



# The Greenspace Plan

Charlie Tindill  
Street Scene Services  
Wakefield Council

# What we manage

65 Countryside Sites



18 Public Parks



90 Sports Pitches



23 Local Wildlife Sites



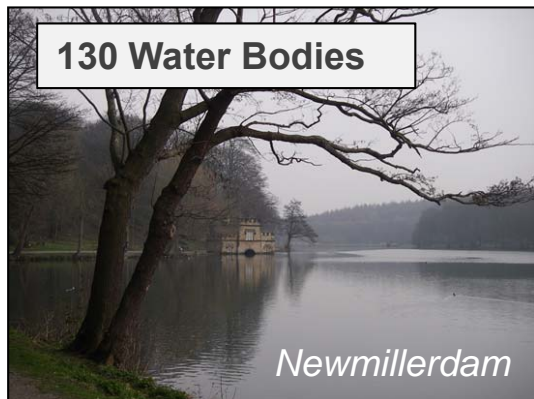
16 Local Nature Reserves





# What we manage

130 Water Bodies



115 Equipped Play Areas



59 Allotments Sites



400 Recreational Sites > 0.2ha



# What we manage

3 Pay & Play Facilities

27 Bowling Greens

83 Buildings

31 Closed  
Burial  
Grounds

*Castleford Parish Church*

8 Skateboard Parks



*Thornes Park*

3,500ha  
Accessible  
Greenspace

*Pontefract Park*



# Why are greenspaces important?

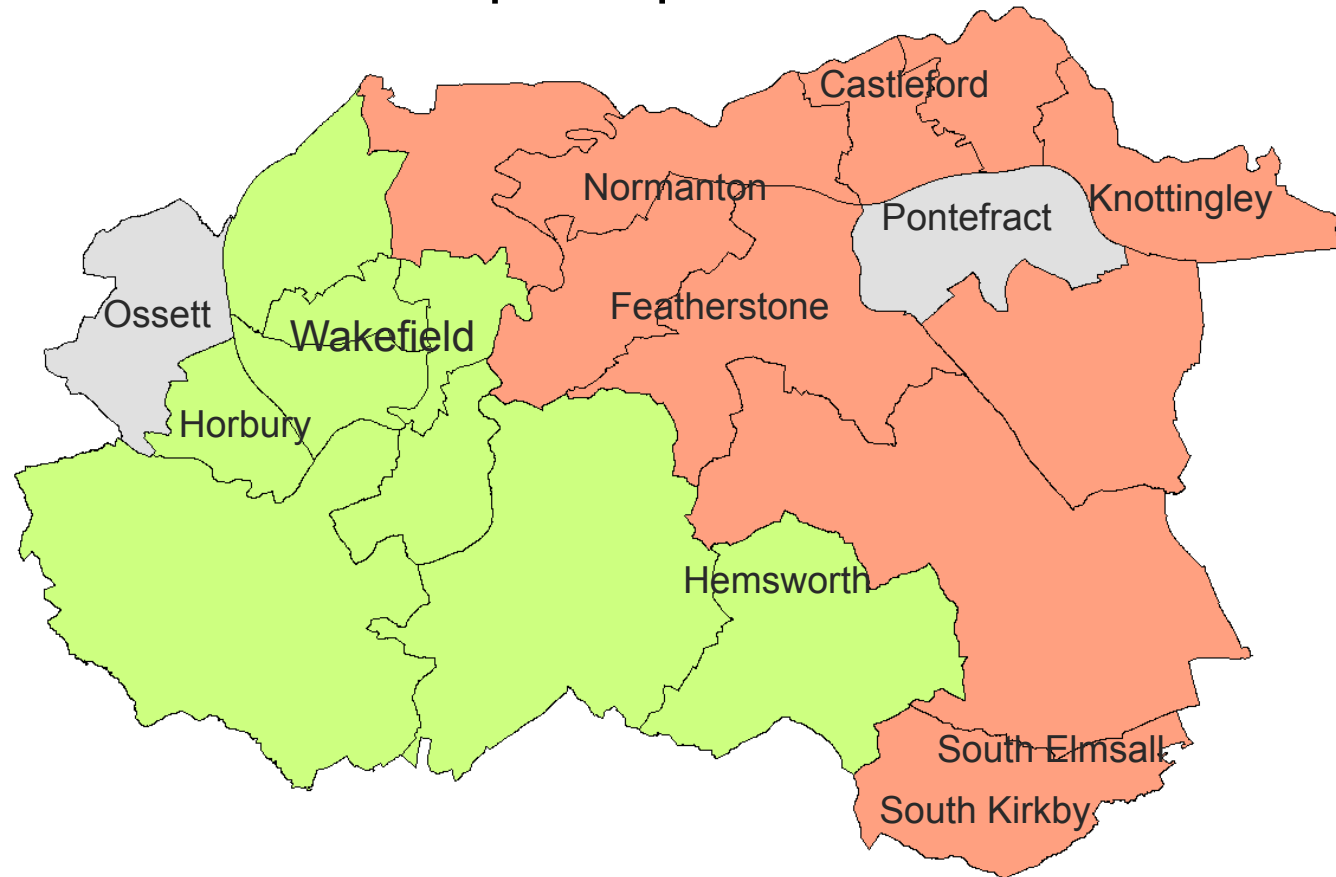
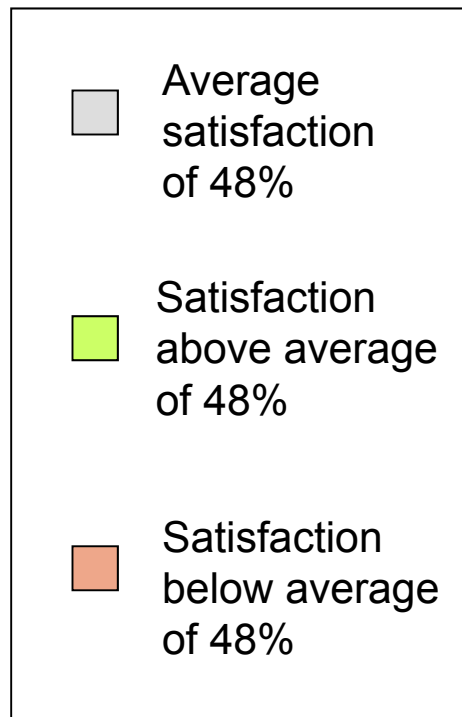
- Promotes healthy lifestyles
- Attractive landscapes, Improve QOL
- Social cohesion, play, exercise and sport



