

Chapter 4: Green Infrastructure

4.1 Introduction

The 'layered' format of the South Dublin County Development Plan aims to facilitate a holistic approach to ensuring Climate Action is at the forefront of all future developments within the County. Green Infrastructure (GI) along with compact growth, sustainable travel, flood management and efficient use of land and associated infrastructure are essential components of the policy layers needed to achieve the necessary climate action and inform core principles of this plan making process. As a network of green (land) and blue (water) spaces GI improves the quality of the environment, the condition and connectivity of natural areas, as well as improving citizens' health and quality of life.

The Development Plan has the following vision for the future of GI in the County:

'Promote the development of an integrated GI network for South Dublin County working with and enhancing existing biodiversity and natural heritage, improving our resilience to climate change and enabling the role of GI in delivering sustainable communities to provide environmental, economic and social benefits.'

GI itself is defined as comprising 'the interconnected network of natural, semi-natural and artificial habitats, green spaces and ecological assets that traverse our urban and rural areas. GI networks are spatially defined in terms of several common components.'

The County Development Plan sets out a clear GI Hierarchy within the County. Core or hub areas serve as anchors within a GI network. They are the point of origin and destination for wildlife and are sites at which essential ecological processes occur. Corridors represent the physical links that tie the network together. They comprise of linear open spaces and watercourses and allow for the migration of species between Core habitats (Figure 4.1).

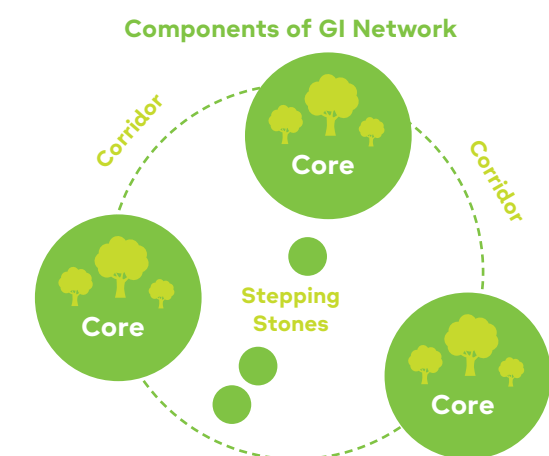


Figure 4.1: Components of GI network.

4.2 Strategic Themes

Within this hierarchy the GI policies for South Dublin County are organised under the following five themes to reflect the broad range of ecosystem services and benefits that GI provides (Figure 4.2). These themes are mutually supporting, with specific policies helping to contribute to a stronger and more resilient county-wide GI Network. The wider policy approach under each of the themes is set out below.

The vision, hierarchy, themes and related policy around Green Infrastructure are applicable to all areas of the County and are applied here to the Clondalkin LPF.



Figure 4.2: Key GI themes from the County Development Plan.

Policies from the County Development Plan have informed the following overarching GI objectives for Clondalkin:

GI1: Overarching

GI1 Objective 1:

Protect, enhance and further develop a multifunctional GI network, using an ecosystem services approach, protecting, enhancing and further developing the identified interconnected network of parks, open spaces, natural features, protected areas, and rivers and streams that provide a shared space for amenity and recreation, biodiversity protection, water quality, flood management and adaptation to climate change.

GI1 Objective 2:

Ensure that all new development within the Clondalkin area strengthens the existing Green Infrastructure network where possible, to protect and enhance biodiversity.

GI1 Objective 3:

Protect and enhance the natural, historical, amenity and biodiversity value of watercourses within the LPF area.

Accommodate flood waters as far as possible during extreme flooding events and enhance biodiversity and amenity through the relevant riparian corridors and the application of policy and objectives within the County Development Plan.

GI1 Objective 4:

Require the provision of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in all new developments in Clondalkin to maximise biodiversity, amenity, and climate mitigation benefits from the use of these systems.

GI1 Objective 5:

Strengthen the County's GI in Clondalkin to improve resilience against future shocks and disruptions arising from a changing climate.

GI1 Objective 6:

Improve the accessibility and recreational amenity of GI in Clondalkin to enhance human health and wellbeing while protecting and enhancing the natural environment within which the recreation occurs.

GI1 Objective 7:

Protect, conserve and enhance landscape, natural, cultural and built heritage features, and support the objectives and actions of the County Heritage Plan and County Biodiversity Plan.

