

## **Introduction**

1. This study was carried out to establish the level of provision of open space within each of the five towns in the District. We have also collected information for the main village of Donington, this reflects the size of this settlement, and the physical barriers that may have an effect on accessibility of play space. The other settlements in the district have not been included, although the District Councils background paper on Settlement Services and Facilities included which of the settlements have areas of open space, and what that space is used for. This study looks at the amount of open space provision, and its type, rather than the quality of the space, or usage of the space. The District Council's Playing Pitch Assessment, which was updated in 2004, looks at quality and usage of playing fields within the District.
2. This study has been carried out using the National Playing Fields Association Six Acre Standard (2001) definition of play space, which is "space that is safely accessible and available to the general public, and of a suitable size and nature, for sport, active recreation or children's play" to assess the level of play space within the settlements. Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 17: "Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation" and "Assessing Needs and Opportunities: Planning Policy Guidance 17 Companion Guide" have been used for definitions of which other areas count towards open space provision such as school fields, river banks and formal parks and gardens.

## **Methodology**

3. The study, undertaken in 2004, was mainly desk-based, using officer knowledge and information collected during other studies, for example the Settlement Services and Facilities study and the inset maps to the local plan which identify larger areas of open space that are protected as such. Of the sites identified through this method, any that were not clearly identifiable as open space were visited to establish their use.
4. Establishing which play areas are equipped also involved visiting the sites, as this was much more difficult to identify, although again officer knowledge of the area assisted the process.
5. The open space has been recorded in two parts, the first using the NPFA play space standard, and the second for other types of open space as in PPG17, these include school playing fields, and other green spaces such as cemeteries and riverside areas. These types of open space have not been recorded as a part of the overall total for the settlement, but have been included as additional open space.

### **How the Information can be used**

6. The information that has been collected will be useful for the development of Local Plan policies regarding the protection of open spaces, and the provision of open space in new developments.
7. This information will also enable the District Council to understand the distribution of the different types of open space within the towns, and which areas have the greatest deficiency in access to open spaces. This will help inform the review of our Supplementary Planning Guidance “Policies for the provision of open space in housing areas” as a new-style Supplementary Planning Document. It will need to provide effective guidance on different types of provision – Local Area for Play (LAP), Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP), Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) – and how to meet the needs of different age groups.

### **Future Updating and Review**

8. The spreadsheets will be updated on an annual basis. The information will be refined and added to as part of the evidence base for the Local Development Framework.

## **Settlement Summaries**

<b>Provision of open space in the Five towns</b>					
	<b>Crowland</b>	<b>Holbeach</b>	<b>Long Sutton</b>	<b>Spalding</b>	<b>Sutton Bridge</b>
Total amount in Ha	14.122	9.46	12.527	32.112	4.991
% of NPFA recommendation	164	52	106	56	60
Total Youth/Adult Space (Ha)	13.066	6.644	10.044	20.643	4.512
% of NPFA recommendation	205-230	50-56	114-129	48-54	74-83
Total Childrens Space (Ha)	1.056	2.812	2.483	11.249	0.479
% of NPFA recommendation	37-49	47-63	63-85	59-79	17-23

### **Crowland**

9. Crowland has the greatest play space provision of the District's Towns, with 164% of the NPFA recommendation for total amount of play space for the population.
10. This high level of provision is a result of an excellent provision of youth and adult open space, which is 205-230% of the NPFA recommendation. Children's play space has a much smaller provision, with only 37-49% of the provision recommended by the NPFA.
11. The distribution of play space within Crowland is fairly even, with relatively few areas not served by any form of provision. As with some of the other towns, there is a general shortage of equipped play areas, with none to the south of the town. The relatively central location of playing fields behind the Abbey enables it to service a large area of the population.

### **Holbeach**

12. In general terms Holbeach is not very well provided for in terms of play space. The total amount of play space in the town is only 52% of the NPFA recommendation for the population.
13. When the total play space figure is broken down into youth and adult and children's spaces, the provision in both areas is considerably below the NPFA recommendation. Youth and adult play space totals 50-56% of the recommendation. Children's play space provision is less, with 47-63% of the recommendation.

14. The west side of Holbeach has a much more even distribution of open space than the east, with most of the area served by some form of provision, the only real exceptions to this are the Langwith Gardens area, and Wignals Gate. The east side has several areas of open space, but these are located close to each other, leaving the areas to the south of Foxes Lowe Road and Fleet Road without any form of provision.

### **Long Sutton**

15. In general Long Sutton is well provided for, with the total amount of play space in excess of the NPFA recommendation for the population at 106%.
16. When broken down into children's and youth and adult open space, the total amount of youth and adult space is quite considerably above the NPFA recommendation for the population at 114-129%. Children's play space is not so well provided for, with the total only 63-85% of the recommendation.
17. The distribution of play space within Long Sutton is fairly even, with relatively few areas not served by any form of provision. There is a general shortage across the town of equipped play areas, but the central location of the area to the rear of West Street enables it to service a large proportion of the population.

