

7. Provision for Children and Young People

07

Introduction and Definition

- 7.1 PPG17 states that the broad objective of provision for children and young people is to ensure that they have opportunities to interact with their peers and learn social and movement skills within their home environment. At the same time, they must not create nuisance for other residents or appear threatening to passers by.
- 7.2 This typology encompasses a vast range of provision, from small areas of green space with a single piece of equipment (similar to amenity green space) to large, multi purpose play areas. It considers equipped provision only.
- 7.3 PPG17 notes that categorising facilities under one heading often ignores the needs of older children. Each site and range of equipment has a different purpose and often serves a different age group and target audience. Provision of facilities for children does not necessarily negate the need for provision for young people and vice versa.
- 7.4 In light of the differences between provision for children and young people, this typology has been subdivided and facilities for children and young people have been analysed separately.
- 7.5 Provision for children includes equipped play areas and adventure playgrounds that cater for children under 12. Toddlers play areas are also considered under this classification. These facilities are referred to as facilities for children throughout this report. Where a site contains equipment for both toddlers and children, this is classified as one site.
- 7.6 For the purpose of this study, in light of the nature of facilities across Derby, facilities for young people (typically over 12 years of age) have been divided into two categories – large facilities and local facilities. Larger facilities include skate parks and BMX tracks. Facilities include the following:
- Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)
 - Basketball courts
 - Youth shelters
 - Youth centres
 - Informal kickabout areas
 - Play areas and adventure playgrounds targeting teenagers
- 7.7 Schools are in the heart of their communities and run community programmes in-line with the Extended Schools agenda. Schools have responsibility for managing community access to school sites and facilities meaning that the level of access outside of school hours varies between schools. Therefore, play areas at these sites have not been considered as part of this assessment. The Building Schools for the Future Programme (BSF) looks to place schools at the heart of the community, therefore, in future years, school sites may be central to community life and offer play opportunities outside of curricular hours for children and young people.

- 7.8 Parks, amenity green space and natural open space can play an important role in providing children and young people with informal recreation opportunities. For example, a park can be used by children for playing a game of football and an amenity green space may be used by young people as a place to meet friends. These types of open space therefore provide an important function for residents of these age groups within Derby.
- 7.9 In addition to considering the specific role that equipped provision for children and young people fulfils, the interrelationship with other types of open space, including parks and amenity areas, will therefore also be considered.
- 7.10 This section of the report sets out the strategic context, key findings emerging from consultation and assessment of current provision for children and young people. Local standards have been derived from the consultation undertaken as part of this study and are therefore directly representative of local needs. The application of these standards provides the Council with a number of policy options for the delivery of facilities for young people and children.

Context

- 7.11 The *City of Derby Local Plan Review 2006 (CDLPR)* outlines quantity and accessibility standards for children's play areas. The City Council's *Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document* further identifies a requirement for children's play areas within new residential development.
- 7.12 Increasing the number of facilities for children and young people, enhancing the quality of and increasing access to existing facilities are key objectives of the *Derby Play Strategy*. The strategy promotes high quality, inclusive play opportunities for all children and young people in Derby. Specifically, an aim of the strategy is to provide more adventurous play opportunities in the City.
- 7.13 Children's play areas are highly valued in Derby. Nearly a quarter of respondents to the household survey (23%) stated that they use a children's play area at least once a week. This indicates that children's play areas are an important resource for residents in Derby. In particular, in recognition of the value of facilities to residents, the need to ensure that facilities for children and young people are inclusive was emphasised during consultation. Specifically, the need to provide facilities for children and young people with disabilities was highlighted.

Current Position

Children's Play Areas

- 7.14 A total of 91 children's play areas are located within Derby. Sites range from small, local facilities with a few pieces of play equipment to larger sites containing a wide range of facilities such as the play area at Markeaton Park.
- 7.15 The provision of children's play areas in Derby is summarised by geographical area in Table 7.1 overleaf.

Table 7.1 – Provision of Children’s Play Areas across Derby

Area	Current provision (facilities)	Current population	Provision per 1000 population
Central	14	39,573	0.35
North East	18	52,201	0.34
North West	14	38,277	0.37
South East	33	53,280	0.62
South West	12	38,301	0.31
Overall	91	221,632	0.41

7.16 The key issues emerging from Table 7.1 and from consultations relating to the quantity of children’s play areas include:

- the current provision of children’s play areas equates to 0.41 facilities per 1000 population. Provision is fairly consistent across the City both in terms of the number of facilities and facilities per 1000 population, with the exception of the South East area, where there is significantly greater provision;
- city wide, there is a split in opinion regarding children’s play areas. 48% of respondents feel that provision is insufficient while 41% of residents indicate that provision is sufficient. Only 5% of residents state that there are more than enough play areas;
- similar results are portrayed within four of the five geographical areas, however, in the North West, over half of the respondents (54%) feel that provision is sufficient. Surprisingly, in the South East, where provision is significantly higher, residents are no more satisfied than in the remainder of the city;
- the greatest level of dissatisfaction with current provision is evident in the North East, where 59% of respondents state that provision is insufficient. The second lowest provision per 1000 population is located in this area of Derby;
- other consultation findings portrayed a slightly higher level of dissatisfaction in comparison to the household survey. No respondents to the elected members’ survey felt that provision in their ward is sufficient and nearly half of respondents to the officers’ survey (48%) felt that the quantity of play areas is insufficient;
- A degree of dissatisfaction with the current provision of facilities was also evident from responses to the children’s survey. 46% of respondents indicated that there are enough play areas while 44% suggested that there are some but that they would like more. Levels of dissatisfaction were therefore lower amongst children themselves than amongst adults. 9% of children stated that a new play area would be the one facility that they would like near their home, highlighting the high demand for increased provision; and

- the main reasons given by those residents who stated that there is a lack of children’s play areas related to of the perception that there is a lack of facilities within their local area and that facilities are poor quality. This indicates that there are both quantitative and qualitative issues relating to children’s play areas. Attendees at the elected members’ workshop reinforced the need for a balance between qualitative and quantitative improvements.

7.17 Full consultation findings are set out in Appendix E.

Facilities for Young People

7.18 65 facilities for young people are located within Derby. Facilities provided range from large strategic sites, such as the national standard BMX track at Alvaston Park, to smaller more localised facilities, such as MUGAs and youth shelters.

7.19 The provision of facilities for young people in Derby is summarised in Table 7.2.

Table 7.2 – Provision of Facilities for Young People across Derby

Area	Current provision (facilities)	Number of larger sites	Current population	Provision per 1000 population
Central	20	1	39,573	0.51
North East	12	1	52,201	0.23
North West	8	2	38,277	0.21
South East	22	3	53,280	0.41
South West	3	1	38,301	0.08
Overall	65	8	221,632	0.29

7.20 The key issues emerging from Table 7.2 and from consultations relating to the quantity of facilities for young people include:

- the current provision of facilities for young people equates to 0.29 facilities per 1000 population;
- provision per 1000 population ranges significant across the City from 0.08 in the South West to 0.51 in the Central area. The type of facilities provided however influences the overall amount of space dedicated to provision;
- the number of larger facilities is consistent in three of the five geographical areas. However, a greater number of facilities are located in the North West and South East. Reflecting the comment above relating to the type of facilities, these areas do not contain the highest quantity of space in terms of hectares;

- a high level of dissatisfaction regarding the quantity of facilities for young people was expressed by respondents to the household survey. Over two thirds of respondents (68%) felt that the provision is insufficient and only 13% of residents stated that provision is about right;
- dissatisfaction with the quantity of provision for children and young people is mirrored across the City, with over 60% of residents in each area highlighting that provision for young people is insufficient. Dissatisfaction with the provision of facilities for young people is the most conclusive of all types of open space in the City;
- residents are more dissatisfied with the current provision of facilities for young people in the Central area than in any other part of the city. This is surprising given that the greatest provision per 1000 people is located in this area but may reflect the type of facilities provided and their suitability for the local community;
- other consultations reinforce the high level of dissatisfaction expressed by respondents to the household survey, with the need for increased provision regularly emphasised. Dissatisfaction with current provision was reflected at all workshop and drop in sessions, no elected members felt that provision within their ward is sufficient and 58% of respondents to the officers' survey indicated that there are not enough facilities for young people;
- clear levels of discontent with the current provision of facilities for young people are evident from responses to the young peoples' survey. Over half of respondents (55%) felt that there are some facilities for young people, but that there could be more and 27% of young people indicated that there no facilities within their local area; and
- a lack of facilities for young people was identified as the main reason given by those residents who were not happy with the current quantity of provision. This reinforces the need to increase the amount of facilities in Derby and indicates that quantity is perceived to be the main issue rather than the quality of and access to facilities.
- The Children and Young people Executive Board highlighted the need for a new skate park in the City Centre.

7.21 Full consultation findings are set out in Appendix E.

Setting quantity standards

- 7.22 The recommended local quantity standards for children's play areas and facilities for young people have been derived from the local needs consultation and audit of provision and are summarised overleaf. Full justification for the local standard is provided within Appendix E.
- 7.23 The recommended local standards for both types of facilities have been set above existing levels of provision to reflect the key consultation findings on the quantity of facilities for both children and young people.

Quantity Standard (see Appendices E and F – standards and justification and worksheet)

Children's Play Areas

Current Provision	Recommended Standard
0.41 facilities per 1000 people	0.44 facilities per 1000 people

Justification

A difference in opinion regarding the provision of children's play areas was revealed by respondents to the household survey. Drop in sessions, workshops, elected member surveys and officer surveys also highlight a clear dissatisfaction regarding the provision of facilities.

Based on the above it is recommended that the quantity standard for children's play areas is set above the existing level of provision. Setting a standard at this level ensures that deficiencies will be identified and new facilities can be provided, whilst enabling a focus on enhancing the quality of existing sites.

The recommended standard takes into account the number of additional facilities that would be required to ensure that all residents are within the recommended accessibility catchment of a facility.

Facilities for Young People

Current Provision	Recommended Standard
0.29 facilities per 1000 people	0.34 facilities per 1000 people

Justification

Dissatisfaction with the provision of facilities for young people is the most conclusive of all types of open space in Derby. Over two thirds of respondents to the household survey (67%) indicate that provision is insufficient. Key issues arising from workshops, drop in sessions, elected member surveys and officer surveys reinforce the need to increase provision within Derby.

Based on the high level of dissatisfaction with current provision of facilities, the local quantity standard has been set above the existing level of provision. Setting a standard at this level will identify gaps in provision and ensure that new facilities can be provided as part of new developments. The standard has been set at a level which takes into account the number of additional facilities that are required to meet the recommended accessibility standards.

Quality

Children's Play Areas

7.24 The quality of children's play areas was assessed through site visits undertaken by pmpgenesis. The key findings of these site visits are summarised in Table 7.3 below.

Table 7.3 - Quality of Children's Play Areas in Derby

Area	Range of quality scores	Average Quality Score	Highest quality Site (ID)	Lowest Quality Site (ID)
Central	40% to 80%	66%	Stockbrook Street Recreation Ground (372)	Mayvale Gove (380)
North East	33% to 85%	63%	Sussex Circus (1,100)	Sandringham Drive (141)
North West	50% to 80%	69%	Markeaton Recreation Ground (309)	Darley Park (252)
South East	28% to 95%	64%	Sinfin Moor (1,507)	Inveraray Close (2365)
South West	65% to 80%	76%	King George V Fields (515)	Richmond Close (506)
Overall	28% to 95%	66%	Sinfin Moor (1,507)	Sandringham Drive (141)

7.25 The key issues emerging from Table 7.3 and consultations relating to the quality of children's play areas are as follows:

- positive perceptions regarding the quality of children's play areas were evident from responses to the household survey. 33% indicate that facilities are good and a further 38% of respondents identify the quality of play areas as average;
- the greatest level of satisfaction with the current provision of play areas was expressed in South West. It is within this area where the highest quality facilities are located (average quality score 76%);
- site assessments support the findings of consultation with the quality of play areas generally rated as above average (average quality score 66%). Children's play areas are rated as the fourth highest quality type of open space in Derby (based on the average quality score);
- the misuse of sites was identified as a major problem experienced by frequent users of children's play areas. This issue was further reinforced throughout neighbourhood drop in sessions. Litter and dog fouling were also identified as minor problems;

- site assessment findings did not identify misuse of site, litter and dog fouling as problematic. Only a limited number of sites contained litter and dog fouling and there were only a few sites with damaged equipment. Ancillary accommodation, such as bins and benches, was identified as the main area for improvement;
- over a quarter of respondents to the children's survey (29%) indicated that play areas always have litter and rubbish on them while 39% of children felt that they are sometimes unclean and could be made more exciting;
- the need to ensure that children's play areas are larger and more challenging was highlighted by residents at drop in sessions. Specifically, a number of sites were perceived to contain a limited range of equipment and as a consequence to have limited play value. Reinforcing this point, 40% of respondents to the children's survey who indicated that play areas are their favourite place identified boring facilities as one of the reasons they don't like play facilities in the City. This highlights the importance of balancing the quantity and quality of provision; and
- a lack of facilities for disabled children was highlighted at the disabled residents' workshop. Markeaton Park was identified as one of the only facilities for disabled children in Derby and it was stated that there are significant opportunities to expand the range of facilities provided at sites. Ensuring that play opportunities are accessible for all will therefore be important.

Facilities for Young People

7.26 The quality of facilities for young people was assessed through site visits undertaken by pmpgenesis. The quality of facilities for young people, based on these site visits, is summarised in Table 7.4 below.

Table 7.4 - Quality of Facilities for Young People in Derby

Area	Range of quality scores	Average Quality Score	Highest quality Site (ID)	Lowest Quality Site (ID)
Central	40% to 80%	66%	Sunnyhill Recreation Ground Skate Park (630)	Shaftsbury Street Youth Shelter (2376)
North East	20% to 87%	61%	Chaddesden Park MUGA (165)	Fieldsway Drive Games Wall (2387)
North West	40% to 62%	52%	Markeaton Skate Park Ramp (2341)	Knightsbridge Youth Shelter (2395)
South East	40% to 80%	60%	Chellaston New Park MUGA (714)	Cotton Lane Recreation Ground MUGA (2082)
South West	56% to 80%	68%	Bramble Brook Open Space MUGA (414)	Onslow Road BMX Track (414)
Overall	20% to 80%	58%	Chaddesden Park MUGA (165)	Fieldsway Drive Games Wall (2387)

7.27 The key issues emerging from Table 7.4 and from consultations relating to the quality of facilities for young people are as follows:

- Findings from the household survey indicate a high level of dissatisfaction regarding the quality of facilities for young people. Over half of respondents (59%) rate the quality of facilities as poor and only 13% of residents consider that the quality of facilities is good or excellent. This indicates that there are high levels of dissatisfaction regarding both the quantity and quality of facilities for young people. There is potential that views on the quality of provision are influenced by views on the quantity of facilities;
- Other consultations reinforce the high level of dissatisfaction expressed by respondents to the household survey. 34% of respondents to the officers' survey indicate that the quality of facilities is poor and only 7% of officers rate the quality of facilities as good. Only two respondents to the elected members' survey state that the quality of facilities in their ward is above average and respondents to the young people's survey indicate that the quality of facilities is poor and in need of extensive improvement;
- Site assessments supporting the consultation findings with the quality of facilities for young people generally rated as below average (average quality score 58%). Facilities for young people are rated as the lowest quality types of open space in the City (based on the average quality score). Furthermore, site scores range significantly from 53% to 80%, indicating that there is a variation in the overall quality of facilities and highlighting the need for qualitative enhancements;
- The quality of facilities for young people is generally consistent across the City with the exception of the South West and Central areas where the quality of sites is higher (average quality scores 68% and 66% respectively);
- Untidy sites with litter and safety fears were identified by respondents to the young people's survey who identify facilities for young people as their favourite site;
- Site infrastructure was identified as the main area for improvement at facilities for young people in the City. Many sites were highlighted as lacking in bins and benches. This may be the reason why young people reference litter as being problematic at sites; and
- Throughout consultation, the lack of facilities for young people was perceived to have a knock on effect for the quality of other types of open space. As previously identified, misuse of children's play areas by older children was identified as an issue.

Setting quality standards

7.28 The recommended local quality standards for provision for children and facilities for young people are summarised overleaf. Full justifications and consultation for the local standards are provided within Appendix E.

7.29 The quality standard summarises the features that residents consider to be an important determinant of the quality of provision. The target quality score for children's play areas is set at 81% and for facilities for young people the target score is set at 72%.

