



Parks for
London

Green Space Quality Manual

2024 Edition

Planting

Trees and
woodland

Grassland

Grass sports
surfaces

Play and
sports

Infrastructure

Water bodies
and features

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@ParksforLondon
www.parksforlondon.org.uk
info@parksforlondon.org.uk

Charity number: 1156063
Designed by Jeanice Aw
Cover image: Hyde Park in summer

Introduction

The **Green Space Quality Manual** is an aid for setting, maintaining, and improving quality standards across all types of green infrastructure.

It is an easy-to-use reference indicator of quality standards of landscape elements found in and around parks, open spaces, housing estates, and other spaces that contain green infrastructure (such as highways, streets, and waterways).



Why quality matters

Although the provision of green and blue spaces is important for people, wildlife, and the environment particularly in urban areas, it is equally crucial that these spaces are cared for and maintained to a good standard.

Yet, funding constraints mean that we often cannot carry on doing things the way they've always been done. It is important that we look afresh at the outputs that lead to positive health and wellbeing outcomes for the communities that we serve through all green spaces.

Whilst larger green spaces have more scope to include a diversity of multifunctional landscapes, facilities, and habitats; many urban dwellers are facing limited access to green space near their homes, making every bit of quality greening vital, no matter the size.

Green spaces that are well designed and managed can also more effectively contribute to climate change mitigation and pollution control by storing water, absorbing carbon dioxide, filtering particulates, providing shade, and minimising use of artificial fertilisers and pesticides.

Good design and management will ensure that green spaces are sustainable, can cater for a range of user needs and preferences, and consider factors including wildlife, climate change, health, equal access, inclusion, and safety.

Who the manual is for

The manual is designed to help owners and managers of green spaces of any size define, develop, and refine their maintenance quality objectives as well as monitor improvements, effectiveness, and performance over time.

Grounds maintenance teams may refer to sections relevant to their contract specification, to identify poor-quality practices, improve their management regimes, and deliver high-quality services to clients.

Those involved with urban green infrastructure, such as waterways or highway engineers, will find sections on **water bodies and features**, **planting**, and **trees and woodland** relevant to their work.

The manual is useful to colleges, training providers, and learning and development specialists who are cultivating the current and future workforce, as well as those seeking to be trained in landscape management. It can also be used as a training aid and study tool to support continuing professional development within the green space management sector.

Landscape designers, architects, and managers can all benefit from using this manual to get a better understanding of the outcomes of different maintenance regimes.

The manual can support those without prior horticultural, landscape, and arboricultural, training as the maintenance quality levels are defined by visual indicators, as opposed to the technical methods through which quality is achieved.

How to use the manual

The manual is an interactive PDF divided into seven sections that can be easily navigated by clicking on the navigation bar above or the contents page. Each section starts with a list of the elements featured to aid navigation.

The sections are:

- **Planting**
- **Trees and woodland**
- **Grassland**
- **Grass sports surfaces**
- **Play and sports**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Water bodies and features**

For each landscape element, there are descriptors and photographs that define and illustrate the four levels of maintenance quality:

Excellent	Over and above specification
Good	Conforms with specification
Poor	Falls below specification and in need of intervention
Very poor	Falls well below specification and in need of urgent action



Continued Introduction

Other considerations

The descriptors representing the four maintenance quality levels should take precedence, as the photographs can be limited in what they convey.

Not every descriptor needs to apply when determining the quality level during assessment. Users should determine the weighting between descriptors to arrive at an assessment level.

The four quality levels do not consider or assess the recreational, biodiversity, or play value of the landscape element.

The manual should be used to assess the landscape elements present within the site, rather than the entire site. Further, this is not intended to be a technical manual on green space maintenance.

Landscape owners and managers should cross reference with the manufacturer's instructions for equipment and facilities, as well as green space management plans, then refine the management quality levels in this manual during adoption so that they align.

This manual can be helpful in considering different landscape elements and alternative maintenance regimes, such as varying grassland management, converting bedding to perennials or dry gardens, or creating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to manage surface water and flood risk.

When utilising the manual, the use and purpose of the space, biodiversity, climate change, equal access, health, and safety should all be considered. Depending on the management objectives of the site, the desired level of maintenance is likely to vary from place to place.

Applying the manual with Parks for London's [Integrated Weed Management Guidance](#) will help refine approaches to weed management, in accordance to the location and desired outcomes.

This manual will also help to support a sustainable long-term approach to landscape management if combined with a robust [asset management](#) system.

A word on biodiversity

As the need to protect and enhance biodiversity in green spaces grows, tensions may arise between leaving areas untouched for nature to recover or remain undisturbed, and the need to maintain the space for leisure, health, safety, equal access, sport, and other purposes.

Supporting biodiversity is not necessarily straightforward and may sometimes conflict with methods associated with more formal landscape settings. Less impactful levels of maintenance will bring biodiversity gains, for example, by reducing or ceasing mowing grass for periods to encourage wildflowers and grasses for pollinators, or by leaving leaf detritus to enrich soil and support low nutrient habitats; yet conversely removing cuttings regularly and promptly from grassland can make it more species rich.

Varying maintenance regimes in different areas of the landscape can mean that areas near entrances or of visitor interest can be maintained for aesthetics and safety, while less frequented areas such as fringes of woodland can be subject to lower

maintenance intensity with higher biodiversity value.

There are also low-cost interventions that when suitably located can actively encourage wildlife, such as installing bug hotels, bird or bat boxes, composting green waste into mulch to retain nutrients on-site, leaving leaf litter to conserve moisture, and allowing some weed growth, without compromising on the use of spaces for other purposes.

Managing public expectations and feedback can be supported through appropriate signage to explain landscape management regimes and help initiatives that engage or educate visitors about local wildlife.

Enhancing biodiversity with other objectives, such public safety, will be a balancing act too. For example, lighting installed for public safety could negatively affect or alter wildlife behaviours and nocturnal feeding. In such instances, the manual cannot be used to weigh between these objectives, and it is recommended to consult an ecologist and other experts.



Image: Jeanice Aw

Continued Introduction

Questions to consider

The manual can also be used with different stakeholders to consider questions such as:

- How can we improve the quality of this landscape from its current level?
- What further skills and training might we need for staff to support quality improvement?
- How can we enhance the way we manage this landscape to encourage biodiversity?
- What might this landscape look like if we reduce the intensity of maintenance?
- How can we modify the landscape design and management to improve accessibility and safety?
- How can we manage our assets more sustainably?
- How can the landscape contribute to and better transition into surrounding areas?

Additional information

This 2024 edition of the manual is the product of comprehensive revisions since it was first developed by Parks for London in 2016.

We value feedback from the manual’s users, so please do contact us at info@parksforlondon.org.uk if you have suggestions on how it may be improved and developed in the future, have found any errors or omissions, or have photographs or descriptors that better represent any maintenance level that you would like to share.

The following British Standards are referred to within the manual or will be useful for additional reading:

BS 7370 - Grounds maintenance

- BS 7370-1:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Part 1: Recommendations for establishing and managing grounds maintenance organizations and for design considerations related to maintenance
- BS 7370-2:1994 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for the maintenance of hard areas (excluding sports surfaces)
- BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)
- BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape (other than amenity turf)
- BS 7370-5:1998 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for the maintenance of water areas

BS 3998 - Tree work

BS EN 1176-7:2020 - Playground equipment and surfacing - Guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation

BS EN 1177 - Impact attenuating playground surfacing

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If you spot your photograph used in the manual, please contact us so that we can credit you accordingly.







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Annual and floral planting

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
 <div>Tony Leach</div>		 <div>Tony Leach</div>	 <div>Tony Leach</div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Display is visually impressive and balanced, with consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape• All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease• Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants• Edges are neat and defined• No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)• No deadheads and dying/dead leaves• Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Display is appealing and balanced, with some consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape• Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease• Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between most plants• Edges are neat and defined• Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)• Very few deadheads or dying/dead leaves• Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Display is unbalanced, with little consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape• Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease• Plant cover is moderate with some gaps• Edges are overgrown in places• Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)• Some deadheads or dying/dead leaves• Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Display is messy and unbalanced, with no consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape• Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease• Plant cover is inadequate with excessive gaps• Edges are overgrown in most places• Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting bed• Many deadheads or dying/dead leaves• Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Containers, planters, and baskets

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent



- Display is visually impressive and balanced, with consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Container is in good condition, secure (if affixed), and not causing obstruction
- Correct watering to support good plant health, growth, and vigour
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No deadheads
- Free of leaf fall, litter, and debris

Good



- Display is appealing and balanced, with some consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between most plants
- Container is in good condition, secure (if affixed), and not causing obstruction
- Correct watering to support good plant health, growth, and vigour
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Very few deadheads
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, and debris

Poor



- Display is unbalanced, with little consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is moderate with some gaps, or slightly overgrown in places
- Container is in an acceptable condition, but becoming loose (if affixed), or causing obstruction
- Inadequate or excessive watering affecting plant health, growth, and vigour
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Some deadheads
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, or debris

Very poor



- Display is messy and unbalanced, with no consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is inadequate with excessive gaps; or overgrown, causing obstruction
- Container is in poor condition, insecure (if affixed), or causing obstruction
- Inadequate or excessive watering affecting plant health, growth, and vigour
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting container
- Many deadheads
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, or debris

Herbaceous planting

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent



- Display is visually impressive and balanced, with consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Plants are lifted and divided at correct times of the year
- Edges are neat and defined
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No deadheads
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Display is appealing and balanced, with some consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between most plants
- Plants are lifted and divided at correct times of the year
- Edges are neat and defined
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Very few deadheads
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Display is unbalanced, with little consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is moderate with some gaps
- Plants are in need of division
- Edges are overgrown in places
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Some deadheads
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Display is messy and unbalanced, with no consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is inadequate with excessive gaps
- Plants are outcompeting others and in need of division
- Edges are overgrown in most places
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting bed
- Many deadheads
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Rose beds

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent



- Display is visually impressive and balanced, with consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Edges are neat and defined
- Mulch (where required) is spread evenly, to correct depth, and away from the plant base
- Pruning cuts are sharp and neat
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No deadheads and dying/dead leaves
- No dead and pruned material left in area
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Display is appealing and balanced, with some consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Edges are neat and defined
- Mulch (where required) is spread evenly, to correct depth, and away from the plant base
- Most pruning cuts are sharp and neat
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Very few deadheads or dying/dead leaves
- Little to no dead or pruned material left in area
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Display is unbalanced, with little consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is moderate with some gaps
- Edges are overgrown in places
- Mulch (where required) is spread unevenly, smothering plant base, or slightly inadequate
- Many pruning cuts are untidy and torn
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Some deadheads or dying/dead leaves
- Noticeable presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Display is messy and unbalanced, with no consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is inadequate with excessive gaps
- Edges are overgrown in most places
- Mulch is absent where required; or where present is inadequate, or incorrectly applied
- Most pruning cuts are untidy and torn
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting bed
- Many deadheads or dying/dead leaves
- Substantial presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Shrub beds

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent



- All shrubs are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Good variety of shrubs, with mostly native species where beds are managed to encourage biodiversity
- Bed is dense, with shrubs evenly spaced
- Edges are neat and defined
- Mulch (where required) is spread evenly, to correct depth, and away from the plant base
- Pruning is appropriate for species, and pruned where required to encourage flowering
- Pruning cuts are sharp and neat
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No dead and pruned material left in area
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



Elaine Young

- Most shrubs are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Adequate variety of shrubs, with mostly native species where beds are managed to encourage biodiversity
- Bed has very few gaps, with shrubs mostly evenly spaced
- Edges are neat and defined
- Mulch (where required) is spread evenly, to correct depth, and away from the plant base
- Pruning is appropriate for species, and pruned where required to encourage flowering
- Most pruning cuts are sharp and neat
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Little to no dead or pruned material left in area
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



Vincent Buchanan

- Many shrubs have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease
- Poor variety of shrubs, with some native species where beds are managed to encourage biodiversity
- Bed is slightly overgrown, or sparse with gaps where shrubs have yet to establish or be added
- Edges are overgrown in places
- Mulch (where required) is spread unevenly, smothering plant base, or slightly inadequate
- Incorrectly pruned for flowering time or species
- Many pruning cuts are untidy and torn
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Noticeable presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



Tony Leach

- Most shrubs have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Poor variety of shrubs, with very few to no native species where beds are managed to encourage biodiversity
- Bed is overmature/overgrown, or very sparse with excessive gaps
- Edges are overgrown in most places
- Mulch is absent where required; or where present is inadequate, or incorrectly applied
- Incorrectly pruned for flowering time or species
- Most pruning cuts are untidy and torn
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting bed
- Substantial presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling

Subtropical

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent



- All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Herbaceous plants are lifted and divided at correct times of the year
- Correct wrapping of tender plants over winter with appropriate padding/wadding
- Edges are neat and defined
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No deadheads
- No dead and pruned material left in area
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Herbaceous plants are lifted and divided at correct times of the year
- Adequate wrapping of tender plants over winter with appropriate padding/wadding
- Edges are neat and defined
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Very few deadheads
- Little to no dead or pruned material left in area
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is moderate with some gaps
- Herbaceous plants are in need of division
- Inadequate wrapping of tender plants over winter with appropriate padding/wadding
- Edges are overgrown in places
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Some deadheads
- Noticeable presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is inadequate with excessive gaps
- Some herbaceous plants are outcompeting others and in need of division
- No wrapping of tender plants over winter, or poor attempts to wrap with inappropriate padding/wadding
- Edges are overgrown in most places
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting bed
- Many deadheads
- Substantial presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Dry gardens

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Excellent



- Display is visually impressive and balanced, with consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Edges are neat and defined
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No deadheads
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Display is appealing and balanced, with some consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is good and even, with correct spacing between plants
- Edges are neat and defined
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Very few deadheads
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Display is unbalanced, with little consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is moderate with some gaps
- Edges are overgrown in places
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Some deadheads
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Display is messy and unbalanced, with no consideration for plant selection, colour, textures, levels, and shape
- Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Plant cover is inadequate with excessive gaps
- Edges are overgrown in most places
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken planting bed
- Many deadheads
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Hedges

Refer to BS 7370-4:1993 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of soft landscape

Refer also to BS 3998 - Tree work

Excellent



- All plants are vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests, disease, and dieback
- Shaping is well defined, with appropriate trimming for species and purpose
- Correctly cut after flowering and nesting season
- Sides and top are even and level
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants)
- No dead and pruned material left in area
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Most plants are vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests, disease, or dieback
- Shaping is defined, with appropriate trimming for species and purpose
- Correctly cut after flowering and nesting season
- Sides and top are mostly even and level
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Little to no dead or pruned material left in area
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Many plants have poor vigour and health, with some signs of pests, disease, or dieback leaving some gaps
- Shaping is poor, with inappropriate trimming for species and purpose
- Incorrectly cut just before flowering or during nesting season
- Sides or top is uneven, but not causing obstruction or encroachment
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Noticeable presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Most plants have poor vigour and health, with significant signs of pests, disease, or dieback leaving many gaps
- Shaping is undefined due to overgrowing, with inappropriate trimming for species and purpose
- Incorrectly cut just before flowering or during nesting season
- Sides or top is uneven, causing obstruction or encroachment
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken hedge
- Substantial presence of dead or pruned material left in area
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling



Trees and woodland

Trees (not part of woodland)	16	Young orchard	20
Mixed woodland	18	Established orchard	22
Scrub	19	Coppice	23



1 of 2

Trees (not part of woodland)

Refer to BS 3998 - Tree work

Excellent



Vast majority of trees:

- Growth is vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Appropriately pruned for species, purpose, and location
- No dead, damaged, and diseased branches
- No overhanging and encroaching growth
- No basal and sucker growths
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants) at tree base
- Mulch (where required) is spread evenly, and to correct depth

Good



Most trees:

- Most growth is vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests and disease
- Appropriately pruned for species, purpose, and location
- Very few dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching growth
- Very few basal or sucker growths
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) at tree base
- Mulch (where required) is spread evenly, and to correct depth

Poor



Several trees:

- Growth is average, with some signs of pests or disease
- Inappropriately pruned for species, purpose, or location
- Some dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Some overhanging or encroaching growth, causing minor obstruction to access or infrastructure use
- Some basal or sucker growths
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) at tree base
- Mulch (where required) is spread unevenly, or slightly inadequate

Very poor



Many trees:

- Growth is poor, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Inappropriately pruned for species, purpose, or location
- Many dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching growth, causing obstruction to access or infrastructure use
- Many basal or sucker growths
- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken tree base
- Mulch is absent where redamage to tree base or surface roots

Continued →

2 of 2

Trees (not part of woodland)

Excellent



Vast majority of trees:

- Stakes (where required) are in good condition, embedded firmly in the ground, and not rubbing tree
- Tree ties (where required) are holding tree to the stake firmly, and not too tight around the trunk
- Tree guards (where required) are not too tight and rubbing against the trunk
- No mower/trimmer damage to tree base and surface roots
- No dead and pruned material left in area

← Continued

Good



Most trees:

- Stakes (where required) are in good condition, embedded firmly in the ground, and not rubbing tree
- Tree ties (where required) are holding tree to the stake firmly, and not too tight around the trunk
- Tree guards (where required) are not too tight and rubbing against trunk
- No mower/trimmer damage to tree base and surface roots
- No dead or pruned material left in area

Poor



Several trees:

- Stakes (where required) are in an acceptable condition, but not embedded firmly and becoming loose in the ground, or rubbing tree
- Tree ties (where required) are not holding tree to the stake firmly, or becoming too tight/loose around the trunk
- Tree guards (where required) are becoming too tight and rubbing against the trunk
- Minor mower/trimmer damage to tree base or surface roots
- Noticeable presence of dead or pruned material left in area

Very poor



Many trees:

- Stakes are absent where required; or where present are in poor condition, unstable in the ground and providing no support, or rubbing tree
- Tree ties are absent where required, or where present are too tight/loose around the trunk
- Tree guards are absent where required; or where present are broken, or too tight and rubbing against the trunk
- Moderate to significant mower/trimmer damage to tree base or surface roots
- Substantial presence of dead or pruned material left in area

Mixed woodland

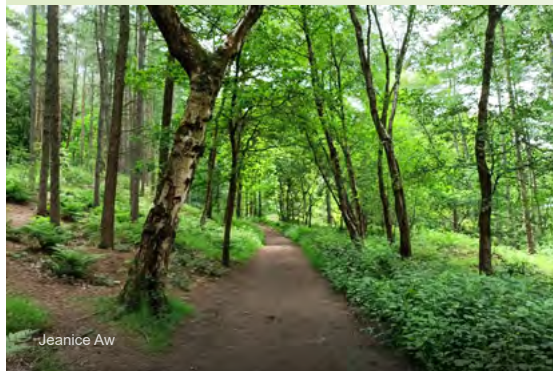
Refer to BS 3998 - Tree work

Excellent



- Managed in accordance with a woodland management plan
- Structurally diverse (includes dominant and sub-dominant tree species; understory tree and shrub species; and low-level shrubs, natural regeneration, and ground flora)
- Good mix of nectar-rich plants
- Ample glades or open spaces to allow grass, flowers, and seedlings to grow
- No invasive plants
- Standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat
- Mature and veteran trees are protected, and identified for veteranisation to ensure succession of habitat
- Free of graffiti, litter, debris, fly-tipping, and animal fouling

Good



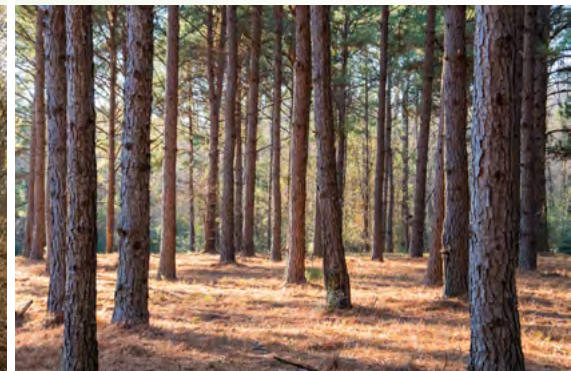
- Managed in accordance with a woodland management plan
- Mostly structurally diverse (includes dominant and sub-dominant tree species; understory tree and shrub species; and low-level shrubs, natural regeneration, and ground flora)
- Adequate mix of nectar-rich plants
- Ample glades or open spaces to allow grass, flowers, and seedlings to grow
- Invasive plants are controlled and do not dominate any areas
- Some standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat
- Mature and veteran trees are protected, and identified for veteranisation to ensure succession of habitat
- Predominantly free of graffiti, litter, debris, fly-tipping, and animal fouling

Poor



- Not managed in accordance with a woodland management plan
- Structurally diverse in age and height, but with a poor mix species of tree and shrub varieties
- Inadequate mix of nectar-rich plants
- Very few glades or open spaces to allow grass, flowers, and seedlings to grow
- Invasive plants are establishing in places, with limited to no control
- Very little standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat
- Mature and veteran trees are not protected, or with poor succession planning
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, litter, debris, fly-tipping, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Poorly managed with no woodland management plan in place
- Monotonous, with little to no mix of tree and shrub varieties, or little to no understory resulting from over-clearance
- No nectar-rich plants
- No glades or open spaces, or the few present are too small to allow grass, flowers, and seedlings to grow
- Invasive plants have dominated most places, with limited to no control
- No standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat, or what little retained is potentially unsafe or causing obstruction
- Mature and veteran trees are unprotected, in poor and deteriorating condition, or with no succession planning
- Severely affected by graffiti, litter, debris, fly-tipping, or animal fouling

Scrub

Excellent



- Growth is vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Dominated by a variety of native shrubs, bushes, and small tree saplings
- Shrub height is below 5 m
- Good transition with the surrounding landscape (e.g., mature canopy trees or grassland), creating structural variety for a mosaic of habitats
- Good diversity in heights, ages, and structure
- Management for controlled spread, good cover, and fresh growth is evident
- No overhanging and encroaching growth
- Standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Most growth is vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Dominated by a variety of native shrubs, bushes, and small tree saplings
- Shrub height is below 5 m
- Some transition with the surrounding landscape (see Excellent)
- Adequate diversity in heights, ages, and structure
- Some management for controlled spread, good cover, and fresh growth is evident
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching growth
- Some standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Growth is average, with some signs of pests or disease
- Includes some native shrubs, bushes, and small tree saplings
- Shrub height exceeds 5m in places
- Poor transition with the surrounding landscape (see Excellent)
- Inadequate diversity in heights, ages, and structure
- Little management for controlled spread, good cover, and fresh growth is evident
- Some overhanging or encroaching growth, causing minor obstruction to access or infrastructure use
- Very little standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor

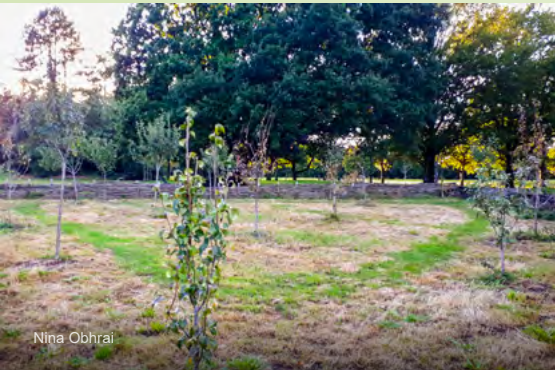


- Growth is poor, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Dominated by non-native species
- Shrub height exceeds 5m in most places
- No transition with the surrounding landscape (see Excellent)
- No diversity in heights, ages, and structure
- No management for controlled spread, good cover, and fresh growth is evident
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching growth, causing obstruction to access or infrastructure use
- No standing/fallen deadwood (where safe) is retained as wildlife habitat, or what little retained is potentially unsafe or causing obstruction
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling

1 of 2

Young orchard

Excellent



- Managed in accordance with a management plan
- Growth is vigorous and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Trees are planted to the correct depth
- Stakes are in good condition, embedded firmly in the ground, not rubbing tree, and at correct distance from the root ball
- Tree ties are holding tree to the stake firmly, and not too tight around the trunk
- Tree guards are not too tight and rubbing against the branches and trunk
- Watering to support establishment is adequate

Good



- Managed in accordance with a management plan
- Most growth is vigorous and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Trees are planted to the correct depth
- Stakes are in good condition, embedded firmly in the ground, not rubbing tree, and at correct distance from the root ball
- Tree ties are holding tree to the stake firmly, and not too tight around the trunk
- Tree guards are not too tight and rubbing against the branches and trunk
- Watering to support establishment is adequate

Poor



- Not managed in accordance with a management plan
- Growth is average, with some signs of pests or disease
- Some trees are not planted to the correct depth
- Stakes are in an acceptable condition, but not embedded firmly and becoming loose in the ground, rubbing tree, or placed within and damaging the root ball
- Tree ties are not holding tree to the stake firmly, or becoming too tight/loose around the trunk
- Tree guards are too tall and restricting branch growth, or becoming too tight and rubbing against the trunk
- Watering to support establishment is slightly inadequate for some trees

