

OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020



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1. Introduction

- 1.01** The district of Bassetlaw benefits from an extensive open space network; 488.41 ha covers a series of multi functional spaces including parks and gardens, amenity green spaces, children's play areas, semi/natural green spaces, civic spaces, churchyards and allotments of differing sizes within or on the edge of the main towns of Worksop, Retford and Harworth & Bircotes alongside the 5 Large Rural Settlements of Blyth, Carlton in Lindrick, Langold/Hodsock, Misterton and Tuxford.
- 1.02** High quality open spaces bring many benefits for the community; they provide better opportunities for informal sport, play and recreation while the tranquillity and absence of noise and pollution found in many spaces enhances well being. Many provide safe and sustainable transport routes for people to move around the District on foot or by bike while others provide opportunities to grow local food. Several spaces provide access to heritage and biodiversity assets as well as providing valuable habitats for wildlife.
- 1.03** The Council's Open Space Study report was last published in 2012 (OSS2012). Since then the Council and our partners has continued to promote the many benefits of open space across the District. Work has been carried out in order to advance Council planning policies and address identified issues; new quality spaces have been created and integrated into the network while many others have been improved and developed into accessible multifunctional spaces. This 2020 Assessment provides an update on the state of publicly accessible open spaces as at Autumn 2019.
- 1.04** This report will help the Council identify areas of the District where there is a shortage of, or lack of access to a particular type of open space, or where the quality of open space needs to be improved. It will also help determine where contributions from new development may be sought, support bids for external funding and guide the allocation of resources.

1.1 Policy Context

- 1.11** The key principles of the Open Space Assessment remain to protect, provide and enhance a variety of well designed, high quality, accessible open spaces that are well maintained and safe which improve the quality of life for residents and visitors. The Strategy aims to reflect the approaches taken in several key policy documents affecting Bassetlaw District such as: The Green Infrastructure Study (2011); the draft Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping (2018), as well as the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan (2020).
- 1.12** To provide an overarching, strategic approach to open space provision and enhancement the principles of these documents will be reflected in the Council's approach where they do not conflict with adopted the objectives of this document (Bassetlaw Open Space Assessment Update 2020). This will ensure that the type and location of open spaces and improvements continue to meet identified local needs and ensure that there are fewer inequalities in provision across the District.
- 1.13** A key area of interest for this Open Space Assessment is the promotion of multifunctional spaces. Better use should be made of existing open spaces, incorporating different open space functions in one space to meet identified community and wildlife needs. To do this fewer, higher quality multifunctional spaces have and will continue to be created and maintained; many now provide a mix of uses in one space like amenity greenspace, children's play and areas for wildlife. This approach helps ensure that spaces are valued and used positively throughout the day and in the evening by different age groups.
- 1.14** Furthermore, the OSS2012's findings emphasised the need for the protection and development of various forms of greenspace in order to ensure sufficient provision of open space District wide. The OSS2012 in particular highlighted the fact that future population growth will create extra demand for and pressure on existing open space sites, consequently reducing the quality of existing sites. Thus, there is a need to anticipate future

requirements and population growth when planning for open space provision.

- 1.15** To do this, it was suggested that new housing developments should include open space in the design or alternatively make provision for improvements to open spaces, where appropriate. Since 2012 the Council has changed the way it promotes the delivery of open space. The priority moving forward is to ensure that residents have access to an appropriate amount and type of quality open space, but that does not necessarily mean provision of new open space. A balanced approach to securing new provision will be taken to ensure that new provision is sustainable in the long term.
- 1.16** Additionally, the Council will no longer be adopting open space. As a result, maintenance of new and/or improved space may need to be agreed by the developer at planning application stage. This could be through a management company or by transfer to a Parish/Town Council.
- 1.17** The information provided in this report will also be used to inform the Council's Local Plan and its open space standards.

1. Open Space Audit Update: Process and Methodology

- 2.01** This Update provides details on the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space in the District as at Autumn 2019. Site surveys were undertaken for 320 spaces; information was provided on site size, primary and secondary purposes of the space, quality and value, access and other site specific information. The surveys were undertaken by the Council Planning Officers who have extensive knowledge of the requirements of open space provision across the District.
- 2.02** The majority of open spaces assessed were 0.2ha or more within or on the fringe of the three main towns of Worksop, Retford and Harworth & Bircotes. But some spaces like allotments, civic spaces and children's play areas may be smaller; these have been included reflecting their specific function and importance to the

open space network. The overall level of provision includes spaces owned by the Council, Parish Councils or in private ownership, but with public access. Therefore, these publicly accessible spaces are the focus of this report as they provide the basis for establishing community needs, appropriate standards of provision as well as securing provision from new development.

2.03 The quality assessment criteria used in 2012 have been used to reflect the principles of the Council's approach to identifying the existing open space network in Bassetlaw. The assessment criteria reflects that of the OSS2012 quality assessment.

2.04 OSS2012 did not include playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities. Their very distinct requirements and standards have been subject to separate assessments; the Bassetlaw Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan (BPPS) 2019¹ and the forthcoming Bassetlaw Built Sports Facilities Study; and will continue to be monitored separately. Only publicly accessible smaller playing pitches that do not meet the dimension requirements listed in the BPPS 2019, e.g. Tommy Simpson Recreation ground in Harworth and are used for informal recreation by the community will continue to be assessed as part of the OSS.

2. Open Spaces: 2020 Key Findings

OPEN SPACE KEY FINDINGS 2020	
QUANTITY AND LEVEL OF PROVISION	
Total number of open spaces in Bassetlaw	321
Total area of accessible open space	488.41 ha
Total area of open space in Worksop	170.20 ha
Total area of open space in Retford	107.96 ha

¹ For more information please see [Bassetlaw District Council Website](#)

OPEN SPACE KEY FINDINGS 2020		
Total area of open space in Harworth & Bircotes	26.28 ha	
Total area of open space in the five large rural settlements (Blyth, Carlton in Lindrick, Langold/Hodsock, Misterton and Tuxford)	84.60 ha	
Total area of open space in Small Rural Settlements ²	96.02 ha	
Total number of spaces over 0.2ha	253	
Total accessible open space/1000 population	4.97 ha/1000	
QUALITY AND VALUE: ACCESSIBLE SPACE		
No of high value sites	273	
No of medium value sites	46	
No of low value sites	1	
Sites of 1 star quality	4	
Sites of 2 star quality	27	
Sites of 3 star quality	85	
Sites of 4 star quality	158	
Sites of 5 star quality	46	
TYPES OF OPEN SPACE PROVISION BY PRIMARY PURPOSE		
Allotments	36	33.16 ha
Cemeteries/Churchyards	84	56.01 ha

² See the emerging Local Plan for the list of Small Rural Settlements

OPEN SPACE KEY FINDINGS 2020		
Children and young people's space	64	16.93 ha
Natural and semi natural greenspace	21	186.12 ha
Amenity greenspace	104	119.43 ha
Parks and gardens	4	70.73 ha
Civic Spaces	8	3.06 ha

3. Open Space Typologies

3.01 The types of open space included in this report can be found in the table below.

Typology	Primary purpose	Examples
Parks and gardens	Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events.	Includes high profile strategic sites such as Kings Park, Retford; Langold Country Park ; and The Canch, Worksop.
Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	Wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.	Includes prominent sites such as Daneshill Lakes and Lady Lee Quarry
Amenity greenspace	Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas.	Mown grassed areas including recreation grounds and smaller sites within areas of housing
Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, MUGAs, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.	Many of these are found within larger parks or spaces such as King's Park in Retford or The Canch, Worksop.

Typology	Primary purpose	Examples
Allotments	Opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.	Areas for growing produce such as Stubbing Lane Allotments, Worksop and Leafield Allotments, Retford.
Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds	Quiet contemplation and burial of the dead, often linked to the promotion of wildlife conservation and biodiversity.	Includes active burial provision such as cemeteries and closed sites like churchyards
Civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians	Providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.	Includes sites such as Retford Market Place, Retford and Worksop Market Place, Worksop.

3.02 These typologies help divide the spaces into discrete categories to provide a meaningful analysis of the data collected. A number of open spaces perform several functions; each can have up to two typologies reflecting the different functions that are provided within one space. The primary purpose of the space is its main type, for example the primary purpose of Langold Country Park is categorised under parks and gardens, but it also provides a valuable function as natural and semi natural greenspace (secondary purpose).

3.03 The report has only looked at primary functions of each open space. However, it is important to note that if Secondary functions are included for some of the typologies; available provision would be significantly higher. For example, in the case of semi/natural greenspace, including the secondary function would increase the overall supply to 279.06. That is an additional 92.94 ha in that category. This is not insignificant so to avoid double counting, will be taken into account when determining the needs for additional natural and semi natural greenspace.

3.1 Quantity of Open Space

3.21 Overall there is 488.41 ha of open space on 321 spaces in the District; 253 spaces are 0.2ha or more. Provision of accessible open space varies across the District; 57% of the District's total open space supply is divided between two of the main towns. Worksop has the most open space provision with 170.20 hectares; around 35% of the District's total. Retford houses 107.96 ha of open space which is approximately 22% of the entire District's open space provision.

3.22 Provision elsewhere sits within this range (see table below). In the Rural Area, out of the five Large Rural Settlements identified in the hierarchy, Langold/Hodsock has the most provision; 58.85 ha over 7 spaces. This is because of Langold Country Park (54.27 ha) which makes up 92% of the overall number. In comparison Blyth has the lowest provision with 2.85 ha over 7 spaces.

3.23 New maps showing open space provision per different typologies for the five Large Rural Settlements (Blyth, Carlton in Lindrick, Langold/Hodsock, Misterton and Tuxford) and the three main towns (Worksop, Retford and Harworth & Bircotes) have been produced (see Appendices 1-4).

Settlement	No of open spaces	Total Area (ha)	Provision per 1000 people (ha)
WORKSOP	90	170.20	4.46
RETFORD	56	107.96	4.74
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES	18	26.28	3.26
BLYTH	7	2.85	1.26
CALRTON IN LINDRICK	11	10.43	1.86
LANGOLD/HODSOCK	7	58.85	22.29

Settlement	No of open spaces	Total Area (ha)	Provision per 1000 people (ha)
MISTERTON	9	7.76	3.13
TUXFORD	9	4.82	1.08
SMALL RURAL SETTLEMENTS	114	97.83	4.55
TOTAL IN BASSETLAW DISTRICT:	321	488.41 ha	4.97 ha/1000

3.2 Standards of Provision

3.31 A key output of this report is to up date the standards for open space required by 2037. Standards help analyse the adequacy of, and gaps in provision at District wide and locality level, in particular where additional provision of specific types of space will need to be secured to meet the OSS targets by 2037 (in the draft Bassetlaw Local Plan³). In some cases where provision of a particular type of space exceeds community needs the redesign of a space to an alternative function or change in management approach of a space to enhance multifunctionality can help reduce deficits in other types of open space provision. New provision through development can also address gaps in a locality.

3.32 To accurately assess community needs the standards for publicly accessible space should be considered thoroughly. The overall total area of open space is equivalent to 4.97 ha per 1000 people in Bassetlaw, all publicly accessible. In the Main Towns (Worksop, Retford and Harworth & Bircotes) there is an average of around 4 ha/1000 people. This number is smaller than that of the open space provision in the five Large Rural Settlements (Blyth, Carlton in Lindrick, Langold/Hodsock, Misterton and Tuxford) which is on

³ Please view the Bassetlaw Local Plan on [Bassetlaw District Council Website](#)

average around 2 ha/1000 people, with the exception of Langold/Hodsock. Although current provision exceeds the 2012 target of 3.78 ha of open space/1000 people it is expected to fluctuate up to 2037. New spaces may be added, while existing spaces could be partly/wholly redeveloped to improve the quality of spaces elsewhere in the locality.

3.33 The availability of different kinds of publicly accessible open space varies across the District. In terms of Parks and Gardens, the District has four parks in Worksop, Retford, Langold and small garden in Tuxford. These are excellent quality and highly valued which not only fulfil a strategic role providing for a variety of open space functions for visitors from further afield but also provide everyday open space functions for local residents. There are some parts of the District with more limited access to a park. But because of Bassetlaw's rural nature it is not appropriate to expect park availability to cover the District so new parks will only be provided where there is a critical mass of residents to support the space. Instead, the OSS recommends improving the quality of a range of smaller spaces to provide a variety of park type functions for the local community.

3.34 In terms of Children's Play area provision, most settlements in the District meet local needs. Only Worksop, Retford and Blyth have a slight under provision by 0.04ha/1000 people, which is expected to be addressed through new provision over the plan period. Provision in Small Rural Settlements has a surplus of 0.12 ha/1000 people but this is appropriate to ensure children have access to play close to home.

3.35 Retford, the District's Small Rural Settlements and Langold/Hodsock have a good supply of semi/natural open space. In Langold, this is attributed to the Country Park (its secondary purpose is a semi/natural open space). As a strategic space, Langold Country Park has a wide catchment, so meets the needs of other adjoining localities, such as Carlton in Lindrick, helping to address the quantitative undersupply that exists in that Parish. New larger natural/semi natural greenspace will only be provided where there is a critical mass of residents to support the space, such as through a new settlement or strategic site. Instead, the OSS recommends

improving the quality of a range of smaller spaces to improve the biodiversity value for the local community.

Analysis Area	Parks and Gardens		Amenity Greenspace		Children's Play areas		Allotments		Semi/Natural	
CURRENT PROVISION STANDARD Ha/1000 population	0.61		1.03		0.14		0.28		2.40	
	Current provision	+/-	Current provision	+/-	Current provision	+/-	Current provision	+/-	Current provision	+/-
Worksop	0.10	-0.51	1.63	0.60	0.10	-0.04	0.35	0.07	1.98	-0.41
Retford	0.51	-0.10	0.47	-0.57	0.10	-0.04	0.44	0.16	2.52	0.12
Harworth & Bircotes	0	-0.61	0.86	-0.18	0.15	0.01	0.03	-0.25	1.90	-0.49
Blyth	0	-0.61	0.64	-0.39	0.10	-0.04	0.11	-0.17	0	-2.40
Langold/Hodsock	20.56	19.95	0.31	-0.72	0.19	0.05	0.87	0.59	20.56	18.16
Carlton in Lindrick	0	-0.61	1.50	0.47	0.15	0.01	0	-0.28	0	-2.40
Misterton	0	-0.61	0.35	-0.69	0.18	0.04	0.04	-0.24	1.98	-0.42
Tuxford	0.01	-0.60	0.45	-0.59	0.20	0.06	0.13	-0.15	0.01	-2.39
Small Rural Settlements	0	-0.61	0.65	-0.39	0.26	0.12	0.15	-0.13	2.54	0.14

3.3 Quality of Open Space

3.41 The quality of each open space was assessed against a range of criteria considered important to the purpose and aspirations for each open space type. The cleanliness and maintenance of each space was scored as well as other key issues like the amount and condition of street furniture including litter bins, seats and equipment, condition of grass, plants and footpaths/cycleways as well as biodiversity value. For specific types of provision like churchyards categories were added like condition of headstones.

3.42 The score was converted from a percentage to a quality star rating system (1* is the lowest, 3* medium and 5* highest) to enable comparison between open space types (see below). This approach provides a benchmark against which the existing condition and need for enhancement of existing spaces can be measured. It helps the Council and its partners identify spaces which require improvement or which require a review of their design and management.

Open Space Type (primary purpose)	1*Spaces	2*Spaces	3*Spaces	4*Spaces	5*Spaces	TOTAL:
Allotments	1	0	18	14	3	36
Cemeteries/Churchyards	0	9	25	38	12	84
Children's Play area	0	2	7	35	20	64
Amenity Greenspace	0	12	28	57	7	104
Civic Space	0	0	1	5	2	8
Parks and Gardens	0	0	1	0	3	4
Semi/Natural	3	4	5	9	0	21
TOTAL:	4	27	85	158	46	321

3.43 Overall, in broad terms the quality of publicly accessible spaces has improved since OSS2012. Key results for quality are:

- 64% of spaces were above average quality (either 4 or 5 stars), with only 10% of spaces below average quality, a decrease since OSS2012 (35% of spaces);
- Children and young people's spaces have seen considerable improvements; 86% are above average quality reflecting the significant Council commitment to provide and maintain high quality play areas;
- The majority of the publicly accessible 1* spaces are semi/natural open spaces, the exception is The Milnercroft (enclosed) Allotment site (REF123). It has limited public use, as the site is quite low quality. The long term management and maintenance arrangements of these spaces will be re-considered to encourage positive use;
- 38% of 2* spaces are informal recreation grounds that have the potential to be improved. 28% of the 2* spaces are churchyards/ cemeteries that were overgrown or had loose headstones at the time of the survey and could also be improved by some minimal maintenance. These do have more limited functionality which means that there is a smaller scope for improvement or for the addition of a secondary function.
- 31% of natural and semi natural spaces are below average quality. Several are relatively new spaces requiring time for biodiversity features to establish which should over time improve their quality. Lack of signage and limited access for disabled members of the community were issues that will be investigated and where appropriate addressed through site specific management plans.

3.5 Value of Open Space

3.51 Value is different to quality; a space can be highly valued to the locality and the community even if it is low quality. Each space was given a value rating from low (red), medium (amber) and high (green) to reflect:

- Access: publicly accessible spaces are higher value than spaces with limited access;
- Similarity of provision: scarcity of other similar open spaces types in the locality would generate a higher value;
- Type of use: a well used space by people and wildlife has a higher value;
- Character and distinctiveness: spaces with protected trees, protected species or providing the setting for a listed building are higher value.

3.52 85% of spaces are high value; most of these are Children's Play area, Allotments or Churchyards. 100% of parks and gardens are very highly valued which demonstrates that multifunctional open spaces such as Langold Country Park if provided, will be valued and used positively by the community. This demonstrates the importance of the provision of accessible, multifunctional open spaces in the District. 100% of Children's Play areas are either medium or high value, which demonstrates that these make a significant contribution towards the health and well-being and social development of children and young people. Maintaining appropriate provision will continue to be essential.

Open Space Type (primary purpose)	Low	Medium	High	TOTAL:
Allotments	1	0	35	36
Cemeteries/Churchyards	0	33	51	84
Children's Play area	0	0	64	64
Amenity Greenspace	0	12	112	124
Civic Space	0	1	7	8
Parks and Gardens	0	0	4	4

Open Space Type (primary purpose)	Low	Medium	High	TOTAL:
Semi/Natural	0	11	10	21
TOTAL:	1	46	273	321

3.53 The only low value space is the enclosed Milnercroft Allotment site (REF123) as the allotments have limited public use by surrounding residents only, and the site is in poor condition. There are also several other allotment sites in full use nearby. Many semi/natural open spaces have been classed as average value. This is because many contain establishing biodiversity features so are not meeting their full value yet. Many amenity spaces replicate functions of nearby spaces and lack multifunctionality and facilities which other spaces have, so have lower value to the community.

