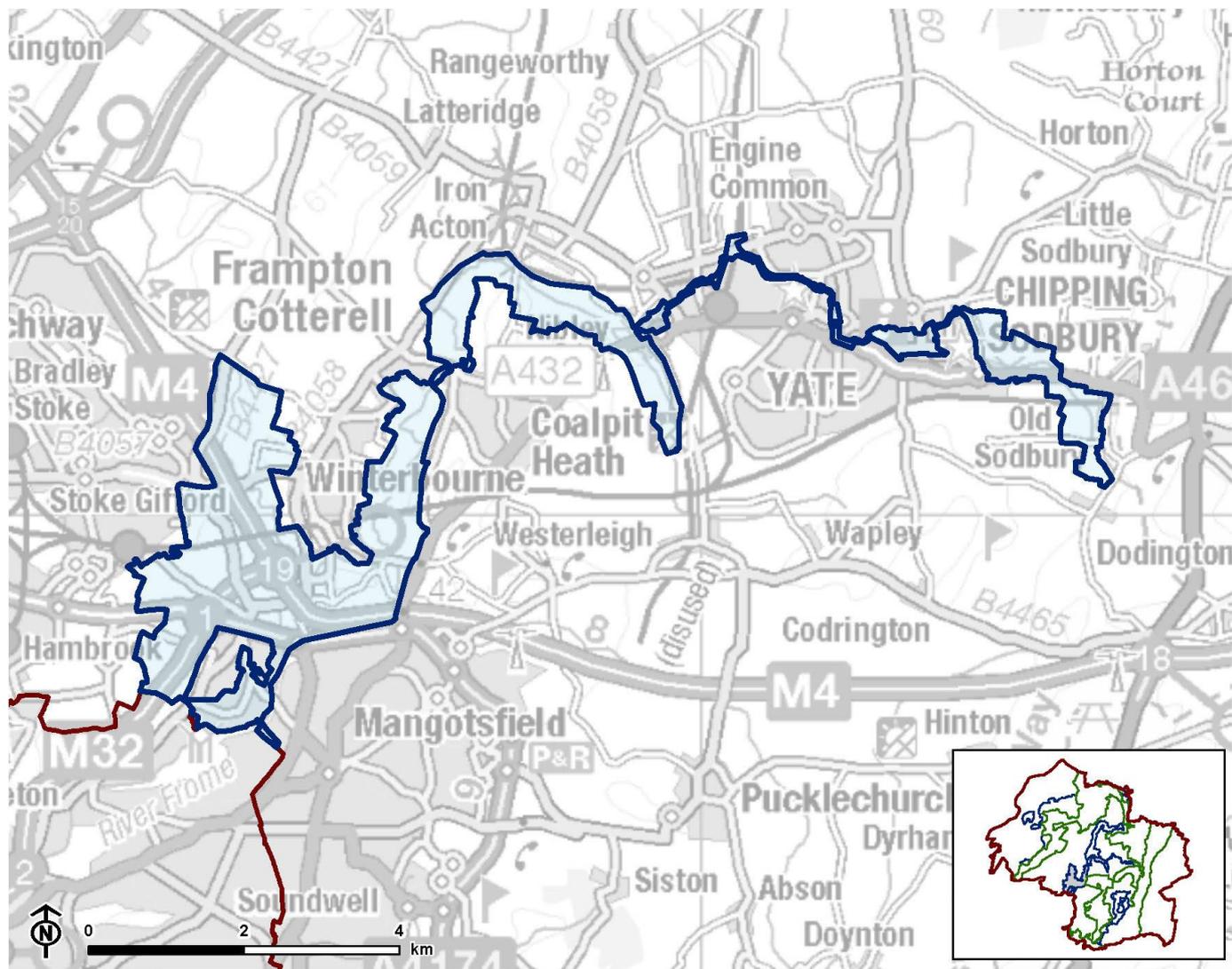


Chapter 8

Corridor C: Winterbourne-Kendleshire-Yate (River Frome Corridor)

Figure 8.1: Corridor C Location Plan



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2022

CB:DM EB:Manson D LUC FIGX_1_11654_r1_Corridor_Context_A5L 20/01/2022
Source: OS, SGDC, LUC

Importance and purpose

8.1 Blue-green infrastructure (BGI) corridor: extends from south to north and then northeast and eastwards along the River Frome corridor, with a north westerly fork along the Bradley Brook corridor.

8.2 Primary function and importance: strategic wetland network associated with both river corridors, with that of the River Frome penetrating the urban areas of Yate and Winterbourne through which it passes, and also takes in part of the strategic woodland network at its western end.

