


CAPITA



Killingworth Moor Open Space Assessment

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Quality Management

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1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Killingworth Moor, along with Murton Gap, has been identified as a suggested strategic allocation within the emerging North Tyneside Local Plan, as a key strategic site to contribute towards the borough's objectively assessed needs for housing provision. Ensuring that development at this suggested site creates safe, sustainable and attractive places for existing and future residents is therefore of crucial importance to the future of North Tyneside as a whole.

1.1.2 This requires a thorough and robust understanding the impacts and requirements of proposed development at this suggested site and a range of studies are proposed to for this purpose. This Open Space Assessment is part of this process. Open Space Assessments outline the quantum and quality of existing open spaces in the area and the amount needed to meet demand created by new development.

1.1.3 As specified in the NPPF¹, the planning process requires that Open Space Assessments are prepared for proposals for development on public open space. The Killingworth Moor suggested site is largely farmland and is not designated public open space. However, an assessment is deemed necessary to ensure that new residents in the area are provided with sufficient open space and that they do not create an over-demand of existing open space in the wider area. This approach is advocated in Chapter 8 *Promoting healthy communities* of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (March 2012), as stated in paragraph 128:

“Access to good quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities. The planning system has a role in helping to create an environment where activities are made easier and public health can be improved.”

1.2 This Open Space Assessment

1.2.1 This Assessment will contain the following:

1.2.2 Planning policy and guidance context

1.2.2.1 This section will review the national and local planning policy context relevant to open space provision in relation to residential development. This would cover the National Planning Policy Framework, the National Planning Policy Guidance and the emerging Local Plan.

1.2.2.2 North Tyneside Council also has a Green Space Strategy (2015), an Allotment Strategy (2009) and a Playing Pitch Strategy (2013) that serve as

¹ National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, March 2012

guidance. The Green Space Strategy recommends locally derived standards for open spaces and informs appropriate policy in the merging Local Plan. All documents will be reviewed for their position on open space provision for residential developments.

1.2.3 Assessment of existing open space

1.2.3.1 An assessment of the existing open space in the vicinity of Killingworth Moor will be undertaken. This will look at the typologies of open spaces defined in the Council's Green Space Strategy (plus playing pitches and allotments), the quality of them, their locations and their quality. The typologies are:

- Equipped Areas for Play
- Parks
- Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces
- Playing Pitches
- Allotments
- Amenity Green Space

1.2.3.2 The existing open space has been reviewed in the context of the adopted policy, guidance and local provision standards that have been examined as set out above. A conclusion will be provided regarding the current situation.

1.2.3.3 Plans are also be provided illustrating the existing open space and its quality.

1.2.4 Needs arising from proposed development

1.2.4.1 Taking into account the policy position and local provision standards, the current situation on open space provision, and the indicative scale of development proposed at Killingworth Moor, a suggested open space provision for the suggested site will be set out. This will be for each of the typologies listed above. Recommendations will be provided regarding how open space provision could be achieved, such as through suggested broad locations for new provision or financial contributions to improving the quality and capacity of existing open space.

1.2.4.2 This process will involve consultation with North Tyneside Council service delivery teams – particularly Sport and Leisure, and Horticulture and Parks.

2 Planning Policy and Guidance Context

2.1 National Planning Policy and Guidance

2.1.1 Open space is described in the NPPF² as:

All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.

2.1.2 Central government published the NPPF in March 2012. At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, with the planning system performing an economic role, social role and environmental role simultaneously.

2.1.3 The NPPF, in paragraph 73, advocates the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation to contribute to the health and well-being of communities. The NPPF does not seek to set any specific national standards, but advises that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.

2.1.4 In 2014, Central government released Planning Practice Guidance. The guidance on "Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space"³ is specific to the management of green space in the planning process, and states "Open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space". "Health and wellbeing"⁴ and "Natural Environment"⁵ also have relevance.

2.2 Local Planning Policy and Guidance

Local Plan

2.2.5 North Tyneside Council is currently preparing a Local Plan, which will replace the UDP⁶. The Local Plan is proposed to be adopted in early 2017. The Local Plan will provide a planning policy framework to help achieve sustainable development: the core principle underlying planning, appropriate to the distinctive characteristics

² National Planning Policy Framework, DCLG, 2012

³ Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space, Planning Practice Guidance, DCLG, 2014

⁴ Health and wellbeing, Planning Practice Guidance, DCLG, 2014

⁵ Natural Environment, Planning Practice Guidance, DCLG, 2014

⁶ North Tyneside Council Unitary Development Plan, 2002

and needs of North Tyneside. It will set out the development needs of the Borough and provide guidance on how they can be met. The priorities that the Local Plan will address include:

- The homes and jobs needed in the Borough.
- Retail, leisure and other commercial development.
- Infrastructure provision for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water, flood risk, coastal change, minerals and energy.
- Provision of health facilities, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Conservation and enhancement of natural and built environment.

2.2.6 The most recent consultation draft version of the Local Plan⁷ was published in February 2015 and contained policy DM8.3 *Green Space Provision and Standards* that was informed by the findings of the Green Space Strategy⁸. It sets out the distances all households should aim to be located within parks, semi-natural green spaces, general open space and children's equipped play areas.

2.2.7 DM8.3 is not adopted policy. The current planning policy in North Tyneside is contained within the UDP. As this report will inform suggested site allocations within the emerging Local Plan, it is not considered appropriate to look to the current North Tyneside UDP that it will supersede.

Green Space Strategy

2.2.7 As required by national planning policy, the Council have undertaken an assessment of both the quality and quantity of their open space provision. The details of this assessment form the Green Space Strategy, which is an updated version of a Strategy that was first approved by the Council in April 2007 and updated in December 2008. In addition to providing an audit of provision across North Tyneside, the Strategy also provides information on a ward level, and sets a number of objectives for the future provision of open space.

2.2.8 The majority of these objectives relate to distance thresholds between households and a given type of Green Space, summarised as below. Generally, the principle is that new development should sustain or improve the current performance levels as recorded in the Green Space Strategy.

- **Objective 1: Quality and Value of Green Spaces**

All green spaces should be at least of medium quality and medium value.

- **Objective 2: Equipped Areas for Play**

All households should be within an acceptable distance to some kind of equipped play area (local area for play (LAP), local equipped area for play (LEAP),

⁷ Local Plan Consultation Draft, North Tyneside Council, 2015

⁸ Green Space Strategy, North Tyneside Council, 2015

neighbourhood equipped area for play (NEAP) and a strategic equipped area for play (SEAP)). This will be calculated using distance thresholds⁹.

- **Objective 3: Parks**

All households should be within 900 metres straight line walking distance of a park.

- **Objective 4: Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces**

All households should be within:

- 300m of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size
- 2km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size
- 5km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size
- 10km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 500ha in size

- **Objective 5: Playing Pitches**

The standards for quality, quantity and management set out in the North Tyneside Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-23 should be followed.

- **Objective 6: Other Outdoor Facilities**

A range of outdoor facilities should be available within an appropriate travelling distance for all.

- **Objective 7: General Standard**

All properties should be within 300 metres of at least 0.1ha of accessible, free and usable green space. It is likely that informal green spaces will also fall into another typology discussed in this Strategy. All spaces should first and foremost be assessed under the provisions of their individual typology.

- **Objective 8: Allotments**

North Tyneside's allotments will be provided, maintained and managed in line with the North Tyneside Allotment Strategy 2009-15 and its associated Good Allotment Standard.

- **Objective 9: Design of Green Spaces**

Green spaces should be designed to:

- Be accessible to all;
- Ensure their facilities that are accessible to all;
- Maximise safety and minimise the potential for anti-social behaviour through maximising casual surveillance, preventing any sense of isolation or insecurity and using appropriate lighting;
- Minimise any detrimental impact on the amenity of nearby residents;
- Deliver biodiversity benefit through integrated habitat areas within the space and its borders to support and allow movement of wildlife;
- Promote, where appropriate, the use of sustainable transport corridors such as wagonways, cycleways and bridle paths;

⁹ See page 13 for distance thresholds

- Protect and, where appropriate, enhance any green space that is of heritage value in its own right, or that is important to the setting of any heritage asset;
- Implement, where appropriate, flood storage or sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) to negate flood risk issues.

