

# Central Lincolnshire Open Space Audit and Assessment Update - June 2021



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## Abbreviations

ANGSt	Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards
CoL	City of Lincoln Council
FiT	Field in Trust
ha	Hectare
LAP	Local Area for Play
LEAP	Local Equipped Area for Play
NEAP	Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play
NK	North Kesteven District Council
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Policy Guidance
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
WL	West Lindsey District Council

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Central Lincolnshire Open Space Audit and Provision Assessment (2016 Audit) was prepared to provide evidence for policy and open space standards within the adopted Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (April 2017). This evidence involved an audit of publicly accessible open space across Central Lincolnshire, to ascertain the amount and type of open space provision. Site surveys were undertaken within a selection of settlements to gather information on the quality of open space provision. An analysis was then undertaken of the provision of open space per 1,000 population and benchmarking against national open space standards. The output of the audit and assessment was a set of open space quantity, quality and accessibility standards for Central Lincolnshire (set out in Appendix C of the adopted Local Plan).
- 1.2. This report is the Central Lincolnshire Open Space Audit Update June 2021 (2021 Audit), which provides an update on the provision of open spaces in Central Lincolnshire. It provides updated information on the quantity and accessibility of open space across Central Lincolnshire. It identifies those geographical areas deficit of certain types of open space when compared to the nationally derived open space standards and adopted Central Lincolnshire standards, using up-to-date population statistics.
- 1.3. This report also provides an update to the policy context published in the 2016 Audit, including the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), which provide the most recent guidance on planning for open space.
- 1.4. Updated quality assessments of open space have not been undertaken for the 2021 Audit. This is largely due to government coronavirus restrictions that have been in place over the last year. The Central Lincolnshire councils hope to undertake this work in the near future.
- 1.5. This 2021 Audit assesses the 'informal' element of outdoor sports provision; that being the function of outdoor sports facilities as open spaces. Particularly in villages, playing fields can perform multiple functions where they are the only type of open space in the settlement. The 'formal' element of outdoor sports provision, i.e. team-based demand and overall supply of sports pitches, will be addressed in a separate study; the Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Assessment Update 2021, currently being prepared by LK Consulting.
- 1.6. The results of this Audit will be used to check that the open space standards in Appendix C of the adopted Local Plan are still appropriate for ensuring sufficient open space is provided in new developments to meet the needs of Central Lincolnshire population. It will help the Central Lincolnshire councils to identify areas where there is a shortage of, or lack of access to, a particular type of open space.

## 2. Policy Update

### National Policy

- 2.1 The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how they should be applied. The NPPF was first published in 2012, and most recently updated in 2019. Paragraph 96 states that:

*“Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is required, which then plans should seek to accommodate.”*

- 2.2 The NPPG sets out guidance in relation to open space under “Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space”. Paragraph 001 states: *“It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the duty to cooperate where open space serves a wider area.”*<sup>1</sup>

### Local Policy

- 2.3 The current adopted Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (April 2017) recognises the importance of open space, sport and recreation facilities. The vision states that: *“Growth in homes and jobs will be closely linked, with new infrastructure such as schools, roads, health facilities and open space provision planned and provided at the same time as the new buildings.”*
- 2.4 LP24: Creation of New Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities, requires residential development to provide new or enhanced public open space sports and recreation facilities in accordance with the local standards set out in Appendix C of the Plan (see **Table 2.1** and **Table 2.2** below). The Plan states that Local Useable Greenspace may include the following types of open space: formal and informal play space, public parks and gardens, amenity space, informal kick about/ball game areas and natural and semi-natural greenspace.

**Table 2.1:** Open Space Quantity Standards in Appendix C of Local Plan

Open Space Type	Quantity Standard
Strategic Formal Playing Fields	1.1 ha/1000 population
Local Usable Greenspace – Urban settlements (Level 1-2 of the settlement hierarchy)	1.8 ha/1000 population
Local Usable Greenspace – Rural towns and villages (Level 3-6 of the settlement hierarchy)	1.5 ha/1000 population

**Table 2.2:** Open Space Accessibility and Quality Standards in Appendix C of Local Plan

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space> ID: 37-001-20140306

<b>Open Space Type</b>	<b>Accessibility Standard</b>	<b>Quality Standard</b>
Park and Garden	Local / Neighbourhood provision:  400m -1200m or 5 -15 minute walkable distance	Good and above, as defined by Green Flag standards or any locally agreed quality criteria.
Amenity Greenspace over 0.2 ha	Local: 400m or 5 minutes' walk	Good and above, as defined by Green Flag standards or locally agreed quality criteria.
Formal Equipped Play Areas	Local provision: Local Equipped Area of Play: 400m or 5 minute walk  Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play: 1200m or 15 minute walk	Good and above, as defined by Fields in Trust standards and/or any locally agreed quality criteria.
Playing Field provision	Local provision: 1200m or 15 minute walk  Strategic provision: 15km distance or 15 minute drive	Good and above, as defined by Sport England Governing body standards or locally agreed quality criteria.
Natural/Semi Natural Greenspace (including access to Green corridor and Public Rights of Way networks)	Local provision (including access to Green corridor and Public Rights of Way networks): 400m or 5 minutes walkable distance.  Strategic provision: 2km or 25 minute walkable distance	At least 2 ha locally accessible and 20ha strategically accessible. Quality good and above as defined by locally agreed criteria.
Civic Space, including cemetery provision	As locally identified	Good and above as defined by locally agreed quality criteria.
Allotments & Community Growing Spaces	As locally identified	Good and above as defined by locally developed criteria.

- 2.5 Work has started on a review of the adopted Central Lincolnshire Local Plan which will provide the planning framework for the future growth and development of the Central Lincolnshire area up to 2040. It will also provide a strategic framework for Neighbourhood Plans, which can be developed by communities to form part of the development plan. The results of the 2021 Audit will be used to inform both the review of Policy LP24 and the local open space standards.

### Other relevant strategies

- 2.6 A number of other strategies also provide evidence on open space, sport and recreation.
- 2.7 *The Central Lincolnshire Green Infrastructure Study (2011)* provides a strategic framework for guiding the planning and delivery of Green Infrastructure (GI) across Central Lincolnshire. It provides a broad assessment of the quantity, quality and accessibility of Central Lincolnshire's GI in 2011, and identifies opportunities for addressing deficiencies. The Study sets out the consultant's independent recommendations on priorities for GI delivery to support growth and development in Central Lincolnshire over the next 15-20 years.
- 2.8 The 2011 Study was supported by a comprehensive baseline audit and assessment of Central Lincolnshire's existing GI assets. This baseline has recently been updated by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership through the preparation of a *Green Infrastructure Map for Central Lincolnshire* (November 2019).
- 2.9 The *Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Assessment* was prepared by consultants Neil Allen Associates in 2013. It provides details of sports pitches across the three districts and sets out a strategy for improvements, enhancement and new provision. An update to inform a review of the Playing Pitch Strategy is currently being prepared by LK Consulting.
- 2.10 The *Gainsborough Green Infrastructure Strategy* (August 2019) aims to describe the current GI provision across Gainsborough including an analysis of the existing publicly accessible open space provision. It then sets out a strategy to improve existing GI and provide new high quality multi-functional green spaces. The strategy sets out the vision and core principles that GI in Gainsborough should follow and then focuses on potential projects, their delivery and funding streams.
- 2.11 The *North Kesteven Open Space Strategy* (2018) aims "to deliver high quality public open spaces that meet local needs and aspirations". The Strategy sets out the following vision for open spaces in North Kesteven: "a healthy, active and environmentally sustainable district, with a broad and inclusive range of outdoor leisure opportunities".
- 2.12 The Strategy has four priorities designed to deliver the vision:
- To promote open spaces and encourage use by all;
  - To deliver the type and quality of new open space that communities need;
  - To use open space to increase biodiversity in NK;
  - To effectively manage NK's existing open space assets.
- 2.13 In developing the Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils, in order to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and

availability of open spaces in the district. The results of the survey showed that while overall satisfaction with open space in North Kesteven is general high, there are disparities between those communities most and least satisfied with local provision.

- 2.14 Appended to the Strategy are a series of 'Open Space Opportunity Maps' for each large and medium settlement in NK. The strategy aims to use these maps as an evidence base to negotiate with developers to deliver, alongside new development, the types of open space communities need.
- 2.15 The most recent *Strategic Review of Allotment Provision in Lincoln* (April, 2012) was prepared by Mott MacDonald consultants, which included consultation with allotment holders. At the time of publication, there were sufficient sites overall to meet current as well as any latent demand. However, plots were in the wrong places to satisfy the then present waiting list, with a surfeit of sites in the north and a deficit in the south. The review also looked ahead, taking housing growth into account, and advised if the then current demand was to remain constant there would be a need for between 240 and 560 new plots by 2031.

### 3. Demographics Update

- 3.1 Open spaces should meet a range of needs across all population groups. It is therefore important that the assessment takes into account the demographics of the Central Lincolnshire area.
- 3.2 The total population of Central Lincolnshire, based on the 2011 Census, was 290,557. This is projected to increase, rising to 339,100 by 2043<sup>2</sup>. Projections indicate that the proportion of the population aged 0-15 and 16-64 is set to decrease, while in contrast, the 65 and over age group is set to increase significantly. The increase is similar to the projected county increase but is above the regional and national averages. This additional population will require new open spaces where possible, as well as improved access to, and enhanced facilities within, existing open spaces.

**Table 3.1: Projected Central Lincolnshire Population Data**

Geographical Area	2011 Census	2018	% change 2011-2018	Projected 2043 (ONS)
Lincoln	93,541	99,039	5.5	102,500
North Kesteven	107,766	115,985	7.1	133,700
West Lindsey	89,250	94,869	5.9	102,900
<b>Central Lincolnshire</b>	<b>290,557</b>	<b>309,893</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>339,100</b>

Source: ONS

<sup>2</sup> ONS population projections



**Table 3.2: Population by Age Group in Central Lincolnshire 2011 and 2043**

Age Group	Total Central Lincolnshire Population			
	2011 Census	%	2043 (projected)*	%
<b>Total</b>	290,557	-	339,100	-
<b>0 - 15</b>	49,914	17.17	52,000	15.33
<b>16 - 64</b>	186,196	64.08	194,500	57.36
<b>65 and over</b>	54,447	18.73	92,200	27.19

\*ONS Sub National Population Projections (based on 2012 mid-year population estimates)

## 4. Open Space Standards

- 4.1 National Standards for open space provide the context for considering standards across Central Lincolnshire. **Appendix 1** sets out the most recent national standards and guidance for different types of open space. **Appendix 2** sets out open space standards for neighbouring local authorities, which provide a useful reference point.

## 5. Methodology

### Introduction

- 5.1 This section sets out the methodology undertaken to audit open space provision in Central Lincolnshire. The study area comprises the whole of Central Lincolnshire.

### Open Space Definition and Typologies

- 5.2 The glossary in the NPPF (page 69) provides the following definition of open space:

*“All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.”*

- 5.3 The NPPG expands on this definition, stating:

*“Open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks. It can provide health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby; have an ecological value and contribute to green infrastructure..., as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development, and an important component in the achievement of sustainable development.”*

- 5.4 The 2016 Audit established a Central Lincolnshire Open Space Typology, broadly based on those set out in “Open Space Strategies: Best Practice Guide” (CABE, 2009). In this 2021 Audit, the open space types and descriptions have been reviewed and slightly amended. The main change has been to split the Outdoor Sports category into three separate types: Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public), Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private) and Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education).

- 5.5 The open space types considered in this 2021 Audit are set out in **Table 5.1** below. Each open space has been placed in one typology category. However, a number of open spaces have more than one function. The primary purpose of the space is its main type. For example, Hartsholme Country Park is categorised under parks and gardens, but it also provides a significant area of natural and semi-natural greenspace (secondary purpose).

**Table 5.1: Central Lincolnshire Open Space Typology**

<b>Type of Open Space</b>	<b>Description and Primary Purpose</b>	<b>Examples</b>
<b>Parks and Gardens</b>	Areas of multi-functional open space, the majority of which is publicly accessible, normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park, garden or recreation ground. These areas may be owned or managed by community groups. Parks should provide for a range of recreational activities that may include outdoor sports facilities and playing fields, children's play for different age groups and informal recreational pursuits including sitting out and walking.	Hartsholme Country Park, Lincoln  Boultham Park, Lincoln  Arboretum, Lincoln  Richmond Park, Gainsborough
<b>Amenity Greenspace</b>	Open spaces of varied size that are normally predominantly mown grass, but may also include areas of trees and landscaping. They provide visual amenity, or separate different buildings or land uses for environmental, visual or safety reasons. They may be used for a variety of informal recreational or social activities close to home or work, such as walking, sitting and passive recreation. These spaces may include other types of open space, most commonly Provision for Children and Young People.	Jasmin Road Open Space, Lincoln  Moorland Community Centre, Lincoln  Sleaford Castle  George Street Amenity Space, Gainsborough
<b>Provision for Children and Young People</b>	Areas providing safe and accessible opportunities for children's play close to home, usually linked to housing areas. Usually include formal, equipped play provision, but may also include natural, less formal opportunities for play. Also includes spaces designed for older children for more intensive, unsupervised activities such as skate boarding, bike ramps and hang out shelters. May be found in other open space typologies, such as parks and gardens and amenity space.	May be individual sites or within larger sites such as:  Boultham Park, Lincoln  Boston Road Recreation Ground, Sleaford  Caistor Sports and Social Club
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)</b>	Large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed artificial surfaces, used primarily for participation in outdoor sports and which are publicly accessible. May include some built infrastructure such as changing rooms. May be found in larger open spaces, such as parks and gardens.	Birchwood Community Playing Fields, Lincoln  Yarborough Leisure Centre Playing Fields, Lincoln  Skellingthorpe Memorial Playing Fields  Welton Manor Park Sports Centre
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)</b>	Large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed artificial surfaces, used primarily for participation in outdoor sports and which are in	Golf courses such as Sleaford Golf

Type of Open Space	Description and Primary Purpose	Examples
	private ownership. May include some built infrastructure such as changing rooms. Includes golf courses.	Club and Lincoln Golf Centre  Ruston Sports and Social Club, Lincoln  Sleaford Town Football Club
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)</b>	Large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed artificial surfaces, used as a school playing field.	Primary and secondary school playing fields,  Playing fields owned by Lincoln College, Lincoln University and Bishop Grosseteste University
<b>Green Corridors</b>	Routes including canals, river corridors and old railway lines, linking different areas within a town or city as part of a designated and managed network or linking towns and cities to their surrounding countryside or country parks. Used for walking, cycling or horse riding and may also provide opportunities for wildlife migration.	River Witham  Fosdyke Navigation  River Sle  National Cycle Route 64
<b>Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</b>	Areas of undeveloped land, or previously developed land with residual natural habitats, or which have been planted or colonised by vegetation and wildlife, including woodland and wetland areas, and where the public have legal or permissive access.	Swanholme Lakes SSSI, Lincoln  Owlet Plantation, Blyton  Willingham Woods, Market Rasen  Mareham Pastures, Sleaford
<b>Allotments and Community Growing Spaces</b>	Areas of land that provide opportunities for growing fruit, vegetables and other plants, either in individual allotments or as a community activity. Excludes private gardens.	Boultham Glebe Allotments, Lincoln  The Drove Allotments, Sleaford
<b>Civic Spaces</b>	Formally laid out, predominantly hard surfaced areas that provide a focus for pedestrian activity and which provide a setting for civic buildings, community events and demonstrations.	Castle Hill, Lincoln  City Square, Lincoln  Sleaford Market Place  Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough

Type of Open Space	Description and Primary Purpose	Examples
<b>Cemeteries and Churchyards</b>	A standalone open space, or green space around churches, that provide for the burial of the dead and quiet contemplation. These site may also provide opportunities for biodiversity, walking and relaxing.	Heapham Road Cemetery, Gainsborough  Newport Cemetery, Lincoln  Lincoln Crematorium

## Open Space Hierarchy

5.6 The 2016 Audit recognised that open space serves a range of uses and functions. It set out a hierarchy of open space provision, which helps understand the different functions the sites perform and distinguishes between provisions of strategic, neighbourhood and local importance. Generally the larger the open space, the more the potential for multi-functional use within it.

5.7 The open space hierarchy has been reviewed and is presented in **Table 5.2**. A new Town/Village tier has been added to the hierarchy, to reflect that some open spaces serve a whole settlement, parish or ward. No site size limits or thresholds have been applied to each tier as the size of the site doesn't always reflect its role and function. For example, a Local Nature Reserve can be less than 2 hectares in size but best sits within the Town/Village tier.

**Table 5.2: Central Lincolnshire Open Space Hierarchy**

Open Space Hierarchy Tier	Description	Examples
Strategic	<p>These open spaces serve the Central Lincolnshire area, meeting the needs of residents from more than one settlement, and may attract visitors as well as Central Lincolnshire residents.</p> <p>Generally the largest open space sites, which may offer a wide range of activities and facilities.</p> <p>For parks, generally attract visits for more than one hour.</p> <p>They include destination open spaces. They may provide event space capable of attracting audiences from Central Lincolnshire and beyond.</p> <p>They may have designated historic or wildlife importance, often of national importance.</p> <p>They include cemeteries that serve a need beyond a settlement.</p>	<p>Market Rasen Racecourse</p> <p>Hartsholme Country Park, Lincoln</p> <p>Whisby Nature Park</p> <p>Willingham Woods, Market Rasen</p> <p>Lincoln Crematorium</p>
City/Town/Village	These open space sites serve a settlement need, i.e. city, town or village wide need.	Marshall's Sports Ground, Gainsborough

Open Space Hierarchy Tier	Description	Examples
	<p>They are usually, but not always, large sites with a range of facilities. They may include smaller sites where the open space is the only one of that type in the settlement.</p> <p>For parks, attract visits of up to one hour.</p> <p>They may have designated historic or wildlife importance.</p>	<p>Richmond Park, Gainsborough</p> <p>Boston Road Recreation Ground, Sleaford</p> <p>Lollycock's Field, Sleaford</p>
Neighbourhood	<p>Neighbourhood open spaces perform a function that serves a more immediate community need.</p> <p>There may be multi-functional but are unlikely to attract people from across the settlement, serving the needs of local residents who live within walking distance of the site (up to 1200m or 15 min walking time).</p> <p>For parks, attract visits of up to one hour.</p>	<p>Birchwood Nature Park, Lincoln</p> <p>King George Playing Field, Lincoln</p> <p>Mill Park, North Hykeham</p> <p>Middlefield Lane Play Area and Skateboard Park, Gainsborough</p> <p>Theaker Avenue Local Nature Reserve, Gainsborough</p>
Local	<p>Local open spaces are generally the smallest open space sites in size with a single function or purpose.</p> <p>They serve the needs of local residents who live within a short walking distance of the site (400m or 5 min walking time).</p>	<p>Beechers Way Amenity Space, Market Rasen</p> <p>Birchwood View Play Area, Gainsborough</p> <p>Carlton Community Garden, Lincoln</p> <p>Greenbank Drive Open Space, Lincoln</p> <p>Spire View Play Area, Sleaford</p>

### Minimum size thresholds and exclusions

5.8 All publicly accessible open space sites are included in the audit. Private outdoor sports facilities sites, education playing fields and natural and semi-natural greenspace sites not publicly accessible were also included, to present a complete picture of the different types of open space across Central Lincolnshire, but will not be assigned standards.

