Priority Strategic Green (and Blue) Infrastructure

The Carbon Landscape (Lowland Wetlands)

THE NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK SAYS THAT STRATEGIC PLANS SHOULD –

- **Identify and map components of the local ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them *and areas identified by local partnerships for habitat restoration or creation*;**

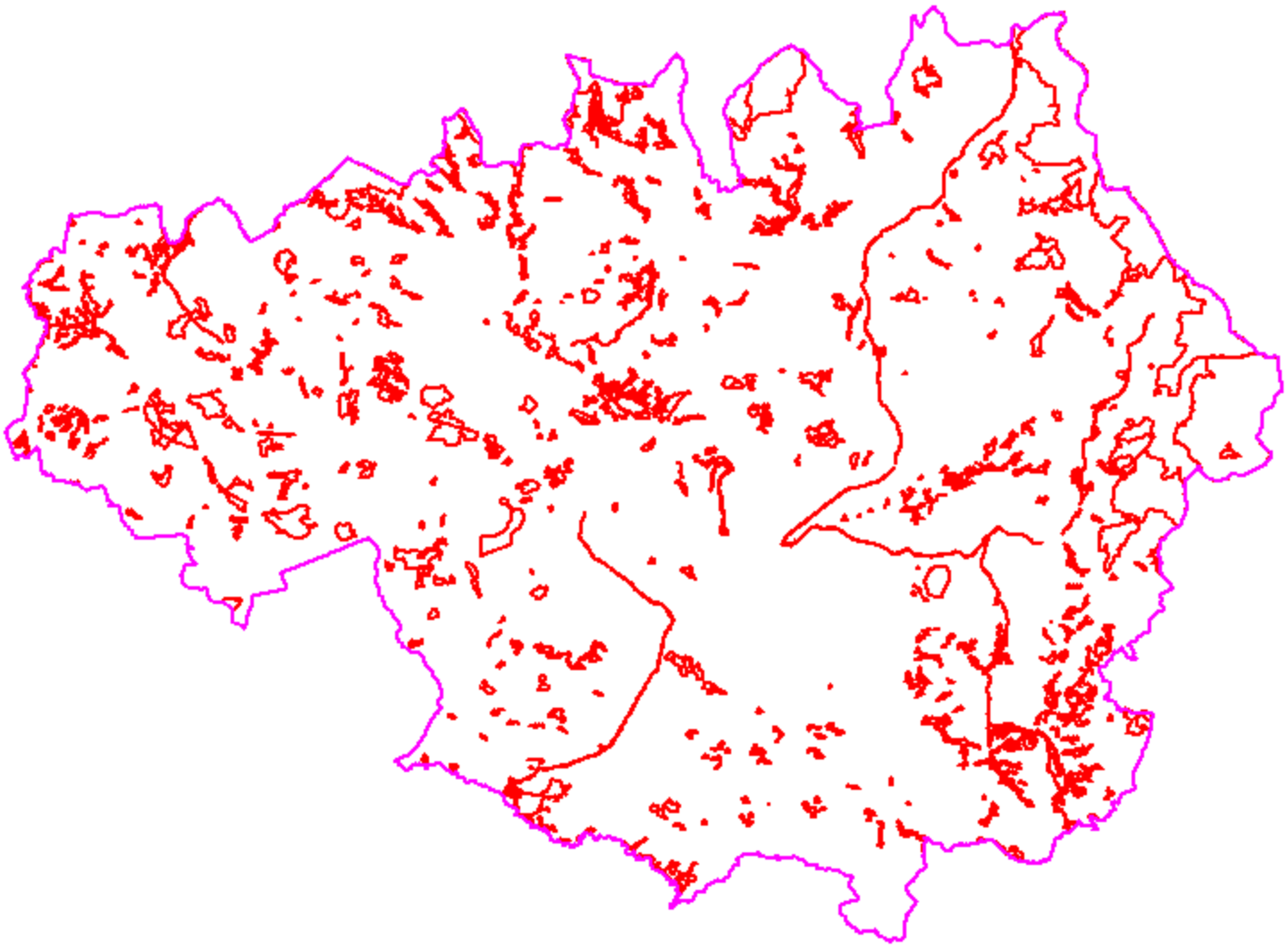
- **Plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries;**

- **Set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, *enhancement* and management of networks of biodiversity and *green infrastructure*;**

- **Recognise the wider benefits of *ecosystem services*;**

“planning authorities should ensure that Plans are based on adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the area”.

