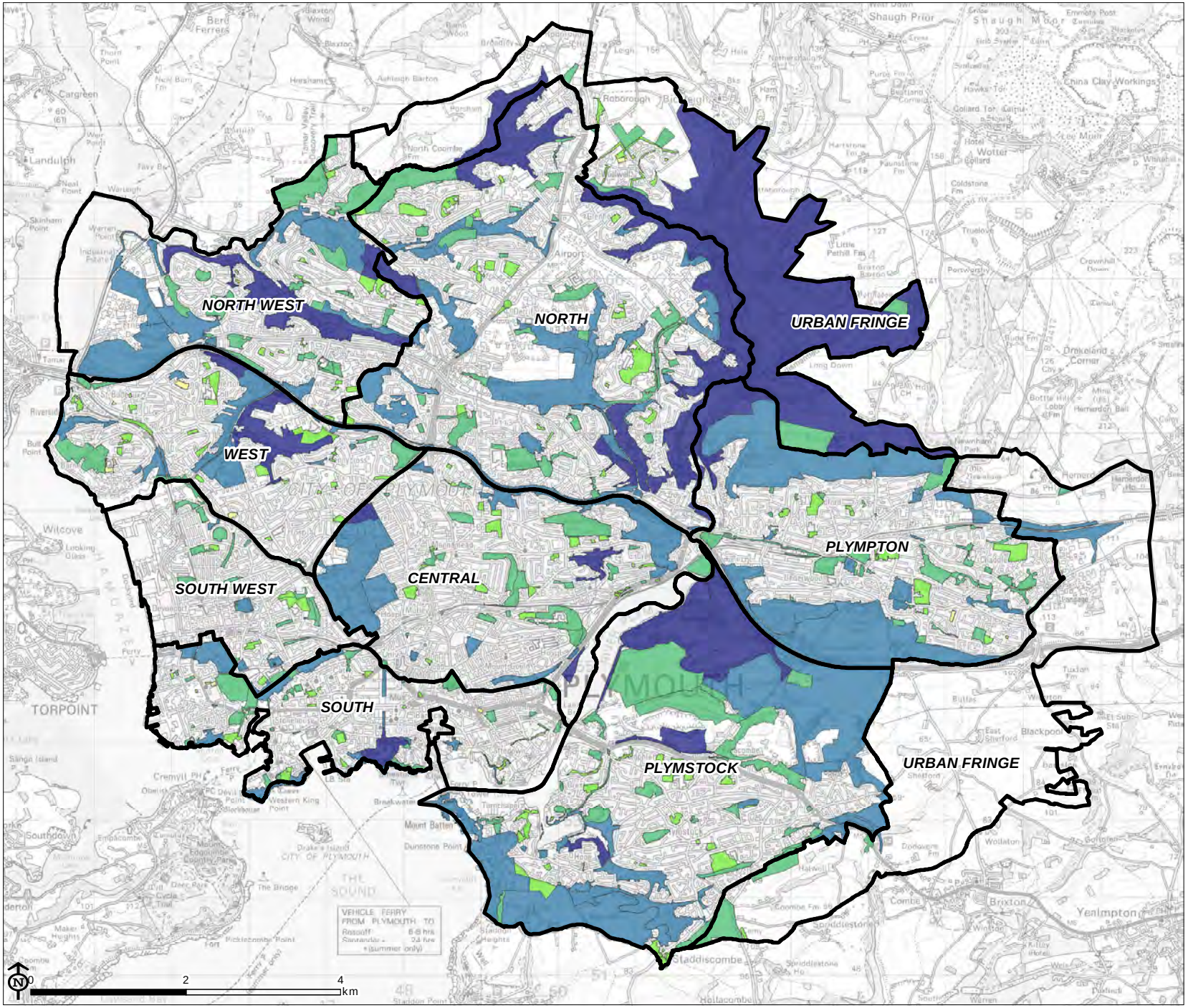

Plymouth Policy Area
Open Space Assessment

Figure 9.2:
Multi-functionality of green spaces

Analysis areas

Number of functions provided by sites

- 1 - 2 (10)
- 3 - 4 (151)
- 5 - 6 (208)
- 7 - 8 (99)
- 9 - 10 (21)

Source: OS, PCC

Map Scale @ A4: 1:70,000

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10 Outputs

10.1 The additional outputs of this document are provided as:

- Maps
- Report cards for each site
- GIS-linked database.

Appendix 1: Audit forms for open space sites

Site ID: **Site Name:**

Desk based assessment

Site ID: **Site Name:**

Easting: **Northing:** **Area (Ha):**

Landscape Character Area:

Type:

Owner: **Size group:**

Manager: **Stakeholders:**

Site assessment

Audit date: **Audit time:**

Time spent surveying: **Name of surveyor:**

Outline description (physical and functional): **Survey site access:**

Map

Photo

Quality and value scores

Overall quality score: - **Site accessible (overall access category for analysis)** ☐

Overall value score:

Overall quality/value rating:

Site ID: Site Name:

A. Designations

A1. International

Total Score: 0

- +4 ☐ SPA
- +4 ☐ SAC
- +4 ☐ Ramsar

A2. National

Total Score: 0

- +3 ☐ Listed building
- +3 ☐ SAM
- +3 ☐ SSSI
- +3 ☐ NNR
- +3 ☐ Green Belt
- +3 ☐ AONB
- +3 ☐ English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens

A3. Access

Total Score: 0

- +3 ☐ National/ Regional Trails
- +3 ☐ Sustrans Routes

A4. County - Statutory

Total Score: 0

- +2 ☐ County Wildlife Site

A5. Local - Statutory

Total Score: 0

- +1 ☐ Conservation Area
- +1 ☐ Local Nature Reserve
- +1 ☐ Potential Local Wildlife Site
- +1 ☐ RIGS

A6. Other

Total Score: 0

- +1 ☐ Within a Flood Risk Zone
- +1 ☐ Biodversity network
- +1 ☐ Common Land
- +1 ☐ Contains Ancient Woodland
- +1 ☐ Is there a school immediately adjacent to the green space?
- +1 ☐ Village greens
- +1 ☐ T.P.O

Potential green space designation

Not scored, but green space may be eligible for local green space designation if all boxes are ticked

- ☐ **A7. Is the green space demonstrably special to a local community or have local significance because of its beauty, historic importance, recreational value, tranquility or wildlife?**
- ☐ **A8. Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?**
- ☐ **A9. Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to a centre of population?**

Community involvement

Total Score (A10 - A13): 0

- +1 ☐ **A10. Is there a Friends group?**
- +1 ☐ **A11. Is there a programme of activities?**
- +1 ☐ **A12. Has the site achieved a Green Flag, Green Heritage or Green Pennant Award?**

Management

- +1 ☐ **A13. Is there a current Management Plan or Masterplan for the green space?**

Site ID: Site Name:

Water

Total Score: 0

☐ **A14. Is there a waterbody within or adjacent to the green space?**

+1 ☐ **A15i. If so, is the waterbody a main River?**

+1 ☐ **A15ii. Or is the waterbody an ordinary watercourse?**

B. Informal recreation

B1. Site access

+5 ☐ **Site accessible (overall access category for analysis)**

☐ **Freely accessible to public**
☐ **De-facto public access**
☐ **Restricted public access**
☐ **No public access**
☐ **Public rights of way or regional route**
☐ **Opening hours**
☐ **Limited to particular areas**
☐ **Members/ tenants only**
☐ **Other (Please State)**

If the green space is freely accessible to public (even if partially restricted), complete public open space audit form

B2. Forms of access present

Total Score: 0

+1 ☐ **Vehicular**
+1 ☐ **Pedestrian**
+1 ☐ **Disabled**
+1 ☐ **Cycle**
+1 ☐ **Horse**
+1 ☐ **Other (Please state):**

B3. Play provision

Total Score: 0

☐ **Please tick if Play Provision is not applicable for the site**

+1 ☐ **B3i Is there play equipment on site?**

B3ii Is there other play provision for play on site?

