

Open Space & Play Area Strategy



2014 – 2033

Area Profile: Bampton

BAMPTON AREA PROFILE

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Bampton

Bampton lies on the edge of south-eastern corner of the Exmoor National Park and on the River Bathern, a tributary of the River Exe. Bampton is approximately 10 km north of Tiverton. The population of Bampton is 1791 inhabitants. Bampton's town centre is a conservation area with almost 100 listed buildings. Recently, Bampton has become famous for its floral displays and the town has won the national Britain in Bloom competition six times.

The GIA (2013) groups Bampton into a catchment area which includes Huntsham, Shillingford and Morebath. The English Indices of Deprivation 2010 show that, on average, the catchment area falls below the midpoint figure for social deprivation. Parts of the catchment might therefore be regarded as socially deprived compared to the 68% of the district that falls above that national marker. As a result, the Bampton catchment area is prioritised above other catchments with the same GI score.

1.2 Natural Environment and Green Space Provision

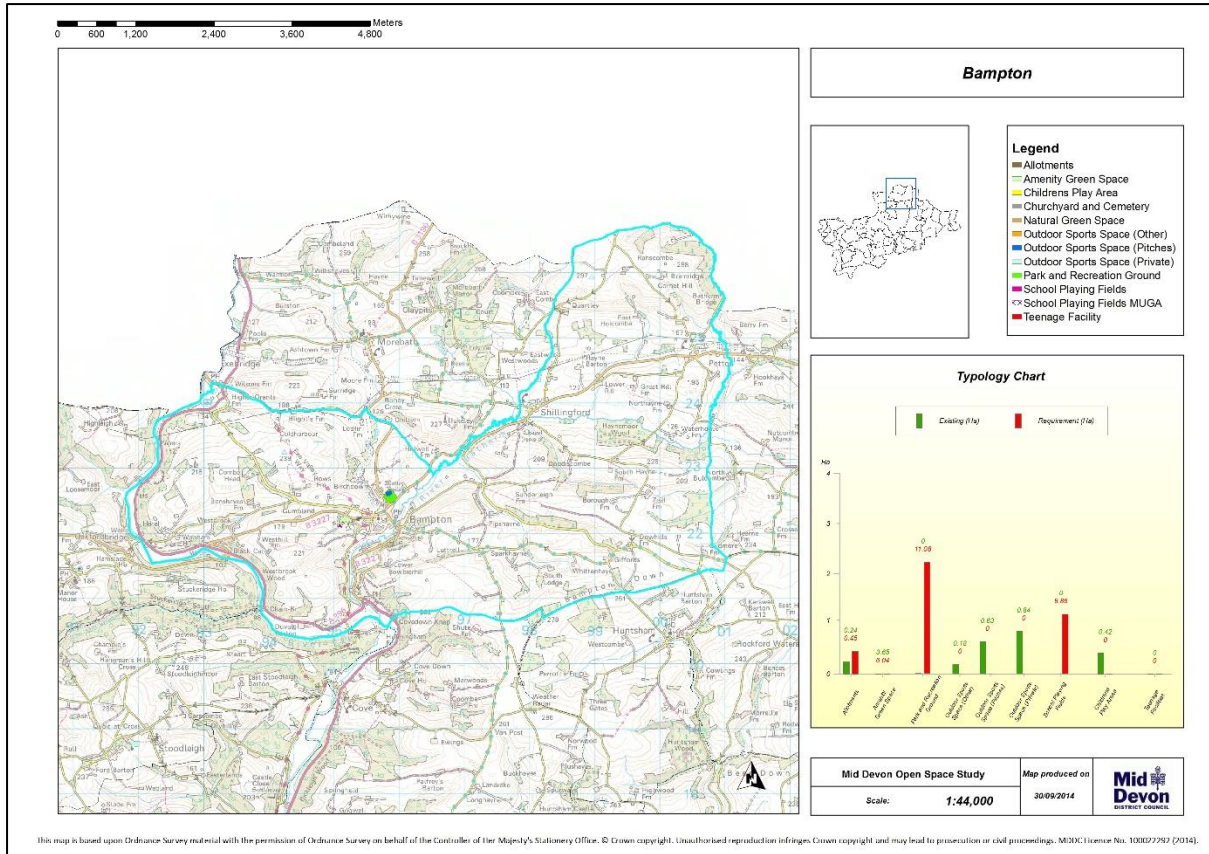
The Bampton catchment is rich in wildlife, including the greatest coverage by a Strategic Nature Area out of all 28 catchments and an extremely high land area designated as County Wildlife Sites. Much of this GI is ancient woodland, serving an irreplaceable heritage function as well as being vitally important for biodiversity. Within Bampton, the remains of a Norman castle also serve as public recreational space, and there is a disused railway into the town. Although the GI per head in Bampton is high, accessibility is an issue. Small scale public open space and access to allotments in the area is also low. Some investment to address these shortfalls has already been put into place and local opportunities for walking and cycling help to off-set the remaining deficit. However, Bampton has the lowest play area and open space scores of all the catchments in the GIA and would therefore benefit from further investment long-term.

