



Gainsborough Open Space and Green Infrastructure Strategy

Prepared by LUC
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Green Infrastructure (GI) is defined within Annex 2 of the National Planning Policy Framework¹ as:

"A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities."

- 1.2 This is in line with the definition of GI within the adopted Local Plan covering Gainsborough and other areas within Central Lincolnshire²:

"Green Infrastructure is a strategic network of multifunctional green and blue spaces, and the connections between them, in both urban and rural areas, which is capable of delivering a range of environmental, economic, health and quality of life benefits for local communities. The Green Infrastructure network may comprise of spaces in public or private ownership, with or without public access."

- 1.3 Natural England³ provides a detailed description of GI as follows:

"Green Infrastructure is a strategically planned and delivered network comprising the broadest range of high quality green spaces and other environmental features. It should be designed and managed as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering those ecological services and quality of life benefits required by the communities it serves and needed to underpin sustainability."

Its design and management should also respect and enhance the character and distinctiveness of an area with regard to habitats and landscape types."

Green Infrastructure includes established green spaces and new sites and should thread through and surround the built environment and connect the urban area to its wider hinterland."

Consequently it needs to be delivered at all spatial scales from sub-regional to local neighbourhood levels, accommodating both accessible natural green spaces within local communities and often much larger sites in the urban fringe and wider countryside."

Aim and purpose of the GI strategy

- 1.4 In this context, the aim of this strategy is to describe the current GI provision across Gainsborough including an analysis of the existing publicly accessible open space provision. This is followed by the presentation of a strategy to improve existing and provide new high quality multi-functional green spaces and environmental features for Gainsborough.
- 1.5 The strategy sets out the vision and core principles that GI should follow and then focuses on potential projects, their delivery and funding streams under core GI categories: Landscape; Open Space; Cultural Heritage; Ecology; and Access. The strategy also takes a more detailed look at the Gainsborough Gateway Area in the southern part of the town in recognition that the street pattern and grain results in both limited GI and access to surrounding GI assets.

¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (February 2019). *National Planning Policy Framework*.

² Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (April 2017). *Central Lincolnshire Local Plan*.

³ Natural England (2009). *Green Infrastructure Guidance*.

2 Context

Policy

National

National Planning Policy Framework (2019)

- 2.1 The NPPF refers to GI on a number of occasions, including the requirement that plans, decisions and strategic policies should make sufficient provision for GI (para 20); promote healthy and safe communities, including through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure (para 91); planning for climate change, including through suitable adaptation measures such as green infrastructure (para 150); conserving and enhancing the natural environment by maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure (para 171); and identifying opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts, such as through green infrastructure provision and enhancement (para 181).

Local

The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (2017)

- 2.2 **Policy LP20: Green Infrastructure Network** of the Local Plan states that 'The Central Lincolnshire Authorities will aim to maintain and improve the green infrastructure network in Central Lincolnshire by enhancing, creating and managing multifunctional green space within and around settlements that are well connected to each other and the wider countryside.

Development proposals which are consistent with and help deliver the opportunities, priorities and initiatives identified in the latest Central Lincolnshire Green Infrastructure Study and Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study, will be supported. Proposals that cause loss or harm to this network will not be permitted unless the need for and benefits of the development demonstrably outweigh any adverse impacts. Where adverse impacts on green infrastructure are unavoidable, development will only be permitted if suitable mitigation measures for the network are provided.

Development proposals should ensure that existing and new green infrastructure is considered and integrated into the scheme design from the outset. Where new green infrastructure is proposed, the design should maximise the delivery of ecosystem services and support healthy and active lifestyles.

Development proposals must protect the linear features of the green infrastructure network that provide connectivity between green infrastructure assets, including public rights of way, bridleways, cycleways and waterways, and take opportunities to improve such features.

Development will be expected to make contributions proportionate to their scale towards the establishment, enhancement and on-going management of green infrastructure by contributing to the development of the strategic green infrastructure network within Central Lincolnshire, in line with guidance set out in LP12'.

- 2.3 **Policy LP24: Creation of New Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities** states, *inter alia*, that 'a holistic approach to the design of new open space should be taken including considering the contribution to place making, the green network and protecting and enhancing nature conservation and the water environment. New provision should also aim to protect, enhance and manage integrated paths for active travel and/or recreation, including new and existing links to the wider countryside'.
- 2.4 **Policy LP39: Gainsborough Sustainable Urban Extensions** (SUEs) sets out specific requirements for new development within the Northern and Southern Neighbourhood SUEs to provide open space and 'green corridors' to integrate the development with the surrounding countryside and woodland.

- 2.5 **Policy LP40: Gainsborough Riverside** requires relevant development proposals on sites adjacent to the River Trent to seek to improve pedestrian and cycle connectivity between the riverside and other parts of the town, including the new urban extensions.
- 2.6 **Appendix C – Local Plan Open Space Provision Standards** sets out the minimum standards required for the provision of new open space, as shown in the tables below.

Table 2-1 – Requirements for new residential major development (new provision or access to existing open space)

Open Space Type	Quantity Standard
Strategic Formal Playing Fields	1.1 ha/ 1000 population
Local Useable Greenspace – Urban (Level 1-2 of the settlement hierarchy) settlements	1.8 ha/ 1000 population
Local Useable Greenspace – Rural towns and villages (level 3-6 of the settlement hierarchy) settlements	1.5 ha/ 1000 population

Table 2-2 – Open Space accessibility and quality standards

Open Space Type	Accessibility Standard	Quality Standard
Park and Garden	Local/ Neighbourhood provision: 400m-1200m or 5-15 minute walkable distance Strategic provision :15km or 15 minute drive	Good and above as defined by Green Flag standards or any locally agreed quality criteria.
Amenity Green space over 0.2 ha	Local: 400m or 5 minutes' walk	Good and above as defined by Green Flag standards or locally agreed quality criteria.
Formal Equipped Play areas	Local provision: Local Equipped Area of Play: 400m or 5 minute walk Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play: 1200m or 15 minute walk	Good and above as defined by Fields in Trust standards and/ or any locally agreed quality criteria.
Playing Field provision	Local provision: 1200m or 15 minute walk Strategic provision: 15km distance or 15 minute drive	Good and above as defined by sport England Governing body standards or locally agreed quality criteria.
Natural/ Semi Natural Greenspace (including access to Green corridor and Public Rights of Way networks)	Local provision (including access to Green corridor and Public Rights of Way networks): 400m or 5 minutes walkable distance Strategic provision: 2km or 25 minute walkable distance	At least 2 ha locally accessible and 20 ha strategically accessible. Quality good and above as defined by locally agreed criteria.
Civic Space including cemetery provision	As locally identified	Good and above as defined by locally agreed quality criteria.
Allotments & Community Growing Spaces	As locally identified	Good and above as defined by locally developed criteria.

This report provides background information, evidence base and justification for the open space standards set out in Appendix C of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2017. It includes an assessment of different open space typologies at the strategic, local and neighbourhood levels.

Section 10 of the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) sets out the type and size of new development which may trigger the need for a contribution (on site or off site, as appropriate) towards the quality of Central Lincolnshire's Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure network, and the type of provision required (e.g. local useable greenspace, local or

Gainsborough Open Space and Green Infrastructure Strategy

strategic formal playing fields, new access or links to existing green networks, habitat protection and creation, and water management including Sustainable Urban Drainage systems), in line with Appendix C of the Local Plan.

Riverside Gateway Local Development Order (2016)

- 2.10 The Riverside Gateway is located on an area of land between the River Trent and the A156, south of the A631 (Flood Road). The Gainsborough Gateway Area is located east of the Riverside Gateway and Lea Road Station is situated to the south east. The Riverside Gateway is subject to a Local Development Order (2016) which defines the development of this site.

Figure 2.2 Riverside Gateway Local Development Order Location (Turley, 2016)



- 2.11 Schedule 2 of the Riverside Gateway Local Development Order (LDO) sets out the general conditions for any future development on site. This set of conditions details the need for landscape schemes as part of the visual and residential amenity, in accordance with the West Lindsey Local Plan (this has now been superseded by the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan). In addition the Schedule details the requirement for flood mitigation and drainage, archaeological as well as ecological investigation and air and noise quality consideration.
- 2.12 The appendices of the LDO set out parameter plans, illustrative plans and clear design principles for the landscape, which aim to enhance the local area by maximising the biodiversity opportunities and facilitate tree planting; integrating green and blue infrastructure; promoting views; increasing opportunities for open spaces.

Existing Strategy

Regional

Green Infrastructure Study for Central Lincolnshire (2011)⁵

- 2.13 This study provides a strategic framework for guiding the planning and delivery of Green Infrastructure across the Central Lincolnshire area. It provides a broad assessment of the quantity, quality and accessibility of Central Lincolnshire's Green Infrastructure in 2011, and identifies opportunities for addressing deficiencies. This sets out independent recommendations on priorities for Green Infrastructure delivery to support growth and development in Central Lincolnshire over the next 15-20 years.
- 2.14 The study sets out a proposed Green Infrastructure Network for Central Lincolnshire (**Figure 2.3⁶**, below), which identifies locations where targeting investment in Green Infrastructure is most likely to deliver multiple benefits across a range of key environmental, social and economic policy areas. This network is comprised of Strategic Green Corridors which are the most significant Green Infrastructure assets for Central Lincolnshire, and also provide key strategic linkages at the District and Sub-regional level with Green Infrastructure networks in adjoining areas.
- 2.15 Gainsborough is located within the 'Trent Green Corridor', a Strategic Green Corridor which includes the River Trent floodplain and provides a major strategic connection to GI in adjoining areas within Nottinghamshire and North Lincolnshire. It comprises Areas of Great Landscape Value (including Laughton Woods) and other key assets such as Lea Marsh SSSI. Opportunities include biodiversity enhancement work, new access routes and the creation of accessible natural greenspace to address deficiencies, particularly around Gainsborough, where major growth is planned.
- 2.16 Within and connecting the Strategic Green Corridors, a network of Strategic Green Access Links are key opportunities for multi-user, predominantly off-road, strategic access routes for pedestrians and cyclists, linking and integrating residential and business communities across the area to key services, leisure destinations and greenspaces. For Gainsborough, these include the Trent Link and the East Gainsborough Link. At a more local level, Local Green Links provide key opportunities for local GI linkages.
- 2.17 Urban Green Grids are proposed for Gainsborough, Lincoln and Sleaford, which are priority areas with key opportunities for greening of the built environment, including potential new sustainable urban extensions. They comprise multifunctional networks of green (and blue) links and spaces threading through the built environment, weaving together areas where people live and work with public transport networks and the wider countryside.
- 2.18 The Green Infrastructure Network Concept Plan for the Gainsborough area is shown in **Figure 2.4** below.

⁵ Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Unit (December 2011). *Green Infrastructure Study for Central Lincolnshire*.

⁶ Extract from Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Unit (December 2011). *Green Infrastructure Study for Central Lincolnshire*.

Figure 2.3 Green Infrastructure Network Concept Plan - Central Lincolnshire

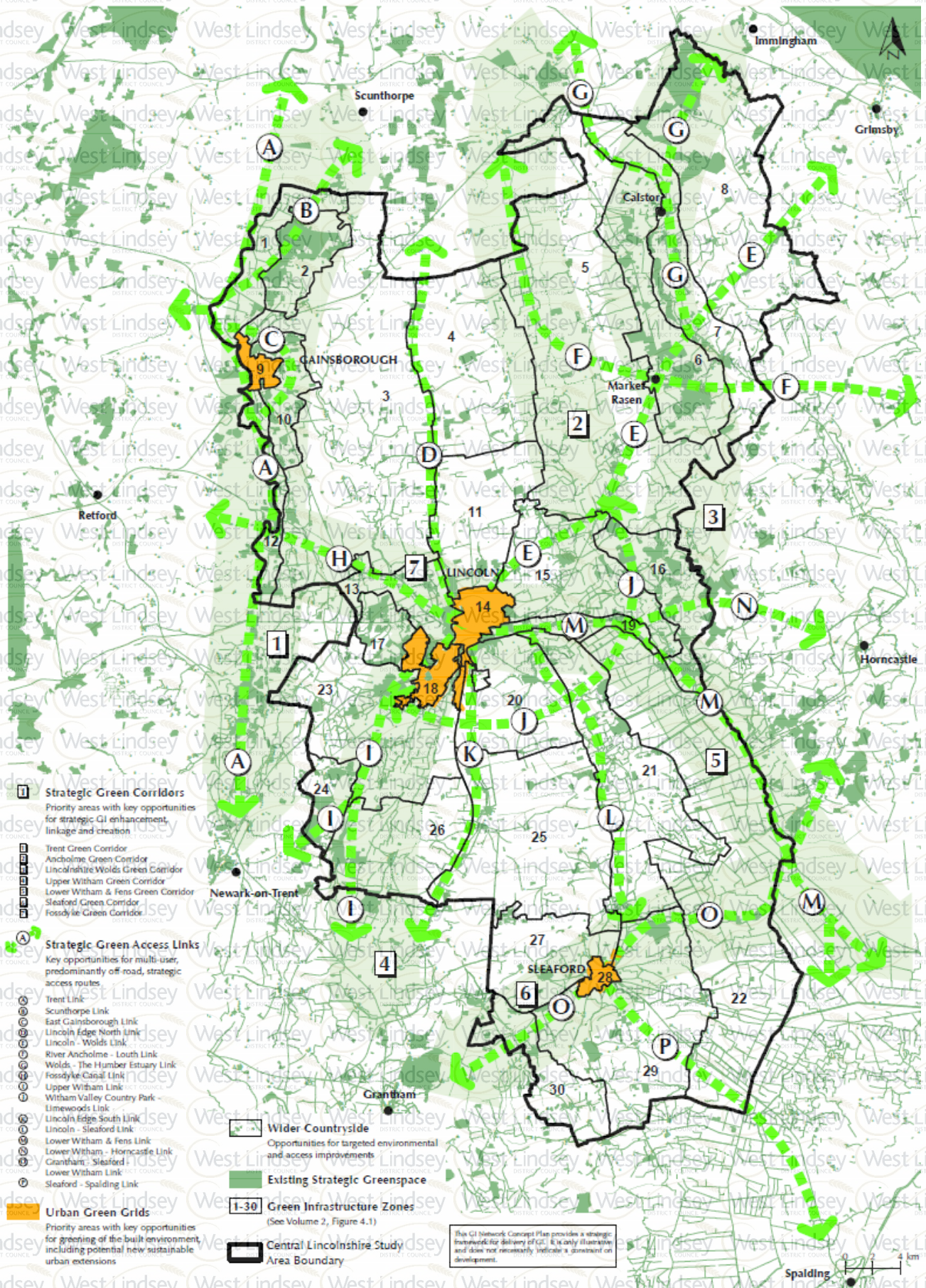
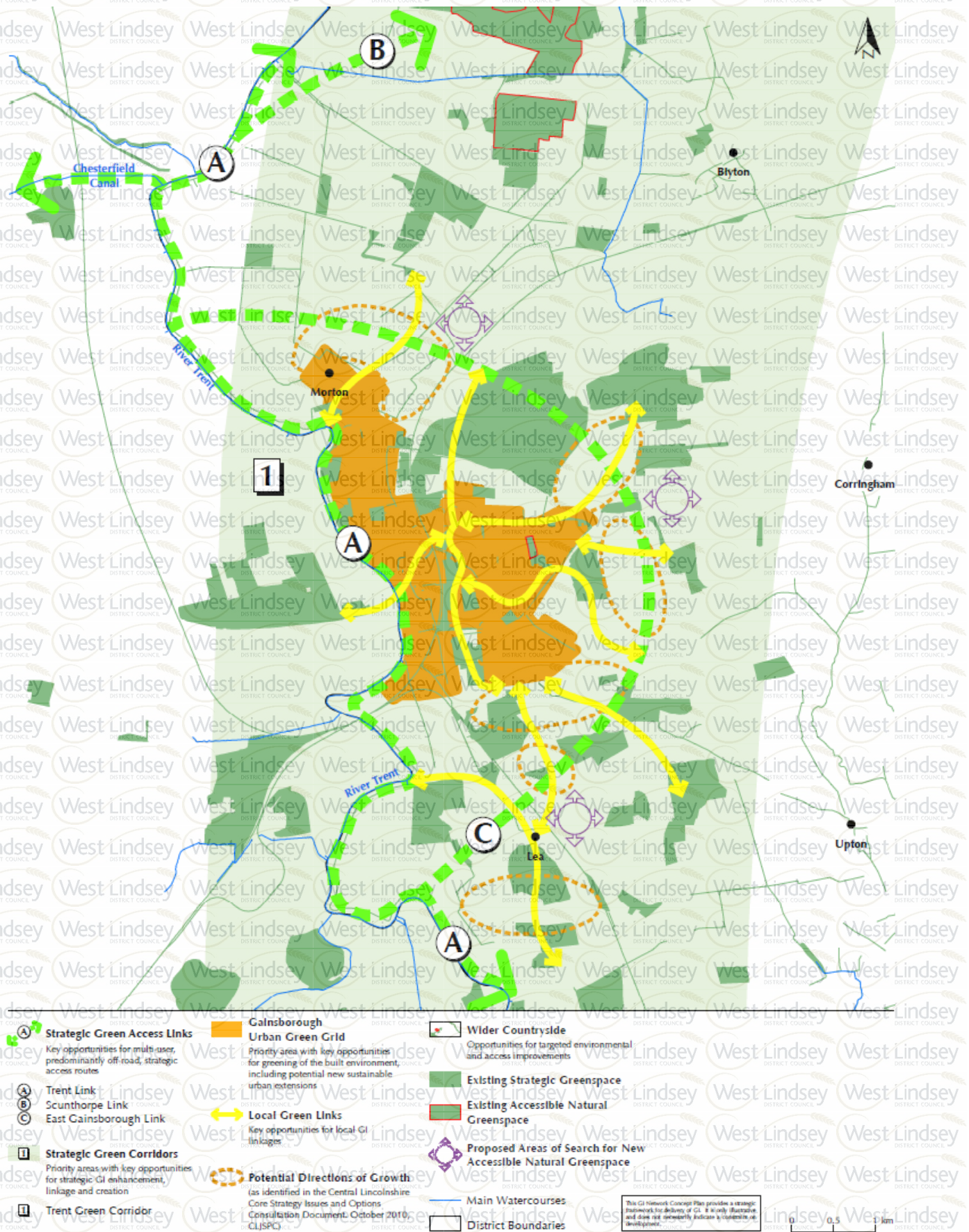


FIGURE 1.4a
Green Infrastructure Network
Concept Plan - Central Lincolnshire

Figure 2.4 Green Infrastructure Network Concept Plan - Gainsborough Area



Local

Gainsborough Green Corridor Ecological Strategy (2018)⁷

- 2.19 In June 2018, LUC prepared an Ecological Strategy for West Lindsey District Council, to support European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) bid, for a series of habitat creation and enhancement schemes across a number of local sites around Gainsborough. The Ecological Strategy provides detailed ecological advice to support the long-term vision for the creation of the Gainsborough Green Corridor, which will encircle the town, forming a trail that links up these local sites, supported by public accessibility measures and improvements to ecological connectivity.
- 2.20 Of broader relevance to this GI Strategy are the Environmental Objectives proposed by the Green Corridor Ecological Strategy, which include enhancing Gainsborough's woodland network, and creating and enhancing wetland habitats within Gainsborough and the River Trent corridor. **Figures 2.5 and 2.6** show, respectively, Woodland Opportunity Areas in the wider area surrounding Gainsborough, and proposed environmental improvement measures for key environmental assets within and immediately around the town.

⁷ Gainsborough Green Corridor Ecological Strategy (2018). LUC for West Lindsey District Council

Gainsborough ERDF



Figure 2.6 Environmental Assets/ Proposed Measures Extracted from Green Corridor Ecological Strategy



Green Infrastructure Study, Proposals for the creation of a Green Wheel for Gainsborough (2018)⁹

- 2.21 In March 2018, Gainsborough Town Council commissioned BRCC to prepare a Green Infrastructure Study for the creation of a Green Wheel for Gainsborough. The aim of which was to assess and identify GI enhancement to inform the Neighbourhood Plan policies. The study details the long term vision of the Town Council for the creation of the Gainsborough Green Wheel, an off road, multi-user corridor around the town, which would enable access to areas of rich biodiversity, heritage and landscape value.

Figure 2.7 Proposed green links within the Gainsborough Green Wheel Report (BRCC 2018)



- 2.22 Of relevance to this GI Strategy, the concept of the 'Green Wheel' details the Town Council's commitment to increasing and enhancing GI features and open space within Gainsborough. The

⁹ BRCC (2018). Green Infrastructure Study, Proposals for the Creation of a Green Wheel for Gainsborough on behalf of Gainsborough Town Council

study sets out the key principles and standards for the delivery of the Green Wheel, key components of the GI network and existing delivery issues.

Gainsborough Infrastructure and Planning Delivery Strategy (2016)¹⁰

- 2.23 In May 2016, Mouchel and Nexus Planning prepared the Gainsborough Infrastructure and Planning Delivery Strategy (GIPDS) for West Lindsey District Council and the Homes and Communities Agency. The purpose of the GIPDS is to set out a clear strategy for the delivery of key infrastructure required in Greater Gainsborough over the emerging Local Plan period up to 2036, to support an ambitious growth agenda which will see the town accommodate significant levels of new housing-led growth.
- 2.24 With regard to Green Infrastructure and Open Space, the GIPDS calculates that based on the 2.3 person/ dwelling occupancy ratio (2011 Census) the delivery of 4,057 dwellings in Gainsborough by 2036 could create a need for an additional:
- 7.5ha of children's play space;
 - 16.8ha of recreational space (estimated as 4 additional adult football pitches, 3 additional junior football pitches, four additional outdoor tennis courts, an additional cricket pitch and an additional outdoor bowling green); and
 - 4.7ha of amenity greenspace.
- 2.25 The southern Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) should deliver a proportion of the above including:
- 2.21ha local greenspace;
 - 4 allotments (2.0ha);
 - 14.14ha parks/ green areas; and
 - 54.05ha natural greenspace.
- 2.26 The GIPDS notes the preparation of the Central Lincolnshire Open Space Audit and Provision Standard Assessment (2016), which provides quantitative and qualitative detail on existing locally important open space within Gainsborough. In planning for Green Infrastructure, the GIPDS identifies the following considerations:
- i. Accessibility to the countryside and woodland areas;
 - ii. Connectivity (for commuting and leisure) to and from new developments to surrounding areas;
 - iii. Quality and provision within the existing urban area, and particularly in relation to town centre housing sites;
 - iv. Pedestrian and cycle corridor along the riverside;
 - v. Quality of waterways and continuous green and blue links for flora and fauna;
 - vi. A green infrastructure strategy for Gainsborough, that utilises the emerging open space assessment, should be prepared. This will also better facilitate the requirement from future developer contributions, or identify where gap funding may be required.
 - vii. The role of green infrastructure in creating a distinctive and potentially unique "quality of life" offer for Gainsborough; and
 - viii. The potential to link to Beckingham Marshes in Bassetlaw, an emerging habitat and potential visitor attraction.

Gainsborough Town Centre, Heritage Masterplan¹¹

- 2.27 The Gainsborough Town Centre Heritage Masterplan provides the evidence base and objectives for the ambitious regeneration and investment programme embarked upon by West Lindsey

¹⁰ Gainsborough Infrastructure and Planning Delivery Strategy (2016), Mouchel & Nexus Planning for West Lindsey District Council

¹¹ West Lindsey District Council. Gainsborough Town Centre, Heritage Masterplan

District Council to enhance the historic town centre as part of a wider strategy to enable Gainsborough to thrive economically and socially.

- 2.28 The Town Centre Heritage Masterplan considers the Town Centre Conservation Area and adjacent parts of the Riverside and Britannia Works Conservation Areas along with a buffer area which surrounds the historic core. The area covers much of the designated retail core and falls wholly within the boundary of the Gainsborough Neighbourhood Area.
- 2.29 There are two Grade I listed buildings within the town centre: All Saints Church and Gainsborough Old Hall, along with two Grade II* listed buildings: Elswitha Hall and the former County Court buildings. A further 35 Grade II listed buildings are located within the Gainsborough Town Centre Conservation Area.
- 2.30 The document identifies the Market Place as the most important surviving open space within the historic town centre. This is located at the junction of the historic north-south and east-west routes. 20th century development and recent changes have led to the removal of traffic and car parking from the space. Today the space includes natural stone setts and is used primarily as a large public realm space for market stalls.
- 2.31 The All Saints Church Yard and the open space surrounding the Old Hall are both recognised for their value and potential for enhancement, in terms of their amenity value and appearance.
- 2.32 The masterplan was informed by a survey of the current condition of the historic town centre which also helped to identify areas of heritage significance and areas of vulnerability. The heritage audit comprised a street by street and building by building visual assessment of what Gainsborough's historic town centre consisted of today. This provided an understanding of the relative condition of the town centre, which informed a series of strategic objectives responding to the identified challenges and opportunities within the historic core.

