



# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

## FINAL REPORT

MAY 2011

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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## INTRODUCTION

This document is the Strategy for open spaces, sport and recreational provision in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. It has been developed and driven by the results of research and analysis of open space, sport and recreation provision across the Peak Sub Region. This information generated by this process is set out in the Assessment Report, which highlights key issues emerging from detailed assessment of the quality and distribution of provision and the findings of extensive consultation with local groups and people.

Following on from this, the Standards Paper identifies deficiencies and potential surpluses in provision and recommends standards of provision (quality, quantity and accessibility) for all types of open space, sport and recreation facilities in accordance with PPG17.

This Strategy sets out a vision over the period to 2014 to provide a strategic framework for the development and improvement of existing open space, sport and recreation facilities. In summary it provides:

- ◀ A clear framework for practical action where necessary to protect and improve existing open spaces and to increase the provision of such facilities, where it is shown that there are deficiencies.
- ◀ As appropriate, proposals related to rationalisation or change of use of current provision in the area.
- ◀ Recommended priorities and an action plan for improving provision across the Sub-region to meet local needs as identified in the course of the study.
- ◀ A robust evidence base to enable development of planning policies as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and other local development documents.

A recommended five year review should take account of demographic and changes to fit with revisions of other strategies, such as the Core Strategy, management plans etc.

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## CONTEXT

The following section summarises the key strategic documents relevant to this Strategy and link, where appropriate, to the aims and objectives set out later.

### Key documents

#### ***Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) and High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) Core Strategy***

DDDC and HPBC are preparing a joint Core Strategy. It will set out the overall vision and objectives for the future development of the areas of Derbyshire Dales and High Peak that lie outside of the Peak District National Park. Once adopted the Core Strategy will form the basis for the councils' decisions about how the area develops up to the year 2026.

Provision of open space for sport and recreation activity is important for the development of local communities as it promotes social interaction, contributes to the health and well being of local residents and improves the unique character and appearance of places. In particular, the Core Strategy will seek to:

- ◀ Improve the quality and provision of open spaces for sport and recreation including parks, pitches and allotments.
- ◀ Support the development of sports and leisure facilities in appropriate locations.

The options proposed will support improvements to the quality of existing open spaces and suggest that developers should contribute to the provision of new, and improvement of, existing parks and open space.

The Draft Plan was subject to a six week period of public consultation from 3rd June 2010 to 15th July 2010. Comments made during the consultation period are currently being assessed and will be taken into account in the preparation of the Core Strategy for Representations.

In order to fully engage local residents, the District Council is organising a number of Community Conversations across the District in June and July 2011.

The current timetable includes Publication of Draft Joint Core Strategy – April 2012 with submission to the Secretary of State – September 2012.

#### ***East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy***

The current Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands was published in March 2009 as the East Midlands Regional Plan. It provides a broad development strategy for the Region up to 2026. Core Objective Policy 1c sets out the principle

*To protect and enhance the environmental quality of urban and rural settlements to make them safe, attractive, clean and crime free places to live, work and invest in.*

Some of the main policies that feature in the RSS, which impact on High Peak/Derbyshire Dales, are set out below:

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*Policy 8:* sets out priorities in and around the Peak Sub-area. It specifies that any policy preparation should:

- ◀ Help to secure the conservation and enhancement of the Peak District National Park, respecting the statutory purposes of its designation;
- ◀ Address the social and economic needs of the Park's communities, for example, by the provision of appropriate business premises and affordable housing and;
- ◀ Protect and enhance natural and cultural heritage of the sub-area, in particular the special areas of conservation covering the South Pennine Moors, Peak District Dales, the Bee's Nest and Green Clay Pits, Gang Mine and the Peak District Moors and the Peak District Moors Special Protection Area.

The RSS highlights the pressure on the sub-region's environment and infrastructure due to its close proximity to a number of major urban areas (e.g., Manchester and Sheffield) and its subsequent popularity.

The spatial priorities for areas outside of the Peak District National Park are set out within *Policy 9* of the RSS. It highlights the need to ensure that all new development respects and enhances the high quality environment of the area, notably its built heritage, particularly in Buxton, Ashbourne and Wirksworth, and the setting of the National Park, Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, and the areas of high landscape and nature conservation value. It places an emphasis on:

- ◀ Retaining and generating local employment.
- ◀ Restraining new housing development except where the need for local modest growth is identified.

*Policy 13a* identifies the Total Housing Provision from 2006 – 2026 for Derbyshire Dales to be 4,000 and High Peak to be 6,000.

*Policy 28:* Regional Priorities for Environmental and Green Infrastructure details the aims of providing Green Infrastructure as being to:

- ◀ Assess the capacity of existing Environment Infrastructure to accommodate change in order to inform decisions on the scale, location and phasing of new development. Account should be taken of current deficits and likely future demands, including those likely to result from climate change, to identify any further needs or constraints;
- ◀ Select appropriate indicators and targets to monitor the condition of Environmental Infrastructure and to ensure that its capacity to accommodate change is not breached;
- ◀ Ensure that the provision and design of new Environmental Infrastructure is considered and its delivery planned through environmental capacity analysis at the same time as other infrastructure requirements;
- ◀ Increase access to green space that can be used for formal and informal recreation, educational purposes and to promote healthy lifestyles, without increasing pressures on sensitive sites, especially those designated under the European Habitats Directive;

It recognises the importance of The Peak District National Park, stressing that it should be given the most rigorous protection from development that might damage its character.

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## ***East Midlands Regional Environment Strategy***

The policies within the Strategy set out the importance of access to the environment and the importance of environmental education. It highlights the need to provide a range of opportunities for everyone, wherever they live, to enjoy their environment. It promotes the positive benefits for our health and quality of life, and how access to the natural environment is vital in order to achieve this. In essence it is designed to:

*“Integrate consideration of the environment in all decision making as part of the move towards a sustainable region.”*

The policy also recognises the value of parks and green spaces providing important access in urban areas for large numbers of people.

## ***Green Infrastructure Strategy***

Derbyshire Dales District Council, Peak District National Park Authority and High Peak Borough Council are currently in the process of mapping existing green infrastructure (GI) throughout the Peak sub-region with a view to developing a strategy for its management and enhancement.

GI is the network of multi functional open spaces and the linkages between them that exist, to a greater or lesser degree, within urban areas, on the urban fringe and out into the open countryside. It is believed that the sub-region is well served by multi functional green spaces, which can be easily accessed via a linked network of public rights of way.

## ***Derbyshire Built Facility Strategy***

The County Built Facility Strategy was published in May 2007 and provides partners in Derbyshire with a Strategy for the development of built sports facilities over the next twenty years. The Strategy aims to:

- ◀ Evaluate the existing facility provision within the County.
- ◀ Identify the increase in demand anticipated through new housing, population growth and the increase in physical activity strategies, thus increasing demand.
- ◀ Outline the challenges in refurbishing existing facilities and financing new build.
- ◀ Highlight the opportunities that the building schools for the future (BS) programme presents in Derbyshire and Derby city and the steps to be taken to maximise these opportunities.
- ◀ Identify the needs of individual sports governing bodies and highlight facility gaps to meet the needs of their talent development programmes.
- ◀ Identify recommendations for future project provision and funding options for these projects.

It also sets out the vision for sports facilities within Derbyshire which is to:

*‘Create a network of high quality community and specialist sports facilities within Derbyshire that will enhance the quality of life of people within existing, new communities and visitors’.*

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## Key partners

Open space is owned and managed by a wide variety of agencies across High Peak and Derbyshire Dales, including HPBC, DDDC, Derbyshire County Council, town and parish councils, civic associations and local agencies such as Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT). Strategic management and planning across the areas is therefore, complex. There is, however, evidence of good partnership work between different landowners and managers. The following section identifies the key partner agencies that should be fully engaged in the Strategy in order to help achieve the aims and objectives set. It identifies the key policy documents to which each agency is currently working. Of particular importance is the relationship between this Strategy and that of the Peak District National Park Authority given that the Assessment was completed as a joint Peak Sub Regional study.

### **Peak District National Park**

Although the Peak District National Park is not a significant landowner of open space, sport and recreation facilities, it is important to recognise the policies set by it, given its geography and how it overlaps with High Peak and Derbyshire Dales.

#### *Active in the Outdoors: A Strategy for Recreation in the Peak District National Park 2010 – 2020*

This (draft) strategy aims to review the existing recreational facilities and services, identifying areas for improvement, and to consider priorities for improvement between now and 2020. Whilst the document focuses on provision within the National Park it acknowledges that important recreational resources exist outside of its boundaries, such as those located within High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. Given the geography of the National Park and how it partially covers High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. It is important future sub-regional policy dovetails with the strategic direction emerging from the Peak District National Park Authority.

The Strategy is split into four parts:

- ◀ Part One presents a vision of how recreation in the National Park will be in 2020
- ◀ Part Two summarises recreation in the Peak District, including the key characteristics of the National Park, as well as current provision and local trends.
- ◀ Part Three details the main themes for the framework of the strategy, highlighting good practice examples.
- ◀ Part Four sets out how enhanced provision for the Peak District will be delivered by the National Park Authority and its partners.

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The vision and actions that will help to achieve them are presented under six key themes:

*Table 1: Key themes and outcomes*

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Aim</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Healthy Lifestyles	Promote the health benefits of recreation.	Increased participation in outdoor recreation that enhances overall health and well-being.
Widening Participation	All people have more opportunities to participate.	The National Park offers a diverse range of quality recreation opportunities that are easily accessed and affordable.
Climate Change and Sustainability	Promote more environmentally sustainable choices for recreation in response to climate change and other environmental challenges.	The open spaces of the National park provide a wide range of recreational opportunities that do not compromise environmental values.
Raising Awareness and Understanding	Raise awareness and understanding of the National Park, promoting it as a welcoming destination with diverse recreation opportunities for visitors and residents.	Visitors and residents will have a greater understanding of the National Park and its special qualities, leading to greater care and involvement.
Partnership Working	Work with partners to manage, enhance and develop a range of recreation opportunities appropriate to the special qualities of the Park.	There will be a wide range of recreation opportunities based on quality facilities and services, appropriate to the character of the National Park.
Community Participation, including Volunteering	Increase community participation and volunteering to facilitate recreational enjoyment and benefit for the environment and local economy.	Quality community-led recreation facilities and opportunities are provided.

The Strategy suggests that future recreation planning be based on eight Landscape Character Areas identified in the National Parks Landscape Character Assessment. It details the benefits of using a spatial approach; such as allowing the demands of recreation and the conservation of sensitive environments to be delivered together. In addition to providing a spatial framework for LDF purposes.

The areas of Derwent Valley, White Peak and parts of the Derbyshire Peak Fringe are identified as some of the busiest areas for recreation, offering a wide range of opportunity. These are best placed to accommodate new National Park users in relation to one-off events or sporting activities.

A contrasting approach to recreation is expressed for the moorland areas such as Dark Peak, Dark Peak Fringe areas, South West and the Eastern Moors. Recommendations for these areas are to adopt an approach that only encourages recreational activities appropriate to each area's specific character.

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The strategy recommends a focus on 'Gateway' sites. Gateways or active recreation hubs are particular areas or attractions that appeal to visitors of the National Park. It highlights them as focal points for investment and management as well as providing opportunities to promote its recreational value. Other key issues raised/recommendations made include:

- ◀ Public rights of way (PROW) as a valuable element of most recreational activities. Related to this the PDNPA has secured £1.5 million for developing cycle routes.
- ◀ The fact that levels of provision for recreation and accessibility vary across the National Park.
- ◀ The need for increased investment to sites in order to maintain and manage sites.
- ◀ The fact that potential increased dispersal could bring to local economies an ability to reduce pressure on high visitor sites.

### ***Derbyshire County Council (DCC)***

DCC manages a variety of sites and facilities. These range from local footpaths to national trails, from large country parks to small picnic sites, from amenity grasslands to flower meadows, from reservoirs to ponds, to car parks, canals, wetlands, woodlands, visitor centres, greenways and even historic buildings and structures. In addition, both practical and legal management of the PROW network (including High Peak and Derbyshire Dales) falls to the PROW team within the Countryside Service of DCC.

The County Council has a number of strategic documents that are relevant to summarise and take account of within this Strategy. These are as follows:

#### *The Way Ahead: A Management and Development Strategy 2004 to 2009*

The document presents a framework to guide Derbyshire County Council's Countryside Services over a five-year period. It looks at topics such as relevant issues, allocation of resources and establishes the mechanisms to measure and monitor performance. From this a series of aims and objective have been formed to guide the service.

The vision for the Countryside Service will be achieved via the following five aims:

- ◀ Provide and improve countryside access opportunities for all sections of the community for a range of recreational, health, and sustainable transport purposes; including an easy to use public rights of way network.
- ◀ Provide and promote attractive, sustainable and safe countryside sites and facilities.
- ◀ Contribute to a sustainable countryside by conserving and enhancing the landscape, heritage and local wildlife.
- ◀ Deliver services to help local communities and other stakeholders to understand, enjoy and care for the countryside through participation.
- ◀ Strategic and innovative management of the Countryside Service.

#### *West Derbyshire and High Peak Greenway Strategy*

The aim of this Strategy is to identify the potential for developing a network of greenways across Derbyshire. No dedicated funding has been approved to implement it, but it is hoped that it will provide a basis to safeguard the routes and pursue funding as and when opportunities arise.

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Greenways are 'pathways' that enable people to get around the area(s) without having to resort to motorised transport. They also protect and enhance habitats providing corridors for wildlife movement. Greenway networks are built around 'trip generators' linking people to work places, schools and leisure activities. They provide safe, attractive opportunities for people to become more active and healthy.

The long-term vision for the area is to develop a network of multi-user traffic-free greenways across Derbyshire Dales and the High Peak to provide long distance, middle distance and shorter circuits that interconnect with each other and the existing highway network. These will connect people and places to enhance recreational and utilitarian journeys, on high quality and attractive pathways.

For the Strategy to succeed, partnership work is essential to bring together countryside, PROW, transport and health initiatives. Strategic management of the different initiatives is essential so that they can work together to achieve common goals. For example, an extensive and well-planned greenway network can contribute to many agendas; improving health, encouraging green transport, enhancing the environment and conserving and creating wildlife habitats. It can also contribute towards the liveability agenda, which is working to create 'cleaner, safer, greener' street and places.

### ***United Utilities***

United Utilities' Green Portfolio Commitments outlines its aims for the 142,000 acres of land it owns and accommodates conservation, heritage, sports, recreational, biodiversity and access concerns. The nine commitments that comprise the Green Portfolio are:

- ◀ Commitment to freedom of public access to open land.
- ◀ Access provision in the countryside for disabled people.
- ◀ Expedition camping and backpacking on United Utilities land.
- ◀ Conservation commitment by our tenants, agents, contractors and consultants.
- ◀ Commitment to National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- ◀ Liaison and consultation process.
- ◀ Commitments on natural and built heritage.
- ◀ Commitment to sports and recreation.
- ◀ Woodland strategy.

