

LCA14: POLLOK, STAGE 1

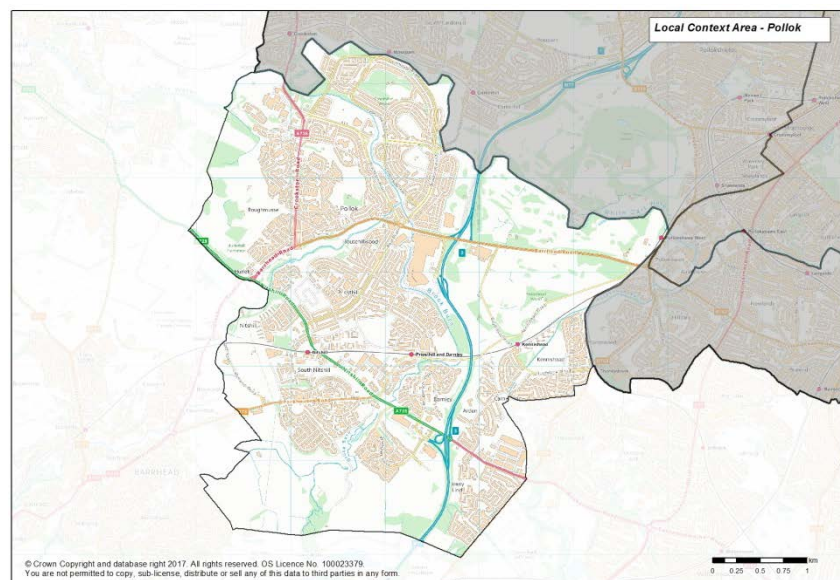
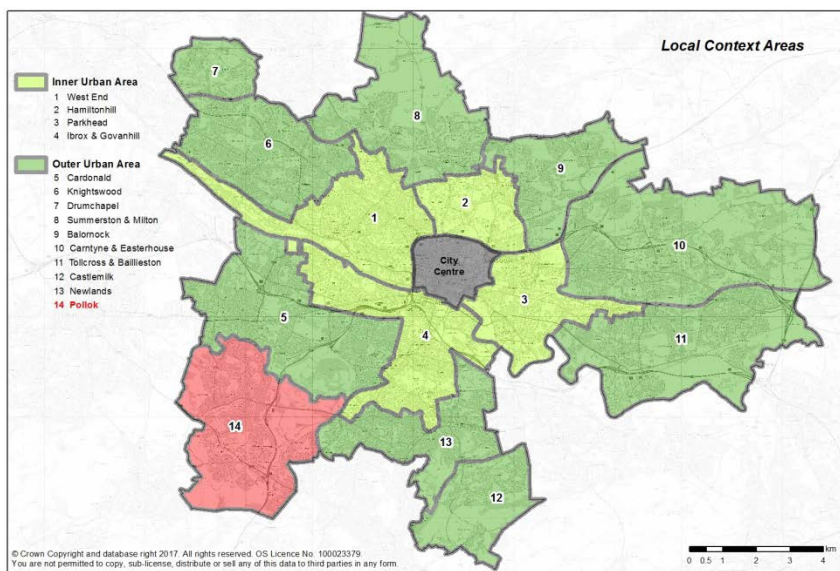
Glasgow City Development Plan 2017

Glasgow Open Space Strategy 2018



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1 Introduction

1.1 Pollok 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 Pollok 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.

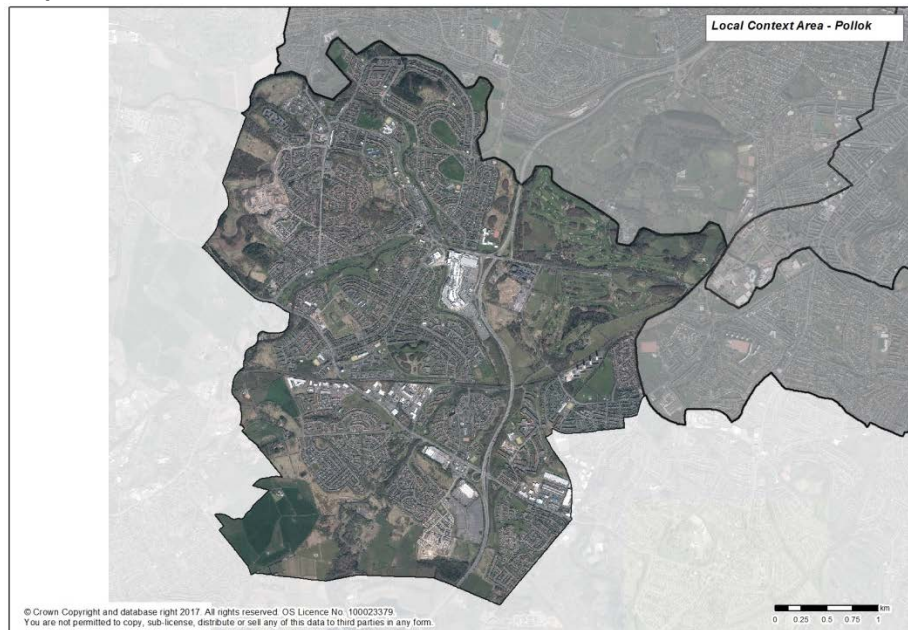
Figure 1: Suite of Open Space Documents



2 The LCA Area

- 2.1 The LCA area comprises of the communities of Pollok, Nitshill, South Nitshill, Priesthill, Darnley, Arden, Deaconsbank, Carnwadric, Thornliebank and parts of Crookston. Part of the Pollok Park Conservation Area is also included in the LCA. Much of the area was developed post-war, as one of the City's four large council housing schemes, constructed on greenfield land in the 4 corners of the City. In common with the other 3 (Castlemilk, Drumchapel and Easterhouse), it has witnessed demolition of un-lettable housing stock, particularly in Nitshill, South Nitshill, Priesthill, Darnley and parts of Pollok itself, with reconstruction being to, generally, lower densities.

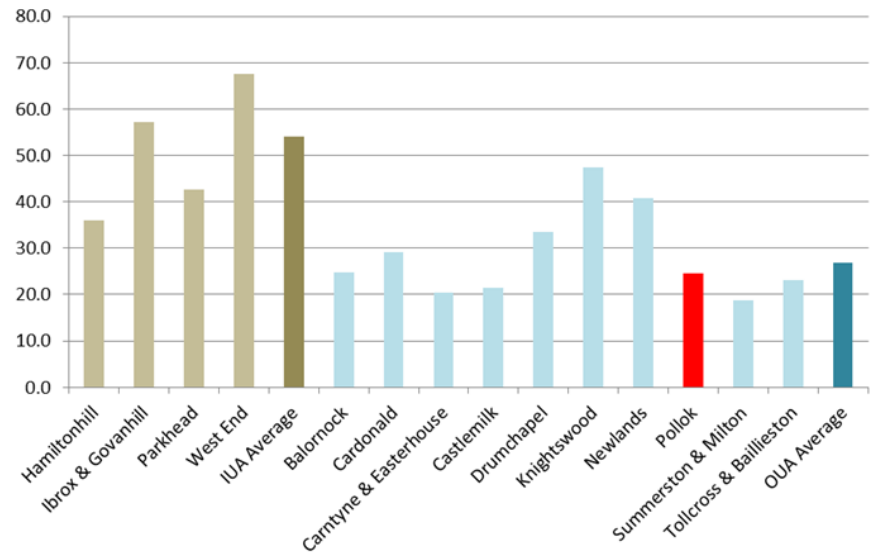
Map 1: LCA Area



- 2.2 Much of the stock is medium density, with cottage flats and terraces being very common, though there is a wide variety in the area overall, with higher density flats in the east, and detached housing also existing. Tenure is varied, with the older areas containing more social rented stock, and recent developments in the south and north-west being mostly owner-occupied.
- 2.3 The M77 motorway cuts the area in two and can be a substantial barrier to east-west movement along key stretches. Some pedestrian bridges (eg between Darnley and Arden) help overcome this barrier at key locations, but safe means of moving between east and west are generally few and far between. The Glasgow - Kilmarnock rail line also runs through the south of the area, crossing it on an east-west alignment. In comparison to the motorway, there are generally more crossing points and it presents less of a barrier to movement.
- 2.4 Several main roads (notably Barrhead Road, Nitshill Road, and Crookston Road) run through or around the area. Whilst these roads can be busy with traffic, there are usually frequent, safe crossing opportunities. There are also several water bodies in the area, including the Levern Water, Brock Burn, White Cart Water and a section of the Auldhouse Burn. In contrast with other parts of the City, these are mainly on the surface, with little or no culverting over their lengths. As such, they can act as a barrier to movement but they are also important green network links that include sections of off-road walking and cycling routes.
- 2.5 At 25 people per hectare, Pollok has a population density which is slightly below the Outer Urban Area average of 27 people per hectare (Fig 2). This reflects the fact that a comparatively high proportion of Pollok's total land area is comprised of "functionally useful" Open Space (Fig 3) in comparison with the Outer Urban

Area average. The amount of Green Belt land designated as open space is one reason for this. On the western and southern edges of Pollok, in particular, Green Belt land is particularly accessible to, and usable by, the public (eg the Dams to Darnley Country Park).

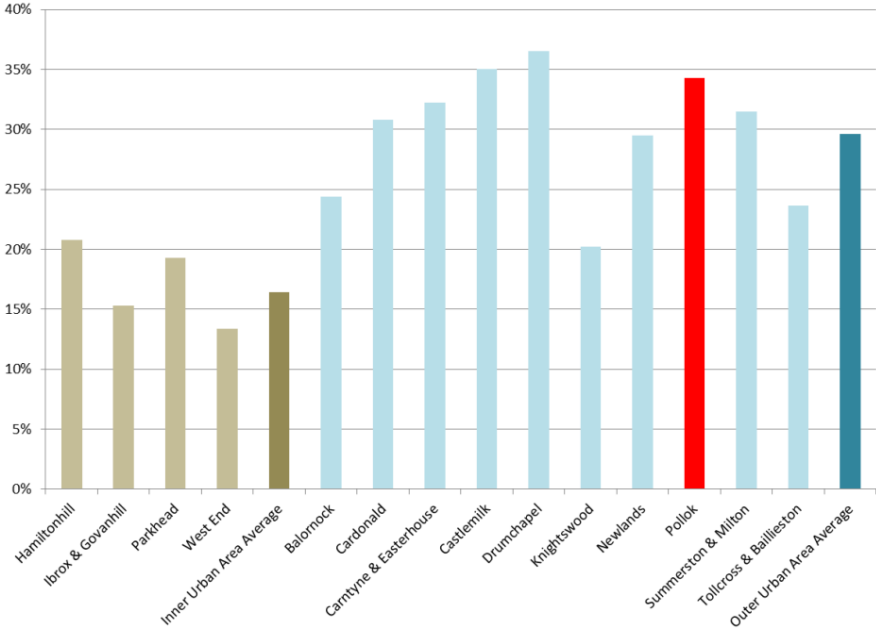
Figure 2: Population Density – People per Hectare



2.6 There are few “traditional” public parks in the LCA area, however there are a number of other important open spaces, as shown on the [Open Space Map](#). Many of the largest and most usable of these spaces can be found along the watercourses that cross the area, or in the form of other “corridors” of open space. The Brock Burn enters the LCA from East Renfrewshire Council in the south. It forms the spine of a Country Park, **Dams to Darnley**, that stretches across the local authority boundary and encompasses the green belt separating Barrhead, South Nitshill, Darnley and

Newton Mearns. The country park provides recreational activities for local residents and visitors through a network of paths for walking, cycling and horse riding. Its northern end marks the entry of the Brock Burn into the urban area, with this area designated a Local Nature Reserve. Immediately to its east lies a large area of amenity open space, west of **Leggatston Drive**.

