A Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan for the Kettering Borough

River Nene Regional Park

March 2018

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Introduction

Kettering Borough Council has developed this Green Infrastructure (GI) Delivery Plan to build on the work undertaken at a strategic level and described in the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and the North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

The document identifies a district level GI network for Kettering Borough that supports and enhances the network of sub-regional and local GI corridors, provides the evidence base supporting policies and proposals in the Site Specific Plan 2 Local Plan, and provides partners and stakeholders with a plan to guide and coordinate activities that support the development of GI in Kettering Borough.

The plan identifies opportunities within the sub-regional, local and district GI networks to enhance existing and create new GI for the area and provides specific project plans detailing project benefits, delivery partners, estimated costs and plans and diagrams.

The North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (adopted July 2016) identifies sub-regional green infrastructure corridors that are priority areas for investment and enhancement (see Figure 1 below). Local corridors and projects identified in this plan provide opportunities for investment at a local scale to compliment the sub-regional corridors.
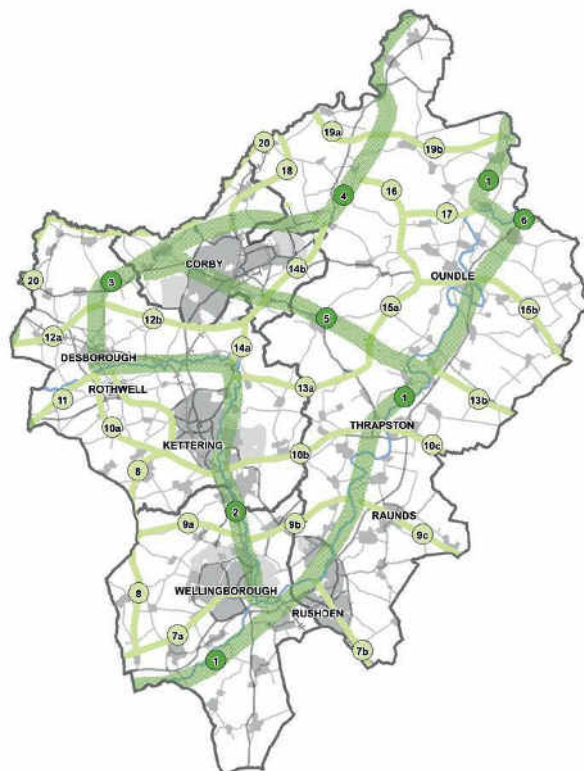
Figure 1 Sub-regional and Regional Green Infrastructure Corridors identified in the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy
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Additional strategies and plans influenced the development of this plan. A summary of findings from a review of these documents is provided at Appendix 1.

Defining Green Infrastructure

The Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) defines Green Infrastructure (GI) as:

> *"A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities."*

Examples of GI in Kettering Borough include parks and gardens, outdoor recreational spaces, natural and semi-natural green spaces, allotments and the corridors of the Slade Brook and River Ise.

Background

The Borough of Kettering is characterised by market towns, attractive villages and countryside. Kettering is the main town and has a population of approximately 67,650. There are three other significant settlements; Burton Latimer, Desborough and Rothwell, and 27 villages of varying scale and character. As with much of Northamptonshire, the Borough is expected to provide significant growth in the period to 2031, accommodating 10,400 dwellings and a minimum of 8,100 new jobs.

Green Infrastructure in the Borough is focused along the river valleys (the River Ise and the Slade Brook), and in woodland areas to the north of the Borough that lie within the Rockingham Forest Area. There are opportunities to enhance existing green infrastructure within the Borough and to create new green infrastructure to strengthen the GI network. Accessibility of the GI network from settlements is varied and there are opportunities for this to be enhanced.

The Slade Brook, as it runs through Kettering Town Centre, has been identified by the Borough Council as an area requiring particular focus in this Plan. The Brook has historically been underutilised but has the potential to become a significant public amenity asset, with the creation of new open spaces as part of its restoration, as well as providing improved flood risk mitigation, and biodiversity improvements.

Best practice principles for Green Infrastructure

Good management of Green Infrastructure brings multiple benefits for communities and the environment. These include improved amenity, recreation

and transport opportunities, enhanced biodiversity, natural flood management, and enhancements to the local economy due to landscape improvements. Well-managed, accessible green space can also be beneficial to public health.

The Town and Country Planning Association, with the Wildlife Trusts (2012) identified 10 best practice principles for Green Infrastructure:
1. Strategically planned to provide a comprehensive and integrated network.
2. Wide partnership buy-in.
3. Planned using sound evidence.
4. Demonstrates 'multi-functionality'.
5. Creation and maintenance need to be properly resourced.
6. Central to development design and must reflect and enhance an area's locally distinctive character.
7. Contribute to biodiversity gain by safeguarding, enhancing, restoring, and creating wildlife habitat, and by integrating biodiversity into the built environment.
8. Achieve physical and functional connectivity between sites at strategic and local levels.
9. Include accessible spaces and facilitate physically active travel.
10. Integrated with other policy initiatives.

These principles were applied in setting the methodology for the development of this Implementation Plan and in the selection of projects for inclusion in the plan. Table 1, following, identifies how these principles have been incorporated in the development of this plan.

Table 1 Ten Best Practice Principles and how this plan incorporates them

Principle	How this document delivers
Strategically planned to provide a comprehensive and integrated network	Local corridors identified in this plan were selected to extend the regional network and strengthen connections for nature and people
Wide partnership buy-in	The plan was developed via a deliberative process with all partners as well as a wide range of community stakeholders as described in the stakeholder engagement strategy
Planned using sound evidence	The foundation of this plan are local policies and strategies developed from an extensive body of evidence
Demonstrates 'multi-functionality'	Proposed corridors have been planned with multiple use in-mind including wildlife movement, habitat improvement, off road transport and improved amenity
Creation and maintenance need to be properly resourced	All the projects included in this plan have the support and commitment of the Council as well as other delivery partners and the wider community
Central to development design and must reflect and enhance an area's locally distinctive character	Several of the projects included in this plan have future development potential in mind and have been designed to inform the design and support and protect the local character

Contribute to biodiversity gain by safeguarding, enhancing, restoring, and creating wildlife habitat, and by integrating biodiversity into the built environment	Town centre projects included in the plan aim to increase biodiversity through the creation and protection of habitats
Achieve physical and functional connectivity between sites at strategic and local levels	Feasibility of deliverability and contribution to connectivity between sites was undertaken during project delivery
Include accessible spaces and facilitate physically active travel	Proposed corridors have been planned with to provide off road transport and improved accessibility and amenity
Integrated with other policy initiatives	The thorough desk top review and the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders in the consultation ensures that this document integrates with, and supports, other policies

Document Lay-out

This plan is arranged for ease of access to the information that is relevant to a range of users. The main body of the document provides a summary of relevant background information, describes the methodology used to create the document, presents summary information on the projects, funding options and suggested evaluation methods.

The appendices provide detailed background information, a full account of the community and stakeholder engagement undertaken, detailed project plans and diagrams as well as guidance on the development of additional projects and provides a full list of funders.

Using this Document

The applications for this document are widespread. For example; planners and developers may use the document to identify opportunities and priorities for investment in green infrastructure. Partner organisations may use the document to inform their decisions about green infrastructure management and planning and the local community, including Town and Parish Councils can nominate projects they would like to see included in this local strategy for future investment.

Methodology

In response to the request for tender and following discussions with Borough Council Officers during the inception meeting the following methodology was applied to the development of this plan.

Figure 2 below is a diagram of the methodology applied to the development of this plan.

Figure 2 Diagram of Methodology

Thorough stakeholder identification and analysis was undertaken to enable the design of an engagement process that was inclusive of all perspectives, took account of accessibility needs and allowed for the diversity of needs associated with green spaces.

Coincident with the design of the engagement process a comprehensive desk top review of relevant plans and policies was undertaken to identify information gaps and set the boundaries for the engagement conversations and define the outputs in this plan.

Stakeholder and community engagement was undertaken throughout the project as described in the following section and detailed in Appendix 2. The community consultation and stakeholder engagement resulted in a list of project proposals that were prioritised within the stakeholder workshops and then verified as

technically feasible and strategically desirable through site visits and additional research.

Outputs from the stakeholder workshops were the detailed project plans, provided in Appendix 3. These plans form the basis of this Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan. However, the project plans included here are simply those that ranked highest amongst stakeholders at the time of plan preparation. It is to be anticipated that priorities and interests will change over time and that new projects will come forward for implementation. Guidance on the preparation of new or additional project plans is provided at Appendix 4: Guidance for new GI project Proposals and a project template at Appendix 5: Project Plan Template.

To support delivery of green infrastructure projects an investigation of funding sources was also undertaken as part of this plan development. A summary of funding is provided in a later section and a full table of funding sources is provided at Appendix 6: Funding Options Table.

Desk Top Review

A comprehensive review of all the plans and policies relevant and relative to the development of this Delivery Plan was undertaken in order to ensure that this document is in alignment with existing policies and strategies and to identify information gaps to enable these to be filled during the development of the plan. Appendix 1 provides a report of the findings from this review and the list of documents reviewed is presented at Appendix 7: References and sources of further information.

In summary, there are a number of wider strategic documents that recognise and support the importance of GI including the National Planning Policy Framework, the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, the North Northamptonshire Carbon Sink Forestry Feasibility Study and The Nene Valley Integrated Catchment Plan. The Northampton Green Infrastructure Strategy (Fiona Fyfe Associates, 2016) outlines a methodology for designing a GI strategic document, and like the Nene Valley ICP, stresses the importance of partnership working and stakeholder engagement in designing the most appropriate projects for delivery.

The introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in 2012, provided guidance on the designation of Local Green Space in order to identify and protect/release important open space following a desire by the government to employ an approach in favour of development (Communities for Local Government, 2012).

At a national level planning policy recognises the important contribution that access to high quality open space and opportunities for sport and recreation make to the health and well-being of communities. The NPPF seeks to ensure that open space is protected and that needs for open space, sport and recreation provision are met.

At a strategic level the North Northamptonshire Join Core Strategy (JCS) provides a strategic framework for the provision of green infrastructure. The JCS identifies sub-regional and local green infrastructure corridors. The focus is on the strategy corridors of the River's Nene and Ise, and the Rockingham Forest Area. Green Infrastructure is a key driver in maintaining the character and special rural and urban qualities of the area.

The North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan (May 2014) identifies green infrastructure projects planned and underway in North Northamptonshire. The plan includes a long list of projects and a number of detailed project plans for projects already being delivered. Within Kettering Borough project plans are included for Desborough Green Space, Wicksteed Park Nature Reserve and Barford Wood and Meadows.

At a local level there is an opportunity to build on the work undertaken at a strategic level to enhance green infrastructure provision within the Borough.

The desktop review identified that the most consistent GI routes in the Borough are located along the River Ise. The review highlighted the opportunity to create a corridor along the Slade Brook which would link with the River Ise corridor. There are also opportunities at a local level to enhance inks between settlements and green infrastructure corridors and to identify projects which will enhance the green infrastructure corridors.

The need for partnership working and stakeholder and community involvement is highlighted as an important element in delivering green infrastructure through the desktop review.

Stakeholder and Community Engagement

Extensive community and stakeholder engagement has been undertaken to determine the priorities and levels of support for green infrastructure improvement and development within the Borough. The full engagement process is defined and outputs summarised in Appendix 2.

In summary, it included community drop in events at each major settlement, an online survey, one-to-one interviews with key owners and managers of privately owned green infrastructure and stakeholder workshops. This report is essentially the outputs from the engagement undertaken. Projects included in the plan originated from the consultation, were prioritised within the stakeholder workshops and detailed with input from key stakeholders.

Key messages from the Stakeholder and Community Engagement are provided below.

Workshops:
At the start of the workshops participants were asked to respond to the question "It's 2020 and KBC is seen as a leader in terms of GI provision, Why?"

Based on responses to this question, the following are key to ensuring GI delivery in the Borough is successful:

- A connected and comprehensive network of green infrastructure
- Use of innovative approaches
- Real delivery of projects
- Strong influence of policy
- A good evidence base
- Good communication
- Additional benefits to schemes (i.e. improving water quality)
- Stewardship
- Collaborative and partnership working
- Accessibility of spaces

The workshops considered what is being done already and what else needs to be done. A full list of responses is provided in Appendix 2 but suggestions for what needs to be done included:

- Better communication / increasing awareness
- Working loosely with developers
- Increasing funding opportunities
- Focussing on connectivity and accessibility of green spaces
- Influencing GI as a framework for development

Suggestions fro improving local green spaces included:

- Footpaths
- Signposting
- Amenity spaces across the Borough and
- Tree planting

Areas identified for improvement included:

- North Kettering Park / Brambleside Woods / Weekley Hall Woods
- Highway planting
- School grounds
- Slade Brook Valley / Meadow Road Park
- Grass verges
- River Ise
- Welland Valley
- Desborough Millennium Green
- Desborough Green Space
- Cotswold Avenue Park

Ideas for new green spaces included:

- New woodland creation
- Community orchard in Broughton
- Connecting green areas within Kettering Town Centre

In terms of the community consultation survey two key points emerged:

- Green infrastructure was very important to the majority of respondents (92%) with the remainder believing it to be important.
- A wide range of open spaces were identified as being important to respondents, these ranged from grass verges through to large green spaces such as Wicksteed Park and Rockingham Pleasure Park.

The following section provides details on the policy context for this document.

Context and Evidence Base

At a nationally strategic level, GI is an environmental system that supports the health, well-being, and aesthetic values of communities and the maintenance of functional ecosystems. It provides a process that makes the most of existing and future assets, enables the environment to support and maintain natural and ecological processes, and sustains land, air and water resources.

The NPPF recognises the important contribution that access to high quality open space and opportunities for sport and recreation make to the health and well-being of communities. The NPPF seeks to ensure that open space is protected and that needs for open space, sports and recreation provision are met.

The NPPF also introduced the Local Green Space designation in order to identify and protect important open space. The Local Green Space designation should only be used: (Communities for Local Government, 2012):
- Where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- Where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- Where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

The North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (NNJCS) (North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, 2015) provides strategic guidance for Green Infrastructure. Policy 19 outlines Green Infrastructure as a key driver in maintaining the character and special rural and urban qualities of the county, further strengthened by policies 2 to 5, which outline the significance of environmental and heritage asset management and policies 20 and 21 which provide detail in relation to the Nene and Ise Valleys and the Rockingham Forest. The NNJCS also recognises the importance of protecting, enhancing and extending the counties green infrastructure and its value to communities, both resident and visiting.

Kettering Borough Council is seeking to build on work undertaken at a North Northamptonshire level to refine the GI network at a district level and identify priority projects which will contribute to the delivery of GI in the Borough.

There are a number of wider strategic documents that recognise and support the importance of GI in Northamptonshire, for example, the North Northamptonshire Carbon Sink Forestry Feasibility Study (River Nene Regional Park, 2010) which provides a focus on the value of local woodlands for biodiversity, amenity and carbon storage. The Nene Valley Integrated Catchment Plan (ICP), (Nene Valley Catchment Partnership, 2014) centres on maintaining and improving the quality green corridors within the Nene Valley Catchment area, including the River Ise and its tributaries.

Strategic and Local Green Infrastructure Networks

The North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy defines a green infrastructure framework that links in with the Countywide framework as illustrated in Figure 1 shown previously.

Embedded within the Joint Core Strategy is the intention to focus investment on green infrastructure enhancement within the identified corridors to ensure that developments are directly connected to environmental spaces by linking locations with particular environmental interests.

Policy Context

The flow of policy supporting a Kettering Specific GI Delivery Plan is shown in Figure 3 on the following page.
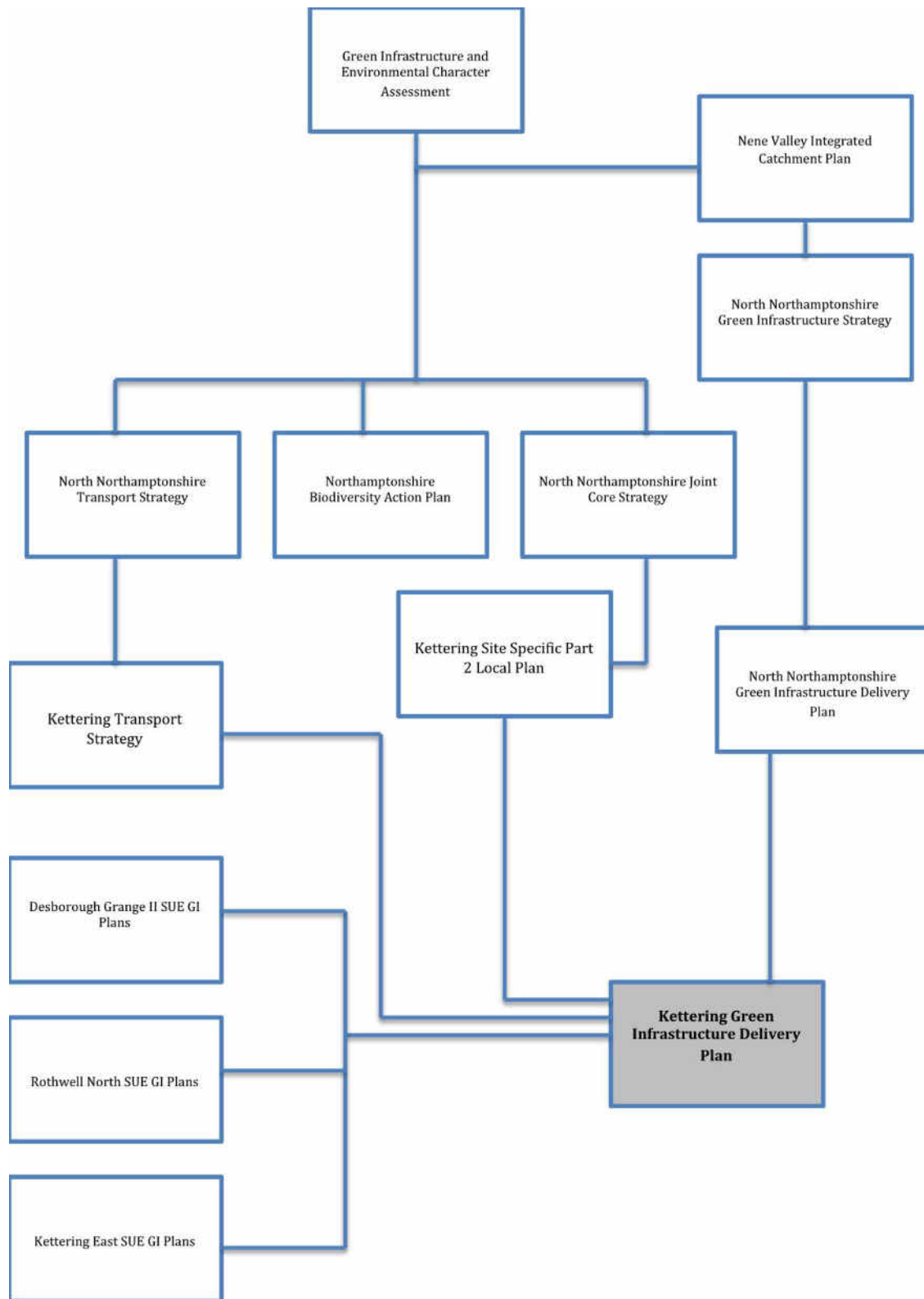
Figure 3 Diagrammatic representation of policy supporting this GI Delivery Plan

The Plan

This Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan uses the sub-regional and local Green Infrastructure corridors as a basis for identifying Borough level corridors that support and enhance the strategic network. It also identifies specific projects within these corridors that will strengthen and enhance these corridors. Projects that fall outside of the corridors are also included where they reinforce the Green Infrastructure corridors or act to expand or link corridors.

Aims and Objectives

The primary objective of this plan is to provide partners and stakeholders with a Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan that will prioritise, guide and co-ordinate activities and will support the development of Green Infrastructure in Kettering Borough.

The aims of the plan are to:
- Improve access to GI in the Borough;
- Increase the quality and overall amount of GI in the Borough;
- Improve the natural environment by increasing biodiversity;
- Create a strong network of GI corridors which provide a network of habitats and accessible corridors for wildlife and people to use;
- Ensure that new development contributes to the enhancement of GI in the Borough; and
- Contribute to flood water management through the identification of GI projects.

This plan also sets the policy context for developing a district level Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan, suggests district level GI network for Kettering Borough and provides detailed project plans for a selection of high priority green infrastructure projects.

In addition stakeholders were asked during consultation to identify their aspirations for GI in Kettering Borough. The following key points are derived from their responses:
- collaboratively developed and delivered,
- based on sound evidence,
- connected and comprehensive,
- accessible,
- has a strong influence on policy,
- utilises innovative approaches, and is
- well communicated and understood.

Borough Level Green Infrastructure Network for Kettering Borough

This plan builds upon the premise established in the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy with regard to green infrastructure of connecting communities to the natural environment by linking sites of environmental interest and value.

The corridors identified in Figure 4 on the following page are based upon connecting communities with the broader network of regional and sub-regional corridors and enhancing the connections between these corridors. They are situated along routes that provide opportunities for ecological enhancement and off road transportation. Planned urban expansions, along with the GI they will contain, were also considered in the siting of these local corridors.
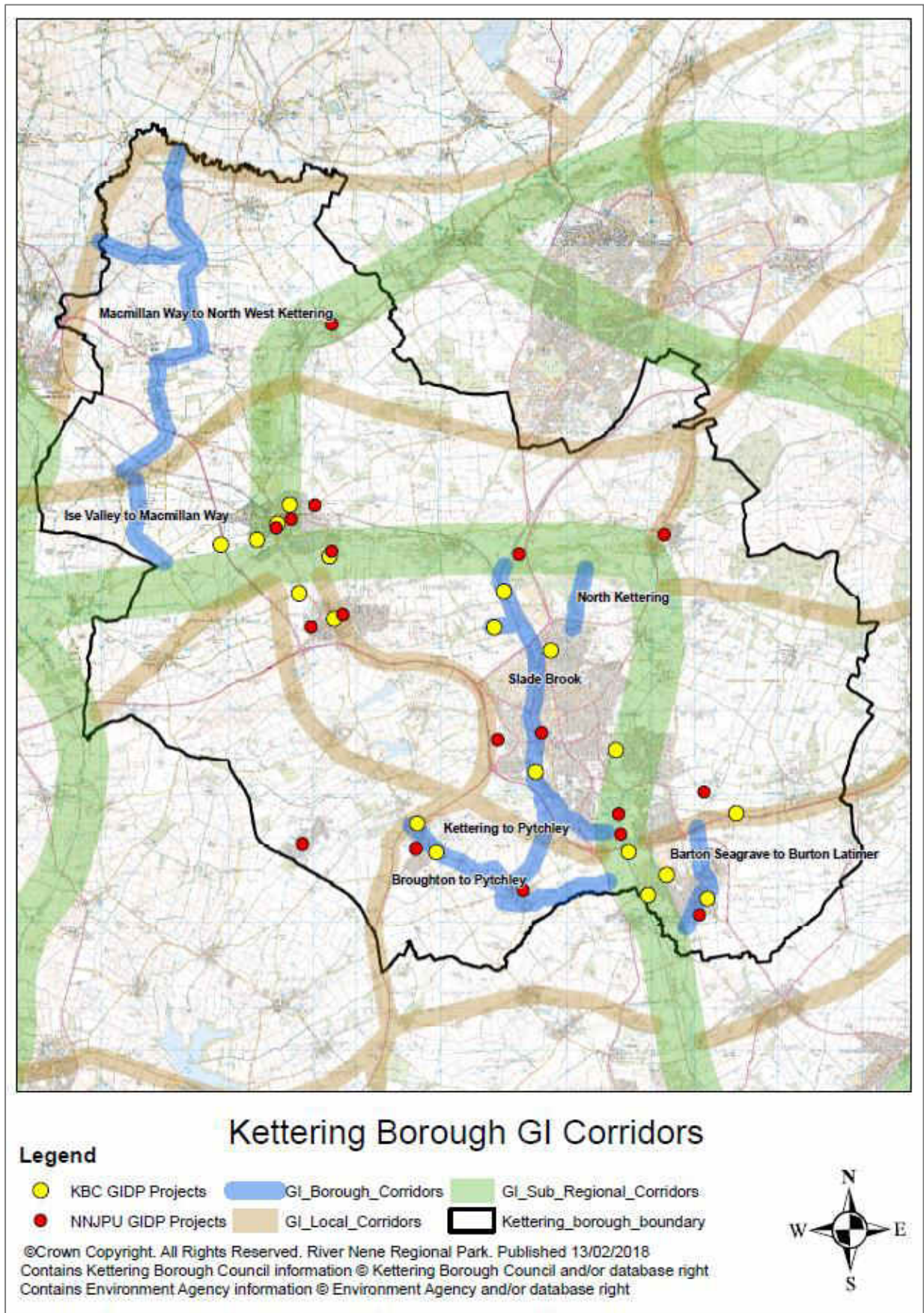
Figure 4 Local green infrastructure corridors
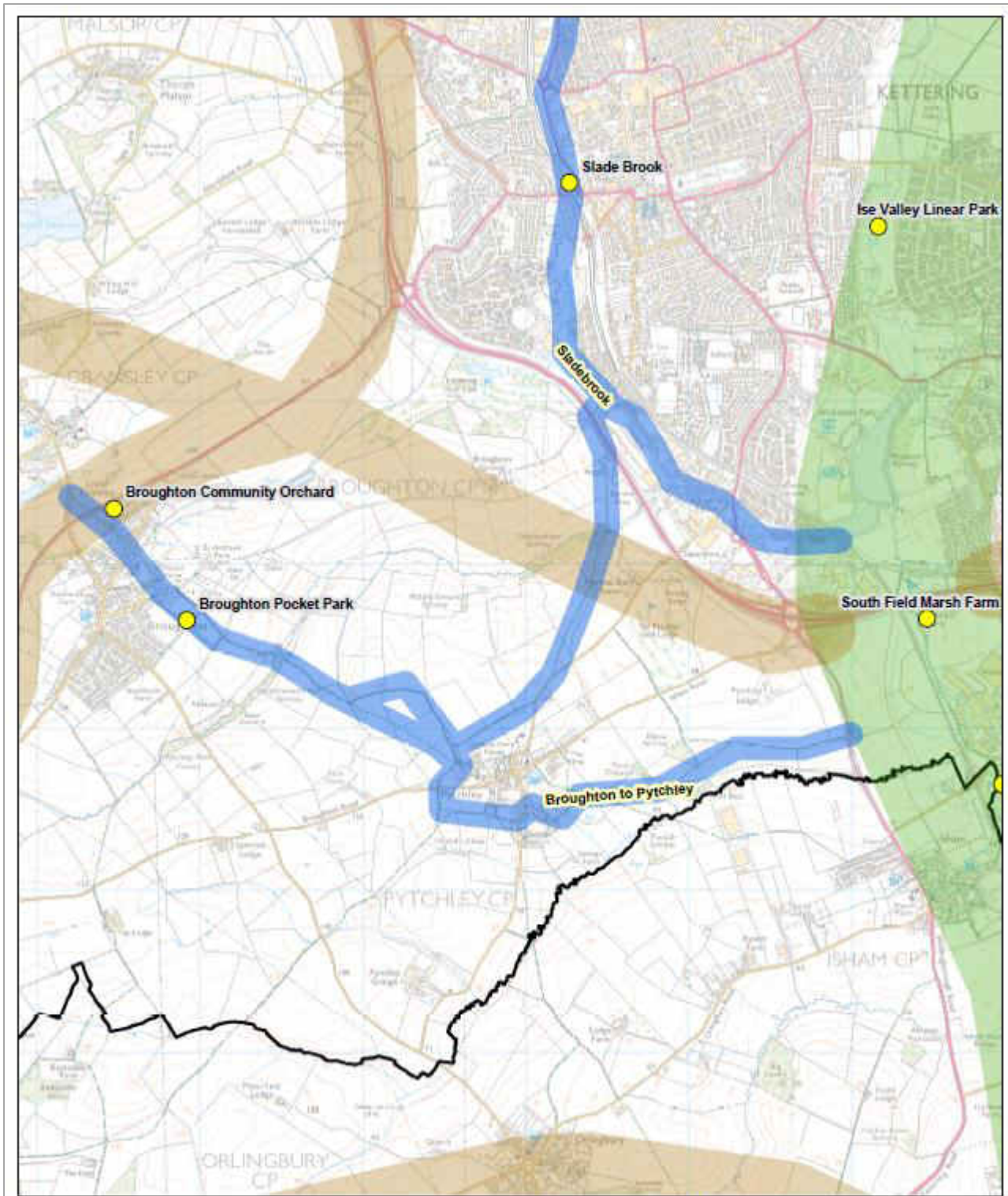
Broughton to Pytchley Local GI Projects

Legend

- ○ KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ GI_Borough_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary

Figure 5 Broughton to Pytchley Corridor and Local Green Infrastructure Projects
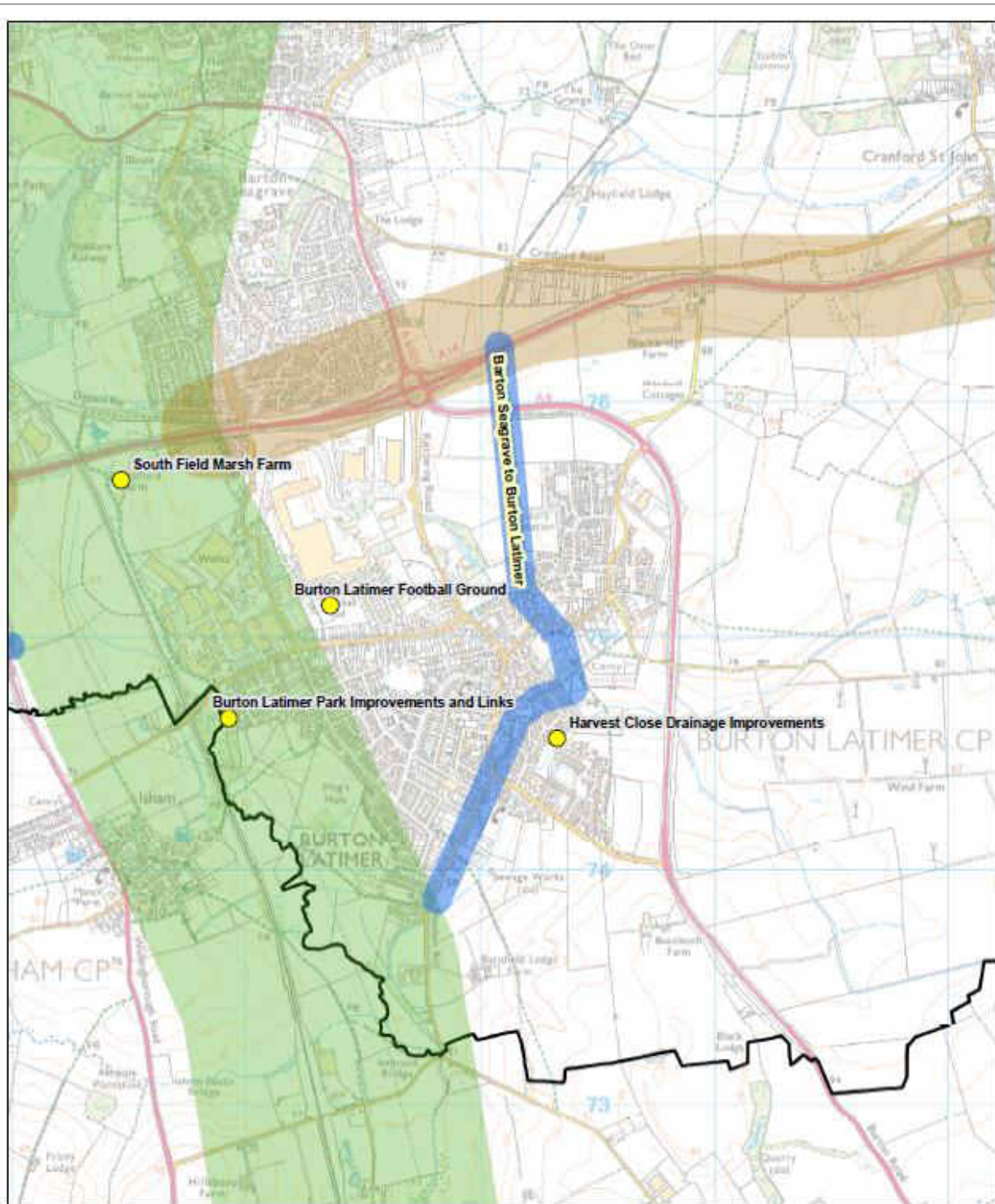
Figure 6 Barton Seagrave to Burton Latimer Corridor and Local Green
Infrastructure Projects
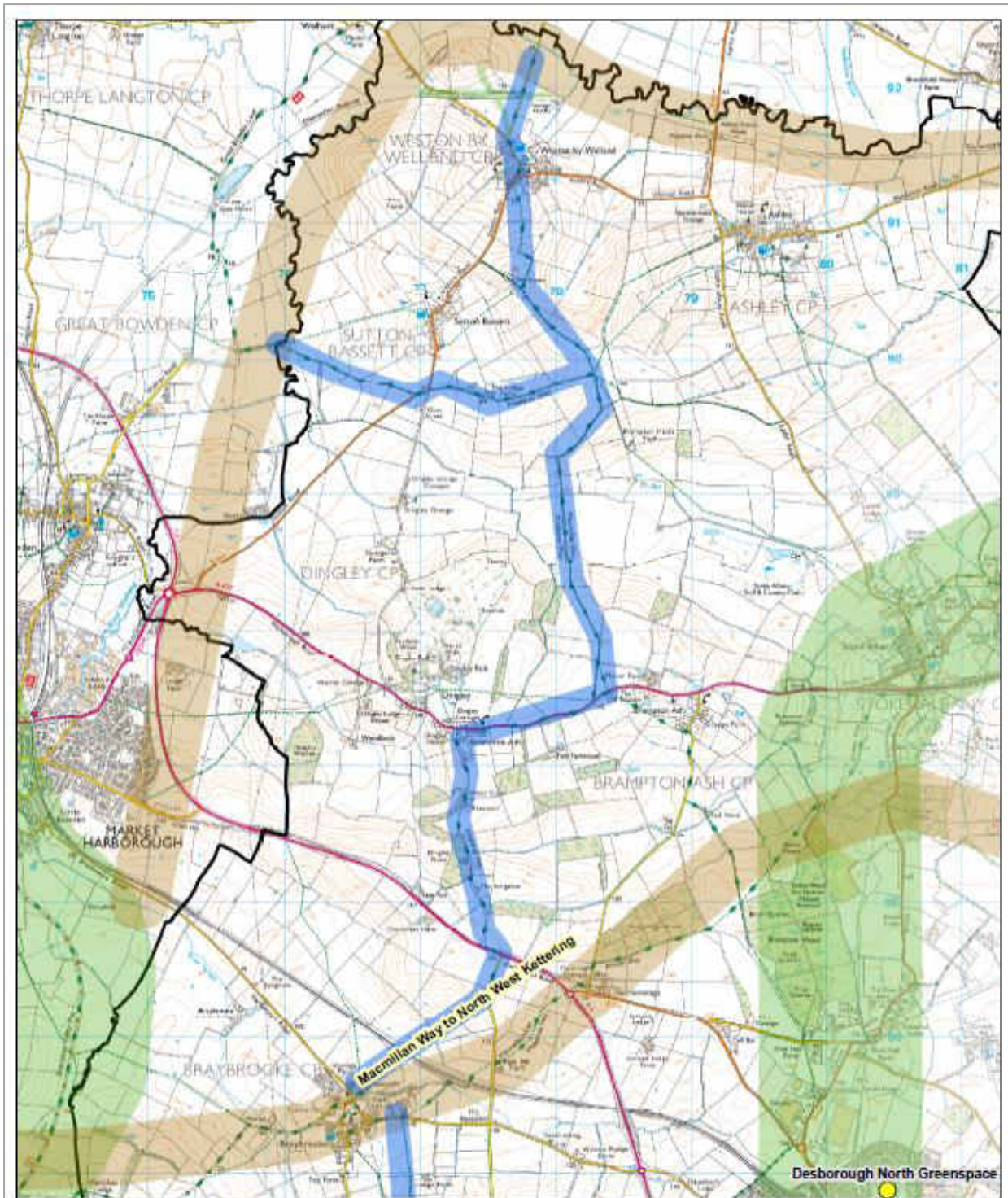
Macmillan Way to North West Kettering Borough Local GI Projects

Legend

- ◯ KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ GI_Borough_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary

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Figure 7 Macmillan Way to North West Kettering Borough Corridor and Local Green Infrastructure Projects

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Figure 8 Slade Brook and North Kettering Corridors and Local Green
Infrastructure Projects

Figure 9 Ise Valley to Macmillan Way Corridor and Local Green Infrastructure
Projects

Local corridors (marked in blue on the map above) are described in Table 2 below.

Table 2 Kettering Borough Local Green Infrastructure Corridors

Number	Name	Description & Aspirations
1	Macmillan Way to North West Kettering Borough	This corridor connects two local corridors. It follows the Macmillan Way north from Braybrooke to Weston by Welland via Dingley and Brampton Ash. It is within the rural landscape and included here as it presents an opportunity to safeguard and enhance the route and to provide a long distance walking route in the north of the Borough.
2	Ise Valley to Macmillan Way	This connection between a subregional and local corridor runs from West of Desborough north to join the southern end of the Macmillan Way to North West Kettering Borough corridor (above). This is an important right of way that provides an off road transport link and provides a long distance walking route.
3	North Kettering	This is a short corridor that connects the North Kettering residential area to the sub-regional corridor to the north. It crosses the rural landscape and provides an opportunity to maintain existing connections when the area becomes subject to development.
4	Slade Brook	This follows the Slade Brook from Barford Meadows nature reserve to its confluence with the River Ise. It links the urban area to the sub-regional corridor and represents an important opportunity to bring nature into the built environment and provide for flood and climate change resilience.
5	Kettering to Pytchley	Providing a connection between a district and a local corridor this corridor parallels the nearby subregional corridor that skirts the southern edge of Kettering town and is an important off road transport route.
6	Broughton to Pytchley	This corridor links a local and a sub-regional corridor. It follows the right of way between Broughton and Pytchley and is included here in recognition of the local desire to formalise this route in the future.
7	Barton Seagrave to	Connects a sub-regional and a local corridor and provides an off road transport link between these

	Burton Latimer	two towns and is an opportunity to provide GI within the town.

As can be seen from Figure 4 these corridors incorporate the identified projects that fall outside of the current GI network and capitalise on existing off road routes of transport.

The most significant of these corridors in terms of numbers of projects and scale is the Slade Brook. This is an important natural corridor and environmental asset which has been undervalued historically and which could be enhanced to make an attractive contribution to the Town Centre and provide improved recreation opportunities for the local community as well as important natural habitats within the built environment. It could also, with careful design, contribute to flood risk reduction and climate change resilience. The Slade Brook project plan (presented in Appendix 3) details the initiatives to be implemented to achieve flood risk mitigation, biodiversity enhancements, improved amenity and aesthetic and recreational benefits.

General Principles for Improving Green Infrastructure

While this plan focuses on enhancing and expanding the GI offer across the Borough through project identification and implementation, there are some activities that could be undertaken to improve Green Infrastructure more generally.

The Council and other public bodies, own and manage a great deal of land that could be contributing to ecological connections and improved amenity. A program of street, verge and public garden planting that utilizes local native species would be beneficial as would incentivising the use of these species in domestic gardens.

Additionally, access and appreciation of the available green spaces could be enhanced. During the consultation several comments were collected relating to the absence of way finding and guides to local green spaces, particularly less formal / more natural spaces. This was also apparent during site visits.

Improving awareness and access to green spaces is an important step to ensuring that these spaces are valued and protected in the long-term. It would therefore be prudent, in addition to project implementation, to deliver a Borough wide program of way finding and develop local walking guides. This could be achieved by providing funding to local communities or Parish Councils.

Other gaps in GI were also identified during the production of this plan; Communities within the smaller settlements of Desborough and Rothwell expressed a desire for a 'green wheel' of accessible green space around their towns with spurs extending into the town centres. It was beyond the scope of this document to address and investigate this aspiration but this could be undertaken in the future as part of town specific initiatives to determine feasibility and costs.

Additionally, it was noted that there is an absence of formal GI in the north of the Borough, likely due to low population densities. It is unlikely that projects will come forward for this area in the short term however, some work around improving access and connection should be considered in order to ensure the value of spaces currently being accessed informally is not lost. For this reason, local corridor 1 from Figure 4 and

Table 2 above is included in this plan.

These initiatives are summarised in Table 3 below.

Table 3 General Initiatives for improving Green Infrastructure

Action	Description	Next Steps	Responsible Party
Planting in public areas (in line with KBC Pollinator Strategy)	This includes parks and gardens, road verges and streetscapes.	− Develop a policy for public bodies to utilise local native species and pollinator species in all street and public planting. − Encourage / incentivise other large landholders, such as churches and schools, to adopt the same policy.	KBC KBC / Town / Parish Councils
Way finding	Directional signage and map boards to facilitate access to off road transport routes.	− Develop a common style and template for way marking for use across the Borough. − Promote this initiative among Town / Parish councils and other GI providers / managers to enable consistency. − Investigate funding options for supply	KBC in consultation KBC / Town / Parish Councils
Guides to local green space and walks	An extension to way finding is the provision of local walking guides	− Encourage / facilitate the development and promotion of	Town / Parish Councils with support from KBC

	and local GI guides identifying sites of interest and facilities / values they provide.	guides to local GI and rights of way either in hard copy and electronic format.	
Incorporation of GI into neighbourhood plans	Town and Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums to account for GI provision through the development of Neighbourhood plans.	− Encourage local plans and neighbourhood plans to include consideration of GI provision and access.	KBC
Desborough and Rothwell 'Green Wheel' aspirations	Progress the aspirations for a 'green wheel' around both of these towns.	− Encourage the community to progress this initiative through the preparation of neighbourhood plans or Parish Plans	KBC to inform the local planning process for Neighbourhood / Parish plans

Green Infrastructure Projects and Project Plans

As well as these general comments several specific projects did emerge from community and stakeholder consultation many of which were found, after feasibility assessment and site visits, to be deliverable and appropriate to meeting the aims and objectives of the Plan.

Table 4 below provides a summary of the projects that emerged during the preparation of this Plan. They originated from Community and Stakeholder engagement and, after feasibility assessment, have been worked up to a level of detail sufficient to progress their delivery as funding becomes available. Full project plans, along with relevant maps and plans are provided in Appendix 3.

The projects presented here represent the beginning of coordinated delivery of Green Infrastructure for the Borough. It is intended that additional projects be developed as need or opportunity arise. This will ensure that the Plan remains relevant and current. Mechanisms for ensuring that new projects come forward are included in the monitoring section of this document. Guidance on the nomination of new projects and a project plan template are provided at Appendix 4: Guidance for new GI project Proposals and Appendix 5: Project Plan Template respectively, to support the presentation of new projects.

Table 4 Projects in this Plan (current as at March 2018)

Project Name	Description	Indicative Cost
Broughton Community Orchard	Creation of a community orchard on land adjacent to the Grange Road residential development	£5,000
Broughton Pocket Park and Rights of Way	Improve the access to, condition and interpretation of the pocket park; also seek opportunities to improve way marking to the pocket park and the bridleways to Pytchley	£19,000
Burton Latimer Football Ground	Woodland creation around the Football Ground and planting to strengthen the green links to other nearby green spaces	£9,000
Burton Latimer Park Improvements	Strengthen the connection between the green spaces within Burton Latimer and provide of way marking and implement improvements to the Ise Brook including bank reshaping, weed control and planting, and 'slow the flow' measures to reduce flood risk	£68,655
Harvest Close Open Space Burton Latimer	Reduce water logging (through planting and stream improvements) in the Harvest Close open space to improve access and amenity; undertake maintenance of the detention basin and formalise walk trails	£13,000
Desborough North Greenspace	Amenity improvements to include formalising foot paths, installation of way finding / interpretation and low level lighting	£33,000
Desborough Open Space	Improve access and interpretation of this informal green space as well as habitat improvements through management and planting	£17,700
Ise Valley Country Park Desborough	Creation of a large-scale linear park with the River Ise at its centre to take advantage of this strategic location within a sub-regional green corridor with a view to extending it, over time, along the Ise Sub-regional Corridor	£201,000
Rothwell Gullet LNR	Improve habitats and amenity of this nature reserve and seek opportunities to improve access through creating links with nearby green spaces	£7,800
Glendon Lake	Creation of an on-line lake to intercept and retain rural flow and run off from Rothwell to improve water quality and reduce flood risk	£410,000 + £11k per annum
North Kettering Country Park	Linking three accessible green spaces (Prologis Park, Glendon Road Nature Reserve and Weekley Hall) as well as improving habitat and amenity value	£193,750
Cotswold Avenue Park Improvements	Improve amenity and habitat of this suburban green space through the introduction of pollinator species, trees, seating, signage and play equipment	£15,500
Slade Brook Urban Corridor	Creation of a town centre blue/green corridor along the Brook to provide enhanced recreational opportunity and improved water flow and quality	£918,000
Wicksteed Park to South Field Farm	Creation of a linear park on the Ise Brook between Wicksteed Park and South Field Farm Nature Reserve to create links between communities, improve biodiversity and water quality	£484,000

The geographical distribution of the current projects is shown in Figure 10. The locations of these projects, have informed the location of Borough GI corridors discussed in the previous section.

In addition to the projects nominated under this Plan several Kettering Borough GI projects are identified in the North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Details on these projects can be found within that document, their locations are shown for information, on the following map.
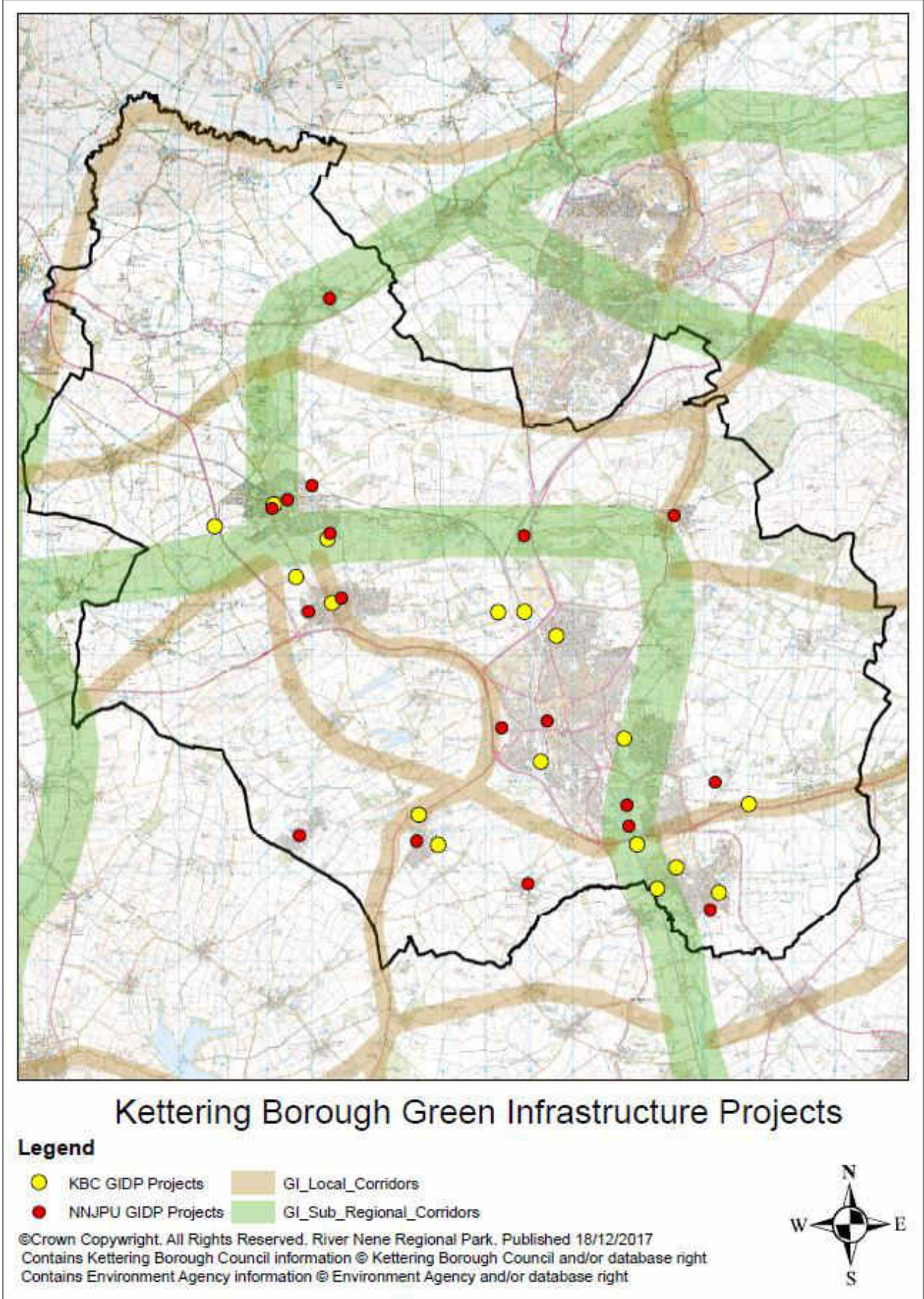
Figure 10 spatial distributions of current Green Infrastructure Projects

Next Steps

In order to achieve delivery of the projects included in this Plan the Council will continue to work with stakeholders, both internal and external, to secure funding. The Council will also encourage the nomination and development of additional projects through working with Developers and partners during the two yearly reviews of this Plan.

KBC will utilise this plan to as evidence for the development of planning policy in the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan, for example, through the identification of the District level GI corridors in the Plan and the inclusion of policy which requires account to be taken of these corridors in development proposals.

Additionally, KBC will secure funding for project delivery through S106 developer contributions.

To address the issue of way finding the Council will work with Parish Councils to develop a consistent signage format and encourage installation of way finding where appropriate and support the creation of local guides to make green spaces more accessible. These local guides should be made available on the internet.

Funding Options

A table of funding options for progressing the implementation of Green Infrastructure projects has been prepared and is provided at Appendix 6: Funding Options Table. The table is not exhaustive but provides information on suitable funding bodies and current calls and is up to date as at December 2017. It will be necessary to undertake periodic review of the information to ensure currency.

Other funding sources identified during project development include S106 (development funding) and grant in aid funding through the Environment Agency. Details on these funding options are not included in the summary table. Government grants are undergoing some changes at present and details of coming funding had not been finalised as the time of this report.

Kettering Borough Council does offer funding through their small grants scheme (accessible via http://www.kettering.gov.uk/homepage/326/kettering_borough_council_grant_schemes). These funds may be suitable for supporting the delivery of local walking guides and the installation of way finding signage.

Monitoring

This Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan provides the evidence base for Kettering Borough Council for the delivery of Green Infrastructure.

Monitoring of the Plan is required in three areas (listed below) with reporting taking place every two years.
1. Are the aims and objectives described in the plan being achieved? (Note: this will be dependent upon a mixture of delivery mechanisms with a range of partners.)
2. Is any planning policy resulting from the evidence in the Plan being delivered?
3. Is the plan still relevant and fit for purpose?

Monitoring Framework for the Green Infrastructure Plan

The absence of comprehensive baseline figures upon which to measure Green Infrastructure and the complexities of recording gains in Green Infrastructure make monitoring challenging. For this reason an approach is suggested here that is adapted from the Northampton Green Infrastructure Plan (2016). Indicators are identified in Table 5 below.

Reporting on the success of the Implementation Plan will occur every two years with a full review of the document every 6 years.

Table 5 Indicators of Green Infrastructure Delivery

Measure of Success	Indicator	Data Source	Trigger	Contingency
GI Projects Delivered	Number of Projects Delivered	KBC and Others	Reduced number of projects delivered in the reporting period	KBC to work with others to pursue funding for GI implementation
Planning Policy reflecting GI importance	Amount of public funding directed at GI projects	KBC	Reduced investment of public funds in GI	KBC to work to secure S106 and other developer funding for GI investment
Currency and Relevance of GIDP	Number of new projects added to the plan	KBC and others	No new projects added to the plan in the reporting period	KBC work with Partners to raise the profile of GI in the Borough to encourage the nomination of projects
Amount of funding secured through S106 to deliver GI projects	Amount of funding secured	KBC	Reduction in the amount of funding secured	Work with developers to increase awareness of the need to provide GI

Appendices

Appendix 1: Project Background and Policy Review

Introduction

Green Infrastructure (GI) can be defined as a planned network of multifunctional green spaces and interconnecting links.

Scope of work

Kettering Borough Council (KBC) has commissioned River Nene Regional Park to produce a district level Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan (GIDP). This report forms part of the baseline data supporting this work.

A Kettering specific GIDP, will work as a partner resource to the North Northamptonshire GIDP and become an independent delivery document for KBC. The Kettering GIDP will work with community groups and stakeholders to identify key areas for connective improvements, and the protection and promotion of the environment within and around the area. It will recognise the importance of local people-driven projects, outline costs and viability of existing and proposed schemes and identify potential funding streams. The document will also provide an evidence base to inform best practice from new developments and secure developer contributions. The plan will steer partner organisation activities and co-ordinate focussed partnership working from its very development, ensuring a sustainable, cohesive implementation into the future.

This report is a desktop study of existing green infrastructure within the Borough and surrounding areas and forms part of the baseline data for the GIDP. The report reviews existing planning policy and supporting documents.

The study area is the borough of Kettering, including the market towns of Kettering, Burton Latimer, Desborough, Rothwell and surrounding villages and countryside. Kettering sits within the Central Northamptonshire Plateaux, but mainly consists of ironstone valley slopes, benefitting from high-level farmland and undulating valleys, chiefly the Ise Valley, which is a sub-regional green corridor through the district.

There are small pockets of amenity greenspace peppered within the housing developments, but consistent routes are mainly along the Ise Valley. The river rises near Naesby in Northamptonshire and flows through Desborough, passing through Kettering including Barton Seagrave and Burton Latimer, then through Finedon, before joining the River Nene in Wellingborough. In Kettering, the river runs parallel to Wicksteed Park along the east bank. Slade Brook runs through the

west of the town creating a green corridor to the River Ise at the southern edge of the Wicksteed estate.

There are opportunities to enhance existing green infrastructure within the project area and to create new green infrastructure to strengthen the GI network. Accessibility of the GI network from settlements is varied and there are also opportunities for this to be enhanced. Slade Brook is currently an under-represented tributary of the Ise, which provides the opportunity to improve public realm, increase habitat connectivity and improve water flow management. KBC wish to produce a subsidiary delivery plan for Slade brook which will identify strategies for flood risk mitigation, biodiversity, amenity, aesthetic and recreational benefits.

Kettering is the main town and has a population of approximately 67,650. The Borough is expected to provide significant growth in the period to 2031, accommodating 10,400 new dwellings and a minimum of 8,100 new jobs. There are extensive urban extensions planned in the north of Rothwell, to the north of Desborough and east of Kettering. These sites all have individual GI plans, but should provide connections to the wider GI network and be incorporated into any future local GI delivery plan.

Policy Review

At a nationally strategic level, GI is an environmental system that supports the health, well- being, and aesthetic values of communities and the maintenance of functional ecosystems. It provides a process that makes the most of existing and future assets, enables the environment to support and maintain natural and ecological processes, and sustains land, air and water resources.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) recognises the important contribution that access to high quality open space and opportunities for sport and recreation make to the health and well-being of communities. The NPPF seeks to ensure that open space is protected and that needs for open space, sports and recreation provision are met.

The North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (NNJCS) (North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, 2016) provides strategic guidance for Green Infrastructure. The NNJCS identifies GI corridors of sub regional and local importance. The focus is on the strategic corridors of the Rivers Nene and Ise, and the Rockingham Forest area. Policy 19 outlines Green Infrastructure as a key driver in maintaining the character and special rural and urban qualities of the county, further strengthened by policies 2 to 5, which outline the significance of environmental and heritage asset management. The NNJCS also recognises the importance of protecting, enhancing and extending the counties green

infrastructure and its value to communities, both resident and visiting. Policies 20 and 21 are specific to the Nene and Ise Valleys and Rockingham Forest.

The North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan (May 2014) identifies green infrastructure projects planned and under way in North Northamptonshire. The plan includes a long list of projects and a number of detailed project plans for projects already being delivered.

Kettering Borough Council wish to take this study further to ensure that green infrastructure in the borough, in particularly the Ise Valley, is identified and managed for the benefit of existing and future residents, particularly in north Kettering and in areas where development is increasing.

The North Northamptonshire Urban Structures Study - Chapter 2: Spatial Principles by Place (North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, 2015) highlights misconnections of GI corridors and offers improvement ideas to connect the green spaces at a town level. Contributory projects such as Revital-Ise are highlighted as delivery mechanisms to improve the local GI connections.

There are a number of wider strategic documents that recognise and support the importance of GI in Northamptonshire, for example, the North Northamptonshire Carbon Sink Forestry Feasibility Study (River Nene Regional Park, 2010) which provides a focus on the value of local woodlands for biodiversity, amenity and carbon storage. The Nene Valley Integrated Catchment Plan (ICP), (Nene Valley Catchment Partnership, 2014) centres on maintaining and improving the quality green corridors within the Nene Valley Catchment area, including the River Ise and its tributaries. Key principles acknowledge community and partnership working as the most appropriate ways of delivering collaborative projects.

The Northampton Green Infrastructure Strategy (Fiona Fyfe Associates, 2016) outlines a methodology for designing a GI strategic document, and like the Nene Valley ICP, also stresses the importance of partnership working and stakeholder engagement in designing the most appropriate projects for delivery.

The NPPF requires that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The Kettering Borough Open Space Assessment (Kettering Borough Council, 2007) provides and audit and assessment of open space in the Borough. The open space assessment identifies open space typologies within the following categories:
- Parks and Gardens
- Natural and Semi-natural Greenspaces
- Amenity Greenspace

- Provision for Children and Young People
- Outdoor Sports Facilities
- Allotments
- Cemeteries and Churchyards
- Civic spaces

These open spaces make an important contribution to the Borough's green infrastructure and are reinforced by the Kettering Open Space Supplementary Planning Document (Kettering Borough Council, 2008). The largest of these open spaces include Desborough Green Space, Wicksteed Park, the Ise Valley green space and the North Kettering green space.

The introduction of the NPPF in 2012, provided further guidance on the designation of Local Green Space in order to identify and protect/release important open space following a desire by the government to employ an approach in favour of development (Communities for Local Government, 2012):

- Where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- Where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- Where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

In response to the NPPF, Kettering Borough Council commissioned a Historically and Visually Important (HVI) Open Space Background Paper (River Nene Regional Park, 2015) to identify the areas significant HVI green spaces.

