Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy

December 2014 www.consult.waveney.gov.uk
How to use this document

The Green Infrastructure Strategy collates the key findings of the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment and the Open Space Needs Assessment.

This Green Infrastructure Strategy contains details on:

- **Evidence base key findings**: Summary of key findings of each assessment in the different sub areas of the District.

The Strategy then looks at each sub area in more detail and includes:

- **Summary of key findings**: Summary of the key findings in each sub area to come out of all the assessments;
- **Recommendations**: General recommendations for green infrastructure for the sub area;
- **Issues and projects for consideration**: A list of project recommendations to consider to improve green infrastructure provision;
- **Strategic maps**: Maps identifying green infrastructure and general areas where improvements should be considered.

For more detailed information such as quantitative information, maps and general discussion about provision in different areas and local issues, the evidence base assessments should be visited. These are available online at [www.waveney.gov.uk/planning](http://www.waveney.gov.uk/planning).

Many of the maps contained within the evidence bases are at a size to be included within the text document. When viewing the map online click on the map to enlarge to a scale which is easier to read and interpret the detail.

The list of recommended projects to improve green infrastructure are based on the findings of the assessments. This list provides guidance about projects that could be considered however this list is not exhaustive. Local issues that may not have been included within the Playing Pitch and Outdoors Sports Facilities Assessment or the Open Space Needs Assessment may justify their inclusion within this list and unforeseen issues may arise over time. This list is intended to be a ‘live’ document that will be updated as appropriate to reflect the needs and demands for green infrastructure in the community.
Waveney District Council has a diverse environment that contains many different kinds of green spaces. These provide important roles to support wildlife and places where people living in our local communities can access recreational facilities.

The distribution of different forms of green infrastructure is closely related to the characteristics of an area. The east of the District has beaches and cliffs, supporting a wide variety of rare plants and birds. Further inland and to the west this gives way to agricultural fields, hedges, rivers and small settlements. The built up areas of Lowestoft and the market towns, and to a lesser degree, the villages in the outlying areas of the District, have a network of green spaces that support a greater variety of activities and access.

What is green infrastructure?
Green infrastructure is comprised of an interconnected range of green spaces and corridors. A green infrastructure network can include public and private spaces, nature reserves, heritage assets, churchyards, parks, playing fields and allotments as well as links between sites in the form of footpaths and cycleways, greenways, trees and hedgerows.

Green spaces and the corridors that link them can perform different roles in the community and the environment. For example, parkland can be used for recreational purposes, but it might also aid sustainable drainage and act as a haven for wildlife.

What is the Green Infrastructure Strategy?
The Green Infrastructure Strategy is a document to support decision making by summarising key issues related to green spaces, and more generally open spaces, in the District. The Strategy distils the findings of the Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment and the Waveney Open Space Needs Assessment.

Objectives of the green infrastructure strategy
The Green Infrastructure Strategy is an evidence base to support the Local Plan and provide information about open space provision required to meet existing and future demand. The primary aims and objectives are:

- assess spatial patterns of overall green infrastructure provision;
- identify linkages between different types of green infrastructure provision;
- identify gaps in green infrastructure provision;
- identify linkages with green infrastructure outside the District;
- identify areas where improvements would enhance green infrastructure and opportunities for new green infrastructure provision;
- identify action points to improve green infrastructure provision in Waveney;
- provide evidence to support decisions to prioritise the use of Community Infrastructure Levy funds to deliver green infrastructure and open space facilities;
- prepare an evidence base to support decision making and the Local Plan.

Policy background
Planning policies at the national and local level both have an impact on the provision and management of green infrastructure. A national policy approach to delivering green infrastructure is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the supporting Planning Practice Guidance.

Local policies to protect and enhance existing green infrastructure and provide new green space when opportunities arise are set out in the Waveney Local Plan. Figure 1 sets out how the Green Infrastructure Strategy relates to the Local Plan to support decision making.

Figure 1 Green Infrastructure Strategy Relationship to Planning
Evidence Base

Summary of the assessments that contribute towards the green infrastructure strategy

Waveney Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

The assessment discusses provision for cricket, football, hockey, rugby, athletics, bowls, netball and tennis. Possible facilities that should be considered for inclusion on the Oakes Farm sport and leisure allocation are identified. The assessment identifies sports pitches in the District, how they are used and by whom and provides an overall picture of existing supply and demand. Future housing development and the provision of new or improved facilities to meet the anticipated demand is discussed.

Biodiversity distribution

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Collates and summarises information about sites that are important for biodiversity. The map based assessment sets out the location of biodiversity sites and demonstrates how they relate to each other and how they are connected as part of a wider ecological network. Important biodiversity networks in the coastal area and the Broads are discussed and an overview of wildlife movement corridors in different areas of the District are illustrated. The assessment shows where there are gaps in the green infrastructure network.

Natural and semi-natural green space

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

This section supports information set out in the Biodiversity Distribution Assessment by providing an overview of accessible natural green space in the District using the ‘Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard’ recommended by Natural England.

Parks and gardens

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Parks and gardens are key multi-functional open spaces within the community and provide a focal point for recreational activities. This section sets out the location of parks and gardens and the facilities provided for community use. An assessment of quality and value is provided in conjunction with an assessment of accessibility. Overall, parks and gardens are of high quality and offer good value to residents and visitors, however, sites that could be improved to enhance their value to the community have been identified.

Amenity green space

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Amenity green space can have a variety of different roles in the community and the townscape with some providing space for informal activities while others simply provide openness and colour in the built up area. This section discusses the provision of amenity green space and its distribution and relationship with the existing community. The benefit of amenity green space to an area has been assessed for its quality and value and the role it fulfils in townscape. A quantitative assessment provides comparisons between different areas of the District and how provision compares to local recommended standards. The assessment identifies sites where improvements could be made to enhance their value to its surroundings.

Play space

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Equipped play spaces are important places for young people to engage in energetic activities and socialise with other children. The assessment identifies the location of equipped play spaces, the different types of facilities available, and the ages they cater for and how accessible these facilities are to people in the community. A quantitative assessment enables comparisons of provision between different areas to be made to recommended local standards.

Quality and value assessments contribute towards identifying play spaces that could be prioritised for improvement to meet existing local needs and to meet future demand arising from future development.

Allotments

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Allotments provide green spaces for relaxation, connecting with the outdoors and provide greater opportunities for healthy living. The assessment identifies existing allotments sites and the number of plots provided. A quantitative assessment shows how local provision compares to existing local recommended standards and an assessment of accessibility identifies how allotments are distributed. The report identifies areas in the District where there is a quantitative shortfall of allotments and where there are not enough plots to meet demand.

Cemeteries and churchyards

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Cemeteries and churchyards provide cultural, historical and biodiversity value. This section lists existing churchyards and cemeteries in the District.

Green corridors

(Draft Open Space Needs Assessment, Nov 2014)

Green corridors enhance the public realm, contribute towards its legibility, provide connections between green spaces and other destinations and are important for supporting wildlife. Using the information set out in all the aforementioned sections links between green spaces are identified. To enhance the public realm, improve movement corridors for people travelling between destinations and wildlife moving between trees, green spaces and larger habitats quality connections and gaps in the network are identified. These have contributed towards the suggested improvement set out in this section.
Summary of Key Findings of Evidence Base to support Green Infrastructure Strategy

### Allotments

#### Allotments Overview

- Allotments in the District are generally managed by allotment associations or Town and Parish Councils.
- Across the District provision is higher than the standard recommended by the National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners.
- Few plots are vacant indicating that demand for allotments is high. With few plots available and waiting lists in some areas there is likely to be a hidden demand for plots through people wishing to have a plot but not registering with the party responsible for managing allotments in an area.

#### Beccles

- Provision per 1000 people is above the District average (0.44ha).
- Only half of Beccles residents are located within a catchment area of an allotment.
- No allotments are provided in Worlingham and much of the village lies outside the catchment area of existing allotments (Worlingham Parish population is 3745 (2011 census)). Residents are required to use plots in Beccles and North Cove.
- New allotments are to be provided at Cucumber Lane. This will provide plots for residents in an area where there is no existing provision.
- Currently there are few vacant plots in the sub area.

#### Bungay

- One allotment site is provided in town the town (0.46ha).
- Current level of provision indicates there are over 1100 people per hectare of allotments. This is significantly higher than anywhere else in the District and quantitatively is the poorest level of provision in the District (0.09ha per 1000 people).
- Bungay does not have enough provision to meet the standard recommended by the National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners.
- Less than half of the residents in Bungay lie within the catchment area of the allotment site.
- Significant waiting list which is a long-term issue.
- Current allocation for allotments located off on land off of Wingfield Street is unlikely to come forward in the short-term.

#### Halesworth

- Provision is a little higher than the District average (0.35ha per 1000 people).
- Three allotment sites in the town with a total of 48 plots.
- Demand for plots is stable with no vacancies.
- Approximately half of the people living in Halesworth are within the catchment area of an allotment.

#### Kessingland

- Five allotments sites evenly distributed across the village provide good access to these facilities.
- No waiting list at present, however, the Parish Council has indicated that further allotments would be welcomed in the future.
- Quantitatively, the area used for allotments is higher than the District average.

#### North Lowestoft

- Provision is approximately half that recommended by the National Allotment Association (0.25ha per 1000 people).
- Majority of residents are within the catchment area of an allotment.

#### South Lowestoft

- Current waiting list is in excess of over 120 people.
- Existing provision is about 25% of what is recommended by the National Allotment Association (shortfall of about 230 plots).
- With the exception of Bungay, the area has the poorest provision in the District (0.13ha per 1000 people).
- Majority of residents are located within a catchment area of an allotment.

#### Southwold and Reydon

- Best provision in the District with over four times the land available than the District average.
- Largest allotment site in the District located at Hill Road.
- Almost all of the residents are within the catchment area of an allotment.
- No waiting list at present.

#### Rural Areas

- Quantitative provision is higher than the District average (0.46ha per 1000 people).
- Where allotments are provided they are easily accessible to people in the surrounding area.
- Most plots in current use.
- Only 26% of residents within the rural sub area are within the catchment area of an allotment.
### Amenity Green Space Overview

- Amenity green space provides an important role in the built up area, however, the number of open spaces with amenity as the primary use is low.
- Significant amount of amenity green space is provided as a secondary function alongside other open space uses such as a park.
- Amenity green space provided as part of a multi-functional open space tends to be of higher quality and offer greater value to the community than open space where amenity is the primary, if not, only use.
- Small open spaces provide openness and visual enhancement to the townscape but they have limited potential to be used for recreational purposes. These spaces tend to be of lower quality and low value. In some instances the value of these green spaces have been negatively affected by the encroachment of development onto open space or by poor design that did integrate them properly into the built environment.
- The role of many amenity green spaces in the built up area is unclear which reduces their value to the surrounding area.
- Potential to improve the open space network, public realm and wider connectivity between destinations by providing ancillary facilities such as seating and planting and improving landscaping.

### Beccles
- Lowest amount of provision per person in the District.
- Most significant deficit of amenity green space relative to recommended standard in the District.
- Multi-functional open space provides much of the open space with amenity use in the area.
- Relatively low levels of access to amenity green space compared to other areas of the District.
- Amenity green spaces are generally of high quality and high value.

### Bungay
- Has one multi-functional open space (Castle Hills), however, play area is of poor quality and offers low value.
- Quality of green spaces is satisfactory but residents only have access to one high quality green space offering high value.
- The proportion of green space that does not support physical activity by residents is twice the District average.