3.54 Only 1 space is of low value and 1 star quality (Milnercroft Allotment site, REF123) and is unlikely to be making a positive contribution to the community's quality of life. Re-Use may be appropriate. The full breakdown of the different quality spaces per typology can be found in Section 4.

3.55 23% of high value spaces are either average or below average quality (2 or 3 stars). However these are either:

- Semi/natural open spaces like Scrooby Road in Harworth. In locations like this one, enhancements could be made for example: as part of comprehensive management and maintenance regimes which will see quality and use increase;
- Children's Play area such as the Skate Park in King's Park, Retford where the quality (3 stars) reflects the skate park is in a high demand in terms of use;

- Amenity green space, which in some locations has limited multifunctionality e.g. landscaping belt that could be enhanced through investment.

Quality					
Value	*	**	***	****	*****
Low	1	0	0	0	0
Medium	3	22	30	0	0
High	0	4	57	157	47

3.4 Accessibility to Open Space

3.61 The accessibility standard defines the maximum distance that users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of space. This standard is new and has been added as additional assessment criteria due to responses from elected members, as well as concerns raised by the community in the 2019 consultation of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan. The Council believes that it is crucial for residents and communities of Bassetlaw District to have access to a range of multi-functional open spaces to meet their needs. This position is further reinforced by policies in the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan⁴.

3.62 Accessibility standards help analyse the adequacy of provision at locality level and help identify gaps in provision, in particular where additional types of space will need to be secured to meet the OSS targets by 2037. Where barriers like railway lines exist the catchment areas have been adjusted.

3.63 Within the District, open space will be maintained and enhanced to achieve 4.56ha per 1000 people of publicly accessible open space to

⁴ Please refer to the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan at: [Bassetlaw District Council Website](#)

comprise the following accessibility standards of provision for each type of open space:

- 0.61ha of parks per 1000 people within 1000m walk of a park so that all spaces achieve at least 5* quality standard;
- 0.14ha of children's play space per 1000 children within a 10 minute walk of a play space so that all spaces achieve are at least 4* quality standard;
- 1.03ha of amenity greenspace per 1000 people within a 10 minute walk of amenity greenspace, so that all spaces achieve at least 3* quality standard, and 75% are 4* quality;
- 2.40ha of natural and semi natural greenspace per 1000 people within a 15 minute walk of a natural greenspace so that all space achieve at least 3* quality standard, and 25% are 4* quality;
- 0.28ha of allotment space per 1000 people so all allotments achieve at least 3* quality standard.

4. Type of Open Space

4.01 There is also variation in provision between open space types. Since OSS2012 the number and total area of publicly accessible open spaces has increased, 11 additional spaces (140.41 ha) have been identified. A summary of accessible provision is set out below.

Accessible Open Space	No of spaces 2020	No of space 2012	Total Site Area (ha) 2020	Total Site Area (ha) 2012
Allotments	36	37	33.16	38.56
Cemeteries/Churchyards	84	88	56.01	57.30
Children's Play area	64	66	16.93	15.04

Accessible Open Space	No of spaces 2020	No of space 2012	Total Site Area (ha) 2020	Total Site Area (ha) 2012
Amenity Greenspace	104	110	119.43	114.05
Civic Space	8	8	3.06	3.06
Parks and Gardens	4	5	70.73	70.93
Semi/Natural	21	17	186.12	112.96
TOTAL:	321	330	488.41 ha	348 ha

4.02 To meet community needs and address gaps in provision a redesign or change in management approach has seen the primary purpose of several spaces change to more appropriate provision. Further details for each open space type are set out in section 4.1 below. In summary these include:

- ***Parks and Gardens:*** there is one less site compared to the OSS2012 report. This is due to Shiplside Memorial/ Haselhurst Gardens in Worksop being re-classified as amenity greenspace. However, the Pocket Park, Tuxford does meet the definition of a park so was added to the provision which meant that the total provision of parks and gardens only decreased marginally.
- ***Children and Young People's provision:*** There are two less sites compared to the OSS2012 report. This is due to the fact that two play areas have become amenity greenspace due to poor quality equipment being removed such as Thackery Close site in Worksop. The Appendices includes all maps regarding Children's Play Area provision in the District, which shows all spaces that remain appropriate in terms of accessibility.
- ***Amenity Greenspace:*** increased by 14 spaces; some are open spaces that have changed typologies to amenity greenspace such as land at Keyes Court in Mattersey Thorpe and land at Winston Green in Mattersey. There also was an increase in the

overall hectares in amenity greenspace provision. This is due to the fact that many site boundaries such as the one at land West of The Oval, Ordsall in Retford have been reviewed.

- **Cemeteries/churchyards:** There are four less sites compared to OSS2012. This is due to the fact that these sites are now in private ownership and so are not publicly accessible.
- **Civic Spaces:** no new open spaces have been developed since OSS2012.
- **Allotments:** no new open space have been developed since OSS2012.
- **Semi/Natural greenspace:** There was an increase by 4 in the amount of sites available with a primary purpose of semi/natural greenspace since the OSS2012 report. But overall, the total amount of semi/natural open space available in the district has increased by 2.5 times since the OSS2012. This reflects the inclusion of sites that have natural/semi natural greenspace as either a primary or secondary function. Unlike other categories semi/natural greenspace provides a significant secondary role in many open spaces, and it is important that this is acknowledged otherwise the amount of open space available for this purpose is not a true reflection of the current position.

TYPES OF OPEN SPACE

4.1 Allotments

- 4.11** Allotments provide sustainable opportunities for the community to grow their own food as well as promoting outdoor exercise and community interaction. 'Grow your own food' is becoming increasingly popular; the Council currently has approximately 138 people on its waiting list (as of August, 2020) for an allotment site. 109 of these are in Retford, the other 29 are in Worksop. Which is a relative improvement from the OSS2012, where there were approximately twice as many people (around 300) on the waiting list.
- 4.12** The National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners (NSALG) suggests a national standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (20 per 2,000 people based on two people per house or one per 100 people). This equates to 0.25 hectares per 1,000 population based on an average plot-size of 250 square metres (0.025 hectares per plot).
- 4.13** Bassetlaw based on its current population (116,839) meets the NSALG standard. Using this suggested standard, the minimum amount of allotment provision for Bassetlaw is 29.08 hectares. Existing provision of 33.16 hectares therefore exceeds this guideline.

Quantity and Type

- 4.14** There are 36 sites classified as allotments in Bassetlaw, equating to 33.16 hectares. Allotments have a specific function so no site size threshold has been applied. As such all known provision is identified and included within the audit. In addition, it is understood that some allotment plots (22) are also situated within the Broad Gores natural and semi-natural site in Claborough. This site is not identified as a formal site due to the fact that at the time of surveying information about the site location was not available.
- 4.15** Of these 36 sites, 28 are in the Main Towns, 4 are in the Large Rural Settlements and 4 are in the Small Rural Settlements. Provision remains constant across the District but is unevenly distributed. The majority of provision (75%) is shared between Worksop and Retford as a result of historical associations with

land and industry; in contrast both the large rural and small rural settlements make up 11% of the total allotments provision for the District. But there are variations within each category. At a more detailed level, there are two privately owned allotment sites at Carlton in Lindrick (that are not detailed in this report due to its ownership) and Misterton have more limited provision.

- 4.16** It is not appropriate to have quality and accessibility standards for allotments as the factors that control provision vary across the District. The Council will continue to work with partners particularly the Parish Councils to improve the provision of allotments. This may include changing management to encourage better use of existing stock as well as identifying new spaces for allotment provision.

Quality and Value

- 4.17** By nature, allotments are managed more intensively than other spaces, but their overall quality contributes to the District's landscape and 'sense of place'. So, new quality surveys were specifically designed to assess the qualities important to creating a high quality allotment space. 47% of spaces were classified as 4* or above quality including Harworth's Bawtry Road Allotments, the Rufford Avenue Allotments in Retford and the Shireoaks Common Allotments in Worksop.

- 4.18** Only 1 space is below average quality. This is the Millnercroft (enclosed) Allotment site (REF123) which has access limited to the surrounding residents and is also low quality. The Council will work with partners to consider the long-term approach to the management of this site.

- 4.19** In terms of value, all spaces are regarded as either medium or high value to the community as it allows local residents to grow their own produce. There is demand for allotment spaces across the District which reinforces this view.

- 4.110** Furthermore, allotments encourages interaction between residents creating a sense of place and belonging in areas they are placed at. However, should an allotment site become available for an

alternative use, as with all types of open space, re- provision would be required where there is a deficit in that locality.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	11	4*: 3 3*: 8	High: 11
Retford	16	5*: 2 4*: 11 3*: 2 1*: 1	High: 15 Low: 1
Harworth & Bircotes	1	5*: 1	High: 1
Blyth	1	3*: 1	High: 1
Carlton in Lindrick	0	-	-
Langold/Hodsock	1	3*: 1	High: 1
Misterton	1	3*: 1	High: 1
Tuxford	1	3*: 1	High: 1
Small Rural Settlements	4	3*: 4	High: 4

ALLOTMENTS

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
1	Spur Crescent Allotments	0.852	***	
25	Bracebridge Avenue Allotments	0.2916	***	
37	Cheapside Allotments	2.011	****	
71	Gateford Road Allotments	0.8343	***	
72	Claylands Ave. Allotments	3.312	***	
167	Keats Crescent Allotments	0.5062	***	
194	Shireoaks Common Allotments	2.1029	****	
273	Stubbing Lane Allotments 2+3	3.6362	***	
274	Stubbing Lane Allotments 1	1.2949	***	
305	Valley Road Allotments	0.3178	***	
314	Water Meadows Allotments	1.0138	****	
		TOTAL: 16.17 ha		
RETFORD				
2	Albert Road Allotments	0.281	****	
16	Leafield Allotments, Retford	0.315	*****	
23	Bolham Lane Allotments	1.6109	****	
50	Cricket Field Lane Allotments	0.6158	****	
86	Grove Road Allotments	0.7285	****	
123	Milnercroft (enclosed) Allotments	0.4813	*	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
134	Manvers Road Allotments	0.4285	****	
149	Milner Croft Allotments	0.2802	****	
152	Leafield/Denman Allotments	1.2127	***	
182	Rufford Ave Allotments	1.4423	*****	
270	Strawberry Road Allotments	0.7209	****	
271	Newtown Allotments	0.2071	****	
307	Albert Road Allotments	0.3255	****	
313	Water Lane Allotments	0.9241	****	
333	Whinney Moor Lane Allotments	0.189	***	
340	Westfield Allotments	0.5626	****	
		TOTAL: 10.33 ha		
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES				
20	Land off Bawtry Road Allotments	0.2205	*****	
		TOTAL: 0.22 ha		
BLYTH				
173	Land Behind High Street Allotments	0.2385	***	
		TOTAL: 0.24 ha		
LANGOLD/HODSOCK				
90	Harrison Drive Allotments	2.2734	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
		TOTAL: 2.27 ha		
MISTERTON				
374	Misterton Community Gardens	0.1034	***	
		TOTAL: 0.10 ha		
TUXFORD				
126	Lodge Lane allotments	0.5986	***	
		TOTAL: 0.60 ha		
SMALL RURAL SETTLEMENTS				
43	Cockshut Lane Allotments, Nether Langwith	0.9779	***	
169	Kitchen Terrace Allotments, Nether Langwith	0.9329	***	
301	Kirke Close Allotments, East Markham	1.1085	***	
369	Royds Crescent Allotments, Rhodesia	0.2112	***	
		TOTAL: 3.23 ha		

4.2 Cemeteries/Churchyards

4.21 The District's cemeteries, disused churchyards and burial grounds provide space for burial, quiet contemplation and informal recreation but are becoming increasingly valuable as a biodiversity resource. Many contain well established trees and shrubs, within semi natural areas for wildlife to breed.

- 4.22** All publicly accessible spaces make a notable contribution to the character of the District and are therefore highly valued; especially as many of the churchyards are included in the Pilgrim trails throughout the District. All Saints Church in Babworth and St Wilfred's Church in Scrooby are both included as attractions on the Classic Pilgrim and Mayflower Tour each year, creating a distinctive sense of place within the urban area and the villages.
- 4.23** There are 84 sites classified as cemeteries/churchyards, equating to over 56 hectares of provision in Bassetlaw. No site size threshold has been applied and as such all identified provision is included within the audit. Most of the sites are located in Rural Bassetlaw, however provision exists in Worksop (8%) and Retford (8%).

Quantity and Type

- 4.24** Provision remains constant across the District; 15 spaces are within the Main Towns, 9 are found within the Large Rural Settlements and the majority of supply (60 sites) are found in Small Rural Settlements, pepper potted around rural Bassetlaw. Distribution therefore is uneven reflecting historic associations with churches, religious buildings and land.
- 4.25** No accessibility or quantity standard has been identified for this type of space as the factors that control provision will vary. The high quality standard recognises that these are cherished high quality spaces and a focus of community pride. St Lukes Church, Worksop; St Barnabas Church, Ranskill and St John the Baptist Church, East Markham meet the high quality standard.

Quality and Value

- 4.26** 11% (9 sites) fall below average quality; all of these are located in the rural area. The 2* quality is due to limited street furniture and limited access for all across the space. 100% of the District's cemeteries/churchyards are either medium or high value spaces reflecting their heritage and biodiversity value to the surrounding community.
- 4.27** As the population grows it may be necessary to provide more space; in the long term extension sites might need to be allocated

in the Local Plan. In the meantime it is essential that the potential of the existing resource is enhanced and maximised.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	7	5*:1 4*: 3 3*: 2	High: 5 Medium: 2
Retford	7	5*: 1 4*: 5 3*: 1	High: 6 Medium: 1
Harworth & Bircotes	2	4*: 1 3*: 1	High: 1 Medium: 1
Blyth	2	4*: 1 3*: 1	High: 1 Medium: 1
Carlton in Lindrick	1	2*: 1	High: 1
Langold/Hodsock	2	5*: 2	High: 2
Misterton	2	4*: 2	High: 2
Tuxford	2	5*: 1 4*: 1	High: 2

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Small Rural Settlements	59	5*: 7 4*: 24 3*: 20 2*: 8	High: 31 Medium: 28

CHURCHYARDS/ CEMETERIES

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				
88	Hannah Park Cemetery	2.4689	***	
180	Retford Road Cemetery	6.2011	****	
210	St Anne's Church	0.1586	****	
227	St John's Church, Gateford Road	0.1591	***	
230	St Lukes Church, Shireoaks Road	1.1844	*****	
241	St Mary's Catholic Church, Worksop	0.2095	****	
334	Worksop Priory, Priorswell Road	2.001	****	
		TOTAL: 12.38 ha		
RETFORD				
3	All Hallows Church, Ordsall	1.7364	****	
154	North Road Cemetery	12.632	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
177	Land at Lime Grove (Retford Baptist Church)	0.0325	*****	
228	St Joseph Roman Cathlic Church	0.5648	***	
243	St Michael the Archangel Church	0.179	****	
261	St Saviours Church, Welham Road	0.3382	****	
262	St Swithuns Church, Retford	0.2284	****	
		TOTAL: 15.71 ha		
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES				
7	All Saints Church, Harworth	0.7777	***	
295	Tickhill Road	1.0105	****	
		TOTAL: 1.79 ha		
BLYTH				
206	Spital Road Cemetery	0.3786	***	
237	St Mary and St Martin Church	0.563	****	
		TOTAL: 0.94 ha		
CARLTON IN LINDRICK				
226	St Johns Church, Church Lane	1.126	**	
		TOTAL: 1.13 ha		
LANGOLD/HODSOCK				

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
59	Doncaster Road Cemetery	0.865	*****	
229	St Luke's Church, Church Street	0.0972	*****	
		TOTAL: 0.96 ha		
MISTERTON				
10	All Saints Church, Misterton	0.5119	****	
93	Haxey Road Cemetery	0.941	****	
		TOTAL: 1.45 ha		
TUXFORD				
151	Newark Road Cemetery	0.604	*****	
245	St Nicholas Church, Tuxford	0.5359	****	
		TOTAL: 1.14 ha		
SMALL RURAL SETTLEMENTS				
4	All Saints Church, Eaton	0.1699	****	
5	All Saints Church, Mattersey	0.1703	****	
6	All Saints Church, West Markham	0.3356	****	
8	All Saints Church, South Leverton	0.6166	****	
9	All Saints Church, Beckingham	0.1813	***	
12	All Saints Church, Rampton	0.3445	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
31	Burial Ground, Brotts Road, Normanton on Trent	0.0989	**	
39	Church Lane Cemetery, Clayworth	0.1961	**	
40	Church Street Cemetery, Beckingham	0.294	**	
44	Cockshut Lane Cemetery, Nether Langwith	0.4933	***	
82	Graveyard, Eastgate, Normanton on Trent	0.1654	**	
83	Great North Road Cemetery, Ranskill	0.516	*****	
99	High Street Cemetery, Elkesley	0.1996	*****	
103	Holy Trinity Church, Everton	0.2966	***	
142	Mattersey Road Cemetery, Everton	0.3921	***	
146	Mill Hill Cemetery, Gringley on the Hill	0.3886	****	
147	Mill Lane Cemetery, Walkeringham	0.2023	****	
213	St Barnabas, Ranskill	0.0549	*****	
214	St Bartholomew, Sutton cum Lound	0.746	****	
217	St Giles, Carburton	0.2053	***	
218	St Giles Church, Elkesley	0.2276	****	
219	Church of Gregory, Fledborough	0.2768	***	
220	St Helen Church, Grove	0.2393	***	
221	St Helen's R C Church, Oldcotes	0.7122	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
222	St John the Baptist Church, Treswell	0.4221	****	
223	St John the Baptist Church, Clarborough	0.6809	****	
224	St John the Baptist, East Markham	0.8203	*****	
233	St Martins Church, Ranby	0.1331	****	
234	St Martins Church, Bole	0.1974	***	
235	St Martins Church, North Leverton	0.6945	***	
238	St Mary Magdalene Church, Gringley Road, Walkeringham	0.4926	***	
239	St Marys Church, West Stockwith	0.0215	***	
240	St Marys Church, Cuckney	1.1526	****	
242	St Mathews Church, Tuxford Road, Normanton on Trent	0.1441	***	
244	St Nicholas Church, Littleborough	0.1068	**	
246	St Nicholas Church, Askham	0.2544	****	
248	St Oswalds Church, Dunham-on-Trent	0.6802	**	
249	St Pauls Church, Church Lane, West Drayton	0.2158	****	
250	St Peter & St Pauls Church, North Wheatley	0.1849	****	
251	St Peter & St Pauls Church, Sturton le Steeple	0.6333	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
252	St Peter and St Pauls Church, Gringley on the Hill	0.3601	***	
253	St Peters Church, Headon	0.2308	*****	
254	St Peters Church, Gamston	0.3375	***	
255	St Peters Church, Hayton	0.4153	**	
256	St Peters Church, Laneham	0.3756	***	
257	St Peters Church, Bothamsall	0.1957	*****	
258	Church of our Lady and St Peter, Stokeham	0.1115	****	
259	St Peters Church, East Drayton	0.3971	****	
260	St Peters Church, Clayworth	0.2074	**	
263	St Wilfred's Church, Scrooby	0.3344	***	
264	St Wilfrids Church, Low Marnham	0.3457	****	
265	St Winifreds Church, Holbeck	0.4523	*****	
275	Sturton Road Cemetery, South Wheatley	0.4746	***	
294	Thorpe Road Cemetery, Mattersey	0.6242	****	
297	Top Road Cemetery, Misson	0.2904	****	
335	Bothamsall Cemetery, Bothamsall	0.0987	***	
383	All Saints Church, Babworth	0.2787	****	
384	St John's Church, Scofton	0.4015	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
386	Middle Street Church, Misson	0.2148	****	
		TOTAL: 20.50 ha		

4.3 Children and Young People's Provision

4.31 Traditionally children's play areas included equipped play spaces but increasingly adventure play and natural play areas are considered important alternatives. Promoting creative play and managed risk is a key part of a child's development helping them interact with others as well as helping to reduce obesity and anti social behaviour.

