West Lothian Council

# West Lothian
# Play Sufficiency Assessment



West Lothian Local Development Plan

*DRAFT*

by
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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 The Study

West Lothian Council have prepared a Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) to assess the suitability of play opportunities within West Lothian's towns and villages. Ironside Farrar were engaged to assist the Council in the preparation of the outputs required for a Play Sufficiency Assessment for West Lothian. This report sets out the findings of the assessment and will form a core component of the Local Development Plan (LDP) Evidence Report. It will also provide the evidential basis for policy development, delivery programming and the securing of developer contributions.

The Strategy will serve as a Development Management tool and in particular the application of NPF4 policy 21: Play Recreation and Sport to encourage, promote and facilitate spaces and opportunities for play, recreation and sport. The assessment will also help the Council meet its statutory requirements placed under The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and The Town and Country Planning (Play Sufficiency Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023. NPF4 states that LDPs should be based on an understanding of the needs and demand in the community and informed by the planning authority's PSA and Open Space Strategy.

The PSA builds on the West Lothian Play Strategy, by assessing the current play resource in West Lothian's towns and villages and providing recommendations for future management and development.

The Council has consulted children (anyone aged under 18), parents and carers, community councils and community bodies (classified under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973) and the general public across West Lothian's council wards.

This study was prepared in collaboration with West Lothian Council, based on the West Lothian Council GIS shapefile of play provision and survey information provided by Council teams. This report includes, by means of maps, the location of formal play spaces, whilst providing statements on the quality, quantity and accessibility of both informal and formal play spaces for each settlement in West Lothian as well as for the overall Planning Authority's area.




**What is play?**
"Children's play is any behaviour, activity or process initiated controlled and structured by children themselves. Play is non-compulsory, driven by intrinsic motivation and undertaken for its own sake, rather than a means to an end. It may take infinite forms but the key characteristics of play are fun, uncertainty, challenge, flexibility and non-productivity." (**United Nations General Comment 17.**)

## 1.2 The Benefits of Play

Playing is an inherent part of a happy childhood, and is important for children's physical and cognitive development as they grow. For young children, early experiences of unstructured play help develop motor skills and encourages imaginative play and exploration of natural environments. Safe and engaging spaces for older children are equally important, providing opportunities for socialisation, exercise and building a sense of independence. Play spaces also provide places for carers and parents to meet and socialise, supporting wider community wellbeing and social outcomes. Access to outdoor play areas is key to good placemaking.



Whilst play spaces specifically designed and managed for play are essential in meeting the needs of children to play outdoors, to have fun and to relax, valuable informal play opportunities also exist in many open spaces, including natural spaces, woodlands, urban forestry and in some public realm areas. It is well-recognised that increasing children's contact with nature improves their physical and mental wellbeing, and can build resilience. Allowing children to explore the natural world can help foster better understanding of nature and the need to protect and care for the environment.

Access to quality greenspace and nature-based solutions can help to mitigate health inequalities and improve physical and mental health, by providing opportunities for play, socialising, relaxation and physical activity. Developing our communities to promote local living and 20-minute neighbourhoods can help reduce inequalities in health.
(Extract from **NPF4**)

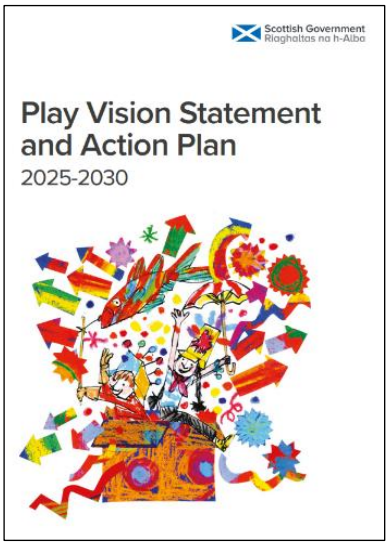


## 1.3 Policy Context

NPF4 includes Policy 21: Play Recreation and Sport, that recognises that providing quality play opportunities for children and young people is essential to their physical and cognitive development and upholds their right to engage in play and recreational activities. The policy aims to encourage, promote and facilitate spaces and opportunities for play, recreation and sport. The outcomes will be that "natural and built environments are improved, with more equitable access to opportunities for play and recreation. Physical and mental health are improved through provision of, and access to, outdoor recreation, play and sport facilities."

Development Plans should identify sites for sports, play and outdoor recreation for people of all ages. This should be based on an understanding of the needs and demand in the community and informed by the planning authority's Play Sufficiency Assessment and Open Space Strategy… New provisions should be well-designed, high quality, accessible and inclusive. (Extract from **NPF4**)

Scottish Government's Play Vision Statement and Action Plan, published in March 2025, replaces the National Play Strategy and sets out a new vision of play for Scotland (2025-2030). The Vision Statement recognises that play, in all its forms, is an integral part of children's healthy development, learning, physical and mental wellbeing at all ages. The aim is that by 2030 we will have delivered our actions that empower and support more play opportunities for all children in Scotland.




"Our vision for Scotland is that play is welcomed, celebrated and nurtured. That every child is able to play across all stages and aspects of their life to support their social development, resilience, language and communication development, health, physical and mental wellbeing."
(**Scotland's Play Vision and Action Plan**)

## 1.4 Children's Access to Play

All children need and have a right to play. Play is vital for children's health, wellbeing and happiness, particularly for children facing barriers like discrimination and exclusion. To uphold the right and need of every child to play, the creation of accessible and inclusive play spaces is essential. The National Planning Framework 4 requires new, replacement or improved play provision to be inclusive and accessible for disabled children.

An **accessible play space** is a space which is barrier-free, allows users access to move around the space and offers participation opportunities for a range of differing abilities. Not every child of every ability will be able to actively use everything within an accessible play space.[1] Accessibility relates not just to the space itself, but also in how people might reasonably reach the space from their home.

Disability and equality legislation highlight the duty to make reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled people are not placed at a substantial disadvantage. The Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum[1] recognise that there are not enough accessible and inclusive places for children to play within a reasonable distance of their home. In the UK, many disabled children, disabled parents, and their families are still excluded from local play spaces. Barriers include lack of accessibility, poor understanding of disabled children's needs and wishes, negative public attitudes and a limited range of play opportunities.





An **inclusive play space** provides a barrier-free environment, with supporting infrastructure, which meets the wide and varying play needs of every child. All children will enjoy high levels of participation opportunities, equally rich in play value.[1]

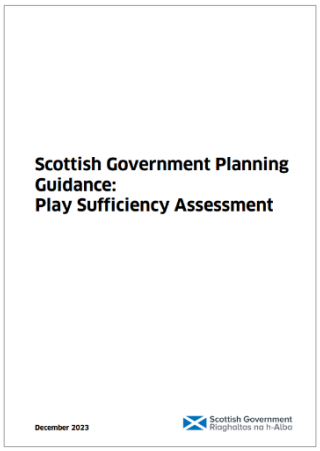
Fields in Trust guidance[2] on accessible, safe and inclusive open spaces aims to achieve the following:

- Welcoming, inclusive and social areas for all ages, genders, cultures and abilities in the community
- Safe access both during the day and night, addressing the potential impact of anti-social behaviour
- Accessible and sustainable travel options with safe and enjoyable walking routes, public transport stops and cycle routes
- Reflect local need and designed in collaboration with all the community
- Include and enable children and young people of all ages and abilities to play together in a variety of ways

[1] Joint Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum, Including Disabled Children in Play Provision
[2] Fields in Trust Standards: Creating Great Spaces for All, 2024

## 1.5 Play Sufficiency Assessments

A Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) is the assessment of the sufficiency of play opportunities for children in their area, carried out by a planning authority under the duty as set out in Section 7(5) Part 16D(1) of Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. The Act requires that planning authorities assess the sufficiency of play opportunities in its area for children in preparing an evidence report for the preparation of the Local Development Plan. The intention of the PSA Regulations is to give flexibility for planning authorities to include information that is meaningful locally and for the report to align with other relevant areas of work, such as the open space audit and strategy.




All children in Scotland have a right to play under Article 31 of the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**. This right applies to every child under the age of 18 (Article 1) without 'discrimination of any kind' (Article 2). Play is essential to a happy childhood and to children's well-being and development.

***Form and Content of a PSA***

The Regulations state that the term "play spaces" means outdoor spaces which are accessible by the public, and which offer play opportunities for children. The term "children" means persons under the age of 18 years. The audit has identified play opportunities for the following age groupings: ages 0-4, 5-11, 12-15 and 16-17.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment Regulations 2023 outlines the form and content of a PSA, as follows:

- The report, incorporating maps, which sets out the assessment and location of the sufficiency of play opportunities in its area for children.
- Map the play spaces which are:
  - Specifically for play (formal / equipped play spaces)
  - Those play spaces within areas of open space and not specifically for play (informal play spaces).
- Describe the play opportunities for all ages of children.
- Include statements as regards the overall quality, quantity and accessibility of play opportunities in the planning authority's area.
- In preparing the PSA, the planning authority must consult: children, parents and carers, community councils, the public and any other person or community body which the planning authority considers to be appropriate.

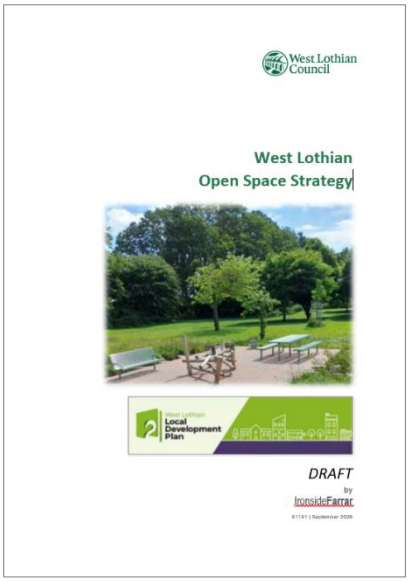




# 2.0 WEST LOTHIAN'S OPEN SPACES

## 2.1 Open Space Strategy

Open Space has a key role in delivering environmental, social and economic outcomes throughout West Lothian and links with the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the Local Development Plan. Equally important is the need to deliver real and meaningful benefits to communities that address local needs in a manner that offers best value.




The Open Space Strategy[3], supported by a detailed Open Space Audit and GIS mapping database, offers a powerful tool kit to improve Open Space planning in West Lothian. It brings together the aims of different council services with responsibilities for open space and liaising with users, community groups, other organisations and the private sector. The strategy provides a strategic overview for the provision, development, regeneration and management of Open Space within West Lothian. It also provides clear standards for assessing the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces, helping us to identify areas where open spaces are in good supply, where they are needed and where the quality of the open spaces offered needs to be improved.

The Open Space Strategy will help inform and support important parallel policy initiatives including the emerging Local Development Plan 2, the assessment of individual planning applications and the various individual related strategies and action plans drawn up by the council which affect open space.

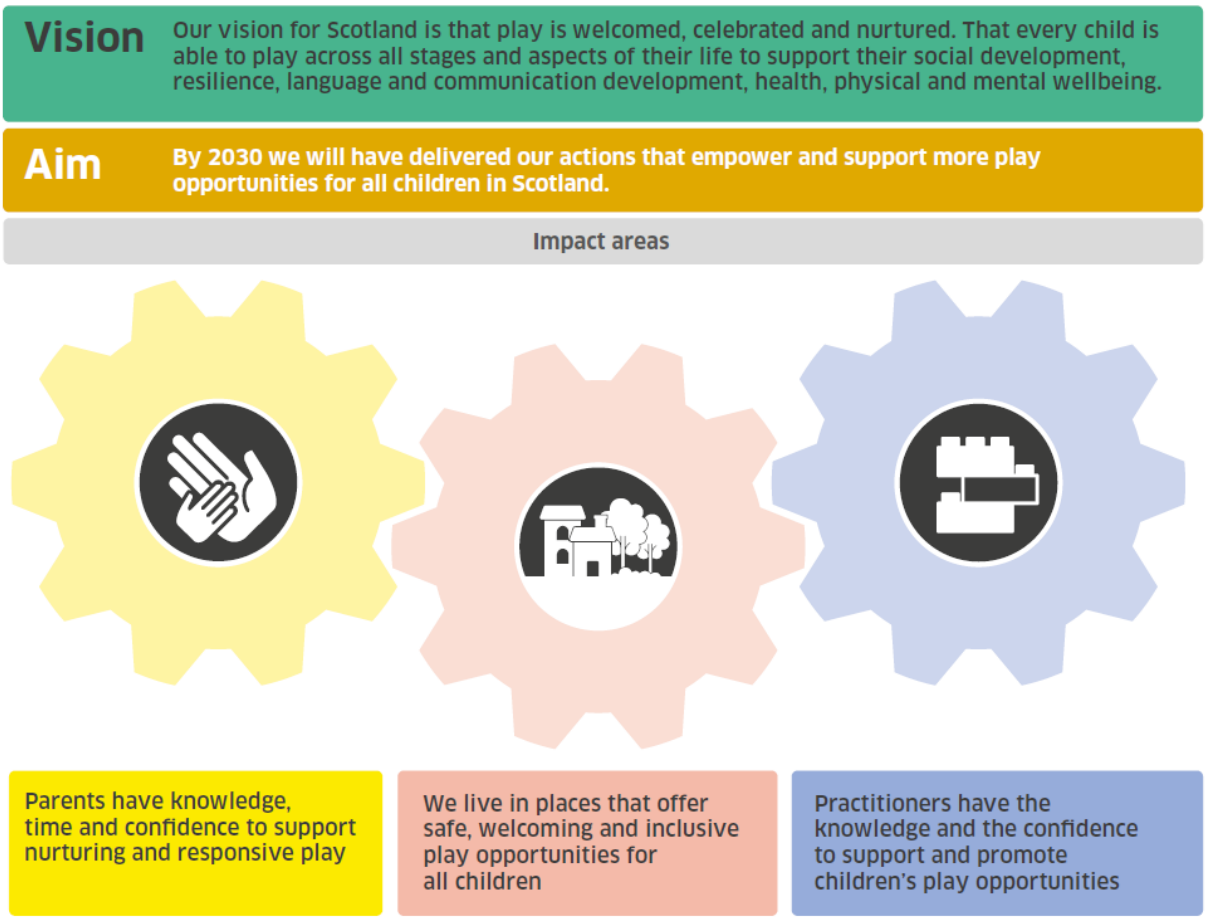
West Lothian provides a range of open spaces addressing a diverse range of needs, including countryside and recreational access, formal sports provision, informal recreational activity, play and civic spaces. In many of the urban settlements and villages there exist, to varying degrees, a hierarchy of open spaces providing access to Country Parks, public parks, amenity greenspace, sports areas, amenity greenspace including informal open spaces, green corridors and semi-natural spaces within easy walking distance of residential areas.

These open space areas make significant contribution to local character and townscape which also act as important wildlife habitats either individually or as part of the broader network of open space. Where open space is of quality and well maintained, such environmental and landscape assets make significant contributions to the quality of place and positively contribute to place competitiveness, helping to create an attractive and appealing place to visit, live or work. Play is a key element of Open Spaces in West Lothian.

[3] West Lothian Open Space Strategy (2026)

## 2.2 Scotland's Vision for Play

Scotland's Play Vision and Action Plan sets out the vision, aims and 3 Impact Areas for children's play in Scotland, as illustrated below.




A key impact area relevant to the development of a range of play resources sufficient for local communities is Place.

**Primary driver: Place**

- Play spaces are inclusive and accessible to all in a variety of settings.
- Play spaces offer quality play experiences and are safe and welcoming for all.
- Play opportunities are prioritised when creating all public spaces.
- Play is encouraged in our cities, towns and communities, for people of all ages.

(Scotland's Play Vision and Action Plan)

The following chapters set out the process of establishing the sufficiency of the play resource in every place in the West Lothian council area.

## 2.3 West Lothian's Commitment to Play

West Lothian has been supporting good quality, accessible play provision for many years. Investment has been made in new and replacement play areas, and broader use of parks and green spaces. West Lothian has a variety of play spaces available with safe routes to travel. It also has nationally recognised, award winning high quality play provision, along with established training within the private and third sector.



West Lothian Council offers all residents free access to safe, well maintained play areas and outdoor formal sports facilities, located within open public spaces across all settlements.

## West Lothian Vision for Play

Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed. West Lothian is a place where play is valued as an essential, life enhancing daily experience for all our children and young people. We will seek to ensure that community play spaces are sufficient, challenging, inclusive and accessible, making use of both natural and urban open spaces.





The Council strives to provide equity of access and provide inclusive play equipment in our play areas and open spaces so that children and young people of all abilities can engage and enjoy, providing a range of benefits for all including a sense of belonging, inclusion, fun and enjoyment and skills development.

## Play Design Principles

West Lothian Council has developed overarching design principles to support the continuing development of our play asset provision:

- Ensure play assets are located in the right place, where they can be easily accessed along active travel routes, allow sufficient passive surveillance and close to other community facilities;
- Create varied environments for children where they can gain the skills to help them navigate the wider world;
- Encourage a range of formal and informal play to support inclusion across different social groups, different abilities and different interests;
- Incorporate opportunities for natural and risky play to help children develop resilience, self-awareness and an understanding of health & safety;
- Consult with children and parents where appropriate to help instil a sense of ownership of public spaces; and
- Design with sustainability and efficient maintenance in mind.

### Natural Playspaces

A Natural Play Area is a designated space where children and young people are encouraged to play in the same way as you might expect at an Equipped Play Area. The main difference is that, here, play opportunities are designed around natural elements and aim to connect children to their local environment. Sometimes you might see a Natural Play Area located alongside an Equipped Play Area, and sometimes it could be a stand-alone space.

Typical features you may see in Natural Play Areas include:

- Natural elements like timber, boulders and grass mounds to allow climbing, jumping and balancing
- Natural surfaces like bark, sand and stone to allow digging, building and sensory play
- Biodiversity and habitat creation to allow exploring, learning and observing
- Informal play elements like musical play, sculptures and ground graphics to allow creative play, games and flexible fun
- Seating and paths to support accessibility and social play

All children and young people should be able to play and interact with nature and their local environment. We hope that by providing a variety of accessible and safe Natural Play Areas across West Lothian, we can help support them in their development, healthy habits and a positive relationship with nature.

Examples of the Natural Play Areas in West Lothian include:

- Polkemmet Country Park Bug Towers - The space includes working bug habitats, boulder stepping stones, native planting and playful signage
- Lanthorn Park Natural Play Area - The space includes wild grassland mounds, a climb & slide trail, boulders and a pea gravel pit
- Almondvale Natural Play Area - The space includes the 'Symbiosis' sculpture, traversing stone walls and a sensory garden with boulder stepping stones, planting and musical play






**Risks vs Benefits**

All West Lothian Council play areas are designed and maintained to conform to the industry standards in terms of Health & Safety. However, in line with industry best practice, we recognise the benefits of risky and challenging play in outdoor settings. West Lothian Council supports The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) statement: *"Play is great for children's well-being and development. When planning and providing play opportunities, the goal is not to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits. No child will learn about risk if they are wrapped in cotton wool".* All play area users use the play area at their own risk and should consider their abilities and review the equipment prior to engaging in any activity.

