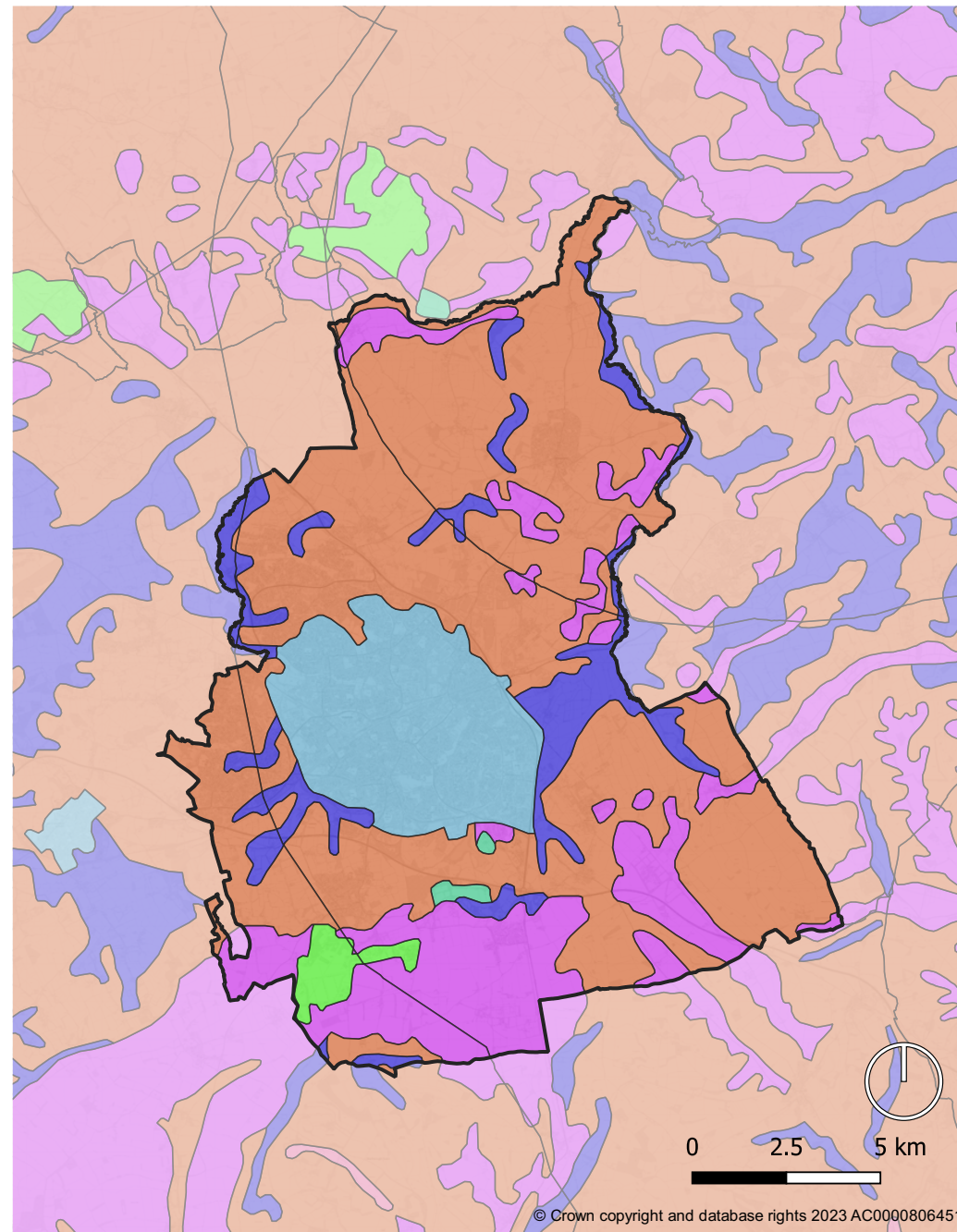


Agricultural Land Classifications



Legend

Administrative Boundaries

— Borough Boundary

Agricultural Land Classification Provisional

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

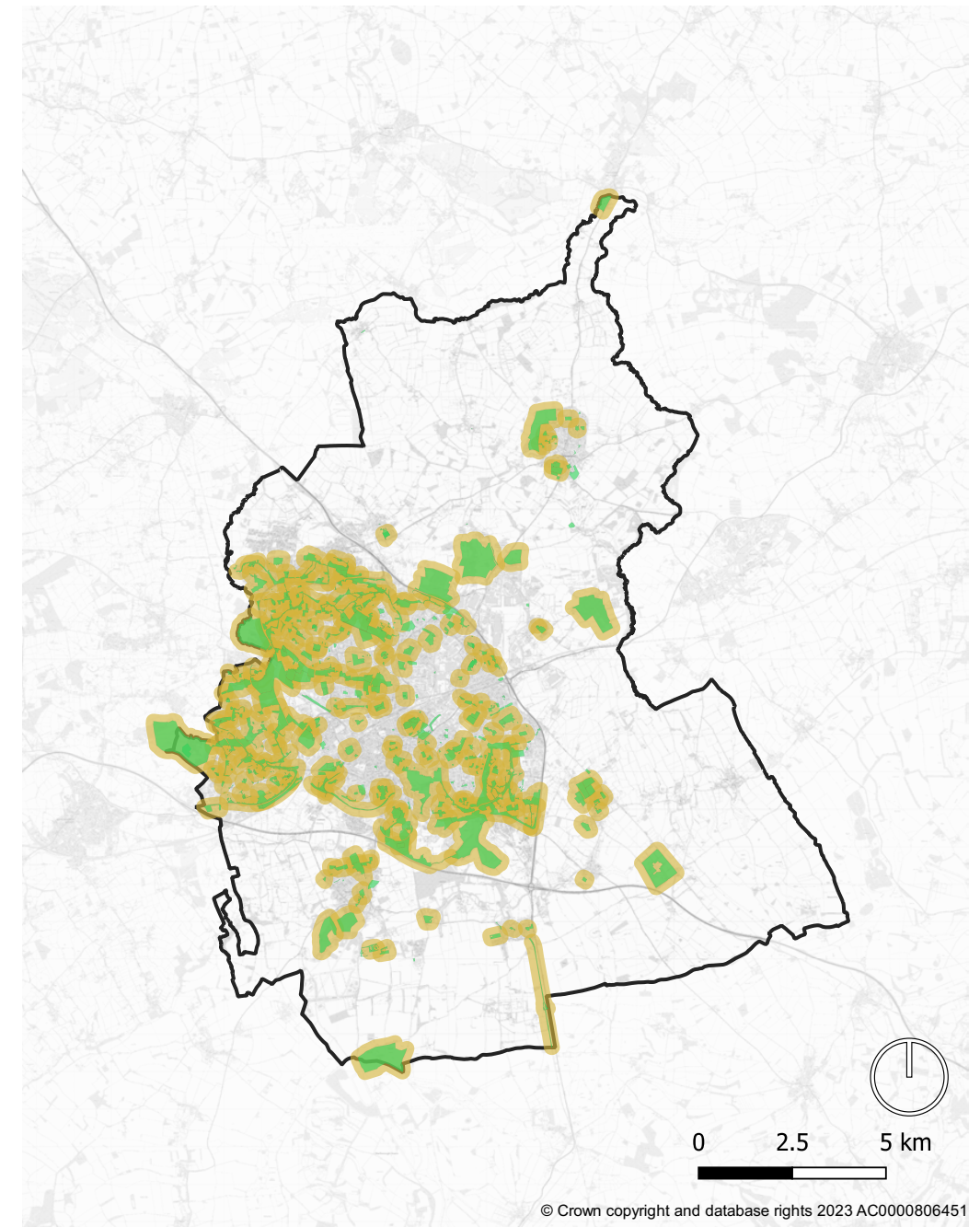
Non Agricultural

Urban



Figure 43: Agricultural Land Classifications

Accessible Greenspace Standards Doorstep Buffer



Legend

Open Space EN3

Doorstep Accessible Greenspace Buffer (min 0.5ha within 200m)