8.3 The committed development area of 'East of Harry Stoke' (South Gloucestershire Policy CS27) is located within the boundary of Corridor C. The new neighbourhood area overlaps with the western margin of Corridor C. This is a large-scale mixed-use development. GI is included within the overarching master plan for the eastern edge of this development area.

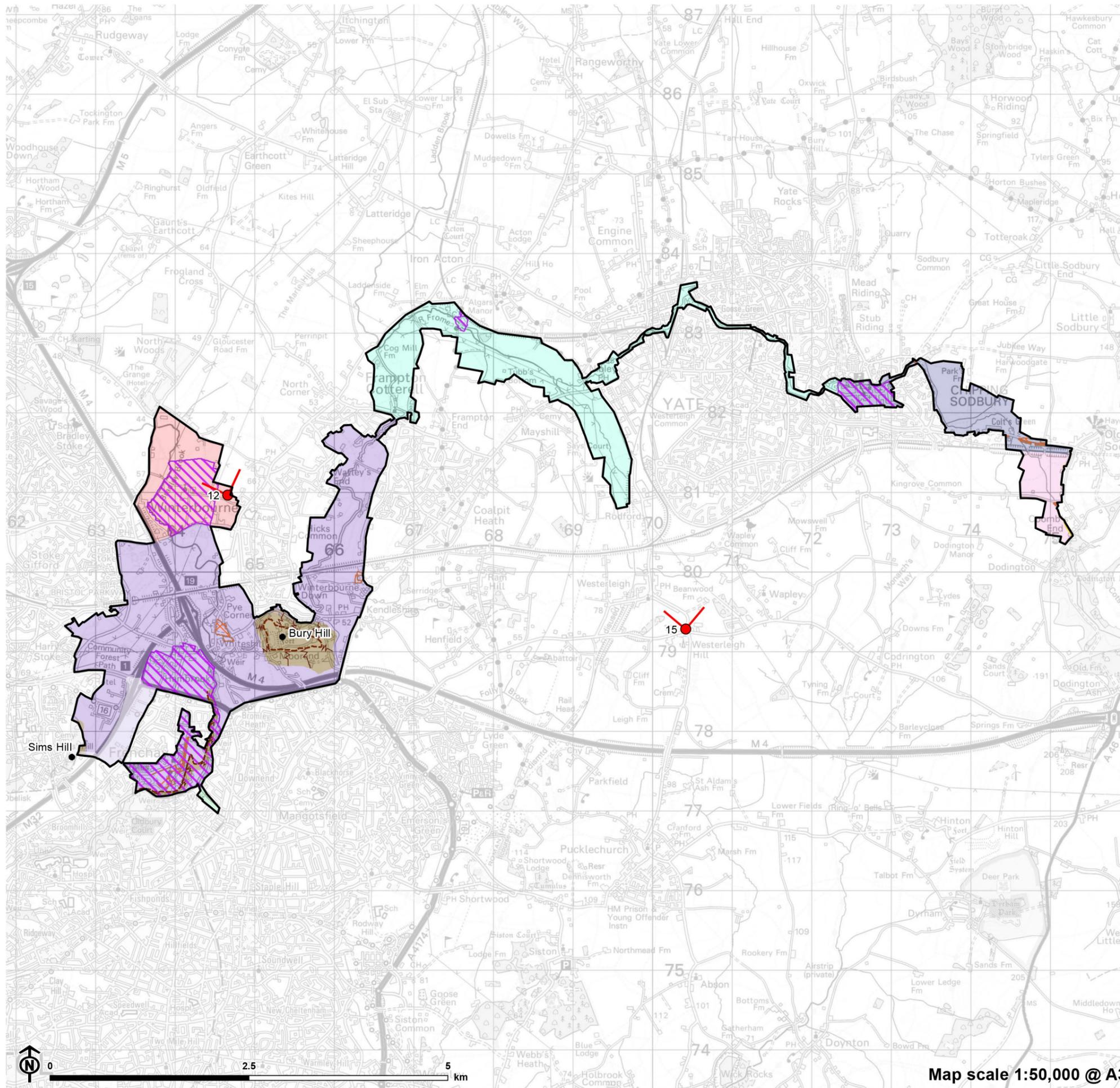
Supporting figures

8.4 Four topic-based plans have been produced to map and audit the existing green infrastructure areas and assets within the strategic BGI corridor as follows:

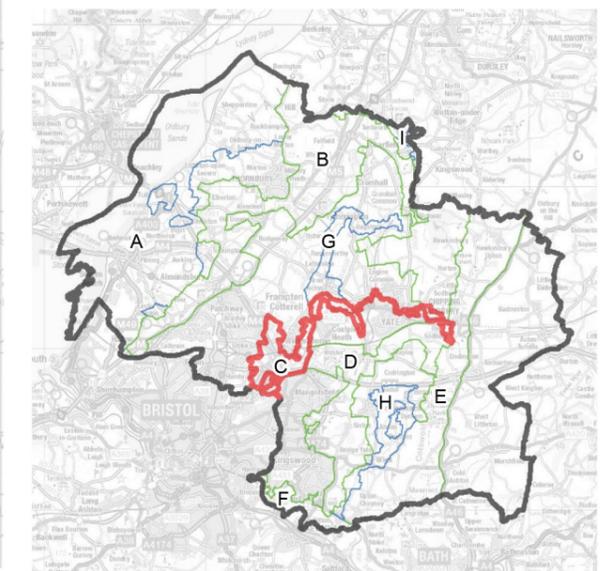
- Landscape and Heritage (Figure 8.2);
- Ecology and Biodiversity (Figure 8.3);
- Hydrology (Figure 8.4); and
- Recreation and Access (Figure 8.5).

8.5 The information presented on them is considered in turn below.

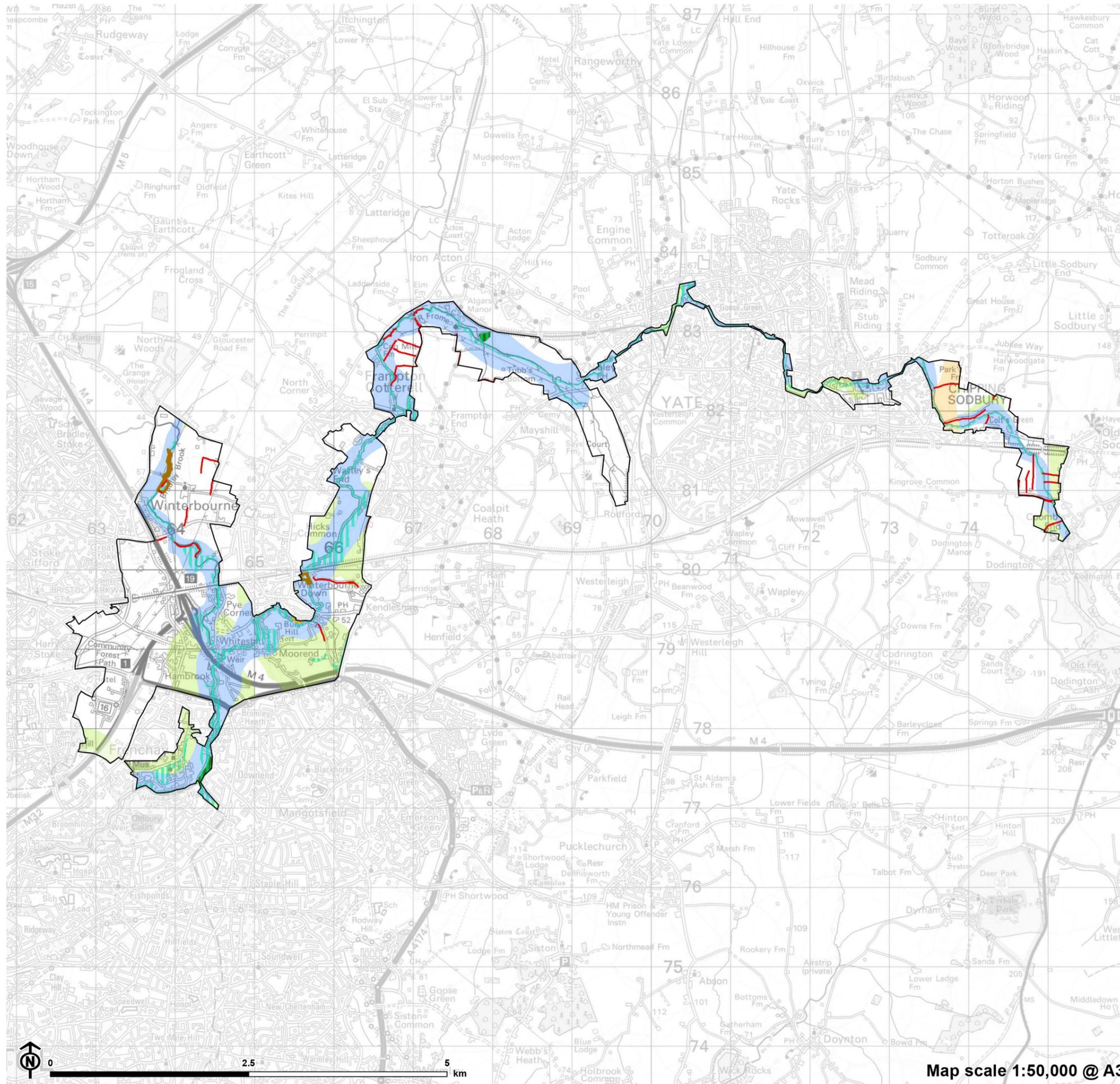
**Figure 8.2: Blue-Green Corridor C:
Landscape and Heritage**