- **Objective 10: Green Space Provision Associated With New Housing Provision**

Within new residential developments, green space will be provided to meet the standards of this Strategy and secured by planning obligations (delivered through Section 106 Agreements) as set out in the Planning Obligations SPD.

- **Objective 11: Management and Maintenance**

No scheme that creates new green space or improves existing should proceed until the funding to secure its maintenance and management has been identified.

Where funding will be secured by planning obligations, the guidelines set out in the Planning Obligations SPD will be followed.

- **Objective 12: Loss of Green Space**

Any proposal that would result in the loss of green space will be determined in accordance with paragraph 74 of the NPPF.

Playing Pitch Strategy

2.2.9 The Playing Pitch Strategy¹⁰ provides a framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitches and ancillary facilities over the next ten years. It covers the sports of football, rugby, cricket and artificial grass pitches (AGPs) and:

- provides an investment strategy for playing pitch facilities;
- provides a framework for all playing pitch providers, including the public, private and third sectors;
- addresses the needs of all identified pitch sports within the local area;
- addresses issues of accessibility, quality and management with regard to pitch provision.

2.2.1.1 A summary of the Strategy's Borough-wide findings are as follows:

- The surplus of senior football pitches and a deficit of mini pitches. (This includes school sites identified as having existing community usage. It does not include school sites that do not have or allow community use. Pitches on sites not permitting community usage are difficult for organisations such as NTC to gain access).
- The improvement of poor quality football pitches and ancillary facilities to increase capacity rather than providing new provision to satisfy current demand.
- The implications of 9v9 football on current and future provision.

¹⁰ Playing Pitch Strategy 2013-2023, North Tyneside Council, 2013

- Need for access to at least one better quality cricket pitch to service Tynemouth CC.
- The requirement for new AGP provision to satisfy any potential future growth in hockey and training facilities for other clubs.
- The need to resurface the AGP located at Marden Bridge Sports Centre.
- The need to encourage usage of sites with no community use or those that are under used to accommodate overplay of rugby pitches.
- The lack of interest or willingness of certain education sites to accommodate community use.

Allotment Strategy

2.2.1.2 The North Tyneside Allotment Strategy 2009-2015¹¹ sets out the Council's commitment and vision for allotments. The Strategy identifies:

- What the Council wants to achieve through the allotment service for current and future plot holders and other North Tyneside residents,
- How the Council will work with plot holders, site associations, members of the local community and other voluntary and statutory organisations to make its vision a reality,
- The resource implications of the Strategy and how the Council plans to attract those resources.

2.2.1.3 The number of allotments required in any area is a function of demand. The Allotment Strategy acknowledges this and sets out the supply and demand within the Borough.

2.2.1.4 The Allotment Team has developed their own Good Allotment Standard that they use to undertake their own assessments. The Standard considers if allotments have good access, good security, well-maintained paths, adequate water provision and are free from neglected plots.

¹¹ Allotment Strategy 2009-2015, North Tyneside Council, 2009

3 Assessment of existing open space and needs arising from proposed development

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The purpose of this section of the report is to provide an assessment of both the quality and quantity of existing open space provision in the locality of the suggested site, with reference to typologies of open spaces defined in the Council's Green Space Strategy (plus playing pitches and allotments), as follows:

- Equipped Areas for Play
- Parks
- Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces
- General Green Space
- Playing Pitches
- Allotments

3.1.2 The Green Space Strategy provides information on a number of spatial levels. In this regard, the suggested site falls within the Killingworth ward, which lies within the northwest area of North Tyneside Borough. The suggested site's boundary and ward boundaries are shown on Map 1. Wherever possible, this assessment of open space provision will provide information on a ward level, in addition to considering provision across the northwest sub-area and the whole Borough.

3.1.3 At present, the indicative scale of development at Killingworth Moor is up to 2,000 homes and 17 hectares of employment land. The distribution of this development around the suggested site is yet to be determined.

3.1.4 Taking into account the policy position and local provision standards, the current situation on open space provision, and the indicative scale of development proposed at Killingworth Moor, a suggested open space provision for the suggested site will be set out. This will be for each of the typologies listed above.

3.1.5 Recommendations will be provided regarding how open space provision could be achieved, such as through suggested locations for new provision or financial contributions to improving the quality and capacity of existing open space.

3.1.6 This has involved the input of North Tyneside Council service delivery teams – particularly Sport and Leisure, and Horticulture and Parks.

3.2 Equipped areas for play

3.2.1 Equipped areas for play are those areas for children with equipment for them to play on such as slides, swings and climbing frames. In North Tyneside, there are several categories of equipped areas for play depending on their size: Local area for play (LAP), Local equipped areas for play (LEAP), Neighbourhood equipped areas for play (NEAP) and Strategic equipped areas for play (SEAP).

3.2.2 The following is included within the Green Space Strategy (Objective 2) and the emerging Local Plan (policy DM8.3):

Equipped Areas for Play

All households should be within an acceptable distance to some kind of equipped play area (local area for play (LAP), local equipped area for play (LEAP), neighbourhood equipped area for play (NEAP) and a strategic equipped area for play (SEAP)). This will be calculated using the following distance thresholds:

<i>Play Area Type</i>	<i>Min. Size of Play Area</i>	<i>Min. No. Of Play Units</i>	<i>Radial Straight Line Distance</i>
LAP	100m ²	<i>Designated playspace with 4 or less play units</i>	120m
LEAP (1)	400m ²	5	240m
LEAP (2)	600m ²	6	360m
LEAP (3)	800m ²	7	480m
NEAP (1)	1,000m ²	8	600m
NEAP (2)	1,200m ²	9	750m
NEAP (3)	1,400m ²	10	900m
SEAP	1,600m ²	11	+1,000m

3.2.3 How the Borough is currently performing with regards to these standards is illustrated in Map 2, along with the approximate boundary of the suggested site outlined and shaded in red. The current Borough average is 85.2% of households are within a suitable catchment of an equipped area for play. The Killingworth ward performs slightly better than this at 87.4%.

3.2.4 Map 2 shows that the much of the southern part of the suggested site falls within the catchment of the NEAP 3 at Bamburgh Road, Palmersville. The Green Space Strategy expects that all green spaces be of at least medium quality and medium value, and the results of such an assessment are illustrated in Map 8. The playsite at Bamburgh Road has been assessed as being of at least medium quality and medium value (as shown on the map as green in colour). The presence of the A19 and the barrier it presents means that the northern part of the suggested site would not benefit from its proximity to playsites in the Backworth area. This however, could change depending on what, if any, access provisions were put in place to cross the A19 in this location.

3.2.5 New development should sustain or improve the percentage of households within catchments of green spaces and ideally would improve them. It is clear from Map 2 that new equipped play provision would be required in the northern part of the suggested site. It would seem unlikely, unless new development was very constrained within the southern part of the suggested site, that improving existing off-site provision would not be sufficient as the catchments would not reach far enough.

3.2.6 It is suggested that a larger equipped area for play, such as a NEAP or SEAP would be required within the north-central part of the suggested site in order to ensure sufficient provision across the suggested site. The suggested site is not uniform in shape, with the very northern part towards Killingworth Way some distance away from the bulk of the suggested site. New households in this area may not fall within the catchment of even the largest of new playsites. Should this be the case, consideration should be given to the provision of a smaller playsite in this area.

3.3 Parks

3.3.1 Within the Green Space Strategy, parks are defined as providing accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. They could include landscaping with a mixture of colours, scents and sounds, and could contain seats, paths, shelters and toilets. They could be urban parks, country parks or formal gardens.

3.3.2 The Green Space Strategy (Objective 2) and the emerging Local Plan (policy DM8.3) expect that all households should be within 900 metres straight line walking distance of a park.

3.3.3 How the Borough is currently performing with regards to these standards is illustrated in Map 3, along with the approximate boundary of the suggested site outlined and shaded in red.

