

Chapter 6

Strategic Priority GBI Zones

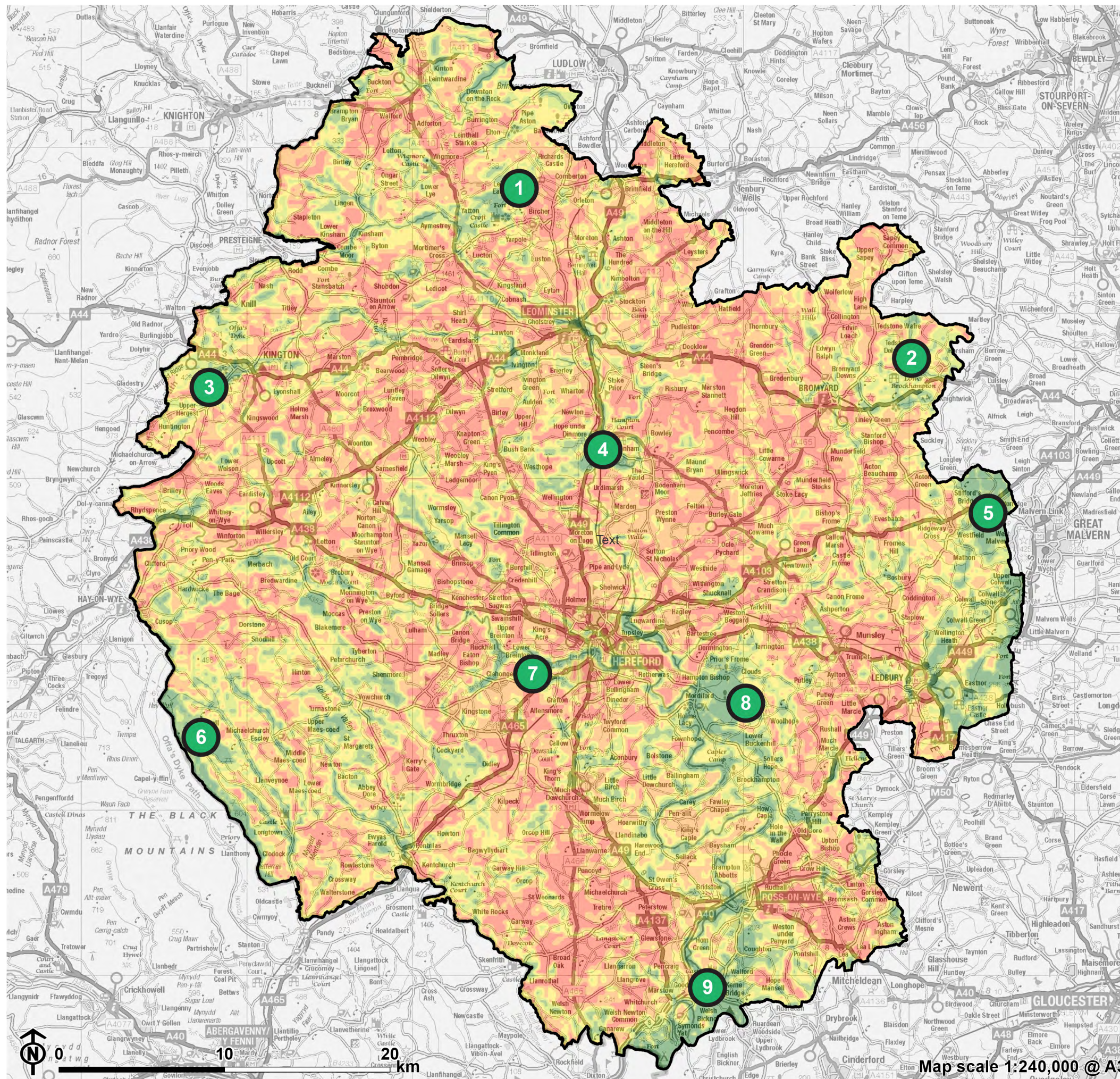
The Strategy has taken a data-led, evidence-based approach to the identification of Herefordshire's Strategic Priority GBI Zones. In addition to considering updates to the baseline context since publication of the 2010 GI Strategy, the process also more explicitly integrates blue infrastructure assets within the assessment of GBI networks within the county.

6.1 Baseline spatial data was gathered from a wide range of sources and collated using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to understand and guide future enhancements to the Herefordshire GBI network. The datasets utilised within the analysis of the themed chapters were categorised and superimposed to inform multifunctional GBI corridor mapping. The selection of datasets was led by the strategy themes of Place, Nature and People (See **Appendix F** for full details of the data sets used). This analysis was based on a snapshot of the best available data in June 2022.

6.2 In order to provide a strategic overview of the whole county, a 250m raster grid was applied and a sum of the superimposed layers present within each grid square calculated. This allowed the identification of spatial patterns at the county-wide scale, as outlined below:

- *GBI assets* – areas where there is an existing provision of features which provide GBI functionality, including benefits such as biodiversity value, accessible open space or heritage significance. These areas would typically benefit from protection, enhancement or improved connectivity of GBI (see **Figure 6.1**).
- *Areas of GBI need* – datasets which highlight where there is currently a deficiency of GBI, for example where there are barriers to accessing green space, assets in poor condition or high levels of flood risk etc. These areas

Figure 6.1: GBI Assets



Herefordshire boundary

GBI assets:

Relatively more GBI assets
Relatively less GBI assets

- 1 **North Herefordshire:** Woodland, including ancient woodland and common land.
- 2 **Land to the east of Bromyard:** Habitats include woodland, lowland meadow, traditional orchard and common land. The landscape also includes an RPG at Brockhampton Park.
- 3 **Land to the west of Kington:** Primarily woodland, including ancient woodland on common land. The landscape also includes a SSSI, conservation area and an RPG.
- 4 **Bodenham:** Hampton Court RPG and Queenswood Country Park. Within close proximity to the River Lugg with accessible waterside and natural heritage designations.
- 5 **Malvern Hills:** Land lying within the Malvern Hills AONB designation; including a high density of footpaths, a number of natural heritage designations and priority habitat (including lowland dry acid grassland, lowland meadow, lowland calcareous grassland and deciduous woodland).
- 6 **Black Mountains:** Common land and a high density of PRoW across the mosaic of predominately upland priority habitats; including upland heathland, grass moorland, good quality semi-improved grassland, and deciduous woodland. The landscape also includes local wildlife sites, SSSIs and local geological sites.
- 7 **Land to the south west of Hereford:** Natural heritage designations along the River Wye, with an accessible waterside, high density of PRoW and open spaces.
- 8 **Wye Valley:** Common land partially within Wye Valley AONB, supporting a mosaic of priority habitats including floodplain grazing marsh, lowland meadows, traditional orchards, deciduous woodland and woodland (as well as natural heritage designations).
- 9 **South Herefordshire:** Land lying within Wye Valley AONB; including a high PRoW density, accessible waterside, local geological site and natural heritage designations.

Map scale 1:240,000 @ A3

- should form the location of potential GBI creation across the county (see Figure 6.3).

Mapping the Strategic Priority GBI Zones

6.3 The mapping outputs were used as the basis for the identification of Strategic Priority GBI Zones within the county, derived from spatial patterns where several hotspots of existing assets or need overlap in specific geographical areas. These locations are important as hotspots have the potential to meet multiple needs simultaneously.

Figure 6.2: Process for identifying Strategic Priority GBI Zones

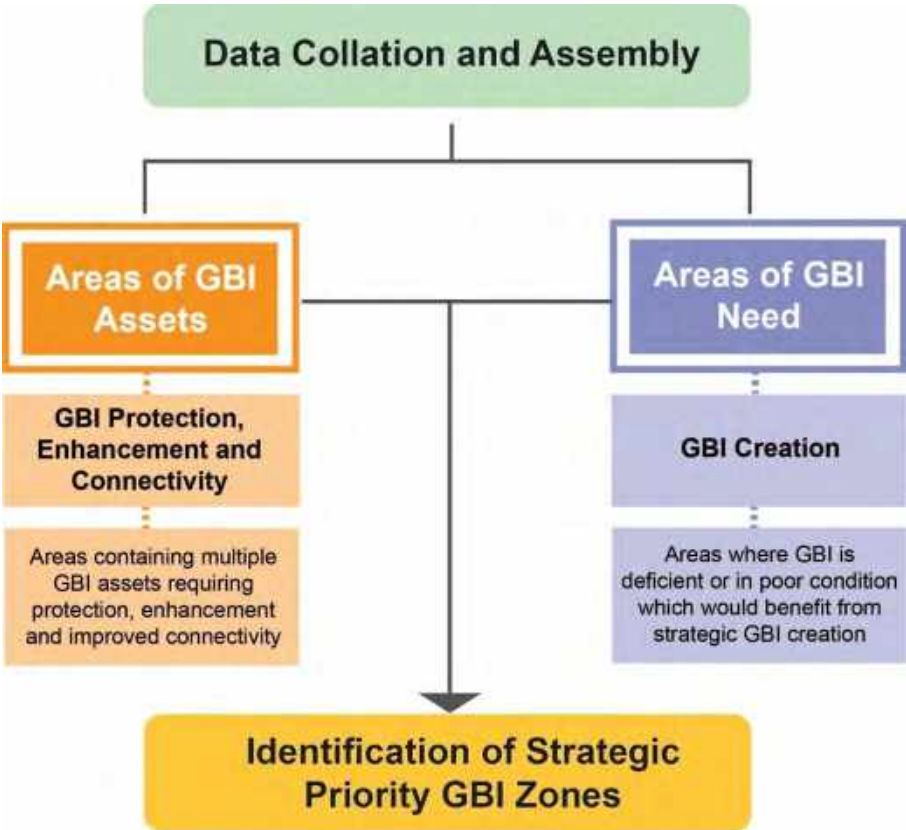
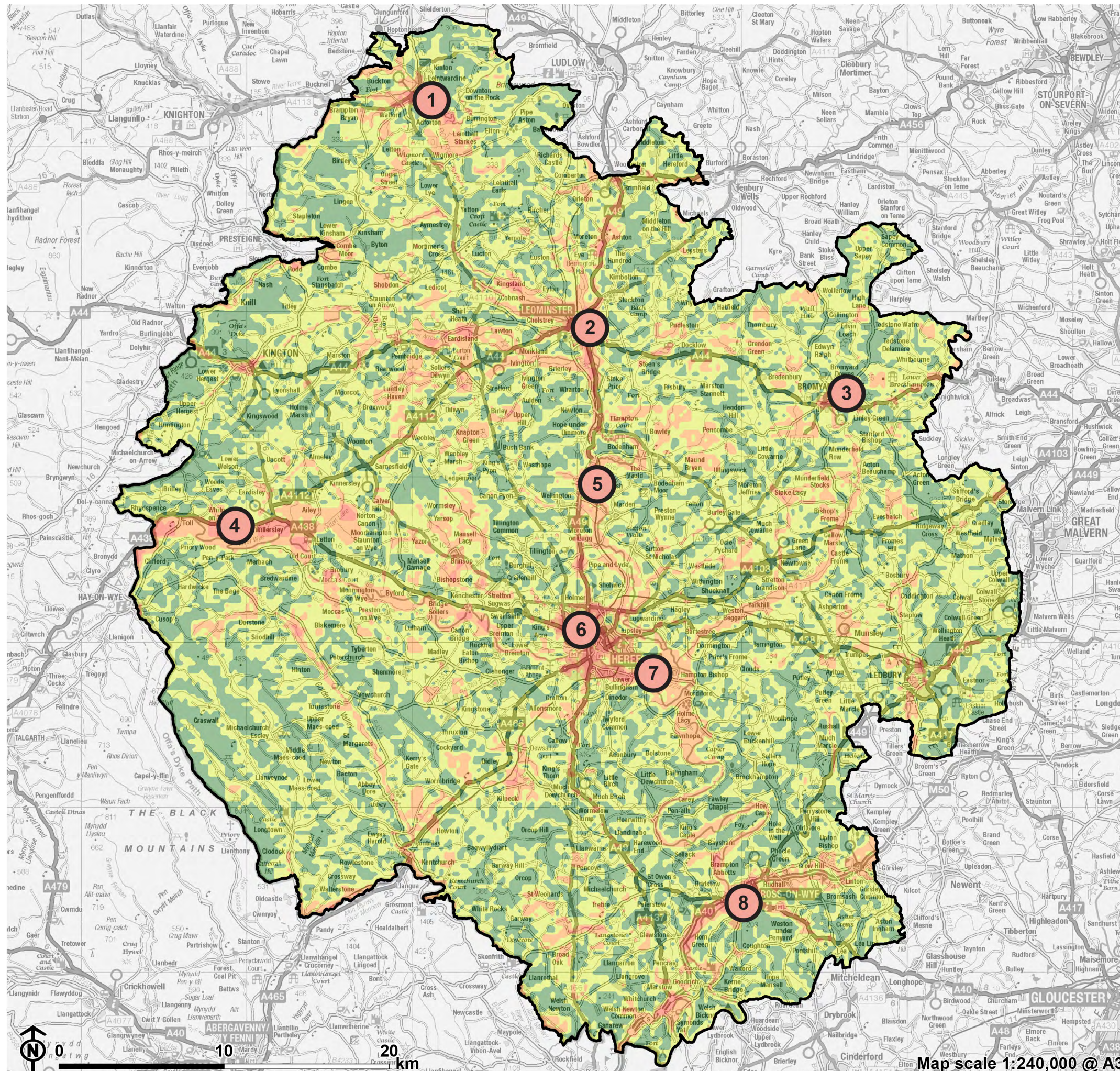