The Biodiversity Strategy sets out how United Utilities manage and promote the diverse range of life on its land. It discusses the environmental responsibility of the company and how its approach to supporting biodiversity includes:

- ◀ Direct land management.
- ◀ Working with others/Support for partnerships.
- ◀ Minimising impacts of their operations and seeking opportunities for enhancement.
- ◀ Taking account of biodiversity in planning and development.
- ◀ Management actions.
- ◀ Addressing their wider impacts.

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The Strategic Environmental Assessment considers the environmental and social benefits and effects associated with United Utilities future plans. It has a number of policy objectives, some of which highlight:

Area	Objective
Biodiversity	Protection and enhancement of the levels and variety of biodiversity, including priority species and habitats (in particular water dependent habitats and environments).
Population and human health	Taking into account the economic and social needs and vitality of urban and rural communities and promoting neighbourhood renewal. Ensuring the recreational value of local water resources (e.g. rivers, lakes and reservoirs) is maintained or enhanced. Ensuring or improving access to recreation and physical activity opportunities.
Landscape and visual amenity	Protecting and enhancing the quality of the region's natural landscapes and environmental resources

### ***Derbyshire Wildlife Trust***

The Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) is responsible for the management of 20 nature reserves within the study boundary. 10 are designated as sites of special scientific interest (SSSI). One (Gang Mine) as well as being a SSSI is also recognised under European Law as a Special Area of Conservation. This is due to its metal-rich grasslands being a rarity across Europe.

Each nature reserve managed by DWT has a five-year management plan to ensure that the individual specific habitats and features of that site are retained and protected. Bringing Back Biodiversity; Strategic Development Plan 2005 – 2010 details the Trust's mission to strengthen the wildlife in Derbyshire and increase appreciation of the need for conservation. The plan sets out its priorities as:

- ◀ *Managing people* – seeking investors in people accreditation as a measure of our own performance.
- ◀ *Plan, project and performance management* – clear targets to be used to monitor and evaluate results.
- ◀ *Information and knowledge management priorities* – improve document management, ensuring system is consistent and clear.
- ◀ *Governance priorities* – review organisational risks and take appropriate action to manage identified risks.
- ◀ *Financial management priorities* – ensure financial reserves are maintained to satisfactory level and develop budget and financial management systems.

### ***Forestry Commission***

The Forestry Commission (FC) works to ensure that England's trees, woods and forests play their part in enriching people's quality of life and their environment. Forestry and other land management activities have a key role to play in combating climate change by, for example, providing alternative energy sources to fossil fuels and low energy, renewable, materials.

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The English Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS) is the Forestry Commission's programme to support forestry and woodland projects in England. Its objectives are to sustainably create and manage woodlands, and to maintain and increase delivery of public benefits within woodland. The main grant projects available to woodland owners and managers are detailed on the English Woodland Grant Scheme pages. It is supported via the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) and grants are paid as a contribution towards the cost of providing appropriate public benefit through woodlands.

### *Corporate Plan 2009-2012*

In England, forestry accounts for 8% of the land area, much of it is near towns where it provides important recreational opportunity. The FC believes it to be vital to sustain woodlands and increase their contribution to the environment for both current and future needs. The aims and objectives of Forestry Commission England flow from the Strategy for England's Trees, Woods and Forests (ETWF) and from the wider objectives of Ministers. Aims espoused in this Strategy that are shared with ETWF are to:

- ◀ Provide a resource of trees, woods and forests in places where they can contribute most in terms of environmental, economic and social benefits;
- ◀ Ensure that existing and newly planted trees, woods and forests are resilient to the impacts of climate change, play a role in adapting rural and urban environments to those impacts and contribute to their mitigation;
- ◀ Protect and enhance the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes;
- ◀ Increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life;
- ◀ Improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and promote the development of new or improved markets for sustainable woodland products;
- ◀ Be an effective, efficient, respected, high profile and sustainable delivery body where equality and diversity are embraced and embedded in all that we do as a service provider and practise as an employer.

### *England's Trees Woods and Forests (ETWF) Delivery Plan 2008-2012*

The Government's Strategy for England Trees, Woods and Forests, launched in 2007, highlights the contribution that trees make to social, environmental and economic objectives today and sets out a vision for their future role. The goal is that by 2020 more woods will be brought into sustainable woodland management supplying raw materials for use in construction and for wood fuel, and we will have a healthier landscape for wildlife and an increase in people visiting woodlands.

### **British Waterways**

British Waterways seeks to help all sectors of society enjoy the waterways, via a range of activities including boating, fishing, cycling and walking. As a leisure and recreation resource, canal corridors require enhancement and facilities to support their leisure use. These include marinas, mooring facilities, service facilities etc., as well as facilities for land based visitors; providing refreshments etc. Without these, the ability to realise the economic and social benefits of canals, such as the Cromford Canal and the Peak Forest Canal, would be undermined.

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## ***The National Trust***

A number of significant recreation sites within High Peak and Derbyshire Dales (e.g. High Peak Estate, Longshaw Estate, Lyme Park, Dovedale, and Ilam Hall Parkland and South Peak Estate) are not included within the audit because they fall outside the PPG17 remit. However, it is important to recognise that many residents consider these to be an important recreational resource and they undoubtedly impact upon perceptions of other publicly accessible sites. For example, residents, due to the provision of sites such as Lyme Park, do not necessarily reflect gaps in provision identified through mapping.

## ***Groundwork Derbyshire***

Groundwork provides practical support for communities in need and works with partners to help improve the quality of people's lives, their prospects and potential and the places where they live, work and play. Its vision is of a society of sustainable communities that are vibrant, healthy and safe, which respect the local and global environment and where individuals and enterprise prosper.

One example of its work is Matlock Town Council. It is working in partnership with Groundwork Derbyshire and the local community to increase local appreciation of Dene Fields (an ancient wildflower meadow). A group, comprising local residents, has been established to protect, maintain and promote the site. It regularly runs conservation tasks and countryside management courses, which are reportedly popular. The Town Council has recently obtained permission to create a wildlife pond within Dene Fields, which will increase its wildlife value even further. There are also aspirations to engage local schools in education activities at the site.

## **Other key partners**

### ***Estates***

There are three large estates identified within the Peak sub-region that are not included within the audit as they fall outside of the PPG17 remit. However, they are providers of recreational provision for residents and visitors to the sub-region. A brief summary of each Estate is found below. It is important to recognise that many residents consider these to be important recreational resources that impact upon their perceptions with regard to other publicly accessible sites.

- ◀ *Chatsworth Estates* – situated to the southeast of the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales sub-region. Home to the famous Chatsworth House, it also features a 1000 acre park, Stand Wood, and 105 acres of landscaped garden. Activities offered include fishing, a woodland adventure playground, farmyard, and a variety of demonstrations and events.
- ◀ *Haddon Estates* – located to the southeast of the sub-region, just south of Chatsworth Estate. It comprises 3,800 acres of land serving a variety of land uses such as residential, commercial, farmland, and woodland. Activities on the estate include Haddon Hall, trout fishing, and pheasant shoots.
- ◀ *Norbury Estate* – also offers opportunities for recreational activities such as walking.
- ◀ *Osmaston Estate* – approximately three miles from Ashbourne. The 3,000 acre park plays host to concerts, country shows, sporting and equestrian events.
- ◀ *Stanton Estates* – home to the Thornhill family since the 16<sup>th</sup> Century; this 5,000-acre Estate is located to the south of the Haddon Estate.

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## ***Parish/town councils***

Approximately half of the open space, sport and recreation sites in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales are owned and managed by parish and town councils. They are particularly significant owners of play areas, allotments and outdoor sports provision. It is therefore imperative that the parishes are consulted in relation to delivery of Strategy aims and objectives. Where possible, parish councils should be encouraged to work to deliver recommended actions in parallel with their individual parish plans.

During the audit and assessment, all parish councils were approached to take part in consultation and via this process key issues, deficiencies and demand for provision and where appropriate were identified and included in the Strategy. This is not to say that all aspirations have been recorded; HBC and DDC should continue to work with parish councils to ensure that good working relationships are maintained.

## ***Volunteer groups***

Volunteer groups are a valuable resource contributing greatly to the physical habitat management and conservation tasks undertaken at a number of open spaces across High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. Via the different partnership organisations there is extensive community engagement in the management of open space. The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), the National Trust and DWT proactively involve local community groups and schools in improvement work projects within the nature reserves and woodlands.

These external organisations also manage an extensive environmental education programme that aims to engage schools and community members in issues around nature conservation and the wider environment. In addition, the Peak Park Conservation Volunteers undertake over 3,000 conservation projects within the National Park annually. These include tasks such as tree planting, hedge laying, nature reserve management and habitat protection. It is essential that those involved in delivery of this Strategy actively engage with these groups when working towards meeting its aims.

## ***Rural Action Derbyshire***

The Rural Action Derbyshire (RAD) is an independent organisation aiming to improve the life of individuals living and working in Derbyshire. Its objectives are:

- ◀ To support rural community development
- ◀ To address rural disadvantages and counter the effects of isolation
- ◀ To improve access to services for people living in rural communities
- ◀ To inform and challenge statutory service providers about the needs of rural communities

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The RAD works in four key areas:

- ◀ Community – supporting communities to tackle the issues they face as well as encouraging them to become more sustainable
- ◀ Green issues – working to support people in reducing their fuel needs, gas emissions and fossil fuel dependency in addition to avoiding fuel poverty. RAD also works to support micro energy generation
- ◀ Access to services – working to ensure communities are able to access vital services needed to live, work and be a part of the community
- ◀ Speaking out – improve the lives of people through giving them an opportunity to participate in strategic bodies at local and regional level.

### ***Local Strategic Partnership***

Well managed and appropriately placed open spaces serve as a delivery mechanism for challenges and priorities set out within the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 - 2014. Most obviously open spaces contribute to improving people's quality of life, health and well being of individuals, families and communities. Open spaces can also influence perceptions of community safety, deprivation and poverty levels and the local economy.

The variety of formal and informal provision provided across High Peak and Derbyshire Dales provides opportunity for all people to play, exercise, meet one another, and hold public events. As a focal point of a community, parks and open spaces can contribute to building community spirit and community cohesion. This role, however, must be carefully balanced with the role of open spaces as a home to wildlife.

The long-term vision for High Peak and Derbyshire Dales is set out as follows:

To be a distinctive, high quality rural environment with:

- ◀ People of all ages who are healthy and safe.
- ◀ High-wage, high-skill jobs.
- ◀ Affordable, decent homes for local people.
- ◀ Towns and villages that offer a high quality of life.

Supporting this vision are four priority challenges:

1. Affordable, decent housing.
2. Supporting future generations.
3. Developing an economy that provides high-wage and high-skill jobs.
4. Ensuring people's older years are happy and healthy.

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## VISION, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### Vision

The aim of this strategy is to strive towards excellence, seizing the opportunity to 'raise standards' across High Peak and Derbyshire Dales and to dovetail with major influences on management and planning of open space, sport and recreation facilities.

The strategy vision clearly ties into the Community Strategy vision and priorities, to better reflect the strategy aim:

*'High Peak and Derbyshire Dales will be a distinctive, high quality rural environment in which to live and work, and to visit, supported by a network of high quality open space, sport and recreation facilities reflecting its unique environment combining national park and rural countryside to create a sense of place for all'.*

### Aims

Delivery of the following strategic aims will support work to achieve the long-term vision for the area, under the Community Strategy priority challenge headlines:

#### 1. Affordable, decent housing:

**Aim:** To ensure that any new developments take into account the need for appropriate levels of public open space, sport and recreation facilities.

**Aim:** To minimise the impact of urban development through the protection, enhancement and creation of valuable open space, sport and recreation facilities that meets community needs.

#### 2. Supporting future generations:

**Aim:** To utilise open space, sport and recreation facilities to promote and celebrate community cohesion, equality and diversity via provision of a range of inclusive activities that engage residents.

**Aim:** To provide safe, usable open space, sport and recreation facilities that are accessible and inclusive for all residents.

**Aim:** To achieve a balance between quality and quantity of provision in order to ensure a sustainable network of open space, sport and recreation for future generations.

**Aim:** To promote the use of open spaces, sport and recreation facilities to improve the health and well being of residents in Derbyshire Dales and High Peak by providing a network of high quality, accessible provision that encourages residents to make healthy choices.

**Aim:** To provide accessible, well connected open space, sport and recreation facilities through promotion and development of green infrastructure and a network of linking wildlife corridors.

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### 3. Developing an economy that provides high-wage and high-skill jobs:

**Aim:** To provide a range of attractive and accessible open space, sport and recreation facilities contributing to quality of life in order to attract high quality staff to the area.

**Aim:** To provide high quality open space, sport and recreation provision in order to continue to attract inward investment.

### 4. Ensuring people's older years are happy and healthy:

**Aim:** To utilise open space, sport and recreation facilities to provide, accessible, affordable and suitable activities for older generations.

## Objectives

A number of overarching strategy objectives should be implemented to enable the above aims to be delivered. The following example objectives apply to open space, sport and recreation facilities:

- ◀ All open space, sport and recreation provision identified as high value within the audit and assessment reports should be retained and protected within the planning system.
- ◀ Sites identified as having low value should be further investigated in terms of required improvements. Further investigation as to whether quality improvements can increase value should be undertaken as well as assessment of the potential value of this land to meet other recreational needs. Sites deemed surplus to requirement necessitate further consideration by each authority and local knowledge place shapers.
- ◀ Within a phased programme, and in partnership with landowners and other providers of provision, improve the quality of all open space, sport and recreational provision and where possible create green infrastructure. Sites identified by the audit as 'low quality' should be prioritised for improvement.
- ◀ All partners to work together to provide usable, accessible and safe open spaces, sport and recreational facilities.
- ◀ Rectify inadequacies and meet shortfalls, as outlined in the standards paper.
- ◀ Use development opportunities and consult with the community to identify facility need and increase and/or improve existing provision in line with the findings of the assessment reports.
- ◀ Ensure that provision is of an appropriate distribution, quantity and quality (new facilities will only be provided or supported where they contribute to the appropriate distribution of facilities).
- ◀ Develop and implement a jointly prepared robust, effective policy to obtain Section 106 contributions from developers that can be used to help fund shortfalls identified in the Strategy and to support parish councils, sports clubs and social enterprises. This may include a minimum settlement level appropriate to the development.
- ◀ Calculating developer contributions will be a transparent process based on a consistent adopted formula. Money raised will be spent in accordance with investment priorities set out in the Strategy and based on the audit and assessment findings. Where development contributions are applicable, a Section 106 Agreement must be completed specifying the amount and timing of sums to be paid.
- ◀ Capital receipts from disposals of open space, sport and recreation facilities should be ring-fenced specifically for investment into other open space, sport and recreation provision. It should be invested in accordance with the aims of the Strategy.