Quality Standard (see Appendix E)

Children's Play Areas

Recommended Quality Standard

Local consultation, national guidance and best practice suggest that the vision for children's play areas should be/incorporate:

Essential	Desirable
Clean and litter free	Dog free area
Appropriate facilities for the young (meeting LEAP criteria as a minimum). RoSPA Play Standards should also be met	Seating
Well kept grass and well maintained equipment	Secure and safe location
Appropriate design and location	Facilities for disabled children
Involvement of children in the design of facilities	Appropriate main entrance
Appropriate site boundaries	

Facilities for Young People

Recommended Quality Standard

Local consultation, national guidance and best practice suggest that the vision for facilities for young people should be/incorporate:

Essential	Desirable
Facilities for young (meeting NEAP criteria as a minimum). RoSPA Play Standards should also be met.	Lighting
Clean and tidy	Appropriate main entrance
Appropriate design and location	Adequate site boundaries
Involvement of young people in the design of facilities	Challenging and exciting facilities

Accessibility

Children's Play Areas

- 7.30 Current users of children's play areas walk to access a site (79%) with travel time of up to 10 minutes being the most frequent response (63%).
- 7.31 Consistent with the travel patterns exhibited by current users, respondents expect to walk to access a play area (93%). The average travel time highlighted by residents is 9 minutes. The modal response is slightly higher at 10 minutes. Travel times range from 2 minutes to 20 minutes, reinforcing the expectation that this type of open space should be provided locally.
- 7.32 Site assessments reveal that access to children's play areas is generally good. Many sites were identified as being easily accessible and in close proximity to bus stops. However, information and signage was identified as the main area for improvement, with a lack of signage to sites highlighted.

Facilities for Young People

- 7.33 The significant majority of respondents to the household survey expect to walk to access a facility for young people (80%). The average travel time expected by residents is 11 minutes and the most common expected travel time indicated by respondents is slightly lower at 10 minutes. Similar to that of children's play areas, this indicates that residents expect facilities for young people to be provided in close proximity to the home.
- 7.34 Site assessments indicate that access to facilities for young people is generally considered to be good. The majority of sites were identified as being easily accessible by a number of forms of transport. As with children's play areas, information and signage was highlighted as the main area for improvement.

Setting accessibility standards

- 7.35 The recommended local accessibility standards for children's play areas and facilities for young people are summarised overleaf. Full justification for the local standard is provided within Appendix E.

Accessibility Standard (see Appendix E)

Children's Play Areas

Recommended Accessibility Standard

400 metre (equivalent to circa 10 minutes walk)

Justification

Both current (79%) and expect (93%) users of children's play areas identify a clear preference for walking to a play area. Sites are expected to be provided locally and this is illustrated by responses to the household survey. The average travel time highlighted by residents is nine minutes and the modal response is slightly higher at 10 minutes.

A local accessibility standard of 400m has been set in line with the most common expected travel time. This standard reflects the expectation that play areas are to be provided locally. As well as reflecting the views of the residents of the City, the standard will ensure an appropriate balance between the quantity and quality of facilities and ensure that provision is deliverable longer term. The recommended standard is less challenging than that outlined in the *City of Derby Local Plan 2006* (200 metre catchment). It is important to note however that this standard includes incidental open space, such as amenity green space. The standard represents a 10 minute walk, however the distance has been reduced (by 20%) to reflect the extra time taken for children to walk to a play area in comparison to adults and young people.

Facilities for Young People

Recommended Accessibility Standard

480 metre to local facilities (equivalent to 10 minutes walk)

720 metre to larger facilities (equivalent to 15 minutes walk)

Justification

The significant majority of respondents to the household survey expect to walk to a facility for young people (80%). The average travel time expected by residents is 11 minutes and the most common expected travel time indicated by respondents is slightly lower at 10 minutes. This indicates that residents expect to find facilities in close proximity to their home.

Travel times range from 2 – 30 minutes indicating that although residents expect to find facilities for young people in close proximity to their home, they are prepared to travel to access facilities. Two standards have therefore been set, one for smaller facilities and one for larger facilities.

The recommended local accessibility standards have been set at a 480 metre catchment for local facilities (for example, MUGAs and youth shelters etc.) and a 720 metre catchment for larger facilities (skateparks and BMX tracks). Setting two standards will ensure that all young people have access to facilities in close proximity to their home but ensures strategic planning of larger facilities. This will promote a focus on sustainability and deliverability.

Applying provision standards

- 7.36 The application of the recommended quality, quantity and accessibility standards provides an understanding of the existing distribution of children’s play areas and facilities for young people. Tables 7.5 and 7.6 summarise the application of the quantity standard for children’s play areas and facilities for young people respectively by geographical area.
- 7.37 Surpluses and deficiencies are calculated by applying the recommended standard to the existing and projected populations. Calculations on future provision against the local standard assume that no further facilities for children or young people will be provided. The quantity standards should be used to guide the amount of provision that is needed, however an accessibility led approach should be taken in order to determine where new provision is required.
- 7.38 Given the uncertainties that still exist around the levels and location of new housing developments, it has been assumed for the purposes of projecting open space need that population will grow uniformly across the city. The figures used consider only the impact of population growth within the city boundaries.
- 7.39 It is however acknowledged that plans to provide new housing on the edge of the city boundary within the South Derbyshire and Amber Valley Districts will also impact on demand for open space, as it is likely that these residents will travel into the city to use open spaces and sports facilities. The lack of clarity on the likely scale and location of development means that this impact cannot be quantified at the current time, but should be taken into account as part of the planning process for any new development.

Table 7.5 – Application of the quantity standard for Children’s Play Areas

Area	Current (2010) shortfall / surplus when measured against local standard (hectares)	Future (2026) shortfall / surplus when measured against local standard (hectares)
Central	-3.41	-7.48
North East	-4.97	-10.34
North West	-2.84	-6.75
South East	9.56	4.07
South West	-4.85	-8.79
Overall	-6.52	-29.30

- 7.40 Table 7.5 indicates the following:
- the current provision of children’s play areas is insufficient to meet demand, with a shortfall of almost seven facilities;

- only within the South East does provision exceed the recommended minimum standards;
- the greatest shortfall of facilities is in the North East and there are also large shortfalls in the South West; and
- the projected future growth of the population means that there will be a requirement for over 29 facilities.

Table 7.6 – Application of the quantity standard for Facilities for Young People

Area	Current (2010) shortfall / surplus when measured against local standard (hectares)	Future (2026) shortfall / surplus when measured against local standard (hectares)
Central	6.55	3.40
North East	-5.75	-9.90
North West	-5.01	-8.04
South East	3.88	-0.35
South West	-10.02	-13.07
Overall	-10.35	-27.96

7.41 Table 7.6 indicates the following:

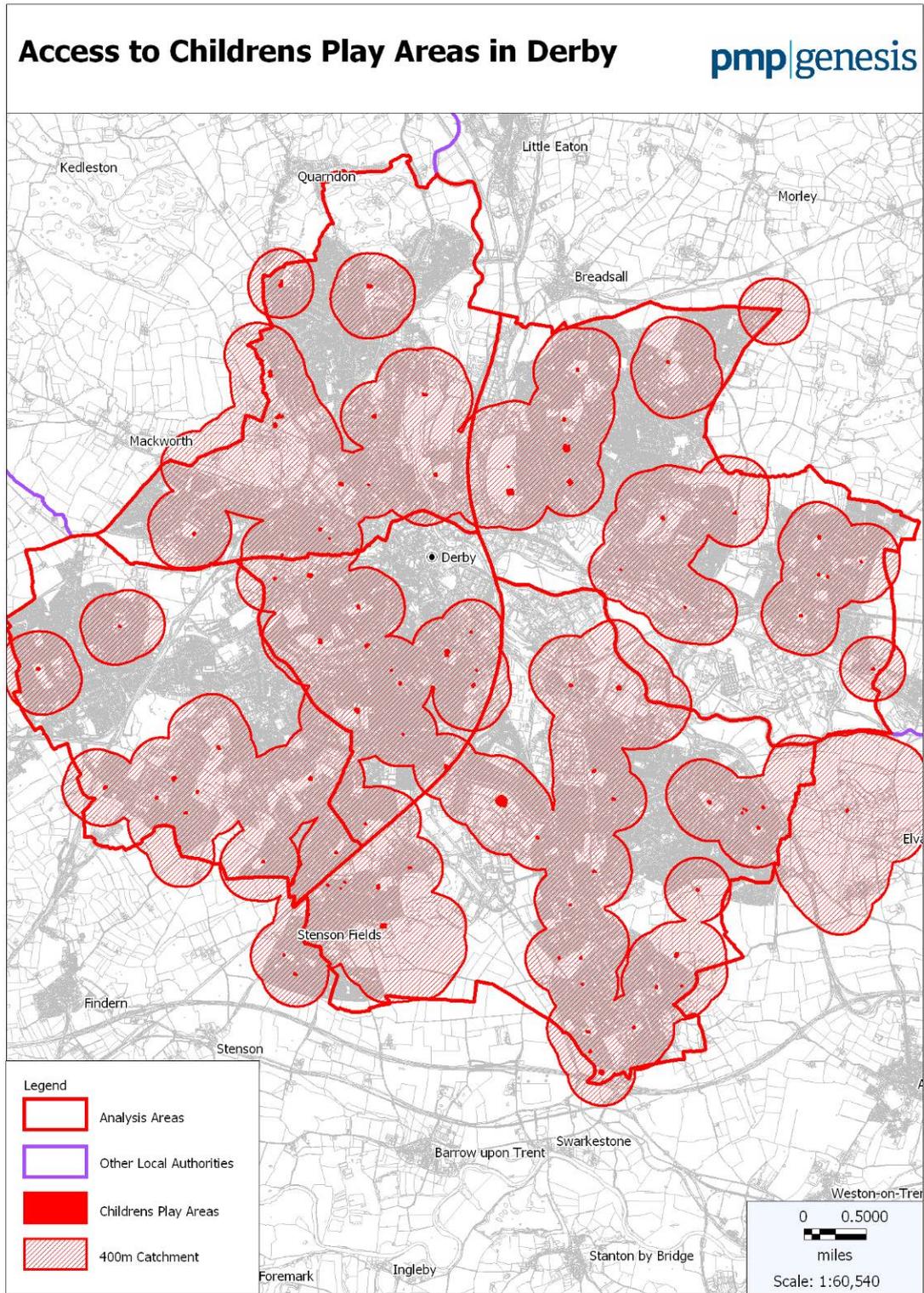
- city wide, the current provision of facilities for young people is insufficient to meet demand. Future population increases indicate that there will be an expected shortfall of 28 facilities;
- the greatest shortfall of facilities is found in the South West. Currently there is a shortfall of 10 facilities in this part of the city;
- the provision of facilities for young people in the South East is sufficient to meet current demand. However, future population increases will create a minor shortfall of facilities; and
- only within the Central area is the provision of facilities sufficient to meet demand.

7.42 Application of the quantity standard for children's play areas and facilities for young people reveals that provision is insufficient to meet demand, suggesting that new provision will be required. Future population increases will further increase pressure on existing provision, exacerbating current shortfalls.

Accessibility

7.43 The application of the accessibility standard for children's play areas and facilities for young people is outlined in Maps 7.1 and 7.2.

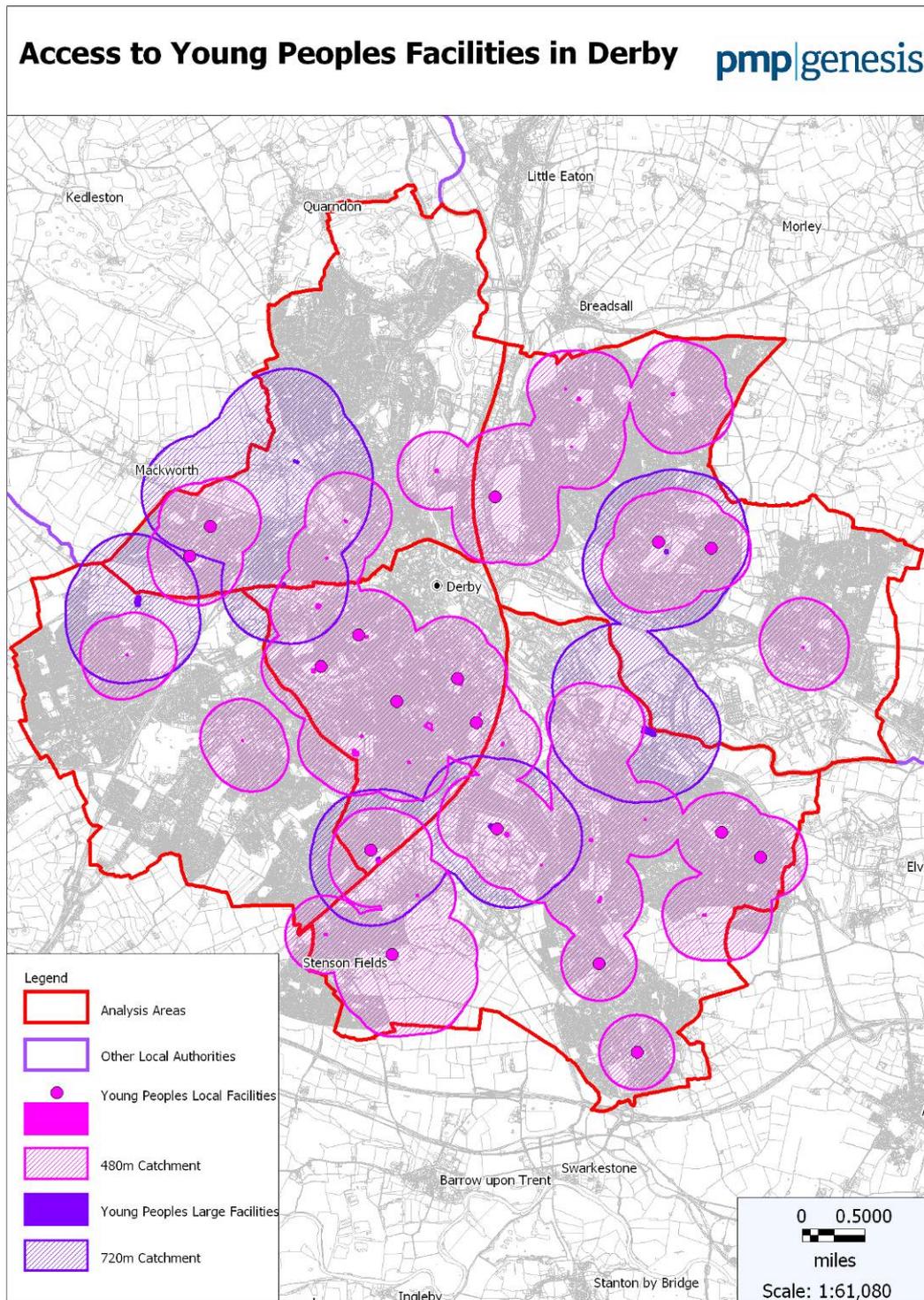
Map 7.1 – Children’s play areas in Derby