# 3.0 ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES

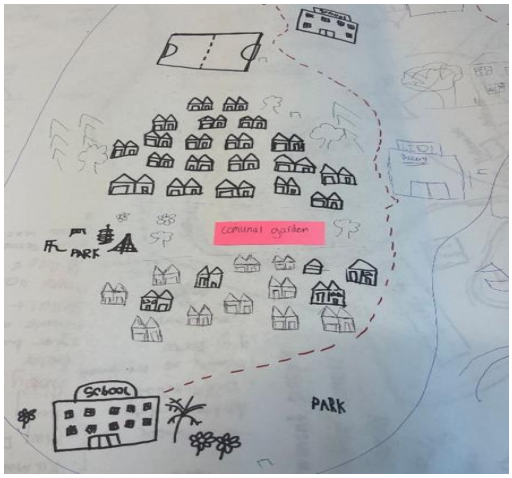
## 3.1 Introduction

West Lothian Council have conducted two separate surveys in preparation of the Play Sufficiency Assessment, including:

1. Outdoor Play Spaces Survey (2024) – consultation with parents, children and young people
2. Parks and Play: Open Space Strategy Survey (June – October 2026)

The following section sets out the findings of the surveys. Further detail can be found in the WLC consultation response reports.






## 3.2 Outdoor Play Spaces Survey 2024

The first survey was carried out from June to August 2024, named 'How good are our outdoor play spaces are and how can we make them better?'. The survey involved one survey of under 18s and another of adults. These surveys ran.

- The under-18 survey gathered 744 participants. The demographic spread included 46% males, 47% females and 7% of participants who preferred not to say or used other gender identities. 3% were aged under 5, 11% aged 5-11, and the majority (86%) were aged 12-17.
- The adult survey gathered 415 participants, the majority of whom were parents.

**Current Satisfaction**

When asked to rate the quality of their play spaces, children answered more positively than adults in the Outdoor Play Spaces Survey (Figures 1 and 2). Specifically, children under 5 gave an average rating of 6.1 out of 10, children aged 5-11 rated the spaces at 6.9, and those aged 12-17 rated them highest at 7.2 out of 10. Adults tended to rate play spaces less favourably, with an average score of 5.5 out of 10.

Under 18s appear to highly rate play spaces in Uphall, Broxburn, Winchburgh, West Calder and Polbeth, while other areas have a greater mixture of results. Adults appear to rate play spaces in the south-west of West Lothian lower in comparison to other areas. Winchburgh, Linlithgow and Beecraigs Country Park are rated comparatively highly, and other areas have more varied scores out of 10.

Under 18s were asked to drop a pin on the map to mark the area they play or hang out in most. They

were then asked to rate how much they like it on a scale of 1 to 10. The results are illustrated in the figure below, with the green dots representing the higher scores from 8 to 10.

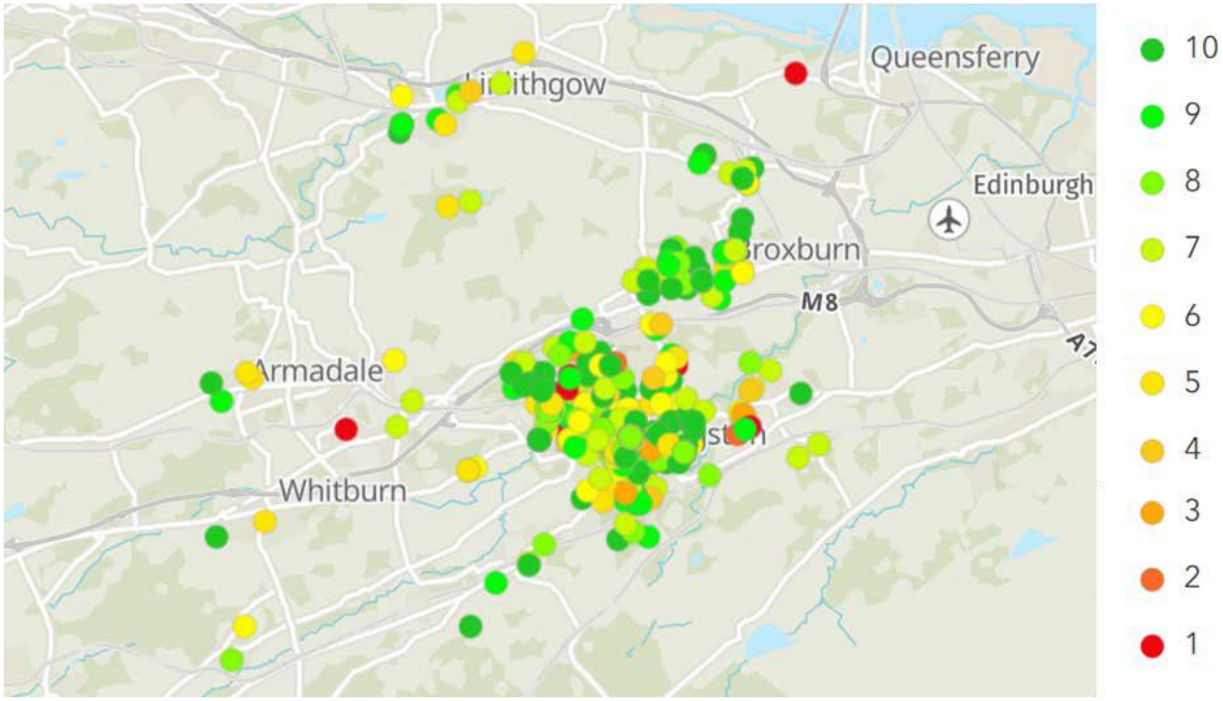



Figure 1: The play areas that are played in and enjoyed most by under 18 year olds

Adults were also asked to drop a pin on the map to mark their local play space for children and were asked to rate the site on a scale of 1 to 10. The results are illustrated in the figure below, with the green dots representing the higher scores from 8 to 10.

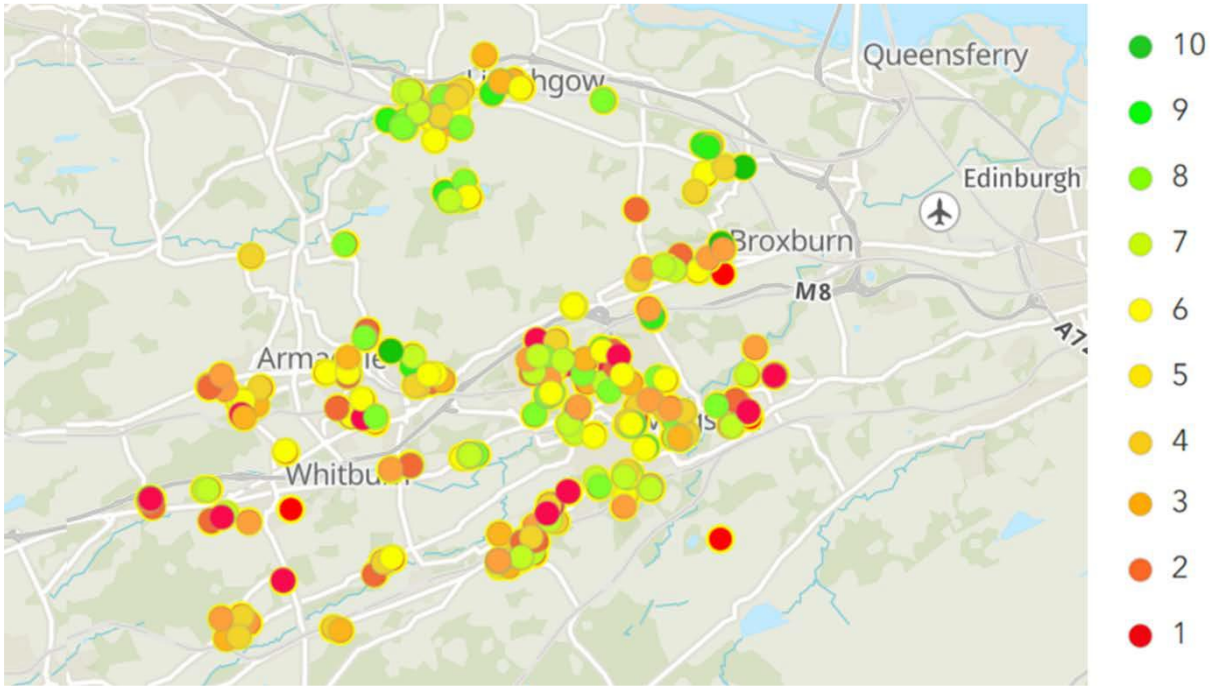



Figure 2: Local play areas and quality rating by adult carers

The survey concluded that children are generally more satisfied with play spaces than adults (Figures 1-3). Adults have more concerns, as shown by the greater percentages of negative responses. Children are more likely to believe play spaces are exceptionally good, possibly because they have different standards or expectations to adults. Children may prioritise fun, variety or excitement, while adults may assess play spaces based on safety, maintenance and functionality.

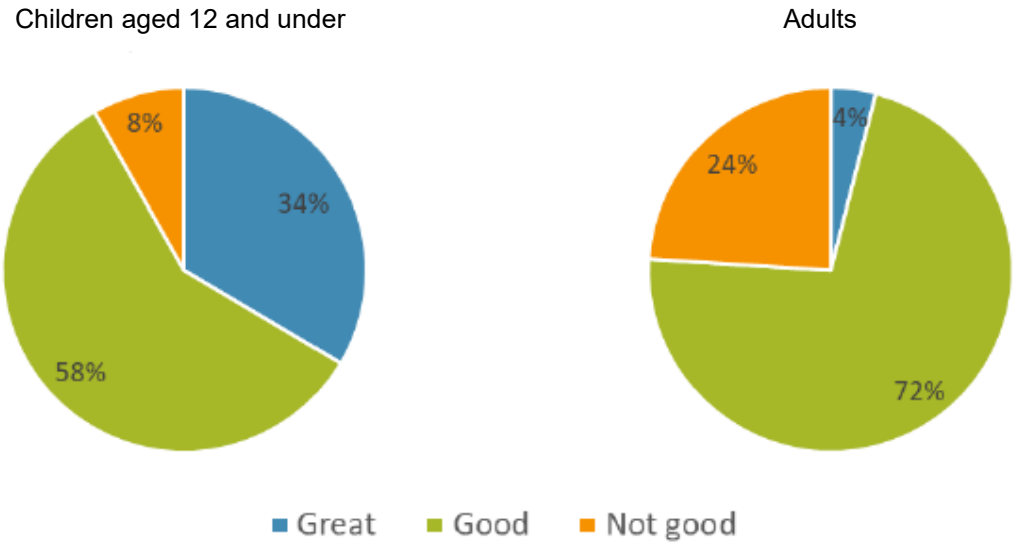



Chart 1: Comparison between play satisfaction surveys for adults and under 18s

Accessibility was rated highly when adults were asked about the positives of their local play spaces (Figure 4). Another survey question found that 69% of adults feel that children and young people can access nature and outdoor play spaces under their own steam. 86% of under-18s believe that they have good access to nature, indicating that this is a strength of the outdoor spaces in West Lothian. On the other hand, by far the most common reason given by under-18s for not playing or hanging out in places that they would like is that they are too far away (Figure 6). This opinion was shared by a third of participants.

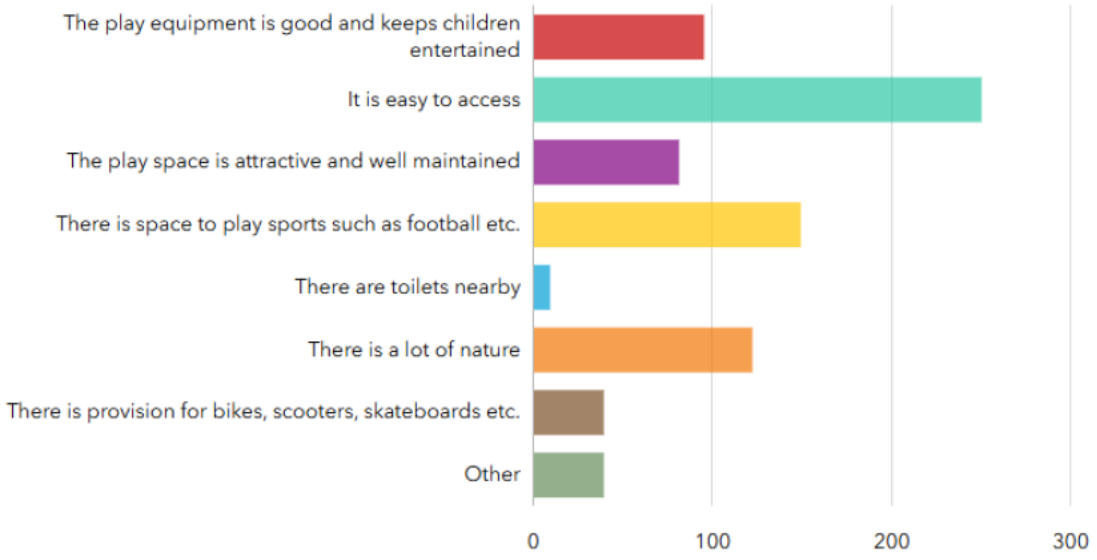



Chart 2: Adult response to: What are the good things about the outdoor play spaces near you?

**Where do Children Play and Hang Out?**

Survey responses give a picture of how young people in West Lothian spend their time outdoors. There are some differences in perceptions between adults and children, for example, “small park” was the most common answer from adults, whereas children say that they spend less time in small local parks in comparison to some other places.

“In the street” was a popular answer from both age groups, and points to a reliance on informal spaces for play. This could reflect a lack of formal play areas within easy reach of homes. While streets can serve as play spaces in some contexts, they often raise concerns around safety and may not offer the same benefits and infrastructure as designated play areas. “Outside shops” was also a popular response from children, with over 40% of under 18s saying they hang out there on a weekly basis.

Playing fields and natural spaces were also significant choices, suggesting that they are often fairly accessible and appealing to young people. Figure 5 shows that country parks are visited on a seasonal basis more commonly than daily or weekly. This makes sense as country parks are further away from most properties than smaller parks. Less popular play areas seem to be more specialised spaces such as BMX and skate parks.

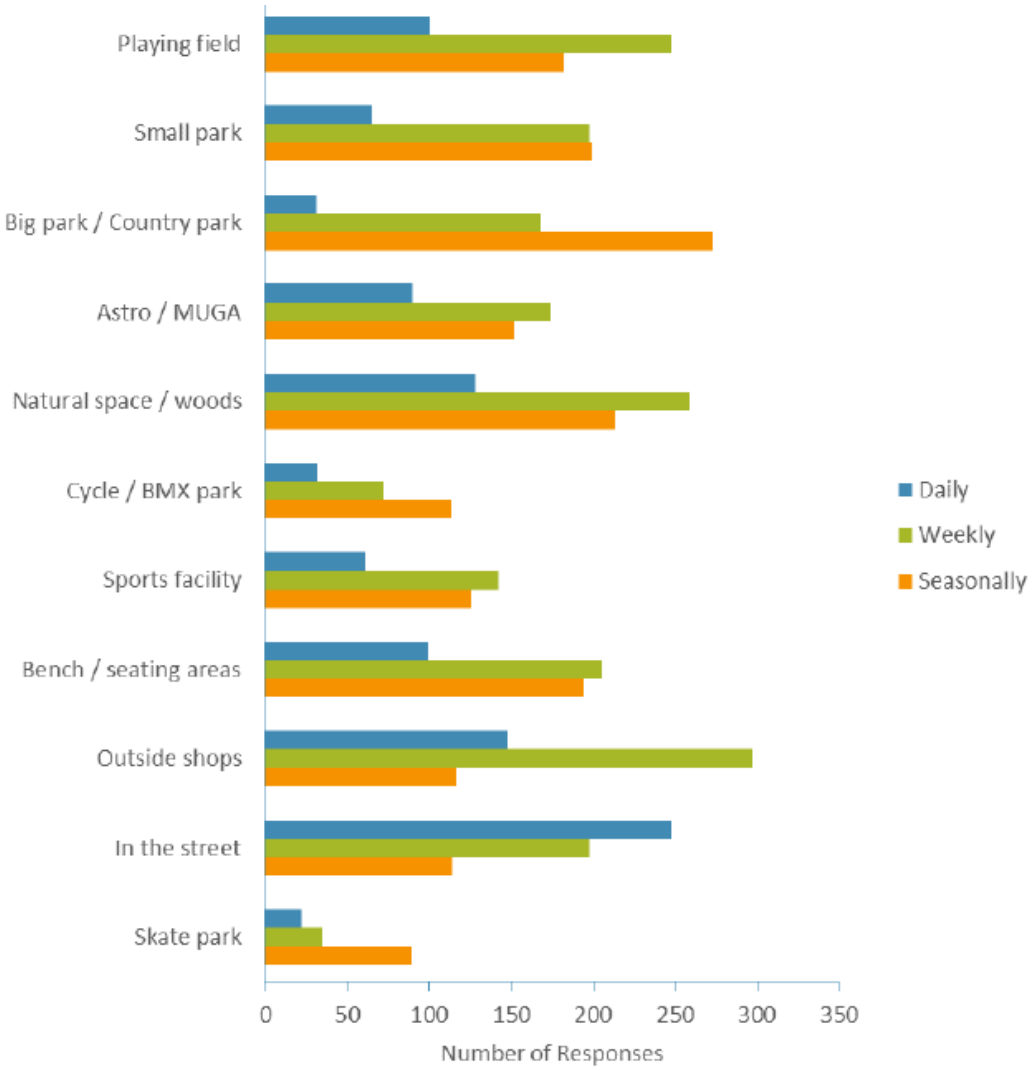



Chart 3: Under 18s responses to: “Where do you usually play or hang out? And how often do you play there?”

**Barriers to Play**

Figure 6 displays barriers to play identified by under 18s. The most prominent theme is age related dissatisfaction, with people commonly answering that there is not enough for older or younger children to do at play spaces. Another popular response refers to negative stigma that older children face in these shared spaces, which may deter their presence or discourage younger children and families.

A lack of toilets was another major concern. This response aligns with Figure 4, where toilet availability received low ratings. Adults, especially those with younger children or babies, require access to well-maintained toilets and changing facilities to feel comfortable using these spaces for extended periods. Not having enough seating further limits the usability of outdoors play spaces, because it is needed for those accompanying children to parks, and provides a place for rest and social interaction for all. A lack of accessibility and play for disabled people also gathered over 100 responses, as did poor maintenance, which could refer to broken equipment, litter, or general upkeep.

By far the most common reason given by under 18s for not playing or hanging out in places that they would like is that they are too far away (Figure 6). This is followed by there not being enough to do there, which is similar to the adult responses.

