

South Tyneside Local development framework

Final Adopted
Version

SPD 3: Green Infrastructure Strategy

February 2013



South Tyneside Council

The New Development Plan
for your Borough

Final Adopted
Version

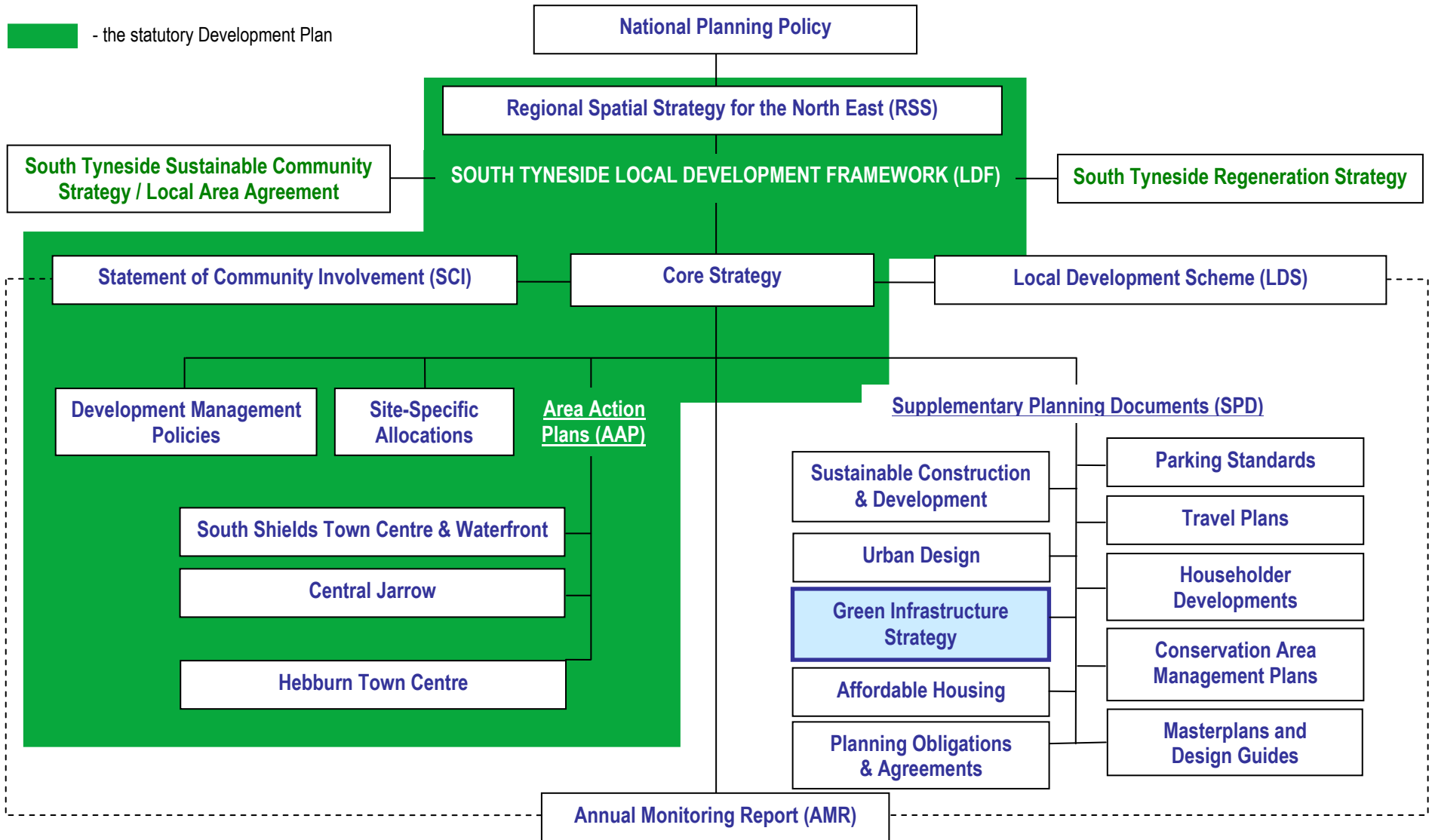
SPD3: Green Infrastructure Strategy

February 2013

Supplementary Planning Document

Adopted by Cabinet on 6 February 2013

South Tyneside Local Development Framework – Family Tree



Contents

	Page
1. Introduction	1
2. Green Infrastructure Strategy	4
- Green Infrastructure in South Tyneside	5
- Local Context	6
3. Green Infrastructure Vision and Aims	11
- Our Green Infrastructure Vision	11
- Green Infrastructure: Strategic Corridors	12
- Delivery of Green Infrastructure	14
4. Climate Change and Water Quality	16
5. Accessibility and Sustainable Travel	19
6. Quality of Place – Regeneration and Tourism	24
7. Recreation, Open Spaces and Health	26
8. Biodiversity and Landscape	28
9. Green Infrastructure – Typology and Standards	31
- Amenity Open Spaces	31
- Village Greens	32
- Parks and Open Space	33
- Allotments	37
- Provision for Children and Young People	39
- Formal Outdoor Sports Facilities	42
- Cemeteries and Crematoria	48
- Natural and Semi-Natural Green space	49

10. Green Infrastructure – Biodiversity Value and Wildlife Corridors	53
- Habitat Networks and Wildlife Corridors	56
Annex:	
A. Current Green Infrastructure Provision	58
B. Planning Applications and Green Infrastructure Design Guidance	60
C. Delivery Plan	65

1. Introduction

South Tyneside Local Development Framework Local Development Documents:

Core Strategy

Site-Specific Allocations

Development Management Policies

South Shields Town Centre and Waterfront Area
Action Plan

Central Jarrow Area Action Plan

Hebburn Town Centre Area Action Plan

SPD5 Planning Obligations & Agreements

Infrastructure Delivery Plan

National Guidance:

National Planning Policy Framework

Green Infrastructure definition in Natural Environment White Paper (2011)

Green infrastructure is a term used to refer to the living network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in both urban and rural areas. It is often used in an urban context to cover benefits provided by trees, parks, gardens, road verges, allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, rivers and wetlands.

Green infrastructure is also relevant in a rural context, where it might refer to the use of farmland, woodland, wetlands or other natural features to provide services such as flood protection, carbon storage or water purification. Green infrastructure maintains critical ecological links between town and country.

Around the country local partnerships are seeking to use green infrastructure to drive economic growth and regeneration and improve public health, wellbeing and quality of life. It can also support biodiversity and the functioning of natural systems such as rivers and flood plains and help reduce the negative impacts of climate change.

Introduction

- 1.1 Everything we do is about achieving “**a better future for South Tyneside’s people**”, and ensuring that South Tyneside is “**an outstanding place to live, invest and bring up families**”. That is our vision for the borough. To deliver a better future, one of our big challenges is to make South Tyneside a place where people choose to live. This means developing new and exciting buildings whilst preserving our cultural heritage, beautiful coastline and countryside. It also means ensuring a quality range of homes, shops and businesses, parks and public spaces, all linked by an excellent transport system. All of these things need to be delivered through the planning system, and in particular the **South Tyneside Local Development Framework (LDF)**. This will guide the future development and use of land and buildings in the borough over the next 10-15 years.
- 1.2 The LDF Core Strategy outlines our spatial vision for the borough, concentrating development on our key regeneration/development areas, but ensuring that this is not at the expense of maintaining sustainable communities and providing full access to the major facilities and developments. This vision seeks to ensure that the needs of our residents and businesses without compromising the ability of future generations to enjoy the same quality of life that we aspire to. It aims to deliver the regeneration of our borough and focussing development in the main centres of South Shields, Jarrow and Hebburn and bringing life back to the riverside – creating sustainable communities where people chose to live. Proposals of sufficient scale can change the perception of the borough and have the greatest impact on the economy, opportunity for new housing, quality of life and cultural facilities. Our vision seeks to ensure our natural and built environment is valued, protected, enhanced and capitalised for the benefit of all. It also seeks to ensure that all those within the borough can access the opportunities that are available.
- 1.3 Green infrastructure, our living network of green spaces, water and other environmental features, is an essential part of delivering this vision and has an integral role in creating the sustainable communities where people chose to live, work and visit. It contributes to improving people’s quality of life and health, improves the physical environment, supports economic growth and promotes biodiversity. It can also help us to adapt to the changes in climate change and by safeguarding and improving our green infrastructure we will allow future generations to enjoy the same quality of life.

Context

- 1.4 This supplementary planning document (SPD) expands on Core Strategy Policy SC6 ‘Providing for Recreational Open Space, Sport and Leisure’ which promotes the provision of high quality recreational open space, playing fields and other sporting and play facilities, including implementing and supporting schemes that protect and

South Tyneside Vision 2011-2013 Themes:

People:

- Better education and skills.
- Less people in poverty.
- Protect children and vulnerable adults.
- Stable and independent families.
- Healthier people.

Place:

- A regenerated South Tyneside with increased business and jobs.
- Better transport.
- Better housing and neighbourhoods.
- A clean and green environment.
- Less crime and safer communities.

improve its quantity, quality and accessibility; remedying deficiencies in open space provision and quality; and supporting schemes that extend the borough's Linked Open Space System. Development Management Policy DM7 on 'Local Biodiversity and Geodiversity Sites' also seeks to protect and enhance the locally important environmental assets of the borough, including strategic green infrastructure. This SPD expands on these policies, providing an analysis of existing green infrastructure within the borough and setting out the vision for future improvement and provision.

- 1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) promotes sustainable development in its social, environmental and economic role. Green infrastructure is fundamental to delivering these roles and achieving sustainable developments. Access to open space and sport and recreational facilities is also highlighted in the NPPF, and is recognised for its contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities. The NPPF states that planning policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sport and recreation facilities. This document reflects the recent changes in national planning policy, and provides up to date local standards for open spaces and playing pitches. It also provides information with regard to access to natural and semi-natural green space, which has been analysed according to Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGST) guidelines.
- 1.6 The South Tyneside Vision 2011-2031 sets out the Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) Community Strategy aims for the borough over the next 20 years (see margin). Green infrastructure can help deliver a number of these aims particularly the healthier people objective and a clean and green environment, but also promoting better education and skills, a regenerated South Tyneside with increased business and jobs, better housing and neighbourhoods.

Sub-Regional Green Infrastructure

- 1.7 The importance and functions of green infrastructure are restricted to borough boundaries. Areas of green infrastructure and their functions often cross administrative boundaries, such as cycle routes, mineral lines, and popular parks and recreational areas which can attract visitors from outside of the borough. Local authorities surrounding South Tyneside – Sunderland and Gateshead, as well as other regional local authorities are preparing their own green infrastructure strategies. It is important that these strategies are consistent with each other and support green infrastructure throughout the region. Figure 2.3 (p.14) illustrates green infrastructure corridors within South Tyneside, and also shows how these corridors cross the administrative borders of both Gateshead and Sunderland.

Links to Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) and SPD5 Planning Obligations & Agreements

- 1.8 South Tyneside's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) assesses the borough's existing infrastructure, what is being planned (with committed investment) and what will be needed in the future to support our development allocations. It forms part of the robust evidence base for the Local Development Framework (LDF) and will also inform future decisions regarding allocation of funds, for instance through the proposed place-based or community budgets. It is produced with key partners across South Tyneside and will enable the Local Strategic Partnership to prioritise investment in the borough to ensure it meets the ambitions of 'The South Tyneside Vision 2011-31', as well as the priorities within the 'Shaping our Future, South Tyneside Council Strategy 2011-2016' document.
- 1.9 SPD 5 'Planning Obligations & Agreements' provides developers, landowners, the community and the council with guidance on the planning obligations and financial contributions that will be required to ensure that new development can be accommodated in the borough, with acceptable impact and appropriate mitigation where necessary and within the principles of sustainable development. New development generally creates the need for additional or enhanced recreational open space and other green infrastructure, and therefore it may be appropriate for developers to enter into a planning obligation or agreement to help meet this need. SPD 5 will be reviewed alongside preparation of the forthcoming Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to reflect the standards outlined in this SPD.

Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.10 This document provides additional information and guidance on adopted policies of the LDF Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD. Both were subject to Habitats Regulation Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal during their preparation. Planning applications will be determined in accordance with the adopted policies/proposals within our development plan documents.
- 1.11 This SPD does not introduce new policies or designations for specific sites but seeks to help co-ordinate the development of land through setting standards for provision and providing design guidance and principles. It will be a material consideration in the assessment of planning applications. The council recognises that the document seeks to support green infrastructure improvements in areas close to the European Sites. It is of paramount importance that any improvements to the access along the coastal areas or any other schemes should be in accordance with the objectives of the European Sites.
- 1.12 The council's initial scoping exercise has assessed that the impact of this document would not detrimentally affect the protection of the integrity of designated European Sites and that further Habitats Regulations Assessment is not required for this document, although this may be necessary for certain significant planning applications or schemes supported by this document.

2. Green Infrastructure Strategy



2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework defines Green Infrastructure as:

A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities.

2.2 Green infrastructure is more than individual green spaces – it includes a wide variety of different land uses and environments which provide a range of environmental, social and economic benefits. Green infrastructure is made up of natural assets such as beaches, rivers, natural and semi-natural green spaces, and recreational spaces, including allotments, playing pitches and cycleways. The different types of green infrastructure in South Tyneside and also the benefits that these spaces provide are set out below.

2.3 Green infrastructure should be designed to be multi-functional where possible and appropriate and accessible to all. This applies at both the site level and across the borough's network. Green infrastructure can be incorporated as part of new developments or retrofitted through green roofs, gardens and walls, swales, new tree planting or altering the maintenance of existing land. The individual circumstances of the site or proposal should be taken into account and suitable elements of green infrastructure for each scheme will vary.

2.4 To successfully deliver green infrastructure benefits it is best to plan its provision in a similar way as other forms of infrastructure such as roads and utilities. This Green Infrastructure Strategy provides an analysis of existing green infrastructure within the borough and sets out our vision for its future improvement and provision.

Figure 2.1 Green Infrastructure in South Tyneside



Local Context

Principal Purposes of South Tyneside's Green Belt:

- To check the unrestricted sprawl of the built-up area of South Tyneside;
- To safeguard the borough's countryside from further encroachment;
- To prevent the merging of South Tyneside with Sunderland, Washington or Gateshead;
- To preserve the special and separate characters of Boldon Colliery, West Boldon, East Boldon, Cleadon and Whitburn; and
- To assist in the regeneration of the urban area, by encouraging the recycling of land, particularly along the riverside.



- 2.5 South Tyneside is a heavily developed area with 60% of the borough being described as urban. The majority of the borough's population reside in the three main towns of South Shields, Jarrow and Hebburn, and their associated suburbs. The south of the borough retains open countryside around the smaller settlements of Whitburn, Cleadon and the Boldons. The remaining area is made up of coastal areas, river corridors and the Green Belt.
- 2.6 The Green Belt is an important resource within South Tyneside, covering about 2,408ha (5,950 acres), representing just over a third of the borough's land area. It provides a feeling of openness, helps to manage and shape patterns of development and helps to safeguard the countryside from undesirable encroachment. This area also contains areas of high landscape value such as at Cleadon Hills and Boldon Downhill. The Green Belt is also important to preserve the individual characters of settlements, including separating South Tyneside from Gateshead, Sunderland and Washington, while providing valuable green links to these areas. It also provides important opportunities for recreation and leisure, agriculture, woodland, wildlife corridors and other natural areas, and forms part of the Great North Forest.
- 2.7 South Tyneside has a wide variety of wildlife habitats and is home to sites of international, national and local importance. The Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar Site is designated for its internationally important coastal bird populations, while the Durham Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is designated by the European Union for the biodiversity value of the vegetated sea cliffs. The borough is also home to five nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), as well as a number of locally important Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geodiversity Sites and wildlife corridors.
- 2.8 The primary building blocks of a biodiverse green infrastructure are the existing designated wildlife sites. The nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest are all in relatively good condition, but this is not the case with all Local Wildlife Sites. Many of these are privately owned and are suffering from neglect and subsequent deterioration (less than 42% of the total of 53 sites has had any positive management during the last five years). Grasslands in particular are susceptible to permanent damage due to lack of management.
- 2.9 Access to natural and semi-natural greenspace has been analysed in this document according to Natural England's ANGSt (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard) guidelines. Analysis of access to natural and semi-natural greenspace shows a clear lack of provision in the north-west part of the borough in Jarrow and Hebburn. There is also poor local access to natural sites in the wider South Shields town centre, riverside, Tyne Dock and Rekendyke areas.



- 2.10 There is relatively limited tree cover within South Tyneside. We estimate that South Tyneside has approximately one million trees, the majority of which are in woodlands and were planted to improve and regenerate areas of post-industrial land. The average age of our trees is approximately 50 years old. The Great North Forest initiative also saw the planting of significant numbers of trees and continues to provide an important resource. However, to ensure the long-term health of many of these areas there is a need for considerable management and thinning of trees. Street trees also make an important contribution to the landscape character and visual amenity of areas within the borough, such as in conservation areas and along some of our major roads (for example King George Road and John Reid Road).
- 2.11 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (2010) illustrates that there are high levels of multiple deprivation within the borough, particularly along the riverside. Levels of health deprivation and disability are also particularly high within the borough, with the highest concentrations along the riverside and town centre areas. Levels of multiple deprivation are lowest in the southern urban fringe parts of the borough. Life expectancy for both men and women is lower than the English average. Within the borough, life expectancy in the most deprived areas is 9.9 years lower for men and 7.9 years lower for women than in the least deprived areas (Department of Health, 2011). Levels of obesity are also higher than the English average. Areas of higher deprivation generally correlate with relative lack of larger usable areas of open space. Improving green infrastructure in these areas and encouraging healthier lifestyles could have an important impact.
- 2.12 Given that car ownership within the borough is lower than the national average; good accessibility by means other than private motorised vehicle is particularly important and can help to reduce social inequality. Promotion of sustainable forms of travel can also reduce road congestion, pollution and increase physical activity. Walking accounts for nearly 25% of all journeys in South Tyneside (South Tyneside Integrated Transport Strategy 2008-2011). Public consultation for the Open Space Strategy study (2009) found that 63% of those who visit parks and open spaces walk. Provision of attractive and sustainable transport routes such as path and cycleways could also have a positive effect by helping people without cars to access services and also encouraging walking and cycling as a means of promoting an active and healthy lifestyle. Missing links to cycleways and Public Rights of Way have been identified within this document and the Delivery Plan.
- 2.13 There is a fairly equal distribution of publicly-accessible open-space provision between Hebburn/Jarrow and South Shields. The Urban Fringe area has the least provision for parks and open space of the borough's three sub-areas; although proximity to the open Green Belt and private land such as agricultural fields within the Green Belt provides an added feel of openness. Consultation responses received from the public to the Open Space Strategy study suggests that they think there are sufficient parks and open spaces in their local area. Furthermore, analysis of access to parks and open spaces shows that most residents within the borough live within 400m of a local site, many within 800m of a neighbourhood site, and almost all within 3,000m of a district-scale site.

- 2.14 With regard to allotments, there are 24 sites within the borough; however in 2011 just under 700 people were on the waiting list for allotment gardens with the average waiting time at 3.3 years. The demand for this type of facility is evenly distributed across the borough. To address this deficiency, some 16-17ha of new allotments would be required.
- 2.15 Provision for children and young people is relatively equal in each of the three sub-areas, although a number of areas lack good access to play area provision, including Hebburn Quay, School Street, Calf Close, Fellgate, Horsley Hill, Simonside and Whitburn. To address this deficiency approximately 1.4ha would be required to provide new neighbourhood/community facilities.
- 2.16 Recent analysis of South Tyneside's playing pitches shows that although there is currently a slight shortage of cricket pitches, the borough will have enough pitches to meet its future playing pitch needs to 2026 for all sports. The main goal is to ensure that school pitches are made more widely available for community use and to improve the quality of pitches available to the public.
- 2.17 As many spaces described above are multi-functional, there is an inevitable overlap between some of the different types of green infrastructure. Hence, it is not considered appropriate or practical to set an overall borough-wide standard for all green infrastructure. Despite this our recommended standard just for Parks and Open Space is above the Fields in Trust (formerly National Playing Field Association) six acre standard of 2.43ha per 1,000 population.

Summary of our Green Infrastructure Minimum Standards

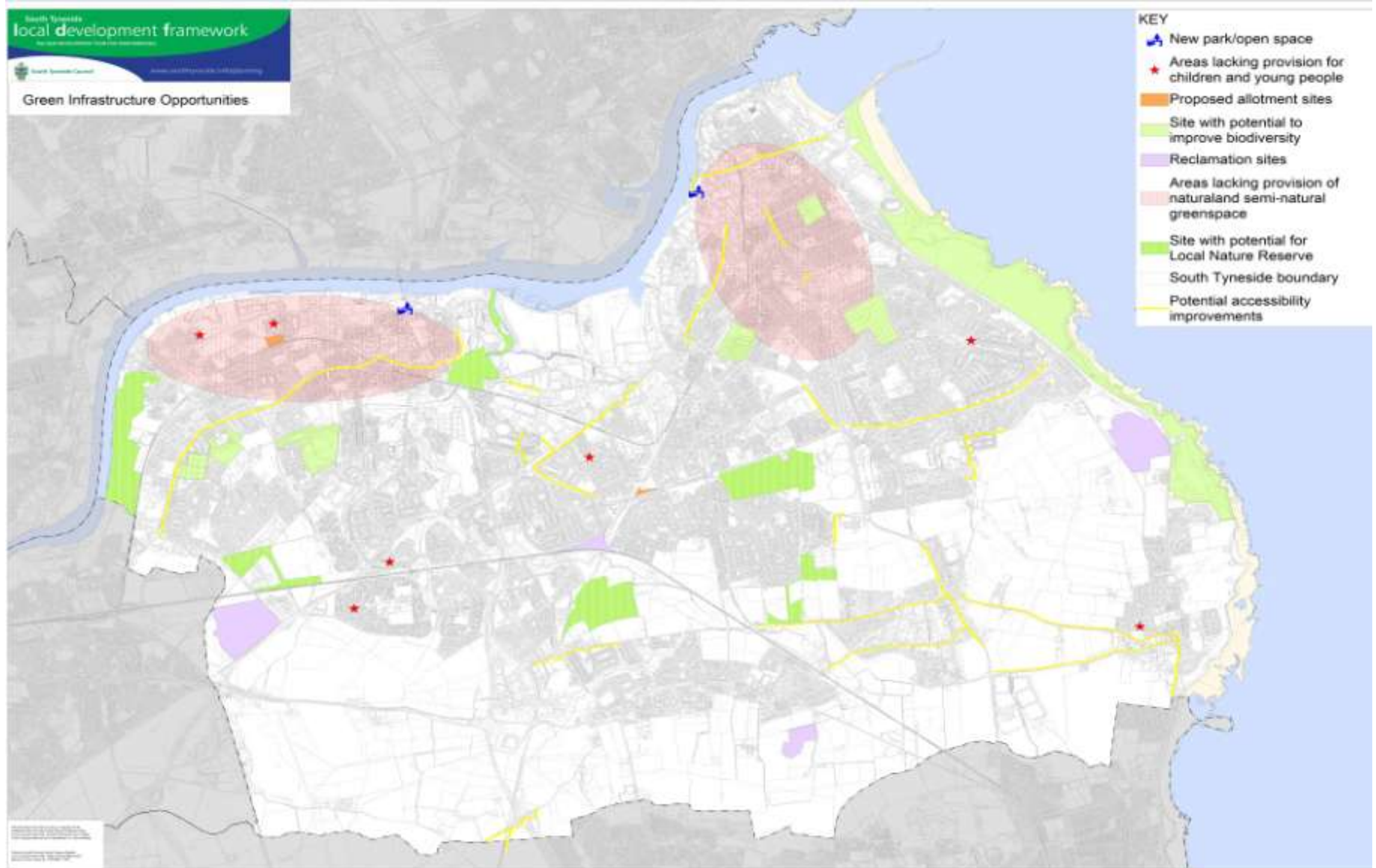
Current Green Infrastructure Provision:

- Parks and Open Spaces – 5.23ha per 1,000 population
- Allotments – 0.28ha per 1,000 population
- Provision for Children and Young People – 0.20ha per 1,000 population
- Provision of Formal Outdoor Sports Facilities (total area) – 2.56ha per 1,000 population
- Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace – 2.57ha per 1,000 population
- **Total – 7.55ha per 1,000 population**

Green Infrastructure Type	Hierarchy	Quantity (ha per 1,000 population)	Quality	Accessibility
Parks and Open Space	All	2.92	Good	-
	District (30ha)	1.08	Excellent	within 3,000m
	Neighbourhood (10-30ha)	0.46	Good	within 800m
	Local (0.2-10ha)	1.44	Good	within 400m
Allotments	All	0.4	Good	within 800m
Provision for Children and Young People	Community/Neighbourhood	0.23	Good	within 400m
	Local			within 100m
Provision of Formal Outdoor Sports Facilities	Playing Pitch	0.53	Good	within 1,000m
	Bowls Provision	0.02		
	Tennis Provision	0.02		
	All Outdoor Sports Provision	1.64		
	All Outdoor Sports Facilities (excluding golf)	0.78		
Cemeteries and Crematoria	All	-	Excellent	-
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	All	2.89	Average	-
	District			within 5,000m
	Neighbourhood			within 2,000m
	Local			within 300m
	Local Nature Reserves	1.00	Good	-

2.18 This background information has helped to identify areas of green infrastructure opportunities identified in Figure 2.2 below. This map along with the Delivery Plan will identify schemes and opportunities to improve green infrastructure within South Tyneside.

