



Trafford's Open Spaces

Policy OS1: Open Space

A. The Council will:

- i. Provide and connect a high-quality, multi-functional network of open spaces across Trafford.
- ii. Protect, enhance and make the most of existing parks, gardens and open spaces, and
- iii. Require new high-quality outdoor spaces to be provided.

Existing Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces

B. The following open spaces will be protected, and any loss will be resisted:

- i. Parks, gardens and recreation grounds including provision for children and teenagers
- ii. Natural and semi-natural greenspace
- iii. Amenity greenspace
- iv. Allotments
- v. Cemeteries and churchyards
- vi. Private communal space
- vii. Registered Historic Parks and Gardens

C. Within existing spaces, supporting and/or ancillary development which does not have an adverse effect on the environmental and open character, appearance and function of protected open spaces listed under criterion B will be supported.

Access to Open Space

D. All major developments must ensure their occupants are able to access relevant and appropriate high-quality open space(s) in accordance with the following walkable accessibility standards:

- i. Minimum 0.5ha of doorstep access open space within 200m
- ii. Minimum 2ha of local access open space within 300m
- iii. Minimum 10ha of neighbourhood access open space within 1km
- iv. Minimum 20ha of wider neighbourhood access open space within 2km



- v. Minimum 100ha of district access open space within 5km
 - vi. LAP greater than 0.01ha within 100m
 - vii. LEAP greater than 0.04ha within 400m
 - viii. NEAP greater than 0.1ha within 1km
 - ix. MUGA within 800m
 - x. Allotments within 1.2km
- E. Major developments that are not able to ensure access to relevant and appropriate high-quality open space(s) access in accordance with criterion D, will be required to make on-site provision as required by criterion F(i) – (v) and/or contribute to an existing open space in need of improvement or enhancement.

Provision of Open Space in Developments

- F. Residential development over 50 homes will be required to provide a minimum of 3ha of new accessible public open space per 1,000 population (i – iii) and other open space (iv – v) on-site including:
- i. Minimum 1ha of parks, gardens and recreation grounds per 1,000 population
 - ii. Minimum 1ha of natural and semi-natural greenspace per 1,000 population
 - iii. Amenity greenspace
 - iv. At least 0.25ha provision for children and teenagers per 1,000 population
 - v. At least 0.25ha of allotments per 1,000 population
- A. The provision of new, additional open space for children and teenagers is a priority in Trafford and must be provided on-site, which may include incorporating playable space within greenspaces and/or within the public realm.

Policy OS1N: Open Space in Trafford North

- A. New open space provision within the locality will be focused in the first instance within Trafford Park, Humphrey Park and Old Trafford.



Policy OS1S: Open Space in Trafford South

A. New provision of and/or improvements and enhancements to open space will be focused on natural and semi-natural greenspaces and allotments.

Policy OS1C: Open Space in Trafford Central

A. New provision of and/or improvements and enhancements to open space will be focused on neighbourhood, wider neighbourhood and district level accessible greenspaces and allotments.

Policy OS1W: Open Space in Trafford West

A. To the southern half of the Trafford West locality, new provision of and/or improvements and enhancements to open space will be focused on natural and semi-natural greenspaces.

Places for Everyone Links

Policy JP-G2; JP-G6; JP-P6; and JP-P7.

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO2, SO3, SO7 and SO9

- 9.7. Providing access to a range of high-quality, multi-functional, connected open spaces is important for the physical, mental and emotional well-being of Trafford's residents, as well as providing the setting for formal and informal recreation and physical activity, supporting housing and economic growth, helping to achieve inclusive neighbourhoods.
- 9.8. National planning policy places a strong emphasis on the importance of open space for sport and physical activity and for the health and well-being of communities by enabling and supporting healthy lifestyles.
- 9.9. The Council's Open Space Assessment (April 2024), provides an up to date picture of open space across the borough, advises on quantity and accessibility standards for open space provision, and establishes criteria



for quality and value standards and has been used to inform the overarching strategic and locality policies.

9.10. Across the borough, the assessment identified a need for additional open space for children and teenagers, and this has been incorporated into the strategic policy as a borough-wide area of focus.

9.11. The assessment also considered each of the localities and identified deficiencies across the various typologies of open space, concluding (among other things) that:

- Trafford North has the lowest quantity of open space compared to any of the other localities in the borough, accordingly development in Trafford Park, the Civic Quarter, Wharfside, and Trafford Waters should ensure that residents and workers are able to access quality natural, semi-natural, and recreational open space.
- Trafford South is well served by parks, gardens and recreation grounds. However, natural and semi-natural greenspace and allotments do not meet the standards and additional provision is required.
- Trafford Central is well served by parks, gardens, recreation grounds and natural and semi-natural greenspaces, however accessible greenspace falls below the 3ha per 1,000 of the population standard and additional provision of allotments is also needed.
- Trafford West has the highest overall provision of open space in the borough at 8.30ha per 1,000 of the population. It is primarily located along the Mersey Valley, resulting in less being available in the southern half of the locality. Longer term, the assessment also concluded that it is likely the provision of allotments will also fall below the standard.

9.12. Given the scale of proposed and potential growth in Trafford's urban areas over the plan period, there is a need to provide corresponding new and improved open spaces and recreational facilities whilst providing further



opportunities to remedy deficiencies in the quantity of provision apparent through the open space assessment and greenspace strategy.

- 9.13. An updated Greenspace Strategy will highlight priorities for investment in the context of the open space hierarchy, including information relating to the quality of parks and open spaces and facilities under the Council's management.
- 9.14. Further technical detail and costs relating to open space will be set out in the Planning Obligations SPD.

Consultation Question 9-1

Do you support Policy OS1? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.