Gainsborough Cycle Map (2009)

- 2.33 The Gainsborough Cycle Map illustrates the key national, local and off-road cycle routes in and around the town highlighting parking, cafes, shops and toilets as well as linking up with a series of contacting maps published by Lincolnshire County Council.
- 2.34 The aim of the map is to encourage cycling and increase its accessibility in and around Gainsborough town.

Landscape Character

National

- 2.35 Gainsborough and its surroundings are situated within two National Character Areas. The northern part of the town and its outskirts is within **NCA 45: Northern Lincolnshire Edge with Coversands**¹², and the southern part of the town and its outskirts (the majority of the Gainsborough area) is within **NCA 48: Trent and Belvoir Vales**¹³.
- 2.36 NCA 45 relates to a north-south ridge of limestone running north from Lincoln to the Humber Estuary, with a smaller outcrop extending west to Gainsborough, albeit on slightly lower-lying land with deeper soils. Productive soils give rise to a large-scale landscape of arable cultivation with extensive rectilinear fields and few boundaries of clipped hedges. Woodland cover is limited, with patches of both broadleaves and conifers associated with infertile sandy soils.
- 2.37 NCA 48 is characterised by low-lying, strongly rural and predominantly arable farmland, centred on the River Trent and its floodplain, which provide a strong feature running through the landscape, as well as a major wildlife corridor and recreational resource. Gainsborough, located at the end of the tidal River Trent, is noted as Britain's most inland port, with historic wharfs and warehousing, and with a possible future increase in flood events. Woodland cover within the NCA

¹² Natural England (2014). NCA 45: Northern Lincolnshire Edge with Coversands. [Accessible: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4635967306596352?category=587130>]

¹³ Natural England (2013). NCA 48: Trent and Belvoir Vales [Accessible: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/7030006?category=587130>]

is low, as well as few areas of semi-natural habitats, with the exception of areas of floodplain grazing marsh along the Trent.

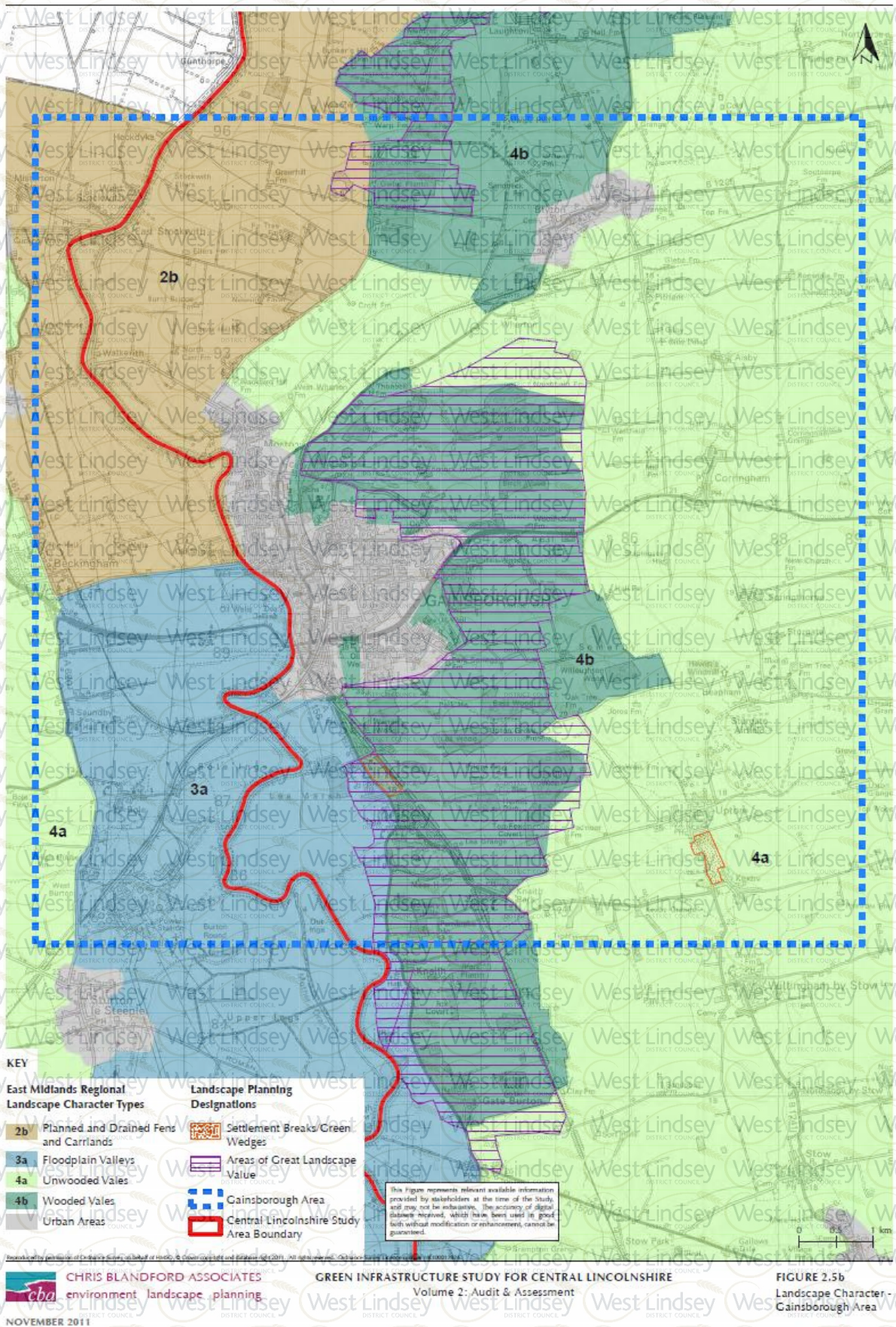
Regional

- 2.38 The East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment 2010 was produced for Natural England by LDA Design. It identifies 31 regional landscape character types, of which the following four are within the Gainsborough area, as shown on **Figure 2.9** below:
- 2b – Planned and Drained Fens and Carrlands.
 - 3a – Floodplain Valleys.
 - 4a – Unwooded Vales.
 - 4b – Wooded Vales.

Local

- 2.39 An Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) has been locally designated within the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2017, which encompasses a broad swathe of land surrounding Gainsborough to the north, south and east, and broadly reflects the extent of the Wooded Vales Regional Landscape Character Type. The boundary of the AGLV is shown on **Figure 2.8** and on the adopted Local Plan Proposals Map.

Figure 2.8 – Regional Landscape Character Types & AGLV, Gainsborough¹⁴



¹⁴ Extracted from Central Lincolnshire GI Strategy, CBA (2011)

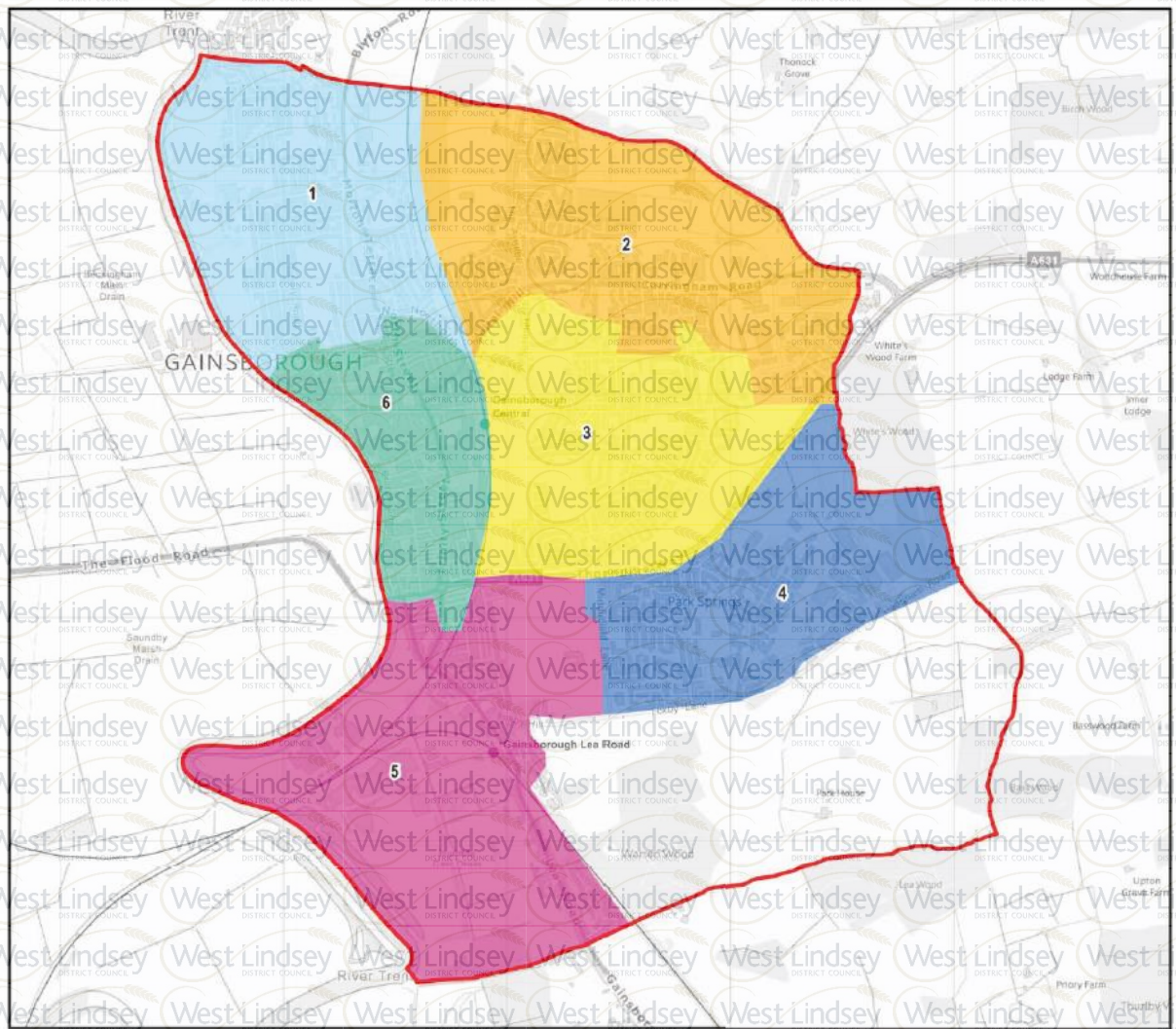
Neighbourhood

Gainsborough Heritage and Character Assessment (2018)¹⁵

- 2.40 This study presents a summary of the history and character of Gainsborough, and is intended to provide evidence to support the development of policies with respect to heritage and character for the emerging Gainsborough Neighbourhood Plan. It follows a characterisation approach, with the identification of six distinct Townscape Character Areas (as shown in **Figure 2.8** below) within the overall designated Gainsborough Neighbourhood Area; informed by the analysis of attributes such as historical development, movement and connectivity, urban structure, green space and public realm, and views. For each distinct TCA, the study includes sections on positive aspects of character, issues to be addressed, sensitivity to change and character management recommendations.
- 2.41 Recommendations within the study relevant to green infrastructure include:
- the development of a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Gainsborough, to connect existing green corridors and spaces that are of amenity and/or ecological value and establish where new links could be made with the aim of providing a coherent network of GI throughout Gainsborough;
 - consideration of designation of Local Green Spaces of significant environmental, landscape or historical value, following identification by any Green Space Audit;
 - the development of a network of pedestrian and cycle only routes throughout Gainsborough;
 - addressing the low provision of street trees in many areas, which detracts from the quality of the public realm;
 - addressing the underutilisation / poor quality of some public greenspace;
 - Bridge Road and the A631 present considerable barriers to the flow of pedestrians between the south of the Gainsborough Central TCA and Gainsborough/Lea TCA.

¹⁵ Locality (2018). *Gainsborough Heritage and Character Assessment*.

Figure 2.9 – Gainsborough Townscape Character Areas¹⁶



2.42

The West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment 1999¹⁷ provides an assessment of landscape character at the district level. It identifies 14 different landscape character areas (LCAs) within the district, which have a strong relationship with the underlying structure of solid and drift geology. Gainsborough is located within the Trent Valley LCA; key characteristics of which include:

- Low-lying, gently undulating landform with higher terrain to east and south of Gainsborough.

¹⁶ Extracted from Gainsborough Heritage and Character Assessment, AECOM (2018)

¹⁷ West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment, August 1999. ERM for West Lindsey District Council

- Significant blocks of deciduous woodland, good hedgerows and hedgerow trees create a relatively enclosed landscape.
- River Trent and its adjacent washlands are enclosed by steep flood embankments.
- Historic parkland landscapes including a medieval deer park, and landmarks such as the ruins of Torksey Castle.
- Main roads are significant features in the landscape; recent development concentrated along the main roads, bypassing original village centres.
- Views towards the west are dominated by the power stations along the River Trent.

Conservation Area Appraisals

- 2.43 The conservation area appraisals were all produced between 1980 and 1999. As such WLDC is undertaking the renewal of the three conservation area character appraisals, in order to bring them up-to-date with current Historic England guidance and best practice standards, and to update the condition assessment of the three areas. This may lead to boundary changes as well as the possible merger of the Conservation Areas¹⁸. The updates will also correspond with the development of the complementary management plans, which WLDC recognise are required to ensure best practice.

Gainsborough Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal (c.1980)¹⁹

- 2.44 The Gainsborough Town Centre Conservation Area consists of three main areas within the historic town centre: All Saints Church; the Old Hall; and the shopping areas of Lord Street, Market Place and Silver Street and their immediate surroundings.
- 2.45 The area has retained a significant number of older buildings, many of which form interesting groups and are listed as being of special architectural and/or historic interest. Much of the old medieval street pattern is still evident within the areas layout and much of the new developments has been fitted relatively unobtrusively in between the existing frontages.
- 2.46 There is a limited supply of Green Infrastructure features within the area, with open spaces and mature trees clustered around areas such as All Saints Church and the Old Hall. Though limited, these GI features are assets of significant value which contribute to the special interest of the Conservation Area.

Riverside Conservation Area Appraisal (1993)²⁰

- 2.47 The Gainsborough Riverside Conservation Area is located on an area between the River Trent and Caskgate Street, Bridge Street and Lea Road. Many of the buildings date from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries and are in themselves of architectural and historic interest. The townscape is an important reminder of the town's rich heritage and can be viewed along the west bank of the river.
- 2.48 The area is predominantly one of hard townscape however there are a number of important views towards the western bank of the River Trent. There are some Green Infrastructure features located within the area; these having primarily formed from the past clearance of buildings, and include a number of trees largely associated with the former gardens located along Lea Road and Bridge Road.

Britannia Works Conservation Area Appraisal (1999)²¹

- 2.49 The Britannia Works Conservation Area is located around the Britannia Works road junction extending from the existing Town Centre Conservation Area across the A159 towards the railway line, and incorporating Marshall's Yard shopping area. In terms of the townscape the area is

¹⁸ West Lindsey District Council. Gainsborough Town Centre, Heritage Masterplan

¹⁹ West Lindsey District Council (c.1980). Gainsborough Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal

²⁰ West Lindsey District Council (1993). Riverside Conservation Area Appraisal

²¹ West Lindsey District Council (1999). Britannia Works Conservation Area Appraisal

important as a primary entrance to the town centre and includes 12 listed buildings and good examples of architectural detailing.

- 2.50 Green Infrastructure is very limited within the area, which is in direct contrast to the initial vision for the area, which aimed to create a 'garden suburb' outside the compact built up areas of the town centre. Opportunities highlighted include enhancement of the corner of North Street and Spital Terrace and at the end of Spital Terrace along the railway embankment bordering the station approach.

Ecology

Designations

Lea Marsh Site of Special Scientific Interest

- 2.51 This is the only statutory designation close to the town, located on its southern edge. This is an important area of unimproved floodplain meadow and wet pasture on seasonally inundated alluvial soils and includes an unusually large area of a nationally rare grassland type.

Local Wildlife Sites

- 2.52 A number of locally important sites in and around the town have been designated as Local Wildlife Sites / Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The vast majority of these sites are small woodlands which form a small cluster surrounding the town. Other locally important sites include the golf course, cemetery, and roadside verges which support a mixture of grassland habitats.
- 2.53 Land at Theaker Avenue is also designated as a Local Nature Reserve. This site is a mosaic of wildflower grassland, tall ruderals and scrub.

The River Trent

- 2.54 At Gainsborough the River Trent is still tidal, but has a limited tidal range, with only very thin stretches of intertidal habitats in the form of exposed mud, mainly along its western bank. The eastern bank on which the town sits has been largely reinforced with sheet piling and steep embankments as flood defences, with very little natural habitat occurring along this bank of the river. The floodplain in this stretch of the river therefore extends westwards away from Gainsborough across the Beckingham Marshes RSPB reserves, which is understood to support important populations of farmland birds and waders such as curlew, lapwing, snipe, black-tailed godwit and green sandpiper.

Priority Habitats

- 2.55 Gainsborough has a relatively high concentration of mixed deciduous woodland habitat, particularly compared to the surrounding intensive agricultural landscape; over 200ha of this habitat are present within 5km of the town. The majority of these woodlands are included on the ancient woodland inventory, indicating that they are likely to be of high ecological value.
- 2.56 The River Trent qualifies as a priority habitat (Rivers and Streams), and several parcels of Floodplain Grazing Marsh are present within its floodplain to the north and south of the town. Small parcels of acid grassland occur to the north of the town (Laughton Common), and a small area of parkland is present to the south of the town (Gate Burton).
- 2.57 A data search from the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership also identified 0.37ha of calcareous grassland, 40.08ha of lowland meadows habitat, 16.89ha of reedbed and 5.09ha of wet woodland within 5km of the town.

Gainsborough Green Corridor Ecological Strategy

- 2.58 Further detail on the ecological baseline within and around Gainsborough is provided in the Gainsborough Green Corridor Ecological Strategy, 2018.

3 Green Infrastructure in Gainsborough

- 3.1 The section considers the current GI in Gainsborough. Analysis of provision is set out in the following themes:
- Landscape
 - Water environment
 - Open space
 - Cultural heritage
 - Ecology
 - Access
- 3.2 Opportunities to strengthen the network of GI within Gainsborough are considered under each theme.

Landscape

- 3.3 The landscape character section of this report identifies the River Trent as a key formative influence on the character of Gainsborough. The town centre occupies the low-lying area immediately east of the river, with an extensive floodplain to the west of the river, providing expansive views, emerging wetland habitats at Beckingham Marshes and a distinctive visual setting to the town; contributing to a strong sense of place.
- 3.4 The townscape of the built-up part of Gainsborough is also considered as an element of the local landscape. Key features of Gainsborough's townscape include its historic core, with a tight urban grain of narrow streets fanning out from the market place, its local landmarks such as the churches and Old Hall with associated open spaces, the wharves alongside the river and the red brick Victorian terraces.
- 3.5 To the east of the town centre, an escarpment rises steeply from the floodplain to between 30-40 metres Above Ordnance Datum to form a prominent wooded ridgeline running north to south, providing strong enclosure and another distinctive landscape feature, in addition to the River Trent. Recent housing and commercial development has seen Gainsborough expand further to the east of this ridgeline.
- 3.6 The route of Thorndike Way (A631) forms an important east-west habitat corridor and local landscape feature, cutting through the escarpment, with a mixture of linear woodland, scrub and grassland running alongside the dual carriageway and linking with adjacent open spaces on either side.
- 3.7 A further key local landscape feature is the mosaic of scattered woodland blocks and gently undulating, predominantly arable farmland which surrounds the town to the north, south and east. This includes significant areas of ancient broadleaf woodland as well as 19th/ 20th Century conifer plantations. The importance of this area in landscape terms has been recognised by its local designation as an Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV).

Issues and opportunities

- There is an opportunity to draw on the value of these landscape features in terms of their contribution to wayfinding and legibility within the town, as local landmarks and greenspaces, in key views, and for their contribution to sense of place, verdant and scenic qualities.
- There is a significant issue with the overbearing dominance of vehicular routes, in particular the east-west The Flood Road/ Thorndike Way (A361), which severs the north and south of the town and provides a significant barrier to pedestrian and cycle movement. New pedestrian/ cycle crossings and traffic calming should be a key objective,

in conjunction with measures to 'soften' the streetscape via tree planting, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and 'parklets'.

- Opportunity for character-led enhancements to the local distinctiveness of each landscape feature; reinforcing what is distinctive about each of these (linking with legibility and biodiversity) – this is also about access, quality and condition e.g. healthy riparian/ wetland habitats along the Trent aligned with well-maintained river corridor traffic free routes, well-signed and well-lit with quality surfacing materials.

Water environment

- 3.8 The main water feature within Gainsborough is the River Trent which runs north to south along the western edge of the Gainsborough. Generally there is a flood zone corridor running along the River Trent east towards North Street (A159), northwards to Morton village, which is wholly located within Flood Zones Two and Three. There are flood defences along the eastern river bank of the Trent from Lea Road roundabout in the south of Gainsborough to the south of Morton which protect Gainsborough from flooding.
- 3.9 Open spaces located within the Flood Zones include:
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| • 3 All Saints Church | • 27 (part of) Queen Elizabeth Outdoor Sports Facilities |
| • 9 Field Lane Open Space | • 29 Richmond Park |
| • 12 Gainsborough Old Hall | • 31 Riverside Walk |
| • 13 Granary Close Wood | • 32 (part of) Ropery Road Allotments |
| • 16 Lindsey Close Open Space | • 33 Ropery Road Cemetery |
| • 17 Love Lane Allotments | • 34 Roses Sports Ground |
| • 21 Memorial Park | 38 St Pauls Church |
| • 23 Morton Terrace Allotments | |
| • 24 North Warren Road Allotments | |
- 3.10 Within the Gainsborough Gateway Area this includes sites:
- 55 (River Trent Green Corridor)
 - 56 (River Trent Green Corridor)
 - 57 (River Trent Green Corridor)
 - 58 Ashcroft Community Park
 - 60 Trinity Court Open Space

Open space

- 3.11 Overall 33 publicly accessible open spaces were audited as part of the preparation of the strategy. Many of the open space were multi-functional in nature and located within densely populated areas of Gainsborough. The typology of open spaces within Gainsborough is set out in **Table 3.1** below. The number of open spaces identified within each typology is also shown. The vast majority of open spaces in Gainsborough fall within the Amenity Greenspace typology (12). The open space audit did not include allotments or sport facilities. A full list of open spaces included in the audit is provided in **Appendix 3**.

Table 3-1 Publicly accessible open spaces in Gainsborough

Typology		Hierarchy	Number of sites
A	Parks and gardens	Local	3
		Small local	4
B	Amenity greenspace	N/A	12
C	Cemeteries and Churchyards	N/A	4
D	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Local	4
		Small local	2
E	Green corridor	N/A	4
Total number of sites			33

- 3.12 The open space audit assessed against the Green Flag Award criteria with the audit form designed to understand the quality (condition), value (functionality and importance to the local community) and accessibility (both to and within) of each site. The results of the open space audits are analysed to set clear benchmarks against which the performance of existing open space can be measured to determine the need for enhancement, monitoring improvements over time and providing a guide for the provision of new open space. The benchmark standards for quality, value and accessibility are provided for each type and hierarchy of open space. The process for setting the quality and value standards is set out below:
- Identification of key characteristics expected of spaces within the different typologies and levels of hierarchy.
 - Identification of high quality and/ or high value open spaces within Gainsborough, which provide a 'benchmark' against which to assess open spaces.
 - Setting benchmark standards which are at a level to be aspirational, yet achievable based on the existing quality and value.
- 3.13 The scores attained by each open space is set out in the **Appendix 3**. A detailed explanation of the approach taken to establish the benchmark standards is set out in the **Appendix 4**.
- 3.14 **Table 3-3** displays the benchmark standards for quality and value.

Table 3-2: Benchmark standards by typology and hierarchy

Typology	Hierarchy	Quality benchmark standard	Value benchmark standard
Parks and gardens	Local	50	38
	Small local	47	30
Churchyards and cemeteries	N/A	42	24

Typology	Hierarchy	Quality benchmark standard	Value benchmark standard
Amenity green spaces	N/A	35	12
Natural and semi-natural green spaces	Local	46	28
	Small local	25	20
Green corridor	N/A	26	23

Combined quality and value rating

3.15 Using a combination of the quality and value ratings, it is possible to identify open spaces which:

- Are performing above the benchmark standards and should therefore be protected.
- Require enhancement for either quality (condition) or value (functionality/ importance to local community).
- May no longer be needed in present purpose.

3.16 Each open space has therefore been rated with a combined quality and value band using the format of +- symbols to annotate each band (i.e. high quality/ value is shown as ++, high quality/ low value is shown as +-). The table below suggests the future management approach to open space within each band.

Table 3-3 Quality and value matrix

High quality/ high value	High quality/ low value
++	+-
<p>These are considered to be best open spaces within the borough offering the greatest value and quality for the surrounding communities.</p> <p>Future management should seek to maintain the standard for these spaces and ensure they continue to meet the requirements of the communities they serve.</p> <p>Ideally all spaces should fit into this category.</p>	<p>These sites have been scored as being of high quality but of a low value.</p> <p>Wherever possible the preferred management approach to a space in this category should be to enhance its value (range of features/ facilities on offer) in terms of its present primary typology or purpose.</p> <p>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.</p>
Low quality/ high value	Low quality/low value
++	--
<p>These spaces meet or exceed the required value standard but fall below the required quality standard.</p> <p>Future management should therefore seek to enhance their quality (condition) to ensure that the open spaces are welcoming and safe for use by the local community.</p>	<p>These spaces are falling below the applicable value and quality standards and therefore their future enhancement should be considered to be a priority.</p> <p>If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.</p>

Results of open space audits

3.17 The section below applies the standards that have been established. The key below provides an indication of the colour coding used to denote the quality and value rating of each open space by typology and hierarchy.