The Revital-Ise project (River Nene Regional Park, 2008) created a series of important blue and green restoration projects the Ise Valley. Projects included improvements to the physical and natural corridors for the benefit of people and wildlife, such as the re- introduction of the rivers lost meanders to improve habitat and water quality along the rivers canalised sections. The majority of these projects have been successfully implemented and additional opportunities arising from this work has been carried forward into the North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan (North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, 2014).

The Transport Strategy for Kettering Town Centre (Northamptonshire County Council, 2015) reviews the different modes of transport within Kettering town and its influence and connections to the wider county. The document understands

the need for a variety of transport options and the importance of maintaining GI which encourage the use of non- motorised travel, i.e. walking and cycling. It will be important to identify potential links through green corridors to places of work, travel and leisure such as; business parks, train stations, town centres, larger parks etc.

Although the importance of GI is recognised nationally and regionally there is currently a lack of borough specific GI components. The North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan identifies some Kettering level projects within its wider strategic framework (listed in 3.1.), but this needs expansion if it is to fully serve the existing and new residents of Kettering Borough.

The flow of policy supporting a Kettering Specific GI Delivery Plan is shown in the diagram below.
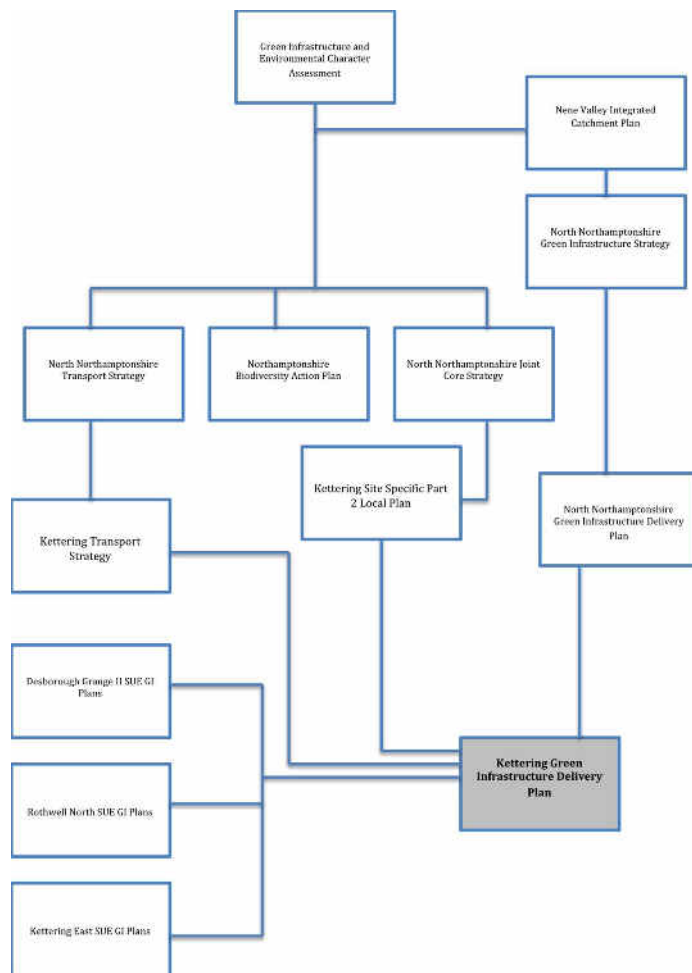

Figure 1: Policy supporting the GI Delivery Plan

Expanding the evidence of borough level GI would enable Kettering Borough Council and partner organisations to:

- Link existing GI corridors within the borough
- Co-ordinate the delivery of GI in the Borough
- Influence proposed development Green Infrastructure plans
- Access funding streams to deliver projects

Summary of key findings from the desktop review

There are a number of wider strategic documents that recognise and support the importance of GI including the National Planning Policy Framework, the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, the North Northamptonshire Carbon Sink Forestry Feasibility Study and The Nene Valley Integrated Catchment Plan. The Northampton Green Infrastructure Strategy (Fiona Fyfe Associates, 2016) outlines the methodology for designing a GI strategic document, and like the Nene Valley ICP, stresses the importance of partnership working and stakeholder engagement in designing the most appropriate projects for delivery.

The introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in 2012, provided guidance on the designation of Local Green Space in order to identify and protect/release important open space following a desire by the government to employ an approach in favour of development (Communities for Local Government, 2012).

At a national level planning policy recognises the important contribution that access to high quality open space and opportunities for sport and recreation make to the health and well-being of communities. The NPPF seeks to ensure that open space is protected and that needs for open space, sport and recreation provision are met.

At a strategic level the North Northamptonshire Join Core Strategy (JCS) provides a strategic framework for the provision of green infrastructure. The JCS identifies sub-regional and local green infrastructure corridors. The focus is on the strategy corridors of the River's Nene and Ise, and the Rockingham Forest Area. Green Infrastructure is a key driver in maintaining the character and special rural and urban qualities of the area.

The North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan (May 2014) identifies green infrastructure projects planned and underway in North Northamptonshire. The plan includes a long list of projects and a number of detailed project plans for projects already being delivered. Within Kettering Borough project plans are included for Desborough Green Space, Wicksteed Park Nature Reserve and Barford Wood and Meadows.

At a local level there is an opportunity to build on the work undertaken at a strategic level to enhance green infrastructure provision within the Borough.

The desktop review identified that the most consistent GI routes in the Borough

are located along the River Ise. The review highlighted the opportunity to create a corridor along the Slade Brook which would link with the River Ise corridor. There are also opportunities at a local level to enhance inks between settlements and green infrastructure corridors and to identify projects which will enhance the green infrastructure corridors.

The need for partnership working and stakeholder and community involvement is highlighted as an important element in delivering green infrastructure through the desktop review.

Relevant maps are provided in the following pages.

Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Corridors

Legend

GI_Local_Corridors

GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

©Crown Copywright. All Rights Reserved. River Nene Regional Park. Published 21/09/2017
Contains Environment Agency information © Environment Agency and/or database right
Contains Kettering Borough Council information © Kettering Borough Council and/or database right

Figure 2: Northamptonshire GI Corridors
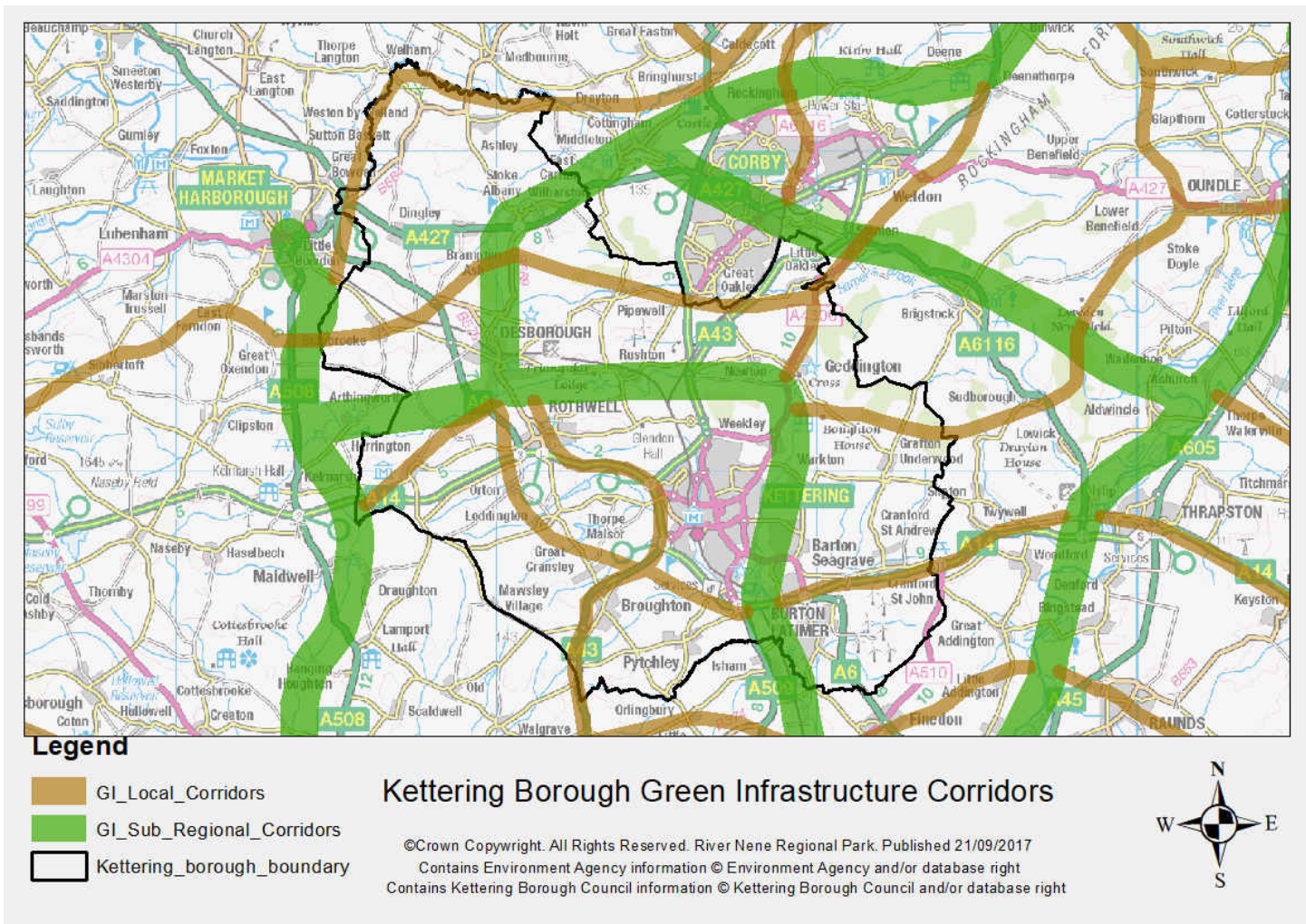
Figure 3: Kettering Borough GI Corridors
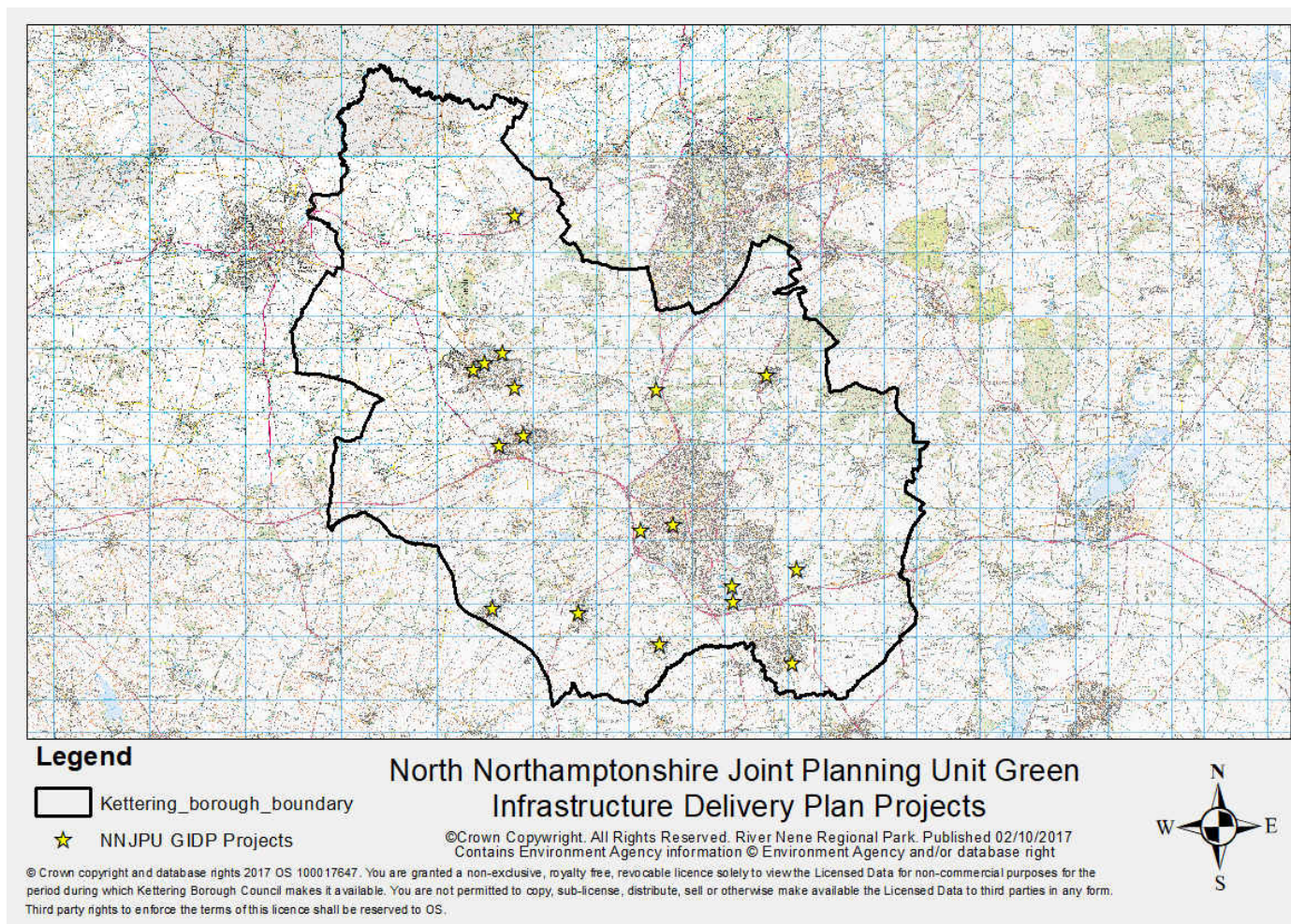
Figure 4: North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan Projects (Kettering Only)

Appendix 2: Community and Stakeholder Engagement – Process and Outputs

Part 1 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

In order to develop a GI Delivery Plan for KBC that can ultimately influence the activities of other organisations and enable focused partnership delivery of GI initiatives it is necessary to engage widely from the start.

A large number of organisations have been identified as having an interest in or responsibility for GI within the Borough. This engagement plan outlines an engagement process that ensures appropriate engagement with these organisations as well as providing an opportunity for community members to input during the plan development.

According to the International Association for Public Participation there is a spectrum of engagement ranging from informing to empowering as illustrated below.
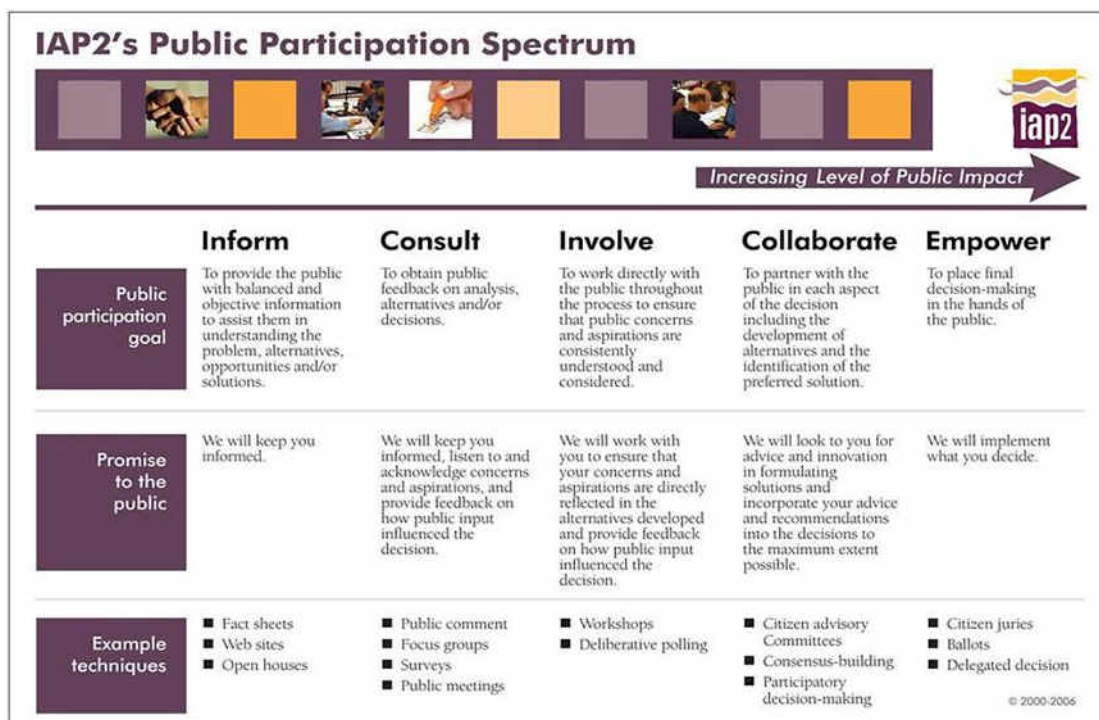
This spectrum recognises the different engagement needs of a range of stakeholders and allows for the meaningful involvement of everyone in the decision-making or the development of plans.

Stakeholders identified for this project were organised according to their engagement requirements. Core (primary) stakeholders are those who have a direct responsibility for green infrastructure delivery or management. Secondary stakeholders are those who have an interest in green infrastructure either as users of the space or as having responsibility for users of the space. Tertiary

stakeholders are the remaining organisations or individuals who have a peripheral interest in green infrastructure.

The engagement activities written into this plan focus on addressing the needs of the primary stakeholders supported by secondary engagement with the broader interest groups. The table below is a summary of the process.

Group / Activity	Facilitated Workshops	One to one interviews	Drop-in events	Nominate projects for inclusion	Consult on proposed projects	Develop final plan
1. Delivery Bodies, Public GI Owners, Planners / Decision makers	✓			✓	✓	✓
2. Private GI Owners		✓	✓	✓	✓	
3. GI Users / Community			✓	✓	✓	

Process Description

GROUP 1 – Owners / Managers of Publicly owned Green Infrastructure and decision makers (including planners and regulatory bodies)
Representatives of these organisations will be invited and encouraged to participate in three facilitated workshops. The first workshop will provide an introduction to this project, set the context for the discussion and explore aspirations for the green infrastructure network within the Borough. Information needs will be identified at this workshop and this information will be sourced in time for the second workshop. Participants will also be asked to think about projects or initiatives for green infrastructure creation and improvements for discussion at the second workshop.

At the second workshop, participants will be invited to review all the information and input gathered since the first workshop. They will be asked to undertake a preliminary feasibility assessment and prioritisation process for any new projects/initiatives that have come forward and start documenting those projects that will definitely be included in the final plan. Any projects whose feasibility cannot be determined in the workshop will be examined by the project team and brought back to the third workshop.

At the third workshop, implementation plans for the full suite of projects will be completed. These will form the basis of the draft GI Implementation Plan for Kettering Borough. Once the draft plan has been completed and feedback from the three stakeholder groups collated a final workshop will be held to resolve any final points of conflict and to ratify the plan.

GROUP 2 – Owners / Managers of privately owned Green Infrastructure
This group may choose to participate in the facilitated workshops described above but are not under any obligation to do so. They will however, be invited to speak

to the project team about the ongoing management of their green space/s and aspirations or plans they have for the enhancement or expansion of the spaces. This information will be gathered and collated in time to be included in the second workshop for Primary Stakeholders. Once the final plan is developed this group will be encouraged to feedback on the plan prior to its completion.

GROUP 3 – Community Members / Users of Green Infrastructure
Due to time constraints associated with the development of the GI Implementation Plan it is not possible to involve the entire community in the deliberative workshops. This group of stakeholders will be engaged less formally via a series of 'drop-in' events and a supporting online survey. These events (up to four) will be held at community facilities (church / village halls) across the Borough. Information about the project will be provided and visitors to the events will be invited to input their views on the value of green infrastructure and their aspirations for its improvement or enhancement. These events will occur between Workshop 1 and 2 (from above) to enable their input to be discussed at the second workshop along with the input from the other stakeholders. Registered visitors from these events will be invited by email to review the draft plan and provide comment prior to its finalisation.

Detailed plans for the facilitated workshop are yet to be developed but in brief these workshop will include:

Workshop	Activities	Supporting Tasks
Workshop 1	– Welcome and registration – Introduction to the project – Individual introductions – Identification of aspirations (individual to be combined into a common vision) – Identification of what is already being done to achieve the vision – Identification of what more could be done – Identification of who else needs to be involved – Identification of information needs	– Provision of maps – Provision of stakeholder lists and categorisation
Workshop 2	– Review of information received – Review of projects nominated for inclusion in the GI Implementation Plan – Ranking of projects (where possible) – Documenting selected projects according to pre-written templates	– Input from Groups 2 and 3 on aspirations and project suggestions – Sourced information identified at workshop 1 – Templates for project identification and specifications
Workshop 3	– Completion of remaining project documentation – Discussion of funding options – Agreement on contents / format for final document	– Outline funding strategy – Input / feedback from Groups 2 and 3 on draft plan

An illustration of this process showing relative timings and the flow of information is provided below.
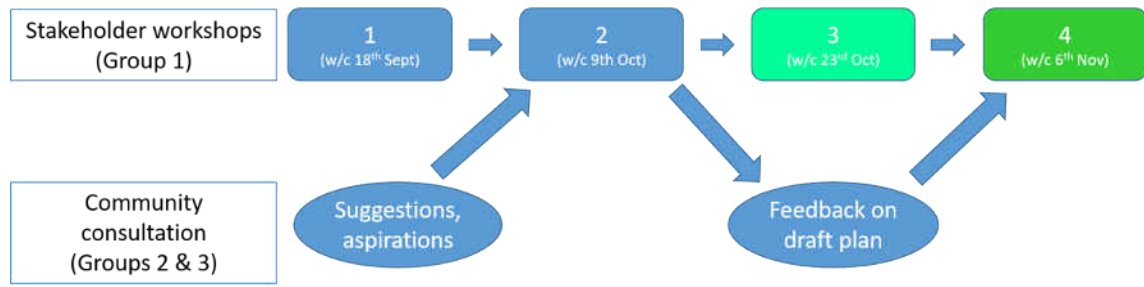
Communication Techniques

We will look to communicate the opportunities available for engagement to the public and other stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of this project during its delivery and beyond.

Local networks will be key for promoting the project, including parish councils, the borough council's own channels and RNRP's partnerships through social media, publications and face-to-face meetings. Opportunities for consultation will also be circulated to local village magazines and publications to target residents, including a link to the online survey. During workshops and community consultation events, a register of interested people will be collated to enable ongoing communication, participation in the online survey and consultation on the final draft.

Hosted by KBC

12pm – 3pm: Monday 18th September 2017
9am-2pm: Monday 23rd October 2017

Council Chambers, Kettering, Northants NN15 7QX

Introduction

Kettering Borough Council is seeking to develop a district level Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan. This delivery plan will build on work undertaken at the North Northamptonshire level in the preparation of the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (adopted July 2016) and the North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

The River Nene Reginal Park have been appointed to assist the Council with this aspiration via a process of comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement. The engagement has been carefully designed such that outputs will fit neatly into the final Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan. A plan which will have the advantage of having been developed by the relevant people.

This document presents the outputs from the first stakeholder workshop, held on September 18th, 2017. Subsequent workshops are planned over the coming weeks and these will be reported on in this same fashion.

Attendance at this initial workshop was very low due to insufficient notice being given to invitees. A decision was made, within the project delivery team to amend the agenda of this workshop and deliver it again in place of workshop 2. These outputs are therefore presented as a summary of preliminary conversations with a small group of stakeholders. They are intended to inform the full group of stakeholders that are engaged in the process.

Responses to Workshop Questions

Visioning Question / Starting Exercise

Attendees were asked to consider the question below and provide up to three responses.

"It's 2020 and K.B.C. is seen as a leader in terms of Green Infrastructure Provision. Why?

Connected and Comprehensive

- The network is connected and comprehensive
- They have adopted a "bigger, better and more joined-up" approach to district – wide green/open spaces

Innovative approaches

- SUDS retrofit programme well established to manage flood, water scarcity and water quality issues through green streets and spaces
- Natural flood management approaches have been further adopted
- Water dependent habitat is created

Real delivery

- Projects are being delivered on the ground
- Because something has been **delivered** on the ground

Strong influence on policy

- Good policy
- GI is influencing development and not vice versa
- Good practical and useable policies on trees and open space that officers and residents buy into
- Because they have employed and "GI officer" who gets involved in early, with pre-app discussions for future development schemes; and who also has enforcement powers to make sure conditions are fully implemented

Good evidence base

- Because in 2018 they undertook a fine-grained level (e.g. at a 1:10,000 scale, and/or the equivalent to a phase 1 habitat survey) "GI Study" of their whole district; which has served to underpin and inform all D.C. and policy work since

Well communicated and understood

- That GI is communicated in a way all understand

Other benefits

- Water is of a good quality

Stewardship

- People recognise that the green spaces need to be looked after and will pay for this to happen

Collaborative development and delivery

- Collaborative working between statutory organisations, landowners and community groups has made a sustainable place a reality
- Can show a **genuine** multi-partner/multi-beneficial projects with benefit for people and wildlife
- There is a co-ordinated approach to delivery
- GI is not the responsibility of any single agent but is delivered by all partners

Accessible

- Residents and visitors can navigate the towns and wider countryside easily by foot and enjoy the experience and areas they visit
- KBC residents know and use GI provision (even if they don't know what it's called)
- The Borough has a wealth of healthy green spaces used by people
- Visitors use the spaces because they love them and the atmosphere that's created
- Communities are linked to each other and the town centre via "green routes"
- Small woods and areas of natural greenspace close to where people live
- People are healthier because they have lots of green open space in which to take exercise

Other

- It has increased its tree canopy cover by 20%
- Lots of street trees on busy streets in town centre and in housing areas

Where are we?

What are we already doing to get us to the aspirations identified in the starting exercise?

- Joint Core Strategy (JCS) – green infrastructure delivery plan
- Collaborative delivery
- Strong Partnerships (NVCP, NIA, LNP)
  - RevitalISE, Green Patch etc
- Pollinator Strategy
- Ground maintenance (KBC) in house and influenceable
- JCS, policies built on GI, ecosystem services, water resource management etc
- Strong foundation of habitats, rivers/brooks, ancient woodlands
- We know a lot about what we do have
- Ecosystems Services undertaken in the NIA program
- Strong political will to get things improved, and there is money
- Language has changed e.g. "Garden Communities" * environment is core
- The plan to 2031, structure is already there
- Working on urban projects in other towns which are providing learning that can inform us
- Work through the Nene Valley Catchment Partnerships and the funding route to Defra via this group
- Woodland Trust tree provision to NCC? Did any of this come to KBC?
- Northamptonshire LNP, GI contributions to health and wellbeing
- NNJCS provides the basis for growth
- Council are quite "pro-green space"
- Appetite for GI improvement within the rural community
- Opportunity associated with Brexit – indications are that there will be a stronger environmental focus on agricultural policy
- Public money → public benefit
- i.e. multi-benefit/beneficial

What else do we need to do?

- Better communication about the assets we have
- Work closely with developers
- Communities (identity and focus for action)
- Tourism
- Focus on health and drawing in the "health benefits" of G.I.
- Tailoring messages to fit the audience
  - e.g. WFD, FURM, Health and Wellbeing
- Match funding – priorities will always be influenced by where the funding is
- Increase efficiencies – less wasted time
- Massive growth area, competitive process in terms of the development
- How do KBC use their offer (GI) to sell the idea to government and increase funding opportunities and marketability of the developments
- Accentuate Kettering U.S.P.
- Connectivity and accessibility for green spaces could be a stronger focus (how can GI combat congestion)
- Opportunity to enhance the pride of Kettering town residents in where they live
  - Community pride/spirit
- Inform and educate the community
- Don't ignore the existing G.I. – how do we make existing spaces better?
  - Don't only look for new things to do
- Pollinator Strategy – could this be shared and multiply the benefits
- Not just how does it look but who is using it? And for what?
- Stewardship and legacy planning
  - How do we make sure they're looked after for ever?
- Addressing the threats to the tree stock, biosecurity risks etc
- Perceptions of nature as "risky" need to be addressed
- Models of good practice shared and learning from others - seek opportunities for doing that within and beyond the immediate county
- Increase the value of G.I.
  - Promote it, raise awareness
  - What happens if we lose it?
- Is there appetite and support for GI investment within the council
  - It appears so
  - Internal GI management
- Trees not turf (The Woodland Trust), shows that trees are significantly cheaper than lawn in terms of on-going management costs
- Money!
- Influencing GI as a framework for development
  - GI first then buildings
- Drive and capacity to deliver
  - Would money alone be enough?
- Efficiencies in delivering GI and its ongoing management
  - Smarter working to achieve cost savings
- Some guidelines/minimum standards for GI quality/provision and maintenance
- Legacy planning for sites not managed/owned by Council
- Trees or GI as a mitigation for traffic related air pollution
- Buglife (b-lines) pollinator corridors
- More could be done by working with our larger land holders in the Borough as well as our leisure providers

- Early wins – would be good to deliver a project to serve as a demonstration to other landholders to give confidence and inspiration
- Kettering doesn't have a Town or Parish Council and that community link is missing? – how might that be altered?

Who Else Needs to be Involved (18th September only)

Workshop attendees were asked to consider three questions in order to arrive at a list of stakeholders in the process. The list generated here will be used to develop a communications and engagement plan to ensure that all interested parties are involved in this process moving forward.

What are the issues? (18th September only)

- Conflicting views for the same place – who owns the land
- Enough money
- Different users for same places e.g. leisure vs biodiversity, traffic vs trees etc.
- Climate change/soil/pollination/natural processes
- Massive growth/development or lack of – unpredictable and out of our control
- G.I. still not a high enough priority
- Poor access – physical → ability to resolve existing G.I. issues
- Water quality is on the decline → Ise
- Flood risk management assets need repair
- More information needed on potential opportunities
- Planning G.I. early in development process
- Who will champion G.I. in Kettering?

