

MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL OPEN SPACE, SPORT & RECREATION STUDY: ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 8: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Introduction

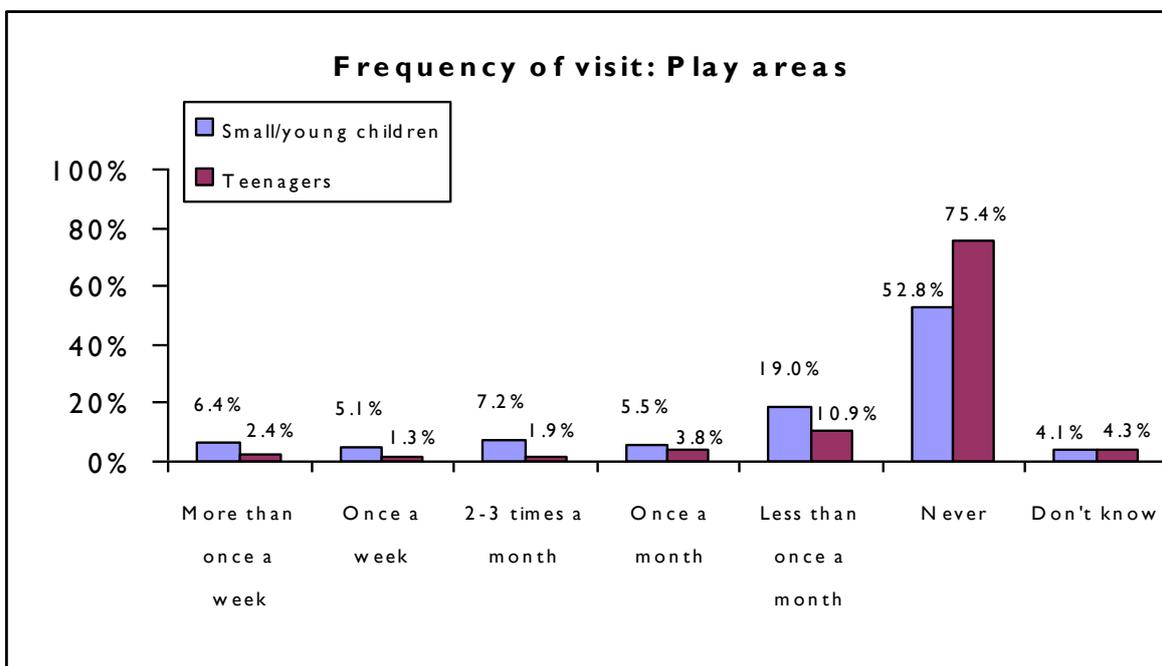
8.1 The typology of provision for children and young people, as set out in PPG17: A Companion Guide includes ‘areas designated primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters.’

Context

8.2 This section outlines findings from the survey of residents in relation to their use of and attitudes towards the provision for children and young people in Malvern Hills District. It provides a context for the subsequent sections, which address the quantity, quality and accessibility of provision. Results are provided for the descriptions used in the survey itself.

Usage

Figure 8.1: Frequency of usage of play areas for children and teenagers in the previous 12 months



