

A BIODIVERSITY AUDIT OF HASLEMERE'S ECOLOGICAL NETWORK

Client: Haslemere Vision

Report date: 12 November 2020

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Report issued in electronic format only



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Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	4
2.0	Context	4
3.0	Data sources	5
	Table 1 – list of datasets provided by each record centre.....	5
4.0	Biodiversity within Haslemere	7
	Habitats.....	7
	Sites.....	8
	Species data.....	8
5.0	How wildlife corridors were identified.....	9
6.0	Next steps for the Haslemere Biodiversity Partnership	9
7.0	Maps and tables	10
	Map 1 – Woodland cover in Haslemere	10
	Map 2 – Protected sites north.....	11
	Map 3 – Protected sites south	12
	Table 1 – List of sites shown on Maps 2 and 3	13
	Table 2 - Biodiversity opportunity areas shown on Maps 2 and 3	14
	Table 3 – Surrey Local Wildlife Sites within the study area	14
	Map 4 – Broad habitat types as per the LCM2015	17
8.0	Wildlife corridor maps and descriptions	18
	Overview map.....	18
	Map 1 (Northwest Beacon Hill).....	19
	Map 2 (Northeast Beacon Hill and North Hindhead)	20
	Map 3 (West Haslemere)	21
	Map 4 (South Hindhead, Devil’s Punchbowl SSSI and North Shottermill).....	22
	Map 5 (Railway and High Lane, Haslemere Settlement)	23
	Map 6 (Grayswood and Haslemere North East)	24
	Map 8 (South Haslemere).....	26
	Map 9 (Haslemere South East).....	27

Cover Photo: Hindhead Common, south of Devil's Punch Bowl, November 2020

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 GS Ecology on behalf of Haslemere Vision (HV) has undertaken a desk-based review of biodiversity information within Haslemere Town Council's administrative area. The purpose of the project was to identify components of Haslemere's Ecological Network and to produce a series of plans to illustrate this, as part of the Haslemere Neighbourhood Plan (HNP).
- 1.2 This was the baseline data for the Haslemere Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) Policy H14 "Protecting and enhancing biodiversity through Haslemere's Ecological Network".
- 1.3 This document describes the data that we have about Haslemere's Biodiversity and the methodology used to identify the Wildlife Corridors that are shown in the HNP.

2.0 Context

- 2.1 Across the world biodiversity is declining at rates unprecedented in human history. Up to 1 million plant and animal species are at risk of extinction, many within decades. If this loss continues it will have serious consequences for humankind as the natural systems that we all rely on break down. Despite efforts by many countries to reduce biodiversity loss, the Convention on Biological Diversity recently announced that none of its 20 Biodiversity Targets for 2020 had been reached globally¹².
- 2.2 In Great Britain the 2019 State of Nature Report found that 5% of the 8,48 species assessed were "threatened with extinction"³. Furthermore, the amount of wildlife had also significantly declined with the abundance of those species identified as being of conservation concern, including many of the species at greatest risk of extinction, being only 40% of the 1970 value.
- 2.3 In 2008 the UK government published "A green Future: Our 25 year plan to improve the environment". This included a pledge to develop a Nature Recovery Network (NRN) to "... complement and connect our best wildlife sites, and provide opportunities for species conservation and the reintroduction of native species".
- 2.4 To date there are no formal Nature Recovery Areas, however it is anticipated that the Wildlife Corridors identified in this report will inform Surrey's Nature Recovery Network and development proposals in Haslemere.

¹ IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystems 2019 - <https://ipbes.net/global-assessment>

² Convention on Biological Diversity - Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 2020 - <https://www.cbd.int/gbo5>

³ <https://nbn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/209/09/State-of-Nature-209-UK-full-report.pdf>

3.0 Data sources

- 3.1 The three local ecological records centres that abut or overlay Haslemere (Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre [SBIC], Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre [SxBRC] and Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre [HBIC]) provided most of the ecological data to inform this study.
- 3.2 We asked for the records they held concerning the HNP area and a 1 km buffer from it. This included species data, details of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) and information about Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)⁴, from all three records centres, and habitat data from HBIC only.
- 3.3 HBIC also provided a detailed ecological network map for Hampshire that they produced on behalf of their Local Nature Partnership. The map extends 2km into the adjacent counties. There are various other datasets that the record centres hold including records of breeding swifts and notable road verges. Table 1 below provides a list of the datasets provided by each records centre.

Table 1 – list of datasets provided by each record centre

Surrey	Sussex	Hampshire
BOAS	BOAS	BOAs
LWS	LWS	LWS
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites	Notable road verges	Priority Habitats
Conservation verges	Species data	Broad Habitats
Species data		Biosites ⁵
		Target Note Surveys
		Ecological network mapping ⁶
		Notable and protected species
		Invasive non native species
		Breeding swifts
		Hants Responsible Declining and Near Threatened Species ⁷

- 3.4 We also used Natural England's GIS datasets from Natural England's Open Data Geoportal for statutory protected sites, ancient woodland (the ancient woodland inventory) and priority habitats.
- 3.5 Because there was no habitat data available from the Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre we obtained the Land Cover Map 2015 (Rowland et al 2017⁸) from the Centre of Ecology and Hydrology in Wallingford (see Map 4).
- 3.6 Of note was the lack of data held, particularly the lack of accurate habitat mapping data, and HV may want to consider rectifying this as part of their ongoing biodiversity project.

⁴ Local sites are sites designated at a local level for their nature conservation value and are therefore afforded some protection from the adverse effect of development through planning policy. In Surrey they are referred to as "Sites of Nature Conservation Importance" in Sussex as "Local Wildlife Sites" and in Sussex "Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation". For ease of reference we have referred to them as Local Wildlife Sites

⁵ Biosites are areas for which they hold detailed survey information, to NVC or Phase 2 level

⁶ Explained at point 7 on their website here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/biodiversity/informationcentre/information#step-6>

⁷ Records of Hampshire Responsible Declining and Near Threatened Species currently on the HBIC database found within the vicinity of your 2km search area

⁸ Rowland, C.S.; Morton, R.D.; Carrasco, L.; McShane, G.; O'Neil, A.W.; Wood, C.M. (2017) Land Cover Map 2015 (vector, GB). NERC Environmental Information Data Centre. <https://doi.org/10.5285/6c6c9203-7333-4d96-88ab-78925e7a4e73>

- 3.7 Species data-sets provided by the record centres were not specifically used to guide the location of Corridors because this data relates to individual sightings, which confirms presence of a species at a particular location, but does not convey how important that location is for that species or biodiversity in general. However, European Protected Species known to be present within the HNP area were considered, with local experts Martin Phyllis (Surrey Bat Group) and Gareth Matthes (Surrey Dormice Group) consulted on the location of important bat and dormice areas within Haslemere, that should be highlighted as Wildlife Corridors. These species have the highest level of legal protection, with their habitats protected from harm and disturbance.
- 3.8 The record centres and Surrey Amphibian Reptile Group (SARG) were not aware of any Great Crested Newt sites within the immediate HNP area, although this species has been recorded close-by, just over 1km to the south in West Sussex. This species and other European Protected Species could however be present within HNP area, but as yet unrecorded. It should also be noted that there are currently 'Biodiversity Networks' being developed by South Downs National Park, immediately over the border from HNP area. The datasets collected for this project do not include those datasets being developed by South Downs National Park.
- 3.9 The Scottish National Library was used to identify Corridors within settlements, using their online mapping tool - <https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/side-by-side/>. The tool allows historic maps to be viewed alongside Google-Earth images, in order to locate historic field or hedgerow boundaries that still persist within settlement areas, following their development.
- 3.10 The full data set collated as part of this project is held by Haslemere Vision.

4.0 Biodiversity within Haslemere

- 4.1 Haslemere is situated in the south-west corner of Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is a gateway into the South Downs National Park, sitting along its northern margins. The town is served by two major transport routes, the A3 to the north and London to Portsmouth railway line through the centre of Town.
- 4.2 Haslemere is rich in wildlife, bordering three Counties (Surrey, West Sussex and Hampshire) and bordering two National Characteristic Areas⁹. The HNP area is within the Wealden Greensand NCA, lying over a free-draining sandstone and supporting the Nationally and Internationally important Devil's Punch Bowl (see Cover Photo) as well as other heathland Local Wildlife Sites, to the north-west of the Town. The south-east side of the HNP area borders the Low Weald NCA, supporting clayey soils characterised by a network of hedgerows connecting ancient woodland sites.
- 4.3 Woodland is the pre-dominant land-type cover (see Map 1), with 48% of the HNP area covered by woods. The River Wey rises just outside and traverses along the boundary of HNP area, with the Town sitting in several small valleys. The south-east side of the HNP area drains into the River Arun.
- 4.4 The NP area supports a number of internationally and nationally important species including at least twelve species of bat (including the very rare Bechstein, Barbastelle and Alcaho's Bat), hazel dormouse and the Nightjar. Many of these are protected under national and international law.
- 4.5 Unfortunately, many species have disappeared such as the water vole - which was once common on the River Wey - and the great crested newt - which has not been recorded in the NP area for many years. But there are exciting plans afoot, such as the plan to re-introduce the beaver, an iconic keystone species, at Valewood.

Habitats

- 4.6 Haslemere contains a variety of habitats including coniferous and deciduous woodland, heathland, the River Wey and its tributaries and other Priority Habitats¹⁰ such as acid grassland and traditional orchards.
- 4.7 Approximately 48% of the HNP area is woodland (33% [76ha] broadleaf woodland and 5% (346ha.) coniferous), using the LCM 2015⁸ data. Of this woodland, 85 hectares (8% of the HNP area) is listed on Natural England's Ancient Woodland Inventory (Map 1). As a comparison woodland cover in England (as of 2020) was estimated to be 10% nationwide.
- 4.8 Parts of the Plan area also fall within two Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs): Devil's Punch Bowl & Hindhead Heaths BOA (part of Wealden Greensand group of sites - WGo4) and borders the Chiddingfold & West Weald Woodland BOA (part of the Low Weald group - LWo). Since their inception Surrey BOAs have been grouped according to their respective National Character Areas and designed primarily as spatial planning tools to focus and realise opportunities (Surrey Nature Partnership 2015¹¹).

