

# LCA4: IBROX & GOVANHILL, STAGE 1

Glasgow City Development Plan 2017

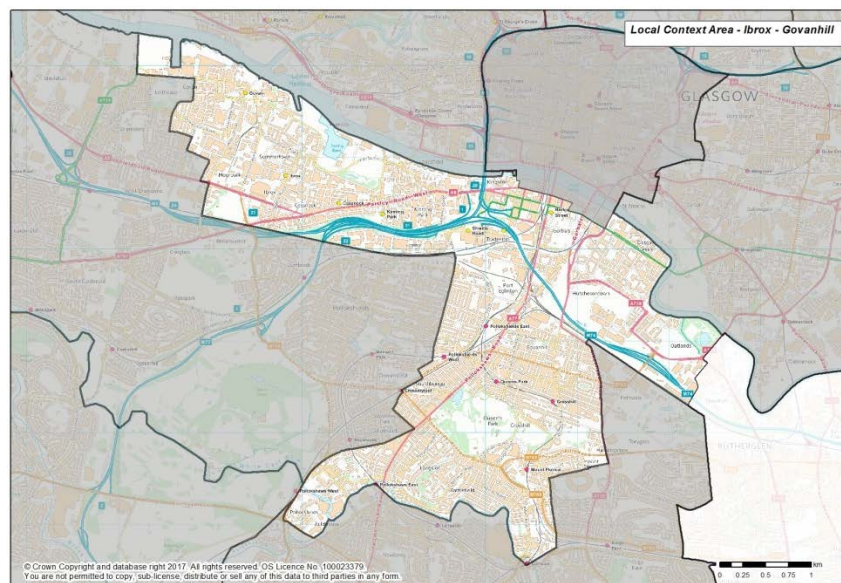
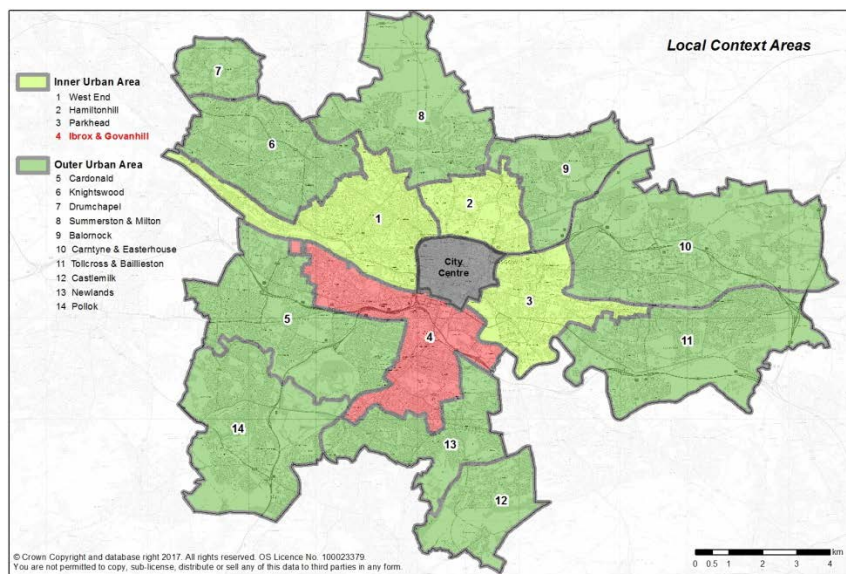
Glasgow Open Space Strategy 2018





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## 1 Introduction

1.1 Ibrox & Govanhill is one of 15 Local Context Analysis (LCA) areas that have been identified to help inform the Council's understanding of open space and green network issues at the local level and inform the development of the Council's Open Space Strategy:

- a City Centre LCA area;
- 4 LCA areas in the higher density "Inner Urban Area"; and
- 10 LCA areas in the lower density "Outer Urban Area".

1.2 The LCA is being undertaken in two stages:

The **Stage 1 LCA** provides an initial analysis of the amount, distribution and quality of open space in this area, together with other important characteristics. It identifies the key matters that the Council thinks should be addressed to improve access to, and the quality of, open space in order to create a better place for people and nature. **Consultation on this LCA is your opportunity to inform the Council of the open space issues that you think are important to your local area.** It is part of a wider engagement on the City's draft Open Space Strategy, which is also being made available for consultation. Comments on either should be made via the [Glasgow Consultation Hub](#). Figure 1 sets out the relationship between the OSS, Stage 1 LCA, the City Development Plan and other documents.

The **Stage 2 LCA process** will build on the Stage 1 analysis and the public response to it. It will draw on work and budgets of services across the council, and of council partners, to ensure a coherent approach to investment and try to ensure new investment delivers on as many of the City's green network and community

ambitions as possible. The process is being funded through the EU Horizon 2020 Connecting Nature project. The Stage 2 LCAs will bring forward a “green network masterplan” for each area and for the City, informed by consideration of **current and future need** for open space in each area.

1.3 The Stage 2 LCA process will clarify the future role of the City’s open spaces. In particular, it is likely to mean:

- A. **the retention of many open spaces for their existing purpose** – it is anticipated that many existing open spaces will continue to be used and managed for their existing purpose – eg as public park, football pitch or natural/semi-natural greenspace.
- B. **the creation of new open spaces** – eg where necessary to meet gaps in accessibility to good quality, multifunctional open space of that serves the community or to meet demand for growing spaces;
- C. **the use of some open spaces for a different open space purpose** – some open spaces may require to be used differently to meet current and future needs – eg where a former playing pitch is no longer required for outdoor sport but is well-located to meet demand for growing space; and
- D. **the use of some open spaces for a non-open space purpose** – where Stage 2 LCAs have identified spaces that will not have a role in meeting current or future need, then there is an opportunity to release them for development, with the potential to free-up resources for investment in the City’s other open spaces.

1.4 This LCA analyses the current extent and quality of the open space and green network in Parkhead in the context of the draft Open Space Strategy’s 3 key themes of A Liveable Glasgow, A Healthy Glasgow and A Resilient Glasgow:

### Glasgow’s Vision for Open Space:

By 2050, there will be network of good quality, well-distributed, multi-functional open spaces, and connecting infrastructure, that contributes positively to :

- *Outcome 1:* the City’s **LIVEABILITY**, increasing its attractiveness as a place in which to live, work, study and invest;
- *Outcome 2:* the **HEALTH AND WELLBEING** of the City’s human population and of its flora and fauna; and
- *Outcome 3:* the long term **RESILIENCE** of the City in relation to the threats, and potential opportunities, arising from climate change and other external factors such as reducing budgets.

Communities will have access to good quality, multi-functional open spaces, that are used by all sectors of society, within a short walk of the home and to a wider, better integrated, network of green, blue (water) and grey (civic) spaces that provide multiple benefits for people and the environment.

The value of Glasgow’s Open Spaces in helping address many of the critical issues facing the City will be widely understood and reflected in the decisions made by the Council and its partners.



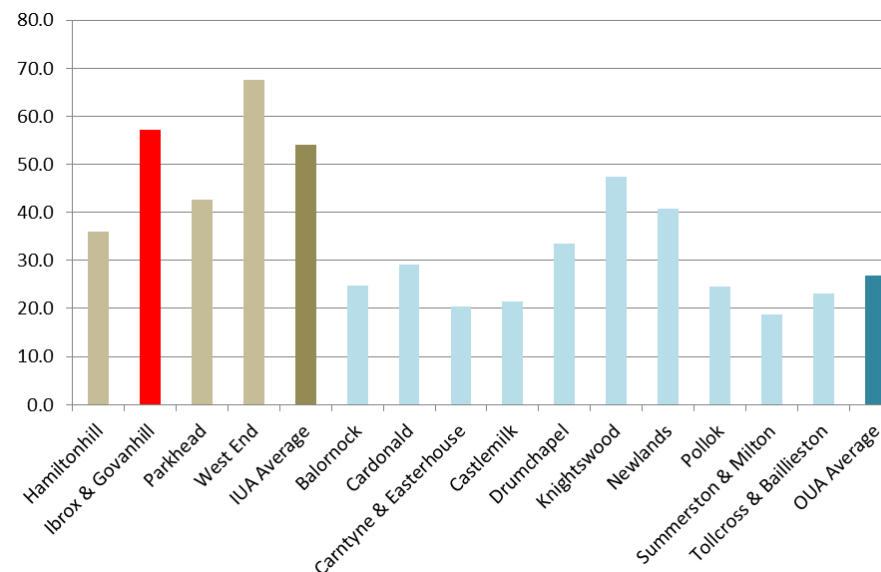
**Figure 1: Suite of Open Space Documents**



## 2 The LCA Area

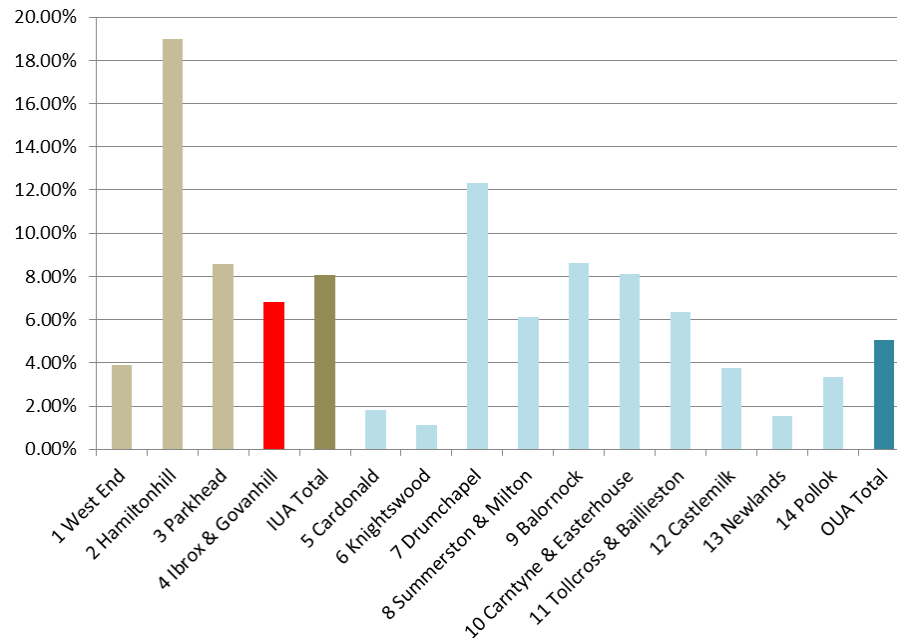
- 2.1 The LCA is comprised of the communities of Govanhill, Shawlands, Battlefield, Langside, Crosshill, Strathbungo, Pollokshaws, East Pollokshields, Gorbals, Laurieston, Oatlands, Kinning Park, Cessnock, Ibrox and most of Govan. There are eight conservation areas either wholly or partly within the LCA: Millbrae; Shawlands Cross; Crosshill; Strathbungo; East Pollokshields; Walmer Crescent and parts of the Govan and Central Conservation Areas).
- 2.2 Much of the area is tenemental in character, particularly south of the M74 (which runs on an east-west alignment through the centre of the area) and in parts of Govan and Cessnock. Other parts of the area were subject to slum clearance during the 1950s and '60s, notably Gorbals, Laurieston, parts of Govan and West Pollokshaws, and were reconstructed in a variety of residential types, including slab blocks, other high rise and more modern tenement interpretations. This often resulted in a disjointed urban form, which more recent regeneration programmes have attempted to address. The Crown Street regeneration at Gorbals has been re-establishing a tenemental form at the Gorbals over the last 25 years and has recently been complemented by the ongoing regeneration of the [Laurieston Transformational Regeneration Area](#) (TRA), again re-establishing a tenemental form in the area. The [Pollokshaws](#) TRA is also re-introducing a more traditional urban form based on a permeable movement network whilst, in Govan, the award-winning [Central Govan Action Plan](#) is helping repair the urban form around Govan Town Centre as is the [East Govan/Ibrox TRA](#).

**Figure 2: Population Density – People per Hectare**



- 2.3 A population density of 57 people to the hectare means that Ibrox & Govanhill is the second most densely populated LCA (Fig 2). Whilst Gorbals, Laurieston, parts of Govan and West Pollokshaws were subject to comprehensive redevelopment in the 1960s and '70s, the area's population has held up better than either the Hamiltonhill or Parkhead LCAs which are also within the Inner Urban Area. Nevertheless, a significant amount of the area remains vacant and/or derelict (6.8%), slightly below the average for the Outer Urban Area (Fig 3).

**Figure 3: Vacant/Derelict Land as %age of Total LCA Land Area**



2.4 The area is dissected by several major road and rail lines, including the M8, M74, the West Coast Main Line and the Glasgow - Paisley rail line. The rail lines parallel the motorways over much of their length, meaning that north-south movement between riverside parts of the LCA area and those further south are constrained. Other rail lines and roads provide fewer impediments to movement.

