

6.0 Current Provision Assessment

6.1 Assessment of current provision has been undertaken by overlaying a map of the Borough with the location of play facilities with a 500m radius around Local play areas and 1,000m around Main play areas and a population heat map. .

6.2 This spatial analysis is then combined with the condition analysis by the independent inspection and Officer / Member knowledge of gaps in provision by age / type etc to inform the assessment of current provision.

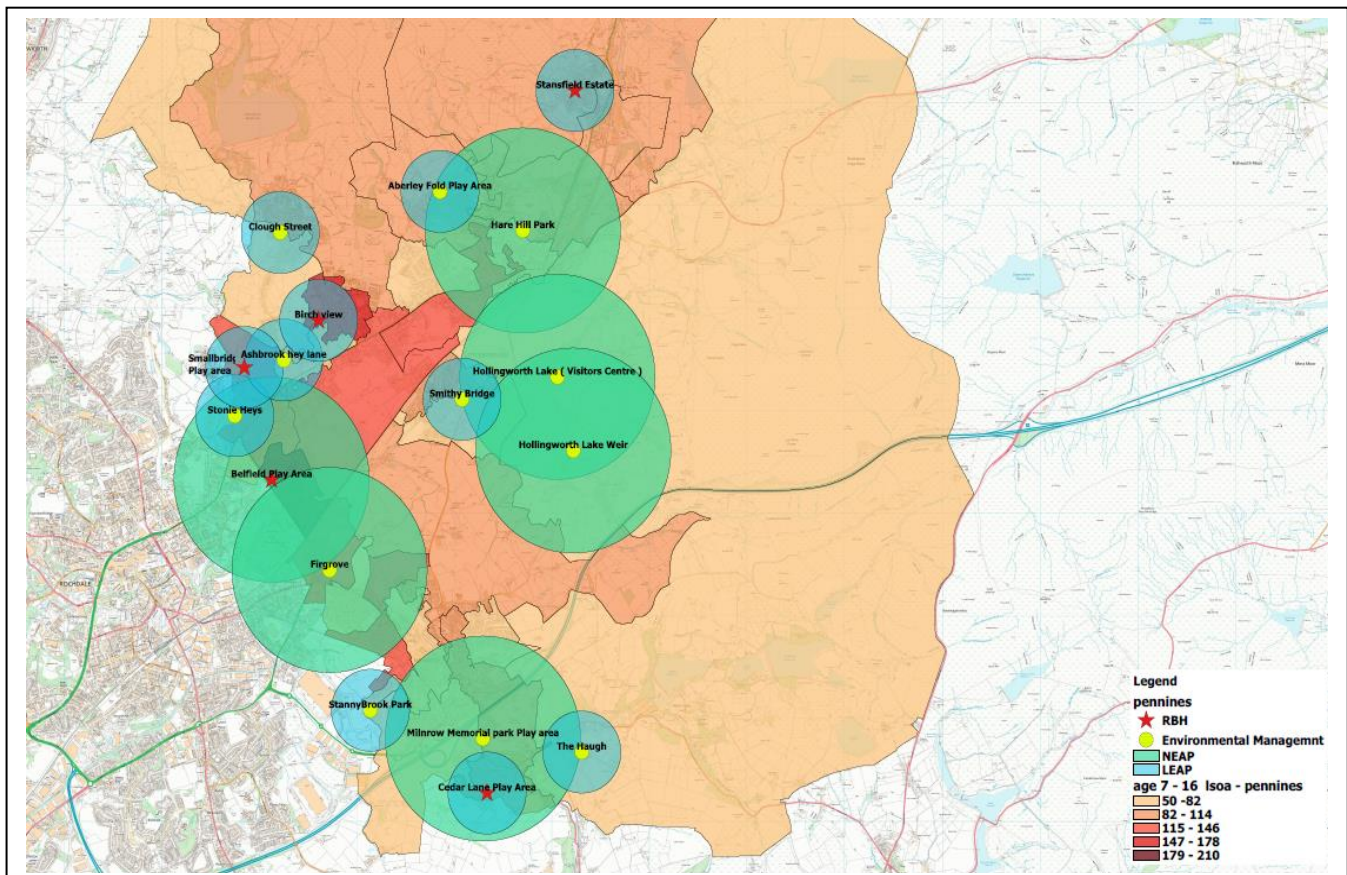
6.5 Pennines Township Assessment

6.5.1: Wardle & West Littleborough ward is well served by main Play area provision at Bellfield and Firgrove and with Local play areas along the A58 corridor from Rochdale to Littleborough at Stonie Heys and Ashbrook Hey Lane (Council) and Smallbridge and Birch View (RBH) plus Clough Street for Wardle and Aberley Fold for Shore.