### Halesworth
- There are only four amenity green spaces in the built up area.
- The largest amenity green space is Town Park and the network of green space to the south. This is located near centre of town and contributes towards creating a focal point near the town centre for the community and visitors.
- The proportion of sites with low quality and low value is higher than the District average.
- Significant proportion of amenity green spaces are of low quality and low value.

### Kessingland
- Two green spaces in the village provide amenity as part of a multi-functional open space.
- The largest open space is the Kessingland Play Field which has reasonably good access for the community.
- Small quantitative deficiency of amenity green space in the village.
- The only sub area to have more than half of its amenity green space provided in a form that does not support recreational activities but is primarily used to enhance the townscape.

### North Lowestoft
- Quantitatively, North Lowestoft has the greatest amount of amenity green space. These are well distributed through the built up area.
- Majority of spaces are larger than 1 hectare.
- Significant proportion of amenity green spaces are of low quality and are of low value to the community.

### South Lowestoft
- Deficit of amenity green space provision.
- High proportion of amenity green space is available as part of a larger multi-functional open space.
- Majority of sites are greater than 1 hectare.
- Best accessibility in the District.
- Most sites offer medium to high value for the community.
- South Lowestoft is the second most deprived sub area of district and has second largest deficit of amenity green space.

### Southwold and Reydon
- Best amount of provision per person in the District.
- Large amenity green spaces are easily accessible.
- All sites are of at least medium quality and value.
- Proportion of open space that is designed to provide openness and visually enhance the townscape but provide little value for physical use is twice the District average.

### Rural Areas
- Provision of amenity green space is limited given the setting of villages.
- Sites are generally of medium and high quality with similar value.
- Most amenity green space is provided as part of multi-functional open spaces.
# Biodiversity

## Biodiversity Overview

- Two primary areas of biodiversity and wildlife habitats that are well connected including:
  - the coastal strip which runs the entire length of Waveney coastline; and
  - the River Waveney which stretches from Lake Lothing across the north of the District and the Broads.
- Significant number of protected sites in the District including Natura 2000 sites, Local Nature Reserves and sites with local designations.
- Brownfield sites in the District have a significant amount of biodiversity value.
- Many protected sites are publicly accessible and play an important role by enabling people to access nature although a balance between access and conservation needs to be considered.
- Undesignated areas such as commons (Beccles, Outney and Southwold) and beaches provide habitats for wildlife and provide multi-functional amenity spaces for residents and visitors.
- Access to semi-natural areas is relatively good for much of the District.

## Beccles

- The largest concentration of wildlife is located on the edge of the built up area at Beccles Common and the Beccles Marshes.
- Short green corridors are located at Rigbourne Hill Lane, Wash Lane and the railway line provide movement corridors for wildlife, links to the open countryside and provide traffic free routes for the public.

## Bungay

- Skinners Meadow and Ollands Plantation in the centre of the residential area in the south of the town is the only significant habitat within the built up area and is flat and exposed.
- Outney Common north of the town provides a diverse variety of high quality habitats with good public access.
- Stow Fen southwest of the town provides public access and links the open countryside to the town.

## Halesworth

- The network of green spaces extending from the centre of the town including Town Park, New Reach River, Birds Folly and Millennium Green provide a variety of different habitats along a well connected corridor with public access.
- Railway lines provide a green corridor through the town for wildlife.

## Kessingland

- The Kessingland Beach and Kessingland Cliffs provide quality habitats for wildlife and the areas are publically accessible.
- Limited green space within the built up area restricts value of wildlife corridors in the village, however, trees throughout the village support wildlife movement along with small green spaces and allotments.

## North Lowestoft

- Extended biodiversity habitat along the Great Eastern Linear Park linking up to the coastal strip at Gunton and south to Lake Lothing and Oulton Broad.
- Leathes Ham (Local Nature Reserve) links Lake Lothing to Normanston Park and a green corridor extends from the Park north along Peto Way and Bonds Meadow. These areas are publically accessible.
- Protected habitats are located in north Lowestoft at Gunton Warren and nearby open spaces of Gunton Wood, Gunton Cliffs and Foxborough Wood.

## South Lowestoft

- The green corridors from Lake Lothing to Tom Crisp Way connects a network of green spaces, is publicly accessible and contributes positively to the public realm encouraging use as movement corridors and also provide habitats for wildlife.
- Lake Lothing provides a green and blue wildlife corridor linking Oulton Broad and South Beach (east to west) and green corridors extending north and south through Normanston Park and the Jeld Wen Mosaic County Wildlife Site.
- Pakefield Cliffs the beach provide semi-natural areas for wildlife and expansive areas open space that can be used by local people and visitors.

## Southwold and Reydon

- Few sites of biodiversity value within the built up area, however, a good distribution of small green space and trees provide stepping stones for wildlife to move between habitats.
- Wildlife habitat is located at Southold Common, areas close to Walberswick Marshes, the River Blyth and along the beach. These areas all have public access to varying degrees.

## Rural Areas

- Coastal Strip (Pakefield to Southwold)
  - Extends the entire length of the Waveney coast from Lake Lothing (north) to Minsmere (south) and inland to Frostenden and Kessingland levels. Important for wildlife, particularly birds.
- River Waveney
  - Extends from western Lowestoft along the northern boundary of the District extending into the Broads. Important for wildlife, particularly birds.
Green Corridors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Green Corridors Overview</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- The most significant green corridors in the District are located in Beccles and Lowestoft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Few areas of dense vegetation cover exist within the built up areas of the District that would significantly benefit wildlife.</td>
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<td>- Locations where the urban area meets the open countryside have often not been well integrated to support the movement of people and wildlife into the countryside and open spaces limiting their value to the community and local wildlife species.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Improvements to existing open space and the public realm has the potential to make the District a more pleasant and visually appealing environment for residents and visitors and improve the quality of wildlife habitat in the built up area.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beccles</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Two main greenways are Rigbourne Hill and Wash Lane.</td>
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<td>- Connections within the built up area are limited.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bungay</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- There are no greenways in Bungay.</td>
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<td>- Green routes connecting open spaces, residential area and the town centre are few.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Halesworth</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Network of open spaces focussed around Town Park and Millennium Green.</td>
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<td>- Railway line is an important green corridor through the town.</td>
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<th>Kessingland</th>
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<td>- Few continuous green connections within the urban area.</td>
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<th>North Lowestoft</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Several key extensive networks of green infrastructure within the built up area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Great Eastern Linear Park is the principle greenway in the District.</td>
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<td>- Hard boundaries have resulted in urban areas not being well integrated with the countryside.</td>
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<th>South Lowestoft</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Tom Crisp Way and Castleton Avenue are the primary green routes connecting the area to the town centre.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Variety of habitats supported by the Tom Crisp Way - Castleton Avenue corridor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Southern boundary of Carlton Colville is reasonably well integrated with the surrounding countryside.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The beach is a key link between green spaces located along and near the coast.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Outside of Carlton Colville the provision of green routes between open spaces is relatively limited.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Southwold and Reydon</th>
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<tr>
<td>- The Common, Denes and beach provide a well connected green infrastructure network closely linked with ecological areas associated with surrounding waterways.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- In Southwold most open space provides amenity value and is likely to have limited value for wildlife.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- In Reydon there a few green routes that would be of significant benefit for wildlife, however, the surrounding countryside has a wide variety of wildlife habitats.</td>
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<th>Rural Areas</th>
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www.waveney.gov.uk/planningpolicy
## Parks and Gardens

### Parks and Gardens Overview

- Parks and gardens provided in Beccles, Halesworth, North Lowestoft and South Lowestoft.
- Parks and gardens provide areas for multi-functional use.
- Generally are of the highest quality and offer the greatest value of all open spaces in the District.
- Few opportunities to provide new large parks and gardens, however, enhancing a limited number of open spaces to a standard equivalent to a park would help create destinations and improve provision in several communities, particularly where there are no parks or in areas with amenity and play areas of lower value.
- Consistent high quality and high value of parks and gardens suggests this is the standard of provision that should be delivered as part of any new large development rather than small amenity green spaces and equipped play areas that have less value and are less likely to be used by residents.

### Beccles

- Four parks in the Beccles sub area (three in Worlingham).
- Half of all accessible open space is in the form of a park.
- All parks are of at least medium quality and medium value.
- Very little open space is provided near the town centre.
- Adequate park space is provided to meet Waveney’s recommended standard, however, the distribution across the sub area is uneven.
- Only 18% of households are within 400m of a small park and 11% within 1000m of a large park.
- Parks well integrated into residential area of Worlingham increase their accessibility and value to the community.

### Halesworth

- Town Park is the only park space in Halesworth and provides a quarter of the total provision green space with amenity use in the town.
- Town Park is of high quality and high value and provides a focal point in the town centre.
- Quantitative provision is below recommended standard.
- Half of the people living in Halesworth are within the catchment area of Town Park.

### North Lowestoft

- Four parks are located in North Lowestoft.
- One third of all amenity green space is in the form of a park or garden.
- Enough park and garden space is provided to meet the recommended standard.
- 13% of households are within 400m of a small park and 28% within 1000m of a larger local park.
- All parks in the area of high quality and offer at least medium value

### South Lowestoft

- There are six parks and two gardens in South Lowestoft which is the largest number in the District.
- Half of all open space is in the form of a park or garden.
- Quantitative provision meets the recommended standard.
- Greatest amount of park and garden space per person.
- Over 50% of population lies within the catchment of a local park and all are within 5km of a destination park.

### Southwold and Reydon

- No parks or gardens are provided in the sub area.

### Bungay

- No parks or gardens are provided in the town and access to multi-functional open space of quality and value is poor.

### Kessingland

- No parks or gardens are provided within the village.

### Rural Areas

- No parks or gardens are provided in rural areas.
- No properties within catchment area of a park or garden.
- High quality multi-functional parks and gardens in other towns and villages will provide the most attractive option for visiting a park.
## Playing Pitch and Outdoors Sports Facilities

### Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Overview

- Participation rates below regional and national average but increasing.
- High level of club membership and volunteer involvement in sports provision.
- Over 90% of pitches are of good quality or better.
- Underuse of pitches on school sites (particularly primary schools).
- Twelve sites across the District have disused playing pitches.
- Compared to neighbouring authorities, provision for pitch based sports is below average and provision for non-pitch provision is above average overall.
- Delivery partners to improve sports facility provision include Waveney District Council, Town and Parish Councils, Schools sports clubs, developers and partnership arrangements.

### Beccles
- Football: Existing deficit of 0.5 youth pitches.
- Cricket: Existing deficit of 7 wickets.
- Rugby: Existing deficit of 0.5 pitches and quality improvements required at College Meadow, particularly to resolve drainage issues which reduce capacity for games and practice.
- Hockey: Existing deficit of 1 sand-filled pitch resulting in hockey clubs travelling out of District to use facilities.
- Bowls: Improve access at Beccles Causton Bowls Club, Beccles Institute Bowls Club and Beccles Town Bowls Club.
- Tennis: Improve access at Beccles Tennis Club.

### Bungay
- Comprehensive variety of pitches is available at Malting’s Meadow. There is no identified shortfall of playing pitches or courts in Bungay.

### Halesworth
- Football: Current deficit of 1 mini-football pitch.
- Cricket: deficit of 8 wickets.
- Rugby: No existing deficit, however, potential to provide pitches to support Southwold RUFC.
- Synthetic turf pitches: Current deficit of 0.3 3G pitches.