3.3.4 The current Borough average is 78.7% of households are within a suitable catchment of a park. The Killingworth ward performs better than this at 98.3% due to the presence of Killingworth Village Park and Killingworth Lakeside Park, both to the west of the suggested site, and the Rising Sun Country Park to the south. All these parks are of acceptable quality and value (see Map 8). Map 3 shows however, that the ward's positive performance would suffer should there be no further parks provision within the suggested site to serve new residents.

3.3.5 Parks provision standards are relevant to households; part of this suggested site is expected to be developed for employment uses and would not necessarily be expected to be within the catchment. The desired location for the employment uses will therefore help to determine the location of park provision. For example, should the employment uses be located to the eastern part of the suggested site, park provision should be sited more towards the west in order to reach more residents, and vice-versa.

3.3.6 The space within the suggested site that does not fall within the catchment of an existing park stretches from the most southern part of the suggested site towards Great Lime Road to the north by Killingworth Way. To provide one park within the development to serve all these areas is unlikely to be achievable (the park would have to take up most of the suggested site's land). It would be more appropriate to make available several spaces throughout the site. Parks need not be significant in scale to fulfil their function: Northumberland Square in North Shields (TYNEM036 on Map 3) and Crawford Park in Monkseaton (MONS 011) are smaller in scale than other parks but provide seats, grass, planting, walkways and opportunity for events (Victorian Christmas Market at Northumberland Square) and sports (Bowling Green at Crawford Park).

3.4 Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces

3.4.1 The Green Space Strategy considers natural and semi-natural green spaces as those that offer wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental education and awareness. The Strategy looks to Natural England for further advice; they define natural spaces as "places where human control and activities are not intensive so that a feeling of naturalness is allowed to predominate" and suggest that those areas designated for their biodiversity quality, woodlands, country parks and open land could fall within the definition¹²

3.4.2 The following provision standards in the Green Space Strategy (Objective 4) and the emerging Local Plan (policy DM8.3) are based on the Natural England Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt)¹³, in which four sizes of space is set out. It is acknowledged that the standards can be difficult and sometimes impossible to achieve.

Natural and Semi-Natural Green Spaces

All households should be within:

- *300m of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size*
- *2km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size*
- *5km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size*
- *10km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 500ha in size*

3.4.3 How the Borough is currently performing with regards to these standards is illustrated in Maps 4, 5 and 6, along with the approximate boundary of the suggested site outlined and shaded in red.

3.4.4 The results of Households within 5km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 100ha in size are shown in Map 4. The Boroughwide average is that 75.8% households are within the acceptable catchment. The only space in the Borough within this size bracket is the Rising Sun Country Park. Its catchment

¹² Nature Nearby - Accessible Natural Greenspace Guidance, Natural England, 2010

¹³ *ibid.*

covers a great deal of the Borough, including the Killingworth ward, which has 100% coverage.

3.4.5 The results of Households within 2km of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 20ha in size are shown in Map 5. The Boroughwide average is that 74.5% households are within the acceptable catchment. A large section of the most built-up part of the Killingworth ward falls outside of any catchment and so have a percentage household coverage of 64.9%. Looking at Map 5 however shows that the majority of the suggested site would fall within existing catchment at Holywell and the Rising Sun, both of which are of suitable quality and value. A small section of the suggested site, by Killingworth Way, does not fall within this catchment and it is unlikely to be possible that 20ha of natural green space could be provided either within or off site. This does not seem unreasonable given that the provision standards are acknowledged to be difficult to fulfil, the high level of coverage across the suggested site otherwise and the opportunity that exists to provide high quality smaller green spaces in that particular area of the suggested site – see below.

3.4.6 The results of Households within 300m of a natural or semi-natural green space of at least 2ha in size are shown in Map 6. The Boroughwide average is that 35.8% households are within the acceptable catchment. The total for the Killingworth ward is 62.5%. The suggested site benefits from some of this coverage, namely from the west and much of which associated with former wagonways. A former wagonway runs through this suggested site and this could be seen as an opportunity to provide a corridor of semi-natural green space through the suggested site. Similarly, the watercourse through the southern part of the suggested site could provide similar. Together, whilst not covering the whole suggested site, would go towards providing a good level of access that would ensuring that percentage coverage across the ward and Borough would remain and perhaps improve.

3.4.7 As discussed above, it is officially acknowledged that the provision targets are difficult and sometimes impossible to achieve. For this reason, the coverage of natural and semi-natural green space of at least 500ha and its suggested 10km catchment is not mapped within the Green Space Strategy. The Town Moor in Newcastle just about falls within that distance (for parts of North Tyneside) but is less than 500ha in size. It would appear very unlikely that a new 500ha public semi-natural or natural open space could be created nearer to or in North Tyneside.

3.5 General Green Space

3.5.1 The Green Space Strategy includes a “general standard” for green space access; this covers areas that already serve a “main” purpose, such as those already discussed in this Assessment or those that do not have a main defined role but are still crucial in providing opportunity recreation and relaxation: activities such as jogging, sunbathing, dog walking, and children's play.

3.5.2 The Green Space Strategy (Objective 7) and the emerging Local Plan (policy DM8.3) expect that all properties should be within 300 metres of at least 0.1ha of

accessible, free and usable green space. 300 metres straight line walk equates to around five minute's journey time.

3.5.3 The standard acknowledges that all areas of the Borough, not just residential areas, require access to green space so that visitors and workers have spaces to relax and enjoy recreation in. For this reason the standard is based on all properties in the Borough, not just households. This is important to note for Killingworth Moor where the intention is to include some employment land.

3.5.4 How the Borough is currently performing with regards to these standards is illustrated in Map 7, along with the approximate boundary of the suggested site outlined and shaded in red.

3.5.5 The current Borough average is 97.9% of properties are within the acceptable catchment of accessible, free and usable green space. The Killingworth ward is similar with 97.4%.

3.5.6 Map 7 illustrates that much of the suggested site falls within the catchment of existing green space, all of which is of an acceptable quality (see Map 8). However more green space must be delivered within the central and most northern parts of the suggested site to ensure that the percentage of properties within catchments does not drop. It is likely that through fulfilling the requirements discussed elsewhere in the Assessment that sufficient open space will be provided; however should this not be the case, steps should be taken to deliver further green spaces in those areas where standards fall short.

3.6 Playing Pitches

3.6.1 North Tyneside Council has produced a Playing Pitch Strategy that for the period 2013 to 2023 provides a framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitches and ancillary facilities over the next ten years. It covers the sports of football, rugby, cricket and artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

3.6.2 There are several playing pitches within the vicinity of the suggested site, including Killingworth Young Peoples Club, which is identified as a Strategic Site in the Borough. Most of the suggested site is less than 2km away from the Club, with some parts only around 300m away. Strategic Sites are those that provide the most pitches (five or more) and have good quality ancillary car parking and changing facilities.

3.6.3 Within the Killingworth area, a need has been identified for a new AGP. The identified location for this is the Lakeside Leisure Centre in Killingworth Township, which has space for the pitch and already has in place the necessary ancillary facilities such as parking and changing rooms. Also identified as an issue around the Borough is the inability for some school fields to accommodate use outside of school hours. Any new schools included within the suggested site should be designed to accommodate community use.

3.6.4 Generally speaking, in order to accommodate current and future demand for playing pitches, the need is not to supply more but to improve those that exist. The following action points are put forward in the Playing Pitch Strategy for those pitches within the northwest area and some could be pursued in order to ensure new development at Killingworth Moor does not create a decline of playing pitch provision in the area. However, please note that these suggestions date from 2013 and as development plans evolve it would be prudent to continue dialogue with the Council's Sport and Leisure team.