5.9 The following types of open space are excluded from the audit:

- private residential gardens; and
- amenity green space below 0.2 ha in size (sites below considered to have limited recreation function but may have other functions such as visual amenity or biodiversity value).

## Quantity Approach

5.10 Each of the 4,594 open space sites across Central Lincolnshire were plotted on Earthlight GIS, allowing the boundary and area of each site to be accurately recorded as well as key information, including open space typology, category within the open space hierarchy, site name and ownership were known. The primary purpose of the site was used to assign each open space site to a typology.

### Important Note

- In the 2016 Audit, some sites were mapped more than once as the data was collated from multiple sources. This led to an issue of double counting and was particularly a problem for the natural and semi-natural greenspace typology. The 2021 Update has checked every site to ensure that it has been mapped only once.
- Some sites in the 2016 Audit have been removed, partially or totally, as they have been lost to development.
- Some sites have been added through the 2021 Update as new open spaces have been provided through development.
- More accurate mapping of site boundaries has resulted in a reduction of some site areas.

## Accessibility Approach

5.11 The 2021 Audit has considered how accessible public open spaces are to local residents, by mapping catchment zones, or buffers, on GIS for each type of publicly accessible open space based on walking distances set out in the adopted Central Lincolnshire open space standards (**Table 5.3**). These distances are the maximum distance residents should be reasonably expected to travel to use an open space in the specified typology. The resulting maps help to highlight those areas which are not within an accessible distance, when assessed against the local standards and therefore which should be prioritised for future open space provision. The accessibility buffers are available to view via the Interactive Map on the Central Lincolnshire website<sup>3</sup>.

5.12 Different buffer distances were applied for the different hierarchies of parks and gardens (i.e. Strategic, Town/Village/Neighbourhood and Local), and for the different sizes of provision for children and young people (i.e. LAP, LEAP, NEAP).

5.13 The adopted Local Plan does not set accessibility standards for civic spaces or cemeteries and churchyards, reflecting the fact that proximity is not considered to be a requirement of these open space types. Therefore buffers have not been applied for these open space types.

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<sup>3</sup> [Policies Map and Interactive Map | Central Lincolnshire \(n-kesteven.gov.uk\)](#)

5.14 The adopted Local Plan also does not set an accessibility standard for allotments and community growing spaces. There is no nationally derived standard for accessibility to allotments, however, it was felt that it was important to gain some understanding of accessibility to this type of open space and therefore a 1,600m walking distances (20 minute walking time) was selected<sup>4</sup>.

**Table 5.3: Central Lincolnshire Accessibility Standards**

<b>Open Space Typology</b>	<b>Walking Distance Buffer Applied</b>	<b>Equivalent Walking Time (mins)</b>
Parks and Gardens (Local)	400m	5
Parks and Gardens (Town/Village/Neighbourhood)	1200m	15
Parks and Gardens (Strategic)	15km	15 mins drive
Amenity Greenspace	400m	5
Provision for Children and Young People (LAP or LEAP)	400m	5
Provision for Children and Young People (NEAP, MuGA, Skateboard Park, Youth Shelter, BMX Track)	1200m	15
Outdoor Sports (Public)	1200m	15
Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	400m	5
Allotments and Community Growing Spaces	1600m	20

<sup>4</sup> Based on evidence presented in the Strategic Review of Allotment Provision in Lincoln (April 2012), whereby 36% of respondents to a survey with allotment holders stated that they walked to the allotment site, nearly everybody took under twenty minutes to get to their allotment, 63% of these in under ten minutes and most were happy with this travel time



## 6. Audit Results: Quantity of Open Space

### Introduction

6.1. This section presents the findings of the open space audit work with respect to the total amount of different open space types across Central Lincolnshire.

### Quantity Findings

6.2. Quantitative information for different types of open space and at different geographical scales has been collated and is presented in the maps and tables that follow.

6.3. A summary of the existing total quantity of open space across Central Lincolnshire by district, for all open space typologies, is shown in **Table 6.1**. **Table 6.2** shows the proportion of each open space type in Central Lincolnshire. The largest contributor to open space provision in Central Lincolnshire is natural and semi-natural greenspace (8,692.94 ha), accounting for 48.12% of total provision. The largest contributor of publicly accessible open space is publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace (7,128.69 ha), accounting for 39.46% of total provision. The smallest contributor is civic spaces (6.53ha), accounting for just 0.03% of total provision.

**Table 6.1: Total Amount of Open Space (All Typologies) by District in 2021 Audit**

Geographical Area	Number of Open Space Sites (All Typologies)	Total Area of Open Space (All Typologies) (ha)	Total Open Space Provision per 1,000 (All Typologies) (ha)
City of Lincoln	332	1,234.05	13.19
North Kesteven	1,890	6,430.43	59.67
West Lindsey	2,372	10,399.33	116.52
Central Lincolnshire	4,594	18,063.81	62.17

**Table 6.2: Proportion of Open Space Types in Central Lincolnshire**

Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Proportion of Total Open Space %
Parks and Gardens	29	109.85	0.56
Amenity Space	245	190.57	1.05

Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Proportion of Total Open Space %
Provision for Children and Young People	225	35.77	0.20
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)	156	263.58	1.46
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	68	676.8	3.75
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)	117	150.05	0.83
Green Corridors	36	592.86	3.28
Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	554	7,128.69	39.46
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	2,797	8,692.94	48.12
Allotments and Community Growing Spaces	59	90.19	0.50
Civic Spaces	40	6.2	0.03
Cemeteries and Churchyards	268	126.31	0.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,594</b>	<b>18,063.81</b>	<b>100</b>

6.4. A breakdown of the different types of open space in terms of number of sites and total area by district is shown in **Tables 6.3, 6.4** and **6.5**. This table also shows the amount of open space (ha) per 1,000 population by open space typology for each district and across Central Lincolnshire, using both 2011 and 2043 population figures (see **Table 3.1**).

**Table 6.3: Number and Area of Open Space Sites in Lincoln by Open Space Typology**

Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2011 Population	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2043 Population
Parks and Gardens	16	90.71	0.97	0.88
Amenity Space	42	38.38	0.41	0.37
Provision for Children and Young People	32	7.36	0.08	0.07
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)	21	43.1	0.46	0.42

Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2011 Population	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2043 Population
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	15	51.11	0.55	0.50
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)	25	49.87	0.53	0.49
Green Corridors	7	90.62	0.97	0.88
Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	56	487.12	5.21	4.75
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	59	301.5	3.22	2.94
Allotments and Community Growing Spaces	18	41.71	0.45	0.41
Civic Spaces	25	3.83	0.04	0.04
Cemeteries and Churchyards	16	28.74	0.31	0.28
<b>Totals</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>1,234.05</b>	<b>13.19</b>	<b>12.04</b>

**Table 6.4: Number and Area of Open Space Sites in North Kesteven by Open Space Typology**

Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2043 Population
Parks and Gardens	8	14.14	0.13	0.11
Amenity Space	88	49.9	0.46	0.37
Provision for Children and Young People	106	14.9	0.14	0.11
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)	71	117.69	1.09	0.88
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	27	267.48	2.48	2

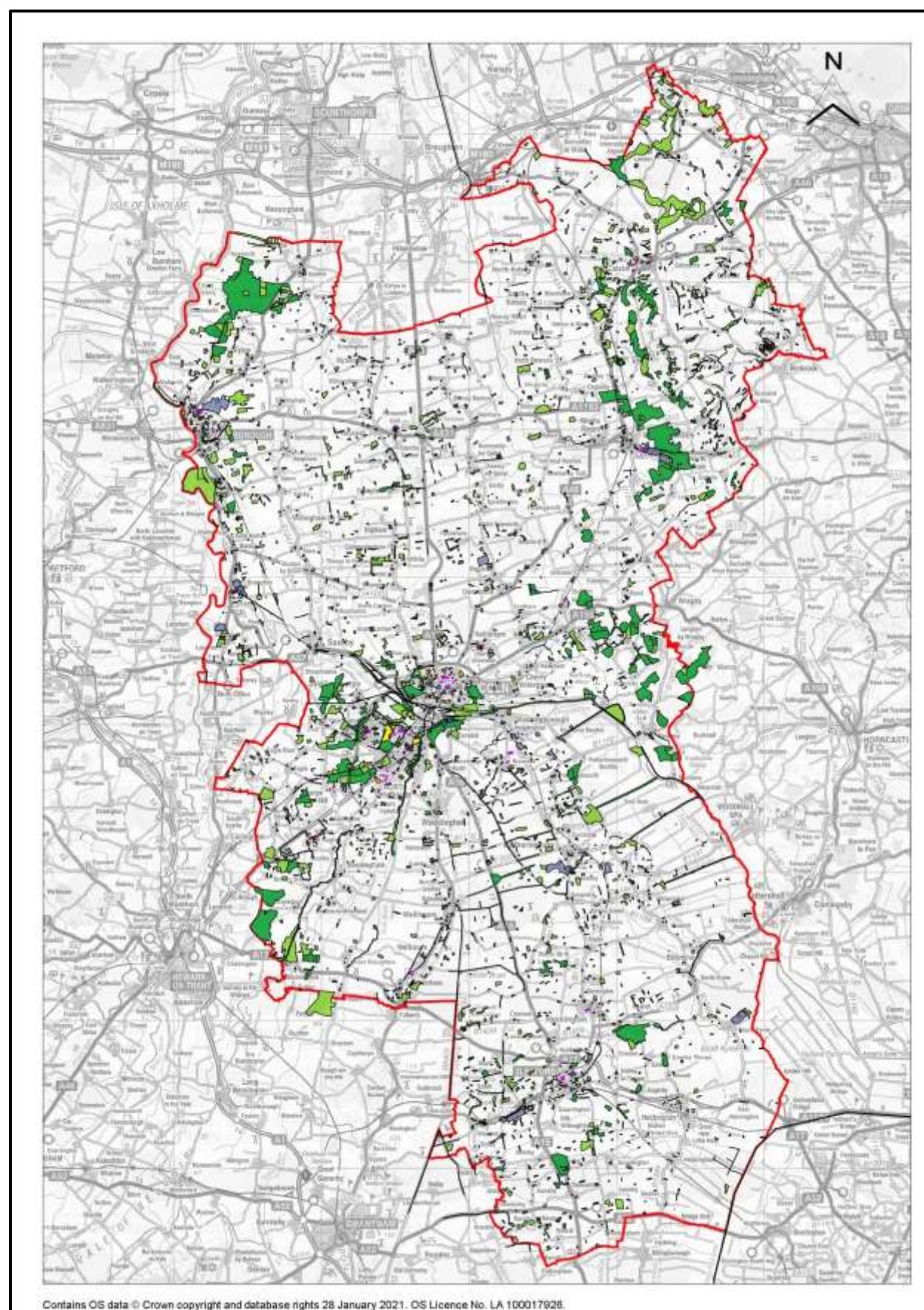
Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2043 Population
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)	51	59.51	0.55	0.45
Green Corridors	18	418.7	3.89	3.13
Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	238	2,223.79	20.64	16.63
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1,155	3,195.35	29.65	23.90
Allotments and Community Growing Spaces	22	27.15	0.25	0.20
Civic Spaces	6	0.69	0.01	0.01
Cemeteries and Churchyards	100	41.13	0.38	0.31
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>6,430.43</b>	<b>59.67</b>	<b>48.10</b>

**Table 6.5: Number and Area of Open Space Sites in West Lindsey by Open Space Typology**

Open Space Typology	Number of Sites	Total Area of Open Space (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha)	Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2043 Population
Parks and Gardens	5	5	0.06	0.05
Amenity Space	115	102.29	1.15	0.99
Provision for Children and Young People	87	13.51	0.15	0.13
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)	64	102.79	1.15	1
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	26	358.21	4.01	3.48
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)	41	40.67	0.46	0.40

<b>Open Space Typology</b>	<b>Number of Sites</b>	<b>Total Area of Open Space (ha)</b>	<b>Provision per 1,000 people (ha)</b>	<b>Provision per 1,000 people (ha) 2043 Population</b>
<b>Green Corridors</b>	11	83.54	0.94	0.81
<b>Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</b>	260	4,417.78	54.75	47.49
<b>Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace</b>	1,583	5196.09	58.22	50.50
<b>Allotments and Community Growing Spaces</b>	19	21.33	0.24	0.21
<b>Civic Spaces</b>	9	1.68	0.02	0.02
<b>Cemeteries and Churchyards</b>	152	56.44	0.63	0.55
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,372</b>	<b>10,399.33</b>	<b>116.52</b>	<b>101.06</b>

**Map 6.1: Open Space across Central Lincolnshire – All Open Space Typologies**





- 6.5. As set out in **Appendix 1**, there are a number of nationally recommended standards for open space provision, which provide guidance as to the amount of open space that should be provided, as well as guidance on accessibility and quality of provision. Fields in Trust (FiT) has derived a set of quantity standards for different types of open space. **Table 6.6** sets out these standards alongside the average provision in Central Lincolnshire for different types of open space (derived from the 2021 Audit results). This data helps benchmark the current position for different types of open space across Central Lincolnshire. It reveals that for the Amenity Space, Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private), Green Corridors, Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace and Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace typologies, the average provision in Central Lincolnshire is above the recommended FiT standard. For Parks and Gardens, Provision for Children and Young People, Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public) and Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education) the average provision in Central Lincolnshire is below the recommended FiT standard. By 2043, the figures for Amenity Space and Green Corridors fall below the recommended standard.
- 6.6. These standards and average provision figures will be used to assess the amount of open space by typology, will help identify those areas which are not meeting the recommended standards and where additional provision may be needed. It is important to note that where levels of open space provision are greater than a standard or average provision for an area, does not necessarily imply a surplus of open space.

**Table 6.6: Central Lincolnshire Average Provision Against National Quantity Standards**

Typology	FiT Quantity Standard (ha/1,000 population)	Central Lincolnshire (ha/1,000 population 2011)	Central Lincolnshire (ha/1,000 population 2043)
Parks and Gardens	0.80	0.38	0.32
Amenity Space	0.60	0.66	0.56
Provision for Children and Young People	0.25	0.12	0.11
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)	1.60	0.91	0.78
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	1.60	2.33	2.00
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)	1.80	0.52	0.44
Green Corridors <sup>5</sup>	1.80	2.04	1.75
Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1.80	24.53	21.02

<sup>5</sup> No standard set by FiT, but closely relates to natural and semi-natural greenspace

Typology	FiT Quantity Standard (ha/1,000 population)	Central Lincolnshire (ha/1,000 population 2011)	Central Lincolnshire (ha/1,000 population 2043)
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1.80	29.92	25.64
Allotments and Community Growing Spaces	No standard set by FiT	0.31	0.27
Civic Spaces	No standard set by FiT	0.02	0.02
Cemeteries and Churchyards	No standard set by FiT	0.43	0.37

6.7. GIS mapping of open space has been used to assess the existing quantity of open space within the Central Lincolnshire wards. **Map 6.1** shows the spatial distribution of all open space sites across Central Lincolnshire.

6.8. A summary of existing provision is shown in **Table 6.7**. A breakdown of the different types of open space in terms of number of sites and total area is shown in **Table 6.8**. The data reveals significant variations in the total area of open space between wards. For example, five wards have over 1,000 ha of open space: Bassingham and Brant Broughton, Caistor, Market Rasen, Scotter and Wold View, whereas two wards have less than 10 ha of open space: North Hykeham Forum and North Hykeham Mill.

**Table 6.7: Number and Area of Open Space Sites by Ward across Central Lincolnshire**

Ward	Local Authority	Number of Open Space Sites	Total Amount of Open Space (ha)
Abbey	CoL	46	233.7
Ashby de la Launde and Cranwell	NK	173	320.04
Bardney	WL	55	764.8
Bassingham and Brant Broughton	NK	182	1024.04
Billingham, Martin and North Kyme	NK	102	156.81
Birchwood	CoL	23	86.39
Boultham	CoL	38	208.02
Bracebridge Heath and Waddington East	NK	33	79.44
Branston	NK	93	365.93
Caistor	WL	136	1065.3



Ward	Local Authority	Number of Open Space Sites	Total Amount of Open Space (ha)
Carholme	CoL	57	221.36
Castle	CoL	38	39.01
Cherry Willingham	WL	29	24.68
Cliff Villages	NK	150	462.41
Dunholme	WL	41	112.12
Eagle, Swinderby and Witham St. Hughs Ward	NK	170	749.94
Fiskerton	WL	117	656.07
Gainsborough East	WL	42	59.69
Gainsborough North	WL	27	53.67
Gainsborough South West	WL	15	45.26
Glebe	CoL	11	14.45
Hartsholme	CoL	20	127.25
Heckington Rural	NK	72	258.27
Heighington and Washingborough	NK	44	223.24
Hemswell	WL	133	318.92
Kelsey	WL	103	226.63
Kirkby la Thorpe and South Kyme	NK	94	439.42
Lea	WL	67	523.08
Leasingham and Rauceby	NK	79	193.15
Market Rasen	WL	191	1347.5
Metheringham	NK	169	651.27
Middle Rasen	WL	123	425.16
Minster	CoL	24	41.47
Moorland	CoL	22	43.36
Nettleham	WL	43	63.59
North Hykeham Forum	NK	5	2.45
North Hykeham Memorial	NK	19	180.09
North Hykeham Mill	NK	11	8.98
North Hykeham Moor	NK	7	16.53

Ward	Local Authority	Number of Open Space Sites	Total Amount of Open Space (ha)
North Hykeham Witham	NK	9	10.91
Osournby	NK	193	602.55
Park	CoL	30	139.88
Ruskington	NK	38	35.24
Saxilby	WL	95	196.98
Scampton	WL	127	278.53
Scotter	WL	119	1322.72
Skellingthorpe	WL	45	250.08
Sleaford Castle	NK	10	15.25
Sleaford Holdingham	NK	18	50.07
Sleaford Navigation	NK	26	24.59
Sleaford Quarrington and Mareham	NK	41	41.51
Sleaford Westholme	NK	8	16.73
Stow	WL	43	49.09
Sudbrooke	WL	31	61.28
Thonock	WL	66	329.3
Torksey	WL	116	301.68
Waddingham and Spital	WL	106	161.39
Waddington West	NK	11	28.37
Welton	WL	98	163.97
Witham	CoLC	23	79.16
Wold View	WL	249	1122.42
Yarborough	WL	59	417.05

