

Appendix H Quality Standards Review

Typology 2015	National Standards and/or Benchmarks 2015	Existing Local Quality Standards 2015	Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations) 2015	TEP Recommendation 2015	TEP Justification 2015
Parks & Gardens	<p>Fields in Trust (FiT) are currently reviewing their 2008 guidance, with a new publication due in 2015. The Survey Findings for the 2015 review have been published which states that:</p> <p>59% of local planning authority respondents indicated that they apply a Quality standard for open spaces and that this is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local assessment of quality* - Green Flag standard* - Fields in Trust standard - Sport England standard <p>* Most relevant to Parks and Gardens</p>	<p><i>A welcoming, clean and litter free site providing a wide range of leisure, recreational and enriched play opportunities for all ages, varied and well-kept vegetation, lighting and the appropriate location and level of ancillary accommodation (including benches, toilets, litter bins and dog bins) accessible by various forms of transport.</i></p>	<p>The majority of respondents (51%) are fairly satisfied with parks & gardens in their area.</p> <p>Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.</p>	<p><i>A welcoming, clean and litter free site providing a wide range of leisure, recreational and enriched play opportunities for all ages, varied and well-kept vegetation, lighting with attractive and appropriate boundaries to promote the feeling of safety. The appropriate location and level of ancillary accommodation (including benches, signage, notice boards, toilets, litter bins and dog bins) with accessibility by various forms of transport. To encourage informal recreation with clear access and footpath surfacing which improves accessibility.</i></p>	<p>Existing standard retained and amended inline with study findings.</p>
Natural & Semi-Natural	<p>Natural England; land should be managed to conserve or enhance its rich landscape, biodiversity, heritage and local customs.</p> <p>As above for Fields in Trust (FiT) review</p>	<p><i>A varied site that encourages wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness, making the most of natural features such as the watercourses. To encourage informal recreation, clear access and footpaths, dog/litter bins and other appropriate ancillary accommodation should be provided.</i></p>	<p>The majority of respondents (47%) are fairly satisfied with natural & semi-natural open spaces in their area.</p> <p>Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.</p>	<p><i>A varied site that encourages wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness, making the most of natural features such as the watercourses. To encourage informal recreation, clear access and footpaths with surfaces which improve accessibility, signage and noticeboards, dog/litter bins and other appropriate ancillary accommodation should be provided. Boundaries should be attractive and promote a feeling of safety.</i></p>	<p>Existing standard retained and amended inline with study findings.</p>
Amenity Greenspace	<p>As above for Fields in Trust (FiT) review</p>	<p><i>A clean and well maintained site, with appropriate ancillary accommodation (benches, dog fouling bins etc.) and landscaping in the right places, enhancing the local environment and conveniently located close to housing that is easily accessible and big enough to encourage informal play.</i></p>	<p>The majority of respondents (42%) are fairly satisfied with amenity green space in their area.</p> <p>Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.</p>	<p><i>A clean and well maintained site, with appropriate ancillary accommodation (benches, signage and noticeboards, dog fouling bins etc.) and landscaping in the right places, enhancing the local environment and conveniently located close to housing that is easily accessible and big enough to encourage informal play. Boundaries should be attractive and promote a feeling of safety with improved surfacing facilitating accessibility across the site.</i></p>	<p>Existing standard retained and amended inline with study findings.</p>

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<p>Green Corridors</p>	<p>Natural England, the Countryside Agency and the British Heart Foundation advocate providing a network of local health walks to promote the 'Walking the Way to Health Initiative', something that can easily be enhanced through the provision of quality green corridors and natural linkages with other open spaces.</p> <p>Countryside Agency - what the user should expect to find is i) a path provided by the protection and reinforcement of existing vegetation; ii) ground not soft enough to allow a horse or cycle to sink into it; iii) a path on unvegetated natural surfaces</p> <p>As above for Fields in Trust (FiT) review</p>	<p><i>A well-lit and clean route that provides well-maintained travelling surfaces and varied vegetation that links major open spaces together, with ancillary facilities such as bins and seating in appropriate places. Opportunities to increase or enhance green corridor links between existing open spaces and the rural and urban areas should be taken where possible.</i></p>	<p>The majority of respondents (39%) are fairly satisfied with green corridors in their area. 24% of respondents are fairly satisfied with walking/running routes (traffic free) and the majority of respondents were either didn't know or didn't have an opinion (21%) or were very dissatisfied (20%) with cycle routes (traffic free).</p> <p>Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.</p>	<p><i>A well-lit and clean route that provides well-maintained sustainable transport methods and varied vegetation linking major open spaces together with ancillary facilities such as bins and seating in appropriate places. Opportunities to increase or enhance green corridor links between existing open spaces and the rural and urban areas should be taken where possible, in particular where this can enhance Green Infrastructure Networks.</i></p>	<p>Existing standard retained and amended inline with study findings.</p>
<p>Provision for Children & Young People</p>	<p>Fields in Trust guidance relating to LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs provide some quality aspirations in terms of seating for adults, varied range of equipment and meeting places for teenagers.</p> <p>Fields in Trust (FiT) are currently reviewing their 2008 guidance, with a new publication due in 2015. The Survey Findings for the 2015 review have been published which states that:</p> <p>59% of local planning authority respondents indicated that they apply a Quality standard for open spaces and that this is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local assessment of quality - Green Flag standard - Fields in Trust standard* - Sport England standard <p>* Most relevant to Children and Young People</p>	<p><i>A site providing a mix of well-maintained formal equipment and enriched play environment for all young people, in a clean, safe and attractive setting with appropriate ancillary accommodation (such as benches, dog fouling and litter bins) and accessible to all.</i></p>	<p>The majority of respondents (32%) are fairly satisfied with the provision for children & young people in their area. The majority of respondents were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (23%) or didn't know or have an opinion (37%) on the provision of skate parks.</p> <p>Highest rated aspirations: play equipment, higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.</p>	<p><i>A site providing a mix of well-maintained formal equipment and enriched play environment for all young people, in a clean, safe and attractive setting with appropriate ancillary accommodation (such as benches, dog fouling and litter bins) and accessible to all.</i></p>	<p>Existing standard retained.</p>

