

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 21 - Do you have any comments on the content or findings of the Wirral Open Space Assessment Report?		
ID	Summary of Response	Recommended Response
Presentation Issues		
3, 37, 39, 41, 43, 55, 61, 83	Difficulties in viewing, downloading or obtaining documents including at Heswall and Bebington Libraries, presentation of datatables and absence of colour maps	The consultation documents were available on-line, with paper copies provided to all libraries and One Stop Shops. Contact details were provided for additional support in notification letters, press releases, public notices, on-line and to librarians. Replacement, electronic or paper copies were provided free of charge on request. Colour copies of small scale illustrative maps were only made available on-line to reduce costs. Data tables were provided in Excel format. Formatting will be reviewed for the final version of the Assessment Report.
74, 76	Accessibility catchment plans are helpful	Noted. The catchment plans will be updated and replaced in the final version.
61	Complaint about personal questions related to equalities information	Questionnaire responses were deliberately anonymous and unattributable but questions related to post code, age and gender were included to profile respondents and for geographical analysis. Equalities questions were required on advice from the Council's Corporate Equalities Team.
5, 41, 46, 50, 84	Support for protection of open space and wildlife	The main purpose of the Assessment is to establish agreed standards for the future provision and protection of open space.
71	Summary overview tables for each Ward would be useful.	The analysis provided by the consultants did not include separate Ward summary sheets but the position in each Ward could found by looking at the summary tables for each typology. A summary of the position in each Settlement Area was, however, provided as part of the accompanying Core Strategy Preferred Options consultation.
Methodology		
25, CS79	Analysis should be based on the Settlement Areas used in the Core Strategy as the Ward-based analysis is of questionable value	The analysis provided by the consultants was based on Electoral Wards to provide local level information for Members. Analysis on the basis of whole settlements is, however, encouraged in national advice. The Settlement Area boundaries used in the Core Strategy are based on the main groups of settlements in the Borough and have been well received in other consultation responses. Ward level information could, however, always be provided to Members separately, on request.
Recommendation 3.1 - That an amended analysis based on Settlement Areas is included in the revised Assessment Report		

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25	There is no assessment of the extent or condition of buildings and infrastructure	The quality audit provided by the consultants provides a general strategic level assessment of the quality of each facility. A detailed survey of buildings and infrastructure would have been more appropriate to a site-specific management plan. Parks Management Plans have now been prepared for each of the Borough's main parks, which have included condition surveys of buildings, fences, footpaths and other infrastructure.
25	The report lacks vision and enthusiasm. The community has not been involved in establishing a vision	A general vision for cultural services was developed as part of the Cultural Services Forward Plan. A more specific vision could be prepared as part of the wider Green Infrastructure Strategy approved by Cabinet in January 2011 (Minute 283).
Recommendation 3.2 - That a vision for open space is prepared as part of the Green Infrastructure Strategy for Wirral		
25, 99, CS170	The impact of existing policies and strategies has not been identified	The Assessment provided by the consultants did not consider the impact of existing policies and strategies.
Recommendation 3.3 - That an assessment of the impact of existing policies and strategies is included in the revised Assessment		
99, CS170	More emphasis should be placed on improving the multi-functional benefits of green spaces, including health, heritage and economic benefits, rights of way, walking and cycling as part of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy for the Borough	The Assessment provided by the consultants was only designed to identify the overall amount, type and quality of open space within the Borough. A wider assessment would have had additional resource implications. Cabinet approved the preparation of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy in January 2011 (Minute 283).
15, 25, 37, 41, 73, 80, 84	Not all sites have been audited	The quality audit provided by the consultants focused only on sites with open public access. A full audit of private sites would have had additional resource implications, requiring the consent of numerous third parties. It is assumed that private facilities are of high quality.
74, 76	Does not include enough detail on specific local deficiencies in local catchment area provision or provide indicators as to whether provision is lacking in features such as drainage, parking, changing facilities and the like.	The spreadsheets accompanying the main report show the scores obtained by each site under individual categories. A summary of deficiency is set out within the Settlement Area Profiles provided as part of the Core Strategy Preferred Options consultation. Site-specific details are more appropriate for individual site management plans.

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74, 76	Takes no account of current or future needs and aspirations or the needs of different socio economic areas. Seeking to maintain the existing rate per 1000 population would simply project forward any existing under or over provision.	The Assessment provided by the consultants only takes account of existing provision. Additional consultation to assess local needs would have had significant financial implications. An analysis of current and future need based on information already available to the Council could, however, be included, based on the population profiles of each Settlement Area.
Recommendation 3.4 - That an assessment of current and future needs is included in the revised Assessment		
97, 99, CS170	Does not cover the range of open spaces and built sports and recreational facilities set out in the Annexe to PPG17.	The Assessment provided by the consultants covered the main range of outdoor facilities within Wirral but excluded swimming pools, indoor sports halls, leisure centres, indoor bowls centres, indoor tennis centres, ice rinks, community centres and village halls. A comparable assessment of indoor provision was not provided as part of the Cultural Services Forward Plan. Work has already begun to provide the information necessary to undertake a comparable assessment of indoor provision.
Recommendation 3.5 - That an assessment of indoor provision is included in the revised Assessment		
Recommended Standards		
98	The final quality line has been changed from earlier drafts, the new terminology is less easily understood obscuring the low quality of sites and the term "specifically developed for Wirral" has been removed.	The labeling of the quality line was changed to avoid the implication that the sites were being scored against an established national benchmark. The banding of scores had not been changed and the low score of many sites is still clear. The words "specifically developed for Wirral" were removed because neither the scoring system nor the banding of those scores had in fact been changed from a system previously used by the consultants for other authorities. A simpler reference to the percentage scores alone would provide greater clarity.
Recommendation 3.6 - That only the percentage scores obtained are referred to in the revised Assessment		
CS143	Standards should be benchmarked against other comparable authorities.	National policy states that standards must be set locally, to reflect local needs. As a result, it is very difficult to find directly comparable information.