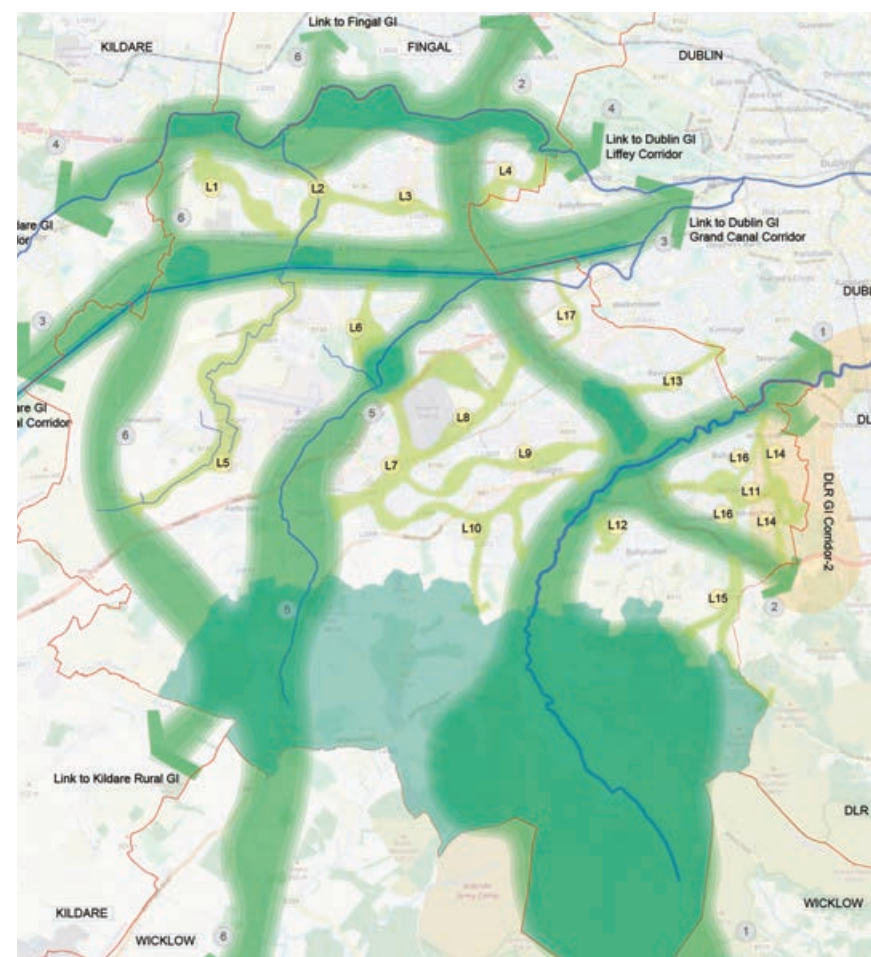


Figure 4.3: County GI strategy map showing the five primary GI corridors.

4.3. The County GI Network and Clondalkin-Corridors/Core Areas and Stepping Stones

The County Development Plan identifies five primary GI corridors across the County (Figure 4.3).

Three of the five county GI corridors converge at the northeastern edge of the Clondalkin LPF area (see Figure 4.4). The Camac River corridor follows the route of the river through the LPF area. The route of the river and its corridor is interrupted at the centre of the village at the Mill Shopping Centre where it is culverted through the site. The Camac River corridor meets the Grand Canal Corridor where the latter runs along the northern edge of the area and also meets the M50 Corridor where it directly adjoins the eastern boundary of the study area at Knockmitten Park. For a detailed description of the County GI corridors see the County GI Strategy set out in the County Development Plan.



Corkagh Park comprising 120 hectares is identified as a strategic GI Core area within the County. It is a designated regional park that is rich in biodiversity, with over 390 different species of plants and animals and the Camac flowing through it. It offers significant amenity value, with open spaces, walkways, cycleways, and passive recreation areas. It also provides active amenity opportunities including football pitches, cricket facilities, cycling track and playgrounds.

Corkagh Park is linked directly to Clondalkin along the route of the Camac and its riparian corridor through Clondalkin Park, which also hosts areas of biodiversity with rich woodlands, meadows, hedgerow and scrub. Furthermore, it provides ecosystem benefits of which the riparian corridor of the Camac plays an important part, alongside the provision of a network of paths and recreational zones such as pitches. It is a significant core area immediately adjacent to the LPF area.

As the Camac flows northeast through Clondalkin there are further open space areas along Watery Lane which serve as stepping stones along the Camac River corridor.

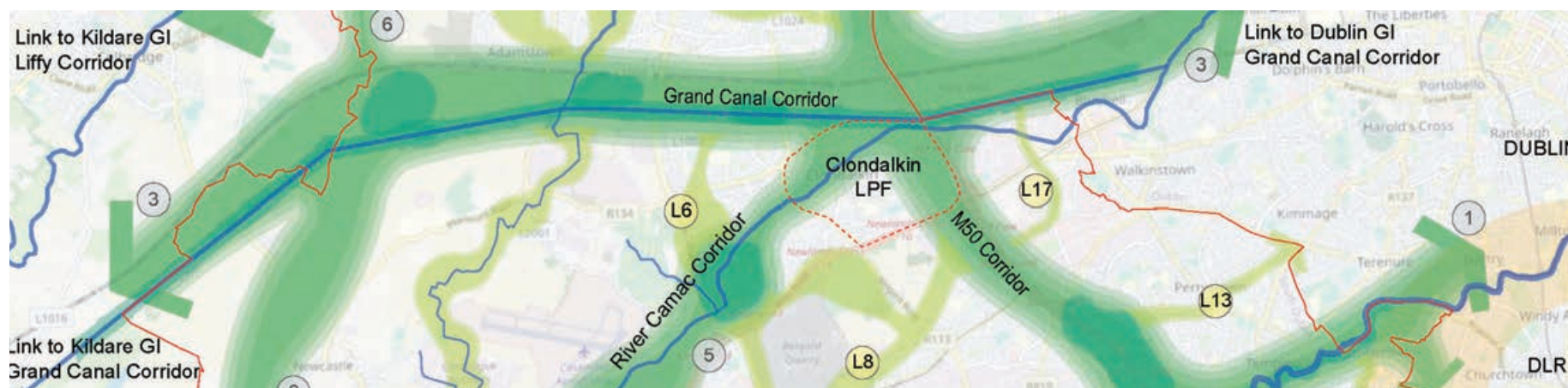


Figure 4.4: Convergence of GI Corridors (extract from CDP GI Strategy)

