



Carlisle City Council

Report to Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel

Report details

Meeting Date:	13 th January 2022
Portfolio:	Communities, Health and Wellbeing
Key Decision:	N/A
Policy and Budget Framework	Yes
Public / Private	Public
Title:	ACTIVE SPACES – UPDATE ON PLAN
Report of:	The Deputy Chief Executive
Report Number:	CS 02/22

Purpose / Summary:

This report provides an update on the planned programme of capital investment into the council's active spaces stock for 2022/23 whilst also giving the longer-term strategic direction for making improvements beyond next financial year.

Recommendations:

The Panel are asked to review the update and make recommendations as appropriate.

Tracking

Executive:	
Scrutiny:	13 th January 2022
Council:	

1. Background

- 1.1. The report is an annual update on the Council's approach to the "Active Spaces" that the Council manages.
- 1.2. Active spaces comprise of play areas; multi-use games areas; BMX tracks; outdoor exercise areas; and skate parks. The current Active Spaces that Carlisle manages directly comprise:
 - 40 children's play areas
 - six multi-use games areas
 - four BMX type bike tracks
 - five outdoor exercise areas
 - one skate park.
- 1.3. Facilities located in rural wards which are not included in this document are managed by the relevant parish council. The City Council supports parish councils by facilitating annual independent inspections of their sites for a minimal fee, offering advice and by seeking Section 106 (developer contribution) funding from applicable housing developments.
- 1.4. All Council sites are subject to a regular inspection programme by trained members of staff and external contractors.
- 1.5. Routine maintenance and repairs are scheduled according to the priorities determined by the inspection regime.

2. Strategic Approach

- 2.1. The approach we have taken aims to maximise the funding available, which is then strategically targeted at sites that will provide the most benefit to local communities.
- 2.2. Sites are assessed under the following criteria
 - Safety
 - Play / exercise / recreational value
- 2.3. Sites are then prioritised according to their need for improvement on these criteria.
- 2.4. The following documentation is used to inform these decisions:
 - Independently conducted annual inspections
 - Independently conducted six-monthly operational inspections

- Play Areas Inventory – this gives details of all the individual pieces of equipment on each site.

2.5 The sites are categorised into four categories which are reviewed annually:

Category	Definition
Priority 1	The site is in need of investment, subject to the confirmation of funding, the project is due to commence during the 2022/23 financial year.
Priority 2	A requirement for funding in the near future has been identified. Confirmation of funding availability may still be required.
Priority 3	Future requirement for medium to long term investment has been identified. Confirmation of funding availability will be required.
Priority 4	No requirement for capital investment identified.

2.6 Within this financial year we have existing projects where the funding has been committed and the work is due to complete by March 2021.

2.7 Appendix 1 shows the current Active Spaces projects and Priority 1-4 categories.

3 Funding

3.1 The aim is to deliver improvements in a prioritised order so that sites with the highest need for improvement are delivered first.

3.2 Funding is sought from a variety of sources, with some projects' funding coming from several different sources in order to maximise the outcome. Funding sources in recent years have included:

- Council Capital funding
- External Grant funding
- Section 106 development contributions.

3.3 In 2021/22 £263,500 was invested in Active Spaces capital work. This was made up of:

- £73,500 Council budgets
- £175,000 S106 developer contribution funding
- £15,000 Grant funding

3.4 Projects may have to be carried out in a different order to that listed due to funding availability but will only be carried out where there is a need identified.

4. 2021/22 Completed Projects

4.1 The following gives an overview of the projects completed/scheduled for this financial year:

- Hammonds Pond Infants and Junior play provision replacement
- Hammonds Pond BMX track refurbishment (schedule for March 2022)
- Chances Park climbing frame and cable way replacement
- Cummersdale Play Area safety surface replacement
- Hunters Crescent Play area refurbishment
- Dale End Field BMX track installation
- Hadrian's Gardens play area refurbishment



Hammonds Pond Infants and Junior Play Area



Hunters Crescent Play Area



Dale End Field BMX track



Chances Park climber

5. 2022/23 planned projects

5.1 The following gives an overview of the projects completed/scheduled for next financial year:

- Hammonds Pond outdoor exercise equipment installation
- The Beeches play area replacement
- Dale End Multi-Use Games Area refurbishment

- Windsor Way play area replacement

6. Consultation

- 6.1 All Active Spaces improvement projects are subject to consultation exercises with the local community, ward councillors and other stakeholders.
- 6.2 Consultation exercises are only undertaken following the confirmation of funding and when capacity in the work programme has been identified.

