South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy

(2017 - 2034)

Draft v.5 February 2017 (22-02-2017)

(For PUSH Joint Committee 14 March 2017)

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Status: V.4 Feb 2017 draft
Date:
Author: GK
Checked:
Approved:

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Figure i: South Hampshire Sub-Region:

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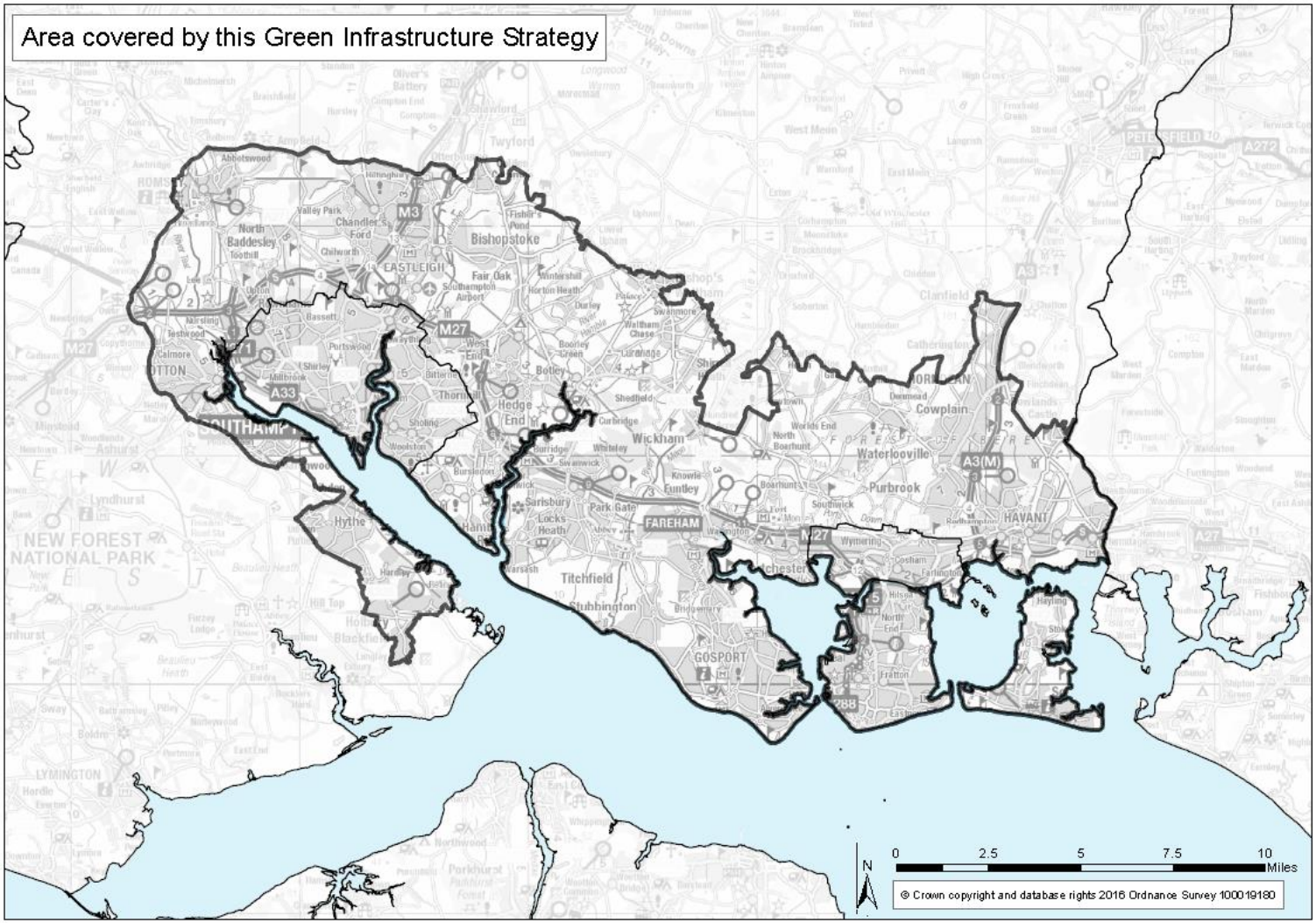
Area covered by this Green Infrastructure Strategy
Bishopstoke
EASTLEIGH
North Baddesley
Chandler's Ford
Fair Oak
Southampton Airport
Hedge End
Botley
Wickham
Waterlooville
Cowplain
Purbrook
HAVANT
FAREHAM
Titchfield
Stubbington
GOSPORT
Hythe
NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK
LYMINGTON
M3
M27
A33
A3(M)
A3
A27
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
N
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1 Introduction

1.1 Background and Purpose of the PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy

1.1.1 The PUSH sub-region includes the cities of Portsmouth and Southampton and their hinterlands, together with the Isle of Wight. It includes the larger towns of Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Havant and Waterlooville, has a population of approximately 1.2 million people (2011) and more than 50,000 businesses. The purpose of this PUSH Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy is to identify the key green Infrastructure (GI) features and future requirements for South Hampshire, which will be critical in enabling growth and development to take place, informing the location of new development, and providing a high quality GI network for South Hampshire's communities.

1.1.2 This GI Strategy has been prepared jointly by the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) which includes the unitary authorities of Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight; Hampshire County Council and the district authorities of Eastleigh, East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester. Parts of East Hampshire, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester Districts fall outside the PUSH area.

1.1.3 PUSH has reviewed its South Hampshire Strategy 2012 to cover the period 2016 to 2034 and has published the replacement non-statutory 'PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016'. This GI Strategy has been prepared in parallel to the Spatial Position Statement. There is a need for significant further development within the PUSH sub-region and the Spatial Position Statement informs the level and distribution of development in the area over the period from 2011 to 2034, and the infrastructure investment which is needed to support it. PUSH constituent local planning authorities will prepare Local Plans to consider in more detail how this development can be delivered and the Spatial Position Statement will be used to guide and co-ordinate this process.

1.1.4 This GI Strategy and the Spatial Position Statement should continue to evolve iteratively so that new development is integrated with existing and proposed green infrastructure. Alignment of the GI strategy and the Position Statement will maximise opportunities for the delivery of new development and GI features in a complimentary and co-ordinated way and effectively inform the Local Plans of PUSH local planning authorities.

1.1.5 The purpose of this strategy is to set the vision and framework for the delivery of an integrated network of strategic GI across the South Hampshire sub-region. This strategy builds on earlier work undertaken by PUSH. In 2009 PUSH commissioned consultants to translate early baseline work into a GI Strategy in 2010. This GI Strategy 2016 replaces the 2010 strategy, taking account of the changes in GI policy and drivers, implementation of GI projects, and outcomes of GI research, since that time. It has been developed by reviewing and building on the existing evidence base with greater focus on GI at a strategic level. The review has been informed by the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and will ensure that strategic GI projects are properly co-ordinated across the PUSH local authorities. With a focus on strategic level GI, this strategy acknowledges that local authorities will also need to assess green infrastructure at a more local level within development plans and local initiatives.

1.1.6 Strategic GI features include:

- The Strategic Rights of Way network including Long distance footpaths and national cycle routes;
- Country Parks;
- Large-scale suitable alternative natural greenspace (SANG);

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- Community Forest;
- River and strategic wildlife corridors / greenways;
- Internationally important habitat areas;
- National Nature Reserves (NNR);
- Protected landscapes (National Parks and AONBs).

1.1.7 These strategic GI features are 'components' of a landscape scale GI network (Green Grid). As important as delivering specific strategic GI projects is ensuring that these components link together with each other, with GI at a local level, and GI in areas surrounding the PUSH sub-region, to deliver benefits for people and wildlife at the landscape scale. It is also crucial that any conflicts that arise between the need to provide GI to enable growth and development and the need to conserve biodiversity through national and international obligations are very carefully managed.

1.1.8 It is important to note that although sensitive environmental features, such as the European designated New Forest, River Itchen, Solent Coast and other protected habitats provide a valuable GI resource that benefits the natural environment and people, it is crucial that growth and development, together with an increasing demand for recreation by the existing population does not adversely impact those same sensitive environmental features. There is, therefore, a need for new GI and the enhancement of existing GI to offset the recreational impacts associated with growth and development on environmentally sensitive areas by providing alternative high quality natural greenspace and other GI features. Recreational opportunities must be carefully planned to avoid damaging sensitive habitats and species and GI should be designed to not only protect and enhance sensitive environmental features but to provide biodiversity enhancement, generally.

1.1.9 It is also desirable for new strategic GI to be embedded within new or existing development / communities rather than increasing the burden on existing GI and sensitive sites, and where new GI is proposed outside of settlements, appropriate sustainable links are created to enable communities to access GI.

1.1.10 The provision of accessible GI should, wherever possible, both at the strategic and local level, be in accordance with agreed standards of provision. Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) as an example, provide a useful benchmark in this regard. In order to meet these or indeed other agreed standards in certain urban areas where there is inadequate provision of GI, local GI planning may have to look at retrofitting GI or seek opportunities for GI delivery as part of urban regeneration. As an example, ANGSt recommends that everyone, wherever they live, should have accessible natural greenspace:

- of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home;
- at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometre of home;
- one accessible 100 hectare site within five kilometres of home; and
- one accessible 500 hectare site within ten kilometres of home; plus
- a minimum of one hectare of statutory Local Nature Reserves per thousand population.

1.1.11 This GI strategy will be implemented through the delivery of a GI Implementation Plan, which will replace the PUSH GI Implementation Framework (2012)

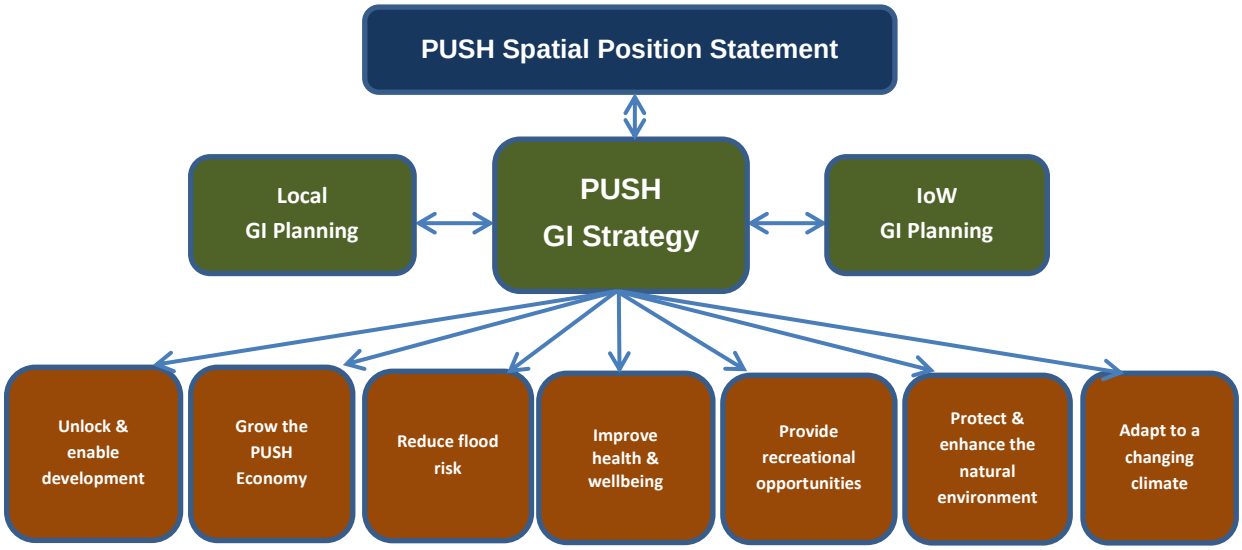
1.1.12 Although this strategy covers the South Hampshire sub-region (Figure i, page iii), GI does not stop at the area's boundary and consideration is given to the GI strategies and assessments of neighbouring authorities and the more detailed GI strategies and assessments of PUSH authorities, to ensure an integrated approach.

1.1.13 The preparation of this document has been undertaken by a GI Steering Group comprising representatives of all PUSH authorities together with the Environment Agency, Natural England, the

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership, the New Forest National Park Authority, the South Downs National Park Authority and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. A Green Infrastructure Partnership has been established to help coordinate the delivery of this strategy, the members of which are set out in Appendix 1.

1.1.14 The key elements of the strategy are to:

- Recognise the importance and value of GI to growth and prosperity in South Hampshire;
- Provide a strategic policy framework;
- Identify the key components of the strategic green grid for South Hampshire;
- Identify how GI can be used to mitigate the recreational impact of new housing development on New Forest, River Itchen, Solent European sites and other protected habitats;
- Set the framework for the identification of strategic GI projects;
- Promote a co-ordinated and collaborative approach to maintaining and enhancing South Hampshire's GI network.



1.2 The Benefits of a Green Infrastructure Approach

1.2.1 Although a number of similar definitions exist for green infrastructure, the following definition is provided by the Government's National Planning Policy Guidance (2016):

> "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."

1.2.2 This GI Strategy acknowledges that not all GI is publicly accessible and some, particularly where there are ecological sensitivities, may have or need to have limited and controlled access. Maximising multifunctionality of GI will only be sought where it is appropriate to do so.

1.2.3 GI is recognised in academia and by government advisory panels as crucial infrastructure in the development of communities:

"Like our transportation system, green infrastructure should be carefully planned, designed, and expanded as communities grow. Green infrastructure planning should be the first step in developing land-use plans, and should be coordinated with planning roads, sewers, water lines, and other essential grey infrastructure. Integrated planning and design should connect green and grey in a more effective, economic and sustainable network." [1]

1.2.4 Government National Planning Guidance (NPPG) states that:

"*Green infrastructure is important to the delivery of high quality sustainable development, alongside other forms of infrastructure such as transport, energy, waste and water. Green infrastructure provides multiple benefits, notably ecosystem services, at a range of scales, derived from natural systems and processes, for the individual, for society, the economy and the environment. To ensure that these benefits are delivered, green infrastructure must be well planned, designed and maintained. Green infrastructure should, therefore, be a key consideration in both local plans and planning decisions where relevant*."

1.2.5 Strategic green infrastructure provision within the PUSH sub-region delivers a wide range of benefits, which include:

Economic Growth and Development

1.2.6 The delivery of high quality GI is essential to the sustainable economic growth and development of South Hampshire as well as being an important part of the placemaking of communities. The delivery of strategic and local scale GI will unlock and enable planned residential and commercial development, supporting an expanding population, providing jobs, improving skills, and improving quality of life in its own right.

1.2.7 There is now strong evidence nationally that green spaces make a positive impact on local economic growth and regeneration.[2] Developing and improving green space has significant benefits in that more aesthetically appealing, greener areas have a better image and attract investment.[3] This brings with it high value industries, individuals and a higher skilled workforce which in turn leads to increased property and land values, more disposable income for local supporting businesses, and further economic growth.[4] It is asserted that "*strategic placement of green infrastructure reduces the need for grey infrastructure, freeing public funds for other community needs*".[5]

1.2.8 The natural environment provides an enormous range of products and services worth £15 billion to the national economy.[6] The Natural Capital Committee[7] argue that investing in natural capital and

[1] Green Infrastructure: Smart Conservation for the 21st century. Renewable Resources, Benedict and McMahon (2002)

[2] Benefits of green infrastructure. Report to Defra and CLG. Farnham: Forest Research. (2010)

[3] Eftec and sheffield Hallam University for Defra and Natural England (2013), Green Infrastructure's contribution to economic growth: A review.

[4] Green Infrastructure: Smart Conservation for the 21st century. Renewable Resources, Benedict and McMahon (2002)

[5] ditto

[6] Research Councils UK (nd) Adding Value: How the Research Councils benefit the economy.

[7] The State of Natural Capital Protecting and Improving Natural Capital. unknown: Natural Capital Committee (2015)

ensuring people have access to it is likely to have beneficial consequences for economic growth in both narrow and broad terms. It is estimated that a property located within 450 metres of a park can be worth up to 19% more than houses not in such a location. A view of a forest and water can increase house values by 7% and 5% respectively.[8]

1.2.9 South Hampshire is already known to be a desirable place to live. Investment in the GI of South Hampshire will help the sub-region to further improve this image, improve the sub-region's ability to attract and retain a highly skilled workforce, visitors and further investment.

1.2.10 The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is the key interface and lead for economic development in the Solent. It is a partnership organisation between the business community, the Further Education and Higher Education sector, three unitary authorities, eight district councils and one county council, all of whom are actively working together to secure a more prosperous and sustainable future for the Solent area. PUSH has been successful in bidding to the LEP's Solent Growth Deal to enable the creation of four new strategic green spaces in 2015 – 2017 as part of the work undertaken by the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP).

Flood and Water Management

1.2.11 The PUSH Strategic Flood Risk Assessment [9] drew the following conclusions about flood risk in the PUSH sub-region. The PUSH sub-region is exposed to flood risk from a number of sources. Flooding from the sea, due to extreme tides, is the main threat to the sub-region's low lying coastlines and affects some of the most populated areas in Portsmouth, Southampton, Gosport, Havant, Fareham, Eastleigh and the New Forest. The majority of the PUSH sub-region contains areas at risk of inundation from rivers and watercourses, with the Rivers Test, Itchen, Hamble, Meon, Wallington, Hermitage Stream and Lavant Stream passing through existing developed areas. In addition, the coastal frontages of Portsea and Hayling Island have experienced flooding caused by wave overtopping; and a number of areas in Winchester, Test Valley and East Hampshire have been affected by groundwater flooding. Excessive overland flow has historically caused significant problems in East Hampshire and in recent years, south Hampshire has experienced some localised flooding due to levels of surface water. All types of flooding is exacerbated by climate change, which poses a significant risk to the sub-region. In addition, surface water flooding is exacerbated by the local loss of GI, for instance loss of gardens and other green areas to development and is an issue that needs to be highlighted in local level GI strategies. Figure 14 shows the mapped Flood Zones 2 and 3 areas for the PUSH sub-region.

1.2.12 The coordinated planning of GI at the strategic and local level can significantly contribute to reducing flood risk on communities through the development of natural flood management (NFM) measures (also referred to as 'working with natural processes'), including river naturalisation, improvements to flood plain functionality, the multifunctional use of GI assets, improvements in land management and the use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS). These measures, coupled with land management changes on the chalk landscapes (aquifers) to the north of the sub-region can also have significant long-term benefits for the quality of the sub-region's water supplies.

Health and Wellbeing

1.2.13 High quality, accessible green infrastructure provides a number of benefits to physical and mental health and wellbeing. Access to green spaces has been proven to have a positive influence on a

[8] Natural England (2012) Microeconomic Evidence for the Benefits of Investment in the Environment – review.

[9] PUSH Strategic Flood Risk Assessment: Atkins. (December 2007) as updated by the June 2016 update.

number of health conditions including obesity, circulatory disease and asthma, largely through increasing physical activity. Furthermore, the effect is particularly marked in the under 25's, who are more likely to be obese if they do not have access to greenspace.[10]

1.2.14 Within South Hampshire there is significant health inequality and the provision of green infrastructure could help to reduce this inequality as well as providing social, environmental and economic benefits. Furthermore, access to nature and green space has been shown to provide a restorative environment, which can be beneficial in preventing and treating a number of mental health conditions as well as overall mental wellbeing and cognitive function. Indeed, in studies by 'Mind', 90% of people who took part said that the combination of nature and exercise is most important in determining how they feel.[11] Figure 4, Appendix 2 shows the 2015 Index of Health Deprivation and Disability across the sub-region.

1.2.15 Natural England estimates that if every household were provided with equitable access to good quality green space, savings of £2.1 billion to the NHS could be achieved every year.[12]

Adapting to a Changing Climate and Changes in Weather

1.2.16 Adapting to climate change and making towns and cities more resilient to extremes of weather is a key aim of the Government.[13] A coordinated approach to green infrastructure at the strategic and local levels has an important part to play in mitigating the impact of climate change. Well designed flexible public spaces offer a range of opportunities to store water and modify urban temperatures. Green spaces with a generous planting of trees linked together to form networks can offer cooler, cleaner air.[14] Well designed and managed GI can encourage people to travel in a more sustainable way, such as walking and cycling. The use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to manage surface water run-off not only supports our response to extremes of weather but can be an important part of a wider GI network.

1.2.17 Climate change poses a significant threat to the sub-region. Predicted sea-level rise over the coming century will reduce the standard of protection provided by most of the sub-region's flood defences[15] and if unmanaged, is likely to result in the inundation of larger settled areas by extreme tidal floods. In addition, the increasing severity of storm events is predicted to result in an increase in river flood flows, which will subsequently increase the probability of flooding from rivers.[16]

Biodiversity Protection and Enhancement

1.2.18 The importance of GI and biodiversity has been widely recognised and is reflected in a number of Government policy statements, guidance and research. The National Planning Policy Framework (2012) looks to Local Planning Authorities to 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*" (para 114).

[10] Benefits of Green Infrastructure. Report to Defra and CLG. Farnham: Forest Research. (2010)

[11] Executive Summary Ecotherapy: The green agenda for mental health Mind week report, May 2007.

[12] Our Natural Health Service: The role of the natural environment in maintaining healthy lives. Natural England (2009).

[13] The National Adaptation Programme: Making the country resilient to a changing climate. London: The Stationery Office. (2013).

[14] Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment: The national survey on people and the natural environment - Annual Report from the 2009-10 survey. Natural England (2010).

[15] Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (2012)

[16] South Hampshire: Integrated Water Management Strategy Partnership for Urban South Hampshire. PUSH (2008).

1.2.19 South Hampshire benefits from a wide variety of strategic GI features such as river corridors, country parks, the coast and large tracts of woodland. It also includes smaller scale features such as green spaces, play areas and a network of landscape features such as hedgerows and ponds. Collectively, these make a positive contribution to people and wildlife.