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82	The Natural England Access to Natural Greenspace Standard and Woodland Trust Access to Woodland Standard should be used. There is a significant deficiency in woodland in Wirral. Only 11% of people in Wirral currently have a 2 hectare wood within 500m of their homes and 86% have a 20ha wood within 4km. The Council should commit to targets for significant new woodland creation to support the North West Forest Manifesto to double woodland cover.	The Assessment provided by the consultants recommends a single standard for natural and semi-natural open space and did not propose an additional standard for public woodlands. An additional overlapping standard could cause further confusion. The local need for further woodland could, however, be considered as part of the wider Green Infrastructure Strategy as part of the implications for climate change.
Recommendation 3.7 - That the local need for woodland is assessed as part of the Green Infrastructure Strategy for Wirral		
98, 100, CS170	The final quality standards have been reduced from 61% (good) in previous drafts, to 46% (lower middle). This is arbitrary and sets a mediocre standard out of line with statements elsewhere within the report which aspire towards providing a higher level of quality. There should be a commitment to increase the quantity and quality of provision over time.	The final quality standard recommended by the consultants was changed from previous drafts to reflect the scale of the challenge and the likely availability of resources. Imposing a higher quality standard could have significant ongoing cost implications. The quality audit shows 308 sites representing over 1178 ha of land scored below 46%. Establishing an agreed minimum standard is now being addressed as part of the Parks and Countryside Service Business Plan. Changing the standard over time is unlikely to provide the certainty required in the equitable application of the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 legal agreements.
Recommendation 3.8 - That the recommended quality standard reflects the standard in the Parks and Countryside Service Business Plan		
71	Arbitrary distinctions between typologies lead to peculiarities in the figures	The use of main typologies is advised in national guidance. There is, in many cases, a substantial overlap between parks and open spaces, natural and semi-natural open space, facilities for outdoor sport and children's play on many multi-functional sites such as urban parks, which can make some sites difficult to categorise. The only alternative is not to identify alternative typologies, which would be contrary to national advice.

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Parks and Gardens		
41	Some Parks and Gardens, like Royden Park, would be more properly considered as natural or semi-natural green spaces.	The typology provided by the consultants classified larger district wide facilities such as country parks and countryside recreation sites, many of which include extensive areas of natural or semi-natural open space, along with smaller urban parks as Parks and Gardens to reflect their value to the local communities in which they were located. The inclusion of larger district-level facilities can, however, significantly distort the data for more local areas, even though this was explained within the report where anomalies were evident.
Recommendation 3.9 - That district wide country parks and countryside recreation sites are placed in a new separate typology		
Natural and Semi Natural		
25, 41, 44, 71, 73	Nature conservation and wildlife is not properly addressed. The ecological value of smaller natural and semi-natural areas within more formal Parks and Gardens is ignored. Green Flag type criteria are not appropriate as they do not show whether habitats are being properly or appropriately managed or reflect the wider value of, say, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Natural England's own audit of SSSI quality is not mentioned.	The Assessment provided by the consultants is not a habitat assessment and was only designed to identify the overall amount, type and quality of open space. A separate biodiversity audit has been undertaken as part of the preparation of the Core Strategy and the condition of individual sites is monitored as part the Council's statutory Annual Monitoring Report. Decisions on individual open spaces would, however, always need to take account of any additional values. An additional field could be added to record the presence of any designated features.
Recommendation 3.10 - That an additional field is added to the revised Assessment to record any additional designated features		
73	The definition does not indicate that natural and semi-natural areas can also provide important opportunities for recreation	The definition could be amended to read: "Sites for wildlife conservation, biodiversity, environmental education and awareness, which may or may not offer additional opportunities for informal recreation".
71	Creating natural and semi-natural sites in Wards with none will require significant land, money and skills to create and maintain.	The analysis of natural and semi-natural sites is only included to identify the differences in the character of open space in different areas, even though local deficiencies can, in some cases, be addressed by revised management within existing spaces.

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Allotments		
7, 25, 32, 33, 34, 46, 53, 56, 62, 72, 83, 96, 99, 101,	Shortage of allotments, especially in Moreton, Irby, Heswall, Pensby, Thingwall, Barnston, Thurstaston. Waiting lists should be used to set local standards rather than existing provision. More should be done to provide public land and address poor quality and security on existing sites.	The quality scores provided by the consultants confirm the low quality of many Council allotments. The standard recommended by the consultants only takes account of existing provision. The Council's waiting list shows demand equal to an additional 564 plots or 14.1ha of land which would raise the recommended standard from 0.17ha to 0.22ha/000 people. The average size of an allotment site in Wirral is just over 1.0 ha and the average size of a single plot is 0.025ha. The average annual cost to the Council for running an allotment site is approximately £50.00 per plot, excluding initial site layout costs.
41, 74, 76	The number of plots on each site should be listed, as well as the number of new allotments that will be required and where they will be.	The number of plots and the waiting list at each site can be included. Site specific proposals for future provision are, however a matter for separate decision outside the Assessment Report.
Recommendation 3.11 - That the data and standard for allotments is amended to take account of the Council's waiting lists		
Outdoor Sport		
41	School playing fields should be brought into wider community use.	School playing fields are included in the overall provision for outdoor sport but are subject to separate management by individual schools which can limit their availability for wider use by the community. School requirements can also sometimes limit the capacity for additional use.
41	Quality scores are only provided for five golf courses.	The quality audit undertaken for the Cultural Services Forward Plan only included municipal golf courses. It was assumed that private golf courses were maintained to a high standard.
97	An assessment of the supply and demand for playing pitches is omitted. The Council's existing pitch strategy is out-of-date. Demand data should be reviewed at least every 2 years.	The Council's existing pitch strategy was approved in 2004, funded by Sport England. A replacement pitch strategy could not be undertaken within the budget set for the Cultural Services Forward Plan. A full Borough-wide replacement pitch assessment would cost up to £25,000. The latest available data on pitch demand is currently being collected.
Recommendation 3.12 - That the latest data on the pitch demand is included within the revised Assessment		

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97	The Assessment only considers existing provision. Further breakdown is required for individual sports to show the number of pitches, courts and greens rather than just the overall land areas involved.	The standard recommended by the consultants only took account of existing provision. The analysis provided by the consultants did not include the numbers of pitches, courts or greens available for use on each site. Demand data for other facilities is currently being collected.
Recommendation 3.13 - That the data lists are revised to show individual pitches, courts and greens		
35	Need a much larger and better run artificial ski slope than at the Oval Sports Centre.	Few authorities have ski slopes. The nearest local authority run ski slope at Rossendale closed in March 2011. The provision of a larger ski slope at the Oval Sports Centre has been investigated but was rejected because of the impact on surrounding residential property.
Cemeteries		
74, 76	The number of burial spaces available and how many more might be required should be included	The Assessment provided by the consultants was only designed to identify the overall amount, type and quality of open space rather than to provide a review of burial space.
71,	There are more than nine churchyards. Some are below 0.2ha but could still be of local value.	The quality audit undertaken for the Cultural Services Forward Plan only included burial sites that were subject to Council maintenance. Additional church yards could, however, be taken into account as part of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy.
Site Specific Issues		
41	Site 394 - Meols Parade Gardens does not contain a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in the generally accepted use of the term	MUGA is a generic term which applies to both modern facilities and older games courts. It would be too cumbersome to reflect the various types of multi-use facility by separate categories. Their general age and condition is, however, normally reflected in the quality score obtained.
44	Site 91 - Heswall Dales, are the boundaries accurate?	The boundary shown on the accompanying maps was based on the land shown designated as Urban Greenspace in the Unitary Development Plan, which includes private land not open to public access. The boundary will be amended in the final Assessment.