⁹ NCA - <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/58730>

¹⁰ The Secretary of State periodically publishes a list of habitats that are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England under Section 41 (S41) of the 2006 Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act. The list currently comprises 56 habitats, referred to as "priority habitats" in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

¹¹ Surrey Nature Partnership 2015, Biodiversity Opportunity Areas: the basis for realising Surrey's ecological network, Surrey Nature Partnership December 2015 Investing in our County's future

Sites

- 4.9 There are 395 hectares of designated sites (or 17% of the Plan area) within the NP plan area. Within 1 km of the HNP area there are:
- 4.10 **Two Special Protected Areas (SPAs)** –
- (1) Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons SPA
 - (2) Wealden Heaths Phase II SPA
- 4.11 **One Special Area of Conservation (SAC):**
- (1) Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC
- 4.12 **Four Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)** which overlap the SPAs and SACs in places:
- (1) Stockstone Quarry
 - (2) Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons
 - (3) Bramshott & Ludshott Commons
 - (4) Devil's Punch Bowl
- 4.13 **One Local Nature Reserve**
- (1) Lynchmere Commons
- 4.14 **37 Local Wildlife Sites**
- Nineteen either wholly or partially within the HNP Area and an additional 8 within km.
- 4.15 **Two Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs):**
- (1) The Wealdon Greensand (WGo3 and WGo4)
 - (2) The Low Weald (LW01).
- 4.16 Maps 2 and 3 show these sites

Species data

- 4.17 Species data-sets provided by the record centres contained over 60,000 records. These were not specifically used as this data relates to individual sightings, is often very old and confirms presence of a species at a particular location at a specific time, but does not convey how important that location is for that species or biodiversity in general. However European Protected Species known to be present within the HNP area were considered, in particular for bats and dormouse using local expert knowledge.

5.0 How wildlife corridors were identified

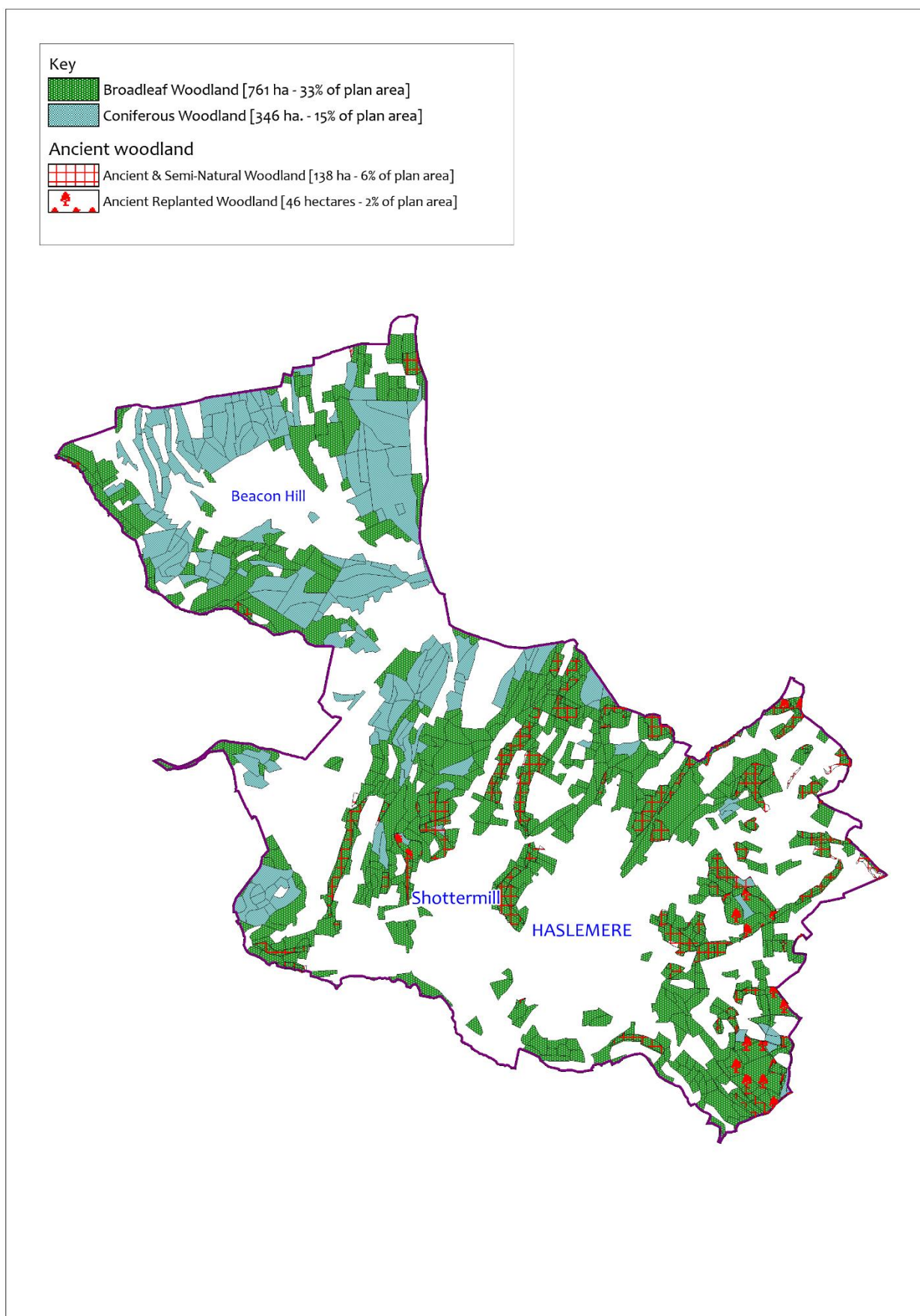
- 5.1 Haslemere's ecological network, includes, but is not necessarily limited to:
- (1) Internationally designated wildlife sites,
 - (2) Nationally designated wildlife sites,
 - (3) Local wildlife sites,
 - (4) Priority habitats
 - (5) Ancient woodland
 - (6) Rivers, streams and ponds
 - (7) Local green spaces
 - (8) Wildlife corridors
- 5.2 Wildlife Corridors stitch the Ecological Network together and each Wildlife Corridor connects one element of the network to another. They were identified using aerial photograph data, historical maps and local expert knowledge (the corridors "sense checked" by local experts in relation to bats and dormice in particular). They were categorised into four habitat types:
- (1) Woody vegetation (woods and hedgerows),
 - (2) Riparian corridors,
 - (3) Major transport networks (A3 road and railway verge) and
 - (4) Heathland corridors.
- 5.3 The corridors have been depicted on the maps as strips of varying widths with major corridors being wider than minor ones and those within the settlement boundaries being narrower than those without.
- 5.4 The Wildlife Corridors have been illustrated on nine maps. These are provided in Appendix 8. However, they are not intended to be exhaustive and there may be other corridors that are not shown on the maps. Stepping-stones, between corridors and sites, have not specifically been identified on the plan as there are many such features (such as individual trees) and to map them would not be practical.

6.0 Next steps for the Haslemere Biodiversity Partnership

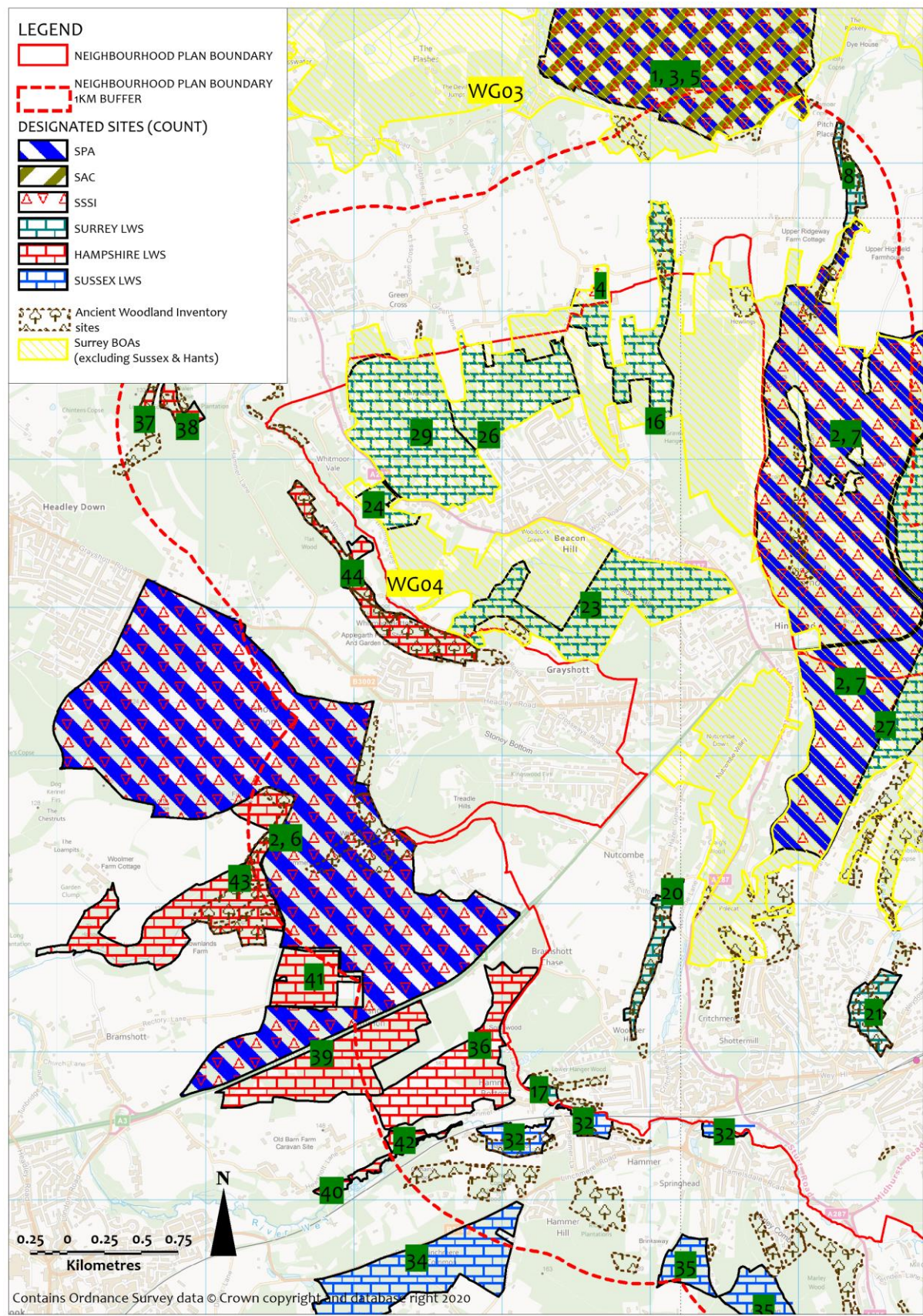
- 6.1 This project has identified key wildlife corridors within Haslemere.
- 6.2 It would be useful to carry out a more detailed audit, in particular a detailed habitat map and a more detailed analysis of species data. This could form the basis of a Biodiversity Action Plan for Haslemere which would identify key actions to conserve and enhance biodiversity in Haslemere.