1.2.20 Natural green spaces such as coastal features, woodlands, heathlands, chalk downland, rivers and streams provide important habitats for plants and animals, and features such as hedgerows and rivers provide important corridors for wildlife. Public open spaces such as parks and play spaces can also be managed to provide significant benefits for wildlife and act as stepping stones and corridors.

1.2.21 The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership (LNP) together with the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) have created an 'Ecological Network' map for the PUSH sub-region based on the range of areas designated for their nature conservation value, together with the suite of regional Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOA) present in the sub-region and other key ecological data. Maps of the Ecological Network, BOAs and designated areas can be found in Appendix 2.

1.2.22 It has been identified that development in South Hampshire will have cumulative impacts on the European designated sites within the Solent and the New Forest through increases in recreational pressure. The need to mitigate these impacts is a legal requirement without which development will be unable to proceed. Such measures will be identified as part of the Habitats Regulation Assessments (HRA) of the respective local development plans, with best practice being shared across the relevant LPAs. In addition, for the Solent European sites, such measures are being identified through the work of the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP). Delivery of that strategy will help to deliver strategic mitigation for biodiversity. The delivery of this GI Strategy will be able to assist with the implementation of such mitigation.

Delivering Multiple Benefits

1.2.23 A core component of GI is 'multifunctionality'. This simply means performing more than one function. These benefits include those mentioned above, plus many others. The specific range of benefits that each GI feature provides is dependent on the nature of the GI feature. The Landscape Institute[17] states the following:

"GI functions are the roles that assets can play if planned, designed and managed in a way that is sensitive to, and includes provision for, natural features and ecosystem services. They may have obvious primary functions, but each asset can perform different functions simultaneously – a concept known as multifunctionality. For example street trees can add aesthetic quality to an urban area, but will also reduce airborne pollution, provide shade, reduce urban heat island effects, mitigate wind chill and turbulence and increase biodiversity."

1.2.24 New GI features created within the PUSH sub-region should provide the highest level of multifunctionality possible. Consideration should also be given to increasing the multifunctionality of existing GI features, where feasible. However, appropriate consideration needs to given to the compatibility of different functions. Unfettered recreational access may not be compatible with GI that supports ecological sensitivities, where the primary function is nature conservation. Likewise, a children's play area might not be compatible with an area of GI providing an important flood attenuation function.

[17] Landscape Institute Position Statement - Green Infrastructure: An integrated approach to land use (2013).

1.2.25 The sub-region's 'natural capital', those parts of the natural environment that produce value to people, provide the foundation on which our economy, society and prosperity is built. The benefits (ecosystem services) that the natural environment provides to the sub-region's communities are dependent on a healthy natural environment. The Natural Capital Committee recently stated that: *"…the decline in natural capital seen over the last 60 years will continue and is likely to accelerate…costly impacts will have to be borne, people's well-being will suffer and economic opportunities will be missed unless specific action is taken to invest in natural capital."* [18]

1.2.26 GI is about delivering ecosystem services, whilst at the same time protecting and enhancing the natural capital that provides these benefits. Delivering benefits for the natural environment is a key consideration of this GI Strategy.

[18] The State of Natural Capital Protecting and Improving Natural Capital. unknown: Natural Capital Committee (2015)

2 Drivers for a PUSH strategic green infrastructure approach

2.1 National Policy

2.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires that local planning authorities should "*set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans to plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure*".[19] The NPPF also requires that local and neighbourhood planning policies and decisions should aim to ensure that developments: "*optimise the potential of the site to accommodate development, create and sustain an appropriate mix of uses (including incorporation of green and other public space as part of developments) and support local facilities and transport networks*".[20]

2.1.2 In promoting healthy communities, the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve places which promote: "*safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas*." [21]

2.1.3 In relation to management and improvement of recreational routes, the NPPF states that "*planning policies should protect and enhance public rights of way and access. Local authorities should seek opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails*."[22]

2.1.4 In view of the contribution that green infrastructure can make to climate change adaption, the NPPF states that "*Local Plans should take account of climate change over the longer term, including factors such as flood risk, coastal change, water supply and changes to biodiversity and landscape. New development should be planned to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure*." [23]

2.1.5 Specific reference is also made within the NPPF to the need to map and consider ecological networks in planning – "*The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by …..minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures*." [24] Furthermore, to – "*To minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity, planning policies should… Identify and map components of the local ecological networks*…" [25], and advises that – "*planning policies and decisions should be based on up-to-date information about the natural environment and other characteristics of the area…. this should include an assessment of existing and potential components of ecological networks*…" [26]

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[19] NPPF paragraph 114.
[20] NPPF paragraph 58.
[21] NPPF paragraph 69.
[22] NPPF paragraph 75.
[23] NPPF paragraph 99.
[24] NPPF paragraph 109
[25] NPPF paragraph 117
[26] NPPF paragraph 165

2.1.6 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (Habitat Regulations) requires that 'competent authorities', which includes local authorities, in exercising any of their functions, must have regard to the requirements of the European Habitats Directive so far as they may be affected by the exercise of those functions. This legislation is a key driver for the establishment of suitable alternative natural greenspace (SANG) and other mitigation to avoid adverse impacts from development on European protected sites. This is further explored in section 2.3 in relation to the Solent and New Forest European protected sites.

2.1.7 The duty to cooperate created by the Localism Act 2011 places a public duty on local planning authorities, county councils and public bodies to engage constructively, effectively and on an ongoing basis on strategic cross-boundary issues. Under the duty to cooperate, public bodies must also cooperate with Local Nature Partnerships.

2.1.8 Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006 states that: "*Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity*". Particular areas of focus include: Policy, Strategy and Procurement; Management of Public Land and Buildings; Planning, Infrastructure and Development; and Education, Advice and Awareness.[27]

2.1.9 The NPPF affords National Parks and AONBs the highest level of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty and the PUSH authorities have a legal duty to 'have regard' to the purposes of National Parks and AONBs, through the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000[28] and The Environment Act 1995[29], respectively, when preparing plans and projects that could affect these designated areas.

2.1.10 One of the primary reasons for a sub-regional approach to green infrastructure planning is to support sustainable economic growth across the PUSH sub-region, as defined in the principle of sustainable development.[30]

2.2 PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016

2.2.1 The PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016 has been jointly prepared by PUSH, which includes the unitary authorities of Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight; and the district authorities of Eastleigh, East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester. Parts of East Hampshire, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester districts fall outside of the PUSH area. The Spatial Position Statement has been developed to inform long-term decisions about the level and distribution of development in the area over the period to from 2011 to 2034, and the infrastructure investment which is needed to support it.

2.2.2 The Spatial Position Statement seeks to "*deliver sustainable, economic-led growth and regeneration to create a more prosperous, attractive South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight offering a better quality of life for everyone who lives, works and spends their leisure time here*."[31] The Position Statement acknowledges the importance of green infrastructure in achieving this vision.

2.2.3 This GI strategy will help deliver the four key ambitions of the Spatial Position Statement, as follows:

[27] DEFRA Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing Biodiversity Duty (2007)

[28] Section 85.

[29] Section 62.

[30] The NPPF notes that to achieve sustainable development, economic, social and environmental gains should be sought jointly (para 8) and, in pursuit if this, that net gains for nature should be achieved (para 9)

[31] Vision of the South Hampshire Spatial Strategy Position Statement 2016-2034.

- Sustainable Economic Growth;
- Protecting Our Natural Environment;
- Bringing Benefits to Local Communities;
- Good Quality Places to Live and Work.

The four ambitions are of equal importance.

2.2.4 There is a need for significant further development within South Hampshire and the provision of adequate and appropriate GI will be crucial in enabling this development. The Spatial Position Statement is planning positively for long term growth and is proposing 104,350 new homes and 1 million sq m of employment space across South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight over 2011-2034 plan period. This meets 93.5% of the needs for new homes and all of the need for new employment to 2034.

2.2.5 PUSH local planning authorities will prepare Local Plans to consider in more detail how this development can be delivered, whether there is scope to identify further sites to fully meet the need for new homes, and the need for other local services and infrastructure. Of the 104,350 new homes, approximately 50% have been completed since 2011 or can be accommodated on sites which already have planning permission or been identified in Local Plans; and a further 22% is likely to come forward on additional sites in urban areas. Together these total 72% of overall provision. Figure 2, Appendix 2 provides an indication of locality of current planned residential development within the sub-region.

2.2.6 The update to the objectively assessed housing need published in June 2016[32] projects that the population of the sub-region will grow by nearly 186,000 people, a 15.6% increase, to almost 1.4 million by 2036. Taking into account the latest demographic evidence from 2013 and 2014 it sets out the need to deliver 121,500 homes over the period 2011-2036 across South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

2.2.7 The PUSH Spatial Position Statement sets out housing distribution numbers and strategic development locations identified for mixed-use development to 2034. These are set out in Tables 1 and 2 of Appendix 1.

2.2.8 The PUSH Spatial Position Statement includes a specific position statement relating to GI (Position Statement G1: Green Infrastructure) set out below. The Spatial Position Statement recognises the importance and value of GI to growth and development, flood and water management, health and wellbeing, adaption to climate change, biodiversity, and the provision of recreational opportunities.

[32] Objectively Assessed Housing Need Update for PUSH, June 2016 (Tables 10 and 15)

PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016:
POSITION STATEMENT G1: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The PUSH authorities and their partners will continue to work together to plan, provide and manage connected networks of multi-functional green spaces including existing and new green infrastructure. These networks will be planned and managed to deliver the widest range of environmental, social and economic benefits.

Strategic priorities will be identified in the PUSH GI Strategy (2016) and the latest equivalent document for the Isle of Wight. Types of projects include:

- **Landscape-scale green infrastructure projects (e.g. the Forest of Bere);**
- **The provision of new and enhancement of existing strategic recreational facilities (e.g. Country Parks);**
- **Projects that will effectively divert recreational pressure away from sensitive European sites;**
- **The creation and enhancement of a network of green recreational routes (such as pedestrian and cycle) including improved links between urban and rural areas, and to the Country and National Parks;**
- **Ecological protection and mitigation (e.g. SRMS and SANGs);**
- **Watercourse and river corridor restoration and enhancement;**
- **Coastal/seafront enhancement; and**
- **Greener Urban Design/greening the urban area initiatives.**

Each of the PUSH authorities will in their Local Plans and where appropriate, GI Strategies:

- **Make provision for these strategic and other local GI proposals taking account of Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGst); including where appropriate as an integral part of development proposals;**
- **Protect and enhance the integrity, quality, connectivity and multi-functionality of the existing green infrastructure network and individual sites; and**
- **Secure funding to deliver and manage these enhanced and new GI features and networks.**

2.2.9 The Push Position Statement 2016 also contains specific position statements that are relevant to the planning and delivery of GI and the identification of GI opportunities, as follows:

Strategic Gaps

2.2.10 The PUSH Spatial Position Statement recognises that growth needs to be delivered in a way that will ensure the integrity of the highly valued natural environment and that key elements of the settlement pattern are maintained. 'Position Statement S1: Strategic Gaps' identifies the Meon Valley (precise extent to be defined in Local Plans) "as a strategic gap of sub-regional importance, which should be protected from inappropriate development" and that "Councils should identify in their local plans other strategic countryside gaps of sub-regional significance as appropriate; and may also identify local countryside gaps which are of fundamental importance in their area."

Environment

2.2.11 'Position Statement ENV1: Environment' states that the PUSH authorities will protect the natural environment and manage flood risk through the design and location of development as well as "Managing the impacts of increased visitor pressures on the Solent (through the Solent Recreational Mitigation Strategy) and the New Forest National Park".

Sustainable Transport

2.2.12 'Position Statement T1: Encouraging Modal Shift' states that one of the ways for Councils to encourage a modal shift to more sustainable transport is by "Investing in walking and cycling routes including the development of Green Corridors."

2.3 Solent, New Forest and River Itchen European Protected Sites

Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
(including Solent and Southampton Harbour SPA, Portsmouth Harbour SPA, Chichester Harbour & Langstone Harbour SPA and Solent and Dorset Coast pSPA)

2.3.1 The Solent is internationally important for its wildlife interest and there are various protective designations including three European Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and one potential SPA. These SPAs have been designated predominantly for the protection of the internationally important bird populations that spend the winter on the Solent.

2.3.2 One of the impacts of housebuilding within the PUSH sub-region is increased recreational activity at the coast resulting from population increases associated with new homes. Increased recreational activity could lead to increased disturbance to waders and wildfowl within the SPAs.

2.3.3 Research has quantified this impact and an interim Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy (SRMS)[33] has been prepared by the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP) with a full strategy in preparation (the public facing brand of the work of the SRMP is 'Bird Aware Solent'[34]. Delivery of housing development planned through the PUSH Spatial Position Statement and local Development Plans, within the zone of influence of the SPAs, is only achievable with coordinated mitigation.

2.3.4 Mitigation through the interim SRMS, to date, has included the provision of Coastal Rangers who will reduce bird disturbance by influencing the behaviour of visitors and initiatives to encourage dog owners to go to less sensitive parts of the coast. Also of crucial importance to the delivery of the mitigation strategy is the provision of alternative green infrastructure features, such as country park facilities to provide additional countryside recreational opportunities away from the sensitive areas, and a network of refuges for disturbed / displaced birds. The delivery of GI at the coast would not be appropriate where this would be likely to or would potentially increase disturbance on the Solent SPAs.

2.3.5 The integrated delivery of both the GI strategy and SRMS is crucial to enable growth and prosperity within the PUSH sub-region. Delivery of the GI strategy will help deliver the SRMS and *vice versa*.

[33] Interim Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy December (2014)
[34] http://www.birdaware.org/

2.3.6 Additional information on the likely in-combination effects of growth and development planned in the PUSH Spatial Position Statement on European protected sites within and adjacent to the PUSH sub-region is provided in its associated Habitat Regulations Assessment.[35]

New Forest Natura 2000 Sites

2.3.7 The New Forest is internationally important for its wildlife interests with 56% of the National Park covered by European designations (Natura 2000 sites), including the New Forest SPA and Special Area of Conservation (SAC). In 2005, 70% of day visits to the New Forest National Park were made by Hampshire residents. Over half of these were from people living within the PUSH area. New residential development within the PUSH area will significantly increase the number of day visitors to the New Forest and add to recreational pressures on its internationally designated nature conservation sites. A report by Footprint Ecology[36] concluded that housing development in the period 2006-2026 within 50 km of the New Forest will result in an additional 1.05 million person visits per annum.

2.3.8 The New Forest National Park Management Plan 2015 - 2020 recognises that future residential development close to the National Park – including the PUSH sub-region will increase visitor pressure on the protected habitats of the New Forest and its coastline. An appropriate mitigation strategy to address these impacts needs to be developed and is likely to include both additional visitor management measures and the provision of suitable accessible, alternative natural green spaces (SANGs) and routes for recreational use in less sensitive locations (see also paragraph 1.2.22). The PUSH GI Strategy and associated Implementation Plan will help to deliver this.

River Itchen Special Area of Conservation

2.3.9 The River Itchen is a classic example of a 'sub-type 1' chalk river. Only England, France, Belgium and New Zealand have true chalk rivers and it is designated as a Special Area of Conservation for a number of species and habitats. The Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Eastleigh Borough Council Issues and Options Consultation 2015[37] identifies several impact pathways for the River Itchen that relate to the general quantum of development in the borough. Water resources (flows), water quality and air quality are identified as the areas requiring most consideration, although the impact of disturbance on protected habitats and species through mechanical erosion, recreational activity and noise and vibration are also of concern. The PUSH GI Strategy and associated Implementation Plan will help to address these concerns.

2.4 Protected Landscapes

2.4.1 The PUSH sub-region is located between the New Forest and the South Downs National Parks, designated for their outstanding natural beauty and the opportunities they provide for the public to enjoy their special qualities. Additionally, part of the Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), designated for its outstanding natural beauty is within the sub-region. The NPPF affords National Parks and AONBs the highest level of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty and the PUSH authorities have a legal duty to 'have regard' to the purposes of National Parks

[35] PUSH Strategic Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) of the South Hampshire Strategy. Campbell Reith Hill LLP. 2016

[36] Changing patterns of visitor numbers within the New Forest National Park, with particular reference to the New Forest SPA. Footprint Ecology (2008)

[37] https://my.eastleigh.gov.uk/media/180204/Eastleigh-Issues-and-Options-draft-HRA-v3-final_SF.PDF

and AONBs, through the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000[38] and The Environment Act 1995[39], respectively, when preparing plans and projects that could affect these designated areas.

2.4.2 Under the Localism Act's 'duty-to-cooperate' both National Park authorities are engaged in the work of PUSH, in the development of this updated GI Strategy and the New Forest National Park is involved in the work of the Solent Recreation & Mitigation Partnership (SRMP). Reviewing this document has provided an opportunity for partnership working at a higher level and to share knowledge and improve links between the National Parks and PUSH.

2.4.3 The National Park Authorities are also producing Local Plans for the areas they cover and are engaged through their roles as statutory consultees in neighbouring authorities' plans. Both park authorities will continue to support projects that encourage the public to enjoy the special qualities of the National Parks and that recognise the diverse green infrastructure of the parks. The chalk downland within the South Downs National Park also makes a significant contribution through the provision of clean fresh water from the South Downs aquifer to South Hampshire.

2.4.4 The New Forest National Park is located to the south west of the PUSH area and provides significant green infrastructure and recreation opportunities for South Hampshire communities through the provision of facilities such as Lepe Country Park. The New Forest National Park Management Plan 2015 – 2020 seeks to guide and co-ordinate the work of all of those with an interest in the New Forest in delivering the two statutory National Park purposes. The Management Plan also supports the provision of high quality countryside facilities close to centres of population, or near the boundary of the National Park, to provide attractive alternatives for visitors and help reduce pressure on the more sensitive habitats in the New Forest. The PUSH GI Strategy can play a role in the delivery of this action

2.4.5 The South Downs National Park is located to the east of PUSH and provides opportunities for recreation and GI through the provision of facilities such as Queen Elizabeth Country Park. There were 39 million visitor days spent in the South Downs in 2012 of which 34.7% were visits by non residents. £1.77 million was spent by visitors. The South Downs National Park Authority is in the process of preparing a GI Framework in partnership with all the District Authorities which adjoin or have an area within the National Park. It is important that the South Hampshire GI Strategy and the South Downs National Park GI Framework integrate.

[38] Section 85.

[39] Section 62.

3 A Green Infrastructure Strategy for South Hampshire

3.1 The PUSH Context

3.1.1 The PUSH Sub-Region is focused around the two cities of Portsmouth and Southampton, the Isle of Wight and the Solent. It includes the larger towns of Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Havant and Waterlooville. The area has a population of more than 1.3 million (2011) and more than 50,000 businesses.

3.1.2 The sub-region has a unique geography. The mainland area is bounded on two sides by national parks – by the South Downs National Park to the north; and New Forest National Park to the west. It is a coastal sub-region, with internationally protected environments and important maritime assets, including a network of rivers and other watercourses, which include the internationally and national important rivers - the Itchen, Test, Meon and Hamble. The geography of the area, the substantial environment and landscape designations which affect parts of it, together with infrastructure constraints, influence its potential to accommodate new development. The environmental and landscape designations are also key contributors to the quality of life enjoyed by residents or South Hampshire and are a major attribute to the sub-region in attracting investment.

3.1.3 The population of the sub-region creates considerable demand for recreational opportunities, a demand which will increase as the population grows. It is therefore vital to protect, conserve and enhance the sub-region's Green Infrastructure; its network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in both the urban and rural parts of the area.

3.1.4 The PUSH Spatial Position Statement sets out the case for economic growth across the sub-region and identifies the scale of residential and commercial development required to meet this growth.

3.2 The Vision

3.2.1 Vision for the South Hampshire GI Strategy 2016-2034

> Delivering an integrated and multifunctional green infrastructure network of South Hampshire's distinctive local environments that can adapt to climate change and is managed and valued by South Hampshire's Communities as part of sustainable, prosperous and healthy lifestyles.

3.3 Objectives

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The Objectives of the South Hampshire GI Strategy are:

- Enable and complement planned sustainable economic growth and development.
- Contribute to reducing flood risk on local communities.
- Improve the health and well being of communities by providing green areas for recreation and by addressing the impacts of noise, air and water pollution.
- Help communities and the natural environment adapt to a changing climate.
- Protect and enhance biodiversity, providing mitigation for the impact of development taking place within the sub-region and in-combination with that taking place adjacent to it.
- Promote access to GI through greater connectivity of spaces, in so far as this does not compromise environmental sensitivities.
- Create new areas of GI to serve new and existing developments.
- Where appropriate, maximise multifunctionality of new and existing GI.
- Enhance the quality of the landscape and maintain the distinctiveness of settlement pattern and promote sense of place.
- Provide a strategic framework for locally prepared GI strategies within the sub-region.
- Integrate PUSH strategic GI priorities with those of neighbouring GI strategies / frameworks

3.4 Supporting Evidence

3.4.1 Appendix 2 details information and mapping that provides supporting evidence for strategic GI provision across South Hampshire, as follows:

Table	
1	'Position Statement H1: Housing Distribution'; provision for housing distribution to 2034
2	'Position Statement SDL1: Strategic Development Locations': strategic development locations for mixed-use development to 2034
Figure	
1	Local Authorities in the PUSH Sub-Region
2	Major Housing Development Sites in the PUSH Sub-Region
3	Deprivation (2015 IMD) in the PUSH Sub-Region
4	Health and Wellbeing in the PUSH Sub-Region
5	European Sites in the PUSH Sub-Region
6	Biodiversity Opportunity Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region
7	LNP Ecological Network in the PUSH Sub-Region
8	Landscape Types and Character Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region
9	Protected Landscapes in the PUSH Sub-Region
10	Strategic Recreational Routes in the PUSH Sub-Region
11	Strategic Countryside Visitor Facilities in the PUSH Sub-Region
12	Potential River Restoration Locations in the PUSH Sub-Region
13	River Water Quality and Catchment Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region
14	Flood Risk Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region

15	Accessible Natural Greenspace (500ha+ with 10km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region
16	Accessible Natural Greenspace (100ha+ with 5km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region
17	Accessible Natural Greenspace (20ha+ with 2km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region

Author note for Joint Committee: further layering of mapping (shown here as separate maps) may be used and added to this document to better illustrate the 'Green Grid'.

