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Date: 25th March 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Tuesday, 31st March, 2015** at **5.30 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Chris Burns'.

Chris Burns
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A G E N D A

	Pages
1 To receive apologies for absence.	
2 Declarations of Interest Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.	
To approve and sign the following minutes: -	
3 Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee Minutes - 17th February 2015 (minute nos. 1 - 11).	1 - 6

A greener place Man gwyrdach

Correspondence may be in any language or format | Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat



4 Consideration of any matter referred to this Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.

5 To receive a verbal report by the Cabinet Member(s).

6 To receive and consider the following Cabinet reports*: -

1. Gwent Trading Standards Project – 18th March 2015.

** If a member of the Scrutiny Committee wishes for any of the above Cabinet reports to be brought forward for review at the meeting please contact Rebecca Barrett, 01443 864245, by 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 30th March 2015.*

To receive and consider the following Scrutiny reports:-

7 Review of Existing Outdoor Recreation and Leisure Facilities. 7 - 72

8 Taxi Trade Licensing Requirements and Compliance. 73 - 78

9 To record any requests for an item to be included on the next available agenda.

Circulation:

Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth (Vice Chair), J. Bevan, Mrs A. Blackman, C.J. Cuss, D.T. Davies (Chair), R.T. Davies, N. Dix, C. Elsbury, R.W. Gough, Ms J.G. Jones, S. Kent, Ms P. Leonard, M.J. Prew, Mrs D. Price, A. Rees and Mrs E. Stenner

And Appropriate Officers



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON
TUESDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY 2015 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor D.T. Davies - Chair

Councillors:

Mrs A. Blackman, J. Bevan, C.J. Cuss, R.T. Davies, C. Elsbury, Ms J.G. Jones, S. Kent,
Mrs P. Leonard, Mrs D. Price, A. Rees, Mrs E. Stenner

Cabinet Members:

K. James (Regeneration, Planning and Sustainable Development), D.V. Poole (Community
and Leisure Services), T.J. Williams (Highways, Transportation and Engineering)

Together with:

S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection),
C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Research Officer) and R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs E.M. Aldworth, N. Dix, R.W. Gough
and M.J. Prew.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of
the meeting.

3. MINUTES – 1ST DECEMBER 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Special Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny
Committee meeting held on 1st December 2014 (minute nos. 1 – 3) be approved as a
correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. MINUTES – 9TH DECEMBER 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 9th December 2014 (minute nos. 1 – 11) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THIS COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALL-IN PROCEDURE

There had been no matters referred to the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.

6. REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBERS

The Scrutiny Committee received reports from Cabinet Members D.V. Poole, T.J. Williams and K. James.

Councillor D.V. Poole, Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services, advised Members that Keep Wales Tidy had recently highlighted cigarette-related litter as an issue for the Authority. A programme of targeted enforcement work was carried out by Enforcement Officers in response to this issue, with 16 fixed penalty notices issued during a week of targeted enforcement activity in January 2015. During March and April 2015, enforcement activity will be prioritised around dog fouling issues within the Authority.

Members were advised of a recent Welsh under-18s international football tournament held at the Centre of Sporting Excellence in Ystrad Mynach. The Football Association of Wales (FAW) were very impressed with the facility, which will be hosting a further similar tournament in February. The Authority has also managed to attract interest from Cardiff City Ladies Football Club who will use the Centre as their playing base.

The Cabinet Member recently visited the GP exercise referral programme held at Caerphilly Leisure Centre and was extremely impressed by the quality of the provision and the skills of the staff involved. It was explained that exercise referral is funded by the Welsh Government through the Local Health Board, with 281 patients in the county borough referred from their GP and a further 86 on a waiting list for the programme. The Authority is therefore doing its best to secure more funding for the programme. The Cabinet Member highlighted the issues surrounding the funding and the benefits of the programme.

Members were updated on developments regarding bowling green provision as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) proposals. It was explained that following a meeting with all bowls clubs in the county borough, Officers have been liaising with other local authorities who have taken various decisions in relation to bowling green provision and maintenance. Officers will shortly be composing a number of savings proposals for the Authority to consider in relation to bowling green provision, which will be brought to the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee for discussion.

Discussion took place regarding bowling green provision and bowls clubs and the Cabinet Member confirmed that it was anticipated that such savings proposals would be presented for consideration as part of the MTFP for 2016/17. It was explained that the Authority were currently waiting to view the outcome of decisions taken by other local authorities, before proceeding with options for consideration. The Cabinet Member outlined the complex consultation process to date, and explained that the management situation of each club varied across the county borough. The Cabinet Member confirmed that further detailed discussions would be carried out with all bowling clubs to establish their views in relation to possible options for future bowling green provision.

Councillor T.J. Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transportation and Engineering, presented his report, and advised Members of current and future street lighting spending additions. £250,000 of Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI) funding secured in 2014/15 will achieve £22,500 in energy savings per year, by installing LED lights in 900 streetlights. It is anticipated that further funding of £980,000 in 2015/2016 will be secured, which will achieve £275,000 energy savings per year by installing LED lights in 7500 streetlights.

A number of public exhibitions have recently been held with regards to the proposed A468 Pwllpant Roundabout Improvement Works. The proposal, which include the signalisation of this heavily trafficked junction, was met with positive feedback and generally welcomed by the public. Members were also informed that the Local Transport Plan (LTP) was recently approved by Council and has been submitted to Welsh Government for comment. Depending on the comments received from Welsh Government there may be a need for some minor changes, with the final version expected to be made available by April 2015.

Members sought an update on the proposed highway improvements for the A469 New Tredegar to Pontlottyn road. It was confirmed that this scheme was awaiting Welsh Government funding, and that Members would be kept informed of progress on this matter.

Councillor K. James, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning and Sustainable Development, presented his report, and informed Members of progress on the first revision of the Local Development Plan (LDP) with the first statutory public consultation exercise currently underway. The Cabinet Member explained that the purpose of this consultation is to seek stakeholders' views on the level and location of growth up to 2031. He emphasised that at this stage the public are not being consulted on the detailed plan, but on the Preferred Strategy that will underpin the LDP moving forward.

This Preferred Strategy consultation highlights the sites submitted to the Council for consideration for development and are contained in the Candidate Sites Register, which indicates those sites that meet the Council's Preferred Strategy for growth. The formal opportunity for stakeholders and the public to comment on the Candidate Sites is during this six-week public consultation period. The Cabinet Member explained that consultation on the detailed plan (the Deposit Stage) is scheduled to take place at the end of 2015.

Members were also informed of ongoing regeneration works within Newbridge Town Centre, with work to the cultural hub of Newbridge Memo nearing completion and an opening concert scheduled for 21st February 2015. 'Phase 3' of the Newbridge Regeneration Programme works are underway and will include the continuation of public realm enhancements, and the development of a 'Riverside Park', following a public exhibition of the plans in October 2014. These works are scheduled for completion in Summer 2015. The Cabinet Member also referenced a recent fire in Newbridge Town Centre which saw the destruction of two businesses, and confirmed that subsequent demolition works were unlikely to impact on the regeneration works schedule.

Discussion took place regarding the series of exhibitions arranged as part of the LDP public consultation exercise and Members commented on the content and planned locations for these exhibitions. The Cabinet Member reiterated that at this stage, consultation was only taking place on the Preferred Strategy, which outlines the overall vision, aims and objectives for the Local Development Plan. Comments were received from Members regarding the Preferred Strategy Representation Form that could be completed as part of the consultation process. Discussion also took place regarding planning applications and the impact of the LDP on the planning process.

In response to a Member's query, the Cabinet Member confirmed that Jan Bennett (Group Manager Business Enterprise Support) had recently retired from the Authority. Members requested that their appreciation for Jan's efforts and support be placed on record, and wished her a long and happy retirement.

7. CABINET REPORTS

None of the Cabinet reports listed on the agenda had been called forward for discussion at the meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

8. PUBLIC PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY

The report was presented by Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, and sought the views of Members on a revised Public Protection Enforcement Policy, prior to its presentation to Cabinet.

It was explained that the Public Protection Division has a major regulatory role in protecting the environment and ensuring a safe, healthy and prosperous community for citizens, business and visitors. This role includes the enforcement of numerous statutes, many of which include criminal and other sanctions on those who infringe the law. In order to ensure a fair and consistent approach to their enforcement responsibilities, the Public Protection Division developed an Enforcement Policy, which was last approved in 2011. However, due to the implementation of the Regulators Code in 2014 and a number of other changes to legislation, sanctions and powers, an update was now required to the existing Public Protection Enforcement Policy.

The Head of Public Protection outlined the changes within the revised Policy, which was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. It was explained that the Enforcement Options section of the existing Policy has been expanded and updated in a number of areas. The Policy will be reviewed annually with a report on compliance and enforcement action submitted to the relevant Scrutiny Committee. Once approved, the Policy will be bilingual, published on the Council's website and be made available in hard copy and other formats. In addition, Service Standards (attached as Appendix 2 to the report) have also been established in line with the Regulators' Code and The Better Regulation Delivery Office (BRDO) toolkit and will be published on the Council's website.

Discussion of the report ensued and Officers responded to general queries regarding enforcement options, processes and principles contained within the revised Policy. A query was raised regarding the sustainability of the revised Policy if staffing levels reduced in future years, and it was confirmed that the Public Protection Division would prioritise the delivery of regulatory functions accordingly. Officers also clarified procedures relating to cost recovery and shared enforcement roles with other agencies and authorities.

Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that the following recommendation be forwarded to Cabinet for approval. By a show of hands, this was unanimously agreed.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that for the reasons outlined in the report, the revised Public Protection Enforcement Policy be approved.

9. GWENT TRADING STANDARDS PROJECT

Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, outlined the report, which presented a Business Case for the establishment of a Regional Trading Standards Service across the five Gwent Local Authorities, with Caerphilly as the lead authority. The views of Members were sought on the report, prior to its presentation to Cabinet.

It was explained that the Business Case had been developed on the basis of a number of assumptions relating to financial and funding considerations. However, for various reasons, these assumptions had not been fulfilled. Following these developments, an analysis of the situation established three options, and these were outlined to Members:-

1. Option 1 - do nothing;
2. Option 2 - proceed with the Business Case and establish a Gwent Trading Standards Service;
3. Option 3 - explore other opportunities for collaboration.

In view of the reasons outlined within the report, the proposal to establish a Gwent Trading Standards Service in accordance with the Business Case (Option 2) was not recommended to Members. The report recommended that an alternative option of exploring other opportunities for collaboration be explored (Option 3).

Discussion of the report ensued, and Officers responded to general queries regarding the contents of the Business Case. Officers outlined the rationale behind the recommendation to support Option 3, in that should any other opportunities be identified that offer benefits to Caerphilly County Borough Council, then these should be properly considered. Members raised concerns regarding timescales and funding considerations associated with this option. Officers also confirmed that the Gwent Trading Standards Project had come to an end.

Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that Option 2 be not pursued. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed. It was then moved and seconded that Option 1 (do nothing) be supported rather than Option 3 (explore other opportunities for collaboration). An amendment was moved and seconded that Option 3 be endorsed. By a show of hands and a majority vote, the amendment was declared lost. By a further show of hands and a majority vote, the motion to support Option 1 was carried.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that for the reasons contained in the report and explained at the meeting, Options 2 and 3 be not pursued and that Option 1 be supported and, as such, the status quo in regards to the Trading Standards service be maintained.

10. REQUESTS FOR REPORTS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AVAILABLE AGENDA

The following requests were received:-

1. Councillor Mrs A. Blackman requested a report on car parking charges in town centres and information relating to revenue and income.
2. Councillor A. Rees raised a query regarding the payment process between Communities First and voluntary organisations. It was advised that this was an accountancy matter and that Sandra Aspinall and Pauline Elliott could be approached to assist in resolving any issues.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

The Committee noted the following items for information, full details of which were included within the Officers reports. There were no items brought forward for review.

- (1) Budget Monitoring and Trading Account Report 2014/2015;
- (2) Play Sufficiency;
- (3) Town Centre Improvement Group 2014;
- (4) Bryn Compost Liaison Group Minutes – 25th September 2014;

- (5) Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel Minutes – 26th November 2014;
- (6) Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee Minutes – 3rd December 2014
- (7) Ystrad Mynach Town Centre Management Group Minutes – 25th November 2014;
- (8) Summary of Members Attendance – Quarter 3 – 1st October 2014 to 31st December 2014.

The meeting closed at 6.46 pm.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 31st March 2015, they were signed by the Chair.

CHAIR



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 31ST MARCH 2015

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF EXISTING OUTDOOR RECREATION AND LEISURE FACILITIES

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek members views on a recent review of existing outdoor recreation and leisure facilities across the county borough prior to the report being considered by Cabinet.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A formal review was recently completed of existing recreational facilities across the county borough by staff within the Community & Leisure Services division in conjunction with the Strategic and Development Plans Team within Planning & Regeneration. The document entitled "Review of Existing Outdoor Recreation & Leisure Facilities in Caerphilly County Borough" focused on the following elements:-

- Section 1 - Equipped Play Provision;
- Section 2 - Sports Pitches;
- Section 3 – Leisure Centres;
- Section 4 – Allotments;
- Section 5 - Amenity Green Space.

- 2.2 Members will be aware that Section 3 referring to Leisure Centres has already been subject to consideration by members in 2014. Following on from this, it is necessary to inform members of the remaining aspects of the report i.e. equipped play provision, sports pitch provision, allotments and amenity green space and to establish a way forward for a future long term leisure and recreation strategy.

- 2.3 The Authority has never benefited from a long-term strategy in relation to recreation facilities. Information from the review document will enable both members and officers to make informed decisions that will allow resources to be targeted efficiently, should they become available.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The use of recreational facilities aids delivery of the Corporate Improvement Objective Four and to the Single Integrated Plan. It also contributes to one of the main aims of the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (LDP), which requires development "to contribute to improving public health, by promoting land use developments that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being".

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The review has given due regard to the health and spatial profiles of how the population of the borough, visitors and residents use the facilities.
- 4.2 The review is based on a range of factors, which include quality, accessibility, lifespan and assessment against national standards (where applicable). However, members should note that within each of these sections, listed in 2.1, there are indicators that are used to help analyse provision. Some of these indicators are by definition subjective. These indicators are condition, standard, drainage and usage. It is therefore advisable that when reading the report that the subjective nature of these indicators is taken into account when decisions are needed on future provision.
- 4.3 Weightings were applied to each of these factors, which result in an overall score and rank order for the existing facility mix.
- 4.4 The review discusses a range of conclusions based on the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (LDP) strategy areas:-
- Heads of the Valley Regeneration Area – **HOVRA**;
 - Northern Connections Corridor – **NCC**;
 - Southern Connections Corridor – **SCC**.

Equipped Play Provision

- 4.5 Equipped play provision includes playgrounds, Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs), wheeled play (skate parks), kick walls, youth shelters and outdoor gym provision. The review identified three key recommendations.
- 4.6 In the HOVRA, the review identified the need to improve provision north of Rhymney. Officers are currently in discussion with the local residents and tenants association to provide a new fixed play facility at Ty-Coch. In addition, members are asked to note recent investment in the facilities at both New Tredegar and Phillipstown.
- 4.7 In the NCC, the review identified the need to expand provision for older children within the Pontllanfraith area, in the SCC the same need was identified in the Bedwas area. This will ensure facilities are provided within areas where there are and will be a high population for older children in the future.
- 4.8 Given the high population in the SCC, there is a need to ensure that the condition of facilities is enhanced. As there is a greater demand on these facilities, it is important to ensure that they are also kept to a high standard.

Sports Pitches

- 4.9 In relation to the provision of sports fields, the review identified the need to improve the quality of provision in both the NCC and the SCC. In addition, the need to increase provision within the SCC is highlighted as a priority.
- 4.10 Facilities within more remote areas have often suffered from vandalism, due to their isolated location and as a result they have been temporarily removed from public use whilst repairs have been undertaken. The removal of facilities has impacted on residents' ability to participate in sporting activity.
- 4.11 Some sports pitches within the borough have been affected by poor standards of drainage, which affects both the ability of the pitch during the playing season and the standard of the playing surface.

- 4.12 The review highlighted the lack of provision of sports pitches in a number of areas. However, there are a number of facilities within schools, which are not accessible to members of the public. The review recommends that in order to cope with demand that an agreement is reached with individual school to open up these facilities to the wider community on evenings and weekends.

Allotments

- 4.13 In terms of allotment provision within the county borough, the review has two specific recommendations. Funding is targeted to bring redundant plots back into beneficial use to help reduce waiting lists. Members should note that officers, in conjunction with the relevant Allotment Federation, are working towards bringing plots back into beneficial use. Secondly, there is a need to increase allotment provision in the HOVRA and SCC and to improve the standard of provision in the NCC.

Amenity Green Space

- 4.14 In relation to public open space (POS), in more remote areas in the county borough links to amenity green space is vital and should be maintained. Both country and formal parks are an important asset to our citizens and should be maintained, to a high standard sufficient for high usage.
- 4.15 The review identified the need to maintain quality POS in the SCC, particularly in the Caerphilly basin, the Authority needs to ensure that any future windfall developments do not impede upon existing provision and future populations are well catered for.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no significant equalities implications associated with this report. This report sets out details of existing facilities and where future funding (if available) should be targeted. Any new provision within the county borough will be available for all sectors of the community and will be developed in accordance with all relevant Equalities and Welsh Language standards and statutory duties.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no immediate additional revenue budget financial implications from this report, although there will be a requirement to review the Outdoor Recreation & Facilities revenue budgets to ensure they best meet the needs objectives outlined in the report. This is likely to be extremely challenging in the context of reducing resources which in this service area, along with others, could equate to a 20% reduction in the revenue budget over the next 2/3 years.
- 6.2 The Budget Proposals 2015/2016 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 reported to Cabinet and Council on 25th February included the Councils proposed capital programme for 2015 to 2018 and this included £30,000 per year for 3 years for sports pitch drainage to help address the issues identified in paragraph 4.11 of this report.
- 6.3 Any future developer contributions from Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 agreements will be channelled into identified gaps in existing provision to help meet the needs/requirements identified in the report.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 This report reflects the views of the listed consultees.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members are asked to note the content of the report and to endorse conclusions arising from the review prior to the report being considered by Cabinet.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To ensure that the Authority has a strategic vision of its existing sport and leisure facilities and to make certain that any future funding is channelled into identified gaps in provision.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Acts.

Author: Mike Headington, Principal Officer: Outdoor Facilities & Bereavement Services

Consultees: Sandra Aspinall, Acting Deputy Chief Executive
Mark S. Williams, Head of Community & Leisure Services
Councillor David Poole, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services
Derek Price, Parks & Outdoor Facilities Manager
David Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
Councillor Tudor Davies, Chairman, Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee
Gail Williams, Acting Head of Legal Services/Monitoring Officer
Rhian Kyte, Team Leader, Strategic & Development Planning
Councillor Liz Aldworth, Vice Chair, Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee
Mike Eddy, Finance Manager
Stephen Harris, Interim Head of Corporate Finance

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Review of Existing Formal Recreation and Leisure Facilities in Caerphilly County Borough

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH/BWRDEISTREF SIROL CAERFFILI

REVIEW OF EXISTING FORMAL RECREATION AND LEISURE FACILITIES IN CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH

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OCTOBER/HYDREF 2014

Executive Summary

In order to inform future investment decisions there has been a need to undertake a strategic review of outdoor sport, leisure and recreational facilities in the County Borough.

The review will assist in ensuring that scarce resources are targeted effectively and builds on the review of leisure centres that was completed in 2014.

The review has had regard for the health and spatial profiles of the population of the county Borough and has considered how residents and visitors use the facilities on offer.

The review examines the main areas of outdoor sport, leisure and recreational facilities (equipped play provision, sports pitches, amenity green space and allotments) and attributes a weighting and scoring matrix to assess the quantity, accessibility and quality of the facilities. Where recognised national standards exist they have been used in the assessment process.

The Local Development Plan (LDP) areas (Heads of Valleys Regeneration Area – HOVRA, Mid Valleys corridor – MVC and Southern Connections Corridor – SCC) have each been examined in respect of the outdoor facilities described above and a number of conclusions have been drawn from the review by facility, namely:

Equipped Play Provision (Playgrounds, Multi-use games areas, wheeled play such as skate parks, kickwalls and youth shelters)

- There is a need to improve the provision of facilities in the HOVRA due to the remote nature of many of the communities.
- There is a need to expand facilities for older children around Bedwas and Pontllanfraith where there are, and will be a higher proportion of older children over the next few years.
- As a result of the high population in the SCC and resultant demand on facilities there is a need to ensure that the condition of the facilities is enhanced.

Sports Pitches (Rugby, football, bowls, tennis, cricket)

- There is good provision of facilities in the HOVRA, although usage levels are relatively low. Vandalism remains an issue for a number of facilities in the HOVRA.
- The MVC and SCC areas are densely populated so the demand placed on pitches is high. There is a need to increase the quality of provision in the MVC and to increase the level of provision in the SCC. In doing so, the benefits of ATP/3G provision must be considered.
- Much of the demand for facilities could be satisfied if community access to school sports fields and ATP/3G pitches out of school hours was allowed.
- Investment in pitch drainage (enhancement and maintenance) will assist in allowing demand pressures from a greater number of pitches remaining in use.

Amenity Greenspace (Informal open green space in built up areas, formal parks, etc.)

The review has found that there was a relatively good provision of amenity green space across the County Borough. However, there is a need to ensure that in the more remote areas, access to County Parks and Public Parks is maintained. In addition, within the SCC, the additional pressures for housing and development must not lead to the erosion of amenity green space and that additional populations are provided for as part of any new developments.

Allotments

- The review has established that generally there is a good provision of facilities across the County Borough. However, there is a need to improve provision in the more remote areas and to target resources to those allotments classified as poor or average or with a high proportion of unusable plots.

- The review has revealed that waiting lists are highest in the SCC and that there is a need to increase allotment provision, which could be done in conjunction with the first review of the LDP.

While a review of the number, type and quality of facilities provides useful information to inform future land use planning and investment strategies, it only represents part of the picture in terms of the public health agenda.

Consequently, further work is needed between Sport/Leisure and Public Health Professionals in determining how, when and where resources should be targeted to encourage the use of sport and leisure facilities to improve activity with the worst mortality and morbidity statistics.

As a result of these conclusions, there are 13 key recommendations in relation to outdoor sport, leisure and recreational facilities:

General:

- 1) Facilitate a study between Sport/Leisure and Public Health Professionals to establish how, when and where resources can be targeted to improve activity levels amongst the County Borough's neediest population groups

Equipped Play Provision:

- 2) There is a need to improve the quality of provision in the HOVRA, particularly northern Rhymney.
- 3) There is a need to expand the provision for older children in the Pontllanfraith and Bedwas areas.
- 4) There is a need to ensure that all areas have access to good quality, well equipped play facilities.

Sports Pitches:

- 5) There is a need to improve the quality of the facilities in the MVC and SCC, and to increase the level of provision in the SCC.
- 6) There is a need to ensure that all facilities are accessible to all, especially in more remote areas.
- 7) There is a need to ensure that all drainage issues are rectified (by the implementation of an effective programme of drainage maintenance and/or upgrade works).
- 8) Pitches on school sites should be brought into beneficial community use outside core school hours.

Amenity Green Space:

- 9) In the more remote areas, links to amenity greenspaces are vital and should be maintained. As such, Country Parks and formal Parks are an important asset and should be maintained.
- 10) There is a need to ensure provision in the SCC is maintained when future housing development occurs.

Allotments:

- 11) The number of un-usable plots should be reduced.
- 12) Allotment provision should be increased in the SCC and in a particular area of the HOVRA.
- 13) Standards of certain allotments in the MVC should be improved.

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INTRODUCTION



1. Introduction

The main aim of the Council's Communities & Leisure Service is to provide an excellent service that meets the needs and aspirations of the people of Caerphilly county borough and enhances their quality of life through education, information, leisure, the arts and sport.

In particular the availability of facilities to undertake sport and physical activity contributes significantly to achieving the Council's policy objective of improving the quality of life for residents through community cohesion, regeneration, community safety and crime reduction, education and lifelong learning and health improvement.

The purpose of this review therefore is to provide an evidence base to facilitate the preparation of an overarching Leisure Strategy for the county borough to inform future investment decisions.

The availability of sites, pressure for alternative forms of development and limited funding all place increasing pressure on leisure facilities. There is a need therefore to exploit fully existing provision and maximise that provision through targeted smart investment.

The review will assess the quantity; accessibility and quality of the existing formal leisure facilities on offer in the county borough and assess these against recognised national standards where they exist.

2. Benefits to Quality of Life

There are a number of social and physical benefits that can be borne out of access and participation in sports and recreation activities. The most significant benefit is obviously the positive health effect of physical activity. The benefits can be summarised as:

a. Health

There is a raft of scientific evidence that proves that physical activity/exercise has a positive effect on the health of the population by preventing a large number of physical and mental illnesses and conditions.

b. Community Cohesion

Sport and physical activity bring people together, help break down social and cultural barriers, create a sense of belonging and foster pride. Participation tackles isolation whilst improving self-esteem, confidence and socialisation.

c. Regeneration

The development of sports facilities enhances the image of an area and improves the built environment. It brings inward investment in wealth generating sectors including tourism, retail, spectator events, sports and facility services and provides employment.

d. Community Safety and Crime Reduction

Sport helps to reduce crime rates and anti-social behaviour and disorder, especially in young people. Early involvement can prevent crime and stop re-offending.

e. Educational Attainment and Lifelong Learning

There is growing evidence to show that involvement in sport and physical activity improves educational attainment, especially in young people. Sport gives young and older people the chance to develop new skills and the confidence and motivation to gain qualifications leading to employment and career development.

Given the recognised benefits of sport and physical activity, the Council is keen to provide and expand on existing leisure provision within the county borough.

3. Policy Context

National Strategies

Climbing Higher – Creating an Active Wales (2003)

The Welsh Government's strategic direction for sports, recreation and play is contained in: 'Climbing Higher: Strategy for Sport and Active Recreation' (2005). 'Climbing Higher' is the Welsh Government's 20-year strategy for sport and physical activity.

The purpose of the strategy is to achieve:

"An active, healthy and inclusive Wales, where sport, physical activity and active recreation provide a common platform for participation, fun and achievement, which binds communities and the nation and where the outstanding environment of Wales is used sustainably to enhance confidence in ourselves and our place in the world." (p.4)

'Climbing Higher' has spatial land use planning implications that need to be taken into account at the national and local level. The strategy includes targets which should guide the development of planning policy and the setting of standards within local authorities, in particular that by 2025¹:

- The percentage of people in Wales using the Welsh natural environment for outdoor activity will increase from 36% to 60%
- 95% of people in Wales will have a footpath or cycle path within a 10 minute walk
- No-one should live more than a 6 minute walk (300 metres) from the nearest natural green space
- All public sector employees and 75% of all other employees will have access to sport and physical activity facilities at, or within a 10-minute walk of the workplace.

Environment Strategy for Wales (May 2006)

The Environment Strategy for Wales helps link the natural environment with the built environment. Its purpose is to provide the framework within which to achieve an environment that is clean, healthy, biologically diverse and valued by people. The Built environment should also secure efficient use of land including appropriate density of development, respect local distinctiveness and historic character and provide access to green space, areas for recreation and support biodiversity. In addition, the strategy aims to improve walk-ability in urban areas to encourage walking and cycling.

Wales Spatial Plan- Update (2008)

The Wales Spatial Plan sets out the Welsh Government's planning agenda at a spatial level. It seeks to provide for sustainable communities as attractive places to live and work, promoting healthier lifestyles taken forward by the Welsh Government's Strategy for Sport and Physical Activity entitled 'Climbing Higher' (January 2005).

Fields In Trust (FIT) (2008)

Fields In Trust (FIT) formerly the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA), is a UK wide organisation concerned with improving the quality of life and health of all members of society, by assisting in the provision, improvement and protection of high quality, well used facilities for outdoor sport and play throughout the nation.

FIT conducted a national survey in 2006 which was used to inform an evidence-based framework for recommended Benchmark Standards, to replace the established NPFA "Six Acre Standard" and to inform policy and practice relating to the disciplines of planning, development, leisure, sport and play. These benchmark standards were not intended to be a maximum or minimum standard in the context of quality, but provide a guidance to aid decision-making. A summary of the benchmark standards is attached at Appendix 1.

¹ Climbing Higher (2003) *Creating an Active Wales* Pages 9 & 10.

Planning Policy Wales – 7th Edition (2014)

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. It provides guidance on preparing development plans and determining planning proposals.

PPW Chapter 11: Tourism, Sport & Recreation recognises that sport and recreation contribute to our quality of life. The Welsh Government supports the development of sport and recreation, and the wide range of leisure pursuits that encourage physical activity. It recognises that these activities are important for the well-being of children and adults and for the social and economic life of Wales. The Welsh Government's main planning objectives therefore are to promote:

- A more sustainable pattern of development by creating and maintaining networks of facilities and open spaces in places well served by sustainable means of travel, in particular within urban areas;
- Social inclusion, improved health and well-being by ensuring that everyone, including the elderly and those with disabilities, has easy access to good quality, well designed facilities and open space.

PPW requires local authorities to provide the framework for well located sport, recreation and leisure facilities that are: sensitive to the needs of users, attractive, well designed, well maintained, safe and accessible to all.

PPW also recognises the need for the planning system to ensure that adequate land and water resources are allocated for formal and informal sport and recreation through the local development plan. This objective can only be achieved through a thorough understanding of existing provision and an assessment of need.

Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space (2009)

Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space (TAN 16) aims to integrate the links between health and well-being, sport and recreational activity and sustainable development in Wales through land use planning guidance in accordance with policies set out in PPW.

Whilst PPW does not prescribe particular standards, TAN 16 recognises the FIT standards as a useful benchmark through which assessments of provision can be made. In Annex C of the TAN the various provisions are prescribed (refer to Appendix 1).

Playing Fields (Community involvement in disposal decisions) (Wales) Measure 2010

This measure was introduced in Wales order to make provision for community involvement in decisions made by local authorities in respect of the disposal of land that consists of, or forms part of a playing field.

Children and Young Persons (Wales) Regulations 2012

Within the overarching 'Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010' lies the requirement for local authorities to assess the sufficiency of play opportunities in its area. As a result of this legislation, the Children and Young Persons (Wales) Regulations 2012 place the onus on local authorities to regularly consult, and create an action plan detailing the sufficiency of play facilities across their administrative area. In addition, these regulations stipulate that these assessments need to take place every three years, and need to be submitted to Welsh Government.

The main themes that need to be addressed within the play sufficiency assessment are:

- Population
- Providing for diverse needs
- Spaces available for children to play in structured groups
- Places where children can play outside
- Supervised play provisions

- Access to play provisions
- Securing and developing the work force
- Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas.

Local Strategies

Caerphilly Delivers Single Integrated Plan – April 2013

The Caerphilly Local Service Board (LSB) is a partnership of equals comprising the Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Gwent Police, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations, Caerphilly County Borough Council and Welsh Government. The Single Integrated Plan **Caerphilly Delivers** has been prepared by the LSB and replaces a number of existing plans that were previously required, such as the Community Strategy, the Health, Social Care and Well-Being Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan, and the Community Safety Plan, it represents a determined commitment by all partners to accelerate change, strengthen partnership working, multi-agency collaboration, and accountability for delivery.

Caerphilly Delivers has been developed based on the following principles of:

- **Sustainable development** where we promote social justice and equality of opportunity and enhance the natural and cultural environment and respect its limits.
- **Equalities and Welsh language** where we all promote and mainstream equalities and the Welsh language in accordance with our legislative requirements and strategic equality objectives.
- **Early intervention and prevention goals** with the aim of either preventing matters from getting worse or occurring in the first place, by identifying those in greatest need from their vulnerability, their risk of becoming vulnerable or from otherwise becoming disadvantaged.
- **Community cohesion** where people from different backgrounds enjoy similar life opportunities, understand their rights and responsibilities and trust one another and are trusting of local institutions to act fairly.

In order to realise the long term Strategic Vision for the county borough, Caerphilly Delivers identifies 5 key outcomes as follows:

- Healthier Caerphilly;
- Prosperous Caerphilly;
- Learning Caerphilly;
- Greener Caerphilly;
- Safer Caerphilly.

This review is particularly pertinent to a Healthier Caerphilly theme and specifically, Priority 2 that seeks to:

“Improve lifestyles of the population in Caerphilly County Borough so that people recognise and take responsibility for their own health and well-being and make use of the opportunities and support available to them.”

Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan - November 2010

The Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP) is the statutory framework for the development and use of land within Caerphilly County Borough. The LDP provides the development strategy and policy framework for the development and conservation needs of the County Borough for the fifteen-year period, from 2006 to 2021. It is concerned with land-use issues and spatial planning, rather than the management of land and/or development priorities or programmes.

The LDP has three main aims that are pertinent to this recreation and leisure review, namely:

“To increase economic prosperity of the people and communities of the County Borough through the provision of land for employment opportunities, supported by appropriate housing and ancillary facilities and services (including community and health facilities, recreation, leisure etc).

To contribute to improving public health, by promoting land use developments that contribute to healthy lifestyles and well-being.

To use resources efficiently making the best use of our assets.”

Play Sufficiency Assessment 2013

In line with the Children and Young Persons (Wales) Regulations 2012, Caerphilly County Borough Council undertook a Play sufficiency assessment in 2012 to assess the level of provision of fixed play facilities and informal play facilities across the county borough. The assessment focused on 9 key matters as follows:

- Population;
- Providing for Diverse Needs;
- Assessing Space available for children to play;
- Supervised provision;
- Charges for Play Provision;
- Access to space/provision;
- Securing and developing the play workforce;
- Community engagement and participation; and
- Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas.

As a consequence of this assessment there is a formal recognition in Caerphilly Delivers Single Integrated Plan of the children’s right to play². The assessment concluded that whilst there were many good practices being undertaken across the county borough, additional resources would be required in order to ensure that future provision could be maintained.

4. Social & Economic Trends Impacting on Leisure Provision and Use

Recreational activities are constantly evolving, as a result of higher standards of living and the increasing availability of leisure time. Factors influencing demand for recreation are complex and vary geographically throughout the county borough. However, trends over the past 10 years indicate that overall, Caerphilly County Borough has experienced a net growth in recreational demand. The main contributing factors are listed below.

Economic Influences

A society’s level of economic development is a major determinant of the magnitude of recreational demand because the economy influences so many critical, and interrelated, factors.

In common with other parts of the UK, Wales has experienced a continual process of economic restructuring over the past half century. New jobs have gradually replaced those lost in the traditional mining and manufacturing industries, and total employment has grown steadily since the 1980s. Nevertheless, GVA (Gross Value Added) per head remains low compared to the rest of the UK and European averages. *Source: Wales Spatial Plan, 2004.*

Caerphilly County Borough is by no means an exception to this case. The main economic issues in Caerphilly are unemployment coupled with the problem of low income, low skills and below average

levels of qualifications within the workforce. The recent economic crisis that began in 2007 is continuing to alter the economic patterns across the county borough.

The economic climate has and will continue to have a significant impact on adult and youth sports participation. The demand for leisure facilities within the county borough will inevitably relate to the economic climate. In periods of economic growth, it is suggested that increases in disposable income, coupled with increases in leisure time will lead to growth in demand for leisure facilities. In periods of decline, this trend reverses.

Demographic Influences

Population Change: Population growth is one of the most important determinants of demand in the recreation sector. The population of Caerphilly County Borough was 178,806 as at the time of the 2011 Census.

For the purpose of planning future leisure provision the changes in the age structure of the population are particularly relevant. Fertility rates are difficult to predict, but they are currently rising and this trend is expected to continue for some time, while mortality rates are consistently improving.

Population Density: The average population density in Caerphilly county borough has risen from 6.2 persons per hectare, to 6.4 comparing the 2001 Census to the 2011 Census. This is relatively high in comparison with the Welsh average of 1.5. However, this average does not reflect the County Borough’s population overall, the highest densities being located in two key locations – the Mid Valleys Corridor and the Caerphilly Basin.