Figure 2.2 Green Infrastructure Opportunities



3. Green Infrastructure in South Tyneside - Vision & Aims

Our Green Infrastructure Vision

Green Infrastructure will:

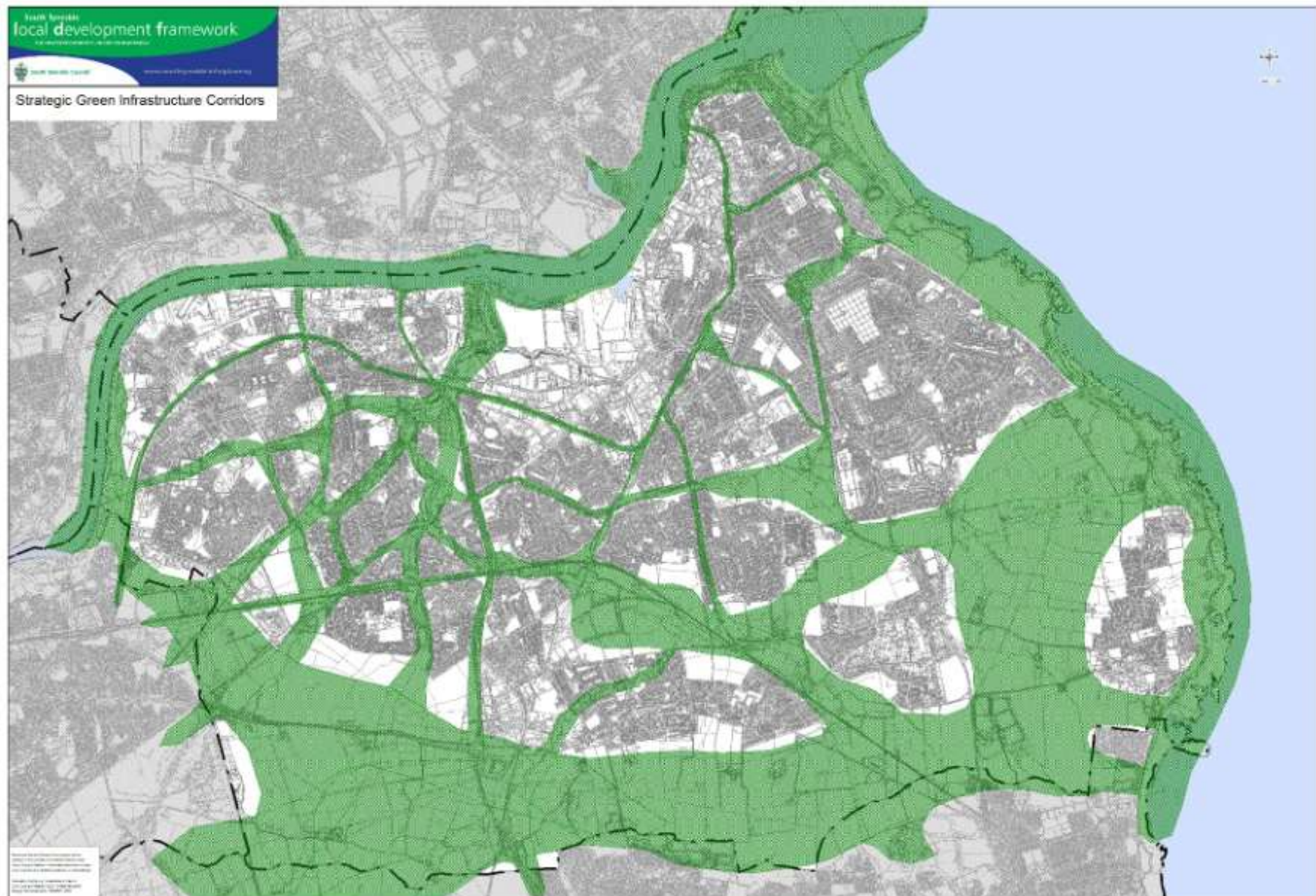
- Contribute to the sustainability of South Tyneside and promote a high quality of life for future generations, by mitigating impacts of climate change and flooding.
- Play an important role in the regeneration of South Tyneside.
- Help create good quality and healthy sustainable communities where people choose to live.
- Protect and enhance our natural and built environment, and help to promote biodiversity throughout the borough.



- 3.1 This vision will be delivered through the five strategic themes that contribute to green infrastructure. The benefits of green infrastructure with regard to each theme are set out in the following sections of this document:
- Climate Change and Water Quality
 - Accessibility and Sustainable Travel
 - Quality of Place – Regeneration and Tourism
 - Recreation, Open Spaces and Health
 - Biodiversity and Landscape



Green Infrastructure: Strategic Corridors

- 3.2 The following strategic green infrastructure corridors have been identified within South Tyneside (Fig 2.3). Wherever possible, these corridors should be protected and enhanced.
- River Corridors – Rivers Tyne and Don and associated tributaries
 - Coastal Corridor
 - Green Belt Corridor
 - Railway Mineral Lines

Figure 2.3 Strategic Green Infrastructure Corridors



Corridor / Area		Description	Green Infrastructure Priorities
<p>River Corridor</p> <p>River Tyne and Don and associated tributaries</p>		<p>The River Corridor covers the River Tyne and immediate riverside areas to the north of the borough, the River Don and the associated tributaries that primarily run through Jarrow and the Urban Fringe.</p> <p>This corridor provides an important biodiversity resource and includes a variety of different habitats.</p> <p>The riverside corridor provides important recreation facilities through the borough and also access routes through the provision of cycle routes along the Tyne.</p> <p>The Tyne riverside also covers some key regeneration sites in the borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access along riverside and from town centres to riverside. • Importance of green infrastructure as part of regeneration and economic growth. • Creation of new riverside parks at South Shields and Jarrow. • Using green infrastructure along river as buffer for flooding. • Improve connections from Littlehaven to riverside routes and North Tyneside • Support schemes which will improve water quality on the River Don. • Protect and improve biodiversity value. • Access along riverside and linked open space system. • Enhance/develop Living Waterways project on the River Don at West Boldon. Extend approach throughout River Don system e.g. create backwaters, reedbeds and Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS).
<p>Coastal Corridor</p> <p>Coastal stretch from Littlehaven to Whitburn, including The Leas</p>		<p>The Coastal corridor runs along the eastern boundary of the borough and includes a range of different open space types and functions.</p> <p>The South Shields foreshore area is an important tourism resource with the parks and beaches attracting visitors to the area.</p> <p>The undeveloped coastal areas are of high biodiversity importance. The area between Trow Point and Marsden Bay is protected by a Special Protection Area (SPA), and the area between Trow Point and Whitburn Sands protected by a Special</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of ecology/biodiversity (SPA, SACs and SSSIs). • Improved access from town centre through Ocean Road improvements. • Improve linkages from Littlehaven to riverside as part of English Coastal route/improve C2C link. • Improved access to beaches with promenade improvements. • Protect green infrastructure network along coast. • Diversify/improve existing grassland habitats

		Area of Conservation (SAC). The area is also of geodiversity significance as it is the most northern outcrop of the Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau.	<p>at the Leas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure dune restoration scheme to maximise biodiversity benefit and create associated new species rich grassland.
<p>Green Belt Corridor</p> <p>Urban Fringe agricultural area</p>		<p>The Green Belt within South Tyneside is located to the south of South Shields, Jarrow and Hebburn, and surrounds the Urban Fringe villages.</p> <p>There are a number of green infrastructure functions accommodated with the Green Belt including golf courses, playing fields, cycle and bridal ways. The Green Belt also provides wildlife habitats and acts as an important wildlife corridor, linking up different areas of open space within the borough and between neighbouring authorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve the separate characters of the Urban Fringe villages. Maintain/ and where possible improve green infrastructure links/corridors with Sunderland and Gateshead Councils. Prevent the merging of South Tyneside's urban areas with Sunderland, Washington and Gateshead.
<p>Railway Mineral Lines</p>		<p>The mineral lines within South Tyneside are a remnant of the areas heavy industrial history. They now provide recreational routes throughout the borough in the form of cycle and bridal ways. They also act as green corridors and wildlife corridors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve accessibility and connections. Protect link between Green Belt and urban area.

Delivery of Green Infrastructure

3.3 To deliver a network of green spaces which can maintain these functions will require the sustainable management of the existing green infrastructure network and the investment to achieve the required improvements to it. The multifunctional nature of the green infrastructure sites means that a wide range of stakeholders will be needed to engage and work in partnership to deliver and resource green infrastructure.

- 3.4 This strategic document is supplemented by a Delivery Plan (see Annex C), which identifies strategic aims and site-specific projects and actions which will enhance green infrastructure in South Tyneside. The delivery plan identifies:
- Responsibility for delivery
 - Timescales
 - Resources
 - How the scheme will be monitored
- 3.5 The delivery of these projects is dependent on achieving engagement with stakeholders and the local community and also accessing funds to resource the projects. It is anticipated that some funding for projects will be provided through planning obligations and agreements, and also the forthcoming Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The projects identified in the delivery plan will be kept under regular review.

4. Climate Change and Water Quality

LDF Core Strategy Policies: ST1, ST2, EA2, EA5

Development Management Policies: DM1, DM7

AAP Policies: SS14, J12

Site-Specific Allocations Policies: SA7

Local Development Documents:

SPD1 Sustainable Construction and Development

SPD5 Planning Obligations and Agreements

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework

South Tyneside's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
2009 -2012

South Tyneside Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2010)

South Tyneside Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment



Water Framework Directive

A natural floodplain can help achieve good ecological status by 2015 under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Meeting WFD objectives involves not only ecosystems, water quality, drought and flood impact considerations but also the physical characteristics and morphology of the river channel, floodplain and associated structures.

Why is Green Infrastructure Important?

- 4.1 Climate change and its effects are a major issue facing our daily lives and our environment. It is likely that the effects of climate change in South Tyneside will lead to rising summer temperatures, and an increase in extreme weather events including heat waves, droughts and flooding. Winter rainfall and extreme weather events are also predicted to increase in the North East, resulting in increased flood risk.
- 4.2 It is estimated that peak flow rates from fluvial events are likely to increase by 20% over the next 50 to 1000 years, which will result in higher flood levels. This is also coupled with a predicted rise in sea level. Our Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) identifies open spaces at risk from coastal, fluvial and from surface water flooding, of particular note is the River Tyne corridor where climate change is expected to increase tidal flood risk.
- 4.3 Green Infrastructure can play an important role in mitigating and adapting to the effects of changing climate by:
 - absorbing and storing carbon;
 - providing opportunities for walking and cycling to create less dependency on motorised transport;
 - supplying timber to replace less sustainable construction materials;
 - providing wood fuel and reducing food miles by allowing people to grow their own produce;
 - creating cooler microclimates.and facilitate water management by:
 - allowing space for water;
 - intercepting rain and reducing run-off;
 - protecting more vulnerable uses from flooding by providing sustainable soakaways;
 - to control and attenuate storm water and reduce the risk of damage to property and infrastructure.
- 4.4 The use of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) as a way of managing water can also enhance the amenity value of schemes and can provide space for biodiversity. As an alternative to hard engineering, it will also help contribute to the sustainability objectives of the Flood and Water Management Act. Water management solutions can include areas of soft landscaping, large trees to intercept rain, swales and ponds, rainwater butts, green roofs and rain gardens- shallow depressions planted with deep-rooted plants and grasses which should be positioned near run-off sources such as a downpipes, pavements and driveways.

GI Project – River Don Riparian Zone

On the River Don, the Living Waterways project collaboration between the Environment Agency and Durham Wildlife Trust) has been granted £19,000 funding to create a backwater pond in West Boldon in partnership with South Tyneside Council. Backwater ponds link direct to the river and can provide a valuable habitat for an abundance of wildlife, including water voles, and can act as a water storage area which can help reduce the threat of flooding downstream. The grant will also pay for public events and a pond dipping platform which will provide an outdoor learning resource for local schools. Residents and local schools will be involved in a number of events and volunteer days as part of the project.

GI Project – Dune Management

The council's Dune Management Plan has established that the current dune system could be stabilised and enhanced through the implementation of number of measures including building up sand levels through installation of sand trap fencing, planting of dune grass species and management of public access, including a designated walkway and providing access to discrete areas of the dunes. It is also hoped that a 'Friends of the Foreshore' group may be established to support the scheme. Implementation of the scheme, which commenced in autumn 2011, will allow the semi-natural coastal defence and local wildlife site to re-establish. Successful completion of these works will see the coastal protection of the dune system continue over the next 25 years.

- 4.5 Safeguarding land to convey water and provide flood water storage can help to protect current and future areas of development. The SFRA maps sites at risk from surface water flooding; these spaces should be safeguarded where possible and opportunities should be taken to incorporate green spaces within the design and layout of new developments where there is evidence of flood risk. It must be ensured that flood risk is taken into account during the development of sites.
- 4.6 There are opportunities for the increased riparian management on our watercourses. Maintenance or restoration of natural riparian zones, such as grassland alongside rivers, helps protect soil from erosion, improve habitat connectivity, create 'natural' meadows which can tolerate flood inundation, and reduce the impacts of diffuse pollution. The creation of such zones can also have great benefits for wildlife and biodiversity. An example of riparian management is identified in the margin text.
- 4.7 The use of green infrastructure throughout the river corridor can play a vital role in enhancing the visual amenity of the river environment, protecting people and buildings from flooding and reducing flood risk downstream. The open spaces along the Rivers Tyne and Don, and their tributaries; provide important linkages for species, natural areas for flooding and important spaces for leisure and recreation.
- 4.8 The dune system offers vital coastal flood protection to the Sandhaven frontage including its recreational, commercial, residential and infrastructure assets, including the popular Ocean Beach Pleasure Park and fairground. Reliance on this defence system will increase in future years due to climate change and probable rise in sea level. However, the overall extent of vegetation cover is unstable due to human and coastal erosion. Erosion continued at levels currently observed may put the entire system at risk which would have an impact on assets and buildings along the Sandhaven foreshore area.

Green Infrastructure Assets

- River Tyne
- River Don and associated tributaries
- Linked Open Space System
- Local Wildlife Sites
- Dune System, Sandhaven

GI Project – Littlehaven Promenade and Sea-wall realignment

The council is undertaking a significant regeneration project to realign the promenade and seawall at Littlehaven, South Shields. The current seawall is in a very poor condition and has been damaged by wave attack and overtopping waves, this has caused localised flooding behind the seawall. The new scheme will see a land-ward re-alignment of the seawall by approximately 50 metres to create a wider expanse of natural beach, with landscaping works and amenity areas created. The new seawall will provide protection from and lead to a reduction in coastal erosion and flooding, as well as creating new areas open space and beach.

What we need to do:

- **Increase the amount of sustainable urban drainage systems-** SUDS can be an alternative to hard engineering and can contribute to the sustainability and amenity value of schemes.
- **Increase areas of natural woodland** - identify areas of land which can be given over to natural growth and woodland. Such schemes can provide benefits for biodiversity, carbon sequestration and flood alleviation.
- **Ensure developments promote sustainability and environmental benefits** – use the planning system to encourage the installation of green roofs for storm water management, cooling benefits and tailor design to provide suitable habitats to protect biodiversity and attract local endangered / vulnerable species.
- **Implementing the Sandhaven Beach Dune Management Plan** – continue to manage the dune system to provide semi-natural coastal defences and habitat for local wildlife.
- **Seek to reduce coastal erosion and flooding-** implementation of the Littlehaven promenade and seawall re-alignment will contribute to a reduction in flooding and erosion and will improve coastal defences along the seafront.

5. Accessibility and Sustainable Travel

LDF Core Strategy Policies: ST1, ST2, A1, SC1, SC6, EA1, EA2, EA4

Development Management Policies: DM1

AAP Policies: SS1, SS3, SS4, SS10, SS12, SS13, H1, H3, J1, J3, J5, J8

Site-Specific Allocations Policies: SA2, SA7

Local Development Documents:

SPD8 South Shields Riverside Regeneration
SPD6 Parking Standards
SPD7 Travel Plans

Public Rights of Way and Development Planning
Guidance Note Major Applications, Tyne & Wear
Authorities (2008)

Public Rights of Way and Development Planning
Guidance Note Minor Applications, Tyne & Wear
Authorities (2008)

www.nexus.org.uk



- 5.1 We want to make sure that the key growth areas of the borough are accessible and well linked, including making walking and cycling convenient to reduce our reliance on cars. We also want to ensure that people have good access to different types of green infrastructure which are linked in a well-functioning network.

Why is Green Infrastructure Important?

- 5.2 Green corridors, along with river and waterway corridors provide important links across the borough and beyond, allowing opportunities for sustainable travel and recreation and importantly improving permeability of the area for wildlife. Green corridors include walkways; cycleways; bridleways; road and rail corridors; and verges and hedgerows.
- 5.3 Green infrastructure should promote opportunities for sustainable travel and recreation, complementing strategies such as the Tyne & Wear Local Transport Plan (LTP) and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan (PRoWIP). In addition to the creation and improvement of new paths and cycleways, it may be possible to increase accessibility through improved signage and advertising. Improving connectivity to the rivers and coast emerged as an important priority during the stakeholder workshop, and is an aim supported by our LDF.
- 5.4 Supporting good quality infrastructure and routes to promote non-motorised transport can reduce the number of private car journeys. Public Transport links can also reduce reliance on private motor car and can encourage residents to undertake an active lifestyle, but also help to reduce CO₂ emissions which contribute towards climate change. Links with public transport, (i.e. bus services, the Metro and Shields ferry) are also important as many people will use a combination of walking and public transport as part of a journey. Public Transport links also provide access to a variety of green spaces and leisure facilities across the borough, particularly for those who do not have access to a private motor vehicle’.
- 5.5 Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and other walkways within the borough offer important linkages and are a valuable green infrastructure asset, they are also often a tangible relic of the history and culture of the area. Footpaths, bridleways, restricted bridleways and byways are all highways, differing from roads only in the type of traffic entitled to use them and the variety of surface types. These types of highways allow the public a right of passage over land which is often privately-owned and managed.
- 5.6 Bridleways, pathways or cycleways help to contribute to the sustainability of a new development and may be required where development is likely to generate significant increases in numbers of trips made, for example in



Length of PRow routes in South Tyneside (mapped as at 2010)

Type	Length (km)
Footpath	46
Bridleway	17
Restricted byway	2
Byway open to all traffic	0.5
Cycle network	164



large-scale housing developments, area regeneration or employment sites. They may also be required to replace routes lost to facilitate the development, or may be necessary to form part of a travel plan.

- 5.7 The Tyne & Wear Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan (PRowIP 2011) recognises the value of multi-functional routes and prioritises maintenance and development of access to ‘honey pot’ sites such as country parks, elevated points, riverside and coastal paths, and routes and areas of local historical significance. Across Tyne & Wear, the councils’ aim to enable equestrian, cycling and walking activity to take place as safely as possible on the road and bridleway network through the promotion and creation of regional, borough and local bridle route and cycling networks.
- 5.8 South Tyneside’s network of cycle routes ranges from strategic routes, including part of the National Cycle Network (NCN) and Sea to Sea (C2C), to off-road leisure routes along the river corridors such as the River Don at Primrose. However, the existing network still has some connectivity issues. Improving the green infrastructure network and encouraging cycling as a sustainable mode of transport is a long-term aim of the council. Together with our partners we will seek to continually improve the provision and quality of cycle routes and the green infrastructure network. Figure 5.2 shows current cycle routes and improvements proposed subject to funding becoming available.

Green Infrastructure Assets

- National Cycle Network (NCN);
- Sea to Sea (C2C);
- Established network of local cycle routes, bridleways and public footpaths
- Cycle tourism

What we need to do:

- **Address missing PRow links** - the PRowIP contains a number of actions to improve and create new public rights of way. These projects should be pursued to enhance the PRow network.
- **Improvements to Cycle Network** - a proposed audit of the National Cycle Network from Springwell in Jarrow to Hebburn will seek to agree a new name for the whole route and upgrade the route including removing existing barriers. Other projects include the Safe Routes to School Scheme which includes work to develop a safe cycle/pedestrian link across John Reid Road to better connect pupils coming from the north side of the road with the new South Shields Community School.
- **Improve connectivity and safety of the cycle network** - ensure long-term sustainability of new developments and regeneration areas by safeguarding existing cycle routes and by creating new routes and links to the existing network.

European Protected Sites – Northumbria SPA and Durham Coast SAC

The council recognises that increased access and recreation on or adjacent European protected sites along the coast, could have a detrimental impact on the sites. It is of paramount importance that any improvements to the access along the coastal areas or any other schemes should be in accordance with the objectives of the European Sites.