7.0 Maps and tables

Map 1 – Woodland cover in Haslemere



Map 2 – Protected sites north



Map 3 – Protected sites south

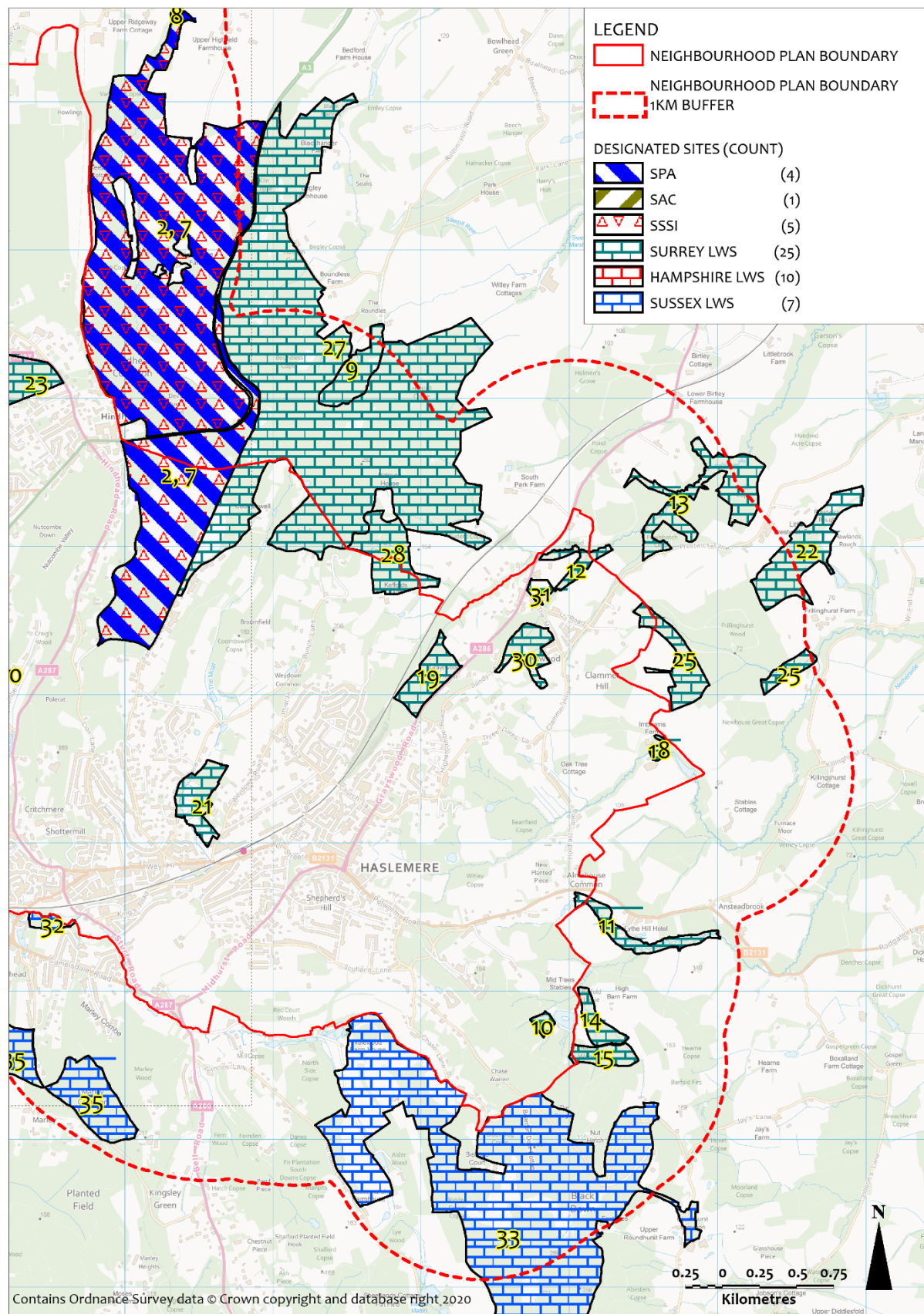


Table 1 – List of sites shown on Maps 2 and 3

Site number (green and black text on map)	Designation	Name
1	SPA	Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons
2	SPA	Wealden Heaths Phase II
3	SAC	Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham
4	SSSI	Stockstone Quarry
5	SSSI	Thursley, Hankley & Frensham Commons
6	SSSI	Bramshott & Ludshott Commons
7	SSSI	Devil's Punch Bowl
8	SURREY LWS	Hedge Farm Copse SNCI
9	SURREY LWS	West High Button SNCI
10	SURREY LWS	Home Wood - East SNCI
11	SURREY LWS	Lythe Hill Copse SNCI
12	SURREY LWS	White House Wood and Fowlshatch Copse SNCI
13	SURREY LWS	Leith Copse & Adjacent Ghyll South to Fowlshatch Copse SNCI
14	SURREY LWS	Barfold Copse SNCI
15	SURREY LWS	Barfold Copse South SNCI
16	SURREY LWS	Hyde Copse, Gravel Hanger and Marchants Hill SNCI
17	SURREY LWS	Kingfisher Farm (Site 2) SNCI
18	SURREY LWS	Imbhams Farm Pond SNCI
19	SURREY LWS	Parish Lands, Grayswood SNCI
20	SURREY LWS	Beechnut House Wood SNCI
21	SURREY LWS	Bunch Lane Woodland SNCI
22	SURREY LWS	Prestwick Rough SNCI
23	SURREY LWS	Woodcock Bottom and Whitmore Vale SNCI
24	SURREY LWS	Windy Gap SNCI
25	SURREY LWS	Frillinghurst Wood SNCI
26	SURREY LWS	Beacon Hill SNCI
27	SURREY LWS	Woodland to the East of Hindhead SNCI
28	SURREY LWS	Keffold's Copse SNCI
29	SURREY LWS	Hindhead Golf Club SNCI
30	SURREY LWS	Grayswood Hill SNCI
31	SURREY LWS	Grayswood Green Cricket Field SNCI
32	SUSSEX LWS	Hammer Moor
33	SUSSEX LWS	Blackdown and Valewood Park
34	SUSSEX LWS	Hammer Recreation Ground
35	SUSSEX LWS	Marley Common, Linchmere
36	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Bramshott Common (South East)
37	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Longgut Copse
38	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Dalen Copse
39	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Bramshott Common (South-West)
40	HAMPSHIRE LWS	River Wey Alderwood at Hammer Bottom
41	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Bramshott Common Camp Ground
42	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Stone Quarry Wood
43	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Coach House Copse/Spring Pond Hanger
44	HAMPSHIRE LWS	Whitmoor Hanger

Table 2 - Biodiversity opportunity areas sown on Maps 2 and 3

Number (yellow labels on map)	BOA Sub group	Name	Biodiversity interest	Area (hectares)
WG03	Wealden Greensand	Thursley Hankley and Frensham Heaths	Lowland Heathland, Lowland Acid Grassland, Fen Communities, Ancient Woodland	2710
WG04	Wealden Greensand	Devil's Punch Bowl and Hindhead Heaths	Lowland Heathland, Lowland Acid Grassland, Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Wet Woodland, Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland, Ancient Woodland	1169
LW01	Low Weald	Chiddingfold and West Weald Woodlands	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Wet Woodland, Lowland Meadows, Ancient Woodland	48948

