

Open Space Designations

The Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough: Background Paper

Date: April 2016

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The aim of this background paper is to explain the designation of open spaces within the borough and make recommendations, based on officer's assessments, on sites for inclusion within the Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough (PBW).
- 1.2. The paper will set out the national and local policy context to designating open space and make clear the methodology used by the council for the assessments. Recommendations will be made on what type of open space designation sites should have.
- 1.3. Open space is important to the borough due to its valuable contribution to quality of life, health, biodiversity, climate regulation, historic conservation and more.
- 1.4. The provision of open space within the borough is of high importance to a sustainable future.

2. Background and Policy Context

National Policy

- 2.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in 2012 recognises the important contribution of public open space. Paragraph 73 states that; 'Access to high quality open spaces and opportunity for sports and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities.' Paragraph 74 goes on to say that open space, sports and recreation facilities should not be built on, and therefore should be retained wherever possible, other than in specific circumstances.
- 2.2. Paragraph 76 of the NPPF then introduces a new Local Green Space designation. Paragraph 76 says that local communities should be given the opportunity to identify green areas of particular importance to them through local and neighbourhood plans. These designations would rule out development other than in very special circumstances.
- 2.3. Paragraph 77 of the NPPF notes that the designation would not be appropriate for most green areas. It sets out the following criteria for designating Local Green Spaces:
 - Where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
 - Where the green space is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
 - Where the green space is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

Local Policy

- 2.4. The new local plan will be formed of two parts. Part 1 of the new local plan comprises the emerging North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) which includes high level strategic policies. The Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough (PBW) will form Part 2 of the new local plan and will provide more locally specific policies.
- 2.5. Policy 7 of the JCS discusses the provision, protection and enhancement of community services and facilities in the area, including open space.

- 2.6. Paragraph 3.87 of the JCS, supporting policy 7, states that 'individual areas of open space will be designated for protection through Part 2 Local Plans or Neighbourhood Plans.'
- 2.7. Paragraph 3.88 goes onto say the 'Green areas identified through local assessments as being of particular importance to the community may also be designated for special protection as Local Green Space (LGS) through Part 2 Local Plans or Neighbourhood Plans.'
- 2.8. Neighbourhood plans have been or are being prepared within the borough for: Earls Barton; Irchester, Little Irchester and Knuston; Wollaston and Ecton. Earls Barton neighbourhood plan has now been adopted and includes Local Open Space and Local Green Space designations. Wollaston neighbourhood plan group, as part of the neighbourhood plan preparation, have also been considering the local open space and local green space designations. Irchester neighbourhood plan group has asked that the borough council consider local open space designations within their area. Ecton are currently considering what their neighbourhood plan will cover.
- 2.9. The council has identified two types of open space within the borough in previous plans on the policy maps. In 2004, as part of the Borough of Wellingborough Local Plan (2004), the council carried out a borough-wide assessment of open space, sports and recreational facilities. The outcome of this assessment aided the council's designations of open space in the borough as Environmentally Important Open Space (EIOS) and/ or Important Amenity Areas (IAA). These two designations were reviewed and carried over to the Local Plan Saved Policies (2007).
- 2.10. The purpose of EIOS was to restrict development to ensure the open character, visual or physical character and structure of settlements was protected. The designation included parks, traditional village greens and more informal areas as well as the town's linear park system. These open spaces did not need to be publicly accessible.
- 2.11. IAAs were defined as those open spaces with an important function generally associated with recreation or leisure use. These included sports grounds, pocket parks, informal open space and children's play areas. Proposals to use IAAs for alternative purposes were generally resisted.

3. TEP Study and Recommendations

- 3.1. In 2014 the council commissioned consultants The Environment Partnership (TEP) to undertake an Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment¹.
- 3.2. The purpose of the study was to assess the quantity, quality and accessibility of existing open space, sports and recreation provision in the borough; identify deficiencies and surpluses in provision; and as a result propose local standard for each typology and any other recommendations.