Age Structure: As a result of improving mortality rates in line with national trends, the county borough has an ageing population. This is most evident in the expected increase in the numbers of the elderly: for example, the number of persons of pensionable age in Caerphilly is expected to increase by 15% over the next 20 years. The trend implies the need for an increase in the targeted provision of recreational facilities suitable for older generations, for example, the provision of appropriate low impact leisure activity, and ensuring that there are quality open spaces available throughout the county borough for people to take gentle exercise, such as walking.

Socio-cultural

Cultural trends are also crucial. Nationally, there have been a number of changes in recreational trends. Local performance indicators show that there has been an increase in the use of facilities over the same time period.

Caerphilly County Borough is among the most deprived areas in Wales, and according to the Welsh Health Survey areas of deprivation, is also an area with the greatest health need. Caerphilly county borough has a most concerning health profile. Statistically, Caerphilly County Borough has:

- The 5th worst all-cause mortality figures (for males and females) in Wales.
- The 3rd worst statistics in Wales for deaths from cardiovascular disease (males).
- The 4th worst statistics in Wales for deaths from cardiovascular disease (females).
- The 3rd worst death rate from cancer under 65 (males) in Wales.
- The 3rd worst rate in Wales for overweight and obesity.
- The 4th worst rate in Wales for obesity.
- The 2nd worst statistics for self-rated mental health and well-being in Wales. In the Welsh Health Surveys of 2008/9, 11% of males and females reported that they suffer from mental illness.
- 7% of males and females report that they are being treated for diabetes.

(Source: Health, Social Care & Well-being Needs Assessment 2010).

² Children’s right to play is enshrined in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The multitude of benefits physical activity has on human physical and mental health and well-being are well evidenced. Research shows that there are more than 20 debilitating and often fatal diseases that can be prevented or helped by having a more active lifestyle.

Current recommendations for physical activity to benefit health are 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity on five or more days of the week. The latest data from the Welsh Health Survey 2008 indicates that 30% (about a third of adults) undertake sufficient physical activity to benefit their health. However, 34% of adults, are classed as sedentary (not achieving 30 minutes on any day of the week).

Low levels of physical activity in Wales, in conjunction with unhealthy eating patterns, are leading to an increase in the prevalence of obesity. The proportion of adults meeting the recommended guidelines decreases with age, and the proportion that are sedentary increases with age. In addition, the relationship between gender, age and physical activity are important, with men more likely than women to meet the recommendations. In 2007-08, 28% of adults met the physical activity guidelines, compared to the Welsh average of 30%.

The Sport Wales Active Adult survey does however indicate an improving picture for Caerphilly County Borough, ranking 7th lowest in Wales in 2008-09 in comparison to 2nd lowest in Wales in 2003-05.

5. Spatial Profile of Caerphilly County Borough

Geographically, the county borough can be split into three separate strategy areas. These strategy areas have been defined within the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP) - Adopted 2010. These strategy areas are each distinctive in terms of their demographic profile and consequently the requirements for leisure facilities differ in each area. The strategy areas are depicted in Figure 1.

The northern part of the county borough is known as the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area (or HOVRA). Within the HOVRA, Bargoed is identified as the Principal Town.

The HOVRA is characterised by:

- Settlements constrained by the natural topography of area;
- A significant number of rural and isolated villages and settlements;
- Large swathes of countryside protected for its nature and conservation attributes;
- High levels of unemployment and social deprivation with an ageing population;
- Traditionally high population loss;
- Difficulty in attracting private sector employment;
- Recent public investment in infrastructure and transport network; and
- Reliance on public sector intervention to support facilities.

The mid valley areas is known as the Mid Valleys Corridor (MVC). Within the MVC, the Principal Towns are Blackwood and Ystrad Mynach. The MVC is characterised by:

- A contiguous area of high density urban development spanning the mid valleys;
- Success in attracting inward investment from both the private and public sector;
- Diversity in the housing stock attracting a diverse cross section of the population;
- The presence of a number of vital public services including the police, the Council Headquarters, a college of further education, the general hospital; and the new Centre of Sporting Excellence;
- Investment in the existing infrastructure has improved access across the valley from Nelson in the west, to Newbridge in the east along the A472, allowing for better connectivity between settlements, although further improvements are still required.

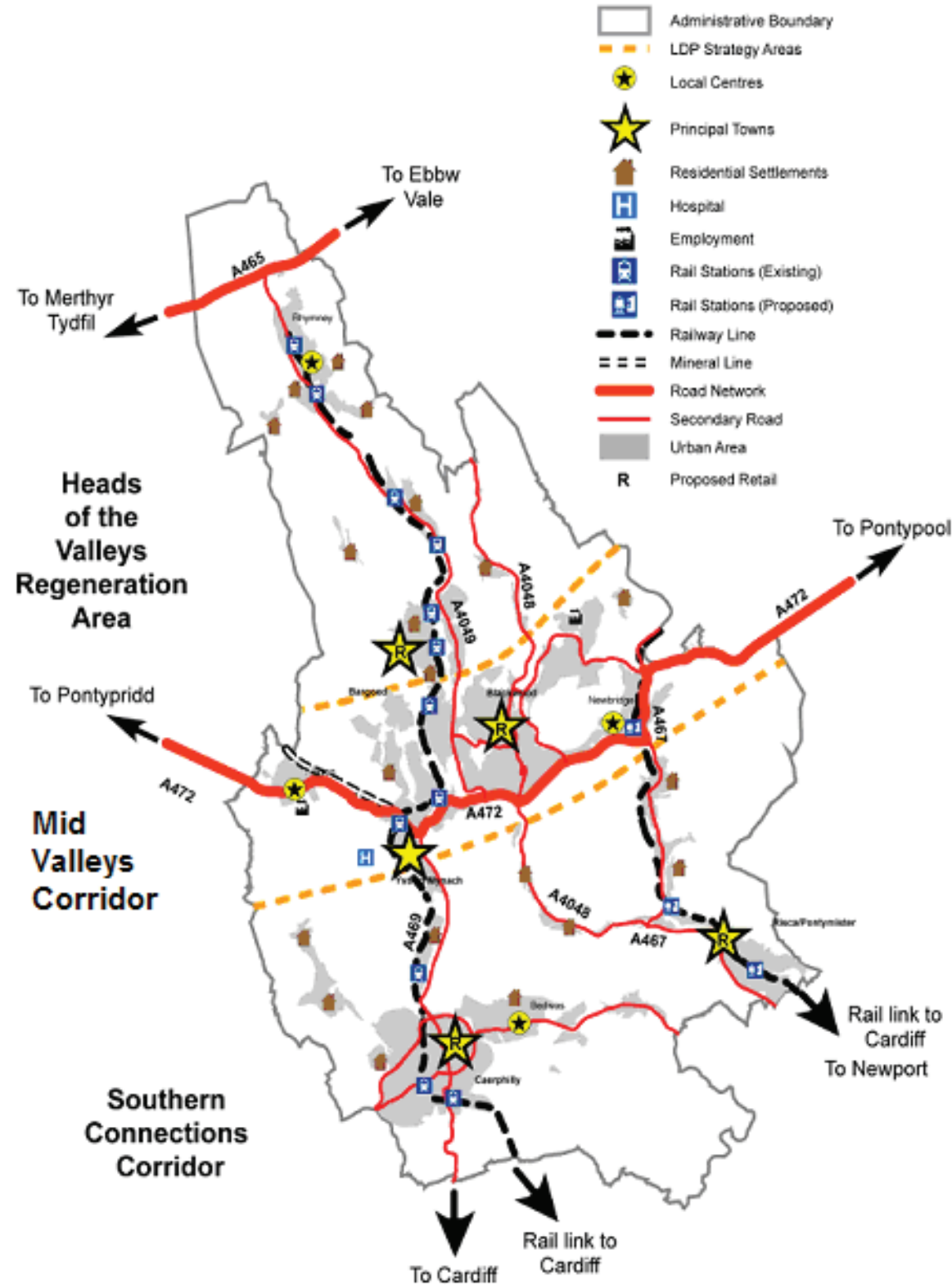
Finally, the southern part of the county borough is referred to as the Southern Connections Corridor (SCC). Caerphilly and Risca are the Principal Towns that lie in separate river valleys, and therefore although both are part of the SCC, they do not form a single conurbation like in the MVC. As Cardiff and Newport have become more successful, Caerphilly and to a lesser extent Risca have experienced increased development pressure. Consequently significant levels of new development has occurred in recent years in the SCC, and particularly in Caerphilly Basin placing increasing pressure on the existing services and facilities in the area. The SCC is characterised by:

- More affluent area where residents tend to have more disposable income;
- Higher density population separated into two distinct river corridors;
- Successful in attracting inward investment from both the private and public sector;
- Limited capacity for new development without causing environmental harm; and
- Good transport links to Cardiff (in the Caerphilly Basin) and Newport (from Risca).

As a result, these three strategy areas all function in different ways.

The LDP contains a key diagram (shown in figure 1) that depicts the spatial layout and configuration of the county borough and its future development plans. It details the location of existing and future transport links, key housing sites, employment and retail areas as well as Principal and Local Town Centres. In determining future recreation and leisure provision in the county borough, it is important that regard is had to the contribution such facilities play to the role and function of existing settlements and how they serve the needs of the resident population of the area.

Figure 1: Key Diagram in the LDP depicting the strategy areas, areas for growth and transport



6. Structure and Methodology of report

In order to assess the provision of recreation and formal leisure facilities within the county borough, it is important to ascertain which facilities will be reviewed, and how they will be assessed. The report is therefore divided into five separate sections outlined below. Within each of these separate sections the analysis will be broken down into the three strategy areas i.e. the HOVRA, the MVC and the SCC.

Within each of these sections, there are indicators that are used to help analyse provisions. It is important to note that some of these provisions are, by definition, subjective. These indicators are: condition, standard, drainage issues and usage. It is therefore imperative that when reading this report that the subjective nature of these indicators is taken into account when deciding on future provisions.

Structure of the report

Section 1: Equipped Play Provision deals with formal recreation facilities. This includes:

- Play Areas (e.g. Playgrounds);
- Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs);
- Wheeled Play (e.g. Skate Parks);
- Kickwalls;
- Outdoor Gyms; and
- Youth Shelters.

The provision and accessibility of these facilities will be assessed against the benchmark FIT standards. In addition, the overall condition of the facilities will be mapped to ensure that there is a good understanding of the condition of the existing facilities across the county borough, in order to identify those facilities that require attention. A weighting and scoring matrix is used to facilitate this process.

Please note that the data analysed in this section derives from records held in the 2013/14 financial year.

Section 2: Sports Pitches deals with all types of sport pitches. FIT guidelines split sports pitches into two categories, Designated Sports Pitches (such as Football and Rugby), and Other Sports Pitches (such as bowling greens and tennis courts).

Again, the provision and accessibility of these facilities will be assessed against the benchmark FIT standards, as well as the overall condition of the sites. In this context those sites that have changing facilities, floodlights and car parking facilities will be highlighted, as these attributes help the facilities appeal to a wider population. In addition, given that the majority of the sports pitches in the county borough are grass, the study will also identify those that have drainage issues as this directly impacts on their use.

Please note that the data analysed in this section derives from records held in the 2013/14 financial year.

Section 3: Leisure Centres deals specifically with Council owned and run Leisure Centres. The assessment will use a number of measures in order to review the leisure centre provision within the county borough. These are:

- Condition of current facilities;
- Usage;
- Cost of facility;
- Access and Travel;
- Future School Developments; and
- Future Housing Developments.

A weighting and scoring matrix is used to facilitate this process, which will identify those centres that are performing well and those in need of improvement.

Please note that the data analysed in this section derives from records held in the 2013/14 financial year

Section 4: Allotments assesses briefly the spread of allotments across the county borough, and helps locate those areas that are in need of greater provision or assistance with regards to remediating unusable plots.

Please note that the data analysed in this section derives from records held in the 2012/13 financial year

Section 5: Amenity Greenspace assesses briefly the spread of amenity greenspace across the county borough, within settlement limits. This will help highlight those areas that require additional informal recreation spaces.

Please note that the data analysed in this section derives from records held in the 2013/14 financial year.

Methodology - Population statistics

The FIT standards are based on a ratio of people to facilities. As the last census was carried out in 2011, there is a need to calculate a more up to date population projection to identify need moving forward using the known house building completion rates (the last survey was carried out in 2013), and attributing the average household size to these completion rates, it is possible to estimate the approximate level of the population at a future point in time. The updated 2013 population calculation by ward is contained in Appendix 2.

By using information contained within the Joint Housing Land Availability Study it is also possible to estimate the likely distribution and change in the population by 2018 generated through new housing completions. Using the average household size against the forecast completion dates will allow a predicted population for 2018, which can be used to highlight known growth across the county borough. The 2018 estimated population growth is contained in Appendix 2.

The 2013 data contained in Appendix 2 will be used as a baseline figure for each ward to determine how the current provision meets the benchmark FIT standards.

SECTION 1: EQUIPPED PLAY PROVISION



Section 1: Equipped Play Provision

This section deals specifically with the following formal recreational facilities:

- Play Areas;
- Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs);
- Wheeled Play (e.g. Skate Parks);
- Kickwalls;
- Outdoor Gyms, and
- Youth Shelters.

In addition to assessing these facilities against the FIT standards outlined in Appendix 1, this section will also consider the following assessment measures:

- a. Provision;
- b. Quantity;
- c. Accessibility;
- d. Overall condition of facilities; and
- e. Lifespan of facilities remaining.

Measures (a), (d) and (e) have been used to help evaluate individual play facilities in the county borough though the implementation of a weighting and scoring matrix. The complete analysis is contained in Appendix 3.

It is important to note that the facilities listed above each serve different age groups, with Play Areas appealing more to younger children, whereas MUGAs, Youth Shelters, Kickwalls and Skate Parks cater for older children.

(a) Provision

Table 1.1 indicates the type and number of equipped play facilities that are available within the county borough.

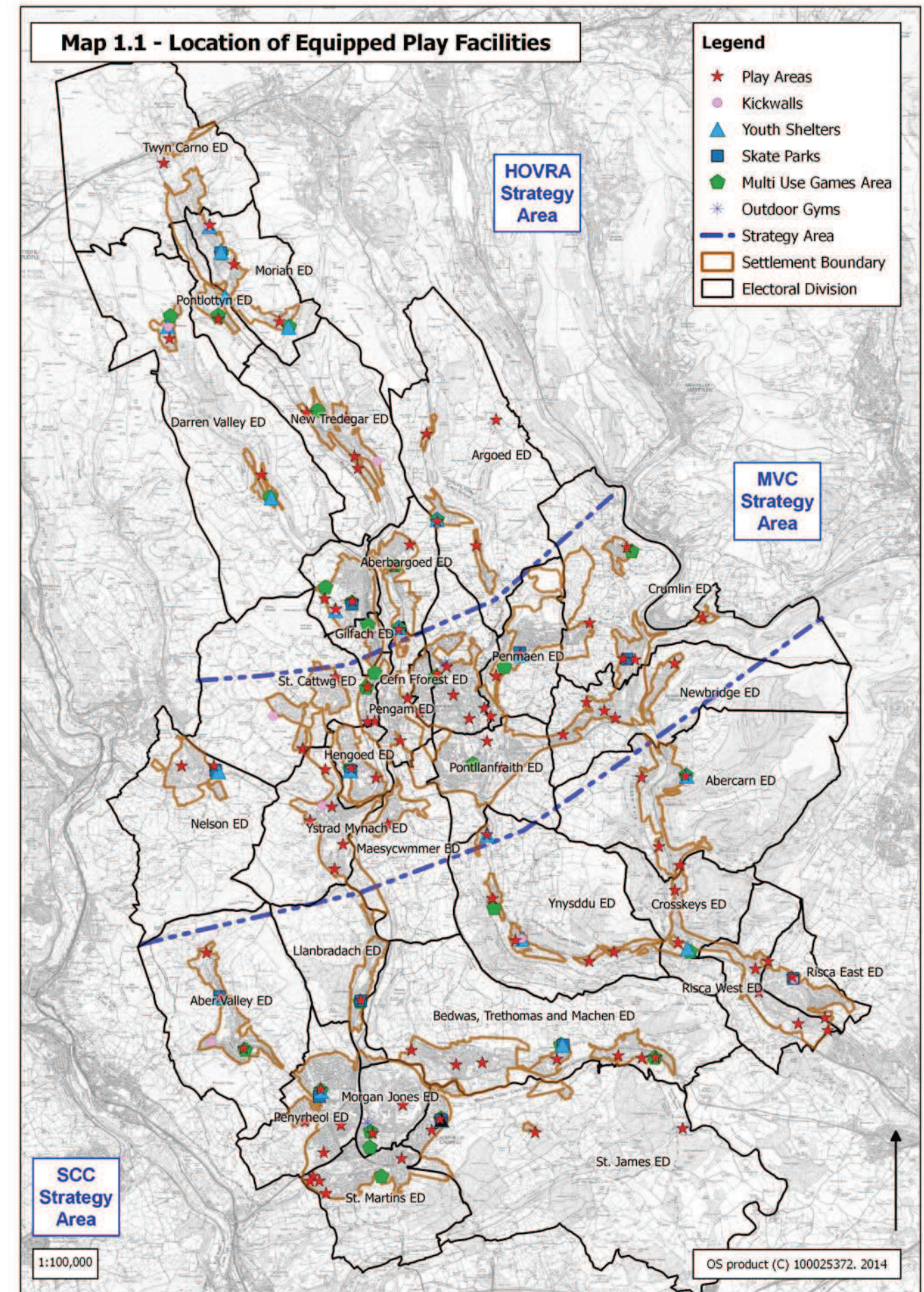
Table 1.1: Type and number of equipped play facilities

Type of Play Space	Number of provision
Play Area	104 (1 is privately maintained, and 1 is closed)
Kickwall	10
Youth Shelter	20
Wheeled Play (Skate Park)	11
MUGAs	31 (6 are within schools)
Outdoor Gyms	2

Where a play area is standalone or within a housing development, FIT classifies them as being a Local Equipped Area of Play or LEAP for short. A play facility that comprises additional facilities, which are targeted toward older children (such as a Youth Shelter and Kickwall) is categorised as a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play or NEAP. These facilities will have a wider catchment area, as older children will be able to walk further to access a NEAP.

In addition to these classifications, FIT also identifies the 'destination playground' as being the playground of the highest value to a family. Here, families are able to stay for a prolonged period of time given that there are more facilities on offer, and have facilities such as car parking and café's associated with them.

There are two outdoor gyms located in the County Borough located in Morgan Jones Park, Caerphilly and Blackwood Snowfields (note that these are not assessed as part of this review document as they are a new facility within the borough). Both gyms are in good working order. It is intended that additional outdoor gyms will be located across the county borough, as funding streams become available. In future reviews of this document, outdoor gyms will need to be considered as they become more prominent. Map 1.1 indicates that the existing play facilities are distributed fairly evenly across the county borough.



Map 1.2 illustrates the location of the NEAPs and Destination Parks within the county borough.

Not only is the distribution and type of facilities important in assessing provision, the number and type of pieces of equipment in each play area is of particular importance, as this will directly influence the draw it will have to potential users.

As is evidenced by Maps 1.1 and 1.2, there is a good provision and distribution of a range of equipped play facilities across the county borough.

Observations in the HOVRA

- All settlements in the HOVRA have access to fixed play facilities;
- The very north of Bargoed and the Ty Coch estate in Rhymney are two populated areas that have no playground facilities;
- There is one destination playground located in the HOVRA which is in New Tredegar.

Observations in the MVC

- Gelligaer is the only settlement that has no playground (it does however have a kickwall facility);
- The Bryn/Penllwyn area of Pontllanfraith has a high population with no playground facilities;
- Southern Panside and eastern Newbridge has no access to fixed playing facilities, however there are plans to install a playground in southern Panside, which when installed, will help remedy any current deficiency in the area;
- There are two destination playgrounds located in the MVC. These are in Ystrad Mynach and in Pontllanfraith.

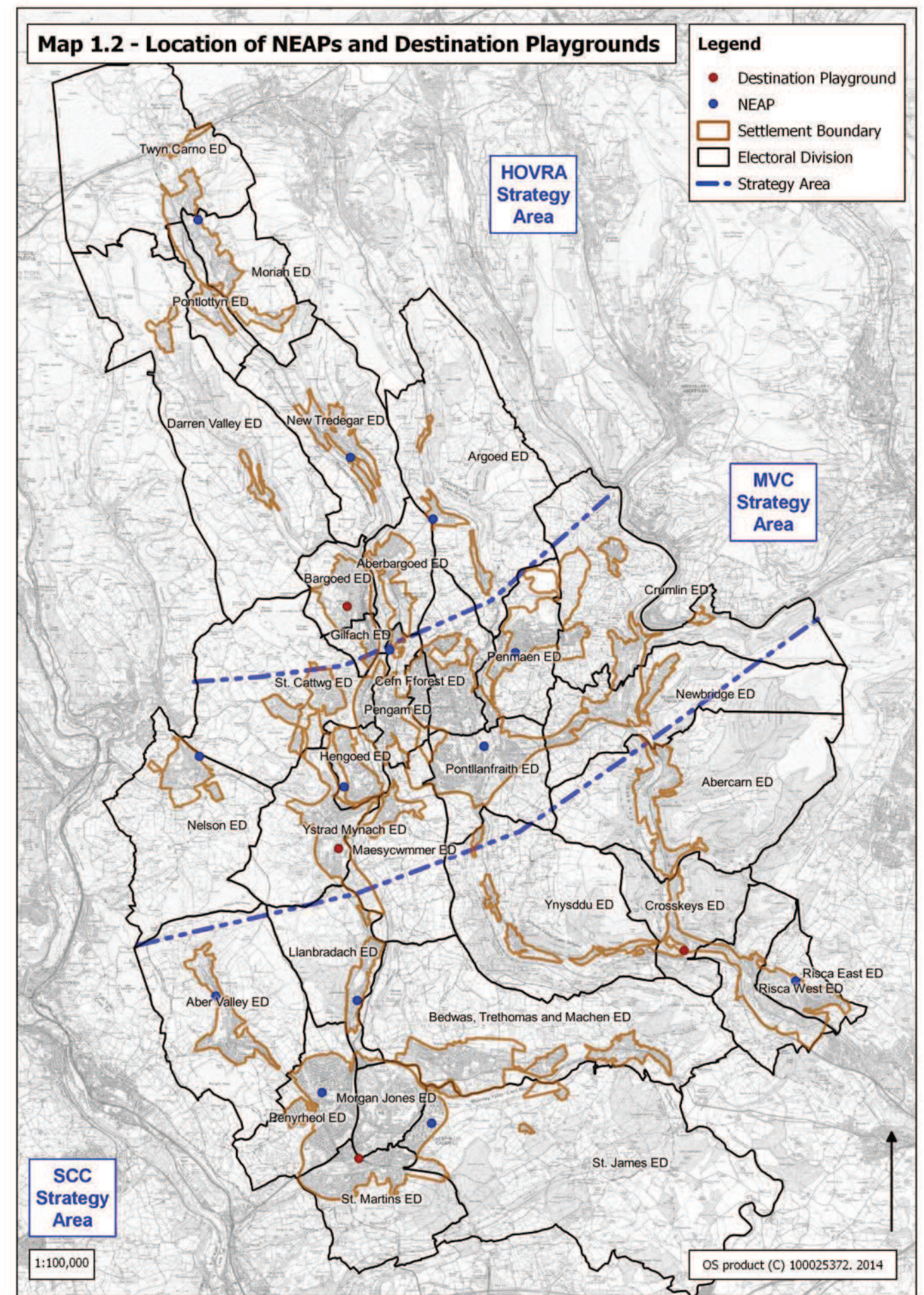
Observations in the SCC

- Ty Sign housing estate only has one playground facility. Residents living in the eastern part have to travel far to a fixed play facility;
- In St Martins ward, around Bryngwyn and Watford Park (eastern edge) there are no fixed play facilities;
- Whilst there appears a good provision of fixed play facilities in the SCC, the population density is much greater in the Caerphilly basin, and there may be the requirement for more facilities in these areas. This would appear to be the case in the Penyrheol ward (around Energlyn); and
- There are two destination playgrounds located in the SCC. These are in Caerphilly (in Morgan Jones ward) and Waunfawr Park in Crosskeys.

Summary of measure (a) Provision

Based on this measure alone, the following wards appear to require additional provisions:

- Rhymney (around Ty Coch housing estate);
- Newbridge (around Panside);
- St Cattwg (around Gelligaer);
- Risca East (around the eastern part of Ty Sign); and
- Pehyrheol (around Energlyn).



(b) Quantity: FIT standards against equipped playing space

Using the FIT standard of 0.25 Ha per 1000 population for equipped playing space it has been possible to roughly analyse the provision of equipped playing facilities across the county borough, in line with the population figures for 2013, and the projected population increase to 2018. Map 1.3 and 1.4 show the provision of these equipped facilities against the FIT Standards.

The results of this exercise indicate that nearly all wards are underprovided for in terms of fixed play facilities. However, areas in the (HOVRA) fair better than those in the MVC and the SCC.

As is evidenced, all wards within the Caerphilly Town area (Penyrheol, St Martins and Morgan Jones) and those around the centre of the county borough (Pontllanfraith, Blackwood, Newbridge and St Cattwg) have the lowest provision per 1000 population according to the FIT benchmark. This provision is further exacerbated if the 2018 population figures are used.

However, it must be noted that this assessment is merely looking at the total provision by ward against the total population by ward. This method does not take into account the natural catchment areas for facilities (i.e. the population will use their nearest facility regardless of ward boundaries).

Provision in wards against demographics

The FIT standards can be used as a benchmark per 1000 population. However, it is possible to further analyse the population within our wards using known data of individual age groups, as detailed in the 2011 Census. Using this grouped age data, it is possible to highlight the wards that have the highest proportion of young people (0-19 years of age). The wards that have the highest proportion of young people, at over 27% of the ward population are: the Aber Valley, Argoed, Hengoed and Penyrheol wards. The Census indicates that there is not one band within these wards that is particularly higher than another (so age group 5-9 for example) – it is simply the cumulative effect of these wards having a higher proportion over all age groups that leads to the higher proportion over all. Given the quantity analysis outlined in the previous section, it is clear that these wards will require additional provision or an enhancement of provision to cater for this higher number of young people – especially within the Penyrheol and Aber Valley wards.

Observations in the HOVRA

- The vast majority of wards nearly meet the FIT guidelines for equipped play;
- The only wards that fare worse off are New Tredegar and Twyn Carno.

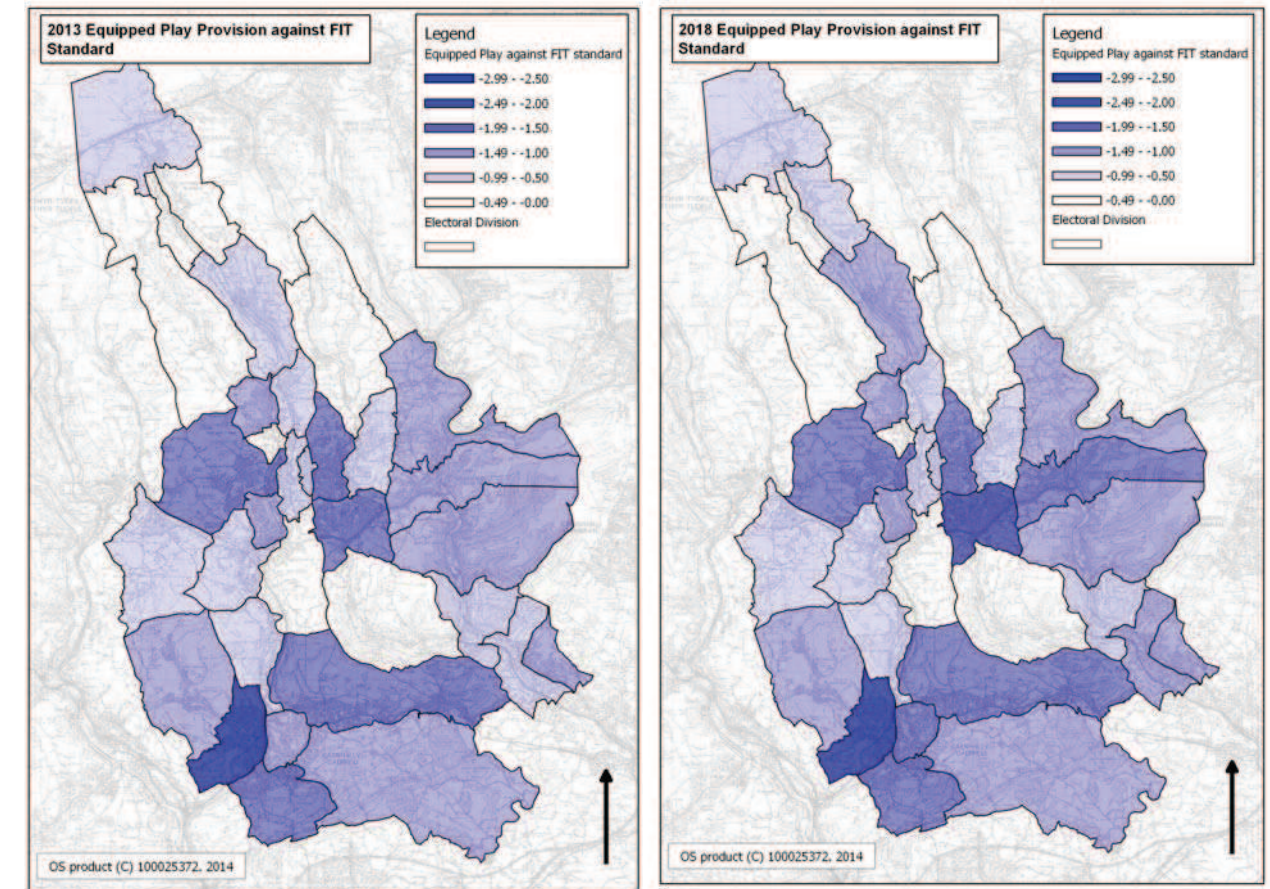
Observations in the MVC

- Pontllanfraith, Blackwood and St Cattwg all fare poorly against the FIT standards;
- Gilfach and Maesycwmmmer wards fare relatively well;
- Taking the 2018 population into account, Newbridge ward will fare poorly against the FIT standards.

Observations in the SCC

- Wards around the Caerphilly basin fare poorly against the FIT standards;
- Penyrheol ward fares exceptionally poorly against the standards, given the population of the area;
- The 2018 projections highlight that additional provisions are required across the whole SCC.
- Risca West ward helps alleviate the deficiency in Risca East ward, however in the 2018 projections more facilities are required.

Maps 1.3 and 1.4 Equipped play provision against FIT standards by ward.



Summary of measure (b) Quantity

Based on this measure alone, the following wards appear to have a higher than average population to equipped play provision ratio:

- Penyrheol;
- Blackwood; and
- Pontllanfraith.

Those wards where provisions are closer to the FIT standard are:

- Maesycwmmmer;
- Gilfach;
- Ynysddu;
- Darren Valley; and
- Argoed.

(c) Accessibility: FIT standards against equipped playing space

Using the FIT standards prescribed in Appendix 1, the following equipped play facilities were attributed a maximum walking distance for children and young people.

Table 1.2: Walking distances for equipped play facilities

Type of equipped play space	Walking distance
Play Areas	240 metres
Kickwalls (Outdoor kickabout)	600 metres
Wheeled Play	600 metres
Multi Use Games Area	600 metres
Youth Shelters	600 metres

Map 1.5 indicates those areas where accessibility to equipped playing facilities is more challenging. It is important to note that the maps indicate the extent of existing settlement limits. As industrial estates are also located within settlement limits, it is vital to note that a lack of facilities in an area does not necessarily indicate that there are residents that live in those areas (for example Oakdale Plateau). Similarly, there are small villages that have facilities that lie in areas classified as the Countryside (for example Draethen).

There is generally a good distribution of facilities across the county borough. However there a number of areas where access to LEAPs and NEAPs is poor, specifically: Hendredenny, Penpedairheol, Northern Llanbradach / Southern Ystrad Mynach, Pontllanfraith and Blackwood, and Ty Coch in Rhymney. In Northern Llanbradach/Southern Ystrad Mynach, a new facility is due to be installed in the Cwm Las estate, which will alleviate this deficiency.

For the more attractive destination playgrounds, FIT prescribes a 20-minute drive time distance to access these facilities. Given the size of the county borough, coupled with the good distribution of destination playgrounds (as indicated in map 1.6), the destination playgrounds are located in readily accessible areas. It is notable that the location of the destination playgrounds corresponds with those areas where there are deficiencies in local provision, namely: Morgan Jones, Pontllanfraith, Ystrad Mynach, Crosskeys and Bargoed. Map 1.6 shows that only two parts of the county borough are more than 20 minutes drive time to a destination playground. These are parts of Twyn Carno and St James Wards. Both areas outside of the 20 minutes accessibility are sparsely populated and are quite isolated.

Observations in the HOVRA

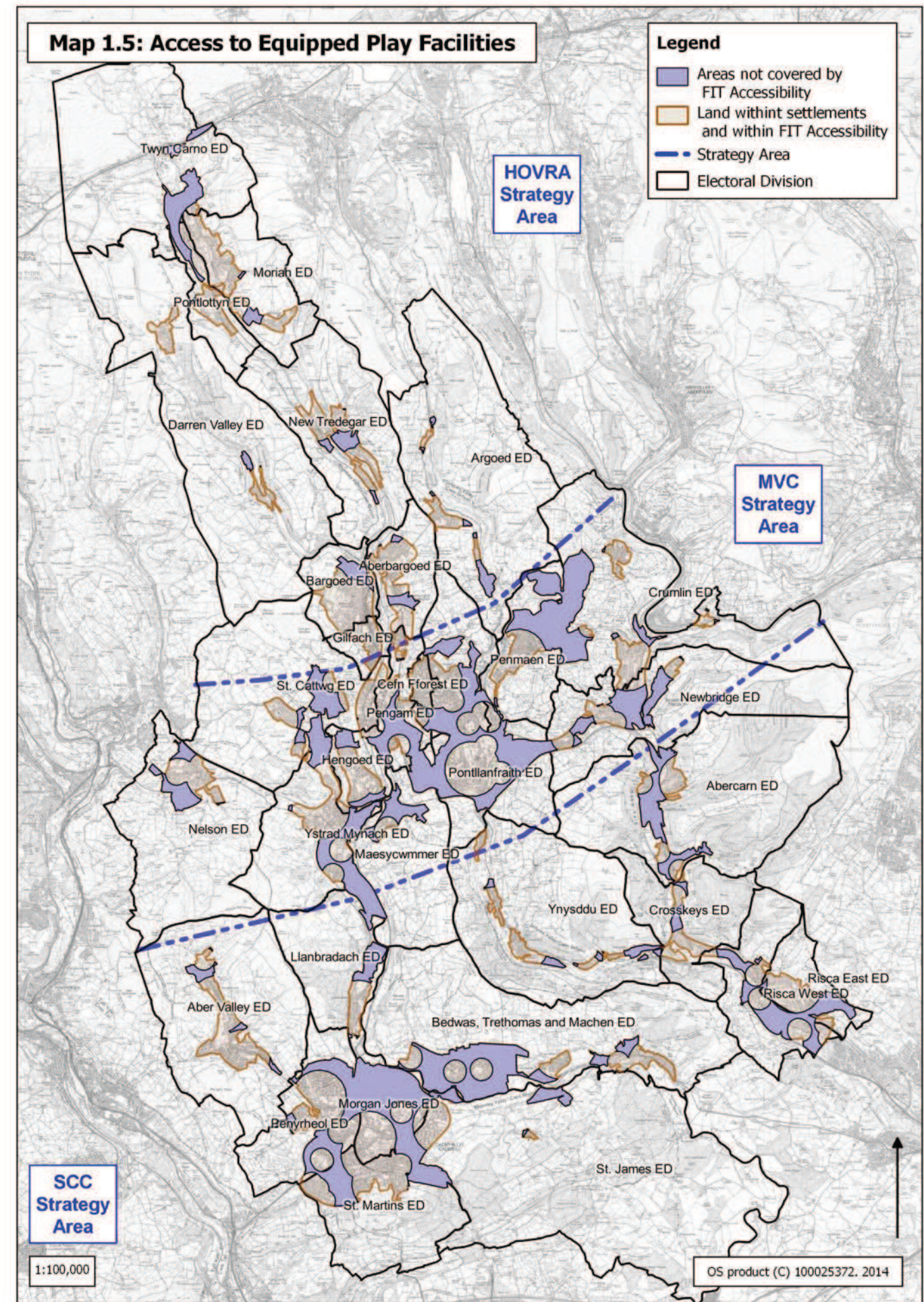
- Parts of Twyn Carno, Phillipstown, Lower Argoed and Abertwsswg are not within the accessibility distances prescribed by FIT;
- The remaining areas all have access to a piece of equipped play facility;
- All parts of the HOVRA are within 20 minutes drive time of a destination playground.

