

Sheffield Open Space Assessment



South East Area Profile

Part 2 of 2

(December 2022)

Ecology | Green Space | Community | GIS

Unit 1, Brassmill Lane Enterprise Centre | Bath | BA1 3JN

01225444114 | info@ethosep.co.uk

www.ethosep.co.uk

CONTENTS

1.0	South East Area Profile	3 - 20
1.1	Geographical area and population	
1.2	Overview of the area	
1.3	Existing provision of open space	
1.4	Analysis of existing quantity of open space	
1.5	Analysis of existing access to open space	
1.6	Priority sites for improvement	
1.7	Future requirements for open space	
1.8	Summary of issues and priorities for the area	

1.0 SOUTH EAST AREA PROFILE

1.1 Geographical area and population

The South East study area is shown in figure 1 below. The population within this study area is 89,048 (2020 estimate provided by SCC).

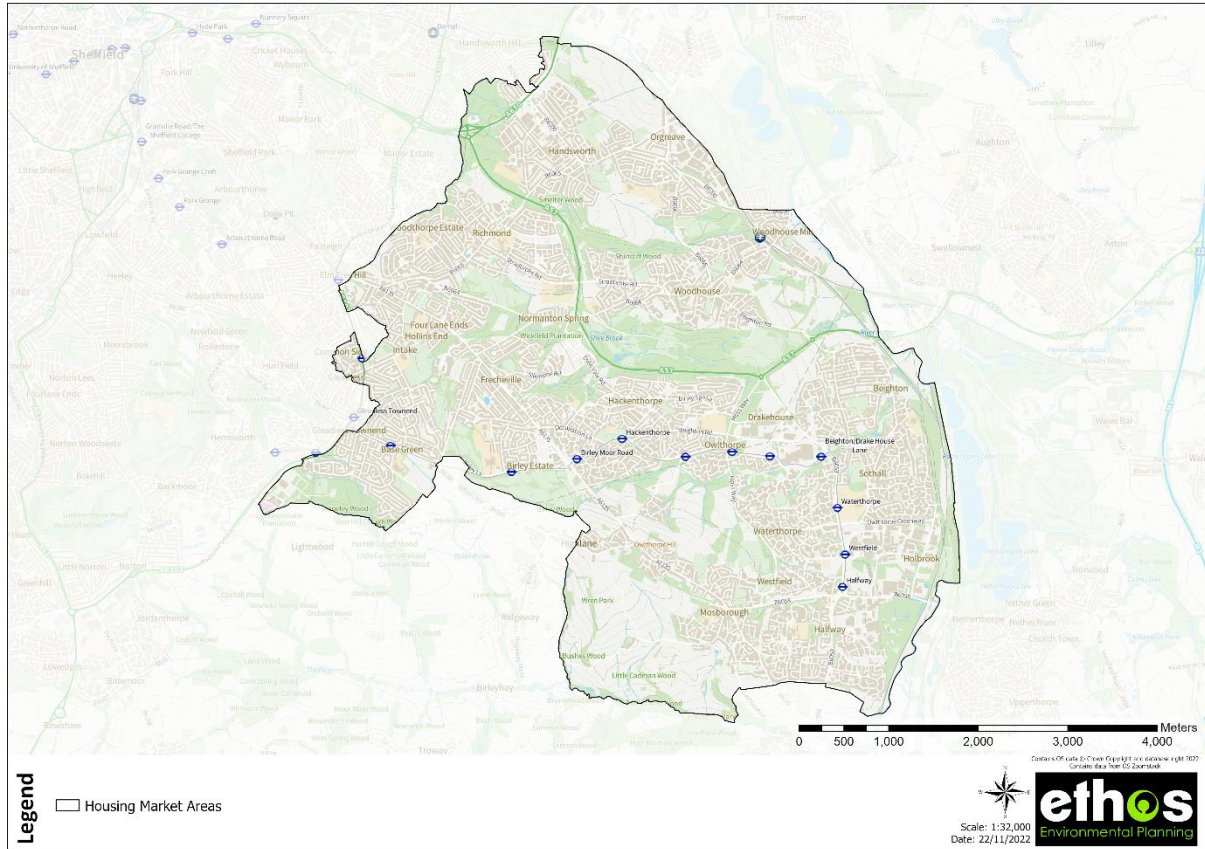


Figure 1 South East study area

1.2 Overview of the area

The South East Housing Market Area (HMA) borders Rotherham to the east and North East Derbyshire to the south and contains a number of large suburbs from different eras. The area has experienced significant expansion since the 1970's centered on the Mosborough Townships. The South East HMA has good transport links to the city centre via the Sheffield Parkway, Supertram 'blue' route and a regular bus service. It is also serviced by a number of district centres and the Crystal Peaks shopping centre.

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Analysis

The Indices of Deprivation 2019 provide a set of relative measures of deprivation for small areas called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) across England, based on seven different domains of deprivation, as explained within section 3.3.3 of the main report (part 1).

Figure 2 below shows the IMD rank for each LSOA within the study area, where 1 is most deprived and 10 is least deprived. As can be seen, levels of deprivation vary across this area, with the northern half generally having higher levels of deprivation.

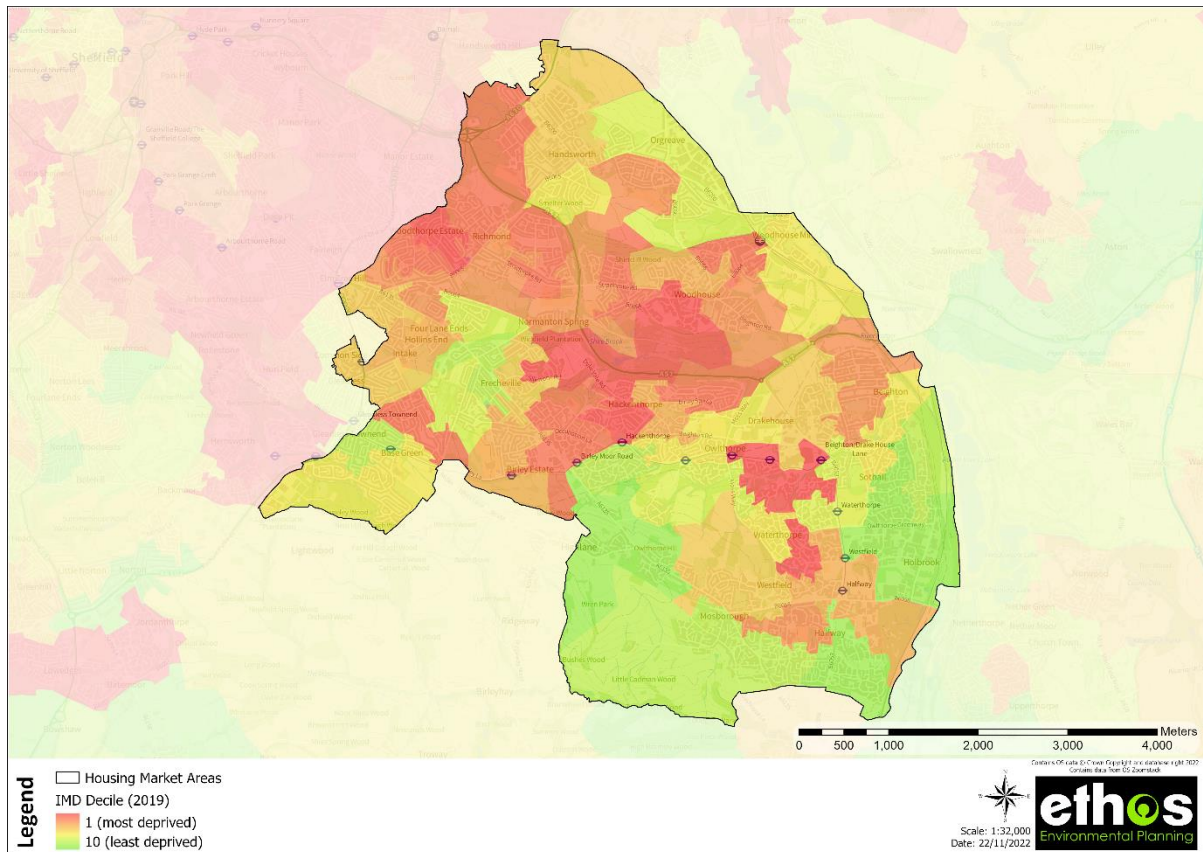


Figure 2 IMD scores by LSOA

1.3 Existing provision open space

Figure 3 shows the existing open spaces within the South East study area.

