



# Site Allocations Plan

Leeds Local Development Framework

Development Plan Document

Submission Draft Nature Conservation Background Paper

February 2017

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# NATURE CONSERVATION BACKGROUND PAPER RELATING TO SITE ALLOCATIONS PLAN AND AIRE VALLEY LEEDS AREA ACTION PLAN

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## 1.0 Schedule of Designated Nature Conservation Sites

### 1.1 Introduction

This paper supports the preparation of the Site Allocation Plan and forms part of the evidence base for the assessment of sites and Sustainability Appraisal. It also provides guidance to help implement Policies G8 and G9 of the Core Strategy.

Details are provided of the update of the District's designated nature conservation sites since 2006, which has been used as a basis to help inform the preparation of the SAP and AVLAAP and related Site Requirements. It is acknowledged that during the lifetime of the Leeds Local Development Framework (LDF) an ongoing review of designated sites will be required. This report seeks to provide an up to date schedule of designated nature conservation sites, it explains any changes in terminology of designated sites since the 2006 Leeds Unitary Development Plan (UDP), and finally explains how additional sites will be identified during the lifetime of the Leeds LDF.

### 1.2 Policy Background

The National Planning Policy Framework recognises the importance of having a hierarchy of designated nature conservation sites:

*Para. 113 Local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected wildlife or geodiversity sites or landscape areas will be judged. Distinctions should be made between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites,<sup>24</sup> so that protection is commensurate with their status and gives appropriate weight to their importance and the contribution that they make to wider ecological networks.*

*Para. 117 To minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity, planning policies should:*

- identify and map components of the local ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them and areas identified by local partnerships for habitat restoration or creation;*

<sup>24</sup> Government Circular 06/2005 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations And Their Impact Within The Planning System. Page 32 para. 95 titled “Local Sites” of this Government Circular refers to separate guidance that will be produced by Defra for the development and management of systems to identify these sites. In 2006 Defra produced a report “Local Sites – Guidance on their Identification, Selection and Management” which fulfils this function.

The Leeds Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2006 Volume 1 section 5.6.10 described the different names used for designated nature conservation sites and their relative level of importance. All of the designated sites as of 2006 are listed in the UDP Volume 2 Appendix 8 and all of these designated sites have been saved as part of the approved Leeds Local Development Framework. The UDP 2006 policies that referred to these designated sites are N49, N50 and N51 and these have now been replaced by the Core Strategy Policies G8 and G9.

However, the designated sites on the schedule of the UDP Volume 2 Appendix 8 (see Appendix 1 of this Report) will continue to be used to implement Policy G8 and G9 of the more recent Core Strategy but it is recognised that the District's nature conservation resource requires an ongoing review to ensure land use planning decisions are based on up to date information. Within this context, it is noted that the designation of International, National and Local sites is via a series of processes as set out below. These reflect national and local guidance but do not have the same weight as via the Development Plan process but nevertheless have status as providing up to date information in assisting the implementation of Core Strategy Policies.

### **1.3 Designated International & National Sites**

The District has 17 nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). These are the most important sites in the District and receive statutory protection. There have been no more nationally important sites added since the LCC UDP 2006. However, one SSSI (South Pennine Moorlands SSSI) has also been designated as part of a larger site of European level of importance – South Pennine Moorlands Phase 2 Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

### **1.4 Designated Local Sites**

UDP Volume 2 Appendix 8 schedule of designated local sites lists 3 different types of Local Site (see Appendix 1 of this document for list of sites and Appendix 3 provides maps):

- Sites of Ecological or Geological Interest (SEGIs) – 43 sites
- Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) – 6 sites
- Leeds Nature Areas (LNAs) – 113 sites

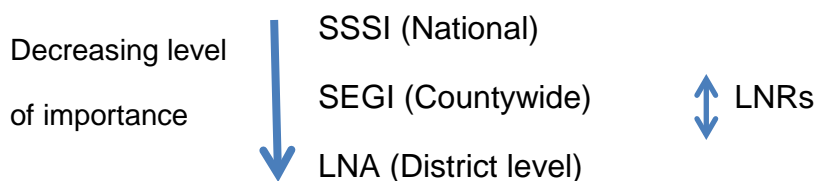
SEGIs are non-statutory Local Sites intended to represent a countywide (West Yorkshire) level of importance so are of secondary importance below the nationally designated SSSIs.

It is less easy to define the level of importance of LNRs in the hierarchy because parts of some LNRs are also SSSIs and some are SEGIs, and some may be neither. Their designation is based on public appreciation and access as well as nature

conservation importance. Although they receive a level of statutory protection under the National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949 in planning terms they fulfil a similar level of importance to other non-statutory Local Sites and therefore are considered to be of secondary importance in the hierarchy - alongside SEGIs.

LNAs are non-statutory Local Sites that represent a third level of designated site and are the lowest level of importance in the hierarchy of designated sites.

Summary of hierarchy of nature conservation sites as identified in the UDP



#### 1.4.1 New Terminology for Designated Local Sites

The Introduction of the 2006 Defra Local Sites Guidance recognised that across the country local authorities used a number of different names for their Local Sites and instead should use a commonly recognised name for them – i.e. “Local Wildlife Site” (LWS) or “Local Geological Site” (LGS) if the feature is a geological one. This provides a consistent terminology across England and addresses the many different local names given to Local Sites. The guidance also encourages use of a two-tier system of site hierarchy (National and Local) – which therefore means that in Leeds there is the need to move away from a three-tier hierarchy to a two-tier hierarchy.

1. National importance (SSSIs)
2. Local importance (LWS and LGS - which are important at a West Yorkshire level)

#### 1.4.2 Role of the West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership

Following the 2006 Defra Local Sites Guidance a Local Sites Partnership was established for West Yorkshire in 2011 and a written criteria agreed to assess each Local Site against in order to ensure it meets a sufficiently high quality to be designated as a Local Wildlife Site. The written criteria document is called the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria and provides clear, detailed criteria as required by the Defra Guidance.

The West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership is made up of local authority officers together with West Yorkshire Ecology, Natural England, West Yorkshire Geology Trust, and Yorkshire Naturalists Union. Input from the following organisations is also encouraged: Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. The West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership has a written Terms of Reference

that its membership organisations have signed up to, and a Local Sites Panel (made up of local wildlife and geology experts) meets regularly to propose Local Sites and put them to the Local Sites Partnership for their approval and designation.

#### **1.4.3 Status of Local Sites identified in the 2006 UDP**

All of the designated Local Sites from the 2006 UDP have been saved and carried forward in the Leeds LDF, but in order to ensure these sites are still of sufficient value to justify protection through the planning system all these Local Sites will need to be reassessed against the 2011 West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria and be formally approved by the West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership where the relevant Criteria are met. The new terminology of LWS and LGS will not be used until the Local Sites carried forward from the UDP are formally assessed against the 2011 Criteria. Any Local Site that has not yet been re-assessed will be referred to as a Candidate Local Wildlife Site and will be seen as a priority to be resurveyed as resources allow.

##### **1.4.3.1 Current Status of SEGI and LNRs identified in the 2006 UDP**

A number of the SEGIs and LNRs from the 2006 LCC UDP Volume 2 Appendix 8 schedule have not yet been assessed against the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria. It is likely that they will meet the 2011 LWS Criteria but these sites have not yet been formally re-surveyed and assessed against the Criteria. Over the timescale of the Leeds LDF all the Local Sites from the UDP will need to be re-assessed against the 2011 Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria and an updated schedule of designated nature conservation sites produced to reflect this.

##### **1.4.3.2 Current Status of Leeds Nature Areas identified in the 2006 UDP**

The lowest (or third) level of site designation identified in the UDP will cease to be used as part of the LDF (Core Strategy Policy G8) but only after all the listed LNA sites have been assessed against the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria to see if they are of countywide (West Yorkshire) importance – and therefore designated as a Local Wildlife Site. LNAs that do not meet the 2011 West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria may still justify being included as part of the Leeds Habitat Network (see next section in this report) and thereby receive an appropriate level of protection under Core Strategy Policy G9.

At the time of this report a review of all LNAs has commenced to assess them against the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Sites Selection Criteria. This process will continue through 2017-19 and is likely to result in:

- some of these LNA sites becoming Local Wildlife Sites
- some LNA sites already integrated into the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- some LNA sites no longer receiving any protection through the LDF

Any LNAs that have not yet been formally assessed against the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria but are considered at this time that they may meet the Criteria will be considered by the West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership during 2017-19.

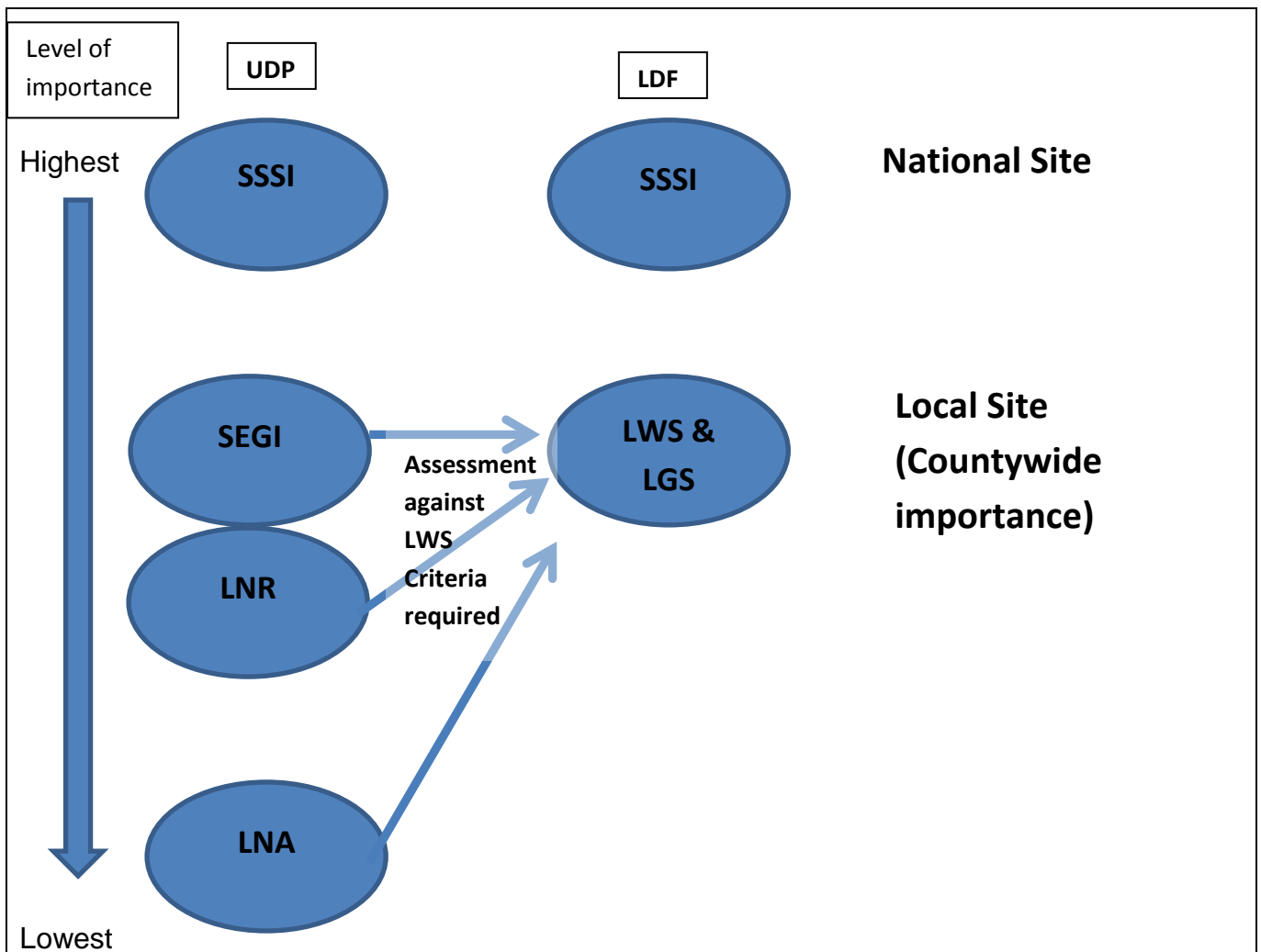
#### **1.4.4 New Local Wildlife Sites & Local Geological Sites designated since the 2006 UDP**

Any sites that have been assessed against the 2011 West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria and approved by the West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership will be shown as a LWS or LGS accordingly in this report. At the time of this report there have been 48 LWS and 11 LGS assessed and approved by the West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership – some of these sites have been identified as a result of the programme of reassessing existing third-tier LNA sites in partnership with West Yorkshire Ecology. See Appendix 2 for an up to date list of all nature conservation designated sites and Appendix 3 for maps. Any Local Sites that have not yet been reassessed are referred to as Candidate Local Wildlife Sites and are also listed in Appendix 2.

As well as reassessing previously designated Local Sites from the UDP (SEGIs, LNRs and LNAs) against the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria it is likely that there are other sites in the District that have not been previously identified and designated. These new sites may also come forward as resources allow for a site survey and assessment against the West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site Selection Criteria.

It is expected that where up to date ecological surveys, of land forming part of planning applications, identifies any undesignated habitats that may be of LWS value that the applicant will carry out a further assessment of the site against the West Yorkshire Local Site Selection Criteria and present this assessment as part of any planning application documentation.

## 1.5 Hierarchy of Designated Sites from UDP to LDF



## 1.6 Additional note on Policy G8

In addition to designated nature conservation sites it should be noted that Core Strategy Policy G8 also affords a level of protection to UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats and Species, and WY BAP Habitats and Species. Although these are not designated sites their presence on development sites will also need to be identified and taken into account accordingly.

The Multi-Agency Geographic Information system for the Countryside (MAGIC – provided by Natural England and available to view at <http://www.magic.gov.uk/>) shows some land that has been identified as UK BAP Priority Habitat, but it is likely that up to date ecological surveys (such as those that form part of planning applications) will identify additional UK BAP Priority Habitats that are also present.

Information about West Yorkshire BAP Priority Species and Habitats can be accessed from West Yorkshire Ecology, as well as additional information to help identify if UK BAP Priority Species or Habitats may be present.

## 2.0 Leeds Habitat Network

### 2.1 Introduction

Since the 2006 UDP there has been a change in perspective regarding how nature conservation should be approached for long-term success. As well as ensuring protection of the most important designated nature conservation sites, more efforts have been directed towards the creation of ecological networks to facilitate species mobility and encourage healthy species populations. The current National Planning Policy Framework was published in 2012 and refers to ecological networks in Para. 109:

*“minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.”*

### 2.2 Background

Relevant research that contributed to this step-change includes an independent review titled ‘Making Space for Nature’, which was led by Professor Sir John Lawton and published in 2010. The review assessed the quality of the suite of “wildlife sites” in England and their ability to provide for the long-term health of the natural environment. Findings showed that provisions for wildlife were lacking in many aspects and the author suggested that *“we need a step-change in our approach to wildlife conservation, from trying to hang on to what we have, to one of large-scale habitat restoration and re-creation, under-pinned by the re-establishment of ecological processes and ecosystem services, for the benefits of both people and wildlife”*. This is summarised using four key words: more, bigger, better and joined.

During 2011, the Government released a Natural Environment White Paper titled ‘The Natural Choice’. One of the key recommendations in this paper is the creation of Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs) in order to provide larger and more connected spaces for wildlife. Natural England released a report to accompany the White Paper, which is titled “Think BIG: How and why landscape-scale conservation benefits wildlife, people and the wider economy”. This states that *“we need to better integrate the needs of wildlife into land-use decisions and management, both in our countryside and in our towns and cities. In so doing, we are likely to benefit not just wildlife but our economy and society as a whole through the provision of ecosystem services”*.

Another publication, the ‘State of Nature’ report, was produced in 2013 by many of the major nature conservation organisations working in collaboration. The report provides findings from a review of the population status of a range of British wildlife

species. It found that the majority of the species reviewed had experienced population declines during the past five decades.

Major nature conservation organisations have recognised for some time the benefits of implementing a more holistic, landscape-scale approach to nature conservation. This is reflected in projects by various organisations including:

- The Wildlife Trusts' 'Living Landscapes' projects, which began in 2006 and aim to establish corridors of wildlife-rich landscape and create wildlife connectivity between designated nature sites.
- The RSPB's 'Futurescapes' projects, launched in 2010, aim to retain and enhance the quality of important wildlife sites throughout the UK by increasing the size of the sites. Through linking local land parcels to the key sites they hope to enhance the abundance of species.
- The charity Buglife launched a project called 'B-Lines' in 2011, through which they aim to create and restore at least 150,000 hectares of nectar-rich habitat throughout Britain. This would provide valuable wildlife corridors to support a diversity of plants and invertebrates and provide food for many other species.

### **2.3 The role of the Leeds Habitat Network**

The Leeds Core Strategy shows a strategic Leeds Habitat Network on Map 17 and was created in 2012 to help implement Policy G9 "Biodiversity Improvements" (i) and (iii). The Leeds Habitat Network aims to protect the integrity and connectivity of areas in Leeds with nature conservation value, as well as guiding the best locations for provision of new areas and opportunities for habitat creation and enhancement. Between 2013 and 2014 a project between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Ecology was established to update the Leeds Habitat Network and map its components to a more detailed level to help inform the Site Allocations Plan and Sustainability Appraisal process. This has led to a subsequent revision of the strategic Leeds Habitat Network Map across all of Leeds which is based on aerial photo interpretation and site assessments by a project officer at West Yorkshire Ecology.

The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network highlights existing notable ecological links within the District as well as linking into the surrounding districts (notably Bradford and Wakefield which have existing Wildlife Habitat Networks). The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network should enable species populations to be sustained by maintaining the existing physical ecological corridors, which can help provide sustainable ecosystem services. This can be achieved through the use of the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network as a guidance tool for decision-making relating to the location and design of future development, and deciding priority areas for biodiversity enhancements.



Where development pressure occurs at locations covered by the Leeds Habitat Network consideration will firstly need to be given to whether a designated site or UK BAP Priority Habitat or Species will be affected (and therefore be assessed against Policy G8). Where an impact has been identified on the Leeds Habitat Network and consideration against G9 is required there is a presumption that any development must be designed to include a positive contribution to the habitat network and that the integrity and physical connectivity of the Leeds Habitat Network can continue to function.

## **2.4 How the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network has been identified**

The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network was produced using a Geological Information System (GIS): MapInfo Professional 12.0, which enabled all relevant available data to be gathered and displayed on the same GIS workspace. The data utilised was:

- Bing aerial photography (2011)
- OS Mastermap Topography basemap & Waterline (2012)
- Culverted watercourse links (2011)
- Designated site boundaries: Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Nature Reserve (LNR), Site of Ecological and Geological Interest (SEGI), Leeds Nature Area (LNA)
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat coverage (2009/ 2010)
- Ancient woodland boundaries
- Phase 1 habitat data (1990 full West Yorkshire coverage, 2008 Leeds – Bradford border coverage, 2009 Wyke Beck coverage)
- National Vegetation Classification (NVC) data (SEGI data 2002, LNA data 2013/ 2014)
- Tree Preservation Order (TPO) designations (2003 – 2014)
- Proposed Open Space (2012)
- Green Infrastructure Corridors (April 2010)
- Leeds Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) flood zones 2 and 3 (2007)
- Class 1 and Class 2 Archaeology Sites (2014)

The main types of habitat included within the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network are: broad-leaved and mixed woodland, scrub, hedgerows, (agriculturally) unimproved/ species-rich semi-improved grassland, rivers/ becks, ponds, fen/ marsh and features with restoration potential such as quarries and old allotment sites. The concept of ‘stepping stones’ has been utilised to incorporate important habitat parcels within the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network where it has not been possible to identify a suitable natural link.