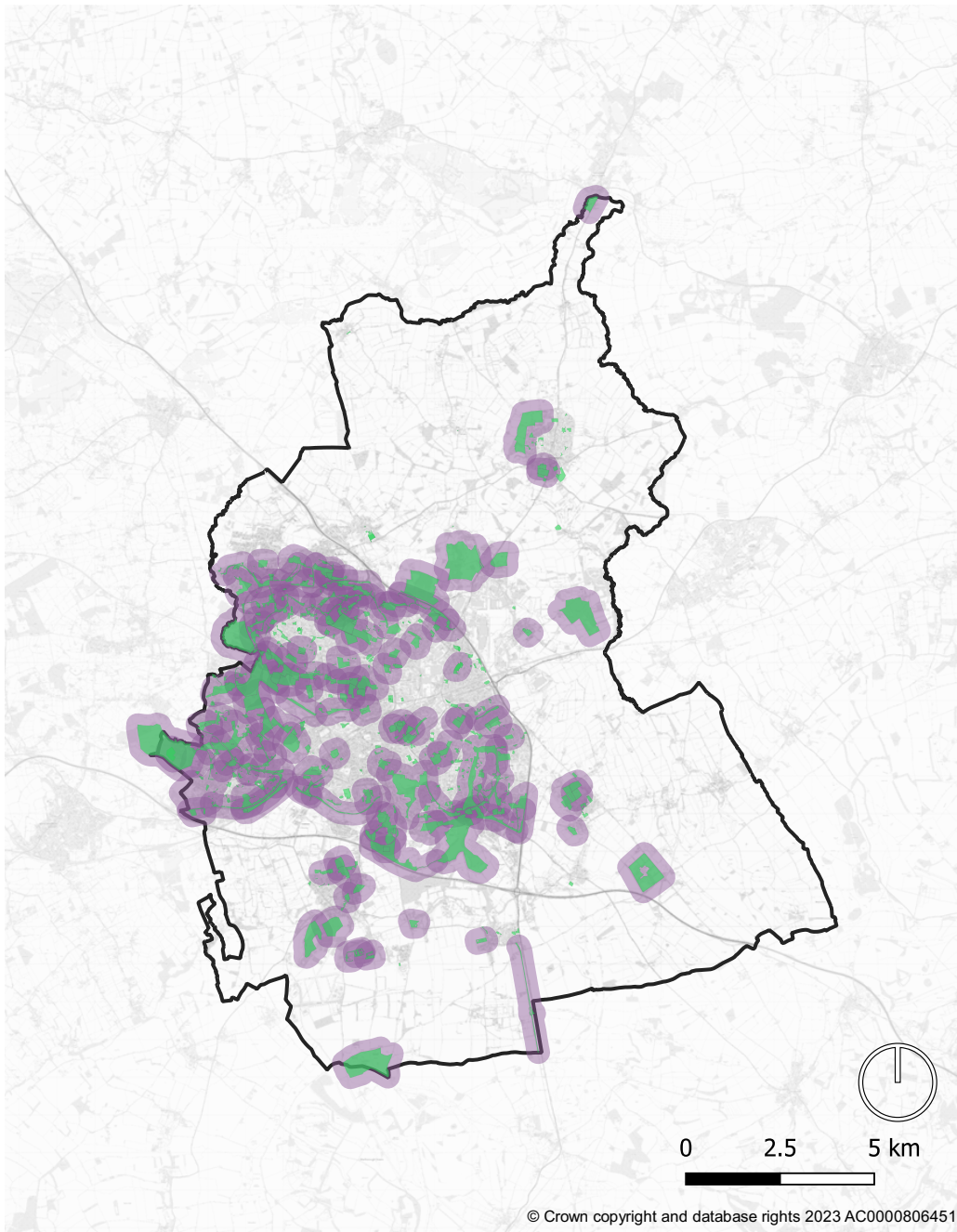
Administrative Boundaries

— Borough Boundary



Figure 44: Accessible Green Space Standards: Doorstep Buffer

Accessible Greenspace Standards Local Buffer

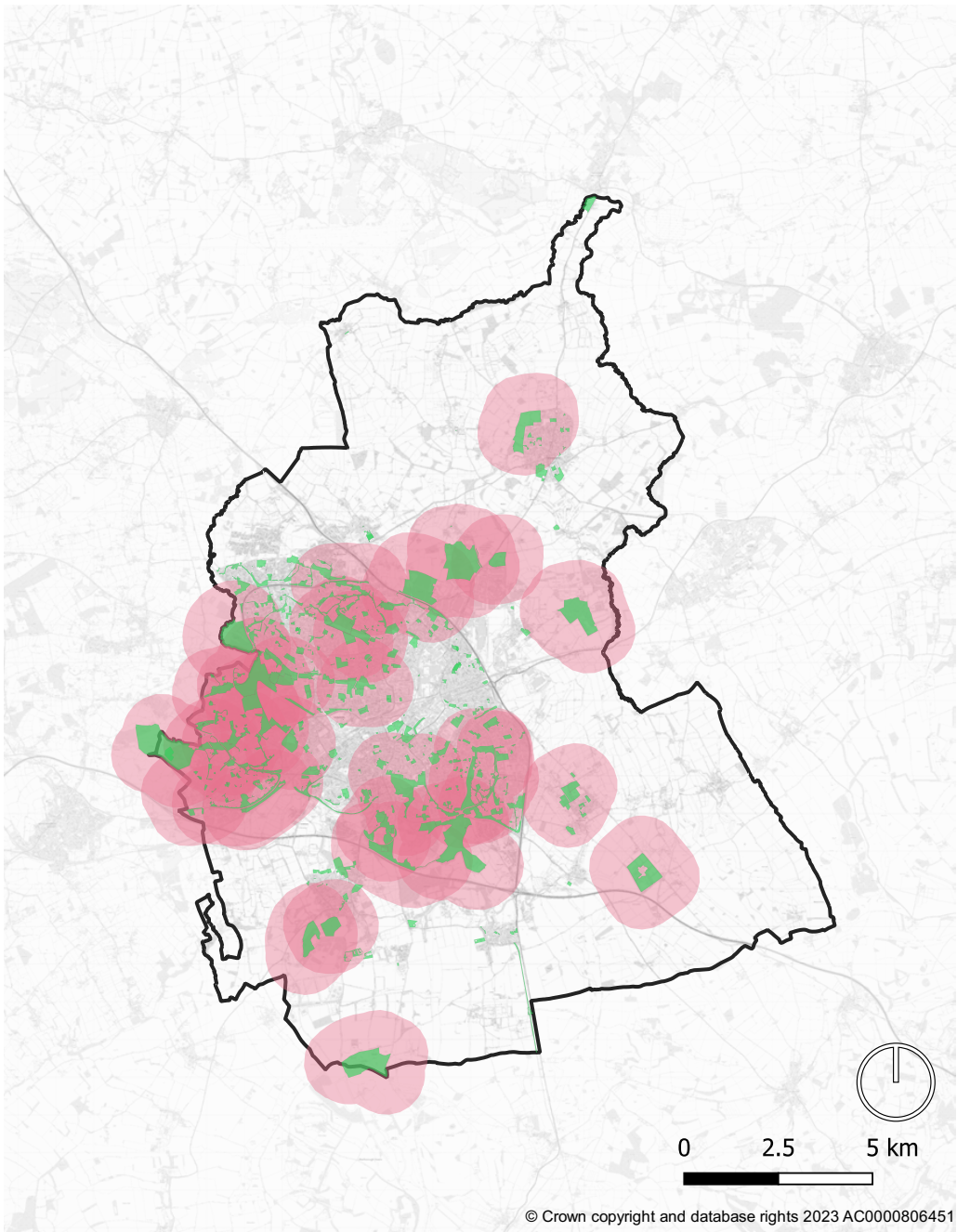


- Legend
- Open Space EN3
 - Local Accessible Greenspace Buffer (min 2ha within 300m)
- Administrative Boundaries
- Borough Boundary