2.5 The LCA contains a number of important open spaces, as shown on the [Open Space Map](#). **Queen's Park** is one of the city's major parks. It includes a wide variety of facilities such as glasshouses, an aviary and pet house, a café, bowling greens, tennis courts, two play areas, two ponds, a skateboard park and

public toilets. There are also wooded walks and open areas as well as views over the city. Immediately to its east lies **Queen's Park Recreation Ground** a large area of flat grassland that accommodates sports pitches and children's play facilities. Further to the east again, across Queen's Drive, **Kingsley Gardens** (or Crosshill Gardens) is a much smaller formal local park consisting of amenity grassland, flower beds, trees and seating areas.

2.6 Slightly further to the east, and separated from Crosshill Gardens/Queens Park recreation ground by the Cathcart Road and the Cathcart Circle rail line, is **Cathkin Park**. The park contains amenity grassland and woodland and the former Third Lanark football ground, of which terraces still remain on the south, east and west sides.

2.7 In Govanhill, **Govanhill Park** is a local park with amenity grassland, seating, children's play facilities and multi-use games areas and a central performance/meeting area. It has recently been refurbished. **Riccارتon Street Park** lies further to the east and is a local park with children's play facilities, a MUGA, amenity grassland and seating. **Bennan Square** provides amenity open space further to the south. Note that these two spaces are made up of a number of individual, adjacent GIS "polygons", and only exceed the 0.3ha quality standard threshold (see para 3.9 onwards) when taken together. As a result, they haven't been included in the accessibility analyses set out later in this LCA. These, and other anomalies, will be rectified during the Stage 2 LCA process.

2.8 Further to the west, the **Hidden Gardens** is a relatively new open space (created 2003), accessed via the Tramway art-space. It is a quieter space, with formally laid out grassland and planting.

- 2.9 In Cathcart, **Holmlea Park** is a local park that has been recently refurbished and provides amenity grassland and associated seating, MUGAs, an outdoor gym and a children's play area.
- 2.10 In the north east of the LCA area, **Richmond Park** is located on the south bank of the Clyde, on the opposite bank from the Glasgow Green Football Centre. The park contains large areas of flat amenity grassland, tree, a substantial pond and children's play facilities. The park is currently being remodelled in form and extent as part of the on-going work to develop the Oatlands New neighbourhood. The changes will help provide enhanced accessibility to the park for residents in the area.
- 2.11 Further to the west, **Gorbals New Park** was created to serve the residential development delivered through the Crown Street masterplan. It contains a children's play areas, amenity grassland trees and seating. The **Gorbals Rose Garden** lies to the north and east of the New Park, and includes a rose garden, amenity grassland, growing spaces and trees, including a community orchard. Via a variety of pedestrian and road bridges, Glasgow Green also provides accessible open space for residents of the Gorbals.
- 2.12 In the Greater Govan part of the LCA, **Plantation Park** provides amenity grassland and children's play facilities adjacent to Kinning Park Subway Station. To its north, **Festival Park** provides amenity grassland and children's play facilities within a wider woodland setting. Elder Park lies just outside the LCA area, but provides for access to high quality open space for many residents of this western part of the LCA.
- 2.13 In addition to these existing open spaces, regeneration activity is creating new open space, notably a linear park as part of Phase 2

of the Laurieston development and the reconfiguration of open space alongside the White Cart as part of the regeneration of West Pollokshaws.

- 2.14 The area also contains a variety of other open spaces that are often less publicly usable or accessible. These include bowling greens and sports pitches scattered throughout the area (though without the concentrations if such facilities found in other parts of the Inner Urban Area) and allotments/community gardens, including at East Pollokshields (New Victoria Gardens), in Queen's Park, in Cathcart (Holmlea Gardens) and at 2 locations in Oatlands. There are also some cemeteries/burial grounds, notably the Southern Necropolis in the Gorbals, but also at Govan Old Parish Church and at Kirk Lane Burial Ground in Pollokshaws.

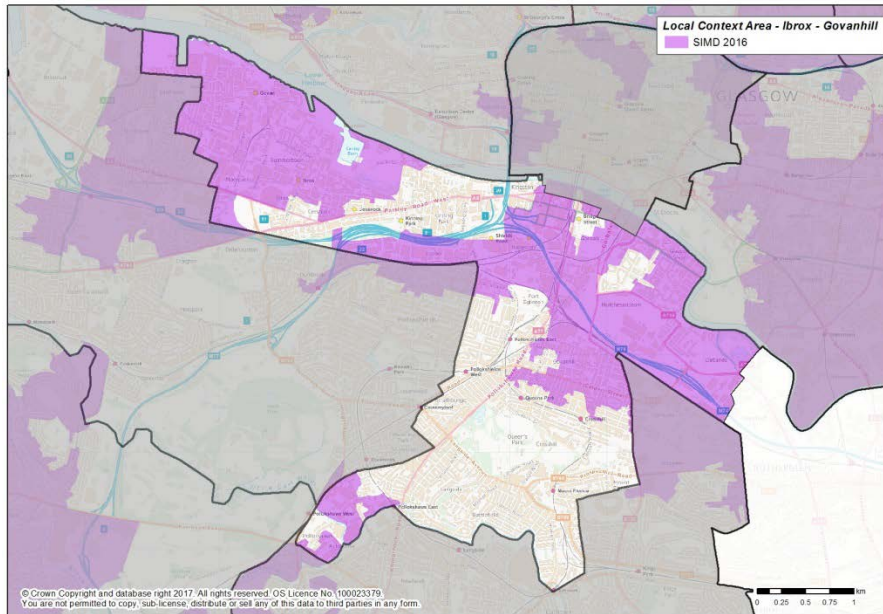
### 3 *A Liveable Glasgow*

- 3.1 Good quality, well-designed and well located open space can make the City a more attractive and pleasant place for people who currently live, work or invest in Glasgow and for people from elsewhere who are considering doing so, generating economic, environmental and societal benefits.
- 3.2 Map 1 illustrates that almost all of the residential areas of the LCA area are ranked as being amongst the 15% most deprived datazones in Scotland. The datazones with the highest levels of multiple deprivation are concentrated mainly in a belt across the north of the area, particularly in western Govan, Gorbals, Govanhill and Oatlands. In contrast, very little of the area to the south of Allison Street is within an SIMD 15% most deprived datazone. The [Understanding Glasgow](#) website illustrates that



life expectancy in areas such as Greater Govan, Ibrox/Kingston and Greater Gorbals is below the Glasgow average.

**Map 1 – 15% most deprived datazones**



### *Thriving Places*

- 3.3 [Thriving Places](#) is Glasgow Community Planning Partnerships' neighbourhood approach which targets specific areas of the city with a view to making better use of existing assets and resources and creating more effective working across partners.
- 3.4 Thriving Places are neighbourhoods and communities which have been identified as needing further support to tackle complicated local issues. Across the city there are nine Thriving Places that have been identified as having consistent levels of inequality

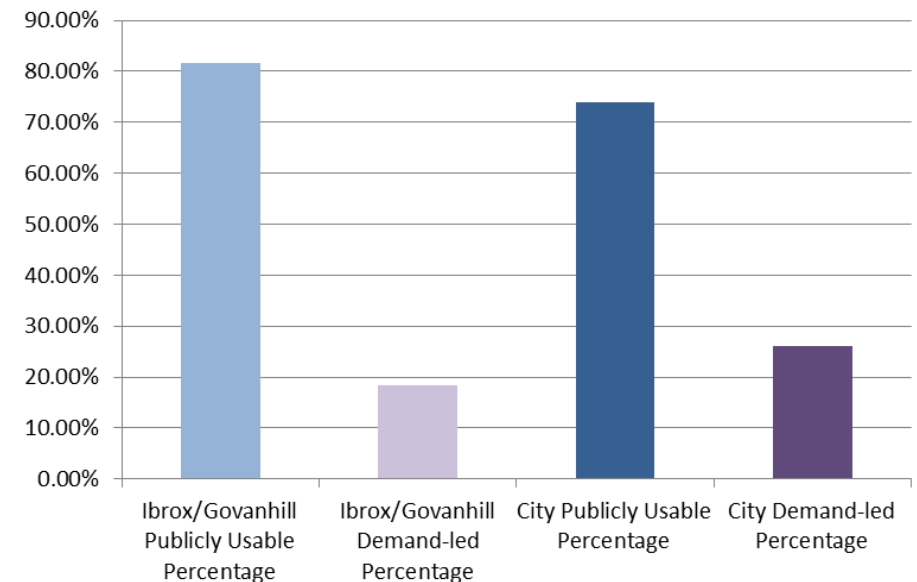
relative to other parts of the city, including when looking at child poverty, health indicators and levels of unemployment. There are two of these areas in the Ibrox/Govanhill LCA area – Gorbals and Govan. Locality Plans for these areas have been produced. In addition, the Community Planning Partnership also recognises the Govanhill Regeneration Group produced Locality Plan for the Govanhill area.

- 3.5 The Locality Plans for Govan, Ibrox and Govanhill set out how community groups, organisations and local services can work together to make a difference to the area. The Locality Plan for [Govan](#) indicates that people in Govan have a generally positive outlook about their local environment and green spaces, but that this varied across the area, with people in Ibrox, for example, were more critical of their local environment.
- 3.6 The Locality Plan for the [Gorbals](#) recognises the significant improvement in the physical environment of the Gorbals in the last 2 decades, but that there are still serious issues relating to unemployment and poverty; drug and alcohol misuse; and health. It notes that Gorbals residents were more positive about environmental issues (eg litter and safe play spaces) than Glaswegians generally and much more positive about them than residents in the other Thriving Places.
- 3.7 The Locality Plan for [Govanhill](#) does not identify open space issues as being of particular concern to local people but does recognise the environment as being one of the important themes which the Plan needs to address.

### *Publicly Usable and Demand-led Open Space*

- 3.8 Access to well-designed and maintained open spaces is vital to improving people's quality of life and encouraging more active lifestyles. Such spaces provide opportunities for formal and informal play, rest and relaxation, meeting others and to engage with nature, helping improve both physical and mental health.
- 3.9 The draft Open Space Strategy differentiates between **publicly usable** and "**demand-led**" open spaces. Publicly usable open spaces are those that the public have relatively unrestricted access to – eg public parks (where access may only be restricted at night), amenity space, natural open space, etc. Demand-led open spaces generally have more restrictions on access and use – eg allotments, sports pitches or cemeteries.
- 3.10 Using this distinction, the OSS aims to ensure that:
- there is enough good quality open space across the City to satisfy **demand** for formal sport and for growing, in particular; and
  - all homes in the City have access to a good quality **publicly usable** space of a size that can meet the needs of the residential population, particularly in relation to play, informal sport and recreation and general relaxation.
- 3.11 A relatively low percentage (the lowest in the City) of the open space in the Ibrox & Govanhill LCA is of the demand-led categories (see [open space map](#)), in comparison to the City as a whole (Fig 4). Consequently, the percentage which is publicly useable is quite high, reflecting the fact that there are two major parks (Queens Park and Richmond) and relatively few formal sports fields, compared to other parts of the City.

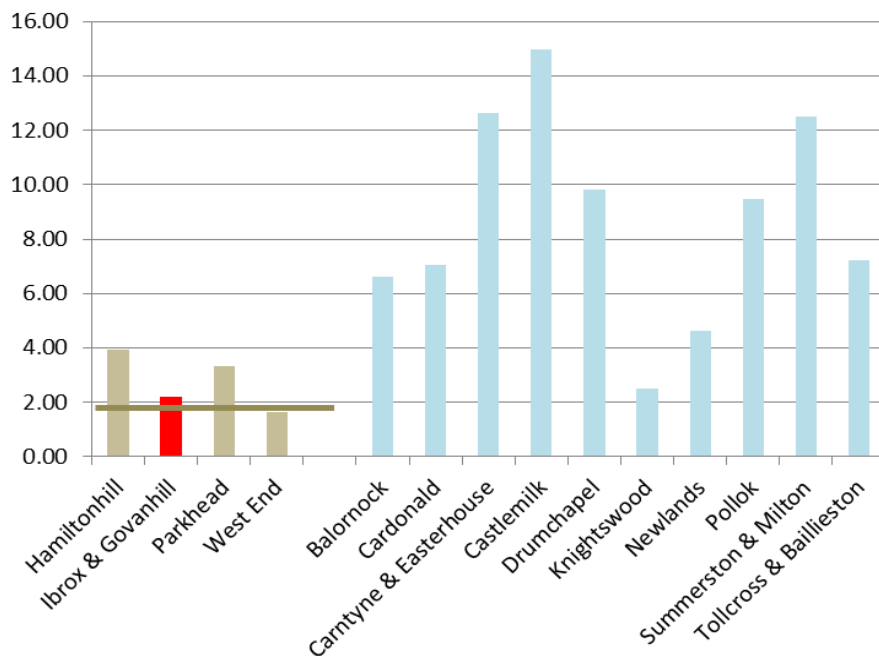
**Figure 4: Open Space Breakdown by Type**



- 3.12 The Council is undertaking a city-wide assessment of the supply of, and demand for, the most popular types of outdoor sports provision (including pitch sports, bowls and tennis) in conjunction with Glasgow Life and Sportscotland. This will inform a sports pitch strategy that will consider how best to meet any unmet demand in terms of quantity or quality across the City, help inform decisions on planning applications and ensure a better understanding of the area's need for outdoor sports provision. A similar assessment of demand/supply in relation to growing space is being undertaken as part of the Council's food-growing Strategy. It will inform how any unmet demand for food-growing should be accommodated across the City.