Land within the Leeds City Council SFRA Flood Zones 2 and 3 that lies within the catchments of the River Aire, River Wharfe and River Calder has been included in

the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network (excluding any already developed land). This has been incorporated within the 'other' habitat layer and has been included as three separate blocks - one for each catchment area.

## **2.5 How to view the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network**

The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network can be viewed spatially with the option of base-maps including aerial photography or ordnance survey. There are data sets available for each land parcel that is part of the Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network. The data can be viewed in a tabular format and specific data sets can be selected out (using the GIS function) if required, such as quarries or ponds. Data for each land parcel (usually a unit such as a pond/series of ponds, individual field or woodland block) can also be individually selected from within the GIS mapping window by clicking on it with the Information button.

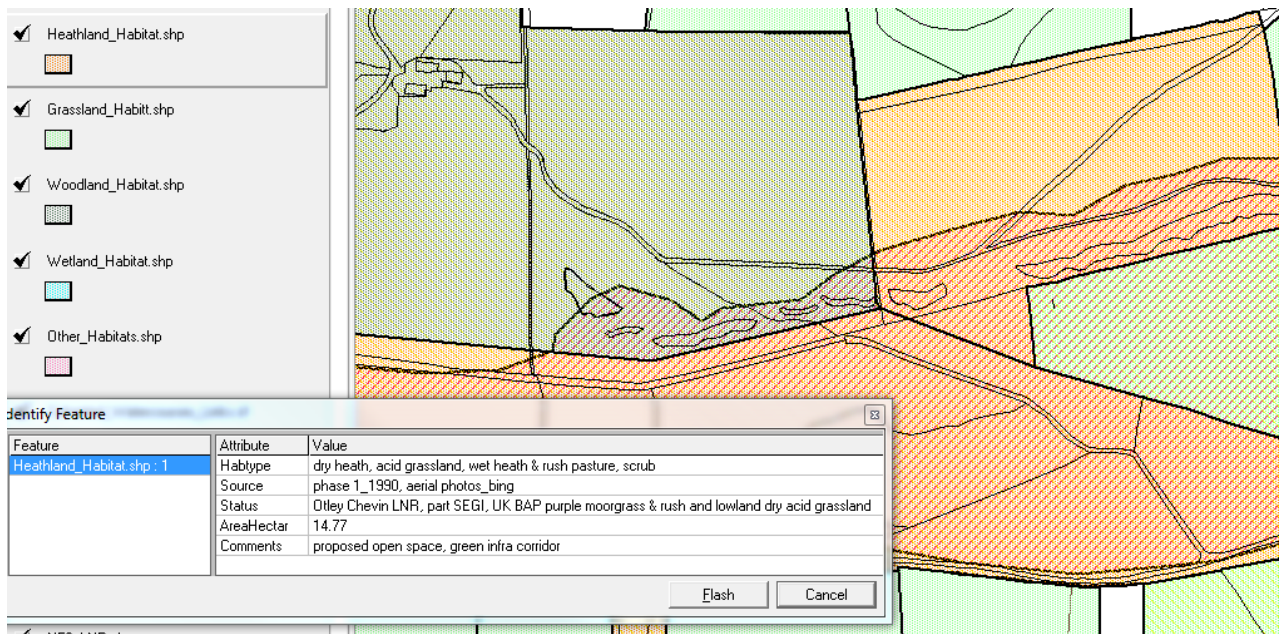
The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network is available as five separate data sets (GIS layers), which cover:

1. Woodland: mainly broad-leaved/ mixed woodlands, dense scrub and hedgerows
2. Grassland: mainly semi-improved species-rich and some unimproved grassland
3. Wetland: rivers/becks (including culverted stretches), ponds, lakes, fen/marsh
4. Heathland: dry heath, bracken
5. 'Other' habitat types: quarries, gardens, flood plains

The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network is also available as a combined data table (GIS layer). Data sets are provided for each land parcel. The data table covers:

- Habitat type (i.e. – planted broad-leaved woodland and scrub)
- Source/s of data used to assess the land parcel (i.e. – aerial photographs, Phase 1 data or field survey work)
- designation status (i.e. – Local Nature Reserve, Site of Ecological or Geological Importance)
- Size (in hectares)
- Additional comments (whether the land parcel lies within/partially within the flood zone (2 or 3), proposed open space, contains any TPO designations or intersects with the Green Infrastructure Corridor. Any other additional relevant information available is also included here).

An example of how this can viewed is shown below:



The Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network can be seen as Map 2 (Appendix 3) in this report, and also be accessed from West Yorkshire Ecology (a fee will be applicable).

**Appendix 1 – Schedule of Nature Conservation Designations from UDP 2006  
Volume 2 Appendix 8**

**SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST – SSSI**

1. Micklefield Quarry Garforth
2. Hetchell Wood Wetherby
3. Yeadon Brickworks and Railway Cutting Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
4. Breary Marsh North Leeds
5. Mickletown Ings Rothwell
6. Roach Lime Hills Garforth
7. Madbanks and Ledsham Banks Garforth
8. Townclose Hills Garforth
9. Leeds-Liverpool Canal Pudsey, West Leeds
10. Fairburn & Newton Ings Garforth
11. Great Dib Wood Otley and Mid Wharfedale
12. Linton Common Wetherby
13. Norwood Bottoms Wetherby
14. Eccup Reservoir North Leeds
15. East Keswick Fitts Wetherby (part Harrogate DC)
16. Hook Moor Garforth
17. South Pennines Moors (part) Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope

**LOCAL NATURE RESERVES – LNR**

1. Fairburn Ings Garforth
2. Chevin Forest Park Otley and Mid-Wharfedale
3. Middleton Woods South Leeds
4. Meanwood Valley North Leeds
5. Breary Marsh North Leeds
6. Townclose Hills Garforth

**SITES OF ECOLOGICAL OR GEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE – SEGI**

1. Adel Dam/Golden Acre Park North/Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
2. Allerton Bywater Garforth
3. Avenue Wood wetland (Avenue Wood Ponds) East Leeds
4. Barnbow Common East Leeds
5. Barwick Bank Garforth
6. Becca Banks Garforth
7. Bramham Park Garforth/Wetherby
8. Bramhope Tunnel Pond Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
9. Deepdale/Jackdaw Crag Wetherby
10. Hartly Wood/ Castle Hills Garforth
11. Hawksworth Spring Wood Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
12. Hollinhurst Wood Garforth
13. Junction & Island Oxbows (Calder) Rothwell
14. Kidhurst Pond Wetherby
15. Knotford Nook Otley & Mid-Wharfedale
16. Leeds-Liverpool Canal (part Bradford) Pudsey

17. Lowther North Garforth
  18. Meanwood Valley North
  19. Newfield Plantation Garforth
  20. Newton Ings Garforth
  21. Oulton Hall Ponds Rothwell
  22. Parlington Hollins Garforth
  23. Rawdon Ponds (Rawdon Common Pond) Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
  24. Saw Wood Garforth/Wetherby
  25. Sims Pond & Marshland (Ling Bob Pond) Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
  26. Swillington Park Lakes/Cockpit Round Garforth/Rothwell
  27. Thorp Arch Disused Railway Wetherby
  28. Thorp Arch Trading Estate Wetherby
  29. Wendel Hill Bank Garforth
  30. Wothersome Woods Wetherby
  31. Allerton Ings/Ledston Ings Garforth
  32. Ox Close Wood Wetherby
  33. Black Carr Wood Pudsey
  34. Kippax Meadows Garforth
  35. Preston Hills Garforth
  36. River Wharfe Otley & Mid-Wharfedale/Wetherby
  37. Otley Chevin\* Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope/Otley and Mid-Wharfedale
  38. Hetchell Craggs\* Wetherby
  39. Scarcroft Hill\* Wetherby
  40. Roundhay Park Gorge\* North
  41. Gledhow Valley\* North
  42. Thorner Quarry\* Wetherby
  43. Hetchell Wood Quarries\* Wetherby
- \* Denotes Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS)

## **LEEDS NATURE AREAS – LNA**

1. Aberford Osiers Garforth
2. Addyman Wood North Leeds
3. Aireside Embankment Central Business Area
4. Airport Reservoirs Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
5. Albert Road/Valley Road Morley
6. Alwoodley Moss North Leeds
7. Ardsley Reservoir Morley
8. Austhorpe Colliery Wood East Leeds
9. Avenue Wood East Leeds
10. Bardsey Scrub Wetherby
11. Beckett Street Cemetery Inner North Leeds
12. Beeston Wood and Springhead Park Rothwell
13. Bell Wood, Walton Wetherby
14. Bill, Round and Ravenscliffe Woods Pudsey
15. Billing Hill Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
16. Birkby Brow Wood Morley
17. Bramhope Tunnel Top Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
18. Bramley Fall and Newlay Quarry West Leeds
19. Bullerthorpe Lane Pond Garforth

20. Bushey Cliffe Wood Rothwell
21. Calverley Wood Complex Pudsey
22. Canalside Ponds, Woodlesford Rothwell
23. Clark Spring Morley
24. Clayton and Daffy Woods North Leeds
25. Clubbed Oaks and Dean Wood Morley
26. Coburnhill Wood Garforth
27. Colton Mill Pond East Leeds
28. Cragg Wood, Rawdon Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
29. Cragg Wood, Horsforth Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
30. Creskeld Wood Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
31. Dagmar, Grosvenor Mount Inner North Leeds
32. Deipkier Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
33. Dolphin Beck Marsh Morley
34. Eccup Whin North Leeds
35. Engine Fields Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
36. Farnley Reservoir and Silver Royd Hill West Leeds
37. Gallows Hill Otley and Mid-Wharfedale
38. Garforth Disused Railway Line Garforth
39. Gipton Wood and Barker's Plantation North Leeds
40. Gledhow Valley Woods North Leeds
41. Great Swarcliffe Plantation East Leeds
42. Haigh Hall Spring Wood Morley
43. Haigh Wood Morley
44. Half Mile, Farsley Pudsey
45. Harehills Cemetery East Leeds
46. Harewood Estate Woodlands North Leeds
47. Hawk's Nest Wood Garforth
48. Hawksworth Woods Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope/West Leeds
49. Hawthorne Farm Ponds East Leeds
50. Hell Wood and Kidhirst Wood Wetherby
51. Hollybush Farm Wildflower Garden West Leeds
52. Hough End Pudsey
53. Hunger Hills Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
54. Hunslet Moor South Leeds
55. Hunslet Old Cemetery South Leeds
56. Ireland Wood North Leeds
57. Judes Pond Morley
58. Kennet Lane Meadow Garforth
59. Keswick Meadow Wetherby
60. Kiddow Spring South Leeds
61. Killingbeck East Leeds
62. King Lane Verges/Saxon Grove North Leeds
63. Kippax Lodge Pond Garforth
64. Kirkstall Wildflower Garden West Leeds
65. Kirkstall Valley 'Nature Reserve' West Leeds
66. Langwith Wood Wetherby
67. Larkfield Dam Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
68. Leventhorpe Lagoon and Ings Rothwell/East Leeds
69. Lime Pits and Ramshead Woods East Leeds

70. Methley Junction and Disused Railway Rothwell
71. Moor Head Morley
72. Morley Spring Wood Morley
73. Morris Wood West Leeds
74. Moseley Beck Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
75. Moss Carr Wood Rothwell
76. Nan Whin's Wood West Leeds
77. New Dam, Jum Bridge Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
78. Noster Hill South Leeds
79. Nunroyd Park Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
80. Oil Mill Beck Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
81. Otley Sand and Gravel Pits Otley and Mid-Wharfedale
82. Oulton Park Rothwell
83. The Outwood Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
84. Post Hill, Troy Dale Pudsey/West Leeds
85. Roundhay Woods North Leeds
86. Rothwell Pastures and Disused Railway Rothwell
87. St Aidan's North-West Lake Garforth
88. St Mark's Churchyard Inner North Leeds
89. St Matthew's South Leeds
90. Scholes Brickwork Pond Garforth
91. Shadwell Lane Plantation North Leeds
92. Smithy Lane Pond, Bardsey Wetherby
93. Sugar Hill Rothwell
94. Sugarwell Hill Inner Leeds
95. Swaine Wood Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
96. Temple Newsam Estate Woods East Leeds
97. Thorp Arch Disused Railway Wetherby
98. Thorpe Wood Morley
99. Waddington's Wildlife Run South Leeds
100. Waterloo Sidings East Leeds
101. West Wood, Sisson's Wood South Leeds
102. Wetherby Railway Triangle Wetherby
103. Wharfeside Woods Wetherby
104. Wetstone Plantation Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
105. Woodhall Lake Pudsey
106. Woodhouse Moor Inner North Leeds
107. Woodhouse Ridge Inner North Leeds
108. Wormstall Wood Garforth
109. Yeadon Tarn Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope
110. Lineham Farm Wood, Eccup Otley and Mid Wharfedale
111. Newton Lane Garforth
112. Station Road, Allerton Bywater Garforth
113. Rothwell Colliery Rothwell

## Appendix 2 – Nature Conservation Designations as of January 2017

### Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – unchanged from 2006 UDP

	Name of SSSI	European designation
SSSI 1	Micklefield Quarry Garforth	No
SSSI 2	Hetchell Wood Wetherby	No
SSSI 3	Yeadon Brickworks and Railway Cutting Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope	No
SSSI 4	Breary Marsh North Leeds	No
SSSI 5	Mickletown Ings Rothwell	No
SSSI 6	Roach Lime Hills Garforth	No
SSSI 7	Madbanks and Ledsham Banks Garforth	No
SSSI 8	Townclose Hills Garforth	No
SSSI 9	Leeds-Liverpool Canal Pudsey, West Leeds	No
SSSI 10	Fairburn & Newton Ings Garforth	No
SSSI 11	Great Dib Wood Otley and Mid Wharfedale	No
SSSI 12	Linton Common Wetherby	No
SSSI 13	Norwood Bottoms Wetherby	No
SSSI 14	Eccup Reservoir North Leeds	No
SSSI 15	East Keswick Fitts Wetherby (part Harrogate DC)	No
SSSI 16	Hook Moor Garforth	No
SSSI 17	South Pennines Moors (part) Aireborough, Horsforth & Bramhope	Yes - also designated as a European Site (SPA and SAC)



## Local Wildlife Sites

	Name of Local Wildlife Site	Date Approved by West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership
LWS 01	Black Carr Wood, Pudsey	18/07/2011
LWS 02	Becca Banks, Aberford	18/07/2011
LWS 03	Killingbeck Meadows	18/10/2012
LWS 04	Hawks Nest Wood, Garforth	18/10/2012
LWS 05	Coburnhill Wood, Micklefield	09/05/2013
LWS 06	Sims Pond, Horsforth	09/05/2013
LWS 07	Saw Wood, Scholes	24/07/2013
LWS 08	Bell Wood and House Carr Wood Walton	22/01/2014
LWS 09	Bramley Falls and Newlay Quarry Woods	22/01/2014
LWS 10	Aberford Osiers	22/01/2014
LWS 11	Cragg Wood, Horsforth	09/10/2014
LWS 12	Cragg Wood, Rawdon	09/10/2014
LWS 13	Creskeld Wood, Arthington	09/10/2014
LWS 14	East Keswick Marsh	09/10/2014
LWS 15	Frank Shire's, East Keswick	09/10/2014
LWS 16	Great Swarcliffe Plantation	09/10/2014
LWS 17	Great Wood - West Wood, Hawksworth	09/10/2014
LWS 18	Haigh Wood, West Ardsley	09/10/2014
LWS 19	Hawksworth Woods, Horsforth	09/10/2014
LWS 20	Langwith Wood, Collingham	09/10/2014
LWS 21	Morley Spring Wood	09/10/2014
LWS 22	Swaine Wood, Horsforth	09/10/2014
LWS 23	The Outwood, Horsforth	09/10/2014

LWS 24	Wormstall Wood, Ledsham	09/10/2014
LWS 25	Addyman Wood	25/02/2015
LWS 26	Haigh Hall Spring Wood North	25/02/2015
LWS 27	Haigh Hall Spring Wood South	25/02/2015
LWS 28	Roundhay Woods	25/02/2015
LWS 29	Avenue Wood	24/07/2015
LWS 30	Barnbow Common	24/07/2015
LWS 31	Bill, Round and Ravenscliffe Woods	24/07/2015
LWS 32	Calverley Wood Complex	24/07/2015
LWS 33	Clayton and Daffy Woods	24/07/2015
LWS 34	Clubbed Oak and Dean Woods	24/07/2015
LWS 35	Deipkier	24/07/2015
LWS 36	Preston Hill	24/07/2015
LWS 37	Temple Newsam Estate Wood	24/07/2015
LWS 38	Silver Royd Hill	24/07/2015
LWS 39	Bramham Park	21/01/2016
LWS 40	Hartley Wood and Castle Hills	21/01/2016
LWS 41	Hollinhurst Wood	21/01/2016
LWS 42	Newfield Plantation	21/01/2016
LWS 43	Newton Ings	21/01/2016
LWS 44	Thorp Arch	21/01/2016
LWS 45	Wendell Hill Bank	21/01/2016
LWS 46	Wothersome Wood	21/01/2016
LWS 47	Moortown Golf Course	21/01/2016
LWS 48	Lines Way Pond	15/09/2016

## Local Geology Sites

	Name of Local Geology Site	Date Approved by West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership
LGS 01	Wetherby Riverside Cliffs	Feb 2010
LGS 02	Walton Moraine	Feb 2010
LGS 03	Boston Spa Riverside Woods	Feb 2010
LGS 04	Front Wood Thorp Arch	Oct 2010
LGS 05	Gledhow Valley	From UDP (resurveyed 2010)
LGS 06	Wetherby Hetchell Crags	From UDP (resurveyed 2009)
LGS 07	Wetherby Hetchell Wood Quarries	From UDP (resurveyed 2009)
LGS 08	Otley Chevin	From UDP (resurveyed 2010)
LGS 09	Roundhay Park Gorge	From UDP (resurveyed 2010)
LGS 10	Wetherby Scarcroft Hill	From UDP (resurveyed 2010)
LGS 11	Wetherby Thorner Quarry	From UDP (resurveyed 2010)

## Local Nature Reserves

	Name of Local Nature Reserve	Date Designated
LNR 01	Fairburn Ings	From UDP 01/01/1957
LNR 02	Meanwood Valley	From UDP 20/03/1992
LNR 03	Breary Marsh	From UDP 20/03/1992
LNR 04	Middleton Woods	From UDP 20/03/1992
LNR 05	Townclose Hills	From UDP 26/05/1994
LNR 06	Otley Chevin	From UDP 19/10/1989 and additional part 20/02/2002
LNR 07	Farnley Hall Fish Pond	21/01/2004
LNR 08	Letchmire Pastures	27/06/2008
LNR 09	Wyke Beck Woods	13/08/2015
LNR 10	Killingbeck Meadows	13/08/2015
LNR 11	Primrose Valley	13/08/2015
LNR 12	Arthurs Rein	13/08/2015
LNR 13	Halton Moor	13/08/2015
LNR 14	Ledston Luck	18/11/2015