¹ http://www.wellingborough.gov.uk/downloads/file/6896/tep_open_space_sports_and_recreation_report

- 3.3. The number of each typology of open space, sport and recreation facilities in the borough that were audited and assessed are as follows;

Table 1: Open space, sports and recreation typologies in the borough of Wellingborough

Typology	Description	Amount
Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks and formal gardens. Parks usually contain a variety of facilities, and may have one of more of the other types of open space within them.	18
Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space	Includes country parks, nature reserves, publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands (e.g. downlands, commons, and meadows), wetlands and wastelands.	69
Amenity Greenspace	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.	114
Linear Greenspace	Linear green spaces including towpaths along canals and riverbanks, cycleways, rights of way and disused railway lines.	102
Provision for Children and Young People	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction specifically designed as equipped play facilities.	49
Allotments and Community Gardens	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion	25
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Cemeteries and churchyards including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.	36
Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced areas located usually located within town or city centres.	2
Outdoor Sports and Recreational facilities	Natural or artificial surfaces either publicly or privately owned used for sport and recreation. Includes school playing fields.	71
Indoor Sports and Recreational facilities	Includes indoor sports halls, gyms, and swimming pools.	42

- 3.4. The principle outcome of the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment is that open spaces in Wellingborough require protection, enhancement and provision; this is in line with policy 7 of the JCS and the NPPF.
- 3.5. The protection of sites seeks to safeguard them from loss as a result of development or redevelopment; enhancement is carried out through improving each sites quality, accessibility and management; and provision of new sites ensures the council meets current and future needs.
- 3.6. The Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment report makes recommendations on how to address each of these aspects. It makes two main recommendations on using designations to protect open space in the borough;

- Wellingborough should continue to have Environmentally Important Open Space (EIOS) and Important Amenity Area (IAA) designations; allowing both to be used in tandem but also separately dependent on each site. BCW should review EIOS and IAA criteria to ensure they are consistent with NPPF policy.
 - Local Policy should be introduced for 'Local Green Space' in line with NPPF policy.
- 3.7. The Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment recommendations have been reflected on by the council. It is considered that three different open space designations would be potentially confusing.
- 3.8. The currently designated EIOS in the borough is however based on similar principles to the newly introduced Local Green Space. Therefore in reviewing the EIOS criteria to bring it in line with the NPPF it would be more appropriate to replace the EIOS designation with the Local Green Space designation.
- 3.9. The remaining open space within the borough, not previously designated as EIOS, should also be designated in order to ensure its continued protection. Not all of this remaining open space will fall into the previous category of IAA, and as this designation was created before the NPPF was introduced it needs to be updated. The new designation replacing IAA will be Local Open Space and will encompass all open space within the borough.
- 3.10. Therefore the council will be identifying two types of open space designations within the borough that seek to protect sites; Local Open Space and Local Green Space. Local Open Space will seek to protect all the open space sites identified within the borough, except for those designated as Local Green Space, which will seek to protect those open spaces of particular special and significant importance.
- 3.11. A further explanation of the designations and the methodology used for identifying them is provided in the section below.

4. Methodology

Local Open Space (LOS)

- 4.1. This is open space that is important because of how it is used. It could in some circumstances be relocated or if it is no longer required it could be redeveloped for other uses provided there is not a deficiency of open space in the area.
- 4.2. The Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment audited all of the open space within the borough and plotted the various typologies onto a mapping system known as GIS.
- 4.3. LOS will include all of the typologies set out in table 1 of this paper, excluding indoor sports and recreation facilities and civic spaces. Indoor sports and recreation facilities are not defined as open space due to their enclosed nature. Civic spaces are part of the public realm and therefore not defined as open space for the purposes of this assessment. These facilities and spaces will however still be protected and where appropriate enhanced by other policies of the plan. Therefore there are 484 sites in the borough that could qualify as LOS.

Local Green Space (LGS)