- **Work with partners to deliver recreational route improvements** - the Limestone Landscapes partnership project 'Leg It' plans to develop and improve rights of way in and around Cleadon and Souter Lighthouse. The council is also working with the Wearmouth-Jarrow Partnership to seek improvements to the Bede's Way walking and cycle routes that connect the twin monasteries of St. Paul's in Jarrow and St. Peter's in Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.
- **Create long-distance coastal walking route** – The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 places a duty on Natural England to improve access to the English coast through the creation of a long distance walking route around the coast and a margin of accessible land along it. Most of the route is already in place along the coast, although there is a need to create improved links from Littlehaven at the mouth of the Tyne to connections with North Tyneside, such as via the Shields Ferry and Tyne Pedestrian and Cycle Tunnels at Jarrow.

Figure 5.0 Public Rights of Way

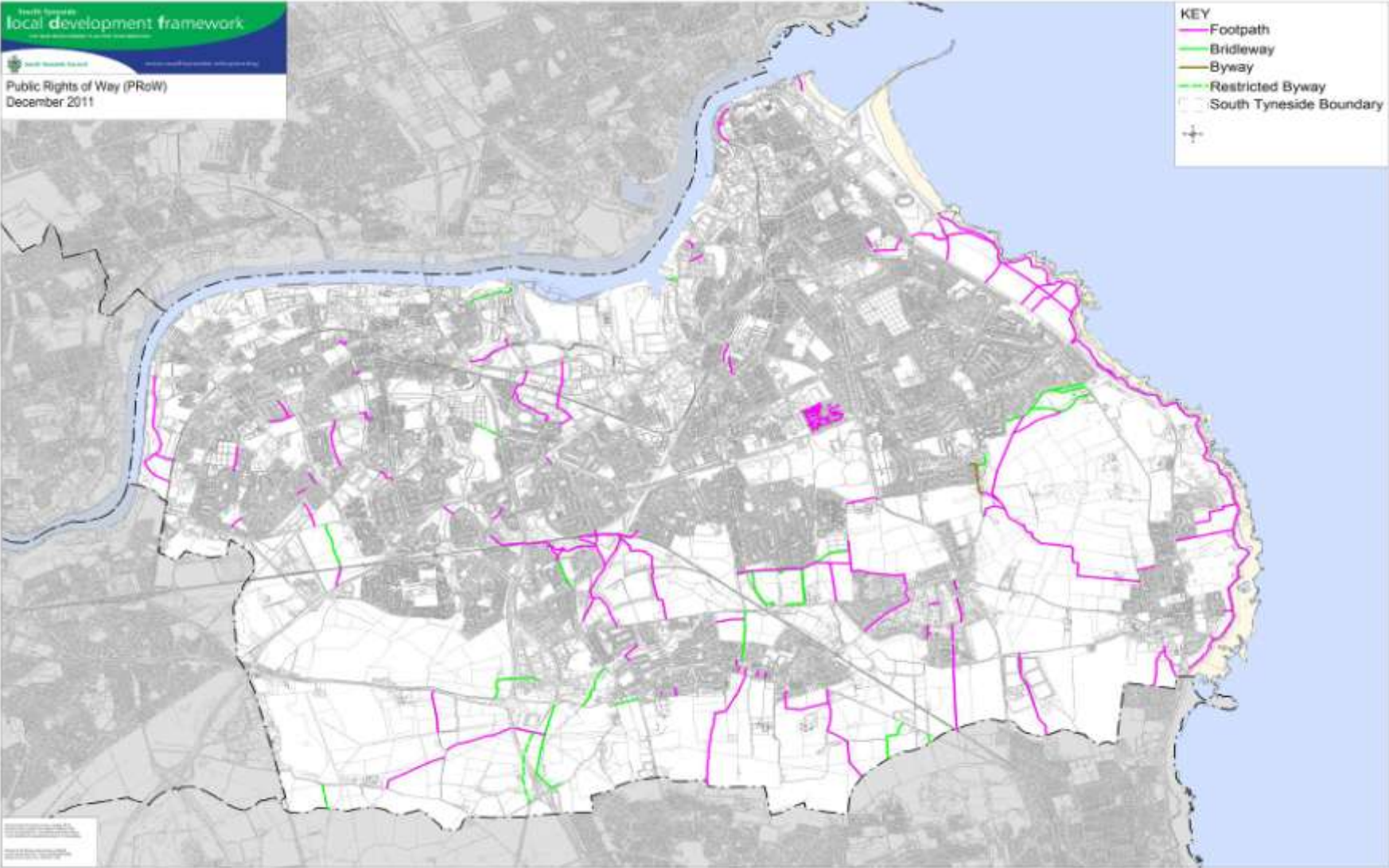
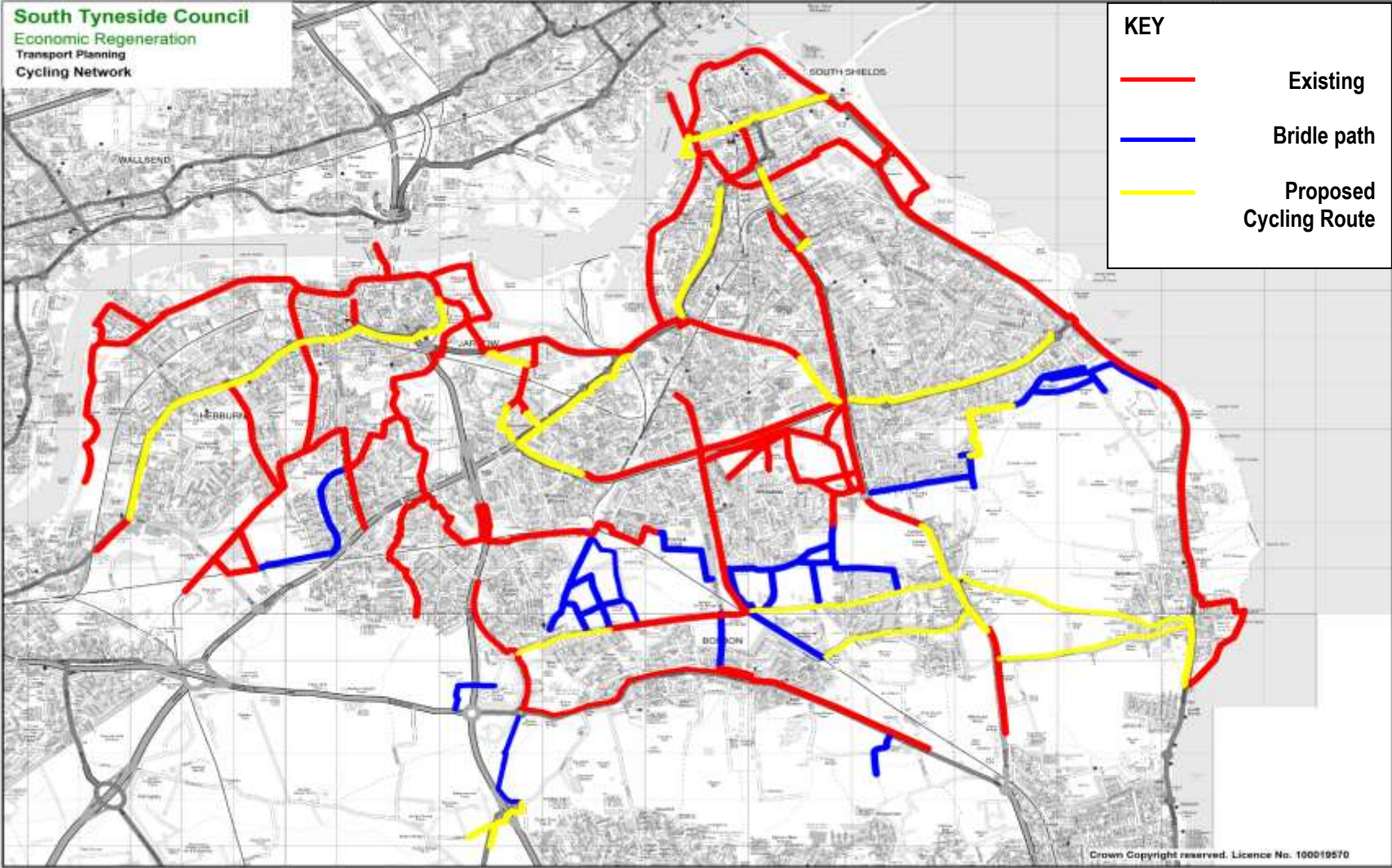


Figure 5.1 Cycling Network in South Tyneside



6. Quality of Place – Regeneration and Tourism

LDF Core Strategy Policies: E1

AAP Policies: SS1, SS2, SS3, SS5, SS8, SS10

Site-Specific Allocations Policies: SA2, SA7

Development Management Policies: DM1

Local Development Documents:

SPD8 South Shields Riverside Regeneration

Designation ... South Tyneside: South Tyneside's Tourism Strategy (2007)

UK National Ecosystem Assessment Synthesis Report (2011)

The Economic Value of Green Infrastructure, North West Development Agency and Natural England



- 6.1 One of South Tyneside's biggest challenges and priorities is to help businesses start up, grow and develop and to attract key employment sectors so we can broaden our economic base, create and retain wealth. Green infrastructure can contribute to achieving this aim through creating attractive environments with a strong sense of place that offer a high quality of life, improving image of place and creating a setting and catalyst for business investment and tourism.

Why is Green Infrastructure Important?

- 6.2 As with roads and utilities, as places grow it is critical that green infrastructure is also planned or improved to support sustainable growth. Well-designed green space can help to:
- increase investor confidence;
 - improve or change negative perceptions of place;
 - increase property and land values;
 - attract population and labour supply;
 - reduce stress and sickness absence; and
 - create employment opportunities.
- 6.3 Regeneration areas provide unique opportunities to deliver and imbed good quality green infrastructure within an area. In South Shields, major regeneration plans aim to improve the public realm of the riverside and accessibility along the Tyne. The South Shields Town Centre & Waterfront AAP and Central Jarrow AAP require riverside developments, where appropriate, to facilitate the integrated creation of public realm spaces along the river frontage as part of a continuous riverfront walkway/cycleway. All three Area Action Plans also aim to improve access between the town centres, surrounding residential areas and the riverside.
- 6.4 Green infrastructure can help create an attractive destination where people choose to visit. South Shields' beaches and coastal parks make a significant contribution to tourism. North Marine Park, South Marine Park and Bents Park, are popular heritage parks for local residents and tourists alike, providing a wide range of sport, recreation, leisure and entertainment attractions.
- 6.5 'Destination... South Tyneside', our Tourism Strategy, aims to maximise the economic benefits of tourism by developing, promoting and managing South Tyneside as a quality, exciting and sustainable visitor destination. The strategy recognises the borough's natural environment and historic sites as principle attractions of the borough, as well as their contribution to wider regeneration. It recognises the importance of the coast and the need for good environmental practices. It also highlights the importance of good connectivity and access

Tourist Attractions on or close to the National Cycle Route:

- Arbeia Roman Fort
- Souter Lighthouse
- Bede's World
- St. Paul's Church and Monastery
- South Shields Foreshore and Marine Park
- South Tyneside beaches and coastline
- South Shields Swimming Pool.

GI Projects – Quality of Place

Harton Quay Park

A prestigious new parkland area along the riverfront from Harton Staithes to Windmill Hill, including:

1. A contemporary urban park at Harton Quay.
2. Small buildings to accommodate creative activities on the triangle of land to the south of the Customs House.
3. The large graving dock as an area for outdoor leisure activities. The three graving docks as an area of wildlife interest.

New Paths

Three enhanced pedestrian and cycle routes:

1. The 'Cliff Walk' path – from Harton Staithes to Windmill Hill along Holborn cliff top.
2. The 'Board Walk' path – along the river edge from Harton Staithes to Windmill Hill.
3. The 'High Line' path – an existing route running through High Shields.

Enhanced Spines

Improved pedestrian and cycle access enhanced public realm and new linear building developments (referred to as 'Groyne') along the alignment of the two Enhanced Spines:

1. Town Centre Spine – King Street and Market Square to the Shields ferry landing.
2. Laygate Spine – Laygate Street to the River Tyne.

between sites, including improvements and connectivity of the public realm and improving links with South Shields town centre.

- 6.6 Cycle tourism is a rapidly growing industry within the UK. With the economic, environmental and health benefits associated with cycle tourism, it is considered to be an area that requires further development within South Tyneside. South Tyneside has a number of tourist attractions either on or close to the National Cycle Route (see margin) and therefore provides an opportunity to offer an interesting and accessible place for cycle tourism.

Green Infrastructure Assets

- Accessible coastal and riverside areas;
- Established range of tourist attractions;
- Cycle ways and walking routes;
- Regeneration areas.

What we need to do:

- **Exploit green infrastructure tourism potential** - In addition to our existing tourism assets, there may be potential to promote tourism at other larger sites within the borough, such as Temple Park, Hebburn Riverside and the proposed Harton Quay Park at South Shields Riverside.
- **Promote cycle tourism** - we will further promote the Foreshore area of South Shields as part of the National Cycle Network, and will also seek to develop and promote a number of circular, recreational cycle routes.
- **Riverside Accessibility** - In regenerating areas along the Tyne there is an important opportunity to improve accessibility to the river, but also importantly to retain river frontages for open space to meet the challenges of increased flood risk as a result of climate change.
- **Improve links to neighbouring authorities** - include routes along the Tyne to Gateshead and beyond. There may be potential to improve connections with other authorities, particularly north-south links with Sunderland.
- **Investment in quality of place** - identify areas within the borough where investment in green infrastructure can help to improve the quality of the environment i.e. the regeneration of Hebburn town centre will provide opportunities to improve the environmental quality of the area including creating high quality and safe, publicly accessible recreational open spaces throughout the town centre and New Town area.

7. Recreation, Open Spaces and Health

LDF Core Strategy Policies: EA1, EA2, EA4

Development Management Policies: DM1

AAP Policies: SS1, SS2, SS10, SS11, SS12, SS13, H2, H7, H8, H9, J2, J8, J9

Site-Specific Allocations Policies: SA6, SA7

Local Development Documents:

SPD5 Planning Obligations and Agreements
SPD8 South Shields Riverside Regeneration

National Guidance:

National Planning Policy Framework

Five key ways exposure to the natural environment is beneficial to human health:

- Enhanced personal and social communication skills.
- Increased physical health.
- Enhanced mental and spiritual health.
- Enhanced spiritual, sensory, and aesthetic awareness.
- Ability to assert personal control and increased sensitivity to one's own wellbeing

South Tyneside Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2009)



- 7.1 We want everyone to enjoy a high quality of life in South Tyneside. We are promoting the regeneration of our borough to create healthy, safe and socially inclusive communities, providing a good choice of accessible and high quality services.

Why is Green Infrastructure Important?

- 7.2 Green infrastructure can help promote healthy lifestyles by providing spaces for formal and informal recreation, while improved connectivity can encourage activities such as walking, cycling and horse riding. Outdoor sport facilities provide important opportunities for formal sports and recreation. South Tyneside currently has a variety of outdoor provision for sports and other recreation within the borough. Section 9 of this document provides more detail of the different types of green spaces and formal sports provision available within the borough.
- 7.3 In addition to physical benefits, studies have also found positive psychological benefits associated with enhanced access to nature and even viewing a natural scene can rapidly lower anxiety and stress. Other health benefits offered by green infrastructure include reduction in noise and air pollution. Well designed greenery is also associated with lower crime rates, helping people to relax, reducing aggression, bringing people together outdoors, increasing surveillance and discouraging criminals.
- 7.4 Green infrastructure can also provide important opportunities for environmental education, interpretation and training by providing 'outdoor classrooms' for formal education, training and life-long learning. There are significant opportunities to use our green spaces for this purpose, with a number of education events already taking place.
- 7.5 Community gardens and allotments provide a number of benefits including physical recreation and promoting healthy eating. They can also contribute to nature conservation by providing habitats for species, reduce food miles and packaging. These types of green spaces can promote community cohesion by bringing people together, providing spaces for events, activities and informal socialising. They are an essential part of urban heritage and the urban fabric that make up an area. Local involvement in green spaces is essential to secure the future success and sustainability of the green infrastructure network.
- 7.6 Community involvement is particularly important when improving and developing new areas as it allows the green infrastructure network to meet the needs of the community and develop ownership of the area which has a positive impact on usage. There are opportunities to further involve local people in the management of green infrastructure, such as through Friends of Groups for local parks. The Localism Act will also provide



opportunities for communities to become more involved in the provision of green spaces in their neighbourhoods and to play a bigger role in planning, designing and managing community green space.

Green Infrastructure Assets

- 24 Council-owned allotment sites
- 790ha parks and open spaces
- Provision of children and young people play provision through the borough
- Coastal areas
- 225ha outdoor sports provision (playable/useable areas)

What we need to do:

- **Improve allotment provision within South Tyneside** – allotment gardens provide an important recreational resource for many people within the borough. We will seek to deliver new allotment sites within the borough to help meet demands for these facilities, and also improve existing facilities for allotment users.
- **Maintain good quality parks and open spaces** – South Tyneside has a range of good quality park provision which provides a range of recreational opportunities. We will seek to provide the recommended standards for parks and open spaces within the borough and also raise the standards of parks and open spaces by improving all sites to at least a good standard.
- **Ensure playing pitch and open space provision meets the needs of the community** - the provision of formal outdoor sports facilities is key to contributing to healthy, sustainable communities. We will continue to provide playing pitches available for community use and seek to improve the quality of playing pitches and associated dedicated facilities for playing pitch users.

8. Biodiversity and Landscape

LDF Core Strategy Policies: EA1, EA2, EA3

AAP Policies: SS13, H7, H9, J8, J11

Site-Specific Allocations Policies: SA1, SA7

Development Management Policies: DM1, DM7

Local Development Documents:

Conservation Area Management Plans

National Guidance:

National Planning Policy Framework

'Trees or Turf', Woodland Trust (2011)

The Natural Environment White Paper, 'The Natural Choice', Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2011)

'Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services', Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2011)

GI Project - Parks to Larks

The 'Parks to Larks' approach is to analyse all grounds maintenance activities and amend them with a view to making them more 'biodiversity friendly'. Examples could include changing grass cutting regimes to convert amenity grassland into wildflower meadow and/or scrub/woodland, only cutting hedges in late winter to maximise the food resource for birds, and switching to the use of peat free only alternatives. These areas can be rich in wildlife, contribute to climate change mitigation, improve attractiveness and interest of areas, and provide potential financial savings. Research carried out by the Woodland Trust estimated that, on average, woodlands and areas of rough and meadow grassland have considerably lower maintenance costs.

- 8.1 The built and natural environment and their natural resources represent our environmental capital. They are important in their own right and for their contribution to regeneration and our quality of life. Well thought out schemes can enrich our environment and demonstrate how to use our natural resources more wisely.

Why is Green Infrastructure Important?

- 8.2 Well-designed green infrastructure can support a wealth of ecological processes and is important for promoting biodiversity. Promoting biodiversity should not be done in isolated spaces but incorporated into all types of green infrastructure. It can help to reduce and address habitat fragmentation by creating a more permeable landscape and providing migration routes that allow species to adapt to changing habitats as a result of climate change. It is therefore important when designing new development to ensure that it does not break up wildlife and green infrastructure corridors. It is important to note that previously developed 'brownfield' sites and incidental areas of open space can be extremely important for biodiversity and supporting species, especially where they have been left with minimal human disturbance for some time.
- 8.3 Biodiversity friendly maintenance can also play an important role in promoting the biodiversity and natural character of areas. Maintenance is an important aspect of the provision of green infrastructure and should be considered in the provision of any scheme. The quality of green infrastructure is vitally important. Green infrastructure should be designed in a way that promotes minimal management.
- 8.4 Green infrastructure provides opportunities to enhance local identity, visual amenity and landscape character, helping to create a positive sense of place and promoting local pride. High quality well-maintained green infrastructure can also improve an area's attractiveness to investment and can provide opportunities for tourism, leisure and cultural activities. The council requires the highest possible standards of public realm and landscape design where a new development affects an existing setting. It is important to ensure that development protects and enhances existing green infrastructure where possible, and that opportunities are sought to use green infrastructure to create an attractive identity for new development.
- 8.5 Trees and hedgerows make an important contribution to the green infrastructure network and can also play an important part in almost all types of open space. They also provide green infrastructure links and support biodiversity in areas otherwise lacking in green space, such as alongside roads and in areas where the provision of other types of green infrastructure is not always possible, such as within areas of hardstanding.

GI Project – Hedgerow Register

Work is currently ongoing to assess the borough's stock of hedgerows through the creation of a hedgerow register. Where hedgerows are council-managed we will aim to improve their biodiversity, and investigate the potential to increase the amount of hedgerows throughout the borough. The non-urban areas are relatively open in character and lacking in woodlands and mature hedgerows. There is limited obvious scope for the creation of new woodlands (without damaging existing valuable habitats), so opportunities will be sought to provide high quality new biodiverse hedgerows wherever possible, especially along existing field boundaries.



- 8.6 It is essential that the location of trees and any new planting is well planned. Species chosen should be sustainable and respect local character. It is particularly important that trees are provided with sufficient space to grow, with pits provided where necessary, and planted to avoid damage to surrounding structures. Factors to consider include:
- the historic and landscape context;
 - climate projections for the area;
 - native trees to promote biodiversity;
 - fruit and nut trees to promote local food;
 - trees that demand less water where shrink-swell soils (such as clay) may be an issue;
 - drought-tolerant species if irrigation cannot be suitably supplied; and
 - shade-casting species.
- 8.7 Further details on requirements as part of landscape schemes and planning applications are detailed in Annex B.

Green Infrastructure Assets:

- Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) & Ramsar Site
- Durham Coast European Special Area for Conservation (SAC)
- 5 nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's)
- Local nature reserves, local wildlife sites and local geodiversity sites
- Durham Magensian Limestone Plateau
- Boldon Downhill and Cleadon Hills Areas of High Landscape Value
- Green Belt

What we need to do:

- **Maintenance of council land to improve biodiversity** - Where possible and appropriate, different management options for council managed land will be explored. This could include converting areas of amenity grassland to woodland, grassland meadows, hay meadows or decreasing cutting regimes. Changes in management should be carried out in consultation with local communities with information provided on the aims of the scheme and benefits of new management, for example including interpretation boards on site to keep the public informed on the progress of projects.
- **Street Trees and Hedgerows**- it is important to recognise the value of street trees and hedgerows with regard to green infrastructure. Where possible street trees should be retained and replaced where they have been removed. Schemes should be put in place to improve the quantity and quality of street trees and hedgerows.

- **Protect and enhance Local Wildlife Sites and Wildlife Corridors-** these sites provide an important resource in maintaining and improving biodiversity within South Tyneside. We should seek to protect these areas and corridors from development and aim to improve the biodiversity value of these sites.
- **Increase provision of Local Nature Reserves (LNR's)-** to help meet the recommended ANGSt standard for LNR's (see p.53).

