Cheshire West and Chester Open Space Study 2016 – 2030

Cheshire West and Chester

Key Service Centre Supplement: Taporley

Part 2 of 2

(Final Version March 2017)

Report produced on behalf of Cheshire West and Chester Council by Ethos Environmental Planning

ethos Environmental Planning

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Key Service Centre Supplement: Taporley

1.0 Introduction

The Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) Open Space Study is presented in two parts. The first part comprises an overview of the whole study and includes details on local needs, methodology, open space typologies and analysis of provision which combine to make recommendations for future provision and policies for open space in the district. The second part of the study comprises open space area profiles which provide more localised information.

The area profiles have been developed for five areas as shown in figures 1 and 2. These are based on the areas identified in the Local Plan (Chester, Ellesmere Port, Northwich, Winsford and rural area) which broadly reflect how regeneration is delivered in the borough.

Within the Rural area, ten key service centres have been highlighted, as shown in figure 3. This key service centre supplement is to be read in conjunction with the rural area profile and would be looking at Taporley in more detail to help identify gaps in provision and access.

Figure 1 Ward analysis areas (Ellesmere Port, Chester and Rural Areas)

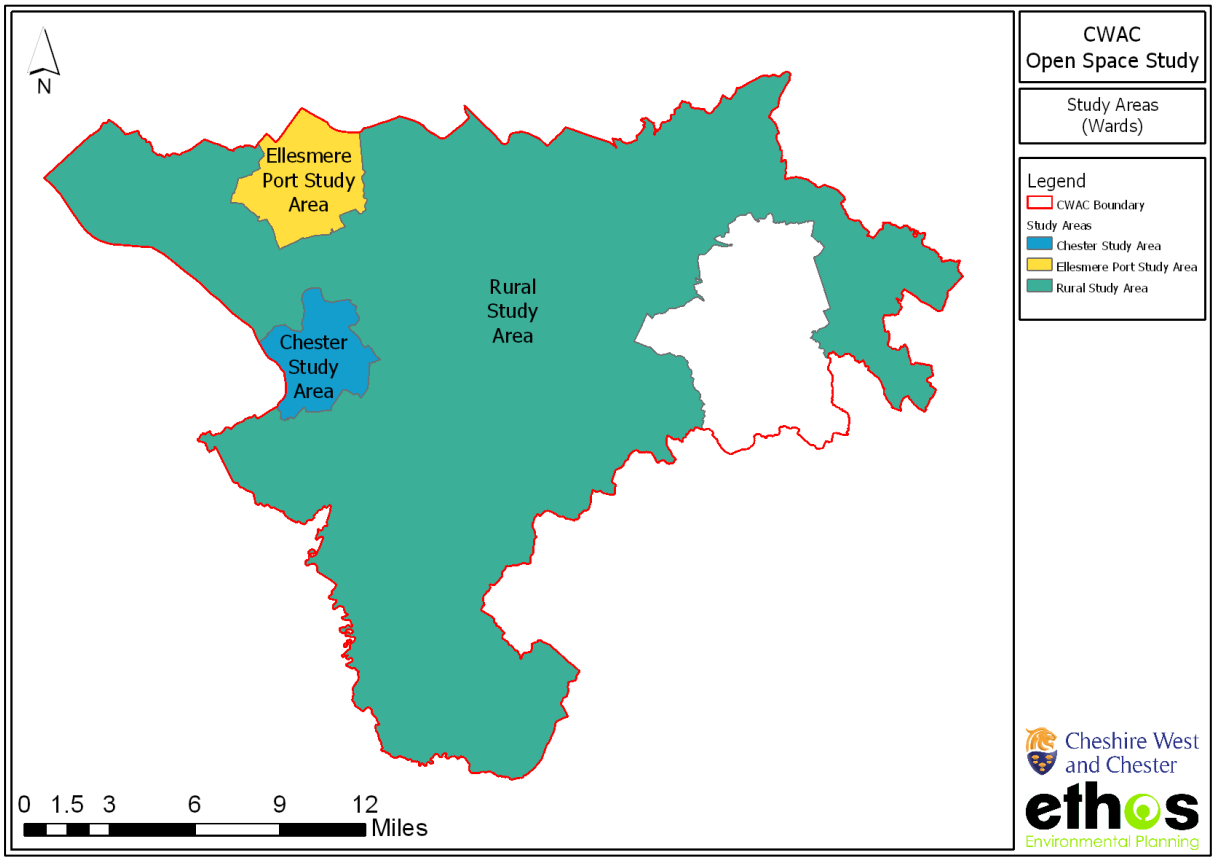


Figure 2 *Parish analysis Areas (Winsford and Northwich)*

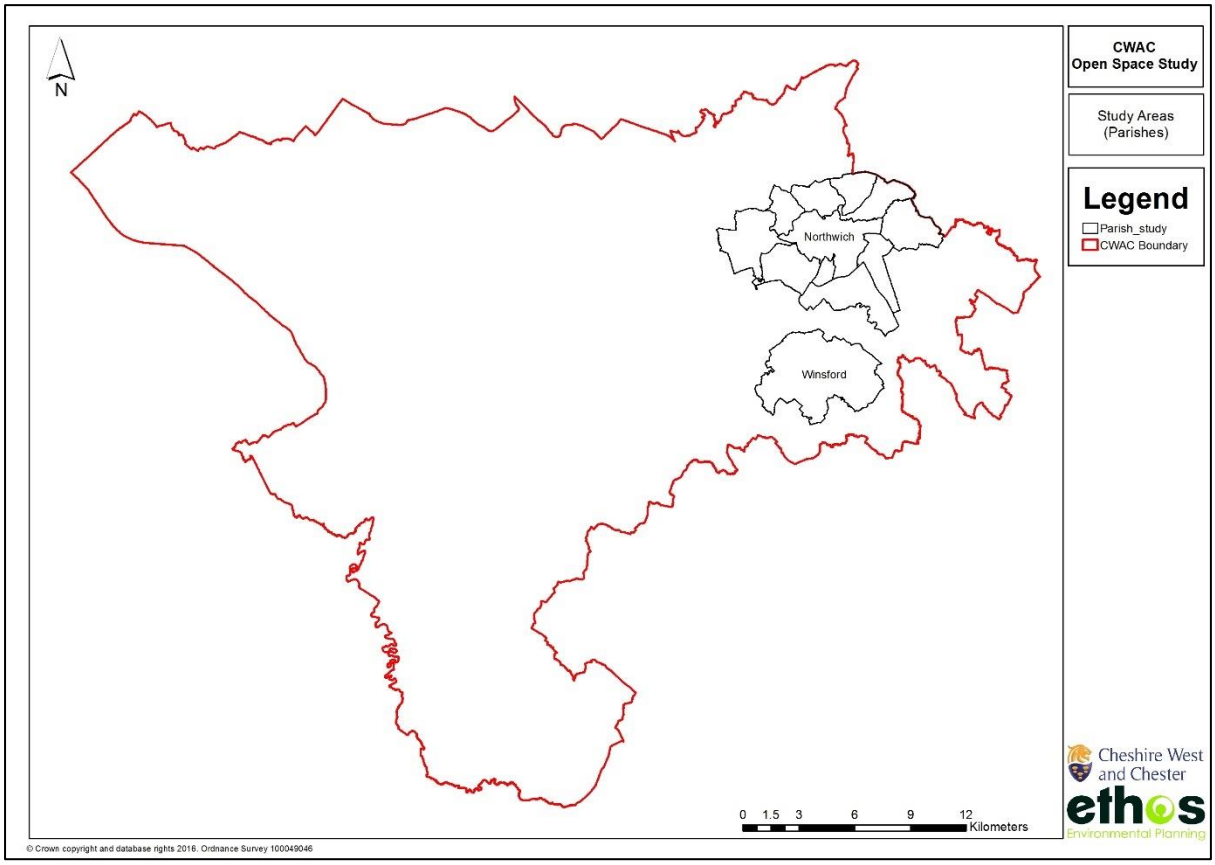
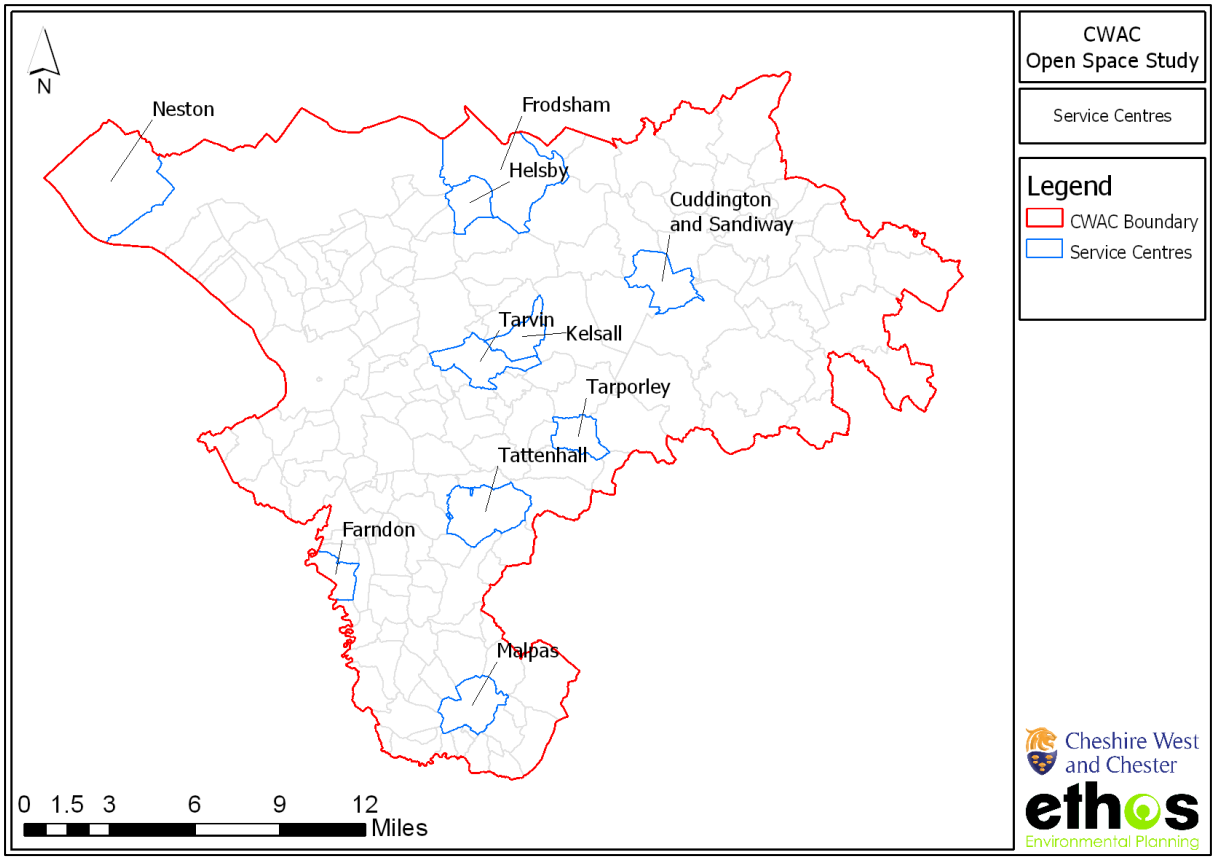


Figure 3 *Key Service Centres*



1.2 Population

Table 1 Key Service Centre Parish population statistics (Census, 2011)