Very poor



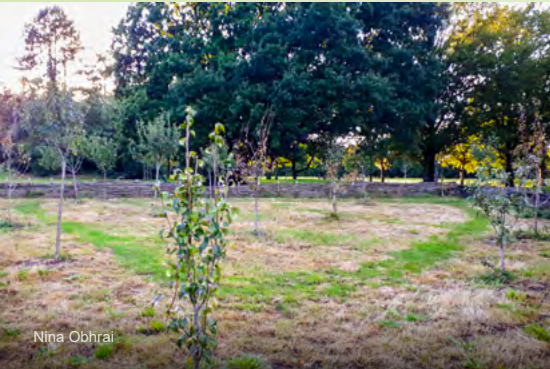
- Poorly managed with no management plan in place
- Growth is poor, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Most trees are not planted to the correct depth
- Stakes are absent; or where present are in poor condition, unstable in the ground and providing no support, rubbing tree, or placed within and damaging the root ball
- Tree ties are absent, or where present are too tight/loose around the trunk and restricting growth
- Tree guards are absent; or where present are broken, or rubbing on the branches or trunk and restricting growth
- Watering to support establishment is inadequate for most trees

Continued →

2 of 2

Young orchard

Excellent



- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., weeds or invasive plants) at base of trees
- Mulch is spread evenly, to correct depth, and not touching tree base
- No mower/trimmer damage to tree base and surface roots
- Pruning is appropriate for species to encourage desired habit and flowering
- No dead, damaged, and diseased branches
- Pruning cuts are sharp, and in accordance with the principles of natural target pruning, leaving no damage (e.g., stubs, tears, or flushing cuts)
- No sucker growths

Good



- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) at base of most trees
- Mulch is spread evenly, to correct depth, and not touching base of most trees
- No mower/trimmer damage to base and surface roots of most trees
- Pruning is appropriate for species in most trees to encourage desired habit and flowering
- Very few dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Most pruning cuts are sharp, and in accordance with the principles of natural target pruning, leaving little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Very few sucker growths

Poor



- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) at base of some trees
- Mulch is spread unevenly, smothering tree base, or slightly inadequate for some trees
- Minor mower/trimmer damage to base or surface roots of some trees
- Pruning is inappropriate for species, causing poor form or growth in some trees
- Some dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Many pruning cuts are untidy or improper, leaving some damage (see Excellent)
- Many sucker growths

Very poor



- Undesirable vegetation (see Excellent) has overtaken base of most trees
- Mulch is absent; or where present is inadequate, or incorrectly applied for most trees
- Moderate to significant mower/trimmer damage to base or surface roots of some trees
- Pruning is inappropriate or lacking, causing poor form or growth in most trees
- Many dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Most pruning cuts are untidy or improper, leaving significant damage (see Excellent)
- Sucker growths have taken over some trees

← Continued



Established orchard

Excellent



Stephanie Irvine

- Managed in accordance with a management plan
- Trees are maintained at the desired size, with a canopy that is not too thin or overcrowded
- No dead, damaged, and diseased branches
- No mower/trimmer damage to tree base and surface roots

Good



- Managed in accordance with a management plan
- Most trees are maintained at the desired size, with a canopy that is not too thin or overcrowded
- Very few dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- No mower/trimmer damage to base and surface roots of most trees

Poor



Ryan/Flickr

- Not managed in accordance with a management plan
- Inappropriate crown management, leaving a canopy that is slightly sparse or overcrowded with branches
- Some dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Minor mower/trimmer damage to base or surface roots of some trees

Very poor



Debs-eye/Flickr

- Poorly managed with no management plan in place
- No crown management, leaving a canopy that is overcrowded with branches
- Many dead, damaged, or diseased branches
- Moderate to significant mower/trimmer damage to base or surface roots of some trees



Coppice

Excellent



Tony Leach

- Managed in accordance with a management plan
- Pruning and clearing is evident, carried out in specific areas, on a rotational basis, and outside nesting season
- New coppices are identified for succession planning to ensure continuity or expansion of coppice

Good



Tony Leach

- Managed in accordance with a management plan
- Pruning and clearing is evident, carried out in specific areas, on a rotational basis, and outside nesting season
- Some new coppices are identified for succession planning to ensure continuity or expansion of coppice

Poor



John K Thorne/Flickr

- Not managed in accordance with a management plan
- Some pruning and clearing is evident, and carried out outside nesting season, but in non-specific areas, or inconsistently with no clear cycle established
- Poor succession planning to ensure continuity or expansion of coppice

Very poor



Peter O'Connot/Flickr

- Poorly managed with no management plan in place
- Pruning and clearing has ceased; or where present is carried out at random, crudely, or during nesting season
- No succession planning to ensure continuity or expansion of coppice

Grassland

Fine turf	25	Conservation grass verges	29
Amenity grass and urban grass verges	27	Naturalised bulbs and corms	30
Recreation grass	28	Meadows	31



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Fine turf

For high profile areas typical of park and amenity landscaped settings

Refer to BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)

Excellent



- Grass (including around obstacles and along perimeter edges) is uniform and even
- Grass height is within 15 to 35 mm
- Grass is lush and green, with no damage (e.g., bare patches, dead turf, or excessively cut below 15 mm)
- Grass is cut in straight parallel lines where required, with minimal overlap, leaving a neat striped finish of light and dark green
- No clippings remain

Good



- Grass (see Excellent) is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within 15 to 35 mm
- Grass is mostly lush and green, with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Grass is cut in reasonably straight parallel lines where required, with some overlap, but still leaving a striped finish (see Excellent)
- Very few clippings remain

Poor



- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height exceeds 35 mm in places
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in places, or with some damage (see Excellent)
- Grass is cut in less than straight or parallel lines where required, or with moderate overlap, blurring the striped finish (see Excellent)
- Some clippings remain

Very poor



- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height exceeds 35 mm in most places, and not scheduled to be cut in the following week
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in most places, or with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Grass is not cut in straight parallel lines where required, or with excessive overlap, preventing the striped finish (see Excellent)
- Many clippings remain

Continued →

2 of 2

Fine turf

Excellent



- Edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (e.g., hard surfaces or planted areas)
- Surface drainage is effective
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., moss or weeds)
- Little to no leaf fall
- Free of graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Most edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Surface drainage is effective
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Leaf fall is managed
- Predominantly free of graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Edges are overgrown in places, and encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Surface drainage is slightly inadequate, with some surface puddling
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Leaf fall is not managed and building up
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Edges are overgrown in most places, and heavily encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Surface drainage is poor, with significant surface puddling
- Substantial presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Leaf fall is not managed and smothering grass
- Severely affected by graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

Amenity grass and urban grass verges

Refer to BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)

Excellent



- Grass (including around obstacles and along perimeter edges) is uniform and even
- Grass height is within 25 to 60 mm
- Grass is lush and green, with no damage (e.g., bare patches, dead turf, or excessively cut below 25 mm)
- Edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (e.g., hard surfaces or planted areas)
- No clippings remain
- Very few weeds
- Little to no leaf fall
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass (see Excellent) is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within 25 to 60 mm
- Grass is mostly lush and green, with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Most edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Very few clippings remain
- Some weeds
- Leaf fall is managed
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height exceeds 60 mm
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in places, or with some damage (see Excellent)
- Edges are overgrown in places, and encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Some clippings remain
- Noticeable presence of weeds
- Leaf fall is not managed and building up
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height exceeds 60 mm in most places, and not scheduled to be cut in the following week
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in most places, or with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Edges are overgrown in most places, and heavily encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Many clippings remain
- Substantial presence of weeds
- Leaf fall is not managed and smothering grass
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling

Recreation grass

Refer to BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)

Excellent



- Grass (including around obstacles and along perimeter edges) is uniform and even
- Grass height is within 40 to 70 mm
- Grass is lush and green, with no damage (e.g., bare patches, dead turf, or excessively cut below 40 mm)
- Edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (e.g., hard surfaces or planted areas)
- No clippings remain on site and in adjacent areas
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., moss or weeds)
- Little to no leaf fall
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass (see Excellent) is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within 40 to 70 mm
- Grass is mostly lush and green, with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Most edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Very few clippings remain on site or in adjacent areas
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Leaf fall is managed
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height exceeds 70 mm in places
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in places, or with some damage (see Excellent)
- Edges are overgrown in places, and encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Some clippings remain on site or in adjacent areas
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Leaf fall is not managed and building up
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height exceeds 70 mm in most places, and not scheduled to be cut in the following week
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in most places, or with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Edges are overgrown in most places, and heavily encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Many clippings remain on site or in adjacent areas
- Substantial presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Leaf fall is not managed and smothering grass
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling

Conservation grass verges

Refer to BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)

Excellent



Helen Firminger

- Grass (including around obstacles and along perimeter edges) is uniform and even
- Grass height is within 100 to 150 mm
- Correctly cut after the seeding season
- Surface has no damage (e.g., scalping or grass excessively cut below 100 mm)
- Edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (e.g., hard surfaces or planted areas)
- Very few clippings remain on verges and in adjacent areas
- Little to no leaf fall
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



LB Richmond

- Grass (see Excellent) is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within 100 to 150 mm
- Correctly cut after the seeding season
- Surface has little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Most edges are neat, and not encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Some clippings remain on verges and in adjacent areas
- Leaf fall is managed
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



Michael Coghlan/Flickr

- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height exceeds 150 mm in places
- Incorrectly cut during seeding season
- Surface has some damage (see Excellent)
- Edges are overgrown in places, and encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Noticeable presence of clippings on verges and in adjacent areas
- Leaf fall is not managed and building up
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



Tony Leach

- Grass (see Excellent) is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height exceeds 150 mm in most places
- Incorrectly cut during seeding season
- Surface has significant damage (see Excellent)
- Edges are overgrown in most places, and heavily encroaching into adjacent areas (see Excellent)
- Substantial presence of clippings on verges and in adjacent areas
- Leaf fall is not managed and smothering grass
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling

Naturalised bulbs and corms

Refer to BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)

Excellent



- Flowering bulbs/corms are in drifts, with a vibrant and colourful display
- Where bulbs/corms are present, grass is left uncut during the period from time of bulb emergence to dieback
- Edges to adjacent grass areas are neat and defined
- After the first cut following dieback, the cutting regime is synchronised with the surrounding area
- No clippings remain
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Flowering bulbs/corms are in patches and clusters, with a vibrant and colourful display
- Where bulbs/corms are present, grass is left uncut during the period from time of bulb emergence to dieback
- Edges to adjacent grass areas are neat and defined
- After the first cut following dieback, the cutting regime is synchronised with the surrounding area
- Very few clippings remain
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Flowering bulbs/corms are in patches and clusters, with a lacklustre display
- Where bulbs/corms are present, grass is incorrectly cut during the period from time of bulb emergence to dieback, so bulbs fail to flower or conserve nutrients
- Edges to adjacent grass areas are overgrown in places
- After the first cut following dieback, the cutting regime is not synchronised with the surrounding area, leaving it rougher and longer
- Some clippings remain
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Flowering bulbs/corms are absent; or where present are in small patches and clusters, or with a poor display
- Grass is cut irrespective of bulb/corms presence
- Edges to adjacent grass areas are overgrown and undefined
- After the first cut following dieback, the cutting regime is not synchronised with the surrounding area, leaving it rougher and longer
- Many clippings remain
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling

Meadows

Refer to BS 7370-3:1991 - Grounds maintenance - Recommendations for maintenance of amenity and functional turf (other than sports turf)

