University of Salford MANCHESTER

Funding environmental management and research over the long term

the Mersey Gateway case study

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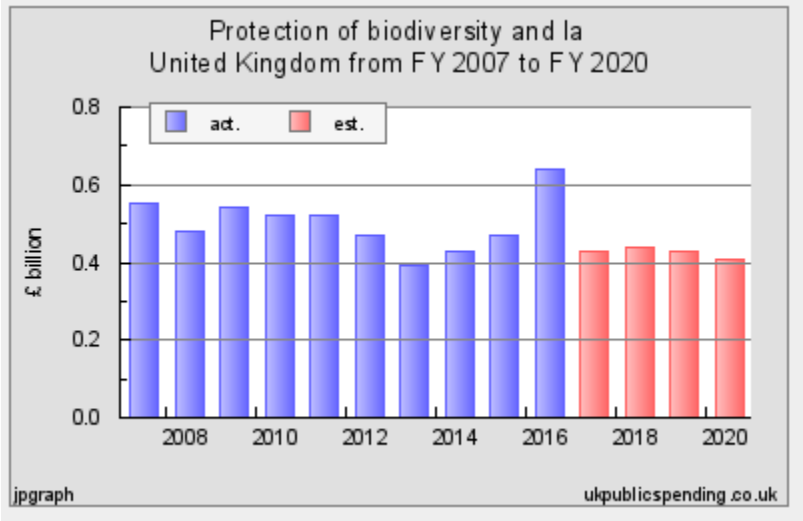
Antecedents

- Reduced funding
- Limitations of existing systems

Reduced funding

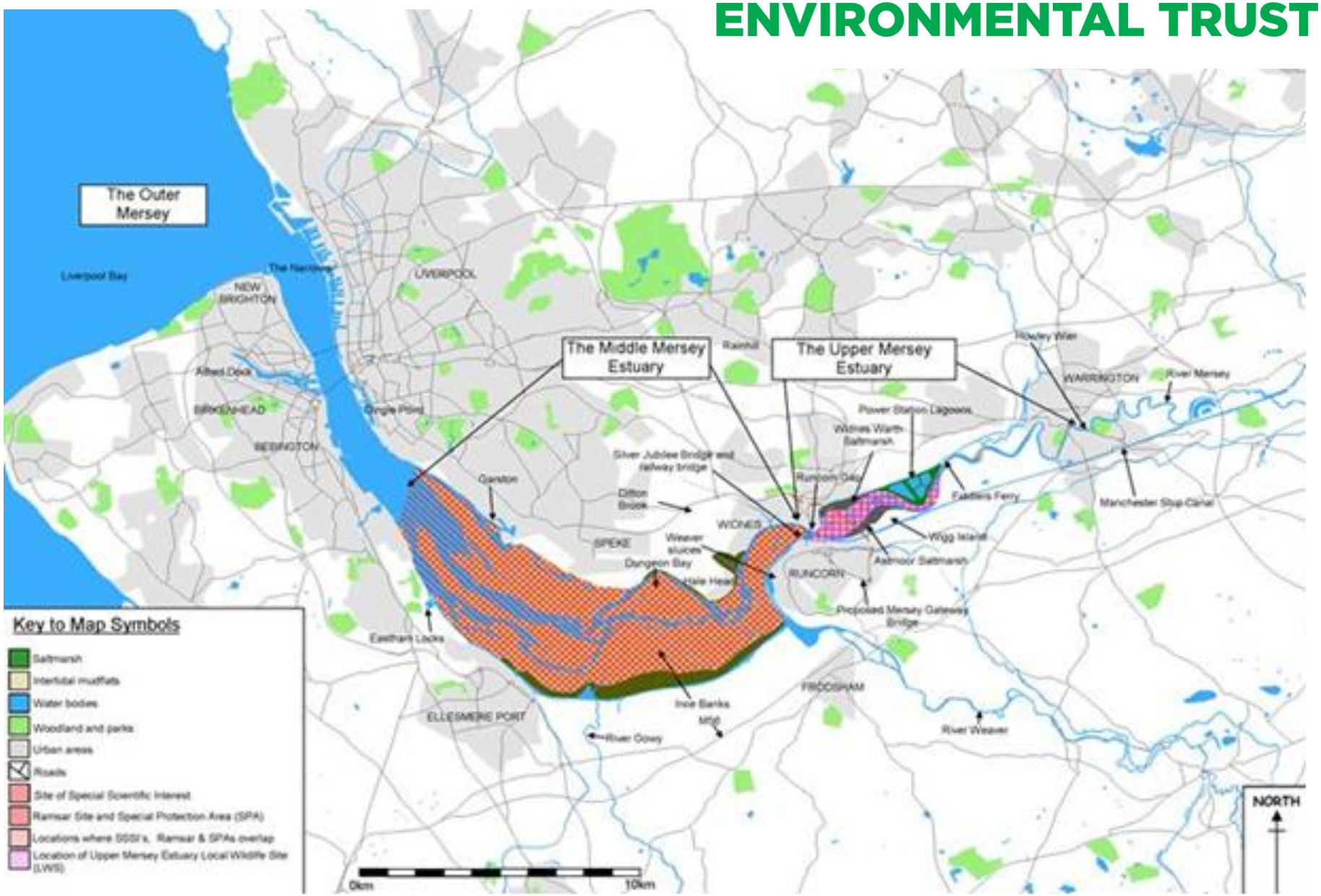
Sector	Date	Spend
NGO	2013-14	£215 million
UK Public Sector	2014–15	£452 million