Observations in the MVC

- Parts of Nelson, Penpedairheol, Maesycwmmmer, Pontllanfraith, Oakdale, Newbridge and Panside fall outside of the specified distance analysis for equipped play facilities according to FIT standards;
- There are no areas within the MVC that are outside of the 20-minute drive time from destination playgrounds.

Observations in the SCC

- Parts of Caerphilly (Penyrheol, Watford Park, Lansbury Park, and the north part of Churchill Park), Llanbradach, Bedwas, Waterloo, and Machen, Risca West and Risca East, are not within the accessibility distances prescribed by FIT;
- Nearly all areas are within 20-minute drive time from a destination playground. The only area that is not within 20 minutes is Rudry in Caerphilly.



Summary of measure (c) Accessibility

Using this measure alone, the following wards have the highest amount of land (Ha) that are not within the FIT Accessibility criteria;

- Crumlin;
- Pontllanfraith;
- Abercarn;
- Maesycwmmmer; and
- Newbridge.

The wards that have good accessibility are:

- Cefn Fforest;
- Darren Valley;
- Pontlottyn; and
- Aberbargoed

(d) Quality: equipped play facilities

Map 1.7 highlights the distribution and condition of the equipped play facilities owned by the Council as at November 2013. However, it should be noted that not all facilities that are publically accessible are Council owned or maintained. Consequently, those sites that are not maintained by CCBC have a condition classification of 'unknown'.

This map indicates that the play facilities that are located throughout the MVC and the SCC are generally in good condition. There are only three facilities that are in good condition within the HOVRA.

Out of 102 council maintained equipped play facilities, 31 are in good condition, 67 are of average condition, 1 is unknown (owned and maintained by an external body), 1 is closed (in Cefn Fforest) and 4 are poor.

The facilities in poor quality are located in: the Cwrt Rawlin part of South West Caerphilly; East Risca; Pengam; and Pentwynmawr.

With regards to the distribution of MUGA's and their associated condition, the only MUGA's that are in an 'average' condition can be found in north Aberbargoed and Graig-Y-Rhacca, although the condition of those in schools is unknown (such as at Oakdale Comprehensive). The remainder are in good condition.

For Skate parks, the picture again is fairly similar – there are no skate parks designated as being of 'poor' condition, however those in Rhymney, Bargoed, Graig Y Rhacca and Risca are classified as average.

With regard to youth shelters, only two are in good condition (Deri and Abercarn), with the remainder classed as being of 'average' condition.

Finally, out of the 8 outdoor kickabout areas (or Kickwalls as they are also known), one is classed as poor (Ystrad Mynach), three are of average condition (Fochriw, Gelligaer and Risca) and the remainder are all in good condition.

Overall, there are fewer provisions around Caerphilly town, Blackwood, Pontllanfraith, Risca and Graig Y Rhacca that are in good condition. These facilities are predominantly only of 'Average' condition. Given that these areas are also those that fall short of the FIT standards for quantity, there is a need to provide adequate remediation in these areas.

Map 1.8 indicates the overall condition of the NEAPs and Destination Playgrounds across the county borough. Notably all are either of average or good condition, illustrating the Council's commitment to maintaining these important facilities for the community.

The NEAPs that are generally in good condition are located in Penyrheol, Senghenydd, Llanbradach and Markham. Ystrad Mynach and New Tredegar are the only destination playgrounds in good condition. The remainder are all in average condition.

Observations in the HOVRA

- The majority of the facilities are in average condition;
- There are only three of facilities in the HOVRA that are in good condition

Observations in the MVC

- The majority of the facilities in the MVC are in average condition, however there are 10 sites that are in good condition;
- There are only two facilities that are in poor condition – these are in Pengam and in Pentwy-mawr;
- The majority of the destination playground and NEAPs are of average condition.

Observations in the SCC

- The majority of the facilities in the SCC are in average condition;
- There are two playgrounds in poor condition. These are in St Martins ward and Risca West;
- Three NEAPs in Senghenydd, Llanbradach and Penyrheol are in good condition. The remaining NEAP and Destination Facilities are of average condition.

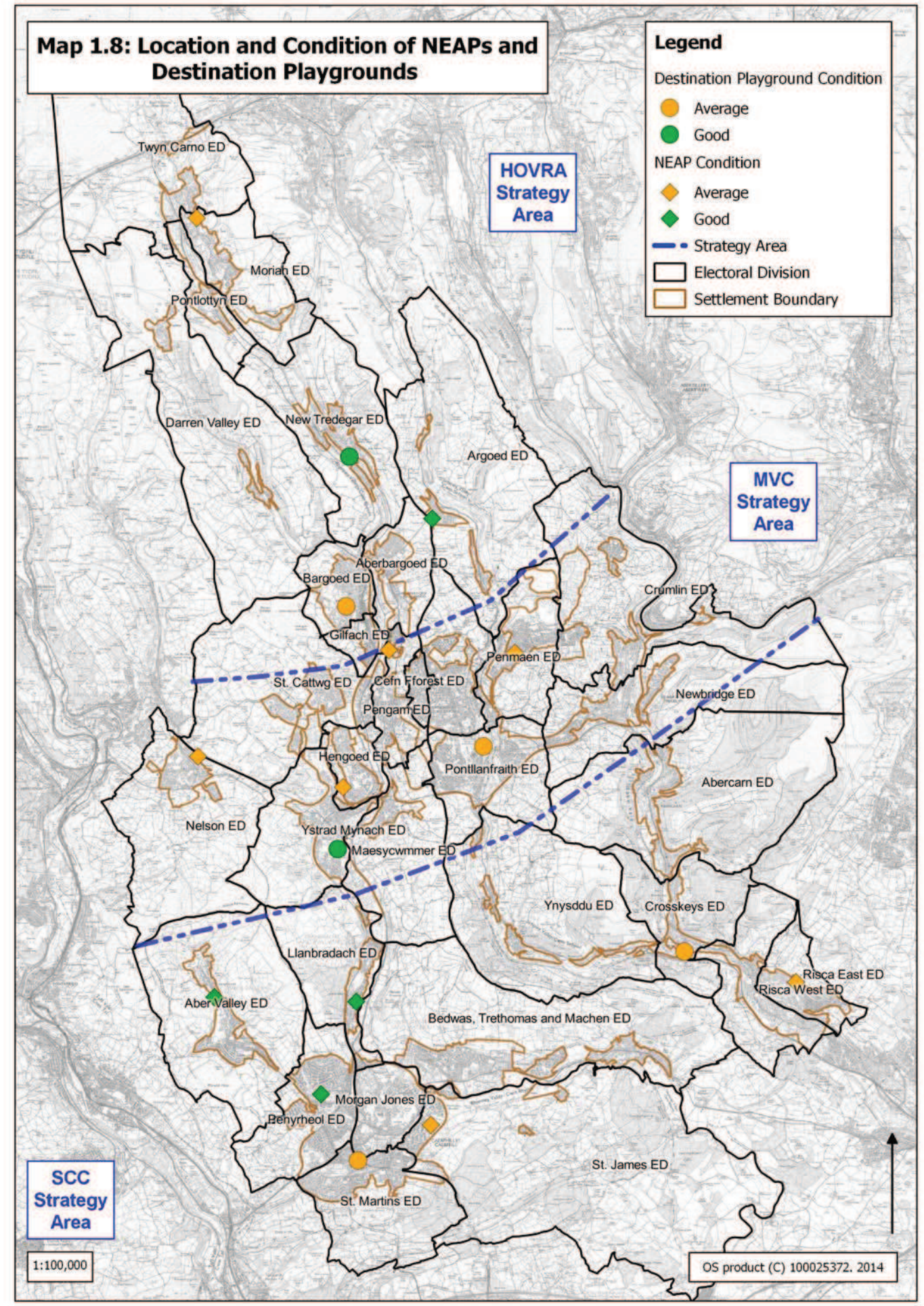
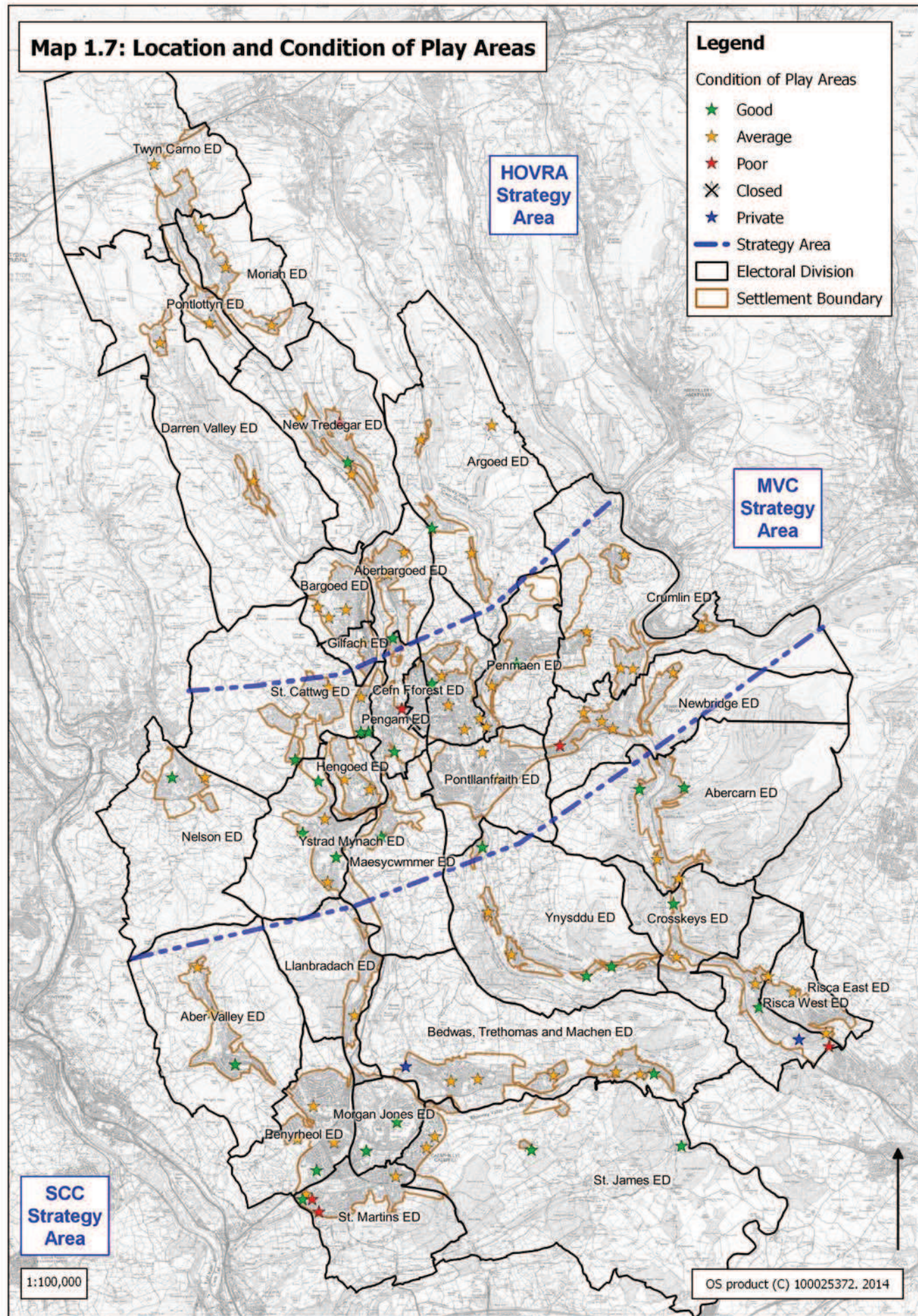
Summary of measure (d) Quality

Based on this measure alone, the condition of the facilities in the following wards need to improved

- Cefn Fforest;
- St Martins;
- New Tredegar; and
- Risca West.

Conversely the facilities in the following wards are in good condition:

- Morgan Jones;
- Crumlin; and
- Ynysddu.



(e) Lifespan of facilities remaining

Understanding the lifespan of facilities can help to target future investment in an area. Map 1.9 shows the lifespan remaining on facilities across the county borough. The map indicates that in the HOVRA, the majority of facilities have over 6 years remaining. In the MVC, most facilities are fairly evenly split between sites that have 10 or more years remaining, and greater than 6 years. However in Cefn Fforest and Pontllanfraith wards, there are two sites that have a lifespan of between 2 and 5 years.

Notably in the SCC there is 1 playground that is nearing the end of its life with a lifespan of less than two years remaining and this is in close proximity to one that is also nearing the end of its life expectancy at between 2 and 5 years.

Observations in the HOVRA

- The majority of facilities have a lifespan of 6-9 years remaining;
- Only three playgrounds have a lifespan of 10 or more years. These playgrounds are in Brithdir, New Tredegar and Britannia;
- There is only one facility whose lifespan remaining is 2 – 5 years. This is in Phillipstown which is earmarked for improvement by the end of 2014.

Observations in the MVC

- The majority of the facilities have a lifespan of 10 or more years, or 6-9 years;
- There are two facilities that have a lifespan of 2 – 5 years. These are in Pontllanfraith and Cefn Fforest.

Observations in the SCC

- The majority of facilities have approximately 6-9 years lifespan remaining;
- Two playgrounds have 2-5 years remaining. These are in St Martins and Risca West.

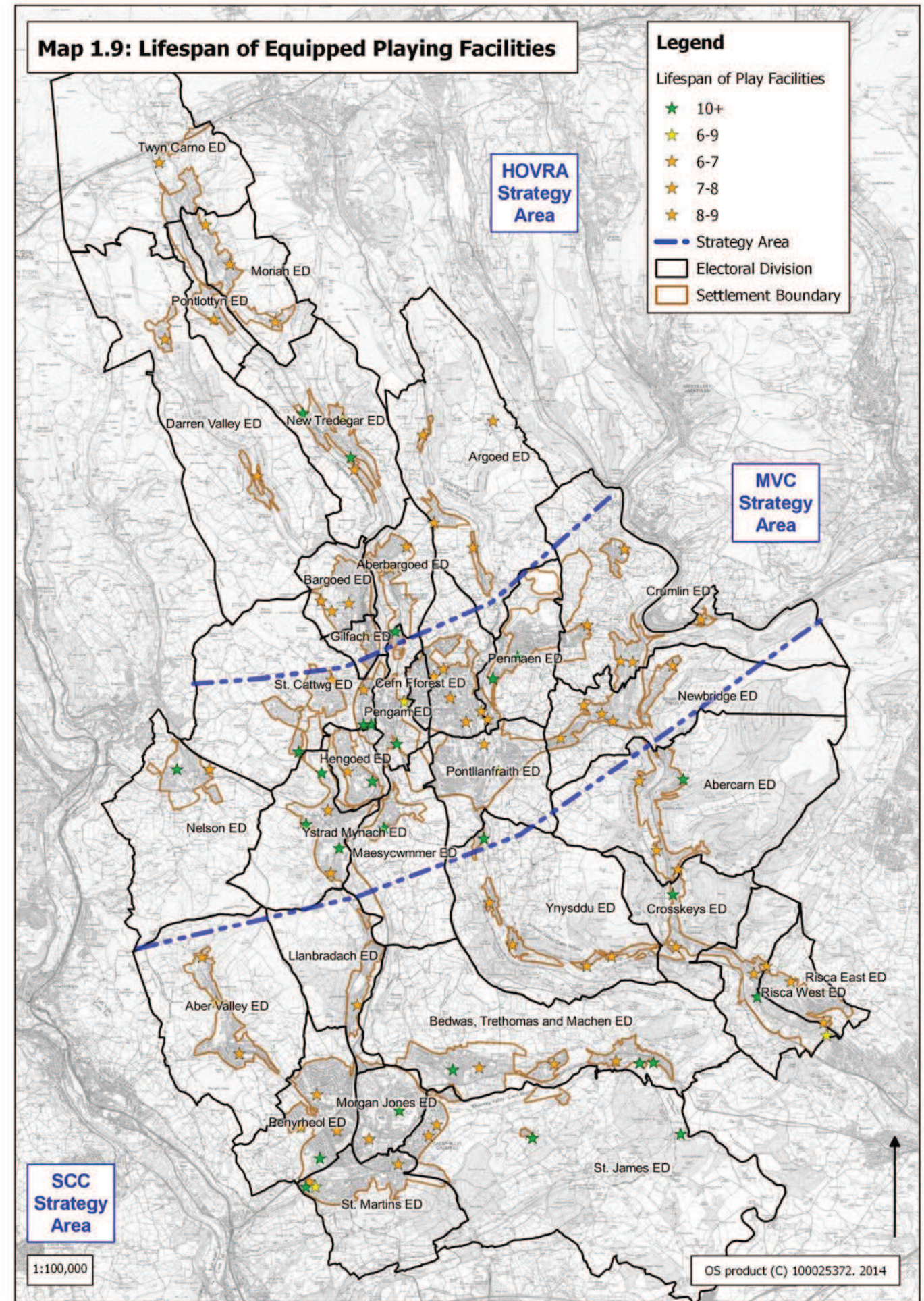
Summary of measure (e) Lifespan of facilities

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have a higher proportion of facilities that are nearing the end of their lifespan:

- St Martins;
- Risca East;
- Pontllanfraith; and
- Cefn Fforest.

The following wards have a high proportion of facilities that have 10 or more years remaining:

- Ystrad Mynach;
- Hengoed; and
- Penmaen.



Overall weighting of Section 1: Equipped Play Facilities

In order to help assess the individual playgrounds, the weighting and scoring analysis (attached at Appendix 3) highlights the various indicators and their total scoring. Map 1.10 indicates the overall score for each equipped play facility where 0.1 is the lowest score indicating a poor facility (therefore meaning that the playground is of a poor condition, has a low life expectancy remaining and only has a small number of facilities on offer) and 30.0 is the highest score and represents the best facilities overall.

The two facilities that score poorly are within St Martin's ward and Risca East. One facility in Pengam scored only between 5-10 points.

The distribution of equipped play facilities across the County Borough is extensive. There are only a small number of areas where there is a need to expand or enhance upon existing provision.

Observations in the HOVRA:

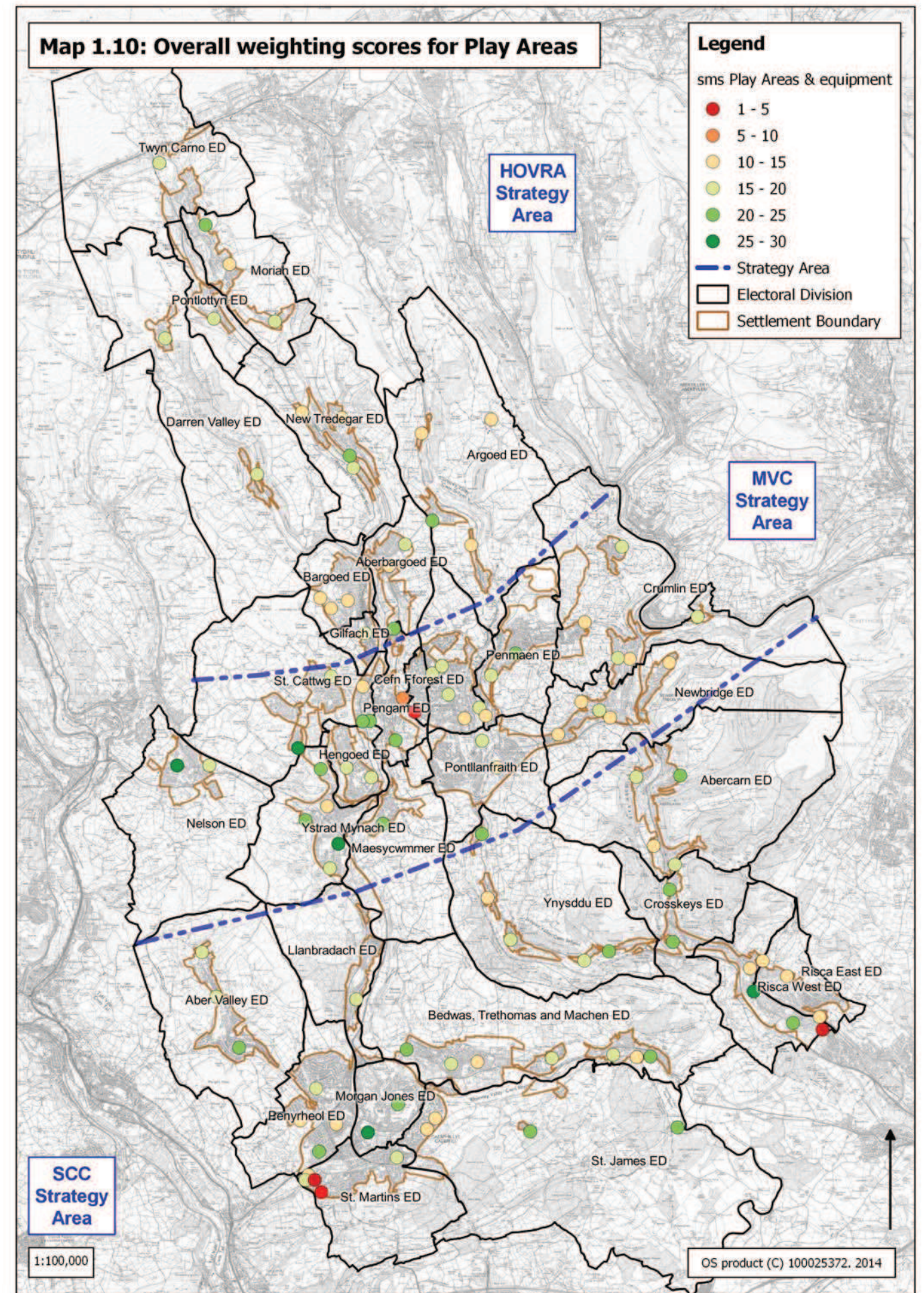
- The HOVRA has a good provision of equipped play facilities within each settlement, however the majority of these are only of 'average' condition;
- The facilities located in isolated locations (such as Deri, Fochriw, Llechryd and Hollybush) are in relatively good condition.

Observations in the MVC:

- There is a good provision of good quality facilities in the MVC;
- There are only a few areas in the mid valleys where access to a playground is more difficult, in particular Penllywn in Pontllanfraith, Highfields in Blackwood, Southern Panside, and Gelligaer. It is these areas within the mid valleys where relocation or additional provision is required in order to ensure that there is a access to good play facilities;
- Within the Pontllanfraith and Newbridge areas, there is also a lack of provision for older children. The provision of a NEAP within both of these wards would help to remedy the current deficiency.

Observations in the SCC:

- The main wards of Penyrheol, St Martins and Morgan Jones ward are densely populated and this leads to the need for greater provision in order to meet the FIT benchmark standard;
- There is a good provision of facilities in the east of the SCC in the Risca area;
- Older children's needs are only catered for however at Ty Sign or Crosskeys.



Key Findings: Equipped Play Facilities

In light of the analysis undertaken throughout this review, a number of key findings are highlighted in respect of Equipped Play Facilities across the three Strategy Areas. They are as follows:

Observations in the HOVRA:

- The HOVRA has a good provision of equipped play facilities within each settlement, however the majority of these provisions are only of 'average' condition;
- The only area where there is an accessibility deficiency is around the Ty Coch housing estate in Rhymney;
- The facility in Phillipstown is in an overall poor condition.

Observations in the MVC:

- There is a good provision of equipped playing facilities in the MVC;
- Using the projected 2018 population increase coupled with the current provision across the wards of Pontllanfraith, Blackwood, and Newbridge, the facilities in these wards will be placed under increasing pressure;
- There is a lack of provision in Pontllanfraith and Newbridge for older children.

Observations in the SCC:

- Whilst Risca East has limited facilities Risca West has an over provision;
- The only equipped play facilities in the Bedwas area are playgrounds;
- The current provision of equipped play facilities in the Caerphilly basin is generally poor;
- The Morgan Jones ward has a destination playground, which serves a wider population than the accessibility map would suggest.

Recommendations:

This review has considered the provision, quality, accessibility, quality and lifespan of equipped play provisions across Caerphilly County Borough. Following on from the information collated in the report, and data contained in the appendices, the following recommendations are advised.

R1: There is a need to improve the quality of provision in the HOVRA.

Given the remote nature of settlements, access to good quality provisions is essential. In addition, there is a need to provide additional facilities in the north of Rhymney, as this is an area that is currently underprovided for.

R2: There is a need to expand the provision for older children within the Pontllanfraith and Bedwas areas.

These provisions will help provide facilities in areas where there are, and will be, a high proportion of older children in the future.

R3: There is a need to ensure that all areas have access to good quality equipped play facilities.

Given the high population in the SCC, there is a need to ensure that the condition of these facilities is enhanced as there is a greater demand on these facilities.

SECTION 2: SPORTS PITCHES



Section 2: Sports Pitches

This section deals specifically with the following types of formal sports pitch:

- Dual Use (for example, a football pitch and a cricket pitch);
- Football;
- Rugby;
- Cricket;
- Bowling Greens;
- Tennis Courts; and
- Athletics Tracks.

The provision of Artificial Turf Pitches (ATP's) is covered in Section 3: Current Provision of Leisure Centres.

Current Provision

Map 2.1 shows the general provision of these sporting facilities across the county borough. This illustrates that nearly all areas within the county borough have access to a sports facility. However in order to fully assess provision, FIT guidelines break down the type of sports pitch into two categories as follows:

- 1) Designated Sports Pitches (formal facilities including Football and Rugby pitches); and
- 2) Other Outdoor Sports Facilities (Tennis Courts, Cricket Pitches, Bowling Greens, Athletics Tracks).

These two types of sporting facilities have different standards associated with them (as outlined in Appendix 1) and cannot therefore be directly compared.

In order to consider the adequacy of the existing sport pitch provision in the county borough and help inform future priorities for development and investment, it is necessary to review the two types of sporting facilities using the following 3 key assessment measures:

- a. Quantity;
- b. Accessibility; and
- c. Quality.

All pitches have been comprehensively assessed against each measure in order to evaluate the existing facilities in the county borough. The facilities are further scored through a weighting and scoring matrix the results of which are contained in Appendix 4.

This report will now specifically look at Designated Sports pitches and will analyse them against their specific FIT benchmark standards.

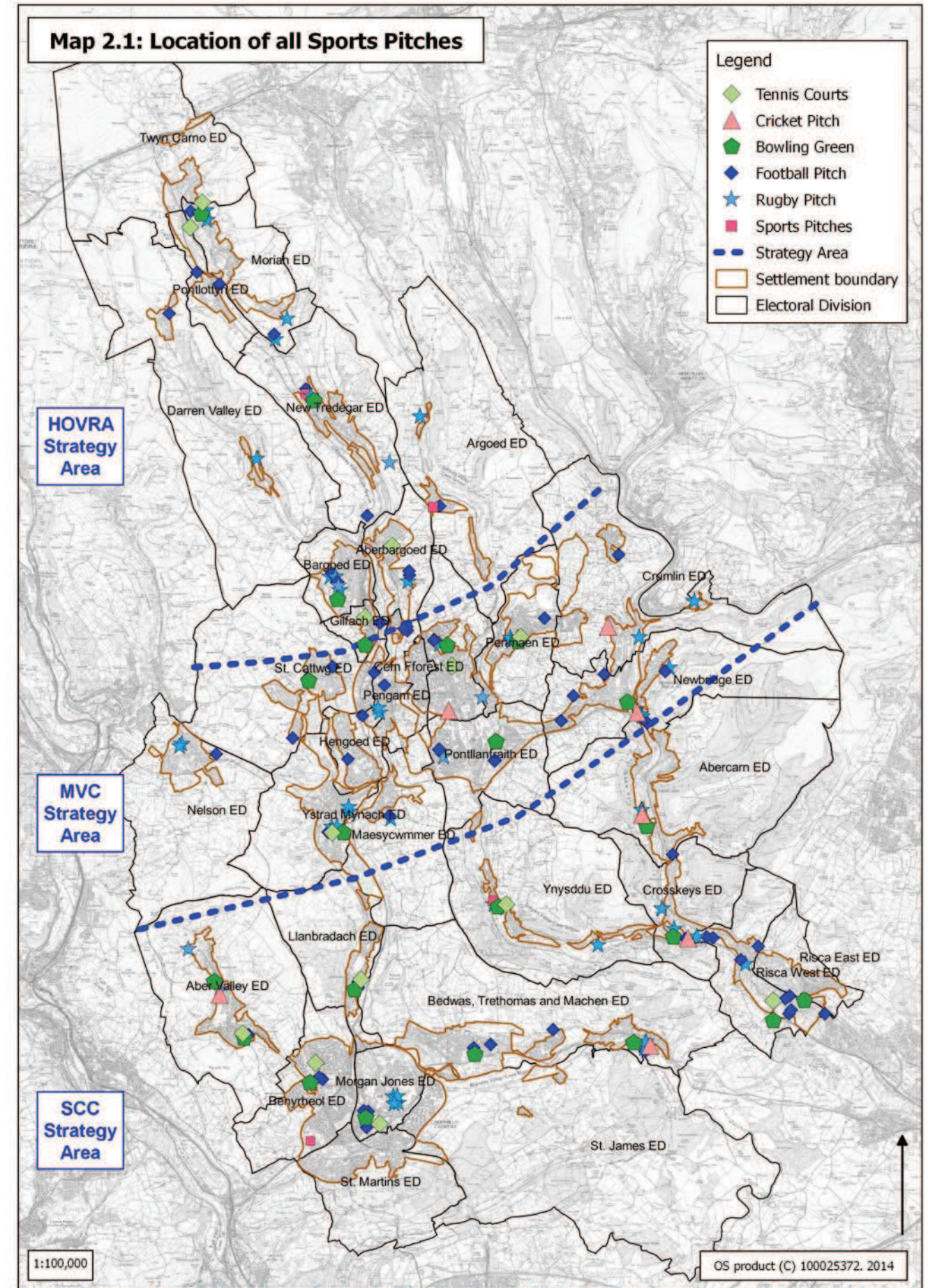
Designated Sports Pitches

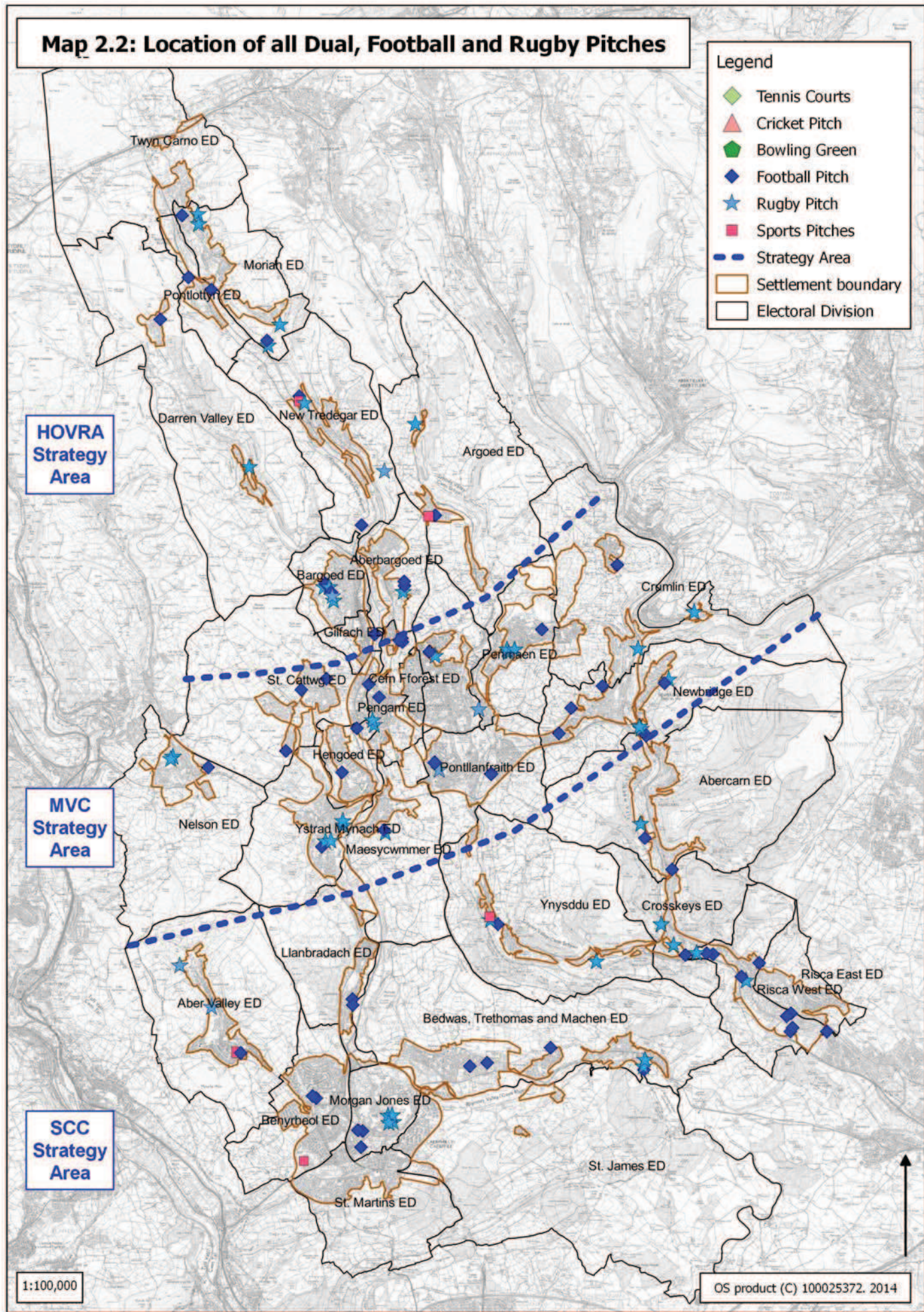
FIT guidelines prescribe different standards of provision depending on the type of sports pitch to be provided. Football, Rugby and Dual use pitches are classified as 'Designated Sports Pitches'.

Map 2.2 details the location of the designated Dual Use, Football and Rugby Pitches in the county borough and illustrates that there is a good geographical spread of such facilities.

Nearly all communities with the exception of St Martins, St James and Twyn Carno wards have access to a Designated Sports Pitch. However the Ystrad Mynach Ward comprises the recently opened Centre of Sporting Excellence, which is not indicated in Map 2.1.

There are more dual use sports pitches within the MVC than in the SCC and HOVRA. There is also a greater portion of football pitches in the MVC and SCC when compared to the HOVRA. It is notable that in the HOVRA, rugby pitches are more prevalent. This could be in response to local demand.





(a) Quantity

Using the FIT standards of 1.2Ha per 1000 population for Designated Sports Pitches, it is possible to analyse the adequacy of provision across the county borough, in line with the projected population figures for 2013 and 2018. Maps 2.3 and 2.4 show the provision of all Designated Sports Pitches that are owned and maintained by CCBC.