Figure 6.2: Areas of GBI Need



Herefordshire boundary

GBI need:

Relatively higher GBI need

Relatively lower GBI need

- 1 **North Herefordshire:** Gaps in PRow provision and flood risk associated with the River Teme.
- 2 **Leominster:** Gaps in accessible greenspace provision, pockets of IMD health deprivation*, road noise, AQMA and flood risk.
- 3 **Bromyard:** Gaps in accessible greenspace provision, low greenness grid score and road noise associated with the A44. Gaps in PRow provision are also evident to the south west.
- 4 **Upper Wye:** Fluvial and surface water flood risk with gaps in PRow provision.
- 5 **Urdimarsh:** Road noise associated with the A49, fluvial flooding from the River Lugg and some gaps in PRow provision.
- 6 **Hereford:** Low greenness grid scores, pockets of IMD health deprivation, road noise, surface water flood risk and fluvial flooding associated with the River Wye.
- 7 **Land to the south east of Hereford:** Surface water and fluvial flood risk with some SSSIs in an unfavourable condition.
- 8 **Ross-on-Wye:** Surface water and fluvial flood risk, some assets on the Heritage at Risk Register, road noise associated with the A40 and some accessible greenspace deficiencies.

Linear patterns follow rivers and major roads



*Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) health deprivation measures people's quality of life through the occurrence of poor physical and mental health, for example premature death, morbidity, disability & anxiety disorders.

Source: Herefordshire Council, Ordnance Survey. The needs score was calculated by LUC combining datasets from Heritage England, Natural England, DEFRA, Environmental Agency and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.

6.4 Zones were defined by joining together the hotspots identified within **Figures 6.1** and **6.2**. This process was also supplemented by a baseline assessment of natural linear features, such as existing river corridors and topographical features. For each Strategic Priority GBI Zone, an analysis of the datasets comprising the hotspots was undertaken to highlight the conservation, enhancement and creation priorities within each area. Consideration was also given to issues at both the strategic and local / settlement scale. **Figure 6.4** indicates the spatial distribution of these Strategic Priority GBI Zones across Herefordshire.

