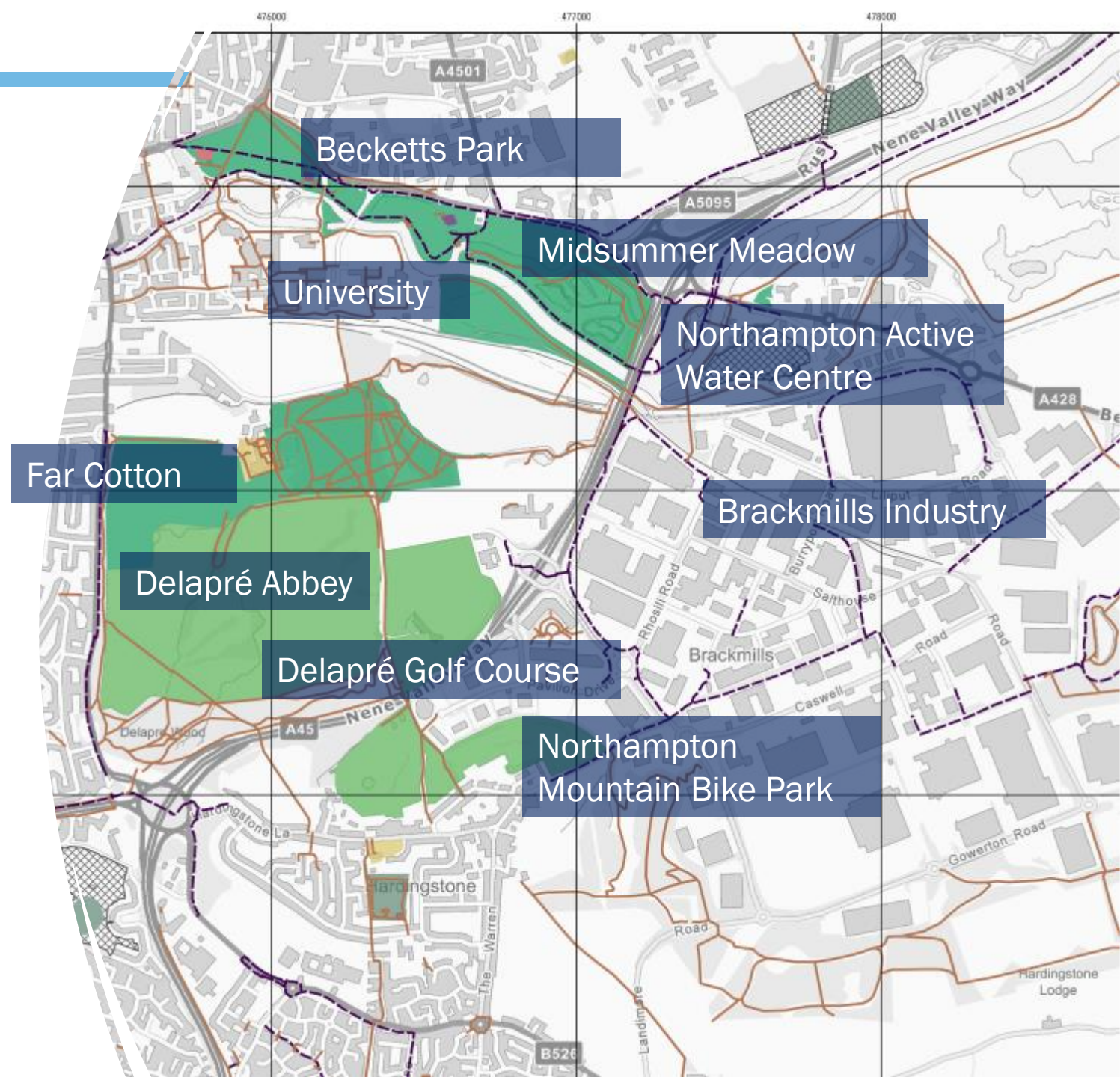




Active Quarter - Northampton

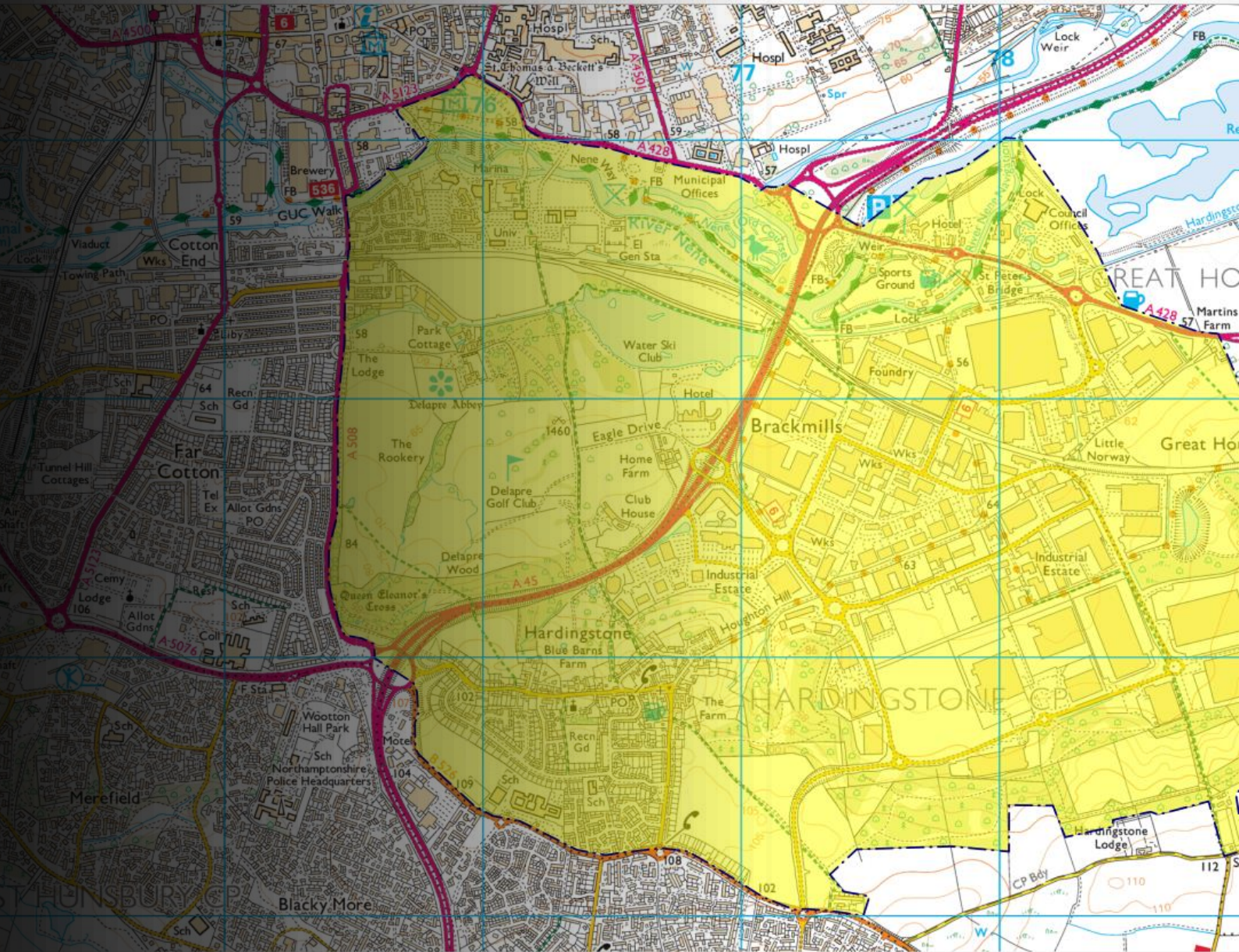
THE VISION

- Northampton Active Quarter – an identifiable zone supporting physical activity, health and wellbeing promotion in Northampton.
- Multiple benefits: Health, social, safety, environmental, cultural, economic heritage, and civic pride.
- Provides good quality, safe and accessible areas of greenspace that meets the need of the whole population.
- Opportunity for improved active travel, green social prescription, and community sport facility development.
- Aligns with regional and national strategies.