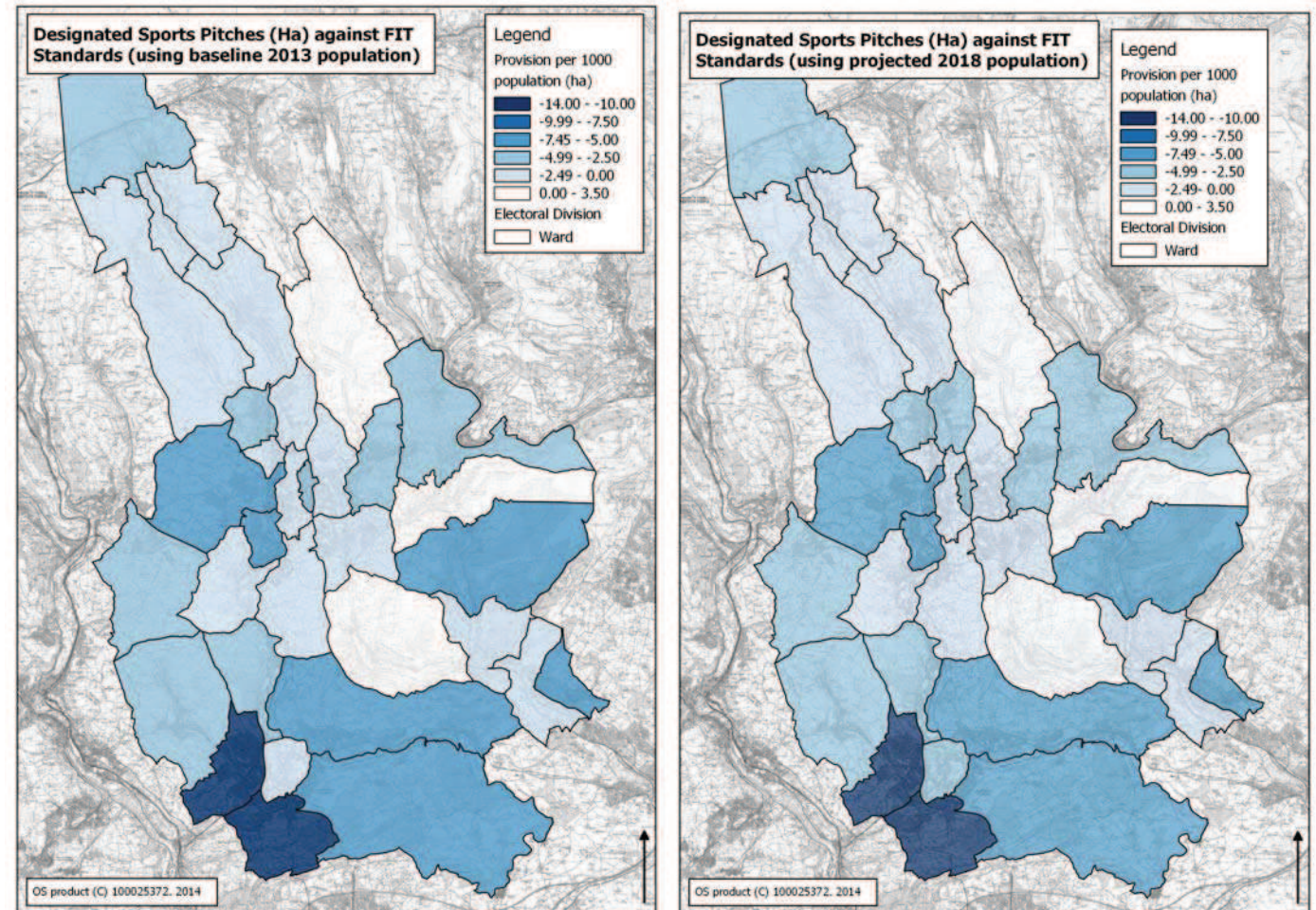
The results of this exercise indicate that wards in the SCC have a greater need for additional Designated Sports Pitches, whereas the MVC and HOVRA have better provision.

Caerphilly Town (Penyrheol, St Martins and St James) has the lowest pitch provision per 1000 population when assessed against the FIT benchmark. When assessed against the projected population for 2018, this situation worsens.

There are three wards that have good provision when assessed against the FIT standard. These wards are Newbridge, Ynysddu and Argoed. The facilities in these wards help alleviate deficiencies in neighbouring wards.

It is important to note that this ward assessment considers total provision against the total population. It does not take into account the natural catchment areas for facilities (i.e. the population will use their nearest facility regardless of ward boundaries). In addition, different types of facilities will have a different appeal to different groups of people.

Map 2.3 and 2.4 Provision by ward of designated sports pitches using 2013 and 2018 population projections.



Observations in the HOVRA

- The HOVRA has an overall good provision of sports pitches;
- Argoed ward fares the best;
- Gilfach and Twyn Carno wards fare the worst across the HOVRA against the FIT standards; and
- Aberbargoed ward is the only ward where provision gets worse with the 2018 population increase.

Observations in the MVC

- Newbridge ward has the best provision across the MVC against the FIT standards;
- St Cattwg and Hengoed wards have a higher population to sports pitch provision and therefore have the highest shortfall in provision.

Observations in the SCC

- The majority of wards have a significant shortfall in provision;
- Only Ynysddu ward has a relatively good provision of sports pitches;
- Penyrheol and St Martins ward have a high shortfall of sports pitch provision;
- Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen also fare poorly in sports pitch provision;
- Risca East has a high shortfall in provision for sports pitches however Risca West ward has a relatively good provision.

Summary of measure (a) - Quantity

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have poor provision of Designated Sports Pitches (when assessed against the FIT standards):

- Penyrheol; and
- St Martins.

Conversely, the following wards have a good provision.

- Newbridge;
- Argoed; and
- Ynysddu.

(b) Accessibility

In order to assess the accessibility of facilities to residents the FIT standards prescribed in Appendix 1 have been used. This requires pitches to be located within 1.2km of residential properties.

Map 2.5 illustrates those areas that do not have good accessibility to facilities. Generally, there is a good distribution of facilities across the county borough.

There are only a few residential areas where accessibility is poor when assessed against this measure. These areas are parts of Llanbradach, North Caerphilly, Argoed, Rudry, Llechryd and Wyllie. Note the remaining three areas are industrial sites (Oakdale, Dyffryn and Van Road Caerphilly.)

Observations in the HOVRA

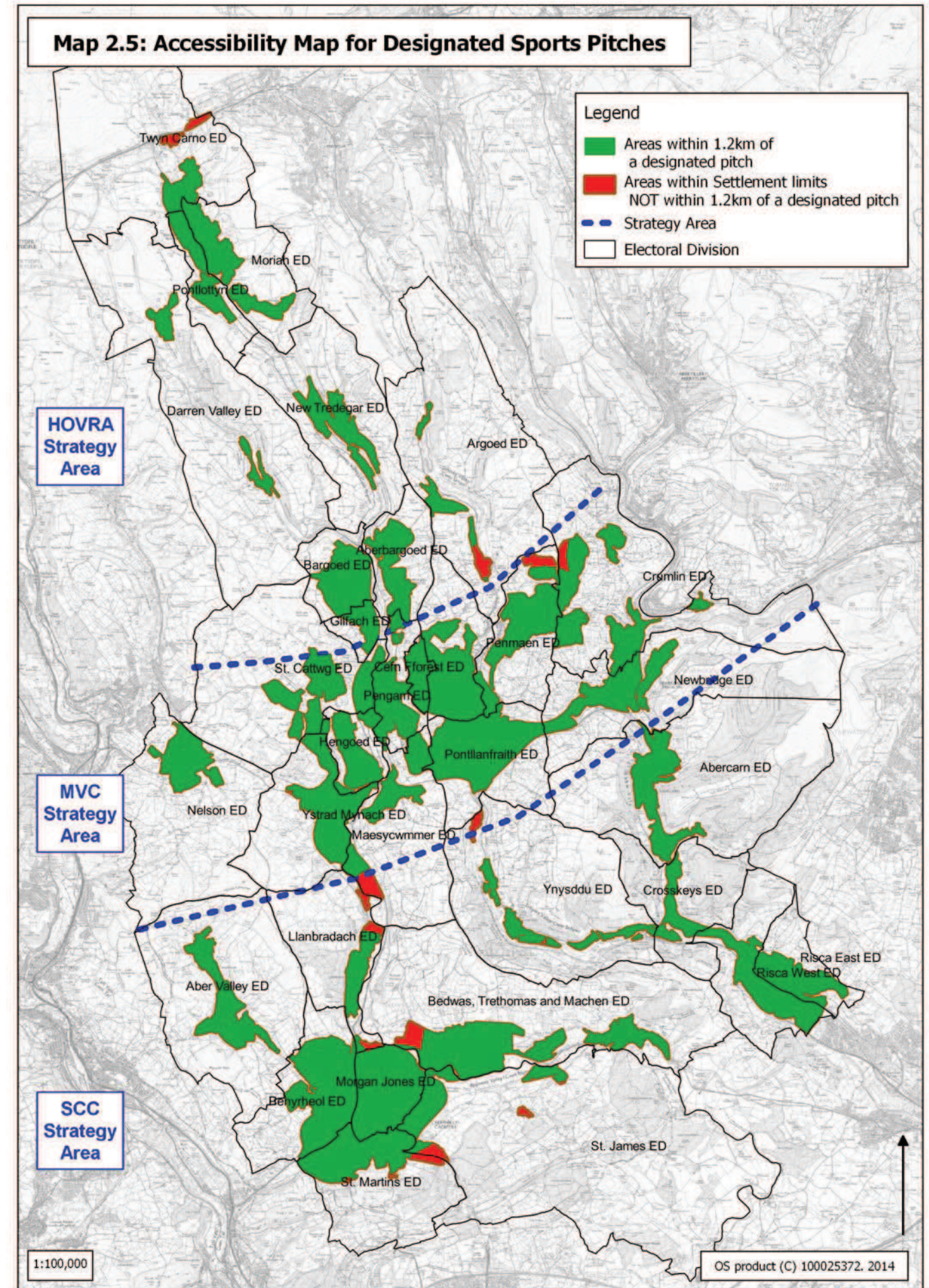
- The majority of areas within settlement limits is accessible according to the FIT standards;
- The only areas that fall outside of the 1.2km from a designated pitch are Llechryd and the southern part of Argoed.

Observations in the MVC

- The majority of the MVC is within 1.2km of a designated pitch;
- The only part of the MVC that falls outside of the 1.2km accessibility is Oakdale Plateau.

Observations in the SCC

- The majority of the settlements within the SCC are within 1.2km of a sports pitch;
- The areas that are not within 1.2km of a sports pitch are West Bedwas, Northern Llanbradach and Rudry. The last site, in eastern Caerphilly, is an industrial area known as Nes Tar.



Summary of measure (b) – Accessibility

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have areas that do not have good access to facilities when assessed against the FIT guidelines:

- Llanbradach;
- Argoed;
- Twyn Carno;
- Ynysddu; and
- St James.

Residents in the remaining wards have good access to designated sports pitches.

(c) Quality of Designated Sports Pitches

The quality of designated pitches is dependent on a number of variables. Specifically: condition, facility standards, ancillary facility provision (such as changing rooms, car parking and floodlights), drainage and type of surface. It is therefore possible to assess the quality of a pitch facility through an assessment of these individual variables.

Condition

Map 2.6 provides an indication of the condition of all pitches in the county borough based on maintenance inspections. On balance, there is a good provision and distribution of pitches that are of a good overall standard and a small number that are in very good condition. The facilities that are either privately run, or are part of a school are also indicated for information, however as the Council is not responsible for the maintenance of these facilities their condition is indicated as “unknown”.

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

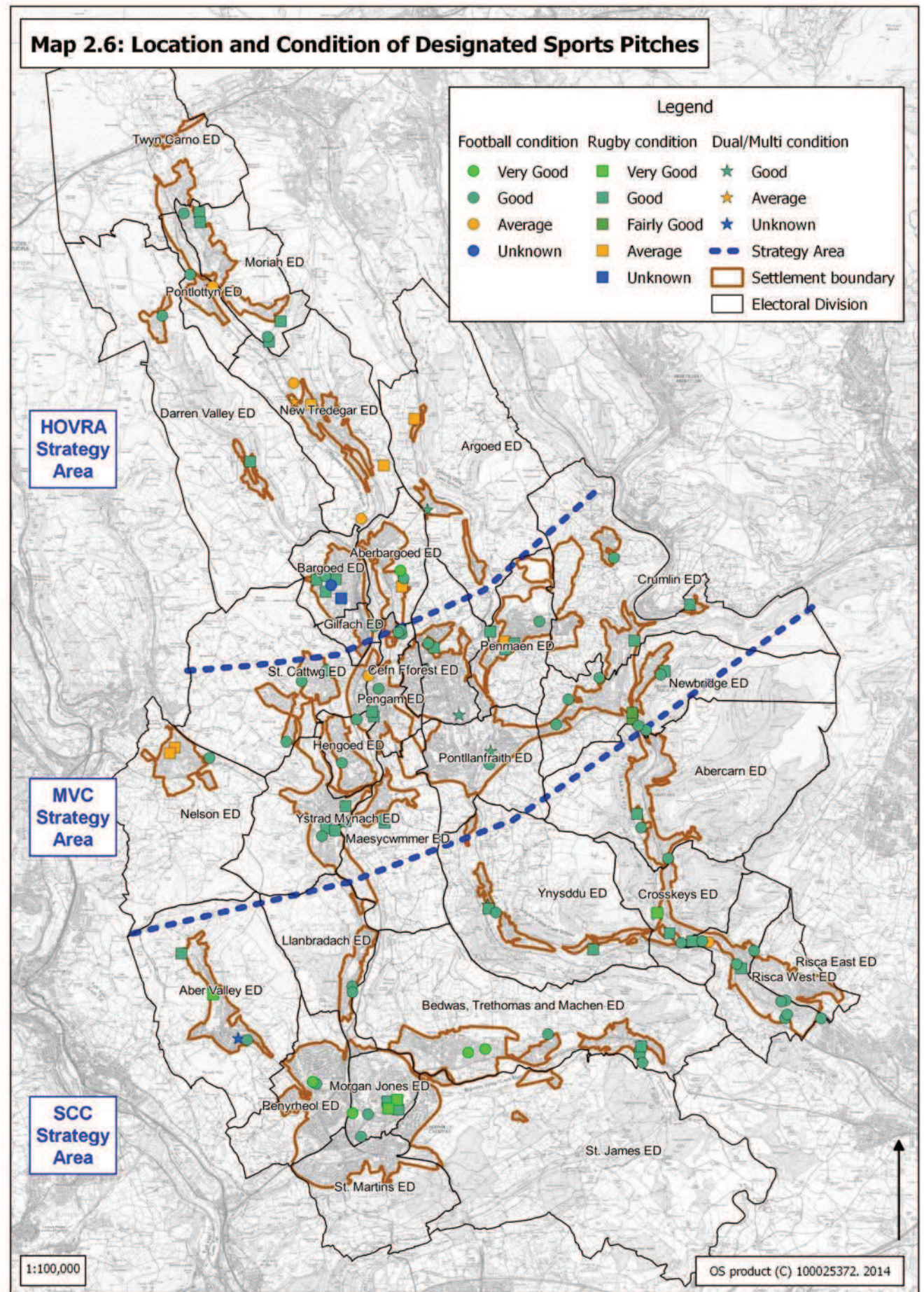
- The HOVRA is well provided for in terms of pitches;
- The majority of facilities are in an average condition;
- Twyn Carno is the only ward without any provision;
- There are no pitches in the village of Argoed due to the topography of the area, however there is a pitch located in Hollybush;
- There is a need to ensure that these facilities are well maintained and in good condition to further assist local provision.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- There is a good provision of designated pitches across the MVC;
- The majority of facilities are in a good condition, however there are no pitches in very good condition; and
- In Pontllanfraith and Blackwood, the majority of pitches are dual use and in good condition.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- There is a good provision of designated pitches across the SCC;
- The SCC has the greatest proportion of pitches in ‘very good’ condition;
- There are no designated playing pitches in St Martins ward;
- The majority of the pitches in the Caerphilly Basin are located at Virginia Park, Caerphilly Castle and Aneurin Bevan Park in Penyrheol;
- Along the eastern part of the SCC, in Risca, the majority of pitches are of good condition.



Facility Standard

Map 2.6 details the varying standard of pitch across the county borough (where standard 1 represents the highest standard and standard 3 the lowest). A standard 1 pitch is more likely to be rented out to formal clubs and groups.

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

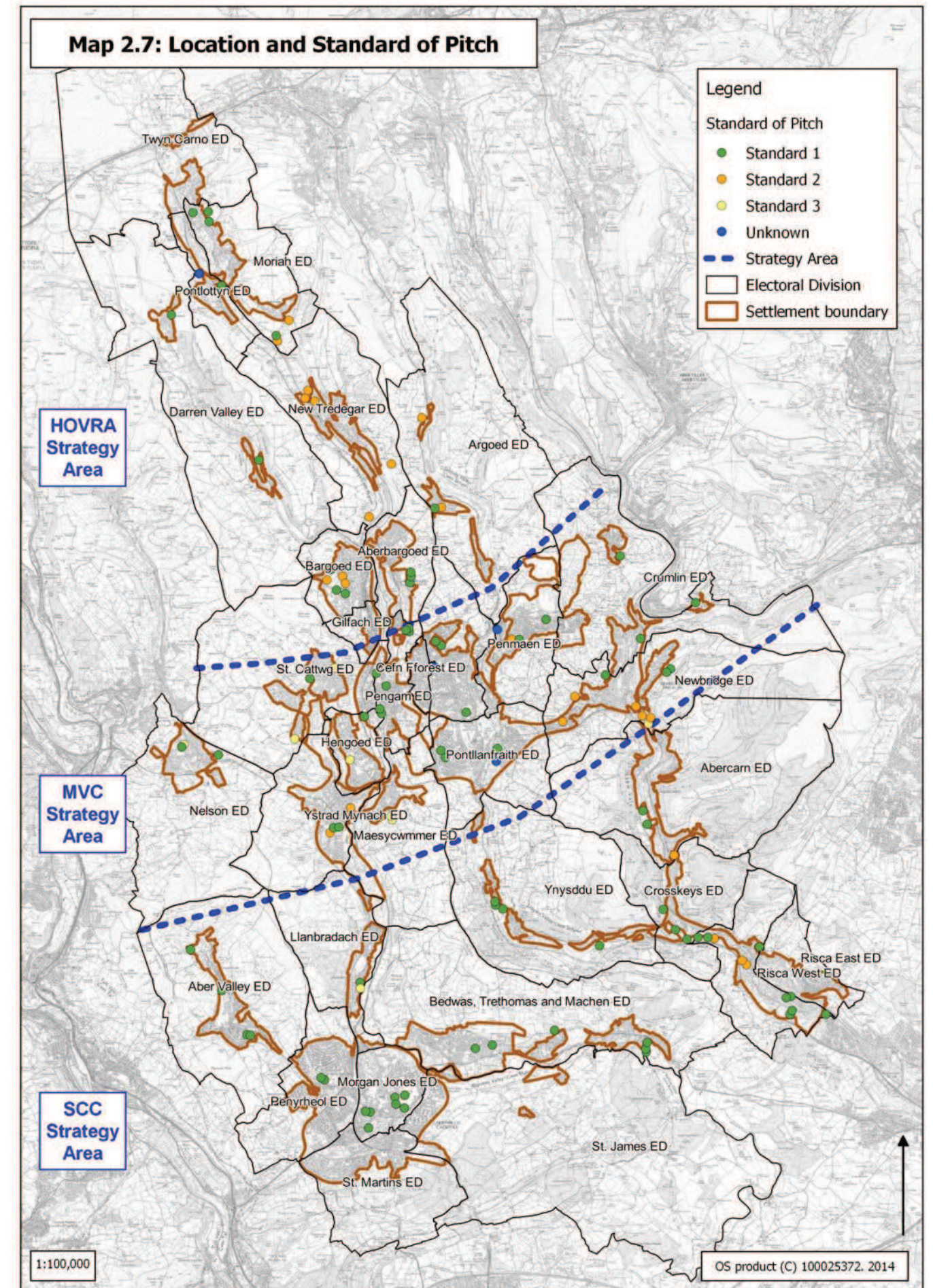
- The majority of pitches in the HOVRA are either a standard 1 or standard 2. Only one pitch (in Gilfach) is standard 3;
- All pitches in the New Tredegar ward are standard 2;
- There are no pitches in the village of Argoed.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- The majority of pitches in this area are standard 1;
- Around Newbridge, the majority are either standard 2 or 3;
- In the western part of the MVC, i.e. in Maesycwmmmer, Hengoed and Penybryn the pitches are all standard 3.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- The majority of pitches in this area are standard 1;
- In the Caerphilly basin, nearly all pitches are standard 1;
- In the western part of the SCC, pitches are predominantly standard 1;
- There are a number of standard 2 pitches near Crosskeys and Risca West.



Ancillary Facilities

The FIT guidelines provide guidance in respect of desirable ancillary facilities to enhance facility provision, specifically the availability of car parking, changing rooms and floodlighting. The majority of pitches that are managed by the local authority generally have these facilities associated with them. For example, most sites will have car-parking. Facilities that have car parking, changing facilities and floodlights are generally, better utilised and will appeal to more groups and clubs. Map 2.8 shows the location and type of pitch that have all three facilities.

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

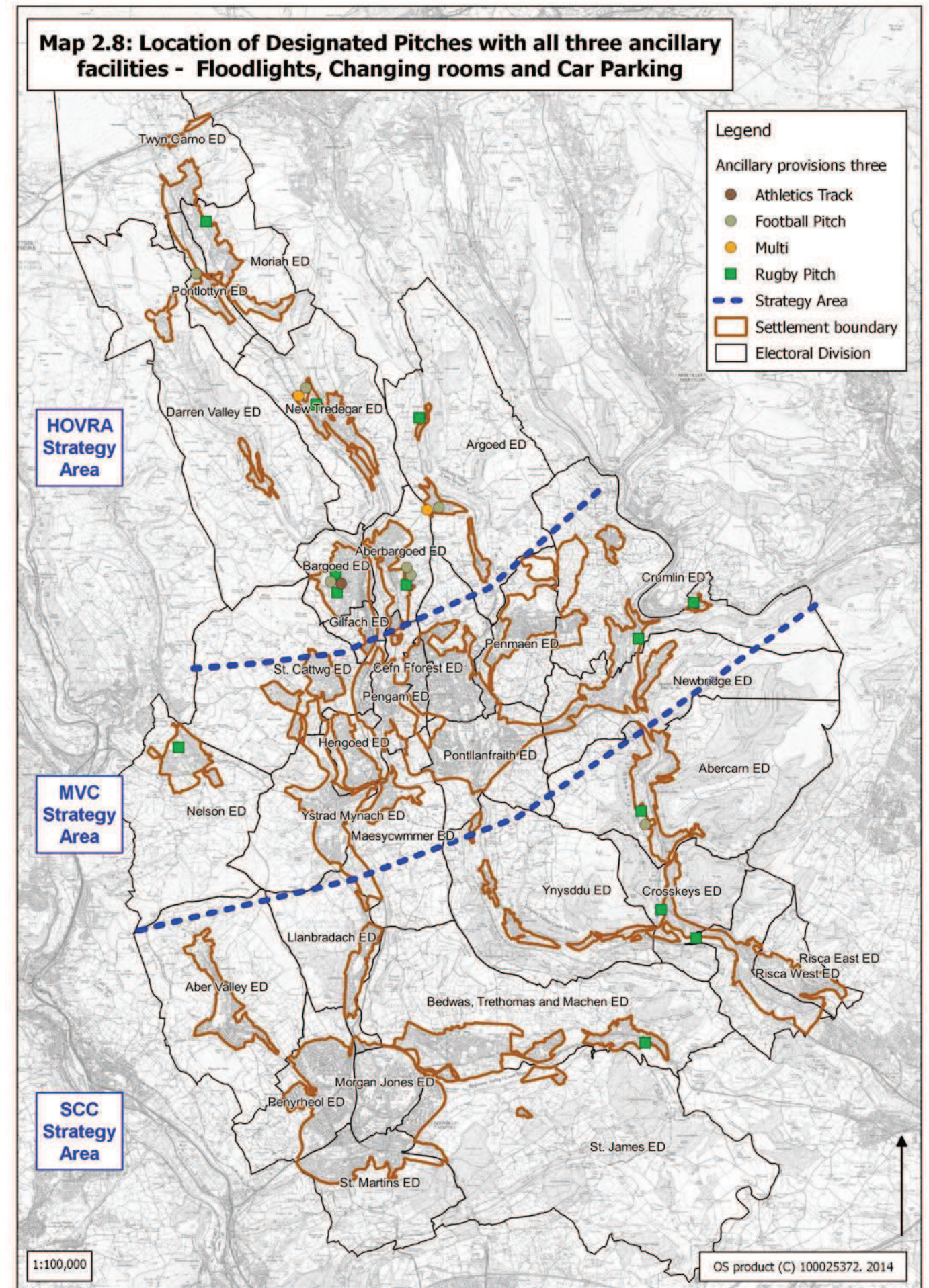
- The HOVRA has the highest proportion of pitches with all three ancillary facilities;
- The pitches located in Deri and Fochriw do not have all three key ancillary facilities.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- There are only three pitches in the MVC that have all three ancillary facilities. These are the rugby pitches located in Nelson, Newbridge and Hafodrynys;
- There are no pitches with ancillary facilities in Cefn Fforest, Pontllanfraith and Blackwood;
- There are no football pitches with all three ancillary facilities in the MVC.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- There are no pitches in the Caerphilly or Aber Valley area that provide all three ancillary facilities;
- The only pitches with all three ancillary facilities are located in Machen, Crosskeys, and Cwmcarn. Again, as in the MVC, these are all rugby pitches;
- There are no pitches with ancillary facilities in Ynysddu.

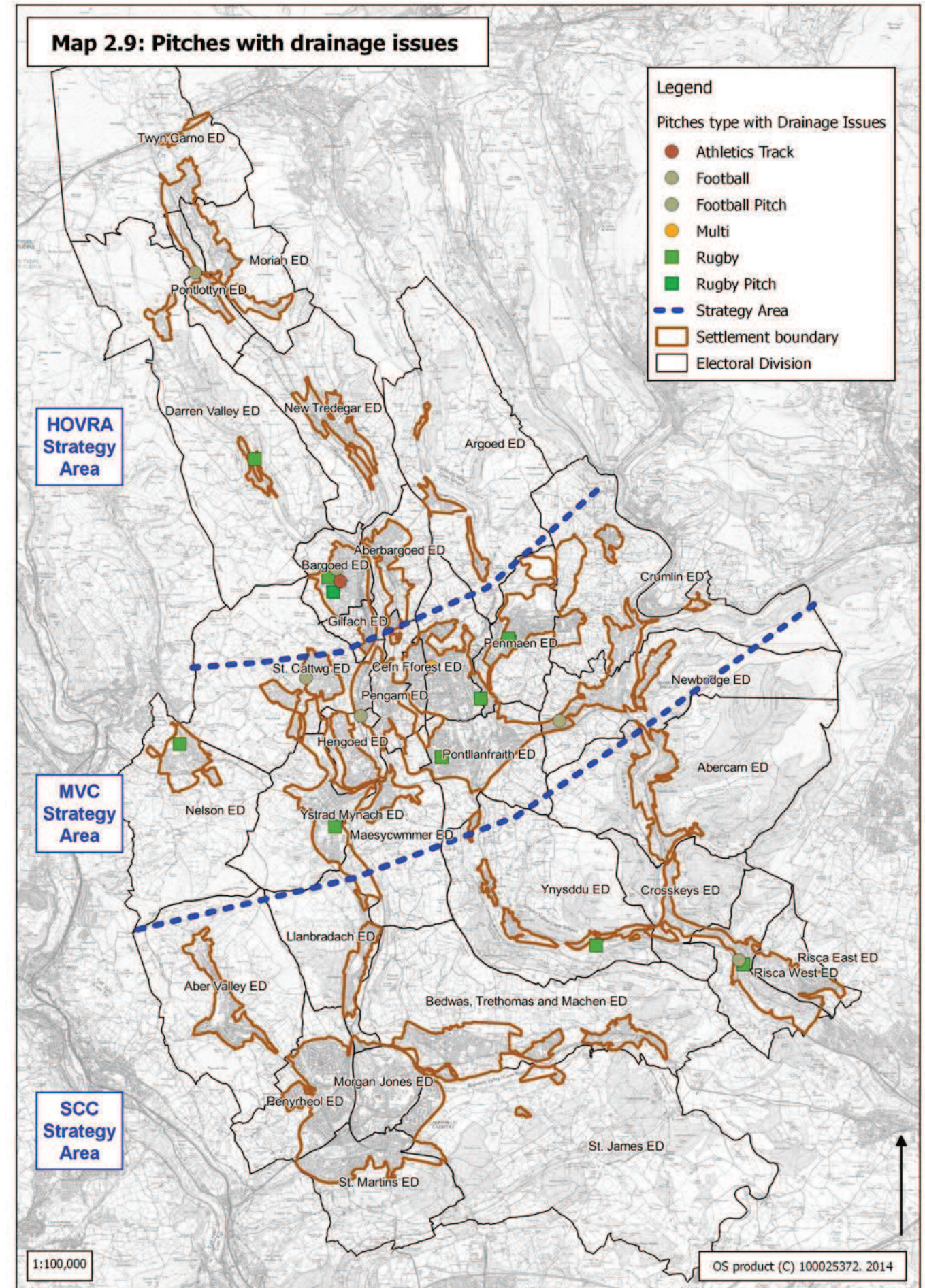


Drainage Issues

In total, there are 18 pitches across the county borough that suffer with drainage issues. Map 2.8 indicates the location of these. Those pitches that suffer with drainage issues are more likely to be effected by adverse weather conditions and are thus more likely to fall out of use during prolonged periods of inclement weather.

As illustrated by Map 2.9, the majority of pitches with drainage issues are rugby pitches, the majority of which are located in the MVC.

Within the SCC there are no useable pitches within the Caerphilly Basin that have drainage issues. There are three pitches located in the Twyn in Caerphilly however these pitches suffer from poor drainage and are completely un-useable. There are a number of pitches in Risca that experience drainage issues.

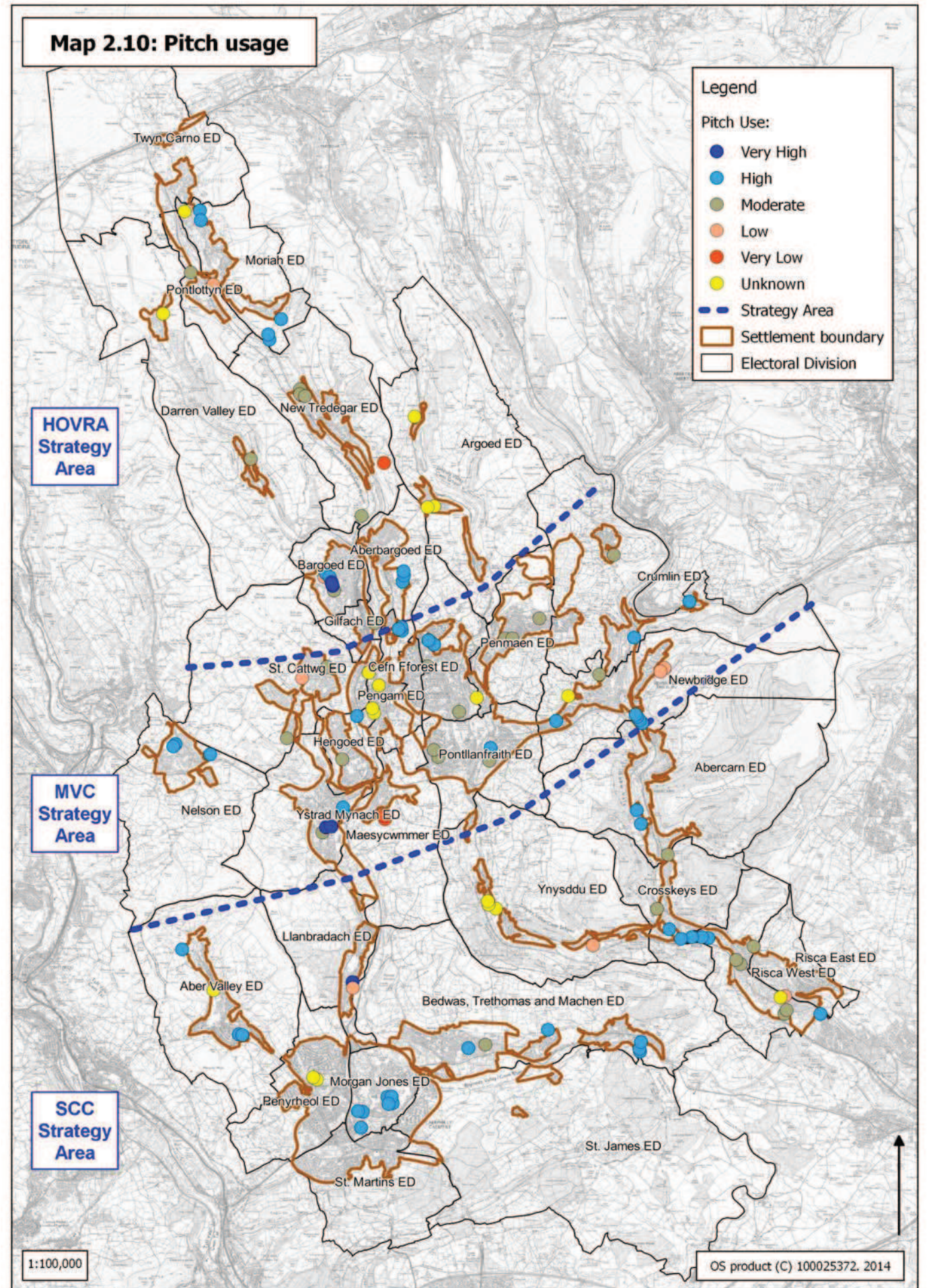


Usage

Assessing how well utilised pitches are can help assess demand in an area. Map 2.10 highlights how well utilised pitches across the county borough are. Overall, only 12 of the 121 pitches across the county borough are not used often (and are designated as having a low or very low usage). Of these 12, 7 pitches are located within the MVC, 2 are in the HOVRA and the remaining pitches are in the SCC.

The pitches that have a very high use are located in Bargoed Park, Ystrad Mynach and Llanbradach. All pitches in Caerphilly and Crosskeys are well used, however there are two pitches (one in Wattsville and one in Llanbradach) that are not well used.

Map 2.10 clearly indicates that those areas where there is a high population (Caerphilly and Risca) the pitches are well used. However, around Blackwood and Pontllanfraith catchment, the pitches have only a moderate usage.



Overall quality of Pitches

In order to assess the overall quality of sports pitches, a weighting and scoring matrix was used to score each playing pitch. The scoring for the quality of pitches is detailed below:

- Very Good quality = 100 – 120 points;
- Good quality = 80 – 100 points;
- Average quality = 60 – 80 points;
- Below average quality = 40 – 60 points.

Map 2.11 shows the spread of facilities that are of good quality against those that are below average.