3.4.2 Figure 2 together with the PUSH Position Statement 2016 illustrate the scale of development currently planned or part of intended provision. Significant new strategic GI and enhancement of existing GI will be required for this development to be enabled.

3.4.3 Figures 3 and 4 provide an analysis of the English Index of Multiple Deprivation and Health (2015), respectively, showing where the most deprived and least healthy communities are located within the South Hampshire part of the PUSH sub-region and, therefore, where the greatest opportunities exist to improve deprivation and health through the provision of GI.

3.4.4 Figure 5 illustrates the locations of European protected sites for nature conservation (Natura 2000), together with international Ramsar sites. These sites may provide a constraint on development and/or an opportunity where GI provision can positively enhance the features for which the Natural 2000 sites were designated.

3.4.5 Figure 6 illustrates the network of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) across South Hampshire. BOAs represent a targeted landscape-scale approach to conserving biodiversity in Hampshire. They identify opportunities for habitat creation and restoration where resources can be focused to have the greatest positive impact for wildlife. BOAs were identified through extensive mapping work carried out by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) in consultation with a wide range of biodiversity partners.

3.4.6 Figure 7 illustrates the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership's (LNP) recommended ecological network based on the network of European and other designated sites, BOAs and other nature conservation data. The ecological network is a tool that will help inform the location and nature of GI provision to protect and enhance the sub-region's ecological network.

3.4.7 Figure 8 provides an analysis of the landscape character of the sub-region both in terms of generic landscape types but also more locally specific landscape character areas, as part of the Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (HICA). PUSH district authorities, the adjacent National Parks and the Chichester Harbour AONB have undertaken more detailed locally specific landscape character assessments (LCA) that compliment the HICA. LCA informs where GI may be best placed to mitigate the landscape impacts of development and maximise the ability for GI to enhance landscape character.

3.4.8 Nationally protected landscapes of the New Forest National Park, South Downs National Park and Chichester Harbour AONB are illustrated in Figure 9. Although National Parks and AONBs are themselves GI resources, the sensitivities of the European protected sites in the New Forest preclude this area from being considered a GI resource and indeed alternative strategic GI resources will be required to off-set the impact of new development.

3.4.9 Strategic recreational resources in the form of Country Parks, long distance rights of way and Forestry Commission woodlands are illustrated in Figures 10 and 11.

3.4.10 Figures 12,13 and 14 illustrate the water environment within the South Hampshire sub-region in terms of GI enhancement potential from river restoration (Figure 12), water quality (Figure 13) and flood risk (Figure 14) perspectives.

3.4.11 GI assets illustrated in the figures listed above have been used to analyse greenspace accessibility against Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace standards (ANGst) for accessible greenspace 500Ha or greater within 10km of residential areas, 100Ha or greater within 5km, and 20Ha or greater within 2km (Figures 15 to 17 respectively). This analysis shows that there are gaps in the provision of GI in some parts of the sub-region, where opportunities should be sought to provide GI to agreed standards, where feasible.

3.5 The South Hampshire Strategic Green Grid

3.5.1 The South Hampshire Green Grid is the strategic network of green infrastructure components, essential to the quality of life of South Hampshire's communities. The named components of the Green Grid are set out in Appendix 3 and the location and scale of the Green Grid components are shown on one or more of the maps in Appendix 2.

3.5.2 The Green Grid is not a barrier to delivering growth and prosperity in the sub-region, but is an essential component of the infrastructure required to enable it. The Green Grid can be used as a decision making tool for the Spatial Position Statement and associated Local Plans as it may highlight areas where new GI assets can be developed, where the existing network may be enhanced by improved links, and where development proposals may be able to support the delivery of these. The enhancement of the Green Grid is crucial to delivering the economic growth and development identified in the PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016.

3.5.3 Nevertheless, there are inadequacies in GI provision for South Hampshire communities within the existing Green Grid, as shown by the evidence in Appendix 2. In order to meet the GI requirements of existing and new communities there is a need for the Green Grid to be enhanced with the provision of new GI at both the strategic and local level. New strategic GI will be developed through the PUSH South Hampshire GI Implementation Plan that will deliver this GI Strategy, together with new local GI delivered through local GI strategies.

3.6 Opportunities to enhance the South Hampshire Green Grid

3.6.1 In order to enable planned sustainable growth and development in the sub-region, whilst ensuring the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, the South Hampshire Green Grid will need to be enhanced with the provision of new strategic GI components, the enhancement and enlargement of existing strategic GI, improved GI linkages between Green Grid components, and improved access for communities to high quality GI.

3.6.2 Specific strategic GI opportunities and projects will be identified as part of the development of the PUSH South Hampshire GI Implementation Plan that will deliver this strategy (as set out in Section 4). The Implementation Plan will need to be reviewed as new development is planned and new opportunities for GI Green Grid enhancement present themselves over the period of the PUSH Spatial Position Statement.

3.6.3 Opportunities mapping will take an holistic approach to GI provision exploiting opportunities to:

- Enable the growth and development set out in the PUSH Position Statement 2016.
- Reduce the risk of flooding of homes, businesses and infrastructure.

- Reduce deprivation.
- Improve health and wellbeing.
- Provide GI in line with agreed standards and in so doing fill current gaps in GI provision.
- Enhance biodiversity and landscape value.
- Improve access for people to greenspace and increase recreational provision.
- Improve linkages between green infrastructure facilities.

3.6.4 In developing opportunities to enhance the South Hampshire Green Grid, however, the recreational impacts of new development on the New Forest Natura 2000 sites, the Solent Special Protection Areas (SPA) and the River Itchen Special Area of Conservation (SAC) must be fully offset, and reduced where possible for existing communities. Close working with the New Forest National Park Authority and the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP) will be crucial in this regard.

4. Delivering the GI Strategy

4.1 Delivery of Strategic GI Projects

4.1.1 To deliver this GI Strategy, a number of key strategic projects will be identified that enable sustainable growth and development and where opportunities to enhance the green grid can be made. These projects will be detailed in the PUSH GI Implementation Plan, which will deliver this GI strategy. The projects will be informed by various sources and will be grouped under the following umbrella projects:

- Landscape-scale green infrastructure projects (e.g. improving connectivity and access between woodlands dispersed across a wide area);
- The provision of new and enhancement of existing strategic recreational facilities (e.g. Country Parks);
- Projects that will effectively divert recreational pressures away from sensitive European sites (e.g. strategic Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs);
- The creation and enhancement of a network of green recreational routes (such as pedestrian and cycle) including improved links between urban and rural areas, and to the Countryside and National Parks;
    - Ecological protection and mitigation projects (e.g. creation of undisturbed refuge habitat for coastal birds);
- River corridor restoration and enhancement (blue infrastructure);
- Coastal/seafront enhancement; and
- Greener Urban Design/greening the urban area initiatives.

4.1.2 Strategic GI projects that will be presented in the GI Implementation Plan will be selected against the following criteria:

- Relate to at least one of the strategic GI categories listed in paragraph 1.1.6 of this strategy;
- Unlock / enable significant sustainable development, as set out in the PUSH Spatial Position Statement;
- Improve the health, well-being and recreational opportunities of communities;
- Mitigate the impact of development on the area's biodiversity and habitats, including the water environment;
- Provide opportunities to secure net gain for biodiversity e.g. in the form of well managed priority habitats forming ecological networks
- Increase the value of the sub-region's natural capital;
- Maintain the distinctiveness of the settlement pattern / promote a sense of place;
- Build on our resilience of the area to a changing climate;
- Improve access to, and between, GI features within and beyond the PUSH area;
- Contribute to the delivery of agreed standards of GI provision;
- Demonstrate a commitment from the PUSH GI Partnership to deliver;
- Have a lead partner(s) who will manage delivery.

4.1.3 The contribution of other elements of GI such as local areas of open space and features such as ponds hedgerows and small woodlands are important to the area in which they are located and for the contribution they make to the wider PUSH area. That contribution can be more properly recognised in the GI strategies and plans produced by partner authorities.

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4.1.4 As the PUSH Spatial Position Statement is delivered, decisions will be made around where development will be located, based in part on this GI Strategy. There may be a need to provide for new GI projects in these developments or in areas closely associated with them. Where necessary the new strategic projects will be added to the priority list for PUSH and the GI Implementation Plan updated accordingly.

4.1.5 For each strategic project there will be a lead partner who will be responsible for its delivery, supported by partner organisations. It will be for each lead partner to determine the particular approach it will want to adopt in terms of managing the project. PUSH will oversee the delivery of this Strategy through a light touch approach. Decisions will be made through the PUSH Planning & Infrastructure Delivery Panel.

4.2 The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

4.2.1 The Solent LEP has a key role in the delivery of GI in South Hampshire by supporting and contributing to strategic GI projects which will assist in the delivery of economic development. Many of its main objectives are relevant for the protection and provision of GI. The following objectives are of particular relevance:

- Work with PUSH, plan for sustainable development across the Solent area, deliver sufficient housing to meet needs, and deliver commercial development opportunities in order to underpin the sub-region's economic growth;
- Maximize and protect our natural assets and opportunities, including marine/maritime strengths;
- Valuing our natural resources work is a critical component to the delivery of our Plan and we will work cooperatively across the LEP area to address development constraints and mitigate environmental concerns.

4.3 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership (LNP)

4.3.1 The Local Nature Partnership (LNP) was formed in July 2012 and comprises a number of environmental bodies. The role of the LNP and its relationship with Local Authorities is set out in DEFRA publication "an overview of the LNP role".[40] The inclusion of the LNP in developing this strategy is an important step forward in developing GI across an area wider than PUSH to ensure strategic priorities are co-ordinated. In advising PUSH the LNP emphasise the importance of developing a strategic vision which draws on a sound evidence base.

4.3.2 Additional evidence is now available, since the 2010 strategy was commissioned, including the LNP advice on ecological networks. Ecological networks link sites of biodiversity importance. Para 165 of the NPPF advises that planning policies should be based on up to date information about the natural environment.

4.3.3 The LNP has advised PUSH on the recommended ecological network for South Hampshire and has also contributed to the delineation of the South Hampshire green grid.

4.4 Isle of Wight

[40] Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs An overview of the Local Nature Partnership role April 2012

4.4.1 The Isle of Wight Council is part of PUSH. Given the separation of the island and South Hampshire, the opportunities for improving the connectivity of the strategic-level GI network are limited. The GI network on the Island is self-contained, with a focus on locally required and important GI. PUSH will support the work of the Isle of Wight Council and partners in the delivery of GI projects, and will take forward opportunities to enhance green infrastructure at the strategic level when they arise. The Isle of Wight Council also forms part of the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership and together with the South Hampshire local authorities and other partners will work closely together to mitigate the recreation disturbance impacts generated by new residential development on sensitive habitats around the Solent. The Isle of Wight's Green Infrastructure Mapping Study (2010) identifies the assets that the Island has and how they combine to create a comprehensive network.

4.5 The Work of Key Partners

4.5.1 The work of other key partners will be crucial to the delivery of this GI strategy. Other key partners include, but not exclusively, those bodies listed in Appendix 1 (Push green infrastructure partnership). It is important that all partners work collaboratively to enhance the South Hampshire Green Grid, exploiting synergies, avoiding duplication and maximising funding opportunities.

4.6 Funding Strategic GI Projects

4.6.1 The delivery of GI will require significant resources both financial and time invested by partner organisations in bringing projects forward. It will be for each lead partner to decide the funding mechanisms both capital and revenue for the projects it is responsible for and PUSH will assist wherever possible. Making best use of a variety of funding streams will require innovative approaches to securing the resources necessary to bring forward the strategic projects, particularly at a time when the capacity of the public sector to support GI initiatives is constrained. There may be opportunities for Local Authorities to come together under the guidance of PUSH to submit larger green infrastructure bids.

4.6.2 Consideration should be given to reducing the costs of GI projects through innovative design, use of locally sourced materials, and utilisation of stakeholder expertise and manpower.

4.6.3 PUSH partners should be entrepreneurial in their approach to GI delivery, capitalising on new opportunities and new funding streams as they arise. This requires a flexible and adaptive approach to GI planning.

4.6.4 There are a number of potential sources of funding for GI provision, including;

- LEP Local Growth Fund
- Heritage Lottery funding
- Developer contributions e.g. Section 106 agreements and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- Landfill Communities Fund
- Private endowments and Trusts
- The voluntary sector
- Local Authorities capital spending programmes
- English Woodland Grant Schemes
- Countryside stewardship grants
- EU Life programme.
- INTERREG Europe

Further details of potential GI funding will be set out in the PUSH GI Implementation Plan, matching sources of funding to projects where feasible.

4.6.5 Equally critical to the capital investment required to enhance the South Hampshire strategic green grid will be the resources required for on-going management. It is important that these on-going revenue costs are set out in the PUSH GI Implementation Plan.

4.7 Monitoring and Review

4.7.1 Progress in delivering this strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis through the monitoring of the delivery of the supporting South Hampshire GI Implementation Plan 2017 by the PUSH GI Partnership/Steering Group and reported to the PUSH Joint Committee and the PUSH Planning and Infrastructure Panel. Monitoring and reporting on the delivery of individual projects will be undertaken by the relevant lead partners through their specific reporting processes. This GI strategy will be reviewed and refreshed on a maximum cycle of five years and the supporting Implementation Plan more frequently.

4.7.2 As delivery of the PUSH Spatial Position Statement and associated Local Plans progress, decisions will be made as to where new development will be located. As part of this, there is likely to be a requirement for new GI. Additional strategic projects will be added to the list of priorities within the PUSH GI Implementation Plan, where necessary, to help support their delivery and implementation.

Appendix 1: PUSH Green Infrastructure Partnership

In alphabetical order:

Chichester Harbour Conservancy
East Hampshire Catchment Partnership
East Hampshire District Council
Eastleigh Borough Council
Environment Agency
Fareham Borough Council
Forestry Commission
Gosport Borough Council
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership (LNP)
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Hampshire County Council
Havant Borough Council
Isle of Wight Council
Natural England
New Forest Catchment Partnership
New Forest District Council
New Forest National Park Authority
Portsmouth City Council
Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH)
Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership
South Downs National Park Authority
Southampton City Council
Test and Itchen Catchment Partnership
Test Valley Borough Council
Winchester City Council

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Appendix 2: Supporting Evidence

Table 1: PUSH 'Position Statement H1: Housing Distribution': provision for housing distribution to 2034

Table 2: PUSH 'Position Statement SDL1: Strategic Development Locations': strategic development locations for mixed-use development to 2034

Figure 1: Local Authorities in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 2: Major Housing Development Sites in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 3: Deprivation (2015 IMD) in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 4: Health and Wellbeing in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 5: European Sites in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 6: Biodiversity Opportunity Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 7: LNP Ecological Network in the PUSH Sub-Region (not yet available)

Figure 8: Landscape Types and Character Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 9: Protected Landscapes in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 10: Strategic Recreational Routes in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 11: Strategic Countryside Visitor Facilities in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 12: Potential River Restoration Locations in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 13: River Water Quality and Catchment Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 14: Flood Risk Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 15: Accessible Natural Greenspace (500ha+ with 10km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 16: Accessible Natural Greenspace (100ha+ with 5km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region

Figure 17: Accessible Natural Greenspace (20ha+ with 2km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region

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Table 1: 'Position Statement H1: Housing Distribution' makes provision for the following housing distribution to 2034:

	2011 - 2034
Portsmouth HMA	**41,360**
East Hampshire (Part)	2,120
Fareham (East)	8,410
Gosport	3,350
Havant	9,170
Portsmouth	14,560
Winchester (Part-East)	3,740
Southampton HMA	**50,050**
Eastleigh	14,950
Fareham (West)	2,050
New Forest (Part)	3,600
Southampton	19,450
Test Valley (Part)	4,640
Winchester (Part-West)	5,370
Isle of Wight HMA	**12,950**
PUSH Total	**104,350**

Table 2: 'Position Statement SDL1: Strategic Development Locations' identifies the following strategic development locations for mixed-use development to 2034:

Location	Local Authority
Portsmouth Urban Area and City Centre	Portsmouth
Southampton Urban Area and City Centre	Southampton
Fareham Town Centre*	Fareham
West of Waterlooville	Havant / Winchester
Welborne	Fareham
North Whiteley	Winchester
Northern Part of Eastleigh Borough*	Eastleigh
Gosport Waterfront	Gosport

* New strategic development location proposed in Position Statement

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Figure 1:

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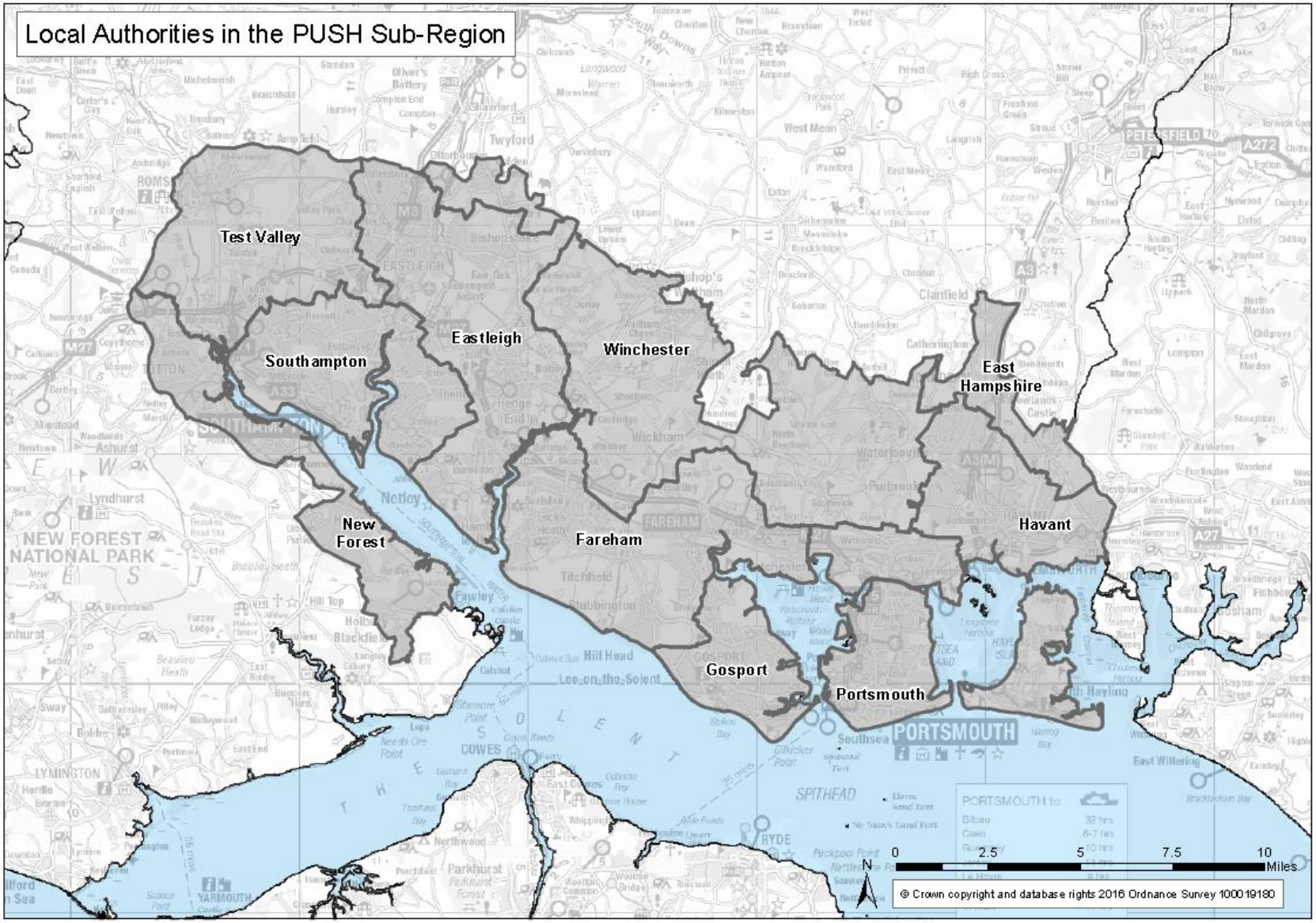
Local Authorities in the PUSH Sub-Region
Test Valley
Southampton
Eastleigh
Winchester
East Hampshire
New Forest
Fareham
Havant
Gosport
Portsmouth
0 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles
N
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Figure 2:

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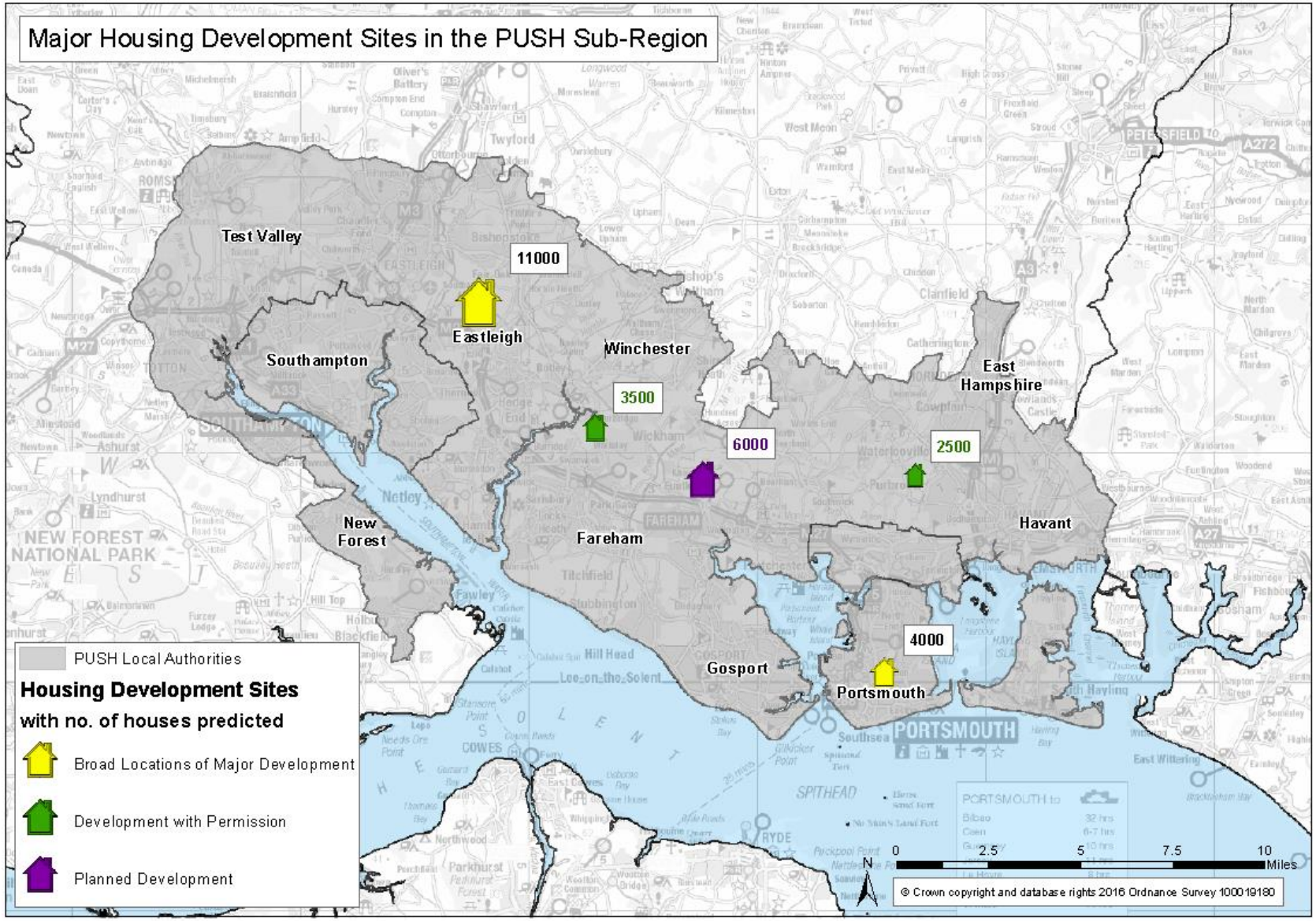
Major Housing Development Sites in the PUSH Sub-Region
Test Valley
11000
Eastleigh
Southampton
Winchester
3500
6000
East Hampshire
2500
Havant
New Forest
Fareham
4000
Gosport
Portsmouth
PUSH Local Authorities
Housing Development Sites
with no. of houses predicted
Broad Locations of Major Development
Development with Permission
Planned Development
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
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Figure 3:

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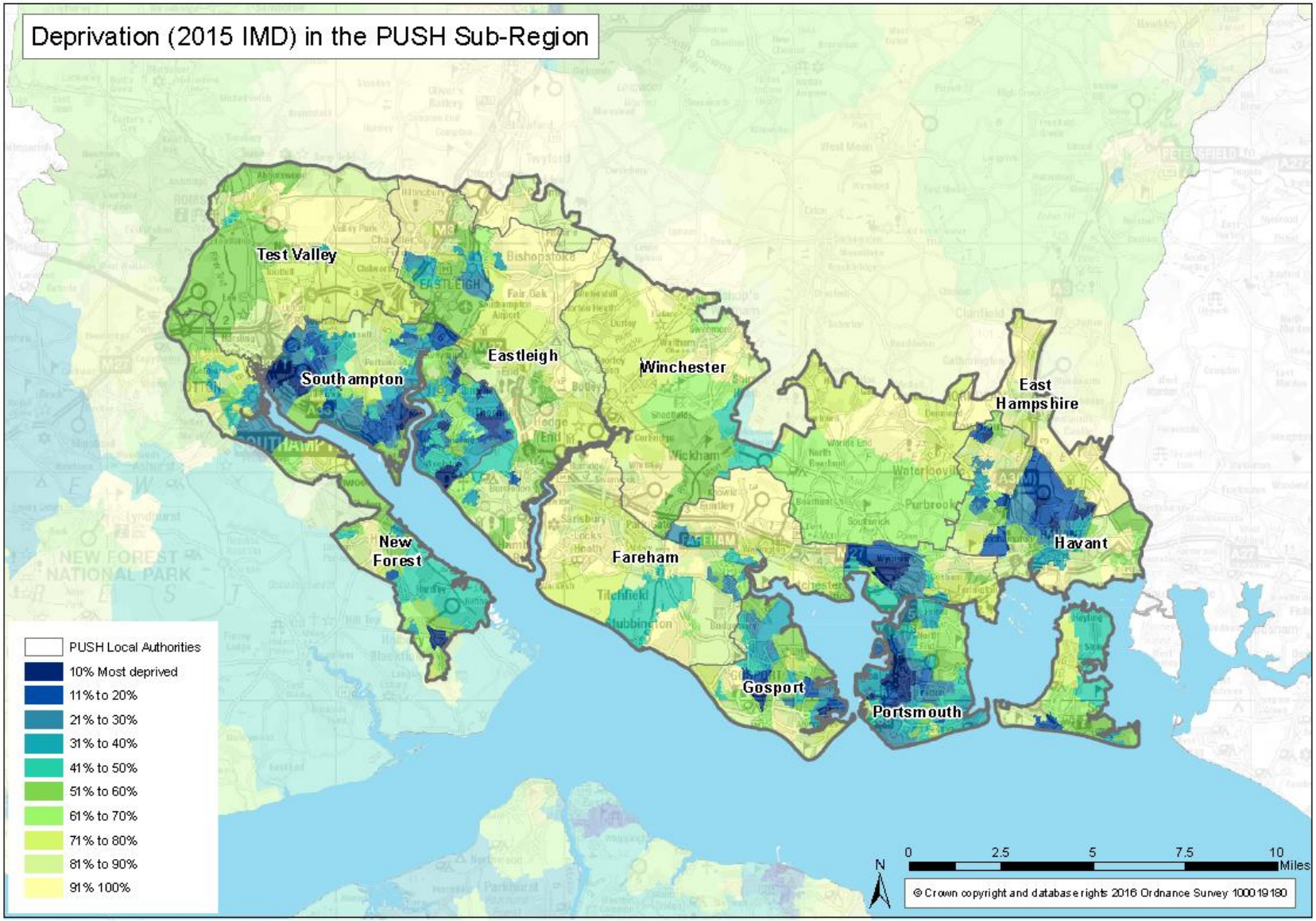
Deprivation (2015 IMD) in the PUSH Sub-Region
Test Valley
Eastleigh
Southampton
Winchester
East Hampshire
New Forest
Fareham
Havant
Gosport
Portsmouth
PUSH Local Authorities
10% Most deprived
11% to 20%
21% to 30%
31% to 40%
41% to 50%
51% to 60%
61% to 70%
71% to 80%
81% to 90%
91% 100%
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
N
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Figure 4:

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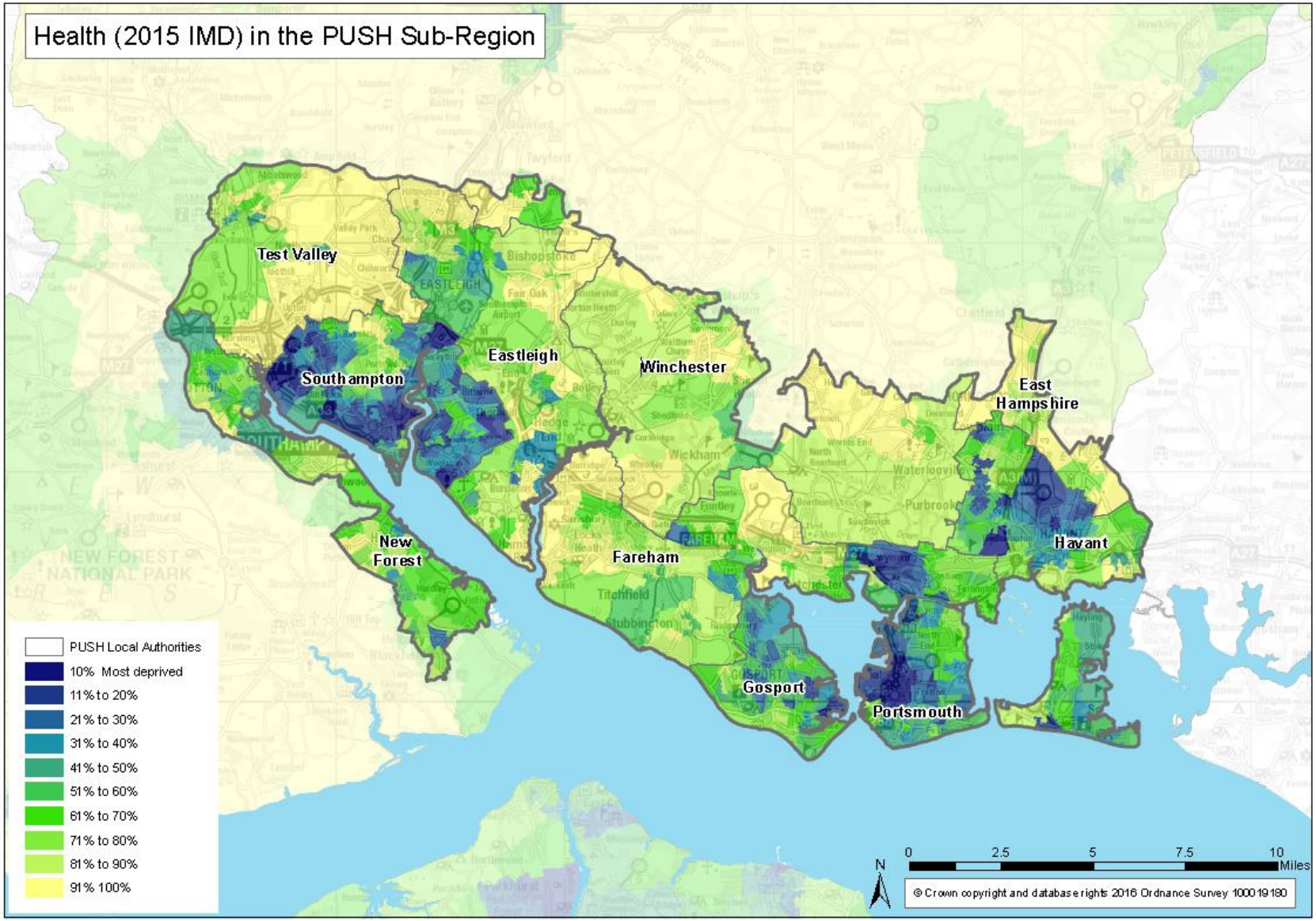
Health (2015 IMD) in the PUSH Sub-Region
Test Valley
Eastleigh
Southampton
Winchester
East Hampshire
New Forest
Fareham
Havant
Gosport
Portsmouth
PUSH Local Authorities
10% Most deprived
11% to 20%
21% to 30%
31% to 40%
41% to 50%
51% to 60%
61% to 70%
71% to 80%
81% to 90%
91% 100%
N
0 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles
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Figure 5:

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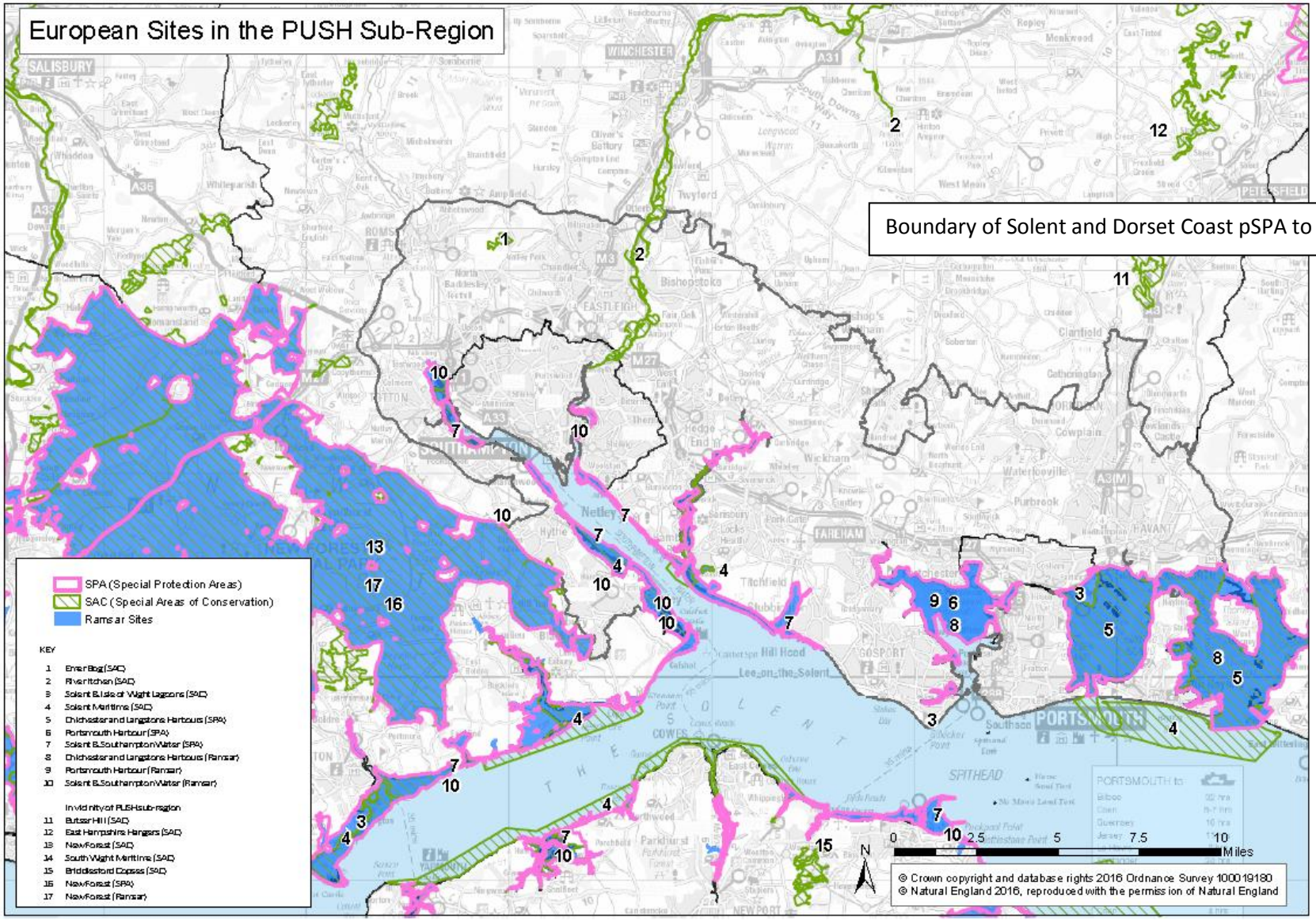
European Sites in the PUSH Sub-Region
Boundary of Solent and Dorset Coast pSPA to be added
SPA (Special Protection Areas)
SAC (Special Areas of Conservation)
Ramsar Sites
KEY
1 Emer Bog (SAC)
2 River Itchen (SAC)
3 Solent & Isle of Wight Lagoons (SAC)
4 Solent Maritime (SAC)
5 Chichester and Langstone Harbours (SPA)
6 Portsmouth Harbour (SPA)
7 Solent & Southampton Water (SPA)
8 Chichester and Langstone Harbours (Ramsar)
9 Portsmouth Harbour (Ramsar)
10 Solent & Southampton Water (Ramsar)
Invicinity of PUSH sub-region
11 Butser Hill (SAC)
12 East Hampshire Hangers (SAC)
13 New Forest (SAC)
14 South Wight Maritime (SAC)
15 Briddlesford Copses (SAC)
16 New Forest (SPA)
17 New Forest (Ramsar)
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
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Figure 6:

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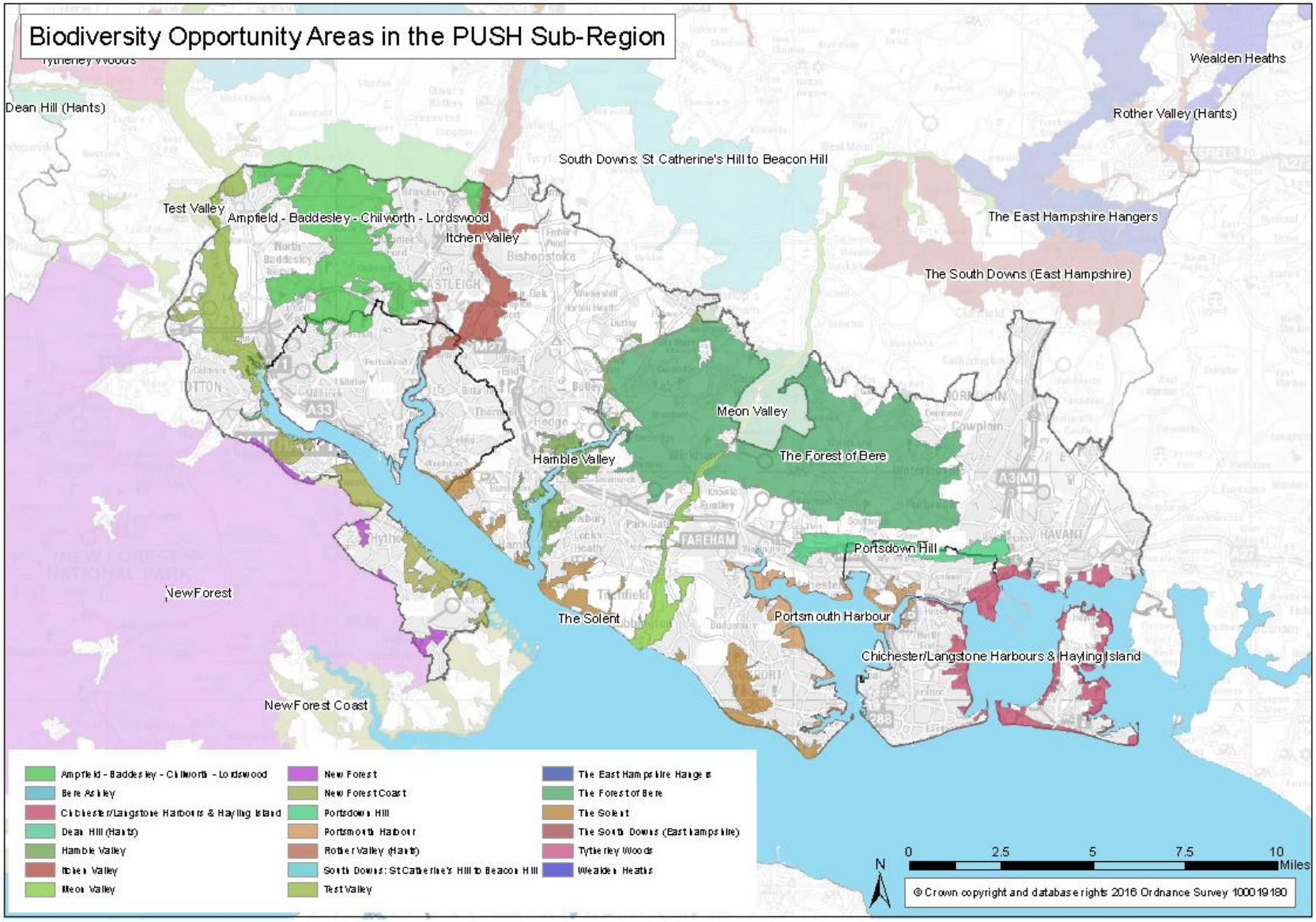
Biodiversity Opportunity Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region
Tytherley Woods
Dean Hill (Hants)
Wealden Heaths
Rother Valley (Hants)
South Downs: St Catherine's Hill to Beacon Hill
Test Valley
Ampfield - Baddesley - Chilworth - Lordswood
Itchen Valley
The East Hampshire Hangers
The South Downs (East Hampshire)
Meon Valley
Hamble Valley
The Forest of Bere
Portsdown Hill
New Forest
The Solent
Portsmouth Harbour
Chichester/Langstone Harbours & Hayling Island
New Forest Coast
Ampfield - Baddesley - Chilworth - Lordswood
Bere Ashley
Chichester/Langstone Harbours & Hayling Island
Dean Hill (Hants)
Hamble Valley
Itchen Valley
Meon Valley
New Forest
New Forest Coast
Portsdown Hill
Portsmouth Harbour
Rother Valley (Hants)
South Downs: St Catherine's Hill to Beacon Hill
Test Valley
The East Hampshire Hangers
The Forest of Bere
The Solent
The South Downs (East Hampshire)
Tytherley Woods
Wealden Heaths
N
0 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles
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Figure 7: LNP Recommended Ecological Network in the South Hampshire Sub-Region
(Map to be provided by LNP/Natural England?)

