

SANG – 01 04 2021	Country Park - 02 10 2014
Must/Should haves	Essential Criteria
<p>1. For all sites larger than 4 ha there must be adequate parking for visitors, unless the site is intended for local use, i.e. within easy walking distance of the developments linked to it. The amount of car parking should be determined by the anticipated use of the site and reflect the visitor catchment of both the SANG and the SPA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> at least 10 hectares in size
<p>2. It should be possible to complete a circular walk of 2.3 – 2.5 km around the SANG.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> defined by a clear boundary – marked on a map, whether it's open or fenced in
<p>3. Car parks must be easily and safely accessible by car and should be clearly sign posted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> accessible – less than 10 miles from a residential area
<p>4. The accessibility of the site must include access points appropriate for the particular visitor use the SANG is intended to cater for.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> free to enter
<p>5. The SANG must have a safe route of access on foot from the nearest car park and/or footpaths.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> inclusive and accessible – show how you've met equality and disability needs and provided for varied groups
<p>6. All SANGs with car parks must have a circular walk which starts and finishes at the car park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> predominantly natural or semi-natural landscape, for example woodland, grassland, wetland, heathland or parkland, with no more than 5% of the area built upon (excluding car parks)
<p>7. SANGs must be designed so that they are perceived to be safe by users: they must not have tree and scrub covering parts of the walking routes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> signposted and easy to navigate – you should show visitors where they can go, what they can do and direct them along footpaths, bridleways and cycle routes
<p>8. Paths must be easily used and well-maintained but most should remain unsurfaced to avoid the site becoming urban in feel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> visibly staffed, for example litter collection and maintenance
<p>9. SANGs must be perceived as semi-natural spaces with little intrusion of artificial structures except in the immediate vicinity of car parks. Visually sensitive way-markers and some benches are acceptable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> available for public or educational events

10. All SANGs larger than 12 ha must aim to provide a variety of habitats for users to experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • near public toilets – either on-site or a 2 minute walk away
11. Access within the SANG must be largely unrestricted with plenty of space provided where it is possible for dogs to exercise freely and safely off lead.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • informed by the local community – the public should have some influence over the management and development of your site
12. SANGs must be free from unpleasant intrusions (e.g. sewage treatment works smells, etc.).	
13. SANGs should be clearly sign-posted or advertised in some way.	
14. SANGs should have leaflets and/or websites advertising their location to potential users. It would be desirable for leaflets to be distributed to new homes in the area and be made available at entrance points and at car parks.	
Desirable	
15. The ability of owners to take dogs from the car park to the SANG safely off the lead.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a visitor centre
16. Where possible, choose sites with a gently undulating topography.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • play facilities
17. Access points to have signage outlining the layout of the SANG and the routes available to visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • catering
18. To provide a naturalistic space with areas of open (non-wooded) countryside and areas of dense and scattered trees and shrubs. The provision of open water on part, but not the majority of sites is desirable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bike and horse trails
19. Where possible, to have a focal point such as a viewpoint, monument etc. within the SANG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • art and sculpture
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • permanent staff presence during the day
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed information available to visitors, such as leaflets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brown and white tourist directional signs and shown on an OS map
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • activities outside, such as water sports and adventure sports
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieved, or is working towards, Green Flag Award (GFA) status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a green transport policy, such as buses and cycle routes to your site
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilities for less able visitors, such as easy trails, seats and information available in accessible formats
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planned for the management of biodiversity, geodiversity and preservation of historical environment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • opportunities for practical community involvement, such as volunteering
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoted the health benefits of walking
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an outreach programme promoting your site to less represented sectors of the community
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a programme of events and guided walks, promoting healthy living and environmental awareness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a visitor centre
<p>The wording in the lists above are precise and have the following meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements referred to as “must” or “should have” are essential • SANGs should have at least one of the “desirable” features. 	

Simon Meecham 13 04 2022