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Financial		
20, 21, 25, 72	Sceptical about the Council's commitment, especially after "The Warrens" decision.	The Cultural Services Forward Plan was commissioned to review the future provision and maintenance of open space. The Council has an obligation to provide evidence on local standards as part the preparation of the Core Strategy and to justify charges on developers under the Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 legal agreements.
25, 38, 47, 72, 100, 101	Maintenance problems are not being properly addressed	The review of the future provision and maintenance of open space undertaken for the Cultural Services Forward Plan is now being taken forward as part of the Parks And Countryside Service Procurement Exercise.
28, 41, 71	Support greater use of on and off-site developer contributions to support management of existing spaces. More private sector partnership like Cappuccino's In Birkenhead Park should be sought, for example, in Arrowe Park. Big Lottery Funding expired in 2009.	The majority of previous funding mechanisms have been subject to significant review. Future funding from developer contributions will be considered as part of the preparation of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document. The approach to private sector partnerships in parks will, however, need to be considered as part of the Parks and Countryside Service Business Plan.
Audit Recommendations for Natural and Semi-Natural Green Space		
71	There is no need to extend the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) as sites are determined by the UK BAP. The main sites in Wirral are New Ferry Butterfly Park and West Kirby RAF camp.	Point (h) can be removed from paragraph 5.6 of the Assessment Report.
71	It would be better if the text said "...maintain habitats in good ecological condition..." to better address what is needed for SSSIs and Local Wildlife Sites (LWS).	Point (i) can be amended to read: "Adopt appropriate management programmes for nature conservation sites and maintain habitats in good ecological condition."
71	Unclear of the intention behind "Protect all existing nature conservation sites..." as lack of appropriate management is the biggest threat.	Protection refers to protection from harm from development. Management will be determined by site-specific management plans, where appropriate.
71	All sites with SSSI or LWS designations, or which are known to host a legally protected/BAP species, should have ecological management plans, not just sites falling within the natural and semi-natural typology.	A specific reference to site-specific habitat management requirements can be included under the recommendations for other typologies.

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71	The Assessment needs to be reviewed against the Lawson report "Making Space for Nature" related to: managing SSSIs and LWS into good condition, to act as source areas and colonisation sites; the importance of corridors and stepping stones, which have not yet been identified in Wirral; the need to expanded and/or buffer sites; and the need for ecosystem services such as flood control, carbon sequestration, shade, food production, etc., which need appropriate management by skilled people.	The Assessment provided by the consultants was only designed to identify the overall amount, type and quality of open space rather than to provide a review of biodiversity and wildlife management. Some of the issues listed will need to be dealt with as part of wider Green Infrastructure Strategy for Wirral.
71	There is a need to encourage people who are unfamiliar with natural areas such as women, ethnic minority groups and newcomers to the area, to use the less formal open spaces.	Promoting the wider use of natural areas will need to be considered, subject to resources, as part of the the Parks and Countryside Service Business Plan.
Recommendation 3.14 - That the Assessment is revised in accordance with the remaining Summary Responses above		

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Question 1 - What is your nearest public open space? Please give the name and location (such as a road name)

Question 2 - How often do you visit this open space?

Every day	More than twice a week	Once a week	Once a month	Less frequently
22	12	18	7	8
33%	18%	27%	10%	12%

Question 3 - What do you use this open space for?

Walking	32	22%
Walking the dog	15	10%
Views	13	9%
Recreation	12	8%
Wildlife	10	7%
Children's Play	10	7%
To access other areas	9	6%
Exercise	9	6%
Relaxation	8	5%
Sports	6	4%
Events (concerts etc)	6	4%
Facilities (e.g. café, community centre etc)	5	3%
Socialising	4	3%
Volunteering (e.g. Friends of Parks Groups)	3	2%
Water Sports	2	1%
Cycling	2	1%
Fresh Air	1	<1%

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Question 4 - How satisfied are you with the quality of this open space?				
Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
21	24	6	12	4
31%	36%	9%	18%	6%

Question 5 - How do you normally get there?			
Walk	Cycle	Public Transport	Car
60	2	0	4
91%	3%	0%	6%

Question 6 - How far do you need to travel to get there?			
Less than 1/2 mile	Up to 1 mile	Up to 2 miles	3+ miles
54	12	0	0
82%	18%	0%	0%

Question 7 - Do you think this is a reasonable distance to travel to this open space?		
Yes	65	98%
No	1	2%

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Question 8 - If not, what do you think a reasonable distance would be?			
Less than 1/2 mile	Up to 1 mile	Up to 2 miles	3+ miles
13	3	2	2
65%	15%	10%	10%

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).

Question 10 - How often do you visit these other open spaces?				
Every day	More than twice a week	Once a week	Once a month	Less frequently
9	18	15	11	11
14%	28%	24%	17%	17%

Question 11 - How do you normally get there?			
Walk	Cycle	Public Transport	Car
27	2	3	30
44%	3%	5%	48%

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Question 12 - What do you use these other open spaces for?		
Walking	38	27%
Exercise	15	11%
Walking the dog	13	9%
Recreation	10	7%
Views	9	6%
Wildlife	9	6%
Children's Play	9	6%
Facilities (e.g. café, community centre etc)	7	5%
Relaxation	7	5%
Fresh Air	6	4%
Sports	4	3%
Volunteering (e.g. Friends of Parks Groups)	3	2%
Socialising	3	2%
To access other areas	2	1%
Cycling	2	1%
Events (concerts etc)	2	1%
Countryside	2	1%
Allotments	1	>1%

Question 13 - How satisfied are you with the quality of these other open spaces?				
Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
21	29	8	5	1
33%	45%	12%	8%	2%

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Question 14 - Do you think there is enough public open space where you live?		
Too much	Too little	About right
0	8	57
0%	12%	88%