Excellent



- Species is appropriate for the area and soil, and well managed for greatest biodiversity value
- Meadow grass is cut at correct times of the year for species, with no cuttings left in area
- No undesirable flower/grass species
- Good mix of wildflowers and grasses
- Edges to adjacent landscape (e.g., paths or shorter grass areas) are neat and defined
- Scrub is controlled and not encroaching into meadow
- Meadow is linked to nearby areas managed for biodiversity to form green networks/corridors
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Species is appropriate for the area and soil, and managed to increase biodiversity value
- Meadow grass is cut at correct times of the year for species, with little to no cuttings left in area
- Very few undesirable flower/grass species
- Adequate mix of wildflowers and grasses
- Edges to adjacent landscape (see Excellent) are neat and defined
- Scrub is controlled and not encroaching into meadow
- Meadow is linked to nearby areas managed for biodiversity to form green networks/corridors
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Species is appropriate for the area and soil, but not managed well to optimise biodiversity value
- Meadow grass is cut at correct times of the year for species, but with noticeable presence of cuttings left in area
- Noticeable presence of undesirable flower/grass species
- Inadequate mix of wildflowers and grasses
- Edges to adjacent landscape (see Excellent) are overgrown in places
- Scrub is encroaching into meadow in places, with limited to no control
- Meadow is not linked to nearby areas managed for biodiversity to form green networks/corridors
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Species is inappropriate for the area and soil, and not managed to optimise biodiversity value
- Meadow grass is not cut at correct times of the year, or with substantial presence of cuttings left in area
- Substantial presence of undesirable flower/grass species
- Poor mix of wildflowers and grasses
- Edges to adjacent landscape (see Excellent) are overgrown and undefined
- Scrub is encroaching into meadow in most places, with limited to no control
- Meadow is linked to nearby areas managed for biodiversity to form green networks/corridors
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling



Grass sports surfaces

Football pitches	33
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Cricket pitches	37
Cricket squares	39
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Golf tees	43
Golf greens	44
Golf fairways	46
Golf roughs and semi-roughs	47
Golf bunkers	48
Grass tennis courts	49

1 of 2

Football pitches

Suitability for match playing needs to be assessed separately, close to the time of play

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 25 to 40 mm during growing season and 20 to 40 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are less than 15% in total
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is flat and level, with no irregularities (e.g., holes or divots)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 90% uniform

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within ranges of 25 to 50 mm during growing season or 20 to 60 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 15% to 20% in total
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably flat and level, with minor to no irregularities (see Excellent)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within ranges of 25 to 60 mm during growing season or 20 to 70 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 21% to 30% in total
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is not flat or level in places, or with moderate irregularities (see Excellent)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform, but becoming varied

Very poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within ranges of 25 to 60 mm during growing season or 20 to 70 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas exceed 30% in total
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is not flat or level in most places, or with significant irregularities (see Excellent)
- Surface texture and colour is less than 70% uniform, and significantly varied

Continued →

2 of 2

Football pitches

Excellent



- Line markings are of strong colour, straight, clear, and visible from 60 m
- Net supports and posts (where present) are structurally sound, upright and square, with no damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, with no damage (e.g., tears or rips)
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably straight, clear, and visible from 45 m
- Net supports and posts (where present) are structurally sound, upright and square, with little to no damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Line markings are becoming worn or unclear, or not straight, but still visible from 30 m
- Net supports or posts (where present) are mostly structurally sound, upright and square, but with some damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is mostly secure, but becoming loosely tensioned, or with some damage (see Excellent)
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, not straight, barely visible, or poorly marked
- Net supports or posts are absent where required; or where present are structurally unsound, not upright and square, or with significant damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is insecure, loosely tensioned, or with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

1 of 2

Rugby pitches

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 25 to 65 mm during growing season and 25 to 75 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are less than 25% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 70%
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is flat, level, and even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps)

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within the respective ideal ranges (see Excellent) during growing and non-growing season
- Bare areas are 25% to 30% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 60%
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably flat, level, and even, with minor to no irregularities (e.g., bumps)

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height exceeds the ideal maximums (see Excellent) during growing or non-growing season
- Bare areas are 31% to 40% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 50%
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is not flat, level, or even in places, or with moderate irregularities (e.g., bumps)

Very poor




- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within the respective ideal ranges (see Excellent) during growing or non-growing season
- Bare areas exceed 40% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is less than 50%
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is not flat, level, or even in most places, or with significant irregularities (e.g., bumps)

Continued →

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Rugby pitches

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
	 <div>Sue Ireland</div>	 <div>Quillons/Flickr</div>	 <div>Sue Ireland</div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface texture and colour is at least 90% uniform• Line markings are of strong colour, straight, clear, and visible from 60 m• Posts are structurally sound, upright and square, with no damage to paintwork• Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface texture and colour is at least 75% uniform• Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably straight, clear, and visible from 45 m• Posts are structurally sound, upright and square, with little to no damage to paintwork• Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface texture and colour is at least 50% uniform, but becoming varied• Line markings are becoming worn or unclear, or not straight, but still visible from 30 m• Posts are mostly structurally sound, upright and square, but with some damage to paintwork• Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface texture and colour is less than 50% uniform, and significantly varied• Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, not straight, barely visible, or poorly marked• Posts are absent; or where present are structurally unsound, not upright and square, or with significant damage to paintwork• Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued



1 of 2
Cricket pitches

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 4 to 5 mm during growing season and 19 to 25 mm during non-growing season
- Grass coverage is within ideal range of 30% to 60%
- No undesirable grass species and weeds
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within the range of 4 to 7 mm during growing season, and within the ideal range (see Excellent) during non-growing season
- Grass coverage is within 50% to 70%
- Very few undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within the range of 4 to 9 mm during growing season, or often not within the ideal range (see Excellent) during non-growing season
- Grass coverage is within 50% to 70%
- Noticeable presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease

Very poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within ranges of 25 to 60 mm during growing season, or never within the ideal range (see Excellent) during non-growing season
- Grass coverage is not within 30% to 70%
- Substantial presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, or any presence of large-leaved weeds
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease

Continued →

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Cricket pitches

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No undesirable growth (e.g., algae, moss, or lichen)• Surface is flat, level, and even, with no wear and sloping• Surface texture and colour is at least 90% uniform• Line markings are of strong colour, straight, clear, visible from 25 m, and 12 to 18 mm wide• Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent)• Surface is reasonably flat, level, and even, with minor to no wear or gentle sloping• Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform• Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably straight, clear, visible from 22 m, and 12 to 18 mm wide• Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)• Surface is not flat, level, or even in places, or with moderate wear or sloping• Surface texture and colour is at least 60% uniform, but becoming varied• Line markings are becoming worn or unclear, or not straight, but still visible from 20 m, and 12 to 18 mm wide• Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)• Surface is not flat, level, or even in most places, or with significant wear or sloping• Surface texture and colour is less than 60% uniform, and significantly varied• Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, not straight, not visible from 20 m, or not 12 to 18 mm wide• Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

Cricket squares

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 6 to 12 mm during growing season and 8 to 18 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are less than 10% in total, with no single area wider than 25 mm in diameter
- No undesirable grass species and weeds
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae, moss, or lichen)
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is flat, level, and even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within ranges of 6 to 14 mm during growing season, or 8 to 25 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 10% to 20% in total, but with no single area wider than 40 mm in diameter
- Very few undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably flat, level, and even, with minor to no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height exceeds 14 mm during growing season, or often not within the range of 8 to 25 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 21% to 30% in total, but with no single area wider than 50 mm in diameter
- Noticeable presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, or any presence of large-leaved weeds
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is not flat, level, or even in places, or with moderate irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 50% uniform, but becoming varied
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within the range of 6 to 14 mm during growing season, or never within the range of 8 to 25 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas exceed 30% in total, or with any single area wider than 50 mm in diameter
- Substantial presence of undesirable grass species or weeds
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is not flat, level, or even in most places, or with significant irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is less than 50% uniform, and significantly varied
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Cricket outfields

Excellent



It's No Game/Flickr

- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 8 to 20 mm during growing season and 10 to 25 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are less than 10% in total, with no single area wider than 50 mm in diameter
- No weeds
- No algae, moss, or lichen
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface texture and colour is 100% uniform
- Line markings are of strong colour, clear, visible from 50 m, and 25 to 50 mm wide
- Free of clippings, graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within ranges of 8 to 25 mm during growing season or 10 to 38 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 10% to 20% in total, with no single area wider than 75 mm in diameter
- Very few small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Little to no moss, and no algae or lichen
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform
- Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably clear, visible from 40 m, and 25 to 50 mm wide
- Predominantly free of clippings, graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Outside the playing season some areas might be managed for other uses and will require a different maintenance regime

Poor



Chris Gore/Flickr

- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is not below the ideal minimums (see Excellent), but exceeds 25 mm during growing season or 38 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 21% to 30% in total, but with no single area wider than 100 mm in diameter
- Noticeable presence of weeds
- Noticeable presence of moss, but no algae or lichen
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface texture and colour is at least 60% uniform, but becoming varied
- Line markings are becoming worn or unclear, but still visible from 30 m, and 25 to 50 mm wide
- Widespread distribution of clippings, graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



Dominic Scaglioni/Flickr

- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within ranges of 8 to 25 mm during growing season or 10 to 38 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas exceed 30% in total, or with any single area wider than 100 mm in diameter
- Substantial presence of weeds
- Substantial presence of moss, or any presence of algae or lichen
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface texture and colour is less than 60% uniform, and significantly varied
- Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, not visible from 30 m, not 12 to 18 mm wide, or poorly marked
- Severely affected by clippings, graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

1 of 2

Bowling greens

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 4 to 7 mm during growing season and 8 to 10 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are less than 2% in total, with no single area wider than 30 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 80%
- No undesirable grass species and weeds
- No algae, moss, or lichen
- Grass is lush, green, and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within ranges of 4 to 8 mm during growing season or 8 to 12 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 3% to 4% in total, with no single area wider than 40 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 60%
- Very few undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Little to no moss, and no algae or lichen
- Grass is mostly lush, green, and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within ranges of 4 to 8 mm during growing season or 8 to 15 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 5% to 6% in total, but with no single area wider than 50 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 50%
- Noticeable presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Noticeable presence of moss, but no algae or lichen
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in places, with some signs of pests or disease

Very poor







- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within ranges of 4 to 8 mm during growing season or 8 to 15 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas exceed 6% in total, or with any single area wider than 50 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is less than 50%
- Substantial presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, or any presence of large-leaved weeds
- Substantial presence of moss, or any presence of algae or lichen
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in most places, or with significant signs of pests or disease

Continued →

2 of 2

Bowling greens

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is level (excluding crown green bowls) and smooth• Surface texture and colour is at least 90% uniform• Surface drainage is effective• Gullies are clear, with no silt and weeds• Backboards are in good condition, with no damage (e.g., cracks or decay)• Free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is reasonably level (excluding crown green bowls) and smooth• Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform• Surface drainage is effective• Gullies are mostly clear, with little to no silt or very few weeds• Backboards are in good condition, with little to no damage (see Excellent)• Predominantly free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is not level (excluding crown green bowls) or smooth in places• Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform, but becoming varied• Surface drainage is slightly inadequate, with some surface puddling• Gullies are silted or blocked with weeds in places• Backboards are in an acceptable condition, with some damage (see Excellent)• Widespread distribution of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is not level (excluding crown green bowls) or smooth in most places• Surface texture and colour is less than 70% uniform, and significantly varied• Surface drainage is poor, with significant surface puddling• Gullies are silted or blocked with weeds in most places• Backboards are in poor condition, with significant damage (see Excellent)• Severely affected by clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

Golf tees

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal range of 8 to 12 mm year-round
- Bare areas are less than 10% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 80%
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae, moss, lichen, or weeds)
- Grass is lush, green, and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform
- Surface drainage is effective
- Free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



Dan Perry/Flickr

- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal range (see Excellent) year-round
- Bare areas are 10% to 20% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 70%
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is mostly lush, green, and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably even, with minor to no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform
- Surface drainage is effective
- Predominantly free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



Derek Hoskins/Flickr

- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within the range of 8 to 15 mm year-round
- Bare areas are 21% to 30% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 50%
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in places, or with moderate irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 60% uniform, but becoming varied
- Surface drainage is slightly inadequate, with some surface puddling
- Widespread distribution of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



Vincent Buchanan

- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within the range of 8 to 15 mm year-round
- Bare areas exceed 30% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is less than 50%
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly or discoloured in most places, or with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in most places, or with significant irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is less than 60% uniform, and significantly varied
- Surface drainage is poor, with significant surface puddling
- Severely affected by clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

1 of 2

Golf greens

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal range of 3 to 6 mm year-round
- No bare areas
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 80%
- No undesirable grass species and weeds
- No algae, moss, or lichen

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal range (see Excellent) year-round
- Bare areas are less than 5% in total, with no single area wider than 40 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 70%
- Very few undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Little to no moss, but no algae or lichen

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within the ideal range (see Excellent) year-round
- Bare areas are 5% to 10% in total, but with no single area wider than 40 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 60%
- Noticeable presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Some moss, but no algae or lichen

Very poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within the ideal range (see Excellent) year-round
- Bare areas exceed 10% in total, or with any single area wider than 40 mm in diameter
- Desirable grass species coverage is less than 60%
- Substantial presence of undesirable grass species or small-leaved weeds, or any presence of large-leaved weeds
- Noticeable presence of moss, or any presence of algae or lichen

