

Open Space Strategy

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Open spaces are an essential part of the urban heritage and infrastructure, being a strong element in the architectural character of towns and cities, providing a sense of place and engendering civic pride. They are important for enabling social interaction and fostering community development, as well as providing an outdoor classroom for biological and ecological studies.

Public green spaces help to conserve natural systems, including carbon, water and other natural cycles, within the urban environment, supporting ecosystems and providing the contrast of living elements in both designed landscapes and conserved wildlife habitats within our urban settlements.

Open Space supports social and economic objectives and activities and can help to reduce the inequalities, poor health and social inclusion in deprived areas reducing the inherent tension between many social and ethnic groups who form the wider community.

Providing for the recreational and leisure needs of a community assists the economic revival of areas and increases their attractiveness as a place for business investment, to live, work and to take leisure”

Council of Europe Recommendation No (86) 11; Cttee of Ministers States on Urban Open Space

Introduction by Cllr Coyle

Open Space in one way or another affects every member of the North Lanarkshire community contributing to a number of crucial issues including health, social inclusion, well-being, regeneration, environmental sustainability, live-long learning, liveability and the general image of North Lanarkshire amongst residents and potential investors.

This Open Space Strategy seeks to provide the context for activities and programmes that will bring about positive change to the Open Spaces that exist in North Lanarkshire.

In adopting this strategic approach it is hoped that long term solutions to recognised problems will be found and that by establishing links with partners and other policy agendas it will allow the development of positive working arrangements, increased community participation and the promotion of multi-functional management.

This Strategy indicates the long term commitment by North Lanarkshire Council to provide accessible and high quality open spaces across its communities that is in keeping with the Social and Environmental Justice priorities of the Scottish Executive.

North Lanarkshire Council have produced this Open Space Strategy in recognition that quality Open Spaces are not just a 'middle-class concern' appropriate only in leafy suburbs but instead they should be available to everyone and every community.

Chapter 1 – Advocacy

1.1 Why Do We Need Open Space?

- 1.1.1 **Open Space for Regeneration:** Safe, well-cared for and accessible open spaces make the outdoors a resource that is enjoyed by all and assist in making North Lanarkshire an attractive place for people to live, work, play and invest.
- 1.1.2 **Open Space for Health and Well Being:** Preventative health care is one of the strongest arguments of all for adopting a bold approach to open space management and provision. Open spaces provide facilities for improving physical health and can alleviate stress and mental health problems through the opportunities they provide for relaxation and passive recreation. This includes the use of hospital grounds, schools and the gardens around historic houses, all of which can encourage healthy and active lifestyles.
- 1.1.3 **Open Space for Employment:** The management of the open space resource in North Lanarkshire offers the potential for a wide range of employment opportunities within local government but also in landscaping, grounds maintenance and general construction industries. Elements of the open space network may also produce opportunities for the commercial crop of timber whilst green waste recycling is making an increasingly important contribution to promoting sustainable waste management practices.
- 1.1.4 **Open Space for Lifelong Learning:** Open spaces play a valuable role in school education and can provide outdoor classrooms. If attractive, accessible and safe they also encourage individuals outwith the school curriculum to gain practical skills through training and allow older generations to pass on their knowledge to younger generations.

1.2 Purpose of the Open Space Strategy

- 1.2.1 The Scottish Executive through publications such as NPPG 11 and PAN 65 'Planning and Open Spaces' advise that a formal Open Space Strategy linking Community Strategies and Development Plans is vital.
- 1.2.2 This recognises that they can be a mechanism for translating the raft of national, regional and local policy documents into a strategy that can be delivered and which recognises the cross cutting nature of open space issues.
- 1.2.3 This Strategy provides a means to assess the resource that exists across North Lanarkshire and ensure that data and information collected is gathered for strategic purposes and not in relation to a single need or function.
- 1.2.4 This builds on the knowledge and information held in relation to the demographic, health and economic circumstances of North Lanarkshire.

NLC FACTS	FIGURES
Total Land Area	48,000 ha
Population	321,350
Urban Area (43 Settlements)	9,000 ha
Total Non-Urban Area	39,000 ha
Parkland	970 ha
Total Area Maintained by NLC	3,722 ha
Parks	6 Town Parks & 1,070 amenity open spaces
Pitches	263 Formal Pitches & 86 Kick about areas
Play Spaces	281
SSSI's	21 (977ha)
Local Nature Reserve	2 (114 ha)
Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation	360 (6257 ha)
Vacant and Derelict land	414 (1509 ha) 12.8% of the Urban Area
Country Parks	3 (1176 ha)
Special Areas of Conservation	4 (631 ha) some including parts of South Lanarkshire and Falkirk authorities.

Table 1 –North Lanarkshire Key Facts

- 1.2.5 A Strategy for Open Space provides an opportunity to assess the demand for open spaces and associated facilities. This requires an understanding of the 'market' for facilities and the range of management skills that are required in order to ensure Best Value and appropriate use.
- 1.2.6 The final benefit of the Open Space Strategy is that it will provide a rationale for identifying financial priorities and the justification for securing funding from within the Council's budgets and those of its partners involved in Open Space issues.
- 1.2.6 This recognises that finance needs to be allocated against strategic objectives and not just in relation to a single purpose. The Open Space Strategy will provide this context and seek to ensure that appropriate funding is given to provide quality open spaces across all of North Lanarkshire.

1.3 What is Open Space?

- 1.3.1 Open Space in North Lanarkshire includes a wide variety of sites from roadside verges of only a metre wide, to the three Country Parks of Drumpellier, Palacerigg and Strathclyde Park.
- 1.3.2 This highlights that open spaces are multi-functional and fulfil a number of valuable roles. In this respect, while the prime objective of an area such as a park may be to provide opportunities for recreation, it can also support valuable wildlife habitats, landscape features, walking and cycling areas and spaces for community events.

- 1.3.3 As a result of the multi-functional nature of Open Space, there are similarly a number of definitions and interpretations of what constitutes Open Space. While the types and functions will be considered later in this document, at this stage it is necessary to adopt a single definition that covers all open space in North Lanarkshire.
- 1.3.4 In recognition of the all-encompassing role of open space it is considered that a wide ranging definition should be adopted that allows subsets of open space types to be considered each of which will have different management, supply and maintenance issues.

Recommendation 1: That the following definition for open space in North Lanarkshire be adopted:

Open Space: land without buildings that provides, or has the potential to provide direct or indirect environmental, social and / or economic benefits to communities.

1.4 Objectives for Open Space

- 1.4.1 The production of an Open Space Strategy is new to North Lanarkshire and to some extent is a new concept for most areas of Scotland. It is important that from the outset objectives should be set that are simple and clear and provide comfort for partners, officers, elected members and communities as to what they should expect, hope and want from their Open Spaces.
- 1.4.2 The following represents a set of basic objectives for Open Spaces that could be delivered through a programme of action and development.
- **Improve the quality and accessibility of open space:** This recognises that there should be a sufficient quantity of open space which meets local needs but that this should also be provided to the highest possible quality, accessibility and value.
 - **Improve links within and between the open space network:** This emphasises the importance of seeing open spaces not as individual oasis but as part of a wider network in which the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.
 - **Ensure that open spaces meet the needs of communities and promote greater social inclusion:** This involves working with all communities to determine what they want from open spaces and ensure that every individual has access to spaces that are of a sufficiently high quality.
 - **Ensure that open space enhances the quality of the local environment:**

Open Space can provide quality areas to promote biodiversity, contribute to air pollution reduction and if well-managed improve the appearance of areas which in turn will generate a positive impression that it is a good place to live, work and do business.

- **Develop open spaces which promote the importance of design in creating safe, accessible and inclusive places:**

This seeks to promote open spaces within and around built developments as an integral part of the design and development process provided in a scale and manner that is safe and accessible.