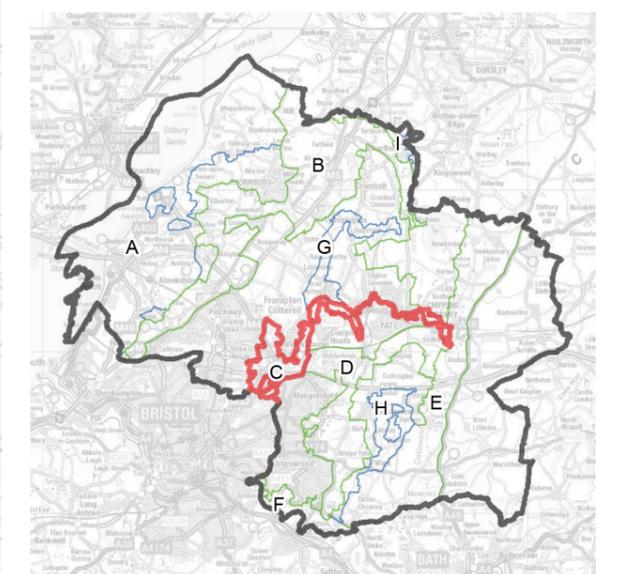
- C: Winterbourne-Kendleshire-Yate (River Frome Corridor)
- Strategic viewpoint (see Appendix B for descriptions)
- × Panoramic View
- ∨ Illustrative Viewpoint Angle
- Visually Important Hillside
- Visually Important Hillside Top of Slope
- Cotswolds National Landscape
- Conservation Area
- Registered Common Land
- Landscape Character Area**
- 5: Wickwar Ridge and Vale
- 6: Pucklechurch Ridge and Boyd Valley
- 8: Yate Vale
- 10: Earthcott Vale
- 12: Westerleigh Vale and Oldland Ridge
- 13: Frome Valley
- 14: Kingswood
- 15: Patchway and Filton



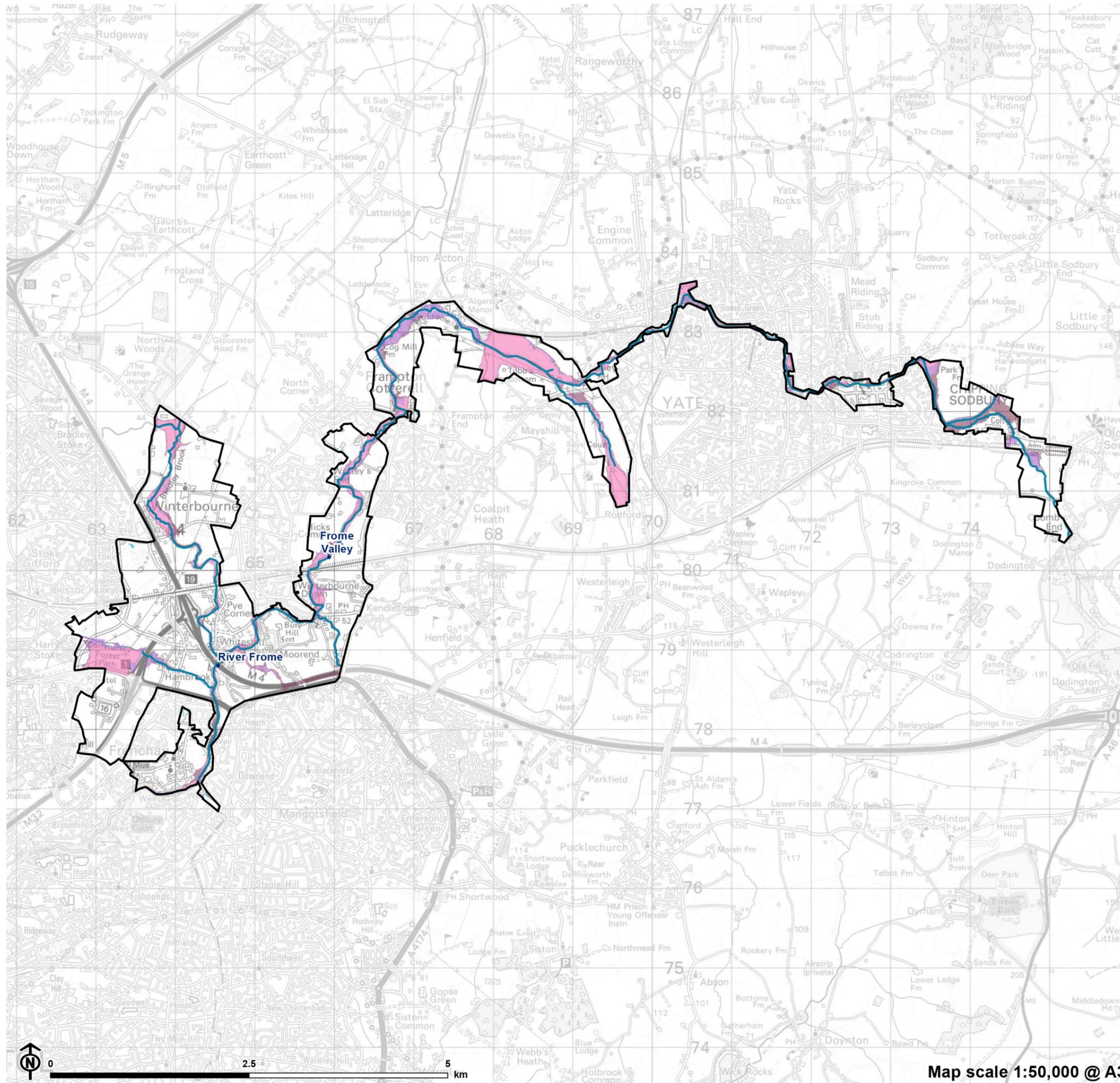
**Figure 8.3: Blue-Green Corridor C:
Ecology and Biodiversity**