**Candidate Local Wildlife Sites (SEGIs and LNAs from 2006 UDP in need of reassessment)**

Ref	Name
SEGI 01	Adel Dam/Golden Acre Park
SEGI 02	Allerton Bywater
SEGI 05	Barwick Bank
SEGI 08	Bramhope Tunnel Pond
SEGI 09	Deepdale/Jackdaw Crag
SEGI 11	Hawksworth Spring Wood
SEGI 13	Junction and Island Oxbows, Rothwell
SEGI 14	Kidhurst Pond
SEGI 15	Knotford Nook
SEGI 16	Leeds - Liverpool Canal
SEGI 17	Lowther North
SEGI 18	Meanwood Valley
SEGI 21	Oulton Hall Ponds
SEGI 22	Parlington Hollins
SEGI 23	Rawdon Ponds
SEGI 26	Swillington Park Lakes/Cockpit Round
SEGI 28	Thorp Arch Trading Estate
SEGI 31	Allerton Ings, Garforth
SEGI 33	Ox Close Wood
SEGI 34	Kippax Meadows Garforth
SEGI 36	River Wharfe, Otley & Mid Wharfedale/Wetherby
LNA 04	Airport Reservoirs
LNA 05	Albert Road Morley
LNA 10	Bardsey Scrub
LNA 22	Canalside Ponds
LNA 23	Clark Spring
LNA 33	Dolphin Beck Marsh
LNA 34	Eccup Whin
LNA 46	Harewood Estate
LNA 53	Hunger hills
LNA 63	Kippax Lodge Pond
LNA 67	Larkfield Dam
LNA 68	Leventhorpe Lagoons
LNA 74	Moseley Beck
LNA 75	Moss Carr Wood
LNA 76	Nan Whins Wood
LNA 81	Otley Sand and Gravel Pits
LNA 82	Oulton Park
LNA 87	St Aidans NW Lake
LNA 93	Sugarwell Hill
LNA 100	Waterloo Sidings
LNA 103	Wharfeside Woods
LNA 104	Whetstone Plantation
LNA 107	Woodhouse Ridge
LNA 109	Yeadon Tarn
LNA113	Rothwell Colliery

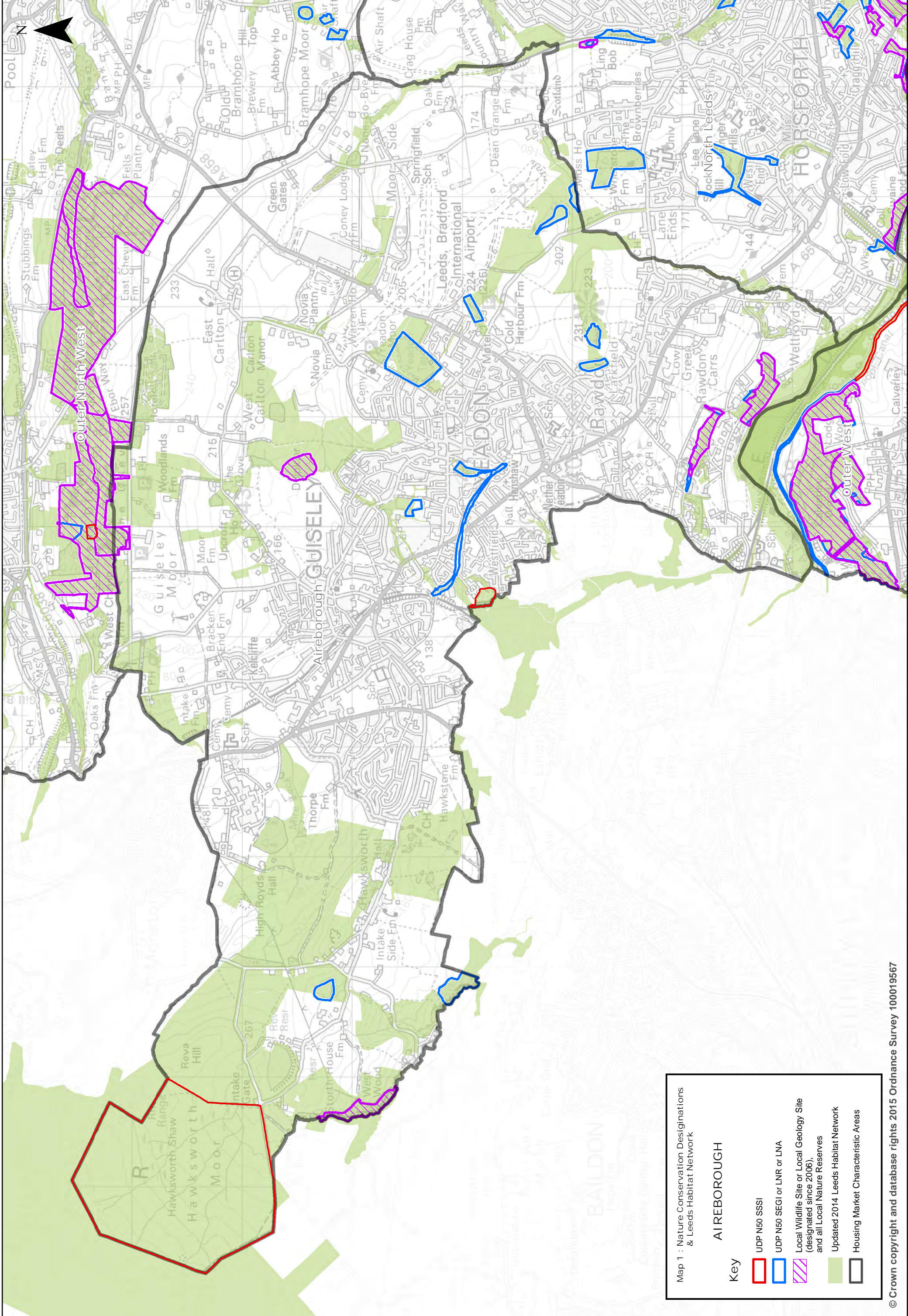
## **Appendix 3**

**Maps shown for each of the 11 Housing Market Characteristic Areas and Aire Valley Leeds AAP**

### **Map 1**

**Nature Conservation Designations & Leeds Habitat Network**





Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations & Leeds Habitat Network

### AIREBOROUGH

**Key**

- UDP N50 SSSI
- UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
- Local Wildlife Site or Local Geology Site (designated since 2006), and all Local Nature Reserves
- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

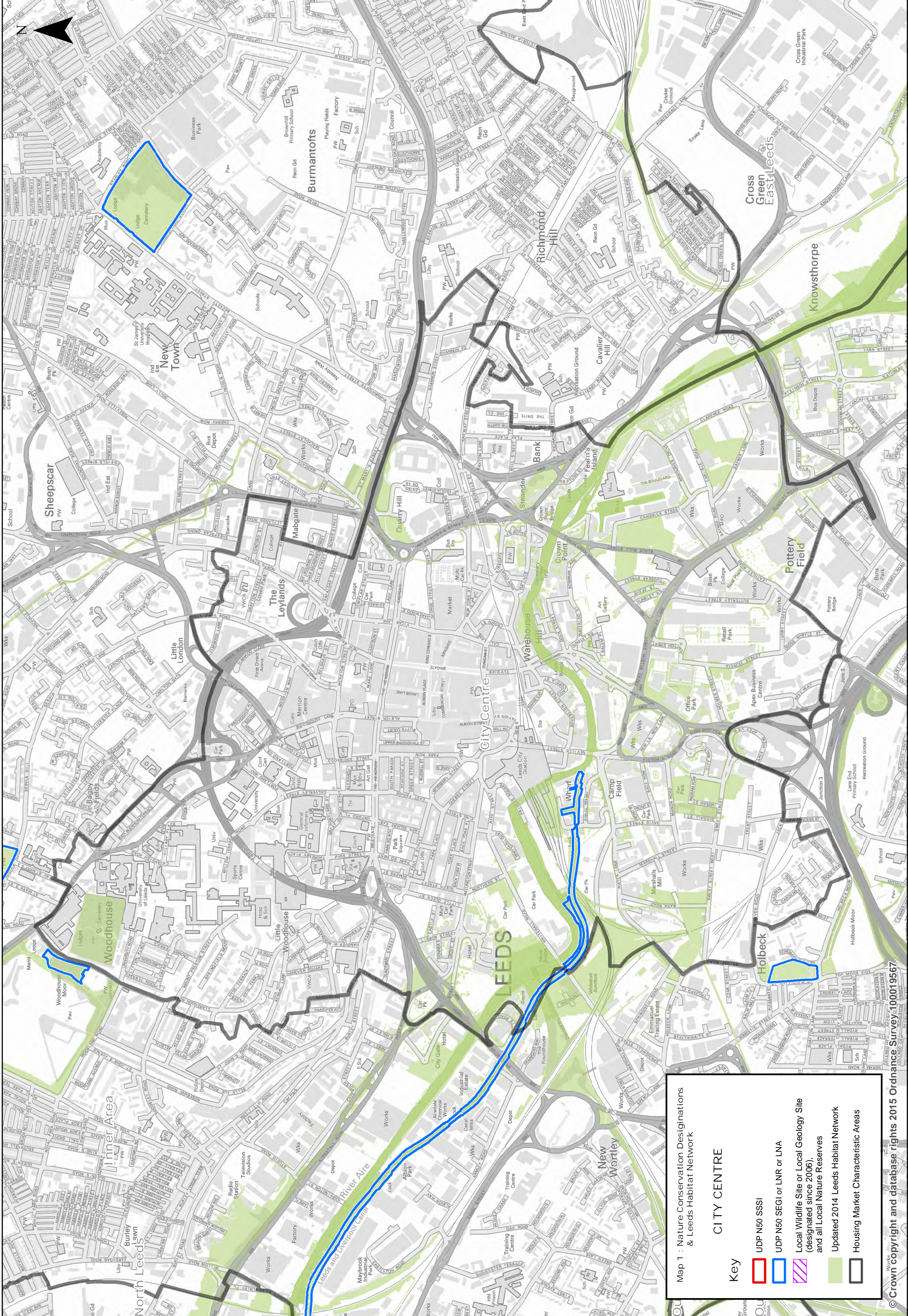
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2 Kilometers







**Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations & Leeds Habitat Network**

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- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

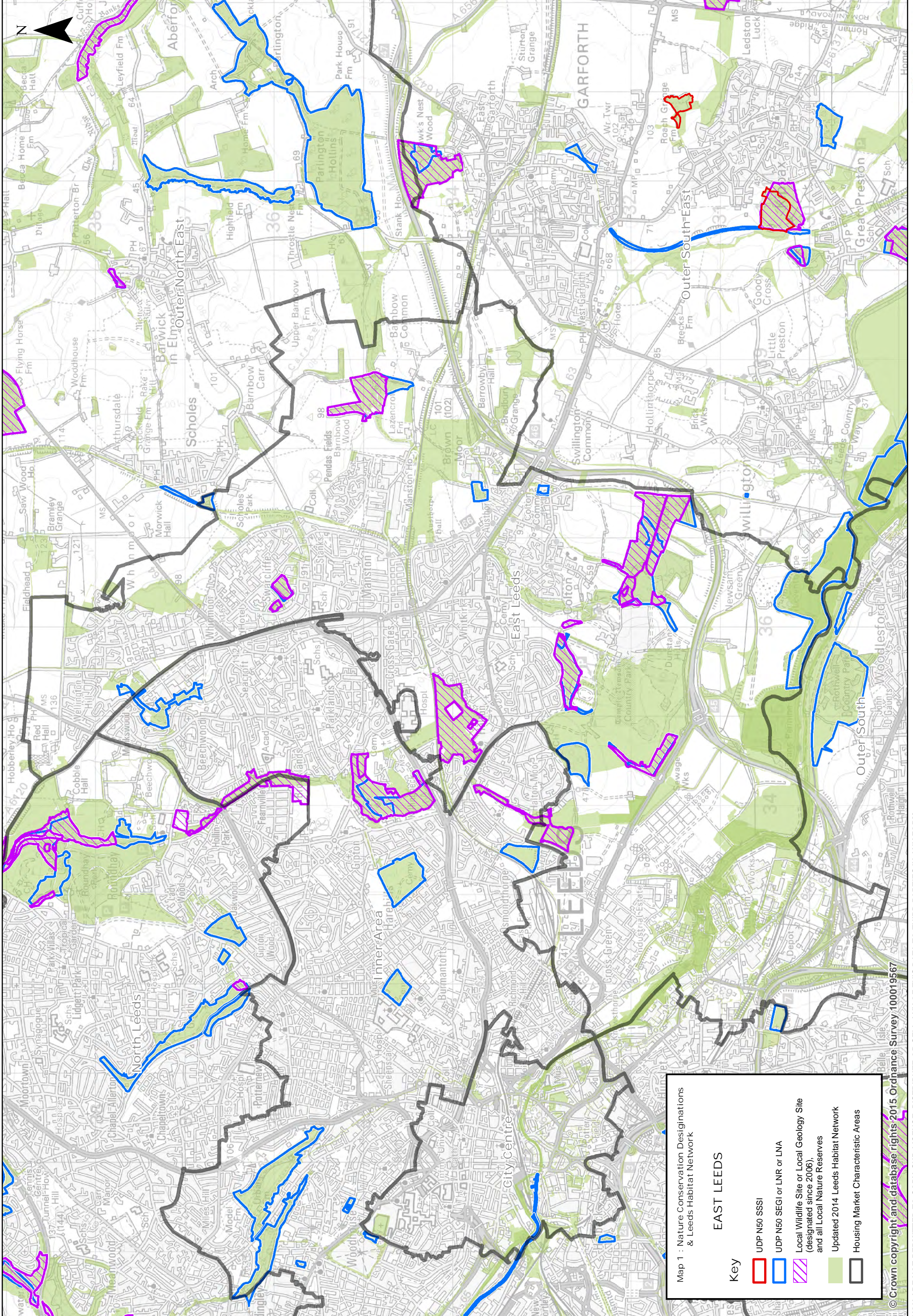
**CITY CENTRE**

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0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Kilometers





Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**EAST LEEDS**

**Key**

- UDP N50 SSSI
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- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

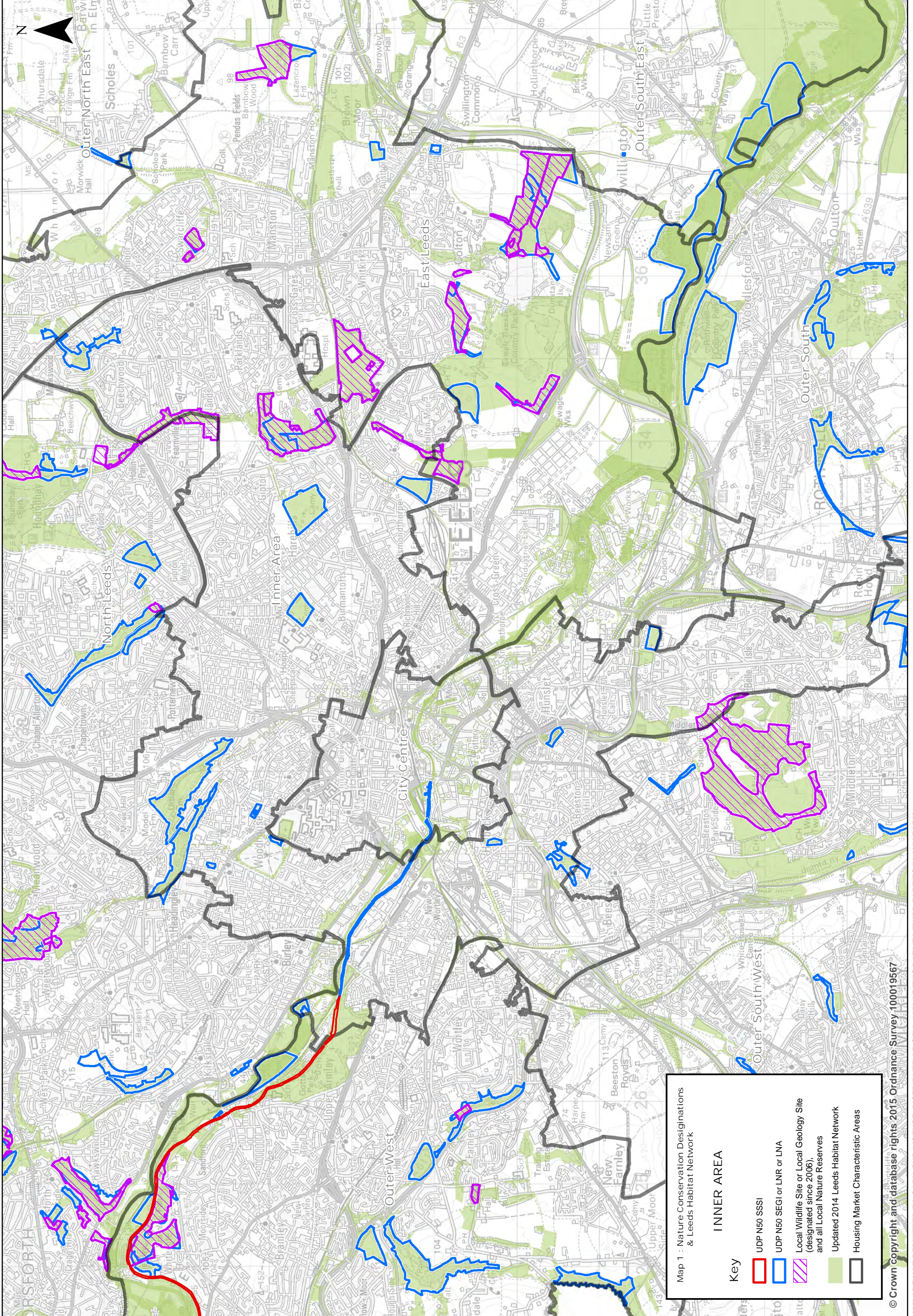
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0 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Kilometers





Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**INNER AREA**

**Key**

- UDP N50 SSSI
- UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
- Local Wildlife Site or Local Geology Site (designated since 2006), and all Local Nature Reserves
- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

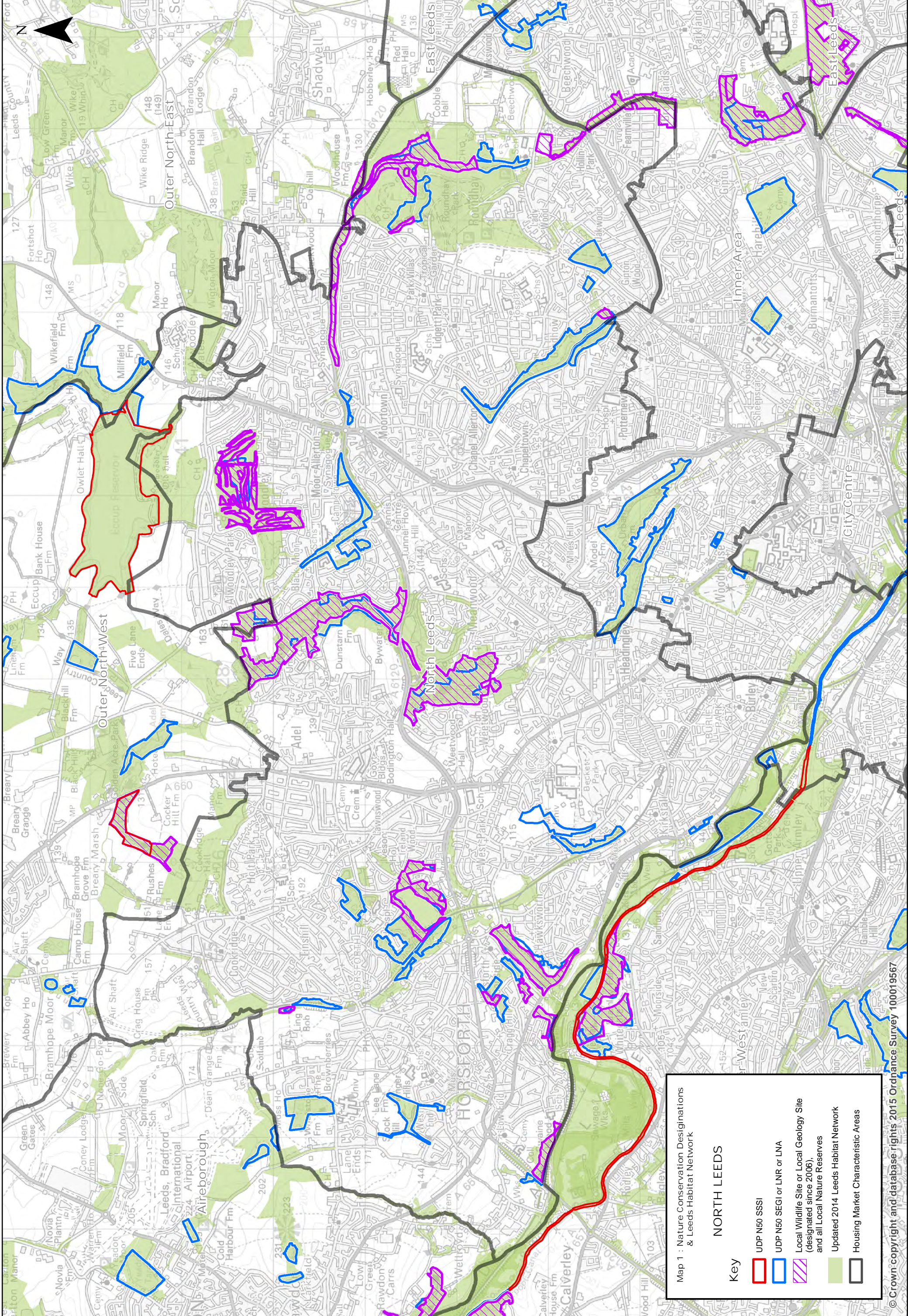
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0 0.65 1.3 1.95 2.6 Kilometers







Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**Key**

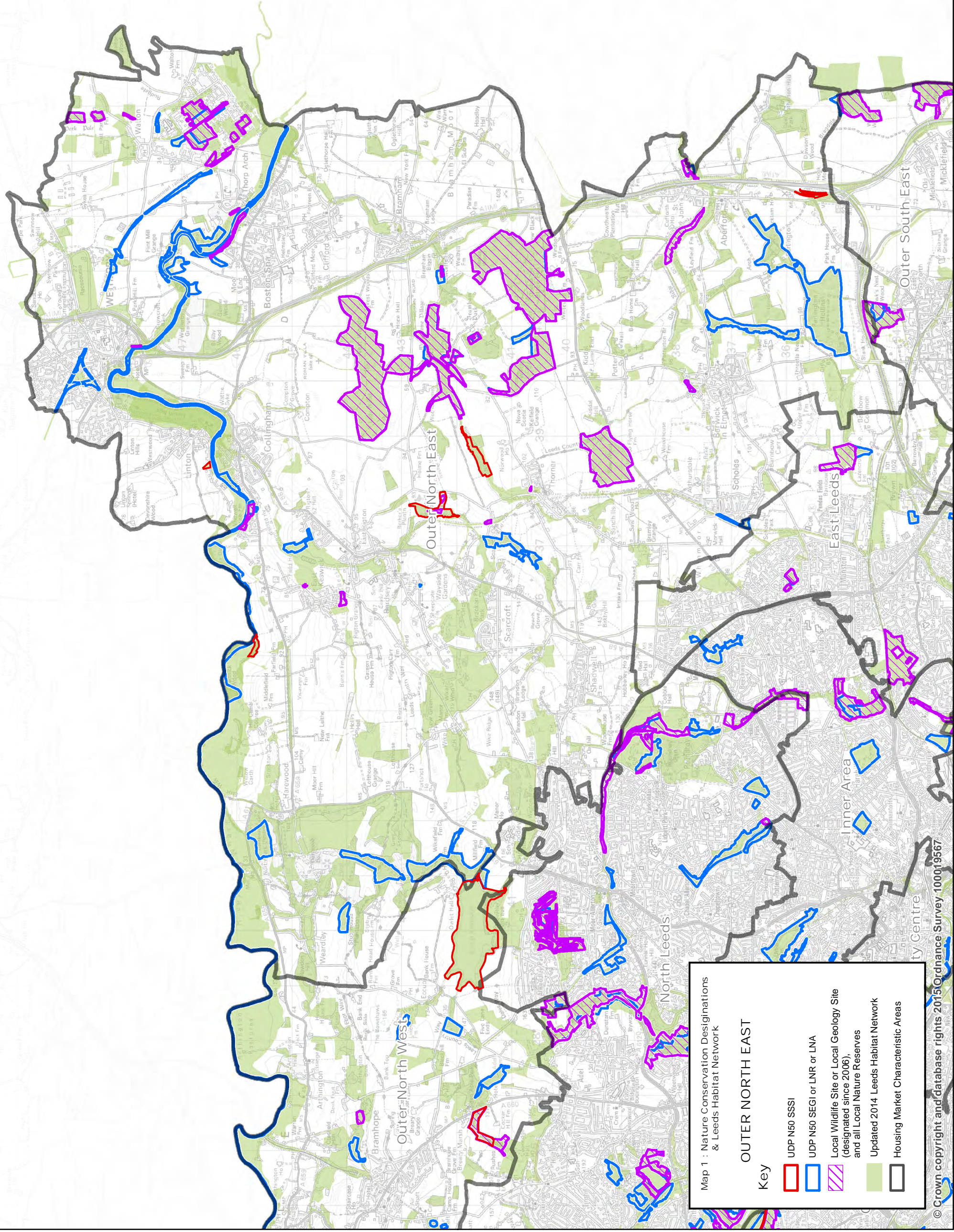
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- ▭ UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
- ▨ Local Wildlife Site or Local Geology Site (designated since 2006), and all Local Nature Reserves
- ▨ Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- ▭ Housing Market Characteristic Areas

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0 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Kilometers





Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

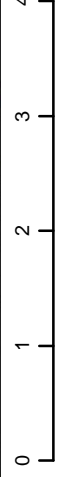
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- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

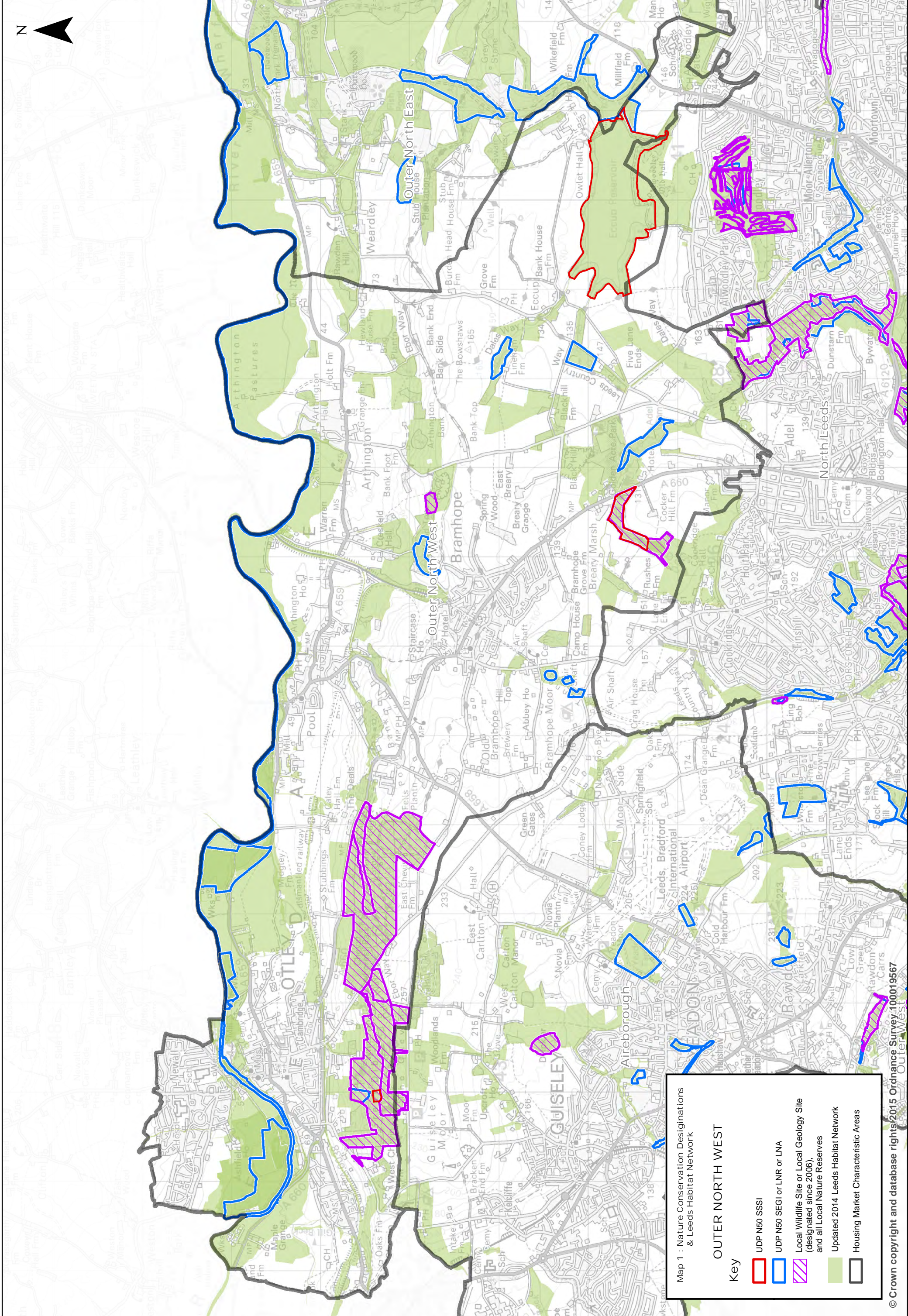
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4 Kilometers







Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**OUTER NORTH WEST**

**Key**

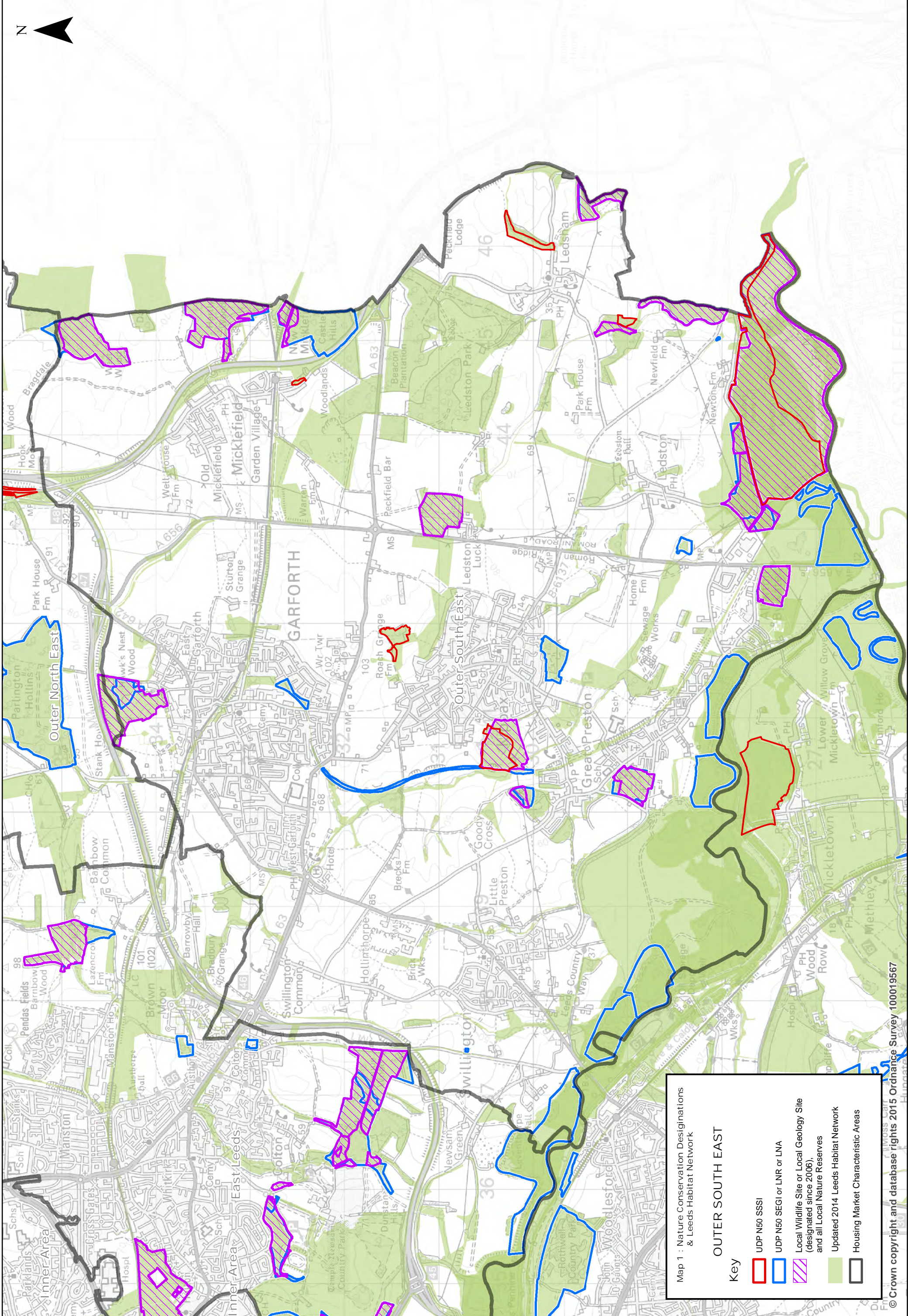
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- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

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0 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Kilometers





Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**OUTER SOUTH EAST**

**Key**

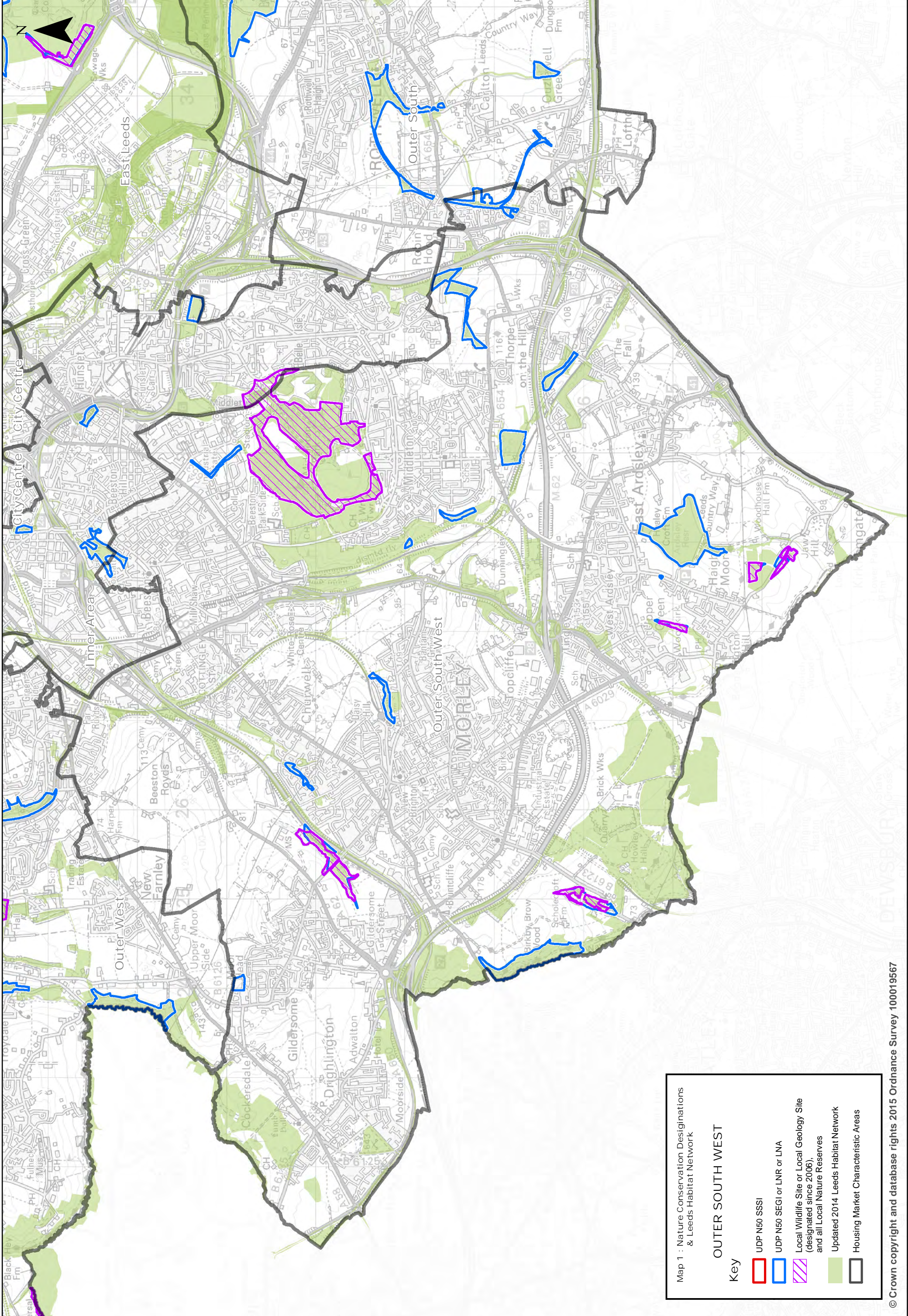
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- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

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**Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations & Leeds Habitat Network**

**OUTER SOUTH WEST**

**Key**

- UDP N50 SSSI
- UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
- Local Wildlife Site or Local Geology Site (designated since 2006), and all Local Nature Reserves
- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

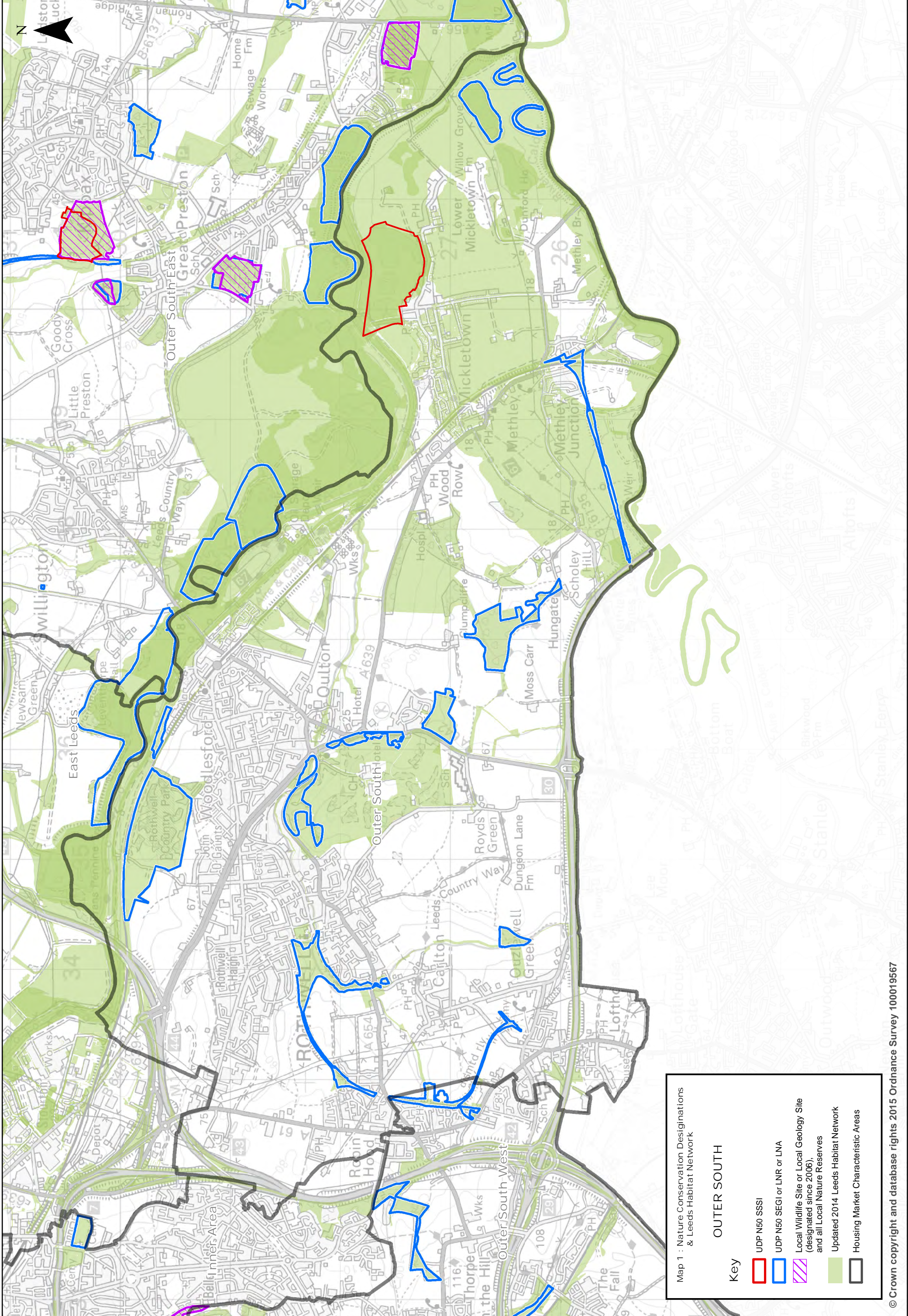
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0 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Kilometers







Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**OUTER SOUTH**

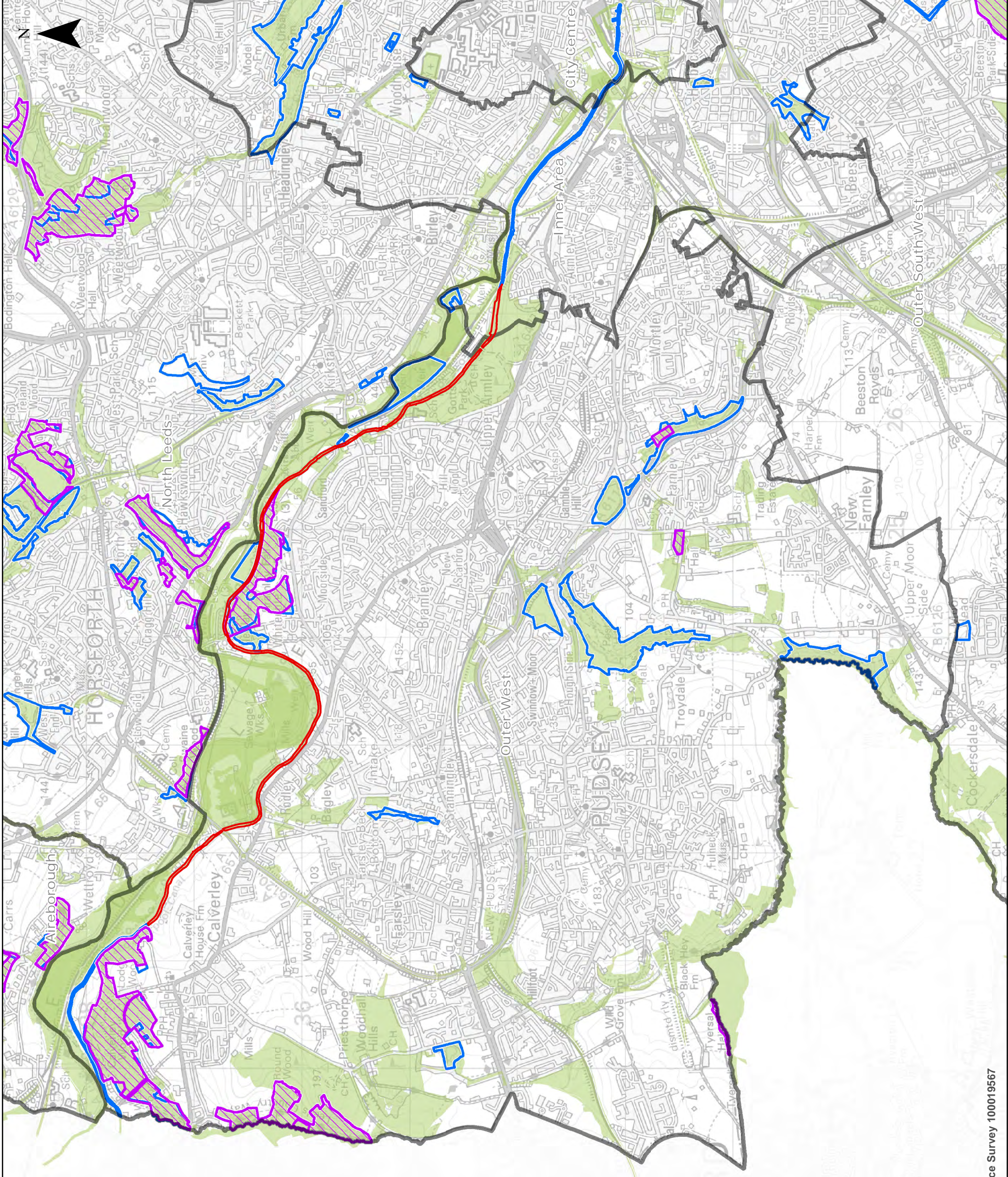
**Key**

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- UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
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- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

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Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations  
& Leeds Habitat Network

**OUTER WEST**

**Key**

- UDP N50 SSSI
- UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
- Local Wildlife Site or Local Geology Site (designated since 2006), and all Local Nature Reserves
- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

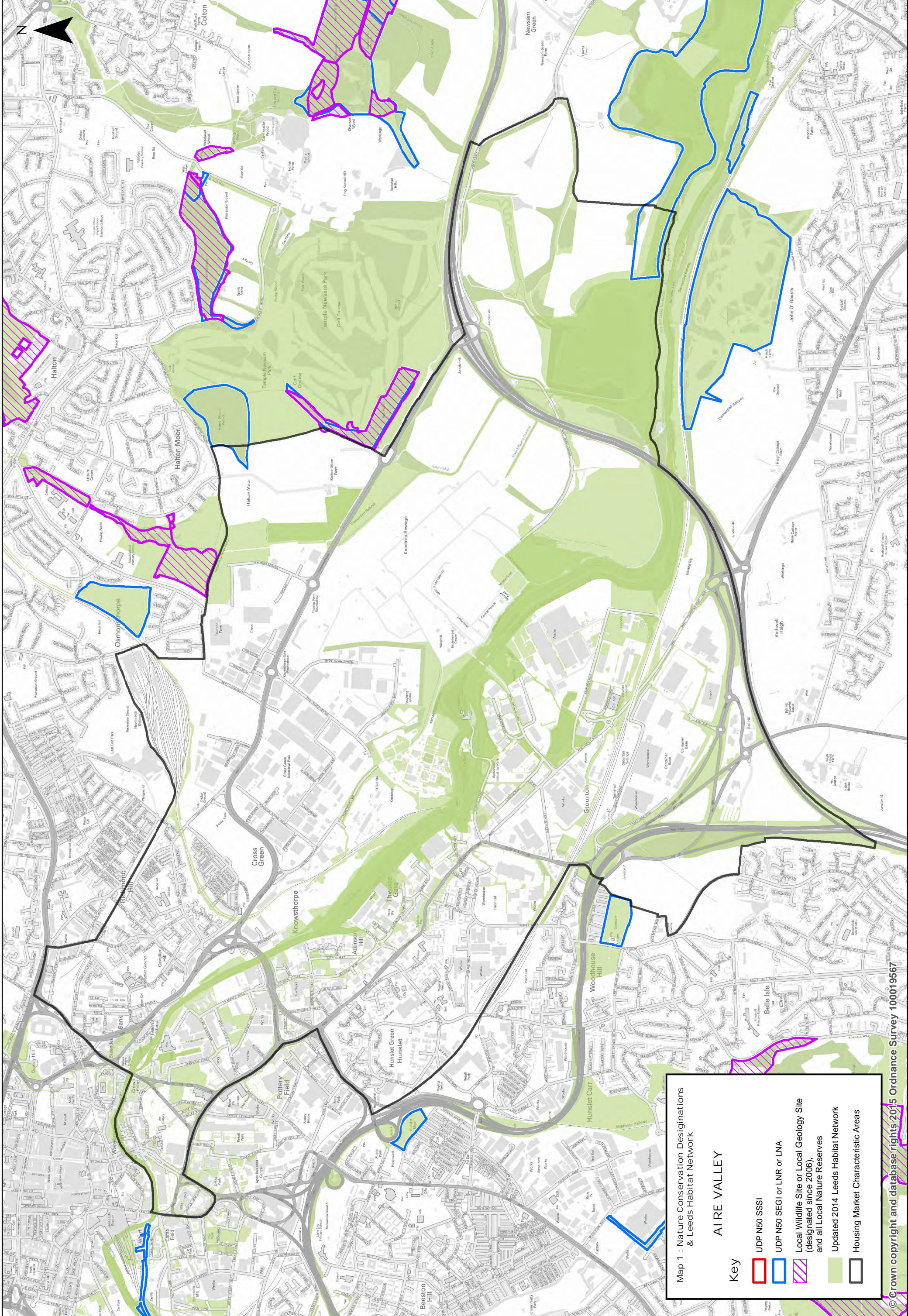
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0 0.55 1.1 1.65 2.2 Kilometers







**Map 1 : Nature Conservation Designations & Leeds Habitat Network**

**AIRE VALLEY**

**Key**

- UDP N50 SSSI
- UDP N50 SEGI or LNR or LNA
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- Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

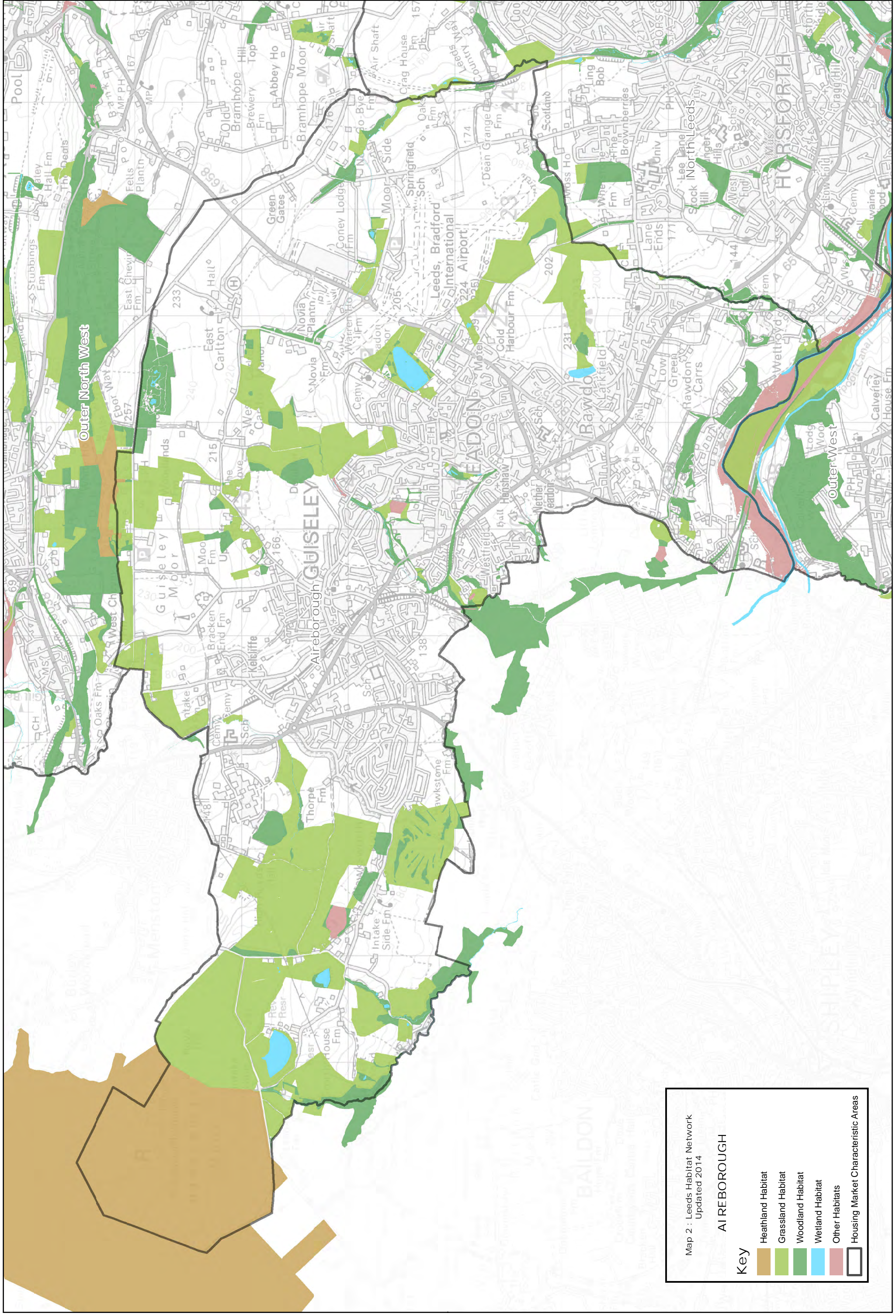
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**Map 2**

**Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network showing broad habitat categories**





Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

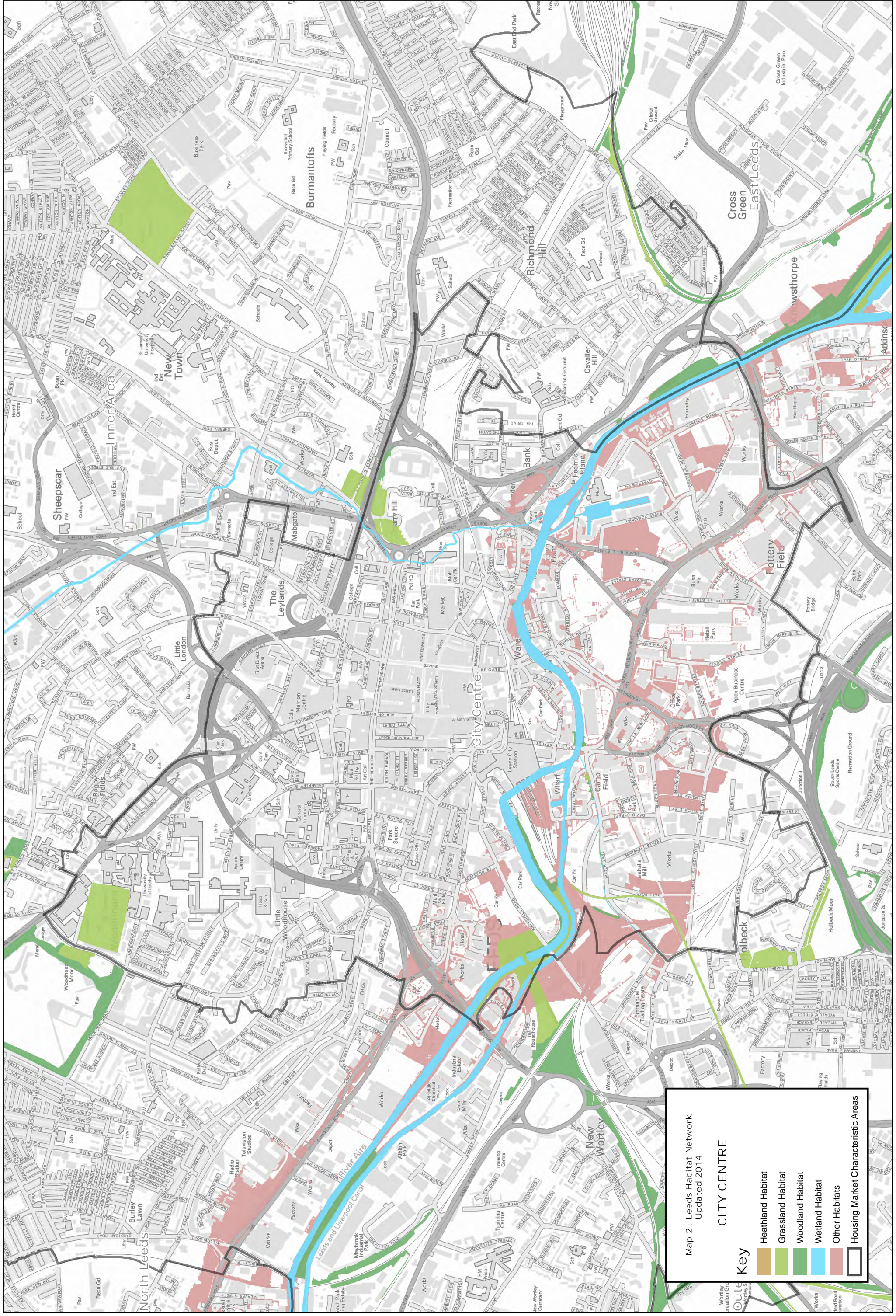
**AIREBOROUGH**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas











Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

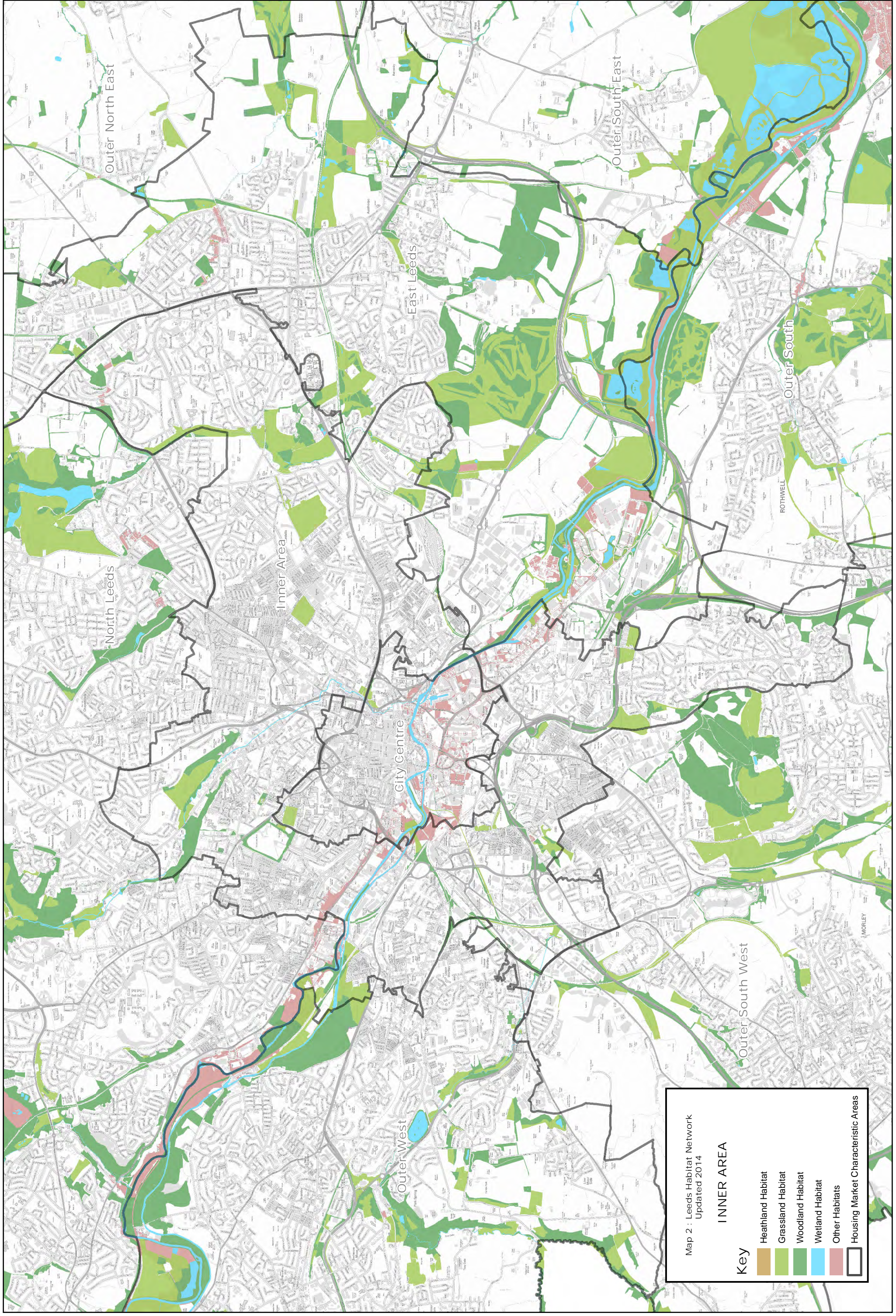
**EAST LEEDS**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas





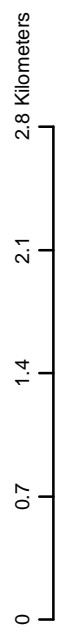


Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

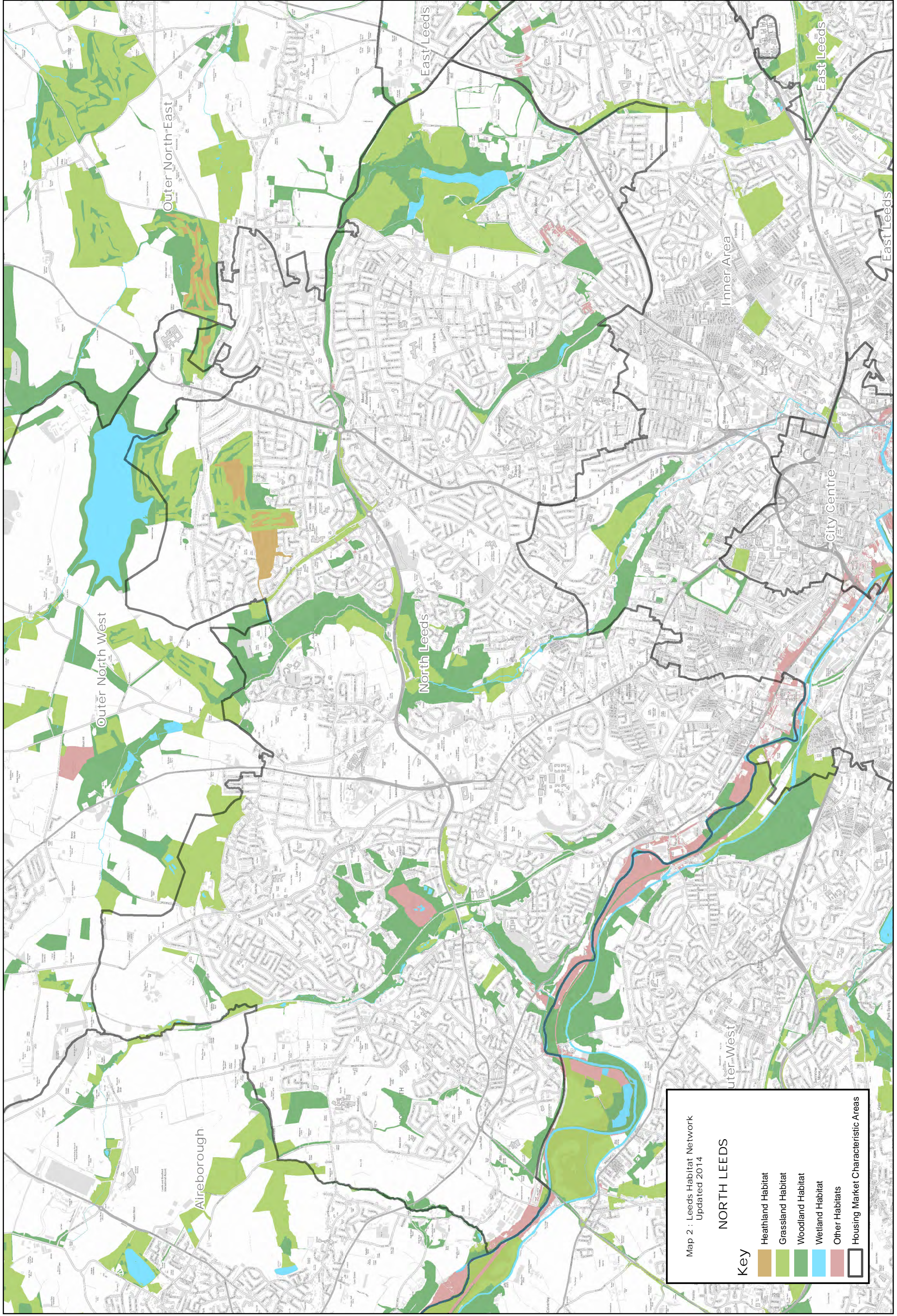
**INNER AREA**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas







Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

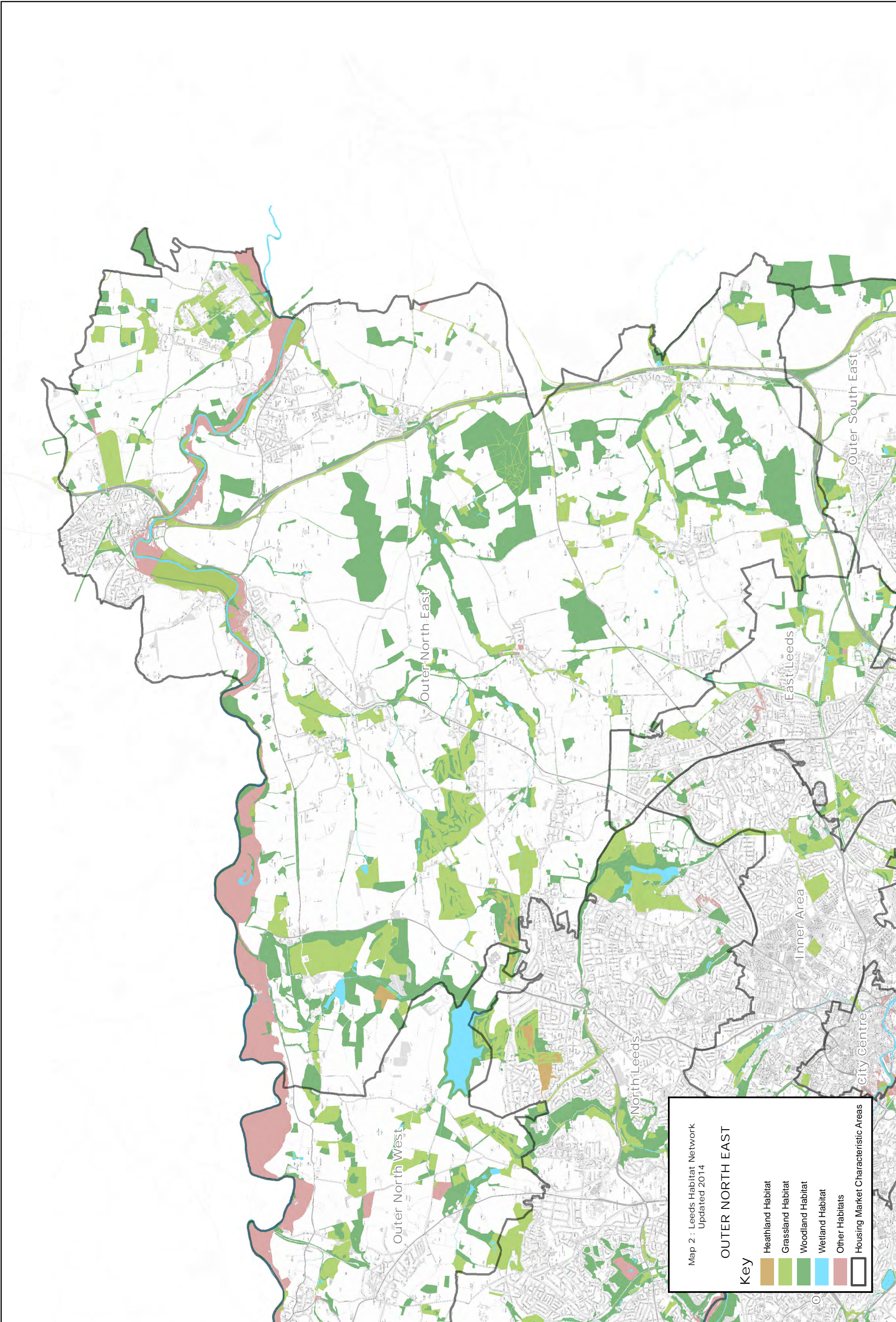
**NORTH LEEDS**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas







Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

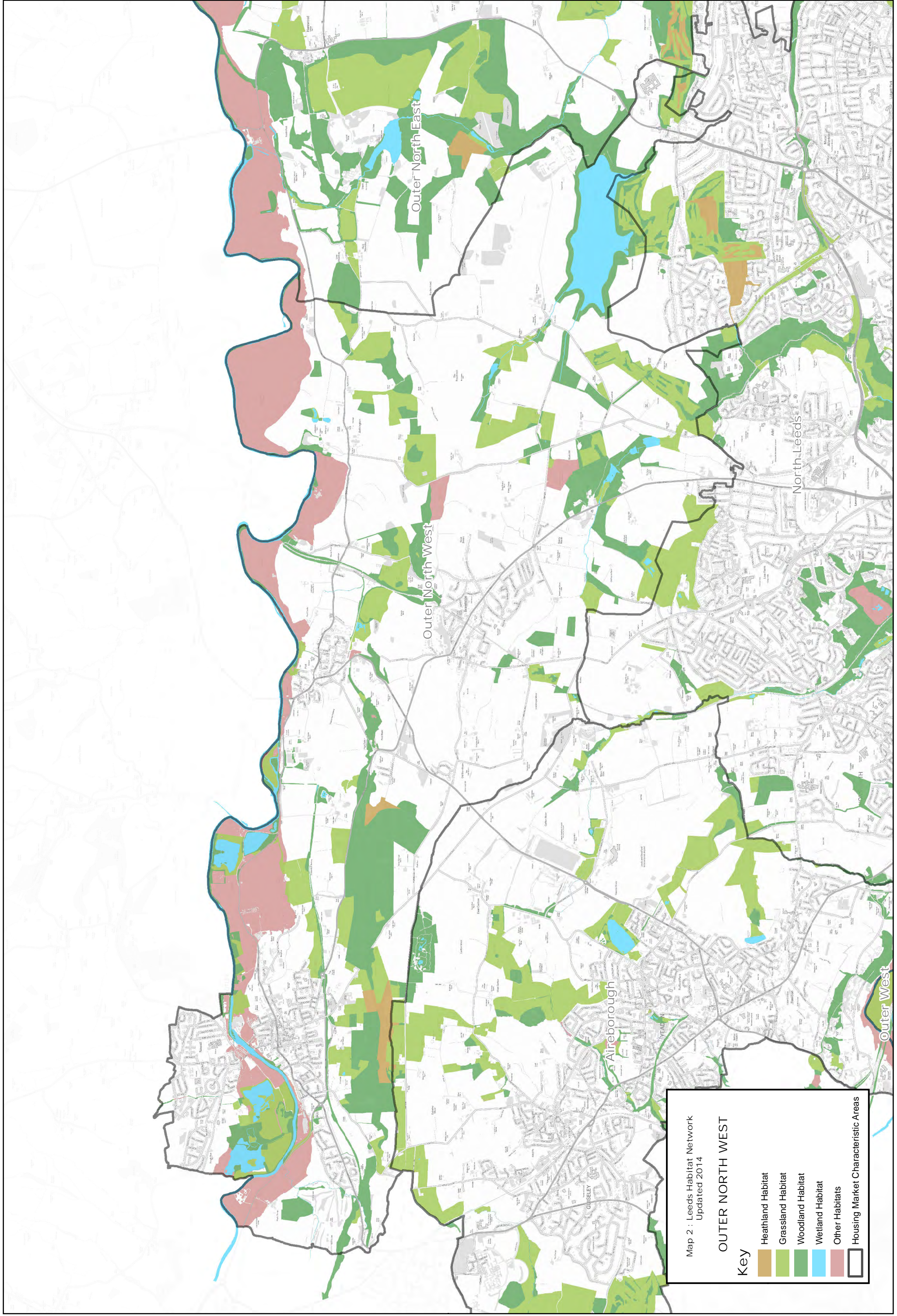
**OUTER NORTH EAST**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas







Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

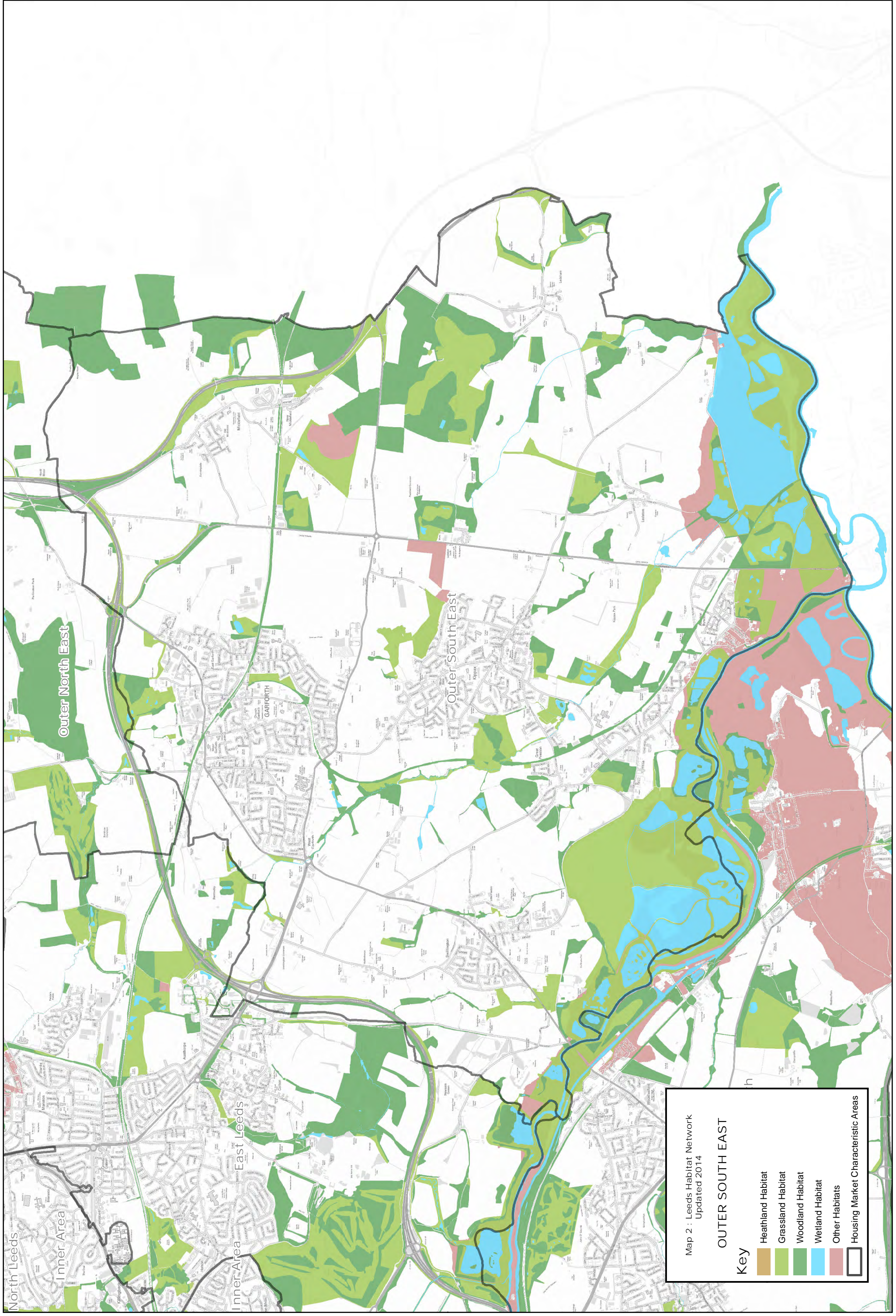
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**Key**

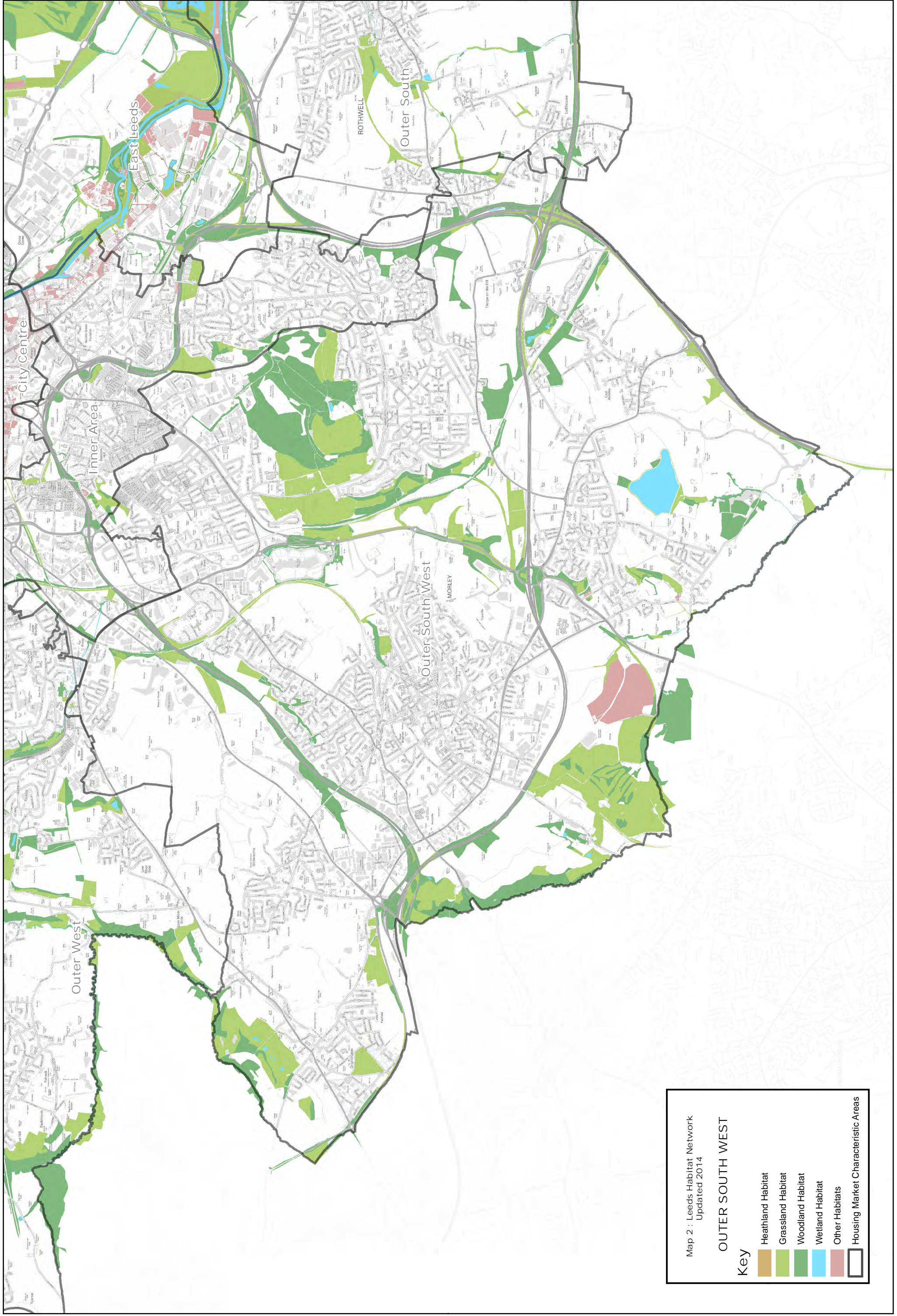
- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas











Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

**OUTER SOUTH WEST**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas



2.6 Kilometers

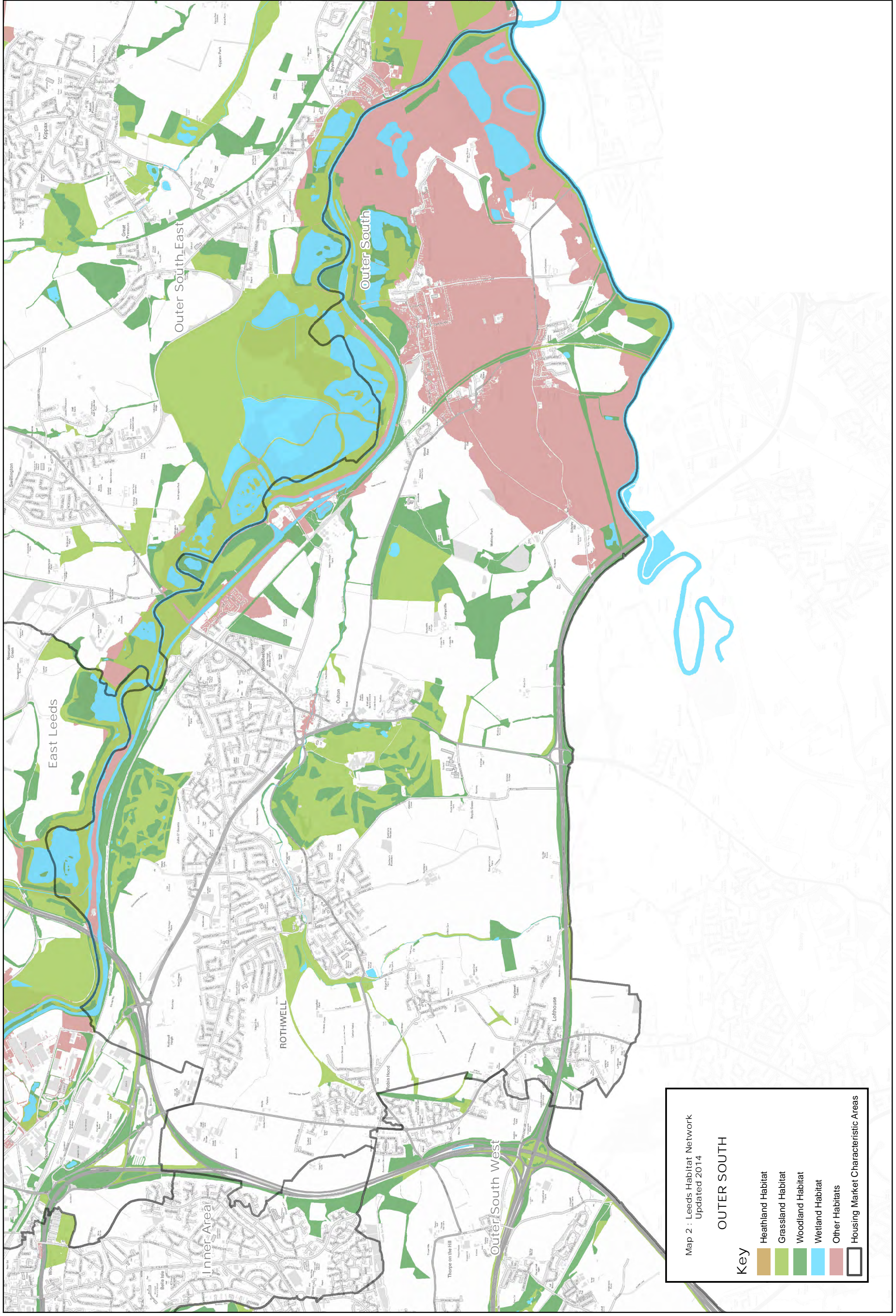
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1.3

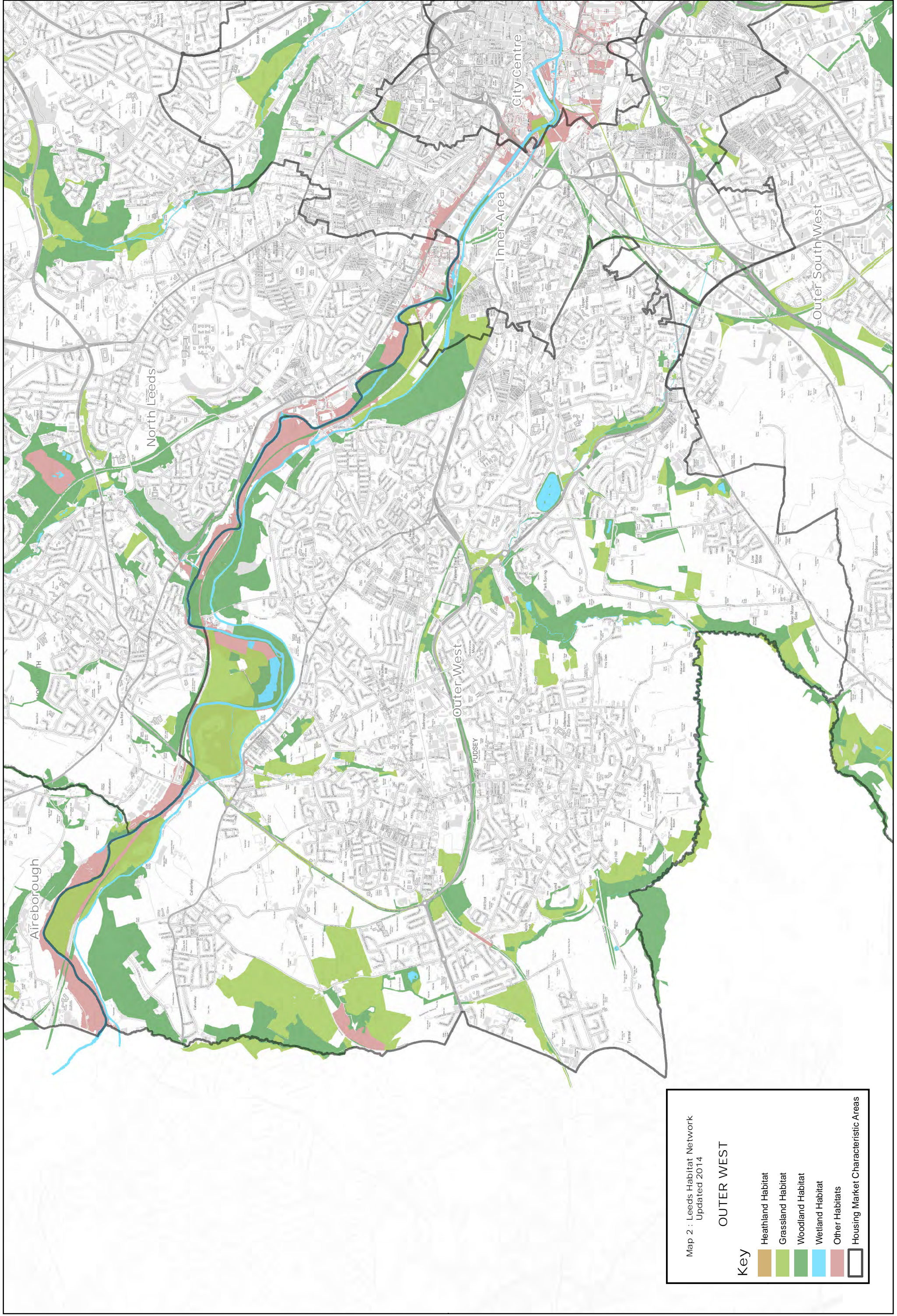
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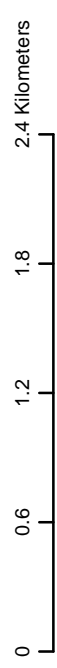


Map 2 : Leeds Habitat Network  
Updated 2014

**OUTER WEST**

**Key**

- Heathland Habitat
- Grassland Habitat
- Woodland Habitat
- Wetland Habitat
- Other Habitats
- Housing Market Characteristic Areas

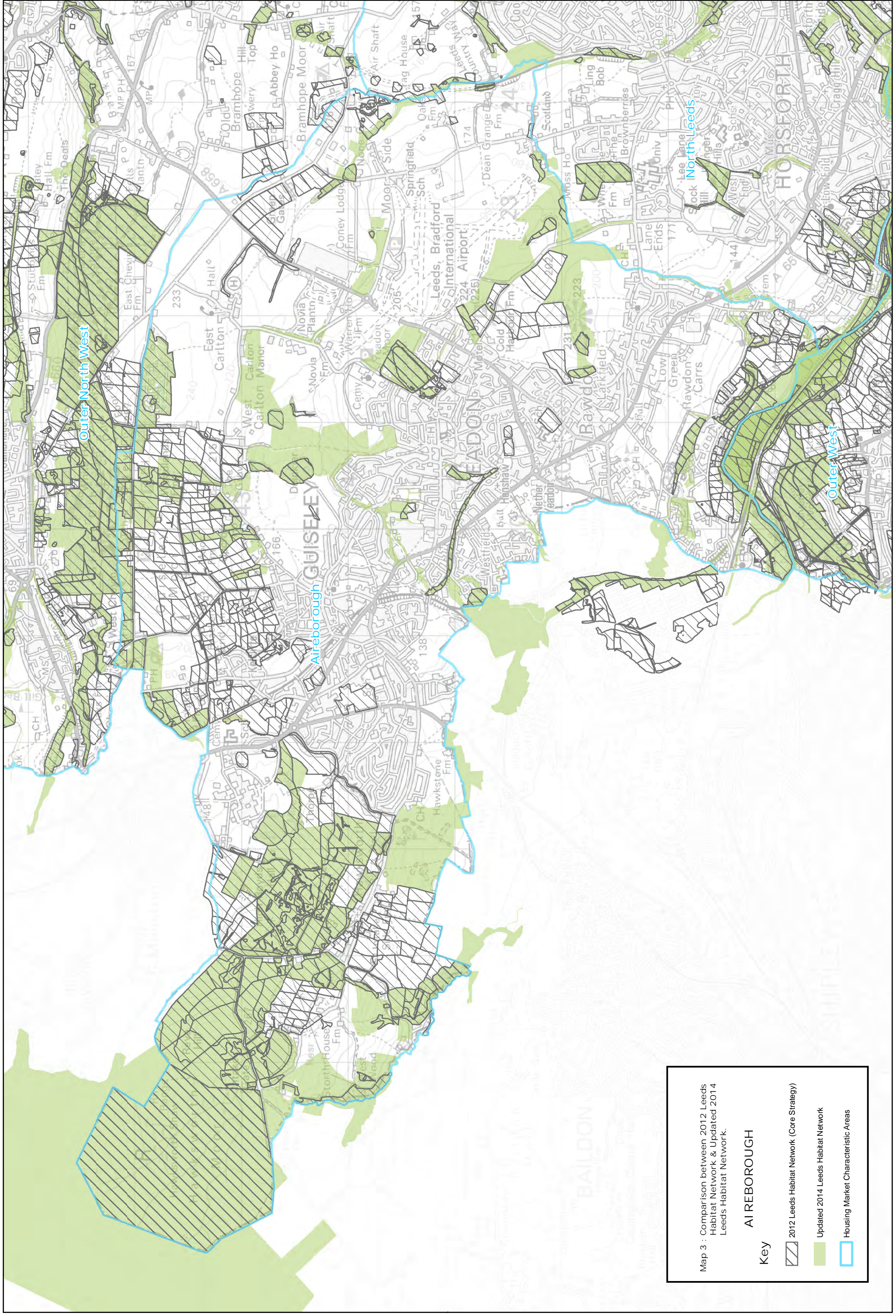




### **Map 3**

**Comparison between 2012 Leeds Habitat Network and Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network**






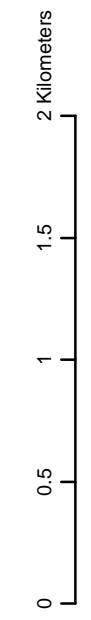


Map 3 : Comparison between 2012 Leeds Habitat Network & Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network.

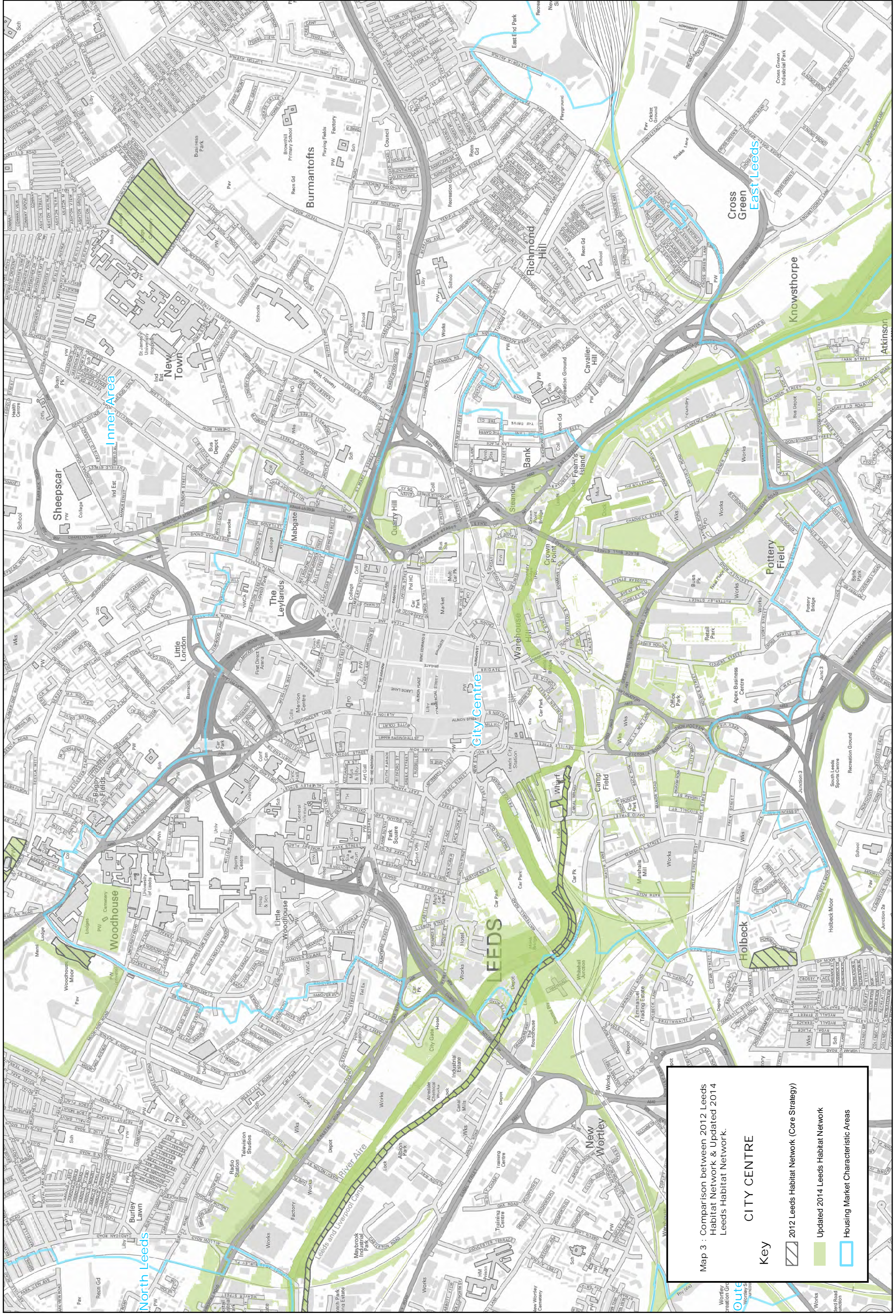
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**Key**

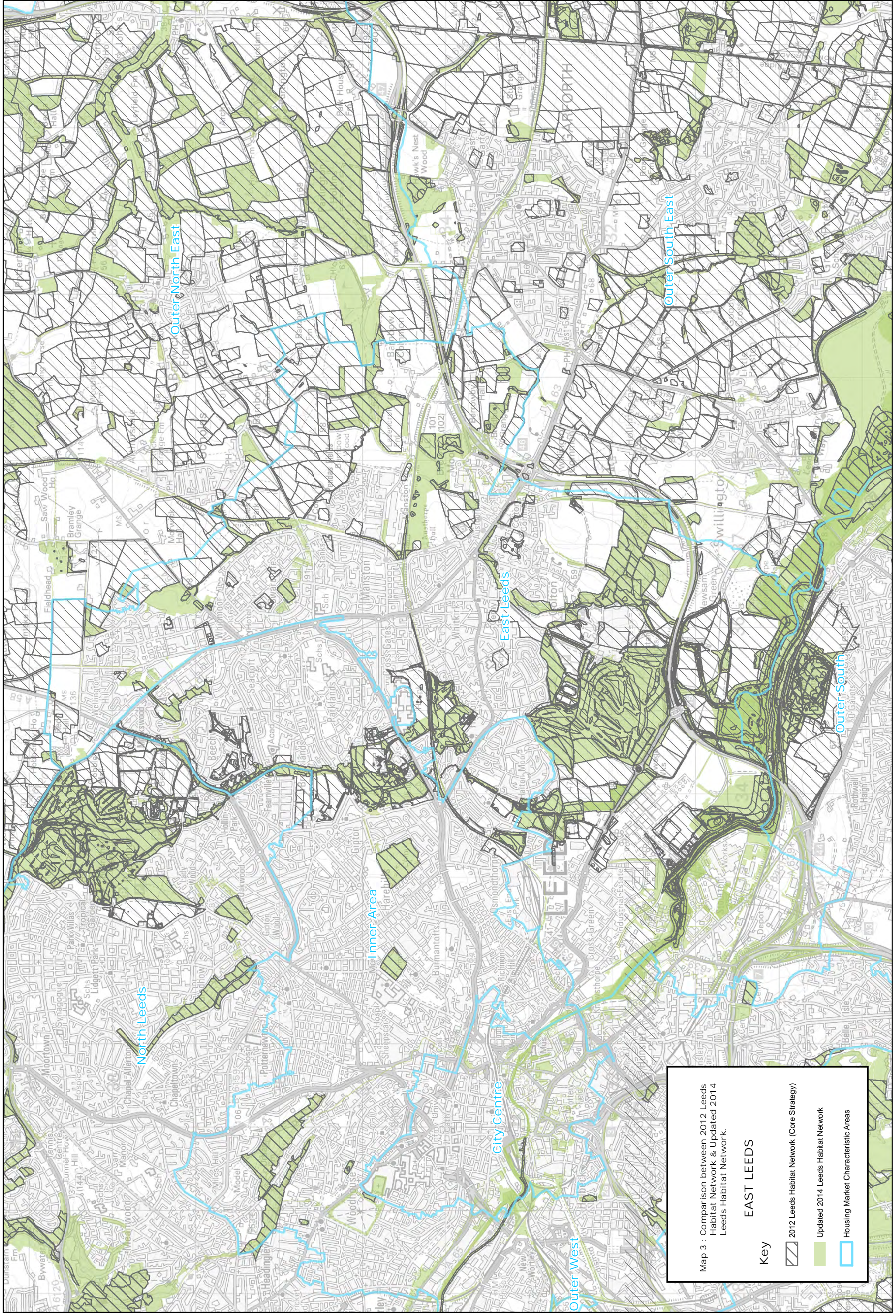
-  2012 Leeds Habitat Network (Core Strategy)
-  Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
-  Housing Market Characteristic Areas



