Proposed Development

Open Space Provision

Open Space Hierarchy and Distribution



Open Space Design Development

The open space distribution has evolved to form a comprehensive integral part of the scheme design, with open space passive supervision from surrounding internal roads and dwellings following Kildare County Council section 247 meeting and further coordination between design team members.

The principal open spaces within the development consist of :

A principal open space centrally located within the development :

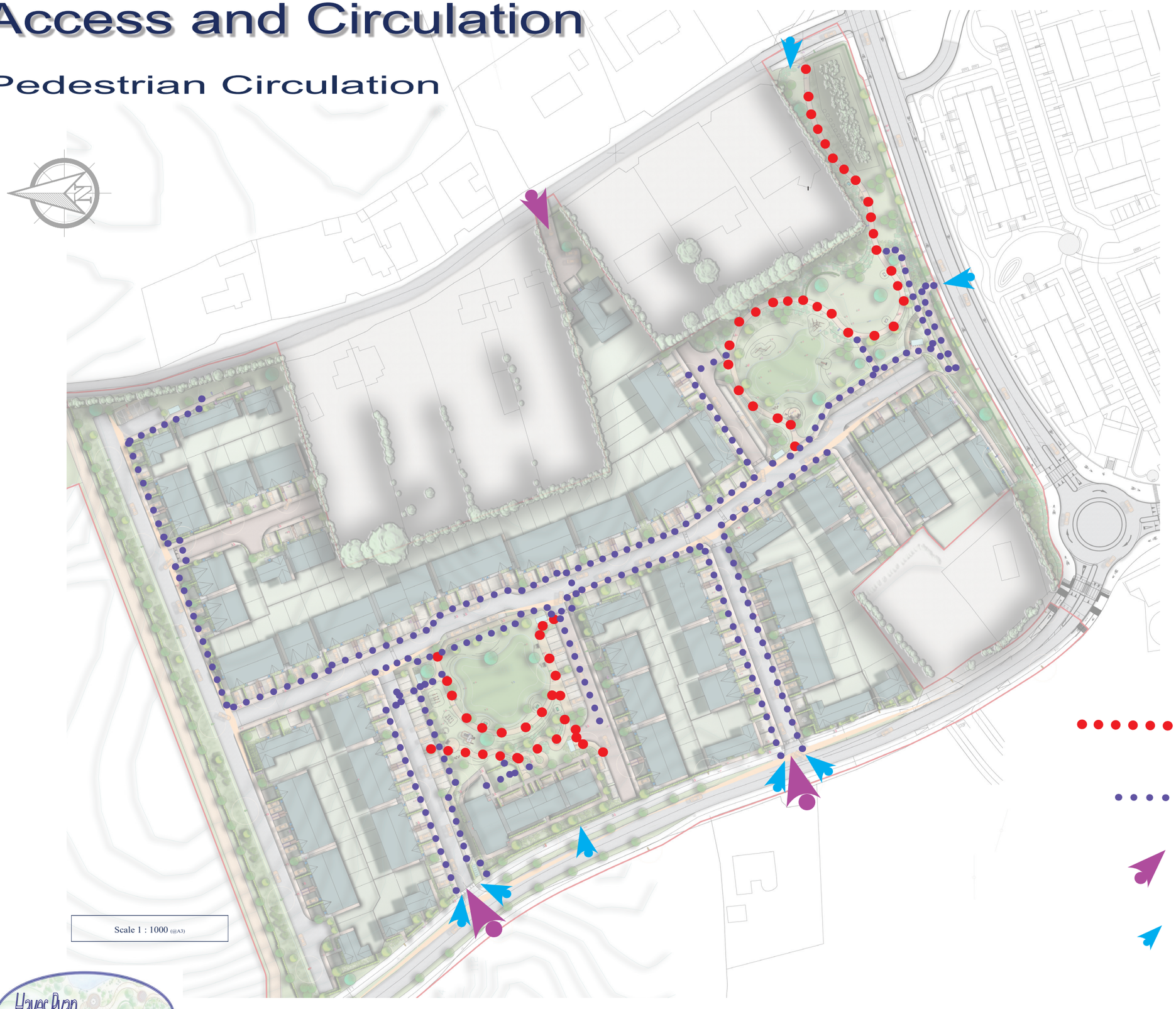
- The central open space accommodates a social space / passive supervision hub to the northern end of the site, gently rolling topography leads to the upper level western units. Within this space a number of natural play units are incorporated.
- Within the central space a detention basin is required, positioned and set at the lower open space levels. This is used as a lower level usable space level hub, which the surrounding ground levels contoured and shaped to the surrounds.
- A circulating footpath network encircles the open space to provide access and pleasant walks throughout development.

A large open space located to the southern end of the development :

- A linking open space which filters users through the development to the southern link road pedestrian route
- A continuous route through adjacent offset green space to the south east linking to Old road.
- Within the southern open space a detention basin is required, positioned to the lower levels. This is used as a lower level usable space level hub, which the surrounding ground levels contour around.

Access and Circulation

Pedestrian Circulation



Circulation Concept

The principal pedestrian circulation routes runs north - south through the heart of the development, linking the key open spaces. Designated zones for resting, active play and informal social interaction form a sequence of differentiated spaces areas included at key passive supervision points within each open space.

Within each open space zone, a sequence of areas, spatially defined by the surrounding buildings providing passive surveillance, allows for views to be funneled to key open space features, each open space offering a breathing space / destination at the end of the linking pathways and facilitates a pleasant journey through the sweeping curved pathways and the sculpted topography.