1.3 Housing and Development

During the Local Plan Review (2013) there was some discussion as to whether Bampton should retain its current status as a town, or whether it would be more appropriate to re-classify Bampton as a village under **Policy S14**. The population of Bampton is some four times smaller than Crediton the smallest of the other three market towns in the Mid Devon Plan. Bampton does not provide the same level of service and employment opportunities as the other main service centres in the district. Bampton does not have the strategic road network links and its own internal road network causes constraints to larger scale development. In addition, topography and potential flood risks could both cause constraints. The re-classification will ensure that development continues in Bampton but at a level that will suit its individual requirements. The SHLAA process has identified sites with the potential for 144 new dwellings in Bampton.

2.0 Map of Parish and Open Space Provision

Figure 1: Provision of open space across the parish



3.0 Quantity Analysis

Table 1: Quantity analysis of open space in the Parish

Typology	Number of sites	Existing provision (hectares)	Existing provision (ha/1000)	Required provision (ha)	Required provision (ha/1000)	Supply (ha)	Supply (Ha/1000)	Diff_Text
Allotments	1	0.24	0.13	0.45	0.25	-0.21	-0.12	UNDER SUPPLY
Amenity Green Space	1	1.64	0.92	1.79	1.00	-0.15	-0.08	UNDER SUPPLY
Park and Recreation Ground (combined)	3	2.84	1.58	2.69	1.50	0.15	0.08	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
<i>Park and Recreation Ground</i>	2	2.21	1.23	2.69	1.50	-0.48	-0.27	N/A
<i>Outdoor Sports Space (Pitches)</i>	1	0.63	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.35	N/A
<i>Outdoor Sports Space (Other)</i>	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
<i>Outdoor Sports Space (Private)</i>	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Childrens Play Area	2	0.21	0.12	0.11	0.06	0.10	0.06	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
Teenage Facility	2	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
School Playing Fields	1	0.18	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.10	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
School Playing Fields MUGA	1	0.06	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.03	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY
Churchyard and Cemetery	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	SUFFICIENT SUPPLY