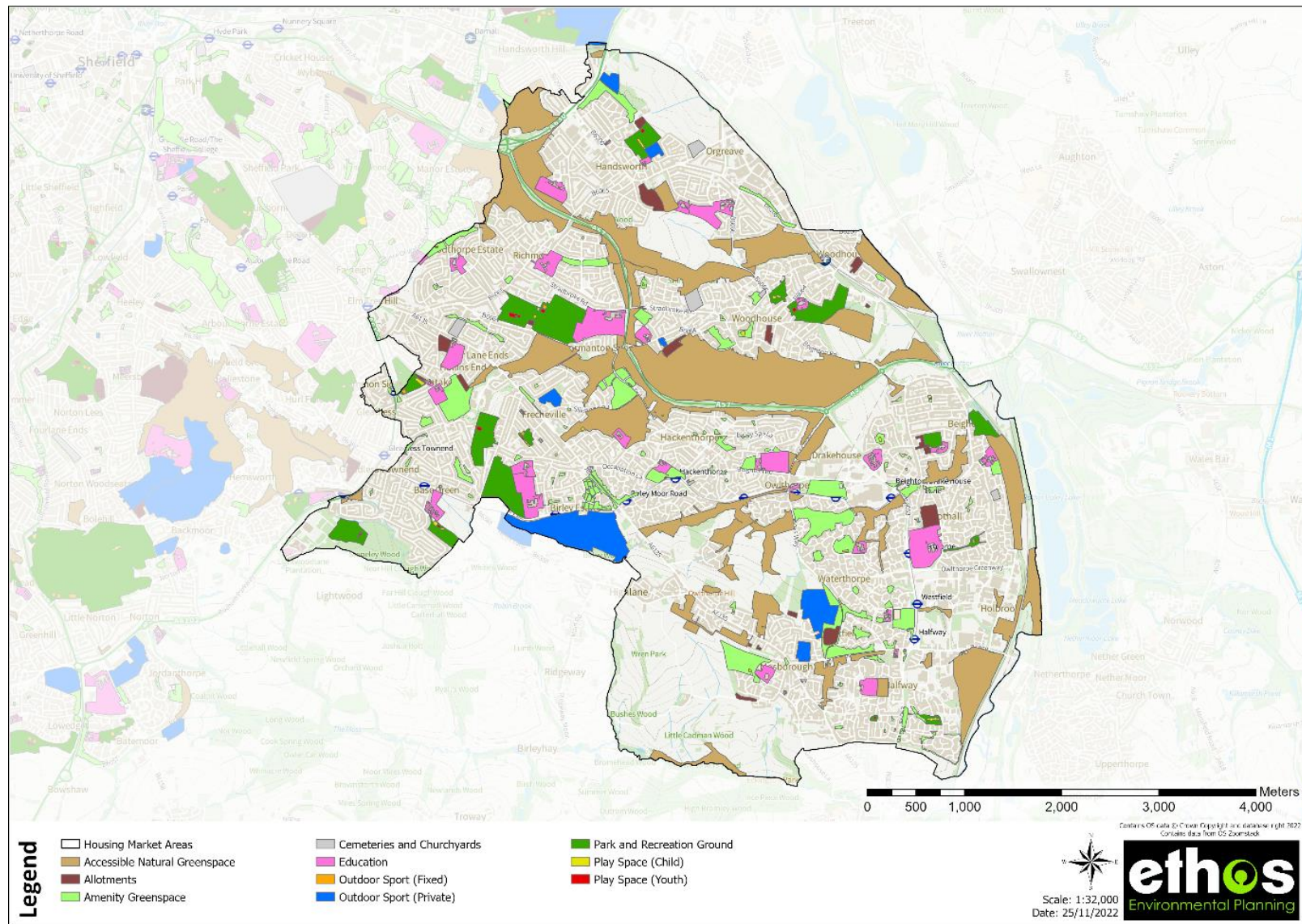


Figure 3 Overview of open space in the South East study area

1.4 Analysis of existing quantity of open space

Table 1 below shows the existing provision of open space within the South East study area.

Table 1 Existing supply of open space across the South East study area

Typology	Existing Provision (Ha)	Existing Provision (Ha/1000)	Required Provision (Ha)	Required Provision (Ha/1000)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)	Overall Supply
Allotments	20.98	0.24	28.50	0.32	-7.52	-0.08	UNDER SUPPLY
Amenity Greenspace	117.17	1.32	53.43	0.6	63.74	0.72	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
Park and Recreation Ground (Combined)	90.38	1.01	106.86	1.2	-16.48	-0.19	UNDER SUPPLY
Park and Recreation Ground	89.88	1.01	0	0	0	0	N/A
Outdoor Sport (Fixed)	0.50	0.01	0	0	0	0	N/A
Play Space (Child)	2.22	0.02	7.12	0.08	-4.90	-0.06	UNDER SUPPLY
Play Space (Youth)	1.47	0.02	7.12	0.08	-5.65	-0.06	UNDER SUPPLY
Accessible Natural Greenspace	496.27	5.57	89.05	1	407.22	4.57	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
Outdoor Sport (Private)	87.06	0.98	0	0	0	0	N/A
Cemeteries and Churchyards	8.41	0.09	0	0	0	0	N/A
Education	55.56	0.62	0	0	0	0	N/A

As can be seen from Table 1, there is an undersupply of allotments, park and recreation grounds, children's play space and youth play space. The **total shortfall is 34.55 ha**.

1.5 Analysis of existing access to open space

This section provides maps showing access to different types of open space across the study area using the Sheffield access standards (as detailed in section 6.0 of the main report). A summary of key access issues is also provided.

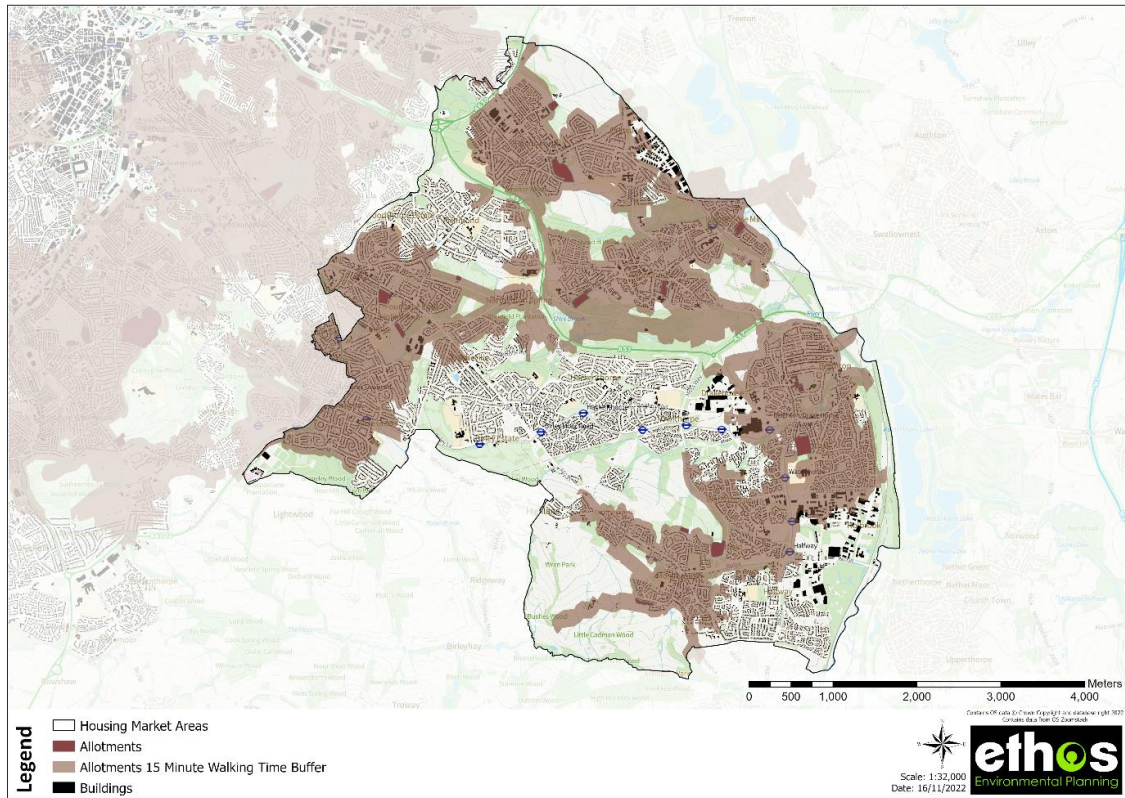


Figure 4 Access to Allotments (720 metre buffer)