Figure 3: Functionally Useful Open Space as a %age of total land area



2.7 From there, the **Brock Burn** runs underneath Nitshill Road and form the western edge of the Darnley area. Its route here consists mainly of wooded banks, and is accessible by footpath over most of its length. This open space also includes areas of amenity grassland. At the northern end of **Darnley** it turns east, and runs parallel to Kennishead Road. There are no formal paths through this wooded section but, just before the M77, it turns

north again, under Kennishead Road to flow through a large area of open space at **Priesthill**, bounded by housing on its west and the M77 to the east. An off-road path follows the route of the burn north, along a green corridor, as it runs to the west of Silverburn, and under Barrhead Road to the confluence with the Lavern Water.

2.8 The **Lavern Water** itself flows into the area from the south west, forming the western boundary of the City along part of its length. North of Nitshill Road it flows through **Househill Park**, a lengthy open spaces that encompasses both banks of the river and includes the Lavern Walkway, amenity grassland, woodland, a rose garden and, and its northern end, children's play facilities. The Lavern Water then flows under Barrhead and Brockburn Roads to join with the Brock Burn. As the **Lavern Water**, it flows north-west, parallel with Brockburn Road, through a green corridor consisting mainly of amenity grassland, but including patches of woodland (especially on the river banks) and children's play facilities. Where it turns west (at Lyoncross Road), there are sports pitches on the north bank and as it travels west it forms the north bank of the large amenity greenspace surrounding **Crookston Castle**. Just west of Linthaugh Road, it joins with the White Cart Water, flowing through woodland to form the City boundary in the north west of the area and bounding **Roshall Park** (just outwith the LCA area, on the north bank, but accessible to it by footbridge) and the open/semi-natural greenspace at **Leverdale**.

2.9 The **White Cart Water** forms the northern boundary of the LCA area. As with the other watercourses, it is characterised by open space, on both banks, over much of its length. On the opposite bank from Rosshall Park lie the **Bonnyholm** Playing Fields, part of a wider open space that follows the contours of the river and

includes children's play facilities at Bonnyholm Avenue and woodland. Footpaths run through much of the area. A long linear open space runs between the river and Linthaugh Road until it reaches **Lochar Park** – a large area of amenity grassland with some limited play facilities, riverside paths and a sport pitch. The White Cart is followed by National Cycle Network route 7, along Linthaugh Road.

2.10 To the south, the Corkerhill Playing Fields lie just outwith the LCA boundary, on the east bank of the river. Further to the east, the large amenity open space at **Damshot Crescent** lies to the south of the river. It forms part of both the Pollok Park Conservation Area and Pollok Park Historic Garden and Designed Landscape and is crossed by desire line paths between formal roundels of trees. To the east of the M77, the river runs through Pollok Park itself and is bounded by the Public Park to the north and Pollok Golf Course to the south. To the south, across Barrhead Road and still within Pollok Park, lies Cowglen Golf Club.

2.11 The other key green corridor running through the area is the M77. Whilst it is a barrier to east west movement over much of its length, it also provides a linear open space that is publicly accessible and usable in many places. In addition to the open spaces at Damshot Crescent and at Priesthill (along the Brock Burn), a Green Corridor, consisting mainly of woodland planting abuts both sides of the motorway as it runs between **Darnley and Arden**. A formal footpath runs the length of the western side and connects, via a footbridge, to a more local path network on the Arden side. South of Nitshill Road, a similar corridor abuts the motorway's eastern edge, though that on the west is limited, with public access to the south only. On the east, there are additional local path networks, set in amenity open grassland and woodland.

- 2.12 Each of these green corridors contains a variety of open spaces and a range of public paths. There are considerable opportunities to link individual path networks together into a more comprehensive off-road path network covering the Pollok area that will provide benefits for leisure use and for active travel. This should be investigated further through the Stage 2 Local Context Analysis.
- 2.13 Outwith the green corridors, a number of large open spaces exist elsewhere in the Pollok LCA. In the east of the LCA, **King George V Park** is a large area of open space on the south bank of the Auldhouse Burn. The park includes a variety of children's play facilities, a multi-user games area (MUGA), amenity grassland and trees, seating and lighting. The northern portion of the park consists of a number of grass playing fields. On the north bank of the Auldhouse Burn, and accessible from the park via a footbridge, are a number of other large open spaces around the **Carnwadric high flats**, including woodland, children's play facilities and amenity open space.
- 2.14 **Glenmuir Drive** is a large area of amenity open space in Priesthill, bounded by Glenmuir Drive, Linnhead Drive and Elliston Drive. The open space sits on a hill, crossed by footpaths, and is heavily wooded in parts, interspersed with areas of open grassland. It can feel isolated in areas. Similar, large open spaces exist in other parts of Pollok, often on the crests of hills, notably at **Langton Road** and **Hapland Road**, large amenity open spaces consisting of grassland and limited tree planting. Although much of their area is sloping, the Stage 2 Local Contexts should consider whether better, more multi-functional use can be made of them. In addition, there are two more large wooded spaces in this northern part of the LCA area, at Crookston Wood and at **Haugh Hill/Kempsthorn Road**. Areas of both spaces had been occupied

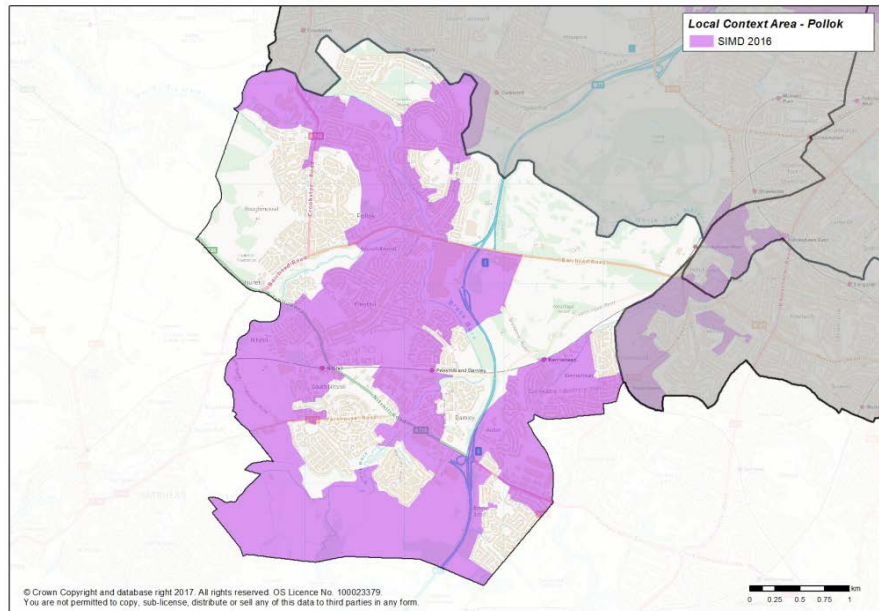
by schools in the past and work to erect a care home is currently underway on the former school site between Haugh Hill and Kempsthorn Road, which will effectively space the site in two.

- 2.15 Further key open spaces exist at **Whitehaugh Road**, a large, north facing slope of amenity grassland on the south side of Nitshill Road and at **Hurlet Hill**, on the edge of the urban area north of the Hurlet Road to Paisley, which consists of woodland and areas of open grassland. Hurlet Hill marks the southern edge of the greenbelt which separates Glasgow and Paisley and which runs up the north-western side of the LCA area. A variety of local footpaths provide access to this area and there may be scope to enhance them as part of a wider network. This should be considered further through the Stage 2 Local Context. In Crookston, the local park at **Raeswood Road** provides children's play facilities, a MUGA and amenity grassland.

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 Most of Pollok lies within an area that the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation has ranked as being amongst the 15% most deprived datazones in Scotland (Map2). Exceptions include areas where new private house building has taken place in recent years, notably at South Nitshill (Southpark Village), Deaconsbank and Crookston.

Map 2 – 15% most deprived datazones



- 3.3 The [Understanding Glasgow](#) website provides further details of multiple deprivation in the area, including in Priesthill and Househillwood, Arden and Carnwadric, South Nitshill and Darnley and Pollok itself.

Thriving Places

- 3.4 [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.
- 3.5 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. Priesthill and Househillwood is one of these areas.

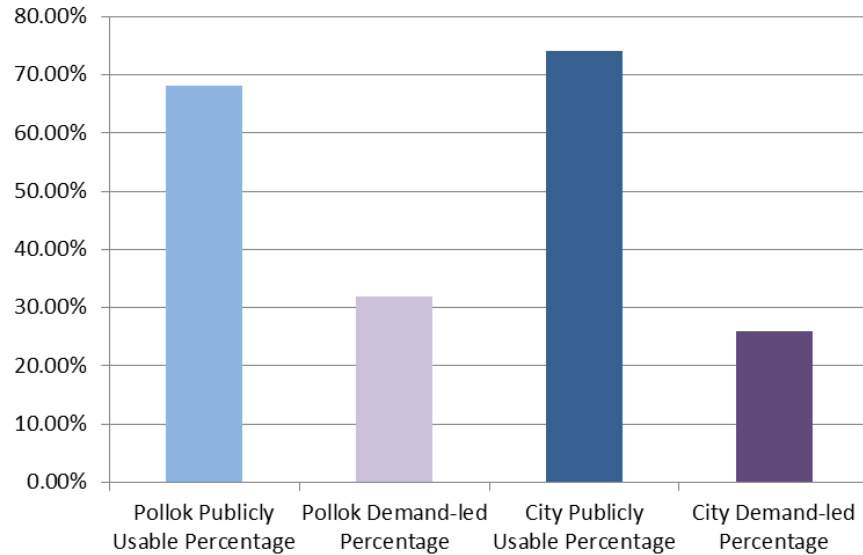
- 3.6 A [Locality Plan](#) for Priesthill and Househillwood has been produced and sets out how community groups, organisations and local services can work together to make a difference to the area. It highlights local people's desire for better provision of youth facilities and activity groups for children and young people.

Publicly Usable and Demand-led Open Space

- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 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.
- 3.9 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

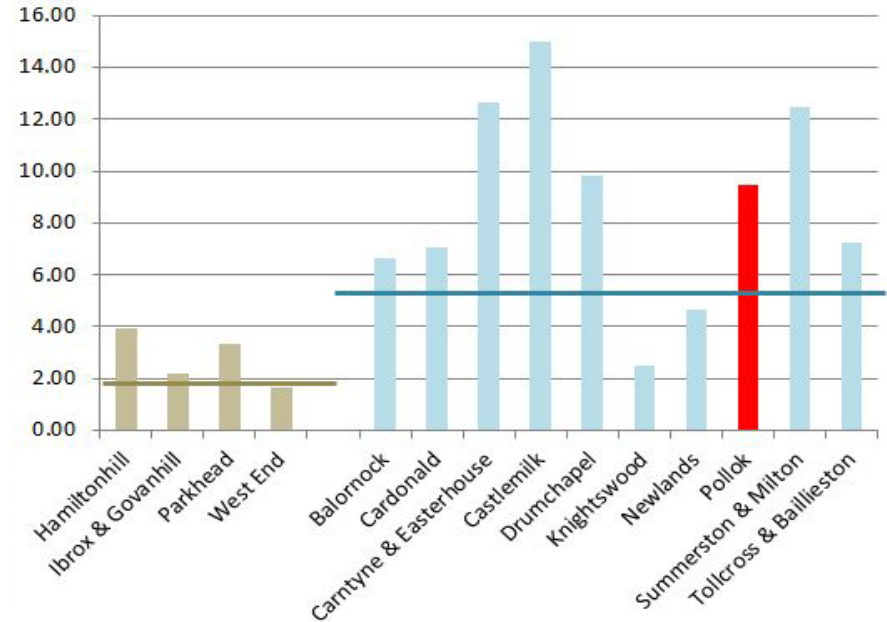
- all homes in the City have access to a good quality publicly usable space of a size that can meet the needs of the residential population, particularly in relation to play, informal sport and recreation and general relaxation.

Figure 4: Open Space Breakdown by Type



3.10 In comparison to the City as a whole, the percentage of publicly usable open space is slightly below average and demand led open space (see [open space map](#)) is slightly above average (Fig 4). Nevertheless, the amount of publicly usable open space per 1000 people in Pollok (9.5 has per 1000 people) easily exceeds the quantity standard for the Outer Urban Area of 5.5ha (Fig 5). This is largely because a relatively high proportion of Pollok's area consists of open space, both publicly usable and demand-led. Two large golf courses at Cowglen and Pollok are instrumental in the relatively high proportion of open space being in the demand-led categories.