**Table 6.8: Open Space Provision by Ward<sup>6</sup> and Open Space Typology**

Typology	Parks and Gardens		Amenity Space		Provision for Children and Young People		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)		Green Corridors		Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		Allotments and Community Growing Spaces		Civic Spaces		Cemeteries and Churchyards	
Ward	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha
Abbey	3	7.59	5	3.7	5	0.52	0	0	2	1.98	2	2.23	3	48.29	7	80.2	9	86.03	1	1.97	7	1.13	2	0.06
Ashby de la Launde and Cranwell	1	0.09	5	6.56	9	0.72	6	8.6	0	0	2	0.9	1	3.98	15	74.28	123	220.58	1	1.5	0	0	10	2.83
Bardney	0	0	0	0	2	0.16	4	2.96	0	0	1	0.51	3	37.39	18	676.84	21	42.47	1	2.35	0	0	5	2.12
Bassingham and Brant Broughton	0	0	3	0.98	6	0.72	3	5.48	1	0.16	2	0.83	2	62.02	18	477.26	133	470.87	3	2.06	0	0	11	3.66
Billinghay, Martin and North Kyme	0	0	1	0.62	4	1.03	7	6.23	2	1.35	2	0.91	0	0	3	13.3	76	130.36	0	0	0	0	7	3.01
Birchwood	1	6.19	6	8.9	3	0.19	0	0	0	0	3	3.7	0	0	6	59.01	4	8.4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boultham	1	18.66	3	0.74	4	0.51	5	7.43	1	3.13	3	12.57	0	0	6	41.77	10	110.28	4	12.41	0	0	1	0.52
Bracebridge Heath and Waddington East	0	0	3	1.44	7	1.02	2	8.33	2	1.99	2	1.89	1	10.49	4	16.44	8	33.46	1	1.62	0	0	3	2.76
Branston	0	0	1	0.27	6	0.83	4	8.64	1	16.29	3	8.71	1	19.25	15	116.86	57	191.86	1	1.72	1	0.04	3	1.46
Caistor	1	0.98	5	0.9	6	0.78	2	7.12	3	1.48	3	6.35	0	0	14	202.26	93	842.92	1	0.17	1	0.15	7	2.17
Carholme	5	6.33	5	3.26	2	0.48	5	2.79	3	27.15	1	0.26	3	29.36	6	85.64	15	51.52	2	9.25	9	1.33	1	3.99
Castle	5	5.6	3	1.92	3	1.46	3	12.03	3	2.71	2	0.94	0	0	0	0	8	6.99	3	8.18	8	1.22	1	0.16
Cherry Willingham	0	0	5	1.64	6	1.31	4	8.2	1	1.38	1	0.79	1	2.34	0	0	6	7.9	1	0.12	0	0	4	1
Cliff Villages	0	0	9	6.46	9	0.74	8	9.93	0	0	4	5.74	2	14.61	19	62.24	85	358.26	4	1.32	0	0	10	3.11
Dunholme	0	0	2	0.85	2	0.93	2	5.99	0	0	1	0.38	1	0.84	8	85.77	18	16.17	0	0	1	0.02	6	1.17
Eagle, Swinderby and Witham St. Hughs Ward	0	0	8	6.67	11	0.75	8	7.29	2	13.54	5	2.8	0	0	26	330.87	104	383.92	1	2.34	0	0	5	1.76
Fiskerton	0	0	3	3.07	2	0.11	2	0.23	0	0	1	0.81	0	0	23	421.75	80	228.29	0	0	0	0	6	1.81
Gainsborough East	0	0	22	17.8	7	1.85	1	4.6	0	0	2	2.49	0	0	3	14.75	4	6.56	2	3.39	0	0	1	8.25
Gainsborough North	1	1.25	8	15.53	3	0.8	3	7.64	3	1.28	2	8.34	0	0	1	8.89	1	3.33	3	4.98	0	0	2	1.63
Gainsborough South West	2	0.77	4	2.78	1	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	34.24	2	5.87	2	0.7	1	0.87
Glebe	0	0	5	2.63	1	0.06	2	9.58	1	0.17	1	1.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.11
Hartsholme	1	46.34	2	2.6	3	0.2	1	2.56	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	74.45	2	1.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heckington Rural	0	0	3	1.11	4	0.46	3	5.68	1	0.13	2	1.01	1	158.35	7	35.23	40	48.21	1	3.97	2	0.36	8	3.76
Heighington and Washingborough	1	1.18	3	1.58	4	0.62	7	13.27	1	18.71	2	2.31	1	76.86	7	63.34	15	42.35	1	2.18	0	0	2	0.84
Hemswell	0	0	5	5.74	5	0.57	1	0.56	2	2.35	1	1.64	0	0	7	32.69	103	272.62	0	0	0	0	9	2.75

<sup>6</sup> 2011 Wards

Typology	Parks and Gardens		Amenity Space		Provision for Children and Young People		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)		Green Corridors		Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		Allotments and Community Growing Spaces		Civic Spaces		Cemeteries and Churchyards	
Ward	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha
Kelsey	0	0	0	0	2	0.13	3	3.46	0	0	2	0.63	0	0	11	74.24	75	145.51	0	0	0	0	10	2.66
Kirkby la Thorpe and South Kyme	0	0	3	0.82	3	0.35	2	1.02	3	51.65	1	0.27	0	0	6	235.62	66	147.57	0	0	1	0.06	9	2.06
Lea	0	0	0	0	2	0.51	2	3.84	0	0	1	0.39	0	0	8	44.31	52	473.24	0	0	0	0	2	0.79
Leasingham and Rauceby	0	0	2	0.58	1	0.07	2	1.99	0	0	2	1.33	0	0	20	69.75	50	118.75	0	0	0	0	2	0.68
Market Rasen	0	0	6	5.24	4	1.87	2	2	5	84.84	4	6.52	0	0	37	1009.8	116	231.6	1	0.19	1	0.14	15	5.27
Metheringham	0	0	6	2.19	7	1.12	5	5.82	4	96.03	3	2.2	1	35.16	29	166.19	106	339.67	2	1.36	1	0.04	6	1.74
Middle Rasen	0	0	2	0.94	5	0.34	4	3.38	0	0	2	0.86	1	1.01	9	170.82	92	245.51	0	0	0	0	8	2.3
Minster	0	0	6	2.82	1	0.18	1	3.74	3	6.18	7	18.6	0	0	0	0	2	3.18	0	0	1	0.15	3	6.62
Moorland	0	0	5	10.06	5	0.62	1	1.94	1	2.81	1	4.51	0	0	6	18.69	1	0.69	2	4.04	0	0	0	0
Nettleham	0	0	1	2.35	5	0.37	3	6.16	1	9.58	2	1.52	2	0.4	5	4.63	17	35.88	1	0.4	1	0.09	5	2.21
North Hykeham Forum	1	0.64	1	0.33	2	0.6	0	0	0	0	1	0.88	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Hykeham Memorial	1	2.46	1	0.71	2	0.49	3	4.17	0	0	1	1.02	0	0	2	94.32	9	76.92	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Hykeham Mill	1	0.84	1	0.32	3	0.52	1	2.02	0	0	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	1	3.54	2	0.53	0	0	1	0.81
North Hykeham Moor	0	0	2	0.77	0	0	1	8.11	0	0	3	6.95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.7
North Hykeham Witham	1	1.16	0	0	4	0.36	1	5.71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.34	1	0.34	0	0	0	0
Osournby	0	0	0	0	3	0.72	3	4.99	3	55.32	1	0.54	0	0	34	199.57	133	337.51	1	0.22	0	0	15	3.67
Park	0	0	1	0.92	2	1.17	3	3.03	1	3.16	1	0.86	0	0	9	97.79	3	14.45	3	1.22	0	0	7	17.28
Ruskington	0	0	2	0.49	5	0.9	2	5.88	1	0.12	3	3.35	0	0	4	3.66	18	19.08	1	0.63	0	0	2	1.13
Saxilby	0	0	2	1.77	2	0.06	4	4.02	3	0.27	1	0.44	1	11.08	7	47.33	70	130.16	0	0	0	0	5	1.85
Scampton	0	0	1	0.23	3	0.33	5	4.67	0	0	2	0.71	0	0	10	35.29	96	234.97	0	0	3	0.57	7	1.76
Scotter	0	0	1	0.2	4	0.24	4	3.09	1	2.38	2	0.35	0	0	13	1011.5	85	302.57	1	0.39	0	0	8	2.01
Skellingthorpe	0	0	5	1.45	1	0.37	2	3.14	0	0	2	1.5	3	7.38	7	176.32	23	59.04	0	0	0	0	2	0.88
Sleaford Castle	0	0	2	3.42	1	0.91	0	0	0	0	2	2.41	1	0.87	1	4.3	3	3.34	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sleaford Holdingham	0	0	4	4.14	2	0.66	0	0	1	9.23	0	0	1	2.17	1	10.54	9	23.33	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sleaford Navigation	1	5.23	9	2.58	5	0.27	0	0	2	0.68	3	3.45	1	3.18	2	2.61	0	0	0	0	1	0.18	2	5.51
Sleaford Quarrington and Mareham	1	2.53	11	3.66	3	0.12	0	0	2	2.08	1	0.53	0	0	9	24.44	13	7.54	0	0	0	0	1	0.61
Sleaford Westholme	0	0	2	0.56	1	0.29	0	0	0	0	2	7.83	1	0.69	0	0	0	0	2	7.36	0	0	0	0
Stow	0	0	0	0	6	0.69	2	3.93	0	0	1	0.74	0	0	3	2.21	25	39.78	0	0	0	0	6	1.74
Sudbrooke	0	0	4	1.25	3	0.15	3	2.93	0	0	1	0.48	0	0	7	11.99	10	43.83	0	0	0	0	3	0.65

Typology	Parks and Gardens		Amenity Space		Provision for Children and Young People		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)		Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)		Green Corridors		Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace		Allotments and Community Growing Spaces		Civic Spaces		Cemeteries and Churchyards	
Ward	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha	Sites	ha
Thonock	0	0	3	0.77	1	0.02	2	5.24	1	122.5	3	3.64	2	30.48	2	51.1	45	109.7	3	3.06	0	0	4	2.79
Torksey	0	0	1	2.15	4	0.58	3	1.57	2	79.77	1	0.76	0	0	5	13.58	92	201.15	1	0.09	0	0	7	2.04
Waddingham and Spital	0	0	2	1.03	2	0.06	1	0.51	1	1.75	2	0.92	0	0	11	16.67	78	137.94	0	0	0	0	9	2.51
Waddington West	0	0	1	2.19	3	0.26	1	1.39	1	0.19	1	0.85	1	21.08	0	0	3	2.41	0	0	0	0	0	0
Welton	0	0	6	2.45	5	0.84	4	7.6	2	49.3	3	0.99	0	0	6	8.28	64	92.52	1	0.13	0	0	7	1.86
Witham	0	0	1	0.83	3	1.97	0	0	1	5.59	4	4.73	1	12.97	5	29.57	5	18.86	3	4.64	0	0	0	0
Wold View	0	0	32	35.63	3	0.65	1	1.64	0	0	1	0.05	0	0	42	448.27	159	633.24	0	0	0	0	11	2.94
Yarborough	1	2	0	0	2	0.13	2	11.45	1	1.33	1	0.36	0	0	3	4.68	44	395.61	1	0.2	0	0	4	1.29
Totals	32	114.25	243	188.24	211	35.77	149	238.45	72	696.39	116	149.36	36	590.18	558	7,430.7	2790	8,415	59	90.2	40	6.47	273	126.81

## Quantity Findings by Typology

### Introduction

6.9. This section looks at the levels of provision for each open space typology, taking account of any relevant national open space standards. The results are presented alphabetically by typology and for the three district areas and Central Lincolnshire overall. Ward data by open space typology is summarised in Table 6.8 above. Data at a smaller geographical area and assessment against relevant open space standards is available in a separate document: “Open Space Supply Local Area Report”, which will be revised and published every two years.

### Allotments and Community Growing Spaces

6.10. Allotments are areas of land that provide opportunities for growing fruit, vegetables and other plants, either in individual allotments or as a community activity. A total of 59 sites across Central Lincolnshire are classified as Allotments or Community Growing Spaces, covering a total area of 90.20ha (**Table 6.9**). No site size threshold has been applied and as such all known provision has been identified and included in the audit.

6.11. The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 0.25 ha/1,000 population. There are currently 0.31 ha/1,000 population of allotments for Central Lincolnshire (based on 2011 population). Therefore, existing provision currently meets this standard. Assessed against the projected 2043 population, only Lincoln would meet this standard, if there was no new allotment provision.

**Table 6.9: Current Allotment and Community Growing Spaces**

Geographical Area	Allotment Provision					
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population	Deviation from NSALG standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from NSALG standard
City of Lincoln	18	41.71	0.45	+0.2	0.41	+0.16
North Kesteven	22	27.15	0.25	0	0.20	-0.05
West Lindsey	19	21.33	0.24	-0.01	0.21	-0.04
Central Lincolnshire	59	90.19	0.31	+0.06	0.27	+0.02

6.12. In Lincoln, allotments are managed by the City of Lincoln Council. In West Lindsey and North Kesteven, they are predominantly managed by Town or Parish Councils. Information of plot numbers, vacant plots and numbers on the waiting list has been gathered for Lincoln and the two main towns of Gainsborough and Sleaford. **Tables 6.10, 6.12 and 6.13** provide this information as of February 2021.

- 6.13. In Lincoln there are currently 10 plots which are currently vacant (only 1% of the total number of plots) and there is a waiting list of 121 people across the City (**Table 6.10**). Only 4 allotment sites do not have a waiting list. These figures suggest that there is limited capacity at existing allotment sites as the current waiting list greatly exceeds the vacant plots
- 6.14. **Table 6.11** shows the provision of plots on allotments managed by the City of Lincoln Council in relation to number of households. The data reveals over provision in some areas and under provision in others. Birchwood, Glebe and Minster have no allotment provision, Moorland and Park are low and Boutham, Carholme and Witham have the highest provision per 1,000 households.
- 6.15. In Sleaford there are currently 16 plots which are vacant (26.67% of the total number of plots) and there is a waiting list of 60 people (**Table 6.12**). Again, this suggests demand for allotment plots is high in Sleaford. **Table 6.13** shows the provision of plots on allotments managed by Sleaford Town Council in relation to number of households. The data shows that plots are concentrated in 1 of 5 wards in Sleaford.
- 6.16. In Gainsborough, there are 358 plots split between 5 allotment sites. As of February 2021, 4 of the 5 sites have a waiting list. The longest list of for 13 people, with some people on more than one waiting list.

**Table 6.10: City of Lincoln Allotments Information on Plots, Vacancies and Waiting Lists**

<b>Name of Allotment</b>	<b>Central Lincolnshire Map ID</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Total Number of Plots</b>	<b>Number of Vacant Plots</b>	<b>Number on Waiting List</b>
Boultham Glebe	LINC/BOULT/3	Boultham	148	0	32
Boultham Park	LINC/BOULT/11	Boultham	105	0	22
Burton Ridge	LINC/CAR/36	Carholme	46	0	0
Canwick Hill	NK/CAN/3	Heighington and Washingborough	54	0	3
Clarence Street A	LINC/CAS/8	Castle	46	0	2
Clarence Street B	LINC/CAS/7	Castle	48	0	3
Greenbank Drive	LINC/MOOR/5	Moorland	14	0	8
Hykeham Road	LINC/WITH/7 LINC/WITH/8 LINC/WITH/9	Witham	104	0	5
Kingsway	LINC/PARK/2	Park	10	0	7
Long Leys Road	LINC/CAR/2	Carholme	223	7	0
Melbourne Road	New site – not mapped	Hartsholme	28	0	7
Simons Hill	LINC/MOOR/8	Moorland	71	1	0
Sincil Bank	LINC/PARK/4	Park	15	0	9
St Botolph's Crescent	LINC/BOULT/1	Boultham	14	0	6
Tritton Road	LINC/BOULT/23	Boultham	13	0	4
Wragby Road	LINC/ABB/6	Abbey	44	0	13
Yarborough Crescent	LINC/CAS/5	Castle	10	2	0
<b>Totals</b>			<b>993</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>121</b>



**Table 6.11: Provision per 1,000 Households for Allotments Managed by City of Lincoln Council**

Ward	Number of Households (2011 Census)	Allotment Area (ha)	Total Number of Plots	Plots per 1,000 Households
Abbey	5,027	1.97	44	8.75
Birchwood	3,714	0	0	0
Boultham	3,360	12.41	280	83.33
Carholme	4,652	9.25	269	57.82
Castle	3,733	8.18	104	27.86
Glebe	3,043	0	0	0
Hartsholme	2,845	New site - not mapped	28	9.84
Minster	3,264	0	0	0
Moorland	3,282	4.04	14	4.27
Park	3,887	1.22	10	2.57
Witham	3,018	4.64	104	34.46
Heighington and Washingborough	2,985	2.18	54	18.09

**Table 6.12: Sleaford Information on Plots, Vacancies and Waiting List**

<b>Name of Allotment</b>	<b>Central Lincolnshire Map ID</b>	<b>Total Number of Plots</b>	<b>Number of Vacant Plots</b>	<b>Number on Waiting List</b>
The Drove	NK/SLEA/28	115		
Galley Hill	NK/SLEA/33	31		
<b>Totals</b>		<b>146</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>60</b>

**Table 6.13: Provision per 1,000 Households for Allotments Managed by Sleaford Town Council**

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Number of Households (2011 Census)</b>	<b>Allotment Area (ha)</b>	<b>Total Number of Plots</b>	<b>Plots per 1,000 Households</b>
Sleaford Castle	1,097	0	0	0
Sleaford Holdingham	1,148	0	0	0
Sleaford Navigation	1,272	0	0	0
Sleaford Quarrington and Mareham (includes Greylees)	2,865	0	0	0
Sleaford Westholme	1,271	7.36	146	114.87

### Amenity Greenspace

- 6.17. Amenity greenspaces are open spaces of varied size that are normally predominantly mown grass, but may also include areas of trees and landscaping. They provide visual amenity, or separate different buildings or land uses for environmental, visual or safety reasons. They may be used for a variety of informal recreational or social activities close to home or work, such as walking, sitting and passive recreation.
- 6.18. Across Central Lincolnshire, 245 sites have been identified as having a primary typology of amenity greenspace (of 0.2ha or more<sup>7</sup>), covering a total area of 190.57 ha. The Fields in Trust (FiT) standard for amenity greenspace is 0.60ha/1,000 population. There are currently 0.66 ha/1,000 population of amenity space for Central Lincolnshire (based on 2011 population). Therefore existing provision meets this standard. Assessed against the projected 2043 population, only West Lindsey would meet this standard, if there was no new amenity greenspace provision.
- 6.19. There are 30 amenity greenspace sites across Central Lincolnshire that contain provision for children and young people within their site boundaries, including equipped play areas and skateboard parks.

**Table 6.14: Current Amenity Greenspace Provision**

Geographical Area	Amenity Greenspace Provision					
	Number of Sites (0.2ha or greater)	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/ per 1,000 population	Deviation from FiT standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from FiT standard
City of Lincoln	42	38.38	0.41	-0.19	0.37	-0.23
North Kesteven	88	49.9	0.46	-0.14	0.37	-0.23
West Lindsey	115	102.29	1.15	+0.55	0.99	+0.39
Central Lincolnshire	245	190.57	0.66	+0.06	0.56	-0.04

- 6.20. Since the 2016 Audit there have been losses and gains in Amenity Space. New sites have been delivered as part of completed development, such as Augustus Walk in Caistor, and Ferrous Way in North Hykeham. Other sites were missed during the 2016 Audit and a small number of sites have been lost to development.

<sup>7</sup> A 0.2 ha minimum size threshold was applied to amenity space in the 2021 Audit, continuing the methodology applied in the 2016 Audit. 0.2 hectares is considered big enough for a 'kick about pitch' or other informal play.

### Cemeteries and Churchyards

6.21. Cemeteries and churchyards are a standalone open space, or green space around churches, that provide for the burial of the dead and quiet contemplation. These site may also provide opportunities for wildlife, walking and relaxing.

6.22. There are no national standards for cemetery provision. Individual wards are not expected to meet an expected level of provision for cemeteries as large cemeteries generally provide for a wider catchment than the neighbourhood level. A new cemetery (Long Leys Road Cemetery) was completed within Lincoln in 2014 to meet the identified shortfalls in burial capacity.

6.23. No site size threshold has been applied to this typology, and as such all identified provision is included within the audit. There are a total of 268 cemetery and churchyard sites across Central Lincolnshire, covering a total area of 126.31ha (**Table 6.15**).