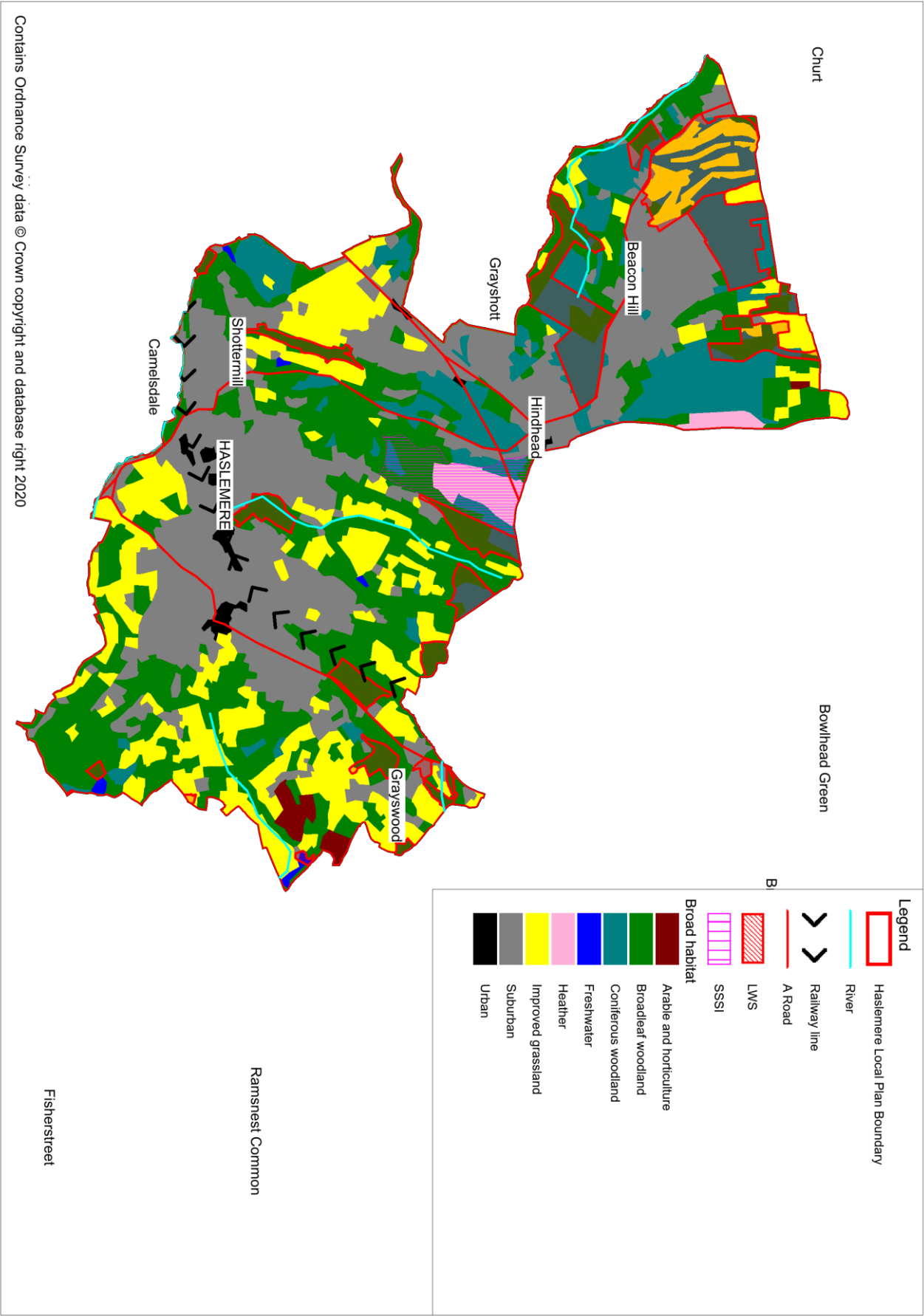
Table 3 – Surrey Local Wildlife Sites within the study area

SLSP Ref. No.	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha) Length (km)	Borough /District	Nature Conservation Interest
WA005	Wheeler's Farm Copse and Meadows SNCI	SU899396	3.9	Waverley	Wet semi-natural woodland and wet fen with Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) woods, including nationally rare W5c National Vegetation Classification (NVC) community.
WA011	Jumps Road Copse SNCI	SU860390	4.9	Waverley	A mosaic of woodland (Ancient Semi-natural Woodland) ponds and boggy areas with a rich ground flora including 18 Ancient Woodland Indicators along with good numbers of other species.
WA014	Hedge Farm Copse SNCI	SU894389	5.9	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland with a number of indicator species, damp and base-rich.
WA015	Emley Copse SNCI	SU906378	5.6	Waverley	More than 5ha of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland, including Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) coppice which is rare in Surrey.
WA016	The Soaks Meadow SNCI	SU907374	4.2	Waverley	Herb-rich semi-improved neutral grassland managed as a hay meadow, rare example of hay meadow in Surrey.
WA017	West High Button SNCI	SU906362	10.2	Waverley	More than 5ha of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland in a mosaic of woodland types.
WA026	Home Wood - East SNCI	SU918318	1.5	Waverley	Site containing County rare flora, selected on these grounds.
WA027	Lythe Hill Copse SNCI	SU924323	8.2	Waverley	A good example of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland with neglected coppice and standards. It has a high diversity with 22 ancient woodland indicator species and a localised abundance of characteristic ground flora.
WA028	White House Wood and Fowlshatch Copse SNCI	SU921349	4.2	Waverley	White House Wood consists of ecologically significant Ancient Semi-natural Woodland stands forming the southernmost stands of a large ancient woodland complex. Fowlshatch is less interesting having been replanted with conifers. It is excluded from the SNCI.
WA029	Leith Copse & Adjacent Ghyll South to Fowlshatch Copse SNCI	SU928354	21.8	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland, ghyll and Ancient Replanted Woodland with rides (NVC W7, W8, W10a). There are 26 ancient woodland indicator species found during survey.

SLSP Ref. No.	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha) Length (km)	Borough /District	Nature Conservation Interest
WA050	Barfold Copse SNCI	SU922316	5.2	Waverley	Ancient woodland currently a RSPB reserve. Good site for birds with a number of important species being noted.
WA051	Barfold Copse South SNCI	SU923316	5.5	Waverley	Site containing county rare flora, selected on the grounds of this.
WA060	Hyde Copse, Gravel Hanger and Marchants Hill SNCI	SU879378	32.2	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland and secondary woodland, central area being returned to heath, an important and vanishing habitat.
WA072	Kingfisher Farm (Site 2) SNCI	SU872328	2.2	Waverley	Mosaic of semi-improved grassland, ponds, banks, springs bounded by good species rich hedges.
WA073	Imbhams Farm Pond SNCI	SU926337	1.2	Waverley	Very large, open ancient farm pond with good surrounding vegetation, which is subjected to good management.
WA074	Parish Lands, Grayswood SNCI	SU910341	9.7	Waverley	Broadleaved, acidic and wet semi-natural woodland dominated by Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) and lying adjacent to ancient woodland.
WA081	Smallbrook Copse SNCI	SU894396	3.6	Waverley	Damp valley with Ancient Semi-natural Woodland dominated by mature Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) coppice
WA094	Beechnut House Wood SNCI	SU881339	8.8	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland larger than 5ha with a ground flora containing 17 ancient woodland indicator species.
WA095	Bunch Lane Woodland SNCI	SU895333	10.1	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland larger than 5ha with a good ground flora (<i>Sphagnum</i> dominated), ground flora containing 17 ancient woodland indicator species. The site contains c.3ha of wet Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) woodland and 4ha of storm damaged and cleared woodland which has been replanted with native species.
WA116	Prestwick Rough SNCI	SU936351	20.9	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland in excess of 5 ha that is of high nature conservation value that supports two plant species uncommon in Surrey.
WA130	Woodcock Bottom and Whitmore Vale SNCI	SU875357	56.9	Waverley	Site supports internationally and nationally rare woodland NVC communities including W16b <i>Quercus</i> spp. <i>Betula</i> spp.- <i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i> woodland; rare Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) stands forming variants of the <i>Ilacio-Fagion</i> forest community type listed in the EU Habitats Directive.
WA131	Windy Gap SNCI	SU861367	6.1	Waverley	Relict mature heath of (around 1 ha) and acid grassland with surrounding stands of acidic woodland.
WA132	Frillinghurst Wood SNCI	SU931345	14.8	Waverley	Ancient semi-natural woodland of over 5 ha including Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) ghyll woodland, 44 ancient woodland indicators have been recorded from this site. Streams provide direct links between this and adjacent semi-natural stands.
WA133	Beacon Hill SNCI	SU871375	37.9	Waverley	Extensive tracts of open relict heathland that could be restored with plantation clearance and clearings contiguous with extensive open heath of considerable nature conservation interest.
WA134	Woodland to the East of Hindhead SNCI	SU902359	265.2	Waverley	Extensive woodland, scrub and relict heathland oriented around Hindhead.