Site	Issue	Suggested Action (at 2013)
Amberley Primary School	No community use of junior pitch but it is available. School reports lack of demand.	Work with schools to explore option of attracting community use.
East Palmersville Playing Field	Three average quality senior football pitches and one good quality junior pitch. Drainage was installed on one senior pitch when pavilion was built.	Work with club (Forest Hall Junior FC) to explore potential to improve the quality of the pitches which will increase the carrying capacity. Explore potential for additional mini pitch to be created at far end of site.
Killingworth Young Peoples Centre	Important central venue for mini soccer. Some drainage issues noted but generally good quality.	When possible support KYPC in continuing to provide a good standard of pitches.
Grasmere Primary School	No community use at present (contains a generic field). School now has Academy status.	Work with the School to explore options of marking a mini or junior pitch on site if required.
Southgate Playing Fields	One senior pitch with poor drainage due to high water table.	Consider potential to reconfigure to accommodate junior pitch provision.
East Palmersville FIT Playing Fields	Two senior pitches on site. Both of a poor quality. Site has poor drainage and playing surface. Problem of dog foul is highlighted.	Work with Forest Hall FC (as main user) to access funding in order to improve quality of the pitches, which will increase the carrying capacity.
George Stephenson Playing Fields	Site suffers from poor drainage due to a high underlying water table.	Consider potential to reconfigure to accommodate junior pitch provision and changing facilities. Any plans will need to improve drainage. Consider potential of providing an AGP on site (given grass pitch drainage issues) which could be shared by school and community.

3.7 Allotments

3.7.1 An allotment is generally defined as a plot of land rented to individuals so that they can grow fruit and vegetables for themselves and their families to eat.

3.7.2 North Tyneside Council has produced an Allotment Strategy that for the period 2009 to 2015 sets out the Council's commitment and vision for allotments. The Strategy identifies:

- What the Council wants to achieve through the allotment service for current and future plot holders and other North Tyneside residents,
- How the Council will work with plot holders, site associations, members of the local community and other voluntary and statutory organisations to make its vision a reality,
- The resource implications of the Strategy and how the Council plans to attract those resources.
- The supply of and demand for allotments within the Borough.

3.7.3 The Strategy sets out that there are 58 Council-owned sites containing a total of 1,870 plots. There are others that are privately owned. Within the Borough there are also a range of other food-growing initiatives including school allotments, allotment plots managed by voluntary/community organisations, community gardens, wildlife spaces and community-based horticultural projects.

3.7.4 Those allotments that could be described as being within the near area of the suggested site are as follows. They are shown on Maps 9 and 10.

Site	Number of plots	Number of Vacancies	Number of unlettable plots	Number on waiting list
Burradon Road, Burradon (no.7 on Map 9)	11	0	1	17
Moor View, Camperdown (no.8 on Map 9)	17	0	2	29
Castle Park, Killingworth Avenue, Backworth (no.9 on Map 10)	4	0	1	4
Clousden Drive, Forest Hall (no.12 on Map 9)	38	0	0	89
Means Drive, Burradon (no.21 on Map 9)	11	0	0	9
Letchwell, Letchwell Villas, Forest Hall	41	0	0	46

(no.17 on Map 9)				
Melrose Avenue, Backworth (no.22 on Map 10)	17	0	0	7
Springfield Park, Station Road, Forest Hall (no.35 on Map 9)	27	1	1	82

3.7.5 Therefore, whilst there are allotments in the area, they are already well over-subscribed. Information from the Allotments team and contained within the Council's Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan¹⁴ explains that Killingworth is one of the Borough's areas of greatest need for new allotment sites.

3.7.6 Analysis within the Allotment Strategy sets out that that at 2009 there were 1998 allotments and 1,515 residents on waiting lists, with 3,514 plots therefore needed to meet existing demand. Based on the then number of 93,620 households in the Borough, the level of demand was one standard size allotment (250 sqm) per 27 households. This demand was lower when just looking at the northwest of the Borough (one allotment per 41 households) although being that allotment users in this part of Killingworth could easier reach those in Backworth (in the northeast) than most of those in the northwest it would not be seen as representing an accurate portrayal of the situation for this particular area.

3.7.7 The delivery of one allotment per 27 households appears appropriate in this case to ensure that new homes do not worsen the current over-demand. This would equate for this suggested site, should 2,000 homes be delivered, 75 allotments. The Council's Allotment team have examined the existing allotment provision in the area. A small number of additional plots could be accommodated at Springfield Park (one plot), Camperdown (two plots) and Letchwell (one plot). Further development would be constrained by boundaries with neighbouring properties and it would not be possible to add extra plots to the majority of sites in the vicinity. Therefore consideration should be given to the provision of adequate allotment space within the new development.

3.7.8 The Planning Obligations SPD¹⁵, which was adopted prior to the publication of the Allotment Strategy, advises that once standards for allotment provision have been adopted by the Council and any shortfall in provision identified, an indicative developer contribution per dwelling type will be calculated and included within the Planning Obligations SPD at its first review.

3.8 Management and Maintenance

3.8.1 It is essential that any new open space provision or improvements to existing open spaces within or associated with the suggested site remains at the highest

¹⁴ Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan, North Tyneside Council, 2015

¹⁵ Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document, North Tyneside Council, 2009

quality and value to ensure they offer the best to their users. This can only be achieved through correct management and maintenance.

3.8.2 The Green Space Strategy recognises this and includes the following objective:

Objective 11: Management and Maintenance

No scheme that creates new green space or improves existing should proceed until the funding to secure its maintenance and management has been identified.

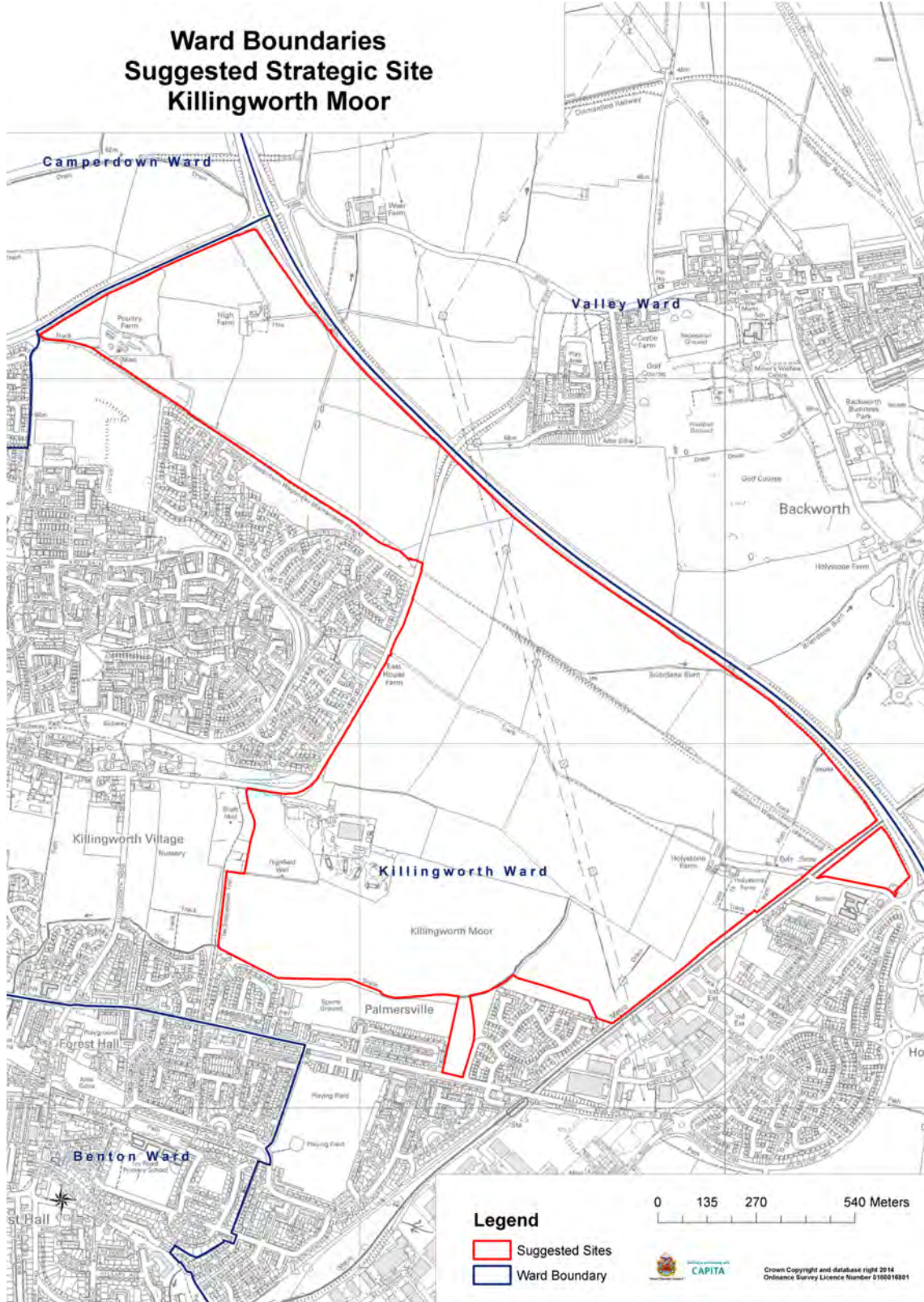
Where funding will be secured by planning obligations, the guidelines set out in the Planning Obligations SPD will be followed.