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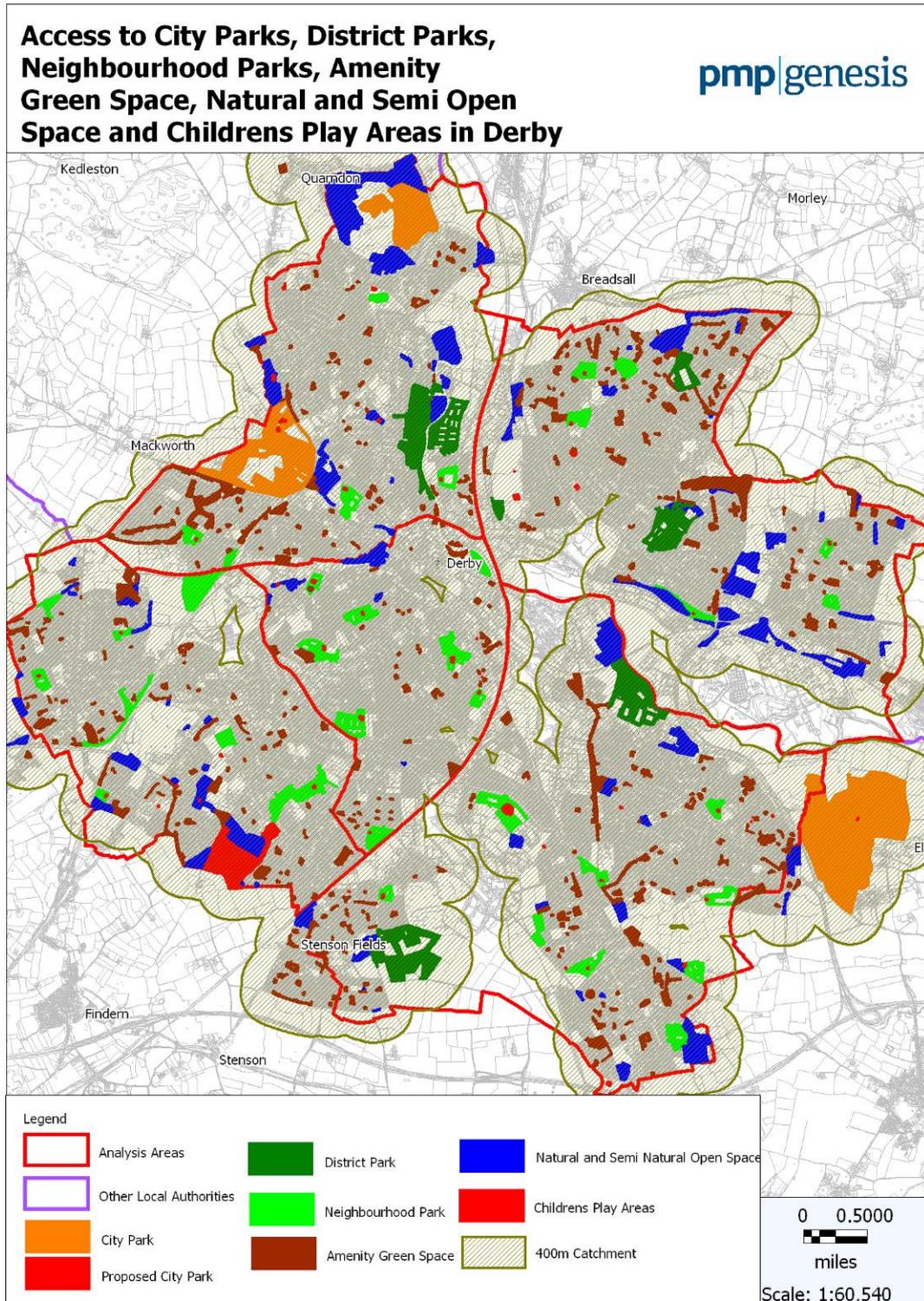
Map 7.2 – Provision of facilities for young people in Derby



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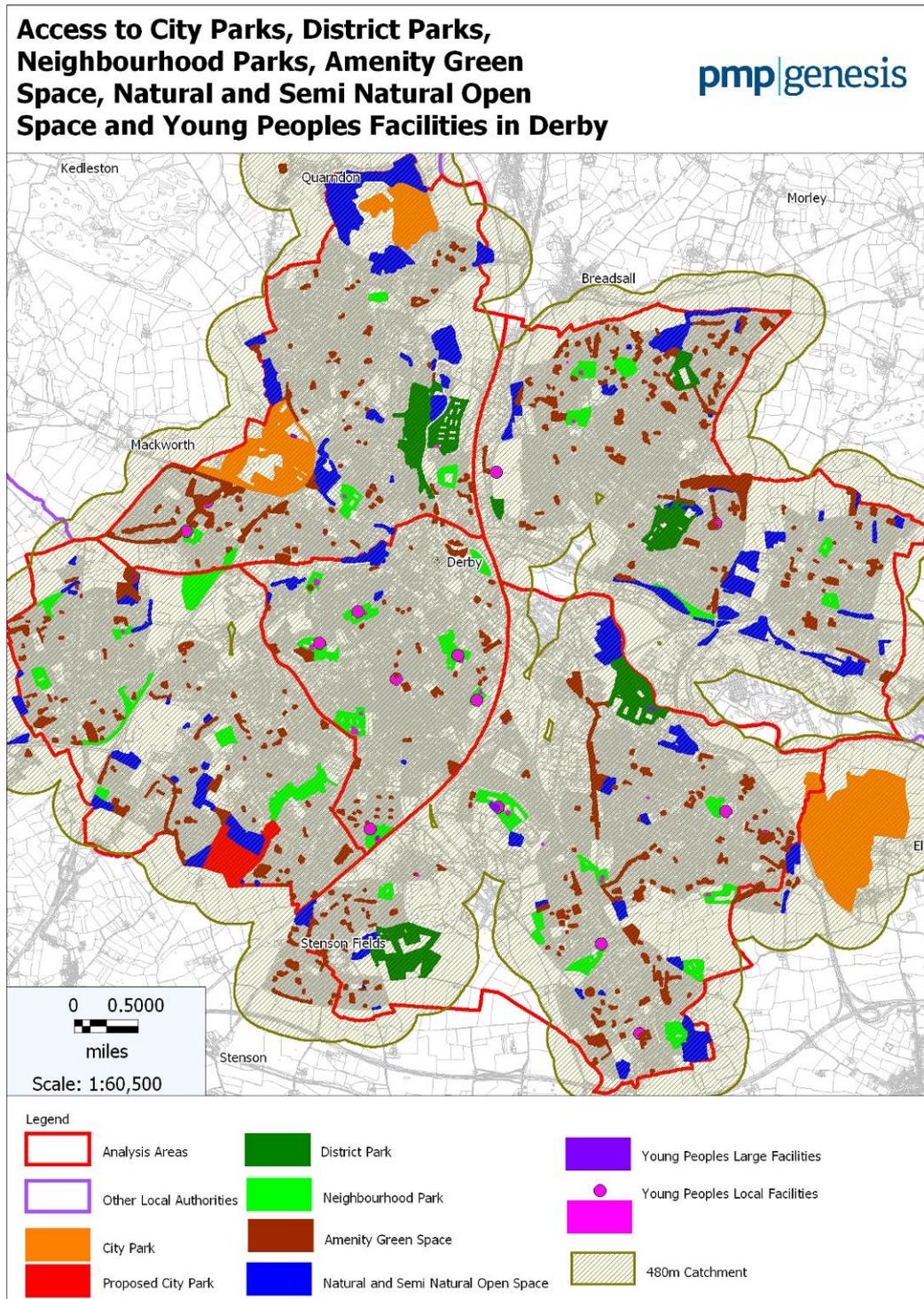
- 7.44 Map 7.1 indicates that children's play areas are fairly evenly distributed across the City although there are significant areas where residents do not have access to a play area within the recommended 400 metre catchment. Although there is a good distribution of facilities, areas of deficiency are evident in Allestree, Mickleover, north of Littleover and south of Alvaston.
- 7.45 Map 7.2 illustrates that there is a fairly good distribution of facilities for young people in Derby although there are a lot of residents in the city who do not have access to a site. Key areas of deficiency are located in Allestree, Mickleover, south of Littleover, Chellaston and north of Spondon. With regards access to the larger, strategic facilities, a large proportion of residents are outside of the 720 metre catchment for these facilities, particularly in the central area. However, at least one larger facility is located in each geographical area of the City.
- 7.46 As previously identified, it is important to consider the role that parks, amenity green space and natural open space play in providing informal play opportunities. Areas deficient in parks, amenity green space and natural open space may increase the importance of play facilities in an area. The provision of parks, amenity green space and natural open space in relation to children and young people's facilities is illustrated on Maps 7.3 and 7.4 overleaf.
- 7.47 Maps 7.3 and 7.4 indicate that all residents have access to either a children's play area and informal open space or facility for young people and informal open space. This means that although there may be a lack of formal facilities for children and young people in some areas of the City, young people do have access to informal recreation opportunities. Furthermore, the good distribution of informal open space provides the opportunity for new facilities for children and young people to be located within them.

Map 7.3 – Provision of children’s play areas, parks, amenity green space and natural open space in Derby



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Map 7.4 – Provision of facilities for young people, parks, amenity green space and natural open space in Derby



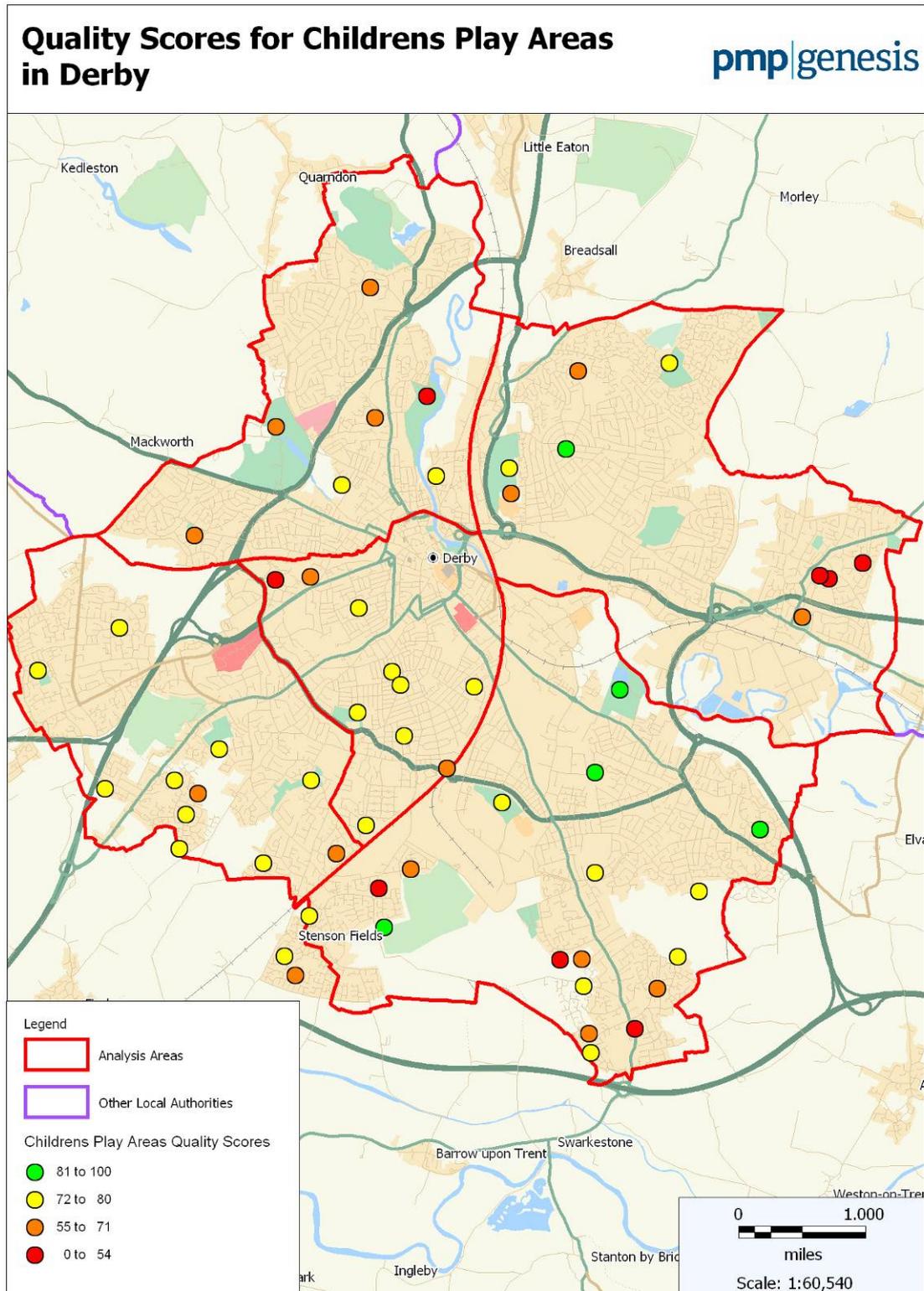
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Quality

- 7.48 The quality scores for children's play areas and facilities for young people, based on site assessments, have been divided into quartiles and are displayed on Maps 7.5 and 7.6 overleaf. Facilities for young people have not been divided into quartiles due to the limited number of sites.
- 7.49 Map 7.5 demonstrates that there are a limited number of high quality facilities and several clusters of poorer quality facilities. These are particularly evident in Spondon and Chellaston. Map 7.6 indicates that poor quality facilities are distributed across the City, particularly in the Central and North West areas.
- 7.50 More detailed analysis regarding the quality of existing provision and site specific priorities is provided later in this section.

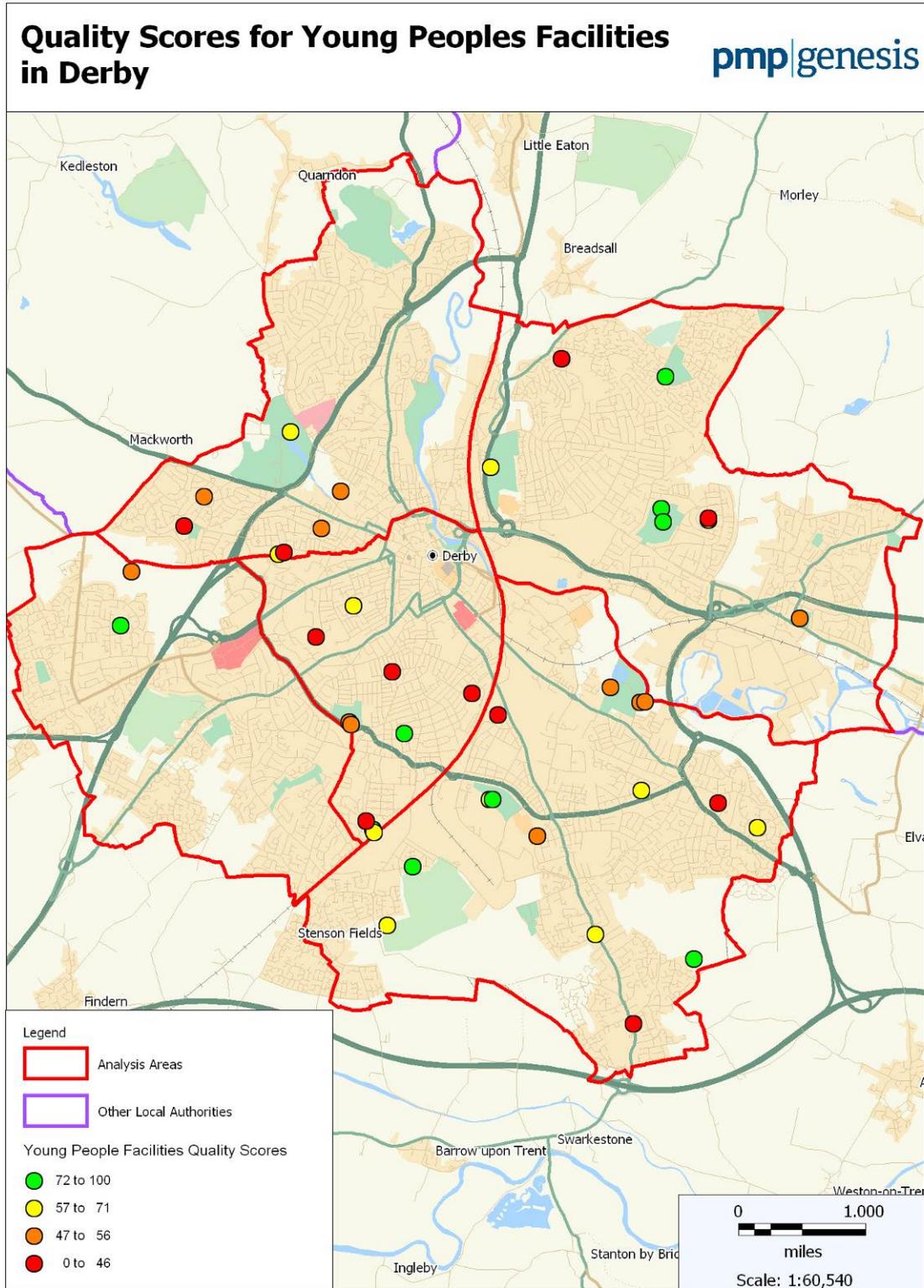
Map 7.5 – Quality of Children’s Play Areas in Derby



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Map 7.6 – Quality of facilities for young people in Derby



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Priorities for Future Delivery

- 7.51 The remainder of this section outlines the key priorities for children's play areas and facilities for young people that have arisen from local consultation and the application of the quantity, quality and accessibility standards. Issues within each part of the city are referenced where appropriate.
- 7.52 In line with the principals of PPG17, the priorities are set out under the headings of:
- Quality enhancements
 - New provision
 - Enhancing access routes
 - Redesignation
 - Disposal of facilities

Quality Enhancements

- 7.53 Achieving a balance between increasing the provision of children's play areas and facilities for young people was identified as a key theme throughout consultation. This was a particular priority for elected members.
- 7.54 Part of the vision of the *Derby Play Strategy* is to provide children with the highest quality play opportunities and an aim of the strategy is to increase the number of good quality play opportunities across the City. This emphasises a commitment to enhancing the quality of play facilities in Derby to provide high quality opportunities for all children and young people in the City.
- 7.55 As well as the expectation of high quality facilities, the need to ensure that facilities for children and young people are exciting and challenging was emphasised during consultation. The *Derby Play Strategy* identifies the importance of providing innovative play opportunities for children and young people and an aim of the strategy is to provide more adventurous play opportunities within communities across the City.
- 7.56 The provision of challenging play opportunities is supported in guidance developed by Play England, specifically in the recent publications *Managing Risk in Play Provision* and *Design for Play*. The guidance moves away from the provision of traditional swings and slides and encourages the development of more innovative opportunities, including natural play environments. Adherence to this guidance is therefore likely to see a greater overlap and interrelationship between natural open spaces, informal open spaces such as parks and amenity green spaces and provision for children and young people in future years. It is likely that a successful approach to the provision of play will encompass both traditional facilities and newer challenging natural play environments. In light of the pressure on existing open spaces from development and challenge of increasing the provision of open space within Derby, particularly in the city centre, maximising the function and use of existing open spaces for a variety of purposes will be particularly important.
- 7.57 Derby City Council has recently diversified its play provision, seeking to provide natural play areas as well as traditional facilities. The boundaries of play areas have been relaxed, creating a more open environment, and more natural features such as rocks and boulders have been incorporated into sites. Sinfin Moor is an example where natural play has been incorporated, with woodland running through the play area.