4.32 Considerable work has taken place to improve play spaces in Bassetlaw to meet these aspirations and to ensure that appropriate provision is available for all toddlers and children close to home. Provision for young people is equally important; facilities like skate parks, basketball hoops, kickabout areas and teenage shelters are increasingly common in open spaces.

Quantity and Type

4.33 64 spaces in total are allocated for children's and Young People's provision throughout the District. Since OSS2012, two spaces have been lost, one site in Worksop has changed primary purpose from children's play to amenity greenspace following removal of the equipment and the other site is now classed as a Playing Pitch covered under the Playing Pitch Strategy. However, there is an additional 1.89 ha of play areas that have been gained in the District. Some examples of new Children's Play Area provision include the Elkesley Play Area in Elkesley (REF364), Darlton Road Play Area in Darlton (REF55.1), Leverton Road Play Area in Retford (REF363) and Long Fellow Drive Play Area in Worksop (REF80.1).

4.34 Out of all the spaces 40% of them can be found in the 3 towns of the District; 22% (14 sites) of the provision can be found in Worksop, 13% (8 sites) is attributed to Retford and 5% (3 sites) can be found in Harworth & Bircotes. When it comes to rural Bassetlaw, the Large Rural Settlements (Blyth, Carlton in Lindrick, Langold/Hodsock, Misterton and Tuxford) make up another 20% (13 sites) of the overall District's provision, whereas Small Rural Settlements account for 40% (26 sites).

Quality and Value

4.35 Overall there has been an improvement in quality from 2012; 97% of spaces are now of average or above average (3* and above) quality compared to the 94% figure in 2012. This is as a result of developer contributions and investment from partners, to secure equipped spaces for children of all ages in spaces like The Canch in Worksop, King's Park in Retford and Langold Country Park in Langold, resulting in quality improvements from 3* to a higher quality 5*. The two spaces that are below average quality (2*) are in the rural area and are rated low in quality due to the fact that they have limited equipment on site and these could benefit from improvements.

4.36 100% are highly valued spaces due to the high level of use by children and Young People.

4.37 There are some gaps in provision of Children's play areas throughout the three towns. See Appendices for this.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	14	5*:3 4*: 11	High: 14

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Retford	8	5*: 4 4*: 2 3*: 2	High: 8
Harworth & Bircotes	3	5*: 2 4*: 1	High: 3
Blyth	2	4*: 2	High: 2
Carlton in Lindrick	3	4*: 1 3*: 1 2*: 1	High: 3
Langold/Hodsock	2	5*: 2	High: 2
Misterton	3	5*: 1 4*: 2	High: 3
Tuxford	3	5*: 1 4*: 1 3*: 1	High: 3
Small Rural Settlements	26	5*: 7 4*: 15 3*: 3 2*: 1	High: 26

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				
47	York Place Play Area	0.1215	****	
65.1	Farr Park Play Area	0.1835	****	
80.1	Long Fellow Drive Play Area	0.1311	****	
104	Keswick Road	0.7425	****	
140	Mary Street	0.4022	*****	
280.1	The Canch Water Play Area	0.2094	*****	
280.2	The Canch Play Area	0.0787	*****	
280.3	The Canch Skatepark & MUGA	0.4217	****	
306.1	Valley Road Play Area	0.0185	****	
315.1	Wensleydale Play Area	0.0125	****	
326.1	Wingfield Avenue Play Area	0.4925	****	
355	Shreswbury Road Play Area	1.1479	****	
356	Raymoth Lane	0.6995	****	
368	Sandhill Street Play Area	0.237	****	
		TOTAL: 4.90 ha		
RETFORD				
77.1	Goosemoor Lane Play Area	0.088	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
107.1	Kings Park Play Area	0.2281	*****	
107.2	Kings Park Skate Park	0.0319	***	
107.3	Kings Park MUGA	0.0541	*****	
117.1	The Oval Play Area, Ordsall	0.028	*****	
269.1	Strawberry Road Play Area	0.0244	*****	
362	Hallcroft	1.3118	****	
363	Leverton Road Play Area	0.512	****	
		TOTAL: 2.28 ha		
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES				
200.1	Snipe Park Play Area	0.1477	****	
296.1	Tommy Simpson MUGA	1.0194	*****	
381	Thompson Avenue Play Area, Harworth	0.0645	*****	
		TOTAL: 1.23 ha		
BLYTH				
205	Spital Road	0.1503	****	
28	Briber Road/ Sherwood Crescent play area	0.0711	****	
		TOTAL: 0.22 ha		
CARLTON IN LINDRICK				

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
21	Beckett Avenue/West Ramsdon Crecent	0.7703	****	
124	Limetree Avenue	0.0385	**	
318.1	West of Village Hall Play Area	0.0476	***	
		TOTAL: 0.86 ha		
LANGOLD/HODSOCK				
121.1	Langold Country Park Play Area 1	0.3277	*****	
121.2	Langold Country Park Play Area 2	0.1251	*****	
		TOTAL: 0.45 ha		
MISTERTON				
267	Misterton Sports Field Play Area	0.0419	*****	
267.1	Misterton Sports Field Skatepark	0.178	****	
323	Church Meadow	0.2242	****	
		TOTAL: 0.44 ha		
TUXFORD				
41	Newark Road / Clark Lane	0.3074	*****	
125	Linden Avenue Play Area	0.1898	****	
144.1	Memorial Hall Play Area	0.4164	***	
		TOTAL: 0.91 ha		
SMALL RURAL SETTLEMENTS				

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
22	Blacksmiths Playing Fields Play Area, North Leverton	0.1549	****	
51.1	Cross Street Play Area, Sturton le Steeple	0.074	****	
55.1	Darlington Road Play Area, Darlington	0.1346	****	
56	Denby Drive Play Area	0.1161	****	
63	Elmsmere Drive, Oldcotes	0.1283	***	
66	Finkell Street Play Area, Gringley on the Hill	0.2086	****	
97	High Holbeck Play Area, Holbeck	0.0773	*****	
127	Station Road, Scrooby	0.1975	****	
129	Off Main Street, West Stockwith	0.0828	*****	
130	Norton Play Area, Main Street	0.0803	****	
131	Main Street, Hayton	0.2146	****	
141.1	Mattersey Road Play Area, Ranskill	0.1778	*****	
145	Metcalf Recreation Ground , High Street, Everton	0.0857	*****	
148.1	Millennium Green Play Area, Mattersey	0.2863	****	
168.1	Town Street Play Area, Sutton cum Lound	0.0575	****	
176	Smeath Lane Play Area, Claborough	0.1091	****	
188.1	School Lane Play Area, Cuckney	0.24	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
268	Land at the Junction of Stockwith Road and Mill Baulk Road, Walkeringham	0.0329	***	
303	Tuxford Road, East Markham	0.3721	**	
304.1	Underwood Avenue Play Area, Torworth	0.0523	*****	
310	Village Hall Play Area, Beckingham	0.1798	****	
311	Village Hall, Styrrup Lane, Styrrup	0.1031	****	
329.1	Winston Green Play Area, Mattersey Thorpe	0.0188	*****	
338	Low Pasture Lane, North Wheatley	0.0265	****	
341.1	Daneshill Road Play Area, Lound	0.8361	****	
364	Elkesley Play Area, Elkesley	1.5861	*****	
		TOTAL: 5.63 ha		

4.4 Amenity Greenspace

4.41 Amenity Greenspace sites offer opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhance the appearance of residential or other areas. It includes informal recreation spaces, green spaces in housing areas, village greens and other incidental space. Amenity greenspace provides opportunities for informal recreation like informal play, dog walking and jogging close to home or work. Many larger spaces now incorporate other types of provision like children's play, or semi/natural areas and act as the focus for recreation in the area. Other smaller spaces are found within housing areas and provide recreation space near home.

4.42 It is important to note that whilst a large proportion of provision may be considered as being smaller grassed areas, there is some variation of sites within this typology. For example, small sites such as Hawthorne Close, North Leverton at 0.2 hectares, to the largest, Gateford Common, Ashes Park Avenue, at over 21 hectares. Larger recreation grounds serve a different purpose to smaller grassed areas; often providing an extended range of opportunities for recreational activities due to their size.

4.43 There are 104 amenity greenspace sites in Bassetlaw equivalent to over 119.43 hectares of provision. Sites are most often found within areas of housing and function as informal recreation space or open space along highways providing a visual amenity.

Quantity and Type

4.44 Comprising the majority of all open space; there are 14 additional open spaces (7.13 ha) to the amenity greenspace stock throughout the District in comparison to OSS2012 (110 spaces or 114.05 ha). It is worth noting that some of the additional open space sites were previously listed under another typology but are now classed as amenity greenspace; some examples include Land at Winston Green in Mattersey and Land at Keyes Court in Mattersey Thorpe and land at Thackery Close. The Tommy Simpson Recreation ground was previously identified as a playing pitch but no longer meets the requirements of the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) 2019, so has been incorporated into an extended amenity greenspace.

4.45 In addition several other spaces have either had a boundary change, which helps explain the growth compared to the OSS2012. This includes Land West of The Oval, Ordsall in Retford that had a change to reflect the boundary of the adjoining new housing development

Quality and Value

4.46 7% (7 spaces) are 5* high value spaces reflecting their high use by the community for everyday recreation needs. 89% (92 spaces) are 3* quality and above, and 62% (64 spaces) of the overall supply are 4* quality and above. In comparison to the OSS2012 numbers, there has been significant improvements in the amount

of 3* quality and above space provision District wide (in OSS2012 this was 80% overall). There was also a 50% decrease in low quality spaces throughout Bassetlaw; previously in the OSS2012 20% of the overall provision was 2* or below, whereas currently this number is at 10% (12 spaces) overall.

4.47 It is worthy to note that the extent of 4* and 5* amenity greenspaces varies; some provide valuable landscaping benefits to green the urban town scape such as Plantation Hill in Worksop. Some provide historical significance such as the Old Lock Up and land, Newcastle Street in Tuxford. While others provide a high quality environment to cater for the demands of local informal recreation like the Oasis Centre in Worksop and Spa Common in Retford.

4.48 10% (12) of spaces are 2* quality including The Green at Dunham-on-Trent, Doncaster Road / Lawn Road in Carlton in Lindrick and Grange Avenue Rec. Area in Misterton. At the time of survey all 2* sites required maintenance to improve fencing and surfaces. 6 spaces (5%) were low value and below average quality which are unlikely to be making a positive contribution to the community's quality of life. Improved maintenance and management or the redesign of a space for an alternative function could lead to improvements in the medium to long term.

4.49 Opportunities may exist to improve provision throughout the District through new development; for example in Retford, two housing developments are expected to incorporate new amenity greenspace. Thus, it is anticipated that the amount of space will fluctuate over the next few years.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	46	4*: 29 3*: 15 2*: 2	High: 44 Medium: 2

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Retford	15	5*: 3 4*: 9 3*: 2 2*: 1	High: 14 Medium: 1
Harworth & Bircotes	7	5*: 1 4*: 5 2*: 1	High: 6 Medium: 1
Blyth	2	5*: 1 4*: 1	High: 2
Carlton in Lindrick	7	4*: 2 3*: 3 2*: 2	High: 5 Medium: 2
Langold/Hodsock	2	4*: 1 3*: 1	High: 2
Misterton	2	2*: 2	Medium: 2
Tuxford	1	4*: 1	High: 1
Small Rural Settlements	22	5*: 2 4*: 9 3*: 7 2*: 4	High: 18 Medium: 4

AMENITY GREENSPACE

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				
14	Gateford Common, Ashes Park Avenue	21.4367	****	
15	Raymoth Lane / Avon Way	0.729	***	
26	Bracebridge Avenue	0.7428	***	
33	Carlton Road/Rydal Drive	0.3381	***	
36	Castle Hill, Norfolk St	0.8146	****	
49	Plantation Hill, Cowper Close	0.268	**	
58	Dock Road	0.2156	****	
65	Farr Park, Westgate	6.8008	****	
68	Fulmar Way	0.7286	***	
75	Goldsmith Road	0.7279	****	
80	Oasis Centre	0.328	****	
89	Hannah Park View	0.2393	***	
95	Land off High Hoe Road	0.7505	***	
106	Blackbird Avenue	0.5199	**	
122	Larwood Avenue	0.5899	****	
133	Manton Villas	0.3086	***	
139	Martlet Way	0.2165	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
143	Meadow Lea	0.3703	****	
156	Northumbria Close	0.8157	****	
162	Osberton View	0.4545	****	
165	Plantation Hill	0.5514	****	
170	Priory Church, Cheapside	0.6736	***	
171	Raymoth Lane / Buckingham Rise	0.4692	****	
172	Raymoth Lane / Roundhouse Crescent	0.3759	****	
179	Land off Retford Road	10.5791	***	
183	Sanderling Road	1.8854	****	
187	Sandy Lane	0.5423	****	
195	Shireoaks Common	0.2365	****	
202	South of Pembroke Road	1.7813	***	
203	South Parade	2.7989	****	
208	Spur Crescent	0.4356	****	
211	St Annes Drive	0.3791	****	
277	Talbot Road / Radford Street	1.67	***	
278	Thackery Close	1.6494	****	
279	Princess Margaret Playground / Thackery Close	0.2842	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
290	The Oval, Worksop	0.3587	****	
292	Thievesdale Lane	1.4234	***	
306	Valley Road	1.2391	****	
315	Wensleydale Opp, Colsterdale	0.5306	****	
324	Windmill Lane	1.7493	****	
326	Wingfield Avenue	1.2403	****	
327	Wingfield Avenue/Blyth Road	0.2957	***	
346	Bracebridge	4.9235	****	
347	Kingston Road	0.2319	****	
348	Beaumont Rise	1.3771	****	
366	St Annes Mews, Worksop	0.5005	****	
		TOTAL: 75.21 ha		
RETFORD				
19	Barnes Court	0.3704	**	
35	Baulk Field	2.4915	***	
62	Grounds of Elms Hotel, London Road	0.3868	****	
70	Galway Crescent	0.212	****	
73	Gleneagles Way	0.2365	****	
81	Grange Road	0.3237	***	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
94	Heathfield Gardens	0.2713	****	
117	Land West of The Oval, Ordsall	0.5165	*****	
153	The Oval, Retford	1.095	*****	
174	Land behind the Museum, Grove Street	0.2979	****	
204	Spa Common	0.9417	****	
209	Land off st Andrews Way	0.2201	*****	
269	Strawberry Road	0.8816	****	
300	Trent Street	2.5025	****	
316	Off West Hill Road	0.5102	****	
		TOTAL: 11.26 ha		
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES				
45	Common Lane	0.7068	****	
52	Cumberland Close	0.7669	**	
85	Grosvenor Road	0.539	****	
200	Snipe Park	2.1502	****	
285	The Green, Harworth	0.2395	*****	
293	Thoresby Close	0.9726	****	
296	Tommy Simpson Recreation ground, Land off Bawtry Road	1.7538	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
		TOTAL: 7.13 ha		
BLYTH				
291	High Street, Blyth	0.5564	****	
365	Land behind Primary School, Blyth	0.8964	*****	
		TOTAL: 1.45 ha		
CARLTON IN LINDRICK				
42	Cleveland Close	0.2067	**	
53	Doncaster Road / Lawn Road	5.364	**	
283	The Green, Carlton in Lindrick 1	0.3088	***	
318	Land West of Village Hall	1.1846	****	
377	Grange Close	0.5541	****	
378	Pinfold Drive	0.4233	***	
379	Westmorland Drive	0.3967	***	
		TOTAL: 8.44 ha		
LANGOLD/HODSOCK				
38	Chestnut Road	0.5302	****	
60	Dyscarr Close	0.2968	***	
		TOTAL: 0.83 ha		
MISTERTON				

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
79	Grange Avenue Rec. Area	0.357	**	
161	Youth & Community Field, Wharf Road	0.4677	**	
		TOTAL: 0.83 ha		
TUXFORD				
144	Memorial Hall	2.014	****	
		TOTAL: 2.01 ha		
SMALL RURAL SETTLEMENTS				
48	Dendy Drive / Darwin Drive, Woodbeck	0.8678	***	
51	Cross Street, sturton le Steeple	0.7161	****	
64	High Holbeck, Holbeck	0.2789	****	
67	High Street, Elkesley	1.53	****	
84	Main Street, North Leverton	0.4232	****	
92	Hawthorne Close, North Leverton	0.2003	****	
96	Main Street / Church Lane, Clarborough	0.6063	***	
108	Moor Lane, Rampton	0.4658	**	
109	Outgang Road, Cottam	0.668	***	
110	Littleborough road, Littleborough	0.3405	*****	
116	School Lane, Cuckney	0.8744	***	
148	Millennium Green, Mattersey	0.9781	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
157	West of Broad Gores, Clarborough	0.3027	**	
160	Land off Old Hall Lane, East Markham	0.6848	**	
168	Town Street, Sutton cum Lound	0.3065	***	
266	Station Avenue, Ranskill	0.2645	****	
282	The Green, Dunham-on-Trent	0.3522	**	
304	Underwood Avenue, Torworth	0.6341	****	
309	Village Green, Misson	0.3668	*****	
329	Winston Green, Mattersey Thorpe	1.8692	***	
341	Daneshill Road, Lound	1.137	***	
367	The Spinney, Beckingham	0.2321	****	
		TOTAL: 14.10 ha		

4.5 Civic Spaces

4.51 The civic space typology includes civic and market squares and other hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, providing a setting for civic buildings, public gatherings and community events. There are eight civic spaces totalling around 3.06 hectares of provision across Bassetlaw. Civic sites are seen as valuable sites, many with historical importance such as Retford Market Square and the Market Place in Tuxford and provide a interest within the built area. Most are hard surfaces, many provide planting and grassed areas, spaces for movement, relaxation and social interactions. Importantly all provide a sense of place and local distinctiveness by enhancing the quality of the town centre such as

the ones in Worksop, Retford and Harworth & Bircotes, as well as the centre of Tuxford.