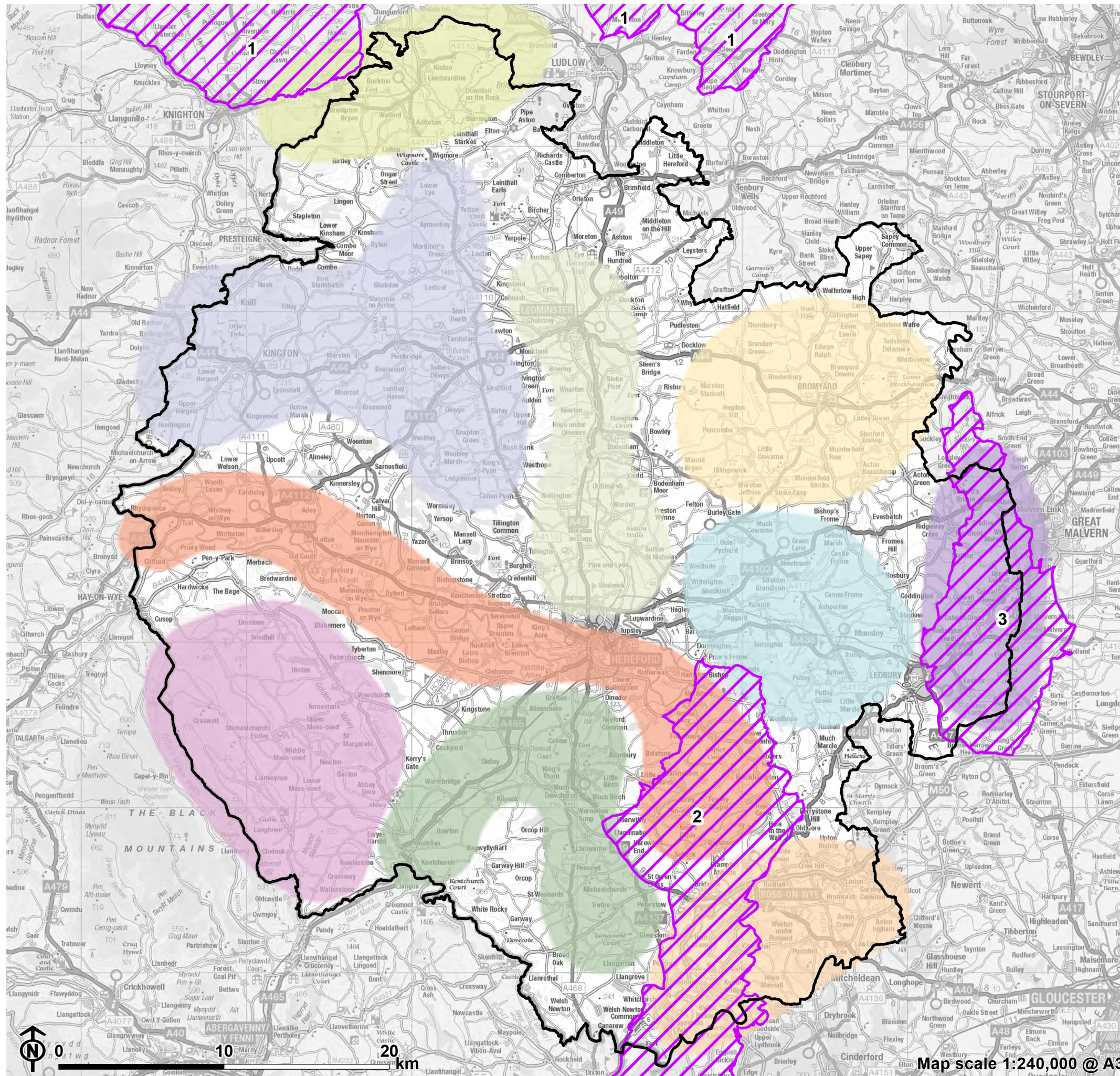
6.5 For each zone, summary analysis of assets and needs has been completed to inform the identification of GBI Priority Projects (see **Tables 6.1 - 6.10**). For each GBI Priority Project, information is provided regarding the following elements:

- Name of Proposed GBI Priority Project;
- Issue to be addressed;
- Potential delivery mechanisms;
- Potential delivery partners;
- Funding opportunities; and
- Benefits (as defined by the Natural England GI Framework).

6.6 **Figures 6.5 – 6.14** illustrate the spatial extent of each Strategic Priority GBI Zone. **Figure 6.15 – 6.20** provide further detail on existing GBI networks and GBI Priority Projects within Hereford and the five market towns.

6.7 All GBI Priority Projects are outlined as indicative – the ability of each to deliver the number of benefits highlighted is dependent on planning, siting, design and land use zoning adopted as part of local policy. The delivery of these projects is also dependent on the availability of resources within local partnerships to achieve effective delivery.

Figure 6.4: Herefordshire's Strategic Priority GBI Zones



- County of Herefordshire
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
 1. Shropshire Hills
 2. Wye Valley
 3. Malvern Hills
- GBI Priority Zone**
 - Bromyard Agricultural Plateau
 - Gateway to the Malvern Hills
 - Golden Valley and Black Mountains Edge
 - Hereford to Leominster Lugg Corridor
 - Kington Woodland Arc
 - Mortimer Forest and Gateway to the Shropshire Hills
 - River Frome and Canal Heritage Corridor
 - Ross-on-Wye and Gateway to Wye Valley
 - South Herefordshire Infrastructure Corridor
 - Wye Valley Green-Blue Corridor

Source: LUC, Natural England, Ordnance Survey

Strategic Priority GBI Zone: Wye Valley Green-Blue Corridor

Vision: Conserve and enhance the low-lying river corridor as a mechanism to improve connectivity, deliver diverse habitats and support thriving tourism.

Spatial coverage and connectivity

6.8 The River Wye forms the county's principal geographical feature. Broadly following the meandering valley of the watercourse, the corridor is characterised by a broad valley bottom with adjoining rolling hills. This lowland character is defined by broad meadows comprising the Herefordshire lowlands. A mosaic of habitats frame the built and natural heritage found along the river, including important archaeological and cultural assets.

Summary of analysis of assets

- The River Wye forms a valuable internationally recognised river corridor, designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) comprising several nationally significant sites. These include the River Lugg SSSI as well as Lugg and Hampton Meadows SSSI. These sites provide a mosaic of priority habitats (including floodplain grazing marsh, lowland meadows, reedbeds, riparian deciduous woodland and wet woodland) and support a range of aquatic plant communities.
- The river forms a focus for recreational activity, offering an important conduit for the movement of people and wildlife. The corridor also offers

opportunities for interactions with the water due to its public right of navigation.

- The Wye Valley AONB contributes positively to the rural setting of the River Wye corridor.

Summary of analysis of needs

- The Management Plan for the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty [See reference 14] (AONB) identifies a number of pressures that are likely to result in forces for change within the Wye Valley. These include factors such as climate adaptation, agriculture, tourism and recreation as well as future development.
- Flood risk associated with the floodplain of the River Wye affects a number of towns and villages within close proximity, including the city of Hereford.
- Cherry Hill Wood Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is described as 'unfavourable – declining'.
- Hereford Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) follows the corridor of the A49, extending from Holmer Road to Belmont Road.
- The southern bank of the River Wye is located within close proximity to areas of South Hereford which lie within the most deprived 20% in England (Golden Post-Newton Farm, Hunderton, Bishops Meadow-Hunderton, Redhill-Belmont Road and Newton Farm-Brampton Road).
- Large areas of Hereford, including Lower Farm, Putson, Portfields, Hampton Park, Ryelands and Aylestone Hill are deficient in accessible greenspace. These areas achieve three or less of the accessible green space buffers, as defined by the Natural England GI Framework. These buffers provide an indication of the extent of areas that meet the Accessible Greenspace Standards. Where an area does not meet the standard, this indicates a deficiency in greenspace provision.
- The settlements of Winforton, Willersley, Bridge Sollers, between Lower Breinton and Broomy Hill to the west of Hereford, Lower Bullingham to the

