Annual Open Space Review

2017

Evidence base under pinning the Local Plan for the Borough of Oadby and Wigston

Contents

1. Introduction 3

2. Typologies and Standards 4

3. This Years Open Space Audit 7

Useful Contacts

Planning Policy Department **Tel. 0116 288 8961**

Planning Policy Email **planningpolicy@oadby-wigston.gov.uk**

1 Introduction

1.1 As part of the Borough Council's annual monitoring, an open space review is undertaken to take into account any gains or losses of public open space within each ward of the Borough. It must be noted that all information contained within this document is accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of writing.

1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework states that local authorities *'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'.*

1.3 Table 6 of this document illustrating deficiencies and surpluses on a ward by ward basis is directly relevant to the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document.

Photograph of Peace Memorial Park, Wigston

2 Typologies and Standards

2.1 The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Study sets out eight different typologies of open space, along with definitions and required provision for each; see below. It should be noted that for the 'outdoor sports space', for monitoring purposes, the Council will utilise the 'local required provision' as well as the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy.

Typology	Definition	Local Required Provision
Parks and Recreation Grounds	For the purpose of this study all sites including recreation grounds, parks, and formal gardens have been placed under a single classification called Parks and Recreation Grounds. They take on many forms, and may embrace a wide range of functions, including: • Informal recreation • Play space of many kinds (including for sport and children's play). • Providing attractive walks to work. • Offering landscape and amenity features. • Areas of formal planting. • Providing areas for 'events'. • Providing habitats for wildlife.	0.5 hectares per 1000 population
Outdoor Sport Space	These include seasonal and fixed sports spaces that are openly accessible to the public. Facilities include cricket, football and rugby pitches. They also include fixed sports spaces such as tennis courts, and bowling greens. Outdoor sports space with limited public access (e.g. private sports grounds), has also been audited and mapped.	1.0 hectares per 1000 population (where there are multiple uses the predominant use has been identified) The Council will also take account of the Playing Pitch Strategy.
Informal Open Space	The category is considered to include those spaces open to free and spontaneous use by the public, but neither laid out nor managed for a specific function such as a park, public playing field or recreation ground; nor managed as a natural or semi-natural habitat. These areas of open space will be of varied size, but are likely to share the following characteristics: • Unlikely to be physically demarcated by walls or fences. • Predominantly lain down to (mown) grass. • Unlikely to have identifiable entrance points (unlike parks). • Unlikely to have planted flower beds or other formal planted layouts, although they may have shrub and tree planting. • Generally no other recreational facilities and fixtures (such as play equipment or ball courts), although there may be items such as litter bins and benches.	0.5 hectares per 1000 population
Children and Young Peoples Space	The study has recorded the following: • Equipped children's space (for pre-teens) • Provision for teenagers. The former comprises equipped areas of play that cater for the needs of children up to and around 12 years old. The latter comprises informal recreation opportunities for, broadly, the 13 to 16/17 age group, and which might include facilities like skateboard parks.	0.3 hectares per 1000 population
Natural Green Space	For the purpose of this study (Accessible) Natural Green Space covers a variety of spaces including meadows, river floodplain, woodland and copse all of which share a trait of having natural characteristics and wildlife value, but which are also open to public use and enjoyment.	0.8 hectares per 1000 population

Allotments	Allotments provide areas for people to grow their own produce and plants. It is important to be clear about what is meant by the term 'Allotment'. The Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 obliged local authorities to provide sufficient allotments and to let them to persons living in their areas where they considered there was a demand for allotments. The Allotment Act of 1922 defines the term 'allotment garden' as: **"an allotment not exceeding 40 poles in extent which is wholly or mainly cultivated by the occupier for the production of vegetable or fruit crops for consumption by himself or his family"** (n.b. 40 Poles equals 1,210 square yards or 1,012 square metres)	0.5 hectares per 1000 population

2.2 For the purpose of this 2017 annual open space review, 2015 mid year population data has been used for ward level population calculations. The following table illustrates the ward level population data used for the Borough of Oadby and Wigston.

Name of Ward	**Population**
Oadby Brocks Hill	3984
Oadby Grange	6644
Oadby St Peters	4259
Oadby Uplands	3495
Oadby Woodlands	4729
South Wigston	7567
Wigston All Saints	5717
Wigston Fields	6453
Wigston Meadowcourt	5686
Wigston St Wolstans	6399
Borough Total	**55,833**

Table 1: Population data for each Borough ward.

2.3 Using the abovementioned data (population number and hectare provision standard) it is possible to show the required level of provision each specific ward within the Borough should ideally have for public use in each typology of open space (see Table 2 below).

Typology	Oadby (hectares)					South Wigston (hectares)	Wigston (hectares)			
	Brocks Hill	Grange	St Peters	Uplands	Woodlands	South Wigston	All Saints	Fields	Meadowcourt	St Wolstans
Allotment Space	1.99	3.32	2.13	2.20	2.36	3.78	2.86	3.23	2.84	3.20
Children and Young Peoples Space	1.20	1.99	1.28	1.32	1.42	2.27	1.72	1.94	1.71	1.92
Churchyards and Cemeteries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Informal Open Space	1.99	3.32	2.13	2.20	2.36	3.78	2.86	3.23	2.84	3.20
Natural Green Space	3.19	5.32	3.41	3.52	3.78	6.05	4.57	5.16	4.55	5.12
Outdoor Sport	3.98	6.64	4.26	4.40	4.73	7.57	5.72	6.45	4.69	6.40
Outdoor Sport Limited Access	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Park and Recreation Ground	1.99	3.32	2.13	2.20	2.36	3.78	2.86	3.23	2.84	3.20

Table 2: Required provision – ward by ward

2.4 The required provision set out on page 2 and 3 were developed by consultants using a number of sources, including; national and local planning policy; the National Playing Field Associations Six Acre Standard; and, the Accessible Natural Green Space Standard, and then tailored to suit local need highlighted through public consultation.