++	High quality/ high value
+-	Low quality / high value
+ -	High quality / low value
--	Low quality / low value

Parks and Gardens

Local Parks and Gardens



Examples of the Local Parks and Gardens: Memorial Park:

- 3.18 **Figure 3.1** shows the spatial distribution of Local Parks and Gardens within Gainsborough by combined quality and value ratings.
- 3.19 The two Local Parks and Gardens include spaces Memorial Park and Middlefield Lane Open Space are both freely accessible to the public serving a local need and are predominantly visited by local residents. Neither of the two parks within this typology achieves the prescribed benchmark standards for quality. However they do meet the prescribed benchmark for value, both offer a range of play features of varying conditions.
- 3.20 Memorial park (Site ID 21) offers a range of recreational activities for children and teenagers however the general condition of these features is poor. During the site audits (April 2019) it was noted the skate park facilities had been removed and the provision for teenagers was shut for maintenance. Furthermore there is limited provision for recreation activities for adults and a number of site features, such as seating, have been removed. Enhancements could include increasing the seating and improving the condition of planting Memorial Park as well as addressing the condition of the play facilities.
- 3.21 Both parks are located within and bordering a SOA²² within the 0-10% health deprivation decile. Therefore improving the access features and informal recreation should be set as a priority to encourage greater use of the space by the local community.

Table 3-4 Local Park and Garden Prescribed Benchmark

Quality benchmark	50
Value benchmark	38

Table 3-5 Local Parks and Garden Prescribed Quality and Value Score

ID	Site name	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality score	Value score	Combined Quality and Value rating
21	Memorial Park	2.45	Freely accessible to public	48	57	+-

²² SOA - Super Output Areas

ID	Site name	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality score	Value score	Combined Quality and Value rating
22	Middlefield Lane Open Space	4.99	Freely accessible to public	42	41	++
59	Benjamin Adlard School Fields	1.14	Restricted access: opening hours	49	28	--

Benjamin Adlard School Fields



Benjamin Adlard School Fields: Outdoor kitchen and garden growing area, tree house and wider open space.

- 3.22 The Benjamin Adlard School Fields is located in the south east of the Gainsborough Gateway Area. Leased by the school the area has been turned into outdoor learning facility drawing on the Forrest School concept. Facilities include an outdoor classroom, willow tippee, tree house, allotment and outdoor kitchen area. General access is through the school however the school has created a secondary access through the car park for general public access.
- 3.23 Access to the wider community is restricted to agreed opening hours which are delivered through open days, community days and additional learning days for the wider community.
- 3.24 The school with community partners delivers a number of additional community events to support the local area this includes outdoor skill days and CV writing days. Community involvement seems higher than other open spaces and as such this is an extremely valuable large open space within the Gainsborough Gateway area.
- 3.25 The area doubles the open space available to the primary school making a natural open space accessible in a heavily built up Ward. At the moment not all of the area is utilised as a result of limited resources available to the school to develop the facilities.
- 3.26 Issues include:
- Theft of materials and animals
 - Unauthorised access and grazing of animals
 - Lack of resources to increase facilities
- 3.27 Opportunities include increasing the facilities and areas of interest which could include by not limited:



Examples of opportunities: Gutter gardening, community orchard, protective hedgerow (hawthorn or mixed native species). Small Local Parks and Gardens



Examples of high quality and value Parks and Gardens: Ashcroft Community Park, Gainsborough Old Hall, Richmond Park.

- 3.28 **Figure 3.2** shows the spatial distribution of Small Local Parks and Gardens within Gainsborough by combined quality and value ratings.
- 3.29 The four parks and gardens include spaces Ashcroft Community Park, Gainsborough Old Hall, Richmond Park and Lindsey Close Open Space. Ashcroft Community Park, Richmond Park and Lindsey Close Open Space serve a local need and are predominantly visited by local residents and workers. Gainsborough Old Hall is run by English Heritage as a garden and part of the setting of Gainsborough Old Hall building. The open space is used by local residents, workers and visitors to Gainsborough.
- 3.30 Three of the Small Local Parks and Gardens meet the prescribed benchmark for quality standards. Both Richmond Park (Site ID 29) and Ashcroft Road Community Park (Site ID 58) also meet the prescribed benchmark for value standards. Gainsborough Old Hall does not meet the prescribed benchmark for value. Though maintained to a very high quality the provision of freely accessible recreation facilities such as play is limited.
- 3.31 Lindsey Close Open Space falls below the prescribed benchmark for both quality and value. The site is located directly opposite a primary school and nursery provides a valuable large open space. Currently there are a limited number of recreational facilities and the site is in a deteriorating condition with fly tipping and arson evident during the site audits (April 2019).
- 3.32 Gainsborough Old Hall and Ashcroft Community Park are located in areas within 0-10% health deprivation decile. Whilst Lindsey Close Open Space is located within an area within the 10-20% health deprivation decile. As a result improving access and informal recreation to encourage greater use by the local community should be set as a priority.

Table 3-6 Small Local Park and Garden Prescribed Benchmarks

Quality benchmark	47
Value benchmark	30

Table 3-7 Small Local Park and Garden Quality and Value Score

ID	Site Name	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality	Value	Combined Quality and Value rating
12	Gainsborough Old Hall	0.65	Freely accessible to public	60	23	+-
29	Richmond Park	1.80	Freely accessible to public	71	72	++
58	Ashcroft Road Community Park	0.13	Freely accessible to public	62	33	++
16	Lindsey Close Open Space	0.76	Freely accessible to public	39	23	--

Figure 3.1: Distribution of local parks and gardens

-  Settlement boundaries
-  Gainsborough Gateway
-  Railway station
-  Bus stop
- Local parks and gardens**
-  Higher quality, higher value
-  Higher quality, lower value
-  Lower quality, higher value
-  Lower quality, lower value
-  Not audited
-  400 m access buffer
-  Freely accessible to the public

Source: West Lindsey District Council, Naptan

Map Scale @ A4: 1:30,000

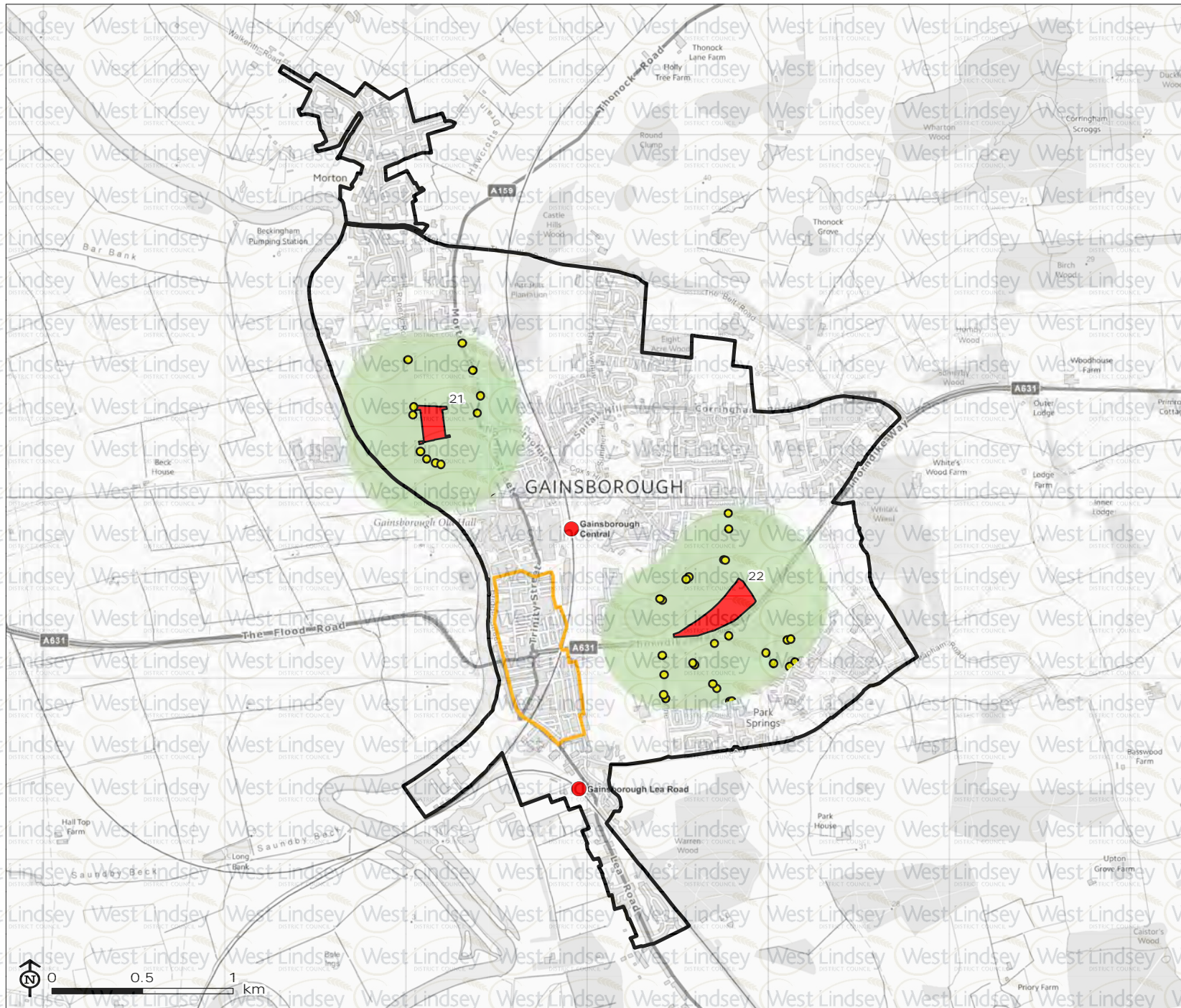


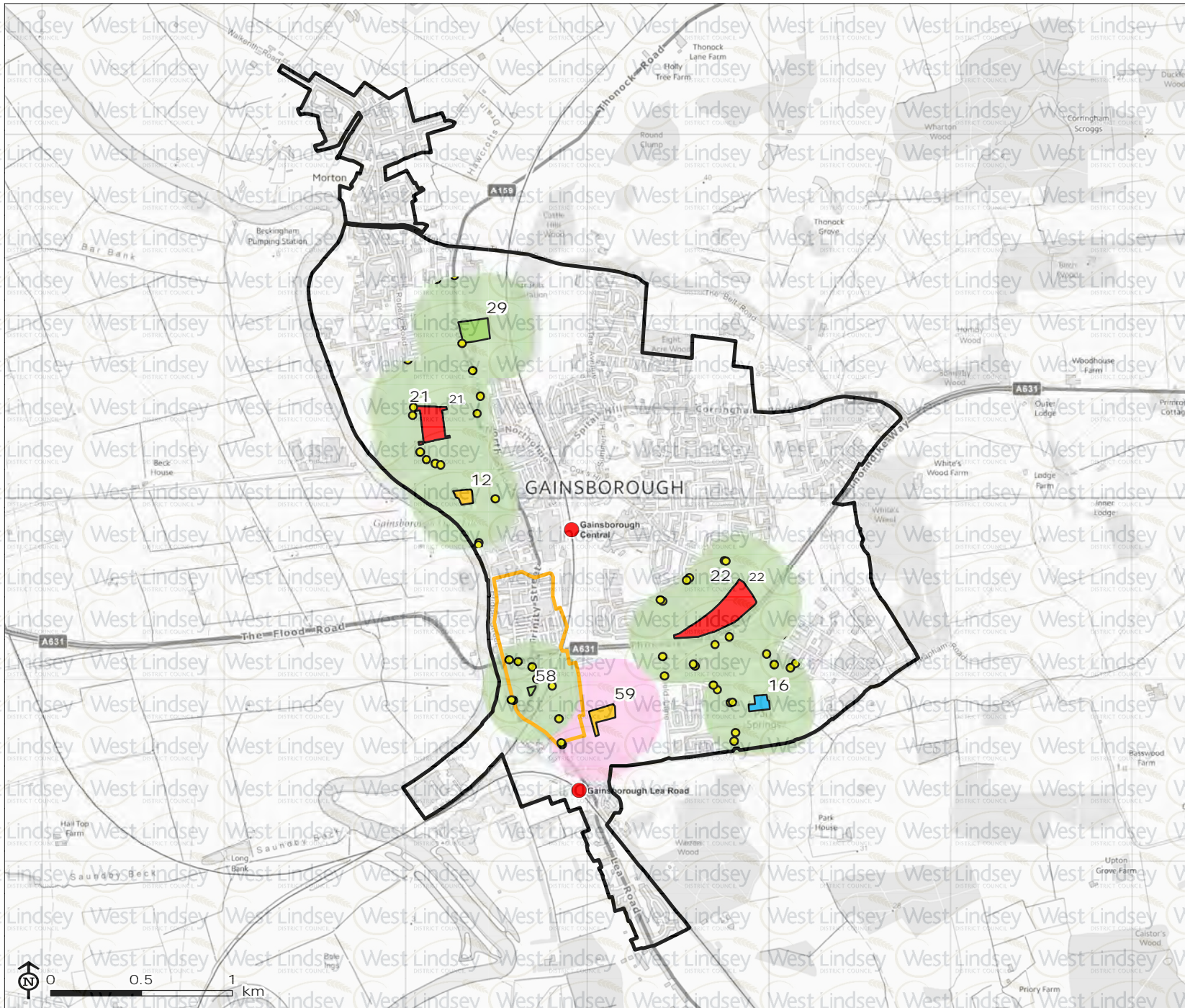
Figure 3.2: Distribution of small local parks and gardens

- Settlement boundaries
- Gainsborough Gateway
- Railway station
- Bus stop
- Small local parks and gardens
 - Higher quality, higher value
 - Higher quality, lower value
 - Lower quality, higher value
 - Lower quality, lower value
- 250 m access buffer

- Freely accessible to the public
- Restricted access: opening hours

Source: West Lindsey District Council, Naptan

Map Scale @ A4: 1:30,000



Amenity Greenspace



Examples of high quality and value Amenity Greenspaces: Danes Road Open Space; Pinter Road Amenity Space; Sunningdale Way Open Space.

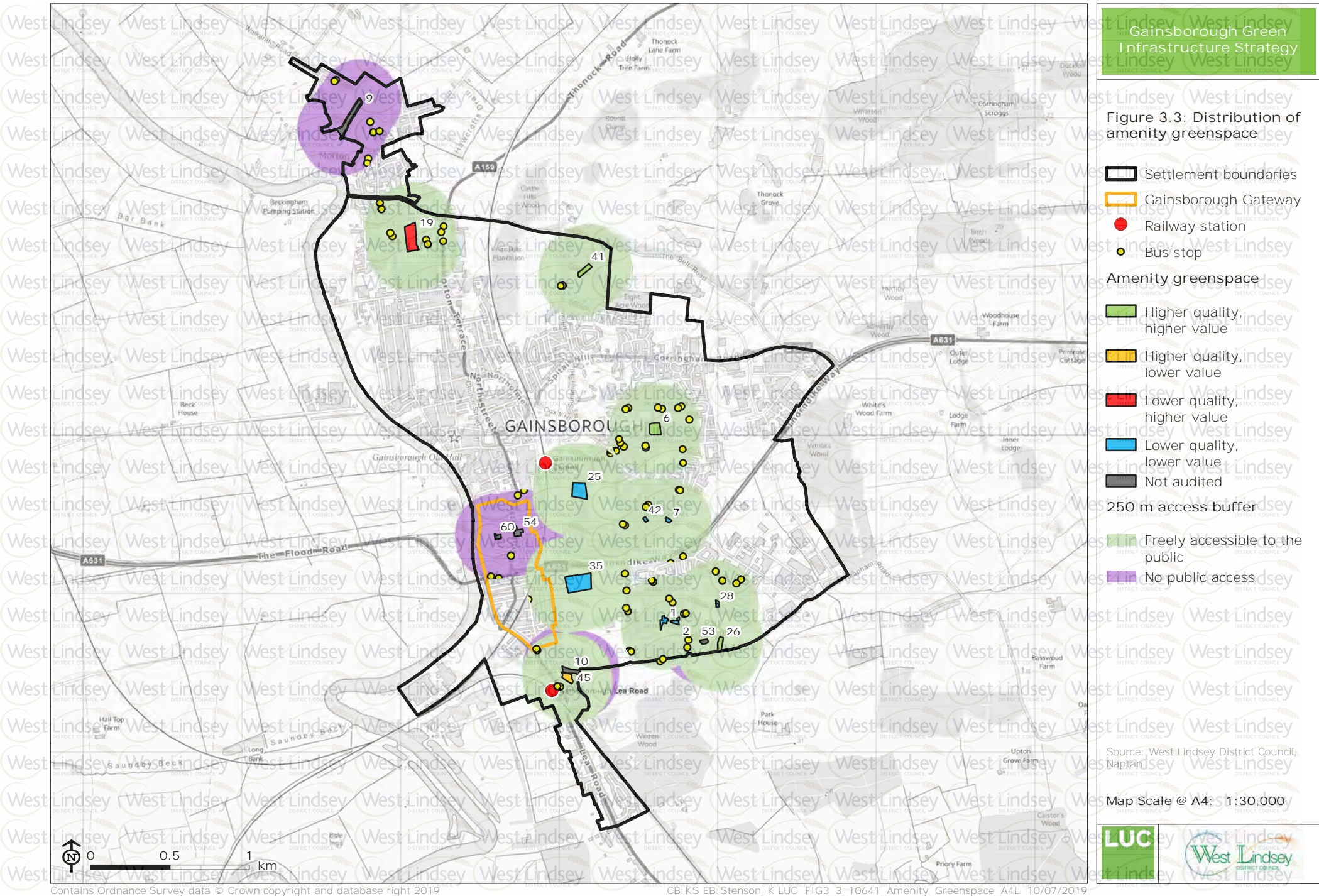
- 3.33 Amenity Green Space is the largest typology of open space within Gainsborough. The sites are generally well spread across the borough and offer a range of informal recreational features. As such they are an integral form of open space within Gainsborough.
- 3.34 A large number of the Amenity Green Space contains play facilities, as such it should be expected these sites qualify for a higher score for both quality and value. It should be noted amenity spaces form an important part of the open spaces within the Gainsborough and as such the provision of play should be protected. The sites containing active play facilities are listed below:
- Danes Road Open Space (26)
 - Pinter Road Amenity Space (26)
 - Sunningdale Way Open Space (41)
 - Pinter Road Amenity Space (26)
 - Willoughby Chase Open Space (46)
- 3.35 Of the 12 audited Amenity Green Space only three of the open spaces meet the prescribed benchmarks for both quality and value. A further one meets the prescribed benchmarks for quality and another for value.
- 3.36 During the site visits it was noted a number of the open space have had their play facilities removed and are now in a poor and/or deteriorating condition with limited recreational facilities. These sites are also falling below the prescribed benchmark for quality and value. These sites are listed below:
- Adelaide Close Amenity Greenspace (1)
 - Aegir Close Amenity Greenspace (2)
 - Dunstall Open Space (7)
 - Riby Close Amenity Greenspace (28)
 - Sunningdale Way Open Space (41)
 - The Drive Open Space (42)
- 3.37 Pingle Close Open Space (25) also falls below the prescribed benchmark for quality and value; in this case the open space was in a good condition however there were a limited number of features to enhance the recreational offer. Therefore this site could easily be improved by increasing site furniture such as seating and/or community involvement.
- 3.38 **Figure 3.3** shows the distribution of Amenity Greenspaces in Gainsborough.

Table 3-8 Amenity Space Prescribed Benchmarks

Quality benchmark	35
Value benchmark	12

Table 3-9 Amenity Space Quality and Value Score

ID	Site name	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality	Value	Combined Quality and Value Rating
1	Adelaide Close Amenity Green Space	0.19	Freely accessible to public	10	6	--
2	Aegir Close Amenity Green Space	0.11	Freely accessible to public	20	7	--
6	Danes Road Open Space	0.49	Freely accessible to public	53	32	++
7	Dunstall Open Space	0.07	Freely accessible to public	30	7	--
19	Mayfield Avenue Open Space	1.10	Freely accessible to public	33	15	+-
25	Pingle Close Open Space	0.81	Freely accessible to public	34	9	--
26	Pinter Road Amenity Space	0.23	Freely accessible to public	57	28	++
28	Riby Close Amenity Green Space	0.07	Freely accessible to public	26	10	--
35	Sandfields Lane Amenity Green Space	1.60	Freely accessible to public	18	11	--
41	Sunningdale Way Open Space	0.29	Freely accessible to public	56	27	++
42	The Drive Open Space	0.05	Freely accessible to public	11	5	--
45	Willoughby Chase Open Space	0.29	Freely accessible to public	35	11	+-



Cemeteries and Churchyards



Examples of high quality and value Cemeteries and Churchyards: All Saints Church; Heapham Road Cemetery; St Paul's Church (meets the prescribed value benchmark).

- 3.39 Of the four Cemeteries and Churchyard assessed, two of the open spaces meet the prescribed benchmarks for both quality and value. A further one meets the prescribed benchmarks for value whilst Ropery Road Cemetery fails to meet the prescribed benchmark for either quality or value.
- 3.40 St Pauls Church falls below the benchmark for quality as a result of the deteriorating condition of the infrastructure within the open space, such as seating, fencing and hard surfaces. The cemetery scores well for value with an up to date community notice board and well maintained labyrinth.
- 3.41 **Figure 3.4** shows the distribution of Cemeteries and Churchyards in Gainsborough.










Table 3-10 Cemeteries and Churchyards Prescribed Benchmarks

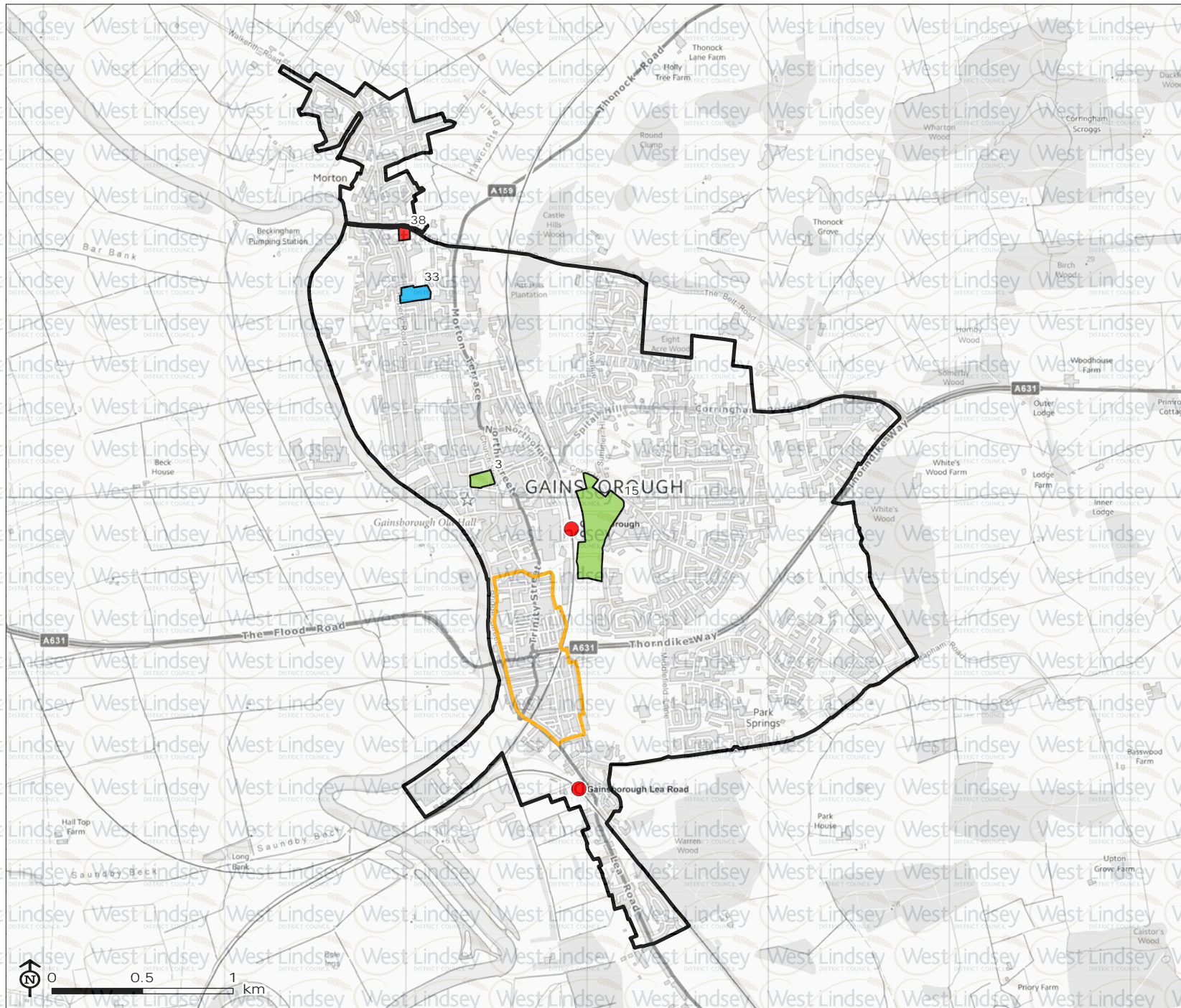
Quality benchmark	42
Value benchmark	24

Table 3-11 Cemetery and Churchyard Quality and Value Score

ID	Site name	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality	Value	Combined Quality and Value rating
3	All Saints Church	1.00	Freely accessible to public	72	33	++
15	Heapham Road Cemetery	8.40	Freely accessible to public	54	25	++
33	Ropery Road Cemetery	1.26	Freely accessible to public	30	15	--
38	St Pauls Church	0.40	Freely accessible to public	40	24	+-

Figure 3.4: Distribution of cemeteries and churchyards

-  Settlement boundaries
-  Gainsborough Gateway
-  Railway station
-  Cemetery and churchyard
-  Higher quality, higher value
-  Higher quality, lower value
-  Lower quality, higher value
-  Lower quality, lower value
-  Not audited



Source: West Lindsey District Council

Map Scale @ A4: 1:30,000



Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace

3.42 **Figure 3.5** shows the distribution of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace in Gainsborough.

Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace



Examples of Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace: Hawthorn Avenue Open Space; Sandsfield Lane Open Space; Thorndike Way.

- 3.43 Sandsfield Lane Open Space is the only Local Natural and Semi natural Greenspace to meet the prescribed benchmarks for quality. However this score is slightly misleading as the play space within the Sandsfield Lane is in very poor condition with some play features having already been removed.
- 3.44 None of the open spaces within Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace meet the prescribed benchmark standards for value and generally contain very little of formal recreational value.
- 3.45 Hawthorn Avenue is an important large open space, the site is within walking distance to a number of primary and secondary schools in addition it is one of the largest sites located within an area in the 0-10% of the health deprivation decile. Priorities for enhancement should include improving access, which should include formalising paths, introducing directional signage and seating. Though there is evidence of some informal recreational use such as den building, a homemade swing and dog walking additional value enhancements such as ecological interpretation and greater community involvement through open days, a friends group and Forrest school activities would also be of benefit to the open space.

Table 3-12 Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace Prescribed Benchmarks

Quality benchmark	46
Value benchmark	28

Table 3-13 Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace Quality and Value Score

ID	Site name	Typology	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality	Value	Combined Quality and Value rating
14	Hawthorn Avenue Open Space	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	12.28	Freely accessible to public	32	18	--
36	Sandsfield Lane Open Space	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	2.00	Freely accessible to public	46	26	+-
40	Summer Hill Open Space	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	3.23	No public access	22	6	--
49	Thorndike Way	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	7.11	Freely accessible to public: de facto	20	9	--

Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace



Example of Granary Close Wood high quality and value small local natural and semi natural greenspace.

- 3.46 Of the two open spaces within Small Local Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace typology Granary Close Wood (Site ID 13) meets the prescribed benchmark for quality and value and is also freely accessible to the public. The site has very few recreational features but there is evidence of some den building. Willoughton Drive Open Space does not meet the prescribed benchmark for either quality or value and is not freely accessible due to the condition of the site. There are no paths through the open space and it appears fairly neglected.
- 3.47 **Figure 3.6** shows the spatial distribution of Small Local Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace within Gainsborough by combined quality and value ratings.

Table 3-14 Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace

Quality benchmark	25
Value benchmark	20

Table 3-15 Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace Quality and Value Score

ID	Site name	Typology	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality	Value	Combined Quality and Value rating
13	Granary Close Wood	Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	0.99	Freely accessible to public	25	20	++
47	Willoughton Drive Open Space	Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	1.47	Restricted access: due to the condition of the site restricting access	21	7	--

Figure 3.5: Distribution of
local natural and semi
natural greenspace

- Settlement boundaries
- Gainsborough Gateway
- Railway station
- Bus stop

Local natural and semi
natural greenspace

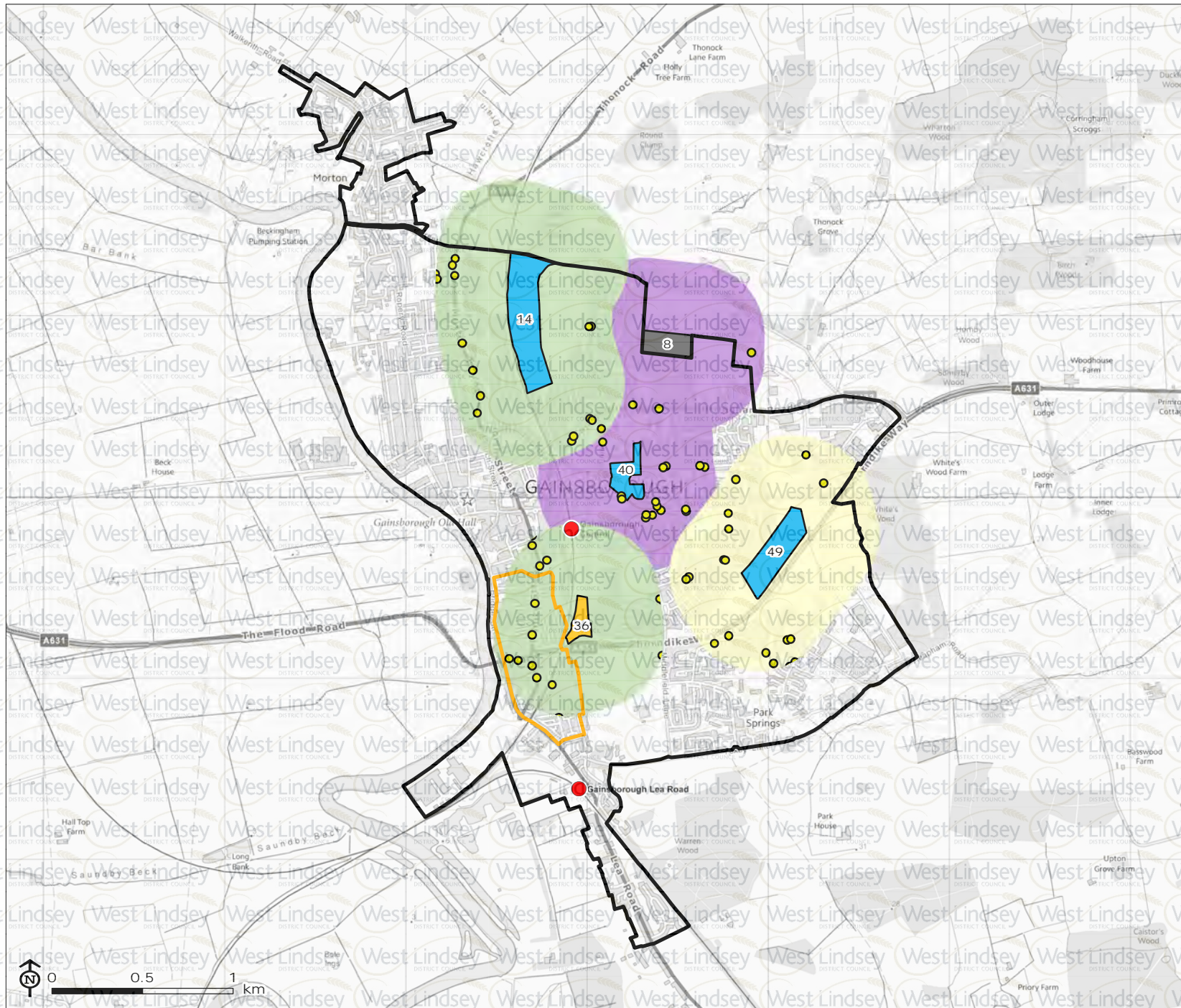
- Higher quality,
higher value
- Higher quality,
lower value
- Lower quality,
higher value
- Lower quality,
lower value
- Not audited

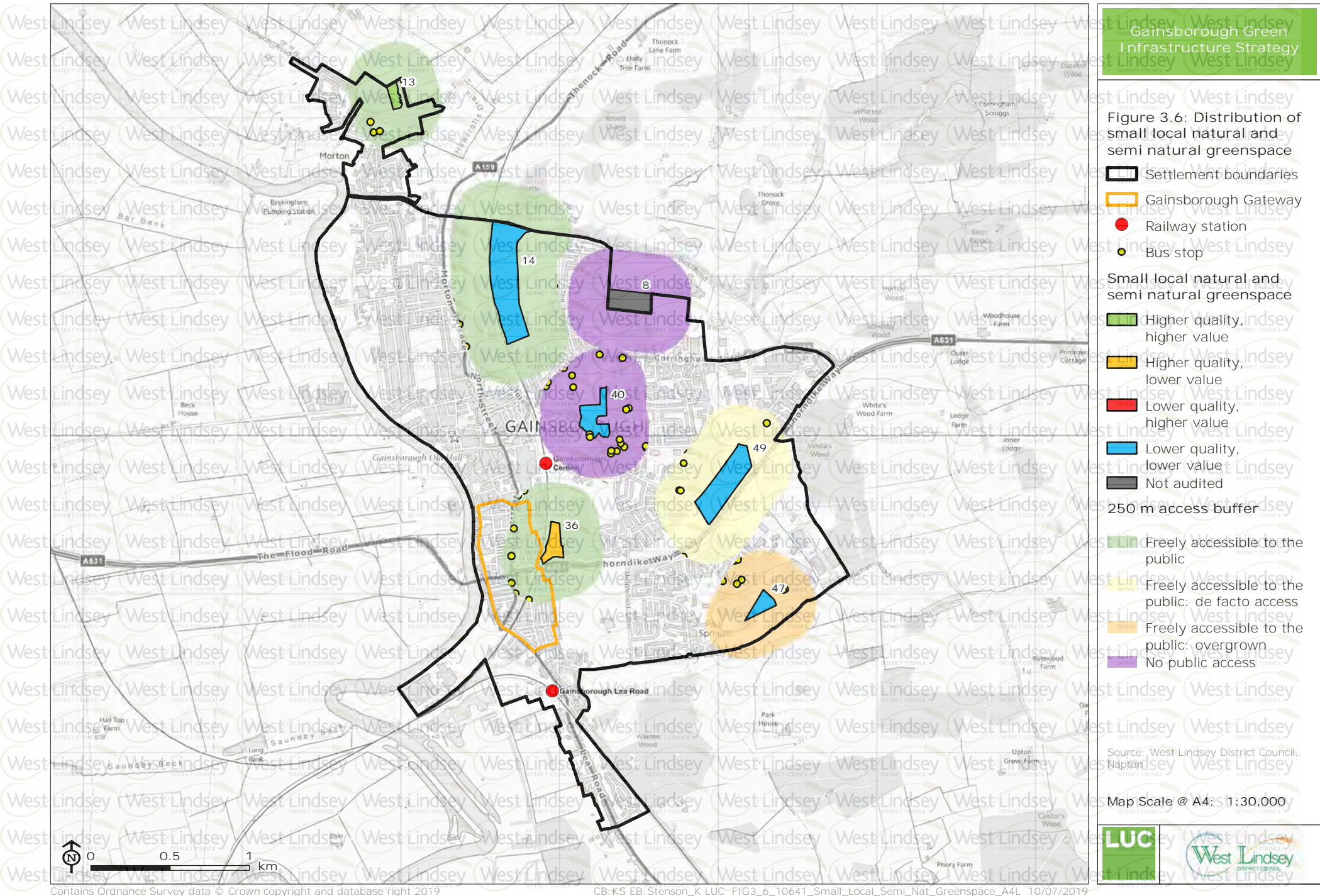
400 m access buffer

- Freely accessible to the
public
- Freely accessible to the
public; de facto access
- No public access

Source: West Lindsey District Council,
Naptan

Map Scale @ A4: 1:30,000





Green Corridors

3.48 **Figure 3.7** shows the distribution of Green Corridors in Gainsborough.



Example of Riverside Walk a high quality and value Green Corridor Open Space: Bridge Road Amenity Greenspace and Bridge Street Amenity Greenspace both high quality and low value sites.

- 3.49 The open spaces within the Green Corridors are connected and form part of the larger green corridor along the River Trent. These four sites have been singled out for their additional importance as open spaces within and near to the Gainsborough Gateway Area.
- 3.50 Of the four open spaces within the Riverside Green Corridor typology Riverside Walk (ID 31) is the only site to meet the prescribed benchmark for quality. Thornton Road Amenity, Bridge Street Amenity and Bridge Road Amenity Greenspaces all score above the prescribed benchmark for quality but fall below the benchmark for value.
- 3.51 Riverside walk is a valuable open space for its number of site features which include a toilet block (now defunct), a number of site seats, litter bins and range of horticultural displays. The space appears well used by both the local community and workers. Generally the space is in a good condition however there are some gaps in the horticultural borders and graffiti on the old toilet block.

Table 3-16 Green Corridors Prescribed Benchmarks

Quality benchmark	26
Value benchmark	23

Table 3-17 Green Corridors Quality and Value Score

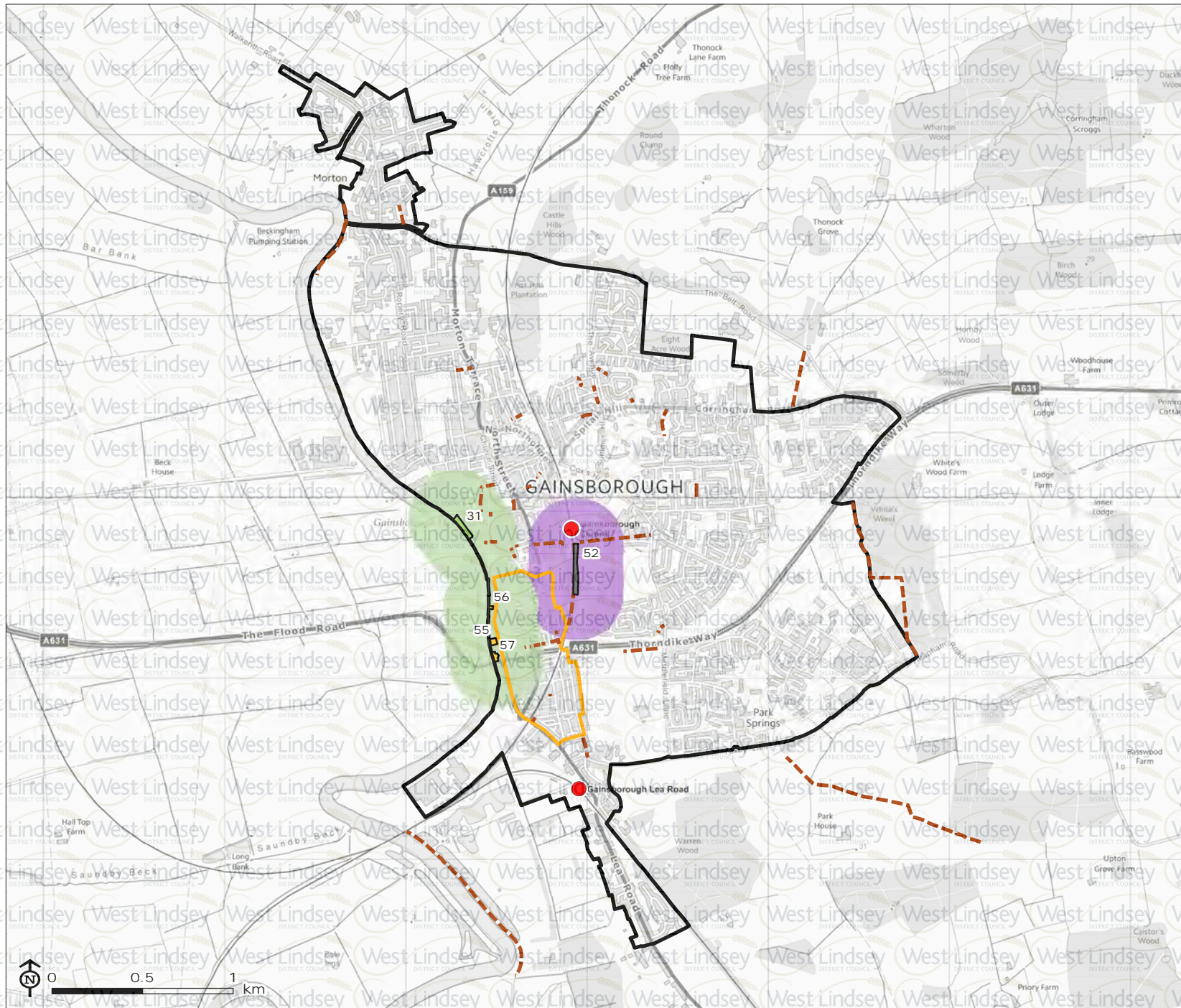
ID	Site name	Typology	Area (ha)	Accessibility	Quality	Value	Combined Quality and Value rating
31	Riverside Walk	Green Corridors	0.38	Freely accessible to public	59	23	++
55	Thornton Road Amenity Greenspace	Amenity Greenspace	0.12	Freely accessible to public	42	18	+-
56	Bridge Street Amenity Greenspace	Amenity Greenspace	0.04	Freely accessible to public	45	13	+-
57	Bridge Road Amenity Greenspace	Amenity Greenspace	0.12	Freely accessible to public	48	18	+-

Figure 3.7: Distribution of
green corridors

-  Settlement boundaries
-  Gainsborough Gateway
-  Railway station
-  Public Right of Way
- Green corridor**
 -  Higher quality, higher value
 -  Higher quality, lower value
 -  Lower quality, higher value
 -  Lower quality, lower value
 -  Not audited
- 250 m access buffer**
 -  Freely accessible to the public
 -  No public access

Source: West Lindsey District Council

Map Scale @ A4: 1:30,000



Provision for children and teenagers



Example of high quality and value provision of play in Richmond Park.

- 3.52 The individual quality and value standards are set out below. This is to help inform future improvements to the play spaces.
- 3.53 Generally the play spaces within Gainsborough are falling below the set standard benchmark for quality and value. Many of the play spaces are in a deteriorating condition with many of the equipment pieces having already been removed. For example Memorial Park (21) and Sandsfield Lane Open Space (36).
- 3.54 Richmond Park is the only play space which meets the standard benchmark for quality and value. Providing a range of play features for all ages, the equipment is in a good condition and offers safe access to formal and informal recreation.
- 3.55 **Figure 3.8** shows the spatial distribution of Provision for Children and Teenagers within Gainsborough by combined quality and value ratings.

Table 3-18 Provision for Children and Teenagers Prescribed Benchmarks

Quality benchmark	9
Value benchmark	23

Table 3-19 Provision for Children and Teenagers Quality and Value Score

ID	Site name	Typology	Quality score	Value score	Combined Quality and Value rating
6	Danes Road Open Space	Amenity Greenspace	10	21	+-
16	Lindsey Close Open Space	Amenity Greenspace	8	13	--
20	Mayflower Close Play Area	Provision for Children and Young People	5	12	--
21	Memorial Park	Parks and Gardens	7	37	++
22	Middlefield Lane Open Space	Parks and Gardens	7	26	++
26	Pinter Road Amenity Space	Amenity Greenspace	4	15	--
29	Richmond Park	Parks and Gardens	9	44	+++
30	Riseholme Road Play Space	Provision for Children and Young People	4	3	--
36	Sandsfield Lane Open Space	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	2	10	--
41	Sunningdale Way Open Space	Amenity Greenspace	5	15	--

ID	Site name	Typology	Quality score	Value score	Combined Quality and Value rating
46	Willoughby Chase Play Area	Provision for Children and Young People	4	14	--
51	Coupland Close Play Area	Provision for Children and Young People	2	9	--
58	Ashcroft Road Community Park	Parks and Gardens	3	9	--



Map Scale @ A4: 1:30,000



Issues and opportunities

- Neither of the Local Parks and Gardens within Gainsborough currently meets the prescribed benchmark for quality standard.
- A number of the new green gyms are located within the boundaries of play provision; as a result this is likely to discourage adults without children from using the spaces.
- A number of play sites within housing development in the Gainsborough South West Ward and Gainsborough East Ward have been removed leaving sites of low recreational value and low quality.
- There is limited provision of facilities for children and teenagers aged 11+ across the borough. Furthermore there are no facilities in West Lindsey Super Output Areas 004C, 004F, west of 004D, 006D, 002A. Richmond Park is an example of open space which contains a wide range of play features catering for a variety of ages.
- There is a general lack of provision of facilities such as toilets, seating and litter bins (including recycling bins).
- Generally there is limited community involvement at a range of sites. This could be enhancement through community planting schemes²³, increase of public art or enhancement of community groups involvement within the local areas.
- Generally there is very limited graffiti and vandalism within the open spaces – where this has been identified it seems to be in isolated cases.
- Within Gainsborough South West Ward and Gainsborough East two of the larger sites in the wards are being used for the grazing of horses. These sites are also in a deteriorating condition.
- There are frequently gaps within existing planting area and schemes often offer little horticultural interest or colour.
- A large number of sites within Gainsborough contain limited site interpretation. Generally there is no interpretation on ecological value.
- There is a general lack of recycling bins, composting facilities and water harvesting.
- The nature conservation values of open spaces are often limited within the Gainsborough North and Gainsborough South Wards with most open spaces formed of close mown grassland and ornamental shrubs.
- There appears to be a lack of school involvement (but for Benjamin Adlard School) and a general opportunity to increase involvement from schools.
- Limited number of events and fairs advertised at open spaces.
- Lack of links to the wider open space network including complementary open spaces.

Cultural heritage

- 3.56 As described within paragraphs 2.45 – 2.53, heritage designations and assets within Gainsborough include its three designated Conservation Areas and 85 statutorily listed buildings, including the Grade I listed Old Hall and All Saints Church. Prominent local landmarks include the Marshall's Yard complex, a number of church spires and towers, and the water tower atop the escarpment, which are some of the tallest buildings in the town and contribute strongly to wayfinding and the legibility of the townscape. In terms of GI provision, these assets could help form the focus of waymarked cycle and pedestrian routes, and are often associated with formal

²³ There are a number of successful national community schemes which could be utilised to increase the community involvement this includes schemes such as **RHS Campaign for School Gardening** – programme which aims to inspire and support schools to provide children with gardening opportunities to enhance their skills and boost their development. - <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/resources/find-a-resource?%3Fso=0&pi=0&ps=10&f=1,7>: **Cultivation Street** – a national campaign and network of community gardens, schools and garden centres which aim to bring a bit of pride and beauty back to Britain's streets- <https://cultivationstreet.com/>

and informal open spaces, such as those focused along Gladstone Street within the town centre, and the large cemetery on the hillside above the town.

Issues and opportunities

- Many of the heritage assets do not have associated open spaces, so their role in contributing to GI provision would be limited to their wayfinding function; helping people to navigate promoted routes within and around the town, by virtue of their prominence as well-known local landmarks.
- Raising the profile of these assets, perhaps by new or enhanced interpretation facilities and/or publicity in conjunction with new GI routes, could help improve public engagement and participation in Gainsborough's GI strategy.
- Where a heritage asset does have an associated informal or formal open space, these form part of the green infrastructure network, and could be subject to enhancement to improve their functionality and range of benefits, as appropriate.

Ecology

- 3.57 The existing ecological baseline in Gainsborough is set out in paragraphs 2.54 – 2.60. Publicly accessible sites provide important recreational opportunities and allow people to experience nature, with associated benefits to well-being and quality of life.
- 3.58 The Gainsborough Green Corridor Ecological Strategy (2018) mapped the woodland opportunity areas and a number of open space assets around the town, and also illustrated proposed environmental enhancement objectives.
- 3.59 Meadows form an important part of the UK's native habitat. The flowering species add a changing palette of colour to an urban environment whilst providing a number of ecosystem services such as habitat for pollinators, carbon sequestration and increased water infiltration. Whilst the active involvement of the local community in managing sites encourages ownership values to be fostered furthermore creating opportunities for education and recreation activities (ranging from nature studies to art lessons).

Issues and opportunities

- There is a potential conflict between some biodiversity and GI objectives, e.g. reducing lighting along the riverside walk to benefit bats, whilst there is also a need for well-lit areas for safety and to encourage public use of the walkway. Conversely, sensitive lighting would also allow people to better experience the night sky.
- There is a significant opportunity for enhanced management of the woodland and wetland resource around Gainsborough for biodiversity, in conjunction with improving recreational access in a sensitive manner. Encouraging community management of key sites would improve their long-term stewardship and discourage anti-social behaviour.
- Within the Gainsborough urban area, a balance may need to be struck between the planting of native species in order to enhance biodiversity (e.g. for invertebrates and birds), and the planting of non-native species which may provide greater seasonal interest and visual amenity for residents, and be more resilient to climate change and pests and diseases.
- There are opportunities to incorporate floristic meadows within open spaces throughout Gainsborough. Though there is the perception of lower maintenance costs and drought tolerance there are a few key considerations in the establishment of meadows:
 - Most wild flowers and flowering shrubs require full sun throughout the year.
 - Site preparation is key to controlling weeds (such as grass)
 - Understanding the current site conditions such as soil type is key to establishment
 - Controlling of weeds with by key to ensure the success of flowering plants.