3.8.3 It is therefore necessary that prior to development, an agreement is reached with the developers and the Council that ensures sufficient funding and management can and will be resourced. This may be via a commuted sum from the developers, a residents' maintenance fee, an agreement that developers retain direct (or in-direct through a third party) responsibility for maintenance in perpetuity, or the formation of a residents' trust.

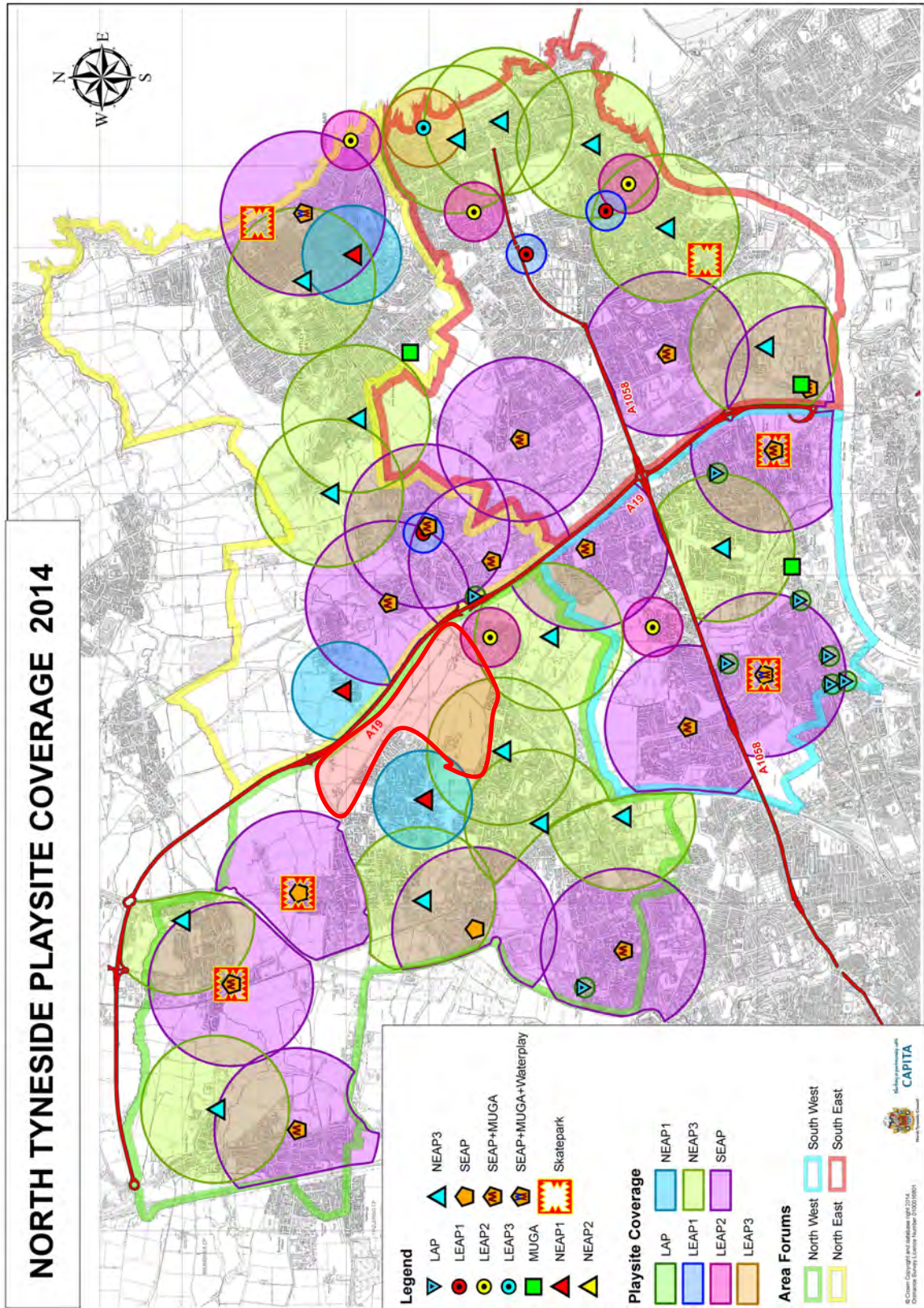
3.8.4 A management and maintenance plan can provide the clarity and reassurance for the local community about how the open space will remain safe and usable.

