

provide for a range of recreational needs. In this regard Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard may be applied when considering any new, augmentation to, or reconfiguration of open space.

7.28 The Council will seek to protect open space provision in the Borough and promote the provision of new open spaces in the areas of deficiency identified in the OSS.

Policy DMCI 3: Public Open Space Provision

A) Public open space will be protected and enhanced and development will only be permitted where:

- i) it is linked to the functional use of the open space; and**
- ii) it does not harm the character, appearance or function of the open space.**

Cumulative impacts of development will be taken into account in considering development proposals.

B) Development proposals within the immediate vicinity of public open space must not impact negatively on the amenity, ecological value and functionality of the space. All impacts must be mitigated through the design of the scheme.

C) The reconfiguration of public open space will be supported where:

- i) the reconfiguration is part of a comprehensive, deliverable scheme;**
- ii) there would be no net loss of open space;**
- iii) the reconfiguration would achieve enhancements to address identified deficiencies in the capacity, quality and accessibility of open space and it would secure a viable future for the open space; and**
- iv) the reconfiguration would not be detrimental to any environmental function performed by the existing open space.**

D) Development of private open space is not permitted where there would be a significant individual or cumulative loss of open space/open aspect and/or where there would be a significant impact on amenity, character and appearance, biodiversity, ecological connectivity, cooling effect and/or flood alleviation effect.

Policy DMCI 4: Open Spaces in New Development

A) Proposals for major new residential development will be supported

where they make provision for new open space, or enhancements to existing open space, which meets the needs of the occupiers of the development and contributes to the mitigation of identified deficiencies in the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space. Regard will be had to Hillingdon's local recommended standards of provision for all relevant typologies of open space.

B) The provision of major new pieces of open space should contribute positively to Hillingdon's existing networks of green spaces. In major town centre developments, new civic space may be required as an alternative to green open space.

C) Proposals for major new residential development that fail to make provision for new or enhanced open space, or which would result in open space that is inappropriate in type, quality or location, will be resisted.

Children's Play Areas

7.29 Hillingdon contains approximately 100 equipped playgrounds within parks and other areas of open space. The Council's Open Space Strategy (OSS) proposes an accessibility standard to children's playgrounds based on a 400 metre travel distance. However, as a priority, it is recommended that this standard should apply in areas with the highest overall numbers of children and young people (defined as the top 20% of Lower Level Super Output Areas with the highest population of people aged under 16 years).

7.30 Based on the accessibility standard the main areas of play space deficiency are in Pinkwell, Botwell South Ruislip and West Ruislip Wards. There are small areas of deficiency in Cavendish, Manor, Hillingdon East, Yiewsley, Barnhill, Yeading, and West Drayton wards.

Policy DMCI 5: Children's Play Areas

A) For all major development⁹ proposals, the Council will apply Hillingdon's child yields and the London Plan SPG; 'Providing for Children and Young Peoples Play and Informal Recreation', which specifies that 10sqm of play space should be provided for each child and an accessibility standard of 400 metres to equipped playgrounds.

B) In areas of deficiency, there will be a requirement for new provision to be made to meet the benchmark standards for accessibility to play

⁹ Major Development: Residential development of 10 dwellings or more; any building with a floor space of 1000 square metres or more; development on a site of 1 hectare or more.