



Site
Context

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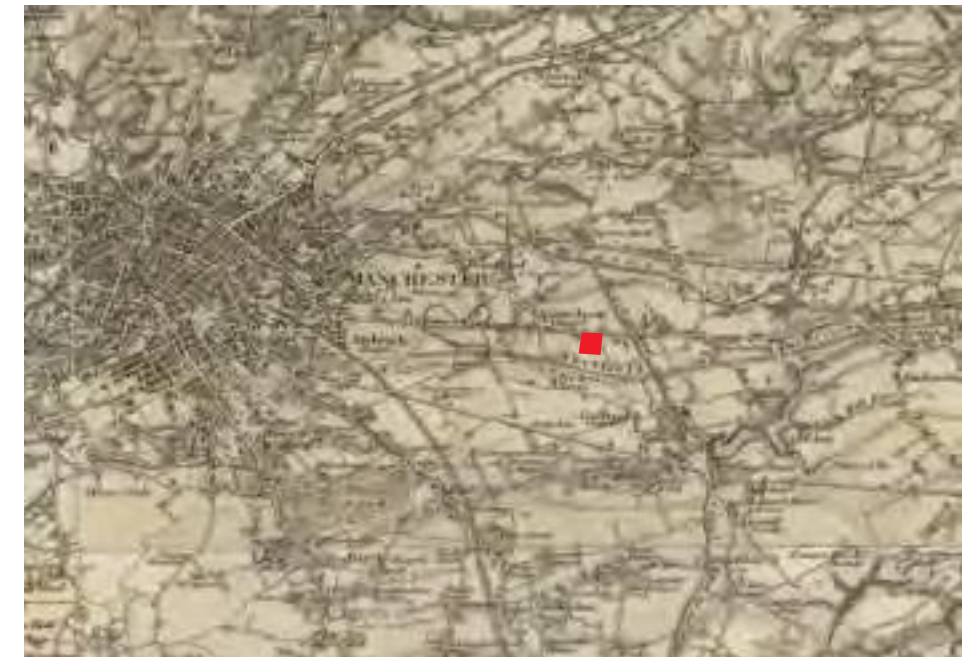
3.1 History of Openshaw

Openshaw was historically part of Lancashire and was incorporated into the city of Manchester in 1890. Its name derives from the Old English Opinschawe, which means an open wood or coppice.

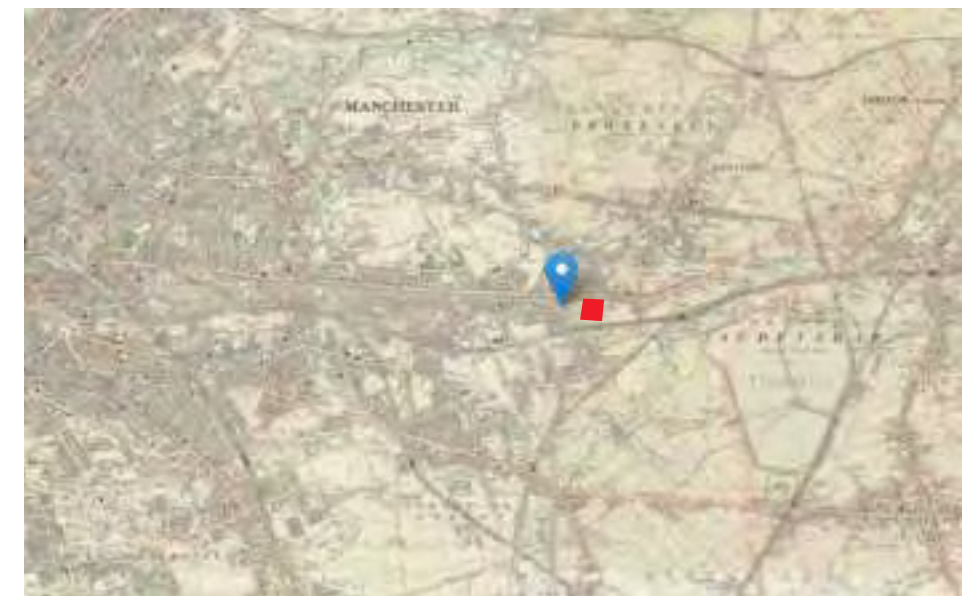
During the Second Industrial Revolution, when Openshaw became an area of heavy industry, socialism and trade unionism flourished. In 1910 the Openshaw Socialists were formed; Keir Hardie, founder of the Labour Party, spoke at their inaugural meeting. Annie Lee became Manchester's first socialist woman alderman in 1936, having been secretary of the Openshaw Independent Labour Party since the 1890s. Industry.

Major de-industrialisation followed World War 1 which saw the closure of large enterprises such as a government munitions factory and associated railway yards. Of the companies which employed thousands of people, such as include RHM, Ferguson, Pailin & Co (later GEC Switchgear), the English Steel Corporation, B&S Massey and Crossley Brothers, and the Gorton Works of the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway, later the Great Central Railway followed by the London & North Eastern Railway, nothing remains of this heavy industry of Openshaw.

Openshaw is, however, within the East Manchester Regeneration Scheme and new businesses are moving into the area. As part of the area's redevelopment under the East Manchester Regeneration Scheme, a new shopping precinct has been built called Lime Square in 2010.



Old Series Early 1 inch OS Maps (1805-1869) of Manchester



Detailed Old Victorian Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile Old Map (1888-1913)

◆ Site location

3.2

Industrial History of Openshaw and Clayton

Gorton Works exemplified the industries that sustained the economy of Openshaw and adjacent districts of Manchester during and after the Second Industrial Revolution. It was established in 1848 to service locomotives and build carriages and wagons. The first locomotive was built in 1858 and by 1923, Gorton Works had built more than 900 locomotives. The last steam engine was built for British Railways in 1950. The works then produced electric locomotives until it closed in 1963. The site is now the New Smithfield Wholesale Market, Manchester's wholesale fruit and vegetable market.

Established in 1901, Belsize Motors was also based locally in Clayton. The company was founded by Marshall & Company and took its name from their Belsize works, where they had built bicycles. As well as a range of now-classic cars, Belsize Motors also produced taxi cabs, lorries and Royal Mail vans. Only a couple of dozen vehicles are thought to have survived. The service station for post-sale vehicles was located on the land that is now occupied by Morrisons. Although the company has relocated other premises in Openshaw, it retains its name, is still locally owned and now specializes in restoring vintage vehicles.



Beyer, Peacock and Co Gorton Foundry and the Gorton Locomotive Works, Manchester, 1947



Female employee transferring a 6in. shell from the bench to a bore fuse hole machine at Beyer, Peacock Works



Belsize Paper Delivery Van in 1910



View of the press bay and middle bay of the boiler shop, 1959, Beyer Peacock Works.

3.3

History of Delamere Park

Before the 1840s there were no public parks in Britain. There were narrow paved 'walks', pleasure gardens and private estate parks, but the nation lacked large urban green spaces that were open to all. This was due in part to the close proximity of the rural hinterland, which remained within walking distance of town centres well into the 19th century. However, as towns encroached on surrounding fields, urban populations found themselves increasingly divorced from the natural world and its attendant physical and psychological benefits. Campaigners and politicians such as Edwin Chadwick and Robert Peel perceived the negative implications of this process, prompting them to champion the creation of green spaces for the benefit of all. These early public parks were at first viewed as disciplining spaces for moral regulation and 'improvement' by local legislators.

The first public parks appeared in the North of England with Birkenhead Park (1847), People's Park, Halifax (1857) and Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham (1873).

The intention of a public park off Delamere Road in Higher Openshaw is recorded in the articles in the Manchester Evening News, from October 1897. The land was originally owner by Colonel Legh, who originally asked £11,000 for the site. However, the Manchester Parks Sub Committee proposed an offer of £7,000 which was accepted and the City Surveyor, was asked to draw up a plan and a schedule of works.

A member of the Manchester Parks Sub Committee, Mr Sharp, emphasized in a letter to the Manchester Evening News that "the need for recreation ground in the district the number of children who have no alternative playground being very large". In another article to the paper on 23rd of April 1898 it was stated "that within a six-minute walk of the site proposed there are something like 4000 children"

Negotiations continued for several months according to articles in the Manchester Evening News. However, one can presume that actually the committee were successful.



Delamere Park Shelter c.1955



Delamere Park c.1950



Delamere Park c.1950



Delamere Park Play Area c.1955

3.4 Planning Policy Context

This section reviews the national, regional and local policies relevant to the development. Policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Manchester City Council's Local Plan (Adopted 11th July 2012) provide the over-arching policy for development within the council. All development proposals must accord with the NPPF and Manchester City's Local Plan. For example, Policy EN10 and Policy EN12 are of particular relevance to this project, as the land is designated as Open Space.

Policy EN 10 Safeguarding Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities

This policy states that the Council will seek to retain and improve existing open spaces, sport and recreational facilities and provide a network of diverse, multi-functional open spaces. Proposals will be supported that:

- Improve the quality and quantity of accessible open space, sport and recreation in the local area
- Provide innovative solutions to improving the network of existing open spaces,
- Increase accessibility to green corridors, and enhance biodiversity
- Improve access to open space for disabled people

Proposals on existing open spaces and sport and recreation facilities will only be permitted where:

Equivalent or better replacement open space, sport or recreation facilities will be provided in the local area;

Or

The site has been demonstrated to be surplus for its current open space, sport

Or

- Recreation function and the City wide standards set out above are maintained, and
- It could not fulfil other unsatisfied open space, sport or recreation needs, and
- A proposed replacement will remedy a deficiency in another type of open space, sport or recreation facility in the local area;

Or

- The development will be ancillary to the open space, sport or recreation facility and complement the use or character

Policy EN 12

Area priorities for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

This policy amongst other key elements this policy relates to East Manchester and states an intention to enhance existing facilities and provide new spaces and facilities in accessible locations.