+1 ☐ **MUGA**
+1 ☐ **Waterplay**
+1 ☐ **Skate park**
+1 ☐ **BMX**
+1 ☐ **Other (Please state):**

Site ID: Site Name:

B4. Informal recreation

Total Score: 0

☐ Please tick if Informal Recreation is not applicable for the site

+1 ☐ Walking/ dog walking
+1 ☐ Children's play
+1 ☐ Young people hanging out
+1 ☐ Sitting/ relaxing
+1 ☐ Desire lines
+1 ☐ Skateboarding
+1 ☐ Horse riding
+1 ☐ Cycling
+1 ☐ Other

☐ B5 Scope for enhancement?

C. Sports/other organised activities

☐ Please tick if Sport and Organised Activities are not applicable for the site

C1. Site access

Total Score: 0

+1 ☐ Outdoor athletics track
+1 ☐ Grass pitches
+1 ☐ Artificial pitches (e.g. astro turf)
+1 ☐ Ski slopes
+1 ☐ Golf
+1 ☐ Tennis courts
+1 ☐ Bowling green
+1 ☐ Other (please state):

☐ C2 Scope for enhancement?

D. Surrounding areas

D1. Adjacent land uses

☐ Residential
☐ Commercial
☐ Industrial
☐ Institution (e.g. schools, hospital etc)
☐ Transport infrastructure
☐ Other green space
☐ Coastal
☐ Other (Please state):

☐ D2 Scope for enhancement?

E. Natural habitats/ biodiversity

+1 ☐ E1. Is there indication that natural features are being managed for nature conservation?

Site ID: Site Name:

E2. Vegetation cover/ type

Grassland

+1 ☐ Very short grass/ fine ornamental lawn
+1 ☐ Short amenity grassland
+1 ☐ Wildflower grassland
+1 ☐ Low growing herbs
+1 ☐ Tall herbs
+1 ☐ Bracken

Scrub, shrubs and hedgerows

+1 ☐ Scrub
+1 ☐ Hedge

Water and wetlands

+1 ☐ Running water (rivers and streams)
+1 ☐ Canal
+1 ☐ Pond/ lake
+1 ☐ Ditches (water filled)
+1 ☐ Bog
+1 ☐ Wet marginal vegetation

Marine

+1 ☐ Coastal
+1 ☐ Estuary

0 - Total score for grassland, scrub, shrubs, hedgerows, water, wetlands and marine

Trees and woodland

+1 ☐ Broadleaved woodland
+1 ☐ Coniferous woodland
+1 ☐ Woodland edges/ trees and shrubs forming shelterbelt
+1 ☐ Tree groups/ scattered trees
+1 ☐ Veteran trees or significant individual trees
+1 ☐ Orchard
+1 ☐ Deadwood

Flower beds

+1 ☐ Annual bedding displays
+1 ☐ Ornamental planting

Brownfield land

+1 ☐ Bare soil and rock
+1 ☐ Derelict wasteland

Allotments

+1 ☐ Allotments - active
+1 ☐ Allotments - abandoned

Artificial habitats

+1 ☐ Disused quarries and quarry faces

0 - Total score for trees, woodland, flower beds, brownfield land, allotments and artificial habitats

-1 ☐ Invasive species

+1 ☐ Other vegetation type (Please state):

☐ E3 Scope for enhancement?

F. Character setting

Total Score: 0

+2 ☐ F1. Does the green space define the edge or form a separating element between urban/ rural edge?

☐ F2. Does the green space contribute to the character setting of Plymouth?

+2 ☐ F2a. Is the green space in a Landscape Character Area?

+2 ☐ F2b. Is the site coastal?

+1 ☐ F3. Does the green space contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area? Is it in a Conservation Area?

+1 ☐ F4. Is the green space visible from adjacent main road/ railway/ public transport route?

+1 ☐ F5. Does the green space feature any recognisable landmark features of local importance?

+2 ☐ F6. Does the green space afford views out to Plymouth City or the wider landscape/ seascape?

+1 ☐ F7. Does the green space afford views out to the local area?

Site ID: Site Name:

F8. Does the green space provide a buffer for/absorb noise or air pollution from:

+1 ☐ Nearby traffic

+1 ☐ Nearby industry

+1 ☐ Other (Please state):

☐ **F9. Scope for enhancement?**

F10. Comments on character setting

G. Amenity detractors

Total Score: 0

-1 ☐ Road noise

-1 ☐ Rail noise

-1 ☐ Pollution

-1 ☐ Lack of landscape management

-1 ☐ Erosion

-1 ☐ Intrusive buildings

-1 ☐ Motorcycle scrambling

-1 ☐ Rubbish tipping

-1 ☐ Flooding

-1 ☐ Other (Please state):

☐ **G2 Is the green space considered to be at significant risk as a result of the above detractors?**

H. Educational interest

Total Score: 0

+1 ☐ **H1 Is there a built facility on site which is being used by the local community for education?**

+1 ☐ **H2 Is there evidence that a natural feature on site is being used by the local community for education?**

+1 ☐ **H3 Does the site offer educational interest (e.g. nature conservation interest or local historic significance)?**

☐ **H4 Scope for enhancement?**

I. Productive landscape

Total Score: 0

+1 ☐ Agricultural

+1 ☐ Communal food growing/ allotments

+1 ☐ Coppicing

+1 ☐ Forestry

+1 ☐ Other

☐ **I2 Scope for enhancement?**

J. Evaluation of benefits/services of site

J1. Indicate the primary and secondary benefits/services of site (1 = primary and 2 = secondary):

☐ **Informal recreation**

☐ **Educational interest**

- [ ] Sports/ other organised activities
- [ ] Natural habitats/ biodiversity
- [ ] Character setting
- [ ] Amenity
- [ ] Productive landscape
- [ ] Water attenuation
- [ ] Other (Please state)

K. Broad objectives for the site

K1. Indicate which of the following benefits/services should be prioritised for future management of enhancement:

- [ ] Informal recreation
- [ ] Sports/ other organised activities
- [ ] Natural habitats/ biodiversity
- [ ] Separation/ buffer
- [ ] Character setting
- [ ] Amenity
- [ ] Educational interest
- [ ] Productive landscape
- [ ] Water attenuation
- [ ] Other

L. Any other comments on issues relating to the green space or opportunities for enhancement

Public open space audit form

1. Welcoming place

+1 to +4 0 **1a. To what extent are the entrances well presented?**

+1 to +3 0 **1b. To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?**

+1 to +5 0 **1c. What is the overall quality of access and accesses within and through the space?**

+1 to +5 0 **1d. What is the overall quality of access and accesses for people travelling to open space?**

+1 to +2 0 **1e. What is the overall provision of signage?**

2. Health, safety and secure

+1 to +3 0 **2a. Overall provision for informal recreation?**

2b. What is the condition of basic amenities?

+1 to +3 0 **Toilets**

+1 to +3 0 **Car parking**

+1 to +3 0 **Cafe**

+1 to +3 0 **Litter and/or dog bins**

+1 to +3 0 **Seating**

+1 to +3 0 **Nature trail**

+1 to +3 0 **Lifebelts**

+1 to +3 0 **Cycle parking**

+1 to +3 0 **Other (Please state):**

+1 ☐ **2c. Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?**

+1 ☐ **2d. Do the approaches feel open and secure?**

Site ID:		Site Name:	

+1 ☐ 2e. Is there a flow of people through the park (to acheive self surveillance)?

+1 ☐ 2f. Is lighting provided?

+1 ☐ 2g. Is dog fouling evident onsite?