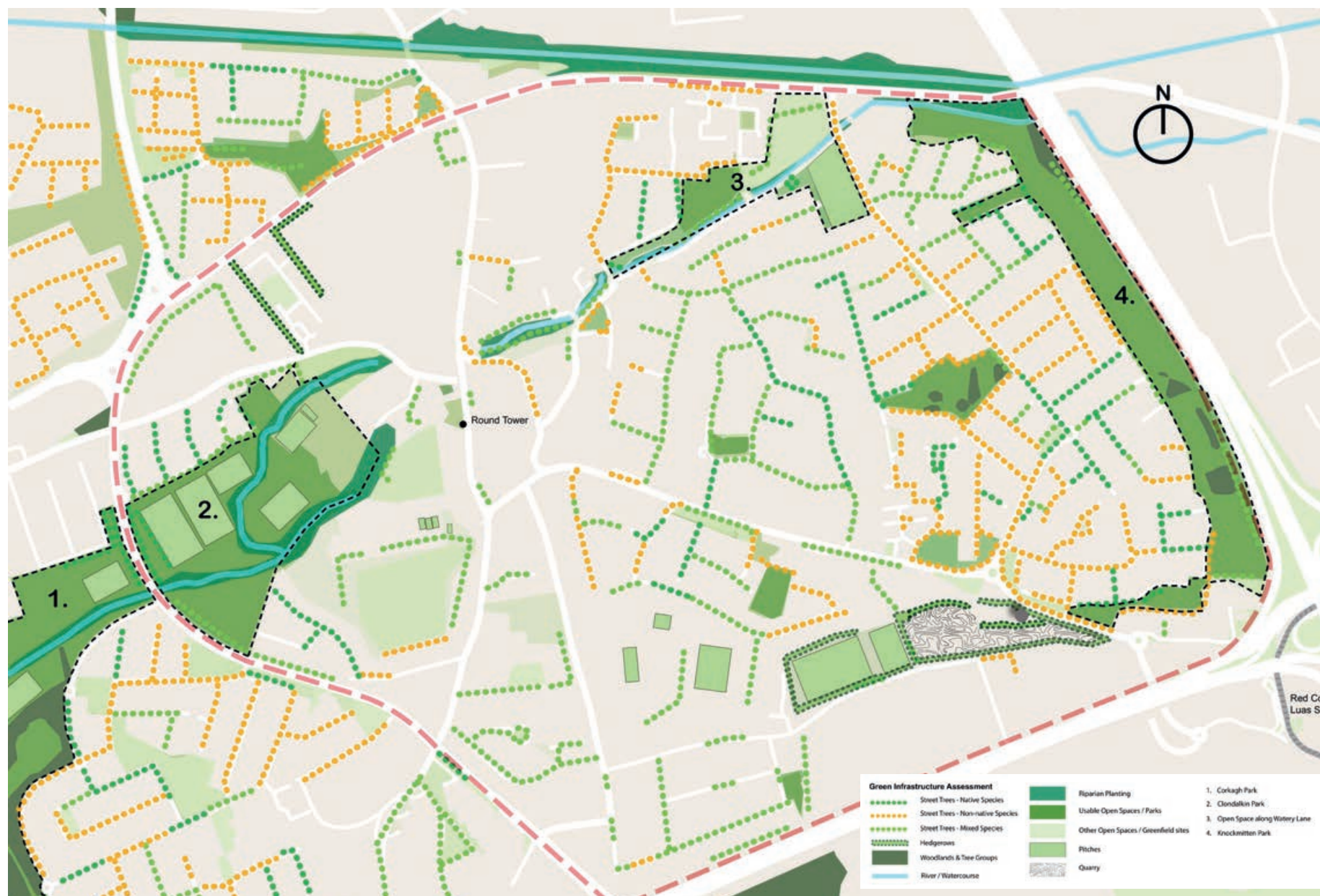


Figure 4.5: Map of existing GI elements (corridors, core areas and stepping stones).

Along the eastern boundary of the LPF area is Knockmitten Park. This park is generally composed of lawn spaces, used for recreation in conjunction with the Knockmitten Community Centre. The park forms part of the GI corridor along the M50 boundary, buffering adjoining residential areas from the M50.

Figure 4.6 shows these local stepping stones (Clondalkin Park, open space along Watery Lane, Knockmitten Park) which serve to connect the primary GI corridors. Stepping stones also include uninterrupted alignments of street trees, existing hedgerows and various alignments of mixed or non-native species.

4.4. Clondalkin: Analysis

Existing GI Overview

The study area includes approximately 50 hectares of open space. Three County GI Corridors the Camac, M50 and Grand Canal Corridors converge within the study area. Corkagh Park is a primary Core GI area in the County and regionally connects to Clondalkin along the Camac Corridor by way of Clondalkin Park. These primary GI elements are further enhanced by the existing open space network which serve as essential GI Stepping Stones throughout the study area. These include additional spaces in private, semi-private or communal ownership. They are also strengthened by uninterrupted alignments of native and non-native street trees. Stepping stones also include wildflower meadows, hedgerows, trees in public and private ownership. A Miyawaki mini-woodland was established in Corkagh Park in 2024 with a second mini-woodland planted in Clondalkin Park in 2025. See Figure 4.5 for the existing GI elements within the LPF.

Gaps and Opportunities

The Green Infrastructure assessment as part of the preparation of this plan identified a number of gaps within the GI network within the LPF area. The LPF has identified measures that, if applied in the short, medium or long term, would act as stepping stones to bridge the identified gaps and secure an LPF-wide strategic GI connection. There are also a number of areas where GI connectivity is fragmented and weak including within the public realm area, but where existing trees / hedgerows and green areas are in private ownership and if protected and retained, present an opportunity to protect and enhance existing GI elements. Over time, opportunities may arise through re-development of sites, road enhancement schemes or similar, to expand existing GI elements and create future stepping stones, further contributing to the delivery of LPF-wide connections. The following gaps/opportunities exist (See Figure 4.6):

1. Ninth Lock Road Framework and Surrounds Gap Ninth Lock Framework (CB Packaging) Site

The Ninth Lock Framework Site presents a unique opportunity to integrate GI elements providing links to the Village Centre and Corkagh and Clondalkin Park to the south, the Old Nangor Road VES (see Chapter 8) and the Mill Shopping Centre. It also offers opportunity to link GI