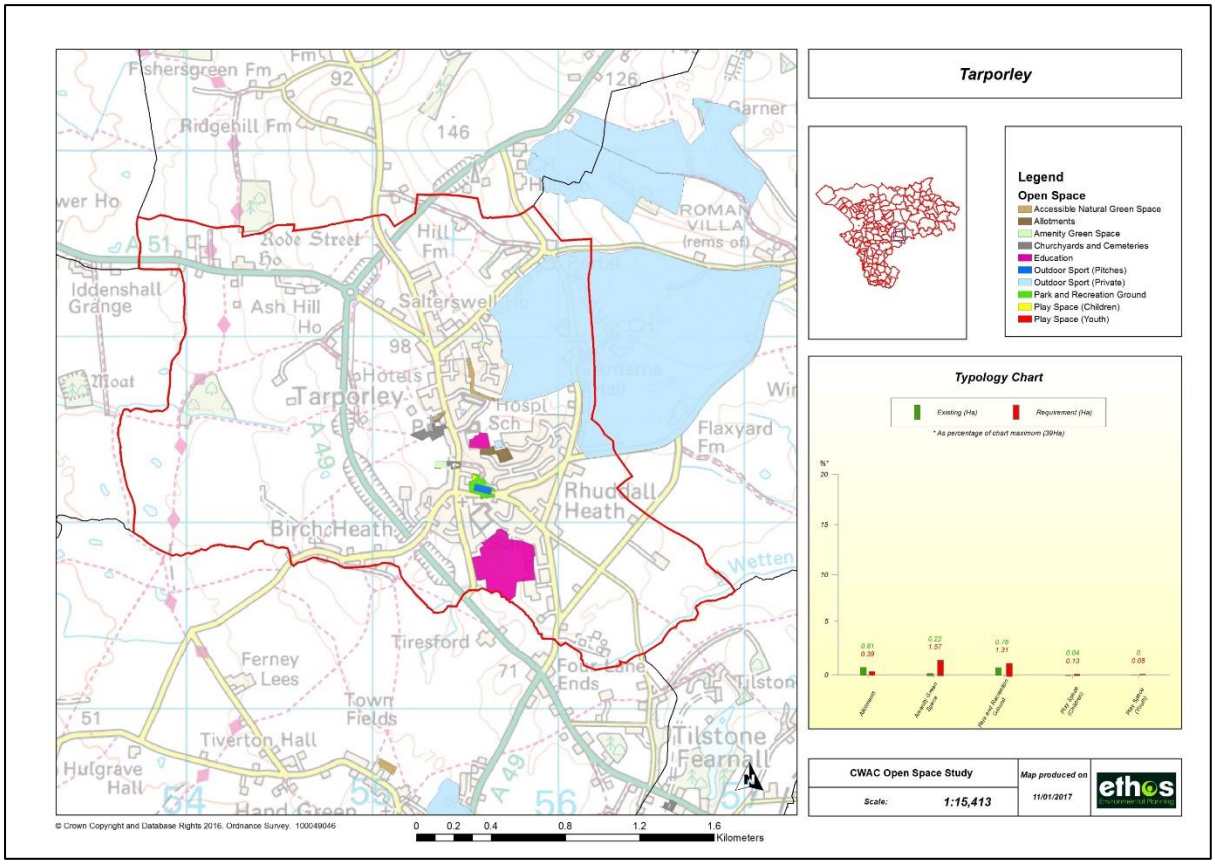
Parish	Population
Neston	15,221
Farndon	1,653
Malpas	1,673
Tattenhall	2,079
Tarvin	2,728
Kelsall	2,609
Taporley	2,614
Helsby	4,972
Frodsham	9,077
Weaver and Cuddington	5,333
Total	**47,959**

2.0 Existing provision of Open Space

This section provides maps showing existing open spaces that have been mapped and included within the Taporley Key Service Centre (parish). The maps are intended to be used for indicative purposes and large scale maps and a GIS database of sites have been provided as an electronic database to the Council.

2.1 Overview of open space provision in the Key Service Centre

Figure 4 Overview of open space provision in the Taporley Key Service Centre



3.0 Analysis of existing quantity of Open Space

3.1 Introduction

This section provides an analysis of the existing quantity of open space within the Key Service Centre (parish). It uses the quantity standards for open space detailed in part 1 of the report.

Table 2 Existing supply of open space within the parish of Taporley

Typology	Existing Provision (Ha)	Existing Provision (Ha/1000)	Required Provision (Ha)	Required Provision (Ha/1000)	Supply (Ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)	Overall Supply
Allotments	0.81	0.31	0.39	0.15	0.42	0.16	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
Amenity Green Space	0.22	0.08	1.57	0.6	-1.35	-0.52	UNDER SUPPLY
Park and Recreation Ground	0.76	0.29	1.31	0.5	-0.55	-0.21	UNDER SUPPLY
Play Space (Children)	0.04	0.02	0.13	0.05	-0.09	-0.03	UNDER SUPPLY
Play Space (Youth)	0	0	0.08	0.03	-0.08	-0.03	UNDER SUPPLY
Natural Green Space	0.81	0.31	0	0	0.81	0.31	N/A
Education	10.42	3.99	0	0	10.42	3.99	N/A
Churchyards and Cemeteries	1.13	0.43	0	0	1.13	0.43	N/A

As can be seen from the table 2 above, within the Taporley Parish/Key Service Centre, there is an under supply of all typologies of open space, with the exception of allotments. The total shortfall for each typology is:

- Amenity Green Space 1.35 Ha
- Parks and Recreation Grounds 0.55 Ha
- Play Space (Children) 0.09 Ha
- Play Space (Youth) 0.08 Ha

Total <u>shortfall</u> **2.07 Ha**

4.0 Analysis of existing access to Open Space

4.1 Existing access to open space

This section provides maps showing access to different types of open space across the Key Service Centre using the CWaC access standards.

Figure 5 Access to Allotments across the Taporley Key Service Centre (720 metre buffer)