3. Clean and well maintained

+1 ☐ 3a. Is graffiti evident?

+1 ☐ 3b. Vandalism evident?

+1 to +5 [0] 3c. Overall cleanliness

+1 to +5 [0] 3d. Overall condition/quality of planted areas

+1 to +5 [0] 3e. Overall condition/quality of grass areas

+1 to +3 [0] 3f. Overall condition/quality of footpaths

+1 to +3 [0] 3g. Quality of water and associated edge treatment

[0] 3h Are there any buildings or other built feature onsite?

+1 to +3 [ ] If so, please note condition

4. Sustainability

+1 ☐ 4a. Is there green waste composting area on site?

+1 ☐ 4b. Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?

+1 ☐ 4c. Is there evidence of waste minimisation/ recycling?

5. Conservation and heritage

+1 to +3 [0] 5a. Rate the overall design of the open space

+1 ☐ 5b. Is there indication that historic buildings and structures are being conserved?

6. Community involvement

+1 ☐ 6a Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site?

+1 ☐ 6b If so, are up to date notices displayed?

+1 ☐ 6c Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments?

+1 ☐ 6d If so, are they up to date?

Appendix 2: Site proformas

See separate document

Appendix 3: Criteria used for the assessment of open space functionality

Green space functions / benefits	Relevant information from audit form
Biodiversity and geodiversity	• All sites recorded as having a typology of Natural and semi-natural green space • All sites which have one of the following designations: o SPA o SAC o SSSI o County wildlife site o LNR o Ancient woodland o RIGS • All sites which have been given a 1 for J: Natural habitats/ biodiversity
Productive green environments	• All sites with an answer to I: Productive landscape • All sites which have been given a 1 or 2 for J: Productive landscape
Air quality and noise regulation	• All sites with a tick under F8: buffer noise or air pollution
Local climate regulation	• All green space perform this function
Flood and water quality regulation	• All sites where A6: Within flood risk zone is ticked • All sites where A15i or A15ii is ticked (water body in or adjacent to green space) • All sites where E: Water and wetlands is ticked • All sites where E: Marine is ticked • All sites which have been given a 1 or 2 for J: Water attenuation
Recreation	• All sites with play provision (B3i) • All sites with other play provision (B3ii) MUGA • All sites with other play provision (B3ii) Waterplay • All sites with other play provision (B3ii) Skate Park • All sites with other play provision (B3ii) BMX • All sites with other play provision (B3ii) Other • All sites with informal recreation (B4): o Walking/dog walking o Young people hanging out o Sitting/relaxing o Desire lines o Skateboarding o Horseriding o Cycling o Other • All sites with sport and other organised activity (C): o Outdoor athletics track o Grass pitches o Artificial pitches

Green space functions / benefits	Relevant information from audit form
	o Ski slopes o Golf o Tennis Courts o Bowling Green o Other • All sites which have been given a 1 or a 2 for J: Sports/ other organised activity or Informal recreation (with the exception of allotment sites)
Cultural heritage	• All sites where F2a or b (city character setting) are ticked • All sites where F3 (local character setting) is ticked • All sites where F6 (views to city/landscape) is ticked • All sites where F7 (views to local area) is ticked • All sites which have been given a 1 or a 2 for J: Character setting • All coastal sites • All sites with cultural heritage designations: • Listed buildings • Conservation Area • Registered Park and Garden • Scheduled Monuments
Health and well being	• All accessible sites
Aesthetic values	• All sites where F1 (urban rural edge) is ticked • All sites where F4 (visible from transport route) is ticked • All sites where F5 (landmark features) is ticked
Education	• Sites which provide some educational interest: • All sites where H1 (built facility for education is ticked • All sites where H2 (natural feature for education) is ticked • All sites where H3 are ticked (educational interest) is ticked

Appendix 4: Criteria considered for assessing quality and value

Value threshold standards

Parks and gardens

Large sites

The value threshold for large parks and gardens has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest value score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and size group.

Medium sites

The value threshold for medium parks and gardens has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest value score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and size group.

Small sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a small park and garden should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.1 Calculation of value thresholds for small parks and gardens

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A5	Designations: Local – statutory	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least one local designation.
A6	Designations: Other	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least one other designation.
A10	Is there are Friends group?	1	Typically a high valued park and garden would be supported by an active Friends groups.
B	**Informal recreation**		
B1	Site access	5	Sites within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	3	A site within this typology and size group should at least provide three forms of access e.g. pedestrian, disabled and cycles.
B3	Play equipment	2	A small park and garden should include an element of play and possibly one other provision for play.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	4	A site within this size group and typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. walking, children's play, sitting/ relaxing, young people.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	6	A small Park and garden should provide a range of vegetation cover/ type e.g. amenity grassland, tree groups, veteran trees, hedges, ornamental planting and annual bedding displays.
F	**Character setting**		
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area?	1	A small park and garden should contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area.
F8	Does the open space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air	1	A small park and garden should contribute to the quality of the local environment by providing a breathing space within the

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
	pollution from: Nearby traffic Nearby industry Other		urban environment.
Total value score		**25**	

Natural and semi-natural green space

Large sites

The value threshold for large natural and semi-natural green space has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest value score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and size group.

Medium sites

The value threshold for medium natural and semi-natural green space has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest value score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and size group.

Small sites

The table below details the characteristics/features a small natural and semi-natural green space should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.2 Calculation of value thresholds for small natural and semi-natural green space

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A5	Designations: Local – statutory	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least one local designation.
A6	Designations: Other	2	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least two other designations.
B	**Informal recreation**		
B1	Site access	5	Sites within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	2	A site within this typology and size group should at least provide two forms of access e.g. pedestrian and disabled.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	3	A site of this size and typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. walking/ dog walking, desire line and sitting/ relaxing.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E1	It there indication that natural features are being managed for nature conservation?	1	Sites within this typology should be primarily managed to conserve and enhance nature conservation value.
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	7	A small natural and semi-natural green space should provide a broad range of vegetation cover/ type e.g. Wildflower grassland, low growing herbs, tall herbs, broadleaved

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
			woodland, scrub, deadwood and ditches.
F	**Character setting**		
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area?	1	A small natural and semi-natural green space should contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area.
F8	Does the open space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air pollution from: Nearby traffic Nearby industry Other	1	A natural and semi-natural green space should contribute to the quality of the local environment by providing a breathing space or a valuable separation between possible sources of pollution and residential areas.
H	**Educational interest**		
H3	Does the site offer educational interest (e.g. nature conservation interest or local historic significance)?	1	The characteristics of natural and semi-natural green spaces should offer features of educational interest.
Total value score		**24**	

Amenity green space

Large sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a large amenity green space should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.3 Calculation of value thresholds for large amenity green spaces

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A1	Designations: International	4	It is likely that a site within this size group and typology is covered by one designation of international importance.
A2	Designations: National	3	It is likely that a site within this size group and typology is covered by one designation of national importance.
A5	Designations: Local – statutory	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least one local designation.
A6	Designations: Other	2	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least two other designations.
B	**Informal recreation**		
B1	Site access	5	Sites within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	3	A site within this typology and size group should at least provide three forms of access e.g. pedestrian, disabled and cycle.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	4	A site within this size group and typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. sitting/ relaxing, desire lines, children's play and young people hanging

