



DRAFT Perth and Kinross **Open Space** Strategy 2027 to 2032

A Perth and Kinross where everyone can live life well,
free from poverty and inequality

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Introduction

Purpose and scope

This Open Space Strategy (OSS) sets a strategic framework for how Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) will protect, enhance and expand its network of open spaces and wider blue and green infrastructure (BGI) so that it delivers multiple benefits for people and nature.

This first OSS for Perth and Kinross has been prepared in fulfilment of updated requirements under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). It seeks to ensure that local action contributes to national priorities.

The purpose of the OSS is to:

- set out the Council's quantity, quality and accessibility open space standards
- present the findings of the open space audit benchmarked against those standards, identifying areas where new or enhanced provision is required
- identify areas of public open space to be safeguarded from development in the Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3)

- inform Development Management planning application decisions which will include proposals relating to designated open space or where new open space provision is required
- help embed blue-green infrastructure principles into future development
- provide an evidence-base for external funding applications
- support the delivery of wider policy objectives

Statutory and policy context

New duties on planning authorities to prepare and publish an OSS were introduced in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. It inserted section 3G Open Space Strategy into the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Section 3G (2) of the Act states “an open space strategy is to set out a strategic framework of the planning authority's policies and proposals as to the development, maintenance and use of green infrastructure in their district, including open spaces and green networks.” Section 3G (3) of the Act sets out an open space strategy must contain:

- (a) an audit of existing open space provision
- (b) an assessment of current and future requirements
- (c) any other matter which the planning authority considers appropriate.

NPF4, adopted 2023, forms part of Scotland's statutory Development Plan. It expects planning authorities to use the OSS as an evidence base during the preparation of LDPs and the assessment of development proposals.

NPF4, under Policy 20: Blue and green infrastructure, sets out an expectation for the LDP's spatial strategy to identify and protect blue and green infrastructure assets and networks; enhance and expand existing provision including new blue and/or green infrastructure. This is to be informed by relevant, up-to-date audits and strategies, covering the multiple functions and benefits of blue and green infrastructure.

NPF4, under Policy 21: Play, recreation and sport, sets out an expectation for LDPs to identify sites for sports, play and outdoor recreation for people of all ages. This should be based on an understanding of the needs and demand in the community and informed by the planning authority's OSS. These spaces are to be incorporated as part of enhancing and expanding blue and green infrastructure.

The OSS was prepared alongside a Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) required by the Town and Country Planning (Play Sufficiency Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023. The PSA assessed the quantity, quality and accessibility of formal and informal play

opportunities. Its findings directly inform the open space audit (OSA) and OSS.

Scope of the strategy

The OSS sets a five-year framework (2027 to 2031) with annual monitoring and a mid-term review, aligned to the Development Plan Scheme for LDP3 programme and evidence cycles.

The OSS focuses on blue and green infrastructure, including open spaces and their networks. Figure 1 defines and illustrates the key components of blue-green networks that are considered within the scope of the OSS. These networks can include open spaces, rivers and lochs, habitat corridors, active travel routes, play spaces, civic spaces and other green and blue infrastructure assets. The OSS considers these components at a range of scales, from strategic networks (allowing cross boundary issues to be considered) down to settlement, neighbourhood and individual sites. To align with the statutory focus, the OSS primarily considers spaces within and on the edge of settlements. Where relevant, countryside access and assets are referenced.

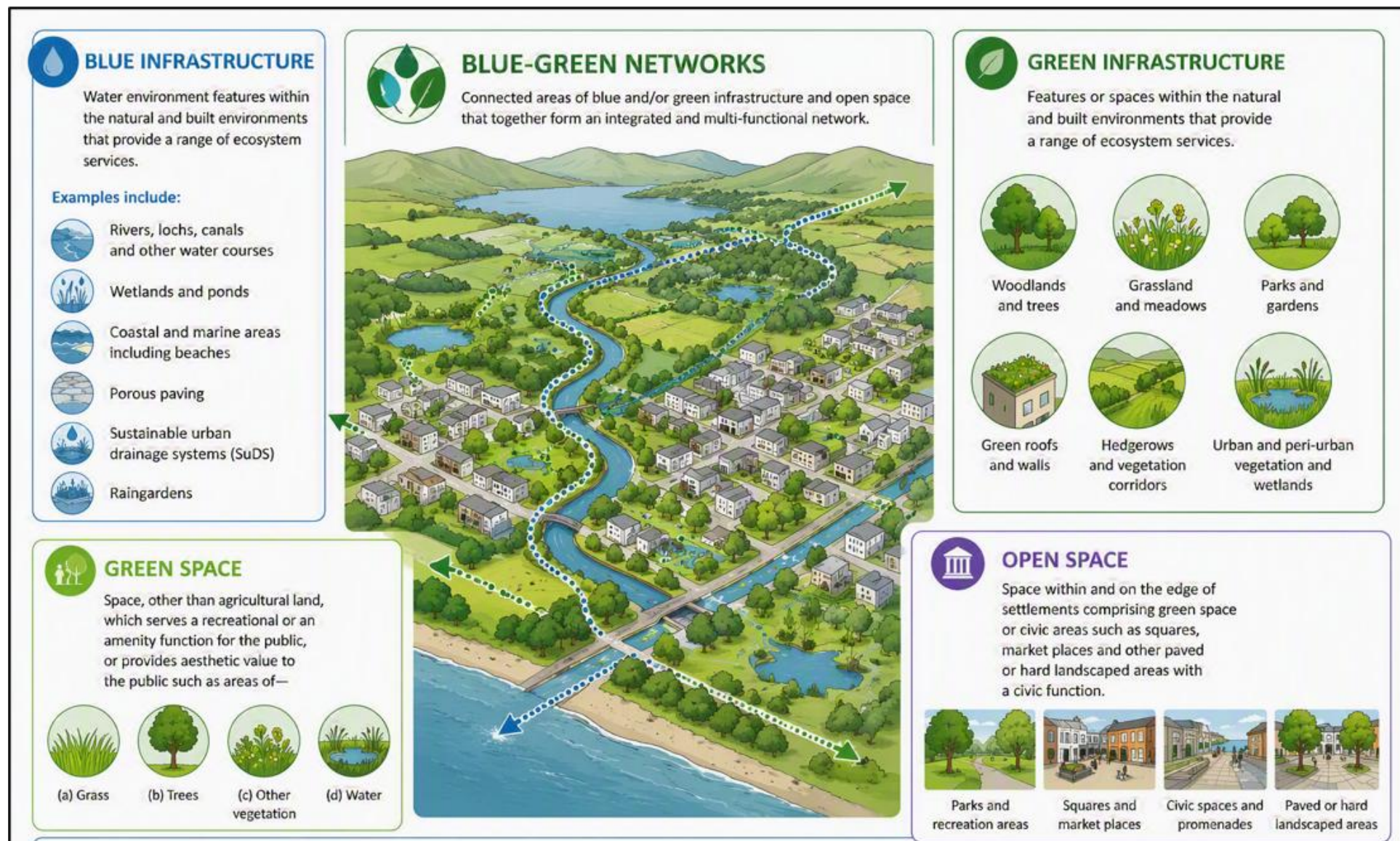


Figure 1: Definitions of key blue-green network components

Vision

Every community in Perth and Kinross enjoys safe, inclusive and biodiverse open spaces within easy reach, connected by nature-rich blue-green networks that support climate resilience, healthier lives and equal opportunities for all ages.

This vision aligns with the principles of BGI:

Multifunctionality – the integration of different land uses and activities within the same site in order to maximise the benefits to people and nature and make the most efficient use of land.

Connectivity – the linking together of green areas, features and spaces to enable people, animals and plants to move between them.

Strategic priorities and outcomes

The OSS adopts priority areas consistent with the national expectations for Open Space Strategies and localises them for Perth and Kinross. Each priority is supported by a set of outcomes, as shown in Table 1. Together, these provide a strategic framework to guide LDP3 preparation, inform development management decisions, and help prioritise Council investment and resource allocation.

As the first OSS for Perth and Kinross, the strategy brings together and co-ordinates a range of existing policies, strategies and initiatives that already contribute to the delivery of these priorities and outcomes. While not entirely new, they provide a centralised framework through which these existing commitments can be aligned, co-ordinated and monitored. References to the relevant supporting strategies, policies and guidance are provided throughout the OSS.

Table 1: Strategic priorities and outcomes

	Priority	Outcomes
	Access to quality open space – Open spaces will be planned, designed and managed to ensure all residents can access good-quality spaces within their local area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Households can access a variety of open spaces within the walking distances specified in the Council's accessibility standards. Open spaces meet the Council's standards for quality and safety.
	Successful, sustainable places – Open spaces will contribute to the creation of well-designed and sustainable places, supporting placemaking and local living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue-green infrastructure and networks form an integral element of design and placemaking. Open spaces positively contribute to the character and identity of places. Blue-green networks support local living, tourism and economic vitality.
	Health and wellbeing – Open spaces will support physical and mental health by providing accessible, welcoming and safe environments for recreation, social interaction and connection to nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue-green networks provide diverse opportunities for physical activity, play, recreation and connection with nature. Open spaces support social interaction, community cohesion and participation.
	Advancing equality and inclusion – Open spaces will be accessible and inclusive for all users, helping to reduce inequalities and support diverse community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open spaces are inclusive and responsive to the needs of people of all age, abilities and backgrounds. Open spaces, and their facilities, are co-designed and managed in collaboration with communities.
	Nature positive places – Open spaces will protect, enhance and connect habitats, supporting biodiversity and delivering positive outcomes for nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity is protected and enhanced across open space networks. Habitat connectivity is strengthened across settlements and into the countryside.
	Climate change mitigation and adaptation – Open spaces will function as nature-based solutions to climate change by reducing emissions and increasing resilience to climate change impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue-green networks support a shift to sustainable travel through improved walking and cycling connections. Open spaces contribute to climate resilience through sustainable drainage, flood management, cooling and shading.

How the strategy was developed

An internal Open Space Strategy Working Group was established to provide input and oversight to shape the direction of the strategy, ensuring alignment with wider policy, service priorities and operational considerations.

Open Space Audit

In accordance with statutory requirements an audit of existing open space provision across Perth and Kinross was undertaken to inform the preparation of the OSS. The purpose of the audit is to undertake an assessment of the quantity, quality and accessibility (i.e. spatial distribution) of existing open spaces information on the audit.

The audit considered all open spaces within or adjacent to settlement boundaries identified in the current Local Development Plan (LDP2) that were 0.2ha or larger, as well as smaller sites considered to be of local importance. This included sites both publicly and privately managed to get an overall picture of open space provision across Perth and Kinross. For a specific breakdown of the Council's greenspace assets please refer to the [Community Greenspace Asset Management Plan \(CGAMP\)](#).

Further detail on the audit is available in the Appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Open Space Audit Report
- Appendix 2 – Open Space Audit Settlement Results

These should be viewed alongside the [Perth and Kinross Open Space Audit Web Map](#) which includes the mapped outputs of the audit.

Together, these resources provide a spatial evidence base to inform planning decisions, including the identification of developer requirements for on and/or off-site contributions.

Engagement

A series of internal and engagement activities were undertaken in parallel with the OSA to provide additional context, identify local priorities, and help validate the audit findings. This included a series of cross-service workshops to co-ordinate internal policies under the topics covered in the OSS, as well as multiple community engagement activities to identify current and future requirements, including:

- **Big Place Conversation** – a programme Place Standard engagement for LDP3.
- **Playing Out in Perth and Kinross Survey** – online survey targeted towards children and young people for the PSA.

- **Open Space Survey** – online map-based survey to gather information on valued open spaces and how they are used.

and seek funding for projects that support the delivery of the OSS priorities and outcomes.

How to use the strategy

The OSS is a statutory document and a material consideration in the decision-making process. It should be used by developers, Council officers, community groups and other stakeholders to inform the development, maintenance and use of blue and green infrastructure, including open spaces and wider networks.

Proposals relating to open spaces should take account of the policies, standards and spatial analysis set out in this strategy. This includes consideration of open space quantity, quality, accessibility and typology, as well identified areas of deficiency and demand.

The OSS should be applied at the earliest stage of development, including pre-application discussions, and should be used alongside the LDP and other relevant strategies linked to throughout this document. Where proposals depart from the standards or recommendations in this strategy, clear justification will be required.

In addition, the OSS provides an evidence base that can be used to support stakeholders and partner organisations to develop, justify

Blue and green network overview

Perth and Kinross is characterised by an extensive and interconnected blue and green network that forms a defining element of the area's environment, landscape and sense of place. Stretching from the Cairngorms in the north to Loch Leven and the lowland agricultural landscapes in the south, these natural assets support biodiversity, climate resilience, recreation, active travel, tourism and community wellbeing. The network comprises rivers, lochs, wetlands, woodlands, parks, open spaces, habitats and access routes that connect settlements with the wider natural environment.

Strategic blue network

The River Tay and its tributaries form the backbone of the blue network across Perth and Kinross. At approximately 193km in length, the River Tay is Scotland's longest river and drains a catchment of more than 5,000km², making it one of the country's most significant freshwater systems. The catchment contains around 162 water bodies, including major rivers and lochs that support internationally important habitats and species.

Loch Leven is one of Scotland's most important wetland sites and covers approximately 1,611 hectares. It supports internationally significant populations of breeding and wintering waterbirds, with up to 35,000 birds recorded during winter months. The loch is also

a major recreational asset, with the 21km (13 miles) Loch Leven Heritage Trail providing opportunities for walking, cycling and wildlife appreciation.