Maps

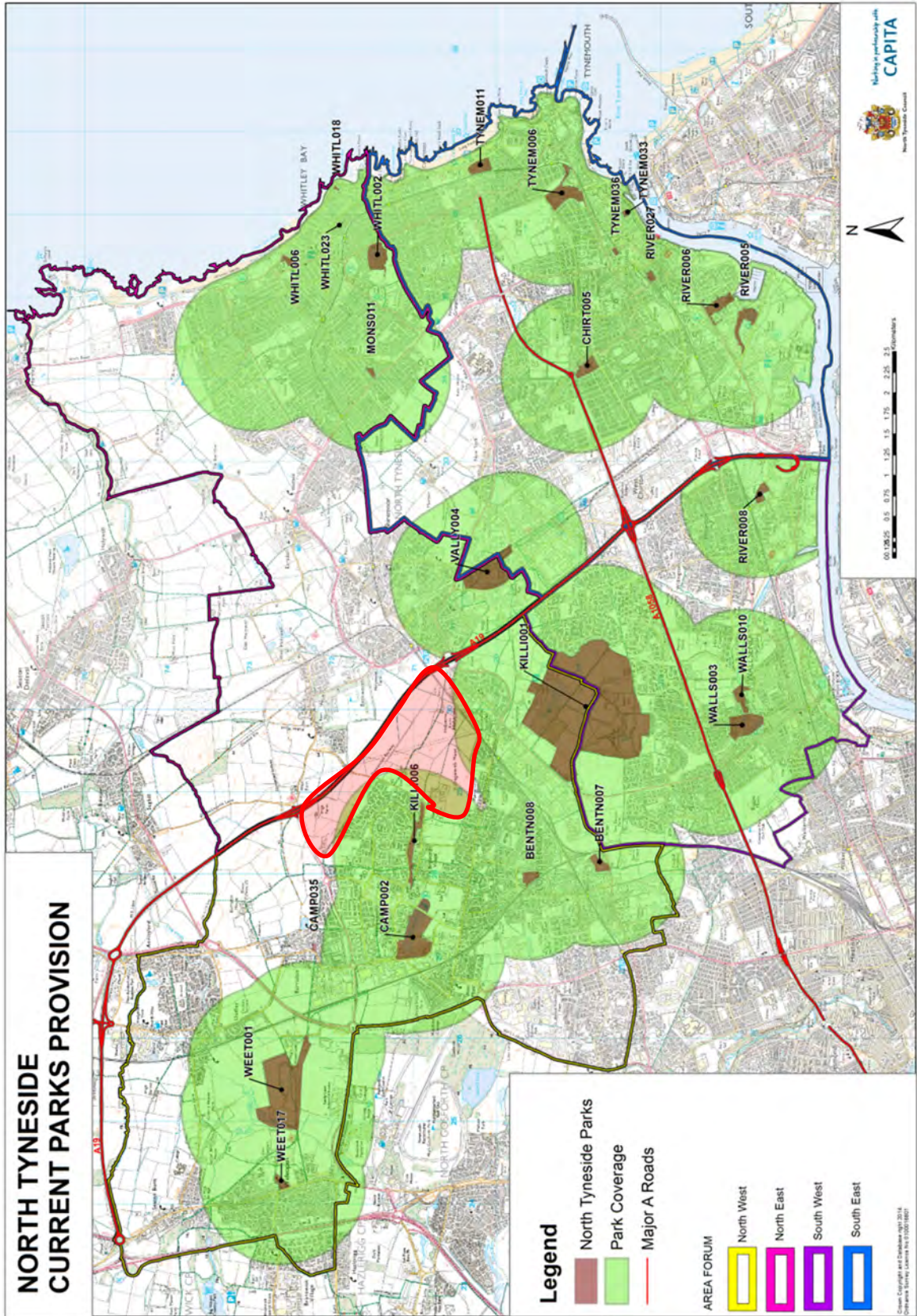
Map 1



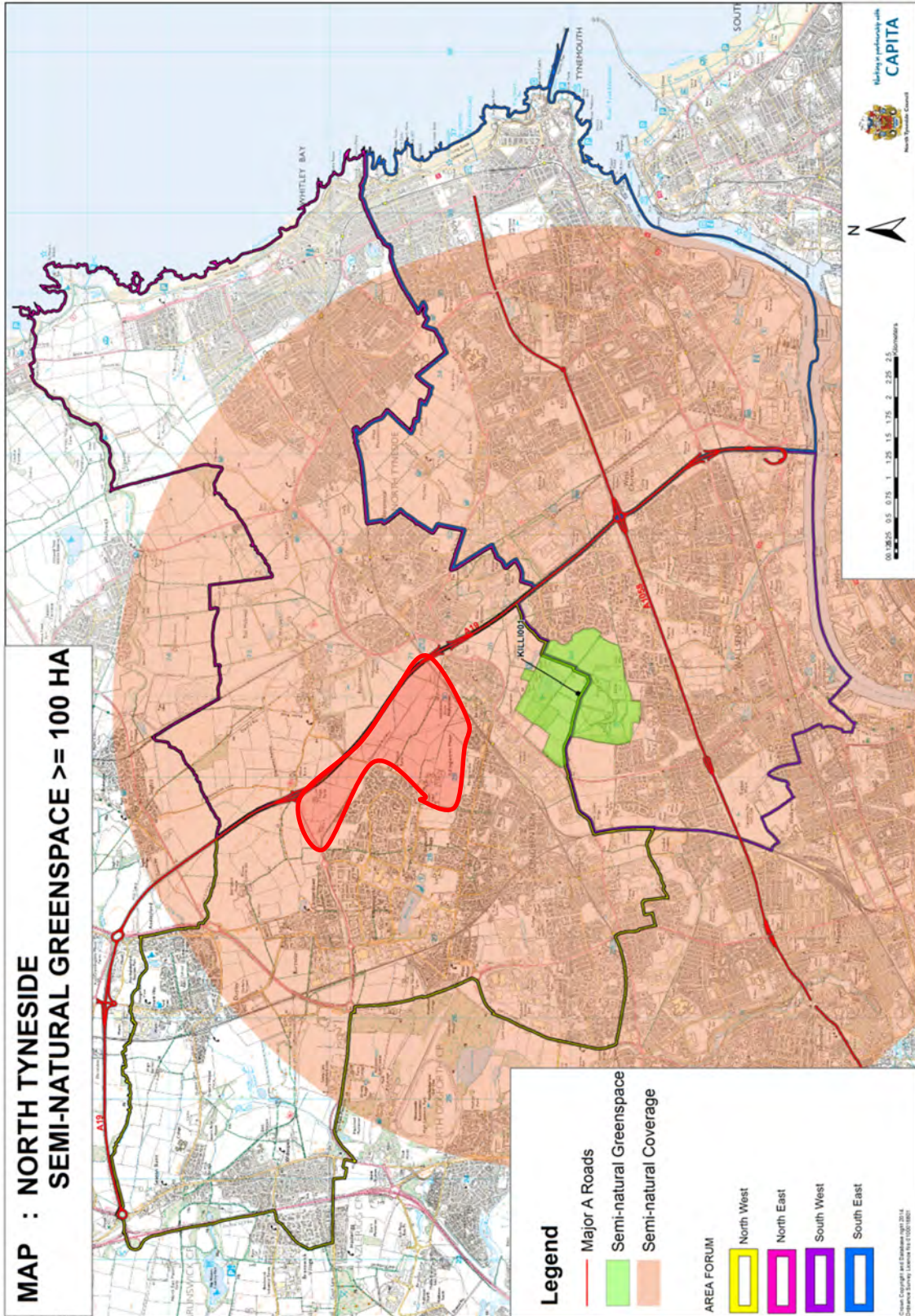
Map 2



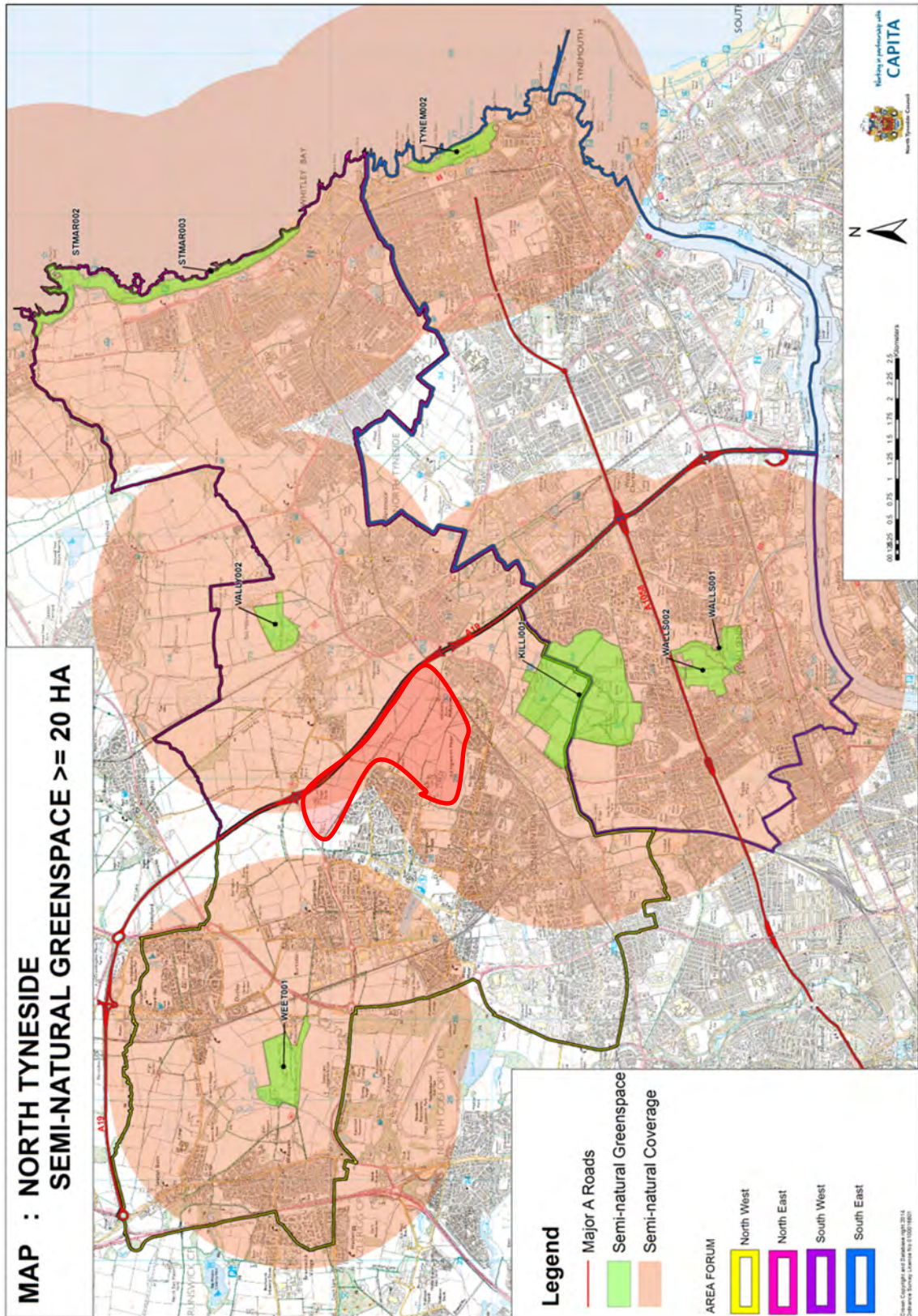