Access

Accessibility standards

- 3.60 The accessibility standard defines the maximum distance that users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of open space. This can be presented spatially by use of an 'accessibility catchment' which is effectively a mapped buffer around facilities and spaces.
- 3.61 Our method is presented in **Appendix 2**. A summary of the access standards are presented in **Table 3.18** below.

Table 3-20 Access standards

Open Space typology	Access standard
Local Parks and Gardens	400 metres
Local Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space	400 metres
Small Local Parks and Gardens	250 metres
Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Open Space	250 metres
Amenity open space	250 metres
Green Corridors	250 metres
Churchyards and cemeteries	N/A

- 3.62 Large areas of the borough fall outside the accessibility catchment for Parks and Gardens, Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space, Green Corridors and Amenity Space.
- 3.63 There are large areas within Gainsborough which have no access to Local or Small Local Parks and Gardens within easy walking distance. As a result these areas are heavily reliant on the provision within Amenity open spaces and their facilities.
- 3.64 Amenity Green Spaces are more widely dispersed across Gainsborough and are important GI assets. Generally the east of the Borough, which also experiences some of the highest health and environment deprivation rates, is within walking distance of a number of Amenity Green Spaces however a number of these sites are of low quality and value and no longer provide sufficient recreational facilities. Amenity Green Spaces offer the greatest opportunity to respond to gaps in more formal open space provision.

Gainsborough Gateway Area

- 3.65 The number and types of open space within the Gainsborough Gateway Area is limited and the large population puts additional pressure on the limited number of open spaces which are accessible to the local community.
- 3.66 Generally the Gainsborough Gateway area relies heavily on access to open spaces outside of the gateway area to make up for the lack of open spaces within the boundary of the area itself. Therefore ease of access to these surrounding open spaces is essential.
- 3.67 Ashcroft Community Park provides the south of the Gateway Area with access to the Small Local Park, however when assessed against the population density of this ward this is not sufficient provision of open space.
- 3.68 Sites 35 Sandfields Lane Amenity Green Space: Amenity Greenspace and 36 Sandsfield Lane Open Space: Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace on paper provide the east of the ward with access to a large Amenity Open Space and Natural and Semi Natural Open Space. However from the site audits it is clear access and use of these sites is obstructed by the current condition of the sites, and lack of infrastructure such as directional signage and pedestrian access.
- 3.69 Green Corridors provide access to open space for the north-west of the borough. However the provision of recreation facilities within these spaces is limited. Furthermore there is no freely accessible play provision within the ward.

Access quality and value within open space



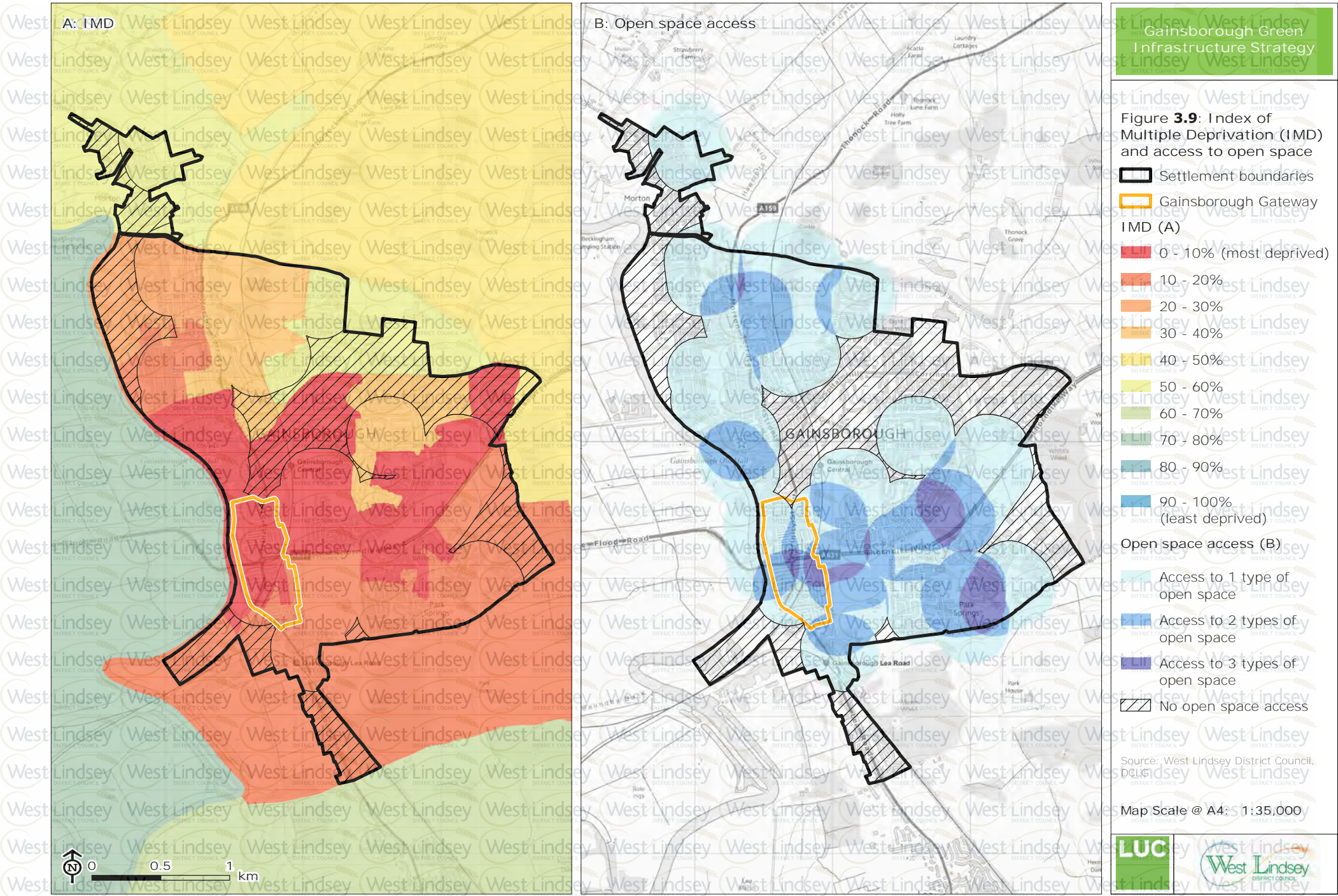
Examples of the poor and deteriorating access features: missing benches within Memorial Park; deteriorating condition of paths within North Warren Cemetery; Limited seating within Mayfield Avenue Open Space.

- 3.70 All publicly accessible open spaces should offer good access including step-free entrances, even and well-located footpaths, and appropriate provision of furniture (e.g. suitably located seating). Although there are a few sites where footpaths are in a good condition, such as Sites 3 All Saints Church, 12 Gainsborough Old Hall and 31 Riverside Walk, there were many sites where the conditions of the footpaths and location of site furniture such as seating should be improved as a priority to improve the accessibility of these open spaces, in order to ensure compliance with the Equality Act (2010).

Issues and opportunities

- Limited resting places/ seating and a lack of variety of those provided prevents open spaces being accessible to a diverse range of people. There is opportunity to increase the number (approximately one every 200m) and variety of resting places the within open space across Gainsborough in line with Equalities Act 2010. For more information refer to *Benches for everyone*²⁴.
- Increase seating with disabled access.
- Ensure path widths are a minimum two metres wide to allow for two wheelchairs/ people to pass each other, and all paths are in a good condition and level.
- Ensure all pedestrian routes are logical, useful and suitable for the whole range of users.
- Provide clear information on the accessibility of the various routes and areas to different users.
- Place signs only where needed, for example at entrances, or 'honeypot' sites. All signs design should be coherent and complement the overall 'feel' of the green space.
- There are clearly areas of the community within Gainsborough, such as the Gainsborough Gateway Area with limited access to open space either as a result of there being a lack of green space or from poor connectivity. These areas would benefit from creating new open space nearby, seeking opportunities for planting and SuDS, to improving access to existing assets.

²⁴ The Young Foundation (2015). Benches for everyone. [Accessible: https://youngfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/The-Bench-Project_single-pages.pdf]



4 Green Infrastructure Recommendations

- 4.1 The following section sets out the framework to guide the future management of the green infrastructure network in Gainsborough. It begins with a vision statement, which is supported by nine overarching principles.
- 4.2 An illustrated plan sets out the overarching strategy for Gainsborough, which seeks to improve the connectivity and functionality of the GI network across the town. A more focused strategy has been prepared for Gainsborough Gateway Area, an area which suffers from some of the highest levels of deprivation in England and which has limited accessibility to green space.
- 4.3 Projects identified to enhance of the GI network in Gainsborough have been prioritised to highlight interventions which offer the greatest range of benefits to residents, and which are considered to have fewer constraints to delivery.

Vision

- 4.4 The vision for green infrastructure in Gainsborough is:

"The Council seeks to create a series of green spaces within Gainsborough to provide amenity, open space and play space for all residents and visitors. Creating an environment that is attractive and accessible, with opportunities for all to access green spaces and promoting a healthier lifestyle."

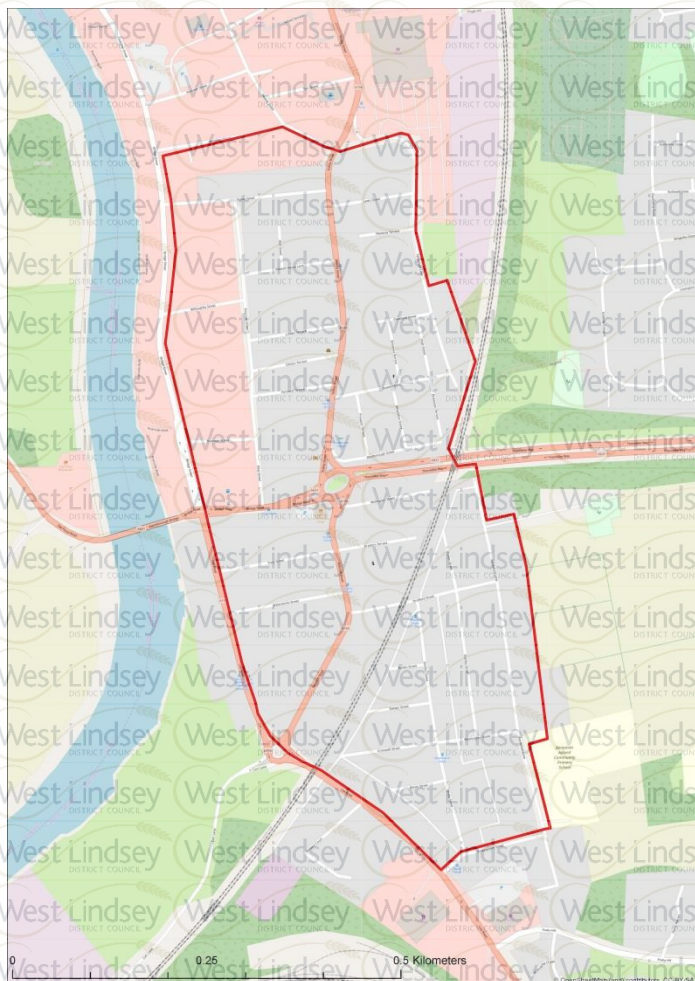
Principles

- 4.6 The vision for the GI network in Gainsborough will be supported by the nine principles set out in the Gainsborough Infrastructure and Planning Delivery Strategy (2016):
 - 1. Accessibility to the countryside and woodland areas;
 - 2. Connectivity (for commuting and leisure) to and from new developments to surrounding areas;
 - 3. Quality and provision within the existing urban area, and particularly in relation to town centre housing sites;
 - 4. Pedestrian and cycle corridor along the riverside;
 - 5. Quality of waterways and continuous green and blue links for flora and fauna;
 - 6. Improving built environment quality, especially for the Gainsborough Gateway area;
 - 7. The role of green infrastructure in creating a distinctive and potentially unique "quality of life" offer for Gainsborough;
 - 8. The potential to link to Beckingham Marshes in Bassetlaw, an emerging habitat and potential visitor attraction; and
 - 9. Provide new pedestrian/ cycle crossings and traffic calming, in conjunction with measures to soften the streetscape with tree planting, vegetated Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), planters systems and small parks/ green spaces.
- 4.7 Opportunities to enhance GI in Gainsborough are shown in **Figure 4.1**. Opportunities presented range in scale and complexity and have been highlighted to address the key specific issues that existing within Gainsborough. Some of the opportunities may be addressed by initial capital projects or through a change in management.

Green infrastructure strategy for Gainsborough Gateway Area

4.8 The extent of the Gainsborough Gateway area, as defined by WLDC, is shown on **Figure 4.2** below. The area is characterised by a compact grid of Victorian streets, bisected by Thorndike Way (A631) / Bridge Road, and in the south, by the railway line running north-south. The western boundary of the area follows Bridge Street and Lea Road (A156), and the eastern boundary follows Sandsfield Lane, at the foot of the escarpment.

Figure 4-2 Gainsborough Gateway Area



4.9 As previously noted, existing GI provision within this area is extremely limited, and specific GI opportunities relating to individual open spaces within and adjacent to the Gateway area have been assessed as part of the Open Space Prioritisation Plan above.

4.10 The localised strategy for the Gateway area, and key GI priorities, are based around the concept of 'reclaiming streets', and outlined below.

- Ensure green spaces within the gateway area are multifunctional offering opportunities for recreation (formal and informal) as well as supporting features of wildlife importance and improving the quality of the living environment.
- Increase greenery throughout the area via street tree planting, street planters, herbaceous planting, hanging baskets, window boxes and wires for climbing plants on prominent walls, where space allows. Typically, potential locations for these improvements are street corners containing only mown grass and/or hard surfacing, e.g. corner of Primrose Street and Linden Terrace, and bus stop at northern end of Gordon Street;

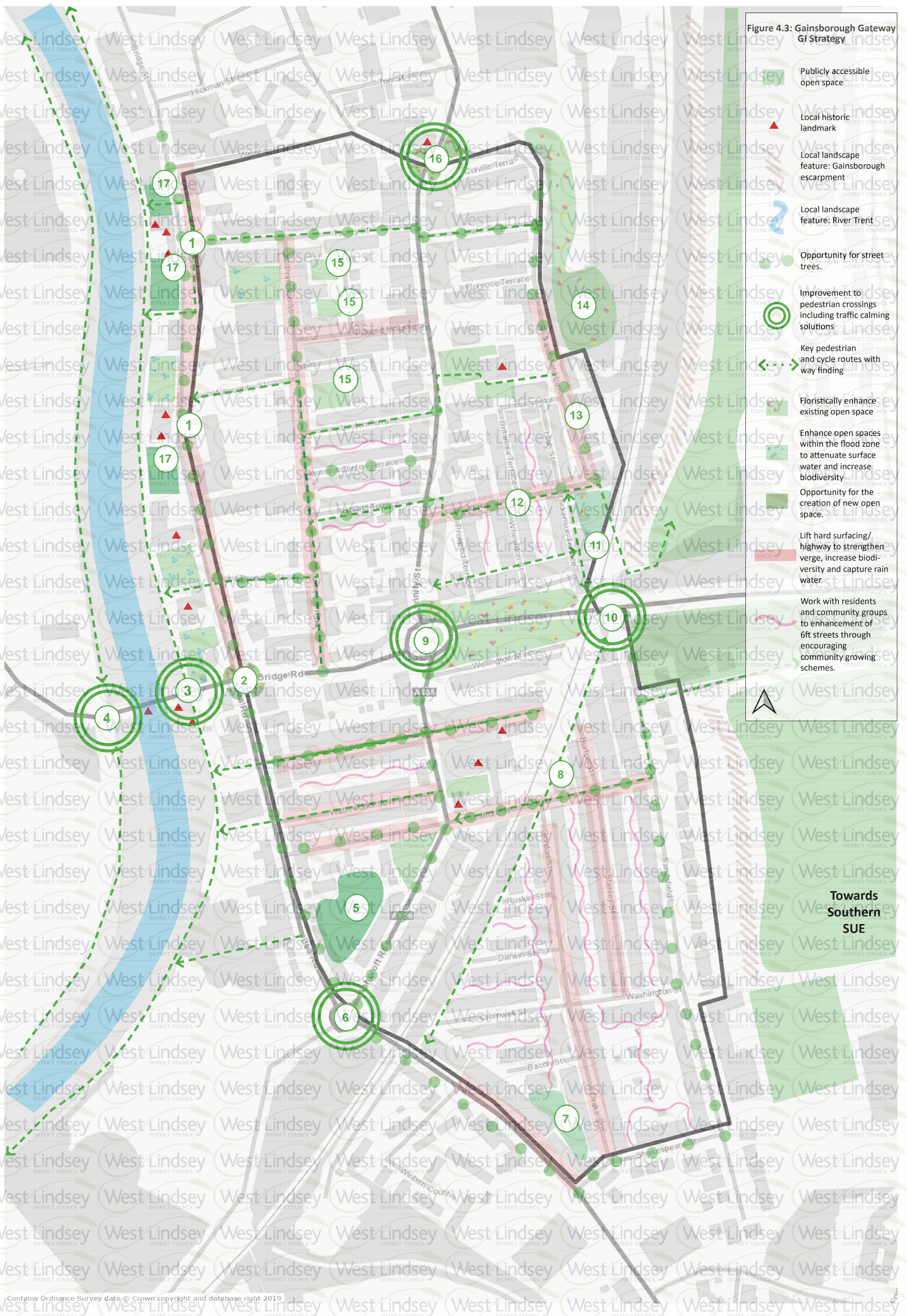
- Increase greenery at key access points into the area, e.g. Ashcroft Road / Lea Road / Carr Lane roundabout;
- Improve pedestrian linkages to the wider urban area, and pedestrian priority over vehicles, via the introduction of traffic calming raised surface 'tabletops' at the junctions of minor roads within the area, and new pedestrian crossings at main junctions, e.g. Trinity Street / Bridge Road.
- Improve the safety and usability of existing pedestrian and cycle routes which provide connections within the Gateway and to the wider urban area e.g. by defining routes to the town centre, River Trent and the escarpment, and improving wayfinding signage and lighting to Sandsfield Lane where it crosses over Thorndike Way (A631);
- Enhance the visual amenity and biodiversity value of the railway line through the sowing of wildflower mixes on the embankments.

4.11 **Figure 4.3** sets out the green infrastructure strategy for the Gainsborough Gateway Area. This plan should be cross-referenced with the following list of projects:

1. Improve streetscape in front of listed buildings by removing on road parking and replacing with floristically enhanced ornamental borders to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.
2. Floristically enhance wide pavements to improve arrival into Gainsborough and attenuate surface water.
3. Enhance pedestrian access to the north and south public footpaths along the River Trent from the Flood Road Bridge.
4. Enhance pedestrian access across the Flood Road (A361) to public footpaths running west of the River Trent. Improve sense of arrival on approach to Gainsborough with traffic calming infrastructure and ornamental planting. Floristically enhance the bridge with formal planters.
5. Look for opportunities to increase access to public open space by replacing the existing car park with green infrastructure and enhancing provision of formal and informal recreational activities. The space should aim to attenuate surface water (reducing the amount of hard surface) and increase biodiversity with floristically enhanced borders.
6. Enhance pedestrian crossing from Lea Road Station north along the A156 and east along Ashcroft Road. Floristically enhance round about and surrounding verges to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.
7. Look for opportunities to increase access to public open space by replacing the existing car park with green infrastructure and enhancing provision of formal and informal recreational activities. The space should aim to attenuate surface water (reducing the amount of hard surface) and increase biodiversity with floristically enhanced borders.
8. Look for opportunities to create a more welcoming environment along the walkway through greening of back of houses, community art projects and careful lighting.
9. Enhance pedestrian crossing from A156 to Trinity Street using protective planting along the verges of the A631 to discourage pedestrians crossing the dual carriageway. Enhance the roundabout and road verges with floristically enhances meadows and native planting to increase biodiversity and to create a more welcoming sense of arrival from the A631.
10. Improve pedestrian connection under the railway to gateway area beyond to river walkway from site Sandsfield Lane by increase lighting, enhance wayfinding signage from the gateway area and improve sightlines up and over the bridge.
11. Provide access and improve entrances from Enderby Crescent and Sandsfield Lane including improving railway underpass. Enhance verge on Sandsfield Lane to create an informal pocket park with floristically enhanced borders, seating and enhanced wayfinding.
12. Green Queen Street with opportunities to introduce street trees and green walls. Lift highway to address opportunities to strengthen verge, increase biodiversity value and capture rain water with suitable drainage systems.
13. Green Sandsfield Lane with opportunities to introduce street trees.

14. Floristically enhance area to improve biodiversity value.
15. Work with private owners and managers to encourage community growing programmes such as community orchards and planting schemes.
16. Enhance pedestrian access across the A159. Floristically enhance round about and surrounding verges to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.
17. Look for opportunities to enhance River Trent Corridor opening up previously inaccessible areas of the water front. Enhancements should aim to increase access to formal and informal recreation, attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity value of the River Trent Corridor.

Figure 4.3: Gainsborough Gateway GI Strategy



4.12 The following images provide case studies of green infrastructure interventions which could be delivered within the Gainsborough Gateway Area.



Prioritisation of projects

- 4.13 Analysis of the provision within Gainsborough has identified a large number of opportunities to enhance the functionality and strengthen the network of GI in the town. An extensive list of possible interventions identified during the preparation of the strategy is contained within **Appendix 5**.
- 4.14 Due to the availability of capital and revenue funding, it is unlikely that all of the projects identified within this strategy will be able to be delivered within the short-term. It is therefore recommended that any available funds are used to make improvements to a number of key areas within the borough.
- 4.15 Projects should be prioritised for delivery where they offer the greatest benefit to the town's residents and where the constraints to delivery of the project are limited. For example it is easier and more cost-effective to deliver a project within an existing area of public open space, rather than attempting to retro-fit a feature within the wider public realm (e.g. rain gardens and extensive tree planting etc.).
- 4.16 From the long list, a number of priority projects have been identified as priorities for delivery. Projects have been prioritised through consideration of the benefits provided by the project against the anticipated cost of delivery.
- 4.17 Each project was therefore assessed against the range of GI functions or benefits it fulfils. Functions/ benefits align with the analysis set out within the previous chapters of this report:
- Landscape
 - Open Space
 - Cultural heritage
 - Ecology
 - Access
- 4.18 Consideration has also been given to the importance of the open space/ green infrastructure asset to the surrounding community. A site which is located within an area which experiences significant levels of deprivation (IMD) will therefore be considered as a priority. Projects have also been rated for how they support the overarching principles for green infrastructure in Gainsborough, identified in paragraph 4.4. Where applicable, the results of the open space quality and value audits have also been used to inform the selection of investment priorities.
- 4.19 Projects were considered to offer the highest benefits if the following criteria was met:
- Three or more functions/ benefits delivered
 - Located within 0-10% or 10-20% IMD
 - Supports two or more the GI principles
- 4.20 No 'weighting' was assigned to specific functions/ benefits as they are considered equally important, and the basis of green infrastructure planning should be one of multi functionality.
- 4.21 Projects were subsequently assessed to identify possible constraints to delivery and the anticipated capital costs. Cost bands were presented as follows:
- Low (L) = Up to £20,000
- Moderate/Low (M/L) = £20,000-100,000
- Moderate (M) = £100,000 – 250,000
- Moderate/high (M/H) = £250,000 – 500,000
- High = £500,000 -1 million
- Aspirational = £1million plus

- 4.22 The estimation of costs is based on an initial assessment of scale of work needed to take projects forward. Further survey and investigations will be required prior to taking projects forward to delivery.
- 4.23 **Table 4.1** contains the results of the cost benefit analysis with 15 projects identified as being high priority across 11 locations. From this list, the recommended approach should be to deliver a number of small-scale interventions at strategic points of the town. These projects should aim to ensure residents are able to access and feel welcome, safe and secure at key spaces such as the River Trent corridor and the escarpment.
- 4.24 Although the analysis has considered this short list of projects as being a priority, the strategy for the delivery of GI improvements should be flexible so that projects which meet the requirements of an emerging funding stream can be taken forward. It may also be appropriate for individual projects to be grouped in order to deliver a range of benefits and therefore providing a more rounded application and compelling case to funders.