Continued →



2 of 2
Golf greens

Excellent



- Grass is lush, green, and healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform
- Surface drainage is effective
- Free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass is mostly lush, green, and healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably even, with minor to no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform
- Surface drainage is effective
- Predominantly free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Grass is sickly or discoloured in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in places, or with moderate irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 60% uniform, but becoming varied
- Surface drainage is slightly inadequate, with some surface puddling
- Widespread distribution of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Grass is sickly or discoloured in most places, or with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in most places, or with significant irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is less than 60% uniform, and significantly varied
- Surface drainage is poor, with significant surface puddling
- Severely affected by clippings, leaf fall, graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

Golf fairways

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal range of 8 to 12 mm year-round
- Bare areas are less than 5% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 80%
- Little to no undesirable growth (e.g., algae, moss, lichen, or weeds)
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform
- Free of graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within the range of 8 to 18 mm year-round
- Bare areas are 5% to 10% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 70%
- Some undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably even, with minor to no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform
- Predominantly free of graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within the range of 8 to 20 mm year-round
- Bare areas are 11% to 20% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 60%
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in places, or with moderate irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 60% uniform, but becoming varied
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in most places
- Grass height is not within the range of 8 to 20 mm year-round
- Bare areas exceed 20% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is less than 60%
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in most places, or with significant irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is less than 60% uniform, and significantly varied
- Severely affected by graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Golf roughs and semi-roughs

Excellent



- Grass height is within the ranges of 20 to 50 mm for semi-roughs and 50 to 100 mm for roughs
- Bare areas are less than 15% in total
- No weeds
- Grass is healthy, with very few to no signs of pests and disease
- Surface is even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Grass height is within the ranges of 25 to 50 mm for semi-roughs or 50 to 100 mm for roughs
- Bare areas are 15% to 20% in total
- Very few weeds
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease
- Surface is reasonably even, with minor to no irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 60% uniform
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Grass height is within 55 to 85 mm for semi-roughs or 125 to 175 mm for roughs
- Bare areas are 21% to 30% in total
- Noticeable presence of weeds
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in places, or with moderate irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is at least 50% uniform, but becoming varied
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Grass height is not within the ranges of 20 to 85 mm for semi-roughs or 50 to 175 mm for roughs
- Bare areas exceed 30% in total
- Substantial presence of weeds
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease
- Surface is uneven in most places, or with significant irregularities (e.g., bumps)
- Surface texture and colour is less than 50% uniform, and significantly varied
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling



Golf bunkers

Excellent



- No weeds
- Sand is even, adequate, and at correct depth
- Edges are clean
- Sand is raked
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Very few weeds
- Sand is reasonably even, adequate, and at correct depth
- Most edges are clean
- Sand is raked
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Noticeable presence of weeds
- Sand is not even in places; or slightly inadequate and becoming shallow
- Edges are untidy in places
- Sand is not raked in places
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Substantial presence of weeds
- Sand is not even in most places; or inadequate and shallow, exposing geotextile membrane or base
- Edges are untidy in most places
- Sand is not raked in most places
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

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Grass tennis courts

Excellent



- Grass height is uniform and even
- Grass height is within the ideal ranges of 8 to 12 mm during growing season and 10 to 15 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are less than 10% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 80%
- Very few to no small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae, moss, or lichen)
- Grass is healthy, with no signs of pests and disease

Good



- Grass height is mostly uniform and even
- Grass height is within ranges of 8 to 16 mm during growing season or 10 to 20 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 10% to 15% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 70%
- Some small-leaved weeds, but no large-leaved weeds
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is mostly healthy, with very few signs of pests or disease

Poor



- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is within ranges of 8 to 18 mm during growing season or 10 to 22 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas are 16% to 20% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is at least 60%
- Noticeable presence of small-leaved weeds, or any presence of large-leaved weeds
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly in places, with some signs of pests or disease

Very poor







- Grass height is not uniform or even in places
- Grass height is not within ranges of 8 to 18 mm during growing season or 10 to 22 mm during non-growing season
- Bare areas exceed 20% in total
- Desirable grass species coverage is less than 60%
- Substantial presence of weeds
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Grass is sickly in most places, with significant signs of pests or disease

Continued →

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Grass tennis courts

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is flat and even, with no irregularities (e.g., bumps, or slopes along the court length or across its width)• Surface texture and colour is at least 90% uniform• Line markings are of strong colour, straight, clear, and visible from 40 m• Net posts are structurally sound and perpendicular to playing surface ($\pm 2^\circ$ margin), with no damage to paintwork• Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, with no damage (e.g., tears or rips)• Surface drainage is effective• Free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is reasonably flat and even, with minor to no irregularities (see Excellent)• Surface texture and colour is at least 80% uniform• Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably straight, clear, and visible from 30 m• Net posts are structurally sound and perpendicular to playing surface (within $\pm 3^\circ$ acceptable margin), with little to no damage to paintwork• Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, with little to no damage (see Excellent)• Surface drainage is effective• Predominantly free of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is not flat or even in places, or with moderate irregularities (see Excellent)• Surface texture and colour is at least 70% uniform, but becoming varied• Line markings are becoming worn or unclear, or not straight, but still visible from 24 m• Net posts are mostly structurally sound and perpendicular to playing surface (within $\pm 3^\circ$ acceptable margin), but with some damage to paintwork• Netting (where present) is mostly secure, but becoming loosely tensioned, or with some damage (see Excellent)• Surface drainage is slightly inadequate, with some surface puddling• Widespread distribution of clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is not flat or even in most places, or with significant irregularities (see Excellent)• Surface texture and colour is less than 70% uniform, and significantly varied• Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, not straight, not visible from 24 m, or poorly marked• Net posts are absent; or where present are structurally unsound, not perpendicular (outside $\pm 3^\circ$ acceptable margin), or with significant damage to paintwork• Netting (where present) is insecure, loosely tensioned, or with significant damage (see Excellent)• Surface drainage is poor, with significant surface puddling• Severely affected by clippings, graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

Play and sports

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), cycling proficiency areas, and paved tennis courts	52	Playground loose fill safety surfaces	57
Artificial cricket wickets and nets	54	Playground bound and modular synthetic safety surfaces	58
Playground equipment	55	Paddling pools, splash pads, and water play	59

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Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), cycling proficiency areas, and paved tennis courts

Excellent



- Surface is level, with no irregularities (e.g., wear, cracks, holes, or loose paving)
- Line markings are of strong colour and clear
- Net supports and posts (where present) are structurally sound, upright and square, with no damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, with no damage (e.g., tears or rips)
- Fencing is of adequate height, structurally sound, and complete with no damage (e.g., loose fixings or panels lifted from frame)

Good



- Surface is reasonably level, with minor to no irregularities (see Excellent)
- Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably clear
- Net supports and posts (where present) are structurally sound, upright and square, with little to no damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Fencing is of adequate height, structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage (see Excellent)

Poor



- Surface is not level in places, or with moderate irregularities (see Excellent)
- Line markings are becoming worn or unclear
- Net supports or posts (where present) are mostly structurally sound, upright and square, but with some damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is mostly secure, but becoming loosely tensioned, or with some damage (see Excellent)
- Fencing is mostly structurally sound, but of slightly inadequate height, or incomplete with some damage (see Excellent)

Very poor



- Surface is not level in most places, or with significant irregularities (see Excellent)
- Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, or poorly marked
- Net supports or posts are absent where required; or where present are structurally unsound, not upright and square, or with significant damage to paintwork
- Netting (where present) is insecure, loosely tensioned, or with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Fencing is of inadequate height, structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage (see Excellent)

Continued →

2 of 2

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), cycling proficiency areas, and paved tennis courts

Excellent



- Drainage systems are clear and in good working condition
- Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface
- No overhanging and encroaching vegetation
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., moss or weeds)
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Drainage systems are mostly clear and in good working condition
- Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Drainage systems are mostly clear and in an acceptable working condition, but with some surface puddling
- Manhole or drain covers are intact, but becoming loose or not flush with surface in places
- Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Drainage systems are blocked, in poor working condition, or with significant surface puddling
- Manhole or drain covers are missing, insecure, or not flush with surface in most places
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction
- Substantial presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

← Continued

Artificial cricket wickets and nets

Excellent



- Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, and complete with no damage (e.g., tears or rips)
- Line markings are clear
- Run up to nets is of a suitable length and in good condition
- Surface is level, flat, and complete with no damage
- Fixed stumps (where present) are in good working condition
- No overhanging and encroaching vegetation
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Netting (where present) is secure and correctly tensioned, and complete with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Line markings reasonably clear
- Run up to nets is of a suitable length and in good condition
- Surface is reasonably level, flat, and complete with little to no damage
- Fixed stumps (where present) are in good working condition
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Netting (where present) is mostly secure, but becoming loosely tensioned, or incomplete with some damage (see Excellent)
- Line markings are becoming unclear
- Run up to nets is of a suitable length, and in an acceptable condition with signs of minor erosion
- Surface is not flat or level in places, or incomplete with some damage
- Fixed stumps (where present) are in an acceptable working condition
- Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Netting (where present) is insecure, loosely tensioned, or incomplete with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Line markings are absent; or where present are unclear, or poorly marked
- Run up to nets is of unsuitable length, or in poor condition with signs of moderate to significant erosion
- Surface is not flat or level in most places, or incomplete with significant damage
- Fixed stumps are absent where required, or where present are in poor working condition
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

1 of 2

Playground equipment

Excellent



- Structurally sound, with no corrosion and rot
- No sharp edges and protruding foreign bodies that can cut skin or clothing (e.g., nails, glass, or sticks)
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with strong original colours and no damage
- No overhanging and encroaching vegetation
- No graffiti, bird fouling, algae, and moss on surfaces

Good



- Structurally sound, with minor to no corrosion or rot
- No sharp edges and protruding foreign bodies (see Excellent)
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage, but slightly faded original colours
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation
- Little to no graffiti, bird fouling, algae, or moss on surfaces

Refer to manufacturer's maintenance instructions

Refer also to BS EN 1176-7:2020 - Playground equipment and surfacing - Guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation, and BS EN 1177 - Impact attenuating playground surfacing

Poor



- Mostly structurally sound, but with moderate corrosion or rot
- No sharp edges and protruding foreign bodies (see Excellent)
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with faded original colours or some damage
- Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction
- Noticeable presence of graffiti, bird fouling, algae, or moss on surfaces

Very poor



- Structurally unsound, or with significant corrosion or rot
- Any presence of sharp edges or protruding foreign bodies (see Excellent)
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, with faded original colours, or with significant damage
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction
- Substantial presence of graffiti, bird fouling, algae, or moss on surfaces

Continued →

2 of 2
Playground equipment

Excellent



All in good working condition and safe:

- Parts are complete with no damage, and consumable parts (e.g., chain links, ropes, rubber tyres, or rubber swing seats) have no wear
- Fixings and moving parts (e.g., bearings or pivot linkages) are intact, secure, correctly adjusted, well lubricated to function smoothly with no noise, and with no wear

Good



Most in good working condition and safe:

- Parts are complete and with little to no damage, and consumable parts (see Excellent) have minor wear
- Fixings and moving parts (see Excellent) are intact, secure, correctly adjusted, adequately lubricated to function smoothly with little noise, and with minor wear

Poor



Most in an acceptable working condition and still safe:

- Parts are incomplete with some damage, or consumable parts (see Excellent) have moderate wear
- Fixings or moving parts (see Excellent) are mostly intact and secure, but in need of minor adjustment, inadequately lubricated to function smoothly with no noise, or with moderate wear

Very poor



Some in poor working condition:

- Parts are incomplete with significant damage, or consumable parts (see Excellent) have excessive wear requiring urgent replacement
- Fixings or moving parts (see Excellent) are missing, insecure, incorrectly adjusted, poorly lubricated thus requiring some effort to function and causing noise, or with excessive wear requiring urgent replacement

← Continued

Playground loose fill safety surfaces

Refer to BS EN 1176-7:2020 - Playground equipment and surfacing - Guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation, and BS EN 1177 - Impact attenuating playground surfacing

Excellent



- Loose fill material is level, even, uncompacted, and to correct depth
- Loose fill material is contained within pit, with no damage to edging
- Geotextile material (where present) is not exposed
- No trip hazards, hazardous foreign objects (e.g., nails or glass, or sticks), and animal fouling in loose fill material
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae or weeds) in pit
- Drainage systems are clear and in good working condition
- Free of leaf fall and litter in and around pit