What are the information needs? (18th September only)

- Water body status data
- Existing habitats - status and identity
- All existing and proposed G.I.
    - Condition
    - Usage
    - Future threats
- Status of flood risk management assets/infrastructure e.g. KLV silted up
- Areas with G.I. potential e.g. potential wildlife sites
- Where are people now and proposed developments
- Training opportunities for professionals
- Gaps/potential future linkages
- Cycle and walking networks
- Open play and recreational space
- Aging population with needs
- Public information to report issues/improvements
-

Stakeholders – who else needs to be involved? (18th September only)

- Local ramblers' groups
- Prologis
- Community/residents groups
- E.A. – Tom Lester FCRM
- Academics and private practice
- Alison Parry – NCC environment
- Ian Smith – Roads
- Chris Bond
- Nainesh Patel (WSP Kier) – adoptions

NOTE: projects arising from the initial workshops were progressed through subsequent workshops and are not reproduced here. Please see Appendix 3 for detailed project plans.

Part 3 Community Consultation Summary

A range of methods was used to consult with stakeholders from across the sector and the communities within the Kettering Borough area.

Community drop-in sessions

A series of community drop-in sessions were held in various locations across the borough on 11, 12, 16 and 19 October so that the outputs could be fed into the second workshop. There was a total of 34 attendees in the four sessions, which had been advertised in the venues, local shops and businesses, in the council building, on the council's website and on RNRP's social media channels. The attendees were mainly retired individuals and some parents with young children. The demographic was a good mix of male and female, but primarily white British. The questions asked of attendees correlated with those asked in an online survey to enable the results to be combined (see 'Online survey' below).

Stakeholder workshops

Workshop 1 - 18 September 2017
Representatives from Kettering Borough Council, North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, Kettering Borough Council Community Services team, BCN Wildlife Trust, the Environment Agency and River Nene Regional Park attended the first workshop. Due to the low attendance, a decision was made within the project delivery team to amend the agenda of this workshop and deliver it again in place of workshop 2.

In this first workshop, attendees were asked to consider a visioning question and shared their thoughts on post-it notes. By the end of the second workshop, the comments could be grouped under the headings: connected and comprehensive, innovative approaches, real delivery, strong influence on policy, good evidence base, well communicated and understood, other benefits, stewardship, collaborative development and delivery, and accessible.
A facilitated discussion then followed, based around the following questions, which produced several outputs, described in the previous section:
What are we already doing to get us to the aspirations identified in the starting exercise?
What else do we need to do?
What are the issues?
What are the information needs?
Who else needs to be involved?

Workshop 2 – 23 October 2017
The second workshop was promoted to a further range of people, and the agenda was repeated, with the addition of a mapping exercise. Representatives from Kettering Borough Council, the Environment Agency, the Woodland Trust, Wildlife Trust, Nene Valley Catchment Partnership, Catchment Sensitive Farming and River Nene Regional Park attended.

The mapping exercise produced four potential sites which were discussed; Glendon Lake, Desborough/Ise Valley "Country Park/Nature Reserve", Slade Brook and North Kettering Country Park.

Workshop 3 – 6 November 2017
Attendees at this workshop came from Kettering Borough Council, River Nene Regional Park, Nene Valley Catchment Partnership, Catchment Sensitive Farming, the Environment Agency, Natural England, the Wildlife Trust, and the Woodland Trust. The agenda reviewed and refined the previously explored potential project sites and examined their geographical spread, as well as identifying new potential sites. Each participant also carried out individual evaluation for each project.

Workshop 4 – 20 November 2017
This workshop enabled participants to continue developing the project plans for each potential site and explore funding options.

Online survey

Between 26 September and 5 November, there were 24 responses to an online survey, which had been promoted through Kettering Borough Council's website and social media channels, as well as River Nene Regional Park's website, social media channels and another project's social media. The responses, combined with the outputs of the community drop-in sessions are collated below as an Appendix. In summary, a wide range of types of greenspace and geographical location are important to the respondents, with dog walking, leisure (including picnicking and spending time with children) and relaxation were popular responses. Over 90% of respondents said that greenspace was very important to them, with the rest believing it to be important.
There was a wide range of suggestions for improving local greenspaces, including footpaths, signposting and amenity spaces across the borough. There was an equally varied response to asking for ideas for new greenspaces. Responses included using small parcels of land for edible planting, orchards or wildflowers, protection of what already exists and careful work to include greenspace in built-up areas.
Over 12 people left their contact details to be kept in touch as the project progresses.

Online survey and community drop-in output

Q1: Which local greenspaces are important to you?

Roundabout planting, verges. Plant wildflowers encourage invertebrates, which then attracts birds etc. Create an ecosystem
All of them
Meadow Road Park Northampton Road Recreation Ground
Ise Valley All local parks
Footpaths - across fields / to local villages. Routes through town that mean a longer walk can be started from home rather than a car park. Parks - especially for kett fest events.
Rockingham Road Football Stadium. Rockingham Road Pleasure Park, North Park, Weekley Glebe.

Parks, green between housing, trees, shrubs, so many of which KBC have removed. Bird and insect numbers dramatically down in my area Northfield.
All of them that don't have housing developments or warehouses on them yet
Stanwick lakes. Pocket parks, Pitsford, Sywell reservoir, Fineshade, Wakerly woods, Rockingham pleasure park, Twywell hills and dales
Area round the Ouse, Green Patch, North park, Weekly/Glebe road park, Wicksteed park All
Green Lane (the old road to Harrington in Desborough)
All
Very, not enough
Open woodland areas
Parks and woodlands
All
Parks
Footpaths around Geddington and the playing field/meadows in the centre of Geddington
Ise Valley Desborough Desborough Pocket Park
Barford Meadow
Wicksteed Park
Weekly Woods
Twywell hills and Dales
Walk along Ise – Kettering to Warkton
Historic interest around the pond and spring running into the brook south of Broughton

Q2: What do you use local green spaces for?

Q3: How important do you feel it is to have locally accessible greenspace in the borough of Kettering?

	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT (1)	A LITTLE BIT IMPORTANT (2)	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT (3)	QUITE IMPORTANT (4)	VERY IMPORTANT (5)	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Response count	0	0	0	2	22	24	4.92
Percentage	0	0	0	8%	92%	100%	

Q4: Are there any existing green spaces you would like to see improved for people and/or nature?

The Dementia Garden near Kettering General Hospital, the ProLogis park in the north of Kettering which is beautiful but a little sparse.
The NCC highways owns lots of woodland area. These were planted alongside new roads, planted over 40 years ago AND JUST LEFT. Now they are full of weed saplings and difficult for humans to penetrate. These area of woodland need managing and thinning. I am thinking of the cherry woods on the north side of the A427 in East Carlton and the woods alongside the Wilbarston /stoke Albany A427 by-pass.
School grounds to enhance physical education and fitness of young people - Meadowside Primary school in particular. Park behind Meadowside School to make it more suitable for use by schoolchildren in the school day.
There is potential to enhance footpaths around the Brambleside Woods and Weekley Hall Woods (with the permission of the landowner). Slade Brook valley

along the length of Northfield Avenue could be a fantastic green corridor with improved maintenance.
Every drab roundabout and grass verges. Especially next to the a14.
The area near the leisure centre, Northfield Road, could do with some planting for wildlife.
Meadow Road Park Northampton Road Recreation Ground.
Probably all of them. Toilets would be good too.
Kettering Town Rockingham Road Football Stadium.
All of them. I would like to see many more trees, which would reduce the carbon footprint also. Please stop cutting them down!
Actually the ones we have are pretty well maintained. Main problems are litter and dog mess, not much council can do about people's behaviour.
River Ise Slade brook Welland valley access.
Litter clearance around Ouse and Leisure village lake.
Don't think they should build on the Isle Valley site in Desborough
Desborough Millennium green. It seems very neglected at times. Plus the management of Desborough Greenspace behind the Grange estate needs to be looked after better as there is a large amount of Ragwort being allowed to grow and the council should eradicate this as it is an extremely toxic weed and could harm children or any creatures who come into contact with it as well as it being on the DEFRA list of notifiable weeds!!
Desborough park in the town needs sorting , we need an enclosed safe dog walk, too many idiots with dogs not in control and kids need to play as well , and every gate in park open.
Forgetting about wildlife gardens, they just seem to be overrun with weeds. More structured planting to encourage the wildlife.
Ise river Weetabix path needs a surface.
Fields at bottom of Grange estate.
Green spaces are fine but LITTER!!
The Desborough greenspaces but not through the council taking money through the precept. We are robbed by them on this.
No signage means no confidence in routes and people therefore avoid them or don't know they are there.
Footpaths in Broughton are really nice walks but are only known by local residents. New residents and visitors don't know they are there.
Important civic spaces such as market square etc, should also be considered 'green spaces' – can they be greened too?
More signage on footpaths would encourage more people to use these routes instead of cars.
Desborough too vehicle centric – loss walking links and access to services in walking distance.
Safe green spaces – accessible and more central for older people.
In Desborough plenty of walkways but not enough infrastructure.
Less cars and better pedestrian links.

Q5: Do you have any ideas for new green spaces in your area? Please identify where and what you would like to see there in terms of facilities for people and nature.
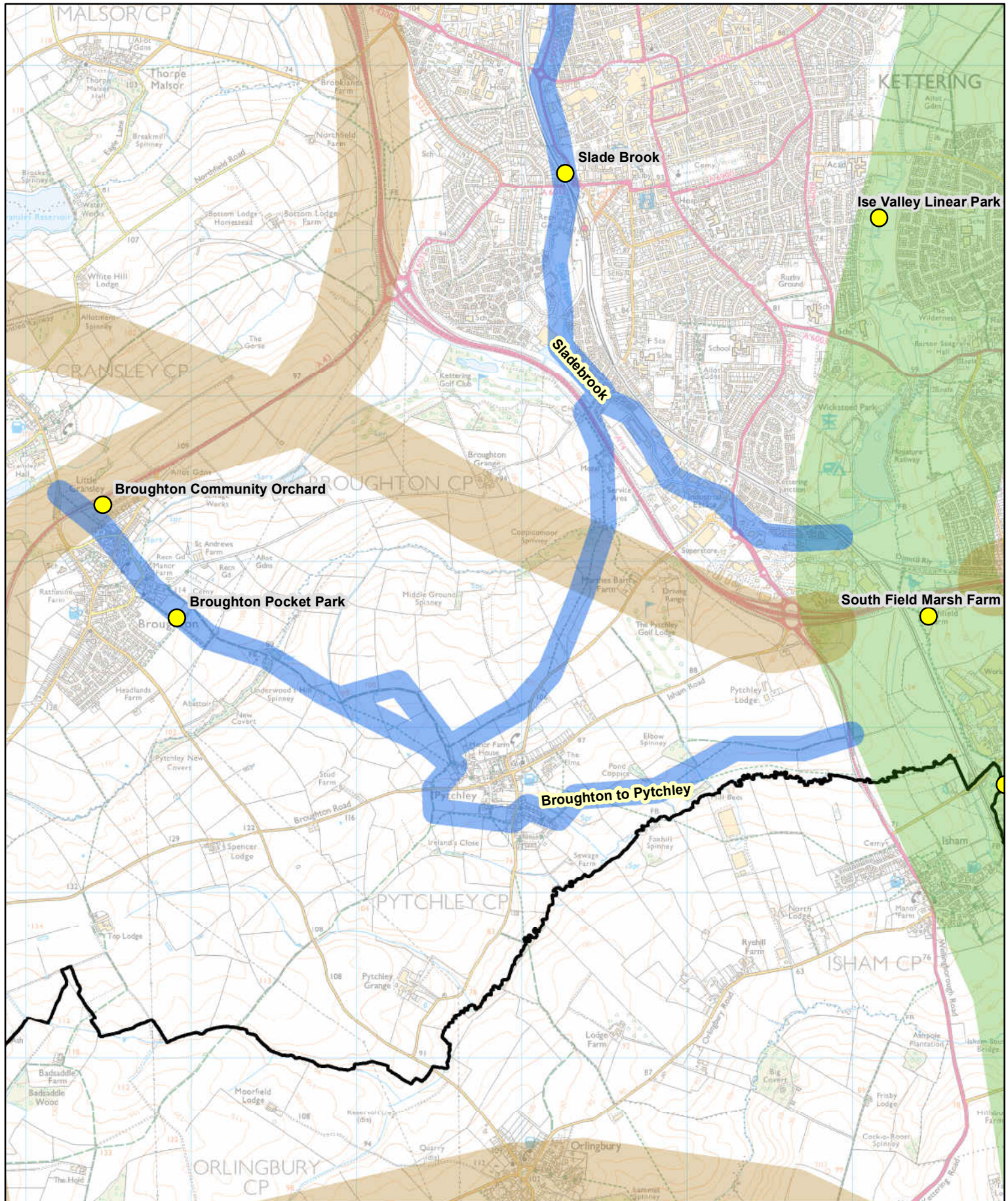
An arboretum near the Ise off Cheyne Walk or on the other side of the Ise, benches, clearing of rubbish from the Ise.
The Rockingham estate has very large area s of industrial farming. It would be good if there were some open spaces, bigger areas of woodland, especially near the streams. The estate does have areas of woodland, but they are not accessible to the public. Pipewell woods do have a public footpath around the edge and through it.
Cotswold Avenue Park is a valued community green space but residents have expressed a desire for improved play equipment for small children to use.
In parks etc. plant edibles such as native herbs and encourage members of the public to engage and get children involved. I would love to see the stream next to Deeble Road in Kettering regularly cleared to get the stream to its full potential. Advertise for volunteers and provide the necessary tools/equipment. If locals start to see an area as something of their own and they are helping to preserve it they are more likely to respect that space. Put up information boards informing the public of what wildlife is in the area, what lives in the waters what birds visit etc. I use to have my own gardening business I'm happy to come on board as a volunteer.
More green space in the Station, Headlands area if possible.
Meadow Road - wild area for nature, making more of the stream, better land drainage, exercise equipment, refurbished playground Northampton Road - better land drainage.
I'm more concerned about the current routes staying available, and footpaths being added to new developments.
Rockingham Road Football Stadium, to bring sport to all in the town.
First, to just stop cutting down trees unless they are diseased. Please. There is so little greenery in Northfield where the houses front onto the street. Need more trees and shrubs, not less.
Don't need facilities, just need fewer people and less development.
Near scout centre north end of Kettering. Free parking swell and Pitsford.
Any area - even roadside or pathside could have wild flowers for pollinators - Northants has seen the most reduction in habitat in the UK- our crucial pollinators are in demise.
Stop building on the existing ones.
Tailby meadows need protecting better than they are currently.
Put an enclosed dog walk in park or somewhere else where it's safe to use.
Not sure where any could be put.
There appear to be plenty of green spaces at present but substantial building projects will endanger some of them.
Potential for community orchard in Broughton in plot between new development and A43.
Improvements to the community pond and area to the south of Broughton village.
Footpaths along Ise-Warkton-Kettering need clearing.
Clearly signposted footpaths.

Lighting to allow for walking at twilight hours with dogs.
In Kettering Town centre – connecting smaller green spots for people to walk through.
Need signage/info - guided routes, distances, descriptions, etc.
Lots of areas nice to walk around but without signs, you don't know where it leads to or how long it might take.
Create green space in innovative ways in built up areas – such as 'garden skips' in Kings Cross station.
Green spaces for older people to walk around in Desborough. Park doesn't have a path around it.
Improvements to old Dairy yard in Desborough.
Improvements to former Lawrence's factory in Desborough.

Q6: If you would like to hear more about how the project progresses, please leave your email address.
12 people left their contact details, which accounts for half of all respondents.

Appendix 3: Project Plans

Broughton to Pytchley Local GI Projects

Slade Brook

Ise Valley Linear Park

Sladebrook

Broughton Community Orchard

Broughton Pocket Park

South Field Marsh Farm

Broughton to Pytchley

Legend

- ⬤ KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ GI_Borough_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary

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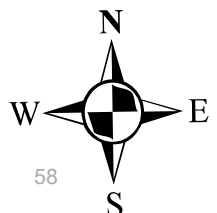
Broughton Community Orchard

Site Description

The area proposed for the establishment of a community orchard in Broughton is adjacent to the A43 between Kettering Road and Grange Road. The site is triangular in shape and potentially problematic for development due to the lack of space for access. The space is flat and currently pastured with limited ecological value.

Site Map and Images

See following pages.

Project Description

There is an aspiration from within the local community to establish a community orchard on this land. The land is owned by ED Estates and was part of the lot recently developed on Grange Road. There is a perspective among the local community that the land is wasted and presents an opportunity to enhance the lives of local people by providing an opportunity for outdoor recreation with the added potential for fruit production.

Key Outcomes

- Increased access and amenity to the site
- Increased recreational opportunities for people
- Improved habitats for pollinators

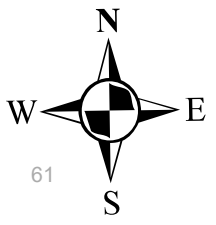| Project Partners	Roles
ED Estates	Landowner – permission for implementation and potential funding source (it is not clear whether the landowner is open to this use of the land).
Natural England (National Orchards Officer)	Project advice and support
South Court Environmental	Project advice and support
Broughton Parish Council	Project leads
KBC	Project support

Indicative Project Costs:		
Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Ground preparation	Estimated	£ 2,000
Purchase and planting of orchard trees	60 -100 trees	£ 3,000
Ongoing orchard maintenance (mowing)	Assumed to be completed by the local community	
Project Benefits	**Potential Funding Sources**	
Improved fitness and quality of life for participating community Improved habitats for pollinators	ED Estates Tesco Bags of Help	
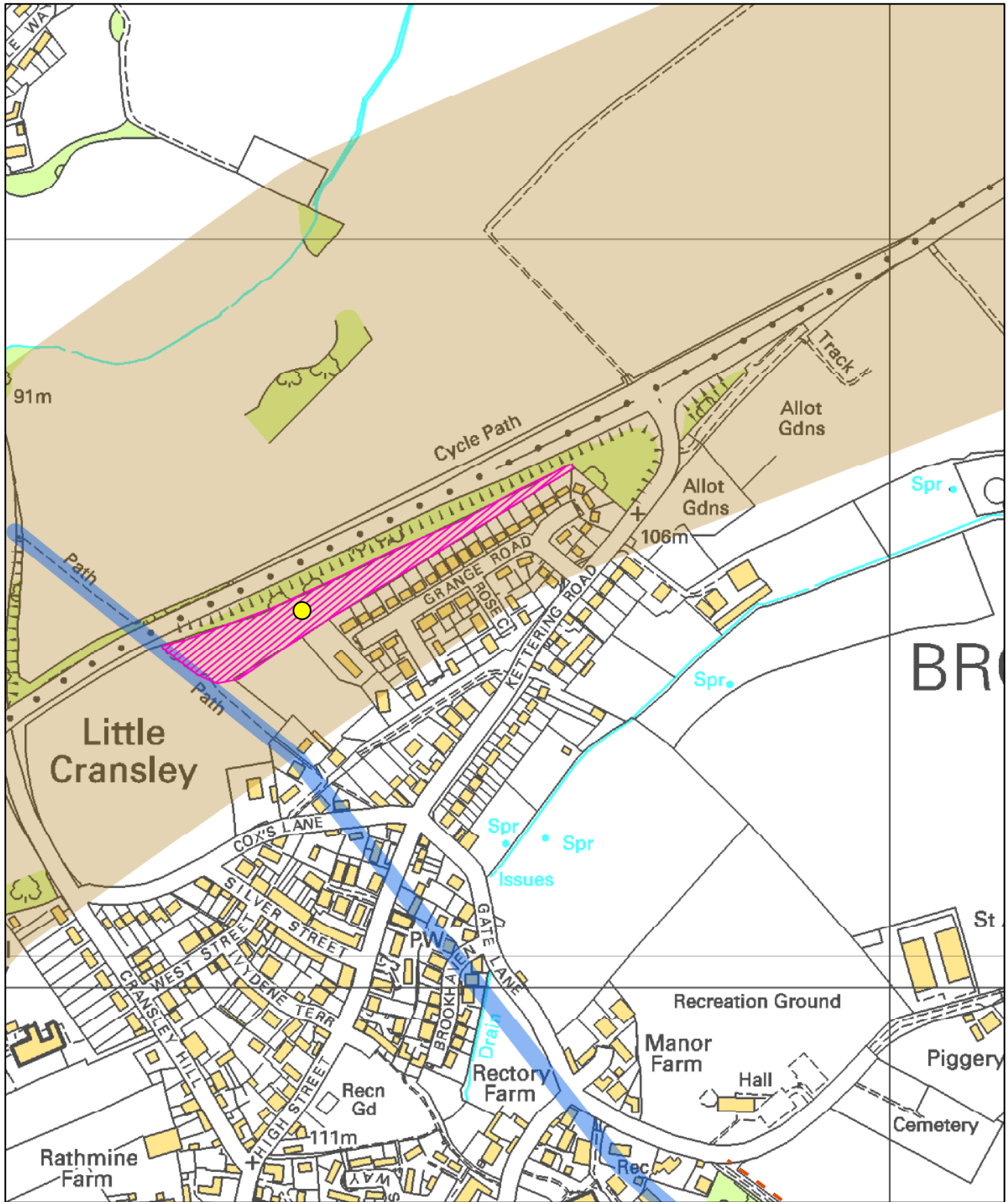
Broughton Community Orchard GI Project

Legend

⬤ KBC GIDP Projects	🟥 Tree Planting	GI_Local_Corridors
▬ New Footpath / Repairs	▬ GI_Borough_Corridors	GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

Little Cransley

91m

Cycle Path

Path

Path

Grange Road

Rose Ct

Kettering Road

Allot Gdns

Allot Gdns

106m

Track

Spr

Spr

Spr

Spr

Issues

BR

Cox's Lane

Silver Street

West Street

Ivydene Terr

High Street

Cransley Hill

Recn Gd

111m

Rathmine Farm

Brookhaven

Gate Lane

Drain

PW

Rectory Farm

Manor Farm

Hall

Rec

Recreation Ground

St

Piggery

Cemetery

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N W E S

Broughton Pocket Park & Rights of Way

Site Description

The Broughton Pocket Park is a small area of natural woodland on the Eastern edge of the village. The site is accessed via a public right of way that runs past a row of cottages adjacent to St Andrews Church. The footpath has a rough surface and is quite overgrown which limits access. Once in the pocket park there are no formal footpaths or signage.

Way marking is limited and the site is hence quite difficult to find.

There is a small wetland in the woodland that has, naturally, over time sedimented and was dry at the time of the site inspection.

Beyond the site are a series of bridleways that connect Broughton to Pytchley and beyond.

Site Map and Images

See following pages.

Project Description

There is an aspiration within the community to improve the access and condition of the pocket park, with specific focus on improving the wetland / pond such that it could provide a point of interest and encourage use of the site by local schools for outside lessons. Along with this is an interest in improving interpretation in the Park.

Additionally there is a desire for a formalisation and extension of the bridleway network to create a circular route between Broughton and Pytchley. In the short term this may be accomplished via the provision of way marking and / or the preparation of local walking routes with maps for promotion.

Key Outcomes

- Improved access and amenity
- Increased recreation and education opportunities for the community
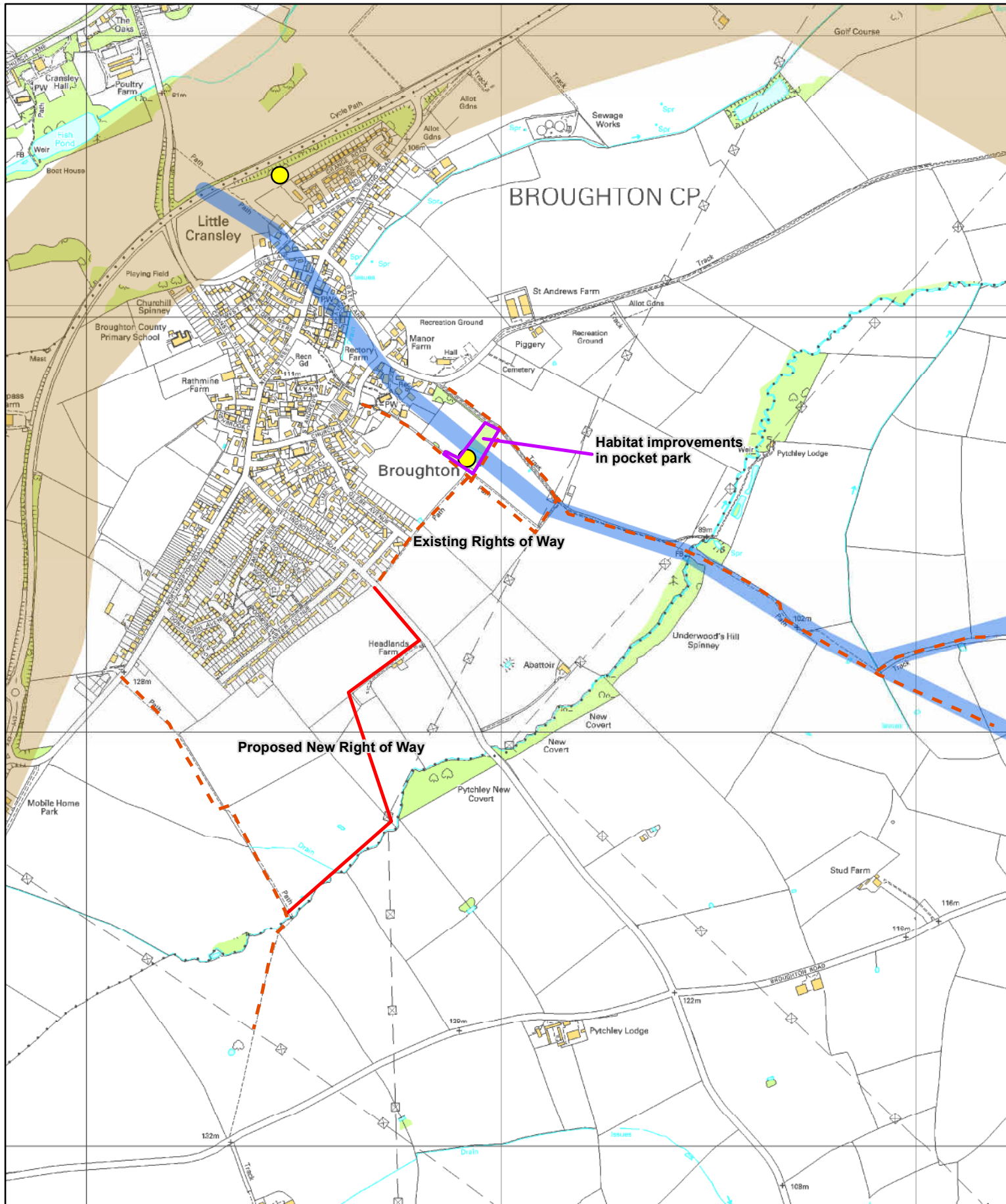- Improved habitats for pollinators
- Improved connections to other sites

Project Partners	Role
Broughton Parish Council	Project delivery

Wildlife Trust	Advise on habitat improvement works
Frog Life	Advise on pond improvements
Kettering Borough Council	Project support

Indicative Project Costs:

Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Way marking	3	£ 3,000
Path improvements	3 days labour	£ 1,000
Path improvements	Hardcore footpath 261 m	£ 5,000
Vegetation clearance and supplementary planting in the Pocket Park	2 weeks labour + plants	£ 5,000
Interpretation signage	3	£ 3,000
Pond improvements	Small machinery and operator hire x 2 days	£ 2,000

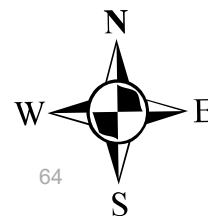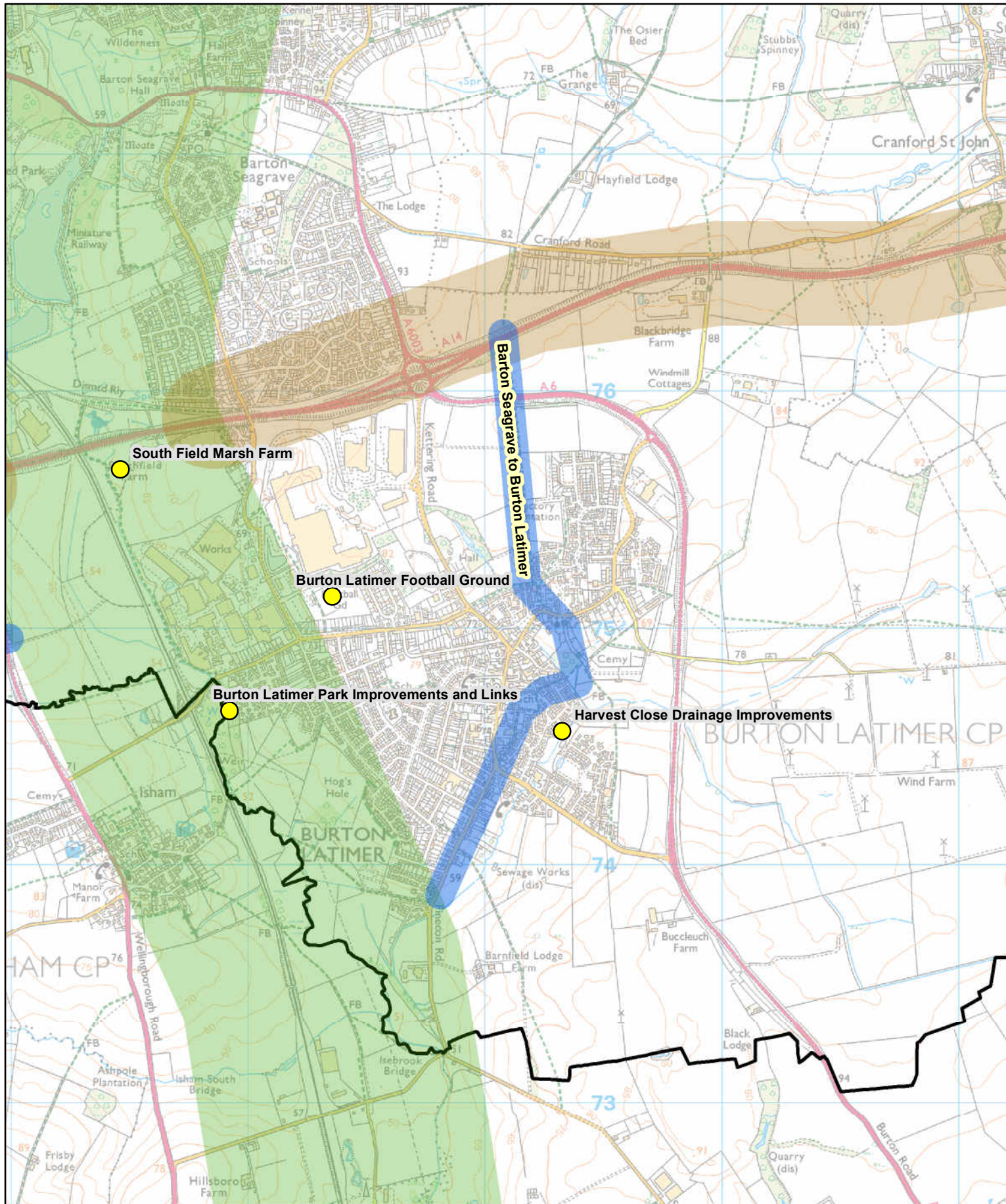| Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
	Tesco bags of help Local Fundraising in the Community

Broughton Pocket Park GI Project

Habitat improvements
in pocket park

Existing Rights of Way

Proposed New Right of Way

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Barton Seagrave to Burton Latimer Local GI Projects

Legend

- ● KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ GI_Borough_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary

South Field Marsh Farm

Barton Seagrave to Burton Latimer

Burton Latimer Football Ground

Burton Latimer Park Improvements and Links

Harvest Close Drainage Improvements
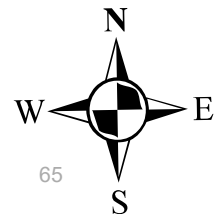
Burton Latimer Football Ground

Site Description
The Burton Latimer Football ground sits adjacent to the Morrisons distribution centre on the edge of Burton Latimer and is separated from the Town Cricket Club by a small area of residential development. It is accessed via Polwell Lane. The site is simply a large expanse of lawn containing the facilities associated with a football ground.