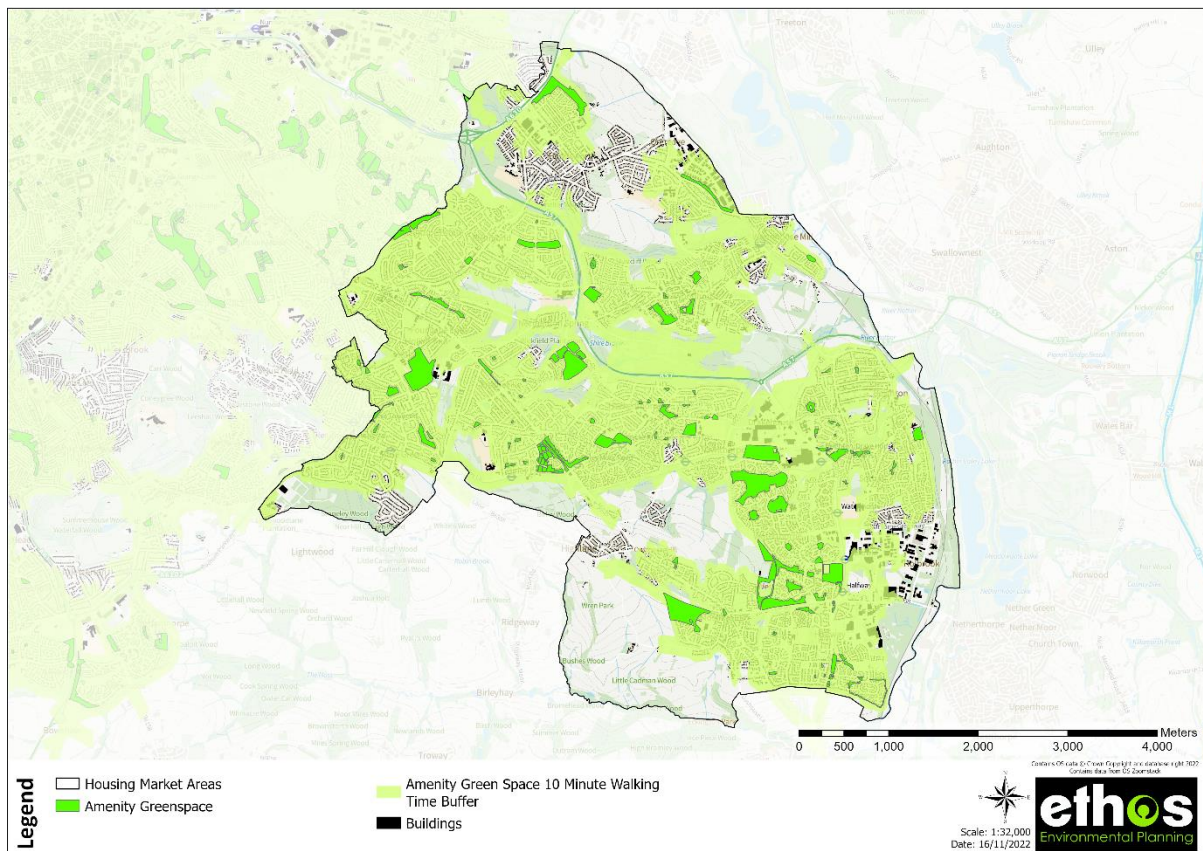


Figure 5 Access to Amenity Green Space (480 metre buffer)

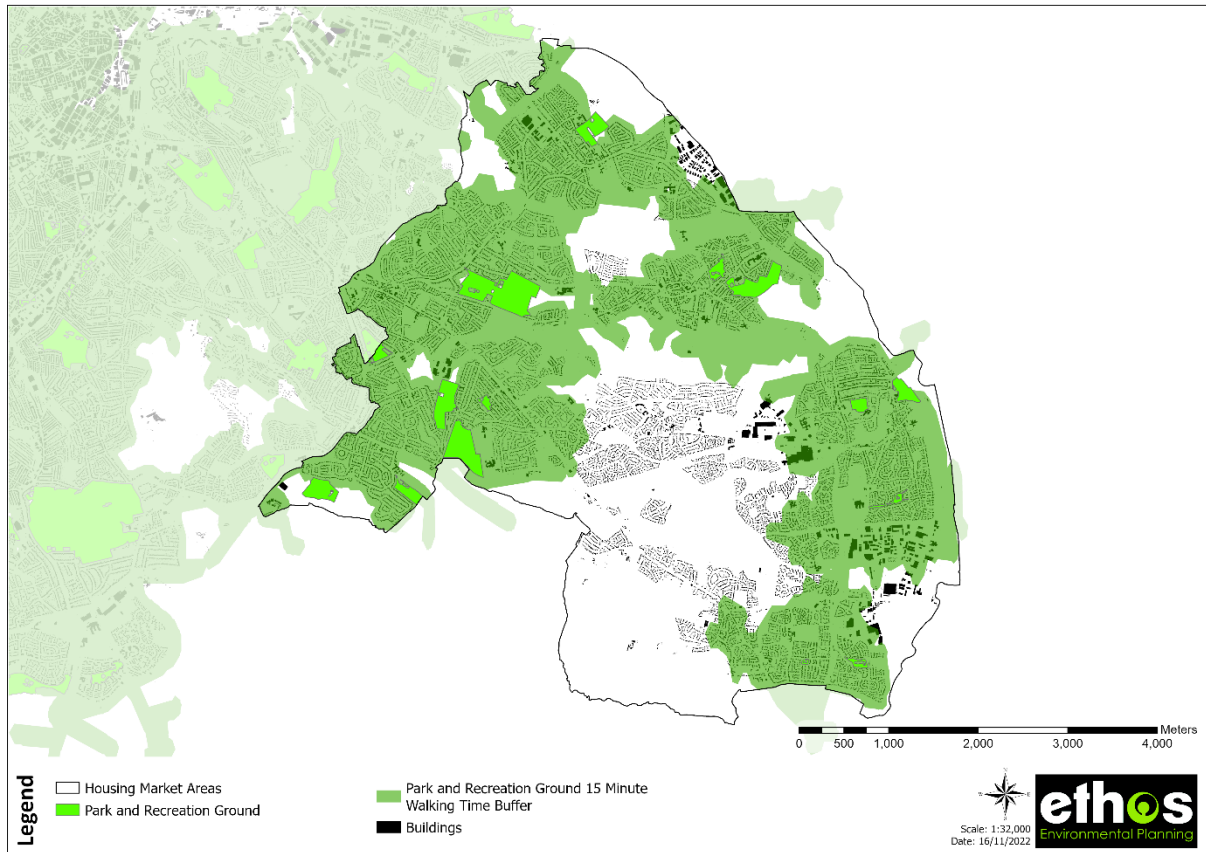


Figure 6 Access to Park and Recreation Grounds (720 metre buffer)