Figure 2 identifies the key blue network assets within Perth and Kinross. These features form important ecological, landscape and recreation corridors and provide opportunities to strengthen connections between settlements and surrounding countryside. Key blue network assets included are:

- River Tay and the River Tay Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- River Earn, River Almond, River Isla, River Tummel, River Lyon and River Braan
- Loch Tay, Loch Rannoch, Loch Tummel and Loch Ericht
- Loch Leven National Nature Reserve and internationally important wetland habitat
- wetlands, floodplains and freshwater ecosystems throughout the authority area

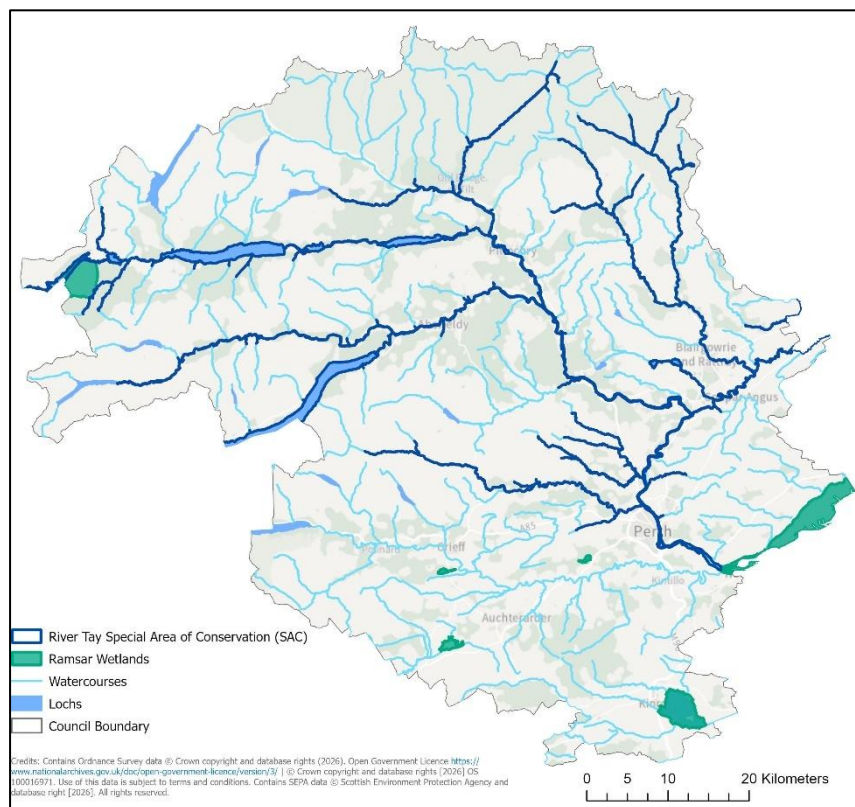


Figure 2: Perth and Kinross Blue Network features

Strategic green network

Perth and Kinross contains a diverse green network of woodlands, grasslands, parks, open spaces and protected landscapes. Woodland is a particularly important asset, covering approximately 99,353 hectares or 19% of the total land area (National Forest

Inventory, 2025), contributing significantly to biodiversity, carbon sequestration and landscape character.

The northern part of the authority lies within the Cairngorms National Park, the largest National Park in the United Kingdom. The National Park contains internationally important habitats, extensive areas of wild land, native woodlands, rivers and mountain environments, making a substantial contribution to Scotland's ecological network.

Figure 3 illustrates the distribution of strategic green network assets and connections. The network links settlements within surrounding countryside through open spaces, woodlands and active travel routes. Key green network assets include:

- Cairngorms National Park
- Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
- extensive woodland and forestry estates
- National Nature Reserves and Local Nature Conservation Sites
- designated Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)
- parks, open spaces and green corridors associated with settlements
- core paths and long-distance recreational routes

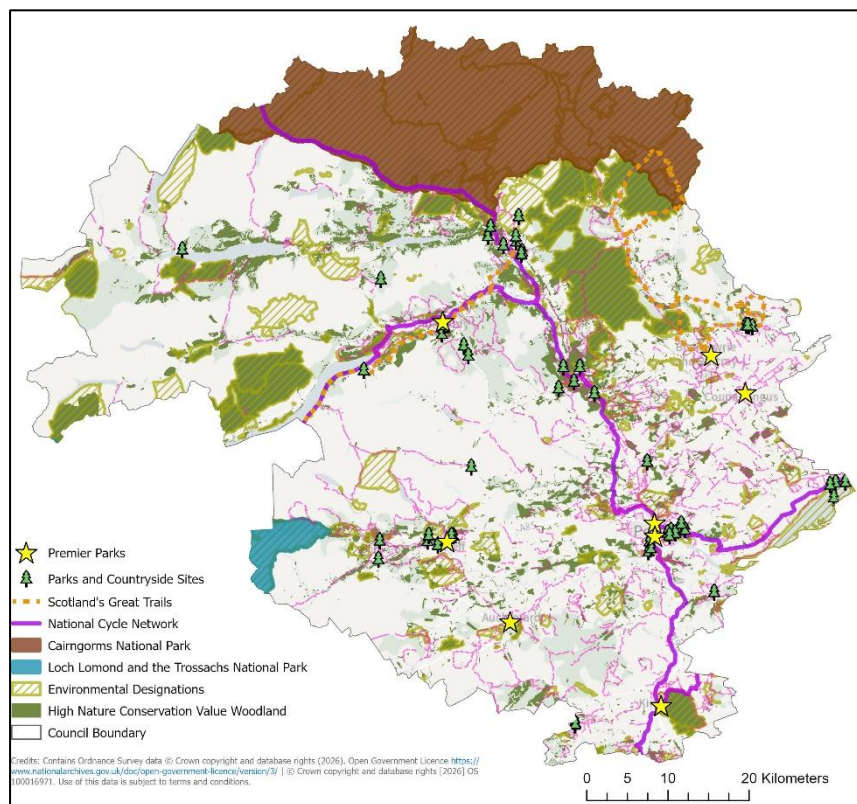


Figure 3: Perth and Kinross Green Network features and connections

Importance of the blue and green network

Together, these blue and green assets provide a wide range of ecosystem services and community benefits. They:

- support nationally and internationally important biodiversity
- help manage flood risk and improve climate resilience
- contribute to carbon storage and climate change mitigation
- provide opportunities for recreation, active travel and outdoor learning
- support tourism, health and wellbeing
- enhance landscape quality and local distinctiveness
- improve habitat connectivity across urban and rural areas

The protection, enhancement and better connection of these assets is fundamental to creating a resilient, accessible and multifunctional open space network that continues to support people, nature and place-making across Perth and Kinross.

Open space standards

Quantity

The OSA's quantity assessment identifies the current level of provision across Perth and Kinross. An initial desk-based review of existing spatial datasets was used to produce a baseline, this included all LDP2 designated open spaces. Each site was visited and pre-screened to identify a subset of spaces deemed to be public open space (POS). The total area of POS was used to benchmark against the quantity standard, indicating areas of sufficient provision or where deficiencies occurred. Table 2 provides an overview of the spaces considered in the audit.

Table 2: Overview of all open spaces considered in audit

Type	No. Sites	Total Area (Ha)
Public open space (POS)	432	906
Open space with limited accessibility or public functions (for example, golf courses, allotments, natural space with no formal access)	480	1,996
Total	912	2,902

Quantity standards

- Each community should have access to public open space at a rate of equivalent to 3.5 hectares per 1,000 people.
- the minimum amount of public open space required from new residential developments is 80m² per dwelling house.

Quantity policy

If the quantity of open space within any community falls below 3.5 hectares per 1,000 residents, then:

- The Council will support the provision of new public open space and will seek to identify suitable locations and secure external funding opportunities to deliver required provision.
- The sale or development of Council-owned open space that would result in the loss of these facilities will not be supported unless it results in replacement provision of equal or greater size within the community.
- Development proposals that would result in the loss of open space will only be supported where:
 - replacement provision of equal or greater size and quality is secured;
 - there is clear evidence of support from the local community; or
 - material considerations demonstrably outweigh the need to retain the open space.

Accessibility

Although the quantity benchmarking focused on populations residing in settlements with a boundary identified in LDP2, it is helpful to contextualise the findings at a wider authority scale. If the total Perth and Kinross population of 150,953 (Census, 2022) were applied to the quantity standard, the resulting POS requirement would be approximately 528ha. The audit identified around 906ha of POS, indicating that, at an overall level, open space quantity comfortably exceeds the benchmark but requires an accessibility analysis as to whether its distribution is suitable.

An accessibility analysis was undertaken to assess the distribution of public open spaces in relation to the population based on these accessibility standards. The findings help to identify areas of sufficient provision as well as where accessibility gaps may exist. Table 3 presents a summary of the outputs across all LDP2 designated settlements.

Table 3: Percentage households meeting accessibility standards across LDP2 settlements

	Public Park (700m)	Playing Field (1,200m)	LEAP (400m)	NEAP (1,000m)
All Settlements	84%	95%	60%	84%

Accessibility standards

The accessibility standards are put in place to ensure that everyone is within a reasonable walking distance to important areas of open spaces. In Perth and Kinross, everyone should be within:

- 700m of a public park
- 400m of a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)
- 1,000m of a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)
- 1,200m of a playing field
- 500m from a core path

Accessibility policy

- The Council will seek appropriate developer contributions from new development proposals in locations outside the defined accessibility catchments to ensure new residents have access to adequate provision.
- The Council will seek to secure additional investment to enhance open space provision within new developments, beyond the minimum requirements expected of developers, to address identified deficiencies in the wider area.
- The Council will seek to identify suitable locations and secure external funding to address gaps in provision or connectivity, with the aim of increasing the proportion of households meeting the accessibility standards.

Quality

A quality assessment was undertaken to evaluate the condition and characteristics of open spaces identified as publicly accessible in the audit. The findings identify those spaces that are performing well and provide good value to communities, as well as those where improvements may be required.

Overall, only ten of the sites assessed failed to meet the required quality standard. Table 4 sets out the number of sites that scored less than 'Good' for each criterion in the assessment. A full description of the quality criteria used in the assessment is provided in the Open Space Audit Report.

Table 4: Public open space quality assessment summary results

Quality Criterion	% sites scoring 'Good' or above
Accessibility	78%
Place Quality	84%
Care and Maintenance	94%
Biodiversity	91%
Community Use	87%
Overall Quality Score	98%

Quality standards

Open spaces identified as publicly accessible and included in the audit are expected to achieve a minimum quality score of 3 (Good) or above in the Council's quality assessment.

Quality policy

- Development proposals that enhance the functions of open spaces and improve the quality of the site will be supported.
- The Council will seek to secure external funding to improve the quality of open spaces that do not meet the required quality standard.
- Where a public open space fails to meet the quality standard and is privately managed, the Council will take reasonable steps to work with the responsible parties to bring the site up to the required standard.

Overview of audit findings

Settlement-level results are available in Appendix 2. This is accompanied by a series of mapped spatial datasets developed during the process. Table 5 summarises quantity and accessibility performance for larger settlements. Most settlements meet the quantity standard, while Blairgowrie, Bridge of Earn, Stanley, Abernethy and Longforan show quantitative deficiencies. Accessibility performance is generally strongest for playing fields and weakest for LEAP provision. It is important to recognise that a range of factors contribute to identified shortfalls in POS provision in certain settlements, such as:

- historic development of the settlement that did not prioritise open space provision. This is particularly evident in Perth
- the presence of spaces that could not be classified as POS in the audit due to accessibility constraints or lack of clear public function
- standard open space typologies do not account for the recreational value of accessible countryside, which may lessen demand for formal provision in smaller rural communities
- the phased delivery of larger public open spaces in new developments can result in temporary shortfalls following housing occupation

Addressing identified deficiencies remains a key priority and where they have been identified the following approaches will be pursued:

- safeguard existing POS provision;
- secure appropriate on-site and off-site developer contributions;
- pursue external funding opportunities using the OSS as an evidence-base;
- apply the Infrastructure First principle to ensure POS in new developments are delivered at the earliest practical stage, taking account of other infrastructure requirements and any masterplanning of the site;
- review sites identified in the audit that were not classified as POS, and, where appropriate, improve accessibility and functionality to make them public spaces;
- prioritise quality enhancements to existing open spaces, and path networks, in areas where new provision is not feasible;
- regarding the provision of new play spaces or sport facilities, deficiencies identified in the audit will be addressed following the approaches set out in the Playground Strategy and Policy on Provision of Facilities for Outdoor Pitch Sports.

Table 5: Open space audit quantity and accessibility summary: LDP2 settlements

Settlement	Population (Census 2022)	Meets Quantity Standard	Quantity Shortfall (Ha)	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Perth	49,292	Yes		89%	99%	62%	88%
Blairgowrie	9,433	No	-3.5	75%	98%	58%	70%
Kinross and Milnathort	7,606	Yes		82%	100%	69%	91%
Crieff	7,142	Yes		95%	99%	52%	89%
Auchterarder	6,061	Yes		59%	91%	62%	74%
Scone	5,232	Yes		87%	100%	43%	84%
Bridge of Earn	2,918	No	-2.1	100%	100%	63%	76%
Pitlochry	2,694	Yes		87%	97%	59%	85%
Alyth	2,345	Yes		96%	99%	67%	95%
Coupar Angus	2,132	Yes		90%	99%	80%	65%
Invergowrie	1,969	Yes		88%	96%	55%	88%
Aberfeldy	1,886	Yes		94%	100%	84%	91%
Comrie	1,847	Yes		79%	98%	42%	87%
Inchture	1,565	Yes		100%	100%	55%	100%
Luncarty	1,514	Yes		94%	99%	41%	98%
Errol	1,500	Yes		100%	100%	70%	100%
Stanley	1,497	No	-4	83%	95%	71%	96%
Abernethy	1,425	No	-1.3	86%	96%	49%	92%
Methven	1,301	Yes		91%	100%	48%	100%
Bankfoot	1,254	Yes		88%	98%	73%	98%
Dunkeld and Birnam	1,194	Yes		97%	94%	72%	96%
St Madoes and Glencarse	1,096	Yes		92%	100%	90%	97%
Longforgan	1,079	No	-1.9	57%	100%	24%	80%

Policies and guidance

Planning and placemaking

Until LDP3 is adopted, LDP2 and the Council's Open Space Provision for New Developments Supplementary Guidance (2021) and Green and Blue Infrastructure Supplementary Guidance (2020) provide the operative local detail on on-/off-site provision, developer contributions and long-term maintenance requirements. This OSS adds updated spatial priorities and standards to inform decisions and future guidance under the new planning system.