**Table 6.15: Current Cemeteries and Churchyard Provision**

Geographical Area	Cemeteries and Churchyards Provision	
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)
City of Lincoln	16	28.74
North Kesteven	100	41.13
West Lindsey	152	56.44
<b>Central Lincolnshire</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>126.31</b>

6.24. Some sites have been reclassified in the 2021 Audit from cemeteries and churchyards to civic space. These sites are former burial sites, no longer actively used for the burial of the dead, but more for informal recreation and quiet reflection. They are predominantly sites within Lincoln, such as Park Street Disused Burial Ground and Rosemary Lane Disused Burial Ground. There has also been a large number of churchyard sites added to the audit that were missed from the 2016 Audit, particularly in rural wards.

### Civic Space

- 6.25. Civic spaces are normally formally laid out, predominantly hard surfaced areas that provide a focus for pedestrian activity and which provide a setting for civic buildings, community events and demonstrations. The largest of these spaces tend to be multi-functional, providing an opportunity to host events and celebrations for the benefit of the local community, whereas the smaller and more secluded spaces can allow people to gather for quiet reflection.
- 6.26. No site size threshold has been applied to this typology, and as such all identified provision is included within the audit. A total of 40 sites have been recorded as Civic Space, covering a total area of 6.2ha. 25 of the 40 Civic Space sites are to be found in the City of Lincoln, covering a total area of 3.83ha (**Table 6.16**). There is no national standard for the provision of civic space.

**Table 6.16: Current Civic Space Provision**

Geographical Area	Civic Space Provision	
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)
City of Lincoln	25	3.83
North Kesteven	6	0.69
West Lindsey	9	1.68
Central Lincolnshire	40	6.2

## Green Corridors

6.27. Green Corridors consist of routes, including canals, river corridors and old railway lines, linking different areas within a town or city as part of a designated and managed network or linking towns and cities to their surrounding countryside or country parks. Used for walking, cycling or horse riding and may also provide opportunities for wildlife migration.

6.28. There are no national standards for Green Corridor provision. There are 36 sites within Central Lincolnshire classified as Green Corridors, covering a total area of 592.86 ha (**Table 6.17**). Key sites include the River Witham, Fossdyke Navigation, the River Slea, and the River Trent.

**Table 6.17: Current Green Corridor Provision**

Geographical Area	Green Corridor Provision	
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)
City of Lincoln	7	90.62
North Kesteven	18	418.7
West Lindsey	11	83.54
Central Lincolnshire	36	592.86

### Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- 6.29. Natural and semi-natural greenspace includes areas of undeveloped land, or previously developed land with residual natural habitats, or which have been planted or colonised by vegetation and wildlife, including woodland and wetland areas. Natural Greenspace includes designated wildlife sites (National Nature Reserves, SSSIs, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites) and other spaces which have been left for nature (i.e. where there is no or very little maintenance carried out).
- 6.30. Sites within this typology are not publicly accessible, but it is useful to include them in this assessment to understand the total natural and semi-natural greenspace resource across the study area.
- 6.31. A total of 8,692.94 ha of land is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace across Central Lincolnshire. The FiT standard recommends 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. There are currently 29.92 ha/1,000 population of publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace for Central Lincolnshire (based on 2011 population). Therefore, existing provision currently meets this standard (**Table 6.18**). Assessed against the projected 2043 population, all districts within Central Lincolnshire meet this standard if there was no new natural and semi-natural greenspace provision.

**Table 6.18: Current Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Provision**

Geographical Area	Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Provision					
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population	Deviation from FiT standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from FiT standard
City of Lincoln	59	301.5	3.22	+1.42	2.94	+1.14
North Kesteven	1,155	3,195.35	29.65	+27.85	23.90	+22.1
West Lindsey	1,583	5,196.09	58.22	+56.42	50.50	+48.7
Central Lincolnshire	<b>2,797</b>	<b>8,692.94</b>	<b>29.92</b>	<b>+26.99</b>	<b>25.64</b>	<b>+23.84</b>

- 6.32. As previously noted, the 2016 Audit double counted a number of natural and semi-natural greenspace sites, due to plotting the sites from numerous sources. This has now been rectified, but has inevitably led to a reduction in both the number of sites and the amount of land classified in this typology from the figures reported in the 2016 Audit. A review of site boundaries has also resulted in a reduction in site area

### Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)

- 6.33. In the 2016 Audit, Outdoor Sports Facilities were recorded under the one typology “Outdoor Sports Facilities”. The 2021 Audit has recognised that Outdoor Sport Facilities can be split into three categories: Public, Private and Education sites and the Open Space Typology has been amended to reflect this.
- 6.34. Many schools, colleges and universities in Central Lincolnshire have open space and sports facilities within their grounds. This may range from a small playground to large playing fields with several sports pitches.
- 6.35. The majority of these sites are restricted to access by schools only, however, some of the larger playing fields associated with secondary schools are a shared or dual use facility, whereby a formal arrangement exists which allows the use of school sports facilities out of school hours, in the evenings and at weekends. School grounds can contribute towards the green infrastructure network and biodiversity of a local area.
- 6.36. It is important to note that the 2021 Audit has recorded Outdoor Sports Facilities sites to gain an overall picture of open space provision across Central Lincolnshire. It does not assess the supply and demand for different types of sports pitches and whether provision meets any recommended standards. This will be covered by a separate evidence report; Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment Update 2021, which is currently being prepared by LK Consulting and which will update the 2013 Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment.
- 6.37. A total of 117 sites are classified within the Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education) typology, covering a total area of 150.05ha (**Table 6.19**).

**Table 6.19: Current Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)**

Geographical Area	Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education) Provision		
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population
City of Lincoln	25	49.87	0.53
North Kesteven	51	59.51	0.55
West Lindsey	41	40.67	0.46
<b>Central Lincolnshire</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>150.05</b>	<b>0.52</b>



### Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)

6.38. Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private) sites are large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed artificial surfaces, used primarily for participation in outdoor sports and which are in private ownership. They may include some built infrastructure such as changing rooms.

6.39. The majority of these sites have restricted access, whereby access is normally only to members of clubs or associations, or by 'pay and play', such as at golf courses. They can contribute towards the green infrastructure network and biodiversity of a local area

6.40. It is important to note that the 2021 Audit has recorded Outdoor Sports Facilities sites to gain an overall picture of open space provision across Central Lincolnshire. It does not assess the supply and demand for different types of sports pitches and whether provision meets any recommended standards. This will be covered by a separate evidence report; Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment Update 2021, which is currently being prepared by LK Consulting and which will update the 2013 Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment.

6.41. A total of 68 sites are classified within the Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private) typology, covering a total area of 676.8ha (**Table 6.20**). Those wards with significantly higher levels of provision than the Central Lincolnshire average, generally have large sites located within them, such as golf courses.

**Table 6.20: Current Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)**

Geographical Area	Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private) Provision		
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population
City of Lincoln	15	51.11	0.55
North Kesteven	27	267.48	2.48
West Lindsey	26	358.21	4.01
Central Lincolnshire	68	676.8	2.33

### Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)

6.42. Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public) sites are large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed artificial surfaces, used primarily for participation in outdoor sports and which are publicly accessible. They may include some built infrastructure such as changing rooms.

6.43. It is important to note that the 2021 Audit has recorded Outdoor Sports Facilities sites to gain an overall picture of open space provision across Central Lincolnshire. It does not assess the supply and demand for different types of sports pitches and whether provision meets any recommended standards. This will be covered by a separate evidence report; Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment Update 2021, which is currently being prepared by LK Consulting.

6.44. A total of 156 sites are classified within the Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public) typology, covering a total area of 263.58ha (**Table 6.21**).

**Table 6.21: Current Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)**

Geographical Area	Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public) Provision		
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population
City of Lincoln	21	43.1	0.46
North Kesteven	71	117.69	1.09
West Lindsey	64	102.79	1.15
<b>Central Lincolnshire</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>263.58</b>	<b>0.91</b>

## Parks and Gardens

- 6.45. Parks and gardens are areas of multi-functional open space, the majority of which is publicly accessible, normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park, garden or recreation ground. These areas may be owned or managed by community groups. Parks should provide for a range of recreational activities that may include outdoor sports facilities and playing fields, children's play for different age groups and informal recreational pursuits including sitting out and walking.
- 6.46. Parks and gardens are often used for multiple purposes. The larger the park is, the more features are generally present. In Central Lincolnshire, this typology covers country, urban and pocket parks and formal gardens with public access.
- 6.47. It is important to note that in the 2021 Audit, open spaces such as play areas and football pitches that are to be found within park boundaries were plotted by their typology. This gives a more accurate results in terms of the provision of different types of open space, but reduces the total area of parks and gardens. As highlighted under natural and semi-natural greenspace, parks and gardens may also contribute to natural and semi-natural greenspace provision, but to ensure no double counting, in terms of quantity, such sites have only been included in the parks and gardens typology.
- 6.48. There are 29 sites classified within the parks and gardens typology, covering a total area of 109.85 ha (**Table 6.22**). FiT suggests 0.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. There are currently 0.38 ha/1,000 population of parks and gardens for Central Lincolnshire (based on 2011 population). Therefore, existing provision currently does not meet this standard (**Table 6.22**). Assessed against the projected 2043 population, only Lincoln would meet this standard if there was no new parks and gardens provision.
- 6.49. There are 14 parks and gardens sites across Central Lincolnshire that contain provision for children and young people within their site boundaries, including equipped play areas and skateboard parks.
- 6.50. Parks and gardens provision has been sub-classified into three categories: strategic, Town/Village/Neighbourhood and Local. **Table 6.23** shows provision in these categories by district and for Central Lincolnshire as a whole.

**Table 6.22: Current Parks and Gardens Provision**

Geographical Area	Parks and Gardens Provision					
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population	Deviation from FiT standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from FiT standard
City of Lincoln	16	90.71	0.97	+0.17	0.88	+0.08

Geographical Area	Parks and Gardens Provision					
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population	Deviation from FiT standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from FiT standard
North Kesteven	8	14.14	0.13	-0.67	0.11	-0.69
West Lindsey	5	5	0.06	-0.74	0.05	-0.75
Central Lincolnshire	29	109.85	0.38	-0.42	0.32	-0.48

**Table 6.23: Central Lincolnshire Parks and Gardens Provision by Hierarchy of Open Space**

Geographical Area	Hierarchy		
	Strategic	Town/Village/Neighbourhood	Local
	Total (ha)		
City of Lincoln	77.84	10.17	1.51
North Kesteven	1.18	12.96	0
West Lindsey	0	4.89	0.13
Central Lincolnshire	79.02	28.02	1.64

6.51. Since the 2016 Audit, there has been a reduction in the number of sites and area of land in the Parks and Gardens typology. This is primarily due to the removal of local historic parks and gardens, predominantly in West Lindsey and North Kesteven, which do not meet the typology description of parks and gardens being “normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park, garden or recreation ground”. The 2016 Audit included the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB. This has been removed from the GIS mapping in the 2021 Audit, as it was considered to be a landscape designation than a standalone park and garden site. The Witham Country Park has been removed from the GIS Mapping, as it is not a standalone park with site boundaries, rather a partnership green infrastructure project, which seeks to connect a number of green spaces in the Lincoln area. Finally, the 2016 Audit included some parks and gardens privately owned with charged access. These have also been removed from the GIS mapping.

6.52. The removal of the above sites provides a more accurate picture of the provision of publicly accessible parks and gardens in Central Lincolnshire.

6.53. There have also been new sites added to this typology, such as the recently completed Mill Park on Justinian Way, North Hykeham, Bomber Command Memorial Park, Canwick and Bardney Recreation Ground, Bardney, either due to new provision,

re-classification of sites to or from a Park and Garden or because the site was missed in the 2016 Audit.

### Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- 6.54. Natural and semi-natural greenspace includes areas of undeveloped land, or previously developed land with residual natural habitats, or which have been planted or colonised by vegetation and wildlife, including woodland and wetland areas. Natural Greenspace includes designated wildlife sites (National Nature Reserves, SSSIs, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites) and other spaces which have been left for nature (i.e. where there is no or very little maintenance carried out).
- 6.55. Sites within this typology are accessible to the public. To be classed as accessible, sites had to have a right of public access, either via an entry point, such as a gate, or by the Public Rights of Way network. It is also important to note that areas of natural greenspace can also be found in other open space typologies, such as parks and amenity spaces. For example, Hartsholme Country Park in Lincoln is categorised as a park and garden, however the site also contains a large reservoir, woodlands and grasslands which provide a haven for wildlife.

### Designated Sites

- 6.56. Central Lincolnshire has many areas which are noted for their natural beauty and biodiversity value. **Tables 6.24** and **6.25** show that Central Lincolnshire has 1 National Nature Reserve (NNR) and 7 Local Nature Reserves (LNR), totalling 382.85 ha and 227.46 respectively.
- 6.57. A LNR is a statutory designation<sup>8</sup>. LNRs are for people and wildlife. They are places with wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally. They offer people opportunities to study or learn about nature or simply to enjoy it. **Map 6.2** shows the spatial distribution of LNRs and NNRs across Central Lincolnshire. LNRs are concentrated in and around the main urban areas of Lincoln, Sleaford and Gainsborough.
- 6.58. There is currently 0.78 ha of LNR per 1,000 population in Central Lincolnshire, which is expected to fall to 0.67 ha of LNR per 1,000 population by 2043 (assuming no further provision comes forward). This falls short of Natural England's ANGSt recommended standard of 1 ha of LNR per 1,000 population, and suggests a need to increase provision of LNRs to meet recommended standards by 2043. North Kesteven currently meets the standard at 1.12ha LNR per 1,000 population, therefore new provision should be explored in West Lindsey and Lincoln.
- 6.59. There are also 37 Sites of Special Scientific Interest and 338 Local Wildlife Sites, although it should be noted that not all of these sites are accessible to the public.

**Table 6.24: National Nature Reserves and Amount per Population**

Local Authority	NNR	Area (ha)	NNR Natural Greenspace Provision per 1,000 Population (2011)	NNR Natural Greenspace Provision per 1,000 Population (2043)

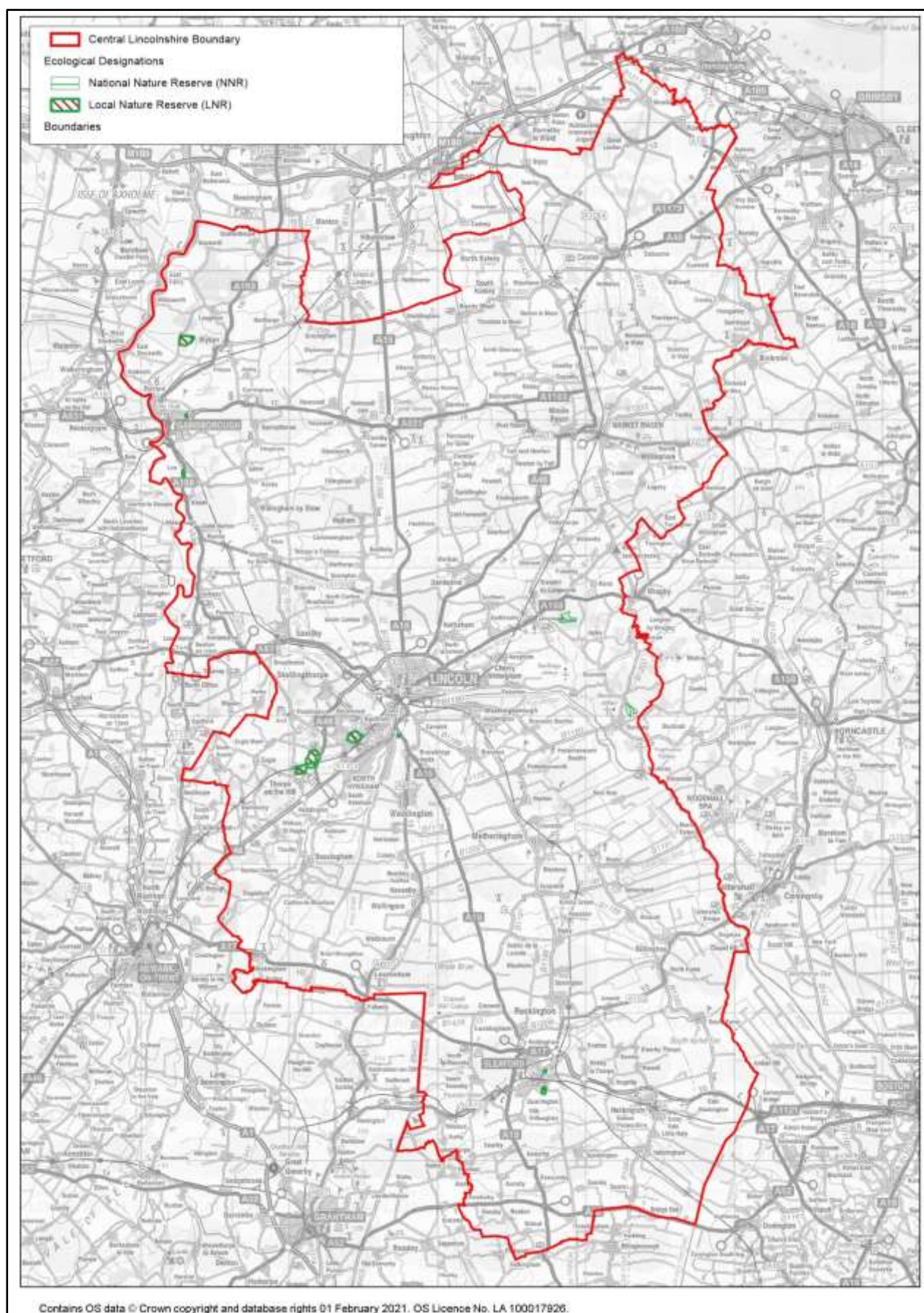
<sup>8</sup> Made under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and amended by Schedule 11 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

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City of Lincoln	-	0	0	0
North Kesteven	-	0	0	0
West Lindsey	Bardney Limewoods	382.85	1.32	1.13
<b>Central Lincolnshire</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>382.85</b>	<b>1.32</b>	<b>1.13</b>



**Map 6.2: LNRs and NNRs across Central Lincolnshire**





**Table 6.25: Local Nature Reserves and Amount per Population**

Local Authority	Name of LNR	Area (ha)	LNR Natural Greenspace Provision per 1,000 Population (2011)	LNR Natural Greenspace Provision per 1,000 Population (2043)
City of Lincoln	Cross O'Cliff Orchard	1.7	0.58	0.53
	Swanholme Lakes	52.51		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54.21</b>		
North Kesteven	Lollycocks Field	2.15	1.12	0.90
	Mareham Pastures	11		
	Whisby Nature Park	107.57		
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>120.72</b>		
West Lindsey	Owlet	50.28	0.59	0.51
	Theaker Avenue	2.25		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>52.53</b>		
Central Lincolnshire	<b>7</b>	<b>227.46</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.67</b>

**Table 6.26: Areas of Publicly Accessible Natural Greenspace in Central Lincolnshire, by Size**

Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Site Sizes	Number of Sites	Total Area (ha)
Sites 101 to 500ha	13	2071.72
Sites 21 to 100 ha	59	2534.40
Sites 2 to 20 ha	235	1,486.55
Sites < 2 ha	245	224.72

6.60. **Table 6.26** identifies the number of areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace by size and total area. There are 13 sites between 101 and 500 ha in size across Central Lincolnshire, representing 2071.72ha. These sites are of strategic importance, not just due to their size, but also due to number the number of visitors that they attract or due

to their nature conservation importance. Key sites within this category include: Willingham Woods LWS and Whisby Nature Park LNR.