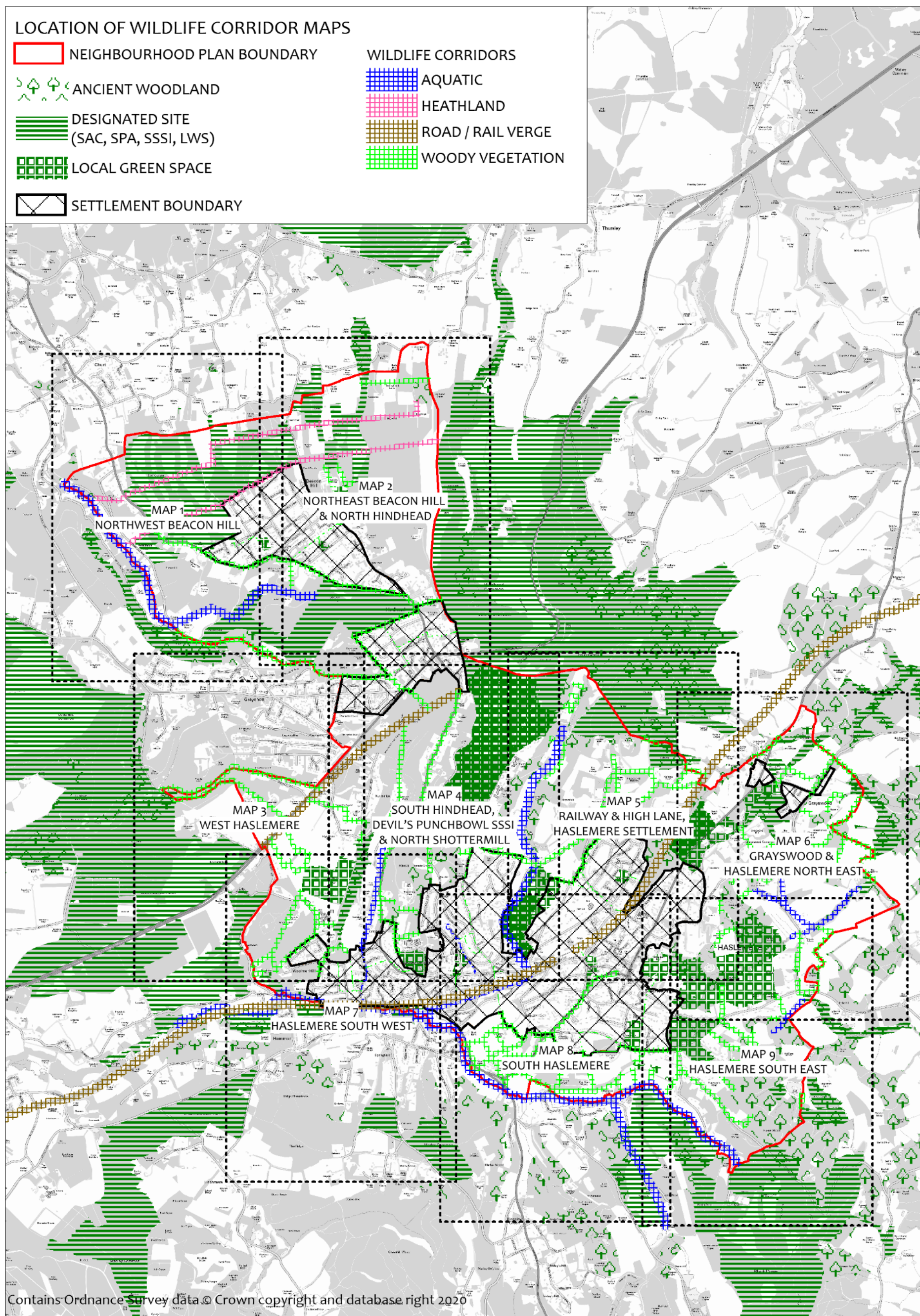
SLSP Ref. No.	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha) Length (km)	Borough /District	Nature Conservation Interest
					Whilst most of the western site boundary is contiguous with the Devil's Punch Bowl SSSI, supporting patches of relict open heath and scrub, eastern areas cover large areas of Ancient Woodland. Nationally rare woodland NVC communities are present including lowland variant of W16b.
WA137	Keffold's Copse SNCI	SU907350	16.3	Waverley	The site lies at the extreme south-eastern margins of an extensive forest complex that is all listed in the Surrey Inventory of Ancient Woodland. It contains W7 wet Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) wood, rare in South-East England and species that are scarce in the County.
WA139	Hindhead Golf Club SNCI	SU863373	67.5	Waverley	Supports around 10 ha of relict heath and unimproved acid grassland scattered across the site. Whole site selected as imposing a definitive boundary not possible.
WA143	Hopkiln Reeds and Long Copse SNCI	SU935373	22.0	Waverley	Ancient Semi-natural Woodland and ghyll supporting 29 ancient woodland indicators including a county rarity and a protected mammal.
WA145	Grayswood Hill SNCI	SU917343	7.6	Waverley	Ancient semi-natural woodland and secondary woodland under active management supporting at least 19 ancient woodland indicators including a County rarity.
WA156	Thursley Cricket Field SNCI	SU899399	1.5	Waverley	Recommended by Surrey Flora Committee (SFC) as the site of a county rare and Nationally Scarce plant.
WA159	Grayswood Green Cricket Field SNCI	SU917347	1.7	Waverley	Area containing County rare flora.
WA162	Jump's Road Verge SNCI	SU871393	0.5	Waverley	Recommended by Surrey Flora Committee (SFC) as the site of a county rare and Nationally Scarce plant.

Map 4 – Broad habitat types as per the LCM2015



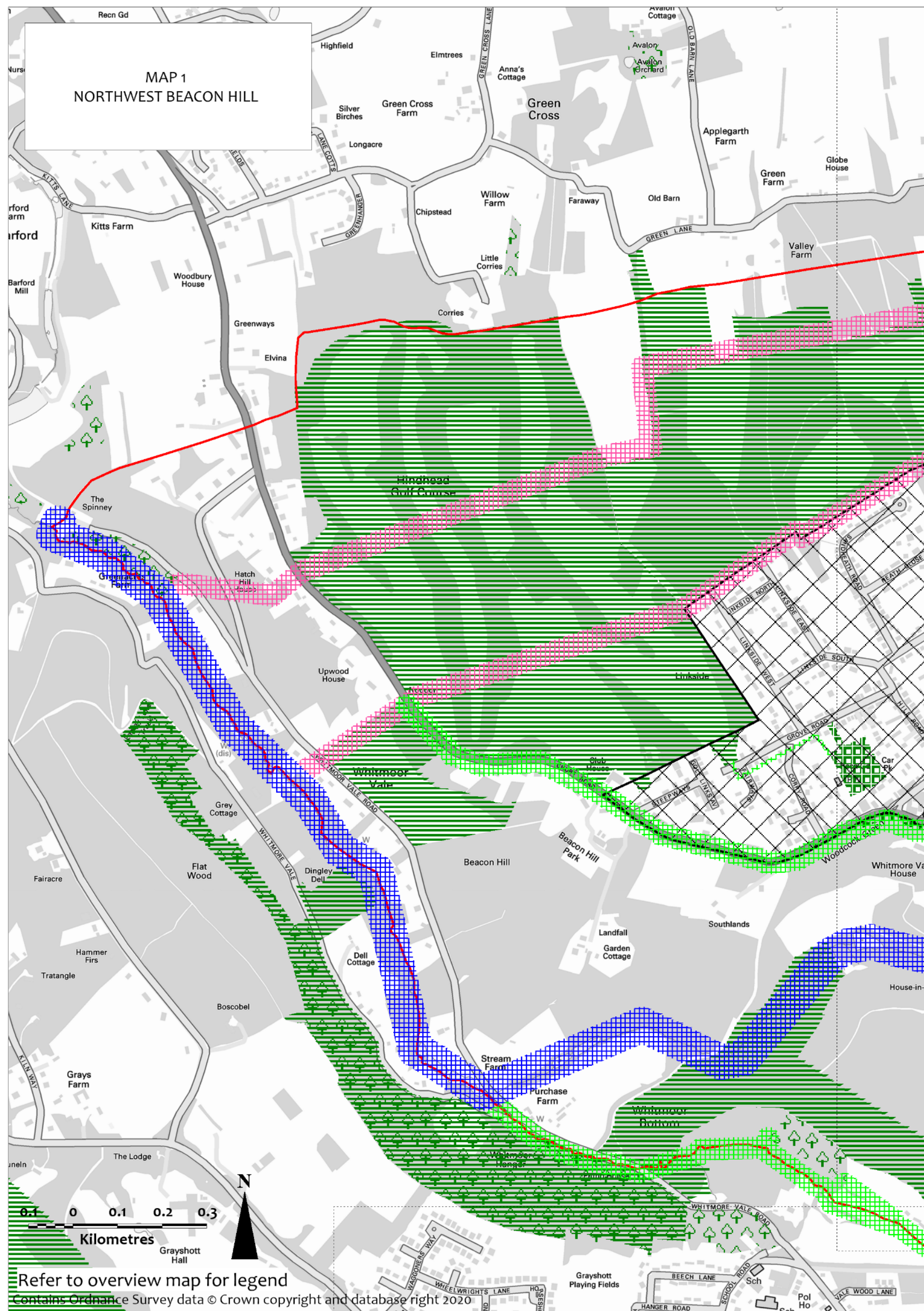
8.0 Wildlife corridor maps and descriptions

Overview map



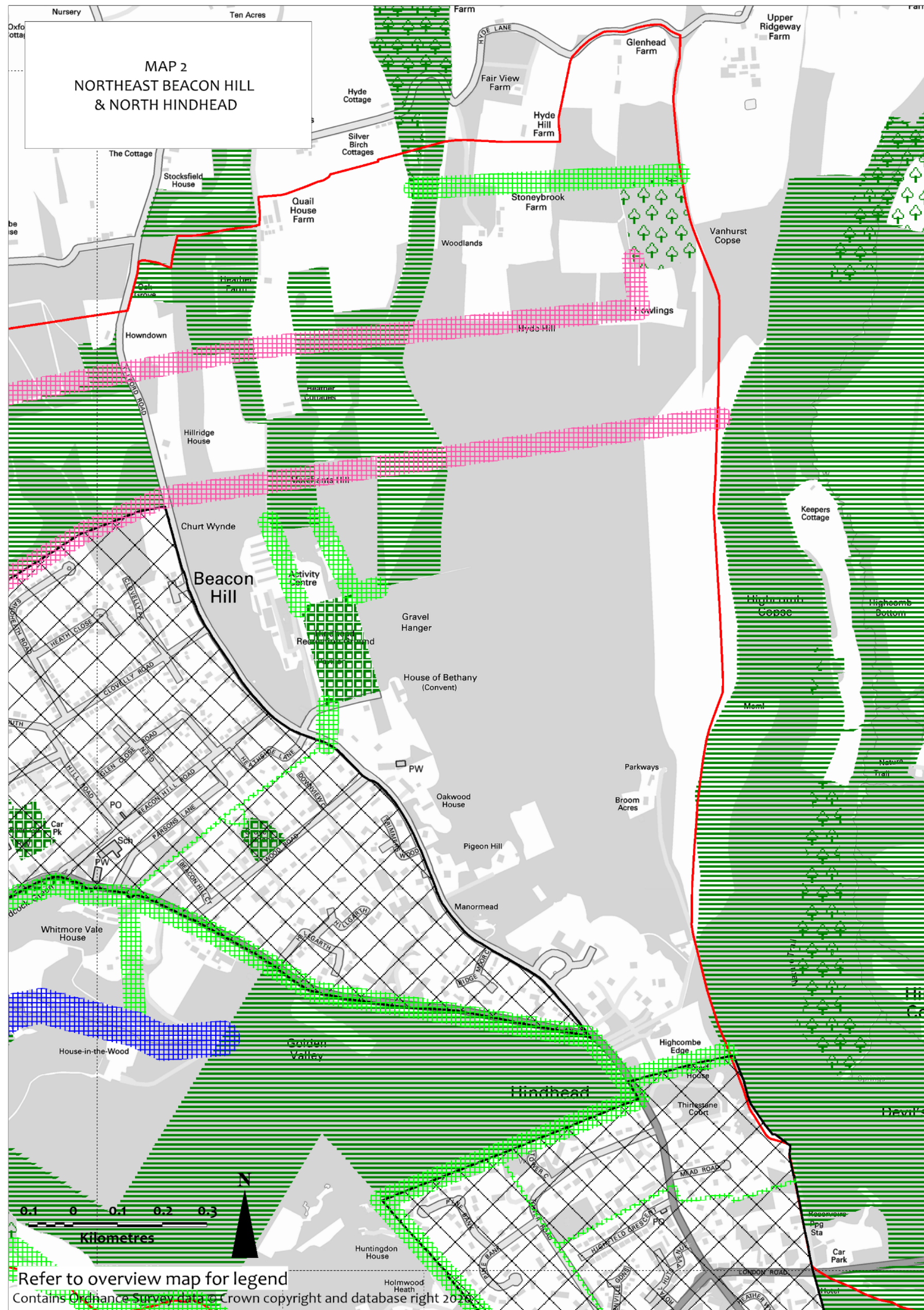
Map 1 (Northwest Beacon Hill)

