

people living or working in the area; or

(b) it would not comply with the conditions of Policy LR5.

Reasons for the Policy

Small open spaces can make an important contribution to people's recreational needs, especially in parts of the City where there is little other open space and where people are unable to walk easily to a park. This is particularly true in Inner-City areas where such sites may also be the only areas of wildlife interest.

Some small open spaces (e.g. bowling greens) are very well used by local people and perform a valuable social function. It is often difficult to replace such well established high quality facilities elsewhere.

Workers want outdoor places where they can relax, play sport or eat their meals. However, there is frequently a lack of recreation space in areas where people work. This is particularly true of Industry and Business Areas and the City Centre. It is therefore important that any areas which do exist are protected from development.

Some small open spaces form an important part of the natural and urban heritage of the City. Others form vital links in the Green Network (see Policy GE10, page 98). They need similar protection to that given to the larger areas.

How it will be put into practice

By:

Deciding planning applications.

Monitoring the creation and loss of open space.

Providing appropriate advice to developers, which could include supplementary planning guidance or planning briefs. Consulting local residents and voluntary groups.

LR9 CEMETERIES, GRAVEYARDS AND CREMATORIA

Redundant cemeteries, graveyards and crematoria will be retained as open space.

Redevelopment of redundant cemeteries, graveyards and crematoria will be permitted only if it would:

- (a) not prevent public access for grieving and paying respects; and
- (b) enhance public use and appreciation of the grounds; and
- (c) comply with Policy LR5.

Reasons for the Policy

Cemeteries, graveyards and crematoria should have a pleasant and peaceful environment where people can grieve and pay respects.

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than 0.4 hectares. For the definition of 'open space', see Policy LR4, page 224.'

"Recreation space" as for Policy LR7, Table 1, page 229.

'Serves a Housing Area' - usually within or immediately adjoining a Housing Area.

'Minimum guideline', 'Easy access', 'Community Park' - as for Policy LR7, Table 1, page 229.

Other information

For open space and leisure uses in Industry and Business Areas, see Policy IB13, page 138. For protection of open space from built development, see also Policies LR5 to LR7, above.

For provision of open space in new housing developments, see Policy H16, page 164.

Definition 'Open Space' - as for Policy LR4, page 224.

Other information For Policy LR5, see page 226. For Listed or other historic buildings, see Policies BE19 and BE20, pages 82-83.

Definitions

'Open Spaces' - as for Policy LR4, page 224. The Policy relates to Open Space Areas (as shown on the Proposals Map), Local Open Spaces (see Policy LR8, page 231) and open spaces in the Green Belt.

'Public Open Spaces' - areas to which the ► The Crematorium and garden of rest has the appearance of a public park and older cemeteries and graveyards also provide valuable open space in the built-up area.

Older cemeteries often have important habitats for animals and plants and some contain buildings of architectural and historic interest whose setting is worth preserving.

How will it be put into practice

By:

Deciding planning applications.

Keeping those areas in City Council ownership as public open space, if their primary use ceases.

Acquiring redundant private cemeteries and graveyards where appropriate.

Encouraging the appropriate re-use of any redundant buildings.

Carrying out the City Council's legal responsibility for maintenance of Church of England churchyards when they are full.

Consulting local residents and voluntary groups, as appropriate.

IMPROVEMENTS TO OPEN SPACE PROVISION

Some areas of Sheffield have many parks, sports fields and open spaces providing for a wide range of leisure pursuits. Other areas are poorly provided for and many open spaces lack interest or facilities. Some open spaces could be made more attractive for wildlife.

The Policies in this section aim to improve existing open spaces and create new ones where they are needed.

LRI0 IMPROVING OPEN SPACES

As opportunities arise, appropriate improvements will be made to public open spaces, which would:

- (a) serve areas of known poverty; or
- (b) improve access and facilities, especially for people with disabilities or with young children; or
- (c) enhance the personal safety of users; or
- (d) improve their appearance; or
- (e) create or improve wildlife habitats; or
- (f) improve the Green Network; or
- (g) provide a wider range of outdoor recreation

opportunities (including children's playgrounds and sports facilities) in suitable areas.

Similar improvements to privately owned open space will also be encouraged.

Reasons for the Policy

Open spaces are valued for a variety of reasons (see Policy LR4, page 224). However, many would benefit from improvements, particularly where this would increase opportunities for sport, children's play or informal recreation or enhance nature conservation.

Increasingly, there is also a need to provide specialist facilities or to cater for resource-based facilities such as golf, water sports or motor sports.

The scale and extent of improvements will depend largely on the resources which are available to the City Council.

Few open spaces provide for the special needs of disadvantaged groups like elderly people and people with disabilities. Improvements such as toilets and parking facilities for people with disabilities, better paths and seating enhance access and use by these groups of people.