- 6.61. There are 59 sites between 21 and 100ha. These sites are also of strategic importance, with key sites including: Swanholme Lakes SSSI, South and West Common LWSs and Greetwell Hollow SSSI and LWS in Lincoln, Skellingthorpe Big Wood, Bloxholm Wood LWS and Tunman Wood LWS in North Kesteven, and Linwood Warren SSSI and Owlet Plantation LNR in West Lindsey.
- 6.62. There are 235 sites between 2 and 20 ha in size across Central Lincolnshire, totalling 1486.55 ha. Sites which fall into this category provide local access to a natural greenspace and include: Boultham Mere LWS, Melbourne Road Open Space, Hobblers Hole and Newt Hollow LWS and Starmer's Pit LWS in Lincoln, Mareham Pastures LNR and The Jungle LWS in North Kesteven, and Theaker Avenue LNR, Lea Park LNR and William Farr Wood in West Lindsey.
- 6.63. There are 245 sites less than 2 ha in size, totalling 224.72 ha. Sites which fall into this category provide local access to a natural greenspace and include: Greenbank Drive Open Space, Cross O'Cliff Orchard LNR and Sincil Dike in Lincoln, Goodson's Holt Wood, Greylees Community Orchard and Horseshoe Hollow in North Kesteven, and The Bishop's Meadow and Chamber's Farm Meadow in West Lindsey.
- 6.64. A total of 7128.69ha of land is classified as publicly accessible natural greenspace across Central Lincolnshire. The FiT standard recommends 1.80 hectares per 1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. There are currently 24.53 ha/1,000 population of publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace for Central Lincolnshire (based on 2011 population). Therefore, existing provision currently meets this standard (**Table 6.27**). Assessed against the projected 2043 population, all districts within Central Lincolnshire meet this standard if there was no new publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace provision.

**Table 6.27: Current Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Provision**

Geographical Area	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Provision					
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current provision ha/per 1,000 population	Deviation from FiT standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from FiT standard
City of Lincoln	56	487.12	5.21	+3.41	4.75	+2.95
North Kesteven	238	2,223.79	20.64	+18.84	16.63	+14.83
West Lindsey	260	4,417.78	49.50	+51.49	42.93	+41.13
Central Lincolnshire	<b>554</b>	<b>7,128.69</b>	<b>24.53</b>	<b>+22.73</b>	<b>21.02</b>	<b>+19.22</b>

- 6.65. As previously noted, the 2016 Audit double counted a number of natural and semi-natural greenspace sites, due to plotting the sites from numerous sources. This has now been rectified, but has inevitably led to a reduction in both the number of sites and the amount of land classified in this typology. A review of site boundaries has also resulted in a reduction in site areas.

### Provision for Children and Young People

6.66. This typology consists of areas providing safe and accessible opportunities for children's play close to home, usually linked to housing areas. They usually include formal, equipped play provision, but may also include natural, less formal opportunities for play, which have become important alternatives. This typology also includes spaces designed for older children for more intensive, unsupervised activities such as skate boarding, bike ramps and hang out shelters. It includes equipped play areas (LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs), skateboard parks, BMX tracks, Multi-Use Games Area (MUGAs) and teenage shelters. Children and young people will play and 'hang out' in other types of publicly accessible open space, as well as recognised formal play and youth facilities. Therefore other types of open spaces covered by this audit will provide informal play opportunities.

6.67. A total of 225 play areas have been identified across Central Lincolnshire, covering a total area of 35.77ha (**Table 6.28**). Provision is split between sites that are specifically provided for children and young people, i.e. stand-alone sites, and provision that is within other typologies of open space, such as parks and gardens. The total number of sites classified as stand-alone is 113, with the remaining 112 sites located within other open space typologies.

6.68. FiT suggests 0.25 ha/1,000 population as a guideline quantity standard. There are currently 0.12 ha/1,000 population of provision for children and young people for Central Lincolnshire (based on 2011 population). Therefore, existing provision currently does not meet this standard (**Table 6.28**). Assessed against the projected 2043 population, all districts within Central Lincolnshire continue to fall below this standard if there was no new provision in open space for Children and Young People.

**Table 6.28: Current Provision for Children and Young People Provision**

Geographical Area	Provision for Children and Young People					
	Number of Sites	Size (ha)	Current Provision ha/per 1,000 population	Current Deviation from FiT standard	Provision ha/per 1,000 population 2043	Deviation from FiT standard
City of Lincoln	32	7.36	0.08	-0.17	0.07	-0.18
North Kesteven	106	14.9	0.14	-0.11	0.11	-0.14
West Lindsey	87	13.51	0.15	-0.10	0.13	-0.12
Central Lincolnshire	225	35.77	0.12	-0.13	0.11	-0.14

6.69. Fields in Trust promotes the provision of play areas in the following categories:

- LAP - a Local Area of Play. Usually small landscaped areas designed for young children. Equipment is normally age group specific to reduce unintended users. Minimum size 0.01ha.

- LEAP - a Local Equipped Area of Play. Designed for unsupervised play and a wider age range of users; often containing a wider range of equipment types. Minimum size 0.04ha.
- NEAP - a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play. Cater for all age groups. Minimum size 0.1ha.
- Sites may be complemented by other facilities for children and young people, including MuGAs, skateboard parks and youth shelters.

6.70. The amount of provision (in terms total number of sites) in each of these categories can be seen in **Table 6.29** below.

**Table 6.29: Type of Play Area Provision across Central Lincolnshire**

Geographical Area	Provision for Children and Young People – Number of Sites			
	LAP	LEAP	NEAP	Other – MuGA, Skate Park, Youth Shelter, BMX track
City of Lincoln	5	16	7	4
North Kesteven	24	46	25	11
West Lindsey	23	51	5	8
Central Lincolnshire	<b>52</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>
Total ha	<b>2.47</b>	<b>18.63</b>	<b>12.41</b>	<b>2.27</b>
Central Lincolnshire ha/1000 people	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.01</b>

6.71. There have been gains and losses in this typology since the 2016 Audit, either due to new provision, loss of play areas or sites being missed during the last assessment.

## 7. Audit Results: Accessibility of Open Space

### Introduction

- 7.1. As set out in the methodology (Section 5) a “local accessibility standard” was established and adopted in the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (April 2017) for each of the different publicly accessible open space typologies. These standards use distances to represent what is considered to be a reasonable travelling time to the nearest open space provision.
- 7.2. These distances are used to create an appropriate buffer around each open space site. GIS mapping is then used to map the accessibility of open space within a particular typology. The resulting maps help to highlight those areas which are not within an accessible distance, when assessed against these local standards.

### Accessibility Findings by Typology

#### Allotments and Community Growing Spaces

- 7.3. **Map 7.1** applies a 1600m buffer around each site categorised as an allotment or community growing space.
- 7.4. **Map 7.1** highlights good access to an allotment site within the urban settlements of Lincoln, Gainsborough and Sleaford, and within the Market Towns of Caistor and Market Rasen, with the exception of the Birchwood ward area of Lincoln.
- 7.5. The rural areas of Central Lincolnshire typically have poorer access to an allotment site. There are some large villages that do not have any access to an allotment, including Branston, Washingborough, Skellingthorpe and Saxilby. This is to be expected in a predominantly rural areas like Central Lincolnshire, where it would not be reasonable to expect to be within walking distance of an allotment site.

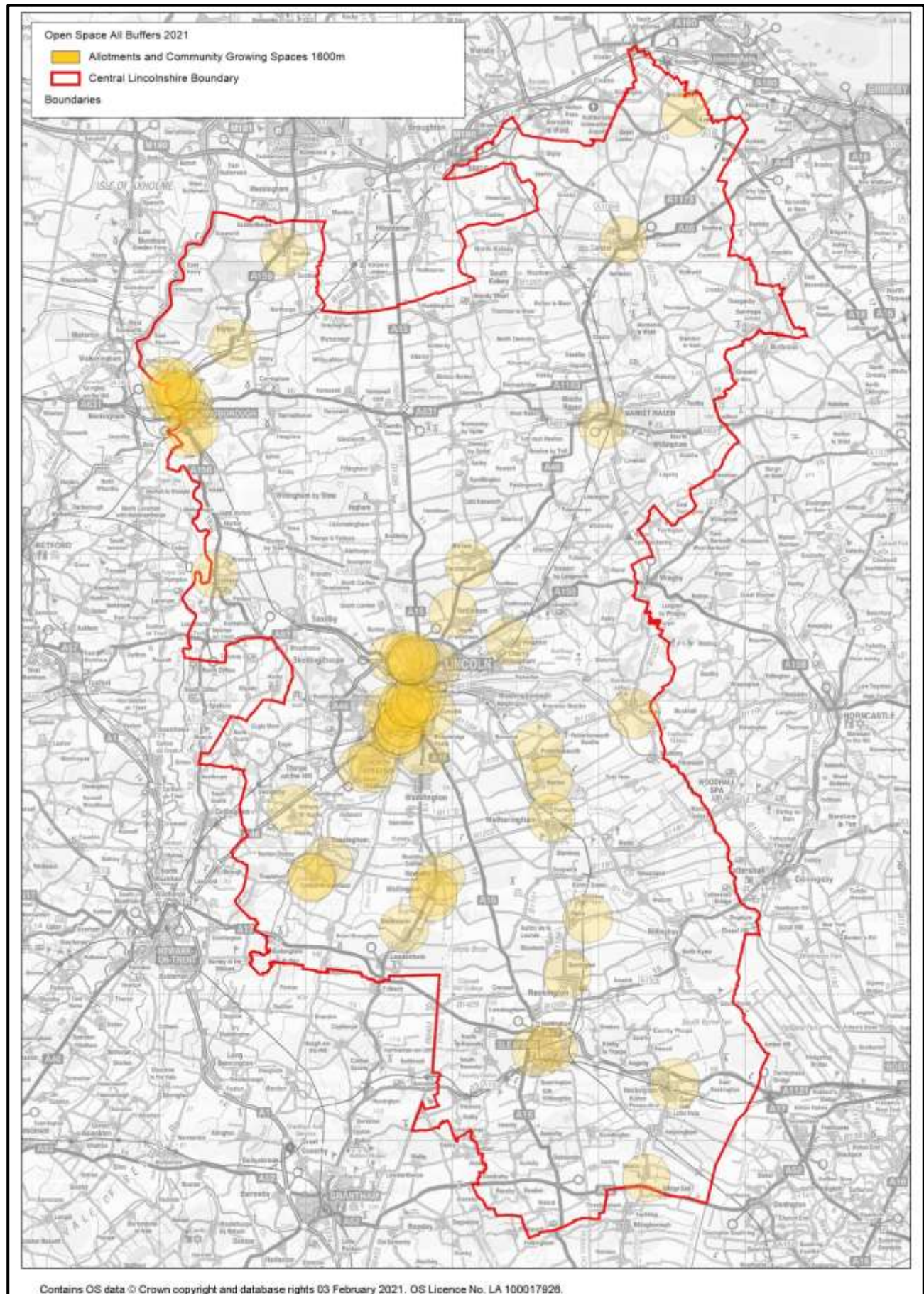
#### Amenity Greenspace

- 7.6. **Map 7.2** applies a 400m buffer around each site categorised as an amenity greenspace (greater than 0.2 ha in size).
- 7.7. **Map 7.2** shows that the majority of the urban settlements are well served by amenity greenspace, with the majority of residents within Gainsborough and Sleaford living within 400m of an amenity greenspace. In Lincoln, there are some gaps in provision, particularly within the Park and Hartsholme ward areas, in the north of Castle ward and in the east of Minster ward.
- 7.8. In terms of the market towns, access is good in Market Rasen, but relatively poor in Caistor, with only residents on the western edge of the town within 400m of an amenity greenspace.
- 7.9. The majority of the large villages have good access, however there are some large villages with no access to amenity greenspace within 400m, including Bardney, Billinghay, Keelby, Washingborough and Waddington.
- 7.10. Those areas with limited access to an amenity greenspace greater than 0.2 ha, are generally well served served by other forms of open space that provide opportunities for informal recreation. In Lincoln, for example, such as parks and gardens like Hartsholme Country Park, Boultham Park and The Arboretum and, natural greenspace such as The South Common, Birchwood Nature Park and The River Witham corridor.

- 7.11. In the villages, playing fields and recreation grounds classified under the outdoor sports facilities (public) typology often provide multifunctional recreational opportunities. Many villages also have access to natural greenspace and to the surrounding countryside via the Public Rights of Way network.
- 7.12. There is one park and garden that provides opportunities for informal recreation for the whole of Caistor: Caistor Park, therefore consideration should be given to meeting this catchment gap as part of any new residential development.

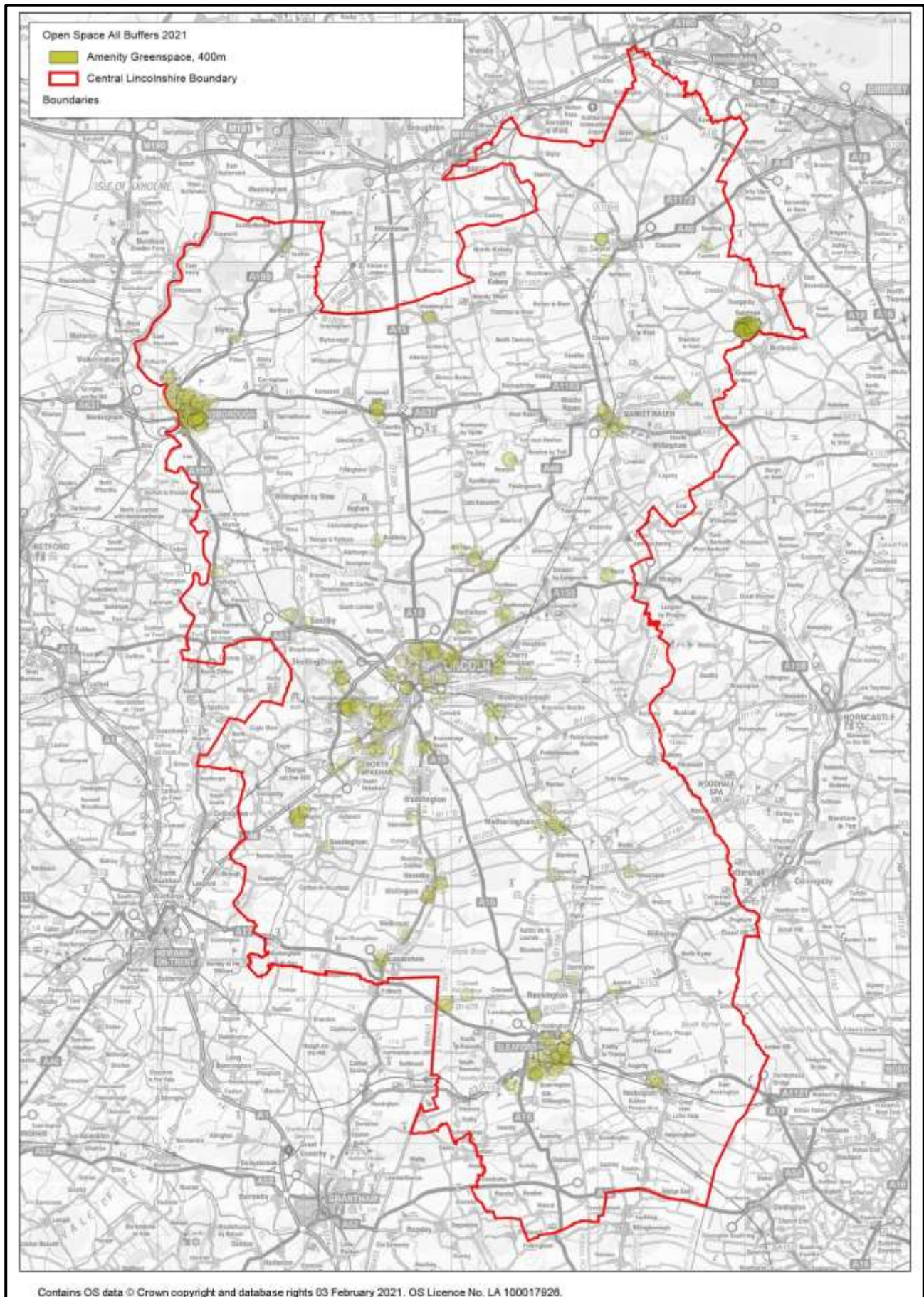


**Map 7.1: Allotments and Community Growing Spaces Accessibility Buffer**





**Map 7.2: Amenity Greenspace Accessibility Buffer**



### Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)

- 7.14. **Map 7.3** applies a 1200m buffer around each site categorised as outdoor sports facilities (public). These sites are owned and/or maintained by a District Council, Town Council or Parish Councils.
- 7.15. The map shows that there is a reasonably even spread of public outdoor sports facilities across the study area providing good access to such sites. In the urban settlements of Gainsborough and Lincoln, there are very few gaps in access. However, in Sleaford, there is no access to a public outdoor sports facility. All the outdoor sports facilities are either an education or private site, however these are available for public use on a pay and play basis or for use by sports teams.
- 7.16. All residents within both the market towns, Caistor and Market Rasen, and all the large villages, are within 1200m of an outdoor sports site.