- 4.4. This is open space that is significant because of its location and could not be moved or provided elsewhere. This space will add significantly to the character of the settlements. It does not need to be publically accessible. Development will not be permitted on these sites due to their special importance. LGS could include any of the typologies identified in table 1, again excluding indoor sports and recreation facilities and civic spaces.
- 4.5. The NPPF sets out criteria for designating Local Green Spaces (see paragraph 2.3). These criteria were used to create a Local Green Space evaluation matrix. The methodology for applying the matrix can be found in Appendix A.
- 4.6. Part one of the methodology assesses the accessibility of the site. Part two of the assessment considers whether the site is demonstrably special to the local community. This part was based on beauty, historic significance, conservation interest, tranquillity, richness of wildlife, character and community significance. Sites must meet at least one of these criteria to be designated. Part three assesses whether the site is an extensive tract of land, if so the site cannot be designated as LGS in line with the NPPF.
- 4.7. According to the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment there are 484 open space sites within the borough. To assess this amount of sites for LGS would be an inefficient use of time and resources, particularly when the NPPF notes that the designation would not be appropriate for most green areas. Therefore as the principles of the existing EIOS designations are similar to the LGS designations these sites will be prioritised for reassessment to see if they meet the new criteria.
- 4.8. The council recognises that there may be some areas of open space that weren't previously designated as EIOS that ought to be designated as LGS. To ensure that all potential LGS sites were captured as part of the evaluation local knowledge and expertise of officers was used to identify further sites to be assessed. Other sites can also be put forward by the community as part of future consultation exercises. All of the sites assessed have been given a unique reference number beginning with LGS (note that all churchyards and cemeteries have been given the same reference of LGS CC).
- 4.9. It is considered that all of the sites within the cemeteries and churchyard typology, as identified in the Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Audit and Assessment, will be designated as LGS as these sites could not be moved elsewhere and all meet the criteria to be considered of special importance. A completed matrix form for this typology can be found towards the end of Appendix B.
- 4.10. The council will not be assessing sites for LGS within the Neighbourhood Plan Areas of Earls Barton and Wollaston as these have already been assessed as part of their Neighbourhood Plans.
- 4.11. Following identification of the sites, site visits were carried out by officers in October 2015, where an appraisal was made of each site to see if it met the criteria outlined in the matrix.
- 4.12. A desk top appraisal of the sites was then undertaken using GIS. This allowed officers to add further detail to the assessments, for example through the use of aerial imagery and to identify constraints such as listed buildings and wildlife designations.

4.13. The councils Landscape Officer and Conservation Officers were involved in the assessment as well as Planning Officers. The completed matrix forms for each potential LGS site can be found in Appendix B.

5. Results

5.1. The following section summarises the results of the LGS assessments. The results have been broken down into settlement areas. As mentioned above the full detailed matrix assessments of each site can be found in Appendix B, along with maps showing the designated LOS and LGS sites for each settlement.

Table 2: Assessment Summaries

Site Reference	Is the green area in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Is the green area demonstrably special to a local community and does it hold a particular local significance?	Is the site local in Character and not an extensive tract of land?	Conclusion
Bozeat				
LGS 1 - Spring Hill Farm, Dychurch Lane, Bozeat	Yes. The site is located within the Bozeat village confines and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. The site is of low visual diversity. It is surrounded by residential dwellings and agricultural buildings to the south, due to the nature of undulating landscape in this location it means the site does not generally afford any views out into the open countryside.	Yes. The site is local in character as it is generally surrounded by development and is integrated within the village.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. However, It will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 2 - Land adjacent Fish Alley, Bozeat	Yes. The site is located within Bozeat village confines and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is integral to the village and acts as a village green. It is important for community events.	Yes. The site is confined within the settlement form and forms an integral part of green assets to the local community.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 3 - Land North of Easton Lane, Bozeat	Yes. The site is located on the edge of the built form of Bozeat and is	No. Although the site has some views of the church spire there is development in the foreground	Yes. The site is confined within the road network and doesn't constitute an extensive tract of	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. However, It will be

	therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	and these views are not considered significantly important. Similarly, the site does not contribute significantly to the character and form of the village.	land.	designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 4 - Church Farm, London Road, Bozeat	Yes. The site is located within the Bozeat village confines and is therefore within immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. The site is fully enclosed and surrounded by a high wall. No views are afforded into or across the site.	Yes. The site is on the edge of Bozeat, with dwellings to the south and roads surrounding the north and east of the site, separating it from the open countryside.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. However, It will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 5 - Land adjacent to St Mary's Vicarage, Bozeat	Yes. The site is located within the Bozeat village confines and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site forms an integral part of the village and is structurally important to the village as it forms a central focus. Wooden fence posts and mature trees contribute to its rural setting.	Yes. The site is local in character as it is integral to the village and separate from open countryside.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Ecton				
LGS 19 - Land South of the Worlds End, Ecton	Yes. The site is located within Ecton village confines and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is the location of the village war memorial, which is of important historic significance. It provides a focus with natural surveillance. It is well maintained open space and structurally important to the settlement as it has the feel of a village green due to its form and location.	Yes. The site is a small piece of open space located centrally within Ecton village.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Finedon				
LGS 29 – The Recreation Ground	Yes. The site is located centrally within	No. The site is not structurally important to the settlement; its	Yes. The site is local in nature and is separate from open	No. The site will not be designated as