4.0 Access Analysis

Figure 2: Access to park and recreation grounds across the parish

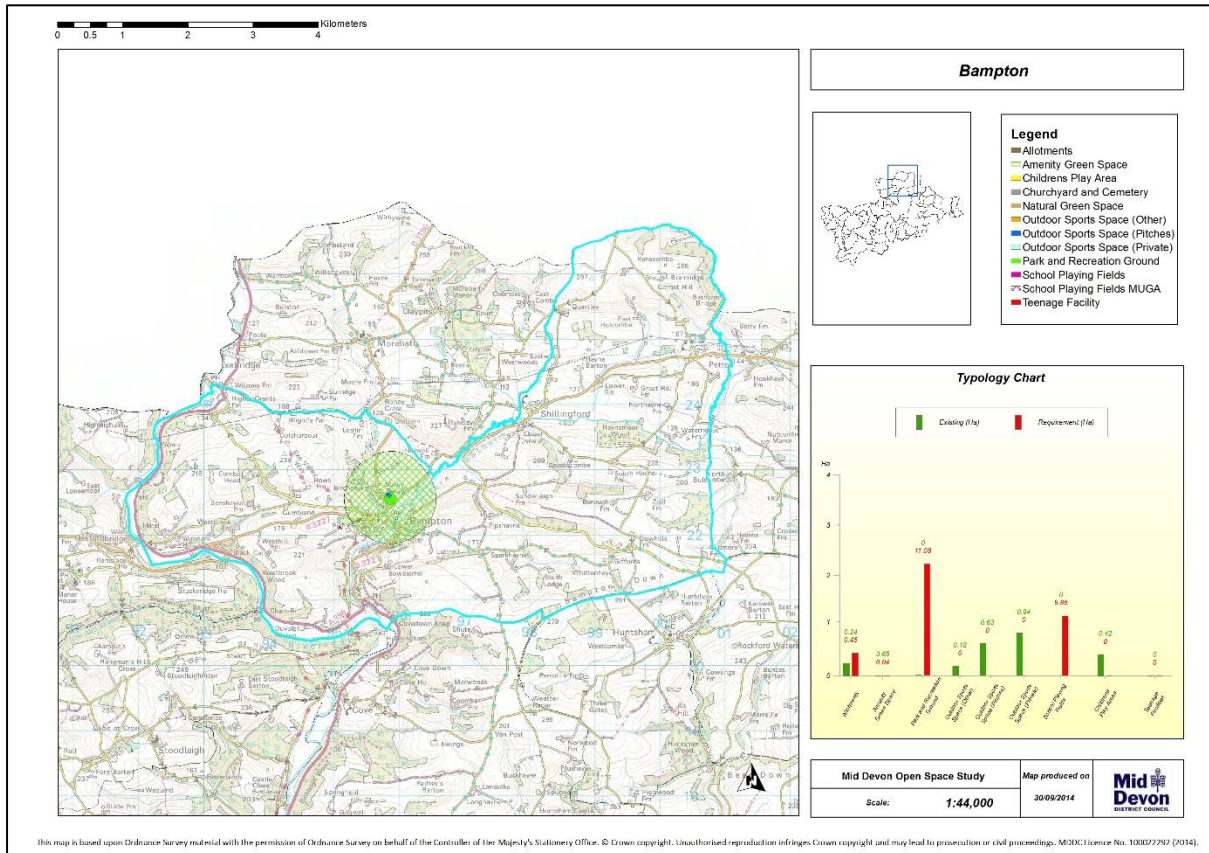


Figure 3: Access to park and recreation grounds across main settlement area

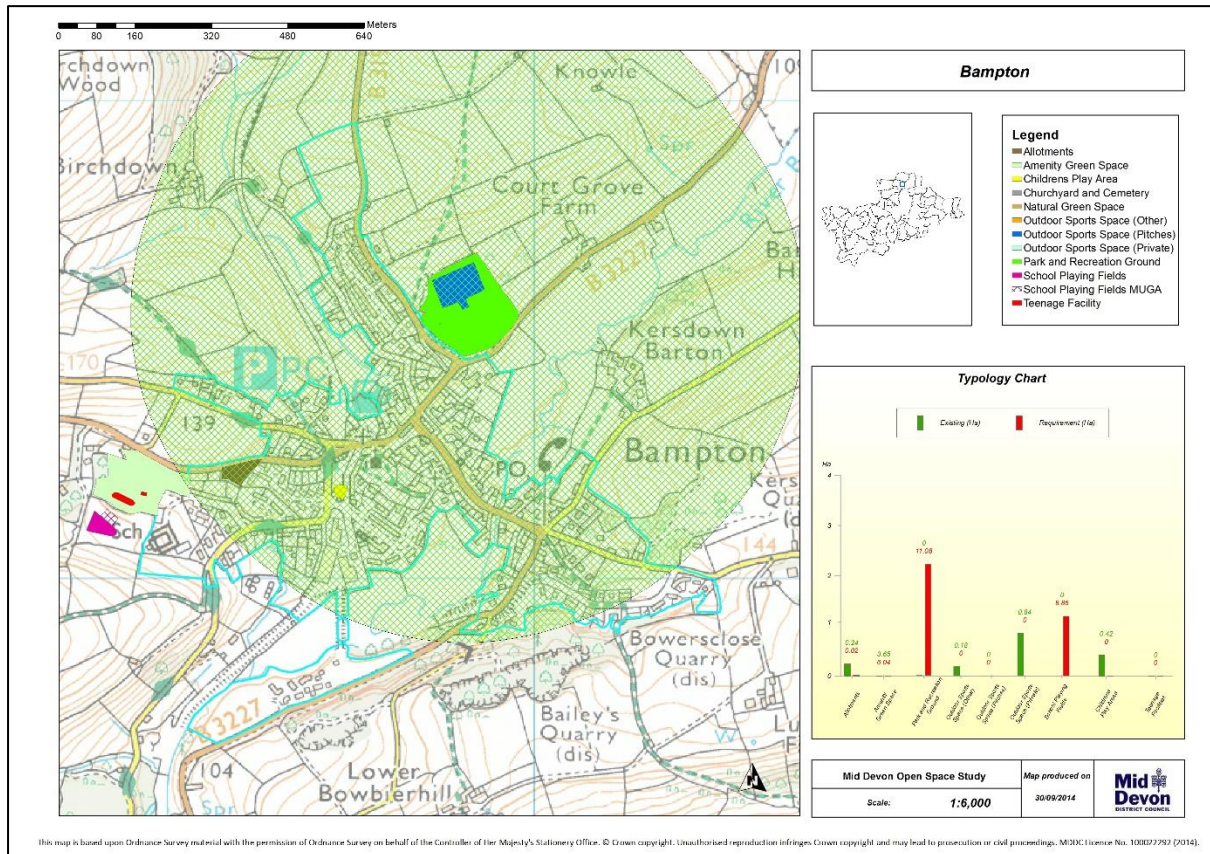


Figure 4: Access to Childrens Play Areas across the parish