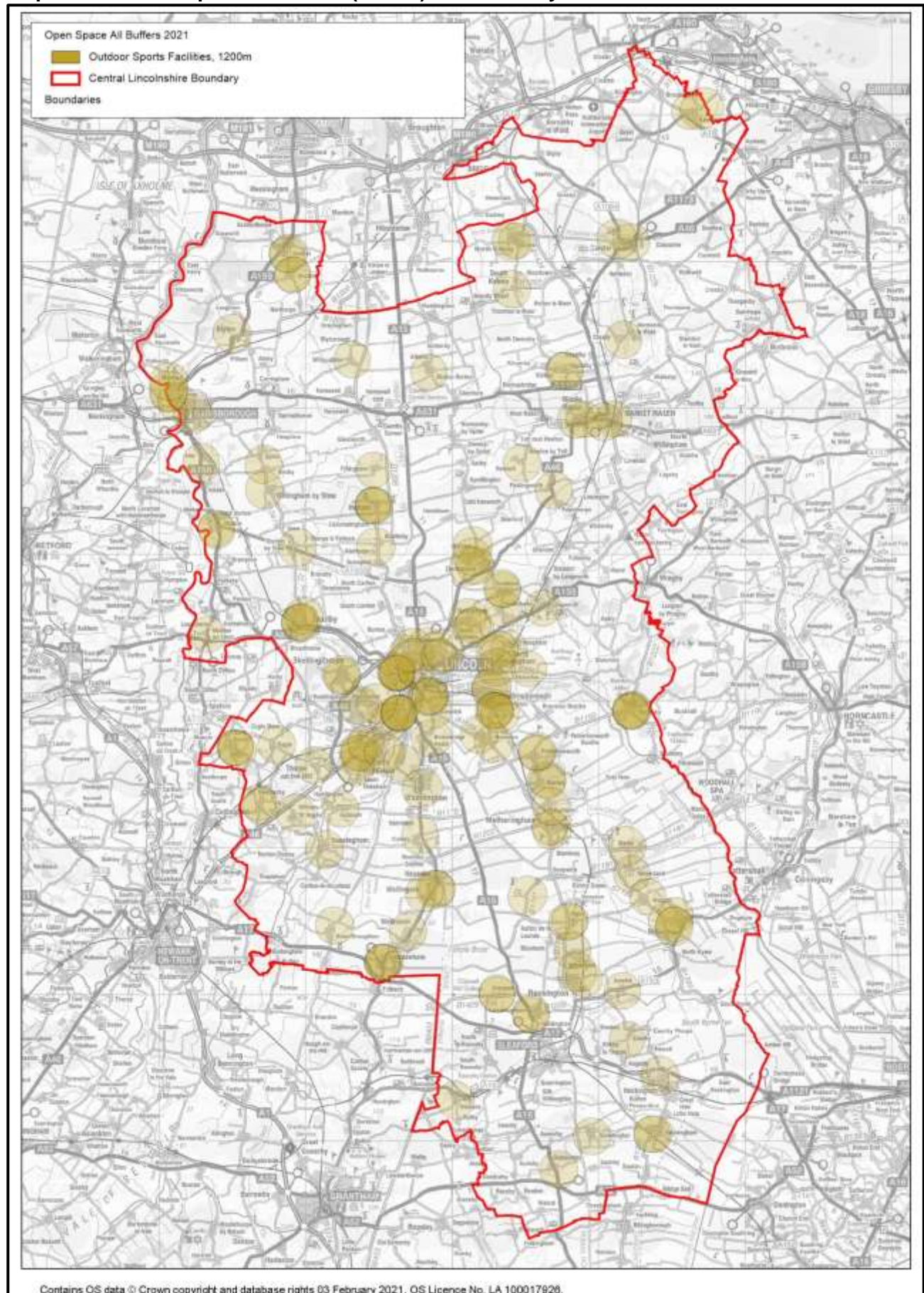
### Parks and Gardens

- 7.17. **Map 7.4** applies a 400m buffer around a local parks and gardens site and a 1200m buffer around a town, village or neighbourhood parks and gardens site, and **Map 7.5** applies a 15km buffer around a strategic parks and gardens site.
- 7.18. **Map 7.4** shows that there is generally good access to a local or neighbourhood park and garden within the urban settlements of Lincoln, Gainsborough and Sleaford. In Lincoln, there are pockets with no access to a local or a neighbourhood park, including the Ermine, St Giles, Boultham, Boultham Moor and Bracebridge areas. However, these are not considered to be significant, as for residents in the Boultham, Boultham Moor and Bracebridge areas, there is access to a strategic park and garden (either Hartsholme Country Park or Boultham Park) within reasonable walking distance. In Gainsborough, there is poor access to a local or neighbourhood park and garden in the west and south west of the town. In Sleaford there are pockets of no access in the north and west.
- 7.19. In the market towns, there are no catchment gaps in Caistor, however there is no parks and gardens provision within Market Rasen. However, there are other forms of open space that provide opportunities for informal recreation, including large amenity greenspace sites such as De Aston Field and Beechers Way, and Willingham Woods natural and semi-natural greenspace on the eastern edge of the town.
- 7.20. Elsewhere in the rural areas, access to a local or village park and garden site is very limited. For villages west and south west of Lincoln, such as Bassingham, Thorpe on the Hill, Eagle and Doddington, residents have access to the Witham Valley Country Park. Whilst not specific site with distinct boundaries, the Witham Valley Country Park Project seeks to improve and increase connections between green spaces, providing opportunities for walking, cycling and a wide range of sporting and leisure activities.
- 7.21. Additionally in the villages, playing fields and recreation grounds classified under the outdoor sports facilities (public) typology often provide multifunctional recreational opportunities. There is also access to natural greenspace and to the surrounding countryside via the Public Rights of Way network.
- 7.22. Strategic parks and gardens sites are concentrated in Lincoln, which are expected to serve a wide catchment area. The 15km catchment area encompasses a large area in the centre of Central Lincolnshire, and crosses into the neighbouring district of Newark and Sherwood.

- 7.23. A number of villages surrounding Lincoln have access to these sites, including Welton and Dunholme to the north, Cherry Willingham and Fiskerton in the east, Branston, Bracebridge Heath, Waddington and Navenby in the south, and Skellingthorpe and Saxilby in the west.

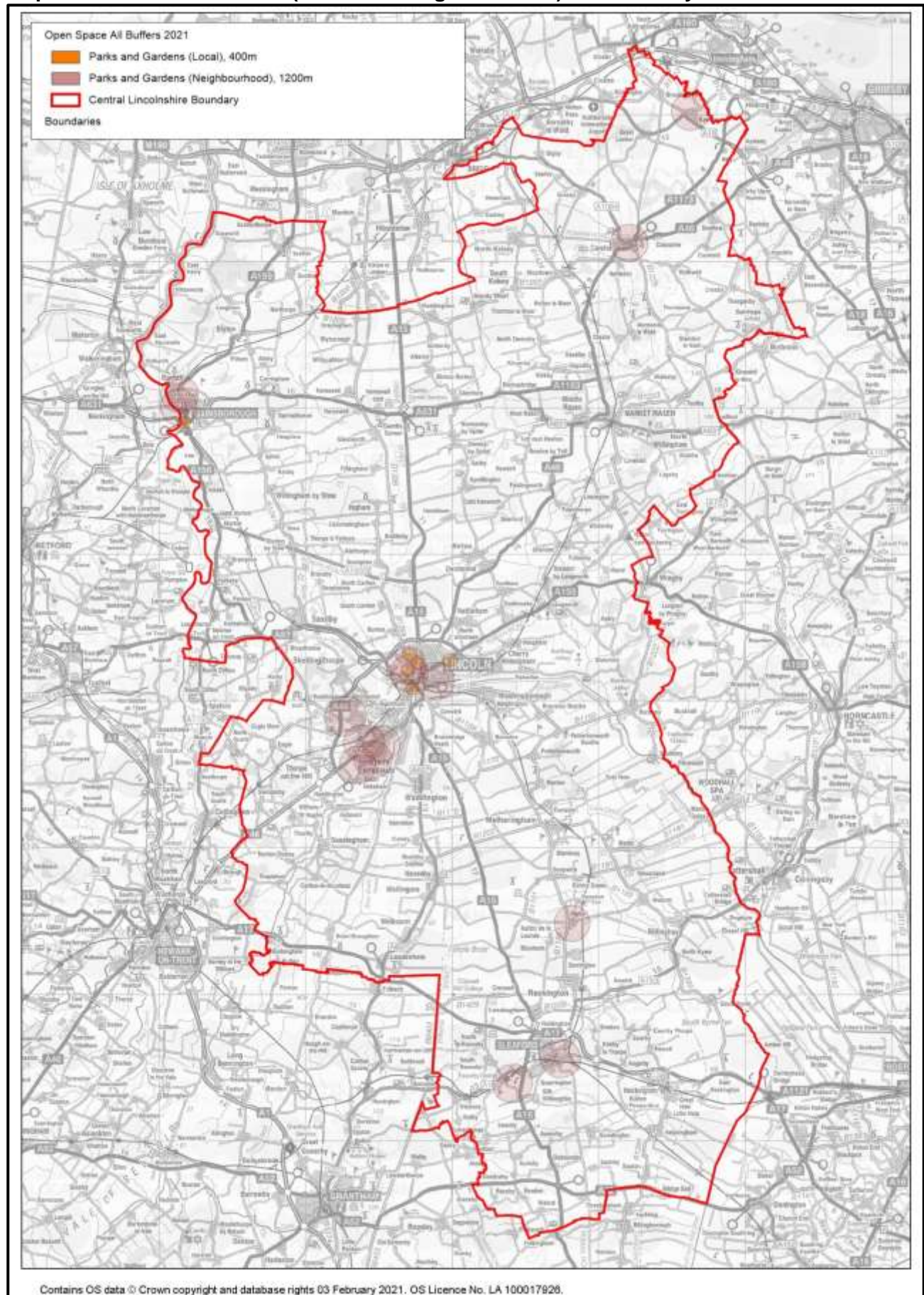


**Map 7.3: Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public) Accessibility Buffer**



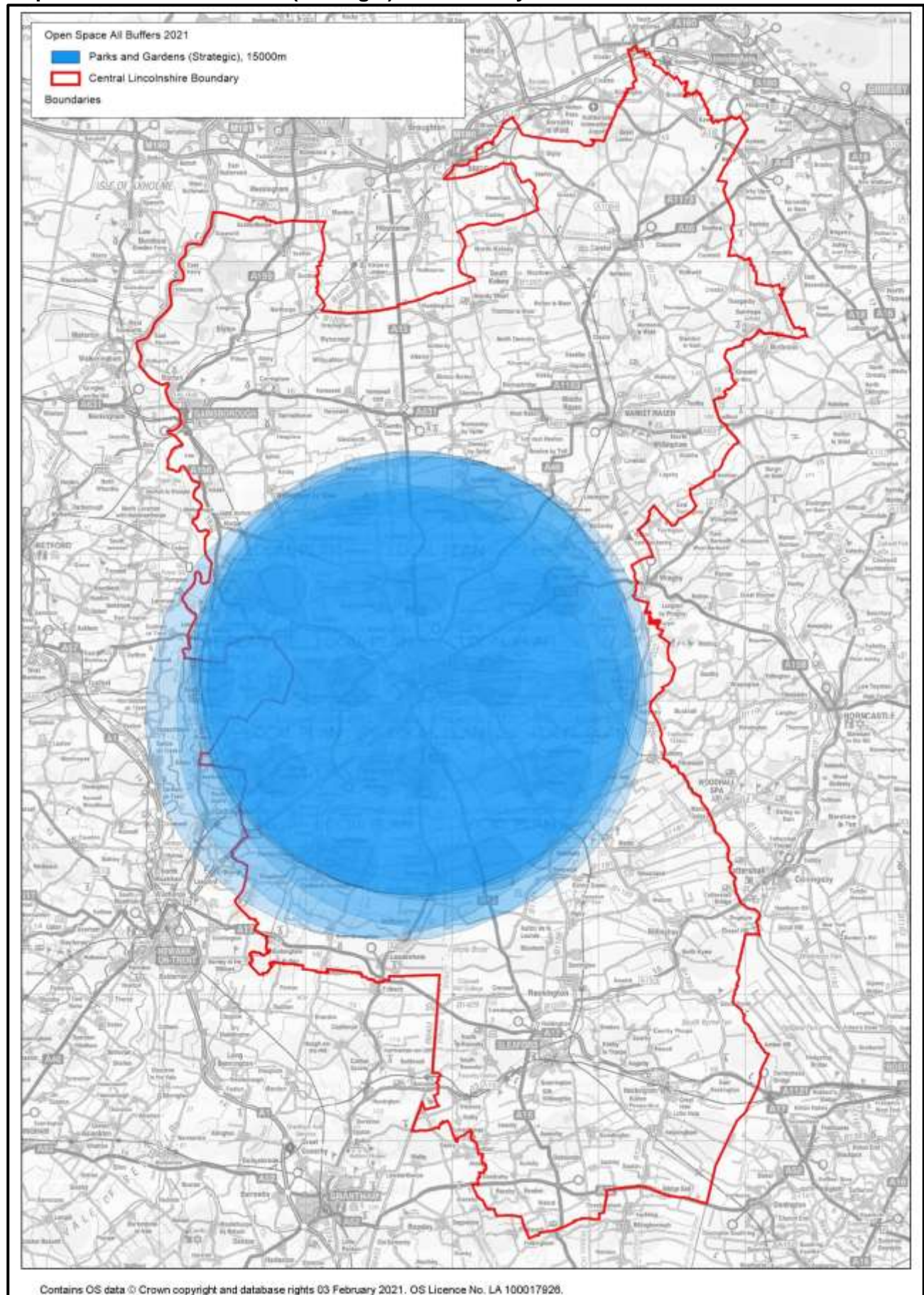


**Map 7.4: Parks and Gardens (Local and Neighbourhood) Accessibility Buffer**





**Map 7.5: Parks and Gardens (Strategic) Accessibility Buffer**



## Provision for Children and Young People

7.24. **Map 7.6** applies a 400m buffer around each site categorised a LAP or LEAP and **Map 7.7** applies a 1200m buffer around each site categorised as a NEAP, MuGA, Skateboard Park, Youth Shelter or BMX Track.

7.25. The map suggests that most settlements within Central Lincolnshire have reasonable access to a play area and/or youth space. There are some gaps in provision. The areas where this is most visible are:

- Lincoln – Carholme ward (Long Leys Road, Carholme Road areas), Nettleham Road, Longdales Road, Ruskin Avenue area)
- Gainsborough (Ashcroft Road/Trinity Street in the south).
- Sleaford (London Road area)
- Heckington (south and east)
- Saxilby (north west)
- Billingham (north west)
- Greylees (north)
- Middle Rasen (east)
- Scotter (north)
- Lea (north)
- Leasingham (east)

7.26. The following villages have no access to a play area:

- Brookenby
- Burton Waters
- Torksey Lock
- Waddingham

7.27. In Lincoln, in line with the City of Lincoln's Council's approach to move towards larger sites that serve a wider community<sup>9</sup>, consider meeting gaps by enhancing the range/quality of equipment at existing sites.

7.28. In Gainsborough, no play area improvements in the Ashcroft Road/Trinity Street area of the town were identified in the Gainsborough Green Infrastructure Strategy (2019). However, the strategy highlighted that many of the existing play spaces are in a deteriorating condition and fall below benchmark standards set by the strategy for quality and value.

7.29. In Sleaford, consider meeting the west gap as part of any new residential development on land off Grantham Road, and in the south west catchment gap, as part of any new residential development on the Sleaford South Quadrant Sustainable Urban Extension.

7.30. In the villages, consider meeting gaps by enhancing range/quality of equipment at existing sites. For Saxilby, which has the largest catchment gap, consider meeting as part of any new residential development to the north/north west of the village.

## Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

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<sup>9</sup> City of Lincoln (2011) Play Strategy for the City of Lincoln

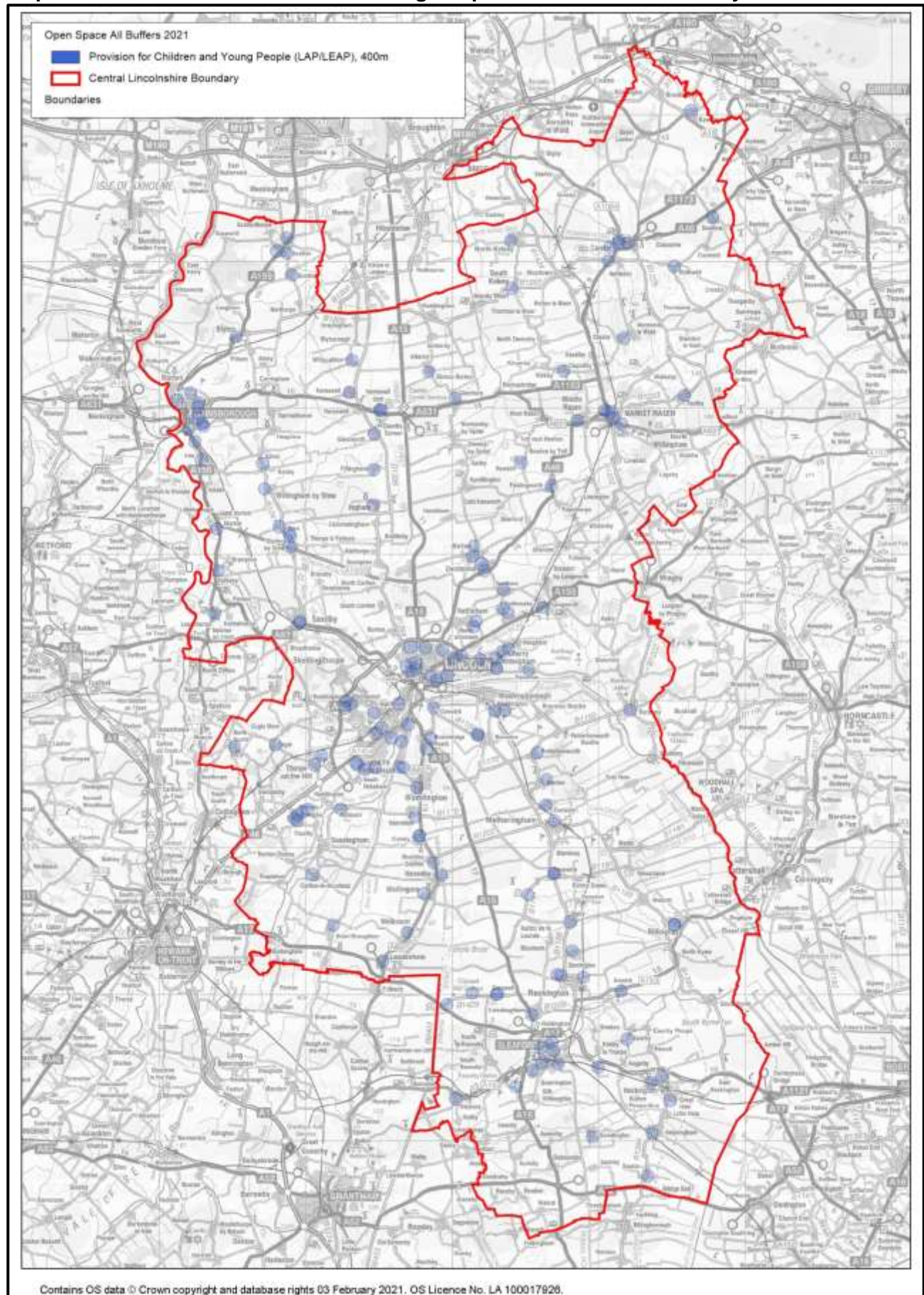
- 7.31. **Map 7.8** applies a 400m buffer around each site which has a primary purpose as a publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace. There are other types of open spaces which may also include an element of natural and semi-natural greenspace, such as parks and gardens or amenity greenspace. **Map 7.8** does not include such sites.
- 7.32. **Map 7.8** reveals a good proportion of residents have the opportunity to access a natural greenspace close to where they live, however there are gaps in access within all three urban settlements. Within Gainsborough, there are gaps in provision in the west, north east and south of the town. In Sleaford, there are gaps in the north west, west and south west of the town. In Lincoln, the gaps in provision are concentrated in the north and centre of the city and in the North Hykeham area.
- 7.33. In terms of the large villages, there are some with no provision in access to a natural greenspace. For example, Saxilby and Cherry Willingham. However, these settlements do have good access to the surrounding countryside and to the green corridors of the River Witham and Fossdyke Navigation, via the Public Rights of Way network.
- 7.34. For the rest of Central Lincolnshire, **Map 7.8** suggests residents in the north have less access to a natural greenspace within 400m than those in the north east, east and south.
- 7.35. There is increasing evidence that that access to nature and open spaces matter for our health and wellbeing. People with better access to nature and greenspaces enjoy a wide range of health benefits, from lower levels of cardiovascular disease to maintaining a healthier weight<sup>10</sup>. There is also evidence that greener neighbourhoods disproportionately benefit disadvantaged groups and socioeconomic-related inequalities in health are lower in areas with greater access to greenspace. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exposed these existing inequalities in access to greenspace.
- 7.36. The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is a widely used measure of relative deprivation in England. Overall multiple deprivation is based on combining together seven domains of deprivation:
- Income
  - Employment
  - Education, Skills and Training
  - Health and Disability
  - Crime
  - Barriers to Housing and Services; and
  - Living Environment
- 7.37. According to the IMD published in 2019, the City of Lincoln was measured the 68th most deprived local authority on England (out of 343), North Kesteven 268th and West Lindsey 146th. However, there are smaller geographical areas within the Central Lincolnshire area that are in the top 10% and 10-20% most deprived areas in England for multiple deprivation.
- 7.38. **Map 7.9** and **Map 7.10** below show those parts of Central Lincolnshire that contain areas in the top 10% and 10-20% most deprived for multiple deprivation in relation to access to open space categorised as publicly accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace. They demonstrate that residents living in some of the most deprived areas of Gainsborough and Lincoln would have to walk further than a 5 minute walk time to access a natural/semi-natural greenspace.