Question 15 - If you answered "Too much" or "Too little" to question 14, please say why.		
ID	Type of Response	Reason given
7	Not Enough	Not enough allotments
17	Not Enough	Not enough accessible open spaces in Moreton
29	Not Enough	Over development has reduced too many open spaces
36	Not Enough	There are too many vacant sites which could easily be transformed into green space facilities
79	Not Enough	Far too little space for somewhere the size of Wallasey. Fencing off of formal outdoor sports pitches.
17	Quality Issues	If I want a nice day I have to drive between 1 to 5 miles from Moreton to New Brighton or West Kirby just to get to an open space which is safe, clean (ish) and a happy positive environment.
19	Quality Issues	The open spaces in Wirral are great. Love the variety and proximity to Hoylake. Let's keep it that way. All the open spaces make Wirral a gem of a place to live that all our visiting friends love and think is fantastic.
40	Quality Issues	Away from Country parks there are only landscaped areas with mown grass, lollipop trees and little biodiversity or wildlife value in Eastham. The Heygarth Road/Grampian Way open space is poorly drained.
50	Quality Issues	Dog fouling an issue for many open spaces.
79	Quality Issues	Maintenance issues behind Mossland School and on Arrowe Park need to be attended to.

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Question 16 - Overall how satisfied are you with the quality of open space in Wirral?				
Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
18	29	7	9	1
28%	45%	11%	14%	2%

Question 17 - Overall, how safe do you feel using open spaces in Wirral during the day?				
Very safe	Fairly safe	Neither	Fairly unsafe	Very unsafe
34	26	5	1	0
52%	39%	8%	1%	0%

Question 18 - Overall, how safe do you feel using open spaces in Wirral at night?				
Very safe	Fairly safe	Neither	Fairly unsafe	Very unsafe
3	18	11	21	13
4%	27%	17%	32%	20%

Question 19 - Please say why you feel the open spaces you use feel safe or unsafe at different times of the day.		
Young People	20	33%
No People Around	10	17%
Undesirable People	8	13%
Drinking	7	12%
Poor Quality Open Space	6	10%
Lighting	2	3%
Drugs	2	3%
Thieves	2	3%
Dogs	2	3%
Lack of Facilities	1	2%

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Question 1 - What is your nearest public open space? Please give the name and location (such as a road name)	
ID	Nearest Site
101	Allport Common, Eastham
28	Anglesey Road Playing Fields, West Kirby
14	Arrowe Park
25	Ashton Park, West Kirby (from Westbourne Road)
39	Barnston Dale
50	Belvedere Recreation Ground, Wallasey
36	Birkenhead Park
79	Burford Avenue Woods, Liscard
42	Caldy Hill
43	Caldy Hill (from Column Road)
33	Caldy Hill (from Kings Drive)
26	Coronation Gardens, West Kirby
31	Coronation Park, Greasby
70	Cubbins Green, West Kirby
75	Cubbins Green, West Kirby
21	Dawstone Park, Heswall
55	Dibbinsdale Country Park (Dibbins Hey entrance)
69	Eastham Country Park
88	Elleray Park Vale Park
30	Grange Hill, West Kirby
5	Grange Hill, West Kirby.
90	Harrison Park, New Brighton
92	Harrison Park, New Brighton
3	Heswall Dales
59	Heswall Dales
61	Heswall Dales
40	Heygarth Road/Gramian Way Open Space, Eastham
65	Higher Bebington Recreation Ground
9	Irby Recreation Ground
37	Limbo Lane Bridleway, Irby
10	Linear Park, Moreton
17	Lingham Park, Moreton
38	Meols Lower Green Recreation Ground

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Question 1 - What is your nearest public open space? Please give the name and location (such as a road name)	
ID	Nearest Site
48	Monkey Wood, Meols.
77	New Ferry Park, New Ferry
7	Newton Park, West Kirby
22	Newton Park, West Kirby
57	Oval Playing Fields, Bebington
32	Pasture Road Open Space, Moreton
29	Puddydale, Heswall
66	Quarry Recreation Ground, New Brighton
16	Queens Park, Hoylake
19	Queens Park, Hoylake
34	Ridgewood Park, Pensby
51	Roman Road Open Space, Meols.
67	St Georges Park, New Brighton.
27	The Arno, Oxton
86	The Arno, Oxton
91	The Breck, Wallasey
49	The Breck, Wallasey.
13	The Gorse, New Brighton.
23	Thurstaston Common and Royden Park
87	Tower Grounds, New Brighton.
35	Upton Meadow
68	Vale Park, New Brighton
85	Vale Park, New Brighton
89	Vale Park, New Brighton
93	Vale Park, New Brighton
94	Vale Park, New Brighton
12	Victoria Gardens, West Kirby
11	Victoria Park, Rock Ferry
4	Wallasey Central Park, Liscard
95	Wallasey Central Park, Liscard
18	West Kirby Marine Lake
20	Wirral Country Park (from Broad Lane, Heswall)
60	Wirral Gardens, Bebington

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Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
5	Arrowe Park
30	Arrowe Park
31	Arrowe Park
37	Arrowe Park
39	Arrowe Park
42	Arrowe Park
4	Ashton Park, West Kirby
5	Ashton Park, West Kirby
9	Ashton Park, West Kirby
14	Ashton Park, West Kirby
17	Ashton Park, West Kirby
21	Ashton Park, West Kirby
23	Ashton Park, West Kirby
42	Ashton Park, West Kirby
63	Ashton Park, West Kirby
70	Ashton Park, West Kirby
75	Ashton Park, West Kirby
36	Bidston Hill
40	Bidston Hill
61	Bidston Hill
55	Bidston Hill (and Tam O'Shanter Farm)
35	Bidston Moss
4	Birkenhead Park
25	Birkenhead Park
27	Birkenhead Park
32	Birkenhead Park
55	Birkenhead Park
65	Birkenhead Park
77	Birkenhead Park
79	Birkenhead Park
86	Birkenhead Park
40	Brotherton Park/Dibbinsdale, Bromborough
69	Brotherton Park/Dibbinsdale, Bromborough