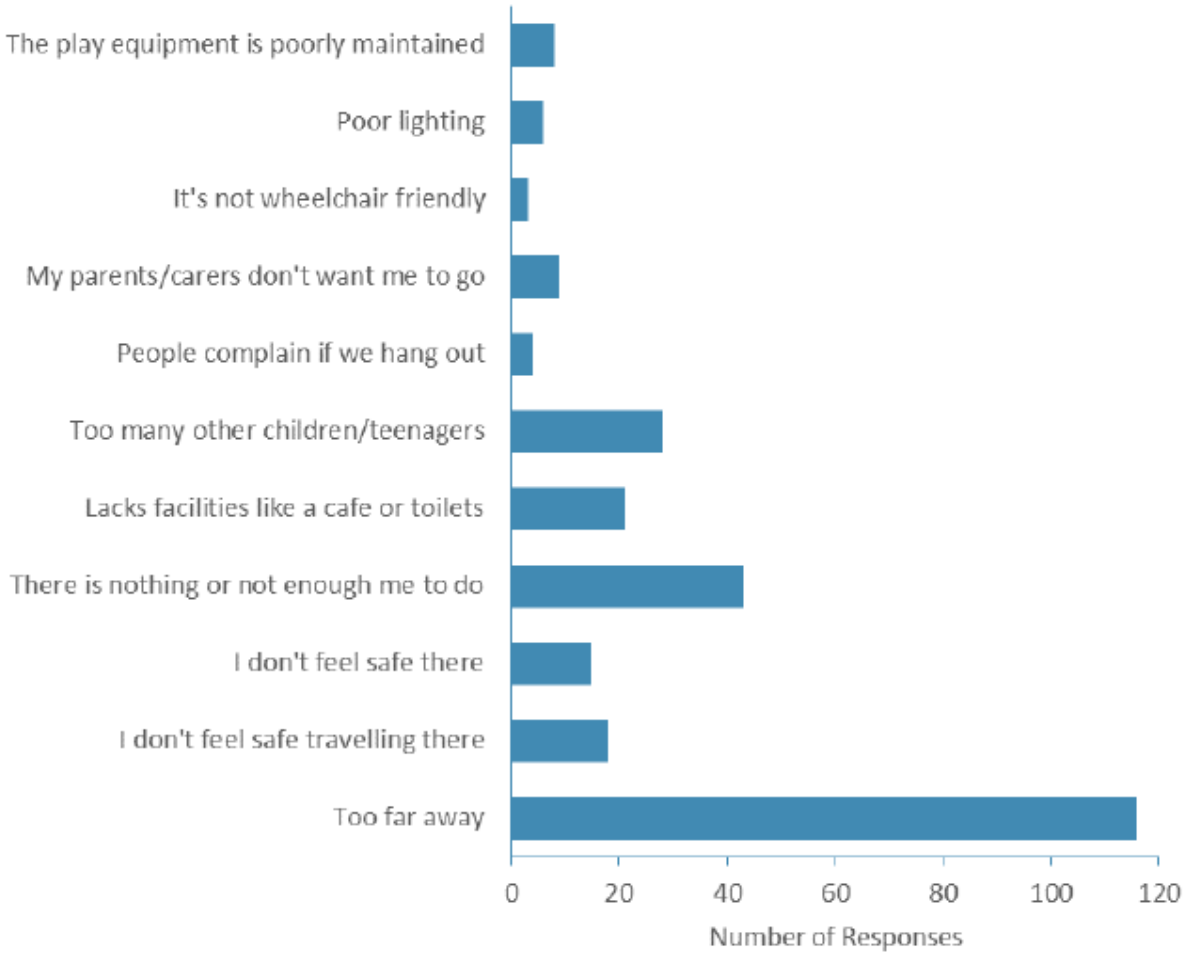



Chart 4: Under 18s responses to: “What is stopping you from playing or hanging out in areas that you would like to but don’t?”

Around twice as many girls as boys expressed concern about not feeling safe while travelling to play spaces, suggesting that this may be a gender-specific barrier to play. Of participants that answered “my parents/carers don’t want me to go”, around 70% were female, which also suggests that safety concerns are more common for girls than boys in association with visiting play areas. However, the numbers of boys and girls who said that they don’t feel safe while present at the play space was closer to equal. 100% of participants who said they don’t visit play areas because they are not wheelchair friendly were female. The number of responses to these options is quite small, which limits reliability of the observed differences between genders.

Overall, the responses did not display any other major differences between genders. Slightly more girls than boys said they don’t have enough to do at play spaces, and slightly more boys than girls stated that play spaces are too far away.

**How to Improve Play?**

The most popular improvement option for green spaces amongst under-18s was “swings for people my age” (Figure 7). This was a universal opinion among all age groups.

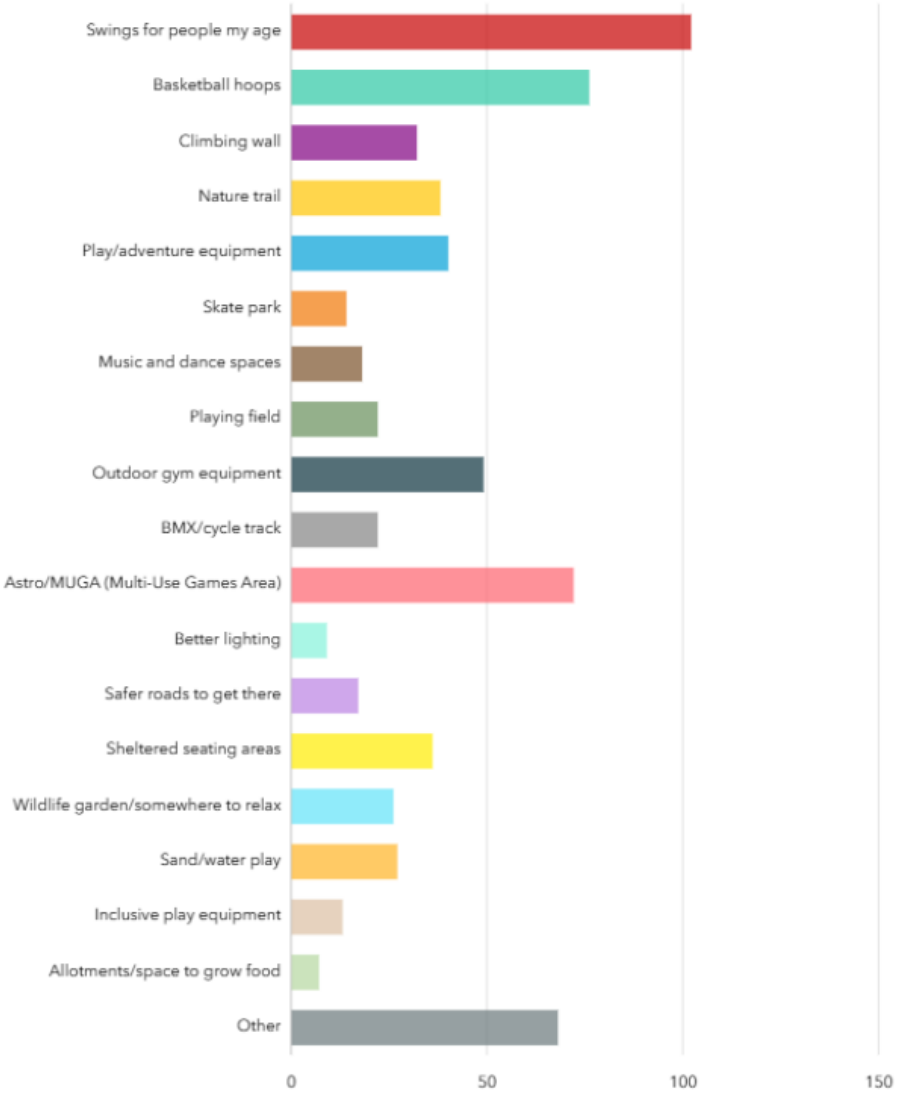



Chart 5: Under 18s responses to: “How could your local green spaces be improved?”

This highlights the appeal of swing sets and indicates that existing play areas may not adequately cater to all ages. This response was followed by basketball hoops and Astroturf / MUGA (multi-use games area). These facilities appeal to older children and teenagers who may be more interested in sports and socialisation. When asked if there is anywhere they would like to play but don't, the most popular response from under-18s was also Astroturf / MUGA. Implementing these facilities could create more age-inclusive environments for play.

**Feedback from Survey Participants**

**Positive** feedback highlights that people are particularly happy with the amount and quality of natural green spaces in West Lothian. Specific play areas received praise for their fun and engaging play equipment, and variety of activities available.

- "There's a park over the street and its fun. You get to climb and balance on things." (Child)
- "I like cycling to my local nature park since I can see the greenery and the nature, and I think it improves my mental health." (Child)
- "Good, lots of greenery and walking paths." (Teenager)
- "Play spaces at Polkemmet and Beecraigs are sensational" (Adult)
- "The new Auldcathie Park is fantastic for kids and teenagers if they want to walk when the weather is good." (Adult)
- "We use the pump tracks in Uphall and Livingston and the Livingston skate park too. They're fantastic and would love to see more. Other favourite places are Somers park Mid Calder, Beecraigs - more nature based areas. We also use Bankton for their astro." (Adult)

**Negative** feedback included several issues, such as poor maintenance and damaged play areas, antisocial behaviour and vandalism, and problems with dogs in the spaces. People also expressed concerns about lack of toilets, insufficient variety of play and sports equipment, and the distance or unsafe routes to reach some parks by foot.

- "not that good small and not that much to play with" (Child)
- "Some of the parks should definitely be improved as they are damaged or have a small variety of facilities for children. They have also just taken down xcite so we are now missing those sports facilities." (Teenager)
- "There is a lot of people under the influence." (Teenager)
- "Stop vandalism and older kids ruining places for younger kids" (Teenager)
- "Poor provision for multiple sports only ever really for football. No facilities for toilet or changing." (Adult)
- "Simply not good enough in the local area unless you're willing to take transport to get there or travel through dark areas. Not happy about sending my child that way." (Adult)
- "Heavily graffitied and often broken glass. Bins never collected. But overall good space. Wish there was somewhere for bigger kids." (Adult)
- "Dogs should be nowhere near kids play parks and this message needs to be reinforced" (Adult)

**Inequality concerns** include a lack of facilities for certain age groups, poor accessibility for those with disabilities or additional needs, and geographic or socioeconomic disparities in play space quality.

- "Well off areas seem to have better maintained equipment. Areas such as Whitburn/Armadale etc are not up to the same standard as Murieston/Linlithgow." (Adult)
- "ALL outdoor play areas in Deans are shocking. There is literally nowhere to play football on proper football areas. The area behind the community centre is ok, though it's always busy, it's concrete floor (which is great for the basketball) and the lighting NEVER comes on. I pay a lot for

amenities for both my kids and I, the council provide nowhere near an adequate level that I would find acceptable" (Adult).

- "Very little that can be accessed free. Cost of living crisis so people can't afford to pay to go to clubs etc. if it was free and well maintained then again it would attract more people" (Adult)
- "There are not enough space places for ASD / additional needs kids. The places that have a few things are not gated enough for safety or have risks like ponds nearby." (Adult)
- "I am disabled with limited ability for movement. Making parks accessible for parents with young children is often overlooked. Having a fenced in area to prevent escaping children and to prevent dogs from approaching children is a must." (Adult)
- "Feel there are not enough fully fenced in parks within the Livingston area for autistic children that cannot use a park without gates for their safety." (Adult)
- "Play spaces mainly appeal to the under 10yr age group during the day. Most are not accessible for those with mobility or sensory needs. Parks are not maintained and once play equipment is destroyed it is usually removed and not replaced. There is nothing for teenagers." (Adult)
- "The areas are only for kids, not for teenagers" (Teenager)
- "Most equipment isn't accessible for younger children" (Adult)
- "Minimal facilities for a range of age groups" (Adult)

Several survey participants made comments referring to a lack of play provision within range of **new housing developments.**

- "We are disappointed that there is no planned play space in this new housing development. Our children are too young to travel on their own therefore we need to drive to Kirknewton for a play space"
- "Unfortunately there are no play parks which are near to the new development at Mansfield Lea. All kids between the ages of 5 to 10 play on the street which pose harm due to delivery vans, cars, construction vehicles etc. Kids deserve better place to play."
- "The Ellis Vale development in Armadale has an enormous amount of new houses and families with more coming, and no provision of play areas nearby. Because of that, the neighbouring children do not have a space to play together and meet each other. We have no community and have made no friends, and we feel like outsiders who know no one. It's actually very depressing and it's affecting my mental health as a mother without a village."
- "Would like to see more parks near new built estates. Appleton drive has no play park even though residents where promised one and the nearest one to kids is in between Westcroft and Eastcroft court that is privately owned and not well maintain/updated"
- "It is concerning that in Bathgate, particularly in the Western Inch area, there are limited recreational facilities for children. The absence of running tracks and football cages is a significant oversight, especially considering the importance of physical activity for kids' health and development. Moreover, the lack of amenities for children older than eight years old means that they have few options to stay engaged and active within their own community. Investing in better play areas and sports facilities is essential to support the well-being and development of our youth"
- "The park at east Calder Mansefield is terrible given the size of East Calder, nothing for young teenagers to do. BMX track could be amazing but poorly maintained"

**Ideas and suggestions** from children largely focus on more or better play equipment. Many people mentioned wanting free and publicly accessible spaces to play football. Teens and adult propose more age-inclusive equipment, better accessibility and upkeep, a wider range of activities and the introduction of sheltered seating.

- “Make bigger swings and more stuff for wee kids and big kids.” (Child)
- “other creative things that are funner like flying foxes” (Child)
- “Make more Astro pitches that are free to get into!!” (Child)
- “More better climbing equipment and paths to skateboard on” (Child)
- “A place where I can sit down with a roof over my head.” (Teenager)
- “taking care of outdoor areas and keeping them clean” (Teenager)
- “make more football pitches that are free” (Teenager)
- “more parkour” (Teenager)
- “Many smaller parks cater for only very young children, getting a mixture of equipment helps to encourage older kids to play too. More to encourage imaginative play, or larger apparatus allowing multiple children to climb/play at once would be better. Too many nicer older wooden play equipment has been replaced by less exciting more metal and plastic ones. Ropes to climb and swing on need more maintenance but give a better natural experience.” (Adult)
- “Raised beds, a garden area or sensory garden type thing included, or a wildflower patch(es).” (Adult)
- “Older kids/adults might like outdoor gym like the one at Bankton Mains.” (Adult)
- “Having just returned from Poland and visiting a number of cities it’s amazing to see how other countries are providing different play equipment for youngsters. Lots of parks next to each other but very much differentiated by age. The number of activities in local areas is amazing - a mix of simple things like outdoor chess / draught boards, ping pong tables, gym equipment, running tracks, pitches for multi sport, play equipment etc. for all of these play parks in Linlithgow you could really make more of them.” (Adult)
- “It was refurbished with standard Kompan play park equipment for older children which is almost never used. The climbing frame that was removed in the shape of a boat had been heavily used by all ages, toddlers to teens. Don't install prescriptive equipment, nobody uses it after the first turn” (Adult)
- “It would be great if a variety of sports were available. Football is everywhere but a basketball court would be fantastic for kids who have other interests. A cycle area for kids away from a road would also be brilliant” (Adult)

## 3.3 Parks and Play: Open Space Strategy Survey (2026)

As part of the process of updating our Open Space Strategy, the council ran a public feedback survey. The survey aimed to collect public opinion on existing open spaces in West Lothian, and the investment priorities the public would like to see incorporated in the revised Strategy.

Feedback from local stakeholders was gathered via an online survey. The survey period ran from 19th February – 14th April 2026. Emails were sent to all known stakeholders, including Statutory Bodies, council officers, local Community Councils, local schools, community groups and local Councillors. Fliers and banners advertising the survey were put up in a range of council managed community spaces. An advert was printed in the West Lothian Council Bulletin and distributed across all residents in West Lothian. Posters were displayed at main parks and play areas. The survey was also advertised through the council's Media team, put up on the West Lothian Council website and the Council Information Displays. A total of 329 consultees provided feedback.




Question 2 of the survey asked respondents to rate the various different types of open spaces in their area. The chart below includes an average response rating for Equipped Designated Play Spaces as 3, which is "fair".

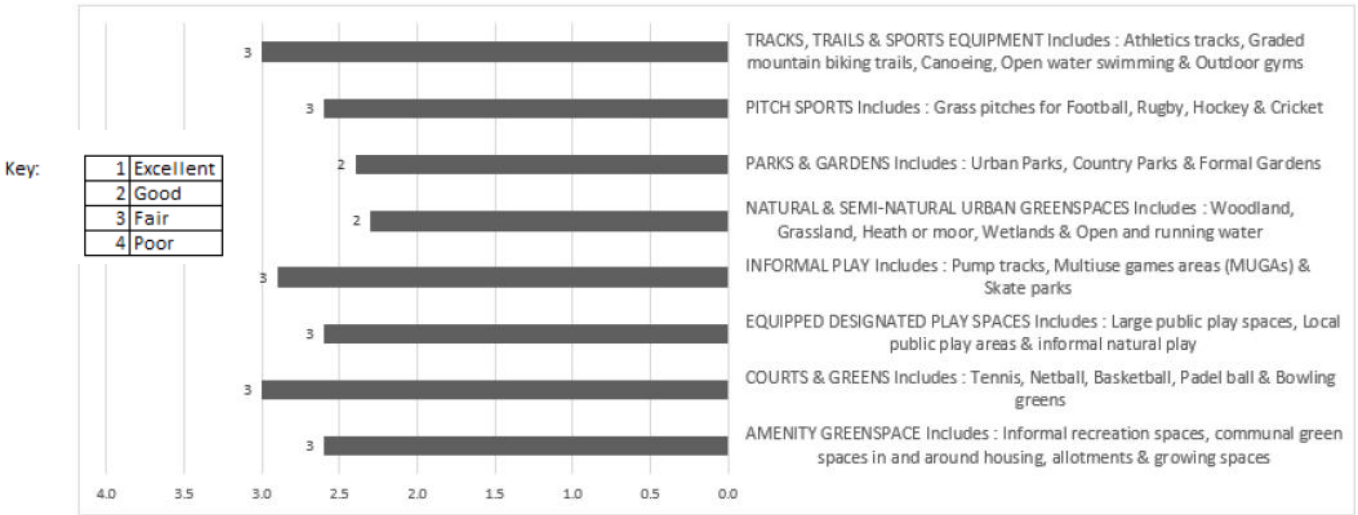



Chart 6: Average rating for each type of open space

Observations and recommendations for open space included actions for play space, including:

- On average 70% of the public can get to their local open space within 10 minutes, suggesting that open spaces are easily accessible to most. 6 localities indicated that their open spaces are not easily accessible to most (travel time of over 10 minutes).
- Overall, the consultees would like to see priority investment dedicated to improving their everyday

neighbourhood spaces, such as amenity grounds near their homes and local parks & play areas. These investments should focus on: improving green travel and connections between homes and open spaces, providing more public outdoor leisure facilities and improving the overall quality of those open spaces.

- Priority improvements for children were for Equipped Designated Play Space and focused on more play for younger & older children, as well as maintenance
- Maintenance, nature provision, play for older children, issues with safety & vandalism and seating provision have been highlighted as most valuable improvements, to be taken on board for investment considerations.