Site Map and Images
See following pages.

Project Description
There is an aspiration within the community for some woodland creation around the Football Ground. Additionally, the situation of the space allows for a strengthening of green links to other nearby green spaces via opportunistic planting of the existing links.

Key Outcomes
- Habitat creation
- Provision of shelter for the playing area
- Creation of habitat linkages
- Maintenance of the retention basin adjacent to the Morrisons Warehouse
- Extend footpath

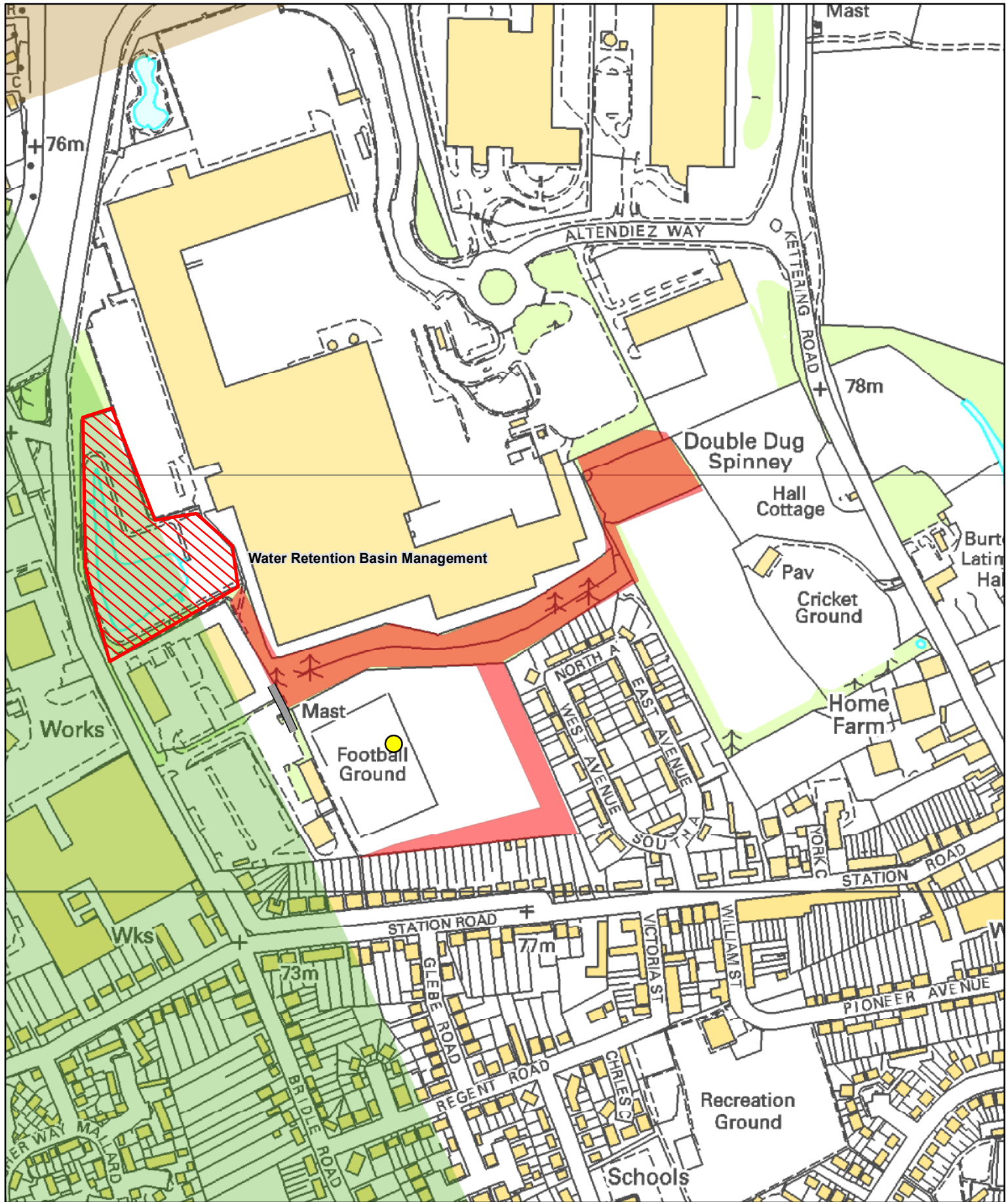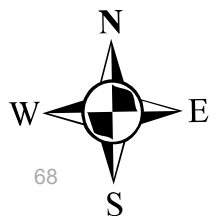| Project Partners	Roles
Landowner	Granting of permission to undertake the work
Facility Users	Determine the extent of planting works
Morrisons	Permission to extend supplementary planting on to their site & undertake maintenance of the retention pond
NCC Highways	Permission to undertake supplementary planting on their verges and undertake maintenance of existing vegetation
Town Council	Support project delivery

Indicative Project Costs:		
Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Ground preparation		£ 2,500
Tree stock for planting	1000	£ 3,000
Tarmac footpath	34m	£ 1,500
Wetland / retention basin maintenance	Machinery and operator hire 2 days	£ 2,000
Project Benefits	**Potential Funding Sources**	
Improved habitat and biodiversity Improved amenity and appeal for users	Morrisons CSR contribution Tesco Bags of Help Woodland Trust Tree Packs for Communities	

Burton Latimer Football Ground GI Project

Map labels:
- Mast
- ALTENDIEZ WAY
- KETTERING ROAD
- +76m
- +78m
- Double Dug Spinney
- Hall Cottage
- Pav
- Cricket Ground
- Burt Latim Hal
- Water Retention Basin Management
- NORTH A
- EAST AVENUE
- WEST AVENUE
- SOUTH A
- Home Farm
- Works
- Mast
- Football Ground
- YORK C
- STATION ROAD
- Wks
- +73m
- GLEBE ROAD
- REGENT ROAD
- BRIDLE ROAD
- WATER WAY MALLARD
- STATION ROAD
- +77m
- VICTORIA ST
- WILLIAM ST
- CHARLES C
- PIONEER AVENUE
- Recreation Ground
- Schools
- W

Legend

● KBC GIDP Projects	▬ Tree Planting	GI_Local_Corridors
▬ New Footpath / Repairs	GI_Borough_Corridors	GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

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Burton Latimer Park Improvements and Links

Site Description

This, relatively undeveloped, open space runs along the River Ise from Station Road adjacent to Kingfisher Way. Footpaths within the site are informal and provision of public amenity such as seating and play equipment is minimal. The river corridor is in reasonable condition with discrete areas of steep banks and erosion, natural fringing plants are largely absent reducing the habitat value of this important water course.

Site Map and Images

See pages following.

Project Description

There is an aspiration within the local community to strengthen the connection between the green spaces within Burton Latimer and, while it may be impractical to formalise the pathways between the green spaces, the provision of way marking along with common format signage and interpretation would certainly contribute to a more cohesive offer.

Additionally, this site would benefit from some restoration and improvements to the Ise Corridor including bank re-shaping, weed control and planting of natural fringing species. There is also space to improve water retention in this area which would provide flood alleviation benefits for the local community and attract investment from other partners.

Provision of some 'natural' playscapes and additional seating would also benefit the local community with the potential to broaden usage of the space. Formalisation of some footpaths would further improve year round access and enjoyment for users and this could be considered if a funding source comes forward.

Key Outcomes

- Improved habitat provision
- Improved biodiversity connections
- Improved pedestrian connections between green spaces in and around the town
- Improved amenity
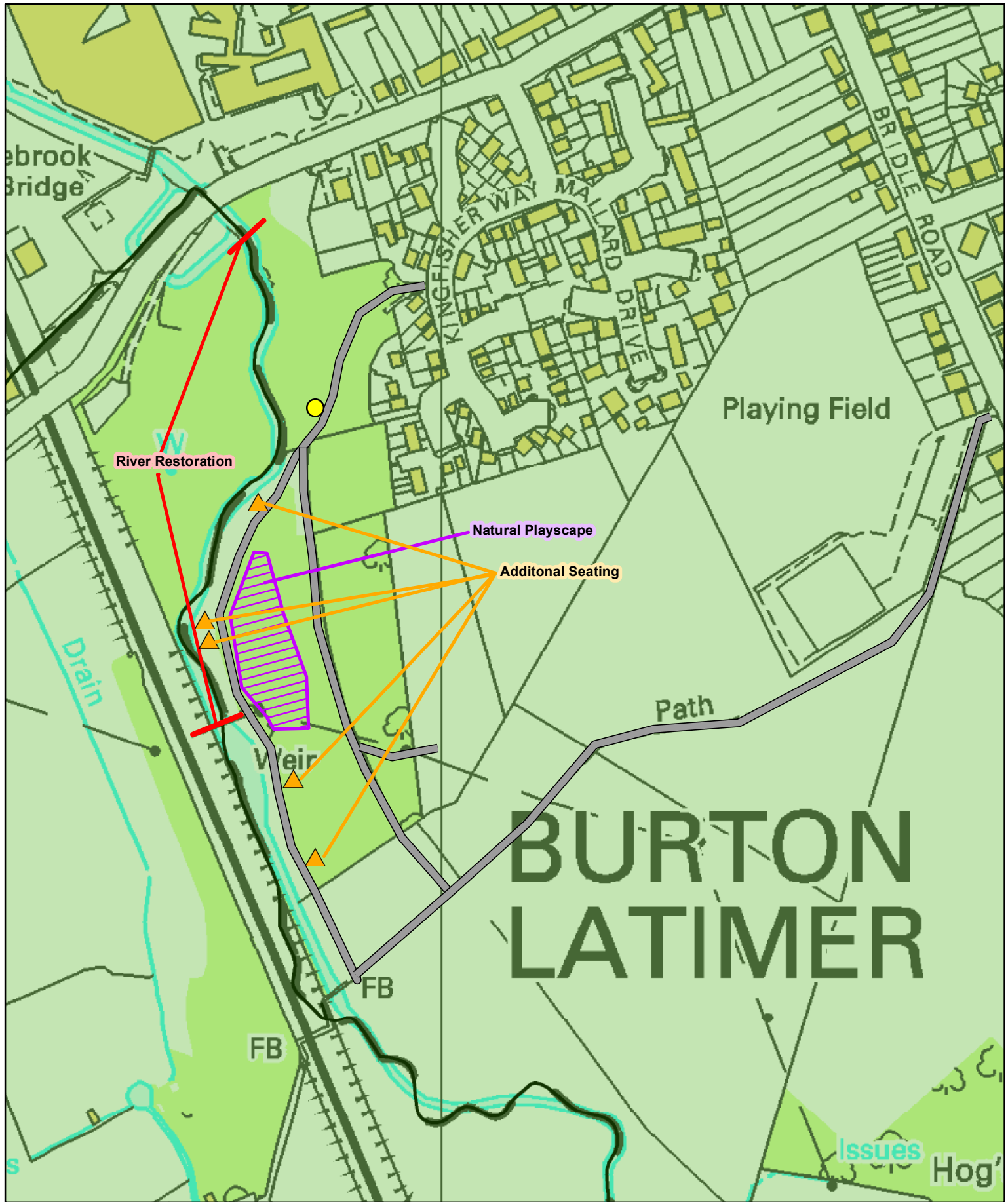- Improved links between green spaces

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Ise is the borough boundary, will need to be delivered in partnership

WBC	
Environment Agency	Could provide funding if flood reduction benefits are incorporated into improvement works
Town Council	Project support

Indicative Project Costs:

Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
River restoration works	5 days of machinery and operator	£ 5,000
Riparian planting (4 plants per m^2)	1000m^2	£10,000
Natural playscape installation	4 elements	£16,000
Waymarking and Interpretation	4	£ 4,000
Footpath installation (longer term and extent to be determined)	Up to 1600 m	£ 29,000
Timber Benches	5	£ 4,655

| Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
Improved site access Improved links between public open space Provision of walking loops for health and wellbeing Improved amenity Improved habitats Improved water and flow management Flood risk reduction	FCRM Grant in Aid S106

River Restoration

Natural Playscape

Additonal Seating

Playing Field

Path

BURTON
LATIMER

FB

FB

Weir

Drain

Hog'

Issues

Burton Latimer Pocket Park GI Project

Legend

- 🟡 KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ New Footpath / Repairs
- 🟥 Tree Planting
- 🔵 GI_Borough_Corridors
- ⬜ GI_Local_Corridors
- 🟩 GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

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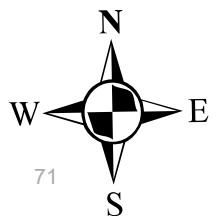
Harvest Close Open Space , Burton Latimer

Site Description

The Harvest Close Open Space is an L-shaped, gently sloping site with a small brook flowing through along its North-Western Edge. The area is largely undeveloped open ground with occasional trees. Playground equipment is provided on the Eastern side close to the residences but separated by a footpath that circles the space and provides safe, all weather access between Harvest Close and Snetterton Close.

The space includes a fenced detention basin, which receives storm water from the surrounding roads prior to discharge to the Brook (assumed). This basin has become choked with plant growth and is in need of some maintenance.

Site Map and Images

See following pages.

Project Description

There is an aspiration from the community to improve drainage at the Harvest Close open space to improve access and amenity. This could be accomplished by clearing out the Brook to allow free water flow and creation of a 2-stage channel to increase storage and conveyance, the banks could also be planted with native riparian species.

The North East slope of the park is quite waterlogged and appears to be little used. This area is proposed for revegetation with native trees and shrubs to improve amenity value, biodiversity and water infiltration.

The detention basin is in need of some maintenance to reduce plant density to improve its capacity and pollutant reduction function.

There is also a desire for a formalised walkway that provides a circular walk around the space.

Key Outcomes

- Improved site access
- Improved water flow via stream clearing
- Increased provision of native riparian vegetation
- Improved habitats
- Increased biodiversity through planting of native wetland species (North-Eastern section of the area where there appears to be a natural water spring)
- Natural feel of the park maintained
- Improved performance of the retention basin through vegetation clearing

Project Partners	Role
KBC	Project management and delivery
Developers	Project funding / maintenance requirements
Town Council	Project support
Local Residents	Could assist with planting of wetland and brook

Indicative Project Costs:

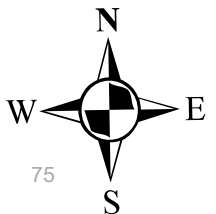| Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Vegetation clearance in the detention pond and along the water course	5 days machinery and operator hire	£ 5,000
Plants for revegetation at a planting density of 4 plants per square metre	400 m^2	£ 4,000
Spoil and vegetation disposal	4 trucks	£ 2,000
Way marking and installation	2	£ 2,000

Site Description	Site Description
This project will improve the amenity and habitat of the space and offers the potential to engage the community in implementation thus engendering a sense of ownership and pride within the local community.	Developer to pay.
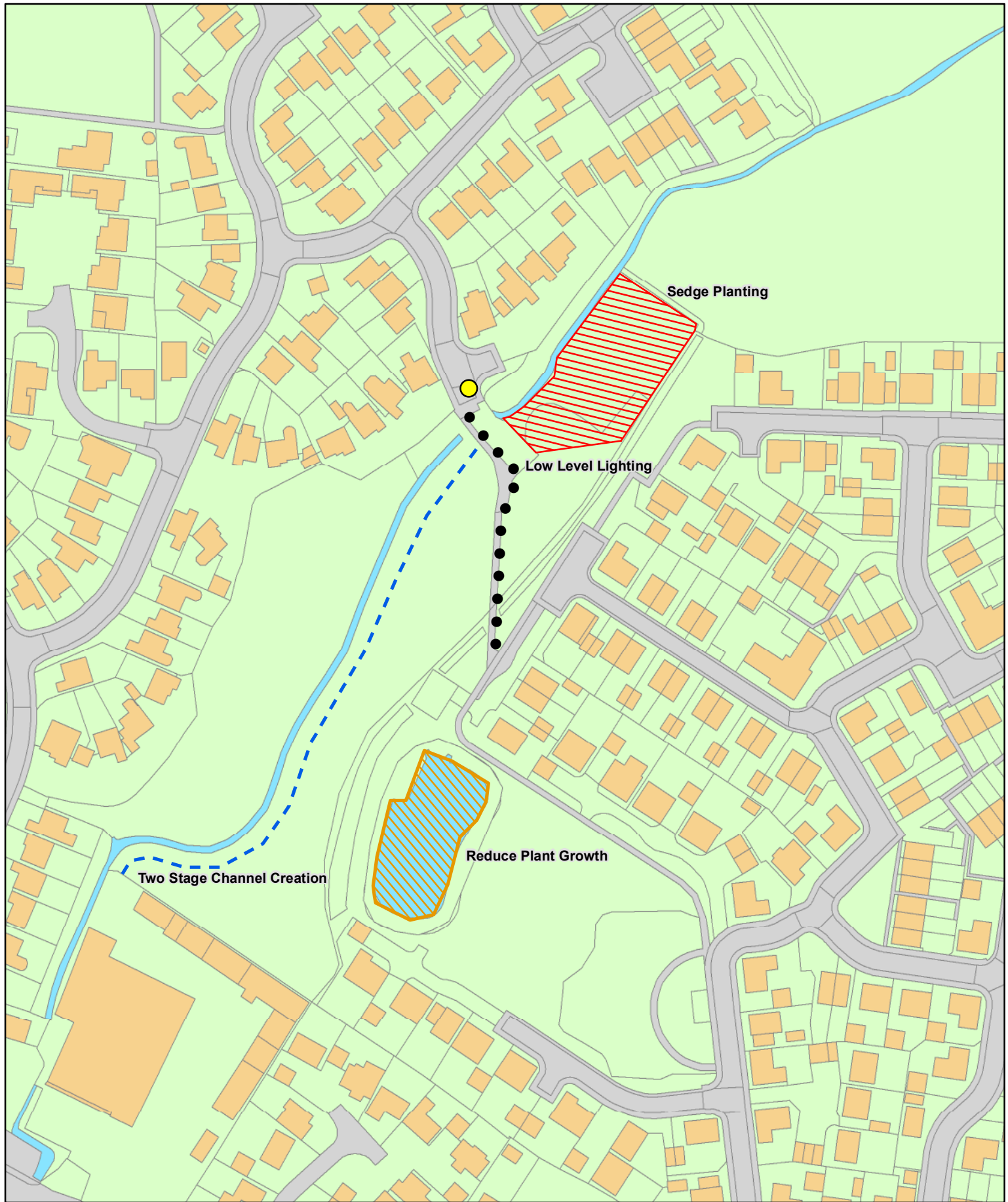
Harvest Close GI Project

Legend

- ⬤ KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ New Footpath / Repairs
- 🟥 Tree Planting
- 🟦 GI_Borough_Corridors
- 🟫 GI_Local_Corridors
- 🟩 GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

Map labels: Sedge Planting, Low Level Lighting, Reduce Plant Growth, Two Stage Channel Creation

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South Field Marsh Farm

Site Description

Between Wicksteed Park and the South Field Farm Nature Reserve the Ise Brook flows through agricultural land with informal access. The Slade Brook flows into the Ise just south of the Wicksteed Park Lakes. The watercourses in this area are largely free of fringing vegetation and the channels are disconnected from the natural flood plain. The site is fringed with residential developments and is bounded by the A6003 to the North and the A14 to the South. If suitable arrangements and permissions could be attained the site would make an excellent informal greenspace offering the opportunity for increased biodiversity and access.

Site Map and Images
See following pages.

Project Description

The proposal is to enable connected access along the linear park that follows the Ise Brook between Wicksteed Park and South Field Farm Nature Reserve. There are several points of access to the green space from the neighbouring residential areas and the proposal is to strengthen these by enabling continuous access along the length of the parks,

The Community had expressed a desire to enable pedestrian access all the way to South Field Farm Nature Reserve but this was considered too challenging at present due to issues crossing the A14 and the railway.

Key Outcomes
- Improved biodiversity connections along the Brook
- Improved water quality
- Continuous pedestrian access along the Brook
- Improved Brook habitats
- Improved recreational opportunities

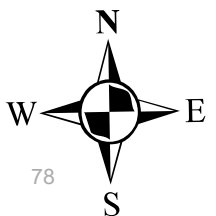| Project Partners	Roles
Natural England	Advice and support
Landowners (including Wicksteed Park)	Permission to implement or land sale
BCN Wildlife Trust	On-going Management of the Nature Reserve

Environment Agency	Advice and permitting for channel works
KBC	Project lead
River Nene Regional Park (Catchment Partnership Hosts)	Riparian Project Delivery

Indicative Project Costs:

Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Interpretation Boards (at each entry point)	8	£ 8,000
Footpaths (compacted hard-core)	1400 m	£ 26,000
In stream habitat restoration (channel modifications and stabilisation as well as re-vegetation with native species)		£ 150,000
Surveys and permits		£ 30,000
Terrestrial habitat improvements including tree planting and meadow creation		£ 200,000
New bridge and improved access from the A6003		£ 70,000

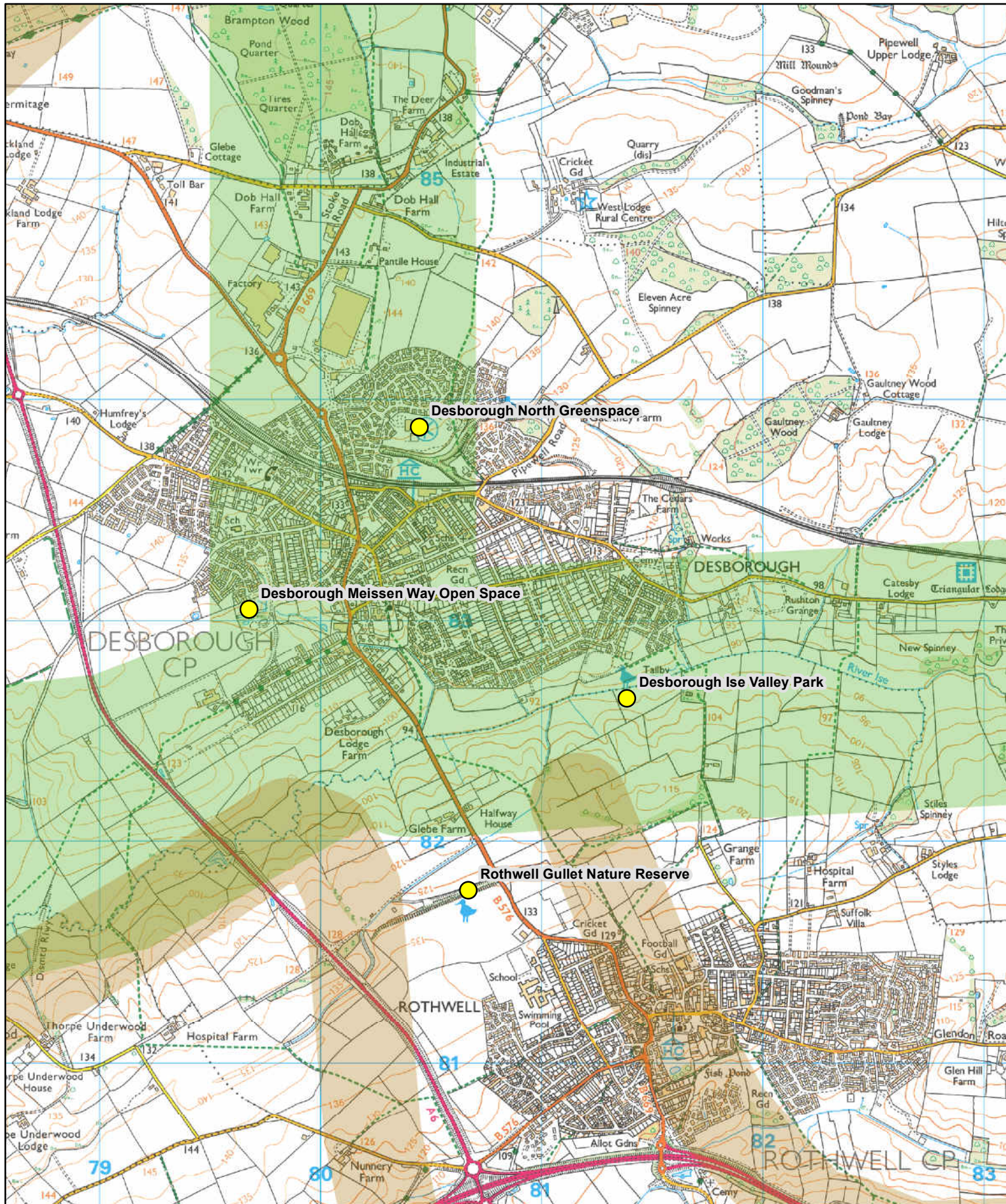| **Project Benefits**	**Potential Funding Sources**
Better linked communities Habitat enhancement Improved recreational opportunities Sustainable transport / movement opportunities Improved river flow and water quality	Countryside Stewardship (for the Nature Reserve) S106 SITA (SUEZ community trust)
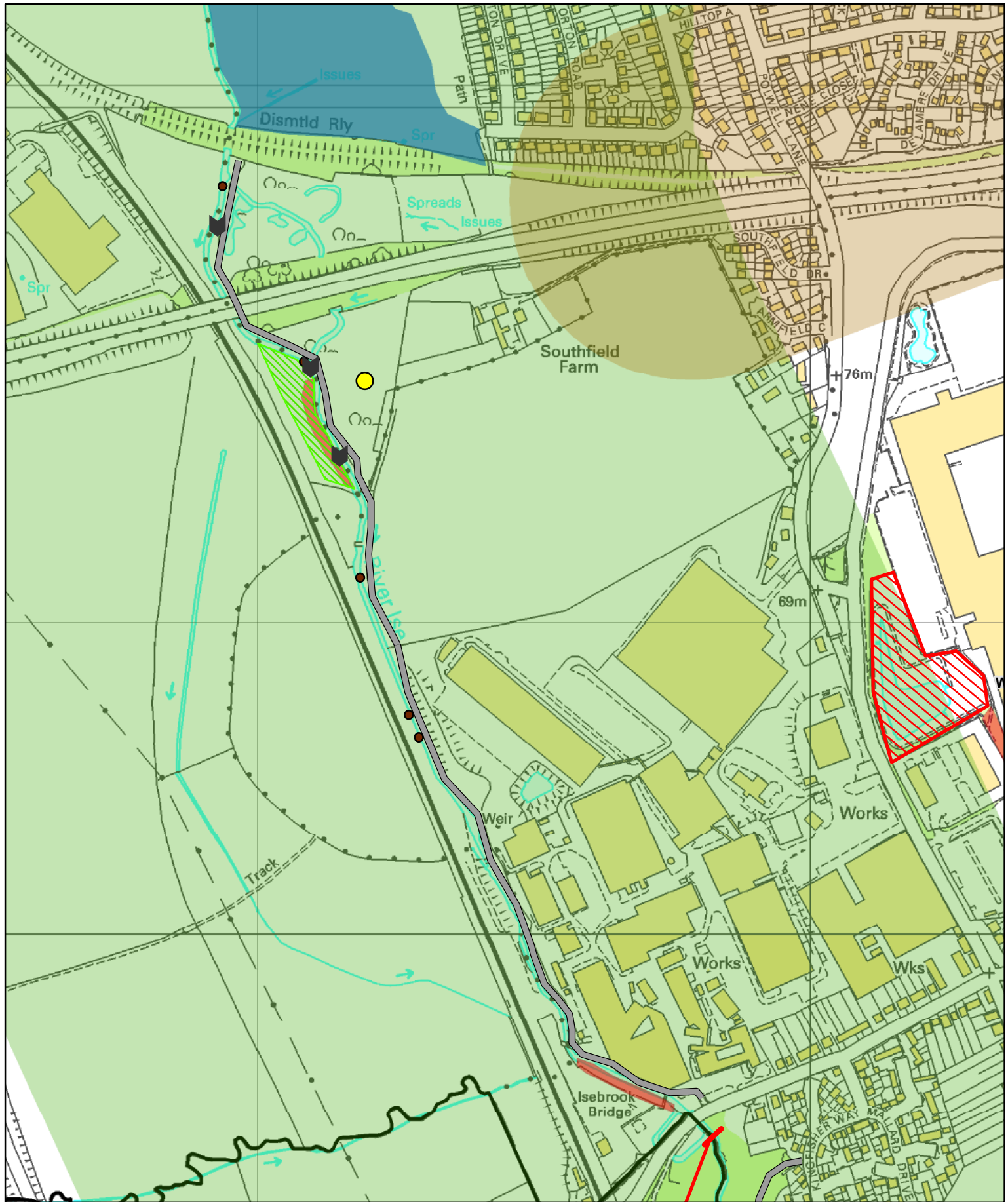
Southfield Marsh Farm GI Project

Legend

- ⬤ (yellow) KBC GIDP Projects
- ⬛ Leaky Dams
- ⬤ (dark red) Woody Debris
- ▨ Native riparian species
- ⬭ GI_Borough_Corridors
- ▭ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▭ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▬ New Footpath / Repairs
- ▭ Tree Planting

Desborough and Rothwell Local GI Projects

Desborough North Greenspace

Desborough Meissen Way Open Space

Desborough Ise Valley Park

Rothwell Gullet Nature Reserve

Legend

⬤ KBC GIDP Projects	GI_Local_Corridors	▭ Kettering_borough_boundary
GI_Borough_Corridors	GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors	

79
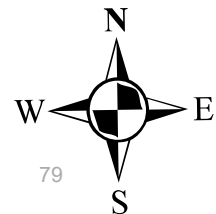
Desborough North Greenspace

Site Description
The Desborough North Greenspace is a 22-acre site of various typology that includes all the open space to the North West of Desborough. The site was created out of the Grange Housing Development and provides for a range of recreation opportunities including a skate park and outdoor gym equipment, water management, and biodiversity. There are extensive pathways through the site with around 1 km of them being macadam. There are many informal paths within the area that are clearly used regularly, some of these informal pathways are leading to erosion of slopes and it is expected that this situation will be exacerbated over time until it is addressed.