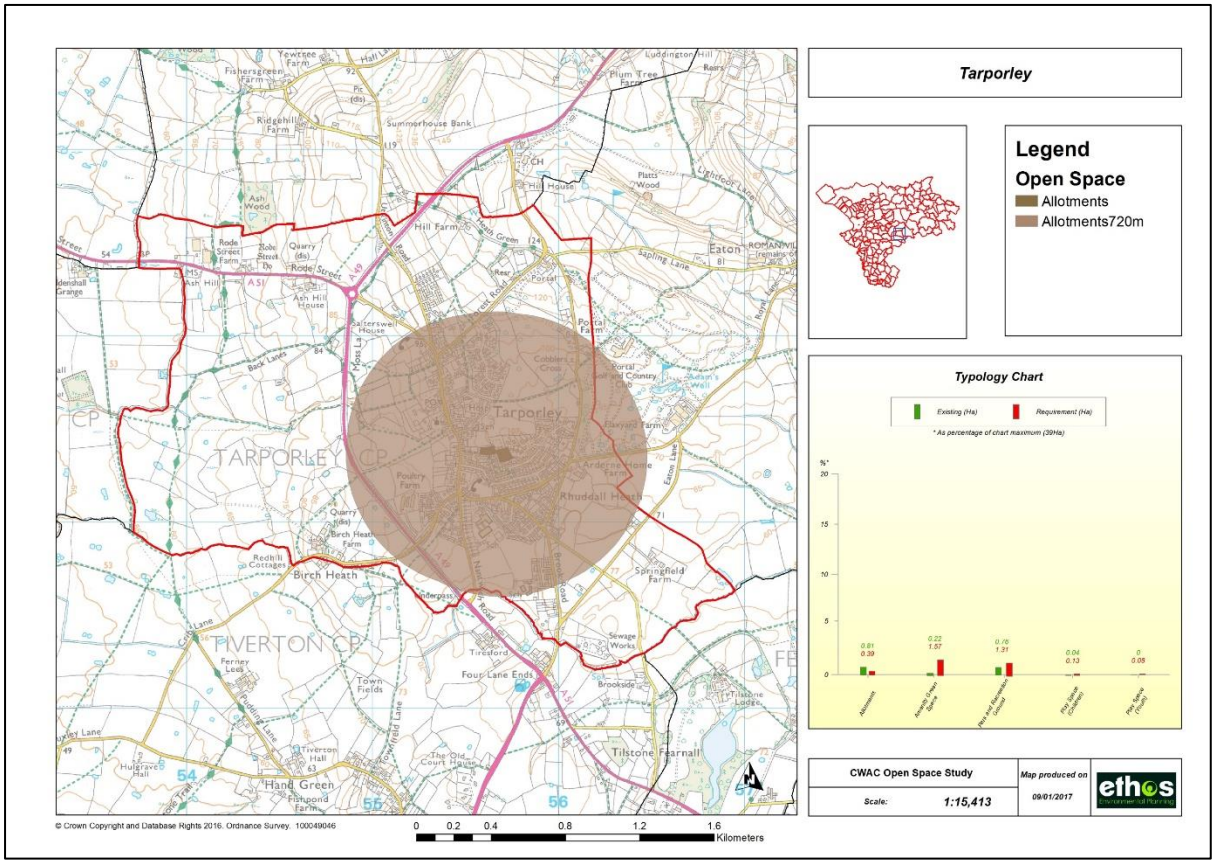


Figure 6 Access to Amenity Green Space across the Taporley Key Service Centre (480 metre buffer)

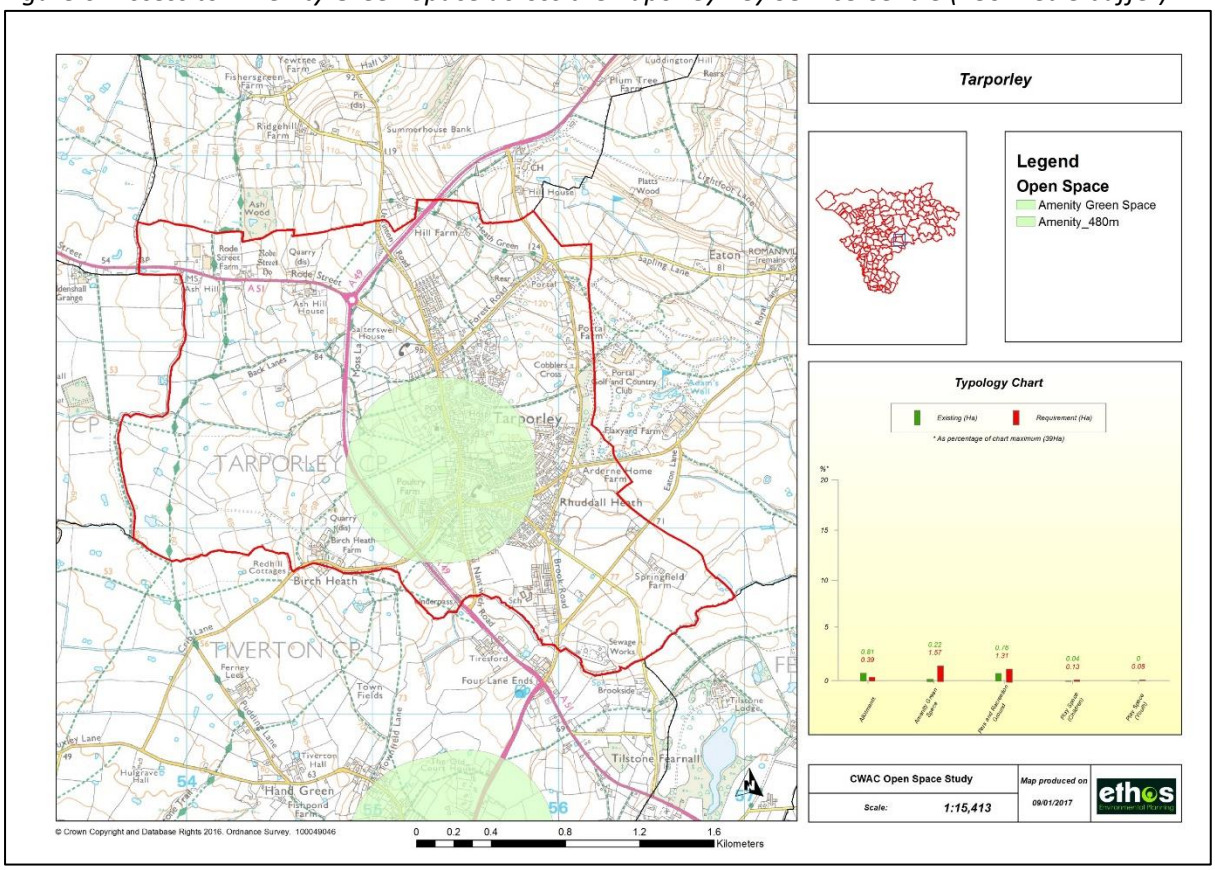


Figure 7 Access to Parks and Recreation Grounds across the Taporley Key Service Centre (720m buffer)

