

# Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park

Open Space and Play Sufficiency Audit

Consultative Draft

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### The Study

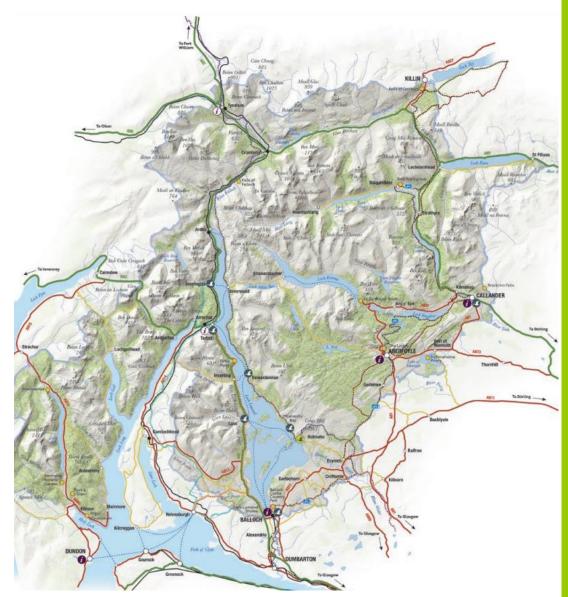
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority have undertaken an audit of the play sufficiency within the National Park that will help meet the requirements set out in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. This requires that the National Park, as a planning authority, to assess the sufficiency of play opportunities in its area for children by preparing an Evidence Report, which meets the requirements set out in The Town and Country Planning (Play Sufficiency Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023.

Considering access to quality open space, green infrastructure, and play opportunities as a key part of placemaking can help realise the Scottish Government's ambitions for delivering 20 minute neighbourhoods.

The assessment has used a combination of approaches, including site visits to the 21 settlements in the National Park, discussions with council greenspace teams, a review of community led plans where play has been highlighted as an issue and other relevant information. The Consultative Draft report will be taken to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs communities for consultation, before it is finalised.

The overall aim of the project was to assess the play resource within Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park. The audit will inform an assessment of the sufficiency of play opportunities in the National Park communities for children up to the age of 18.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment identifies and prioritises key upgrading and development works on a short, medium and long-term basis, supported by robust formal assessment.



Extract from the National Park Local Development Plan 2017-2021

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### The Benefits of Play

Playing is an inherent part of a happy childhood, and is vital to children's physical and cognitive development as they grow. Open spaces, green infrastructure and outdoor places to play are key components in successful placemaking, helping to create pleasant, liveable, healthy and resilient communities.

Play is vital from the early stages of brain development and bonding with parents and carers, and promotes independence and autonomy for the teenage years.

Access to quality greenspace and nature-based solutions can help to mitigate health inequalities and improve physical and mental health, by providing opportunities for play, socialising, relaxation and physical activity. Developing our communities to promote local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods can help reduce inequalities in health. (NPF4)

Whilst play spaces specifically designed and managed for play are essential in meeting the needs of children to play outdoors, to have fun and to relax, valuable informal play opportunities also exist in many open spaces, including natural spaces, woodlands, urban forestry and in some public realm areas. It is well-recognised that increasing children's contact with nature improves their physical and mental wellbeing, and can build resilience. Allowing children to use the natural world can help foster better understanding of nature and the need to protect and care for the environment.

Children and young people's mental health has significantly decreased over time. In 2021/22, 1 in 3 young people reported symptoms akin to a common mental health disorder, and their mental health was poorer than any other age group. (The Resolution Foundation, 2024)









"Playing, throughout childhood, is not only an innate behaviour but also contributes to quality of life, sense of wellbeing and is a key element in effective learning." (Scotland's Play Strategy)



"People report feeling happier, healthier, and more connected with those around them when spending time outside ..."

(Groundwork UK)

### **Policy Context**

National Planning Framework (NPF4) includes Policy 21: Play Recreation and Sport, that recognises that providing quality play opportunities for children and young people is essential to their physical and cognitive development, and upholds their right to engage in play and recreational activities.

The policy aims to encourage, promote and facilitate spaces and opportunities for play, recreation and sport. The outcomes will be that "natural and built environments are improved, with more equitable access to opportunities for play and recreation. Physical and mental health are improved through provision of, and access to, outdoor recreation, play and sport facilities."

Local Development Plans should identify sites for sports, play and outdoor recreation for people of all ages. This should be based on an understanding of the needs and demand in the community and informed by the planning authority's Play Sufficiency Assessment and Open Space Strategy... New provisions should be well-designed, high quality, accessible and inclusive. (Extract from NPF4)

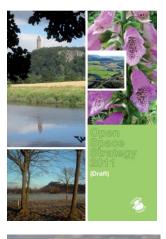
The National Play Strategy recognises the critical importance of play in early development and building for young people a foundation of wellbeing that supports and sets the pattern for children's future development.



"We want Scotland to be the best place to grow up. A nation which values play as a life-enhancing daily experience for all our children and young people; in their homes, nurseries, schools and communities." (Scotland's Play Strategy)

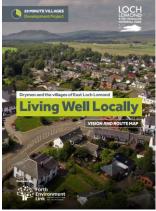












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### **Play Sufficiency Assessments**

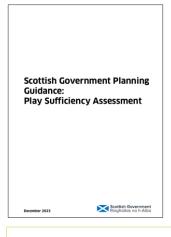
A Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) is the assessment of the sufficiency of play opportunities for children in their area, carried out by a planning authority under the duty as set out in Section 7(5) Part 16D(1) of Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. The Act requires that the National Park as a planning authority, assess the sufficiency of play opportunities in its area for children in preparing an evidence report for the preparation of the Local Development Plan.

The intention of the PSA Regulations is to give flexibility for planning authorities to include information that is meaningful locally and for the report to align with other relevant areas of work, such as the open space audit and strategy.

All children in Scotland have a right to play under Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This right applies to every child under the age of 18 (Article 1) without 'discrimination of any kind' (Article 2). Play is essential to a happy childhood and to children's well-being and development.

The Regulations state that the term "play spaces" means outdoor spaces which are accessible by the public, and which offer play opportunities for children. The term "children" means persons under the age of 18 years.

Development of integrated play assessments, based on partnership and clear play standards is key to the delivery of attractive, appealing neighbourhoods and places to live involves a diverse range of stakeholder organisations (Local Authorities, Community Planning Partnerships / Locality Planning etc.), which will in turn help develop stronger residential neighbourhoods.



This new duty for the preparation of Play Sufficiency Assessments can help local authorities uphold the rights of children.

#### Form and Content of a PSA

The Town and Country Planning (Open Space Strategies) (Scotland) Regulations 2022 outlines the form and content of a PSA, as follows:

- A report, incorporating maps, setting out the assessment and location of the sufficiency of play opportunities in its area for children
- Map the play spaces which are:
  - Specifically for play, and those
  - Within areas of open space and not specifically for play
- Describe the play opportunities for all ages of children
- Include statements as regards the overall quality, quantity and accessibility of play opportunities in the planning authority's area
- In preparing the PSA, the planning authority must consult: children, parents and carers, community councils, the public and any other person or community body which the planning authority considers to be appropriate.

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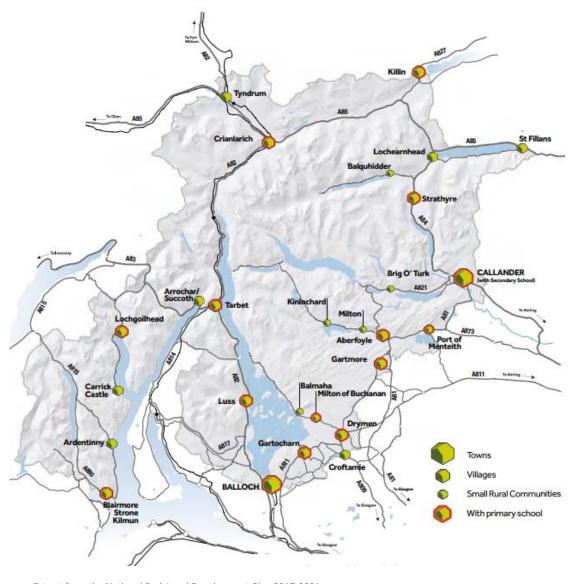
### **Study Area**

The National Park covers 1,865 square kilometres (720 square miles), extending from Holy Loch on the Cowal peninsula to St Fillans at the eastern end of Loch Earn, and from Balloch to Tyndrum. It is an area of contrasts from rolling lowland landscapes in the south, to high mountains in the north, and has many lochs and rivers, forests and woodlands.

The Towns and Villages are central to the Plan's development strategy as this is where the majority of development is directed. This is appropriate as it is where the majority of services are located such as shops, schools, and health centres. There are also a number of small rural communities.

#### The Park contains the following:

- 2 Towns (Callander and Balloch)
- 18 Villages (Tyndrum, Crianlarich, Killin, Luss, Lochgoilhead etc.)
- A number of small rural communities (e.g. Balquhidder, Brig O' Turk, Balmaha etc.)
- 15 primary schools
- 1 secondary school (McLaren High, Callander)
- 32 Equipped Play Areas
- Numerous informal play spaces and opportunities to explore the natural landscape (38 included in the audit)



Extract from the National Park Local Development Plan 2017-2021

Play Sufficiency Assessment IronsideFarrar

Play Value of Open Spaces

### **Identifying Play Opportunities**

The Regulations state that the term "play spaces" means outdoor spaces which are accessible by the public, and which offer play opportunities for children. The audit has identified play opportunities for the following age groupings: ages 0-4, 5-11, 12-15 and 16-17.

Play Value describes the value an environment, object or piece of equipment brings to children's experience of play. A space rich in play value creates opportunities for a variety of physical, social and sensory play experiences. Something will have high play value if children are able to play with it in many different ways, integrate it into their play or use it to expand on their own ideas and actions. (The Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum)

The Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping includes the following categories of play space:

- Those play spaces that are specifically for play (equipped play space / facilities for young people); and
- Those within areas of open spaces of which the primary function is not play (or "natural playspaces", chosen due to their current accessibility, natural quality, current designation / use and potential to develop as a play resource). The mapping of these spaces has been based on officer discussions and desktop review.

#### **Equipped Play Areas**

Those play spaces that are designed specifically for children's play.



#### **Informal or Natural Play Spaces**

Those spaces within areas of open space of which the primary function is not play.







## **Children's Access to Play**

All children need and have a right to play. Play is vital for children's health, wellbeing and happiness, particularly for children facing barriers like discrimination and exclusion. To uphold the right and need of every child to play, the creation of accessible and inclusive play spaces is essential. The National Planning Framework 4 requires new, replacement or improved play provision to be inclusive and accessible for disabled children.

Disability and equality legislation highlight the duty to make reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled people are not placed at a substantial disadvantage. The Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum recognise that there are not enough accessible and inclusive places for children to play within a reasonable distance of their home. In the UK, many disabled children, disabled parents, and their families are still excluded from local play spaces. Barriers include lack of accessibility, poor understanding of disabled children's needs and wishes, negative public attitudes and a limited range of play opportunities.

#### **Accessible Play Spaces**

An accessible play space is a space which is barrier-free, allows users access to move around the space and offers participation opportunities for a range of differing abilities. Not every child of every ability will be able to actively use everything within an accessible play space.

Guidance on accessibility / inclusivity assessments particularly for children with disabilities is awaited from the Scottish Government and may need to be undertaken and added at a later date.

#### **Inclusive Play Spaces**

An inclusive play space provides a barrier-free environment, with supporting infrastructure, which meets the wide and varying play needs of every child. Disabled children and non-disabled children will enjoy high levels of participation opportunities, equally rich in play value.





Fields in Trust guidance on accessible, safe an inclusive open spaces achieve the following outcomes:

- Welcoming, inclusive and social areas for all ages, genders, cultures and abilities within the community
- Safe access both during the day and at night and address the potential impact of anti-social behaviour
- Accessible and sustainable travel options with safe and enjoyable walking routes, public transport stops and cycle routes
- Reflect local need and designed in collaboration with all the community
- Include and enable children and young people of all ages and abilities to play together in a variety of ways

(Fields in Trust Standards: Creating Great Spaces for All, 2024)

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## **Types of Play Space**

An appreciation of the hierarchy of open spaces can help the understanding of the different functions they perform and distinguish between spaces of strategic, local and neighbourhood importance. Play spaces are most commonly located in public parks and gardens, amenity open spaces or semi-natural greenspaces.

The equipped play space definitions are based on the Fields in Trust\* recommendations, based on the age of children they are designed for, location, size and type of experience:



The Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) is a large area of space designed for children from 0 to 11 years, with additional facilities for children of 12 years +. Spaces should provide a wider range of play experiences than a LEAP with age-appropriate play and informal recreational experiences for children and young people. There are likely to be more challenging items of equipment and features that meet the needs of older children and young people and sufficient space to play larger group games and seating and shelter to enable young people to socialise with their friends.



The Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) is an area of open space designed for children from 0 to 11 years, with features and equipment for children who are beginning to play independently close to where they live. Spaces should provide for informal recreation and varied, stimulating and challenging play experiences.



The **Local Area for Play** (LAP) is a small area of open space designed for young children, providing play areas close to home. The LAP requires no play equipment, relying more on demonstrative features indicating that play is encouraged.



Destination Play Space is a play space within a key open space or park and is aimed at attracting family and other groups for longer visits. They tend to be larger than neighbourhood sites, have car parking facilities, a greater variety of fixed equipment, some natural play, and access to facilities such as cafes and public toilets. There should be suitable access arrangements in place and adaptations being made to equipment for less-abled children and young people, where appropriate. These play areas might be located in areas of high local and visitor footfall and should be connected by the Core Path network, encouraging people to travel actively.



Aspirational Play Spaces have been identified through the Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Framework, the LDP, previous community engagements and other project initiatives. Proposals include the aspiration to provide a range of additional play opportunities, in existing play spaces and facilities for children visiting the area in areas of high local and visitor footfall.



Natural Play Space Whilst play spaces specifically designed and managed for play are essential in meeting the needs of children to play outdoors, to have fun and to relax, valuable informal play opportunities also exist in many open spaces, including natural spaces, woodlands, urban forestry and in some public realm areas. It is well-recognised that increasing children's contact with nature improves their physical and mental wellbeing, and can build resilience. Allowing children to use the natural world can help foster better understanding of nature and the need to protect and care for the environment. Therefore, the play audit assessment is not restricted to playing in play areas or play spaces that are specifically designed and managed for play.

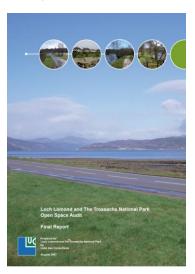
<sup>\*</sup>Fields in Trust Standards: Creating great spaces for all, 2024 IronsideFarrar

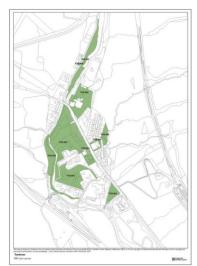
### **Open Space Context**

The towns and villages in the National Park contain a variety of open spaces, of varying sizes, character and function. Typically, the centrally located open spaces and parks contain equipped play areas. Some town parks contain facilities for older school children and young adults.

In 2007 an Open Space Audit was conducted for the National Park, with all types of parks, amenity open space and semi-natural greenspaces included in the assessment. This assessment has been used to inform the Play Audit. The key areas for improvement across the settlements are outlined below:

- Opportunities to link to path network and access improvements
- Improved facilities including provision of play facilities, where required
- Landscape enhancement, and links to biodiversity improvements
- · Improved maintenance









#### **Local Plan Open Days**

A series of Local Plan Open Days were held in 2013 to inform the preparation of the Local Plan. The following is a summary of the community's views on local open spaces:

- Open space is greatly valued by residents and visitors alike.
- Urban open spaces (such as parks and play areas) and rural open space (such as woodlands, lochsides and meadows) are valued and must be retained and protected.
- Paths and walkways are greatly valued by communities (walking and cycling were the most popular activities).
- Existing open spaces need to be improved and new open space facilities, particularly for children and young adults.
- Some communities identified sites which are used as open space but not formally designated. These require protection.

Play Audit Methodology

### **Key Stages**

Play Sufficiency Assessment

The Play Sufficiency Assessment was developed in five key stages with the key tasks to be undertaken at each of the project stages set out below. The following activities have been progressed:

#### STAGE 1:

**Project Inception and Desk Study** 

Review of available background information from Stirling / West Dunbartonshire / Argyll & Bute / Perth & Kinross Councils, discussions with council greenspace teams and review of community led plans and other relevant information. Development of the National Park PSA methodology, reflecting the PSA Regulations and ensuring it is locally relevant.

play space (according to LAP, LEAP and NEAP) and LLTNP, age range, description, approximate level of use, condition etc. An assessment of

accessibility, inclusion and recommendations for action was undertaken.

Describing the play resource, by identifying and mapping according to: type of

### **STAGE 2:**

**PSA Audit Preparation** 

### STAGE 3:

Site Audits, Mapping and Assessment

#### **STAGE 4:**

Data Analysis and Reporting

The play areas were mapped in GIS and information recorded in Excel spreadsheets. The 2007 open space audit information was reviewed. The audit involved site visits to approximately 30+ existing play areas in the 21 settlements in the National Park.

Tabulation and analysis of the data and preparation of the Audit report and accompanying mapping. Assessment of the sufficiency of play opportunity in the area for children up to the age of 18.

#### STAGE 5:

Engagement with communities

LLTNPA will engage with children, parents and carers, community councils and the public as part of the LDP consultation process.

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## **Audit Methodology**

The audit methodology was informed by the knowledge and lessons learnt from UK Open Space Audits, Play Scotland and best practice, creating usable outputs and the development of a tool for future play space management. The focus of the assessment has been the equipped formal play spaces / facilities for young people, being those play spaces that are specifically for play.

The play space mapping has been informed by LL&TNP information / partner data / Greenspace Scotland mapping / desk study and ground truthed by site visits. The equipped play spaces have been mapped alongside the 2007 Open Space Audit sites to illustrate the connections between the various types of open space. The value of these open spaces for formal and informal play has been identified through consultation. GIS maps of the play area locations were prepared, and summaries for each of the settlements illustrated in the following section.

The accompanying GIS mapping and Excel database contains the detailed assessment results and records information on the open space setting of the play space, adjacent facilities, path network connections, overall condition, quality scores etc.

#### **Additional Information**

The PSA Regulations also require local authorities to consider:

Barriers / Physical measures to ensure safe and ease of access by most:

A high level review of existing inclusive equipment (e.g. swings with harnesses / wheelchair roundabouts) has been undertaken, informed by LL&TNP. To be further reviewed once further guidance is available.

**Safety from vehicular traffic and access conditions:** LL&TNP / Partner Roads department will consider safe crossings / traffic calming measures / cycle parking near to access points.

**Inclusion of play space:** To be reviewed once further guidance is available from Scottish Government.

| the le | ocation   |            |               |   |                           | Open Space Informatio                         | Play Space Infor                 | mation   |                         |  |                         |   | Play Space Condition   |
|--------|---|------------|---------------|---|---------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|
|        | of Site Name  | Town       | Council Area  | be confirmed)                           | Representative Photograph | Type of Open Space<br>(from Open Space Audit) | Type of Play<br>Space (informal) | Play Area<br>Typology  | 11, 12-15, 16-17)       | Description / Open Space Contest   | Level /<br>frequency of | Date of<br>Installation   | Condition description<br>lobservationali   |
| >01    |   | Aberfoyle  | String        | Private                                 |                           | Amenity greenspace                            | Informal                         | n/a  | Allages                 | Small area of amenty-open space within<br>frounds of the Scottish Wool Centu.<br>There are areas of mount grass with some<br>elements of naturallylay, benches and<br>activities run by the centre. Access is<br>available visitire centre, so the grounds   | High                    | nia   | nia  |
|        | Main Street Play Area                                   | Abertoyle  | Stiling       | Steling Council                         |                           | Playspace                                     | Equipped                         | NEAP<br>(including the<br>adjacety, IPQ2<br>(Bito Skills Park) | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15, 16-17 | Loosed to the south of the village, the play area procision a range of pile in a reason of the period of the perio | Hgh                     | Some older pieces<br>of play equipment<br>(e.g. swings) have<br>been recently<br>added to | The majority of play equipment has<br>been necessful installed and list in<br>good condition. It contains a<br>number of mature tree clumps and<br>hedges. The RoSPA Assessment<br>gave the play area an overall mean<br>scene of 1%, which is fair to good<br>condition. There are some parts of<br>the play equipment needing to be<br>repaired freplaced. |
| 202    | Old Kirk Loan Play<br>Area                              | Aberfoyle  | Siting        | Strling Council                         |                           | Playspace                                     | Equipped                         | LEAP   | 0-4,5-12                | Small pocket of open space tucked<br>behind a residential out-de-sea, with<br>manure trees and views to the fields<br>beyond. It prevides a range of veodern<br>play activities, but around annot tree,<br>rope swing, harmoot and slide built into a<br>slope. Creat facility for implanter play!<br>being outside i hanging out with friends.  | Medum                   | Some time ago   | The PoSPA Assessment gave the<br>play area an overall mean socre of<br>S, which is good condation.<br>However, the steps to the slide are<br>soting and other wooden structure<br>need repair I treatment.   |
|        |   | Aberfoyle  | Sixing        | LLTNPA                                  |                           | Public parks and gardens                      | Momal                            | nia  | Allages                 | The wildfe site is an entensive area of semi-matural open space, located to the south of the siftage. There are areas of rough granitand, somb woodland and tracks throughout, with access to the sixessiot. There is a Biles Silk-Park to the north of the site, in close proximity to the  | Lov                     | nla   | nia  |
| 03     | Queen Elizabeth<br>Forest Park Visitor<br>Centre        | Aberfoyle  | Saing         | r.s                                     |                           | Amenity greenspace                            | Informal                         | nia  | Allages                 | The Lodge Visitor Centre provides a visitor lacility and gateve ay to the Queen Etcabeth Forest Pail. There are trails suitable for all, tree top adventures, a callé, toilets and information. Besides the pionic areas are a few places of the vooded soulgraries for informational by pyroung   | Hgh                     | nla   | n/a  |
| 104    | Swedish Houses<br>(locally known as<br>Coronation Wood) | Ardentinny | Argyll & Bute | Unknown/<br>possibly<br>community owned |                           | Natural seminatural<br>greenspaces            | Informal                         | n/a  | Allages                 | Extensive area of semi-matural open<br>space, located to the north of the village.<br>The arts is rough giansland, sould<br>woodland and tracks throughout, with<br>access to the lochside. There is a path<br>surving along the wast of the site,<br>roouting access to the loch.   | Low                     | nla   | nia  |

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### **Play Space Standards**

The audit included an assessment of the quality, quantity and accessibility of play opportunities in each settlement within the National Park. This involved the consideration of formal equipped play provision at both a neighbourhood and National Park wide scale, to help consider if the everyday play needs and demands of children are being met locally. The assessment provides an overall picture as to the provision of play opportunities in the area.

Setting standards for the various types of open space enables a better understanding of the current status of open space assets across a local authority area. UK best practice guidance suggests that standards should contain three elements:

- 1. Quality
- 2. Quantity
- 3. Accessibility

Consultation with neighbouring local authorities to establish common standards has been carried out with Stirling / West Dunbartonshire / Argyll & Bute / Perth & Kinross Councils. However, the geographical dispersion of the settlements in the remote parts of the local authority areas, the small size of settlements and low population suggests that a different approach should be taken. Therefore, a set of play space standards, unique to the National Park, have been developed.

Note: Play Accessibility mapping has been applied to the larger settlements, including Balloch, Arrochar / Suchoth /Tarbet and Callander.

The draft National Park play standards are as follows:

#### **Play Quality**

Quality of the play opportunities can be considered by demonstrating fitness for purpose in meeting the enjoyment, social and developmental needs of children; and the contribution the play space makes to the overall quality of the place in which it is located.

Provision of a **good to excellent quality** play space and associated facilities (**good = over 50%, excellent = over 65% quality score**), providing safe play opportunities for children and young people of all ages (0 to 17 years).

#### **Play Quantity**

Currently, there is no UK wide quantity standard for the provision of equipped play areas for the various age groups. LLTNPA have adopted the Fields in Trust categorisation of the equipped play spaces according to neighbourhood and local hierarchies, distribution across settlements and distances to the play facilities.

Provision of a range of informal and equipped play opportunities in every town, village and small rural community, as appropriate to population demographics and community need.

**Play Accessibility** (in Balloch, Arrochar/Suchoth/Tarbet and Callander) The accessibility standard is an amount of a particular type of open space within a specified distance, i.e. a distance threshold.

Provision of accessible play space (walking distance from dwellings):

- Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play within 800m\*
- Local Equipped Area for Play within 400m\*
- Local Area for Play within 240m\*

\* Straight line distance

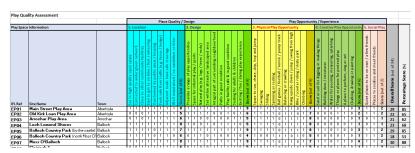
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### **Play Quality Assessment**

Quality of the play opportunities can be considered by demonstrating fitness for purpose in meeting the enjoyment, social and developmental needs of children; and the contribution the play space makes to the overall quality of the place in which it is located. The assessment of the quality of the play resource has been based on the recommendations included in the PSA Regulations, with reference to Play Scotland's "Getting it Right for Play" toolkit.