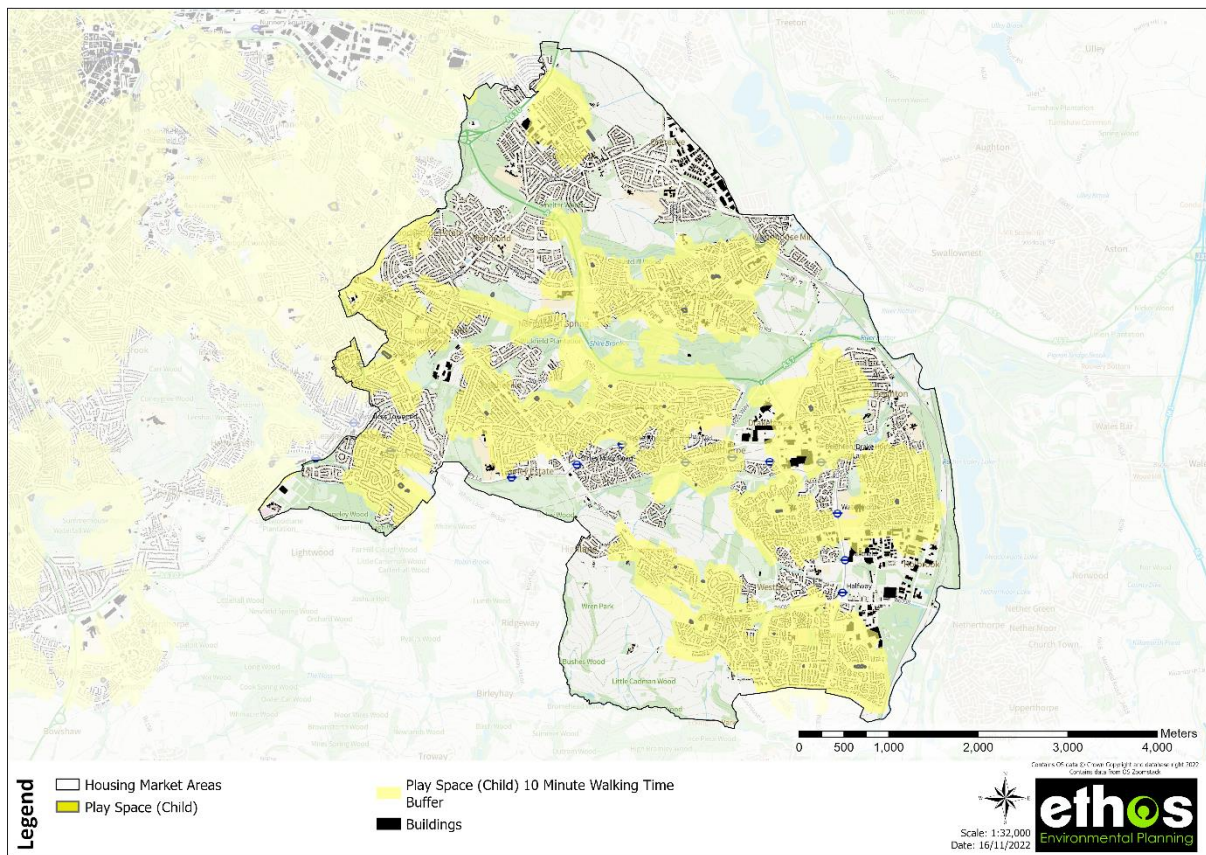


Figure 7 Access to Children's Play Space (480 metre buffer and 10 minutes' walk time analysis)

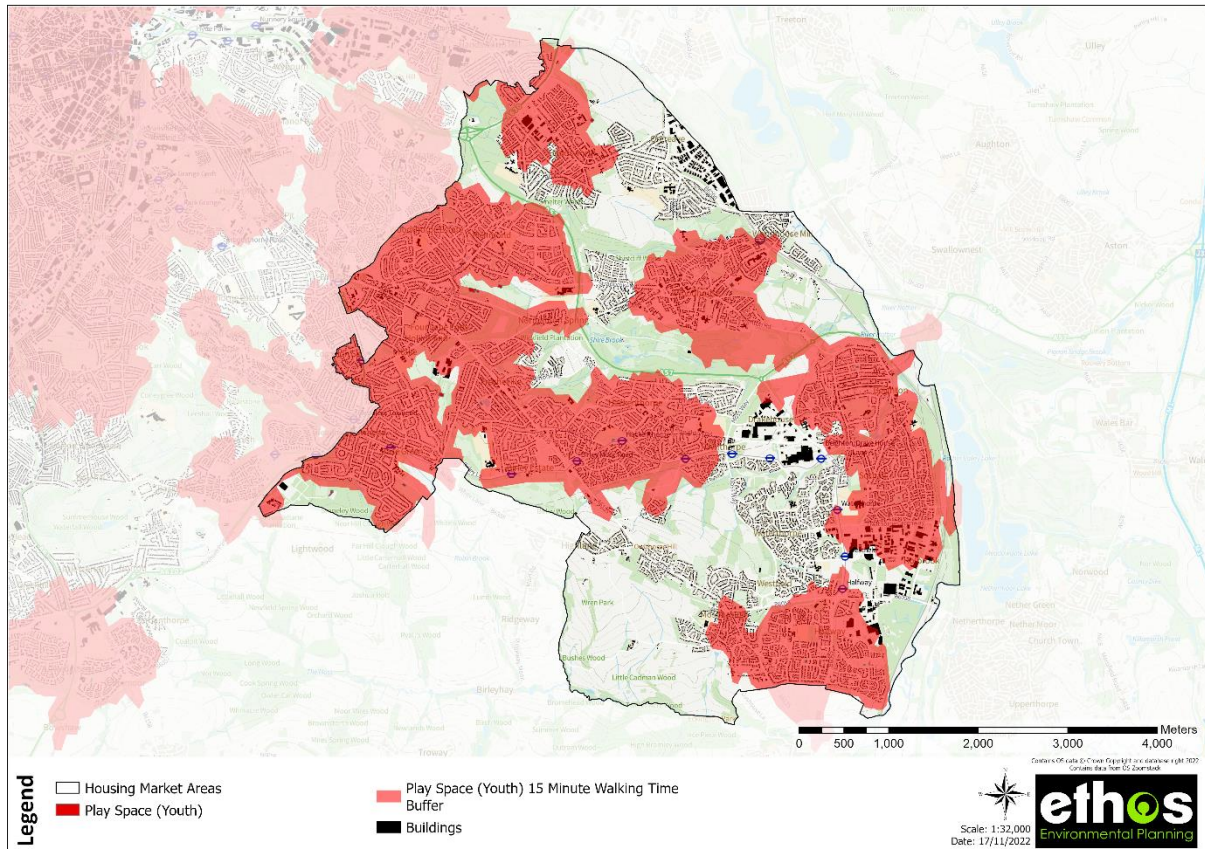


Figure 8 Access to Youth Play Space (720 metre buffer and 15-minute walk time analysis)