Figure 45: Accessible Green Space Standards: Local Buffer

Accessible Greenspace Standards Neighbourhood Buffer

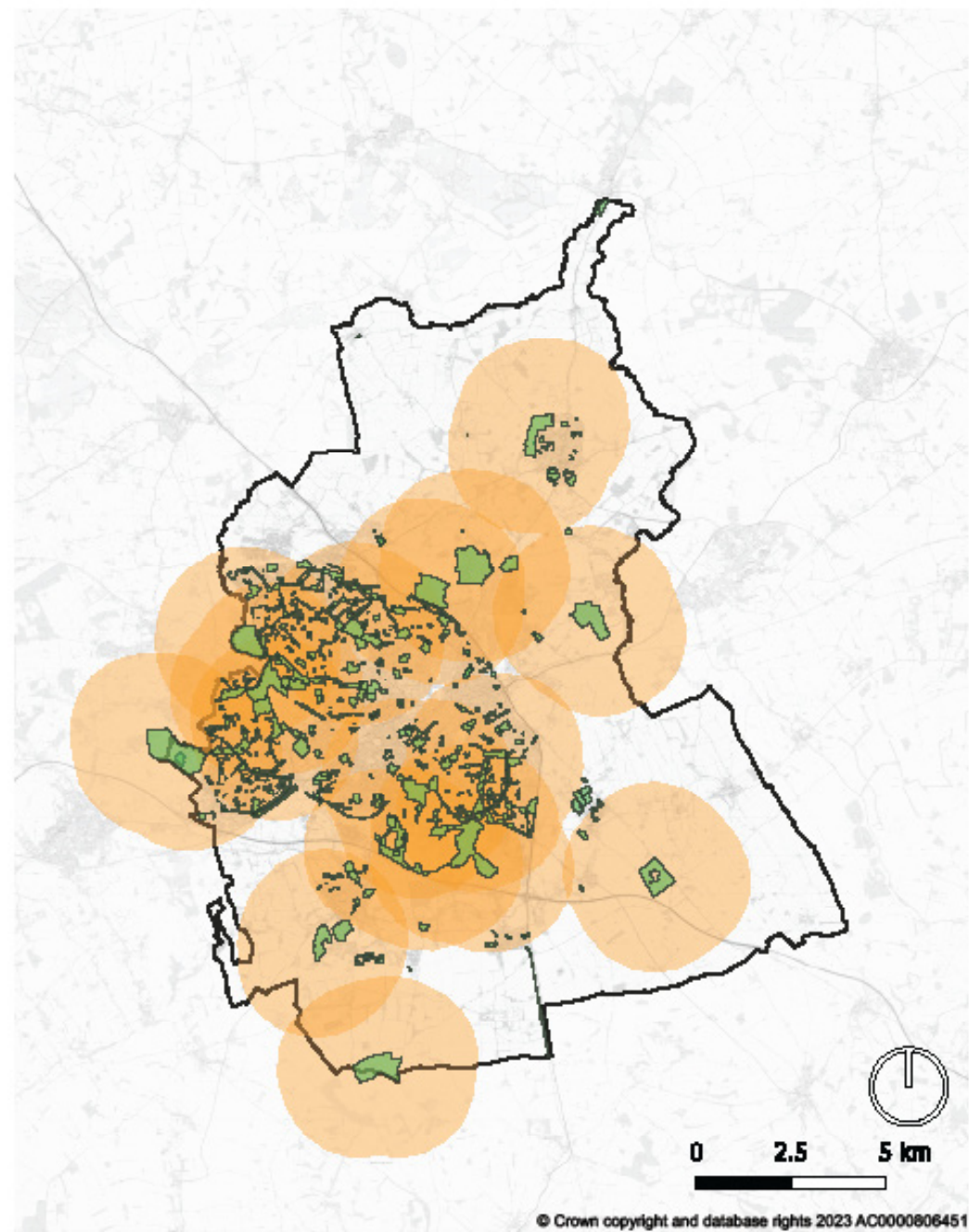


- Legend
- Open Space EN3
 - Neighbourhood Accessible Greenspace Buffer (min 10ha within 1km)