Currently designated nature conservation sites in GM



Badgers – GM Distribution

Great crested newts – GM Distribution

Barn Owls – GM Distribution

Peregrines – GM Distribution

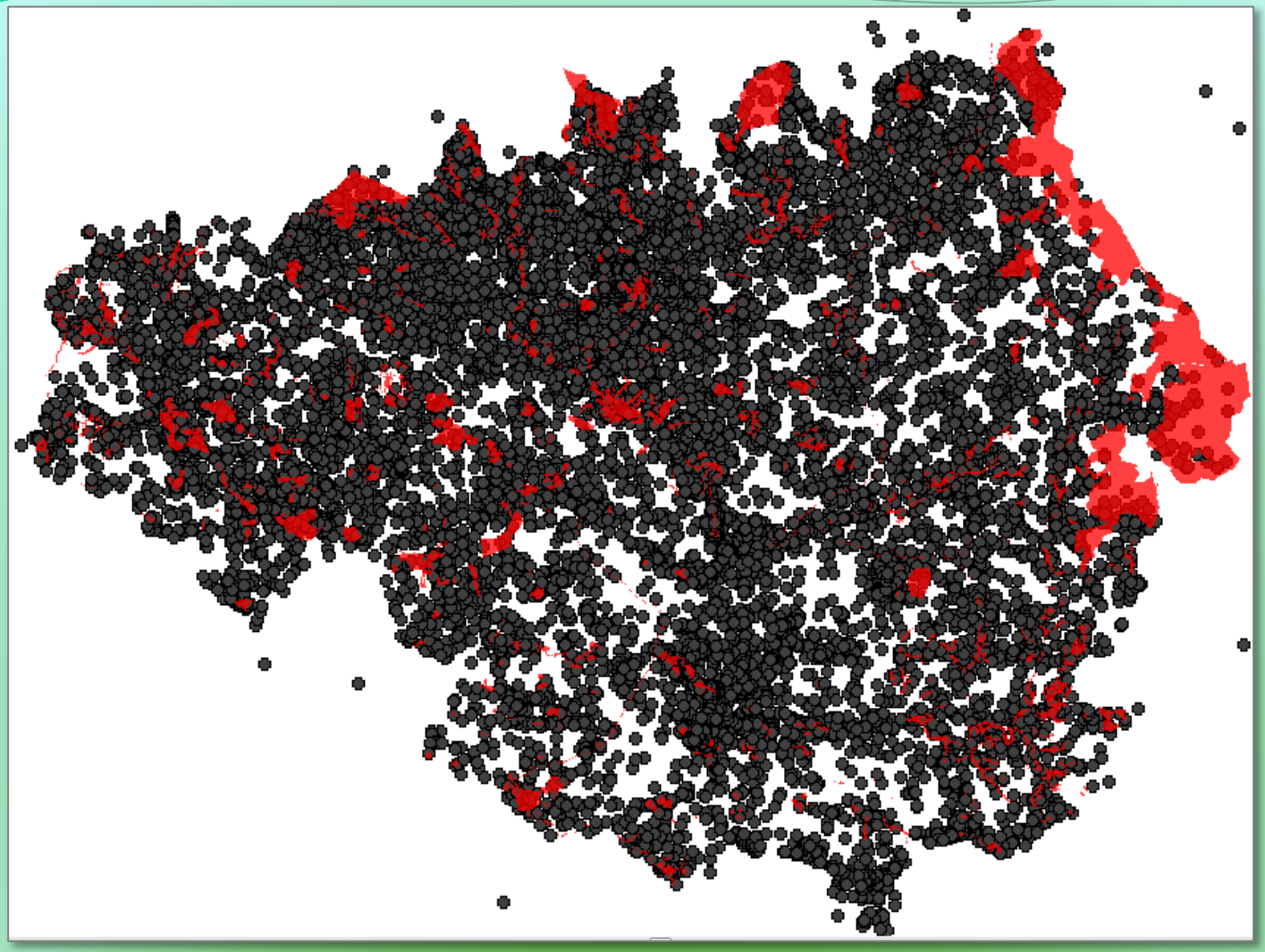
Distribution of GM Woodlands

Peat Bogs – GM Distribution

GI Definition – most recent

Green infrastructure is a network of multifunctional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities. Green infrastructure is not simply an alternative description for conventional open space.

As a network it includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, but also street trees, allotments and private gardens. It can also include streams, canals and other water bodies and features such as green roofs and walls.