### **Spalding**

18. Spalding in general does not have as high provision as some of the towns in particular Crowland and Long Sutton, but does not have the least either. The total amount of play space is 56% of the recommendation for the population.
19. The level of provision of youth and adult play space is quite poor at 48-54% of the NPFA recommendation. Children's play spaces are better provided for with 60-80% of the recommendation, the second highest level of provision (after Long Sutton).
20. The Distribution of open space in Spalding is not as even as in some of the other towns. There are some quite large areas where there is no provision at all. The central location of the Castle sports centre, the Halley Stewart Playing field and Rugby Club ensure that the central areas of the town are fairly well provided for. The more peripheral areas, such as to the south of Low Road and parts of Wygate Park are not so well provided for. As with the other towns there is a general shortage of equipped play areas.

### **Sutton Bridge**

21. In general Sutton Bridge is not particularly well provided for, with the total play space in the town just 60% of the recommendation.

22. Youth and adult play space is reasonably well provided for, with 74-83% of the NPFA recommendation. The provision of children's play space is very poor with just 17-23% of the recommendation for the population.
23. Sutton Bridge has a fairly even distribution of play space, with a majority of the town served by some form of provision. The west end of the town is the most lacking in provision.

<b>Crowland</b>			
Site Number	Location	Type	Size (Ha)
3	Reao of Abbey	Youth and adult	1.788
6	Thorney Road	Youth and adult	0.268
7	Thorney Road	Youth and adult	10.34
9	Stricklands Drive	Youth and adult	0.67
<b>Total</b>			<b>13.066</b>
1	Foreman Way	Childrens Equipped	0.116
2	Millfield Gardens	Childrens Casual	0.429
4	R.O Thorney Road	Childrens Equipped	0.268
5	R.O Thorney Road	Childrens Equipped	0.079
8	Beccelm Drive	Childrens Casual	0.164
<b>Total</b>			<b>1.056</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>14.122</b>
<b>Other PPG17 Areas</b>			
	St Guthlac's School	School Field	2.953
	South View Primary	School field	0.188
<b>Total</b>			<b>3.141</b>

<b>Holbeach</b>			
Site Number	Location	Type	Size (Ha)
1	Damgate	Youth and adult	0.854
9	Carters Park	Youth and adult	3.821
13	Holland Way	Youth and adult	1.814
16	Church Street	Youth and adult	0.155
<b>Total</b>			<b>6.644</b>
1	The Paddocks	Childrens Casual	0.037
2	Market Rasen Way	Childrens Casual	0.055
3	Market Rasen Way	Childrens Casual	0.06
4	N of Market Raen Way	Childrens Casual	0.352
5	Marshlands Drive	Childrens Casual	0.25
6	Kensington Close	Childrens Casual	0.141
7	Kings Road	Childrens Casual	0.25
11	Fairfields	Childrens Casual	0.228
12	Weston Avenue	Childrens Casual	0.18
14	Littlebury Gardens	Childrens Casual	0.233
15	St Matthews Close	Childrens Casual	0.445
17	Maple Grove	Childrens Casual	0.244
18	Cornfields	Childrens Casual	0.079
10	Carters Park	Childrens Equipped	0.122
17	Maple Grove	Childrens Equipped	0.01
19	East Elloe Avenue	Childrens Casual	0.097
20	The Hollies	Childrens Casual	0.029
<b>Total</b>			<b>2.812</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>9.46</b>
<b>Other PPG17 Areas</b>			
	George Farmer College	School Field	4.917
	Holbeach Junior	School Field	1.773
	William Stukeley	School Field	1.031
<b>Total</b>			<b>7.721</b>

<b>Long Sutton</b>			
Site Number	Location	Type	Size (Ha)
1	Daniels Gate	Youth and adult	1.255
2	Daniels Crescent	Youth and adult	0.645
3	Park Road	Youth and adult	1.963
4	London Road	Youth and adult	3.743
5	London Road	Youth and adult	1.552
8	R.O West Street	Youth and adult	0.886
<b>Total</b>			<b>10.044</b>
6	Colsuan Gardens	childrens casual	0.59
7	Lancaster Close	childrens casual	0.16
9	Dick Turpin Way	childrens casual	0.418
10	Sleepers Close	childrens casual	0.201
11	Whimbrel Way	childrens casual	0.11
12	N. of Delph Road	childrens casual	0.226
13	Cowpers Gate	childrens casual	0.091
14	Cowpers Gate	childrens casual	0.085
15	Park Road	Childrens Equipped	0.17
16	St Thomas Court	childrens casual	0.097
17	West Street	Childrens Equipped	0.335
<b>Total</b>			<b>2.483</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>12.527</b>
<b>Other PPG17 Areas</b>			
18	L.S County Primary	School Field	1.233
19	Peele School	School Field	6.896
<b>Total</b>			<b>8.129</b>