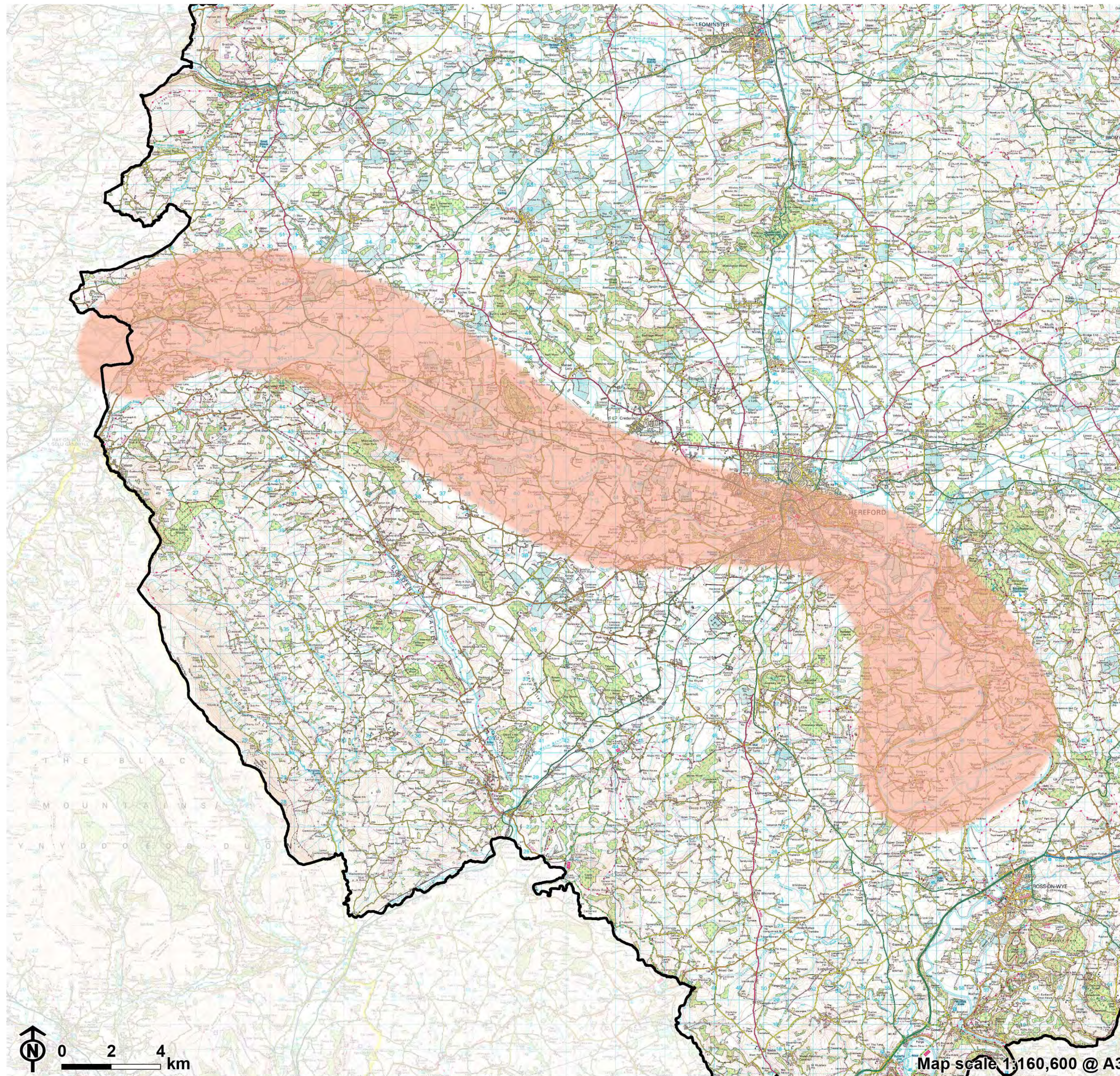
south east of Hereford, and Sellack near Ross-on-Wye exhibit a lower density / coverage of existing Public Rights of Way (PRoW).

- Running broadly north-south, the alignment of the A49 and the short section of the A465 both exceed 60 decibels during day light hours and 55 decibels during the night.

Planned settlement growth

6.9 The floodplain of the River Wye provides a significant environmental barrier to future development. The Wye Valley AONB designation also forms a planning constraint. Housing growth is projected within Hereford – 5,000 new properties are proposed between 2021 and 2041. Furthermore, the requirement for adherence to nutrient management to achieve 'nutrient neutrality' forms a key planning consideration in this zone.