Typology	Oadby (hectares)	Wigston (hectares)	South Wigston (hectares)	Total
Allotment Space	12.01	12.13	3.78	**27.92**
Children and Young Peoples Space	7.20	7.28	2.27	**16.75**
Churchyards and Cemeteries	-	-	-	**-**
Informal Open Space	12.01	12.13	3.78	**27.92**
Natural Green Space	19.21	19.40	6.05	**44.67**
Outdoor Sport	24.01	24.26	7.57	**55.83**
Outdoor Sport Limited Access	-	-	-	**-**
Park and Recreation Ground	12.01	12.13	3.78	**27.92**

Table 3: Required provision – settlement and Borough total

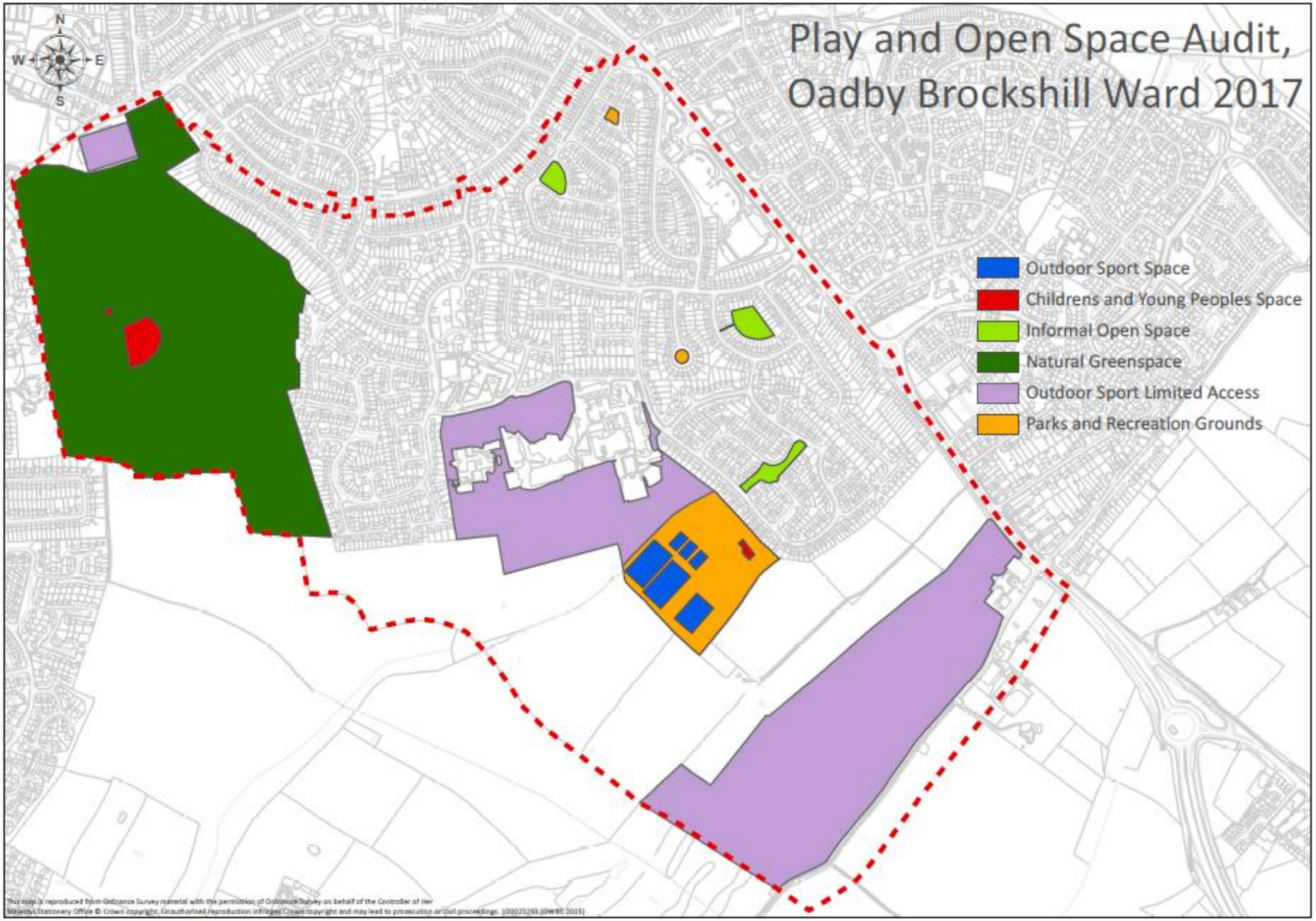
2.5 Through the Borough Council's Core Strategy, specifically Policy 17: Open Space and Facilities for Leisure, Recreation and Tourism, the Borough Council are to seek to ensure that the proposed quantity, quality and access provision for open space, sport and recreation facilities are met in order to satisfy the leisure and recreation needs of the Borough's residents.