Table 4-1: Priority sites for enhancing open space and green infrastructure in Gainsborough

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
1. River Trent corridor	Improve legibility of corridor and links with the town centre through using a unified palette of materials, wayfinding signage and interpretation features between town centre and riverside.							0-10%	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9	H	M	H
	Enhance habitats within open spaces along River Corridor through planting of pollinator species, planting of native hedgerow and linking with river flora and fauna. Open spaces include Thornton Road, Bridge Road and Bridge Street.							0-10%	3, 5, 7	H	L	H
2. Middlefield Lane	Increase habitats through establishing pollinator species (e.g. pictorial meadow), tree planting linking to link with Park Springs Road and Middlefield Lane.							0-10%	3, 7	H	L	H
3. Riby Close Amenity Greenspace	Increase habitats through establishing a native hedge along boundaries, planting of pollinator species (e.g. pictorial meadow), relaxing mowing regimes and increasing tree population. Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.							10-20%	3, 7	H	M/L	H
4. Sandfields Lane Amenity Green Space	Enhance accessibility to and through the open space by improving wayfinding signage to encourage access to and from the Gainsborough Gateway Area.							10-20%	1, 3, 6, 7, 9	H	L	H
	Strengthen links to the escarpment from Gainsborough Gateway through improving wayfinding signage, improving sense of security through underpasses and enhancing landscape features at key entrances.							10-20%	1, 3, 6, 7, 9	H	M	H
5. The Drive Open Space	Improve play area/ provide additional equipment supporting a provision for a range of ages and interests.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	M/L	H
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	L	H
6. Benjamin Adlard School Fields	Explore opportunities to provide supervised/ warden controlled community gardens linked to the school to increase surveillance of the site and community activity and support.							10-20%	1, 6, 7	H	M/L	H
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.							10-20%	3, 7	H	L	H
7. Improve sense of arrival into Gainsborough	Enhance the roundabout and road verges with floristically enhanced meadows and native planting to increase biodiversity and to create a more welcoming sense of arrival from the A631.							0-10%	6, 7	H	L	H
8. Enhance pedestrian crossing at Lea Road and Ashcroft Road junction.	Enhance roundabout and surrounding verges through planting of pollinator species (e.g. Pictorial Meadows) to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.							0-10%	6, 7	M	L	H
9. Enhance access from Enderby Crescent and Sandsfield Lane	Enhance verge on Sandsfield Lane to create an informal pocket park with floristically enhanced borders, seating and enhanced wayfinding.							0-10%	1, 2, 6, 7	H	M	H
10. Community greening	Work with private owners and managers to encourage community growing programmes such as community orchards and planting schemes.							0-10%	6, 7	H	L	H
11. Enhance pedestrian access across A159	Floristically enhance roundabout and surrounding verges to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.							0-10%	6, 7	H	L	H

Funding opportunities

- 4.25 A key challenge for delivery of the projects identified within this strategy will be to secure funding. A review of potential sources of capital and revenue funding for the acquisition and management of GI assets (summarised in **Appendix 6**) reveals a wide variety of sources. These include:
- **Central Government Departments:** Local Authorities have access to specific streams of funding such as the Regional Growth Fund, which is operated by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Growth Point Funding (from the Homes and Communities Agency). Other funding is more widely available (for instance to community organisations) such as from Sport England (for sports facilities).
 - **Hypothecated taxes:** The Landfill Community Fund (allocated money from the Landfill Tax) is administered through waste companies and other bodies including the Wildlife Trusts but is not available for revenue expenditure.
 - **The European Union** (with matched UK exchequer funding): Agri-environment schemes on farmland and woodland are delivered through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) which is part of the Common Agricultural Policy. Transnational 'INTERREG' funding may also be available for specific projects through the European Regional Development Fund. The EU Life+ fund is directed to innovative projects with nature conservation objectives.
 - **The National Lottery:** The two most relevant funding streams generated by the National Lottery are the Big Lottery (for community projects including acquisition and establishment of public open space) and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The HLF operates a number of funds, including the large scale Landscape Partnership programme to the more site-based Parks for People programme.
 - **Developer contributions** are secured as a condition of planning permission. In the past these were obtained through Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, for revenue spending that mitigated an impact of the development. Section 106 funding may still apply in some circumstances subject to meeting the qualifying criteria. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allows Local Authorities to set tariffs that apply to all qualifying development, in order to fund strategic infrastructure projects.
 - **Financial markets** may provide fixed term loans for capital or revenue funding in the form of bonds. These are most likely to be suitable where there is a secure revenue stream to finance the loan.
 - **Private sector endowments:** Certain sites may lend themselves to acquiring endowments from individuals, businesses or communities. These are likely to be site specific and could be advocated for community ownership. However private sector endowments are unpredictable at a sub-regional level.
 - **Voluntary and non-for-profit groups:** Voluntary and not-for-profit groups can be a significant source of labour and expertise, usually more appropriate for revenue than capital projects. These bodies may also be able to access additional sources of revenue not available to other sectors.
 - **Income generating ventures:** Funding for ongoing maintenance costs may be raised by the GI asset generating an income through rent, activity fees or the sale of produce.
 - **Community management** of GI assets, such as football pitches, catering concessions etc., could be used to reduce annual revenue costs.
- 4.26 A number of observations can be made about the objectives and eligibility requirements of these sources:
- None of these sources of funding are dedicated specifically to delivering GI.
 - Although most of these sources do not specifically require matched funding (exceptions include the Heritage Lottery Fund), in practice, few are likely to cover all costs encountered on their own.

- Several of the sources place an emphasis on community and/or partnership involvement to demonstrate a broad base of support for the work.
- Most of these sources will contribute to the initial establishment of GI, but fewer will cover on-going management costs, particularly for staff to manage ongoing work.

4.27 Delivering GI projects are therefore likely to require a package of funding from a variety of sources managed through a partnership or consortium of organisations. The long-term sustainable stewardship of an intervention should be considered carefully before committing to the delivery of any project.

Appendix 1

Methodology

- 4.28 A site audit was formed based on guidance by the Green Flag Award scheme and our experience of delivering GI audits. By using the Green Flag Award themes for the assessment ensured we collected sufficient information to understand the quality of the existing open spaces. The Green Flag Award themes and a brief description of each are set out below.

Green Flag Award Criteria

A welcoming place

Welcoming, good and safe access, signage and equal access for all

Healthy, safe and secure

Safe equipment and facilities, personal safety, dog fouling, appropriate provision of facilities and their quality

Well maintained and clean

Litter and waste management, grounds maintenance and horticulture, building and infrastructure maintenance and equipment maintenance

Sustainability

Environmental sustainability, pesticides, peat use, waste minimisation, arboriculture and woodland management

Biodiversity, landscape and heritage

Conservation of nature features, wild flora and fauna, conservation of landscape features, conservation of buildings and structures

Community involvement

Community involvement in management and development including outreach work, appropriate provision for the community

Marketing and communication

Marketing and promotion, provision of appropriate information, provision of appropriate educational interpretation/information

Management

Implementation of the management plan

- 4.29 The audits also assessed opportunities for enhancement and provided a brief summary of the site's condition and key assets.
- 4.30 The audits were completed by LUC with a singular experienced auditor who is also a Green Flag Award (GFA) judge this ensured a level of consistency between each audit and a sound knowledge of the GRA criteria. Data was entered directly into a GIS linked database via a tablet computer taken to each site. The database was designed so that a single pro-forma could be produced for each site audited.
- 4.31 The audits covered all publicly open space within the borough identified by the West Lindsey Council. The audit process excluded allotments, sports facilities and sites outside of the Gainsborough Borough boundary.
- 4.32 During the desk based assessment and audit process additional sites were included to our audit list. These are summarised below:

- Play sites were added to the audit process to inform the overall understanding of access and provision (See **Table 4.1** below).
- Additional publicly open spaces within the Gainsborough Gateway Area were included to the auditing process and GI Strategy to ensure the baseline data was complete (See **Table 4.1** below).

Table 4.1 Additional sites added to GI Strategy

Site ID	Primary Typology	Site name	Source of inclusion
1	Amenity Greenspace	Adelaide Close Amenity Greenspace	OS greenspace
2	Amenity Greenspace	Aegir Close Amenity Greenspace	OS greenspace
7	Amenity Greenspace	Dunstall Open Space	OSM
20	Provision for Children and Young People	Mayflower Close Play Area	OSM
24	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	North Warren Road Allotments	OS greenspace
26	Amenity Greenspace	Pinter Road Amenity Space	OS greenspace
26	Amenity Greenspace	Pinter Road Amenity Space	Site visit
28	Amenity Greenspace	Riby Close Amenity Greenspace	OS greenspace
32	Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms	Ropery Road Allotments	OS greenspace
33	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Ropery Road Cemetery	OS greenspace
38	Cemeteries and Churchyards	St Pauls Church	OS greenspace
41	Amenity Greenspace	Sunningdale Way Open Space	ESRI aerial imagery
41	Amenity Greenspace	Sunningdale Way Open Space	OS greenspace
42	Amenity Greenspace	The Drive Open Space	OSM
45	Amenity Greenspace	Willoughby Chase Open Space	ESRI aerial imagery
46	Provision for Children and Young People	Willoughby Chase Play Area	OSM
52	Green Corridors	Pedestrian walk	Site visit
53	Amenity Greenspace	Pilgrims Way Amenity Greenspace	Site visit
54	Amenity Greenspace	Trinity Arts Centre	Site visit
55	Green Corridors	Thornton Road Open Space	Site visit
56	Green Corridors	Bridge Street Open Space	Site visit
57	Green Corridors	Bridge Road Open Space	Site visit
58	Parks and Gardens	Ashcroft Road Community Park	Site visit
59	Parks and Gardens	Benjamin Adlard School Fields	Site visit
60	Amenity Greenspace	Trinity Court Open Space	Site visit

Database

- 4.33 A comprehensive Microsoft Access geodatabase was developed to hold all of the information drawn from the site audits, including site addresses, maps, photographs and quality data. The geodatabase is linked to a GIS data set of the sites to enable spatial analysis.
- 4.34 To develop a framework for analysis of the sites and as a tool for setting quality and value standards, a detailed hierarchy was developed for the open spaces, using a combination of the

size and type classifications standardised within national open space guidance. The hierarchy's of open space are:

- Local Park and Garden
- Small Local Park and Garden
- Cemetery and churchyard
- Local Natural and Semi-natural open space
- Amenity greenspace
- Green corridors

4.35 **Table 4.2** below set out the standardised size, catchment area and essential characteristics for which the sites were evaluated against.

Table 4.0-2 standard size of catchment area and essential open space characteristics

	Local Park and Garden	Small Local Park and Garden	Amenity Greenspace	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Green Corridor
Size	Varies	0.4 – 2 ha	Varies	Varies	Varies	Less than 1.5 ha	Less than 0.4 ha
Typical catchment area (Based on ANGST25 Standard)	400 metres	250 metre	250 metre	N/A	400 metre	250 metre	250 metre
Primary purpose	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events		Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education awareness. Such spaces also provide opportunities for active recreation including cycling and horse riding.		Walking, cycling or horse riding, whether for leisure purposes or travel, and opportunities for wildlife migration

Quality and value standards for open space provision

4.36 The quality and value standards are derived from the results of the audit data, judgement on the quality, value and accessibility. The benchmark standards were agreed with West Lindsey District Council. The standards are aspirational and provide the benchmarks against which the performance of existing open space can be measured to determine the need for enhancement. These benchmarks ensure a consistent level of provision across the Borough and setting priorities in a transparent manner. Furthermore these benchmarks provide a method for monitoring improvements over time as part of the best value process, providing a useful starting point in setting developer contributions.

²⁵ Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation English Nature Research Report No 526

Figure 4.16 Process for setting quality and value standards



- 4.37 The quality and value standard provides a benchmark against which the existing condition and need for enhancement of existing spaces can be measured. It can also provide a guide to the qualitative attributes that should be expected of a newly created space.
- 4.38 In order to assess the sites consistently, a standard scored audit form was used for auditing all types of open space. Therefore it should be noted that the scoring varies according to the complexity of the site as well as the condition of the site which limits the extent to which one should directly compare scores across different types of space. In essence this means that a the quality score for a good quality park or garden may differ from that of a good quality amenity green space, reflecting the different provision that can be expected within each.
- 4.39 Further analysis of the scoring was undertaken to identify a benchmark standard for each typology and, in the case of parks and gardens and Semi-Natural Open Space, the level of the hierarchy. The following factors have informed the standards:
- Key characteristics expected of spaces within the different typologies and levels of the hierarchy, as described in **Chapter 3** (above).
 - High quality sites within Gainsborough are assessed together with the Green Flag Award standard to provide a local 'benchmark' against which to assess sites.
 - Ensuring standards are set at such a level to be aspirational, yet achievable based on existing quality and value.

- 4.40 Sites will exceed the standard where they achieve or score more points than the standard score as calculated through features present on site, and their quality, as measured through the audit form (the audit form and scoring guidelines are included in **Appendix 3**). For example, a site will score between 1 and 4 points depending on quality of entrances, and a point for every form of informal recreation present.
- 4.41 These standards should also be applied to guide the quality and value and accessibility of future provision of open space.

Quality and value rating combined

- 4.42 Using a combination of the quality and value ratings it is possible to identify sites which:
- Are performing above the required standards and should be protected
 - Require enhancement
 - May no longer be needed for their present purpose.
- 4.43 Each site has therefore been rated with a combined quality and value band using the format of +/- symbols to annotate each band (i.e. high quality/ high value is shown as ++, high quality/ low value is shown as +-). **Table 4.3** below suggests the future management approach to open spaces within each band.

Table 4.0-3 Quality and value matrix

High quality/ high value	High quality/ low value
++	+-
<p>These sites are considered to be best open spaces within the borough offering the greatest value and quality for the surrounding communities.</p> <p>Future management should seek to maintain the standard for these spaces and ensure they continue to meet the requirements of the communities they serve.</p> <p>Ideally all spaces should fit into this category.</p>	<p>These sites have been scored as being of high quality but of a low value.</p> <p>Wherever possible the preferred management approach to a space in this category should be to enhance its value in terms of its present primary typology or purpose.</p> <p>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.</p>
Low quality/ high value	Low quality/low value
-+	--
<p>These spaces meet or exceed the required value standard but fall below the required quality standard.</p> <p>Future management should therefore seek to enhance their quality to ensure that the open spaces are welcoming and safe for use by the local community.</p>	<p>These spaces are falling below the applicable value and quality standards and therefore their future enhancement should be considered to be a priority.</p> <p>If this is not possible, for whatever reason, the space or facility may be 'surplus to requirements' in terms of its present primary purpose.</p>

- 4.44 **Table 4.4** displays the range of scores recorded within each typology and hierarchy together with the proposed benchmarks for quality and value.

Table 4.0-4 Set benchmarks for each typology

Typology	Hierarchy level	Example of high quality/ value	Number of sites	Quality			Value		
				Lowest score	Highest score	Overall assessment based on site audits	Lowest score	Highest score	Overall assessment based on site audits
Parks and gardens	Local Park and open space	Quality: N/A Value: Memorial Park	3	42	49	50	28	57	38
	Small Local Park	Quality: Richmond Park Value: Richmond Park	4	60	71	47	23	72	30
Churchyards and cemeteries	N/A	Quality: All Saints Church Value: All Saints Church	4	30	72	42	15	33	24
Amenity green space	N/A	Quality: Danes Road Open Space Value: Pinter Road Amenity Space	13	10	57	35	5	32	12
Natural and semi-natural urban green space	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Quality: Hawthorn Avenue Open Space Value: N/A	4	20	46	46	9	26	28
	Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Quality: Granary Close Wood Value: Granary Close Wood	2	21	25	25	7	20	20
Green Corridor	N/A	Quality: Riverside walk Value: Riverside Walk	4	42	59	26	13	23	23

Developing an access benchmark

4.45 The accessibility standard defines the maximum distance that users can be reasonably expected to travel to each type of provision. This can be presented spatially by use of an 'accessibility catchment' which is effectively a mapped buffer around facilities and spaces. Accessibility standards are based on relevant national and local information as well as the context of Gainsborough.

4.46 The 'accessibility catchments' have been mapped by applying a radius around the site as per the accessibility standard e.g. 400m for a local park. Where barriers such as busy roads and railway lines are apparent, these have been considered in the GI strategy. The accessibility standards have been developed through the review of:

- Existing national guidance
- Benchmarking against other local authorities
- Review of Index of Multiple Deprivation and Health Deprivation scale

- 4.47 Accessibility standards have not been prepared for churchyards and cemeteries this reflects the fact that these spaces offer limited opportunity for recreation and the proximity to such spaces is not generally considered to be a requirement. However it is important to record such spaces as it may be desirable to “enhance” these sites in areas deficient in other open space typologies.
- 4.48 Justification for the proposed standards are set out below.

Table 4.0-5 Justification for the proposed standards

Type of standard	Proposed standard		Justification
Accessibility	Local Park and Garden	400 m	Walking: 5 – 10 minutes Cycle: 4 minutes Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents in town/ parish. These open spaces should provide for the local community and therefore be within walking distance.
	Small Local Park and Garden	250 metres	Walking: 5 minutes Cycle: 2 minutes Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents within the local neighbourhood. Such spaces should therefore be within easy walking distance.
	Cemetery and Churchyards	N/A	Proximity is not considered to be a requirement of this open space type.
	Local Natural and Semi-Natural Open space	400 m	Walking: 5 – 10 minutes Cycle: 4 minutes Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents in town/ parish. Smaller open spaces should provide for the local community and therefore be within walking distance.
	Small local (<2 ha) natural and semi-natural green space	250 m	Walking: 5 minutes Cycle: 2 minutes Serves the needs and predominantly visited by residents within the local neighbourhood. Such spaces should therefore be within easy walking distance.
	<i>Green corridors</i>	<i>250 metre</i>	Walking: 5 minutes Cycle: 2 minutes <i>As Green Corridors are such an important open space within the Gainsborough Gateway area the proposed access standard has been included and is guided by the amenity green space standard.</i> <i>Serves a local need and attracts regional walking and cycling visitors along the River Trent.</i>
	Amenity greenspace	250 metre	Walking: 5 minutes Cycle: 2 minutes Site provides basic provision for informal recreation for the local neighbourhood. Such spaces should therefore be within easy walking distance.

- 4.49 The standards aim to guide provision to ensure people have access to open space of suitable types and size. It aims to ensure appropriate types of open spaces are in appropriate locations to be accessed by the people of the Borough.

Appendix 2

Audit form and scoring

Gainsborough GI Audit 2019

Value scores are highlighted
in yellow

Desk based assessment

Site ID: Site Name:

Grid reference:

Ownership (WF, private, other):

Area (ha):

Category of open space:

Quality scores are highlighted
in green

Designations

A1 National:

- Listed building ☐ +3
- Scheduled Monument ☐ +3
- SSSI ☐ +3
- Historic England Register of Historic Parks and Gardens ☐ +3

A2: Regional:

- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation/ Local Wildlife Site ☐ +2
- Biodiversity Opportunity Area ☐ +2

A2 Access:

- National/ Regional Trails ☐ +3
- Sustrans Routes ☐ +3

A3 Local - Statutory:

- Conservation Area ☐ +1
- Local Nature Reserve ☐ +1

A4 Other:

- Within a Flood Risk Zone ☐ +1
- Ancient Woodland ☐ +1
- TPO ☐ +1
- Has the site achieved a Green Flag Award? ☐ +3
- Has the site achieved a Green Flag Community Award? ☐ +3
- Has the site achieved a Green Heritage Award? ☐ +3

Site assessment

Site ID:

Site Name:

Category of open space:

Audit date and time:

Time spent surveying:

Name of surveyor:

Survey site access: (e.g. access to whole site/ access to part of site/ no access to site)

1. Welcoming place

Site access:

- Freely accessible to public ☐ +5
- De-facto public access ☐ +1
- Restricted public access ☐ +2
- No public access ☐ -1

If restricted access, what kind of restriction?

- Opening hours ☐ +2
- Limited to particular areas ☐ +2
- Members/ tenants only ☐ +1
- Other (please state) ☐ 0

To what extent are the entrances well presented? ☐ +1 +2 +3

To what extent are the boundaries well defined and maintained? ☐ +1 +2 +3

What is the overall quality of access and accesses within and through the open space? ☐ +1 +2 +3

What is the overall quality of access and accesses for people travelling to open space? ☐ +1 +2 +3

What is the overall provision of signage? ☐ +1 +2 +3

2. Health, safety and secure

Play provision:

Is there play equipment on site? ☐

How many separate items for equipment? ☐ +1 per item

Is it for under 5 years? ☐ +1

5-11 years? ☐ +1

Over 11 years? ☐ +1

What play activities are provided for:

- Balancing ☐ +1
- Sliding ☐ +1
- Rocking ☐ +1
- Climbing/ agility ☐ +1
- Social play ☐ +1
- Swinging ☐ +1
- Rotating ☐ +1
- Jumping ☐ +1
- Viewing ☐ +1
- Counting ☐ +1
- Touching ☐ +1

Is there impact absorbing surfacing around the equipment? ☐ +1

Are there benches within the enclosure? ☐ +1

Are there litterbins within the enclosure? ☐ +1

Is there a play area notice at the entrance stating dog free, children only and emergency contacts? ☐ +1

Is there space, separate from the equipped area, for informal play/ general runabout? ☐ +1

Overall condition of play equipment? ☐ +1 +2 +3

Is there other provision for play on site? (Please also note condition)

- MUGA ☐ +1 ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Waterplay ☐ +1 ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Skate park ☐ +1 ☐ +1 +2 +3
- BMX ☐ +1 ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Other ☐ +1 ☐ +1 +2 +3

Please state:

Is there evidence the green space is being used for informal recreation?

- Walking/ dog walking ☐ +1
 - Children's play ☐ +1
 - Young people hanging out ☐ +1
 - Sitting/ relaxing ☐ +1
 - Desire lines ☐ +1
 - Skateboarding ☐ +1
 - Cycling ☐ +1
 - Food growing ☐ +1
 - Other ☐ +1
- Please state:

Overall provision for informal recreation? ☐ +1 +2 +3

What is the condition of basic amenities?

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Toilets | <input type="checkbox"/> +3 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Cafe | <input type="checkbox"/> +3 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Litter and/ or dog bins | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Seating | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Lifebelts | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Cycle parking | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Other | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |

Please state:

Community safety/ sense of security:

- Is there natural surveillance into the site from surrounding properties? ☐ +1
- Do the approaches feel open and secure? ☐ +1
- Is there a flow of people through the green space (to achieve self surveillance)? ☐ +1
- Is lighting provided? ☐ +1
- Is dog fouling evident onsite? ☐ -1

Active recreation/ sport provision:

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Grass pitches | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Artificial pitches (e.g. astro turf) | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Tennis courts | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |
| • Other | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 | <input type="checkbox"/> +1 +2 +3 |

3. Clean and well maintained

- Is graffiti evident? ☐ -1
- Vandalism evident? ☐ -1
- Overall cleanliness? ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Overall condition of planted areas ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Overall condition of grass areas ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Overall condition of footpaths ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Quality of water and associated edge treatment ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Are there any buildings or other built features onsite? ☐ Not scored
- If so, please note condition ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Allotments: ☐ +1 +2 +3
- Estimated number of plots in use: 0-25% ☐ +1 26%-50% ☐ +2 51-75% ☐ +3 76-100% ☐ +4
- Overall condition of allotment site: ☐ +1 +2 +3

Please state:

4. Sustainability

- Is there evidence of sustainable management practices? ☐ +1
- Does the green space provide a buffer for/ absorb noise or air pollution from:
- Nearby traffic ☐ +1
 - Nearby industry ☐ +1
 - Other ☐ +1
- Is there evidence of tree/ woodland management? ☐ +1

5. Conservation and heritage

- Is there indication that natural features are being managed for nature conservation? ☐ +1
- Vegetation cover/ type: 1 or 2 types ☐ +1 3 - 5 types ☐ +2 over 5 types ☐ +3
- Fine lawn
 - Amenity grassland
 - Wildflower grassland
 - Herbs
 - Shrub
 - Scrub
 - Hedge
 - Annual bedding
 - Ornamental planting
 - River, stream or canal
 - Pond/ lake
 - Ditch
 - Marginal vegetation
 - Woodland
 - Woodland edges/ trees and shrubs forming shelterbelt
 - Tree groups/ scattered trees
 - Veteran or significant individual trees
 - Orchard
 - Deadwood
 - Derelict wasteland
 - Other vegetation type: (please state)
 - Invasive species ☐ -1

- Does the green space contribute to the setting of the immediate local area? ☐ +1
- Is the open space visually attractive? ☐ +1

What threats/ disturbances/ issues are affecting the attractiveness of the site?