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
			out.
C	**Sports/ other organised activities**		
C1	Active recreation/ sport provision	1	Sites of this size should provide at least one opportunity for active recreation.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	8	An amenity open space of strategic scale should provide a broad range of vegetation cover/ type e.g. amenity grassland, wildflower grassland, low growing herbs, scrub, hedge, woodland edges and deadwood.
F	**Character setting**		
F1	Does the open space define the edge or form a separating element between urban/ rural edge?	2	It is likely a site of this scale will have a structural role in the character setting of surrounding area.
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of Plymouth?	2	A large amenity green should contribute to the character setting of Plymouth.
F4	Is the open space visible from adjacent main road/ railway/ public transport route?	1	It is likely these large spaces contribute to the character setting of Plymouth and influence the experience of residents and visitors to the City.
F5/ F6	Does the open space feature any recognisable landmark features of local importance? Or Does the open space afford views out to the local area?	1	A site of this scale should contain a feature or provides views which are important to the surrounding area.
F8	Does the open space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air pollution from: Nearby traffic Nearby industry Other	1	An amenity green space should contribute to the quality of the local environment by providing a breathing space or a valuable separation between possible sources of pollution and residential areas.
Total value score		**38**	

Medium sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a medium amenity green space should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.4 Calculation of value thresholds for medium amenity green spaces

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A2	Designations: National	3	It is likely that a site of this size and typology is covered by one designation of national importance.
A5	Designations: Local – statutory	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least one local designation.
A6	Designations: Other	2	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least two other designations.
B	**Informal recreation**		

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
B1	Site access	5	Sites within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	2	A site within this typology and size group should at least provide two forms of access e.g. pedestrian, disabled and cycle.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	4	A site of this size and typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. sitting/ relaxing, desire lines, children's play and young people hanging out.
C	**Sports/ other organised activities**		
C1	Active recreation/ sport provision	1	Sites of this scale should provide at least one opportunity for active recreation.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	5	An medium amenity green space should provide a range of vegetation cover/ type e.g. amenity grassland, wildflower grassland, low growing herbs, hedge and tree groups.
F	**Character setting**		
F1	Does the open space define the edge or form a separating element between urban/ rural edge?	2	It is likely a site of this scale will have a structural role in the character setting of surrounding area.
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of Plymouth?	2	A medium amenity green space should contribute to the character setting of Plymouth.
F4	Is the open space visible from adjacent main road/ railway/ public transport route?	1	It is likely these large spaces contribute to the character setting of Plymouth and influence the experience of residents and visitors to the City.
F5/ F6	Does the open space feature any recognisable landmark features of local importance? Or Does the open space afford views out to the local area?	1	A site of this scale should contain a feature or provides views which are important to the surrounding area.
F8	Does the open space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air pollution from: Nearby traffic Nearby industry Other	1	An amenity green space should contribute to the quality of the local environment by providing a breathing space or a valuable separation between possible sources of pollution and residential areas.
Total value score		**30**	

Small sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a small amenity green spaces should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.5 Calculation of value thresholds for small amenity green spaces

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A5	Designations: Local – statutory	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
			covered by at least one local designation.
A6	Designations: Other	2	It is likely that a site of high value within this size group is covered by at least two other designations.
B	**Informal recreation**		
B1	Site access	5	Sites within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	2	A site within this typology and size group should at least provide two forms of access e.g. pedestrian, disabled and cycle.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	4	A site within this size group and typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. sitting/ relaxing, desire lines, children's play and young people hanging out.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	4	A small amenity green space should provide a range of vegetation cover/ type e.g. amenity grassland, wildflower grassland, hedge and tree groups.
F	**Character setting**		
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of the immediate area?	1	A small amenity green space should contribute to the character setting of Plymouth.
F8	Does the open space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air pollution from: Nearby traffic Nearby industry Other	1	An amenity green space should contribute to the quality of the local environment by providing a breathing space with residential areas.
Total value score		**20**	

Green corridors

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a green corridor should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.6 Calculation of value thresholds for green corridors

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
B	**Informal recreation**		
B1	Site access	5	Site within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	3	A site within this typology should at least provide three forms of access e.g. pedestrian, disabled and cycling.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	3	A site within this typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. walking/ dog walking, desire line and sitting/ relaxing.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E1	It there indication that natural features are being managed for nature conservation?	1	Sites within this typology should be primarily managed to conserve and enhance nature conservation value.

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	7	Green corridors should provide a broad range of vegetation cover/ type e.g. Wildflower grassland, low growing herbs, tall herbs, broadleaved woodland, scrub, deadwood and ditches.
F	**Character setting**		
F1	Does the open space define the edge or form a separating element between urban/ rural edge?	2	It is likely a site of this typology will have a structural role in the character setting of surrounding area.
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area?	1	Green corridors should contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area.
F4	Is the open space visible from adjacent main road/ railway/ public transport route?	1	It is likely green corridors contribute to the character setting of Plymouth and influence the experience of residents and visitors to the City.
F8	Does the open space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air pollution from: Nearby traffic Nearby industry Other	1	A green corridor should contribute to the quality of the local environment by providing a breathing space or a valuable separation between possible sources of pollution and residential areas.
Total value score		**25**	

Cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a cemetery, churchyard or burial ground should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.7 Calculation of value thresholds for cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A2	Designations: National	3	It is likely that a site of high value within this typology contains at least one features which is covered by a nation designation e.g. Listed building or monument.
A5	Designations: Local – statutory	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this typology is covered by at least one local designation.
A6	Designations: Other	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this typology is covered by at least one other designation.
B	**Informal recreation**		
B1	Site access	5	Site within this typology should be freely accessible to the public.
B2	What forms of access is there?	1	A site within this typology should at least provide access for pedestrians.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	2	A site within this typology should provide opportunities for informal recreational activities e.g. walking and sitting/ relaxing.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E1	Is there indication that natural features are being managed for	1	Sites within this typology should be primarily managed to

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
	nature conservation?		conserve and enhance nature conservation value.
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	7	A range of vegetation cover/ types should be provided e.g. amenity grassland, short grassland, wildflower grassland, tall herbs, tree groups and veteran trees.
F	**Character setting**		
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area?	1	Sites within this typology should contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area.
F5	Does the open space feature any recognisable landmark features of local importance?	1	It is likely a site within this typology contains a feature which is of importance to the surrounding area.
H	**Educational interest**		
H3	Does the site offer educational interest (e.g. nature conservation interest or local historic significance)?	1	The characteristics of these sites suggest there should be features which offer educational interest.
Total value score		**24**	

Allotments, community gardens and urban farms

The Table below details the characteristics/ features an allotment, community garden or urban farm should provide to be considered as being of high value.

Table 0.8 Calculation of value thresholds for allotments, community gardens and urban farms

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
A	**Designations**		
A5/ A6	Designations: Local – statutory Or Designations: Other	1	It is likely that a site of high value within this typology is covered by at least one designation.
B	**Informal recreation**		
B2	What forms of access is there?	3	A site within this typology should provide three forms of access e.g. pedestrians, disabled and vehicles.
B4	Is there evidence the open space is being used for informal recreation?	1	Allotments should provide opportunities for at least one informal recreational activities e.g. sitting/ relaxing.
E	**Natural habitats/ biodiversity**		
E2	Vegetation cover/ type	7	A range of vegetation cover/ types should be provided e.g. allotments (active), amenity grassland, wildflower grassland, tall herbs, tree groups, scrub and veteran trees.
F	**Character setting**		
F3	Does the open space contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area?	1	Sites within this typology should contribute to the character setting of the immediate local area.
I	Productive landscape		
I1	Communal food growing/ allotments	1	Allotment plots should be in active use.

Item number	Characteristic	Score	Justification
Total value score		**14**	

Quality threshold standards

Parks and gardens

Large sites

The quality threshold for large parks and gardens has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type and size. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest quality score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and size group.

Medium and small sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a large or medium park and garden should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.1 Calculation of quality thresholds for medium and small parks and gardens

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			
1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	4	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas
1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	4	Open space accessible by public transport links which are suitably located, provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, cycle parking within or adjacent to site and disabled parking adjacent to site.
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition
	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
	Cycle parking	3	Other facilities are fit for purpose and in good physical condition.