A heathland corridor is located along the northern side of Haslemere Town Council boundary illustrating an zone of opportunity for heathland management and creation, linking heathland SNCIs (Beacon Hill, Hindhead Golf Club and Windy Gap SSSI) with Devil's Punchbowl SSSI. The heathland corridor stops at the River Wey, about 1km from Bramshott and Ludshott Commons SSSI within Hampshire. Within Beacon Hill settlement the network includes recently established treelines (corridors) linking Local Green Spaces, including Beacon Hill Rec and Woodcock Green.



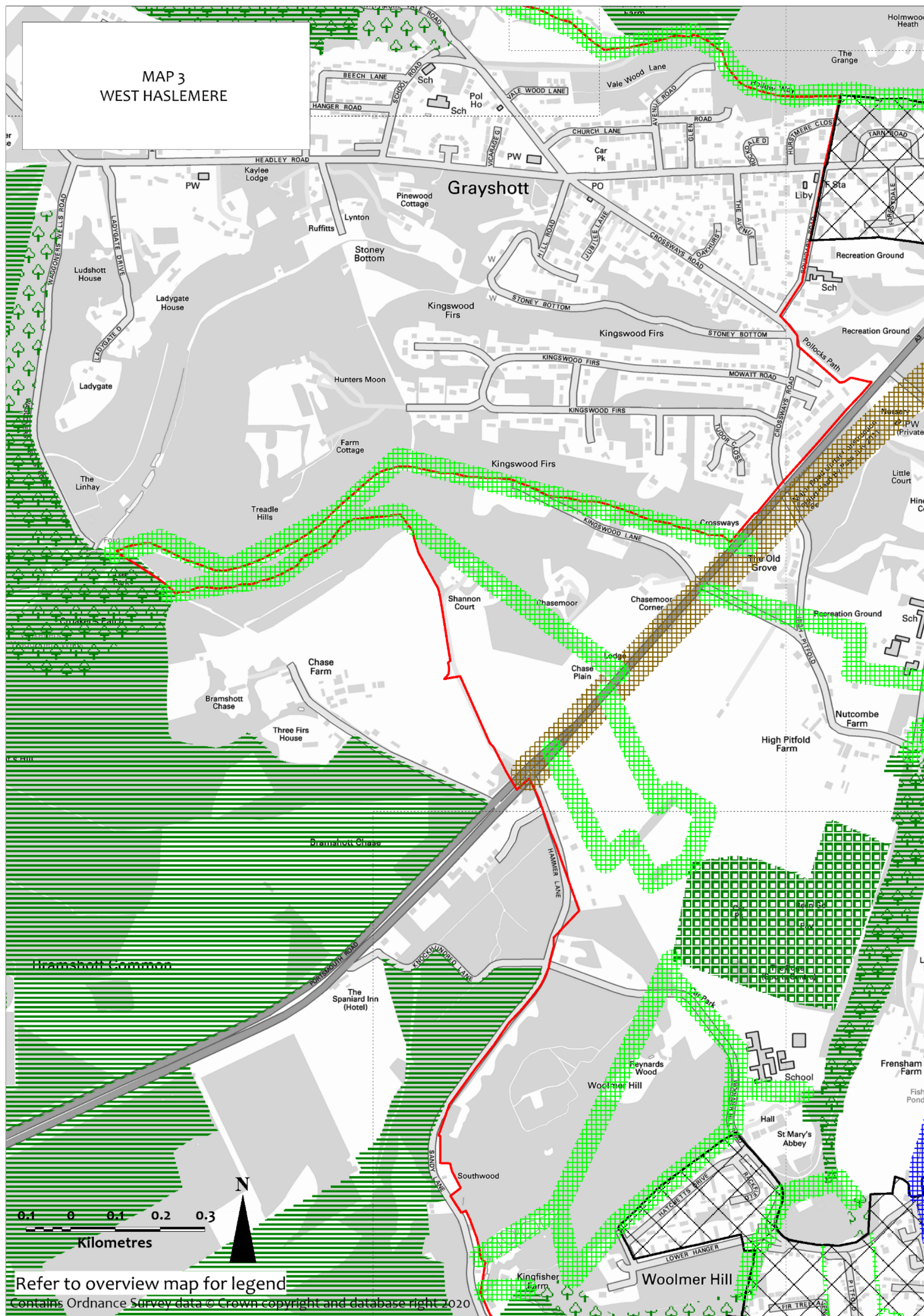
Map 2 (Northeast Beacon Hill and North Hindhead)

A heathland corridor north of Beacon Hill links Heathland SNCIs (Beacon Hill and Marchants Hill SNCI) with Devil's Punchbowl SSSI. Within Beacon Hill settlement are historic hedgerow corridors across Beacon Hill linking Local Green Space Groves Garden and just outside the settlement Hindhead Playing Field Green Finger. Hindhead settlement also includes historic hedgerows across built-up areas. The Map includes the River Wey corridor rising in Golden Valley.



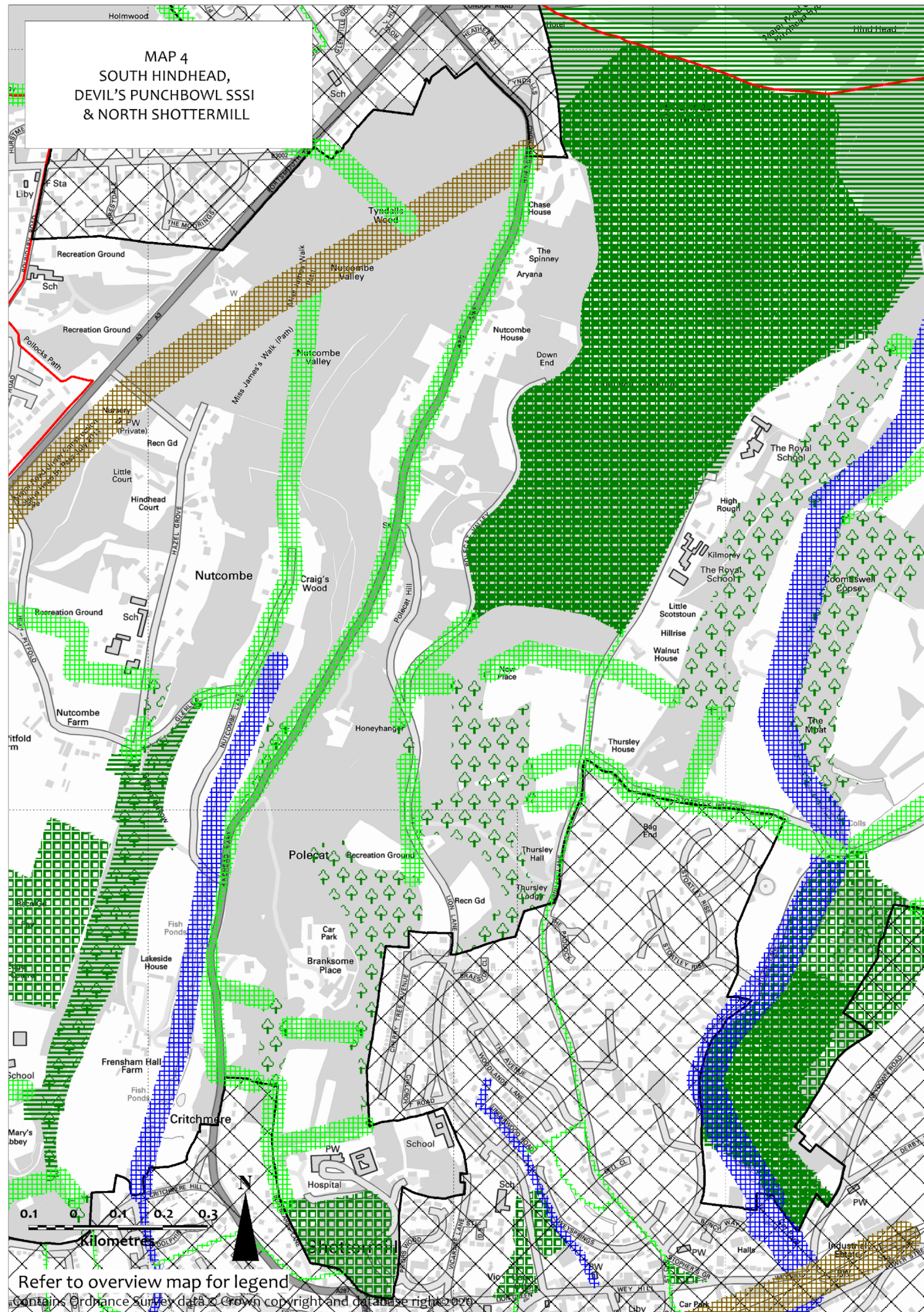
Map 3 (West Haslemere)

The A3 road-verge corridor links with woodland corridors westwards to Hampshire sites such as Waggoners Wells and eastwards towards Beechnut House Wood SNCI and Woolmer Hill Recreation Ground Green Finger. The woodland and hedgerows between Amesbury School and Woolmer Hill Road represent important bat corridors.