Between 2009–10 and 2014–15, public sector spending decreased by 26 per cent, while NGO spending remained relatively stable.



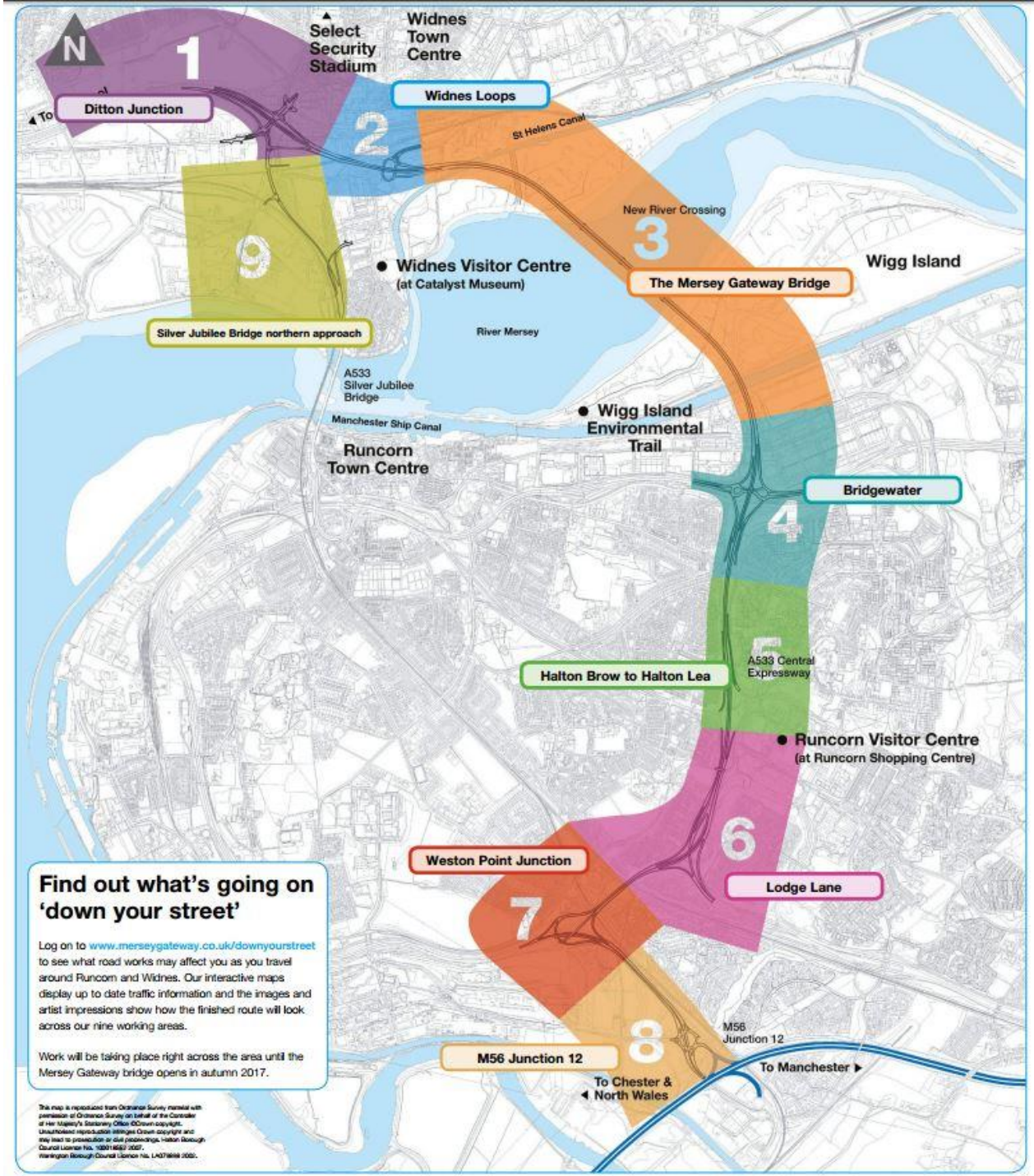
MERSEY GATEWAY

ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST



Route of new crossing

- land within construction area 75 ha



Business as usual

Section 106, Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As amended)

A mechanism which makes a development proposal , that would otherwise be unacceptable, acceptable in planning terms