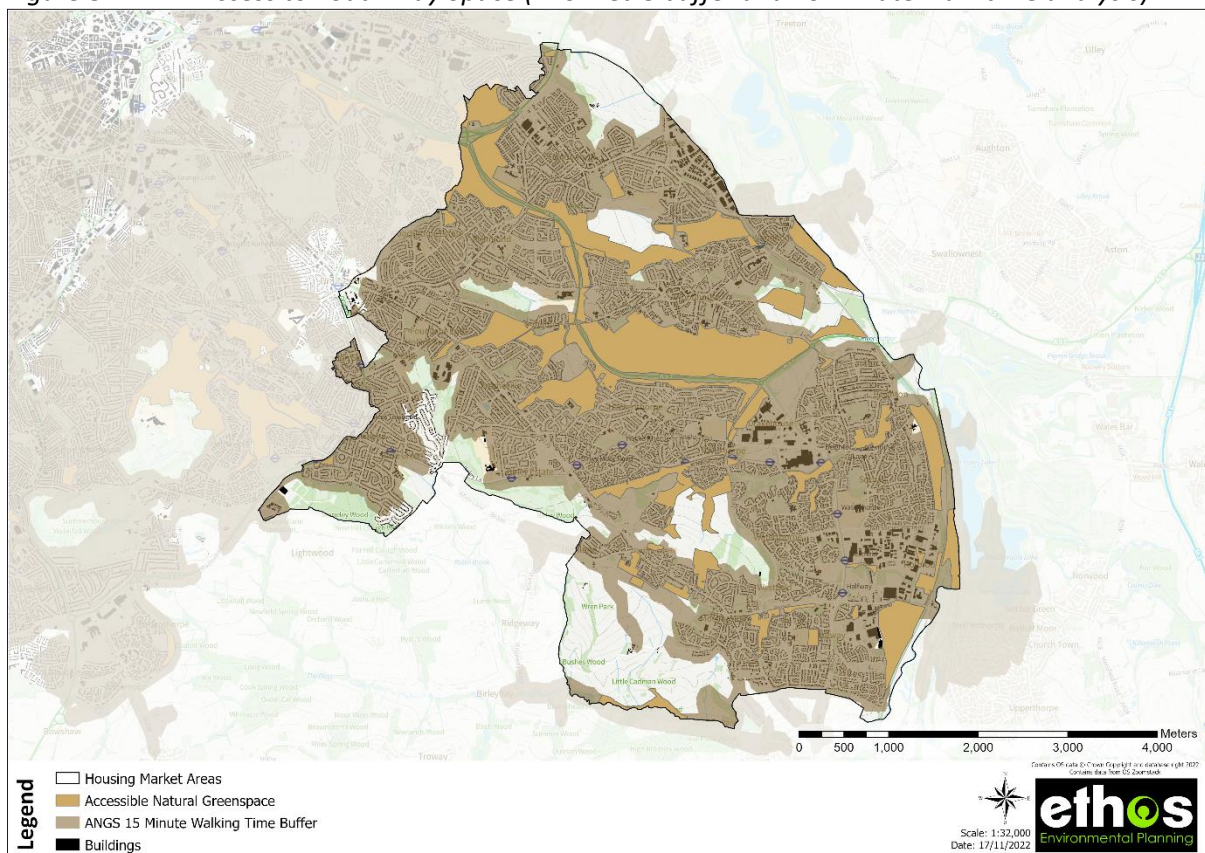


Figure 8 Access to Natural Green Space (15-minute walk time analysis)

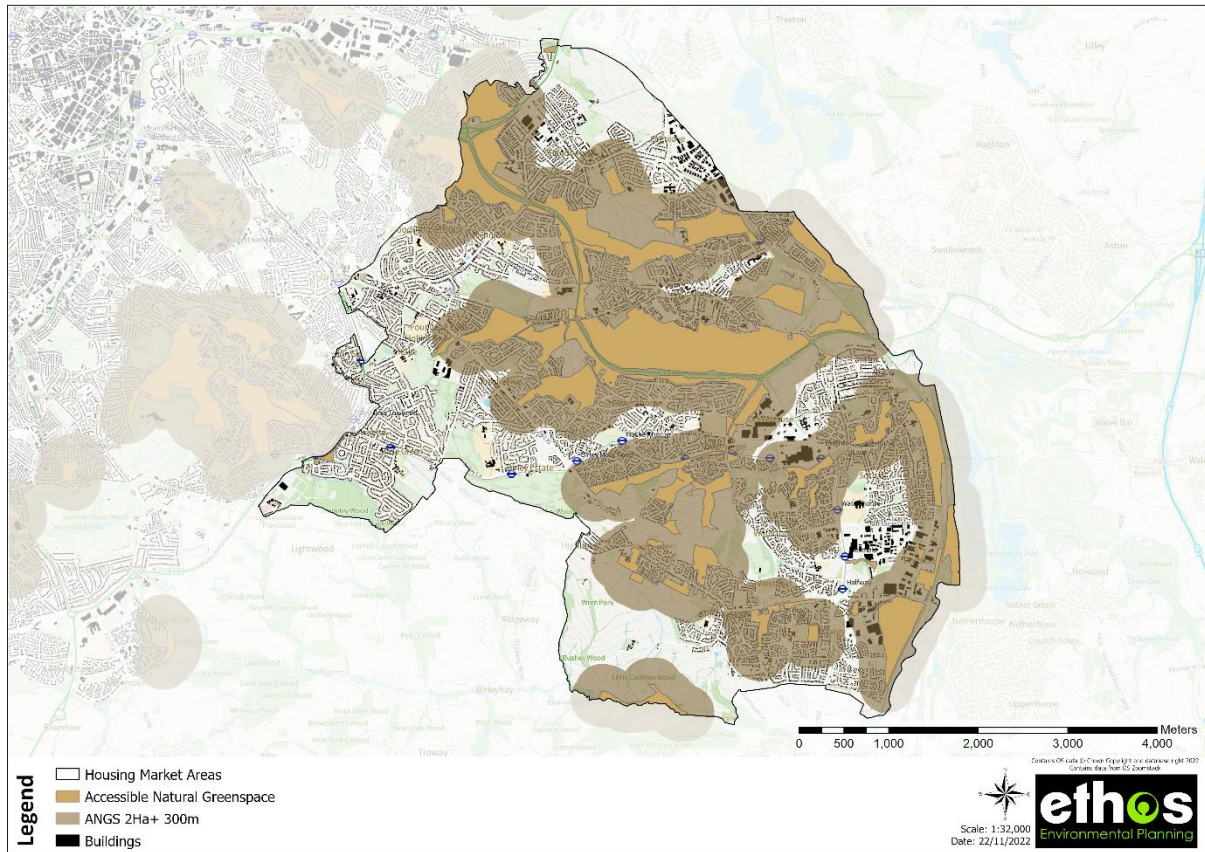


Figure 9 Access to Natural Green Space (>2ha, 300m walk time analysis)

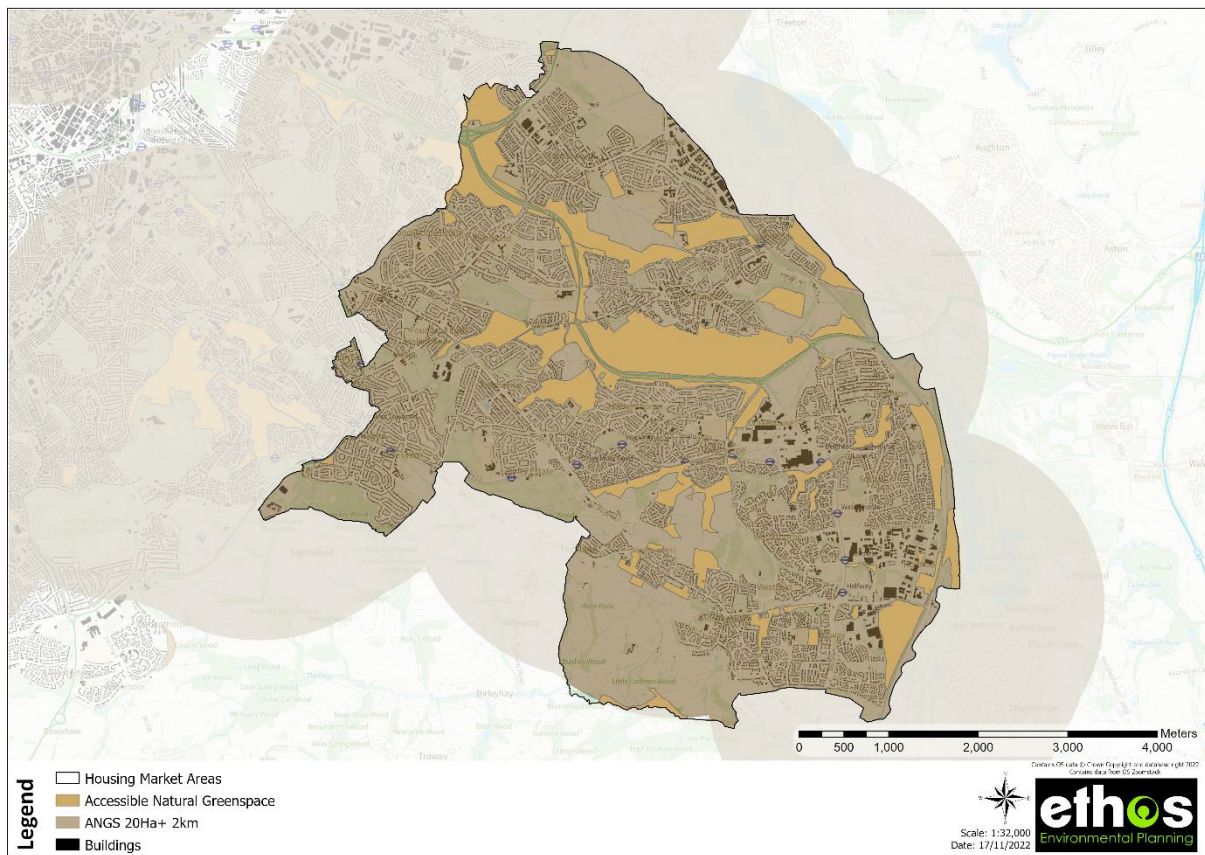


Figure 10 Access to Natural Green Space (>20ha, buffer 2km)