**Figure 5: Publicly Usable Open Space per 1000 People**



3.13 The major parks are a key factor in ensuring that Ibrox & Govanhill meets the IUA quantity standard of 1.9 ha of publicly useable open space per 1000 people set out in the draft OSS (and shown in Fig 5), with the area having 2.2 ha per 1000. Population density is also relatively high (higher than the IUA average) but there are a number of housing sites in the area, in the north of the LCA in particular, that mean the amount of publicly usable open space per 1000 people may decrease as they are developed. The key statistics set out in Section 7 have taken account of the prospective new population of the housing sites in the area (Map 7/Annex 7), and indicate that there is the prospect that the amount of publicly usable open space per 1000 people could reduce to 2.0 hectares, just above to the Quantity Standard. This

situation will require to be monitored closely and it may be that additional open space will need to be delivered in the area in future years to ensure the Quantity Standard continues to be met.

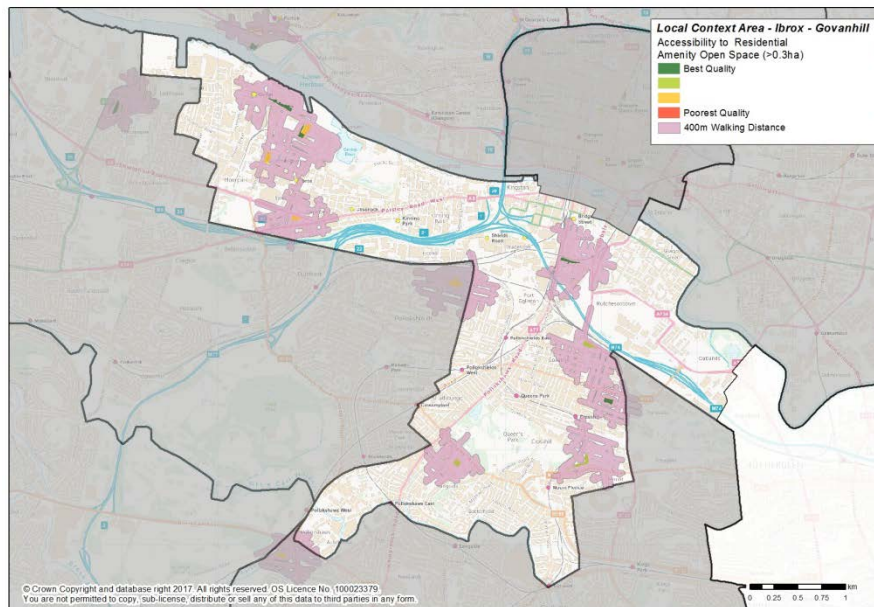
#### *Quality and Accessibility*

3.14 The draft Open Space Strategy sets out standards for **accessibility** to publicly usable open space and for the **quality** of those spaces. The Accessibility Standard states that “all homes (including purpose-built student accommodation), outwith the City Centre, should be within a 400m actual walking distance of a good quality, publicly usable open space of 0.3 ha or more”. The draft OSS refers to spaces that will be used to meet the Accessibility Standard as “Community Spaces. The Quality Standard seeks to ensure that these spaces are publicly usable, of a reasonable size and of good quality, including providing for a variety of functions, including children’s play, informal sport/recreation and relaxation.

3.15 A Quality Assessment of the City’s most publicly usable open spaces was undertaken between 2012 and 2014. The spaces surveyed included amenity open spaces over 0.3 ha in size and public parks and gardens. The Quality Assessment was an initial assessment of the quality of those spaces, relative to one another, and does not reflect whether they would meet the quality standard or not. Nevertheless, it is valuable in helping understand the relative quality of usable open space across Glasgow and its distribution. It should, however, be noted that some of the spaces were surveyed as much as 6 years ago and the passage of time may have seen an improvement, or deterioration, in their quality.

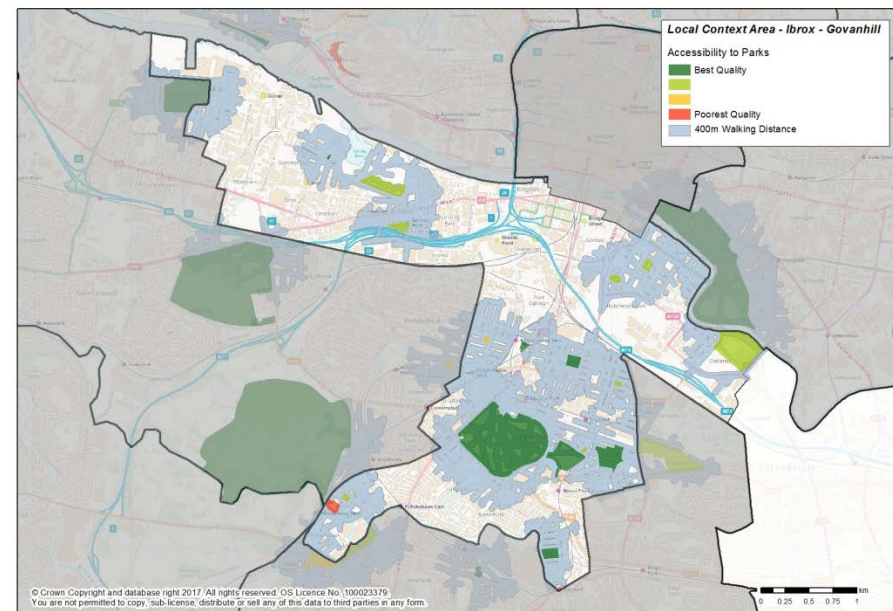
3.16 Map 2/Annex 1 shows the amenity open spaces over 0.3ha in size and their relative quality. It also shows how accessible they are from the surrounding communities, by using a network analyst tool to mark out those areas within a 400m walk, using footpaths and other pedestrian routes, of a point of entry to the space. Accessibility is generally better in the east and west of the area. These spaces are generally of better quality in the south and east of the area and of relatively poorer quality in Govan. Some of the spaces, including some of good quality, appear to be of awkward configurations in terms of their shape and size – this may affect their ability to meet the quality standard. This will require further analysis and the Council intends to undertake this work with a view to producing a map of the open spaces that are considered capable of meeting the quality standard.

**Map 2 – Accessibility to Residential Amenity Open Space**



3.17 Map 3/Annex 2 illustrates a similar analysis of access to public parks and gardens, showing those parts of the Ibrox & Govanhill LCA that are within a 400m walk of open spaces identified as public parks and gardens on the Open Space Map, or maintained as such by the Council. The quality of these spaces is generally high, with the key exception being the open space at Bengal Street, on the north bank of the White Cart in the Pollokshaws TRA. The revised masterplan for the TRA will deliver replacement parkland along both banks of the river, but it is not yet clear whether this will meet the quality standard in terms of configuration and size. This will require to be monitored.

**Map 3 – Accessibility to Parkland**

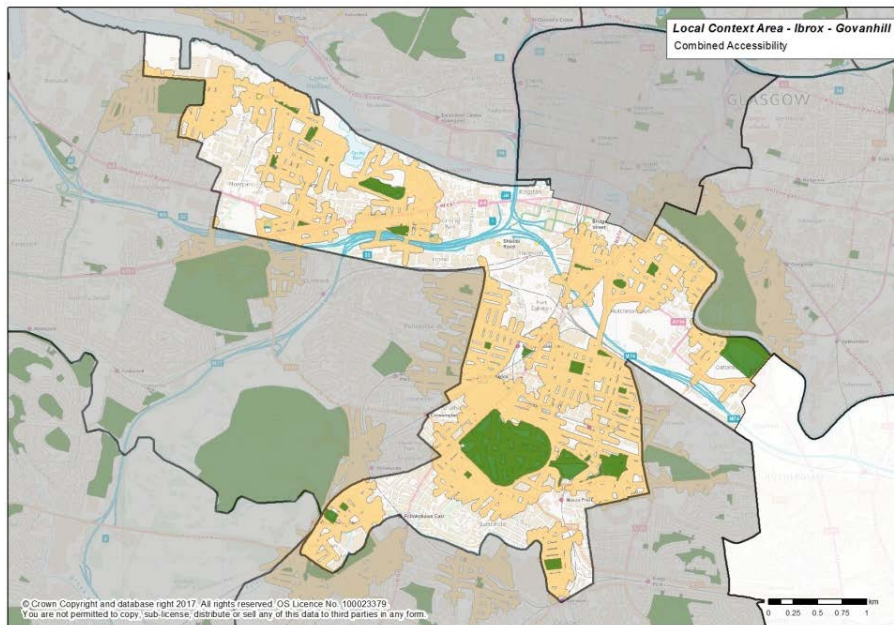


3.18 Map 4/Annex 3 combines both maps and shows those parts of the LCA area which currently meet the accessibility standard by



falling within a 400m walk of a publicly usable, and potentially multifunctional open space of an appropriate size (over 0.3 ha), and which don't. These indicative deficiencies in access can be combined with a map of population distribution to identify the major gaps in accessibility from people's homes, and where the priorities might be in terms of addressing the accessibility standard set out in the draft Open Space Strategy. Maps 5/6 and Annexes 4/5 illustrate population distribution and access deficiencies respectively.

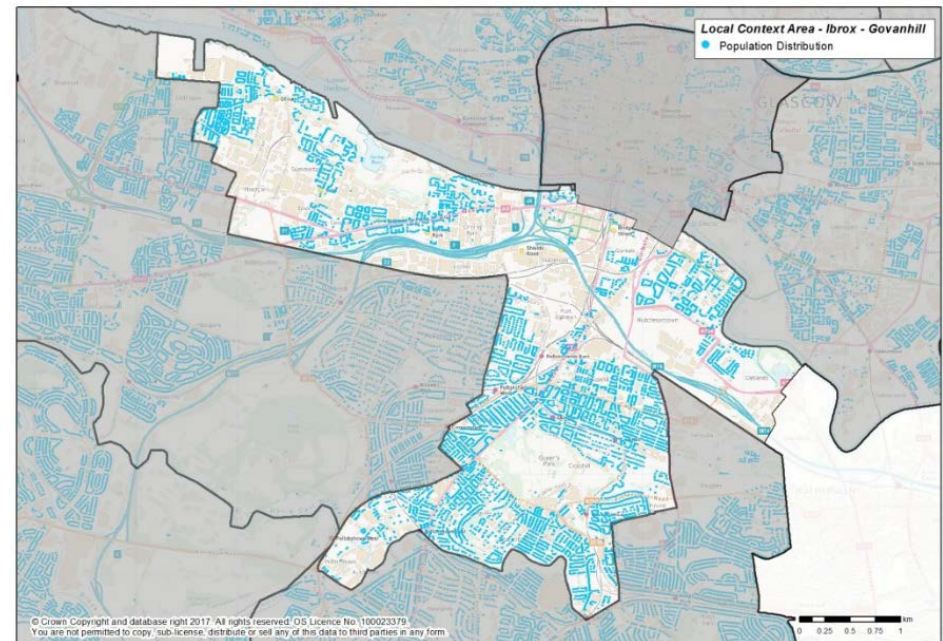
**Map 4: Accessibility to potentially multifunctional open space > 0.3 ha**



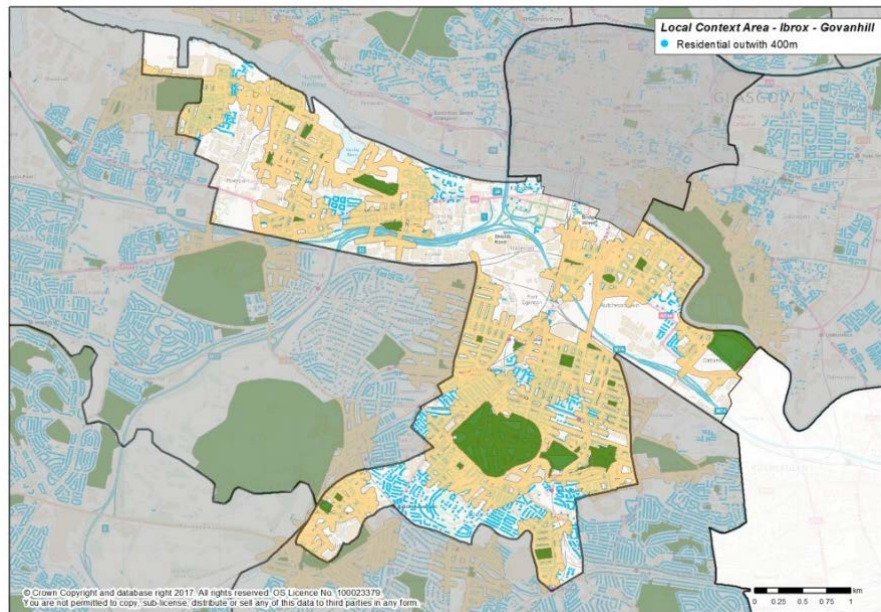
3.19 Map 6/Annex 5 illustrates that there are a few potential gaps in access to the two key categories of publicly usable open space considered to have the greatest potential to meet the Quality Standard set out in SG6. Whilst Map 4 shows considerable gaps in the coverage of the area, Map 6 illustrates that many of these are non-residential areas and that the key gaps in residential accessibility appear to be in:

- the southern and western edges of Shawlands, particularly Crossmyloof, Battlefield and Langside;
- parts of Crosshill and Govanhill;
- Plantation and parts of Ibrox; and
- parts of Oatlands

**Map 5: Population Distribution**



**Map 6: Potential Accessibility Standard Deficiencies**



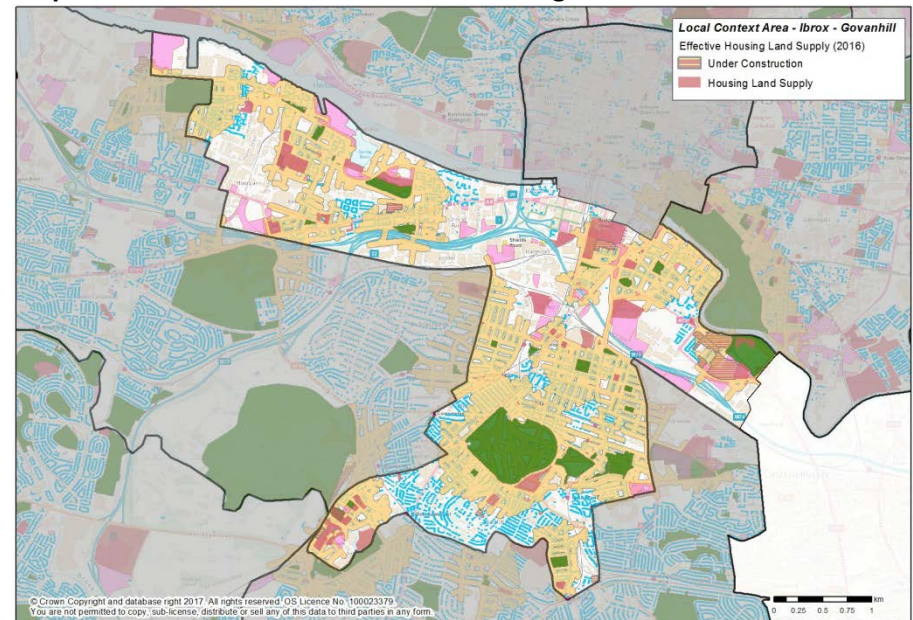
3.20 Many of the gaps in the northern half of the LCA area are in the lowest ranking SIMD areas, as shown on Map 1. The Stage 2 LCA process should consider how to provide enhanced access to multifunctional and publicly usable open space from these residential areas.

3.21 Further work has been undertaken to highlight some of the possibilities for addressing these deficiencies in accessibility. Opportunities exist in a number of forms, including:

- making use of other types of open space (ie not public parks and gardens or amenity residential) that have the potential to meet the Quality Standard;

- enhancing means of access to existing open spaces, eg shortening actual walking distances through infrastructure interventions or by creating new points of access;
- utilising open spaces that currently function separately but could meet the size and multi-functionality required by the quality standard if combined; and
- making use of the potential offered for delivering new spaces on vacant and/or derelict land or as an integral part of new housing developments to help address deficiencies – especially in this area where regeneration is proposed on a significant scale.

**Map 7: Vacant and Derelict Land and Housing Sites**

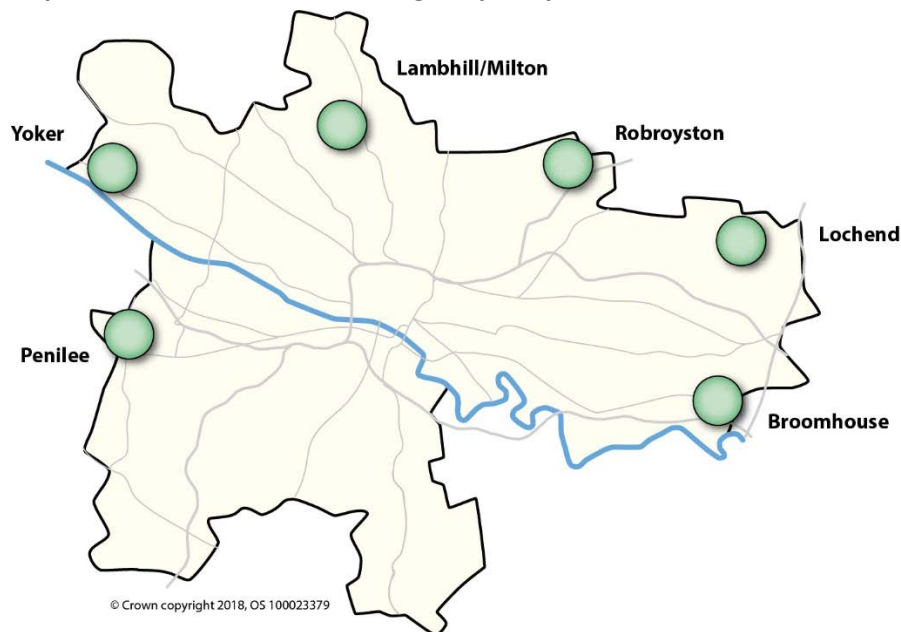


3.22 Map 7 shows vacant/derelict land (also on Annex 6) and key housing sites (Annex 7) together with the accessibility analysis set



out above. It illustrates that, whilst there may be opportunities to use the vacant/derelict and housing land supplies in the northern part of the area to help address access deficiencies, opportunities for doing so in the more established residential areas in and around Shawlands are much more limited. An exception may be the Scottish power site, just outwith the LCA area on the south bank of the White Cart to help serve Battlefield/Langside. Elsewhere in these areas around Shawlands, the Stage 2 LCA process should consider other opportunities for delivering enhanced access to multifunctional publicly usable open space of an appropriate size and what other opportunities could be taken to make longer journeys to open space safer and more attractive, should this not be possible.

**Map 8: Priorities for Access to Larger Open Spaces**



3.23 Further analysis of accessibility to larger open spaces has been undertaken for the Open Space Strategy. Whilst it is recognised that access to a multifunctional, publicly usable space of 0.3 ha or more might meet “everyday” requirements, access to larger multifunctional open spaces will be desired on occasion. As such, an additional measure of accessibility to the City Parks (eg Kelvingrove) and District Parks (eg Tollcross) that serve a strategic function, and to the Local Parks that serve more discrete localities (eg Rosshall Park or Maxwell Park) has been developed. It reflects the distances people might be expected to travel to access both the larger City/District Parks (1500m or a 20 minute walk) and the smaller Local Parks, over 1 ha in size (800m or a 10 minute walk).

3.24 Map 8/Annex 8 illustrates that there are no notable gaps in accessibility to larger open spaces in the LCA area.

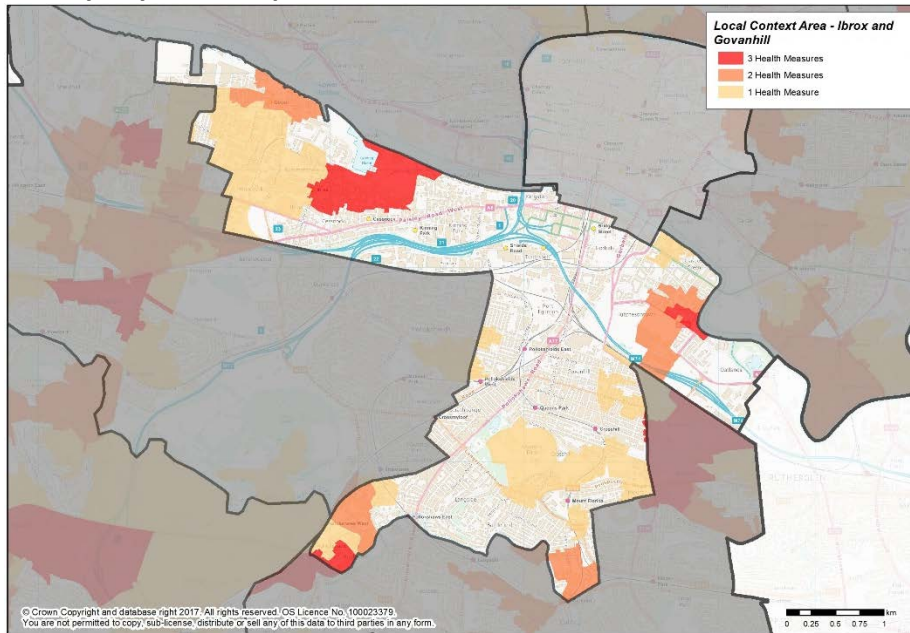
3.25 Other considerations that the Open Space Strategy identifies as important in informing the current and future need for open space to enhance the City’s **Liveability** include consideration of the setting and amenity it can provide, as part of a placemaking approach, and the views of the public on open space in their area. Responses to this LCA will be important in establishing the latter.

## 4 A Healthy Glasgow

4.1 Good quality open spaces can have a significant bearing on peoples’ health. In addition to the obvious opportunities for exercise, active travel, play and food growing, open spaces can also enhance mental health and well-being through the creation of more attractive urban environments; the provision of better opportunities to socialise; and opportunities to interact and engage with nature.

- 4.2 Using three indicators of health, it is possible to identify the areas in the City that might benefit most from enhancement of open space. Data relating to three health indicators has been obtained that shows the number of night's stay in hospital for stroke and heart disease (that can be taken as indicative of physical health) and for anxiety, psychosis and depression (a proxy for mental health) for each of the City's census data zones.

**Map 9: Glasgow-wide Highest Incidences of Stroke, Heart Disease and Anxiety/Psychosis/Depression**



- 4.3 Each indicator has been ranked across the City and mapped. Map 9 illustrates those zones with the most stays (the top 15%) for one or more of the three indicators. A datazone that is in the top 15% of one indicator is shown in yellow, one in the top 15% of

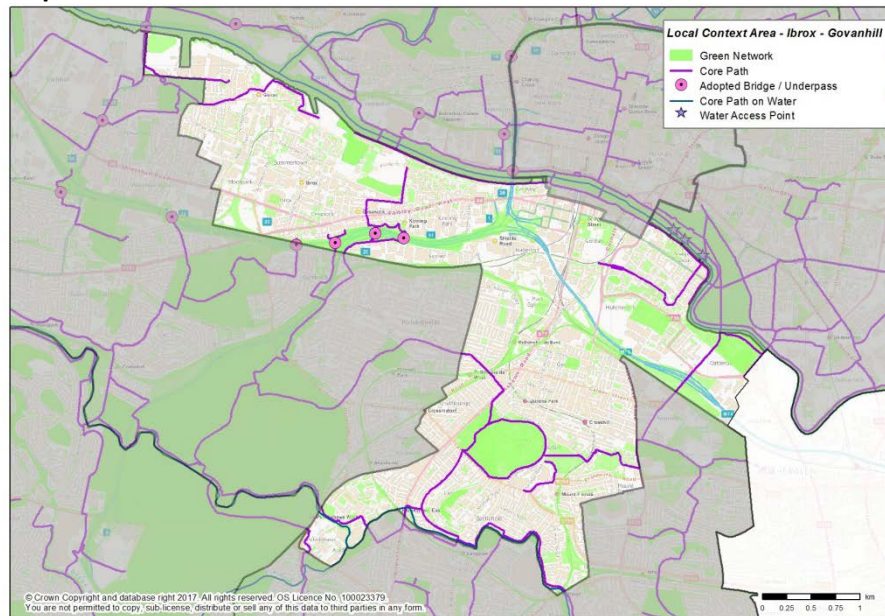
two indicators is shown in orange and one in all three is shown in red.

- 4.4 Significant parts of the area are within data zones ranked in the top 15% for hospital stays for one or more of these health measures, notably Laurieston/Oatlands and East Govan. Laurieston/Oatlands, in particular, coincides with a deficiency in access to open space - the Stage 2 LCA process should consider how best to address this matter as a priority.

#### *Walking and Cycling*

- 4.5 Two National Cycle Network (NCN) routes pass through the area. NCN7 runs south from the north bank of the Clyde, via the Bells, Bridge, and then through Pacific Quay and Cessnock to cross the M8 and the Glasgow-Paisley rail line at Bellahouston Academy, where it heads south, through Pollok Park, to Ayrshire. Further to the east, NCN756 is a more local route along the south bank of the Clyde, linking Central Glasgow with Rutherglen and East Kilbride. The route along the north bank of the Clyde, links these routes, via the Bell's and Squiggly Bridges, to Edinburgh (via NCN75) and Inverness (via NCN7).
- 4.6 Map 10 illustrates the [core path](#) network together in the context of the wider green network (shown at an enhanced scale in Annex 9). It illustrates that the LCA is relatively well served by core paths in the north and south of the area, but that the central part of the area is poorly served. The Stage 2 LCA should consider options for better linking core paths across this part of the area. The White Cart way – a mixture of off-road sections and widened pavements, runs along the north bank of the White Cart on the southern boundary of the area. Many of the other core paths are substantially on road in character.