- Road noise ☐ -1
- Rail noise ☐ -1
- Pollution ☐ -1
- Lack of landscape management ☐ -1
- Erosion ☐ -1
- Intrusive buildings ☐ -1
- Motorcycle scrambling ☐ -1
- Fly tipping ☐ -1
- Flooding ☐ -1
- Other ☐ -1

Please state:

6. Community involvement

Is there a evidence of an active community group? ☐ +3

Is there a permanent public noticeboard on site? ☐ +1

If so, are up to date notices displayed? ☐ +1

Are there any temporary notices on site informing users about current developments? ☐ +1

Is so, are they up to date? ☐ +1

Does the site offer educational interest (e.g. nature conservation interest or local historic significance)? ☐ +1

Is there a built facility on site which is being used by the local community for education? ☐ +1

Is there evidence that a natural feature on site is being used by the local community for education? ☐ +1

7. Marketing and culture

Are any of the following social and cultural facilities located on or adjacent to green space:

- Community centre ☐ +1
- Youth centre ☐ +1
- Arts or cultural venue ☐ +1
- Indoor sport hall/ leisure centre ☐ +1
- Other social facility/ business facility ☐ +1

Is there a dedicated outdoor performance area within the green space? ☐ +1

Does the green space contain public art? ☐ +1

Is there a school immediately adjacent to the green space? ☐ +1

Does the green space feature any recognisable landmark features of local importance? ☐ +1

Is there a programme of cultural or other community activities? ☐ +1

8. GI opportunities:

GI Opportunity: Enhance existing or introduce new

Please indicate which of the following should be prioritised for future management or enhancement (please tick as many boxes as relevant):

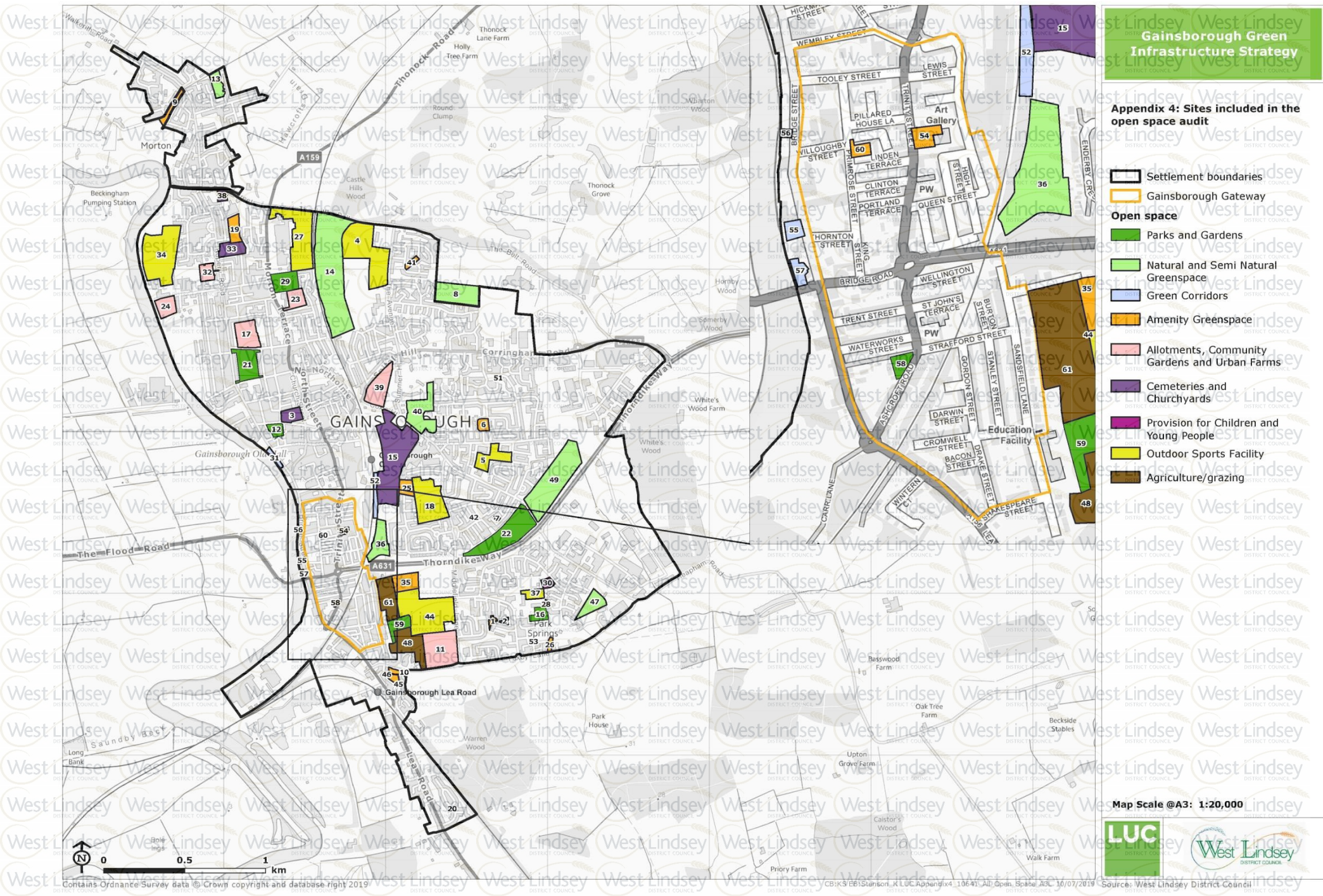
- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| • SuDS/ Rain garden | <input type="checkbox"/> | Functions: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Green wall | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Water attenuation/ drainage | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Green roof | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Reduce air pollution | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Herbaceous planting | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Reduce noise pollution | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Tree planting | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Visual enhancement | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Shrub planting | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Biodiversity/ wildlife enhancement | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Wildflower planting | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Cultural heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Window boxes/ Hanging baskets | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Informal recreation/ space for people | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Planters/ beds | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Sports/ other organised activities | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Improved/ new path or cycleway | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Play/ education | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Improved/ new access point | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Food growing/ productive landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Improved/ new wayfinding or interpretation signage | <input type="checkbox"/> | • Access/ connectivity | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Other <input type="checkbox"/> Please state: | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

9. Comments:

Please add any further information on open space e.g. details of primary or secondary uses/ purposes or any significant issues/ opportunities which should be highlighted.

Appendix 3

Sites included in the open space audit



Gainsborough Green Infrastructure Strategy

Appendix 4: Sites included in the open space audit

- Settlement boundaries
- Gainsborough Gateway
- Open space**
 - Parks and Gardens
 - Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
 - Green Corridors
 - Amenity Greenspace
 - Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
 - Cemeteries and Churchyards
 - Provision for Children and Young People
 - Outdoor Sports Facility
 - Agriculture/grazing

Map Scale @A3: 1:20,000



ID	Site name	Area	Accessibility	Quality score	Value score	Primary Typology	Hierarchy
1	Adelaide Close Amenity Greenspace	0.186407954	Freely accessible to public	10	6	Amenity Greenspace	
2	Aegir Close Amenity Greenspace	0.112117216	Freely accessible to public	20	7	Amenity Greenspace	
3	All Saints Church	0.96864599	Freely accessible to public	72	33	Cemeteries and Churchyards	
6	Danes Road Open Space	0.494699746	Freely accessible to public	53	32	Amenity Greenspace	
7	Dunstall Open Space	0.067186058	Freely accessible to public	30	7	Amenity Greenspace	
12	Gainsborough Old Hall	0.64785254	Freely accessible to public	60	23	Parks and Gardens	Small Local Parks and Gardens
13	Granary Close Wood	0.990555525	Freely accessible to public	25	20	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
14	Hawthorn Avenue Open Space	12.283288	Freely accessible to public	32	18	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
15	Heapham Road Cemetery	8.406540871	Freely accessible to public	54	25	Cemeteries and Churchyards	
16	Lindsey Close Open Space	0.757484436	Freely accessible to public	39	23	Amenity Greenspace	
19	Mayfield Avenue Open Space	1.09863615	Freely accessible to public	33	15	Amenity Greenspace	
21	Memorial Park	2.447491884	Freely accessible to public	48	57	Parks and Gardens	Local Parks and Gardens
22	Middlefield Lane Open Space	4.986945629	Freely accessible to public	42	41	Parks and Gardens	Local Parks and Gardens
25	Pingle Close Open Space	0.807662547	Freely accessible to public	34	9	Amenity Greenspace	

ID	Site name	Area	Accessibility	Quality score	Value score	Primary Typology	Hierarchy
26	Pinter Road Amenity Space	0.22800827	Freely accessible to public	57	28	Amenity Greenspace	
28	Riby Close Amenity Greenspace	0.066760175	Freely accessible to public	26	10	Amenity Greenspace	
29	Richmond Park	1.802460074	Freely accessible to public	71	72	Parks and Gardens	Small Local Parks and Gardens
31	Riverside Walk	0.381671667	Freely accessible to public	59	23	Green Corridors	
33	Ropery Road Cemetery	1.257654428	Freely accessible to public	30	15	Cemeteries and Churchyards	
35	Sandfields Lane Amenity Green Space	1.595817089	Freely accessible to public	18	11	Amenity Greenspace	
36	Sandsfield Lane Open Space	2.000844717	Freely accessible to public	46	26	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
38	St Pauls Church	0.396857232	Freely accessible to public	40	24	Cemeteries and Churchyards	
40	Summer Hill Open Space	3.226358414	No public access	22	6	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
41	Sunningdale Way Open Space	0.286689907	Freely accessible to public	56	27	Amenity Greenspace	
42	The Drive Open Space	0.051529527	Freely accessible to public	11	5	Amenity Greenspace	
45	Willoughby Chase Open Space	0.294536889	Freely accessible to public	35	11	Amenity Greenspace	
47	Willoughton Drive Open Space	1.467081904	Restricted access: other	21	7	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Small Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
49	Thorndike Way	7.105991364	Freely accessible to public: de facto	20	9	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Local Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace

ID	Site name	Area	Accessibility	Quality score	Value score	Primary Typology	Hierarchy
55	Thornton Road Amenity Greenspace	0.12109 8541	Freely accessible to public	42	18	Amenity Greenspace	
56	Bridge Street Amenity Greenspace	0.03705 2207	Freely accessible to public	45	13	Amenity Greenspace	
57	Bridge Road Amenity Greenspace	0.12298 435	Freely accessible to public	48	18	Amenity Greenspace	
58	Ashcroft Road Community Park	0.13337 402	Freely accessible to public	62	33	Parks and Gardens	Small Local Parks and Gardens
59	Benjamin Adlard School Fields	1.14159 739	Restricted access: opening hours	49	28	Parks and Gardens	Local Parks and Gardens

Table 4.0-6 Sites with play equipment

Site ID	Primary Typology	Secondary Typology	Site name	Number of equipment	Provision for...		
					Under 5 years	5 to 11 years	11 plus
46	Provision for Children and Young People		Willoughby Chase Play Area	3	yes	no	no
26	Amenity Greenspace	Provision for Children and Young People	Pinter Road Amenity Space	5	yes	yes	no
16	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Lindsey Close Open Space	3	yes	yes	no
29	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Richmond Park	25	yes	yes	yes
22	Parks and Gardens		Middlefield Lane Open Space	4	no	no	yes
22	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Middlefield Lane Open Space	4	no	yes	no
22	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Middlefield Lane Open Space	1	yes	no	no
51	Provision for Children and Young People		Coupland Close Play Area	2	yes	no	no
6	Amenity Greenspace	Provision for Children and Young People	Danes Road Open Space	7	yes	yes	no
36	Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace	Provision for Children and Young People	Sandsfield Lane Open Space	3	yes	yes	no
41	Amenity Greenspace	Provision for Children and Young People	Sunningdale Way Open Space	4	yes	no	no
21	Parks and Gardens	Provision for Children and Young People	Memorial Park	5	yes	yes	no
21	Parks and Gardens		Memorial Park	7	no	yes	no
21	Parks and Gardens		Memorial Park	2	no	no	no
58	Parks and Gardens		Ashcroft Road Community Park	3	yes	yes	no
20	Provision for Children and Young People		Mayflower Close Play Area	3	yes	yes	no

Sites not included within the open space audit

The open space audit did not include Allotments, Outdoor Sports Facilities, School Provision, sites under 0.2 ha and sites privately owned. These included:

- Castle Wood Academy Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Charles Baines Community Primary School Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Eight Acre Wood Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace
- Field Lane Open Space Amenity Greenspace
- Foxby Hill Verge Amenity Greenspace
- Foxby Lane Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- Love Lane Allotments Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- Marshall Sports Field: Outdoor Sports Facility
- Morton Terrace Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- North Warren Road Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- Queen Elizabeths High School Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Ropery Road Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- Roses Sports Ground: Outdoor Sports Facility
- St George's Church of England Community Primary School Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Summer Hill Allotments, Community Gardens and Urban Farms
- Warren Wood Academy Outdoor Sports Facilities:
- Foxby Hill Open Space: Agriculture/grazing
- Pedestrian walk (Site ID 52) Green Corridors
- Pilgrims Way Amenity Greenspace Amenity Greenspace
- Trinity Arts Centre: Amenity Greenspace
- Trinity Court Open Space: Amenity Greenspace,

Appendix 4

Characteristics considered for benchmark standards

Local parks and gardens

Characteristics		Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B17	Local statutory		1	
	Theme 1			
S6a	Freely accessible		5	
S7d	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		
S8j	Access within	4		4
S8o	Public transport			1
S8p	What kind (x1)			1
S8t	Access to	3		3
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S11b	Play provision		6	
S11c	Age groups		2	
S11gi-gox	Play activities		5	
S11h	Impact absorbing		1	
S11i	Is it fenced off		1	
S11ji	Are there benches		1	
S11jii	Litterbins		1	
S11jiib	Gate self-closing		1	
S11jiv	Play area notice			
S11jv	Space for play		1	
S11K	Overall condition of play	3		
S11mi	Other provision (x1)			
S13j	Provision for informal recreation	2		
S14a	Toilets		1	
S14b	Accessible toilets		1	
S14d	Car parking		1	
S14j	Seating	3	1	
S14h	Litter bins	3	1	
S14i	Dog bins	3	1	
S14p	Cycle parking			
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
S12	Active recreation			
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	5		
S19g	Condition quality of grass areas	4		
S22a	Paths	3	1	
	Theme 4			
S24	Environmental role		1	
S26a	Evidence of tree management	1		

Characteristics		Quality	Value	Access
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 4 vegetation types		4	
S29c	Contributes to sense of place		1	
S29f	Visually attractive	1		
S30a	Natural features managed	1		
S30b	Overall design	2		
	Theme 6			
S33a	Public noticeboard	1		
S33b	Up to date notices	1		
	Theme 7			
S36g	Public art			
		50	38	9

Small Local Parks and Gardens

Characteristics		Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B17	Local statutory		1	
	Theme 1			
	Freely accessible		5	
B17	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		
S8j	Access within	4		4
S8t	Access to	3		3
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S11b	Play provision		4	
S11c	Age groups		2	
S11gi-gox	Play activities		6	
S11h	Impact absorbing		1	
S11i	Is it fenced off		1	
S11ji	Are there benches		1	
S11jii	Litterbins		1	
S11jiib	Gate self-closing		1	
S11jiv	Play area notice	1		
S11jv	Space for play		1	
S11K	Overall condition of play	3		
S13j	Provision for informal recreation	2		
S14j	Seating	3	1	
S14h	Litter bins	3	1	
S14i	Dog bins	3	1	
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	4		
S19h	Condition quality of planted area			
S19g	Condition quality of grass areas	4		
S22a	Paths	3	1	
	Theme 4			
S26a	Evidence of tree management	1		
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 2 vegetation types		2	
S29f	Visually attractive	1		
S30a	Natural features managed			
S30b	Overall design	2		
	Theme 6			
S33a	Public noticeboard			
S33b	Up to date notices			
		47	30	7

Amenity Greenspace

Characteristics		Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B17	Local - Statutory			
	Theme 1			
S6a	Freely accessible		5	
S7d	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		
S8j	Access within	4		4
S8o	Public transport links			1
S9p	What kind			1
S8t	Access to	3		3
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S13j	Provision for informal recreation			
S14j	Seating	3		
S14h	Litter bins	3		
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	5		
S19g	Condition quality of grass areas	4		
S22a	Paths	3	1	
	Theme 4			
S24	Environmental role		1	
S26a	Evidence of tree management			
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 4 vegetation types		4	
S29c	Contributes to sense of place		1	
S29f	Visually attractive	1		
S30a	Natural features managed			
S30b	Overall design			
	Theme 6			
S33a	Public noticeboard			
S33b	Up to date notices			
		36	12	9

Churchyards and cemeteries

Characteristics		Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B13/ B14	National - Statutory		3	
B17	Local - Statutory		1	
	Theme 1			
S6a	Restricted access		2	
S6b	Opening hours		2	
S7d	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		
S8j	Access within	4		4
S8t	Access to	4		4
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S13j	Provision for informal recreation	2		
S14j	Seating	3		
S14h	Litter bins	3		
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	5		
S19g	Condition quality of grass areas	3		
S22a	Paths	3	1	
	Theme 4			
S24	Environmental role		1	
S26a	Evidence of tree management			
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 4 vegetation types		4	
S29c	Contributes to sense of place		1	
S29e	Features local landmark		1	
S29f	Visually attractive	1		
S30a	Natural features managed	1		
S30b	Overall design	3		
	Theme 6			
S33a	Public noticeboard			
S33b	Up to date notices			
		42	16	8

Local Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space

	Natural and semi-natural	Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B13	National statutory		3	
B14	National - non statutory		3	
B15	Regional - statutory		2	
B17	Local - statutory		1	
	Theme 1			
S6a	Freely accessible		5	
S7d	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		3
S8j	Access within	3		3
S8o	Public transport			1
S8p	What kind (x1)			1
S8t	Access to	4		
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S13j	Provision for informal recreation	2		
S14j	Seating	3	1	
S14h	Litter bins	3	1	
S14i	Dog bins	3	1	
S14p	Cycle parking	3	1	
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	5		
S22a	Paths	2	1	
	Theme 4			
S24	Environmental role		1	
S26a	Evidence of tree management	1		
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 6 vegetation types		6	
S29c	Contributes to sense of place		1	
S29e	Features local landmark		1	
S29f	Visually attractive	1		
S30a	Natural features managed	1		
S30b	Overall design	3		
	Theme 6			
S33a	Public noticeboard	1		
S33b	Up to date notices	1		
		46	28	8

Small Natural and Semi-Natural Open Space

	Natural and semi-natural	Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B17	Local - statutory		1	
	Theme 1			
S6a	Freely accessible		5	
S7d	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		3
S8j	Access within	3		3
S8o	Public transport			1
S8p	What kind (x1)			1
S8t	Access to	3		
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S13j	Provision for informal recreation	2		
S14j	Seating	3	1	
S14h	Litter bins	3	1	
S14i	Dog bins	3	1	
S14p	Cycle parking	3	1	
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	4		
S22a	Paths	2	1	
	Theme 4			
S24	Environmental role		1	
S26a	Evidence of tree management	1		
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 6 vegetation types		6	
S29c	Contributes to sense of place		1	
S29e	Features local landmark		1	
S29f	Visually attractive	1		
S30a	Natural features managed	1		
S30b	Overall design	3		
	Theme 6			
S33a	Public noticeboard	1		
S33b	Up to date notices	1		
		44	20	8

Riverside Green Corridors

		Quality	Value	Access
	Baseline information			
B13/ B14	National		3	
	Theme 1			
S6a	Freely accessible		5	
S7d	Entrances well presented	4		
S7f	Boundaries well defined	3		
S8j	Access within	4		4
S8t	Access to	3		3
S9mi	Provision of signage	2		
	Theme 2			
S13j	Provision for informal recreation			
S14j	Seating			
S14h	Litter bins			
S15b	Approaches feel open and secure	1		
	Theme 3			
S18f	Level of cleanliness	4		
S22a	Paths	3	1	
	Theme 4			
S24	Environmental role		1	
	Theme 5			
S28	At least 2 vegetation types		2	
S29c	Contributes to sense of place		1	
S29f	Visually attractive			
S30b	Overall design	2		
		26	13	7

Appendix 5

Long list of projects

Appendix 5

Long list of projects

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water Environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
Beckingham Marshes, Bassetlaw district	Provide enhanced pedestrian and cycle access to this RSPB reserve directly across the River Trent from Gainsborough. Upgrade existing riverside public footpath and Flood Road bridge route.							80-90%	1, 2, 4, 7, 8	H	M	H
Gainsborough escarpment	Upgrade pedestrian and cycle routes along escarpment to provide uninterrupted links from north to south of town, including new waymarking signage.							0 – 50%	1, 2, 5, 9	H	H	H
Local historic landmarks	Improve / introduce wayfinding signage and interpretation features.							N/A	1, 2, 5, 9	H	M	H
Enhance access to the countryside and woodlands	Create continuous pedestrian and cycle links from town centre, through SUEs, out to peripheral woodlands and countryside.							N/A	1, 2, 5, 9	H	H	H
The Flood Road Bridge	Improve pedestrian and cycle access across The Flood Road bridge.							0-10%	1, 2, 5, 9	H	M/H	H
River Trent corridor	Improve legibility of corridor and links with the town centre through using a unified palette of materials, wayfinding signage and interpretation features between town centre and riverside.							0-10%	1, 3, 6, 7, 9	H	L	H
	Enhance habitats within open spaces along River Corridor through planting of pollinator species, planting of native hedgerow and linking with river flora and fauna. Open spaces include Thornton Road, Bridge Road and Bridge Street.							0-10%	1, 3, 6, 7, 9	H	M	H
Adelaide Close Amenity Greenspace and Aegir Close Amenity Greenspace	Improve play offer within the greenspace to meet the needs of the surrounding community.							30 – 40 %	3	M	M	M
	Enhance the biodiversity value of the park through providing wildlife friendly planting and consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.								3, 7	H	M/L	H
	Enhance access to open space and neighbouring, Aegir Close.by improving hard surfaces and provide seating.								2	M	M	M
All Saints Church	Enhance access by ensuring pedestrian and vehicle access routes are separate and increasing interpretation and wayfinding within the local area to highlight the importance of the church as a local landmark.							0 – 10%	7	M	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species structure of trees.								3, 7	M	L	M
Danes Road Open Space	Integrate with wider borough pedestrian/ cycle GI routes,							30-40%	1, 2, 9		H	H
	Enhance the biodiversity value of the park through providing wildlife friendly planting increasing pollinators and tree coverage as well as consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.								3, 7	M	M/L	H
	Remove green gym area from current location and place outside of the boundary of the play provision.								3	M	L	H
Dunstall Open Space	Reinstate play area to meet the needs of the surrounding community.							0 - 10%	3, 6, 7	H	M/L	M
	Enhance the biodiversity value of the park through providing wildlife friendly planting and consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.									M	M/L	H
	Enhance access to open space by improving hard surfaces and provide seating.									M	M/L	M
Old Hall	Increase interpretation and wayfinding within the local area to highlight the importance as a local landmark. Linking routes with other local landmarks.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	L	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species of the tree stock as well as increasing bat/bird boxes.									M	L	M
	Increase the available seating on site.									H	L	H

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water Environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
Granary Close Wood	Enhance accessibility and understanding of the site by installing orientation signage, interpretation and seating.							60-70%	3, 6, 7	L	M/L	M
	Actively manage the woodland resource to increase nature conservation value of the woods. Explore the potential for community stewardship. Adopted management strategy should seek to maintain deadwood/log piles.									L	L	M
	Link the woods through additional street tree planting to provide habitat corridor along Walkerith Road, Dog and Duck Lane and Ropery Road.									M	M/H	M
Hawthorn Avenue Open Space aka Pitt's Wood	Provide signage and interpretation at site entrances along key informal routes. Improve boundary treatment and approaches to the open space.							30-40%	3, 6, 7	M	M/L	M
	Manage the woodland resource in line with the recommendations set out in the Gainsborough Green Corridor Ecological Strategy (2018); notably, sensitively replacing non-native sycamores in west of wood with native species; creation of a woodland pond in a suitable location; provision of bat boxes, and managing the potential increase in recreational pressures.									M	L	M
Heapham Road Cemetery	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species of the tree stock as well as increasing bat/bird boxes. Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	L	L	M
	Increase accessibility to and through the cemetery providing level paths, regular seating and directional signage. Improve entrance and boundary treatments to enhance welcome to the site and ensure a sense of security walking into and through the site.									M	M	H
Lindsey Close Open Space	Improve accessibility to and through the site by improving signage between Lindsey Close and Riseholme Road and renewing degraded hard surfaces and increase seating.							10-20%	3, 6, 7	M	M	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species of the tree stock as well as increasing bat/bird boxes. Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.									L	M/L	M
	Relocate green gym to outside of the play provision boundary. Increase play provision for children aged between 5-11 years.									H	M/L	H
Mayfield Avenue Open Space	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species of the tree stock as well as enhancing boundary treatment with native hedging.							20-30%	3, 6, 7	L	L	M
Mayflower Close Play Area	Improve accessibility of the play area by renewing degraded surface at the entrance and providing seating.							10-20%	3, 6, 7	L	L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through enhancing boundary treatment with native hedging.									L	L	L
Memorial Park	Improve accessibility of the park by Enhancing the welcome of existing entrances; Increase direction and signage; and renew degraded hard surfaces and increase seating.							10-20%	3, 6, 7	M	M/L	H
	Renew play equipment ensuring there is suitable play provision for a range of age group and ensuring all provision is in a good condition.									H	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through enhancing boundary treatment with native hedging, planting of pollinator species, relaxing mowing regimes and increasing tree population. Link park with street tree planting along Ropery Road.									H	M/L	H
Middlefield Lane	Increase habitats through establishing pollinator species (e.g. pictorial meadow), tree planting linking to link with Park Springs Road and Middlefield Lane.							0-10%	3, 7	H	L	H
	Increase access to and through open space by Upgrading the cycle path along Heapham Road to east of Middlefield Lane open space, with improved signage and surfaces; and improve paths within the open space where they connect with the cycle path.									M	H	M
	Renew play equipment ensuring there is suitable play provision for a range of age group and ensuring all provision is in a good condition.									M	M/L	M