7. Contribution to Carlisle Plan Priorities

- 7.1 “Continue to improve the quality of our local environment and green spaces so that everyone can enjoy living, working in and visiting Carlisle”
- 7.2 “Further develop sports, arts and cultural facilities to support the health and wellbeing of our residents”

Contact details:

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Appendices attached to report:

- Active Spaces capital programme

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- None

Corporate Implications:

Legal -

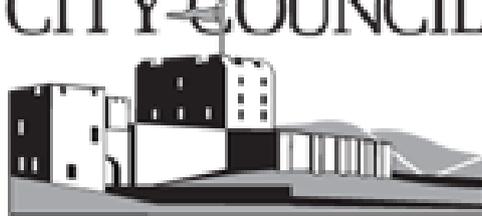
Property Services -

Finance -

Equality -

Information Governance-

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Active Spaces Capital Programme

December 2021

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Introduction

Carlisle City Council inspects and maintains a wide range of active spaces across its parks and open spaces, mostly within urban wards. These comprise: 40 children's play areas; six multi-use games areas; four BMX tracks; five outdoor exercise areas; and one skate park. Facilities located in rural wards which are not included in this document are managed by the relevant parish council. The City Council supports parish councils by facilitating annual independent inspections of their sites for a minimal fee, offering advice and by providing Section 106 (developer contribution) funding from applicable development projects.

This document is intended as an approximate guide to the planned programme of capital investment into the council's active spaces stock. All sites are subject to a regular inspection programme by trained members of staff and external contractors, routine maintenance and repairs are scheduled according to the priorities determined by the inspection regime. Sites requiring capital investment have been prioritised according to their need for improvement to ensure safe and challenging play, exercise and recreational opportunities. For specific information on the equipment located on each site please refer to the *Play Areas Inventory—November 2017*.

All capital projects are subject to the availability of suitable funding, therefore the exact order in which projects are undertaken can not be defined. Consultation exercises with the local community, ward councillors and other stakeholders are undertaken following the confirmation of funding and when capacity in the work programme has been identified.

The City Council's active spaces have been placed into the categories summarised below.

Category	Definition
Current Projects	Funding has been committed and the work is due to be completed in the 2021/22 financial year.
Priority 1	The site is in need of investment, subject to the confirmation of funding the project is due to commence during the 2022/23 financial year.
Priority 2	A requirement for funding in the near future has been identified. Confirmation of funding availability may still be required.
Priority 3	Future requirement for medium to long term investment has been identified. Confirmation of funding availability will be required.
Priority 4	No requirement for capital investment identified.

Current Projects

Funding has been committed and the work is due to be completed in the 2021/22 financial year.

Site	Investment Requirements	Estimated Expenditure (£ thousands)			Funding Available/ Confirmed
		0—10	10—35	35 +	
Hammond's Pond	Play Area Replacement of infants (approx. 0—6 years) and junior (approx. 6 years plus) play equipment and safer surfacing with new. <i>COMPLETED AUGUST 2021</i>			✓	S106 funds; City Council Budgets.
Hammond's Pond	BMX Track Reinstatement of worn areas and complete resurface with asphalt. <i>Scheduled for March 2022.</i>		✓		S106 funds.
Chances Park	Replacement of cableway and climbing frame plus safer surfacing with new. <i>COMPLETED OCTOBER 2021</i>			✓	City Council Budgets.
Cummersdale	Replacement of safer surfacing throughout site with new. <i>COMPLETED APRIL 2021</i>	✓			City Council Budgets.
Hunters Crescent	Replacement of seesaw, swings and spring rocker plus safer surfacing with new. <i>COMPLETED JUNE 2021</i>		✓		S106 funds.
Dale End BMX Track	Construction of new compact asphalt surface BMX track for younger users and beginners. <i>COMPLETED DECEMBER 2021</i>		✓		Grant funds; S106 funds.
Hadrian's Gardens	Refurbishment of swing frame and replacement of safer surfacing plus timber edging. <i>COMPLETED MAY 2021</i>	✓			City Council Budgets

Priority 1 Sites

The site is in need of investment, subject to the confirmation of funding the project is due to commence during the 2022/23 financial year.

Site	Investment Requirements	Estimated Expenditure (£ thousands)			Funding Available/ Confirmed
		0—10	10—35	35 +	
Hammond's Pond	Outdoor Exercise Equipment Replacement of games wall and seating with outdoor exercise equipment.			✓	S106 funds; City Council budgets.
The Beeches	Replacement of play equipment and safer surfacing with new.			✓	S106 funds (not yet received).
Dale End MUGA	Replacement of goal end walls; refurbishment or replacement of side walls; lighting upgrades.			✓	S106 funds; City Council budgets.
Windsor Way	Replacement of play equipment and safer surfacing with new.			✓	S106 funds.