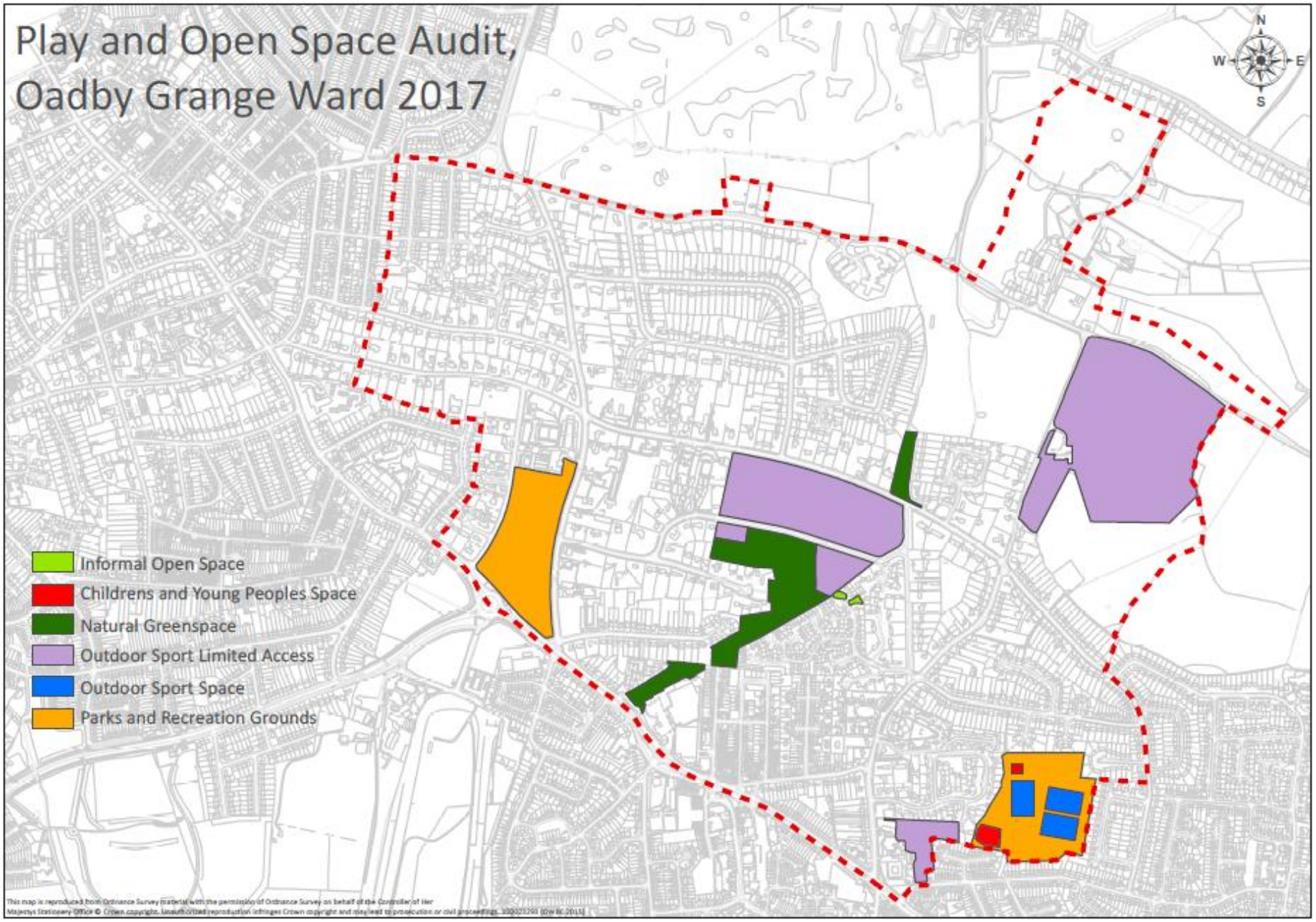
3 This Years Open Space Audit

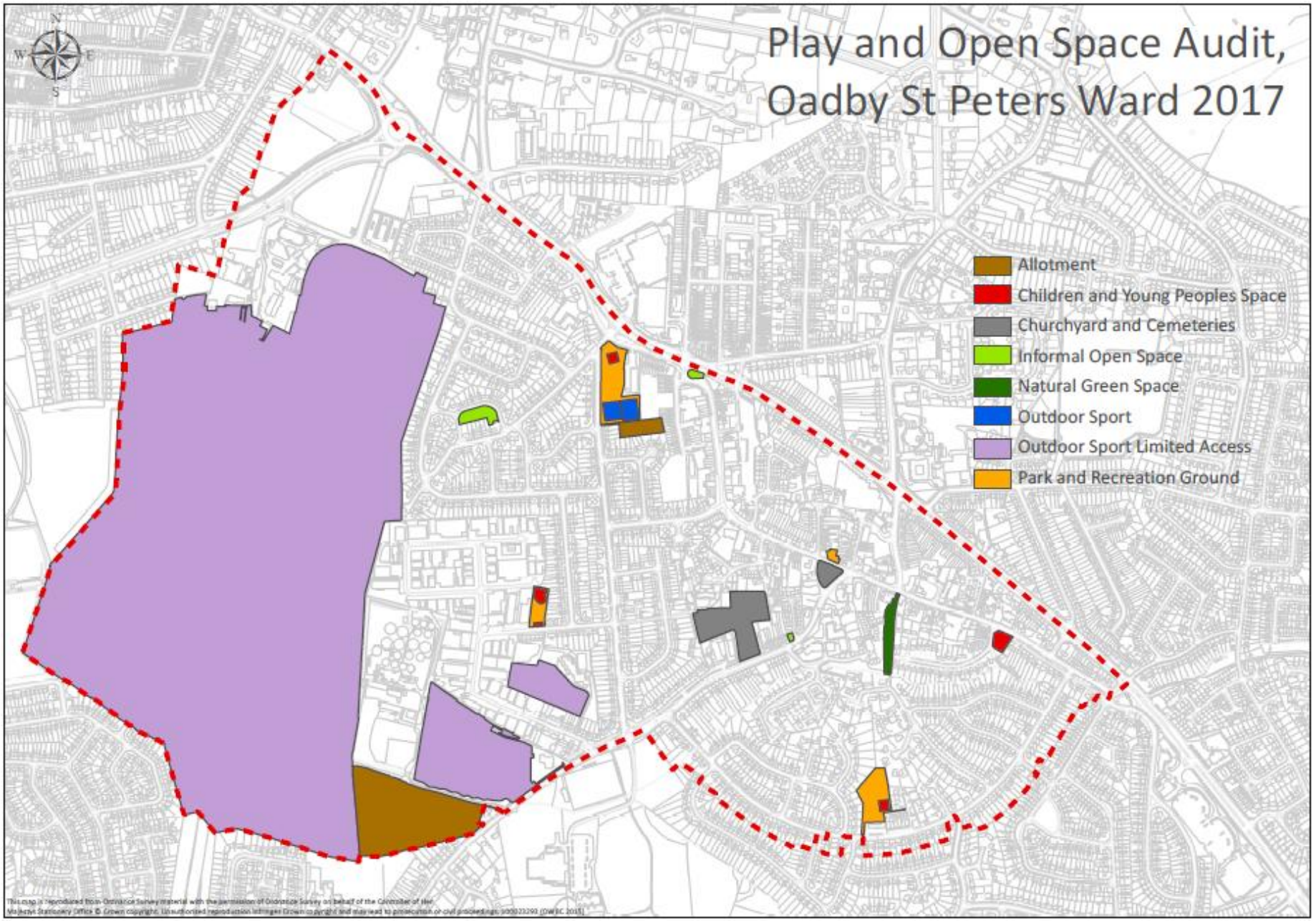
3.1 The audit of open space, sport and recreation facilities has been undertaken for 2017. The outcomes of the audit are shown on the following pages.

