

Open Space assessment

For development within open spaces, application proposals should be accompanied by plans showing any areas of existing or proposed open space within or adjoining the application site. Planning consent is not normally given for development of existing open spaces which local communities need. However, in the absence of a robust and up-to-date assessment by a local authority, an applicant for planning permission may seek to demonstrate through an independent assessment that the land or buildings are surplus to local requirements. Any such evidence should accompany the planning application. National planning policy is set out in [**Planning Policy Guidance note 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation**](#) (July 2002).