Quantity and Type

4.52 By definition these spaces tend to be found in prominent, highly accessible locations like the town centre where there are high levels of use by the community and visitors. Greenery within the spaces varies; sites like the one in Harworth & Bircotes contain ornamental planting and shrubs and are pedestrianised being regularly used as thoroughfares by residents and visitors alike. Sites such as the ones in Worksop and Retford also have the capacity to hold markets and community events.

Quality and Value

4.53 Scrooby Road in Harworth & Bircotes and the Marketplace in Tuxford are both 5* quality spaces as they are well maintained, well used and attractive spaces. Bridge Place and the Marketplace in Worksop and all sites in Retford are all 4* quality. The only space classed as 3* quality is Victoria Square in Worksop, which lies on a busy town centre intersection which reduces its functionality. All are classed as medium to high value because they are well used everyday by the community, many of them are also a valuable resource for hosting community events as well as those which attract visitors to the District.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	3	4*: 2 3*: 1	Medium: 2 Low: 1
Retford	3	4*: 3	High: 2 Medium: 1
Harworth & Bircotes	1	5*: 1	Medium: 1
Tuxford	1	5*: 1	High: 1

CIVIC SPACES

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				
29	Bridge Street	0.7594	****	
136	Market Place, Worksop	0.2901	****	
308	Victoria Square	0.0328	***	
		TOTAL: 1.08 ha		
RETFORD				
32	Cannon Square	0.2338	****	
34	Carolgate	0.1953	****	
135	Retford Market Place	0.6207	****	
		TOTAL: 1.05 ha		
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES				
189	Civic Space Scrooby Road	0.879	*****	
		TOTAL: 0.88 ha		
TUXFORD				
137	Market Place, Tuxford	0.0531	*****	
		TOTAL: 0.05 ha		

4.6 Parks and Gardens

- 4.61** In Bassetlaw this typology covers urban parks, country parks and formal gardens (including designed landscapes), which provide accessible high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. Country park sites may also provide opportunities and functions often associated with parks and can therefore be included within this section. There are 4 sites classified as parks and gardens in Bassetlaw, the equivalent of over 70 hectares. No site size threshold has been applied and, as such, all known sites are included within the typology.
- 4.62** Bassetlaw has a current provision level of 0.61 hectares per 1,000 head of population. The largest site and the biggest contributor to provision is Langold Country Park in Langold (54.27 ha). This is followed by Kings Park in Retford (11.95 ha).
- 4.63** All the sites; are multifunctional and provide for a range of open space functions as well as community events.
- 4.64** In addition to the above, there are a number of registered parks within Bassetlaw e.g. Clumber Park, Welbeck Abbey, Babworth Hall and Shireoaks Hall, which are not included within the audit - these sites are not publicly accessible or if they are a charge is made for entry. However, it is important to recognise these provide an important recreational resource which impact upon perceptions with regard to other publicly accessible sites. For example, residents, due to the provision of sites such as Clumber Park, do not necessarily perceive there may be a lack of some types of open space in Worksop.

Quantity and Type

- 4.65** Bassetlaw has 4 parks; a decrease of 1 since 2012; this is due to the fact that the space at Worksop Shipside Memorial/ Haselhurst Gardens, has been re-classified as amenity greenspace. Both The Canch in Worksop and King's Park in Retford are established parks; King's Park was also named by the Green Flag Award as the UK's fifth favourite park in the 2014 People's Choice vote. Both The Canch and King's Park have also been declared Green Flag Winners in 2019 in the East Midlands category. Langold Country

Park has also received funding through Big Local Scheme in 2012, which allowed the installation of the splash park area which is well used and attracts visitors. It has also hosted a variety of social events such as the LLC Big Local music festival.

4.66 The Pocket Park at Tuxford was re-classified as it provides a range of park type functions within the village environment.

4.67 Parks are particularly important for providing children and young people's facilities; 75% of parks provide equipped play areas and/or a range of facilities for young people. These sections of the parks however have been counted as separate spaces in the Children Play Area provisions.

Quality and Value

4.68 Reflecting intensity and variation of use, the quality standard for parks were set much higher than for other types of open space; the long term aspiration is that all spaces will least be 5* quality. The Canch, King's Park and Langold County Park have all met this standard already. Only the Pocket Park at Tuxford is below average quality (2*) as a result of the lack of facilities that exist. Maintaining the quality of the parks, will continue to be a priority to ensure that they are all welcoming, safe, clean and well maintained with a range of facilities to meet community needs.

4.69 Only the park at Tuxford was not high value; the limited facilities and low quality affect the level of use and value to the local community. The installation of new play equipment and the overall improvement to the existing site could help improve its value and quality in the long-term future.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	1	5*: 1	High: 1
Retford	1	5*: 1	High: 1
Langold/Hodsock	1	5*: 1	High: 1
Tuxford	1	3*: 1	High: 1

PARKS AND GARDENS

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				
280	The Canch	4.4518	*****	
		TOTAL: 4.45 ha		
RETFORD				
107	Kings Park	11.9542	*****	
		TOTAL: 11.95 ha		
LANGOLD/HODSOCK				
121	Langold Country Park	54.2725	*****	
		TOTAL: 54.27 ha		
TUXFORD				
375	Linden Avenue Pocket Park	0.0513	***	
		TOTAL: 0.05 ha		

4.7 Semi/Natural Greenspace

4.71 The natural and semi-natural greenspace typology can include woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g. down-land, meadow), wetlands (e.g. marsh, fen) and bare rock habitats (e.g. quarries, pits). Such sites are often associated with providing wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness.

Quantity and Type

4.72 In total, 21 sites are identified as having natural and semi-natural greenspace as the primary typology in the Main Towns and Large and Small Rural Settlements. To accurately assess access to natural and semi natural greenspace the standards will consider all spaces that perform that function so includes sites with this function as a secondary purpose. An additional 13 sites including parks, amenity greenspace provide valuable habitats for wildlife and help reduce gaps in provision across the District. This totals over 279 hectares of available provision. To avoid double counting, only the 21 sites were used throughout this report.

4.73 Nevertheless, the current provision of natural and semi-natural greenspace (279 ha) in Bassetlaw has a current standard of 2.40 hectares per 1,000 head of population. The largest of the natural and semi-natural greenspace site is Langold Country Park that makes up 19% (54 hectares) of the total semi/natural greenspace provision.

Quality and Value

4.74 If we only consider semi/natural as the primary typology, 71% (14 spaces) are 3* quality and above, a slight increase from 65% in OSS2012. If we consider all sites with a semi/natural typology (both primary and secondary) throughout the District, 27 out of the 34 sites (79%) are 3* quality and above. There are 7 1* and 2* quality sites throughout Bassetlaw; the rating is a result of needing arboriculture management and improved signage.

4.75 100% (21 sites) are medium or high value spaces including all designated spaces because of their importance for biodiversity and education. This is an improvement from 76% in the OSS2012; suggesting that improvements or the redesign of spaces has taken place to improve value for the community and wildlife.

4.76 In the long term there is significant potential for other types of open space like parks, allotments and informal space to fulfil natural and semi natural greenspace requirements by incorporating 'semi wild' areas, trees, plants and hedgerows to provide valuable habitats for biodiversity. This could potentially add a secondary semi/natural

typology to various open spaces throughout the District, increasing the number of multifunctionality of these spaces.

Locality	No of Spaces	Quality	Value
Worksop	8	4*: 6 3*: 1 2*: 1	High: 5 Medium: 3
Retford	5	4*: 1 3*: 2 2*: 2	High: 2 Medium: 3
Harworth & Bircotes	4	3*: 1 1*: 3	High: 2 Medium: 2
Misterton	1	3*: 1	High: 1
Small Rural Settlements	3	4*: 2 2*: 1	High: 2 Medium: 1

SEMI/NATURAL SPACES

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
WORKSOP				
14	Gateford Common, Ashes Park Avenue	21.4367	****	
17	Woodsetts Pond	8.4264	****	
87	Hannah Park	5.972	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
113	Land at and behind pumping station	5.1689	***	
159	Old Gateford Road	3.0934	****	
179	Land off Retford Road	10.5791	***	
197	Shireoaks Road NSN 2	4.9225	****	
272	Stubbing Lane	12.0595	****	
371	Sandhill Lake	7.6395	****	
372	Lady Lee Quarry	12.027	**	
		TOTAL: 91.325 ha		
RETFORD				
24	Land off Bolham Lane	14.3918	****	
27	Retford Cemetery	12.5907	***	
73	Gleneagles Way	0.2365	****	
76	Land South of Goosemoor Lane	13.73	**	
118	Land off Victoria Road	7.9267	***	
174	Land behind the Museam, Grove Street	0.2979	****	
185	Sandhills, Jubilee Road	6.7429	**	
204	Spa Common	0.9417	****	
300	Trent Street	2.5025	****	
		TOTAL: 59.3607 ha		

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
HARWORTH & BIRCOTES				
7	All Saints Church, Harworth	0.7777	***	
91	Hawkins Close	0.5432	*	
164	Piggeries	4.8051	*	
192	Scrooby Road	3.4268	***	
201	Snipe Park Wood	6.2615	*	
		TOTAL: 15.8143 ha		
LANGOLD/HODSOCK				
121	Langold Country Park	54.2725	*****	
		TOTAL: 54.2725 ha		
MISTERTON				
119	Ashdown Way	4.9106	***	
		TOTAL: 4.9106 ha		
TUXFORD				
287	The Old Lock Up and land, Newcastle Street	0.0651	*****	
		TOTAL: 0.0651 ha		
SMALL RURAL SETTLEMENTS				
18	Daneshill Lakes, Torworth	35.4489	****	

Site Ref.	Site Name	Size (ha)	Quality	Value
99	High Street Cemetery, Elkesley	0.1996	*****	
110	Littleborough road, Littleborough	0.3405	*****	
196	Shireoaks Road NSN 1, Rhodesia	16.09	****	
217	St Giles, Carburton	0.2053	***	
240	St Marys Church, Cuckney	1.1526	****	
380	Broad Gores, Clarborough	1.0933	**	
		TOTAL: 54.5302 ha		

5. Commitment to Multifunctional Spaces

5.01 Only 29 (9%) out of the 321 spaces District wide have a secondary functional. To improve both access and provision of various open space typologies throughout Bassetlaw, is a priority; better use should be made of existing open spaces, incorporating different open space functions in one space helps ensure that spaces are valued and used positively throughout the day and in the evening by different age groups.

5.02 The Council will work with its partners, to develop and improve existing open space sites to ensure that more provide for at least 2 typology functions. It is essential that open spaces throughout the District is are capable of providing environmental, social and/or economic benefits to communities; whether direct or indirect; within and around the Main Towns to increase quality of life and overall well-being.

6. Monitoring and Review

- 6.01 It is intended that this Strategy will remain in place until 2024 with site surveys conducted every 2 years providing an update to the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces in the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

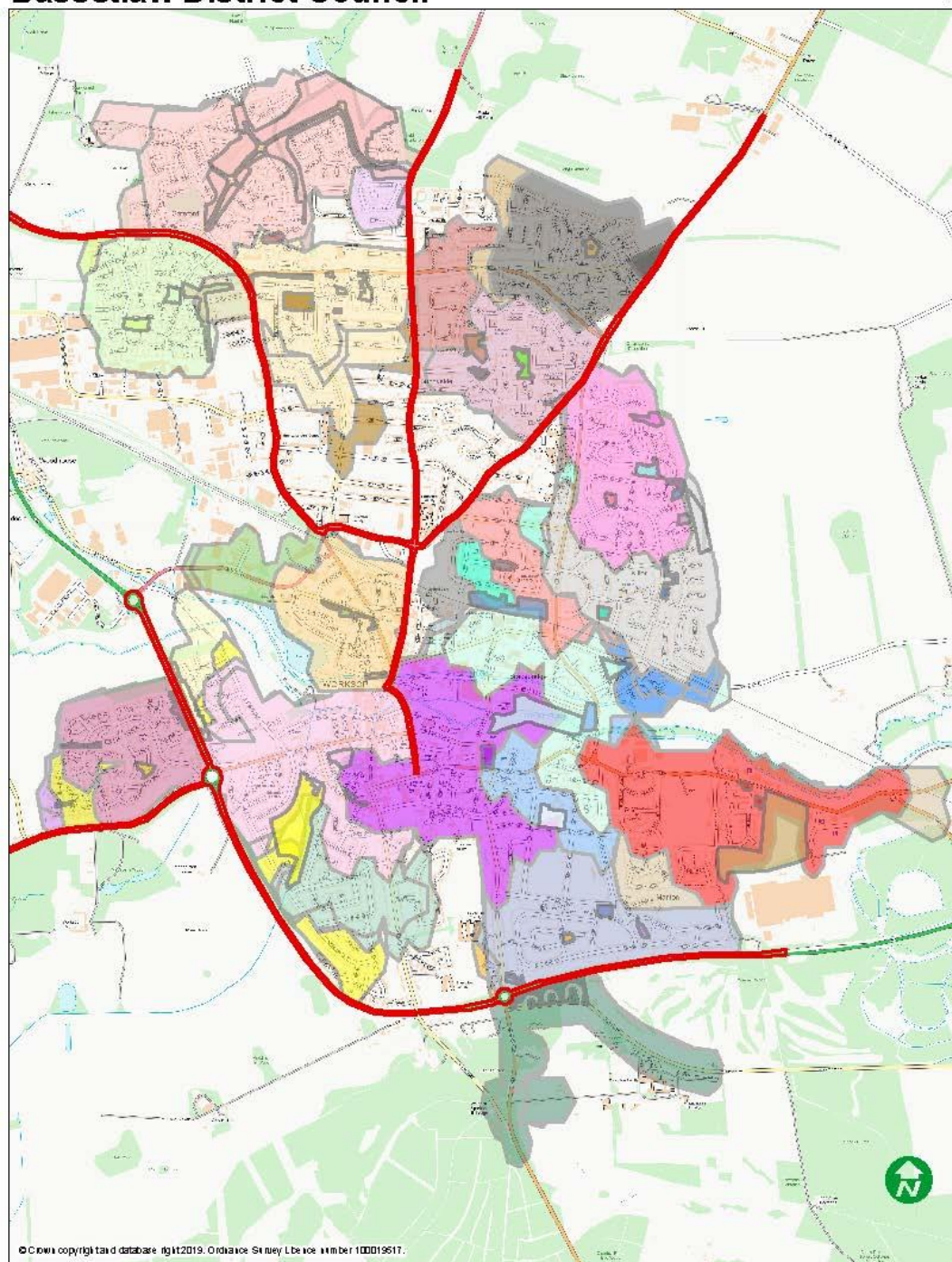
APPENDICES

WORKSOP

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Workshop



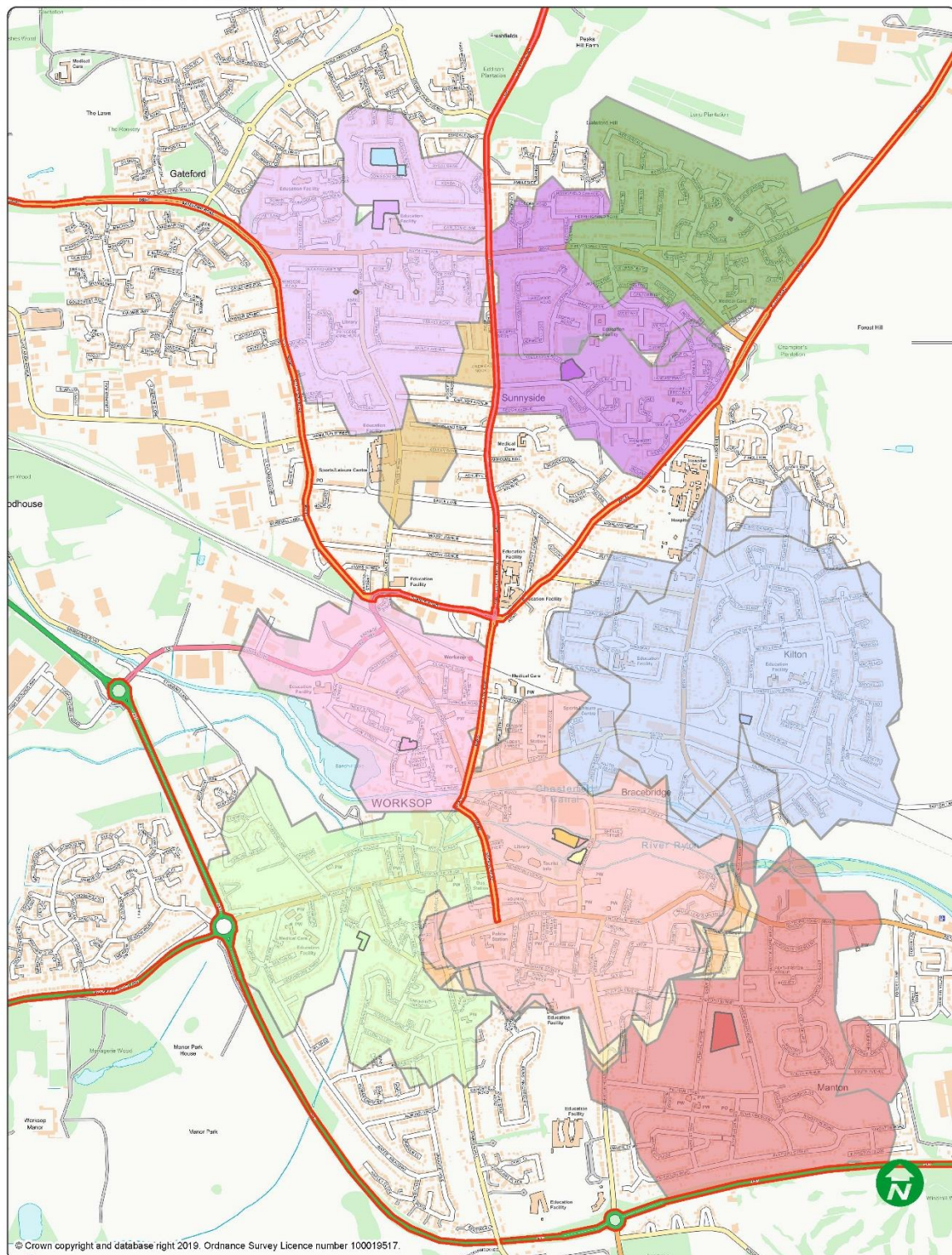
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Bassetlaw
DISTRICT COUNCIL
DISTRICT OF SHEPPARD