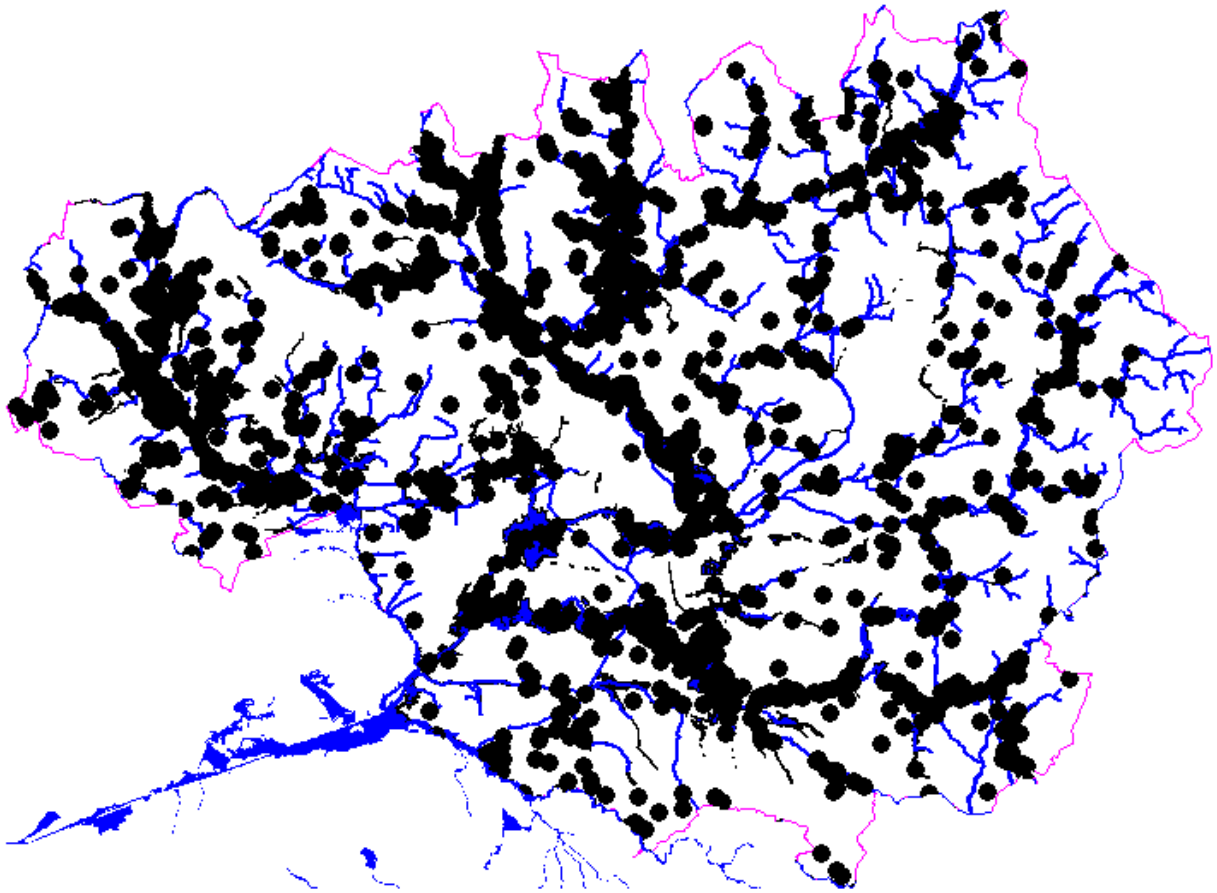


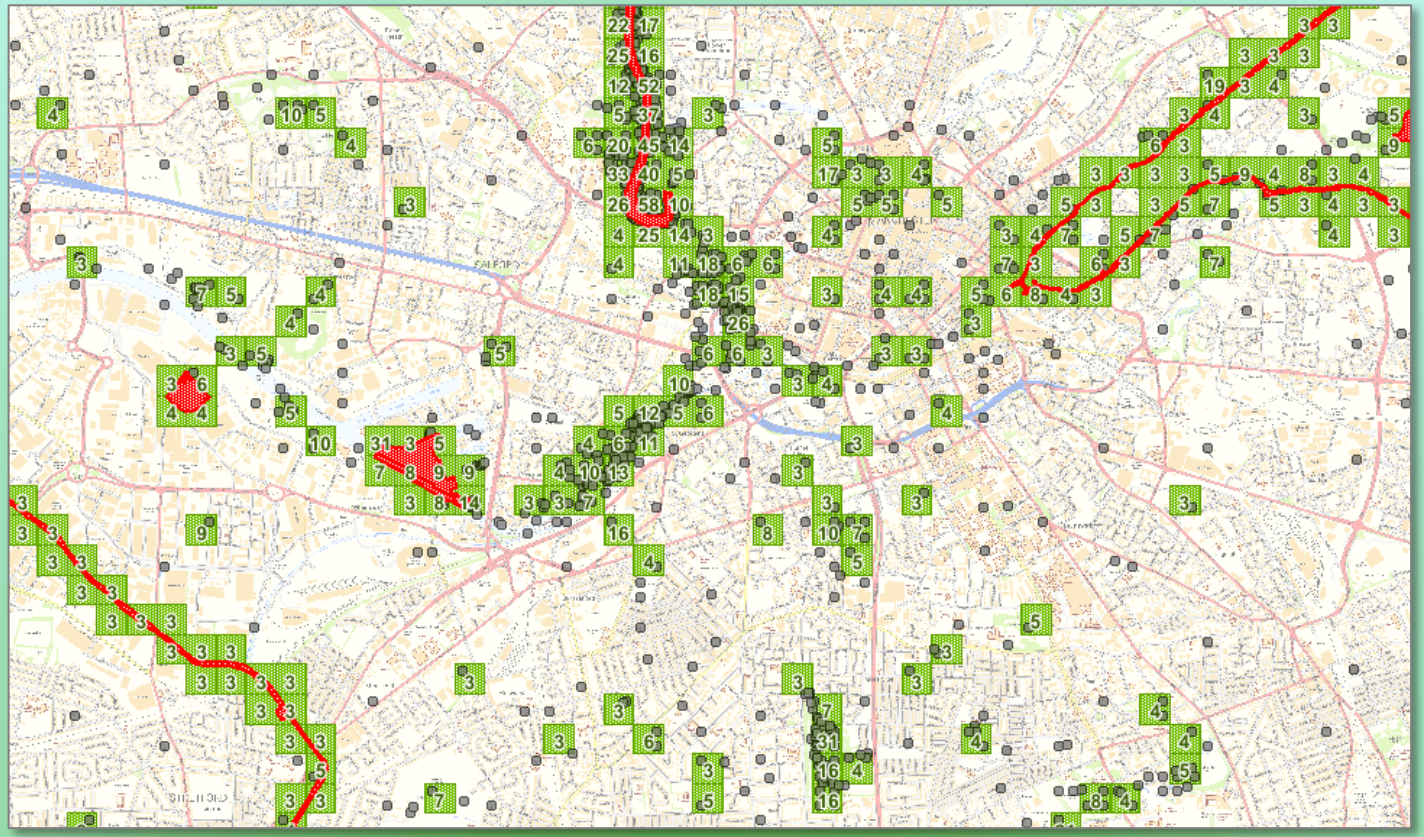
PRIORITISING GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE USING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