Reference should also be paid to the Manchester Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. Green infrastructure (GI) is the green and blue spaces that exist within and between urban areas. In Manchester this includes five river valleys, three canals, over 160 parks, street trees, woodland, private gardens, and other areas of natural environment. It frames the city's approach to its GI in terms of it of the city's objectives for growth, public sector reform and the creation of attractive places where people will choose to live, work, visit and invest. One of its main objectives is Action 2 to "enhance existing parks to maximise their potential in making Manchester a world class city".

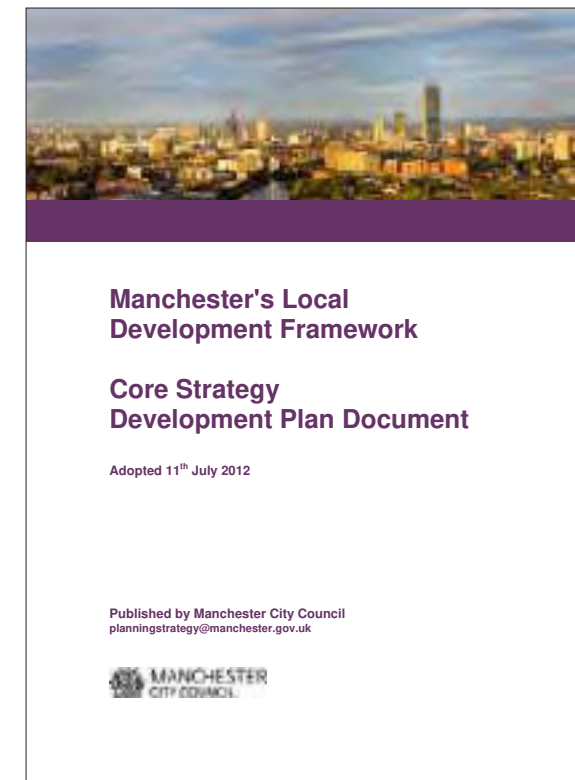
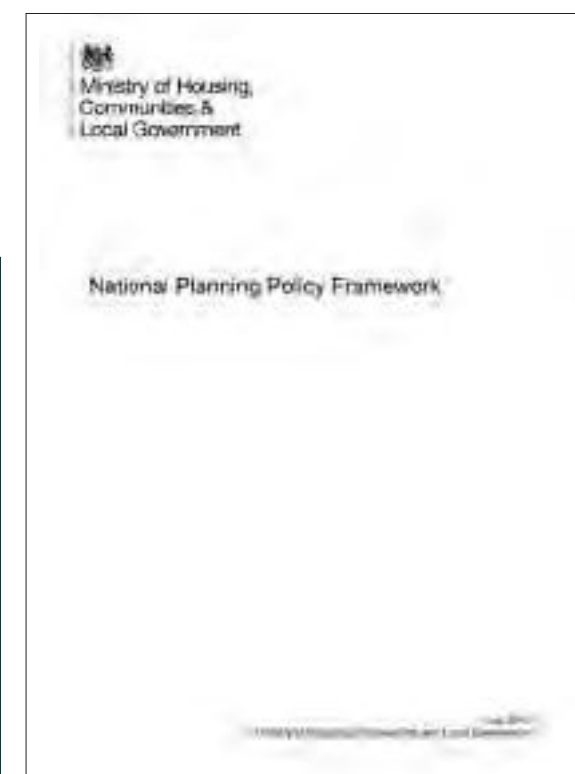
Finally, within the local planning process there may be a number of statutory consultees. For example if there are historic designations then Historic England will be consulted by the Local Planning Authority when deliberating on an application. Sport England are a statutory consultee for local councils on any planning application that would affect or lead to the loss of a sports playing field. Unless a developer can prove their proposal will improve or protect sports provision at the site, then they will object to the plan.



Manchester's Great Outdoors

a Green and Blue Infrastructure
Strategy for Manchester

2015-25



3.5

Planning Policy Context cont.

MANCHESTER'S PARK STRATEGY 2017–2027

The parks strategy is also an important document as it sets out Manchester City Councils vision for it’s park and open spaces.

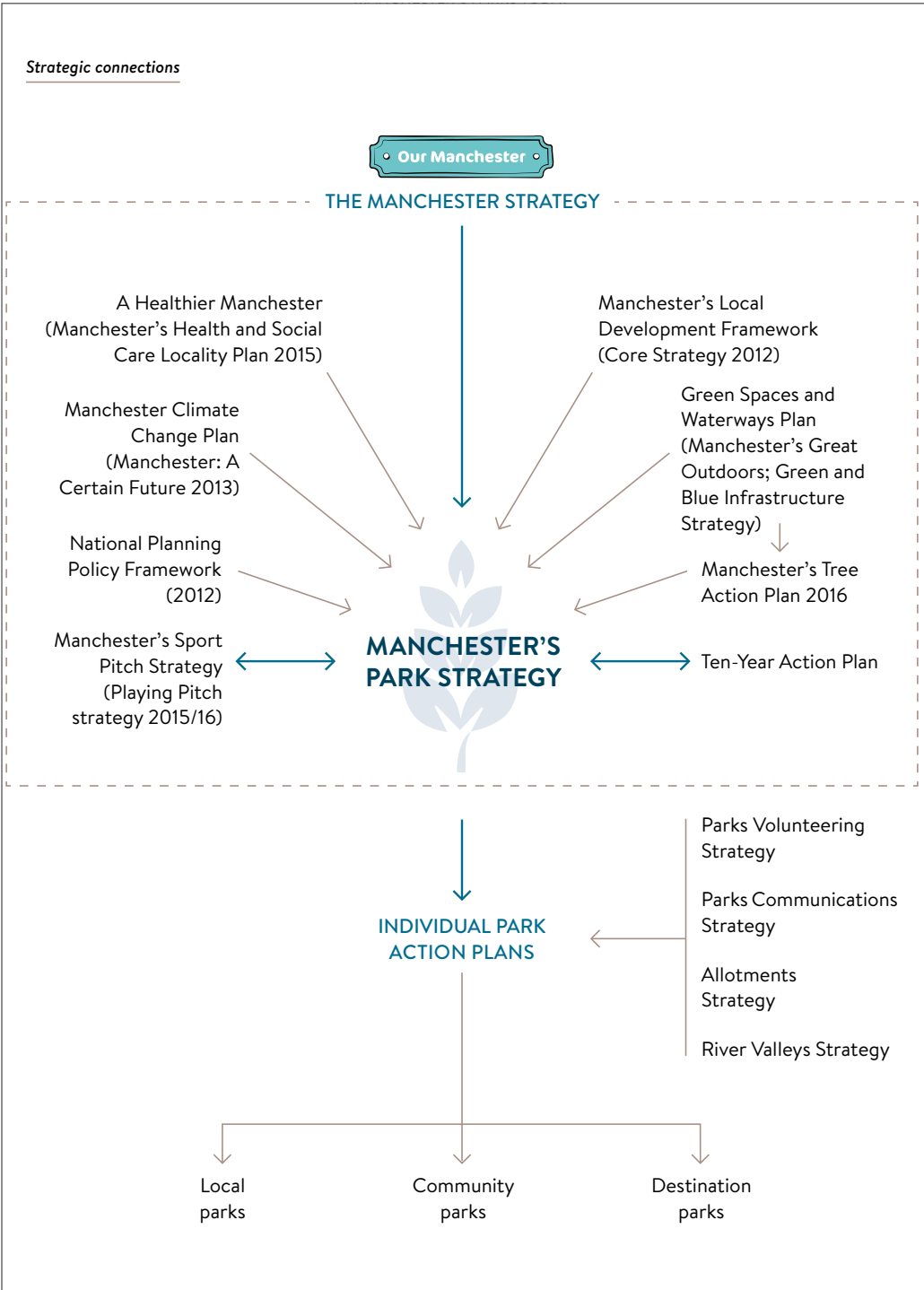
The strategy marks an important and fundamental change in the way Manchester see parks and green spaces working with much greater emphasis on working with residents, communities and partners. They state “Stewardship of our parks and green areas is a shared responsibility”. The document also states “A share of the actions will need to be led by empowering our residents, communities, partners and stakeholders working together with the Council. In this way, together we will make sure that Manchester’s parks are cared for, not merely maintained”.

The Park Strategy also see a continued important role for Friends Groups in the future of Manchester Parks with over fifty Friends groups and more than 3,300 volunteers who actively support their parks and green spaces, undertaking a wide variety of maintenance tasks and providing a wide range of activities.

THE MAIN STRATEGIC THEMES

Four strategic themes have been established to provide a structure and focus for delivery, and these have gained widespread support from park users:

- Parks at the Heart of Neighbourhoods looks at the physical role of parks in neighbourhoods across the city, as well as their size, accessibility and character.
- Vibrant Parks, Vibrant Communities considers the use and activities that take place in parks to ensure they are a focus of community life, providing opportunities for exercise and sport and a wide variety of events that can generate additional income for the benefit of parks.
- A Manchester Quality Standard sets out a good-quality standard for managing and maintaining parks.
- Productive Parks in Partnership describes ways to deliver park services in a more collaborative and fruitful manner with communities and local organisations, not just the Council.



MANCHESTER'S PARK STRATEGY 2017–2027 PAGE 13

3.6

Manchester City Council’s Local Plan - Development Policies Map

The Manchester City Council’s Local Plan Development Framework Area Map shows that the proposed site location has no development proposals in or immediately adjacent to Delamere Park.

The map shows that the site is close to the area designated as Openshaw District Centre directly to the west of the site.