Development plans

The LDP's spatial strategy will identify and protect existing BGI assets, networks and open space facilities (including play, recreation, sport and active travel), while also supporting their enhancement and connectivity through new provision. This will be informed by an understanding of current and future requirements identified through the open space audit and community engagement.

LDP open space designations

A Designated Open Spaces (DOS) dataset will be mapped in the LDP and identify important areas of ecological, social or landscape value

for protection. Development proposals resulting in the quantitative or qualitative loss of these areas will not be permitted, except in circumstances where one or more of the following apply:

- a) Where the site is principally used as a recreation resource, the proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a recreational resource.
- b) The proposed development involves a minor part of the site which would not affect its continued use as a recreational or amenity resource.
- c) In the case of proposals involving the loss of a recreational or play facility, the facility which would be lost would be replaced by provision of one comparable or greater benefit and in a location which is convenient for its users, or by the upgrading of an existing provision to provide a better quality facility, either within the same site, or at another location which is convenient for its users.
- d) Where a proposal would involve the loss of a sports pitch, a playing field strategy prepared in consultation with **sportscotland** has demonstrated that there is a clear excess of sports pitches to meet current and anticipated future demand in the area, and that the site could be developed without detriment to the overall quality of provision.

Development proposals on designated open space that enhance the main functions of the site (for example, play, recreation, sport, habitat provision) will generally be supported, particularly where they align with community priorities identified in Community Action Plans or Local Place Plans.

Open space provision for new developments

All new development should seek to incorporate blue and green infrastructure of a scale proportionate to the proposal. Where appropriate, this will include public open space provision.

Public open space requirements for new development vary depending on the proposed class, scale and location. Generally, contributions will be set based on the Council's quantity, quality and accessibility standards.

Where there exists good provision of public open space in the local area that is accessible for new residents, there may be no requirement for on-site provision but alternatively a financial contribution towards improvement, accessibility and/or management of the existing space may be sought.

Where on-site provision is not feasible or the type of public open space required (for example, football pitch) has a wider catchment than the proposed development, then the Council may request off-



Open space that counts towards the minimum requirement

Any space with a clearly defined play, recreation or sport function which is accessible and can be used by members of the public. This includes the following types of spaces:

- High quality SUDS features which are integrated with the wider public open space provision.
- Larger areas of buffer/screen/street planting where these are integrated with paths and cycleways.



Open space that does not count towards the minimum requirement

- Isolated, grassed areas which have no clear public function.
- Isolated SUDS features which are not integrated with the wider public open space provision.
- Small areas of street planting.
- Service strips – unless incorporated with public open spaces.

site provision or financial contribution towards upgrading or expanding existing facilities.

While the OSS does not include quantity standards for non-residential development (for example, employment uses, community facilities), these will be expected to provide BGI where possible. Requirements for non-residential developments will be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the location, type of use and the amount of demand it is expected to generate.

Design standards

The LDP will apply these design standards to site briefs ensuring developments contribute to sustainable placemaking through high-quality BGI design.

Development proposals that include new or enhanced BGI provision must clearly demonstrate that they respond to the following design principles:

1. Blue and green network integration

Blue and green networks within the wider area will be identified at the outset of the design process. New BGI, including public open spaces, are located strategically to enhance and expand existing networks, improving connectivity within and beyond the site.

2. Landscape-led design

Development proposals respond positively to the landscape context of the site, with consideration given to important views to, from and across the site. Existing significant and sensitive features (for example, mature trees, hedgerows, water features and paths) have been identified, protected and incorporated into the site layout and design.

3. Function and purpose

Public open spaces will have clear functions within the development and be of an appropriate size, shape and quality to fulfil their intended purpose. These will be multifunctional and provide opportunities for recreation, play and social interaction, while delivering a range of ecosystem services. The function of all landscaped areas, including street greening, will be clearly identified on submitted plans. Small, fragmented or incidental areas of undeveloped land will not be considered as public open space and will not contribute to the minimum requirements.

4. Accessibility and connectivity

Public open spaces will be safe, attractive, inclusive and accessible to all. They will be designed in accordance with inclusive design principles and form part of a connected network that is easy to

navigate, supports active travel along nature-rich corridors through the development and beyond.

5. Identity and place

Public open spaces will contribute positively to local identity and sense of place. Public art, landscape features, signage and other design features should be used to reflect local character and create distinctive spaces.

6. Long-term management and maintenance

Proposals incorporating new or enhanced BGI will provide effective management and maintenance plans covering the funding arrangements for their long-term delivery and upkeep. Responsibilities for ongoing maintenance will be clearly identified, including any areas proposed for adoption by the Council.

7. Planting and species selection

Planting schemes reflect the function, character and environmental conditions of the site. Species selection shall be appropriate to the location, ground conditions and anticipated climate impacts, and shall take future maintenance implications into account. Native species should be used where appropriate as a first principle

8. Biodiversity enhancement

The protection and enhancement of biodiversity have been considered. Opportunities for habitat creation, restoration and connectivity have been identified within both public open spaces and private garden grounds (for example, wildflower meadows, native and seed-bearing trees, shrubs and hedges, swift and bat bricks and boxes, dry stone walls, hedgehog highways and wildlife kerbs). Habitat connectivity should be sought within and beyond the site connecting, where possible, to wider Nature Networks.

9. Ownership and responsibility

Private garden grounds, public open space and amenity street planting will be clearly distinguishable through site design and boundary treatments. Hedges and small grassed or planted areas adjacent to properties should, where appropriate, be incorporated into private garden ground and will not be adopted by the Council.

Submission checklist

Depending on the scale and nature of the proposed development, the Planning Authority may request the provision of one or more of the following alongside the submission of a planning application:

- a site plan which details existing green/blue infrastructure on the site including connections beyond the site boundary;
- a layout plan indicating proposed green areas, green/blue features and spaces and how these will connect to wider networks beyond the site boundary;
- a landscape and planting plan detailing the proposed planting;
- proposals for mitigating adverse impacts on existing BGI;
- arrangements for the ongoing long-term maintenance and management of new green areas, features and spaces.

Where a Landscape Plan is required, the checklist below should be completed to facilitate the assessment of proposals against Council standards.

Landscape and planting plan checklist

Where a Landscape and Planting Plan is required, this will include an appropriate level of detail by providing the following information:

- ☐ Show the location, size, typology and functions of all public open spaces.
- ☐ POS to be adopted by the Council must be clearly marked and distinguishable from any POS and small areas of amenity open space not to be adopted by the Council. The number of dwellings to be built and the planning reference must be clearly marked in the title.
- ☐ Illustrate connections to existing blue and green infrastructure, active travel networks (including off road paths) and key destinations within and beyond the site boundary.
- ☐ Show existing ground levels, gradients and site contours.
- ☐ Show existing site features, including trees, hedgerows, watercourses, paths, structures and other landscape features to be retained or removed.
- ☐ Provide cross-sections of key public open spaces.
- ☐ Provide details of the height and slopes of any proposed mounding or recontouring of the site, with full details of all hard landscaping proposals, including materials and installation methods.
- ☐ Include specifications for all structures within the site, including bridges, boardwalks, retaining walls, steps, seating, public art and landmark features.
- ☐ Where SuDS are integrated within the public space, plans should distinguish between permanent water/pond, planted wetland and various detention scenarios for the accessible green space, ideally showing water conveyance flow directions and exceedance flow path.
- ☐ Provide planting schemes, including details of the species, height, size, location, density and maintenance regime of trees and shrubs to be planted. Existing and proposed vegetation should be clearly distinguished.
- ☐ Show the location, quantity and specification of biodiversity enhancement measures such as bird and bat bricks, wildlife kerbs and hedgehog highways.
- ☐ Provide effective management and maintenance plans covering responsible parties, inspection schedules and long-term funding arrangements for all blue and green infrastructure.

Further technical guidance on landscaping is provided in the Open Space Provision for New Developments Supplementary Guidance.

Adoption and maintenance of open space

Development proposals that include new or enhanced BGI, play or sport facilities will provide effective Management and Maintenance Plans covering the funding arrangements for their long-term delivery and upkeep, and the party or parties responsible.

Management and Maintenance Plans will be agreed prior to the commencement of work and will usually be set out in planning conditions. The Council's [Policy on Maintenance Options for Public Open Spaces in New Residential Developments](#) sets out two options for the adoption and maintenance of public open spaces:

1. The Council adopts all public open space in new developments. In this case the flat rate commuted sums will be paid by the developer with no charge to the residents. Where there is a planning requirement for exceptionally large public open space areas, such as a country park, the Council reserves the right to apply a site-specific commuted sum calculation for these areas. Areas of amenity planting and small open spaces which do not benefit the public will not be adopted by the Council. These areas can be maintained through employing a private factor or them remaining the resident's responsibility.
2. The Council will adopt only Priority Public Open Space (PPOS) (equipped play areas, large parks, sports pitches and possibly

green corridor path links which are of importance to the wider community) in all developments to ensure they are available to the public and that residents are not charged for these important public spaces. In all cases the Council must adopt above grounds SUDS (where Section 7 agreement applies) and they are being jointly maintained with Scottish Water (see below). For play areas, payment of the flat rate commuted sum will apply. For the other PPOS areas the flat rate commuted sum per dwelling will not apply. Instead, a site-specific commuted sum will be calculated separately, based on current maintenance rates, and be paid by the developer. For all remaining POS and amenity areas the developer can apply a Development Management Scheme (DMS), subject to Council agreement, with homeowners meeting maintenance costs of these areas. Land title for the POS areas must be transferred to the Owners' Association.

In both options, developers must transfer land title and pay the appropriate commuted sums prior to maintenance handover for all adopted public open space. Payment of a security deposit which is calculated as a percentage of the commuted sum is also required to ensure that all public open space meets Council standards prior to adoption.

Where there are opportunities for community management such as allotments, amenity woodland or sports pavilions, this is

encouraged and arrangements with the Council such as a Licence to Occupy can be applied.

Please refer to the Council's [Flood Risk Supplementary Guidance](#) for information on the vesting of SuDS features. Note that site specific commuted sums may apply.

Private maintenance arrangements

Although developers can opt for private arrangements for some areas, Council adoption of all public open space within a development is preferred as it is a simpler process. It also has the benefit that after adoption, developers and residents are relieved of all future maintenance responsibilities which will be attractive to all prospective house purchasers. Private maintenance arrangements will be secured using enforceable robust planning conditions and obligations.

Commuted sums

To ensure clarity for developers, the Council's standard commuted sum for play areas and public open space are set out in Table 6 below. All figures above are based on the current maintenance costs for 2026/2027 however the commuted sums will be uplifted annually on 1 April in line with the retail price index (RPI). The appropriate commuted sums will be applied at the time of

adoption. Full detail is provided in [Policy on Maintenance Options for Public Open Spaces in New Residential Developments](#)

Table 6: Commuted sums

Public Open Space Area	Commuted Sum Amount (2026/2027 figures)
Public Open Space Adoption (in addition to separate commuted sums for play areas)	POS £1,122.00 per dwelling
Play Area adoption	LEAP: £91,886.00 NEAP: £115,025.00
Additional facilities within major developments (for example, changing pavilions, skate parks, allotments)	This will be calculated on a site-by-site basis

Play

Play is essential for the development of children and young people, supporting their physical, cognitive, and emotional well-being. It fosters learning, creativity, and social skills, playing a crucial role in ensuring a healthy childhood.

Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) acknowledges that access to play opportunities is a fundamental right, as outlined in Article 31 of the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#). Furthermore, recognising the significant benefits of play, the provision of high-quality play experiences is a key element in fulfilling the [Corporate Plan](#) priority of enabling our children and young people to reach their full potential.

Play Sufficiency Assessment

In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Play Sufficiency Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, a Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) was prepared during the preparation of the Evidence Report for the Local Development Plan (LDP). The PSA included statements and maps regarding the quantity, quality and accessibility of play spaces. This was incorporated into the open space audit and provides an evidence-base for planning decisions, including the preparation of the LDP and delivery of National Planning Framework 4 Policy 21 on Play, Recreation and Sport.

Playspace standards and guidelines for developers

We require developers to provide space for play as an integral part of the design of a housing development. In creating an estate for all age groups, designers and planners must consider the pattern of streets, paths, and open spaces from the child's viewpoint, incorporating opportunities for both formal and informal play.

The Council requires all housing developers to make sufficient provision for play within their development according to standards set out in the Playground Strategy. A full list of the Council's play space standards is available on [PKC's Play Areas webpage](#). These standards apply to all new play facilities, whether they are intended to be adopted or privately managed, and will be enforced using robust planning conditions and agreements.