CYP1	Seek to upgrade traditional facilities with challenging and exciting play facilities for children and young people that encourage users to explore their boundaries and balance risk and safety. This may include the creation of natural play areas which link with the surrounding environment as well as equipped play facilities.
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- 7.58 Involving young people in the design of facilities was identified as important during stakeholder consultation, as well as during discussions with the general public. Involving children and young people in the design of facilities can ensure that facilities are tailored to meet the needs of the local community, maximise usage and create a sense of ownership of the facility amongst these age groups. This may in turn create a culture of respect for the facility and reduce instances of anti-social behaviour and vandalism, both of which were identified as issues during consultation. As part of the Playbuilder programme, the Council is working with pupils at local schools to design new facilities. Pupils are encouraged to design models of facilities that they would like and then the Council develops a detailed design scheme which draws on the aspirations of the children and young people that the facility will serve.

CYP2	The Council and other providers of facilities for children and young people should continue to consult with children and young people in the local community over the design of facilities.
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Children’s Play Areas

- 7.59 Consultation and site assessments highlighted a positive perception regarding the quality of children’s play areas. However, although the overall quality of play areas is good, site scores range from 28% to 95% and application of the quality standard illustrated the distribution of a number of low quality sites in the City.
- 7.60 21 sites achieved quality scores of 54% or below which highlights the need for further qualitative enhancements of some play areas in Derby.
- 7.61 The recommended quality standard identifies appropriate facilities (meeting Fields in Trust and RoSPA standards), a well maintained site, appropriate design and location and appropriate site boundaries as essential features of a high quality play area. Site assessments found that site infrastructure (such as seating, benches, and bins) is the main factor requiring enhancement at children’s play areas in Derby.
- 7.62 The Council should seek to enhance the quality of all sites falling below the recommended quality benchmark of 81%. Sites falling within the bottom quartile (identified in the sub sections below) should be prioritised for enhancement.

CYP3	Seek to enhance the quality of children’s play areas in the City, aiming to achieve a quality score of 81%. Site assessments reveal that increased ancillary accommodation is the factor requiring most improvement.
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Central Area

- 7.63 No sites in the Central area achieved a quality score in line with the target of 81%. However, Sunnyhill Recreation Ground, Church Street and Stockbrook Street Recreation Ground (all 80%) are high quality play areas in the area.
- 7.64 Rowditch Recreation Ground (54%), Tintagel Close (49%), Mayvale Grove (40%) and Oriel Court (40%) achieved quality scores of 54% or below ranking them in the bottom quartile. A lack of ancillary accommodation was noted at Rowditch Recreation Ground and the play equipment at Mayvale Grove was identified as being worn and in need of refurbishment. Litter and a lack of maintenance was evident at the remaining three sites.

North East

- 7.65 Sussex Circus (85%) is the only site in the North East that achieved a quality score that exceeds the target score of 81%. This site was identified as being well maintained, with clearly defined boundaries and an adequate amount of ancillary accommodation.
- 7.66 Map 7.5 demonstrated that there is a cluster of poorer quality facilities in the North East. In order to ensure that residents have access to good quality facilities improvements will therefore be required. Four sites within the area achieved a quality score of 54% or below highlighting the need for qualitative enhancements. These sites are identified in Table 7.7 below.

Table 7.7 – Lowest scoring children’s play areas in the North East

Site Name	Quality Score	Site Comments
Sandringham Drive	33%	Vandalism and graffiti were evident at this site. A lack of ancillary accommodation, such as bins and benches were noted.
South Avenue East	47%	This site was identified as being in need of increased maintenance. The boundaries at this site were poor and a lack of ancillary accommodation was noted.
South Avenue West	53%	The need for increased maintenance was identified at this site.
Waterford Drive	54%	This site was generally rated as average, however, a lack of ancillary accommodation was noted.

North West

- 7.67 No sites in the North West achieved a quality score in line with the recommended target of 81%. Markeaton Recreation Ground and Chester Green (both 80%) are, however, high quality sites in the area. These sites were identified as being well maintained and contain site infrastructure.
- 7.68 Although there are some high quality sites in the area, three sites achieved quality scores of 67% or below. These sites are in need of qualitative enhancement and are outlined in Table 7.8 below.

Table 7.8 – Lowest scoring children’s play areas in the North West

Site Name	Quality Score	Site Comments
Darley Park	50%	Boundaries at this site were identified as poor. The need for increased site infrastructure was highlighted.
Allestree Recreational Ground	65%	Maintenance at this site was rated as average. A lack of site infrastructure at this site was noted.
Knightsbridge Park	67%	Litter and graffiti was found on the equipment at this site.

South East

- 7.69 Sinfin Moor (95%), Mandarin Way (93%), Alvaston Park (87%) and Keldholme Cone Park (87%) are high quality sites that achieved quality scores that exceed the target of 81%. Maintenance at these sites was considered to be excellent and site infrastructure was rated as good. These sites are rated as the highest quality play areas in Derby, suggesting that provision is particularly good in this part of the city.
- 7.70 Despite the presence of high quality sites in the area, 10 sites achieved quality scores of 54% or below, highlighting that there is still a need for qualitative enhancement. The lowest scoring sites in the South East are outlined in Table 7.9 below.

Table 7.9 – Lowest scoring children’s play areas in the South East

Site Name	Quality Score	Site Comments
Inveraray Close	28%	Limited play equipment and ancillary accommodation (for example, bins and benches) was noted at this site.
Chellaston Recreation Ground Play Area	40%	Cleanliness and maintenance at this site was rated as very poor. The security and safety of this site was identified as poor.

Site Name	Quality Score	Site Comments
Glaisdale Nook	40%	Limited play equipment was found at this site and the need for more bins and benches was identified.
Stonesdale Court	40%	The play equipment at this site is limited and in poor condition. The need for more bins and benches was highlighted.

South West

- 7.71 No sites in the South West achieved a quality score in line with the target of 81%. However, seven sites achieved quality scores of 80% indicating that there are some high quality play areas in the South West and that provision is amongst the highest quality in the City.
- 7.72 Richmond Close Play Area (65%) and Lawnlea Close Play Area (69%) achieved quality scores below 70%, highlighting the need for qualitative enhancement. Richmond Close was identified as being in need of improved maintenance and a lack of site infrastructure was noted at Lawnlea Close.

Facilities for Young People

- 7.73 A high level of dissatisfaction with the quality of facilities for young people was evident during consultation. Over half of respondents to the household survey rated the quality of facilities as poor (59%) and respondents to the young people's survey felt that facilities are poor and in need of extensive improvement.
- 7.74 Chaddesden Park MUGA (87%) and Springwood Drive Leisure Centre 5-a-side pitch (82%) achieved the highest quality scores, both in excess of the target of 72%. These sites were identified as being well maintained and secure and safe.
- 7.75 Supporting the findings of the consultation, 12 sites achieved quality scores below 50%, emphasising the need for significant qualitative enhancements to a number of facilities for young people in Derby. The need for increased maintenance and ancillary accommodation at these sites was identified.
- 7.76 The *Derby Play Strategy* commits to enhancing the quality of play facilities in Derby and increasing the provision of high quality inclusive play opportunities in the City. The recommended quality vision for young people identifies appropriate facilities (meeting Fields in Trust and RoSPA standards), a well maintained site, appropriate design and location and appropriate site boundaries as essential features of a high quality facility for young people. Site assessments indicate that site infrastructure, such as bins and benches is the factor requiring the most improvement.
- 7.77 The Council should seek to enhance the quality of all sites falling below the recommended quality target, prioritising those achieving the lowest quality scores.

CYP4	Seek to enhance the quality of facilities for young people in the City, aiming to achieve a quality score of 72%. Site assessments reveal that ancillary accommodation is the factor requiring most improvement.
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Central Area

- 7.78 Sunnyhill Recreation Ground Skatepark (80%) and Havelock Road MUGAs (76%) are the only sites in the Central Area that achieved a quality score that exceeds the target of 72%. These sites were identified as being well maintained and containing adequate ancillary accommodation (for example bins and benches).
- 7.79 Four sites achieved quality scores of 46% or below, highlighting the need for significant qualitative enhancement. Graffiti was evident at these sites and the need for increased maintenance was highlighted.

North East

- 7.80 Chaddesden Park MUGA (87%), Springwood Drive Leisure Centre 5-a-side pitch (82%) and Chaddesden Park BMX Track (74%) achieved quality scores in line with or above the target quality score of 72%. These sites were identified as being well maintained and containing adequate ancillary accommodation (for example, bins and benches).

North West

- 7.81 No sites achieved a quality score in line with the target score of 72%. Markeaton Park Skate Ramp (62%) is the highest quality site in this area, highlighting the need for qualitative enhancement.
- 7.82 Knightsbridge Youth Shelter (40%), Cheviot Street Multi Games (42%) and Markeaton Street Recreation Ground Games Wall (48%) achieved quality scores below 50%, highlighting the need for significant qualitative improvement. Graffiti and missing equipment was evident at some sites and the need for increased maintenance was highlighted.

South East

- 7.83 Chellaston New Park MUGA (80%), Shakespeare Street MUGA (76%) and Osmaston Park (74%) are high quality sites in the area that achieved quality scores that exceed the target of 72%. Equipment was identified as being well maintained with adequate ancillary accommodation provided. Specifically, the MUGA at Shakespeare Street was identified as being new.
- 7.84 Despite the presence of a number of high quality sites Cotton Lane Recreation Ground MUGA (40%), Chellaston Recreational Ground Youth Shelter (40%) and Elvaston Lane Recreational Ground (40%) achieved quality scores below 46%, placing them in the bottom quartile. Graffiti and litter were evident at these sites and equipment at some sites, particularly Cotton Lane was identified as being in need of repair.

Protection

- 7.85 A lack of facilities for young people was identified as a key issue during consultation. Application of the accessibility standard illustrates that a large number of facilities serve unique catchments, making them valuable local resources.
- 7.86 Due to the value of facilities for children and young people, these sites should be protected from development.

CYP5	Seek to protect facilities for young people serving unique catchments through the Local Development Framework. Facilities should only be disposed of where it can be proven that there is no demand for a facility or that improvements to another site in the immediate catchment of the site will be of greater value to residents. Disposal of facilities should only take place following rigorous consultation with the local community in-line with the requirements of CYP2.
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- 7.87 Children’s play areas are highly valued in Derby. Nearly a quarter of respondents to the household survey (23%) stated that they use a children’s play area at least once a week and this type of open space was a regular topic for discussion throughout consultation. Localised deficiencies and the need for increased provision in the City were evident from consultation findings. Supporting this, application of the accessibility standards indicates that there are shortfalls in provision.
- 7.88 Although some children’s play areas serve unique catchments and are therefore an important local resource, application of the accessibility standard indicates that there are a number of sites in close proximity to one another and therefore serving similar catchments. This will be returned to later in this section under the heading of disposal.

New Provision

- 7.89 The local quantity standards for children and young people have been set above the existing level of provision, recognising the need to increase the provision of children’s play areas and facilities for young people in Derby. This need to increase provision is evidenced both through consultation and the application of local standards.
- 7.90 It is important to take an accessibility led approach when identifying areas of deficiency. New provision should be located in areas that are outside the recommended accessibility catchment of a children’s play area or facility for young people where there is sufficient demand to justify a new facility (measured by the quantity standard).
- 7.91 In terms of the application of standards for new development, there may be a conflict between the quantity standard and accessibility standard. For example, a substantial new development which incorporates family housing may require two play areas to ensure full accessibility coverage for both new residents and if in an area of deficiency, existing residents. However the quantity standard might not be of a level equivalent to two play areas. In such situations the Council should direct the developer to prioritise the accessibility standard over the quantity standard. The play areas provided should still meet with quality standard.

CYP6	Ensure that policy requires contributions towards facilities for both children and young people as part of new development as appropriate. Promote an accessibility led approach to the determination of levels of provision required as part of new development.
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- 7.92 Analysis of the requirement for new provision in each part of the city is considered in the sub sections that follow.

Children's Play Areas

Central Area

- 7.93 Application of the quantity standard indicates that the provision of children's play areas is below the minimum standard with a shortfall of four play areas. Future population increases could see shortfalls increase to up to eight play areas.
- 7.94 Despite a quantitative shortfall, accessibility mapping indicates that nearly all residents have access to a play area within the recommended 400 metre catchment. The only area of deficiency is located within Derby city centre.
- 7.95 Although there is a deficiency of play areas in the city centre, all people have access to some form of informal open space (parks, amenity green space or natural open space) within a 400 metre catchment. This means that there is good access to informal open space within the city centre, although there are no specific facilities for children, either for those that live there, or for those visiting the city centre for shopping or other purposes.
- 7.96 Providing a new play area within the city centre will be extremely challenging due to the nature of the area and therefore consideration should be given to providing new facilities within existing open spaces, such as parks or amenity green space.
- 7.97 Bass's Recreational Ground is a neighbourhood park located in the area of deficiency. To alleviate existing deficiencies in the city centre, consideration should be given to providing a play area within this site. It will be important that any facility provided fits in with the character of the area alongside the River Derwent and does not reduce the aesthetic value and ambience of Bass's Recreational Ground. Furthermore, access routes to Bass's Recreation Ground should be enhanced to ensure that the facility is easily reached from the city centre as well as from recreational neighbourhoods.