Chapter 2 - Image and Liveability

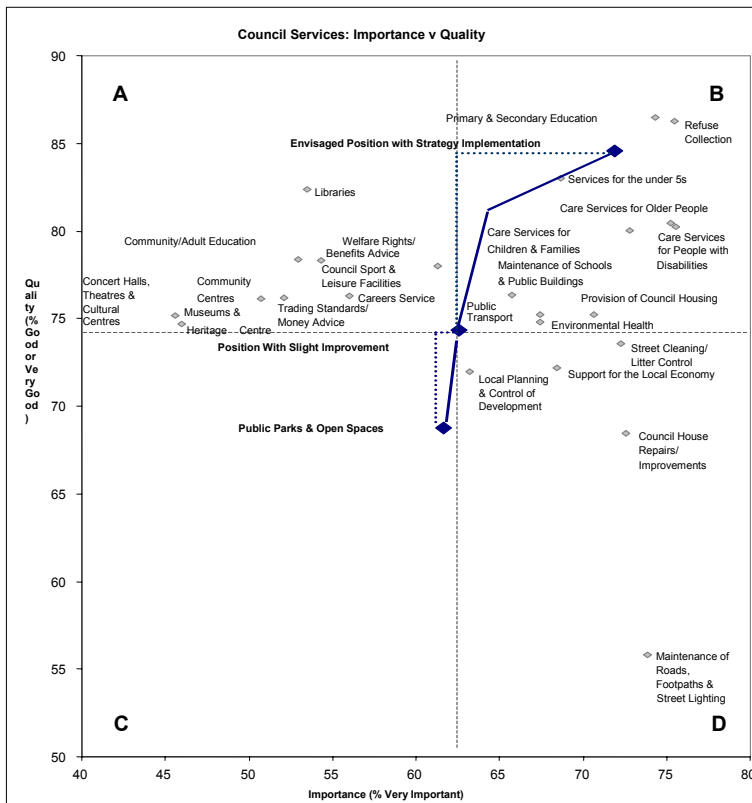
2.1 The Benefit of Open Space

- 2.1.1 Open Space can assist regeneration and improve quality of life by enhancing the areas between buildings and at the same time establish networks that meet local needs and support biodiversity.
- 2.1.2 This has the potential to create a virtuous circle in that as the appearance and image of North Lanarkshire improves, the more likely it will be to attract inward investment and make the area more liveable for existing and potential residents.
- 2.1.2 A further benefit of effective Open Space management is that significant benefits may be achieved from a financial commitment that is far less than would be needed to achieve the same outcomes from other mechanisms.
- 2.1.3 In order to promote the action that is required to bring about the untapped benefits from Open Spaces, it is essential that the Council, its partners and its communities understand the extent, quality and function of the open space resource.

2.2 The Value of Open Space

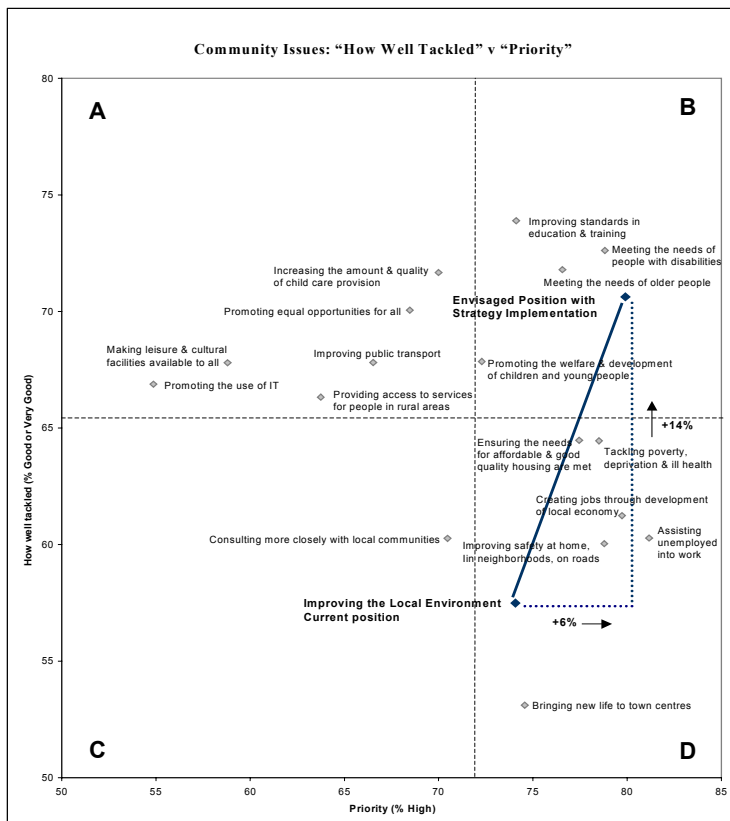
- 2.2.1 The North Lanarkshire Residents Survey carried out in 2002 indicated the importance of Parks and Open Spaces in relation to all the functions carried out by the Local Authority.
- 2.2.2 This highlighted that in terms of the areas within Council control there is a level of disaffection on existing management and maintenance but that at the same time the inherent value of open spaces in relation to quality of life is recognised.

North Lanarkshire Council Residents Survey 2002 – Key Findings



Graph 1.

An aspirational view of how it is hoped the implementation of the Strategy will result in a more positive perception by the public of open spaces in North Lanarkshire.

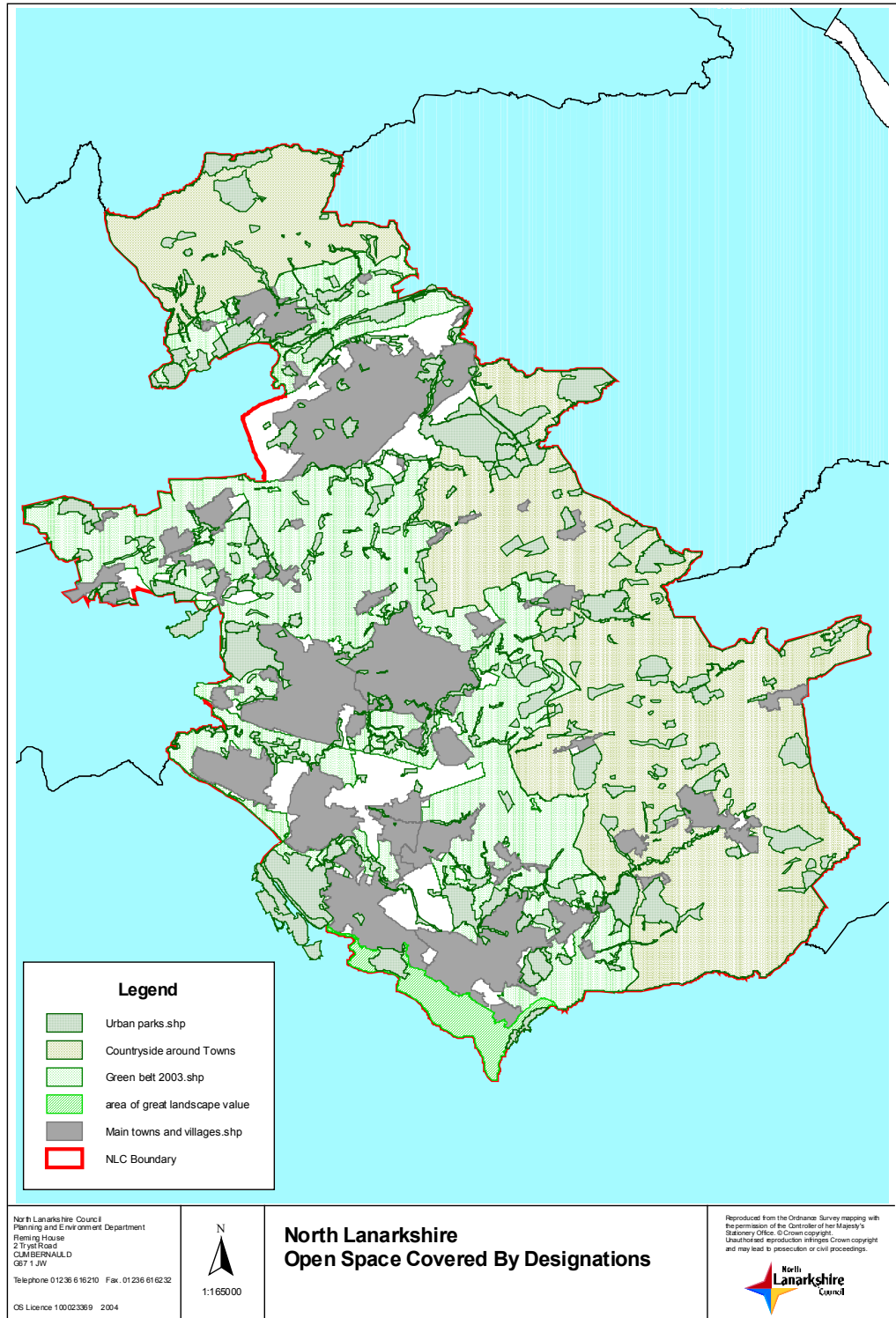


Graph 2

An aspirational view of the how the council can by implementing the strategy, make a positive change in activities undertaken to improve the local environment. Resulting in a positive perception being created for the residents of North Lanarkshire.

Explanatory text can be found in Appendix 1.

- 2.2.3 The challenge facing those involved in delivering the Open Space Strategy is to bring about the improvements to the open spaces of North Lanarkshire that its population has called for. This is particularly relevant in the fact that almost everyone can and does use some form of open space on a regular basis.
- 2.2.4 This recognises how socially inclusive open spaces are or can be if they are accessible, attractive, perceived as safe, well managed and maintained.
- 2.2.5 The focus that has been given to the Town Parks in North Lanarkshire as well as environmental regeneration works that have developed community parks at settlements such as Glenboig and Greenhead Moss highlight the benefits of investing time and resources in Open Spaces.
- 2.2.6 These projects and others across North Lanarkshire indicate that if provided and effectively managed with the community, the Council and other partners, previously unused or underused locations can be brought into positive use and act as community resources.
- 2.2.7 This also promotes the tenet that Open Space in North Lanarkshire is a resource and is not a liability and that while deficiencies in the quality or management of Open Space occurs, at the same time there is a wealth of quality spaces across the whole Council area.