Figure 5: Publicly Usable Open Space per 1000 People

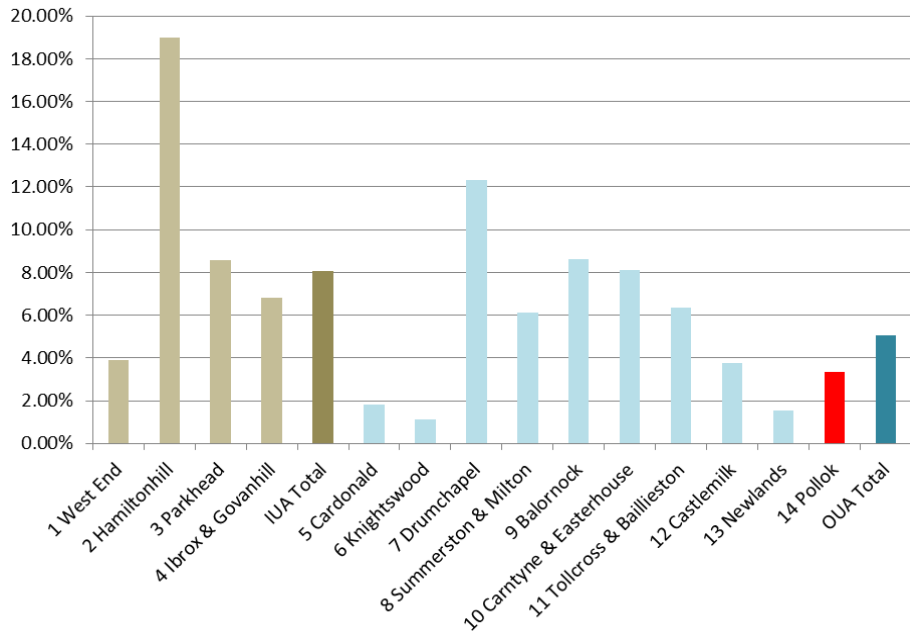


3.11 Whilst new housing development (Map 8/Annex 7) is likely to increase the population over time, Section 7 (j) illustrates that the Quantity Standard will still be comfortably exceeded. Given the environmental roles of many of the existing spaces (as SINCS, Ancient, Long-Established or Semi-Natural Woodland, LNR, etc – Section 5), and future potential for enhanced green network connectivity, it will be important to protect the vast majority of these spaces in the future. In addition, the [Green Belt Review](#), undertaken for the Local Development Plan, highlighted that there was little scope for the release of more Green Belt land for development. However, the degree to which the Quantity Standard is exceeded suggests it may be possible to use some open space in the area for other purposes, with a view to freeing up maintenance resources and reinvesting any compensation for

the loss of the open space back into the remaining open space resource. The Stage 2 LCA process should consider whether this is possible in the context of all the open space functions these spaces can help deliver.

3.12 The large amounts of open space (including the areas surrounding the rivers and burns which flow through the area) is one of the contributory factors in a population density (Fig 2) that is below the Outer Urban Area average. Despite a low population density, the area's urban form is fairly well established, and with comparatively little of the area being classified as vacant and/or derelict (Map 8/Annex 6 and Fig 6).

Figure 6: Vacant/Derelict Land as %age of Total LCA Land Area



3.13 As a result, and whilst new house building is expected to deliver enough new homes in the area to house almost 3,000 people, the Quantity Standard would still be comfortably met in future years.

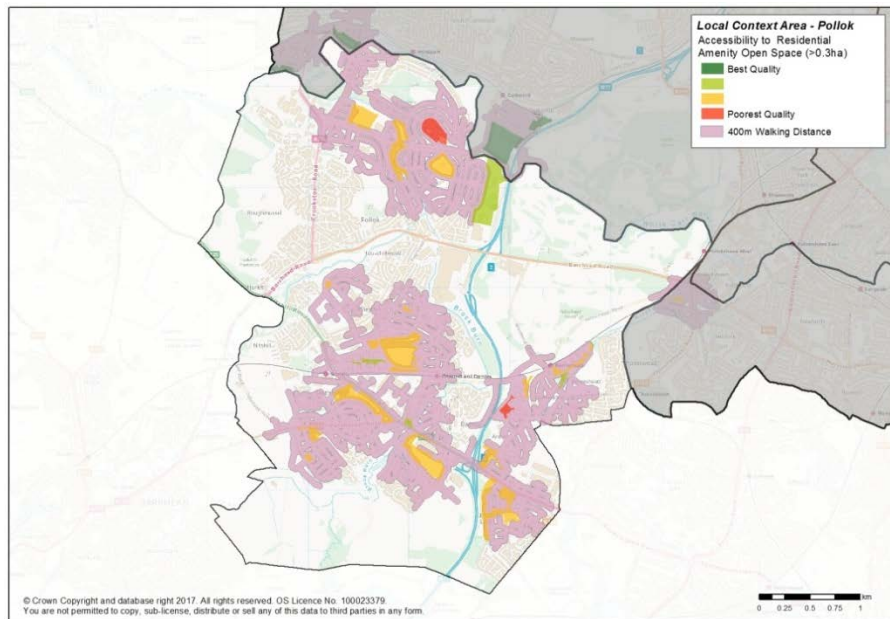
3.14 The Council is undertaking a city-wide assessment of the supply of, and demand for, the most popular types of outdoor sports provision (including pitch sports, bowls and tennis) in conjunction with Glasgow Life and Sportscotland. This will inform a sports pitch strategy that will consider how best 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 can be accommodated in the area.

Quality and Accessibility

3.15 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.

- 3.16 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.

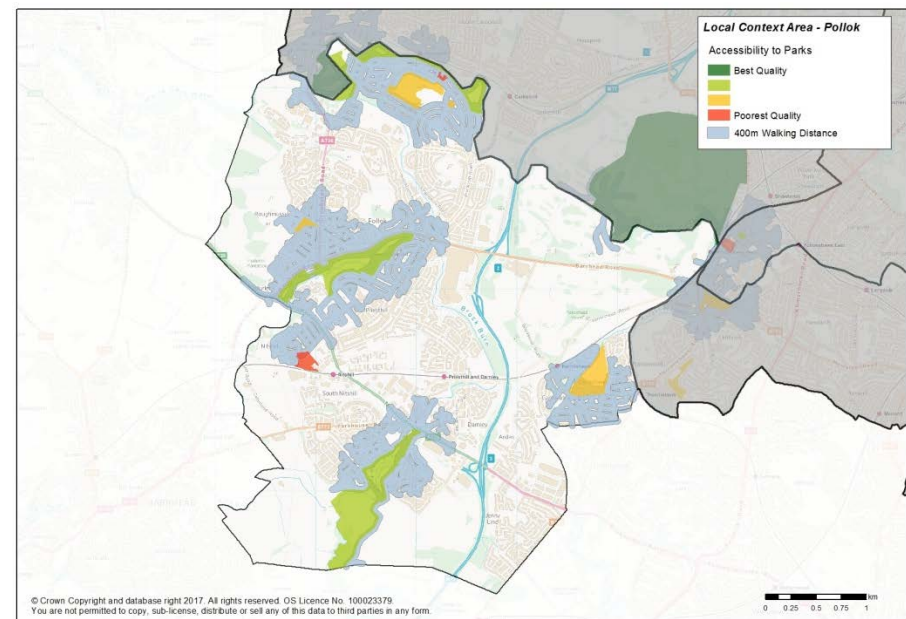
Map 3 – Accessibility to Residential Amenity Open Space



- 3.17 Map 3/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. Most of these spaces would appear to be at the bottom end of the quality range and are likely to require enhancement to meet the quality standard. How this should be done, including assessing whether all spaces need to be improved to meet the accessibility standard, should be investigated further through the Stage 2 LCA process.

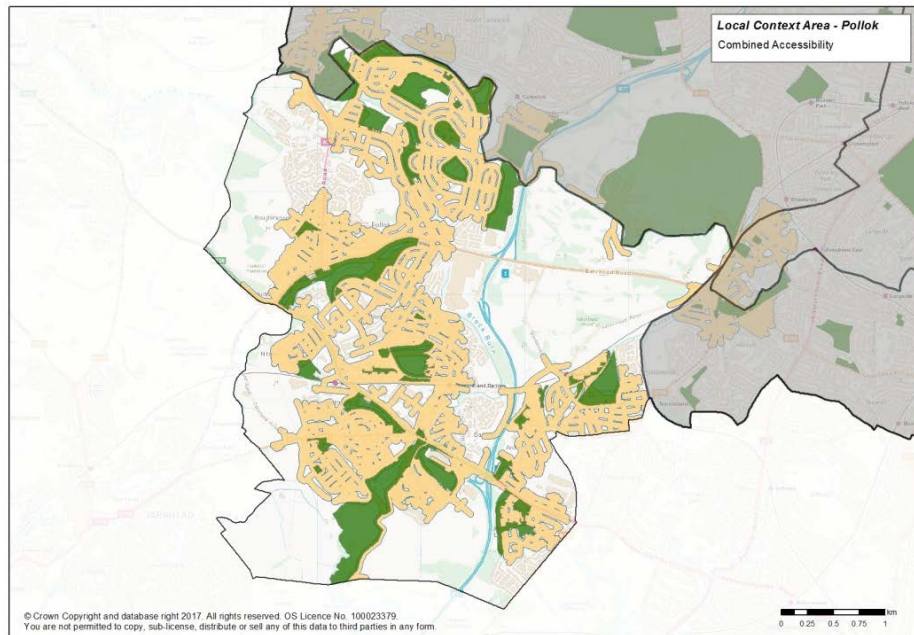
- 3.18 As can be seen, access to amenity open space is best in the southern and northern parts of the area.

Map 4: Accessibility to Parkland



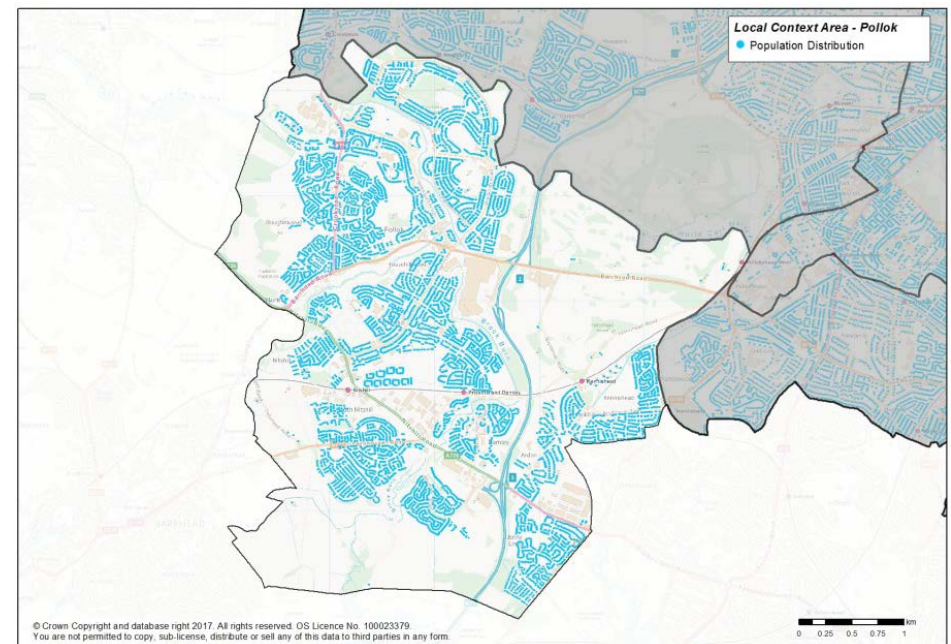
3.19 A similar analysis of access to public parks and gardens is shown on Map 4/Annex 2. They show those parts of Pollok that are within a 400m walk of open spaces that are identified as public parks and gardens on the Open Space Map, or that are maintained as such by the Council. It illustrates that many of the areas categorised in this way are, relatively, of better quality than the amenity open spaces, but that the parks are fewer in number and are accessible to a smaller proportion of the population within a 400m walk. Some of the parks are also of relatively poor quality and, as with amenity spaces, further consideration will require to be given to whether all of these spaces are capable of meeting the Quality Standard in terms of shape and slope. This will be done through the Stage 2 LCA process.