- Flood prevention
- Biodiversity and ecosystems
- Local economy and tourism
- Investment and Regeneration

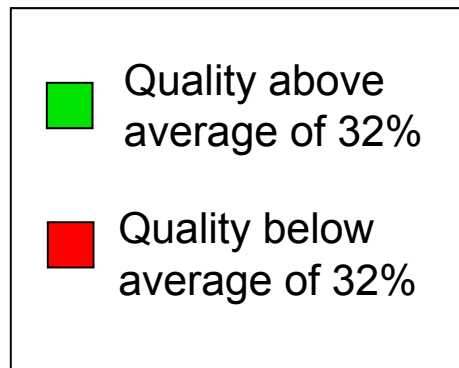
# What are the main issues?

## Public Satisfaction with Parks & Open Spaces 2008

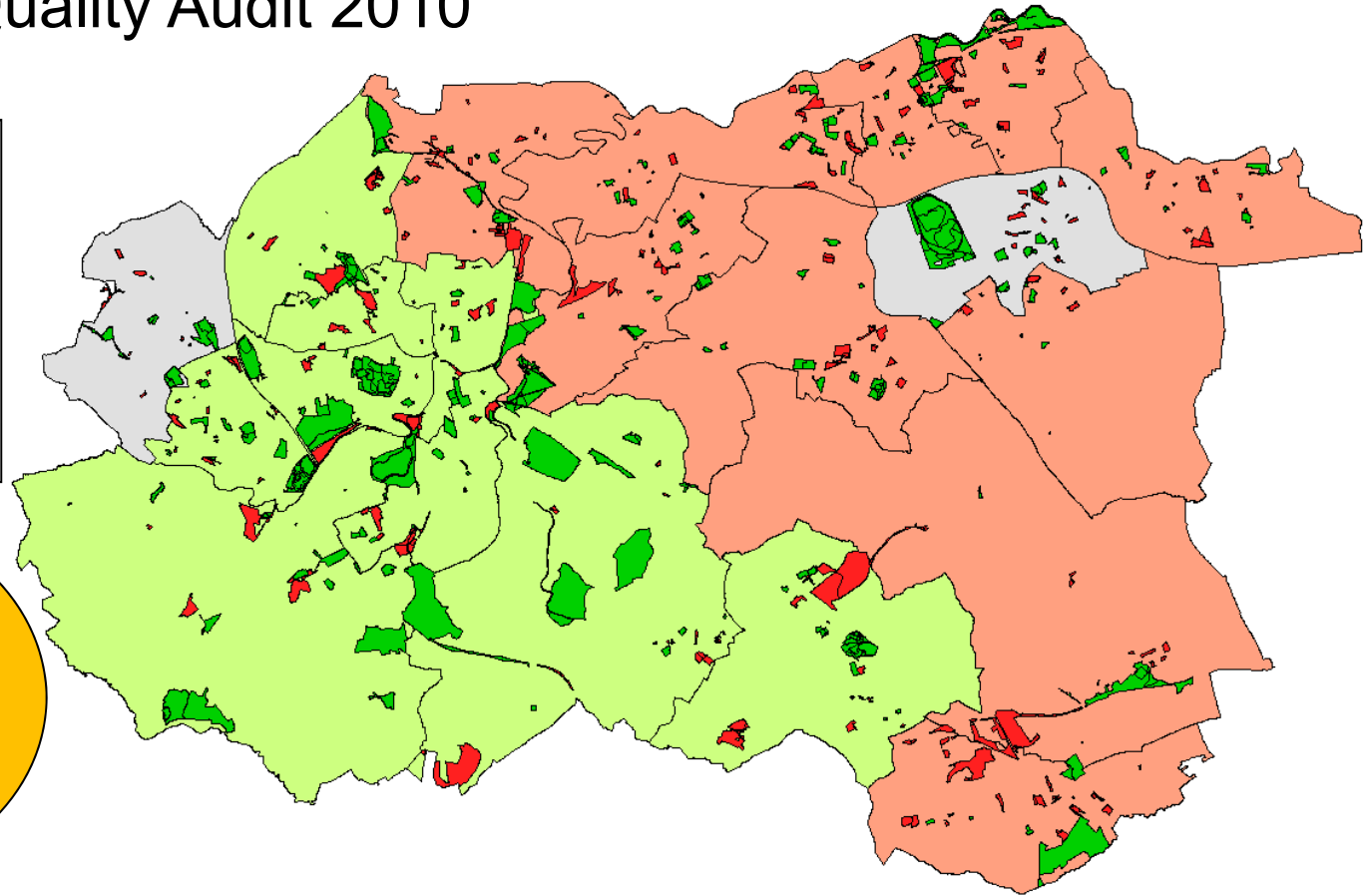


# What are the main issues?

## Greenspace Quality Audit 2010



Greenspace quality was uneven and mirrored the east/west divide of the satisfaction survey





# What are the main issues?



Greenspace quality is low and uneven

Resources are scarce due to austerity

Greenspaces are under-used and under-utilised



# What have we done?

## Neighbourhood Management

Four Neighbourhood Management Areas were established, each with its own development and countryside team



# What have we done?

## The last post

Featherstone's First World War heroes will never be forgotten, thanks to a new copse of trees in their memory

**M**INERS WERE exempt from conscription, but hundreds from the West Yorkshire town of Featherstone enlisted anyway to serve in the Great War. Nineteen were killed on the first day at the Somme.

Now all 353 of Featherstone's fallen are being remembered in a project which the Trust hopes will be a model for communities across the UK. Schoolchildren gathered at Mill Pond Meadow Nature Reserve to plant 353 saplings in tribute to the men, and each pupil is researching a lost soldier to help compile a special new archive.

It's all part of the Trust's £20m First World War Centenary Woods project. Thousands of hectares of life-giving native woodland are being planted at our four flagship

woods near Epsom, Edin Londonderry and Lanell nationwide are getting in too, planting our Community Tree Packs as a vibrant thank you to those who sacrificed so much. 4,000 packs went out to schools each with the offer of free seeds to sow among the trees.

The first Featherstone Community Tree Pack was planted on Armistice Day. The children made saplings in rows to echo the war cemeteries in France. The children included Megan Wilson who is researching her grandfather Sydney Charles Wilson, who died aged 19 on the Western Front.

Trust volunteer Roger says: "The town lost a number of sons, and they really caught the imagination. We're determined they won't be forgotten."



WILSON SIDNEY CHARLES Private



To apply for a Community Tree Pack or get advice on planting your own memorial copse, visit [woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk/freetrees)