Good



- Loose fill material is reasonably level, even, and uncompacted; and to correct depth
- Loose fill material is mostly contained within pit, with little to no damage to edging
- Geotextile material (where present) is not exposed
- No trip hazards, hazardous foreign objects (see Excellent), and animal fouling in loose fill material
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent) in pit
- Drainage systems are mostly clear and in good working condition
- Predominantly free of leaf fall and litter in and around pit

Poor



- Loose fill material is not level or even in places, slightly compacted, or to correct depth beneath equipment but becoming shallow in places
- Loose fill material is overspilling in places, with some damage to edging
- Geotextile material (where present) is not exposed
- Some trip hazards, but no hazardous foreign objects (see Excellent) and animal fouling in loose fill material
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent) in pit
- Drainage systems are in an acceptable working condition, but with some dampness or surface puddling
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall or litter in or around pit

Very poor



- Loose fill material is irregular, uneven, compacted, or shallow in most places
- Loose fill material is overspilling in most places, or with edging entirely absent or significantly damaged
- Geotextile material (where present) is exposed, loose, or damaged
- Many trip hazards; or any presence of hazardous foreign objects (see Excellent) or animal fouling in loose fill material
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent) in pit
- Drainage systems are blocked, in poor working condition, or with significant dampness or surface puddling
- Severely affected by leaf fall or litter in or around pit

Playground bound and modular synthetic safety surfaces

Refer to BS EN 1176-7:2020 - Playground equipment and surfacing - Guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation, and BS EN 1177 - Impact attenuating playground surfacing

Excellent



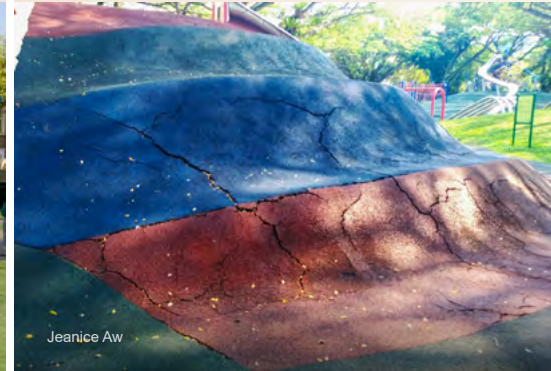
- Surface is level, smooth, and complete with no damage (e.g., surface breakdown, depressions, tears, cracks, or holes)
- Edging is complete with no damage
- Securing devices (e.g., ground fixing pins; where present) are intact and secure
- Repairs (where present) match exactly with original material and colour
- Original colours are strong
- No trip hazards (e.g., bumps, loose/missing tiles, or lifted edges), hazardous foreign objects (e.g., nails or glass) and animal fouling
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae, moss, or weeds)
- Drainage systems are clear and in good working condition
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, and litter

Good



- Surface is mostly level, smooth, and complete with little to no damage (see Excellent)
- Edging is complete with little to no damage
- Most securing devices (see Excellent; where present) are intact and secure
- Repairs (where present) match closely with original material and colour
- Original colours are slightly faded
- No trip hazards (see Excellent), hazardous foreign objects (see Excellent) and animal fouling
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Drainage systems are mostly clear and in good working condition
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, and litter

Poor



- Surface is not level or even in places, or incomplete with some damage (see Excellent)
- Edging is incomplete with some damage
- Some securing devices (see Excellent) are missing where required, or where present are insecure, but surface integrity remains uncompromised
- Repairs (where present) match poorly with original material and colour
- Original colours are faded
- Some trip hazards (see Excellent), but no hazardous foreign objects (see Excellent) and animal fouling
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Drainage systems are in an acceptable working condition, but with some surface puddling
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, or litter

Very poor



- Surface is not level or even in most places, or incomplete with significant damage (see Excellent)
- Edging is incomplete with significant damage
- Many securing devices (see Excellent) are missing where required, or where present are insecure, compromising surface integrity
- Repairs (where present) do not match with original material and colour
- Original colours are faded
- Many trip hazards (see Excellent); or any presence of hazardous foreign objects (see Excellent) or animal fouling
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Drainage systems are blocked, in poor working condition, or with significant surface puddling
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, or litter

1 of 2

Paddling pools, splash pads, and water play

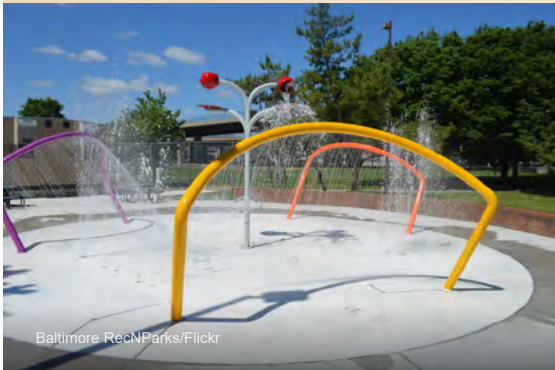
Excellent



R. D. Barry/Flickr

- Surface is level and smooth, with surface colours bright and free of discolouration
- Surfaces, edges, channels, and kerbs are complete with no damage
- No trip hazards, hazardous foreign objects, and animal fouling
- Play features and infrastructure (e.g., water jets) are in good working condition, with no signs of leakage
- Line markings (where present) are of strong colour, and clear
- Drainage systems are clear and in good working condition

Good



Baltimore RecNParks/Flickr

- Surface is mostly level and smooth, and with surface colours mostly bright and reasonably free of discolouration
- Surfaces, edges, channels, and kerbs are complete with little to no damage
- No trip hazards, hazardous foreign objects, and animal fouling
- Play features and infrastructure (see Excellent) are in good working condition, with no signs of leakage
- Line markings (where present) are slightly faded, but still reasonably clear
- Drainage systems are mostly clear and in good working condition

Poor



Alan Stanton/Flickr

- Surface is not level or smooth in places, or with surface colours becoming dull or discoloured
- Surfaces, edges, channels, or kerbs are incomplete with some damage
- Some trip hazards, but no hazardous foreign objects and animal fouling
- Play features or infrastructure (see Excellent) is in an acceptable working condition, but with signs of minor leakage
- Line markings (where present) are becoming faded and unclear
- Drainage systems are in an acceptable working condition, but with some minor blockage

Very poor

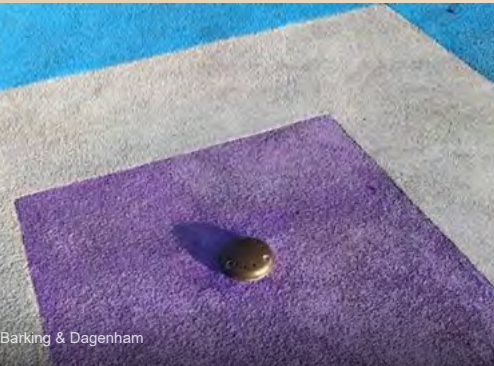





- Surface is not level or smooth in most places, or with surface colours dull or heavily discoloured
- Surfaces, edges, channels, or kerbs are incomplete with significant damage
- Many trip hazards; or any presence of hazardous foreign objects or animal fouling
- Play features or infrastructure (see Excellent) is in poor working condition, or with signs of moderate to significant leakage
- Line markings are absent where required, or where present are faded and unclear
- Drainage systems are blocked, or in poor working condition

Continued →

2 of 2

Paddling pools, splash pads, and water play

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is complete and up to date• No undesirable growth (e.g., algae or moss) on surfaces and in water• Safety signs and equipment are prominently and clearly displayed in the immediate area; in good condition; with up-to-date information including opening hours (if applicable), equipment and age group, and any restrictions in place; and are in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)• No overhanging and encroaching vegetation• Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling in and around the play area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is complete and up to date• Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent) on surfaces or in water• Safety signs and equipment are displayed in the immediate area, in good condition, with up-to-date information (see Excellent), and are in accordance with the re-spective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)• Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation• Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, and debris in and around the play area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manhole or drain covers are intact, but becoming loose or not flush with surface in places• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is complete and up to date• Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent) on surfaces or in water• Safety signs or equipment is in an acceptable condition, but not displayed in the immediate area, with incorrect information (see Excellent), or is in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)• Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction• Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, or debris in or around the play area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manhole or drain covers are missing, insecure, or not flush with surface in most places• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is incomplete or out of date• Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent) on surfaces or in water• Safety signs or equipment is absent; or where present is in poor condition, missing relevant information (see Excellent), or in accordance with the respective de-scriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)• Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction• Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, or debris in or around the play area

← Continued

Infrastructure

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Gates and entrance barriers	63	Pathways and hard surfaces	72
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Fences: temporary fencing and site security	65	Boardwalks	74
Signage and way markers	66	Car parking (hard surface)	75
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Map and interpretation boards	69	Litter and dog bins	78

Entrances

Excellent



- Threshold surfacing is level, even, and well drained, with no trip hazards
- Entrance locations are well signposted
- Site opening hours (if applicable) are prominently and clearly displayed in the immediate area, and up to date
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Vehicular access/restriction is prominently and clearly displayed in the immediate area, and up to date
- Entrance points are well lit, with clear sightlines in and out of the site
- Access is clear and unobstructed
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Threshold surfacing is reasonably level and even, and well drained, with no trip hazards
- Entrance locations are reasonably well signposted
- Site opening hours (if applicable) are displayed in the immediate area, and up to date
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Vehicular access/restriction is displayed in the immediate area, and up to date
- Entrance points are adequately lit, with clear sightlines in and out of the site
- Access is clear and unobstructed
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Threshold surfacing has adequate drainage, but is not level or even in places, or with some trip hazards
- Entrance locations are adequately signposted
- Site opening hours (if applicable) are not displayed in the immediate area, or incorrect
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided, but incomplete or incorrect
- Vehicular access/restriction is not displayed in the immediate area, or incorrect
- Entrance points are inadequately lit, or has obscured sightlines in and out of the site
- Access is slightly obstructed
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Threshold surface not level or even in most places, with poor drainage, or many trip hazards
- Entrance locations are poorly signposted
- Site opening hours (if applicable) are not displayed
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are not provided
- Vehicular access/restriction is not displayed
- Entrance points are not lit, or with poor sightlines in and out of the site
- Access is partially or entirely obstructed
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Gates and entrance barriers

Excellent



- Structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Gate fixings are intact, and well lubricated to open and close smoothly with no noise
- Piers or gate supports are structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with no damage
- Gate opening and locking schedule (if applicable) is prominently and clearly displayed in the immediate area, and up to date
- Gates are open during site opening hours (if applicable)
- Gates are securely locked during site closing hours (if applicable)

Good



- Structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Gate fixings are intact, and adequately lubricated to open and close smoothly with little noise
- Piers or gate supports are structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage
- Gate opening and locking schedule (if applicable) is displayed in the immediate area, and up to date
- Gates are open during site opening hours (if applicable)
- Gates are securely locked during site closing hours (if applicable)

Poor



- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Gate fixings are mostly intact, but inadequately lubricated to open and close smoothly with no noise
- Piers or gate supports are mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with some damage
- Gate opening and locking schedule (if applicable) is not displayed in the immediate area, or incorrect
- Gates are not open during site opening hours (if applicable)
- Gates are not locked during site closing hours (if applicable), or insecurely locked

Very poor

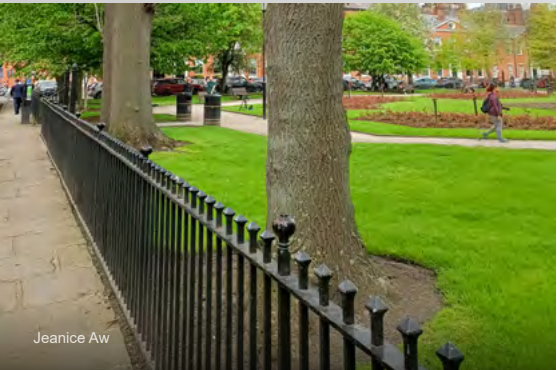


- Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Gate fixings are missing, or poorly lubricated thus requiring some effort to open and close and causing noise
- Piers or gate supports are structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, or with significant damage
- Gate opening and locking schedule (if applicable) is not displayed
- Gates are not open during site opening hours (if applicable)
- Gates are not locked during site closing hours (if applicable), or insecurely locked

Boundaries

Applicable to typical boundary fences and structures, whether metal/timber/brick/stone, within park or amenity landscaped setting