The scoring system is based on the Characteristics of Play Indicative Tool criteria, that recognises different types and ways to play that are suited and / or preferred by children from different age groups. The "spirit" of the guidance will be followed, as some play elements are not always desirable in a particular site (e.g. water play / sand play / skating). The toolkit has enabled assessors to carry out a qualitative analysis of the current play area resource, taking into account description of the play opportunity, associated infrastructure, provision for different ages and abilities.

Only the formal play spaces have been quality assessed using the PSA assessment tool. Natural playspaces were mapped and a narrative provided suggesting potential sites to explore for future natural play opportunities.



Each of the questions are given 1 point for "yes" and 0 for "no". Some of the indicators are fairly subjective (e.g. space to run, places for pretend play) and could be applicable to many different open spaces. Other indicators require fixed equipment (e.g. swings or slides), which will appeal to a particular age group. Therefore, the scoring should be considered along with the written and mapped assessment.

The Quality Toolkit included a scoring system for the play areas based on the Characteristics of Play and the following criteria:

#### Place Quality / Design

- **1. Location** The location of the play area in context of the open space within which it is set, the path connections providing access to the site, and whether it is overlooked and in a safe location.
- 2. **Design** The overall design of the site has been considered, with regards to its landscape setting, informal play opportunities, paths / seating and condition of the open space.

#### Play Opportunity / Experience

The Characteristics of Play set out in the draft Regulations have been listed, in order to assess:

- **3. Physical Play Opportunity** for example, space to run, chase, skip, hop and jump
- 4. Creative Play Opportunity for example, building dens or structures
- **5. Social Play Opportunity** for example, places to socialise and meet friends

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| Aberfoyle                            | 16 |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Ardentinny                           | 17 |
| Arrochar / Succoth                   | 18 |
| Tarbet                               | 19 |
| Balloch                              | 20 |
| Balmaha                              | 21 |
| Callander                            | 22 |
| Crianlarich                          | 23 |
| Croftamie                            | 24 |
| Drymen                               | 25 |
| Gartmore                             | 26 |
| Gartocharn                           | 27 |
| Killin                               | 28 |
| Kilmun / Strone / Blairmore          | 29 |
| Kinlochard                           | 30 |
| Lochearnhead                         | 31 |
| Lochgoilhead                         | 32 |
| Luss                                 | 33 |
| Milton of Buchanan / Buchanan Smithy | 34 |
| St Fillans                           | 35 |
| Strathyre                            | 36 |
| Tyndrum                              | 37 |

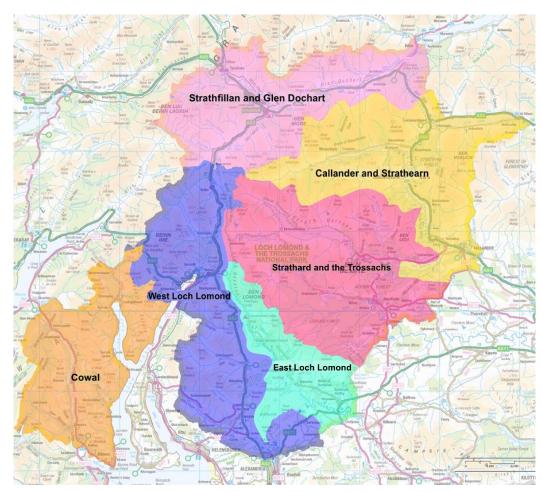
# **Settlement Summaries**

### **National Park Play Areas**

Loch Lomond and Trossachs towns and villages have a wealth of parks, neighbourhood open spaces, semi-natural woodlands and access to the countryside, which all provide opportunities for informal play.

The following section sets out the summary analysis of the quality of the open spaces in the National Parks settlements and localities. The accompanying GIS mapping and Excel database contains the detailed assessment results and records information on the open space setting of the play space, adjacent facilities, path network connections, overall condition and quality scores.





The National Park Localities

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### **Aberfoyle**

Aberfoyle is the main village in the Trossachs and serves the wider Strathard area. It is an important tourist centre, forming a gateway to Loch Lomond in the west, and the Trossachs to the north. The Queen Elizabeth Forest Park extends to the north of the village.

Old Kirk Loan Play Area

2 Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces

**Open Space Audit** 



#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

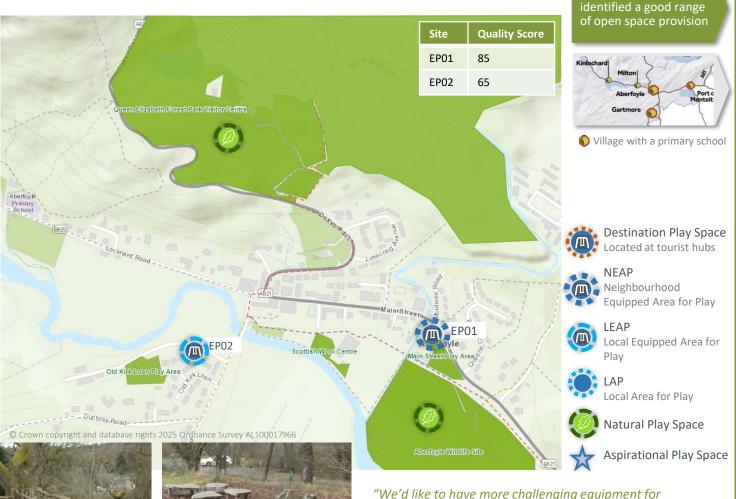
Aberfoyle is in a stunning woodland setting on the banks of the River Forth. The Queen Elizabeth Forest Park extends to the north of the settlement and there is an extensive network of paths and cycle routes within this area. The Play Audit identified 2 equipped play spaces in Aberfoyle. The Open Space Audit (2007) identified a good range of open space provision for the settlement.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Repair / upgrade the Old Kirk Loan Play Area (EP02) to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Provide more woodland adventure play facilities, for older children on the Waterfall Trail at the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park Visitor Centre.
- Extend the opportunity for more challenging play for older children either in the Aberfoyle Wildlife Site or the Main Street Play Area.
- Install more seats and picnic benches



Play Sufficiency Assessment



Queen Elizabeth Park

older children" and the "Kirk Loan playpark is

overlooked and neglected and would benefit from more care and attention." (Aberfoyle Community Life Plan 2022)

### **Ardentinny**

Ardentinny is a small coastal village on the western shore of Loch Long, with a core of short rows of traditional stone cottages and forestry timber houses. There is an outdoor centre in the village, a caravan park and Glenfinart Walled Garden to the north.

Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces

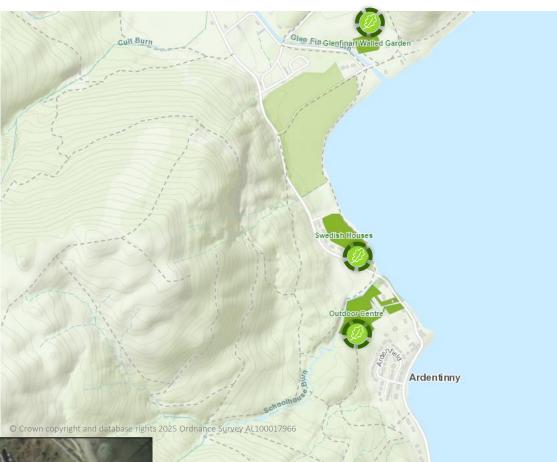


#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

There are no formal play spaces in Ardentinny. However, the walled garden contains a children's garden and the open space at Swedish Houses is used for informal play and access to the beach. The Open Space Audit (2007) noted that the main issue in Ardentinny is that there are no play facilities in the settlement other than the goal posts provided in an open space.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Explore providing a natural play trail for younger children and sculptural seating in the Swedish Houses open space, to encourage exploration of the shoreline and use of the path route.
- Develop a play area for local and visiting children





Flagged the lack of play facilities in the village





Villag



Destination Play Space Located at tourist hubs



NEAP

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



LEAP

Local Equipped Area for Play



LAP Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 





"Open spaces that were identified as being valued by the community and require protection include: the open meadow near the caravan park, walled garden, beach, bowling green and the core paths" (LDP Open Day 2013). "Develop a play area for local and visiting children." (Ardentinny Community Action Plan 2015)

### Arrochar / Succoth / Tarbet

Arrochar and Succoth are villages that have grown along the top of Loch Long, surrounded by mountains. In Succoth housing has recently been built and phase 2 is being explored. There is a proposal to create a new village 'centre' beside the Three Villages Hall.

**1** Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces



#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

There are a number informal play spaces in the villages of Arrochar and Succoth, but only 1 equipped play facility (EP03). Glen Loin Playing Field provides limited informal play and sports opportunity for Succoth. Arrochar play area is around 1.5km away. The villages share facilities with the nearby village of Tarbet. The Open Space Audit (2007) concluded that the range of open spaces provide a good balance of provision for residents and visitors, although their condition requires to be addressed. The play area site required landscape enhancements.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Develop a masterplan for Arrochar Play Area (EP03) to provide a range of play zones for all ages and abilities.
- Extend the use of Arrochar Sports
  Field (IP07) to provide a better pitch
  / sports facility, activities for older
  children and teenagers.
- Provide new play area in Glen Loinn Playing fields, for a range of ages delivered in association with new housing developments.



### **Open Space Audit**

identified a good range of open space provision







Destination Play Space Located at tourist hubs



VEAP

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



LEAP Local Equipped Area for





Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

Ironside Farrar

multi use games area, pump track and dog exercise area"

### Arrochar / Succoth / Tarbet

Tarbet is a small village clustered around the junction of the A82 and A83 roads with stunning views of Loch Lomond. Its location as a transport hub is reinforced by the train station, the jetty in Tarbet Bay and the West Loch Lomond Cycle Route.

Equipped play areas

> Natural Play spaces



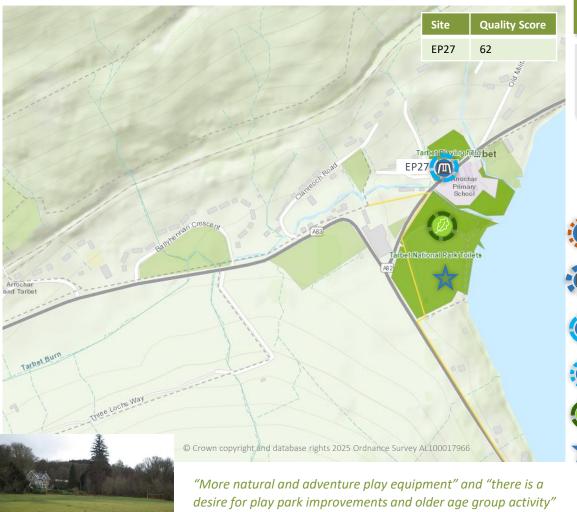
#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Tarbet contains an extensive area of amenity open space besides the carpark and pier. There is also a grass sports pitch with play facilities, opposite the Primary School. It shares facilities with the nearby villages of Arrochar and Succoth. There is little connectivity between the spaces themselves and the numerous paths throughout the village. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Tarbet. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that the majority of other spaces have potential for improvement both in terms of landscape enhancement and to provide more functional open space for the community and visitors.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

Prepare a masterplan for the playing field, including an all ages / abilities play area, facilities for older children, landscape features / seating and safe A82 crossing.





**Open Space Audit** a good of open space provision, but they need improving



Village with a primary school



**Destination Play Space** Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



**IFAP** Local Equipped Area for



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

and "recreational activities such as multi use games area, pump track and dog exercise" (Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui Local Place Plan 2023)

Ironside Farrar

### **Balloch**

Balloch sits on the shores of Loch Lomond and forms the southern gateway to the National Park, to Loch Lomond, Balloch Castle Country Park and Loch Lomond Shores. Duck Bay Marina is located on the A82, on the western banks of Loch Lomond.

7 Equipped play areas
A Natural Play

Natural Play spaces

**Open Space Audit** identified a good range



#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

There are a range of play spaces in residential areas, at Balloch Castle Country Park and Loch Lomond Shores. The Play Audit identified 7 equipped play spaces in Balloch. The Open Space Audit (2007) identified a good range of open space provision for the settlement, including visual amenity, informal recreation in natural/semi natural surroundings and play facilities.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Replace facilities for older children / teens at North Moss O'Balloch (EP06), including a new skate park
- Proposed Mountain Bike Trails will add to the offer for older children.
- Lomond Shores play offer should be extended to provide a range of equipped and natural play opportunities, in EP04 and Drumkinnon Bay.



Loch Lomond Shores



opposite St Kessog's Church" and "support for a sports and recreation area on the west side of the River Leven." (LDP Open Day 2013)

### **Balmaha**

Balmaha is a small rural community striving to build affordable housing. It has a large car park, National Park visitor centre, a ferry to the island nature reserve of Inchcailloch and path links to the West Highland Way and Conic Hill.