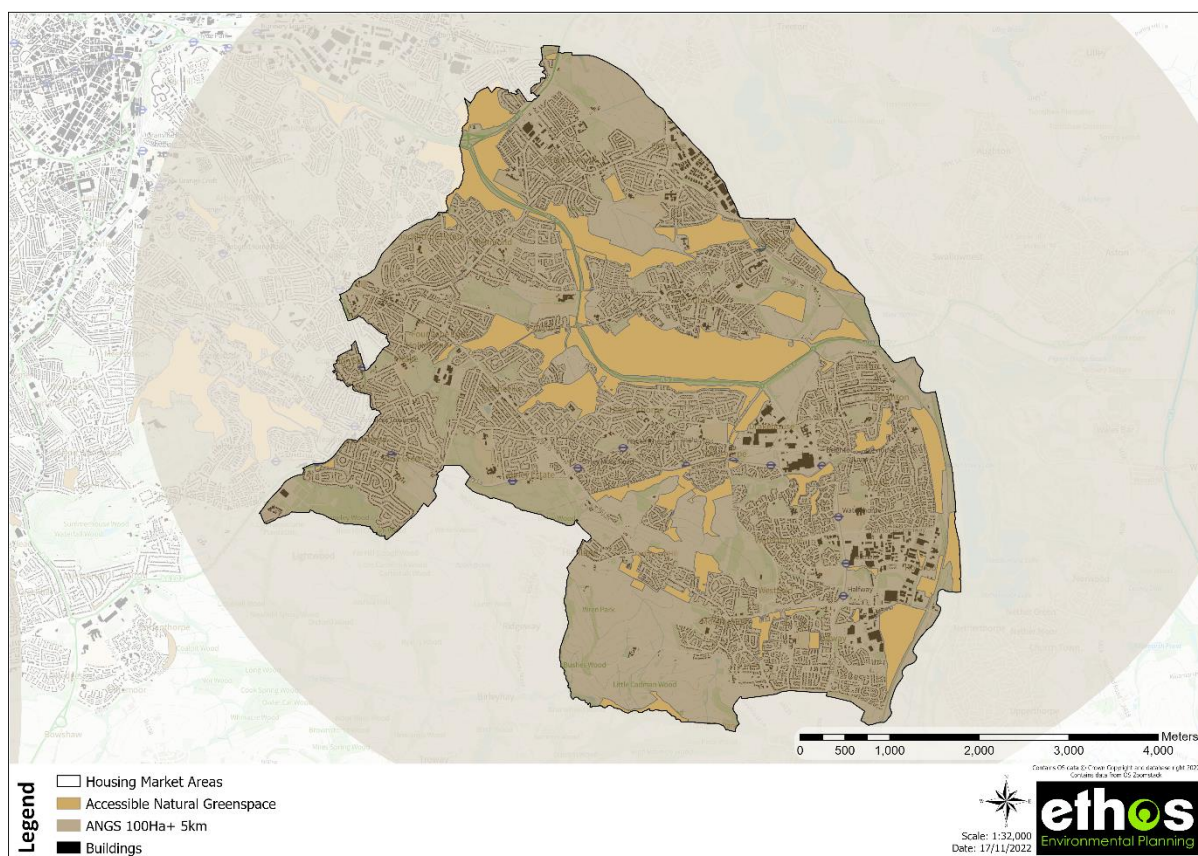


Figure 11 Access to Natural Green Space (>100ha, buffer 5km)

Table 2 Summary of existing access issues for the South East study area

Typology	Current Access
Allotments	Fairly good access although there are some large gaps in the south and central parts of the study area, and a small gap in the north-west.
Amenity Green Space	Good access across key settlement areas except for there is a gap in access in a small settlement area in the west.
Parks and Recreation Grounds	Large gaps in access in the centre of the study area but good access elsewhere.
Play Space (Children)	Relatively good access, although there are gaps in access scattered across the study area.
Play Space (Youth)	Relatively good access, although there are gaps in access in the east of Woodhouse and parts of Handsworth.
Natural Green Space	Good access against the 15-minute walking time across the key settlement areas. Poorer access to 2ha sites with gaps in the west and in central Woodhouse. Very good access to 100ha sites and 20ha sites against the ANGST standards. Rother Valley Country Park falls just outside of the study area, to the east. No access to 500ha sites, although the Peak District National Park is situated approximately 10km to the west.

1.6 Priority sites for improvement

This section provides a map showing the sites that were quality audited in 2022, and whether they passed or failed against the Sheffield Standard. Those sites that failed or have at least one criterion scoring 4 or below (poor) are the priority sites for improvement. This does not mean that other sites will not be considered for improvement, particularly if very close to a development site, however, it does act as a starting point for prioritisation.

Full details of the quality audit are provided within the GIS database and the quality audit spreadsheet provided to the Council. An overview of the sites that failed or passed with one poor criterion, are also shown in Table 3, with a description of the sites and suggestions for improvements (this has been extracted from the quality audit database/spreadsheet).

A map is also provided which overlays the quality audit results with levels of deprivation (IMD 2019 scores).