## 3.4 Community Suggestions for Improvements

The following is a list of the strongest recurring themes for improvements to play areas emerging from the Outdoor Play Spaces Survey (2024):

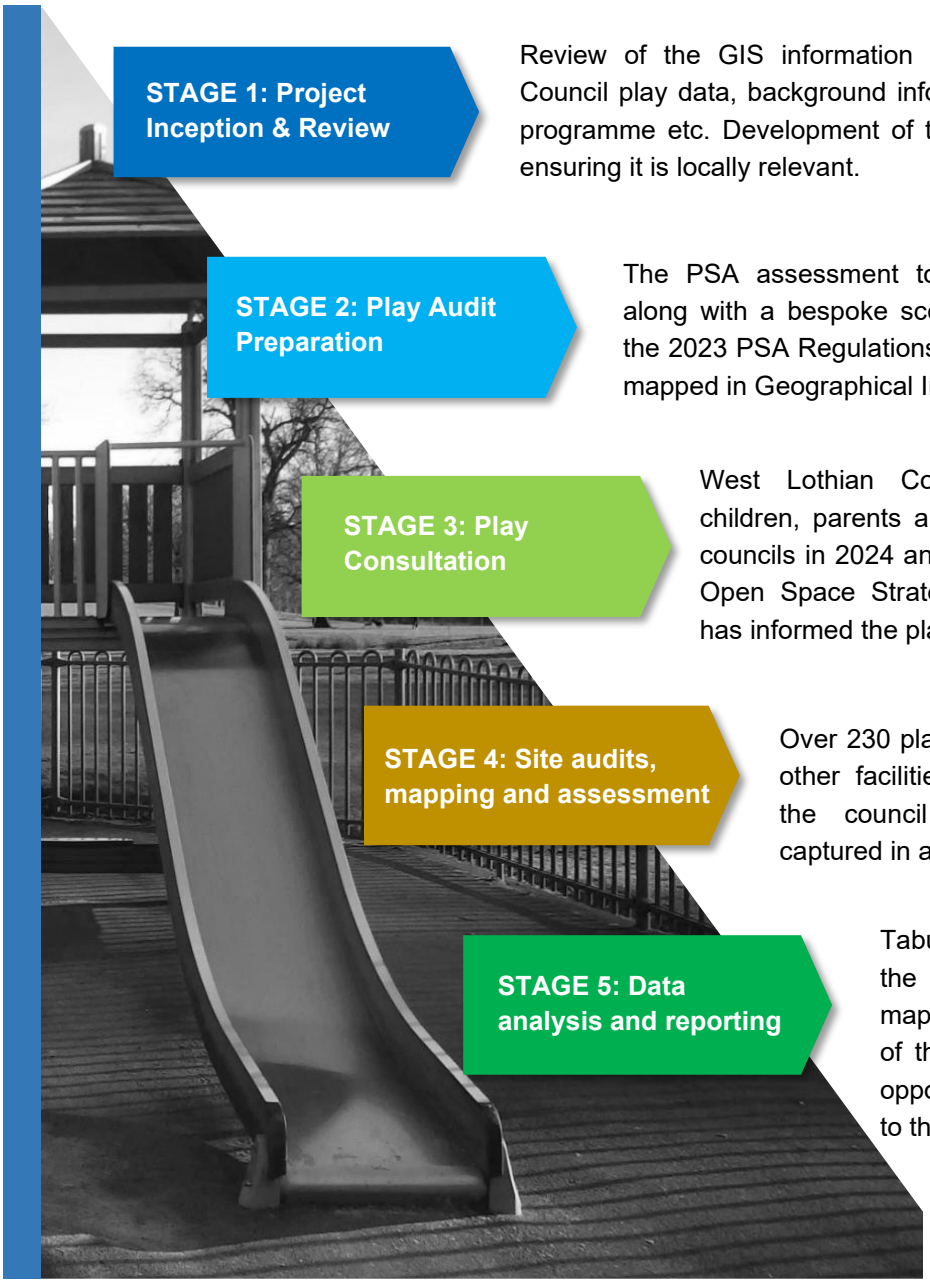
- More facilities for older children and teenagers (11-18 years)
- Inclusive and accessible play equipment
- Multi-use games areas (MUGAs), basketball courts and kick pitches
- Pump tracks, skate parks and wheeled sports facilities
- Improved maintenance, grass cutting and drainage
- Fencing, safer access routes and road crossings
- More seating, shelters, bins and toilets
- Nature-based play and biodiversity features
- Better provision in growing housing developments
- Facilities for additional support needs (ASN) children and families

# 4.0 PLAY SPACE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

## 4.1 Methodology

The play space survey methodology was informed by the lessons learnt from UK Open Space Audits, Play Scotland and best practice, creating usable outputs and the development of a tool for future play space management. The focus of the assessment has been the equipped formal play spaces / facilities for young people, being those play spaces that are specifically for play.

The study was developed in five key stages with the key tasks to be undertaken at each of the project stages set out below. The following activities have been progressed, to establish the baseline data:



**STAGE 1: Project Inception & Review**

Review of the GIS information for the West Lothian Council play data, background information, play renewal programme etc. Development of the PSA methodology, ensuring it is locally relevant.

**STAGE 2: Play Audit Preparation**

The PSA assessment tool-kit was developed along with a bespoke scoring matrix, reflecting the 2023 PSA Regulations. The play areas were mapped in Geographical Information Systems.

**STAGE 3: Play Consultation**

West Lothian Council engaged with children, parents and carers, community councils in 2024 and 2026, as part of the Open Space Strategy engagement and has informed the play assessment.

**STAGE 4: Site audits, mapping and assessment**

Over 230 play areas, MUGAs and other facilities were assessed in the council area and results captured in a database.

**STAGE 5: Data analysis and reporting**

Tabulation and analysis of the data. Audit report, mapping and assessment of the sufficiency of play opportunity for children up to the age of 18.

## 4.2 Study Area

West Lothian Council is located in the Central Belt of Scotland, bordered by Edinburgh, the Borders, South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire and Falkirk Councils. All equipped play areas, including those in private ownership, were included in the assessment in the main towns and villages of West Lothian.

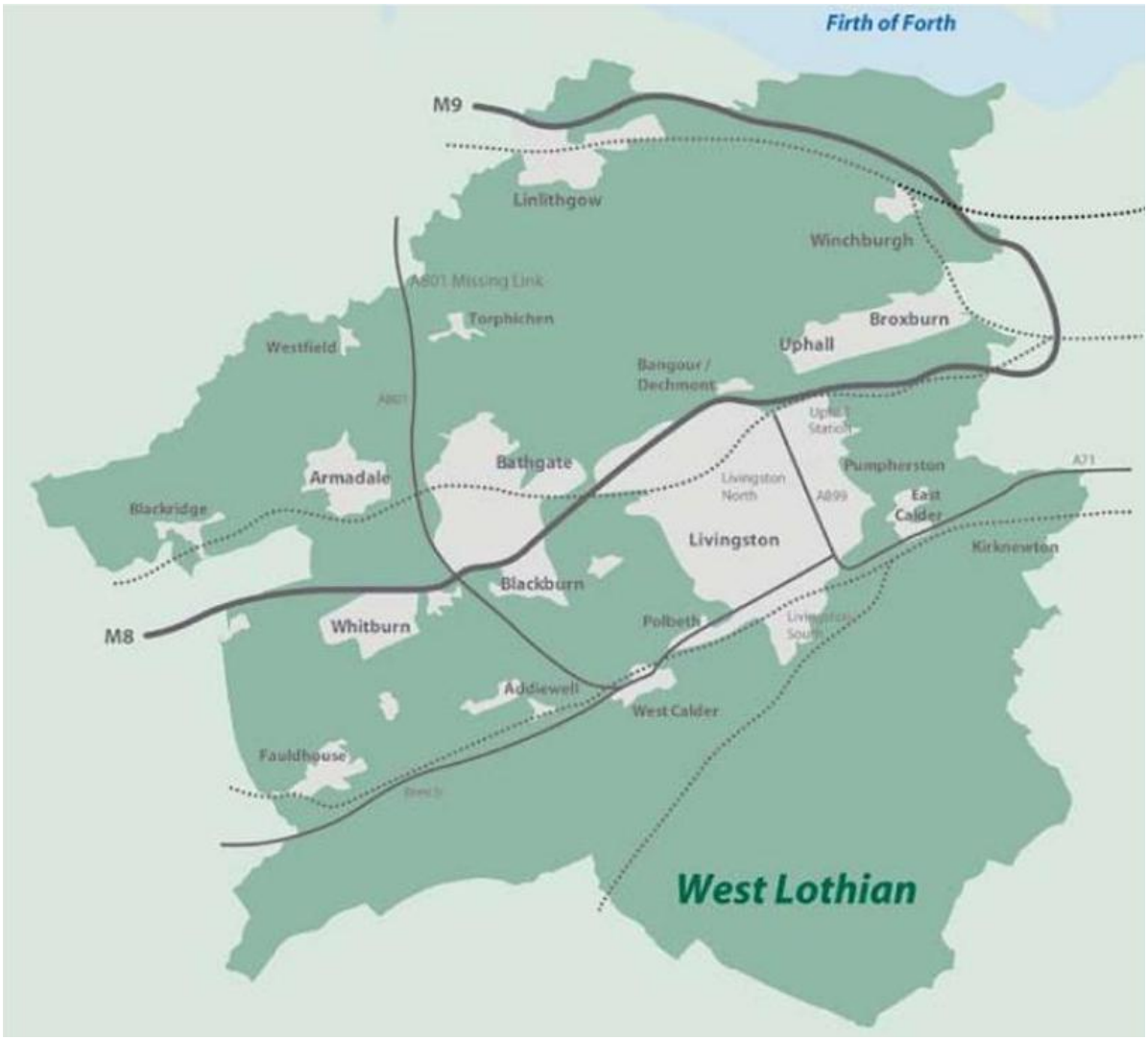



Figure 3: West Lothian Council area

West Lothian's towns and villages have a wealth of parks, neighbourhood open spaces, semi-natural woodlands and access to the countryside, which all provide opportunities for informal play. Therefore, the equipped / formal play spaces have been assessed in context of the wider open space resource, which has been audited in the Open Space Strategy (2026).

Follow the link for the Open Space GIS mapping:
https://westlothian.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/interactivelegend/index.html?appid=19fb96b7f1464b6585ff6c20f642ba9e

The accompanying GIS mapping and Excel database contains the detailed assessment results and records information on the open space setting of the play area, adjacent facilities, path network connections, overall condition, quality scores etc. GIS maps of the play area locations were prepared, and summaries for each of the places illustrated in the report.

| Play Space Information | | | | Play Space Information | | Age Range (0-4, 5-11, 12-15, 16-17) | | | | | | Play Space Condition | | | | Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Site Name | Ownership | Responsible for Management | Location / Locality | Type of Playspace | Target Users | 0-4 | 5-11 | 12-15 | 16-17 | Play Area Typology | Play Area Hierarchy | Annual Play Inspection (Spring 2026) | Overall Mean Report score | Ancillary Structures score | Opportunities | Quality Score (%) |
| Addiewell PS Public Play Area | WLC | WLC | Addiewell | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | Y | 10 | 8 | Poor drainage and footpath intersecting site to be remedied. | 76 |
| Burnside Terrace Playground | Private | Private | Addiewell | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | 1 | | | | LAP | Local | N | N/A | N/A | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage | 50 |
| Meadowhead Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Addiewell | Large - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Y | 10 | 10 | Address poor drainage. | 76 |
| Avondale Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | Y | 10 | 7.3 | Address litter on site. | 62 |
| Birkdale Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | 1 | | | | LEAP | Local | N | N/A | N/A | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage | 50 |
| Drove Road Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Y | 10 | 10 | Address persistent wet pour vandalism. | 76 |
| Etna Court Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | N | N/A | N/A | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage | 38 |
| Glenwood Drive Play Area | Private | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | Y | 8.8 | 10 | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage | 62 |
| Gracies Wynd Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Large - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | Y | 9.5 | 8 | | 59 |
| Greig Crescent Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Large - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | Y | 7.8 | 7.5 | | 68 |
| Kerr's Way Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | 1 | | LEAP | Local | N | N/A | N/A | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage | 62 |
| Mayfield Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | 1 | 1 | | | LEAP | Local | Y | 10 | 7.5 | Add some colour and character. | 56 |

Table 1: Play Assessment Database (refer to Appendix1 for the full audit)

## 4.3 Types of Play Space

Open spaces and other outdoor spaces provide many play opportunities for children and for relaxation and recreation. An appreciation of the hierarchy of open spaces can help the understanding of the different functions they perform and distinguish between spaces of strategic, local and neighbourhood importance. Play spaces are most commonly located in public parks and gardens, amenity open spaces or semi-natural greenspaces.

The Regulations describe play spaces as “formal” or “informal”. The distinction between these two categories of play opportunities recognises the significance of both in their respective contribution to children’s outdoor play experiences and allows different requirements to be prescribed:

- **Formal play spaces**: Those play spaces that are designed and managed specifically for play, for example equipped play spaces / facilities for young people.
- **Informal play spaces**: Spaces within areas of open spaces of which the primary function is not play (or "natural playspaces"). Valuable informal play opportunities exist in many open spaces, including natural spaces, woodlands, urban forestry and in some public realm areas. Informal playscape features include designated environmental features designed to invite play such as ground graphics, natural play or feature landscaping.





The Regulations state that the term "play spaces" means outdoor spaces which are accessible by the public, and which offer play opportunities for children under the age of 18.

The Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum describes **Play Value** as an environment, object or piece of equipment brings to children's experience of play. A space rich in play value creates opportunities for a variety of physical, social and sensory play experiences. Something will have high play value if children are able to play with it in many different ways, integrate it into their play or use it to expand on their own ideas and actions.

West Lothian's parks and open spaces contain a wide range of stimulating and challenging play equipment for children and young people. Some sites contain clusters of equipped play areas or zones for different age groups, which have been considered together. Other sites have play areas spread out across an open space, so have been considered separately. The following table provides a description of the various types of play space and the groupings used for the audit purposes:

| Definition | Description | | Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| **All Play Spaces**<br>All types of formal play spaces including equipped play areas and areas with equipment suitable for children ages 0 - 17 | **Equipped children's play areas** | Individual play areas with play equipment such as swings, slides, frames etc. designed for younger children aged 0-15 approximately<br>Note: Classified as Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) or a Local Area for Play (LAP), as set out in section 4.3 below. | 232 |
| | **Equipped teen areas** | Individual play areas with play equipment such as outdoor fitness area, MUGA, BMX Track etc. designed for older children and teenagers (aged 16-17 approximately)<br>Note: May be individual sites or combined with a play area for younger children forming a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) | 146 |
| | | **Total** | **378** |

Table 2: Play Opportunities Summary (derived from WLC Play Facilities Asset Data)

Throughout West Lothian, there are numerous play areas & leisure facilities freely open to the public. Whilst the majority of these spaces are owned and maintained by West Lothian Council, there are instances where a facility is built on privately owned land by a private landowner. For example, a play area on a housing estate, where the land is privately owned and maintained by an appointed factor. It is important to note that whilst these play areas are fully open to the public, West Lothian Council has no ownership or maintenance responsibility over these assets.

232No. sites were selected for audit, combining WLC owned and managed play facilities with privately owned and managed play areas. The focus of the PSA quality audit was the equipped play areas (WLC and private), providing a range of play equipment for children and young people. The equipped teen / adult facilities were not quality assessed, but included in the overall play resource assessment.

## 4.4 Play Space Hierarchy

An appreciation of the hierarchy of play spaces can help the understanding of the different functions they perform and distinguish between spaces of strategic, local and neighbourhood importance. The following formal / equipped play area categories are based on the Fields in Trust[4] recommendations, which groups play areas located in an open space and creates a hierarchy of play sites, as set out below. This enables the mapping and analysis of the play resource across a geographical area:

The **Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP)** are strategic assets whereby their bigger size and more expansive leisure opportunities make them destination spaces that cater to children of different age groups, social circles or abilities. The intention is that they include the following:

- In Country or District Parks – a Destination Play Area with medium - large footprint, unique and varied play opportunities, inclusive to all ages / abilities
- in Neighbourhood Parks – a play area with medium footprint, varied and challenging play opportunities and inclusive to all ages / abilities
- Play area connects to wider open space leisure such as walking routes, woodlands, picnic spaces or park sports facilities
- Unique / themed design to reflect local history, nature or site specific character
- Expected use of up to 2 hour daily or longer on the weekend
- Opportunity for a wider range of materials such as timber or elements of bespoke design

The **Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)** are locally central assets which offer a range of play opportunities within a wider green setting and encourage everyday use. The intention is that they include the following:

- Everyday space for children's play and family leisure
- Play area with small-medium footprint, Formal and Informal play spaces for children of mixed age with a range of equipment and play opportunities
- Safe and convenient for disabled, elderly, carers and pregnant women / young mothers
- Expected use of up to 2 hour
- Primarily within a local park setting with safe pedestrian access routes, or within a larger residential setting to serve the resident community
- Low maintenance, simple and robust materials





[4] Fields in Trust Standards: Creating Great Spaces for All, 2024

The **Local Area for Play (LAP),** playscapes and sports assets are small standalone features which fill in the gaps in between NEAPs and LEAPs, in particular where certain communities may find it difficult to access a more formal play area for everyday play or to allow children a safe space for independent play. The intention is that they include the following:

- To fill in gaps between NEAPs / LEAPs and support housing estates
- Local play area with small footprint, safe space for everyday play for young children and toddlers, as well as for children to practice safe independent play or play with lower levels of supervision
- Mix of sensory and social play (incl. natural play) and some more formal prescriptive play equipment
- Expected use of up to 1 hour
- Residential setting with safe pedestrian access routes
- Low maintenance, simple and robust materials
- Safe and convenient for disabled, elderly, carers and pregnant women / new mothers

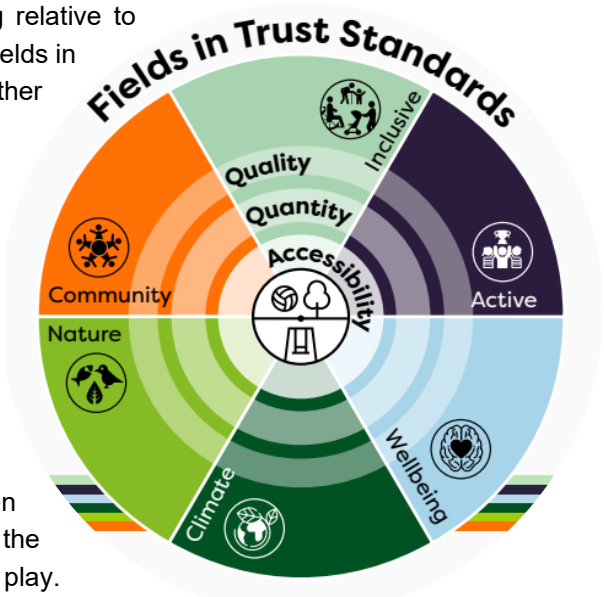
Please refer to Appendix 2 for details of the design intention for the play area hierarchy for existing and new play areas.

## 4.5 Play Space Standards

Setting standards allows a better understanding of the current status of open space and play assets across a local authority area. UK best practice guidance suggests that standards should contain three elements:

1. Play Quantity
2. Play Quality
3. Play Accessibility

The standards have been identified by benchmarking relative to current open space guidance (Scottish Government / Fields in Trust / Greenspace Scotland) and standards set by other local authorities.




The focus of the assessment was the equipped formal play areas, being those play spaces that are specifically for play (equipped play areas / facilities for young people). All equipped play areas, including those in private ownership, were included in the assessment and mapped alongside the Open Space Audit sites to illustrate the connections between the various types of open space. West Lothian's towns and villages also have a wealth of parks, neighbourhood open spaces, semi-natural woodlands and access to the countryside, which all provide opportunities for informal play.