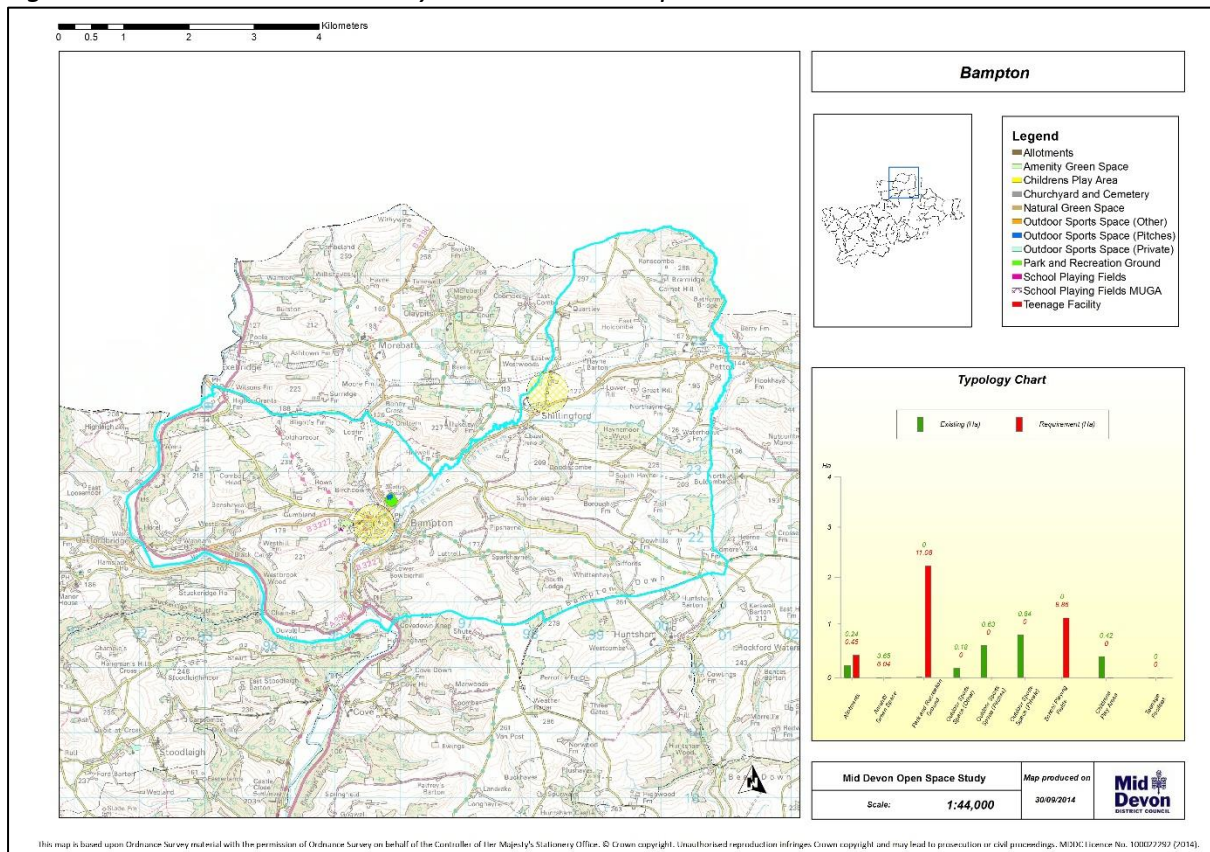


Figure 5: Access to Childrens Play Areas across the settlement area

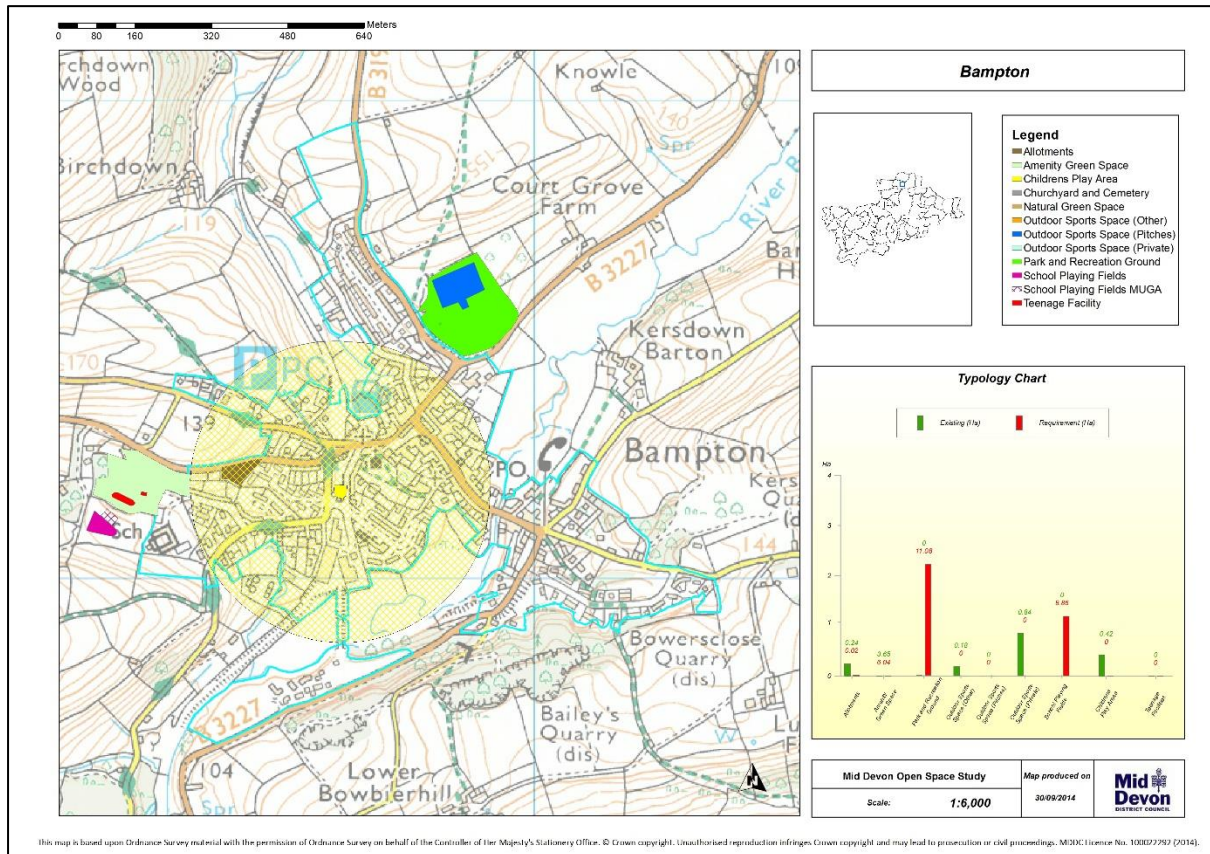


Figure 6: Access to teenage facilities across the parish

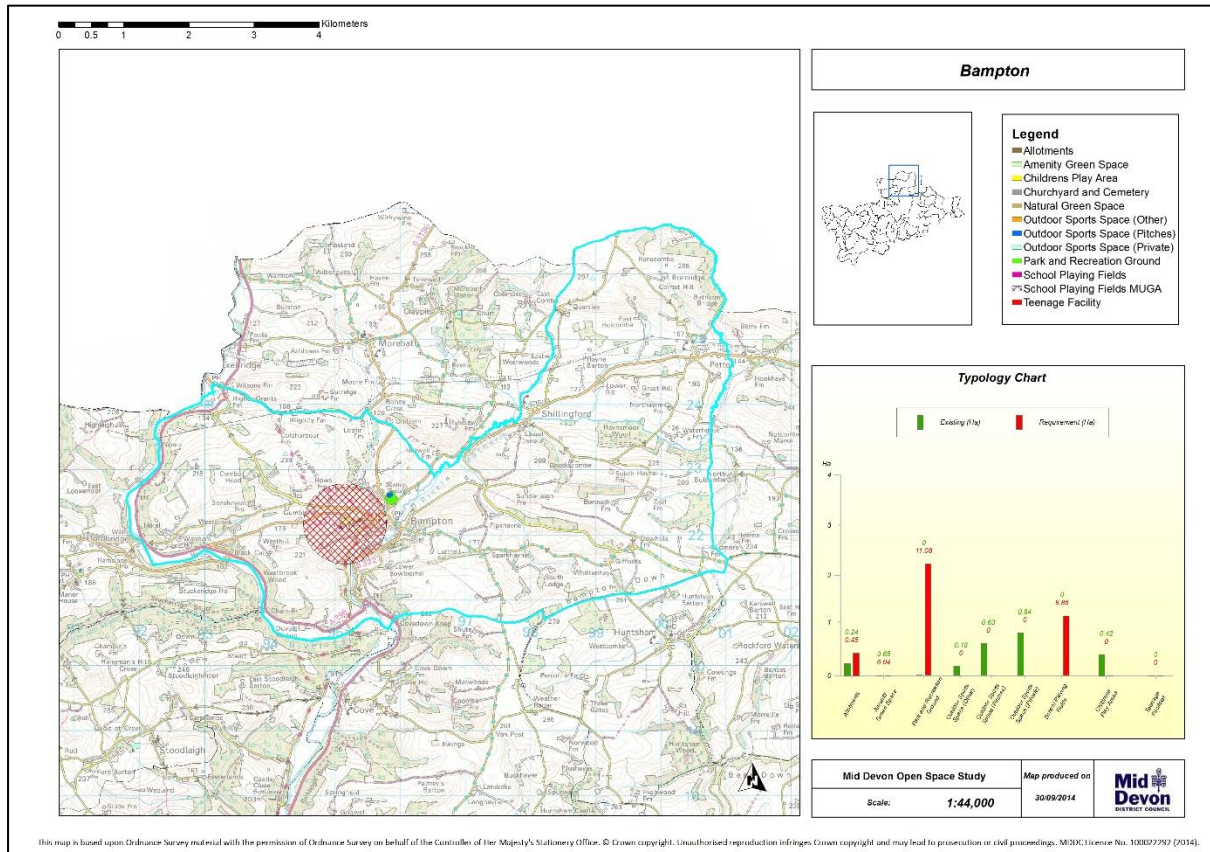


Figure 7: Access to teenage facilities across the settlement area