Figure 6.5: Wye Valley Green-Blue Corridor Strategic Priority GBI Zone



- Herefordshire boundary
- Wye Valley Green-Blue Corridor

Map scale 1:160,600 @ A3

Source: LUC, Ordnance Survey

Table 6.1: Wye Valley Green-Blue Corridor - GBI Priority Projects

Ref.	Proposed GBI project	Issue to be addressed	Details of the proposed intervention	Potential delivery mechanisms	Potential delivery partners	Funding opportunities	Benefits (as defined by the Natural England GI Framework – refer to Figure 2.2)
Strategic scale							
WV1	Encourage catchment sensitive farming and land management practices	Seek to improve soil quality and reduce run-off into the River Wye catchment.	Re-ignite support for the plans put forward by The Wye & Usk Foundation, along with the Rivers Trust and 14 Herefordshire landowners, to resolve water quality issues within the River Wye through the use of catchment scale SuDS / Natural Flood Management (NFM) interventions. Riparian habitat creation and connection should also be promoted to help deliver strategic objectives of nature recovery and climate resilience. Continue to monitor water quality in the river network.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Environment Agency; ■ Natural England; ■ DEFRA; ■ Wye Valley AONB; ■ Wye and Usk Foundation; and ■ Wye Catchment Partnership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; ■ Environmental Land Management Scheme; ■ Grant funding for capital works and management (sustainable farming incentive); and ■ Defra's Landscape Recovery Scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Improved water management; and ■ Resilient and climate positive places.
WV2	Conserve and enhance the special qualities of the Wye Valley AONB	Recognise and promote the sensitivities of the protected landscape.	Deliver interventions which respond positively to the vision for the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), as defined within the AONB Management Plan 2021-2026. This includes proposals which aim to protect the 27 Special Qualities of the protected landscape.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wye Valley AONB; and ■ Natural England. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; and ■ Grant funding for capital works and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Resilient and climate positive places; and ■ Thriving and prosperous places.
WV3	Manage recreational pressures within designated ecological sites	Manage recreational pressures at key sites along the River Wye SAC / SSSI corridors and within the Wye Valley AONB.	This intervention should include the identification of areas for 'active access', 'exploring nature', and 'undisturbed areas' to manage recreational sensitivities. Consideration should also be given to guiding and controlling access spatially to protect sensitive habitats and species. Route signage should be used to deliver this opportunity, as well as mechanisms which allow engagement, education and visitor access without causing disturbance. An access management plan should also be developed for the Wye corridor. This should identify areas of limited access, to protect sensitive habitats, or seasonal access (avoiding the breeding season).	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural England; ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Environment Agency; ■ Local sports groups; and ■ The Wye and Usk Foundation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; and ■ Grant funding for capital works and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Resilient and climate positive places; and ■ Active and healthy places.
WV4	Maintain the favourable conservation status (FCS) of the River	Support populations of water crowfoot, otter and white-clawed crayfish	Access following the course of the river corridor should be informed by appropriate ecological assessment and sensitive design. Maintaining undisturbed habitat should relate back to the FCS for the qualifying features.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural England; ■ Marches Nature Partnership; and ■ The Wye and Usk Foundation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL / BNG; and ■ Grant funding for capital works and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places

	Wye SAC and SSSI						
WV5	Identify opportunities for wet meadows along the River Wye corridor	Recognise the status of wet meadows as a local conservation priority	Utilise existing expertise from Herefordshire Meadows and work with landowners to explore opportunities to enhance wet meadow habitat. This could include the creation of additional areas of shallow pools and scrapes for curlews within their known breeding areas along the floodplain of the River Wye.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Meadows; ■ Marches Nature Partnership; ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Land owners; and ■ The Wye and Usk Foundation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL / BNG; and ■ Grant funding for capital works and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; and ■ Improved water management.
Local / settlement scale							
WV6	Connect and enhance areas of existing riparian woodland	Enhance existing riparian woodland which is fragmented or in poor condition	Promote the expansion of riparian habitats along the wide valley bottom between Monnington-on-Wye and Lower Breinton. This intervention should also aim to improve wetlands and aquatic marginal vegetation between Winforton and Staunton on Wye, to help deliver strategic objectives of nature recovery and promote nature-based solutions for achieving climate resilience.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Land owners; and ■ Forestry England. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GBI-led scheme design; ■ S106 / CIL / BNG; and ■ Environmental Land Management Scheme (local nature recovery). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; and ■ Resilient and climate positive places.
WV7	Enhance active travel links along the River Wye within Hereford	Reduce the number of short car journeys within Hereford and address gaps in the coverage of cycle routes	The intervention should support wider efforts as part of the Hereford City Masterplan 2050 to reduce the number of short journeys within Hereford. With limited numbers of vehicle river crossings, congestion on Victoria Street can contribute towards an unpleasant and polluted experience when enjoying the River Wye around St Martin's Street and the Old Bridge. Works to address the fragmentation of National Cycle Network (NCN) Routes 44 and 46 should be explored. The potential also exists to connect Holme Lacy with Hereford and the Hereford Enterprise Zone via active travel links along the river or disused railway lines.	Via the planning system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Sustrans; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; and ■ Infrastructure Delivery Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Thriving and prosperous places; and ■ Active and healthy places.
WV8	Deliver ecological mitigation as part of major infrastructure projects	Avoid fragmentation of existing habitat networks	Appropriate ecological mitigation should be delivered as part of major infrastructure projects, including the proposed Eastern River Crossing at Hereford. Proposals should also ensure active travel links are optimised where possible and heritage assets, for example the Rotherwas Chapel, are protected and celebrated.	Via the planning system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Council; and ■ Historic England. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Resilient and climate positive places;

							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Thriving and prosperous places; and ■ Active and healthy places.
WV9	Address flood risk at the site and settlement level	Improve climate change resilience at sites adjoining the River Wye	Utilise nature-based solutions to address flooding via the restoration of wetland landscapes and wet woodland planting. An example of this approach would be the proposed establishment of a new Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Reserve at Bartonsham Meadows, Hereford. Herefordshire Wildlife Trust has recently secured a new 25 year lease for the site from the Church Commissioners, with an aim to return the 40 ha site back to traditionally grazed floodplain meadows. The proposal offers the potential to restore hedgerows, ponds and species-rich grassland through positive land management. The long-term vision for the site is to enhance sensitive access to nature within central Hereford through the creation of a heritage trail and additional features such as traditional orchards. The opportunity also exists to progress the proposals for a new urban wetland park located at the 'Essex Arms' field within Hereford City.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Wildlife Trust; ■ Wilder Hereford; ■ Friends of Bartonsham Meadows; ■ Bartonsham History Group; ■ Natural England; and ■ Jackson Property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Heritage Lottery Fund; and ■ Future Government-funded pots. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Improved water management; and ■ Resilient and climate positive places.
WV10	Enhance recreational infrastructure along the River Wye	Enhance the River Wye as a recreational resource	Support plans for enhanced recreational infrastructure along the River Wye around St Martin's Bridge to help increase access to and enjoyment of the river, as part of the Stronger Hereford Town Investment Plan. In accordance with plans for an Eastern River Crossing within Hereford, explore the opportunity to re-route sections of the Wye Valley Walk and Three Choirs Way to encompass sections of the River Wye corridor as it passes through Hereford, as opposed to being diverted along roads. The Hereford Tree Trail, produced as part of the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust City Branch, should also be promoted.	Via the planning system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Herefordshire Wildlife Trust; and ■ Herefordshire Tree Forum. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; and ■ Infrastructure Delivery Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Thriving and prosperous places; and ■ Active and healthy places.