### Kessingland
- Football: One adult football pitch in the village.
- Bowls: One bowling green in the village.
- The proposed Oakes Farm facility in south Lowestoft will provide many of the formal sports pitch requirements of Kessingland. However, poor pedestrian and cycle routes and limited public transport will reduce access for those without a private vehicle.

### North Lowestoft
- Football: Existing Deficiency of 1.5 adult football pitches and 3 youth pitches.
- Cricket: Deficit of 8 wickets.
- Rugby: Deficit of 2.5 rugby pitches.
- Synthetic turf: Small deficit of a small 3G football pitch.
- Bowls: Accessibilty improvements for Corton BC and Waveney BC.
- Netball: One netball court at a school site for future demand.
- Provision of changing facilities at Normanston Park.

### South Lowestoft
- Football: Current deficit of 3 youth pitches and 10 mini pitches. Additional 2 youth pitches and 7 new pitches required to meet future demand. Quality pitches and changing facilities not available at Pontins, Pakefield.
- Synthetic pitches: Deficit of 1 full sized 3G pitch.
- Athletics: No existing deficit. Provide a 200m j track (with the potential to extend into a full 400m track at a later date).
- Bowls: Consider providing one bowling green for future need.
- Tennis: Deficit of 2 courts and improvements at Kensington Gardens and Nicholas Everitt Park.
- Suggested facilities to be considered as part of the Oakes Farm sport and leisure allocation.

### Southwold and Reydon
- Football: Improvements to changing facilities at Old Reydon High School.
- Cricket: Deficit of 2 wickets.
- Rugby: Deficit of 2.5 pitches.
- Synthetic turf: Deficit of 0.16 3G pitches.
- Tennis: Improvements to access and changing facilities at Southwold Common Tennis Club and Southwold & District Tennis Club.

### Rural Areas
- Few sports pitches are available in rural areas.
- Most parts of the District are within the recommended catchment area for all sports.
- Many sports pitches and courts are able to support regular use, however, improvements to surfaces and ancillary facilities is suggested for a number of sites.
## Play Spaces

### Play Spaces Overview

- Provision of play items is relatively well spread across the District.
- Provision for toddler and juniors is good, however, youth play provision is significantly lower.
- Play areas in larger multi-functional open spaces such as parks provide a focal point for community use and often are of higher quality and value.
- Historical issue of sites having little or no street frontage and being poorly overlooked has led to many equipped play areas degenerating to low quality and low value that discourages use. Many of these sites have limited scope for improvement.
- Provision of open spaces to support play activities tends to be lower in deprived areas of the District, however, the quality and value of play areas is evenly distributed irrespective of the deprivation of an area.

### Beccles

- Greatest amount of equipped play space in the District (3.59ha) and the highest proportion of open space that is equipped play space.
- Greatest amount of provision per 1000 children in the District (1.46ha).
- Play spaces (and their quality and value) are unevenly distributed through the sub area.
- Good levels of provision for toddlers and juniors, however, provision for the youth age group is low.

### Bungay

- Less than half households are within catchment area of a play space.
- Only market town without a neighbourhood equipped area for play.
- Existing play spaces are equipped with a variety toddler and junior provision, however, provision for the youth age group is low.
- Lowest level of equipment provision in the District and has the fewest average of number activities per play space available in the District.
- Highest proportion of low quality and value play spaces in the District.

### Halesworth

- Adequate equipped play space is provided to meet recommended standard of provision.
- Minority of households are within the catchment area of play space.
- Play equipment for juniors is good, but there are relatively limited facilities available for toddlers and youths.
- Provision of items of equipment and the number of activities they support is below the District average.
- Over half of the play spaces in Halesworth are of at least medium quality and medium value.

### Kessingland

- Lowest amount of equipped play space in the District (0.55ha).
- Approximately half of the population is within the catchment area of an equipped play space.
- Good levels of equipment provision for toddlers and juniors, however, provision for the youth age group is low.
- Play spaces have equipment to support a good range of activities.
- High proportion of high quality equipped play spaces.

### North Lowestoft

- Significant quantitative shortfall of equipped play space provision (deficit of 4.33ha).
- Children per hectare of play place is 1.7 times above District average.
- Fewest number of households in a catchment area of an equipped play area in the District.
- The number of play spaces with play equipment for toddlers and juniors is good, however, provision for the youth age group is low.

### South Lowestoft

- Quantitative shortfall of play space provision (deficit of 4.47ha).
- Number of children per hectare of play space is twice the District average and more than seven times that of Southwold and Reydon.
- Two thirds of play areas are local area of play (LAPs) (highest proportion in the District).
- Access to equipped play space is variable but relatively limited overall.
- The number of play spaces with equipment for juniors is good. Provision for toddlers and youths is relatively low.
- Second most deprived area in the District and has a disproportionate number of low quality and low value play spaces.

### Southwold and Reydon

- Quantitative provision is adequate to meet the recommended standard of provision.
- Highest provision quantity of provision per person in the District.
- Access to equipped play space is good.
- Provision of equipment for all age groups is good.
- On average, Southwold & Reydon have the highest quality equipped play spaces in the District.

### Rural Areas

- Small quantitative shortfall over the whole entire rural area.
- Play spaces are often part of a multi-function open space in conjunction with a community facility such as a village hall. As a focal point, these sites are quite accessible within the surrounding village.
- Lowest amount of equipped play provision per 1000 children in the District (0.91ha).
- Play spaces offer the best value for local children in the District. Equipped play spaces usually have more variety of equipment to support a greater number of activities for a wider age bracket.
Beccles Area

Summary of findings for the Beccles area

Allotments
- Provision per person is above the District average and local plots.
- Worlingham residents use plots in Beccles, Barnby and North Cove.
- Currently there are few vacant plots in the sub area.
- Only half of Beccles residents are located within a catchment area of an allotment.
- No allotments are provided in Worlingham and much of the village lies outside the catchment area of existing allotments.
- New allotments are to be provided at Cucumber Lane. This will provide plots for residents in an area where there is no existing provision and access is limited. This reduces the importance of new allotments to be provided at Nicolson Drive.

Amenity Green Space
- Lowest amount of provision per person in the District with the most significant deficit of amenity green space relative to recommended standard in the District.
- Multi-functional open space provides much of the open space with amenity use in the area.
- Relatively low levels of access to amenity green space compared to other areas of the District.
- Amenity green spaces are generally of high quality and high value.

Biodiversity
- The largest concentration of wildlife habitat is located on the edge of the built up area at Beccles Common and the Beccles Marshes.
- Short green corridors are located at Rigbourne Hill Lane, Wash Lane and the railway line providing movement corridors for wildlife, links to the open countryside and traffic free routes for the public.

Green Corridors
- Two main greenways are Rigbourne Hill and Wash Lane.
- Connections within the built up area are limited.

Parks and Gardens
- Four parks in the sub area, three of which are in Worlingham
- Parks account for half of all accessible open space
- No parks are of low quality or value
- Town centre in particular has a deficiency of open space
- Adequate park space is provided across the sub area to meet Waveney’s recommended standard
- Distribution of parks is uneven
- Only 18% of households are within 400m of a small park and 11% within 1000m of a large park
- Parks well integrated into residential area of Worlingham increasing their accessibility and value to the community.

Play Space
- Quantitatively, Beccles has the greatest amount of equipped play space in the District and the highest proportion of open space that is equipped play space.
- Greatest amount of provision per child in the District.
- Adequate provision of equipped play space to meet the recommended standard.
- Play spaces are unevenly distributed in the Beccles and Worlingham area. Quality and value of play places is unevenly distributed between Beccles and Worlingham.
- Good levels of provision for toddlers and juniors, however, provision for the youth age group is low.

Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Football: Existing deficit of 0.5 youth pitches.
- Cricket: Existing deficit of 7 wickets.
- Rugby: Existing deficit of 0.5 pitches and quality improvements required at College Meadow, particularly to resolve drainage issues which reduce capacity for games and practice.
- Hockey: Existing deficit of 1 sand-filled pitch resulting in hockey clubs travelling out of District to use facilities.
- Bowls: Improve access at Beccles Caixton Bowls Club, Beccles Institute Bowls Club and Beccles Town Bowls Club.
- Tennis: Improve access at Beccles Tennis Club.
## Recommendations for the Beccles area

### Allotments
- Allotments should be included as part of any redevelopment of the former Worlingham Primary School site. Demand has been present for a significant amount of time and the delivery of these facilities has been restricted by a lack of funds available for the community to purchase land. Re-use of part of the former Worlingham Playing Fields as allotments provides a rare opportunity to rectify this longstanding shortfall. The site is greenfield, within the physical limits and very accessible to the resident population.
- The existing allocation for allotments south of Nicholson Drive is likely to overprovide for existing demand and demand in the near future. Allocation is likely to be surplus to requirements in the short-term. Consideration should be given to either reducing the size of the allocation or its renewal when the Local Plan is reviewed.
- Allotments should be provided in Worlingham if any development in excess of 20 dwellings comes forward. These should be provided on site as part of the open space requirement.

### Amenity Green Space
- Improvements to Waveney Meadow and Bramley Rise.
- Land adjacent to Beccles cemetery could be improved to support amenity use to complement the wildlife and amenity benefits available in the Beccles Cemetery to the north.

### Parks and Gardens
- None

### Green Corridors
- Quality of the Rigbourne Hill greenway should be improved for both wildlife and for people using the shared use path to access local facilities and other destinations.
- Future development of the employment area on the A145 south of Beccles should require the enhancement of the Wash Lane greenway to encourage sustainable travel patterns.
- Any future development in the south of Beccles should provide quality links to connect into the Rigbourne Hill, Wash Lane and Worlingham open space network as appropriate to improve connectivity to local services and facilities.