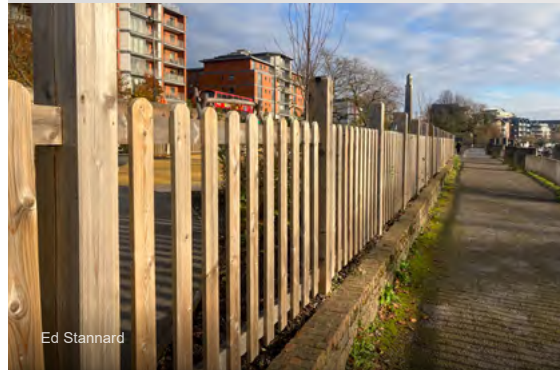
Excellent



Jeanice Aw

- Enclosed and open boundaries are well defined
- Fencing and walls (where present) are structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Boundary material is consistent throughout, and complementary to the overall space
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with no damage
- No graffiti, algae, and overgrown vegetation

Good



Ed Stannard

- Enclosed and open boundaries are reasonably well defined
- Fencing and walls (where present) are structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Boundary material is consistent throughout, and complementary to overall the space
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage
- Little to no graffiti, algae, or overgrown vegetation

Poor



Jeanice Aw

- Enclosed and open boundaries are poorly defined in places
- Fencing or walls (where present) are mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Boundary material is inconsistent in places, or clashing with overall space
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with some damage
- Noticeable presence of graffiti, algae, or overgrown vegetation





Very poor



Nina Obhrai

- Enclosed and open boundaries are poorly defined in most places
- Fencing or walls (where present) are structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Boundary material is inconsistent throughout, or out of place and detracting from overall space
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, or with significant damage
- Substantial presence of graffiti, algae, or overgrown vegetation

Fences: temporary fencing and site security

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
 <p>Tony Leach</p>		 <p>Jeanice Aw</p>	 <p>Jeanice Aw</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete and secure• Height and material are appropriate for adequate protection of fenced area• Well placed to protect area, with consideration for perimeter access• Fencing is complementary to the overall space• Information on installation (e.g., purpose, duration, and any affected access) is well conveyed to users, with signs all around the protected area, and is displayed on noticeboards and the appropriate website(s) (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete and secure• Height and material are appropriate for adequate protection of fenced area• Reasonably well placed to protect area, with some consideration for perimeter access• Fencing is complementary to the overall space• Information on installation (see Excellent) is adequately conveyed to users, with some signs around the protected area, and is displayed on noticeboards and the appropriate website(s) (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mostly complete and secure• Height and material are appropriate for adequate protection of fenced area• Adequately placed to protect area, but with little consideration for perimeter access• Fencing is clashing with overall space• Information on installation (see Excellent) is inadequately conveyed to users, with too few signs around the protected area, or is not displayed on noticeboards or the appropriate website(s) (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incomplete and insecure• Height or material is inappropriate, leaving fenced area inadequately protected• Poorly placed to protect area, or with no consideration for perimeter access• Fencing is out of place and detracting from overall space• Information on installation (see Excellent) is not conveyed to users, with no signs around the protected area, and is not displayed on noticeboards or the appropriate website(s) (if applicable)

1 of 2

Signage and way markers

Excellent



- Signs and way markers are erected in suitable places, and used to an appropriate extent to aid navigation
- Design is appealing, and complementary to the overall space
- Messaging is friendly and welcoming
- Information is relevant, up to date, and easy to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Accompanying graphics or illustrations are well employed to aid understanding

Good



- Most signs and way markers are erected in suitable places, and used to an appropriate extent to aid navigation
- Design is appealing, and complementary to the overall space
- Messaging is friendly and welcoming
- Information is relevant, up to date, and easy to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Accompanying graphics or illustrations are used to aid understanding

Poor



- Some signs or way markers are erected, but not all in suitable places to aid navigation; or too few/many installed
- Design is not well thought-out, or clashing with overall space
- Messaging is negative and unwelcoming
- Some information is irrelevant, incorrect, or hard to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided, but incomplete or incorrect
- Accompanying graphics or illustrations where used are confusing and do not aid understanding

Very poor



- No signs or way markers are erected to aid navigation, or what few signs are unsuitably placed
- Design is unappealing, or out of place and detracting from overall space
- Messaging is off-putting
- Most information is irrelevant, incorrect, or hard to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are not provided
- No accompanying graphics or illustrations are used to aid understanding

Continued →

2 of 2

Signage and way markers

Excellent



LB Barking & Dagenham

- Display is legible and accessible, and includes information about accessibility of facilities
- Structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with no damage
- Display material is complete, secure, and weatherproof
- Display is unobscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- No graffiti, bird fouling, and algae on surfaces

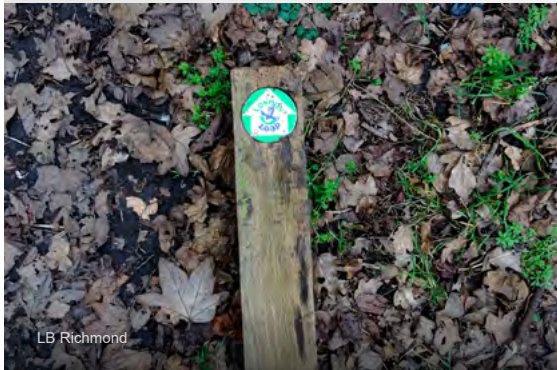
Good



LB Barking & Dagenham

- Display is legible, accessible, and includes information about accessibility of facilities
- Structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage
- Display material is complete, reasonably secure, and weatherproof
- Display is unobscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Little to no graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

Poor



LB Richmond

- Display is not legible or accessible, or does not include information about accessibility of facilities
- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with some damage
- Display material is incomplete in places, becoming loose, or not fully weatherproof
- Display is slightly obscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Noticeable presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

Very poor



Jeanice Aw

- Display is not legible or accessible, or does not include information about accessibility of facilities
- Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, or with significant damage
- Display material is missing; or where present is insecure, or damaged
- Display is obscured by heavy hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Substantial presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

← Continued

Notice boards

Excellent



- Positioned near to entrances and sites of visitor interest
- Notices are neat and organised, securely fastened, and clearly visible
- Information is relevant, up to date, and easy to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with no damage
- Display board is complete, secure, and weatherproof
- Display is unobscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- No graffiti, bird fouling, and algae on surfaces

Good



- Positioned reasonably near to entrances and sites of visitor interest
- Most notices are neat and organised, securely fastened, and clearly visible
- Information is relevant, up to date, and easy to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage
- Display board is complete, secure, and weatherproof
- Display is unobscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Little to no graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

Poor



- Positioned slightly far from entrances or sites of visitor interest
- Some notices are untidy and disorganised, becoming loose, or not visible
- Some information is irrelevant, incorrect, or hard to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided, but incomplete or incorrect
- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with some damage
- Display board is incomplete in places, becoming loose, or not fully weatherproof
- Display is slightly obscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Noticeable presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

Very poor



- Entirely absent, or where present are positioned too far from entrances or sites of visitor interest
- Most notices are untidy and disorganised, loose or have dropped, or are not visible
- Most information is irrelevant, incorrect, or hard to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are not provided
- Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, or with significant damage
- Display board is missing; or where present is insecure, or not weatherproofed
- Display is obscured by heavy hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Substantial presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

1 of 2

Maps and interpretation boards

Excellent



Jeanice Aw

- Well positioned in relation to sites of visitor interest
- Design is appealing, and complementary to the overall space
- Maps are easy to interpret for navigation, relevant to the location, and show nearby places of interest
- Information is relevant, up to date, and easy to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Accompanying graphics or illustrations are well employed to aid understanding

Good



Tony Leach

- Appropriately positioned in relation to sites of visitor interest of interest
- Design is appealing, and complementary to the overall space
- Maps are reasonably easy to interpret for navigation, relevant to location, and show nearby places of interest
- Information is relevant, up to date, and easy to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided and up to date
- Accompanying graphics or illustrations are used to aid understanding

Poor



LB Richmond

- Inappropriately positioned in relation to sites of visitor interest
- Design is not well thought-out, or clashing with overall space
- Maps are hard to interpret for navigation, or not completely relevant to the location
- Some information is irrelevant, incorrect, or hard to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are provided, but incomplete or incorrect
- Accompanying graphics or illustrations where used are confusing and do not aid understanding

Very poor



LB Barking & Dagenham

- Entirely absent, or where present are positioned too far from sites of visitor interest
- Design is unappealing, or out of place and detracting from overall space
- Maps are not useful for navigation, or irrelevant to the location
- Most information is irrelevant, incorrect, or hard to read/comprehend
- Name and contact details of the land owner/manager are not provided
- No accompanying graphics or illustrations are used to aid understanding

Continued →

2 of 2

Maps and interpretation boards

Excellent



- Structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with no damage
- Display material is complete, secure, and weatherproof
- Display is clear and unobscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- No graffiti, bird fouling, and algae on surfaces

Good



- Structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage
- Display material is complete, reasonably secure, and weatherproof
- Display is clear and unobscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Little to no graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

Poor



- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with some damage
- Display material is incomplete in places, becoming loose, or not fully weatherproof
- Display is slightly obscured by hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Noticeable presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

Very poor



- Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, or with significant damage
- Display material is missing; or where present is insecure, or damaged
- Display is obscured by heavy hanging or encroaching vegetation
- Substantial presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces

← Continued

Flyposting and graffiti clearance

Excellent



- No flyposting and graffiti remaining
- Efficient removal of flyposting and graffiti is evident, with offensive graffiti and other types removed within 24 and 48 hours of reporting respectively
- No residue or ghosting remains on surface where removal has been undertaken (except for porous brick where some ghosting is inevitable)
- New coat of paint (where applied) matches exactly with the original or surrounding colour

Good



- Little to no flyposting or graffiti remaining
- Regular removal of flyposting and graffiti is evident, with offensive graffiti and other types removed within 48 hours and two weeks of reporting respectively
- Little to no residue or ghosting remains on surface where removal has been undertaken (except for porous brick where some ghosting is inevitable)
- New coat of paint (where applied) matches closely with the original or surrounding colour

Poor



- Noticeable presence of flyposting or graffiti remaining
- Inefficient removal of flyposting or graffiti is evident, with offensive graffiti removed within 48 hours of reporting, but other types taking up to two months
- Some residue or ghosting remains on surface where removal has been attempted (except for porous brick where some ghosting is inevitable)
- New coat of paint (where applied) matches poorly with the original or surrounding colour

Very poor



- Substantial presence of flyposting or graffiti remaining
- Inefficient removal of flyposting or graffiti is evident, with offensive graffiti not removed within 48 hours of reporting, and other types left for longer than two months
- Significant residue or ghosting remains on surface where removal has been attempted
- New coating of paint has not been applied where required, or where applied does not match with the original or surrounding colour

Pathways and hard surfaces

Refer to BS 7370-2:1994 - Grounds maintenance -
Recommendations for the maintenance of hard areas (excluding sports surfaces)

Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is flat, level, and smooth, with an even camber, and with no irregularities (e.g., cracks or potholes)• Edges and kerbs are secure, and complete with no damage• Line markings (where present) are of strong colour, and clear• No overhanging and encroaching vegetation• No undesirable vegetation (e.g., moss or weeds)• Drainage systems are clear and in good working condition• Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface• Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is reasonably flat, level, and smooth, with an even camber, and with minor to no irregularities (see Excellent)• Edges and kerbs are secure, and complete with little to no damage• Line markings (where present) are slightly faded, but still reasonably clear• Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation• Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)• Drainage systems are mostly clear and in good working condition• Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface• Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is not flat, level, or smooth in places, with an uneven camber, or with moderate irregularities (see Excellent)• Some edges or kerbs are becoming loose, or incomplete with some damage• Line markings (where present) are becoming worn or unclear• Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction• Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)• Drainage systems are in an acceptable working condition, but with some surface puddling• Manhole or drain covers are intact, but becoming loose or not flush with surface in places• Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surface is not flat, level, or smooth in most places, with poor camber, or with significant irregularities (see Excellent)• Most edges or kerbs are missing, insecure, or incomplete with significant damage• Line markings (where present) are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, or poorly marked• Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction• Substantial presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)• Drainage systems are blocked, in poor working condition, or with significant surface puddling• Manhole or drain covers are missing, insecure, or not flush with surface in most places• Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Self-binding gravel

Refer to BS 7370-2:1994 - Grounds maintenance -
Recommendations for the maintenance of hard areas (excluding sports surfaces)

