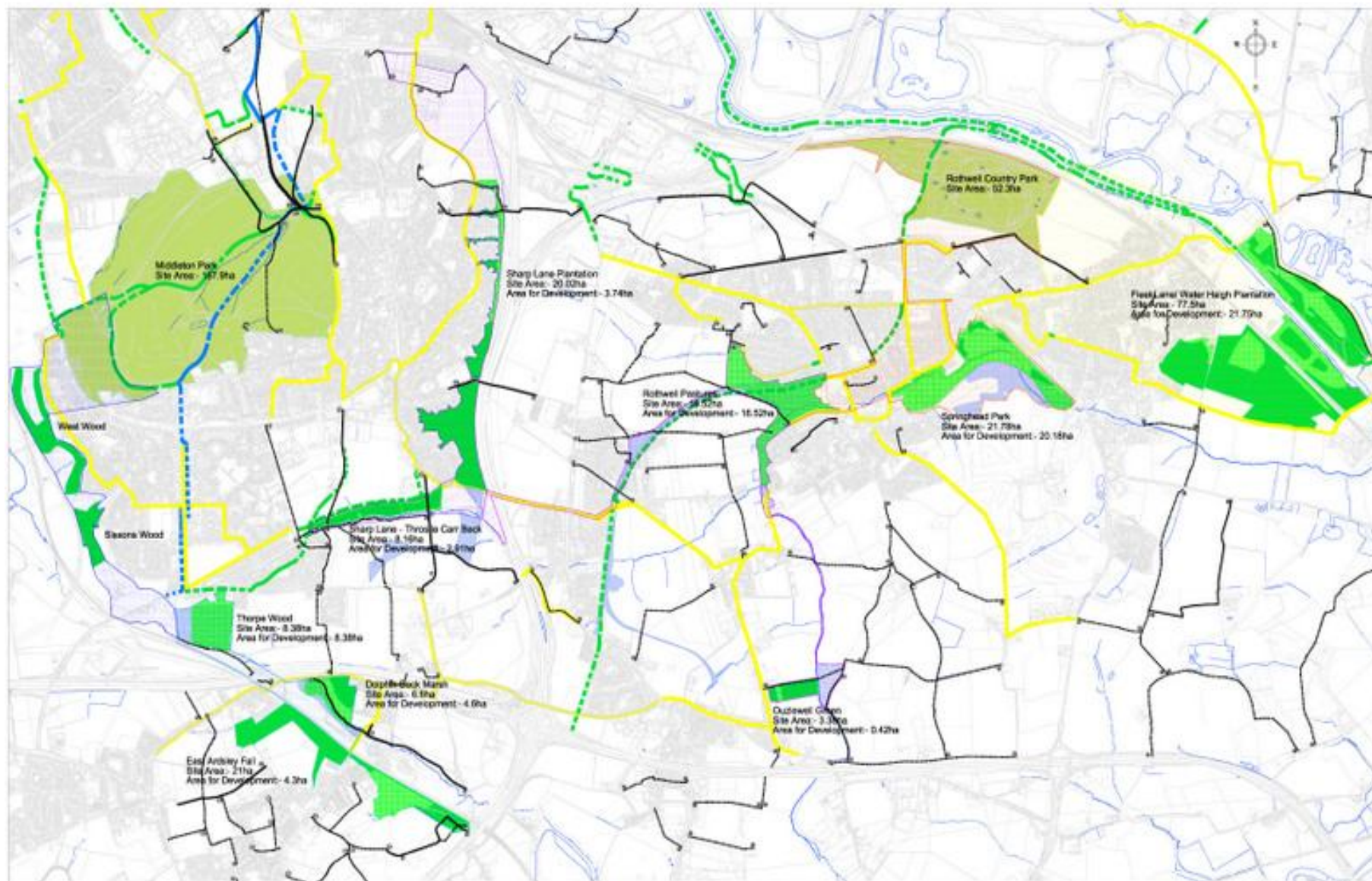


Connected Green Spaces – South Leeds

Glenn Gorner



South Leeds Green Corridor Site Areas

KEY

- Parks and Open Spaces
- Green Spaces
- Leeds Nature Areas
- Proposed improvements within Green Spaces