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- ◀ Existing and future provision should all comply with DDA legislation, where possible, ensuring that it is fully accessible for all residents (including, where relevant, the elderly, disabled people, young people, girls/women and BME groups).
- ◀ In line with green infrastructure and the proposed joint Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Green Infrastructure Strategy, access to all forms of provision should be improved (e.g., by locating any new sites near public transport hubs; increasing public transport links to larger sites, especially at weekends and throughout the summer).
- ◀ Continue to gather the views and opinions of local residents in a rolling five year programme of survey work in line with PPG17 guidance.
- ◀ Both existing and new links, between schools, community groups/sports clubs should be maximised to develop good quality facilities.
- ◀ Demand for sports facilities against levels of provision should be continually reassessed to address emerging shortfalls.
- ◀ To conserve and enhance the wildlife which inhabits green spaces, and foster an appreciation of ecology and the natural world.
- ◀ To increase the number of wildlife sites under positive conservation management (NI 197) and/or to increase the number of local nature reserves declared, to meet the Natural England guidelines on site area per population.
- ◀ To maintain a safe, clean, accessible and attractive environment for children's play and for the leisure of older and disabled residents and families.
- ◀ To pursue the policy objectives of the West Derbyshire and High Peak Greenway strategy, the draft joint Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy by contributing to improving the economic, social and environmental quality of the area.
- ◀ To explore options for the management of new areas of open space to be undertaken by community owned and run trusts.
- ◀ To address issues of dog-fouling and anti-social behaviour in public open spaces by engaging stakeholders to educate users and to reduce the need for enforcement.
- ◀ To address the lack of provision for young people in rural areas of the National Park, including the investigation into mobile services for play, sport, fitness and recreation. Focus on village plans to develop activities and/or facilities that meet the needs of the village, including adults, young people and equality groups. Use the Standards Paper which outlines minimum provision standards as a base from which to work and to assist with funding bids as well as village development plans.

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

## OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

### Key issues and deficiencies to be addressed

#### General

- ◀ Open spaces are a valuable resource to residents across the area.
- ◀ Over half of residents have not accessed any type of provision within the last twelve months - lack of interest is stated as the main reason.
- ◀ One of the greatest barriers for potential users of open space is lack of awareness. This applies particularly with regard to the wildlife, health and education benefits that open spaces can provide (a significant number of respondents were unable to comment on questions such as availability).
- ◀ Open spaces in the HPBC area are used to host events. However, currently this occurs on an ad hoc basis (i.e. there is no official events program).
- ◀ Dog fouling is considered to be an issue impacting on the quality of a variety of open spaces across the area.
- ◀ Lack of transport is an issue which, reportedly, inhibits potential users of open space from gaining access to provision in the more rural locations across the area.

#### Allotments

- ◀ Users are, in the main, content with the quality and management of provision. The majority of sites (12 out of 22) are assessed as low quality against the standard of 30%. No sites scored above the Green Flag pass mark (66%).
- ◀ There is no real strategic management of provision across the area and no written allotment strategies. However, this does not appear to impact negatively on the perceived and actual quality (or usage) of provision.
- ◀ Users are, in the main, content with the quality and management of allotment provision. Consultation and waiting list figures indicate that they are increasing in popularity and demand but that this demand cannot be met by current provision in areas such as Haversage, Ashbourne and Bakewell.
- ◀ The allotment user profile across the area is quite varied with increasing uptake by young people and families.
- ◀ The combined allotment waiting list, across the area, of 417 demonstrates that demand for allotments is not being met by provision. In particular, consultation identifies demand for additional provision in Gamesley, Hathersage (currently no provision), Glossop/Glossopdale, Whaley Bridge, Bakewell, Darely Dale, Matlock and Ashbourne and as such these areas should be a priority for new provision.
- ◀ The following numbers of plots are required to meet demand in the future (based on the England average plot size of 0.025 hectares):

Derbyshire Dales INSIDE the National Park	Derbyshire Dales OUTSIDE the National Park	High Peak INSIDE the National Park	High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park
62 plots	327 plots	10 plots	797 plots
1.55 ha	8.18 ha	0.25 ha	19.93 ha

- ◀ As there is currently no provision in High Peak INSIDE the National Park, deficiencies are identified based on the population not being served i.e. 17,671. Application of the current participation rate in Derbyshire Dales INSIDE the National Park, would suggest that a small site of 10 plots would be most appropriate.

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### ***Amenity greenspace***

- ◀ Site assessments indicate few major quality concerns. However, the majority of sites (68 out of 119) are assessed as low quality against the standard of 45%. Five sites score above the Green Flag pass mark (66%).
- ◀ Site assessments recognise the benefits offered by amenity greenspaces such as a sense of place, social inclusion and health benefits. Community groups highlight that good quality amenity greenspaces are well-used, valuable assets, providing social focal points for the community. Three quarters (76%) of sites scored high value.
- ◀ Consultation revealed that there is less demand for provision of additional amenity greenspace in more rural settlements. Residents in these areas consider access to the surrounding countryside to provide adequate informal recreation opportunity. On this basis we would not recommend meeting gaps with new provision in the rural settlements.
- ◀ No significant deficiencies are identified and therefore new provision is not a priority. Minor gaps in Buxton and Chapel-en-le-Frith are to be met by increasing access to nearby provision to encourage greater 'travel to' provision. For settlements in High Peak inside the National Park where there is no provision, it has been assumed that the surrounding countryside provides adequate informal recreation opportunity.

### ***Cemeteries***

- ◀ Consultation identifies few quality issues impact upon site usage. Three sites score above the Green Flag pass mark. However, just over half (14) of closed churchyards score low quality and the majority (23) of open churchyards also scores as low quality.
- ◀ Cemeteries score well against value for the heritage/cultural value and landscape and structural benefits which they offer. Opportunities exist to utilise sites for greater amenity value and to encourage greater use of sites as an open space resource. There is also an opportunity to engage local communities and schools.
- ◀ Many of the existing cemeteries maintained by HPBC and DDDC have many years capacity remaining. Future provision will need to be monitored and assessed to ensure future land availability in coming years. Thornsett Cemetery has now reached burial capacity. However, HPBC has ownership of adjacent land and plans to extend it to provide burial spaces for up to a further 60 years.

### ***Civic space***

- ◀ There is little variation in the quality and value of civic spaces across the area. They score highly for quality due to the high availability of street furniture and their overall cleanliness and maintenance. The mean quality score is 58% and, set against the standard of 60%, three sites are of low quality and two of high quality.
- ◀ A number of settlements are without access to provision. However, some civic facilities are currently unrecorded due to difficulty classifying such spaces where, for example, they are multipurpose spaces that double up as car parks.
- ◀ Opportunities have been identified to increase the functionality of existing sites.
- ◀ Although no shortfall in provision is identified via consultation, this is not to say that key towns without provision should not have access to civic space. However, it is recommended that this is not a priority in terms of securing funds for new provision.
- ◀ Actual deficiencies requiring new provision are highlighted in Matlock, New Mills and Whaley Bridge.

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### ***Green corridors and public rights of way (PROW)***

- ◀ The mean quality score for green corridor routes is 63%. Against the standard of 66% (Green Flag pass mark), seven score as high quality and seven score as low quality.
- ◀ Consultation indicates that PROW are of variable quality, with a noticeable difference in standard between the network within and outside of the National Park. PROW are considered to be good or just right in terms of quantity.
- ◀ Consultation highlights a need for better use of the network to improve non-car based links to local facilities and services such as schools, work places and open spaces. There is demand for greater promotion of green corridors.
- ◀ The use of scrambler bikes and 4x4 vehicles impacts upon the surface quality of off-road PROW. Consultation indicates that this activity is becoming more organised and is a particular problem in the Flash.
- ◀ The limited and fragmented bridleway network across the area is heavily used and is very important to communities. Provision in the Hayfield area is considered to be particularly good, whereas provision in the Flash area is considered to be poor.
- ◀ A primary concern expressed by users is the deficient bridleway network throughout the area. There is demand for the 'connectivity' of the bridleway network to be improved via upgrading and redesignating intersecting footpaths to bridleway status.
- ◀ In particular, there is potential to develop the Pennine Bridleway route through and around the Glossop area, where there is considered to be a gap in the network. Consultation also identifies an opportunity to open an area around Gamesley Railway sidings (off Glossop Road) if negotiations with the landowner prove successful.

### ***Natural/semi natural greenspace***

- ◀ Semi-natural sites have one of the largest spreads in terms of quality scores across the area, reflecting the variety of maintenance and upkeep of such sites. Only one site scored above the Green Flag pass mark (Goytside Meadows LNR). Against the standard of 30%, just over half of sites (17) scored as high quality.
- ◀ Availability of natural/semi-natural open spaces is regarded as good. Residents express a perception that the 'countryside is on the doorstep' and, thus, access to "naturalness" is considered to be excellent. Residents also frequently referred to the Peak District National Park and access to the countryside. On this basis we would not recommend meeting gaps with new provision in the rural settlements.
- ◀ High value is placed upon natural/semi-natural sites due to biodiversity and ecological benefits. They are also valued for the variety of opportunity offered to users.
- ◀ Usage of quad bikes and motorbikes impact on the quality and usage of natural/semi-natural open spaces, in particular woodland sites and on access and common land, resulting in damage and deterring visitors. There is a demand for greater access control and enforcement.
- ◀ Actual deficiencies that require new provision are highlighted in Glossop, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Wirksworth, Matlock and Ashbourne. For settlements in High Peak inside the National Park where there is no provision, it has been assumed that the surrounding countryside provides adequate informal recreation opportunity in this area.

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### ***Parks and gardens***

- ◀ There is some variation in the quality of parks across the area; the mean quality score is 34%. Consultation indicates that residents consider quality of parks and gardens to be adequate. 15 sites scored above the Green Flag pass mark. Against the standard of 66%, half of strategic parks (4 sites) score as high quality. Against the standard of 50%, the vast majority of district/local parks (13 sites) score as high quality.
- ◀ A number of parks (e.g. Chatsworth Park, Lyme Park, Ilam Hall Parkland) are not included within the audit because they fall outside of the PPG17 remit e.g. opening and closing times restrict access or there is an entrance fee. However, residents also consider these to be important sites which impact upon their perceptions with regard to accessibility. For example, the views of residents, due to the provision of such sites as Chatsworth Park, do not necessarily reflect the deficiencies in provision identified via catchment mapping.
- ◀ Identified gaps in the provision of strategic parks are met via provision in neighbouring areas and as such new provision is not a priority.
- ◀ Strategic parks are deemed to provide the same level of provision as district and local parks. Therefore, where key towns are not serviced by district or local provision but by strategic parks, this is not identified as a gap.
- ◀ Consultation indicates that residents generally consider the provision of parks and gardens to be adequate, in terms of quantity and quality and therefore on this basis we would not recommend meeting gaps with new provision.

### ***Provision for children & young people***

- ◀ Consultation and site assessments identify that the quality of play areas is relatively consistent across the area with the mean quality score being 53%. 11 scored above the Green Flag pass mark. Against the standard of 55%, the majority (37 sites) score as high quality.
- ◀ Play areas generally scored low value. However, consultation suggests that residents value them highly.
- ◀ There is a deficiency in the provision for children and young people in the more rural areas. In particular, settlements such as Darley Dale, Dove Holes and Hayfield were constantly identified during consultation as exhibiting demand for new provision. The gap in provision in Matlock is also reflected in the findings of consultation undertaken with young people who noted lack of provision and activities.
- ◀ After taking into account, the provision of amenity greenspaces (which may have the ability to meet gaps in casual play provision in Darley Dale, Dove Holes and Hayfield), gaps to be addressed, remain in High Peak inside the National Park.
- ◀ Actual deficiencies requiring new provision are highlighted in Matlock and High Peak inside the National Park, where it would be most appropriate to provide provision in Bamford.

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## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

This section sets out objectives for the development of open space provision in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. It is designed to address the issues raised in the Open Space Assessment Report and subsequent Standards Paper as outlined above.

The following objectives reflect key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy. Recognising both the variety of ownership of sports facilities across the area, from local authorities to parish councils to clubs, implementation of this strategy will be the responsibility of HPBC and DDDC in partnership with local stakeholders. Recommendations must also be considered in the context of financial implications with many being dependent upon the availability of additional resources. Any proposals would also need to meet planning considerations.

The aim of this Strategy is to identify facility needs, which can then be used to negotiate with developers and secure future Section 106 agreements.

### General objectives

- ◀ To adopt the use of a quality and value matrix to determine the level of protection given to a site.
- ◀ As a priority, focus on improving low quality sites of high value and any low value sites of high quality and investigate how these sites could be enhanced. Further assess the merits of improvements before undertaking any work.
- ◀ The following matrix provides a guide for quality and value classifications and is applied with the action plan:

#### **High quality/high value**

Ideally all open spaces should have an aspiration to come into this category and the planning system should then seek to protect them.

#### **High quality/low value**

Wherever possible, the preferred policy approach to a space in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary purpose. If this is not possible, the next best policy approach is to consider whether it might be of high value if converted to some other primary purpose. Only if this is also impossible will it be acceptable to consider a change of use.

#### **Low quality/high value**

The policy approach to these spaces should be to enhance their quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

#### **Low quality/low value**

Wherever possible, the policy approach to these spaces or facilities should be to consider enhancing their quality provided it is possible also to enhance their value. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.

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- ◀ If there is a choice of spaces or facilities of equal quality to declare surplus, and no need to use one or part of one to remedy a deficiency in some other form of open space or sport and recreation provision, it will normally be sensible to consider disposing of the one with the lowest value. Similarly, if two are of equal value, it will normally be sensible to dispose of the one of lower quality.
- ◀ Raise awareness of accessible open space provision and the value of sites in relation to wildlife, health and educational benefits e.g. through a marketing strategy, greater promotion on the Council websites, on site signage and leaflets.
- ◀ Improve open spaces with regard to increasing biodiversity by planting more native trees and other plant species and more fruit trees.
- ◀ Develop a well promoted and varied open space events and activities program enthuse residents to utilise the resources directed through development of an events strategy.
- ◀ Investigate potential to improve public transport links (frequency and affordability) between rural settlements and key service areas.
- ◀ To increase enforcement controls of 4x4s, quad bikes and motorbikes on common land and woodland areas. In areas of significant problem look to work with local police enforcement officers and community groups to tackle issues of misuse.
- ◀ Increase the communication of and around enforcement (such as on the spot fines and potential convictions) in relation to fly tipping, litter and dog fouling.

### Allotments

- ◀ Recognising the high value placed on allotment provision all existing provision to be retained. As a key priority, the aspiration is to provide new provision to meet current and future demand.
- ◀ Require all major development to design into schemes growing areas at multiple levels for residents (internally, externally at ground level, roofs gardens, communal balconies) and the planting of edible soft landscaping (e.g. fruit and nut trees). Alternatively if this is not feasible require a contribution to allotment provision off site.
- ◀ Further investigate the potential to convert unused Council owned Green Belt land to allotments.
- ◀ Priority areas for new/additional provision are: Gamesley, Hathersage, Glossop/Glossopdale, Whaley Bridge, Bakewell, Darley Dale, Matlock and Ashbourne.
- ◀ In partnership with allotment associations and parish councils, consider plot splitting and sharing to maximise the use of current provision to meet significant identified demand. Also consider introducing a policy which ensures that where a waiting list for provision exists, a single tenant cannot be allocated more than one plot.