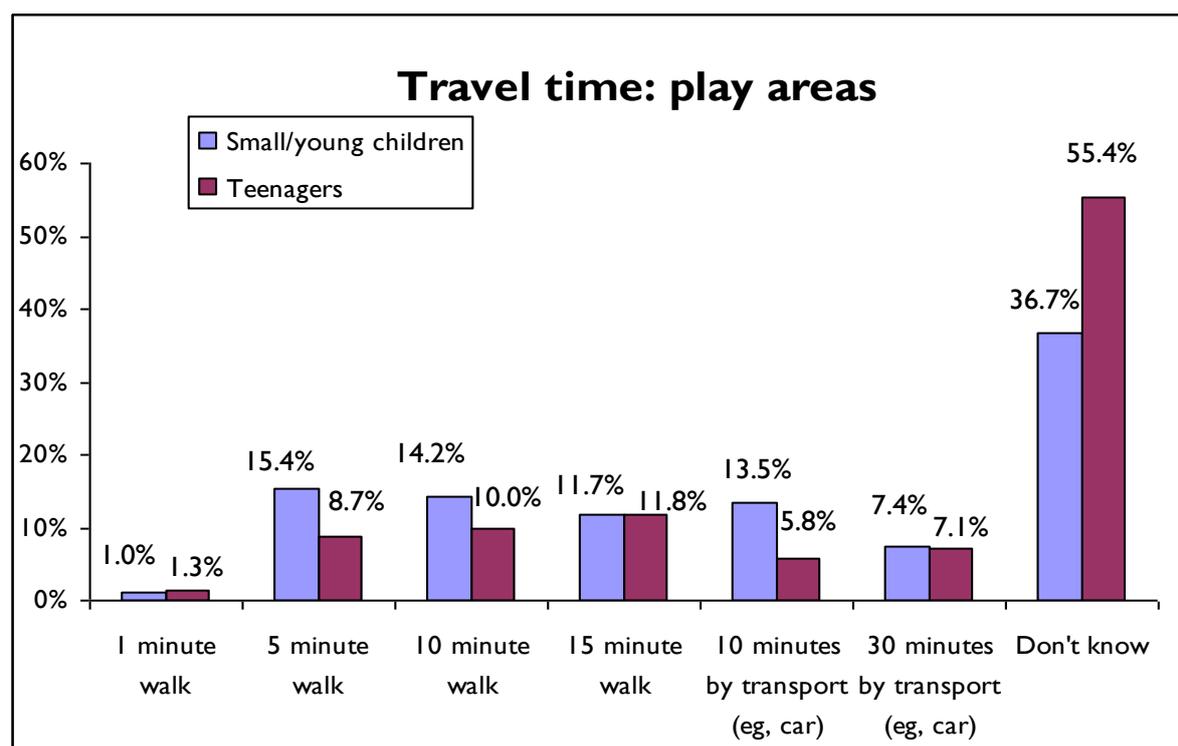
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8.3 Just under half of residents (43.1%) have visited a play area for small children/young children in the previous 12 months. This falls to just a fifth (20.3%) for teenage provision. The frequency of visits is quite low, with just 11.5% visiting a play area for small children/young children at least once a week. The corresponding figure for teenagers is just 3.7%. Unsurprisingly, given that these age groups are most likely to have children of the appropriate age, usage of play areas for small children/young children is highest amongst 25 – 34 year olds (70.8%) and 35 – 44 age groups (64.6%).

8.4 Usage of play areas for small children/young children is slightly lower in Upton (38.2%) than the rest of the District, but is consistent across all areas for teenage provision.

Travel time

Figure 8.2: Time prepared to travel to access a play area for children and teenagers



8.5 The majority of residents would prefer to be able to access play area by walking (42.3% within 15 minutes for provision for small/young children and 31.3% for teenage provision). The levels of usage are reflected in the proportions unable to comment.



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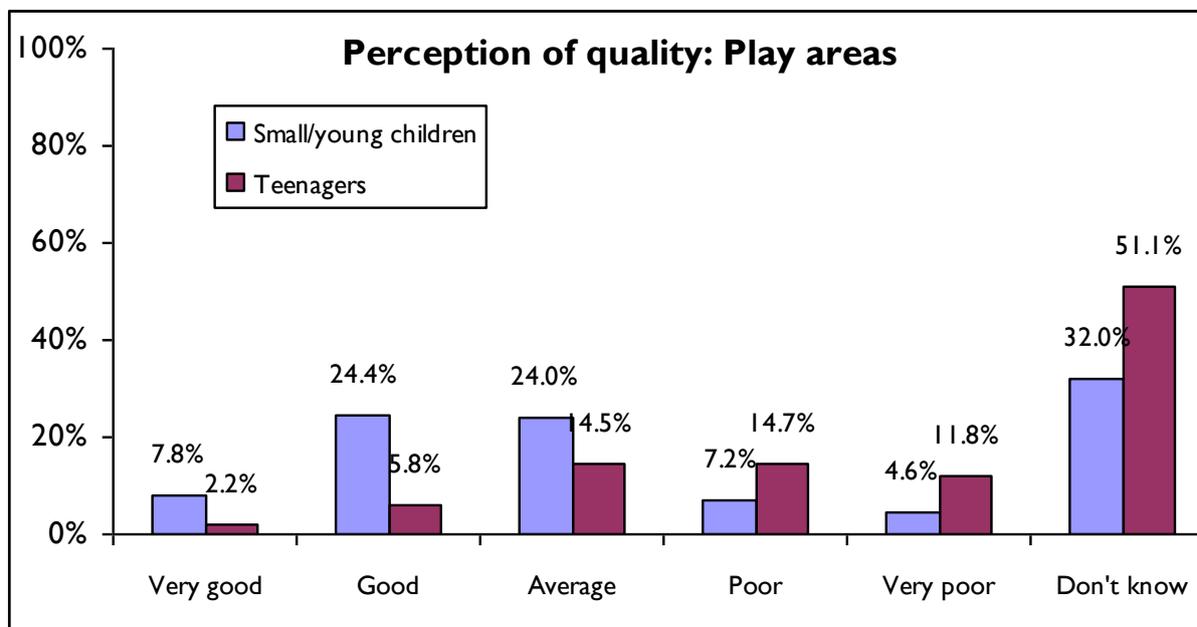
Quality of provision