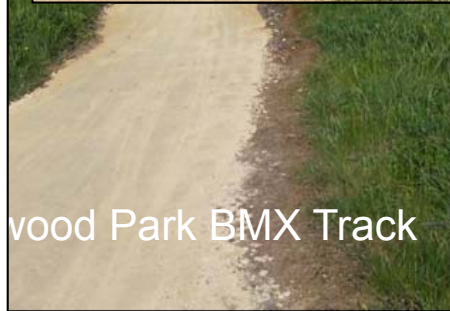
PICTURES: RICHARD FAULKS



Altofts Community Sports Foundation

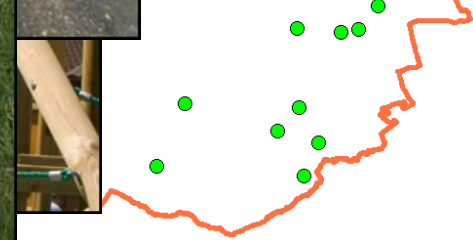


Millpond Meadows Remembrance Woodland



Wood Park BMX Track

Walk





# What have we done?

## Volunteering at Thornes Park



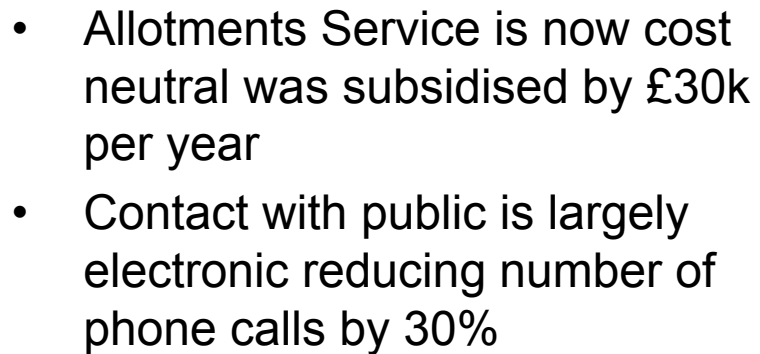


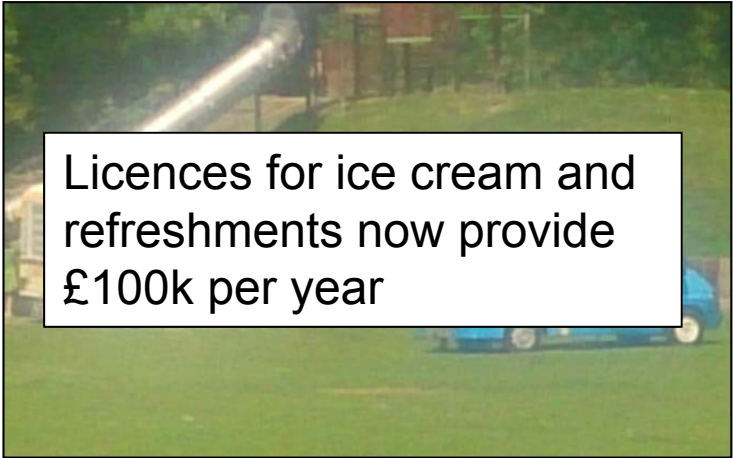
# What have we done?

## Volunteering at Newmillerdam



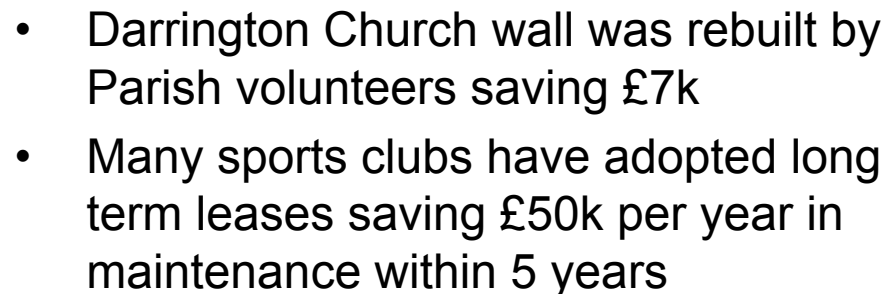
# How have we made savings?

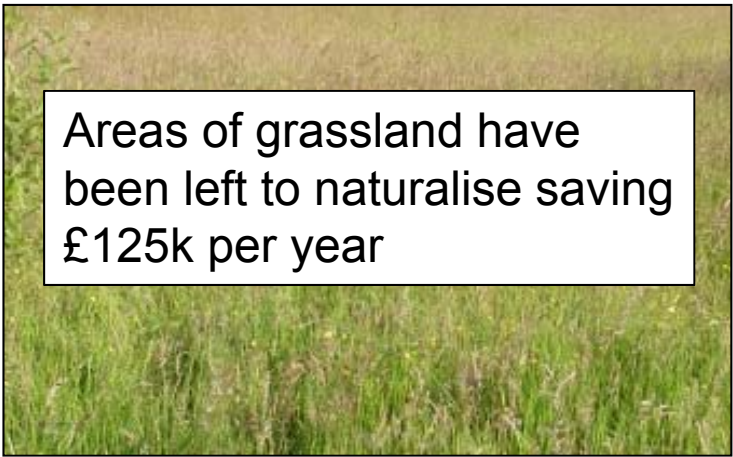
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- Allotments Service is now cost neutral was subsidised by £30k per year
  - Contact with public is largely electronic reducing number of phone calls by 30%