Map 1- Open Space resources covered by designation across North Lanarkshire.

Recommendation 2: That North Lanarkshire Council, its communities and its partners continue to manage Open Spaces to the benefit of all and where appropriate opportunities for improvements to the use, function and quality of Open Spaces in communities should be identified.

2.3 The Amount of Open Space

- 2.3.1 Those involved in providing and managing parks, road verges, play areas etc must understand their responsibilities in providing a suitable supply and range of Open Space for all communities in North Lanarkshire.
- 2.3.2 However, in North Lanarkshire, as a consequence of the fact that no single definition has been previously set there is limited statistical information on the actual extent of the open space resource.
- 2.3.1 It is vital that this statistical vacuum is filled to foster an understanding of the amount of Open Space that exists. This will ensure that future decisions on budget allocations for management and maintenance as well as the identification of deficiencies and surpluses of land can be carried out with the benefit of a robust information and statistical base.
- 2.3.2 This is particularly important in light of the fact that the resources allocated to the maintenance of open spaces are steadily declining. The consequence of this is that the amount of Open Space being actively managed by both the Council and other private and public agencies is declining proportionately.
- 2.3.3 At present North Lanarkshire Council hold a diverse range of information on Open Space across its own land and that of other landowners. It is considered that there is a need to rationalise this information in a manner that allows decisions to be made on Open Space management that is based on the principles of best value, sustainable development and social inclusion.
- 2.3.4 The benefits from carrying out an Open Space 'audit' are outlined in the Scottish Executive Central Research Units publication 'Rethinking Open Space'.
- 2.3.5 This states that gathering factual information on existing Open Spaces for the first time "will probably require a significant amount of work which may be fairly expensive". However, it goes on to state that some external funding could be sought for this process and that once established it should be a relatively inexpensive database to keep updated.
- 2.3.6 The 'audit', in order to bring about meaningful results, cannot be restricted to a simple quantification of the amount of Open Space in

North Lanarkshire. Information already held on open space use and provision and an assessment of the maintenance and management regimes that prevail in North Lanarkshire must supplement it.

- 2.3.7 Furthermore, to gain a better understanding of demand, representative surveys of individuals and groups who use and choose not to use open spaces across the whole Council area should also make up the work involved in the audit.
- 2.3.8 This will provide strategic and detailed advice that allows future budgetary and operational decisions to be made with a greater degree of confidence and likelihood of successful implementation.

Recommendation 3: That North Lanarkshire Council co-ordinate an Open Space audit that includes an assessment of the land available, surveys of residents and groups and a consolidation of the manner in which maintenance information is gathered, held and analysed.

2.4 Accessibility of Open Space

- 2.4.1 Public open spaces must be accessible to be effective. Constraints on accessibility can be physical such as roads, railway lines, blocked off paths and separation, but in addition to this, social, cultural and lifestyle constraints can be as inhibiting and provide intangible barriers to the positive use of open space.
- 2.4.1 The Joint Health Improvement Plan (JHIP) produced through the North Lanarkshire Partnership states that opportunities to promote active living and improve mental health must be pursued if the health and well being of all our communities is to be improved.
- 2.4.2 The JHIP states that opportunities to improve the accessibility to open spaces should be a priority action for a range of agencies with a role in promoting healthy and active lifestyles.
- 2.4.3 This could take the form of physical improvements to create safe and welcoming environments as well as initiatives that take advantage of the facilities or opportunities available in open spaces that encourage a less sedentary lifestyle and promote the benefits to mental health such as Green Gyms, Health Walks etc.
- 2.4.4 However, in North Lanarkshire it is considered that social and cultural barriers provide as much, if not more of an impediment to the use of Open Spaces as any physical barriers.
- 2.4.5 This is compounded by the fact that unlike some of its neighbouring authorities, the settlement pattern of North Lanarkshire is such that the actual distance between most communities and areas of formal or informal open space is generally quite short.

- 2.4.6 North Lanarkshire is made up of discrete settlements with relatively low density that have developed in a manner where access to the countryside, green belt or an area of urban open space is not difficult.
- 2.4.7 Therefore it could be argued that the barriers to the use of open space are as a result of inactivity, lack of quality or safety fears and that in future the management of and provision for open space must recognise and address this issue.
- 2.4.8 Once again it is recognised that the lack of statistical data on Open Space makes it difficult to provide precise data on social and cultural barriers and the manner in which this matter should be addressed at the local level.
- 2.4.9 However in order to display that distance is not necessarily the restricting factor to the use of open space, the following indicates that even in the centre of the main urban settlements there are areas of quality open and green spaces in very close proximity. A graphic of urban areas and distance to greenspace can be found in Appendix 2.

Recommendation 4: That further survey and research should be carried out on the social and cultural barriers to the use of open spaces across North Lanarkshire. Thereafter, future management and provision of open space must recognise and make provision for safety, maintenance and quality issues to ensure that spaces meet the needs of the communities they serve.

2.5 Function and Quality of Open Space

- 2.5.1 The wide-ranging definition proposed in Chapter 1 allows for the identification of the extent of Open Space that exists in North Lanarkshire. However in order to facilitate a focussed analysis of open space in terms of its function, open space types should be identified.
- 2.5.1 Past planning of open space has been bedevilled by attempts to use a 'one size fits all' approach. This has led to reliance on, often, simplistic quantitative standards and leading from this, a lack of clarity in terms of the use and value of types or areas of open space.
- 2.5.2 The benefit of identifying Open Space Types is that while previous approaches to Open Space management and provision have tended to dwell on quantity, the typology approach allows an assessment to be made on quality allowing a shift away from crude statistical approaches to more specialist needs based assessments.
- 2.5.3 The identification of Open Space types suggested below follows the advice in The Scottish Executive publication PAN 65 "Planning and Open Spaces" but has been tailored to suit the specific circumstances that prevail in this area. The types identified in Table X below relate to

their prime function although it is recognised that many open spaces serve additional functions.

2.5.4 The emphasis on prime function ensures that there is clarity in identifying the use of land and in doing so aid effective planning. However it should also be noted that individual open spaces can also serve secondary functions such as:

- **Structural** – aiding the identity or definition of an area to establish a sense of place / ownership
- **Ecological** – helping reduce the impact of pollution, recycling water or reducing noise pollution
- **Environmental** – helping promote sustainability by controlling ground water or providing shelter to buildings
- **Educational** – providing an ‘outdoor classroom’.

2.5.5 Adopting and using an agreed Open Space Typology will create an efficient and adaptable management tool that allows the data collected through the audit of all open space to be separated into tranches that fit with the responsibilities and organisational capacity of council departments, partner agencies and private sector organisations.

2.5.6 This is built on the understanding that there are a range of objectives and perspectives on the use, supply and management of open spaces. However, in splitting the supply into related functional categories, it means that the collection of information and data on different types of open space should not be to the exclusion or detriment of others.

Recommendation 5: That the following Open Space Typology is adopted by all of the agencies involved in the supply, management and use of Open Spaces in North Lanarkshire. This will clarify discussions on Open Space issues and ensure that information collected and management mechanisms established complement the wider objectives of the Open Space Strategy.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL OPEN SPACE TYPOLOGY

Lead Organisation	Open Space Type	Description
NLC Community Services– Park & Cemeteries.	Public Parks	This includes urban and country parks.
NLC Community Services– Park & Cemeteries.	Amenity Open Space	Area where management and maintenance is established including grass cutting and tree/hedge management, etc.
NLC Community Services– Conservation and Greening CSFT & SNH	Natural Greenspaces	Designated areas including SINC, SSSIs etc, land managed for nature conservation, unmanaged green areas where the environment can evolve naturally.
NLC– Planning & Environment–Roads NLC–Community Services- Conservation and Greening	Open Space Corridors	Linear routes following rivers, canals, railway lines, roads and pathways. Corridors may provide access to other areas or overlap with all other types of open space.
NLC Community Services– Park & Cemeteries.	Functional Open Space	Open areas used for specific purpose including allotments, burial grounds and churchyards. This excludes sports and recreation areas.
NLC Education NLC Community Services- Sport and Recreation	Sports areas	Open areas designed to accommodate formal sporting activities including playing fields, golf courses, tennis courts, bowling greens, etc.
NLC Community Services – Grounds Maintenance / Play Services	Play Facilities	Areas providing play facilities for children and young people.
NLC - Planning and Environment	Residential Open Space	Open Space within a residential development and outwith the curtilage of each dwelling.
NLC – Planning & Environment	Civic Open Space	Spaces in non-residential built up areas, which public has access to, including pavements, squares, promenades, and car free space around buildings. This can include landscaped spaces in industrial areas.
NLC Planning and Environment SEL & CSFT	Abandoned Land	Land where the previous use has ceased and no management regime is currently in place. This type includes some areas identified in the Vacant and Derelict Land Strategy.
NLC Planning & Environment Housing and Property	Private Open Space	Private gardens and grounds, not generally accessible to members of the public.