8.6 The provision of play areas for small/young children is generally well rated – 32.2% rate it as good or very good compared to just 11.8% rating it as poor or very poor. However, the converse is true for teenage provision. Over a quarter (26.5%) rate it as poor or very poor and less than a tenth (8%) as good or very good. Levels of use are reflected in the proportions unable to comment. Unsurprisingly, the rating of quality of play areas for small/young children is strongly correlated to age, but it also shows that those most likely to use such provision are also most likely to rate it as good or very good (40.5% amongst 25 – 34 year olds and 41.8% for the 35 – 44 age group). Those aged 35 – 44 are most likely to rate the quality of play areas for teenagers as poor (38.1%). Play provision for small/young children is more highly rated in Malvern Town area (39% rating it as good or very good) whereas the residents of Upton Town area rate teenage provision particularly low (33.4% reporting it to be poor or very poor).

Availability

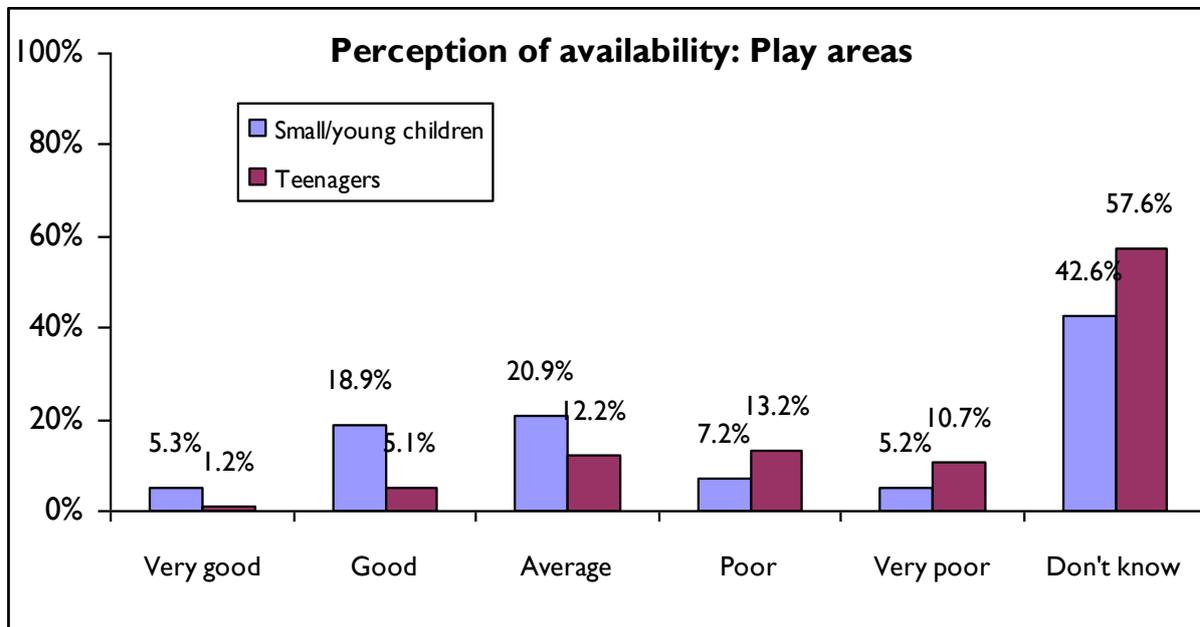
8.7 The availability of play areas for small/young children is more strongly rated (24.2 % citing it to be good or very good as opposed to 12.4% reporting it to be poor or very poor) then the availability of teenage play (6.3% and 23.9% respectively). Usage figures are reflected in the proportions unable to rate availability.

Figure 8.3: Quality of play areas for children and teenagers



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Figure 8.4: Availability of play areas for children and teenagers



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Key issues

Current provision

8.8 In total, there are 43 sites classified as provision for children and young people throughout the District, totalling four¹ hectares. Three sites have been recorded as having no equipment and four sites are unclassified. Play areas have been classified in the following ways utilising National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) guidance to identify their effective catchment:

- ❑ Unclassified. This area is classified as such when there is less than 0.01 hectares of play area.
- ❑ No equipment.
- ❑ A local area for play (LAP). This area must contain more than or equal to 0.01 hectares and contain more than or equal one piece of play equipment.
- ❑ A local equipped for play (LEAP). This area must contain five types of play equipment.
- ❑ A neighbourhood equipped area for play (NEAP). This area may be divided into sub sections and possibly contain play equipment catering for a variety of ages, including multi use games areas (MUGA).
- ❑ A settlement equipped play area (SEAP) caters for all ages, includes MUGA, skateparks, youth shelters, adventure play equipment and is often included within large park sites.