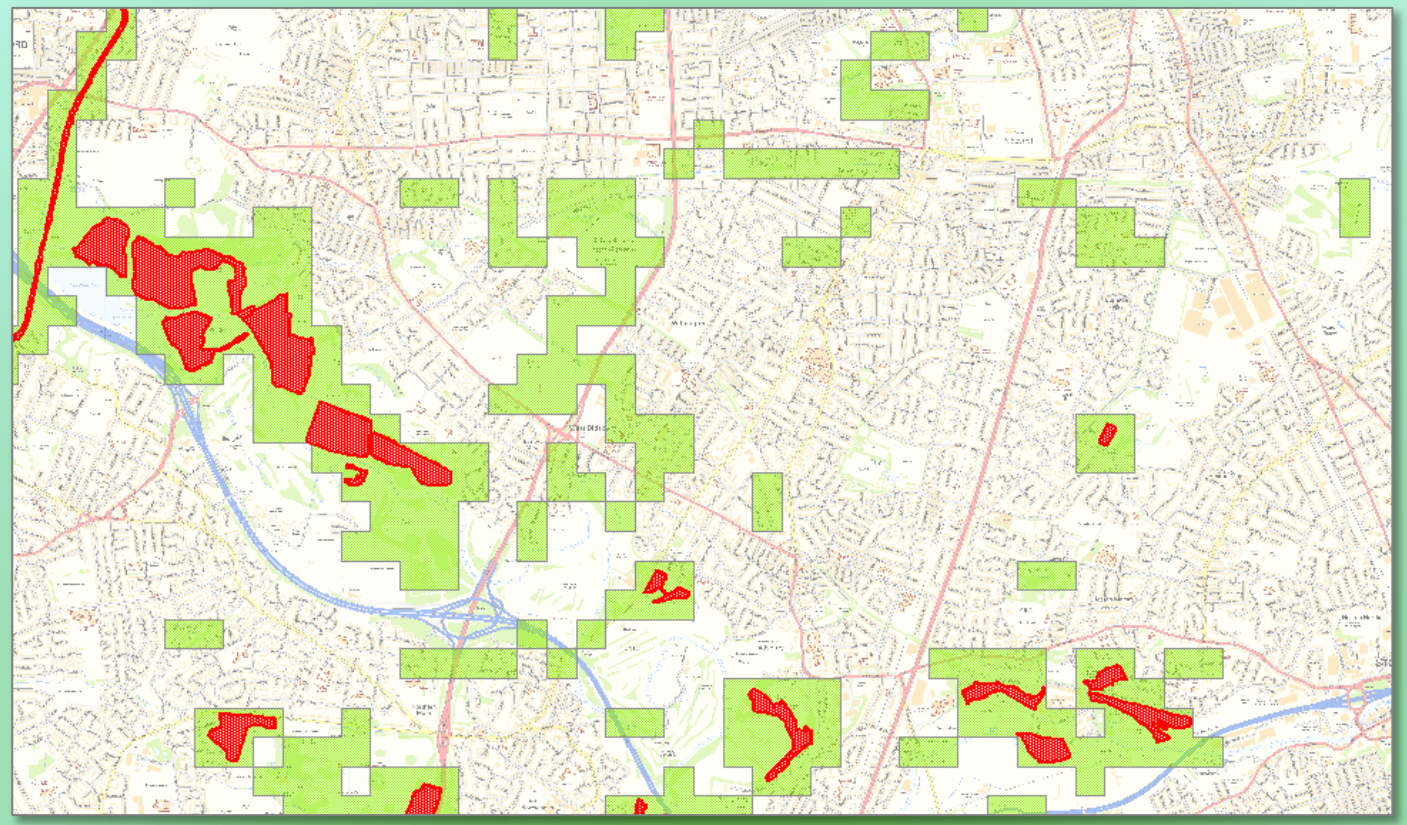
- Carbon storage and sequestration
- Adapting to Climate Change
- Flood Management and Water Quality
- Public Recreation / Green Travel
- Habitats and Species (Biodiversity)
- Ecological Network Creation