Figure 4 demonstrates the characteristics of a positive example of a well-designed play area. It contains a playground with a wooden climbing structure, sand surface, and children playing. Stepped platforms, log balance beams, landscaped grass, nearby houses, and wooded hills create a community park setting.

On-site provision or off-site contribution

Developers should liaise with the Community Greenspace service at an early stage in the design process to identify site requirements. The Council will provide the developer with an analysis of existing

play provision in the vicinity and the requirements for playspace within the new development, or whether an off-site contribution is acceptable.

The indicative threshold that would trigger the development of a new play facility is reaching approximately 50 residential units within the settlement. Where smaller developments require a NEAP/REAP which will largely serve the existing population, the Council may contribute to its delivery.

In areas where several developments are being delivered at the same time, a new play facility may be delivered through shared off-site contributions and commuted sums between developers.

Developer contributions and maintenance options for play

The Council will seek to adopt play areas in new developments to ensure they are available to the public and that residents are not charged to use these facilities. This is a simpler process and has the benefit that after adoption, developers and residents are relieved of all future maintenance responsibilities which will be attractive to all prospective house purchases.

The Council's standard commuted sums (2026/2027) for play areas are set out below. Commuted sums are calculated to be the equivalent to annual maintenance over a 20-year period. Where

play areas are adopted, the commuted sum includes a contribution to the replacement cost within that 20-year period.

- **LEAP** - £ 91,886.00
- **NEAP/REAP** - £ 115,025.00



Figure 4: Positive example of a well-designed play area

Physical activity and sport

Physical activity and sport play an important role in creating places where people can live healthy, fulfilling, and productive lives.

The [Physical Activity and Sports Strategy 2023 to 2028](#) (PASS) sets out how physical activity and sport will contribute to our Corporate Priority of [supporting and promoting physical and mental wellbeing](#).

Our vision for the future of physical activity and sport in Perth and Kinross is:

We will support everyone's physical and mental wellbeing through physical activity and sport.

Through the development of high-quality open spaces and networks, the OSS supports the delivery of the Council's vision for physical activity and sport, and aligns with the strategic priorities of the PASS:

- We will improve everyone's health in Perth and Kinross through increased participation in physical activity.
- We will increase the levels of activity for children and young people, particularly those who currently don't meet the recommended levels of participation.

- We will reduce the inequalities and barriers which stop people participating in physical activity and sport.
- We will reduce carbon emissions generated from facilities and make physical activity part of our Climate Change response.
- We will support our community-led clubs, sports hubs and networks to flourish and strengthen collaboration between all partners in physical activity and sport.
- We will support our community-led clubs and networks to improve sports pitches and other facilities to promote participation and inclusivity.
- We will make physical activity and sport part of Placemaking, so our public spaces are activity-friendly, inclusive and fun.

[Policy on the provision of facilities for outdoor pitch sports](#)

The Council's [Policy on Provision of Facilities for Outdoor Pitch Sports \(2017\)](#) ensures the effective and efficient management of Council facilities for outdoor pitch sports for present and future needs. Community management is encouraged where appropriate; however, within public parks, the wider public interest must be assured.

The policy provides the latest information on pitch supply and demand, but it is recognised that targeted engagement with groups is required to assess future demand. All sports using outdoor pitches provided by the Council are considered by the policy, football and rugby being the most popular, with most of the Council's grass pitches in parks used for this purpose. For all sports, there are adequate pitches to meet current demand, although quality is variable and new or improved changing facilities are required in many locations. To maximise use of these facilities, we encourage clubs to co-ordinate shared use and co-operate over securing improvements, where required.

The policy identifies a growing demand for the provision of floodlit synthetic turf pitches (STPs), particularly for training, sports development and for matches when available and/or when grass is unplayable.

Sports provision and new housing development

Development Management works with other sections to secure appropriate new facilities, or contributions for facilities, from major housing developments. The Fields in Trust quantity standards for grass provision and **sportscotland** Facility Planning Model for synthetic turf pitches (STPs) can be used as a reference for securing new facilities. New MUGAs, STPs or pavilions (other than at schools) will be secured according to need and on the basis that

communities will manage and maintain them. In some locations new pitches with changing facilities may replace existing substandard facilities. Information from football clubs indicates that they want to develop new or improved pavilions within at least nine park pitches. To date, separate outdoor grass and STP facilities for school and community use have been provided (except at community campuses). The Council is now seeking ways to ensure that school and community teams can share facilities, especially STPs.

Contributions towards sport provision are required on a larger catchment basis according to the need within the community and should be a shared facility with schools where appropriate.

Contributions are required more frequently than new provision, but where there is no provision (or limited poor quality provision) within the area, new on-site provision may be required from major developments.

Where sport provision/contributions are likely to be required, approaching local sport groups and Live Active Leisure's Sports Development Team can help inform the developer and authority about demand for additional facilities or the possibility of upgrading existing ones. Clearly, the local aspirations must be balanced with the demand arising from the new development where the future residents cannot be consulted in advance.

Community food growing

The [Perth and Kinross Council Food Growing Strategy \(2021\)](#) (FGS) sets out to increase the provision of allotments and community food growing.

The FGS was written under the legislation of Part 9, Section 119 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. It identifies land in its area that the local authority considers may be used as allotment sites, identify other areas of land in its area that could be used by a community for the cultivation of vegetables, fruit, herbs or flowers, describing how, where the authority is required to take reasonable steps to increase the provision in its area of allotments or other areas of land for use by a community for the cultivation of vegetables, fruit, herbs, flowers and containing such other information as may be prescribed.

The main purpose of the FGS is to help ensure that more people will want to grow their own food and can do so. Our vision is for:

People across Perth and Kinross to have more opportunities and be better skilled at growing their own food, thereby leading healthier, more sociable and sustainable lives.

The OSS supports the delivery of the FGS's vision and objectives by:

- Identifying potentially suitable land through the open space audit.

- Supporting the delivery of new growing spaces through the development and management of open spaces.

New growing spaces

Local Authorities are required to identify potentially suitable land for allotments and community growing areas where there is proven demand.

The demand for new allotment sites has been identified through the FGS consultation process and further engagement with communities with a recognised high demand. The Annual Allotment Report 2024 to 2025 identifies high demand that has not yet been addressed in Crieff and Coupar Angus.

Within new developments

The Local Development Plan will seek to identify land within future development sites for community food growing and allotments, particularly where there is a proven demand. The Planning Authority will generally be supportive of development proposals that include opportunities for community food growing or allotments, granted appropriate arrangements are provided for their long-term management and maintenance.

Due to the history of orchards in Perth and Kinross since the monasteries owned and farmed the Carse of Gowrie in the 12th century, the Council supports planting and management of fruit

trees or small orchards in suitable locations where community groups have shown interest and are able to maintain them. PKC will continue to encourage large housing developments to plant community orchards for the benefit of people and nature and to provide locally grown fruit.

On council-owned land

Repurposing appropriate publicly owned amenity green spaces, parks and vacant and derelict land is another solution to providing new growing areas, the latter being supported by those who responded to the stakeholder survey. Council ground has already successfully been repurposed for allotments in Letham, Tulloch and Craigie. Local consultation would be required prior to any sites being repurposed, particularly with nearby residents.

The Council's Open Space Audit identifies public and private open spaces that may be suitable for the development of food growing opportunities, although further assessment work would be required using the site assessment criteria in Appendix 1 of the Food Growing Strategy.

On private land

Landowners may agree, if approached, to appropriate areas being used formally, or informally, for community growing. The temporary use of sites for community growing is supported by the

Council and can allow for flexibility and/or testing project ideas. To safeguard the security of the project however, it is recommended that arrangements are formalised with the owner (for example, through a lease for an agreed period). Groups should contact the Council at the outset to confirm that the site is not contaminated and establish whether planning permission would be required.

Garden sharing

Garden sharing can be initiated by anyone, whether they own a garden that they cannot maintain, or are looking for a space to grow fruits and vegetables. Your Community Council may be able to help you start a local garden sharing scheme.

Alternatively, you can join Lend and Tend, a UK wide network for garden sharing. The platform is free to use, and you can sign up by filling in a simple form. Once you are matched with someone who is happy to lend their garden, you can meet up to discuss your expectations and set the ground rules before starting garden sharing.

Outdoor access and active travel

Perth and Kinross offer many opportunities to get out and enjoy the outdoors, to walk, cycle, ride or paddle down rivers and camp overnight. The countryside is also a home and workplace to people and wildlife, and it is important that we understand our responsibilities and respect the interests of other people whether acting as a land manager or as an access taker.

The right to take responsible non-motorised access in Scotland is provided for by the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 (LRA). The [Scottish Outdoor Access Code \(SOAC\)](#) has been produced to explain what is meant by responsible access in many situations for both the 'access taker' and the 'land manager'.

Not all land is within access rights, exceptions include gardens, school playing fields and growing crops.

Mobility Strategy

The Council's Mobility Strategy guides the movement of people and goods across the area. It sets the strategic direction for the transport planning, supporting coordinated project delivery and external funding applications.

Ensuring development aligns with the standards set out in the OSS and applies the BGI principles of multifunctionality and connectivity will support the delivery of the Mobility Strategy's Transport

Planning Objectives, including:

- reducing transport-related CO₂ emissions by increasing and improving active travel opportunities
- achieving increased active opportunities to and from new developments
- improving safety for all users
- improving physical and mental health
- improving air quality

Core paths and rights of way

The Council maintains a [Core Path Plan \(2017\)](#) as required by the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 that identifies a system of paths, 2,043km in total, which provide reasonable public access to the outdoors across Perth and Kinross.

The Plan includes paths which are:

- rights of way;

- functional link paths within and between communities including selected footways (pavements), quiet roads and promoted cycle routes;
- existing popular and promoted paths;
- upland and forest paths;
- routes to mountains and other points of public interest;
- longer distance routes such as the Catevan Trail;
- routes to access inland water.

Together these routes form integral elements of local and strategic green networks across Perth and Kinross and beyond. They provide opportunity for active travel, habitat connectivity and connections to nature.

Safeguarding access rights

The Local Development Plan identifies and safeguards access rights and core paths, including active travel routes. These should be incorporated within the design and landscaping of any proposed development, ideally avoiding the need for any permanent diversion. If there is any proposal to alter a route of an existing core path or right of way a further legal procedure is required, and any proposed diversion should be to as good a standard or a betterment of the existing route.

The granting of planning permission does not stop the continued right of public access along the existing core path or right of way. An order under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, Section 208 or an amendment of the Core Path Plan under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 should be sought.

If a temporary diversion of a core path or right of way is required to facilitate works, the PKC Community Greenspace space should be contacted via OutdoorAccess@pkc.gov.uk.

Section 208 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland Act 1997) provides for the stopping up and diversion of core paths and rights of way where necessary to enable the development to be carried out in accordance with planning permission. The process allows a period of 28 days for any objections or representations to be made to proposed stopping up and diversion orders.

If you are prevented from exercising your right of responsible access by an obstruction, such as a locked gate, intimidating sign or person, you may wish to report the situation for investigation. In which case you should [make a general enquiry](#) report and include:

- an accurate description of the location of the obstruction, including map-based grid reference if possible
- Date of obstruction, photograph possible and your contact details

Contacting the [Perth and Kinross Outdoor Access Forum](#), representative bodies and local community groups is also encouraged where access rights have been affected.

Developing the path network

The Planning Authority will generally support proposals that deliver new, enhanced or improved active travel infrastructure, particularly where these integrate blue and green infrastructure and nature rich habitats to a network of green corridors. Figure 5 shows how open spaces can be designed to create green links through communities, and improve accessibility, encourage walking and cycling and contribute to healthier, more sustainable places.

Design must be integrated into development proposals and deliver multiple benefits, including, where appropriate, the provision of informal and incidental play opportunities. Proposals should expand and improve access opportunities that link into wider blue and green networks.

Proposals for residential development should identify routes to local schools and include an assessment of the extent to which these routes provide safe and easy access between the development and the education facility.

The Local Development Plan will identify proposed routes and seek opportunities to deliver projects identified in the Active Travel

Prioritisation Delivery Plan. This includes long-distance off-road shared paths linking settlements that form an integral part of strategic green networks in the region.



Figure 5: Open spaces are designed to create green links and are aligned with key pedestrian routes (by Barton Willmore and Urban Union)

Visitor destinations and management

Visitor destinations and visitor management are integral to supporting a sustainable, high-quality tourism offer across Perth and Kinross. The area's natural assets, parks, countryside sites and path networks play a key role in attracting visitors, supporting the local economy, and providing a positive experience for both residents and visitors.

The OSS supports the ambitions of the [Tourism Strategy and Action Plan 2025 to 2030](#) by recognising open spaces as essential tourism assets and by promoting approaches to visitor access, dispersal and management that protect environmental quality, enhance place identity, and ensure that increased visitation is accommodated in a way that is sustainable, inclusive and beneficial to local communities.

Through the development, management and use of the blue and green networks across Perth and Kinross, the OSS will support the Tourism Strategy's vision:

By 2030, tourism will play a greater role in Perth and Kinross by supporting an inclusive, international and connected visitor economy.

Through cross-sector collaboration and partnership, the OSS seeks to support the delivery of the Tourism Strategy's strategic objectives listed below by providing enhanced opportunities for year-round, nature-focused tourism.

Strategic objectives:

- **Area promotion and destination marketing:** Aim to drive up visitation to our area from identified audiences, increasing day visitors and overnight stays, as well as the length of stay and visitor spend
- **Investment and infrastructure:** Aim to attract inward investment to enhance the visitor experience in the destination, as well as manage the impact on our communities
- **Market development and internationalisation:** Aim to build on investment to date in key assets, developing new tourism products and visitor experiences
- **Industry growth and resilience:** Aim to develop a sustainable visitor economy through supporting businesses to grow, increase levels of well-paid jobs and build their resilience in a challenging operating environment

Figure 6 identifies major assets that attract visitors including:

- **Premier Parks** – high-quality destination parks offering recreation, visitor facilities, and access to nature.

