

Wider Benefits of Open Space

Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• providing safe outdoor areas that are available to all ages of the local population to mix and socialise• social cohesion - potential to engender a sense of community ownership and pride• providing opportunities for community events, voluntary activities and charitable fund raising• providing opportunities to improve health and take part in a wide range of outdoor sports and activities.
Recreational	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• providing easily accessible recreation areas as an alternative to other more chargeable leisure pursuits• offers wide range of leisure opportunities from informal leisure and play to formal events, activities and games.• open spaces, particularly parks, are the first areas where children come into contact with the natural world• play opportunities are a vital factor in the development of children.
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reducing motor car dependence to access specific facilities• providing habitats for wildlife as an aid to local biodiversity• helping to stabilise urban temperatures and humidity• providing opportunities for the recycling of organic materials• providing opportunities to reduce transport use through the provision of local facilities.
Educational	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• valuable educational role in promoting an understanding of nature and the opportunity to learn about the environment• open spaces can be used to demonstrate virtues of sustainable development and health awareness.
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• adding value to surrounding property, both commercial and residential, thus increasing local tax revenues• contribution to urban regeneration and renewal projects• contributing to attracting visitors and tourism, including using the parks as venues for major events• encouraging employment and inward investment• complementing new development with a landscape that enhances its value.