9. Green Infrastructure – Typologies and Local Standards

- 9.1 This section of the document identifies the different land use typologies which contribute to making up the green infrastructure in South Tyneside. Local greenspace standards have been produced which identify how much of different land use types are required within the borough. Annex A summarises the amount of different land use typologies we currently have within South Tyneside – further details are set out in the Technical Appendices document to the SPD.
- 9.2 The accessibility of different forms of open space typology is also highlighted in this section and is illustrated on maps. Accessibility standards are set out in the standards box for each type of green infrastructure. Ideally the majority of people should be within the catchment for each type of green infrastructure and any tier within the hierarchy, although it is acknowledged that this is not always possible in practice.

Amenity Open Spaces

- 9.3 Amenity open spaces are areas of informal land that make an important contribution to the public realm and amenity of places and are often used for landscaping purposes. These type of spaces can include the incidental green space commonly found in housing areas, and can be used for a variety of different purposes including recreation, enhancing character, screening, water management and promoting biodiversity. These spaces can have high value, particularly in dense urban areas. The Open Space Strategy study (2009) found that amenity spaces were the third most used type of open space. The LDF seeks to maintain and enhance the quality of the public realm and requires new development to provide well-designed external spaces and developments to include high quality landscaping with a variety of public open spaces.
- 9.4 When planning and designing amenity space it is important that it is designed in from the onset and not just thought of as 'spaces left over after planning'. For example, integrating small incidental spaces into more usable spaces that can support a range of functions.
- 9.5 Larger areas of amenity open space (over 0.2ha) are covered within the Parks and Open Spaces section below. Smaller spaces can nevertheless have important amenity value and can offer important connective links for biodiversity. However, the cost of maintaining smaller open spaces across the borough is high and increasingly unsustainable, therefore the councils aim is to focus provision on fewer but larger sites and to review the continued provision of existing sites that are below 0.1-0.2ha in size.
- 9.6 Where pockets of amenity open space maintain good quality urban spaces and contribute to the character and visual amenity of an area, we will discourage the conveyance, sale, disposal or enclosure of small landscaped



areas to individual residents, particularly as providing additional boundary treatments can be detrimental to the public realm and generate highway safety concerns.

Village Greens

9.7 Village greens are usually historically important green spaces and commons within defined settlements where locals can go onto for the exercise of lawful sports and pastimes. South Tyneside has two statutorily registered village greens, Cleadon Village Green, situated within Cleadon Village Conservation Area and Whitburn Village Green, which is in Whitburn Conservation Area (see Figure 9.1 below).

9.8 The Natural Environment White Paper (2011) outlines a new Green Areas Designation which would allow local communities to give protection to areas that are important to them for recreation, the view or their importance for wildlife. Government are also proposing changes to the registration process for new town and village greens, although this will not prevent the continued protection of existing greens.



Figure 9.1 Village Greens in South Tyneside – Cleadon and Whitburn



Hierarchy of Parks and other Open Space

District	Parks and formal open space of at least 30ha which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting.
Neighbourhood	Parks or formal open space between 10-30ha which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a landscaped setting.
Local	Parks or formal open space between 0.2-10ha which provides general facilities for recreational activity within a localised area catering for specific informal needs and has high amenity value.

District Parks and Open Spaces (>30ha):

- Hebburn Riverside Park and Playing Fields, Hebburn (39.8ha)
- King George V Playing Fields, Lindisfarne, Jarrow (47.5ha)
- Temple Park Memorial Park and playing fields, South Shields (76.4ha)
- The Leas (169.95ha)
- Station Burn LNR/Colliery Wood, Boldon Colliery (44.58ha)

Neighbourhood Parks and Open Spaces (10 – 30ha):

- Campbell Park, Jarrow (20.2ha)
- Cleadon Park Recreational Ground, South Shields (15.1ha)
- Lukes Lane, (King George V) Playing Fields (12.5ha)
- North Marine Park, South Shields (11.4ha)
- Watson Terrace, Boldon (11.9ha)
- West Park, South Shields (11.3ha)

Parks and Open Spaces Summary:

- Hebburn/Jarrow - 4.83ha per 1,000 population
- South Shields – 4.70 ha per 1,000 population
- Urban Fringe – 5.35 ha per 1,000 population
- Borough wide – 5.23ha per 1,000 population

Quality score of sites - 'average' (46%)

Parks and Open Space

- 9.9 Parks and open space provide a sense of place for the local community and improve landscape quality, particularly in dense urban spaces in the borough. They provide important spaces for:
- recreation
 - play
 - relaxation
 - stress alleviation
 - socialising
 - environmental education
 - encourage healthy lifestyles
- 9.10 These spaces should be designed to be attractive and safe, and contribute to meeting green infrastructure aims.
- 9.11 South Tyneside’s Parks Strategy sets out that all parks should be popular and enjoyable places where all people feel included and safe. The council has developed eight core aims, using the same criteria as used to award Green Flag standard for parks and green spaces (national standards of excellence, see margin).
- 9.12 We have an established hierarchy of provision for our parks and open spaces (district, neighbourhood and local) based on size thresholds (see margin) and which is recognised nationally as an example of best practice (PPG17 companion guide). Our approach has been to link sites, wherever possible, to create larger more valuable spaces as part of the green infrastructure network.
- 9.13 ‘District’ sites are large sites with the potential to attract visitors from outside the borough and as such they have potential to be developed into flagship destination sites that contribute to wider tourism within the borough. Alongside our popular coastal parks there may be potential to further promote Temple Memorial Park and Hebburn Riverside Park. Ideally the quality of these parks should be delivered to an ‘excellent’ standard.
- 9.14 Our ‘neighbourhood’ scale sites serve a local neighbourhood and are well-located and capable of providing a broad variety of opportunities. The emphasis of these parks should be the neighbourhood and encouraging involvement to help shape the future of the sites.
- 9.15 ‘Local’ sites are important assets, providing the opportunity for people to participate in their local area. As such, it is important that they offer a range of activities and are of good quality.

South Tyneside Parks Strategy - 8 Themes:

- Creating a welcoming place in our parks;
- Ensuring our parks are healthy, safe and secure;
- Making sure our parks are clean and well maintained;
- Delivering sustainability in our parks;
- Managing conservation and heritage;
- Promoting community involvement in our parks;
- Marketing our parks;
- Ensuring effective management of our parks.



- 9.16 Larger sites would benefit from organised community Friends of Parks groups, where they do not already exist. It is important when establishing Friends of Groups that they are supported and recognised for the important role they will play in engaging and involving the community. There are also opportunities for increased community involvement in parks and open spaces at the lower tiers, which could increase community ownership, usage and value of these spaces.
- 9.17 The beaches, coastal parks and open spaces along South Shields foreshore, including the Grade II registered Historic Parks and Gardens at North Marine Park, South Marine Park and Bents Park, are popular for local residents and tourists alike, providing a wide range of sport, recreation, leisure and entertainment attractions. However, there is currently a relative shortage of larger parks and open spaces in the riverside area of South Shields. This will be addressed by the creation of a prestigious urban park as a key part of the regeneration of South Shields riverside and new open space provision in the wider area including at Trinity South.
- 9.18 The Urban Fringe area has the least provision for parks and open space of the borough’s three sub-areas, although proximity to the open Green Belt and larger gardens in a number of areas contribute to the greening of this area, albeit they are generally not publicly accessible (other than via formal public rights of way) and may be screened by high walls. These areas have therefore not been included within our open space calculations. However, amenity and civic spaces (>0.2ha), publicly accessible natural and semi-natural space and playing fields have been considered in calculations and mapping within this section as they provide similar opportunities as other parks and open spaces. The quality audit as part of the Open Space Strategy study revealed a significant variance within the quality of sites.
- 9.19 Despite the differences in levels of provision across the borough, the public identified through their consultation responses to the Open Space Strategy study that they generally think there are sufficient parks and open spaces in their local area. Furthermore, analysis of access to parks and open spaces shows that most residents within the borough live within 400m of a local site, many within 800m of a neighbourhood site, and almost all within 3,000m of a district site.
- 9.20 Nevertheless, maintaining the current provision of formal parks and open spaces is considered to be increasingly unsustainable. There may be potential to convert areas of current formal parks to other uses, such as allotments, or woodland and wildlife areas, while still maintaining a good level of access to parks and open spaces. The table below sets out recommended standards for open space provision.

How often people use Parks and Open Spaces:

- 15% daily
- 30% weekly
- 10% monthly
- 29% occasionally
- 16% never

Most common method of transport used to visit Parks and Open Spaces:

- 63% walking
- 26% driving
- 6% public transport
- 5% cycling

Time taken to access Parks and Open Spaces:

- 39% less than 5minutes
- 32% reported 6-10 minutes
- 17% reported 11-20 minutes
- 12% over 20minutes.

Average time 9.56 minutes which equates to 0.48miles or 772metres when based on an average 3mph walking speed.

Standard for provision of Parks and Open Space

Quantity:

- **2.92ha per 1,000 population**
 District – 1.08ha per 1,000 population
 Neighbourhood – 0.46ha per 1,000 population
 Local – 1.44ha per 1,000 population

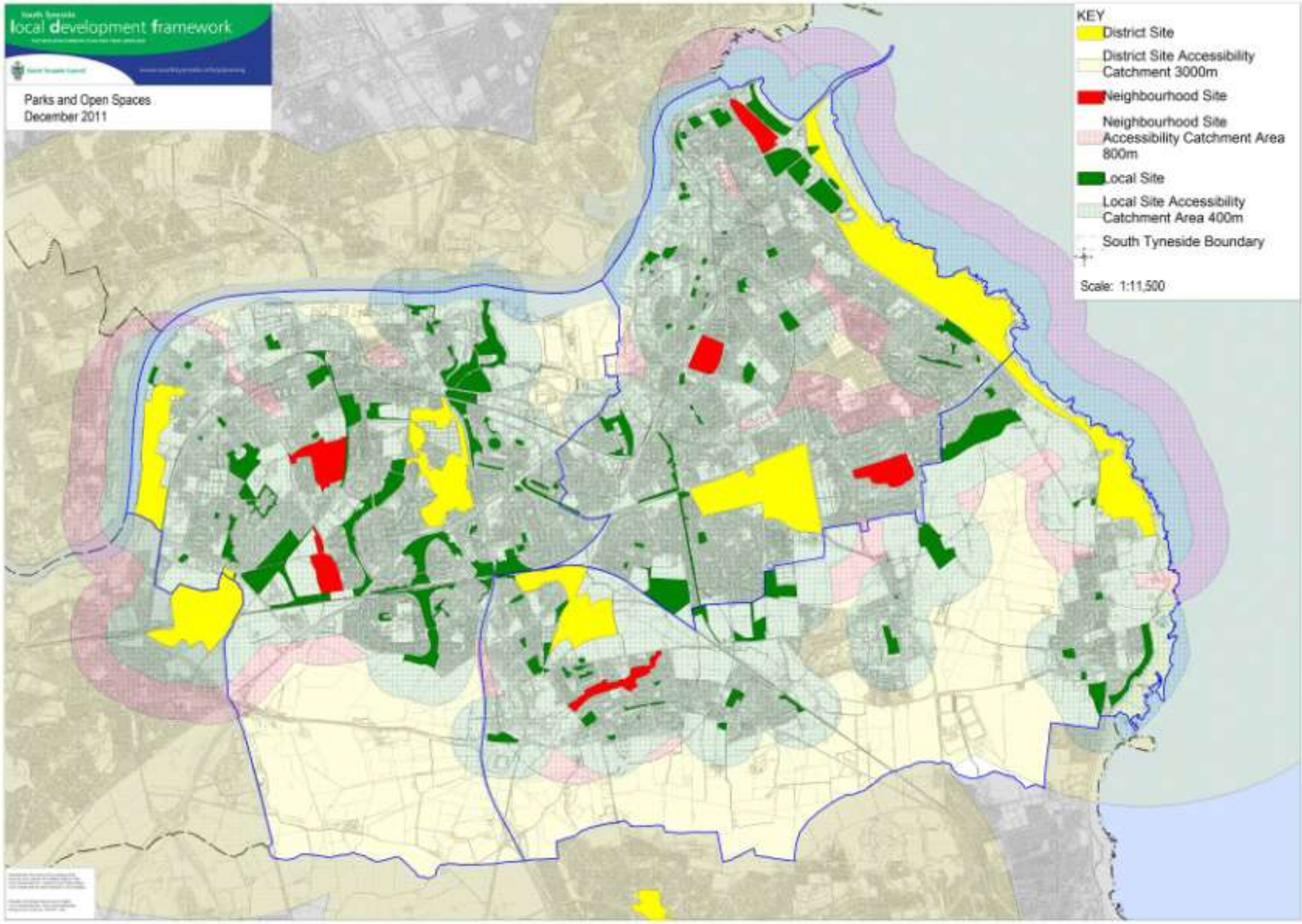
Quality:

- **Minimum ‘good’ (district sites and historic parks and gardens minimum ‘excellent’) standard**

Accessibility:

- **District – at least a 30ha space within 3,000m / 3km**
- **Neighbourhood – between 10-30ha within space 800m**
- **Local – 0.2-10ha space within 400m**

Figure 9.2 Parks and Open Spaces in South Tyneside





Allotment sites in South Tyneside:

- 24 council-owned sites.
- 4 private sites.
- 47.3% located in South Shields.
- 31.6% located in Urban Fringe.
- 21.1% located in Hebburn/Jarrow.



Allotments

9.21 Public consultation to inform our Open Space Strategy study highlighted the significant value of allotments and their popularity within the borough. In 2011, just under 700 people were on the waiting list for allotment gardens, with the average waiting time at 3.3 years. The unmet demand is evenly distributed across the borough. To accommodate this demand by providing allotments gardens of an average 226-250m² size, the following additional areas of land would be required:

- Hebburn/Jarrow - 3.8-4.2ha.
- South Shields - 9.0-9.9ha.
- Urban Fringe - 2.8-3.1ha.

9.22 In terms of access to allotment sites there are a number of areas outside the 800m accessibility zone (see figure 9.3), including the area around South Shields town centre, the Horsley Hill and Marsden area and, parts of Cleadon, East Boldon, Fellgate, Lukes Lane and Monkton.

9.23 The Site-Specific Allocations DPD allocates sites for new allotments at Green Lane Allotments in South Shields (0.6ha) and at School Street in Hebburn (0.1ha) by 2013. Reserve sites are also allocated on land at the former Temple Park Junior School (2.3ha) and the south of Chuter Ede playing fields (6.1ha) in South Shields by 2016. Although allocated primarily for playing fields, should they not be required for playing pitches in the future then some or all of the reserve land could be used for new allotments. This will continue to address the identified needs for more allotment gardens and increase the provision of allotments per 1,000 population. However, even if all sites were developed there would still be a shortage of plots to meet the identified need of 0.4ha per 1,000 population. This will therefore be addressed through the forthcoming review of our development plan.

Standards for provision of Allotments

Quantity:

- 0.4ha per 1,000 population

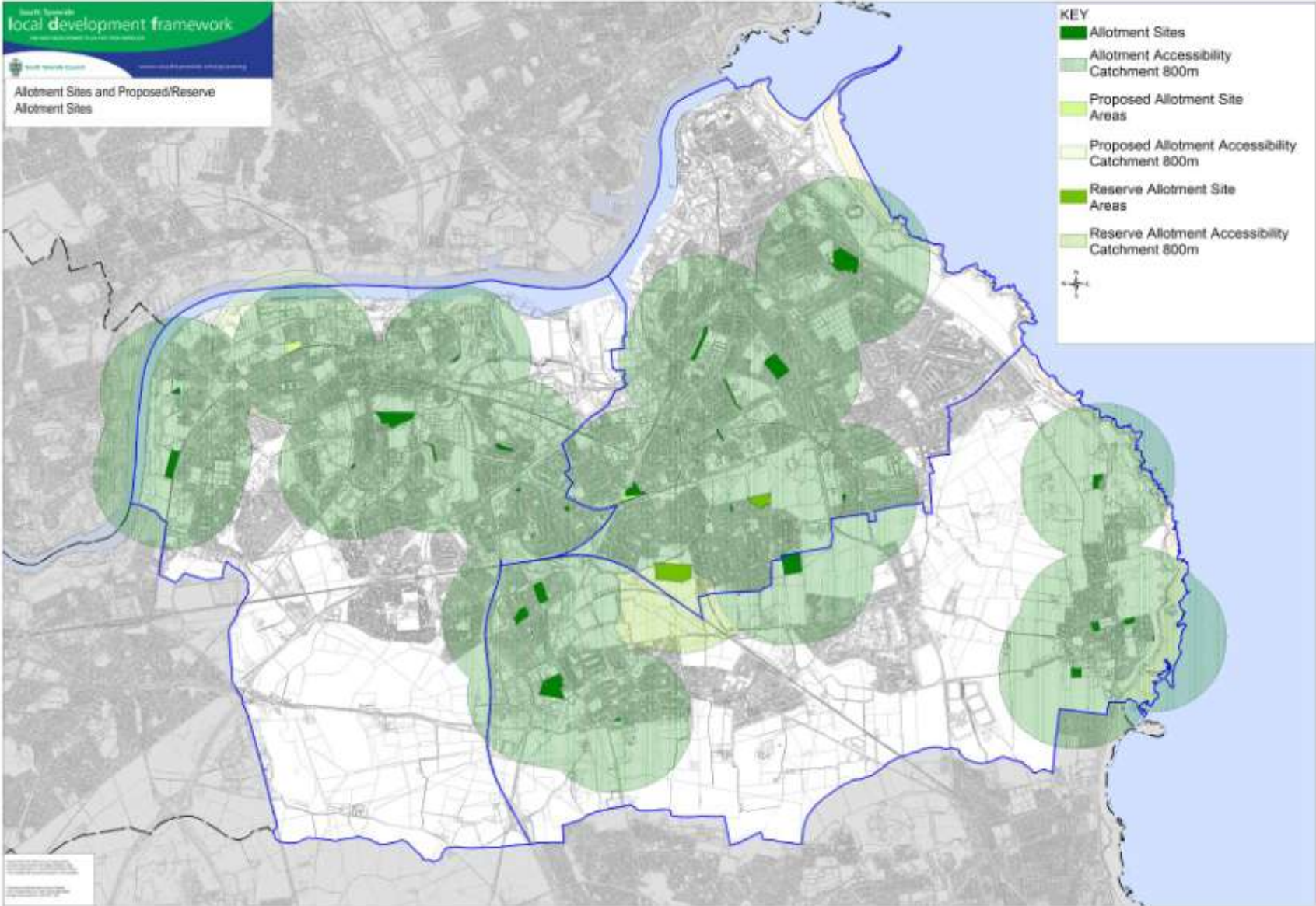
Quality:

- Minimum 'good' standard

Accessibility:

- within 800m

Figure 9.3 Allotment Sites and Proposed Reserve Allotment Sites





Provision for Children and Young People

- 9.24 Play is important for the physical, social and cognitive development of children and young people and can provide spaces for community interaction. Provision for children and young people consists of equipped play areas and specialist provision for young people, including skate parks and multi-use games areas (MUGAs), either as stand-alone facilities or within other open space typologies (e.g. in park and playing field sites). While this section focuses on dedicated play provision, many types of open space can, and where possible should, be designed to provide informal opportunities for children and young people to play.
- 9.25 A number of children's play areas across the borough were recently upgraded under the PlayBuilder programme and using National Lottery funding, however these funding streams have now ended. A number of new MUGAs and tennis/ballgames courts have also been built as part of the schools redevelopment programmes. New play areas have recently been built at All Saints/Stanley Street, Temple Park Centre, West Holborn, Jarrow Gateway, Cleadon Park (The Dell), Readhead Park and Lukes Lane. A MUGA has also been built at Perth Green and a wheeled sports area at Jarrow Riverside.
- 9.26 Our Play Strategy 'Making Play Work in South Tyneside' (2007) adopts the following standards for future play area provision:
- Borough-wide play facilities (approx. 0.7ha) – we plan to provide three or four of this type of facility within the borough. They could include a range of play equipment including skateboard facilities and multi-use ballgames courts (MUGAs), plus picnicking open space areas and landscaping, lighting and artwork, and with some form of on-site management. Provision of these facilities will be subject to availability of funding.
 - Community/neighbourhood play facilities (approx. 0.2ha) – these facilities will be our main priority for play provision. All children should have unrestricted access to a community play area within 400m of their home. These facilities would include a range of equipment for younger and older children, kick-about areas, safety surfacing, lighting and fencing to meet the needs of the local community.
 - Informal play spaces - small incidental public play spaces usually within 100m of children and young people's homes. This local access could also be provided by parks and open spaces such as the Leas, which offer important opportunities for children's play despite being unequipped.
- 9.27 The overall play policy is to provide a range of suitable and accessible play spaces for children of all ages, but with the emphasis being upon fewer and larger equipped play sites. Borough-wide play facilities include those at Boldon, Temple Park in South Shields and Clegwell in Hebburn. The priority will be for new facilities to be provided in those areas with the highest levels of deprivation, and a rolling programme to improve fixed-equipment play areas will be put in place as and when funding becomes available. Consultation will be

Criteria for an enriched play environment, included in the council's Play Strategy (2007):

- a varied and interesting play environment
- challenge in relation to the physical environment;
- playing with the natural elements - earth, water, fire and air;
- movement for e.g. running, jumping, rolling, climbing, balancing;
- manipulating natural and fabricated materials;
- stimulation of the five senses;
- experiencing change in the natural and built environment;
- social interactions;
- playing with identity;
- experiencing a range of emotions.

Provision for Children and Young People

Summary:

- Hebburn/Jarrow – 0.2 ha per 1,000 population
- South Shields – 0.2 ha per 1,000 population
- Urban Fringe – 0.2 ha per 1,000 population
- Borough- wide – 0.2 ha per 1,000 population

undertaken with children and young people and local residents on the development of improved facilities. Our aim is to bring all provision up to at least good standard in the next 10 years.

9.28 Where possible, spaces for children and young people should contribute positively to sense of place and be designed to reflect the local landscape and townscape. Sites should be well-located, have good accessibility and appropriate signage, be of high quality, well-maintained and provide a range of experiences. Spaces should also include seating and shading and spaces for social interaction. Good use of natural elements, for example trees, shrubs and long grass can give character and help integrate sites into local areas and provide spaces for biodiversity. Surveys in 2011 found the average quality of sites to be 66% (a good quality score).