Map 5: Accessibility to potentially multifunctional open space > 0.3 ha

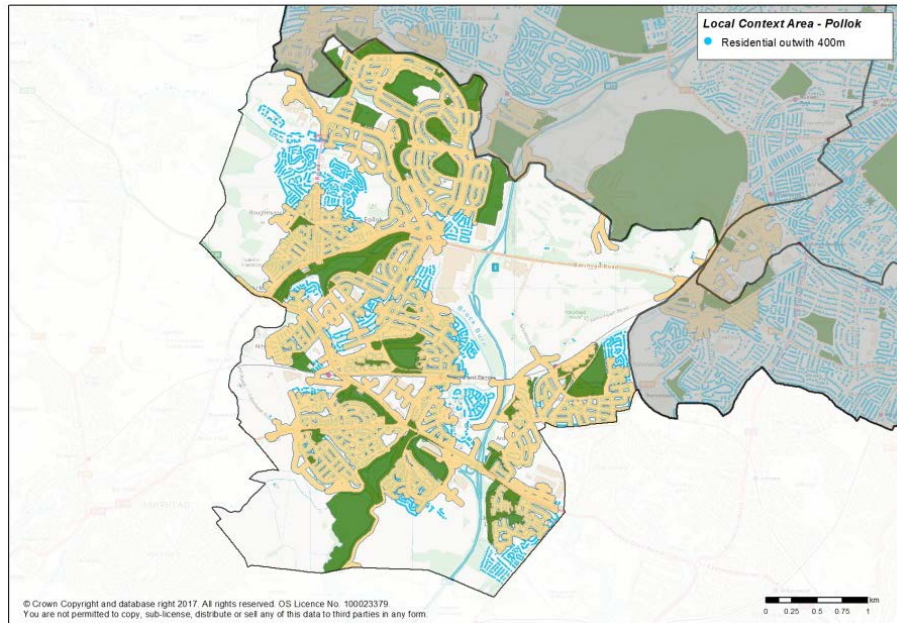


3.20 Map 5/Annex 3 combines both maps and shows those parts of the LCA area which currently meet the accessibility standard by falling within a 400m walk of a publicly usable, and potentially multifunctional open space of an appropriate size (over 0.3 ha) in one of these two key open space categories. 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 SG6. Maps 6/7 and Annexes 4/5 illustrate population distribution and access deficiencies respectively.

Map 6: Population Distribution



Map 7: Potential Accessibility Standard Deficiencies



3.21 Map 7/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 (see Annex 10). The biggest gaps in residential accessibility appear to be in:

- central parts of Crookston;
- eastern parts of Priesthill and Darnley;
- southern Deaconsbank;
- parts of Carnwadric; and
- parts of central Pollok

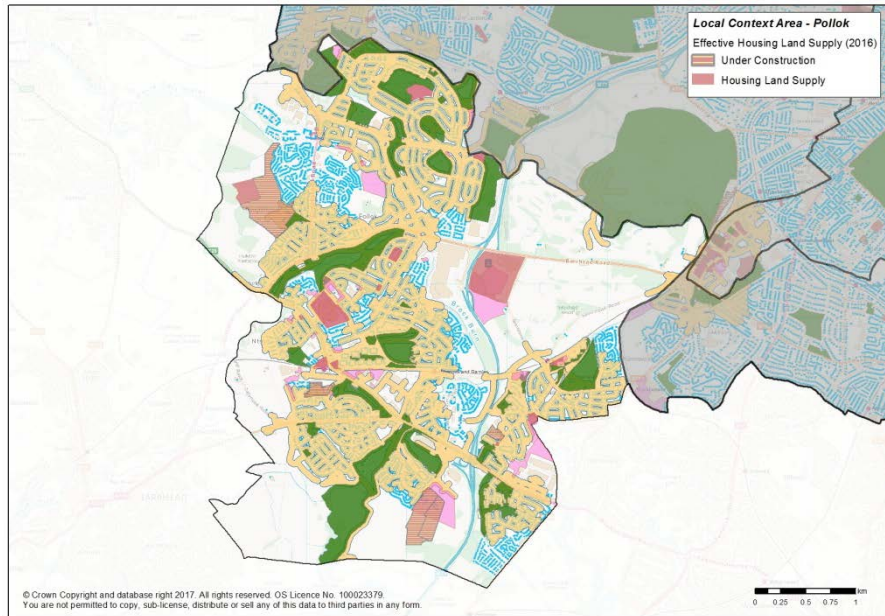
3.22 Most of these areas are not within the SIMD 15% most deprived datazones. Further work has been undertaken to highlight some of the possibilities for addressing these deficiencies in accessibility. Opportunities exist in a number of forms, including:

- 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.

3.23 Map 8 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 some of the housing sites that could have been well placed to help address potential accessibility deficiencies are already under construction and others are not well located in relation to existing accessibility “gaps”. Others, such as the large vacant site at Leithland Road which could have helped address the gap at eastern Crookston, are earmarked for development, in this instance a care home. The Stage 2 LCA process should, nonetheless, consider all 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: Vacant and Derelict Land and Housing Sites

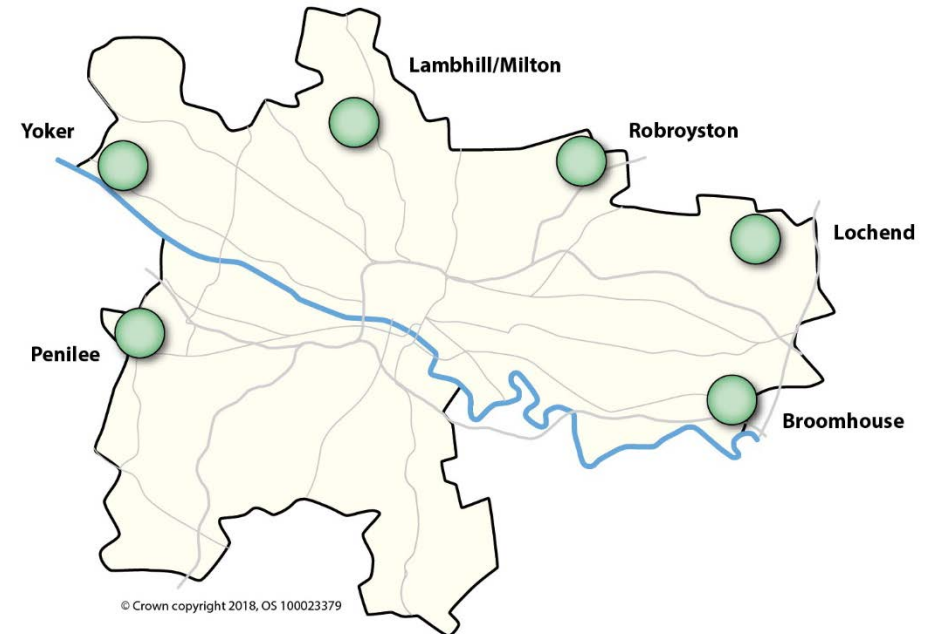


3.24 Further analysis of accessibility to larger open spaces has been undertaken for the Open Space Strategy. Whilst it is recognised that access to a multifunctional, publicly usable space of 0.3 ha or more might meet “everyday” requirements, access to larger multifunctional open spaces will be desired 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 15-20

minute walk) and the smaller Local Parks, over 1 ha in size (800m or a 10 minute walk).

3.25 Map 9/Annex 8 illustrates there are no notable gaps in accessibility in the Pollok area.

Map 9: Access to Larger Open Spaces

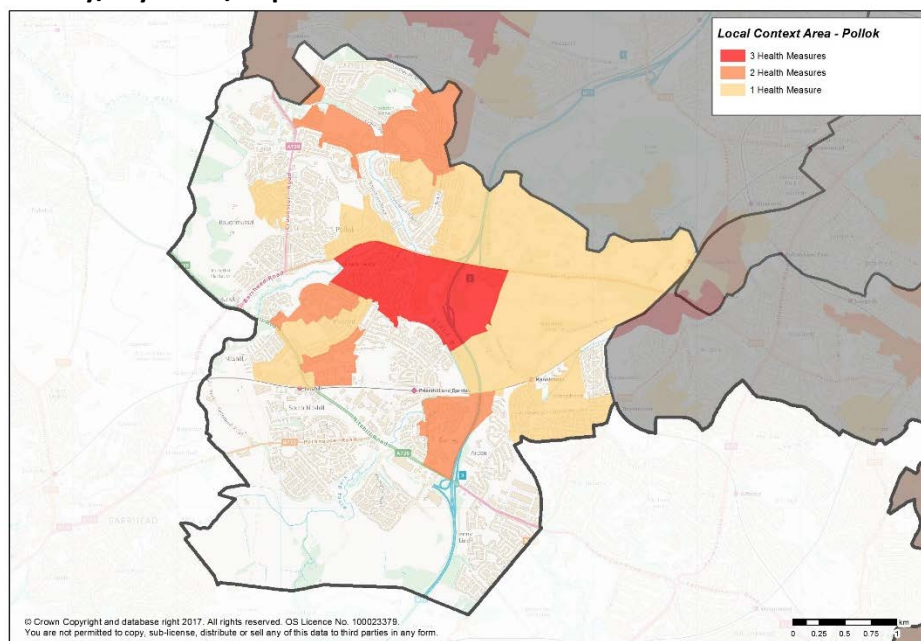


3.26 Other considerations that the Open Space Strategy identifies as important in informing the current and future need for open space to enhance the City’s **Liveability** include consideration of the setting and amenity it can provide, as part of a placemaking approach, and the views of the public 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.

Map 10: Glasgow-wide Highest Incidences of Stroke, Heart Disease and Anxiety/Psychosis/Depression



- 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.

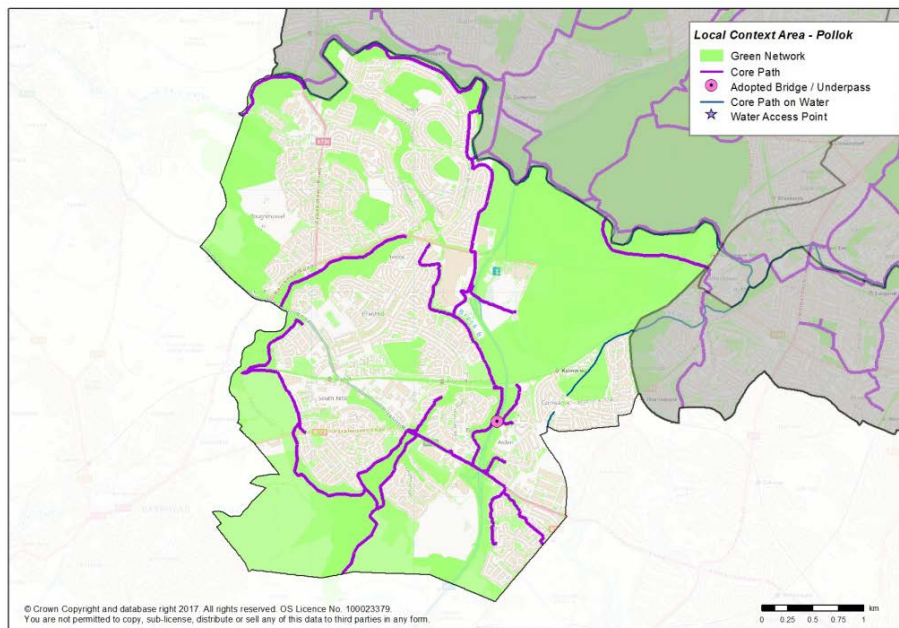
- 4.3 Each indicator has been ranked across the City and mapped. Map 10 illustrates those zones with the most stays (the top 15%) for one or more of the three indicators. A datazone that is in the top 15% of one indicator is shown in yellow, one in the top 15% of two indicators is shown in orange and one in all three is shown in red.
- 4.4 Many parts of the LCA area are within a data zone ranked in the top 15% for hospital stays for one or more of these health measures. Darnley, parts of Nitshill and residential areas around Linthaugh Road (in the north) lie within data zones ranked in the top 15% for 2 indicators, whilst central Pollok is in a data zone ranked in the top 15% of all three indicators. Those in Darnley, Nitshill and Linthaugh appear to correlate with poorer quality publicly usable open space and health benefits could result from treating these areas a priority. This matter should could be considered further through the Stage 2 LCA process.