Licences for ice cream and refreshments now provide £100k per year

## Examples of savings from volunteering:

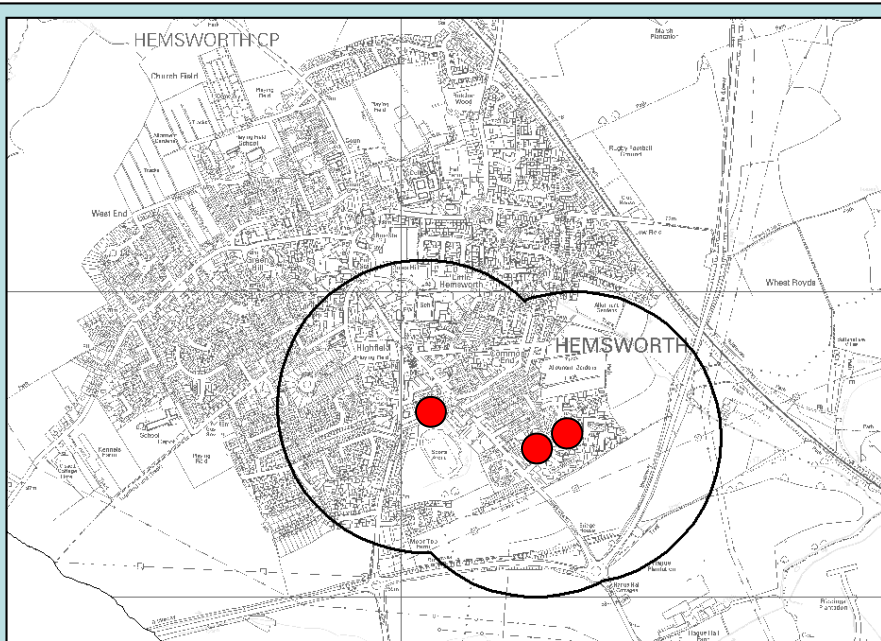
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- Darrington Church wall was rebuilt by Parish volunteers saving £7k
  - Many sports clubs have adopted long term leases saving £50k per year in maintenance within 5 years