**Map 10: Green Network and Core Paths**



4.7 Glasgow's [Strategic Plan for Cycling](#) sets out a diagrammatic representation of Glasgow's aspirations to improve cycling infrastructure in this part of the City, showing extensive new paths in development as well as additional future aspirations. A number of new connections are proposed for this area, and will provide both east-west and north-south enhancements.

4.8 "City Ways" are routes that radiate from the city centre and are characterised by features such as greater pedestrian space and segregated cycle lanes. The [South City Way](#) will deliver a safer and more attractive walking and cycling route between Queen's Park and the City Centre. The 3 km corridor will support and enhance ongoing regeneration of the surrounding area, promoting active and sustainable travel along Victoria Road

through dedicated, segregated cycling provision. The proposal has been successful in obtaining £3.25 million pounds of funding from the Scottish Government's Community Links Plus funding, to be matched by £3.25 m from Glasgow City Council to take the project through to completion. In pursuing all such projects, opportunities should be taken to improve the environment of local areas as part of a placemaking approach.

**Figure 6: SPC Network Aspirations (from SPC)**



4.9 The recently completed [South West City Way](#) provides 2 kilometres of segregated cycle way linking Pollokshields with the Edinburgh Glasgow cycle route on the north bank of the Clyde, via the Tradeston footbridge and providing links east to Laurieston.



4.10 Other considerations that the draft Open Space Strategy identifies as important in informing the current and future need for open space to enhance the City's **Health** include consideration of:

- opportunities to encourage play;
- provision of an appropriate quantity and quality of open space to meet demand for formal outdoor sports;
- provision of an appropriate quantity of open space to meet demand for food growing; and
- how open space can help address issues such as air quality and pollution

## 5 A Resilient Glasgow

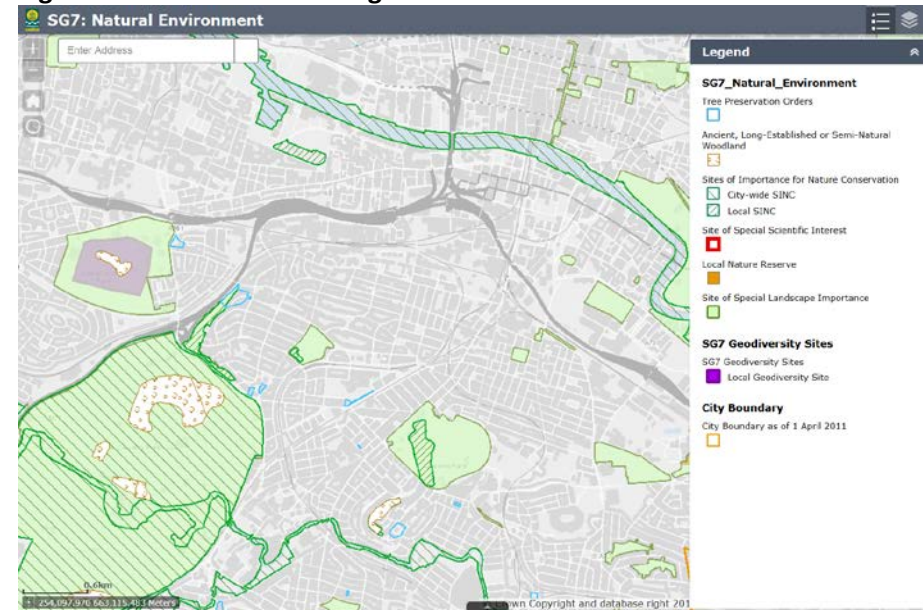
5.1 People, nature and infrastructure can all be vulnerable to a changing climate. More of the City will be exposed to flood risk associated with an increased intensity of rainfall, people can be vulnerable to heat waves and flood events and changes in warmth and precipitation can have significant impacts on habitats and the species they sustain. An increase in heat, rainfall and winds can impact on building fabric, ground conditions, road surfaces and rail lines, with implications for the transport network and other utilities. City Centre temperatures could increase as the built fabric absorbs and retain more of the sun's heat. Our open spaces provide opportunities to help the City adapt to inevitable climate change.

### *Natural Environment*

5.2 In a similar way to the other Inner Urban LCAs, and, perhaps, reflecting the established and built up nature of much of the area,

there are relatively few [environmental designations](#) (Fig 7) in the area. The north and south boundaries of the area are demarcated by the Rivers Clyde and White Cart, and both are Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. Further SINCs exist in the woodland at Queens Park, at Festival Park, at Richmond Park and at Langside Wood (or Bluebell Wood), also an Ancient, Long-Established or Semi-Natural Woodland. The remaining environmental designations are primarily Sites of Special Landscape Importance (eg at Queens Park, Govanhill Park, the Southern Necropolis and Richmond Park).

**Figure 7: Environmental Designations**



### *Green Network*

- 5.3 Map 9/Annex 9 shows the key elements of the Green in the area. There are numerous small nodes, with larger ones at Queen's Park (and adjacent open spaces), the Southern Necropolis and Richmond Park of network, and a number of transport corridors, particularly the rivers, rail lines and motorways. Although beneficial to wildlife, these are less functionally useful for other green network functions such as active travel. The dominance of Queen's Park and other smaller areas of green space means that the south has a higher area of functional green network. The Stage 2 LCA process should investigate in more depth the functionality of this LCA's wider Green Network, and where there may be opportunities to extend and enhance it.

### *Surface Water Management*

- 5.4 The [Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership](#) is a partnership between the City Council, Scottish Water, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Canals, surrounding Councils, the Scottish Government and other interested parties to:

- reduce flood risk;
- improve water quality;
- enable economic development;
- improve habitats; and
- co-ordinate and integrate investment planning.

- 5.5 SEPA has [modelled](#) the extent of potential flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The modelling indicates that areas around the White Cart Water in the south of the area are potentially susceptible to flooding from the river, as is an area

south of the Clyde at Oatlands/Richmond Park. Other parts of the area are potentially susceptible to surface water flooding.

- 5.6 As required by The Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, the Council has published the [Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the Clyde and Loch Lomond Local Plan District](#) (LPD). The Plan identified a number of actions to address potential flooding in these areas, including:

- extending the existing flood defences along the White Cart to include additional properties along the river; and
- maintaining flood protection schemes in Langside and Shawlands.

- 5.7 Feasibility/concept design has been completed for a Surface Water Management Plan for Overwood Drive/Aikenhead Road, with detailed design options emerging. Implementation of the project will be enabled by City Deal funding. These, and other, actions provide opportunities for delivering multifunctional enhancements to the Green Network and should be considered further through the Stage 2 Local Context Analysis.

- 5.8 Other considerations that the draft Open Space Strategy identifies as important in informing the current and future need for open space to enhance the City's **Resilience** include consideration of:

- how to improve habitat connectivity;
- the city's blue spaces; and
- how open space can be used to help mitigate climate change, eg by capturing and removing CO2 from the atmosphere.

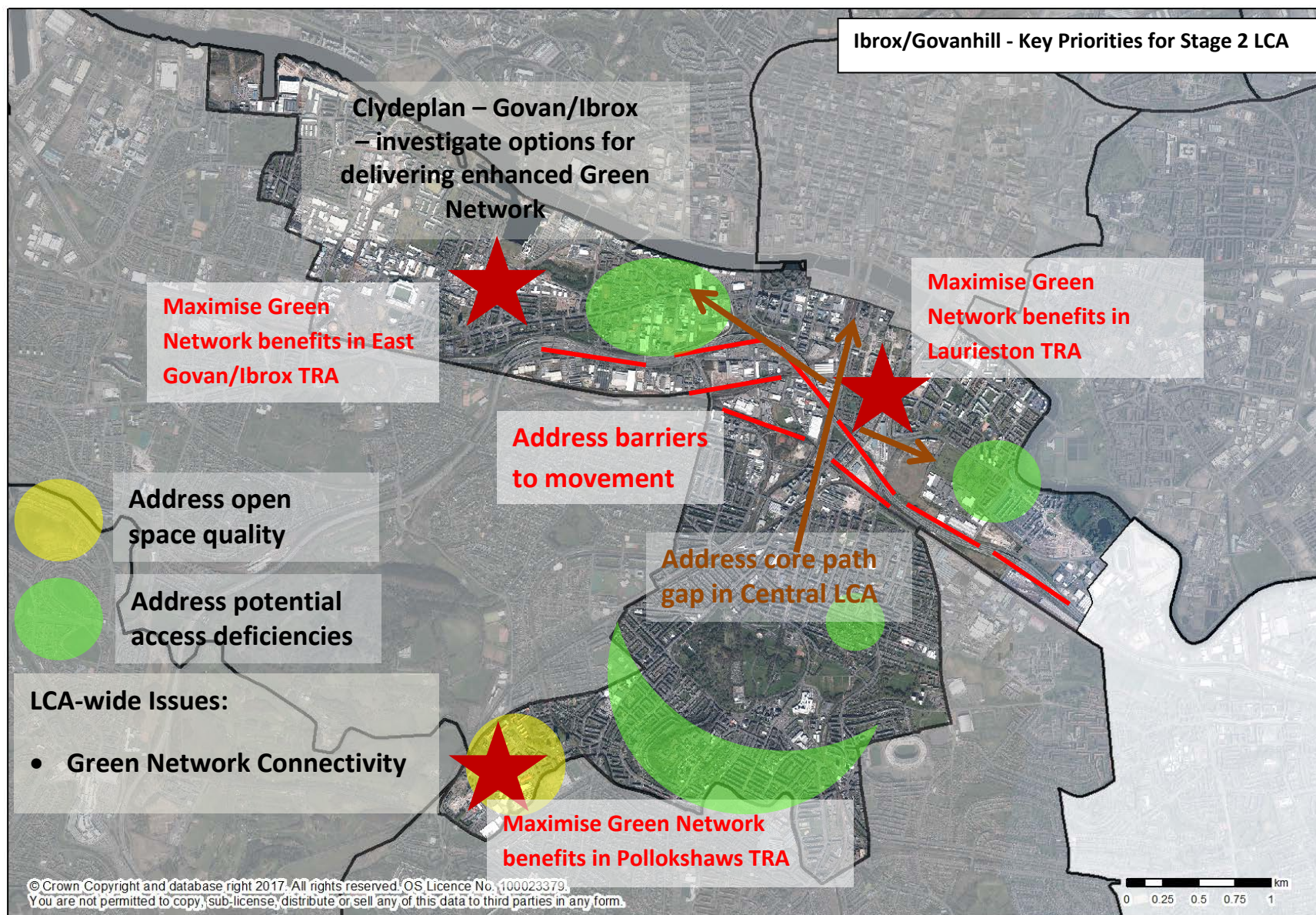
## 6 *Open Space Priorities*

- 6.1 Through the Stage 2 LCA process, consideration will require to be given to how best to address the deficiencies in accessibility, quality and quantity identified above. The Council will attempt to address these matters through a placemaking approach – one that delivers multiple benefits for the people of the area, for flood water management and for nature and the green network. In this way, the Council and its partners will aim to maximise the benefit of investment undertaken to deliver multifunctional solutions, helping address issues such as access, connectivity, water management and biodiversity wherever possible.
- 6.2 The high-level analysis set out in the previous sections is intended to highlight the key issues that the Stage 2 Local Context will need to address as a priority. The analysis is broadly consistent with analysis undertaken to support the production of [Clydeplan](#), the Strategic Development Plan for Glasgow and the surrounding area. Amongst other things, Clydeplan aims to maximise Green Network Benefits through Integrated Green Infrastructure and it notes that, given the scale of opportunity for the development of the green network across the city region, prioritisation of delivery is key.
- 6.3 As a result, Clydeplan identifies 16 regionally important “Strategic Delivery Areas”, locations where the opportunity exists to address matters relevant to four green network priorities (health; climate change adaptation; poor access to greenspace; and habitat creation). Govan/Ibrox is one of the SDAs identified, based on GIS analysis of a range of Green Network related data. Clydeplan [Background Report 11](#) provides further detail.

- 6.4 Background Report 11 identifies that action in the Govan/Ibrox area can help address the green network priorities of health, access and climate change. The Stage 2 LCA process will need to build on this work as a priority.
- 6.5 Other priorities to be addressed in the Stage 2 LCA process will include:
- 1 where there may be potential to deliver new open space in the area, should a rising population mean that the quantity standard isn’t met in future;**
  - 2 how to address the poor quality of some open spaces that will be relied upon to meet the accessibility standard;**
  - 3 how the TRAs at Laurieston, East Govan/Ibrox and Pollokshaws can be developed to address open space issues;**
  - 4 identification of potential opportunities to address accessibility deficiencies and the approach to be taken if it’s not possible to meet accessibility or quantity standards – including making journeys to existing open space safer and more attractive;**
  - 5 how it might be possible to break down barriers posed by major rail and road infrastructure between the riverside areas of the Ibrox/Govanhill and those areas further south;**
  - 6 consideration of options for better linking core paths across the central part of the LCA area;**
  - 7 Where best to deliver any improvements in demand-led provision identified through studies of outdoors sports provision and growing space;**
  - 8 how to deliver enhancements to the Green network across the area, including its connectivity and the role that can be played by water management proposals; and**



- 9 How to address the priority that Clydeplan accords to Govan/Ibrox in terms of enhancing the green network and its associated benefits.