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Figure 8: ***(legend to be added for character area letters)***

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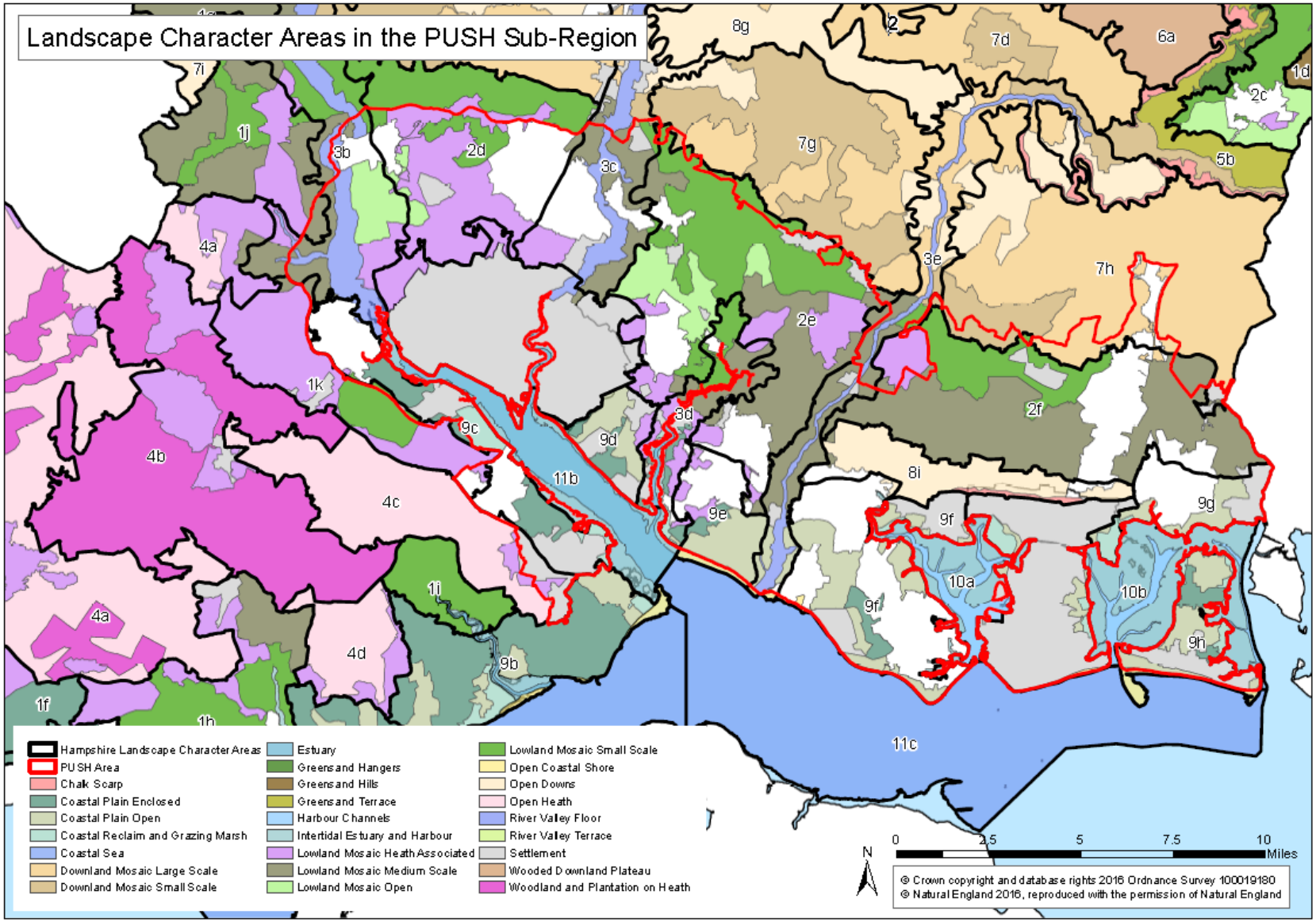
Landscape Character Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region
Hampshire Landscape Character Areas
PUSH Area
Chalk Scarp
Coastal Plain Enclosed
Coastal Plain Open
Coastal Reclaim and Grazing Marsh
Coastal Sea
Downland Mosaic Large Scale
Downland Mosaic Small Scale
Estuary
Greensand Hangers
Greensand Hills
Greensand Terrace
Harbour Channels
Intertidal Estuary and Harbour
Lowland Mosaic Heath Associated
Lowland Mosaic Medium Scale
Lowland Mosaic Open
Lowland Mosaic Small Scale
Open Coastal Shore
Open Downs
Open Heath
River Valley Floor
River Valley Terrace
Settlement
Wooded Downland Plateau
Woodland and Plantation on Heath
N
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
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Figure 9: ***(Labels to added on map)***

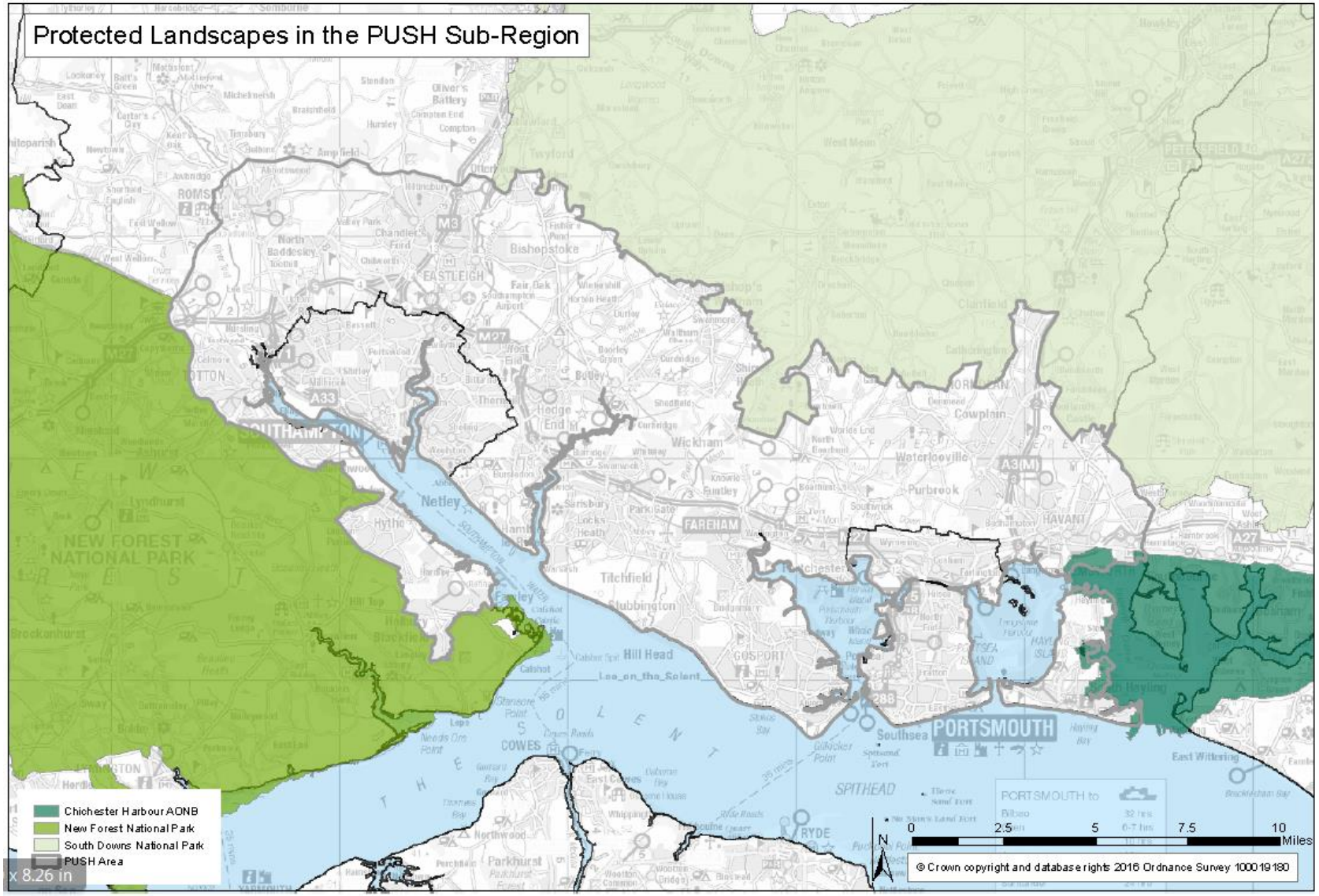

Figure 10:

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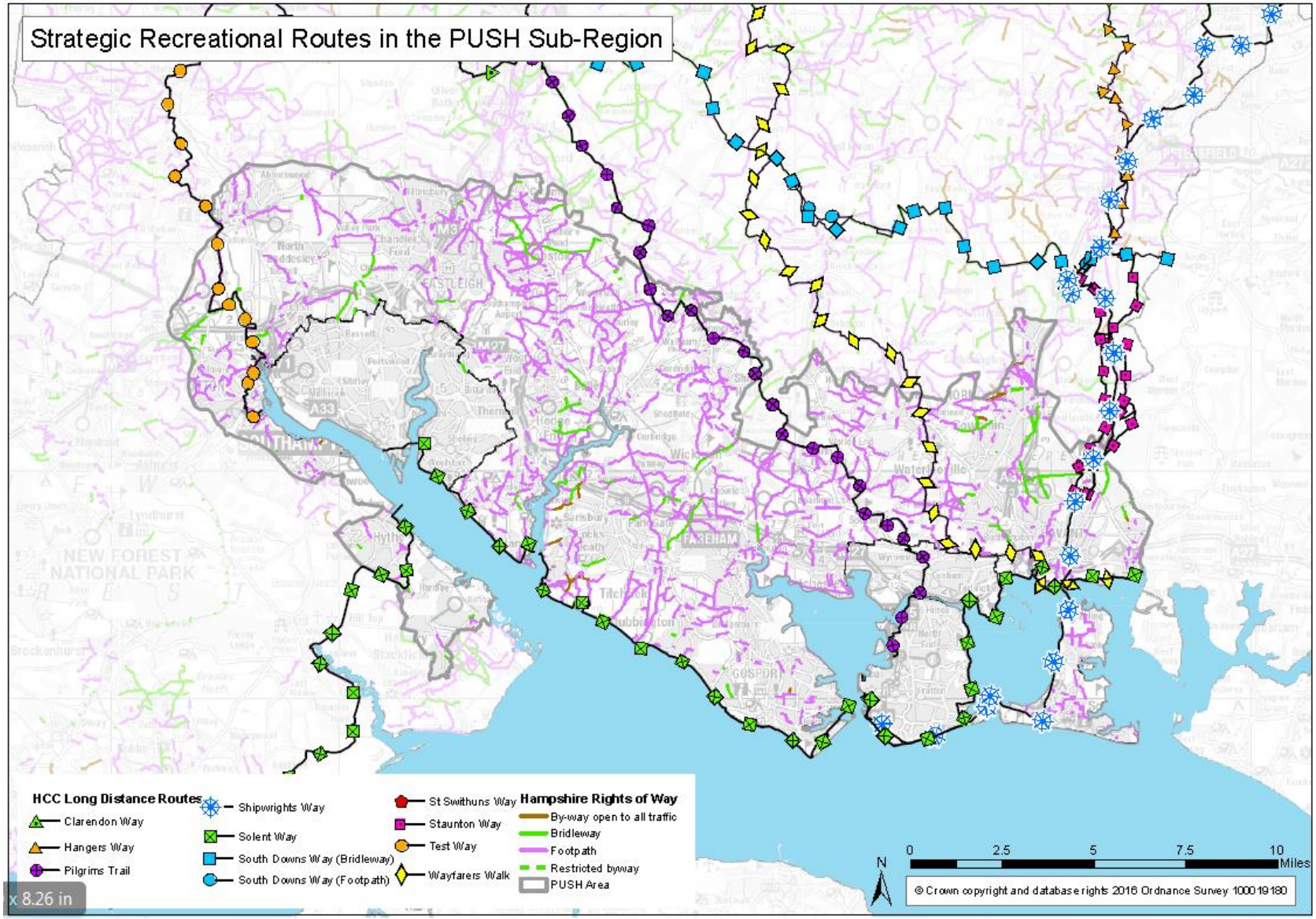
Strategic Recreational Routes in the PUSH Sub-Region
HCC Long Distance Routes
Clarendon Way
Hangers Way
Pilgrims Trail
Shipwrights Way
Solent Way
South Downs Way (Bridleway)
South Downs Way (Footpath)
St Swithuns Way
Staunton Way
Test Way
Wayfarers Walk
Hampshire Rights of Way
By-way open to all traffic
Bridleway
Footpath
Restricted byway
PUSH Area
N
0 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles
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x 8.26 in

Figure 11: ***(Site name labels to be added to map for principal sites. Also data to be updated)***

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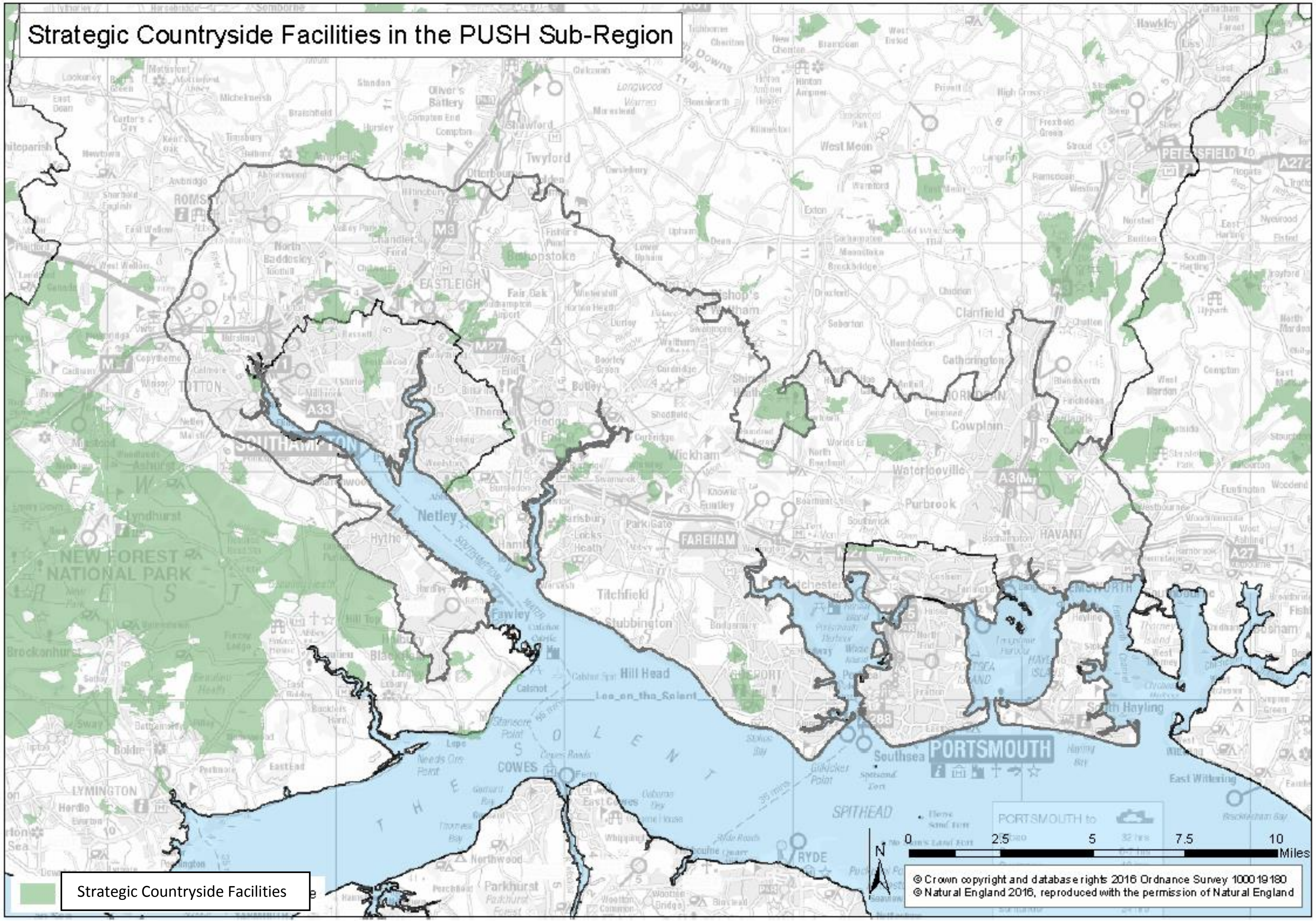
Strategic Countryside Facilities in the PUSH Sub-Region
Strategic Countryside Facilities
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
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SOUTHAMPTON
PORTSMOUTH
FAREHAM
EASTLEIGH
NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK
HAVANT
PETERSFIELD
COWES
RYDE
LYMINGTON

Figure 12:

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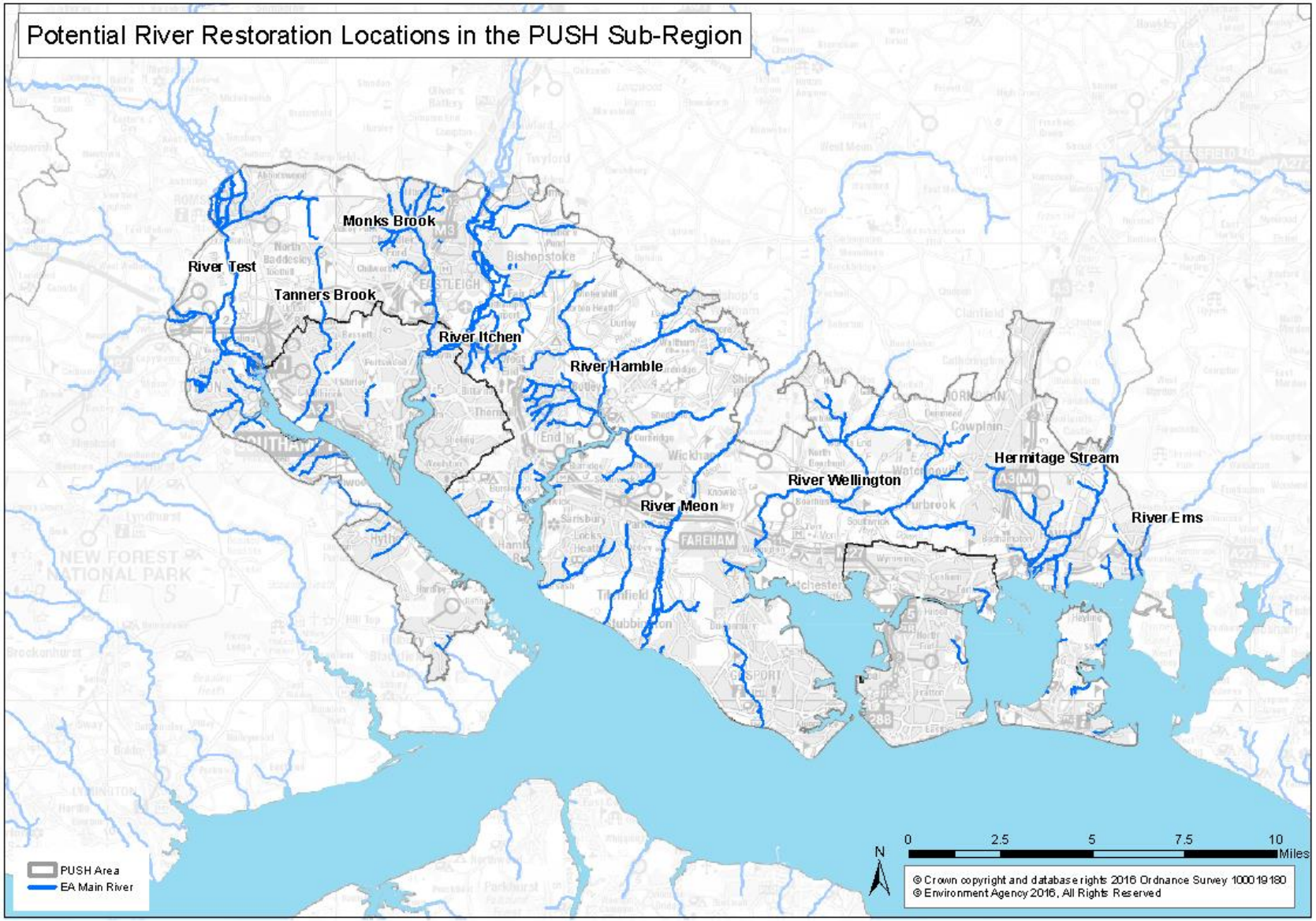
Potential River Restoration Locations in the PUSH Sub-Region
Monks Brook
River Test
Tanners Brook
River Itchen
River Hamble
River Wellington
River Meon
Hermitage Stream
River Ems
PUSH Area
EA Main River
N
0
2.5
5
7.5
10
Miles
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Figure 13:
River Water Quality and Catchment Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region – (awaiting data)

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Figure 14:

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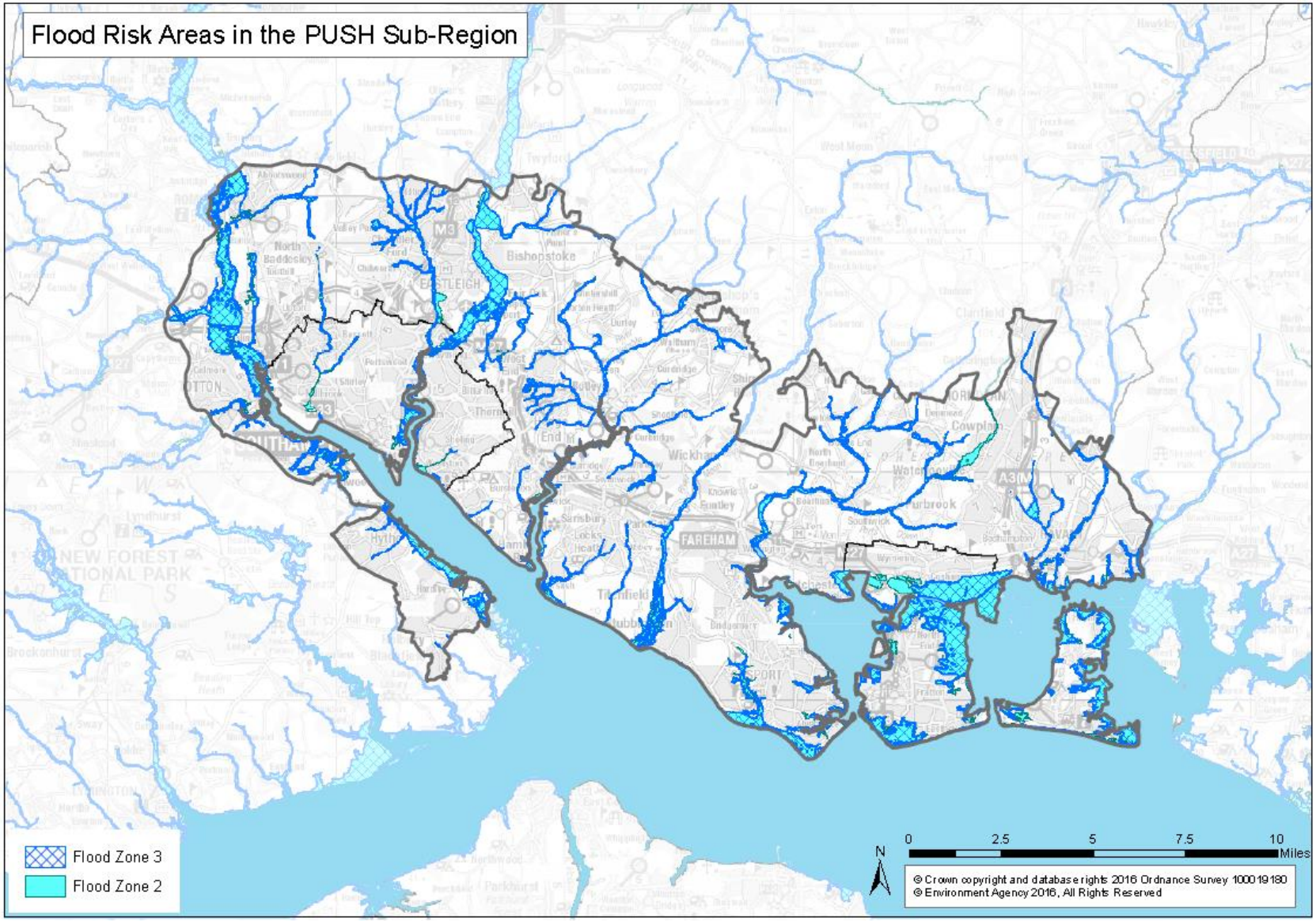
Flood Risk Areas in the PUSH Sub-Region
Flood Zone 3
Flood Zone 2
N
0
2.5
5
7.5
10
Miles
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Figure 15: ***(Need to incorporate updated data set)***

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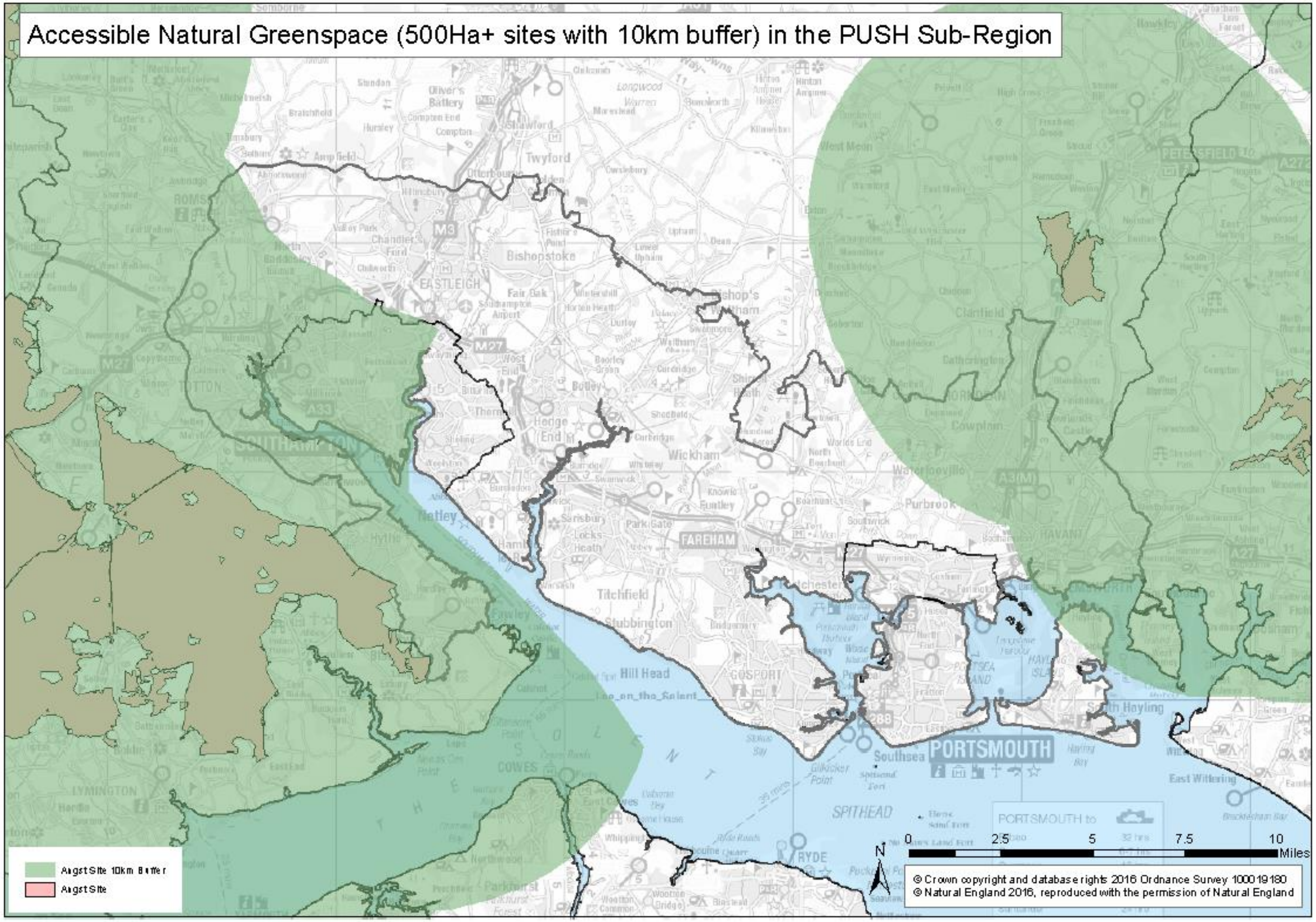
Accessible Natural Greenspace (500Ha+ sites with 10km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region
SOUTHAMPTON
PORTSMOUTH
FAREHAM
EASTLEIGH
GOSPORT
HAVANT
PETERSFIELD
Bishopstoke
Wickham
Waterlooville
Titchfield
Stubbington
Hill Head
Southsea
SPITHEAD
COWES
RYDE
LYMINGTON
South Hayling
East Wittering
0 2.5 5 7.5 10
Miles
N
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Angst Site 10km Buffer
Angst Site

Figure 16: ***(Need to incorporate updated data set)***

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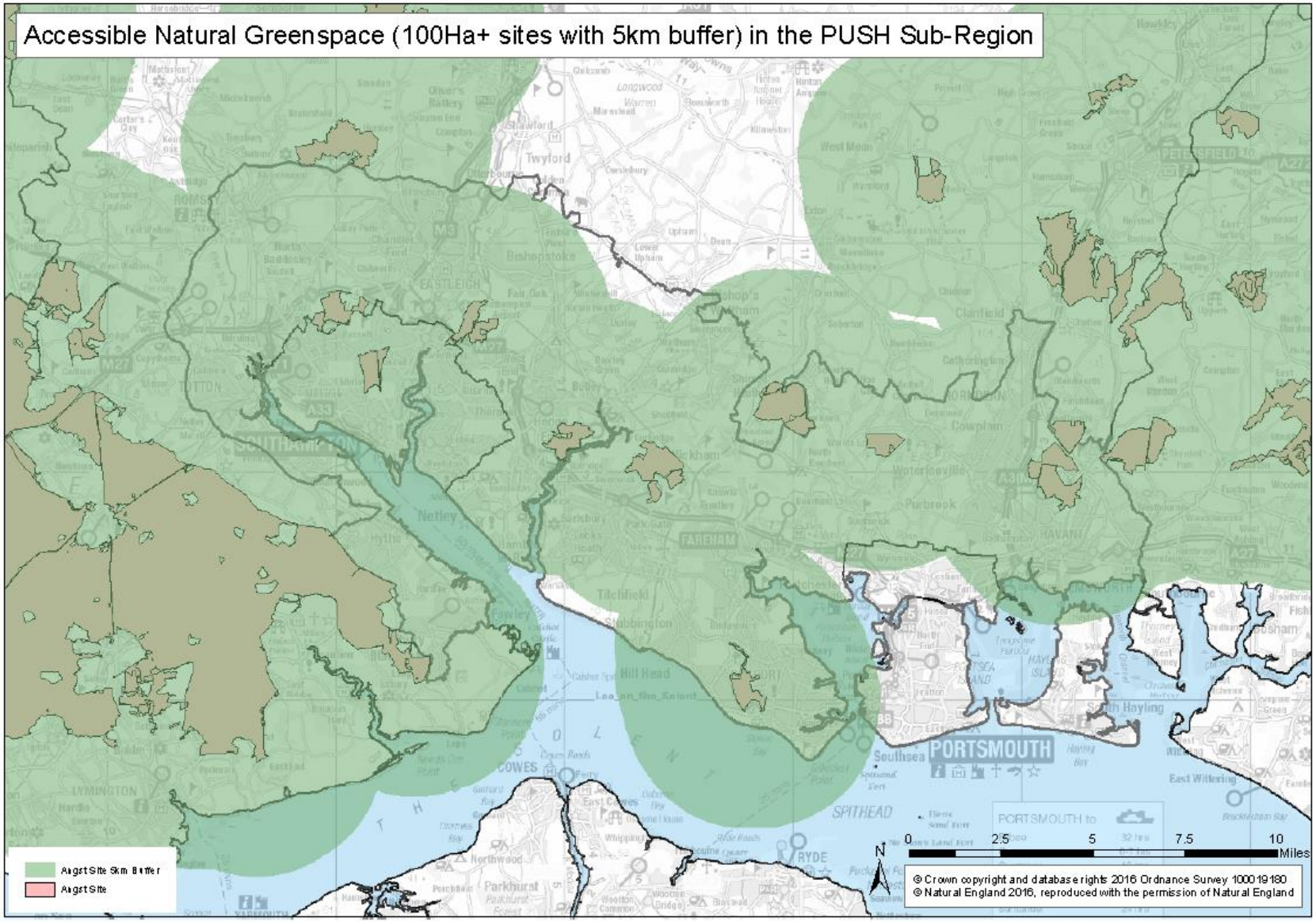
Accessible Natural Greenspace (100Ha+ sites with 5km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region
Augst Site 5km Buffer
Augst Site
PORTSMOUTH
Southsea
SPITHEAD
RYDE
FAREHAM
COWES
LYMINGTON
PORTSMOUTH to
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
N
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Figure 17: ***(Need to incorporate updated data set)***

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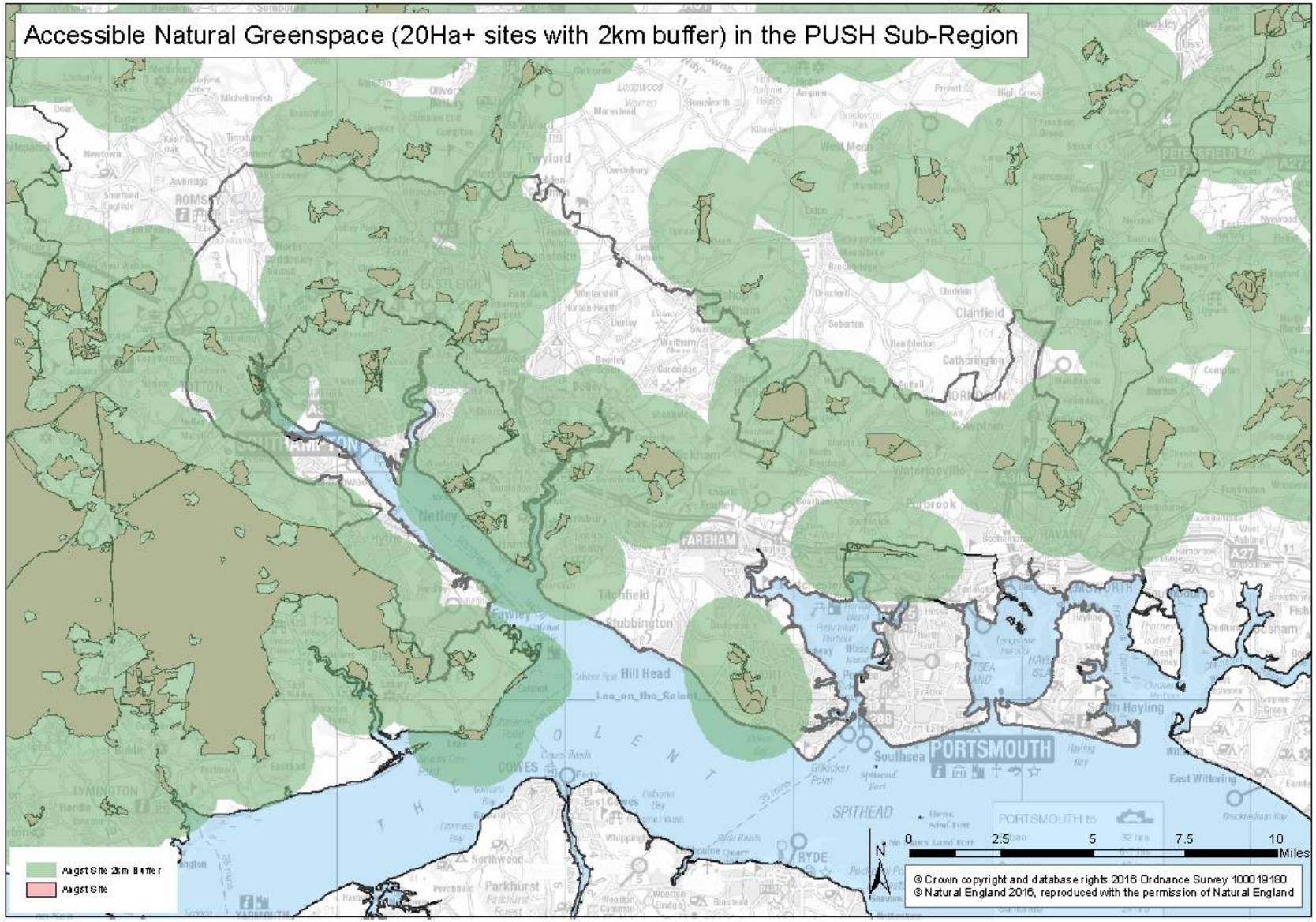
Accessible Natural Greenspace (20Ha+ sites with 2km buffer) in the PUSH Sub-Region
Angst Site 2km Buffer
Angst Site
0 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles
N
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Appendix 3: Named components of the green grid network

Special Areas of Conservation
Shortheath Common
Solent Maritime
New Forest
River Itchen
Butser Hill (in Queen Elizabeth Country Park)
Emer Bog (and Baddesley Common)

Special Protection Areas
Portsmouth Harbour
Chichester/Langstone Harbour
New Forest
Solent & Southampton Water

Ramsar Sites
Chichester & Langstone Harbours
Solent & Southampton Water
Portsmouth Harbour
New Forest

National Nature Reserves
Butser Hill (in Queen Elizabeth Country Park)
North Solent
Old Winchester Hill
Titchfield Haven

South Hampshire Coast
Chichester Harbour AONB
Langstone Harbour
Portsmouth Harbour

Rivers & Wildlife corridors
Itchen
Test
Hamble
Meon
Itchen Valley
Lower Test Valley

Recreation areas
Large areas of woodland
Southsea Seafront
Southampton Common
Forest of Bere
Stokes Bay
Lee on the Solent
Hayling Island seafront

Established Country Parks
Manor Farm
Itchen Valley
Royal Victoria
Staunton Country Park
Queen Elizabeth Country Park
Lepe Country Park
Lakeside Country Park

Strategic Rights of Way Network & National Cycle Network Routes
South Downs Way
Route 23 Reading to Southampton via Basingstoke Eastleigh and Winchester
Route 24 Bath to Salisbury joining route 23 at Eastleigh
Route 2 the South Coast Route between Dover in Kent and St Austell in Cornwall via Hayling Island, Portsmouth, Gosport, Southampton and the New Forest

Long Distance Footpaths
Solent Way 60 mile long distance footpath
Test Way 44 mile long distance footpath
Itchen way 30 mile
Shipwrights Way 50 miles
Meon Valley Trail
Proposed Coastal Path

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Appendix 4: Review of relevant programmes / plans / strategies / assessments

Plan / programme / strategy / assessment	Actions / targets
Strategic / Planning	
PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016	The PUSH Spatial Position Statement seeks to "*deliver sustainable, economic-led growth and regeneration to create a more prosperous, attractive South Hampshire and the Isle of Wight offering a better quality of life for everyone who lives, works and spends their leisure time here*." The Spatial Position Statement acknowledges the importance of green infrastructure in achieving this vision. The four key ambitions of the Spatial Position Statement, as follows: • Sustainable Economic Growth; • Protecting Our Natural Environment; • Bringing Benefits to Local Communities; • Good Quality Places to Live and Work. The Spatial Position Statement and the GI Strategy should continue to evolve iteratively so that new development is integrated with existing and proposed green infrastructure. Weblink: http://www.push.gov.uk/work/planning-and-infrastructure/push_spatial_position_statement_to_2034-2.htm
Sustainability Appraisal of the PUSH Spatial Strategy May 2016	The Spatial Position Statement is not considered a plan or programme under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations, however in order to demonstrate PUSH's commitment to sustainable development a Sustainability Assessment (SA) exercise was undertaken in accordance with Best Practice. The assessment shows that the Policy G1 'Green Infrastructure' performs well against the majority of the SA Objectives, and overall is a positive policy. Weblink: http://www.push.gov.uk/work/planning-and-infrastructure/push_spatial_position_statement_to_2034-2.htm
Hampshire County Council: Hampshire Local Transport Plan 2011- 2031 (2011)	The third Local Transport Plan for the Hampshire sets out the County's transport strategy for the period 2011- 2031. The vision of the Hampshire LTP for the southern region of Hampshire is: "A resilient, cost effective, fully-integrated sub-regional transport network, enabling economic growth whilst protecting and enhancing health, quality of life and environment" To deliver this vision, the key objectives of the LTP3 are as follows: • Reduced dependence on the private car through an increased number of people choosing public transport and the 'active travel' modes of walking and cycling; • Improved awareness of the different travel options available to people for their journeys, enabling informed choices about whether people travel, and how; • Improved journey time reliability for all modes; • Improved road safety within the sub-region; • Improved accessibility within and beyond the sub-region; • Improved air quality and environment, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and • Promoting a higher quality of life. Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/local-transport-plan.htm
Hampshire Waste and Minerals	The Hampshire Authorities (Hampshire County Council and its partner authorities -

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Plan (Adopted October 2013)	Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, New Forest National Park Authority and the South Downs National Park Authority) adopted the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (HMWP) on 15 October 2013. This replaces the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy which was adopted in July 2007 and the 'saved' policies from the Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Minerals and Waste Local Plan (1998). Policy 9 of the HMWP 2013: 'Restoration of minerals and waste developments' provides the opportunity to incorporate the following restoration aims: • Improved public access to the natural environment through the creation of enhanced access as well as leisure and amenity opportunities. This may include the creation of green spaces (such as parks, woods, etc), improvements to the strategic right of way network, provision of additional footpaths and cycle routes, provision of sites for other recreational uses and the provision of environmental education facilities; • Creation of habitats for wildlife and enhanced biodiversity to improve the natural environment, improve biodiversity and deliver biodiversity gains to degraded habitats, or help reverse the breakdown of habitats, as appropriate; • Contribute to local objectives for: o the provision of green infrastructure……. Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/mineralsandwaste/planning-policy-home.htm
Local Plans	Local Plans are formal development plans that set out local planning policies and identify how land is used, determining what will be built and where, for each district, borough, unitary council or National Park area. Each of the PUSH local planning authorities, including the adjacent South Downs National Park Authority and the New Forest National Park Authority have, or in the process of reviewing/preparing, a Local Plan. The Habitat Regulation Assessments (HRA) for each of the local plans are described below.
Health and Wellbeing	
Hampshire Healthy Weight Strategy 2015-2019	The aims of the strategy are: • To increase the proportion of adults in Hampshire who are of a healthy weight; • To increase the proportion of children in Hampshire who are of a healthy weight; • To reduce the proportion of adults and children in Hampshire who are obese. Priority actions include: • Provide and promote accessible outdoor spaces, including paths, open spaces and green spaces (Key Output: Capital infrastructure projects connect outside spaces to populations. Physical infrastructure programmes linked to behaviour change initiatives particularly in areas of greatest need); and • Develop new and improve existing routes for walking and cycling focusing on areas of greatest need where resources are available (Key Output: Increased levels of physical activity levels especially in those living in areas of deprivation). Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/healthyweights
Hampshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2018	Hampshire's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy has been developed by Hampshire's Health and Wellbeing Board to improve health across the county. Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/healthandwellbeing/healthandwellbeing-board-info.htm
Landscape	
New Forest National Park Management Plan 2015-2020	Statutory Management Plan for the New Forest National Park prepared and published by the National Park Authority, with considerable input from partner organisations. The plan sets out an overall vision, objectives and a series of actions to achieve the national park purposes and duty in the New Forest.