Chapter 3 – Sustainable Management

3.1 Maximising Benefits and Minimising the Use of Resources

- 3.1.1 The table of Open Space types identifies the range of Open Spaces in North Lanarkshire and identifies those who should take the lead in assessing their 'value' and extent.
- 3.1.2 The benefit of this approach is that it will provide a comprehensive planning and management methodology, but without significant financial or staff commitments from an individual department or organisation.
- 3.1.3 This allows priorities to be set that ensure greatest effort is put into maintaining and providing open spaces that will have the most positive impact.
- 3.1.4 The Scottish Executive Central Research Unit's paper of 2001, 'Rethinking Open Space', suggests that there are some key issues which must be considered in delivering objectives for open spaces that build on the assessment carried out in an audit and the identification of Open Space types. This includes:
- Whether to adopt a supply-led, demand led or standards based approach to open spaces.
 - How to determine and promote the appropriate level of access and accessibility to Open Spaces.
 - How to promote appropriate long term quality, sustainability and multi-functionality in open space provision at affordable cost.
 - How to maximise the benefits while minimising the need for staff and financial resources.
- 3.1.5 'Rethinking Open Space' provides advice on the management and planning approach that should be taken for different types of Open Space. This is based on the assumption that every area of open space has a clearly defined function and that if there is no public benefit, development can be promoted in the understanding that there is no prospect of the area being used positively as open space.
- 3.1.6 With regard to the Open Space resource that exists in North Lanarkshire it will be necessary to consider the range of management and planning options suggested in 'Rethinking Open Space' and to match these to the particular circumstances that prevail in this authority.
- 3.1.7 The outcome of this will be that discrete appraisals and Action Plans for individual open space types such as Sports Areas, Natural Greenspaces, Abandoned Land can be produced within the context of the wider objectives of the Open Space strategy.

- 3.1.8 The benefit of this will be that a comprehensive, holistic and complementary policy framework and programme of action will develop that will be effective in delivering and protecting a sustainable network of open spaces across the whole of North Lanarkshire.

Recommendation 6: That the advice in the Scottish Executive Central Research Unit's document 'Rethinking Open Space' should be used as the basis for developing the necessary planning, maintenance and management arrangements for all open space types in North Lanarkshire.

3.2 A Vision for Land

- 3.2.1 The role of North Lanarkshire Council in the development and management of the land resources of the whole Council area is recognised as being significant. This relates to NLC as a major landowner and as a regulatory authority.
- 3.2.2 This impacts on the use of both public and privately owned land, through its planning and development functions, environmental protection responsibilities, provision of leisure and recreation opportunities, landscape development policies and crucially its role as manager and maintainer of open spaces.
- 3.2.3 The Council is in the process of producing guidance on its 'Vision' for the management of its own land resources and the manner in which this will be co-ordinated with other Council functions. It is recognised that this will complement and build on the objectives and actions outline in this document.
- 3.2.4 This Open Space Strategy seeks to build on the management of the Council's land resource and link this to the wider Development, Conservation and Community agencies in the effective management and use of all Open Spaces.
- 3.2.5 This will ensure that the benefits from Open Space impacts positively on the objectives of all those interested in maximising the social, economic and environmental potential of North Lanarkshire.

Recommendation 7: That North Lanarkshire Council progress its vision for the management and use of its own land resources in a manner that complements the wider objectives of this Open Space Strategy and the objectives of the partners involved in maximising the potential benefits that open spaces can provide.

3.3 Land Use Planning Policy

- 3.3.1 NPPG 11 provides guidance on both the provision of new spaces as well as assessing the quality of the existing and states that:

“ Every Council should include in its development plan, views on the level of provision required for sporting and physical recreation facilities, including parks, open space, pitches and playing fields. The levels of provision should be determined locally on the basis of a range of factors including quality and value of facilities.”

3.3.2 NPPG 11 also makes recommendations on assessing existing sites and refers to the need to identify functions, links and where appropriate to look at public safety. The benefit of this being that this analysis and assessment provides the basis for forward planning to cater for the needs of the population through a system of public parks, amenity open spaces, playing fields and sports pitches.

3.3.3 Development Plan reviews should contain policies regarding the protection of open space, how to address deficiencies, enhance existing provision and create new open space. The emphasis should be on the achievement of improvements in the quality of open space with clear policies relating to implementation. Policy themes could include:

- Protection of open space through appropriate designations.
- Identifying links between open space.
- Improving the quality and safety of existing provision.
- Creating new open spaces.
- The use of vacant and derelict land as temporary open space.
- The protection of biodiversity and promotion of nature conservation
- The use of Section 75 agreements to address deficiencies and improve quality of open space.

3.3.4 Development plans provide an opportunity to highlight the open space in North Lanarkshire that should be protected. In addition Supplementary Planning Guidance and a review of the Council’s financial procedures could be developed to cover the capital and maintenance costs of open space.

3.4 A New Approach to Providing Open Space in New Development

3.4.1 The location size and nature of open space across North Lanarkshire has in most instances been inherited from past generations and as such may not be best suited to current needs.

3.4.2 The future management and planning for spaces must ensure that provision and facilities are relevant to present demands but retain a flexibility to accommodate the future in terms of how we live, work and play.

3.4.3 North Lanarkshire Council provides guidance to developers on the provision of open space that is based on the standards developed from the National Playing Fields Association. These standards were first put forward in the 1920’s and as a consequence are starting to become

less relevant to modern forms of development as well as the way that recreation, sport and play takes place.

3.4.4 In addition to the concerns about the age of this advice it is considered that a blanket 'standards' approach also has the following drawbacks:

- It takes no account of the nature of the local population. North Lanarkshire has a range of towns and villages with different demographic circumstances. This being the case the level of provision for sports pitches, athletic tracks etc is unlikely to be universally appropriate.
- Standards take no account of the dimensions or shape of land as the children's play component is based on a single assumed density.
- Standards take no account of geographical distribution and consider a large urban settlement and a rural village in the same light.
- Standards do not take provision of indoor facilities in leisure centres, shopping centres or some private sector developments.

3.4.5 It is also considered that there is a lack of recognition given to the requirements of existing areas and communities. This is a matter that could and should be addressed through the Open Space audit and its analysis.

Recommendation 8: That North Lanarkshire Council should derive open space requirements for new development (including non-housing), which should be incorporated in future Development Plans. This must recognise the changing patterns of recreation, play and sport as well as the existing open space provision in the vicinity of development sites.

3.5 Development Briefs / Frameworks / Masterplans

3.5.1 The preparation of development briefs or development guidelines in relation to major development sites can provide an effective mechanism for securing new open spaces and improving the quality and facilities of those existing.

3.5.2 These can be adopted as supplementary planning guidance and will provide information on the level and type of open space provision and facilities required.

3.5.3 Particular consideration should be given to the quantity and quality of space provided, links to the surrounding area, the creation of networks of open space and the creation of a range of open spaces that meet

the varied needs of the community, including age appropriate play facilities.

- 3.5.4 Design guidelines should be provided on the creation of new open spaces and play areas, covering issues such as safety in terms of design, lighting and staffing.
- 3.5.5 Comprehensive redevelopment provides opportunities to create better located and higher quality open space incorporating more innovative approaches to such things as the use of roof spaces as gardens or green roofs, high quality hard landscapes, sustainable urban drainage systems, flood mitigation areas, woody planting and acoustic design measures.

Recommendation 9: That North Lanarkshire Council agree a procedure and format for preparing development briefs or guidelines for major development sites as a mechanism for securing new open space provision and improving the quality and facilities of existing open space.

Chapter 4 - Partners and Funding

4.1 Commitment from Partners

4.1.1 The creation and enhancement of open spaces across North Lanarkshire will require commitment to provide a high quality and accessible resource. This will need the input of many different partners ranging from politicians and council departments, public agencies, developers and the community.

4.1.2 The effectiveness of the management and the quality of the outcomes from the process depend on all the partners working together and taking responsibility for their role.

- **North Lanarkshire Council** plays a number of different roles in relation to open space management. This involves identifying funds, guiding and controlling development as well as designing, implementing and managing an appropriate range of open spaces
- **Public Agencies and NGO's** are also involved at different stages of the management process from initiating, designing and guiding to implementing and managing open spaces as funders and/or developers.
- **Developers** play a key role is providing good quality and accessible open spaces at different levels from relatively small residential developments through to large-scale regeneration schemes.
- **Communities** are ultimately the principle users of open spaces environment and have a role in shaping the outcomes of the process and in contributing to the management of local environments.

4.1.3 A Partnership approach is essential to integrate all the above roles into the process and make sure that co-ordinated efforts are complementary and add value. It is important that protocols are developed to ensure that the right people are involved in the management of open spaces at the right time.

4.1.4 It is also considered that partnerships should adopt a long-term perspective and develop inclusive approaches that allow for balanced and informed decisions.

4.2 Funding the Open Space Strategy

4.2.1 This Open Space Strategy provides the framework for supporting funding applications and implementing Projects and detailed Action Plans.