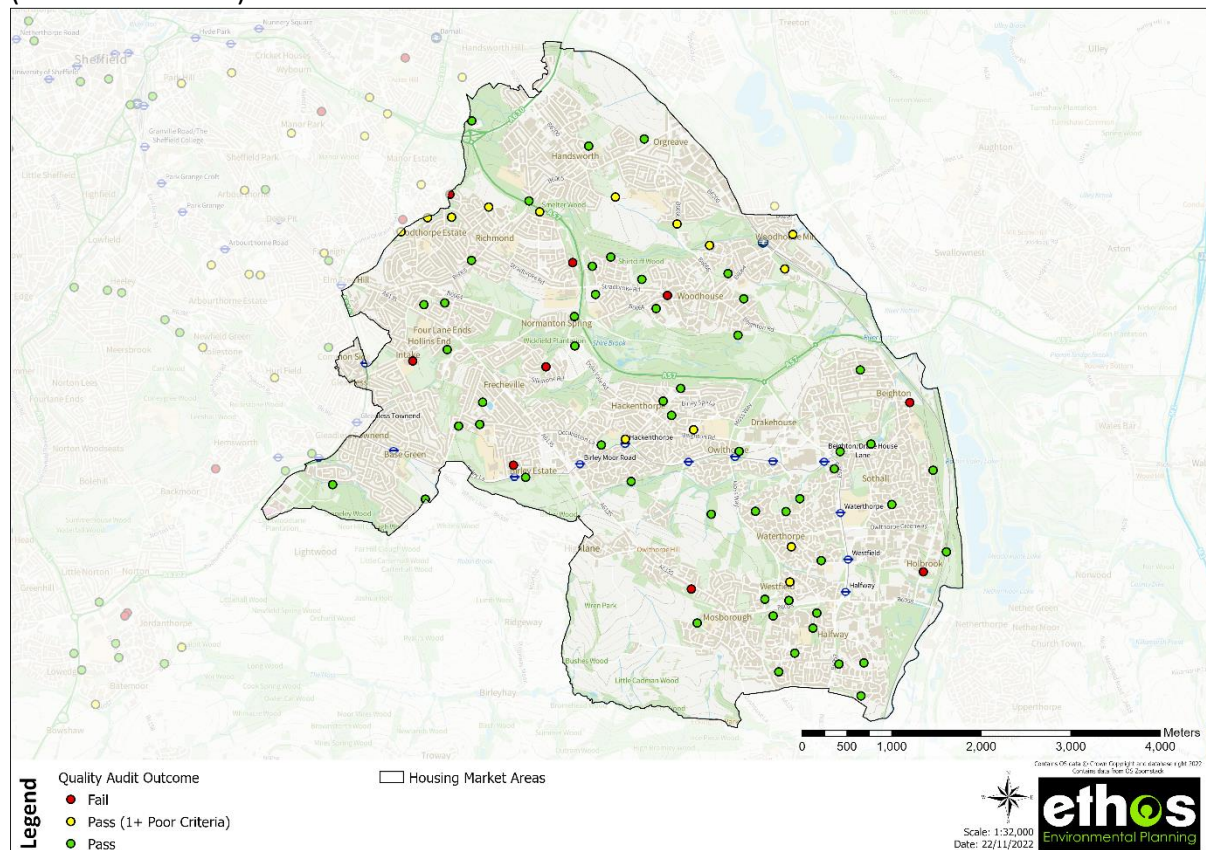


Figure 12 Quality audit results

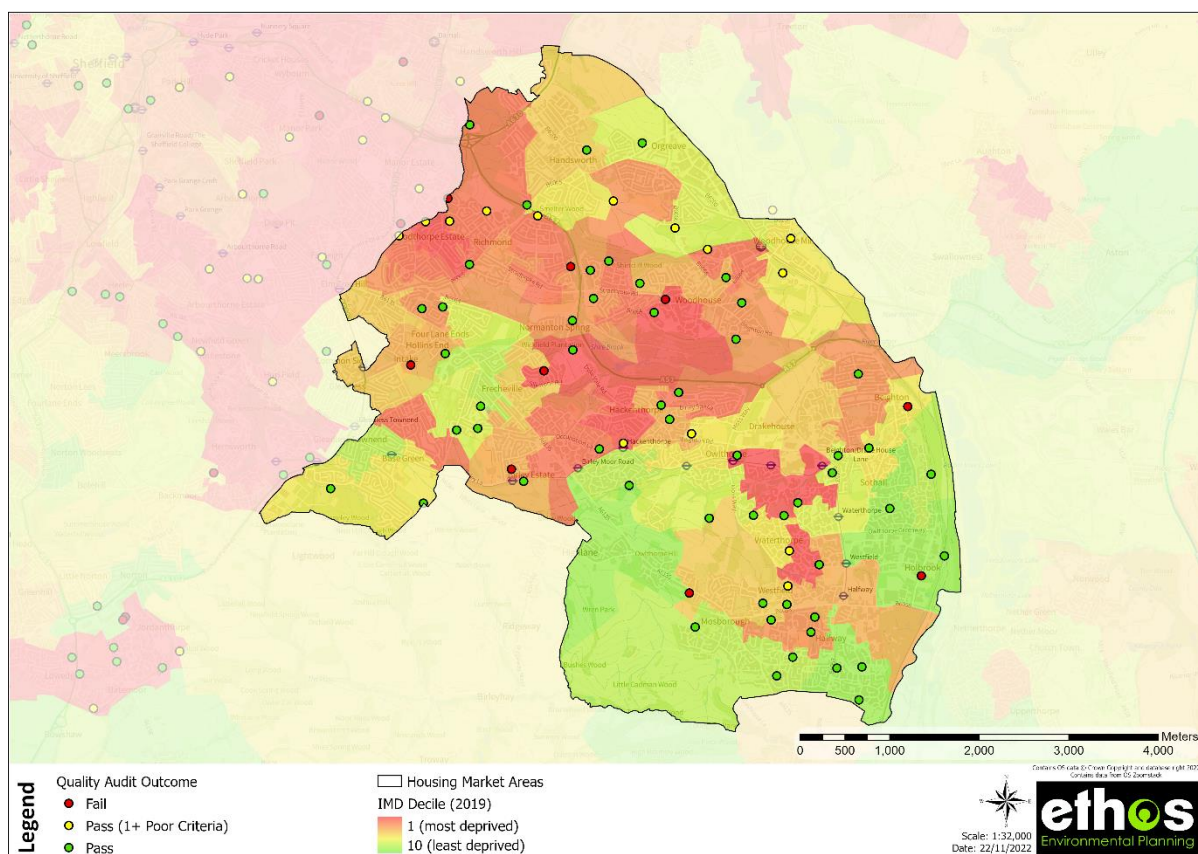


Figure 13 Quality audit results and IMD scores by LSO

As can be seen from Figure 13, there are 9 sites that failed against the Sheffield Standard, and these generally fall within the areas with higher levels of deprivation. There are also 13 sites which passed with at least one poor criterion. It also should be noted that there are a number of open spaces that passed and fall within those areas with the highest deprivation levels.

Table 3 Sites with quality issues within the South East study area

Site Name	Typology	Description	Suggestions for Improvements	Sheffield Standard Score
Castlebeck Avenue	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Accessible natural woodland with a range of informal footpaths. Multiple entrances but access limited to on foot, not suitable for those not sure-footed.	Add signage at the entrances to make the access points clearer.	41.3
Glenholme Road	Accessible Natural Greenspace	A young woodland located between busy road and housing estate. Informal path running through the site. Woodland is in good condition although signs of bramble beginning to dominate. Entrance is hard	Improve access point - remove fly tipping and add bin, clear overgrown vegetation. Add welcoming signage and signage about dog fouling. Could also improve paths and add directional signage.	35

Site Name	Typology	Description	Suggestions for Improvements	Sheffield Standard Score
		to find and has lots of littering. Fly tipping also present and lots of dog fouling. No facilities on site.		
Tannery Street	Amenity Greenspace	An area of grass in the town centre with a couple of mature trees. No path just desire lines on site. No facilities. Ground is worn and full of weeds. Litter scattered throughout.	Better maintenance and management. Could be made into a nice amenity with benches, bins, and some ornamental planting.	37
Jaunty Park	Amenity Greenspace	A large accessible natural green space consisting of a mixture of woodland and grassland. There is a MUGA which is overgrown and dangerous with glass on the court and an informal football pitch. Site has no signage. There is lots of fly tipping and dog fouling. Parts of site is looked fairly well managed with the grass looking recently cut but others are overgrown. There is a mixture of mature and young trees. The paths are quite natural except for the designated public rights of way that are hard surfaced.	Add bins. Replace MUGA. Add signage welcome and to deter from fly tipping.	35.58
Wickfield Heath & Plantation	Accessible Natural Greenspace	An accessible natural green space consisting of heathland and woodland. Access points were quite hidden with no signage and tricky entrances. Paths were narrow and overgrown. The site is very hilly and not accessible for all. There is a MUGA in the south of the site which was covered in glass. Littering and fly tipping across the site. No facilities except for a couple of benches. Woodland didn't look well managed and was in a poor condition.	Improve access points to make more accessible. Better management of site in general. More litter bins at entrance points.	34.41

Site Name	Typology	Description	Suggestions for Improvements	Sheffield Standard Score
Birley Moor Drive Allotments	Amenity Greenspace	A small patch of grass behind housing. The grass is overgrown and there is evidence of fly tipping. No facilities. Access to the site is through an uneven path which has lots of littering.	Better management of the site. Potential to create wildflower areas. Resurface entrance. Add litter bin.	36
Covered reservoir, off Mosborough Moor	Accessible Natural Greenspace	A covered reservoir with an area of woodland and a path running round the edge. Entrance is hard to find and quite steep. Some entrances into the reservoir from the path were overgrown. An industrial building in the middle of the site which is fenced off. Fly tipping at one end of the site by the pub. Woodland has a range of tree species and bluebells were out at time of audit.	Improve entrances to make clear. Clear fly tipping. Add directional signage.	41.12
Holbrook Marsh	Accessible Natural Greenspace	A reedbed with a public footpath running along the edge of the site. Footpath is a desire line and looks hardly used. No facilities and the site is overgrown with little signs of management. Entrance is steep and was slippery at time of audit.	Improve management of the site. Potential to improve the footpath to make more accessible. Potential site for biodiversity net gain.	41.12
Beighton Sports Ground	Park and Recreation Ground	A large playing field only accessed from the southern end of the site by one gate followed by steep steps and a hole in the fence from the neighbouring site. No facilities. Dog fouling present on site. Good links to the adjacent Tynker woods.	Improve access to make more accessible for all. Add bin with signage about fines. Potential to add informal football pitch if need required.	40.25
Westfield Southway	Amenity Greenspace	A medium sized amenity in between houses. Site consisted of short mown grass with patches of scrub and mature trees. Site had an old brick structure (potentially a castle) within the site, but this has graffiti	Potential space for play equipment. Clean graffiti off wall. Add more litter bins to reduce littering. Repair broken steps at entrance point to make site more accessible.	42