	Weblink: http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/info/20016/our_work/81/management_plan
South Downs National Park Partnership Management Plan 2014-2019	Statutory Management Plan for the South Downs National Park, prepared and published by the National Park Authority, with considerable input from partner organisations. The plan sets out an overall vision, objectives and a series of actions to achieve the national park purposes and duty in the South Downs. Weblink: https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/national-park-authority/our-work/key-documents/partnership-management-plan/
Chichester Harbour AONB Management Plan (2014-2019)	Statutory Management Plan for the Chichester Harbour AONB, prepared and published by the Chichester Harbour Conservancy on behalf of the constituent local authorities, which includes the PUSH authorities – Hampshire County Council and Havant Borough Council. The plan sets out an overall vision, objectives and a series of actions to achieve the AONB purpose and duty of regard in the AONB. Weblink: http://www.conservancy.co.uk/page/management-plan/307/
Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment (2012)	The Hampshire Integrated Character Assessment provides a baseline description and characterisation of the County, including 23 of the larger settlements and the waters of the Solent and Southampton Water. Evaluation of the key qualities of each character area and the forces for change impacting on them provides the springboard for the development of indicators of landscape change. Townscape character assessment provides a framework for town access planning. Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/landscape-and-heritage/hampshire-integrated-character-assessment.htm
District Level Landscape Character Assessments, including South Downs National Park, New Forest National Park and Chichester Harbour AONB	South Downs Integrated Landscape Character Assessment (2011) (Weblink: https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/planning-advice/landscape/) New Forest National Park Landscape Character Assessment (2015) (Weblink: http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/info/20096/unspoilt_landscape/275/landscape_action_plan) Chichester Harbour AONB Landscape Character Assessment (2005) (Weblink: http://www.conservancy.co.uk/page/planning/365/) Test Valley Landscape Character Assessment Weblink: http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/tvlcp/ Fareham Borough Landscape Character Assessment 1996 (Weblink: http://www.fareham.gov.uk/planning/local_plan/character96.aspx) Havant Borough Landscape Character Assessment 2007 (Weblink: http://www.havant.gov.uk/evidence-base-studies/havant-borough-landscape-character-assessment-february-2007) East Hampshire Landscape Character Assessment (Weblink: http://www.easthants.gov.uk/planning-policy/landscape) Winchester District Landscape Character Assessment (Weblink: http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning/landscape---countryside/landscape-character-assessment/) Eastleigh Borough Landscape Character Assessment 2011 (Weblink: https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/planning-building/planning-policy-and-implementation/local-plan/draft-local-plan/local-plan-maps-evidence-base/local-plan-supporting-evidence-base/land-character-assessment.aspx) Landscape Character Assessment – Portsea Island Coastal Defence Flood Risk Areas 2012 (Weblink: https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/development-and-

	planning/planning/seafront-masterplan.aspx)
Biodiversity	
Strategic Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) of the South Hampshire Strategy. Interim. May 2016	The PUSH Spatial Position Statement has been subject to a Strategic Habitats Regulations Assessment in order to assess the potential for the Strategy to cause adverse effect on European Designated Sites (RAMSAR/SPA/SAC). The 11 policies that comprise the Spatial Position Statement were assessed at a strategic level. Given that the aim of the Spatial Position Statement is to promote new development and deliver a c.100,000 increase in dwellings up to 2034, there is considerable potential for these proposals to negatively affect protected sites. The nature of the policies and strategies also means that they have considerable likelihood of generating in-combination effects. Key potential impacts include increased nutrient levels in protected water as a result of increased WwTW discharge, risk of habitat fragmentation (with respect to Brent Geese and wading birds), recreational disturbance as a result of developmental pressures, and air quality issues as a result of increased traffic. The following European Sites were identified as needing further assessment as a result of the likely significant impacts: • Chichester and Langstone Harbour; • Emer Bog; • Portsmouth Harbour; • River Itchen; • Solent and Southampton Water; • Solent and Isle of Wight Lagoons; • Solent Maritime; • Butser Hill • New Forest. The HRA concludes that the Green Infrastructure policy (Policy G1) may have a positive impact on recreational pressure and disturbance, water resources and abstraction, water quality, coastal squeeze, climate change, land-take and habitat fragmentation, tall buildings, hydrological pressures and nutrient enrichment. • Through this policy PUSH aim to protect and enhance the integrity, quality, connectivity and multi-functionality of existing green infrastructure. This policy can guide mitigation measures to ensure buildings will not block flight paths for birds. • The policy aims to provide recreational opportunities within development locations which will reduce the impact on existing European Designated Sites. The policy does not mention plans to provide carbon off-setting as a mitigation measure to enhance air quality within the area; this is something to consider during the detailed design stage. • Rivers and streams provide valuable water sources. Through Green Infrastructure PUSH will promote the delivery of river and strategic wildlife corridors which are expected to improve the overall quality of the river. This aim will also positively impact the water quality within the area, thus reduce nutrient enrichment. • Green Infrastructure is a response to adapting to climate and change and holds strong values in enhancing sustainability and human well-being. The policy strongly influences habitat fragmentation because the policy works closely alongside the PUSH Green Infrastructure • Strategy 2016. The Green Infrastructure seeks to connect habitats in order to reduce habitat fragmentation. Weblink: http://www.push.gov.uk/work/planning-and-infrastructure/push_spatial_position_statement_to_2034-2.htm
East Hampshire District Local Plan HRA	The new East Hampshire District Council Local Plan (2014) will replace the Local Plan (2006) and will guide development to 2028. Within the National Park the Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy will be superseded by the South Downs National Park Local Plan. This plan will be delivered and developed alongside the Sustainable Community Strategy. The Local Plan: Joint Strategy sets out development guidance as well as providing a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and a Habitat

	Regulations Assessment (HRA). The Joint Strategy provides a response to; sustainable development, sustainable communities, natural and built environment and transport and access. The strategy has defined a policy in which recommends that any new housing located within 400 metres for the Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA will be required to carry out a project-specific HRA as part of the planning process application. The Council and National Planning Authority have implemented a 500m boundary from any Special Area of Conservation (SAC), unless the effects are unlikely to be significant. The East Hampshire District Plan: Joint Core Strategy Pre-Submission provided a Habitat Regulations Assessment – Appropriate Assessment (AA) Report in February 2012. The Joint Core Strategy was subject to screening during 2007 in order to confirm that an Appropriate Assessment would be required, since significant effects on European sites could not be described as 'unlikely'. As a result of screening during 2007, 22 European Sites were identified within the scope of the HRA. Following further examination the Singleton and Cocking Tunnels SAC, Rook Clift SAC, Kingley Vale SAC, Ebernoe Common SAC and the Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar were excluded from further consideration within the HRA. Air quality, water quality, recreational disturbances and water resources were identified within the AA as having significant effects on the European Designated Sites. Weblink: http://www.easthants.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan
Eastleigh Borough Local Plan HRA	The Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2011-2029 (revised pre-submission, February 2014) is a consultation on the draft local plan. Consultation was undertaken between October 2013 and December 2013. This updated plan is prepared in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which enables the delivery of sustainable development. An HRA for the Draft EBLP 2011-2036 will be available in the autumn of 2017. The HRA assesses the River Itchen SAC, Emer Bog SAC, Mottisfont Bats SAC and the New Forest SAC, SPA and Ramsar Site. The outcome from the assessment states that there is unlikely to be any significant effect for each site even though likely significant impacts such as recreational disturbance and air quality were identified. The HRA has been updated accordingly in accordance with the issues raised during the March 2014 consultation. The main update refers to the New Forest SAC/SPA/Ramsar designation which concludes that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the site as a result of delivering Forest Park. It must be noted that this HRA is outdated as a result of Eastleigh Borough Council proposing the development of more houses. The increase in housing will require an updated HRA to support the changes to the borough. The concluding statement taken from the Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report states: "*It can be concluded that the Revised Pre-submission Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2011-2029 will contain an adequate policy framework to enable the delivery of measures to avoid or adequately mitigate effects on European sites. No likely significant effects would therefore result*." Weblink: https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/media/30160/ppi_GI_BP_updateOct2014.pdf Also Refer to HRA for Issues and Options December 2015: https://my.eastleigh.gov.uk/media/180204/Eastleigh-Issues-and-Options-draft-HRA-v3-final_SF.PDF
Fareham Borough Local Plan HRA	The Fareham Core Strategy (2011) is an integral part of the Fareham Local Development Framework and will help to deliver the spatial elements of Fareham's Sustainable Community Strategy. Fareham have adopted the following assessments to assist the 2011 Core Strategy – Habitats Regulations Assessment

	for the Fareham Borough Council Development Sites and Policies Plan (Screening Statement, October 2012); Habitat Regulations Assessment for the Fareham Borough Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites and Policies Plan (Appropriate Assessment Report, January 2014); Habitats Regulations Assessment for the New Community North of Fareham Plan (Screening Statement, April 2013) 10 and Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Welborne Plan (Appropriate Assessment Report). The Fareham Borough Local Plan Part 2 Appropriate Assessment report identified a range of possible impacts during construction and operation including habitat loss due to the location/footprint of development; construction noise; construction activity; aquatic/atmospheric pollution during remediation, demolition or construction; disturbance due to increased activity; and displacement due to shortened view lines. The conclusions of the Welborne Appropriate Assessment suggest that there will be no adverse effects on the ecological integrity of the Butser Hill SAC, New Forest SAC/Ramsar, New Forest SPA, River Itchen SAC, Solent Maritime SAC (with regards to air pollution), Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA/Ramsar. There is currently uncertainty regarding the potential for wastewater treatment and discharge impacts on the Solent Maritime SAC. There is uncertainty regarding the potential for wastewater treatment and discharge impacts on the Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar. In summary, it was concluded that adverse effects on the ecological integrity of European sites in and around the borough and capable of being mitigated. Weblink: http://www.fareham.gov.uk/planning/local_plan/intro.aspx
Gosport Borough Local Plan HRA	The Gosport Borough Local Plan 2011-2029 was adopted by Gosport Borough Council on 14th October 2015. The report identifies key proposals in identifying land use and provides detailed policies and guidance in terms of planning applications. The Plan is accompanies the statutory development plan for the Gosport area. The HRA screening was undertaken in 2009, 14 European designated sites were identified. Gosport represents a sensitive area to likely significant affects as a result of air pollution, disturbance from recreation, flood risk, coastal squeeze, water abstraction and consumption, and waste water pollution. Briddlesford Copses SAC was screened out for further assessment. Weblink: http://www.gosport.gov.uk/sections/your-council/council-services/planning-section/local-development-framework/gosport-borough-local-plan-2029/
Havant District Local Plan HRA	The Havant Borough Core Strategy, adopted in March 2011 has not undergone any changes since the publication of the HRA-lite. The Core Strategy provides guidance and policies in planning development within the area up to 2026. It provides guidance for appropriate housing location as well as other associated economic and social factors. The strategy takes into account how development will be implemented mindful of the environment. The HRA and AA were updated for the Havant Borough in September 2013. Five sites were identified as forming the basis of the AA; Chichester and Langstone SPA, Portsmouth Harbour SPA, Portsmouth Harbour Ramsar, Solent Maritime SAC and Solent and Southampton Water SPA. The Solent Maritime SAC was subject to the effects of coastal squeeze and consequent habitat loss to which are being mitigated through the Solent Shoreline Management Plan. The remaining sites were considered the loss of supporting habitat and recreational disturbance associated with new development as being of likely significance. Appropriate mitigation and avoidance have been proposed to reduce the likeliness of these effects. Enhancement and mitigation are included in Allocation Plans through policies DM23 and DM24. Overall, the AA identified likely significant effects associated from recreation and potential loss of supporting habitat for European Sites. No residual adverse effects will follow as a result of the mitigation measures implemented.

	Weblink: http://www.havant.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-policy/local-plan-core-strategy
Portsmouth Plan HRA	The Portsmouth Plan adopted in 2012 provides a Core Strategy to the area and subsequently has made no changes in its guidance or policies since the publication of the HRA-lite. This plan illustrates the future vision for the development of Portsmouth up until 2027 and identifies key areas suitable for future development. HRA screening was undertaken in 2008 and a subsequent update was published throughout the submission stage in July 2011. The HRA identified 11 European Designated Sites within Portsmouth whilst addressing the likely significant effects to be; atmospheric pollution; disturbance from recreational pressures and tall buildings, flood risk and coastal squeeze; habitat loss and/or damage; light pollution; other effects of urbanisation; water abstraction and consumption; and waste water pollution. The HRA identified no adverse effects to be associated with water abstraction and waste water pollution. There may be some likely impacts associated with the remaining effects. Mitigation and avoidance measures were recommended as discussed with Natural England. It was recommended that any impacts linked to the Core Strategy could be mitigated with appropriate measures in place. Weblink: https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/development-and-planning/planning/the-portsmouth-plan.aspx
Southampton Local Plan HRA	The Southampton adapted Core Strategy was amended in 2015. The Core Strategy is one of the plans that make up the adopted plan providing a framework and guidance for future development until 2026. The Regional Economic Strategy, South East Plan, PUSH Business Plan and Strategies, Solent Transport Strategy, Transport for South Hampshire Business Plan and Multi Area Agreement all feed into the Core Strategy. The Habitat Regulations Assessment for the Southampton Local Plan was produced in July 2015. This assessment did not include a screening report but did identify the following impacts to be of concern to Southampton; atmospheric pollution; flood risk and coastal squeeze; effluent discharge; water demand; recreational disturbance; site-specific habitat loss or degradation; and collision risk, light, noise and vibration. The Southampton Local Flood Risk Management Strategy produced a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening report in October 2014. The designated sites within Southampton are as follows; New Forest SPA/SAC/Ramsar; Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar and the River Itchen SAC. The impacts identified related to the Flood risk management within the area and as such the following actions included; implementation of existing flood risk management plans and strategies; improve existing drainage infrastructure and retrofitting SuDS schemes. The HRA screening undertaken in 2008 identified twelve European Designated Sites with potential to be affected by the outcomes of the Core Strategy. Weblink: https://www.southampton.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/
Test Valley Local Plan HRA	The Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan DPD - 2011 - 2029 was adopted in January 2016.The document sets out a vision for the future development for the Borough. It includes the core objectives which underpin the Strategy together with policies and proposals. The HRA has been updated to suit the Revised Local Plan DPD for 2011 – 2029. The assessment has identified 11 European Designated Sites within or surrounding Test Valley. Disturbance, air quality, effluent discharge and water availability and habitat loss and degradation have been identified as having a likely significant impact on the European Designated Sites. The uncertainty surrounding the likely impacts will require further assessment. Weblink:

	http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/local-development-framework/dpd/
Winchester Local Plan HRA	The Local Plan Part 1 Joint Core Strategy was adopted in 2013 to provide strategic guidance, key objectives and policies in order to achieve sustainable development until 2031. The strategies presented within the Core Strategy project the amount of development feasible for Winchester. The screening process of the HRA was undertaken in June 2012 identifying eleven European Designated Sites within the local authority boundary that could be affected by the proposed Core Strategy. Butser Hill, East Hampshire Hangers and Emer Bog were screened out of the assessment having unlikely significant impacts. The remaining European Designated Sites may be subject to adverse effects including air quality, water quality, water resources, disturbance and loss/degradation of habitats. However, once assessed these adverse impacts could be avoided through means of mitigation measures. Weblink: http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan-part-1/
Interim Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy (SRMS) December 2014	The substantial amount of housebuilding which is planned around the Solent could have potential impacts on the SPAs. One of these potential impacts is increased recreational activity at the coast resulting from population increases associated with the new homes. Extensive research has quantified this impact and recommended measures – known as 'mitigation measures' – to ensure that the additional recreational activity would not result in harm to the SPAs. This document summarises the background research, sets out the interim mitigation measures, explains how they will be funded and describes how their implementation will be monitored. The aim is to finalise the definitive strategy by 2017. Weblink: http://www.birdaware.org/
New Forest District Outside the National Park Mitigation Strategy for European Sites SPD Adopted June 2014	This document provides supplementary planning guidance to the adopted New Forest District Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management development plan document. It gives detailed guidance on the implementation of policy DM3: Mitigation of impacts on European nature conservation sites. Weblink: http://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/15454/Mitigation-Strategy-for-European-Sites
Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy 2010	The principle aim of this Strategy is to inform decisions relating to strategic planning as well as individual development proposals, to ensure that sufficient feeding and roosting resources continue to be available and the integrity of the network of sites is restored and maintained, in order to ensure the survival of these coastal bird populations. The underlying principle is to, wherever possible, conserve extant sites and to create new sites, enhancing the quality and extent of the feeding and roosting resource. The strategy is currently undergoing revision and update. Weblink: http://tinyurl.com/nqeltgl
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership (LNP)	The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership was established in 2012 and is one of 48 strategic local nature partnerships formed in England following publication of the 2011 Natural Environment White Paper. The high level priorities of the Hampshire and Wight LNP are to: • Protect and improve the natural environment on land and at sea – creating bigger, better and more joined up places for nature – in line with the vision and recommendations of Sir John Lawton's Making Space for Nature report. • Promote a sustainable green economy – in which economic prosperity and the health of our natural resources sustain each other.

	• Reconnect people and nature – strengthening the connections between people and nature and improving the health of both. • Promote the need to invest in nature for the many benefits and ecosystem services it provides and to put its value at the heart of decision making right across the two counties. Weblink: https://hantswightlnp.wordpress.com/
GI Planning / Access / Recreation / Projects	
Draft South Downs Green Infrastructure Framework (2016)	This Framework sets out a roadmap for green infrastructure planning for the South Downs National Park and the wider region. It sets out to bridge the divide between urban and rural areas, making new GI connections and bringing greater understanding of the GI synergies and interactions between them. The aim of the Framework is to create, protect and enhance a connected network of green and blue spaces; which sustainably meet the needs of local communities and supports the special qualities of the South Downs National Park; by achieving a consensus about the strategic principles for planning, delivery and management of green infrastructure. The aims and objectives of the Framework will be achieved in part by engagement with those authorities within or bordering the National Park under the Duty to Cooperate. Weblink: https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning/planning-advice/south-downs-green-infrastructure-framework-informal-consultation/
Isle of Wight Green Infrastructure Mapping Study 2010	This Green Infrastructure Mapping Study was commissioned as a three part process towards developing a Green Infrastructure Strategy for the Isle of Wight. The first stage was a PPG17 compliant Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study which assessed the quality, value, quantity and accessibility of all publicly accessible open space and determined what local needs were in relation to open space provision on the Island. This report is summarised within this study. The second stage was a mapping study of all Green Infrastructure assets for the Island, from a strategic level to a local level. The Island is well endowed with a wide range of Green Infrastructure assets, from international designations, to a large AONB, which covers most of the Island, to its wealth of parks, gardens, play areas and green spaces at local level. This study examines all assets across the whole Island to assess what exists, its location, the level of designation, as well as quality of provision. It also seeks to establish any deficiencies and potential opportunities that may exist. (Weblink: https://www.iwight.com/Residents/Environment-Planning-and-Waste/Planning-Policy-new/Island-Plan-Documents/Key-Background-Documents)
BP38a – New Forest District (Outside the National Park) Green Infrastructure Strategy – Draft for purposes of public consultation – January to March 2011	The Core Strategy (adopted October 2009) provides the planning framework for the New Forest District (outside of the National Park) to 2026. The amount of development proposed in the area during this period is very limited, but the high number of internationally protected nature conservation sites in and close to the area means that mitigation of the impacts of residential development is required. Policy CS7 (Open Space Sport and Recreation) of the Core Strategy states that one of the ways in which the aims of the Core Strategy will be met is through the creation of green infrastructure strategies, at both the sub-regional and local levels. This Green Infrastructure Strategy builds on the PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy 2010, using the general definitions and approach and applying it across the Plan Area. (Weblink: http://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/adobe/d/7/BP38a_DRAFT_Green_Infrastructure_Strategy.pdf)

New Forest Green Halo	A draft vision for the project is: "Working with partners and communities within and beyond the New Forest National Park to identify the benefits that can be realised from ecosystem services, and ensuring these are protected, promoted, developed and enhanced through a programme of projects and activities." By managing and enhancing natural capital all partners in the project can: • discharge part of our collective social responsibility; • create a better place to live, work and visit; and • establish a framework for managing growth sustainably. These will be essential components in shaping a sustainable future for the Park and surrounding communities, promoting sustainable development whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment and our natural capital.
A Green Infrastructure Strategy for Test Valley 2014-2019	The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a framework for maintaining and enhancing the natural environment of the Borough. The Council has in place or is developing detailed initiatives which address particular topics which include such as its Biodiversity Action Plan, Greenspace Strategy or more wide ranging policy documents such as the Borough Local Plan. It also has prepared and keeps under review other policy documents which are closely linked to GI including its Cycle Strategy which seeks to improve access to a range of facilities including greenspaces and the wider countryside. The GI Strategy will draw together all of these approaches and ensure that they are delivered in a co-ordinated way making best use of the resources available. The key aims of the Strategy are to: • enhance the biodiversity of the Borough • enhance the quality of the natural environment • maximise the opportunities for the public to enjoy the environment • support the Council's response to a changing climate • support the well being of the residents of the Borough • support the economic prosperity of the Borough. (Weblink: http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/draft-green-infrastructure/)
Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2011 – 2029 Background Paper GI1 Green Infrastructure Updated October 2014	This background paper reviews strategies and guidance for the provision of Green Infrastructure (GI) at the national, county sub-regional and local scale. It supports, informs and reflects the emerging Local Plan. The PUSH GI Strategy 2010 was used as the foundation from which the background paper translates sub-regional aims and objectives to the local level. This is achieved through reviewing existing green infrastructure, considering future needs and identifying objectives and enhancements to be delivered through projects to improve existing provision and meet any deficits and gaps. A GI Strategy for the borough is in preparation. (Weblink: https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/media/30160/ppi_GI_BP_updateOct2014.pdf)
Eastleigh Borough Green Infrastructure Strategy	Currently in preparation.
Winchester District Green Infrastructure (GI) Study (May 2010) Winchester District Green Infrastructure Strategy	The purpose of this study is to provide the basis for a clear and deliverable strategy for retaining, enhancing and enlarging Green Infrastructure (GI) assets within the Winchester District, over the period up to 2026. It is intended to provide evidence for the various components of the Winchester District Development Framework (LDF). (Weblink: http://www.winchester.gov.uk/search?qsq=gi+study) Currently in preparation
Green Infrastructure for Fareham	The Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy sets out the Council's approach to