Strategic Priority GBI Zone: Mortimer Forest and Gateway to the Shropshire Hills

Vision: Utilise GBI to enhance the strong sense of place created by the combination of distinctive topography, extensive woodland tracts and the parkland landscape.

Spatial coverage and connectivity

6.10 Located at the northern extent of the county, Mortimer Forest straddles the border with Shropshire. The corridors of the River Teme and River Clun form distinctive landscape features and provide wider connections to the Shropshire Hills AONB. Beyond the floodplain of these watercourses, the landscape is typified by a network of woodland tracts and topographical variations.

Summary of analysis of assets

- Characterised by a ridge of high land that leads to a rolling upland landscape with narrow valleys, a pattern of small, irregular woodlands and distinct heritage features in the form of hillforts, castles, nucleated villages and farmsteads.
- There is a higher concentration of common land and open access land towards the eastern extent of Mortimer Forest, offering links towards Shropshire Hills AONB.
- The Mortimer Trail, a long-distance recreational route connecting Kington with Ludlow (Shropshire), crosses through the zone.

- The zone encompasses sections of the River Teme, the second largest tributary of the River Severn.
- Typified by ancient woodlands and SSSI of notable size. These include Brampton Bryan (national importance as a wood pasture), Downton Gorge (SAC that lies on a stretch of the River Teme, contains woodland types that are nationally scarce), and River Teme SSSI (a representative of a biologically-rich river type associated with sandstone and mudstones).