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ID	Site Mentioned
18	Caldy Beach
18	Caldy Beach
19	Caldy Beach
42	Caldy Beach
75	Caldy Beach
5	Caldy Hill
18	Caldy Hill
19	Caldy Hill
22	Caldy Hill
30	Caldy Hill
61	Caldy Hill
70	Caldy Hill
75	Caldy Hill
3	Coronation Gardens, West Kirby
18	Coronation Gardens, West Kirby
25	Coronation Gardens, West Kirby
75	Coronation Gardens, West Kirby
30	Cubbins Green, West Kirby
43	Cubbins Green, West Kirby
21	Dawstone Park, Heswall
54	Dawstone Park, Heswall
61	Dawstone Park, Heswall
40	Eastham Country Park
55	Eastham Country Park
101	Eastham Country Park (via Green Lane)
21	Gayton Park
54	Gayton Park
5	Gilroy Nature Park, West Kirby
42	Gilroy Nature Park, West Kirby
5	Grange Cemetery, West Kirby
25	Grange Hill Allotments, West Kirby
5	Grange Hill, West Kirby
19	Grange Hill, West Kirby

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
25	Grange Hill, West Kirby
75	Grange Hill, West Kirby
13	Harrison Park, New Brighton
17	Harrison Park, New Brighton
50	Harrison Park, New Brighton
87	Harrison Park, New Brighton
88	Harrison Park, New Brighton
34	Harrock Woods, Irby
37	Harrock Woods, Irby
55	Higher Bebington Recreation Ground
57	Higher Bebington Recreation Ground
18	Hoylake Beach
19	Hoylake Beach
89	Hoylake Beach
3	Hoylake Promenade
43	Hoylake Promenade
89	Hoylake Promenade
37	Irby Common
34	Irby Footpaths
37	Irby Footpaths
37	Irby Quarry
34	Irby Recreation Ground
23	Irby Recreation Ground (playground)
57	Kings Lane Playing Fields, Bebington
19	Leasowe Beach
34	Limbo Lane, Irby
10	Lingham Lane Footpath
60	Mayer Park, Bebington
16	Meols Lower Green Recreation Ground
19	Meols Parade Gardens
11	Mersey Park, Rock Ferry
51	Monkey Wood, Hoylake
89	New Brighton Beach

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
3	New Brighton Promenade
17	New Brighton Promenade
32	New Brighton Promenade
50	New Brighton Promenade
63	New Brighton Promenade
65	New Brighton Promenade
89	New Brighton Promenade
93	New Brighton Promenade
94	New Brighton Promenade
85	New Brighton Promenade.
5	Newton Common
19	North Wirral Coastal Park
30	North Wirral Coastal Park
40	North Wirral Coastal Park
43	North Wirral Coastal Park
32	North Wirral Coastal Park (Leasowe)
101	Plymyard Cemetery
54	Puddydale, Heswall
51	Queens Park, Hoylake
5	Red Rocks Nature Reserve
19	Red Rocks Nature Reserve
70	Red Rocks Nature Reserve
48	Roman Road Open Space, Meols
4	Royden Park
5	Royden Park
19	Royden Park
22	Royden Park
30	Royden Park
31	Royden Park
37	Royden Park
42	Royden Park
59	Royden Park
61	Royden Park

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
87	Royden Park
25	Sandlea Park, West Kirby
3	Seacombe Promenade
4	Seacombe Promenade
63	Seacombe Promenade
65	Seacombe Promenade
89	Seacombe Promenade
5	St Bridget's Field (footpath)
18	Stapledon Woods, Caldy
19	Stapledon Woods, Caldy
61	Storeton Woods
65	Storeton Woods
4	The Breck, Wallasey
23	Thornton Hough Recreation Ground (playground)
19	Thurstaston Beach
23	Thurstaston Beach
3	Thurstaston Common
18	Thurstaston Common
19	Thurstaston Common
22	Thurstaston Common
28	Thurstaston Common
30	Thurstaston Common
34	Thurstaston Common
37	Thurstaston Common
40	Thurstaston Common
42	Thurstaston Common
59	Thurstaston Common
61	Thurstaston Common
69	Thurstaston Common
87	Thurstaston Common
42	Thurstaston Footpath to Heswall Dungeon
23	Thurstaston Footpath to Oldfield Way and Heswall Dungeon
5	Tip Lane (Gilroy Road to Hoylake)

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
69	Unilever Sports Ground, Eastham
5	Upton Meadow
42	Upton Meadow
49	Vale Park, New Brighton
50	Vale Park, New Brighton
86	Vale Park, New Brighton
87	Vale Park, New Brighton
88	Vale Park, New Brighton
90	Vale Park, New Brighton
91	Vale Park, New Brighton
92	Vale Park, New Brighton
95	Vale Park, New Brighton
87	Wallasey Central Park
50	Wallasey Central Park, Liscard
91	Wallasey Central Park, Liscard
18	West Kirby
25	West Kirby
19	West Kirby Beach
23	West Kirby Beach
28	West Kirby Beach
42	West Kirby Beach
43	West Kirby Beach
70	West Kirby Beach
75	West Kirby Beach
89	West Kirby Beach
3	West Kirby Marine Lake
5	West Kirby Marine Lake
9	West Kirby Marine Lake
12	West Kirby Marine Lake
17	West Kirby Marine Lake
19	West Kirby Marine Lake
21	West Kirby Marine Lake
28	West Kirby Marine Lake

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
42	West Kirby Marine Lake
43	West Kirby Marine Lake
63	West Kirby Marine Lake
89	West Kirby Marine Lake
18	Wirral Coastal Path (to Liverpool, cycling)
26	Wirral Coastline
30	Wirral Coastline (Beaches)
34	Wirral Coastline (Beaches)
20	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
21	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
38	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
42	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
54	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
55	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
59	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
65	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
69	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
75	Wirral Country Park, Thurstaston
79	Wirral Footpaths (long walk)
5	Wirral Way
18	Wirral Way
30	Wirral Way
34	Wirral Way
38	Wirral Way
43	Wirral Way
54	Wirral Way
55	Wirral Way
59	Wirral Way
65	Wirral Way
75	Wirral Way
19	Wirral Way (Caldy to Heswall)
69	Wirral Way (Thurstaston to Caldy)
4	Wirral Way (Thurstaston)

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 9 - What other open spaces in the Borough do you use most often? Please give the name and location (such as a road name).	
ID	Site Mentioned
42	Wirral Way (West Kirby to Thurstaston)
3	Wirral Way and Heswall Dungeon
17	Yew Tree Green, Moreton