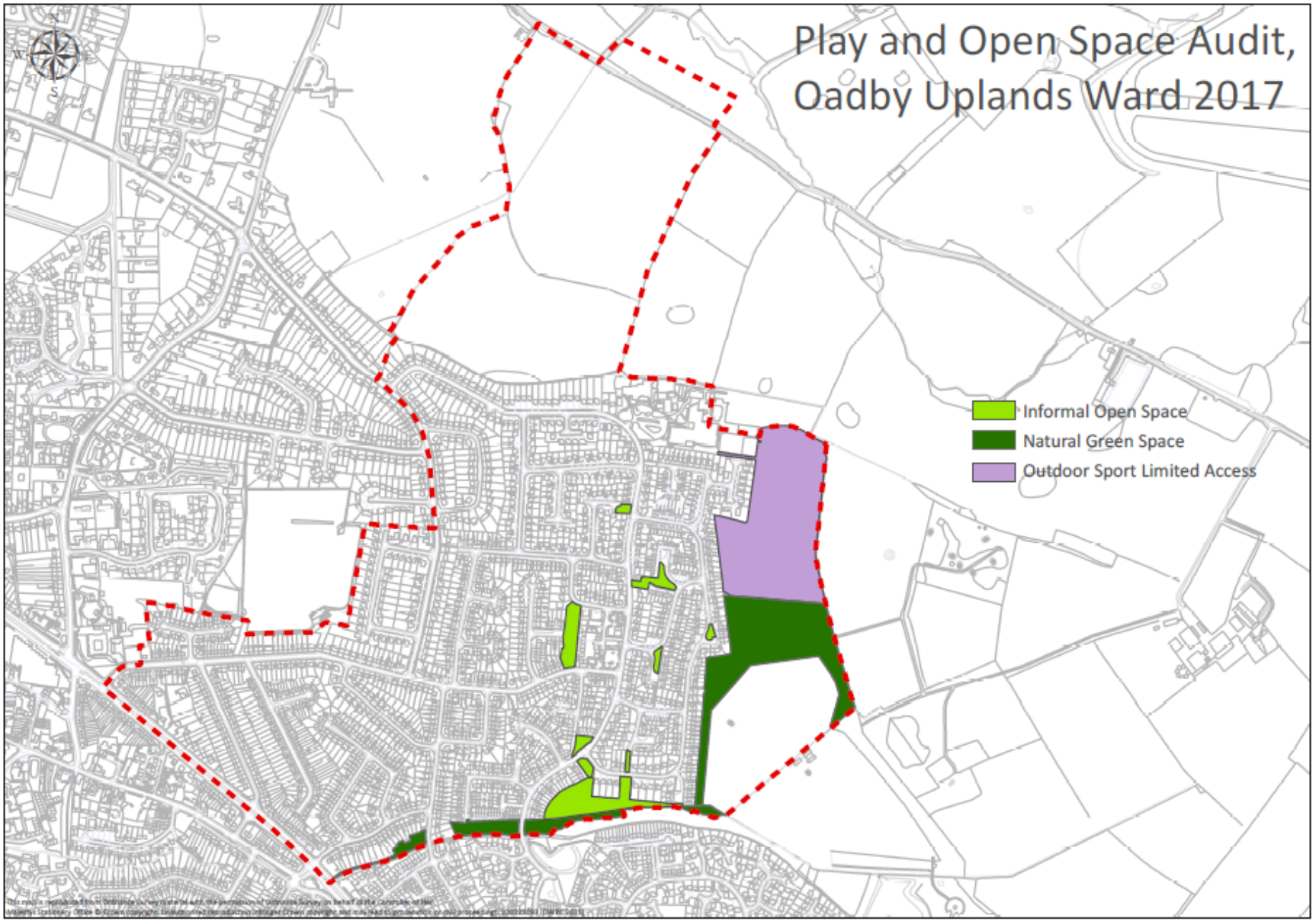
3.2 Pages 8 to 17 show the play and open space audit maps for each Borough ward (note; maps are as accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of writing), with the subsequent pages illustrating tables of open space provision.

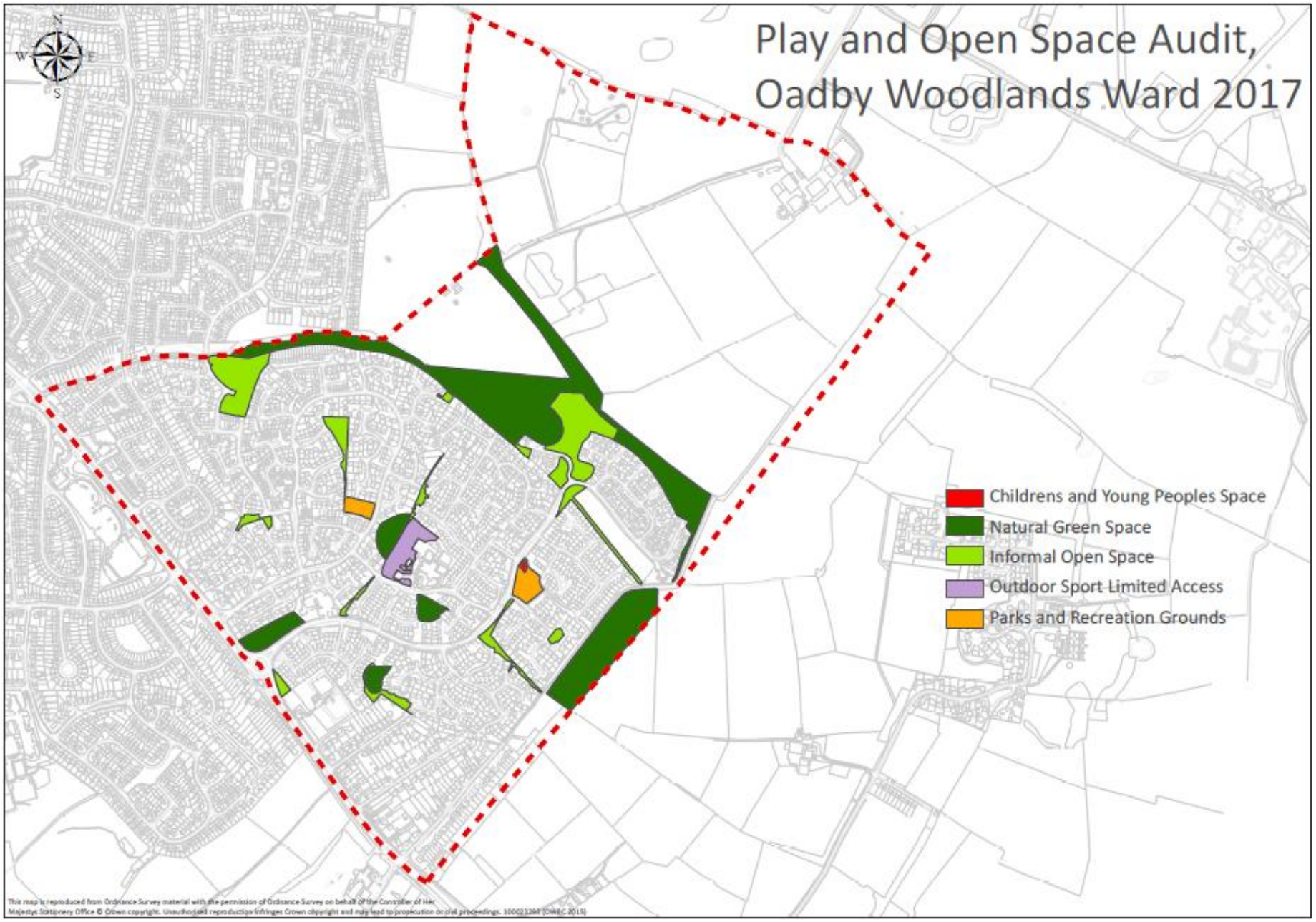
3.3 The open space, sport and recreation facilities audit is undertaken on an annual basis, as development, mainly residential in nature, can have an impact on the levels of provision of each typology.