Standard for play provision for Children and Young People

Quantity:

- **0.23ha per 1,000 population**

Quality:

- **minimum 'good' standard**

Accessibility:

- **community/neighbourhood play area within 400m**
- **local play area within 100m**

Community-use Playing Pitch Facilities**Hebburn/Jarrow:**

Bedewell Primary School
 Carr Ellison Park
 Epinay Business and Enterprise Centre
 Fellgate Primary School
 Filtrona Park
 Hebburn Riverside Park
 Hebburn Comprehensive School / Clegwell CA
 Hebburn Sports and Social Club
 Hedworthfield Community Association
 Hedworth Lane Primary School
 Jarrow School
 King George V/ Lindisfarne Playing Fields
 Lukes Lane (King George V Playing Fields)
 Monkton Stadium
 The Clock Playing Field
 Perth Green Community Centre
 Simonside Primary school
 St Mary's RC VA Primary School
 St Oswald's CoE VA Primary School

Urban Fringe:

Boldon Comprehensive School
 Boldon Shack Field
 Boldon Welfare Ground
 Cleadon Lane Sports Ground
 East Boldon Cricket Club
 Oakleigh Gardens
 Whitburn Cricket Club
 Whitburn CoE VA Academy

Formal Outdoor Sports Facilities and Playing Fields

- 9.29 Our Playing Pitch Strategy and Open Space Strategy studies (2009) provide the basis for the playing pitch data in this SPD, although we have also undertaken additional work (including an 'Addendum to the Final Playing Pitch Strategy and Open Space Strategy Consultancy Studies'), to provide up-to-date playing pitch data and needs for South Tyneside.
- 9.30 Playing pitch provision in South Tyneside is currently undergoing a transitional phase due to the ongoing Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and Transforming Our Primary Schools (TOPS) redevelopment programmes. The process of closing, refurbishing and building new schools has meant a reduced number of playing pitches available for use during this time although many sites are now coming back into use as redevelopment projects are completed.
- 9.31 Recent analysis of current playing pitch provision available for use by members of the public, shows a slight shortage of cricket pitches available to meet the (current and) predicted needs for South Tyneside (table 9.1). However, when the unavailable and future playing pitches to be provided by the BSF/TOPS schools are completed and included in the playing pitch provision, the number of playing pitches required for all sports available within the borough meets or exceeds the need requirements up to 2026. This analysis is detailed in table 9.2. The challenge is to ensure the wider availability of these Education Authority pitches to members of the public by formalising Community Use Agreements.

Community-use Playing Pitch Facilities

South Shields:

- Albert Elliot Primary School
- Bents Park (The Dragon)
- Brinkburn Recreation Ground
- Chuter Ede Education Centre
- Cleadon Park Dell
- Cleadon Park Recreation Ground
- Gypsies Green Sports Ground
- Hadrian Primary School
- Harton Technology College
- Harton & Westoe Miners Welfare Sports Ground
- Holy Trinity CoE VA Primary School
- Jack Clark Park
- Laygate Community Primary School
- Lord Blyton Primary School
- Mortimer Community College
- Ridgeway Primary School
- South Shields & Westoe Sports Club
- South Shields Community School (Brinkburn)
- South Shields Community School (King George V)
- South Tyneside College (Westoe)
- Stanhope Primary School
- St Gregory's RC VA Primary
- St Wilfred's RC College
- Temple Memorial Park
- Temple Park Junior School
- West Park

Table 9.1 Community Use Playing Pitch Provision in South Tyneside (October 2011)

Community Use Playing Pitch Availability		Mini Soccer	Junior Soccer	Senior Soccer	Rugby	Cricket	Synthetic Turf Pitch	MUGA
Hebburn & Jarrow		12	11	22	2	1	2	3.5
South Shields		5	16	34	5	5	3	18.3
Urban Fringe		0	4	12	3	5	1	2
Total 2011		17	31	68	10	11	6	23.8
		99						
Need	2009	10	80		4	10	1	
	2016	10	84		4	11	2	
	2021	11	91		5	12	2	
	2026	12	98		5	13	2	

Table 9.2 Borough Community Use Totals and Need 2009 – 2026

Playing Pitch Potential		Mini Soccer	Junior Soccer	Senior Soccer	Rugby	Cricket	Synthetic Turf Pitch	MUGA
	Educational Sites	11	23	27	9	8	5	21
Non-Educational Sites	13	11	48	3	7	1	3.8	
Total Playing Pitch Availability in South Tyneside - Community Use Potential	24	34	75	12	15	6	24.8	
		109						
Need	2009	10	80		4	10	1	
	2016	10	84		4	11	2	
	2021	11	91		5	12	2	
	2026	12	98		5	13	2	



Playing Pitch Provision- Community Use (October 2011)

Total No. Playing Pitches – 143

Total Area of Playing Pitches - 100.41 ha

Total Playing Pitch Provision – 0.73 ha per 1,000 population

Playing Pitch Potential Provision - Community Use

Total No. Playing Fields – 167

Total No of Playing Pitches – 117. 47 ha

Total Playing Pitch Provision – 0.84 ha per 1,000 population

Playing Pitch Provision – 2026 Needs

Total No. Playing Pitches – 134

Total Area of Playing Pitches – 77.33 ha

Total Playing Pitch Provision – 0.53 ha per 1,000 population

Formal Outdoor Sports Facilities Quality Score

– 51% - Average

South Tyneside Average Open Space Quality Score–

47% - Average

- 9.32 The Site-Specific Allocations DPD allocates additional land for the potential creation of new and extended playing fields as part of strategic sporting hubs to the south of the Chuter Ede Education Centre playing fields (6.9 ha) and through the extension of the Monkton Stadium site, following the closure of the neighbouring Lukes Lane Primary and Infants schools (3.7ha). Publicly accessible playing pitches are also proposed on disused land at Perth Green Community Centre in Jarrow.
- 9.33 The quality of playing pitch provision in South Tyneside varies from good to below average, but overall is assessed to be average. Almost half of playing pitches do not currently meet the recommended good quality standard. Cricket and rugby pitches were generally considered to be of a good standard, while senior/junior football pitches were assessed to be good to average on the whole with mini-soccer pitches being of average quality.
- 9.34 The majority of schools/colleges considered their pitches to be of a good or average quality, whilst consultation with private sports clubs revealed that most regarded their pitches to be of a poor or average standard. The quality of pitches affects the number of games they can reasonably accommodate. Overuse through both matches and training is a major factor in the poor quality of some pitches, with several clubs specifically highlighting a shortage of training facilities. We aim to increase the quality standard of playing pitches in the borough to a minimum ‘good’ standard. It is also recognised that our good provision of synthetic/artificial turf pitches and MUGAs have additional benefits in providing for training use and thus reducing the wear and tear on grassed pitches. Other qualitative priorities include improving the drainage of playing fields and providing accessible changing accommodation.
- 9.35 Based on current provision (October 2011), community use playing pitch provision equates to 0.73 ha per 1,000 population, but rising to 0.84 ha per 1,000 population following the completion of ongoing BSF/TOPS projects.
- 9.36 To ensure our needs over the next 10-15 years are met, quantity per 1,000 population standards for outdoor sports provision are derived from the area of pitches required to accommodate each individual sport, based on Sport England’s average pitch dimensions. The recommended local standard (0.53ha per 1,000 population) is therefore lower than both the existing provision and South Tyneside’s potential playing pitch availability. This is primarily due to an over provision of senior football pitches, which currently provide for both junior and senior matches. Any reduction in the total area of playing pitches would have to ensure that the number of pitches still meets current and future needs.



Table 9.3 Local Playing Pitch Provision and Needs (ha per 1,000 population)

Year / Figures	Population	Hectares	Total
Community Use - 2011	152,500	100.41	0.73 ha per 1000
Potential Community Use	155,200	117.47	0.84 ha per 1000
Need 2009	152,500	61.22	0.44 ha per 1000
Need 2016	155,200	65.29	0.46 ha per 1000
Need 2021	158,300	71.58	0.49 ha per 1000
Need 2026	161,200	76.63	0.53 ha per 1000

9.37 Current provision for athletics, golf, bowls and tennis facilities in South Tyneside is summarised in Table 9.4. The golf courses in the Urban Fringe Area (South Shields, Whitburn and Boldon) occupy 115.99 ha, 56% of the open space provision in the area.

Table 9.4 Other Outdoor Sports Provision

Area	Athletics (Synthetic) Tracks	Bowls Greens	Tennis Courts	Golf Courses
Hebburn/Jarrow	1 (8 lanes)	7	8	0
South Shields	0 (+2 non-synthetic tracks) (+1 cycle velodrome)	13	25	0
Urban Fringe	0	4	10	3
South Tyneside Total	1	24	43	3
Provision per 1,000 population	(Sport England standard = 1 x 6-lane track per 250,000)	0.025ha (average size 0.16ha)	0.017ha (average size 0.06ha)	N/A

- 9.38 Access to outdoor sports provision is an important factor in encouraging outdoor sports and supporting local teams. Although access to outdoor facilities can be influenced by a variety of factors, our aim is to ensure the residents of the borough have good access to outdoor sporting provision within 1,000m from where they live.

Standard for provision for Formal Outdoor Sports Facilities

Quantity:

- 0.53ha per 1,000 population - playing pitches
- 0.78ha per 1,000 population - outdoor sport provision (excluding golf courses)
- 1.61ha per 1,000 population - outdoor sport provision (including golf courses)
- 0.03ha per 1,000 population - bowls
- 0.02ha per 1,000 population - tennis

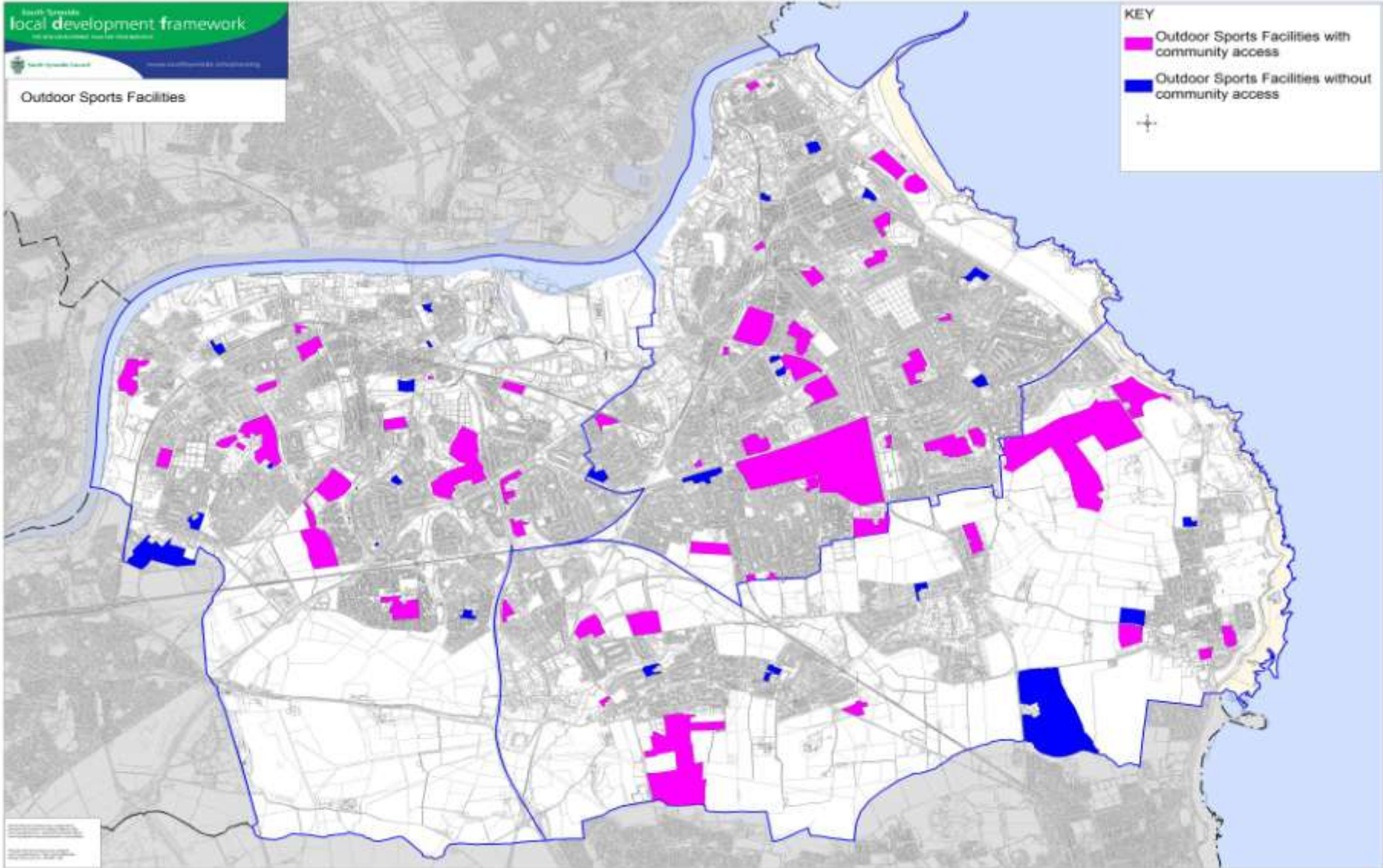
Quality:

- minimum 'good' standard.

Accessibility:

- within 1,000 metres.

Figure 9.5 Outdoor Sports Facilities and Playing Fields





Cemeteries and Crematoria

- 9.39 Cemeteries and closed churchyards can provide a valuable contribution to the borough’s green infrastructure provision. For many, they provide a place for quiet contemplation in addition to their primary purpose as a final resting place. They often also have wildlife conservation and biodiversity value which may be promoted.
- 9.40 While no specific quantitative standards are set for future provision, it is important to consider the quality of provision. The quality of cemeteries is of paramount importance as they are where people come to grieve and remember lost ones, and therefore should be maintained to the highest standards.
- 9.41 When planning any new sites it is important to consider access to public transport and ensuring that sites are accessible to all within society. The Site-Specific Allocations DPD provides for the extension of Jarrow Cemetery (approx 0.8ha) by 2026.

Standard for Cemeteries & Crematoria

Quality:

- **minimum rating ‘excellent’**



Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

- 9.41 Natural and semi-natural areas provide access to wildlife, environmental education and awareness, biodiversity and nature conservation. They include woodlands, scrubland, wetland and nature conservation areas and sites that promote respect and understanding of natural areas through programmes of interpretation, conservation and management.
- 9.42 South Tyneside has a wide variety of wildlife habitats and is home to sites of international, national and local importance. The Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar Site is designated for its internationally important coastal bird populations, while the European designated Durham Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC) by the European Union for the biodiversity value of the vegetated sea cliffs. The borough is also home to five nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), as well as a number of more locally important Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geodiversity Sites and wildlife corridors.
- 9.43 Access to natural and semi-natural greenspace has been analysed according to Natural England’s ANGSt (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard) guidelines. For sites to qualify, the following must apply:
- a feeling of naturalness is allowed to predominate;
 - the site must have an area of 2 hectares or more;
 - the site must be available for the general public to use free of charge and without restriction.
- 9.44 In addition to designated sites, there are also discrete natural and semi-natural areas within the majority of other types of green infrastructure. Analysis of access to natural and semi-natural greenspace shows a lack of provision in the north-west part of the borough in Jarrow and Hebburn. There is also poor local access to natural sites in the wider South Shields town centre, riverside, Tyne Dock and Rekendyke areas.
- 9.45 Comparing the biodiversity value of sites to areas lacking access to natural open spaces, opportunities have been identified to improve the biodiversity value of sites so that they meet the ANGSt criteria. Carr-Ellison Park, Campbell Park and Hebburn Riverside Park have been identified in Hebburn and West Park in South Shields, whilst Harton, Westoe and Hebburn cemeteries have also been recognised as areas where the naturalness of sites could be increased, although it is unlikely that these sites would meet the ANGSt definition. Our standard for all natural and semi-natural greenspace has therefore been calculated by combining current areas of accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace with the amount required for additional sites to be improved to provide better access to this type of green infrastructure.
- 9.46 Accessible natural and semi-natural greenspace will also be created through the future planned restoration of our two currently active quarries at Marsden and Red Barnes.

Access to Natural Greenspace in South Tyneside:

- 68% of residents live within 5km of 100ha site
- 90% of residents live within 2km of 20ha site
- 19.7% of residents live within 300m of 2ha site

387.41ha of Accessible Natural Greenspace

2.57ha per 1,000 population

Average condition score of 'average' (47%)

Natural England ANGSt recommendations:

Everyone, wherever they live, should have an accessible natural greenspace:

- of at least 2ha in size, no more than 300m (5mins walk) from home;
- at least one accessible 20ha site within 2km of home;
- one accessible 100ha site within 5km of home; and
- one accessible 500 hectare site within 10km of home; plus
- a minimum of 1ha of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.

'Nature Nearby, Accessible Greenspace Guidance', Natural England (2010)

- 9.47 There are also opportunities, particularly in areas of shortfall, to ensure that new developments incorporate elements of this form of green infrastructure. The Argyle Street/Caledonian Street site in Hebburn was a former housing site which has naturally colonised with vegetation and is home to a number of habitats and species. It is proposed in the Site-Specific Allocations DPD for mixed-use development including housing and/or economic development integrated with landscaping and retention of important habitat areas. Any development proposal here should seek to avoid any net loss of the site's biodiversity and amenity value, and where possible be laid out so as to incorporate and enhance the site's most valuable wildlife habitats. A development brief should ensure that biodiversity is integrated into the redevelopment of the site.
- 9.48 Natural England also recommends an ANGSt of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserve (LNR) per 1,000 population. South Tyneside currently has seven LNRs totalling 55ha. For the borough to meet the recommended standard for LNRs there would need to be 151ha of designated LNRs. While not meeting the ANGSt, it is recognised that the borough does have many other important accessible local wildlife sites, including international and European designations along the coast. This wider access to natural and semi-natural spaces means that there is a lesser immediate need for additional LNRs.
- 9.49 Nevertheless, subject to necessary funding becoming available, there is a medium to long-term aspiration to increase our provision of LNRs to meet the ANGSt standard. Sites which have been identified as having potential to become LNRs include:
- Tiledsheds Piggery (11.97ha)
 - Colliery Wood (44.58ha)
 - Monkton Wood (13.64ha)
 - Temple Park West (34.8ha)
 - St. Paul's Riverside (19.14ha)
- 9.50 Hebburn Riverside (39.83ha) has also been identified as an area where biodiversity could be improved and a possible area for a new LNR. This would also help to address the lack of access to natural and semi-natural greenspace within this area.

Standard for Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

Quantity:

- 2.89ha per 1,000 population
- 1.00ha of designated Local Nature Reserve per 1,000 population

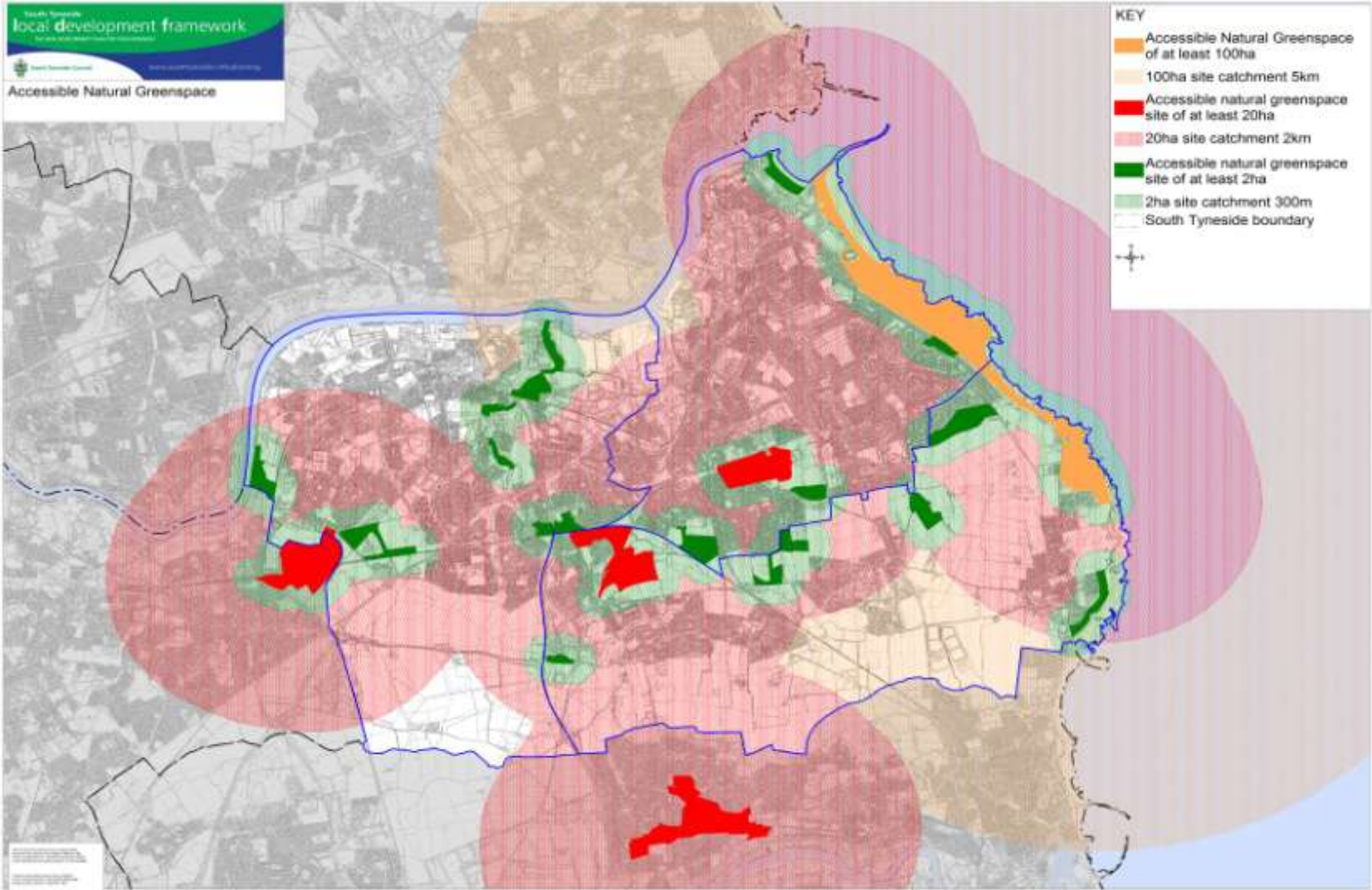
Quality:

- Minimum 'average' standard
- Local Nature Reserves minimum 'good' standard

Accessibility:

- District – within 5,000m
- Neighbourhood – within 2,000m
- Local – within 300m

Figure 9.6 Accessible Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace



10. Green Infrastructure – Biodiversity Value & Wildlife Corridors

Biodiversity Value Assessment

Value	Designation/description	Species/habitats
Very high	Internationally and nationally important designated wildlife sites i.e. Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Sites of Special Scientific Interest	High level of representation of UK Biodiversity Action Plan and Durham Biodiversity Action Plan habitats/species
High	Regionally and sub-regionally important designated wildlife sites i.e. Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites	High level of representation of Durham Biodiversity Action Plan habitats/species
Medium	Sites of substantive wildlife value in the South Tyneside context but below Local Wildlife Site standard. Examples include woodland with native species together with other positive features such as good structure/location, wooded bat foraging areas, wetland, semi-improved permanent grassland (with a wide range of grasses and herbs), early-successional brownfield land	Medium level of representation of Durham Biodiversity Action Plan habitats/species
Low	Other sites e.g. arable land, amenity grassland, improved grassland (with a limited range of grasses and common herbs), intensively managed golf course, urban/built-up area	Relatively low or negligible known level of representation of Durham Biodiversity Action Plan habitats/species