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

Question 20 - Are there any other comments you wish to make about any particular open space in Wirral? Please give the names and locations (such as a road name).	
ID	Summary of Response
Site Specific Comments	
69	Allport Common albeit very small, I should be very sorry to see it go.
101	Allport Common: I have been since infancy. It is a joy to see at all times of year and the management programme, when carefully controlled, is helpful - i.e. only the outer verge cut (after the flowering of the celandines is over) - the rest left to flourish and die off naturally. A wonderful habitat of the nettle loving butterflies, native bluebells (though some one has introduced Spanish Hyacinths, Crocuses and other species of recent years). The old quarry(opposite to the Methodist Church, and filled in with spoil from the QEII oil dock post WW2) is a grassy space used for informal games etc. The old oaks / hawthorn etc should be left as far as possible and managed sympathetically to allow for natural progression and wild life habitat.
39	Arrowe Park is inaccessible from Thingwall corner. A path is needed around the golf course. The woodland at the Thingwall end of the Park seems neglected.
25	Ashton Park, West Kirby - one of the better parks in Wirral used by over 10,000 per week but staff productivity is low, supervision is poor, the toilets are not cleaned and are poor, shrubberies are in a very poor state and overgrown, pathways are deteriorating in places, infrastructure and buildings are in a poor state, painting of gates and railings is not undertaken, the tennis courts are in a poor state, the sports arena fencing is poor and needs replacing, the football pitch is poorly repaired at the end of the season every year, the lake needs cleaning out, entrances from the Wirral Way are unappealing and rundown, the park is subject to groups of youngsters and occasional vandalism, the Community Patrol generally do not cover West Wirral.
57	Bebington Oval Playing Fields. Dog Poo in park and surrounding pavements. Park trees stripped of bark. Glass thrown in hedge and Litter in Hedge.
35	Bidston Moss could be better if it had basic facilities such as parking and toilets. The cycle track could have been better if cyclists had been more involved in its design and construction. Vandalism and misuse by motorused vehicles will always be a problem.
55	Birkenhead Park is brilliant now its got a new visitor centre and has been smartend up. I feel safe walking there because I know a ranger could always appear, as could lots of visitors. A priceless asset which must be kept at all costs.
50	Birkenhead Park is probably the best park for me, there is so much going on, also since the community centre / cafe has been built the park has become more family orientated and user friendly.
29	Birkenhead Park. Stop destroying it with all the encroachment by the College and please demolish the appalling new pavilion
79	Bluebell Woods, Bebington. Councillor Hayes promised to get them cleared. It is covered in ivy, everywhere and heading up the trees (which kills the trees), we also have Bind weed and Nettles We no longer have bluebells, which used to be numerous in season but not now. Please clear it now.
42	Caldy Hill - Stewardship Grant for management (2000) came to an end in 2010.
5	Carr Farm, Meols - opposed to the plan for a new housing development. The whole area is rich in wildlife including mammals such as hares and there are a variety of wildflowers. My understanding is that the area is greenbelt and as such should be left alone. The remaining open spaces along the Meols Stretch are under a lot of pressure and there is a real danger that Saughall Massie and Moreton will soon be joined up to Meols thanks to continuous urban sprawl.
25	Coronation Gardens - shrubberies poor and need revitalisation. Dont demolish and redevelop the cafe but make small changes/ development and refurbishment in keeping with the feel of the park. Developers on Wirral are not controlled or guided by officers and any new construction would threaten the feel of the park.
31	Coronation Park needs further tree planting and hedges. At present defined boundaries are bare. Looks more like a piece of waste ground then a park. Suggest Council take a trip to Vale Park (Wallasey) to appreciate what can be achieved for a small park. Currently is not attractive to wildlife. Suggest bird boxes, wild flower section, hedges/bushes and some creative planting.

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

ID	Summary of Response
70	Cubbins Green, Macdona Drive, West Kirby - is generally fairly litter free. Thanks in part to local people who pick up litter. Litter bin at the end of Macdona Drive is often overflowing in nice weather or at weekends, there is only one whereas Caldry Steps (end of Croft Drive) has 2 or 3. This area is well provided with seats for looking at the view - older people like this. Young children play on grass. The green has footpath a public right of way running its length. Cycling is not allowed on public footpaths (though it is on public bridleways) but many cyclists do not know or accept this. As a result, the green is rutted with cycle tracks and cyclists travel at speed along its length. They divert from the Wirral Way to do this. No cycling signs at each end and would help to protect children and the elderly and save the green from cycle rutting.
30	Grange Hill - there is rather a lot of litter & dog poo (not from my dogs!). It could do with some seats to let people enjoy the view; Could do with rubbish bins wherever the public footpaths meet public roads - e.g. where it meets Grange Old Road and where it meets Lang Lane. Some of the routes would benefit from a bit of clearance work to make walking a bit easier. Otherwise it is a very good place.
25	Grange Hill Allotments - almost forgotten by Wirral and security fencing in a poor state. New allotments officer an improvement.
43	Grange Hill is between where I live and West Kirby and yet I have rarely been on it because of the reputation it has. I won't go on there at the weekend and I certainly wouldn't go on there in the evening or at night. If I walk to West Kirby from Frankby Road, I will either go through the cemetery or over the top of the Caldry ridge via the top of Black Horse Hill and down Grange Road from either from the direction of Black Horse Hill or Column Road having turned out of Beacon Drive. A lot of areas I would prefer to be with other people when I visit but as I walk alone most of the time and often slowly, I prefer to stay on the roads and look into the countryside from the footways and pavements.
25	Grange Hill Open Space - gorse round the allotments needs trimming every winter to reduce the danger of fires. Otherwise OK.
28	Greenbank Road Playing Fields, West Kirby. There is space by the HWRC that would be an ideal location for a skate park, similar to that in Heswall - it would be great if a skate park could be developed here.
17	Harrison Park - the redeveloped park with sand was a terrible idea. The sand is a pain and also when wet makes it not a great place to go.
13	Harrison Park has just had a considerable amount of money spent on building a childrens play area. Very professionally designed and built. But if the retaining wall had been a little higher, it would have stopped the sand being blown on to the path and having to be swept up, costing time and money. Also very recently, the local idiots who use the park for drinking at night, decided to disassemble the fence and remove sections of it. Unfortunately, it had not been fabricated to be "idiot proof", again costing time and money to repair.
20	Heswall Beach and shoreline is poorly maintained by the Council, and if it was not for the Voluntary Sector of the public would be overcome with litter and debris to a very detrimental effect on Wild Life, Flora & Fauna.
61	Heswall Beacons. Probably the worst of our open spaces. Ranger Service does not have the manpower or resources to treat this area effectively.
59	Heswall Dales - Over the last 10 years there has been a gradual decline in the management of the Dales to the extent that the SSSI designation is at risk. Are the lizards still there? I have not seen one for some time. Thousands of pounds were spent recently cutting back gorse / birch etc but unless it is followed up with constant pruning / removal the money will have been wasted. There is insufficient control of the birch and many trees have been allowed to grow too big. It is good to see Oak Trees increasing in numbers. The problem of teenage drinking and lighting of fires is ongoing but has reduced in frequency recently. A little more tender loving care please.
3	Heswall Dales. This is an area that the Council has neglected for years with resultant loss of heather. The heather is critical to the Sites status as a SSSI. A large grant from Natural England was obtained a year ago and the momentum of change and preservation of the area needs to be maintained. The Rangers office with a little investment could be dramatically improved and act as a visitor centre. Even a few wooden picnic tables outside it would improve the attractiveness of the Dales as a location for families to walk in. There are no maps of the Dales readily available to walkers so if you dont know the area you really dont get a chance to appreciate it. This wonderful area needs to be better preserved and better marketed by the council.