¹ Figures rounded up



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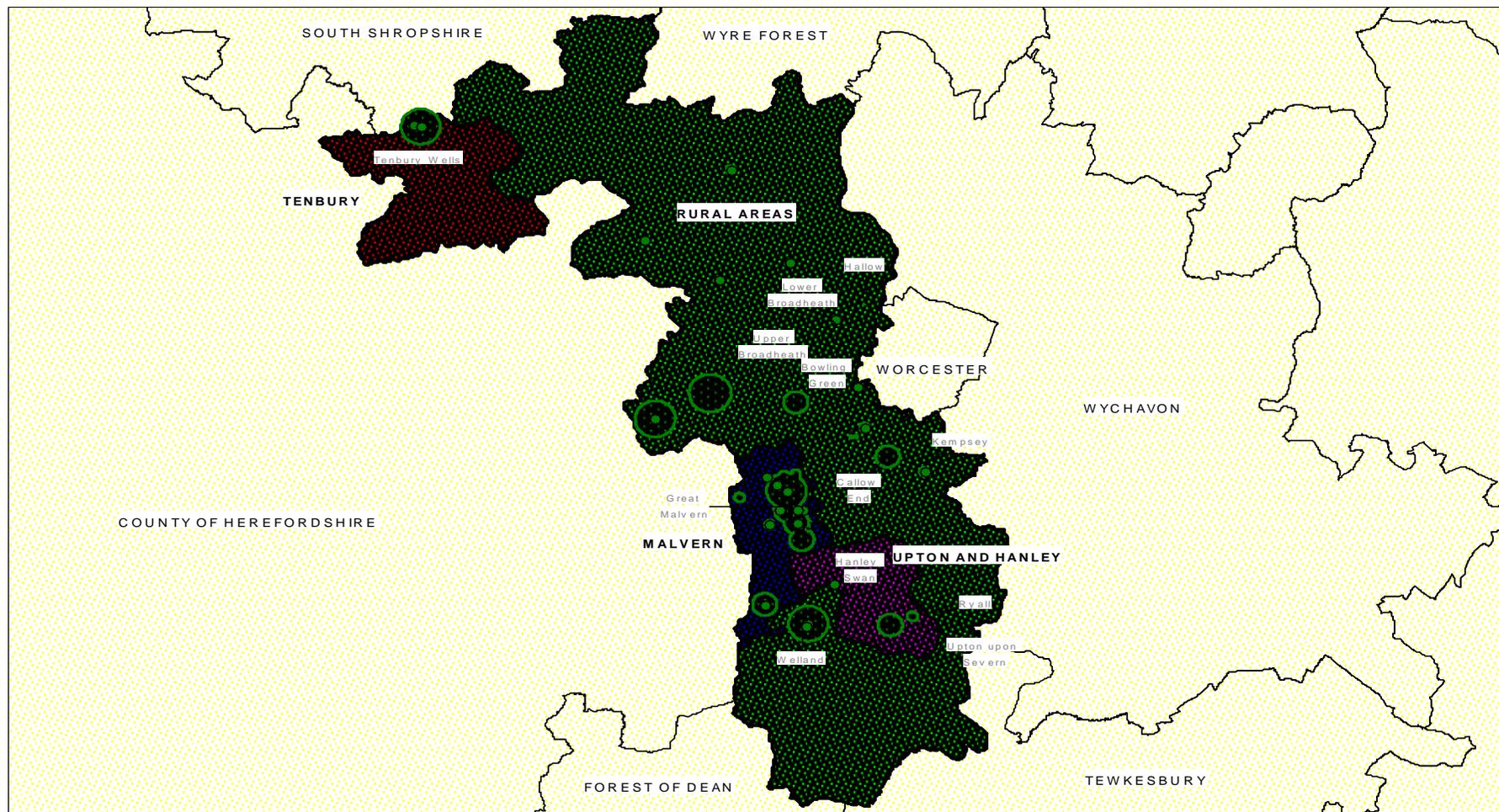
Table 8.1: Distribution of play areas in Malvern Hills District

Analysis area	LAP		LEAP		NEAP		SEAP		Youth provision e.g. skateboard or/ Teenage shelter		No Equipment		Unclassified		TOTAL PROVISION	
	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)	number	Size(ha)
Malvern Town area	4	0.10	5	0.3441	4	0.6163	1	0.18	2	0.0002	3	0.27	2	0.0002	21	1.52
Rural areas	8	0.17	4	0.2400	2	0.2224	-	-	2	1.21	-	-	1	0.0001	17	1.84
Tenbury area	-	-	1	0.0600	0	0.0000	-	-	1	0.0001	-	-	-	-	2	0.06
Upton and Hanley areas	2	0.05	1	0.0690	1	0.1121	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	0.23
MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT	14	0.33	11	0.7131	7	0.9509	1	0.18	5	1.21	3	0.27	3	0.0003	44	3.66

- 8.9 Malvern Town Council has considered selling Avon Close play area, which is underused due to the locality within a housing area made up of elderly residents. A site assessment rates the site as good quality (64%) although at the time of the assessment (17.10.06) no play equipment was present on site.