- 4.2.2 This is in recognition of the fact that there are a number of funding sources available for the creation and improvement of open space. Potential external funders and mechanisms currently available are summarised in Appendix 3.
- 4.2.3 However, it will be essential to keep up to date with changes in funding opportunities, criteria for eligibility and the opportunities that are to be gained from entering into partnerships.
- 4.2.4 There may also be opportunities for the joint funding of initiatives with other agencies and organisations. Voluntary organisations/ charitable trusts have an important role to play in open space provision and management. A key trust within North Lanarkshire is Central Scotland Forest Trust (CSFT), a partnership trust, who can initiate project development with communities and have worked successfully with the public sector to create award winning open spaces. The CSFT is a member of Greenspace Scotland and who can influence best practice, research and creation of greenspaces for communities.
- 4.2.5 In addition to developer agreements, the private sector, from larger multinational businesses to independent neighbourhood retail shops, have demonstrated willingness in other areas to fund and support projects, either on a one-off basis, or through a longer term involvement with a particular programme or area.
- 4.2.6 The potential for increasing private sector financial contributions to open space enhancements should be fully explored and the implications of changes in existing legislation for open space provision and improvements monitored.

4.3 Sale or Disposal of Council Land and Other Open Space

- 4.3.1 Throughout this document it has been made clear that if an area of Open Space is not providing (and is not likely to provide) public benefit, then disposal for development should be considered.
- 4.3.2 While Local Plan reviews will offer a framework for the consideration of privately owned Open Space, it is also necessary to look at the practical arrangements that exist for the disposal of Council land, given that this provides a significant amount of the open space resource.
- 4.3.3 The benefits to the Council in disposing redundant areas of open space include the fact that it generates capital, reduces management responsibility and leads to a reduction in maintenance costs.
- 4.3.4 However, there are also drawbacks in that the administration cost for disposal may actually outweigh the capital receipt and that if not controlled it could lead to a reduction in open space quality.

- 4.3.5 The above benefits and drawbacks vary greatly depending on individual cases, but the fact remains that at present North Lanarkshire Council does not have a system to determine the purpose and value of open space.
- 4.3.6 As such it is suggested that a process needs to be identified which will enable rational decisions to be made about the value of individual pieces of open space and, in turn, allow the identification of those sites which are surplus to Council requirement.
- 4.3.7 The ownership of open space is distributed among several council departments, and as a result there has been an inconsistent approach to the declaration of sites surplus to requirements.
- 4.3.8 A clear and efficient procedure should be agreed that recognises the responsibilities and duties of Council Departments and provides a standard of advice to the Housing and Property Services Department on the practical, operational legal or moral burdens that prevail for individual parcels of land.
- 4.3.9 An Open Space Maintenance Working Group involving a number of North Lanarkshire Council Departments has been in existence for several years. This group was established to look at a range of issues around the management of Open Spaces including achieving Best Value and establishing efficient arrangements for maintenance and analysing the open space resource.
- 4.3.10 Given the representative nature of this group it is considered that it may be a suitable forum within which to agree a suitable procedure for the disposal of Council land. This would recognise the objectives of the Open Space Strategy and ensure that decisions are made that are in keeping with the councils corporate and operational priorities.

Recommendation 10: That the Open Space Maintenance Working Group of Council officers develop and agree a procedure that allows effective and consistent decisions to be made in relation to the disposal of areas of Open Space within Council ownership. This would recognise the objectives of the Open Space Strategy and ensure that the decisions made represent Best Value and benefit the communities of North Lanarkshire.

4.4 Section 75 Agreements

- 4.4.1 Planning conditions and Section 75 agreements can be used to address quantitative and qualitative deficiencies in provision of open space or where new development would increase local needs.
- 4.4.2 The benefit of Section 75 Agreements is that they can secure both capital and revenue funding to provide for the future maintenance of open space. In this respect while there may be advantages in North

Lanarkshire Council taking a comprehensive review of its use and negotiation arrangements for Section 75 agreements, in relation to specific open space issues, consideration should be given to the following:

- Commuted capital and revenue payments could be derived in lieu of direct provision where development sites are small and fragmented.
- Commuted maintenance sums for the long term management and maintenance of new or improved open space could be secured to ensure financial viability
- Finance for feasibility studies on specific improvement projects could be secured that would allow an effective management and funding regime to be identified.

4.4.3 In the initial Open Space Strategy Workshop Report, produced by Kit Campbell and Associates for North Lanarkshire Council, Section 75 Agreements were identified as one way of achieving funding for Open Space Projects. This is expanded further in the February 2003, report by Kit Campbell entitled; 'Providing and Enhancing Open Spaces and Sport and Recreation Facilities through the Planning System'

4.4.4 This document provides clear guidance that would indicate to developers the situations whereby they may be asked to enter into a Section 75 agreement to provide open space.

4.4.5 This would require assessments of factors concerning what would constitute an unacceptable intensification of the use of a community open space as a result of a new development. The benefit of this being that developers, communities and the local authority would have a clear understanding of the instances in which a contribution to the establishment or improvement of local facilities would be required.

4.4.6 This would affect both on site and off site provision, although the requirement to pursue an Agreement would only be considered where a Planning Condition could not achieve or deliver the wider community gain.

Recommendation 11: That North Lanarkshire Council review its use of Section 75 Agreements to ensure that adequate on-site and off-site open spaces are provided as a result of an individual development or a number of projects in a particular area. This should follow the principles outlined in the document by Kit Campbell Associates 'Providing and Enhancing Open Spaces and Sport and Recreation Facilities through the Planning System'.

4.5 Public Involvement.

4.5.1 Encouraging increased community involvement in the use and management of facilities can assist in project implementation.

Maximum use should be made of community resources in the design, implementation, monitoring and operating phases of all forms of open space and enhancement projects.

- 4.5.2 Different contexts will require different solutions but 'Friends' groups, special interest groups and sports clubs could be useful starting points.
- 4.5.3 There is a vast range of methods that can be used to engage communities in planning, designing, creating, maintaining and managing open spaces. As such it is important to adapt the techniques to the needs and aspirations of the different preferences, backgrounds and ages of people in the community.
- 4.5.4 Techniques range from Planning for Real exercises, involving 3-D models, and exhibitions to less resource intensive techniques such as newsletters and meetings with 'Friends' groups. Several techniques should normally be used to ensure a wide range of people have an opportunity to participate.
- 4.5.5 Individual members of the community and community groups themselves are often an important source of 'funding' - either through modest financial contributions to a local project, or through working on an 'in-kind' basis which can demonstrate the level of community support and involvement to other funding organisations.
- 4.5.6 It is critical that the techniques for promoting community involvement are understood to be part of a fuller process of meaningful community engagement.
- 4.5.7 Applying techniques in isolation or haphazardly can raise unrealistic expectations, especially by asking people to state what they want rather than to have them express their views of a problem or aspects of areas that need to be changed. In addition, the post-consultation process is essential to analyse the results of a community involvement process and to generate options with communities to prioritise and agree preferences.

Recommendation 12: That all agencies involved in the management and maintenance of open space in North Lanarkshire develop mechanisms for working with communities, sports teams and voluntary organisations to ensure that the open space resource is used to its full potential and meets current and future demands.

Chapter 5 – Making it happen

5.1 Action Plan

- 5.1.1 The effectiveness of the Open Space Strategy relies upon the commitment of all partners to implement the recommendations. To make it easier to see where action is required the individual recommendations have been broken down into the activities needed to support them. Through the consultation on this draft document it is envisaged that partners may define further actions that could support the strategy.

5.2 Monitoring and reporting

- 5.2.1 The actions will be monitored and reported, annually, through the Open Space Strategy Steering Group. Members of this group are noted in Appendix 4. A core group of Council staff from Planning and Environment and Community Services will be charged with the responsibility of the management of this process.