Walking and Cycling

- 4.5 As set out above, the area contains a National Cycle Network route (NCN 7), off-road and quiet on-road sections following the White Cart Water from Pollok Park to the City boundary at Leverndale, and on to Paisley.
- 4.6 Map 11/Annex 9 illustrates the existing core path network together in the context of the wider green network. It illustrates

that the LCA is relatively well served by core paths, with good connections in the southwest (particularly in and around the Dams to Darnley Country Park) and along the M77 corridor. NCN 7 complements this distribution by delivering east-west connectivity through the north of the area. As highlighted above, however, there may be potential to make better use of the opportunities provided by the water courses and other green corridors that cross the area to deliver greater connectivity by foot and bike.

Map 11: Green Network and Core Paths



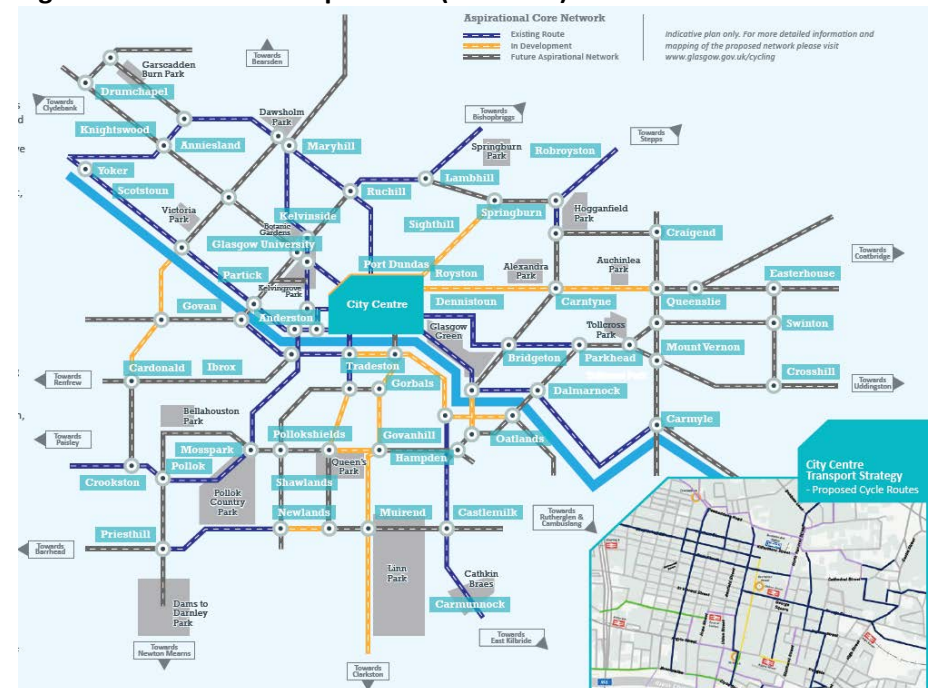
4.7 In particular:

- the route of the Levern Water through Pollok;

- the Brock Burn west of Darnley; and
- the Green Belt between Leverndale and Hawkhead

appear to offer potential to enhance connectivity and provide off-road loops for leisure and utility purposes. This should be investigated further through the Stage 2 local Context Analysis.

Figure 7: SPC Network Aspirations (from SPC)



4.8 Glasgow's [Strategic Plan for Cycling](#) sets out a diagrammatic representation (Fig 7) of the City's aspirations to improve cycling infrastructure in this part of the City, particularly in and around central Pollok, Priesthill and Crookston. Through the Stage 2 LCA process, consideration should be given to how these aspirations

match with the opportunities identified above and the opportunities for delivering associated environmental improvements as part of a placemaking approach.

4.9 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.

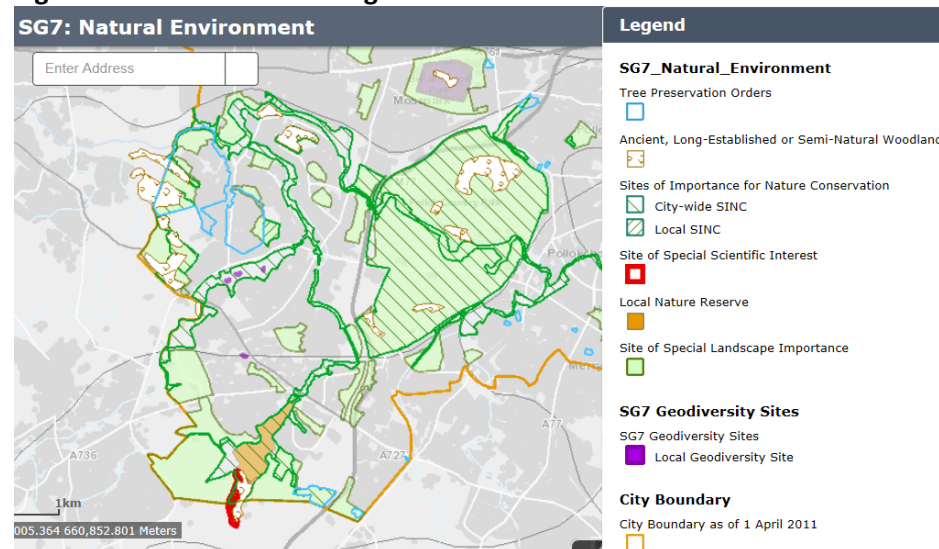
5 A Resilient Glasgow

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 The presence of a number of key watercourses, Pollok Park and the Green Belt, means that the Pollok LCA contains numerous environmental designations (Fig 8), some of which cover large areas. Each of the watercourses (the Brock Burn, Auldhouse Burn, Lovern Water and White Cart Water) are Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, as are Haugh Hill, Hurlet Hill, Bull Wood, Darnley Glen and Pollok Country Park and Pollok Estate.

Figure 8: Environmental Designations



5.3 The area includes a site of Special Scientific Interest at Waulkmill Glen (also a geodiversity site), part of the Dams to Darnley Country Park, with much of it also being designated a Local Nature Reserve. Waulkmill Glen is also one of a number of areas of Ancient, Long-Established or Semi-Natural Woodland in the

Pollok LCA. Others can be found at Hurlet Hill, Roughmussell, Bullwood and Blacksey Wood, in the Green Belt west of Crookston, in two patches of Crookston Wood around Linthaugh Road in the north west of the area and at Kennisheal Wood and Pollokhead Wood in Pollok Park. The vast majority of the major open spaces set out in para 3.3 – 3.12 above are also designated Sites of Special Landscape Importance.

Green Network

- 5.4 Map 11 shows the key elements of the Green Network in the Pollok LCA. The numerous environmental designations and smaller open spaces in the area, in conjunction with the connectivity between them provided by the watercourse, the M77 corridor and the Green Belt, means that the Green Network in Pollok is both extensive and cohesive. There are, however, opportunities to enhance the connectivity of access travel routes and the Stage 2 LCA process could also give consideration to how to enhance habitat connectivity in the context of other priorities.

Surface Water Management

- 5.5 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.

- 5.6 SEPA has modelled the extent of potential flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The modelling indicates that susceptibility to flooding from watercourses is most pronounced for residential areas around Silverburn Shopping Centre, in and around Linthaugh Road and in parts of Thornliebank/Carnwadric. The mapping indicates that surface water flooding also has potential to be an issue in parts of the area.

- 5.7 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 that will help address potential flooding from water bodies in Pollok, including works in the wider White Cart catchment. Any works to be undertaken along watercourses in Pollok itself should ensure that the delivery of other objectives, such as greater access along the water bodies, will not be hindered.

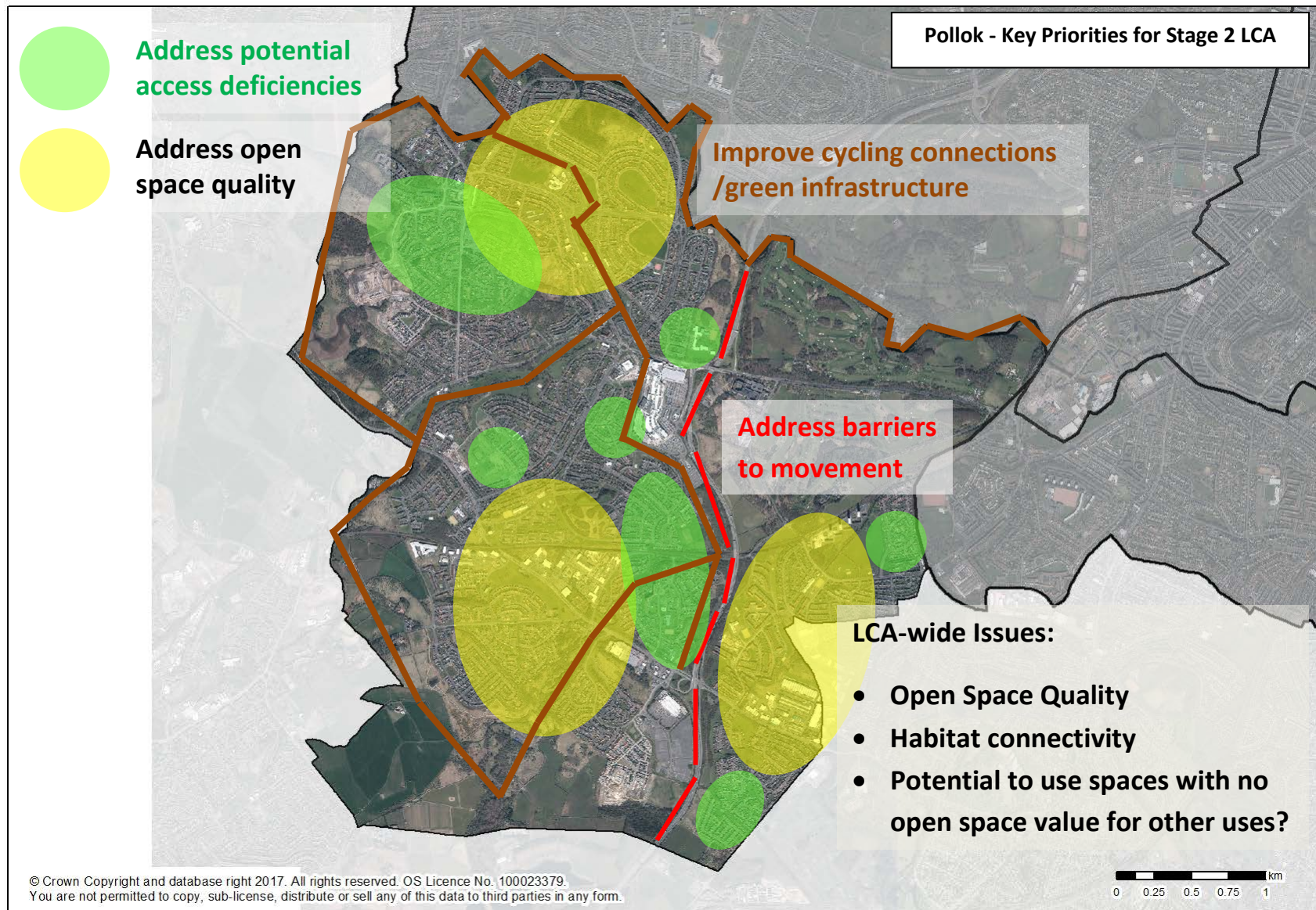
- 5.8 Other considerations that the draft Open Space Strategy identifies as important in informing the current and future need for open space to enhance the City's **Resilience** include consideration of:

- 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 Other priorities to be addressed in the Stage 2 process will include:
- 1 consider whether and, if so, how the poorer quality open spaces in Pollok can be adapted to meet the quality standard;**
 - 2 where open spaces that have potential to meet the quality standard are numerous, whether all of them are required to meet the accessibility standard;**
 - 3 whether (and if so, how) it might be possible to break down the barrier to east-west movement posed by the M77;**
 - 4 identification of potential opportunities to address accessibility deficiencies and an alternative approach if it's not possible to meet the accessibility standard – eg make journeys to existing open space safer/more attractive;**
 - 5 whether there is scope to use some spaces for other, non-open space uses given the degree to which the quantity standard is exceeded;**

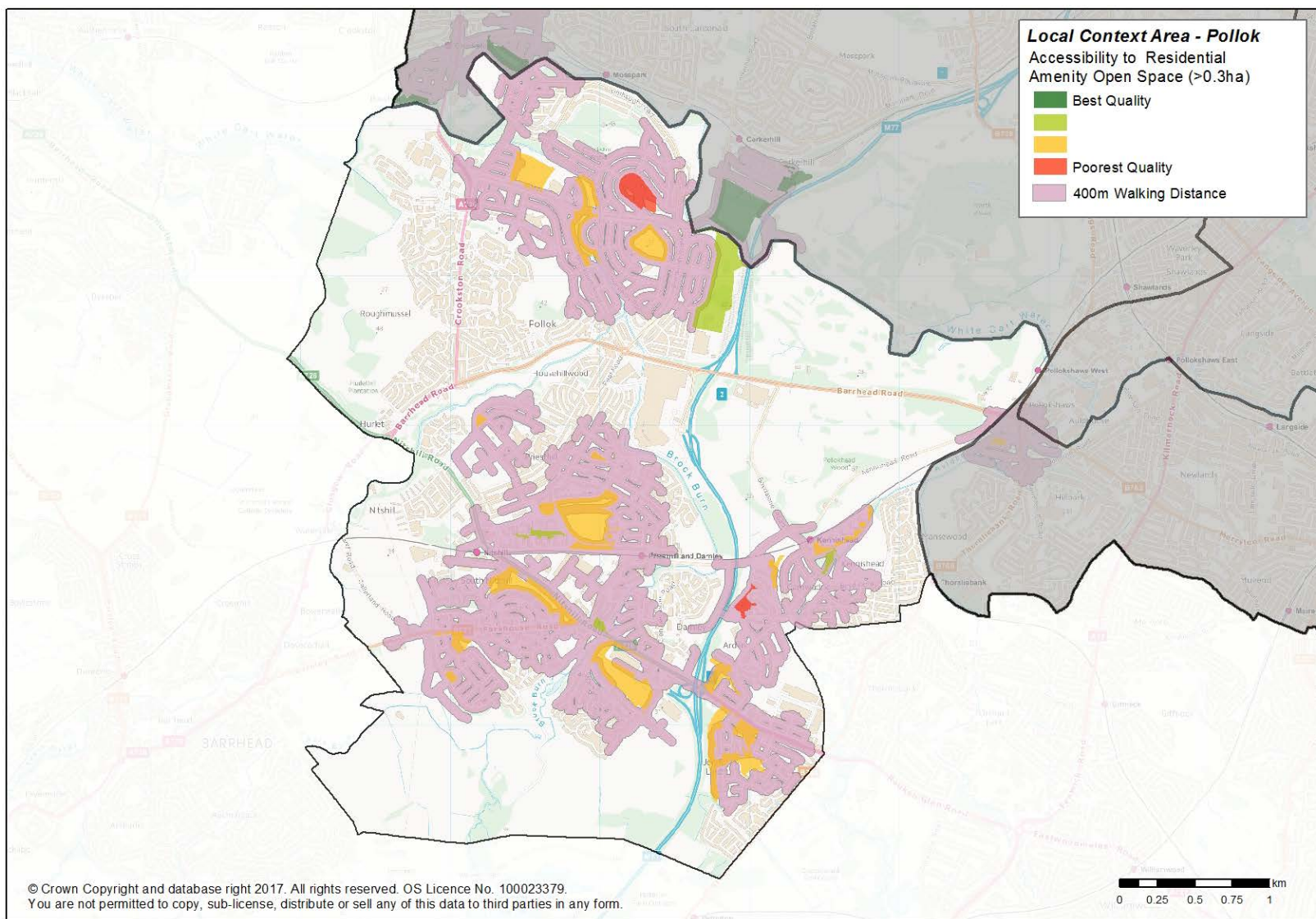
- 6 where best to deliver any improvements in demand-led provision identified through studies of outdoors sports provision and growing space;**
- 7 whether it is possible to make better use of the opportunities provided by the water courses and other green corridors that cross the area to deliver greater connectivity by foot and bike; and**
- 8 opportunities for enhancing habitat connectivity**



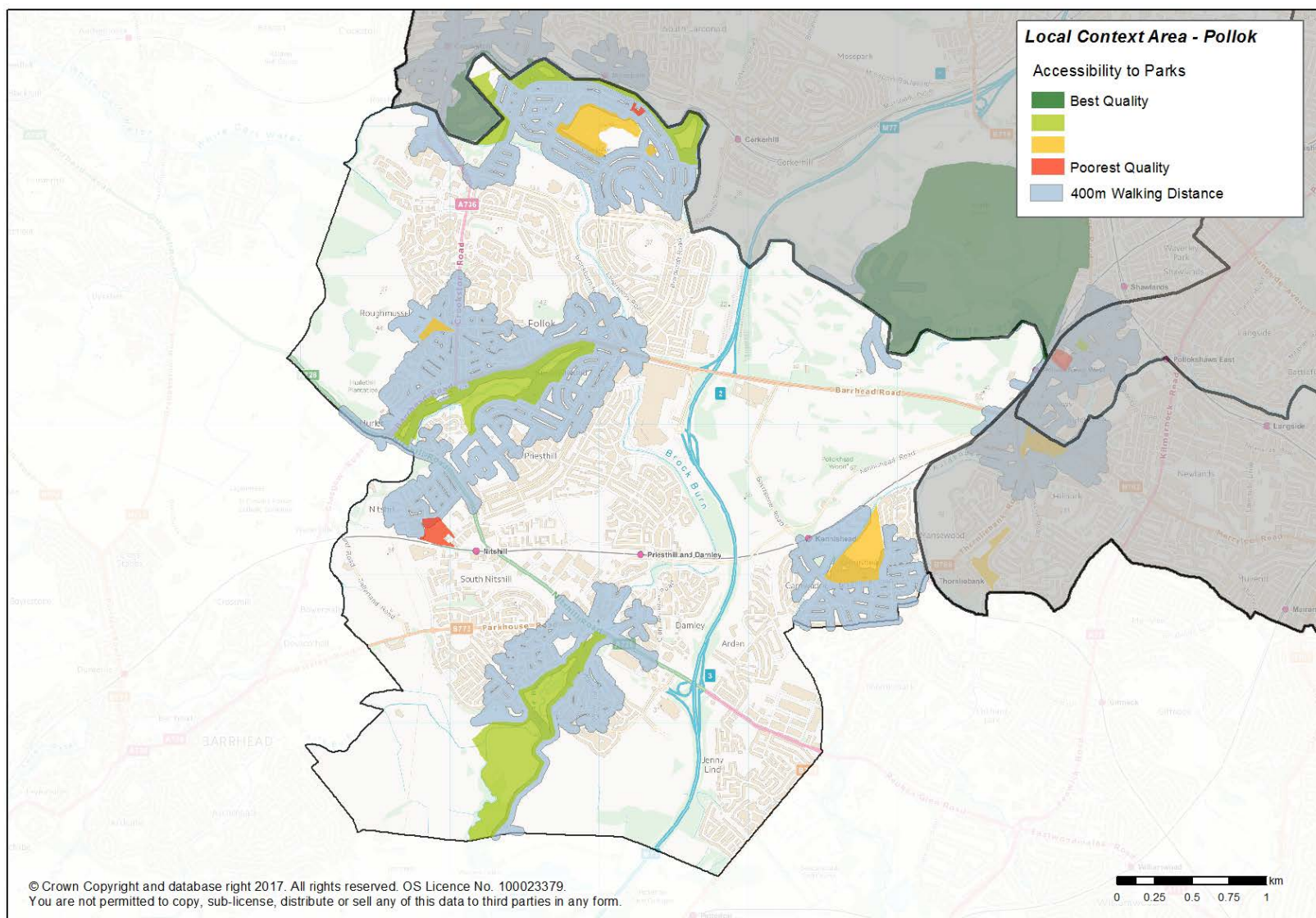
7 Key Statistics

a	Population	41,187
b	Land Area	1,672 has
c	Population Density	25 people per ha
d	Functionally Useful Publicly Usable Open Space (see Glossary)	390 has
e	Vacant/Derelict Land	56 has
f	Planned housing output from housing land to 2023	1307 Units
g	Estimated population increase from housing land to 2023	2849 population
h	Prospective new Population Density at 2023	26 people per ha
i	Existing Functionally Useful Publicly Usable Open Space per 1000 people ($d/(a/1000)$)	9.5 has per 1000 people
j	Prospective functionally useful publicly usable open space per 1000 people ($d/((a+g)/1000)$)	8.7 has per 1000 people
k	Vacant land (e) as percentage of total land area (b)	3.4%

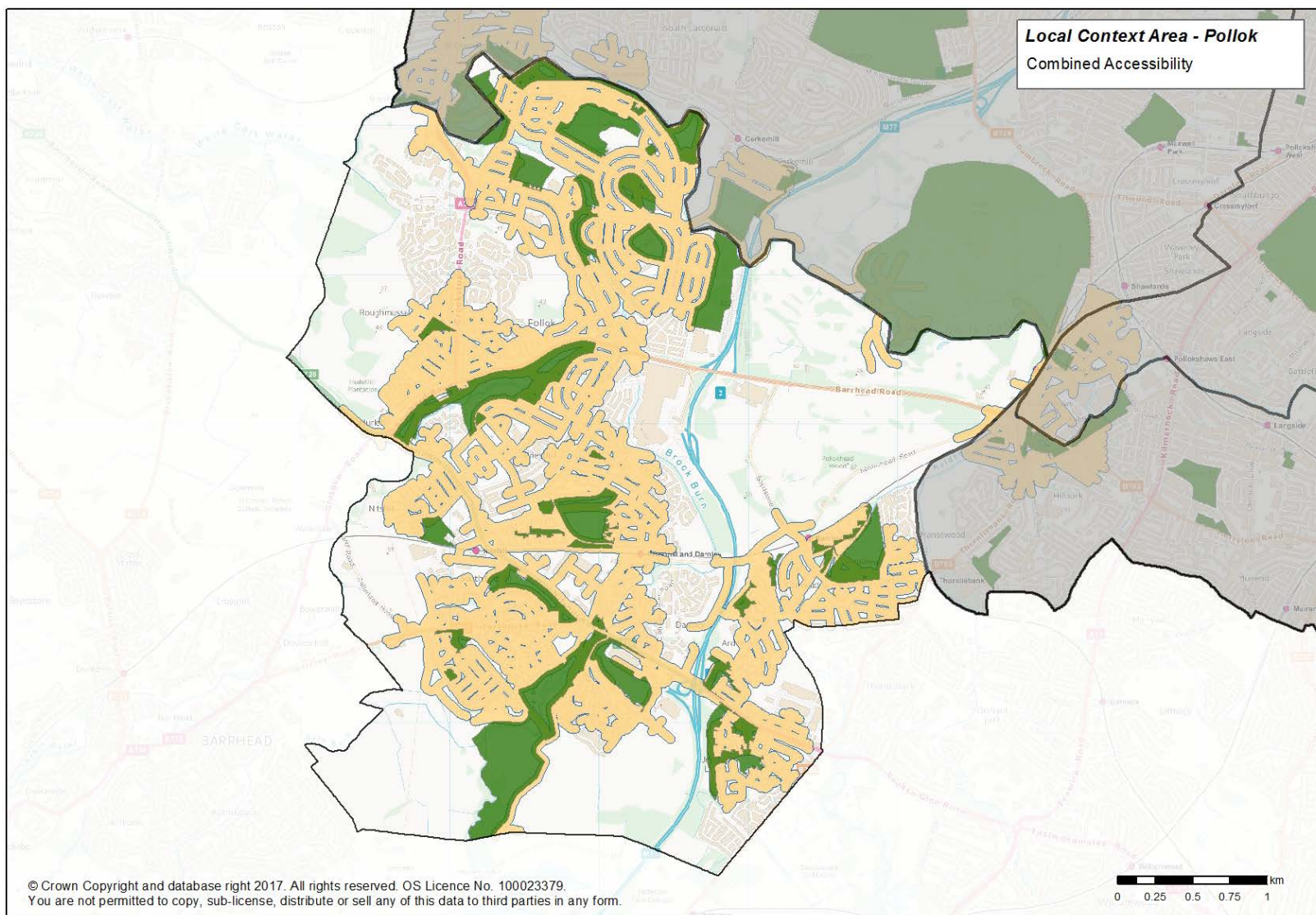
ANNEX 1: Access to Residential Amenity Open Space >0.3 ha