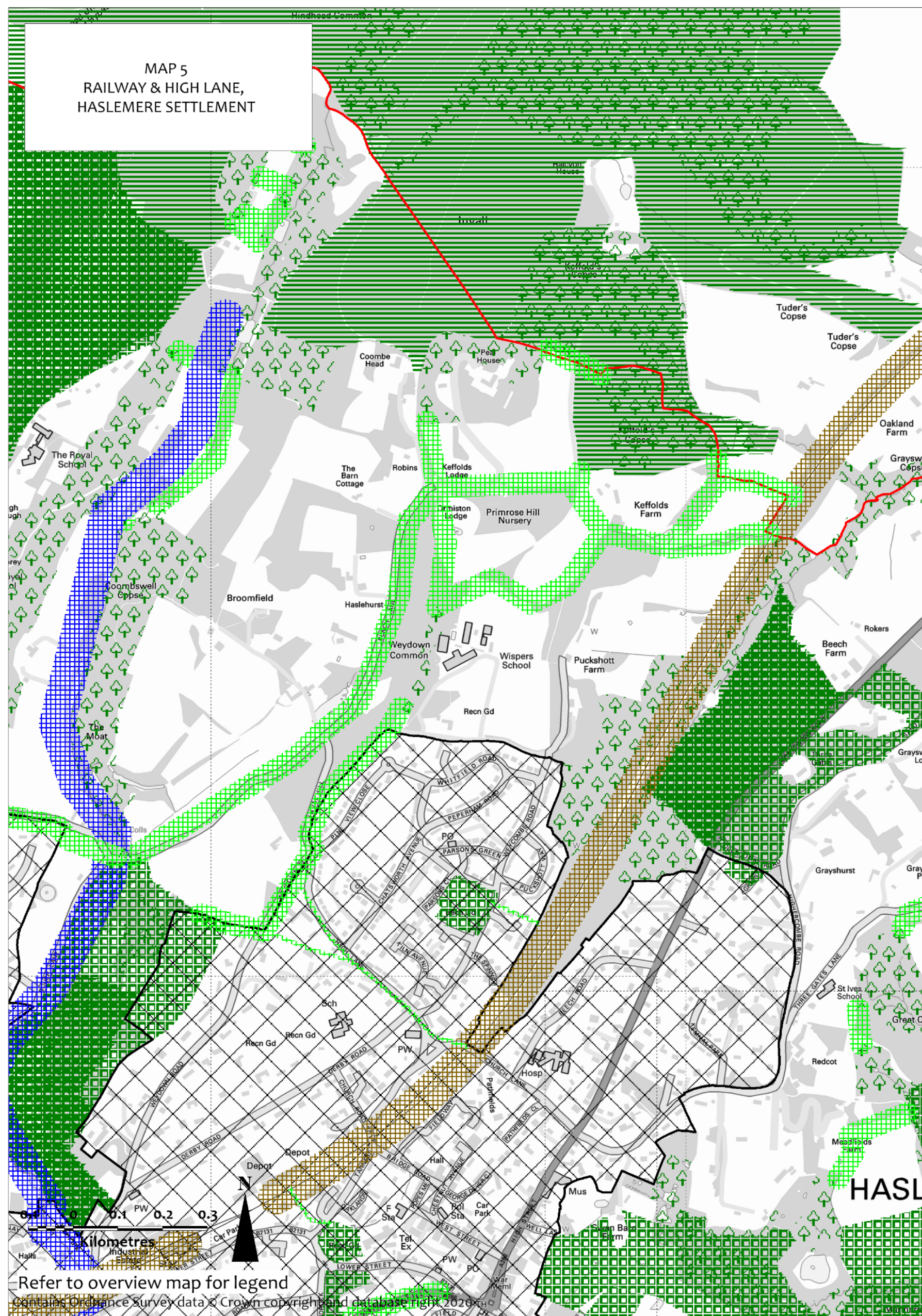
Map 4 (South Hindhead, Devil's Punchbowl SSSI and North Shottermill)

The A3 road-verge corridor is linked with a woodland corridor south to Nutcombe and an important bat corridor from Nutcombe Valley to Shottermill. Historic field-boundary and tree-line links are located within the settlement boundary of Hindhead. Woodland and hedgerow corridors link-up ancient woodland sites south of Devil's Punchbowl SSSI. Historic hedgerow corridors within Shottermill link to Lion's Green and St. Christopher's Green Spaces. A riparian corridor runs from Nutcombe Valley, through Shottermill towards the River Wey. Hedgerow corridors link ancient woodland sites to Bunch Lane Woodland SNCI, important for dormice. The hedgerow corridor between Royal School and Weydown Road is important for bats. A riparian corridor links Clements Corner Green Space with Bunch Lane Woodland SNCI.



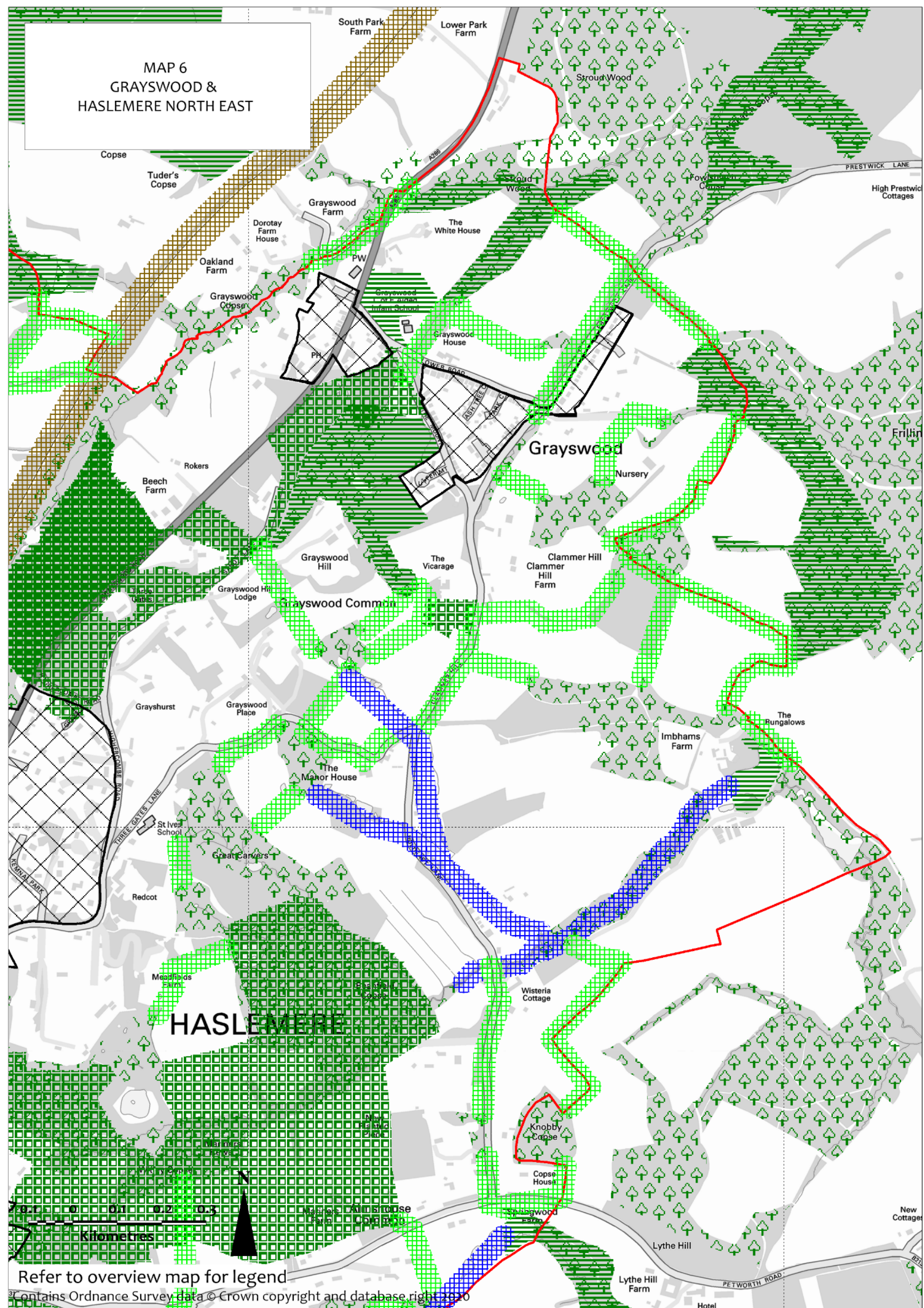
Map 5 (Railway and High Lane, Haslemere Settlement)

The railway is a major corridor running through the centre of Haslemere Town settlement. The railway corridor is linked via hedgerow and woodland corridors to ancient woodland to the west and Parish Lands SNCI to the east. The railway also links to historic hedgerow links within Haslemere settlement, including a corridor to High Lane Recreation Green Space and represents an important bat and dormouse corridor.