- **Countryside Sites** – managed natural areas providing opportunities for outdoor recreation and experiencing the natural environment.
- **Scotland's Great Trails** – Nationally recognised long-distance routes showcasing Scotland's landscapes, natural heritage, and outdoor recreation opportunities.
- **National Cycle Network** – the UK-wide network of signed paths and routes for walking, wheeling, cycling and exploring outdoors.

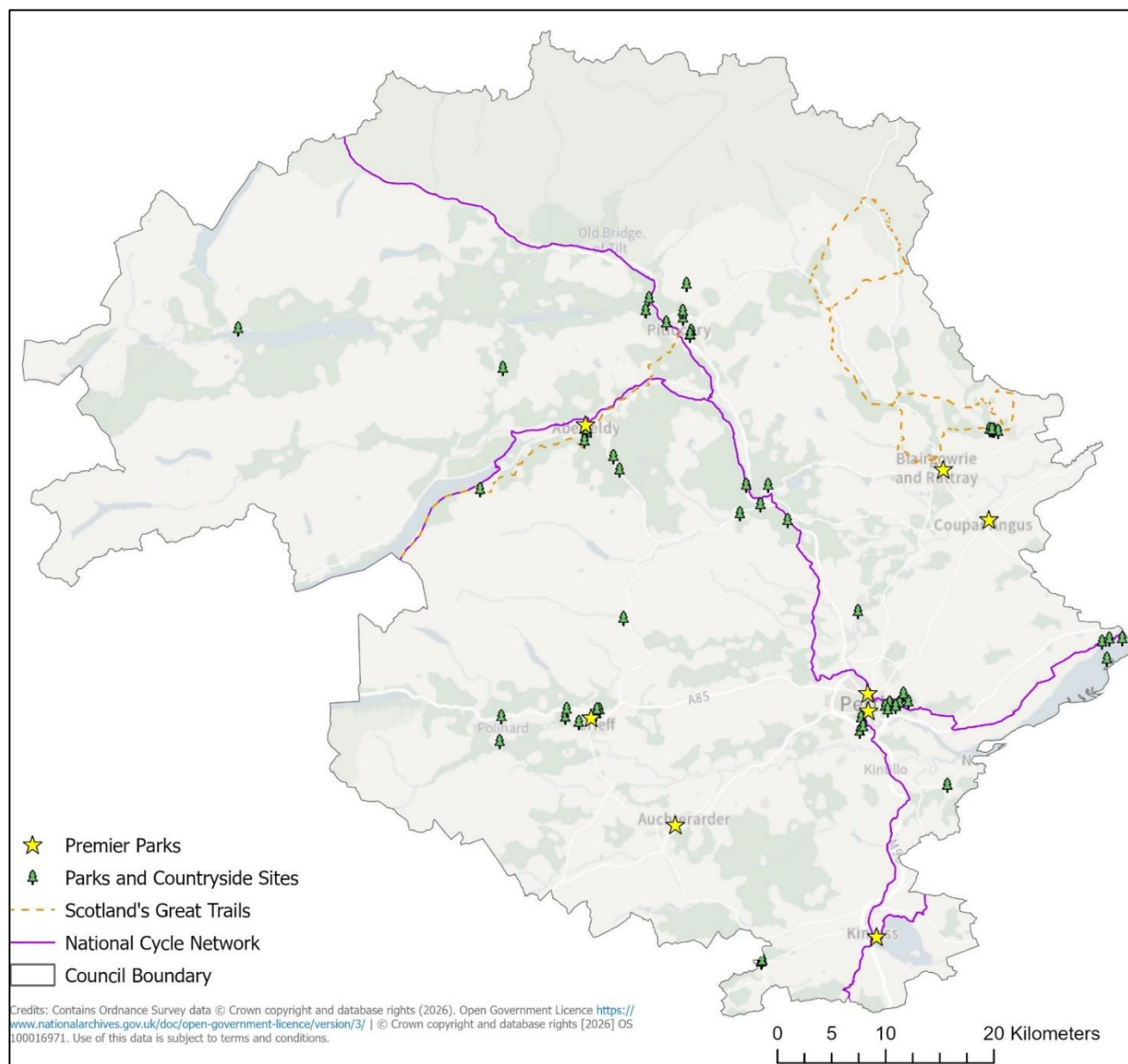


Figure 6: Key visitor destinations

Biodiversity

Perth and Kinross Council has a legal duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Working together across all our services, we are developing the best ways to do this and, at the same time, contributing to other policies and initiatives.

Under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, all public bodies in Scotland have a duty to further the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their functions. The Council is involved with a range of initiatives to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity through the management of open spaces many with the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership. Further information on the Council's work is available in the latest Biodiversity Duty Report that can be accessed on the [Council's Enhancing Biodiversity webpage](#).

Biodiversity in new developments

Detailed ecological survey is required in the form of an Ecological Impact Assessment (EIA). Impact assessments are required for habitats, species, and existing trees on site including the impact of new artificial lighting.

Submissions must include evidence of application of the mitigation hierarchy of avoid, reduce, compensate for losses, and enhance. All developments should aim to avoid adverse impacts in the first

instance, see the PKC Planning for Nature Guidance section 5.1.

[Planning Guidance - Planning and Biodiversity - Perth and Kinross Council \(pkc.gov.uk\)](#)

Conclusions from the ecology surveys and requirements detailed in the PKC Planning for Nature Supplementary Guidance should be used to create a Site Biodiversity Action Plan containing quantities, locations, techniques, timescales, and monitoring arrangements.

To satisfy NPF4 Policy 3, in Major planning applications we request:

- Integrated swift bricks in 25% of two storey homes
- Integrated bat bricks, boxes and tubes in 25% of two storey homes
- Wildlife kerbs and amphibian ladders installed adjacent to all road gullies within 500m of a SuDS Pond
- Hedgehog highways by providing access gaps in wooden fences 13cm x 13cm at ground level
- Low lux-level downward facing development lighting directed away from hedgerows, treelines and woodland
- Creating new and connecting existing habitats to contribute towards nature networks
- Ponds, swales or rainwater gardens designed with biodiversity in mind

A checklist of information required to inform a planning application regarding biodiversity is provided in Annex 4 of the PKC Planning for Nature Supplementary Guidance.

Along with private development, the Planning Authority work with services across the Council to ensure biodiversity is protected and enhanced through any upgrading and new build Council projects.

Trees, woodlands and forestry in new developments

Trees, woodland and forestry are opportunities in development and can add asset value for years to come. Early engagement with an Ecologist and competent Arboricultural Consultant allows trees to inform the layout allowing more to be retained and incorporated into plans.

Existing woodland, trees and hedgerows should be protected, restored and expanded to connect to other habitats. The mitigation hierarchy of avoid, reduce and compensate should be followed to reduce impacts of development to woodland, trees and biodiversity.

Clearing proposed sites pre-emptively prior to applying for planning permission has increased over the last decade and is against NPF4 Policies. Clearance of development sites should only begin when construction of the approved proposal is about to commence.

NPF4 Policy 6 aims to protect and expand forests, woodland and trees by ensuring existing woodlands and trees are protected, and cover is expanded and woodland and trees on development sites are sustainably managed. NPF4 requires planning authorities to prepare a forestry and woodland strategy which identifies woodlands of high nature conservation value (WHNCV) within the planning authority's area.

Proposals that will result in loss of WHNCV will not be supported while proposals that will protect, restore, enhance and connect WHNCV will be supported.

Tree planting policy

This Council's Tree Planting Policy sets Council-wide standards and procedures for tree planting on all Council-owned Land and is aimed at all Council staff or volunteers planting trees on Council land. A consistent and well-planned approach enables efficient use of available resources to achieve the Council's aims to improve Biodiversity through increased canopy cover, carbon sequestration and ecological improvements as well as improving public health and wellbeing and the amenity value of our greenspaces. To ensure that the right trees are planted in the right place, the policy provides guidance on appropriate planting stock, technique, protection and maintenance for different locations.

Nature networks

Nature Networks play a critical role in protecting, enhancing and connecting habitats. The Council has a responsibility to safeguard and strengthen these networks through the planning process, land management and partnership working. This includes protecting existing assets, addressing fragmentation, and promoting enhancement and restoration.

LDP3 will identify Nature Networks and seek opportunities to enhance and expand them through new development. Developers will be required, where appropriate, to contribute to nature networks. Where possible, these will link with urban green networks and increase opportunities for communities to responsibly access areas of high nature value.

Sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS)

In line with Scottish Water guidelines and the Council's Flood Risk Supplementary Guidance, Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) should make a positive wider contribution to the quality of blue-green networks in new developments.

SuDS are a soft-engineering solution that manages rainwater and potential flooding within the landscaping and greenspaces of a development, contrary to traditional hard engineering approaches.

It aims to create multi-functional landscapes that deliver multiple benefits for water management, amenity and biodiversity. The Council is committed to this approach and to maximising the multiple benefits of SuDS.



Figure 7: Multifunctional SuDS benefits

Figure 7 illustrates how SuDS can provide multiple benefits beyond surface water management. These include improved biodiversity, better water quality, opportunities for recreation, enhanced landscape character, climate resilience and healthier communities.

SuDS should be:

- considered from the outset, with enough land allocated for them within the site. Submissions should clearly reflect how the water and drainage strategy has influenced the design approach taken for the site.
- a network of detention features which connect to the wider green and blue infrastructure (rather than only a single feature). Consider different types of SuDS such as ponds, basins, green roofs, swales and rain gardens. These should ideally be naturally linked, providing connectivity for people and wildlife within and through the site.
- located at suitable topographic locations, integrated with other public open space types wherever possible and safely designed to co-exist with activity areas (for example, playgrounds, sport pitches). SuDS that are isolated and/or provide little amenity value will not be considered part of the public open space contribution.
- accessible and biodiverse, with suitable planting around the edges to maximise their ecological value and also allow for an economical maintenance regime.

The [Open Space Supplementary Guidance \(2021\)](#) includes technical guidance on sustainable drainage in Appendix 2.

Bioretention areas

Smaller SuDS features can be incorporated with streets and can substitute traditional shrub beds and single function amenity planting. They typically consist of shallow depressions of different shapes and sizes that drain surface water runoff and encourage infiltrations into the ground. Bioretention features can be ideal solutions for compact, high-density sites with limited space. Further design guidance and specifications for soakaways including planting are provided in the Perth and Kinross Open Space Supplementary guidance.

Swales

Swales and basins can be various shapes and sizes and can be integrated with informal amenity areas. Linear swales which are ideal for narrow spaces such as linear open space corridors, road verges and structure planting on the edge of developments. Further design guidance and specifications for swales including planting are provided in the Perth and Kinross Open Space Supplementary guidance

Channels and rills

Canals and rills are encouraged, these are open surface water channels with hard edges, that water flows along, and they can have a variety of cross sections to suit the urban landscape,

including the use of planting to provide both enhanced visual appeal and water treatment.

Ponds and basins

Ponds and basins are encouraged, and providing access to SuDS features for larger vehicles is often necessary in order to allow for their long-term maintenance. However, gravelled roads which surround basins and ponds can take away from their natural appearance. 'Green access tracks' are ideal for access that is infrequently used, they are unobtrusive and blend in with the wider amenity area. Green tracks and paths can become part of the drainage system and facilitate water retention. Further guidance is provided in the Open Space Provision for New Developments Supplementary Guidance Supplementary Guidance.

Community involvement

Community Greenspace supports a network of 118 community groups who are involved to a greater or lesser extent in the management of open space. Groups are locality based and include bloom groups, paths groups, friends of cemeteries, biodiversity focussed and other groups. There are many benefits to this:

- Greater community engagement in the management of these spaces

- Voluntary action to maintain and improve these spaces
- Match funding and design input for site improvement projects
- Benefits for the individual through the above, and for physical/mental health and wellbeing.

Events and commercial use of open spaces

Events and Commercial use can add functionality, engagement and economic benefits to our open spaces. Sustainably managing open spaces to provide these opportunities can improve local living, support tourism and stimulate economic growth.

The Council makes parks and other greenspaces available through a booking process and works with event organisers, other agencies and stakeholders to ensure events are safe, legal and appropriate in the context of that space, in the context of its other functions throughout the year.

The Council may grant permission to catering vans and mobile traders looking to operate in parks and countryside sites. Traders must adhere to the standard code of conduct in order to operate on Council greenspace sites.

Contact parkevents@pkc.gov.uk for booking enquiries or for guidance on how to trade in a park or countryside site.

Signage within open spaces

Signage in open spaces offer contact between users and those responsible for the management and maintenance of that site.

The Council has signage at the entrance to countryside sites and premier parks. They also include new signage with the upgrade of existing play areas.

For Premier Parks and Countryside Sites signage at entrances generally include:

- Information about what can be found within the site;
- A directional map to help with navigation; and
- Information about other places of interest in the local area.
- Dementia friendly signage at MacRosty Park, Crieff

Other signage found within Council sites may include:

- Core path directional signage
- Water safety information
- Other small informational signage for example, no dog fouling

Burial grounds

Perth and Kinross Council manage and maintains 176 burial grounds across 132 locations, ranging from large active cemeteries serving urban communities to historic rural churchyards and closed burial grounds of significant heritage value. These sites form an important part of the wider open space network, providing accessible greenspace, contributing to local landscape, supporting biodiversity, preserving cultural heritage and offering places for quiet reflection.