New land is allocated for housing development to the south west of the site on the other side of the railway line and it is envisaged that this development will not have an immediate impact on the site.

The green space to the south of Ackroyd Road Allotments has been designated as a Leisure Improvement Area.

It appears that Ashton Old Road is allocated as a major road or improvement corridor. It is not known what, if any impact this will have on the study site of Delamere Park.

KEY

 Site location

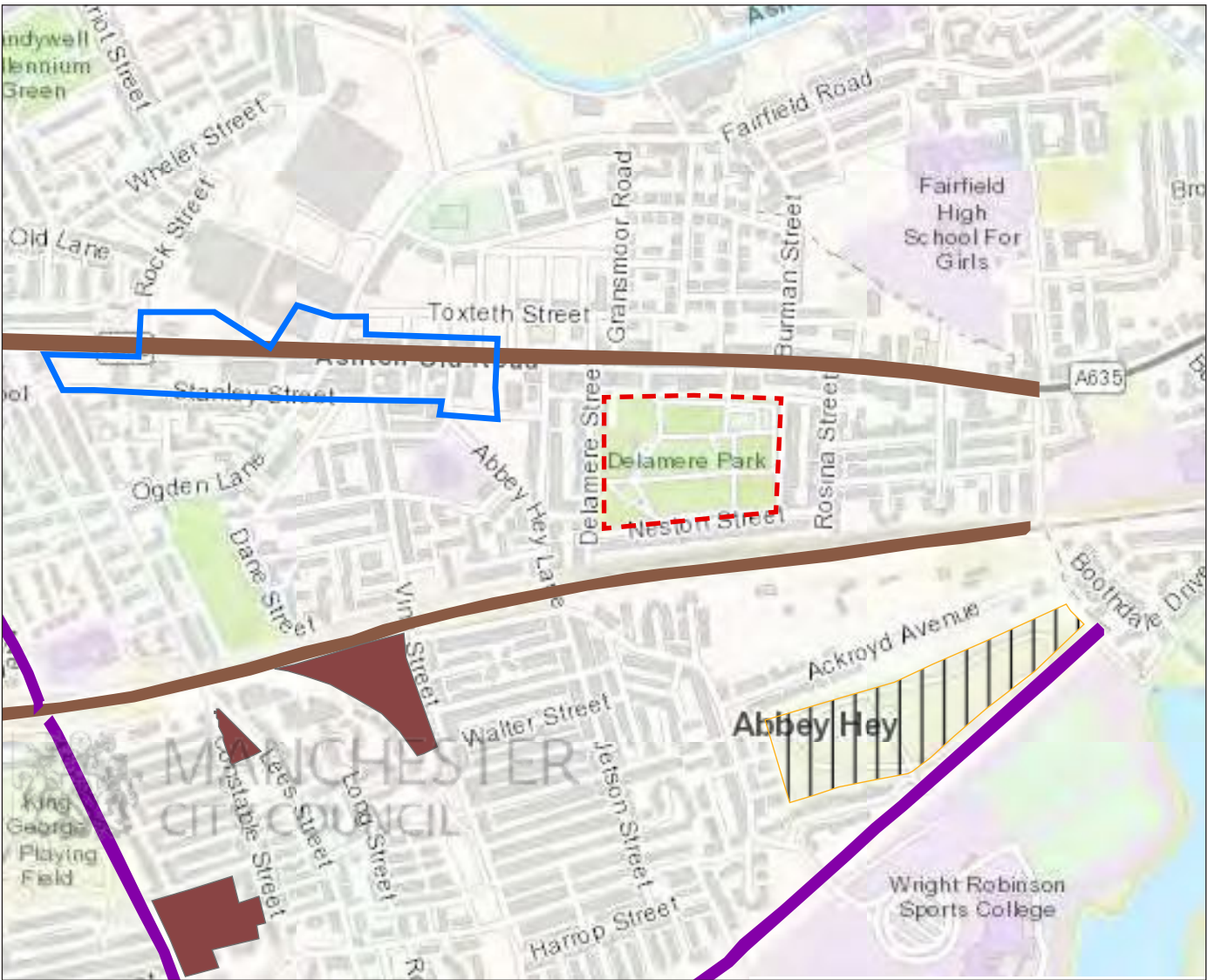
 District Centre

 Land allocated for new housing

 Land designated as a Leisure Improvement Area

 Major road or rail improvement corridor

 Major Recreational route



<https://mcr-council.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=565a33eaba904b2dabf4c3dd8685db80>

3.7

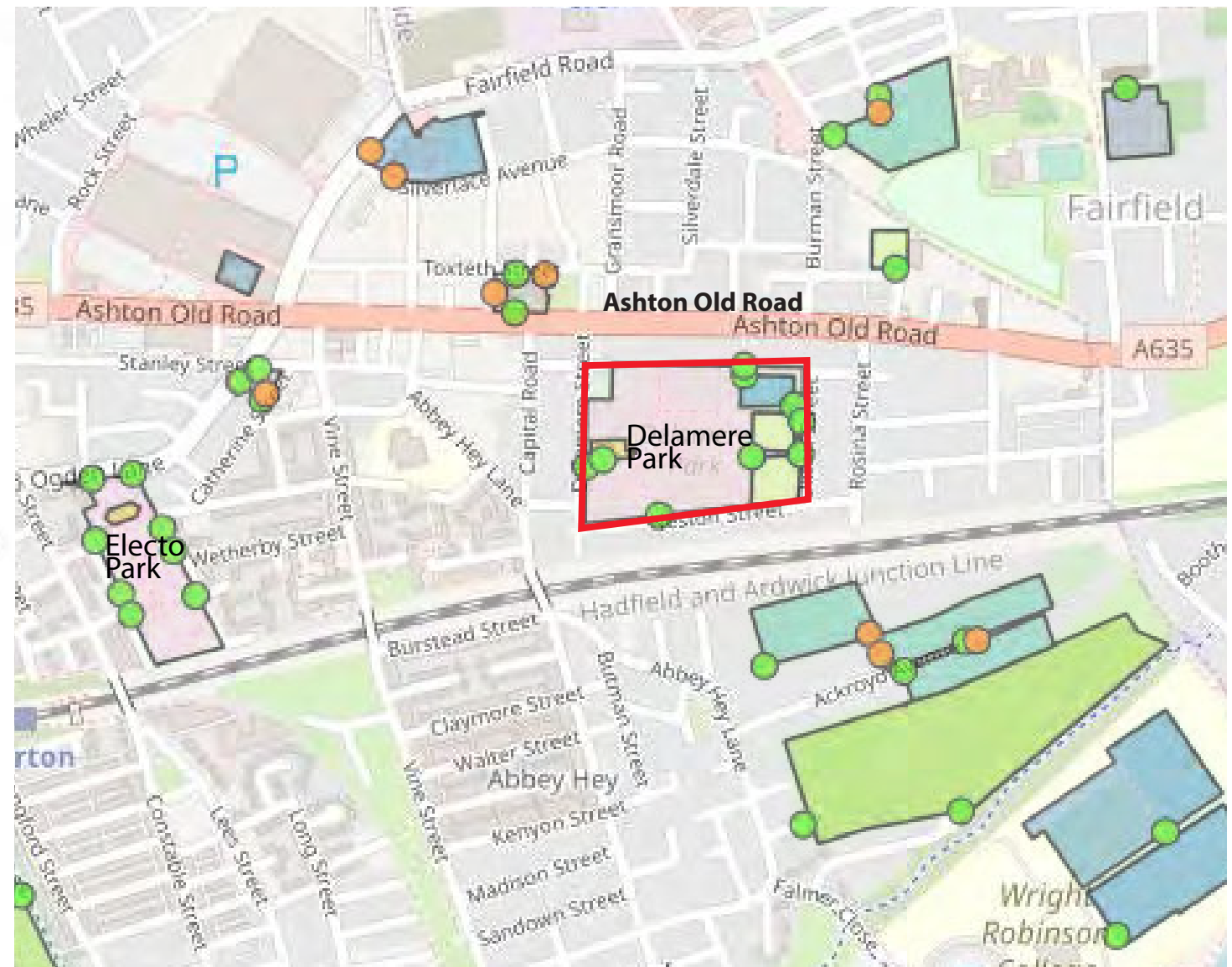
Greater Manchester Open Greenspace Map

The following maps are taken from the Greater Manchester Open Data Infrastructure Map which was designed to provide developers and planners with infrastructure and housing related information across Greater Manchester on a single, easily accessible map. MappingGM provides a range of maps that can be used to explore Greater Manchester's housing, planning, infrastructure, socio-economic and demographic data. The maps are open to all to use, and most of the data used is freely available to download. More information can be found at <https://mappinggm.org.uk/>.

The OS Open Greenspace Map depicts the location and extent of spaces such as parks and sports facilities that are likely to be accessible to the public. Where appropriate, it also includes access points to show how people get into these sites.

Greater Manchester Open Data Infrastructure Map shows that Delamere Park is designated as a Public Park or Garden, with a bowling green, play area and other sports facilities noted.

As can be seen Delamere Park is an important local green space and recreational resource for the immediate community, as many of the other local greenspaces are not for recreational use (e.g. cemeteries) or not freely publicly accessible (e.g. allotments).