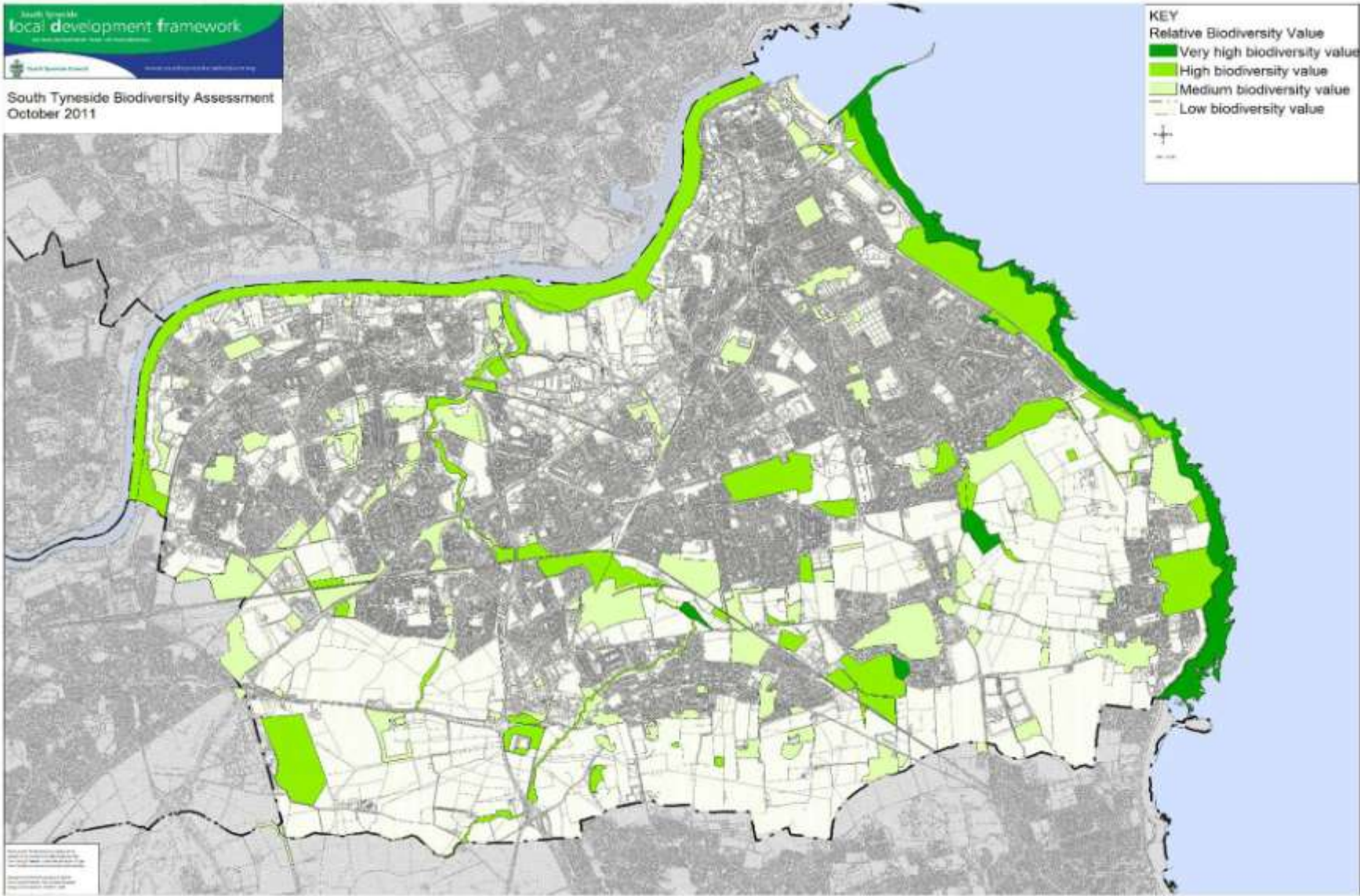
Notes

- Strother House Farm Local Wildlife Site has now been omitted from the map because it has now fallen below the required standard and it will be downgraded at the next review.
- Church Bank meadow is represented as 'high' value since it has been found to meet the criteria for Local Wildlife Sites and it will be put forward for inclusion at the next review.
- The River Tyne is not currently designated as a Local Wildlife Site (for non-wildlife reasons). However it is represented here as 'high' value because, for example, it has important populations of two European protected species – (Atlantic salmon and otter), and at least four UKBAP species – (European eel, river lamprey, sea trout and smelt (fish)). It is also important for many bird species such as kittiwake, cormorant and various tern species.

- 10.1 The whole of South Tyneside has been assessed for its biodiversity value, which was rated and mapped from very high to low (see margin and map). The aim of the study was to map the relative biodiversity value of all land in South Tyneside. The information presented is a broad assessment that by its nature does not cover at a detailed scale the complex ecological relationships between species and their habitats. It should not be substituted for site based ecological investigations when these are required. This baseline study has helped to inform where biodiversity or access to natural and semi-natural greenspace could be enhanced. Further details are set out in the accompanying technical appendices to this SPD.
- 10.2 Potential schemes to improve the biodiversity of the borough have also been identified and include providing high quality new biodiverse hedgerows and implementing a 'parks to larks' approach to site management where possible. One scheme which has been identified is to diversify/improve existing grassland habitats at the Leas (and elsewhere in the Durham Magnesian Limestone Natural Area) by amending cutting regimes, topsoil stripping, sowing native and local provenance wildflower seed, etc. The ongoing dune restoration scheme is also helping to maximise biodiversity and create associated new species of rich grasslands behind.
- 10.3 Securing the future and emphasising the importance of Wardley Colliery Local Wildlife Site as part of an important east-west green infrastructure corridor with Gateshead/Follingsby, would also help to improve the biodiversity offer of this area. Similarly, securing the future and emphasising the importance of the Whitburn Firing Range Local Wildlife Site as part of the coastal green infrastructure network would be beneficial.
- 10.4 Other schemes which would promote biodiversity include purchasing or obtaining long-term management of Boldon Flats in order to manage it for wildlife including breeding birds, amphibians, invertebrates, and flora, and extending the 'Living Waterways' approach throughout the River Don system, for example by creating backwaters, reedbeds and SuDS. There is also potential at Cleadon Lea to ameliorate drainage problems and create improved wildlife habitats.
- 10.5 The restoration scheme for Red Barns Quarry in Hebburn should maximise the biodiversity value of wetland and other habitats. Extraction and restoration of the quarry for new habitats and recreation are proposed to be completed around 2025.
- 10.6 At Marsden Quarry there are opportunities to maximise the biodiversity value of Magnesian limestone grassland and other habitats. A restoration scheme has already been permitted and is expected to be completed by 2031.

- 10.7 Other sites allocated for reclamation in the Site-Specific Allocations document include land adjacent to the Tyne Dock mineral line, particularly at the Brockley Whins triangle. It is proposed to reclaim this area through landscaping to secure wildlife habitat and other environmental improvements for the benefit of adjacent residential areas. The former Ministry of Defence (MoD) bunkers and medical stores site within the Green Belt at East Boldon is also allocated for remediation as a means of enhancing the function and appearance of the Green Belt and the wildlife corridor through this area, and in furthering the aims of the Great North Forest and Durham Biodiversity Action Plan. It is proposed that the land and buildings on this site be reclaimed for nature conservation purposes, such as Magnesian Limestone Grassland habitats.

Figure 10.1 South Tyneside Biodiversity Assessment



Wildlife Corridors:

Originally established in the Tyne & Wear Nature Conservation Strategy (1988), those in South Tyneside and priority habitats and species associated with them, include:

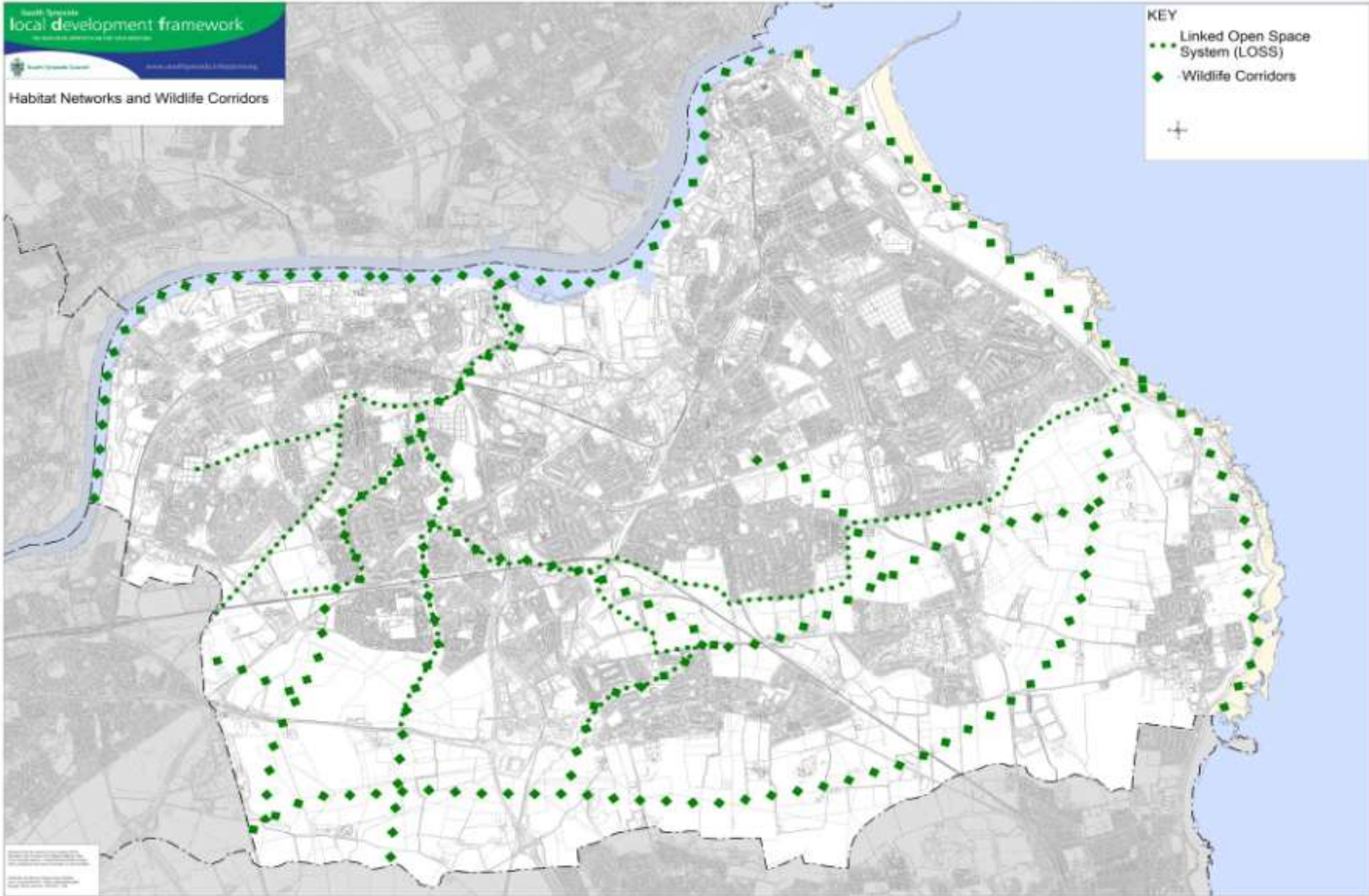
- South Pier to Trow Point – coastal sand dunes.
- Trow Point to Whitburn Steel – coastal grasslands, maritime cliffs and magnesian limestone grassland.
- Cleadon North Farm to Cleadon Hill – magnesian limestone grassland.
- Cleadon Lane to Marsden – magnesian limestone grassland.
- River Tyne – mud flats salt marsh and otter.
- Bede’s World to River Tyne – mud flats salt marsh and otter.
- West Fellgate Farm to River Don – rivers and streams.
- Boldon Fellgate Farm to River Don – water vole and otter.
- Boldon North Bridge to Bede’s World – water vole and otter.



Habitat Networks and Wildlife Corridors

- 10.8 Wildlife corridors link designated sites and other areas of value to nature conservation throughout Tyne & Wear. Our LDF seeks to enhance the biodiversity value of wildlife corridors, as identified on the Core Strategy Key Diagram and Proposals Maps. Our primary wildlife corridors run east–west through the Green Belt between South Tyneside and Sunderland, Gateshead and Follingsby, north–south along the coast and along the Rivers Tyne and Don.
- 10.9 South Tyneside’s established Linked Open Space System (LOSS) is particularly focussed along the River Don and its tributaries and aims to achieve continuity of open space corridors, improve accessibility, encourage use and interpretation, protect and enhance valuable sites, improve wildlife corridors, conserve and upgrade landscape areas and eliminate pollution.
- 10.10 Other areas within the network which have been identified as particularly important include the green infrastructure and wildlife corridors running through the River Don valley, via the Lukes Lane playing fields and adjacent Local Wildlife Site at Monkton Pond, into ‘greenfield’ and Green Belt land to the south and west. The Site-Specific Allocations DPD considers that land in this corridor, such as alongside the Metro line at Marine Drive and Leam Lane, is not particularly appropriate for built development in order to ensure no adverse impact on the green infrastructure network, the River Don Valley Habitat Creation Zone and implementation of the Great North Forest strategy. The Central Jarrow AAP also protects strategic green infrastructure and the linked open space system along the River Don corridor.
- 10.11 Developments such as housing, business, industry or roads can create a physical barrier to species migration. Wildlife therefore stands a better chance of adapting to climate change if there is well-connected, well-functioning green infrastructure in place. To counter the impacts of climate change on habitats and species, where areas are identified as being important for wildlife the priority will be to conserve, enhance and strengthen their populations. In addition, we will also seek to maximise connectivity between sites, working at a broad scale with neighbouring authorities, to enhance and protect migration routes.
- 10.12 Proposals should ensure that existing networks of open spaces and wildlife corridors are protected and enhanced wherever possible, particularly to minimise the potential fragmentation of wildlife habitats. Movement corridors and spaces for wildlife should be protected and new spaces integrated into the existing network of wildlife corridors, linked open space and green infrastructure.

Figure 10.2 Primary Habitat Networks and Wildlife Corridors



Annex A: Current Green Infrastructure Provision

Area	Population	Typology	Total Ha	Ha per 1,000 Population	
Hebburn/ Jarrow	48,823 (children 0-19yrs. = 11,895)	Parks and Open Spaces	293.28	4.83	
		Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspaces	53.48	1.10	
		Formal Outdoor Sport (community use)	Playing Pitches*	29.03	0.65
			Synthetic Athletics Track	1.92	0.04
			Tennis Court	0.48	0.01
			Bowling Green	1.12	0.02
			Total Outdoor Sports Provision (playable/usable areas)	32.56	0.72
			Total Outdoor Sports Provision (including unplayable/unusable areas of playing fields)	83.89	1.72
		Provision for Children & Young People*	2.1	0.20	
		Allotments	9.23	0.19	
Cemeteries & Crematoria	21.01	0.43			
Hebburn/Jarrow Sub-total:			352.63	7.22	
South Shields	76,847 (children 0-19yrs. = 18,371)	Parks and Open Spaces	361.35	4.70	
		Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspaces	178.05	2.32	
		Formal Outdoor Sport (community use)	Playing Pitches*	49.11	0.70
			Tennis Court	1.5	0.02
			Bowling Green	2.08	0.02
			Total Outdoor Sports Provision (playable/usable areas)	52.69	0.75
			Total Outdoor Sports Provision (including unplayable/unusable areas of playing fields)	157.42	2.05
		Provision for Children & Young People*	3.84	0.20	
		Allotments	19.98	0.29	
Cemeteries & Crematoria	24.33	0.32			
South Shields Sub-total:			419.64	5.46	
Urban Fringe	25,350 (children 0-19yrs. = 5,689)	Parks and Open Spaces	135.69	5.35	
		Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspaces	155.88	6.15	
		Formal Outdoor Sport (community use)	Playing Pitches*	22.22	1.04
			Tennis Courts	0.24	0.01

Area	Population	Typology	Total Ha	Ha per 1,000 Population	
		Bowling Greens	1.6	0.07	
		Golf Courses	115.99	5.45	
		Total Outdoor Sports Provision (playable/usable areas)	140.06	6.58	
		Total Outdoor Sports Provision (including unplayable/unusable areas of playing fields)	145.28	5.73	
		Provision for Children & Young People*	1.02	0.20	
		Allotments	13.5	0.58	
		Cemeteries & Crematoria	4.51	0.18	
Urban Fringe Sub-total:			367.75	14.51	
South Tyneside	151,020 (children 0-19yrs.=35,955)	Parks and Open Spaces	790.32	5.23	
		Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspaces	387.41	2.57	
		Formal Outdoor Sport	Playing Pitches*	100.36	0.73
			Tennis Courts	2.22	0.02
			Bowling Greens	4.8	0.03
			Golf Courses	115.99	
			Total Outdoor Sports Provision (playable/usable areas)	225.31	1.63
			Total Outdoor Sports Provision (including unplayable/unusable areas of playing fields)	386.59	2.56
		Provision for Children & Young People*	6.9	0.20	
		Allotments	42.71	0.28	
Cemeteries & Crematoria	49.85	0.33			
South Tyneside Total:			1,140.02	7.55	

(South Tyneside Council, 2011)

[* Play provision for Children & Young People is calculated according the children’s population level 151,020(children 0-19yrs. = 35,955)

* Playing pitch figure includes senior football, junior football, mini football, rugby, cricket and Synthetic Training Pitches/hockey pitches, based on average dimensions as supplied by Sport England and including provision for run-off.

[N.B: Sub-area totals have been calculated using the open space site area data provided by ward in ‘Annex A: Site Tables’ in the SPD: 3 Green Infrastructure Strategy Technical Appendix.]

Annex B: Planning Applications and Green Infrastructure Design Guidance

A copy of the current Register of Practice is obtainable from the Landscape Institute, Charles Darwin House, 12 Roger Street, London, WC1N 2JU (www.landscapeinstitute.org.uk) who operate a nominations procedure to assist clients in their selection of a suitable registered practice for their particular requirements.

Guidance for Applicants Producing Landscape Schemes

- B.1 The council will advise on landscape matters prior to the formal submission of plans, but applicants are reminded that the design and implementation of the scheme to the satisfaction of the Local Authority is entirely their own responsibility. It is strongly recommended that a professionally qualified Landscape Architect is engaged to design the scheme and supervise its implementation (see margin).
- B.2 In producing a landscape scheme for new development, it is important that applicants/agents consider the following.
- B.3 Where appropriate, we would expect a minimum width of 5m boundary planting to the proposed development with extensive use of native trees and shrubs. The internal landscaping to the proposed development is to be of such a standard so that it is sympathetic to its location.
- B.4 New developments should be sited a minimum of 5m from the edge of the crown spread of any mature trees worthy of retention, so that the new development would not be detrimental to the future health and growth of the tree(s).
- B.5 The planting of native species is widely encouraged within the borough especially within or adjacent to Green Belt land. However we will look favourably on the introduction of non-native species where appropriate.

Detailed Planning Applications

- B.6 When seeking planning approval for landscape works, the applicant/agent should submit a plan of the new development at 1:200 scale indicating the following elements of landscape design.
- B.7 **Hard Landscape Works:** Detailed information on watercourses and water areas, including drainage to all hard and soft landscaping areas, construction details of walls and fences and details of street furniture, etc., including trade names colours and dimensions.
- B.8 **Topography:** An accurate site plan showing how the site relates to its surroundings should be provided, including vegetation patterns of grass, shrubs and trees, existing and proposed contours, levels and spot heights. The use of cross sections can help clarify proposed changes in ground level. Indicate any areas of topsoil or subsoil to be stripped for re-use, including estimated amounts and storage details.

- B.9 **Existing Trees and Shrubs:** A tree survey to BS Standard 5837:2005 should be submitted and should include a Tree Protection Plan, Arboricultural Implications Assessment. And where any aspect of development has the potential to result in loss of or damage to a tree, an arboricultural method statement should also be included (a qualified tree surgeon should be employed to provide this information). Trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order or within a Conservation Area should be identified and retained. Should a protected tree be removed, a replacement tree (requirement of Town and Country Planning Act 1990) should be provided and shown on the plan, together with details of species and location. A Heavy Standard size of tree is considered to be a suitable replacement tree. Existing trees should be retained and protected during site operations in accordance with British Standard 5837: 2005.
- B.10 **Other Habitats:** Proposed development areas should be surveyed to ascertain whether a site has areas of existing nature conservation interests (for example, grasslands, wetlands, etc.). If an area of nature conservation exists then these areas, where possible, should be incorporated into the overall landscape design.
- B.11 During construction works these areas are to be protected using temporary fencing, such as Chestnut pale fence, which should be erected prior to any works commencing on site.
- B.12 **Topsoil:** Topsoil should conform with British Standard 3882: 2007 with minimum depths of 350mm for proposed shrub planted areas and 150mm for proposed grassed areas. If mounding is to be included, care should be taken to specify a minimum 300mm thick blinding layer of clean subsoil overfill material before topsoil is spread. Mounds and embankments with gradients of less than 1:3 are not usually acceptable. Information on methods of cultivation, fertilisers and additives to be used should also be indicated.
- B.13 **Proposed Tree Planting:** Positions of the proposed trees should be shown with a circle, clearly noting the species and sizes, e.g. Mountain Ash: (*Sorbus aucuparia*) 3.5-4.25m high: 12-14cm stem circumference measured at 1metre above ground. Tree pit dimensions and depths must be stated together with details of backfill, including compost and/or fertilisers. Trees of Heavy Standard size should be used where appropriate. Only where trees are to be planted within fenced areas will smaller trees be acceptable. All trees should be secured using a method appropriate to location and setting. Tree planting that will impact on adopted highway must include for rootbarrier installation to limit future damage to footpaths and roadways. Great care should be taken to select a suitable tree species, species should be appropriate size for the setting, if trees are to be planted close to buildings. All new tree planting should follow the guidance as set out in BS:5387:2005 section 13-14. Applicants are warned that shrinkable clay soils occur in some parts of the borough and information should be obtained on sub-soil conditions. Trees should not be planted within 3metres of underground services or below overhead cables.

