

Appendix B: Local Green Space Assessment Criteria

Criteria	Explanation of Criteria / Questions to ask
It will rarely be appropriate to designate spaces that are the subject of a planning permission and or subject to existing designation	<p>Local Green Space designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the planning permission or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the space the subject of a planning permission for development? • Is the site already protected by an existing designation
It will not be appropriate to designate spaces that are allocated or proposed for development in the Local Plan or the emerging Local Plan.	<p>The national Planning Practice Guidance states that: Designating any Local Green Space will need to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. In particular, plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way to undermine this aim of plan making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the space allocated or proposed to be allocated in a Local Plan? or • Has the site been put forward for development in any evidence based documents such as Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment?
The space must not be an extensive tract of land and must be local in character.	<p>Blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements is not appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the space or combination of adjoining spaces “feel” local in character and scale, in respect of the local community that the space serves? • Is the proposed space larger than other areas of land in the vicinity? Is it contained with clearly defined edges? • How does the space connect physically, visually and socially to the local area?
The space must be within close proximity to the community it serves.	<p>The space would normally be within easy walking distance of the community it serves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How close is the space to the community it serves?
The space must be demonstrably special to the local community.	<p>Blanket designation of all/most green areas or open space within an area is not appropriate. The space must be demonstrably special by consideration of the following; The proposed space is of particular local significance and should meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • beauty • historic significance • recreational value • tranquillity • richness of wildlife