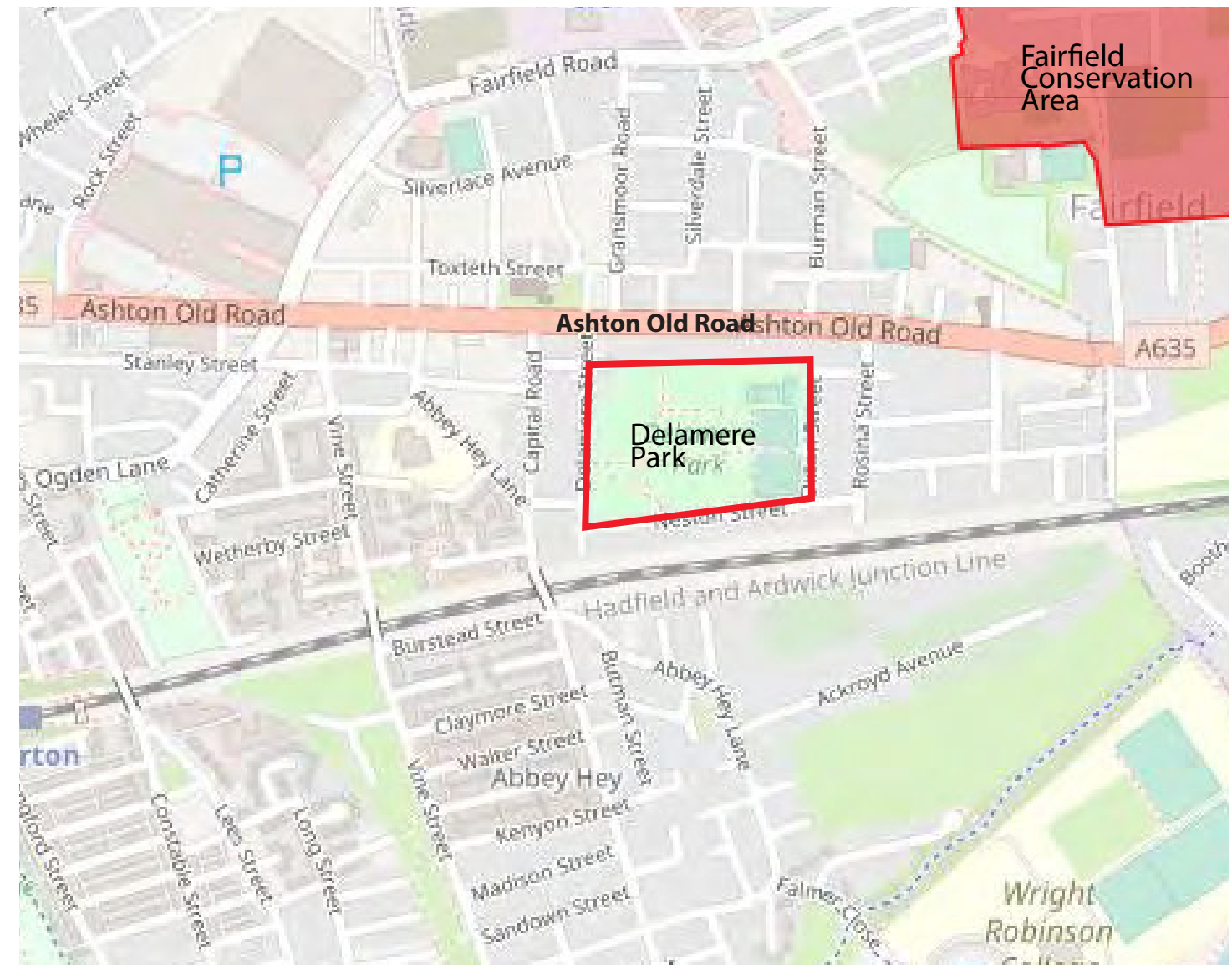
https://mappinggm.org.uk/green/?lyrs=_top50,os_open_greenspaces#open_street_map/15/53.4696/-2.1439

3.8 Historic Designations

The diagram opposite shows the areas designated by local authorities as Conservation Areas. Conservation areas are designated because of their special architectural and historic interest. Conservation areas may include: historic town centres; fishing or mining villages; 18th and 19th century suburbs; model housing estates; country houses set in their historic parks; and historic transport links and their environs (for example, canals).

As can be seen the Fairfield Conservation Area lies to the north east of the site. The Fairfield Conservation Area consists of four distinct areas, the Moravian Settlement, a section of the Manchester-Ashton under Lyne Canal, the Broadway Garden Village and the late 1970s social housing estate to the north of Fairfield Road. There are 33 separate statutory listed building entries for the Fairfield Conservation Area. These entries often include one or more building. Seven of these buildings (6 houses and the Moravian Church) are listed Grade II*, the others are listed Grade II.

There are no other historic designations in the area that influence the site.



https://mappinggm.org.uk/green/?lyrs=nt_land_always_open,nt_land_limited_access,gm_conservation_areas,eh_parks_and_gardens_gm#open_street_map/15/53.4696/-2.1439

3.9

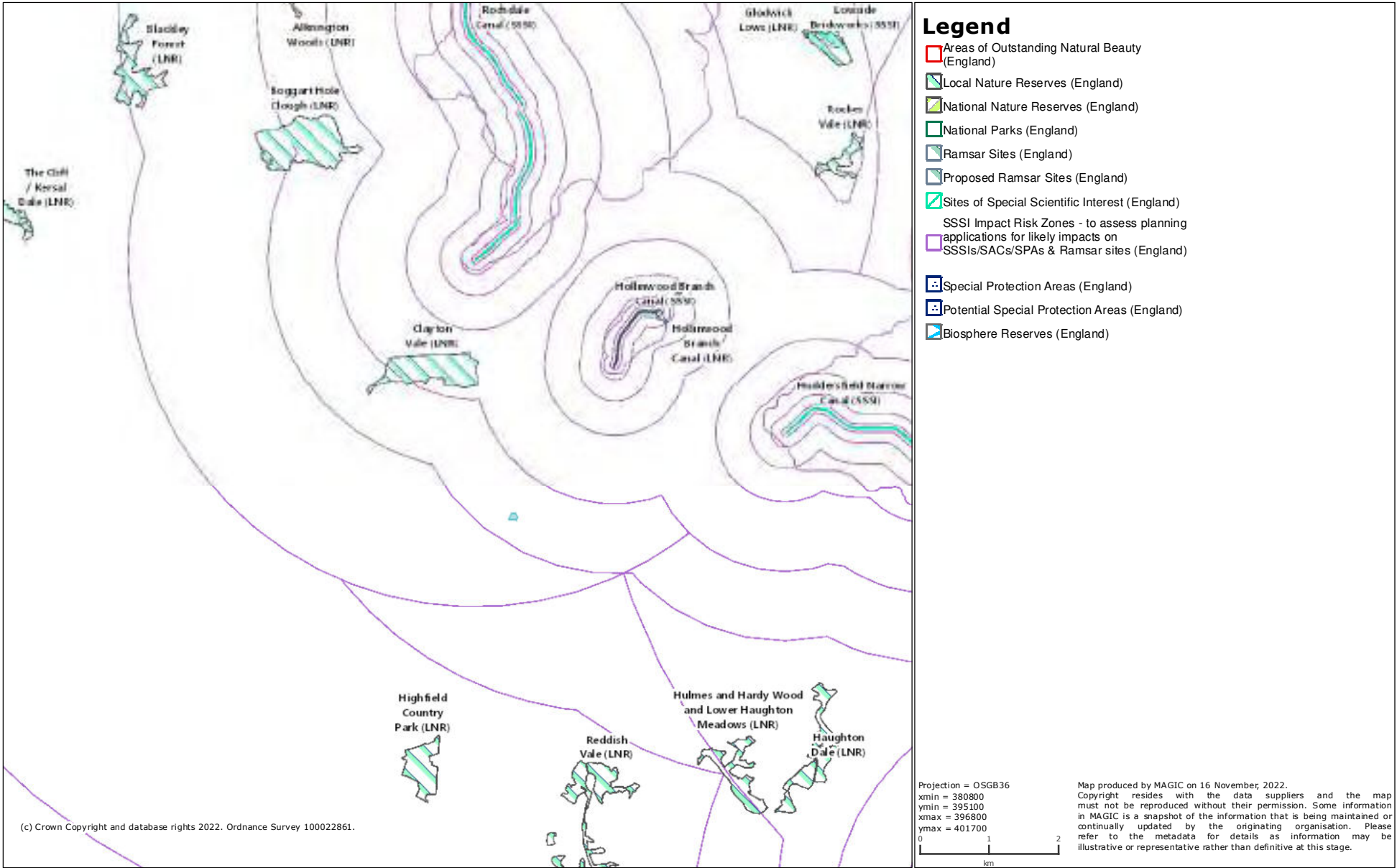
Land Based Statutory Designations

The Natural England MAGIC tool provides authoritative geographic information about the natural environment from across government. The information covers rural, urban, coastal and marine environments across Great Britain. It is presented in an interactive map which can be explored using various mapping tools that are included. Natural England manages the service under the direction of a Steering Group who represent the MAGIC partnership organisations.

The site does not have any material land-based designations. It is however within the Impact Risk Zones of the Hollinwood Branch Canal and Rochdale Canal Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are a GIS tool developed by Natural England to make a rapid initial assessment of the potential risks posed by development proposals to: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Ramsar sites. They define zones around each site which reflect the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and indicate the types of development proposal which could potentially have adverse impacts.