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Figure 8.5: Play areas mapped against settlement areas with catchment areas applied



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Accessibility

8.10 Catchment areas for play areas are assessed through the following distances and walking times, provided by the National Playing Fields Association (Six Acre Standard: NPFA 2001):

Table 8.2: Methodology to calculate catchment areas:

Facility	Time	Pedestrian route	Straight line distance
LAP	1 minute	100 metres	60 metres
LEAP	5 minutes	400 metres	240 metres
NEAP	15 minutes	1,000 metres	600 metres.
SEAP			Over 1,000 metres

8.11 Figure 8.5 demonstrates the catchment coverage of the existing provision within Malvern Hills District.

Settlement hierarchy

8.12 The settlement hierarchy for provision for children and young people is set out below. The categorisation of settlements in Malvern Hills District is set out in the appendices document.

Table 8.3: Settlement hierarchy – provision for children and young people

Category	Minimum provision
Category 0	All residents have access to LEAP provision Minimum 1 SEAP in Malvern Town
Category 1	All residents to have access to LEAP provision
Category 2	All residents to have access to informal provision
Category 3/4	All residents to have access to informal provision

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Table 8.4 Gaps in provision for children and young people catchment gaps (as assessed against settlement hierarchy)

Analysis area	Catchment gaps		
Malvern Town area	<input type="checkbox"/> All Malvern town wards <input type="checkbox"/> Malvern Wells <input type="checkbox"/> Priory <input type="checkbox"/> West Malvern <input type="checkbox"/> Chase <input type="checkbox"/> Link <input type="checkbox"/> Wells <input type="checkbox"/> Dyson Perrins		
Rural areas	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Clifton on Teme <input type="checkbox"/> Hallow <input type="checkbox"/> Kempsey <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Broadheath <input type="checkbox"/> Martley <input type="checkbox"/> Rushwick <input type="checkbox"/> Abberley Village (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Abberley Common (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Bayton (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Broadwas (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Bushley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Clows Top (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Colletts Green (informal) </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Corse Lawn (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Dunley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Eardiston (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Earls Croome (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Grimley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Holt Heath (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Little Witley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Longdon (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Longley Green (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Pendock (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Pensax (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Ryall (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Shrawley (informal) </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clifton on Teme <input type="checkbox"/> Hallow <input type="checkbox"/> Kempsey <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Broadheath <input type="checkbox"/> Martley <input type="checkbox"/> Rushwick <input type="checkbox"/> Abberley Village (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Abberley Common (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Bayton (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Broadwas (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Bushley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Clows Top (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Colletts Green (informal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Corse Lawn (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Dunley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Eardiston (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Earls Croome (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Grimley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Holt Heath (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Little Witley (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Longdon (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Longley Green (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Pendock (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Pensax (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Ryall (informal) <input type="checkbox"/> Shrawley (informal)
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Tenbury Town area	<input type="checkbox"/> No catchment gap identified		
Upton and Hanley areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Hanley Swan <input type="checkbox"/> Upton upon Severn		

8.13 There are significant gaps in provision for children and young people across Malvern Hills District, as assessed against the settlement hierarchy. A key factor in this is that half of the provision in Malvern Hills District (51%) comprises LAPS (31% of total), unclassified sites and sites that currently have no equipment. Only the installation of new equipped play areas in these areas will reduce these gaps. In other areas, the upgrading of certain play areas from LAPs to LEAPs could be considered.

8.14 Consultation identifies a perceived lack of provision for children and young people in Pickersleigh. To address the lack of youth provision in Pickersleigh, WCC, in conjunction with partners such as MHDC, is due to begin operation of a fortnightly youth club. WCC plans to consult more closely with young people to establish needs in terms of provision. The summer activity programme provided by MHDC has been particularly popular in past years in the Pickersleigh. The continuation of this provision is at risk due to funding limitations. However, consultation findings regarding the importance of the programme supports the need for a youth worker to be assigned to the area to ensure the continuation of provision of activities engaging children and young people.