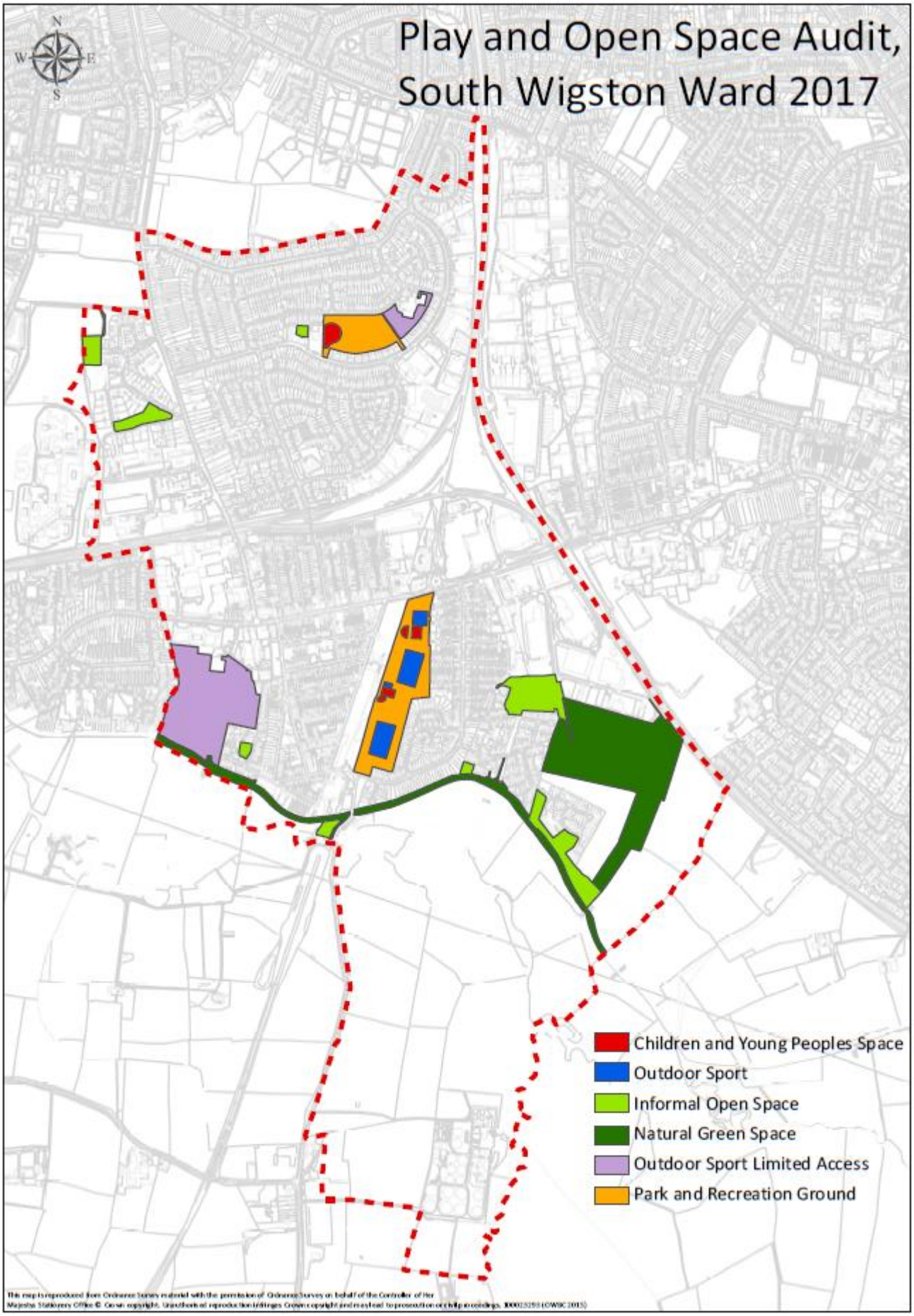

Play and Open Space Audit,
Oadby Brockshill Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Outdoor Sport Space
Childrens and Young Peoples Space
Informal Open Space
Natural Greenspace
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Parks and Recreation Grounds