MAGIC



Map showing Areas of Land-Based Statutory Designations

Indicative site area

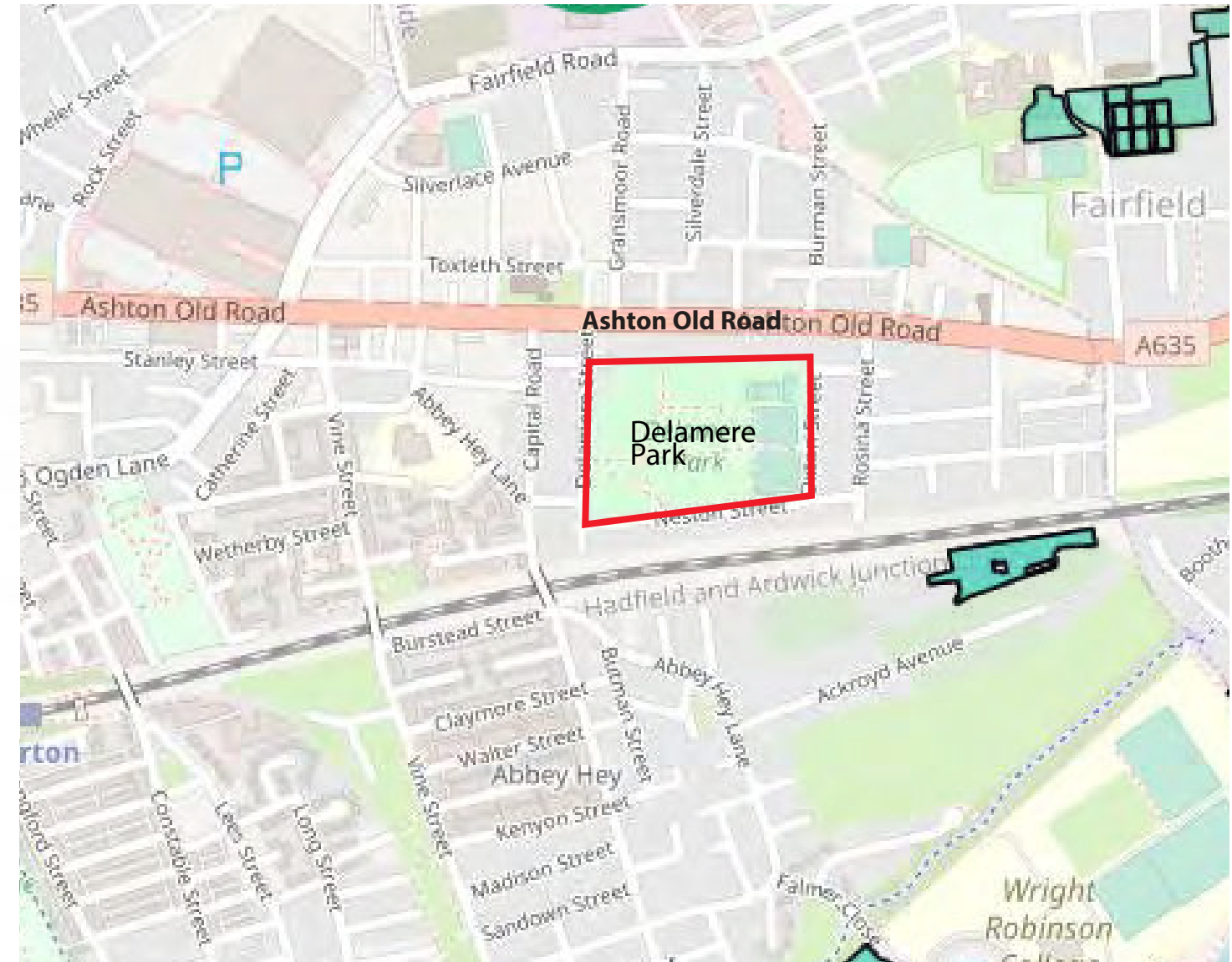
3.10

Greater Manchester Priority Habitats

The map opposite shows the geographic extent and location of Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) Section 41 habitats of principal importance. This inventory replaces Natural England's previous separate BAP habitat inventories: blanket bog, coastal & floodplain grazing marsh, coastal sand dunes, coastal vegetated shingle, deciduous woodland, fens, lowland calcareous grassland, lowland dry acid grassland, lowland heathland, lowland meadows, lowland raised bog, limestone pavements, maritime cliff and slope, mudflats, purple moor grass, rush pastures, reed beds, saline lagoons, traditional orchards, undetermined grassland, upland calcareous grassland, upland hay meadows and upland heathland.

As can be seen there are no habitats of principle importance within Delamere Park.

- Ecologically important sites**
- Ancient Woodlands
 - GMEU Priority Species sites
 - Local Nature Reserves
 - National nature reserves
 - Priority river habitat
 - Priority habitats
 - Locally designated wildlife corridors
 - Ramsar sites
 - Priority river habitat - headwater areas
 - Sites of biological importance
 - Sites of special scientific interest
 - Sites of special scientific interest units
 - Favourable / recovering
 - Destroyed / declining / no change
 - No data
 - Special areas of conservation
 - Special protection areas



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3.11

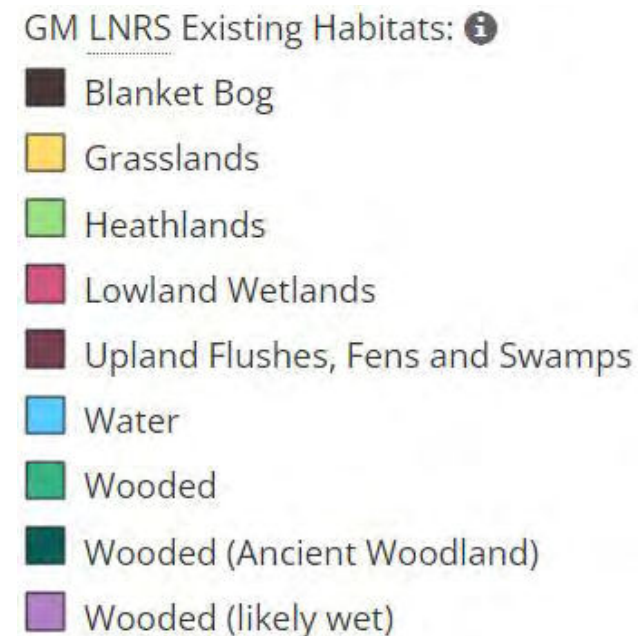
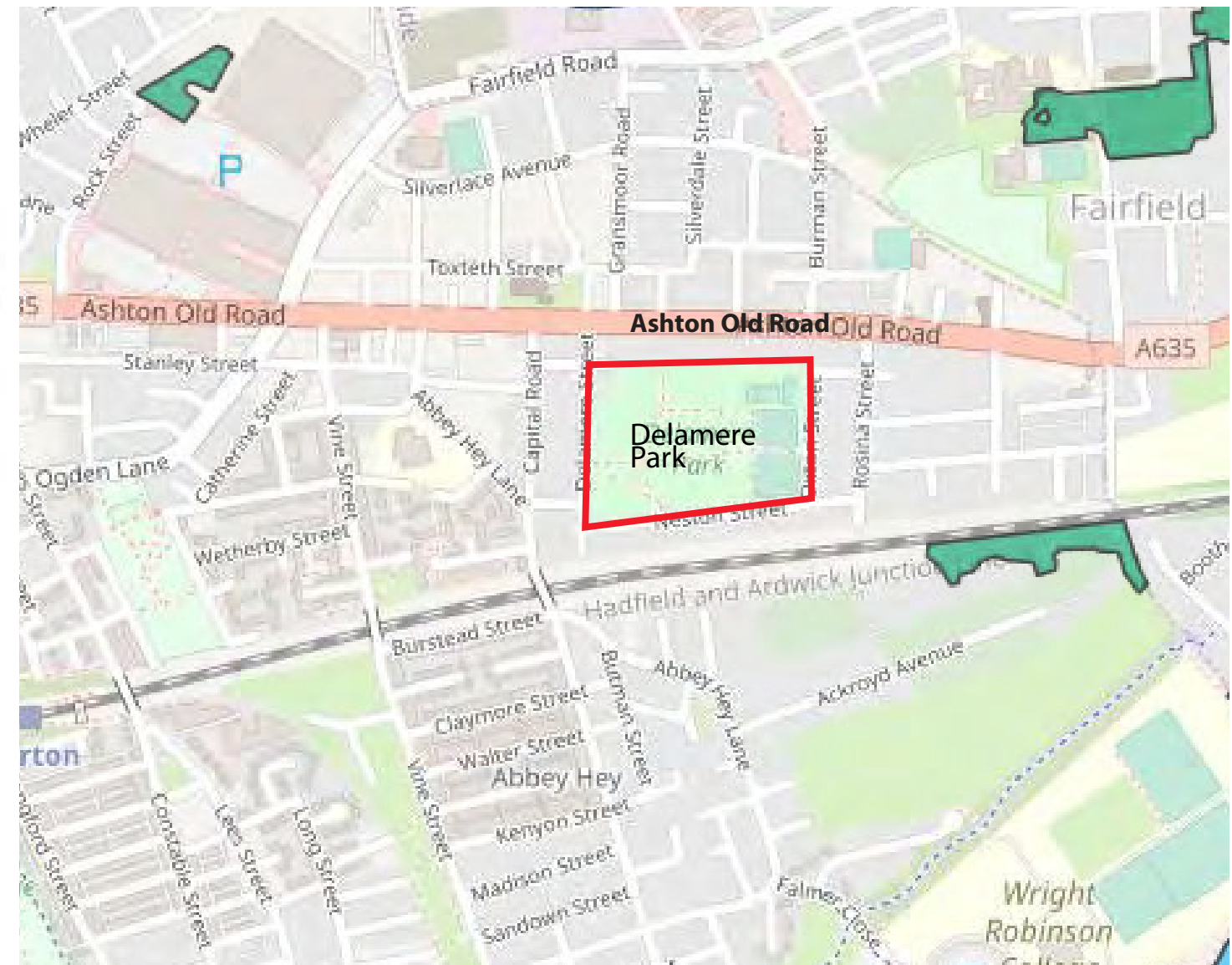
Existing Habitats of High Biological Interest

This map plot the approximate distribution of high biodiversity interest parcels across Greater Manchester. It was created as part of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Pilot 2021. This dataset is one of two created by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) as part of the LNRS Pilot.