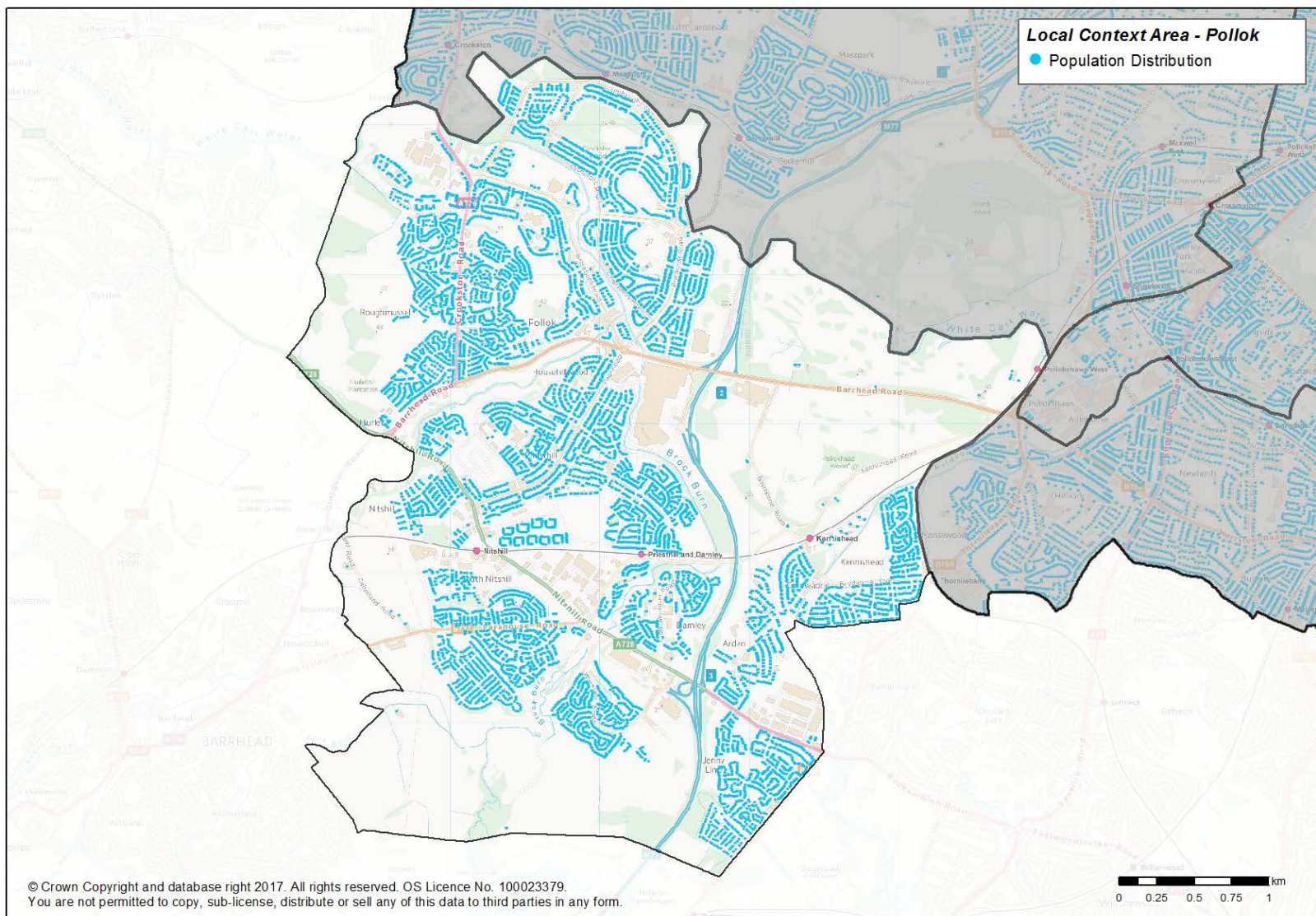
ANNEX 2: Access to Public Parks and Gardens



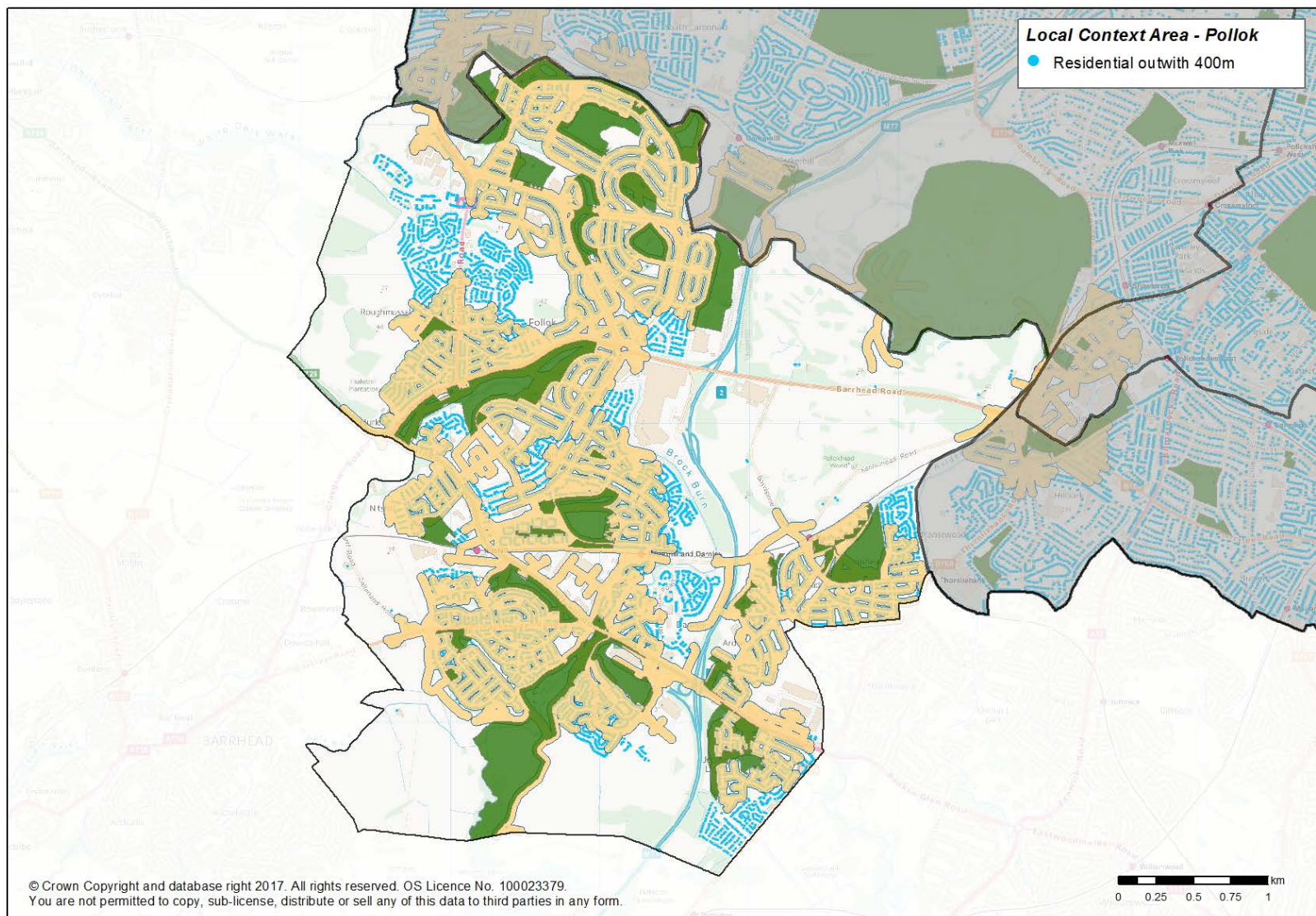
ANNEX 3: Access to Potentially Multifunctional Open Space > 0.3 Ha