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- 8.15 Residents in Kempsey highlight a perceived deficiency in provision for children and young people. Mapping supports this, showing that the one play area, Napleton Lane, serves little of the settlement area. The site assessment for Napleton Lane play area identifies the site to be of low quality. Due to the poor quality of the play area parents are willing to travel 10 minutes by car to access alternative provision. There is demand for greater youth provision also. Residents report regular incidents of vandalism to the play area, felt to be due to young people having little provision to occupy their time.
- 8.16 A key issue raised during consultation is the perceived lack of toddler play provision at play areas throughout the District. Examples of where users consider there to be a need for increased provision of equipment aimed at children below the age of 5 years include Priory Park play area, New Street (Upton), The Upton Hill Centre play area, Victoria Park play area and Malvern Crescent play area. When there is provision of toddler equipment consultation highlights that this is insufficient in terms of variety. There is also a lack of zoning of equipment targeted at different age groups. This can result in young children attempting to use equipment that is too sophisticated for their abilities presenting a safety concern for parents. There is demand for play areas to be clearly zoned in relation to equipment for particular age groups and abilities e.g. at Welland Sports Field.
- 8.17 Consultation suggests that users of play areas are willing to travel up to 15 minutes to access play provision. This is supported by the household survey findings, a significant proportion (43%) of respondents who visit play areas for young children are willing to travel up to 15 minutes. Users consider small play areas with limited equipment to offer little play value and therefore will travel further to access provision at Victoria Park or Priory Park. The majority of provision in rural settlement is provided by parish councils. Two-fifths of this provision (40%) is classified as LAPs. As a result of the small catchments associated with LAP provision mapping highlights significant catchment gaps within the rural settlement areas. However, provision in these areas should be considered in relation to the population demographics. Therefore the settlement hierarchy will be used to identify appropriate provision. Proposals are set out later in this report.
- 8.18 A common perception across the District is that there is a lack of youth provision. In particular, there is a perceived lack of provision for children and young people in Upton-upon-Severn. This is supported through the catchment mapping. As young people have nowhere specifically, to go to 'hang out' local residents in Upton-upon-Severn consider there to be high level of anti-social behaviour. MHDC community safety team identifies the perception of anti-social behaviour in Upton-upon-Severn is higher than reality due to the common presence of large groups of youths. This is being tackled through an increased police presence in the area. There is currently no youth provision or youth worker in the area. WCC recognises the need for youth engagement in Upton-upon-Severn and, in partnership with MHDC, plans to

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establish a youth club, located on High Street. WCC also wishes to establish a young people's council.

- 8.19 Residents also are of the opinion that youth provision in the rural parishes of the District e.g. Abberley, Branford, Leigh Sinton and Mable is limited. This is supported through catchment mapping, with the exception of Alfwick and Welland. Provision, such as fixed skateparks and MUGAs, in rural parishes is not always feasible due to the lack of suitable locations and the small population of children and young people within rural settlements. However, there is opportunity for greater partnership working between neighbouring parish councils to facilitate provision of facilities such as mobile skate parks to enhance access to provision for children and young people.
- 8.20 The village halls throughout the rural parishes have limited usage by young people during the evenings due to a lack of targeted activities being provided. MHDC community safety team recognises this and would like to see the halls being utilised during the evenings by offering activities for children and young people e.g. youth clubs.
- 8.21 The congregation of young people on children's play areas is highlighted, through consultation, to be an issue throughout Malvern Hills District. This can create an intimidating atmosphere preventing use of play areas by younger children. This may be associated with the lack of youth provision. However, experience at Victoria Park indicates that the provision of youth facilities is not the entire solution to this problem.
- 8.22 There is some provision of youth shelters within open space in Malvern Hills District. However, perceptions of the success of this provision varies considerably. A successful youth shelter has been identified on Brookfarm Estate. This was installed following requests from young people in the area. The young people were involved in determining the location of the shelter, securing ownership of the site, resulting in high usage. However, the youth shelter installed by Elgar Housing situated on Elgar Avenue is less successful. Due to a lack of youth engagement regarding the provision, the shelter is wrongly located and is therefore underused. There is demand for a youth shelter to be provided on Malvern common. Lessons from elsewhere highlight the importance in involving local young people in determining its location. Many young people consulted as part of the study are unaware of what a youth shelter is and the fact that they do exist for them to use. There is a need for awareness to be raised amongst young people regarding such provision.
- 8.23 Young people regularly use the skateparks on Victoria Park and Palmers Meadow. Outreach work led by WCC Youth Service, with help from partners, is targeted within a 3 mile radius of Malvern Town. Officers engage with young people and

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- organise trips to local skating venues. Due to the lack of lighting at Victoria Park trips are organised to provision in Perdiswell, Worcester.
- 8.24 An area of recreational land on Townsend Way, owned by the County Council, has been refused for housing development. The area was once a BMX track; a local interest from T.G's Charity is looking into developing the land as a youth community centre, which will include an indoor skatepark. T.G's is in the process of developing a business plan, once produced the charity intends to apply for funding.
- 8.25 A common concern highlighted throughout the District is the lack of informal play opportunities e.g. for the playing of informal ball games. In particular, there is demand for open space in Abberley where children can play informally. This is also demonstrated through the catchment mapping.
- 8.26 Consultation with Malvern Wells parish council identifies a dis-used open space, located at the end of Cherry Tree Drive/Mulberry Drive, which is un-maintained and poor quality. The landowner is unknown to both the parish council and MHDC. However, there is resident demand for play provision at the site to increase its functionality and value to local residents. Mapping demonstrates a deficiency in the provision for children and young people in this area.
- 8.27 A small amenity greenspace, on Kiln Lane (Leigh Sinton) is currently used as an informal play space by local children. Local residents consider the site, which is sandwiched between housing, to be poor quality and inadequate, in terms of size, for children to play on. However, there is a lack of other suitable space in the area. Consultation highlights resident demand for children and young people provision in Leigh Sinton.