The other dataset, the LNRS Opportunities layer, should be used alongside this dataset to provide a more detailed understanding of Greater Manchester's Nature Recovery Network and also in conjunction with the Greater Manchester Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) dataset too.

Greater Manchester Sites of Biological Importance SBIs are non-statutory areas of substantive nature conservation importance within the Greater Manchester city-region. The SBI system is designed to establish and highlight to planners, landowners and site managers where areas of high biodiversity interest occur so that appropriate decisions on planning applications, land use and land management can be made.

The map of existing habitats shows that there are no designated within the study area, however this does not mean that there are not areas of high biodiversity interest in the park, they have just not been mapped as part of this by Greater Manchester Ecology Unit.



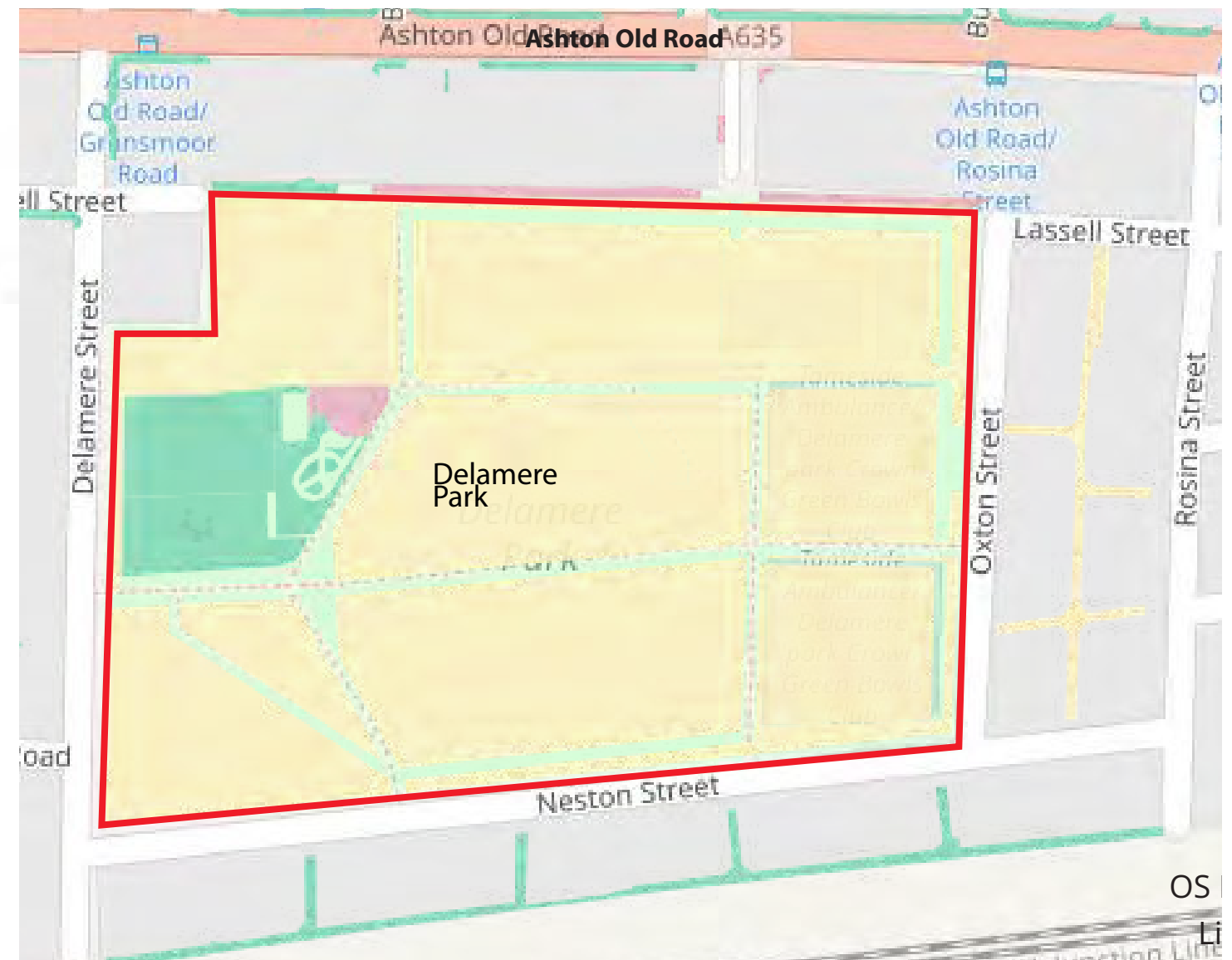
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3.12

Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Opportunities

This spatial dataset attempts to plot “opportunity parcels” for habitat creation, restoration and enhancement across the Greater Manchester city-region. It was created as part of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Pilot 2021.

It shows that Delamere Park has been mapped as part of the LNRS and that it indicates that areas within the park have been identified as grassland improvement opportunities, tree planting opportunities, with an area of lowland wet land opportunity.



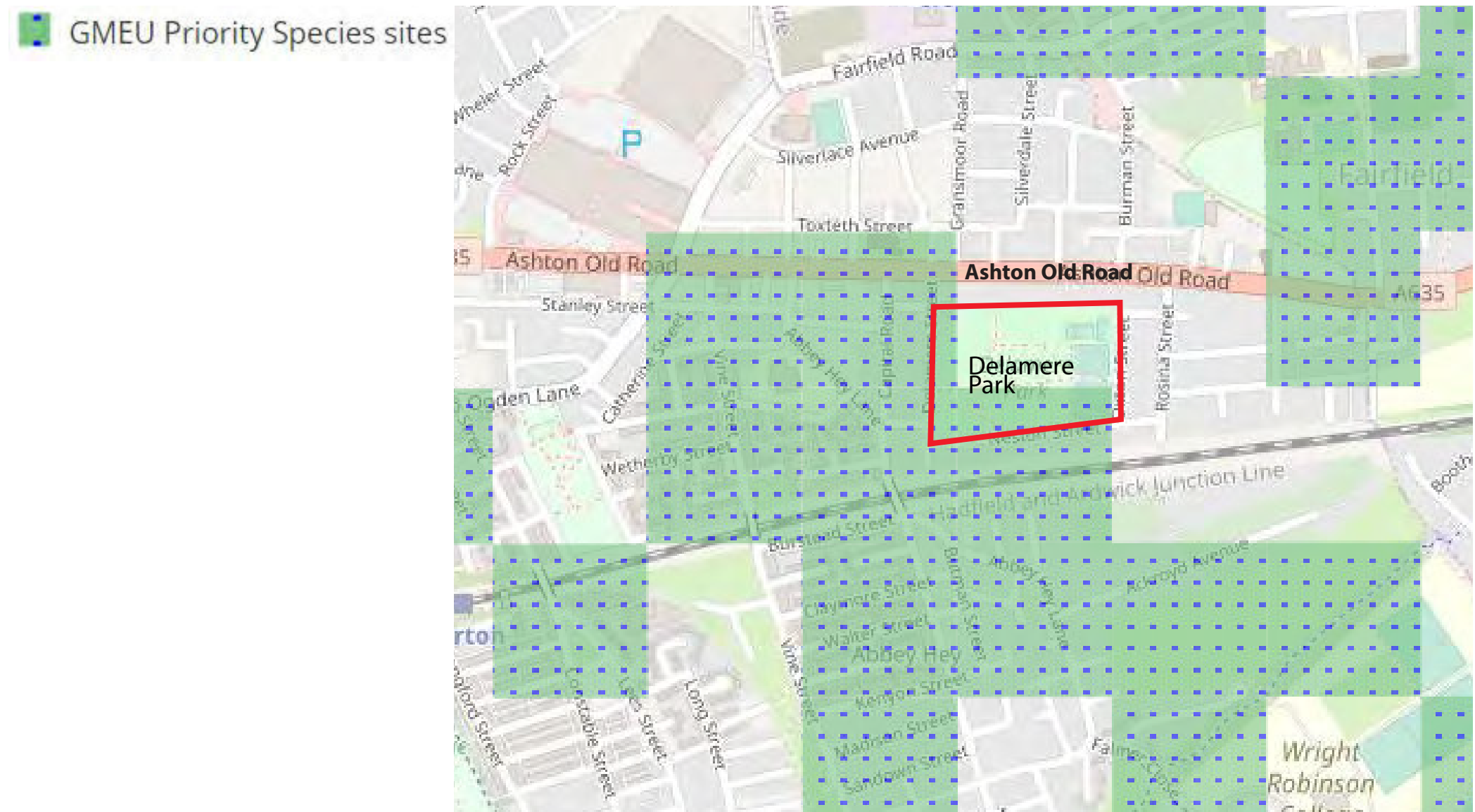
https://mappinggm.org.uk/green/?lyrs=_top50,v_gmeu_lhrs_opportunities#open_street_map/17/53.47126/-2.15409

3.13

Greater Manchester Ecology Unit Priority Species

During August 2017, GMEU worked with partner organisations to agree upon the content of, and to produce, a sample protected and priority species layer covering the entire of Greater Manchester. The data contains a summary of all relevant species data held by GMEU and the most significant recording groups for Greater Manchester including the South Lancs Bat Group, the Greater Manchester Bird Recording Group and the Amphibian and Reptile Group. The dataset is a 200m2 grid analysis for the whole of Greater Manchester showing for each grid the number of distinct species recorded per species group e.g. mammals, birds, reptiles, flowering plants etc.

The map shows that the western and southern portions of the site have been identified on the priority species map.