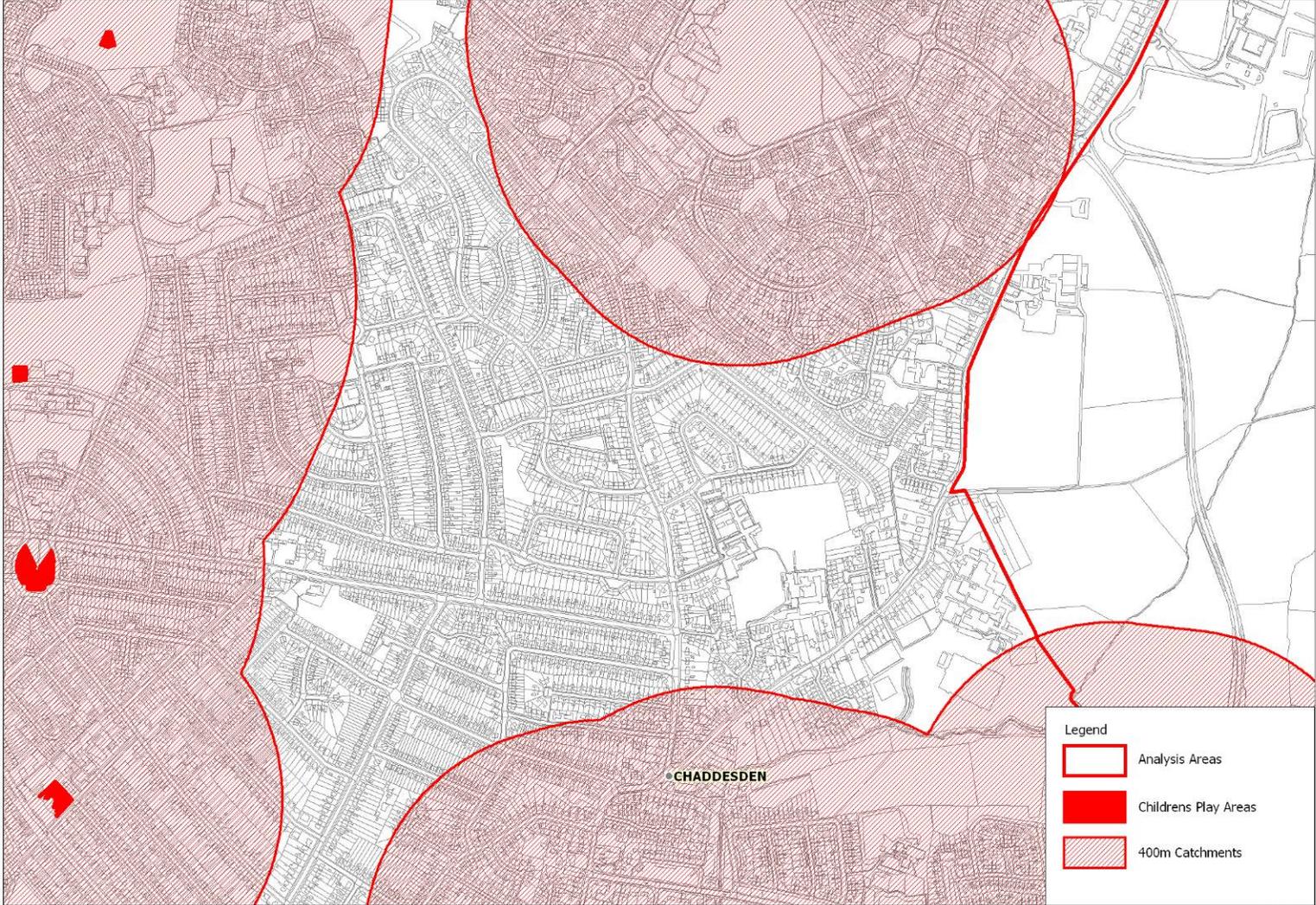
CYP7	Consider providing a play area within Bass's Recreational Ground or identify an alternative within the city centre area. Ensure that the site is easily accessible from the city centre and from residential areas by improving access routes to such facilities. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.98 As previously highlighted, future population increases suggest that demand for children's play areas will increase, resulting in a requirement of eight play areas by 2026. It will therefore be important that the capacity of existing provision is able to accommodate future population growth. Demand for increased provision should therefore be monitored and new facilities provided should demand be sufficient.

North East

- 7.99 Application of the accessibility standard indicates that the majority of residents have access to a children's play area within the recommended catchment. However, an area of deficiency is evident in Chaddesden (Figure 7.1).

Figure 7.1 – Deficiencies in Chaddesden



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- 7.100 Quantitative analysis indicates that the greatest shortfall of children’s play areas is found in the North East. There is a currently a shortfall of five play areas and this may increase to up to 11 over the Local Development Framework period.
- 7.101 Although a number of residents in Chaddesden are outside the catchment of a play area, they do have access to informal open space within a 400 metre catchment. The location of amenity green space provides the opportunity for a new play area to be located within this type of open space.
- 7.102 Dorchester Avenue is a large amenity green space located within the area deficient in the provision of children’s play areas. To alleviate existing accessibility deficiencies the Council should seek to provide a play area within this site.

CYP8	Seek to provide a play area within Dorchester Avenue amenity green space. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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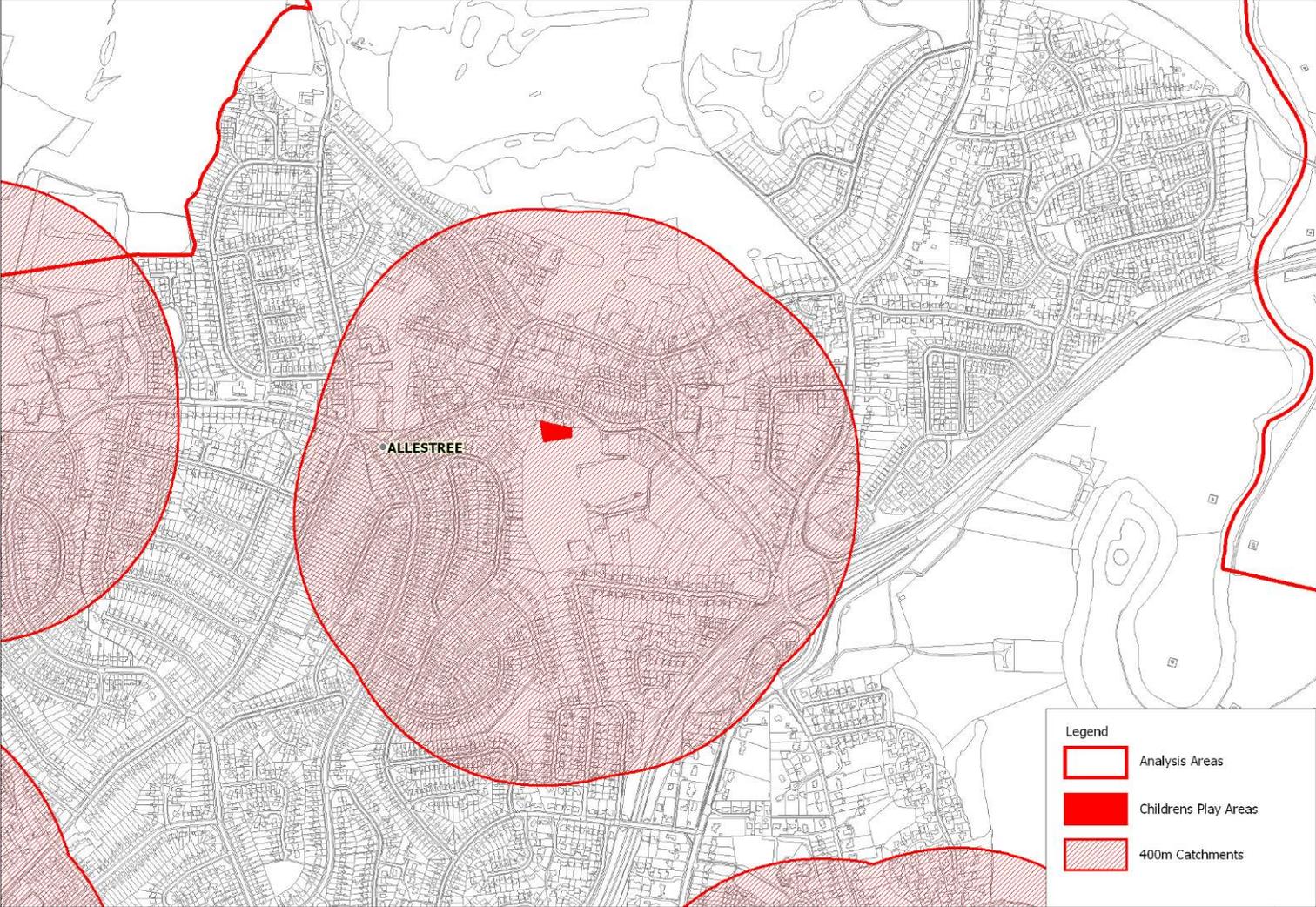
- 7.103 As previously identified, the greatest quantitative shortfall of children’s play areas is found in the North East and increased provision will be required in the event of population growth. The Council should therefore seize opportunities to increase the provision of children’s play areas or alternatively increase the capacity of existing facilities within the North East.

CYP9	Seize opportunities to increase the provision of children’s play areas or increase the capacity of existing facilities within the North East area. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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North West

- 7.104 Application of the quantity standard indicates that there is currently a shortfall of three play areas. Future population increases indicate that this shortfall is expected to increase to seven facilities by 2026.
- 7.105 Accessibility mapping reveals that there is a good distribution of children’s play areas in the North West, which means that the majority of residents have access to a site. However, a key area of deficiency is evident in Allestree (Figure 7.2).

Figure 7.2 – Deficiencies in Allestree



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- 7.106 When considering the provision of informal open space all residents have access to at least one type of informal open space within a 400 metre catchment. This means that informal recreation opportunities are available for children.
- 7.107 Medway Drive and Abbey Hill Road are amenity green spaces located in the area of existing deficiency in Allestree. In order to alleviate existing shortfalls consideration should be given to providing play areas within Medway Drive and Abbey Hill Road amenity green spaces.

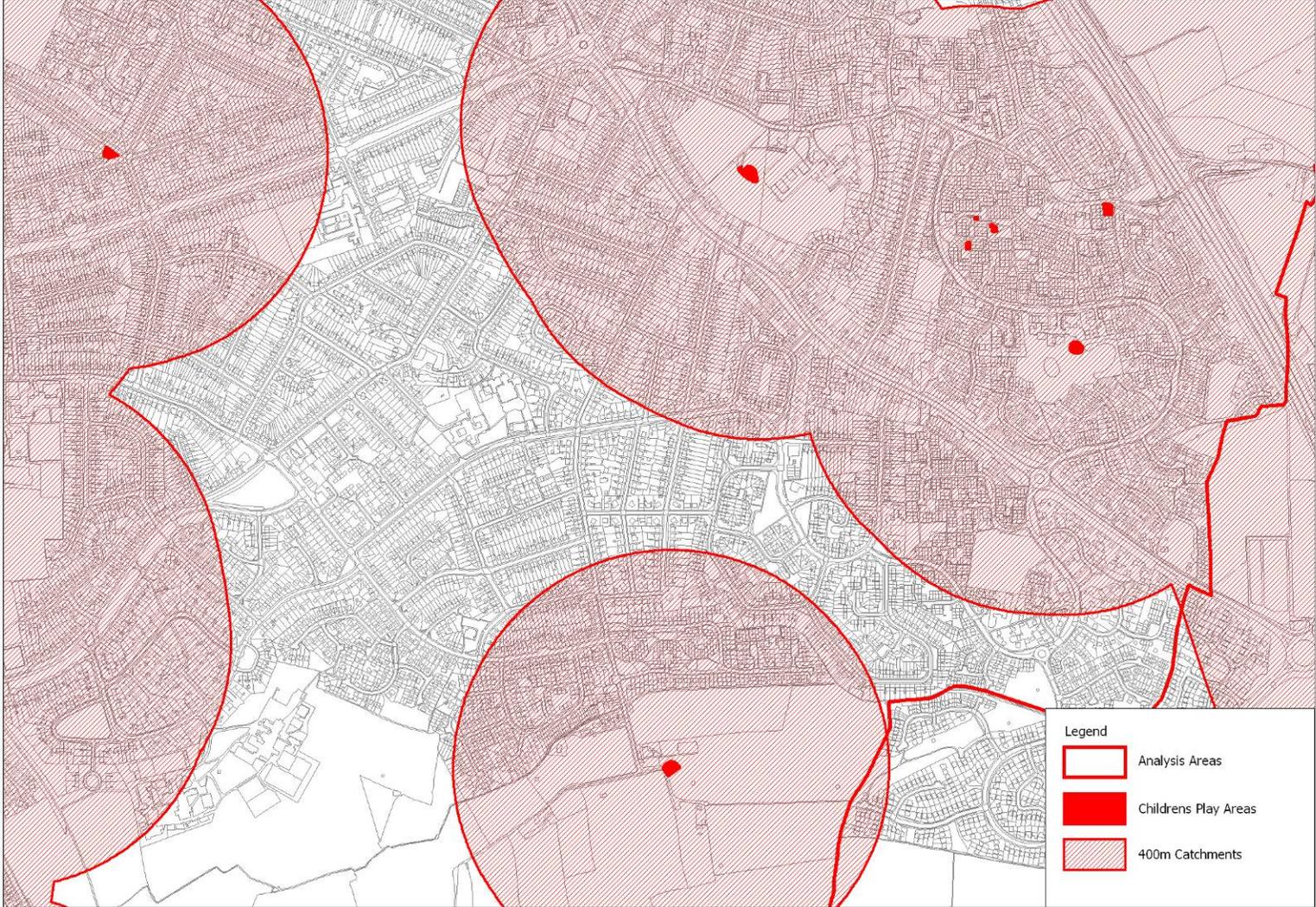
CYP10	Consider providing play areas within Medway Drive and Abbey Hill Road amenity green spaces. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.108 Future population projections suggest that population growth may generate a requirement for seven play areas by 2026. Demand for increased provision in the North West should therefore be monitored and increased provision provided if demand is sufficient.

South East

- 7.109 The greatest provision of children's play areas (33) is found in the South East and application of the quantity standard indicates that the current provision of play areas is sufficient to accommodate current and future demand.
- 7.110 Supporting the findings of the application of the quantity standards, accessibility mapping reveals that nearly all residents have access to a play area within the recommended 400 metre catchment. A key area of deficiency is however evident in the south of Alvaston (Figure 7.3).

Figure 7.3 – Deficiencies in the south of Alvaston



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- 7.111 Although residents in the south of Alvaston are outside the catchment, they do have access to informal open space. Holbrook Road is a large amenity green space located in the area of existing deficiency. To alleviate accessibility deficiencies in the south of Alvaston consideration should be given to providing a play area within Holbrook Road amenity green space.

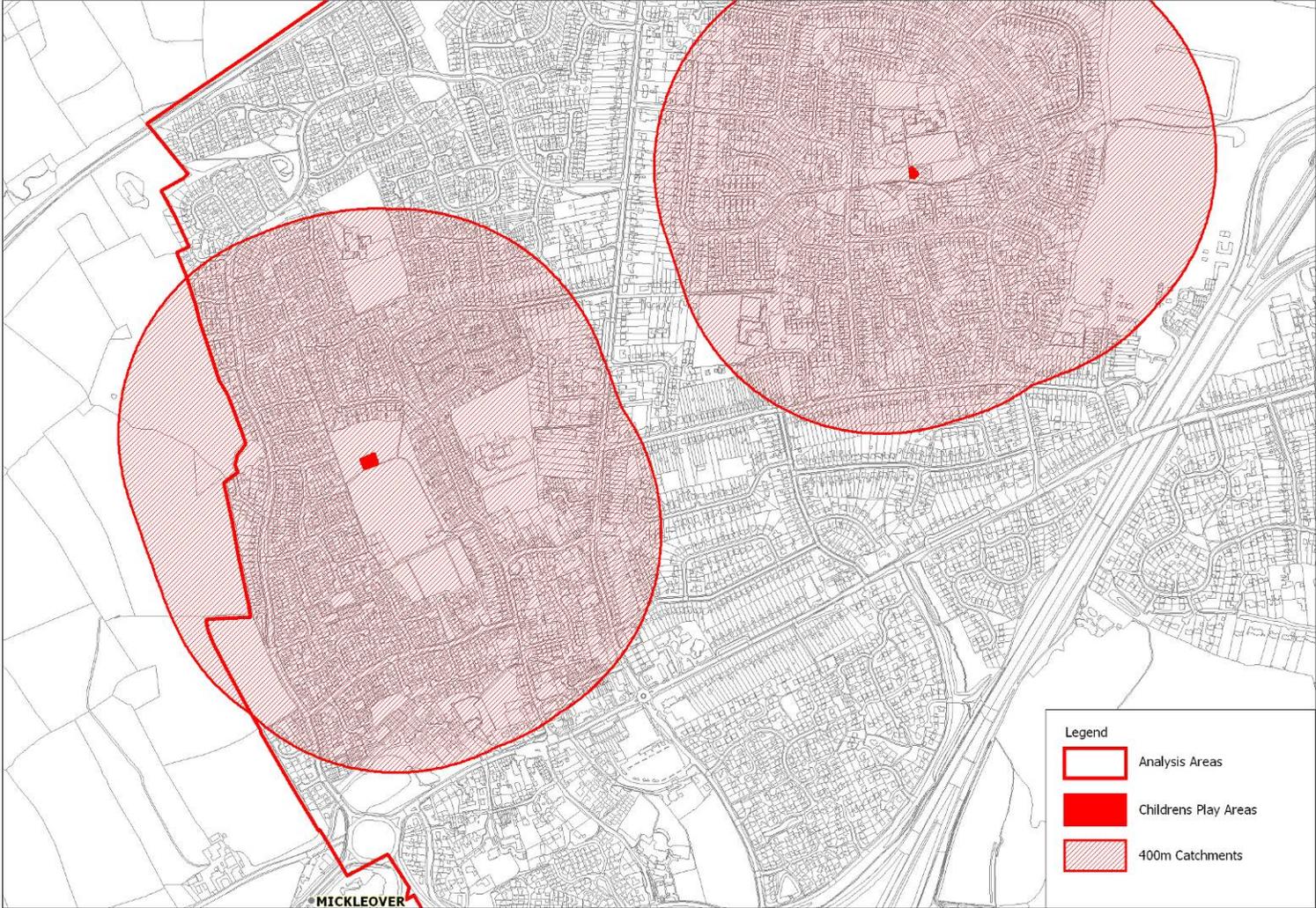
CYP11	Consider providing a play area within Holbrook Road amenity green space. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.112 Current plans for population growth however indicate that population increase may be higher than average in the south of the city. In the event that this is the case, the need for additional facilities should be monitored and as in Recommendation CYP6, the application of the accessibility standard should take priority over the quantity standard, and all residents within any new development should be within the recommended distance threshold of a play area.