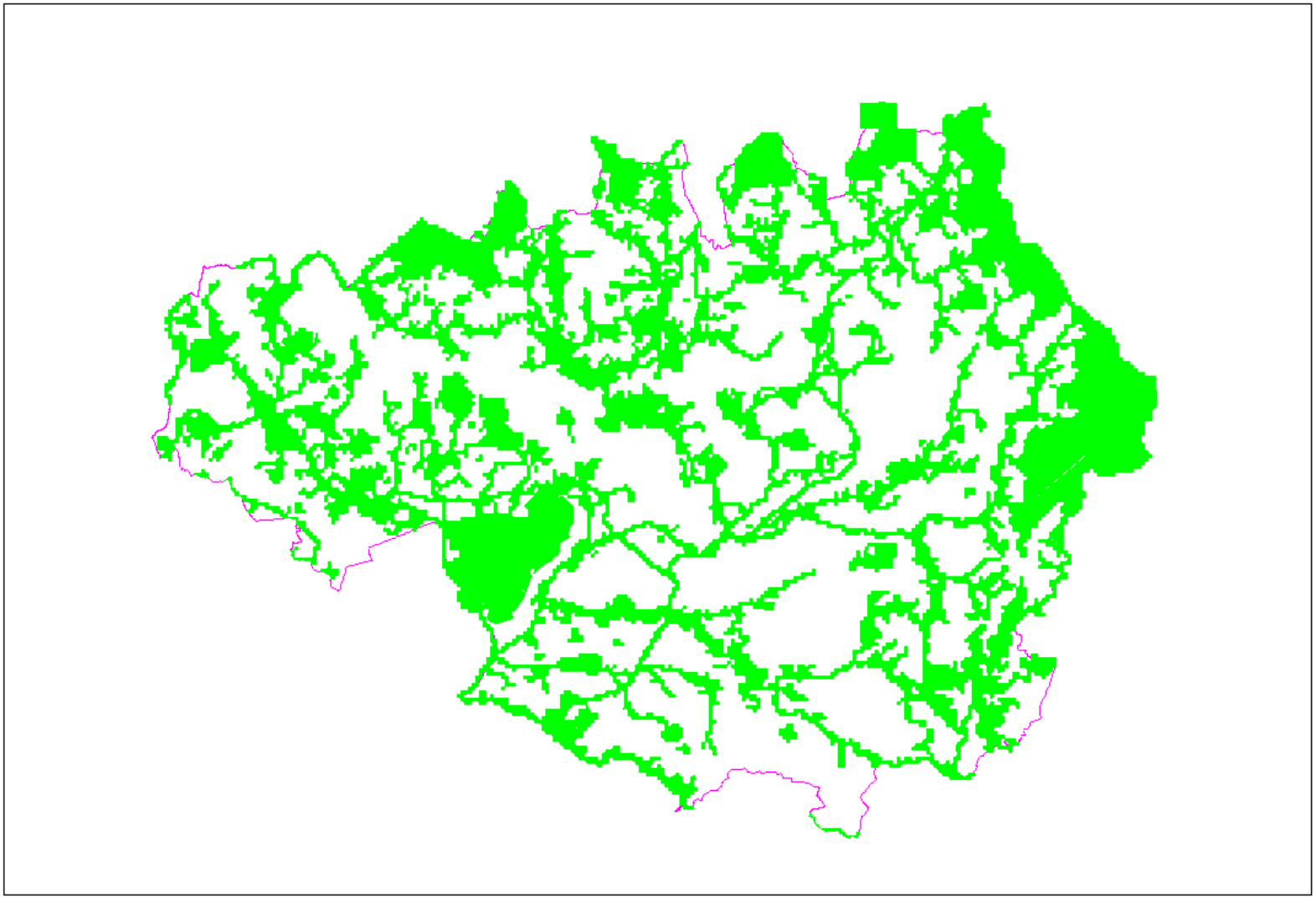
Datasets and Evidence Base

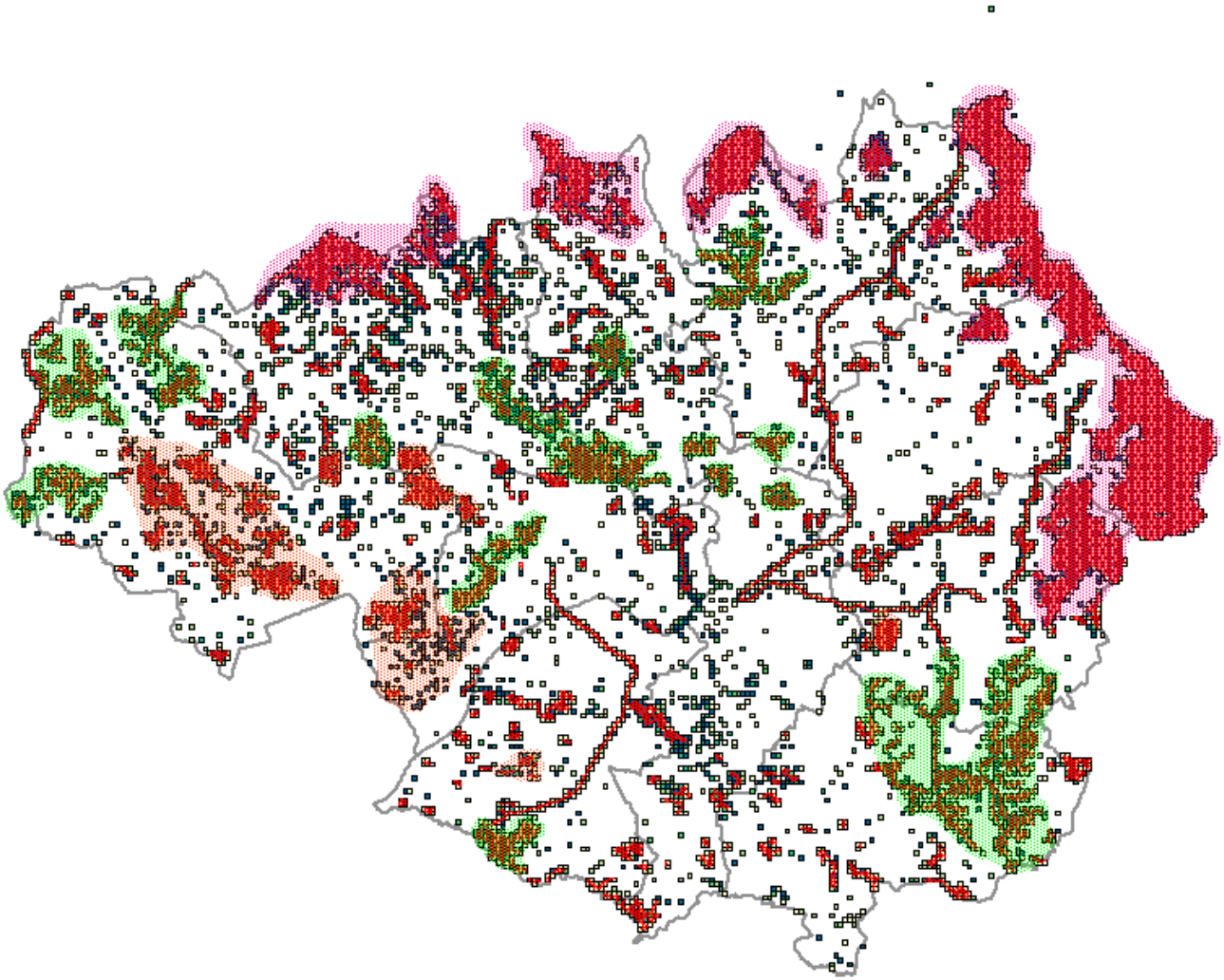
- Species distributions
- Protected Sites
- Priority Habitat Types (& habitats most vulnerable to climate change)
- Soils (Peat) – *carbon storage and sequestration*
- Tree and Woodland Cover – *climate change mitigation/adaptation*
- Accessible Greenspace (green travel)
- Waterways
- LIDAR (*EA flood risk data*)
- Most popular major greenspaces
- NE Landscape Character Assessments
- Aerial photography (2011)
- ESS work undertaken by RRF
- (Agricultural land classifications)





