

## **PROVISION OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (METHODS) (RL. 2)**

**7.5.7** This public open space can be provided for in a number of ways as set out in policy RL.2. In applying the appropriate public open space standard the Council will not normally accept areas of less than 0.2 hectares (0.5 acres) in size, unless adjoining an existing area where the total together would exceed the minimum viable size. The average occupancy rate per dwelling for the West Berkshire is 2.6 persons (1998).

**7.5.8** Public open space should be genuinely available in perpetuity to the public at large. The Council will normally seek the transfer of public open space areas into local authority ownership/control in a condition appropriate for such use, and together with a reasonable sum for their ongoing maintenance as set out in Circular 1/97.

**POLICY RL.2** The provision of public open space may be satisfied in the following ways:

- (a) by allocating space on the development site itself;
- (b) by making space permanently available through formal agreement on other land in the applicant's control which is readily accessible from the development site and appropriate for public open space/recreational use;
- (c) in certain circumstances by making payment (subject to formal agreements) to meet the necessary public open space or other recreation requirements within a reasonable distance of the development site. The Council will accept such a payment only if it is able to provide new public open space or other appropriate recreation facilities easily accessible to the development site within a reasonable period of time;
- (d) by a combination of (a), (b) and (c).