Size (Height mm)	Number per m ²	Planting Distance (mm)
600-900	3	600
450-600	4	500
Under 450	7	400

- B.14 **Shrubs and Whips:** Shrub beds should be outlined clearly noting in a schedule the number and species of shrubs or tree-whips to be planted and the size (height) at the time of planting, e.g. 50no. Cornus alba 'Westonbirt' 600-900mm high. The density of planting should be given as a number per square metre and as a general rule the plant sizes and densities as shown in the margin table should be used:
- B.15 At least 350mm depth of good quality topsoil is required for shrub planting. Shrubs likely to reach a height of more than 600mm should not be planted within visibility splays at road junctions, car parking areas or within 2.0m from the back of a carriageway (service strip). Whips are young tree saplings up to 1200mm in height and are normally planted with the aim of establishing woodland, at an initial density of one or two plants per square metre. Planting pits should be 300mm square and 300mm deep. Shrubs can be included in the whip mixture if desired. Temporary protective fencing should always be erected around shrub beds and shrub-planted areas to discourage trampling and vandalism. Care should be taken with choosing the right plant for its location and the council particularly discourages the planting of spiny species adjacent to footpaths.
- B.16 **Grassed Areas:** Any grassed areas should have at least 150mm depth of topsoil and the grass seed mix and rate of application should be noted on the drawing. A standard 'low maintenance' mix is strongly recommended particularly if the scheme is later to be maintained by the local authority. Any areas to be turfed or sown with a wild flower mix should be indicated together with a specification. In such locations a depth of topsoil less than 150mm may be appropriate, to reduce competition from more vigorous species. Small, awkwardly-shaped areas or slopes steeper than 1 in 3 are difficult to mow and shrubs are often a better form of cover in these places. Trees, lampposts, seats and signs all create mowing problems and should be placed in shrub-beds or paved areas if possible. Mowing strips minimum 150mm wide should be provided where a grassed area meets a vertical surface such as a fence or wall. Ideally these strips should be paved.
- B.17 **Completion Certificate:** The applicant/agent is to provide the local authority with intended start and completion dates of the landscape works. A Practical Completion Certificate of the landscaping works will be issued by the local authority prior to the commencement of the 3 year maintenance period, on schemes which are to be adopted by the council.
- B.18 **Maintenance:** Maintenance is as important as the initial planting and should not be overlooked. New landscape schemes are to be maintained to the satisfaction of the local planning authority for a period of 5 years from the date of Practical Completion. Submission and approval of a maintenance schedule may be required by planning permission condition in some cases, for example large or prominent schemes. This should indicate the method of maintenance and number of visits for weed control, litter removal, watering and grass cutting. An allowance

for the replacement of dead, diseased, dying or vandalised plants and any overseeding of grass areas should be included. The Defects Liability Period should be a minimum of 3 years.

- B.19 **Adoption:** On schemes where the council are to adopt a landscaped area, at the end of the 3 year maintenance period, arrangements should be made for the handover of the landscaped area to the care of the local authority or a private individual. Should a developer require areas of landscaping to be adopted by the local authority then the council will require a developer to enter into an Open Space Adoption Agreement and should supply the following:
- a) Intended start and completion dates.
 - b) A plan showing areas to be adopted by the council.
- B.20 **Specification:** All of the works described above should be carried out in accordance with good horticultural practice and with the following British Standards Institution specifications:
 BS 5837: 2005 'Trees in relation to Construction'.
 BS 3936: 1992 'Specification for Nursery Stock'.
 BS 4428: 1989 'Recommendations for General Landscape Operations'.
 BS 3998: 2010 'Recommendation for Tree Work'.
- B.21 Specification details describing the quality of workmanship and materials should always be given either noted on the Landscape Plan or stated in an accompanying letter.

Green Infrastructure Design Principles

- B.22 The following design principles, although not an exhaustive list, give an indication as to what works in ensuring the sustainability, value and management of open spaces. Green infrastructure design should therefore:
- Be part of a wider network that provide allow traffic free routes through residential areas and links to other areas via bus stops and cycleways.
 - Maximise positive use by the community.
 - Be easily accessible for all members of the community.
 - Provide facilities that are accessible to all.
 - Facilitate high quality and effective management and maintenance.
 - Facilitate local community involvement in new or future provision.
 - Provide a sense of place for local people and reflect local history and culture.
 - Minimise the opportunity for anti-social behaviour and design out opportunities for crime.
 - Have clear vistas and sight lines across the site, maximising personal safety and casual surveillance.
 - Prevent any sense of isolation or insecurity through the use of appropriate lighting.

- Provide a setting for adjacent buildings, whilst minimising any detrimental effect on local amenity.
- Be designed and managed to benefit wildlife, provide integrated habitat areas and support and allow the movement of wildlife, plants and animals. The site should provide a range of habitat type.
- Have an appropriate mix of mown grass areas and indigenous planting with mown areas that are large enough to facilitate informal kick-about and mini soccer.
- Safeguard the integrity of any existing open space or space of heritage value and where appropriate enhance the setting of listed features.
- Wherever possible implement flood storage or sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to negate flood risk.
- Provide for local children, it is important that facilities provided match the age range of children and young people.
- Provide surfaced paths that are at least two metres wide and concrete edged or 5m wide with a suitable surface if bridleway.
- Provide adequate litter bins that are in keeping and bins are set into a concrete surface, and close to roads where possible, for ease of access and maintenance.
- Provide adequate seating that is in keeping, seating in children's play areas should be set into appropriate safety surfacing. Seating in open space should have arm rests and be linked to paths, seating should be provided in both sunny and shaded areas and allow for wheelchairs and pushchairs to park alongside off the path.
- All sites should have signage that informs people of the site name, ownership and contact details.
- Larger sites or sites where people are expected to cross to get to nearby facilities such as schools or shops should have street lighting.
- Green infrastructure should be designed to allow for natural surveillance.
- The development of a site specific management plans for larger sites especially new provision.

Annex C: Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Green Infrastructure Themes

- Climate change and Water Quality
- Accessibility and Sustainable Travel
- Quality of Place – Regeneration and Tourism
- Recreation, Open Spaces and Health
- Biodiversity and Landscape

Green Infrastructure Corridors

- Riverside Corridor
- Coastal Corridor
- Green Belt Corridor
- Urban Area *

*(The Urban Area replaces the 'Mineral Lines' corridor for the purposes of the delivery plan to adequately identify projects and priorities within the urban area of South Tyneside.)

- C.1 The Delivery Plan sets out green infrastructure priorities and projects which we will aim to deliver in order to provide and enhance a multi-functional green infrastructure network which benefits and supports a sustainable and good quality of life in South Tyneside.
- C.2 The green infrastructure themes and strategic corridors identified in SPD3 (see margin) provide a framework to aid the development of green infrastructure in South Tyneside, and also structure this document. Each of the themes and corridors identified in SPD3, has its own delivery plan providing strategic and site-specific projects aimed at improving that area of green infrastructure. There is also an overarching 'Management of Green Infrastructure' delivery plan which provides strategic objectives for the management of green infrastructure in the borough.
- C.3 The delivery plans also highlight the green infrastructure benefits of each priority or projects. Each delivery plan table includes a 'Green Infrastructure Benefits' column which reflects the benefits identified in Figure 2.1 of SPD 3. An example of the delivery plan tables is shown below:

Objective	Actions	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Time scales	Funding / Resource	Monitoring
		Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production				
Sustainable Water Management	Increase the amount of sustainable drainage systems: promote use of SUDS in new developments			✓				✓			Environmental Protection, STC Planning, STC	Medium-long term	Officer time, promotional material cost	Measuring the amount of sustainable drainage systems used in new development

- C.4 The multifunctional nature of these spaces means that a wide range of stakeholders will be needed to engage and work in partnership to deliver and resource green infrastructure. The delivery of these projects is dependent on achieving effective engagement with these stakeholders and the local community and also accessing funds to resource the projects. The Delivery Plan sets out resource demands for each of the projects. Given the resource constraints that may be associated with some projects, it may not be feasible for a project identified in this Delivery Plan to be carried out for a number of years, and indeed some may not be able to be implemented at all. Nevertheless, they remain as delivery objectives.

1) Management of Green Infrastructure

Ref.	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Timescale	Funding/ Resources	Monitoring
GI1	Maintain accurate records of green infrastructure provision	Audit all sport, leisure and open spaces on a regular basis. Publish findings to enable wider stakeholders to track progress. Report on the value of parks, open spaces and green infrastructure in South Tyneside - raise awareness of opportunities. Develop a central record of all green infrastructure, to include the findings of the assessment, and TPO records, to create a consistent record. This record should include access to GIS mapping.	Planning, South Tyneside Council (STC) Area Management & Cultural Services, STC	Short to Medium term	Officer time/cost of survey	Results of survey. Development of central record.
GI2	Establish accurate database of key green infrastructure stakeholders	Establish a central consultation database	Planning, STC Consultation Team, STC Area Management & Cultural Services, STC	Short term	Officer time	Development of central consultation database.
GI3	Establish green infrastructure steering group	Establish a green infrastructure steering group with representatives from across council, including planning, sport and leisure and grounds maintenance. Share and utilise expertise to ensure that specific site development issues are fully considered, and the implications shared, before a planning decision is made.	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short term	Officer time	Establishment of steering group.
GI4	Market green infrastructure assets effectively	Continue to work with key partners to develop marketing information produced about the parks and open space facilities available, public and sustainable transport, key activities accommodated and access arrangements.	Communications, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Planning, STC	Short to long term	Advertising/marketing cost Officer time	Production of marketing information.
GI5	Review maintenance standards	Review maintenance standards for green infrastructure and agree any changes with local people. Report on performance annually.	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short term	Officer Time	Improved/reviewed maintenance of open spaces.
GI6	Develop register of assets in open spaces	Develop an asset register of facilities within open space sites such as benches, bins, location, date installed, lifetime expectancy and replacement timeframe. Work to develop a rolling programme of renewals and improvements, e.g. bins, signage and seating.	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium term	Officer time Financial Resources	Development of register. Development of renewal and improvements programme.
GI7	Improved signage	Develop and fund a programme of signage installation. Develop a consistent approach to the provision of signage at all sites,	Green Spaces Team (Area	Long term	Sign costs Installation costs	Improved signage on sites.

		through a rolling programme of installation and improvement. Include site details, ownership and contact details.	Management),STC			
GI8	Improve safety/perception safety of green infrastructure	Continue to work towards the reduction of the effects of crime and anti-social behaviour in parks and open spaces. Improvement/investment in sites to encourage increased use. Support and develop diversionary activities programmes such as Streetwise Soccer half-term clubs	Anti-social behaviour Team, STC Planning, STC Area Management/ Culture, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Ongoing	Staff costs Maintenance Costs	Reduction in crime/anti-social behaviour.
GI9	Encourage better working partnerships with external organisations and community groups	Seek external funding opportunities available to fund parks and open space developments. Assess opportunities for additional income through negotiation of appropriate concessions and sponsorships. Develop a green infrastructure steering group with internal and external partners – to meet 2- 3 times a year and to coincide with budgetary timescale to approve annual action plan and undertake ongoing review of strategy. Help local community groups to access funding directly.	Area Management/ Culture, STC Community Resource Officers, STC Regeneration, STC Planning, STC External Partners	Medium to long term	Officer time	Improved partnership working.
GI10	Promote green infrastructure as space for education and learning	Promote parks and open spaces as an outdoor classroom. Develop a positive approach to engaging young people. Assist partners in the development of educational resources to increase local awareness and understanding of green infrastructure, and in particular nature conservation sites.	Education, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Officer time Production of educational material	Green infrastructure used for education and learning. Increased participation in educational events.
GI11	Appoint green infrastructure champion	Identify an appropriate Council Member to take on the mantle of green infrastructure champion.	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Councillor time	Designation of green infrastructure champion.
GI12	Increase presence on sites	Encourage involvement from volunteers to participate in green infrastructure projects.	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Countryside Volunteers South Tyneside 'Friends of' Groups	Medium to long term	Staffing/training costs Officer Time	Increased presence on green infrastructure sites.

GI13	Review SPD5 and Developer Contributions through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	<p>Undertake annual review of current funding opportunities through developer contributions - clear framework for developer contributions based on single bed units and the development of a pooled central green space fund.</p> <p>Seek to raise the profile of biodiversity and green infrastructure as a beneficiary of planning contributions.</p>	<p>Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC</p>	By 2014	Officer time	Reviewed requirements for developer contributions towards green infrastructure.
------	--	---	---	---------	--------------	---

2) Climate Change and Water Quality

Ref	Objective	Actions	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Time scale	Funding / Resource	Monitoring
			Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production				
CW1	Sustainable Water Management	Increase the amount of sustainable drainage systems: promote use of SUDS in new developments			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			Environmental Protection, STC Planning, STC	Medium-long term	Officer time, promotional material cost	Measuring the amount of sustainable drainage systems used in new development
CW2		Use green space to assist in flood alleviation: Identify areas that could be used to store floodwater providing alleviation to nearby developments.			✓	✓	✓		✓			Environmental Protection, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Long term	Officer time	Decrease in flooding during heavy rainfall events.
CW3	Climate Change Mitigation	Planting options considered to take account of a changing climate: Identify species vulnerable to climate change. Provide internal guidance on tree/planting options for open green areas. Planting /landscaping policy to take account of climate change risks, to promote water conservation and to consider planting to provide shade.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				Environmental Protection, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium term	Officer time	Replacement of vulnerable species in existing planting programmes. Drought resistant planting incorporated into planting/ landscaping options. Develop internal guidance on climate change resistant planting.
CW4		Increase areas of natural woodland: Educate on the benefits of allowing development of woodland - biodiversity, carbon sequestration, flood alleviation. Identify green spaces to be given over to natural growth.			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium – Long term	Officer time Savings identified due to less frequent maintenance	Suitable areas identified. Increase in number of woodland areas within South Tyneside.

CW5		<p>Improve and protect biodiversity: Planning system to encourage the installation of green roofs for storm water management, cooling benefits and tailor design to provide suitable habitats to protect biodiversity and attract local endangered /vulnerable species.</p>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓	Planning, STC Asset Management, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium – long-term	Officer time	Number of new developments where protecting and increasing biodiversity is taken into account at the design stage. Number of council building improvement projects where Green roof is installed.
CW6	<p>Protect habitats and species from the impacts of climate change</p>	<p>Identify species vulnerable to climate change: Use 'Climate Change and Biodiversity in the North East' to identify vulnerable species. Prioritise vulnerable species and adopt an initial action plan for biodiversity.</p>			✓	✓												✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium term	Officer time	Vulnerable species identified. Action Plan for biodiversity adopted.

3) Accessibility and Sustainable Travel

Ref	Objective	Actions	Green Infrastructure Benefits								Responsibility	Time scale	Funding / Recourse	Monitoring	
			Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation					Food Production
A1	Create network of sustainable transport links and connected recreational trails.	<p>Improve cycling routes: Review all strategic cycle routes within five years of their introduction in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) safety and security; ii) directness and route continuity; iii) convenience and ease of use; and iv) changes in national, sub-regional and local policy. 	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Asset Management, STC Transport Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short – medium term	Officer time Maintenance Management	Improved quality of routes.
A2		<p>New cycle routes: Seek to provide new cycle routes to facilitate new developments and recreational routes. Link new developments to wider network of traffic free routes, providing opportunities for sustainable travel.</p> <p>The council will work with Sustrans to maintain, improve and extend the National Cycle Network.</p> <p>Seek developer contributions to provide new routes and improvements to the cycle network through Community Infrastructure Levy and SPD5 Planning Obligations and Agreements review.</p>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Regeneration, STC Planning, STC Asset Management, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Long term	Officer time Management Funding	Development of new cycle routes in regeneration areas and facilitating new developments. CIL (by 2014)
A3		<p>Cycle network infrastructure : Ensure that cycle routes are constructed and maintained to high standards.</p> <p>Ensure that adequate, high quality secure cycle parking is provided in accordance with SPD6: Parking Standards.</p>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Asset Management, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time Maintenance	Regularly inspect and repair cycle routes within the Borough. Ensure cycle parking is provided in accordance with SPD6.
A4		<p>School travel: The council will support the development of school</p>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	Asset Management, STC	Long term	Funding	Increasing numbers of school children cycling to

	and Safety initiatives	travel plans to encourage greater levels of healthy, sustainable travel to and from school. Aim to continue to offer cycle training to school children, which follow the National Standard.												Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Education, STC		Officer time	school.
A5		Accident reduction: Seek to implement measures to improve highway safety for cyclists and ensure provision for safe access when determining traffic management layouts.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	Asset Management, STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Reduced number of cyclists involved in accidents.
A6	Work with Partners to deliver recreational route improvement	Deliver recreational route improvements Seek to work with Partners on recreational route schemes including the delivery of the long distance coastal walking route.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓				Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC External Partners	Short to Medium term	Funding Officer Time Land	Creation of new recreational routes. Improvements to existing recreational routes.

4) Quality of Place – Regeneration and Tourism

Ref	Objective	Actions	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Time scale	Funding / Recourse	Monitoring
			Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production				
QP1	Promote Cycle tourism	Support cycle tourism Create and publicise recreational routes through South Tyneside.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Marketing & Communications, STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Increasing numbers of cycling tourists in the borough.
QP2	Improve recreational strategic links between the borough and neighbouring authorities	Further develop the path network and link into wider network outside of the borough.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Transport, STC	Short to long term	Funding Maintenance Management Land	Improved footpath and bridleways links.
QP3		Improve Bede’s Way cycle and pedestrian routes between the twin monasteries of St Paul’s in Jarrow and St. Peter’s in Monkwearmouth, Sunderland.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Asset Management, STC			Implementation of scheme
QP4		Create improved links from Littlehaven to North Tyneside, such as via the Shields Ferry and the Tyne Pedestrian and Cycle Tunnels at Jarrow as part of English coastal route.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC			
QP5	Invest in Environmental Improvements	Recognise the value of Street Trees Ensure long term viability of street trees and vegetation through a programme of replacement.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Number of street tree’s replaced.
QP6	Accessibility through Regeneration	Promote riverside access at South Shields Ensure redevelopment proposals in accordance with the key aims and principles of SPD8 ‘South Shields Riverside Regeneration’. Ensure that development and regeneration proposals do not sever the existing cycle network or compromise accessibility.	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		Asset Management, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Planning, STC Regeneration, STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Creation of pedestrian and cycle routes in regeneration and riverside areas.

5) Recreation, Open Space and Health

Ref	Objective	Actions	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Time scale	Funding / Recourses	Monitoring	
			Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production					Education
ROH 1	Improve quality and quantity of green spaces	Provide sufficient provision of parks and open spaces Provide recommended standard for parks and open space provision Secure park/open space provision through the development management process.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Planning, STC Cultural Services, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Additional land Funding Management Maintenance	Development of new parks and open space Hectares of parks and open spaces created
ROH 2		Raise standards of sites to achieve 'good' standard (61% + score) Raise the standard of parks and open spaces by improving all sites to a good standard. Test the fit-for-purpose function, quality and 'performance' of the more formal open spaces through entering externally judged competitions and quality recognition schemes (e.g. Green Flag/Britain in Bloom). Deliver a programme of liveability/green space improvements in line with area management priorities.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding for improvement Maintenance Officer time for survey	Improved quality score.	
ROH 3		Retain Green Flag status Develop management plans for a key park in each of the three neighbourhood areas and work towards securing Green Flag status.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Cultural Services	Medium to long term	Officer time Maintenance improvement costs	Green flag status retained for South Marine Park.	
ROH 4		Improve access to parks and open space Improve access through provision of new sites Aim to provide the following access standards to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District site (30ha) within 3,000m. Neighbourhood site (10-30ha) within 800m. Local site (0.2-10ha) within 400m. 	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Additional land Funding Management	Increased accessibility of Parks and Open Spaces.	

																Cultural Services, STC		Maintenance Survey costs	
ROH 5		Ensure suitable access for all users Undertake accessibility audit of parks and open space compliant to the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) – develop action plan to improve access. Ensure alterations to sites include accessibility improvements.	✓				✓	✓		✓						Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Cultural Services, STC	Medium to long term	Officer time Funding	DDA compliant improvements made to parks and open space within South Tyneside.
ROH 6	Management of parks & open spaces	Increase local involvement and ownership of parks and open spaces Develop and support Friends of Groups, including a young friend's component for, key parks and open spaces to increase local involvement and ownership.	✓				✓	✓							Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Officer time	Increased local involvement and ownership of spaces.	
ROH 7		Recognise the importance of district provision Continue to recognise the importance of sites classified as a district scale provision (30 ha) as a means of raising the borough image and address quality issues identified.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Communications, STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Improvements to district sites.	
ROH 8		Deliver suitable provision Ensure that future provision is well-designed, serves a purpose and is appropriate in size. Investigate potential to convert areas of parks and open spaces to alternative uses such as allotments or woodland or wildflower meadows.	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓				Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Cultural Services, STC Regeneration, STC	Long term	Funding Officer time	Delivery of well-designed sites which meet identified need.	
ROH 9		Promote parks and open spaces as venues for events and community activities Continue events programme to attract visitors to parks and open space e.g. summer festival. Increase existing arts, sports and recreational facilities. Provide more diverse active recreation opportunities in parks and open spaces, including street sports facilities. Establish process for event application and management – ensure events are suitably managed, sustainable and safe. Develop an online booking system and information	✓					✓		✓					Green Spaces Team (Area Management) , STC Cultural Services, STC	Medium to long term	Funding Officer time	Increased usage of parks and open spaces for arts, sports and recreation.	

		resource – creates and generates additional income and supports community cohesion.																	
ROH 10	Improve allotment provision within South Tyneside	Increased provision of allotments Provide recommended standard of allotments at 0.4ha per 1,000 population. Review mechanism for allocation of vacant plots to reduce the number of empty plots and address the local demand for allotments. Review planning contributions gained through SPD5 Planning Obligations and Agreements/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			Planning , STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Cultural Services, STC	Short to medium term	Additional land Funding (including CIL) Officer time	Development of additional allotment plots. Preparation of CIL (by 2014).			
ROH 11		Improve standard of allotments to minimum 'good' (61%) quality rating Work with Allotment societies to develop, improve and enhance the existing allotment provision.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Long term	Funding for allotment improvement Officer time for surveys	Improved quality score.			
ROH 12		Improve access to allotment sites Improve access through provision of new sites so that the majority of residents live no more than 800m from an allotment site.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Additional land Funding	Development of additional allotment plots.			
ROH 13	Improvement of facilities for allotment users/potential users	Develop programme of facility development Focus on toilet provision to be established and prioritised. Further develop facilities for users/potential users with a disability.				✓			✓			Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium to long term	Funding for allotment improvement	Improved quality score.				
ROH 14		Promote sustainable use of resources Promote recycling. Pursue green waste composting with waste service providers. Encourage allotment associations to apply for grant aid to carry out and encourage recycling.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Increased recycling at allotment sites.			
ROH 15	Improve quality of children's play facilities	Refurbishment/provision of new of sites. Improve provision through the hierarchy and improve the borough's main parks more adventurous range of equipment.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Sports Development, STC	Short to long term	Funding for new sites Officer time for surveys	Improved quality score. Increased provision per 1,000 population.				