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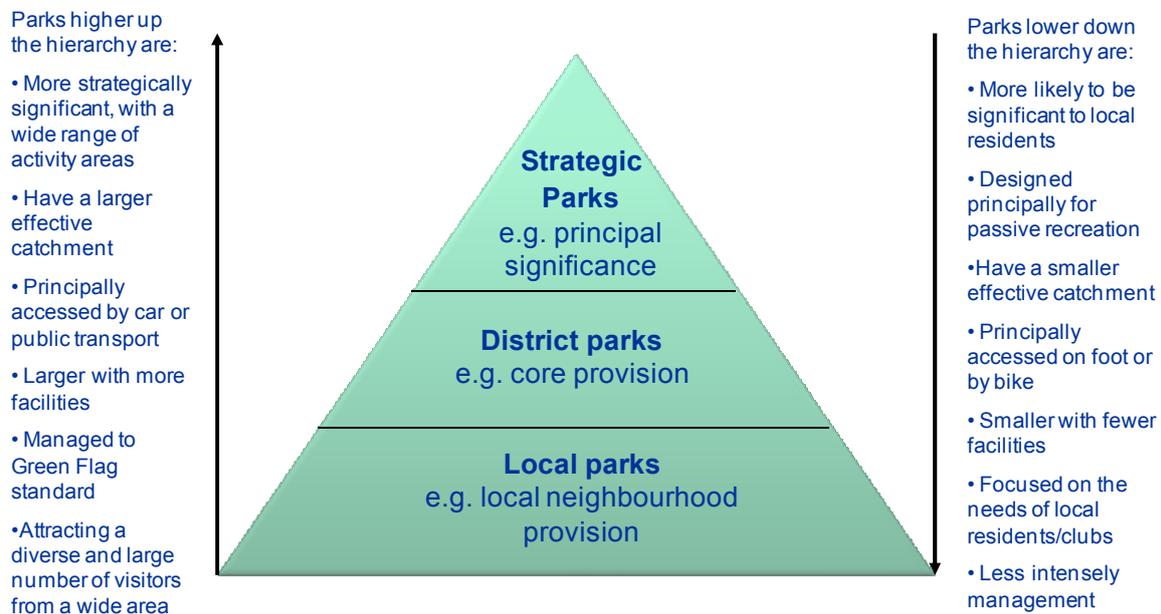
- ◀ When identifying land suitable for new allotment provision, the following should be considered:
  - ◀ 1) Proximity to settlement: proximity of users homes for relative convenience and environmental sustainability. Sites should usually be close enough to allow connection to a mains water supply.
  - ◀ 2) Horticultural value: sites should be mostly unshaded and have uncontaminated soil suitable for growing fruit and vegetables.
  - ◀ 3) Access and parking: access is required for plot holders and for operatives and their equipment to provide essential services to sites i.e. fencing, drainage, deliveries of compost or manure etc. Some parking provision is required to allow young families in particular to visit plots with ease.
  - ◀ 4) Security: avoid isolated area and sites should normally be located away from trouble spots known for vandalism.
- ◀ Sites currently recorded as low value/un-used i.e. Padfield Allotments 1 and Bamford Allotment Gardens to be either be reinstated (if demand exists in the area) or disposed off and monies reinvested to provide alternative provision in demand areas highlighted.
- ◀ As and when resources allow, work to produce a joint allotment strategy to guide the strategic management of provision across all managing bodies.
- ◀ If and when provision increases and greater allotment usage can be accommodated, work in partnership with all providers to raise awareness of provision and its value (in terms of wider social and health benefits).

### **Parks and gardens**

- ◀ The aspiration for parks provision is to improve quality as a priority. Therefore, all 'Strategic Parks' falling below 66% quality threshold (reflecting the Green Flag pass mark) should be increased to high quality in the short term (within five years). These include:
  - ◀ Ashwood Park.
  - ◀ Memorial Park, Whaley Bridge.
  - ◀ Buxton County Park.
  - ◀ Ashbourne Memorial Park.

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- Adopt the following strategic management tool in order to prioritise investment and improve quality:



- Develop and keep up to date management plans for all strategic parks, focused on maintaining site quality and encouraging further use. DDDC to prepare management plans for all four major parks linking Matlock and Matlock Bath (High Tor, Lovers Walk, Derwent Gardens in addition to Hall Leys Park) within the next two years.
- All strategic parks to be managed to Green Flag Award standard. Undertake necessary improvements and work to successfully submitting a further site in each authority area by 2010.
- Continue to seek opportunities for investment in Memorial Park, Whaley Bridge which would eventually enable the site to be put forward for Green Flag Award.
- Support town and parish councils to consider sites for future Green Flag Award. This should include specific support in developing management plans and other associated policies. Chapel Memorial Park, for example, could have a good chance in the site assessment element.
- As and when resources allow, work to encourage and support the formation of 'friends of' groups to increase community engagement in the management and development of parks and gardens.
- Continue to improve access to provision, e.g. raising awareness through promotion, car parking, upgrading paths.

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### Natural and semi-natural greenspace

- ◀ Due to the importance placed on natural greenspaces in relation to their biodiversity and ecological benefits to the area, the aspiration for natural greenspace provision is to improve access and quality in the rural areas and provide new provision in Glossop, Chapel en le Frith, Wirksworth, Matlock and Ashbourne as a priority.
- ◀ Provision of new sites could be achieved by making existing natural areas formally accessible or increasing the “naturalness” of existing areas of formal open space. Review maintenance regimes for formal open space provision and where feasible modify to introduce natural features e.g. wildflower meadows and woodland planting.
- ◀ Publicly accessible, natural and semi natural sites assessed as poor quality which are also considered to be high value should be prioritised for investment to increase to high quality.
- ◀ Continue to build partnerships with external agencies and voluntary sector organisations involved in the management of sites.
- ◀ Work to raise awareness of accessible nature and semi-natural open space provision and the value of the sites in terms of habitat value and education benefits should be undertaken. This may be achieved through increased information accessible on the authority’s website and greater engagement of local schools.
- ◀ Access to the countryside should be maximised in order to allow promotion as a valuable open space resource for a variety of users. As well as habitat value it should also offer informal play opportunities and provide walking and horse riding routes linking a number of settlements.
- ◀ The potential of semi-natural sites should be utilised to develop and promote ‘creative’ and ‘wild’ play opportunities and help reduce deficiencies expressed in the provision for children and young people.
- ◀ LNR’s in Derbyshire Dales total 27 hectares which, with a population of 69,616, leaves a shortfall of 43 ha. The seven sites in High Peak total 39.28 hectares. This leaves a shortfall of 50.72 hectares.
- ◀ Work in partnership with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (which owns a number of nature reserves across the area, totalling over 277 hectares) to designate some of its sites to LNR status to help meet identified deficiencies. Work to designate an additional 43 hectares of LNR within Derbyshire Dales and 51 hectares within High Peak over the next ten years.
- ◀ Partnerships with external agencies and voluntary sector organisations involved in the management of sites should be maintained and developed.

### Amenity greenspace

- ◀ Given the high value placed on amenity greenspace by residents in terms of providing social focal points for the community, the aspiration for amenity greenspace is to improve quality. Minor deficiencies in Buxton and Chapel en le Frith to be met by increasing access to nearby provision and encouraging greater travel opportunities to sites.

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- ◀ All sites assessed as low quality (below 45%) should be increase to high quality. As a priority, invest in sites above two hectares in size and of low quality, including:
  - ◀ Newshaw Lane Recreation Ground.
  - ◀ Pyegrove Recreation Ground.
  - ◀ Dene Fields, Court, Land off Lime Tree Road, Matlock.
  - ◀ Carrs Field.
  - ◀ Gorse Bank Playing Field.
  - ◀ Birchover Recreation Ground.
  - ◀ Castleton Recreation Ground.
  - ◀ Grindleford Playing Fields.
- ◀ Work to create more functional and visually attractive amenity greenspaces through, for example, provision of seating and/or landscaping.
- ◀ Ensure that new housing developments provide sufficient allowances for amenity greenspaces, where appropriate.
- ◀ Develop, promote and encourage the play opportunities offered by sites, where appropriate.
- ◀ Raise awareness of dog fouling by-laws covering sites. Raise awareness amongst dog owners that dog waste can be disposed off in ordinary litterbins.
- ◀ Encourage and support community involvement and ownership of amenity greenspace. Support local communities to facilitate events and activities on sites.

### **Provision for children and young people**

- ◀ The aspiration for provision for children and young people is to increase the quality and value of all provision. Work in accordance with the 'Vision' for play in Derbyshire, as set out by the District/Borough-wide Play Strategy and further recognised within local strategies.
- ◀ Work towards providing new provision in High Peak inside the National Park. This should be strategically located in areas of deficiency and high demand, for example, in Bamford.
- ◀ Improvements to high value low quality sites should be prioritised: those falling below 55% quality should be improved; ensuring a high proportion of the total population has access to high quality play provision.
- ◀ The aspiration for equipped children's play provision is to have fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value. Rationalise equipped play provision by investigating further the value of LAPs to local communities. In the short term, consider removal of low value LAPs and reinvestment in more strategic sites. For example, in High Peak de-commission/close Yates Road Play Area and re-invest elsewhere in New Mills such as Bakenhurst Recreation Ground Play Area.  
  
For example, in Derbyshire Dales de-commission/close Highfield Road Play Area and re-invest elsewhere in Ashbourne. *As of May 2010; investment is planned to update site to sufficient standard.*
- ◀ All new equipped play provision should meet minimum size standards, be of at least LEAP size and provide significant play value in a high quality environment.
- ◀ Work towards increasing the provision of casual play opportunities within amenity greenspaces in Darley Dale, Dove Holes and Hayfield.

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- ◀ The aspiration for provision for young people (teenagers) is to increase provision. Work is required to meet perceived deficiencies in Matlock.
- ◀ Work with local communities and young people and ensure that users are involved in the design and location of future provision to create greater ownership of sites and ensure that users needs are being met. Affordable and fully accessible activities should be targeted at young people.
- ◀ Fully utilise developer contributions to address the quality of current stock and achieve better contributions to increase the scale of provision and underpin the continued maintenance of any new provision.
- ◀ Support and encourage providers of provision to enhance the accessibility and inclusivity of play provision. All new and refurbished play areas to provide inclusive provision.
- ◀ Where appropriate and feasible, new provision for children and young people should offer more adventurous and challenging play opportunities with a variety of equipment catering for a wide age range. Encourage greater provision of interactive play equipment such as talk tubes and interactive grids.
- ◀ Through the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Wild Play officers, informal and natural play opportunities should be promoted and facilitated.
- ◀ Encourage parish councils to communicate/share the hiring of mobile play activities in order to ensure value for money and to maximise coverage.

### **Green corridors and public rights of way (PROW)**

- ◀ The aspiration for green corridors is to retain all sites and upgrade quality where appropriate. Improvements to the network should be initiated and guided via implementation of the Derbyshire and Staffordshire rights of way improvement plans.
- ◀ Priority to be given to those footpaths that, if upgraded to bridleway status, would create off-road circular horse riding and off road cycling provision and linkages.
- ◀ As a priority, and in order to increase participation in equestrian activities, work towards development of bridleways across the area should be sort.
- ◀ Work to create a well connected, accessible and promoted off-road PROW network.
- ◀ Where appropriate and feasible work to upgrade PROW status to provide for a range of different users. In particular, work towards increasing the provision of PROW of bridleway status and creating circular off-road routes.
- ◀ Where appropriate, continue to improve access to provision (taking into account disability access). Investigate methods of improving provision to information e.g. route distances, destinations and difficulty.
- ◀ Improve promotion of the PROW network. Develop a programme to enhance signage and way marking of PROW to provide a more connected, accessible network and better promote access to the surrounding countryside.
- ◀ Investigate and work to provide new routes suitable for use of off-road motorised vehicles. Improve promotion and access to information regarding the network of unsealed minor highways.
- ◀ Continue to develop and support community involvement in the management of green corridors.

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES

## OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

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### **Cemeteries**

- ◀ The aspiration for cemeteries is to ensure that provision remains accessible and is promoted as a recreation resource. New provision should be driven by the need for burial space rather than the need for open space.
- ◀ Monitor and assess future provision in order to ensure future land availability in the medium term. HPBC to further investigate ownership of land adjacent to Thornsett Cemetery which could provide extension opportunities and burial spaces for an additional 60 years.
- ◀ In the short term, review and commit to writing policy to guide the level of maintenance to be undertaken at closed churchyards.
- ◀ Work to improve and invest in the basic infrastructure of cemeteries in both High Peak and Derbyshire Dales and in particular internal footpaths.
- ◀ Further community involvement in the management and maintenance of cemeteries and disused churchyards should be encouraged.
- ◀ Greater use of cemeteries for informal recreation e.g. walking and continue to enhance areas for wildlife should be encouraged.
- ◀ Encourage use of cemeteries as an educational resource, both in terms of heritage and environmental value.

### **Civic space**

- ◀ The aspiration for civic spaces is to increase the functionality (through enhancements such as seating and public art) and provide new provision in Matlock, New Mills and Whaley Bridge in accordance with local developments and regeneration.
- ◀ Further investigate opportunity to change the use of the car park next to the Imperial Rooms in Matlock to become a public square to meet identified deficiency in provision.
- ◀ Seek to identify all civic spaces across the District/Borough. This should include assessment of potential sites and lead to development of a strategy. The potential for car parks should also form part of the review.
- ◀ Work to enhance the value of the car park located on Well Gate in Old Glossop. Seek to improve the landscaping and increasing its multi-functionality with seating and amenity value.
- ◀ Continue to commit to the 'In-Bloom' competition which adds to the sense of pride that the local community has and encourages residents to value provision and appreciate the town centre and surrounds.

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES

## OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

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### OPEN SPACE ACTION PLAN

#### Introduction

The action plan does not identify all quality and value improvements to be made. Specific details on how they could best be achieved can be found in the accompanying study database. Typical issues to address in order to increase quality include examples such as increasing the regularity of maintenance at the site, provision of litterbins and provision of benches. Typical issues to address in order to increase value include examples such as raising awareness of the site, increasing overall quality and increasing community engagement with the site. Prioritisation of improvements should be led through the annual maintenance planning programme.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

#### Justification of sites within the action plan

The action plan details policy options relating to individual sites and the need to enhance and develop new provision. One of the following criteria has been used to identify priorities and justify the inclusion of sites within the action plan:

- ◀ The site suffers from access problems in terms of safety, poor signage and/or poor disability provision.
- ◀ A project is currently underway to enhance the existing site and/or funding has been secured.
- ◀ An evaluation of site use is required as it is of poor quality and is reportedly underused.
- ◀ The desired action is small scale, short term and will enhance the quality of current provision, whilst aiding community empowerment.
- ◀ The importance of the site is identified in other strategies.

#### Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking site development or enhancement:

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Gaining revenue funding from planning contributions in order to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Gaining planning contributions to assist with the creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease site to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups/parish councils to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

### High Peak Action Plan

Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>General</b>			
M	To fully utilise developer contributions to secure investment for both new provision and quality improvements.	Produce supplementary planning guidance which adopts locally derived provision standards.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	To make best use of resources and funding opportunities across the Peak Sub Region in order to ensure high quality is achieved for all.	Ensure open spaces are managed strategically across the Peak Sub Region and where possible resources and best practise are shared.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	To have a shared strategic management tool to help prioritise investment and to determine the level of protection given to a site within the planning system.	Adopt use of quality and value matrix.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	To ensure that excellence is strived for and to further increase the quality of provision at a strategic level.	Adopt aspiration of all Strategic Parks to be above Green Flag threshold within five years.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	Where usage is low, it tends to be inhibited by poor quality provision.	Increase use of open spaces by local residents through improving awareness and perceptions of provision.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	Dog fouling is the main reason for sites achieving poor quality in the site assessments and as identified through consultation.	Increase quality and reduce dog fouling in open spaces.	1, 2, 3 and 4

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Allotments</b>							
Cunningdale Allotments	74			S	Sporadic problems with theft/vandalism. Waiting list of 25 expressed.	Support allotment association in seeking methods to improve site security.	2 and 4
Padfield Allotments 1	97			M	Un-used allotment site. There is sufficient demand expressed through waiting lists in the area to justify reinstatement of this site.	Investigate the potential to bring this site back into use and associated costs to achieve this.	2 and 4
Cote Heath Allotments	116			S	Chatsworth Estate site. Low score for personal security. Waiting list of 50 expressed.	Work with Chatsworth Estate to improve personal security features.	2 and 4
Silverlands Allotments	118			S	Chatsworth Estate site. Identified need for mains water and electricity supply. Waiting list of 8 expressed.	Work with Chatsworth Estate to investigate and potentially install water supply on site.	2 and 4
<b>Parks and gardens</b>							
Ashwood Park	24			S-M	Park is strategically placed to service wide catchment area. All Strategic Parks to be above Green Flag threshold within five years. Would benefit from a friends group to drive improvements and meet Green Flag criteria.	Ensure refurbishments (currently taking place) are completed to a high standard. Further explore possibility of the 'Friends of Pavilion Gardens' also covering this site. If not, establish a new group. Look at feasibility of introducing site based staff.	1, 2 and 3

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Manor Park	25			M-L	Assessed as a popular, well-valued Green Flag site but with room for improvement. 'Friends of Manor Park' is seeking funding to refurbish tennis courts and to provide a MUGA.	Install lighting and look at methods to prevent vandalism to skate park. Work with the Friends Group to achieve its aspirations for the site.	1, 2 and 3
Howard Park	26			M	To maintain site quality and use, whilst diversifying its attributes.	Work with 'Friends of Howard Park' and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to develop a natural area.	1 and 2
Memorial Park	93			S-M	Highly valued with proposals to reinstate original layout, create a peace garden and improve landscaping. MUGA used dominated by football. All Strategic Parks to be above Green Flag threshold within five years.	Continue to seek opportunities for investment in order to improve park infrastructure. Promote availability of MUGA to all members of the community. Consider for Green Flag Award submission.	1, 2 and 3
Buxton Country Park	107			S-M	Falls short of quality threshold. All Strategic Parks to be above Green Flag threshold within five years.	Improvements required to quality of main entrance. Consider for Green Flag Award submission.	1, 2 and 3
Pavilion Gardens	109			S	Lack of youth provision for 11-14 year olds in the area.	Investigate the potential for the old bowling green area to house new youth provision.	1, 2 and 3
Chapel Memorial Park	137			S	Very high value site, well maintained and used for events. Quality score below threshold relates to lack of lighting, car parking and toilets.	Assist Chapel Town Council with the establishing a 'friends group'. Consider for Green Flag Award submission, ensuring management plan/policies are in place.	2 and 3

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Natural/semi natural greenspace</b>							
Bings Wood	75			M	Low level of use and scores poorly for entrances and security.	Investigate the potential to enhance quality and/or accessibility provided this will enhance value. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.	2
Bingswood	76						
Industrial Estate Recreation Area							
Hackerlay Clough	77						
Millbank	104						
Ashwood Dale Part 2	105						
Hogshaw Wood	113			L	Low level of use. Identified shortfall of LNR's.	Consider for Local Nature Reserve status in order to increase accessibility and quality.	1 and 2
Lovers Leap	114			M	Low level of use and scores poorly for other entrances and security.	Investigate the potential to enhance quality and/or accessibility provided this will enhance value. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.	2
Ashwood Dale	115						
Hawk Road, New Mills	318			L	Reasonable level of use, scores poorly for paths. Identified shortfall of LNR status sites.	Consider for LNR status and increase accessibility and quality.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Amenity greenspace</b>							
Newshaw Lane Recreation Ground	8			S	Poor quality site also considered to be high value should be prioritised for investment to increase to high quality.	Improve overall maintenance and cleanliness.	2
Pyegrove Recreation	9			S	Poor quality site also considered to be high value should be prioritised for investment to increase to high quality. Water logging identified as reason for poor quality.	Improve site drainage to increase usage.	2
Whitfield Recreation Ground	10			M	Popular site. Reported issue of dog fouling which deters informal play.	Work towards greater dog fouling enforcement and promotion of use of general waste bins for disposal. Support local action group in its plans to raise funds to create a MUGA.	1 and 2
Greenbank	69			M-L	Largely inaccessible and poorly maintained site. Contains mature trees and shrubs.	Increase functionality and visual benefits of site through landscaping and seating etc. Consider change in primary purpose of site to natural greenspace.	1 and 2
Carrs Field	88			S	Undulating meadow site with signs it is used for cattle grazing. Whaley Bridge Town Council identify potential of site to accommodate 10 allotment plots.	Work with Whaley Bridge Town Council to change primary purpose to allotments and establish plots to meet identified local need.	1, 2 and 4
Harehills	134	Un-scored		S	Highly valued with intentions to improve quality as identified in Glossop Vision Master Plan.	Work with 'Friends of Harehills' and Groundwork Derbyshire in seeking funding opportunities for improvement projects.	2 and 3

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Provision for children and young people</b>							
Conduit Street Play Area	1.1			M	Poor quality relating to condition of the grass surface, often becoming muddy.	Improve site drainage. Consider replacement of grass to a rubber crumb surface.	1 and 2
Temple Street Play Area	5			M	Concerns over safety and maintenance of the wood bark surface.	Work towards replacement of wood bark to a rubber crumb surface.	1 and 2
New Shaw Lane Recreation Ground Play Area	8.1			S M	Poor quality site, relating to broken glass repeatedly found.	In the short term, increase maintenance. In the longer term, work with police to establish the nature of the vandalism – increasing youth provision could be of benefit.	2
Bankswood Park Play Area	19.1			M	Concerns over safety and maintenance cost of the wood bark surface.	Work towards replacement of wood bark to a rubber crumb surface.	1 and 2
Yates Road Play Area	85			S	LAP size. Site scores poorly due to limited amount, and quality of, play equipment. The aspiration is to have fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value.	Decommission and invest in increasing the quality and size of Backenhurst Recreation Ground Play Area (i.e., site 86.1).	2 and 3
Backenhurst Recreation Ground Play Area	86.1			M	Site scores poorly for overall quality. The aspiration is to have fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value.	Improve quality and increase to LEAP size with redirected funds from the closure of Yates Road Play Area (i.e., site 85).	2 and 3

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Memorial Park Play Area	93.1			S-L	Dated play equipment lacking suitable play equipment for children under the age of five.  MUGA viewed as underused and costly to maintain.	Increase quality of and install additional equipment suitable for children under the age of five years old.  Consider value of retaining the MUGA. Either replace/refurbish or decommission and invest in the play area.	2
Bench Road Play Area	122			S-M	Poor quality site, relating to broken glass repeatedly found.	In the short term, increase maintenance.  In the longer term, work with police to establish the nature of the vandalism – increasing youth provision could be of benefit.	2
South Head Drive Play Area	129			S	LAP size. Poor quality and offers limited opportunities due to a lack of equipment.  The aspiration for equipped children's play provision is to have fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value.	Decommission and invest in increasing the quality and size of Needham Recreation Ground Play Area (i.e., site 138.1).	2
Needham Recreation Ground Play Area	138.1			S	Strategically placed site with dated play equipment.  The aspiration is to have fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value.	Improve quality and increase to LEAP size with redirected funds from the closure of South Head Drive Play Area (i.e., site 129).	1 and 2
<b>Cemeteries</b>							
Thornsett Cemetery	13			L	Site has reached burial capacity. Potential exists to extend the site to provide burial space for a further 60 years.	Ensure cemetery provision is secured in the immediate area. Investigate use of land adjacent to site to accommodate future cemetery provision.	1 and 2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Glossop Cemetery	18			S-M	Potential interest to establish a community group related to this site.	Establish a community group in order to ensure usage and interest of the site. Consider for Green Flag Award submission.	1 and 2
Buxton Cemetery	94			M-L	Parking facilities and pathways could be better in terms of quality and appropriateness. Potential interest to establish a community group related to this site.	Increase community involvement, including establishment of a 'friends of group'. Consider for Green Flag Award submission.	1 and 2
Hidebank Burial Ground	230			S-M	Low quality and value. Neglected old cemetery with evidence of youth drinking and vandalism/litter. Some broken, leaning or fallen gravestones.	Investigate issues of anti-social behaviour. Review gravestone maintenance programme. Increase habitat value and related opportunities to increase recreational usage.	1 and 2

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

## Derbyshire Dales Action Plan

Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>General</b>			
M	To fully utilise developer contributions to secure investment for both new provision and quality improvements.	Produce supplementary planning guidance which adopts locally derived provision standards.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	To have a shared strategic management tool to help prioritise investment and to determine the level of protection given to a site within the planning system.	Adopt use of quality and value matrix.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	To ensure that acceptable levels are strived for and to further increase the quality of provision at a strategic level.	Adopt aspiration of all Strategic Parks to be above Green Flag threshold within five years.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	Where usage is low, it tends to be inhibited by poor quality provision.	Increase use of open spaces by local residents through improving awareness and perceptions of provision.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	Dog fouling is the main reason for sites achieving poor quality in the site assessments and as identified through consultation.	Increase quality and reduce dog fouling in open spaces.	1, 2, 3 and 4

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Allotments</b>							
Chesterfield Road Allotments	51			M	Waiting list of 30 expressed. Poor quality relating to areas of water logging.	Support Matlock Town Council and the recently established allotment association to achieve its aspiration to create a pond area for educational use. Investigate the options to increase usage to meet demand expressed.	1, 2 and 3
Land to the Rear of 40-120 Mayfield Road, Ashbourne	54			S	65 local residents have registered interest in using this site following article in local media. Landowner (a local farmer) is in support of idea.	Work in partnership with landowner and further pursue funding opportunities to support development of this site to accommodate 20 plots.	1, 2, 3 and 4
Church Road Allotments	260			S	Plots are of a large size but condition of the site is poor. Waiting list of 20 expressed.	Support Darley Dale Town Council to enhance the overall quality of the site and work towards plot splitting and sharing to accommodate waiting list.	1, 2, 3 and 4
<b>Parks and gardens</b>							
Whitworth Park	40			M	Incidences of vandalism and the congregation of young adults are thought to be a result of there being a lack of activities for young people in the area.	Work with young people to create a permanent youth club in Darley Dale, providing activities in demand such as football and netball. <i>As of May 2010: a Youth club has started at the Whitworth Institute</i>	1, 2 and 3
Derwent Gardens	43			S-M	Site involved in the current Matlock Parks Project. Aspiration for all sites involved in Matlock Park Project to attain Green Flag Award.	Maintain site quality and usage following improvements. Prepare management plan. Submit for Green Flag Award.	1, 2 and 3

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Lovers Walk	44			S-M	Site involved in the current Matlock Parks Project. Aspiration for all sites involved in Matlock Park Project to attain Green Flag Award.	Maintain site quality and usage following improvements. Prepare management plan. Submit for Green Flag Award.	1, 2 and 3
Hall Leys Park	66			M	Site involved in the current Matlock Parks Project. Aspiration for all sites involved in Matlock Park Project to attain Green Flag Award.	To maintain to current standard and retain Green Flag Award.	2 and 3
Ashbourne Memorial Park	211			S	Poor quality relating to personal security. All Strategic Parks to be above Green Flag threshold within five years.	Work to increase site quality and improve elements such as safety/personal security (i.e., tree/shrub clearing) to create better sight lines throughout the site.	1 and 2
<b>Natural/semi natural greenspace</b>							
High Tors	194			S-L	Poor quality relating to maintenance and personal security. A management plan is planned. Aspiration for all sites involved in Matlock Park Project to attain Green Flag Award.	In order to increase its value, further improve quality of site. Prepare management plan. Promote links to Derwent Valley Walk. Submit for Green Flag Award and Local Nature Reserve status.	1, 2 and 3
Swan House Grass Area	242			S	Poor quality relating to personal security.	Work to increase site quality and improve elements such as safety/personal security (i.e., tree/shrub clearing) to create better sight lines throughout the site.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Madge Hill Woodland Area	253			S-M	Low level of use recorded and scores poor for entrances and personal security. Site provides undisturbed habitats.	Improve main entrance and personal security throughout the site. Further promote site as habitat location in order to encourage usage.	1 and 2
Bradley Wood	256			L	Low level of use and site scores 'poor' for paths and personal security. Identified shortfall of LNR status sites.	Consider for LNR status and encourage Ashbourne Town Council to increase accessibility and quality.	1 and 2
<b>Amenity greenspace</b>							
Dene Fields, Court, Land off Lime Tree Rd	49			S	Low quality but high value site over two hectares in size.	Support Matlock Town Council and Groundwork Derbyshire in its work in creating a pond to increase local appreciation/usage of the site.	1 and 2
Land adjacent to Oswalds Church	53			L	Assessed as poor quality and value and as a result is underused.	Investigate the potential to enhance quality and/or accessibility provided this will enhance value. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.	2
Gorse Bank Playing Field	190			S	Low quality but high value site over two hectares.	Improve overall maintenance and cleanliness of site as well as personal security. <i>As of May 2010; plans to improve equipment on site.</i>	1 and 2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Dimple Recreation Ground	196	Un-scored	Un-scored	M	Future of site uncertain in relation to proposed sports complex development. Quality and adequacy of parking is poor. Dog foul bins and benches could be better maintained and located.	Ensure appropriate developer contributions are secured to replace any loss of provision and reinvest in the upgrading of Brickyard Play Area.	1, 2 and 3
<b>Provision for children and young people</b>							
The Dimple Recreation Ground Play Area	196.1	Un-scored	Un-scored	M	Future of site uncertain in relation to proposed sports complex development. Removal of play area would leave an accessibility gap. Demand exists to increase size and type of equipment.	Ensure appropriate developer contributions are secured to replace any loss of provision and reinvest in the upgrading of equipment on Brickyard Play Area (i.e., site 214)	1, 2 and 3
Highfield Road Play Area	210			S	LAP size. Site scores poorly due to limited amount, and quality of, play equipment. The aspiration is to have fewer but larger, better quality sites offering high play value.	Decommission and invest in increasing the quality and size of nearby sites. <i>As of May 2010; investment is planned to update site to sufficient standard.</i>	2 and 3
Brickyard Play Area	214			M	Site scores poorly on overall quality. Aspiration for fewer but larger/better quality strategic sites.	Improve quality and increase to LEAP size with redirected funds from the closure of Highfield Road Play Area (i.e., site 210).	2 and 3
<b>Green corridors</b>							
Hurt Rise Footpath	165			M	Sites outside of the National Park regarded as substandard in comparison.	Improve quality and safety of narrow, steep gravel path.	1 and 2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Quality score	Value score	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Wishingstone Footpath	166			S	Low quality and value score due to very poor main entrance and personal security mark. Also poor controls to prevent illegal use.	Investigate the potential to enhance quality and/or accessibility provided this will enhance value. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.	2
Derwent Valley Heritage Way (part 4)	303			S	Low quality and value score due to poor pathways. Other entrances and personal security should be improved.	Work in line with the Rights of Way Improvement Plan to enhance quality and/or accessibility.	2
Derwent Valley Heritage Way (part 5)	304			S	Low quality and value score. Pathways, personal security and level of use should all be improved.	Work in line with the Rights of Way Improvement Plan to enhance quality and/or accessibility.	2
Derwent Valley Heritage Way (part 6)	305			S	Low quality and value score due to very poor personal security assessment.	Work in line with the Rights of Way Improvement Plan to enhance quality and/or accessibility.	2
<b>Cemeteries</b>							
St Mary's Church	154			S-M	Site is in a poor condition and underused. DDDC and local Civic Association looking to create community area.	Engage and encourage greater community use. Develop ideas such as a circular historic trail.	1 and 2