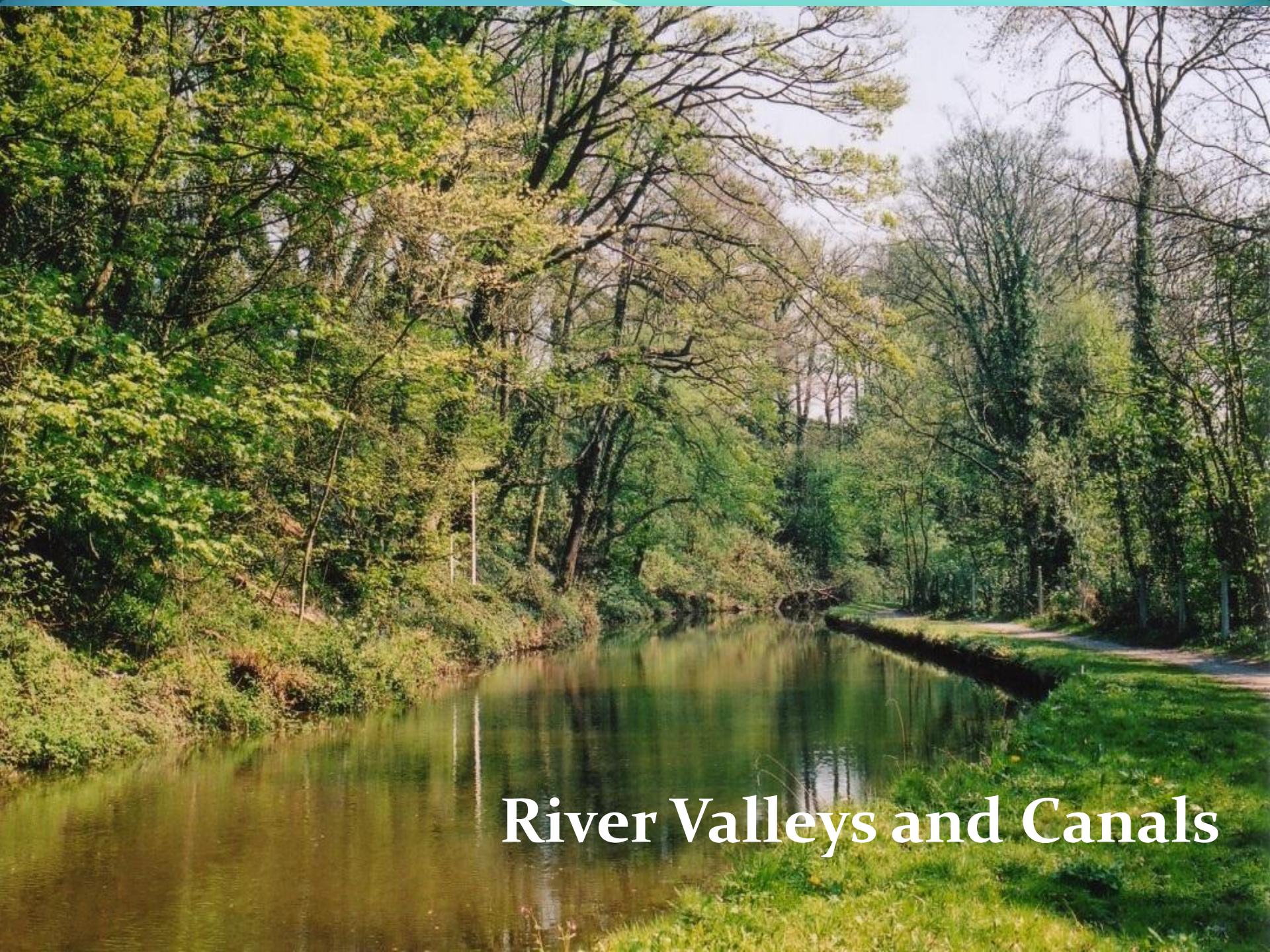






Re-defining the G&BI Priority Areas

- Uplands
- Lowland Wetlands
- River Valleys and Canals
- Woodlands and Trees
- Major Parks and Greenspaces