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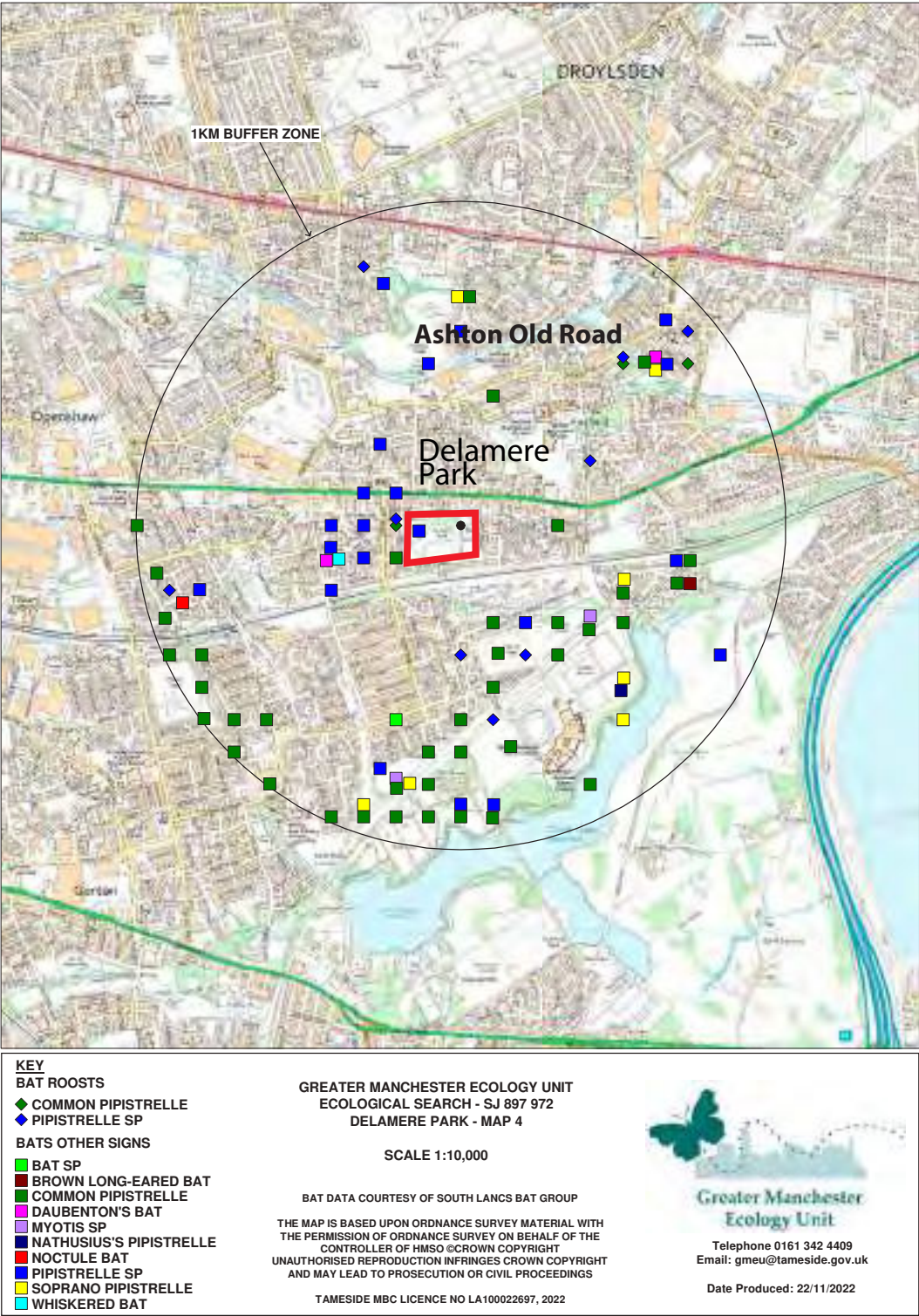
3.14

Greater Manchester Ecology Unit Priority Species - Bats

Following contact with Tameside Council, who host the data regarding ecology, the Ecology Unit have sent information showing that there is evidence of the presence of Pipistrelle bats in Delamere Park. Roosts were identified in Capital Road in 2000 and bats have been recoded flying on Lassel St. in September 2002. There are no reported sighted since 2002 in the vicinity of Delamere Park. On contact with the Ecology Unit in January 2023, they have stated that there have been no more recent surveys in the area rather than there being no bats*. The Ecology Department also noted that the Local Authority Planning department will decide/advise on submission whether there is the need for assessment for ecological impacts/mitigation.

Whilst the presence of bats on site would not automatically stop a development of this nature going ahead, the Local Planning Authority may request further surveys such as climbed tree surveys looking for bats roosts or evidence of bats, or a more detailed longitudinal survey which takes place over the summer months (normally April through to September) which can be costly and add delays to projects. The presence of bats on site or in the near vicinity can negatively effect whether a Local Authority will grant permission for facilities such as floodlights. It is also likely that the Local Authority will ask that the development includes some mitigation measures of bat friendly features, such as bat boxes.

*email from Stuart Fraser to EJ dated 12/1/2023.



3.15

Eco System Services - Opportunities Map

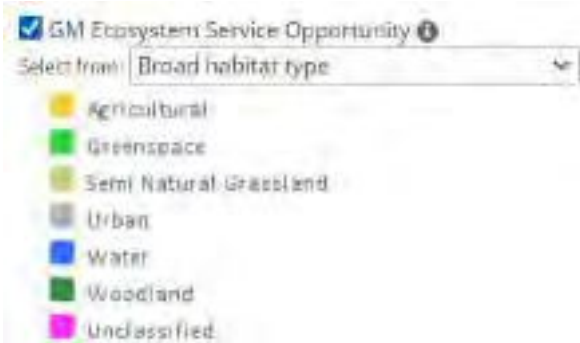
The study from which this data derives identifies, for each land parcel in the study area, the opportunities that changes in land use or management could bring in terms of improved ecosystem services (ESS). Opportunity arises on land which, given its physical, social, economic, geographical and cultural characteristics, offers potential to intervene and improve ESS functioning, and thus uplift natural capital value. Opportunity arises where there is a combination of feasibility and need.

The opportunity mapping data layer includes the outputs scores for each ESS along with each services' constituent attributes. ESS are made up of several attributes which analyse different aspects of each service. For example, the Water Quality service is made up of an assessment of Attributes including: Land Connectivity, Hydrological Connectivity, Slope, Soil Characteristics, Land Use and Consented Discharge Locations. Across all services and attributes the higher the score the higher the potential for improving the natural capital and ESS value of the parcel.

For each ESS and attribute, there are several types of Measures which could be implemented to deliver the opportunity and improve the natural capital and ESS value. For example, to improve water quality, measures could include Tree Planting or Reed bed Establishment to filter sediment or intercept polluted surface water on its flow to the river. This information is presented in a graph to the left.

All scores, across all services are stored within the data layer by OS MasterMap parcel. The layer contains information on the Broad and Sub-Habitat Type, ESS Attributes Score(s), ESS Service Score(s) and the Total Combined ESS Score(s).

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https://mappinggm.org.uk/green/?lyrs=_top50,v_tep_ecosystem_services_2019#open_street_map/15/53.4696/-2.1440

3.16

Eco System Services - Overall Ecosystem Opportunities

This study identifies, for each land parcel in the study area, the opportunities that changes in land use or management could bring in terms of improved ecosystem services (ESS). Opportunity arises on land which, given its physical, social, economic, geographical and cultural characteristics, offers potential to intervene and improve ESS functioning and thus uplift natural capital value. Opportunity arises where there is a combination of feasibility and need.

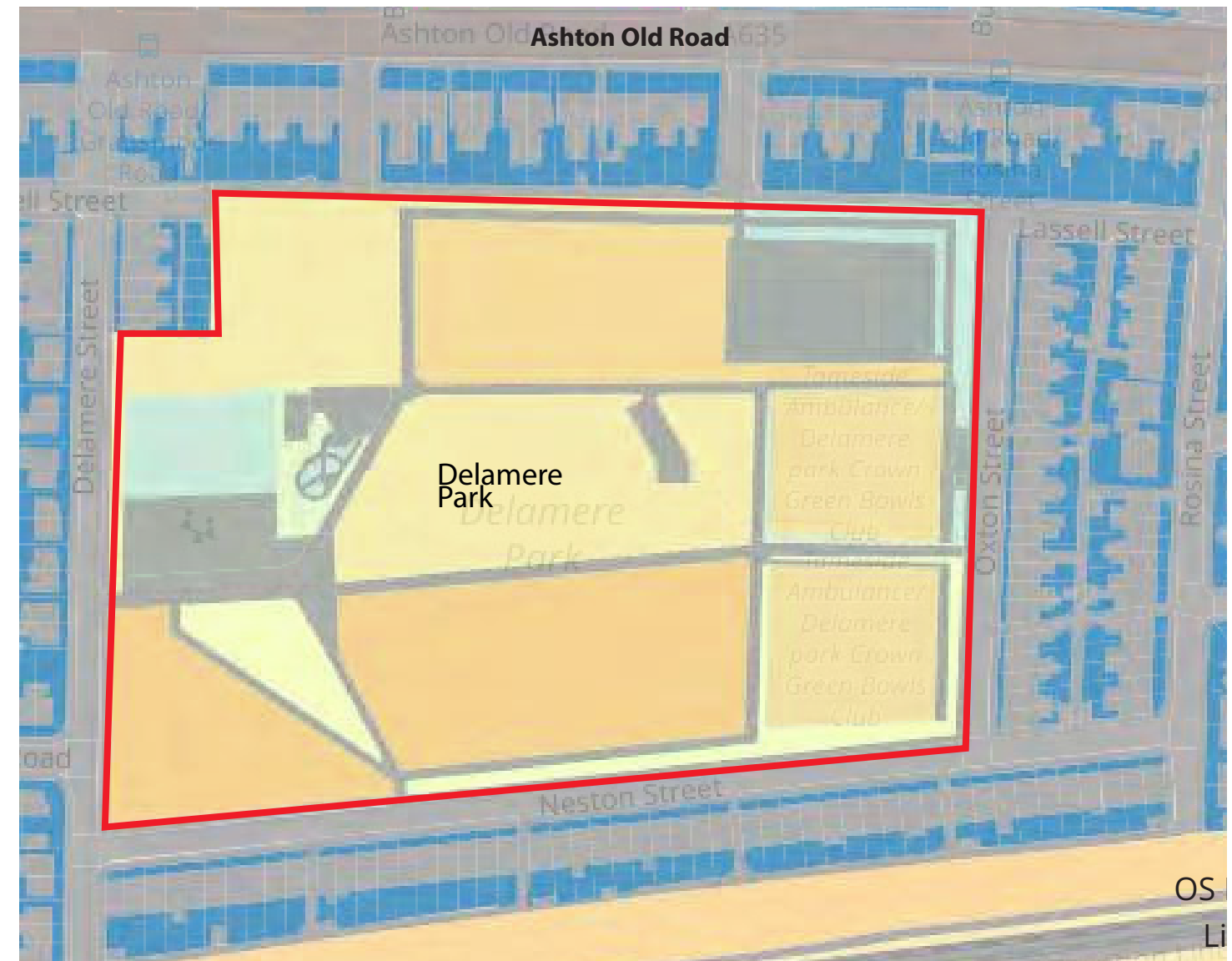
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Across all services and attributes the higher the score the higher the potential for improving the natural capital and ESS value of the parcel.