	Finedon and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	contribution to the character of Finedon is not significant.	countryside.	LGS. However, It will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 30 - Land West of Rose Hill (The Green), Finedon	Yes. The site is located centrally within Finedon and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is integral to the village and due to its central location has a village green feel. It provides important amenity space for Finedon which continues on visually from open space opposite Rose Hill.	Yes. It is integral to the village and mostly surrounded by development and reasonably small in nature. It is therefore not extensive.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 31-Banks Park, Finedon	Yes. The site is located centrally within Finedon and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides views across the settlement which enhances residential amenity. It is an integral part of the village, which is located centrally and therefore provides a village green feel.	Yes. The site is integral to the village and mostly surrounded by development and is reasonably small in nature. Therefore not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 32 - Obelisk Site, Finedon	Yes. The site is located centrally within Finedon and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is the location of the grade II listed Obelisk. The mature trees on site enhance its visual diversity.	Yes. The site is reasonably small in nature and therefore not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 80 - Finedon Cricket Ground, Finedon	Yes. The site is on the edge of Finedon village and therefore is in immediate proximity to the community that it serves.	Yes. The site makes an important contribution to the character of the village. It has a high number of mature trees, most of which are TPO's. The site is in keeping with the attractiveness of the local area which has a sense of rural openness.	Yes. The site is local in character as it has an enclosed border and is visually separate from the countryside and therefore not extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Great Doddington				

LGS 9 - The Rookery, Great Doddington	Yes. The site is located on the edge of Great Doddington's built form and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site contributes positively to the settings of the Conservation Area. It provides a peaceful and quite natural environment within the village.	Yes. The site provides visual separation from the countryside. It is reasonably small in nature and therefore not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. Site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Grendon				
LGS 6 - Land adjacent to Grendon Primary School, Grendon	Yes. The site is located within the centre of Grendon village and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is centrally located within the village and is fundamental to its form. The site is akin to a village green and provides a focus for natural surveillance as it is overlooked by properties on all sides.	Yes. The site is located within the centre of Grendon and surrounded by development on all sides.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 7 - Land north of Church Cottage, Grendon	Yes. The site is located within the centre of Grendon village and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. Due to the elevated nature of the site it cannot be viewed across from the road side. It is not integral to the form or character of the village; it does not make a significant contribution.	Yes. The site is located within Grendon and is surrounded by built form.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. However, it will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
Hardwick				
LGS 26 - The Rookery, Hardwick	Yes. The site is situated in the centre of Hardwick and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides views across the village and of St Leonards Church, therefore it has high visual amenity. The site contributes to the conservation area.	Yes. The site is integrated within the village and is therefore local in character and not extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Irchester				

LGS 18 - Recreation Ground, Irchester	Yes. The site is situated within Irchester and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. The site does not provide any significant views or does not significantly contribute to the village character	Yes. The site is integrated within the village and is therefore local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. It will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
Little Harrowden				
LGS 27 - Land South of King's Lane, Little Harrowden	Yes. The site is located close to the centre of Little Harrowden and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community that it serves.	No. The site is not structurally important to the village, for example it does not provide a village green effect and does not significantly contribute to the village's character.	Yes. The site is a small section of open space located within the centre of the village surrounded by development and is not extensive tract of land.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. However, It will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 82 - Pocket Park and Play Area, Little Harrowden	Yes. The site is located centrally within Little Harrowden and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides views across the open countryside towards Great Harrowden. The pocket park section of the site provides high amenity value and visual diversity.	Yes. The site is local in character and the pocket park is visually separate from the open countryside as it is fenced and tree lined.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Little Irchester				
LGS 33 - Land off Newton Road, Little Irchester	Yes. The site is located centrally within Little Irchester and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. The site has been developed for housing.	Yes. The site is integrated within the village and is therefore local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS or LOS as the site has been built on.
LGS 34 - Land at Riverside Close, Little Irchester	Yes. The site is located centrally within Little Irchester and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. Part of the site has been developed for housing. The site is not significant to the settlement in character or form.	Yes. The site is integrated within the village and is therefore local in character and not extensive tract of land.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS. However, part of the site will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 35 - Land at Daniels	Yes. The site is located	Yes. The site has important historic	Yes. The site is integrated within the	Yes. The site will be