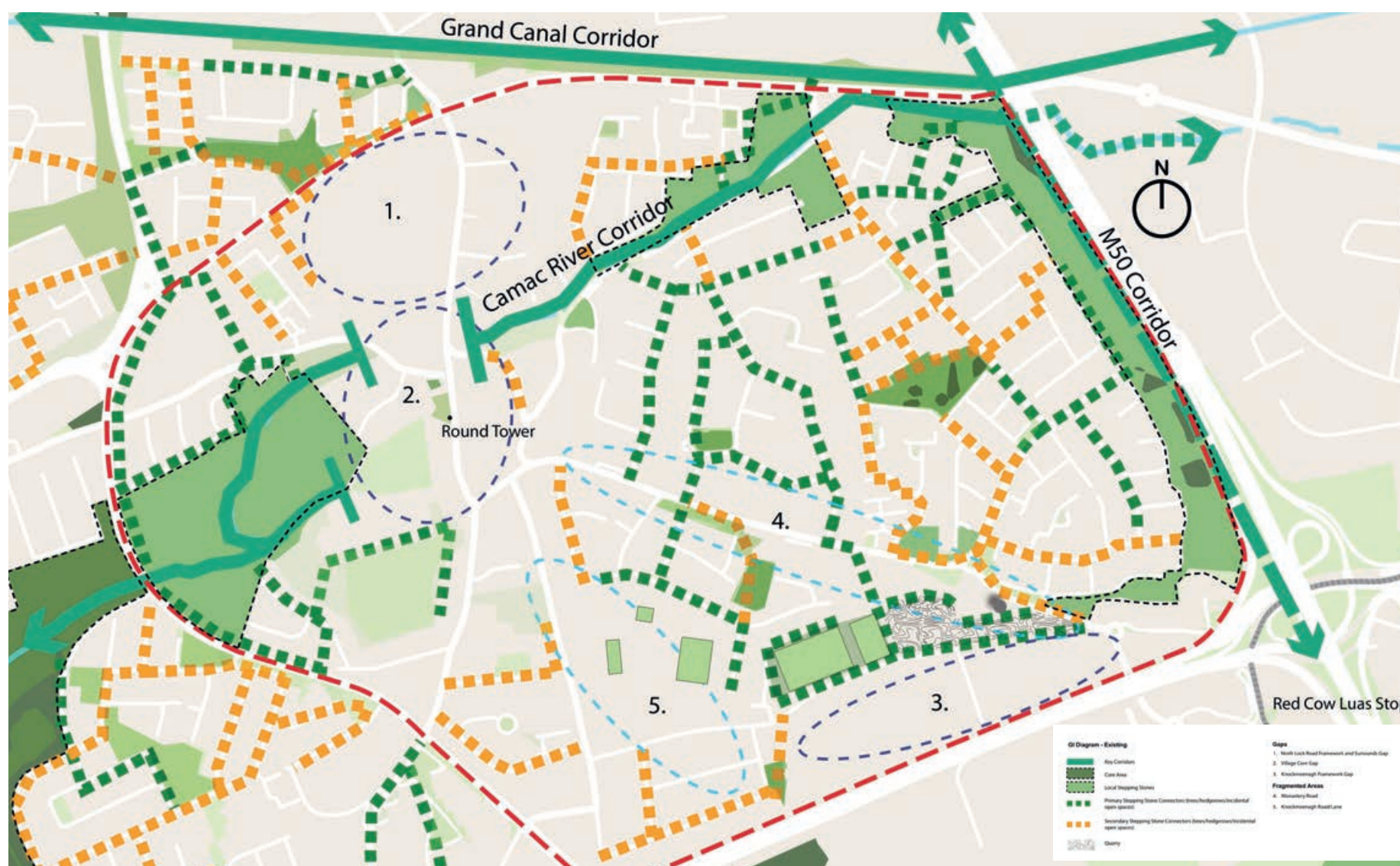


Figure 4.6: Stepping stones, stepping stone connectors and gaps within the existing GI corridors.

northward across the New Nangor Road to Dunawley Park and adjoining residential areas and to create greater linkages eastward across the Ninth Lock Road to Oakfield on the eastern side of the Ninth Lock Road.

Mill Shopping Centre

Figure 4.6 shows the green areas at Corkagh Park and Clondalkin Park extending towards the village along the route of the Camac. It then stops abruptly at the Mill Shopping Centre, with the river and its riparian corridor emerging at the Civic Plaza where it is then flanked by adjoining open spaces along Watery Lane as it continues northeast across the LPF area. The culvert starting at Old Nangor Road through the Mill Shopping Centre creates a gap in an otherwise strong GI corridor. The long-term de-culverting of the Camac here would be a significant benefit to the GI network of the LPF. In the short to medium term any re-development of this site should not compromise the potential for the de-culverting of the river and strengthening of the GI route through the site following the route of the Camac. At a minimum, GI elements through SuDS, soft

landscaping and so on, reflecting the route of the Camac and sufficient to bridge this gap, should be provided through any re-development of the site. Any redevelopment of the shopping centre site should be strongly integrated with any development of the Ninth Lock Framework Site.

2. Village Core Gap

Village Streets (Oval and Adjoining Lands)

There is sporadic tree planting throughout the village streets of Clondalkin along Tower Road, Old Nangor Road, Orchard Road and Main Street. The network of old walls throughout the village and its environs also acts as connective GI corridors for specialist plants and insects that rely on these historic features as habitats in built-up areas. There are also green areas on the lands between these streets within the 'oval' of the historic settlement, also featuring historic walls. Many of these areas comprise the front and back gardens of existing houses, where fronting onto these roads. Historic lands such as at St John's Church and around many of the protected structures in the village are essential elements of

the GI network of the village connecting to public GI elements such as existing and future public realm projects, street trees and historic walls. It is important for the connectivity of GI through the LPF area that these GI elements are retained wherever possible. Where these lands come forward for development, GI implications need to be considered, and elements of historic GI integrated into any new development regardless of size.

Old Nangor Road and Ninth Lock Road and Main Street

The Old Nangor Road, Ninth Lock Road and Main Street all present an opportunity as GI connectors across the village and to adjoining areas. The village centre streets are characterised by hard landscaping and limited tree planting but do feature historic walls which can contain biodiversity value. There are opportunities to link GI elements from Clondalkin Park through the field at Moyle Park across the Old Nangor Road, north to the Mill Shopping Centre and Ninth Lock Road Framework Site, and across the Ninth Lock Road to the Civic Plaza and along Watery Lane and towards Knockmitten. Similarly, any future new development or redevelopment on Main Street or adjoining lands present an opportunity to link to existing and future GI elements along Monastery Road, Laurel Park and adjoining areas.