### Play Space
- Equipped play space should be provided near the town centre if opportunity arises.
- Waveney Meadow play space and its surroundings should be improved to encourage greater use by local people and make it more of a destination. Currently, with poor provision and limited ancillary facilities the site is relatively isolated. Wards of Beccles North and Beccles South have limited access to play space.
- All Saints Green play space should be improved in a manner that does not compete or conflict with facilities available in other nearby parks.
- Setting of the unequipped play space in Park Road should be enhanced to make the open space more attractive and encourage a wider variety of uses.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Explore potential to secure additional use of pitches on school sites which would eliminate the existing shortfall of youth pitches.
- Investigate potential of reinstating disused cricket pitch at the Beccles Sports Centre.
- Promote provision of one full sized sand filled pitch to be shared for hockey and football (competitive hockey cannot take place on a 3G pitch). Additional provision would benefit other areas of the District such as Halesworth and Bungay which do not have local access to a full sized pitch.
- Support improvements to rugby pitches to increase capacity.
- Where clubs and community groups seek funding it is recommended the Council provide advice if required.
## Issues and projects for consideration in the Beccles area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Beccles (General)</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of youth football pitches.</td>
<td>Explore potential to secure additional use of pitches on school sites which would eliminate the existing shortfall of youth pitches.</td>
<td>Meet existing shortfall and share costs between different parties. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Sports clubs. Governing sports body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Beccles (General)</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of hockey pitch and football pitches.</td>
<td>Promote provision of one full sized sand filled pitch to be shared for hockey and football (competitive hockey cannot take place on a 3G pitch).</td>
<td>Additional provision would benefit other areas of the District such as Halesworth and Bungay which do not have local access to a full sized pitch. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Sports clubs. Governing sports bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. All Saints Green, Worlingham</strong></td>
<td>Park offers medium quality and medium value.</td>
<td>Improve play facilities and landscaping of amenity green space. Provision should not to conflict with nearby open spaces to enhance the space as a destination for recreational use in Worlingham.</td>
<td>Add value and encourage greater use.</td>
<td>PC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Land adjacent to Beccles Cemetery, Beccles</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of amenity green space in the vicinity.</td>
<td>Limited ancillary facilities such as seating and a walking path could encourage use where there is a deficit. Alternatively, provision of allotments could be considered as a temporary use.</td>
<td>Amenity use and complement the amenity use provided by the Beccles Cemetery.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>6. Bramley Rise, Beccles</td>
<td>Equipped play area is relatively isolated and offers low value. Unequipped play space is limited in the value it can provide and there is little landscaping on site to support and encourage use.</td>
<td>General enhancement to the amenity space and unequipped play area.</td>
<td>Provide quality play and amenity space in area where there is an identified deficit. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Waveney Meadow, Beccles</td>
<td>Play space shortfall in the area and the equipped play space offers low value. Surrounding amenity space does not optimise its location or maximise its value to the area.</td>
<td>Improvements to equipped play and surrounding amenity space.</td>
<td>Provide quality play and amenity space in area where there is an identified deficit. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Town Centre area, Beccles</td>
<td>Shortfall of children’s play space</td>
<td>If opportunity arises, consider creating a new equipped children’s play area.</td>
<td>Provide additional facilities for children and diversity activities in the town centre for all ages.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Park Drive, Worlingham</td>
<td>Good variety of play equipment but the unequipped play area has limited value resulting from the lie of the land and limited landscaping.</td>
<td>Additional planting and landscaping to support play activities.</td>
<td>Encourage greater use of a play area in a locality where there is limited access to open space and play provision.</td>
<td>PC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Worthingham (General)</td>
<td>No existing allotments in the village. Residents need to use facilities in Beccles and North Cove subject to availability.</td>
<td>Any development of 20 dwellings or more in Worthingham should provide allotments as part of their on site open space requirements.</td>
<td>Provide allotments as part of a development scheme to benefit wider community.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Worthingham (General)</td>
<td>No existing allotments in the village. Residents need to use facilities in Beccles and North Cove subject to availability.</td>
<td>Allocate site for allotments as part of local plan review.</td>
<td>Meet existing and future demand.</td>
<td>WDC. PC. Landowner. Community group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Nicholson Drive, Beccles</td>
<td>Future demand for allotments. New allotments to be provided south of Cucumber Lane and current several vacant plots.</td>
<td>Consider reducing land area of the allotment allocation.</td>
<td>Allocation for allotments still present, however, size reflects change of demand since allocation was adopted.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Former Worlingham Primary School, Worthingham</td>
<td>No existing allotments in the village. Residents need to use facilities in Beccles and North Cove subject to availability.</td>
<td>Provide allotments as part of any redevelopment of the site.</td>
<td>Meet an existing shortfall and reduce pressure of future demand in the short-term. Encourage healthy lifestyle and social interaction.</td>
<td>PC. SCC. Community group.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>14. Rigbourne Hill</td>
<td>Shared use path and semi-natural area require improvement.</td>
<td>Improve path surface for pedestrians and cyclists. Improve quality of vegetation and general environment to encourage greater use and attractiveness.</td>
<td>Encourage walking and cycling along the route and bring aesthetic benefits to the area.</td>
<td>TC. Community group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Rigbourne Hill</td>
<td>Future connections to the greenway and open space network.</td>
<td>Any proposed development in the south of Beccles and Worlingham should provide quality connections to the Rigbourne Hill, Wash Lane greenways and open space network as appropriate.</td>
<td>Improve access to services and facilities in the town centre and residential area. Provide quality connections to encourage walking, cycling and physical activities in general.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Improve access and quality of equipped play space near the town centre

Improve access to shared sports pitches suitable for cricket, football and hockey (Beccles in general).

Improve greenway

Improve access to amenity green space and unequipped play space

Improvements to equipped play space and amenity green space

Improvements to sports pitches

Potential to provide allotments on part of the former Worlingham Primary School site

Shortfall of allotments in Worlingham

Deliver quality green route connecting south Beccles to Ellough Business Park
Bungay Area

Summary of findings for the Bungay area

Allotments
- One allotment site is provided in the town.
- Quantitatively, the poorest level of provision in the District, with over 1,100 people per hectare of allotments.
- Bungay is the only market town in the District that doesn’t meet the standards of provision recommended by the National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners.
- Less than half of the residents are within the catchment area of the allotment site.
- Significant waiting list which is a long-term issue.
- Current allocation for allotments located on land off Wingfield Street is unlikely to come forward in the short-term.

Amenity Green Space
- Satisfactory quality of green spaces but residents only have access to one high quality green space offering high value.
- One multi-functional open space at Castle Hills, however, play area is of poor quality and offers low value.
- Proportion of green space that does not support physical activity is twice the District average.

Biodiversity
- Connectivity of wildlife habitats in Bungay is limited.
- Skinners Meadow and Ollands Plantation in the centre of the residential area in the south of the town is the only significant habitat within the built up area and this is flat and exposed.
- Outney Common north of the town provides a diverse variety of high quality habitats with good public access.
- Stow Fen southwest of the town provides public access and links the open countryside to the town.

Green Corridors
- There are no greenways in Bungay.
- Green routes connecting open spaces, residential area and the town centre are few.

Parks and Gardens
- No parks or gardens are provided in the town and access to multi-functional open space of quality and value is poor.

Play Space
- Small quantitative shortfall of equipped play space provision.
- Less than half of households are within catchment area of a play space.
- Bungay is the only market town without a neighbourhood equipped area for play.
- Existing play spaces are equipped with a variety toddler and junior provision, however, provision for the youth age group is low.
- Lowest level of equipment provision in the District and this coincides with the fewest average number of activities per play space available in the District.
- Bungay has the highest proportion of low quality and low value play spaces in the District.
- Residents have no access to high quality or high value play spaces.

Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- There is no identified shortfall of playing pitches or courts in Bungay.
- Comprehensive variety of pitches is available at Maltings Meadow.
## Recommendations for the Bungay area

### Allotments
- Retain land use allocation (BUN5) for allotments located off Wingfield Street.
- Provide allotments, in conjunction with landscaping and planting, on open space that is designed to act as a buffer between land used for housing and industrial purposes south of the town (allocation BUN1).
- Explore potential for a new land use allocation to deliver allotments as part of a review of the Local Plan.

### Amenity Green Space
- Improvements to Castle Hills as a multi-functional open space would increase its value to residents and complement the town centre.
- Explore options to provide public access to ‘Top Pitch’ to provide an area for ball games. There are no large open spaces available to the public in the town to support ball games and similar activities which require a large open area.
- Explore options to provide public access to Skinner’s Meadow. Currently there is a deficit of amenity green space and access would support the new facilities being provided on the former Old Grammar School site opposite (BUN4).
- Improvements to passive amenity green spaces and public realm.

### Parks and Gardens
- Improve at least one multi-functional green space in the town to a standard equivalent to a park. Castle Hills is the most likely space to support improvements with its current use of play, amenity and semi-natural area and close links with the Bigod Castle and the town centre.

### Green Corridors
- Explore the potential to improve planting along Ditchingham Dam to enhance visual amenity between the town and Maltings Meadow Sports Ground. This would enhance the visual connections between the pedestrian/cycleway the goes east from the sports ground adjacent to the A143.
- When the allotments off Wingfield Street in the town centre are delivered landscaping to support wildlife and enhance the character of the area along with pedestrian and cycle links should be provided to connect Pilgrim’s Way, Garden Close and Wingfield Street.
- Enabling public access to Skinner’s Meadow and connections with adjacent grazing areas should be explored to improve connectivity between residential areas and the town centre and increase the value of this network of green spaces.
- Explore the potential to create a greenway between Bungay Sixth Form College near King’s Road to the Meadow Road play space.

### Play Space
- Castle Hills play space should be improved along with the non-equipped part of the site.
- Kings Road open space in general could be improved to enhance the townscape and encourage greater use.
- Meadow Road play area should be improved to support a wider array of play activities. Improved access to the site would increase its value to the area.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Explore potential access to school pitches to improve local access to sports pitches.
## Issues and projects for consideration in the Bungay area

### Amenity green space  

- **Amenity green space**
- **Play space**
- **Allotments**
- **Green corridors**

WDC = Waveney District Council, TC = Town Council, PC = Parish Council, SCC = Suffolk County Council

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bungay (General)</td>
<td>Shortfall of open space provision.</td>
<td>Improvements to passive amenity green spaces and public realm.</td>
<td>Mitigate shortfall of open space provision.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. SCC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Annis Hill Playing Field (Top Pitch), Bungay</td>
<td>No large amenity spaces or play area to support informal ball games.</td>
<td>Explore options to provide public access to ‘Top Pitch’.</td>
<td>Provide open space that can support activities currently not available in the town. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>TC. Education provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Castle Hills, Bungay</td>
<td>One multi-functional open space in town, and the play and amenity quality and value is low. Shortfall of open space provision and limited accessibility.</td>
<td>Improve quality of play and amenity facilities and value they offer to equivalent standard of a park to create quality multi-functional open space near town centre. Improve access to semi-natural area and connections to Bigod Castle.</td>
<td>Quality space will complement the town centre, provide better connections with Bigod Castle and provide quality open space in an area where there is a shortfall of provision. Encourage greater social interaction and physical activity.</td>
<td>Trust. TC. WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Skinner’s Meadow, Bungay</td>
<td>Shortfall of amenity green space.</td>
<td>Explore options to provide public access to Skinner’s Meadow.</td>
<td>Provide an amenity green space that is centrally located to the residential population in an area where there is an open space deficit.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Landowner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. King’s Road, Bungay</td>
<td>Play space of medium to low quality and value. Shortfall of play provision in the area.</td>
<td>General enhancement of the unequipped play area to improve value for amenity use.</td>
<td>Mitigate existing shortfall of sites with quality and value. Attractive space near school for students.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Meadow Road, Bungay</td>
<td>Shortfall of quality play spaces in the area.</td>
<td>Improve play space to support a wider array of play activities and improve access to the site. Explore potential of pedestrian link from site across to St John’s Road.</td>
<td>Improve value of play space and connectivity to make it more accessible to residents. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Landowner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Bungay (General)</td>
<td>Shortfall of allotments. Disused allotments at Wingfield Street unlikely to come forward in the short-term.</td>
<td>Allocate land for allotments as part of a review of the Local Plan.</td>
<td>Increase certainty of delivering allotments to meet long-term shortfall.</td>
<td>WDC. Landowner.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>9. St John’s Road, Bungay</td>
<td>Shortfall of allotments.</td>
<td>Provide allotments, in conjunction with landscaping and planting, on open space that is designed to act as a buffer between land used for housing and industrial purposes south of the town.</td>
<td>Resolve long-term shortfall of provision. Encourage healthy lifestyle and social activities.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Landowner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. St John’s Road/ Meadow Road</td>
<td>Limited connections to community facilities.</td>
<td>Provide a greenway between the Bungay Sixth Form College and sports centre to St John’s Road and onto Meadow Road play space.</td>
<td>Improve connections for pedestrians and cyclists between residential areas, play spaces and schools.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Landowner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Garden Close, Bungay</td>
<td>Limited pedestrian and cycle connections between residential area and the town centre.</td>
<td>When the allotments of Wingfield Street are delivered a shared use path should be provided to connect Pilgrim’s Way, Garden Close, and Wingfield Street. Planting will enhance the value for biodiversity.</td>
<td>Provide quality connection between residential areas and the town centre encouraging people to travel without using the car.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Landowner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Ditchingham Dam, Bungay</td>
<td>Limited quality route for pedestrians and cyclists.</td>
<td>Improve visual amenity of road between Bungay and Malting’s Meadow Sports Ground.</td>
<td>Improve quality of the green route and connections between the town, sports facilities and the shared use path heading east from the sports ground along the A143.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bungay area strategic map

- Improve quality and value of equipped play and amenity green space
- Improve multi-functional use of green space
- Improve connections between residential areas and play spaces
- Improve access to amenity green space
- Allotments to meet significant shortfall
- Improve quality and value of play space
- Improve access to amenity green space
- New greenway connections
- Allotments to meet significant shortfall
## Summary of findings for the Halesworth area

### Allotments
- Higher provision of allotments than the District average.
- Three allotment sites in the town with a total of 48 plots.
- Demand for plots is stable with no vacancies.
- Half of the people living in Halesworth are within the catchment area of an allotment.

