

Appendix F - Local Green Space Designation

This is explanatory information for Question 24 and 25

Local communities can use neighbourhood plans to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. New residential areas may include green areas that were planned as part of the development. Such green areas could be designated as Local Green Space if they are demonstrably special and hold particular local significance.

By designating land as Local Green Space local communities can rule out new development other than in very special circumstances (protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt). Identifying land as Local Green Space must be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development.

A Local Green Space does not need to be in public ownership. However, the Parish Council (in the case of neighbourhood plan making) will contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as Local Green Space. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan.

Management of land designated as Local Green Space remains the responsibility of its owner. If the features that make a green area special and locally significant are to be conserved, how it will be managed in the future is likely to be an important consideration. Local communities can consider how, with the landowner's agreement, they might be able to get involved, perhaps in partnership with interested organisations that can provide advice or resources.

The Local Green Space designation is not appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

Local Green Space designation cannot be used as a means for preventing developments