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

- Only one pitch in the HOVRA has scored highly in the quality matrix;
- Three pitches in the HOVRA experience the lowest score;
- The pitches in Rhymney (Eisteddfod Fields and Rhymney Memorial park) are all good quality pitches;
- The pitches in Aberbargoed are also of good.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- The majority of pitches in the MVC are of an average quality;
- Pitches in St Cattwg ward score poorly;
- Designated pitches to the east of the MVC are on average, of better quality.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- The SCC has a greater proportion of pitches that score highly in the quality rankings;
- The majority of those pitches are located in the Lower Islwyn Valley, around Crosskeys and Cwmcarn;

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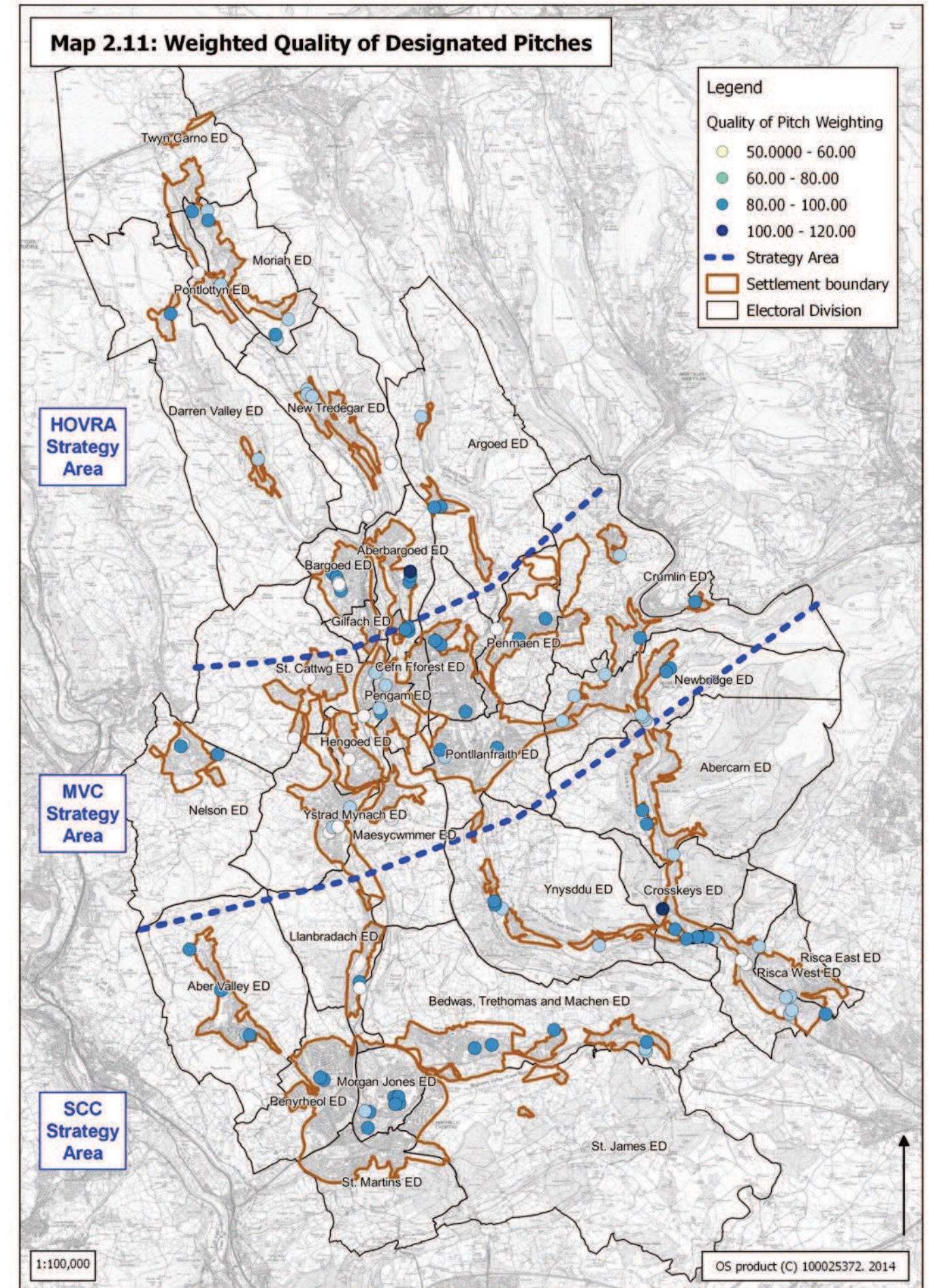
Summary of measure (c) – Quality

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have poor or low quality pitches:

- St Cattwg;
- Gilfach; and
- Hengoed; and

The wards with good quality pitches are:

- Crosskeys;
- Crumlin; and
- Aberbargoed.



Overall weighting of Section 2: Designated Sports Pitches

In order to help assess each sports pitch, the weighting and scoring method of analysis (refer to Appendix 4) highlights the various indicators discussed in the section above, and their total scoring.

Map 2.12 highlights the overall scoring attributed to each designated sports pitch. This means that if a pitch is in poor condition, has no ancillary facilities, has drainage issues and is underused, the pitch will score poorly. Overall, only 5 pitches across the county borough score poorly. Four of these are located in the MVC, and one in the HOVRA.

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

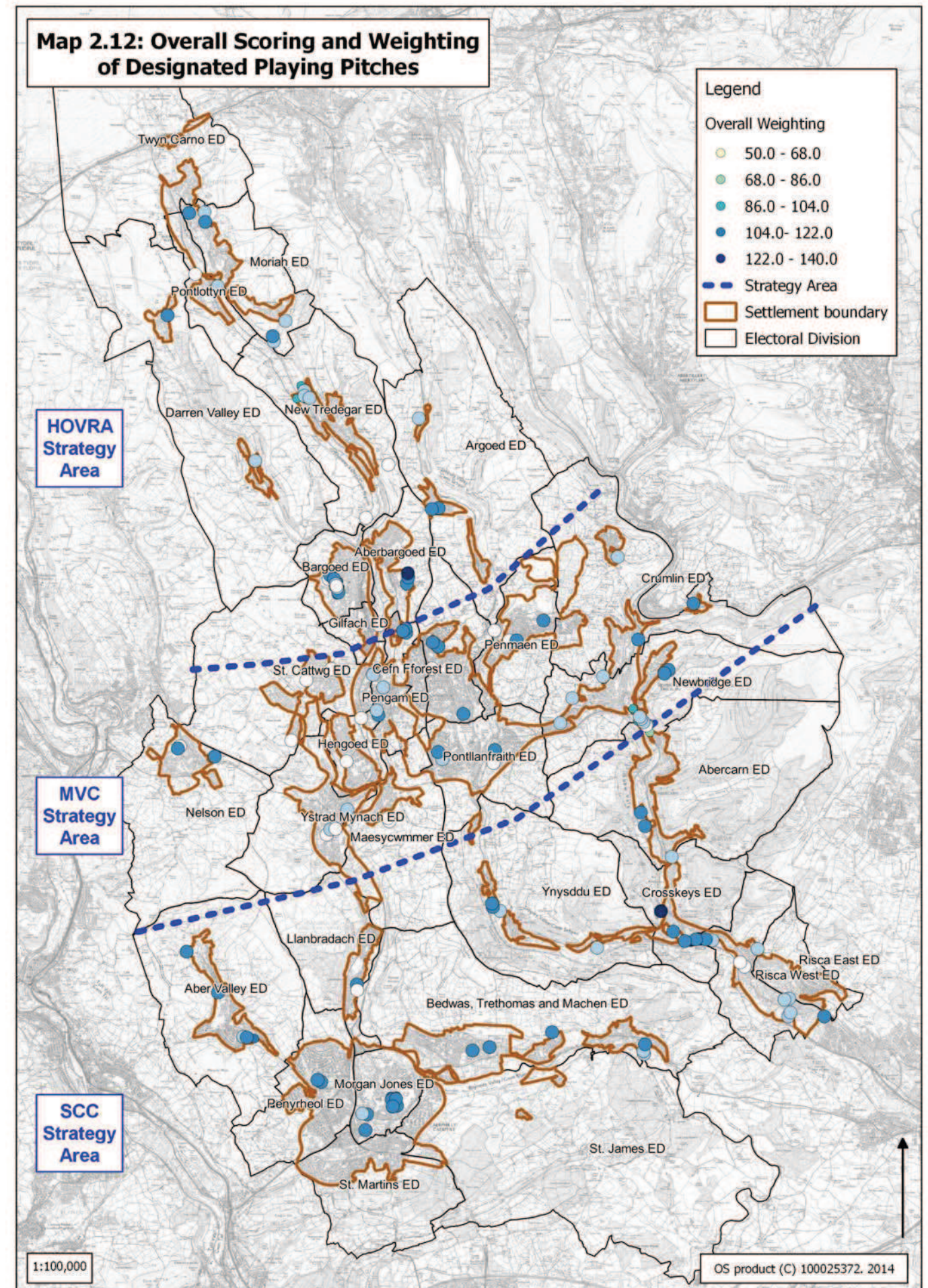
- There are two pitches that have scored highly in the HOVRA. One in Rhymney and one in Aberbargoed. This means that the pitches are in good condition, have good ancillary facilities, do not have drainage issues and are relatively well used;
- There is only one pitch that fares low in the weighting and scoring system matrix. This pitch is in New Tredegar.
- There is a high concentration of pitches, of good overall quality around Bargoed Park.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- There are a high proportion of pitches in the centre of the MVC that score relatively poorly in the scoring and system matrix;
- Overall, pitches to the east of the MVC are in a better overall condition than those in the west of the MVC.
- As there is the highest proportion of low scoring designated pitches in the MVC, it is imperative that improvements are made to existing facilities when resources are available.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

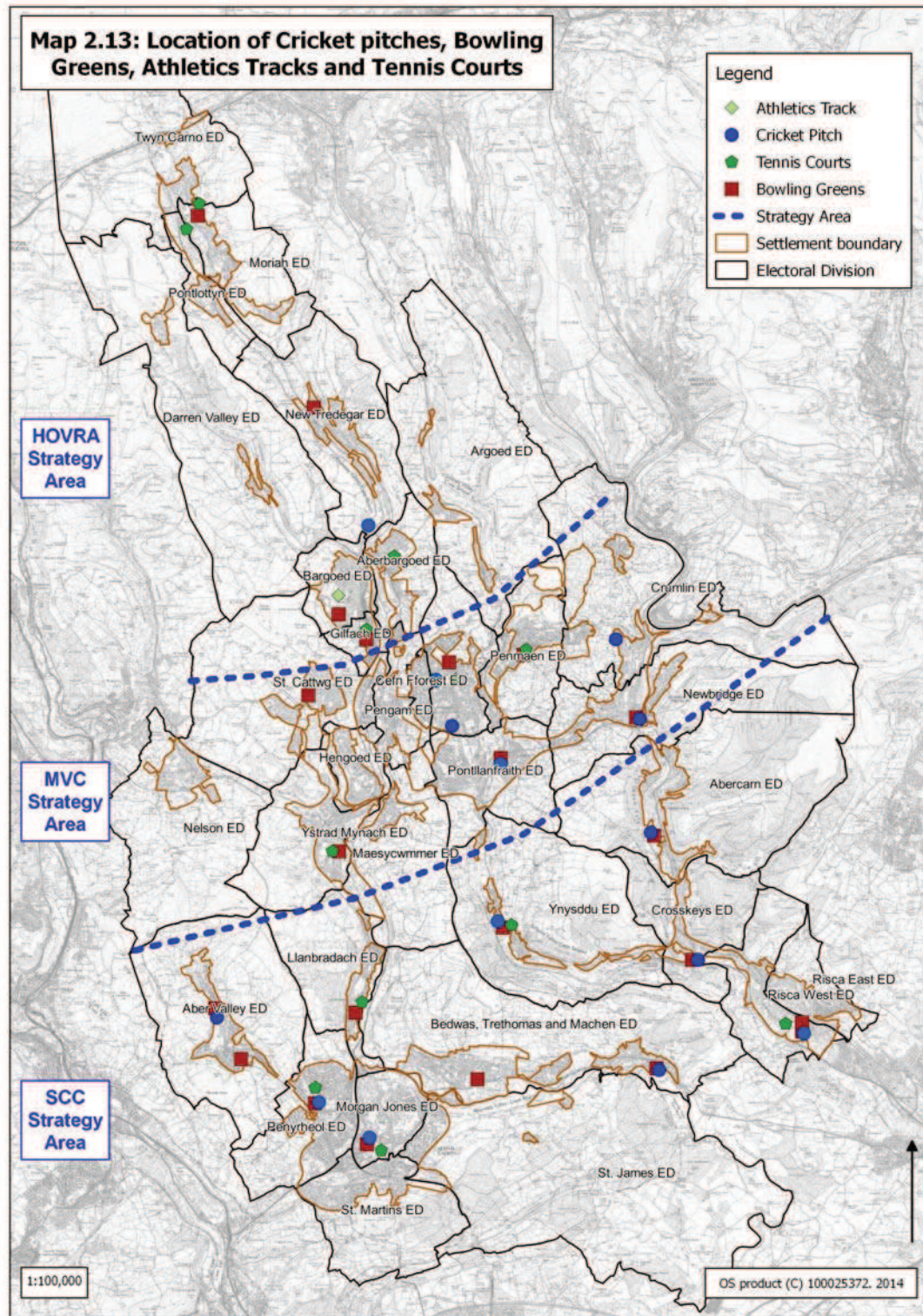
- There are no pitches in St James' or St Martin's wards, therefore pitches in adjacent wards service the demands of these areas also and are therefore well utilised;
- Pitches in Morgan Jones ward score well, however those in Penyrheol ward fair slightly worse.
- Pitches around Crosskeys score relatively well in the scoring and weighting matrix, however pitches in Risca and Ynysddu are in need of improvements.



Other Outdoor sports pitches

As noted previously, FIT standards for 'other outdoor sports pitches' are different than that for 'Designated Playing Pitches'. Pitches that fall into this classification are: tennis courts, bowling greens, cricket pitches and athletics tracks.

Map 2.13 shows that there is a good geographical spread of pitch provision across the county borough. Nearly all communities have access to either a cricket pitch, bowling green or tennis court, however there is only one Athletics Track which is located in Bargoed Park. There are a number of wards that do not have any provision of 'other outdoor sports pitches'. These are the Darren Valley, Twyn Carno, Argoed, Nelson, Hengoed and St James.



(a) Quantity

Using the FIT standards of 1.6Ha per 1000 population for other outdoor sports pitches, it has been possible to analyse the provision across the county borough, in line with the projected population figures for 2013 and 2018. Maps 2.14 and 2.15 show the provision of all other outdoor sports pitches that are maintained or owned by CCBC.

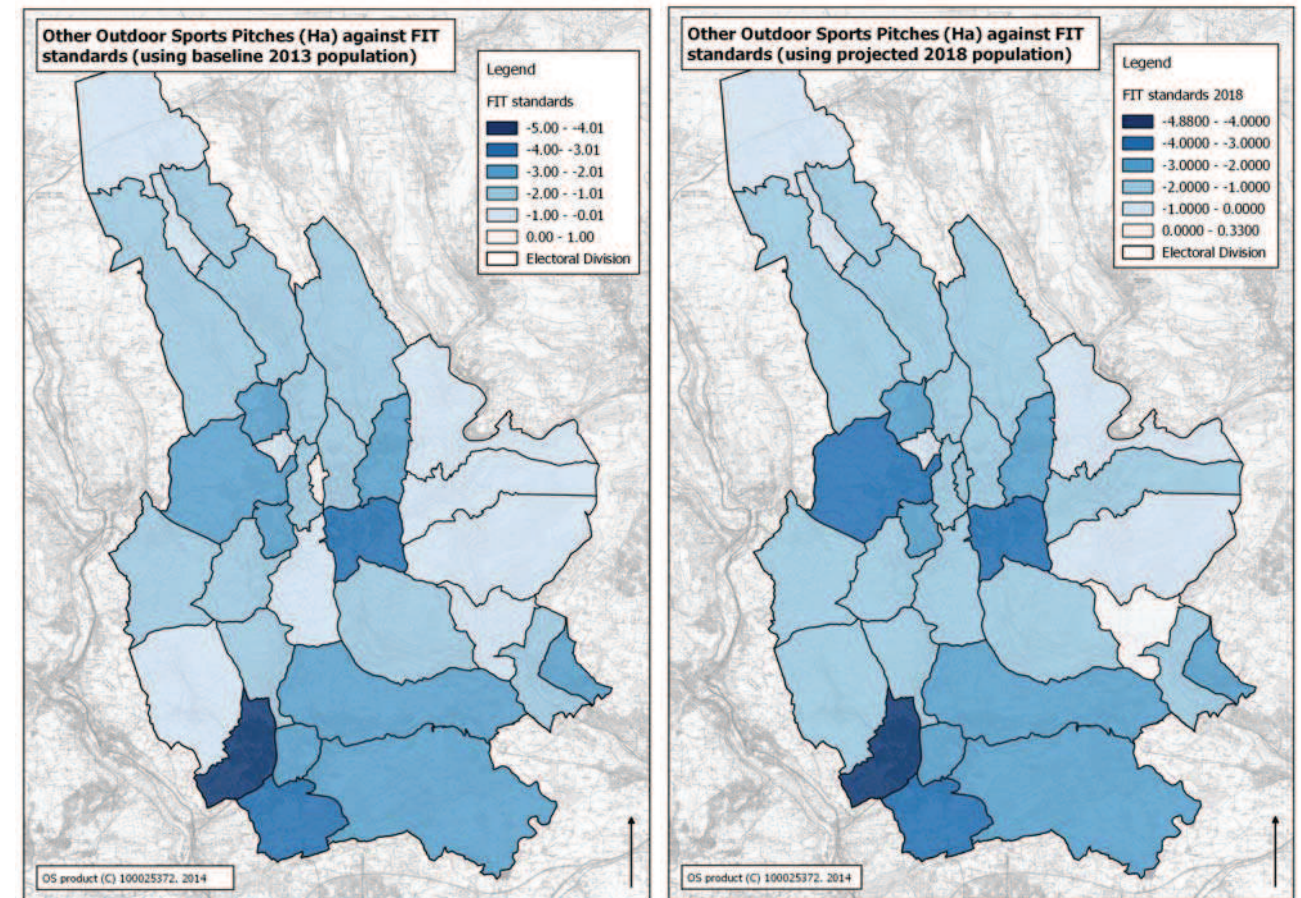
The results of this exercise indicate that wards in the SCC have a greater need for additional sports pitches, whereas those in the MVC and HOVRA have better provision.

Penyrheol, St Martins, Pontllanfraith and St Martins have the lowest pitch provision per 1000 population when assessed against the FIT benchmark. When assessed against the projected population for 2018, this situation worsens.

There are two wards that have good pitch provision when assessed against the FIT standard. These wards are Cefn Fforest and Crosskeys. The facilities in these wards help alleviate deficiencies in neighbouring wards.

It is important to note that this ward assessment considers total provision against the total population. It does not take into account the natural catchment areas for facilities (i.e. the population will use their nearest facility regardless of ward boundaries). In addition, different types of facilities will have a different appeal to different groups of people.

Map 2.14 and 2.15 Provision by ward of designated sports pitches using 2013 and 2018 population projections.



Summary of measure (a) - Quantity

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have a poor provision of other outdoor sports pitches (according to FIT standards):

- Penyrheol;
- St Martins; and
- Pontllanfraith.

Conversely, the following wards have a good provision.

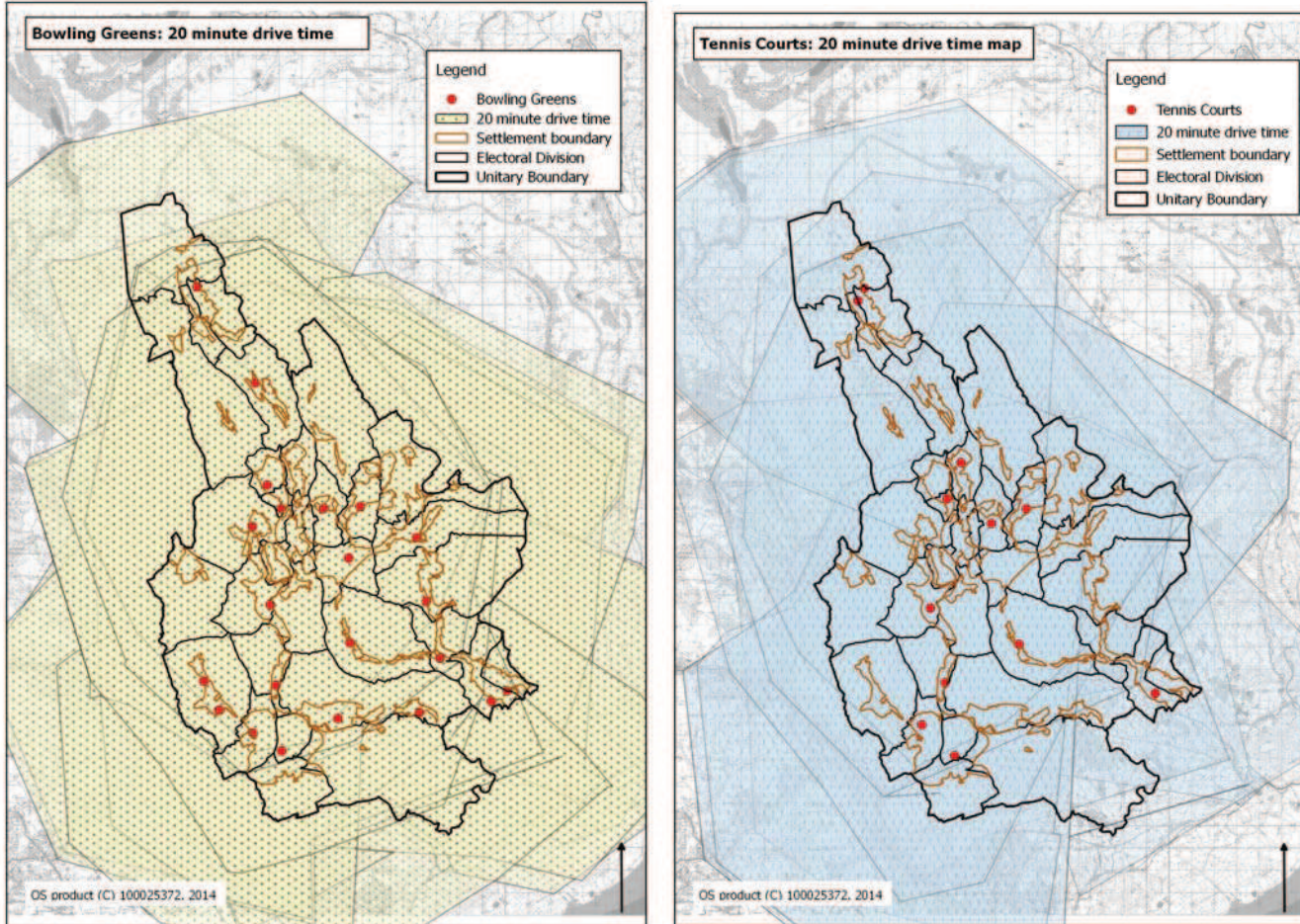
- Newbridge;
- Argoed; and
- Ynysddu.

(b) Accessibility

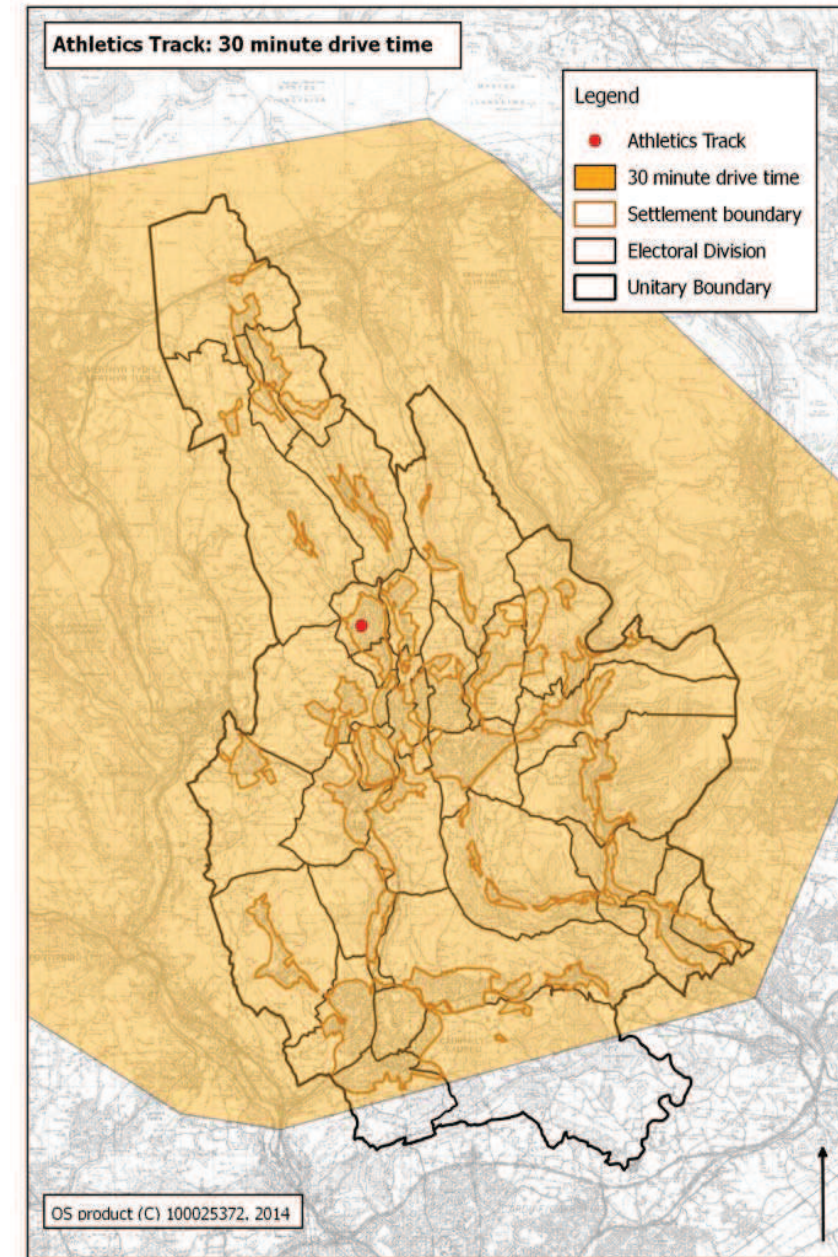
In order to assess the accessibility of facilities for residents the FIT standards prescribed in Appendix 1 have been used. This requires all other outdoor pitches to be within 20 minutes drive time for Tennis and Bowling Greens, and 30 minutes drive time for Athletic Tracks.

Maps 2.16 and 2.17 illustrates that all bowling greens and tennis courts are within 20 minutes drive time. However, for the athletics track, the 30 minute drive time from Bargoed Park means that some parts of the Caerphilly Basin are not within the 30 minute drive time requirement (Map 2.17).

Map 2.16 and 2.17: 20 minute drive time maps from Bowling greens and Tennis Courts



Map 2.18: 30 minutes drive time from Athletics Track



Summary of measure (b) - Accessibility

As indicated, all wards have access to a bowling green and tennis court.

The only wards that are not wholly within the 30 minute drive time map for athletics tracks are St James and St Martins. However, these parts are more remote and fall outside of settlement limits.

c) Quality of other outdoor sports pitches

The quality of other outdoor pitches is dependent on a number of variables. Specifically: facility standard, usage, changing facility and drainage issues. It is therefore possible to assess the quality of the tennis, bowling and cricket pitches and the athletics track facility through an assessment of these individual variables.

Facility Standard (Condition)

Map 2.19 highlights the standard of other sports pitches across the county borough. Standards between three types of pitches vary considerably, however for the purpose of this exercise it is possible to try and draw a like-by-like comparison. There are no facility standards established for cricket pitches and as such, this assessment does not include cricket pitches.

Tennis Courts

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

- The majority of tennis courts in the HOVRA are either in a good or fair quality;
- The tennis courts in Rhymney (The Terrace) are of a good standard. In the Memorial Park, the tennis courts have been vandalised.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- There are only two sets of tennis courts within the MVC – one in Ystrad Mynach and one in Blackwood. The standard of these courts are fair and good, respectively.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- Three of the four tennis courts located in the SCC are in good condition. The tennis court in Llanbradach is in poor condition.

Bowling Greens

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

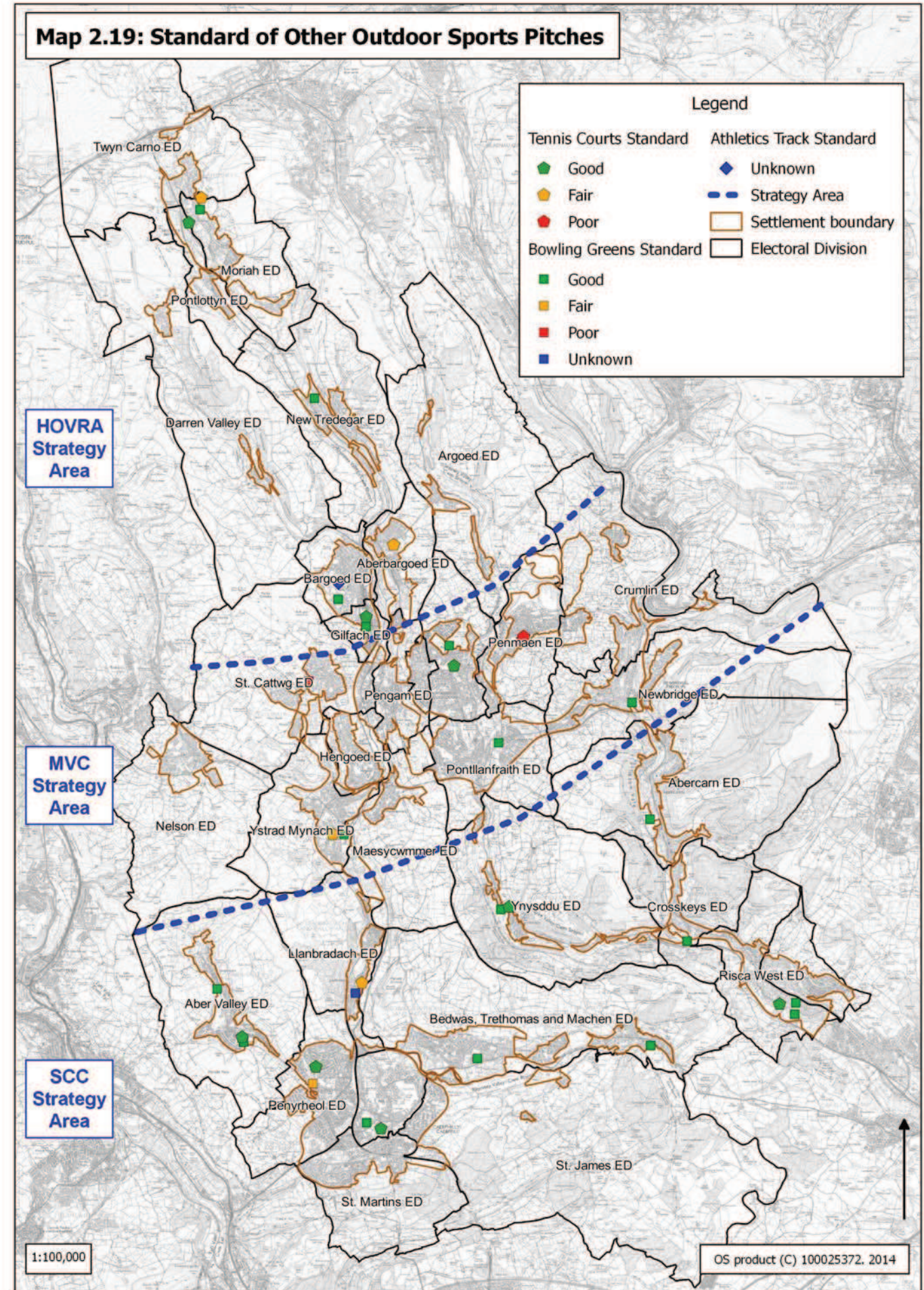
- There are three bowling greens located in the HOVRA. They are all of good condition.
- There are no bowling greens located in Deri, Markham, Fochriw, Abertysswg or the ward of Argoed.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- There are two bowling greens in the MVC that are of a poor standard. These are in Penmaen and in Penpedairheol.
- The remaining facilities (in Ystrad Mynach, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood and Newbridge) are in good condition.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- The majority of bowling greens in the SCC are in good condition. Only two greens are not in good condition- in Penyrheol and in Llanbradach, where the conditions are fair and unknown, respectively.



Usage

Assessing how well utilised tennis courts and bowling greens are can help assess demand in an area. Map 2.20 highlights how well utilised both facilities are across the county borough.

Overall, only 5 of the 33 greens and courts across the county borough are not used often (and are designated as having a low usage). Of these 5, 3 pitches are located within the HOVRA, and 2 are in the MVC.

The sports pitches that have a very high use are predominantly in the MVC and SCC.

Tennis Courts

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

- There are three areas where tennis courts are available in the HOVRA. The courts in Rhymney have low usage. Usage for the other two sites is unknown.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- Tennis provisions in the MVC are relatively well utilised. The courts in Ystrad Mynach and Blackwood Showfields bowls and tennis club are well utilised.
- The two tennis courts located in Penmaen ward (Oakdale Miners) are underused.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- Four of the six locations for Tennis are well utilised. These are in Virginia Park, Energlyn, Pontymister and Ynysddu.
- The tennis courts in Abertridwr have recently been upgraded and the usage on these courts is expected to increase.

Bowling Greens

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

- The bowling greens in Rhymney, Bargoed and Gilfach are well used;
- The Bowling Green in New Tredegar is not well used.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

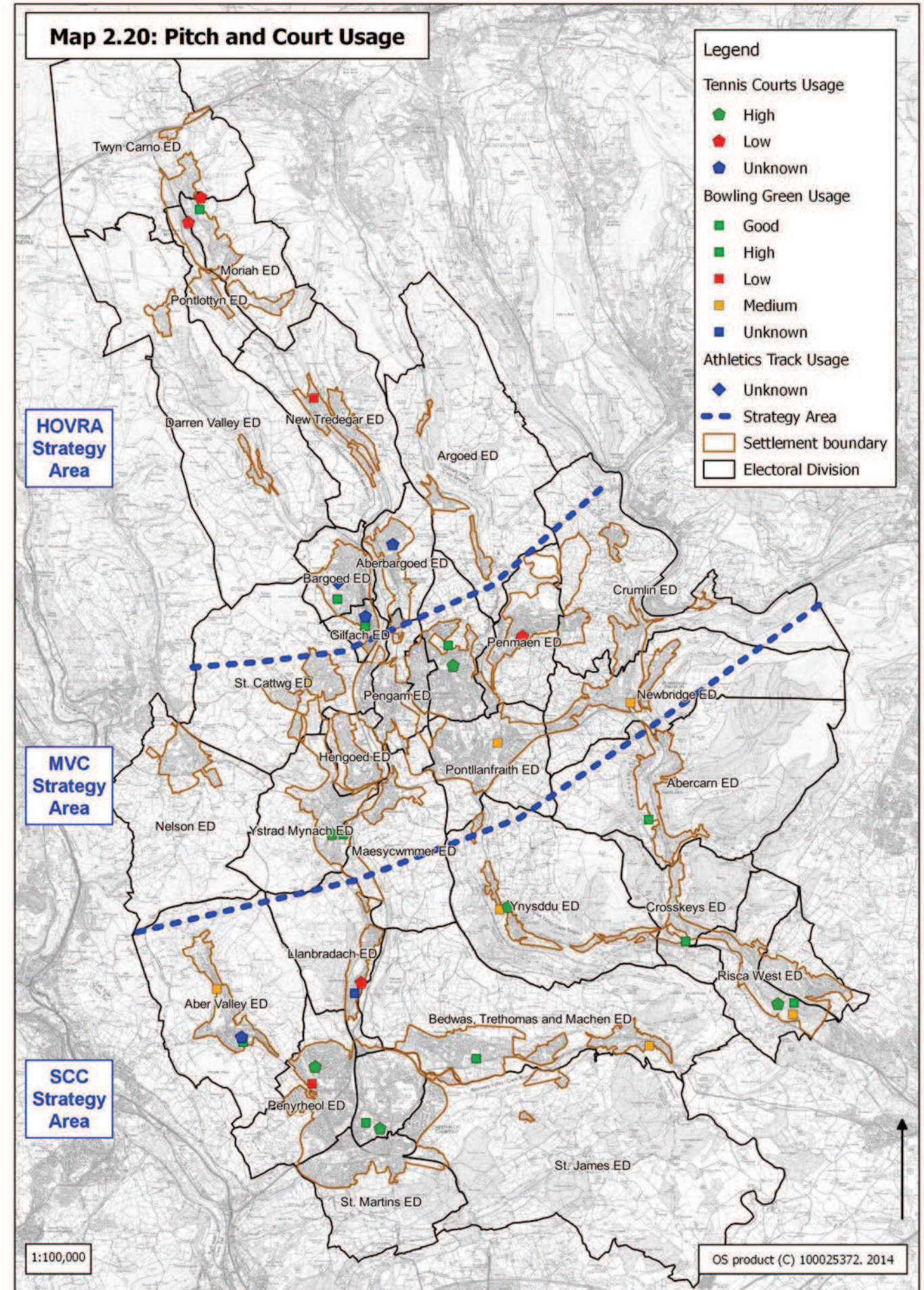
- There are two well used bowling greens in the MVC (Blackwood and Ystrad Mynach), and three used on an average to fair basis.
- The only bowling green in Penmaen ward (Oakdale Miners) is underutilised.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- The Bowling Greens in Senghenydd and Machen are used on an average to fair basis.
- The remainder of the bowling greens in the Caerphilly basin are well used.
- In Ynysddu and Risca, two out of five bowling greens are classed as having a medium use, and the remainder are well used.