### Amenity Green Space
- There are only four amenity green spaces in the built up area.
- The largest amenity green space is Town Park and the network of green space to the south. This is located near centre of town and contributes towards creating a focal point near the town centre for the community and visitors.
- High proportion of sites with low quality and low value.
- Significant deficit of amenity green space.

### Biodiversity
- The network of green spaces extending from the centre of the town including Town Park, New Reach River, Birds Folly and Millennium Green provide a variety of different habitats along a well connected corridor with public access.
- Railway lines provide a green corridor through the town for wildlife.
- High proportion of sites with low quality and low value.
- Significant deficit of amenity green space.

### Green Corridors
- Network of open spaces focussed around Town Park and Millennium Green.
- Railway line is an important green corridor through the town.

### Parks and Gardens
- Town Park is the only park space in Halesworth and provides a quarter of the total provision of green space with amenity use in the town.
- Town Park is of high quality and high value and provides a focal point in the town centre.
- Quantitative provision is below recommended standard.
- Half of the people living in Halesworth are within the catchment area of Town Park.

### Play Space
- Adequate equipped play space is provided to meet recommended standard.
- Less than half of households in Halesworth are within the catchment area of play space.
- Play equipment for juniors is good.
- There are limited facilities available for the youth age group.
- Provision for toddlers is below the District average.
- Provision of items of equipment and the number of activities they support is below the District average.
- Over half of the play spaces in Halesworth are of at least medium quality and medium value.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Football: Current deficit of 1 mini-football pitch – provide mini-pitch as part of Halesworth Campus development.
- Cricket: deficit of 8 wickets – explore potential to include as part of Halesworth Campus development.
- Rugby: No existing deficit, however, potential to provide pitches to support Southwold RUFC.
- Synthetic turf pitches: Current deficit of 0.3 3G pitches.
## Recommendations for the Halesworth area

### Allotments
- Allotments included as part of the Dairy Hill Playing Fields allocation (HAL3) should be brought forward to secure provision to meet future demand. If there is no demand in the short-term, the site for potential allotments could be used as amenity space until they are required.

### Amenity Green Space
- Improvements to passive amenity green spaces and public realm to improve the open space network.

### Parks and Gardens
- None.

### Green Corridors
- Improve landscaping and planting will provide greater benefit for wildlife and enhance the public realm.
- Development on the former Halesworth Middle School site and Dairy Farm sports ground should provide quality green routes to connect with existing community facilities and the wider green infrastructure network.
- Protect and enhance the quality of the Town Park and Millennium Green network of open spaces.

### Play Space
- Gainsborough Road play space could be improved with better high quality equipment to increase its value to local residents.
- Chichester Road play space is isolated and suffers from poor overlooking from neighbouring properties. There is limited opportunity to improve the site, however, access and landscaping could be considered.
- Kennedy Road has limited value for equipped play, however, improvements to the overall site could make the unequipped part of the site more attractive and encourage use for amenity purposes to complement the play area.
- Improvements to Diary Farm play space when residential allocation comes forward.
- Swan Lane play area should be upgraded when the residential allocation at Dairy Hill comes forward.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Provide mini-football pitch, cricket wickets, and rugby pitches as part of the Halesworth Campus project.
- Promote shared use 3G pitch for football and rugby to supplement proposed facilities at the Halesworth Campus and provide access to all weather pitches.
### Issues and projects for consideration in the Halesworth area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Halesworth (General)</strong></td>
<td>Deficit of amenity green space. High number of amenity green spaces are low quality and low value.</td>
<td>Improvements to passive amenity green spaces and public realm to improve the open space network.</td>
<td>Encourage greater physical activity and improve townscape.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Gainsborough Road, Halesworth</td>
<td>Shortfall of quality play provision.</td>
<td>Improve quality of equipped play space. Site is well integrated into the residential area and will increase the play area’s value to local residents.</td>
<td>Improve play provision at a well used play space.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Kennedy Road, Halesworth</td>
<td>Attractive, but isolated open space. Play equipment and amenity area offer low value to the community.</td>
<td>Improvements to the overall site could make the unequipped part of the site more attractive and encourage use for amenity purposes to complement the play area.</td>
<td>Encourage greater use of the site and added value for residents in the area.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Community group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Dairy Farm, Halesworth</td>
<td>Proposed residential development will place additional pressure on existing play space.</td>
<td>Improvements to the Diary Farm play space when residential allocation comes forward.</td>
<td>Provide for increased demand for play space.</td>
<td>WDC. Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Swan Lane, Halesworth</td>
<td>Proposed residential development at Dairy Hill will likely place additional pressure on existing play space at Swan Lane if no play facilities are installed as part of the proposed Dairy Hill development.</td>
<td>Improvements to the Swan Lane play space when residential allocation comes forward.</td>
<td>Improve quality and value of play space to cater for increased demand and improve existing provision.</td>
<td>WDC. Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Halesworth Campus, Halesworth</td>
<td>Shortfall of sports pitch facilities.</td>
<td>Provide mini-football pitch, cricket wickets, and rugby pitches as part of the Halesworth Campus project. Promote shared use 3G pitch for football and rugby to supplement proposed facilities at the Halesworth Campus and provide access to all weather pitches.</td>
<td>Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction. Reduce accessibility deficiencies. Provide focal point for activities in the town.</td>
<td>Halesworth Campus. WDC. TC. SCC. Sports clubs. Governing sports bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Dairy Hill, Halesworth</td>
<td>Demand for allotments is balanced. New development may create a shortfall of provision.</td>
<td>Provide allotments as part of the Dairy Hill Playing Fields redevelopment to meet future demand. If there is no demand in the short-term, the site for potential allotments could be used as amenity space until they are required.</td>
<td>Provide for increased demand for allotments. Encourage healthy lifestyles and social interaction.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Dairy Hill</td>
<td>Potential to incorporate development into the wider green infrastructure network.</td>
<td>When development comes forward quality links should be provided to surrounding open spaces.</td>
<td>Enhance connectivity and access to recreational and town centre facilities.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Halesworth area strategic map

**Halesworth Campus:**
Proposed multi-functional sports facility

**Provide allotments as part of any development scheme at Dairy Hill**

**General improvements to play spaces**

**Improve quality of small amenity green spaces to improve the public realm**

**Improvements to Swan Lane play area when development comes forward at Dairy Farm**

**Improvements to play space at Dairy Hill when development comes forward**

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### Kessingland Area

#### Summary of findings for the Kessingland area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allotments</th>
<th>Amenity Green Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Five allotment sites evenly distributed across the village provide good access to these facilities.</td>
<td>● Two green spaces in the village provide amenity as part of a multi-functional open space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● No waiting list at present, however, the Parish Council has indicated that further allotments would be welcomed in the future.</td>
<td>● The largest open space is the Kessingland Playing Field which has reasonably good access for the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Quantitatively, the area used for allotments is higher than the District average.</td>
<td>● Small quantitative deficiency of amenity green space in the village.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biodiversity</th>
<th>Green Corridors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Kessingland Beach and Kessingland Cliffs provide quality habitats for wildlife and the areas are publicly accessible.</td>
<td>● Few continuous green connections within the urban area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Limited green space within the built up area restricts value of wildlife corridors in the village, however, trees throughout the village support wildlife movement along with small green spaces and allotments.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parks and Gardens</th>
<th>Play Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● No parks or gardens are provided within the village.</td>
<td>● Quantitatively, the lowest amount of equipped play space provision in the District.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Approximately half of the population is within the catchment area of an equipped play space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Good levels of equipment provision for toddlers and juniors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Provision for the youth age group is low.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Play spaces have equipment to support a good range of activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Highest proportion of equipped play spaces that are of high quality in the District.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Football: One adult football pitch in the village supports two adult teams.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Bowls: One bowling green in the village.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Oakes Farm facility at Carlton Colville will provide for many of the formal sports pitch requirements of Kessingland, however, for people without a private vehicle will have reduced access resulting from poor pedestrian and cycle routes and limited public transport.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Recommendations for the Kessingland area

## Allotments
- None.

## Parks and Gardens
- Improve one open space within the village to the standard equivalent to a park. Kessingland Playing Field is the most likely site with an array of facilities available although the High Street play area and open space is the most central location.

## Amenity Green Space
- Improvements to facilities and landscaping at the Kessingland Playing Fields.
- Improvements to small amenity green spaces to enhance the public realm and improve connectivity within the village.

## Green Corridors
- Improved landscaping and planting scheme will enhance the value of open spaces for wildlife and improve the public realm for people to use.
- If the Kessingland Playing Field is expanded a greenway connecting the site to North Cliff should be considered.

## Play Space
- None.

## Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Extend playing field at Laurel’s Farm to provide an additional playing pitch. This would also enhance the playing field as a focal point in the village as a multi-functional open space that is easily accessible.
## Issues and projects for consideration in the Kessingland area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. General (Kessingland)</td>
<td>Shortfall of open space and disproportionately high amount of small open space that provides visual amenity but limited opportunities for physical use.</td>
<td>Improvements to small amenity green spaces to enhance the public realm.</td>
<td>Improve connectivity within the village and enhance townscape.</td>
<td>WDC. PC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Playing Field, Kessingland</td>
<td>Shortfall of a multi-functional open space and open spaces of good quality and value.</td>
<td>Improve the quality and variety of facilities. Enhance the site with landscaping to encourage greater use.</td>
<td>Improve access to recreational facilities, enhance the attractiveness of the site encouraging greater use. Provide an open space focal point in the village for activities. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. PC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Laurel's Farm, Kessingland</td>
<td>Shortfall of playing fields.</td>
<td>Extend Laurel’s Farm to provide an additional playing pitch to support football.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. A12, Kessingland to Carlton Colville</td>
<td>Poor access to existing sports facilities in South Lowestoft. New facilities proposed for Oakes Farm will meet the need for South Lowestoft and Kessingland residents, however, access is restricted by poor pedestrian and cycle access and limited public transport from Kessingland.</td>
<td>Improve poor pedestrian and cycle way along busy A12.</td>
<td>Improve access to play facilities in an area with limited provision for the youth age group. Improve safety for children and other users. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>SCC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Kessingland Playing Fields</td>
<td>Limited accessibility to quality open space of significant size.</td>
<td>If playing field is extended explore potential to provide shared use path between the playing field and North Cliff.</td>
<td>Improve connectivity to and from the beach and amenity/play area.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kessingland area strategic map

- Improve multi-functional use of green space
- Improve quality and value of equipped play and amenity green space; encourage greater use
- Improve quality of small amenity green spaces to improve the public realm
- Additional sports pitch
## Summary of findings for the North Lowestoft area

### Allotments
- Provision is approximately half that recommended by the National Allotment Association.
- Majority of residents within the catchment area of an allotment.