Women in particular, may avoid some open spaces altogether because they feel unsafe. They would benefit from more lighting along public footpaths and better security.

Changes to the landscaping and maintenance of existing open spaces could positively enhance nature conservation and contribute to the Green Network (see Policy GE10, page 98).

How it will be put into practice

By:

Deciding planning applications.

Providing appropriate advice to developers, which could include supplementary planning guidance and planning briefs.

Negotiating with developers and entering into legal agreements to improve open space (see Policy CF5, page 173).

Consulting, and working in partnership with, schools, private clubs and voluntary conservation groups.

Consulting with groups which represent people with disabilities.

Providing a countryside management and open space management service throughout Sheffield. (For information on priority areas, see Putting the Plan into Action, page 302).

Continuing to support the South Yorkshire Forest initiative (see Policy GE14, page 103).

Supporting the development of city farms and other community-managed gardens and open spaces.

Monitoring regularly the provision of parks and open spaces, and the

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public have access and which are maintained or managed with public money. They may be in public or private ownership.

'Areas of known poverty' - as for Policy BE4, page 63.

'Suitable areas' - open spaces other than nature conservation sites, mature woodland, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other sites of archaeological interest, or where it would not damage the character of a historic park or the Green Belt.

Other information

For guidance on outdoor sport in the Green Belt, see Policy GE3, page 91.

For guidance on new leisure uses and facilities, see Policies LR2, page 221, and LR6, page 227. demand for sports pitches, in different parts of the City.

Carrying out the City Council's capital and urban programmes.

Seeking sponsorship from the business community.

Implementing policies and proposals in the Nature Conservation Strategy, as appropriate.

LRII NEW OPEN SPACE

Where land can be made available, new open space will be created where:

- (a) existing provision of recreation space is below the minimum guideline; or
- (b) people do not have easy access to a Community Park, District Park or Area of Natural History Interest; or
- (c) it is needed to extend the Green Network; or
- (d) it is needed as an environmental buffer; or
- (e) it is required to satisfy demands created by new development.

Reasons for the Policy

Some areas of Sheffield have many parks and open spaces providing for a wide range of sport and leisure needs. In other parts of the City, particularly the inner areas, there is a shortage (see Maps 18-20 facing page 230). Many areas have an acute shortage of children's playgrounds. New open space may also be needed to cater for specialist sports and activities.

Everyone in Sheffield should have a Community Park nearby. They are particularly important to people living in inner areas, especially those on low incomes who cannot afford to travel to established parks in the City or open countryside. Map 21 (opposite) shows those parts of Sheffield which need new community parks. People should also have a district park or larger area of informal public open space within a reasonable distance of their homes.

This Policy aims to create new open space where it is most needed. However, it may prove difficult in some areas due to the existing pattern of built development. Under these circumstances opportunities may arise only where built-up areas are redeveloped.

New open space is needed to improve opportunities for cycling, walking and movement of wildlife within the Green Network (see Policy GE10, page 98 and Map 4 facing page 98). Everyone should also be able to live close to an area of wildlife interest.

Some developments, such as heavy industry, need to be separated from sensitive uses, such as housing, or wildlife areas by a buffer of open space

Definitions

'Open space' - as for Policy LR4, page 224. 'Recreation space'. 'minimum guideline' and 'easy access to a Community Park or District Park' - as for Policy LR7. Table 1, page 229.

'Easy access to an Area of Natural History Interest' - within one kilometre of their homes.