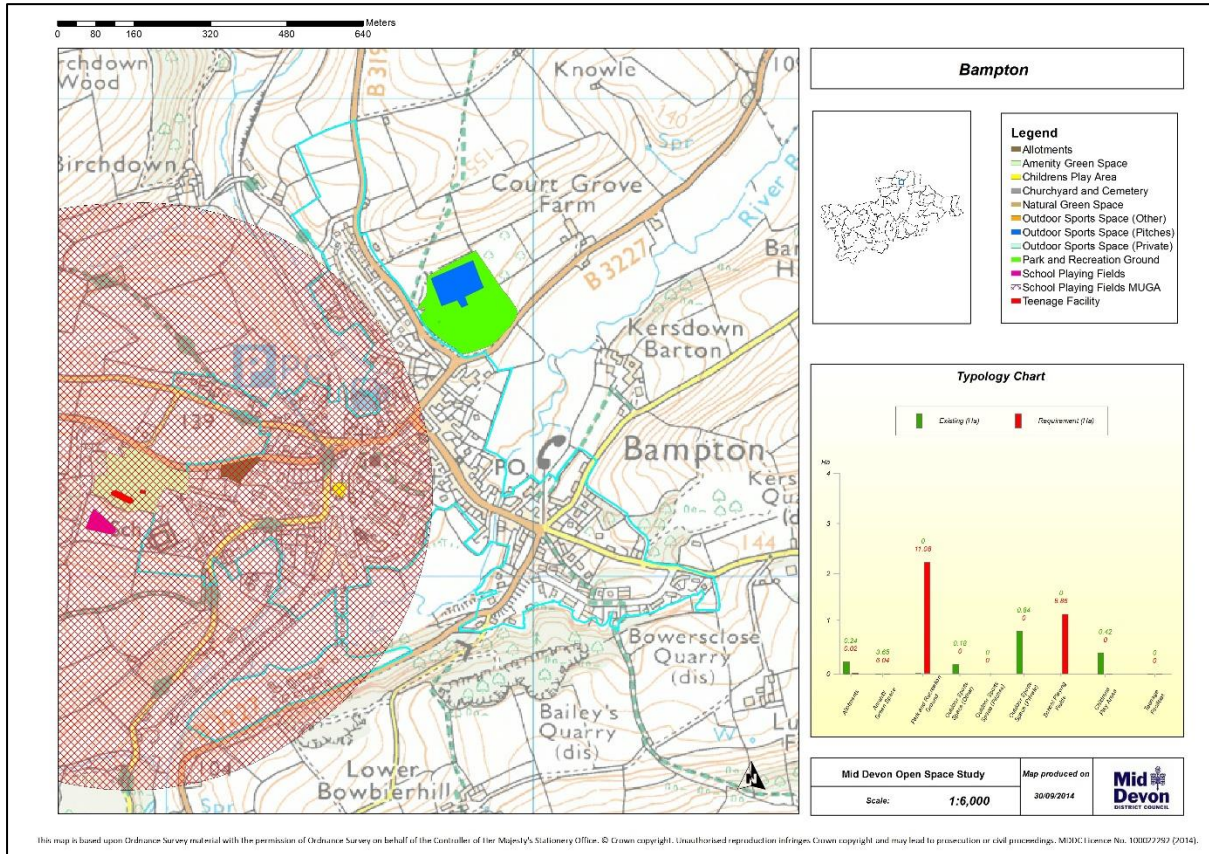


Figure 8 Access to amenity green space across the parish

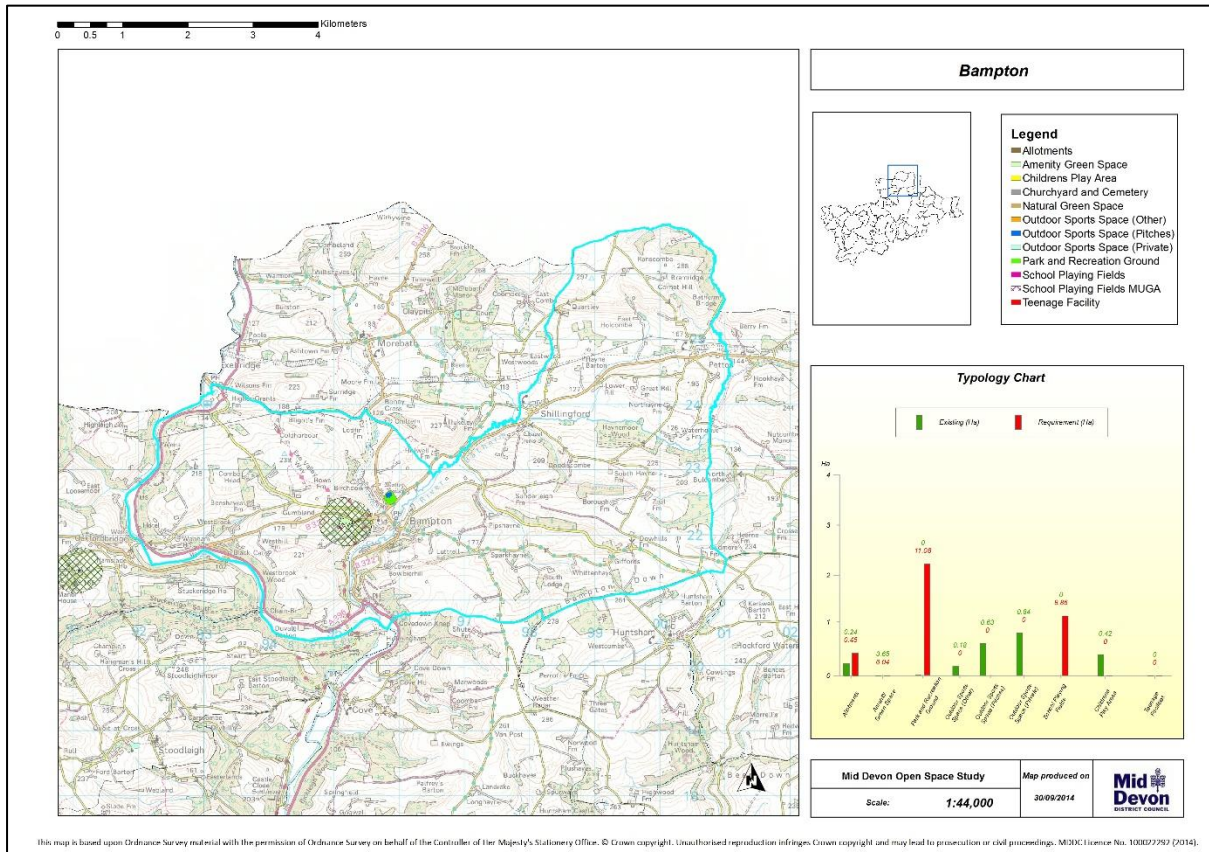


Figure 9: Access to amenity green space across the settlement area

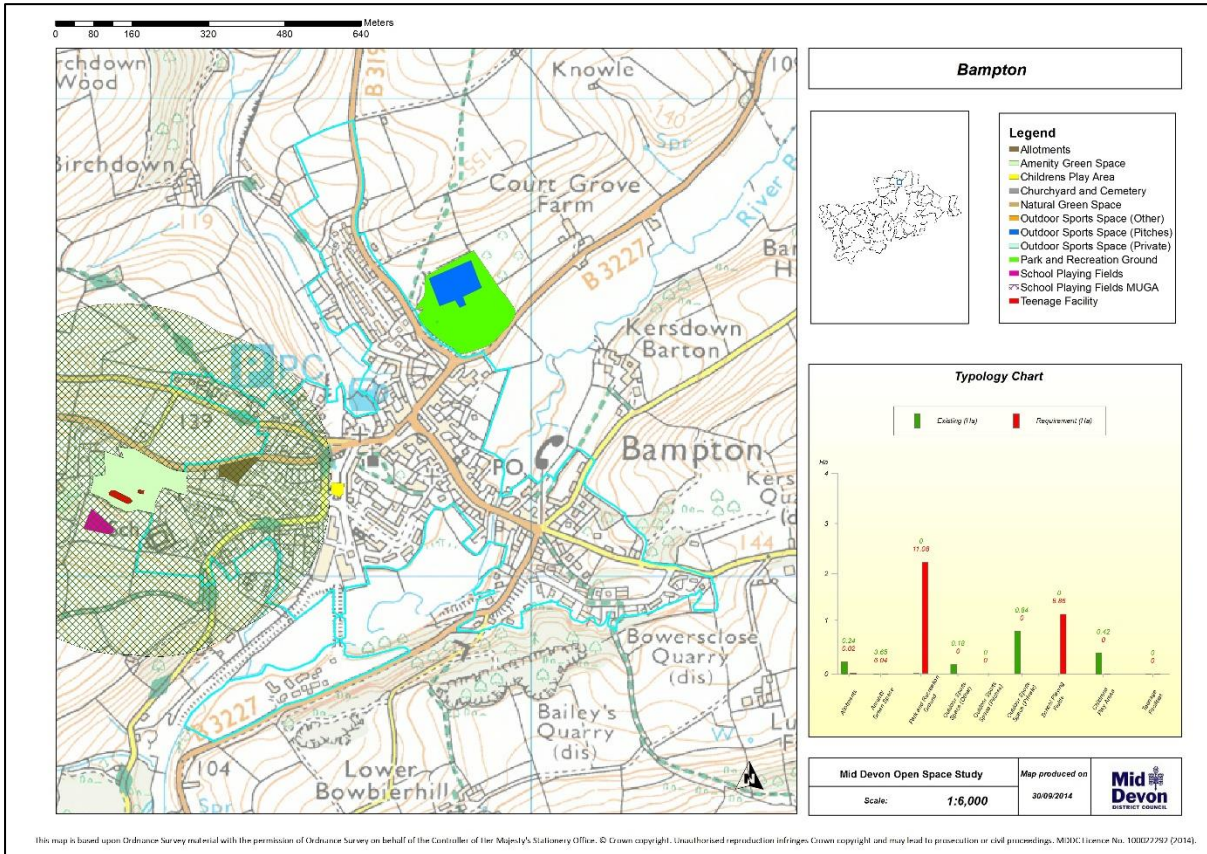


Figure 10: Access to allotments across the parish

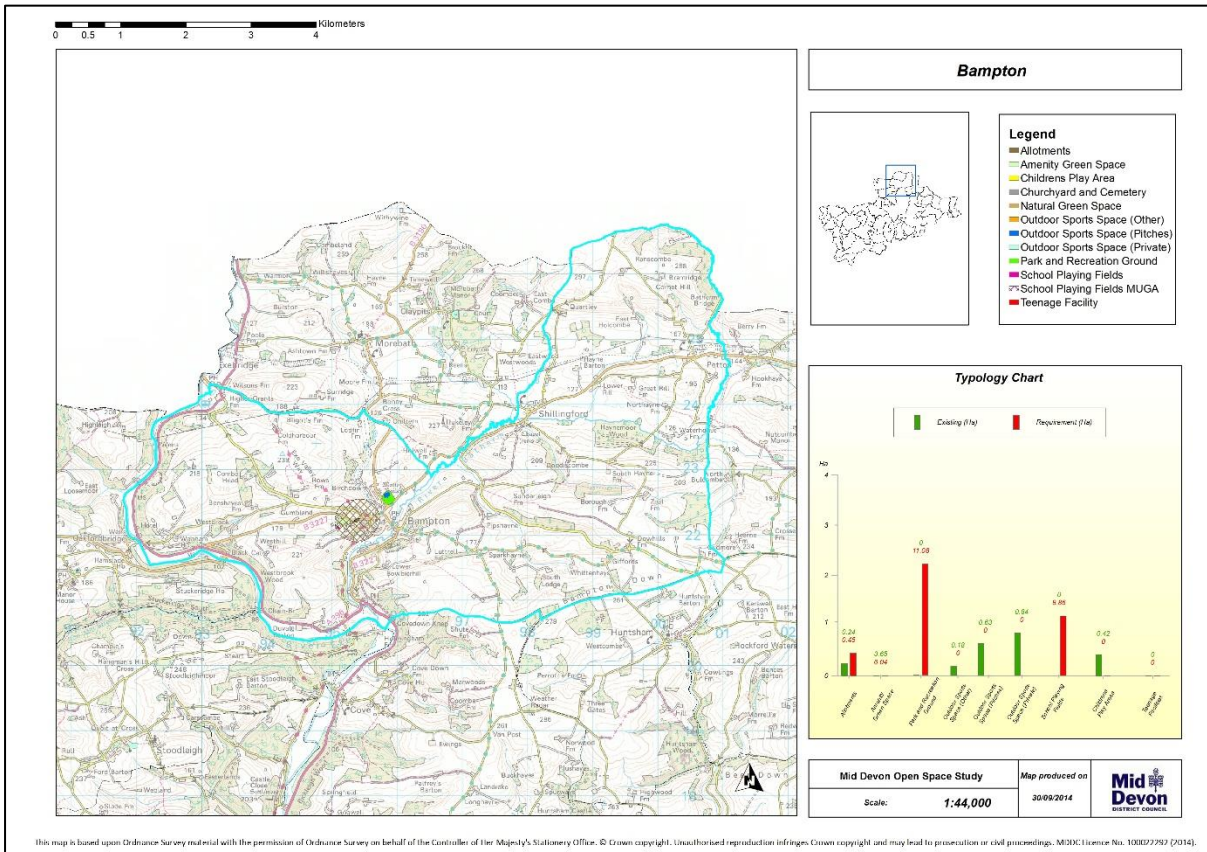