2c	Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?	1	
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
2c	Is there a flow of people through the park (to achieve natural surveillance)?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	5	No evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism
3d	Overall condition/quality of planted areas (trees, shrubs, floral areas etc)	5	Numerous planting, with appropriate mix of plants, installed and maintained to a very high standard
3e	Overall condition/quality of grass areas	5	Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut
3f	Overall condition/ quality of footpaths	3	Fit for purpose, good condition
Sustainability			
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
4c	Is there evidence of waste minimisation/ recycling?	1	
Conservation and heritage			
5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	3	Furniture coordinated, good path layout (no evidence of desire lines), planting areas/tree planting attractive and in scale with the size and layout of the space. Where there are contrasting areas/facilities in one space they merge/adjoin in an attractive way rather than appear as a mismatch of features. Landmark features/buildings are highlighted appropriately. Overall there appears to be adequate provision for the active/passive recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
Community involvement			
6a	Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site?	1	
6b	Is so, are up to date notices displayed?	1	
6c	Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments?	1	
6d	If so, are they up to date?	1	
Total quality score		**58**	

Natural and semi-natural green space

Large sites

The quality threshold for largenatural and semi-natural green space has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type and size. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest value score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and level of the hierarchy.

Medium sites

The quality threshold for medium natural and semi-natural green space has been determined by PCC based on the existing network of Green Flag Award sites of this type and size. The approach used was to set the threshold as the lowest value score achieved by a Green Flag Award site within this typology and level of the hierarchy.

Small sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a small natural and semi-natural green space should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.2 Calculation of quality thresholds for small natural and semi-natural green space

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			
1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	4	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas
1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	3	May have some public transport links but these may not be suitably located. Provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, may have cycle parking and/ or disabled parking within or adjacent to site
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition
	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	5	No evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism
3f	Overall condition/ quality of	3	Fit for purpose, good condition

	footpaths		
Sustainability			
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
4c	Is there evidence of waste minimisation/ recycling?	1	
Conservation and heritage			
5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	2	Furniture generally coordinated, with a few mismatched items. Generally good path layout with some evidence of desire lines. Planting areas/tree planting generally attractive but in some areas are out of scale with the size and layout of the space. Some contrasting areas/features/facilities stand out unattractively in the otherwise coordinated/well-designed space. There is a lack of provision for some of the active/recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
Community involvement			
6a	Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site?	1	
6b	Is so, are up to date notices displayed?	1	
6c	Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments?	1	
6d	If so, are they up to date?	1	
Total quality score		**41**	

Amenity green space

Large sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a large amenity green space should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.3 Calculation of quality thresholds for large amenity green space

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			
1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	4	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas

1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	4	Open space accessible by public transport links which are suitably located, provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, cycle parking within or adjacent to site and disabled parking adjacent to site.
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail.
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition
	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
2c	Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?	1	
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
2e	Is there a flow of people through the park (to achieve self-surveillance)?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	4	Very limited evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism
	Overall condition/ quality of grass area	4	Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short
3f	Overall condition/ quality of footpaths	3	Fit for purpose, good condition
Sustainability			
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
4c	Is there evidence of waste minimisation/ recycling?	1	
Conservation and heritage			
5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	2	Furniture generally coordinated, with a few mismatched items. Generally good path layout with some evidence of desire lines. Planting areas/tree planting generally attractive but in some areas are out of scale with the size and layout of the space. Some contrasting areas/features/facilities stand out unattractively in the otherwise coordinated/well-designed space. There is a lack of provision for some of the active/recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
Total quality score		**42**	

Medium sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features an amenity green space should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.4 Calculation of quality thresholds for medium amenity green space

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			
1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting.
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	4	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas.
1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	3	May have some public transport links but these may not be suitably located. Provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, may have cycle parking and/ or disabled parking within or adjacent to site.
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail.
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition
	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
2c	Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?	1	
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	4	Very limited evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism
3e	Overall condition/ quality of grass area	4	Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short
3f	Overall condition/ quality of footpaths	3	Fit for purpose, good condition
Sustainability			
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
4c	Is there evidence of waste minimisation/ recycling?	1	
Conservation and heritage			

5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	2	Furniture generally coordinated, with a few mismatched items. Generally good path layout with some evidence of desire lines. Planting areas/tree planting generally attractive but in some areas are out of scale with the size and layout of the space. Some contrasting areas/features/facilities stand out unattractively in the otherwise coordinated/well-designed space. There is a lack of provision for some of the active/recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
Total quality score		**41**	

Small sites

The Table below details the characteristics/ features a small amenity green space should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.5 Calculation of quality thresholds for small amenity green space

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			
1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	3	Suitable materials, level for safe use, some disabled access
1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	3	May have some public transport links but these may not be suitably located. Provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, may have cycle parking and/ or disabled parking within or adjacent to site
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition
	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
2c	Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?	1	
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	4	Very limited evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism

3e	Overall condition/quality of grass areas	4	Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut, few weeds, grass cut frequently to keep length short
3f	Overall condition/ quality of footpaths	3	Fit for purpose, good condition
Sustainability			
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
Conservation and heritage			
5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	2	Furniture generally coordinated, with a few mismatched items. Generally good path layout with some evidence of desire lines. Planting areas/tree planting generally attractive but in some areas are out of scale with the size and layout of the space. Some contrasting areas/features/facilities stand out unattractively in the otherwise coordinated/well-designed space. There is a lack of provision for some of the active/recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
Total quality score		**39**	

Green corridors

The Table below details the characteristics/ features green corridors should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.6 Calculation of quality thresholds for green corridors

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			
1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	僭揪Suit	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas
1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	3	May have some public transport links but these may not be suitably located. Provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, may have cycle parking and/ or disabled parking within or adjacent to site.
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition

	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
2c	Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?	1	
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	4	Very limited evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism.
3e	Overall condition/quality of grass areas	3	Full grass cover throughout main area but some 'thin' patches evident; some bald areas discreet; grass cut frequently but length excessive between cuts, cut quality good (no tearing).
3f	Overall condition/ quality of footpaths	3	Fit for purpose, good condition
Sustainability			
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
Conservation and heritage			
5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	3	Furniture coordinated, good path layout (no evidence of desire lines), planting areas/tree planting attractive and in scale with the size and layout of the space. Where there are contrasting areas/facilities in one space they merge/adjoin in an attractive way rather than appear as a mismatch of features. Landmark features/buildings are highlighted appropriately. Overall there appears to be adequate provision for the active/passive recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
Community involvement			
6a	Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site?	1	
6b	If so, are up to date notices displayed?	1	
6b	Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments?	1	
6c	If so, are they up to date?	1	
Total quality score		**44**	

Cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds

The Table below details the characteristics/ features cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds should provide to be considered as being of high quality.