**Quality Score** 

56

Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces



#### **Open Space Audit**

The recreational spaces are suitable for both visitors and residents





Conic Hill

Small Rural Communities



Destination Play Space Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



Local Equipped Area for Plav



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Balmaha waterfront park provides a centrally located open space in the village. The play space is besides the visitor centre but is limited in play value and equipment provided. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Balmaha. The Open Space Audit (2007) noted that the recreational spaces are suitable for both visitors and residents and provide opportunities to appreciate the landscape setting.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Landscape improvements at the visitor centre should include elements of natural play in the design.
- Enhance the existing equipped play area, providing play provision for the village and visitors.
- Complete the cycle path between Drymen and Balmaha.



Site

EP08

The tourism plan recommends providing natural play in the area besides the visitor centre, in conjunction with landscape improvements and place improvements. (Balmaha STID)

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EP08

Balmaha

Balmaha Playscape Play Sufficiency Assessment

Ironside Farrar

### Callander

Callander is an 18<sup>th</sup> century planned town, on the banks of the River Teith. It is the largest town in the National Park, acting as an eastern gateway. The spectacular backdrop of Ben Ledi and Callander Crags adds to its appeal as a tourism destination.

3 Equipped play

Natural Play spaces

**Open Space Audit** 



#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

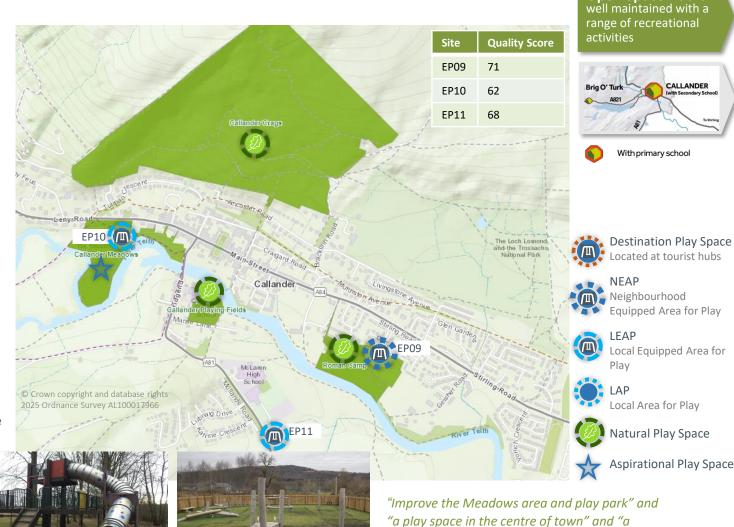
The town of Callander contains 3 equipped play spaces, located at the Meadows, near Roman Camp and at Claish South. There are also a number of natural play spaces around the town, including The Crags and the playing fields beside the primary school. The Open Space Audit (2007) identified a good range of open space provision.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Improve the accessibility to the Rec Ground, along with improvements to the path network around Roman Camp and to the town centre.
- Masterplan for the Meadows, including a Destination Play Space, for all ages / abilities and natural play / biodiversity upgrades, is further developed and/or underway.
- Develop a community open space at the school playing fields, with access to the town and new housing sites.
- Ensure that all play / open spaces are

The Meadows





Claish South Callander

Play Sufficiency Assessment

community owned sports field / events space"

(Callander Local Place Plan 2022)

### Crianlarich

Crianlarich is a village on the banks of the River Fillan and adjacent to the West Highland rail line. The high level railway bridge is a defining feature within the village, which is surrounded by the mountain peaks of Ben More and Stob Binnein.

**1** Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces

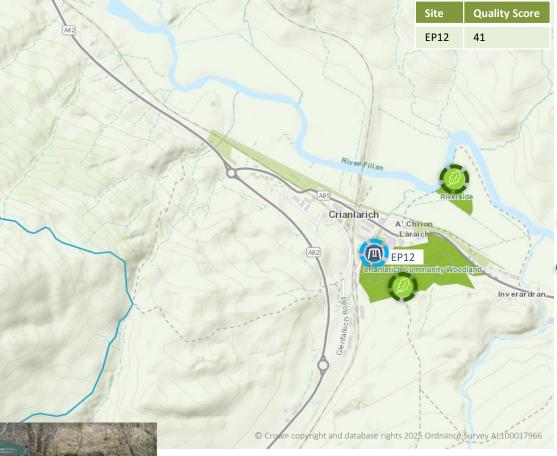


#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Crianlarich contains only a few open spaces, including the community woodland to the east of the village, a small play area besides the youth hostel and an area besides the river where young people play. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space. The Open Space Audit (2007) noted there is a good supply of open space, reflecting its characteristics as a small highland village.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Upgrade play area and adjacent open space / community woodland entrance.
- Extend provision for young people either on the play area site or riverside site, including places to 'hang out' and things to do. Plans should be developed in consultation with the local community.



Open Space Audit a good supply of open space, suitable for a small highland village



Village with a primary school



Destination Play Space Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



Local Equipped Area for Play



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



Aspirational Play Space



"Could benefit from better play facilities" and "Improve the provision for young people, including places to 'hang out' and things to do." (Strathfillan Place Plan 2021)

Play Sufficiency Assessment Ironside Farrar

Crianlarich Community Woodland

### Croftamie

Croftamie is a small linear settlement which lies on the southern edge of the National Park. The NCN 7 runs through Croftamie, along the route of the former railway.

1 Equipped play

Natural Play spaces

Open Space Audit potential to provide

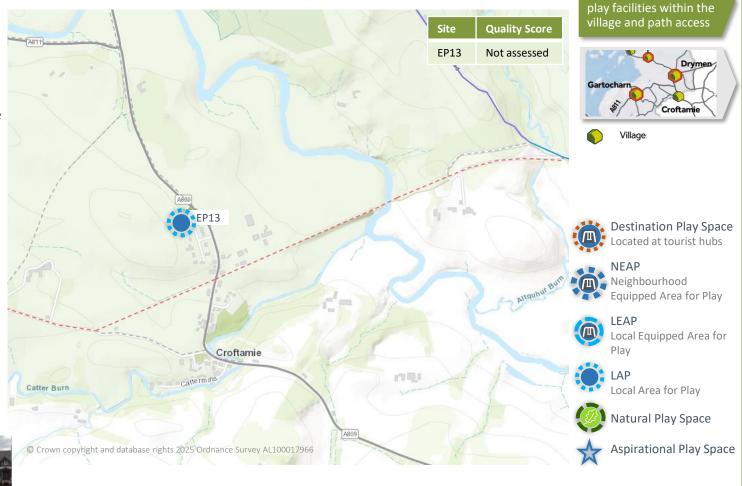


### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Croftamie does not contain any play spaces, reflecting the size of the settlement. There is play available at the nursery which is due to close and relocate in Drymen (this site was not assessed). The Catter Burn runs along the south of the settlement, with areas of woodland. NCN 7 runs through Croftamie, along the route of the former railway. The Open Space Audit (2007) concluded that there is potential to provide play facilities within the settlement and to provide interpretation and access opportunities associated with open space.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Provide a children's play facility in a suitable central local open space.
- Improve footpath and enhance to become a walking cycling route between Croftamie and Drymen.





Play Sufficiency Assessment

Croftamie Nursery

### Drymen

Drymen is an attractive, historic village close to the eastern shore of Loch Lomond. It is centred around a 'Village Green' which was the focus of 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century cattle markets and is now an important space at the heart of the village.

2 Equipped play areas

> Natural Play spaces



#### **Open Space Audit** well provided with a range of open space



Village with a primary school

#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Drymen is a compact settlement and is centred around a 'Village Green'. There are 3 areas of open space, including the Charles Crescent play space, the playing fields and community woodland. The Play Audit identified 2 equipped play spaces. The Open Space Audit (2007) noted that Drymen is well provided with a range of open space types, but improvements to quality could be made.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- **Provide improved recreational** facilities and adventure play for older children on Drymen Playing Fields (IP22) e.g. bike or skate park, a sand pit, a flying fox or bigger swings.
- Upgrade Ardmore Gardens as a neighbourhood garden and play space.
- Complete cycle path between Drymen and Balmaha.





Rear of Ardmore Gardens

**Aspirational Play Space** 

"Improve the existing play / recreation / sporting facilities for people of all ages and introduce new options where possible." (Drymen Place Plan 2023)

#### **Gartmore**

Gartmore is a picturesque 18<sup>th</sup> century estate village, located to the south of Aberfoyle. The village is set in a picturesque setting on the edge of the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park.

**1** Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces

**Open Space Audit** 

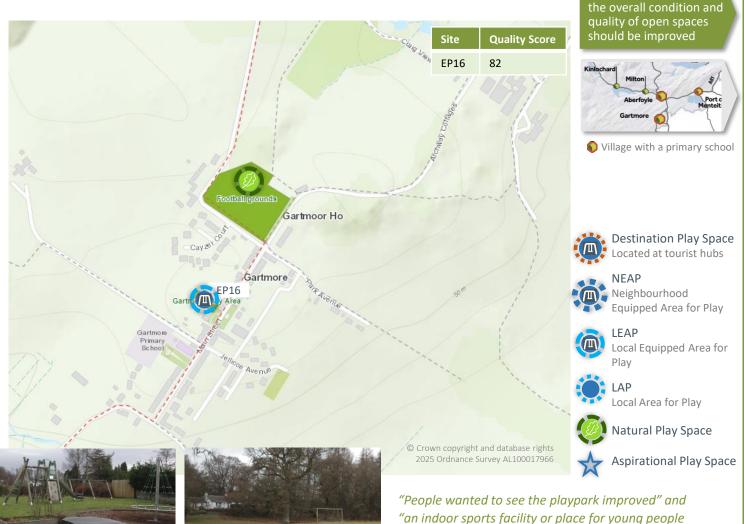


#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Gartmore contains a good range of open space types for a settlement of its size. This includes a playing field, play area, amenity space, school, church, cemetery and a central civic space. The play space is centrally located, just off Main Street. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play spaces. The Open Space Audit (2007) noted that the overall condition and quality of open spaces should be improved.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

 Provide sports facilities and facilities for older children and teenagers at the football grounds (IP24).



**Gartmore Football Grounds** 

to meet." (LDP Open Day 2013)

Gartmore Play Area

Gartmore Play Are

### Gartocharn

Gartocharn is a small linear traditional village, stretching along the A811, located to the east of Loch Lomond. Gartocharn has a range of types of space including a large recreation ground and play area, school grounds and amenity space.

Equipped play

Natural Play spaces



#### **Open Space Audit**

the open spaces are in good condition

Village with a primary school





**Destination Play Space** Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



**LEAP** 

Local Equipped Area for



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



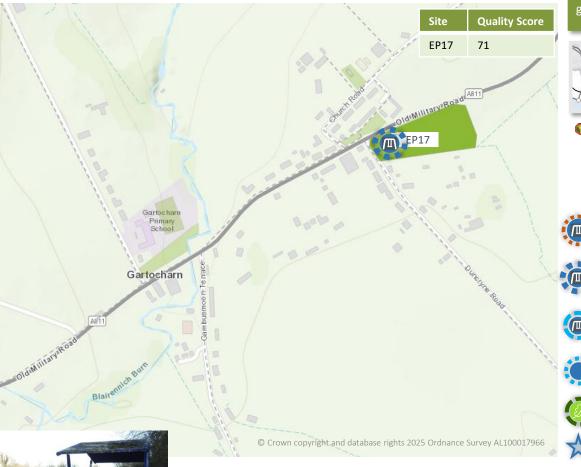
**Aspirational Play Space** 

#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Gartocharn serves a dispersed farming community across the Kilmaronock area. The village has a range of types of space including a large recreation ground and play area which is well maintained, school grounds and amenity space. There is a multi-sports (3G pitch) at the school. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play spaces. The Open Space Audit (2007) noted that the open spaces are considered to be in good condition.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.



Gartocharn Rec Ground

Gartocharn Rec Ground

"Continue to improve play facilities" and "improve drainage on football pitch & play park." (Kilmaronock Community Action Plan 2016)

Ironside Farrar Play Sufficiency Assessment



### Killin

Killin is an 18<sup>th</sup> century highland village located within a magnificent natural setting created by the Falls of Dochart, Ben Lawers and the Tarmachan mountains. Killin is a gateway to the National Park and is popular with tourists.

Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces

Open Space Audit a range of good quality

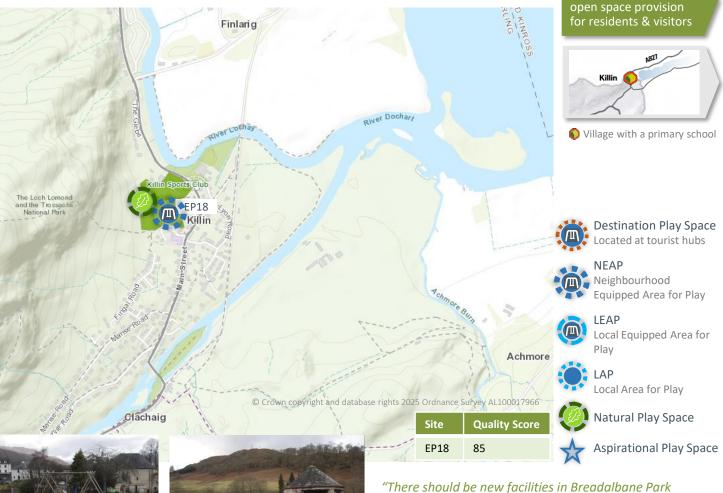


### **Open Space and Play Provision**

The main open space in Killin is located to the north of the village, besides the Sports Club and community hall. There is an extensive area of children's play space, with a football field, bowling blub and tennis courts adjacent to it. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) noted that there is a range of open space provision for both residents and visitors, generally in good to average condition. However, there is opportunity for an overall enhancement of the quality of the open spaces.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

 Consider installing equipment for older children and teens in Breadalbane Park, in consultation with the local community.



Killin Sports Club



Breadalbane Rec Ground

including an indoor sports facility, a bike or skate park" (Killin & Ardeonaig Community Place Plan 2021)

Ironside Farrar

### Kilmun / Strone / Blairmore

Kilmun, Strone and Blairmore combine to form an extensive linear stretch of houses from the Holy Loch around to Loch Long. The villages were developed as Victorian seaside resorts. Kilmun contains an arboretum, sea front promenade and other open spaces. Equipped play

Natural Play spaces





**Open Space Audit** some of the waterfront amenity spaces lack visual interest



Village with a primary school

#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Kilmun contains a range of open spaces including an arboretum, sea front promenade, churchyard and cemetery, play area and car parking areas. Semi natural/ancient woodland extends behind the houses from the Manse to Graham's Point. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Kilmun. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that Graham's Point provides an attractive location with good views over Holy Loch and beyond. However, some of the other waterfront amenity spaces lack visual interest.

> Site **Quality Score EP19** 65

Blairmore

**Destination Play Space** Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



**IFAP** 

Local Equipped Area for



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

# **Play Audit Priorities**

- Upgrade the play area at Graham's Point (EP19) to provide formal and informal play opportunities for use by residents in all 3 villages.
- Upgrade the space at Blairmore Hall as an attractive village space with gardens, equipped play, picnic benches and seating.

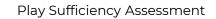


Blairmore Hall

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"Develop plans for the upgrade of the green to an attractive village space that includes picnic, seating areas, some play equipment, and a garden with biodiversity in mind." (Benmore& Kilmun Local Community Action Plan 2013)

Ironside Farrar



Graham's Point

### **Kinlochard**

Kinlochard is a dispersed settlement at the western end of Loch Ard. The open spaces in Kinlochard are focused around the loch shore and comprise play facilities, waterfront open space and amenity greenspace.

1 Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces



#### **Open Space Audit**

identified a good range of open space provision



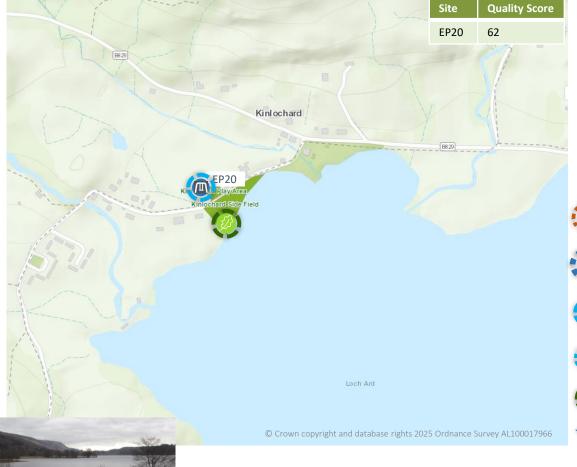


#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

The open spaces in Kinlochard are focused around the loch shore and comprise play facilities, waterfront open space and amenity greenspace. The surrounding hillsides are wooded with coniferous forestry. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Kinlochard. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that the spaces are generally in good condition and provide a good range of facilities for the community.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Provide facilities for older children in Kinlochard Community Field (IP27)



Locate

Destination Play Space Located at tourist hubs



NEAP

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



LEAP Local Equipped Area for



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

"Improving play facilities and park for families and children." (Kinlochard Community Life Plan 2022)



Kinlochard Side Field

Play Sufficiency Assessment

Kinlochard Play Area

### Lochearnhead

Lochearnhead is located at the western head of Loch Earn and the foot of Glen Ogle. It is a largely linear settlement, extending along the lengths of the A84 and A85. The NCN 7 runs along the route of the disused railway, located to the west of the settlement.

1 Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces

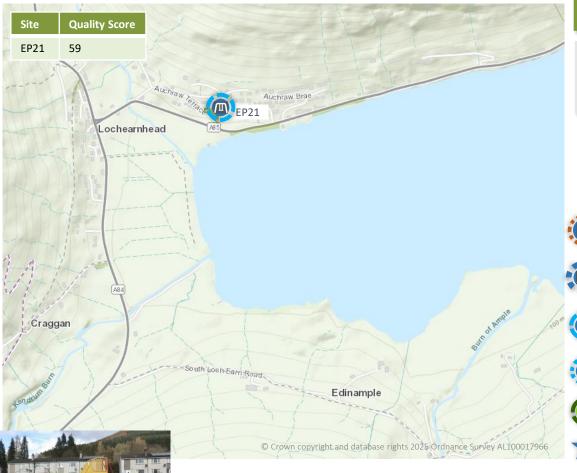


### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Lochearnhead contains 1 main open space in the residential area to the north of the A85. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Lochearnhead. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that there is considerable scope to improve the open spaces within this settlement in terms of access and connectivity and overall quality.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

 Upgrade the play area to provide a range of play zones, connecting paths and an attractive landscaped area to provide seating for use by the wider community. Provide facilities for young people. Review security arrangements / fencing. Consider relocation to besides the former watersports site.



Open Space Audit there is considerable scope to improve the open spaces





Destination Play Space
Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



Local Equipped Area for Play



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

"Our play park could really do with an upgrade and ideally moved to a flatter, more central point in the village" and "not enough for young people." (Balquhidder, Lochearnhead, Strathyre Community Place Plan 2022)

Play Sufficiency Assessment

Vorlich Road Play Area

# Lochgoilhead

The village is enclosed by steep mountains and forest which create a remote and almost isolated character. An established holiday park dominates the west side of the village. The arboretum contains a series of paths and provides access to the Argyll Forest.

Equipped play



**Open Space Audit** the village is well



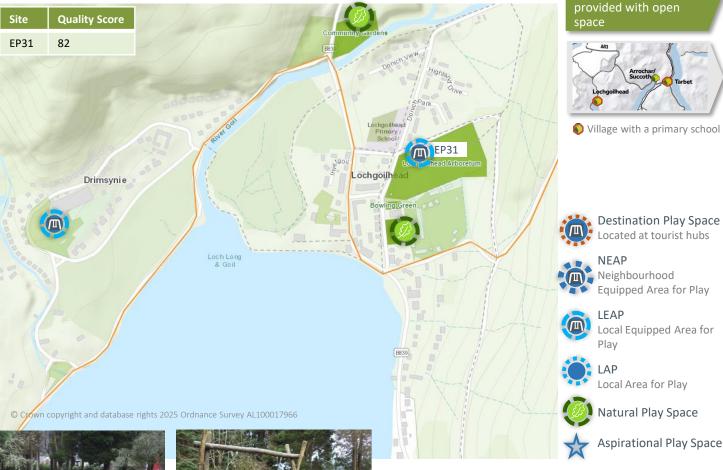


#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

The primary recreational open space within the village centre is the large arboretum, which contains a series of paths and provides access to the Argyll Forest, a popular destination for walkers, mountain bikers and horse riding. The site also provides parking for visitors. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Lochgoilhead. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that the village is well provided with open spaces.

### **Play Audit Priorities**

Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.





Lochgoilhead Arboretu

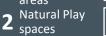
"Wide support for the protection of the arboretum" and "Develop multi-use spaces providing open access for social purposes and businesses." (Lochgoil Community Action Plan 2018)

Ironside Farrar

### Luss

The attractive planned estate village of Luss is located on the western banks of Loch Lomond, just off the A82. Luss is a popular visitor destination, with a pier, parking area and camping ground.

Equipped play







### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Luss contains a few key open spaces, providing natural and equipped play. The play area is centrally located in an attractive open space. The Church Glebe offers semi-natural woodland to explore and the open spaces around the visitor centre are an important destination area for visitors to the village. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Luss. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that there is a good range of open space.

### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Consider extending the facilities for older children / teens in the adjacent Village Green.
- Provide play opportunities for disabled children, involving local children in the process.



Site **Quality Score** FP23 88 EP23 © Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AL10001

**Open Space Audit** identified a good range of open space provision



Village with a primary school



Destination Play Space Located at tourist hubs



Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



Local Equipped Area for



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

"Improve the playpark – for older children and teens" (Luss & Arden Local Place Plan 2023) The STID

recommends "providing play facilities for toddlers and teens (e.g. natural play)." Luss Play Area Luss picnic area

# Milton of Buchanan / Buchanan Smithy

Milton of Buchanan is a very small linear settlement to the north of Buchanan Castle Historic Garden and designed landscape.

2 Equipped play areas

Natural Play spaces



### **Open Space Audit**

Adequate open space provision, reflecting the size of the villages



Village with a primary school

**Destination Play Space** 

Located at tourist hubs

Equipped Area for Play

Local Equipped Area for

Local Area for Play

Natural Play Space

**Aspirational Play Space** 

**NEAP** 

**IFAP** 

Plav

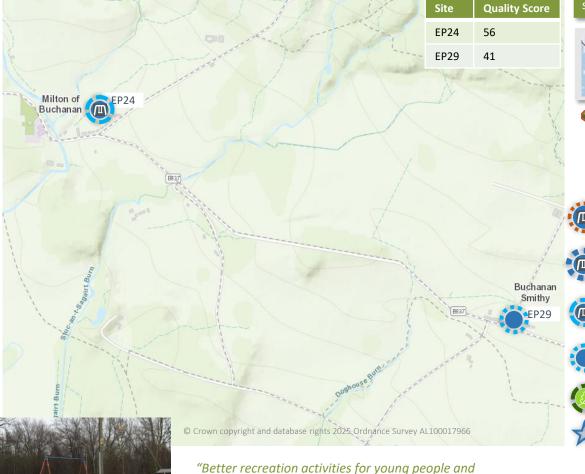
Neighbourhood

#### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Milton of Buchanan is well provided with a play area, churchyard and car parking area around village hall. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Milton of Buchanan and 1 in Buchanan Smithy. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that the open space facilities provide the opportunities which would be expected in a settlements of this size.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Milton of Buchanan: Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Buchanan Smithy: Review the use of this door-step play space and enhance the open space for use by the local residents.





Buchanan Smithy

"Better recreation activities for young people and visitors." (Buchanan Community Action Plan 2015)

Play Sufficiency Assessment Ironside Farrar

### **St Fillans**

St Fillans is located at the eastern end of Loch Earn, in a spectacular landscape setting. It is a small linear village of a planned estate. There are a number of loch side hotels and guest houses and a golf course close to the village.

**Quality Score** 

Equipped play areas





# **Open Space Audit**

identified a good distribution of open



### **Open Space and Play Provision**

The only play facilities are provided in St Fillan's Woodland and Field. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in St Fillans. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that St Fillans has a good distribution of open space throughout the settlement.

### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Consider extending the facilities for older children / teens.







Site



"Our play park is well used and appreciated by children and parents alike, although, there is a lack of spaces and activities for our teenagers." (St Fillans Community Place Plan 2023)

Ironside Farrar

## **Strathyre**

Strathyre is linear village, built along the eastern side of the A84, located in the narrow wooded valley of the River Balvag. The village shares a range of community facilities and services with neighbouring villages. The NCN 7 passes through the village.