- Administrative Boundaries
- Borough Boundary



Figure 46: Accessible Green Space Standards: Neighbourhood Buffer

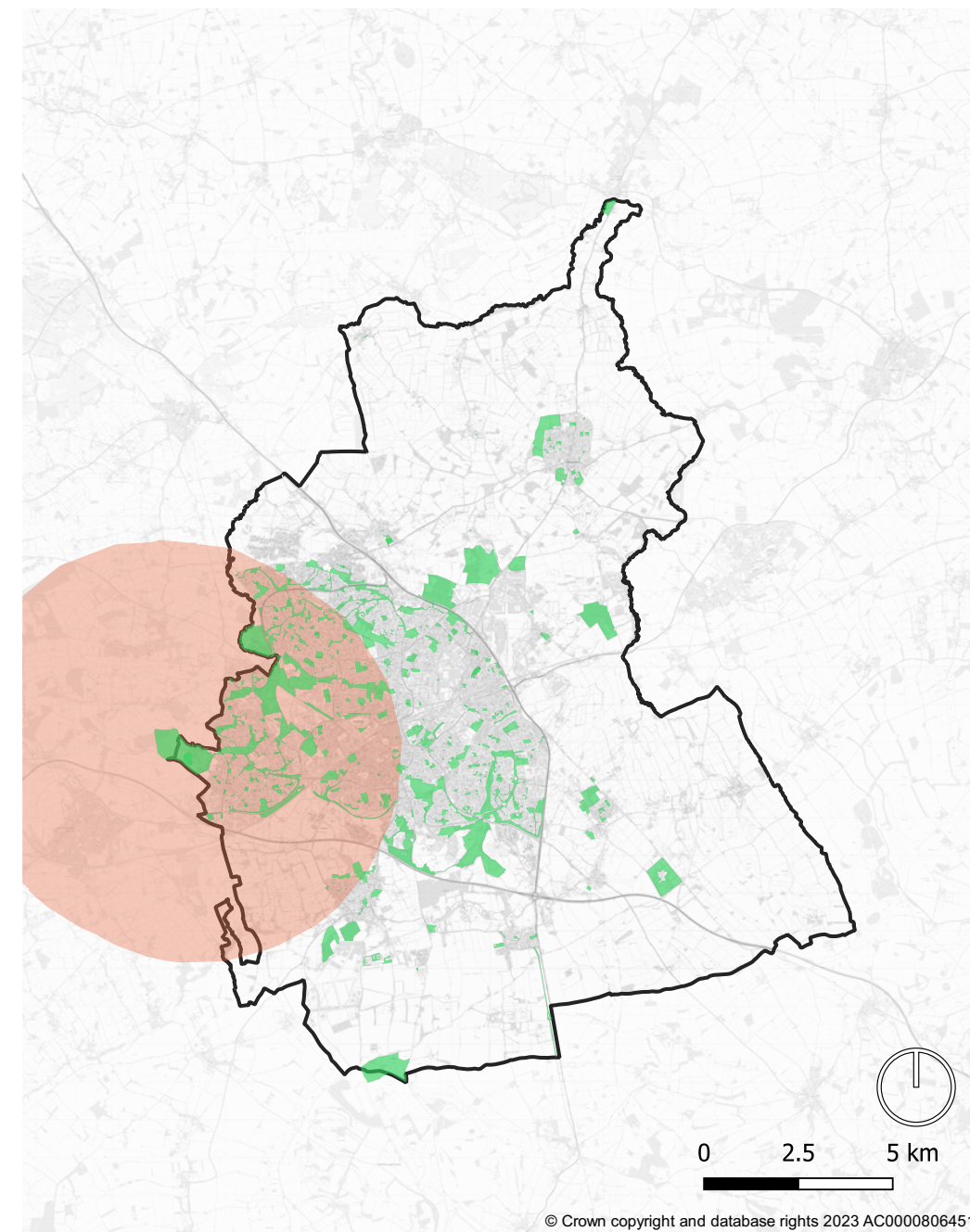
Accessible Greenspace Standards Wider Neighbourhood Buffer