Map 3



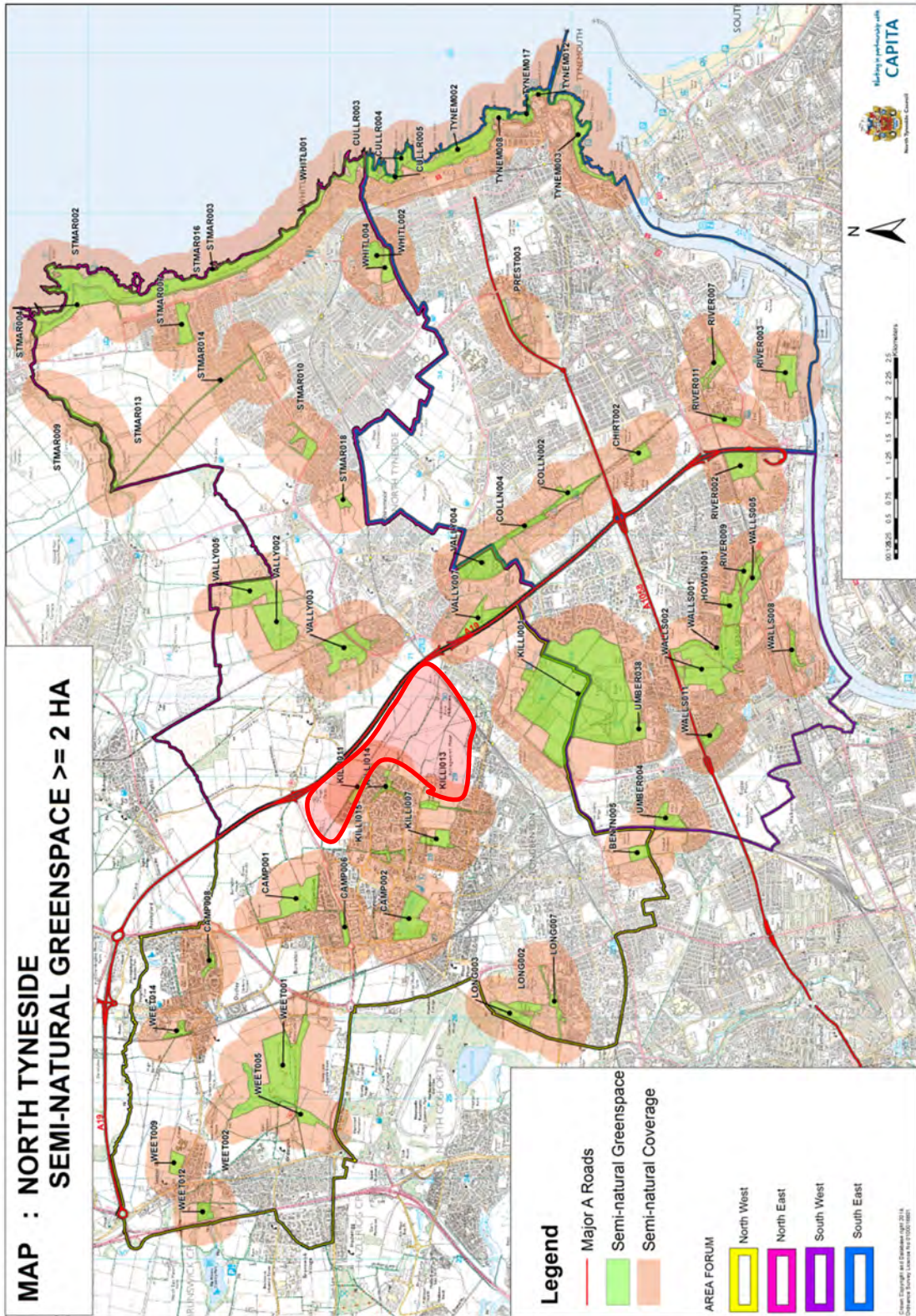
Map 4



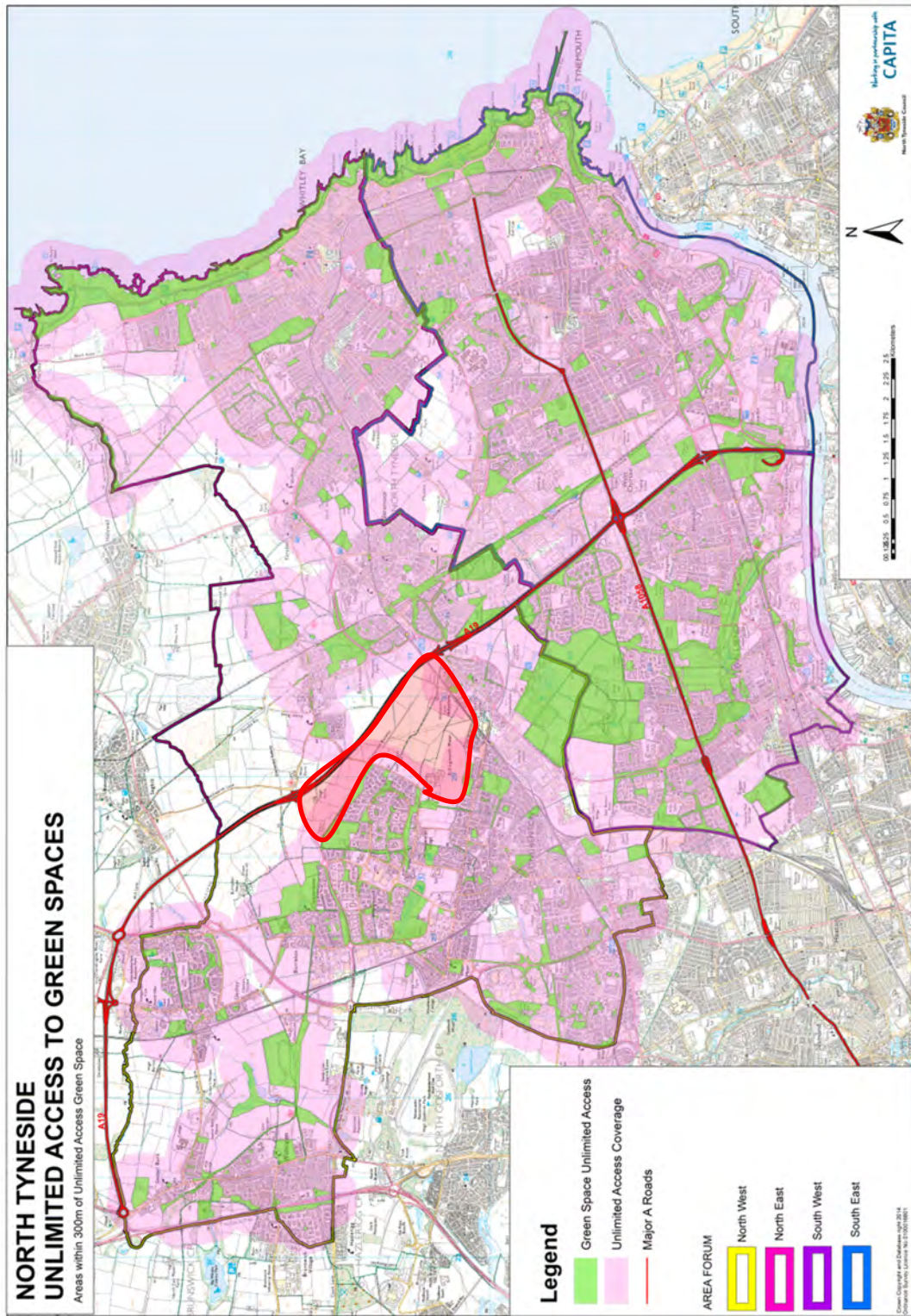
Map 5