Equipped play





### **Open Space Audit**

a good range of open space provision, but they need improving



Village with a primary school

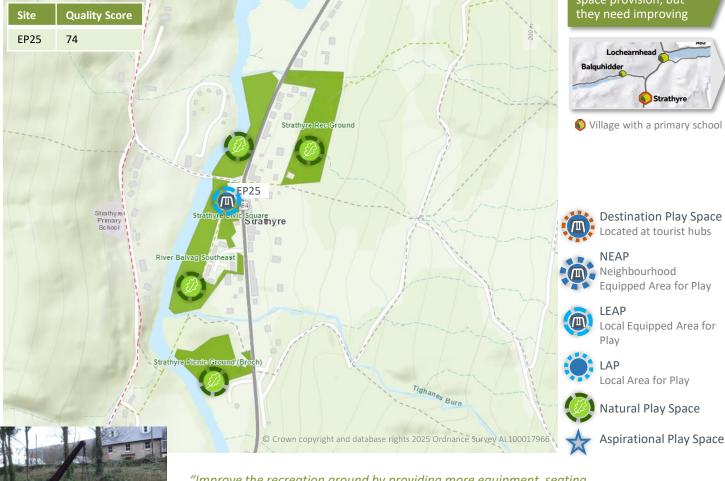
### **Open Space and Play Provision**

There is a good level of provision of open space with a range of types for local people and visitors. There is a good network of paths in the surrounding woodland and a large caravan site is located to the south of the settlement. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Strathyre. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that the key focus for improvement in Strathyre would be landscape improvements to enhance the visual amenity of the spaces for residents and visitors.

#### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Upgrade Civic Square play area, by providing more equipment, seating, and a BBQ area and wider open space improvements.
- Provide youth facility e.g. bike / skate board park / seating at Rec Ground (IP37).
- Improve connectivity of the open spaces in the village.





"Improve the recreation ground by providing more equipment, seating and a BBQ area" and "It would be nice to see a bigger play park." (Balquhidder, Lochearnhead, Strathyre Community Place Plan 2022)

Ironside Farrar

## **Tyndrum**

Tyndrum has the character of a highland village framed and enclosed by the dramatic landscape of rugged hills and mountains. It is in a key junction of the main routes to Glasgow, Fort William, Argyll and Perthshire. The West Highland Way passes through the village.

1 Equipped play areas



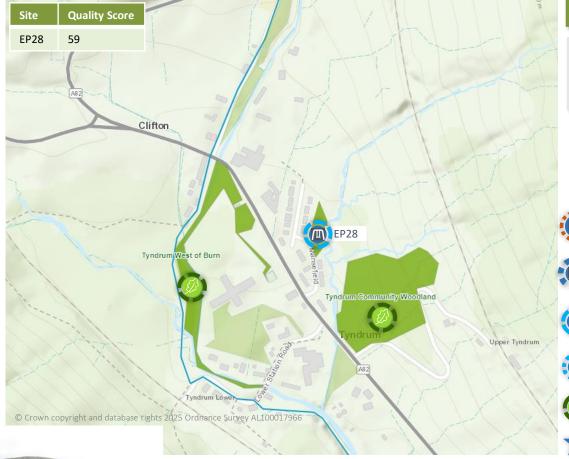


### **Open Space and Play Provision**

Tyndrum contains one playspace and a sports pitch. There is path access along the river corridor and a number of other open spaces, including a community woodland. The Play Audit identified 1 equipped play space in Tyndrum. The Open Space Audit (LUC, 2007) concluded that Tyndrum has a good level of open space provision for a settlement of its size.

### **Play Audit Priorities**

- Upgrade Tyndrum Play Area, including activities for older children, along with wider open space improvements.
- Develop the bike skills park.



**Open Space Audit** good open space provision, reflecting the size of the village









**IFAP** 

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



Local Equipped Area for Play



Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 





"Tyndrum could benefit from better play facilities" and "provide a kickabout and improve the play park" and "Improve the provision for young people" (Strathfillan Community Place Plan 2021)

# **Play Assessment**

The audit included an assessment of the quality, quantity and accessibility of play opportunities in each settlement within the National Park. This involved the consideration of play provision at both a neighbourhood and National Park wide scale, to help consider if the everyday play needs and demands of children are being met locally. The assessment provides an overall picture as to the provision of play opportunities in the area.

The following sections sets out the assessment of the current play resource, according to the following three standards:

- 1. Quality
- 2. Quantity
- 3. Accessibility

This localised approach will help support 20 minute neighbourhoods, and in informing place-based local development plans. It can help to provide an overview of the distribution of play opportunities across the local authority area and may highlight where certain provisions can be met between localities or where gaps exist in some localities so local development plans may make new provision.

# **Play Assessment**

# **Play Quality**

Quality of the play opportunities in the National Park have been assessed using the PSA assessment tool to score the equipped play spaces. Appendix 1 contains the sites that were included in the quality assessment and the quality score allocated to them, reflecting their current quality assessed against the quality assessment criteria.

### **Play Quality Standard**

Provision of a **good to excellent quality** play space and associated facilities (**good = over 50%, excellent = over 65% quality score**), providing safe play opportunities for children and young people of all ages (0 to 17 years).

The quality scores of all the 32 play spaces audited were analysed and the findings informed the recommendations for action to address deficiencies in quality of play spaces. 3 sites were identified as under performing, and the majority (90% of the sites) were considered to be good or excellent provision.

The chart illustrates each of the open spaces included in the quality assessment. Each bar represents a site quality score, ordered from the lowest to the highest score. The majority of the assessed sites are in good or excellent condition, with only 3 considered in a "poor condition" located in Crianlarich, Drymen and Buchanan Smithy.

| Key                           |
|-------------------------------|
| Excellent quality (above 65%) |
| Good quality (50 - 64%)       |
| Poor quality (below 50%)      |

The quality scores have been banded into the following categories:

| <b>Excellent Provision</b>   | Good Provision  | Under Performing   |
|--|---|--|
| Score of 65% or more   | Score 50% - 64%   | Score of below 50%   |
| 17 are providing excellent provision:  • 2 in Aberfoyle  • 4 in Balloch  • 2 in Callander  • 1 in Drymen  • 1 in Gartmore  • 1 in Gartocharn  • 1 in Killin  • 1 in Luss  • 1 in Strathyre  • 1 in St Fillans  • 1 in Lochgoilhead | 11 sites are providing good provision:  1 in Arrochar 3 in Balloch 1 in Balmaha 1 in Callander 1 in Kinlochard 1 in Lochearnhead 1 in Milton of Buchanan 1 in Tarbet 1 in Tyndrum | <ul> <li>3 sites under performing:</li> <li>1 in Crianlarich</li> <li>1 in Drymen</li> <li>1 in Buchanan Smithy</li> </ul> |

### **Quality Scores**



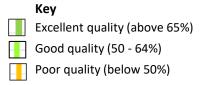
# **Play Quality**

#### **Key Findings**

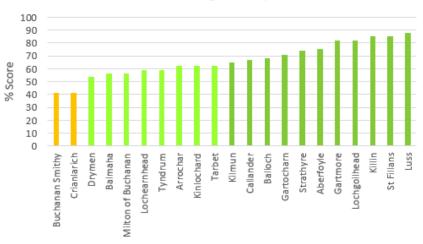
All 18 settlements in the National Park have access to good quality play space, with the majority of settlements containing at least 1 play space considered good or excellent in terms of their quality. However, the settlements of Buchanan Smithy and Crianlarich are the settlements with the lowest average quality scores, both containing 1 play space which is under performing.

When considering the quality of play provision in each locality in the national Park, the total number of sites with good quality play spaces in the localities varies. East Loch Lomond has a low average quality score (52.4%), with a number of small scale play facilities in the small settlements and only 1 site with excellent provision in Drymen. Drymen and Balmaha attract high numbers of visitors but have very little play provision for visitors. Strathfillan & Glen Dochart has a low average quality score (61.7%), due in part to the under performing play area at Crianlarich, as Killin has excellent quality of provision and Tyndrum has good quality provision.

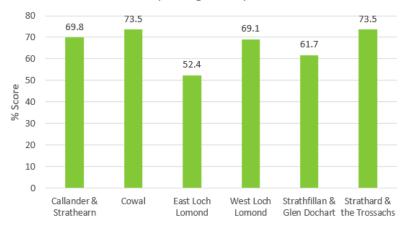
The average quality score of all sites was 66.6%. The chart illustrates the average quality scores of each of the Localities, with play areas in East Loch Lomond significantly below the average. Strathfillan and Glen Dochart locality is also below the average quality score.



### Settlement Average Quality Scores



#### Locality Average Quality Score



# **Play Quantity**

Quantity of the play opportunities can be assessed by considering the number and range of play opportunities in settlements across the National Park. The Fields in Trust sets standards for accessibility of play spaces, but there are no Scotland or UK minimum standards for numbers of play spaces. Observations can be made by comparing the population of the various settlements with the number of play areas and broad assessment made.

#### **Play Quantity Standard**

Provision of a range of informal and equipped play opportunities in every town, village and small rural community, as appropriate to population demographics and community need.

### **Key Findings - Number of Play Areas**

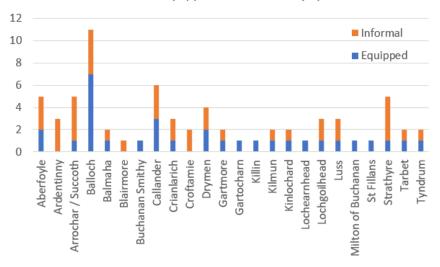
The assessment has included the following observations:

- The 2 towns in the National Park (Balloch and Callander), contain a range of play opportunities for children aged 0 - 17
- There are 18 villages in the National Park, most of which contain a range of play opportunities for children aged 0-11
- There are a number of small rural communities, some of which contain limited play facilities for younger children. Ardintinny, Succoth, Balquidder, Croftamie and Port of Menteith do not contain any play facilities
- The equipped play spaces are distributed throughout the localities, in Callander & Strathearn (6 sites), Cowal (2 sites), East Loch Lomond (6 sites), Strathard & the Trossachs (4 sites), Strathfillan & Glen Dochart (3 sites) and West Loch Lomond (10 sites)

The assessment has included the following observations:

- There are 32 equipped / formal play sites identified.
- Across the localities there are 9 NEAPs, 17 LEAPs and 6 LAPs, which form the hierarchy of play spaces.
- There are 38 informal play sites identified, with most settlements enjoying access to informal play sites and the wider countryside, along path networks.

### Number of Equipped & Informal Play Spaces



All Towns and villages in the National Park contain a play area, apart from Ardintinny which has a very small population. When the total population (approx. 18,640) of the settlements is compared with the number of all types of play space, there is an average of approximately 1 play area per 600 people. There is a good distribution of equipped play spaces across the localities, relative to the size of the settlements.

### Number / distribution of equipped play space in each settlement

| Locality                     | Settlement                   | Settlement            | Population (aged 0-15                    | Population Review  | Equipped   | Equipp | ed Play Are | as (No.) | Informal Play | No. of sites with  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|------------|--------|-------------|----------|---------------|--------------------|
|                              |                              | Hierarchy             | in 2021)                                 |  | Play Areas | LAP    | LEAP        | NEAP     | Sites (No.)   | all abilities play |
| Callander & Strathearn       | Callander                    | Town                  | 427                                      | Higher than 15% children   | 3          |        | 2           | 1        | 3             | 1                  |
|                              | Lochearnhead                 | Village               | 96 (incl. Balquidder and Strathyre)      | Small community  | 1          |        | 1           |          | 0             | 0                  |
|                              | St Fillans                   | Village               | 117 (incl.Comrie)                        | Higher than 15% children   | 1          |        |             | 1        | 1             | 1                  |
|                              | Strathyre                    | Village               | 96 (incl. Balquidder and Lochearnhead)   | Small community  | 1          |        | 1           |          | 4             | 1                  |
|                              | Balquhidder                  | Small rural community | Small community                          | Small community  | 0          |        |             |          | 0             | 0                  |
| Cowal                        | Kilmun/ Blairmore/<br>Strone | Village               | 89                                       | <10% of children,<br>low level of PS<br>children, most pop <sup>n</sup><br>decline predicted | 1          |        | 1           |          | 1             | 0                  |
|                              | Lochgoilhead                 | Village               | 93 (incl. Carrick Castle and Ardentinny) | <10% of children   | 1          |        | 1           |          | 2             | 1                  |
|                              | Ardintinny                   | Village               | Small community                          | <10% of children   | 0          |        |             |          | 3             | 0                  |
| East Loch<br>Lomond          | Balmaha                      | Small rural community | 61 (incl. Milton of<br>Buchanan)         | Small community  | 1          | 1      |             |          | 1             | 0                  |
|                              | Buchanan Smithy              | Small rural community | Small community                          | Small community  | 1          | 1      |             |          | 0             | 0                  |
|                              | Drymen                       | Village               | 222                                      | Higher than 15% children   | 2          | 1      | 1           |          | 2             | 1                  |
|                              | Milton of<br>Buchanan        | Small rural community | 61 (incl. Balmaha)                       | Small community  | 1          |        | 1           |          | 0             | 0                  |
|                              | Croftamie                    | Small rural community | 90                                       | Small community  | 1          | 1      |             |          | 0             | 0                  |
| Strathard & the<br>Trossachs | Aberfoyle                    | Village               | 126                                      | Higher than 15% children   | 2          |        | 1           | 1        | 2             | 2                  |
|                              | Gartmore                     | Village               | 81                                       | Small community  | 1          |        | 1           |          | 1             | 1                  |
|                              | Kinlochard                   | Small rural community | 72 in wider area                         | Small community  | 1          |        | 1           |          | 1             | 0                  |
|                              | Port of Menteith             | Small rural community | Small community                          | Small community  | 0          |        |             |          | 0             | 0                  |