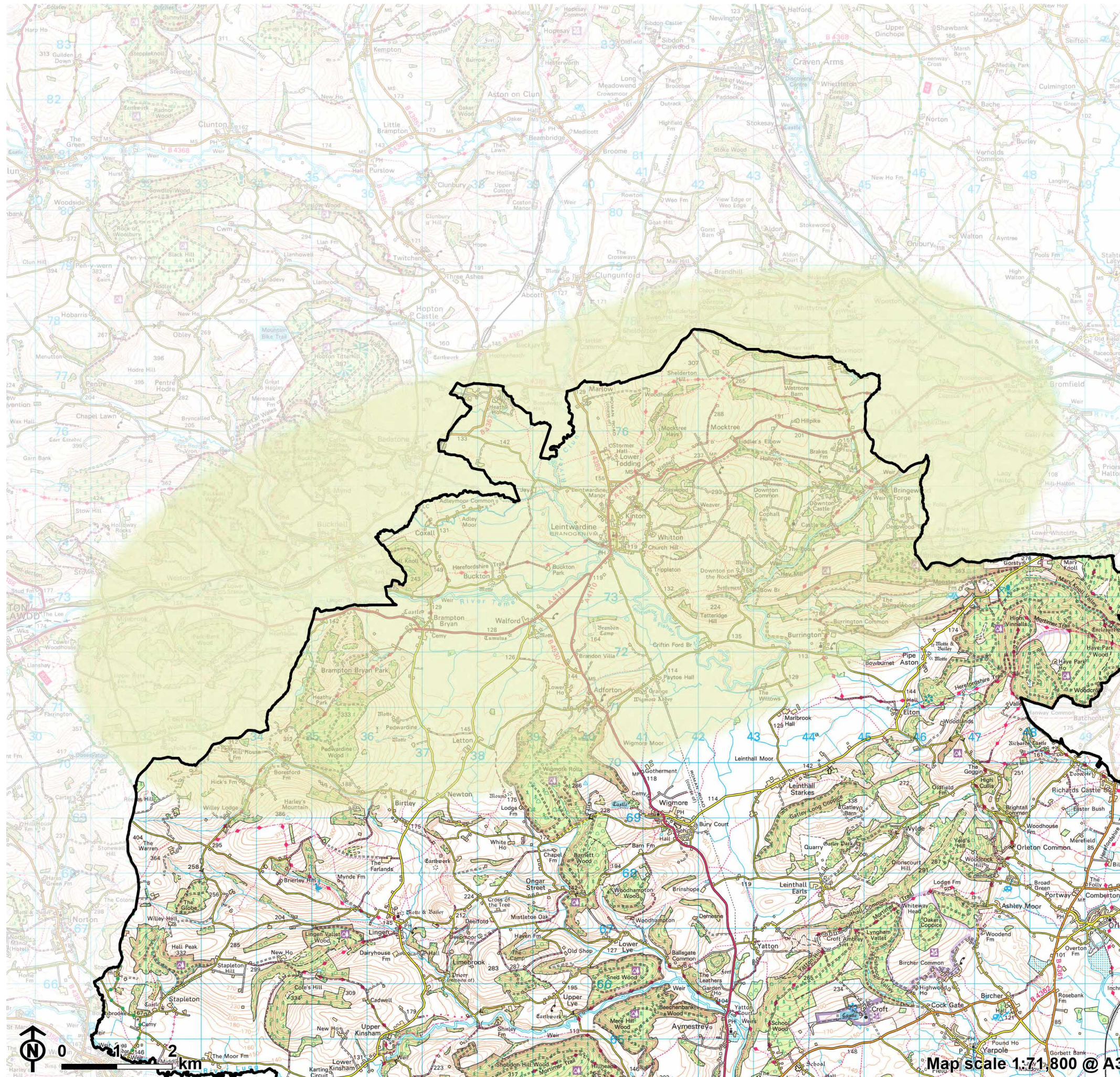
Summary of analysis of needs

- The condition of the River Clun Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is described as 'unfavourable – declining', due to high levels of phosphate, nitrogen and silt.
- Downton Gorge Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is described as 'unfavourable – declining' due to deer grazing. Many sections of the River Teme SSSI are also 'unfavourable – declining' due to poor habitat connectivity (inappropriate weirs and dams), invasive species and agriculture runoff and discharge.
- The zone partially falls within the Lugg catchment, which is subject to adherence to nutrient management to achieve 'nutrient neutrality'.
- The Working with Natural Processes (WWNP) Floodplain woodland potential dataset, which estimates locations where tree planting may be possible on smaller floodplains close to flow pathways (effective for both attenuating flooding and connecting woodland corridors), indicates the potential for reforestation adjacent the River Teme.
- The low-lying nature of the topography at the confluence of the River Clun and River Teme results in a large swathe of land which is at risk of flooding.
- Land at the village of Leintwardine is deficient in accessible greenspace, achieving three or less of the accessible greenspace buffers (as defined by the Natural England GI Framework). These buffers provide an indication of the extent of areas that meet the Accessible Greenspace

Standards. Where an area does not meet the standard, this indicates a deficiency in greenspace provision.

- The southern portion of the zone, particularly to the south of the A4113 and west of the A4110, exhibits a low density of Public Rights of Way (PRoW). This trend is also reflected within parcels of land at Adforton, Bringewood and land to the north east of Downton on the Rock.

Figure 6.6: Mortimer Forest and Gateway to the Shropshire Hills Strategic Priority GBI Zone



- Herefordshire boundary
- Mortimer Forest and Gateway to the Shropshire Hills

Source: LUC, Ordnance Survey

Table 6.2: Mortimer Forest and Gateway to the Shropshire Hills - GBI Priority Projects

Ref.	Proposed GBI project	Issue to be addressed	Details of the proposed intervention	Potential delivery mechanisms	Potential delivery partners	Funding opportunities	Benefits (as defined by the Natural England GI Framework – refer to Figure 2.2)
Strategic scale							
MF1	Improve the condition of the River Clun SAC	Restore Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel	Deliver strategic GBI interventions to improve the condition of the River Clun SAC to restore Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel. The watercourse is currently in a state of decline due to poor water quality as a result of high nutrient levels. Collaborate with the Strategic Clun Liaison Group to identify opportunities for cross-boundary collaboration to deliver mitigation and river restoration measures. Work with the local community, Town and Parish Councils, landowners and local businesses to deliver nature recovery across the Teme Catchment with a focus on nutrient neutrality, river restoration and flood risk mitigation.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural England; ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Environment Agency; and ■ Land owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; ■ Environmental Land Management Scheme; ■ Grant funding for capital works and management (sustainable farming incentive); and ■ Defra's Landscape Recovery Scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Improved water management; and ■ Resilient and climate positive places.
MF2	Deliver nature-based solutions in the Teme catchment	Improve water quality, address flood risk and enhance the condition of the River Teme SSSI	Continue to support the Severn Rivers Trust and Riverscapes Partnership with the delivery of a range of nature-based solutions within the River Teme catchment. These proposals should aim to improve riparian woodland connectivity, control invasive species and reduce agricultural runoff with a view to achieving Bathing Waters standard in the River Teme watercourse.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural England; ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Environment Agency; and ■ Land owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GBI-led scheme design; ■ S106 / CIL / BNG; and ■ Environmental Land Management Scheme (local nature recovery). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Improved water management; and ■ Resilient and climate positive places.
MF3	Create a strategic active travel route	Reduce dependency on private transport and strengthen the PRow network	Explore opportunities to utilise the former route of the Roman Road, which extends north out of Leintwardine, to create an active travel route towards Craven Arms and the Shropshire Hills AONB. This Roman Road also extends south out of Leintwardine and creates an opportunity to deliver a direct north-south active travel link towards Leominster and Hereford.	Via the planning system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Council; and ■ Sustrans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; and ■ Infrastructure Delivery Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Resilient and climate positive places; ■ Thriving and prosperous places; and ■ Active and healthy places.

Ref.	Proposed GBI project	Issue to be addressed	Details of the proposed intervention	Potential delivery mechanisms	Potential delivery partners	Funding opportunities	Benefits (as defined by the Natural England GI Framework – refer to Figure 2.2)
Local / settlement scale							
MF4	Improve recreational access from Leintwardine	Address local deficiencies in access to greenspace	Enhance promotion of access to the banks of the River Teme and River Clun from Leintwardine, a village identified as having a deficiency in access to greenspace. This intervention should utilise existing PRoWs, as well as the Herefordshire Trail promoted walking route. Potential enhancements to active travel connections towards Mortimer Forest and Ludlow should also be explored.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Sustrans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; and ■ Infrastructure Delivery Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; ■ Resilient and climate positive places; ad ■ Active and healthy places.
MF5	Introduce management interventions at Downton Gorge SAC and SSSI	Improve the condition of Downton Gorge SAC and SSSI	Continue to work with Natural England to improve the management of deer grazing at Downton Gorge SAC and SSSI. This narrow wooded ravine hosts a unique microclimate with a variety of slopes and aspects. However, grazing pressure from deer is halting natural regeneration, causing the condition of the designated site to be unfavourable declining.	Via the planning system and / or landowner buy-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural England; ■ Herefordshire Council; ■ Environment Agency; and ■ Land owners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ S106 / CIL; ■ Environmental Land Management Scheme; ■ Grant funding for capital works and management (sustainable farming incentive); and ■ Defra's Landscape Recovery Scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nature rich beautiful places; and ■ Resilient and climate positive places.