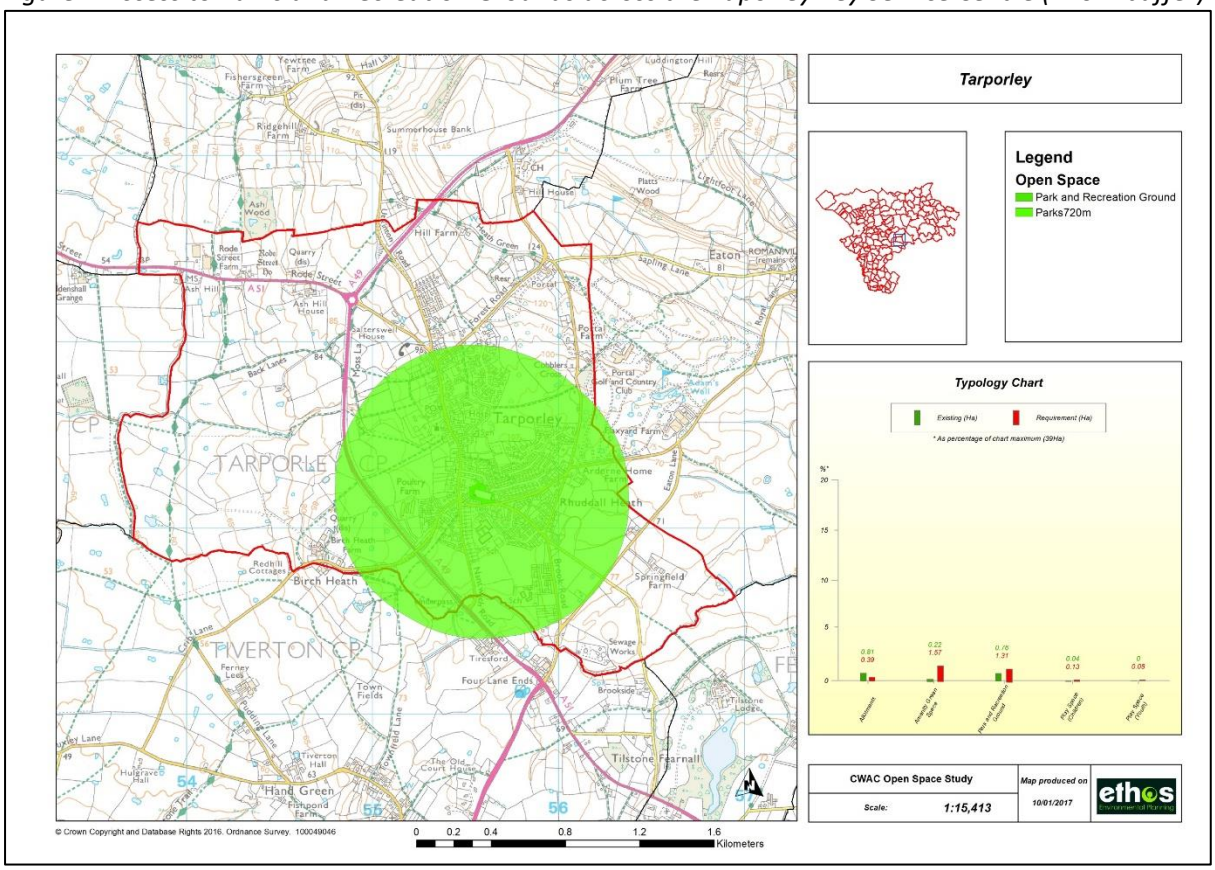


Figure 8 Access to Children's Play Space across the Taporley Key Service Centre (480 metre buffer)

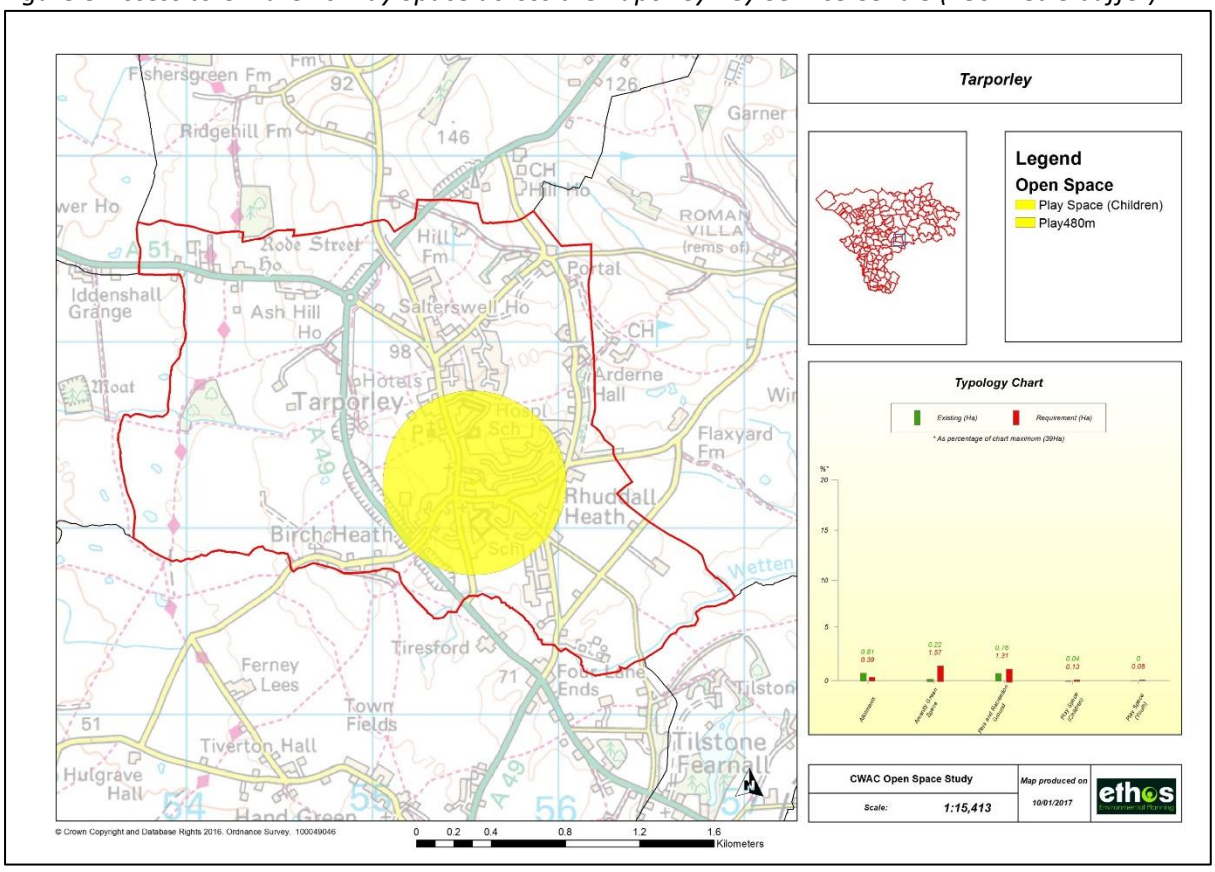


Figure 9 Access to Youth Play Space across the Taporley Key Service Centre (600 metre buffer)