Legend
 Open Space EN3
 Wider Neighbourhood Greenspace Buffer (min 20ha within 2km)
 Administrative Boundaries
 Borough Boundary



Accessible Greenspace Standards District Buffer



Legend
 Open Space EN3
 District Greenspace Buffer (min 100ha within 5km)
 Administrative Boundaries
 Borough Boundary



Figure 47: Accessible Green Space Standards: Wider Neighbourhood Buffer

Figure 48: Accessible Green Space Standards: District Buffer

Appendix B: Sources of GIS Data:

Figure	Dataset	Copyright	Source
All	Swindon Local Authority boundary	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
All	Basemapping: Vector: All. OS Vector Map Local.	Contains OS data © Crown Copyright and database right (2023). AC0000806451.	Ordnance Survey
Fig. 16: Prevalence of overweight by ward for reception children in Swindon 2019/20-2021/22	N/A	N/A	Office for Health Improvements and Disparities (OHID)
Fig. 17: Prevalence of overweight by ward for year 6 children in Swindon 2019/20-2021/22	N/A	N/A	Office for Health Improvements and Disparities (OHID)
Fig. 18: Swindon Borough Indices of Multiple Deprivation map	Index of Multiple Deprivation (December 2019-LSOA Level	Open Government Licence V3	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
Fig. 19: Swindon Borough flood vulnerability map	Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea)- Flood Zone 2 and Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea)- Flood Zone 3	© Environment Agency copyright and/or database right 2023. All rights reserved Some features of this map are based on digital spatial data from the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, © NERC (CEH) © Crown Copyright and Database Rights 2023 OS AC0000807064	Environment Agency
Fig. 20: Swindon Borough Landscape Character Areas	Landscape Character Areas Swindon Borough	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 21: Swindon Borough Priority Habitats map	Priority Habitats Inventory (England)	Open Government Licence V3	Natural England Open Data Publication
Fig. 22: Swindon Borough Biodiversity Sites map	Sites of Special Scientific Interest	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Natural England Open Data Publication
	National Nature Reserves	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	
	Special Areas of Conservation	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	
	Ancient woodland	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	
	Other wildlife sites	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	
Fig. 23: Swindon Borough Woodland map	Ancient woodland	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Natural England Open Data Publication
	Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre Long established woodland and wood pasture	© Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020	Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre
Fig. 24: Swindon Borough Canopy Cover map	Trees Outside Woodland (TOW)	Crown Copyright, courtesy Forestry Commission (date of publication), licensed under the Open Government Licence.	Defra Forest Research
	National Forest Inventory (NFI)	Crown Copyright, courtesy Forestry Commission (date of publication), licensed under the Open Government Licence.	Defra Forest Research

Figure	Dataset	Copyright	Source
Fig. 25: Swindon Borough Historic Environment	Registered parks and gardens	© Historic England 2020. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in October 2024. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk .	Historic England
	Scheduled Monuments	© Historic England 2020. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in October 2024. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk .	Historic England
	Conservation Areas	© Historic England 2020. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in October 2024. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk .	Historic England
	World Heritage Sites	© Historic England 2020. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in October 2024. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk .	Historic England
	Other identified nationally important archaeological sites	© Historic England 2020. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in October 2024. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk .	Historic England
Fig. 26: Swindon Borough Rights of Way and Open Access Land Map	Rights of Way	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
	Open Access Land	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Natural England
Fig. 27: Swindon Borough Cycling Infrastructure	LCWIP proposed cycle paths	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
	SBC Cycleways dataset	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
	Sustrans National Cycle Network	Sustrans National Cycle Network. Under Open Government Licence V3	Sustrans
Fig. 28: Swindon Borough Rivers, Watercourses and Waterbodies Map	Chalk Rivers England	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Natural England
	Lakes and Waterbodies (includes WFD Lake Water Bodies Cycle 1; WFD Lake Water Bodies Cycle 2; Environmental Information Data Centre Spatial inventory of UK waterbodies)	Open Government Licence Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013	Environment Agency Environmental Information Data Centre
	Rivers and Watercourses (Statutory Main River Map; OS Open Rivers)	Open Government Licence Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2013	Environment Agency Ordnance Survey
	Contour lines (OS Terrain 50)	© Crown copyright and database rights. Ordnance Survey 2024	Ordnance Survey