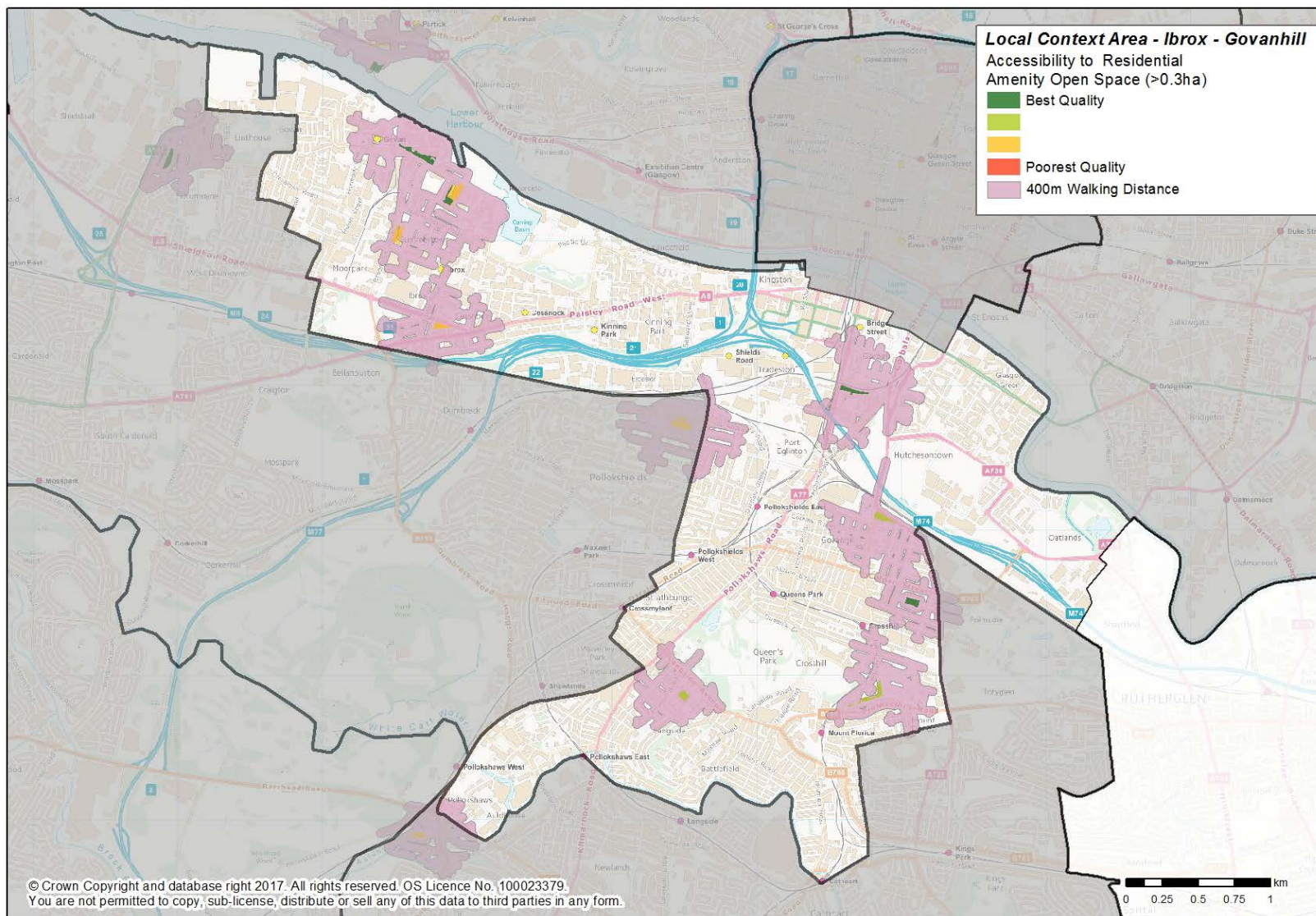


## 7 Key Statistics

<b>a</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>73,544</b>
<b>b</b>	<b>Land Area</b>	<b>1,286 has</b>
<b>c</b>	<b>Population Density</b>	<b>57 people per ha</b>
<b>d</b>	<b>Functionally Useful Publicly Usable Open Space (see Annex 10)</b>	<b>161 has</b>
<b>e</b>	<b>Vacant/Derelict Land</b>	<b>88 has</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>Planned housing output from housing land to 2023</b>	<b>3631 Units</b>
<b>g</b>	<b>Estimated population increase from housing land to 2023</b>	<b>6608 population</b>
<b>h</b>	<b>Prospective new Population Density at 2023</b>	<b>62 people per ha</b>
<b>i</b>	<b>Existing Functionally Useful Publicly Usable Open Space per 1000 people (<math>d/(a/1000)</math>)</b>	<b>2.2 has per 1000 people</b>
<b>j</b>	<b>Prospective functionally useful publicly usable open space per 1000 people (<math>d/((a+g)/1000)</math>)</b>	<b>2.0 has per 1000 people</b>
<b>k</b>	<b>Vacant land (e) as percentage of total land area (b)</b>	<b>6.8%</b>