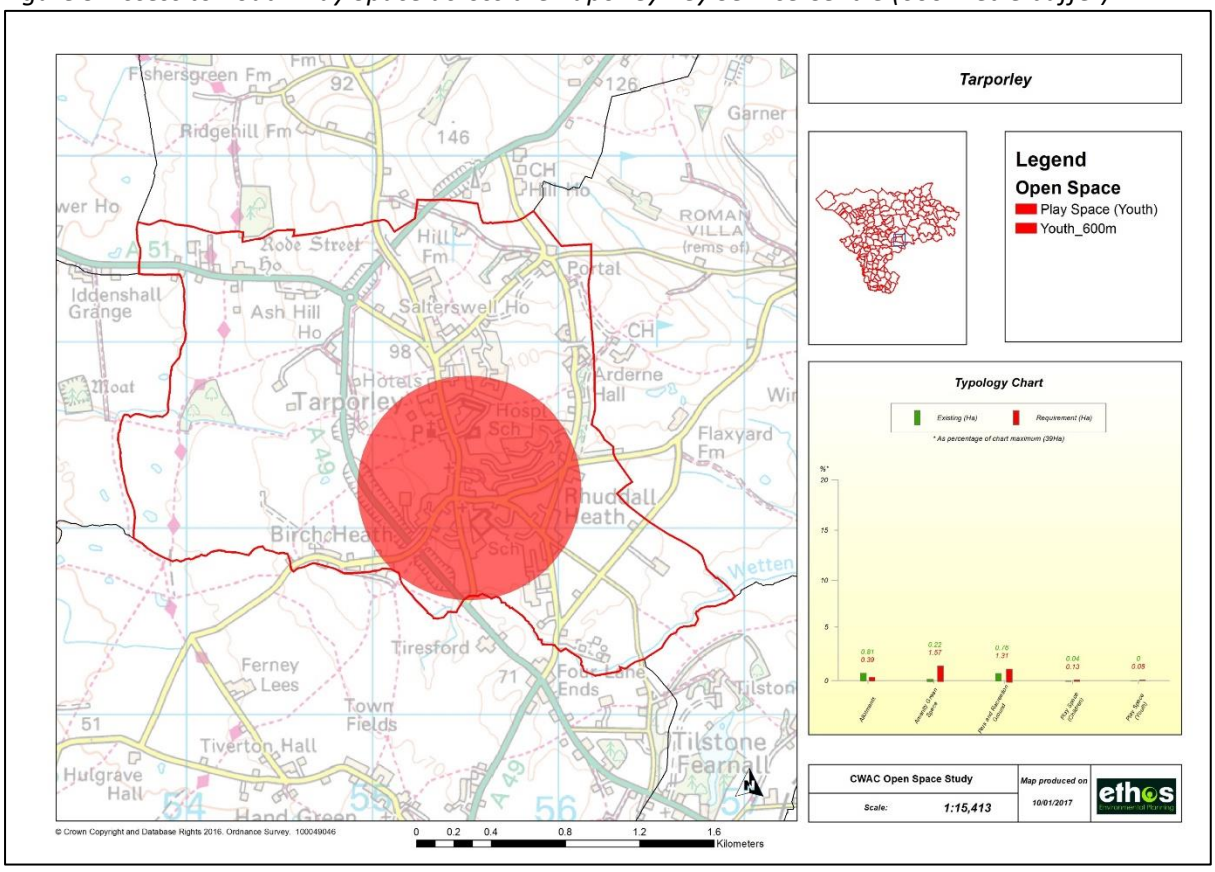


Figure 10 Access to Natural Green Space across the Taporley Key Service Centre

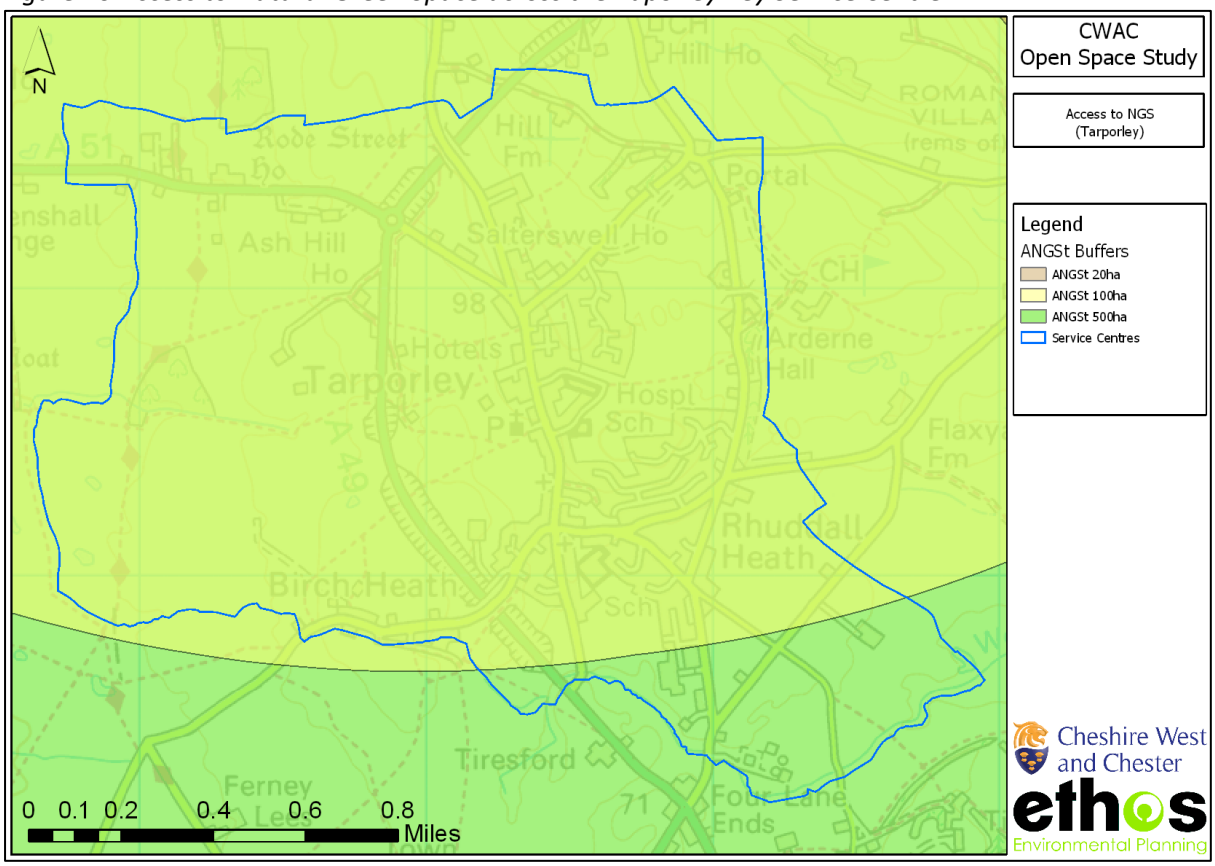
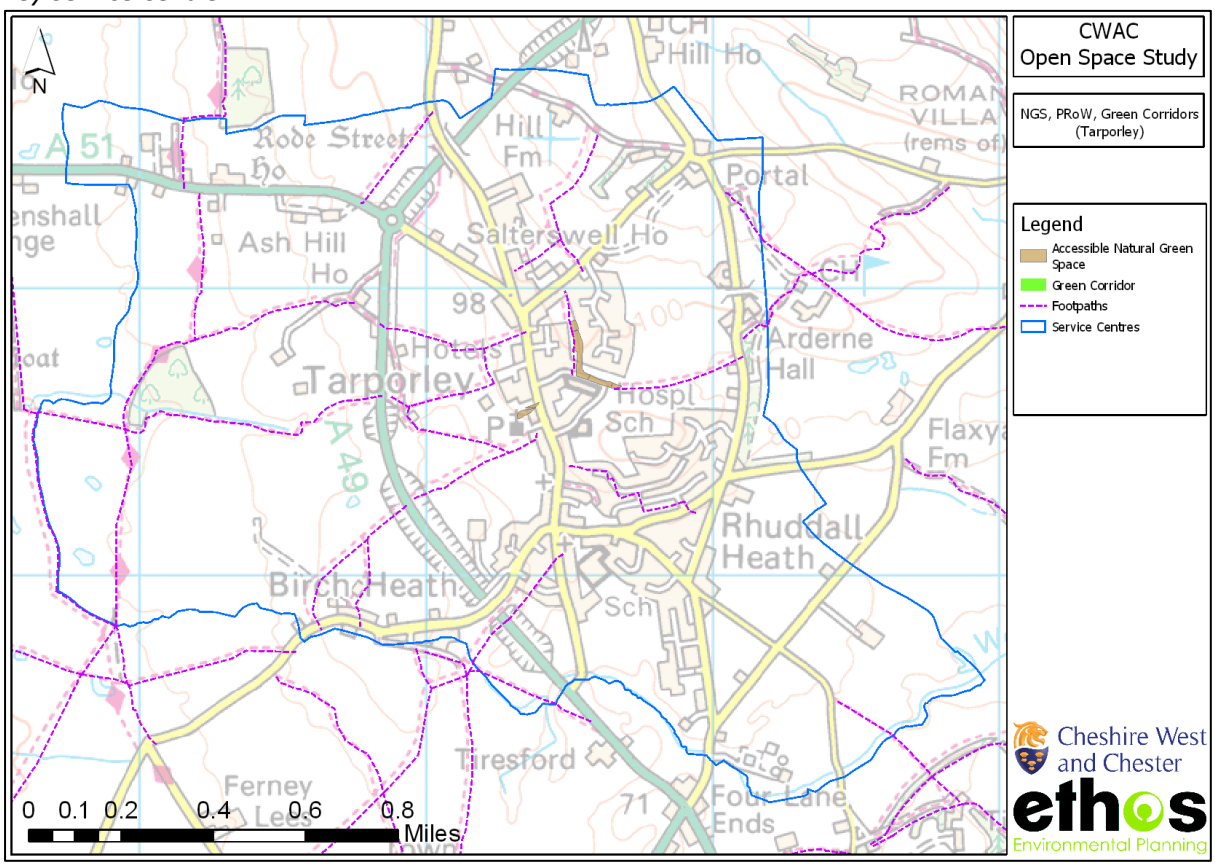


Figure 11 Public Rights of Way, green corridors and natural greenspace across the Taporley Key Service Centre



4.2 Analysis of existing access

Table 3 below summarises the access maps provided at figures 5-11, highlighting any gaps or access issues.

Table 3 Summary of key access issues

Typology	Current Access
Allotments	Good access within the key populated area, small gap to the north.
Amenity Green Space	Gaps in access within the east and the north of Taporley.
Parks and Recreation Grounds	Good access apart from a small gap in the north of Taporley.
Play Space (Children)	Generally good access, although there are gaps in access to the north and south of Taporley.
Play Space (Youth)	Generally good access, although there are gaps in access to the north and south of Taporley.
Natural Green Space	Good Access to accessible natural green space against the ANGSt 100ha and 500ha standards. No access against the 20ha standard, although there are smaller natural green spaces within the parish.
Natural Greenspace, green corridors and Rights of Way	Good network of PROW

5.0 Quality Assessment

5.1 Introduction

This section provides a summary of the quality audit that was undertaken as part of the overall study. Following the initial mapping exercise, site visits were undertaken to assess the quality of sites. It was not possible to survey all sites due to access restrictions, namely certain private sports grounds and education sites. Other sites were also excluded due to limitations of resources, these included small amenity green spaces (<0.15 ha in size), and churchyards and cemeteries.

The audits were undertaken using a standardised methodology and consistent approach. However, audits of this nature can only ever be a snap-shot in time and their main purpose is to provide a consistent and objective assessment of a sites existing and potential quality rather than a full asset audit.