Priority 2 Sites

A requirement for funding in the near future has been identified. Confirmation of funding availability may still be required.

Site	Investment Requirements	Estimated Expenditure (£ thousands)			Funding Available/ Confirmed
		0—10	10—35	35 +	
Yewdale Park	Replacement of swings, multi-unit, roundabout and safer surfacing with new.			✓	Not confirmed.
Parkland Village	Replacement of play equipment and safer surfacing with new.			✓	S106 funds.
Esk Road	Removal of equipment or replacement of equipment and safer surfacing with new.		✓		Not confirmed.
Briar Bank	Replacement of equipment and safer surfacing with new.			✓	Not confirmed.

Priority 3 Sites

Future requirement for medium to long term investment has been identified. Confirmation of funding availability will be required.

Site	Investment Requirements	Estimated Expenditure (£ thousands)			Funding Available/ Confirmed
		0—10	10—35	35 +	
Bitts Park Skate Park	Refurbishment/replacement of skate features and surfacing as necessary.			✓	Not confirmed.
Bitts Park	Refurbishment of climber and replacement of safer surfacing with new.			✓	Not confirmed.
Acredale Road	Refurbishment/replacement of play equipment as necessary.			✓	Not confirmed.
Acredale Road Outdoor Exercise	Refurbishment/replacement of equipment as necessary.		✓		Not confirmed.
Melbourne Park	Replacement of aerial runway with new.		✓		Not confirmed.
Edgehill Road	Refurbishment/replacement of play equipment as necessary.			✓	Not confirmed.