		Review planning contributions gained through SPD5 Planning Obligations and Agreements/Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).									Planning, STC		Management Maintenance	
ROH 16		Develop equipment that caters for children and young people with disabilities	✓			✓			✓	✓	Sports Development, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding for equipment Management Maintenance	Provision of sites with equipment for children and young people.
ROH 17		Involve young people in the design and choice of provision	✓			✓			✓	✓	Sports Development, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Officer time	Young people involved in the design and choice of provision.
ROH 18	Deliver the hierarchy of provision and continue to address surplus/ deficiency imbalance across the borough	Improve access to sites so that more people are within 400m of their nearest community/ neighbourhood play facility	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	Sports Development, STC Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding for new sites	Increase in areas within 400m of play site.
ROH 19		Provision of future fixed play provision in keeping with Play Strategy “Making Play Work in South Tyneside”	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	Sports Development, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short to long term	Funding for new sites	Provision in accordance with play strategy.
ROH 20	Ensure a strategic approach to playing pitch provision	Identify priority sites/ improvement programmes with partners including Durham FA/ Sport England.	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	Planning, STC Cultural Services, STC Durham FA Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Sport England	Short term	Officer time Funding for condition surveys	Via minutes. Via Implementation Group/ number of sites upgraded.
ROH 21		Ensure Playing Pitch Study Recommendations are included within the LDF.	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	Planning, STC	By 2012	Officer Time	Adoption of SPD3 Green Infrastructure Strategy
ROH 22		Promote greater joint working between Sports Development/ Planning	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	Planning, STC	Short Term	Officer Time	Joint working on Sport Development/ Planning

													Sport Development, STC			Issues
ROH 23		Increase number of pitches in community use at educational facilities Develop a model community use agreement that can be used in negotiations with schools. Investigate and encourage community use.	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓		Planning, STC Education, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short term	Officer Time	Number of additional pitches brought into community use.
ROH 24	Maintain and where possible enhance the carrying capacity of Council pitches through improved pitch quality.	Improve Playing Pitch Maintenance Ensure maintenance to pitches is being undertaken as per grounds maintenance specification.	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Cultural Services, STC	On going	Within budget	User satisfaction survey/independent inspection.
ROH 25		Ensure long-term improvements to pitch quality Arrange for independent external inspection.	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short – medium term	Funding	User satisfaction survey. Improved pitch quality.
ROH 26		Identify and assess additional playing pitch capacity Survey sites with regard to their appropriateness for use as sports pitches (survey will take into account access, geographic location, car parking, proximity)	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Short – medium term	Officer time	Production of report.
ROH 27		Ensure changing accommodation and facilities are fit for purpose Commission condition surveys of existing facilities to highlight maintenance issues, lifespan of buildings and DDA issues.	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Asset Management, STC Cultural Services, STC	Medium – long term	Officer time	Condition report completed on all facilities.
ROH 28		Establish a site investment programme Using the findings of the condition surveys together with the quality/ value matrix to prioritise sites for investment/ development in consultation with partners.	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Asset Management, STC Cultural Services, STC	Medium term	Funding	Hierarchy of schemes agreed. Timetable for submissions of funding bids developed.
ROH 29	Ensure effective management of playing	Investigate leasing of sites to sports clubs. Identify appropriate sites.					✓			✓			Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Cultural Services,	Medium term	Officer time	Number of sites leased/ external funding accessed.

	pitches												STC			
ROH 30		Ensure supply and demand data is accurate and up to date Update supply and demand information annually and full playing pitch reassessment every 5 years.									✓		Sports Development ,STC Planning, STC	Medium term	Officer time Survey costs	Updates completed.
ROH 31		Seek to implement actions of FA Youth Review Review playing pitch stock provision to accommodate dedicated pitches for 5v5, 7v7, 9v9 and 11v11 matches.									✓	✓	Sports Development ,STC Durham FA Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC	Medium term	Officer time	Provision of new dedicated pitch sizes.
ROH 32	Encourage Sport Development	Increase participation in outdoor sports Target increase in female participation in outdoor sport	✓								✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Cultural Services, STC	Medium term	Officer time	Increased female participation in outdoor sports.
ROH 33		Support club and sport development	✓								✓	✓	Sports Development, STC	Medium - long term	Officer time	Club and sport development.
ROH 34		Seek to affiliate football clubs with their parent County FA.	✓								✓	✓	Sports Development, STC Durham FA	Medium-long term	Officer time	Number of affiliated clubs
ROH 35	Strengthen and develop further partnership working to address issues highlighted in action plan	Undertake regular consultation with pitch users Establish trend data in relation to satisfaction; pitch quality, common issues via annual survey.	✓								✓	✓	Sports Development, STC	Medium term	Officer time Schools Community Sports Network	Development of trend data.
ROH 36		Develop a playing pitch focus group and Implementation Group to implement and develop action plan Arrange meetings with key personnel to drive action plan.	✓								✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management),STC Sport England Durham FA Cultural Services, STC	Medium term	Officer Time	Action plan progressed.
ROH 37		Consultation with The Community Sports Network (CSN) to update members of the action plan and	✓								✓	✓	Planning, STC	Medium term	Officer time	Members agree action plan and strategy.

		strategy Implement action plan into the ongoing overall delivery plan of the Green Infrastructure SPD.															Sports Development, STC		Community Sports Network	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-------------------------	--	--------------------------	--

6) Biodiversity and Landscape

Ref	Objective	Actions	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Time scale	Funding / Recourses	Monitoring
			Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production				
BL1	Increase provision of Local Nature Reserves	Work in partnership with Natural England and local communities to establish further designated Local Nature Reserves. Potential sites include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiledsheds Piggery (11.97ha) • St. Paul's Riverside (19.14ha) • Colliery Wood (44.58ha) • Monkton Wood (13.64ha) • Temple Park West (34.8ha) • Hebburn Riverside (39.83 ha) 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Natural England	Medium - long term	Officer time Land Financial resources Management Maintenance	Creation of new Local Nature Reserves.
BL2	Enhance Biodiversity	Conserve, enhance and strengthen wildlife populations. Maximise connectivity between sites, working at a broad scale with neighbouring authorities, to enhance and protect wildlife corridors.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short - long term	Financial resources Management Maintenance	Retention and improvement of wildlife corridors.
BL3		Promote diversity through management of amenity grassland to create wildflower grasslands to encourage greater variety in character and wildlife benefits	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short - long term	Management Maintenance	Area of amenity grassland converted to wildflower grassland.
BL4		Promote opportunities to enhance habitat value that will support and benefit wildlife	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short term	Officer time Financial resources Management	Improvement of habitat value.

BL5	Conserve and improve management of designated Local Wildlife Sites	Support application of measures to enhance biodiversity beyond local wildlife site boundary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Ongoing	Officer time Land Financial resources Management Maintenance	
BL6		Create and update Management Plans Create and update Management Plans for all nature reserves and seek volunteer involvement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short Term	Officer time	Production of Management Plans for all sites.
BL7		Single Data List (LWS Site Reporting) A higher proportion of sites to be in positive management every year as defined by Single Data List methodology.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Ongoing	Financial resources Management Maintenance	Annually as per Single Data List methodology.
BL8		Sustainable management of sites Ensure sustainable management practices including carbon reduction is inherent and understood in all parks and open space and management operations, e.g. use of pesticides, non-use of peat.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short - long term	Education Resources	Use of sustainable management practices.
BL9		Maintain accurate records of ecological value of sites Survey for ecological value on a regular basis and maintain a broad-based ecological database in partnership with Environmental Records Information Centre (ERIC) North East	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short - long term	Resources Staff/ consultancy costs	Up to date record of ecological value of sites and species.
BL10		Provide 'Good' quality sites as a minimum (Excellent for LNRs) Ensure sites are proactively managed using recognised best practice countryside management and estate management techniques to enhance their ecological and environmental education value.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short - long term	Financial resources Management Maintenance Officer time	Quality of sites.
BL11		Protect all existing nature conservation sites. Ensure maintenance and management of sites and the protection of areas through Development Plan Designations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Planning, STC	Short - long term	Officer time	Maintenance of existing nature conservation sites.

7) Riverside Corridor – Green Infrastructure Projects and Priorities

Ref	Objective	Actions	Site	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Time scale	Funding / Recourses	Monitoring	
				Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production					Education
RC1	Manage flooding and biodiversity along the River Corridors	Create a management plan for the River Don	River Don	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	Environmental Protection, STC Durham Wildlife Trust Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Long Term	Officer Time	Implementation of River Don Management plan.
RC2		Creation of wetland areas along the river.	River Tyne & Don			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Durham Biodiversity Partnership Durham Wildlife Trust	Medium – long term	Officer Time	New wetland areas created.
RC3		Protect remaining areas of mudflat, which are of high biodiversity value.	Jarrow Slake			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium – long term	Officer Time	Retention of mudflat area.
RC4		Seek to utilise the Don as a focus for enhancing landscape structure and habitat networks	River Don Area			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium – long term	Management	Improved habitat network
RC5	Recognise the value of woodlands in riverside areas	Ensure long-term viability of woodlands and trees through replanting schemes	Don Valley			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		Green Spaces Team, STC	Medium – long term	Officer Time	Improvement in quality of woodland areas
RC6		Seek to diversify the age and structure of woodland areas	Hebburn Riverside			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			Management		
RC7		Recognise potential biodiversity value of vacant land and the contribution of regeneration woodland to local character	Jarrow Riverside			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓					Monitor Biodiversity value of vacant land

RC8	Ensure Accessibility to riverside areas and recreational spaces	Promote and retain access to riverside areas	Hebburn Riverside		✓			✓	✓		Green Spaces Team, STC	Medium – long term	Maintenance Officer Time	Improved access to area.
RC9			Hebburn North		✓			✓	✓					
RC10			Harton Quay		✓			✓	✓					
RC11			Jarrow Central		✓			✓	✓					
RC12			Church Bank/ Bede's World		✓			✓	✓					
RC13		Promote enhanced and continuous access along the Don Valley as part of a wider network of open spaces along the river corridor	Don Valley		✓		✓	✓	✓					
RC14		Promote and enhance the River Don corridor as a recreational amenity for the Boldon area and as a biodiversity resource	Boldon		✓		✓	✓	✓					
RC15	Enhance the existing 'High-Line' cycle route through High Shields	Trinity South		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	Regeneration, STC Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Asset Management, STC	Long term	Officer time Management Funding	Enhancement of cycle route	

8) Coastal Corridor – Green Infrastructure Projects and Priorities

Ref	Objective	Actions	Site	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Timescale	Funding / Recourses	Monitoring	
				Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production					Education
CC1	Enhancing Sandhaven dune system	Implement the recommendations included in the Sandhaven Beach Dune Management Plan.	Sand Haven			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			Environmental Protection, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium term	Funding Environment Agency	Measure the total increase of the dunes.
CC2	Preventing coastal erosion and flooding	Seek to implement the promenade and seawall realignment	Littlehaven Beach	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Environmental Protection, STC	Short to Medium term	Funding Officer Time Management	Completion of the scheme.	
CC3		Manage access to restrict erosion and protect biodiversity	Herd Sand Dunes			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC			Reduction in erosion of dunes	
CC4	Address missing links in the Rights of Way Network in the coastal corridor	Provide a link from Mill Lane, Whitburn on the National Cycle Network to the rear of Whitburn Academy, should a new development occur.	Souter Lighthouse - Whitburn Coastal Park	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Planning, STC	Short to long term	Funding Maintenance Management	Implementation of schemes.	
CC5		Create and upgrade bridleway	Whitburn Coastal Park to Wheathall Farm	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓						
CC6		Dedicated route as a bridle way and improving safety of crossing and establish equestrian access route	Cut Throat Dene, Whitburn	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓						
CC7	Use green infrastructure as a tool for tourism	Publicise the Foreshore in South Shields as a connection to the National Cycle Network	Foreshore	✓	✓				✓		✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Funding Officer time	Increased use of the Foreshore by cyclists.	

														Asset Management, STC Marketing & Communications, STC Sustrans			
CC8		Retain high standard of quality across the foreshore as a highly visible area	Marine & Bents Park					✓	✓					Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Officer Time Management Maintenance	Retention of Green Flag at Marine Park	
CC9		Continue to promote the area for tourism in a sustainable way	The Leas					✓	✓					Marketing & Communications, STC National Trust	Officer Time Management	Increase in visitors to the Foreshore	
CC10		Promote interpretation and understanding of the Magnesian Limestone geodiversity area						✓	✓		✓		✓	Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC External Partners	Officer Time Funding	Increased awareness of Magnesian Limestone area	
CC11		Retain ridge-and-furrow and seek to interpret the target mounds	Whitburn Rifle Ranges					✓	✓				✓	Planning, STC		Retention of ridge and furrow	
CC12	Maintain high quality of coastal beaches and grassed areas and improved access along the coastline	Retain blue flag standard at beaches.	The coast	✓			✓	✓	✓					Environmental Protection, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Funding Maintenance Management	Blue flag standard retained
CC13		Maintain the overall undeveloped nature of the coast	The Leas	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓			National Trust Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC		Maintenance Management	Protection of the undeveloped coast
CC14		Continue to conserve grasslands and enhance biodiversity value.						✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			Improvement of biodiversity value
CC15	Maintain access to coastal areas	Enhance green network links to and from these key open spaces, improving access for all.	Open Space at the Leas & Marsden Old Quarry	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓			Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC National Trust	Short to long term	Officer Time Funding	Improvement of access links
CC16		Ensure maintenance of access links and connectivity with settlements and transport	Whitburn Coast	✓	✓			✓	✓					Nexus Green Spaces Team (Area Management),		Maintenance Management	

														STC				
														Asset Management, STC				
CC17	Increase provision of parks and open spaces	Harton Quay Park at South Shields Riverside (a 2.65ha attractive, high quality leisure and recreation facility for the local community and visitors, with distinctive landscape and conserving and enhancing areas of biodiversity interest).	Harton Quay Park	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			Planning, STC	by 2012	Additional land	Scheme implemented	
														Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC		Funding		
														Regeneration, STC		Management		
														Private Sector		Maintenance		
CC18	Identify and assess playing pitch capacity	Survey sites with regard to their appropriateness for use as sports pitches	Coastal Leas	✓										Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short term	Officer time	Production of report.	

9) Green Belt – Green Infrastructure Projects and Priorities

Ref	Objective	Actions	Site	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Timescale	Funding / Recourses	Monitoring
				Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism & Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production				
GB1	Implement missing links identified in the Tyne & Wear Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2007-2021)	Off-road links and bridleway upgrades.	A184	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Funding Maintenance Management	Implementation of schemes.
		Road safety improvements	Tilsheds Lane, East Boldon	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓					
GB2	Encourage accessibility to area	Enhance access networks across the area, utilising existing paths and promoting new links	Boldon Fell	✓	✓			✓			✓		Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Funding Maintenance Management	Accessibility retained and improved in areas
GB3		Promote access as part of a wider network, seeking to build further links and connectivity with urban areas	Boldon & Cleadon Farmland	✓	✓			✓			✓					
GB4		Promote enhanced access to the hill summit as part of good access network	Boldon Downhill	✓	✓			✓			✓					
GB5		Promote access as part of a wider network, enhancing links where possible	Cleadon Hills	✓	✓			✓			✓					
GB6	Recognise the value of Street Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows	Ensure long-term maintenance of ornamental plantings	A194 Corridor			✓	✓	✓					Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Maintenance Management	Planting retained
GB7		Support the reinstatement of hedges and hedge trees for landscape and habitat value	Boldon Fell													
GB8			Boldon Downhill			✓	✓	✓		✓						
GB9			Boldon Flats & Whitburn Moor			✓	✓	✓		✓						

GB10			Boldon & Cleadon Farmland																
GB11			Cleadon Hills																
GB12			Whitburn																
GB13			Cleadon Village																
GB14		Support planting of new woodland areas to reinforce landscape structure	Boldon Fell			✓	✓	✓											
GB15		Retain existing stands of mature woodland, and promote the establishment of new areas of woodland to link these up and form a more coherent landscape structure	Boldon Downhill			✓	✓	✓											
GB16		Promote further woodland planting particularly where this will form links and enhance landscape structure	Boldon & Cleadon Fragmented Farmland			✓	✓	✓											
GB17		Ensure good quality ongoing maintenance for habitat and recreational use	Cleadon Hills			✓	✓	✓											
GB18	Ensure landscape features & viewpoints are maintained	Protect the open aspect of the hilltop, recognising its value as a landscape feature and viewpoint	Boldon Downhill				✓	✓											
GB19		Retain open undeveloped character and maintain long views in all directions through management of vegetation	Cleadon Hills				✓	✓											
GB20	Creation of new cycle routes	Provide new routes to increase connectivity to Gateshead and Sunderland	Sunderland Border/ Follingsby Lane	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓						
														Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium to long term	Funding Maintenance Management		Increase the amount of woodland planting	
														Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to Long term	Maintenance Management Officer Time		Areas protected for development and recreational use	
														Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Asset Management, STC	Long term	Officer time Management Funding		Creation of new cycle route	

10. Urban Areas – Green Infrastructure Projects and Priorities

Ref	Objective	Actions	Site	Green Infrastructure Benefits									Responsibility	Timescale	Funding / Recourses	Monitoring	
				Health	Sustainable Transport	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Quality of Place	Tourism Investment	Flood Mitigation	Sport & Recreation	Food Production					Education
UA1	Address missing links in the Rights of Way Network	Monkton Mineral Line/Bowes Railway Path at Monkton Village – create off-road link.	Monkton Village	✓	✓			✓	✓					Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to long term	Funding Maintenance Management	Implementation of scheme.
UA2	Increase provision of parks and open spaces	21ha corridor of linked multi-functional open spaces, with associated footpaths and cycleways along the Tyne Tunnel corridor between Howard Street and an improved Jarrow Riverside Park	Tyne Tunnel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	by 2011	Additional land Funding Management Maintenance	Development of new parks and open space Schemes implemented Hectares of parks and open spaces created	
UA3		Public recreational open space within (approx. 4ha).	Westoe Crown Village	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Regeneration, STC Private Sector	by 2011				
UA4		Public recreational open space within the mixed-use site in Hebburn, to protect the most valuable biodiversity areas.	Argyle / Caledonian Street	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			by 2016				
UA5		Public recreational open space at site of electricity substation (approx. 0.4ha).	Hawthorne Street	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			by 2016				
UA6	Increase provision of allotments	Implement sites for allotments in the Site-Specific Allocations DPD	Land south of Green Lane allotments, Brockley Avenue	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Planning , STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	by 2013	Additional land Funding (including CIL) Officer time	Development of additional allotment plots. Preparation of CIL (by 2014).	
UA7			Land within School Street	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			by 2013			
UA8			Land at Temple Park Junior	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			by 2016			

			School															
UA9		Implement reserve sites for allotments in the Site-Specific Allocations DPD	Land south of Chuter Ede playing fields	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
UA10	Address quality issues with respective grounds maintenance contractors highlighted in Playing Pitch Study quality matrix	Junior pitch, classified as Below Average	Clock Playing Fields, Hebburn											Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	On going	Officer time	User satisfaction survey /Independent inspection	
UA11		Senior pitches 1 and 2 classified as Below Average	Hebburn Community Centre													Financial resources		
UA12		Senior pitches 1 and 2 classified as Average	Hebburn Riverside Park													Management		
UA13		Senior pitch (3), classified as Average	Hebburn Community Centre													Maintenance		
UA14		Senior pitch classified as Average	Clock Playing Fields, Hebburn															
UA15		Senior pitch classified as Below Average	Perth Green Community Centre	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
UA16		Junior pitches 1 and 2, classified as Average	Jarrow School															
UA17		10 mini soccer pitches classified as Average	Monkton Stadium															
UA18		Senior pitches 1-8, classified as Below Average	Temple Memorial Park															
UA19		3 Senior pitches classified as Average	Chuter Ede Community Centre															
UA20		Senior football pitches 2 & 3 classified as Average	Cleadon Park Recreation Ground															
UA21		Senior football pitches 1 & 2 classified as	The Dell															

		Average																
UA22		Junior pitch classified as Average	West Park, South Shields															
UA23		Senior Rugby & football pitches classified as Average	Oakleigh Gardens															
UA24		Rugby pitch classified as Average	South Shields Community School															
UA25		Senior pitch classified as Average	Brinkburn Recreation Ground															
UA26		Mini Soccer pitch classified as Average	East Boldon Primary School															
UA27	Develop sporting hubs	Maintain existing and Identify and develop appropriate sites	Temple Memorial Park											Sport Development, STC Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC Sport England Football Foundation	Short - medium term	Funding Land	Development of Sports Hubs.	
UA28			Brinkburn School site															
UA29			Monkton Stadium	✓							✓							
UA30			Chuter Ede															
UA31			Jarrow School															
UA32			Boldon School															
UA33	Address deficiencies in open space provision and improve quality of existing spaces	Allocation of sites in the Local Development Framework	Hebburn & South Shields	✓									Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium to long term	Funding Land	Provision of new Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace.		
UA34	Ensure good levels of accessibility to and from green	Enhance connectivity of the park with surrounding areas including opening up surrounding woodland which screen the open space	Campbell Park		✓								Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium to long term	Officer Time Management	Enhanced connectivity to greenspace areas		

UA35	spaces	Promote access as part of a wider network of public open spaces	Monkton Dene		✓			✓																					
UA36		Seek enhance access to the north by the River Don and Boldon Colliery Woods.	Various Sites		✓			✓																					
UA37	Improve biodiversity value of sites	Promote the creation of wildflower grassland where appropriate, with the aim of providing a greater variety in character and wildlife benefits	Campbell Park			✓	✓	✓												Planning, STC Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium to long term	Management Maintenance	Provision of new Natural & Semi-Natural Greenspace.						
UA38			West Park			✓	✓	✓																					
UA39			Tyne Tunnel Open space			✓	✓	✓																					
UA40	Recognise the value of Street Trees and Woodlands in line with the councils Tree & Woodland Policy	Enhance links with the town, including the replacement of lost street trees	Ocean Road		✓			✓												Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Medium to long term	Management Maintenance	Retention and enhancement of street trees within the borough.						
UA41		Enhance access to existing open space, potentially using street trees as a way of defining such routes	Harton		✓			✓																					
UA42		Ensure long term viability of street trees through a programme of replacement and re-establishment		Primrose																									
UA43				Harton																									
UA44				Hebburn					✓	✓																			
UA45				Horsley Hill & Marsden																									
UA46		Maintain woodlands to ensure longer term viability	Fellgate & Hedworth					✓	✓																				
UA47		Maintain open space and woodland along transport embankments						✓	✓																				
UA48		Regenerate woodland on vacant land	Simonside Industrial Estate					✓	✓																				
UA49		Protect mature street trees, and ensure long-term viability through replacement of damaged trees	Westoe					✓	✓																				
UA50	Ensure the retention of mature trees and hedges during redevelopment and construction	Cleadon Plantation					✓	✓																					
UA51	Ensure long-term viability of mature trees on the village green and elsewhere through programmes of replacement	Whitburn					✓	✓																					
UA52	Seek to improve Green Infrastructure functions at	Manage the area for a variety of functions, seeking to enhance biodiversity value of semi-natural areas while promoting formal recreation facilities	Borough wide		✓			✓	✓					✓						Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC	Short to Long Term	Officer time Management	Green infrastructure functions retained						

	existing sites															Sports Development, STC			
UA54	Provision of new cycle routes	Create an 'Enterprise Zone Link' cycle route linking the Tyne Pedestrian and Cycle Tunnels and the A19 Nissan site at Sunderland	Borough wide													Regeneration, STC	Long term	Officer time Management	Creation of new cycle route
UA55		West Harton Mineral Line cycle route		✓	✓											Green Spaces Team (Area Management), STC			

**To find out more about the new
Local Development Framework, contact:**

Spatial Planning Team, Housing Strategy and Regulatory Services,
South Tyneside Council, Town Hall and Civic Offices,
Westoe Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE33 2RL

Telephone: (0191) 424 7688

Email: ldf@southtyneside.gov.uk

Visit: www.southtyneside.info/planning

If you know someone who would like this information in a different format contact
the communications team on 0191 424 7385.