The West Lothian's play standards are as follows:

## Play Quantity

Currently there is no Scotland or UK wide quantity standards for the provision of equipped play areas for the various age groups. West Lothian Council have adopted the Fields in Trust categorisation of the equipped play spaces according to neighbourhood and local hierarchies, distribution across wards, population and distance to the play facilities.

### Quantity Standard

Provision of a **range of formal / equipped play spaces in every town and village**, as appropriate to population demographics and community need. Provision of informal play space opportunities in the wider open space network.

## Play Quality

Quality of the play opportunities can be considered by demonstrating fitness for purpose in meeting the enjoyment, social and developmental needs of children, and the contribution the play space makes to the overall quality of the place in which it is located.

### Quality Standard

Provision of **good to excellent quality** play spaces and associated facilities (**good = over 50%, excellent = over 65% quality score**), providing functional, safe, welcoming spaces for children and young people of different ages and ability (ages 0 to 17 years).

## Play Accessibility – distance from residential areas

The accessibility standard is an amount of a particular type of open space within a specified distance, i.e. a distance threshold. The accessibility standards for publicly usable open space have been informed by the Fields in Trust Guidance and based on the previous Open Space Strategy standard:

### Accessibility Standard

Provision of a range of formal / equipped play opportunities in every town and village, within reasonable walking, wheeling or cycling distance.

- **Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play within a 10 minute walk** of people's homes (1,000 metres*) and of a minimum size of 1,000m$^2$
- **Local Equipped Areas for Play within a 5 minute walk** of people's homes (400 metres*) and of a minimum size of 500m$^2$
- **Local Areas for Play within a 3 minute walk** of people's homes (100 metres*), or where they are present are usually within a few minutes walk from people's homes. Access to larger and better equipped facilities is preferable.

  * Straight line distance

With regards to accessibility of play spaces for people with disabilities and limited mobility, the PSA has included a list of inclusive play area, provided by West Lothian council.

# 5.0 PLAY OPPORTUNITY ASSESSMENT

## 5.1 Findings of the Play Space Survey

The audit included an assessment of the quantity, quality and accessibility of formal play opportunities in each town and village West Lothian. This involved the consideration of formal equipped play provision across the council wards to help consider if the everyday play needs and demands of children are being met locally. The assessment provides an overall picture as to the provision of play opportunities in the area, which will be informed by the recent community engagement and West Lothian Council planned play area upgrades / other community projects.

This localised approach will help support local living and will inform place-based local development plans. It can help to provide an overview of the distribution of play opportunities across the local authority area and may highlight where certain provisions can be met between areas or where gaps exist in some areas so local development plans may propose new provision.

The play area mapping illustrates the distribution of the formal equipped play areas in the towns and villages of West Lothian. The mapping can be viewed via the map links provided in the text below.

## 5.2 Play Area Quantity Assessment

The following section provides an analysis of the play resource using the Fields in Trust classification, which groups play areas located in an open space and creates a hierarchy of play sites (NEAP, LEAP, LAPs), enabling mapping and analysis of the play resource across a geographical area.

### Number of Play Areas

The assessment has included a review of current population of children in each council ward, disability indicators and the number of sites with accessible play equipment.

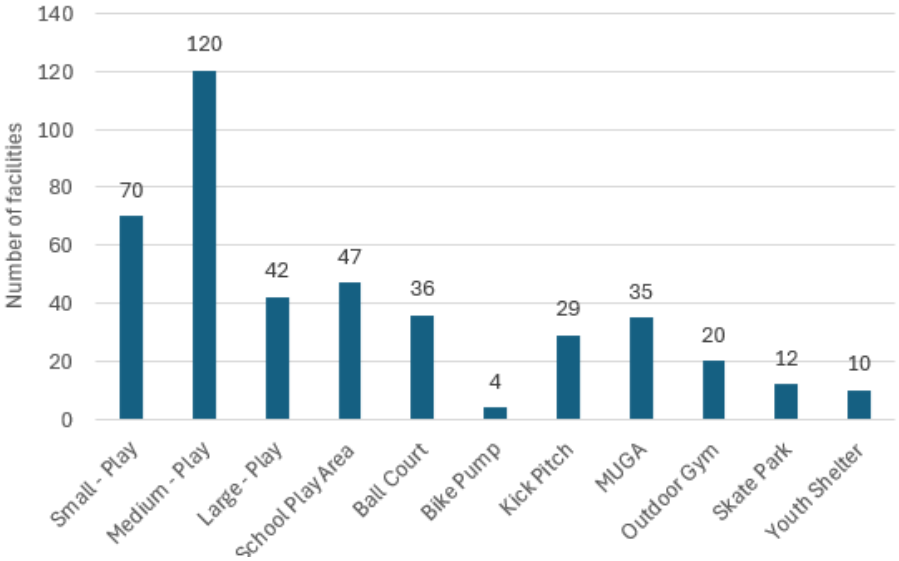



Chart 7: Type of Play Facility (derived from WLC Play Facilities Asset Data)

The table below summarises provision of equipped play areas across West Lothian's settlements.

| **Settlement** | **Total Population** (WL 2022) | **Total Play Areas** (No.) | **Other Facilities** (e.g. MUGA) | **Natural Play Sites** (No.) | **Inclusive Play Sites** (No.) | **No. of SIMD Data Zones** (20% most deprived) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Addiewell & Loganlea | 1387 | 5 | 5 | | | 1 zone in centre |
| Armadale | 12568 | 15 | 4 | | 1 | 2 zones in centre |
| Bathgate | 22222 | 21 | 7 | | 1 | 4 zones to north |
| Blackburn | 5273 | 6 | 5 | | 1 | 5 zones in centre |
| Blackridge | 2089 | 4 | 2 | | | No zones |
| Breich | 489 | 1 | 1 | | | No zones |
| Bridgecastle | 71 | 1 | 0 | | | No zones |
| Bridgend | 750 | 1 | 4 | | | All the village |
| Broxburn & Uphall | 10866 | 13 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 zone in Uphall |
| Dechmont | 660 | 1 | 0 | | | No zones |
| East Calder | 7252 | 8 | 4 | | | No zones |
| East Whitburn | 1172 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | No zones |
| Ecclesmachan | 83 | 1 | 0 | | | No zones |
| Fauldhouse | 4584 | 7 | 4 | | 1 | 3 zones in centre |
| Greenrigg | 930 | 2 | 0 | | | No zones |
| Kirknewton | 1765 | 1 | 3 | | | No zones |
| Linlithgow | 12517 | 18 | 4 | | | No zones |
| Livingston North | 37589 | 45 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 11 zones: Deans, Knightsridge, Ladywell, Craigshill |
| Livingston South | 15225 | 24 | 11 | | 2 | 2 zones in Dedridge |
| Longridge | 921 | 2 | 1 | | | No zones |
| Mid Calder | 3212 | 5 | 0 | | | No zones |
| Newton & Woodend | 163 | 1 | 1 | | | No zones |
| Philpstoun | 413 | 2 | 3 | | | No zones |
| Polbeth | 2599 | 5 | 2 | | | No zones |
| Pumpherston & Uphall | 7233 | 12 | 3 | | | No zones |
| Rural (Polkemmet CP) | tbc | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | No zones |
| Seafield | 1304 | 1 | 2 | | | No zones |
| Stoneyburn & Bents | 1866 | 3 | 4 | | | 1 zone to east |
| Threemiletown | 172 | 1 | 0 | | | No zones |
| Torphichen | 675 | 1 | 3 | | | No zones |
| West Calder | 3407 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 1 | No zones |
| Westfield | 404 | 1 | 1 | | | No zones |
| Whitburn | 11775 | 9 | 3 | | 1 | 4 zones in centre |
| Wilkieston | 105 | 0 | 0 | | | No zones |
| Winchburgh | 4283 | 6 | 4 | | | No zones |

Table 3: Settlement Summary Statistics (derived from WLC Play Facilities Asset Data)

The table provides information on the number of SIMD data zones (20% most deprived in Scotland) in each council ward, taken from the 2020 Scottish Government SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple

Deprivation) data. Observations on the proximity of these areas to play spaces has been made, identifying where there are play spaces within / close to the identified SIMD areas. Note: population figures are taken from the Census 2022 as given in the Census Locality 2022 dataset (for settlements not included in this dataset the population has been estimated using Output Areas from the Census 2022 and number of residential properties).

### Play Facilities for Different Age Groups

Table 4 below summarises the percentage of the population aged 0-17 in each of the settlements and the number of the equipped play areas (LEAP, NEAP and LAPs) and the teen facilities across West Lothian.

| **Settlement** | **Total Population** (WL 2022) | **Equipped Play Areas** (No.) | | | **Teen Facilities** (ball court, outdoor gym, MUGA, kick pitch, pump track, skate) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **LAP** | **LEAP** | **NEAP** | |
| Addiewell & Loganlea | 1387 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Armadale | 12568 | 2 | 10 | 3 | 5 |
| Bathgate | 22222 | 1 | 15 | 5 | 7 |
| Blackburn | 5273 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| Blackridge | 2089 | | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Breich | 489 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Bridgecastle | 71 | | | 1 | 0 |
| Bridgend | 750 | | | 1 | 4 |
| Broxburn & Uphall | 10866 | | 11 | 2 | 8 |
| Dechmont | 660 | | 1 | | 0 |
| East Calder | 7252 | | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| East Whitburn | 1172 | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ecclesmachan | 83 | | 1 | | 0 |
| Fauldhouse | 4584 | | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| Greenrigg & Harthill | 930 | | 2 | | 0 |
| Kirknewton | 1765 | | | 1 | 2 |
| Linlithgow | 12517 | 1 | 14 | 3 | 4 |
| Livingston North | 37589 | 3 | 32 | 10 | 16 |
| Livingston South | 15225 | 1 | 21 | 2 | 14 |
| Longridge | 921 | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Mid Calder | 3212 | 1 | 4 | | 1 |
| Newton & Woodend | 163 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Philpstoun | 413 | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| Polbeth | 2599 | | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Pumpherston & Uphall | 7233 | | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| Rural (Polkemmet CP) | - | | | 1 | 0 |
| Seafield | 1304 | | | 1 | 2 |
| Stoneyburn & Bents | 1866 | | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Threemiletown | 172 | | | 1 | 0 |
| Torphichen | 675 | | | 1 | 4 |
| West Calder | 3407 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| Westfield | 404 | | | 1 | 1 |
| Whitburn | 11775 | | 6 | 3 | 4 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wilkieston | 105 | | | | 0 |
| Winchburgh | 4283 | | 3 | 3 | 4 |

Table 4: Settlement Summary Statistics – Equipped Play Areas

The following table illustrates the proportion of play facilities providing equipment for the four age categories in each of the West Lothian settlements. Note: Some play areas, for example a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) might include equipment for toddlers, school aged children and older children, combined in one site or zones of play within a single park or open space. A single site can serve a range of different age categories.

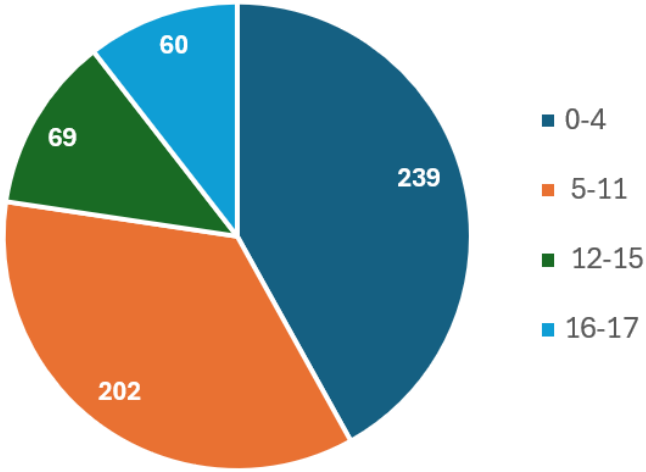



Chart 8: Age Range Provision

| Settlement | Age Range (0-4, 5-11, 12-15, 16-17) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 0-4 | 5-11 | 12-15 | 16-17 |
| Addiewell & Loganlea | 5 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Armadale | 15 | 13 | 5 | 4 |
| Bathgate | 21 | 20 | 5 | 5 |
| Blackburn | 6 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Blackridge | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Breich | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bridgecastle | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bridgend | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Broxburn & Uphall | 22 | 15 | 5 | 4 |
| Dechmont | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| East Calder | 6 | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| East Whitburn | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Ecclesmachan | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Fauldhouse | 7 | 7 | 2 | 2 |
| Greenrigg & Harthill | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Kirknewton | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Linlithgow | 18 | 17 | 3 | 3 |
| Livingston North | 43 | 39 | 13 | 10 |
| Livingston South | 26 | 16 | 7 | 3 |
| Longridge | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Mid Calder | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Newton & Woodend | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Philpstoun | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Polbeth | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Pumpherston & Uphall Station | 12 | 10 | 3 | 3 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rural (Polkemmet CP) | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Seafield | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Stoneyburn & Bents | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Threemiletown | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Torphichen | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| West Calder | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Westfield | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Whitburn | 9 | 8 | 3 | 3 |
| Wilkieston | | | | |
| Winchburgh | 6 | 5 | 3 | 3 |

Table 5: Age Range Provision in the settlements

Main observations include:

- There is a total of 232No. play areas (both equipped play areas and teen areas).
- There is a total of 118No. play elements (e.g. Multi Use Games Areas MUGA, outdoor gyms, kick pitches, bike pump tracks, skateparks, school play areas). Refer to the chart below for the break down of type of facility. Some play areas will have multiple facilities on one site located in a cluster.
- There are 232No. equipped play areas for children from the age of 0-17, comprising 70 small play, 120 medium play and 42 large play areas.
- A broad assessment was undertaken to establish which age groups each play area caters for. The larger play areas provide facilities for a wide range of age groups, providing multi-activity play sites with a wide range of equipment. Across West Lothian, there are 239 equipped play areas catering for the 0-4 age group (typically LAPs or LEAPs) and 202 play areas for the 5-11 age group (typically LEAPs)
- There are 69 equipped play areas for the 12-15 age groups (typically larger LEAPs and NEAPs), which can include equipment designed for older children and often located within a play area or including MUGAs or skate parks (NEAPs).
- There are 60 play facilities which may attract use by the 16-17 age group, which might include MUGAs, fitness equipment, skateparks, pump tracks / bike tracks and equipment included in the larger play areas.
- There are 170No. West Lothian Council owned sites and 62No. privately owned play sites.
- Only 10 settlements contain zones from the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland SIMD. However, Bathgate, Blackburn, Bridgend, Fauldhouse, Livingston North and Whitburn contain significantly more zones for the size of the population.

**Assessment**

The assessment has included the following observations:

- Settlements with a lower ratio of number of play areas for the local population include: Armadale, Bathgate, Blackburn, Broxburn and Uphall, East Calder, Kirknewton, Livingston North, Seafield and Whitburn.
- There is good overall provision of play for nursery and primary school aged children.
- There is good overall provision for children aged 12-17. The settlements with low provision for secondary school aged children include: Dechmont, Livingston South and Mid Calder.
- Settlements with a notable lower number of play areas, with higher number of SIMD data zones (20% most deprived in Scotland) include: Bathgate, Blackburn, Livingston North and Whitburn.

The mapped assessment and accessibility assessment in Section 5.4 provides a geographical analysis of provision.

## 5.3 Play Area Quality Assessment

The assessment of the quality of the play resource has been based on the recommendations included in the PSA Regulations, with reference to Play Scotland's "Getting it Right for Play" toolkit. The scoring system is based on the Characteristics of Play Indicative Tool criteria, that recognises different types and ways to play that are suited and / or preferred by children from different age groups. The toolkit has enabled assessors to carry out a qualitative analysis of the current play area resource, taking into account description of the play opportunity, associated infrastructure, provision for different ages and abilities. Only the formal play spaces have been quality assessed using the PSA assessment tool.

The Quality Toolkit included a scoring system for the play areas based on the Characteristics of Play and the following criteria:

- **Place Quality / Design:** the open space context, accessibility of the site and other qualities.
  - **Location** - The location of the play area in context of the open space within which it is set, the path connections providing access to the site, and whether it is overlooked and in a safe location.
  - **Design** - The overall design of the site has been considered, with regards to its landscape setting, informal play opportunities, paths / seating and condition of the open space.




- **Play Opportunity / Experience:** Characteristics of Play set out in the draft Regulations have been listed, in order to assess:
  - **Physical Play Opportunity** - for example, space to run, chase, skip, hop and jump
  - **Creative Play Opportunity** - for example, building dens or structures
  - **Social Play Opportunity** - for example, places to socialise and meet friends

Each of the questions were given 1 point for "yes" and 0 for "no". Some of the indicators are fairly subjective (e.g. space to run, places for pretend play) and could be applicable to many different open spaces. Other indicators require fixed equipment (e.g. swings or slides), which will appeal to a particular age group. Therefore, the scoring should be considered along with the written and mapped assessment. The quality assessment is contained in the Play Area Database, see extract below.

| | | Place Quality / Design | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1. Location | | | | | | | | | 2. Design | | | | | | | | | |
| Site Name | Town | Set in high quality open space | Connected to wider green network | Close to other community facilities | Easy to get to on bike / foot / wheeling | Overlooked by public areas / housing | Feels safe from traffic (e.g. fence / hedge) | Adjacent roads have safe crossings | Well maintained / no vandalism or litter | **Score** (out of 8) | Provides a range of play opportunities | Space for informal play / sports | Natural play (e.g. logs / trees / rocks) | Set within attractive landscaped area | Integral part of surrounding neighbourhood | Paths in good condition | Play facility safe & in good condition | Seating for adults & children | Exciting / fun / daring play experience | **Score** (out of 9) |
| **Addiewell PS Public Play Area** | Addiewell | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **6** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **9** |
| **Burnside Terrace Playground** | Addiewell | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **7** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | **3** |
| **Meadowhead Park Play Area** | Addiewell | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **8** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **7** |
| **Avondale Park Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **7** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | **8** |
| **Birkdale Play Area** | Armadale | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **4** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | **4** |
| **Drove Road Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **6** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **9** |
| **Etna Court Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **4** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | **3** |
| **Glenwood Drive Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **7** | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **6** |
| **Gracies Wynd Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | **4** | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | **7** |
| **Greig Crescent Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **6** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | **7** |
| **Kerr's Way Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | **5** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | **6** |

| | | Play Opportunity / Experience | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 3. Physical Play Opportunity | | | | | | | | | | 4. Creative Play Opportunity | | | | | | | 5. Social Play | | | | |
| Site Name | Town | Space to run, chase, skip, hop and jump | Swinging | Sliding | Spinning or rocking | Ball games / football / tennis / pump track | Balancing or crawling | Hang upside down / jump / swing from high | Bike / scooter riding / skate park | Climbing | **Score** (out of 9) | Sand or soil for digging or making things | Building dens / structures | Water for pouring, measuring, splashing | Things or places for pretend play | A place to perform, sing or act | Chalking, drawing or painting | **Score** (out of 6) | Quiet places to be on own / a few friends | Places to socalise and meet friends | **Score** (out of 2) | **Overall Score** (out of 34) | **Percentage Score** (%) |
| **Addiewell PS Public Play Area** | Addiewell | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **8** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 | 1 | **2** | **26** | **76** |
| **Burnside Terrace Playground** | Addiewell | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | **4** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | **2** | 1 | 0 | **1** | **17** | **50** |
| **Meadowhead Park Play Area** | Addiewell | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **8** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **2** | 1 | 0 | **1** | **26** | **76** |
| **Avondale Park Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **4** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 | 0 | **1** | **21** | **62** |
| **Birkdale Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **6** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | **2** | 1 | 0 | **1** | **17** | **50** |
| **Drove Road Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **8** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 | 1 | **2** | **26** | **76** |
| **Etna Court Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | **4** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 0 | 1 | **1** | **13** | **38** |
| **Glenwood Drive Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **6** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 | 0 | **1** | **21** | **62** |
| **Gracies Wynd Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **7** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 | 0 | **1** | **20** | **59** |
| **Greig Crescent Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **7** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 | 1 | **2** | **23** | **68** |
| **Kerr's Way Play Area** | Armadale | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **6** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | **2** | 1 | 1 | **2** | **21** | **62** |

### Quality of the Play Spaces

The following section sets out the summary analysis of the quality of the play spaces in the West Lothian settlements. The accompanying GIS mapping and Excel database contains the detailed assessment results and records information on the open space setting of the play space, adjacent facilities, path network connections, overall condition, quality scores etc.