River Valleys and Canals

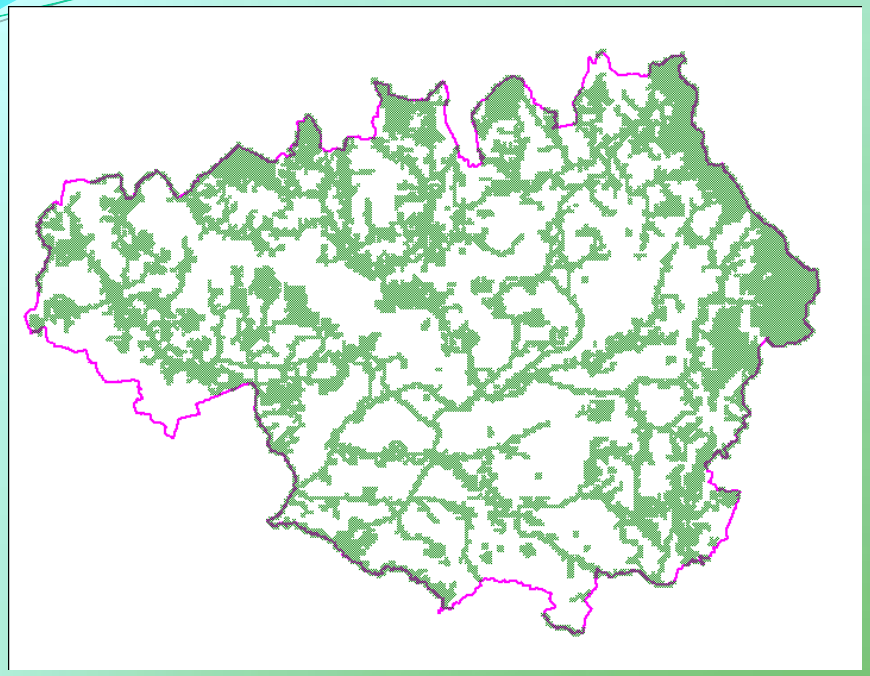

Woodlands


Uplands

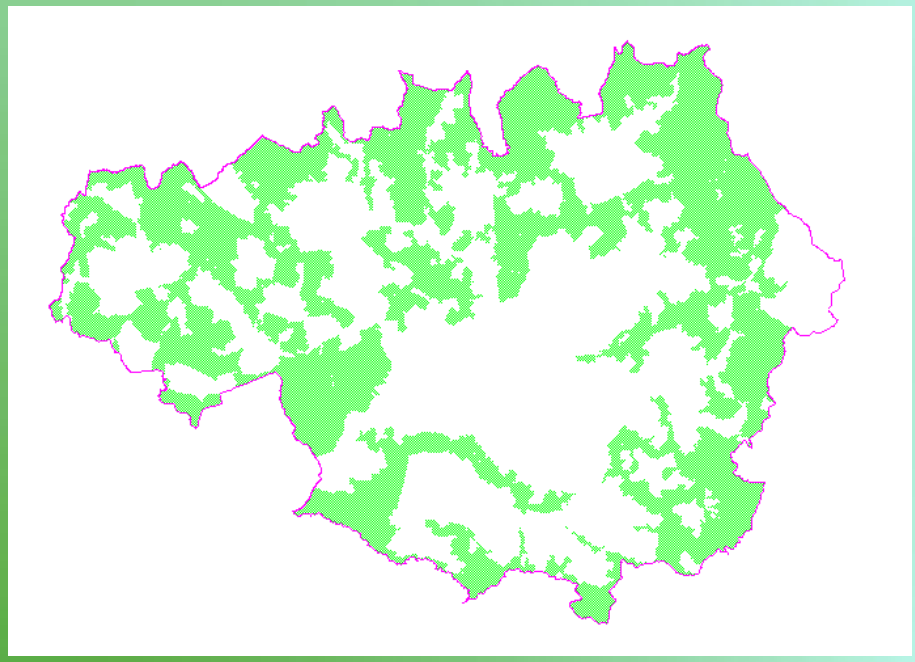

Lowland Wetlands


Major Parks and Greenspaces

Relationship to Green Belt

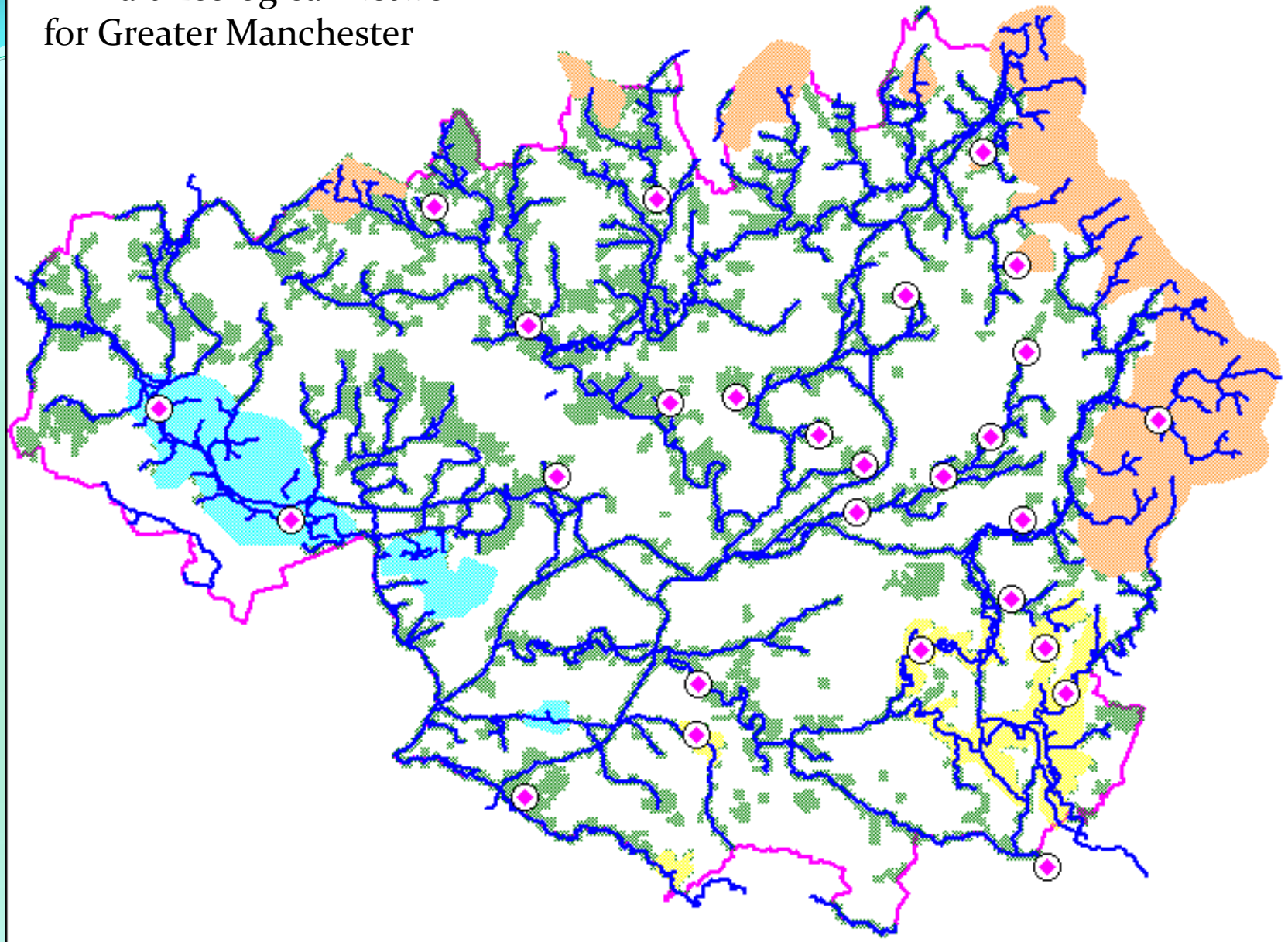


Priority GI

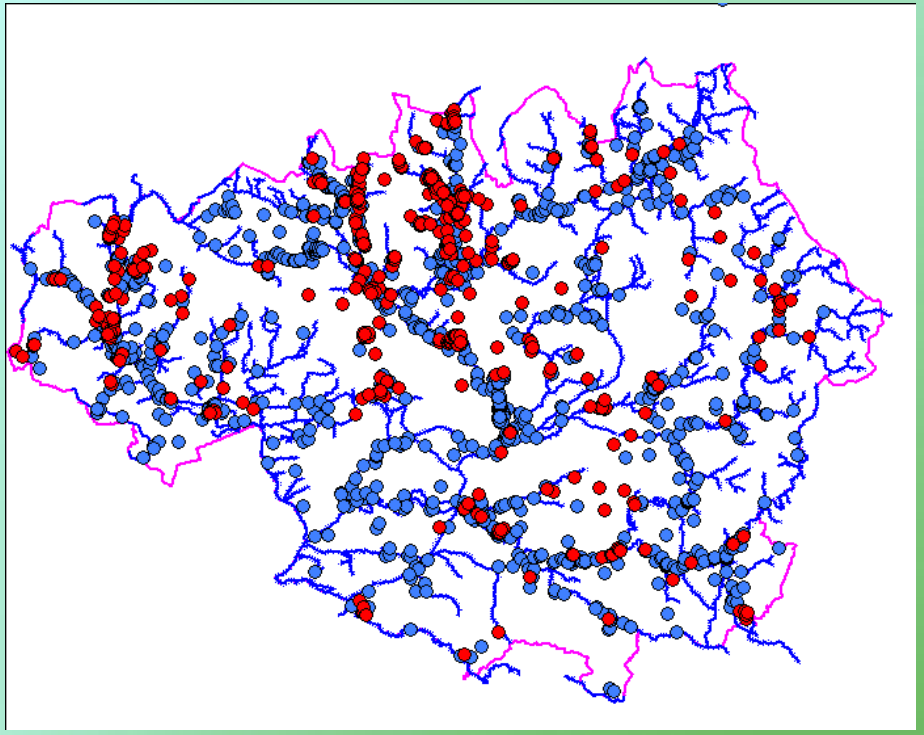


GM Green Belt