Children's Play Area

Bassetlaw District Council

Workshop



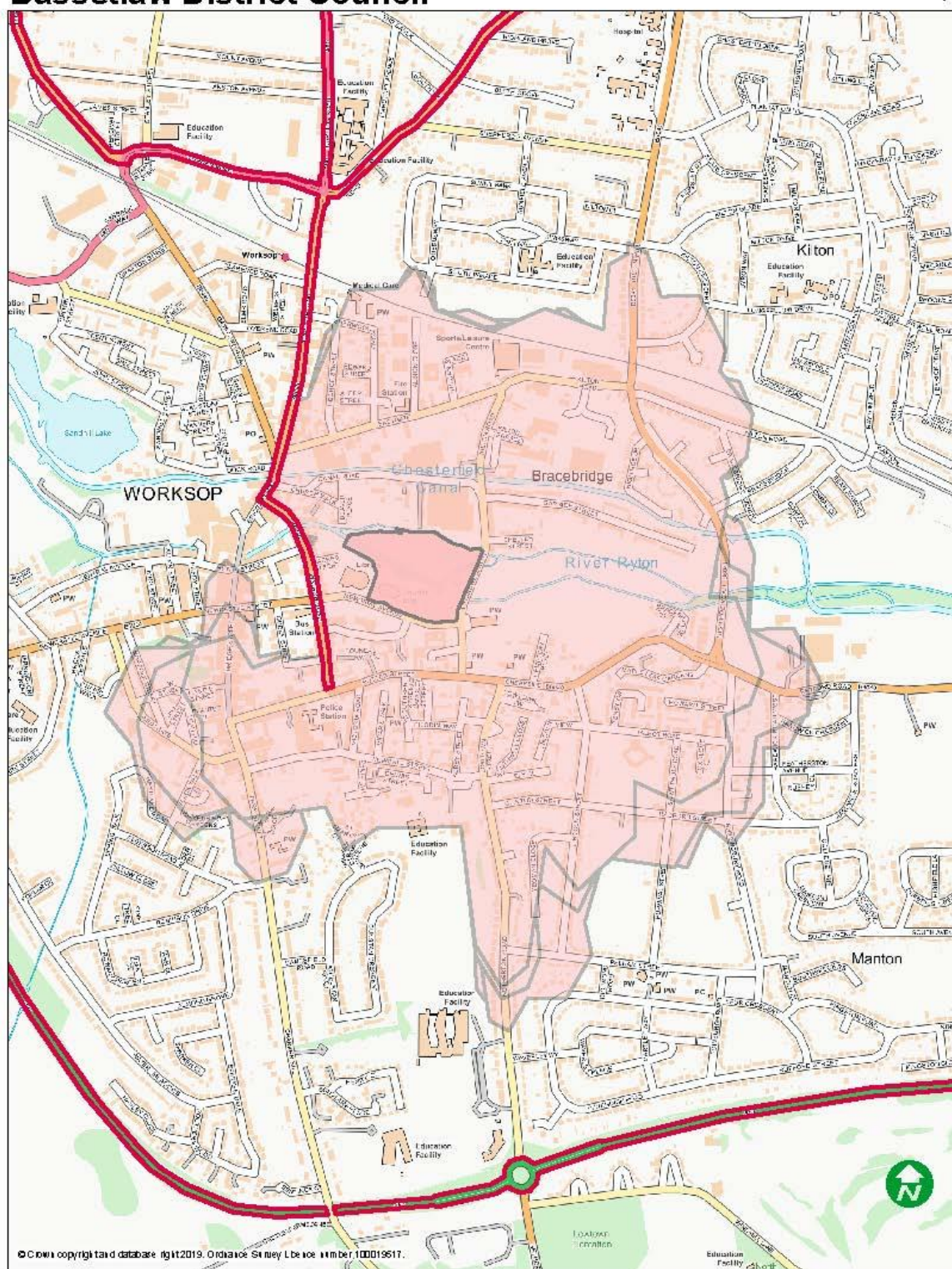
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- Childrens Play Area
- Childrens Play Area Access Points 10 minute Walk

Parks and Gardens

Bassetlaw District Council

Workshop



Key

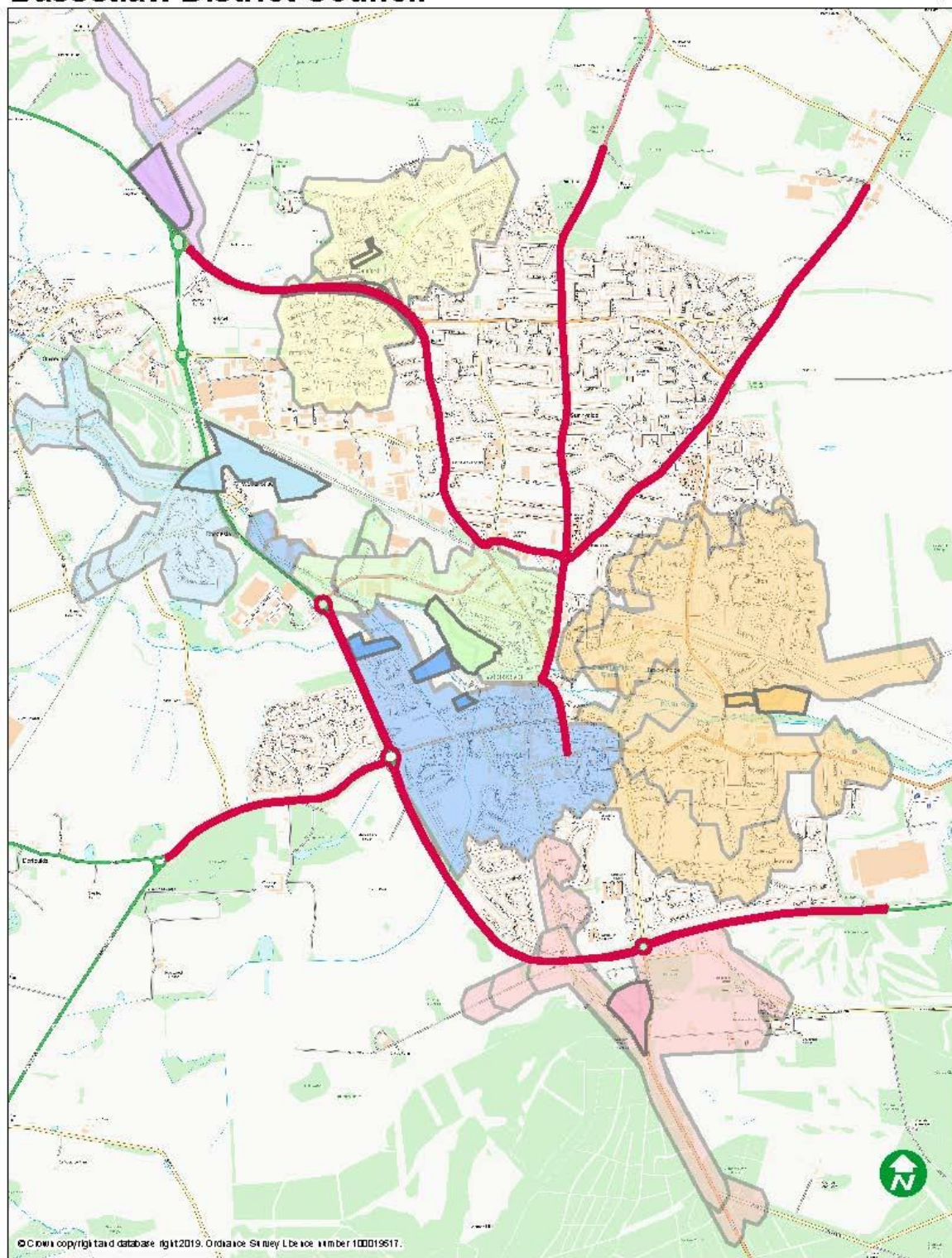
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Semi/Natural

Bassetlaw District Council

Workshop



Key

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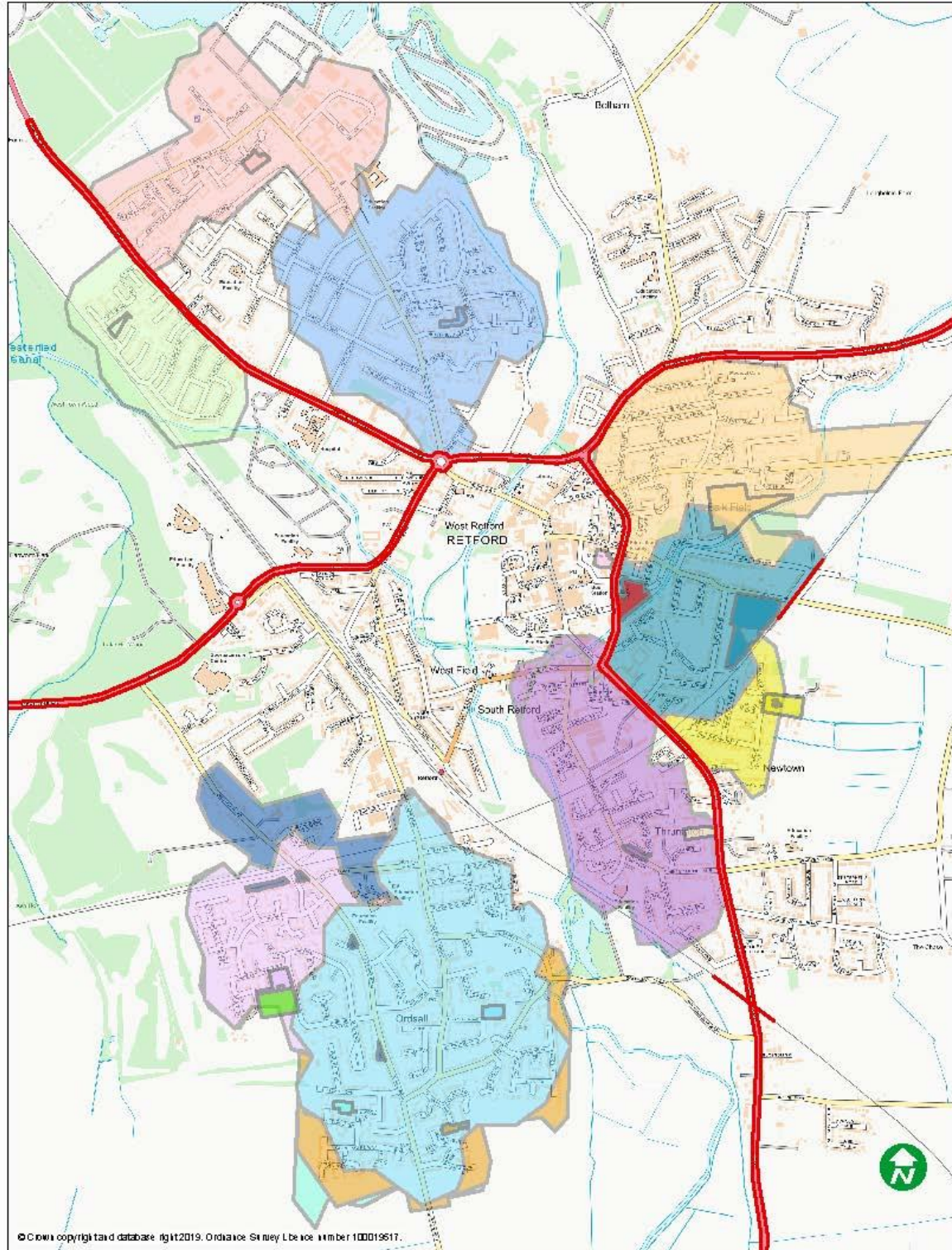


RETFORD

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Retford



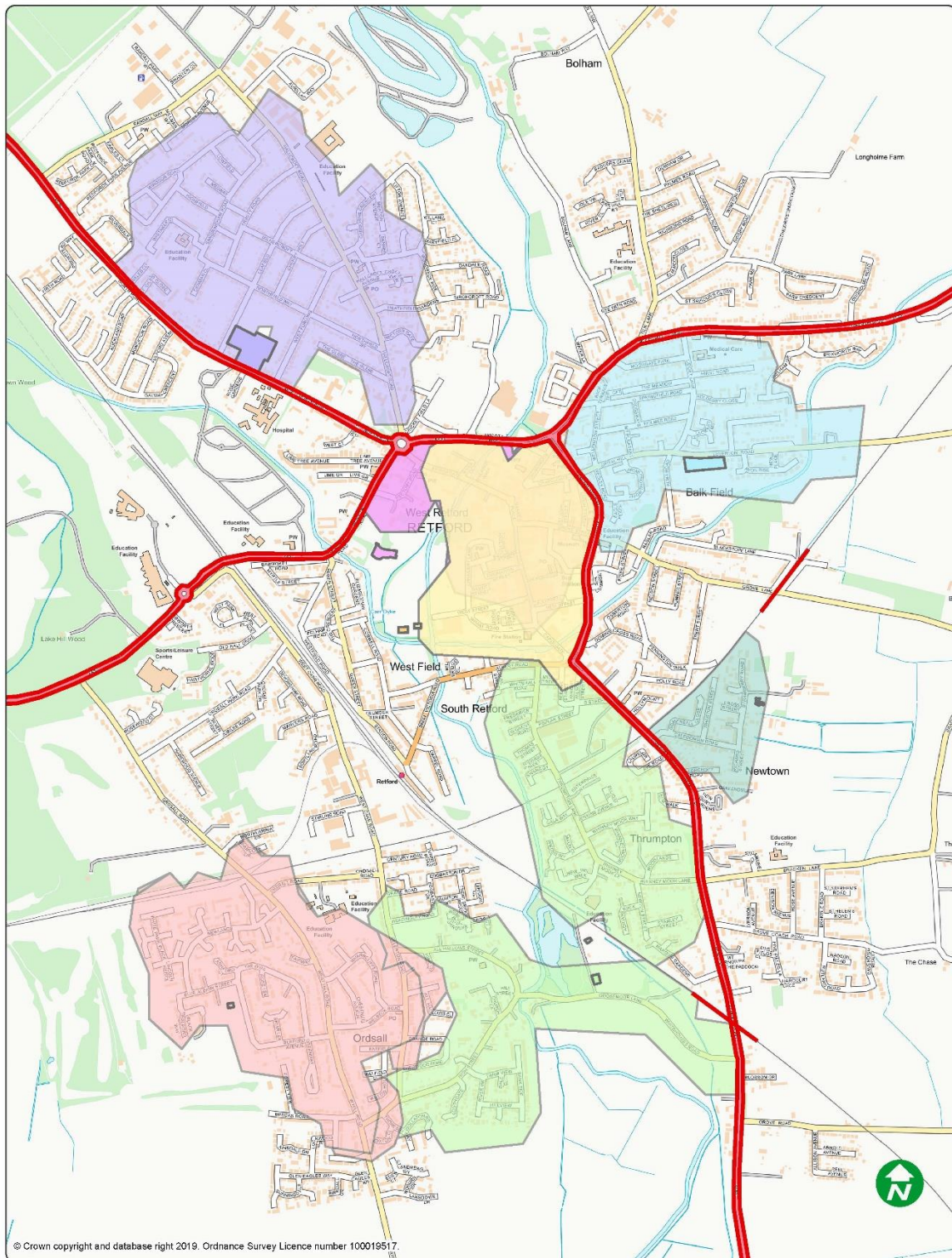
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Children's Play Area

Bassetlaw District Council

Retford



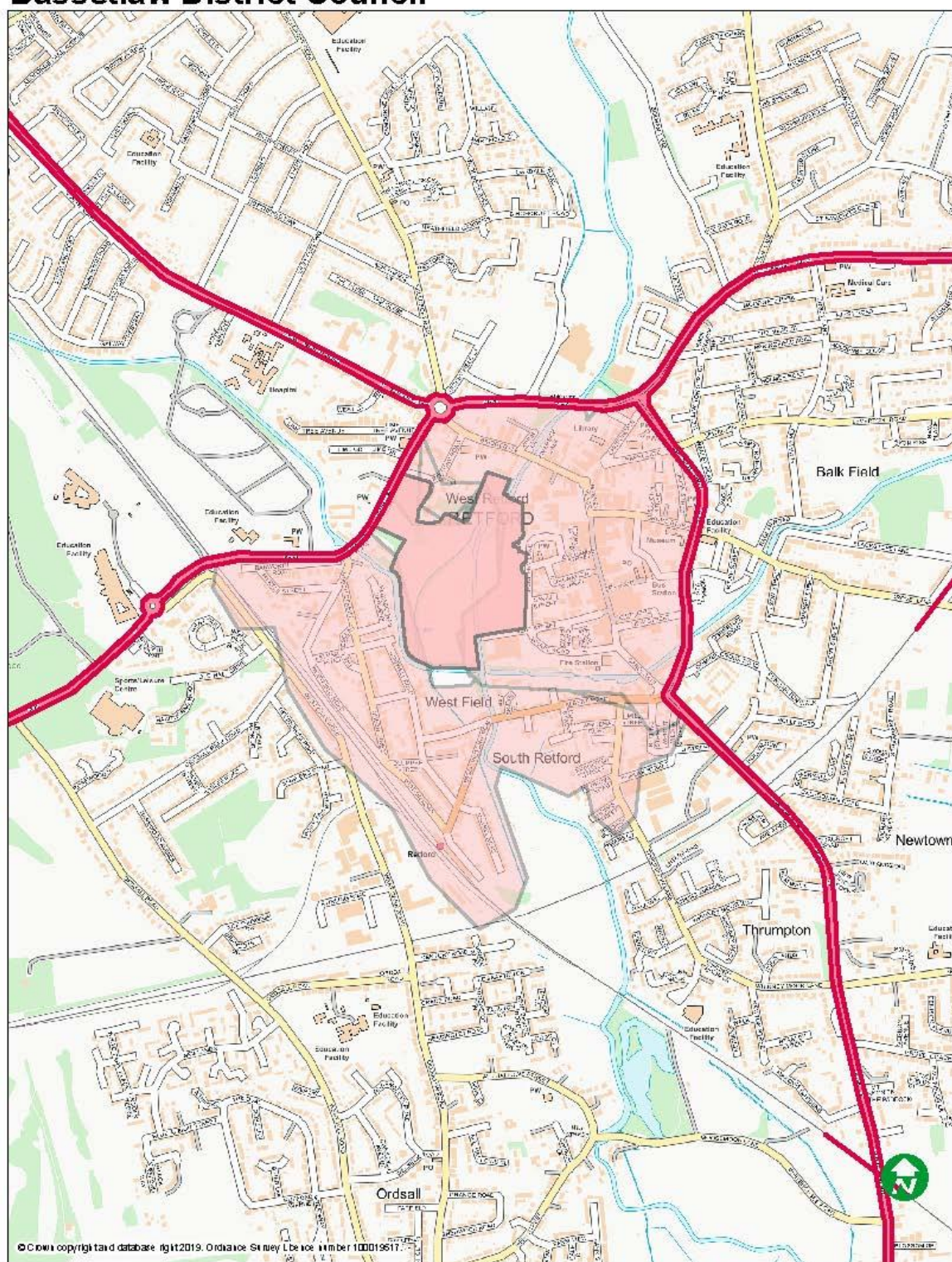
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Parks and Gardens