South West

- 7.113 Application of the accessibility standard indicates that children's play areas are predominantly located in the south east near Sunnyhill. This means that a number of residents in Mickleover and Littleover are outside the catchment of a play area (Figures 7.4 and 7.5).

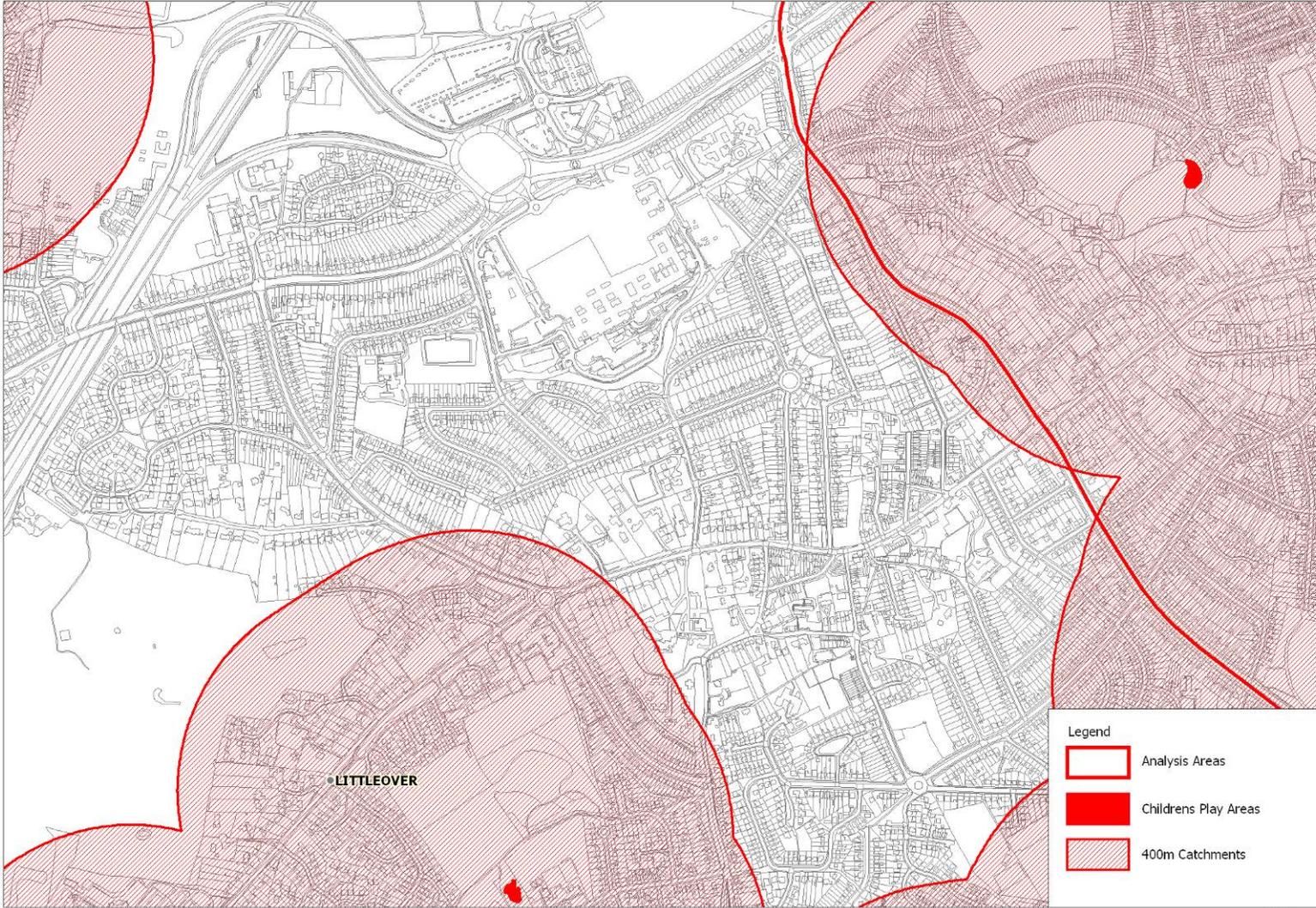
Figure 7.4 – Deficiencies in Mickleover



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NORTH

Figure 7.5 – Deficiencies in Littleover



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- 7.114 Reinforcing the findings of the application of the accessibility standard, quantitative analysis reveals that there is currently a shortfall of five play areas within the South West. Based on future population increases this shortfall is expected to increase to nine facilities by 2026.
- 7.115 Despite being outside the catchment of a children's play area, all residents in Mickleover and Littleover have access to some form of informal open space within a 400 metre catchment. The location of informal open space provides the opportunity for play areas to be situated within these types of open space.
- 7.116 In order to alleviate existing deficiencies in Mickleover the Council should seek to provide play areas within Kipling Drive (amenity green space) and Inglewood Avenue Open Space (neighbourhood park). To alleviate existing deficiencies in Littleover, consideration should be given to providing a play area within Normanton Lane (amenity green space).

CYP12	Consider providing play areas within Kipling Drive, Inglewood Avenue Open Space and Normanton Lane. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.117 As already highlighted, current plans for the future suggest that growth may be focused in the south of the city. In the event that this is the case, the need for additional facilities should be monitored and as in Recommendation CYP6, the application of the accessibility standard should take priority over the quantity standard, and all residents within any new development should be within the recommended distance threshold of a play area.

Facilities for Young People

Central Area

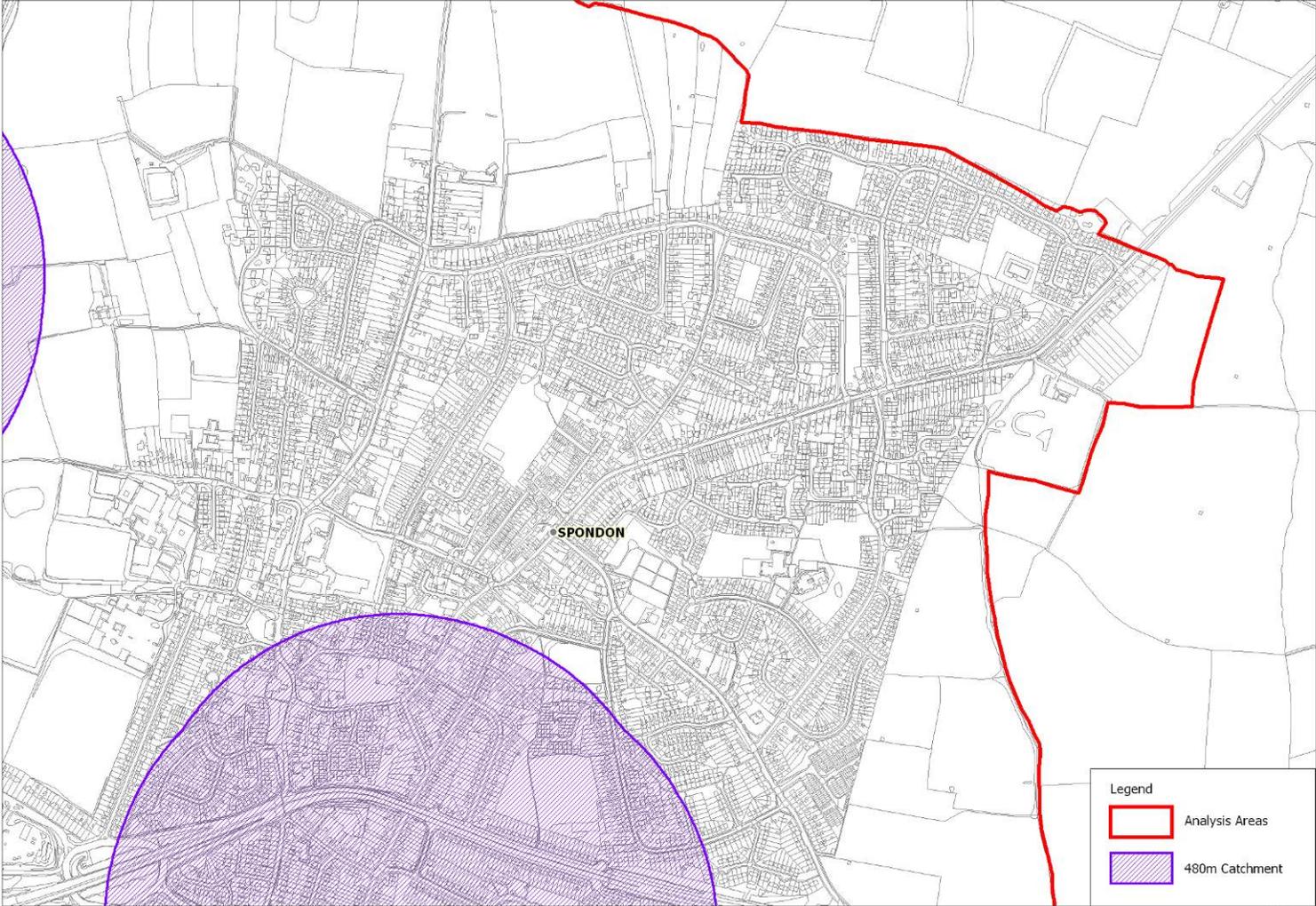
- 7.118 Application of the quantity standard indicates that the current provision of facilities for young people is above the recommended minimum standard. Supporting the findings of the application of the quantity standards, accessibility mapping indicates that only within Derby city centre are people outside the catchment of a facility.
- 7.119 People outside the catchment of a facility for young people in the city centre do have access to informal open space within a 400 metre catchment. Bass's Recreational Ground is a neighbourhood park located in the area of existing deficiency. In order to alleviate deficiencies in the city centre consideration should be given to providing a facility for young people within Bass's Recreational Ground. Providing a facility for young people alongside the children's play area (see earlier) within this site would increase the recreational opportunities provided by this site and increase its value to residents in and visitors to Derby city centre.

CYP13	Consider providing a facility for young people within Bass’s Recreational Ground or identify another location. Ensure that the site is easily accessible from the city centre and from residential areas by improving access routes to such facilities. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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North East

- 7.120 Quantitative analysis indicates that the current provision of facilities for young people is insufficient to meet demand. There is a current shortfall of six facilities and future population increases indicate that this is expected to increase to 10 facilities by 2026.
- 7.121 Accessibility mapping illustrates this shortfall with residents in the north of Spondon and Chaddesden outside the catchment of a site (Figures 7.6 and 7.7).

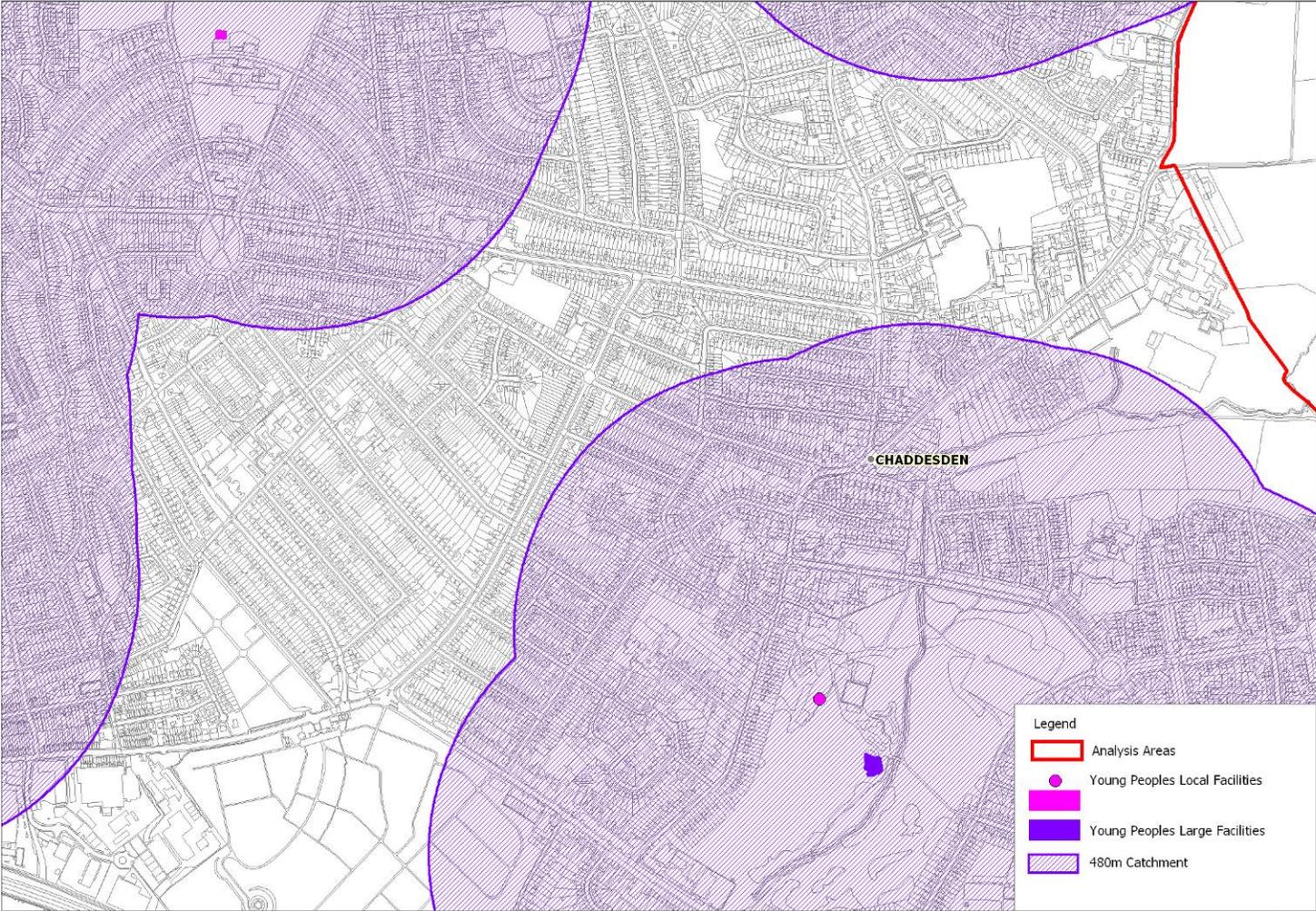
Figure 7.6 – Deficiencies in the north of Spondon



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NORTH

Figure 7.7 – Deficiencies in Chaddesden



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NORTH

7.122 Although a number of residents in Chaddesden and Spondon are outside the catchment of a facility for young people, they do have access to informal open space within a 480 metre catchment. Young people therefore have access to informal recreation opportunities although there are no formal equipped facilities.

7.123 The location of informal open space in areas of deficiency provides the opportunity for facilities for young people to be located within them. To alleviate deficiencies in the north of Spondon the Council should seek to provide a facility for young people within Brunswood Recreational Ground. This site already contains sports facilities and a children’s play area. The location of a facility for young people in this site would further increase the recreational opportunities it offers. To alleviate deficiencies in Chaddesden, consideration should be given to providing a facility for young people within Dorchester Avenue (amenity green space).