Moyle Park Lands

Between the Old Nangor Road/Mill Shopping Centre and Clondalkin Park, the open lands at Moyle Park present an opportunity to protect future GI links between Clondalkin Park, Tower Road and the Old Nangor Road. It is essential that any future development of the site retains strong GI features and links to the adjoining GI elements mentioned above. It is a significant opportunity to retain and enhance the GI network through and within the Village Centre.

3. Knockmeenagh Framework Site Gap

The Knockmeenagh Framework Site lands also present a unique opportunity to provide strong links through the site and potentially towards residential green areas to the north, connecting with green elements along Monastery Road and Knockmeenagh Lane and Road to Laurel Park and towards Clondalkin Village.

4. Monastery Road and Knockmeenagh Lane/Road Fragmented Area

As with the Village Centre there are some street trees and pocket open space areas along these roads potentially linking Knockmeenagh to the Village. However, the front and rear gardens of houses along these roads also add to the overall GI network and act as a loose GI local corridor which it is important to protect, and over time where opportunity allows, through re-development of existing sites or new development, the retention and extension of GI elements. GI here also should be a strong consideration when public roadworks or proposed development comes forward. Furthermore, there is GI strengthening opportunity at the water tower and SIAC site along Monastery Road, these areas have the future potential to act as a local stepping stone to Knockmeenagh and northward to Monastery and adjoining residential areas.



GI2: Gaps and Opportunities

GI2 Objective 1:

To ensure that in areas where gaps have been identified that proposed development / redevelopment incorporates appropriate GI elements to enhance and expand the overall GI network.

GI3: Green Links

GI3 Objective 1:

Create and enhance the following ‘GI stepping stone’ opportunities across the LPF area enabling the delivery of the following potential GI connections over time:

Corkagh Park to Fonthill Train Station through Ninth Lock Framework Site (Short to Medium Term Potential)

Enhance existing fragmented corridor from Corkagh Park and Clondalkin Park across the Old Nangor Road, onward through potential GI connections in the Ninth Lock Framework Site, linking northward through Dunawley Park and adjoining residential areas.

Corkagh Park to Grand Canal and M50 GI Corridors (Short to Medium Term Potential)

Potential link from Clondalkin Park to the Old Nangor Road through Moyle Park and northward through potential development sites on Old Nangor Road connecting northward to the Mill Shopping Centre and eastward across the Ninth Lock Road to the Camac as it emerges at the Civic Plaza. This GI route runs along the edge of Riversdale, connecting the open space along Watery Lane which follows the route of the Camac and thus connecting to Knockmitten Park (on the M50 GI Corridor). Finally, there is potential to traverse the New Nangor Road and Camac through a new connection, providing a direct link to the Grand Canal and BusConnects on the New Nangor Road. Thereby, potentially linking the Camac, Grand Canal and the M50 primary GI Corridors. Potential route also between the Red Cow Luas Stop adjoining Knockmitten Park through the Park and along the Grand Canal on onward towards the Fonthill Train Station.

Station to Station (Long Term Potential)

There is long term potential for delivery of a GI link from the Luas Station at the Red Cow through the potential framework lands at Knockmeenagh. This route runs westward towards and through the village along Monastery Road or Knockmeenagh Lane/Road and onwards along Tower Road across Old Nangor Road, through the Ninth Lock Road Framework Site and northward onward to Dunawley Park and adjoining residential areas.



GI3 Objective 2:

Village and Approach

Reinforce and extend GI stepping stones within the village core and its approach, through emerging village enhancement and other schemes by retaining and protecting existing street trees and pockets of open space and planting new trees, where feasible. Where Village Enhancement Schemes or new development requires the removal of trees, appropriate replacement planting shall be identified within the Plan area.

“As with the Village Centre there are some street trees and pocket open space areas along these roads potentially linking Knockmeenagh to the Village.”

4.5 County Development Plan GI Corridor/ Core Areas/Stepping Stones objectives relevant to Clondalkin

As indicated above, there are three converging strategic corridors within the Clondalkin plan area. Each one is described in Chapter 4 of the County Development Plan alongside identification of the core areas, stepping stones and relevant objectives. There are opportunities within each of these and within the wider plan area to improve the GI connections and ecosystem services as identified below.

Strategic Corridor: M50 Corridor

The M50 is an important piece of national transport infrastructure that links South Dublin County Council to Dún Laoghaire, Dublin City and Fingal. While it acts to sever connectivity for biodiversity and for local communities on either side of this major transport route, the GI Strategy recognises that there are opportunities for GI enhancement along the M50.

Overarching Objectives relevant to Clondalkin:

- To enhance corridor links and biodiversity value through appropriate planting along both sides of the M50 Corridor, to maximise opportunities to ameliorate noise and air pollution, increase visual amenity, enhance biodiversity and provide continuous ecological corridors and green links where possible in consultation with TII / NTA.
- To investigate the potential to implement improved pedestrian and cycling infrastructure between the Grand Canal corridor and green spaces at Knockmitten.
- To identify and support additional north-south pedestrian and cyclist green links (for example at Grand Canal) as well as east-west links where possible.

Strategic Corridor: Grand Canal Corridor

The Grand Canal is a key national Green Infrastructure feature, acting as a major ecological and recreational link between the River Shannon in the midlands and Dublin City where the canal enters the sea. As a proposed Natural Heritage Area, the Canal supports a range of key ecosystem services along its entire route and offers a major route for a range of protected species from Dublin's rural hinterland through the urban environment of South Dublin County.

While the Grand Canal offers significant opportunities for recreation and amenity, these provisions must be appropriate to the status of the Canal, at a time of biodiversity loss, as a key biodiversity corridor.

Overarching Objectives relevant to Clondalkin:

- To protect and enhance the Grand Canal as an ecological green corridor, recognising its role as a national / regional corridor for wildlife and some ecosystem services.
- To engage with stakeholders along the Grand Canal to achieve shared objectives for this GI feature, without negatively impacting on the Canal's natural ecosystem services. To improve permeability and access to the Grand Canal for residents and visitors in a manner that does not cause habitat fragmentation.