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

## SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

### Key issues and deficiencies to be addressed

- ◀ Overplay of sites due to poor pitch quality, for example at Furness Vale Playing Fields, Newshaw Lane Recreation Ground, Pyegrove Playing Fields and Roughfields scored as below average.
- ◀ Many sites, hosting competitive matches, do not provide ancillary facilities. In effect this creates more inadequate sites. There are also some sites that have facilities that are either poor quality or derelict and, therefore, unusable.
- ◀ There is a current shortfall of junior pitches (football and rugby), together with high levels of latent demand expressed for junior provision. The current playing pitch stock should be protected and the anticipated surplus of senior pitches should be considered in the contribution towards addressing the deficit of junior and mini pitches.
- ◀ Undersupply of two cricket pitches in the Peak Sub-region area. However, this does not take account of latent and future demand, so it is likely that this deficiency will increase further. Therefore, current level of stock should be at least maintained across the Sub-region.
- ◀ Demand for better use of school sites and where community use already exists, access to changing facilities, particularly for clubs operating junior sections is an issue.
- ◀ Lack of suitable (ECB standard) indoor cricket practice facilities creates difficulties for clubs.
- ◀ Quality issues with the STP at Buxton Sports College and demand for floodlighting at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School STP.
- ◀ Sport England's Playing Pitch Model is used to assess whether the supply of playing pitches will be sufficient at peak times both now and in the future (up to 2012). A summary of surpluses and deficiencies is shown below:

	<b>Derbyshire Dales INSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>Derbyshire Dales OUTSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>High Peak INSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>Peak National Park ONLY</b>
<b>Football</b>	-8	+4	+1.5	-2.5	+0.5
<b>Rugby</b>	-3	-11	+0.5	-11	-
<b>Cricket</b>	+2.5	+0.2	-0.2	-4.2	-

- ◀ Where deficiencies in provision are identified above (in red), in all instances, this applies to the need for junior pitches to be provided. Where an oversupply of provision is identified above (black), this is not to say that these are surplus to requirement, particularly because these figures are quite low. These pitches should be used as strategic reserve to help sustain pitch quality elsewhere.

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

- Further to this, consultation with users identified latent demand for provision as follows:

	<b>Derbyshire Dales INSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>Derbyshire Dales OUTSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>High Peak INSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>High Peak OUTSIDE the National Park</b>	<b>Peak National Park ONLY</b>
<b>Football</b>	1.5 mini pitch 0.5 junior pitch	0.5 mini pitch 3 junior pitch	-	0.5 senior pitch 5.5 junior pitch 1 mini pitch	-
<b>Rugby</b>	-	1 senior pitch	-	-	-
<b>Cricket</b>	-	1 cricket pitch	-	1 cricket pitch	-

- The Derbyshire County Facilities Strategy identifies that feasibility work should be undertaken in to development of full, purpose-built, track and field facilities in High Peak and athletics training facilities in Derbyshire Dales.
- Several bowling clubs in the Peak Sub-region are becoming increasingly aware of the need to promote junior development of the sport in order to sustain the relatively high demand.
- New Mills, Buxton and Ashbourne tennis clubs are operating over capacity. The provision of floodlights to at least one of the courts at each club would help to address this issue. Consultation reports that the southern end of Derbyshire Dales to have a deficiency in the number of public tennis courts, particularly in Ashbourne, Wirksworth and Parwich areas.
- Consideration should be given to including netball provision (indoor and/or outdoor) at any new leisure development in order to accommodate local competitive netball and enable the facility to be used as a venue for County training, development squads etc.
- One additional badminton court is deemed to be required in Glossop (3 court hall already exists at Glossop Leisure Centre and the quality of Glossop and New Mill Leisure Centres should be improved).
- Identified swimming pool need equates to 25m swimming pool in Chapel-en-le-Frith. Wirksworth Leisure Centre provision does not meet the standard due to its size. New provision in Buxton and Matlock will go some way towards addressing quantitative and qualitative deficiencies.
- A total of 90 additional fitness stations are required in Glossop, Whaley Bridge and Matlock combined. New provision as part of CALC will meet the identified deficiency in Matlock. New provision in Buxton will also include c60 health and fitness stations.
- Increasing access (through additional public/community transport and mobile equipment) to leisure provision to encourage greater usage and meet identified minor gaps in provision in the rural areas/settlements.

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

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## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR SPORTS FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

This section sets out objectives for the development of sports facilities in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. It is designed to address the issues raised in the Open Space Assessment Report and subsequent Standards Paper as outlined above.

The following objectives reflect key areas to be addressed over the lifetime of the Strategy, recognising both the variety of ownership of sports facilities across the area, including local authorities, parish councils and clubs. Implementation of this strategy will be the responsibility of HPBC and DDDC in partnership with local stakeholders. Recommendations must also be considered in the context of financial implications with many being dependent upon the availability of additional resources. Any proposals would also need to meet planning considerations.

The aim of this Strategy is to identify facility needs, as a basis for negotiations with developers and securing developer contributions as part of Section 106 agreements. S106 agreements are likely to significantly contribute to additional funding required for facilities improvements/developments.

### General objectives

- ◀ *To increase participation in sport and active recreation by improving the quality of sports facilities in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales.*

It is vital that local residents, clubs and organisations have access to the best facilities possible, both to sustain current levels of participation, accommodate identified latent and future demand and to stimulate new activity. These facilities must meet the minimum specification requirements set out by governing bodies of sport and/or leagues/competitions as well as (as far as possible) meet the aspirations of sports clubs in the area.

In High Peak and Derbyshire Dales, there are a number of rural sites which are not served by changing facilities. These sites, in effect, can only be considered poor quality. Furthermore, there are also some key sites that have poor quality facilities. The lack of (or poor) quality facilities is not conducive to retaining existing players nor attracting new participants. Consultation suggests that this is one of the primary reasons limiting participation growth, particularly amongst juniors.

It is clear that, across the life of this strategy, not all of those sites currently without access to good quality changing facilities can be upgraded. It is therefore important to prioritise those sites which, by providing/upgrading the changing facilities, will have the greatest impact on the largest number (and variety) of participants. The following sites should therefore be considered short-term priorities:

- ◀ Cote Heath Football Fields.
- ◀ Pyegrove Playing Fields.
- ◀ Hogshaw Football Field.
- ◀ Roughfields.

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## *Overplay on playing pitches*

- ◀ In order improve the overall quality of the playing pitch stock, it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity (Sport England suggests that a good pitch can accommodate two matches per week). This is determined by assessing pitch quality and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this, for example at Furness Vale Playing Fields, Newshaw Lane Recreation Ground, Pyegrove Playing Fields and Roughfields scored as below average and are overplayed due to poor pith quality,
- ◀ *To increase participation in sport and active recreation by ensuring that there are a sufficient number of facilities to meet both current and future demand.*

There is a current shortfall of junior pitches across High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. The current playing pitch stock should be protected. Identified deficiencies should be met through improvements to the current pitch stock and changing some senior pitches to junior pitches. Demand for junior provision should be updated in two years (2011) to further quantify it in terms of provision required.

In addition to expressed latent demand, national changes in sport participation and proposed housing growth should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming an increase occurs, it will obviously impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Sports development work approximates latent demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e., it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to occur. The following table highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Future development trend</b>	<b>Strategy impact</b>
Football	Sustained participation in adult football.	Required investment in the improvement of key sites to maintain capacity.
	Development of Charter Standard clubs. Junior/mini demand will continue to grow. Leagues predicts growth of approximately 10 - 15% next year.	An increase in junior participation, which will increase the need for mini/junior pitches and segregated changing facilities where necessary.
Cricket	Development of Focus (i.e., Clubmark) Clubs and an increase in midweek (junior) matches.	An increase in junior participation, which is not likely to require additional pitches, but will increase the need for segregated changing accommodation.
Rugby union	Emerging school/club links will result in increased junior participation within clubs.	An increase in the demand placed on the current pitch stock.

There is a significant level of latent demand for junior pitches. The Sport England, Playing Pitch Model used in the Assessment highlights an anticipated future surplus of senior football pitches. Whilst these predictions should not used in isolation, they are in line with issues highlighted. However, this type of surplus is important to overall levels of provision in the context of using adult pitches to accommodate junior and

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mini-play as multifunctional pitches. Furthermore surplus pitches allow some to be rested to protect overall pitch quality in the long term.

As a long term priority, HPDC and DDDC should work in partnership with local junior leagues to develop a central venue junior sites to centralise demand for junior pitches and assist clubs, which have difficulty finding suitable sites, and often have to use multiple sites to accommodate all teams.

### ◀ *Maximise community access to all sports facilities in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales.*

It is not uncommon for school sports provision not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established dual use sites, community access to outdoor sports facilities can be limited. The assessment report identified several issues relating to the use of school facilities:

- ◀ Community use is limited and often based on informal agreements between individual schools and clubs.
- ◀ School facilities are, in general, unattractive to community clubs (e.g., because of the lack of ancillary facilities).
- ◀ There are no identified standard community use agreements between clubs and schools.

In the short term, it is recommended that a working group is established in each authority to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased use of school outdoor sports facilities and should incorporate the following representation:

- ◀ Sports development officers.
- ◀ Partnership development manager(s).
- ◀ PE/Education officers.
- ◀ Individual school representative.

Broadly speaking, its role should be to:

- ◀ To better understand current community use, practices and issues by 'auditing' schools.
- ◀ Identify and pilot one school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across each local authority area.
- ◀ Ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured.
- ◀ As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures.
- ◀ Ensure that playing pitch provision at schools meets the needs of the local community and contributes towards overcoming deficiencies in the area.

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- Adopt a strategic management approach to playing pitch facilities in High Peak and Derbyshire Dales to achieve the necessary increase in quality and quantity of provision. This could be based on a tiered approach to the provision of sites in order to prioritise them:

Tier A1 sites	Tier A2 sites	Tier B1 sites	Tier B2 sites	Tier C (education) sites
Strategically placed in the Sub Region context.	Strategically placed in the local and/or Borough context.	Strategically placed in the local context.	Strategically placed in the local context.	Strategically placed in the local context.
Generally accommodates more than five pitches.	Generally accommodates more than four pitches.	Generally accommodates more than two pitches.	Generally single pitch sites.	Generally accommodates more than one pitch.
Generally serves multi-sports.	Generally single sport provision, but must be a dedicated junior/mini site.	Generally single sport provision.	Generally single sport provision.	Formal school use agreement in place or being worked towards.
Provides a high standard of pitch provision and pitches can usually accommodate up to 4 matches per week.	Provides a high standard of pitch provision and pitches can usually accommodate up to 4 matches per week.	Provides a good standard of pitch provision and pitches can accommodate up to 3 matches per week.	Provides a good standard of pitch provision and pitches can accommodate up to 3 matches per week.	Provides a good standard of pitch provision and pitches can accommodate 2 matches per week.
Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing rooms to serve the number of pitches.	Adequate changing to accommodate both senior and junior teams concurrently.	Maintenance can be either by the club or remain with the local authority.	-	Capital receipt will be ring-fenced and re-invested to improve local sports facilities.

### Football

- The aspiration for football is to work towards meeting identified deficiencies in junior provision and increase the quality and standard of changing rooms.
- The current playing pitch stock should be protected and the anticipated surplus of senior pitches should be considered in the contribution towards addressing the current and future deficit of junior and mini pitches.
- Work towards meeting likely future deficiencies in junior pitches by also utilising pitch provision at school sites. Encourage greater usage of primary school sites to cater for mini-soccer demand and ensure site security and access to changing facilities is enhanced.

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- ◀ All sites with two or more pitches should be well drained and have access to appropriate quality changing facilities to cater for junior requirements. As a priority, apply a high level of maintenance to key sites throughout the playing season.
- ◀ Continue to support clubs and parish/town councils in the management and identified improvements to their provision.
- ◀ Investigate potential training facilities to ameliorate pressures on key pitch sites and training facilities, whilst addressing the current deficit.

### Cricket

- ◀ The aspiration for cricket is to maintain current provision levels and quality. However, further pitches may need to be sought in the future to ensure that all clubs have access to a sufficient number of pitches.
- ◀ Continue to support clubs in the management and development of facilities. Where possible, work with landowners and clubs in order to maintain the viability and financial security of sites.
- ◀ As a priority, support the following clubs (in line with ECB priorities) to fully develop their facilities in relation to fine turf projects, machinery and equipment, practice facilities, changing facilities/clubhouses and indoor provision.
  - ◀ Clifton Cricket Club – Non turf project and clubhouse by 2010.
  - ◀ Matlock Cricket Club – Fine turf development and ground machinery by 2009.
  - ◀ Wirksworth Cricket Club – Practice facility by 2011.
  - ◀ New Mills Cricket club – Machinery upgrade by 2011.
- ◀ Support existing clubs to maintain and develop their ancillary facilities to cater for junior and girls/women's cricket.
- ◀ In the long term, support Buxton CC and Matlock CC to seek access to a second pitch to satisfy latent demand.
- ◀ Develop two indoor cricket centres of ECB standard (one in High Peak, one in Derbyshire Dales) in order to prioritise access to good quality provision and reduce travel costs for clubs. Investigate this potential at Chapel Leisure Centre in High Peak and Ashbourne Leisure Centre in Derbyshire Dales.
- ◀ Ensure clubs have access to covers to protect squares to help reduce the issue of drainage due to high levels of rainfall.