Management

- 8.28 Provision for children and young people is provided by MHDC, a number of town and parishes councils, Malvern Hills Conservators and Elgar Housing.
- 8.29 MHDC has been allocated £200,000 from the Big Lottery Fund, Children's Play Programme. To access funding for this programme a Worcestershire Play Strategy has been developed which incorporates an action plan for Malvern Hills District. This action plan and the findings of this report are consistent.

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Quality

Table 8.5: Quality scores for play areas sites by analysis area

Analysis area	QUALITY Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 60%	above 60%
Malvern Town area	80	28%	64%	90%	63%	3	18
Rural areas	80	34%	58%	88%	54%	10	7
Tenbury Town area	80	45%	58%	70%	25%	1	1
Upton and Hanley areas	80	56%	65%	73%	17%	2	2
MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT	80	28%	62%	90%	63%	16	28

8.30 Consultation and site assessments identifies that quality varies across the District with a variation of 63 percentage points between the highest and lowest quality scores.

8.31 Vandalism is a common issue on sites throughout Malvern Hills District. In particular, it is a common occurrence on play areas at New Street, St Michaels Crescent and Dukes Meadow. Regular vandalism inhibits use of these play areas, New Street play area has been closed a number of times due for safety reasons following incidents of vandalism. To tackle the problem at this site options of installing taller fencing and a lockable gate are being considered to prevent access at night.

8.32 There is demand for all play areas in the District to be dog free zones through installation of fencing. Site assessments identify the following sites to be unfenced:

- East of Old School House, Wichenford.
- Lower Ferry Lane, Callow End.
- Old Malvern Road, Powick.
- Upper Wick Lane.
- Greenfield Road.
- School field, Gloucester Road.
- Deans Close, Powick.

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8.33 A number of sites across Malvern Hills District have wood-chip/bark safety surfaces. These include:

- The Burgage.
- Montgomerie Close.
- Dean Close.
- Milestone Road/The Upton Hill Centre.
- Martley Sports Field.
- Berrow Green Road.
- School Field.
- Gloucester Road.
- West of CE Primary School, Welland Road.
- Hanley Swan.
- East of Old School House, Wichenford.

8.34 There are safety issues concerning wood-chip surfaces with items such as needles and broken glass being easily concealed. Although wood-chip surfacing does not prevent usage, consultation identifies that parents prefer the use of wetpore on play areas as risks such as broken glass are easily spotted and avoided. The need for regular raking of wood-chip/bark surfacing also results in high maintenance costs.

8.35 There is a perception amongst that there is an absence of ownership signs providing contact information at play areas so that users can report faults. Site assessments show that 45% of play areas in the District display no ownership signs with contact information provided. The majority (60%) of the play areas without signs providing contact details are in the rural settlements and are therefore likely to be owned by parish councils.

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Value

8.36 The methodology for assessing value is set out in Part 2 (Methodology). The table below summarises the results of the value assessment for play areas in Malvern Hills District. A score of 20% or less is considered to indicate that a site has low value. A full list of low value sites and an indication of their position relative to the value threshold can be found in Part 33.

Table 8.6: Value scores for play areas by analysis area

Analysis Area	VALUE Scores					Number at:	
	maximum score	lowest score	MEAN score	highest score	spread	below 20%	above 20%
Malvern Town area	55	22%	36%	58%	36%	-	21
Rural areas	55	20%	48%	67%	47%	-	17
Tenbury Town area	55	36%	37%	38%	2%	-	2
Upton and Hanley areas	55	55%	60%	67%	13%	-	4
MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT	55	20%	43%	67%	47%	-	44

8.37 All of the existing provision for children and young people across the District is assessed as being of high value. This reflects the importance of play opportunities in Malvern Hills District highlighted during consultation.

Community involvement

8.38 A number of young people from Rushwick have come together and established a group, called Playscape, to address the lack of open space provision, in particular for children and young people in the local area. Playscape has undertaken consultation with local residents and young people to establish needs and desires. Findings include demand for a multi-functional recreation area incorporating a multi-use games area (MUGA), amenity green space, a youth shelter, a children's play area and a circular track for walking and cycling. An area of land, currently agricultural, has been identified on Upper Wick Lane, Rushwick. This area of land is currently leased by Rushwick Parish Council from WCC. If the plans are realised the existing play area on Upper Wick Lane will be replaced. To realise these aspirations Playscape is currently applying for Big Lottery 'Parks for People' funding.