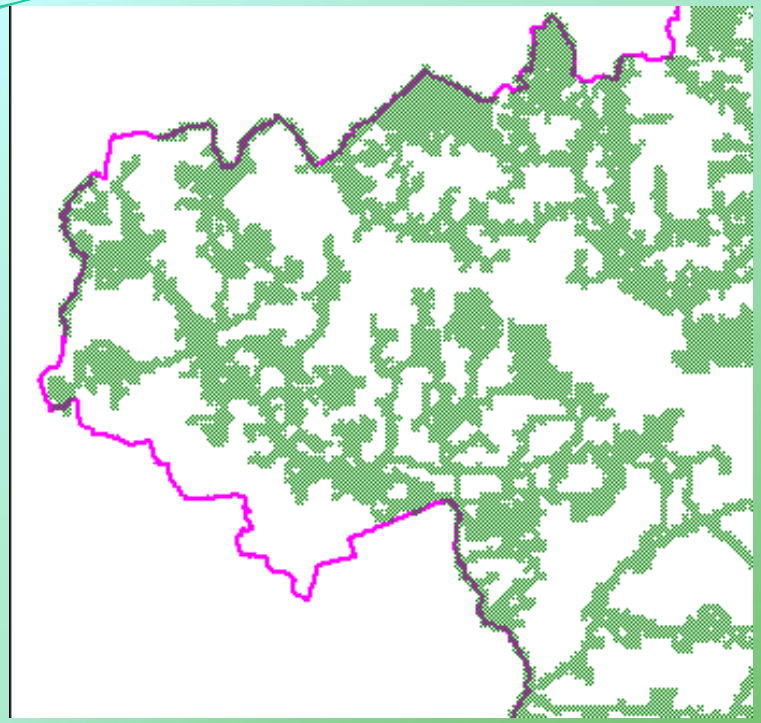
A Draft Ecological Network
for Greater Manchester

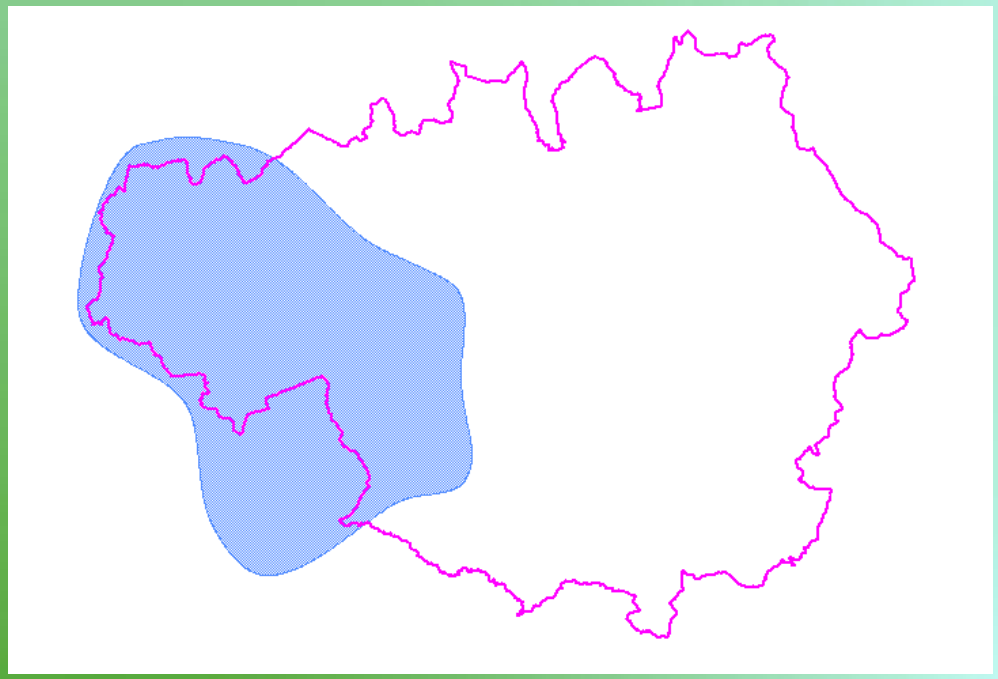


Wildlife Corridors

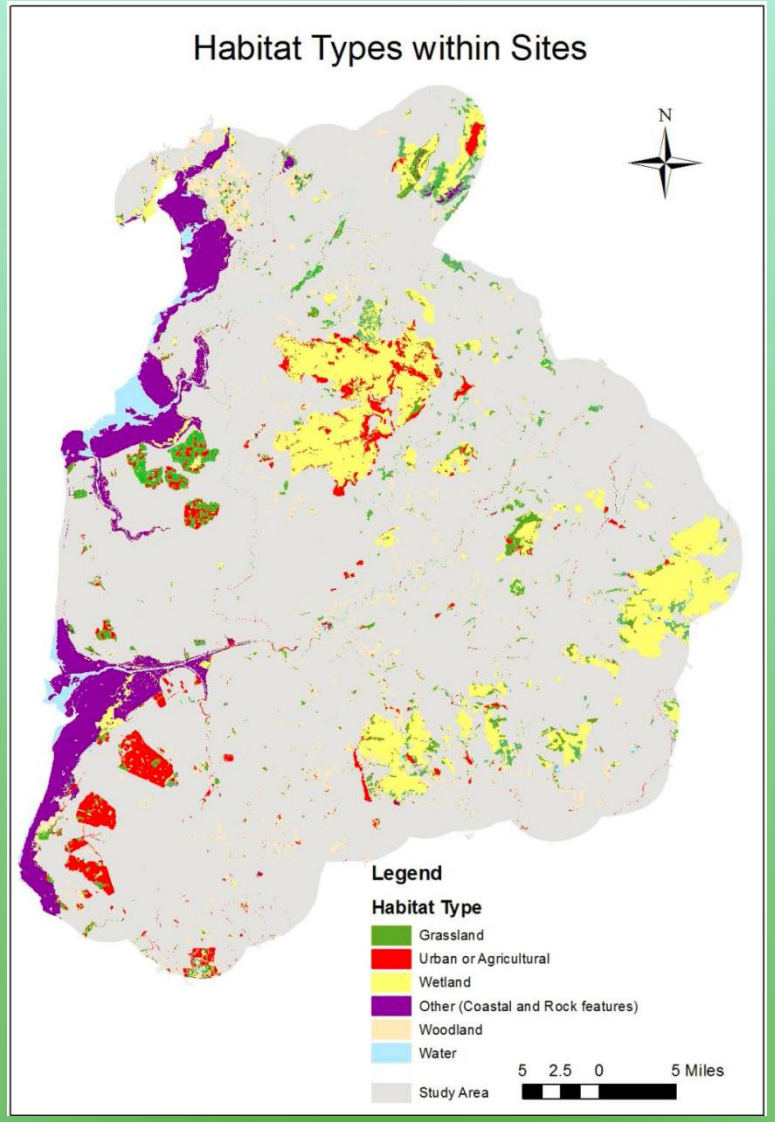


Relationship to the NIA





Relationship to Neighbouring Ecological Networks



Relationship to the Defra Local Action Project