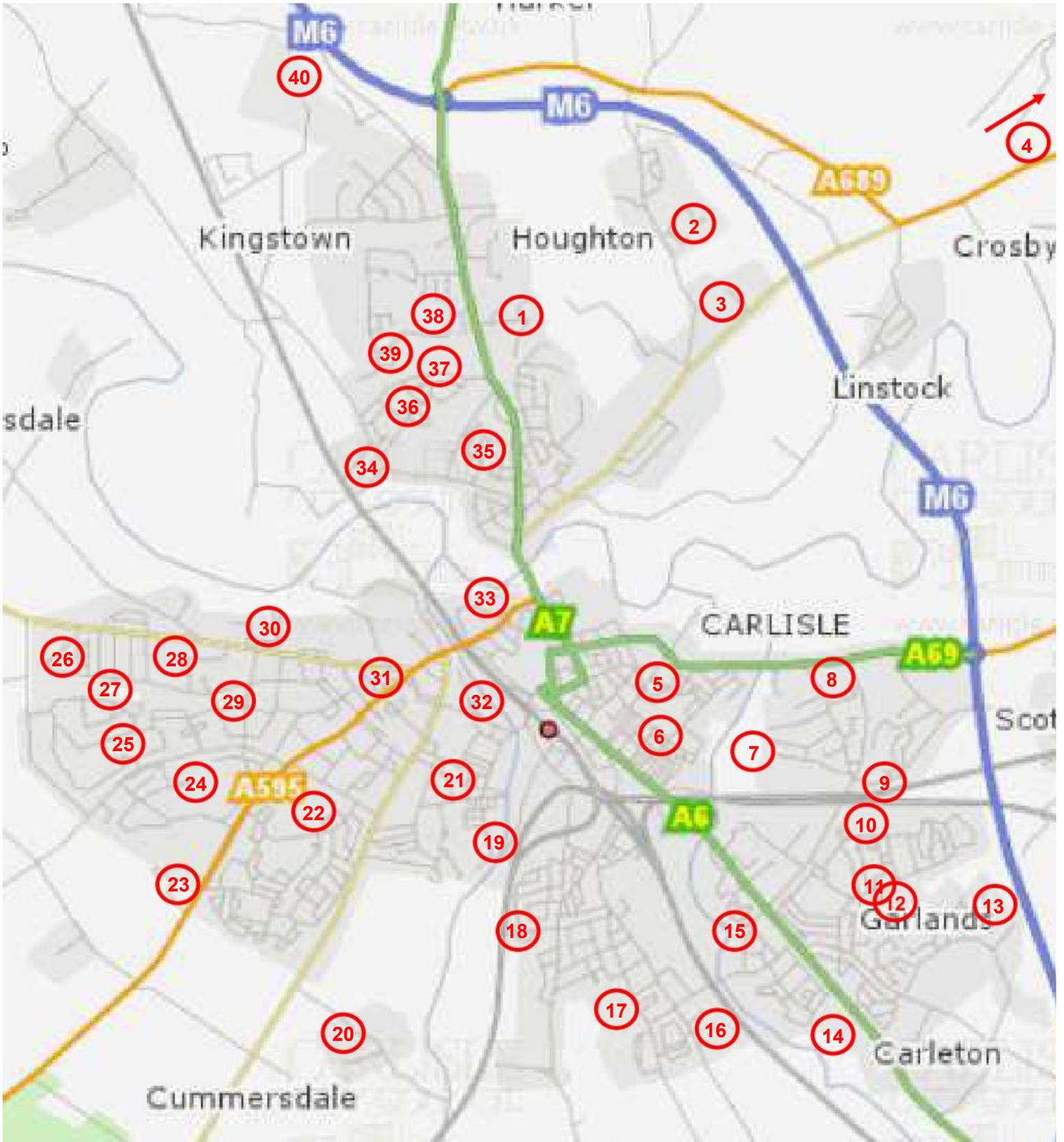
Priority 4 Sites

No requirement for capital investment identified.

Site	Management Intentions
Bitts Park Outdoor Exercise	Monitor and maintain as required.
Milbourne Street	Monitor and maintain as required.
Jubilee Road	Monitor and maintain as required.
Hammond's Pond MUGA	Monitor and maintain as required.
Brisco Meadows	Monitor and maintain as required.
Denton Holme	Monitor and maintain as required.
St James' Park	Monitor and maintain as required.
Chances Park	Monitor and maintain as required.
Chances Park MUGA	Monitor and maintain as required.
Yewdale Outdoor Exercise	Monitor and maintain as required.
Morton West	Monitor and maintain as required.
Trinity	Monitor and maintain as required.
Trinity MUGA	Monitor and maintain as required.
Turnstone Park	Monitor and maintain as required.
Spider Park	Monitor and maintain as required.
Heysham Park	Monitor and maintain as required.
Raffles MUGA	Monitor and maintain as required.
Heysham Park Extension	Monitor and maintain as required.
Broad Street	Monitor and maintain as required.

Site	Management Intentions
Fusehill Street	Monitor and maintain as required.
Charlotte Terrace	Monitor and maintain as required.
Pasture Walk	Monitor and maintain as required.
Melbourne Park MUGA	Monitor and maintain as required.
Melbourne Park BMX Track	Monitor and maintain as required.
Keenan Park	Monitor and maintain as required.
Harraby Outdoor Exercise	Monitor and maintain as required.
Hunters Crescent	Monitor and maintain as required.
Dale End Field	Monitor and maintain as required.
Dale End BMX Track	Monitor and maintain as required.
Carliol Drive	Monitor and maintain as required.
Carliol Drive Outdoor Exercise	Monitor and maintain as required.
Clarksfield	Monitor and maintain as required.
Moorville Drive	Monitor and maintain as required.
Crindledyke	Monitor and maintain as required.
Briar Bank BMX Track	Monitor and maintain as required.
Belah Parkside	Monitor and maintain as required.
Gleneagles Drive	Monitor and maintain as required.
Talkin Tarn	Monitor and maintain as required.