Borough September 2014	identifying existing GI and considering what potential enhancements or new provision could be made across the Borough. It provides an implementation plan for each of the GI projects identified and sets out the potential funding opportunities, key delivery partner and stakeholders and outline project timetable. The GI Strategy builds on the sub-regional GI work undertaken by PUSH and consolidates all GI related projects identified in other evidence and policy documents (see Appendix A for the list of supporting documents that have informed the production of this Strategy) produced by the Council, its partners and neighbouring authorities. The Strategy has been written as part of the evidence-base to support the Fareham Borough Local Plan and to ensure that future development facilitates multi-functionality and connectivity of green space in line with the objective of the Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy. (Weblink: http://www.fareham.gov.uk/search/search.aspx?q=gi%20strategy)
East Hampshire District Council Green Infrastructure Strategy 2011-2028	This Strategy focuses on the green infrastructure that lies between and links with settlements and builds on the work of the East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Study of 2011. It also sits alongside the Whitehill & Bordon Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011), developed for the Eco-town, and links with the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010). The Strategy assesses the existing green infrastructure of East Hampshire, identifies where there are gaps in provision and explores opportunities to improve the green infrastructure network. The analysis of evidence and recommendations extends beyond East Hampshire's boundaries into the South Downs National Park and neighbouring districts, providing a more complete picture of the green infrastructure resource and identifying opportunities for developing the network and partnership working. Weblink: http://tinyurl.com/joavfvy
Green infrastructure Study for Havant Borough Council February 2012	Havant Borough Council commissioned this study to provide detailed evidence that contributed to the development of the Allocations DPD, adopted in 2012. The study builds on the adopted Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (June 2010), analysing the provision and need for green infrastructure at the Havant local level. This report forms a study of existing GI provision in the borough, an assessment of need and a suite of recommendations to address deficiencies at the sub-borough level. It reviews the current policy framework within which GI can be delivered and sets out the means by which delivery may be achieved. (Weblink: http://www.havant.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Updated%20GI%20study%20June%2012.pdf)
An Assessment of Green Infrastructure for Hampshire County (Draft 2013)	A suite of GI maps prepared to inform emerging district level GI strategies.
Draft Wiltshire GI Strategy	Currently in preparation.
PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)	The purpose of this Strategy, which is now superseded by this strategy, was to identify existing green infrastructure, consider what enhancements or introductions should be made, and to recommend how the Strategy might be delivered. The aims of the strategy were to: • Identify sub-regional strategic initiatives and project proposals to provide a high quality of life for the people who live and work in the sub-region. • Seek to maximise multifunctional use of open space and natural spaces for a range of benefits including biodiversity, climate change, economic investment and activity, health, landscape, recreation and well- being. • Promote connectivity of all types of greenspace at a range of scales. • Provide a key element of the sub-region's mitigation strategy in relation to

	the Habitats Regulations. Appendices were published as a separate document. Weblink: http://www.push.gov.uk/work/planning-and-infrastructure/green_infrastructure__flooding___water_management.htm
PUSH Green Infrastructure Implementation Framework (2012)	The purpose of the Implementation Framework was to deliver the PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy 2010. The Framework will be superseded by the PUSH South Hampshire Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan 2017, which will deliver this strategy.
South East Green Infrastructure Framework (2009)	The Green Infrastructure framework for the south east sought to develop a common understanding of green infrastructure. It encouraged local authorities to embed green infrastructure into their local development frameworks, and seek partnership working in its delivery. The framework provides guidance on Green Infrastructure planning and delivery, drawing on Natural England Green Infrastructure Guidance (2009). This document is now for guidance only.
Hampshire Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025	Fulfils the requirement to publish and review a "Rights of Way Improvement Plan, introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The primary focus of this second Countryside Access Plan (CAP) 2015-2025 is how rights of way and access to the countryside will be managed over the coming years. The seven area plans published alongside the first county wide Plan are retained, unchanged, for reference and to provide information about how the strategic policies may be implemented at a more local level. The 2015-2025 CAP should be read in conjunction with the seven area plans from 2008, which provide the background on which this plan is based. The continuing validity of the issues in the 2008 plans was tested in the 2014 needs assessment; they were found still to be broadly appropriate and so may continue to assist with local delivery. The Seven area plans include three which are relevant to the PUSH sub-region: • New Forest & South-West Hampshire; • Forest of Bere; • The Solent. These three Countryside Access Plans explore the specific issues affecting the enjoyment of the countryside in a particular part of the county and propose broadly defined actions to address them (many of the actions relate to enhancing and improving the existing network). Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/countryside/access-plans.htm
Forest Park Implementation Framework (October 2014)	The Revised Test Valley Local Plan includes a proposal for a Forest Park in southern Test Valley, adjoining the M27 motorway. The Forest Park is intended to provide longer term opportunities for informal recreation such as walking and cycling for residents of southern Test Valley and the residential areas adjoining it in South Hampshire (including those in other local authorities within the PUSH area). The Forest Park Implementation Framework 2014 provides a framework for bringing forward the Forest Park as a GI asset for south Hampshire within and beyond the TVBC Local Plan period of 2029. The Framework was approved by TVBC on 29th October 2014 The Forest Park has been selected as a strategic GI project in this GI Strategy. Weblink: http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/forest-park/
A Vision for the Forest of Bere A Report to the Hampshire and Isle	The study acknowledges that the countryside of the Forest of Bere area will be fundamental to the delivery of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire's

of Wight Wildlife Trust 2010	(PUSH) Green Infrastructure Strategy. Public bodies own and manage a significant estate within this part of South Hampshire and can contribute towards delivering the Green Infrastructure Strategy. The study has focussed on the identification of land of existing biodiversity value within what has been loosely termed 'publicly owned land'. This includes land owned by public bodies such as local authorities and government agencies as well as land owned by private charities that encourage public access or public involvement in the conservation of landscape and biodiversity. The extent of publicly owned land within the Forest of Bere was identified from the use of land ownership information held by the Hampshire and IW Wildlife Trust. This included the following sets of land ownership information:- • Hampshire County Council • Forestry Commission • National Trust • Hampshire and IW Wildlife Trust • Fareham Borough and Portsmouth City Council • In addition to these data sets, information on biodiversity sites owned by Parish Councils and local authorities have been obtained from the Hampshire Biological Records Centre (HBIC). Given the distribution of planned urban growth, the study focussed on the central section of the historic forest and its environs. The extent and character of sites identified as publicly owned land of biodiversity value within the study area is reviewed in the report. (Weblink: http://www.hiwwt.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/Planning/Forest_of_Bere_Study_Report_Final_2011.pdf)
Forest of Bere Strategy 2006	The strategy, prepared by the then Forest of Bere Partnership, was a non-statutory document that aimed to provide: • An evaluation of the current land management issues facing the area • Objectives to focus the activities of the working group • An analysis of work that needs to be undertaken to meet the objectives The Forest of Bere strategy helped to translate several policies within the South East Plan into practical action, in particular linking to policies on the urban-fringe, landscape and countryside management, nature conservation, access and recreation, renewable energy and the historic environment.
Havant Thicket Winter Storage Reservoir project	The development proposals are for the construction of a winter storage reservoir at Havant Thicket formed by embankments around the western, southern and eastern sides, together with associated operational structures and buildings, and recreational and educational facilities. Relevant plans and documents are available at: https://www.portsmouthwater.co.uk/havant-thicket-reservoir/
Alver Valley Country Park Strategy (2014)	Large parts of the Alver Valley have been used for gravel extraction and landfill operations. Subsequent restoration works have largely been completed and the area now encompasses a great diversity of habitats and landscapes including a range of wetlands, woodlands and grasslands. Gosport Borough Council has prepared a strategy for the Alver Valley Country Park which identifies issues that need to be addressed and key proposals to be implemented. Since the publication of the strategy a number of projects have been undertaken with funding from both PUSH and the Government's Local Growth Funding through the Solent LEP. There are still a number of initiatives that need to be completed to fully establish the site as an accredited[41] Country Park. The Strategy can be viewed at: http://www.gosport.gov.uk/assets/avcpstrategy

[41] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/accredited-country-parks-in-england/accredited-country-parks-in-england#south-east

Hermitage Stream River Restoration Project	The Hermitage Stream catchment has undergone significant changes during the past 100 years due to the need to accommodate the extensive urbanisation of housing estates after the Second World War. This included straightening of the channel course during the 1950s-1970s to alleviate problems with flooding. During the 1990's the thinking on stream management changed and in 1999 the Environment Agency worked with the Borough Council to restore a stretch of the stream to a more natural state. Since then water quality has improved as has wildlife along the stream. The restoration work also improved access allowing the local community to once again enjoy this natural asset. The Environment Agency is now currently exploring the possibility of further restoration work along the stream to improve water quality, biodiversity and amenity value. Weblink: http://www.hermitagestream.co.uk/
District / Borough Greenspace Audits	Each PUSH authority, excluding Hampshire County Council has undertaken a green space / open space audit of its area. Provision of greenspace (local scale GI) is measured in terms of quantity, accessibility and quality against a set of criteria often incorporating Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt)
Catchment / Coastal Environment	
Integrated Water Management Study for South Hampshire (2009)	The objectives of the IWMS are: • Guide and inform the level and location of development to be accommodated in South Hampshire in accordance with the Draft South East Plan; • Identify a preferred high level strategy for water management for the period to 2026, including the general location and timing of infrastructure requirements, the agencies responsible and the means of funding the necessary work; and • Identify the further work necessary to implement the preferred strategy and to monitor its effectiveness over the plan period. The IWMS is to be updated 2016/17 to support the PUSH Spatial Position Statement 2016. Weblink: http://www.push.gov.uk/work/planning-and-infrastructure/green_infrastructure__flooding___water_management.htm
Partnership for Urban South Hampshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SRFA) - 2016	A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment was completed for the PUSH area in February 2016. The document summarises the background and policy for the development of SFRAs, the guiding principles for undertaking a SFRA, the outputs of the SFRA and strategic flood risk management guidance for the various Local Planning Authorities in the PUSH area. Weblink: http://www.push.gov.uk/work/planning-and-infrastructure/green_infrastructure__flooding___water_management.htm
South East River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) 2015	The South East River Basin Management Plan 2015 covers the South East River Basin District and is a strategic, high level plan that provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning. The RMBP is delivered through the implementation of Catchment Partnership's 'Catchment Action Plan'. Weblink: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/south-east-river-basin-district-river-basin-management-plan
Test and Itchen Catchment Action Plan	The Test and Itchen Catchment Plan sets out the actions agreed by the Test & Itchen Catchment Partnership that will deliver the environmental improvements needed to work towards achieving the partnership's shared vision for the catchment. The catchment plan concentrates on four themes – water quality; water quantity; channel/habitat/biodiversity; and recreation. Within each of these themes the plan

	identifies the key issues, the existing actions being delivered to address these issues and the opportunities for the catchment partnership to deliver improvements. Weblink: http://www.ticp.org.uk/
Test and Itchen River Restoration Strategy	The aim of this project is to appraise the geomorphological condition of the SSSI units within these rivers, identifying the condition of the rivers in relation to their 'natural' benchmark. From this, it was possible to identify the river restoration, rehabilitation and conservation/enhancement actions that could be put in place to restore the SSSI/SAC and bring the physical habitat into favourable condition. This includes the following specific objectives: 1. Determine the impacts of physical modifications on the geomorphology and ecology of the river 2. Provide an outline restoration plan for the river on a reach by reach basis 3. Identify potential delivery mechanisms to help achieve this Technical Report: http://www.therrc.co.uk/sites/default/files/files/Designated_Rivers/Test_Itchen/technical_report_issue_5_final.pdf Management Report: https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/23271/sitedata/files/Strategy.pdf
River Test Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan	As part of its responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010), as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Hampshire County Council is developing a catchment based approach to managing flood risk, using the natural river catchment areas as a basis for the development of Catchment Based Flood Risk Management Plans. The plans contain the following categories of actions: • Local actions by individuals/communities/landowners • Small scale works led by communities • Large scale flood alleviation works These plans should be read in conjunction with the HCC Local Flood Risk Management Strategic, which sets out the overall strategic view for flood risk management in Hampshire and details how Hampshire County Council will undertake its responsibilities as Lead Local Flood Authority. The River Test Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan is the first such catchment based flood risk management plan to be prepared. Weblink: http://www3.hants.gov.uk/flooding/floodriskstrategy.htm
Test & Itchen Abstraction licensing strategy (March 2013)	This Licensing Strategy sets out how water resources are managed in the Test & Itchen CAMS area. It provides information about where water is available for further abstraction and an indication of how reliable a new abstraction licence may be. This strategy was produced in February 2013 and it supersedes the strategy issued in March 2006. Weblink: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/289879/LIT_2494_0c58d2.pdf
Draft East Hampshire Catchment Action Plan	The East Hampshire Catchment Plan sets out the actions agreed by the East Hampshire Catchment Partnership that will deliver the environmental improvements needed to work towards achieving the partnership's shared vision for the catchment.
East Hampshire Abstraction Licensing strategy (March 2013)	This Licensing Strategy sets out how water resources are managed in the East Hampshire CAMS area. It provides information about where water is available for further abstraction and an indication of how reliable a new abstraction licence may be. This strategy was produced in February 2013 and it supersedes the strategy issued in March 2005. Weblink: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/2898

	70/LIT_1772_5ad0e1.pdf
North Solent Shoreline Management Plan 2010	Prepared by lead authority New Forest District Council on behalf of and in conjunction with the members of the North Solent SMP Client Steering Group, the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a high-level, non-statutory, policy document setting out a framework for future management of the coastline and coastal defences. It promotes management policies into the 22nd century that will achieve long-term objectives without committing future generations to unsustainable practices. The North Solent Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is the first revision to the Western Solent and Southampton Water SMP and the East Solent and Harbours SMP. The coastline covered by the Plan extends between Selsey Bill, in the east, and Hurst Spit, in the west, and includes Portsmouth, Langstone and Chichester Harbours. The objectives of the North Solent SMP are: • To define the coastal flooding and erosion risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environments; • To identify the preferred policies for managing those risks; • To identify the consequences of implementing the preferred policies; • To set out procedures for monitoring the effectiveness of the policies; • To inform others so future land use and coastal zone development can take account of the risks, the time frame of risks and the policies; • To comply with environmental legislation and social obligations. A key part of the SMP is setting out policies and management objective for three stages over the next 100 years. (Stage one 0-20yrs, two 20-50yrs, three 50-100yrs. Actions for these section fall into four categories: • HTL- Hold the line, • A – Advance the line; • NAI – No Active Intervention, and MR – Managed Realignment. Weblink: http://www.northsolentsmp.co.uk/
Environment Agency Regional Habitat Creation Programme	This Environment Agency led programme seeks to replace saltmarsh habitats that are lost by the process of ‘coastal squeeze’. The programme has predicted saltmarsh losses over the next 100 years, and has identified potential sites in our region for saltmarsh habitat creation opportunities. The programme has prioritised sites, based on how likely it is that they could be implemented, as there are many barriers to managed realignment, such as landowner concerns, physical characteristics of the site, opposition from communities, and potential loss of freshwater habitats and roosting sites.

Appendix 5: Glossary

Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGst)

Tool developed by Natural England based on the minimum distances people would travel to green spaces.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

An area designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 as being of national importance for its natural beauty, including flora fauna, geology and landscape, which should be conserved and enhanced.

Biodiversity

The variety of life on earth (biological diversity), from genes to species through to the ecosystems in which they live.

Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA)

Regional priority areas of opportunity, as set out in the South East Biodiversity Strategy, for the restoration and creation of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats.

Catchment Action Plans

Action Plans prepared by Catchment Partnerships to deliver improvements to the water environment within their respective catchments. The plans deliver the priorities of all partners in addition to water quality improvements in line with the Water Framework Directive.

Catchment Partnerships

Partnerships of organisations and individuals established for each of the Environment Agency's Management Catchments in line with the Government's Catchment Based Approach (CaBA).

Climate change

Long-term shift in weather patterns in a specific region or globally, involving changes in overall weather patterns, including precipitation, temperatures and cloud cover and thought to be leading to an increased frequency of extreme weather events. Much of the observed and predicted climate change is attributed to human activities that have resulted in increased concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide.

Coastal Squeeze

The term used to describe what happens to coastal habitats that are trapped between a fixed landward boundary, such as a sea wall, and rising sea levels and/or increased storminess. The habitat is effectively 'squeezed' between the two forces and diminishes in quantity and or quality.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

A levy that local authorities in England and Wales can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The levy is designed to be fairer, faster and more transparent than the system of agreeing planning obligations between local councils and developers under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (although Section 106 agreements will remain, albeit in a more limited role).

Competent Authority

For the purposes of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 a 'competent authority' includes any statutory undertaker or public body of any description or person holding a public office.

Connectivity

One of the core principles of green infrastructure, connectivity is about how green infrastructure features are linked together to form a network or 'Green Grid'.

CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT

Countryside Access Plan

A plan of how rights of way and access to the countryside will be managed that fulfils the requirement for highways authorities to publish a 'Rights of Way Improvement Plan' introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000.

Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000

The Act provides for public access on foot to certain types of land, amends the law relating to public rights of way, increases measures for the management and protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, and provides for better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Country Park

Usually an accredited natural green spaces which have been granted Country Park status by Natural England after demonstrating 15 essential criteria and 10 desirable criteria. Some of the essential criteria include: at least 10 ha in size, readily accessible to the population which they intend to serve, entry free of charge, must predominantly consist of natural or semi-natural landscape, buildings must account for less than 5% of the land, and they should provide opportunities for the local community to have an influence over the management and development of the site. Some sites are also given the title Country Park informally without accreditation.

Countryside Stewardship

Agri-environment funding scheme designed to encourage farmers and land managers to manage their land for the benefit of wildlife and habitats.

Ecological Network

In relation to this strategy the Ecological Network is a mapped 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. The concept of ecological networks derives from the Lawton Report. [42]

Flood Zone 2
Medium Probability of flooding. Land having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding; or land having between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of sea flooding (land shown in light blue on Figure 14)

Flood Zone 3
High Probability of flooding. Land having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding; or Land having a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of sea flooding (Land shown in with dark blue hatching on Figure 14)

Green Grid

The network of green infrastructure components which are essential to South Hampshire mapped to show how they are connected.

Green Infrastructure (GI)

Green infrastructure is 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. Green infrastructure includes parks, open spaces, rights of way, river corridors, playing fields, woodlands, street trees, allotments and private gardens.

Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

[42] Lawton JH, Brotherton PNM, Brown VK et al. (2010) Making Space for Nature: A review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network. Report to Defra.

Voluntary partnerships between local authorities and businesses set up in 2011 by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to help determine local economic priorities and lead economic growth and job creation within the local area.

Local Nature Partnership (LNP)

Partnership of a broad range of local organisations, businesses and people who aim to help bring about improvements in their local natural environment.

Local Plan

A plan prepared by a local planning authority which sets the rules for how the local area will develop over time. The Local Plan, along with any Neighbourhood Plans, forms the overall development plan for the local area. Planning decisions must normally be taken in accordance with the development plan.

Multifunctional

The ability to provide multiple cross cutting functions, by integrating different activities and land usage, on individual sites and across a whole green infrastructure network.

Natural Capital

The term ‘natural capital’ is used to describe the parts of the natural environment that produce value to people. Natural capital underpins all other types of capital - manufactured, human and social - and is the foundation on which our economy, society and prosperity is built.

Natura 2000

Natura 2000 is an ecological network of protected areas in the territory of the European Union, comprising Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA).

National Planning Policy Framework / Guidance (NPPF / NPPG)

Government policy framework and associated guidance that sets out planning policies for England and how they are expected to be applied. It provides guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers, both in preparing development plans and development management..

Public Rights of Way (PROW)

A way where the public has a right to walk, and in some cases ride horses, bicycles, motorcycles or drive motor vehicles, which will be designated either as a footpath, bridleway, road used as a public path (RUPP) or byway.

PUSH

The Partnership of Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) consists of the eleven local authorities dedicated to sustainable economic led growth and improving prosperity and quality of life for everyone who lives, works and spends their leisure time in South Hampshire.

River Basin Management Plans (RBMP)

A high level, strategic plan to protect and improve the quality of the water environment across a river basin district (RBD). The South East RBD is relevant to the PUSH area.

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG)

Green space that is of a quality and type suitable to be used as mitigation to offset the impact of new development on sensitive areas, for instance areas of high biodiversity or landscape value.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

A site designated under the European Commission Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds and part of the European network of Natura 2000 sites.

Sub-Type 1 Chalk River

This chalk river community is characterised by pond water-crowfoot, Ranunculus peltatus, in spring-fed headwater streams (winterbournes), stream water-crowfoot R. penicillatus ssp. pseudofluitans in the middle reaches, and river water-crowfoot R. fluitans in the downstream sections. Ranunculus is typically associated in the upper and middle reaches with Callitriche obtusangula and C. platycarpa.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

Techniques to control and manage surface water run-off before it enters a water course including preventative measures (recycling), filter strips, swales, permeable surfaces, infiltration devices, basins and ponds. SuDS also aim to control pollution, recharge ground water, control flooding, and enhance the environment. Previously known as Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.