Strategic Corridor: Camac River Corridor

This corridor generally marks the interface between the urban and rural parts of the County. It follows the route of the River Camac from its origins in the foothills of the Dublin Mountains through the urban area of Clondalkin, flowing through Corkagh Park, Clondalkin Park and eastwards through the green space parallel to Watery Lane until it exits the plan area by way of a culvert under the M50 at Knockmitten Park. While urban pressures have impacted upon the Camac River, it still sustains populations of protected species and habitats, making the Camac a key GI feature with potential as a regional level GI corridor.

Overarching Objectives relevant to Clondalkin:

- To avoid further fragmentation of the Green Infrastructure network at the urban fringe and strengthen existing ecological links between built-up areas along this corridor.
- To enhance the GI network by addressing habitat quality issues along the Camac River and by identifying and including additional 'stepping stone' opportunities along the river.
- To improve the ecological GI value and connectivity of landscape features created as part of permitted development.
- To seek the de-culverting of existing culverted sections of the Camac River Corridor.
- To promote the completion of a Greenway linking Corkagh Park with Clondalkin Village and onwards to the Grand Canal Greenway.

Camac Strategic Corridor: Core Areas and Stepping Stones - Strategic Objectives relevant to Clondalkin:

Corkagh Park is the only identified core area in the CDP on this corridor relevant to Clondalkin:

To preserve and enhance the status of Corkagh Park as a regional park for biodiversity and ecosystems services (including flooding) importance.

The LPF has identified the following as local stepping stones (Figure 4.7):

- Clondalkin Park
- Open Space along Watery Lane
- Knockmitten Park

Camac Riparian Corridor

Riparian zones are vegetated areas bordering rivers and other bodies of surface water. These are important due to the rich habitat provision along water bodies, which enable wildlife corridors to establish and facilitating species movements from place to place. The landscape of riparian corridors can vary between flood plains to steep embankments, while functioning as buffer zones that protect / improve the water quality in associated watercourses while at the same time protecting built areas from flooding. The natural presence and the protection of existing riparian vegetation plays an important role in the successful establishment, quality and flow of the existing watercourses. Riparian zones are particularly vulnerable to damage from inappropriate development. A key requirement of an integrated watercourse protection strategy is to set aside sufficient land along the river margin or corridor, as shown in Figure 4.7.

The County Development Plan includes policy and objectives for its mapped riparian corridors. This LPF has examined the riparian corridors in Clondalkin as part of the strategic flood risk assessment. The riparian zone for Clondalkin varies in width according to location and land use. The majority of the Camac riparian corridor does not achieve the minimum 10m vegetated buffer from the top of the riverbank as required in the objectives of the County Development Plan, see Figure 4.8.

GI4: Camac River Riparian Corridor

GI4 Objective 1:

To maximise the effectiveness of the Riparian Corridor in Clondalkin Park and other open space areas along the Camac through enhanced planting or other measures as appropriate to the integrity of the corridor.

GI4 Objective 2:

To seek to improve the integrity of the riparian corridor through enhanced riparian planting in conjunction with the Camac FAS along Watery Lane at Riversdale, Mayfield and Yellowmeadows.

GI4 Objective 3:

To support the completion of the Cycle South Dublin active travel route linking Corkagh Park with Clondalkin Village and onwards to the Grand Canal Greenway having regard to the need to maintain the integrity of the Camac riparian corridor, exploring any synergies with the Camac FAS.

GI4 Objective 4:

To require, where feasible, the relocation of footpaths/cycleways to be considered from the inside to the outside of the minimum 10-metre riparian buffer. In all other cases active travel links should, insofar as is feasible, be located as a minimum 10 metres from the top of the bank of the river.

GI4 Objective 5:

To require that ecological assessments are undertaken alongside hydromorphological assessments where any development, private or public, is within lands which are partially or wholly within the Riparian Corridors.

GI4 Objective 6:

To require, where deculverting is not feasible in the short-medium term, as part of any future redevelopment of the Mill Shopping Centre lands or Civic Plaza that planting and SuDS at ground level following the route of the Camac culvert is provided sufficient to serve as a GI stepping stone.

GI4 Objective 7:

Retain, protect and enhance the open channel of the Camac.

Flood Risk Management and Riparian Corridor

Flood risk in the LPF area has been considered through a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), informing this LPF and is included as an accompanying document. Section 7 of the SFRA addresses Flood Risk Management within the LPF area.

Flood events have occurred within the Plan area broadly coinciding with the route of the Camac and adjoining open space areas, reflecting their multifunctional purpose. The Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme is at preliminary design stage at the time of writing this plan and will take account of the implications of climate change. It is a joint project with South Dublin County Council, Dublin City Council and the OPW. See Chapter 3 for further understanding of flood risk management, and related objectives.

Flood Risk Management in this area is directly linked to the riparian corridor zone of the Camac within the Clondalkin LPF. Retention and