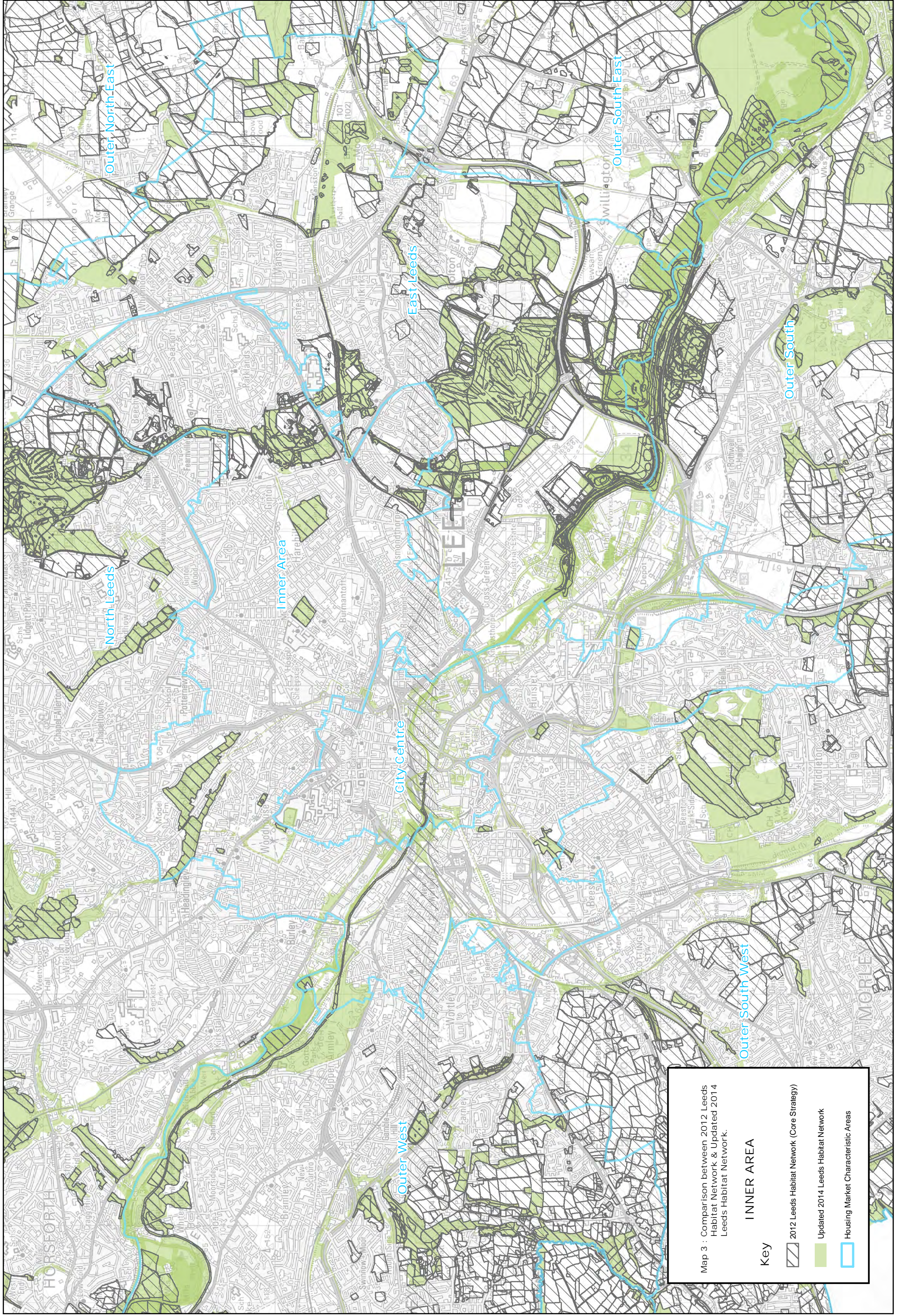













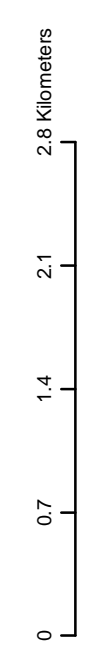


Map 3 : Comparison between 2012 Leeds Habitat Network & Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network.

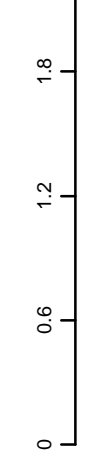
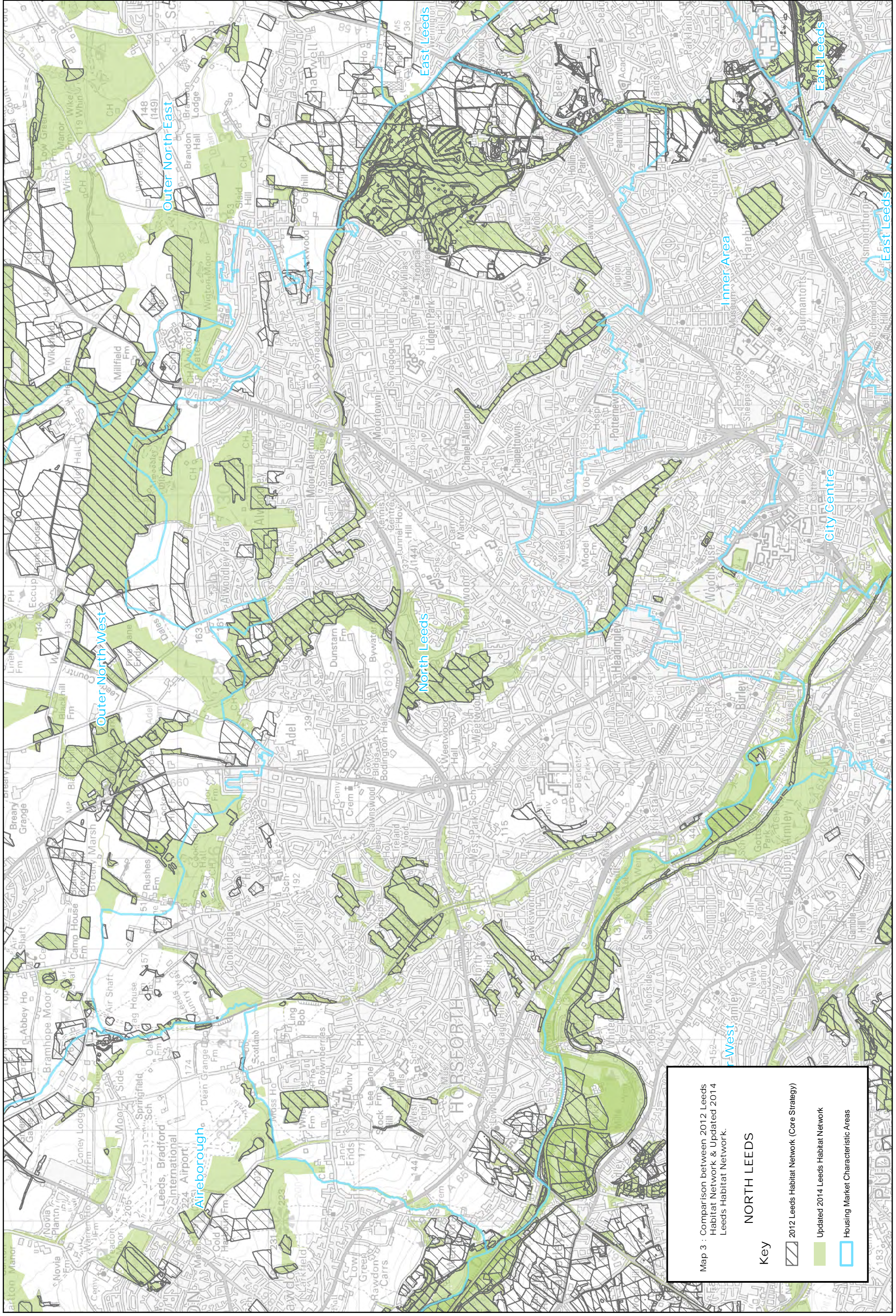
**INNER AREA**

**Key**

-  2012 Leeds Habitat Network (Core Strategy)
-  Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
-  Housing Market Characteristic Areas



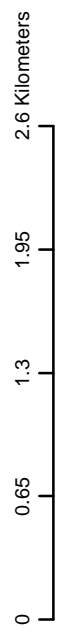
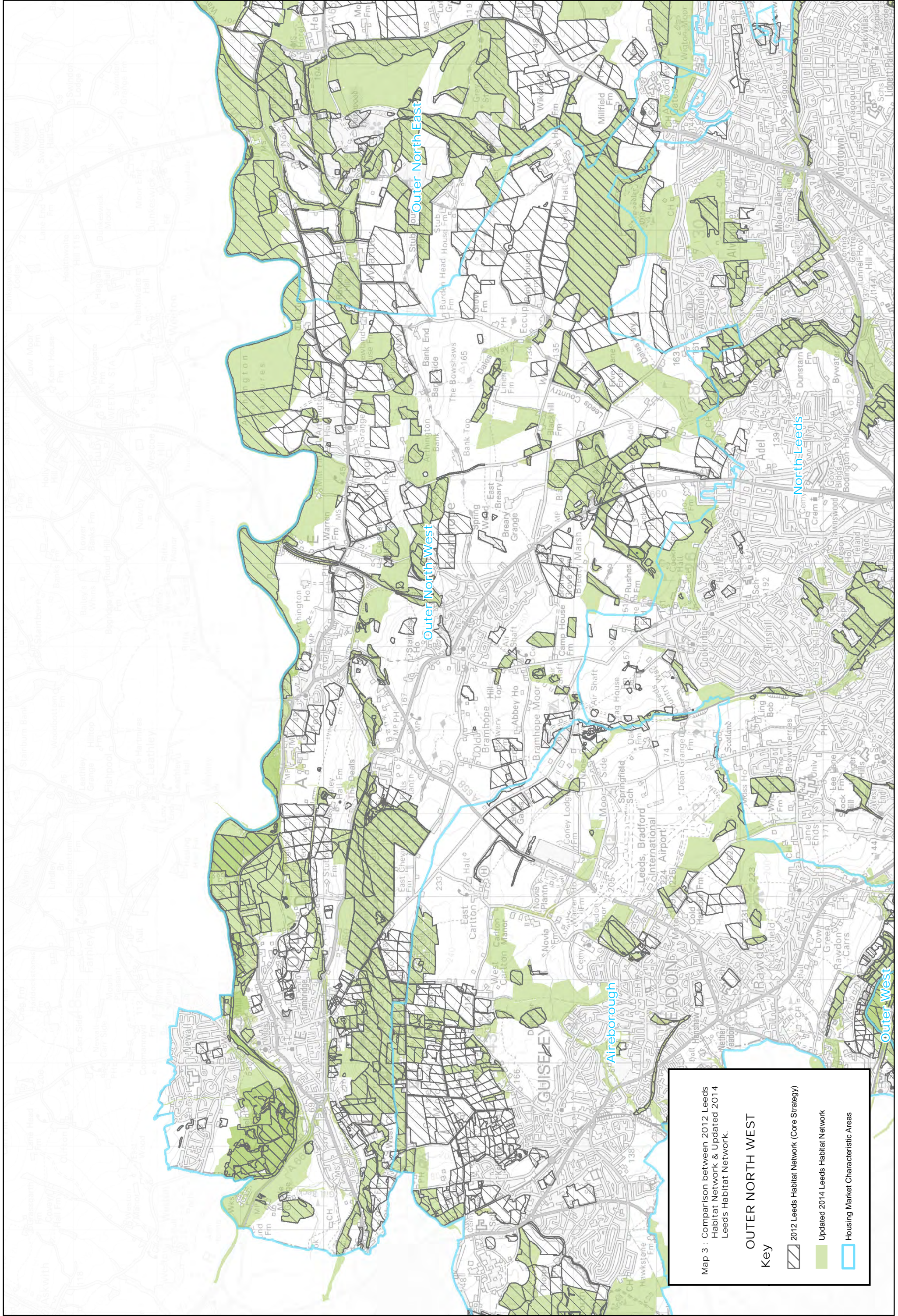




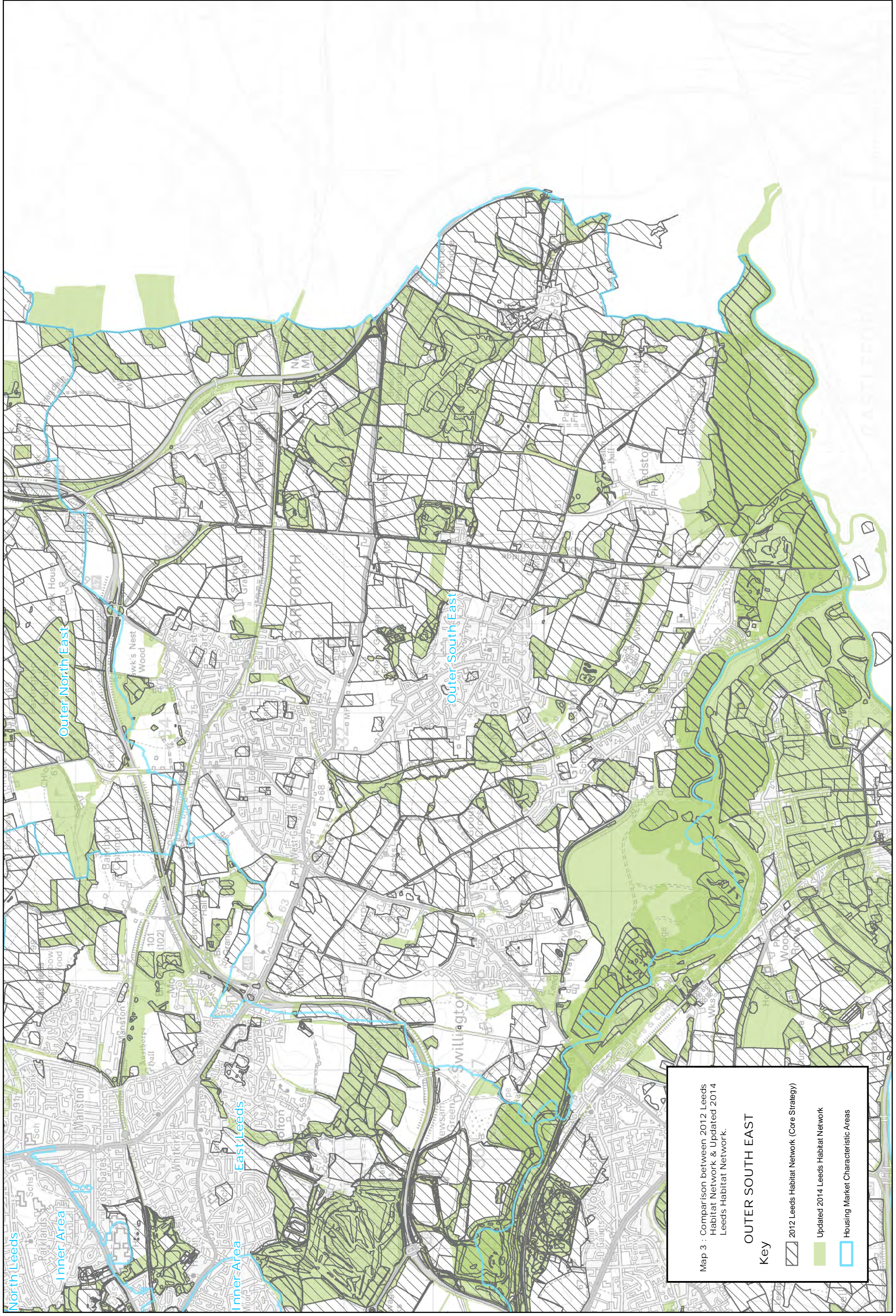















Map 3 : Comparison between 2012 Leeds Habitat Network & Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network.

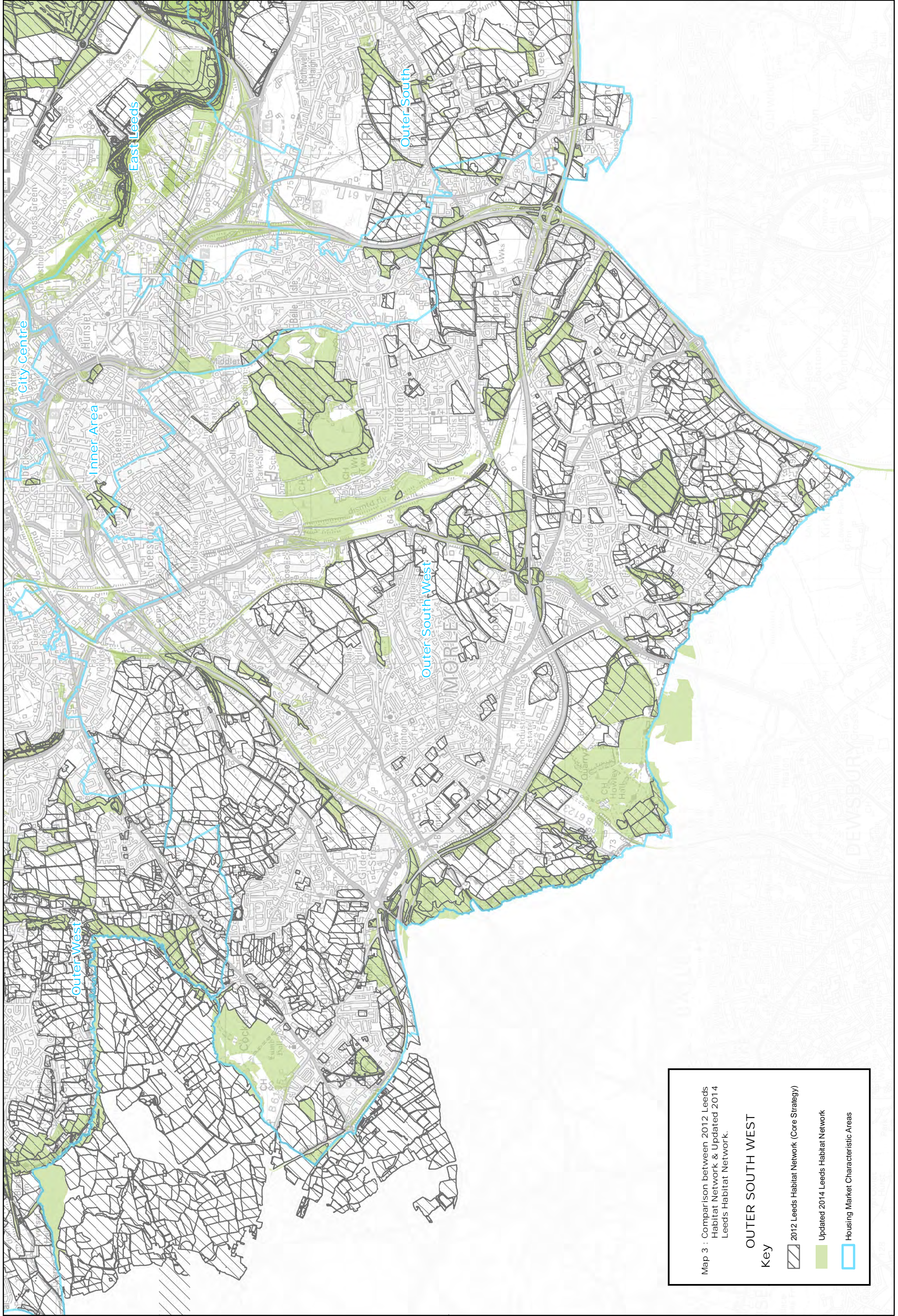
**OUTER SOUTH EAST**

**Key**

-  2012 Leeds Habitat Network (Core Strategy)
-  Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
-  Housing Market Characteristic Areas










Map 3 : Comparison between 2012 Leeds Habitat Network & Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network.

**OUTER SOUTH WEST**

**Key**

-  2012 Leeds Habitat Network (Core Strategy)
-  Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
-  Housing Market Characteristic Areas










Map 3 : Comparison between 2012 Leeds Habitat Network & Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network.

**OUTER SOUTH**

**Key**

-  2012 Leeds Habitat Network (Core Strategy)
-  Updated 2014 Leeds Habitat Network
-  Housing Market Characteristic Areas



2 Kilometers