Cycle Routes

- Leeds Core Cycle Network Route on-road
- Leeds Core Cycle Network Route off-road
- Advisory Route
- Traffic free path

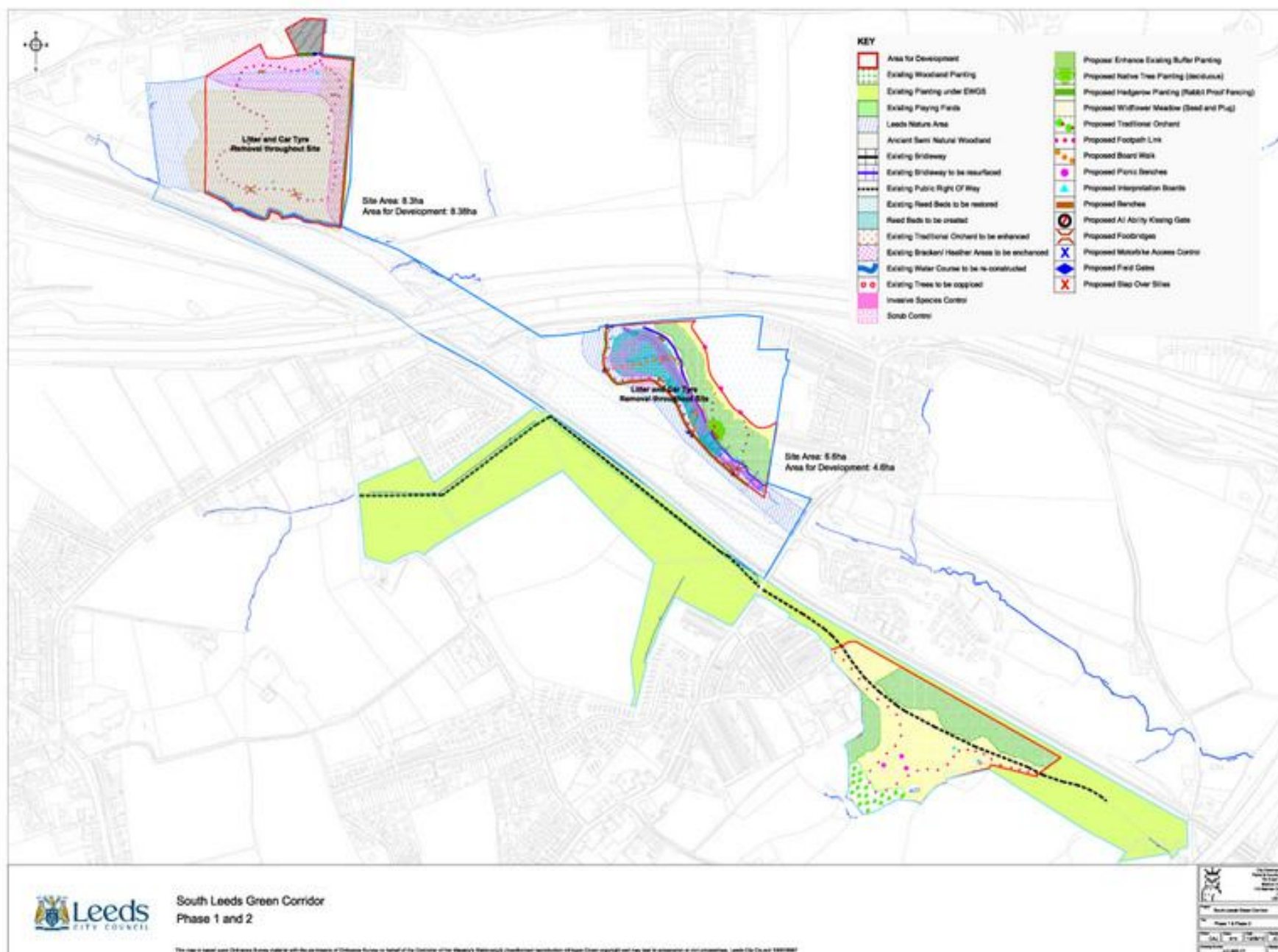
- Existing Public Rights Of Way
- Existing Bridleways