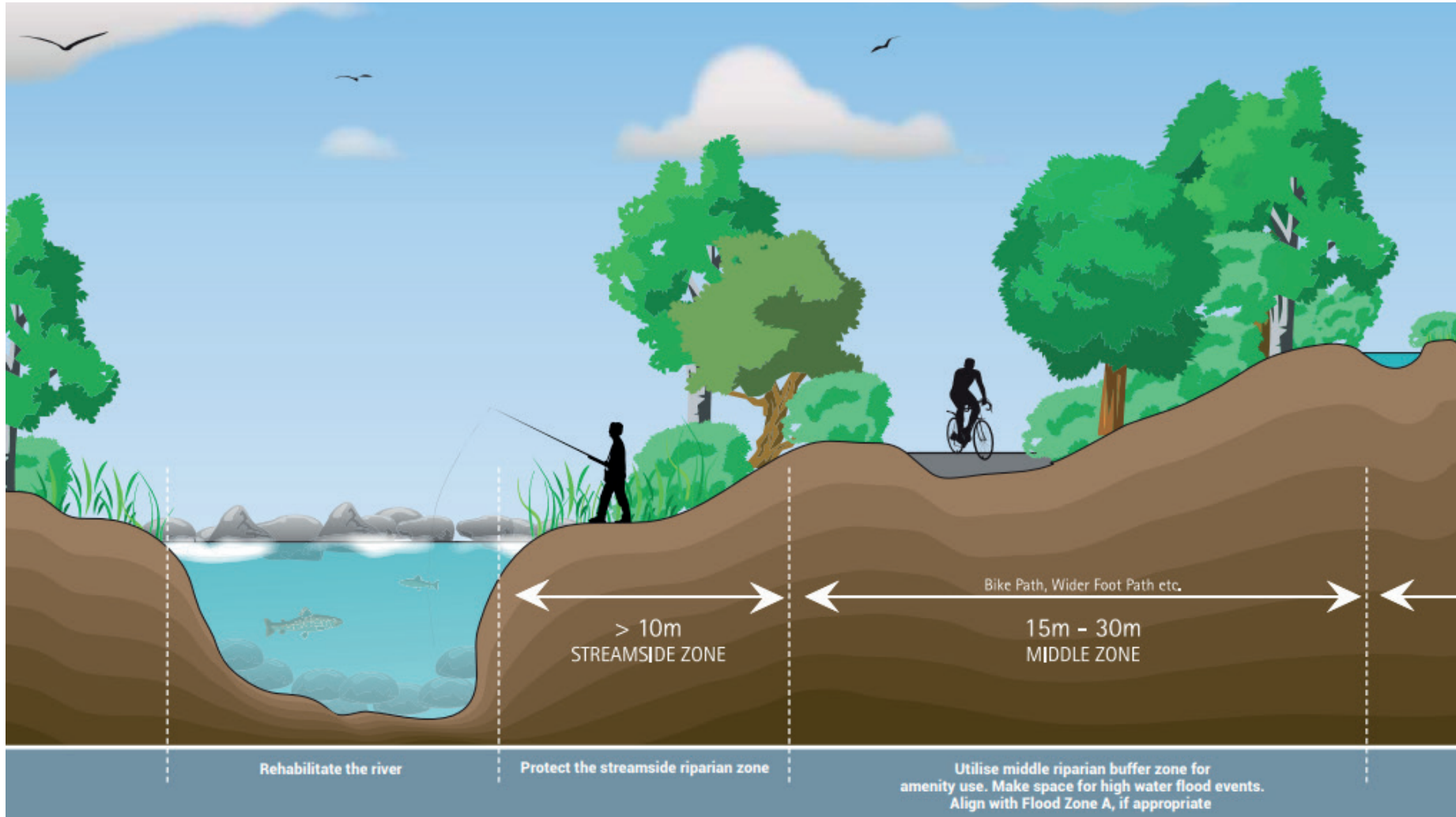


Figure 4.7: Riparian Buffer Zones (Source: *Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment*, (IFI, 2020))

protection of riparian corridors is critical to creating and strengthening GI networks, including flood mitigation. As in the County Development Plan, this LPF includes three key objectives relating to the riparian corridor (see also Chapter 3 of this plan), these are set out below:

GI5: Riparian Corridor - Overarching

GI5 Objective 1:

To ensure that hydromorphological assessments are undertaken where proposed development is within lands which are partially or wholly within the Riparian Corridors.

GI5 Objective 2:

Development proposals within the riparian corridors shall clearly demonstrate how the integrity of the Riparian Corridor will be maintained and enhanced having regard to flood risk management, biodiversity, ecosystem service provision, water quality and hydromorphology.

GI5 Objective 3:

To promote and protect native riparian vegetation along all watercourses and ensure that a minimum 10m vegetated riparian buffer from the top of the riverbank is maintained/ reinstated along all watercourses.

GI6: Flood Risk Management

GI6 Objective 1:

To facilitate the Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme where flood alleviation measures are identified within the LPF area.

GI6 Objective 2:

To encourage natural flood defences in preference to hard flood defences wherever feasible and to examine the potential for a wetland within the Plan area as part of the Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme.