Access from the southern link road is directly to Open space No 2. A crossing east-west pathway links the open space to Old road allowing for pedestrian permeability and movement through the perimeters of the site to the central open space spine.

Curved pathways leads through each open space and gentle mounding to provide a relaxing walkway to link as back-bone pathways which allow for the structuring of the open spaces, defining a central informal kick-about areas, along with a designated natural play area adjacent to the home-zone areas.

— Denotes Primary pedestrian circulation Spine routes through open spaces.

— Denotes secondary pedestrian routes linking to key open spaces

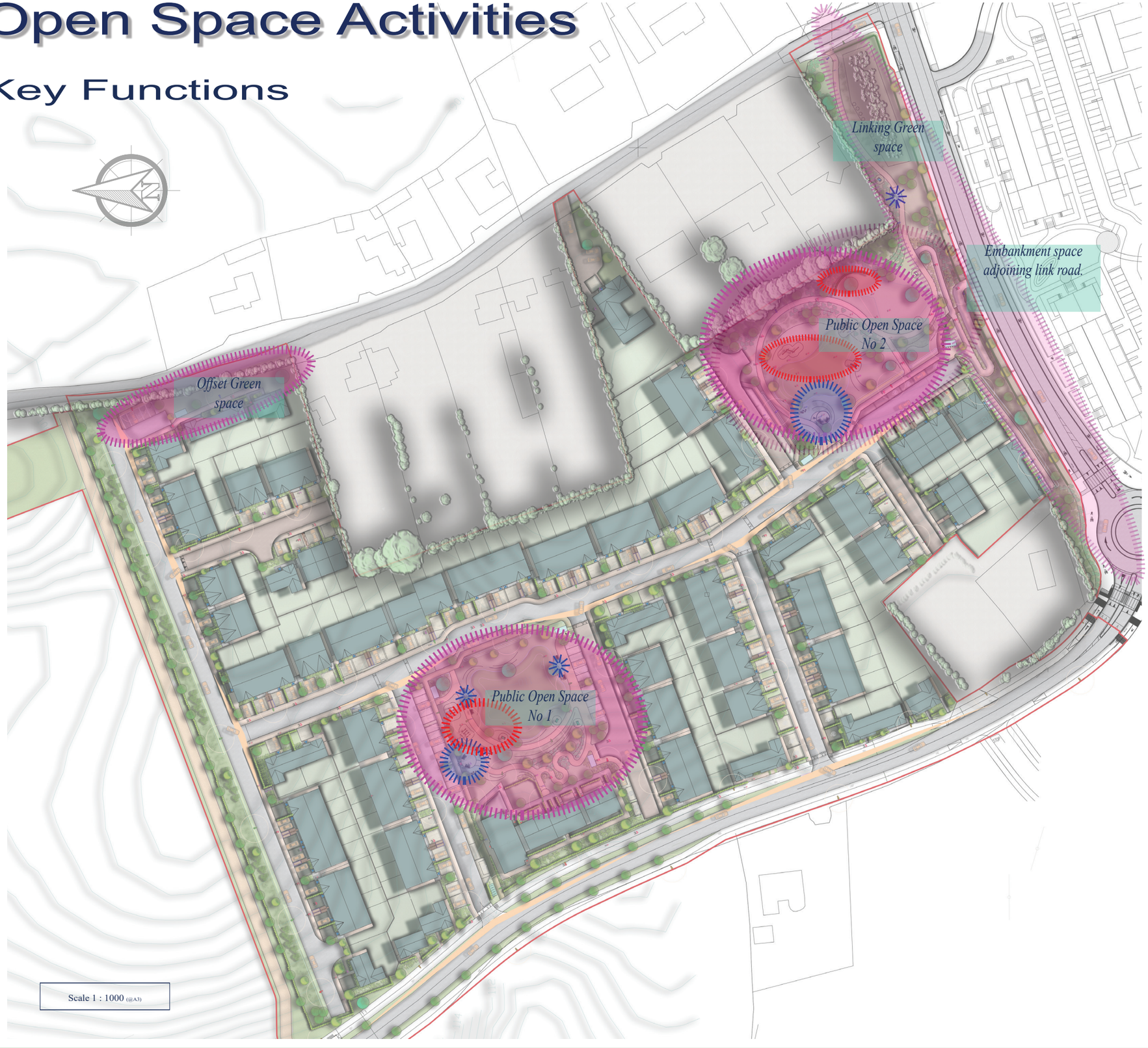
— Denotes principal vehicular access points

— Denotes Pedestrian access points

Hayes Ryan Landscape Architecture

Open Space Activities

Key Functions



Key Activity Distribution

The objective of two substantial open space designs is to a achieve a balance between optimum circulation routes, incorporation of detention basin volumes and levels as required by engineers, allow for space for informal kick-about activity, and natural play zones with associated areas for passive supervision / social interaction.

The principal areas for children's play / natural play, are located in open space no 1 with convenient access from the adjacent home zone area. The play areas are offset from the central space and located adjacent to gently sloping ground and strategically positioned seating hubs for passive supervision of both the smaller children's play areas but also the adjacent informal kick about area.

In open space no.2, a designated natural play area is located close to detention basin area for informal play and exploration of levels and slopes, while the central more level space consists of an informal kick about area located to the southern end of the open space which is presently a substantial hollow. Levels will be raised in this area to minimise the height of the southern embankment from within the site and also to create a more level open space area.

To the north-east of the site a communal green space forms a more protected area with adjacent Old road hedgerow retained.

— Denotes Key sedentary Zones (resting/ seating areas. Strategically located for passive supervision.

— Denotes Active Kick-about areas / Informal Play

— Denotes designated zones for Natural play (passively supervised)