Table 0.7 Calculation of quality thresholds for cemeteries, churchyards and burial grounds

Question No.	Audit question	Score	Quality/Condition Scoring Criteria
Welcoming Place			

1a	To what extent are the entrances well presented?	4	Easy to find, with a welcome/advisory sign, appropriate size, clear, clean, tidy, well maintained and inviting
1b	To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained?	3	Well maintained
1c	Overall quality of access and accesses within open space?	4	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined, disabled access in most areas
1d	Overall quality of access and accesses to open space?	4	Open space accessible by public transport links which are suitably located, provision for pedestrians to cross busy trafficked roads, cycle parking within or adjacent to site and disabled parking adjacent to site.
1e	Overall quality of signage provision?	2	Information available for locals and visitors (could be on boards or leaflet form) in some detail
Health, safety and secure			
2a	Overall provision for informal recreation?	2	Provision may not be attractive to all potential users although some provision is generally fit for purpose.
2b Quality/condition of basic amenities/site furniture provision			
	Litter and/ or dog bins	3	Numerous and in good condition
	Seating	3	Numerous for the size of the site and in good condition
2c	Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties?	1	
2d	Do approaches feel open and secure?	1	
Clean and well maintained			
3c	Overall level of cleanliness	5	No evidence of litter, dog fouling or graffiti or vandalism
3e	Overall condition/quality of grass areas	4	Full grass cover throughout, dense sward, good colour and cleanly cut
3f	Overall condition/ quality of footpaths	3	Fit for purpose, good condition
3h	Condition of buildings or built structures?	3	Fit for purpose, good condition (brickwork in good condition, roofing in sound condition, gutters clear and intact, painted surfaces clean/intact, windows clean and undamaged, no evidence of vandalism).
Sustainability			
4a	Is there green waste composting area on site?	1	
4b	Is there evidence of sustainable management practices?	1	
4c	Is there evidence of waste minimisation/ recycling?	1	

Conservation and heritage			
5a	Rate the overall design of the open space	3	Furniture coordinated, good path layout (no evidence of desire lines), planting areas/tree planting attractive and in scale with the size and layout of the space. Where there are contrasting areas/facilities in one space they merge/adjoin in an attractive way rather than appear as a mismatch of features. Landmark features/buildings are highlighted appropriately. Overall there appears to be adequate provision for the active/passive recreational uses appropriate to the typology.
5b	Is there indication that historic buildings and structures are being conserved?	1	
Community involvement			
6a	Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site?	1	
6b	Is so, are up to date notices displayed?	1	
6c	Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments?	1	
6d	If so, are they up to date?	1	
Total quality score		**53**	

Appendix 5: Sites by quality and value

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
Plymstock	2	Saltram Park	Parks and Gardens	More than 10ha	131.86	70	73	48	67	+	+	++
Central	11	Central Park	Parks and Gardens	More than 10ha	77.56	54	40	48	67	+	-	+-
South	48	Devonport Park	Parks and Gardens	More than 10ha	16.49	48	69	48	67	+	+	++
South	49	The Hoe	Parks and Gardens	More than 10ha	12.48	57	67	48	67	+	+	++
Plympton	51	Plym Valley Walk	Parks and Gardens	More than 10ha	12.9	46	38	48	67	-	-	--
Central	54	Tothill Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	6.73	36	48	33	58	+	-	+-
Plymstock	61	Radford Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	6.84	46	40	33	58	+	-	+-
South	71	Victoria Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	6.57	38	37	33	58	+	-	+-
Central	88	Trefusis Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	6.06	29	35	33	58	-	-	--
Central	100	Pounds Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	5.76	37	35	33	58	+	-	+-
South	107	Mount Wise	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	4.15	46	41	33	58	+	-	+-
South	141	Beaumont Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	3.5	23	44	33	58	-	-	--
Central	145	Freedom Fields	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	3.06	33	61	33	58	+	+	++
Central	163	Hartley Pleasure Gardens	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	3.28	27	35	33	58	-	-	--
Central	165	Mount Gould Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	2.93	28	23	33	58	-	-	--
South West	177	Block House Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 10ha	3.44	37	34	33	58	+	-	+-
South West	167	St Leven Recreation Ground	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	1.38	23	40	25	58	-	-	--
South West	175	Alexandra Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	1.86	29	41	25	58	+	-	+-
South West	189	Road Open Space	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.87	24	30	25	58	-	-	--
Central	201	Mutley Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	1.47	23	30	25	58	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
South	207	West Hoe Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	1.43	40	57	25	58	+	-	+-
West	223	Open Space	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	1.46	22	29	25	58	-	-	--
South	240	Astor Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	1.39	20	45	25	58	-	-	--
South	302	Land off Hoe RD	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.46	25	24	25	58	+	-	+-
Central	307	Thorn Park	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.85	23	45	25	58	-	-	--
South	318	Radford Road	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.49	12	40	25	58	-	-	--
Central	338	Oxford Gardens	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.34	16	21	25	58	-	-	--
South	358	The Mound (Hoe)	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.4	29	42	25	58	+	-	+-
Central	379	Drakes Place Gdns	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.92	23	57	25	58	-	-	--
South	393	Cumberland Gardens	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.11	16	38	25	58	-	-	--
West	451	Memorial gardens and play area under Tamar Bridge	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.09	25	59	25	58	+	+	++
South	505	Astor Gardens	Parks and Gardens	Less than 2ha	0.02	17	13	25	58	-	-	--
North	1	Plym Valley	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	154	54	44	43	42	+	+	++
Plymstock	7	Radford Woods	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	44.04	44	32	43	42	+	-	+-
West	10	Ham Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	43.04	43	42	43	42	+	+	++
North	12	Lower Plym Valley/ Leigham Woods	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	42.84	42	26	43	42	-	-	--
North West	13	Woodland Wood Local Nature Reserve	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	34.07	42	55	43	42	-	+	-+

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
Central	15	Marsh Local Nature Reserve	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	38.99	47	29	43	42	+	-	+-
North	18	Southway Valley LNR	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	18.48	29	50	43	42	-	+	-+
North	21	Valley Local Nature Reserve	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	23.47	26	25	43	42	-	-	--
North West	25	Budshead Creek	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	12.28	46	39	43	42	+	-	+-
North West	26	Cann Woods Local Nature Reserve	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	32.27	31	38	43	42	-	-	--
North	28	Valley Local Nature Reserve (east)	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	21.79	34	33	43	42	-	-	--
North West	32	Whitleigh Wood Local Nature Reserve	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	22.28	34	31	43	42	-	-	--
Plympton	36	Hardwick Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	29.13	37	32	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	39	Mount Batten	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	12.11	58	55	43	42	+	+	++
North West	42	Budshead Wood Local Nature Reserve	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	16.61	32	35	43	42	-	-	--
North	46	Valley Local Nature Reserve (west)	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	10.64	28	20	43	42	-	-	--
Urban Fringe	513	Plym Valley East	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	More than 10ha	548.3	46	31	43	42	+	-	+-
Central	17	Hollycroft Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.46	19	18	43	42	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	19	Crescent Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	4.87	19	18	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	27	Hooe Lake	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.5	46	22	43	42	+	-	+-
North West	38	Warren Point	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.08	46	38	43	42	+	-	+-
West	55	Blackies Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	7.3	32	35	43	42	-	-	--
South	58	Hoe Foreshore	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	5.29	48	42	43	42	+	+	++
West	67	Kinterbury Creek	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	8.68	39	28	43	42	-	-	--
Plympton	77	Greenacres (Woodland Trust)	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	4.98	25	23	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	78	Knapps Close Cops	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	2.75	18	14	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	80	Jews Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	3.88	16	15	43	42	-	-	--
North	81	Sheepstor Road	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	3.32	18	17	43	42	-	-	--
North West	82	Duncombe Avenue Woods	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	2.7	12	9	43	42	-	-	--
Plympton	84	Chaddlewood Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.79	34	27	43	42	-	-	--
Central	87	Blagdons Meadow	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	3.81	30	34	43	42	-	-	--
Plympton	98	Newnham Road Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.86	35	31	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	103	Plym Estuary (blaxton meadow)	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.34	37	28	43	42	-	-	--
North	104	Valley Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	2.24	27	48	43	42	-	+	-+
Plympton	105	Plympton Pathfields	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	6.57	36	47	43	42	-	+	-+