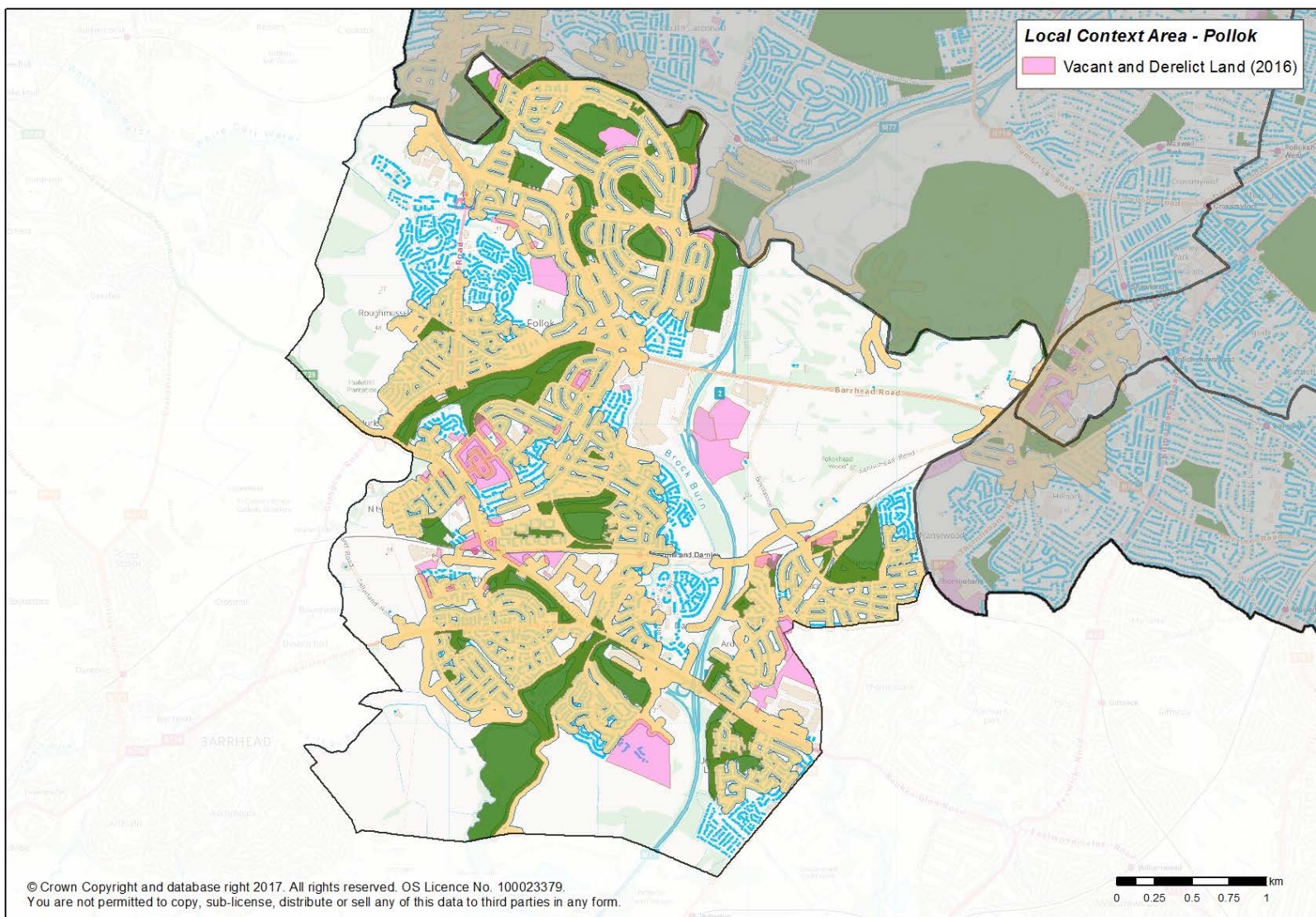
ANNEX 4: Population Distribution



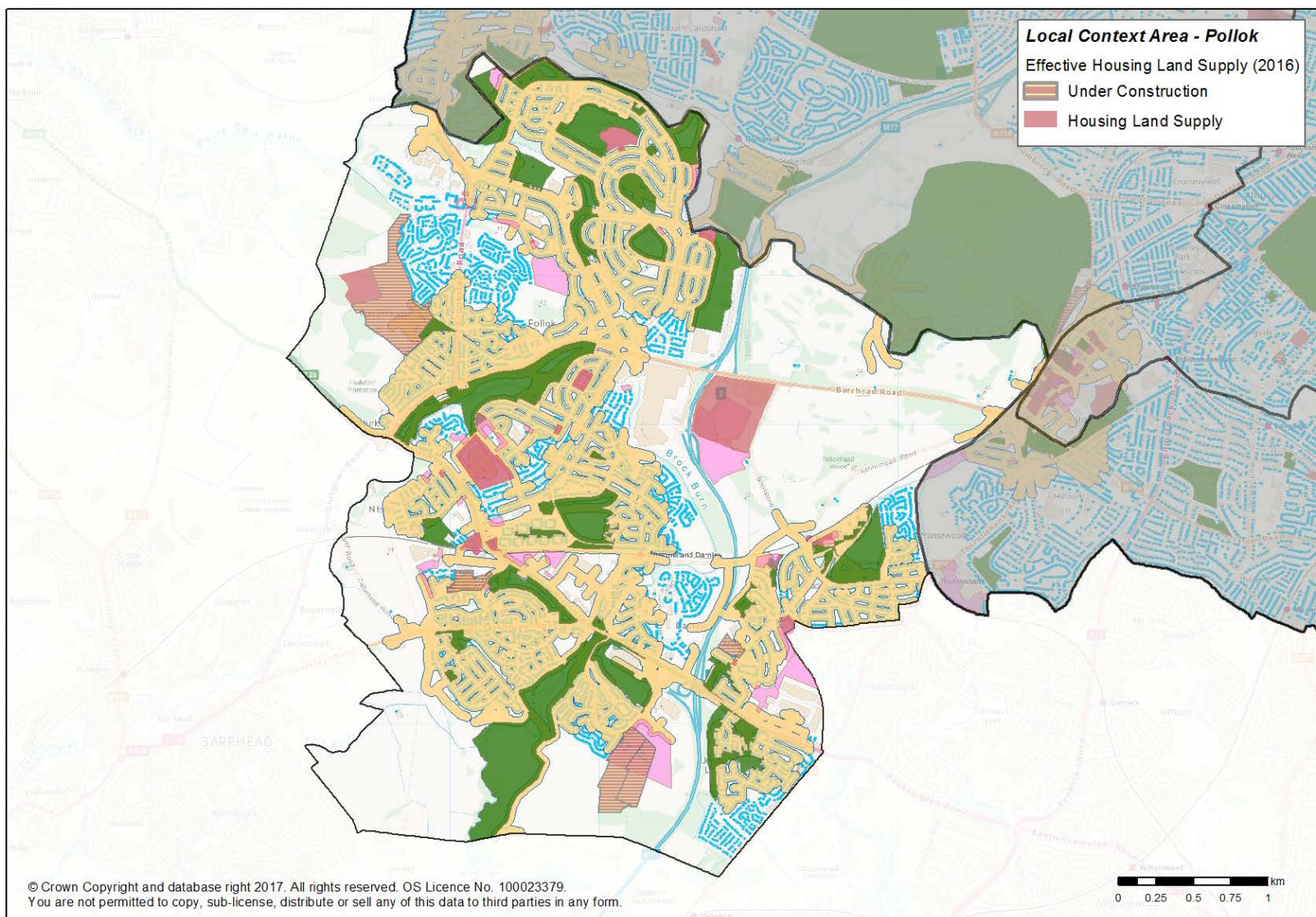
ANNEX 5: Potential Accessibility Deficiencies



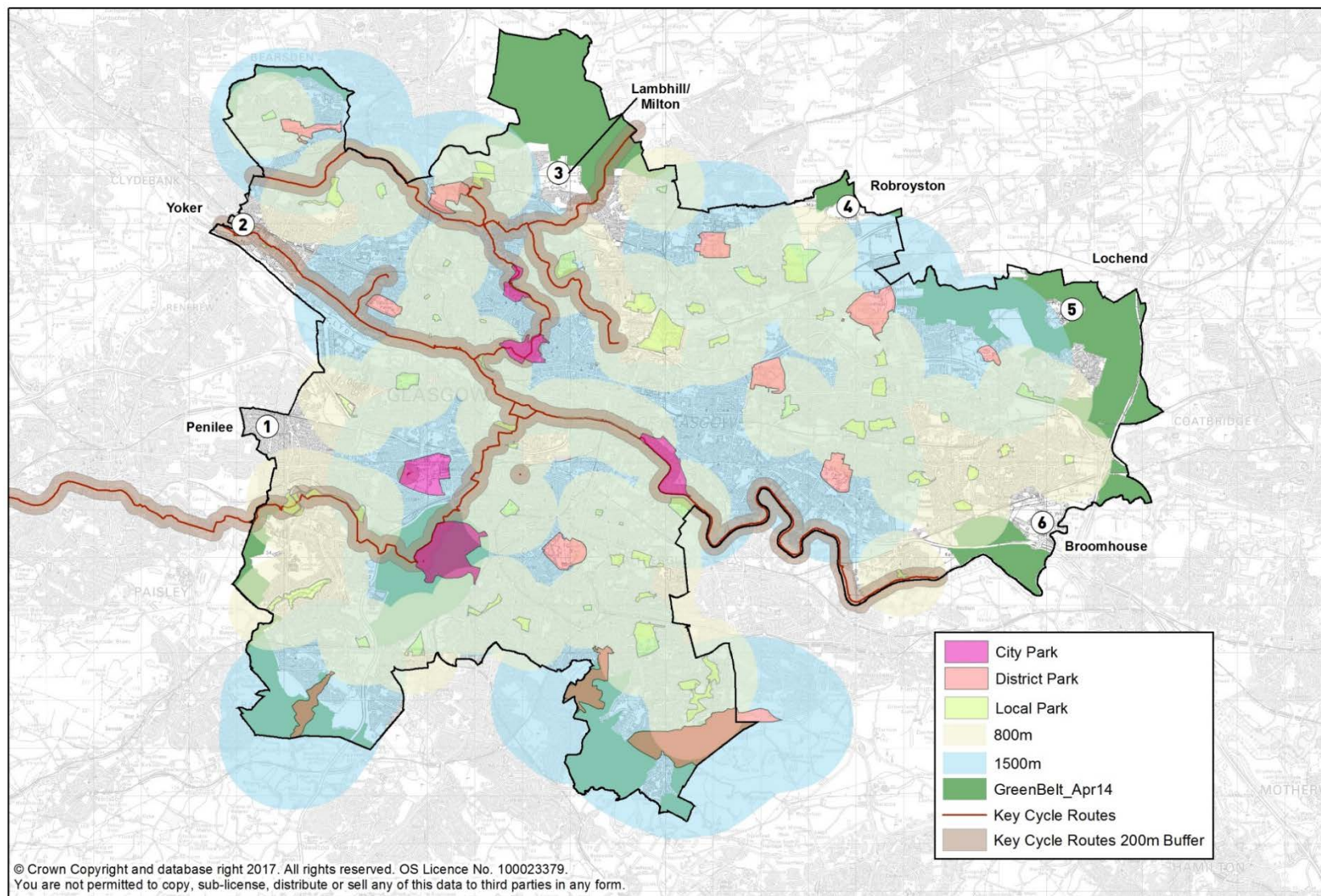
ANNEX 6: Vacant/Derelict Land



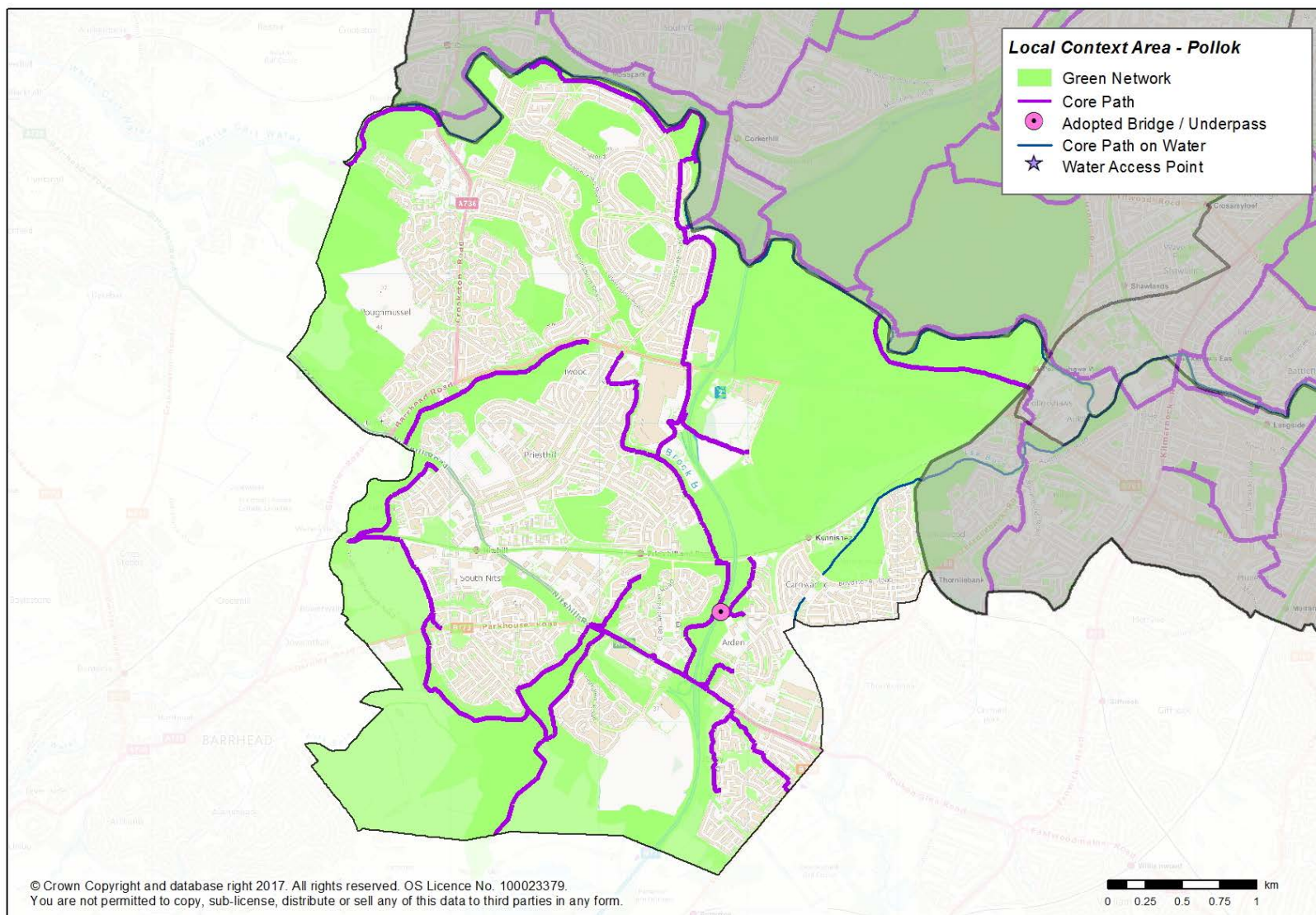
ANNEX 7: Vacant/Derelict Land and Housing Land Supply



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.