The Place and Space:

The Active Quarter goes from Far Cotton to the east of Northampton to the large Brackmills Industrial estate to the west. From the new Northampton Mountain Bike Park at Hardingstone in the south, northwards toward the town and the beautiful Becketts Park.



Active Quarter multi-stakeholder partnership

- Dr Peter Jones - Associate Dean
University of Northampton
- Dr Declan Ryan - Senior Lecturer in
Exercise Physiology University of
Northampton
- Scott Bradley - Head of Science and
Sport University of Northampton
- Ana Pal – PhD Researcher , University
of Northampton
- Deborah Mbofana - Public Health and
Chair of Physical Activity Network
- Chris Holmes - CEO Northamptonshire Sport
- Steve Adams - Chair Northamptonshire Sport
- Richard Clinton - CEO Delapré Abbey
- Peter Cox – Interim Head of Sport & Active
Lives
- Cllr Greg Lunn – Sport Lead West Northants
Council
- Nick Barr - British Cycling Lead Cycling Delivery
Manger for Central Region
- Sara Homer – CEO Brackmills Business
Improvement District



Public Health
Northamptonshire



Delapré
Abbey





**~15 km of
'cycle ways'**

Open Street Map¹



**~44 km of 'footways'
and 'paths'**

Open Street Map¹



[
Public parks
Play spaces
Golf courses
Sports areas
Churchyards
Allotments
]

**~158 ha of OS
greenspace**

Ordnance Survey

Mapping of by Geographers at the University of Northampton revealed that the Active Quarter contains miles of cycle routes and paths set within a 158 hectares of green and blue urban space

Draft Short, Medium & Long-Term Plans

1-2 years



3-5 years

- Developments and strategy based on PhD research and community needs and demand
- Infrastructure changes to enhance activity and active travel
- Grow events and create AQ as a destination
- Robust evaluation of project to inform future central government funding
- Open Waterside Sports Village at UON
- New PhD student building on current research

6-10 years

- Developments and strategy based on PhD research and community need sand demand
- Additional local infrastructure changes to highways and public realm to support activity and active transport
- Growth of larger scale, mass participation events in Northampton
- Expansion to rest of county and country

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS



West
Northamptonshire
Council

Aligns to WNC vision - making West Northants a great place to live, work, visit and thrive – and strategic priorities:

- **Green and clean:** carbon neutral, vibrant towns and villages, high quality parks, accessible green space for all
- **Improved life chances:** healthy children, increasing aspirations, joined up local services with health
- **Connected communities:** infrastructure development connecting people and places (sustainably/safely), improved travel networks
- **Thriving villages and towns:** re-imagined town centre and local areas, reducing the cost of commuting, support for local businesses
- **Economic development:** local infrastructure investment – meeting local need, increasing visitors, supporting economic growth

National / local strategic alignment:

- England Economic Heartland (EEH) Transport Strategy ‘Connecting People, Transforming Journeys’
- ‘Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy’, ‘Gear Change: Vision for Cycling & Walking’
- British Cycling 2021-24 Strategy (increase cycling clubs, embedding diversity, increased emphasis on MTB and BMX)
- Northampton Forward; Central Area Action Plan

SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

- The Active Quarter is a pioneering, identifiable green, blue and grey space and place in the heart of Northampton and represent an opportunity to deliver social impact, which benefits current and future generations.
- It supports active healthy lifestyles, active travel, Sport participation and social prescription. Importantly, it also connects communities, supports economic regeneration has environmental benefits, improves safety, enhances the regions culture and heritage and as a consequence increases tourism and civic pride.
- The Active Quarter projects align to WNC strategic vision - making West Northants a great place to live, work, visit and thrive. It also aligns with national level strategies (England Economic Heartland (EEH) Transport Strategy 'Connecting People, Transforming Journeys'; 'Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy', 'Gear Change: Vision for Cycling & Walking'; British Cycling 2021-24 Strategy
- Further partner involvement and seed investment is required to advance the long term aspirations and related projects. These could be achieved over time by consideration of the Active Quarter as part of relevant planned spending.