Road, Little Irchester	centrally within Little Irchester and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	significance as it is the location of the village war memorial.	village and is therefore local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Mears Ashby				
LGS 20 - Land east of Lady's Lane & north of Wilby Road, Mears Ashby	Yes. The site is located centrally in Mears Ashby village and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides important views of the vicarage and the church. The array of mature trees and meadow flowers surrounding and within the site provides high visual diversity and beauty. It plays a fundamental part in defining the character and appearance of the village.	Yes. The site is centrally to Mears Ashby and is edge by development; therefore it is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 21- Land south of Vicarage Lane, Mears Ashby	Yes. The site is located centrally within Mears Ashby village and is therefore within the immediate proximity to the community it serves	Yes. This site defines the character and appearance of the village. It provides a feature point at end of Church Street/ Ladys/ Vicarage Lanes, and there is a clear sense of it being at the heart of the village.	Yes. The site is central to Mears Ashby and is edge by development; therefore it is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 22 - Land north of Wilby Road and west of Manor Road, Mears Ashby	Yes. The site is located in the centre of Mears Ashby and is therefore within immediate proximity to the community that it serves.	Yes. This site forms the central valley through Mears Ashby, provides the setting for All Saints church and defines the character and appearance of the village.	Yes. The site is central to Mears Ashby and is edge by development; therefore it is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Orlingbury				
LGS 28 - The Green, Orlingbury	Yes. The site is located centrally within Orlingbury and within	Yes. The site provides a village green like space in the centre of the village, and is	Yes. The site is a small area of open space located at the centre of the village. Therefore it is not an	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken

	immediate proximity to the community it serves.	therefore integral to the village character. The mature trees on site add to the leafy green character of the village.	extensive tract of land.	forward as part of the PBW.
Sywell				
LGS 23 - Land at Home Farm, Sywell	Yes. The site is located within Sywell Old Village and within immediate proximity to the community it serves.	No. Views into the site are limited due to the surrounding hedge. The site is not significantly important to the character and form of the village.	Yes. The site is a small area of open space located at the centre of the village. Therefore it is not an extensive tract of land.	No. The site will not be designated as LGS or LOS as the site is private enclosed agricultural land.
LGS 24 - Land behind 'The Cottage', Church Lane, Sywell	Yes. The site is located within Sywell Old Village and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site allows views across the village, particularly towards St Peters and St Paul's Church. It provides diverse landscape and visual amenity to the local residents.	Yes. The site is central to the village and edge by development; it is visually separate from the open countryside.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 25 - Land adjacent St Peter's and Paul's Church, Sywell	Yes. The site is located within Sywell Old Village and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides a strong contribution to the character of the settlement and the settings of the historic assets. It is a feature point adjacent to the church which provides a sense of place for residents.	Yes. The site is located centrally within the village and is surrounded by development, therefore is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Wellingborough				
LGS 36 - Land east of corner of London Road and Embankment, Wellingborough Town	Yes. The site is located in close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The open space informs the setting of the River Nene. It is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.

LGS 37 - Land North of London Road and Embankment, Wellingborough Town	Yes. The site is located in Wellingborough and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 38 - Land at Vivian's Covert, Faraday Court, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located in Wellingborough and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site enhances the character and form of the industrial estate by providing a pleasant break between the industrial buildings.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 39 - Land West of Rutherford Drive, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located in Wellingborough and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 40 - Land at Park Farm Industrial Estate, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located within Park Farm Industrial Estate. Therefore is in close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site enhances the character and form of the industrial estate by providing a pleasant break between the industrial buildings.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 41- Land adjacent Shelley Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located in Wellingborough and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The Queensway stream and the cycle way provide a strong contribution to the character and form of the settlement. It is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys	Yes. The site is small in scale and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.

		and ridgelines through the borough.		
LGS 42 - Land between Queensway and Shelly Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located in Wellingborough and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 43 - Land near Eskdale Close and Derwent Close, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located in Wellingborough and is therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the local green network. This supports the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 44 - Land at Hardwick Road and North of Kendal Close and Penrith Close, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is located in close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the local green network. This supports the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 45 - Land North of Steele Road and South of Hardwick Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides significantly extensive views across the valley through the town, which is an interesting, attractive and diverse landscape.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 46 - Land north of Torrington Crescent /Torrington Road and Vicarage Close	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides an important contribution to the character of the local area. It has the feel of a village green.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.