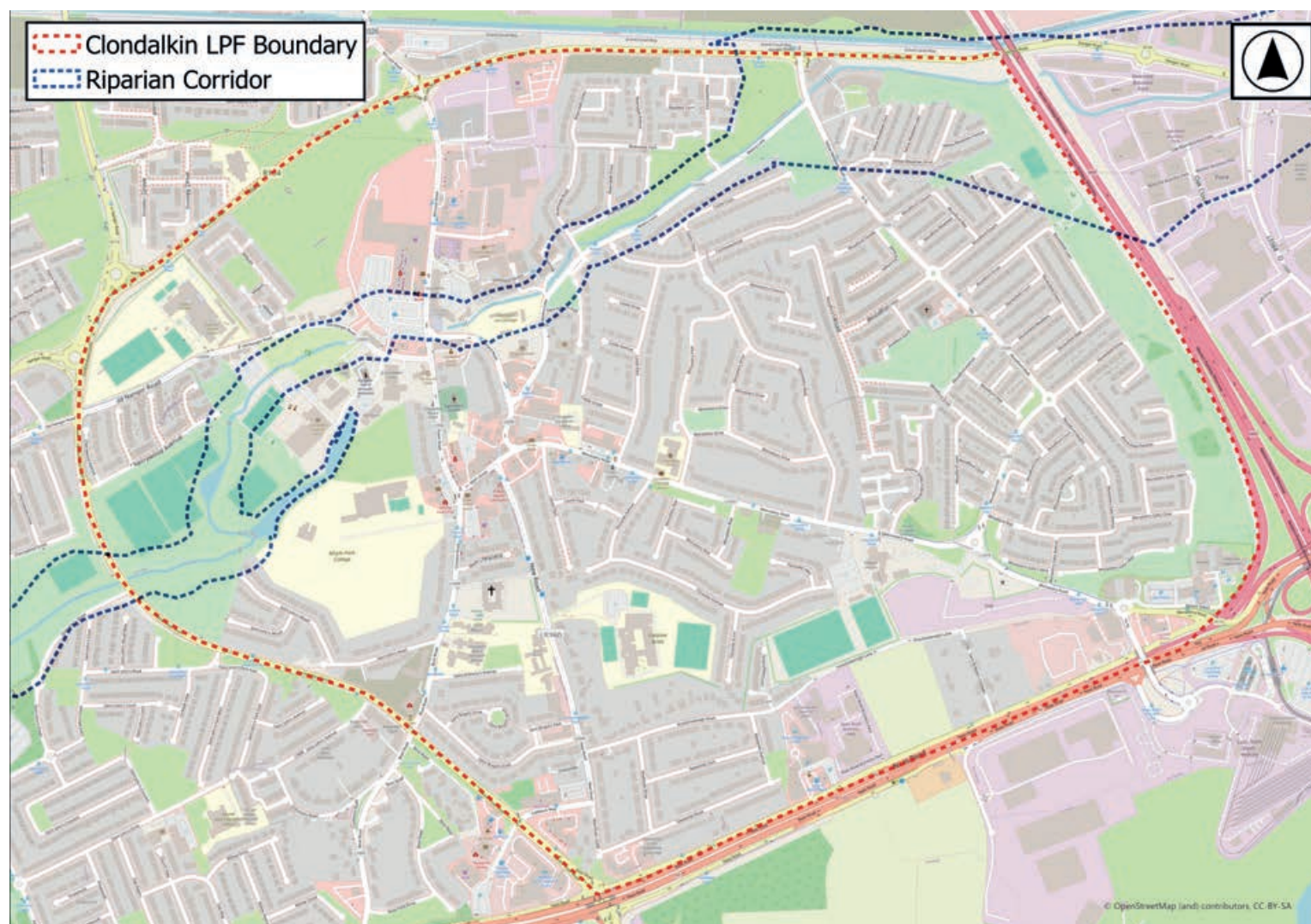


Figure 4.8: Riparian Corridor within the Clondalkin LPF.



Figure 4.9: Example of SuDS (Source: South Dublin County Council Sustainable Drainage Explanatory Design & Evaluation Guide 2022).

GI6 Objective 3:

To ensure that nature-based solutions are employed in new open spaces and any upgrades or revisions to existing open spaces to improve surface water quality and, where relevant, aid flood alleviation.

For more detail on SuDS, flood risk and riparian corridors see Section 3.3 of Chapter 3 (Climate Action and Infrastructure).

4.6. County Development Plan - Green Infrastructure: Clondalkin Village Case Study and Local Objectives

The County Development Plan, Appendix 4, includes a series of case studies providing GI policy recommendations for a range of settlement scenarios. The case studies demonstrate how local GI corridors could provide additional interconnectivity for the county-wide GI network and contribute ecosystem services at the local scale. One of these case studies considered policy recommendations for an Established Urban Area. In this category Clondalkin village was examined and policy recommendations were made. This Plan has reviewed those recommendations and has incorporated them, as appropriate, within relevant objectives set in this chapter and elsewhere.

The following Clondalkin Village Policy recommendations from the Clondalkin Village case study in Appendix 4 of the CDP to be advanced through the Clondalkin LPF include:

- Amelioration of air quality and noise through appropriate planting/screening;
- Improvement of water quality through SuDS and other measures (Figure 4.9);
- Retrofitting of hard paved areas to permeable surfaces where feasible;
- Retain the important ecosystems and heritage value of the Mill Ponds.

The key lesson emerging from the case study is the need to maximise existing GI assets within established urban areas. Other applicable lessons are as follows;

- To promote enhanced pedestrian and cycling links between existing GI infrastructure (including parks, greenways, river corridors) and town and village centres.
- To promote ecosystem services through, for example, the de-culverting of culverted rivers and streams where appropriate, the provision of SuDS, enhanced street planting, and use of green building approaches.
- To ensure that new urban development does not result in an overall loss of green infrastructure.

The policy recommendation and lessons from the case study are incorporated into the LPF through the various objectives in this and other chapters and are further focused at a site-specific level within the Urban Design Strategy.



GI7: New Development

GI7 Objective 1:

Improve the ecological value and connectivity of landscape features within new development through the implementation of the Green Space Factor, ensuring that all relevant developments meet the Green Space Factor score. In particular, ensure:

- a) All new developments are designed in accordance with SDCC’s Sustainable Drainage Explanatory, Design and Evaluation Guide 2022 or as amended and should incorporate Nature Based Solutions into the site design
- b) Provide for native tree and ecologically friendly planting on new development sites in line with public realm recommendations.

GI7 Objective 2:

Demonstrate the proposed GI connectivity to be achieved within the site of all new developments, including to external areas, by retention / protection and enhancement of existing GI assets or where this is demonstrated and agreed not to be feasible, through the creation of new GI elements.

GI7 Objective 3:

Demonstrate that development proposals within the riparian corridors will maintain and enhance the integrity of the Riparian Corridor having regard to flood risk management, biodiversity, ecosystem service provision, water quality and hydromorphology.

GI8: Public Realm

GI8 Objective 1:

Facilitate SuDS and nature-based solutions within the public realm and streetscape, ensuring it integrated to the greatest extent possible alongside the required transport network.

GI8 Objective 2:

Increase native street tree planting in the public realm and along existing streets where opportunity arises such as in VES to improve local air and water quality, maximise placemaking opportunities and improve overall effectiveness of GI.

GI8 Objective 3:

Require street tree planting along all new streets ensuring it is integrated with on-street car parking where the latter is provided. Street tree planting, and other tree planting where appropriate, should incorporate natural Sustainable Drainage Systems such as SuDS Tree pits, as part of a nature-based solutions surface water treatment train.

GI8 Objective 4:

Incorporate planting and permeable paving in new or upgraded car parking provision and surfaces to ameliorate the impact of pollution and surface water runoff.



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Flood risk in the LPF area has been considered through a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), informing this LPF and is included as an accompanying document.

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