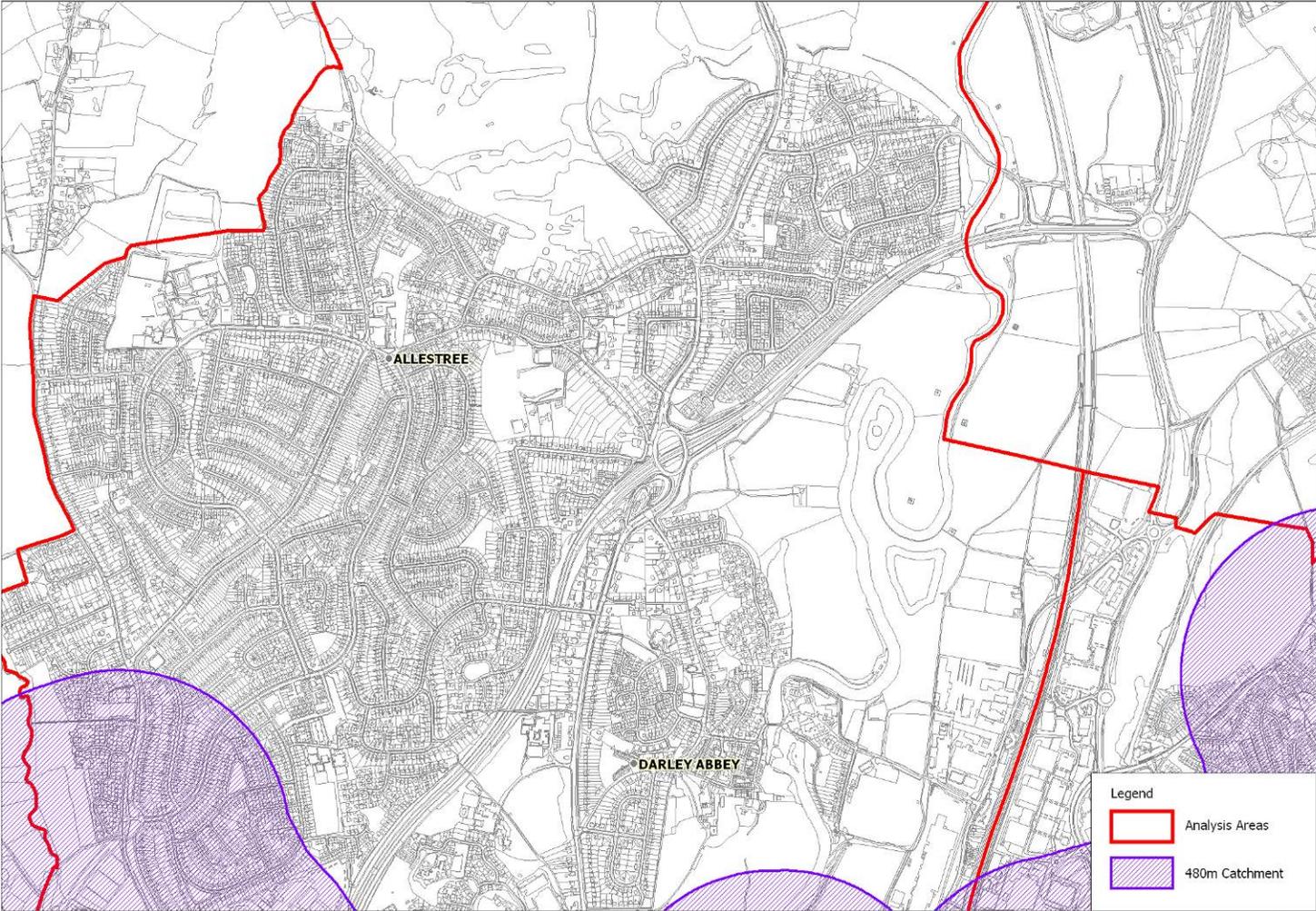
CYP14	Consider providing facilities for young people within Brunswood Recreational Ground and Dorchester Avenue amenity green space. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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7.124 Ensuring that the provision of facilities for young people is sufficient to accommodate future population growth will be important, in particular. The Council should monitor demand for increased provision and provide new facilities should demand be sufficient.

North West

7.125 Application of the accessibility standard indicates that facilities for young people are located in the south of the area meaning that a large number of residents in Allestree are outside the 480 metre catchment of facility (Figure 7.8).

Figure 7.8 – Deficiencies in Allestree



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NORTH

- 7.126 Quantitative analysis supports the findings of the application of the accessibility standards with the current provision of facilities for young people insufficient to meet demand. Population growth could see provision increase to eight facilities below the recommended minimum standard by 2026.
- 7.127 When considering the location of informal open space, all residents have access to a site within a 480 metre catchment. Young people in the north of Allestree do therefore have access to informal recreation opportunities.
- 7.128 The location of informal open space provides the opportunity for new facilities for young people to be located within them. To alleviate deficiencies consideration should be given to providing new facilities for young people within Abbey Hill Road (amenity green space) and Allestree Recreational Ground (neighbourhood park). Allestree Recreational Ground already contains a children's play area and sports facilities. Providing a facility for young people within this site will further increase the wide range of recreational opportunities provided by this site.

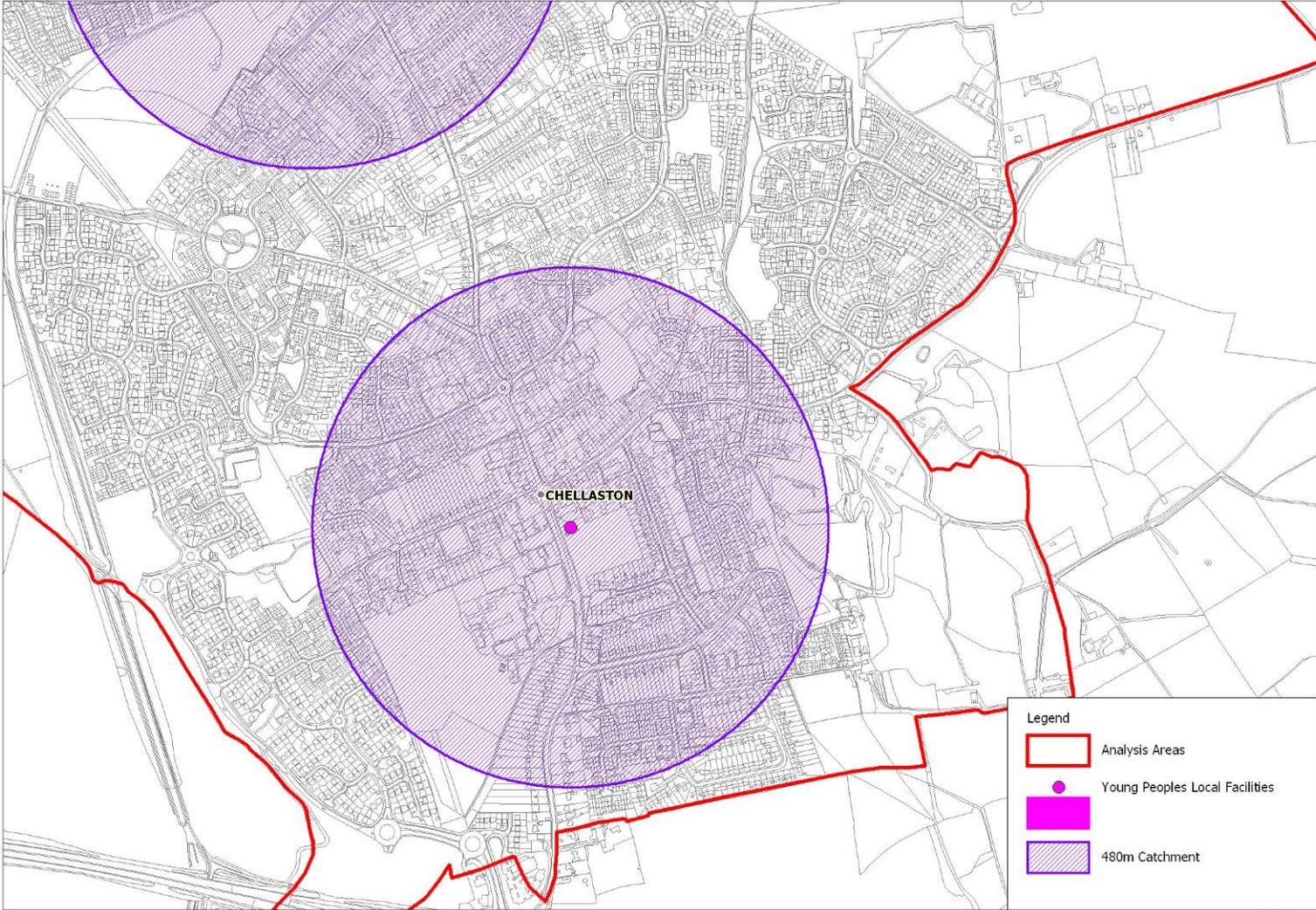
CYP15	Consider providing facilities for young people within Abbey Hill Road and Allestree Recreational Ground. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.129 As previously identified, pressure on existing provision will increase in the future if there is significant growth in the population resulting in a large shortfall facilities. Demand for increased provision should therefore be monitored and new facilities provided should demand be sufficient.

South East

- 7.130 The greatest provision of facilities for young people is located within the South East (22). Application of the quantity standard indicates that the amount of facilities is sufficient to meet current demand. However, based on future population increases there will be a minor shortfall of one facility.
- 7.131 Supporting the findings of the application of the quantity standards, accessibility mapping reveals that the majority of residents have access to a facility within the recommended catchments. The only key area of deficiency is located in Chellaston (Figure 7.9).

Figure 7.9 – Deficiencies in Chellaston



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- 7.132 Residents in Chellaston outside the catchment of a facility for young people do have access to informal open space, particularly amenity green space although there are no equipped facilities. The presence of amenity green space in the area of deficiency provides the opportunity for a facility for young people to be located within it.
- 7.133 Back Lane Public Open Space is a large amenity green space located in the area of deficiency. In order to alleviate deficiencies in Chellaston the Council should seek to provide a facility for young people within Back Lane Public Open Space.

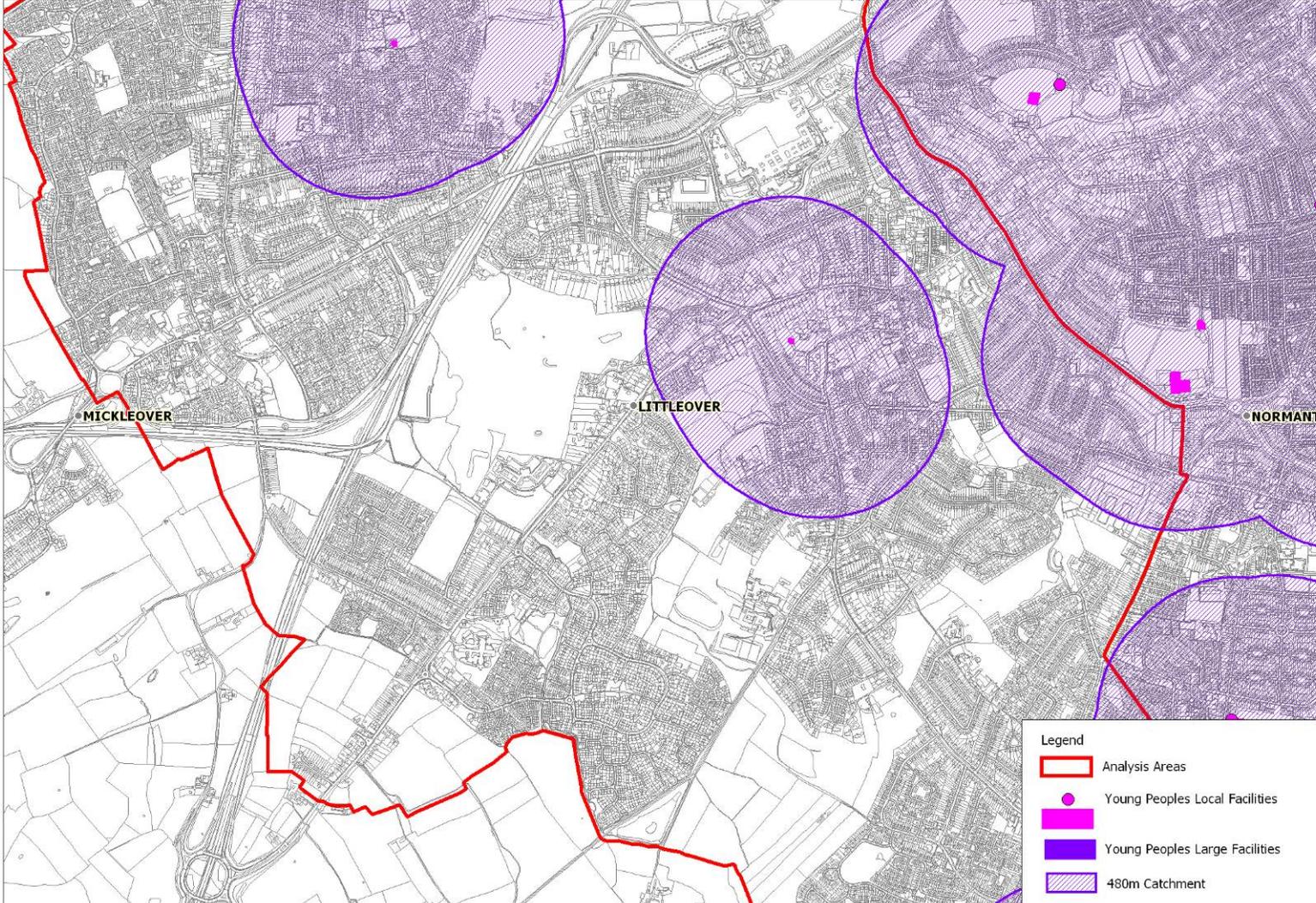
CYP16	Seek to provide a facility for young people within Back Lane Public Open Space. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.134 Current plans for population growth however indicate that population increase may be higher than average in the south of the city. In the event that this is the case, the need for additional facilities should be monitored and as in Recommendation CYP6, the application of the accessibility standard should take priority over the quantity standard, and all residents within any new development should be within the recommended distance threshold of a play area.

South West

- 7.135 Only three facilities for young people are located within the South West. Quantitative analysis indicates that the greatest shortfall of facilities for young people is located in this area with a current shortfall of 10 facilities. Based on future population projections there will be an expected shortfall of approximately 14 facilities. These projected shortfalls are a particular issue; current plans indicate that population increases may be higher than average in the south of the city and shortfalls may therefore be higher than stated.
- 7.136 Supporting the findings of the quantitative analysis, application of the accessibility standard indicates that the majority of residents are outside the catchment of a site. Key areas of deficiency are evident in the south of Littleover and Mickleover (Figure 7.10).

Figure 7.10 – Deficiencies in Littleover and Mickleover



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- 7.137 Although a large number of residents are unable to access a facility for young people, they are within a 480 metre catchment of informal open space; this means that residents do have access to informal recreational opportunities.
- 7.138 The good distribution of informal open space in the South West provides the opportunity for facilities for young people to be located within them. To alleviate deficiencies in the area the Council should seek to provide facilities for young people within the following neighbourhood parks:
- Sunnysdale Park
 - Haven Baulk Lane Recreation Ground
 - Vicarage Road Recreation Ground

CYP17	Seek to provide facilities for young people within Sunnysdale Park, Haven Baulk Lane Recreation Ground and Vicarage Road Recreation Ground. The process of providing the new facility should accord with recommendation CYP2, which highlights the need for consultation with children and young people.
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- 7.139 As previously identified there will be a large expected shortfall of approximately 14 facilities by 2026. Ensuring that the provision of facilities for young people is sufficient to accommodate future population growth is therefore important. Demand for increased provision should be monitored and new facilities provided should demand be sufficient.

