



Derby City Council

Open Space Study Explanatory Note

In 2009, Derby City Council commissioned consultants to undertake an assessment of open space in accordance with the now superseded Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and recreation (PPG17). The importance of an up-to-date assessment is still recognised in the National Planning Policy Framework which recognises its importance in informing both the emerging Core Strategy and planning applications relating to the provision of open space.

In summary, this document provides a snapshot of the provision of various types of open space in Derby, looking at quality, quantity and accessibility. It provides a picture of open space provision across the City and highlights where there may be deficiencies and where there may be a surplus. It concludes by suggesting standards which the Council could implement to improve provision across the City, especially as the Derby grows over the next fifteen years.

Unfortunately, as the consultants were concluding the study, prior to handing it over to the Council, the company went into administration. There then followed protracted negotiations with the administrators to recover the Study. Although this was successful, much of the supporting information such as the Appendices and the survey results were inadvertently destroyed as the consultant's IT system was dismantled.

It must be noted that without the background information, the Study isn't complete. The information produced the study has, however, assisted in the preparation of draft Core Strategy policies, but this has also been supplemented by further specific consultation on open space and consideration of the wider evidence base.

The Council does, however consider that the study still has some value in informing planning decisions relating to the provision of open space and thus is publishing the document 'as is'.

The Draft Core Strategy indicates that a review of open space will take place as part of the preparation of the 'Part 2' Local Plan.