Bassetlaw District Council

Retford



Key

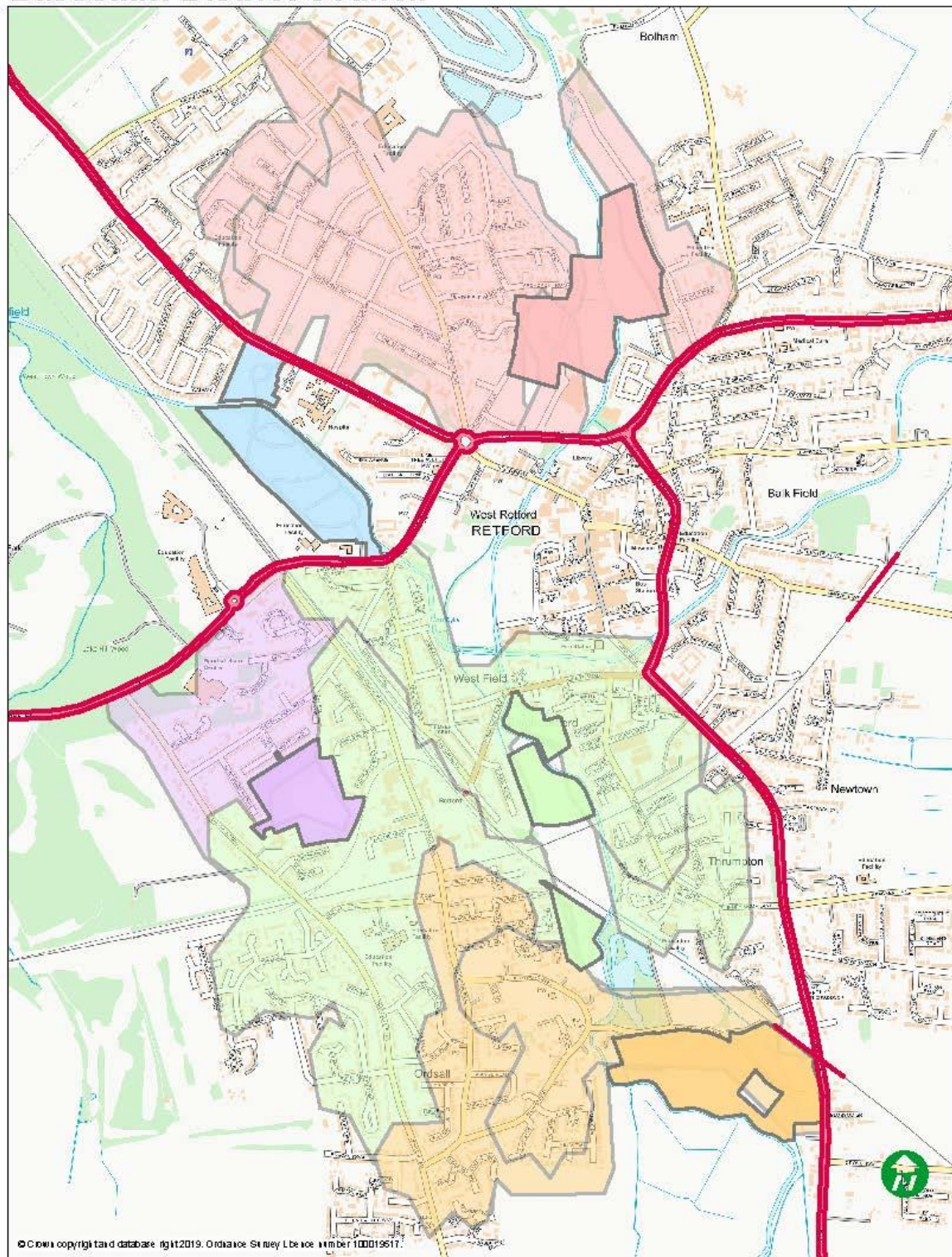
Parks and Gardens Parks and Gardens 1000m Barrier

Bassetlaw
DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Semi/Natural

Bassetlaw District Council

Retford



Key

■ Semi Natural Greenspace ■ Semi Natural Greenspace 15 Minutes — Barrier

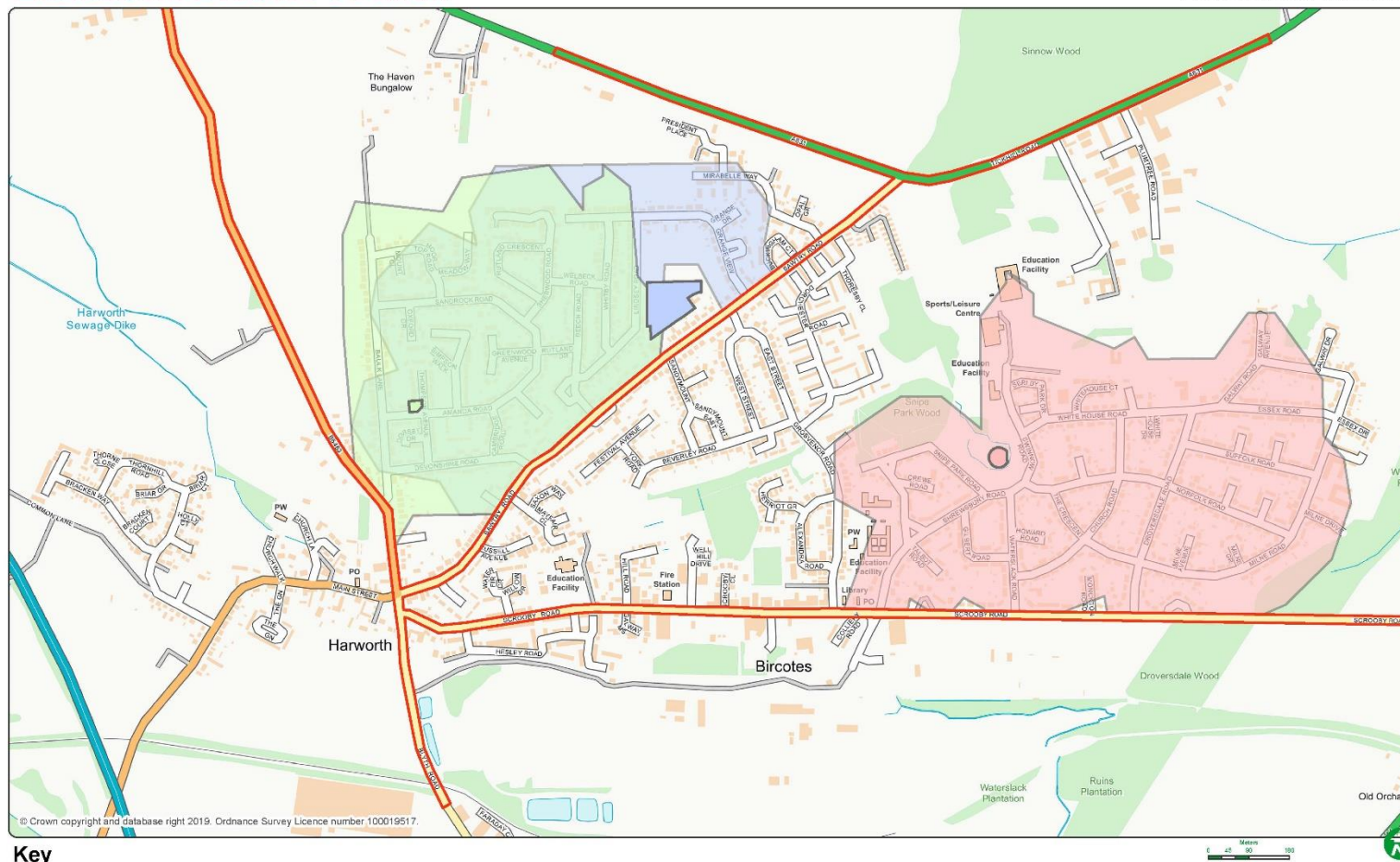




Children's Play Area

Bassetlaw District Council

Harworth and Bircotes



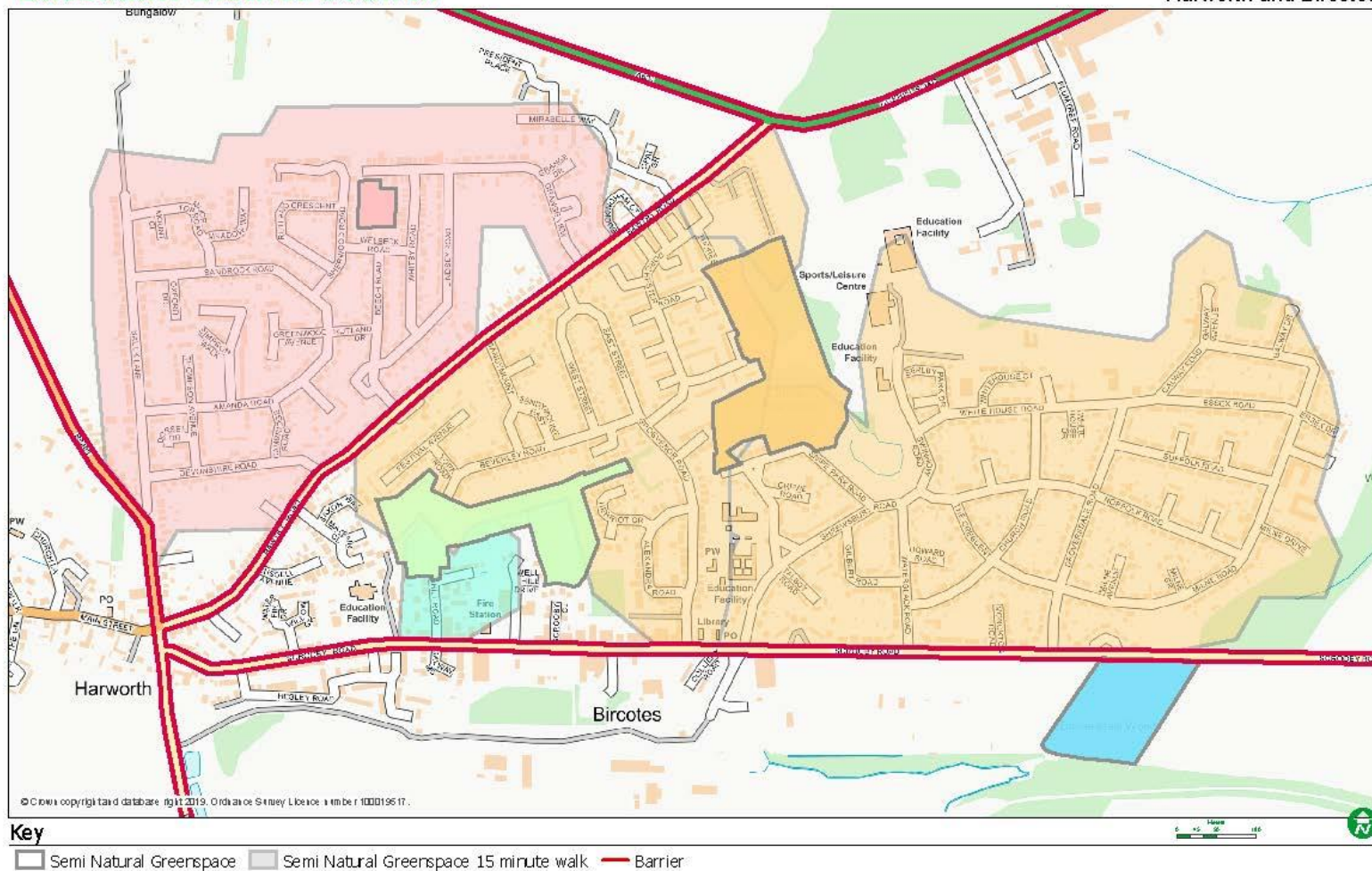
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Semi/Natural

Bassetlaw District Council

Harworth and Bircotes



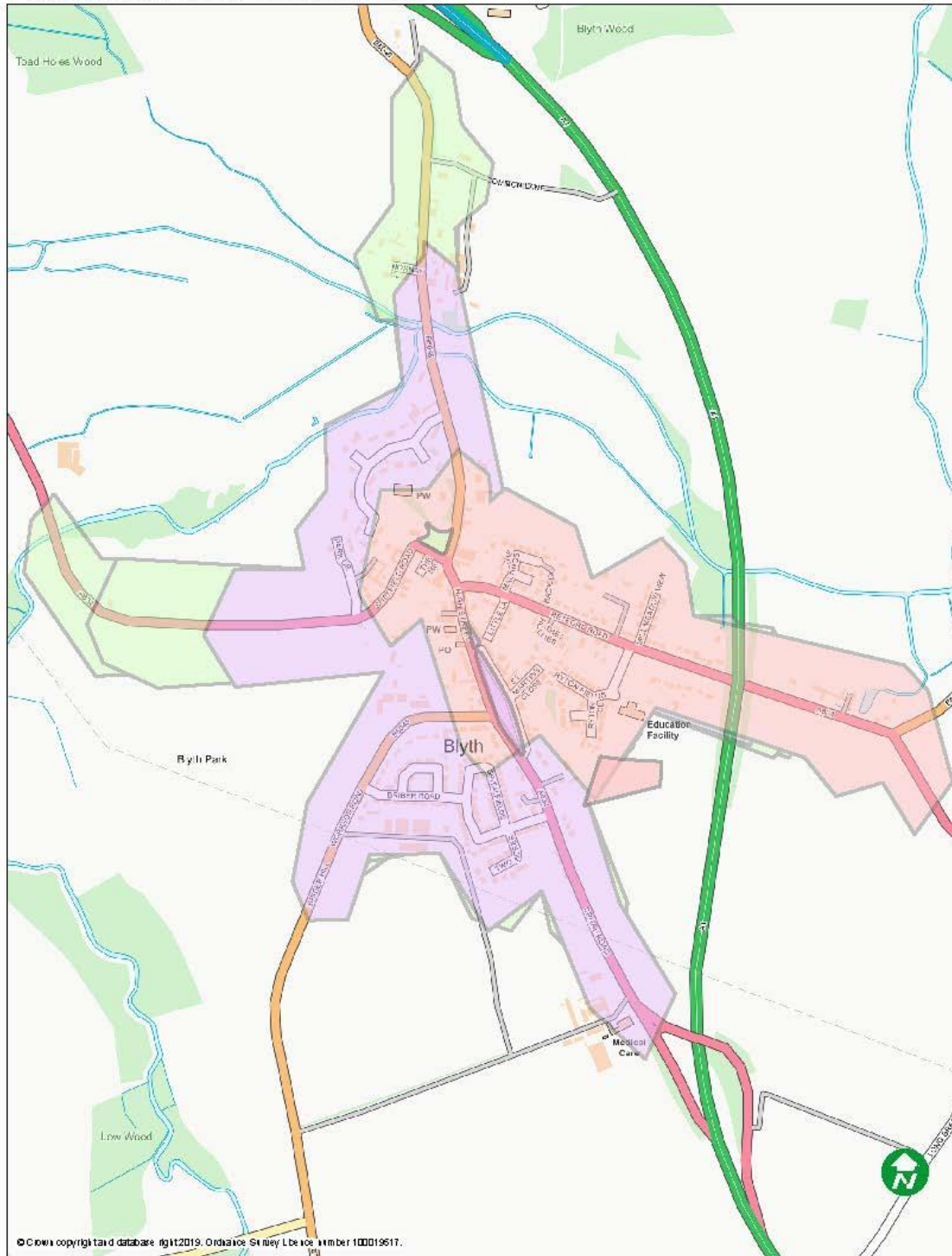
LARGE RURAL SETTLEMENTS

BLYTH

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Blyth



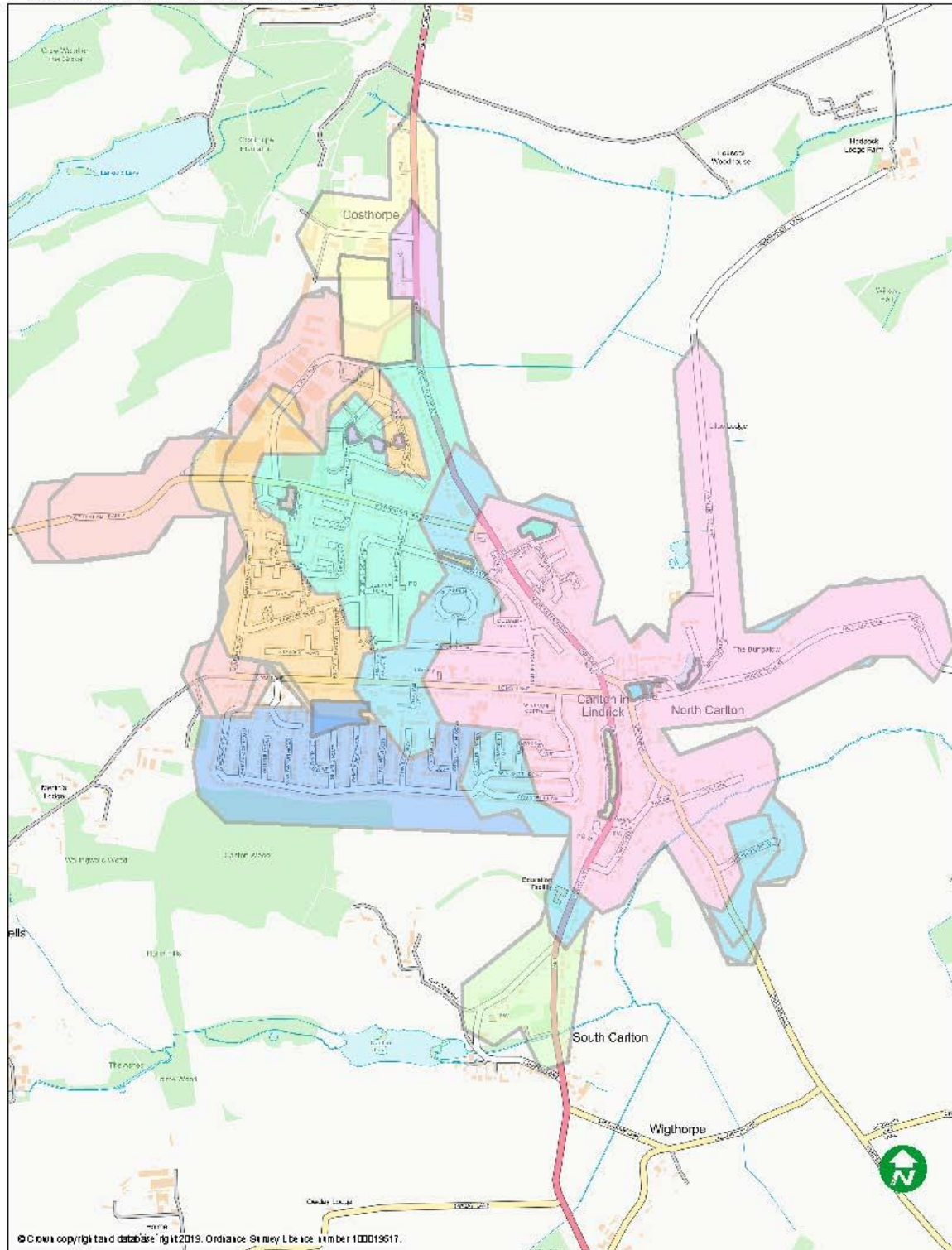
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CARLTON IN LINDRICK