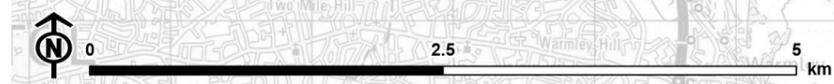
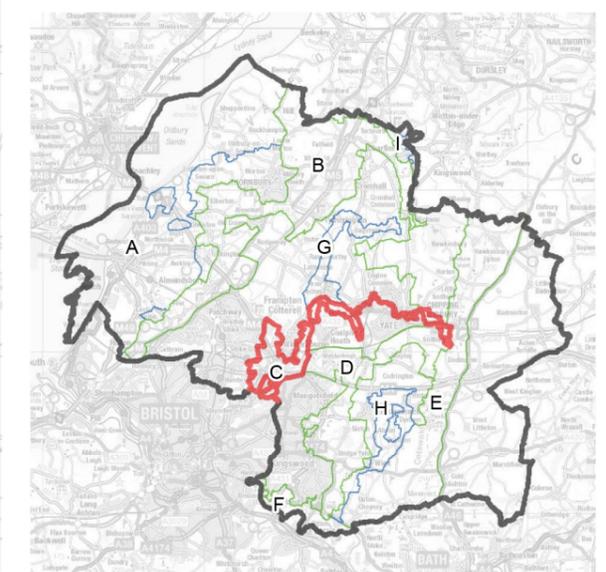
- C: Winterbourne-Kendleshire-Yate (River Frome Corridor)
- Important Hedgerow
- Regionally Important Geological Site
- Site of Nature Conservation Interest
- Ancient Woodland
- Local Nature Reserve
- Woodland Strategic Network
- Wetland Strategic Network
- Grassland Strategic Network