			land.	
LGS 47 - Land at Kilborn Road and Hatton Park North Promenade/Hardwick Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole. Parts are designated as local or potential wildlife sites and local nature reserves.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 48 - Land between Heath Rise and Fell Walk, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is designated as part of a local green corridor by the TEP Open Space Study. This site supports the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 49 - Land off of Tees Close, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is designated as part of a local green corridor by the TEP Open Space Study. This provides good connectivity and enhances the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 50 - Land adjacent to Severn Close and Humber Gardens, Wellingborough	Yes The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is designated as a Potential Wildlife site and provides buffers to Niort Way Local Wildlife Site and is part of a local wildlife sit complex. It forms a wildlife corridor and also has two cycle routes.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 51 - Land North of Muirfield Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate	Yes. The site provides extensive views across the valley through this part of the town,	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken

	proximity to the community it serves.	which is an interesting, attractive, diverse landscape with high levels of tranquillity.	Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 52 - Land at Sinclair Drive and adjacent Niort Way, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is of high quality with a diverse range of trees. This forms an integral part of the local landscape designed to provide a green space within the industrial area. It forms a pleasant break between buildings.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 53 - Land at Park Farm Industrial Estate Off Napier close, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is designated as a Potential Wildlife Site and is identified as green corridor by the TEP Open Space Study. This provides good connectivity and enhances the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 54 - Land South Stanwell Way and Wordsworth Road	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is identified in the TEP Open Space Study as a green corridor. This provides good connectivity and enhances the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 55 - Land south of Kingsway, Wilby Grange, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is integral part of the local area. It has a diverse landscape and is designated as a local wildlife site, and potential wildlife site. It also provides good connectivity.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 56 - Dale End Park, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough	No. The site does not significantly contribute to the	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of	No. The site will not be designated as

	and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	character or form of the town.	Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	LGS. However, It will be designated as LOS and taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 57 - Land at Bassett's Close/ Bassett's Park, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is identified in the TEP Open Space Study as a green corridor. This provides good connectivity and enhances the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 58 - Land at Broad Green, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site contributes to the character of the local area by contributing to the conservation area and listed building (town's war memorial). It was the location of cattle market during the 19th century.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 59 - Land by Ryeburn Way and Mulberry Close, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is identified in the TEP Open Space Study as a green corridor. This enhances the character of the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 60 - Land at Eastfield Park, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is designated as a Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGs), due to its important Northampton Sand Ironstone deposits from the Middle Jurassic period.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 61 - Playing fields opposite	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough	Yes. The site is part of wider green infrastructure	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of	Yes. The site will be designated as

Oakway Junior School, Wellingborough	and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	network for the town. The TEP Open Space Study identified it as an urban outdoor sports and recreation and amenity green space. This provides good sports and recreational ground for the local community.	Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 62 - Land adjacent the Hope Centre, Guillemot Lane, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site makes an important contribution to the character of the local area. It has the feel of a village green and therefore has a natural surveillance.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 63 - Land adjacent to Nest Farm Rd and Guillemot Lane, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site makes an important contribution to the character of the local area. It has the feel of a village green and therefore has a natural surveillance. The site has a mature and diverse range of trees.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 64 - Land at Nest Farm Crescent, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site makes an important contribution to the character of the local area. It has the feel of a village green and therefore has a natural surveillance.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 65 - Land at All Hallows Church, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate	Yes. The site provides views of All Hallows church which is grade I listed building. The	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken

	proximity to the community it serves.	architecture of the church with the backdrop of a variety of mature trees provides visual diversity to the area.	Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 66 - Land at Tithe Barn Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site provides important views of the adjacent Tithe barn which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. It also provides visual amenity and a pleasant break between the built areas of the town.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 67 - Croyland Hall Gardens, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is an important natural feature within the town. It forms the historic core of the town. It has public art and is well-treed providing high visual amenity value and visually diversity to the local area.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 68 – Land between Abbots Way and Croyland Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is a high quality landscape which is an integral part of the local area. It is well-treed and well-maintained providing an enhanced natural environment.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. Site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 69 - Croyland Park, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 70 - Swanspool Gardens,	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough	Yes. Its multi-functional character as a park and	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of	Yes. The site will be designated as

Wellingborough	and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	gardens as well as for outdoor sports, including tennis and bowls, contributes to the unique form of the area.	Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 71- Land north of Northern Way, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site has a natural secluded feel and is tranquil. It has four potential wildlife sites designated within its boundary.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 72 - Land to the rear of Oakway, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site has a high quality landscape and forms an integral part of the local area. It is well-treed and is a tranquil area. It provides an enhanced natural environment for the local community.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 73 - Land to rear of Rixon Road, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. Due to the water course running through the site and its linear form, the site connects identified green corridors and forms part of the green infrastructure of the borough.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 74 - Land adjacent to Bevan Court, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. Due to the water course running through the site and its linear form, the site connects identified green corridors and forms part of the green infrastructure of the borough.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 75 - Land West of Sanders Rd	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough	Yes. Due to the water course running through the site and	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of	Yes. The site will be designated as