Site Map and Images
See following pages**.**

Project Description
Despite the fact that this site offers an off-road connection between the Grange and the old town of Desborough, there are no formal pathways, no lighting and no way marking to highlight this route.

A footbridge over the railway line north of the Co-operative store is planned as part of the Desborough North Application, this is committed through the S106 agreement, but formalisation of the existing informal pathways within this open space will assist in the provision of a complete route.

Low level lighting, way marking and extensions to the existing pathway network would also be of benefit. There are also opportunities to enhance the recreation opportunities through the clear identification of walking / running routes and the installation of distance markers.

Key Outcomes
- Improved access to and through the site
- Protection of biodiversity elements through rationalisation of informal footpaths

| Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Project delivery lead
Developers of Desborough North	Part project funders

Desborough Town Council	Project delivery support	
Indicative Project Costs:		
Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Signage and waymarking	4	£ 8,000
Footpath installation and upgrades (2 metre width hard core)	600 m	£25,000
Car Park installation		£15,000
Project Benefits	**Potential Funding Sources**	
Improved access and amenity Protection of biodiversity	S106 available (£70,000) Match funding opportunities	
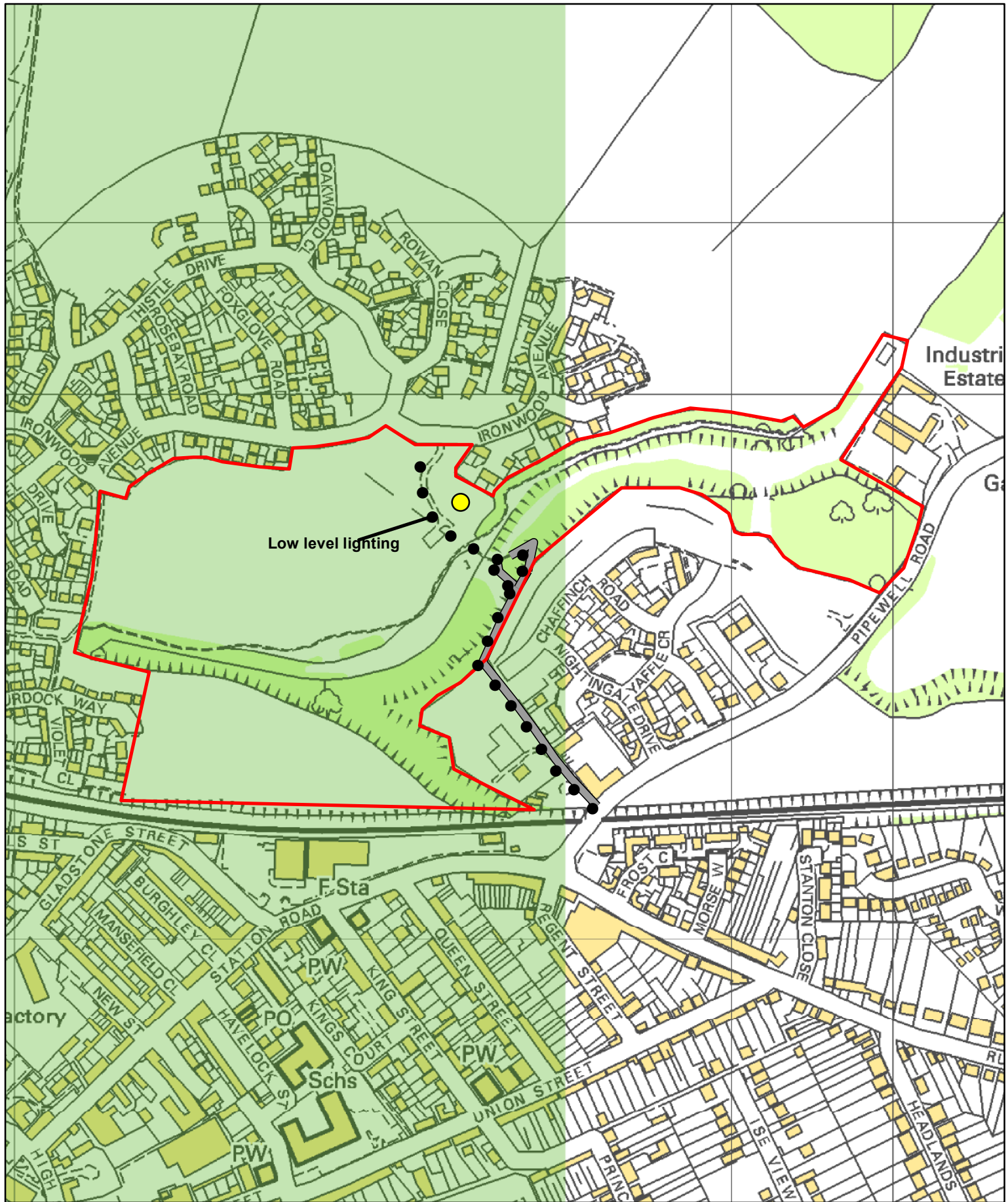
Desborough North Greenspace GI Project

Legend

- ○ (yellow) KBC GIDP Projects
- GI_Local_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary
- GI_Borough_Corridors
- GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- New Footpath / Repairs

Low level lighting

82
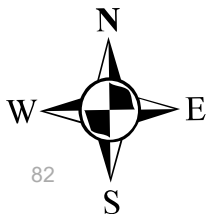
Desborough Open Space (Meissen Way / Neuville Way / Prince Rupert Avenue)

Site Description

This site, approximately 7 acres, sits south of the Harrington Road residential area and is bounded on it's southern edge by agricultural fields. It is a steeply undulating site that appears to have been largely unmanaged and as such retains high biodiversity. Site use is sufficient to maintain informal pathways. Access to the site is via narrow pathways at the end of Meissen Way, Neuville Way and Prince Rupert Avenue. There are no way markings and no formal footpaths within the site. There are excellent connections from the site to the surrounding countryside and the Hill Farm Pocket Park which could be formalised if desired.

Site Map and Images

See following pages.

Project Description

The potential exists to transform this land into a recognised and accessible green space. The land has various owners and it would take some negotiation to secure the site. There is an aspiration to improve access and interpretation within the area and to connect it to other green spaces on the west side of Desborough. Additionally, there is concern over the inaccessibility of the site and the perceived lack of management. However, the undisturbed nature of this site, so close to residences, is advantageous to nature and offers an alternative experience to the more familiar, formal green spaces. It is therefore recommended that any alterations to the site be minimal such as way marking and 'soft' formalisation of footpaths where required.

The site would benefit from some maintenance to cut back scrub supplementary planting with appropriate species on some of the steep banks. There is a watercourse running through the site, which is difficult to get to along much of it's length but it is stable and does not require maintenance.

Key Outcomes

- Improved biodiversity
- Improved provision of green space for local residents
- Improved way marking and signposting of the site and it's connections to other green spaces
- Improved access by means of footpath formalisation

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Project delivery support and land acquisition / securing access
Land owners	Permission to reserve / exclude from future development
Town council	Project delivery
Local residents	Volunteer planting and woodland management
Developers	Funding contributions

Indicative Project Costs:

Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Vegetation management	Labour x 5 days	£ 2,500
Way marking	4	£ 4,000
Supplementary planting		£ 2,000
Footpath through site (compacted hardcore)	500 m	£ 9,200

Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
Retention and formalisation of a high biodiversity area on the edge of the town Improved connections between this site and Hall Farm Pocket Park Creation of an accessible wild/natural place for local residents and visitors	Developers (via S106)
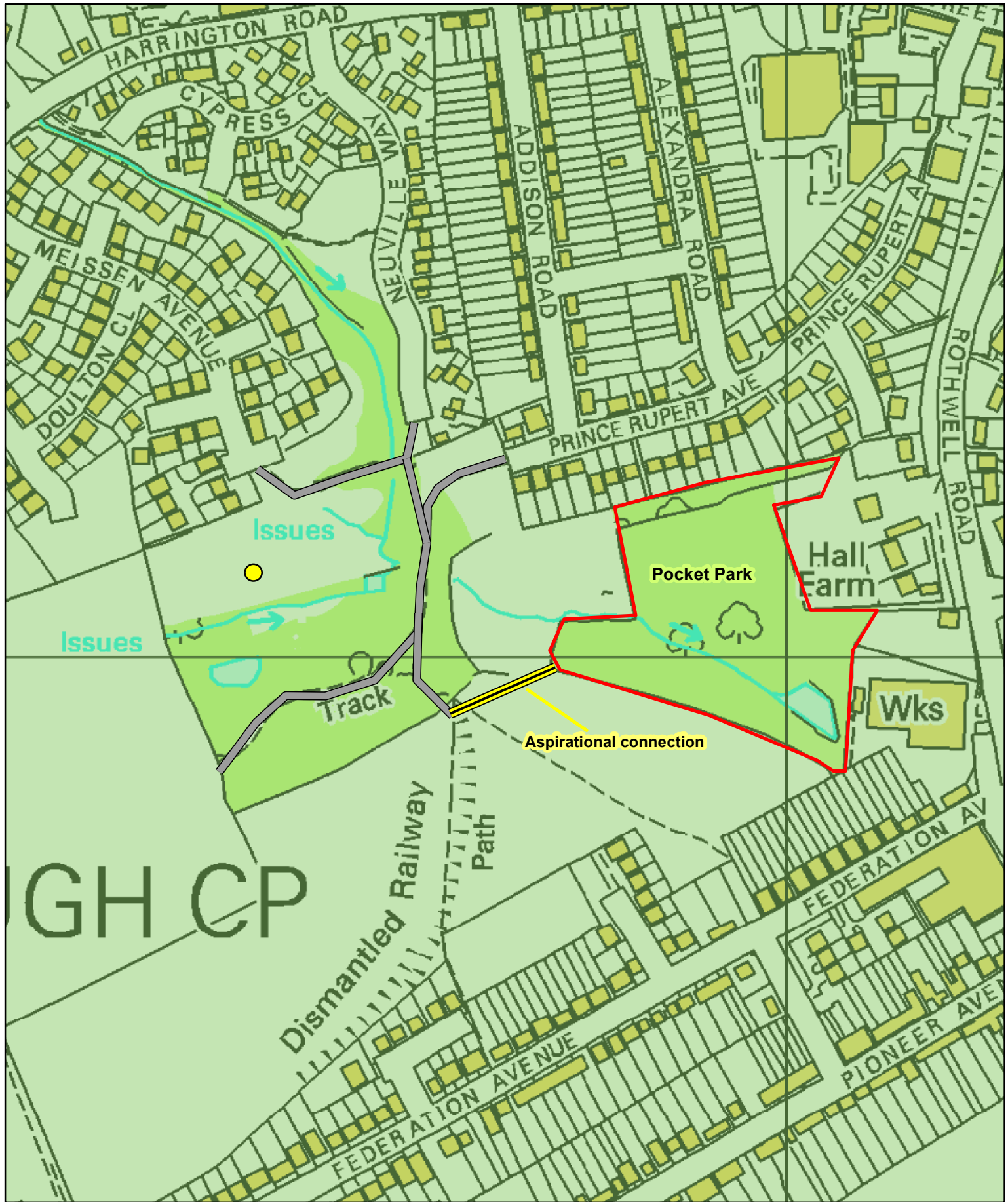
Desborough Meissen Way Open Space GI Project

Pocket Park

Aspirational connection

Legend

● KBC GIDP Projects	GI_Local_Corridors	▭ Kettering_borough_boundary
⬬ GI_Borough_Corridors	GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors	▬ New Footpath / Repairs

85
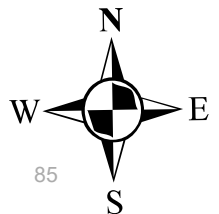
Ise Valley Country Park, Desborough

Site Description

The proposed site is the Ise River valley south of Desborough, East of the B576, a linear site that follows the line of the River for approximately one and a quarter kilometres. The site is in various ownerships and currently used for agriculture with some informal use for recreation. The area to the North has recently been approved for residential development with some of the space being retained for open space.

Site Map and Images

See following pages.

Project Description

The proposal is to create a large-scale linear park (marked with red outline on the map) with the River Ise at its centre. The aspiration is to enhance GI provision in this area and to provide opportunities for walking and informal recreation and to take advantage of this strategic location within a sub-regional green corridor with a view to extending it, over time, along the Ise Sub-regional Corridor.

The creation of this park would offer an opportunity to enhance the function and habitat value of the flood plain and make this area accessible for recreation and education purposes, as well as allowing a buffer between the nearby residential developments and the River which will support its function.

This is an ambitious project, particularly given the land acquisition issues but there is a great deal of enthusiasm and support within the local community and more broadly.

Key Outcomes

- Provision of a large scale recreation and biodiversity asset for the growing town of Desborough
- Improved flood plain management
- Reduced flood risk
- Improved water quality in the River Ise
- Improved habitat and biodiversity

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Development control and lead delivery body
Environment Agency	Advice and funding partner

|	
Natural England	Advice and funding partner
Anglian Water	Project delivery support and potential funder (there is a large pumping station within the proposed boundary)
Desborough Town Council	Project delivery support and potential funding
BCN Wildlife Trust	Advice and potential long-term management

Indicative Project Costs:

| Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Land acquisition		£
Fencing and gates (3 km perimeter with 6 access points for vehicles / pedestrians)	3,000m + 6 vehicle gates	£ 30,000
Footpath creation	4,000m	£ 73,000
Signage / way marking		£ 10,000
Waterway improvements		£ 60,000
Planting and landscaping (habitat improvements)		£ 25,000

Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
Improved recreation, access links and volunteering opportunity leading to improved health and wellbeing Protection of the river corridor for nature and water management improvements Enhanced water quality Improvements in biodiversity	Developers (S106) in both Desborough and Rothwell Environment Agency Natural England Countryside Stewardship for implementation and on-going management
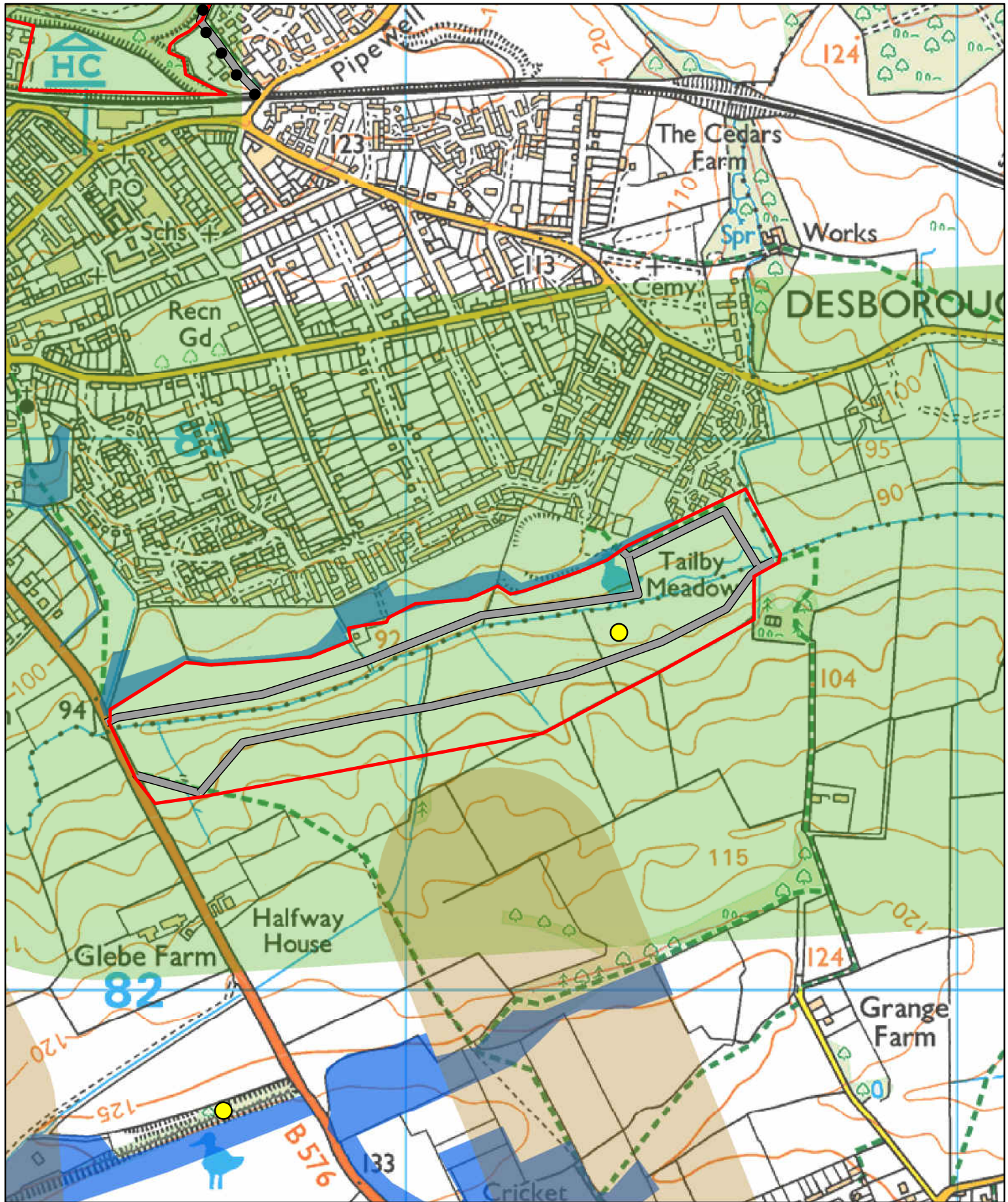
Ise Valley Country Park GI Project

Legend

- ● KBC GIDP Projects
- GI_Borough_Corridors
- GI_Local_Corridors
- GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary
- New Footpath / Repairs
- Proposed Development GI
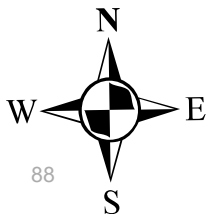
Rothwell Gullet Local Nature Reserve

Site Description
The Rothwell Gullet Local Nature Reserve is a narrow strip of land running perpendicular to the Desborough Road north of Rothwell. Public access to the site is limited by the absence of street parking and the lack of a clear entry to the site, which potentially is of benefit to the nature.

Site Map and Images
See following pages.

Project Description
Arising from concern about the impacts of nearby development, there is an aspiration to enhance the habitats and amenity value of this nature reserve and enhance the connections to green spaces proposed as part of the Rothwell North development. There is significant green space proposed in the Master Plan for the Rothwell North development and it is suggested that this space be retained / enhanced as a more natural buffer to the nature reserve rather than as more formal park landscape.

Key Outcomes
- Improved biodiversity connections
- Improved access to natural green space for people
- Formalised link between the nature reserve and the Potential Wildlife Site / Local Green Space to the east
- Improved way marking

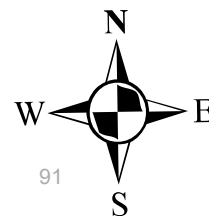| Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Support in the project delivery
Natural England	Support and advice for project delivery
The Wildlife Trust	Project delivery
Adjacent landowners	Permission to undertake connection works

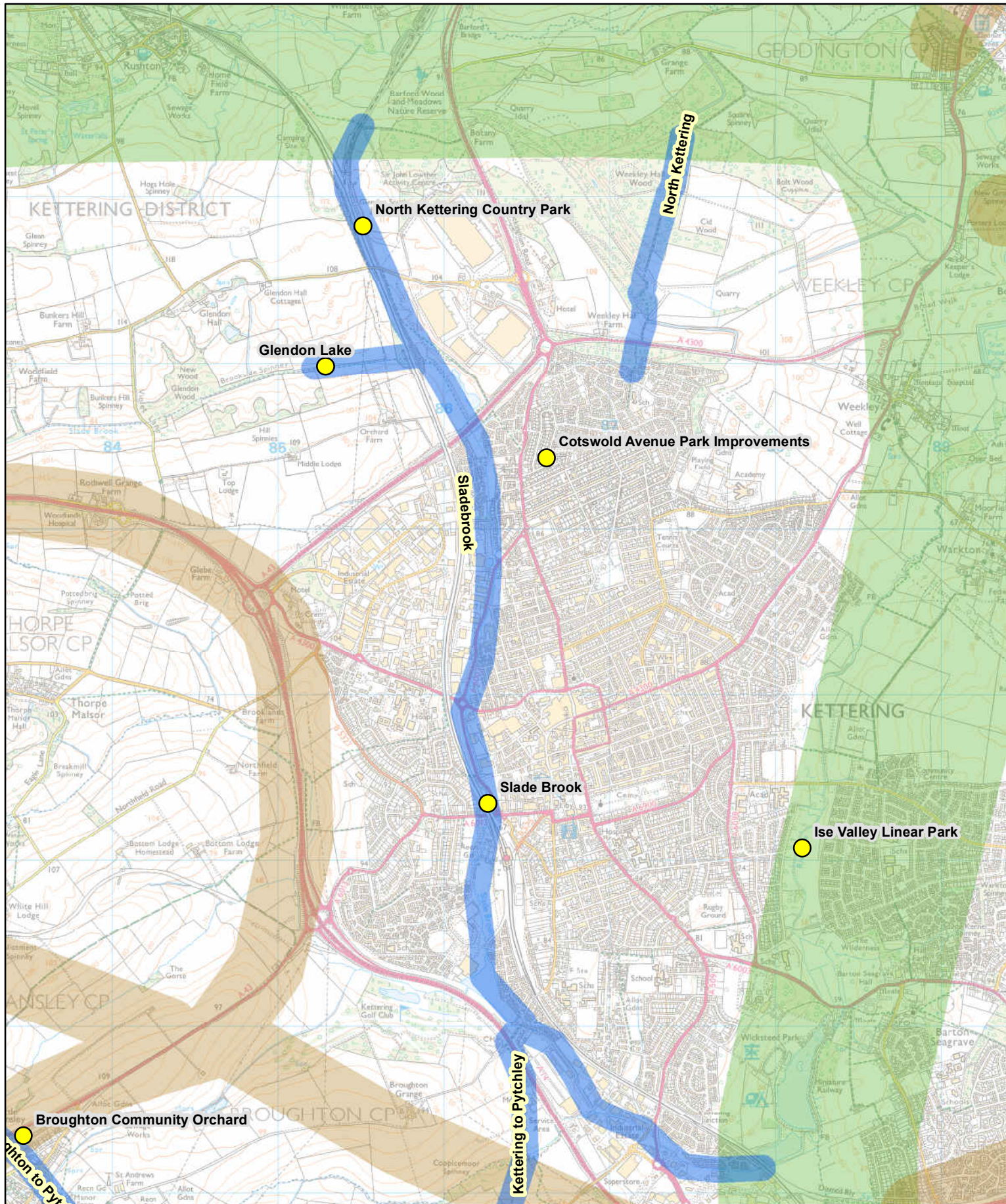| Indicative Project Costs:		
Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Way marking	2	£ 2,000
Supplementary planting works within the reserve		£ 2,000
Installation of nesting boxes	6	£ 1,800
Interpretation	2	£ 2,000
Project Benefits	**Potential Funding Sources**	
Enhanced biodiversity Improved habitat Improved links between green spaces	Many of these outcomes come be delivered through development of the Rothwell North development.	
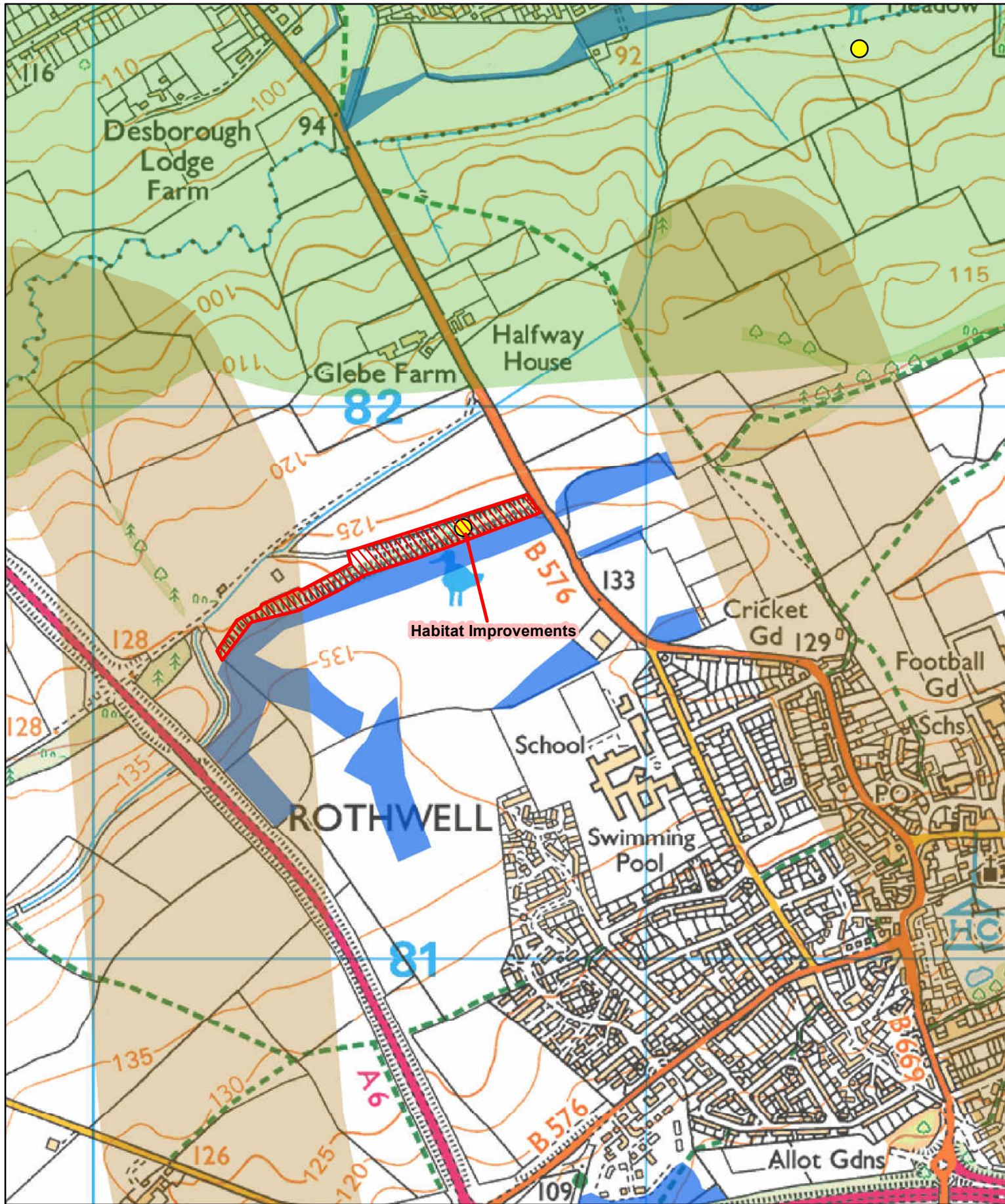
Rothwell Gullet GI Project

Habitat Improvements

Legend

- ⬤ KBC GIDP Projects
- GI_Borough_Corridors
- GI_Local_Corridors
- GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▢ Kettering_borough_boundary
- Proposed Development GI

North Kettering Country Park

North Kettering

Glendon Lake

Cotswold Avenue Park Improvements

Sladebrook

Slade Brook

Ise Valley Linear Park

Kettering to Pytchley

Broughton Community Orchard

Broughton to Pyt...