The Open Space Strategy Action Plan

Recommendation 1: That the following definition for Open Space in North Lanarkshire be adopted:

Open Space: land without buildings that provides, or has the potential to provide direct or indirect environmental, social and / or economic benefits to communities.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
This definition be incorporated in Council documents dealing with open space.	NLC	From date Action Plan approved

Recommendation 2: That North Lanarkshire Council, its communities and its partners continue to manage Open Spaces to the benefit of all and where appropriate opportunities for improvements to the use, function and quality of Open Spaces in communities should be identified.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
The value of Open Space is recognised in all Development Plans.	NLC - Planning Department	Part of Development Plan process
Best practice is used in the management of Open Space.	NLC - Community Services	January 2005
Opportunities for improvements to the use, function and quality of Open Spaces are recognised in procedures for the disposal of council owned land.	NLC - Housing & Property NLC - Asset Management Group NLC - Capital Receipts Group NLC - Open Space Maintenance Group	January 2005
Opportunities for improvements to the use, function and quality of Open Spaces are recognised in procedures for the disposal of publicly owned land.	Communities Scotland NHS Lanarkshire Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire Other Public Agencies	January 2005

Recommendation 3: That North Lanarkshire Council co-ordinate an Open Space audit that includes an assessment of the land available, surveys of residents and groups and a consolidation of the manner in which maintenance information is gathered, held and analysed.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Secure funds to undertake an audit of Open Space in North Lanarkshire.	NLC - Planning & Environment	August 2004 – January 2005
Develop and implement an Open Space audit action plan.	NLC - Planning & Environment NLC - Community Services	Develop (January – April 2005) Implement (Beyond April 2005)

Recommendation 4: That further survey and research should be carried out on the social and cultural barriers to the use of open spaces across North Lanarkshire. Thereafter, future management and provision of open space must recognise and make provision for safety, maintenance and quality issues to ensure that spaces meet the needs of the communities they serve.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Identify the type of research that requires to be undertaken	NLC - Open Space Steering Group	Begin December 2004 Deliver 2005
Commission surveys to undertake extensive research.	North Lanarkshire Partnership NLP - Physical Activity Task Group NLP - Health, Wellbeing and Care Group	

Recommendation 5: That the following Open Space Typology is adopted by all of the agencies involved in the supply, management and use of Open Spaces in North Lanarkshire. This will clarify discussions on Open Space issues and ensure that information collected and management mechanisms established complement the wider objectives of the Open Space Strategy.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Need for partner agencies to adopt and understand their role in the Typology through the approval of the Action Plan and Strategy.	All partner organisations	Through approval of this plan
Open Space Typology database developed and managed.	NLC - Planning and Environment	October 2004 – December 2005
Survey information gathered through audit is used to inform the database and result in a flow of information.	All partner organisations	Ongoing

Recommendation 6: That the advice in the Scottish Executive Central Research Unit's document 'Rethinking Open Space' should be used as the basis for developing the necessary planning, maintenance and management arrangements for all open space types in North Lanarkshire.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
The Community Plan should recognise value of Open Space in delivering its 5 key objectives.	All partner organisations	Through approval of this plan
Partners should integrate this thinking into their activities within North Lanarkshire.	All partner organisations	Once plan developed
Local Plan to set a policy context in accordance with rethinking Open Space issues together with those of housing.	NLC - Planning and Environment	Through the Development Plan time-scale

Recommendation 7: That North Lanarkshire Council progress its vision for the management and use of its own land resources in a manner that complements the wider objectives of this Open Space Strategy and the objectives of the partners involved in maximising the potential benefits that open spaces can provide.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Develop a sports strategy aimed at improving the outdoor sporting infrastructure	NLC - Community Services	April 2005 - 07
Establish a list of tree and shrub planted areas which contribute to feelings of insecurity	NLC - Community Services	April 2005 - 07
Establish a training plan for the ground maintenance service staff and include the provision of vocational qualifications	NLC - Community Services	April 2005 - 06

Recommendation 8: That North Lanarkshire Council should derive open space requirements for new development (including non-housing), which should be incorporated in future Development Plans. This must recognise the changing patterns of recreation, play and sport as well as the existing open space provision in the vicinity of development sites.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
NLC to revisit MPFA standards for Open Space in new development due to their inadequacies for today's society and produce design guidance.	NLC - Planning & Environment NLC - Community Services	April 2005 - 06
Undertake a review of cultural barriers to the use of Open Space based on survey.	North Lanarkshire Partnership	April 2006

Recommendation 9: That North Lanarkshire Council agree a procedure and format for preparing development briefs or guidelines for major development sites as a mechanism for securing new open space provision and improving the quality and facilities of existing open space.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Investigate current procedures and recommend new measures for improvement	NLC - Planning & Environment Communities Scotland Homes for Scotland Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire	December 04 - June 2005

Recommendation 10: That the Open Space Maintenance Working Group of Council officers develop and agree a procedure that allows effective and consistent decisions to be made in relation to the disposal of areas of Open Space within Council ownership. This would recognise the objectives of the Open Space Strategy and ensure that the decisions made represent Best Value and benefit the communities of North Lanarkshire.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Internal procedures are established	NLC - Planning & Environment NLC - Housing & Property NLC - Community Services NLC - Asset Management Group NLC - Capital Receipts Group NLC - Open Space Maintenance Group	August 2004

Recommendation 11: That North Lanarkshire Council review its use of Section 75 Agreements to ensure that adequate on-site and off-site open spaces are provided as a result of an individual development or a number of projects in a particular area. This should follow the principles outlined in the document by Kit Campbell Associates 'Providing and Enhancing Open Spaces and Sport and Recreation Facilities through the Planning System'.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Assess the use and effectiveness of section 75 agreements with findings to be incorporated in to the Local Plan.	NLC - Planning & Environment	April 05 - September 2005
Undertake research into the mechanisms for ensuring the benefit of section 75's to maximise the benefit for local communities.	NLC - Planning & Environment (Finance) NLC - Community Services All partner organisations	September 05 – April 2006

Recommendation 12: That all agencies involved in the management and maintenance of open space in North Lanarkshire develop mechanisms for working with communities, sports teams and voluntary organisations to ensure that the open space resource is used to its full potential and meets current and future demands.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITIES	TIMESCALES
Agencies agree through development of action plan to work with communities.	NLC - All Departments All partner organisations	Through adoption of this plan
Develop mechanisms for the sharing of good practice to gain more community involvement.	NLC - Community Services	April 05 - 2006

APPENDIX 1.

North Lanarkshire Council Residents Survey 2002 – Key Findings Explanatory text for Graphs 1 & 2 .

IMPORTANCE AND QUALITY OF COUNCIL SERVICES

Residents were asked to state the importance they placed on a list of services provided by North Lanarkshire Council and, in a further question, how good they thought these services were. The percentage who said the services were very important and answered good or very good to the quality of services are shown in the graph on the following page. This graph is divided into four quadrants designated A, B, C and D. The location of the dividing lines is based on considerations of clustering and 'skewness' of the data. There is an element of judgement involved but the exact location of the lines is not critical to the analysis.

A High Quality, Low Importance

Services where fewer people thought that they were very important but the Council were still seen as providing a good or very good service.

These are generally the services perceived by respondents as lowest in terms of priority for improvement.

More than half of the services in this quadrant are *cultural and leisure services*. The picture was similar in 1999 except that some of these services were in the top part of quadrant C.

B High Quality, High Importance

Services where a high proportion of respondents think the service is both important and of a high quality.

This is the quadrant to aim for. Services in this quadrant are generally perceived as performing well, particularly those close to the top right-hand corner. Services close to the border with quadrant D, however, may be worthy of further examination.

As with the previous survey, this quadrant contains *primary and secondary education, refuse collection* and all of the *care services*.

C Low Quality, Low Importance

Services where a relatively low proportion of respondents think the service is both important and good or very good.

Services in this quadrant are generally perceived as performing adequately relative to expectations as long as the quality level is acceptable (ie they are closer to the top of the quadrant than the bottom).

This quadrant contains just one service – *parks and open spaces*. In 1999 this quadrant contained a number of other services, most of which are now in quadrant A.

D Low Quality, High Importance

Services where a high proportion thought they were very important but a relatively small proportion perceived the service as good or very good.