Responsibility for these assets sits within Community Greenspace, including Bereavement Services. Bereavement Services oversees the operational management, maintenance and administration of all council-owned burial grounds, ensuring they are maintained in a safe, dignified and sustainable manner, in line with all relevant legislation, guidance and best practice. In addition, Bereavement Services manages Perth Crematorium, further supporting the delivery of comprehensive burial and cremation services across the Council area. There is also one privately operated burial ground in Perth and Kinross.

Burial grounds remain valued community assets, providing places of remembrance, reflection and cultural significance for residents and visitors and the Council recognises both its statutory and moral responsibility to care for them to a high standard.

The [Council's Future Cemetery Provision Strategy](#) highlights the need to maintain sustainable burial capacity, particularly in communities where capacity may fall below ten years. Burial provision should therefore be planned not only as an operational requirement but as an integral component of Perth and Kinross's wider green infrastructure network.

Cemeteries and burial grounds make a valuable contribution to the Open Space Strategy by providing accessible, multifunctional greenspace that supports community wellbeing, quiet reflection and local identity. They also protect historic landscapes, enhance biodiversity, contribute to tree canopy cover and support climate resilience.

Many sites incorporate mature trees, grassland habitats and heritage features, offering significant environmental, visual and cultural value. Within settlements, they function as informal greenspaces, while in rural areas they often represent important publicly accessible land and ecological corridors. Community engagement plays an important role in the stewardship of these spaces. "Friends of Cemetery" groups and similar local initiatives, including activities such as grow-wild trails, contribute positively to site management, biodiversity enhancement and public appreciation. These groups support community ownership, encourage volunteering and help strengthen the role of burial grounds as valued local greenspaces.

Future cemetery provision will adopt a proactive, plan-led approach to ensure long-term capacity. New or extended burial sites should be integrated with green infrastructure planning, protect landscape character, enhance biodiversity and improve accessibility and connectivity. Opportunities for woodland, natural and environmentally sensitive burial practices will be supported where appropriate.

Burial grounds also play an important role in delivering biodiversity and climate objectives through habitat creation, pollinator-friendly planting, native tree establishment and low-intensity land management. These benefits will be balanced alongside operational needs, visitor expectations and heritage considerations.

Many cemeteries contain features of historic and cultural significance, contributing to the area's historic environment and community identity. Their continued conservation and sensitive management are essential.

Asset management

The [Community Greenspace Asset Management Plan](#) (CGAMP) provides the operational framework for managing Perth and Kinross Council's extensive portfolio of greenspace assets, including around 520 hectares of grassland, 32,000 trees, 145 play areas, 159 bridges and over 8,200 infrastructure assets such as benches, litter bins, signs and picnic tables. The estimated net book value of these assets was £7.59 million in 2023.

A key feature of the plan is the use of an Asset Challenge process that assesses assets against condition, suitability, utilisation, value for money and climate change considerations to inform investment decisions. The plan includes a funded six-year capital programme and identifies a potential 30-year investment requirement of approximately £128.8 million to maintain the current greenspace asset base and service standards. The plan also highlights the important role of community groups and volunteers, who contribute more than 25,000 hours annually to the maintenance and enhancement of local greenspaces.

The Community Greenspace Asset Management Strategy (2023–2029) (CGAMS) sets out PKC's approach to managing, maintaining and enhancing its greenspace assets to support healthy, sustainable and resilient communities.

The strategy is aligned with the Council's Corporate Asset Management Framework and is guided by the vision of **“Working together to maintain, improve and promote our shared spaces for all to enjoy.”**

Delivery is structured around four key principles:

- **Collaborating with communities and volunteers** to improve wellbeing, encourage participation and support community-led greenspace projects.
- **Maximising shared opportunities** through partnership working, coordinated investment and improved access to greenspace assets.
- **Enhancing sustainability and biodiversity** by promoting nature recovery, sustainable management practices, native planting and climate resilience.
- **Applying lifecycle management and proactive maintenance** to ensure greenspace assets remain safe, accessible and fit for purpose over the long term.

The CGAMS and CGAMP provide an important evidence base for the OSS and support its delivery. While the OSS focuses on assessing wider provision and requirements, the CGAMS and CGAMP establish the corporate framework for managing, maintaining and investing of PKC's greenspace assets in the long-term.

Current and future requirements

Current requirements

The evidence base gathered through the open space audit and engagement activities highlights a number of requirements for the existing open space network. Key requirements are to:

- Safeguard existing open space provision, including approximately 70 hectares of undesignated POS identified through the audit.
- Improve the quality, accessibility and functionality of open spaces so they can support a wider range of recreational, sporting, play, social and environmental functions for all user groups.
- Expand active travel opportunities within green networks, ensuring communities have access to green corridors that facilitate walking, wheeling and cycling through settlements and into the wider countryside.
- Strengthen management and maintenance arrangements, particularly in the context of resource constraints and ageing infrastructure.

- Support collaborative management approaches with communities and secure investment to deliver local priority actions and projects.

Future requirements

Looking ahead, the strategy must also plan for future growth, climate challenges and evolving community needs. Key requirements are to:

- Integrate good-quality, multifunctional blue-green networks into new development, ensuring open space standards are met.
- Support local living by ensuring active travel opportunities are integrated with blue-green networks.
- Deliver nature-positive outcomes through habitat creation, biodiversity enhancement and connections to nature networks.
- Improve climate resilience through measures such as urban greening, sustainable drainage (SuDS), shading and flood management measures.
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of open spaces through effective maintenance arrangements, partnership working and community involvement.

Appendix 1: Open Space Audit Report

Scope

In accordance with statutory requirements an audit of existing open space provision across Perth and Kinross was undertaken to inform the preparation of the Open Space Strategy (OSS). The purpose of the audit is to undertake an assessment of the quantity, quality and accessibility (i.e. spatial distribution) of existing open spaces. This report outlines the audit methodology and key findings. It should be viewed alongside the [Perth and Kinross Open Space Audit Web Map](#) and the detailed settlement-level results in Appendix 2.

Open space is defined here as "space within and on the edge of settlements comprising green space or civic areas such as squares, market places and other paved or hard landscaped areas with a civic function."

The audit considered all open spaces within or adjacent to settlement boundaries identified in the current Local Development Plan (LDP2) that are 0.2ha or larger, as well as smaller sites considered to be of local importance. **Please note that this audit considers all open spaces, including both publicly and privately**

managed sites. For a breakdown of the Council's greenspace assets please refer to the [Community Greenspace Asset Management Plan \(CGAMP\)](#).

Each site was visited and initially pre-screened to identify a subset of open spaces deemed accessible to the public. The public open spaces (POS) were then taken forward to the quantity benchmarking and quality assessment stage of the audit.

A summary of the spaces considered in the audit is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 7: Overview of all open spaces considered in audit

Summary of Open Spaces Included in Audit		
Type	No. Sites	Total Area (Ha)
Public open space (POS)	432	906
Open space with limited accessibility or public functions (for example, golf courses, allotments, natural space with no formal access)	480	1,996
Total	912	2,902

Typologies

Each audited open space has been assigned one or more typologies based on the classifications set out in Planning Advice Note 65: Planning and Open Space (PAN 65). To better reflect local characteristics in Perth and Kinross, and to ensure that LDP2 designated open spaces are appropriately classified, some categories have been subdivided and additional typologies introduced where necessary. This approach provides a more accurate and detailed understanding of the function and use of open spaces.

The sections below provide an overview of the typologies and quantities of each identified across all open spaces considered in the audit. Note that most sites will have multiple typologies, for example a public park may also contain a play space, playing field and natural/semi-natural areas.

Agricultural land

Land in active agricultural use, including arable fields and grazing land, located within or adjacent to settlements. While not primarily used for recreation, many will have core paths running through or around fields. No agricultural land was identified as public open space, however given the rural nature of many settlements, some agricultural land is designated in the LDP.

There are 24 sites recorded with this typology and 21 (69.1 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Allotments and community growing space

Areas of land for growing fruit, vegetables and other plants, either in individual allotments or as a community activity.

There are 20 sites recorded with this typology and 19 (9.8 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Amenity greenspace

Informal, landscaped areas that provide visual amenity and serve as a setting for the built environment, often located within housing areas, commercial areas or alongside roads. These spaces may support casual recreation, such as sitting or informal play, but are not specifically designed for formal activities.

There are 189 sites recorded with this typology and 149 (108.9 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Churchyard/cemetery

Land associated with burial grounds, including churchyards and cemeteries, as well as ancillary church grounds not currently in active use for burial. These often provide open space with cultural,

historic and landscape value, and often contribute to local biodiversity and informal access.

There are 83 sites recorded with this typology and all 83 (72.6 hectares) had recorded this is the primary typology.

Civic space

Squares, streets and waterfront promenades, predominantly of hard landscaping that provide a focus for pedestrian activity and can make connections for people and for wildlife.

There are five sites recorded with this typology and one (0.8 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Green corridor

Routes including canals, river corridors and old railway lines, linking different areas within a town or city as part of a designated and managed network and used for walking, cycling or horse riding, or linking towns and cities to their surrounding countryside or country parks. These may link green spaces together.

There are 108 sites recorded with this typology and 35 (124.7 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Natural/semi-natural greenspace

Areas of predominantly natural vegetation, including woodlands, grasslands, wetlands and countryside sites. This includes both accessible natural spaces (for example, paths within woodlands or managed sites) and naturalised areas that are not readily accessible. These spaces often have high ecological value, contribution to biodiversity, habitat networks and opportunities for communities to connect with nature.

There are 215 sites recorded with this typology and 164 (721 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Play space

Areas specifically designed and equipped for children's play, typically including fixed play equipment such as swings, slides and climbing structures. These spaces provide safe opportunities for outdoor play and physical activity for children of different age groups.

There are 168 sites recorded with this typology and 60 (19.6 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site. Note that these figures include 147 adopted playgrounds and 23 that are privately managed.

Private garden or grounds

Areas of land normally enclosed and associated with a house or institution and reserved for private use. Access rights do not normally apply to these sites, but such sites often provide landscape and biodiversity value.

There are 26 sites recorded with this typology and 22 (57.5 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Public garden

Formally designed and managed greenspaces, often of horticultural or ornamental value, which are publicly accessible. These spaces typically provide opportunities for passive recreation, enjoyment of planting and landscaping, and may also contribute to the setting of historic or civic areas.

There are 27 sites recorded with this typology and 25 (7.2 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Public park

Formally designed and managed greenspaces which are publicly accessible and provide a range of informal and formal recreational opportunities. These areas may include paths, seating, landscaped

areas, play facilities and sports provisions. They often serve as key destination spaces within settlements.

There are 121 sites recorded with this typology and 117 (274.2 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

School grounds

Open space within the grounds of educational establishments, including schools and campuses. These areas may include playing fields, courts and landscaped spaces, and are primarily for use by students and staff, with no general public access.

There are 90 sites recorded with this typology and 75 (122.9 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Sport area

Large and generally flat areas of grassland or specially designed surfaces, used primarily for designated sports (including playing fields, golf courses, tennis courts and bowling greens). This includes facilities that are publicly accessible as well as those that are bookable or privately managed.

There are 272 sites recorded with this typology and 142 (1,314.2 hectares) where this is the primary typology of the site.

Quantity assessment

The total area of POS included in the audit was used to benchmark against the Council's open space quantity standard which is for every community to have a ratio of 3.5ha per 1,000 people. Census 2022 data was used and in some cases population estimates were calculated by multiplying the number of households by the average household size which is 2.2 people.

Although the quantity benchmarking focused on populations residing within LDP2 settlements, it is helpful to contextualise the findings at a wider authority scale. If the total Perth and Kinross population of 150,953 (Census, 2022) were applied to the quantity standard, the resulting POS requirement would be approximately 528ha. In comparison, the audit identified around 906ha of POS, indicating that, at an overall level, open space quantity comfortably exceeds the benchmark but requires an accessibility analysis as to whether its distribution is suitable. The table below breaks these figures down by the primary typology of sites.

Table 2: Public open space by primary typology

Type	Count (Primary Typology)	Area (Ha) (Primary Typology)
Allotments and community growing Spaces	1	0.6
Amenity greenspace	77	37.5
Churchyard/cemetery	67	59.8
Civic space	1	0.8
Green corridor	35	111.6
Natural/semi-natural greenspace	36	357.7
Play space	58	19.5
Public garden	25	7.2
Public park	115	273.3
Sport area	17	38.1

The audit included 36 sites primarily classified as natural/semi-natural greenspace. These comprise countryside sites, woodlands, and blue spaces associated with rivers and lochs that were considered accessible to a broad range of users and contain some level of recreational infrastructure. Collectively, these 36 sites account for approximately 360ha of all POS. The inclusion of these large natural assets contributes significantly to the over-provision

identified in a number of settlements, particularly where large countryside sites are present, including Aberfeldy, Alyth, Crieff and Pitlochry.

A comprehensive summary of settlement-level results was produced as part of the assessment and is available in Appendix 2. This is supported by a series of spatial datasets developed during the assessment process available on the [Open Space Audit Web Map](#). For clarity and easy of interpretation, the following tables present a summary of the results, focusing specifically on LDP2 settlements and Perth neighbourhoods with populations exceeding 1,000 residents.

Table 3 shows that most LDP2 settlements with a population of over 1,000 residents meet the quantity standard for public open space. Only five settlements fall below standard and these are Stanley (-4ha), Blairgowrie/Rattray (-3.5ha), Bridge of Earn (-2.1ha), Longforgan (-1.9ha) and Abernethy (-1.3ha).