Active Spaces Location Plan—Play Areas



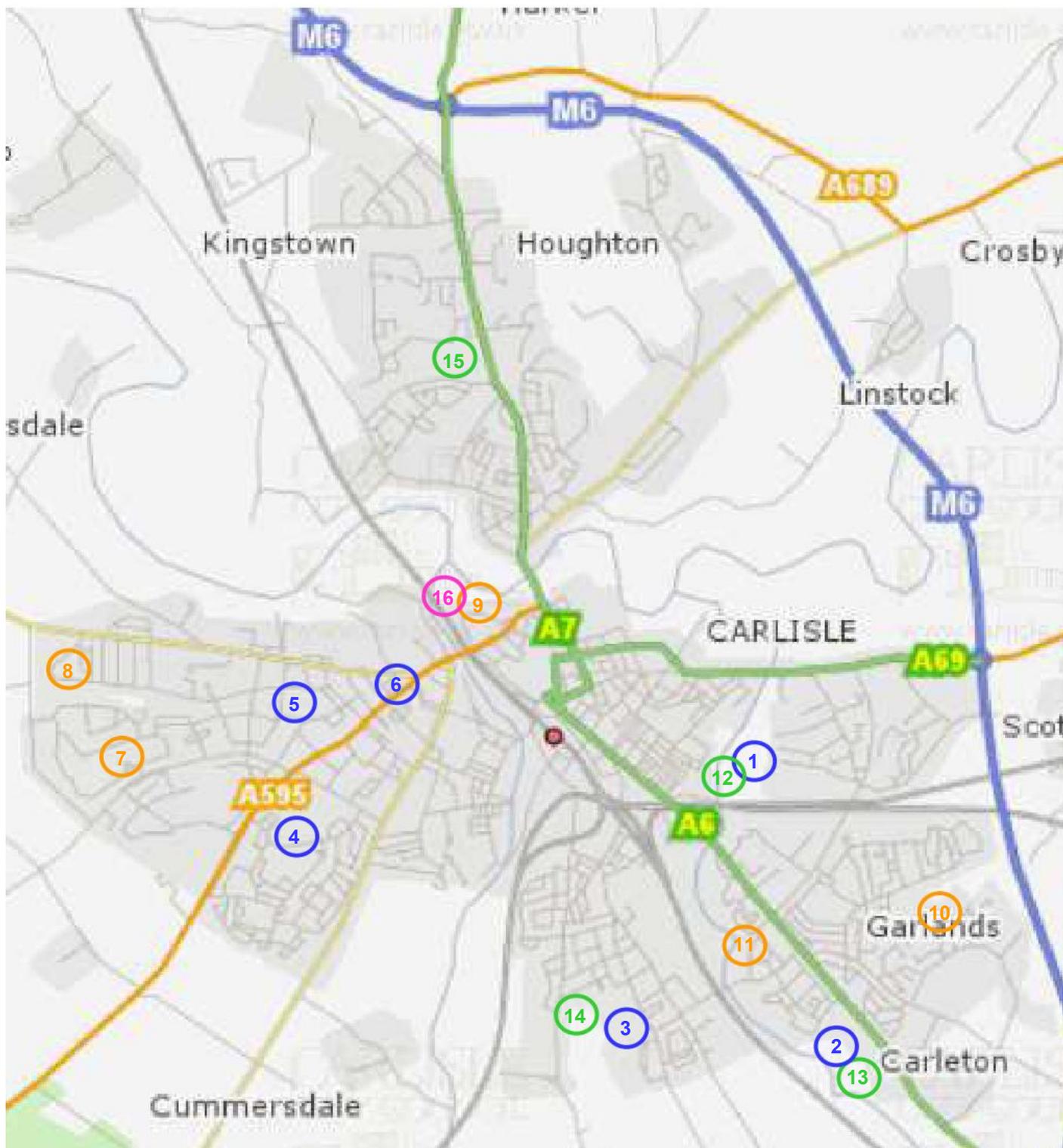
Active Spaces Locations Key

Play Areas

1	Windsor Way
2	Houghton
3	Hadrian's Gardens
4	Talkin Tarn
5	Broad Street
6	Fusehill Street
7	Melbourne Park
8	Charlotte Terrace
9	Pasture Walk
10	Keenan Park
11	Edgehill Road
12	Hunters Crescent
13	Parkland Village
14	Dale End Field
15	Carliol Drive
16	Brisco Meadows
17	Hammonds Pond
18	Jubilee Road
19	Denton Holme
20	St James' Park

21	Cummersdale
22	Chances Park
23	The Beeches
24	Morton West
25	Yewdale Park
26	Acredale Road
27	Heysham Park Extension
28	Spider Park
29	Heysham Park
30	Turnstone Park
31	Trinity Churchyard
32	Milbourne Street
33	Bitts Park
34	Gleneagles Drive
35	Clarksfield
36	Belah Parkside
37	Briar Bank
38	Moorville Drive
39	Esk Road
40	Crindledyke

Active Spaces Location Plan—Multi-Use Games Areas, Outdoor Exercise Areas, BMX Tracks and Skate Parks



Active Spaces Locations Key

MUGAs, Outdoor Exercise Areas, BMX Tracks and Skate Parks

<u>Active Spaces Locations—Key</u> <u>Multi-Use Games Areas</u>	
1	Melbourne Park
2	Dale End Field
3	Hammonds Pond
4	Chances Park
5	Raffles
6	Trinity Churchyard

<u>Active Spaces Locations—Key</u> <u>BMX Tracks</u>	
12	Melbourne Park
13	Hammonds Pond
14	Briar Bank
15	Dale End

<u>Active Spaces Locations—Key</u> <u>Outdoor Exercise Areas</u>	
7	Yewdale Park
8	Acredale Road
9	Bitts Park
10	Carliol Drive
11	Harraby

<u>Active Spaces Locations—Key</u> <u>Skate Parks</u>	
16	Bitts Park