Figure	Dataset	Copyright	Source
Fig. 29: Swindon Borough Tranquility map	National Tranquillity Mapping Data 2007	Intellectual property rights for the National Tranquillity Mapping Data 2007 digital data set are held by Campaign to Protect Rural England, Natural England and Northumbria University. In this respect, intellectual property rights are shared. In all circumstances, for both published and unpublished material imagery and statistics derived from the data will be credited as follows: National Tranquillity Mapping Data 2007 developed for CPRE, the countryside charity and Natural England by Northumbria University. © Crown Copyright and database rights [2023]. Ordnance Survey licence number 100022021. Used under SBC OS Licence: Contains OS data © Crown Copyright and database right (2023). AC0000806451.	Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)
Fig. 30: Swindon Borough Open Space map	Open Space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 31 and 32: Swindon Borough doorstep, local and neighbourhood green space accessibility map	Open space data with buffers added for NE access standards	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 33: Swindon Borough IMD and open space map	Index of Multiple Deprivation (December 2019-LSOA Level	Open Government Licence V3	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
	Open Space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 34: Swindon Borough Strategic GI Plan	GI Assets (merged layer of open space data set as above and biodiversity sites as Fig. 22)	Open space- Swindon Borough Council Biodiversity sites- as Fig. 22 above © Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Swindon Borough Council Natural England
	Scheduled Monuments	© Historic England 2020. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 The Historic England GIS Data contained in this material was obtained in October 2024. The most publicly available up to date Historic England GIS Data can be obtained from http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk .	Historic England
	National Trails	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Natural England
	Rivers and waterbodies (as Fig. 28 merged)	Open Government Licence Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2013	Environment Agency
	National Landscapes/ Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	© Natural England copyright. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights 2023	Natural England
	LCWIP- proposed cycleways layer	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
	Plan Areas Outline	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
	New Housing Areas	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
	Strategic GI links	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 35-38: Swindon Central Area GI Concept Plan	Swindon Borough Council concept plan	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council

Figure	Dataset	Copyright	Source
Fig. 39: Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty/ National Landscapes map	Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	Open Government Licence	Natural England
Fig. 40: National Character Areas map	National Character Areas	Open Government Licence	Natural England
Fig.: 41: Wiltshire Landscape Character Areas map	Wiltshire Council- Local Landscape Character Areas	Open Government Licence	Wiltshire Council
Fig.: 42 Topography map	Contour lines (OS Terrain 50)	© Crown copyright and database rights. Ordnance Survey 2024	Ordnance Survey
	NASA SRTM elevation data	NASA Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) (2013).	Open Topography/ NASA
Fig. 43: Agricultural Land Classification map	Provisional Agricultural Land Classification (ALC)	Open Government Licence	Natural England
Fig. 44: Accessible Greenspace Standards: doorstep buffer	Open space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 45: Accessible Greenspace Standards: local buffer	Open space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 46: Accessible Greenspace Standards: neighbourhood buffer	Open space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 47: Accessible Greenspace Standards: wider neighbourhood buffer	Open space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council
Fig. 48: Accessible Greenspace Standards: district buffer	Open space data set	Swindon Borough Council	Swindon Borough Council

Appendix C: Acknowledgements

Contributor Acknowledgements:

Swindon Borough Council Placemaking and Planning Policy Team:

Hannah Griffn	Senior Landscape Architect
Amy Colbran	Senior Policy Planning Officer
Toby Voak	Planning Policy Officer
Liz Smith-Gibbons	Senior Conservation Officer
(and wider team input into workshop)	

Photography:

Some photographs as credited in text.

Photographs not credited within text:

Photographs on pages 35, 42 and 52 by Hannah Griffin.

All other photographs not credited:

Tea Smart Photography (<https://www.teasmart.co.uk/>)

GLOSSARY

Accessible greenspace: A greenspace that is provided for public access or that the public would expect to be able to access, or one over which there is a right to access. They are available to all, free to enter and open most of the time (although may be closed overnight).

Accessible greenspace standards: Natural England has updated the original Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt, developed by English Nature) to include a wider range of open green spaces. It measures six categories of publicly accessible greenspace of increasing size and distance from home. It also includes criteria covering greenspace capacity, quality and accessibility for all.

Accessible Natural Greenspace: Greenspaces meeting the definitions of accessible greenspace and natural greenspace. Areas within which natural processes are allowed to occur including colonisation by plants and animals, at least to a certain degree.

Amenity: The provision of elements that increase the enjoyment of an area by people.

Ancient woodland: Ancient woodland is defined as an area of land where there has been a continuous cover of trees since 1600. Many have developed irreplaceable, complex ecosystems.

Biodiversity: The variation among living organisms in all environments including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems. Includes diversity within and between species and ecosystems.

Biodiversity Net Gain: A mechanism set out by the government through the planning system to make development leave biodiversity in an improved state.

Biodiversity sites: Sites that have been designated to be protected including SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, County Wildlife Sites, Special Areas of Conservation and ancient woodland.

Blue infrastructure: Water environments including streams, rivers, canals, waterbodies (lakes and ponds) and coastal environments.

Canopy cover: A calculation of tree cover for an area, usually counted as a percentage of total area.

Carbon sequestration: the uptake and storage (temporary) of carbon, for example by trees, grasslands and soils.

Catchment: An area of land defined by its topographic watershed, including streams, rivers, wetlands and lakes, from which rainfall collects flows into a defined outlet such as a river mouth, estuary, tributary confluence or lake.