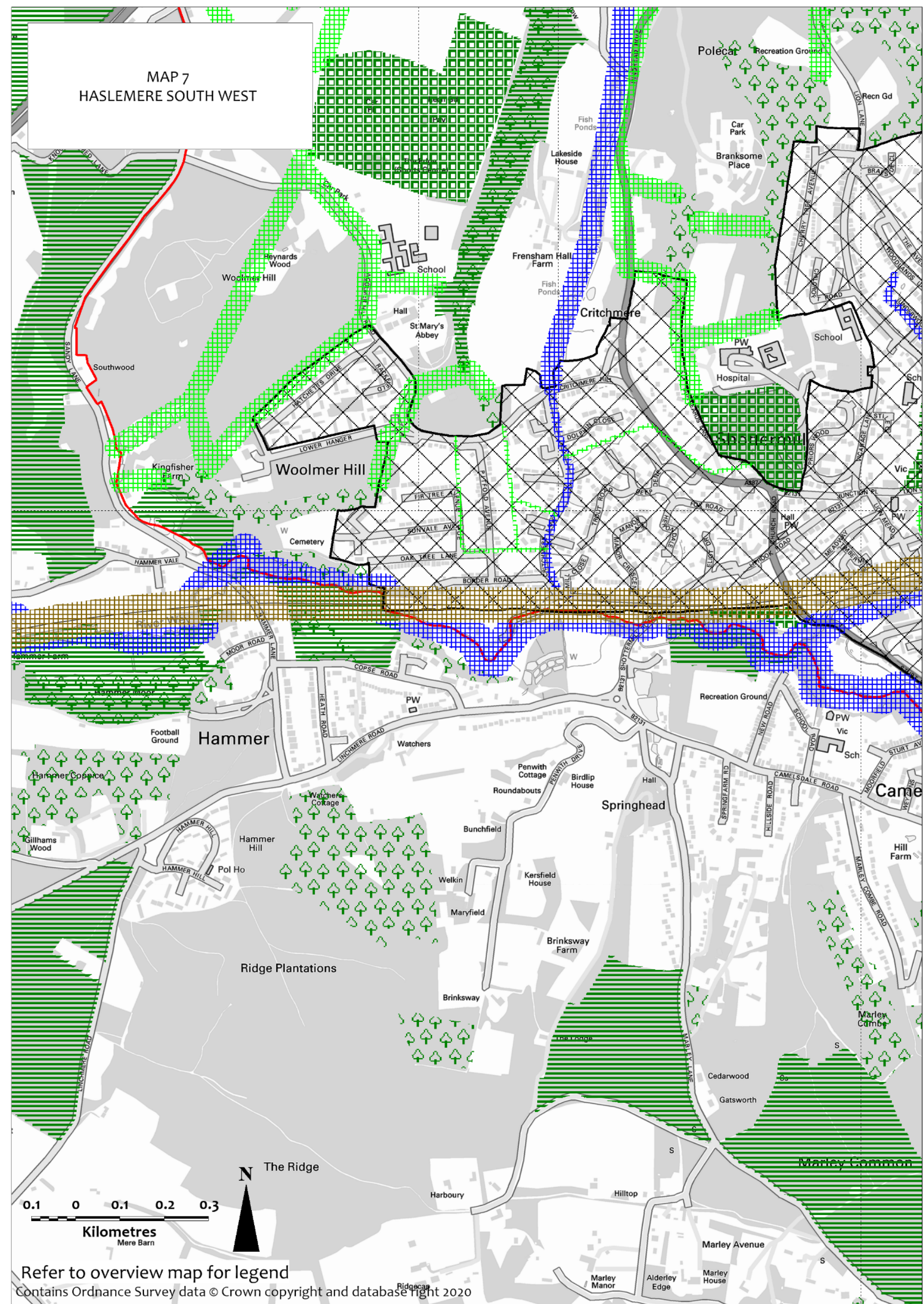
Map 6 (Grayswood and Haslemere North East)

An extensive network of hedgerow corridors link to ancient woodland (including Graywood Common, Imbhams and Frillinghurst Wood SNCIs) outside of the settlement boundaries. These corridors are important for dormice (from Grayswood to Imbhams) and bats (Grayswood to Swan Barn and Swan Barn to Imbhams). These corridors are perhaps the most important in Haslemere for bats, supporting a high number of bat species, including several rare bats and include a riparian corridor between Swan Barn and Imbhams, a headwater to the River Arun.



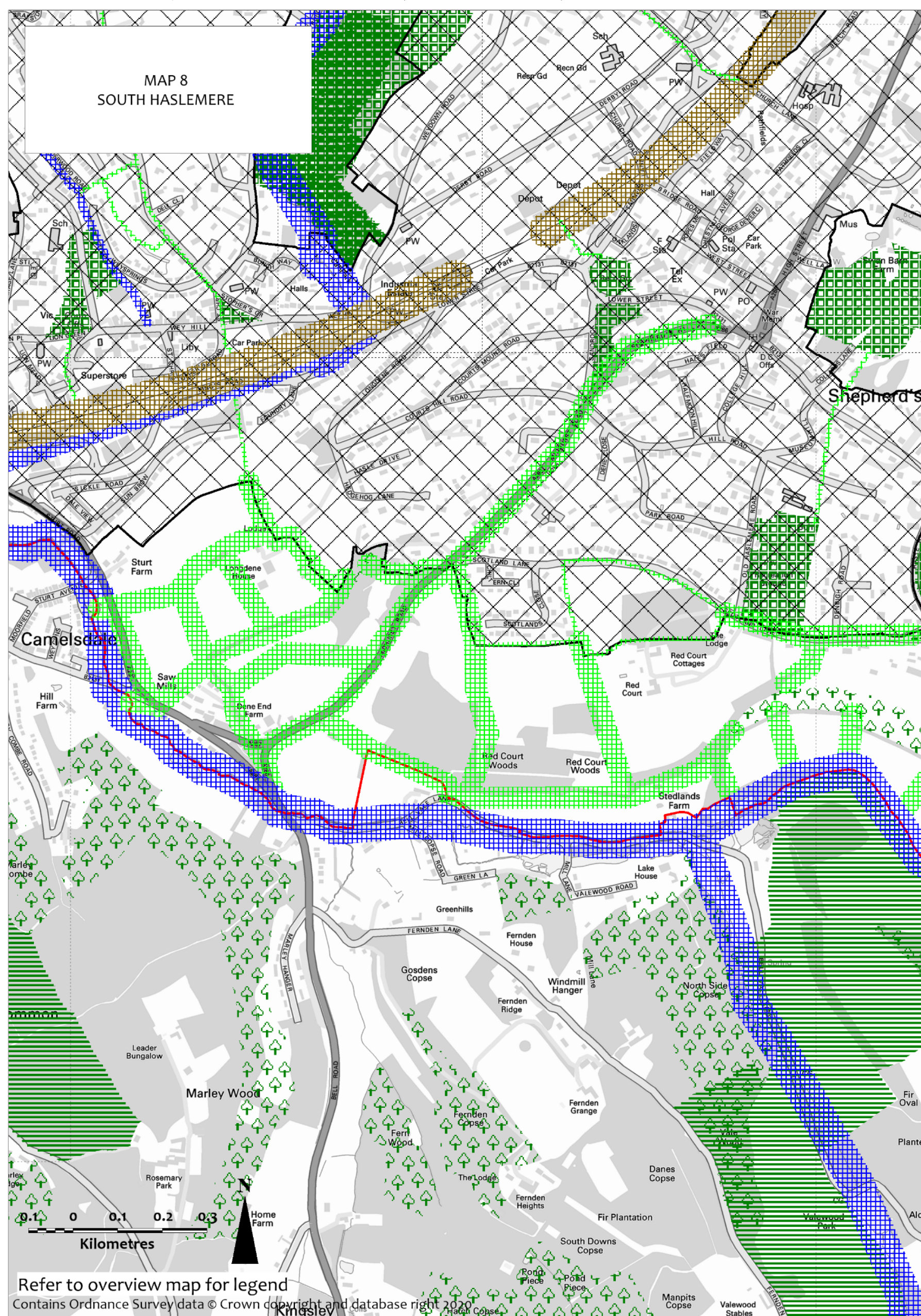
Map 7 (Haslemere South West)

The River Wey corridor stretches along the southern boundary of the Haslemere's Town Council Boundary, linked with historic corridors into Shottermill settlement (both riparian and hedgerow). The riparian corridor from Hammer to Sturt Road is important for bats. The railway and river corridor run parallel at the south western corner of the Neighbourhood Plan boundary. Several of the riparian corridors on Map 7 are partly culverted and could represent an opportunity, where it is possible to reinstate an open water-course. A woodland corridor links Woolmer Hill Recreation Ground Green Finger with ancient woodland to the south.



Map 8 (South Haslemere)

The River Wey corridor stretches along the southern boundary from Sturt Road to Bell Vue Lane, linked to hedgerow and woodland corridors within Sturt Farm Green Fingers and Red Court. Sturt Farm and Red Court both support vulnerable dormice corridors on the edge of the Town settlement. An historic hedgerow corridor, at Sun Brow Green Space, within Haslemere Settlement links the Railway to Sturt Farm hedgerow network. Other historic hedgerow corridors connect Town Meadow and the adjacent Sandrock's Woodland Green Space to the wider Countryside.



Similar to Map 6 this area represents a network of hedgerow corridors linking to a patchwork of ancient woodland (including Home Wood East and Lythe Hill Copse SNCIs) outside of the settlement boundaries. This network of hedgerows also include important corridors for bats from Blackdown woodland though Lythe Hill to Swan Barn, which are likely to also represent important corridors for Dormice. Haslemere's south eastern boundary is bordered by the River Wey, its source and the location for a beaver introduction project.