### Number / distribution of equipped play space in each settlement

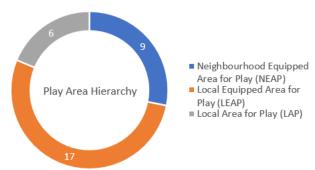
| Locality                       | Settlement         | Settlement | •                      | Population Review  | Equipped   |     |      | as (No.) | Informal Play   |                    |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------|--|------------|-----|------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
|                                |                    | Hierarchy  | in 2021)               |  | Play Areas | LAP | LEAP | NEAP     | Sites (No.)     | all abilities play |  |
| Strathfillan &<br>Glen Dochart | Crianlarich        | Village    | 70 (incl. Tyndrum)     | <10% of children,<br>low level of PS<br>children, most pop <sup>n</sup><br>decline predicted | 1          |     | 1    |          | 2               | 0                  |  |
|                                | Killin             | Village    | 138                    | Village  | 1          |     |      | 1        | 1               | 1                  |  |
|                                | Tyndrum            | Village    | 70 (incl. Crianlarich) | <10% of children,<br>low level of PS<br>children, most pop <sup>n</sup><br>decline predicted | 1          |     | 1    |          | 2               | 0                  |  |
| West Loch<br>Lomond            | Arrochar / Succoth | Village    | 147 (incl. Tarbet)     | Higher than 15% children   | 1          |     |      | 1        | 4               | 1                  |  |
|                                | Balloch            | Town       | 423                    | High % of children   | 7          | 2   | 2    | 3*       | 5               | 3                  |  |
|                                | Gartocharn         | Village    | 94 (incl. Kilmaronock) | Small community  | 1          |     |      | 1        | 0               | 0                  |  |
|                                | Luss               | Village    | 57                     | Small community  | 1          |     | 1    |          | 2               | 1                  |  |
|                                | Tarbet             | Village    | 147 (incl. Arrochar)   | Village  | 1          |     | 1    |          | 1               | 0                  |  |
|                                |                    |            |                        |  |            |     |      | * D      | estination Play | Space              |  |

# **Play Quantity**

#### **Key Findings – Population Statistics and Trends**

The assessment has included a review of current population of children in each settlement, areas with most predicted population decline and level of primary school aged children. The following observations were made:

- Aberfoyle, Arrochar / Succoth, Balloch, Callander, Drymen and St Fillans have populations of more than 15% children
- Ardentinny, Crianlarich, Kilmun, Lochgoilhead and Tyndrum have lower levels of primary school aged children and are areas of the most predicted population decline
- Balloch is the only settlement in the National Park that contains areas from the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland SIMD (2020 Scottish Government Social Indices of Multiple Deprivation data).
- Settlements with the highest levels of overnight visitors include Callander, Aberfoyle, Balloch, Killin, Drymen and Balmaha (LLTNP Visitor Survey 2020)

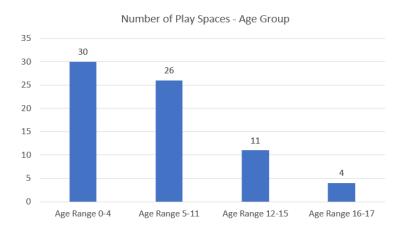


The focus for future investment in play areas, in response to the existing population, predicted population changes and visitor numbers should include the following settlements: Callander, St Fillans, Drymen, Aberfoyle and Arrochar / Succoth.

#### **Key Findings - Play Facilities for different Age Groups**

The assessment has included the following observations:

- There are 30 equipped play spaces catering for the 0-4 age group (typically LAPs or LEAPs) and 26 play spaces for the 5-11 age group (typically LEAPs), demonstrating that there is good overall provision of play for nursery and primary school aged children.
- There are 11 equipped play spaces for the 12-15 age groups (typically larger LEAPs and NEAPs), which can include equipment designed for older children and often located within a play area or including MUGAs or skate parks (NEAPs).
- There are 4 facilities in the towns and larger villages which may attract use by the 16-17 age group (e.g. fitness equipment, skatepark, bike track, youth shelter) in Aberfoyle, Balloch, Callander and St Fillans.



 The villages of Crianlarich, Gartmore, Kilmun / Blairmore / Strone, Lochearnhead and Luss, Strathyre, Tarbet and Tyndrum do not contain facilities for children aged 12 - 17.

# **Play Accessibility**

Accessibility of the play opportunities can be considered by applying an accessibility standard is an amount of a particular type of open space within a specified distance, i.e. a distance threshold.

### **Play Accessibility Standard**

Provision of **accessible** play space (walking distance from dwellings):

- Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play within 800m\*
- Local Equipped Area for Play within 400m\*
- Local Area for Play within 240m\*
- \* Straight line distance

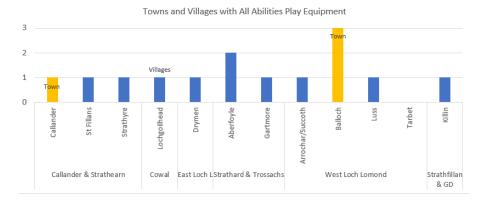
Play Accessibility mapping has been applied to the larger settlements, including Balloch, Arrochar / Succoth / Tarbet and Callander.

Balloch is the main centre of population and has a range of play spaces, with all residential areas within easy access to a range of play spaces, catering for all ages. Callander contains 3 equipped play spaces, but facilities for children over the age of 11 is limited to Callander Recreation Ground. However, a future upgrade of the Meadows area will improve access to play facilities for children of all ages. The village of Arrochar contains an equipped play space for children between the ages 0 - 15, which is within easy access of the residential areas. However, the village of Succoth does not contain any equipped play facilities and the Arrochar play area is around 1.5km away. There may be opportunity to provide

Refer to the following section for the mapped assessment for the larger settlements.

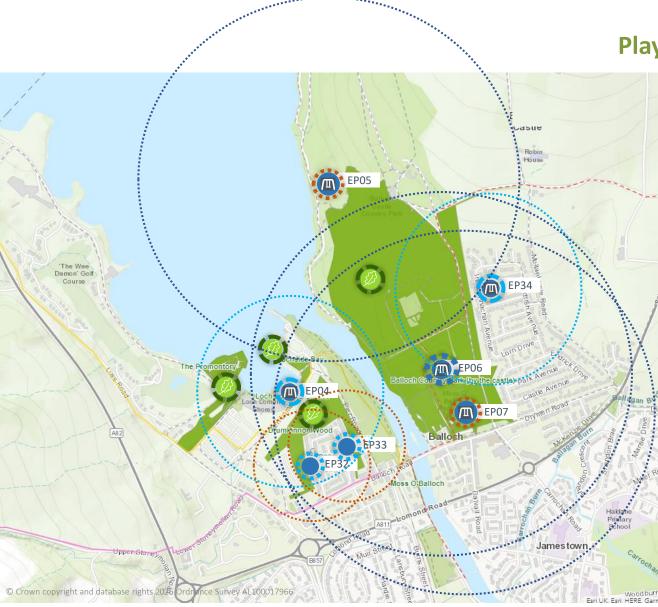
#### **Key Findings - Accessible Play Spaces**

With regards to accessibility of play spaces for people with disabilities and limited mobility, the PSA has included observations for 32No. play areas and identifies path access and repair / barriers / specialist equipment etc. to ensure safe and ease of access by most. 14 of LLTNP play spaces include some inclusive equipment, though no one site is fully accessible. Both towns and all the larger villages have sites with some all abilities equipment, apart from Tarbet.



The Children's Play Policy Forum and UK Play Safety Forum Joint Position Statement acknowledges that capital and revenue budgets for the provision of play facilities are limited, and there is no expectation that all play spaces be fully accessible and fully inclusive. Provision of future play areas and play space upgrades will ensure that play spaces:

- Minimise physical barriers to participation including, entrances, movement around the space, ease of access to play equipment, types of surfaces used, width of gates and paths, steepness of inclines, location and access to and from the site.
- Have good physical accessibility in terms of safety from vehicular traffic, access conditions etc.



**Play Accessibility in Balloch** 

The town of Balloch contains 7 equipped play spaces, distributed around the residential areas and within the extensive parkland landscape of Balloch Castle Country Park. There are also a number of natural play spaces, with access paths to and around them.

All residential areas are within easy access to a range of play spaces, catering for all ages.



Destination Play Space (800m walking catchment\*) Located at tourist hubs



NEAP (800m walking catchment\*) Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



LEAP (400m walking catchment\*) Local Equipped Area for Play



LAP (240m walking catchment\*) Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



**Aspirational Play Space** 

Play Sufficiency Assessment Ironside Farrar

<sup>\*</sup> Straight line distance

# **Play Accessibility in Callander**



The town of Callander contains 3 equipped play spaces, located at the Meadows, near Roman Camp and at Claish South. There are also a number of natural play spaces, including The Crags, Roman Camp and the playing fields beside the primary school.

The residential areas to the east and west of the town centre are within easy access to equipped play spaces for children between the ages 0 - 11. However, the central part of the town (Ancaster Square and Glenartney Road) are not within easy distance of the play areas. Facilities for children over the age of 11 is limited to Callander Rec Ground.



Destination Play Space (800m walking catchment\*)
Located at tourist hubs



NEAP (800m walking catchment\*)
Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



LEAP (400m walking catchment\*)
Local Equipped Area for Play



LAP (240m walking catchment\*)
Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space

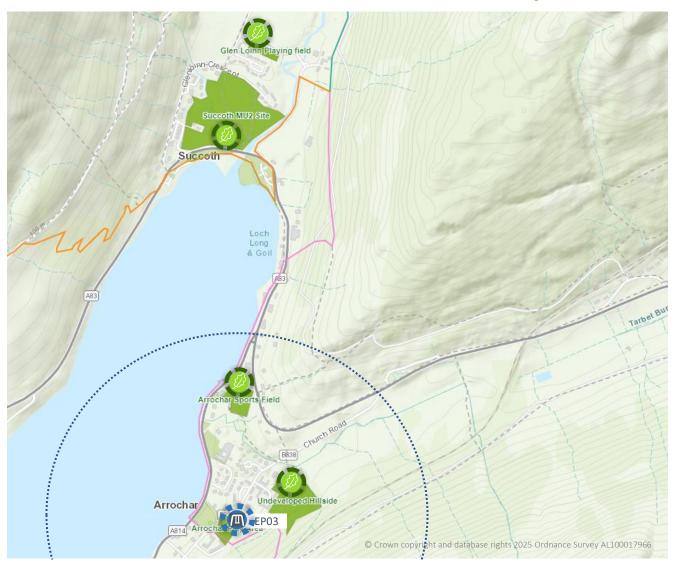


**Aspirational Play Space** 

Play Sufficiency Assessment Ironside Farrar

<sup>\*</sup> Straight line distance

# Play Accessibility in Arrochar / Succoth



The village of Arrochar contains an equipped play space for children between the ages 0 - 15, which is within easy access of the residential areas. However, the village of Succoth does not contain any equipped play facilities and the Arrochar play area is around 1.5km away. The village contains a playing field, which will provide some opportunity for sport and informal play.

There are a number of natural play spaces, with access paths to and around them.



Destination Play Space (800m walking catchment\*)
Located at tourist hubs



NEAP (800m walking catchment\*)
Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play



LEAP (400m walking catchment\*)
Local Equipped Area for Play



LAP (240m walking catchment\*)
Local Area for Play



Natural Play Space



Aspirational Play Space

Play Sufficiency Assessment Ironside Farrar

<sup>\*</sup> Straight line distance

Opportunities for Play

# **Opportunities for Play**

The Play Space Audit has been used to inform the recommendations and will inform area-based working, prioritisation and planning.

Action Plan identifies the open spaces needing upgrades through a combined analysis of the following:

- Quality analysis site visits and quality scoring across a wide range of types of play spaces that identify particularly poor quality sites
- Quantity analysis an overall look at the quantity of open space provision to identify areas that significantly fall below the quantity standard. It can be difficult to create new open space, but sites can be identified for upgrading to address quality issues / add function to existing sites
- Accessibility analysis mapping according to an agreed set of standards that identifies any residential areas without good access to the various types of play space

Recommendations for formal / equipped play area improvements have been identified, providing a strategic basis for decision making in the National Park. The actions listed in the recommendations table aim to continue to maintain the equipped play areas to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

The following table includes a list of priority projects for play space.