Phased Works

- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Phase 3
- Phase 4
- Phase 5
- Phase 6
- Phase 7

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City of Leeds Leeds City Council Leeds City Council Leeds City Council Leeds City Council Leeds City Council	
Page: South Leeds Green Corridor	
Site Area	
Year	2010
Scale	1:1000
Drawn	10/09/10
Checked	10/09/10
Author	10/09/10





SHARP LANE *plantations*

In 2009 Leeds City Council, with funding from the Forestry Commission, started developing this multi functional woodland at the southern boundary of the New Leeds Forest Village housing estate. The woodland has been designed to incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS), footpaths, bridleways and access controls. It also provides an important green 'jigsaw' link to the other natural areas in south Leeds (see inset map).

Around 9,000 trees have been planted throughout the plantation including species such as ash, oak, birch, alder and hawthorn. The two balancing ponds which will store storm water from the adjacent housing estate before slowly releasing it into Throstle Carr Beck, are part of a Sustainable Urban Drainage System.

This woodland scheme is being undertaken in partnership with the developers and will make a significant contribution to the quality of the new housing development and to the Forest of Leeds.





WATER HAIGH WOODLAND PARK

Water Haigh Woodland Park is an intimate matrix of small, inter-connected broadleaved woodlands, pasture, hedgerows and wetland that has been created on the site of the former Water Haigh Colliery.

Centred on Fleet Lane and Swillington Bridge, and bordering St Aiden's Washland Nature Reserve, Water Haigh Woodland Park is developing into a 'quality' natural resource for people and wildlife! As well as seeking to restore and enhance the original countryside character of this previously heavily industrialised part of the Lower Aire Valley, the Park also provides opportunities for healthy, outdoor recreation.

Restoration of this 97 ha site began in the late 1970's and continues to this day with additional new woodland and hedgerow creation. The Park provides a natural and continuous link between adjacent projects, such as at St Aiden's Washland Nature Reserve, Rothwell Country Park and Skelton Lake, which together with Fairburn Ings RSPB Reserve to the south and Temple Newsam Park to the north, form an impressive 'green corridor' through the full length of the Lower Aire Valley, allowing plants, animals and birds to move freely.

A plethora of permissive footpaths, many of them recently resurfaced, allow full access for walkers. In addition, The Leeds Country Way and the Trans-Pennine Trail (a national cycleway) provide convenient access to the wider countryside, nearby towns and villages and Leeds City Centre!

The young woodlands are composed of mostly pioneer tree species, such as silver birch, common alder and whitebeam, together with both pedunculate and sessile oak. Conifers, such as larch and Corsican pine have been used as a 'nurse', to provide shelter for the slower growing broadleaved species. The woodlands and associated habitats provide a safe haven to an impressive list of birds and animals, including sparrow hawks, tawny owls, roe deer and foxes, plus diverse number of butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies. During the summer months, marsh harriers, peregrine falcons and common buzzards are frequently seen.

Water Haigh Woodland Park is owned and managed by Leeds City Council's Parks and Countryside Service and has been sponsored by BIFFA, Forestry Commission and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

All enquiries should be addressed to Leeds City Council Parks and Countryside, Farnley Hall, Hall Lane, Leeds, LS12 5HA. Tel. (0113) 3957 400.