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Carlton in Lindrick



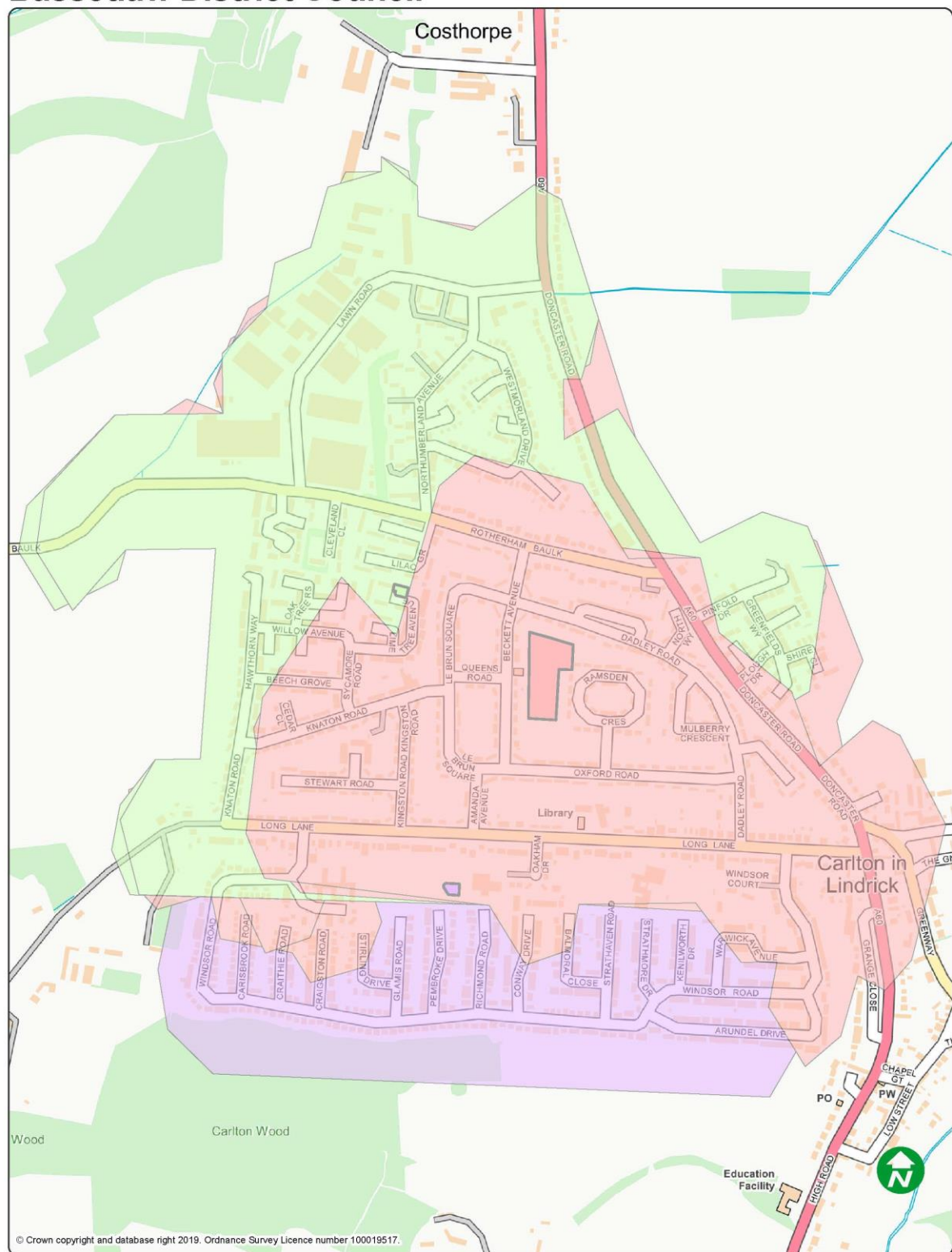
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- Amenity Greenspace 10 minute Walk

Children's Play Area

Bassetlaw District Council

Carlton in Lindrick



Key

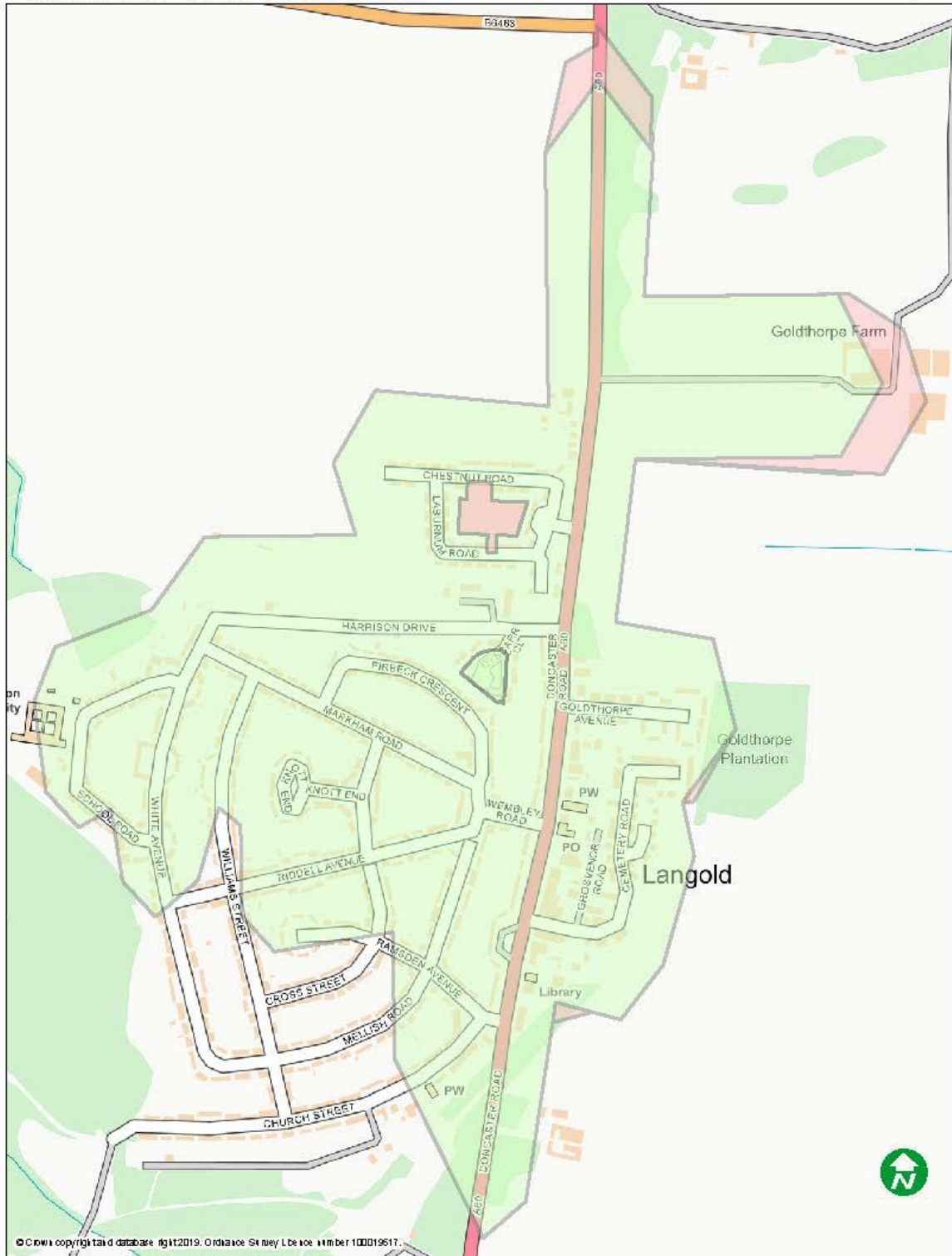
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LANGOLD/HODSOCK

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Langold

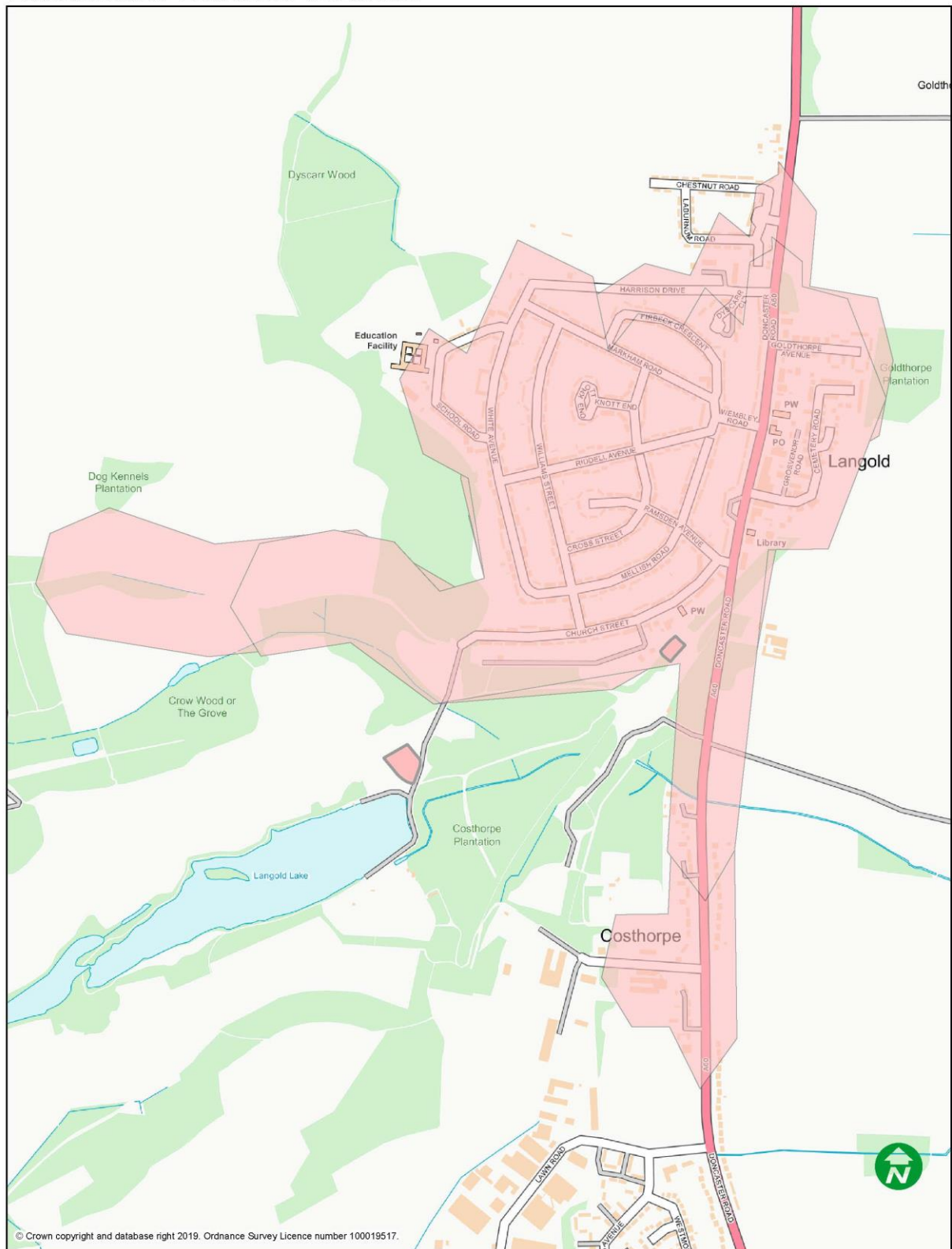


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Amenity Greenspace 10 minute Walk

Children's Play Area

Bassetlaw District Council

Langold



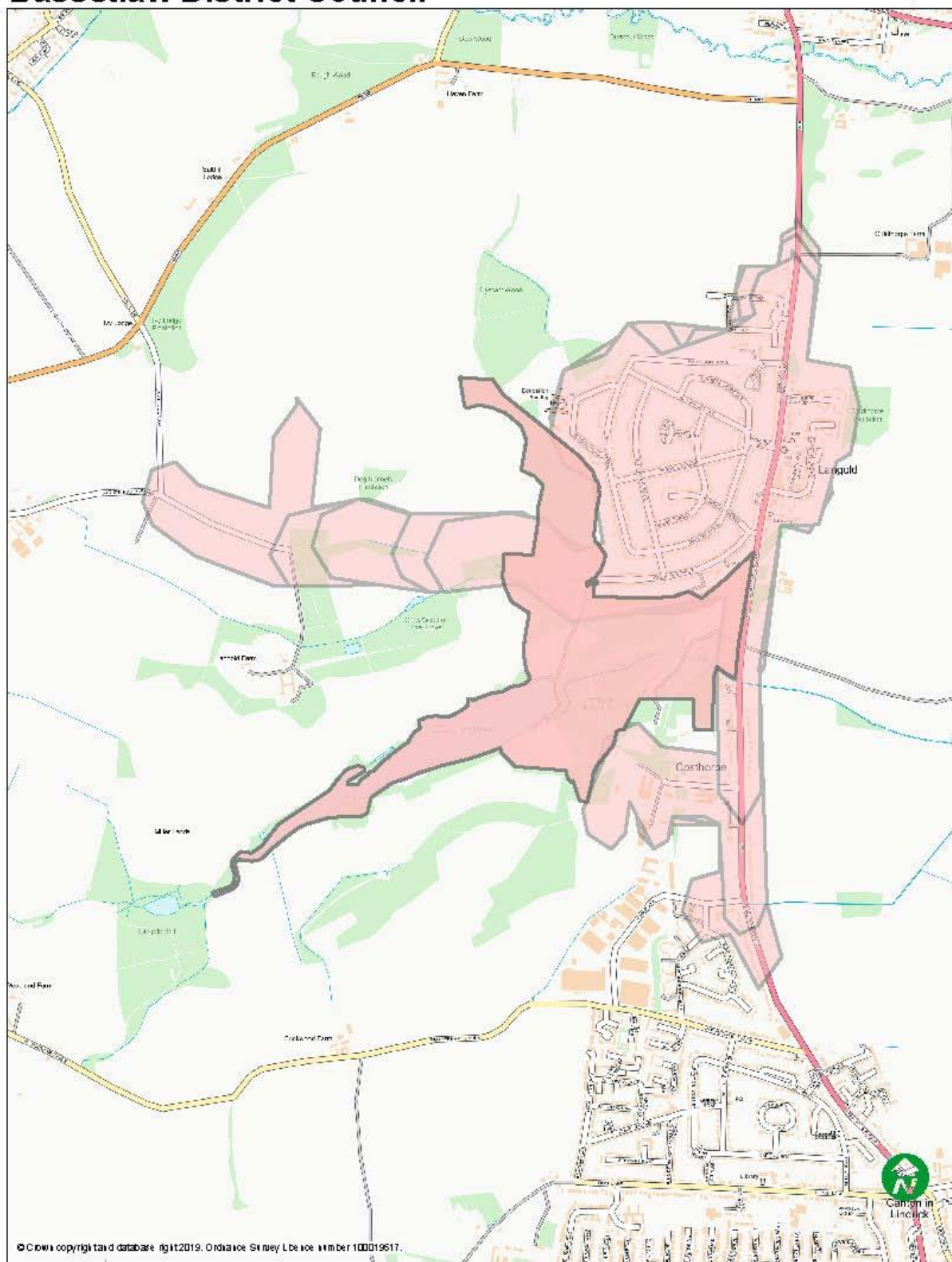
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 Childrens Play Area  Childrens Play Area Access Points 10 minute Walk