**Figure 8.4: Blue-Green Corridor C:
Hydrology**

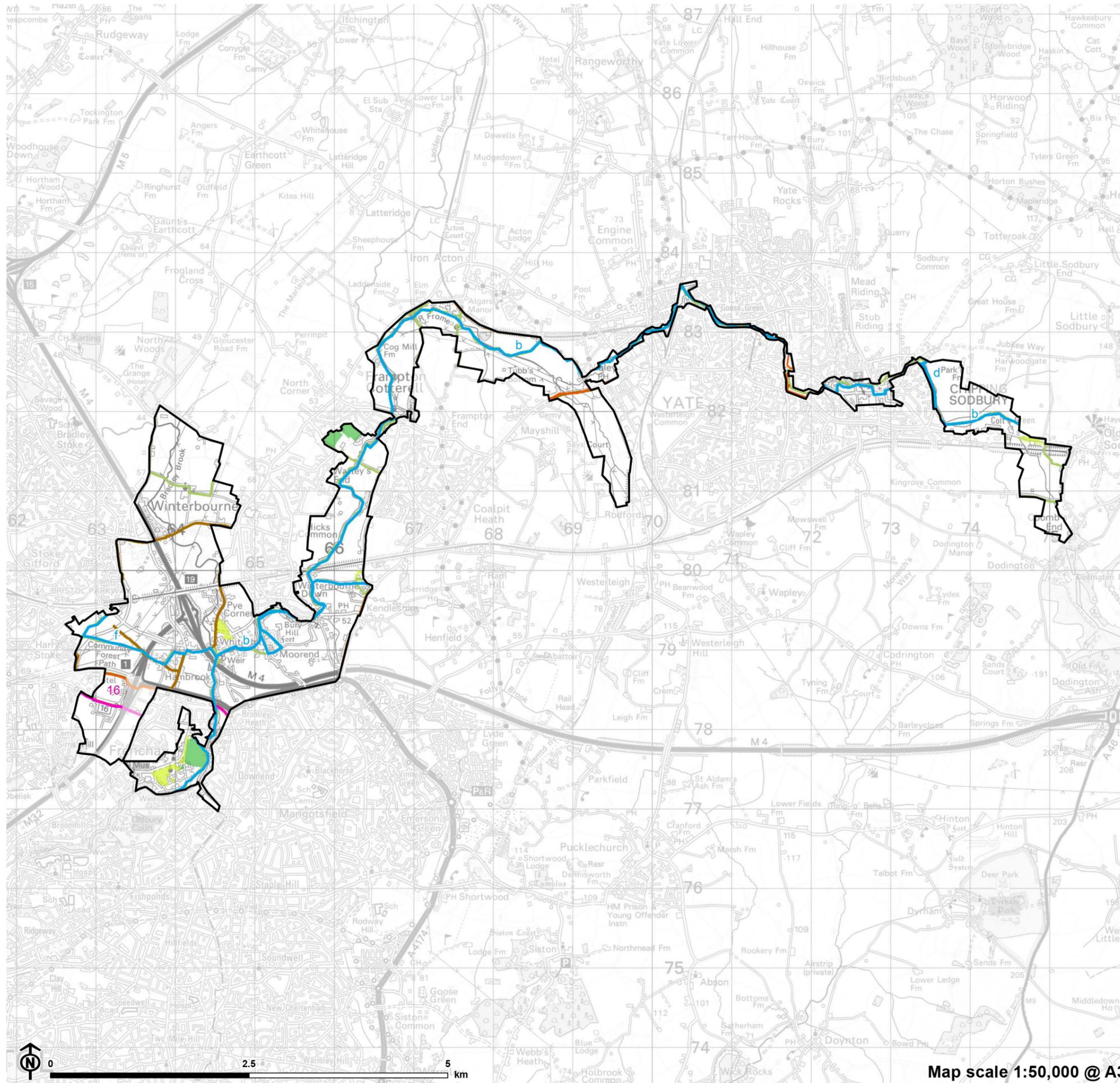


- C: Winterbourne-Kendleshire-Yate (River Frome Corridor)
- River
- Waterbody
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3a
- Flood Zone 3b

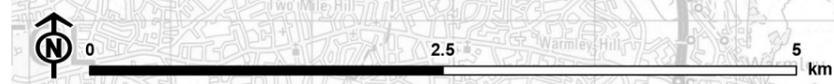
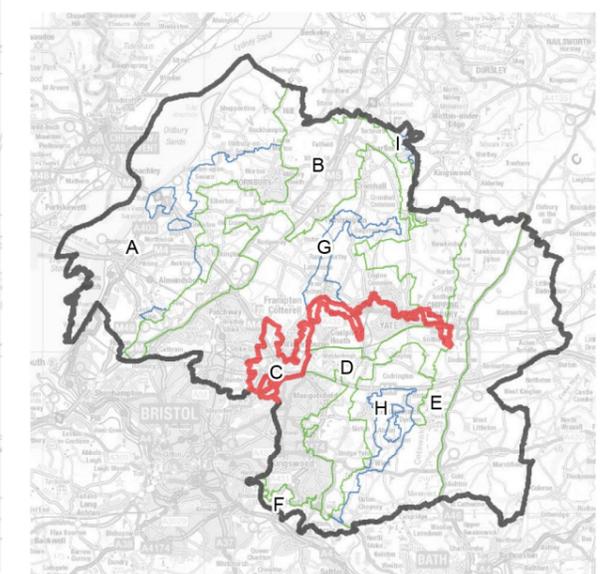


Map scale 1:50,000 @ A3

**Figure 8.5: Blue-Green Corridor C:
Recreation and Access**



- C: Winterbourne-Kendleshire-Yate (River Frome Corridor)
- National Trails and Long Distance Footpaths
- b: Frome Valley Walkway
- d: Monarch's Way
- f: Community Forest Path
- Regional Cycle Network
- Other strategic and major cycle routes
- South Gloucestershire Active Travel Routes
- Large Green Open Space
- Open Access Land



Map scale 1:50,000 @ A3

Landscape and Heritage

Landscape Character Areas

8.6 Table 8.1 sets out the SPD summary description for each of the Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) that are within the strategic BGI corridor from north to south.