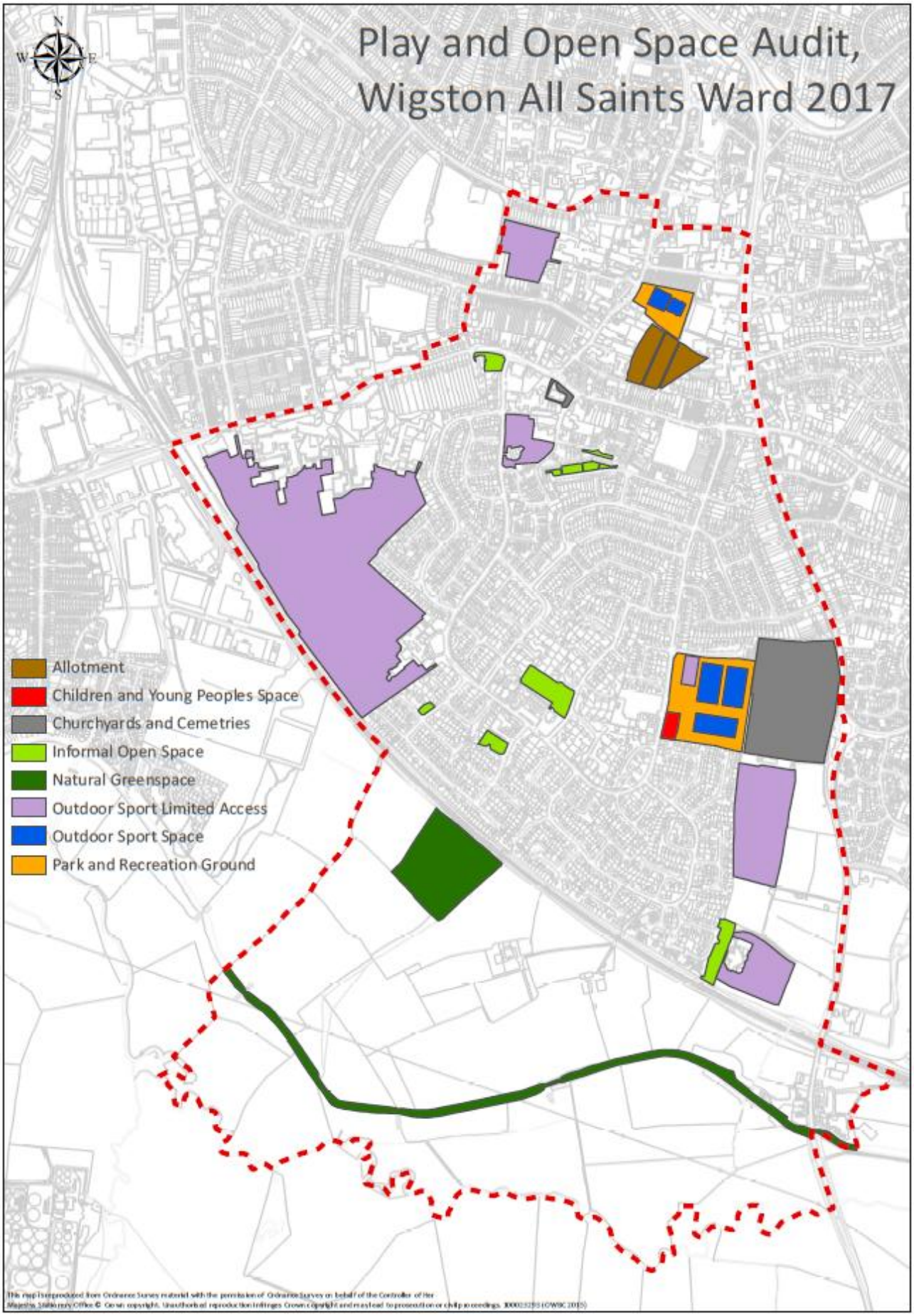

Play and Open Space Audit,
Oadby Grange Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Informal Open Space
Childrens and Young Peoples Space
Natural Greenspace
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Outdoor Sport Space
Parks and Recreation Grounds

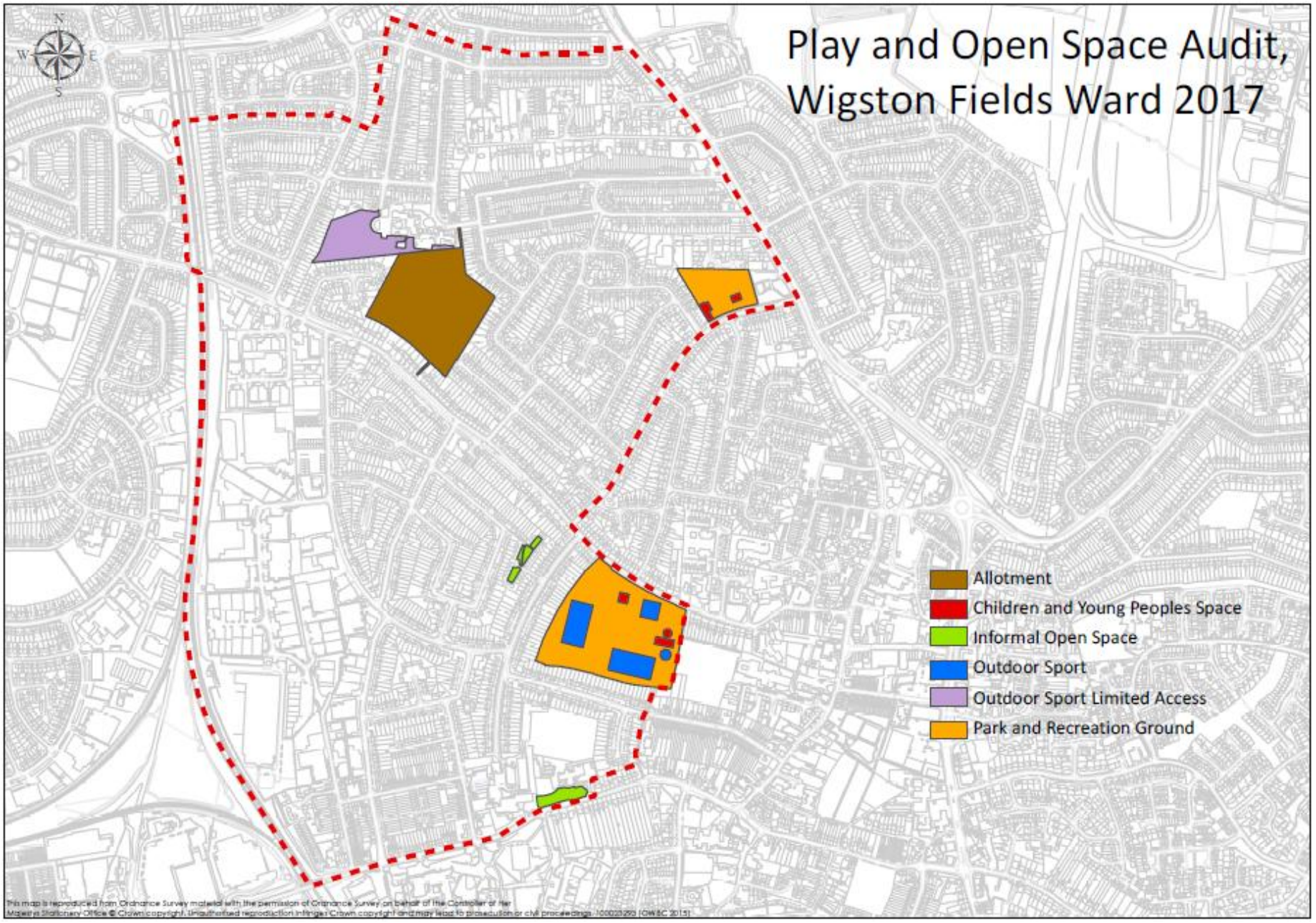

Play and Open Space Audit,
Oadby St Peters Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Allotment
Children and Young Peoples Space
Churchyard and Cemeteries
Informal Open Space
Natural Green Space
Outdoor Sport
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Park and Recreation Ground