The scores have been banded into 3 categories: excellent play provision, good provision and poor provision. 36 sites were identified as poor provision, 83 were good provision and the majority 113 (or 49% of the sites) were considered to be excellent provision.

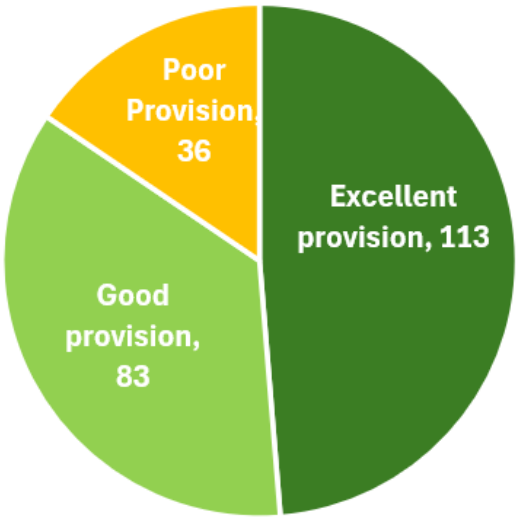



Chart 9: Quality of Play (No. of Sites)

The chart below illustrates the average quality scores across each of the towns and villages, with the West Lothian **average quality score being 61%**. Philipstoun has the lowest average quality score of 50%, Mid Calder and Livingston South have an average quality score of 52. Breich, Bridgend, Dechmont, East Calder Kirknewton, Seafield and Torphican have the highest average quality scores.

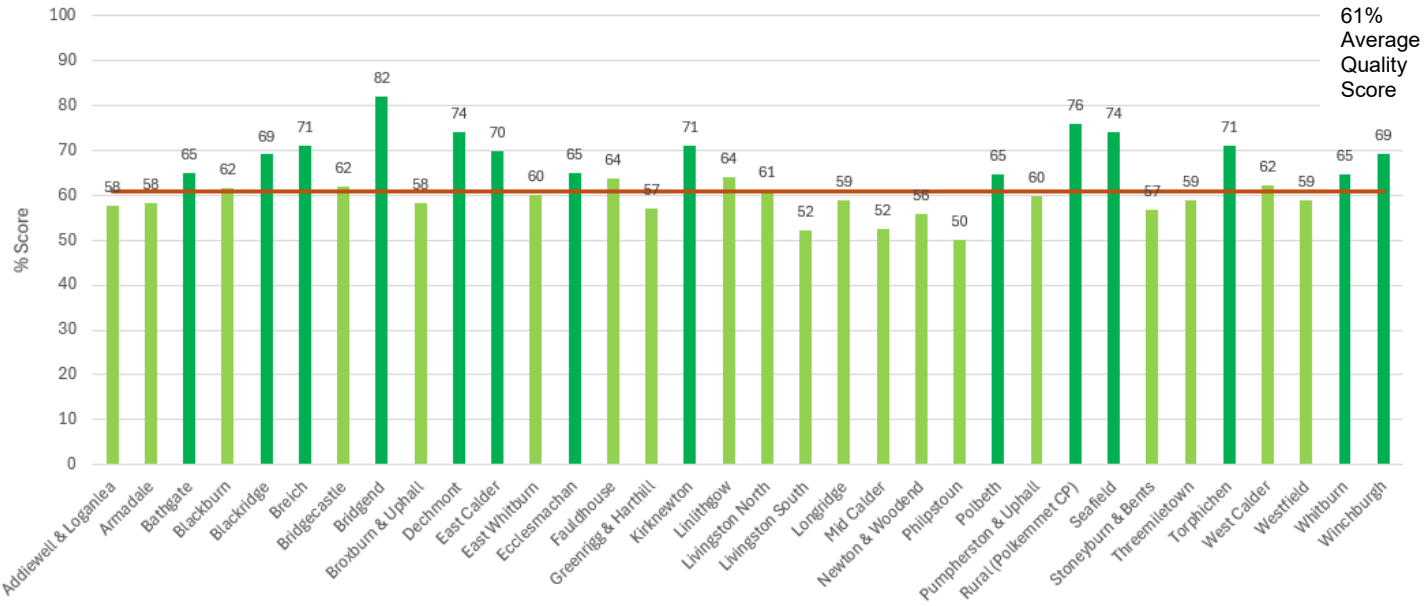



Chart 10: Average town / village quality scores

The table below sets out the play sites that were given the lowest quality scores and are considered not fit for purpose.

| Location | Site Name | Play Area Typology | Ownership | Quality Score (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| East Whitburn | **Mains Place Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **47** |
| Knightsridge, Livingston | **Play Pals Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **47** |
| Ladywell, Livingston | **Rushbank Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **47** |
| Longridge | **Northfield Meadows Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **47** |
| Murieston, Livingston | **Bankton Park West Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **47** |
| Stoneyburn | **Wallace Walk Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **47** |
| Blackburn | **Murrayfield 1 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **44** |
| Broxburn | **Parklands 1 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **44** |
| Deans, Livingston | **Muirfield Way 52 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **44** |
| Dedridge, Livingston | **Talisman Rise 44 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **44** |
| Knightsridge, Livingston | **Moncrief 49 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **44** |
| Linlithgow | **Mill Road Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **38** |
| Uphall Station | **Old School Place Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **38** |
| Armadale | **St Pauls Dive (Graphics)** | LAP | WLC | **35** |
| Broxburn | **Parklands 2 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **29** |
| Dedridge, Livingston | **Talisman Rise 30 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **29** |
| Loganlea | **Loganlea Place Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **29** |
| Dedridge, Livingston | **Peveril Rise Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **26** |
| Dedridge, Livingston | **Templar Rise 4 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **24** |
| Dedridge, Livingston | **Talisman Rise 64 Play Area** | LEAP | WLC | **18** |

Table 7: Poor Quality Sites (WLC owned sites)

| Location | Site Name | Play Area Typology | Ownership | Quality Score (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deans | **Chuckethall Road** | LEAP | Private | **47** |
| Uphall | **McLardy Court Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **47** |
| Whitburn | **Glenisla Court Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **47** |
| Bellsquarry | **Bankton Brae Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **44** |
| Eliburn | **Buchan Crescent Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **44** |
| Eliburn | **Oldwood Place** | LEAP | Private | **44** |
| Broxburn | **Globe Park** | LEAP | Private | **41** |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Armadale | **Morgan Way Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **41** |
| Murieston | **Wellview Lane Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **41** |
| Armadale | **Etna Court Play Area** | LEAP | Private | **38** |
| Blackburn | **Elm Terrace Play Area** | LAP | Private | **35** |
| Broxburn | **Nicol Place** | LEAP | Private | **35** |
| Bathgate | **Hunter Grove Play (Bathgate)** | LEAP | Private | **32** |
| Philpstoun | **Cameron Knowe Play Area** | LAP | Private | **29** |
| Eliburn | **Haymarket Crescent Play Area** | LAP | Private | **26** |
| Mid Calder | **Caroline Park Play Area** | LAP | Private | **21** |

Table 8: Poor Quality Sites (Privately owned sites)

### Assessment

Quality of play space provision is fairly well spread throughout the Council area, with all places containing a number of equipped play areas considered good or excellent in terms of their quality. However, there are 20 play area, in West Lothian Council ownership, that are not considered fit for purpose. 10 of these sites are in Livingston (5 in Dedridge, 1 in Ladywell, 2 in Knightsridge, 1 in Murieston, 1 in Deans). These sites should be prioritised for upgrades and quality improvements. Refer to the audit information for more detail.

## 5.4 Play Area Accessibility Assessment

The assessment of the accessibility of the play resource has been based on the methodologies adopted by Open Space Strategies to map and assess the geographic distribution of various types of open space, including play space. West Lothian has based the accessibility standards on the Fields in Trust categorisation of the equipped play areas according to neighbourhood and local hierarchies, distribution across council wards and distances to the play facilities.

The mapped assessment is set out on the online maps, identifying the hierarchy of open spaces in West Lothian and accessibility to these sites. The online maps can be viewed on maps or aerial photography, layers switched on and off and the information attached to individual sites viewed.

Figure 1 illustrates an extract of an online map with each site mapped. Information attached to each site can be accessed by zooming in to the map and clicking on a site symbol. Follow the link:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1-WIfh2xCS6mBDsezpbdLoKzTkTqSxzw&usp=sharing




Figure 4: Play Space Assessment (extract)

Accessibility mapping was prepared using circular distance thresholds for the hierarchy of play areas (NEAP, LEAP and LAPs). The map illustrates the hierarchy, location, distribution and accessibility of formal play spaces within the urban areas. Follow the link:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1K1CxXIF9BOlHEEbvSzQLTUcZrb_1_Xs&usp=sharing

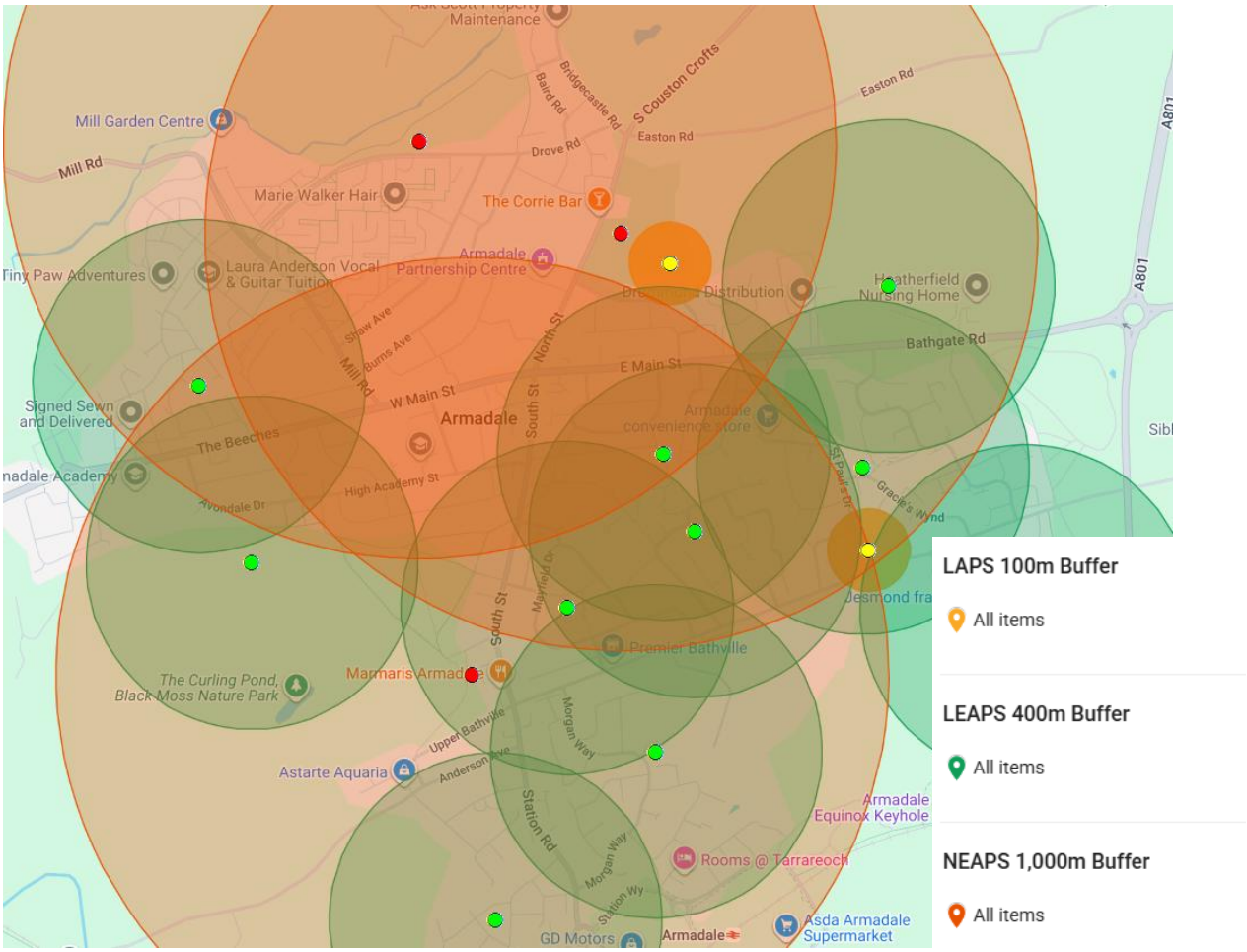



Figure 5: Play Space Accessibility (extract)

**Key**

- Fitness Equipment
- Pump Track
- Sports Court
- Skatepark
- Striker Goals
- Youth Shelter
- Equipped Play Area

### Assessment

The following section sets out the summary analysis of the accessibility of the play spaces in the West Lothian settlements, informed by the GIS mapping:

| Settlement | Play Area Provision |
|---|---|
| Addiewell & Loganlea | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Armadale | The new residential areas to the south of the town contain a range of LEAPs and NEAPs. The older estates to the north and town centre have good access to NEAPs on the outskirts of the residential areas, but limited access to LEAPS. |
| Bathgate | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people, apart from a small area of housing to the south west at Inchcross. |
| Blackburn | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Blackridge | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Breich | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Bridgecastle | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Bridgend | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Broxburn & Uphall | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Dechmont | The settlement contains 1 LEAP, however the eastern part of the village is not within easy distance of the play facilities. |
| East Calder | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| East Whitburn | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Ecclesmachan | The settlement contains a LEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Fauldhouse | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Greenrigg | The settlement contains 2 LEAPs, however the western part of the village is not within easy distance of the play facilities. |
| Kirknewton | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Linlithgow | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Livingston North | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people, apart from a small area of housing to the north of Knightsridge and Deans. |
| Livingston South | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people, apart from a small area of housing to the east and west of Murieston. |
| Longridge | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Mid Calder | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Newton & Woodend | The settlement contains a LEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Philpstoun | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Polbeth | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Pumpherston & Uphall Station | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Rural (Polkemmet CP) | The Country Park is not located within a residential area, but draws visitors from all part of the council area. |
| Seafield | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Stoneyburn & Bents | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Threemiletown | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Torphichen | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| West Calder | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |
| Westfield | The settlement contains a NEAP which is within easy distance of all residential areas. |
| Whitburn | The new residential areas to the south of the town contain a range of LEAPs. The older estates to the north and town centre have good access to NEAPs, but limited access to LEAPS. |
| Wilkieston | Does not contain a play area. |
| Winchburgh | All residential areas are within easy distance of a range of facilities for children and young people. |

Table 9: Accessibility of Play Provision

**Assessment**

Most settlements have good access to a range of play areas in the hierarchy. However, the following settlements do not have complete coverage:

- Dechmont: The settlement contains 1 LEAP, however the eastern part of the village is not within easy distance of the play facilities
- Greenrigg: The settlement contains 1 LEAP, however the eastern part of the village is not within easy distance of the play facilities.
- Whitburn: The new residential areas to the south of the town contain a range of LEAPs. The older estates to the north and town centre have good access to NEAPs, but limited access to LEAPS.



## 5.5 West Lothian's Accessible Play Spaces

West Lothian is home to a range of people of different backgrounds and abilities. We aim to ensure that there is a sufficient play asset provision available to support all local residents. It is recognised that some play asset users may need accessible surfaces, specialist wheelchair equipment, safety gates, 'high energy' play spaces, 'quiet' areas, disabled parking spaces, public bathrooms, sensory elements, high contrast furniture to assist with visual impairments and many more particular requirements.

The following is a list of inclusive Play Areas in West Lothian:

- Armadale - Watson Park
- Bathgate - Balbardie Play Area
- Bathgate - Falside Play Area
- Bathgate - Marchwood Crescent Play Area
- Blackburn - Redhouse Place Green
- Broxburn - Holmes Park Play Area
- Broxburn - Buchan Park (Sports Centre) Play Area
- East Whitburn - Redmill Play Area
- Fauldhouse - Eastfield Park Play Area
- Kirknewton - Kirknewton Park Play Area
- Livingston - Almondvale Play Area
- Livingston - Eliburn Play Area
- Livingston - Gowanbank Play Area
- Livingston - Melbourne Street Play Area
- Livingston - Mosswood Community Centre
- Longridge - Longridge PS Public Play Area
- Mid Calder - Maryfield Play Area
- Polkemmet Country Park - Miners Park Play Area
- Uphall - Stankards Play Area
- West Calder - West Burngrange Play Area
- West Calder - Parkhead Playscape
- Whitburn - Whitburn Community Centre Play Area

The Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum Joint Position Statement acknowledges that capital and revenue budgets for the provision of play facilities are limited, and there is no expectation that all play spaces be fully accessible and fully inclusive. West Lothian Council aim to create a wide range of different play spaces across West Lothian, to allow residents a choice suited to their circumstances.

Provision of future play areas and play space upgrades should be designed to ensure that play spaces:

- Minimise physical barriers to participation including, entrances, movement around the space, ease of access to play equipment, types of surfaces used, width of gates and paths, steepness of inclines, location and access to and from the site.
- Where possible, ball courts and public sports facilities should have a level access point
- Where possible, gates should be designed to allow a wheelchair user to open and close the gate unassisted
- Where possible, if a piece of play equipment is being replaced, an alternative with a higher inclusivity rating should be considered

- Strategically located play areas should include a wider range of equipment
- Where possible and appropriate, a section or more of the play area should have accessible surfacing and a hardstanding access route
- Have good physical accessibility in terms of safety from vehicular traffic, access conditions etc.

# 6.0 OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLAY SPACE PROVISION

## 6.1 Introduction

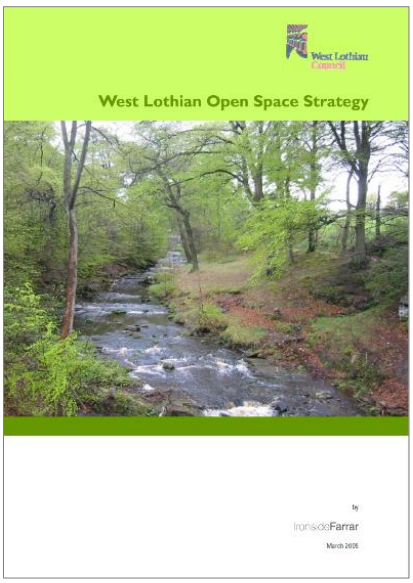
The play space survey has been used to inform possible future investment priorities for consideration by West Lothian Council, and where improvements are required the recommendations will inform area-based working, prioritisation and planning.