	and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	its linear form, the site connects identified green corridors and forms part of the green infrastructure of the borough.	Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 76 - Land south west of Finedon Rd Industrial estate, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 77 - Castle Fields, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is part of the well-established open space network, based on the valleys and ridgelines through the borough, which is structurally important to the town as a whole	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 78 - Land at Senwick Drive, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site makes an important contribution to the character of the local area. The dwellings surrounding the site front onto it, which gives it a structural importance, it therefore has a natural surveillance.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
LGS 79 - Land to north of Rycroft Close, Wellingborough	Yes. The site is within Wellingborough and therefore in immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. The site is identified in the TEP Open Space Study as green corridor and part of wider green infrastructure network. This provides good connectivity and enhances the areas character.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough. In the context of Wellingborough town as a whole the scale of the site is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The site will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.
Wilby				
LGS 17 - Land	Yes. The site is	No. The site is	Yes. The site is	No. The site

at Church Lane, Wilby	located within Wilby village confines and is therefore within immediate proximity to the community it serves.	fenced restricting views to the surrounding areas. Integral to the village. No significant contribution to the character local area.	located within a developed area of Wellingborough and not an extensive tract of land	will not be designated as LGS or LOS as the site is a private garden.
Churches and Cemeteries				
LGS CC	Yes. Churchyards and cemeteries are mostly confined within the local area. Therefore within immediate proximity to the community it serves.	Yes. Churchyards and cemeteries provide important views of the village church and provide a setting for the buildings. These sites are visually diverse due to the grave stones and accompanying flora.	Yes. The site is located within a developed area of Wellingborough and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes. The sites will be designated as LGS and will be taken forward as part of the PBW.

6. Draft Recommendations

- 6.1. It is recommended that LOS comprise the: parks and gardens; natural and semi-natural open space; amenity greenspace, linear greenspace; children's play areas; allotment and community gardens; and outdoor sports and recreational facilities within the borough as identified in the Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities Audit and Assessment.
- 6.2. LGS will apply to those open spaces of particular special importance, including all of the Churchyards and Cemeteries as identified in the Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities Audit and Assessment. Based on the assessments it is recommended that the sites listed in table 2 above with the conclusion as 'yes' be designated as LGS due to their demonstrably special importance. If a site is designated as LGS it cannot also be designated as LOS.
- 6.3. Maps showing the designated LOS and LGS sites can be found within Appendix B.

7. Next Steps

- 7.1. The agreed LGS sites listed in table 2 will be included in the Emerging Draft Plan document which is subject to a wider formal public consultation as planned for spring 2016.
- 7.2. Members of the public, organisations, and land owners etc. will also be able to comment further on the proposed LGS designations and policy at this time. The council will also consider further suitably justified site nominations at this stage.

- 7.3. The following draft policy is to be included in the Emerging Draft Plan document to provide context for LOS and LGS designations and protection.

Draft Policy – Local Open Space and Local Green Space

Draft Policy 1:

Local Open Space, as designated on the Policies Map, will be protected and development will only be permitted in the following circumstances;

- Loss of the site would not result in a deficiency in that type of open space within the locality² and the site could not be used to meet a deficiency in any other type of open space; or
- Provision is to be made on an alternative and appropriate site which is easily accessible and provides equivalent or better community benefit; or
- Development relates to a small part of the site where this is agreed to represent the best means of retaining or enhancing the open space; or
- The site is of poor quality and cannot be enhanced to meet the quality standards identified in Table 5.1 and development represents the best option for achieving an alternative open space elsewhere; and
- Loss of the site will not result in a break in the connection of a green infrastructure corridor as shown on the Policies Map

Draft Policy 2:

Development which will result in the loss of a site designated as Local Green Space on the Policies Map will not be permitted.