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<sup>10</sup> Public Health England (2020) Improving access to greenspace: a review for 2020

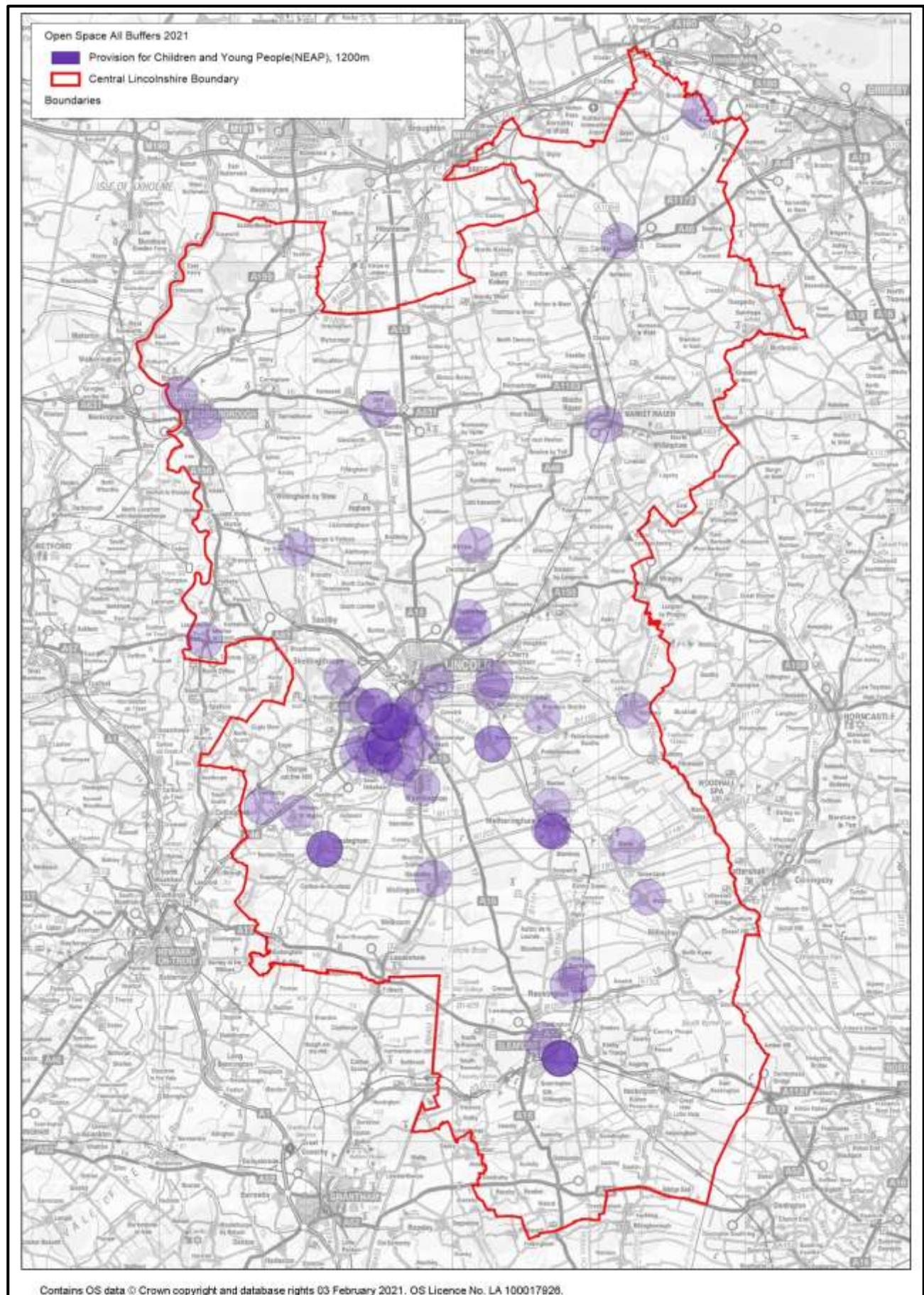


**Map 7.6: Provision for Children and Young People LAP/LEAP Accessibility Buffer**



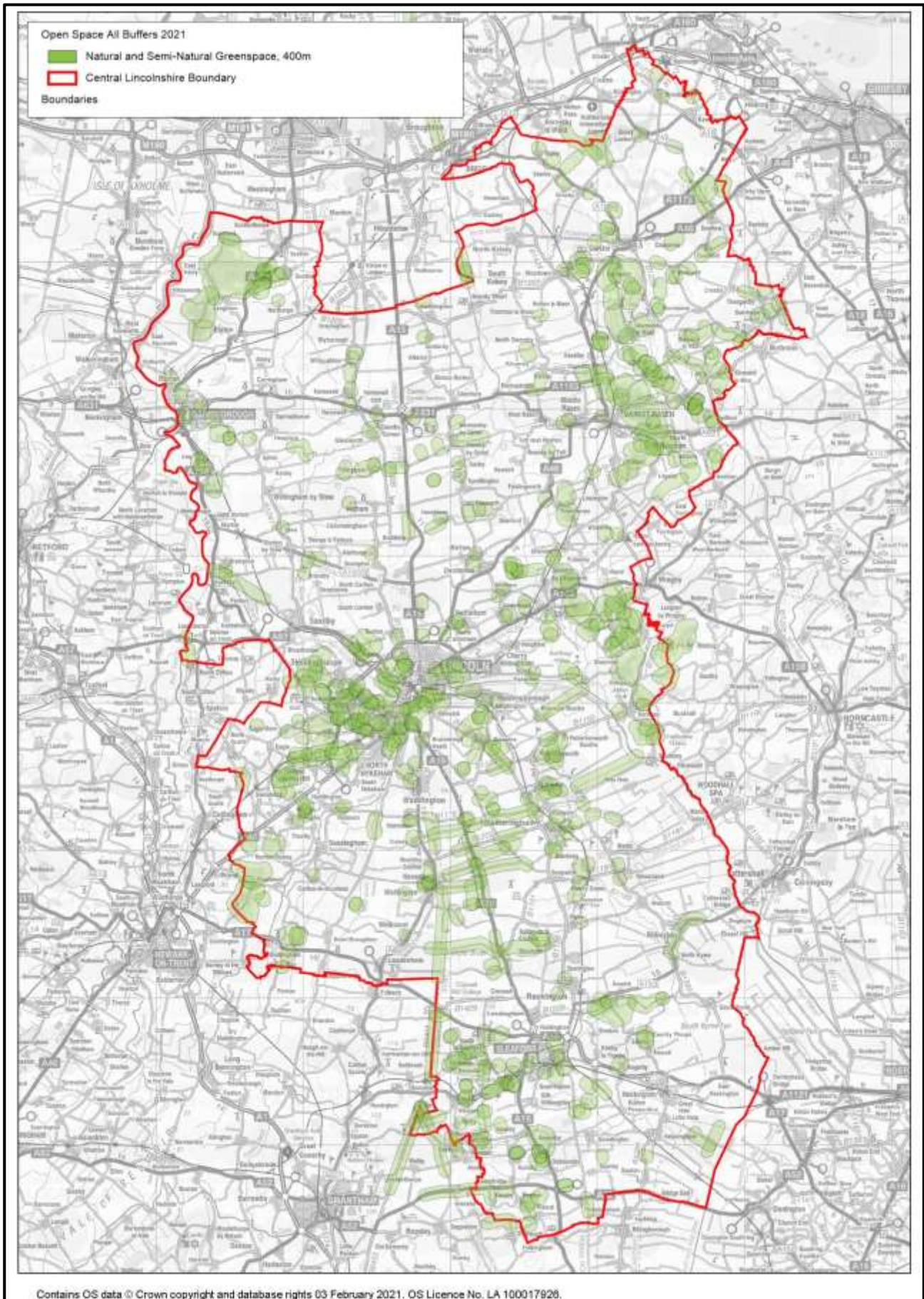


**Map 7.7: Provision for Children and Young People NEAP Accessibility Buffer**





**Map 7.8: Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Accessibility Buffer**

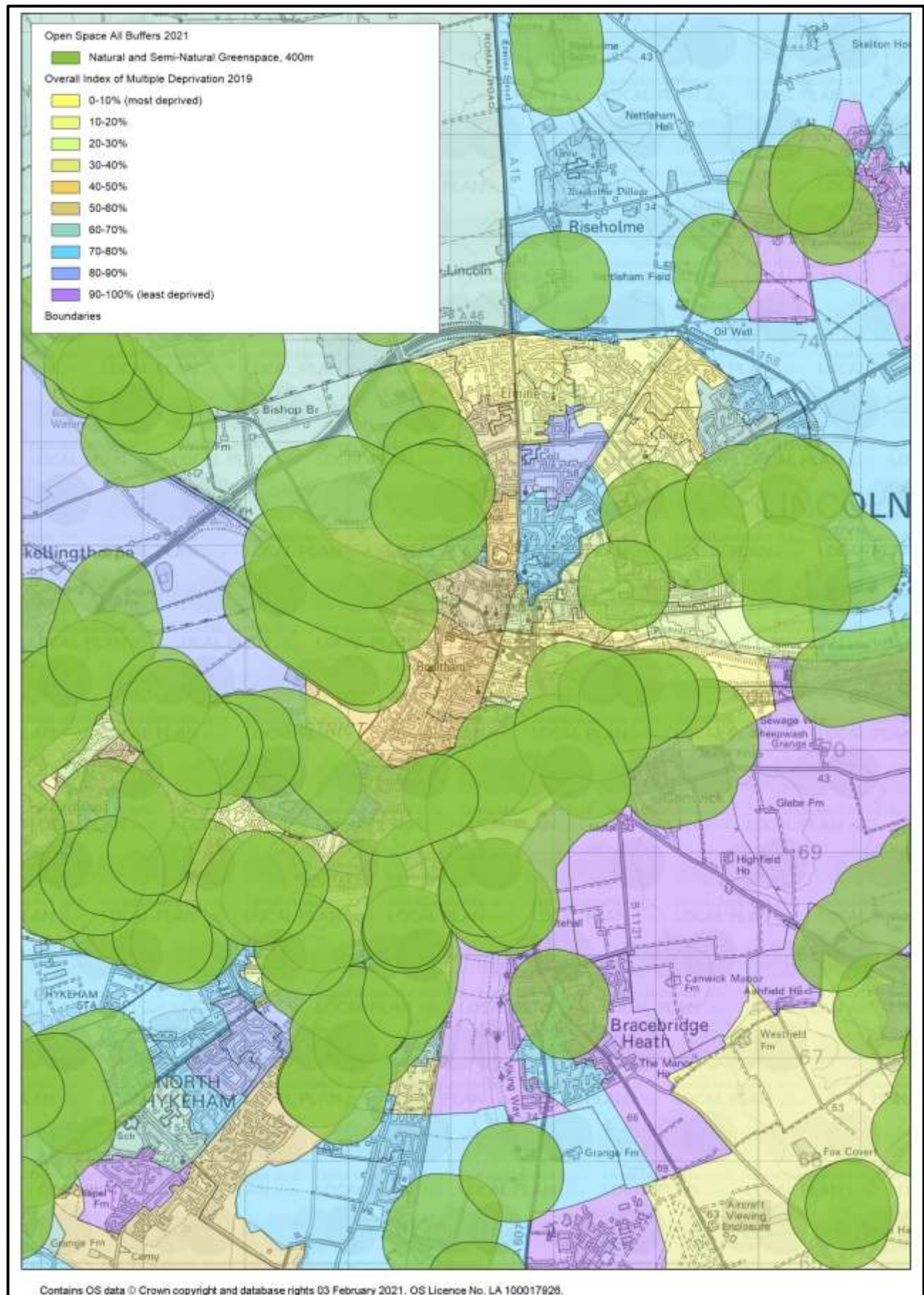








**Map 7.10: Multiple Deprivation and Access to Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace Lincoln**



## 8. Additional Provision Outside of Central Lincolnshire

8.1. There are some large open space sites that offer provision outside of the administrative area of Central Lincolnshire that is relatively easy to access by Central Lincolnshire residents, either due to their close proximity, or good transport links (**Table 8.1**).

**Table 8.1:** Large Open Space Sites in Neighbouring Authorities Accessible to Central Lincolnshire Residents

<b>Name of Site</b>	<b>Type of Open Space</b>	<b>Town/Local Authority</b>
Chambers Farm Wood	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	East Lindsey
Woodhall Spa Golf Course	Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	Woodhall Spa/East Lindsey
Newark Golf Course	Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)	Newark and Sherwood
Sherwood Pines Forest Country Park	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Newark and Sherwood
Rufford Country Park	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Newark and Sherwood
Clumber Country Park	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Bassetlaw
Rutland Water	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	Rutland
Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	East Lindsey
Normanby Hall Country Park	Publicly Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	North Lincolnshire

## 9. Review of Adopted Open Space Standards

### Introduction

- 9.1. This section takes into account all the data and analysis presented in the preceding sections to put forward recommended standards for open space. It explains how the standards for Central Lincolnshire have been developed, and provides specific information and justification for each of the typologies where standards have been proposed.
- 9.2. Standards for open space comprise the following:
- **Quantity standards:** these refer to the area of open space in hectares required for every 1,000 people. They have been determined by analysis of the existing quantity of a particular open space type, consideration of existing local and national standards and benchmarks and evidence gathered from existing surveys and strategies.
  - **Accessibility standards:** refer to how far people travel from their home to reach a particular type of open space. They should reflect the needs of all potential users of the open space type. For open spaces to be used on a frequent and regular basis, they normally need to be within easy walking distance and have safe access. Consideration has also been given to existing local and national standards and benchmarks.
  - **Quality standards:** a level of standard that all open spaces should strive to attain. This report does not recommend any changes to the adopted quality standards as no quality assessments have been undertaken to support their review.

### Allotments

Quantity Standard	Access Standard
0.31ha/1,000 population	1,600m walking distance of an allotment

### Quantity Standard for Allotments

- The existing average provision across Central Lincolnshire is 0.31ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 0.27ha/1,000 population, with no new provision of allotments.
- A strategic review of allotment provision in Lincoln in 2012 identified that there was sufficient sites to meet the then current demand, however there was a surplus of sites of plots in the north and a deficit in the south, with no sites in the south west or north east. This has been partially addressed with the recent provision of a new site at Melbourne Road (28 plots) in the south west of the city, however there has been a loss of 33 plots with the closure of the South Common allotments. The review identified a need for between 240 and 560 new plots by 2031 if demand remained constant.
- The audit identified that there are few vacant plots in Lincoln, Gainsborough or Sleaford and long waiting lists.
- Some Neighbourhood Plans in the study area have identified a need, or an aspiration, for new allotment provision within the neighbourhood plan area. They include Caistor, Saxilby, Nettleham and Spridlington in West Lindsey and Billingham in North Kesteven.
- As part of the NK Open Space Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and

availability of open spaces. This consultation identified a need or aspiration for new allotment provision in: Billingham, Leasingham, Martin and North Hykeham.

- It is therefore recommended that local standard for allotments is set at 0.31ha/1,000 population, to reduce rising waiting lists and to reflect anticipated growth in demand.

#### Access Standard for Allotments

- Consultation undertaken in Lincoln as part of the strategic review of allotments found that respondents would be prepared to walk between 10 and 20 minutes to walk to their allotment, indicating for Lincoln, people do not want to travel far to reach their allotment.
- Accessibility mapping for a 20 minute walk time reveals no gaps in access to existing provision in the Lincoln Urban Area, Gainsborough, Sleaford, Caistor or Market Rasen.
- There are a number of areas in the rural parts of Central Lincolnshire that are beyond the 1,600m catchment of an allotment. In these areas, people are more likely to access allotments by modes of travel other than walking.
- An access standard of 1,600m walking distance is recommended.

#### Amenity Greenspace

Quantity Standard	Access Standard
0.66ha/1,000 population	400m walking distance of an amenity greenspace > 0.2ha

#### Quantity Standard for Amenity Greenspace

- The existing average provision across Central Lincolnshire, for sites 0.2 ha and greater in size, is 0.66ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 0.56ha/1,000 population with no new provision of amenity space. This is above the national benchmark standard set by FIT of 0.60ha/1,000 population.
- Provision varies across the study area, with Lincoln and North Kesteven districts falling below this average at 0.41ha and 0.46ha respectively, and West Lindsey significantly above at 1.15ha.
- As part of the NK Open Space Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and availability of open spaces. This consultation identified a need or aspiration for new amenity greenspace provision in: Bassingham, Bracebridge Heath, Digby and Witham St Hughs.
- A standard of 0.66ha/1,000 population is proposed, which reflects the average level of provision across Central Lincolnshire. There is no justification for significantly increasing current levels of provision, which reflects the national benchmark standard and is similar to local benchmarks, for example Newark and Sherwood.
- The minimum size of space that should be considered acceptable for amenity greenspace for informal recreation use is 0.2ha. Any spaces below this size are unlikely to provide sufficient space for informal recreation use.

#### Access Standard for Amenity Greenspace

- Accessibility mapping for a 5 minute walk time reveals some gaps in access to existing provision, particularly in Lincoln and Caistor and the rural settlements.
- Amenity spaces are frequently used when close to home, therefore the proposed access standard is 400m walking distance.



## Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)

Quantity Standard	Access Standard
1.09ha/1,000 population	1,200m walking distance

### Quantity Standard for Outdoor Sports Facilities

- The existing average provision for outdoor sports facilities (public) across Central Lincolnshire, both pitch and non-pitch sports, is 0.91ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 0.78ha/1,000 population with no new outdoor sports provision. This is below the national benchmark standard set by FIT of 1.60ha/1,000 population (1.2ha for pitch sports, with the remaining 0.4ha being made up by non-pitch sports such as tennis, bowls and athletics).
- North Kesteven and West Lindsey have similar average provision rates, 1.09 and 1.15ha/1,000 population respectively, however provision in Lincoln is significantly less at 0.46ha/1,000 population.
- As part of the NK Open Space Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and availability of open spaces. This consultation identified a need or aspiration for new outdoor sports facilities in: Billingham, Digby and Wellingore.
- It is recommended the median district average provision rate, 1.09ha/1,000 population, is adopted as the quantity standard for outdoor sports facilities. This standard is intended to provide sufficient space. The most up to date Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy covers the detail in relation to supply and demand for sports pitches.

### Accessibility Standard for Outdoor Sports Facilities

- Accessibility mapping shows there is a reasonably even spread of existing public outdoor sports facilities across the study area, providing good access to such sites. In the urban settlements of Gainsborough and Lincoln, there are very few gaps in access. However, in Sleaford, there is no access to a public outdoor sports facility. All the outdoor sports facilities are either an education or private site, however these are available for public use on a pay and play basis or for use by sports teams.
- All residents within both the market towns, Caistor and Market Rasen, and all the large villages, are within 1,200m of a public outdoor sports facility.
- An access standard of 1,200m walking distance is recommended, which reflects national benchmark standards.