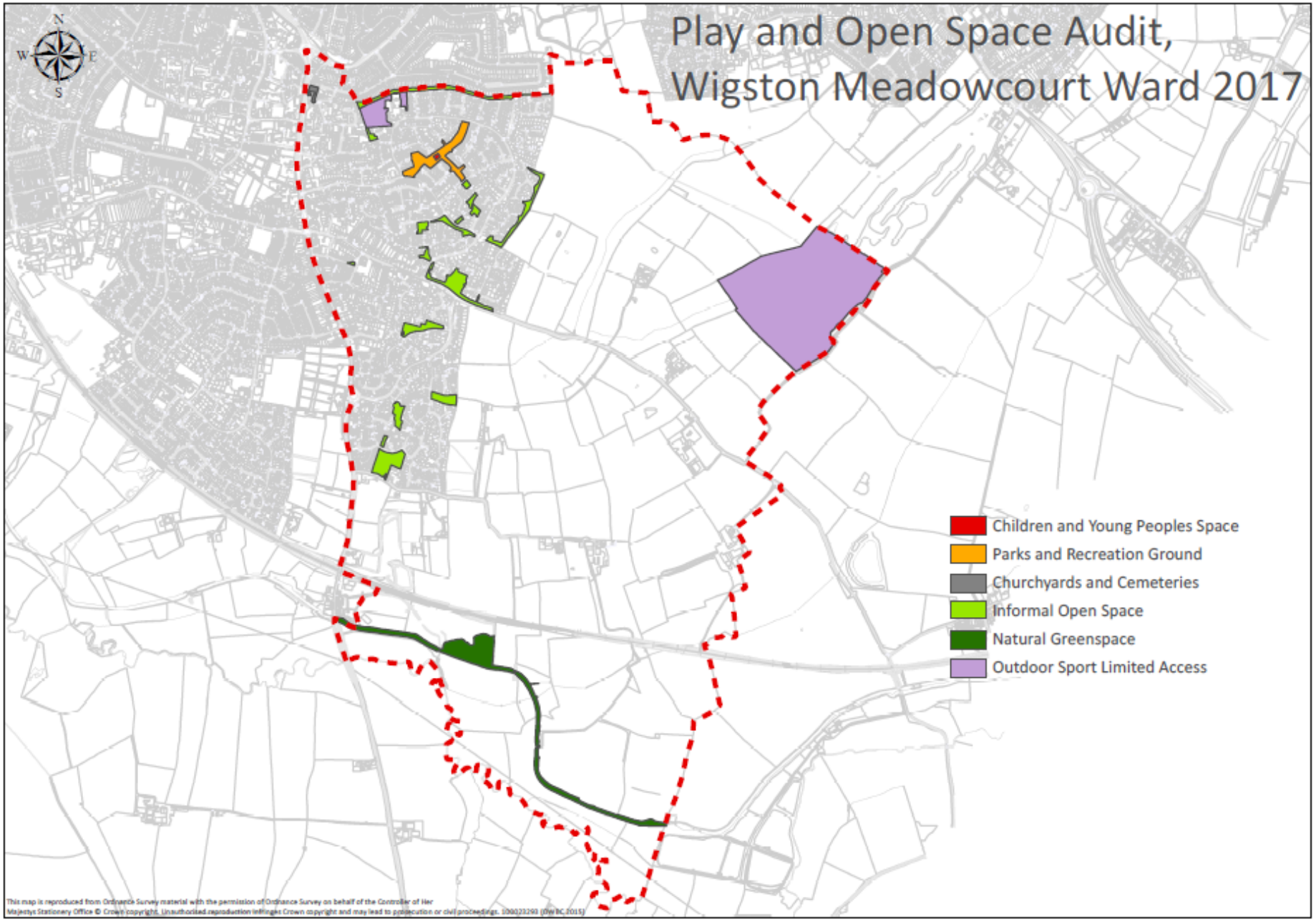

Play and Open Space Audit,
Oadby Uplands Ward 2017
Informal Open Space
Natural Green Space
Outdoor Sport Limited Access

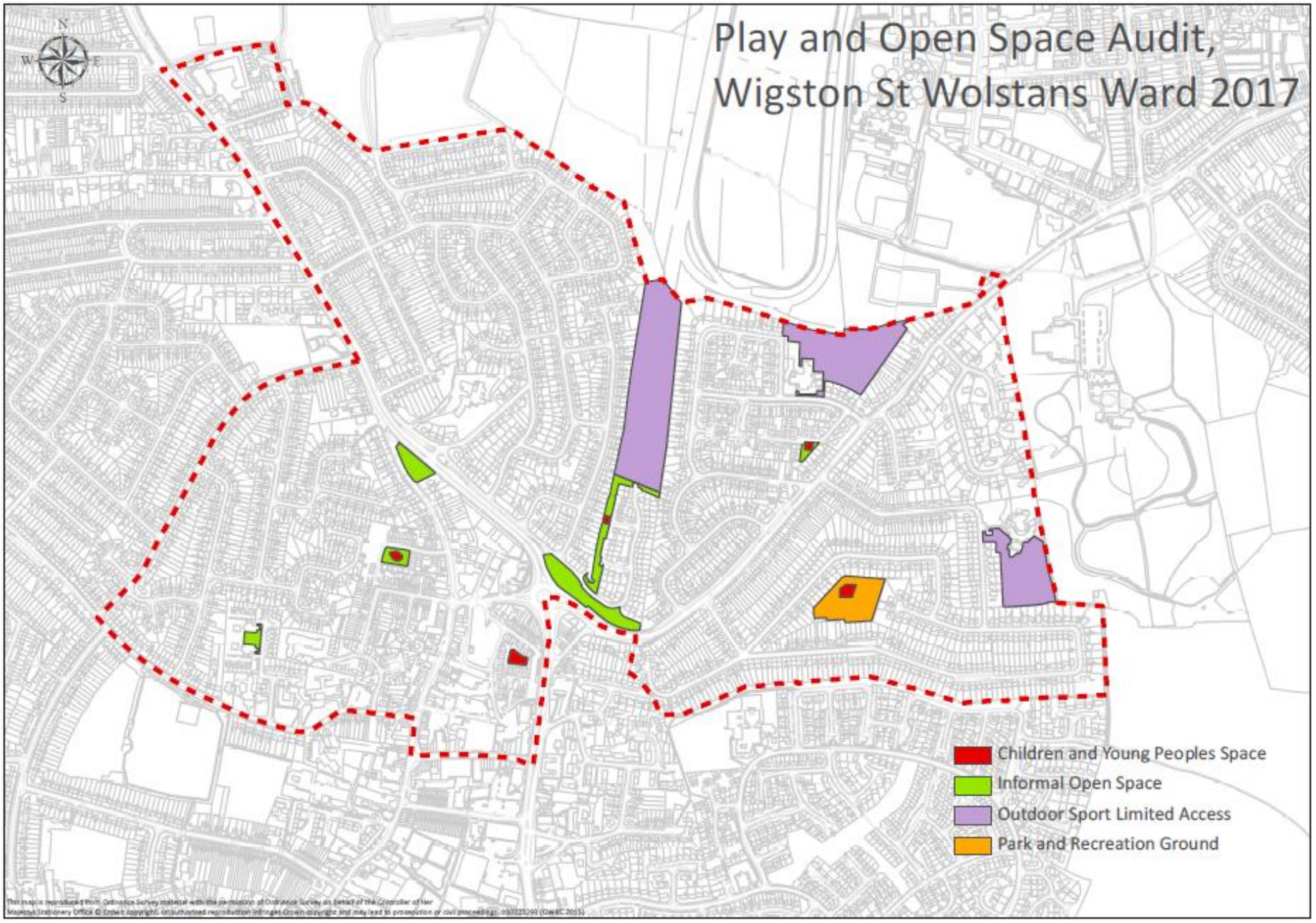

Play and Open Space Audit,
Oadby Woodlands Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Childrens and Young Peoples Space
Natural Green Space
Informal Open Space
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Parks and Recreation Grounds


Play and Open Space Audit,
South Wigston Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Children and Young Peoples Space
Outdoor Sport
Informal Open Space
Natural Green Space
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Park and Recreation Ground