Table 8.1: Summary of SPD Landscape Character Descriptions

Landscape Character Area	Summary Description
8: Shallow Vale - Yate Vale	Gently sloping, largely agricultural often well treed area of medium sized fields, with large settlements in the south.
5: Shallow Ridge - Wickwar Ridge and Vale (small area only at east)	Diverse undulating landscape covered with a mix of farmland, woodland and common.
6. Shallow Ridge - Pucklechurch Ridge and Boyd Valley (small area only at east)	Diverse undulating rural landscape of mainly mixed farmland.
13: Broad Valleys - Frome Valley	Diverse, enclosed, intricate combination of agriculture and settlement, divided by major roads.
10: Shallow Vale - Earthcott Vale (small area only by Winterbourne)	Gently undulating agricultural area, divided by a complex network of hedgerows, trees and lanes.

Visually Important Hillside & Other Key Landforms

8.7 Table 8.2 identifies how visually important hillsides (as key landform features), together with other topographical features relate to each of the South Gloucestershire LCAs.

Table 8.2: Landscape Character Areas, Related Visually Important Hillsides and Other Topographical Features

Landscape Character Area	Visually Important Hillside	Main Watercourse Valley
8: Shallow Vale - Yate Vale	-	River Frome valley
5: Shallow Ridge - Wickwar Ridge and Vale (small area only near Chipping Sodbury)	-	River Frome valley
6. Shallow Ridge - Pucklechurch Ridge and Boyd Valley (small area only at east)	-	River Frome valley
13: Broad Valleys - Frome Valley	Bury Hill Sims Hill	River Frome valley
10: Shallow Vale - Earthcott Vale (small area only by Winterbourne)	-	-

Strategic Viewpoints

8.8 There is one strategic viewpoint within the corridor, as follows:

- **View from the top of Beacon Lane, Winterbourne** – west (towards Bradley Stoke and Patchway across valley).

Conservation Areas

8.9 Four Conservation Areas (CAs) lie wholly within the strategic BGI corridor:

- Chipping Sodbury CA - designated in 1975 in recognition of its special architectural and historic character and appearance; with its exceptionally well-preserved medieval town plan, long, narrow burgage plots curving gently back from the wide bustling market street; and rich variety of historic buildings.
- Church Lane, Winterbourne CA - designated in 2005 and is centred on the 13th century Church of St Michael's and medieval tithe barn. Other important features include the Tudor garden feature 'Monk's Walk', Bradley Brook and Monks Pool Nature Reserve plus the tranquil, rural setting of the hamlet provided by surrounding open fields and unimproved grassland.
- Hambrook CA - originally designated in 1975 to protect the historic village core and was enlarged in 1999 to protect more land to the west, which contributes to its rural setting.
- Frenchay CA - it lies in a dramatic setting overlooking the River Frome and remains a largely unspoilt secluded backwater, despite the extensive areas of surrounding suburban development. The 1975 designation seeks to protect the green oasis which contains an attractive group of fine Georgian houses built on the edge of a common, and the stone cottages on a steep south facing slope to the River Frome.

8.10 A small part of Iron Acton CA also falls within the corridor (majority falls within Corridor G) - designated in 1975 in recognition of its special architectural and historic character and attractive appearance. This part of the CA seeks to conserve and enhance Algars Manor, the 19th century railway and Station House and the isolated groups of buildings along Station Road which are surrounded by an attractive open landscape of fields.

Historic Parks and Gardens

8.11 No Registered Parks and Gardens are located within the strategic BGI corridor.

Common Land

8.12 A number of commons are located within the strategic BGI corridor, from north to south these are:

- A small part of Sodbury Commons in the east alongside the A432;
- The Common, Ivory Hill;
- Whiteshill Common; and
- Frenchay Common.

Ecology and Biodiversity

South Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Network

8.13 In terms of its relationship to South Gloucestershire's Nature Recovery Network (NRN), the strategic BGI corridor takes in the following from north to south:

- Wetland network of the River Frome across the full length of the corridor which also encompasses Bradley Brook; and
- Woodland network along the southern part of the River Frome valley from Winterbourne Down (and an extension east across Ram Hill) south towards the SGC boundary at Frenchay.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

8.14 No Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are located within the strategic BGI corridor.

Sites of Nature Conservation Interest

1.1 There are 17 SNCIs within the strategic BGI corridor, covering 121.2 ha. They mainly relate to aquatic and riparian habitats associated with The River Frome and Bradley Brook, as well as grassland and woodland habitats, including Ancient Woodland at Chill Wood.