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Summary of site consultation

8.39 This section collates issues raised during consultation regarding provision for children and young people in Malvern Hills District. This is presented alongside site visit quality and value scores for comparison. It is not a comprehensive list of sites and only covers sites raised during consultation.

Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Victoria Park Skatepark	66%	36%	The skatepark is a well used and popular facility. However, residents express concern regarding the associated noise. There is little that can be done to reduce the noise generated by usage of the facility. The only possible solution is investigation of the feasibility of relocating the skatepark to a different are of the Park which is not as close to residential properties.
Victoria Park play area	90%	40%	The site is a high quality and well used play area. The main concern amongst users is the lack of shade provided in the Park during the summer months which can act as a deterrent for parents with young children. Users would like the possibility of tree planting along one boundary to be investigated as a way to provide some shade.
Priory Park	60%	55%	Consultation identifies demand for greater seating provision at the play area. There are currently four benches, which is felt by parents to be insufficient for the high usage of the site. Site assessment notes that more benches could enhance the site. Consultation identifies that the monkey bar piece of equipment provided at the play area is underused, as it is considered to be poorly designed with the bars too widely spaced for children to easily use.

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
The Upton Hill Centre, Milestone Road	73%	49%	<p>Although the play equipment at the site is of adequate quality, consultation highlights user opinion that the equipment is dated and in need of refurbishment. There is demand for modern and imaginative equipment to be provided.</p> <p>There is demand for greater provision of equipment suitable for children under 5 years old. Currently the only provision for toddlers consists of cradle swings. Users would like a greater variety e.g. spring animals, toddler multi-play.</p>
The Old Hollow	60%	26%	<p>A play area report produced in June 2006 by West Malvern Parish Council identifies the need to upgrade some of the equipment on the play area and improve the safety surfacing.</p> <p>There is user demand for more stimulating and adventurous play to be provided.</p>
Greenfield Road play area	56%	51%	<p>Consultation identifies that parents are reluctant to allow children to use the slide provided at the site due to its age and lack of safety barriers.</p> <p>The play area can only be accessed from walking over grass. This can become muddy during inclement weather resulting in difficult access, particularly for wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs.</p> <p>Users express opinion that the provision of more seating and picnic tables would enhance the play area.</p> <p>Users highlight that the fencing and entrance gates are regularly vandalised. This impacts on the visual quality of the site and user perception of safety.</p>
Collinghurst Meadow play area (also known as New Street, Upton)	60%	58%	<p>There is demand for toddler provision to be enhanced with a greater variety of equipment suitable for children under the age of 5 years.</p>

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Site	Quality score	Value score	Comments
Lower Howsell Road	79%	18%	Consultation with users show disability access is poor and needs to be addressed.
Jamaica Crescent	34%	29%	The play area is accessed through an alleyway which consultation and site assessment has identified as being uninviting. This limits the usage of the site as users feel secluded and vulnerable.
The Burgage	70%	38%	Consultation suggests that the play area is in a state of disrepair limiting usage. However, since consultation, Tenbury Town Council has significantly enhanced the site through the installation of new equipment and as a result the site assessment recognises high quality play provision. Consultation identifies demand for youth provision at the site. Due to its central location the site is a popular congregation area for young people.

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Provision for children and young people summary

Current provision

- ❑ In total, there are 44 play areas in the District, totalling just under 4 hectares. There are three sites recorded as having no equipment and three sites are unclassified. Of these, 16 are identified as high quality and 28 are identified as low quality. In terms of value, all sites are identified as high value. This reinforces the importance of play areas across Malvern Hills.

Future provision

- ❑ In the Malvern Town Analysis Area, the additional provision of LEAPs is required in Dyson Perrins, Malvern Wells, Priory and West Malvern Town, Chase, Link, Wells and Malvern Town.
- ❑ In the Rural Areas Analysis Area, LEAPs are needed to meet the settlement hierarchy in Hallow, Kempsey, Lower Broadheath, Martley and Rushwick.
- ❑ A large number of gaps are identified in the provision of informal play opportunities in the rural areas. However, it is likely that this deficiency can be met by existing amenity greenspace provision.
- ❑ Additional LEAP provision is required in Hanley Swan and Upton upon Severn.

Other issues

- ❑ A key factor in the significant gaps in provision for children and young people is that half of the provision in Malvern Hills District (51%) comprises LAPS (31% of total), unclassified sites and sites that currently have no equipment.
- ❑ There is a lack of provision for young people in rural parishes in Malvern Hills District. Consultation has identified that this is an issue, which needs to be addressed. Encouraging parish councils to communicate/share when hiring mobile activities would be beneficial.
- ❑ Consultation has identified a shortfall in provision for toddlers and young people and also of informal play opportunities.