

South East Sheffield Open Space Shortage

SCC's 2022 Open Space Study found South East Sheffield as being 34.55 hectares short of parks, play space and allotments – even before the additional allocations were proposed.

Provision against the Council's standard



Existing provision (dark) as a share of the Council's standard; red is the recorded shortfall - 34.55 ha in total. Amenity green space (+63.74 ha) and accessible natural greenspace (+407.22 ha) show surpluses. Source: South East Area Profile (Dec 2022), Table 1.

May 2022 quality audits carried out across the study area	Dec 2022 South East profile published: 34.55 ha short	Apr 2025 additional Green Belt allocations proposed + consequential deletion including allotments	1,697 homes at Handsworth on 90ha of Green Belt & currently utilised Open Space
---	--	---	---

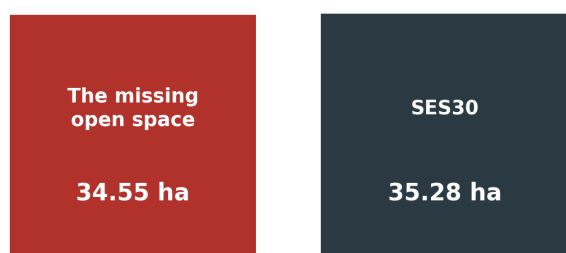
The Sheffield Open Space Assessment 2022 records the South East of Sheffield as having an undersupply in four of the six types of open space. Nine audited spaces failed the Sheffield Standard; thirteen more passed with at least one poor score.

The Current Plan Creates a Further Gap – The study measured how far homes are from each type of space. In the east of Woodhouse and parts of Handsworth it found homes more than a 15-minute walk from any play area for teenagers. Part of SES30 itself appears in the study as green space people can use - but the Plan now allocates that for housing, removing that open space from the map.

Growth from Proposed Plan is Double the Study Calculation – The study's forward requirement was calculated for 1,841 new homes and 4,013 additional people across the whole study area by 2039, on figures supplied by the Council - a further 13.14 hectares of need on top of the existing shortfall. The additional allocations did not exist when those figures were set. The modified plan takes away Green space whilst doubling the requirement, at least.

Proposed Plan Additional Requirement – If SES29 and SES30 were added to the plan they would add 1,697 homes – and possibly more given the burial ground and schools may not be needed – almost the same again as all the growth the study allowed for. They were first proposed in April 2025, 28 months after the profile was published. The site conditions say "Open space should be provided in accordance with Policy NC15": provision that **meets** the only demand the new homes create – it does not repair a shortfall recorded before they existed and then makes the shortfall greater.

The recorded shortfall is almost exactly the size of SES30



The shortfall is the Council's finding. The growth added since is the Council's proposal.

SES30 is the size of the gap. The Plan fills the site with houses - and the shortage of open space in South East Sheffield gets worse.

Drawn to the same scale. Sources: Open Space Study, Table 1 (34.55 ha); MM411 (site area 35.28 ha).