Site Name	Typology	Description	Suggestions for Improvements	Sheffield Standard Score
		on it and was full of litter. Fly tipping on site too. Lots of access potential most of which were in a good condition. One entrance had steps which were broken and uneven.		
Westland Road	Amenity Greenspace	A hilly and uneven area of amenity green space in between housing. Site consisted of grass and mature trees. Site was being mown at time of site visit. Fly tipping and littering on site despite signage with fine information. Paths crossing the site which were a bit uneven and muddy at time of visit.	Regular checking for fly tipping. Add litter bin. Improve path surfacing.	47
Church Lane	Amenity Greenspace	A large grass field with two entrance points. One entrance was overgrown and the other had a sign and a litter bin. No facilities on site. Site had quite long grass and tall hedgerows.	Improve southern entrance point to make more accessible and less overgrown. Potential space for children's play equipment. Plant more trees. Add wildflower meadow.	46.08
Sheffield Road, Hackenthorpe	Amenity Greenspace	Two fields of amenity green space with several access points from the nearby housing and the nearby park. Short mown grass with no facilities except for a bin. Dog fouling seen within site. No paths.	Improve access point from northern part of the site. Add a path connecting the two fields.	47.72
East Park Open Space	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Large playing fields with mown grass with some wildflowers. Access with restrictions for cycles. Decent signage and bins. No formal footpaths present. Faint markings where playing pitches were previously present.	Could install footpath at the site perimeter to encourage walks. Likely that sports posts and markings are present during the appropriate seasons.	49.7

Site Name	Typology	Description	Suggestions for Improvements	Sheffield Standard Score
Woodhouse Washlands LNR	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Large LNR with good access signage and informal footpaths. Good biodiversity value. No evidence of littering or dog fouling was found.	Some limitations to access due to kissing gates. Concerns around public safety with the presence of roaming cattle during the summer months.	53.2
Flockton Park	Park and Recreation Ground	A large park with high biodiversity value. Formalised paths were present through the space with playing pitches and multiple points of access. Good signage at the entrances.	Some of the access points seemed unsafe with wooden boards over wet section. Could install footbridge. Decent amount of litter also present. Improve signage at all entrances to the site.	42
Beaver Drive	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Natural green space with multiple points of access. Site has mown informal footpaths. No signage present.	Access is limited for wheelchairs. Add signage at the entrances including an information board.	50.4
Orgreave Lane	Amenity Greenspace	Natural green space with informal footpaths. Site overgrown with nettles and other undesirables. Evidence of dog fouling and litter noted. No signage at entrances.	Manage scrub and nettles back to encourage more desirable species. Install dog bins at entrances to space. Install signage to formalise space.	42
Ravenscroft Crescent	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Natural green space along footpath with multiple entrances. No signage at the entrances. Quite a lot of litter along footpath.	Install bins at entrances and signage.	47.44
Richmond Heights	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Natural green space comprising areas of both grassland and planted woodland. Concrete paths were present across the space in good condition. Site had multiple entrances with good informative signage. Some evidence of litter and dog fouling. Abandoned trolley on site suggesting antisocial behaviour.	Install bins for litter and dog fouling and associated signage. Could implement a grassland management regime to improve biodiversity.	43.55

Site Name	Typology	Description	Suggestions for Improvements	Sheffield Standard Score
Carbrook Ravine	Accessible Natural Greenspace	Natural greenspace with good access points and signage. Informal trails present throughout.	Access was limited for all due to nature of the site.	49
Woodrove Crescent	Amenity Greenspace	Amenity green space with mown path through it. No facilities on site or signage. Well managed space. Steep slope makes it a struggle for those not sure-footed.	Could install formal surfacing path to ease access. Could install signage at entrance of path. Opportunities to improve biodiversity through a change in management.	45.5
Woodthorpe Rec	Park and Recreation Ground	Park and rec with MUGA and playing fields. Disused bowling/tennis court located in north west of the site. Signage printed on floor at access. MUGA had poor surfacing. Site was largely well managed with good access for all.	Reinstate the bowling green. Improve the surfacing in MUGA to hard surface.	50.75

1.7 Future Requirements for open space

This section of the report considers the overall implications for open space provision from the estimated population growth for the South East study area.

Estimated population growth

The estimated number of new homes for the period (2022 – 2039) within the South East study area is 1,841 dwellings. The estimated additional population over the period 2021 – 2039 is 4,013 people (figures provided by SCC).

Impact of population growth on existing open space provision

It is considered that there will be a significant increase in demand for open space. Using the Sheffield standard for open space, the total amount of open space that would be required for an increase in 4,013 people is shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Total amount of open space required for increased population growth of 4,013 people

Typology	Required standard for new provision	Requirement for 4,013 people (Hectares)
Allotments	0.32	1.28

Amenity Green Space/	0.6	2.40
Park and Recreation Ground	1.2	4.81
Play Space (Children)	0.08	0.32
Play Space (Youth)	0.08	0.32
Accessible Natural Green Space	1.0	4.01
Total		13.14

1.8 Summary of issues and priorities

This section brings together the analysis of the existing quality, access and quantity of open space and considers future requirements for open space from population growth, and considers the following priorities:

- Existing provision to be enhanced;
- Opportunities for re-location/re-designation of open space;
- Identification of areas for new provision;
- Facilities that may be surplus to requirement.

Existing provision to be enhanced

Section 1.6 provides a summary of the existing quality scores drawn from the quality audit (Figure 12). The audit has identified a total of 9 open spaces which failed against the Sheffield Standard and 13 sites which passed but scored poor for at least one criterion. It is expected that when allocated sites are brought forward, consideration would be given to the potential to improve these sites with the sites that failed to be given priority. It is also noted that there may be other sites within the HMA that are priorities for improvement (e.g., identified by communities or the Council), but have not been included in the 2022 quality audits.

Opportunities for re-location/re-designation of open space

Opportunities to relocate or re-designate open spaces draws on both the quantity and access analysis. In the case of the South East study area, large amenity green spaces could be upgraded to park and recreation grounds, accommodating children's/youth play space and allotments/community food growing areas e.g., Waterthorpe Park, Thorpe Green Open Space and Bridle Stile (amenity green space).

Identification of areas for new provision

The assessment has identified that there is already an existing quantitative shortfall in the provision of allotments, park and recreation grounds, children's play space and youth play space within the study area. Therefore, the need to protect existing facilities and maximise opportunities for securing new open space is key. Considering the levels of proposed development, the need to provide these types of open space on site in new development is a priority for the area.

There is sufficient supply of amenity green space and accessible natural green space (which would still be in sufficient supply following a population increase of 4,013 people), therefore on-site provision would not be required (and the priority would be improving the quality of existing provision), unless there are gaps in access that could be removed. There is good access to both amenity green space and accessible natural green space across the study area.

If new developments are of a size that provide little opportunity for providing significant open space, then consideration should also be given to pooling contributions to improve the quality of (and access to) existing sites.

Facilities that may be surplus to requirement

Considering the current supply of open space, future requirements for open space and the access analysis, it is recommended that there are no open space facilities that are surplus to requirement – the exception would be for amenity green space, for which there is a high supply against the minimum quantity standard of spaces (many with quality issues) and overlaps in access in parts of the study area. However, their use should be considered for reducing shortfalls in existing typologies of open space, before any alternative use could be considered.