### Amenity Green Space
- Quantitatively, North Lowestoft has the greatest amount of amenity green space.
- Well distributed amenity green space throughout the built up area.
- Majority of spaces are larger than 1ha.
- Significant proportions of amenity green spaces are of low quality and are of low value to the community.

### Biodiversity
- Extended biodiversity habitat along the Great Eastern Linear Park linking up to the coastal strip at Gunton and south to Lake Lothing and Oulton Broad.
- Leathes Ham (Local Nature Reserve) links Lake Lothing to Normanston Park and a green corridor extends from the Park north along Peto Way and Bonds Meadow. These areas are publically accessible.
- Protected habitats are located in north Lowestoft at Gunton Warren and nearby open spaces of Gunton Wood, Gunton Cliffs and Foxborough Wood.

### Green Corridors
- Several key extensive networks of green infrastructure within the built up area.
- Great Eastern Linear Park is the principle greenway in the District.
- Hard boundaries have resulted in urban areas not being well integrated with the countryside.

### Parks and Gardens
- Four parks are located in North Lowestoft.
- One third of all amenity green space is in the form of a park or garden.
- Enough park and garden space is provided to meet the recommended standard.
- 13% of households are within 400m of a small park and 28% within 1000m of a larger local park.
- All parks in the area are of high quality and offer at least medium value.

### Play Space
- Significant quantitative shortfall of equipped play space provision.
- Number of children per hectare of play place is 1.7 times above District average.
- Fewest number of households in a catchment area of an equipped play area in the District.
- Play equipment provision for toddlers and juniors is good
- Provision for the youth age group is low
- Provision of equipment and number of activities is the same as the District average

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Football: Current deficiency of 1.5 adult football pitches and 3 youth pitches.
- Cricket: Deficit of 8 wickets.
- Rugby pitch: Deficit of 2.5 rugby pitches.
- Synthetic turf pitch: Small deficit of a small 3G football pitch.
- Bowls: Accessibility improvements for Corton BC and Waveney Bowls Club.
- Netball: One additional netball court at a school site for future demand.
- Provision of changing facilities at Normanston Park.
### Recommendations for the North Lowestoft area

#### Allotments
- Bring forward allotment allocations as part of new development at Monckton Avenue Nursery (LOW9).

#### Amenity Green Space
- Improve access to amenity green spaces and other open spaces by enhancing pedestrian and cycle routes.
- Quality connections between green spaces, and the country park and links with existing pedestrian and cycle routes should be improved to create a more cohesive network and improve the public realm as part of the Woods Meadow development.
- Country Park and connecting green way should be overlooked to increase the sense of security and encourage use.
- Improve connections to existing open spaces and deliver quality connections to the proposed open spaces in the Woods Meadow development.
- Improvements to the layout, provision of ancillary facilities, planting and landscaping should be used to enhance the quality and value of the large open space at Kesgrave Drive. Improvements to the connectivity with nearby open spaces should be considered to improve the open space network and encourage people to use the areas for travel between destinations in the area.

#### Parks and Gardens
- None.

#### Green Corridors
- Connections and uses of public green spaces along the coast between Corton and Lowestoft Ness should consider wildlife value alongside value to the public.
- Protect the quality of the park and improve connections to adjacent residential areas.
- Significant developments in the north of the town should provide quality green routes to connect into the Peto Way green route if feasible.
- Protect the green route extending along Peto Way to retain openness and the quality of the connection for pedestrians, cyclists and wildlife. This will enhance the visual amenity of the area local character.
- Greenway between Sands Lane and Hall Lane would provide a quality connection within the new development and encourage greater use of the proposed country park. Connections should be provided to the open space at Dunston Road and the land adjacent to the southern boundary of the Mobbs Way Industrial Estate.

#### Play Space
- Improvements to Love Road open space and a play area on site would increase provision in a deprived area that has limited access to equipped play space.
- Equipped play space at St Margaret’s Plain could be improved with higher quality equipment. Site is located in a deprived area with an abundance of flatted residential housing.
- Quality and improvements to the accessibility of Thirlmere Walk play space (and the green corridor running north from the site) would benefit the area with limited provision in the area. Access and setting restricted by the adjacent Millennium Way.
- Cambrian Crescent play space could be improved to support existing residential area and new development to the north. Good links to the proposed Country Park at the Woods Meadow development would act in part to mitigate the existing shortfall in the area.
- Play space in the centre of Normanston Park could be improved to enhance the quality of this multi-functional open space for residents and visitors.

#### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Explore potential to secure the use of school pitches which have available capacity to meet the existing shortfall.
- Explore potential to provide a 3G football pitch on a school site.
- Explore potential for reinstating cricket wicket at Corton Playing Field.
- Support Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth Rugby Club to find a site to replace the existing playing pitches. One additional rugby pitch should be provided to meet future demand.
- One additional netball court on a school site to meet future demand and encourage school-club links at schools with no community use to improve netball provision.
- Explore potential to provide changing facilities at Normanston Park.
- Support sports clubs and community groups with funding applications for pitch and facility improvements where possible.
## Issues and projects for consideration in the North Lowestoft area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. North Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Shortfall of football pitches.</td>
<td>Explore potential to secure the use of school pitches which have available capacity to meet the existing shortfall.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities.</td>
<td>Sport clubs. Education providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. North Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Shortfall of football pitches.</td>
<td>Explore potential to provide a 3G football pitch on a school site.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities.</td>
<td>Sports clubs. Education providers. Governing sports bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Lowestoft &amp; Great Yarmouth Rugby Club, Gunton</td>
<td>Shortfall of rugby pitches.</td>
<td>Support L&amp;GY RFC to find a site to replace the existing playing pitches. One additional rugby pitch should be provided to meet future demand.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>Lowestoft &amp; Great Yarmouth RFC. WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Oulton Meadow, Oulton</td>
<td>Shortfall of youth football pitches.</td>
<td>Explore potential for reinstating football pitch and changing facilities.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. PC. Sports clubs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. North Lowestoft</td>
<td>Sports facilities require</td>
<td>Support sports clubs and community groups with funding applications to improve</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage</td>
<td>Sports Clubs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WDC = Waveney District Council, TC = Town Council, PC = Parish Council, SCC = Suffolk County Council
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(General)</td>
<td>improvement to meet the aspirations of local clubs.</td>
<td>facilities as appropriate.</td>
<td>greater physical activity.</td>
<td>Governing sports bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Kesgrave Drive, Oulton Broad</td>
<td>Large open space offering low value to the adjacent residential area.</td>
<td>Improvements to the layout, provision of ancillary facilities, planting and landscaping should be used to enhance the quality and value of the large open space at Kesgrave Drive. Improvements to the connectivity with nearby open spaces should be considered.</td>
<td>Improve the open space network, increase the variety of activities and diversity roles of different open spaces in the area. Encourage people to use open space as a movement corridor connecting Normanston Park to residential areas to the north.</td>
<td>WDC. Community groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Love Road, Normanston</td>
<td>Shortfall of equipped play space provision and limited access to play facilities. Site currently offers low quality and value to the surrounding area.</td>
<td>Provide play and amenity facilities to address shortfalls in a deprived area.</td>
<td>Improve access to play facilities in a deprived area with limited play provision. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. St Margaret’s Plain, Harbour</td>
<td>Limited access to quality play facilities in the area. Area has a high amount of flatted development.</td>
<td>Improve quality of existing play facilities.</td>
<td>Improve access to play facilities in a deprived area with limited provision. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Thirlmere Walk, St Margaret’s</td>
<td>Area has limited access to quality play facilities.</td>
<td>Quality and access improvements to the play space (and the green corridor running north from the site) would benefit the area which has limited provision in the area. Access and setting restricted by the adjacent Millennium Way.</td>
<td>Improve access to play facilities in a deprived area with limited provision. Encourage greater physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Cambrian Crescent, Oulton</td>
<td>Play provision is of low quality and low value. Residential area has poor access to equipped play areas.</td>
<td>Cambrian Crescent play space could be improved to support existing residential area and new development to the north. Good links to the proposed Country Park would act in part to mitigate the existing shortfall in the area.</td>
<td>Improve access to amenity and play facilities in an area with poor open space provision. Encourage greater physical activity and attractiveness of the area.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Cambrian Crescent/Woods Meadow, Oulton</td>
<td>Poor play provision and access to open space.</td>
<td>Outdoor gym equipment or a trim trail could be considered along the greenway to mitigate the shortfall of facilities, encourage greater use of the space and improve the sense of security of the site by increasing the presence of people in the area.</td>
<td>Encourage physical activity and create a place or destination instead of just a thoroughfare.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Issue</td>
<td>Recommendation</td>
<td>Benefit</td>
<td>Who could help deliver this?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Monckton Avenue, Oulton Broad</td>
<td>Potential shortfall of allotments in North Lowestoft in the future.</td>
<td>Bring forward existing allotment allocations as part of new development at Monckton Avenue Nursery.</td>
<td>Resolve long-term shortfall of provision. Encourage healthy lifestyle and social activities.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. North Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Shortfall of open space provision and limited accessibility.</td>
<td>Improve access to amenity green spaces and other open spaces by enhancing pedestrian and cycle routes.</td>
<td>Encourage greater physical activity and improve townscape.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Woods Meadow, Oulton</td>
<td>Shortfall of open space provision in Oulton area.</td>
<td>Connections between green spaces and links with existing pedestrian and cycle routes should be improved to create a more cohesive network and improve the public realm. Provision of quality connections between the Woods Meadow development and the proposed Country Park to encourage greater use and benefit residents of the area.</td>
<td>Encourage greater physical activity and improve townscape.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Woods Meadow, Oulton</td>
<td>Limited accessibility to open space in Oulton.</td>
<td>Country Park and connecting green way between Sands Lane and Hall Lane should be overlooked to increase the sense of security and encourage use.</td>
<td>Encourage physical activity, improve sense of security and improve townscape.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Woods Meadow</td>
<td>Limited open space provision and poor access to existing open space.</td>
<td>Greenway should link Sands Lane to Hall Lane and connect to the open spaces at Dunston Drive and the land south of Mobbs Way.</td>
<td>Create quality links, encourage people to use the country park and improve access to local facilities.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
North Lowestoft area strategic map

- **Changing facilities**
  - Provide quality access to proposed Country Park

- **Improve access to amenity green space**
- **Protect and improve connections to the Peto Way green route**
  - Reinstating cricket wicket would meet existing shortfall
  - Explore potential to deliver a shared use 3G sports pitch and a netball court on a school site

- **Protect and improve connections to the Great Eastern Linear Park greenway**

- **New greenway connections**
  - Protect and improve connections to the East of England Park

- **Changing facilities**
  - Explore potential to deliver a shared use 3G sports pitch and a netball court on a school site
  - Reinstating cricket wicket would meet existing shortfall

- **Quality open space at the East of England Park**

- **Improve multi-functional use of green space**

- **Improve quality and value of equipped play space**

- **Provision of allotments at Monckton Avenue**

- **Improve access, quality and value of equipped play space**

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# South Lowestoft Area

## Summary of findings for the South Lowestoft area

### Allotments
- Current waiting list is in excess of over 120 people.
- Existing provision is about 25% of what is recommended by the National Allotment Association.
- With the exception of Bungay, the area has the poorest provision in the District.
- Majority of residents are located within a catchment area of an allotment.