Actions have been identified through a combined analysis of the following:

- Quantity analysis – an overall look at the quantity of open space provision to identify areas that significantly fall below the quantity standard. It can be difficult to create new open space, but sites can be identified for upgrading to address quality issues / add function to existing sites.
- Quality analysis – site visits and quality scoring across a wide range of types of play spaces that identify particularly poor quality sites.
- Accessibility analysis – mapping according to an agreed set of standards that identifies any residential areas without good access to the various types of play space.
- Planned West Lothian Council investment - the actions capture future investment in play areas by the Council.

## 6.2 Investment in Open Spaces and Play across West Lothian

Since the drafting of the first Open Space Strategy in 2005, many new parks, play areas, path networks, community woodlands and cemeteries have been delivered since 2005, which have improved the quality and accessibility of the open space resource in West Lothian's towns and villages. The following are a list of changes to open space that the Open Space Strategy and various refreshes have facilitated since 2005:




- Approximately £1,000,000 of capital investment in improving parks and play areas per annum. Significant additional capital and revenue budget has directly or indirectly been invested in open space.
- An additional £1,800,000 Play Park Renewal funding provided by Scottish Government to renew all play areas in Scotland.

Play area improvements in the 2025/26 financial year are shown below as a sample, with an extensive number of improvements having occurred since 2005:

- Bathgate - Balbardie Park Play Area was upgraded with an accessible path, surfacing, dedicated accessible parking bays, inclusive play equipment and a seating wall. The skate park surface was repaired.
- Blackridge - Westrigg Park Play Area was upgraded with new equipment.
- Broxburn & Uphall - The Main Street ball court was resurfaced and lined for multiple sports.
- Kirknewton - Kirknewton Play Area was upgraded with a new multiunit and accessible surfacing.
- Livingston - Almond Park Play Area was upgraded with new equipment.
- Livingston - Almondvale Park Play Area was upgraded with new inclusive play equipment and a Natural Play garden
- Livingston - Eliburn Park Play Area was upgraded with new inclusive play panels and accessible

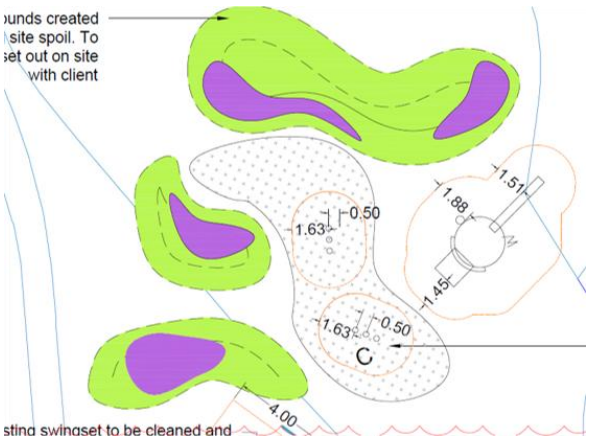
paths.

- Livingston - The Heatherbank Park skate park surface was repaired.
- Stoneyburn - Foulshiels Park Play Area was upgraded with new equipment.
- Stoneyburn - The Glenview Park skate park surface was repaired.
- Stoneyburn - The ball court at Our Lady's RC Primary School was fully refurbished.
- West Calder - The Parkhead skate park surface was repaired.
- Whitburn - Dixon Road Play Area was upgraded with new equipment.
- Whitburn - King George V Playing Fields Ball Court was resurfaced and lined for multiple sports
- Whitburn - Miner's Play Area at Polkemmet Country Park was upgraded with new accessible paths and drainage.
- Whitburn - Whitburn Community Centre Play Area in Blaeberryhill Park was upgraded with new inclusive play equipment and seating.
- Winchburgh - Craigton Park Play Area was upgraded with new play equipment and accessible surfacing. The skate park surface was also repaired.

Other open space and play investments in 2026 – 2036 will be directed in the following areas:

- Refurbishment of the following skate parks: Livingston Skate Park, Alexandria Skate Park Boghall, Uphall Skate Park, KGV Whitburn Skate Park, Vennie Knightsridge Skate Park
- Bankton Mains, Livingston Play Project – new surfaced seating area and play panel. Measures to make the play area more inclusive including disabled swing seat, communication board, 2 parking bays
- Stewartfield Park, Broxburn play upgrade – full redesign of the toddler / junior play zone, including new musical play and a natural play zone
- Charles Crescent, Bathgate natural play area– removal of play area and replacement with a natural play area
- Phillip Avenue, Bathgate – replacement of play equipment, new seating, path replacement and biodiversity works
- Burngrange West play area, West Calder – replacement of swing set and safety surfacing
- Threemiletown Play Area - replacement of swing set
- Almondvale Play Area, Livingston - replacement of swing set
- Beecraigs Visitor Centre – Removal of play area and replacement with natural play area





## 6.3 Future Priorities

The following table includes a list of priority projects for play space in West Lothian, based on the play assessment, consultation and associated information:

| Proposed Action | Location | Description | Responsibility | Timescale* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Balbardie Park Play Area** | Bathgate | Develop as a destination inclusive and wheelchair accessible play area. | WLC | Long |
| **Lanthorn Playscape** | Dedridge | Increase toddler and inclusive play value. Manage nearby copse for natural play. | WLC | Medium |
| **East Calder Public Park Play Area** | East Calder | Increase play value with parking and toilets. Add inclusive and wheelchair accessible area. | WLC | Long |
| **Dovecot/ Springalong Play Area** | Linlithgow | Replace grass mats with wetpour. Increase volume and variety of play equipment. | WLC | Long |
| **Peel Park Play Area** | Linlithgow | Upgrade to provide greater variety of equipment for wider ages and add natural play features. Scheduled Monument required complex construction and application etc. | WLC / Private | Medium |
| **Preston Road Play Area** | Linlithgow | Add a new wetpour area with inclusive and wheelchair accessible equipment to serve nearby school. Increase seating. | WLC | Medium / Long |
| **Wateryett Play Area** | Linlithgow | Extend play area into adjacent amenity grassland. Add natural play features to nearby amenity grassland and copse. | WLC | Medium / Long |
| **Mooreland Gardens Play Area** | Loganlea | Replace ageing play area with a larger footprint area with more diverse age groups and equipment type. | WLC | Short / Medium |
| **Longridge PS Public Play Area** | Longridge | Upgrade to wetpour throughout and increase inclusive and wheelchair accessible equipment. | WLC | Long |
| **Limefield Park Play Area** | Polbeth | Look to increase footprint of play area as larger items expire. Address poor drainage. | WLC | Medium / Long |
| **Glebe Park Play Area** | Uphall | Increase footprint of play area. | WLC | Long |
| Address the lowest quality WLC play areas and provide high quality and accessible, safe play opportunities for children of all ages. | Blackburn<br>Broxburn<br>Deans<br>Dedridge<br>Dedridge<br>E. Whitburn<br>Knightsridge<br>Knightsridge<br>Ladywell<br>Longridge<br>Murieston<br>Uphall Station | • Murrayfield 1 Play Area<br>• Parklands 2 Play Area<br>• Muirfield Way 52 Play Area<br>• Talisman Rise 44 Play Area<br>• Peveril Rise Play Area<br>• Mains Place Play Area<br>• Moncrief 49 Play Area<br>• Play Pals Play Area<br>• Rushbank Play Area<br>• Northfield Meadows Play Area<br>• Bankton Park West Play Area<br>• Old School Place Play Area | WLC | Short |
| Explore the design and development of natural play opportunities in association with new play facilities / upgrades | Linlithgow<br>Livingston<br>Blackburn<br>Bathgate | • The Vennel Play Area<br>• Muirfield Way 52 Play Area<br>• Murrayfield 1 Play Area<br>• Meikle Inch Lane Play Area | WLC | Medium / Long |

* Timescales: Short (1-2 years) Medium (3-4 years) Long (5-6 years)

Table 10: Recommendations

In some locations, the assessment has identified play areas with low quality scores. In a number of cases these sites form part of wider asset rationalisation and consolidation proposals where accessibility standards can continue to be met through nearby higher-value facilities. Consequently, not all low-scoring sites are proposed for direct reinvestment, and future investment will focus on strategically important facilities that best meet community needs.

## 6.4 Planning Requirements for New Development

New residential development will be required to provide appropriate play and recreational opportunities to meet the needs arising from the development. Depending on the scale, location and existing provision, this will comprise either:

- New on-site play provision; or a financial contribution towards the enhancement, upgrade or expansion of existing play and recreational provision where this provides a more appropriate response to identified local needs. New or enhanced provision should provide a variety of play and recreational experiences, catering for different age groups, including younger children, older children and teenagers. Provision should be accessible and inclusive, taking account of the needs of children and young people with additional support needs and disabilities.

As appropriate to the location and characteristics of the development, consideration should also be given to informal, natural and nature-based play opportunities, including opportunities for imaginative play, contact with nature and biodiversity enhancement. Supporting facilities and connections, including safe walking and cycling routes, seating and appropriate site infrastructure, should also be considered.

Where new provision is required, it should normally be located so that it is readily accessible to the homes it is intended to serve, with a 400m walking distance used as an appropriate benchmark for local play provision'. Refer to Appendix 2 for best practice guidance. However, each development may have unique and site-specific requirement which an Open Space Officer will advise on during the planning consultation phase.

## 6.5 Key Findings

The Play Assessment has concluded that overall there is good provision of equipped play facilities and natural play opportunities throughout the settlements of West Lothian. All of the larger settlements have access to high quality parks and open spaces close to where they live, which contain a range of play facilities, sports facilities and passive recreation opportunities. Access to the countryside, river walks and adventure play in West Lothians 3 Country Parks provide locations for longer visits, with opportunity for woodland and countryside exploration and a variety of natural play opportunities.

The assessment has identified a number of gaps in provision, which are summarised as follows:

- There is good overall provision of play for nursery and primary school aged children and children aged 12-17 in most settlement. The settlements with low provision for secondary school aged children include: Dechmont, Livingston South and Mid Calder.
- Settlements with a notable lower number of play areas, with higher number of SIMD data zones (20% most deprived in Scotland) include: Bathgate, Blackburn, Livingston North and Whitburn.
- Quality of play space provision is fairly well spread throughout the Council area, with all places containing a number of equipped play areas considered good or excellent in terms of their quality.

However, there are 20 play area, in West Lothian Council ownership, that are not considered fit for purpose. 10 of these sites are in Livingston (5 in Dedridge, 1 in Ladywell, 2 in Knightsridge, 1 in Murieston, 1 in Deans). These sites have been prioritised for upgrades and quality improvements.

- Most settlements have good access to a range of play areas in the hierarchy. However, the following settlements do not have complete coverage: Dechmont, Greenrigg, Whitburn.

The community consultation has highlighted a number of suggestions for improvements:

- More facilities for older children and teenagers (11-18 years)
- Inclusive and accessible play equipment
- Multi-use games areas (MUGAs), basketball courts and kick pitches
- Pump tracks, skate parks and wheeled sports facilities
- Improved maintenance, grass cutting and drainage
- Fencing, safer access routes and road crossings
- More seating, shelters, bins and toilets
- Nature-based play and biodiversity features
- Better provision in growing housing developments
- Facilities for additional support needs (ASN) children and families

# Appendix 1 Audit Summary Tables

| Play Space Information | | | | Play Space Information | | | | | Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Site Name | Ownership | Responsible for Management | Location / Locality | Type of Playspace | Target Users | Play Area Typology | Play Area Hierarchy | Opportunities | Quality Score (%) |
| Addiewell PS Public Play Area | WLC | WLC | Addiewell | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Poor drainage and footpath intersecting site to be remedied. | 76 |
| Burnside Terrace Playground | Private | Private | Addiewell | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 50 |
| Meadowhead Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Addiewell | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address poor drainage. | 76 |
| Avondale Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address litter on site. | 62 |
| Birkdale Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 50 |
| Drove Road Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address persistent wet pour vandalism. | 76 |
| Etna Court Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 38 |
| Glenwood Drive Play Area | Private | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 62 |
| Gracies Wynd Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 59 |
| Greig Crescent Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 68 |
| Kerr's Way Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 62 |
| Mayfield Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add some colour and character. | 56 |
| Morgan Way Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 41 |
| Sibbald View Play Area | Private | Private | Armadale | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 56 |
| St Pauls Dive (Graphics) | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Small - Play | Mixed | LAP | Other | | 35 |
| Watson Park (Graphics) | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Small - Play | Mixed | LAP | Other | | 56 |
| Watson Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | 82 |
| Wood Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Armadale | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address poor drainage. | 74 |
| Alexandra Drive Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address poor drainage. | 74 |
| Balbardie Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Develop as a destination inclusive and wheelchair accessible play area to capitalise on parking and nearby toilet facilities | 79 |
| Birniehill Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Formalise access to new housing development. | 68 |
| Blackburn Road Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Small - Play | Young < 8 | LEAP | Local | | 59 |
| Burghmuir Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 65 |
| Charles Crescent Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LAP | Local | Transition to a natural play areas and consolidate formal fixed play equipment in nearby Philip Avenue Play Area. | 56 |
| Falside Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | All play equipment on grass mat to be resurfaced with wetpour, and all wetpour areas joined to improve inclusive access. | 50 |
| Glenmavis Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 62 |
| Hope Park Play Area (Hope Park Gardens) | Private | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Cutback adjacent trees. Address poor drainage. | 59 |
| Hunter Grove Play Area (Bathgate) | Private | Private | Bathgate | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 32 |
| Kirkton Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Manage adjacent woodland for natural play i.e. crown lift and thin. | 74 |
| Little Boghead Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Replace rotten timber retainer. | 59 |
| Marchwood Crescent Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Replace timber elements. | 76 |
| Meadow Park Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Transition to all steel equipment due to ground conditions. Address poor drainage. | 68 |
| Meikle Inch Lane Play Area | Private | WLC | Bathgate | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 65 |
| Philip Avenue Play Area (Bathgate) | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Transition to all steel equipment due to history of vandalism including fire-starting | 68 |
| Puir Wives Brae Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 68 |
| Russell Road Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 68 |
| Wester Inch Play Area (Wester Inch Circle) | Private | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade kick pitch surface to all weather due to poor drainage. | 68 |
| Wester Inch Pond Play Area | Private | WLC | Bathgate | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 82 |
| Windyknowe Crescent Play Area | WLC | WLC | Bathgate | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | 68 |
| Bankton Brae Play Area | Private | Private | Bellsquarry | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | 44 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Bellsquarry Public Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Bellsquarry | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Create barrier between pitch and play area as too close to residential property i.e. noise disturbance. | **74** |
| **Brotherton Forest Play Area 1** | Private | Private | Bellsquarry | Medium - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **56** |
| **Brotherton Forest Play Area 2** | Private | Private | Bellsquarry | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **59** |
| **Five Sisters View** | Private | Private | Bellsquarry | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **56** |
| **Blackburnhall Gardens Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **65** |
| **Elm Terrace Play Area** | Private | Private | Blackburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **35** |
| **KGV Blackburn Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Replace grass mat with wetpour. | **68** |
| **Kidz Grove Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address poor drainage. | **76** |
| **Murrayfield 1 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackburn | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate play areas with another nearby play areas i.e. relocate toddler play equipment. | **44** |
| **Redhouse Green Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Manage nearby tree copse for natural play. | **82** |
| **Bedlormie Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackridge | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address poor drainage. | **79** |
| **Craigspark Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackridge | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Transition to natural play or play for older children i.e. play area on outskirts of town with no dedicated parking. | **56** |
| **Hillside Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackridge | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Create boundary feature to obscure damaged garden fenced and prevent dog access. | **71** |
| **Westrigg Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Blackridge | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Improve access from east i.e. formal footpath. | **71** |
| **Woodmuir Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Breich | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **71** |
| **Bridgehouse Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Bridgecastle | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Address poor drainage and overhanging branches. | **62** |
| **Bridgend Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Bridgend | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | **82** |
| **Almondell Road (Flats) Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Transition to natural play as is too close to residential property i.e. noise disturbance. Cut back overhanging mature trees. | **59** |
| **Badger Brook Play Area** | Private | WLC | Broxburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **59** |
| **Buchan Park (Sports Centre) Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Upgrade intersecting footpath, potential redirect around play area. | **82** |
| **Cardross Road Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Address litter on site. | **50** |
| **Globe Park** | Private | Private | Broxburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **41** |
| **Hillview Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **82** |
| **Holmes Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Remove poor condition boundary fencing to encourage natural play. | **79** |
| **Holmes Road** | Private | Private | Broxburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **62** |
| **Kirkhill Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Additional seating. | **56** |
| **Nicol Place** | Private | Private | Broxburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **35** |
| **Parklands 1 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Consolidate Parklands 1 and 2 Play Area into single site, transition one site to natural play or market. | **44** |
| **Parklands 2 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Consolidate Parklands 1 and 2 Play Area into single site, transition one site to natural play or market. | **29** |
| **Wilson Terrace Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Broxburn | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **79** |
| **Calderwood East Play Park** | Private | Private | Camps (Calderwood) | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **79** |
| **Calderwood North Playpark** | Private | Private | Camps (Calderwood) | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **68** |
| **Almond Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Craigshill | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Address poor drainage. | **74** |
| **Chesnut Grove Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Craigshill | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **76** |
| **Craigs Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Craigshill | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | **82** |
| **Doon Walk Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Craigshill | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consider consolidating with Craigs Park Play Area to increase overall play value and reduce noise disturbance in Doon Walk area. Return site to amenity grassland and planting. | **68** |
| **Letham Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Craigshill | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | **76** |
| **Melbourne Street Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Craigshill | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **71** |
| **Burnsknowe Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Deans | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address historic contamination with sewer overflow. | **56** |
| **Chuckethall Road** | Private | Private | Deans | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **47** |
| **Deans Central Recreation Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Deans | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address poor drainage. | **79** |
| **Lanark Avenue 87 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Deans | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **74** |
| **Muirfield Way 52 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Deans | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate equipment with nearby play area and transition to natural play. | **44** |
| **Raeburn Rigg 143 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Deans | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **68** |
| **Roseberry Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Deans | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade safety surface to wetpour and replace boundary fencing. | **62** |
| **Sutherland Way Play Area** | Private | WLC | Deans | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Cutback overhanging vegetation. | **68** |