Changing Facilities

The provision of changing facilities will allow for a greater use of the facilities by clubs and external teams. For this category, all changing facilities are provided in adjacent pavilions. Only two courts (in Rhymney and Aberbargoed) have no changing facilities.



Drainage Issues

Map 2.21 shows those courts and greens that have drainage issues. Overall, there are only seven outdoor sports facilities that have drainage issues.

Tennis Courts

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

- All tennis courts within the HOVRA have no drainage issues.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- All tennis courts within the MVC have no drainage issues.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- With the exception of the tennis courts at Pontymister, and the upgraded facility at Abertridwr, all other tennis courts in the SCC have no drainage issue.

Bowling Greens

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

- One bowling green in the HOVRA has drainage issues (in Rhydney);

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- Newbridge Bowling Green in the east of the MVC has drainage issues.

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- Three of the bowling greens in the SCC have drainage issues. These greens are Senghenydd, Penyrheol and Waunfawr Park (Crosskeys).
- However seven of the greens in the SCC (Abertridwr, Virginia Park, Bedwas, Machen, Pontymister, Ynysddu and Abercam) have no drainage issues at all.

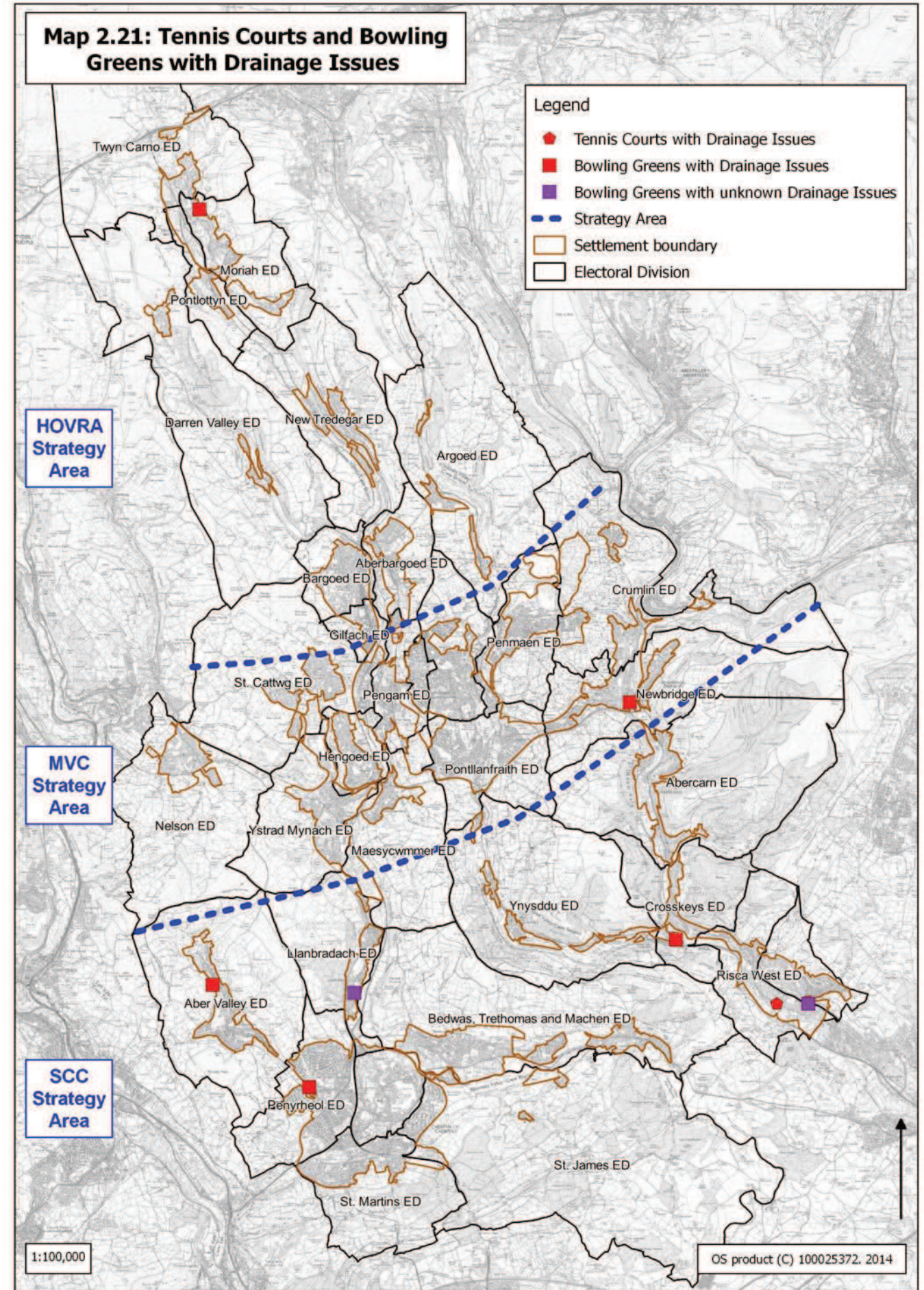
Summary of measure (c) - Quality

Based on this measure alone, the outdoor sports facilities in the following wards are of good quality:

- Blackwood;
- Ystrad Mynach; and
- Morgan Jones.

Conversely, the wards that perform poorly in terms of quality are:

- Penyrheol;
- Llanbradach and
- St Cattwg.



Overall weighting for Other Outdoor Sports Pitches.

Using the information contained in Appendix 5 assessing the quantity, accessibility and quality of facilities, an overall scoring and weighting system has been used to help assess the provision of other outdoor sports provision

Map 2.22 highlights the overall scoring attributed to each outdoor sports pitch. A pitch that is of a high standard, with no drainage issues, changing rooms and is well used would score a maximum of 80 points. A pitch that is poorly used, in a poor condition, has drainage issues and no changing facilities will score zero.

Observations by strategy area: HOVRA

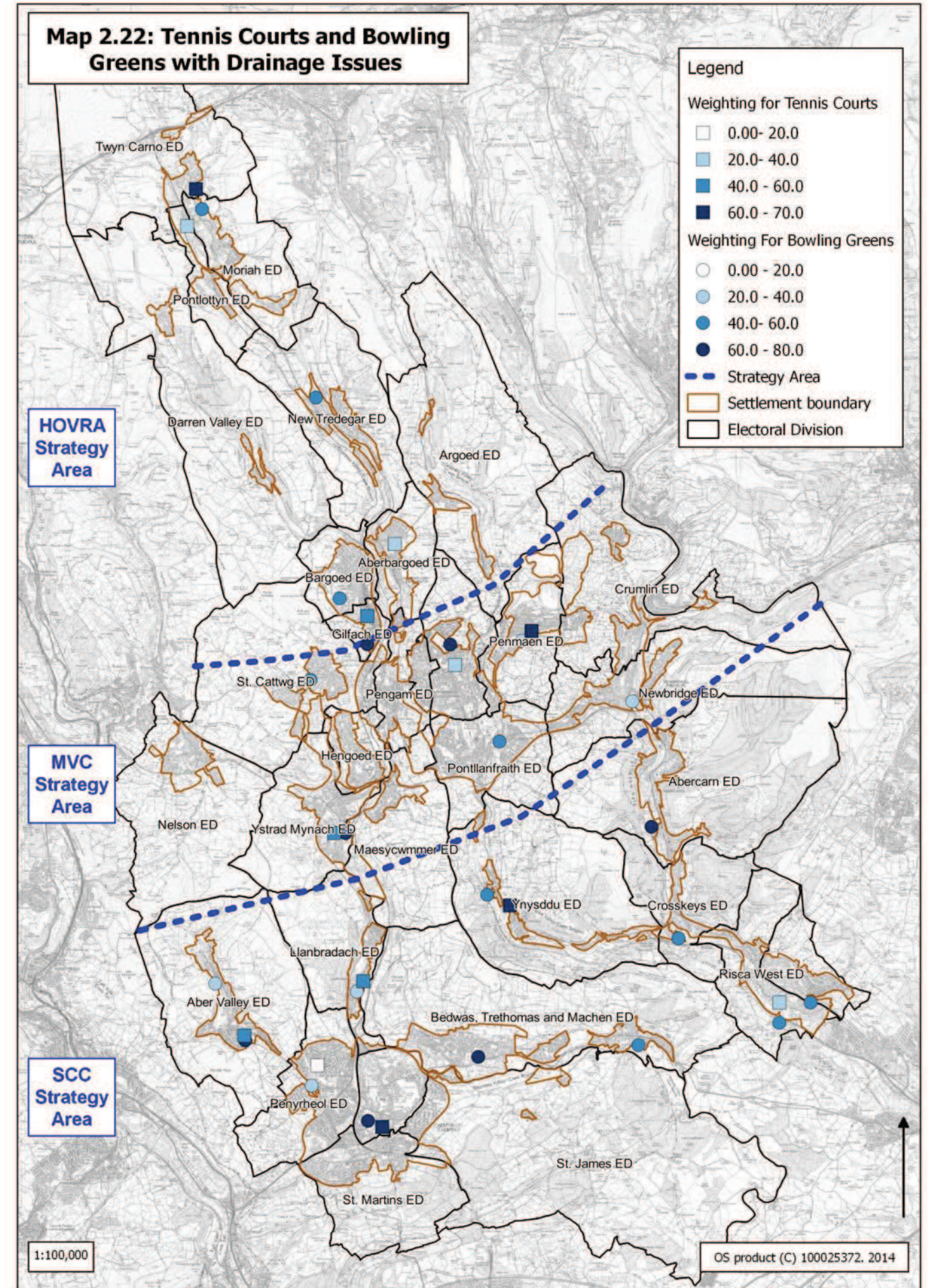
- Given the dispersed settlement patterns in the HOVRA, there is a good provision of sports pitches across the county borough;
- However, the facilities are not that well used;
- The facilities in Rhymney score highly, however some facilities (such as the tennis courts) have restricted access due to vandalism.

Observations by strategy area: MVC

- There is a good provision of sports pitches in the MVC;
- The MVC has good access to quality bowling and tennis courts;
- The facilities in the MVC tend to be well used, however there are few pitches with all three ancillary facilities (car parking, floodlights and changing rooms).

Observations by strategy area: SCC

- Sports pitches in the SCC are generally ranked highly, In addition, there is good provision of bowling and tennis courts across the SCC. However, the provisions are of a better quality to the east (Risca and Crosskeys) compared to Caerphilly Basin;
- The facilities within the Caerphilly basin are of mixed condition- with facilities in Penyrheol coming out worse than those in Morgan Jones.



Recommendations:

This review has considered the provision, quality, accessibility, quality and usage of sports pitches across Caerphilly County Borough. Following on from the information collated in the report, and data contained in the appendices, the following recommendations are advised.

R1: There is a need to improve the quality of the facilities in the MVC and SCC, and to increase provision in the SCC.

The MVC and SCC areas are densely populated, therefore the demands placed on the pitches in these areas is high. This study highlights a need to increase the provisions in the SCC, and to increase the quality of provision in the MVC. The role of Artificial Turf Pitches (particularly 3G pitches) must also be considered in future developments as they have a significant and positive effect on demand/usage and quality of provision.

R2: There is a need to ensure that all facilities are accessible to all, especially in more remote areas.

Facilities in the HOVRA suffer badly from vandalism. As a result, a number of pitches and courts are locked up in order to ensure damage is limited. However, this can impact upon the ability of residents to participate in sporting activity. It is important that access to facilities is available during the daytime.

R3: All drainage issues need to be rectified.

Drainage issues affect pitch play. By ensuring that pitches are properly irrigated through investments, sporting activity will increase. This will also alleviate the pressure placed on very well used pitches that do not suffer from drainage issues.

R4: Community pitches

There are a number of pitches that are not accessible to the general public. Some of these pitches are located in schools; others are leased out to independent clubs. Given the demand for sporting activity in the borough, coupled with the lack of suitable land for pitches, there needs to be a concerted effort to make these facilities available to the wider community. For example, making school pitches available for use during the evenings and weekends would open up a number of valuable facilities for clubs to play on. This is also crucial when new schools are developed with ATP/3G pitch provision as such pitches have a significant and positive effect on community participation in sport.

SECTION 4: ALLOTMENTS



Section 4: Allotments

Allotment gardening is a popular leisure pastime, and their importance is recognised by Caerphilly County Borough Council.

The Council manages some 80 allotments. Up until 2008, there was very little demand for allotment gardens within the County Borough. However, due to a change in social trends, it has become evident that there is an increasing demand for allotments as residents recognise the health benefits associated with growing their own food.

There are no legislative guidelines for the provision of allotments (as it is only their loss that is restricted). However there is a need to ensure that the demand and supply of allotments is readily understood so that adequate provision can be made for the future. Therefore this assessment will consider:

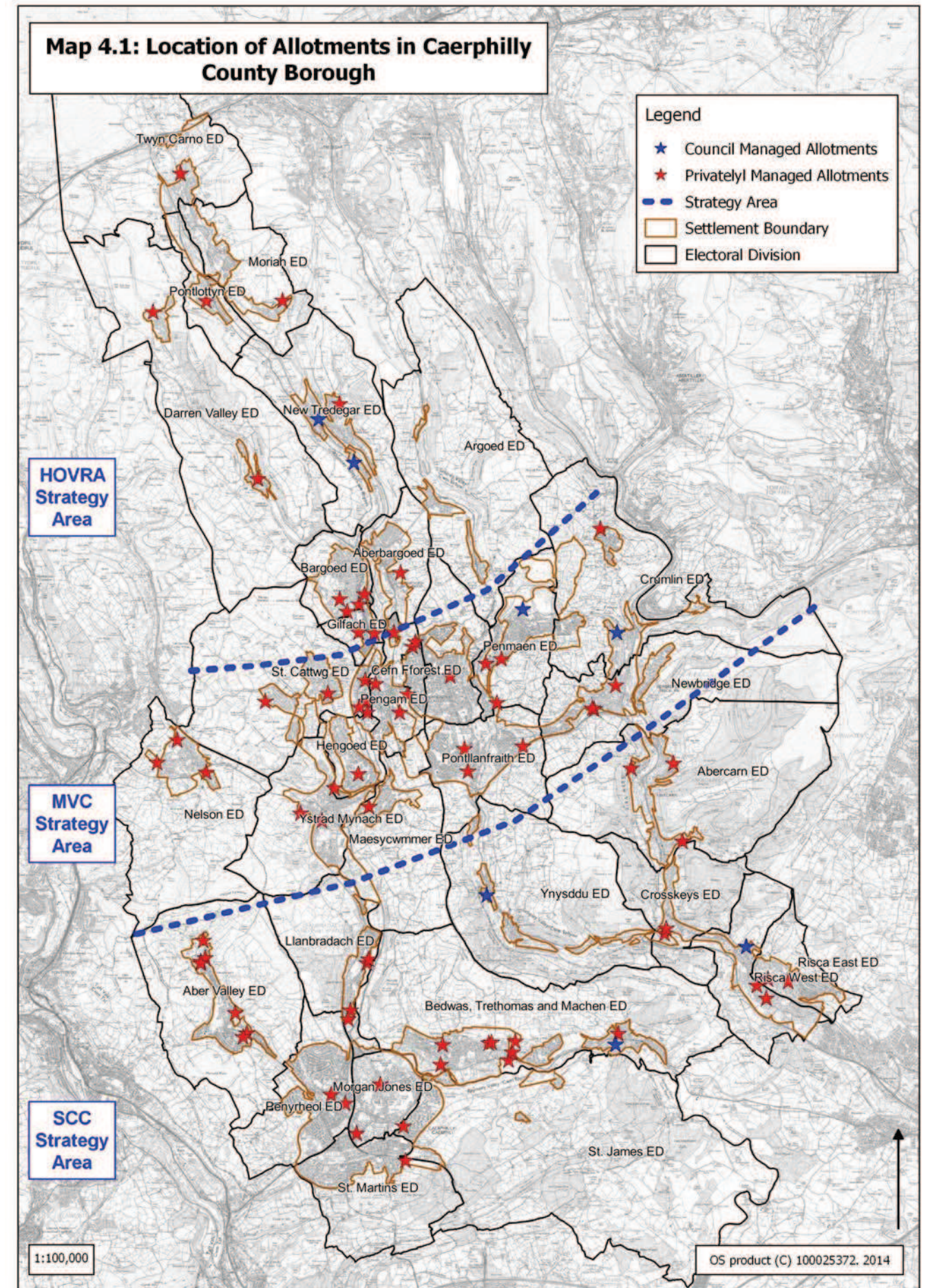
- The geographical distribution of allotments;
- The general condition of the allotments;
- The number of un-useable plots; and
- The number of people on the waiting list.

By assessing all these factors on Council managed allotments, the future requirements for allotments within the county borough can be assessed accordingly. A weighting and scoring system will help establish how well each allotment garden performs.

As in previous sections of this document, each strategy area will be assessed individually.

Location of Allotments

Map 4.1 details the location of CCBC managed and Private allotments across the county borough. As is evidenced, there is a relatively good distribution of allotments (both private and council run) across the county borough. Only the ward of Argoed has no allotment provision. Given the high population density in the Caerphilly Basin, it is notable that there are relatively few allotments serving this area, particularly St Martin and Penyrheol.



(a) Condition

The condition of Council managed allotments has been surveyed during the annual inspection. Map 4.2. illustrates that the condition of facilities varies greatly across the county borough.

Observations in the HOVRA

- The majority of allotments within the HOVRA are of average to good condition;
- There are no allotments within the Argoed ward i.e. the villages of Markham, Hollybush or Argoed;
- The only allotments in Fochriw and Rhymney are in average condition; and
- Bargoed has a variety of allotments, ranging from excellent to average condition.

Observations in the MVC

- There are a high proportion of allotments in very good/excellent condition;
- There is only one allotment that is in a poor condition (Penyllwn) and a further two that are in average condition (Ystrad Mynach and Penmaen)
- There is a cluster of allotments around Cefn Fforest/Pengam, all of which are of good/very good condition.

Observations in the SCC

- There are a large proportion of allotments in the SCC that are of good/excellent condition;
- There are three allotments in the Aber Valley where the condition is unknown;
- There are three allotments in Caerphilly Basin (Lansbury Park, Coed Y Brain and Bedwas) that are of average condition;
- All allotments within the Lower Islwyn area are of either excellent or very good condition.

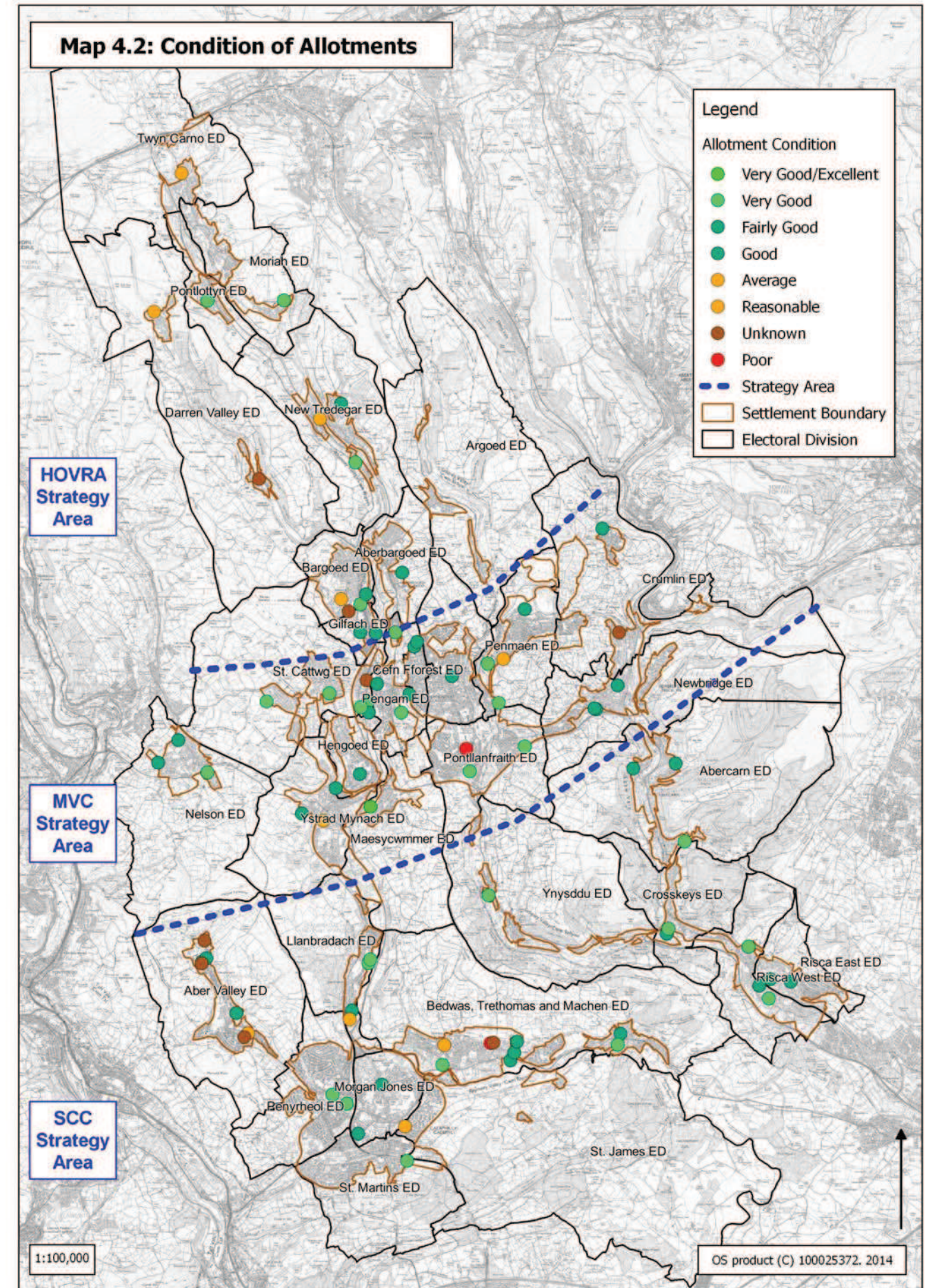
Summary of measure (a) – Condition

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have poor or low quality allotments:

- Pontllanfraith;
- Darren Valley;
- Twyn Carno; and
- St James

The wards with good condition allotments are:

- St Cattwg;
- Penyrheol;
- Risca (West and East) and
- Penmaen.



(b) Number of un-useable plots/perches

The number of un-useable plots in an allotment affects the overall ability of an allotment to meet the needs of the local residents. Plots are defined as un-useable where useable plots have been made un-useable, such as through overgrowing, burst pipes, fallen trees etc. Work is required in order to bring un-useable plots back into beneficial use.

Map 4.3 shows the distribution of un-useable allotment plots/perches at each council managed allotment.

Observations in the HOVRA

- Whilst there is a relatively good provision of allotments, seven of the fifteen Council managed sites have un-useable plots. The largest proportion is in Fochriw, which has 10 un-useable plots;
- All allotments in New Tredegar have un-useable plots;
- The majority of allotments in Bargoed have little to no un-useable plots.

Observations in the MVC

- The vast majority of allotments in the MVC have no un-useable;
- The allotment in Ashfield Road, Newbridge has 15 un-useable plots;
- The allotments in Penllwyn and Penpedairheol are the only other allotments with un-useable plots.

Observations in the SCC

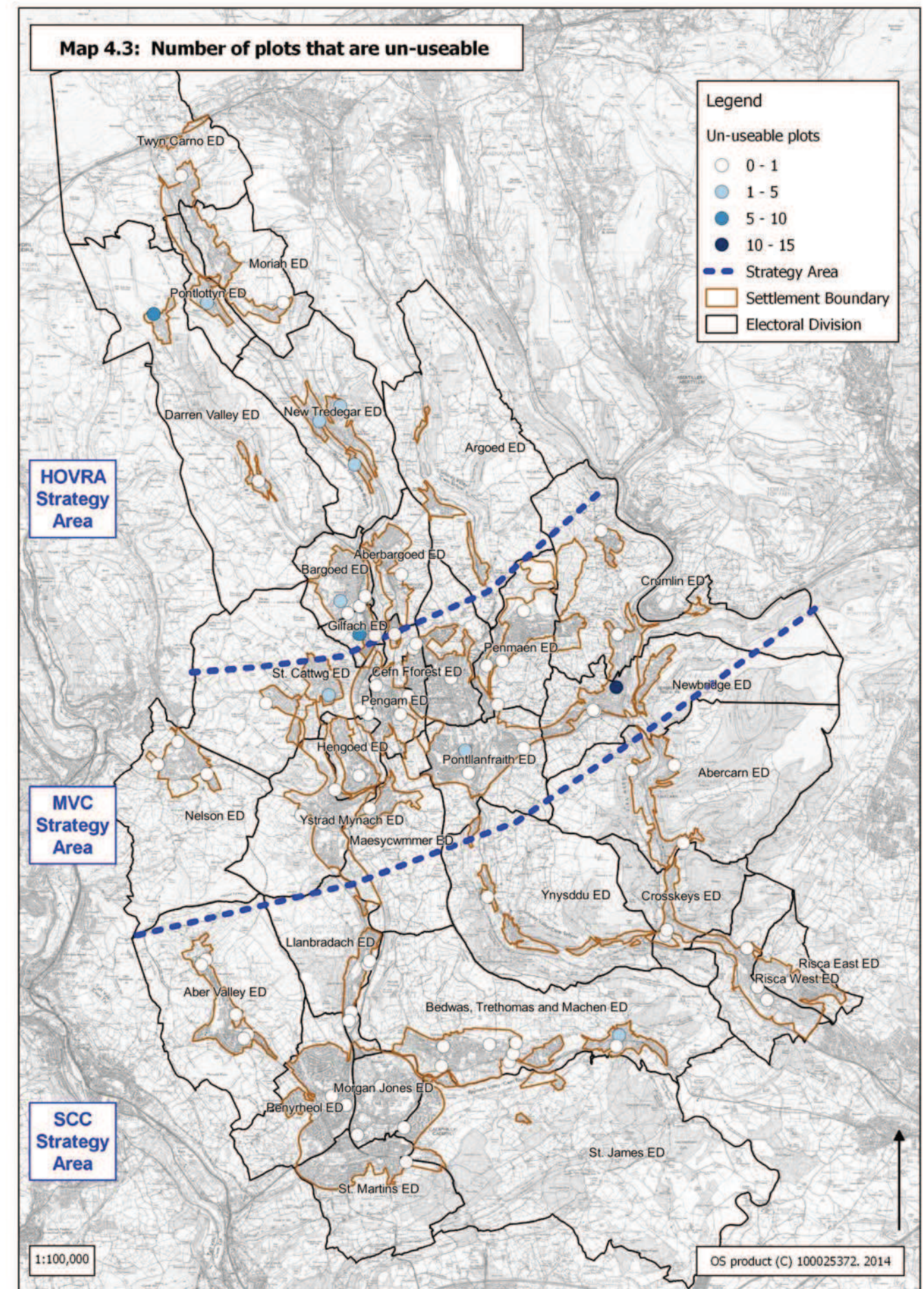
- In the SCC only one allotment in Machen has an un-useable plot.

Summary of measure (b) Un-useable Plots

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have allotments with a high number of un-useable plots:

- Darren Valley;
- Newbridge;
- New Tredegar; and
- Gilfach.

There are 39 allotment sites with no un-usable plots.



(c) Number of Vacant Plots

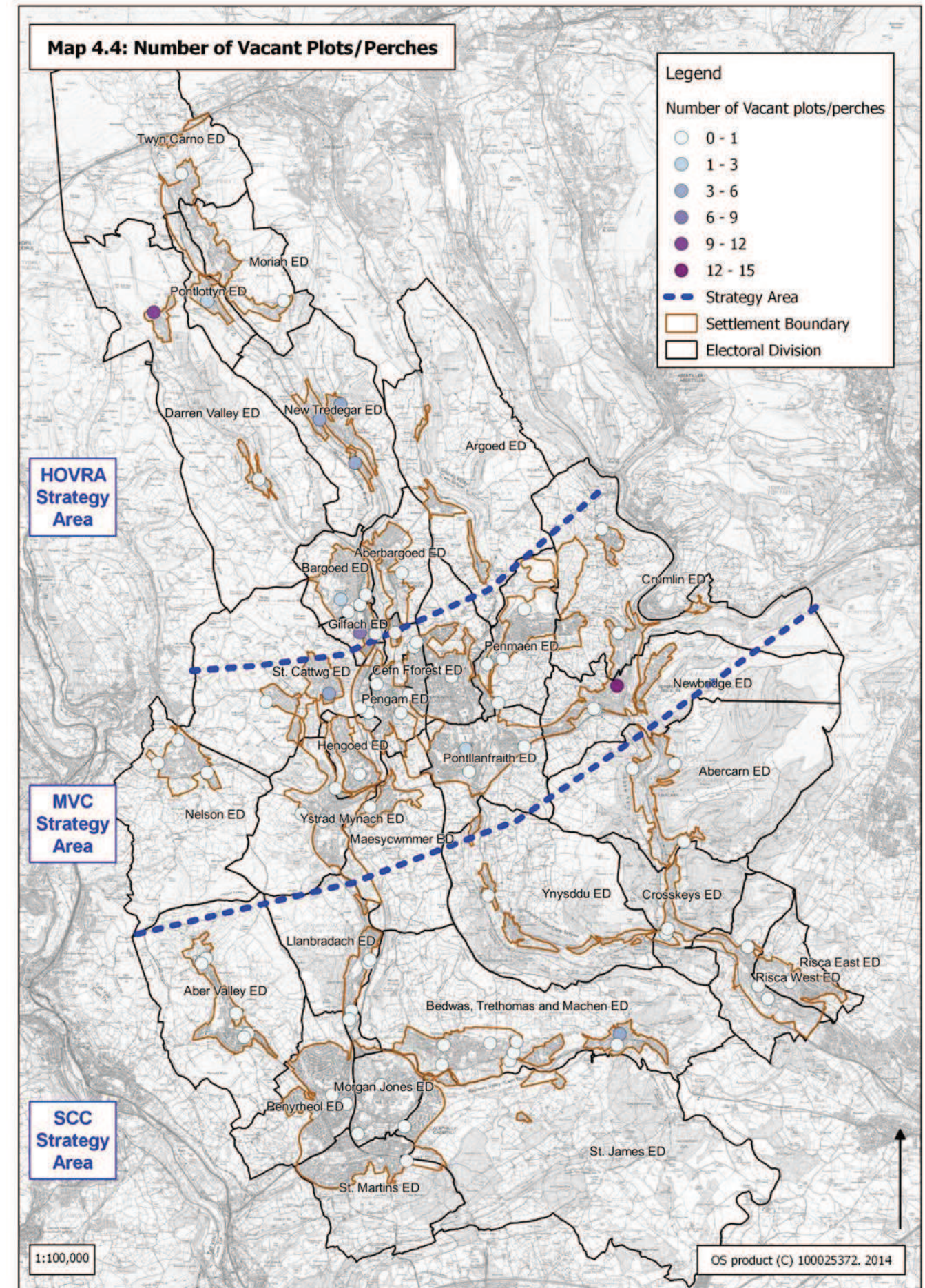
Assessing the number of vacant plots across the county borough can indicate where there may be an over-provision of allotments. Map 4.4 indicates the number of vacant plots within allotments across the county borough. The map indicates that there are a large proportion of vacant plots in the HOVRA (around New Tredegar, Gilfach/Bargoed and Fochriw), and only three sites in the MVC (Newbridge, Penpedairheol and Penllwyn). There is only one allotment in the SCC that has vacant plots, which is in Machen.

Summary of measure (c) Vacant Plots

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have allotments that have a high proportion of vacant plots:

- Darren Valley;
- Newbridge;
- New Tredegar; and
- Gilfach.

Conversely, there are 44 allotment sites located across the county borough that have no vacant plots. These are predominantly in the SCC and MVC.



(d) Number of people on waiting lists

Assessing the number of people on waiting lists is a good indicator for showing demand in an area. Map 4.5 indicates the number of people on the waiting list for individual allotments. It shows that generally speaking, allotments in the MVC have fewer people on the waiting list than those in the HOVRA and the SCC.

Observations in the HOVRA

- Both Deri and Fochriw allotments in the Darren Valley ward have approximately 5-10 people on the allotments waiting list;
- There are very few people on the waiting list for other allotments within the HOVRA.

Observations in the MVC

- There are a number of allotments that have around 5 people on the waiting list – Nelson, Ystrad Mynach, Penmaen and Crumlin;
- There are a higher number of people on the waiting list in Oakdale;
- The remainder of the allotments in the MVC have very few people on the waiting list.

Observations in the SCC

- The following wards have relatively few people on the waiting list – Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen, Abercarn, Llanbradach and Aber Valley;
- Penyrheol, St Martins and Morgan Jones wards all have high numbers of people on the waiting list (approximately 109 residents in total across the 6 individual allotments);
- In the Risca area, whilst there are approximately 41 people on the waiting list for an allotment, the demand seems to be focused around Malvern Terrace in Pontymister.

