

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS



## Environment chapters

### Scoring system for sites of environmental significance

All scores should be supported by data or evidence, or reasoned justification.

Criterion (NPPF 2012)	Score range			Notes
ACCESSIBILITY	0	-	4	e.g. private, no access (0) – could be made accessible – accessed via PRow – fully open to the public (4)
PROXIMITY / LOCAL	0	-	4	Distant (0) --- fairly near to --- adjoins (3) or is within (4) settlement
BOUNDED	0	-	4	Individual parcel (not an undefined area or extensive tract of land)
SPECIAL TO COMMUNITY	0	-	4	Opinion of local people via questionnaire or at consultation event. Demonstrable custom and practice
RECREATIONAL / EDUCATIONAL USE	0	-	4	Actual or potential, everything from kick-about, dog-walking to Forest School use and Public Open Space
BEAUTY (including views)	0	-	2	Subjective, relative (give justification); use consultation map results
TRANQUILITY	0	-	2	Subjective, relative (give justification)
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	0	-	4	Extant, visible evidence. Number of periods/features/records etc. / Relevant existing designations (Historic Environment Records); R&F, industrial and social history
WILDLIFE SIGNIFICANCE, GEOLOGY	0	-	4	Richness of species and habitats (Priority (BAP) spp. / Priority habitats) / relevant existing designations (Habitat Survey, Local Wildlife Sites / site of geological significance)
[Maximum possible score]	<b>32</b>			<b>Local Green Space</b> designation can be considered for sites scoring 75% of the maximum possible total (i.e. 24 out of 32), but this proportion should be adapted to local circumstances; remember, “the Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space” (NPPF 2012, para. 77 – see below).

77. The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.