#### **Visitors to the National Park**

While specific statistics on the number of children visiting the National Park and its play areas are not readily available, the Park as a whole attracts over 4 million visitors each year and, according to the 2019/20 Visitor Survey, 13% of visitors reported having children under 18 years old in their party. This was a decrease compared to the 2015/16 survey, when 31% of respondents reported children in their group.

The play needs of residents and visitors must be acknowledged to ensure that spaces are accessible, sustainable, and enjoyable for all users. Without this consideration, play areas may become overcrowded, underused, or unsuitable for both local children and visiting families.



Extract from the West Loch Lomond Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development 2022

### **Action Plan**

| Locality                  | Settlement                   | No. Equipped Play<br>Areas | Proposed Action  | Timescale**/<br>Priority |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Callander &<br>Strathearn | Callander                    | 3                          | Improve the accessibility to Callander Rec Ground, along with improvements to the path network around Roman Camp and to the town centre. Prepare a masterplan for the Meadows, including an all ages / abilities Destination Play Area for local children and visitors. Develop a community open space at the school playing fields, with enhanced access to the town centre and the new Claish Farm / Churchfields housing sites. Ensure that all play / open spaces are linked by a network of high quality paths. | Short                    |
|                           | Lochearnhead                 | 1                          | Upgrade the play area to provide a range of play zones, connecting paths and an attractive landscaped area to provide seating for use by the wider community.  | Medium                   |
|                           | St Fillans                   | 1                          | Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose. Consider extending the facilities for older children / teens.  | Long                     |
|                           | Strathyre                    | 1                          | Upgrade Civic Square play area, along with wider open space improvements. Provide youth facility e.g. bike / skate board park / seating at Rec Ground (IP37). Improve connectivity of the open spaces in the village.  | Medium                   |
|                           | Balquhidder                  | 0                          | Consider provision of a natural play space in an appropriate open space location.  | Long                     |
| Cowal                     | Kilmun/ Blairmore/<br>Strone | 1                          | Upgrade the play area at Graham's Point (EP19) to provide formal and informal play opportunities for use by residents in all 3 villages. Explore the opportunity to provide some informal play and equipped play at Blairmore Hall, as part of the tourist offer of the village.   | Medium                   |
|                           | Lochgoilhead                 | 1                          | Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.  | Long                     |
|                           | Ardintinny                   | 0                          | Explore providing a natural play trail for younger children and sculptural seating in the Swedish Houses open space, to encourage exploration of the shoreline and use of the path route.  | Long / medium            |
| East Loch<br>Lomond       | Balmaha                      | 1                          | Landscape improvements at the visitor centre should include elements of natural play in the design, providing visitor play opportunities between the Conic Hill gateway and the visitor centre setting. Complete the cycle path between Drymen and Balmaha.  | Long                     |
|                           | Buchanan Smithy              | 1                          | Review the use of this door-step play space and enhance the open space for use by the local residents.   | Long                     |
|                           | Drymen                       | 2                          | Provide adventure play for older children on Drymen Playing Fields (IP22). Upgrade Ardmore Gardens as a neighbourhood garden and play space. Complete cycle path between Drymen and Balmaha.   | Medium                   |
|                           | Milton of Buchanan           | 1                          | Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.  | Long                     |
|                           | Croftamie                    | 1                          | Provide a children's play facility in a suitable central local open space. Improve the walking cycling route between Croftamie and Drymen.   | Long                     |

### **Action Plan**

| Locality                       | Settlement         | No. Equipped Play<br>Areas | ·  | Timescale**/ Priority |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Strathard & the Trossachs      | Aberfoyle          | 2                          | Provide woodland adventure play facilities, for public access, in the wooded areas at the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park Visitor Centre. Repair / upgrade the Old Kirk Loan Play Area to ensure it is fit for purpose. Extend the opportunity for more challenging play in the Aberfoyle Wildlife Site.   | Medium                |
|                                | Gartmore           | 1                          | Provide sports facilities and facilities for older children and teenagers at the football grounds (IP24).  | Long                  |
|                                | Kinlochard         | 1                          | Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose. Provide facilities for older children in Kinlochard Side Field (IP27)  | Long                  |
| Strathfillan &<br>Glen Dochart | Crianlarich        | 1                          | Upgrade play area and adjacent open space / community woodland entrance. Extend provision for young people either on play site or riverside site. Plans should be developed in consultation with the local community.  | Short                 |
|                                | Killin             | 1                          | Consider installing equipment for older children and teens in Breadalbane Park.  | Medium to long        |
|                                | Tyndrum            | 1                          | Upgrade Tyndrum Play Area, including activities for older children, along with wider open space improvements for local children and visitors to the village.   | Short                 |
| West Loch<br>Lomond            | Arrochar / Succoth | 1                          | Develop a masterplan for Arrochar Play Area (EP03) to provide a range of play zones for all ages and abilities, in association with any new planned developments. Extend the use of Arrochar Sports Field (IP07) to provide a better pitch / sports facility, activities for older children and teenagers. Provide new play area in Glen Loinn Playing fields, for a range of ages - delivered in association with new housing developments. | Medium                |
|                                | Balloch            | 7                          | Replace facilities for older children / teens at North Moss O'Balloch (EP06). Proposed Mountain Bike Trails will add to the offer for older children. Lomond Shores play offer should be extended to provide a range of equipped and natural play opportunities, in EP04 and Drumkinnon Bay. Potential visitor play facilities at Duck Bay, delivering all age adventure / natural play areas in both north and south sites.                 | Medium                |
|                                | Gartocharn         | 1                          | Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose.  | Medium                |
|                                | Luss               | 1                          | Ongoing maintenance of the play area to ensure it is fit for purpose. Consider extending the facilities for older children / teens in the adjacent Village Green.  | Long                  |
|                                | Tarbet             | 1                          | Prepare a masterplan for the playing field, including an all ages / abilities play area, improved landscape features / seating and safe A82 crossing. Potential visitor play facilities at the visitor centre, delivering all age adventure / natural play opportunities.  | Short                 |
|                                |                    |                            | ** Timescales: Short (1-2 years) Medium (3-4 years) Long (5-6 years)   |                       |

**Appendix 1: Audit Summary Tables** 

### **Play Sufficiency Assessment Summary**

| Site ID | Site Name                                      | Location       | Council Area           | Ownership /<br>Management            | Play Area<br>Typology | Age Range                  | Level /<br>frequency of<br>use | Date of<br>Installation   | All Abilities<br>Equipment | Quality<br>Score (%)                                       | Priority for<br>Action | Timescale |
|---------|--|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------------|-----------|
| EP01    | Main Street Play Area                          | Aberfoyle      | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | NEAP<br>(including    | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15,<br>16-17 | High                           | Some older pieces of play | 1 piece<br>(hammock)       | 85   | Medium                 | Long      |
| EP02    | Old Kirk Loan Play Area                        | Aberfoyle      | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-12                  | Medium                         | Some time ago             | 1 piece                    | 65   | Medium                 | Medium    |
| EP03    | Arrochar Play Area                             | Arrochar       | Argyll & Bute          | Argyll & Bute<br>Council             | NEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | Medium                         | Some older pieces of play | 1 piece                    | 62   | Medium / High          | Medium    |
| EP04    | Loch Lomond Shores                             | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | Private - Kemble<br>Business Park    | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | High                           | Recently                  | 1 piece                    | 68   | Medium / Low           | Medium    |
| EP05    | Balloch Country Park (by the castle)           | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | Glasgow City<br>Council but on       | NEAP /<br>Destination | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | High                           | Recently                  | 1 piece                    | 85   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP06    | Balloch Country Park<br>(north Moss O'Balloch) | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | Glasgow City<br>Council but on       | NEAP /<br>Facilities  | 12-15, 16-17               | Medium                         | Some time ago             | No                         | 53   | High                   | Short     |
| EP07    | Moss O'Balloch                                 | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | West<br>Dunbartonshire               | NEAP /<br>Destination | 0-4, 5-11                  | High                           | Recently                  | 2 pieces                   | 88   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP32    | Clairinsh 1                                    | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | Private                              | LAP                   | 0-4                        | Low                            | Recently                  | No                         | 56   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP33    | Clairinsh 2                                    | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | Private                              | LAP                   | 0-4                        | Low                            | Recently                  | No                         | 56   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP34    | Ledrish Avenue                                 | Balloch        | West<br>Dunbartonshire | Unknown                              | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Recently                  | 1 piece                    | 71   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP08    | Balmaha Playscape                              | Balmaha        | Stirling               | Stirling Council<br>(also small plot | LAP                   | 0-4, 5-11                  | High                           | Some time ago             | No                         | 56   | High                   | Short     |
| EP29    | Buchanan Smithy                                | Buchanan Smith | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LAP                   | 0-4                        | Low                            | Some time ago             | No                         | 41   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP09    | Callander Rec Ground                           | Callander      | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | NEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15,<br>16-17 | High                           | Recently                  | 6 pieces                   | 71   | Medium                 | Long      |
| EP10    | Callander Meadows                              | Callander      | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | High                           | Some time ago             | No                         | 62   | High                   | Short     |
| EP11    | Claish South Callander                         | Callander      | Stirling               | Rural Stirling<br>Housing            | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Recently                  | No                         | 68   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP12    | Crianlarich Play Area                          | Crianlarich    | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Low                            | Some time ago             | No                         | 41   | High                   | Short     |
| EP13    | Croftamie Nursery                              | Croftamie      | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | n/a                   | 0-4                        | High                           | Fairly recently           | No                         | no score as<br>appears not<br>to be publicly<br>accessible | Low                    | Long      |
| EP14    | Charles Crescent Park                          | Drymen         | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | High                           | Fairly recently           | 2 pieces                   | 74   | Low                    | Long      |
| EP15    | Rear of Ardmore Gardens                        | Drymen         | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LAP                   | 0-4                        | Low                            | Some time ago             | No                         | 35   | Medium                 | Medium    |
| EP16    | Gartmore Play Area                             | Gartmore       | Stirling               | Stirling Council                     | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Recently                  | 2 pieces                   | 82   | Low                    | Long      |

### **Play Sufficiency Assessment Summary**

| Site ID | Site Name                       | Location         | Council Area           |                                  | Play Area<br>Typology | Age Range                  | Level /<br>frequency of<br>use | Date of<br>Installation | All Abilities<br>Equipment | Quality<br>Score (%) | Priority for Action | Timescale |
|---------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| EP17    | Gartocharn Rec Ground           |                  | West<br>Dunbartonshire | West<br>Dunbartonshire           | NEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | Medium                         | Mixed range of ages     | No                         | 71                   | Medium              | Long      |
| EP18    | Breadalbane Rec Ground          | Killin           | Stirling               | Stirling Council                 | NEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15,<br>16-17 | High                           | Recently                | 3 pieces                   | 85                   | Medium              | Long      |
| EP19    | Graham's Point                  | Kilmun           | Argyll & Bute          | Argyll Community<br>Housing      | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Some time ago           | No                         | 65                   | Medium              | Medium    |
| EP20    | Kinlochard Play Area            | Kinlochard       | Stirling               | Stirling Council                 | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Fairly recently         | No                         | 62                   | Low                 | Long      |
| EP21    | Vorlich Road Play Area          | Lochearnhead     | Stirling               | Stirling Council                 | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Fairly recently         | No                         | 59                   | Medium              | Medium    |
| EP31    | Lochgoilhead Arboretum          | Lochgoilhead     | Argyll & Bute          | FLS                              | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | High                           | Recently                | 2 pieces                   | 82                   | Low                 | Long      |
| EP23    | Luss Play Area                  | Luss             | Argyll & Bute          | Luss Estates                     | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | High                           | Recently                | 2 pieces                   | 88                   | Low                 | Long      |
| EP24    | Milton of Buchanan Play<br>Area | Milton of Buchar | Stirling               | Stirling Council                 | LEAP (but<br>only 2   | 0-4, 5-11                  | Low                            | Mixed range of ages     | No                         | 56                   | Low                 | Long      |
|         | St Fillan's Woodland and Field  | St Fillans       | Perth & Kinross        | Perth & Kinross<br>Council       | NEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | Medium                         | Fairly recently         | 3 pieces                   | 85                   | Medium              | Long      |
| EP25    | Strathyre Civic Square          | Strathyre        | Stirling               | Stirling Council                 | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | High                           | Fairly recently         | 1 piece                    | 74                   | Medium              | Medium    |
| EP27    | Tarbet Playing field            | Tarbet           | Argyll & Bute          | Argyll & Bute<br>Council (may be | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11                  | Medium                         | Fairly recently         | No                         | 62                   | High                | Medium    |
| EP28    | Tyndrum Play Area               | Tyndrum          | Stirling               | Stirling Council                 | LEAP                  | 0-4, 5-11, 12-15           | Medium                         | Fairly recently         | No                         | 59                   | High                | Short     |