### Amenity Green Space
- High proportion of amenity green space is available as part of a larger multi-functional open space.
- Majority of sites are greater than 1ha.
- Best accessibility in the District.
- Most sites offer medium to high value for the community.
- South Lowestoft is the second most deprived sub area of the district and has the second largest deficit of amenity green space.

### Biodiversity
- The green corridor from Lake Lothing to Tom Crisp Way is publicly accessible and contributes positively to the public realm, encouraging use as a movement corridor and also providing habitats for wildlife. Tom Crisp Way provides connections to several different types of habitats including the semi-natural area of Pakefield Park and the aquatic environment at Kirkley Fen Park.
- On the south side of Lake Lothing, the Jeld Wen Mosaic County Wildlife Site provides habitat for several species of birds and the common lizard. Lake Lothing provides a green and blue wildlife corridor linking Oulton Broad and South Beach (east to west) and green corridors extending north and south through Normanston Park and the Jeld Wen Mosaic County Wildlife Site.
- Pakefield Cliffs and the beach provide semi-natural areas for wildlife and expansive areas of open space that can be used by local people and visitors.

### Green Corridors
- Tom Crisp Way and Castleton Avenue are the primary green routes connecting the area to the town centre.
- Variety of habitats supported by the Tom Crisp Way - Castleton Avenue corridor.
- Southern boundary of Carlton Colville is reasonably well integrated with the surrounding countryside.
- The beach is a key link between green spaces located along and near the coast.
- Outside of Carlton Colville the provision of green routes between open spaces is relatively limited.

### Parks and Gardens
- There are six parks and two gardens in South Lowestoft which is the largest number in the District.
- Half of all open space is in the form of a park or garden.
- Quantitative provision meets the recommended standard.
- Greatest amount of park and garden space per person.
- Over 50% of the population lies within the catchment of a local park and all are within 5km of a destination park.

### Play Space
- Significant quantitative shortfall of provision.
- Lowest amount of provision per person in the District.
- Number of children per hectare of play space is twice the District average and more than seven times that of Southwold and Reydon.
- Two thirds of play areas are LAPs which is the highest proportion in the District.
- Access to equipped play space is relatively poor but varies across the sub area.
- Play spaces with play equipment for juniors is good, however, provision for toddlers and youths is low.
- Other than Bungay, the sub area has the highest proportion of play spaces that are of low quality and low value.
- Second most deprived area in the District and has a disproportionate number of low quality and low value play spaces.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Football: Current deficit of 3 youth pitches and 10 mini pitches. Additional 2 youth pitches and 7 new pitches required to meet future demand. Quality pitches and changing facilities not available at Pontins, Pakefield.
- Synthetic pitches: Deficit of 1 full sized 3G pitch.
- Athletics: No existing deficit. Provide a 200m j-track (with the potential to extend into a full 400m track at a later date).
- Bowls: Consider providing one bowling green for future need.
- Tennis: Deficit of 2 courts and improvements at Kensington Gardens and Nicholas Everitt Park.
Recommendations for the South Lowestoft area

Allotments
- Allocate land for allotments as part of a review of the Local Plan.
- Consider delivery of allotments as the Oakes Farm leisure allocation (LOW11) is brought forward. The site is currently used for agriculture.
- Explore the potential to deliver allotments as an alternative open space use on amenity green spaces which are considered to be of low quality and offer low value in their current form and there is minimal scope to improve the spaces.
- Potential to use a section of the Britten Road open space (northwest part of the site) for allotments subject to no vehicle access being allowed (this would encroach onto the existing open space and further reduce the width to the open space which has been eroded over time) reducing the attractiveness of the area. Use of this part of the site would increase the presence of people and reduce the negative visual impact of the fencing along the boundary of the site. The area has an existing deficiency of open space therefore potential changes should be considered in the context of how the space is used and how this might impact on open space provision in the surrounding area.

Amenity Green Space
- Improve access to amenity green open space in the Pakefield and Kirkley area.
- Improve amenity green spaces in the Britten Road and Oakwood Road area.
- Improvements to the quality of Bixley Green would likely increase its value to local residents.

Parks and Gardens
- Improvements to open spaces located at Bitten Road and Chaukers Crescent to increase their value to the community.
- Provide good, attractive connections to the new open space proposed in the centre of the Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood (allocation SSP3) to benefit residents of Whitton.

Green Corridors
- Protect and enhance the quality of open space connections between the built up area and the countryside where the two different land uses should be well integrated.
- Protect open space which potentially acts as a stepping stone for wildlife species travelling between the countryside and the urban area and nearby open spaces.
- Enhance the public realm along Kirkley Run to improve connections to the Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood network of open space and ancillary facilities.

Play Space
- Improve the quality and value of play space in the central area of South Lowestoft where there is a shortfall of provision.
- Ranville requires improvements and identifying the role it is intended to fulfil in the townscape.
- Deepdale site requires improvement or reconsider its use as an alternative form of open space.
- Improve play space and the landscaping of Pakefield Green to make it more attractive and provide greater value in an area where there is a shortfall of open space.
- In a prime tourist location, improvements to play facilities at Tides Reach will benefit residents and visitors.

Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Explore potential use of school youth and mini pitches to meet current demand. Provide 9 youth and 9 mini football pitches as part of the Oakes Farm development.
- Support local clubs to deliver a full sized 3G pitch that can be used in all weather.
- If there is an identifiable demand for a bowling green in South Lowestoft provision at Oakes Farm could be considered (require discussions with existing bowling clubs in the area).
- Provide a 200m J-track to provide running training facilities that can be extended into a full 400m track in the future if the opportunity arises at Oakes Farm.
- Provide 4 tennis courts with flood lighting at Oakes Farm.
- Encourage school-club links at schools with no community use to improve netball provision.
- Deliver a cycle circuit at Oakes Farm for training and racing purposes.
- Support sports clubs and community groups with funding applications for pitch and facility improvements where possible.
### Issues and projects for consideration in the South Lowestoft area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. South Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Existing shortfall of football pitches.</td>
<td>Explore potential use of school youth and mini pitches to meet current demand.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>Sports clubs. Education providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. South Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Shortfall of football pitches.</td>
<td>Support local clubs to deliver a full sized 3G pitch that can be used in all weather.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. Sports providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville</td>
<td>Existing shortfall of football pitches.</td>
<td>Provide 9 youth and 9 mini football pitches as part of the Oakes Farm development to meet existing shortfalls and future demand</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. Sport England. Governing sports bodies. Community Groups. Sports clubs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville</td>
<td>Shortfall of athletics running track. Nearest facilities are in Great Yarmouth and Norwich.</td>
<td>Provide a 200m J-track to provide running training facilities that can be extended into a full 400m track in the future if the opportunity arises.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. Sport England. Governing sports bodies. Community groups. Sports clubs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville</td>
<td>Existing shortfall of tennis courts and future development will increase future demand. Weather and daylight reduce availability of courts for use.</td>
<td>Provide 4 tennis courts with flood lighting at Oakes Farm. Consider covered courts to increase capacity.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. Sports providers. Sport England.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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<td>Who could help deliver this?</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Oakes Farm, Carlton Colville</td>
<td>No cycle provision in the District or surrounding districts. Nearest facility is in Welwyn Garden City. Cycle training facility would encourage greater participation in a safe environment for racing.</td>
<td>Provide a cycle circuit for training and racing purposes.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>WDC. Cycle clubs. British Cycling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Bixley Green, Kirkley</td>
<td>Area has a shortfall of open space provision, has a high housing density and is a deprived area. Facilities suffer from a low maintenance.</td>
<td>Improvements to the quality of Bixley Green and ancillary facilities would improve the space and encourage greater use.</td>
<td>Improve value of the site for local people, encourage greater use and enhance the townscape.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Kirkley and Pakefield area</td>
<td>Shortfall of open space provision and limited scope to provide new open space in the future.</td>
<td>Improve access to amenity green open space and enhance the public realm by providing attractive walking and pedestrian routes without barriers.</td>
<td>Encouraging a positive perception of an area and improve value of sites to attract people to use them. Encourage physical activity and access to facilities.</td>
<td>WDC. SCC. Highways Authority. Community groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Oakwood Road, Whitton</td>
<td>Limited provision in the area reducing access to public open space. Site is not well overlooked and requires community involvement to sustain the space.</td>
<td>Improve value of the space to encourage more people to use the site. Has seating and planting for amenity purposes but has limited facilities to facilitate alternative uses of the site.</td>
<td>Improve value of the site for local people, encourage greater use and enhance the townscape.</td>
<td>TC. Community Group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Kirkley Run, Kirkley</td>
<td>Shortfall of open space and a deprived area.</td>
<td>Provide good, attractive connections to the new open space proposed in the centre of the proposed Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood.</td>
<td>Improve access to open space and ancillary facilities for the residents of Whitton and integrate the new development with the existing community. Encourage greater physical activity.</td>
<td>WDC. SCC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Britten Road, Whitton</td>
<td>Multi-functional open space of low quality and medium value. Deprived area with an open space shortfall. Well used as a thoroughfare by local residents.</td>
<td>Improve landscaping, planting and quality of play facilities.</td>
<td>Improve value of the site for local people, encourage greater use, physical activity and enhance the townscape. Will create more of a focal point for the open space.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Chaukers Crescent, Carlton</td>
<td>Large open that is well integrated into the residential area with good connections. Has potential to be a quality multi-functional space but is limited by a lack of ancillary facilities and</td>
<td>Planting and landscaping.</td>
<td>Improve aesthetics of the site and encourage greater use increasing the value to residents. Encourage greater physical activity. Will create more of a focal point for the open space.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Pakefield Cliffs, Pakefield</td>
<td>Shortfall of activities for children, particularly youths.</td>
<td>Provision of a trim trail or outside gym equipment along the cliff top amenity spaces would encourage people to be active, enjoy an attractive location and setting and potentially encourage people to use the beach more for recreational purposes.</td>
<td>Encourage greater physical activity and diversify use of the open space.</td>
<td>WDC. Community groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Ranville, Carlton Colville</td>
<td>Site is in very poor condition and offers little value to the area. Potential to be a pleasant green space if improved. Designed into the residential area as part of the wider green infrastructure network in Carlton Colville.</td>
<td>Redesign of the site, either keeping or removing toddler equipment, appropriate landscaping and planting (site is overplanted).</td>
<td>Enhance townscape.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Deepdale, Carlton Colville</td>
<td>Site provides a thoroughfare with a small amount of play equipment. Poorly overlooked and isolated from the surrounding area. Open space of low quality and low value.</td>
<td>If play equipment is removed from the site an alternative open space use could be considered.</td>
<td>Improvements to play provision to encourage use of the site or potentially providing allotments that would contribute towards a significant shortfall and still retain the site’s open space value and pedestrian connections in the area.</td>
<td>WDC. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Pakefield Green, Pakefield</td>
<td>Deprived area with a shortfall of play space provision.</td>
<td>Improve the quality of play space and the landscaping of the unequipped play area.</td>
<td>Make the site more attractive, reduce the impact of the adjacent busy road and provide greater value for residents.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Tides Reach, Kirkley</td>
<td>In a prime tourist location, the site has good value but improvements to play facilities at Tides Reach will benefit residents and visitors.</td>
<td>Improvements to the quality of play facilities.</td>
<td>Improve provision in area where there is a shortfall for residents and visitors, enhance the promenade as a destination and encourage people to use the beach for recreational purposes. Complement existing beach orientated businesses nearby.</td>
<td>WDC. Esplanade business operators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Rosedale Park,</td>
<td>Multi-functional open space in an area with a shortfall of provision. Play space is of low quality.</td>
<td>Improvements to the quality and value of the equipped play space</td>
<td>Improve the value of the open space for local residents and townscape. Encourage greater physical activity.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. South Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Significant shortfall of allotments to meet demand (waiting list of over 100 people which is equivalent to approximately 2.5 hectares).</td>
<td>Allocate land for allotments as part of a review of the Local Plan.</td>
<td>Resolve long-term shortfall of provision. Encourage healthy lifestyle and social activities.</td>
<td>WDC. TC. Landowner. Allotments association.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Lowestoft (General)</td>
<td>Significant shortfall of allotments.</td>
<td>Explore to potential to deliver allotments as an alternative open space use on amenity green spaces which are considered to be of low quality and offer low value in their current form and there is minimal scope to improve the spaces.</td>
<td>Use low value open space more effectively while retain green infrastructure and. Resolve long-term shortfall of provision. Encourage healthy lifestyle and social activities.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22. Britten Road, Whitton</td>
<td>Significant shortfall of allotments.</td>
<td>Potential to use a section of the Britten Road open space (northwest part of the site) for allotments subject to pedestrian access along a paved path but ensuring no vehicle access being allowed (this would encroach onto the existing open space and further reduce the width to the open space which has been eroded over time and it would contribute negatively to the character of the site). Use of this part of the site would increase the presence of people and reduce the negative visual impact of the fencing along the boundary of the site. The area has an existing deficiency of open space therefore potential changes should be considered in the context of how the space is used and how this might impact on open space provision in the surrounding area.</td>
<td>Improve use of the site and security by encouraging a greater presence of people. Resolve long-term shortfall of provision. Encourage healthy lifestyle and social activities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Lowestoft area strategic map