Parks and Gardens

Bassetlaw District Council

Langold



Key

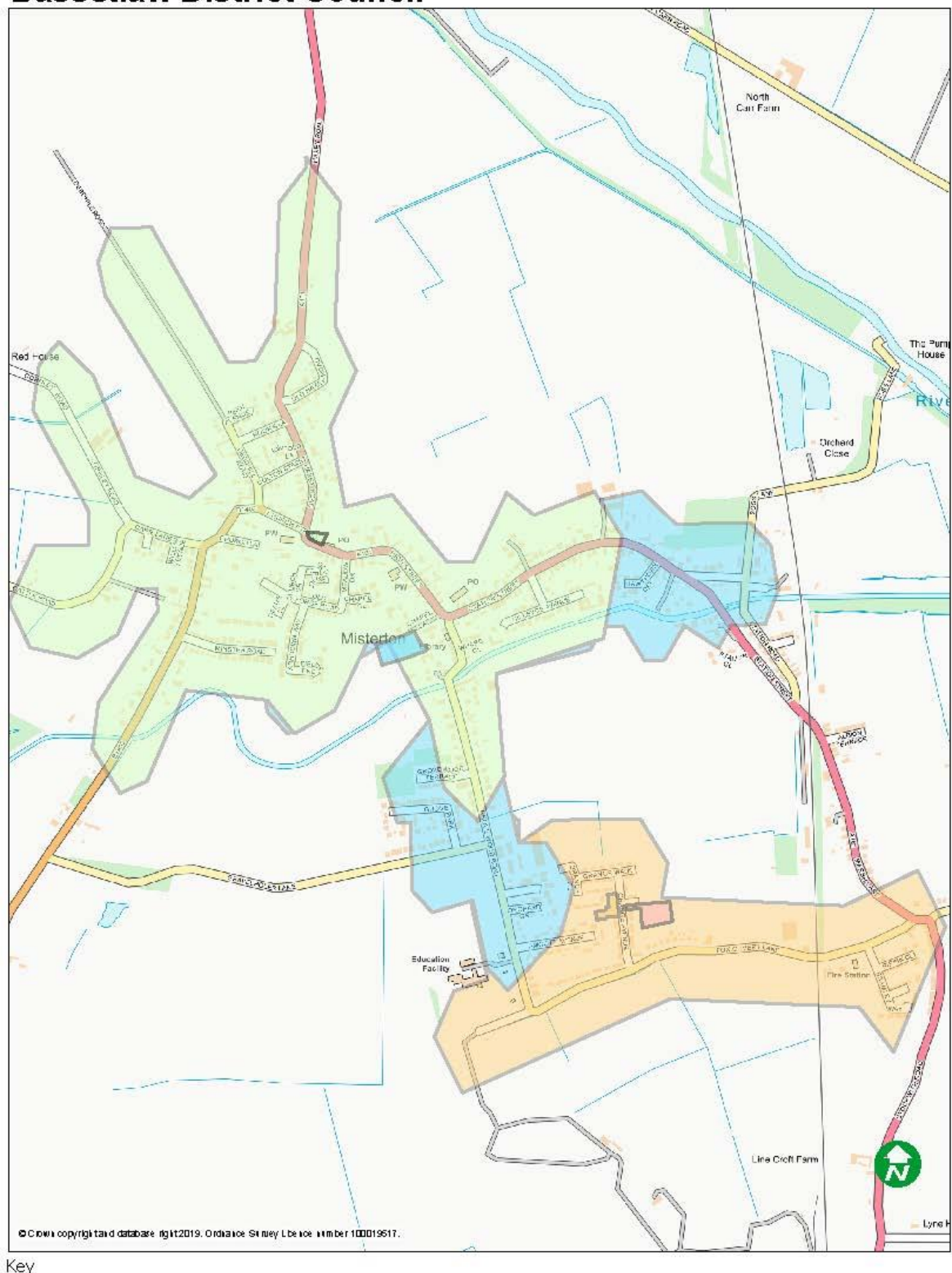
Parks and Gardens Parks and Gardens 1000m

MISTERTON

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Misterton



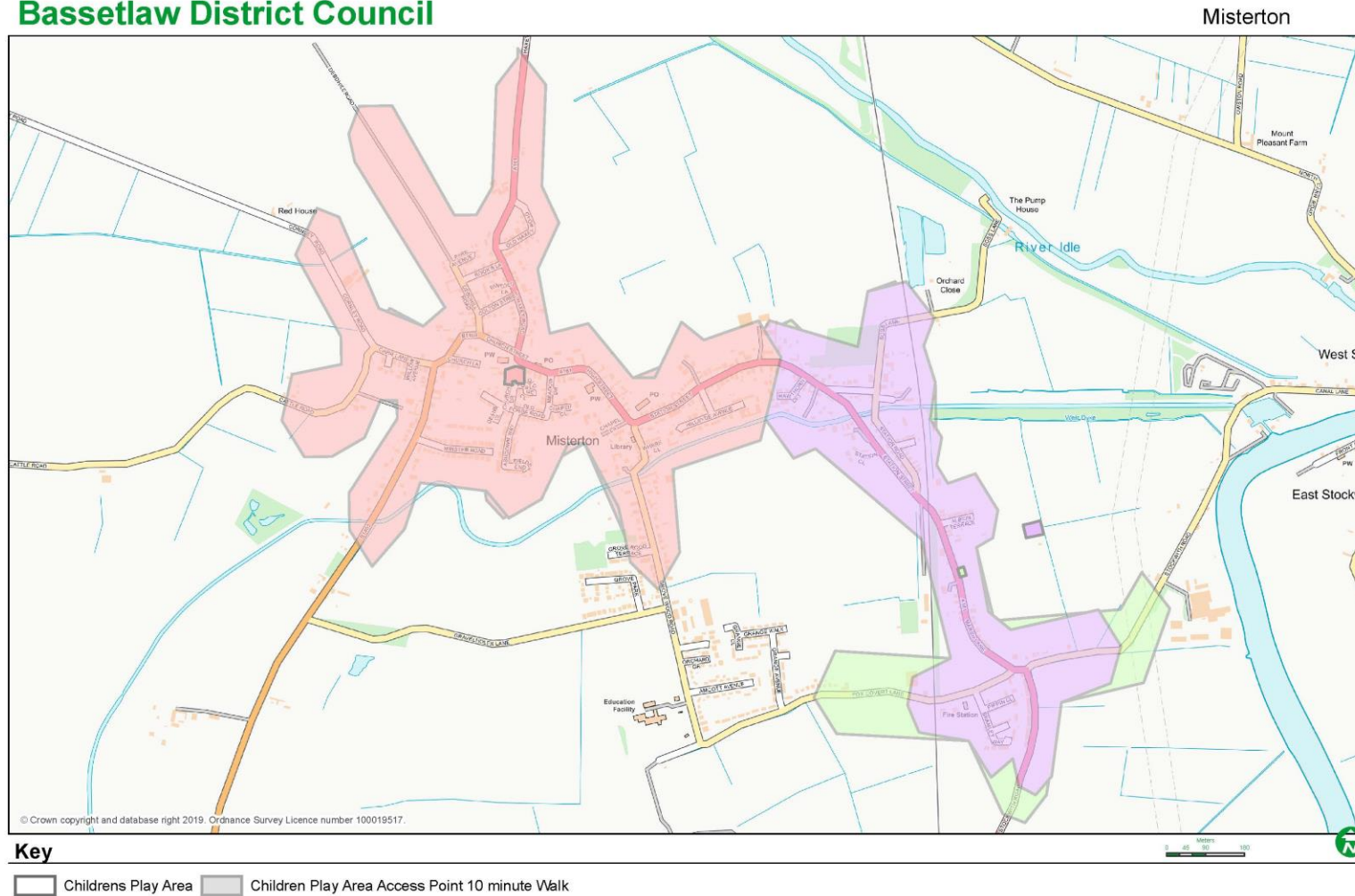
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Children's Play Area

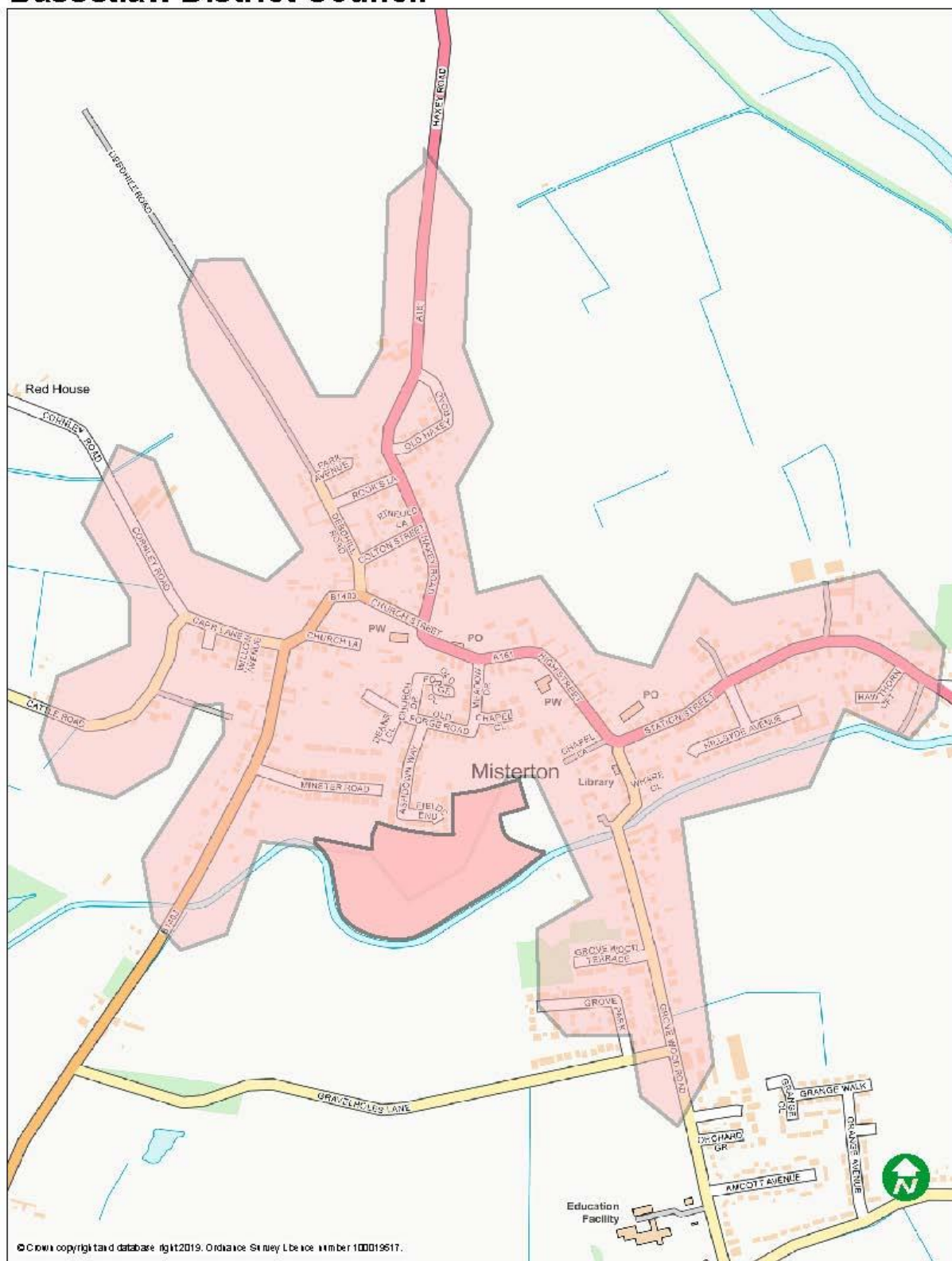
Bassetlaw District Council



Semi/Natural

Bassetlaw District Council

Misterton



Key

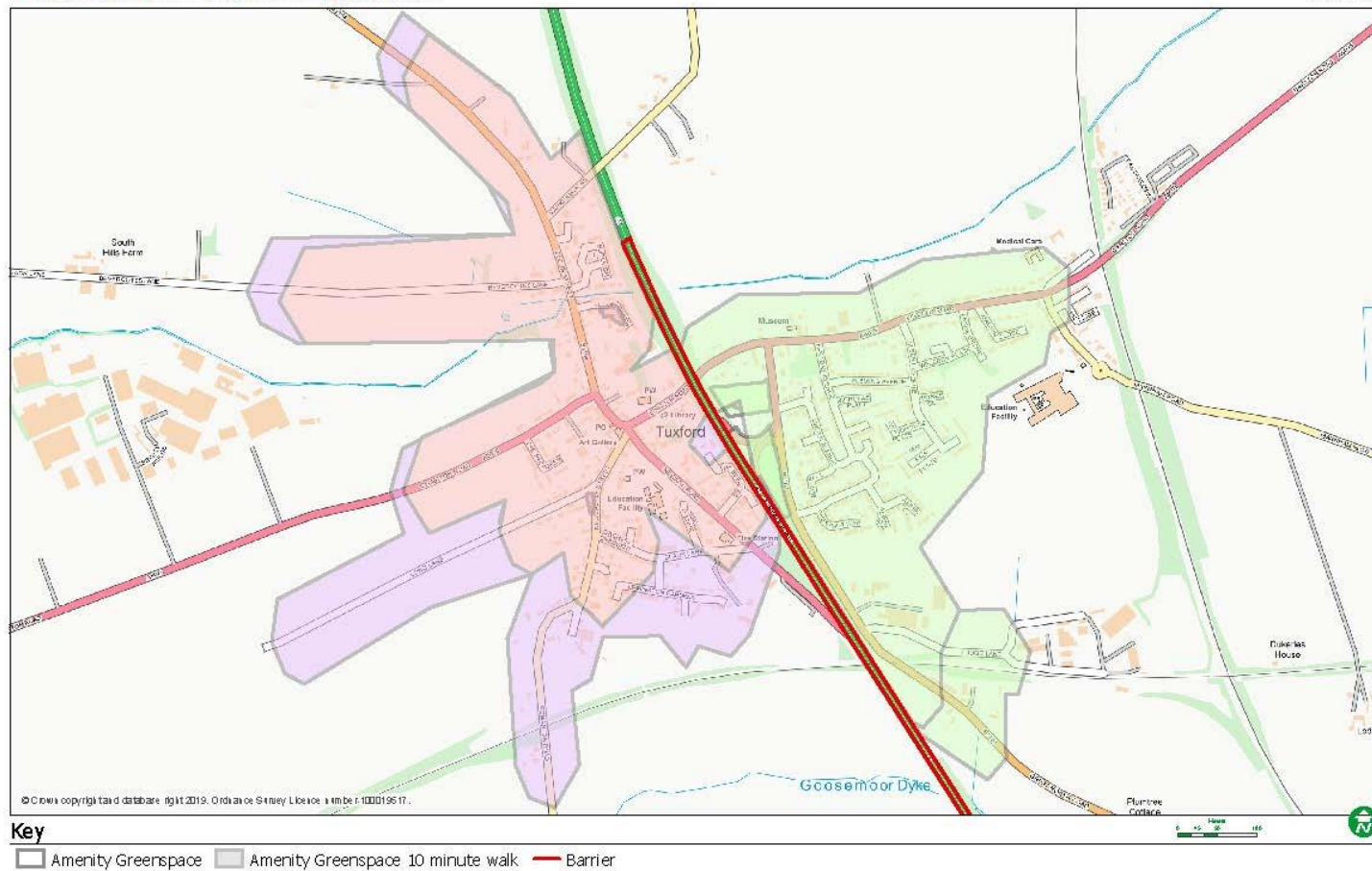
- Semi Natural Greenspace
- Semi Natural Greenspace 15 Minutes

TUXFORD

Amenity Greenspace

Bassetlaw District Council

Tuxford



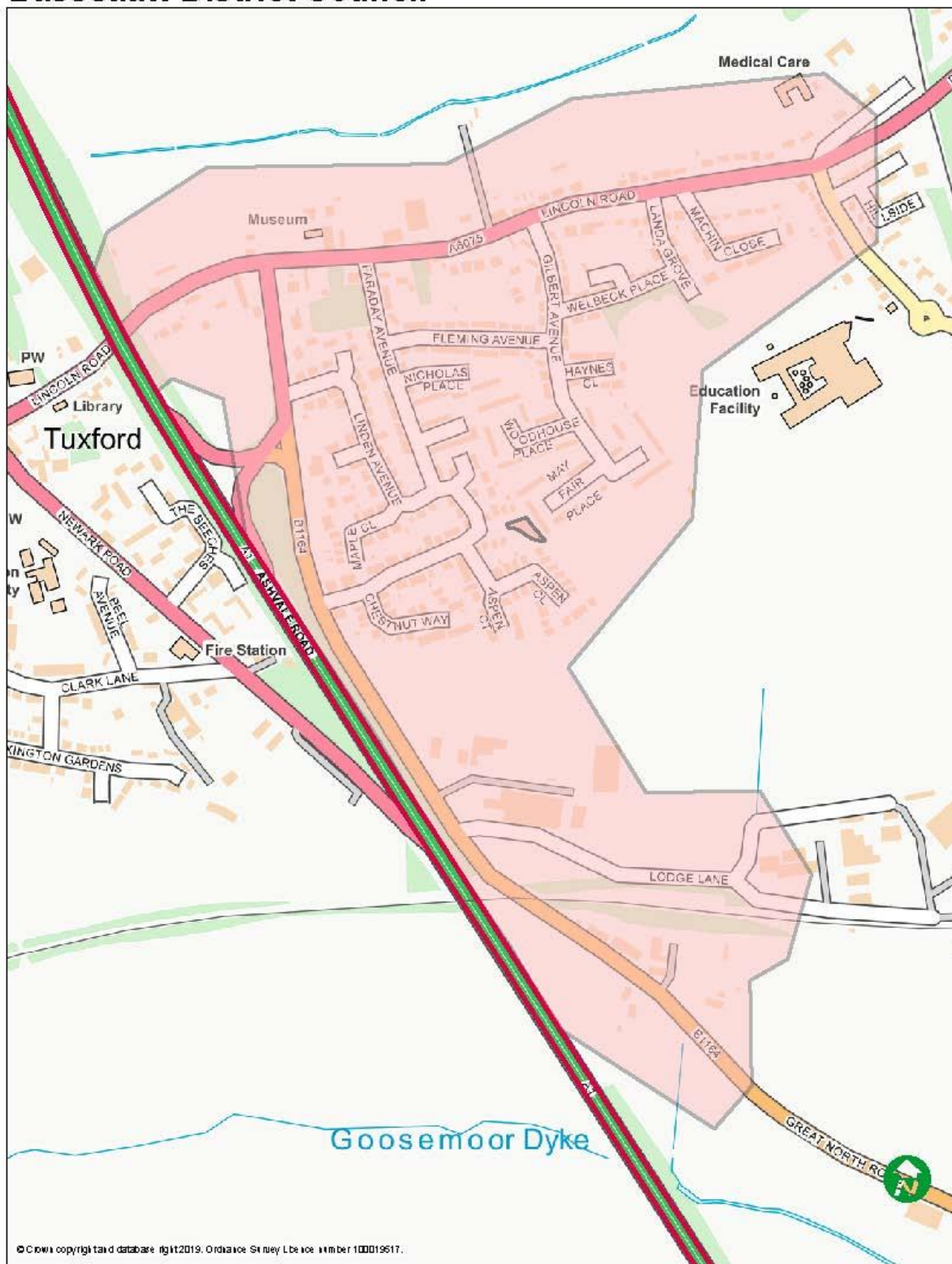
Tuxford



Parks and Gardens

Bassetlaw District Council

Tuxford



Key
 Parks and Gardens Parks and Gardens 1000m Barrier

Bassetlaw
 DISTRICT COUNCIL
 LINCOLNSHIRE