### Rugby union

- ◀ The aspiration for rugby is to work towards meeting identified deficiencies and increase quality as required.
- ◀ Work with Bakewell Mannerians RUFC in seeking options to develop an additional senior rugby pitch.
- ◀ Support Ashbourne RUFC to improve the quality and quantity of provision. This should include protection of its pitch from issues around public access and greater enforcement (such as on the spot fines and potential convictions) in relation to litter and dog fouling.

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- ◀ The current playing pitch stock should be protected and any surplus of senior pitches should be considered in the contribution towards addressing the current and future deficit of junior and mini pitches.
- ◀ Encourage and support development of junior girls' and women's' rugby. In particular, support clubs to extend changing room provision in order to fully cater for juniors and girls/women's teams.
- ◀ 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation (3G) turf pitches for football and rugby should be supported in accordance with the Regional Sports Strategy.

### Hockey

- ◀ The aspiration for hockey is to maintain current levels of provision as minimum but as a priority, increase accessibility to ensure community use is maximised to meet identified need.
- ◀ Further assess the need and scope for an additional All Weather Pitch at Anthony Gell School to meet demand for hockey.
- ◀ Ensure demand expressed by Matlock Baileans for a veterans and junior section are met by increasing peak time access to provision in the Matlock area.
- ◀ Ensure that school provision is able to offer appropriate access to changing facilities, particularly for clubs operating junior sections. For example, the changing facilities at Anthony Gell are adequate but are often closed early and cannot be accessed by clubs.
- ◀ Invest in a contingency fund to address likely forthcoming carpet/floodlight replacement at Buxton Sports College STP over the next five years.
- ◀ In partnership with the School, maximise use of the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School STP and work to address identified demand for floodlighting.
- ◀ Consider grant options for smaller clubs to counter balance the inflated hire costs in comparison with local authority/school provision.

### Athletics

- ◀ As a priority, seek to maximise community use of Chapel-en-le-Frith High School track and field facilities.
- ◀ In partnership with Buxton Athletics Club, continue to support and encourage the development of athletics facilities in High Peak.
- ◀ Feasibility work should be undertaken into the development of full, purpose-built, track and field facilities in High Peak and athletics training facilities in Derbyshire Dales.
- ◀ Seek to ensure appropriate exist routes are established to sustain an increase in participation as a result of the Jog Derbyshire scheme.
- ◀ Ensure the development of school/club links continues in both High Peak and Derbyshire Dales with appropriate resources allocated to fund community sports coaches.

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### Tennis

- ◀ Work towards increasing provision of public tennis courts in Derbyshire Dales, particularly in Ashbourne, Wirksworth and Parwich.
- ◀ In general, encourage further casual use of public tennis courts and provide strategic reserve for the current usage levels at private facilities. This should include increasing the quality of provision) where under use is attributed to poor quality (e.g. Memorial Park, Whaley Bridge.
- ◀ Where demand exists, support tennis clubs to improve court quality and/or install floodlighting (in order to increase the capacity) of existing tennis court provision. New Mills, Buxton and Ashbourne tennis clubs are operating at over capacity and should be priority for support.
- ◀ Continue to support and encourage junior development at key tennis clubs in order to increase participation levels in the sport.

### Bowls

- ◀ Support and encourage junior bowls development in order to sustain future participation levels in the sport.
- ◀ A small number of greens could be lost in the long term if not fully justified by demand and if compensatory provision and/or appropriate improvements to increase capacity are not made on a nearby green.
- ◀ All bowling greens and pavilions to be safe, secure facilities. All to be (where possible) fully accessible for disabled users and spectators.
- ◀ Maximise use of Chapel Park bowling green in order to cater for competitive expressed latent demand. This should include use of current vacant slots on Tuesday, Fridays and at weekends.

### Golf

- ◀ Support Ashbourne Golf Club and Matlock Golf Club in working towards Golfmark/Clubmark accreditation and encourage them to be a partner/focus for junior development to provide pathways for the work in progress through the school sports partnerships.
- ◀ Support clubs to improve facilities and with their development aspirations.
- ◀ All golf courses to be safe and secure facilities, through a continued programme of upgrading and installing perimeter fencing, where appropriate.
- ◀ Consideration to be given to setting up a Peak sub-region golf development group to help tackle some of the issues raised including declining memberships and to further oversee junior development.
- ◀ Work to establish a Junior Starter Centre in Derbyshire Dales.

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## SPORTS FACILITIES ACTION PLAN

### Introduction

The action plan does not identify all quality and value improvements required. Specific details on how this is best achieved can be found in the accompanying study database. Prioritisation of improvements should be led through the annual maintenance planning programme.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

### Justification of sites within the action plan

The action plan details policy options relating to individual sites and the need to enhance and develop new provision. The following criteria have been used to identify priorities and justify the inclusion of sites within the action plan. Just one of the following may apply:

- ◀ The site suffers from access problems in terms of safety, poor signage and/or poor disability provision.
- ◀ A project is currently underway to enhance the existing site and/or funding has been secured.
- ◀ An evaluation of site use is required as it is of poor quality and is reportedly underused.
- ◀ The desired action is small scale, short term and will enhance the quality of current provision, whilst aiding community empowerment.
- ◀ The importance of the site is identified in other strategies.

### Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking site development or enhancement:

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Gaining revenue funding from planning contributions in order to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Gaining planning contributions to assist with the creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease site to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups/parish councils to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.

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## Derbyshire Dales Action Plan

Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>General</b>			
M	To fully utilise developer contributions to secure investment for both new provision and quality improvements.	Produce supplementary planning guidance which adopts locally derived provision standards.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	To make best use of resources and funding opportunities across the Peak Sub Region in order to ensure high quality is achieved for all.	Ensure outdoor sports facilities are managed strategically across the Peak Sub Region and where possible resources and best practise are shared.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	There is an identified need to increase the use of school playing pitch facilities in order to meet current and future demand identified.	Establish a steering group to whose primary objective is to increase use of school playing pitch facilities.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	To have a shared strategic management tool to help prioritise investment and to determine the level of protection given to a site within the planning system.	Adopt a strategic management (i.e., tiered) approach to playing pitch facilities.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	Current indoor cricket net provision is considered to be poor. Nets at school sites are also often unusable for long periods due to exams.	Engage with, and encourage schools to provide cricket nets as a priority. Develop at least one indoor cricket centre in the Borough on a school site.	2
M	Improve accessibility to casual use facilities such as multi use games areas and kick about areas.	Support a new multi use games area for Bradwell.	1 and 3

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Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Football</b>						
Broadwalk Recreation Ground	2		M	The site is currently overplayed by 0.5 matches per week. It is the sole home ground of Darley Dale Juniors FC. Consultation identifies that pitches are of adequate quality. Daley Dale Juniors aspire to upgrade the changing facilities. The pitch drainage is also considered to be poor.	Monitor 'overplay' to ensure pitch quality does not deteriorate further. Work with the Club to improve the quality of the changing facilities and drainage.	2
Fishpond Meadows	9		L	Site is played to capacity. Site assessments score the pitch as average quality (61%).	Monitor play on this site. Any further play will start to impact on quality. Partners should work to increase the pitch quality standard to good.	2
Ashbourne Recreation Ground	8		S	The pitches are good quality and but used to capacity. Consultation rates the quality of changing facilities as in need of improving.	Consider provision at Waterside Park to help football issues. Partners should work with users to increase the quality of the existing changing facilities.	2 and 3
Dimple Playing Fields	10		M	The site is used by Darley Dale United, Duke William FC, Laburnham FC and Matlock Town FC. Although our analysis shows spare capacity, only one pitch can take one more team per week. Consultation suggests this site cannot accommodate any further play.	Monitor pitch capacity and maintain quality of pitch to current standard.	2
Doveridge Playing Fields	27		S	This site has spare capacity to accommodate a further 3.5 matches per week.	Overplay from nearby sites such as Matlock Football Ground where there is significant overplay could potentially be catered for here.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Pavilion Playing Field	28		M	The site is played to capacity.	Monitor pitch capacity and maintain quality of pitch at current standard.	2
Matlock Football Ground	31		S	The site has significant overplay of four matches per week.	Consider transferring some of the teams to sites where there is spare capacity, for example Doveridge Playing Fields.	2 and 3
Cromford Meadows	40		M	The site is used by Cromford FC, Cromford Greyhounds FC and Cromford Veterans FC. Assessments score the pitch as good quality and due to its popularity is overplayed by 0.5 matches per week.	Monitor overplay to ensure pitch quality does not deteriorate. Continue to maintain to current standard.	2
Osmaston Polo Ground	41		M	There is overplay a small amount of overplay recorded at the site.	Ensure pitch quality can withstand current levels of play.	2
Wirksworth Memorial Grounds	45		L	There is demand for better quality changing provision. The pitch is owned by Wirksworth Memorial Ground Trustees.	Work with and encourage Wirksworth Memorial Ground Trustees to seek funding to increase the quality and standard of changing rooms.	2 and 3
Anthony Gell School	52		S	There is significant spare capacity that could cater for identified overplay/demand from elsewhere.	Encourage greater community usage of pitches to cater for current and future junior demand and ensure access to changing facilities is secured.	2
Cavendish Fields Sports Association	146		M	There is significant spare capacity that could cater for identified overplay/demand from elsewhere.	Partners should consider the designation of senior pitches to junior pitches. This would contribute towards the deficit of junior and mini pitches in the area. Darley Dale FC is looking to access additional pitches which could potentially be accommodated here.	2
Whitworth Park	156		M	This site is currently used by Daley Dale Lions FC and is underused.	As a single pitch site consider improving drainage to encourage greater use.	2
HM Prison Sudbury	170		L	The site has restricted use and is therefore under used. Good quality pitch.	Maintain current pitch quality. Investigate the potential for additional community use in the future.	2

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Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Nottingham Road	171		L	This site is used to capacity by Tansley Juniors FC. Site assessments score the pitch as adequate quality (56%).	Monitor play at the site to ensure pitch quality does not deteriorate further. Increase the pitch quality which in return will increase pitch capacity.	2
Shirley Sports & Social Club	194		M	Although there is space capacity at this site, play is kept to a minimum to protect quality. Site assessments score the pitches as good quality.	Continue to maintain pitch to current quality and work to increase use.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Cricket</b>					
Ashbourne Recreation Ground	8	L	Site assessments score the pitch as good quality (77%).	Continue to maintain pitch to current quality. Support any improvements to Memorial Pavilion by Ashbourne Cricket Club and Ashbourne Rugby Club.	2
Brailsford & Ednaston Cricket Club	145	M	The Club has a facility plan for a ground extension to provide more pitches. This also includes the provision or refurbishment of the pavilion and changing facilities.	Partners should work with the Club to identify possible sources of funding to deliver the projects highlighted.	2 and 3
Clifton Cricket Ground	44	M	The Derbyshire County Facility Strategy (2008 – 2013) reports the Club has plans for non turf project and clubhouse by 2010.	Partners should work with the Club to identify possible sources of funding to deliver the projects highlighted.	2 and 3
Cromford Meadows	40	M	Cromford Meadows Cricket Club has plans to install cricket nets and renovate the pavilion. Consultation reports there is demand for access to covers to protect the square.	Support the Club to deliver highlighted projects. This may include identifying possible sources of funding to deliver them.	2
Darley Dale Cricket Ground	11	L	Site assessments score the cricket pitch as good quality (80%).	Continue to maintain pitch to current quality.	2
Matlock Football & Cricket Club Ground	31	M	The Club is seeking access to a second pitch to satisfy latent demand. Its current site does not have any capacity to accommodate any additional growth in teams. Club has plans to develop its fine turf pitch and ground machinery (in line with ECB priorities).	Work with the Club to identify possible sites for a second pitch. Partners should support the Club to identify possible sources of funding to deliver the highlighted projects.	2
Osmaston Polo Ground	41	L	The site accommodates two football and one cricket pitch. The cricket pitch rates as good quality.	Continue to maintain cricket pitch to current quality.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Shirley Sports & Social Club	194	L	The ground is used by Brailsford & Ednaston Cricket Club to accommodate its 3 <sup>rd</sup> senior team. No segregated changing facilities or ancillary facilities (such as an umpires' room).	Partners should work with site owners (Shirley Sports & Social Club) and Brailsford & Ednaston Cricket Club to discuss the potential of providing segregated changing facilities and ancillary facilities.	2
Sudbury Sports Field	29	M	Site assessments score the cricket pitch as average quality (61%).	Partners should improve the pitch quality standard to good and look to improve pavilion.	2
Wirksworth Cricket Club	150	S	The Derbyshire County Facility Strategy (2008 – 2013) identifies the need for a practice facility on site.	Support the Club to deliver projects highlighted by 2011 (as agreed in the DCFS).	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Rugby union</b>						
Bakewell Mannerians RUFC	87		L	Site overplayed. Identified demand for access to additional pitches.	Work with the Club in seeking options to develop access to new facilities.	2 and 3
Ashbourne Recreation Ground	8		M	KKP site assessments score the pitch as good quality (84%). Ashbourne RUFC reports demand for better storage facilities and better changing facilities. The pitches are significantly overplayed by 4.5 matches per week. Litter and dog fouling is an issue at the site.	Support the Club to deliver highlighted projects. Either, transfer junior play to another site or consider rearranging the pitches to accommodate additional pitches. For example, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School has the capacity to accommodate further play. Greater enforcement in relation to litter and dog fouling (such as on the sport fines and potential convictions) is required.	2 and 3
Cromford Meadows	40		M	The site is overplayed by 2.5 matches per week. Matlock RUFC uses the site as its home ground. It has access to three senior pitches and a training area.	Reduce play on the pitches and consider relocating some junior teams elsewhere. Queen Elizabeth School has the capacity to accommodate further play. However, travel distance may make this inconvenient.	2
Queen Elizabeth Grammar School	54		S	The site houses three senior rugby pitches. Site assessments identify one pitch is not in use. The site is used by Ashbourne RUFC to accommodate some of its junior fixtures.	Continue to provide access for community use. The pitches have the capacity to accommodate further play (10 matches). Overplay from pitches in the surrounding area should be transferred to this site to help alleviate overplay. Consider converting the unused pitch into a junior pitch. This could help towards addressing the current deficit of junior and mini pitches.	2