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<p>Outdoor Sports Facilities</p>	<p>Fields in Trust guidance - quality of provision could include gradients, orientation, ancillary accommodation, planting and community safety</p> <p>Fields in Trust (FiT) are currently reviewing their 2008 guidance, with a new publication due in 2015. The Survey Findings for the 2015 review have been published which states that:</p> <p>59% of local planning authority respondents indicated that they apply a Quality standard for open spaces and that this is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local assessment of quality - Green Flag standard - Fields in Trust standard* - Sport England standard* <p>* Most relevant to Outdoor Sports</p>	<p><i>A comprehensively well planned sports facility site, well-drained and well-kept surfaces, appropriate ancillary accommodation including changing accommodation and toilets, suitable lighting, good site access and varied and attractive landscaping. Outdoor sports facilities should be accessible by a variety of modes of transport.</i></p>	<p>The majority of respondents (34%) are fairly satisfied with the provision of grass pitches. Most people didn't know or have an opinion on synthetic/ all weather pitches (35%), outside hard courts (28%), multi-use games areas/ outdoor courts (27%), golf courses/ranges (46%) and outdoor bowls (36%).</p> <p>Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.</p>	<p><i>A comprehensively well planned sports facility site, well-drained and well-kept surfaces, appropriate ancillary accommodation including changing accommodation and toilets, suitable lighting, good site access and varied and attractive landscaping. Outdoor sports facilities should be accessible by a variety of modes of transport.</i></p>	<p>Existing standard retained.</p>
<p>Indoor Sports Facilities</p>	<p>No National Standards</p>	<p>No local standard</p>		<p><i>A comprehensively well planned sports facility site, with well-maintained facilities, appropriate ancillary accommodation including changing accommodation and toilets, suitable lighting and good site access. Indoor sports facilities should be accessible by a variety of modes of transport.</i></p>	<p>Standard created inline with study findings.</p>

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Allotments	No National Standards	<i>A site that encourages sustainable development, bio-diversity, healthy living and education objectives that is clean and well-maintained with clear footpaths, boundaries, good security and quality soils. Ancillary facilities to meet local needs including car parks, toilets and water supply should be provided where appropriate.</i>	The majority of respondents (30%) are fairly satisfied with provision of allotments. Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.	<i>A site that encourages sustainable development, biodiversity, healthy living and education objectives that is clean and well-maintained with clear footpaths, boundaries, good security and quality soils. Ancillary facilities to meet local needs including car parks, toilets and water supply should be provided where appropriate.</i>	Existing standard retained.
Cemeteries / Churchyards	No National Standards	<i>A well-maintained, clean site with long-term burial capacity, provision of seating areas, clear footpaths and varied vegetation that provides a sanctuary for wildlife, where appropriate and particularly in areas devoid of greenspace. The primary function of the decent and dignified interment of human remains should be respected at all times.</i>	The majority of respondents (38%) are fairly satisfied with cemeteries and churchyards. Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.	<i>A well-maintained, clean site with a known burial capacity and a plan for the future, provision of seating areas, clear footpaths and varied vegetation that provides a sanctuary for wildlife, where appropriate and particularly in areas devoid of greenspace. The primary function of the decent and dignified interment of human remains should be respected at all times.</i>	Existing standard retained and amended inline with study findings.
Civic Spaces	No National Standards	<i>A clean, safe and attractive site that is fit for purpose, providing landscaping where appropriate and ancillary accommodation (e.g. benches, toilets) should be provided to meet local needs.</i>	The majority of respondents were either fairly satisfied (32%) or neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (33%) with civic spaces. Highest rated aspirations: higher maintenance, boundary features (fences, hedges etc.), toilets, parking, provision of litter bins and dog fouling bins, seats and benches, shelters, pathways, level surfaces, information boards and signage, community notice boards, planted areas, natural features, lighting, on site security (CCTV camera etc.) and dog free areas.	<i>A clean, safe and attractive site that is fit for purpose, providing landscaping where appropriate and ancillary accommodation (e.g. benches, toilets) should be provided to meet local needs.</i>	Existing standard retained.