<b>Spalding</b>			
Site Number	Location	Type	Size (Ha)
6	Chiltern Drive	Youth and Adult	0.783
7	Pinchbeck Road	Youth and Adult	0.148
14	Park Close	Youth and Adult	0.967
16	Monkshouse Lane	Youth and Adult	2.304
20	Amsterdam Gardens	Youth and Adult	1.392
21	Castle Sports Field	Youth and Adult	3.135
22	Halley Stewart Field	Youth and Adult	1.407
24	Broad Street	Youth and Adult	0.112
25	Rugby Club	Youth and Adult	6.855
26	Ayscoughfee	Youth and Adult	0.409
30	Spalding Common	Youth and Adult	0.691
34	R.O St Pauls School	Youth and Adult	1.388
35	Holbeach Road	Youth and Adult	1.322
<b>Total</b>			<b>20.643</b>
1	Vernatts Green	Childrens Casual	0.887
2	Miles Bank	Childrens Casual	0.173
3	Anjelica Drive	Childrens Casual	0.131
4	Flinders Walk	Childrens Casual	1.121
5	Pinchbeck Road	Childrens Equipped	0.324
8	Gate Park	Childrens Casual	0.27
9	Wygate Park	Childrens Casual	0.428
10	Shire Avenue	Childrens Casual	0.52
11	Sorrel Drive	Childrens Casual	0.352
12	Wygate Park	Childrens Equipped	0.276
13	Wintergold Avenue	Childrens Casual	0.36
15	Pennygate	Childrens Equipped	0.067
17	Dowgate Close	Childrens Casual	0.249
18	Hereward Road	Childrens Casual	0.319
19	Primrose Way	Childrens Equipped	0.085
23	Adj Castle Sports	Childrens Equipped	0.154
27	Lime Court	Childrens Casual	0.628
28	Spalding Common	Childrens Casual	1.056
29	Goodfellows Road	Childrens Casual	0.379
31	Balmoral Avenue	Childrens Casual	0.482
32	Saxon Close	Childrens Casual	0.342
33	Severn Road	Childrens Casual	0.738
36	R.O Laburnum Grove	Childrens Casual	0.887
37	Claudette Avenue	Childrens Casual	0.037
38	Ladywood Road	Childrens Casual	0.225
39	Horsefayre Fields	Childrens Casual	0.05
40	Horsefayre Fields	Childrens Casual	0.079

41	Farrier Way	Childrens Casual	0.118
42	Honeysuckle Way	Childrens Casual	0.092
43	Apeldorn Gardens	Childrens Casual	0.189
44	Hawthorn Bank	Childrens Equipped	0.061
46	Buttercup Close	Childrens Casual	0.079
<b>Total</b>			<b>11.249</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>31.892</b>
<b>Other PPG17 Areas</b>			
	Gleed Girls School	School field	8.238
	Gleed Boys School	School field	2.006
	Boys Grammer School	School field	1.696
	Spalding High School	School field	1.457
	St Pauls Primary	School field	0.87
	Spalding Primary	School field	1.097
	Catholic Primary	School field	0.515
	Parish Church School	School field	1.512
	Goodfellows School	School field	0.223
	St John Babtist Primary	School field	1.251
	Monkshouse Primary	School field	0.709
	Coronation Channel	River banks	27.98
	Welland Banks	River banks	1.18
	Vernatts LNR	Nature Reserve	1.298
<b>Total</b>			<b>50.032</b>

<b>Sutton Bridge</b>			
Site Number	Location	Type	Size (Ha)
2	R.O Bridge Road	Youth and Adult	2.807
4	R.O Bridge Road	Youth and Adult	0.14
6	Queen Street	Youth and Adult	0.683
11	Falklands Road	Youth and Adult	0.882
<b>Total</b>			<b>4.512</b>
1	Lime Street	Childrens Equipped	0.153
3	R.O Bridge Road	Childrens Equipped	0.062
5	Railway Lane	Childrens Casual	0.091
7	Queen Street	Childrens Casual	0.08
8	St Matthews Drive	Childrens Casual	0.031
9	St Matthews Drive	Childrens Casual	0.026
10	St Matthews Drive	Childrens Casual	0.036
<b>Total</b>			<b>0.479</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>			<b>4.991</b>
<b>Other PPG17 Areas</b>			
	Westmere Primary	School Field	1.29
<b>Total</b>			<b>1.29</b>