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Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved		Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Bowls</b>						
Matlock Bath Bowls Club	188	M	The site is leased to the Club from the Parish Council on a short term lease, which has plans for the provision of a new clubhouse. Reported issue with leaves, litter and dog fouling.		Support the Club's facility developments, and ensure a long term lease is secured on the site to enable funding to be sought. Investigate fencing of the green to help reduce issues with leaves, litter and dog fouling.	2 and 4
Matlock Hall Leys Park	192	S	Home ground to Matlock Park Bowling Club. Club plans to reduce the cost of subscription and green fees to attract more members.		Support the Club with the subscription cost reduction and identify possible methods of attracting new members. Consider future self-management of the green to the Club.	2 and 4
Sudbury Bowling Club	186	M	The Club is in the process of securing a 15 year lease in order to access funding for a clubhouse facility.		Support the Club to obtain a long term lease. Help to identify any sources of funding for the provision of a new clubhouse facility.	2 and 4
Wirksworth Memorial Grounds	45	S	Quality of the bowling green is improving.		Partners should monitor the green quality and provide additional maintenance as and when required.	2 and 4
Ashbourne Park Bowls Club	-	M	Needs new pavilion to replace existing or significant repairs, as well as improvements on disabled access, membership and marketing.		Work with the Club to support funding applications for ancillary facility development and provide advice on club development.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Tennis</b>					
Ashbourne Recreation Ground	8	M	Ashbourne Tennis Club is operating above its current court capacity.	Seek opportunities to increase court capacity. Consider the provision of floodlights to at least one of the courts to address this issue.	2 and 4
Cavendish Fields Sports Association	146	L	Below average court quality.	In the long term, improve court quality by refurbishing the surface.	2 and 4
Doveridge Playing Fields	27	S	Some spare capacity for further casual use of courts.	Increase awareness of provision locally and further promote availability in order to meet perceived deficiencies.	2
Highfields School	57	M	Darley Dale Tennis Club uses this site for training and matches and although the courts are floodlit, the Club does not make regular use of the courts in the evenings.	Encourage the School and club to develop a formal school-club link offering extracurricular activities. Work to create a mini tennis accredited centre.	2
Matlock Hall Leys Park	192	L	The location of the skatepark next to the tennis courts is not ideal to deliver tennis coaching. The absence of changing provision at the site also limits tennis development.	Maintain current tennis provision for casual use and utilise Highfields School and Ashbourne Recreation Ground for tennis coaching.	2
<b>Indoor sports facilities</b>					
Highfields School	57	L	Demand identified by DDC for indoor provision.	Assess feasibility of increasing indoor provision available at the school.	2

# HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

## High Peak Action Plan

Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>General</b>			
M	To fully utilise developer contributions to secure investment for both new provision and quality improvements.	Produce supplementary planning guidance which adopts locally derived provision standards.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	To make best use of resources and funding opportunities across the Peak Sub Region in order to ensure high quality is achieved for all.	Ensure outdoor sports facilities are managed strategically across the Peak Sub Region and where possible resources and best practise are shared.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	There is an identified need to increase the use of school playing pitch facilities in order to meet current and future demand identified.	Establish a steering group to whose primary objective is to increase use of school playing pitch facilities.	1, 2, 3 and 4
S	To have a shared strategic management tool to help prioritise investment and to determine the level of protection given to a site within the planning system.	Adopt a strategic management (i.e., tired) approach to playing pitch facilities.	1, 2, 3 and 4
M	Current indoor cricket net provision is considered to be poor. Nets at school sites are also often unusable for long periods due to exams.	Engage with, and encourage schools to provide cricket nets as a priority. Develop at least one indoor cricket centre in the Borough on a school site.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Football</b>						
New Mills AFC	96		S	There is spare capacity at this site, although play is kept to a minimum to protect quality.	Partners should investigate whether the pitch can accommodate additional play without impacting on pitch quality.	2
Buxton FC	103		L	The pitch is assessed as good quality. The grounds are enclosed with access to spectator stands and floodlights. Buxton JFC use the site to accommodate some its junior teams.	Maintain current pitch quality and continue to support the Club by providing access to pitches.	2
Dove Holes Community Association	104		L	The site is leased to Dronfield Town FC and Dove Holes FC. The pitch is assessed as good quality with access to floodlights and dugouts.	Maintain current pitch quality and continue to support the clubs using the site.	2
Glossopdale Community School Playing Field	106		M	The site has spare capacity to accommodate an additional 3.0 matches per week.	Encourage further community use of this site in order to accommodate any current or future demand in the area.	2
Memorial Park (Whaley Bridge)	107		M	The site is overplayed by 0.5 matches per week. Whaley Bridge Town Council is responsible for the management and letting of the pavilion.	Consider leasing the pitch (for at least 21 years) to Whaley Bridge FC to enable the Club to apply for funding to improve the site.	2 and 3
Cote Heath Recreation Ground	109		M	The site is used by Athletic Rag and Blazing Rag football clubs. The site has spare capacity to accommodate an additional 3.0 matches per week.	Site has the potential to accommodate more matches from sites where there is overplay for example, Newshaw Lane Recreation Ground. Reduce levels of vandalism on site. Improve the quality of changing facilities.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Furness Vale Playing Fields	110		S	The site is owned by HPBC but the users Furness Vale FC report carrying out maintenance works including fixing broken drains under the pitch. Site assessments score the pitch as below average.	Consider leasing the pitch (for at least 21 years) to the Club to enable it to apply for funding to further improve the site.	2 and 3
Newshaw Lane Recreation Ground	111		M	Clubs report a lack of maintenance on the site. Pitches are overplayed by 2.0 matches per week. Assessments score the pitch as below average.	Improve the pitch quality for example evenness of pitch and length of grass. In the short term, reduce overplay at the site and transfer to sites with the capacity accommodate more matches for example, Cote Heath Recreation Ground.	2
Pyegrove Playing Field	112		S	Five teams use the site including Commercial Old Glossop. The line markings are of poor quality. Site assessments score the pitches below average.	Work to provide changing facilities at this site should be a priority. Consult with users (i.e., clubs) to improve overall quality of the site in particular the line markings.	2
West Drive Playing Fields	113		M	The site has capacity to accommodate additional 2.0 matches per week but there are issues with drainage inhibiting further play. Tintwistle Villa has a current lease on one of the pitches.	Work with users to improve pitch drainage in order to allow further use of the site.	2
Memorial Park	114		L	The site scored as average quality and is played to capacity.	Monitor pitch capacity. Increase pitch standard to good as required to meet additional demand.	2
Glossop FC	119		L	Site assessments score the pitch as good quality. This is a semi professional club ground with a clubhouse, small spectator stands, perimeter fence, dugouts and floodlights.	Continue to support the Club as and when required.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Buxworth Playing Fields	120		S	Site assessments score the pitch as poor quality. It is overplayed by 1.5 matches per week.	Alleviate overplay and direct some play to sites with spare capacity for example, Peak Dale Playing Fields.	2
Peak Dale Playing Fields	121		S	The site has the capacity to accommodate 1.0 matches per week.	Accommodate capacity from overplayed sites for example, Buxworth Playing Fields.	2
Chapel-en-le-Frith FC	122		L	The pitch has spare capacity to accommodate a further 1.0 match per week.	Spare capacity exists to accommodate future demand that may be expressed at the Club.	2
Newtown Playing Field	135		L	There is an overplay of 2.5 matches per week due to poor quality.	In the short term, alleviate some of the overplay and transfer teams to sites with spare capacity such as Buxton Junior School. Work towards improving pitch quality in the long term.	2
High Lea Park	136		L	The pitch is played to capacity.	Monitor pitch use to ensure that pitch capacity is not exceeded.	2
Chapel Leisure Centre	139		M	The site is managed by Parkwood Leisure and is part of a dual use facility with Chapel High School. Clubs report the pitch to be of average quality.	Increase the pitch quality to good in order to reduce overplay.	2
Roughfields	141		M	Site assessments score the pitch as poor quality.	Partners should work to improve the pitch quality.	2
Western Lane	143		L	Site assessments note that the changing appears derelict. The pitches scored as below average quality.	Work to bring back into use/upgrade the changing facilities. Improve pitch quality in order to reduce overplay.	2
Bakehurst Recreation Ground	153		M	Site assessments score the pitches as below quality due to presence of litter/dog fouling. It is also overplayed by 0.5 matches per week.	Take steps to reduce dog fouling/litter and increase quality of pitch.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Buxton Junior School	155		S	The school has spare capacity to accommodate a further 1.5 matches per week.	Support the School and Buxton Junior Club in its current Football Foundation bid.	2 and 3
Churchfold	157		S	Charlesworth and Chisworth FC have long tenure on the pitches till 2020. It reports it would like the help of HPBC to assist in maintaining the grounds correctly.	Partners should consult and support the Club with the maintenance regime on site.	2
Gamesley Community Primary	159		S	The pitches have the capacity to accommodate a further 0.5 matches per week.	Consider the transfer of overplay from sites such as Bakehurst Recreation Ground (i.e., 153) to this site.	2
University of Derby Buxton Sports Centre	160		M	The site is overplayed by 0.5 matches per week. A number of teams use the site including University of Derby, Harpur Hill FC (Saturday), UD College Buxton FDC.	Work with the University so that they continue to provide community use of the pitches. Investigate the potential of developing changing facilities near to the pitches.	2
Haslin Road	161		M	The site is used by Harpur Hill FC and is used to capacity.	Monitor pitch use to ensure it does not exceed capacity.	2
Manor Park	190		M	The site is used to capacity.	Monitor pitch capacity as any additional play will impact on pitch quality.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Capacity rating	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Rugby</b>						
Glossop RUFC	101		S	The pitches are overplayed by 5 matches per week. Site assessments score pitches as good quality (84%).	Junior play should be redirected to other sites. For example, pitches at Chapel Leisure Centre have the capacity to accommodate further play.	2
Chapel Leisure Centre	139		S	There is currently no community use of the rugby pitches and no apparent demand from local clubs. The site houses one senior rugby pitch.	Consult with the Leisure Centre about accommodating overplay from other sites at the Centre. For example, overplay at Glossop RUFC. Provision of juniors pitches would be beneficial.	2
Buxton RUFC	185		M	The site is owned by Buxton RUFC. It has three senior pitches which are also used by the club for training. Consultation reports drainage problems on site.	Continue to support the Club to improve pitch drainage.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Cricket</b>					
Ashwood Park (Buxton Cricket Club)	89	M	The Club identifies latent demand for one pitch to accommodate additional senior teams. Site assessments score the pitch as good quality (80%).	Support the Club to identify a site to accommodate latent demand. Continue to maintain pitch to good standard.	2
Birch Vale Cricket Club	92	L	Site assessments score the pitch as good quality (74%).	Continue to maintain pitch to a good standard.	2
Buxworth Cricket Club	178	S	Club has plans to install artificial cricket nets at the site. No car parking available on site.	Support the Club to identify possible sources of funding to install nets. Consider the layout of the site to identify if car parking can be accommodated.	2
Chapel-en-le-frith Cricket Club	123	S	Identified as a priority club by Derbyshire Cricket Board in terms of needing facility improvements.	Work with the Club to identify possible sources of funding for facility improvements.	2 and 3
Charlesworth & Chisworth Cricket Club	126	M	Club has plans to improve storage facilities to complement new pavilion. Insufficient car parking to accommodate users of site. Quality of square would be improved by using covers.	Support the Club to achieve highlighted projects. Consider the layout of the site to identify if car parking spaces can be increased.	2
Dinting Cricket Club	129	M	The pitch is regarded as high quality. Club is seeking to improve facilities such as storage and practice area. Consultation identifies that the Club has plans to establish school-club links. Fungal growth reported on the wicket.	Support the Club to achieve ground developments as highlighted. Work with the Schools Sports Partnership to develop a school-club link.	2
Dove Holes Community Association	104	L	The Club has improved the ground through erection of a pavilion and installation of net facilities. Good quality pitch and facilities.	Continue to support the Club to maintain the pitch and facilities to a high standard.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
Glossop Cricket Club	118	S	Identified as a priority club by Derbyshire Cricket Board in terms of facility improvements.	Work with the Club to identify possible sources of funding for facility improvements.	2 and 3
Hadfield St Andrews Cricket Club	128	M	The Club has plans in place to address poor drainage.	Support the Club in seeking funding to improve pitch drainage.	2
New Mills Cricket Club	97	S	The Derbyshire County Facility Strategy (2008 – 2013) identifies the need for a practice facility on site as a priority.	Partners should work with the Club to deliver the projects highlighted.	2
Old Glossop Cricket Club	116	S	Vandalism and dog fouling are issues reported by the Club.	Provide support to the Club to increase security measures and reduce vandalism.	2

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Bowls</b>					
Ashwood Park	89	M	Consultation identifies demand for new fencing and an equipment store on site.	Work with the Club to further investigate the need for fencing and storage and identify funding sources.	2 and 4
Burbage Bowling Club	187	L	Site assessments score the green as excellent quality.	Continue to maintain to/sustain current standard.	2 and 4
Cote Heath Recreation Ground	109	S	Cote Heath Bowling Club has a ten year lease on the site. It has identified a number of facility improvements included planting trees to improve security, relocating the main access path (to avoid clash with nearby skatepark users).	Support the Club to achieve its facility improvement aspirations. Consult with users of the park and investigate the potential of relocating the path.	2 and 4
Furness Vale Bowling Green	189	S	Consultation suggests car parking is limited at peak times.	Investigate the layout of the site to identify if car parking spaces can be increased.	2 and 4
Gamesley Bowling Club	176	L	Site assessments score the green as good quality.	Continue to maintain/sustain green quality.	2 and 4
Glossop Cricket Club	118	M	Green is rated as good quality after recent maintenance work. Club has plans to erect a shelter on the far side of the green and additional seating.	Continue to maintain green quality and support club where possible to further develop the site.	2 and 4
Manor Park	190	S	The green offers opportunities for pay and play in the presence of a club member.	Further develop pay and play, including the development of junior bowls.	2 and 4
Memorial Park	114	S	Poor drainage resulted in matches being cancelled last season.	Work with the Club and improve drainage on the green.	2 and 4
New Mills Cricket Club	97	M	Site assessments score the green as good quality but site car parking is limited at peak times.	Partners should investigate the site layout to identify if the number of spaces can be increased.	2 and 4
Whalley Bridge Bowling Club	177	L	Site assessments rate the quality of the bowling green and club facilities as excellent.	Continue to provide a good quality green and facilities.	2 and 4

## HIGH PEAK & DERBYSHIRE DALES OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STRATEGY

Site	KKP Ref	Time-scale	Issue to be resolved	Recommended actions	Strategic objective met
<b>Tennis</b>					
Glossopdale Community School	133	L	The School offers no formal community use of its three courts but they are reportedly available for general pay and play opportunities out of school hours. However, the School reports that its courts are underused because of a lack of floodlighting.	If demand arises in the area for new provision, firstly consider the opportunity of developing formal use of the School courts and the need for floodlighting to further increase capacity.	2
Manor Park	190	M	There is a recognised need to ensure the financial sustainability of the park by providing income based activities.	Consider upgrading current tennis courts to MUGA surface for multi sport use on a chargeable basis.	2 and 4
New Mills Tennis Club	97	M	The Club suggests that an additional 25 members would be attracted as a result of the provision of floodlighting.	Consider installing floodlights to one court in order to increase capacity.	2 and 4
Pyegrove Tennis Club	175	S	The Club is keen to further develop junior participation but requires access to additional courts/facilities to fully sustain junior use.	Encourage the Club to seek LTA affiliation in order to provide support and opportunities in developing junior use.	2 and 4