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North	118	Eggbucklan d Vale Community Woodland	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	5.15	16	13	43	42	-	-	--
Plympton	136	Meadows District Park	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	3.85	32	35	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	162	Arscott Lane	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	2.6	27	17	43	42	-	-	--
Central	176	Laira Emplaceme nt	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	2.27	30	8	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	187	Dunstone Woods	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	2.11	19	20	43	42	-	-	--
Plymstock	434	Hooe Lake	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	3.83	36	18	43	42	-	-	--
West	435	Kings T NR	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	7.31	31	38	43	42	-	-	--
Urban Fringe	517	Near West Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 10ha	3.51	14	23	43	42	-	-	--
Plympton	59	Hill open space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.21	14	33	24	41	-	-	--
South	117	Old Cattedown Road	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.65	27	21	24	41	+	-	+-
South	129	Land off Madeira Road	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	1.91	40	25	24	41	+	-	+-
North	144	Longdown Gardens	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	1.81	21	17	24	41	-	-	--
South West	157	Penlee Eco Park	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	1.21	20	30	24	41	-	-	--
North	178	Glen Holt Woods	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	1.46	16	15	24	41	-	-	--
Central	262	Avenue Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.72	13	15	24	41	-	-	--
North West	269	Road Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	1.12	14	24	24	41	-	-	--
North	285	Thirlmere Gardens	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.59	13	11	24	41	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North	294	Huxham Close Open Space	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	1.01	15	15	24	41	-	-	--
North	309	Down Wood	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.62	20	18	24	41	-	-	--
Plymstock	344	Mt Batten Tower	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.43	38	42	24	41	+	+	++
Plymstock	370	Arcada Rd	Natural and Semi-natural Green Space	Less than 2ha	0.3	16	18	24	41	-	-	--
Plymstock	40	Oreston Railway Line (Cycle Path)	Green Corridors	n/a	1.78	29	23	25	44	+	-	+-
South West	125	Linear Park	Green Corridors	n/a	1.37	18	33	25	44	-	-	--
South	440	Armada Way	Green Corridors	n/a	2.31	25	45	25	44	+	+	++
South	444	Land off Stanley Place	Green Corridors	n/a	1.01	20	10	25	44	-	-	--
Central	445	Cross Roundabou	Green Corridors	n/a	0.55	19	56	25	44	-	+	-+
South	479	Jigsaw Garden	Green Corridors	n/a	0.17	17	38	25	44	-	-	--
Urban Fringe	520	Woodland Belt 1	Green Corridors	n/a	1.18	10	9	25	44	-	-	--
Urban Fringe	521	Woodland Belt 2	Green Corridors	n/a	3.23	6	12	25	44	-	-	--
North West	22	Woodland Wood Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	10.97	31	39	38	42	-	-	--
North West	30	Tamerton Lake	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	12.73	51	47	38	42	+	+	++
Plymstock	43	Jennycliff	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	42.32	59	39	38	42	+	-	+-
Plymstock	44	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	17.48	38	23	38	42	+	-	+-
Central	53	Efford Valley	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	10.6	39	31	38	42	+	-	+-
North	64	Manadon Park	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	11.75	32	32	38	42	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North	70	Plymouth Parkway FC & Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	More than 10ha	11.84	28	37	38	42	-	-	--
North	56	Miller Way	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	8.04	29	23	30	41	-	-	--
North	65	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	8.66	19	23	30	41	-	-	--
South	68	Devil's Point	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	6.51	55	52	30	41	+	+	++
North West	75	Chivenor Avenue	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	5.65	26	41	30	41	-	+	-+
North	94	Bladder Meadow	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	3.46	36	44	30	41	+	+	++
North West	95	West Park	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	7.19	30	49	30	41	+	+	++
North	96	Southway Drive	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.66	19	40	30	41	-	-	--
Plympton	106	Redwood Drive	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	6.41	20	23	30	41	-	-	--
North	112	Southway Valley Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	4.25	36	41	30	41	+	+	++
South	128	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	3.11	20	35	30	41	-	-	--
Plympton	131	Deveron Close Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.25	26	27	30	41	-	-	--
North	137	Hunter Close Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.07	21	32	30	41	-	-	--
North West	139	Wollaton Grove Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	3.6	20	34	30	41	-	-	--
Plymstock	147	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	3.34	20	33	30	41	-	-	--
North	152	Eggbucklan d Recreation Ground	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	3.26	21	29	30	41	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	158	Butt Park Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.09	23	41	30	41	-	+	-+
Central	166	Park Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.97	17	20	30	41	-	-	--
Plympton	180	Yealmpstone Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.33	27	39	30	41	-	-	--
South West	194	Northdown Recreation Ground	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.72	24	29	30	41	-	-	--
Plympton	401	Glen Road East	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	3.28	33	26	30	41	+	-	+-
North West	403	Ernesettle Recreation Ground	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 10ha	2.26	18	35	30	41	-	-	--
Plympton	113	Park Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.91	15	12	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	126	Glen Road South	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.58	20	29	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	133	St Maurice Road	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.75	22	32	20	39	+	-	+-
North	146	Bearsdown Road	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.5	14	26	20	39	-	-	--
West	164	Kings Tamerton Playground	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.47	15	25	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	174	Littlewood Close Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.42	23	34	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	179	Road wooded verge	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.75	21	27	20	39	+	-	+-
West	183	Normandy Way	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.54	22	22	20	39	+	-	+-
North West	186	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.89	22	34	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	192	Peacock Meadow	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.46	34	43	20	39	+	+	++
Central	193	Pike Road	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.73	20	19	20	39	+	-	+-

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	198	Avenue Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.67	16	33	20	39	-	-	--
North	202	Berverston e Way Path	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.62	18	35	20	39	-	-	--
West	205	Land North of Normandy Hill	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.7	18	40	20	39	-	+	-+
West	206	St Budeaux Recreation Ground	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.6	23	24	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	210	Glen Road West	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.64	25	25	20	39	+	-	+-
West	212	Oates Road/ Wolseley Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.68	11	21	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	215	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.79	15	19	20	39	-	-	--
North West	216	Honicknowl e Green	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.66	20	34	20	39	+	-	+-
North West	217	Avenue Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.58	13	22	20	39	-	-	--
West	218	Land east of Duloe Gardens	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.09	23	14	20	39	+	-	+-
North West	220	Land South of Chaucer Way	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.94	15	26	20	39	-	-	--
South	221	Millbay Park	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.97	18	30	20	39	-	-	--
North	227	Bampfylde Way	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.91	25	36	20	39	+	-	+-
West	228	Land North of Ham Drive	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.81	21	12	20	39	+	-	+-
Plymstock	231	Brook Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.46	21	29	20	39	+	-	+-