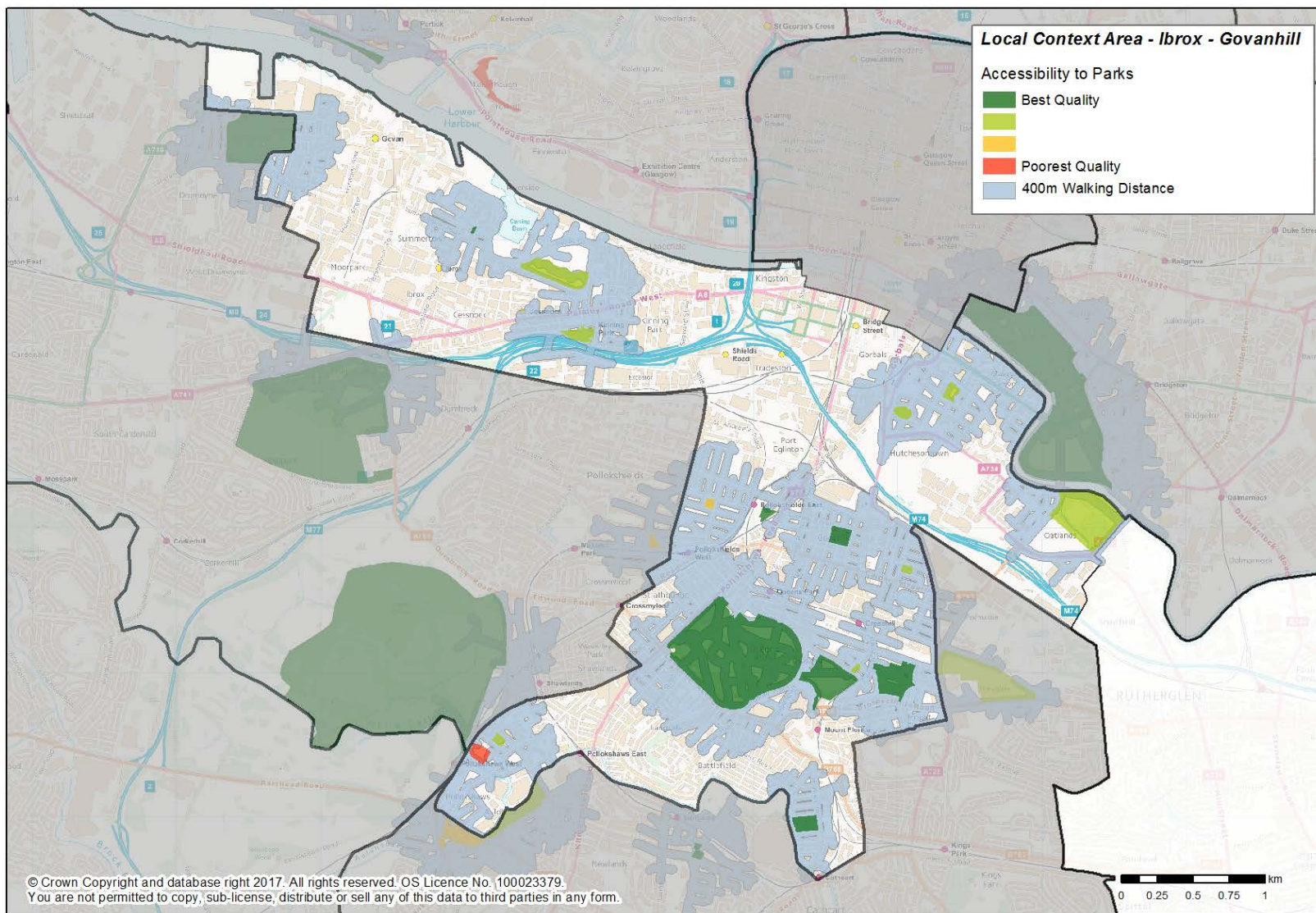


## ANNEX 1: Access to Residential Amenity Open Space >0.3 ha



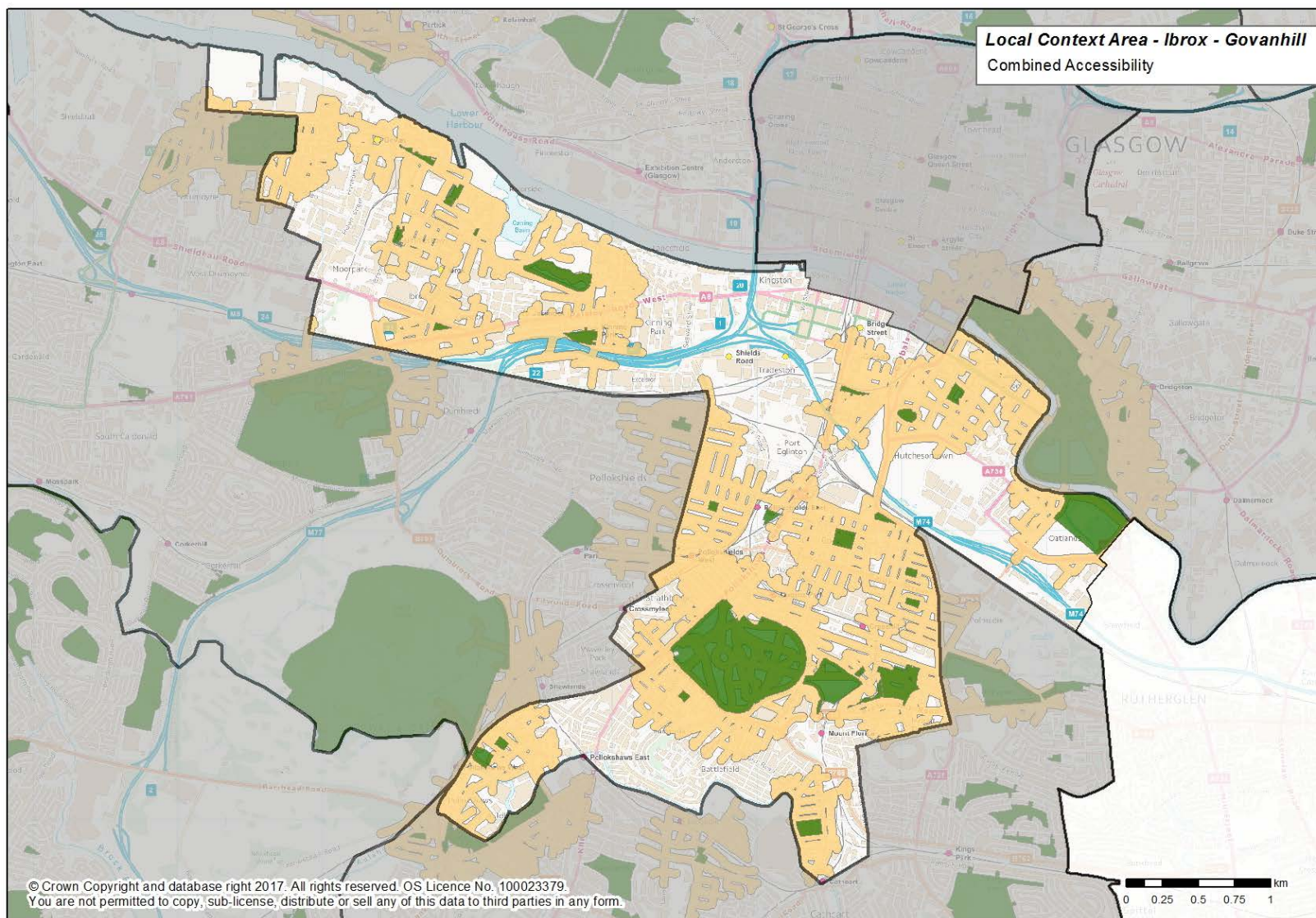


## ANNEX 2: Access to Public Parks and Gardens



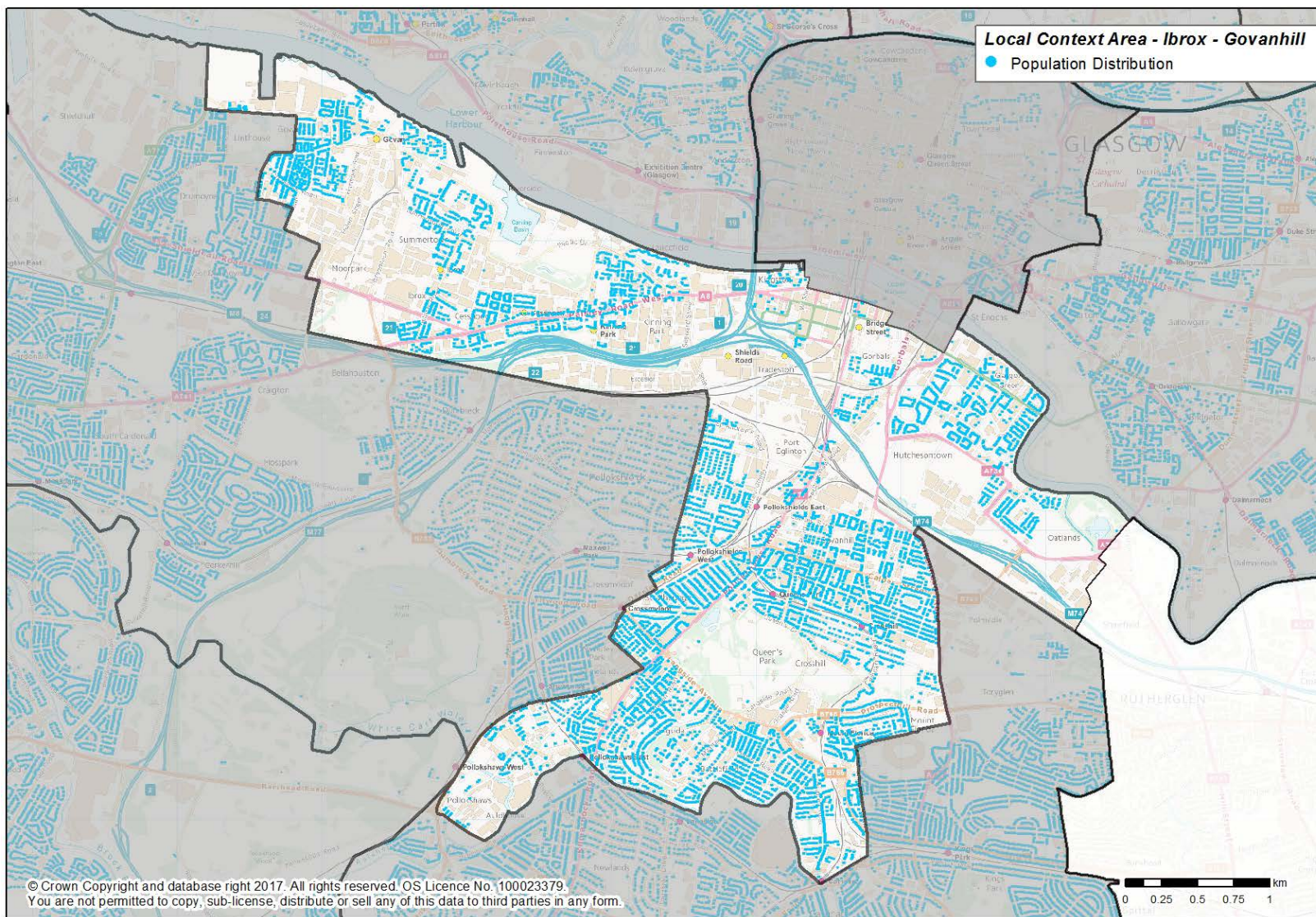


### ANNEX 3: Access to Potentially Multifunctional Open Space > 0.3 Ha



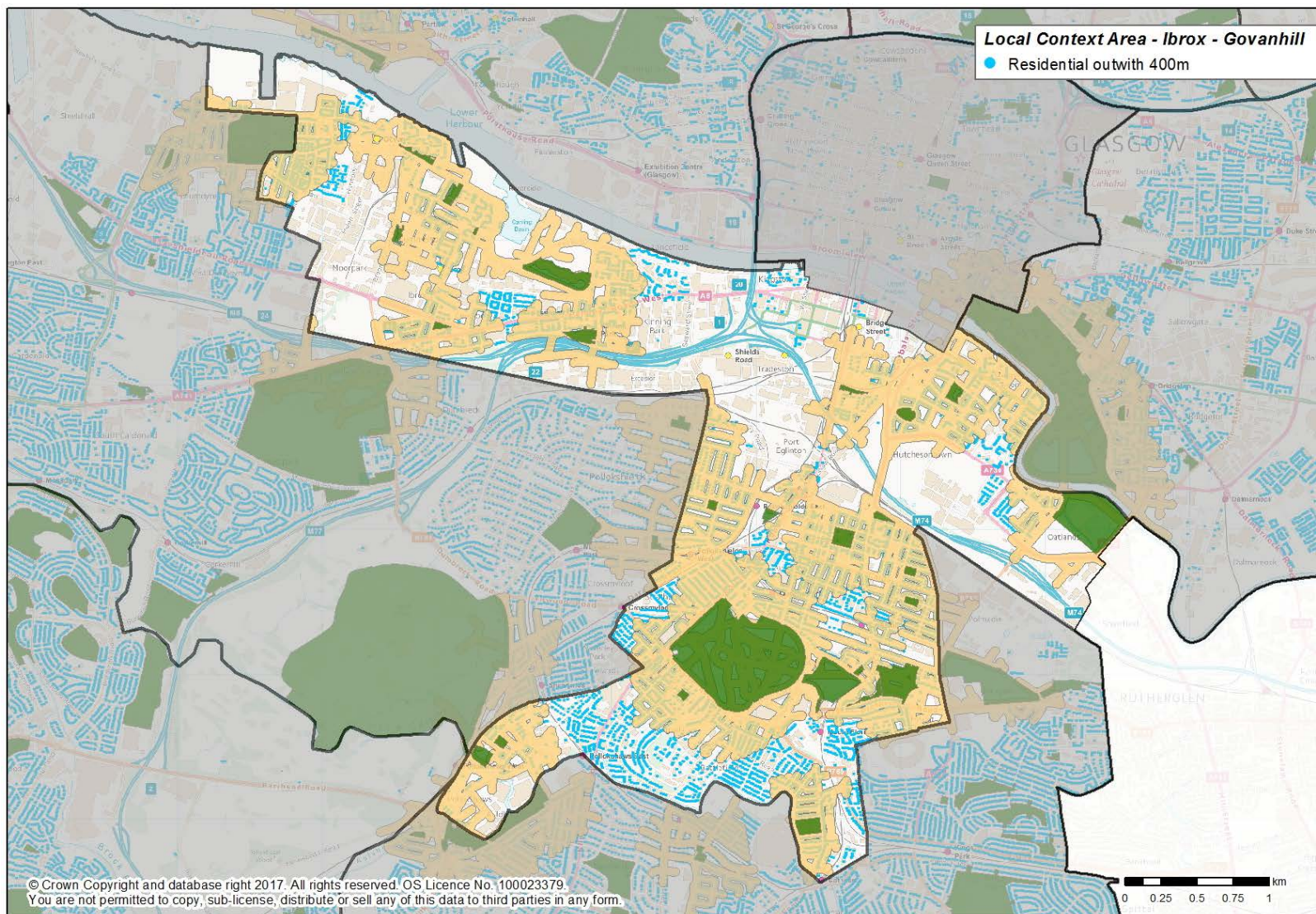


## ANNEX 4: Population Distribution



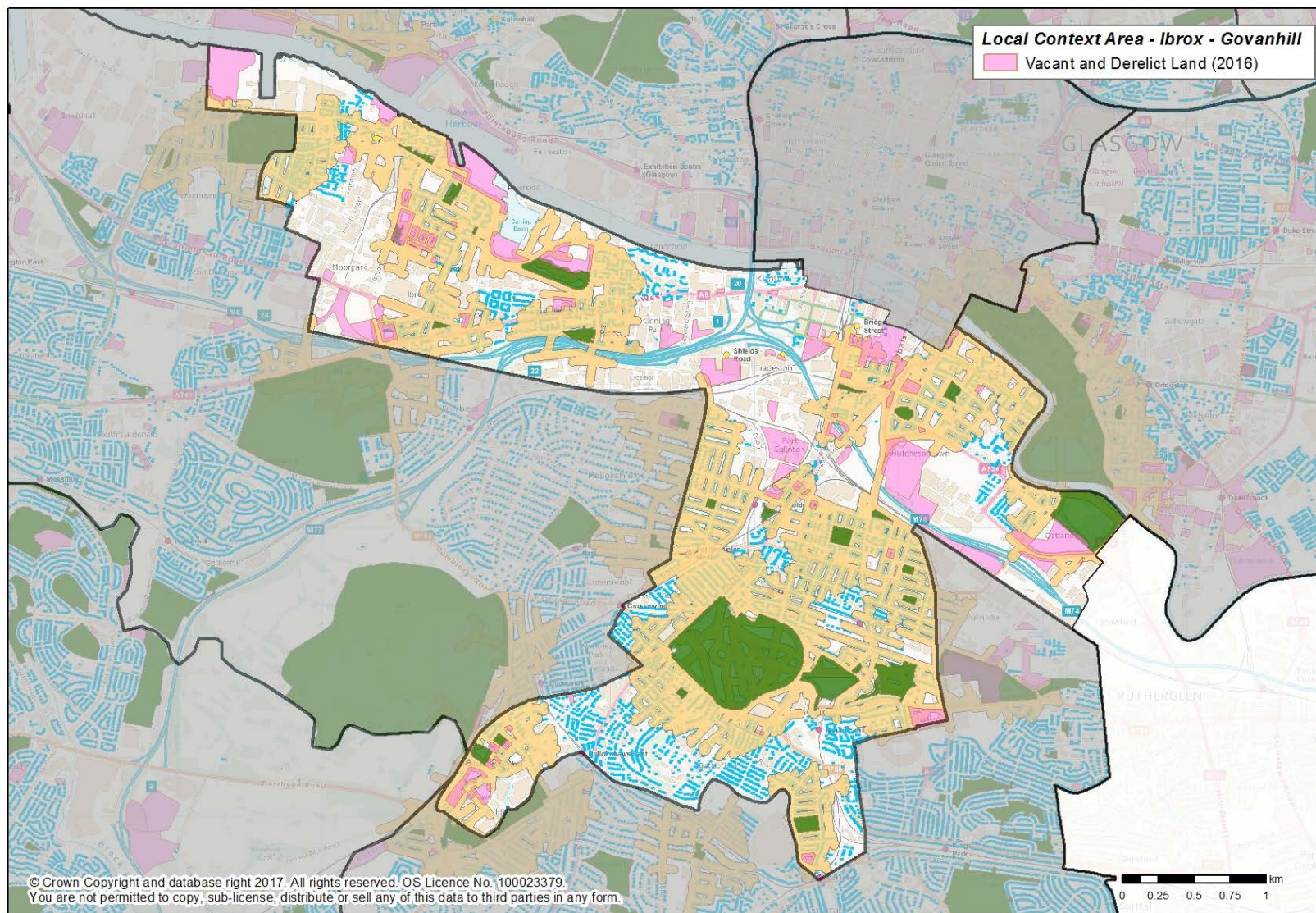


## ANNEX 5: Potential Accessibility Deficiencies



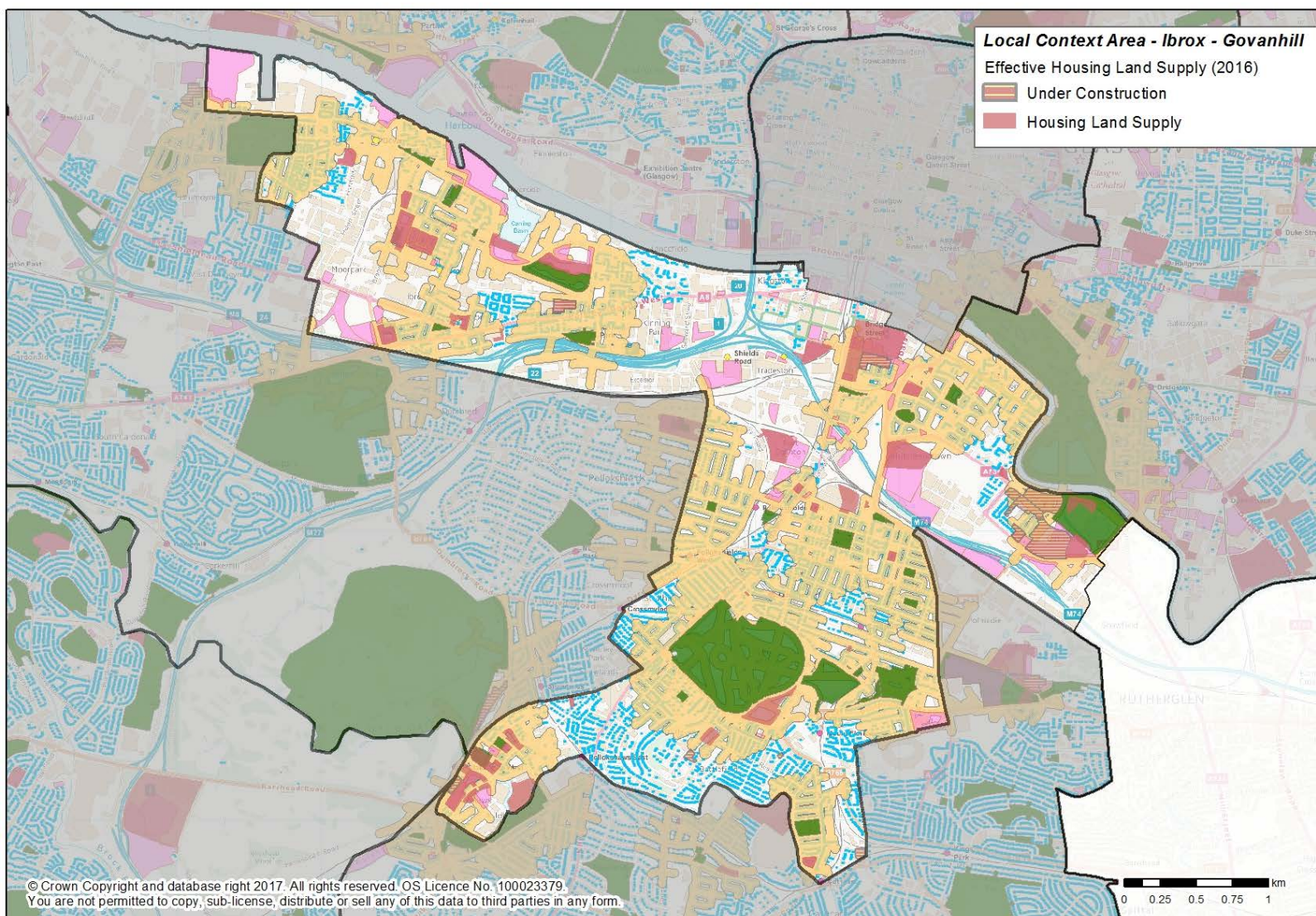


## ANNEX 6: Vacant/Derelict Land



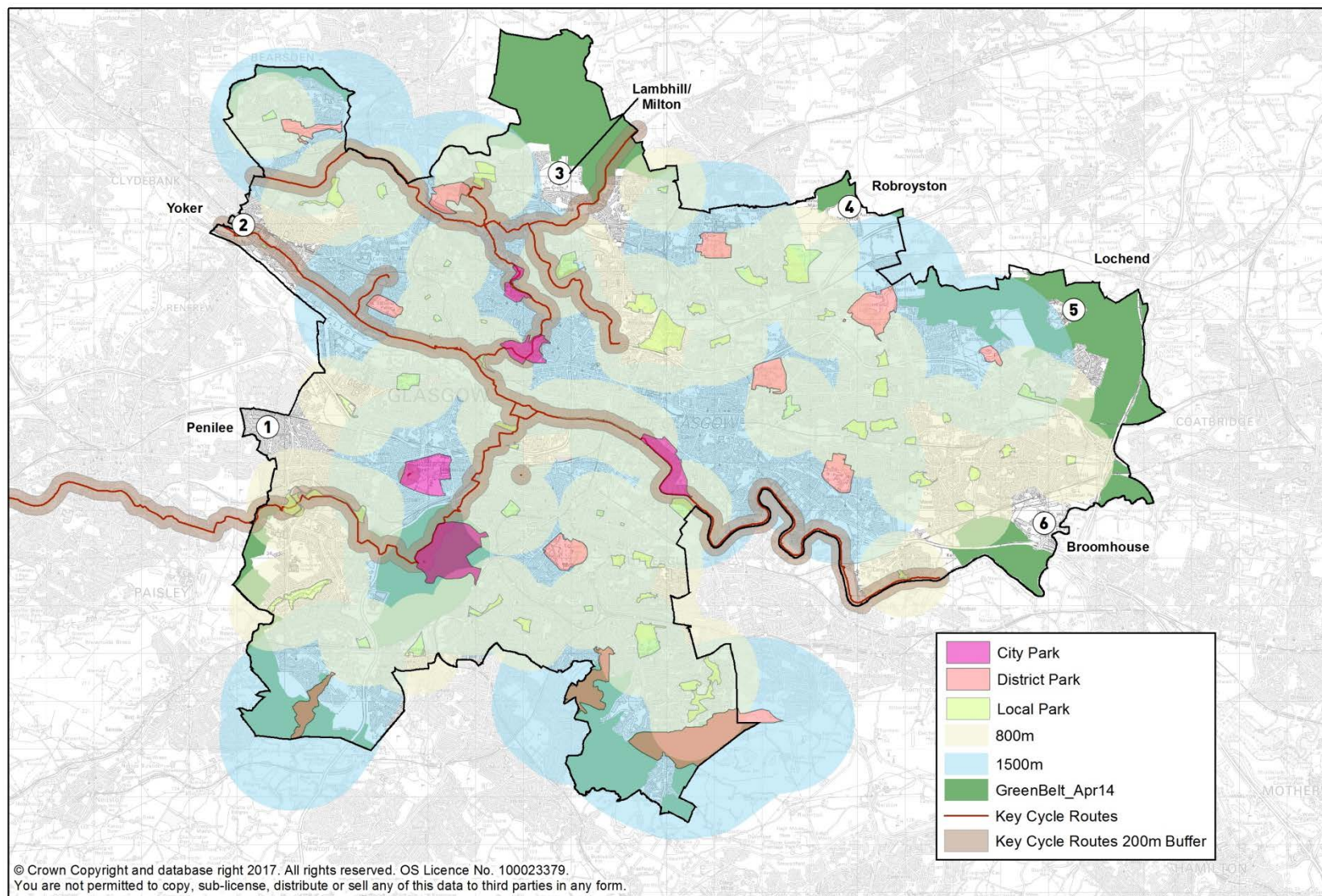


## ANNEX 7: Vacant/Derelict Land and Housing Land Supply



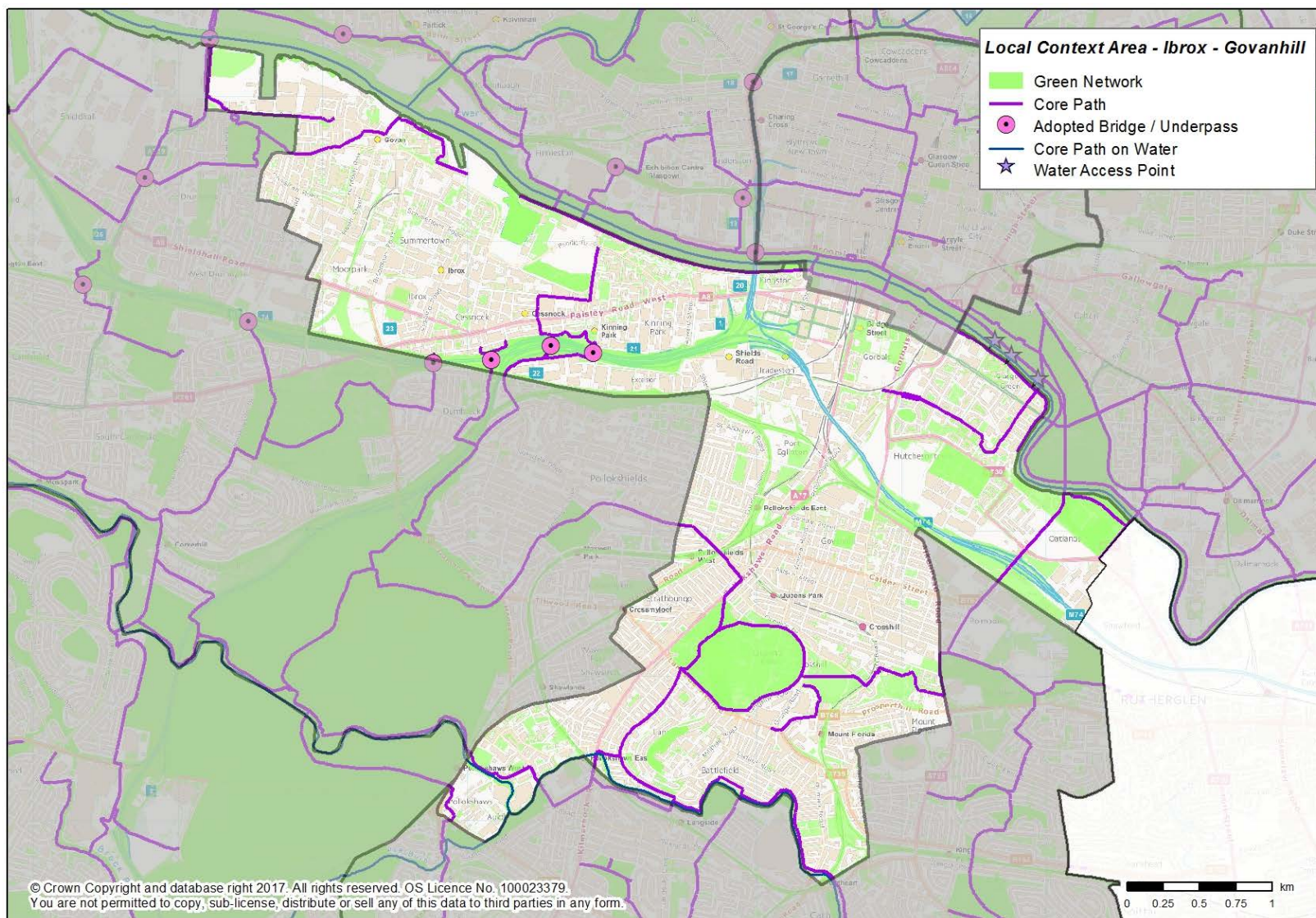


## ANNEX 8: Access to Larger Open Spaces





## ANNEX 9: Green Network and Core Paths





## ***ANNEX 10: Draft Open Space Standards***

### ***Accessibility Standard***

All homes (including purpose-built student accommodation), outwith the City Centre, should be within a 400m actual walking distance of a good quality, publicly usable open space of 0.3 ha or more [a “Community Space”].

### ***Quality Standard***

Community Spaces, whether existing or proposed, should, when considered against the Quality Assessment Matrix, achieve a minimum overall score of 75% of the total possible score of the applicable criteria and the minimum required score specified in the matrix for each of the applicable criteria.

### ***Quantity Standard***

There should be 1.9 ha of publicly usable open space per 1000 people in the Inner Urban Area and 5.5 ha of publicly usable open space per 1000 people in the Outer Urban Area.

## GLOSSARY

**Accessibility Standard:** a standard to be used by the Council to deliver access to good quality open space of an appropriate size within a 400m walk of people's homes.

**Active Travel:** travel by physically active, human-powered modes, most commonly walking and cycling, as opposed to motorised ones, and largely for functional reasons as opposed to recreational ones.

**Biodiversity:** the variety of living things on Earth, from the smallest insect to the largest mammal and tree.

**City Development Plan** (or Local Development Plan): the Council's land use plan which sets out a 10 year planning framework for the development of the City and policies to guide its development.

**Community Spaces:** spaces that the Council identify to provide for access to good quality open space in peoples' immediate environment (meeting the Accessibility Standard) and that provide a multitude of open space needs (meeting the Quality Standard).