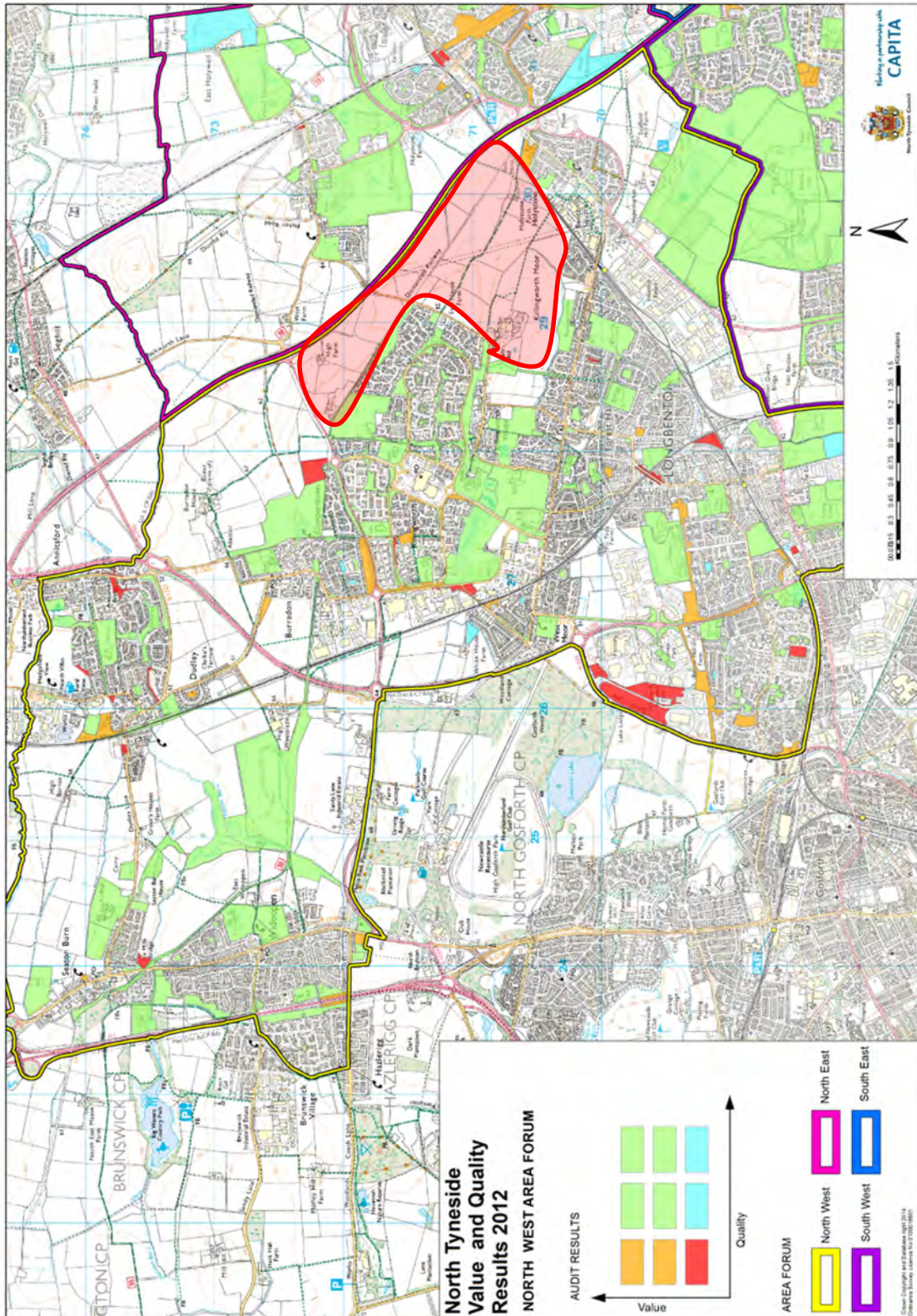
Map 6



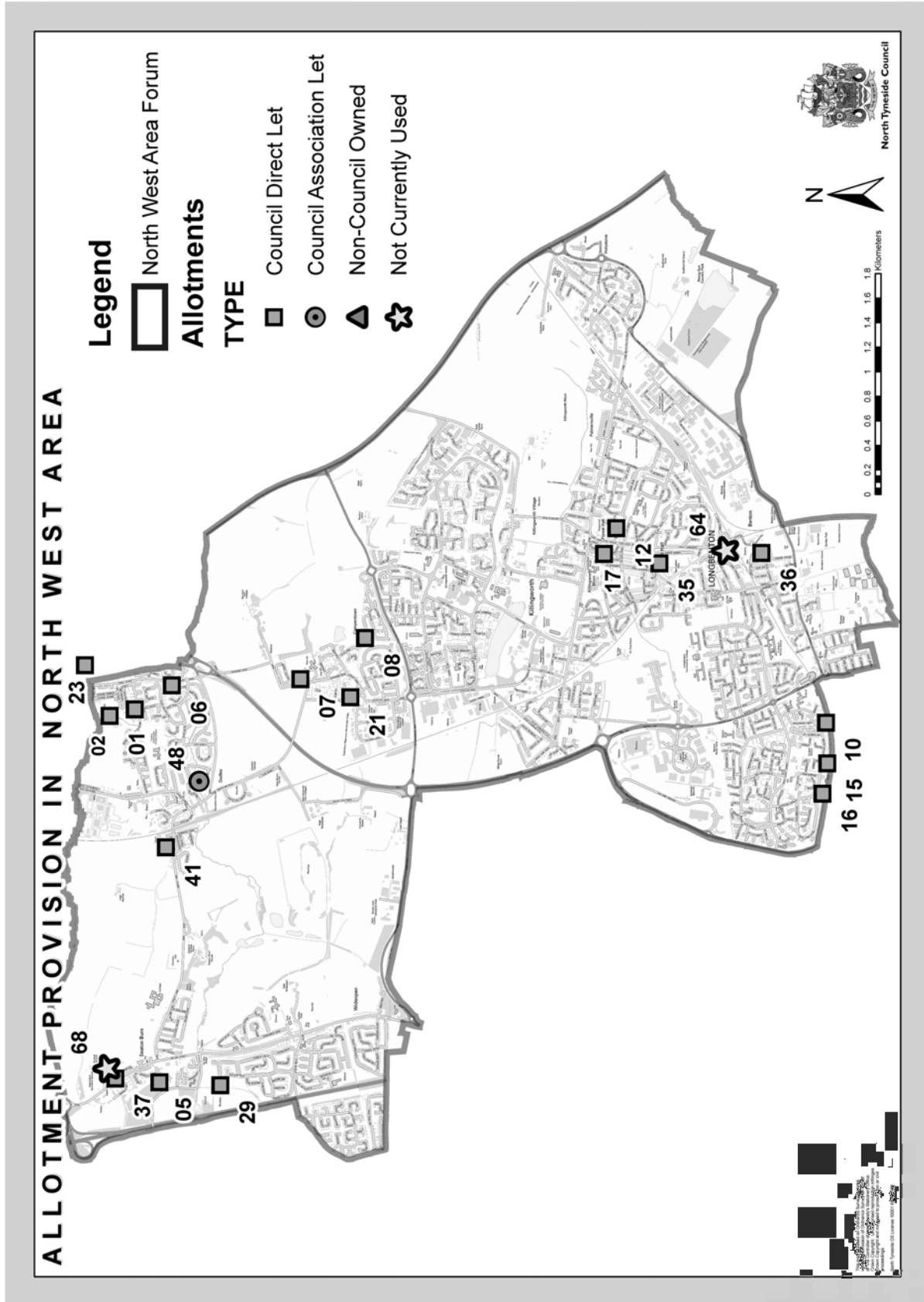
Map 7



Map 8



Map 9



Map 10