Catchment Based Approach (CaBa): The Catchment Based Approach (CaBa) is a civil-society led initiative that works in partnership with Government, Local Authorities, water companies, businesses, community groups and charities, collaboratively working at a river catchment scale, delivering a range of projects to improve the quality of our rivers.

Climate change adaptation: Changes made to natural or human systems to make them more resilient to the impacts of climate change such as more frequent and severe heatwaves and more frequent and severe flooding.

Climate change mitigation: Action to reduce the impact of human activity on climate change by reducing

emissions from the burning of fossil fuels and land use change.

Climate change resilience: Is the ability/capacity of places, communities and individuals to thrive in the face of multiple risks, uncertainty and threats posed by climate change. Climate resilience requires mitigation and adaptation actions that must be combined to tackle the current and future impacts of climate change.

Country park: Country parks are important public green spaces often at the edge of urban areas which provide places to enjoy the outdoors and experience nature in an informal semi-rural park setting. Most were designated in the 1970s, under the Countryside Act 1968 with the support of the former Countryside Commission (now Natural England) with the intention of providing people with somewhere to experience being in the countryside close to where they live, and with facilities.

Ecological network: Habitats and species and the way that they interact and connect, often but not always in corridors of linked sites.

Ecosystem: A dynamic community of living organisms – animals, plants, fungi and microorganisms – and their physical environment that interact as a functional unit.

Ecosystem services:

Ecosystem services are the benefits to people provided by nature including:

- provisioning services (e.g. food, water, wood, construction materials)
- regulating services (e.g. water quality, flood regulation, erosion protection, carbon storage, noise reduction, air quality regulation, cooling and shading)
- supporting services (e.g. habitats, thriving plants and wildlife, pollination)
- cultural services (e.g. access to nature, sense of place, aesthetic value, recreation and education).

Government's 25 Year Environment Plan:

'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment', sets out what Government will do to improve the environment, within a generation.

Green infrastructure: A network of multi-functional green and blue spaces and other natural features, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities and prosperity. (National Planning Policy Framework 2021). It includes both green and blue infrastructure such as:

- Parks and Gardens – urban parks, country and regional parks, formal gardens
- Amenity Greenspace – informal recreation spaces, housing greenspaces, domestic gardens, village greens, urban commons, other incidental space
- Natural and semi-natural urban greenspaces - woodland and scrub, grassland, heath or moor, wetlands, open and running water, wastelands and disturbed ground
- Green corridors – rivers and canals including their banks, road and rail corridors, green bridges, field margins, cycling routes, pedestrian paths, and rights of way
- Vegetated sustainable drainage systems, SuDS, (please see definition of SuDs later in this glossary). Includes: green roofs, blue roofs, rainwater harvesting and smart controls, downpipe disconnection planters, rain gardens and biofiltration strips, swales, ponds, detention basins
- Features for species such as bird and bat boxes, swift bricks and hedgehog holes
- Other - street trees, allotments, community gardens and orchards, private gardens, city farms, green walls, cemeteries and churchyards

Green infrastructure assets: These include open spaces such as parks and gardens, allotments, woodlands, fields, hedges, lakes, ponds, rivers, playing fields, coastal habitats, green walls, trees, planting areas, meadows, green roofs, as well as linear assets such as cycleways, canals, rivers and footpaths.

Green infrastructure corridors: Linear green infrastructure along roadsides, canals, rivers, cycleways and public rights of way.

Green social prescribing: Green social prescribing is the practice of supporting people to engage in nature-based interventions and activities to improve their mental and physical health. Green social prescribing includes both what is known as green and blue activities. These could include local walking schemes, community gardening projects, conservation volunteering, green gyms, open water swimming or arts and cultural activities which take place outdoors. These activities may be ‘prescribed’ by link workers (and other trusted professionals) alongside other forms of support, for example, referrals to support for housing or finances – based on the needs and circumstances of each individual.

Greening towns and cities: Increasing and enhancing urban nature and greenspaces; including wider environmental improvements e.g. reducing pollution and positive environmental behaviours such as recycling, active travel and public transport.

Greenspace: There are many definitions of greenspace in use. The definition of greenspace for the GI Framework is as follows:

- Greenspace is an area of vegetation that is set within a landscape or townscape. Greenspace can include blue space (i.e. lakes, rivers and wetlands), and may include built environment features.
- Greenspace is not necessarily accessible to the public e.g. greenspaces include allotments (that are normally locked and only accessible to key holders), and golf courses (which may require club membership and or payment of a fee to access). Such greenspace has a significant role to play in the overall provision of greenspaces for recreation and enjoyment.
- High quality greenspace is designed and managed to deliver its intended functions and to meet defined needs. Greenspace may be urban or rural.

Greenspace quality: Meeting the needs and expectations of both the staff and users of a site and the wider community and neighbourhood. Such sites are visually stimulating and attractive, safe and welcoming to all sections of society, managed and maintained to the highest standards of sustainability, and provide an enjoyable and inspirational visitor experience. The Green Flag Award is the nationally accepted standard for parks and greenspaces, supported by Natural England.

Grey infrastructure: Traditional infrastructure for drainage, power, communication and transport including structures such as dams, seawalls, roads, pipes, railways, water treatment plants, power stations, pylons, cables.

Habitat: The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism.

Heat vulnerability index: Shows neighbourhoods whose residents are more at risk of dying during and immediately following extreme heat. It uses a statistical model to summarize the most important social and environmental factors that contribute to neighbourhood heat risk. The factors include surface temperature (from averages measured via satellite), green space, housing quality and in hotter countries where it is currently more frequently used, access to air conditioning. Some towns and cities, such as Bristol have mapped this and are using it to help identify areas to prioritise for improvements in GI.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD): The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in England. It is used by the Office for National Statistics and is the most widely used of the Indices of Deprivation.