Table 4 shows that most Perth neighbourhoods meet the quantity standard for public open space. However, four neighbourhoods record deficiencies: Letham and Tulloch (-5.15ha), Bertha Park (-4.55ha), City Centre (-1.85ha) and Almondbank, Huntingtower and Ruthvenfield (-0.22ha).

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Table 3: Open space audit quantity outputs: LDP2 settlements

Settlements (>1,000 residents)	Population (Census 2022)	Open Space Requirement (Ha)	Number of Sites Audited	Area (Ha) of Sites Audited	Meets Quantity Standard	Quantity Shortfall (Ha)
Perth	49,292	172.5	110	371.9	Yes	
Blairgowrie/Rattray	9,433	33	21	29.5	No	-3.5
Kinross and Milnathort	7,606	26.6	31	40.6	Yes	
Crieff	7,142	25	17	65.5	Yes	
Auchterarder	6,061	21.2	15	24.3	Yes	
Scone	5,232	18.3	12	34	Yes	
Bridge of Earn	2,918	10.2	10	8.1	No	-2.1
Pitlochry	2,694	9.4	16	49.3	Yes	
Alyth	2,345	8.2	8	31.7	Yes	
Coupar Angus	2,132	7.5	6	12.9	Yes	
Invergowrie	1,969	6.89	3	7.98	Yes	
Aberfeldy	1,886	6.6	11	63.1	Yes	
Comrie	1,847	6.5	8	8.5	Yes	
Inchture	1,565	5.5	7	8.5	Yes	
Luncarty	1,514	5.3	7	8.5	Yes	
Errol	1,500	5.3	4	5.7	Yes	
Stanley	1,497	5.2	3	1.3	No	-4
Abernethy	1,425	5	7	3.7	No	-1.3
Methven	1,301	4.6	4	7	Yes	
Bankfoot	1,254	4.4	7	12.7	Yes	
Dunkeld and Birnam	1,194	4.2	16	22.7	Yes	
St Madoes and Glencarse	1,096	3.8	4	4.9	Yes	

Settlements (>1,000 residents)	Population (Census 2022)	Open Space Requirement (Ha)	Number of Sites Audited	Area (Ha) of Sites Audited	Meets Quantity Standard	Quantity Shortfall (Ha)
Longforgan	1,079	3.8	3	1.9	No	-1.9

Table 4: Open space audit quantity outputs: Perth neighbourhoods

Perth Neighbourhoods	Population (estimate)	Open Space Requirement (Ha)	Number of Sites Audited	Area (Ha) of Sites Audited	Meets Quantity Standard	Quantity Shortfall (Ha)
Gannochy, Bridgend, Kinnoull, Corsiehill and Barnhill	3,933.6	13.77	12	101.3	Yes	
Letham and Hillyland	9,849.4	34.47	15	29.3	No	-5.15
Tulloch	5,728.8	20.05	19	27.6	Yes	
North Muirton, Muirton and Balhousie	9,356.6	32.75	14	66.5	Yes	
Moncrieffe, Craigie and Friarton	7,986	27.95	13	80.1	Yes	
Western Edge, Woodlands and Cherrybank	8,615.2	30.15	23	32.3	Yes	
Bertha Park	1,443.2	5.05	2	0.5	No	-4.55
City Centre	7,326	25.64	5	23.8	No	-1.85
Almondbank, Huntingtower and Ruthvenfield	3,075.6	10.76	7	10.5	No	-0.22

Overall, the audit identified approximately 70ha of undesignated public open space within settlement boundaries. Another 425ha of public open space adjacent to settlement boundaries was included in the audit; these primarily comprised of accessible natural spaces (for example, Countryside Sites) but also include sports pitches, public parks, cemeteries and amenity spaces. These spaces may be protected under other policy measures; however, these will be reviewed during the LDP3 preparation process to ensure effective safeguarding measures are in place.

Accessibility analysis

An accessibility analysis was undertaken to assess the distribution of public open spaces in relation to the population based on the Council's accessibility standards. The findings help to identify areas of sufficient provision as well as locations where accessibility gaps may exist.

The analysis was undertaken using network analysis within a Geographic Information System (GIS) to provide a realistic representation of how people move through communities. Rather than a straight-line distance, the approach utilised a detailed pedestrian network composed of streets and paths. Service areas

(catchments) were generated around access points mapped for each open space based on the following thresholds:

- Public Park – 700m
- Playing Field – 1,200m
- Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) – 1,000m
- Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) – 400m

The table below presents the outputs of the accessibility analysis across all LDP2 designated settlements and for those with over 50 dwellings. These figures reflect that it is often smaller rural settlements that have less variety in provision due to their size, densities and settings.

Table 5: Percentage houses meeting accessibility standards across LDP2 settlements

	Public Park (700m)	Playing Field (1,200m)	LEAP (400m)	NEAP (1,000m)
All Settlements	84%	95%	60%	84%
Settlements >50 dwellings	85%	97%	60%	85%

A comprehensive set of settlement-level results was produced as part of the analysis, accompanied by mapped catchments that provide a spatial evidence base to inform planning decisions, including the identification of site requirements and developer contributions. For clarity and ease of interpretation, the following tables present a summary of the results, focusing specifically on LDP2 settlements and Perth neighbourhoods with populations exceeding 1,000 residents. Settlements are categorised as High (90-100%), Good (80-89%), Moderate (70-79%) and Priority (<70%) performance. Colour is used to support these categories but is not the sole means of conveying information.

Table 6 shows that accessibility to Playing Fields is consistently high across all LDP2 settlements, with most settlements achieving access for over 95% of households and several recording 100% coverage. Accessibility to Public Parks is also generally strong, although performance is lower in Auchterarder (59%) and Longforgan (57%). Access to LEAPs (Local Equipped Areas for Play) is the weakest-performing category across many settlements, ranging from just 24% in Longforgan to 90% in St Madoes and Glencarse. Accessibility to NEAPs (Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play) is generally good, with several settlements achieving close to or full coverage, although lower levels of accessibility are recorded in Coupar Angus (65%), Blairgowrie (70%) and Auchterarder (74%). Overall, the assessment indicates that most residents have good access to

public parks and playing fields, while access to children's play provision remains more variable and identifies potential priorities for future investment.

Table 7 shows considerable variation in accessibility performance across Perth's neighbourhoods. Most neighbourhoods achieve very high levels of accessibility to Public Parks and Playing Fields, with several areas recording 100% coverage. Accessibility to LEAPs is more uneven, ranging from 95% in Tulloch and Upper Muirton to 0% in Bertha Park. The weakest-performing neighbourhoods overall are Bertha Park, which records no access to Public Parks, LEAPs or NEAPs within the adopted standards, and Almondbank, Huntingtower and Ruthvenfield, where accessibility to Public Parks (29%), LEAPs (32%) and NEAPs (49%) is comparatively low. City Centre also records limited accessibility to LEAP provision (17%). In contrast, neighbourhoods including Letham and Hillyland, Tulloch, and North Muirton, Muirton and Balhousie perform strongly across most categories. The findings identify specific neighbourhoods where additional open space, play provision or improved connections could help address accessibility deficiencies. Note that Bertha Park is currently under development, and open space facilities are expected to come forward at a later stage of development.

Table 6: Percentage households meeting accessibility standards in LDP2 settlements with over 1,000 residents

Settlement	Population (Census 2022)	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Perth	49,292	89%	99%	62%	88%
Blairgowrie/Rattray	9,433	75%	98%	58%	70%
Kinross and Milnathort	7,606	82%	100%	69%	91%
Crieff	7,142	95%	99%	52%	89%
Auchterarder	6,061	59%	91%	62%	74%
Scone	5,232	87%	100%	43%	84%
Bridge of Earn	2,918	100%	100%	63%	76%
Pitlochry	2,694	87%	97%	59%	85%
Alyth	2,345	96%	99%	67%	95%
Coupar Angus	2,132	90%	99%	80%	65%
Invergowrie	1,969	88%	96%	55%	88%
Aberfeldy	1,886	94%	100%	84%	91%
Comrie	1,847	79%	98%	42%	87%
Inchture	1,565	100%	100%	55%	100%
Luncarty	1,514	94%	99%	41%	98%
Errol	1,500	100%	100%	70%	100%
Stanley	1,497	83%	95%	71%	96%
Abernethy	1,425	86%	96%	49%	92%
Methven	1,301	91%	100%	48%	100%
Bankfoot	1,254	88%	98%	73%	98%
Dunkeld and Birnam	1,194	97%	94%	72%	96%
St Madoes and Glencarse	1,096	92%	100%	90%	97%

Settlement	Population (Census 2022)	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Longforan	1,079	57%	100%	24%	80%

Table 7: Percentage houses meeting accessibility standards in Perth neighbourhoods with over 1,000 residents

Neighbourhood	Population (estimate based on no. households)	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Gannochy, Bridgend, Kinnoull, Corsiehill and Barnhill	3,933	98%	99%	54%	71%
Letham and Hillyland	9,849	100%	100%	89%	100%
Tulloch	5,728	100%	100%	95%	100%
North Muirton, Muirton and Balhousie	9,356	99%	100%	67%	100%
Moncrieffe, Craigie and Friarton	7,986	95%	100%	72%	96%
Western Edge, Woodlands and Cherrybank	8,615	74%	99%	42%	82%
Bertha Park	1,443	0%	100%	0%	0%
City Centre	7,326	100%	100%	17%	100%
Almondbank, Huntingtower and Ruthvenfield	3,075	29%	77%	32%	49%

Quality assessment

A quality assessment was undertaken to evaluate the condition and characteristics of open spaces identified as publicly accessible in the audit. The findings identify those spaces that are performing well and provide good value to communities, as well as those where improvements may be required.

Each criterion was scored on a scale of 1 to 5, with an overall quality score subsequently derived for each site. The scores correspond to the following quality classifications:

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent

The following criteria were considered during the quality assessment for each site:

Accessibility - This criterion considers the accessibility of the site for all users, regarding inclusive and barrier-free access. The following sub-criteria were considered:

- Is there appropriate directional signage?
- Is appropriate lighting provided at entrances?
- Are there safe crossing points on roads leading to entrances?

- Are entrances accessible to all forms of mobility?
- Are internal paths accessible to all forms of mobility?
- Are internal paths in good condition?
- Are there areas of importance likely to be inaccessible to people with limited mobility?

Place quality - This criterion considers the overall design quality and provides an indication of how the space is perceived, including feelings of safety. The following sub-criteria were considered:

- On approach does the site seem welcoming?
- Is the site legible?
- Is there appropriate informational signage?
- Is there an appropriate level of lighting throughout the site?
- Is there evidence of anti-social behaviour?

Care and maintenance - This criterion considers the site's condition and standard of maintenance. The following sub-criteria were considered:

- Are fences, railings and walls in good condition?
- Are there issues of litter, fly tipping or dog fouling?
- Are there issues of vandalism or graffiti?

- Is the infrastructure on site in good condition?
- Is the vegetation on site appropriately managed?

Biodiversity - This criterion considers the provision of natural assets and habitats within the site and its connectivity to the surrounding green network. The following sub-criteria were considered:

- Is there good habitat connectivity across or around the site for wildlife?
- Does there appear to be good connectivity beyond the site?
- Are there naturalised areas on the site?
- Are there waterbodies (including SUDS) or wetlands?

Community use - This criterion considers the provision of recreational infrastructure and how this supports the intended use, user needs and overall quality of the space. The following sub-criteria were considered:

- Does the site contain appropriate facilities for its typology, location and size?
- Does the quantity and siting of any furniture seem appropriate to the use of the space?
- Is there an appropriate provision of bins across the site and are they ideally located?

Overall, only ten of the sites assessed failed to meet the required quality standard. The table below sets out the number of sites that scored less than 'Good' for each criterion in the assessment.

Table 8: Public open space quality assessment summary results

Quality Criterion	% sites scoring 'Good' or above	No. sites scoring below 'Good'
Accessibility	78%	95
Place Quality	84%	69
Care and Maintenance	94%	27
Biodiversity	91%	40
Community Use	87%	57
Overall Quality Score	98%	10

This quality assessment was undertaken using a standardised method across all sites to ensure comparability. However, consideration was given to the type and size of each site when scoring the criteria, recognising that requirements vary across different sites. It is acknowledged that, in future, a more nuanced approach would be beneficial, with quality assessments tailored to reflect specific typologies or hierarchies, allowing for a more context-sensitive evaluation.

Conclusions

It is important to recognise that a range of factors contribute to identified shortfalls in POS provision in certain settlements.

- Historic development of the settlement that did not prioritise open space provision. This is particularly evident in Perth.
- The presence of spaces that could not be classified as POS in the audit due to accessibility constraints or lack of clear public function.
- Standard open space typologies do not account for the recreational value of accessible countryside, which may lessen demand for formal provision in smaller rural communities.
- The phased delivery of larger public open spaces in new developments can result in temporary shortfalls following housing occupation.

It is important to note that addressing shortfalls in provision is unlikely to be achieved solely through contributions from new development, as these must be proportionate to the scale of development. However, opportunities will be identified through LDP3, and, in some cases, PKC should seek to secure external funding to address gaps.