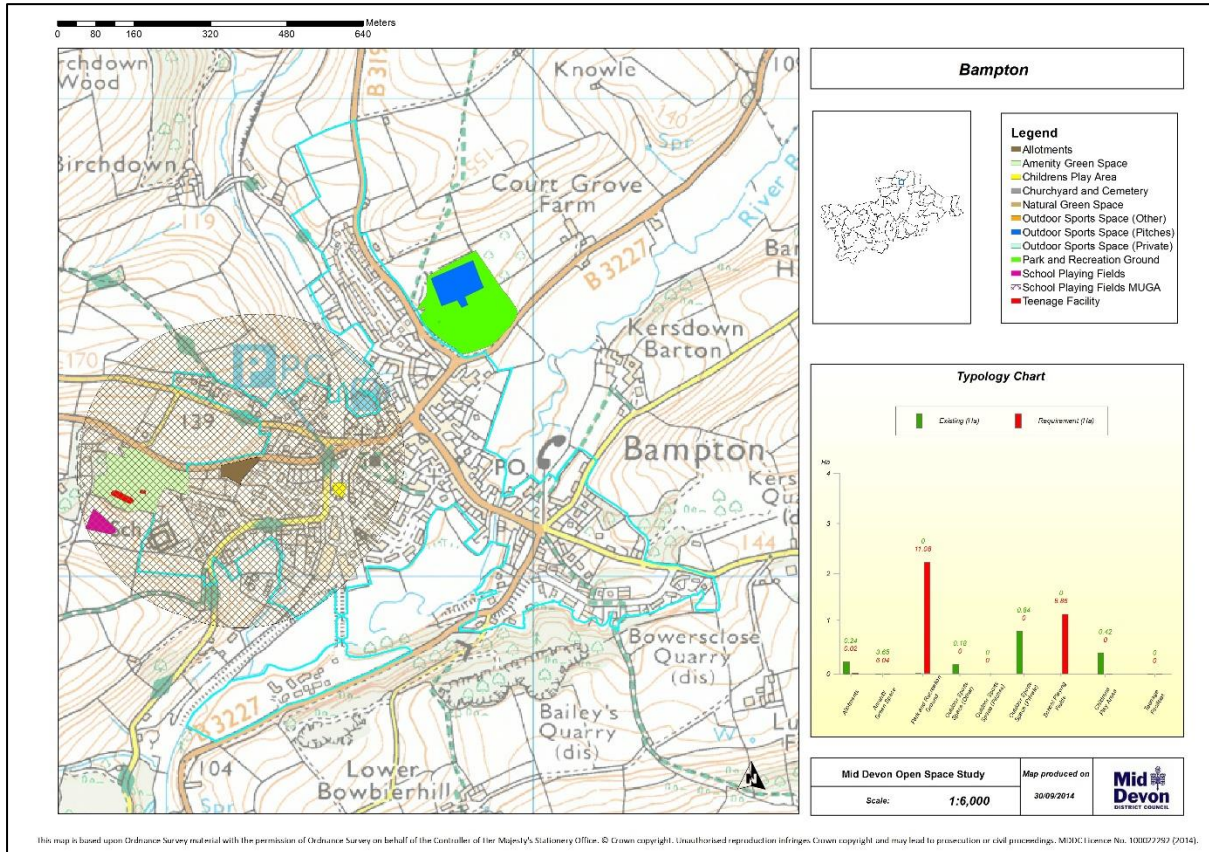


Figure 11: Access to allotments across the settlement area



5.0 Quality Analysis

The majority of the open spaces within Bampton are of an acceptable quality and generally meets the community's needs with the exception of Shillingford Play Area and the Town Council's Recreation Ground. The play area at Shillingford is well proportioned and sited on the northern outskirts of the village however the wooden equipment has come to the end of its life and requires replacement.

The Town Council is currently seeking funding to improve the facilities at their Recreation Ground and has highlighted the shortage of facilities for teenagers in the town.

6.0 Summary and Priorities

The priorities for Bampton are:

- The replacement of play equipment in Shillingford Play area, subject to a new lease being agreed.
- To obtain funding for the Town Council's Recreation Field.
- Provision of teen facilities.