

**Parks & Green Spaces Strategy Typology Quality Assessment Advisory Note**

**Typology: - Children & Young Peoples Space**

Date ..... Assessed by .....

Version 6

Name of Park/Green Space \_\_\_\_\_

A children and young people’s space is typically an area that has been provisioned to provide a challenging and stimulating yet relatively safe space for young people to use for play. As well as traditional equipped play areas with equipment including swings, slides and climbing frames of varying designs, this typology includes Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and Wheels Parks designed for informal use, and may also include less formal areas for natural play. MUGAs that are bookable for formal sport are included in the Active Sports Space (Fixed) typology. Generally these areas are fenced to ensure that they are free from dogs and fouling, and have seating to enable parents and carers to site and socialise while their children are using the area.

Do not score individual questions. Simply tick each as poor, fair, good etc. Then enter a maximum of 10 points for each of provision, condition and maintenance based on the following: -

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent	Exceptional			

Issues to consider when making the assessment: -

Provision (the user experience & quality of facilities)		Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent	Exceptional
1	Is the setting of the children’s playground/Multi-Use Games Area (CPG/MUGA) appropriate i.e. at least 25m away from houses, of sufficient size (800 sq m +) and in an open well-lit area with							
2	and well-landscaped in terms of a clearly visible and welcoming entrance and layout which gives a stimulating environment for children to play and for parents/carers to want to visit and stay for long periods, or does it have a bleak, dingy, unappealing feel							

3	Is the CPG/MUGA of a good design, including dog proof fencing with escape gates of a different colour from the fence, vehicle access for maintenance, signage, drainage, lighting, and safety barriers outside entrances leading onto roads?							
4	Is the landscaping used to “break-up” the CPG/MUGA into separate areas or is the equipment ‘crammed in’ with little separation by landscaping?							
5	Is any planting (ie shrubs, trees, hedges) suitable for the location in terms of aesthetics, not thorny or poisonous and not of a size or in a location that compromises visibility?							
6	Is there adequate seating, litter bins and other appropriate furniture on site for parents/carers, including shelter/shade from extreme weather?							



Condition (cyclical maintenance) ie the standard of repairs of items										
	Very Poor	Poor			Fair		Good	Very good	Excellent	Exceptional
1 managed? Are shrubs, hedges and any other planting healthy or dead/dying or gappy, is there mud/puddles in entrances or under equipment and benches etc?										
2 Are trees regularly inspected and any cyclical maintenance carried out?										
3 Are the fencing and gates in good condition and fit for purpose with good paintwork and no rotten or missing pales/timbers or gates?										
4 Are paths and hard surfaces in a good condition, free of potholes, puddles and trip hazards?										
5 Is any external lighting in good working order and free from defects and vandalism?										
6 Is safer surfacing well managed without holes, gaps, missing tiles or areas of wear?										
7 Does the play equipment look in good order, regularly painted and in a usable condition or does it look dated, 'tired' and uncared for?										
8 Is all equipment in situ and in a safe condition or are there items missing/removed or temporarily isolated for										
9 Are all notice boards and other user information clearly readable?										
10 Are all benches, litter bins and other site furniture safe, secure and in a good and usable condition, or are there slats missing from benches, graffiti present or bins in a poor condition?										
<b>Overall score for Condition (1-10)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
	Very Poor	Poor			Fair		Good	Very good	Excellent	Exceptional

	Maintenance (how well-managed is the area in terms of regular maintenance?)										
		Very Poor	Poor		Fair		Good	Very good	Excellent	Exceptional	
1	Does the site feel tidy and well-cared for or is there dog fouling, glass, litter, needles, overflowing litter bins or fly tipping?										
2	Is grass cut and hedges/trees/shrubs regularly pruned and beds weeded?										
3	Are hard surfaces/paths edged and free of weeds, moss and detritus?										
4	Is the equipment in a good state of minor repair (eg have all moving parts on play equipment been oiled regularly and checked for wear, broken swing seats replaced and any vandalism repaired)?										
5	Is information on notice boards up to date and relevant?										
6	Is site furniture being regularly maintained (i.e. preservative application on benches, cleaning of litter bins, graffiti removal, secure fixings, do self-closing gates work properly?)										
7	Is there evidence of anti-social behaviour (eg sharps/drug taking paraphernalia, graffiti, vandalism to equipment & surfacing, motorcycle tyre tracks)?										
8	and mud, with adequate drainage and no trip hazards at the edges, and are loose fill safer surfaces free of moss and weeds, and are they de-compacted and raked level & topped up, or are they degraded & not maintained to										
9	Are lights not working or in need of repair or replacement? Do they come off and on at correct times (ie dawn and dusk)?										
	<b>Overall score for maintenance (1-10)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
		Very Poor	Poor		Fair		Good	Very good	Excellent	Exceptional	