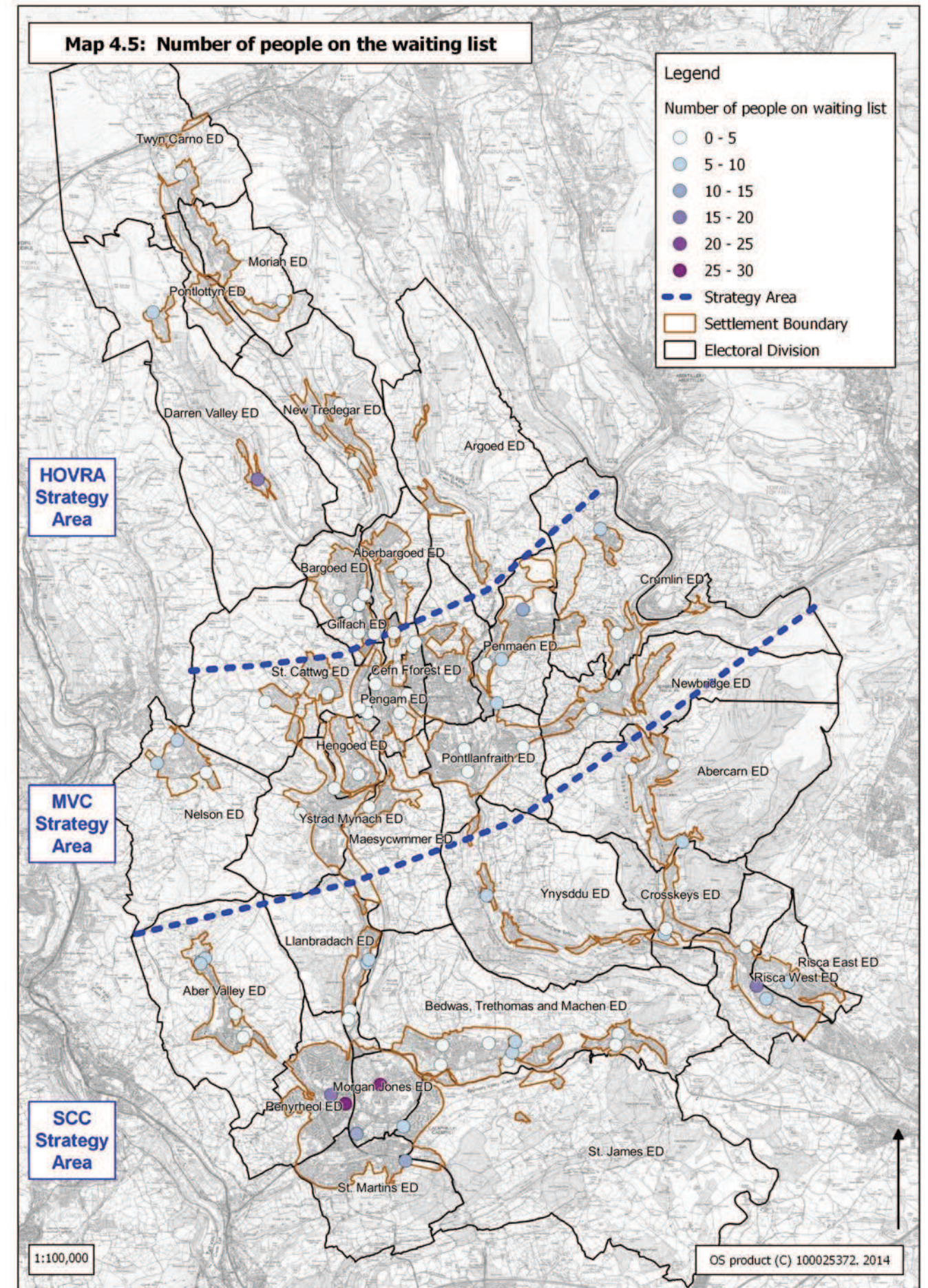
Summary of measure (c) Waiting List

Based on this measure alone, the following wards have allotments with a high number of residents on the waiting list:

- Morgan Jones;
- Penyrheol;
- St Martins;
- Risca West;
- Darren Valley; and
- Penmaen.

Conversely, the wards that have the fewest people on the waiting list are:

- St Cattwg;
- Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen;
- Crosskeys;
- Newbridge;
- Aberbargoed;
- Gilfach;
- Moriah and
- Bargoed.



Overall Allotments

Using the information contained in Appendix 9 assessing the condition, number of un-useable plots and waiting lists, an overall scoring system has been used to assess the overall provision of allotments across the county borough. In essence, plots that score 0 – 40 are in overall poor condition, 40 – 60 is average, and 60 plus is good.

Map 4.6 highlights the overall scoring attributed to each council managed allotment site. Overall, the majority of allotment facilities within the county borough are of good condition, have few un-useable plots, have few vacant plots and have little to no waiting list. However, there are some allotments where this is not the case.

Observations in the HOVRA

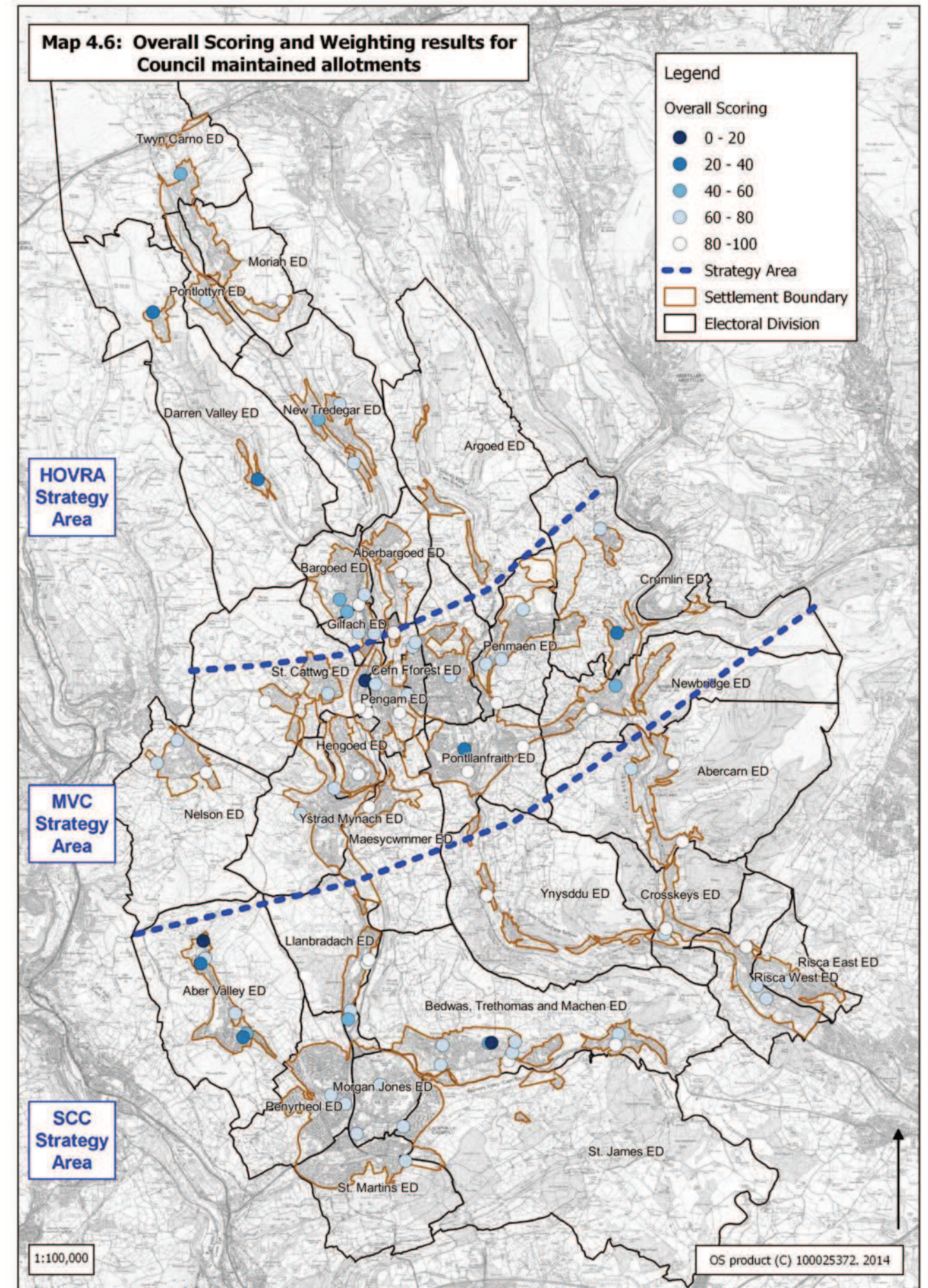
- There are only a few allotments in the HOVRA that scored highly;
- The allotments in Fochriw, Deri, Rhymney and New Tredegar all come out poorly.

Observations in the MVC

- There are only a small number of allotments that do not score well in the MVC. These allotments are in Glan-y-nant, Crumlin, Penllwyn and Newbridge;
- The remainder of the allotment sites are in good general condition, have few people on the waiting list, and have few un-useable plots.

Observations in the SCC

- The majority of allotments in the Aber Valley ward (with the exception of one site) score poorly;
- Allotments in the south of Llanbradach also score poorly;
- Caerphilly allotments score adequately;
- Allotments in Ynysddu, Abercarn, Crosskeys and Risca wards all score well.



Key Findings

In light of the analysis undertaken in this section, a number of key findings are highlighted in respect of allotment provision across the three strategy areas. They are as follows:

Key Findings for HOVRA

- The dispersed location of settlements and allotments in this area means that residents have to travel further to access allotments;
- The HOVRA has three allotments described as being in very good condition;
- Waiting list numbers are low, and there are a high number of vacant plots/perches (in comparison to the remainder of the County Borough);
- Whilst there appears to be an oversupply of allotments around the New Tredegar area, given the dispersed settlement patterns of the HOVRA, these allotments are still needed;
- There is a need for additional allotment facilities within the Darren Valley in order to meet unmet demand;
- As there are no allotments in the Argoed ward, residents should be consulted to establish if there is any demand in the area.

Key Findings for MVC

- There are a large number of allotments located in the MVC the majority of which are located in Pengam and Cefn Fforest;
- The majority of the allotments in the MVC are in good condition, however there is one (Penllwyn) that is in poor condition;
- The remainder of the allotments have few people on the waiting list, and few vacant and un-useable plots.
- This study indicates that there are a sufficient number of allotments, however additional investment is required in order to improve their overall condition and to bring un-useable plots back into beneficial use.

Key Findings for SCC

- There is a need to improve and increase the number of allotment gardens in the Caerphilly Basin and in the Aber Valley ward;
- These wards have high number of people on the waiting lists which demonstrates that there is unmet demand in the area;
- There is also an additional need for allotments due to demand in Risca.

Recommendations

This review has considered the provision, condition, use and number of vacant allotment plots across Caerphilly County Borough. Following on from the information collated in the report, and data contained in the Appendices, the following recommendations are advised.

R1: Reduce the number of un-useable plots

By targeting funding into bringing un-useable plots back into beneficial use, this will help alleviate waiting list numbers.

R2: Increase the provision of allotments in the HOVRA and SCC

Given the high waiting list for plots in and around Deri, Caerphilly and Risca, there appears to be an unmet demand for allotments that needs to be met. The allocation of land for allotments in these areas should be seen as a key priority.

R3: Improve the standard of facilities in the MVC

There are a good number of allotment gardens in the MVC, however they require additional attention to bring their quality up to a good standard.

SECTION 5: AMENITY GREENSPACE



Section 5: Amenity Greenspace

Accessible Amenity Greenspace and Open Space make an important contribution to the quality of the environment and of life in urban areas. They are vital to the wellbeing of the residents of Caerphilly County Borough and make an important contribution to the environment of our towns and villages, serving as the 'green lungs' that often separate built-up areas otherwise prone to coalescence. It is also important to note that nearly 80% of the county borough is countryside and this forms an important visual and recreational resource for both residents and visitors to the area. Furthermore, the county borough has five country parks all located outside settlement limits, which all contribute to the amenity greenspace within the county borough.

Technical Advice Note 16: Sports and Recreation (TAN 16), provides the following definition of open space: "open space should be taken to mean all open spaces of public value including not just land but also areas of water such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs which offer important opportunities for sport, recreation and tourism, and can also act as a visual amenity, and may have a conservation and biodiversity importance".

The Council carried out an Open Space Audit in 2012. However given the size and nature of the county borough, only areas within existing settlement limits were assessed as part of the Audit. Within this assessment, parcels of land were designated as either being informal recreation spaces (such as amenity greenspaces around housing, informal recreation spaces and natural greenspaces) or formal recreation spaces (such as children's play areas, cemeteries and sports pitches).

Within the LDP, the protection of informal parcels of land fall within policy CW7, whereas the formal facilities are protected under policy CW8. Given these criteria, a Supplementary Planning Guidance note (SPG) on the interpretation of policy CW7 was formed, titled 'LDP8: protection of Open Spaces'. The SPG details the various types of open spaces that are classified as CW7, the definitions of useable and non-useable parcels of land, and guidance towards an 'open space assessment' calculation that is used during planning applications to ensure that sufficient provisions of open space remain within 500m of a proposed site. Details from the audit have been utilised in helping to assess the levels of informal amenity greenspace across the county borough.

Map 5.1 highlights where amenity greenspace is located inside settlement limits, it further indicates the location of the Country Parks and the location of protected leisure land within the adopted LDP.

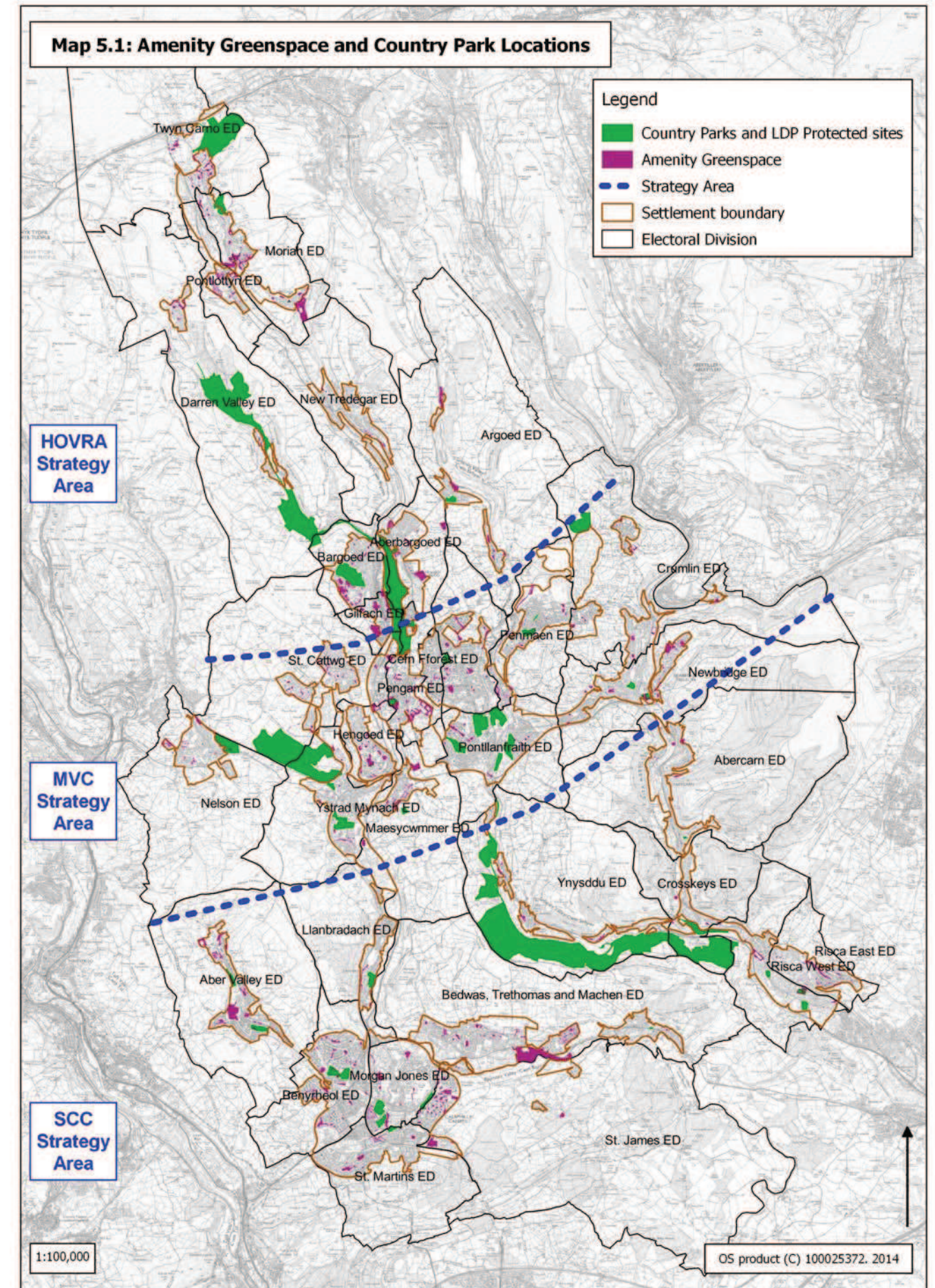
Areas of Useable Informal Open Space (as denoted by policy CW7 requirements)

As with formal leisure facilities, the FIT standard prescribes that 0.55 Ha of informal recreation space should be available per 1000 population. The informal types of open space that are used to calculate FIT are informal recreation spaces, areas around housing, schools, community facilities, areas around sports pitches, and natural and semi natural greenspaces. Maps 5.2 and 5.3 illustrate the provision of these areas of open space against the FIT standards for the 2013 population, and the 2018 expected population.

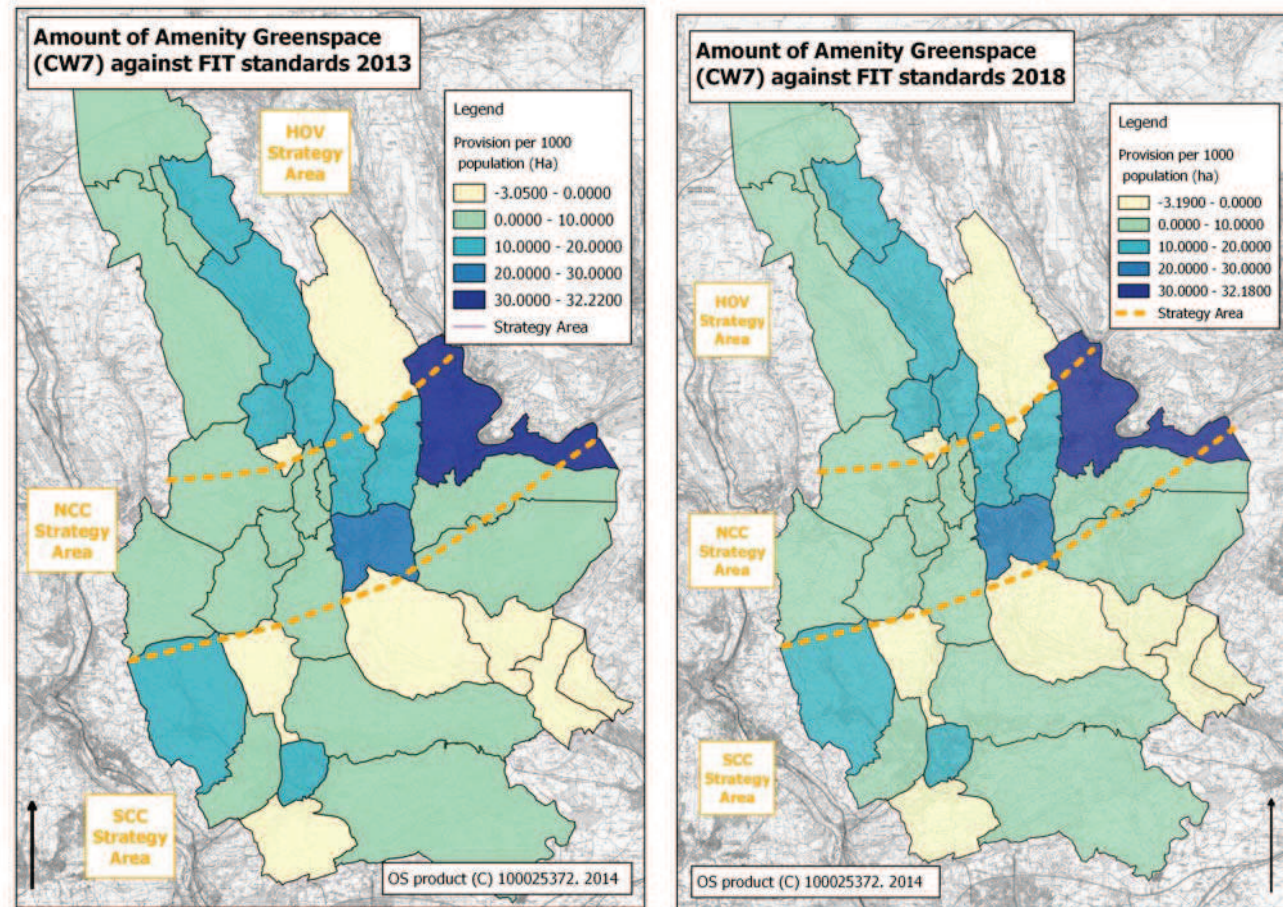
As depicted in Maps 5.2 and 5.3, the majority of wards have a good access to useable amenity greenspace. There are, however, some wards where provisions are lacking. These wards are Argoed, Gilfach, Llanbradach, Ynysddu, Crosskeys, Risca West, Risca East and St Martins.

As is evidenced, there are no great variances in these wards when using the 2018 population data.

As always, it is important to note that this exercise has been carried out on a ward basis and as such, only provides an indication of how much open space there is against the ward population.



Map 5.2 and 5.3: Amenity Greenspace (CW7) Provision by Ward - 2013 and 2018 population projections.



All parcels of Useable Open Space

Given the extent to which this study (sections 1 to 3) have looked at formal parcels of open space (playgrounds, sports pitches and leisure centres), there are some parts of open space that technically fit under the CW8 classification, however are not 'measured' anywhere else in this overarching report. These parcels of land include cemeteries, formal public parks and gardens, civic spaces and accessible areas of countryside in the urban fringe. In this section, the size taken up by allotments is also considered, as these parcels of land are open to the public, and should therefore form part of this overarching assessment.

Taking all parcels of amenity greenspace (informal and formal) that have not been accounted for in any of the previous sections of this document, it is evident in Map 5.4 and Map 5.5 that on the whole there is a good provision of amenity greenspace and open space across the whole county borough. The wards that performed poorly are all remedied through counting the formal parcels of open space that exist in these wards (such as public parks and gardens and country parks).

Observations by Strategy Area: HOVRA

- The majority of wards have good access to areas of amenity greenspace.
- Only one ward (Argoed) has a deficiency in amenity greenspace. However, when assessed against all provisions of formal and informal greenspace, provisions in this ward improve.

Observations by Strategy Area: MVC

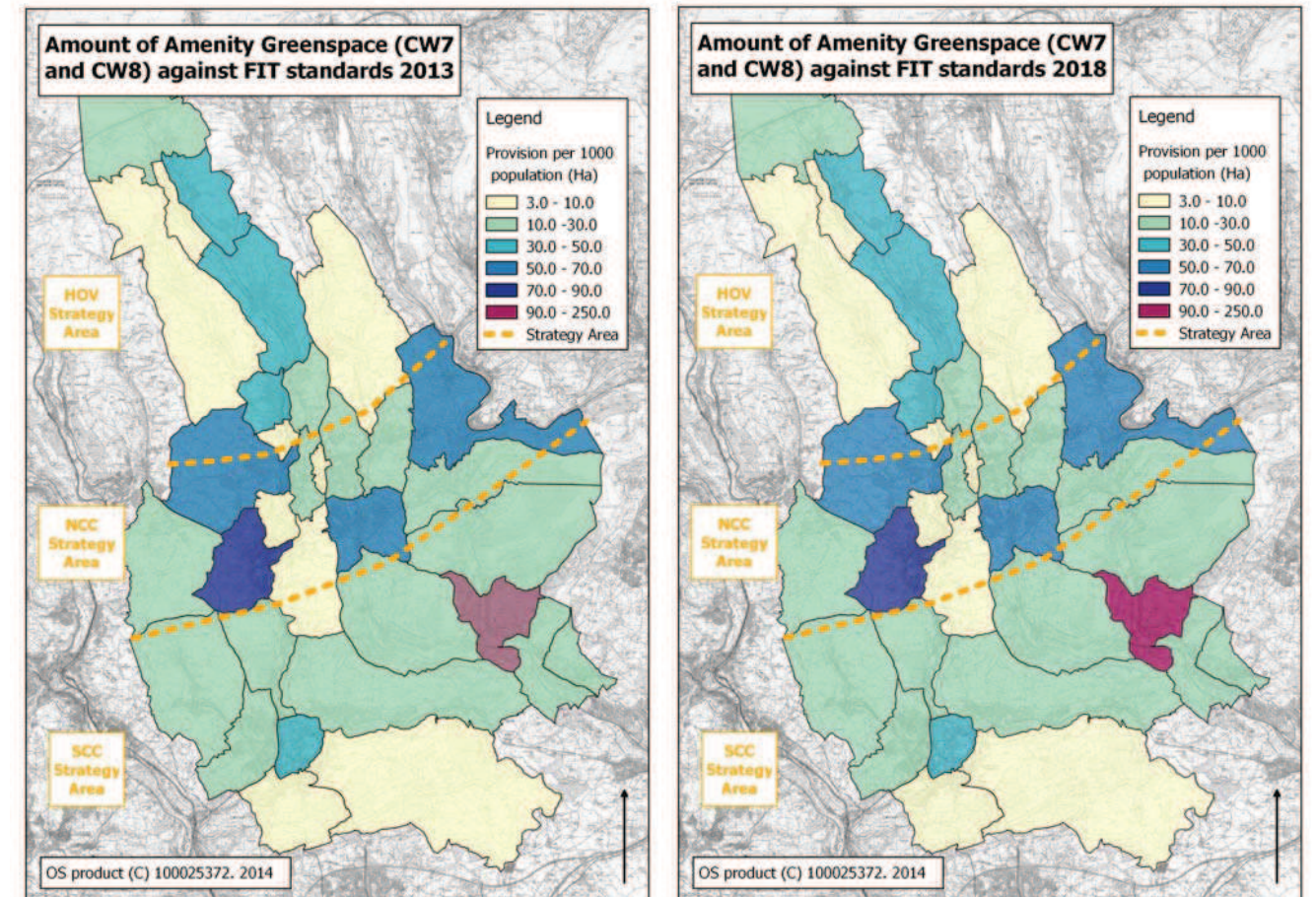
- All wards within the MVC have a good provision of accessible open space. There are no wards that have an under provision of informal amenity greenspace;
- Crumlin and Pontllanfraith wards have a high provision of useable amenity greenspace.

Observations by Strategy Area: SCC

- This area has the highest number of wards that fall below the prescribed FIT guidelines for informal recreation space;

- Around Caerphilly, Llanbradach and St Martins are the two wards that fall below the FIT guidelines, and around Risca, Ynysddu, Crosskeys, Risca West and Risca East all fall short of provisions for informal recreation spaces. These wards however, perform better when more formal parcels of open space are used.

Map 5.4 and 5.5: All Amenity Greenspace (CW7 and CW8) Provision by Ward - 2013 and 2018 population projections.



Recommendations:

This review has considered the provision of informal and more formal recreation spaces (not including those classified within sections 1 to 3 of this report). Following on from the information contained within the report, the following recommendations are advised.

R1: In the more remote areas, links to amenity greenspaces are vital and should be maintained. As such, Country Parks and formal parks are an important asset should be maintained.

Given the remote nature of settlements, access to good quality provisions is essential to ensuring that residents have a good quality of life. In more remote areas, links to established country parks and formal gardens should be maintained as a priority.

R2: There is a need to ensure provisions in the SCC are maintained

Around the Caerphilly basin, there is a need to ensure that any future windfall developments do not impede upon the existing provisions, and that additional populations are catered for accordingly.

SECTION 6: APPENDICIES



Appendix 1: FIT standards as summarised in Annex C of TAN 16

Summary

In 2006, Fields in Trust (FIT) commissioned independent research to survey local planning authorities and consult key stakeholders around the United Kingdom. Using the results of that survey, it recommended Benchmark Standards to planning authorities and others, to help develop local standards. FIT's recommendations are similar to those in the 'Six Acre Standard', and it estimates that 70% of planning authorities refer to, use, or adopt the recommendations of the 'Six Acre Standard' in development plans.

The Benchmark Standards are based upon survey returns in England, where they can clearly be applied. They will also help those developing standards elsewhere in the United Kingdom, including Wales.

Benchmark Standard Recommendations for Outdoor Sport

Quantity - Playing Pitches

Benchmark Standards for Pitch Sports

Type of Local Authority	Benchmark Standard (hectares per 1000 population)
Urban	1.15
Rural	1.72
Overall	1.20

Note: FIT's Benchmark Standard for rural areas is significantly higher than for urban areas. This reflects the greater number of dispersed settlements, villages and small market towns, in rural areas and their separate needs for local facilities. It should not be taken to imply that each new settlement in rural areas requires a higher level of local provision than their urban counterparts. Each new settlement must be considered in the light of its own circumstances and its own locality.

Quantity - All Outdoor Sport

Benchmark Standards for All Sports

Type of Local Authority	Benchmark Standard (hectares per 1000 population)
Urban	1.60
Rural	1.76
Overall	1.60

Note: Although the recommendations for 'urban' authorities and all local authorities are the same, this is not an error, since the recommendations are based on median averages, represented by the middle value of the series of returns.

Quality - Outdoor Sport

FIT recommends the use of Technical Performance Quality Standards such as those published in 'Design and Maintenance of Outdoor Sports Facilities' for both pitches and other outdoor facilities, namely cricket, bowls and croquet. Alternatively, technical standards produced by Sport England, the Governing Bodies of Sport or professional or trade organisations, such as the Institute of Groundsmanship (IoG) and the Sports and Play Construction Association (SAPCA), can prove helpful. Observational methodologies can prove helpful as a basic starting point, though they are no substitute for the best practice provided by technical assessments. Methods which might be considered include

that provided in Sport England's electronic toolkit and the 'traffic light code' being developed by the Football Association.

Accessibility - Playing Pitches

Playing pitches should be available within 1.2 kilometres of all dwellings in major residential areas.

Accessibility - Other Outdoor sports

Athletics - one synthetic track with floodlighting per 250,000 people living within 30 minutes drive time (45 minutes in rural areas) of the proposed location.
Tennis - community tennis courts within 20 minutes travel time (walking in urban areas, by car in rural areas)
Bowls - One green within 20 minutes travel time (walking in urban areas, by car in rural areas)

Benchmark Standard Recommendations for Outdoor Play

Quantity - All Playing Space

Children's Playing Space	Benchmark Standard (hectares per 1000 population)
Designated Equipped Playing Space	0.25
Informal Playing Space	0.55
Total Children's Playing Space	0.80

Quality Benchmark for Children's Playing Space

Local authorities can set their own quality benchmark standards using the Children's Play Council's Quality Assessment Tool. This would not set an absolute measure, but a reasonable aspiration and benchmarks against which to measure the quality of any existing children's play space. Another tool, recommended by the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE), is FIT's own 'Play Value Assessment for Playgrounds'.

Accessibility Benchmark Standards for Children's Playing Space

Type of space	Distance criteria (Meters)	
	Walking Distance	Straight Line Distance
Local Areas of Play or 'door step' spaces for plan and informal recreation	100	60
Local Equipped or landscaped areas of plan and informal recreation	400	240
Neighbourhood equipped areas for play and provision for young people.	1000	600

Appendix 2: 2013 and 2018 Population Projections

	2011 census	Population increase from House building to 2013	Projected 2013 Population	2013-2018 projected increase in population (from JHLA forecast)	Projected 2018 population from JHLA
Aber Valley	6,799	7	6,806	199	7,005
Aberbargoed	3,642	0	3,642	564	4,206
Abercarn	5,352	214	5,566	94	5,659
Argoed	2,769	33	2,802	13	2,814
Bargoed	6,196	0	6,196	0	6,196
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	10,758	14	10,772	122	10,895
Blackwood	8,496	18	8,514	30	8,544
Cefn Fforest	3,894	5	3,899	145	4,044
Crosskeys	3,265	0	3,265	24	3,289
Crumlin	5,947	2	5,949	70	6,019
Darren Valley	2,607	15	2,622	0	2,622
Gilfach	2,062	0	2,062	0	2,062
Hengoed	5,548	5	5,553	13	5,566
Llanbradach	4,383	12	4,395	0	4,395
Maesycwmmmer	2,242	10	2,252	252	2,504
Morgan Jones	6,771	265	7,036	529	7,565
Moriah	4,467	41	4,508	131	4,640
Nelson	4,647	5	4,652	81	4,732
New Tredegar	4,966	7	4,973	0	4,973
Newbridge	6,509	39	6,548	182	6,730
Pengam	3,848	3	3,851	53	3,903
Penmaen	5,251	173	5,424	10	5,434
Penyrheol	12,537	185	12,722	115	12,837
Pontllanfraith	8,552	46	8,598	185	8,782
Pontlottyn	1,924	85	2,009	0	2,009
Risca East	6,464	12	6,476	34	6,510
Risca West	5,229	2	5,231	128	5,359
St. Cattwg	7,817	10	7,827	77	7,903
St. James	5,976	9	5,985	138	6,123
St. Martins	8,443	86	8,529	264	8,793
Twyn Carno	2,454	2	2,456	0	2,456
Ynysddu	3,948	118	4,066	5	4,070
Ystrad Mynach	5,043	355	5,398	324	5,722

Appendix 3: Equipped Play Provision Weighting

Site Code	SiteName	Strategy Area	Condition	Condition Weighting	No. Equip	Equipment Weighting	Lifespan	Lifespan weighting	Overall Weighting
				Good = 10, Average = 5, Poor = 1		11 items + = 10, 6-10 items = 5, 0-5 items = 1		10+ years = 10, 9-8 = 7, 7-6 = 5, 5-2 = 2, <2 = 1)	
460	Banalog Terrace, Hollybush	HOVRA	Average	5	7	5	6-7	5	15
593	Wyrloed Cottages, Manmeol	HOVRA	Average	5	4	1	6-7	5	11
594	Penyrheol Park, Caerphilly	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
595	Maesycwmmmer Park	MVC	Good	10	9	5	10+	10	25
598	Heol Iago/Rhonda Ganol, Fochriw	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
599	Llanbradach Park, Llanbradach	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
600	Virginia Park, Caerphilly	SCC	Good	10	6	5	10+	10	25
601	Sunny View, Pontlottyn	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
604	Welfare Ground, Cefn Fforest	MVC	Average	5	2	1	2-5	5	20
605	Blackwood Showfields	MVC	Average	5	9	5	8-9	7	17
606	Butetown	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
607	Childrens Play Area, King George Field, Markham	HOVRA	Good	10	6	5	8-9	7	22
608	Deri Glyn Deri Playing Fields	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
609	Dickens Court	SCC	Average	5	7	5	8-9	7	17
610	Dol-y-Pandy	SCC	Good (New)	10	5	1	10+	10	21
611	Ffwrwm Road, Machen	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
612	Grange Close, Trecenydd.	SCC	Average	5	3	1	6-7	5	11
613	Hengoed Road, Hengoed	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
614	HEOL COED CAE	HOVRA	Average	5	4	1	6-7	5	11
615	Land off Alexandra Road	MVC	Average	5	6	5	10+	10	20
616	Land r/o 14-16 Clos Gwendraeth, Blackwood upper Trelyn housing estate (Private)	MVC	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
617	Lansbury Park	SCC	Average	5	4	1	8-9	7	13
618	Clos Guto, Porset Park, Caerphilly	SCC	Average	5	5	1	8-9	7	13
619	Garfield Street, Libanus Park	MVC	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
620	Machen Welfare Ground	SCC	Good	10	7	5	10+	10	25
621	Maes y Graig Street, Gilfach	HOVRA	Average	5	7	5	8-9	7	17
622	Oakdale Miners Welfare Grounds	MVC	Good	10	7	5	10+	10	25
625	R/O Bartlett Street	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
626	Hill Street, Rhymney	HOVRA	Average	5	5	1	8-9	7	13
627	Rhymney Memorial Park	HOVRA	Average	5	12	10	8-9	7	22
628	School Street, Tirphil	HOVRA	Average	5	5	1	10+	7	13
629	Senghenydd Welfare Park	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
630	Sir Harold Finch, Pontllanfraith	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
631	Tennyson Terrace, Brithdir	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
632	The Green, Abertyswg	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
633	Trinity Court, Rifleman Street	SCC	Average	5	3	1	6-7	5	11
634	Twyncarn Road	SCC	Good	10	5	5	10+	10	25
635	Badhnam Road, Watford Park Estate Play	SCC	Average	5	4	1	8-9	7	13
636	Wanfawr Park	SCC	Average	5	13	10	8-9	7	22
648	Wyllie Glanhwy Road	MVC	Good	10	5	1	10+	10	21
6599	Clos Y Pant, Caerphilly (Privately managed site)	SCC	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
7675	Penylan Road, Argoed	HOVRA	Average	5	5	1	8-9	7	13
7683	Abertridwr Park	SCC	Good	10	6	5	8-9	7	22
7685	Woodland Terrace, Senghenydd	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7686	Cwrt Coch Street/Yew Street, Aberbargoed	HOVRA	Average	5	3	1	8-9	7	13
7687	Lewis Street, Aberbargoed	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7688	Feeder Row, Cwmcarn	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7689	Marne Street, Cwmcarn	SCC	Average	5	3	1	8-9	7	13
7690	King George's Field, Troed-Y-Rhiw, Abercarn	SCC	Good	10	6	5	6-7	5	20
7691	Twyn Road, Llanfach, Abercarn	SCC	Good	10	4	1	10+	10	21
7692	Park View, adjacent to Bargoed Community Centre	HOVRA	Average	5	4	1	8-9	7	13
7693	Bargoed Park, Bargoed	HOVRA	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
7694	Thorncombe Road, Blackwood	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7695	Attlee Road, Blackwood	MVC	Average	5	7	5	8-9	7	17
7696	Crumlin Park, Mining School Hill, Crumlin	MVC	Average	5	5	1	8-9	7	13
7697	Royal Crescent, Treowen	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7698	Kendon Hill, Croespenmaen	MVC	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
7699	Hafodyrynys Welfare, Hafodyrynys	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17