**Demand-led open space:** those types of open space for which a quantifiable demand can be established (eg allotments, sports pitches) and which may have restrictions on access and use.

**Functionally Useful Publicly Usable Open Space:** Those categories of Publicly Usable Open Space considered to usefully help meet demand for access to open space for the population. Excludes less functionally useful space such as amenity space associated with transport infrastructure or business (eg that would form a car park boundary).

**Green Network:** connected areas of green infrastructure and open space that together form an integrated and multi-functional network. (Source: SPP 2014).

**Green Network Masterplan:** a plan for how the green network, and individual spaces within it, should be used, managed and maintained to address all aspects of open space need in the City in a co-ordinated manner.

**Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership** (MGSDP): a partnership of organisations working to identify and deliver measures needed to ensure that Glasgow's sewerage and drainage networks can cope with a changing climate.

**Open Space:** space within and on the edge of settlements comprising green space (eg parks, playing fields), grey space (eg civic space, urban realm) and blue space (eg burns, lochs).

**Open Space Map:** a map illustrating the extent, type and spatial distribution of the Glasgow's protected open spaces.

**Open Space Strategy:** a means of co-ordinating the policies of the different council departments with responsibilities for open space, and of focusing liaison and partnership working with relevant public, private and community interests. (Source: PAN 65 2008).

**Publicly usable open space:** those categories of protected open space which are not demand-led spaces and which, in general terms are accessible to the public with relatively few restrictions eg public parks or amenity spaces.

**Quality Standard:** a standard to be used by the Council to ensure that spaces used to meet the Accessibility Standard are of good quality and provide for a variety of open space needs.

**Quantity Standard:** a standard to be used by the Council to ensure a sufficient quantity of publicly usable open space within each part of the City.

**Supplementary Guidance (SG):** a document prepared to support the City Development Plan, setting out further detailed guidance on the matters contained in the CDP.