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. An intergovernmental body of the United Nations. Its job is to advance scientific knowledge about climate change caused by human activities.

Inclusivity: The practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalised, such as those having physical or intellectual disabilities or belonging to other minority groups.

Landscape scale conservation: The pursuit of multiple benefits from enhancing nature across a defined area that make links to wider economic and social priorities (e.g. water quality, access to nature).

Local Nature Recovery Strategy: These are strategies that propose how and where to recover nature and improve the wider environment across England. Preparing local nature recovery strategies is a statutory requirement under the Environment Act 2021. A Wiltshire and Swindon Local Nature Recovery Strategy is being prepared by Wiltshire Council with the involvement of Swindon Borough Council.

Local Nature Reserves (LNRs): Local Nature Reserves are usually declared (designated) by local councils but parish and town councils can also declare LNRs if they have the powers to do so delegated to them. LNRs can be large or small and be created where there are wildlife or geological features that are of special local interest. They must have a management plan. LNRs are intended for people and wildlife and used for purposes such as habitat management, quiet recreation, study and to interact with nature and enjoy it.

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs): LSOAs (Lower layer Super Output Areas) are small geographic areas designed to be of a similar population size, with an average of approximately 1,500 residents or 650 households. There are 32,844 Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England. They were produced by the Office for National Statistics for the reporting of small area statistics e.g. relating to the Census.

Multi-functionality: The ability to perform more than one function at the same time e.g. for nature, health and wellbeing, climate and prospering communities. In terms of green infrastructure this can mean providing opportunities for recreation whilst delivering biodiversity, contributing to flood risk management, and reducing urban heat stress through shading and cooler greenspaces.

National Education Nature Park: Launched in 2023 by the Department of Education, the Natural History Museum, the Royal Horticultural Society and partners. Schools are encouraged to make improvements to biodiversity and nature connection within their school grounds and communities. The activities and projects are uploaded to a virtual national ‘nature park’ which logs activities and the collective difference that is being made. There are also grants and resources available through the scheme, particularly in schools within nature deprived areas.

National Landscape (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, AONB): A National Landscape (formerly AONB), is one of 46 areas within England, Wales and Northern Ireland safeguarded in the national interests for its distinctive character and beauty. The southern part of the Swindon Borough lies within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape and the Cotswolds National Landscape is visible from parts of the northern part of the borough.

Natural capital: The elements of nature that directly or indirectly produce value for people, including ecosystems, species, freshwater, land, minerals, air and oceans, as well as natural processes and functions. Natural capital assets are stock of nature which provides ecosystem services and benefits to people.

Natural England: A non-departmental public body in the United Kingdom sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. In January 2023, Natural England launched the Green Infrastructure (GI) Framework to support the creation of good quality Green Infrastructure which maximises the benefits for people and nature.

Natural flood management: Managing flood and coastal erosion risk by protecting, restoring and mimicking the natural ‘regulating’ function of catchments, rivers, floodplains and coasts

Nature Based Solutions: Actions that are inspired or supported by natural processes and which simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits. Such solutions bring natural features and processes to cities, landscapes and seascapes.

Nature recovery network: An expanding, increasingly connected, network of wildlife-rich habitats supporting species recovery, alongside wider benefits such as carbon capture, water quality improvements, natural flood risk management and recreation. Includes the existing network of designated sites and priority habitats, as well as landscape or catchment scale recovery areas where there is coordinated action for species and habitats.

Open space: Open Space is defined in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as land laid out as a public garden, or used for the purposes of public recreation, or land which is a disused burial ground. Open space can include greenspaces and civic spaces. Civic Spaces are hard surfaced areas designed for pedestrians, e.g. for community events.

Priority habitats and species: Species and Habitats of Principal Importance included in the England Biodiversity List published by the Secretary of State under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Public engagement/ public participation: The practice of involving members of the public in the agenda setting, decision making and policy forming activities of organisations and institutions responsible for policy development.

Public rights of way (PRoW): Public rights of way allow the public to walk, or sometimes ride, cycle or drive, along specific routes over land which belongs to someone else – the land itself is often privately owned. The public have a legal right to cross the land along a specific route.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are nationally important sites for wildlife and geology. There are more than 4,000 in England, identified and protected by Natural England. They are managed by more than 26,000 owners and occupiers and cover about 8% of the country. They have legal protection from damaging forms of management and development.

Special Area of Conservation: Special Areas for Conservation (SACs) protect sites of importance for wildlife other than birds. They were originally established under the 1992 European Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats.

Synergies: The interaction or cooperation of two or more organisations, substances, or other agents to produce

a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.

Sustainable Drainage Systems, SuDs: Sustainable drainage systems slow the rate of surface water run-off and improve infiltration, by mimicking natural drainage in both rural and urban areas. This reduces the risk of “flash-flooding” which occurs when rainwater rapidly flows into the public sewerage and drainage systems. SuDS use natural features wherever possible.

Sustainability: Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Tranquility: The quality of calm experienced in places with mainly natural features and activities, free from disturbance from manmade ones.

Urban Greening Factor (UGF): A planning tool to improve the provision of GI, particularly in urban areas. It can be used to increase urban greening and contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain.

Urban heat stress: The densely-populated urban landscape of tarmac, brick, metal and dark rooftops soaks up energy from sunlight. This leads to an “urban heat island” – where cities experience higher-than-normal heat temperatures, as compared to surrounding areas.