Slade Brook and North Kettering Local GI Projects

Legend

- ● KBC GIDP Projects
- ▬ GI_Borough_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ Kettering_borough_boundary

N W E S

92
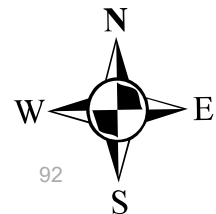
Glendon Lake

Site Description
The site (proposed) is in agricultural land to the North West of the Prologis Park North of Kettering at the top of the Slade Brook. This site was originally identified in the Site Specific Proposals in the Local Development Document for the location of flood storage reservoir to reduce the flood risk in the Slade Brook, particularly as it flows through Kettering. The area is naturally boggy land which is not suited to modern farming and which lends itself well to the provision of natural flood management.

Initial assessments suggest the area is technically and financially feasible. The reservoir will provide enhanced protection for the whole area of Kettering currently at risk of flooding from the Slade Brook, provide fluvial flood protection for a 1 in 100 year (with climate change) for urban areas Kettering and facilitate the safe development of several sites allocated in the Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan.

Site Map and Images
See following pages.

Project Description
It is proposed to create an on-line lake to intercept and retain rural flow and run off from Rothwell to improve water quality and reduce flood risk.

Key Outcomes
- Interception of stream flows to increase the level of flood protection to Slade Brook running though Kettering
- Collection of rural sediment, reducing maintenance costs in Slade Brook
- Improved water quality downstream of the lake in the higher amenity areas of Slade Brook
- Increased biodiversity in the Brook corridor
- Increased recreation and amenity potential through enabling dual use as a fishing lake
- Protection of existing and planned development from flooding

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Part funder (S106)
EA	Part funder (FCRM grant in aid)

Landowners	Permission to access and construct (initial conversations held ~2012)
Wildlife Trust	Advice, support delivery through volunteering
Nene Valley Catchment Partnership	Project implementation

Indicative Project Costs:		
Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Design and Construction (including access route)		£400,000
Planning approval and environmental permits		£ 10,000
Ongoing maintenance		£ 11,000 per annum

Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
See key outcomes above	S106 EA Flood Risk Capital Rural Development Payments General Drainage Charge (for maintenance)
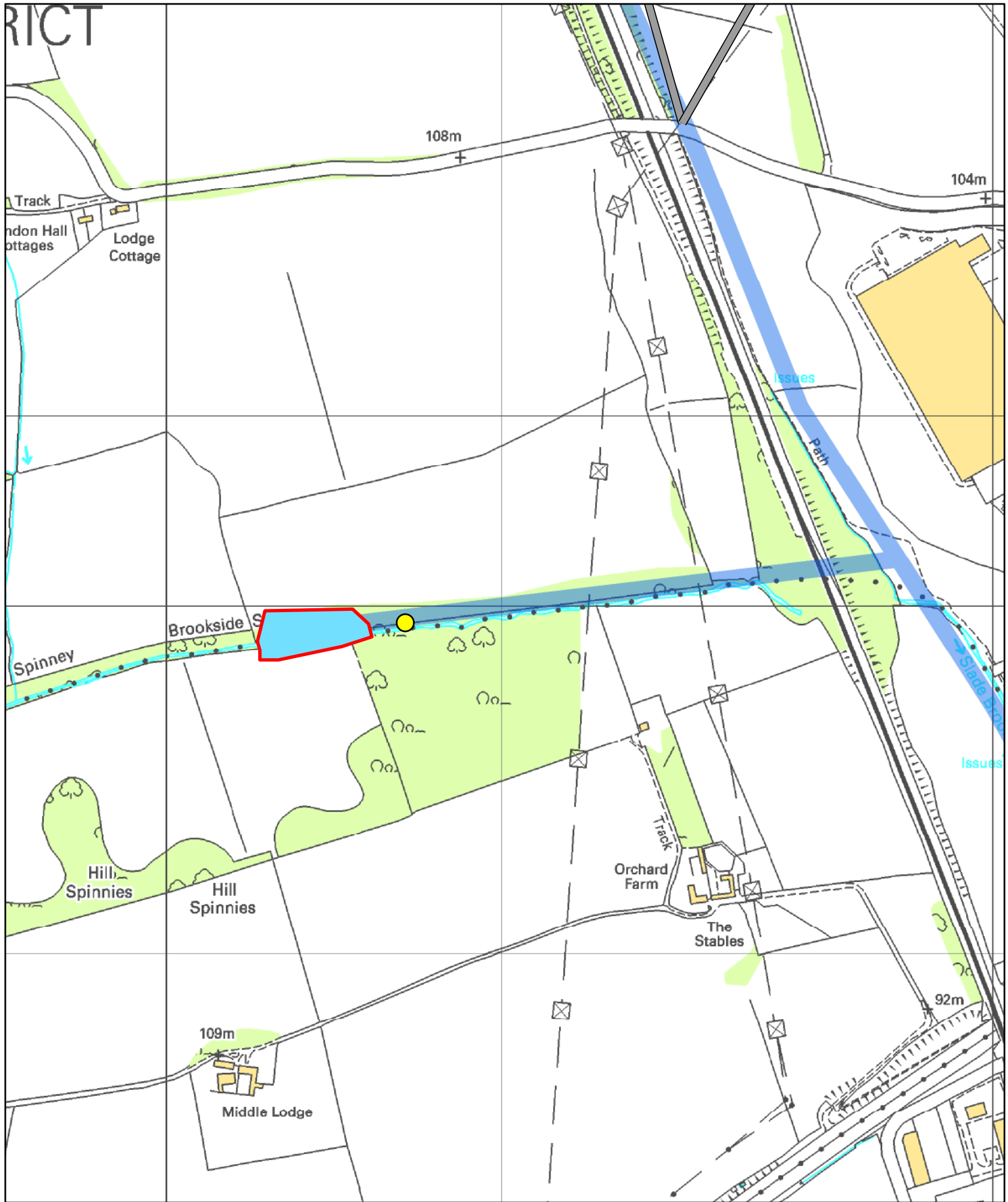
Glendon Lake GI Project

Legend

● KBC GIDP Projects	▮ Tree Planting	▮ GI_Local_Corridors
▬ New Footpath / Repairs	▬ GI_Borough_Corridors	▮ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

Track
Glendon Hall Cottages
Lodge Cottage
108m
104m
Spinney
Brookside S
Hill Spinnies
Hill Spinnies
109m
Middle Lodge
Issues
Path
Issues
Slade B
Orchard Farm
The Stables
Track
92m

N
W — E
S
95
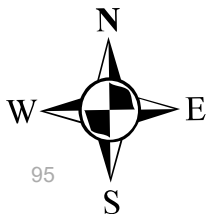
North Kettering Country Park / Prologis Park

Site Description

This is an extensive and well provisioned open space to the North of the A43 North of Kettering that extends for just over 1 kilometre with the potential to connect, more formally, to the nature reserve north of Glendon Road (Barford Wood and Meadows) adjacent to the railway line. It includes formal and informal footpaths, the Slade Brook, a storm water retention basin and football fields.

Site Map and Images

See following pages.

Project Description

There is an aspiration to join this well provisioned and extensive site to other surrounding green spaces and new spaces that will be created as part of the Weekley Hall Development as well as formalising the connections to Kettering.

Three spaces would be combined linked under this proposal, the linear park created by Prologis, Barford Wood and Meadows Nature Reserve and planned green spaces planned as part of the Weekley Hall development to the east of the A43.

Barford Wood and Meadows has no formalised footpaths and limited provision of amenity facilities including bins or seating. Access and amenity could be improved by the provision of these facilities. Additionally, it's role as a wildlife site could be improved with increased habitat provision such as species rich grasslands and tree planting. Areas for these improvements are identified on the following map.

This ambitious plan will require the provision of safe crossing points over the A43 and the A6003 to provide circular walking routes from Kettering (as identified on the map) and which will require additional investigation in the future.

Key Outcomes

- Extended visitor space for dog walking, exercising and for family play
- Integration of wildlife and people (health benefits)
- Creation of a identity for the area
- Improved habitats and biodiversity
- Protection for wildlife
- The potential to attract businesses to a well provisioned area
- Enhanced recreation and leisure opportunities

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Project delivery lead
Northamptonshire County Council	Development of Rights of Way
Woodland Trust	Tree planting and management advice
Wildlife Trust	Land owner
Boughton Estates	Land owner / developer
Prologis	Land owner
Scouts / Football Club	Formal recreation groups / users
Environment Agency	Advice and delivery support

Indicative Project Costs:

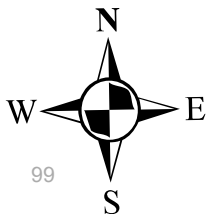| Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Improved Footpaths on the site to north of Glendon Road (approximately 2000 metres in total of compacted hardcore)	2000 metres	£ 3,750
Interpretation and way finding signs	6	£ 20,000
Additional Bins, seating, picnic tables	allowance	£ 20,000
Road safety signs for crossing points		£ 10,000
Habitat enhancement works including species rich grassland and tree planting (areas identified on the map)		£100,000

Plants and trees for supplementary planting	£ 10,000
Natural Playscapes	£ 30,000

Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
Creation and identification of a large recreational area Health and wellbeing benefits Economic benefits of an attractive space adjacent to businesses Flood reduction benefits Biodiversity benefits through habitat creation and tree planting	S106 Grants Sponsorship by business
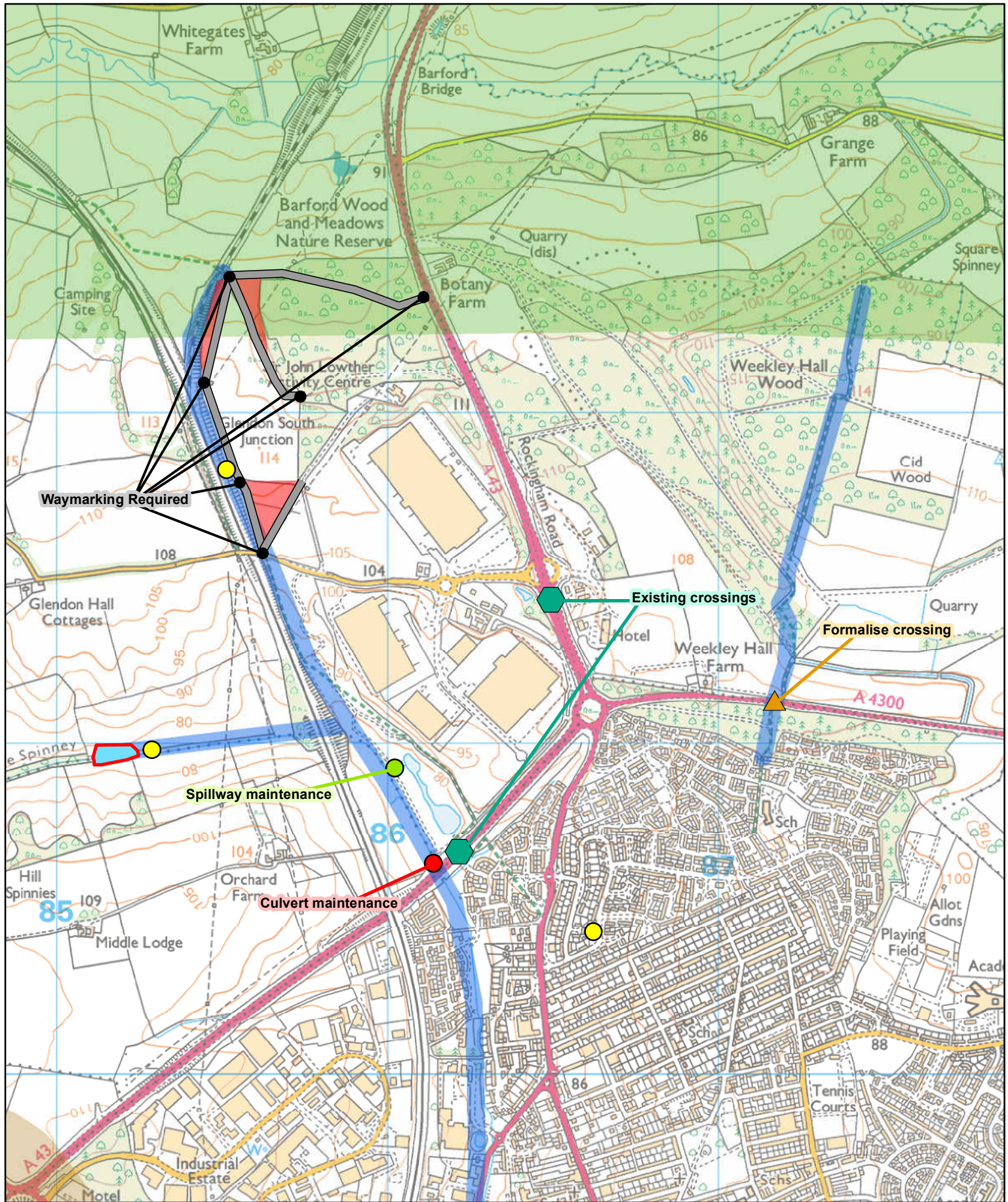
North Kettering Country Park GI Project

Legend

- 🟡 KBC GIDP Projects
- 🟥 Tree Planting
- ⬜ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▬ New Footpath / Repairs
- ▬ GI_Borough_Corridors
- 🟩 GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

Map labels:
- Waymarking Required
- Existing crossings
- Formalise crossing
- Spillway maintenance
- Culvert maintenance

Cotsworld Avenue Park Improvements

Site Description
This site is a small suburban green space on the corner of Cotswold Avenue and Pennine Way Kettering. The site is fenced from the road and park entrances are not well marked. Planting within the site is minimal and play equipment very limited.

Site Map and Images
See following page.

Project Description
The appeal and ecological value of the park could be improved with very little investment and should include fringe planting with pollinator species, introduction of trees and seating and replacement of play equipment.

It is strongly suggested that the perimeter fence is removed or modified to enable it to be more transparent and that welcome signage at the park entrances be included to ensure that people understand that the space is publically accessible.
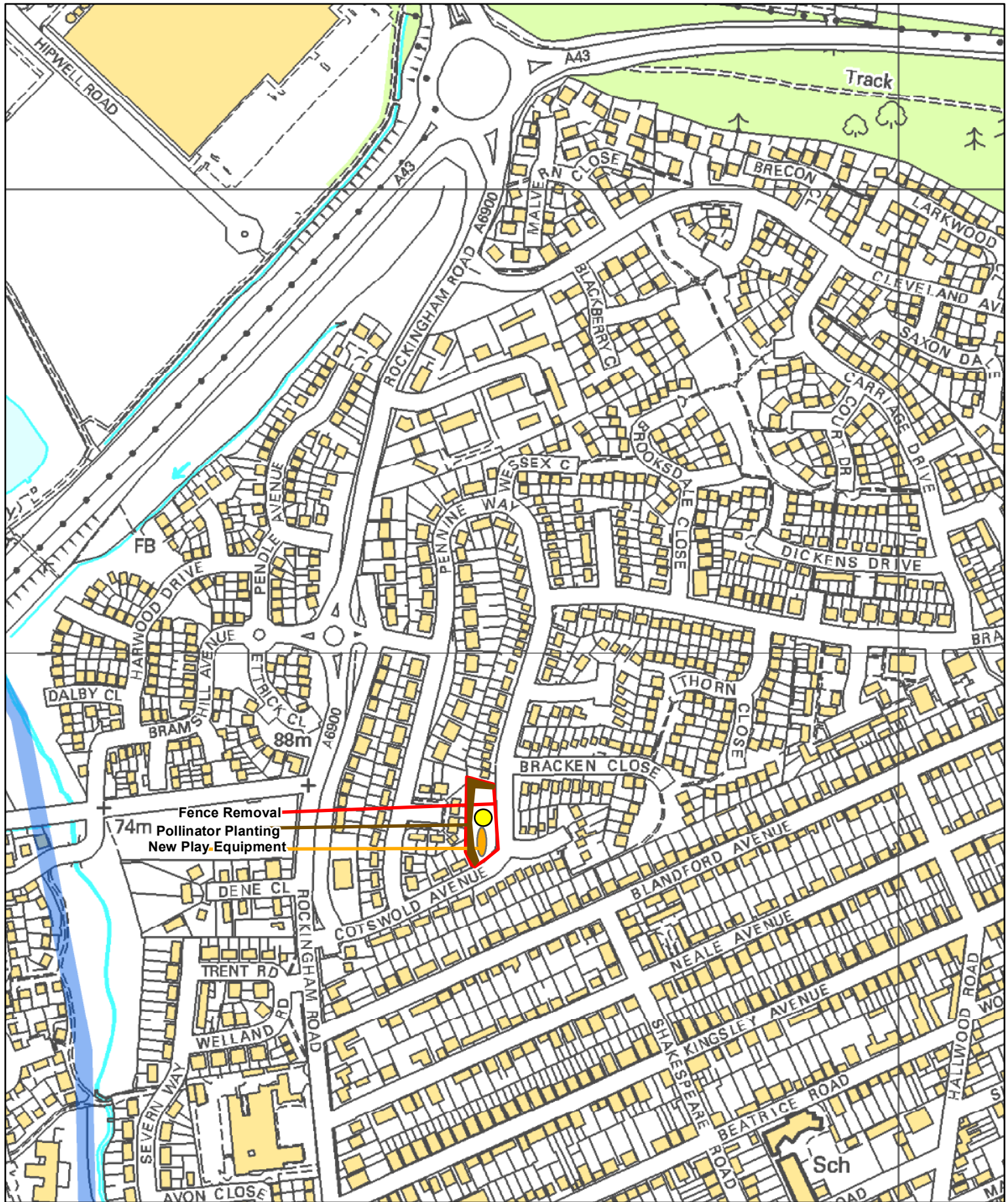
Key Outcomes
- Improved habitat value for pollinator species
- Improved amenity value and appeal
- Improved recreation opportunities for young residents

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Project delivery lead
Local residents	Support delivery through volunteering and identification of aspirations

Indicative Project Costs:

Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Signage	2	£ 2,000
Planting for pollinators and trees	Estimated	£ 1,500
Provision of seating and installation	4	£ 2,000

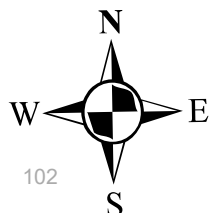| Provision of new play equipment	Assumed	£10,000
Project Benefits	**Potential Funding Sources**	
Improved habitats within an urban context Improved amenity for local communities	Tesco Bags of Help KBC	

Cotswold Avenue GI Project

Fence Removal
Pollinator Planting
New Play Equipment

Track

HIPWELL ROAD

BRECON

LARKWOOD

CLEVELAND AV

SAXON DA

MALVERN CLOSE

BLACKBERRY CL

CARRIAGE COURT DR

BROOKSDALE CLOSE

WESSEX C

DICKENS DRIVE

ROCKINGHAM ROAD A6900

PENDLE AVENUE

PENNINE WAY

BRAMSHILL AVENUE

HARWOOD DRIVE

FB

DALBY CL

ETTRICK CL

88m

A6900

74m

THORN CLOSE

BRACKEN CLOSE

DENE CL

COTSWOLD AVENUE

BLANDFORD AVENUE

TRENT RD

NEALE AVENUE

WELLAND RD

ROCKINGHAM ROAD

SHAKESPEARE ROAD

KINGSLEY AVENUE

HALLWOOD WO

SEVERN WAY

BEATRICE ROAD

Sch

AVON CLOSE

Legend

⬤ (yellow)	KBC GIDP Projects	▬ (red) Tree Planting	GI_Local_Corridors
▬ New Footpath / Repairs		▬ (blue) GI_Borough_Corridors	GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

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Slade Brook Urban Corridor

Site Description

This project relates to the Slade Brook as it flows through Kettering along Northfield Avenue to the Lake at the Kettering Leisure Village. This represents approximately a two and a half kilometre length of the waterway, most of which remains un-culverted.

As is common with urban waterways, the Brook has been largely ignored as a feature of interest in the town and could easily be overlooked until it reaches the lake at the Kettering Leisure Village. This lake is accumulating sediment due to the unmanaged urban run-off into the Brook and it can be assumed that water quality

Site Map and Images
See following pages.

Project Description

The Brook offers multiple opportunities for implementation of measures to achieve improvements in water quality and reduced flood risk through improving conveyancy to accommodate increased flows due to urban development and climate change.

This project seeks to enhance the amenity and function of the Brook, turning it in to a visual asset for the Town Centre while at the same time encouraging recreational enjoyment and enhanced water flow and quality.

Several areas of the Brook flow through open space thus providing the opportunity to incorporate habitat improvement elements and water retention measures to 'slow the flow' of water along the Brook thus reducing flood risk to communities along the Brook and downstream.

The length of the Brook between the **A43 and Northfield Avenue** (~800 metres) sits in a generous easement between residential developments and is stable and well vegetated. Function of the Brook could be improved by removal of hard edging, creation of two-stage channels, planting of natural riparian species and installation of in-stream habitat such as woody debris or gravel riffles. The opportunity exists for the use of leaky dams to slow high flows and retain water in this area, without risk to property, to reduce the flooding pressures lower in the catchment during high rainfall periods.

Between **Dyson Drive and Grafton Street**, the Brook flows along the eastern edge of Northfield Avenue. It is contained within a lined channel and has very little instream habitat. There are opportunities to remove the hard edging on the eastern bank of the Brook to provide a two-stage channel and for the installation of in-stream habitats as described for the previous section. This is particularly true as the Brook flows along the edge of Grafton Street Park. In this area it could be opened up and made into a feature within the park providing value to the amenity of this public open space, increasing water storage for high flows and improving water quality.

As the Brook flows along the eastern edge of Northfield Road between **Grafton Street and Lower Street** the opportunities for enhancement are limited but include opportunistic widening of the channel and installation of in-stream habitat features to improve function and amenity. There are several areas where the drainage reserve is wide enough to enable construction of on-stream detention basins that could be designed to filter out sediment and organic pollution to improve water quality as well as to hold back water during periods of high flow to reduce the risk of flooding.

Between **Lower Street and Meadow Road** the drainage reserve narrows and there are no opportunities for enhancement of the Brook however thinning the tree stock along this section would be of benefit. Immediately downstream of Meadow Road there is a large area of typically unused public open space **(Meadow Road Park)** that extends from Northfield Avenue to the town centre. This area provides an excellent opportunity to construct a substantial Water Sensitive Urban Design feature, to treat stormwater run-off and create a point of interest around which to centre a stunning new event space or town square. This initiative would be an excellent fit for the longer-term aspiration to provide a high quality residential development in this part of Kettering and the feature could be designed with sufficient capacity to manage increased run-off, improve water quality and even treat stormwater for reuse.

Between **Meadow Road Park and Northampton Road** there are no opportunities for enhancement of the Brook but downstream between **Northampton Road and the Leisure Village Lake** the Brook again flows through public open space. This offers opportunities to widen the Brook to create a two-stage channel, plant with native riparian species to provide habitat and shade and install in-stream habitats. The area also provides opportunities for increased amenity and recreation through the installation of more footpaths, seating and play / exercise equipment in the longer-term.

The **Leisure village lake** requires de-silting and additional works to prevent re-silting which may include a sediment forebay designed for ease of clearing. All of the measures described above to slow flows and intercept and treat stormwater, as well as the proposed Glendon Lake Project, will reduce sedimentation of the lake in the future and ensure that its amenity, recreation and habitat values and maintained.

Key Outcomes

- Enhanced open space provision, improved access along the corridor
- Reduction of Flood Risk
- Enhanced water quality and ecological value
- Improved riparian habitats
- Strengthened biodiversity
- Improved access including extension of existing footpath to provide a circuit a walking path around the lake
- Mitigation of siltation of the lake
- Creation of a town centre feature utilising water sensitive urban design technologies

Project Partners	Roles
KBC	Project delivery lead
EA	Advice, approvals and potential funding
NE	Advice
NNC (lead local flood authority)	Approvals and project advice
Nene Valley Catchment Partnership	Support project delivery

Indicative Project Costs:

Item	Amount	Estimated Cost
Feasibility study & preliminary design		£ 60,000
Brook surveys		£ 10,000

Concept design		£ 10,000
Approvals and permits		£ 10,000
River restoration and habitat creation		£ 200,000
WSUD elements and urban renewal		£ 400,000
Lake de-silting and sediment management		£ 200,000
Foot paths (compacted hard core)	1,520m	£28,000

| Project Benefits	Potential Funding Sources
Enhanced GI provision Unlocked development potential in the town centre Mitigation of flood risk Improved biodiversity Improved water quality Improving the appearance of the area	S106 ESIF PA6 funding Sponsorship FCRM Grant in Aid RFCC Local Choices

Examples of suggested enhancement works

Two-Stage channel under construction (RNRP, 2015)
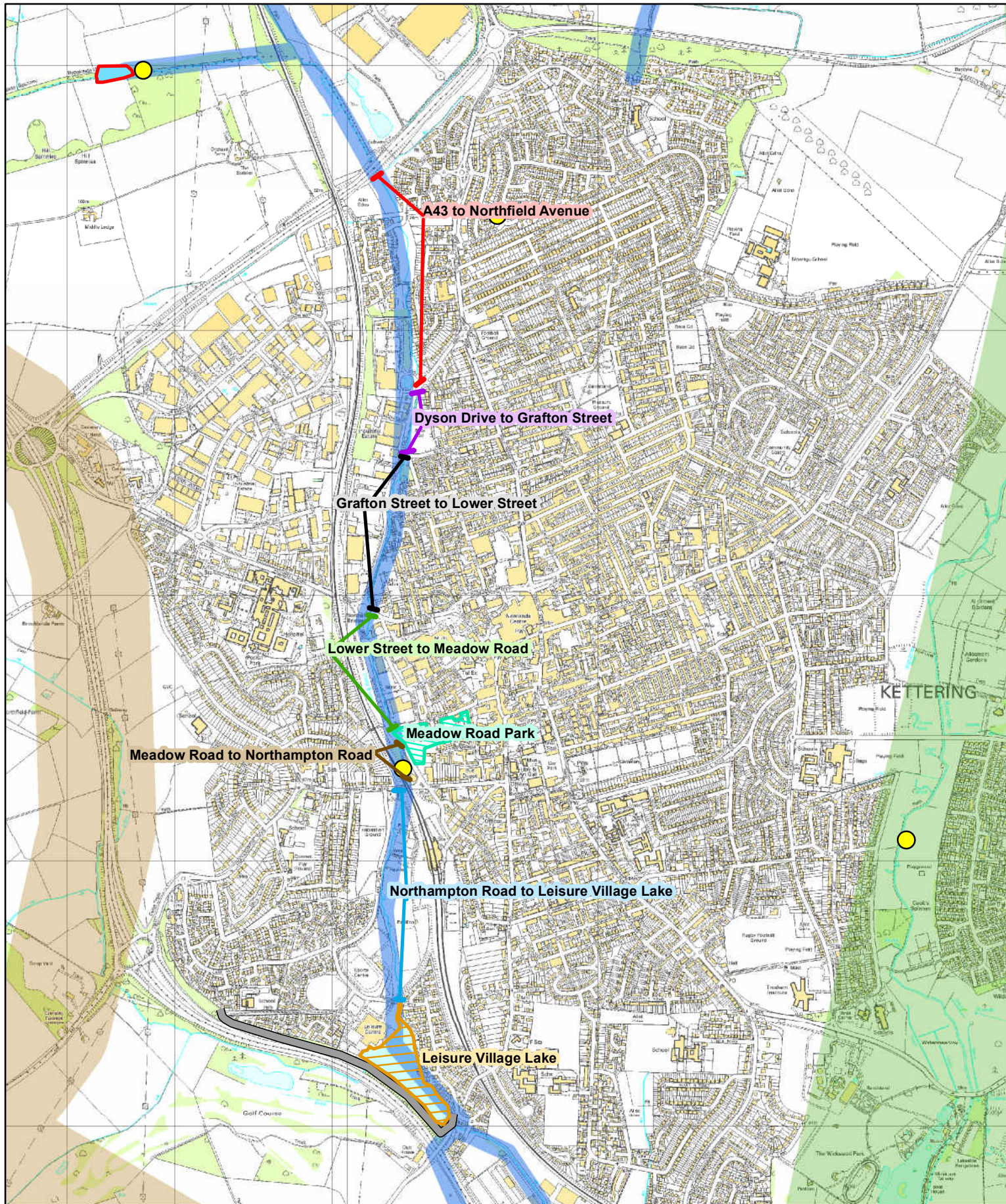