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

ID	Summary of Response
20	Heswall Fields have also suffered some periods of neglect, due to cost cutting by various authorities.
57	Higher Bebington Recreation Ground. Dog Poo in park and surrounding pavements. Litter in park, in particular next to Bebington High Sports College
10	Linear Park, Moreton. The state of the tarmac paths is a disgrace and they all flood and are covered in mud. It needs to be remembered that one of the paths is the only route along Town Meadow Lane and it's impossible to prevent your shoes getting covered in mud. The refurbished Play Area is brilliant - what a pity it's let down by the rest of the Green Space and the pathways.
17	Lingham Park, Moreton is a fairly ugly place with anti-social behaviour.
40	Mayer Park, Bebington. Lack of species-rich wildflower grasslands - very few left in Wirral (or anywhere) but very little created, and that done poorly so they are not persisting Mayer park).
11	Mersey Park is very well maintained considering the man power implications and the old machinery the staff use. Well done lads
40	Mersey Park, Tranmere Urban parks with ageing trees and too few replacements
48	Monkey Wood, Meols is hardly ever cleaned up and is used as a dumping area for unwanted Christmas trees and unwanted garden waste. I can't remember when the wood was last cleaned and tidied up, probably ten years ago! Wood is now used as a cycle obstacle course by children with a ramp!
89	New Brighton Promenade and Dips. Too much dog dirt. We need more bins for the dog dirt and more fines acted upon.
32	Pasture Road Open Space , Moreton. I am very surprised to see the space at the rear of Pasture Road listed as an amenity. It better qualifies as a swamp.
23	Puddydale, Heswall. The playground in Heswall town centre - the Puddydale - is horrible and for an area like Heswall it is a disgrace and so unattractive and unappealing - I never take my kids there the events that are held in public spaces aren't always as well advertised as they could be - could there be more of a section in local newsletter or a website to go to - useful ones are printed off and available for the school holidays but could do with them all year my daughter is at school at Barnston and they don't seem to make use of any public open spaces which is a real shame - they should be encouraged more to use them as part of the schoolday
66	Quarry Recreation Ground, Mount Pleasant, New Brighton. The bowling green needs to be maintained so that it is 'fit for purpose'. The gardeners should have specialist knowledge in how to care for the green. The grassy area in the lower park which is used for ball games, needs care to the muddy patches. Some of the childrens play equipment needs replacing. The sandstone wall needs regular maintenance to preserve its distinctiveness. There need to be some lighting to the lower park to help with the safety of young people in the evening (agreed by neighbourhood police).
16	Queen's Park Hoylake. Stronger fines and policing of dog muck in parks where children play. Improvements to the playground please!
51	Roman Road Open Space - west side of Roman Road, Meols is fine there is a 'No Horses' sign, but right hand side has no such sign so horse gallop - a danger to my grandchildren
19	Royden Park. I think the open spaces in Wirral are great. I love the variety and the proximity to where we live - we have a great choice. Let's keep it that way - all the open spaces make Wirral a great gem of a place to live that all our visiting friends from around the country just love and think is fantastic. The only thing I'd say is....why do people insist on not picking up dog poo off the beach (we are meticulous picker uppers after our dog) and why in Royden park do people feel they can leave dog poo hanging from tree branches in plastic bag? We need to educate these people but Wirral really should have more dedicated dog poo bins.
25	Sandlea Park, West Kirby - sad and neglected park despite being in the town centre, no supervisory/management time spent on it, railings and gates in very poor condition (not painted for decades), shrubberies poor - why dont Wirral care when there is no Friends Group for a park. The Dee Lane sandstone wall frontage to the park needs opening out and a seating area put in on a small piazza there to invite the public in.

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

ID	Summary of Response
5	St Bridget's Field in West Kirby is slated for a housing development of 10 dwelling houses. This would be a tragedy as there is a very pleasant footpath running across the field. The site should be protected. The field is used for games by St Bridget's Primary School and also for fairs. The footpath is well used by members of the public including scholars and parents. The field is not without its wildlife and various birds and wildflowers can be spotted there. After all, this is supposed to be the year of biodiversity. As well as all the above, the whole area is of great historical significance as it is part of what locals refer to as the Old Village. St Bridget's Church was founded by Vikings and legend has it that St Patrick visited the area.
67	St Georges Park, New Brighton. Some of the overhanging branches of the sycamore trees on the south side need cutting off. The fence surrounding the park need repainting. Can I suggest that this is done by those requiring work experience. The grass cutting schedule is excellent as it allows the crocus and daffodils to die off naturally and reappear in glorious colour the following spring.
55	Tam O'Shanter's Urban Farm, Bidston Hill is a real jewel. A lovely visitor centre, all really child friendly and great staff. A priceless asset which must be kept at all costs.
20	The Wirral Country Park and Wirral Way have suffered almost total neglect for 30 years since their inception, the last few years has seen considerable efforts to reverse this decline, but that now seems to be on the wane again, presumably while current negotiations are taking place.
55	Thurstaston Country Park centre a real jewel. A lovely visitor centre, all really child friendly and great staff. A priceless asset which must be kept at all costs.
17	Upton Park is disgusting with dog dirt.
69	Unilever Sports Ground. Two entry points which are very muddy: 1) Turning right onto the playing field just after entering Green Lane. 2) Leaving the playing field through the gap in the wall a little to the left of the old farm buildings / council depot by the large uprooted tree.
68	Vale Park, New Brighton is a delightful open space and it has been successful in obtaining the Green Flag award for many years running. I think that it would be a shame if the flower beds were not kept as beautiful as they are today or that there was no funding available to provide entertainment on the Bandstand for residents and visitors. I would like to see improvements to the infrastructure of Vale House, as it is in a Conservation Area without maintenance the structure could deteriorate. The heating in the cafe could be improved and ceiling repaired.
11	Victoria Park, Tranmere is very well maintained considering the man power implications and the old machinery the staff use. Well done lads
40	Victoria Park, Tranmere. Urban parks with ageing trees and too few replacements
50	Wallasey Central Park is a good community park but better use could be made of the open spaces near where the big house used to be. Also once again it is the bored youths who cause damage to bowling greens and sheds. On the positive side, the walled garden is lovely.
4	Wallasey Central Park. I think more attention should be given to the provision of toilets. It is a disgrace that there are virtually no toilets in Wallasey Central Park. The lighting in that park at night also needs improving. It is ridiculous that vandal-proof lights have not been put in so they never work. It was typical of the neglect of this aspect that Liscard hall was allowed to be burnt down.
40	Wallasey Central Park. Lack of species-rich wildflower grasslands - very few left in Wirral (or anywhere) but very little created, and that done poorly so they are not persisting
18	West Kirby Sailing School. I still believe the current building should be re-developed: the sailing school is unfit for purpose; the views are stunning and much better facilities should be made available (I used to live Australia and they do "waterside" developments very sympathetically) for all - locals and visitors like
39	Wirral Country Park at Thurstaston is particularly good for its views and beach an cliff-top
12	Wirral Country Park. It would be nice to have a bus service to the Thursaston Centre. Perhaps hourly from 9 to 6