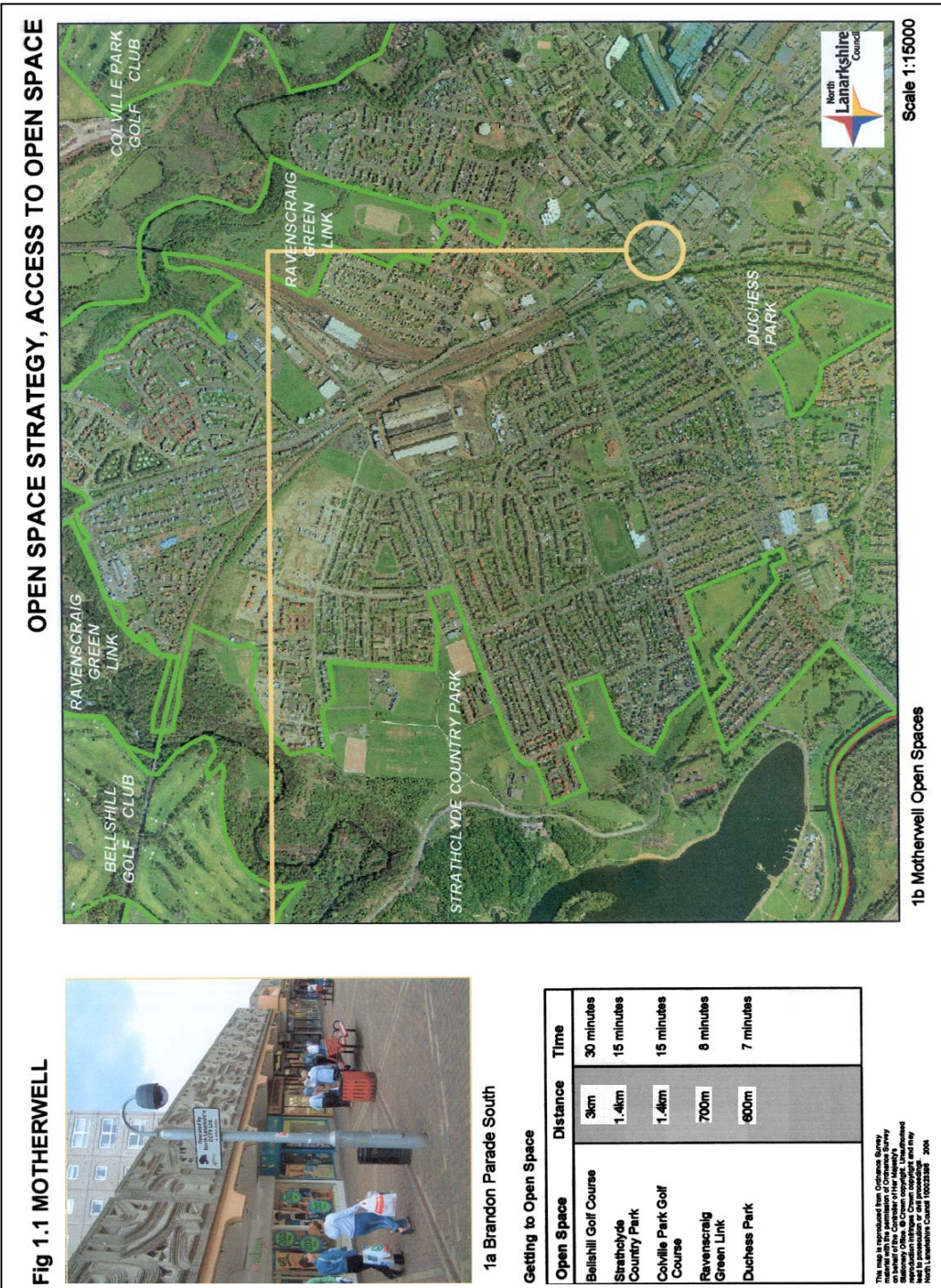
Services in this quadrant are generally those perceived as having a higher priority for improvement especially those close to the bottom right-hand corner.

As in 1999 this quadrant contains *roads maintenance*, *council house repairs* and *support for the local economy* although all have exhibited higher levels of service quality than previously. In 1999 this quadrant also included *provision of Council housing*, but did not include *street cleaning/litter control* or *planning & development control*.

APPENDIX 2.

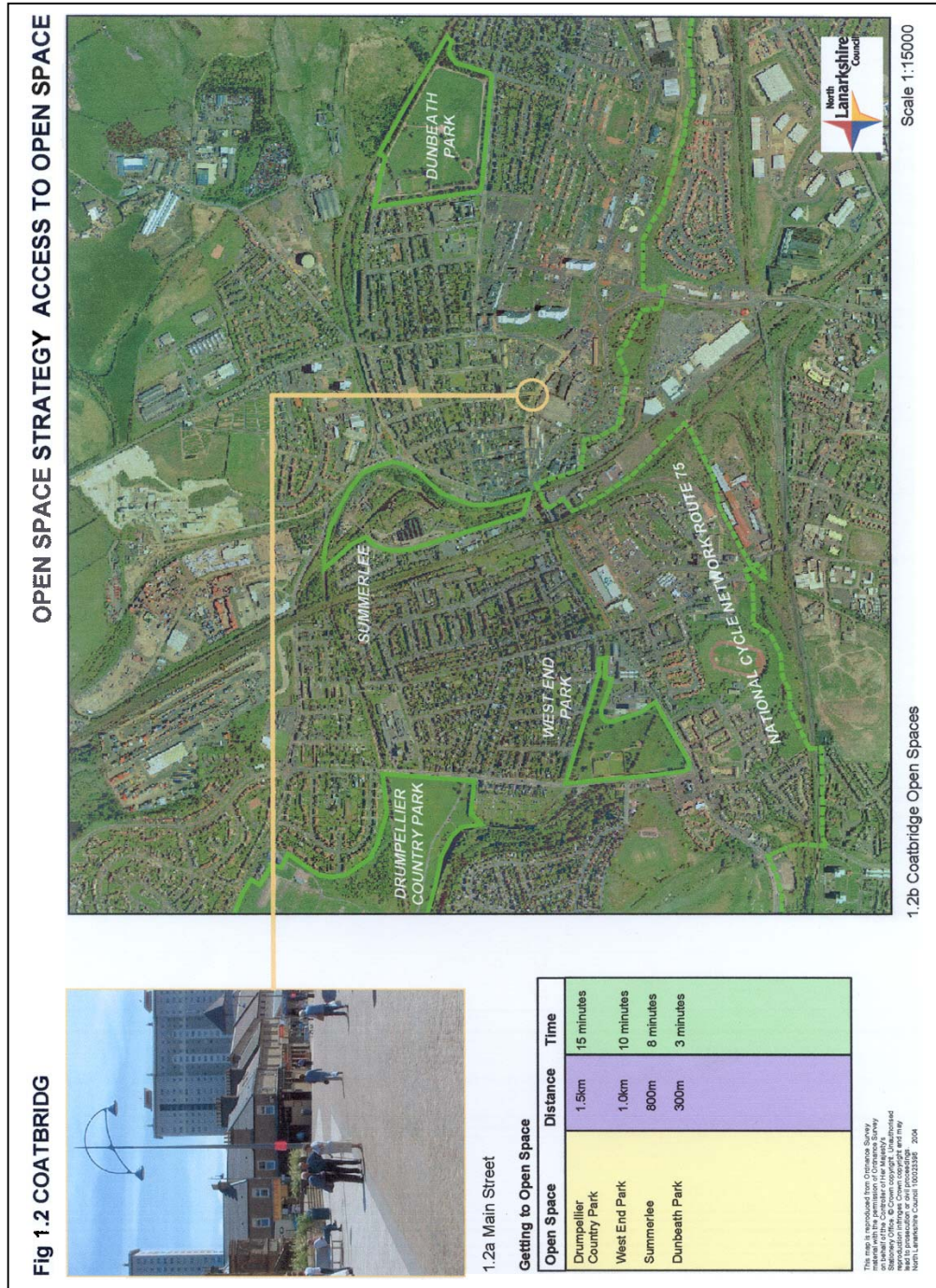
Graphic of Urban Areas and Distance to Greenspace .

FIGURE 1.1 (MOTHERWELL)



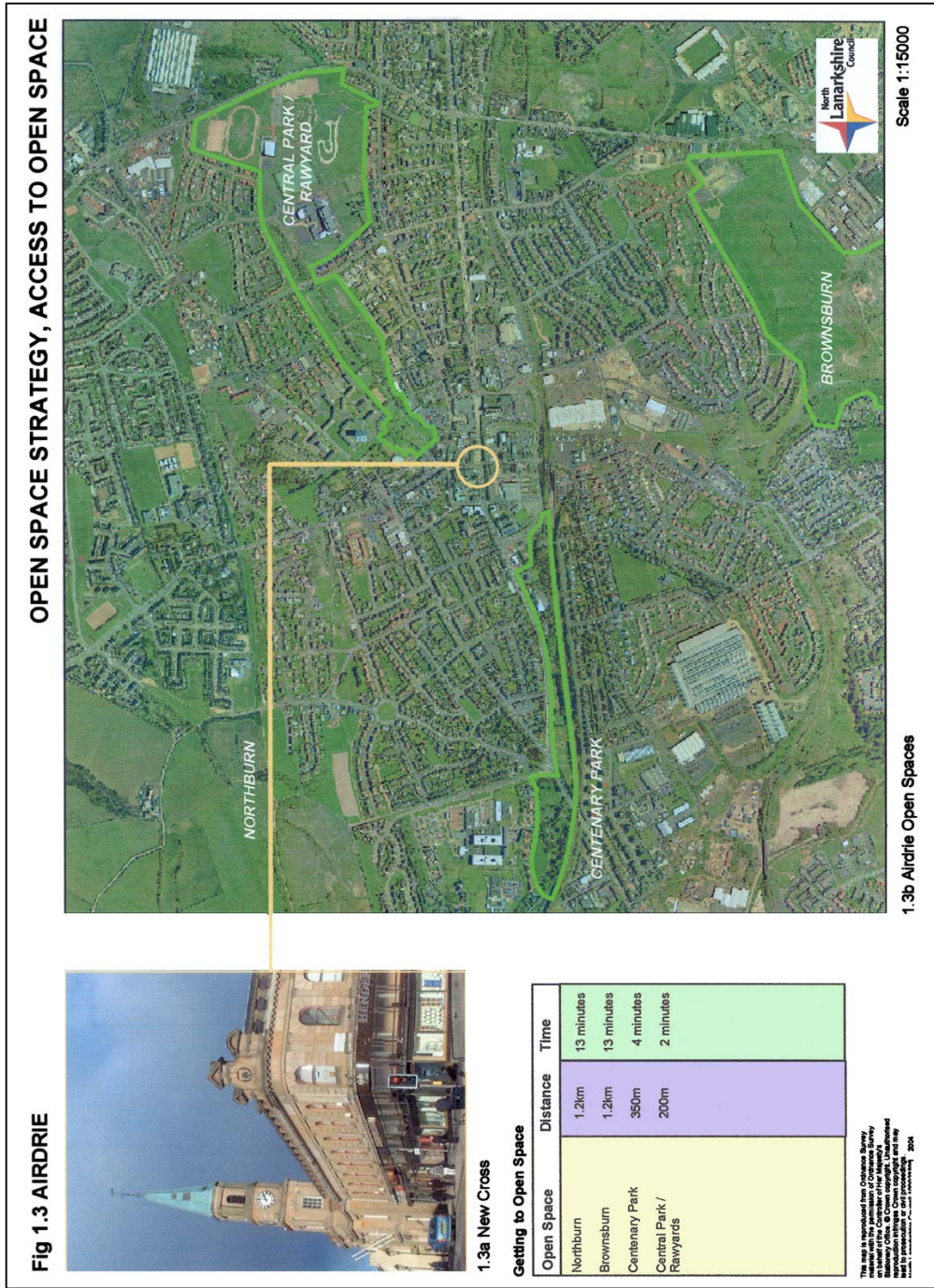
APPENDIX 2.