Local Nature Reserves

8.15 There are two small Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), as follows:

- Monks Pool and Bradley Brook (west of Winterbourne); and
- Huckford Quarry LNR (east of Winterbourne Down).

Important Hedgerows

8.16 Isolated lengths of important hedgerows lie within the strategic BGI corridor as follows:

- Around Chipping Sodbury;
- East of Frampton Cotterell;
- East of Winterbourne Down (e.g., Huckford Lane); and
- West of Winterbourne (e.g., Green Lane).

Ancient Woodland

8.17 There are two areas of ancient woodland which are located next to the watercourse of the River Frome. From north to south these are:

- Chill Wood (south of Iron Acton); and
- On the east bank of the river near Frenchay (unnamed).

Regionally Important Geological Sites

8.18 The following Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) are located within the BGI corridor:

- River Frome, Huckford or Harcombe Quarry; and
- River Frome, Winterbourne Down.

8.19 River Frome, Pye Corner is also a RIGS which adjoins the boundary of the corridor in the vicinity of Winterbourne Down.

Hydrology

Main Water Courses

8.20 The River Frome is the main water course which runs the entire length of the strategic BGI corridor. River Frome Reconnected is a strategic GI partnership project underway (listed in Appendix A) with an overarching aim to improve the health and resilience of the River Frome and its catchment and to make sure the river can be accessed and enjoyed by all.

8.21 There are also several tributaries located within the corridor, the most notable of which are Bradley Brook and Folly Brook.

Flood Zone

8.22 There is risk of flooding along the entire length of the River Frome and its tributaries, which is currently being reviewed by South Gloucestershire and adjoining councils. More extensive areas at risk of flooding include land south of Iron Acton and by the M32/A4174 junction west of Hambrook.

Large Scale Water Bodies

8.23 No large-scale water bodies are located within the strategic BGI corridor.

Recreation and Access

Commons and Open Access Land

8.24 A number of the commons listed above under 'landscape and heritage' are also designated open access land and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW Act) 2002 gives the public the right to walk across this land.

Large Green Spaces

8.25 There are three large accessible green spaces in the strategic BGI corridor, from north to south these are:

- The Park Playing Fields near Frampton Cotterell; and

- Two general amenity spaces at Frenchay (Frenchay Moor and Frenchay Common).

Active Travel Routes

8.26 The following ATRs lie within or cross the strategic BGI corridor from north to south:

- Along the railway on the north border of the corridor near Iron Acton which crosses a short section of the River Frome on North Road;
- Along the A432 west of Westerleigh Common which then runs through Coalpit Heath (outside of the corridor) to then trace the corridor boundary east of Winterbourne Down (still on the A432) before turning right along the A4174 towards Frenchay;
- Beacon Lane, off the B4057 towards Winterbourne which continues south along the B4058 (Winterbourne Hill, Bristol Road) by Whiteshill Common;
- A route north off of the A4174 along the B4058 (Bristol Road) to Hambrook where it turns west on the Stream, crossing the M32 towards Rosedown Avenue; and
- A major route along Filton Road south off of the A4174 which cuts across the M32 towards Bristol Business Park.

8.27 No NCN routes or national trails are located within the strategic BGI corridor. However, the following long-distance footpaths are within or cross the corridor:

- **Frome Valley Walkway:** enters the corridor at the east by Chipping Sodbury and follows the course of the River Frome to the south boundary of the corridor at Frenchay; and
- **Community Forest Path:** runs west from the Frome Valley Walkway at Hambrook.

Summary

8.28 Corridor C is a BGI corridor extending north-east and eastwards along the River Frome corridor, with a north-westerly fork along the Bradley Brook corridor. There is one strategic viewpoint from the top of Beacon Lane in Winterbourne, with views west across the River Frome valley towards Bradley Stoke and Patchway. Four CAs lie within the corridor (Chipping Sodbury, Church Lane-Winterbourne, Hambrook and Frenchay, as well as a small part of Iron Acton CA) together with four small areas of registered common land. The primary NRN function of Corridor C relates to its strategic wetland network based around the River Frome and Bradley Brook, encompassing a number of SNCIs associated with the wetland and riparian habitats provided by the rivers. There are also two areas of ancient woodland located on the banks of the River Frome, and two small LNRs within the corridor (Monks Pool and Bradley Brook, and Huckford Quarry). There are three large accessible green spaces within the corridor, two general amenity spaces at Frenchay Moor and Frenchay Common, and The Park Playing Fields near Frampton Cotterell. The west of the corridor is crossed by several South Gloucestershire active travel routes, as well as the Community Forest Path long distance footpath and The Frome Valley Walkway, which runs north-south through the corridor.