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

ID	Summary of Response
60	Wirral Gardens, Bebington. The grass is cut and it is tidy but the Rose bed is overgrown and unpruned, it needs replacing, say flowering bushes. Trees are overgrown too.
17	Yew Tree Green, Moreton is a fairly ugly place with anti-social behaviour.
General Comments	
34	General. A lot of the open spaces have too much litter
61	General. Concerned over the future of WBC parks and countryside department and the result of many years of underfunding of maintenance of the boroughs open spaces.
25	General. Why can't the role of parks and their popularity (see the Living in Wirral Questionnaire results) be better recognised and application and money be invested in parks and open spaces rather than them just being used as a means to achieve the Council's savings targets year after year?
65	General. I think we are very lucky with all the open spaces that we have here in the Wirral - there are many jewels in our crown and they are what make Wirral such a special place to live. In particular the Wirral country parks and the events / activities that they put on for young people. i understand that this all costs money but it is still an investment for all our sakes. We have a responsibility for the future to look after the natural beauty that is all around us and we must take that responsibility seriously.
18	General. It is crucial that these open spaces remain open to the public, and protected from development. Re the West Kirby Sail development, I still believe the current building should be re-developed: the sailing school is unfit for purpose; the views are stunning and much better facilities should be made available (I used to live Australia and they do "waterside" developments very sympathetically) for all - locals and visitors like
40	General. Lack of ecologically appropriate maintenance, or insufficient maintenance, for some habitats - heathland, ponds in particular. Lack of adequate staffing for the ranger service - and recent loss of several experienced staff. Lack of resources for managing country parks in particular, leading to slow declines in wildlife on places like the Wirral Way which needs specialist management to retain their wildlife. Lack of species-rich wildflower grasslands - very few left in Wirral (or anywhere) but very little created, and that done poorly so they are not persisting. Urban parks with ageing trees and too few replacements. Too few resources for interpretation and education.
95	General. More Litter Removal needed every week and dog muck!
49	General. Noise and underage drinking cause a lot of trouble in Summer.
36	General. Parks and green space are essential for Wirral's future, but face a significance cutback in local government funding. Over 20 per cent of the staff have already taken the early retirement option; others will follow; and service outsourcing is expected to deliver further savings. Parks are currently under threat, despite their important contribution to mental and physical health, their significance for sport and leisure, and their contribution to tourism.
21	General. Public Recreational Spaces have for too long been low in the priorities of Council Spending much to the detriment of many locations and an urgent change of approach is required to protect and improve or enhance these valuable assets for the better community aspect all round.
37	General. Public Rights of way are generally well signposted and, for the most part, kept free from obstruction. They are an integral part of Wirral. All efforts must be made to ensure that the maintenance of these important networks (to health, communication, culture, biodiversity etc.) is not sacrificed to spending cuts. Prior to the Thatcherite years, the Parks and Gardens of Wirral were (sports facilities excepted) havens of peace and tranquility. They were oasis of flora and fauna and were very well maintained. One felt safe and secure with the added bonus that many employed Park Keepers, who generally had the respect of the local community and were the linch pin in curbing anti social behaviour. This all gradually changed with the 'value for money' policies forced on Councils during the Thatcher years when anything 'public' was seen as bad and un-necessary. During the last decade, parks and gardens have once again started to get the respect that they deserve. They are the green lungs in our ever expanding urban development and people have begun to see the important role that they play in the physical and mental health of the nation. Please, do not let these cherished places return to the unkempt and delapidated state that they were j

Wirral Open Space Assessment - Summary of Consultation Responses

ID	Summary of Response
42	General. Some SSSI's and SBI's need better management for wildlife, probably because of difficulty in obtaining funding. We are glad that our Heathland Survey (1999) was used to obtain a Stewardship Grant for management (2000) of Caldby Hill. This came to an end in 2010.
11	General. the two open spaces i regularly use are very well maintained considering the man power implications and the old machinery the staff use. Well done lads
38	General. Too much litter, need more bins and these need to be managed Dog fouling, seems to be getting worse, irresponsible owners seem to have developed the technique of walking / running far in front of their dogs so "do not notice". All dogs should be on a lead and owners face a real sanction if they let their dogs foul.
41	General. We appreciate how lucky we are in Wirral to enjoy such a wealth of parks and open spaces. While recognising the budgetry constraints, we do have a general concern over the poor maintenance standards in many of them and at the inexorable deterioration of their infrastructure. In West Kirby, Hoylake, Meols, Caldby, Grange, Newton, Frankby and Greasby there is a particular concern at the poor standard of sports facilities in some parks and at the lack of facilities for teenagers in general. We are only too aware of on going issues like damage to plants and trees, dog fouling and litter, for which the general public rather than the Council is responsible.
63	General. We are very fortunate with all of our recreation spaces.
75	General. Why are the waste bins over-full all the time? If you want tidy places the first step is to empty the bins.
54	General. Wirral is poorly maintained in general.