Excellent



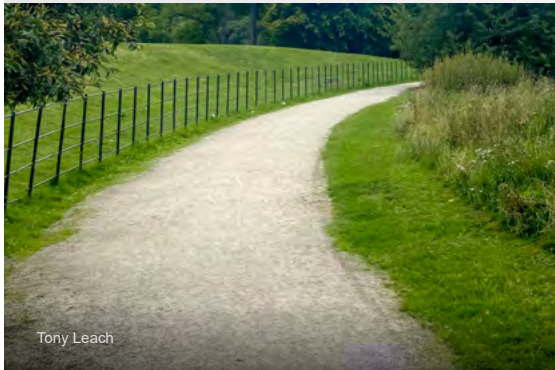
- Surface is flat and smooth, with an even camber, and with no irregularities (e.g., potholes or bumps)
- Camber is adequate for drainage, with no surface puddling
- Surface loose gravel is spread thinly and evenly, with no mud build-up
- No overhanging and encroaching vegetation
- Gravel is contained within pit, with no damage to edging, creating a well-defined border with adjacent landscape
- No undesirable vegetation (e.g., moss or weeds)
- Free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Surface is reasonably flat and smooth, with an even camber, and with minor to no irregularities (see Excellent)
- Camber is adequate for drainage, with little to no surface puddling
- Surface loose gravel is mostly spread thinly and evenly, with little to no mud build-up
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation
- Gravel is mostly contained within pit, with little to no damage to edging, creating a defined border with adjacent landscape
- Little to no undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Predominantly free of leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Surface is not flat or smooth in places, with an uneven camber, or with moderate irregularities (see Excellent)
- Camber is slightly inadequate for drainage, with some surface puddling
- Surface loose gravel is unevenly spread in places, or with some mud build-up
- Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction
- Gravel is overspilling in places, or with some damage to edging
- Noticeable presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Widespread distribution of leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Surface is not flat or smooth in most places, with poor camber, or with significant irregularities (see Excellent)
- Camber is inadequate for drainage, with significant surface puddling
- Surface loose gravel is unevenly spread in most places, or with significant mud build-up
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction
- Gravel is overspilling in most places, or with edging entirely absent or significantly damaged
- Substantial presence of undesirable vegetation (see Excellent)
- Severely affected by leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Boardwalks

Excellent



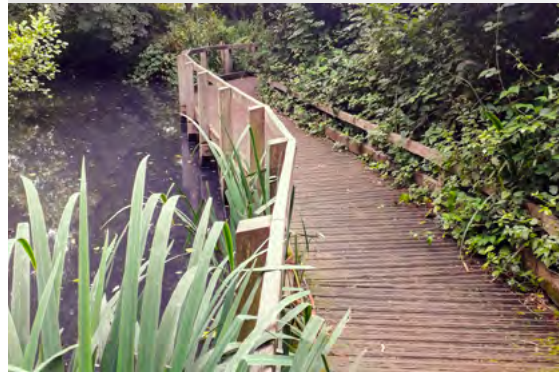
- Structurally sound, and complete with no damage, corrosion, and rot
- Walkways are level and even, with non-slip surface material and no trip hazards
- Guardrails are present along walkways adjacent to deep water, structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- No overhanging and encroaching vegetation
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae or moss)
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Structurally sound, and complete with minor to no damage, corrosion, or rot
- Walkways are reasonably level and even, with non-slip surface material and no trip hazards
- Guardrails are present along walkways adjacent to deep water, structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with moderate damage, corrosion, or rot
- Walkways have non-slip surface material, but not level or even, or with some trip hazards
- Guardrails are present along walkways adjacent to deep water, and mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage, corrosion, or rot
- Most walkways are not level or even, with slippery surface material, or with many trip hazards
- Guardrails are absent along walkways adjacent to deep water; or where present are structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent)
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

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Car parking (hard surface)

Refer to BS 7370-2:1994 - Grounds maintenance -
Recommendations for the maintenance of hard areas (excluding sports surfaces)

Excellent



- Site is accessible to and from entrances and sites of visitor interest
- Pedestrian path is safe and signed
- Sightlines in and out of the car park are clear
- Signage is prominently and clearly displayed in the immediate area; with up-to-date information including opening hours, charges, payment methods (if applicable), and any restrictions in place; and in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Payment machines (where present) are prominently placed, accessible, in good working condition, with clear instructions
- Surface is level and smooth, with no irregularities (e.g., cracks or holes)

Good



- Site is reasonably accessible to and from entrances and sites of visitor interest
- Pedestrian path is safe and signed
- Sightlines in and out of the car park are clear
- Signage is displayed in the immediate area, with up-to-date information (see Excellent), and is in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Payment machines (where present) are reasonably easy to find and access, in good working condition, with clear instructions
- Surface is reasonably level and smooth, with minor to no irregularities (see Excellent)

Poor



- Site is not easily accessible to and from entrances and sites of visitor interest
- Pedestrian path is safe, but poorly signed
- Sightlines in and out of car park are obscured
- Signage is not displayed in the immediate area, with incorrect information (see Excellent), or is in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Payment machines (where present) are in an acceptable working condition, but hard to find or access, with poor instructions
- Surface is not level or smooth in places, or with moderate irregularities (see Excellent)

Very poor



- Site is far from entrances and sites of visitor interest
- Pedestrian path is absent; or where present is unsafe, or poorly signed
- Sightlines in and out of car park are poor
- Signage is absent; or where present is missing relevant information (see Excellent), or in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Payment machines (where present) are out of order; or in poor working condition, hard to find or access, or with no or confusing instructions
- Surface is not level or smooth in most places, or with significant irregularities (see Excellent)

Continued →

2 of 2

Car parking (hard surface)

Excellent



- Line markings are of strong colour, and clear
- Edges and kerbs are straight, secure, and complete with no damage
- Drainage systems are clear and in good working condition
- Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface
- CCTV units (where present) are in good working condition, and positioned usefully
- Lighting is adequate throughout car park, and fittings/fixtures are in good working condition
- No overhanging and encroaching vegetation
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Good



- Line markings are slightly faded, but still reasonably clear
- Edges and kerbs are straight and secure, and complete with little to no damage
- Drainage systems are mostly clear and in good working condition
- Manhole and drain covers are intact, secure, and flush with surface
- CCTV units (where present) are in good working condition, and positioned usefully
- Lighting is adequate throughout car park, and fittings/fixtures are mostly in good working condition
- Little to no overhanging or encroaching vegetation
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling

Poor



- Line markings are becoming worn or unclear
- Some edges or kerbs are skewed, becoming loose, or incomplete with some damage
- Drainage systems are in an acceptable working condition, but with some surface puddling
- Manhole or drain covers are intact, but becoming loose or not flush with surface in places
- CCTV units (where present) are in an acceptable working condition, but poorly positioned
- Lighting is inadequate in places, or some fittings/fixtures are out of order
- Some overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing minor obstruction
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Very poor



- Line markings are absent; or where present are worn, unclear, or poorly marked
- Most edges or kerbs are missing, skewed, insecure, or incomplete with significant damage
- Drainage systems are blocked, in poor working condition, or with significant surface puddling
- Manhole or drain covers are missing, insecure, or not flush with surface in most places
- Most CCTV units (where present) are out of order; or in poor working condition, or poorly positioned
- Lighting is inadequate throughout car park, or fittings/fixtures are absent or mostly out of order
- Heavy overhanging or encroaching vegetation, causing obstruction
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling

Furniture: benches, picnic tables, youth shelters, and similar

Excellent



- Structurally sound, and complete with no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with no damage
- No graffiti, bird fouling, and algae on surfaces
- Free of litter, debris, and animal fouling in the immediate area

Good



- Structurally sound, and complete with little to no damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, with little to no damage
- Little to no graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces
- Predominantly free of litter, debris, and animal fouling in the immediate area

Poor



- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage
- Paintwork/finish is weather protected where required for material, but with some damage
- Noticeable presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces
- Widespread distribution of litter, debris, or animal fouling in the immediate area

Very poor



- Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage
- Paintwork/finish is not weather protected where required for material, or with significant damage
- Substantial presence of graffiti, bird fouling, or algae on surfaces
- Severely affected by litter, debris, or animal fouling in the immediate area

Litter and dog bins

Excellent



- All bins are less than 1/2 full, indicating that bins are checked and emptied as frequently as required
- Structurally sound, complete, and secure (if affixed)
- Exterior is clean, with no damage to paintwork/finish
- Bin designation (e.g., recycling or dog mess) is clearly indicated
- Access is clear and unobstructed
- Free of graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling in the immediate area

Good



- All bins are less than 2/3 full, indicating that bins are checked and emptied nearly as frequently as required
- Structurally sound, complete with little to no damage, and secure (if affixed)
- Exterior is mostly clean, with little to no damage to paintwork/finish
- Bin designation (see Excellent) is clearly indicated
- Access is clear and unobstructed
- Predominantly free of graffiti, litter, debris, and animal fouling in the immediate area

Poor



- Most bins are more than 2/3 full, or some completely full, indicating that bins are checked and emptied less frequently than required
- Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with some damage, or becoming loose (if affixed)
- Exterior is becoming dirty, or with some damage to paintwork/finish
- Bin designation (see Excellent) is indicated, but obscured, unclear, or incorrect
- Access is slightly obstructed by rubbish, leaf fall, or other
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling in the immediate area

Very poor



- Most bins are nearly/completely full, or overflowing, indicating that bins are not checked and emptied as frequently as necessary
- Structurally unsound, incomplete with significant damage, or insecure (if affixed)
- Exterior is dirty, or with significant damage to paintwork/finish
- Bin designation (see Excellent) is absent
- Access is partially or entirely obstructed by rubbish, leaf fall, or other
- Severely affected by graffiti, litter, debris, or animal fouling in the immediate area



Water bodies and features





Water features: ponds, fountains,
and cascades

80

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Water features: ponds, fountains, and cascades

Refer to BS 7370-5:1998 - Grounds maintenance -
Recommendations for the maintenance of water areas

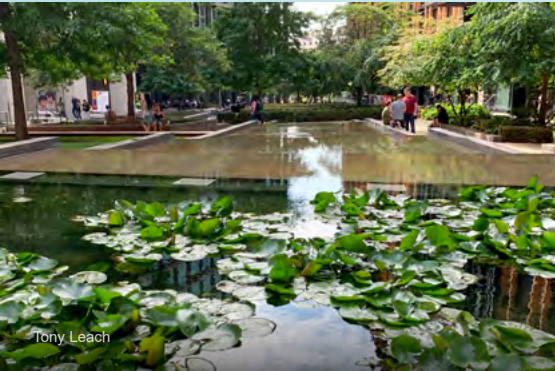
Excellent	Good	Poor	Very poor
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water quality is appropriate for type and purpose of feature• Water flow (where required) is free• Structurally sound, and complete with no damage, with no signs of leakage• Mechanical system (where present) is clean and in good working condition• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is complete and up to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water quality is appropriate for type and purpose of feature• Water flow (where required) is mostly free• Structurally sound, and complete with minor to no damage, and with no signs of leakage• Mechanical system (where present) is clean and in good working condition• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is complete and up to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water quality is inappropriate for type and purpose of feature• Water flow (where required) is slightly impeded• Mostly structurally sound, but incomplete with moderate damage, or with signs of minor leakage• Mechanical system (where present) is in an acceptable working condition, but slightly dirty• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is complete and up to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water quality is inappropriate for type and purpose of feature• Water flow (where required) is blocked• Structurally unsound, or incomplete with significant damage, or with signs of moderate to significant leakage• Mechanical system (where present) is dirty, or in poor working condition• Chemical and water quality log sheet (where required) is incomplete or out of date

Continued →

2 of 2

Water features: ponds, fountains, and cascades

Excellent



- Safety signs and equipment (where required) are prominently and clearly displayed in the immediate area, in good condition, and in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- No undesirable growth (e.g., algae or weeds) in and around water feature
- Free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling in and around the water feature

Good



- Safety signs and equipment (where required) are displayed in the immediate area, in good condition, and in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Little to no undesirable growth (see Excellent) in or around water feature
- Predominantly free of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, and animal fouling in and around the water feature

Poor



- Safety signs or equipment (where required) is in an acceptable condition, but not displayed in the immediate area, or in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Noticeable presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent) in or around water feature
- Widespread distribution of graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling in or around the water feature

Very poor



- Safety signs or equipment is absent where required, or where present is in poor condition, or in accordance with the respective descriptors in 'Signage and way markers' (see p. 66–67)
- Substantial presence of undesirable growth (see Excellent) in or around water feature
- Severely affected by graffiti, leaf fall, litter, debris, or animal fouling in or around the water feature

← Continued



**Green Space
Quality Manual**

2024 Edition



**Parks for
London**