- Improve access, quality and value of equipped play space
- Improve quality and value of equipped play space
- Improve quality and value of amenity green space
- Improve access to amenity green space
- Shortfall of allotments in South Lowestoft
- Oakes Farm: Proposed multi-functional sports facility
- Protect and improve value of the beach as an amenity space to mitigate existing shortfall (applies to beach areas in general)
Southwold and Reydon Area

Summary of findings for the Southwold and Reydon area

### Allotments
- Best provision in the District with over four times the land available than the District average.
- Largest allotment site in the District located at Blyth Road (3.61ha).
- Almost all of the residents are within the catchment area of an allotment.
- No waiting list at present.

### Amenity Green Space
- Best amount of provision per person in the District.
- Large amenity green spaces are easily accessible.
- All sites are of at least medium quality and value.
- Proportion of open space that is designed to provide openness and visually enhance the townscape but provide little value for physical use is twice the District average.
- Limited access to amenity green space in the south part of Reydon.

### Biodiversity
- Few sites of biodiversity value within the built up area, however, a good distribution of small green space and trees provide stepping stones for wildlife to move between habitats.
- Wildlife habitat is located at Southold Common, areas close to Walberswick Marshes, the River Blyth and along the beach. These areas all have public access to varying degrees.

### Parks and Gardens
- No parks or gardens are provided in the sub area.

### Green Corridors
- The Common, Denes and beach provide a well connected green infrastructure network closely linked with ecological areas associated with surrounding waterways.
- In Southwold most open space provides amenity value and is likely to have limited value for wildlife.
- In Reydon there a few green routes that would be of significant benefit for wildlife, however, the surrounding countryside has a wide variety of wildlife habitats.

### Play Space
- Quantitative provision is adequate to meet the recommended standard.
- Highest provision per person in the District.
- Good access to equipped play space.
- Provision of equipment for all age groups is good and supports a wider variety of activities.
- On average, Southwold & Reydon have the highest quality equipped play space in the District.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Football: Improvements to changing facilities at Old Reydon High School.
- Cricket: Deficit of 2 wickets.
- Rugby: Deficit of 2.5 pitches.
- Synthetic turf pitches: Deficit of 0.16 3G pitches.
- Tennis: Improvements to access and changing facilities at Southwold Common Tennis Club and Southwold & District Tennis Club.
## Recommendations for the Southwold and Reydon area

### Allotments
- None.

### Amenity Green Space
- Explore opportunities to improve access to amenity green space in the south of Reydon.

### Parks and Gardens
- None.

### Green Corridors
- Protect the biodiversity corridor along Buss Creek separating Southwold and Reydon.

### Play Space
- Mount Pleasant has limited opportunity for improvement, however, planting would enhance the aesthetics of the site and replacement facilities will need to be considered in the future with no other equipped play area provided in the immediate surroundings.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Expand cricket wicket square at Southwold Common.
- Provide rugby pitches as part of the Halesworth Campus to support youth team development and reinstate the pitch at Reydon Recreation Ground.
- Promote the provision of a small 3G pitch as part of the Halesworth Campus development.
- Support sports clubs and community groups with funding applications for pitch and facility improvements where possible.
### Issues and projects for consideration in the Southwold and Reydon area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Who could help deliver this?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Southwold &amp; Reydon (General)</strong></td>
<td>Limited access to sports pitches.</td>
<td>Support sports clubs and community groups with funding applications for pitch and facility improvements where possible.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>Sports clubs. Education providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Recreation Ground, Reydon</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of rugby pitches for training and junior teams.</td>
<td>Explore possible reinstatement of rugby pitch at Reydon Recreation Ground.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>Sports clubs. PC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Halesworth Campus, (for Southwold &amp; Reydon), Halesworth</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of rugby pitches for training and junior teams.</td>
<td>Provide pitches at Halesworth Campus</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>Halesworth Campus Sports provider. Sports clubs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Southwold (General)</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of two cricket wickets.</td>
<td>Expand cricket wicket square at Southwold Common.</td>
<td>Improve access to sports facilities. Encourage greater physical activity, participation and social interaction.</td>
<td>Sport providers. Sports club. TC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Mount Peasant, Reydon</strong></td>
<td>The site has poor aesthetic surroundings and there is limited opportunity for improvement, however, there are no other equipped play spaces in the nearby area.</td>
<td>Planting would enhance the aesthetics of the site and replacement facilities should be considered.</td>
<td>Enhance value of the space.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. South area, Reydon</strong></td>
<td>Shortfall of open space provision in the south of the village.</td>
<td>Explore opportunities to improve access to amenity green space if any new development comes forward.</td>
<td>Mitigate shortfall of open space provision in the area.</td>
<td>Developer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Southwold and Reydon area strategic map

General improvements to equipped play space

Improve access to amenity green space

Demand for allotments is balanced, however, additional provision could meet future demand

Existing demand for cricket wickets could potentially be met by the expansion of the wicket square in Southwold Common

Southwold and Reydon area strategic map

General improvements to equipped play space

Improve access to amenity green space

Demand for allotments is balanced, however, additional provision could meet future demand

Existing demand for cricket wickets could potentially be met by the expansion of the wicket square in Southwold Common
# Rural Areas

## Summary of findings for the Rural areas of the District

### Allotments
- Quantitative provision is higher than the District average.
- Where allotments are provided they are easily accessible to people in the surrounding area.
- Most plots in current use.
- Only 26% of residents are within the catchment area of an allotment.

### Amenity Green Space
- Provision of amenity green space is limited given the setting of villages.
- Sites are generally of medium and high quality with similar value.
- Most amenity green space is provided as part of multi-functional open spaces.

### Biodiversity
- **Coastal Strip (Pakefield to Southwold)**
  - Extends the entire length of the Waveney coast and inland to Frostenden and Kessingland levels and includes Natura 2000 sites.
  - Important for wildlife, particularly birds.
  - Links into habitats outside of the District including Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SSSI (south) and the Broads (north).
- **River Waveney**
  - Extends from western Lowestoft along the northern boundary of the District extending into the Broads.
  - Includes several designations including several Natura 2000 sites.
  - Important for birds including regional and nationally rare species.
- **Western part of Waveney**
  - Primarily flat arable fields containing fewer hedgerows than other areas in the District limited value as biodiversity habitats.

### Green Corridors
- N/A

### Parks and Gardens
- No parks or gardens are provided in rural areas.
- No properties within catchment area of a park or garden.
- High quality multi-functional parks and gardens in other towns and villages will provide the most attractive option for attending a park.

### Play Space
- Small quantitative shortfall over the entire rural area.
- Where equipped play spaces are provided these are often part of a multi-function open space in conjunction with a community facility such as a village hall. As a focal point, these sites are quite accessible within the surrounding village.
- Lowest amount of equipped play provision per child in the District.
- Good levels of provision for toddlers and juniors with satisfactory provision for youths.
- Play spaces offer the best value for local children in the District. Equipped play spaces usually have more variety of equipment to support a greater number of activities for a wider age bracket.

### Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Few sports pitches available in rural areas.
- Most parts of the District are within the recommended catchment area for all sports.
- Many sports pitches and courts are able to support regular use, however, improvements to surfaces and ancillary facilities is suggested for a number of sites.
Recommendations for the Rural areas of the District

**Allotments**
- None.

**Amenity Green Space**
- Maintain existing amenity green spaces to a high standard to retain their high multi-functional value to the community.

**Parks and Gardens**
- Maintain existing multi-functional open spaces in villages to a high standard to reduce the negative impact of poor accessibility.

**Green Corridors**
- N/A

**Play Space**
- With limited access to play equipped play spaces, these should be maintained to a high standard with a wide range of activities to contribute towards community facilities where access can be difficult.

**Sports Pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities**
- Tennis Courts: Improvements to court surfaces, fencing, changing facilities or access at Blundeston, Ringsfield, Mutford and Wrentham.

Issues and projects for consideration in the Rural areas of the District

WDC = Waveney District Council, PC = Parish Council

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural areas</td>
<td>Shortfalls of open space provision and accessibility deficits.</td>
<td>Support Parish Councils with funding applications to improve facilities if required and appropriate.</td>
<td>Improve quality, value and access to open space facilities.</td>
<td>WDC. PC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(General)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## General issues and projects for consideration

WDC = Waveney District Council

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Prepare a strategic management list of open spaces (parks and gardens, amenity green space, equipped and unequipped play space) that sets out the space typology, its role in the area, if the site is to be maintained to the status quo or if it should be improved, timeframes of when facilities may need to be replaced, what the improvements could be, and identify the priority of improvements required. This should identify if there is scope to make some open spaces more multi-functional to improve their value to the community for greater use (eg. Milnes Way (Carlton Colville), Kesgrave Drive (Oulton Broad), Castle Hills (Bungay)).</td>
<td>Strategic approach to improve open space provision overall and support allocation of resources in the short-term and long-term.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Prepare a working group structure chart to implement and team to identify and prioritise projects, estimate costs to deliver projects.</td>
<td>Strategic approach to improve green infrastructure provision and support allocation of resources in the short-term and long-term to deliver projects.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Consider the preparation of a public realm enhancement strategy to build upon the green infrastructure strategy to address issues within the built up areas of the district beyond open spaces.</td>
<td>Strategic approach to enhance the public realm, improve the perception of residential and non-residential areas in a coordinated manner in the long-term and encourage communities to take a proactive approach to create a positive perception of where they live and work.</td>
<td>WDC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>