

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT 2013

KINGS WORTHY

The open space standard for Winchester District, set out in Policy CP7 of Local Plan Part 1: Joint Core Strategy, derives from the City Council's 2008 *Open Space, Sports and Recreation Study*. It stands at **4 ha per thousand people**, compared with the 2006 Local Plan standard of 2.8 ha. The revised standard is broken down into 5 categories -

Type of open space	Quantity per 1000 population	Access
1. Allotments	0.2 ha	480m
2. Equipped Children's & Young People's Play Space ¹	0.5 ha	480m / 650m
3. Informal Green Space	0.8 ha	400m
4. Natural Green Space	1.0 ha	700m
5. Parks, Sports & Recreation Grounds	1.5 ha (0.75 ha for outdoor sport)	650m
Total	4 ha	

The latest population statistics for the market towns are set out in a 2011 background paper to the LDF, *Market Towns and Rural Area Development Strategy*. For the purposes of this assessment, the population of Kings Worthy is 4,288 (including part of Headbourne Worthy parish). Applying the new standards to this figure, and comparing them with measured existing provision, indicates whether there is a notional surplus or shortfall in the quantity of open space for each category. Map-based and on-site surveys were used to determine the accessibility, distribution and quality of open spaces in the settlement.

¹ This definition differs from the 2006 Local Plan standard which required '*equipped playgrounds, other opportunities for outdoor play and casual play space*'. Accordingly, this assessment has measured only equipped playgrounds, BMX and skatepark parks and Multi Use Games Areas, but not '*other opportunities for outdoor play and casual play space*' as this land is now included under category 3 (Informal Green Space) or category 5 (Parks, Sports & Recreation Grounds). The lower total area figure reflects this change.

1. Allotments

Quantity

There is a single allotment site measuring 0.33 ha on Springvale Road. The standard would require 0.86 ha for the village and the single site, so there is a **shortfall** in this category of 0.53 ha.

Access & Distribution

The Springvale Road site only serves the southern parts of the settlement. The rest of the village, north of Nations Hill, is beyond the recommended access standard.

Quality

The quality of the site is satisfactory.

2. Equipped Children's & Young People's Play Space

Quantity

There are six equipped children's play spaces (see below). The standard would require 2.14 ha, leaving a **shortfall** of 1.82 ha.

Location		Site area
1	Tubbs Hall Junior Play Area	0.03 ha
2	Fryers Close Play Area	0.045 ha
3	Tubbs Hall Adult Fitness Area	0.016 ha
4	Eversley Park Play Area	0.146 ha
5	Eversley Park MUGA	0.064 ha
6	The Dell play area	0.015 ha
Total		0.316 ha

Access & Distribution

Distribution is concentrated within the central part of the settlement with areas such as Church Green and St Mary's Close in the south, and Hookpit Farm Lane, Cundell Way, The Pastures, Vale Way and Kings Close in the north, all beyond the recommended 480m catchment.

Quality

The quality of the play areas is good having benefitted for several years from input from the parish council's grounds staff and the City Council's Open Space Funding System.

3. Informal Green Space

Informal Green Space is defined in the 2008 Open Space Study as publicly accessible and useable open space which is not allocated for any other use, and is neither laid out nor managed for a specific function such as a play area, a park, a recreation or sports ground, a nature area or allotment.

Quantity

Location		Site area
1	Lower Broadview	0.408 ha
2	Hinton Fields Park	0.488 ha
3	Willis Way	0.413 ha
4	Tubbs Hall frontage	0.220 ha
5	King Charles Green	0.122 ha
6	Fryers Close	0.084 ha
7	Firs Crescent	0.156 ha
8	Vian Place	0.121 ha
9	Upper Broadview	0.549 ha
10	The Dell	0.064 ha
Total		2.625 ha

The standard requires 3.43 ha of informal green space. Against this, the total provision in the village (above) gives a **shortfall** of 0.8 ha.

Access & Distribution

The number of small areas gives a good coverage across the village.

Quality

Quality is satisfactory.

4. Natural Green Space

Natural Green Space is defined in the 2008 Open Space Study as publicly accessible woodland, wetland, grassland / heathland or meadow, i.e. spaces which have natural characteristics and wildlife value, but which are also available for public use and enjoyment.

Quantity

The standard requires a minimum of 4.29 ha and a site within 700m of every household. However, with the exception of Kim Bishop Walk, there are no areas of natural green space of any significant size in the village. 'Topfield', off Hookpit Farm Lane, is agricultural grassland with some permissive access, but is privately owned. Measurement shows a significant **shortfall** of 2.66 ha.

Location		Site area
1	Kim Bishop Walk	0.933 ha
2	Castle Rise	0.455 ha
3	Edinburgh Road	0.165 ha
4	West Field Road	0.081 ha
Total		1.634 ha

Access & Distribution

Kim Bishop Walk is central and is within 700m of a large section of central Kings Worthy. The remaining natural green space in the Castle Rise area serves an area further north. Together, these areas cover most of the village except for the southern part around London Road and Church Lane.

Quality

The quality of the available natural green space is high.

5. Parks, Sports & Recreation Grounds

Sports grounds

Quantity

All the village's sports pitches are at Eversley Park where 4.08 ha is available. The standard requires only 3.22 ha, so there is **no shortfall**. The pitches are well used.

Location		Site area
Eversley Park		4.08 ha
Total		4.08 ha

Access and Distribution

The pitches at Eversley Park occupy a reasonably central position in the village, but leave the northern part of the village (north of Boyne Rise) outside the recommended access standard of 650m.

Quality

Quality of sports pitches is very good.

Parks and Recreation Grounds

Quantity

The remainder of the standard requires 3.22 ha of parks / recreation ground for the village.

Whilst Eversley Park provides a degree of recreational space, it is almost entirely occupied by sports pitches so is not included in this section of the assessment. This leaves Church Green as the village's only park or recreation ground and which leaves a **shortfall** of 2.4 ha in this category.

Location	Site area
Church Green	0.815 ha
Total	0.815 ha

Access & Distribution

Church Green is in the far south of the village and is only really accessible to a small catchment which also includes neighbouring Headbourne Worthy. The majority of Kings Worthy is outside of the recommended access standard.

Quality

Church Green is maintained by the parish council who have made gradual improvements since it was transferred in 2006. The green is well used, well maintained and contributes substantially to the attractiveness of the area.

KINGS WORTHY: SUMMARY

Shortfalls in all categories except sports grounds.

Type of open space	Standard (2011 pop.)	Existing provision	Surplus / shortfall
1. Allotments	0.86 ha	0.33 ha	- 0.53 ha
2. Equipped Children's & Young People's Play Space	2.14 ha	0.32 ha	- 1.82 ha
3. Informal Green Space	3.43 ha	2.63 ha	- 0.8 ha
4. Natural Green Space	4.29 ha	1.63 ha	- 2.66 ha
5. Parks, Sports & Recreation Grounds	3.22 ha (sports) 3.22 ha (parks) [Total: 6.44 ha]	4.08 ha (sports) 0.82 ha (parks) [Total: 4.9 ha]	+ 0.86 ha (sports) - 2.4 ha (parks) [Total: - 1.54 ha]