Leaky Dam (FWAG Southwest, 2016)
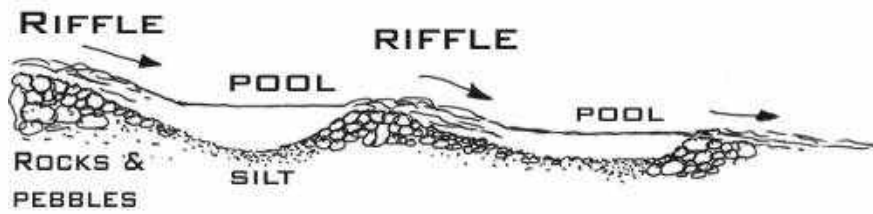
Pool & Riffle sequence (The Field Studies Council, 2016)

In-channel woody debris (Environment Agency, 2017)

Water Sensitive Urban Design - Wetland

Slade Brook GI Project

A43 to Northfield Avenue

Dyson Drive to Grafton Street

Grafton Street to Lower Street

Lower Street to Meadow Road

Meadow Road Park

Meadow Road to Northampton Road

Northampton Road to Leisure Village Lake

Leisure Village Lake

KETTERING

Legend

🟡 KBC GIDP Projects

▬ Tree Planting

▬ GI_Local_Corridors

▬ New Footpath / Repairs

▬ GI_Borough_Corridors

▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

N
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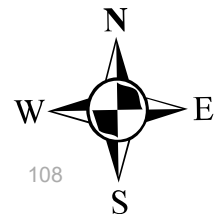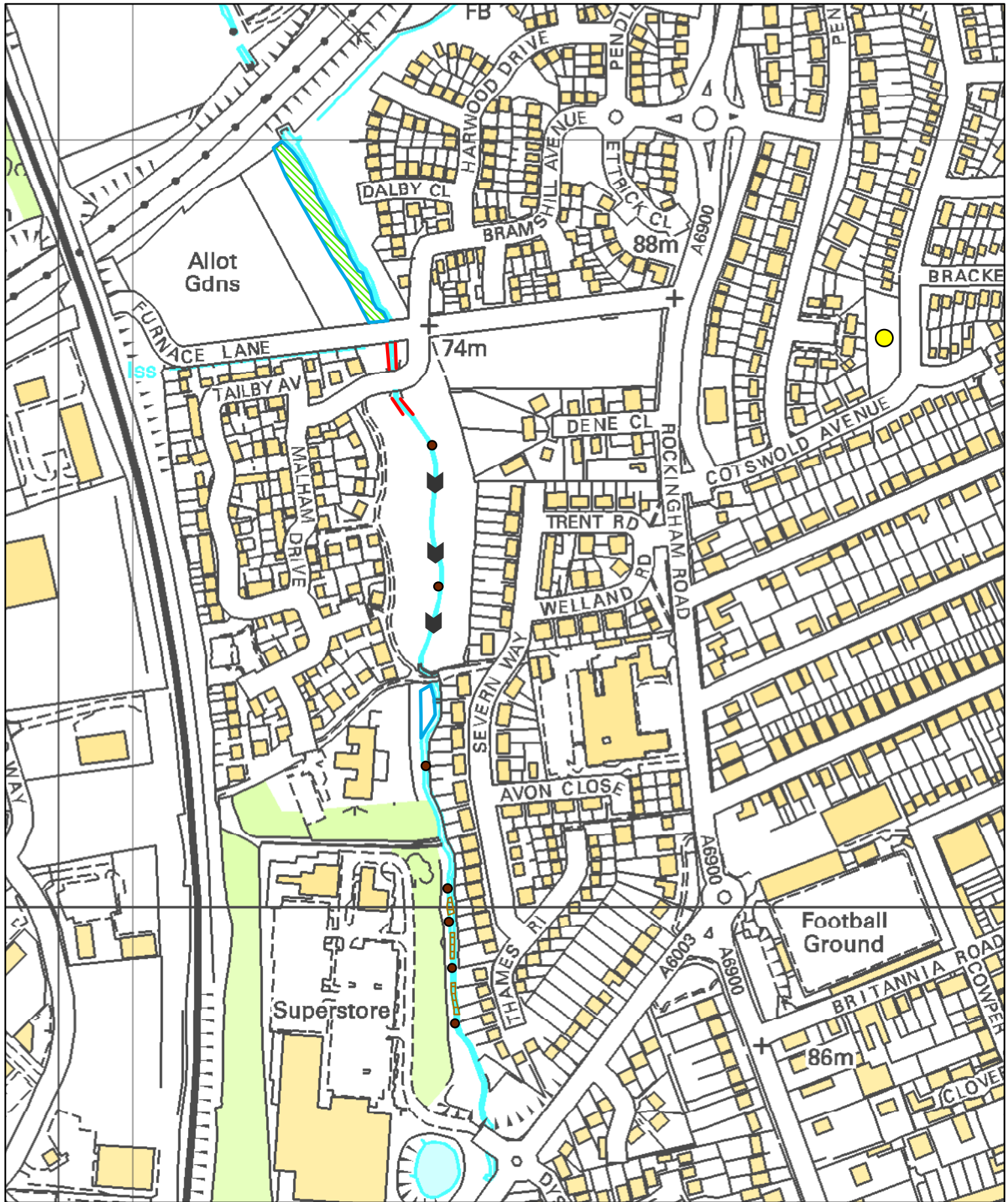
A43 to Northfield Avenue

Legend

- ⬤ KBC GIDP Projects
- ⬛ Leaky Dams
- ⬤ Woody Debris
- ▬ Remove hard edges
- ▭ 2-Stage Channel
- ▤ Gravel Riffles
- ▨ Native riparian species
- ▭ GI_Local_Corridors
- ▨ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

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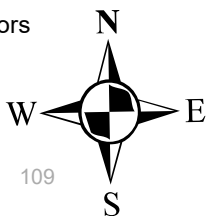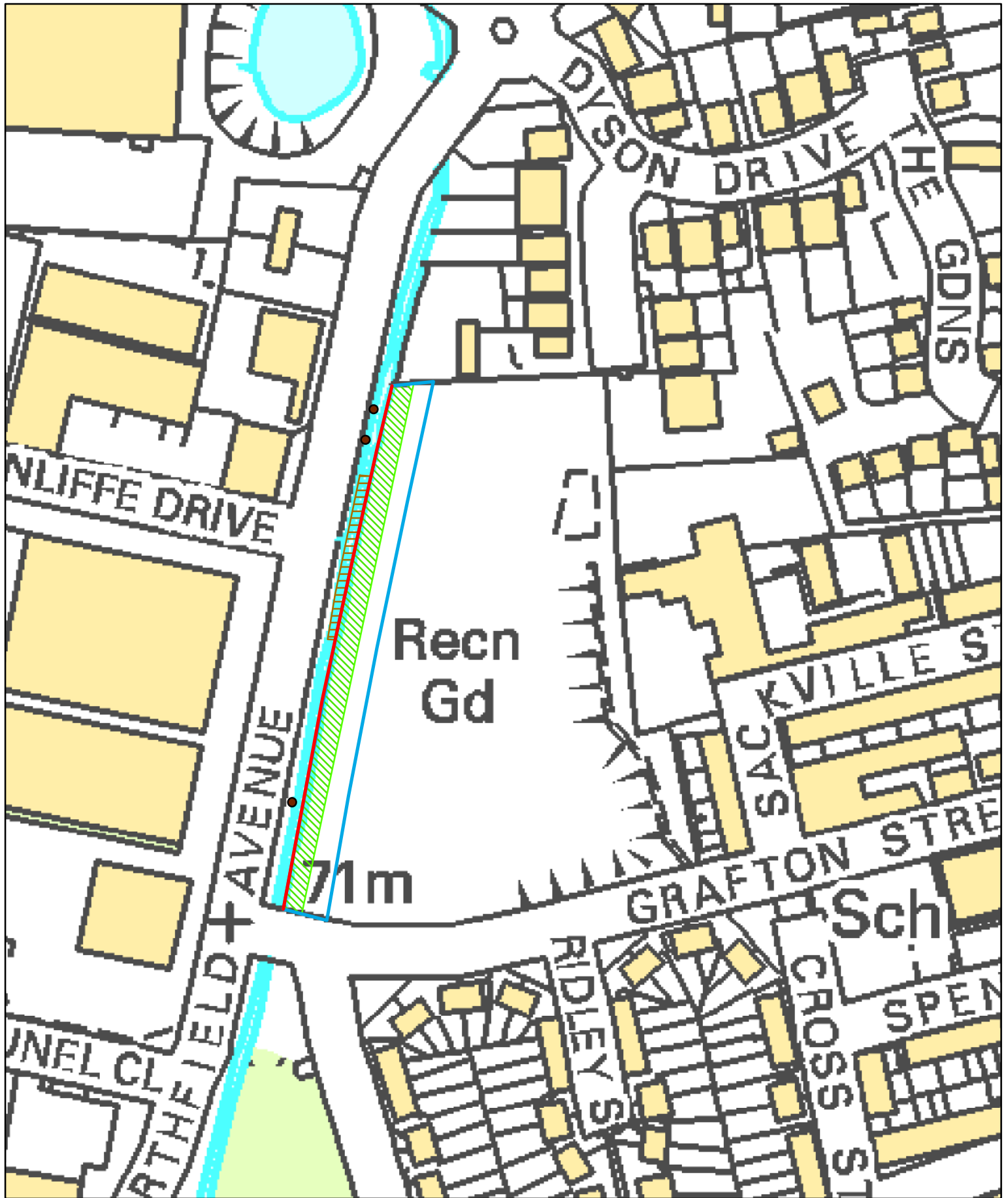
109

Dyson Drive to Grafton Street

Legend

- ⬤ KBC GIDP Projects
- ⬛ Leaky Dams
- ⬤ Woody Debris
- ▬ Remove hard edges
- ▭ 2-Stage Channel
- ▭ Gravel Riffles
- ▨ Native riparian species
- ▭ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ GI_Local_Corridors

71m

Recn Gd

110

Grafton Street to Lower Street

Legend

- ● KBC GIDP Projects
- ♟ Leaky Dams
- ● Woody Debris
- — Remove hard edges
- ☐ 2-Stage Channel
- ☰ Gravel Riffles
- ▨ Native riparian species
- ☐ GI_Local_Corridors
- ☐ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors

Potential on-stream detention basin sites

111

Meadow Park

Legend

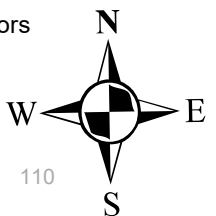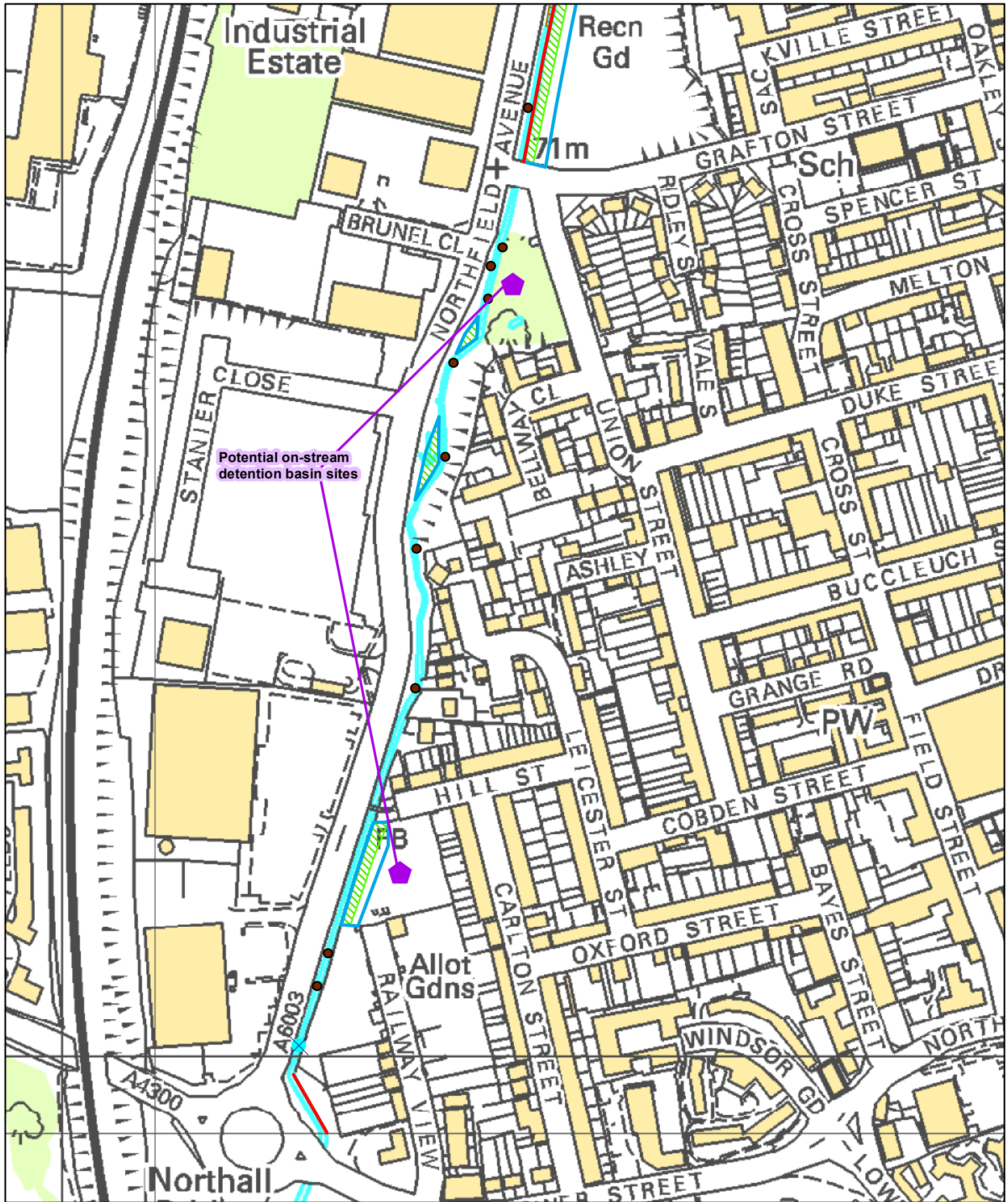|			
● KBC GIDP Projects	— Remove hard edges	▨ Native riparian species	▨ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
▶ Leaky Dams	▭ 2-Stage Channel	▨ GI_Local_Corridors	
● Woody Debris	▤ Gravel Riffles		

Map labels: JUTLAND WAY, CROMW..., MEADOW ROAD, 68m, Football Pitch, Natural Play Equipment, Playing field, Water Sensitive Urban Design Feature, SAUND..., De...

112

Northampton Road to Leisure Village Lake

Legend

- ○ (yellow) KBC GIDP Projects
- ▼ Leaky Dams
- ● Woody Debris
- — (red) Remove hard edges
- ▭ (blue) 2-Stage Channel
- ▥ (hatched green) Native riparian species
- ▭ (brown hatched) Gravel Riffles
- ▭ (green) GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▭ (tan) GI_Local_Corridors

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Leisure Village Lake

Sediment Forebay Location

Desilt entire lake

School Path

Sports Ground

Pavilion

Sports Centre

Leisure Centre

THURSTON DRIVE

Golf Course

Drain

Track

Track

Club House

Legend

- ● (yellow) KBC GIDP Projects
- ▼ Leaky Dams
- ● Woody Debris
- ▬ (red) Remove hard edges
- ▭ (blue) 2-Stage Channel
- ▭ Gravel Riffles
- ▨ (green) Native riparian species
- ▨ (tan) GI_Local_Corridors
- ▨ (light green) GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors
- ▬ (grey) New Footpath / Repairs

N W E S

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The Council invites all partners to develop ideas for new GI projects or improvements to existing GI.

A project template has been prepared through the development of this plan and proponents should submit proposals using this template. Guidance for what needs to be considered and included under each of the headings is provided in the following paragraphs. The template is available in Appendix 5.

Site Description:
This should be a description of the physical location and characteristics of the site being nominated for investment. Additional information that may be helpful here includes how the site is used/accessed and how the site, or improvements at the site, could contribute to a more connected and accessible network of GI. In essence; what might this site provide that is currently missing?

Site Map and Images:
Please include images of key site features and map showing the location of the site. It may also be helpful to provide a plan for the proposed works if these include installation of additional amenity features or planting of specific areas.

Project Description:
This section should detail the proposed works and may include a brief justification for the works. Lengths of pathways, numbers of signs, planting areas and densities etc. could be specified here and will be helpful for completing the cost estimates later.

Key Outcomes:
List the key outcomes in this section. Be sure to include benefits related to people and nature as well as to the broader GI network. These might include improvements to physical and intellectual accessibility, amenity, biodiversity, flood reduction, habitat connections, recreational opportunities, education and awareness raising opportunities or health and well-being benefits.

Project Partners and their Roles:
Who is impacted or has the power to influence the delivery of this project? Whose support is necessary? And who is best placed to ensure delivery? Each of these groups should be identified in this section and their roles clearly identified. The project lead should also be clearly identified here, this is the Group that will take responsibility for pulling together the project team, securing permits and permissions and sourcing funding for the delivery of the scheme.

Indicative Project Costs:
It's often not possible to fully cost a project accurately at concept stage but this section should aim to identify all cost items, the amount (i.e. length of footpath, number of signs, number of plants/trees, length of fencing, number of gates, permitting and survey costs etc)

and estimated costs to the nearest £1000. Contractors or delivery partners may be able to assist with this to ensure that estimates are sufficient to enable adequate funding to be sourced to fully develop the project.

Project Benefits:
These are the selling points of the project to potential funders and may be a replica of the **Key Outcomes** section. For example, if you have identified health a well-being benefits this may attract funding support from this sector, similarly if you identify flood reduction benefits there may be funding avenues with this focus.

Potential Funding Sources:
Where funding has not been secured for the delivery of the project this section allows for the identification of funding sources. The funding options table included at Appendix 6 may provide some suggestions to complete this section but this list is not exhaustive and proponents should try to identify as many sources as possible.

Name	

Site Description

Site Map and Images

Project Description

Key Outcomes
•

Project Partners	**Roles**

Indicative Project Costs:		
Item	Amount	Estimated Cost

Project Benefits	**Potential Funding Sources**

Appendix 6: Funding Options Table

Source	Contact / website	Deadlines / timeframe	Eligibility / Criteria	Risks / Opportunities	Value	Relevance (Low – High)	Ease (Easy – Hard)	Comments
Countryside Stewardship Scheme (including Catchment Sensitive Farming)	https://www.gov.uk/farming-food-grants-payments/rural-grants-payments	Various	Various (woodland, water and facilitation funds available currently).			Low	Medium	
	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/countryside-stewardship-mid-tier-including-water-quality-capital-items-manual	No current call, 2018 calls expected early in the year.	- Reduction of diffuse pollution from agriculture	Only funded 50% with upfront payment of all the money before claiming back after completion. Grant has to fit specific requirements and a set time period to complete works. The project must fit specific criteria, based heavily on size. Application process varies. Through the Forestry Commission the process is longer and more arduous. Via the Woodland Trust the application is quicker and easier.	Up to £10,000			
	https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship-woodland-support	No current call, 2018 calls expected early in the year.	- Creating and maintaining new woodland for biodiversity and water benefits including flooding; - Woodland management plans; - Tree health					

Source	Contact / website	Deadlines / timeframe	Eligibility / Criteria	Risks / Opportunities	Value	Relevance (Low – High)	Ease (Easy – Hard)	Comments
Heritage Lottery Fund	http://www.hlf.org.uk	Many of the grant programs have no fixed deadlines. Applications for Landscape Partnership Grants (up to 3 million) close in May of each year. HLF officers will work with you during project development and provide support for submission preparation.	There are various funding programmes available that support a wide variety of projects that make a lasting difference for heritage, people and communities.	Application processes can be lengthy and take up a lot of time. The project must meet criteria relating to aspects of heritage.	Depends upon the bid but can be up to £3 million	Low	Hard	
Landfill Tax (SITA, BIFFA Award, WREN etc.)	The Government introduced tax on landfill waste in 1996 to reduce the amount of land-filled waste and to promote more environmentally sustainable methods of waste management. The LCF is also a way for Landfill Operators (LOs) and Environmental	Calls for funding rounds are announced periodically. Entrust (the regulatory body administering Landfill Community Funds) has five Objects	The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) is an innovative tax credit scheme which 'offsets' some of the negative impacts of living in the vicinity of a landfill site for affected communities. Under the LCF, Landfill Operators are able to pay a proportion of their Landfill tax liability to not-for-profit organisations, which deliver projects for the benefit of communities and the environment in the vicinity of a landfill site.	WREN funding is available due to close proximity of the project area to a landfill site. BIFFA is available due to proximity to BIFFA sites.	BIFFA - £250 to £10,000 or £10,000 to £50,000	High	Easy	Advise contacting relevant Environmental Bodies to check eligibility and appetite for specific projects.

Source	Contact / website	Deadlines / timeframe	Eligibility / Criteria	Risks / Opportunities	Value	Relevance (Low – High)	Ease (Easy – Hard)	Comments
	Bodies (EBs) to work in partnership on projects that create significant environmental benefits, jobs, and which improve the lives of communities living near landfill sites. http://www.entrust.org.uk/landfill-community-fund http://www.biffa-award.org/home		The two themes of most relevance to the Green Infrastructure Projects are building biodiversity and recreation.					
Big Lottery Fund	https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/Home/Funding/Funding%20Finder	Various – Multiple funding programmes	There are many funding programmes run by the Big Lottery but the most suitable that are currently open are: - Awards for All England - Parks for People	Awards for All is a highly oversubscribed grants programme, with priority being placed on groups with small incomes. Parks for People is based on grants over £100,000 and has a lengthy application process.	Awards for all – up to £10,000 Parks for People - £100,000 to £5 million	High	Medium	

Source	Contact / website	Deadlines / timeframe	Eligibility / Criteria	Risks / Opportunities	Value	Relevance (Low – High)	Ease (Easy – Hard)	Comments
Health and Wellbeing Boards		No fixed deadlines	Health and Wellbeing Boards are intended to improve public health and do this through the delivery of their health and wellbeing strategy. Given the clear links between physical and mental health and access to the natural environment there is a potential for their programs to deliver outcomes for the natural environment.			Medium	Medium	Council should establish a working relationship with the relevant health and wellbeing boards with the aim of developing projects that meet the objectives of the boards and provides the opportunity to influence them.
Tesco Bags of Help	http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/Pages/large-grants-tes	Periodic funding calls. Project must be completed within twelve months of receipt of grant.	Projects that would typically receive funding include: Parks, pocket parks and urban green spaces Green corridors – river and canals, cycle ways Formal and informal play areas Informal outdoor recreation facilities; eg gym equipment, trim trails and woodland walks Nature reserves, community woodland, ponds and village greens Community spaces on housing estates or residential areas	Projects are voted on by customers of a local branch. Based on the vote the project may be funded; 3rd = £1,000, 2nd = £2,000 and 1st = £4,000.	Up to £4,000	High	Easy	

Source	Contact / website	Deadlines / timeframe	Eligibility / Criteria	Risks / Opportunities	Value	Relevance (Low – High)	Ease (Easy – Hard)	Comments
			You do not need to have any matchfunding for your project, but if you do include matchfunding, this must not be higher than 25% of your total project costs. Your project can be a stand-alone project or a discrete, self-contained part of a larger scheme or part of a phased project					
Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	Not a recognised funding body but potentially an important funder through their local choices allocation which funds projects that lead to reduced flood risk.	Deadline generally in Autumn each year.	Criteria strongly linked to reducing flood risk for affected residences and businesses.		No limits on funding amounts but should represent good value for money in terms of cost per number of households protected.	Medium	Medium	
P.E.S.	No formal body for delivering or administering payment for ecosystem services programmes. Several pilot schemes have been running in	Medium / Long Term No fixed deadline. No current rounds of funding for this specifically although HLF are beginning to	The Council should establish relationships with any local groups undertaking research and look for opportunities to fund programmes of work exploring how payments for ecosystem services may be used to sustain investment			High	Medium	

Source	Contact / website	Deadlines / timeframe	Eligibility / Criteria	Risks / Opportunities	Value	Relevance (Low – High)	Ease (Easy – Hard)	Comments
	parts of England and a great deal of research has been undertaken in recent years.	focus on this work stream.	in Green Infrastructure in the Borough.					
Highways England	Local Highways England contact.	No fixed deadlines. Calls for projects are unknown so contact would need to be made to clarify	Funds are available for managing road drainage alongside or near HE roads. There is a lack of clarity on how projects will be scored/ranked for funding	Unknown how/when funding is available and how it will be administered.		Low	Unknown	The CaBA national support group are attempting to negotiate access to these funds for joint delivery of projects that manage drainage via natural flood management techniques.

Appendix 7: References and sources of further information

The documents listed below informed the development of this plan and provide additional information to support it.

Communities for Local Government. (2012). *National Planning Policy Framework.*

Fiona Fyfe Associates. (2016). *Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Plan.*

Kettering Borough Council. (2007). *Kettering Borough Open Space Assessment.*

Kettering Borough Council. (2008). *Kettering Open Space Supplementary Planning Document.*

Nene Valley Catchment Partnership. (2014). *Nene Valley Integrated Catchment Plan.*

North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit. (2015, January 26). *Chapter Two: Spatial Principles by Place.* Retrieved September 25, 2017, from North Northamptonshire Urban Structures Study: http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/docs/Urban%20Structures%202015%20Chpt2.pdf

North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit. (2014). *North Northamptonshire Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan.*

North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit. (2015). *North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy.*

Northamptonshire County Council. (2015). *Kettering Transport Strategy, Fit for purpose.* River Nene Regional Park. (2015). *Historically and Visually Important Open Space Background Paper.*

River Nene Regional Park. (2010). *North Northamptonshire Carbon Sink Forestry.*

River Nene Regional Park. (2008). *Revital-Ise.*
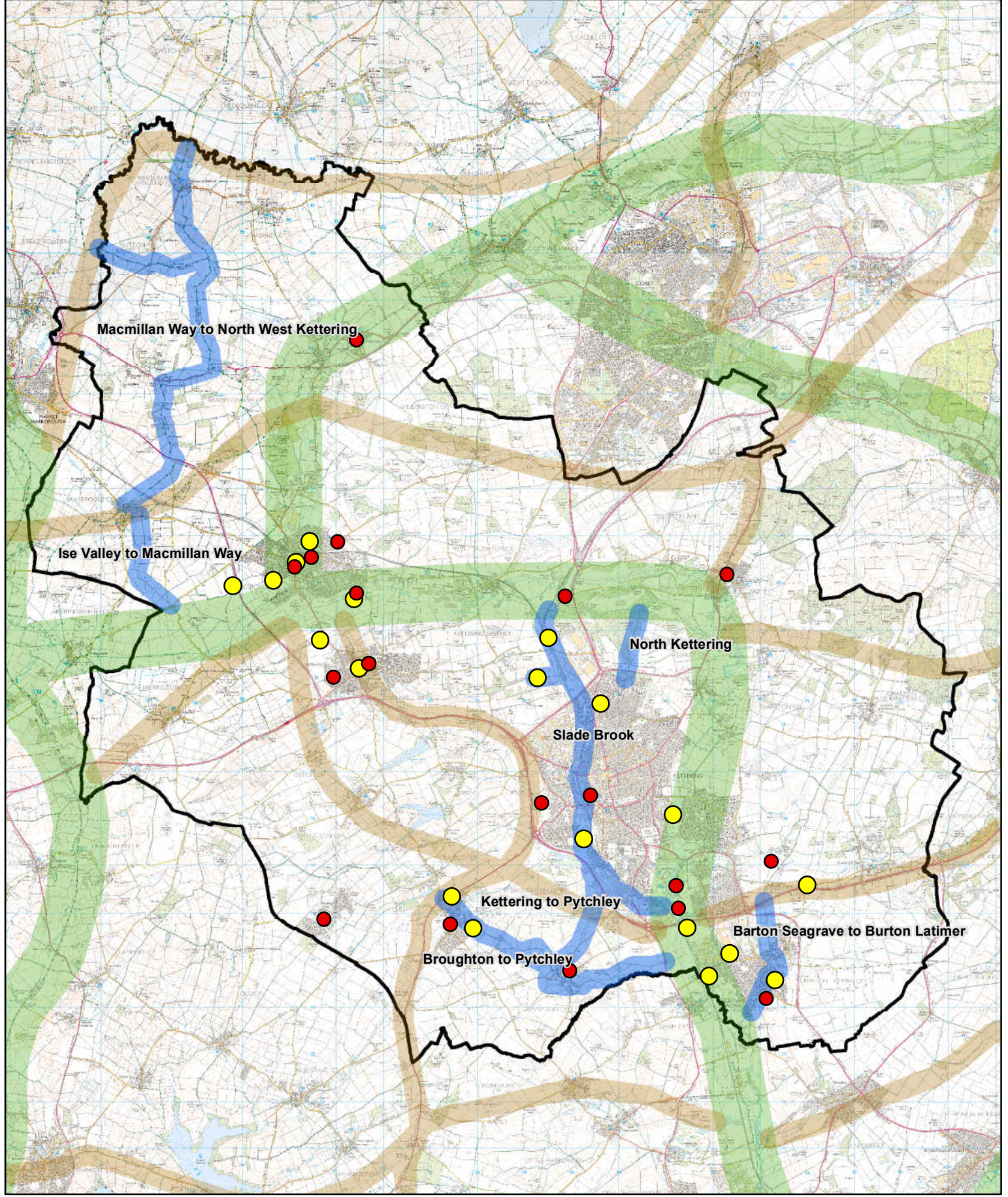
Kettering Borough GI Corridors

Legend

🟡 KBC GIDP Projects	▬ GI_Borough_Corridors	▬ GI_Sub_Regional_Corridors	
🔴 NNJPU GIDP Projects	▬ GI_Local_Corridors	▭ Kettering_borough_boundary	

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