5.2 Audit methodology

Sites were visited and a photographic record made of key features, along with an assessment of the quality of the site. Quality was assessed using the following criteria which is based on the Green Flag Assessment[1]:

- Access;
- Welcoming;
- Management and maintenance (hard and soft landscaping);
- Litter and dog fouling;
- Healthy, safe and secure;
- Community involvement;
- Biodiversity.

Existing quality score/rank

For each open space, an existing quality score rank from A – D has been given, where **sites that rank A are very good quality, and sites that rank D are very poor quality**. These rank scores have been calculated as follows:

- For each open space, a score for each of the above criteria is given between 1 and 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is very good.
- The scores are totalled for each site and the following thresholds are used for assigning a rank:
    - A is 38 to 45
    - B is 28 to 37
    - C is 18 to 27
    - D is 9 to 17

[1] http://www.greenflagaward.org.uk/awards/green-flag-award/

- These thresholds are based on the lowest and highest possible score that a site can obtain.

Potential quality score/rank

For each open space, a 'potential for improvement' quality score rank from A-D has also been given, where **sites that rank A have the most potential to be improved, and sites that rank D have the least potential to be improved**. These potential rank scores have been calculated as follows:

- For each open space or play space, a 'gap' score for each of the above criteria is given between 0 and 4, where a gap of 0 means there is no/very low potential for improvement and a gap of 4 means there is very high potential for improvement. For example, for the 'Welcoming' criteria, if a park and recreation ground has attractive, well maintained entrances with good signage it might score 4 (i.e. good) for existing quality and also 4 for potential quality (i.e. no gap score, and therefore no improvements needed). On the other hand, if there was no signage or old/worn signage and the entrance had a broken gate and litter, it might score 1 for existing quality and 4 for potential (i.e. with a gap score of 3), so those sites with the highest 'gap score' between the existing quality and potential quality have the highest potential for improvement.
- The 'gap' scores are totalled for each site and the following thresholds are used for assigning a rank:
    - A is 15-36
    - B is 10-14
    - C is 5-9
    - D is 0-4

This system highlights where sites could be improved. **Sites that have been given a rank of D for potential may still have potential to be improved, and local aspirations and information should be taken into account** in addition to the quality audit (which can only provide a snap-shot in time).

The details of the quality audit are held within the quality database (appendix 2). Within these Key Service Centre supplements, a summary of the existing quality score ranks and those sites with the most potential for improvement (i.e. those sites with a potential quality rank of A, B, or C) is included within section 5.3.

5.3 Summary of priority open space sites

The following maps provide a summary of the existing quality rank (fig.12) and a list of sites with potential for improvement (fig.13). These draw on the detailed quality audit database provided at appendix 2. Details on the quality of play space (child and youth provision) can be found in the emerging CWAC Play Strategy; the quality of playing pitches is covered within the CWAC Playing Pitch Strategy; and the quality of fixed sports facilities within the CWAC Built Facilities Strategy.

Figure 12 Existing quality rank of open space

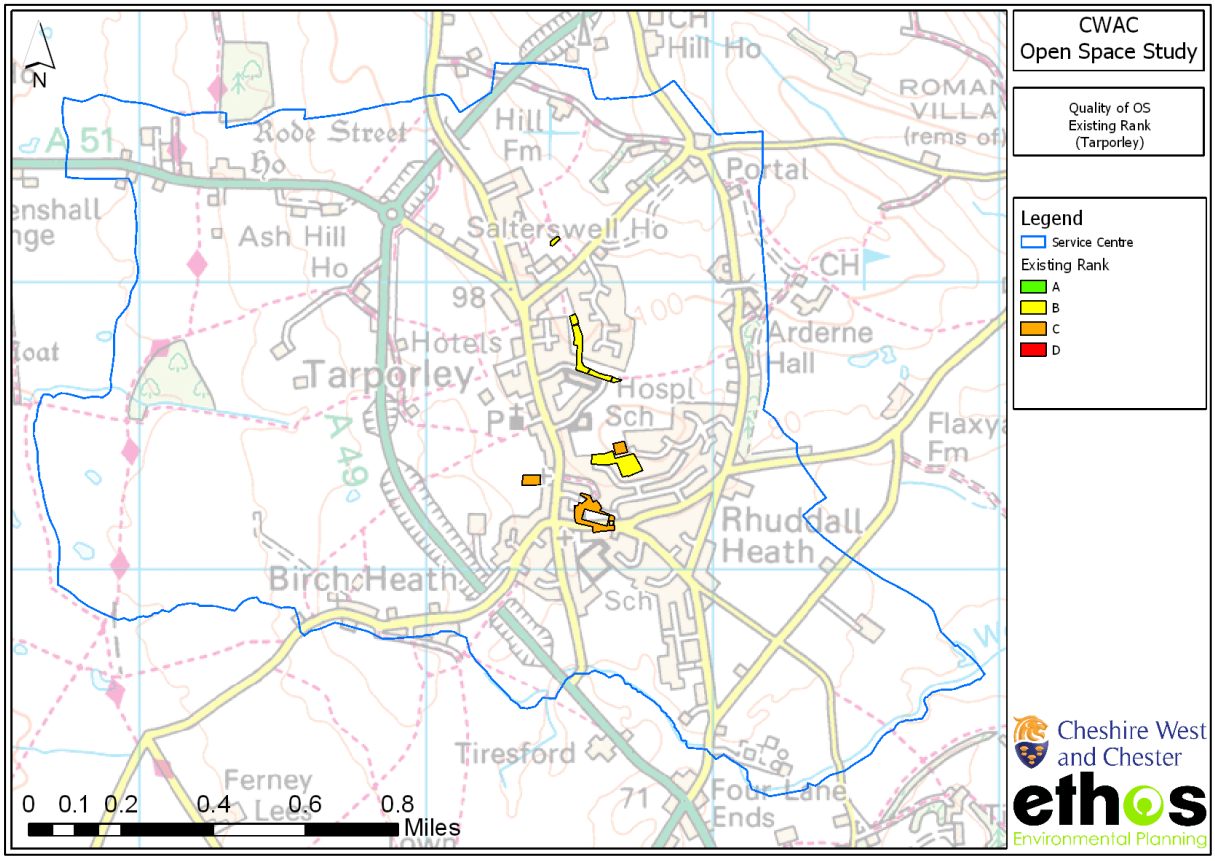


Figure 13 Sites with potential for improvement