Play and Open Space Audit,
Wigston All Saints Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Allotment
Children and Young Peoples Space
Churchyards and Cemetries
Informal Open Space
Natural Greenspace
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Outdoor Sport Space
Park and Recreation Ground


Play and Open Space Audit,
Wigston Fields Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Allotment
Children and Young Peoples Space
Informal Open Space
Outdoor Sport
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Park and Recreation Ground


Play and Open Space Audit,
Wigston Meadowcourt Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Children and Young Peoples Space
Parks and Recreation Ground
Churchyards and Cemeteries
Informal Open Space
Natural Greenspace
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her
Majestys Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. 100023293 (DwBC 2015)


Play and Open Space Audit,
Wigston St Wolstans Ward 2017
N
W
E
S
Children and Young Peoples Space
Informal Open Space
Outdoor Sport Limited Access
Park and Recreation Ground

3.4 The following tables show the actual or existing provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities within each ward and the Borough as a whole, as well as the extent to which there is a surplus or deficiency in each.

Typology	Oadby (hectares)					South Wigston (hectares)	Wigston (hectares)			
	Brocks Hill	Grange	St Peters	Uplands	Woodlands	South Wigston	All Saints	Fields	Meadowcourt	St Wolstans
Allotment Space	0.00	0.00	3.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.42	4.09	0.00	0.00
Children and Young Peoples Space	0.66	0.37	0.27	0.00	0.03	0.57	0.09	0.22	0.04	0.18
Churchyards and Cemeteries	0.00	0.00	1.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.27	0.00	0.16	0.00
Informal Open Space	0.96	0.11	0.27	1.72	4.32	4.96	1.79	0.39	5.71	1.37
Natural Green Space	34.15	6.29	0.29	4.76	10.94	12.88	5.89	0.00	4.66	0.00
Outdoor Sport	1.63	1.35	0.26	0.00	0.00	1.31	1.63	1.27	0.00	0.00
Outdoor Sport Limited Access	30.94	26.93	68.21	7.56	0.71	7.11	22.41	1.31	23.20	5.48
Park and Recreation Ground	5.98	13.09	1.78	0.00	0.64	7.99	4.72	6.46	1.69	0.77

Table 4: Identified provision – ward by ward

3.5 Table 4 (above) gives a ward by ward provision breakdown in each open space typology. As can be seen from the table, there are differences, sometimes significant, in the distribution of each typology, for example, Oadby Brocks Hill has over 34 hectares of Natural Green Space compared to 0 (zero) hectares within Wigston Fields and Wigston St Wolstans.

Typology	Oadby (hectares)	Wigston (hectares)	South Wigston (hectares)	Total
Allotment Space	3.44	5.51	0.00	**8.95**
Children and Young Peoples Space	1.33	0.54	0.57	**2.43**
Churchyards and Cemeteries	1.37	5.42	0.00	**6.79**
Informal Open Space	7.37	9.26	4.96	**21.58**
Natural Green Space	56.43	10.55	12.88	**79.86**
Outdoor Sport	3.24	3.20	1.31	**7.26**
Outdoor Sport Limited Access	134.36	52.40	7.11	**193.87**
Park and Recreation Ground	21.49	13.64	7.99	**43.13**

Table 5: Identified provision – settlement and Borough total

3.6 The above table (Table 5) suggests that the Borough as a whole has good levels of Informal Open Space, Natural Green Space, and Parks and Recreation Ground provision.

Typology	Oadby (hectares)					South Wigston (hectares)	Wigston (hectares)			
	Brocks Hill	Grange	St Peters	Uplands	Woodlands	South Wigston	All Saints	Fields	Meadowcourt	St Wolstans
Allotment Space	**-1.98**	**-3.27**	**1.26**	**-2.22**	**-2.38**	**-3.76**	**-1.46**	**0.85**	**-2.90**	**-3.25**
Children and Young Peoples Space	**-0.53**	**-1.59**	**-1.03**	**-1.33**	**-1.40**	**-1.69**	**-1.64**	**-1.72**	**-1.70**	**-1.77**
Churchyards and Cemeteries	**-**	**-**	**1.37**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**5.27**	**-**	**0.16**	**-**
Informal Open Space	**-1.03**	**-3.17**	**-1.91**	**-0.50**	**1.93**	**1.20**	**-1.10**	**-2.84**	**2.81**	**-1.88**
Natural Green Space	**30.98**	**1.05**	**-3.19**	**1.21**	**7.13**	**6.87**	**1.27**	**-5.18**	**0.02**	**-5.20**
Outdoor Sport	**-2.34**	**-5.19**	**-4.09**	**-4.44**	**-4.76**	**-6.4**	**-4.14**	**-5.20**	**-5.81**	**-6.50**
Outdoor Sport Limited Access	**30.94**	**26.93**	**68.21**	**7.56**	**0.71**	**7.11**	**22.41**	**1.31**	**23.20**	**5.48**
Park and Recreation Ground	**4.00**	**9.82**	**-0.39**	**-2.22**	**-1.74**	**4.24**	**1.83**	**3.23**	**-1.21**	**-2.48**

Table 6: Surplus/Deficiency – ward by ward

Typology	Oadby (hectares)	Wigston (hectares)	South Wigston (hectares)	Total
Allotment Space	-8.60	-6.76	-3.76	**-19.12**
Children and Young Peoples Space	-5.89	-6.83	-1.69	**-14.41**
Churchyards and Cemeteries	1.37	5.42	-	**6.79**
Informal Open Space	-4.67	-3.02	1.20	**-6.48**
Natural Green Space	37.18	-9.08	6.87	**34.96**
Outdoor Sport	-20.82	-21.64	-6.41	**-48.87**
Outdoor Sport Limited Access	134.36	52.40	7.11	**193.87**
Park and Recreation Ground	9.46	1.37	4.24	**15.07**

Table 7: Surplus/Deficiency – settlement and Borough total

3.7 Using the data that is held within Tables 2, 3, 4 and 5 it is possible to calculate the surplus or deficiency of provision in each typology, in each ward, settlement and the Borough as a whole. Using the data and information mentioned, Table 6 and 7 illustrate the extent of surplus or deficiency within each specified area.

3.8 Breaking down hectares of provision lower than Borough level, allows an almost targeting of appropriate future/further provision, for example, looking Borough wide, (Table 7) it is apparent that there is a surplus of Park and Recreation Grounds, however when looking on a ward by ward level, Oadby St Peters, Oadby Uplands, Oadby Woodlands, Wigston Meadowcourt and Wigston St Wolstans are deficient (when compared to the open space standards in this report). As previously mentioned this allows a more targeted approach to appropriate further/future open space provision and can play an important role in the planning application process and Section 106 decision making.