FIGURE 1.2 (COATBRIDGE)



APPENDIX 2.

FIGURE 1.3 (AIRDRIE)



APPENDIX 3.

North Lanarkshire Open Spaces - Key Funding Opportunities

National Lottery Programmes				
Funding Organisation	Grant Programme	Objectives/Comments	Grant Size	Conditions/Contact
The Big Lottery		<p>On 1st June 2004, the Big Lottery was established to form a new grant provider through the merger of the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund.</p> <p>Consultation is currently being undertaken in relation to the development of this grant programme – due to be completed on 30th September 2004.</p>		www.biglotteryfund.org.uk
New Opportunities Fund	Transforming Your Space	<p>Projects to improve local environments.</p> <p>Particularly focused on most disadvantaged communities</p>	£20,000- £300,000	<p>Closes March 2005</p> <p>Encourages applications from community groups or organisations representing communities.</p> <p>Requires match-funding</p> <p>www.forward-scotland.org.uk</p>
The Community Fund	Grants for medium sized/large projects	Aims to fund projects that help people who face severe, long-term, difficult to tackle disadvantage.	£500 - £250,000	Applications accepted from charities, voluntary and community organisations only.

				www.community-fund.org.uk
Heritage Lottery Fund	Provides a range of programmes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Parks Initiative • Heritage Grants • Landscape Partnership • Townscape Heritage Initiative • Your Heritage • Local Heritage Initiative (SNH) 	Aims of Programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to encourage more people to be involved and make decisions about their heritage; • to conserve and enhance the UK's diverse heritage; • to ensure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage 	Various	Programme dependent www.hlf.org.uk
Sportscotland	Building for Sport	Supports the provision and upgrading of sports facilities for the general community	£10,000 - £200,000 (for open space community facilities)	Provides up to 50% for projects (70% for priority areas – SIPs) www.sportscotland.org.uk
Scottish Arts Council	Provides a range of programmes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Grants • Arts in the Community • Access and Participation 	Programmes aim to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and improve the knowledge, understanding and practice of the arts • Increase accessibility of the arts to the public 	Various	Programme dependent www.scottisharts.org.uk
Awards For All	Awards For All	Provides funding support for community groups	£500-5000	www.awardsforall.org.uk
Grant Schemes				
Funding Organisation	Grant Programme	Objectives	Grant Size	Conditions/Contact
Forestry	Scottish Forestry Grant	Creation and management of woods and	60-90% Costs +	Grant based upon management

Commission	Scheme	forests to provide economic, environmental and social benefit.	(£2000-5000 locational premium)	activity www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland
Forestry Commission	Central Scotland Forest Locational Premium	Creation of woods to provide social, environmental and economic benefits to the communities in the Central Scotland Forest	Top up grant for SFGS	Annual competition for grants www.csft.org.uk
Forestry Commission	Woods In And Around Towns Challenge Fund	Improving the quality of existing urban woodlands	Top up grant for SFGS	Annual competition for grants. Woodland must be within 1Km of urban area (3000+ population) www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland
Scottish Natural Heritage	Grant programmes for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities • Land Managers • Education 	Grants are available for a wide range of projects which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve the conservation of species, habitats and landscapes • promote public enjoyment of the natural heritage • increase awareness and understanding of the natural heritage 	Up to 50% of costs	Grant/Programme dependent www.snh.org.uk
Coalfield Regeneration Trust	Transitional Programme	Main Grants of transitional programme fully allocated. Limited Funding for Bridging the Gap Programme. CRT hope to establish new 3 year funding programme from April 2005 – linked to	Bridging the Gap <£10,000	Activity restricted to Coalfield Wards.

		community planning partnership work within Coalfield Wards.		
Scottish Executive	Community Environmental Renewal Scheme (Aggregates Levy)	Provides support for projects that will improve the local environment of communities affected by quarrying. CERS offers grants to projects that involve the local community and can demonstrate local social or economic benefits	£100,000 over 3 Years	Activity restricted to addressing impact of quarrying and distance of project location from existing/historic quarries. www.forward-scotland.org.uk
Various	Landfill Tax Credit Scheme	The Landfill Tax Credit Scheme encourages Landfill Operators to support a wide range of environmental projects by giving them a 90 per cent tax credit against their donations to Environmental Bodies. Landfill Tax Credit awards can be obtained directly through landfill operators or more usually through Distributive Environmental Bodies such as Biffaward, SITA Environmental Trust or Shanks First Fund.	Various.	Programmes and conditions are dependent upon specific Distributive Environmental Body. Organisations receiving Landfill Tax Credit awards must first be registered as an Environmental Body with Entrust. www.ltcs.org.uk
Lanarkshire Keyfund Ltd.	Lanarkshire Keyfund/ Environmental Keyfund	Provides funding to support community and social economy organisations focused on delivering community benefit and tackling social and economic disadvantage.	< £30,000	Open to applicants not able to secure mainstream EU funding support. Projects require to be linked to economic outputs. www.northlan.gov.uk

Charitable Trusts				
Funding Organisation	Grant Programme	Objectives	Grant Size	Conditions/Contact
Charitable Trusts	Non-specific	A number of charitable trusts provide funding and grants focused on a range of issues such as the development of community greenspace, promoting environmental justice, enhancing biodiversity etc. Levels of funding support by grant making trusts is variable ranging from small grants provided by organisations such as the Scottish Community Foundation to large scale environment focused grants provided by organisations such as the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation.	Various	Primarily applicable to charities and community organisations only. Details of Charitable Trusts are obtainable within the UK Directory of Grant making Trusts.

APPENDIX 4.

North Lanarkshire Open Space Strategy – Steering Group 2004

	Name	Department	Position	Involvement
1	vacant	P&E	Team Leader – Environmental Projects	Core Group/Steering Group
2	Lyndsay Noble	P&E	Senior Planner	Core Group/Steering Group
3	John Turnbull	Community Services	Countryside & Landscape Services Manager	Core Group/Steering Group
4	Ken Forbes	Community Services	Open Space and Cemeteries Manager	Core Group/Steering Group
5	Shiona MacPhail	Community Services	Urban Parks Development Manager	Core Group/Steering Group
6	Derek Taylor	P&E	Planning Assistant	Core Group/Steering Group
7	Simon Carey	Chief Executive's	Policy Planner	Steering Group
8	Blane Dodds	Community Services	Sport & Recreation Manager - Operations	Steering Group
9	Gus Ferguson	Social Services	Service Co-ordinator	Steering Group
10	Craig McIntyre	P&E	For Team Leader – Local Plans	Steering Group
11	David McLay	P&E	Policy Officer Economic Development	Steering Group
12	Jonathan Smith	Housing and Property	Partnership Manager	Steering Group
13	Jim Watson	P&E	Service Manager Roads	Steering Group
14	Andy Young	Housing and Property	Group Manager - Valuation & Cartographic Services	Steering Group
15	Paul Duncan	Community Services	Ground Maintenance Manager	Steering Group
16	Vicky Abernethy	Community Services	Conservation & Greening Manager	Steering Group
17	John White	Community Services	Land Records Manager	Steering Group
18	Terry Taylor	Community Services	Landscape Services Manager	Steering Group
19	John French	Education	Advisor	Steering Group
	Name	Organisation	Position	
20	Mike Batley	CSFT		Steering Group
21	Graham Patrick	Homes for Scotland		Steering Group
22	Gabe Docherty	NHS Lanarkshire		Steering Group
23	Anne Graham	SEL		Steering Group
24	Maggie Botham	SNH		Steering Group
25	Inspector Derek Brown	Strathclyde Police	Inspector	Steering Group

Members in 2003

Cathy Johnston	P&E
Fraser Carlin	P&E
Ruth Jackson	P&E
Steve Luker	SEL