Areas of grassland have been left to naturalise saving £125k per year

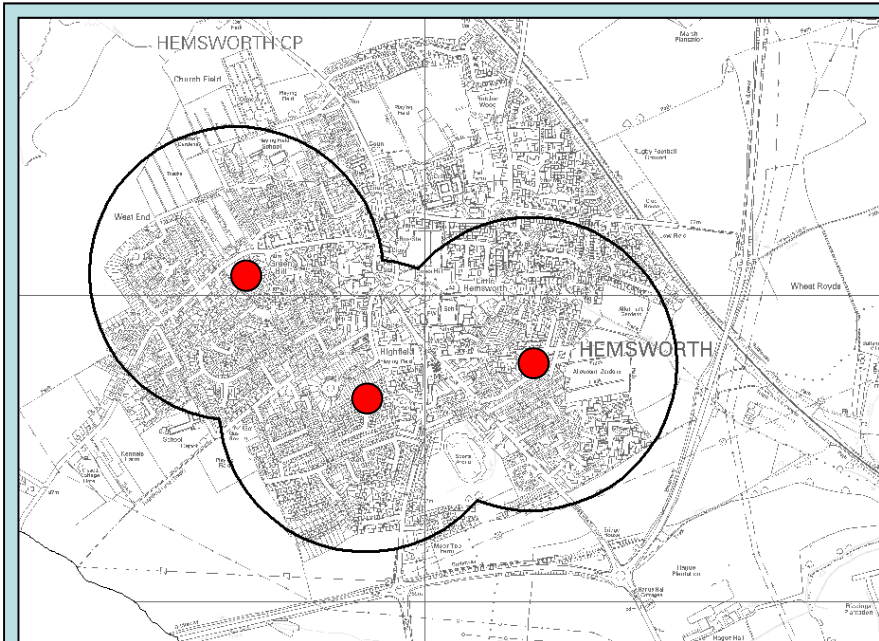


# How do we plan for greenspace?



**Play Areas in Hemsworth in 2002**

37% of residents live within catchment areas

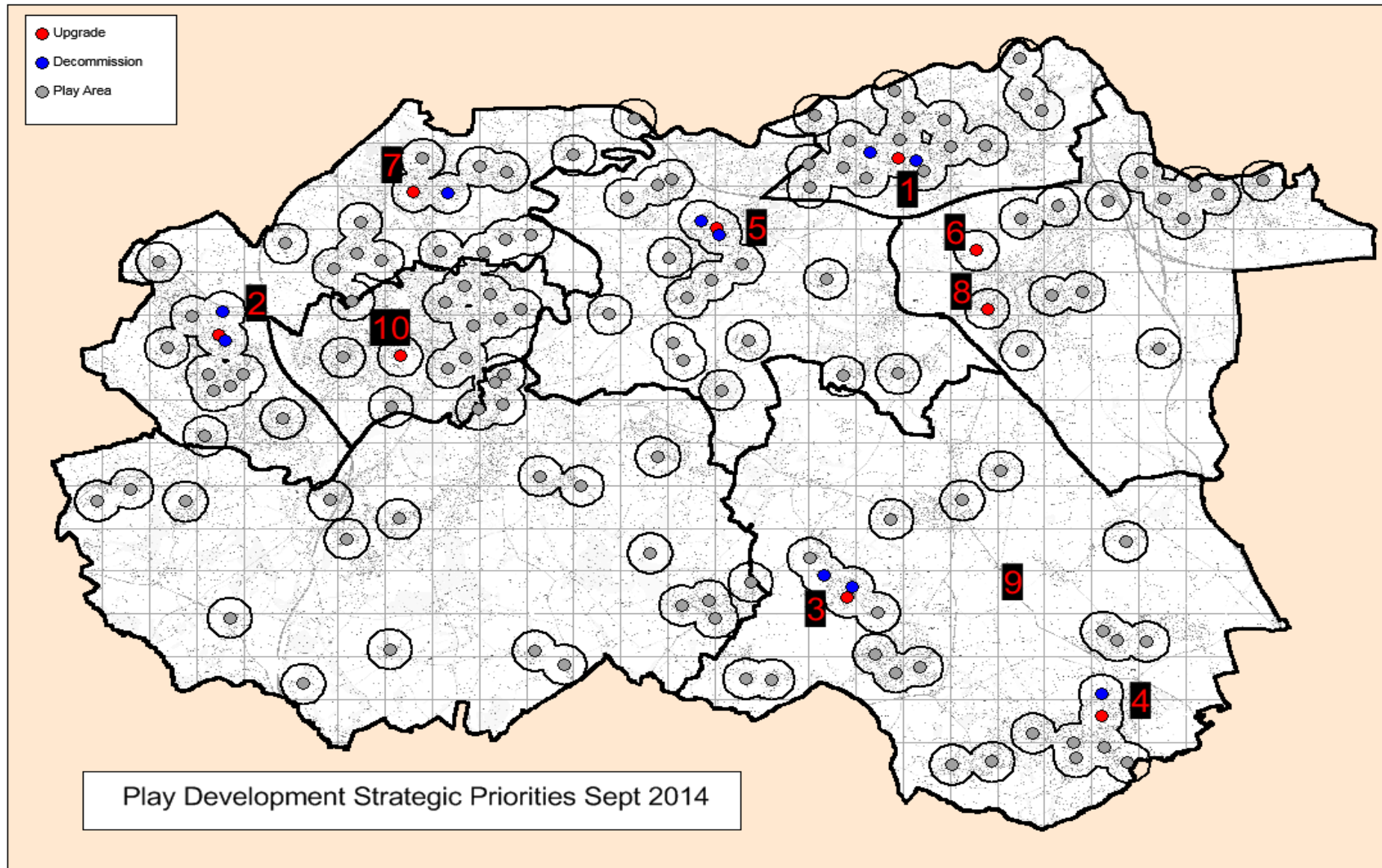


**Play Areas in Hemsworth in 2014**

84% of residents live within catchment areas

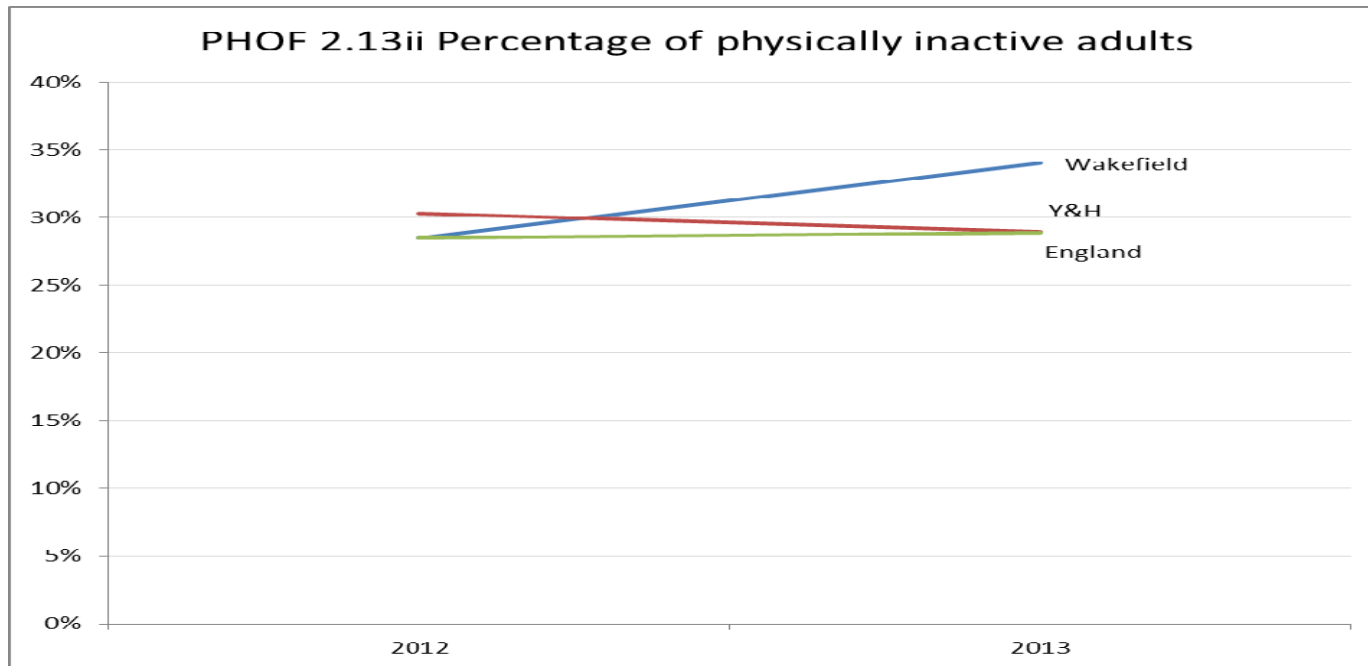


# Strategic Priorities for Play Development



# Public Health

**All people in Wakefield live healthy and active lifestyles (Outcome