## Parks and Gardens

Hierarchy of Parks and Gardens	Quantity Standard	Access Standard
Local and Neighbourhood Parks and Gardens	0.38 ha/1,000 population	Local – 400m walking distance Neighbourhood - 1,200m walking distance
Strategic Parks and Gardens	No standard – provision should be opportunity led and requested on a case by case basis	Strategic Park - 15,000m (15 minute drive time)

### Quantity Standard for Parks and Gardens

- The existing average provision for parks and gardens across Central Lincolnshire is 0.38ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 0.32ha/1,000 population with no new

provision of parks and gardens. This is below the national benchmark standard set by FIT of 0.80ha/1,000 population, however is not surprising giving the predominantly rural nature of the study area.

- Parks and gardens are concentrated in the main urban areas of Lincoln, Sleaford and Gainsborough. The vast majority of existing parks and gardens provision are to be found within the City of Lincoln, with 16 out of a total of 29 sites and an average provision of 0.95 ha/1,000 population.
- The majority of sites within this typology fall within either the neighbourhood/settlement or strategic hierarchies of open space. Only 1.64ha of parks and gardens provision is classified as a local park and garden, i.e. pocket parks.
- In the rural areas, sites that have been categorised as outdoor sports facilities (public) often perform a similar role to a park, hosting community events and providing opportunities for informal recreation, play and physical activity.
- As part of the NK Open Space Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and availability of open spaces. This consultation identified a need or aspiration for new parks and gardens provision in: North Hykeham and Witham St Hughs.
- 0.38ha/1,000 population is below national benchmark standards but is comparable with local benchmarks. For example, South Kesteven has a quantity standard of 0.30ha/1,000 population for parks and gardens.
- It is not recommended to develop a quantity standard for Strategic Parks. This is because this type of provision largely serves a strategic need and any increase in provision is likely to be opportunity-led.

#### Accessibility Standard for Parks and Gardens

- Strategic parks and gardens are concentrated in the Lincoln Urban Area and include sites such as Hartsholme Country Park, Boultham Park and Lincoln Castle. The 15,000m catchment area (15 minute drive time) encompasses a large area in the centre of Central Lincolnshire, and crosses into the neighbouring district of Newark and Sherwood to the west.
- Gainsborough, Market Rasen, Caistor and Sleaford fall outside of the catchment area for a strategic park and garden but, with the exception of Market Rasen, these settlements have local or neighbourhood/settlement provision.
- Elsewhere in the rural areas, access to a park and garden site is very limited. However, in the villages, playing fields and recreation grounds, classified under the outdoor sports facilities (public) typology, often provide multifunctional recreational opportunities similar to parks and gardens, as well as hosting community events such as summer fairs, car boot sales and bonfire night displays.
- A standard of 400m walking distance for local and 1,200m for neighbourhood/settlement parks and gardens is recommended. These reflect national benchmark standards.

#### Provision for Children and Young People

Type of Provision for Children and Young People	Quantity Standard	Access Standard
Equipped Play Space (LAP/LEAP)	0.07 ha/1,000 population	400m walking distance of a Local Equipped Area for Play (LAP/LEAP)
Equipped Play Space (NEAP/Other Outdoor Provision)	0.05 ha/1,000 population	1,200m walking distance of a Neighbourhood

		Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)
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### Quantity Standard for Provision for Children and Young People

- The existing average provision across Central Lincolnshire is 0.07ha/1,000 population for young children's play provision, i.e. LAPS, LEAPS, and 0.05ha/1,000 population for older children's play provision, i.e. NEAPS and other outdoor provision including MUGAs, skateboard parks and youth shelters, giving a total of 0.12ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 0.11ha/1,000 population with no new provision in equipped play areas.
- Some Neighbourhood Plans in the study area have identified a need, or an aspiration, for new or improved provision for children and young people within the neighbourhood plan area. They include Riseholme, Saxilby, Scothern, Scotter and Spidlington in West Lindsey, and Nocton and Potterhanworth, Thorpe on the Hill and Welbourn in North Kesteven.
- As part of the NK Open Space Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and availability of open spaces. This consultation identified a need or aspiration for new or improved children and young people provision in: Bassingham, Leasingham, Martin and Witham St Hughs.
- It is recommended that the average level of provision of 0.12ha/1,000 population is adopted as the standard for children's play space and facilities for young people. When combined, these standards are below the national benchmark standard of 0.25ha/1,000 people, but is comparable to local benchmark standards, such as Bassetlaw and South Kesteven.
- The recommended standards are the minimum standards for equipped play provision and do not include the need for surrounding playable space as recommended by FIT<sup>11</sup> and Play England<sup>12</sup>.

### Accessibility Standard for Provision for Children and Young People

- Accessibility mapping shows that most settlements within Central Lincolnshire have reasonable access to an existing play area and/or youth space. However, there are some gaps in provision in both the urban and rural areas.
- A standard of 400m walking distance for LAP/LEAPs and 1,200m for NEAPs/outdoor youth provision is recommended. In rural areas, it is acknowledged that the access standard may need to be more flexible. These broadly reflect national benchmark standards.

### Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Quantity Standard	Access Standard
1ha /1,000 population  (which ideally meets the criteria for LNR designation in Lincoln and West Lindsey)	400m walking distance to an accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 ha  2km from home to an accessible natural greenspace 20ha in size  5km from home to an accessible natural greenspace 100ha in size

<sup>11</sup> Fields in Trust Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play, Beyond the Six Acre Standard – sets out guidance on buffer zones, which should be well designed to enhance play value and landscape setting

<sup>12</sup> Play England (2015) Design for Play: A guide for creating successful play spaces

Quantity Standard	Access Standard
	10km from home to an accessible natural greenspace 500ha in size

#### Quantity Standard for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- The existing average provision across Central Lincolnshire is 24.53ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 21.02ha/1,000 population with no new provision in accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace.
- LNR provision across Central Lincolnshire is 0.78ha/1,000 population. By 2043, this will fall to 0.67ha/1,000 population with no new provision in LNRs. This compares to a recommended national standard (as part of Natural England's ANGSt standards) of 1.0ha per 1,000 population. This suggests that there is a need to increase the provision of LNRs in Central Lincolnshire to meet the recommended standard by 2043.
- As part of the NK Open Space Strategy, the Council surveyed residents, and Town and Parish Councils to gain an understanding of how communities rate the quality and availability of open spaces. This consultation identified a need or aspiration for new natural and semi-natural greenspace in: Billingham, Digby, Leasingham, Martin, North Hykeham (specifically woodlands), Potterhanworth, Ruskington, Skellingthorpe, South Hykeham, Swinderby and Waddington.
- Adopting standards of provision at the current levels of provision would not be viable. It is therefore recommended that Natural England's ANGSt standard of 1ha LNR/1,000 population is adopted for new provision of accessible natural greenspace, which should ideally meet the criteria for LNR designation. Lincoln and West Lindsey are currently under this standard and provision to LNR standard should be prioritised in these districts.
- A standard of 1ha/1,000 population reflects national benchmark standards.

#### Accessibility Standard for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- Accessibility mapping for a 400m catchment (5 minute walk time) shows gaps in access to existing provision in the Lincoln urban area, both in the main settlements of Gainsborough and Sleaford and in both of the market towns of Caistor and Market Rasen. Where feasible, natural and semi-natural greenspace provision should be sought in these areas.
- In the rural areas, there are some villages with no provision in access to a natural greenspace within 400m walking distance. For example, Saxilby and Cherry Willingham in West Lindsey. However, these settlements do have good access to the surrounding countryside and to the green corridors of the River Witham and Fosdyke Navigation, via the Public Rights of Way network.
- Some villages without access within 400m are within 2km of a site 20ha or more. Examples include Blyton (Owlet Plantation LNR) and Swinderby (Tunman Wood LWS).
- It is recommended that the nationally recognised ANGSt standards are used as the accessibility standard for natural and semi-natural greenspace.

9.3. The table below summarises the recommended standards.

**Table 9.1: Recommended Quantity and Access Standards for Open Space in Central Lincolnshire**

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard	Access Standard
<b>Allotments and community growing spaces</b>  Areas of land that provide opportunities for growing fruit, vegetables and other plants, either in individual allotments or as a community activity	0.31 ha per 1,000 population	1,600m walking distance
<b>Amenity Greenspace</b>  Open spaces that are normally predominantly mown grass, but may also include areas of trees and landscaping. They may be used for a variety of informal recreational or social activities close to home or work, such as walking, sitting and passive recreation.	0.66 ha per 1,000 population	400m walking distance
<b>Provision for Children and Young People</b>  Equipped children's play areas (LAPs, LEAP and NEAPs )  Outdoor youth provision (MUGAs and skateboard parks)	0.12 ha per 1,000 population	LAP/LEAP - 400m walking distance  NEAP – 1,200m walking distance
<b>Local and Neighbourhood Parks and Gardens</b>  Areas of multi-functional open space, the majority of which is publicly accessible, normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park, garden or recreation ground.  Parks should provide for a range of recreational activities that may include outdoor sports facilities and playing fields, children's play for different age groups and informal recreational pursuits including sitting out and walking.	0.38 ha per 1,000 population	Local – 400m walking distance  Neighbourhood - 1,200m walking distance
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)</b> Outdoor sports facilities consist of natural or artificial surfaces used for sport and recreation, including playing pitches, tennis courts,	1.09 ha per 1,000 population	1,200m walking distance

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard	Access Standard
bowling greens, athletics tracks and other outdoor sports areas.		
<p><b>Strategic Park and Garden</b></p> <p>Large areas of multi-functional open space, the majority of which is publicly accessible, normally enclosed, designed, constructed, managed and maintained as a public park, garden or recreation ground. Likely to attract visitors for more than one hour.</p> <p>Parks should provide for a range of recreational activities that may include outdoor sports facilities and playing fields, children's play for different age groups and informal recreational pursuits including sitting out and walking. May also include visitor facilities such as car park, toilets and a café.</p>	No standard – provision should be opportunity led and requested on a case by case basis	15,000m drive time
<p><b>Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace</b></p> <p>Natural and semi-natural open space which have been planted or colonised by vegetation and wildlife, including woodland and wetland areas, and where the public have legal or permissive access.</p>	1 ha per 1,000 population (which ideally meets the criteria for LNR designation)	<p>400m walking distance to an accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 ha</p> <p>2km from home to an accessible natural greenspace 20ha in size</p> <p>5km from home to an accessible natural greenspace 100ha in size</p> <p>10km from home to an accessible natural greenspace 500ha in size</p>
<b>Cemeteries and Churchyards</b>	None – sites mapped and quantity findings analysed	None
<b>Civic Spaces</b>	None – sites mapped and quantity findings analysed	None
<b>Green Corridor</b>	None – sites mapped and quantity findings analysed	None
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)</b>	None – sites mapped and quantity findings analysed	None
<b>Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)</b>	None – sites mapped and quantity findings analysed	None

## Appendix 1: National Open Space Standards

### Quantity Standards

Fields in Trust (FiT) (formerly the National Playing Fields Association) has derived a set of quantity standards for different typologies of open space. In 2018 FiT published “Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play Beyond the Six Acre Standard England”. This document provides guidance in the planning and design of outdoor sport, play and informal open space. It sets out benchmark standards for a range of open space and equipped play areas, which are recommended as a tool for assisting the development of local standards. The quantity standards should not be interpreted as maximum levels of provision and FiT recommends that they are adjusted to take account of local circumstances

**Table A1.1: Fields in Trust Recommended Benchmark Quantity Standards<sup>13</sup>**

Typology	Quantity Guideline (ha per 1,000 population)
Playing Pitches	1.20
All Outdoor Sports*	1.60
Equipped/Designated Play Areas	0.25
Other Outdoor Provision (MUGAs and Skateboard Parks)	0.30
Parks and Gardens	0.80
Amenity Green Space	0.60
Natural and Semi-Natural	1.80

\*The ‘all outdoor sports’ typology includes ‘playing pitches’ within it. The remaining 0.4ha within this guideline encompasses courts and green comprising natural or artificial surfaces, including tennis courts, bowling greens, athletics tracks and other outdoor sports areas

The FiT minimum spatial requirements for play areas (LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs) are set out in **Table A1.2** below.

**Table A1.2: FiT recommended minimum sizes for play areas**

Open Space Typology	Minimum size (per ha)		Minimum dimensions
Equipped/Designated Play Areas	LAP	0.01	10m x 10m (100sqm)
	LEAP	0.04	20m x 20m (400sqm)
	NEAP	0.1	31.6m x 31.6m (1,000sqm)

Source: Fields in Trust

FiT recommendations for the application of quantity standards to new development are set out in table **A1.3**.

<sup>13</sup> Taken from Fields in Trust (2015) Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play Beyond the Six Acre Standard England

**Table A1.3: FiT recommended application of quantity benchmark guidelines – equipped/designated play space**

Scale of Development	Local Area for Play (LAP)	Locally Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)	Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)	Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)
5-10 dwellings	✓			
11-200 dwellings	✓	✓		Contribution
201-500 dwellings	✓	✓	Contribution	✓
500+ dwellings	✓	✓	✓	✓

National standards for allotments are those set out by the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG). These are as follows:

- Standard Plot Size = 330 sq. yards (250sqm)
- Paths = 1.4m wide for disabled access
- Haulage ways = 3m wide
- Plotholders shed = 12sqm
- Greenhouse = 15sqm
- Polytunnel = 30sqm

### Quality Standards

The Green Flag Award is the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in the United Kingdom. The scheme was set up in 1996 to recognise and reward green spaces in England and Wales that met the laid down high standards. It is also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards, creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas. Any free to enter public park or green space is eligible to apply for an Award. The scheme is owned by the Government through the Department for Communities and Local Government, though it is managed by other agents under contract. Parks and green spaces are judged in April and May each year and the winners are announced in July. Parks must apply each year to keep their Green Flag Award, and winning sites are eligible to fly a Green Flag in the park for a year. Sites for a Green Flag Award are judged against eight key criteria: A welcoming place

- Healthy, safe and secure
- Clean and well maintained
- Sustainability
- Conservation and heritage
- Community involvement
- Marketing
- Management

A target quality standard score of 60% is required to be eligible for a Green Flag Award.

Fields in Trust provide some quality guidelines, which can also be used to help establish local quality standards<sup>14</sup>.

### Box 1.1: FiT Quality Guidelines

For Parks and Gardens, Amenity Green Space and Natural and Semi-Natural:

<sup>14</sup> Fields in Trust (2015) Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play Beyond the Six Acre Standard England



- Parks to be of Green Flag status
- Appropriately landscaped
- Positive management
- Provision of footpaths
- Designed so as to be free of the fear of harm or crime

For Playing Pitches, All Outdoor Sports, Equipped/Designated Play Areas and Other Outdoor Provision (MUGAs and Skateboard Parks):

- Quality appropriate to the intended level of performance, designed to appropriate technical standards
- Located where they are of most value to the community to be served
- Sufficiently diverse recreational use for the whole community
- Appropriately landscaped
- Maintained safely and to the highest possible condition with available finance
- Positively managed taking account of the need for repair and replacement over time as necessary.
- Provision of appropriate ancillary facilities and equipment
- Provision of footpaths
- Designed so as to be free of the fear of harm or crime

Play England's "Quality in Play – Standards, Assessment Indicators and Evidence (2016), provides quality guidance in relation to play.

#### Accessibility Standards

Natural England believes that everyone should have access to good quality natural greenspace near to where they live and have produced 'Nature Nearby' Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance"<sup>15</sup>.

The guidance is aimed at parks and green space practitioners and their partners, particularly decision makers, planners and managers of green space. It describes the amount, quality and level of visitor services that Natural England believe everyone is entitled to.

The guidance proposes the adoption of three key standards by greenspace professionals that will deliver high quality and inspiring visitor experiences in green spaces close to where people live, and connect people with the natural environment. The standards include the Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt). ANGSt recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have accessible natural greenspace:

The 25 Year Environment Plan recommends the development of new Green Infrastructure Standards. This project is being led by Natural England; outputs are as yet to be published.

#### **Box 1.2: ANGSt**

People living in towns and cities should have an accessible natural greenspace:

- of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home;
- at least one accessible 20ha site within two kilometres of home;
- one accessible 100ha site within five kilometres of home;
- one accessible 500ha site within 10 kilometres of home; and

<sup>15</sup><https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140605145320/http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/40004?category=47004>

- a minimum of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population

Source: Natural England

FiT provide accessibility guidelines within their publication 2Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play Beyond the Six Acre Standard England”. Accessibility guidelines are provided as walking distance from dwellings.

Fields in Trust provide indicative walking distances between dwellings and different types of open space, using an average walking speed of 80m per minute.

- 250m = 2 to 3 minute walk
- 400m = 5 minute walk
- 800m = 10 minute walk
- 1,200 = 15 minute walk
- 1,600 = 20 minute walk

**Table A1.4: Fields in Trust Recommended Benchmark Accessibility Standards<sup>16</sup>**

Typology	Walking Guideline (walking distance metres from dwellings)
Playing Pitches	1,200m
All Outdoor Sports	1,200m
Equipped/Designated Play Areas	LAPs 100m LEAPs 400m NEAPs 1,000m
Other Outdoor Provision	700m
Parks and Gardens	710m
Amenity Green Space	480m
Natural and Semi-Natural	720m

The Woodland Trust’s “Spaces for People – Targeting Action for Woodland Access” (2017)<sup>17</sup> provides the results of the Trust’s latest analysis on the amount of access people in the UK have to woodland close to their home.

The woodland access standard is intended to be used as an aspirational benchmark and a basis for discussion and decisions on provision of accessible woodland, and some flexibility is needed in its interpretation.

<sup>16</sup> Taken from Fields in Trust (2015) Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play Beyond the Six Acre Standard England

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/2017/06/space-for-people-2017/>

**Table A1.5: Woodland Trust recommended distance to accessible woodland**

<b>Accessible Woodland</b>	<b>Distance from Home</b>
2 ha	500m
20 ha	4 km

Source: Woodland Trust

## Appendix 2: Benchmarking Open Space Quantity Provision and Standards

Open Space Typology	FiT Guideline	2021 Audit Central Lincolnshire average	Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (2017)	Newark and Sherwood (2013)	Bassetlaw (2020)	South Kesteven (2017)
Parks and Gardens	0.80 ha per 1,000	0.38 ha per 1,000	Urban: 1.8 ha per 1,000  Rural: 1.5 ha per 1,000  Strategic formal playing fields 1.1 ha per 1,000	No standard set	0.61 ha per 1,000	0.30 ha per 1,000
Amenity Greenspace	0.60 per 1,000	0.66 ha per 1,000		0.6 ha per 1,000	1.03 ha per 1,000	2 ha per 1,000
Provision for Children and Young People	0.25 ha per 1,000	0.12 ha per 1,000		0.75 ha per 1,000	0.14 ha per 1000	0.15 ha per 1,000
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Public)	1.60 ha per 1,000	0.91 ha per 1,000		2.2 ha per 1,000	No standard set	1 ha per 1,000
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Private)		2.33 ha per 1,000			No standard set	
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1.80 ha per 1,000	24.53 ha per 1,000		10 ha per 1,000	2.40 per 1,000	2 ha per 1,000
Allotments and Community Growing Spaces	0.25 ha per 1,000	0.31 ha per 1,000	No standard set	0.5ha per 1,000	0.28 ha per 1,000	0.20 ha per 1,000
Outdoor Sports Facilities (Education)	No standard set	0.52 ha per 1,000	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set
Green Corridors	No standard set	2.04 ha per 1,000	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set
Civic Spaces	No standard set	0.02 ha per 1,000	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set
Cemeteries and Churchyards	No standard set	0.43 ha per 1,000	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set	No standard set