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water Environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
Pingle Close Open Space	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species of the tree stock as well as enhancing boundary treatment with native hedging.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	L	L	L
	Enhance welcome of to the site providing new entrances to Pingle Close Open Space from Dunholme Road.									L	M	H
Pinter Road Amenity Space	Replace failed trees, which appear to be in part due to poor management practices such as strimmer damage. Provide improved landscape management specification and tree protection through guards or mulch zones.							10-20%	3, 6, 7	H	L	M
	Increase accessibility by providing seating to encourage public access and natural surveillance of space.									L	L	M
	Consider opportunities to enhance the value of the swale for wildlife and residents, e.g. new native wetland planting and interpretation feature. Consider opportunity to link with new SuDS features, e.g. pond, within site and beyond, e.g. new development south of Foxby Lane.									L	M/H	M
Riby Close Amenity Greenspace	Improve accessibility of the open space by renewing hard surfaces and provide seating.							10-20%	3, 7	H	M/L	M
	Increase habitats through establishing a native hedge along boundaries, planting of pollinator species (e.g. pictorial meadow), relaxing mowing regimes and increasing tree population. Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.									M	M/L	L
Richmond Park	Maximise the value of the park as a local landmark.							30-40%	3, 6, 7	L	M/L	M
	Increase access through opening and promotion of site e.g. offer educational interest (e.g. nature conservation interest or local historic significance). Range of mature native and exotic trees is a notable feature of the park. Increase promotion of the 'Treemendous Tree Trail' – this could be extended more widely to other notable trees within the town, and form part of interpretation along GI routes.									L	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through enhancing boundary treatment with native hedging, tree planting,, planting of pollinator species, relaxing mowing regimes and increasing tree population. Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.									L	M/L	M
Riseholme Road Play Space	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator species, relaxing mowing regimes and increasing tree population.							10-20%	3, 6, 7	L	M	M
	Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water. Consider planting which offers opportunities for natural play.									L	M	M
Riverside Walk	Renovate old toilet block and associated facilities within 31 Riverside Walk to provide new activity and destination on river front.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	M/H	H
	Connect 31 Riverside Walk, 55 Thornton Street Open Space and Bridge Street Amenity Open Space along river with unified palette of materials and wayfinding signage to enhance river walkway/ cycle route.									H	M/L	H
Ropery Road Cemetery	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting for pollinators, diversifying the age and species of the tree stock as well as increasing bat/bird boxes.							20-30%	3, 6, 7	M	L	H
	Consider opportunities for small scale swales to capture and attenuate surface water.									M	M	H
Sandfields Lane Amenity Green Space	Enhance accessibility to and through the open space by improving wayfinding signage to encourage access to and from the Gainsborough Gateway Area.							10-20%	1, 3, 6, 7, 9	H	L	H
	Strengthen links to the escarpment from Gainsborough Gateway through improving wayfinding signage, improving sense of security through underpasses and enhancing landscape features at key entrances.									H	M	H
	Provide access and improve entrances from Enderby Crescent and Sandsfield Lane including improving railway underpass.									H	M	H
	Provide seating at regular intervals. Upgrade footpaths.									H	M/L	H

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water Environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
	Improve play area/ provide additional equipment supporting a provision for a range of ages and interests.									H	M/L	M
	Undertake street tree planting along Sandsfield Lane to increase tree cover.									H	M	M
Sandsfield Lane Open Space	Improve play area/ provide additional equipment supporting a provision for a range of ages and interests							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	M/L	H
	Improve accessibility of the open space by Renewing hard surfaces and provide seating.									H	M/L	M
St Pauls Church	Increase accessibility through the cemetery by providing level paths; provide regular seating; increase educational interest; and promote site for natural art through existing grass labyrinth.							20-30	3, 6, 7	M	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.									L	L	M
Summer Hill Open Space	Enhance access to and through the open space by provide informal paths through the open space; locate seating at regular intervals; create new entrances on Heapham Road and Woodfield Road; and provide sign posts to improve localised wayfinding from Corringham Road and Highfield Close.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	L	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.									L	M/L	M
Sunningdale Way Open Space –	Enhance access to and through the open space by providing additional benches located at regular intervals.							50-60%	3, 6, 7	L	L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.									L	L	M
The Drive Open Space	Improve play area/ provide additional equipment supporting a provision for a range of ages and interests							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	M/L	H
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow..									H	L	H
Willoughby Chase Open Space	Enhance access to and through the open space by providing additional benches located at regular intervals.							10-20%	3, 6, 7	M	L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.									M	L	M
Willoughby Chase Play Area	Improve play area/ provide additional equipment supporting for example such natural play to increase the range of ages and interests							10-20%	3, 6, 7	M	L	M
Willoughton Drive Open Space	Enhance access to and through the open space by Improving cycle lane surfacing along eastern boundary of Open Space; provide lit, formal paths for pedestrians and cyclists within 47 Willoughton Drive Open Space between housing areas off Glenthams Lane and Willoughton Drive and Foxby Lane; and providing connections between 48 Foxby Hill Open Space and 36 Sandsfield Lane Open Space, 35 Sandsfield Lane Semi Natural Greenspace and Foxby Warren with informal footpaths.							10-20%	1, 3, 6, 7	M	M/H	H
Thorndike Way	Enhance access to and through the open space by providing formal paths for pedestrians and cyclists enhancing access to 22 Middlefield Lane from the north of the borough. Providing informal grass paths for walkers/ dog walkers. Seating with views across the landscape and upgraded surface-level crossing at Heapham Road / Thorndike Way (A361) junction to full pedestrian / cycle crossing, and upgrade adjacent underpass.							0-10%	1, 3, 6, 7	H	M/H	H
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through opening up the river and enhance the riverside corridor, promoting connection to LNR and opportunities for wetland habitat.									H	A	H
Coupland Close Play Area	Improve play area/ provide additional equipment supporting a provision for a range of ages and interests.							20-30%	3, 6, 7	M	M/L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.									M	L	H

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water Environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
Thornton Road Open Space: Green Corridors	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, planting of native hedgerow and linking with river flora and fauna.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	L	H
Bridge Street Amenity Open Space: Green Corridors	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, planting of native hedgerow and linking with river flora and fauna.							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	L	H
Bridge Road Amenity Open Space: Green Corridors	Improve play provision by incorporating for example natural play features to increase interests							0-10%	3, 6, 7	H	L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, planting of native hedgerow and linking with river flora and fauna.								3, 6, 7	H	L	H
Ashcroft Road Community Park	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.							0 – 10%	3, 6, 7	M	L	M
Benjamin Adlard School Fields	Explore opportunities to provide supervised/ warden controlled community gardens linked to the school to increase surveillance of the site and community activity and support.							10 – 20%	3, 6, 7	M	L	M
	Enhance the existing habitats for example through planting of pollinator, increasing age and species diversity of tree population planting of native hedgerow.							10 – 20%	3, 6, 7	H	L	M
Britannia Works Conservation Area	Improve streetscape in front of listed buildings by removing on road parking and replacing with floristically enhanced ornamental borders to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.							0-10%	6, 7	H	M/H	H
Enhancement of access across the River Trent	Enhance pedestrian access to the north and south public footpaths along the River Trent from the Flood Road Bridge.							0 – 10%	6, 7	M	H	M
	Enhance pedestrian access across the Flood Road (A361) to public footpaths running west of the River Trent.							0 – 10%				
Improve sense of arrival into Gainsborough	Enhance the roundabout and road verges with floristically enhanced meadows and native planting to increase biodiversity and to create a more welcoming sense of arrival from the A631.							N/A	3, 6, 7	H	L	H
Increase access to public open space within the Gainsborough Gateway Area.	Look for opportunities to increase access to public open space by replacing the existing car park with green infrastructure and enhancing provision of formal and informal recreational activities. The space should aim to attenuate surface water (reducing the amount of hard surface) and increase biodiversity with floristically enhanced borders.							0 – 10%	1, 3, 6, 7	H	A	H
	Look for opportunities to increase access to public open space by replacing the existing car park with green infrastructure and enhancing provision of formal and informal recreational activities. The space should aim to attenuate surface water (reducing the amount of hard surface) and increase biodiversity with floristically enhanced borders.							0 – 10%				
	Look for opportunities to enhance River Trent Corridor opening up previously inaccessible areas of the water front. Enhancements should aim to increase access to formal and informal recreation, attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity value of the River Trent Corridor.							0 – 10%				
Enhance pedestrian crossing at Lea Road and Ashcroft Road junction.	Enhance pedestrian crossing from Lea Road Station north along the A156 and east along Ashcroft Road.							N/A	6, 7	M	M/H	M
	Floristically enhance round about and surrounding verges to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.							N/A	6, 7	H	L	H
Improve sense of security along the pedestrian walkway east of the railway.	Look for opportunities to create a more welcoming environment along the walkway through greening of back of houses, community art projects and careful lighting.							0-10%	6, 7	M	M	H
Enhancement of pedestrian access across the A631	Enhance pedestrian crossing from A156 to Trinity Street using protective planting along the verges of the A631 to discourage pedestrians crossing the dual carriageway.							N/A	6, 7	M	L	H

Site name	Action	Benefits delivered						IMD %	GI principles supported	Overall benefits	Cost band	Priority
		Landscape	Water Environment	Open space	Cultural heritage	Ecology	Access					
roundabout.												
Access enhancement over railway.	Improve pedestrian connection over railway to gateway area beyond to river walkway from site Sandsfield Lane by increase lighting, enhance wayfinding signage from the gateway area and improve sightlines up and over the bridge.							0-10%	6, 7	H	M/H	H
Enhance access from Enderby Crescent and Sandsfield Lane	Enhance verge on Sandsfield Lane to create an informal pocket park with floristically enhanced borders, seating and enhanced wayfinding.							0-10%	1, 2, 6, 7	H	M/L	H
Green Queen Street	Green Queen Street with opportunities to introduce street trees and green walls. Lift highway to address opportunities to strengthen verge, increase biodiversity value and capture rain water with suitable drainage systems.							0 - 10%	6, 7	H	M/L	M
Green Sandsfield Lane	Green Sandsfield Lane with opportunities to introduce street trees.							0 - 10%	6, 7	H	M/L	M
	Floristically enhance verge areas to improve biodiversity value.								6, 7	H	L	M
Community greening	Work with private owners and managers to encourage community growing programmes such as community orchards and planting schemes.							0 - 10%	6, 7	H	L	H
Enhance pedestrian access across A159	Enhance pedestrian access across the A159 with traffic calming infrastructure.								6, 7	M	M/H	M
	Floristically enhance round about and surrounding verges to attenuate surface water and increase biodiversity.								6, 7	H	L	M

Appendix 6

Funding streams

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
National Lottery Awards for all England	<p>National Lottery Awards for All offers funding from £300 to £10,000 to support what matters to people and communities. Priorities are:</p> <p>Bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities</p> <p>Improving the places and spaces that matter to communities</p> <p>Enabling more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage.</p>	<p>Voluntary or community organisation</p> <p>Registered charity</p> <p>Constituted group or club</p> <p>Not-for-profit company or community interest company</p> <p>Social enterprise</p> <p>School</p> <p>Statutory body (including town, parish and community council)</p>	£300 - £10,000	Yes			<p>Therapy gardens</p> <p>Play facilities</p> <p>Burial restoration</p> <p>Outdoor facilities</p> <p>Brownfield site redeveloped for the community</p>
National Lottery Grants for Heritage	<p>The National Lottery Grants for Heritage programme is an open programme for all types of projects that focusses on heritage in the UK.</p> <p>A wider range of people will be involved in heritage (mandatory outcome)*</p>	<p>Buildings and monuments</p> <p>Community heritage</p> <p>Landscapes, parks and nature</p>	£3,000 to £5,000,000	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>Improve, expand and connect threatened habitats.</p> <p>Survey and record endangered species and habitats.</p> <p>Regenerate and improve the sustainability of a public park or cemetery.</p> <p>Learn new skills to sustainably manage the cultural and natural heritage of landscapes.</p>

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
FieldFare LEADER Currently closed to applications.	Fieldfare has six local priorities and these are set out below. 1. Support for the sustainability of small tenant or family owned farms and the regeneration of underutilised farm assets 2. Support for the sustainability and productivity of woodlands 3. Strengthening the viability and interconnectivity of the visitor economy 4. Support for the profitability and productivity of rural enterprise 5. Support for the profitability and productivity of local food and related producers 6. Optimizing local resources to achieve thriving local communities	To apply for LEADER funding your business, or your project or beneficiaries, must be in the LAG area, and the applicant must be a legal entity. Farmers Growers Private businesses Public organisations Voluntary organisations Groups of businesses Charities Private forest holders	£2,500 to £50,000	Yes		Yes	Woodland restoration
Sport England Inspired Facilities fund and Protecting Playing Fields programme	Aims to: Improve the health of the nation, particularly for disadvantaged groups. Support a network of clubs, coaches and volunteers to equality. Provide infrastructure capable of developing world class performers through refurbishing existing facilities or building new ones.	Voluntary or community organisations, sports clubs, local authority, school or other education establishments.	£10,000 + (depending on type of organisation)	Yes	No (but will fund improvement works to existing facilities)	For the larger grants of 150,000 Yes	Sport facilities

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Big Local (Community Development Foundation)	<p>Big Local is a 10 year programme working with communities in up to 150 selected areas, to make where they live and work a better place now and in the future.</p> <p>The programme aims to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <p>Communities better able to identify local needs and take action in response.</p> <p>People have increased skills and confidence.</p> <p>The community makes a difference to the needs it prioritises.</p> <p>People feel that their area is a better place to live.</p> <p>Launched in Autumn 2011</p> <p>http://localtrust.org.uk/</p>		Up to £30,000	Possibly	No		Range of GI assets which delivery community benefits
Countryside Stewardship	Administered by Natural England funding is provided to land managers to increase landscape quality, biodiversity and accessibility of land.	<p>Land in private ownership. Land owned by local authorities can also be eligible provided the work is not already as part of their conservation responsibilities.</p> <p>Land must be registered with the Rural Payments Agency before applying.</p>	Dependent on the payment options applied for.	Yes	Yes	Additional funding may be required to supplement payments.	Natural environment

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Single payment scheme	Part of the Common Agricultural Policy, Single Payment Scheme is not usually eligible for new woodland except in occasional circumstances such as grazed woodland.	Land must be registered with the Rural Payments Agency before applying.		No	Yes	Additional funding will be required to supplement the maintenance costs.	
Local authority collaboration	Local authorities pool financial and management resources and adopt a combined regional or sub-regional approach. Possible opportunity to link local government and private companies.	Public owned open spaces	Partnerships with private sector can generate considerable additional income streams	Yes	Yes		GI assets which offer regional/ sub-regional benefits.
Multi-agency public sector funding	Funding can be accessed from a range of government departments and public agencies. Funding streams continuously change and there are a number of websites which are useful for up-to-date information including: www.green-space.org.uk www.funderfinder.co.uk www.grantsonline.org.uk www.access-funding.co.uk	Public owned open space. Trusts may have greater access to some funding streams	Dependent on funding stream	Yes	Yes	Dependent on funding stream	Wide range of GI assets depending on funding stream.
Accor Hotels 'Plant for the Planet' Woodland Trust	The programme aim is to support the integration of trees into productive farms, with a focus on planting trees in smart ways that cut costs, raise yields and improve the environment.	Landowners	Each application is judged on merit on a case by case basis.	Yes	No	Farmer contributions are decided on an individual basis	Tree planting within production farmland

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
MOREwoods and MOREhedges Woodland Trust	MOREwoods project includes free advice from our woodland creation specialists who can make recommendations for the species mix and design of new woodland. To apply for MOREwoods funding you will need to plant on at least 0.5 ha (1.25 acres) of non-wooded land with between 1000 and 1600 trees per hectare. MOREhedges project supports hedgerows of 100 – 250m that create wildlife corridors from woodland.	Landowners	MORE woods: minimum 500 trees. MORE hedges: 100 metres+ of hedge	Yes	No	The fund will cover between 50%-60% of costs.	Woodland planting Hedgerow restoration
Trees for your farm Woodland Trust	Make agroforestry a part of your farm. Improve soil and water quality, give shade and shelter to livestock and reap the benefits of a year round crop.	Delivered through PUR project funding for suitable and approved sites.	A minimum of 100 trees.	Yes	No	Farmer contributions are decided on an individual basis	Woodland planting
Neighbourhood Projects Small Grants Programme	To improve the design quality of the built environment in neighbourhood projects, to create better places. Design: The project must provide design support. Neighbourhood: The project must involve working directly 'on the ground' with a community or local group. Preferably an existing group.	Not-for-profit organisations that provide design support. www.designcouncil.org.uk/our-work/CABE/Localismand-planning/Grant/	Up to £7,000 (short timescale for the grants programme)	Yes	No	No but you must demonstrate a commitment of staff/volunteers and/or financial resources.	GI assets which offer opportunities for community participation in their creation and future use.

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Grassroots Grants (CDF)	Building stronger, more active communities at a local level. Government programme managed by the Community Development Foundation (CDF)	Small local community and voluntary sector groups and organisations with an annual income of less than £30,000	£250 to £5,000	Yes	No	Yes for large grants (via endowment match challenge). Grassroots donations can draw down additional funding.	GI assets which offer opportunities for community participation in their creation and future use.
Community Shares Project	The CSU is a joint initiative between Locality and Co-operatives UK. Its objective is to support enterprises, promote good practice and raise awareness of community shares as a sustainable funding mechanism for community enterprises	Community project	Dependent on organisation and project	Yes	Possibly as part of wider project		Cultivate – social enterprise based on local food. Community land trust
Tax initiatives	Funding from local taxes can be directed specifically towards the management and provision of GI. A parks charge/ levy could be imposed on residential, commercial and industrial property. Tax incentives such as tax credits or reduction may also encourage investment in local regeneration and the development of GI.	Local authorities	Dependent on number of properties agreeing into the scheme.	Yes	Yes		More likely to fund regeneration of urban landscape and GI with community benefits

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
New Homes Bonus (final allocation 2019)	Funding paid to Local Authorities by the Department for Communities and Local Government as an incentive to encourage house building in their area.	Subject to an overall funding limit announced on an annual basis. However, this fluctuates and the fund is also currently being part used to fund Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) as of July 2013.		Amounts received by Local Authorities vary.	Bonus is paid as an unringfenced grant to Local Authorities who can choose how to spend it	Spending at discretion of LAs	
Cultivation Street	Cultivation Street is a campaign founded by Chartered Horticulturalist and broadcaster David Domoney, to help people to grow and garden together. The campaign rewards the best community gardening projects and school gardens around the UK.	School competition Create an inspirational school garden. The garden can be edible or ornamental and new or well-established. Community competition Rewards inspiring community gardening projects and people who are making their local area a greener place to live.	Range of prizes from £500 to £2000	No	Yes	No	Community and school gardens (competitive)
It's Your Neighbourhood	It's Your Neighbourhood is a non-competitive scheme for community groups who want to 'green up' local areas –adding some colour to your community, making new friends and getting active in your local area	Registered groups with Its your neighbourhood scheme	Free advice from expert RHS horticultural advisor Access to a range of seed giveaways	No	Yes	No	Promotes wider greening of urban areas

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Councillor Initiative Fund	The Councillor Initiative Fund allows District Councillors to make awards of funding to support a wide range of community projects and activities.	<p>Funding can be used for a wide range of community projects and activity.</p> <p>The following types of organisations are eligible to apply:</p> <p>Town Councils</p> <p>Parish Councils</p> <p>Social Enterprises</p> <p>Community Groups</p> <p>Registered Charities</p> <p>Voluntary Sector Organisations</p> <p>Community Interest Companies</p> <p>Companies Limited by Guarantee</p> <p>Faith or Religious organisations*</p> <p>Schools or Academies*</p>	On average most awards made are between £100 and £500.	No	Yes	No	
Urban Tree Challenge Fund	The UTCF provides funding to support the planting and establishment of large and small trees in urban and peri-urban areas in England.	The support is competitive and targeted at projects that can provide the greatest environmental, social and economic benefits in our towns and cities. Public bodies, community groups, charities and non-government organisations, individuals and private companies who provide matched funding will be eligible to apply.	Opens 23 rd May	Yes	No	Yes	Urban tree planting

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Match funding grants	The Match Funding Grants provide funding that can help start or finish local community projects. The main purpose of this funding is to help secure or attract external funding either from other local organisations or from regional and national funding bodies.	<p>The following types of organisations are eligible to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Councils Parish Council Social Enterprises Community Groups Registered Charities Local Authorities & Public Sector Voluntary Sector Organisations Community Interest Companies Companies Limited by Guarantee Local Authorities & Public Sector* Faith or Religious organisations* Schools or Academies* 	<p>30% of the total project costs</p> <p>The maximum grant available is £8,000</p> <p>The minimum grant available is £500</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	/

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Bonds and commercial finance	<p>Commercial finance, such as bonds can be used to fund one off capital projects with the repayments covered through increased charges and/ or rents.</p> <p>Bonds are generally used for infrastructure projects in which secure, long-term revenue streams can be predicted with certainty or else underwritten independently.</p> <p>Opportunities for using commercial finance in the creation and maintenance of the GI assets are likely to be restricted. This could be overcome by:</p> <p>GI assets providing commercial uses that generate revenue (e.g. shops, restaurants or cafes) which demonstrate a financial return upon which the funding could be leveraged.</p> <p>The local authority or regeneration organisation could provide a bridging guarantee to underwrite repayments in principle. This guarantee is particularly important in the initial years of lending when the revenue-generating uses have no track record of revenues to secure finance.</p>	Private companies or Trust may have increased chance of accessing commercial finance.	Dependent on ability to cover repayments,	Yes	Yes		GI assets with income generating opportunities

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Voluntary and not-for profit sector involvement	These groups can provide an important resource by contributing additional labour, providing public stewardship of GI asset and assisting in community development and outreach. Funding can be gained through volunteers organising events. Trusts may have access to charitable and central government regeneration funds.	GI asset will need to be leased to Trust to gain funding.	Dependent on funding stream.	Yes	Yes		GI assets with added community or biodiversity benefits.
Endowments	Endowments provide long-term and protected sources of income. The interest used from the endowment can be used to fund the green space whilst the capital remains invested.	Maintenance of strategic scale GI projects could be funded by an income generating fund or asset to assist with the recurring maintenance costs.		Yes but reduces finance available for on-going maintenance	Yes		Range of GI assets.
Section 106 Agreements	<p>Planning agreements can fund the provision of green space in new residential and commercial developments.</p> <p>Section 106 agreements require the developers to contribute towards the infrastructure and services that the new development or local community will need.</p> <p>The Section 106 contribution could also be invested as an annuity by the local authority but on-going payments can only apply within the development site.</p>	Local authorities	Dependent on the value of proposed development	Yes	Yes if invested	No	Most types of GI but needs to be within development area.

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Community Infrastructure Levy	<p>The CIL is a local levy which local authorities can choose to levy on most new development in order to secure funding for vital local and sub-regional infrastructure.</p> <p>Funds generated from the CIL can be used on infrastructure outside of project area (as long as there is some benefits to the community) and can be pooled by surrounding local authorities for regional/ subregional infrastructure projects.</p>	Local authorities	Local authorities determine the rates of CIL that will operate in their area.	Yes	Yes if invested	No	Most types of GI assets which provide community benefits.
Public and private partnerships	<p>These provide alternative funding streams for GI creation. Local authorities and the private sector could enter into an agreement whereby land is donated to a private developer who in return will be obliged to provide GI assets.</p> <p>Revenue costs could also be provided by securing the payments from private developers in planning agreements or through other mechanisms as outlined above.</p>	Dependent on availability of developable land under the local authority's ownership and the commercial reward for the developer.	Dependent on value of proposed development .	Yes	Yes	No	A range of GI assets within the specified development area.
Private management fees	Management fees could be charged to tenants of buildings on a specific site. The management fee would go towards the maintenance of the site and the green spaces within. Fees could also be used for creating new green spaces.	GI within proposed development area	Dependent on number of properties within development .	Yes	Yes	No	Most types of GI but asset needs to be within the designated development area.

Funding streams	Focus/criteria	Eligibility	Grant size	Supports creation/enhancement of GI asset	Supports management or maintenance of GI ?	Match funding required?	Types of GI funded
Income-generating	<p>Business opportunities such as sponsorship and the management of sport facilities, restaurants, cafes, festivals and events are ways in which private sector funding can be sourced. For example, an entry charge may be appropriate to some GI assets or sponsorship of areas within a GI asset could be used to support on-going maintenance or to finance new GI assets. Donations of funds by private individuals, businesses and organisations may also provide substantial sources of income.</p> <p>Fees and fines could be charged for misuse of GI asset. Open spaces also provide opportunities to develop the social economy and capture value from social enterprise projects.</p> <p>Funding could also be gained through integrating alternative energy production and green waste recycling in the design and management of the GI asset.</p> <p>Alternative energy fuels could be grown and sold.</p>	All GI assets with potential to provide a service to local community	Dependent on the availability of facilities.	Yes	Yes	No although initial funding may be required to provide facilities (e.g. buildings, sport pitches etc.)	GI assets potential to provide a service to the local community or to generate alternative energy.