Increasing Access to Existing Facilities

- 7.140 An aim of the *Derby Play Strategy* is to increase access to facilities for children and young people within Derby. The strategy further emphasises the importance of providing inclusive play opportunities for all children and young people in Derby.
- 7.141 Application of the accessibility standard indicates that there are a number of deficiencies across the City which means that increasing access to existing sites will be a key priority. Maximising public transport links to sites, particularly to facilities for young people will be important. At least one larger facility for young people is located within each geographical area of the City. These facilities are highly valuable to young people and residents are prepared to travel further to access these facilities. Increasing access to these sites, particularly by public transport, is important.
- 7.142 Increasing access to facilities for children and young people through the development of the green infrastructure network (for example, footpaths, cycle routes) will also be important. A clear preference for walking to sites was evident from responses to the household survey and a higher number of respondents indicated that they would expect to cycle to a facility for young people compared to other types of open space. Ensuring safe crossing points across major roads and other barriers to access is essential. The *6Cs Green Infrastructure* identifies a number of opportunities to increase access to open space in Derby through the development of the green infrastructure network and these should be supported.

CYP18	Increase access to children’s play areas and facilities for young people through the development of public transport routes and the enhancement of the green infrastructure network. This is particularly important in areas deficient in provision, such as the city centre.
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- 7.143 A lack of access to facilities for children and young people with disabilities was highlighted at the Derby disabled residents workshop. Many facilities were perceived to be inaccessible for children and young people with disabilities, particularly those with wheelchairs.
- 7.144 Play England provides guidance on how to increase access for disabled children in such documents as Play England Play Indicators Project: Draft Guidance (2009). For example, the type of suitable equipment and appropriate access.
- 7.145 The Council should seek to increase disabled access to facilities for children and young people in Derby.

CYP19	Increase disabled access to children’s play areas and facilities for young people.
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Redesignation

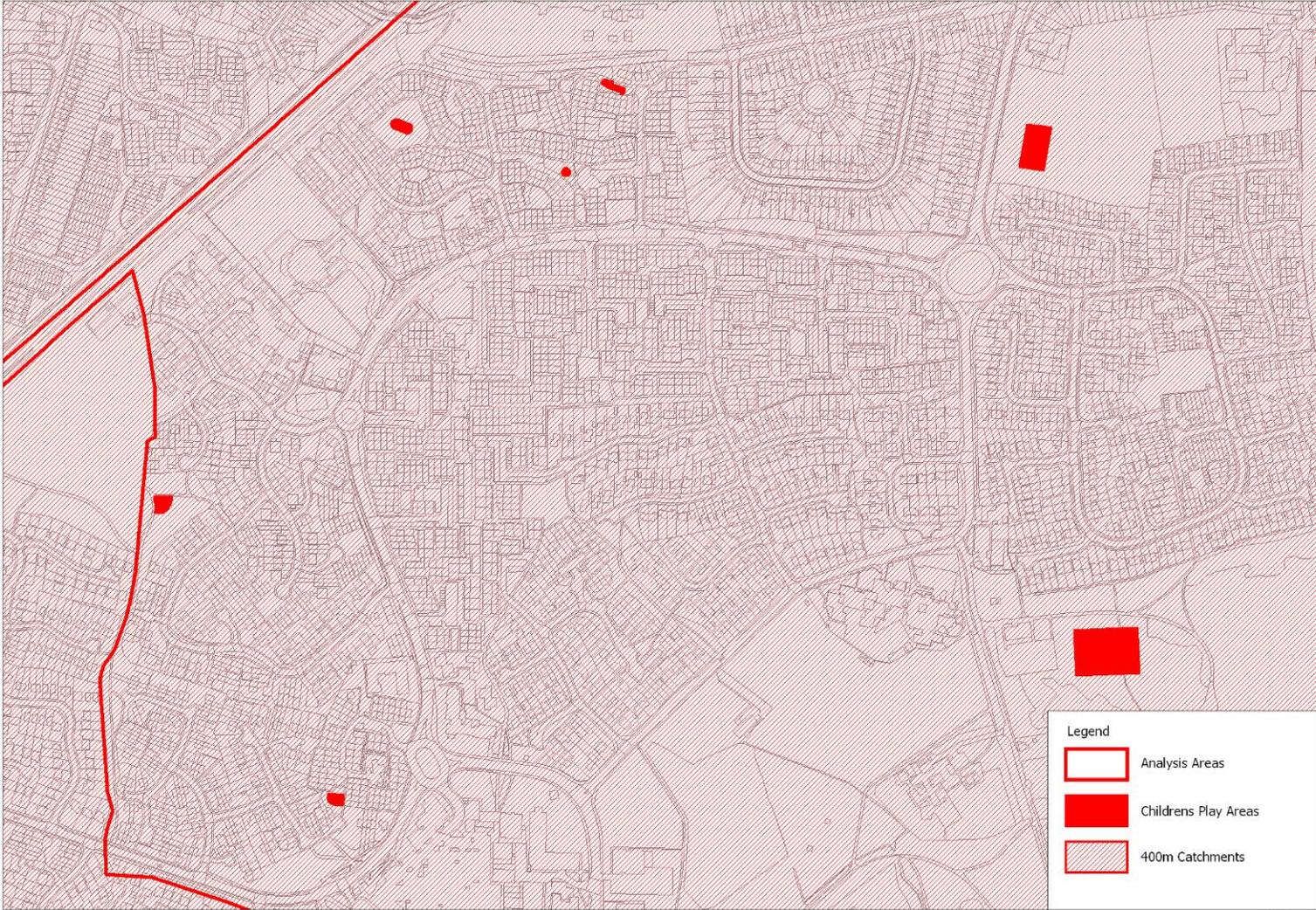
- 7.146 There are no recommendations for the redesignation of facilities for children or young people. The majority of sites are provided as part of larger parks or open spaces.

Disposal

Children’s Play Areas

- 7.147 Accessibility mapping reveals that although there is a good distribution of children’s play areas in the City there are a number of sites located in close proximity to one another creating overlapping catchments. Overlapping catchments are particularly evident in Stenson Fields (South East), Littleover (South West) and Boulton Moor (South East) (Figures 7.11 to 7.13)

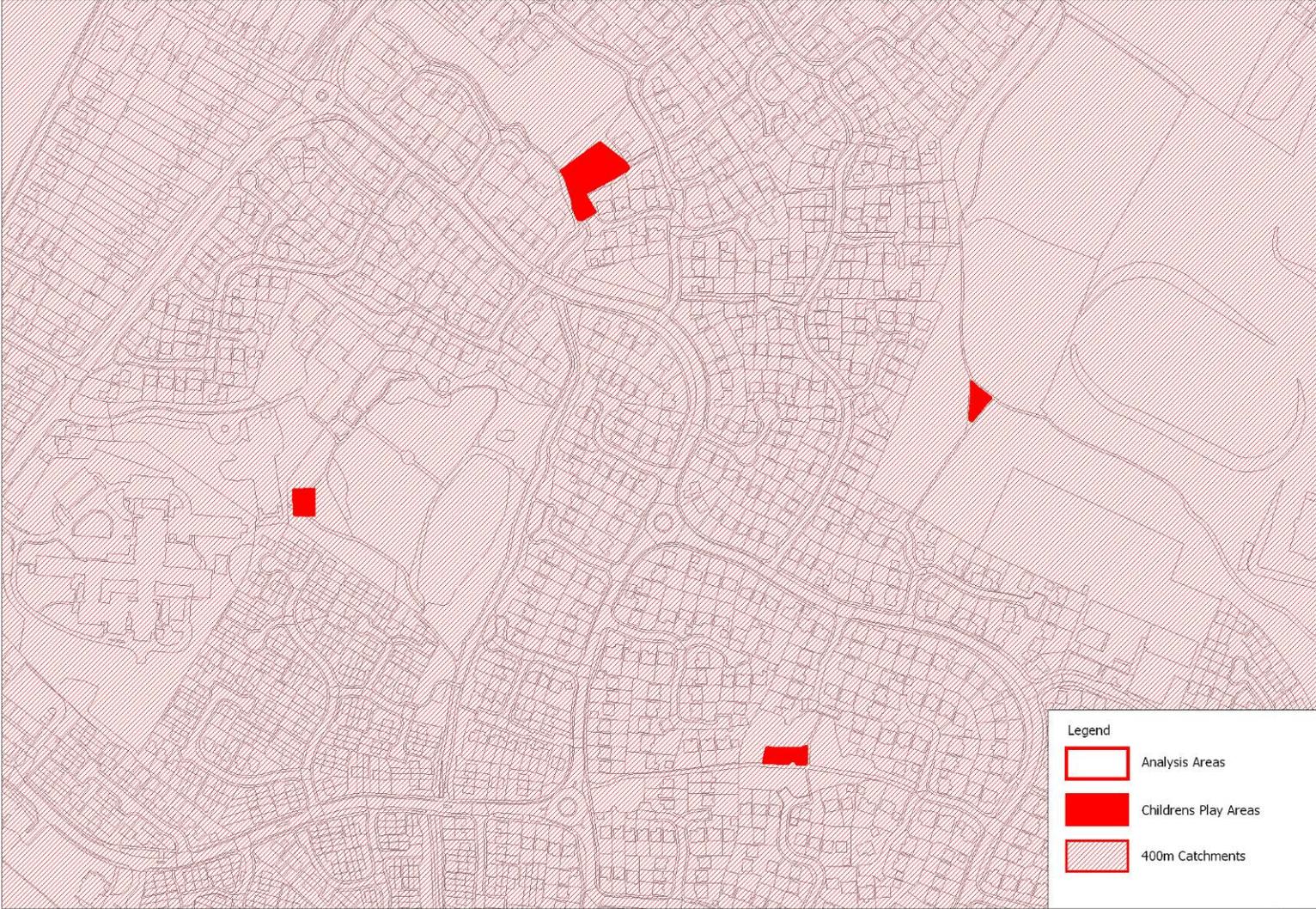
Figure 7.11 – Overlapping Catchments in Stenson Fields



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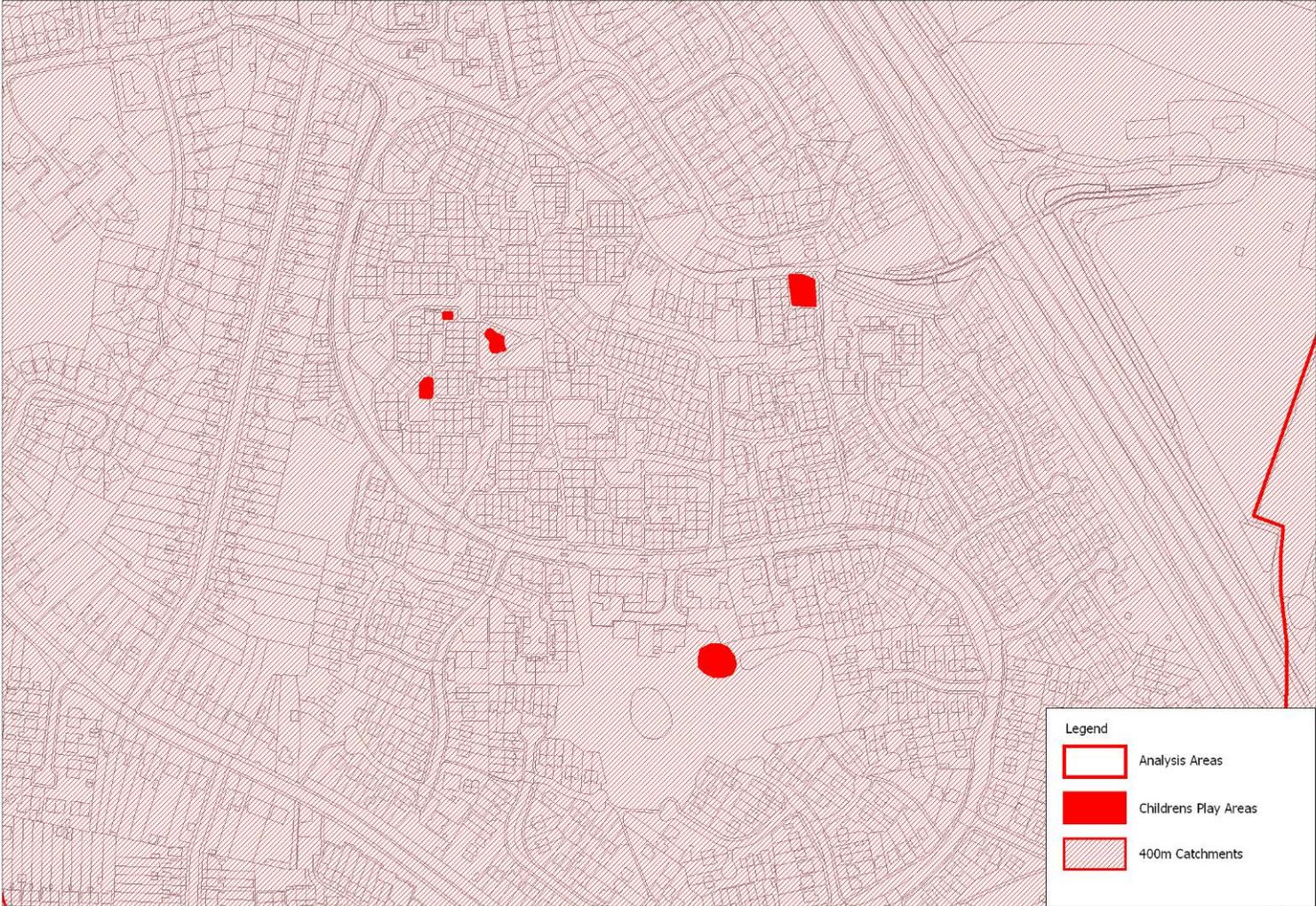
Figure 7.12 – Overlapping Catchments in Littleover



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Figure 7.13 – Overlapping Catchments in Boulton Moor



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- 7.148 Although overlapping catchments are evident in the South West, future population projections indicate that there will be a large shortfall of facilities (nine) and therefore additional provision may be required to accommodate future demand. It is therefore not recommended that any play areas in the South West are disposed of.
- 7.149 The provision of children's play areas within the South East is sufficient to meet both current and future demand and accessibility mapping indicates that nearly all residents have access to a site. In light of this, consideration should be given to the disposal of play areas with overlapping catchments in Stenson Fields and Boulton Moor in favour of enhancing the quality of nearby facilities or providing new play areas within areas of existing accessibility deficiencies.

CYP20	Consider the disposal of play areas with overlapping catchments in the South East, particularly within Stenson Fields and Boulton Moor, in favour of enhancing the quality of nearby facilities or providing new play areas in areas of deficiency. Disposal should only be considered following rigorous consultation with the local community.
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Facilities for young people

- 7.150 Nearly all facilities for young people in Derby serve unique catchments and therefore provide a valuable local resource to residents. Furthermore, there is a large quantitative shortfall of facilities across the City. In light of this, there are no recommendations for the disposal of facilities for young people.

Summary

- 7.151 The value of children's play areas and facilities for young people was highlighted throughout consultation, with these types of open space being key discussion points during local consultation. The need to increase the provision of facilities in addition to enhancing the quality of existing facilities was highlighted. Specifically, the need to provide inclusive, high quality and exciting facilities for children and young people was identified.
- 7.152 An aim of the *Derby Play Strategy* is to increase the provision of high quality play opportunities in the City. Derby City Council is committed to making play facilities accessible for all people in the City and tries to accommodate people of all capabilities. The Council is committed to increasing and enhancing the quality of existing provision through the Playbuilders project.
- 7.153 Application of the quantity standards reveals that there is a need to increase the provision of children's play areas and facilities for young people in Derby. Accessibility mapping supports these findings and identifies a number of areas of deficiency where new provision is required, particularly within Chaddesden, Allestree and Mickleover.
- 7.154 The quality of facilities in the City is varied and site assessments reveal that there is a need for qualitative enhancements to a number of sites in Derby.
- 7.155 The key priorities for improving the provision of children's play areas and young people's facilities over the Local Development Framework period therefore are:
- seek to provide challenging and exciting play facilities for children and young people that encourage children to test their boundaries and balance risk and safety. Play facilities should

be designed in line with the Play England guide for creating successful play spaces. They should be assessed using Play England's Performance Indicators;

- encourage and promote the involvement of children and young people in the development of new facilities;
- target improvements to the existing provision for children and young people using the quality standards and site assessments undertaken as part of this assessment to guide improvements. Ensure that new provision also meets the recommended quality standards;
- consider the provision of new facilities for children and young people within larger open spaces in areas currently devoid of provision, specifically in Allestree, Chaddesden and Mickleover;
- monitor demand for increased provision of facilities for children and young people in areas where population growth is expected;
- in light of shortfalls in provision, public transport links should be maximised and particularly for young people, sites should be located in areas with good public transport links; and
- develop the green infrastructure network in order to encourage the use of sustainable transport and promote movement between and within different settlements.