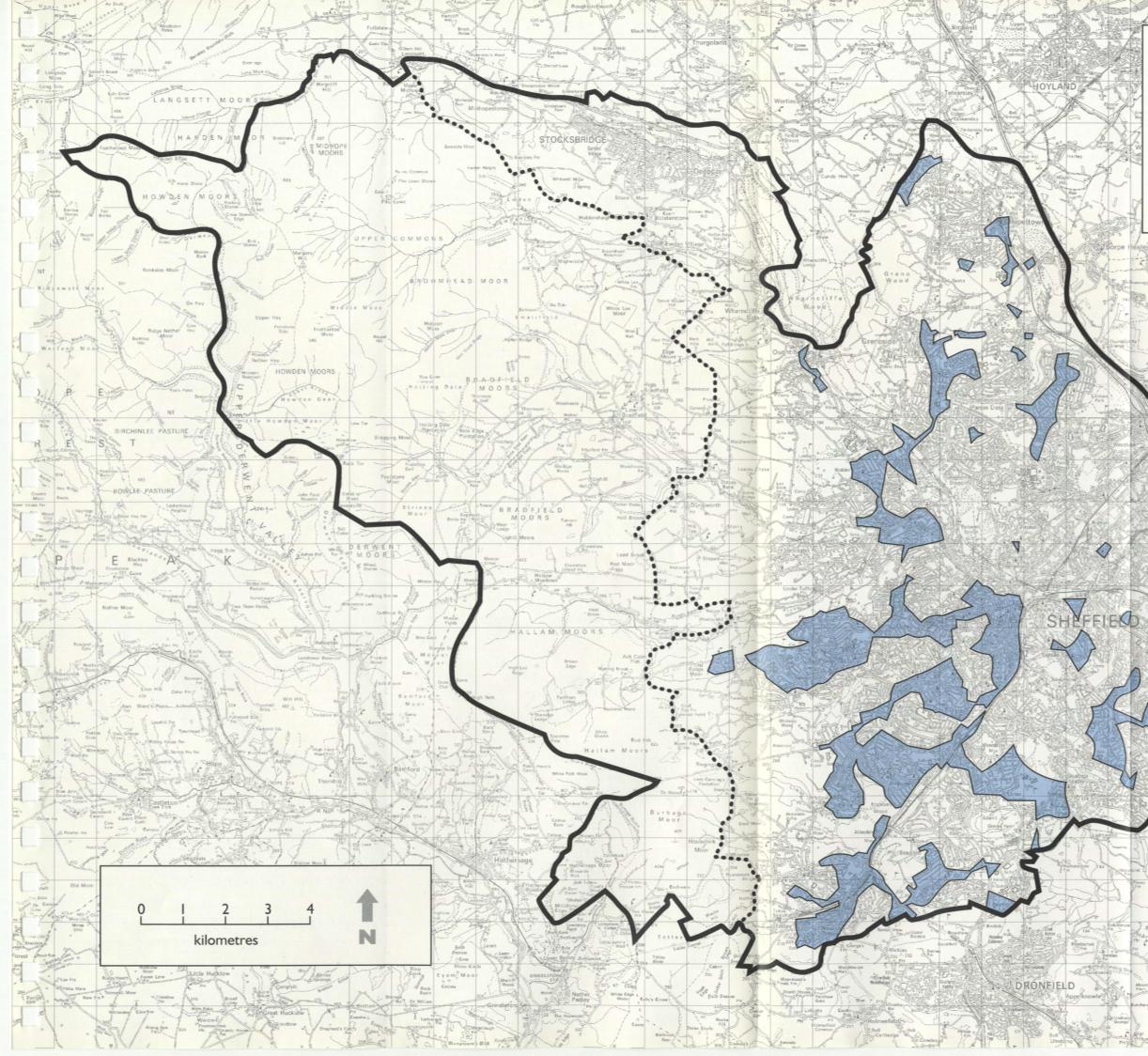
'Green Network' - as in Policy GE10, page 98.

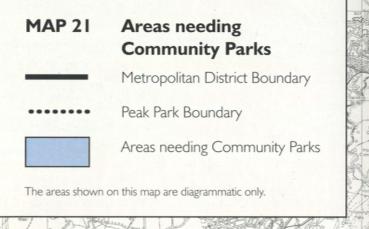
'Environmental buffer' as for Policy IB14, page 139.

Other Information

For more information on provision of recreation space in different parts of the City, see Recreational Open Space in Sheffield, UDP Policy Background Paper No. 11, Department of Land and Planning, Sheffield City Council, 1993.

For more information on access to Areas of Natural History Interest, see the Sheffield Nature Conservation Strategy, Sheffield City Council, 1991.





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which can help to absorb noise and provide screening (see Policy IB15, page 140).

Open space is usually an essential part of the setting and character of new development. Some development, particularly housing, can also create a need for more recreational space (see Policy H16, page 164, and Policy IB13, page 138).

How it will be put into practice

By:

Deciding planning applications.

Negotiating with developers and entering into legal agreements to provide open space where appropriate (see Policy CF5, page 173).

Consulting and working in partnership with local residents, community groups and developers.

Providing appropriate advice to developers in supplementary planning guidance or planning briefs.

Carrying out City Council capital programmes.

Funding projects through schemes like the Single Regeneration Budget and other inner-city programmes.

Monitoring regularly the provision of parks and open spaces and the demand for sports pitches in different parts of the City.

Creating a new District Park at Mosborough, on farmland between Owlthorpe and Mosborough Village.

Creating a major area of informal public open space at Tinsley Park on land restored after opencast coal mining.

Creating a new Community Park in Upper Manor.

Requiring developers to provide new open space as part of new developments.

Continuing to support the South Yorkshire Forest initiative (see Policy GE14, page 103).

Other information

The creation of new open space can result in a loss of agricultural land. For guidance on development which affects agricultural land, see Policy GE7, page 94.

For information on agricultural considerations relating to sport and recreation in the urban fringe and the countryside, see Planning Policy Guidance Note PPG17, Sport and Recreation, Department of the Environment, 1991, paragraphs 32-33 and 35-40.

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