Addressing identified deficiencies remains a key priority and where they have been identified the following approaches will be pursued:

- safeguard existing POS provision
- secure appropriate on-site and off-site developer contributions
- pursue external funding opportunities using the OSS as an evidence-base
- apply the Infrastructure First principle to ensure POS in new developments are delivered at the earliest practical stage, taking account of other infrastructure requirements and any masterplanning of the site
- review sites identified in the audit that were not classified as POS, and, where appropriate, improve accessibility and functionality to make them public spaces
- prioritise quality enhancements to existing open spaces, and path networks, in areas where new provision is not feasible
- regarding the provision of new play spaces or sport facilities, deficiencies identified in the audit will be addressed following the approaches set out in the Playground Strategy and Policy on Provision of Facilities for Outdoor Pitch Sports

Appendix 2: Open Space Audit settlement results

Appendix 2 presents the detailed quantity and accessibility assessment results for all settlements included within the Open Space Audit. The results show considerable variation in open space provision and accessibility across Perth and Kinross. Larger settlements generally perform well and most meet the Council's quantity standard for public open space, although deficiencies are identified in several locations including Blairgowrie and Rattray, Bridge of Earn, Stanley, Abernethy and Longforgan.

Public park and playing field accessibility is generally strong across the area, with many settlements achieving access for most households. Accessibility to children's play provision is more variable, particularly for Local Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs), with some settlements recording notably lower levels of coverage. Accessibility challenges are most evident in Blairgowrie and Rattray, Longforgan, Auchterarder, Luncarty, Comrie and several smaller rural settlements.

The Perth neighbourhood assessment highlights significant differences between communities. While Letham and Hillyland, Tulloch, North Muirton, Muirton and Balhousie, and Moncrieffe, Craigie and Friarton generally demonstrate strong accessibility

performance, Bertha Park, City Centre, and Almondbank, Huntingtower and Ruthvenfield show deficiencies in either quantity of provision, accessibility to specific open space types, or both. Bertha Park records the most significant current shortfall, reflecting the ongoing phased delivery of open space infrastructure within this developing neighbourhood.

The table should be viewed alongside the [Open Space Audit Web Map](#) and supporting analysis in Appendix 1 to identify local priorities for investment, enhancement, protection and future open space provision.

Settlement	Population (estimate)	POS Required (Ha)	Sites Audited	Total POS Area (Ha)	POS Deficiency/Surplus (Ha)	Meet Quantity Standard	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Aberargie	94.6	0.33	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Aberfeldy	1,886	6.60	11	63.06	56.5	Yes	94%	100%	84%	91%
Abernethy	1,425	4.99	7	3.67	-1.3	No	86%	96%	49%	92%
Aberuthven	457.6	1.60	3	6.20	4.6	Yes	100%	100%	89%	100%
Acharn	105.6	0.37	1	0.15	-0.2	No	100%	100%	100%	100%
Alyth	2,345	8.21	8	31.70	23.5	Yes	96%	99%	67%	94%
Ardler	167.2	0.59	3	2.41	1.8	Yes	100%	100%	100%	100%
Auchterarder	6,061	21.21	15	24.30	3.1	Yes	59%	91%	62%	74%
Balado	145.2	0.51	0	0.00	-0.5	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Balbeggie	455.4	1.59	1	0.48	-1.1	No	100%	100%	90%	100%
Baledgarno	50.6	0.18	1	0.55	0.4	Yes	0%	0%	0%	0%
Ballinluig	277.2	0.97	2	1.85	0.9	Yes	0%	100%	71%	100%
Balnaguard	50.6	0.18	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bankfoot	1,254	4.39	7	12.74	8.3	Yes	88%	98%	73%	98%
Binn Farm	6.6	0.02	0	0.00	0.0	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Blackford	913	3.20	6	6.56	3.4	Yes	87%	100%	74%	100%
Blairgowrie and Rattray	9,433	33.02	21	29.47	-3.5	No	75%	98%	58%	70%
Blairingone	110	0.39	1	0.28	-0.1	No	100%	100%	98%	100%
Boltachan	59.4	0.21	1	13.66	13.5	Yes	0%	100%	0%	22%
Braco	562	1.97	6	3.10	1.1	Yes	100%	100%	86%	100%
Bridge of Cally	81.4	0.28	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bridge of Earn	2,918	10.21	10	8.15	-2.1	No	100%	100%	63%	76%
Burrelton/Woodside	750.2	2.63	3	3.35	0.7	Yes	74%	100%	31%	83%

Open Space Strategy

Settlement	Population (estimate)	POS Required (Ha)	Sites Audited	Total POS Area (Ha)	POS Deficiency/Surplus (Ha)	Meet Quantity Standard	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Butterstone	41.8	0.15	1	1.47	1.3	Yes	0%	100%	0%	0%
Camserney	57.2	0.20	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Caputh	110	0.39	2	0.99	0.6	Yes	100%	100%	100%	100%
Carnbo	70.4	0.25	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Carsie	173.8	0.61	2	0.65	0.0	Yes	100%	62%	94%	100%
Clathymore	107.8	0.38	0	0.00	-0.4	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Cleish	24.2	0.08	2	0.39	0.3	Yes	0%	0%	0%	0%
Comrie	1,847	6.46	8	8.53	2.1	Yes	79%	98%	42%	87%
Concraigie	6.6	0.02	0	0.00	0.0	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Coshieville	26.4	0.09	0	0.00	-0.1	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Cottown/Chapelhill	85.8	0.30	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	95%	0%	36%
Coupar Angus	2,132	7.46	6	12.88	5.4	Yes	90%	99%	80%	65%
Craigie	33	0.12	0	0.00	-0.1	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Crieff	7,142	25.00	17	65.46	40.5	Yes	95%	99%	52%	89%
Croftinloan/Donavoured/East Haugh/Ballyoukan	255.2	0.89	0	0.00	-0.9	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Cromwell Park	22	0.08	0	0.00	-0.1	No	0%	20%	0%	0%
Crook of Devon	698	2.44	6	2.33	-0.2	No	70%	88%	52%	81%
Cultybraggan	13.2	0.05	0	0.00	0.0	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Dalcrue	0	0.00	0	0.00	0.0	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Drunzie	72.6	0.25	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Dull	83.6	0.29	1	0.22	-0.1	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Dunkeld and Birnam	1,194	4.18	16	22.70	18.5	Yes	97%	94%	72%	96%

Settlement	Population (estimate)	POS Required (Ha)	Sites Audited	Total POS Area (Ha)	POS Deficiency/Surplus (Ha)	Meet Quantity Standard	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Dunning	885	3.10	7	10.66	7.2	Yes	96%	100%	76%	100%
Errol	1,500	5.25	4	5.68	0.4	Yes	100%	100%	70%	100%
Errol Airfield/Grange	354.2	1.24	1	0.01	-1.2	No	0%	0%	65%	0%
Fearnan	213.4	0.75	1	0.03	-0.7	No	0%	0%	48%	100%
Forgandenny	545	1.91	2	1.39	-0.5	No	80%	100%	63%	96%
Forteviot	35.2	0.12	1	0.16	0.0	Yes	0%	100%	0%	0%
Fortingall	72.6	0.25	1	0.15	-0.1	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Fowlis Wester	61.6	0.22	1	0.26	0.0	Yes	0%	0%	0%	0%
Gilmerton	213.4	0.75	1	0.92	0.2	Yes	100%	100%	96%	100%
Gleneagles	525.8	1.84	0	0.00	-1.8	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Glenfarg	663	2.32	3	5.35	2.9	Yes	89%	100%	52%	100%
Glenlomond	118.8	0.42	0	0.00	-0.4	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Grandtully	68.2	0.24	1	1.98	1.7	Yes	100%	100%	84%	100%
Greenacres	46.2	0.16	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Greenloaning	286	1.00	1	0.33	-0.7	No	0%	0%	77%	100%
Guildtown	492.8	1.72	1	2.72	1.0	Yes	100%	100%	75%	100%
gWest	4.4	0.02	0	0.00	0.0	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hattonburn	48.4	0.17	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Inchtute	1,565	5.48	7	8.47	3.0	Yes	100%	100%	55%	100%
Invergowrie	1,969	6.89	3	7.98	1.1	Yes	88%	96%	55%	88%
Keltybridge	143	0.50	0	0.00	-0.5	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kenmore	145.2	0.51	6	5.79	5.3	Yes	94%	100%	79%	100%

Open Space Strategy

Settlement	Population (estimate)	POS Required (Ha)	Sites Audited	Total POS Area (Ha)	POS Deficiency/Surplus (Ha)	Meet Quantity Standard	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Kettins	127.6	0.45	3	2.19	1.7	Yes	100%	100%	86%	100%
Kinfauns	136.4	0.48	0	0.00	-0.5	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kinloch	52.8	0.18	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kinloch Rannoch	299.2	1.05	1	2.31	1.3	Yes	98%	100%	49%	100%
Kinnaird (Highland)	66	0.23	0	0.00	-0.2	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kinnaird (Perth)	59.4	0.21	2	1.73	1.5	Yes	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kinnesswood	533	1.87	1	0.46	-1.3	No	100%	100%	77%	0%
Kinross and Milnathort	7,606	26.62	31	40.55	13.9	Yes	82%	100%	69%	91%
Kinrossie	125.4	0.44	1	1.62	1.2	Yes	100%	100%	72%	100%
Kirkmichael	187	0.65	4	2.35	1.7	Yes	0%	0%	95%	100%
Little Ballinluig	110	0.39	0	0.00	-0.4	No	0%	100%	0%	98%
Logierait	61.6	0.22	2	0.43	0.2	Yes	0%	79%	0%	0%
Longforan	1,079	3.78	3	1.87	-1.9	No	57%	100%	24%	80%
Luncarty	1,514	5.30	7	8.50	3.2	Yes	94%	99%	41%	98%
Maryburgh	24.2	0.08	0	0.00	-0.1	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Meigle	699.6	2.45	4	7.60	5.2	Yes	88%	100%	59%	96%
Meikleour	101.2	0.35	0	0.00	-0.4	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Methven	1,301	4.55	4	6.95	2.4	Yes	91%	100%	48%	100%
Murthly/Gellyburn	699.6	2.45	4	2.33	-0.1	No	78%	100%	40%	49%
Muthill	680	2.38	4	2.85	0.4	Yes	100%	100%	85%	100%
New Alyth	187	0.65	1	0.25	-0.4	No	100%	100%	100%	100%
Ochil Hills Hospital	79.2	0.28	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	100%	100%

Settlement	Population (estimate)	POS Required (Ha)	Sites Audited	Total POS Area (Ha)	POS Deficiency/Surplus (Ha)	Meet Quantity Standard	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Oudenarde	435.6	1.52	0	0.00	-1.5	No	18%	95%	0%	32%
Perth	49,292	172.52	110	371.94	199.4	Yes	89%	99%	62%	88%
Perth Airport	151.8	0.53	0	0.00	-0.5	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pitcairngreen	162.8	0.57	1	2.15	1.6	Yes	100%	100%	100%	100%
Pitlochry	2,694	9.43	16	49.35	39.9	Yes	87%	97%	59%	85%
Powmill	250.8	0.88	1	0.29	-0.6	No	75%	99%	71%	96%
Rait	70.4	0.25	2	0.61	0.4	Yes	0%	0%	0%	0%
Rannoch Station	13.2	0.05	0	0.00	0.0	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Rumbling Bridge	116.6	0.41	1	5.60	5.2	Yes	0%	42%	0%	0%
Scone	5,232	18.31	12	33.95	15.6	Yes	87%	100%	43%	84%
Scotlandwell	308	1.08	2	14.85	13.8	Yes	100%	100%	81%	100%
Spittalfield	176	0.62	1	0.39	-0.2	No	100%	99%	100%	100%
St David's	83.6	0.29	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
St Madoes and Glencarse	1,096	3.84	4	4.90	1.1	Yes	92%	100%	90%	97%
Stanley	1,497	5.24	3	1.25	-4.0	No	83%	95%	71%	96%
Strathtay	125.4	0.44	0	0.00	-0.4	No	60%	100%	18%	88%
Tibbermore	83.6	0.29	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Trochry	33	0.12	0	0.00	-0.1	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Tummel Bridge	90.2	0.32	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Weem	68.2	0.24	1	0.20	0.0	No	0%	97%	0%	0%
Wester Balgedie	81.4	0.28	0	0.00	-0.3	No	0%	0%	0%	0%
Wolfhill	213.4	0.75	2	0.93	0.2	Yes	100%	100%	86%	100%

Perth Neighbourhood Assessment

Settlement	Population (estimate)	POS Required (Ha)	Sites Audited	Total POS Area (Ha)	POS Deficiency/Surplus (Ha)	Meet Quantity Standard	% Households within 700m of a Public Park	% Households within 1,200m of a Playing Field	% Households within 400m of a LEAP	% Households within 1,000m of a NEAP
Gannochy, Bridgend, Kinnoull, Corsiehill and Barnhill	3,934	13.8	12	101.3	87.52	Yes	98%	99%	54%	71%
Letham and Hillyland	9,849	34.5	15	29.3	-5.15	No	100%	100%	89%	100%
Tulloch	5,729	20.1	19	27.6	7.51	Yes	100%	100%	95%	100%
Perth West	31	0.1	0	0.0	-0.11	No	21%	43%	0%	21%
North Muirton, Muirton and Balhousie	9,357	32.7	14	66.5	33.78	Yes	99%	100%	67%	100%
Moncrieffe, Craigie and Friarton	7,986	28.0	13	80.1	52.13	Yes	95%	100%	72%	96%
Western Edge, Woodlands and Cherrybank	8,615	30.2	23	32.3	2.17	Yes	74%	99%	42%	82%
Bertha Park	1,443	5.1	2	0.5	-4.55	No	0%	100%	0%	0%
City Centre	7,326	25.6	5	23.8	-1.85	No	100%	100%	17%	100%
Almondbank, Huntingtower and Ruthvenfield	3,076	10.8	7	10.5	-0.22	No	29%	77%	32%	49%



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