² as defined in the TEP open space report or other more up-to-date assessment

Appendix A – LGS Assessment Methodology

Criteria	Methodology for Assessment
Part 1 of assessment - Is the green area in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	
The site must satisfy at least one of the following criteria to qualify as Local Green Space	
Is the site less than 1000m from the community it serves?	This assessment will be undertaken using GIS. The site must be within reasonably close proximity to the community it serves. For the purposes of the assessment reasonably close proximity is taken to mean within a 1000m distance of the community. This takes the average person 15-20 minutes to walk.
Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?	This assessment will be undertaken using a combination of GIS and site visits. In order to qualify the site must be accessible to the community. Barriers could include no safe walking routes to the site (i.e. no pedestrian walkway) or fencing surrounding the site stopping access, including visual access.
Part 2 of the assessment - Is the green area demonstrably special to a local community and does it hold a particular local significance? The site should satisfy at least one of the following criteria in order to qualify as Local Green Space	
Beauty	
Does the site provide important views to key locations or assets?	This assessment will be undertaken through site visits. The high visual amenity value and visual diversity of the site will be considered when considering beauty. Key locations and assets could include views across village greens and/ or views of prominent buildings such as churches that are not overly concealed by development in the foreground.
Historic significance	
Is the site designated as an historic asset or does it make a positive contribution to an historic asset or its setting?	This assessment will be undertaken using GIS and site visits. This assessment focuses on heritage including scheduled ancient monuments, historic parks and gardens and listed buildings.
Did any important events take place on the site?	This assessment will be undertaken using a combination of desk based research and community consultation. This refers to the historically important events, important to the local community and the wider community.
Is the site referred to in literature or art?	Again this assessment will be undertaken using a combination of desk based research and community consultation. Art and literature covers a multitude of mediums from paintings to poems.
Conservation	
Does the site contribute positively to the character or the setting of a Conservation Area?	This assessment will be undertaken using GIS and site visits. The entire site does not need to fall within the conservation area. Consideration is given to sites that also abut a conservation area but contributes to the setting of a conservation area. Conservation Area Appraisals will be referred to where relevant to assess the contribution that the space makes to the Conservation Area.
Tranquillity	
Is the site an important tranquil space for the local community?	This assessment will be undertaken through site visits by officers. In order for a site to be considered important due to its tranquillity a combination of factors are to be reflected on by officers including the following: What constitutes tranquillity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful and quiet • Hearing birdsong • Seeing natural landscape • Hearing wildlife • Seeing streams and hearing running water What does not constitutes tranquillity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeing and hearing constant traffic • Seeing or hearing a lot of people

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeing overhead light pollution • Seeing power lines <p>These factors have been derived from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) definition of tranquillity used for their country wide research on the topic.</p>
Bio and Geodiversity	
Are there any important habitats, wildlife or species found on the site?	This assessment will be undertaken using a combination of consultation with relevant bodies and through local knowledge. This assessment will look at whether the site has some wildlife value and if it is a natural habitat (e.g. could be a known spot for urban foxes or of a badger set). The Biodiversity Action Plan and the Biodiversity records centre will be able to provide information on specific species found on site.
Is the site designated for its wildlife value?	This assessment will be undertaken using GIS. The GIS will be used to determine if the site has a designation as a county, national or even internationally important site. For example the land could be designated as a Local Nature Reserve; Local Wildlife Site; Potential Wildlife Site and/or Site of Special Scientific Interest.
Is the site designated for its geological value?	This assessment will be undertaken using GIS. For example the site could be designated as Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site (RIGs) or an SSSI for geological interest.
Character and Form	
Does the green space make an important contribution to the character or form of the settlement	<p>This assessment will be undertaken using GIS mapping, aerial imagery and site visits. Character and form will focus on a number of key questions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it provide a focus with natural surveillance? • Is it well-treed? Are the trees of special value and protected (TPOs)? • Is it an integral part of the local area? • Is it structurally important to the settlement (e.g. central village green) • Does the site form an incursion of open countryside into a village which adds to the rural character of the settlement? <p>A detailed summary will be given for each site.</p>
Is the site an integral part of a green infrastructure corridor?	This assessment will be based on the results of the Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities Audit and Assessment (2015). Green infrastructure corridors are linear tracks of multifunctional green space that are connected via footpaths, cycle routes or even water courses.
Community Significance	
Is the site used by the local community for community events	This assessment is based on local knowledge. Sites used for village fetes, fairs or other community events on a regular basis over a number of years would have significant community value.
Part 3 of the assessment – Is the green area local in character?	
The site must satisfy the following criteria in order to qualify as Local Green Space	
Is the green area local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	This assessment will be based on GIS. In order to qualify as local green space the green area must be local in character and not form part of an extensive tract of land. Consequently blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. The scale of the green area needs to be considered in the context of the scale of the settlement. Relatively large areas of linear greenspace within the town would therefore still be local in character.
Outcome – Should the site be designated as Local Green Space?	
If the site meets the correct criteria as outlined in part 1, 2 and 3 above then the site may be designated as Local Green Space	