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| **Dechmont Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dechmont | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Replace play area and upgrade to wetpour while increasing toddler play value. Significant developer contribution available in coming years. | **74** |
| **Falconer Rise Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **56** |
| **Lanthorn Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | **76** |
| **Lanthorn Playscape (Lanthorn Natural Play)** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Mixed | LAP | Local | Increase toddler and inclusive play value, as the play area can be a destination for longer stays due to nearby toilet and parking. Manage nearby copse for natural play. | **59** |
| **Peveril Rise Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Add additional ground graphics. | **26** |
| **Talisman Rise 30 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Consolidate into Talisman Rise 44 Play Area and reinstate as amenity grassland. | **29** |
| **Talisman Rise 44 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | | **44** |
| **Talisman Rise 64 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Consolidate into Talisman Rise 44 Play Area and reinstate as amenity grassland. | **18** |
| **Templar Rise 4 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Dedridge | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Transition to natural play area. Refurbish or remove fencing and hardstanding areas. | **24** |
| **Broompark View Play Area** | WLC | WLC | East Calder | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add a simple footpath network. Address drainage issues. | **50** |
| **East Calder Public Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | East Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Increase play value to reflect the strategic importance of the park i.e. main destination play area in East Calder with parking and toilets nearby. Add inclusive and wheelchair accessible area. | **82** |
| **Hollybank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | East Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Remove tunnel and landscape natural play features. | **76** |
| **Langton View Play Area** | Private | WLC | East Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Reduce footprint to mitigate retaining wall risk. Consider relocating or adding new equipment to even ground away from | **71** |
| **Queens Garden Play Area** | WLC | WLC | East Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Reduce footprint and age profile to toddler play. | **56** |
| **Almondell Country Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | East Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Low play value in context of Country Park. Extend toddler play area when existing wetpour expires. | **76** |
| **Mains Place Play Area** | WLC | Private | East Whitburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | | **47** |
| **Redmill Play Area** | WLC | WLC | East Whitburn | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Extend car park. Replace grass mat surface with wetpour. Develop destination inclusive/wheelchair play area. | **74** |
| **Byburn Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ecclesmachan | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Cut back over hanging trees. | **65** |
| **Aller Place Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Eliburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Manage perimeter vegetation and copse to reduce vegetation encroachment on ball court and encourage natural play. Address poor drainage. | **76** |
| **Buchan Crescent Play Area** | Private | Private | Eliburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **44** |
| **Eliburn Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Eliburn | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Upgrade footpath from main car park. Increase volume of inclusive surfaces and equipment including wheelchair | **82** |
| **Eliburn Park Play Area (Eliburn Park Youth Area/Eliburn Park 2)** | WLC | WLC | Eliburn | Kick Pitch | Mixed | LAP | Local | Transition from play equipment to fitness equipment using bodyweight equipment only to discourage vandalism. Address litter issues. | **59** |
| **Haymarket Crescent Play Area** | Private | Private | Eliburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **26** |
| **Hazelwood Play Area** | Private | WLC | Eliburn | Medium - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **56** |
| **Kestrel Bae Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Eliburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add planting and other natural features to create some character. | **59** |
| **Oldwood Place** | Private | Private | Eliburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or | **44** |
| **Orchard Place Play Area** | Private | WLC | Eliburn | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surface to new wetpour. | **59** |
| **Rosehill Playspace** | Private | Private | Eliburn | Small - Play | Young < 8 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **53** |
| **Breichwater Place** | Private | Private | Fauldhouse | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **59** |
| **Bridge Street Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Fauldhouse | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surface to wetpour. Cutback surrounding vegetation to reduce shade and debris and encourage natural play. | **68** |
| **Burnside Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Fauldhouse | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **50** |
| **Church Place Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Fauldhouse | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Upgrade surfaces to wetpour, and upgrade footpaths to tarmac. Add small shelterbelt. Address poor darinage. | **68** |
| **Eastfield Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Fauldhouse | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Add natural play features to adjacent amenity grassland. | **71** |
| **Lanrigg Avenue Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Fauldhouse | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **65** |
| **Portland Place Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Fauldhouse | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address poor drainage. | **68** |
| **Polkemmet Road Playspace (Play Area)** | WLC | WLC | Greenrigg | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address poor drainage. | **65** |
| **Baillie Avenue** | Private | Private | Greenrigg | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **50** |
| **Almondvale Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Howden | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Relocate to more even ground away from river, creating a destination play area. Transition existing play area to natural play. | **76** |
| **Columbia Avenue Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Howden | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | | **56** |
| **Edmonton Green Park Play Area (Calgary Avenue Play Area)** | WLC | WLC | Howden | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address poor drainage. | **65** |
| **Granby Avenue Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Howden | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **56** |
| **Kirknewton Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Kirknewton | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Develop new enclosed toddler area when existing toddler multi-unit expires. | **71** |
| **Adambrae Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Kirkton | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Develop nature play in adjacent areas. | **68** |
| **Kirkton South Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Kirkton | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **53** |
| **Thirlfield Wynd Play Area** | Private | Private | Kirkton | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **50** |

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| **Knightsridge Adventure Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Knightsbridge | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Vegetation management to reduce shade and debris. | **71** |
| **Moncrief 49 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Knightsridge | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **44** |
| **Play Pals Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Knightsridge | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **47** |
| **Play Pals Trim Trail** | WLC | WLC | Knightsridge | Small - Play | Mixed | LAP | Other | | **53** |
| **Falcon Brae Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Local | Add decorative boundary features or some natural play/seating features to add character. | **59** |
| **Gorsebank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add natural play/seating features to add character. | **56** |
| **Gowanbank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **65** |
| **Heatherbank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Transition to more natural robust play features over time i.e. do not replace fixed play equipment or outdoor gym equipment. | **62** |
| **Kingfisher Brae Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Small - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Cutback adjacent vegetation to reduce debris and shade. | **65** |
| **Larchbank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Replace poor condition boundary fencing. | **53** |
| **Rushbank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add greater age range and diversity of play equipment when climbing unit expires. | **47** |
| **Stonebank Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Ladywell | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **62** |
| **Beecraigs Cafe Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LAP | Local | Transition to a natural play area with a greater footprint. Address poor drainage. | **71** |
| **Beecraigs Camp Site Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate into Beecraigs Car Park Play Area as the existing equipment and surfaces expire. Cut back over hanging trees. | **62** |
| **Beecraigs Car Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Look to improve accessibility and inclusive/wheelchair equipment and surfaces as the large climbing net expires. Develop more natural play elements in adjacent amenity grassland and woodland. | **74** |
| **Burghmuir Court Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **65** |
| **Deanburn Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Transition to natural play throughout wider open space when play equipment expires. | **56** |
| **Dovecot/Springalong Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Replace grass mats with wetpour. Increase volume and variety of play equipment to better serve adjacent school. | **74** |
| **Justinhaugh Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Replace boundary fence. | **59** |
| **Laverock Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Construct access footpath. | **68** |
| **Mains Park Pay Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **71** |
| **Mill Road Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Remove flat swings and increase toddler play value when existing surface and equipment expires i.e. exclusive toddler equipment to reduce noise disturbance. | **38** |
| **Millerfield Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Cut back over hanging trees | **56** |
| **Oatlands Park 1 Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **65** |
| **Peel Park Play Area** | Private | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade to provide greater variety of equipment for wider ages and add natural play features. Scheduled Monument required complex construction and application etc. | **56** |
| **Philip Avenue Play Area (Linlithgow)** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Cut back over hanging trees | **65** |
| **Preston Road Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add a new wetpour area with inclusive and wheelchair accessible equipment to serve nearby school. Increase seating for supervision. | **74** |
| **Springfield Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade swing and slip surface to wetpour when items expire. Address poor drainage. | **71** |
| **The Vennel Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate with The Peel Park Play Area to reduce noise disturbance to local residents. Re-landscape in consultation with local community. | **53** |
| **Wateryett Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Linlithgow | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Extend play area into adjacent amenity grassland. Add natural play features to nearby amenity grassland and copse. Address litter problems. | **79** |
| **Eastcroft Court Play Area** | Private | Private | Livingston Village | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **56** |
| **Fairlie Road Play Area** | Private | Private | Livingston Village | Large - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **79** |
| **Howatson Play Area** | Private | Private | Livingston Village | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **50** |
| **Kirkfield Play Area (Kirkfield West Play Area)** | Private | WLC | Livingston Village | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **50** |
| **Livingston Village Public Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Livingston Village | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade safer surface to wetpour throughout. | **71** |
| **Loganlea Place Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Loganlea | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate with Mooreland Gardens Play Area and reinstate area as amenity grassland. | **29** |
| **Mooreland Gardens Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Loganlea | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | If available utilise developer contributions to replace ageing play area with a larger footprint area with more diverse age groups and equipment type i.e. this will become the only play area in Loganlea if consolidated with Loganlea Place. Consider relocation to Loganlea Park if budget allows. | **56** |
| **Longridge PS Public Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Longridge | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Upgrade to wetpour throughout and increase inclusive and wheelchair accessible equipment. | **71** |
| **Northfield Meadows Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Longridge | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Address litter problems. | **47** |

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| **Avenue Park West Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Mid Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade safer surfaces to wetpour throughout. | **62** |
| **Caroline Park Play Area** | Private | Private | Mid Calder | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **21** |
| **Maryfield Play Area** | Private | WLC | Mid Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Relocate surfaces and play equipment away from mature trees as they expire. Add additional seating. Cut back overhanging branches. | **65** |
| **Ochiltree View Play Area** | Private | WLC | Mid Calder | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address poor surface condition. | **59** |
| **Spottiswood Gardens Play Area** | Private | WLC | Mid Calder | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | When surface expires expand footprint and relocate equipment from Maryfield Play Area i.e. remove risk of overhanging trees at Maryfield Play Area. | **56** |
| **Bankton Mains Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Murieston | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Mitigate safety risk from cyclists. Repair local drainage features. | **71** |
| **Bankton Park West Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Murieston | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Reduce footprint of play area and seating when surfaces and equipment expire to reduce noise disturbance. | **47** |
| **Birrell Gardens Play Area** | Private | Private | Murieston | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **50** |
| **Cambridge Park Play Area** | Private | Private | Murieston | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **59** |
| **Clova Drive Play Area** | Private | WLC | Murieston | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Reduce footprint of play areas and upgrade to wetpour when remaining timber play equipment expires i.e. to mitigate flooding. | **71** |
| **Crathes Garden Play Area** | Private | WLC | Murieston | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Address poor surface condition. | **56** |
| **Wellview Lane Play Area** | Private | Private | Murieston | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **41** |
| **West Cairn View Play Area** | Private | Private | Murieston | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **68** |
| **Duddingston Crescent Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Newton | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **56** |
| **Cameron Knowe Play Area** | Private | Private | Philpstoun | Small - Play | Young < 8 | LAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **29** |
| **Philpstoun Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Philpstoun | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | **71** |
| **Breistonhill View** | Private | Private | Polbeth | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **65** |
| **Burnside Terrace Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Polbeth | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surfaces to wetpour, consolidating all equipment in single wetpour area when surfaces expire. Add natural play features to surrounding amenity grassland. | **53** |
| **Fells Road Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Polbeth | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **65** |
| **Langside Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Polbeth | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Manage/develop grassland for biodiversity and natural play. Upgrade surfaces to wetpour. | **74** |
| **Limefield Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Polbeth | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Look to increase footprint of play area as larger items expire i.e. nearby school and good parking. Address poor drainage. | **68** |
| **Miners Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Polkemmet Country Park | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Upgrade footpath network and drainage. Add natural play features to amenity grass land. Refurbish 'train' to provide play value. Cut back over hanging trees. | **76** |
| **Drumshoreland Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Pumpherston | Small - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Replace outdoor gym with additional play equipment as it expires. | **53** |
| **Harrysmuir Terrace Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Pumpherston | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surface to wetpour. | **56** |
| **Heaney Avenue Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Pumpherston | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Improve drainage and construct access footpath. | **56** |
| **Seafield Main Street Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Seafield | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Upgrade boundary fence to enclose wider area when it expires. Cut back overhanging branches. | **74** |
| **Burnlea Drive Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Stoneyburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade access gates and footpaths. Relocate swings away from residential property when item expires. | **59** |
| **Stoneyburn Street Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Stoneyburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Add additional play equipment when outdoor gym equipment expires. | **65** |
| **Wallace Walk Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Stoneyburn | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Transition site into natural play only when existing equipment and surface expire. | **47** |
| **Threemiletown Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Threemiletown | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Upgrade goal/basketball surface to wetpour and increase footprint. Address poor drainage issues. | **59** |
| **Torphichen Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Torphichen | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Upgrade surfaces to wetpour throughout. | **71** |
| **Craigengar Avenue** | Private | Private | Uphall | Medium - Play | Young < 8 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **53** |
| **Glebe Park Play Area (Uphall)** | WLC | WLC | Uphall | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Increase footprint of play area to reflect high footfall associated with adjacent school. | **71** |
| **KGV Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Uphall | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Increase toddler play value to support local community centre. | **76** |
| **McLardy Court Play Area** | Private | WLC | Uphall | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate with nearby Stankards Play Area when swing frames expire. | **47** |
| **South Middleton** | Private | Private | Uphall | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **71** |
| **Stankards Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Uphall | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade drainage to adjacent amenity grassland. Upgrade surfaces to wetpour. | **74** |
| **Marrfield Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Uphall Station | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Add natural play features. Repair boundary wall features. Great-crested newt to be considered in any development. | **74** |
| **Old School Place Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Uphall Station | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Replaces surfaces and upgrade access footpath. | **38** |
| **Roman Camp Play Area** | Private | Private | Uphall Station | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **50** |
| **Harburn Road Play Area** | WLC | WLC | West Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surface to wetpour. Add footpath to play stations with associated seating. Address poor drainage. | **50** |
| **Mossend View Play Area** | Private | Private | West Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Neighbourhood | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **68** |

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| **Parkhead Playscape** | WLC | WLC | West Calder | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LAP | Local | | **65** |
| **The Glebe Play Area** | Private | WLC | West Calder | Small - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add planting to mitigate drainage issues. | **56** |
| **West Burngrange Play Area** | WLC | WLC | West Calder | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Improve wider drainage to encourage play on adjacent amenity grassland. | **62** |
| **West Calder Public Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | West Calder | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Upgrade surface to wetpour. | **74** |
| **Strathlogie Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Westfield | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Add additional toddler play equipment when outdoor gym equipment expires. Reinstate poor condition hardstanding as amenity grassland. | **59** |
| **Blaeberryhill Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surface to wetpour as larger items of equipment expire. Address poor drainage. | **74** |
| **Croftmalloch Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate play equipment on one side of intersecting footpath as an when equipment expires. Address poor drainage. | **68** |
| **Dixon Road Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | | **50** |
| **Glenisla Court Play Area** | Private | WLC | Whitburn | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Transition to natural play area. | **47** |
| **Heartlands Swing Park** | Private | Private | Whitburn | Small - Play | Young < 8 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **56** |
| **Hunter Park Play Area (Burnhouse Park Play Area)** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Cutback vegetation associated with adjacent woodland and shelterbelt to encourage natural play. Address poor drainage. | **71** |
| **KGV Whitburn Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | | **76** |
| **Loch Trool Way Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Consolidate equipment in a smaller footprint with wetpour surfacing to mitigate flooding. Address poor drainage. | **59** |
| **Whitburn Community Centre Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Whitburn | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Upgrade surface to wetpour. Add ground graphics. Cutback vegetation in nearby copse to discourage fly tipping and anti-social behaviour. | **82** |
| **Auldcathie District Park Play Area** | Private | Private | Winchburgh | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Destination | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **88** |
| **Church Place** | Private | Private | Winchburgh | Small - Play | Early Year < 5 | LEAP | Local | Where the council is notified of any outstanding safety issue it will encourage the public to contact the owner, maintaining body, or Health and Safety Executive as appropriate. | **53** |
| **Craigton Park Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Winchburgh | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Add natural play features. | **85** |
| **Glendevon Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Winchburgh | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Upgrade surface to wetpour. Consolidate equipment in smaller footprint as surfaces expire. | **50** |
| **Millgate Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Winchburgh | Medium - Play | Mixed | LEAP | Local | Add natural play features to adjacent amenity grassland. | **65** |
| **Tippetknowes Play Area** | WLC | WLC | Winchburgh | Large - Play | Mixed | NEAP | Neighbourhood | Add natural play features to small area of obsolete hardstanding. | **74** |

# Appendix 2 Play Area Design Guidelines

## NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Play Area)

INTENTION:

- In Country or District Parks – a Destination Play Area with medium - large footprint, unique and varied play opportunities, inclusive to all ages / abilities
- In Neighbourhood or Local parks – a play area with medium footprint, varied and challenging play opportunities and inclusive to all ages / abilities
- Play area connects to wider open space leisure such as walking routes, woodlands, picnic spaces or park sports facilities
- Unique / themed design to reflect local history, nature or site specific character
- Expected use of up to 2h daily or longer on the weekend
- Opportunity for a wider range of materials such as timber or elements of bespoke design
- Located within a Neighbourhood, District or Country Park. May be located elsewhere in small settlements.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Play Area is located near a well-used pedestrian route, with good passive surveillance and is visible from at least 1 main entrance if within a larger park/space
- A min. of 3 cycle hoops provided at or near the Play Area
- Variety of formal equipment for children of all ages 0-17
- Play Area is fenced only where necessary for safety and ideally not designed to enclose the full area
- Park signage including guidelines for use and contact details of operator
- Includes a min. of 9 unique pieces of formal play equipment
- Play Area is at min. 1,000m$^2$
- All elements of the Play Area are in a safe and useable condition
- Includes a range of seating and shelter to encourage social play for teenagers and allow families to spend multiple hours at the play area. This means, at minimum 3 benches / seats with some wheelchair accessible backrest and armrest options; as well as a minimum of 1 wheelchair accessible picnic style bench.
- Play Area has a unique theme or design which reflects on its setting, with community involvement in design where possible
- Play opportunities are varied across the site and support social, physical, intellectual, creative and emotional play.
- There is a DDA compliant access path into the Play Area and a seating area
- A min. of 3 pieces of formal or informal play equipment to have accessible surfacing and be classed as wheelchair inclusive
- A min. of 3 natural play or ‘playful landscaping’ elements that have some biodiversity benefits including educational, and have a clear connection between the Play Area and an adjacent natural habitat
- Accessible parking with a DDA compliant access route into the Play Area

## LEAP (Local Equipped Play Area)

INTENTION:

- Everyday space for children’s play and family leisure

- Play area with small-medium footprint, Formal and Informal play spaces for children of mixed age with a range of equipment and play opportunities
- Safe and convenient for disabled, elderly, carers and pregnant women / young mothers
- Expected use of up to 2h
- Primarily within a local park setting with safe pedestrian access routes, or within a larger residential setting to serve the resident community
- Low maintenance, simple and robust materials

REQUIREMENTS:

- Formal equipment to be aimed at children of ages 0-12
- Play Area is located near a well-used pedestrian route, with good passive surveillance and is visible from at least 1 main entrance if within a larger park/space
- Play Area is fenced where appropriate, with a min. of 2 exit gates if fully fenced
- Park signage including guidelines for use and contact details of operator
- Includes a min. of 6 unique pieces of formal play equipment
- Play Area is at min. 400m²
- All elements of the Play Area are in a safe and useable condition
- Includes at min. 1 form of seating for a user/carer. A min. of 2 seating options available where the Play Area is within a formal park, of which 1 should be a wheelchair accessible option with armrests and backrest.
- There is a DDA compliant access path into the Play Area and into a min. of 1 seat
- A min. of 1 piece of formal or informal play equipment to have accessible surfacing and be classed as wheelchair inclusive
- Natural Play included where possible. A min. of 1 natural play or ‘playful landscaping’ element, or a clear connection between the Play Area and an adjacent natural habitat available where the Play Area is within a formal park

### LAP (Local Area Play)

INTENTION:

- To provide an informal, natural and imaginative space inviting children aged 1-17 to play and socialise
- Located alongside formally equipped play areas, or separately in places where such play areas are not appropriate or not required. Places with unique natural features such as slopes or scenery, small neighbourhood areas on residential streets or points of interest along trails & walking routes can all be considered appropriate.
- Expected use of up to 1h
- Design to respond to the local environment i.e. urban, natural, cultural / heritage

REQUIREMENTS:

- No requirement for formal play area elements such as off-the-shelf play equipment, seating, signage, paths or fencing
- Low maintenance, with little to no maintainable play assets
- Min. 10m from the nearest dwelling