For each ESS and attribute, there are several types of Measures which could be implemented to deliver the opportunity and improve the natural capital and ESS value. For example, to improve water quality, measures could include Tree Planting or Reed bed Establishment to filter sediment or intercept polluted surface water on its flow to the river.

All scores, across all services are stored within the GIS Opportunity Mapping data layer by OS MasterMap parcel, the layer contains the following information:

- Broad Habitat Type
- Sub Habitat Type
- ESS Attributes Score(s)
- ESS Service Score(s)
- Total Combined ESS Score(s)



https://mappinggm.org.uk/green/?lyrs=_top50,v_tep_ecosystem_services_2019#open_street_map/17/53.47126/-2.15409



3.17

Eco System Services - Individual Ecosystem Opportunities

The graphic opposite shows some of the individual opportunities for improvement that have inputted into the overall eco-system services opportunities diagram on the previous page.

Air Quality Improvement Opportunities

As can be seen the Park is shown as having a very high opportunity of improving air quality.

Amenity Improvement Opportunities

The play area is seen as having a low improvement opportunity, however the bowling greens are identified as having a very high amenity improvement score with the central areas having a middling score.

Opportunities for Biodiversity Improvements

The play area is seen as having a low improvement opportunity, however the bowling greens and southern areas, as well as the northern parkland area are seen as having moderate opportunities for biodiversity improvements

Opportunities for Leisure and Recreation

With the exception of the bowling greens and play area the park is seen as having a high opportunity for Leisure and Recreation Improvement.

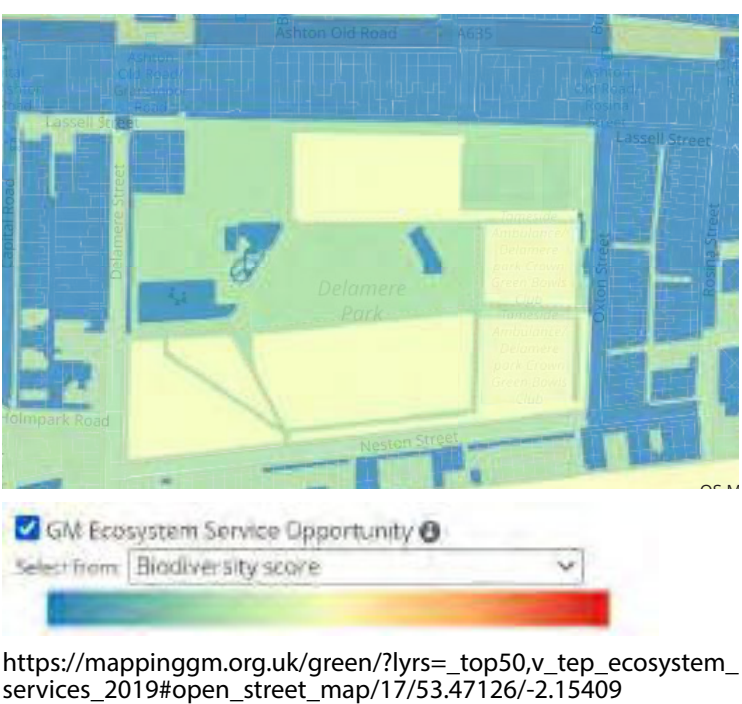
Opportunities for Air Quality Improvements



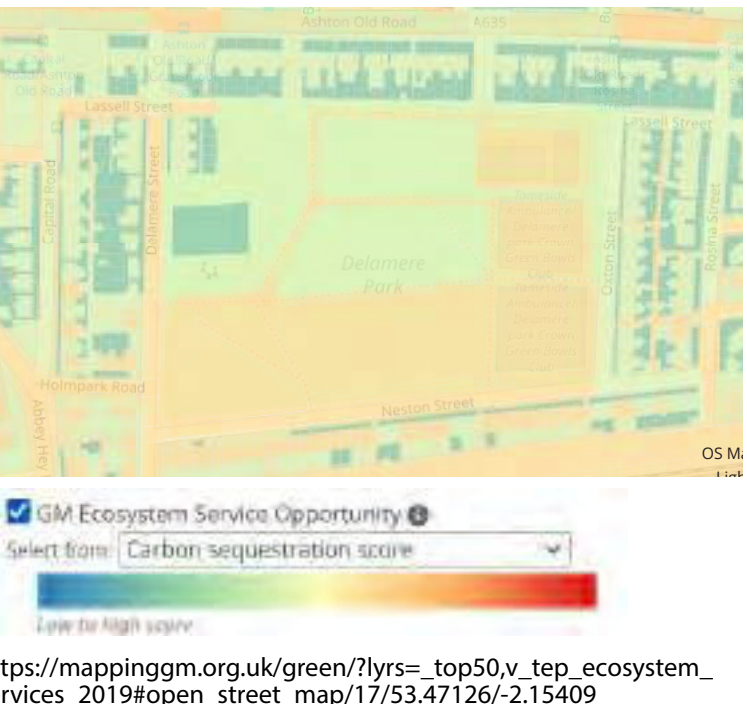
Opportunities for Amenity Improvements



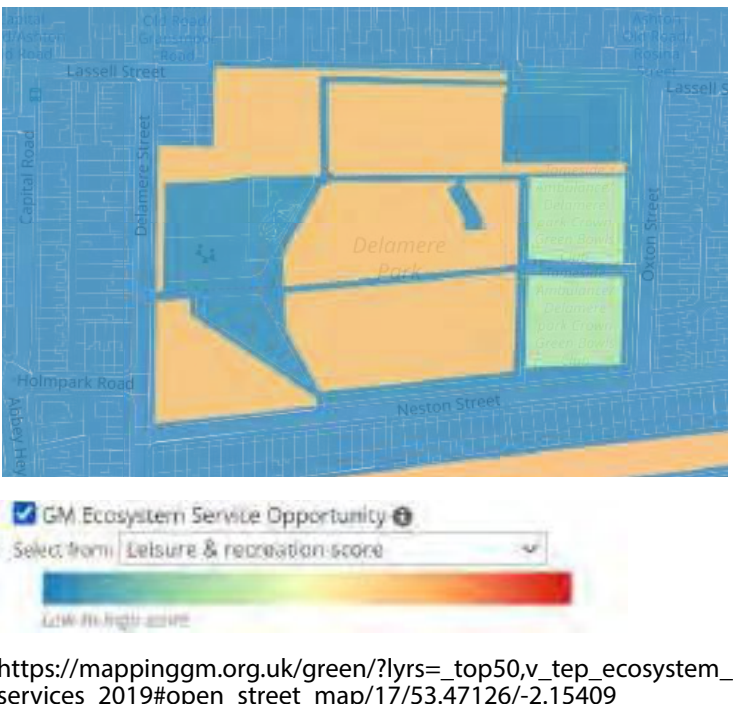
Opportunities for Biodiversity Improvements



Opportunities for Carbon Sequestration



Opportunities for Leisure and Recreation



3.18

Site Stakeholders

Friends of Delamere Park

Friends of Delamere Park is a vibrant and active community group formed by local people who have a shared interest in maintaining and improving Delamere Park, and creating a park centred community. The group became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), a new legal structure introduced for non-profit organisations and charities, in November 2021. It is chaired by Nicci Ward and currently has between 8-10 active members. The Friends of Delamere Park were awarded Park Volunteers of the Year award in 19/20.

Working closely with the Park Rangers, the Friends of Delamere Park, as well as getting in involved in the routine maintenance of the work, such as organizing litter picks, they have also run community events such Christmas Lights switch-on events, Easter Egg hunts and Spring bulb planting. In Spring 2021, working in partnership with The Orchard Project, the Friends Group planted an orchard consisting of 12 fruit trees and nut trees in the bottom left side of the park, with tree types ranging from apple, plum, cherry to hazelnut. Future upcoming events include the pruning of the fruit trees along with a member of The Orchard Project.

Delamere Park Bowling Club

Delamere Park Bowling Club is based in the bowling greens in the west of the park and meet between 12.30 and 3pm on a Tuesday.

Multi Sports Sessions

Foundation 92's website states that it resumed multi-sports sessions in Delamere Park in May 2021, for young people between the ages of 7-11 and 12-16 on Tuesdays afternoons after school between 3.30 and 5.30 pm.

Friends of Delamere Park Tree Planting