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North	233	Big Park Millennium Green	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.86	23	45	20	39	+	+	++
South	234	Playing Field	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.62	22	23	20	39	+	-	+-
South West	236	Avenue Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.83	25	25	20	39	+	-	+-
North West	237	Budshead Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.5	20	18	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	242	Plympton Castle	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.84	35	27	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	244	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.94	16	34	20	39	-	-	--
South West	246	Devonport Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.29	19	17	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	247	Oreston Recreation Ground	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.48	18	29	20	39	-	-	--
Central	248	Efford Playing Field	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.67	15	17	20	39	-	-	--
South	249	Teats Hill	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.57	41	36	20	39	+	-	+-
Plymstock	255	Downham Park	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.44	14	20	20	39	-	-	--
Central	256	Lipson Vale Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.5	17	28	20	39	-	-	--
South	258	The Millfields, Craigie Drive	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.34	22	56	20	39	+	+	++
West	261	Gardens Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.46	13	23	20	39	-	-	--
North West	263	Seven Star Lane	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.74	17	46	20	39	-	+	-+
North	266	Churchstow Walk Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.15	18	22	20	39	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
Plympton	267	Great Woodford Drive (South)	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.83	19	18	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	270	Parkstone Lane Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.55	17	17	20	39	-	-	--
North	271	Drive South	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.07	14	8	20	39	-	-	--
North	274	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.83	20	44	20	39	+	+	++
North	275	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.37	13	26	20	39	-	-	--
North	276	Lulworth Drive Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.29	13	33	20	39	-	-	--
South	283	Mutton Cove Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.5	25	28	20	39	+	-	+-
North	286	Pattison Drive North	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1	18	18	20	39	-	-	--
North	288	Junction Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.4	12	41	20	39	-	+	-+
Central	289	Avenue Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.41	15	11	20	39	-	-	--
Central	290	Crescent Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.66	15	15	20	39	-	-	--
South	292	North Road West Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.41	20	31	20	39	+	-	+-
Plymstock	296	Lawrence Road	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.97	17	29	20	39	-	-	--
North West	301	Sheridan Road Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.01	13	38	20	39	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	311	Chaucer Primary School Playing Fields	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.01	14	27	20	39	-	-	--
North	312	Carradale Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.48	11	23	20	39	-	-	--
West	315	Fletemoor Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.56	14	16	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	316	Hooe Green	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.98	31	45	20	39	+	+	++
North West	320	Avenue Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.94	15	36	20	39	-	-	--
Central	321	Yeo Close	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.57	20	28	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	324	Avenue Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.57	32	46	20	39	+	+	++
North West	332	between Brentford Avenue and Taunton Avenue	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.37	14	26	20	39	-	-	--
South	337	Way Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.38	19	36	20	39	-	-	--
South	340	Patna Place	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.5	20	35	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	342	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.43	14	31	20	39	-	-	--
Central	343	Thames Gardens	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.46	22	35	20	39	+	-	+-
Plympton	345	Back Lane Field Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.12	30	46	20	39	+	+	++
Central	346	Channel Park Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.04	18	10	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	354	Ridgeway open space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.3	15	25	20	39	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	357	Land south of Byron Avenue	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.23	14	26	20	39	-	-	--
North	359	Road Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.43	15	19	20	39	-	-	--
North	360	Middlefield Road	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.34	13	27	20	39	-	-	--
West	361	Playing field	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.6	14	9	20	39	-	-	--
West	363	Titchy Park	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.37	15	27	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	364	Oreston Quay	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.39	21	47	20	39	+	+	++
North	365	Way Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.55	18	37	20	39	-	-	--
North West	368	Land north of Swift Gardens	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.44	13	26	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	374	Wheatridge Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.38	17	29	20	39	-	-	--
South	376	Durnford Street	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.09	18	25	20	39	-	-	--
Central	377	Kneele Gardens	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.26	9	17	20	39	-	-	--
South	380	Land adjacent to Morice Street	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.24	15	21	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	384	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.17	15	32	20	39	-	-	--
Central	385	Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.21	13	19	20	39	-	-	--
Central	386	Douglas Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.22	12	29	20	39	-	-	--
Central	388	mbe Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.12	16	25	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	391	Meadow Park Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.14	11	18	20	39	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
South	392	Barrack Place Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.19	19	34	20	39	-	-	--
Central	394	Gardens Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.16	7	13	20	39	-	-	--
West	395	Land between Stanhope Road and Stirling Road	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.11	8	15	20	39	-	-	--
Central	396	Moor View Park	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.1	23	39	20	39	+	+	++
Plympton	397	Lotherton Close open space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.1	15	22	20	39	-	-	--
North	398	Combley Drive Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.12	13	20	20	39	-	-	--
Plymstock	400	Coleman Drive Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.74	18	22	20	39	-	-	--
South	406	Royal William Yard Green	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.99	27	56	20	39	+	+	++
West	427	Street Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.17	13	31	20	39	-	-	--
North	429	Whitehaven Way	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.47	16	30	20	39	-	-	--
North	430	Pendeen Close	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.75	17	35	20	39	-	-	--
North West	432	Coombe Place Cove	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.2	10	21	20	39	-	-	--
North	453	Pattinson Drive Open Space	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.63	19	30	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	455	Woodford Verges	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.2	14	20	20	39	-	-	--
South	456	Deveonport Central Square	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.11	15	41	20	39	-	+	-+

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	457	Land rea of Rochford Crescent	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.23	9	9	20	39	-	-	--
North West	458	of Stapleford Gardens	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.2	10	10	20	39	-	-	--
North	459	Land rear of Kinnaird Crescent P/G	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.29	12	10	20	39	-	-	--
North West	460	St Budeaux Green	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.42	26	22	20	39	+	-	+-
North	461	Land off of Keswick Crescent	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.16	14	13	20	39	-	-	--
North	463	Land at Cameron Way	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.39	23	36	20	39	+	-	+-
North West	469	Chard Barton Play and Greenspace	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.27	16	27	20	39	-	-	--
Central	500	Land at Bernice Close	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.31	12	34	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	502	Vicarage Road Triangle	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.13	14	31	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	503	Golden Square	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.06	14	37	20	39	-	-	--
South	508	Waterloo Court	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.22	11	22	20	39	-	-	--
Urban Fringe	523	Carron Lane	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	1.68	17	39	20	39	-	+	-+
Urban Fringe	524	Churchland s	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.11	9	22	20	39	-	-	--
Plympton	526	Hemerdon Heights	Amenity Greenspaces	Less than 2ha	0.32	13	25	20	39	-	-	--
North	50	Blunts Lane Allottments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.55	14		14		+		+
North West	143	Southway Community Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.95	10		14		-		-

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
North West	151	Kendal Place Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.91	11		14		-		-
South West	156	Frys Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.79	13		14		-		-
South West	172	Penlee Valley Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	2.03	19		14		+		+
West	185	and Bridwell Road Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.93	8		14		-		-
South West	209	Knowle Avenue Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.52	18		14		+		+
Central	224	Rd Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.17	15		14		+		+
Central	241	Rd Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.49	11		14		-		-
Central	245	Embankment rd Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.82	10		14		-		-
Plympton	251	Stoggy Lane Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.68	13		14		-		-
Plymstock	264	Hooe Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.86	8		14		-		-
North	279	Southway Drive Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.28	13		14		-		-
West	303	Corporation Road Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.82	9		14		-		-
West	328	Langstone Road Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.54	6		14		-		-
North West	333	Coverdale Place Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.46	8		14		-		-
North West	335	Site north of Eastbury Avenue	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.65	5		14		-		-

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
Plymstock	336	Old Wharf Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.33	16		14		+		+
South West	355	Parkside Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.79	11		14		-		-
Plympton	375	Lucas Lane Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.31	10		14		-		-
South West	447	Rowdons Allotments	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.61	17		14		+		+
South West	507	Fitzroy Road Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.15	9		14		-		-
South West	510	Henderson Place Allotments	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	0.29	9		14		-		-
Urban Fringe	528	Orchard - Brixton	Gardens and Urban Farms	n/a	1.72	6		14		-		-
West	60	Weston Mill Cemetery	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	12.29	24	56	24	53	+	+	++
Central	63	Ford Park Cemetery	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	14.21	31	39	24	53	+	-	+-
Central	66	Efford Cemetery	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	16.98	29	55	24	53	+	+	++
Plympton	204	Church Yard	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	2.02	33	51	24	53	+	-	+-
South West	208	Stoke Churchyard	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	1.8	30	25	24	53	+	-	+-
Plympton	319	Longcause Cemetery	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	0.59	15	32	24	53	-	-	--
Plymstock	326	Parish Church of Mary & All Saints	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	0.51	18	35	24	53	-	-	--
West	356	St Pancras Church Graveyard	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	0.42	20	20	24	53	-	-	--
Plymstock	362	Hooe Church Yard	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	0.35	16	33	24	53	-	-	--
Plymstock	439	Haye Road Cemetery	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	5.14	25	54	24	53	+	+	++
Plympton	454	Plympton St. Maurice Churchyard	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	0.19	16	33	24	53	-	-	--

Analysis Area	SITE ID	NAME	Type	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	Value score	Quality score	Value threshold	Quality threshold	Value	Quality	VQ rating
Urban Fringe	527	Cemetery - Brixton	Churchyards and Cemeteries	n/a	0.63	9	37	24	53	-	-	--