Site Code	SiteName	Strategy Area	Condition	Condition Weighting	No. Equipt	Equipment Weighting	Lifespan	Lifespan weighting	Overall Weighting
				Good = 10, Average = 5, Poor = 1		11 items + = 10, 6-10 items = 5, 0-5 items = 1		10+ years = 10, 9-8 = 7, 7-6 = 5, 5-2 = 2, <2 = 1)	
7700	Penyfan Close, Trinant	MVC	Average	5	9	5	8-9	7	17
7701	The Wern, Nelson	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7702	Llwyn y Eos, Nelson	MVC	Good	10	10	10	10+	10	30
7707	Fern Hill Terrace, Phillipstown, New Tredegar	HOVRA	Good	10	5	1	2-5	2	13
7708	Fox Avenue, Pentwynmawr, Newbridge	MVC	Poor	1	7	5	6-7	5	11
7709	Windsor Avenue, Newbridge	MVC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7710	Fields Park Road, Newbridge	MVC	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
7711	Willow Court, Panside	MVC	Average	5	5	5	6-7	5	15
7712	School Street, Pengam	MVC	Good	10	5	5	10+	10	25
7713	Fairview, Pengam	MVC	Poor	1	5	5	2-5	2	8
7714	Angel Lane/Farm View, Britannia	HOVRA	Good	10	4	1	10+	10	21
7715	Willow Drive, Woodfieldside (Glan-yr-Afron Playing Park)	MVC	Average	5	7	5	6-7	5	15
7716	Oakdale Terrace, Penmaen	MVC	Average	5	8	5	10+	10	20
7717	Herbert Avenue, Risca	SCC	Average	5	8	5	6-7	5	15
7718	Ty Sign Open Space, Holly Road, Risca	SCC	Average	5	8	5	6-7	5	15
7719	Tanybryn, Pontymister	SCC	Poor	1	3	1	2-5	2	4
7720	Tredegar Park, Park Road, Risca	SCC	Good	10	12	10	10+	10	30
7722	Fernlea, Risca	SCC	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
7723	Trosnant Crescent, Penybryn	MVC	Good	10	9	10	10+	10	30
7724	Tiryberth Welfare Ground	MVC	Good	10	4	1	10+	10	21
7729	Hanbury Street, Glanynant	MVC	Average	5	7	5	6-7	5	15
7730	Rudry Park, Rudry	SCC	Good	10	4	1	10+	10	21
7731	Draethen Village, Draethen	SCC	New	10	5	1	10+	10	21
7733	Llanarth Street, Brynawel	SCC	Good	10	7	5	6-7	5	20
7734	Duffryn Terrace, Wattsville	SCC	Good	10	6	5	8-9	7	22
7735	Stanley Street, Cwmfelinfach	SCC	Average	5	6	5	8-9	7	17
7736	Bridge Street, Ynysddu	SCC	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
7737	Forge Mill, Ystrad Mynach	MVC	Average	5	8	5	8-9	7	17
7738	Ystrad Mynach Park	MVC	Good	10	17	10	10+	10	30
7739	Park Lane, Tredomen	MVC	Good	10	4	1	10+	10	21
7740	Station Road, Ystrad Mynach	MVC	Average	5	7	5	6-7	5	15
7743	Clos Gwyn Cwm, Cwm Farm, Caerphilly	MVC	Average	10	3	1	8-9	7	18
7744	Ashman Close, Caerphilly	SCC	Poor	1	2	1	2-5	2	4
7745	Cwm Calon LEAP	MVC	Good	10	9	5	10+	10	25
7749	The Bryn, Trethomas	SCC	Average	5	6	5	6-7	5	15
7750	The Crescent, Machen	SCC	Average	5	4	1	6-7	5	11
7751	Morgan Jones Park, Caerphilly	SCC	Good	10	14	10	8-9	7	27
7756	Waunganol Park, Church Street, Bedwas	SCC	Average	5	8	5	10+	10	20
7991	Panteg Terrace, Newbridge	MVC	Average	5	5	1	6-7	5	11
7992	Groeswen Drive, Hendredenny, Caerphilly	SCC	Average	5	5	1	6-7	5	11
7993	Springfield Cwmalsie, Pontllanfraith	MVC	Average	5	6	5	2-5	2	12
7994	William Street, Tiryberth	MVC	Good	10	6	5	10+	10	25
7995	Mount Pleasant, Penpedairheol	MVC	Average	5	9	5	8-9	7	17
8036	Pontymister Athletic Ground	SCC	Good	10	5	5	10+	10	25
8066	Diamond Park, New Tredegar, White Rose Playground (new)	HOVRA	Good	10	9	5	10+	10	25
8092	Parc Penhros, Penhros Castle Gate Playground	SCC	Good	10	4	1	10+	10	21

Appendix 4: Designated Sports Pitch Provision Weighting

Site ID	Pitch Name	Strategy Area	Typology	Pitch Size	Pitch Condition	Weighting pitch condition	Pitch Type	Standard	Standard Weighted	Flood Light?	Flood light weighting	Car Parking	Car Parking WEIGHTING	Change rooms?	Weighting	Drainage Issues?	Drainage weighting	Usage	Usage weighting	TOTAL WEIGHTING
430	Caerphilly Leisure Centre	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	120
430	Caerphilly Leisure Centre	SCC	Rugby	Junior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	120
435	Tir-y-Berth Welfare Football	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	Yes	0	High	30	90
439	Gilfach Basin	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	3	10	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	70
442	Graig Y Rhacca	SCC	Football		Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120
440	Eisteddfod fields	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	90
444	Longbridge Fields Sports	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	80
444	Longbridge Fields Sports	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	80
445	Trethomas Llanfabon Playing	SCC	Football	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	120
447	Fields Park Recreation Ground	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	unknown	0	70
448	Pentwynmawr Recreation	MVC		Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	110
450	Pantside Playing Fields	MVC	Rugby		Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	low	10	100
450	Pantside Playing Fields	MVC	Football		Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	low	10	100
453	Fernlea Playing Fields	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	100
454	Trinant FC, off Llanerch Lane	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	100
455	Kay Field Rugby Ground	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130
456	Bush Park Football Pitch	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	90
504	Gelli Pitch Ty Isaf	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Low	10	90
506	Senghenydd Welfare	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Unknown	0	100
507	Caerphilly Rugby Club	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
507	Caerphilly Rugby Club	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	high	30	120
508	Wattsville Rugby Ground,	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Low	10	80
511	Oakdale Miners Welfare	MVC	Rugby	Junior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	80
511	Oakdale Miners Welfare	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	80
511	Oakdale Miners Welfare	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	110
518	Ystrad Mynach	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	Yes	0	Very High	40	90
518	Ystrad Mynach Fields	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Very High	40	120
519	Abercam Welfare Ground	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130
519	Abercam Welfare Ground	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130
520	Maes McLaren	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	100
520	Maes McLaren	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	100
520	Maes McLaren	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120
521	Bargoed Welfare	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120
524	Glyn Deri Rugby Ground	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	90
525	Hafodryns RFC	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130
526	Libanus Playing Fields	MVC	Multi	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	110
528	Croespenmaen Football Ground	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	110
530	Woodfieldside Playing Fields	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Green	-	0	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	60
531	Waunfawr Park FSF3	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	110

Site ID	Pitch Name	Strategy Area	Typology	Pitch Size	Pitch Condition	Weighting pitch condition	Pitch Type	Standard	Standard Weighted	Flood Light?	Flood light weighting	Car Parking	Car Parking WEIGHTING	Change rooms?	Weighting	Drainage Issues?	Drainage weighting	Usage	Usage weighting	TOTAL WEIGHTING
531	Waunfawr Park FSF2	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
531	Waunfawr Park FSF1	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	130
531	Waunfawr Park Pitches	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
531	Waunfawr Park Pitches	SCC	Rugby	Junior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
546	Blackwood Showfields	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	low	10	100
546	Blackwood Showfields	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	low	10	100
557	Pontllotyn Rec	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Average	10	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	low	10	90
558	Bargoed Park	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Very High	40	110
558	Bargoed Park	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	0	Yes	10	Yes	0	Very High	40	110
558	Bargoed Park	HOVRA	Athletics Track	Senior	Good	20	Red Gra	n/a		Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Very High	40	90
561	Pontllotyn Welfare	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	-		Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	moderate	20	70
562	Risca Comprehensive	SCC																		0
745	Fochriw Welfare Park	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	90
4390	Tan-y-bryn Playing Fields	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
4403	Sue Noake	MVC	Rugby	Junior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	110
4403	Sue Noake	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	110
7473	Pontymister Athletic	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	100
7473	Pontymister Athletic	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	100
7477	Senghenydd Recreation Groun	SCC	Rugby Pitch	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
7479	Aberbargoed Rec	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
7479	Aberbargoed Recreation Ground	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	140
7479	Aberbargoed Recreation Ground	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Average	10	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
7480	Feeder Row Football	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	100
7483	Llanbradach Welfare (South)	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	3	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Low	10	70
7484	Llanbradach Welfare (North)	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Very High	40	130
7496	Ynys Field Recreation	MVC	Football	Senior	Average	10	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	80
7498	Britannia playing field	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
7498	Britannia playing field,	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
7498	Britannia playing field,	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	high	30	120
7500	Penyrheol Park (Aneurin Park)	SCC	Football	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	100
7500	Penyrheol Park (Aneurin Park)	SCC	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	90
7503	Penybryn Football Field	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	3	10	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	70
7504	Duffryn Field/Glyngaer	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	3	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	Yes	0	Low	10	50
7505	Cascade Community Field	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	3	10	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	70
7506	Wattsville Football	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Unknown	0	70
7510	School Pitch Bargoed Welfare	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Low	10	70
7511	McDonald Pitch Bargoed	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120
7512	Cefn Fforest Welfare Ground	MVC	Multi	Senior	Good	20	Grass	-	-	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	60
7516	Morgan Jones Park	SCC	Football	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130
7516	Morgan Jones Park	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	110
7521	Ty Isaf Recreation Ground	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	Unknown	0	80
7547	Islwyn Park (southern pitch)	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	-		No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	70
7555	Markham King George	HOVRA	Multi	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	100

Site ID	Pitch Name	Strategy Area	Typology	Pitch Size	Pitch Condition	Weighting pitch condition	Pitch Type	Standard	Standard Weighted	Flood Light?	Flood light weighting	Car Parking	Car Parking WEIGHTING	Change rooms?	Weighting	Drainage Issues?	Drainage weighting	Usage	Usage weighting	TOTAL WEIGHTING	
						Very good = 30, good = 20, fairly good = 15, average = 10			St 1 = 30, St 2 = 20, St 3 = 10.		Yes = 10, No = 0		Yes = 10, No = 0		Yes = 10, No = 0		No = 20, Yes = 0			V high = 40, High = 30, Moderate = 20, Low = 10, V low = 0	
7555	Markham King George	HOVRA	Football	Junior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	90	
7556	Banalog Terrace	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	80	
7559	Cefn Hengoed Playing fields	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	3	10	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	70	
7562	Land south of the A472	MVC	Football	Junior	fairly good	15	Grass	3	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	85	
7562	Land south of the A472	MVC	Football	Senior	fairly good	15	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	95	
7562	Land south of the A472	MVC	Rugby	Senior	fairly good	15	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	95	
7562	Land south of the A472	MVC	Rugby	Senior	fairly good	15	Grass	2	20	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	95	
7570	Duff Pitch Bargoed	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	fairly good	15	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	105	
7571	Abertridwr Park, Aberfawr Road	SCC	Rugby	Junior	unknown	0	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	100	
7571	Abertridwr Park	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120	
7578	Machen Welfare (Southern)	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	110	
7579	Machen Welfare (Southern)	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	110	
7579	Machen Welfare (northern)	SCC	Rugby	Rugby	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130	
7580	Rhymney Memorial Park	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	110	
7580	Rhymney Memorial Park	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	130	
7585	Ynsyddu Pitches Nine Mile Rec	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	unknown	0	80	
7585	Ynsyddu Pitches Nine Mile	SCC	Rugby	Junior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	unknown	0	90	
7585	Ynsyddu Pitches Nine Mile Ride	SCC	Multi	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	90	
7586	Pandy Park, Crosskeys	SCC	Rugby	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	130	
7589	Newbridge Rugby	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	110	
7625	Maesycwmmmer Playing Fields	MVC	Rugby	Senior	fairly good	15	Grass	3	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	V Low	0	55	
7625	Maesycwmmmer Playing Fields	MVC	Football	Senior	fairly good	15	Grass	3	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	V Low	0	55	
7632	Grove Park	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	100	
7632	Grove Park	HOVRA	Multi	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	100	
7632	Grove Park	HOVRA	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	100	
7638	Trelyn Park Recreation Ground	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	Unknown	0	90	
7638	Trelyn Park Recreation Ground,	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	80	
7639	St David's Recreation Ground	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	unknown	0	80	
7641	Gelliwen Rugby Ground	HOVRA	Rugby Pitch	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	No	0	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	V Low	0	60	
7642	The Bryn Bedwas Park (7642)	SCC	Football		Very Good	30	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	No	0	No	20	High	30	120	
7703	Brithdir Sports Ground	HOVRA	Football	Senior	Average	10	Grass	2	20	No	0	No	0	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	80	
7828	Owain Glyndwr Playing	SCC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	High	30	100	
7884	Islwyn Park	MVC	Multi	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120	
7923	Bryn Playing Fields	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	Moderate	20	110	
7923	Bryn Playing Fields	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	Moderate	20	90	
8021	Ystrad Mynach	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	2	20	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	20	Moderate	20	80	
8022	Wern Park Football	MVC	Football	Senior	Good	20	Grass	1	30	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120	
8039	Nelson Rugby Football Club	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	3	10	No	0	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	0	High	30	70	
8039	Nelson Rugby Football Club	MVC	Rugby	Senior	Average	10	Grass	1	30	Yes	10	Yes	10	Yes	10	No	20	High	30	120	

Appendix 5: Other Outdoor Sports Pitch Provision Weighting

Site Code	Group Name		Court Standard	Court Weighting	Usage	Usage weighting	Resurfacing required?	Resurfacing weighting?	Changing Rooms?	Changing weighting	Overall Weighting
				Good = 20, Fair = 10, Poor = 5		High= 20, Average = 10, Low = 5		Yes = 0, No = 20		Yes = 10, No = 0	
565	Aberbargoed Recreation Ground Bedwellty Road Aberbargoed Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Fair	10	Unknown		No	20	No	0	30
570	Tennis Courts Bargoed Gilfach Welfare Ground Maes-Y-Graig Street Gilfach Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Good	20	Unknown		No	20	Yes	10	50
571	Llanbradach Welfare Park High Street East UI Llanbradach Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Fair	10	Low	5	No	20	Yes	10	45
573	Tennis Courts Aneurin Park Heol Aneurin Caerphilly Caerphilly County Borough	Tennis Courts	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
578	Oakdale Miner's Welfare Recreation Ground Llwyn On Lane Oakdale Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Poor	5	Low	5	Yes	0	Yes	10	20
579	Tennis Courts Pontymister Recreation Ground Fields Road Pontymister Risca Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
580	War Memorial Park High Street East UI Rhymney Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Fair	10	Low	5	No	20	No	0	35
582	Nine Mile Point Recreation Ground Graig View Ynysddu Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
572	Morgan Jones Park Nantgarw Road North UI Caerphilly Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
7653	Showfield Bowls And Tennis Club Sunnybank Road Blackwood Caerphilly Cbc NP12 1HZ	Tennis Courts	Good	2	High	20	Yes	0	Yes	10	32
7648	The Terrace	Tennis Courts	Good	20	Low	5	No	20	Yes	10	55
7651	Ystrad Mynach Park Caerphilly Road Ystrad Mynach Caerphilly Cbc	Tennis Courts	Fair	10	High	20	Yes	0	Yes	10	40
7588	Abertridwr Recreation ground, Abertridwr	Tennis Courts	Good	10	Unknown		No	20	Yes	10	40

Site Code	Group Name		Court Standard	Court Weighting	Usage	Usage weighting	Resurfacing required?	Resurfacing weighting?	Changing Rooms?	Changing weighting	Overall Weighting
				Good = 20, Fair = 10, Poor = 5		High= 20, Average = 10, Low = 5		Yes = 0, No = 20		Yes = 10, No = 0	
401	Bowling Green Bargoed Welfare Ground Park Drive Bargoed Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens		0	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	50
402	Bowling Green Oakdale Miner's Welfare Recreation Ground Llwyn On Lane Oakdale Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Poor	5	low	5	Yes	20	Yes	10	30
404	Bowling Green Aneurin Park Heol Aneurin Caerphilly Caerphilly County Borough	Bowling Greens	Fair	10	Low	5	Yes	0	Yes	10	25
405	Abertridwr Park Aberfawr Road Abertridwr Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
406	Gifach And Bargoed Bowls Club Bargoed Gilfach Welfare Ground Maes-Y-Graig Street Gilfach Bargoed Cae	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
407	LLanbradach	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Unknown	0	Unknown	0	Yes	10	30
408	Grove Park Grove Park New Tredegar Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Low	5	No	20	Yes	10	55
409	Newbridge Welfare Ground Bridge Street Newbridge Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Medium	10	Yes	0	Yes	10	40
410	Gelligaer Bowling Green And Pavilion Gelligaer Recreation Ground Gwaun-Fro Penpedairheol Caerphilly	Bowling Greens	Poor	5	Medium	10	No	20	Yes	10	45
411	Ystrad Mynach Park Caerphilly Road Ystrad Mynach Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
412	Showfield Bowls And Tennis Club Sunnybank Road Blackwood Caerphilly Cbc NP12 1HZ	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
413	The Bryn Park And Playing Fields The Bryn Trethomas Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
414	Islwyn Park Llanarth Road Springfield Pontllanfraith Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Medium	10	No	20	Yes	10	60
415	Recreation Ground Tyn-Y-Waun Road Machen Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Medium	10	No	20	Yes	10	60
416	Morgan Jones Park Nantgarw Road North UI Caerphilly Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	No	20	Yes	10	70
417	Bowling Green Pontymister Recreation Ground Fields Road Pontymister Risca Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Medium	10	No	20	Yes	10	60
418	War Memorial Park High Street East UI Rhymney Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	Yes	0	Yes	10	50
419	Senghenydd Welfare Ground Commercial Street West UI Senghenydd Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Medium	10	Yes	0	Yes	10	40
420	Ty Isaf Recreation Ground Isaf Road Pontymister Risca Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	Unknown		Yes	10	50
421	Crosskeys Waunfawr Park Waunfawr Park Road Crosskeys Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	High	20	Yes	0	Yes	10	50
822	Bowling Green Graig View Ynysddu Caerphilly Cbc	Bowling Greens	Good	20	Medium	10	No	20	Yes	10	60

Appendix 9: Overall Scoring for Allotments

SiteCode	SiteName	Condition	Condition Weighting	Un-useable Plots		Vacants Plot		Waiting List		Overall Weighting
			Very Good/Excellent= 40; Good/Fairly Good = 30, Average = 20, Poor = 5	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0				
2	Risca (Maple Ave, Ty)	Good	30	2	10	0	20	9	5	65
4	Ashfield Road, Newbridge	Good	30	5	10	15	0	0	20	60
5	Bargoed, Gilfach Alfred street	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	1	10	90
6	Bedwas Community Park	Good	30	0	20	0	20	0	20	90
8	Boot Road, Maescwmmer	Excellent	40	0	20	0	20	4	10	90
9	Bridgend, Bedwas	Very Good	40	1	10	0	20	3	10	80
10	Brithdir	Very Good	40	4	10	4	10	2	10	70
11	Brittannia, Pengam	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	0	20	100
12	Cardiff Rd Tir-y-berth	Unknown	0							0
13	Cascade, Hengoed	Very Good	40	10	0	4	10	0	20	70
14	Clyde Street, Pontymister	Very Good	40	0	10	0	20	7	5	75
15	Coed y Brain, Llanbradach	Good	30	1	10	0	20	1	10	70
16	Commercial Street, Senghenydd	Good	30	0	20	0	20	10	0	70
17	Cwmcarn	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	7	5	85
19	Dan y graig	Average	20	1	10	0	20	1	10	60
20	Deri, River Ro	Unknown	0	0	20	0	20	20	0	40
21	Eastview Terrace, Bargoed	Good	30	0	20	1	10	1	10	70
7998	Abertidwr (Thomas Street)	Unknown	0	1	10	0	20	2	10	40
732	Penyrheol (Bowls)	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	17	0	80
22	Fairview, Blackwood	Good	30	0	20	0	20	4	10	80
23	Fernlea, Risca	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	5	10	90
25	Fochri	Average	20	10	0	10	0	6	5	25
26	Gelligroes, Pontlfrith	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	4	10	90
27	Greenhill, Gelligaer	Very Good	40	3	10	0	20	0	20	90
28	Greenway Allotments	Very Good	40	0	20	1	10	0	20	90
29	Gwerthonor, Gilfach 2	Good	30	1	10	7	5	0	20	65

SiteCode	SiteName	Condition	Condition Weighting	Un-useable Plots		Vacants Plot		Waiting List		Overall Weighting
			Very Good/Excellent= 40; Good/Fairly Good = 30, AVERAGE = 20, Poor = 5	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0			
30	Halls Gardens, Crumlin	Unknown	0	12	0	0	20	3	10	30
31	Heol Fargoed, Bargoed	Unknown	0	0	20	0	20	0	20	60
32	Heol Fawr, Nelson	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	4	10	90
33	High Street, Senghenyd	Good	30	0	20	0	20	10	0	70
34	High Street, Ynysddu	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	6	5	85
35	Hill Street, Pontymister	Good	30	0	20	0	20	3	10	80
36	Hollybush, Nelson	Good	30	0	20	0	20	9	5	75
37	Horner Street, Tiryberth	Very Good	40	0	20	1	10	0	20	90
38	Kings Hill, Hengoed	Good	30	0	20	0	20	0	20	90
40	Lansbury Park 2	Reasonable	20	0	20	0	20	7	5	65
42	Lewis Street, Blackwood	Good	30	0	20	0	20	2	10	80
43	Llanfabon drive, Trethomas	Poor	5	6	0	0	20	0	20	45
44	Malvern, Pontymister	Good	30	0	20	0	20	17	0	70
45	Margaret Street, Gilfach	Good	30	4	10	0	20	1	10	70
46	Nant-y-Calch, Railway Terrace	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	13	0	80
47	Navigation Street, Trethomas	Unknown	0		0					0
48	New Tredegar, Davalog	Good	30	0	20	4	10	0	20	80
49	Oakland Hall, Gilfac	Average	20	0	20	2	10	2	10	60
50	Pandy Road	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	30	0	80
51	Penllwyn	Poor	5	3	10	2	10	1	10	35
52	Penmaen	Very Good	40	1	10	0	20	2	10	80
53	Pontlotty	Very Good	40	0	20	2	10	2	10	80
54	Pontygwindy	Good	30	0	20	0	20	28	0	70
55	Rhymney, Pen-y-dre	Average	20	1	10	0	20	4	10	60
56	Senghenydd Kingsley Place	Unknown	0	0	20	0	20	10	0	40
57	Shingrig Road, Nelson	Good	30	4	10	0	20	9	5	65
58	St Mary Street, Bedwas	Average	20	0	20	0	20	0	20	80
59	Stanley Row, Llanbradach	Average	20	3	10	1	10	1	10	50

SiteCode	SiteName	Condition	Condition Weighting	Un-useable Plots		Vacants Plot		Waiting List		Overall Weighting
			Very Good/Excellent= 40; Good/Fairly Good = 30, AVERAGE = 20, Poor = 5	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0	0 = 20, 1 >5 = 10, 6-10 = 5, 10+ = 0				
60	Tirphil, New Tredegar	Average	20	2	10	4	10	3	10	50
61	Trecastle	Fairly Good	30	0	20	0	20	14	0	70
62	Twyn road Tredomen	Good	30	0	20	0	20	3	10	80
64	Vicarage Lane, Ystrad Mynach	Average	20	0	20	0	20	6	5	65
65	Vicarage, Pengam	Good	30	0	20	0	20	4	10	80
66	West End, Abercarn	Good	30	0	20	0	20	5	10	80
67	William Street Tir y berth	Good	30	0	20	0	20	0	20	90
68	Windyridge, Pontllanfraith	Very Good	40	0	20	1	10	0	20	90
69	Woodfield terrace, Tiryberth	Very Good	40	0	20	1	10	0	20	90
70	Woodfieldside	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	8	5	85
71	Wyndham Street, Machen	Good	30	4	10	4	10	0	20	70
694	Sengenydd (Woodland Terrace)	Unknown	0							0
698	Abercarn Brett Road	Good	30	0	20	0	20	0	20	90
703	Lower Glyn-Gwyn Street	Good	30	0	20	0	20	6	5	75
705	Machen Ffwrwm Road South	Very Good	40	2	10	0	20	0	20	90
706	Upper Glyn-Gwyn Street	Good	30	0	20	0	20	6	5	75
707	Tredegar Street, Crosskeys	Good	30	0	20	0	20	9	5	75
708	Cobden Street, Crosskeys	Very Good	40	4	10	0	20	0	20	90
710	Charles Street, Trinant	Good	30	0	20	0	20	6	5	75
721	Fleur-de-lys	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	4	10	90
723	Groveside Road, Oakdale	Average	20	0	20	0	20	6	5	65
724	Pen-Rhiw Bengi Lane/Rhiw Syr Dafydd	Good	30	0	20	0	20	12	0	70
731	Abertridwr Cwm Ceffyl Allotments	Good	30	0	20	0	20	3	10	80
734	Cefn Fforest	Good	30	0	20	0	20	2	10	80
738	Tunnel Row, Newbridge	Good	30	0	20	0	20	0	20	90
740	Wingfield, Llanbradach	Very Good	40	0	20	0	20	9	5	85
742	Penallta allotment	Good	30	0	20	0	20	3	10	80
7997	Aberbargoed (Ty Fry)	Good	30	0	20	0	20	0	20	90

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REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 31ST MARCH 2015

SUBJECT: TAXI TRADE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of licensing requirements for the “taxi” trade, contractual requirements for school contracts and general enforcement and monitoring carried out by Licensing, Education Transport and Trading Standards.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report on the monitoring of the taxi trade has been prepared following a request by a Member at a previous Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny meeting.
- 2.2 The report outlines the licensing requirements for the trade, contractual requirements for school contracts and general controls and monitoring of the trade.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Licensing the “Taxi” trade and protecting public safety contributes to the Prosperous Caerphilly, and Safer Caerphilly priorities within the Caerphilly Local Service Board single integrated plan, Caerphilly Delivers, and Objective 1 of the Council’s Strategic Equality Plan 2012.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 Licensing - the legislative framework

While vehicles are described as “taxis” there are two distinct types of vehicle, Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles. Hackney Carriages bear illuminated roof signs, determine fares by means of a meter, display a tariff, and can be stopped by a customer or stand at a rank (plying for hire). Hackney Carriages display a white taxi licensing plate. Private Hire Vehicles must be booked through an Operator at an agreed rate of fare; they must not ply for hire. Private Hire Vehicles display a yellow taxi licensing plate.

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 requires that both types of vehicles must be licensed by the local authority and driven by licensed drivers. Prior to plating checks are made to ensure the vehicle is roadworthy, and are also made on renewal and through periodic spot checks. Taxi Operators are also licensed and are required to check both vehicles and drivers and to keep records containing details of journeys booked through the operator’s business. Drivers must be considered fit and proper persons before becoming licensed and must wear a badge at all times when driving a licensed vehicle.

Drivers and operators are required to declare any previous convictions on application and renewal and are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and Police National Computer (PNC) checks respectively. The authority recently enhanced controls by adopting a new policy on Previous Convictions and new Vehicle Standards. The Town Police Clauses Act 1847 contains offences for plying for hire without a licence to do so, and acting as a Hackney Carriage driver without the required licence.

Section 68 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, along with Section 171 of the Public Health Act 1875, allows the Licensing Authority to make bye-laws which concern the use of taxi meters, the display of plates, the comfort of passengers, display of signs, the conduct of drivers, the wearing of taxi badges, fares to be charged, and the display of tariffs.

4.2 Licensing Enforcement and Compliance

4.2.1 Actions taken by Licensing officers under delegated powers and by Members of Licensing Sub Committees

Licensing Officers are predominantly responsible for the administration and compliance with legislation. This includes the checking, processing and issuing of licences, development of policy and guidance for all stakeholders and liaison with Trading Standards enforcement officers in respect of complaint resolution or prosecution for illegal activities. Licensing officers have the ability to suspend licences where there has been non-compliance with certain licence obligations (such as not producing vehicles for spot checks etc), in more serious circumstances the Officers will report the matters to the Licensing sub-committee for their determination. At the time of writing the report the Authority licensed three hundred and eighteen Hackney Carriages, one hundred and sixteen Private Hire Vehicles, five hundred and ninety eight Drivers and twenty six Operators.

Vehicle Spot Checks

Hackney carriages and private hire vehicles may be subject to spot checks as a result of information or complaints received where there are concerns about a vehicle's condition. The spot check consists of a thorough mechanical and appearance check carried out at the Council's facilities.

Twenty-five such checks were conducted last year, which resulted in the suspension of three vehicles for mechanical failures allowing the proprietor time to correct the failure, and four vehicles were not presented for testing. Of the four that failed to attend three have subsequently been checked and are satisfactory and one remained suspended due to non-presentation of vehicle for checking. The suspended vehicle has been referred to Licensing Sub Committee for revocation of its licence as a result of failing to present it for testing.

Other licence suspensions

During 2014 the following numbers of licences were also suspended:

- (a) Non Production of satisfactory vehicle Insurance – forty five
- (b) Stop Notice issued for vehicles, which fail to meet the necessary standards set out by the Council – eleven
- (c) Licence invalidated due to non payment of licence fee as cheques returned to drawer – three
- (d) Licence suspended following notification of an accident – one.

Licensing Sub Committees

In 2014 Licensing Sub Committees

- (a) Refused three applications for driver's licences as the applicants were not considered to be fit and proper persons to hold such licences.

- (b) Revoked one driver's licence because of a conviction for a violent offence.
- (c) Revoked five vehicle licences.

Complaints

Two complaints were dealt with directly by licensing officers during 2014. One related to manner of driving but there was no further action as the complaint could not be substantiated and the second related to a driver's medical condition and is currently subject to further enquiries.

4.2.2 Taxi Licensing enforcement to ensure compliance

Enforcement activity is carried out by officers within the Trading Standards Service and consists of a mixture of proactive checks of vehicles, drivers and operators, and reactive response to complaints.

Proactive Work

In the calendar year 2014 Trading Standards carried out two hundred and two checks on vehicles and drivers. Vehicle checks include an examination of tariffs and meters (where applicable), the provision of first aid kits and fire extinguishers, and display of badges, plates and road fund licences. Lights, horn and tyres are checked as well as an examination of the vehicle for any obvious defects that may affect roadworthiness. Officers have the ability to prohibit vehicles that are defective such that they cannot be used for transporting passengers until repairs are affected and the prohibition is lifted. Any serious issues are referred to the Licensing Section and a request is made for the vehicle to undergo a full plating check at the transport depot at Tir-y-Berth.

Thirteen inspections were carried out at Private Hire Operators and Hackney Carriage Operator premises. Officers checked that drivers and vehicles were licensed and in the case of Private Hire Operators, whether records were being kept appropriately and in accordance with the byelaws.

The Trading Standards Service has fostered a working relationship with Gwent Police Traffic Section. Two joint operations were carried out in 2014 during periods of high night-time economy activity i.e. Friday and Saturday evenings. Joint patrols are conducted using marked traffic cars. Local Authority officers conduct checks against taxi legislation; Police officers check the vehicle and driver for valid insurance among other issues. Joint police checks are either conducted by stopping vehicles on the road or by approaching them while standing at the taxi ranks.

Reactive Work

An important element of taxi licensing enforcement is supporting reputable drivers and operators by reacting to complaints about unlicensed operators, drivers and vehicles or complaints concerning vehicles and drivers continuing to trade when their licences have been revoked, suspended or surrendered. Such complaints are received from members of the trade, the public or anonymously. The Trading Standards Service is able to respond to complaints where a phone number, vehicle details or information on locations and times of unlicensed pick-ups are provided. The response can include sending officers to pose as private customers to undertake a journey or carrying out surveillance on the activities of the perpetrator. Where evidence can be gathered the offender is brought to court and prosecuted.

Such actions in the calendar year 2014 resulted in the issue of two Simple cautions and one prosecution with four other cases pending. These relate to offences for unlicensed drivers, vehicles and lack of hire and reward insurance cover.

4.2.3 Education and Social Services Transport Controls

The Integrated Transport Unit (ITU) is responsible for the delivery of passenger transport services within the county borough. This includes home to school / college transport; transport for clients of Social Services attending day centres and respite and transport for looked after children, as well as support for uncommercial local bus services. For Education and Social Services transport, this includes the provision of taxis. In the interests of public safety the ITU only award contracts to taxi providers to transport children to and from school to licensed Private Hire Operators or proprietors of Licensed Hackney carriages, through an established procurement framework. All drivers and vehicles are required to be licensed by an authority and the latter must have appropriate insurance for the carriage of passengers for hire and reward. All licensed drivers are vetted to ensure that they are fit and proper to transport the public, through Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks at least every 3 years. Similarly, passenger assistants (escorts) are subject to the same level of vetting / checking.

The Education Transport team routinely monitors contracts, whilst specific complaints are subject to reactive monitoring, depending on the nature of the complaint. In addition checks are made with Trading Standards and School Transport Officers jointly examining those vehicles involved in transporting children to schools. During 2014 nine joint checks were carried out. School Transport officers check compliance with contracts, that escorts are fully approved by the Authority and are displaying the requisite escort badge. Both service areas work together to share information and respond to any complaints about unlicensed vehicles or drivers carrying out school contracts.

Before the commencement of any contract, the service provider must evidence vehicle test certificates, appropriate licences (vehicles and drivers), insurance policies and any other relevant documentation. These are subject to ongoing checks and scrutiny, either on a regular basis, or depending on the expiry dates of the policy / licence etc.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council ensures that it treats all individuals and organisations who are renewing or making new applications for licenses and school transport contracts with equal respect both when corresponding with those individuals and organisations, and during the licensing approval / tendering process.
- 5.2 Reactive Taxi Licensing enforcement work is driven by complaints and intelligence received. Preventative work is targeted towards those sectors of society most at risk, including vulnerable passengers, and late night revellers whose judgement may be impaired by intoxication.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 This report has been sent to the Consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That members note the contents of the report and the measures in place to ensure compliance and public safety.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To increase awareness of the controls on the “taxi” trade and work of the various services involved.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Town Police Clauses Act 1874
Public Health Act 1875
Road Traffic Act 1988
Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008

Author: Jacqui Morgan, Trading Standards, Licensing & Registrars Managers
Consultees: Cllr. D.T. Davies, Chair Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny
Cllr. E.M. Aldworth, Vice-Chair Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny
Cllr Dave Poole, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services
Dave Street, Corporate Director Social Services
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection
Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Sian Phillips, Human Resources Manager
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager
David A. Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
Clive Campbell, Transportation Engineering Manager
Huw Morgan, Team leader Integrated Transport
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