Target)**



# Anglers Country Park

## Room on the Broom

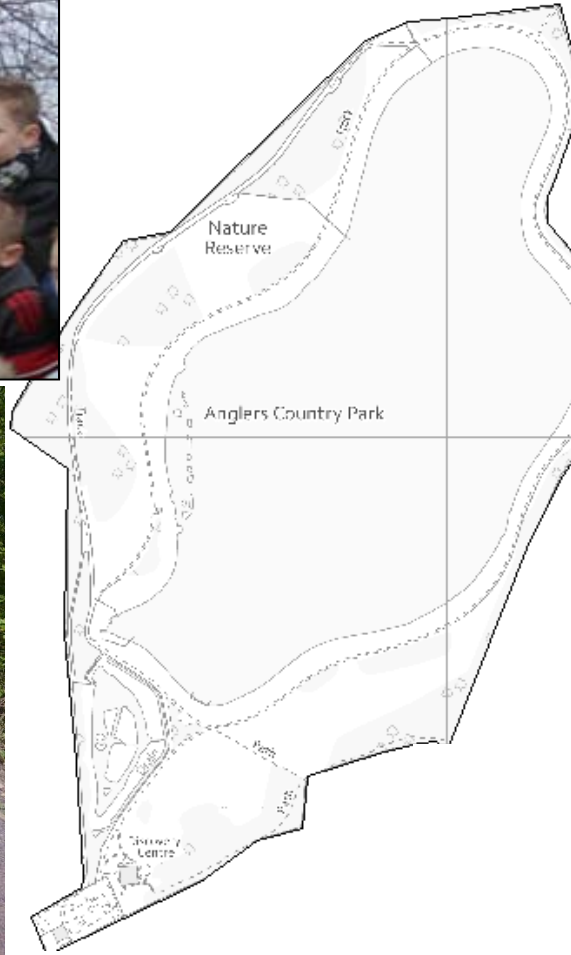


Julia Donaldson

Axel Scheffler



# Anglers Country Park



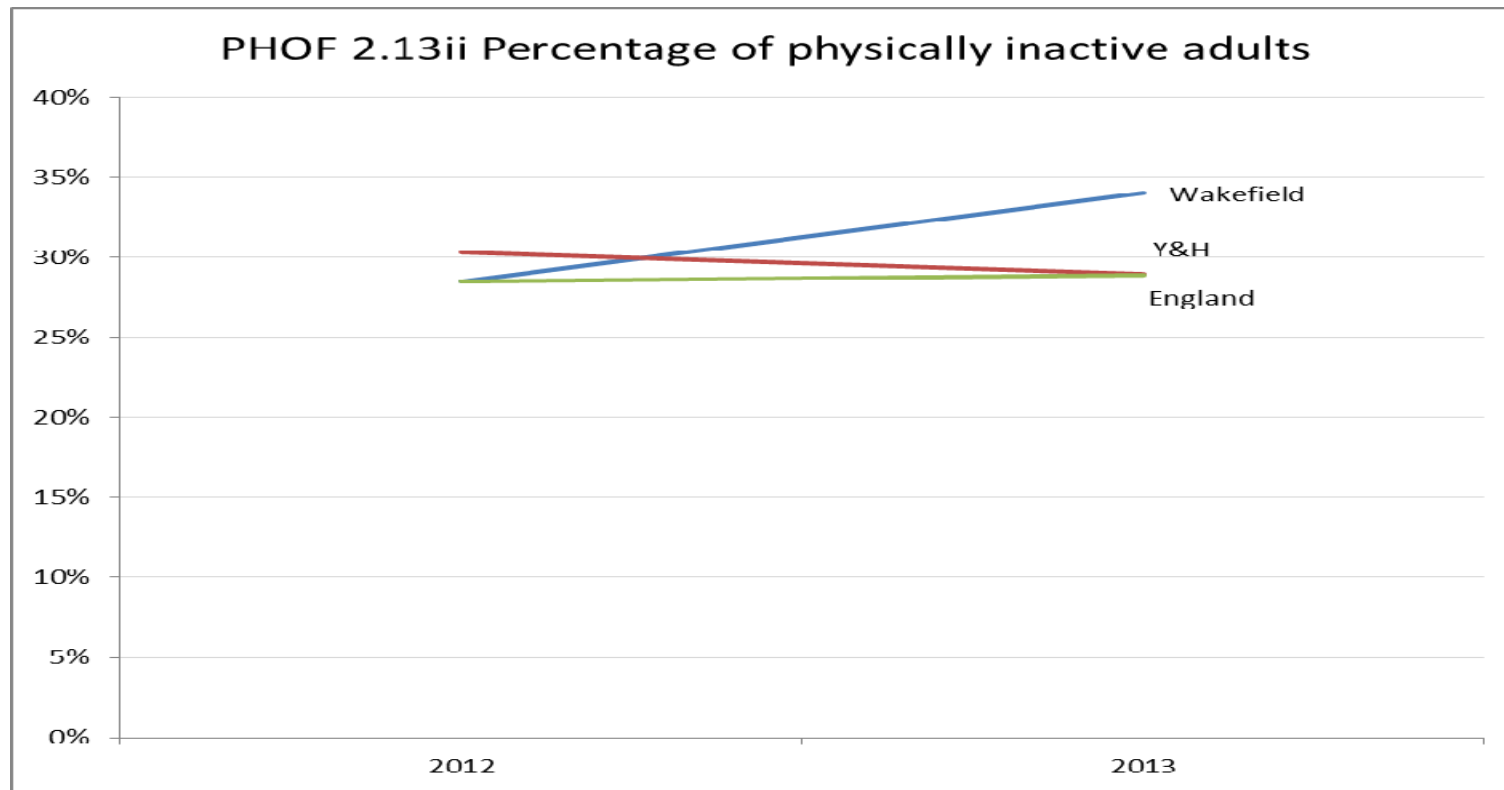
# Anglers Country Park

## Room on the Broom Trail

	Figure	Comment
No. packs given out	5000 +	Initial print run of 5000 distributed by 4 May. Now handing out a second print run.
No. visitors through visitor counter	21,992 (4 Mar – 1st Apr) 36, 540 (1st April – 6th May) <b>Total 58,532</b>	785/day (4 Mar – 1st Apr) 1305/day (1st April – 6th May) <b>Average 1045/day</b>
Collective miles walked	Over 20,000 miles	Based on 5000 packs distributed, a ratio of 2:1 adults to children and lots of groups have been visitor centre opening hours.



# Indicator Baseline P.H.



# Think Family Agenda

Wakefield District is a Great Place to Grow up  
(Outcome 4)

- Provide a variety of Positive activities for CYP and Families
- Provide parks, countryside and open space for CYP and families



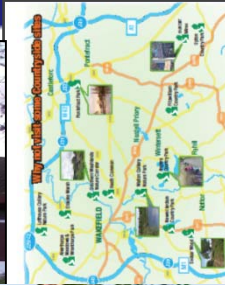
# Think Family

- Residential – Duke of Edinburgh & John Muir
- Volunteers – Environmental Stewardship
- Reparation – Environmental Improvement



[www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)

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working for you



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# Conclusion

## Core Principles:

- Changing working cultures
- Clear policy direction
- Joint working and partnerships
- Openness to ideas and challenge
- Continual reassessment and adaptation



Thank you for listening, do you have any questions?