Milnrow and Newhey are served by the Main play area at Milnrow Memorial Park and outlying play areas at The Hough and Stanneybrook Park (Council) and Cedar Lane (RBH).

Littleborough Lakeside is well served by the Main play area provision at Hollingworth Lake and Hare Hill Park with Local play area provision at Smithy Bridge and Stansfield

Map 3: Pennines Township Play provision map



6.5.2 For Wardle and West Littleborough both the Main Play area sites at Belfield and Firgrove are in good condition and provide a good range of equipment. Local play areas along the A58 corridor from Rochdale to Littleborough at Stonie Heys and Ashbrook Hey Lane (Council) plus Smallbridge and Birch View (RBH) is also of good quality plus and Aberley Fold Local play area is excellent provision for such a small population located at Shore and could perhaps be described as over-provision given the proximity to Main Play area at Hare Hill Park.

Clough Street in Wardle is adequate but it is recommended for investment in 2-5 years' time to ensure provision is good going forward. Drainage problems have been identified which prevent the site being used after wet weather. Works have been carried out and will be monitored to check effectiveness.

6.5.3 For Milnrow and Newhey the Main play area at Milnrow Memorial Park is in good condition and offers an excellent range of equipment. Cedar Lane (RBH) is an adequate local provision for younger children.

Local play provision for Newhey at The Hough (Council) is now excellent after 2019 revamp to provide a new slide, new multi-play unit, new inclusive (flush mounted roundabout) and wheelchair / pram friendly access paths to all the equipment. The transformation at The Hough is pictured below:



Local play provision West Milnrow at Stanneybrook Park play area (pictured below) is coming to the end of its life expectancy and investment in the region £30,000 is required over the next 2 years to replace all the main multiplay unit and springer, to refurbish the swings and renew safety surfacing.



- 6.5.4 Littleborough Lakeside Main play area provision at Hollingworth Lake and Hare Hill Park are both good, as is Local play area provision at Smithy Bridge after new equipment installed 2018/19. However, Hare Hill junior play area is near the end of its lifespan and a major overhaul is recommended by 2023.

RBH have noted an interest in closing their play area at Stansfield. A replacement on Rochdale Council land is recommended. Because this will be an additional play area to maintain, external funding will need to be sourced for maintenance as well as capital installation costs.

- 6.5.5 Disability access and inclusion is variable quality, with some good path access but no accessible equipment e.g. Hare Hill Park pictured below left where there are good tarmac access paths but you can see a roundabout which is not flush mounted so not accessible to wheelchairs. Also pictured below right at Stonie heys Park where a chicane has been installed discourage children running out in the road but as well as being ineffectual because of lack of side fencing it also means prams and wheelchairs have to go across the grass.



- 6.5.6 Skate / BMX Provision is excellent in Pennines with a good quality steel construction skate facility at Hare Hill Park and a new excellent quality concrete

construction facility at Milnrow Memorial Park. This is a higher level of provision than elsewhere in the Borough.

6.5.7 MUGA are located at Milnrow Memorial Park and Bellfield (RBH) sites. It would have been ideal to have one located at Harehill Park for Littleborough but there is no suitable space in the park.

6.5.8 Outdoor gyms are located at Milnrow Memorial Park and Clough Street in Wardle. There are also timber construction gyms at Hare Hill Park and Hollingworth Lake which are in adequate condition but are high maintenance and require investment of the course of this strategy.

6.5.9 Summary of Pennines Current Provision:

- Compared to the rest of the Borough Play provision is in better condition and requires less immediate investment to meet standards.
- Wardle & West Littleborough and Milnrow & Newhey wards are both well served and no investment is required at this stage.
- Littleborough Lakeside is generally good but before the end of this Strategy major investment will be required at Hare Hill Park toddlers play area. Assuming RBH go ahead with closure of their Stansfield Play area alternative Council provision will be required to prevent under-provision.
- Disability access and inclusion requires investment to ensure provision meets the needs of families with disabilities.
- Skate / BMX provision is excellent.
- MUGA provision is satisfactory.
- Outdoor gym provision is good but timber construction gyms may need replacing over the next 10 years

7 Township Proposals

7.4 Pennines Proposals:

Ward	Action	Funding	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025-30
Wardle & W Littleborough	Clough St refurbishment	Play Capital						
Milnrow & Newhey	None required	N/a						
Littleborough Lakeside	Hare Hill toddler play refurbishment	S106 / Play Capital						
	New Council play area Stansfield as RBH close theirs	S106						
W & WL L.Lakeside	Revamp timber gyms Hare Hill Park and Hollingworth Lake	S106						