Along with Highways Contributions and the Community Infrastructure Levy They are focussed on site specific mitigation of the impact of a development

Limitations of S106 agreements

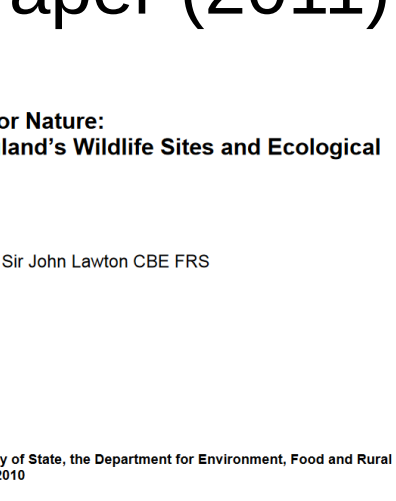
Agreements are legal agreements between Local Authorities and developers; these are linked to planning permissions and can also be known as planning obligations.

The most common obligations include:-
Public Open Space , Affordable Housing, Education, Highways, Town centre Improvements

What happens when the Local Authority is the Developer?

New approach

- Previous landscape ecology research
- Lawton Report (2010) & Natural Environment White Paper (2011)



Previous studies

- Habitat mapping
- Species distributions
- Species movements

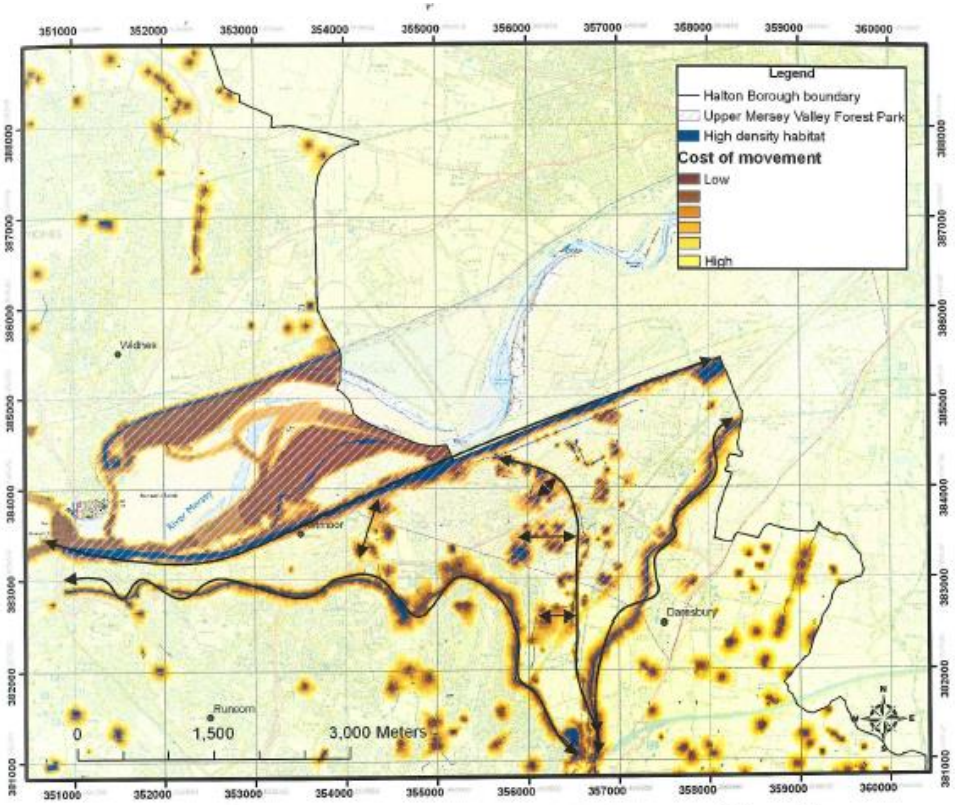


Figure 7-8 Opportunity map for water vole (*A. terrestris*) within the proposed Upper Mersey Valley Forest Park

Base map is © Crown Copyright/database right (2008). An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. Modelling using Phase 1 habitat data courtesy of Halton Borough Council (2008). Arrows indicate potential connections of low ecological cost

Scot, A.V (2009) PhD Thesis

Waders and wildfowl

Terrestrial ecology








- Common spotted orchid, Bee orchid, Gatekeeper on fleabane
- Sedge warbler, Lapwing, Marsh orchids
- Willow warbler, brown long-eared bat

Conservation grazing

The Innovative Solution

- Establish an environmental trust funded from the development, including tolls.
- The Trust, established as a charity, will be responsible for managing the mitigation areas on the estuary once the Mersey Gateway construction work has been completed.

MERSEY GATEWAY
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The Trust

- The Trust will be funded for a 30-year period and the activities to be carried out will include:
- monitoring of bird species, habitat, freshwater courses and water quality.
- a scheme and programme for the mitigation of the effects of the Project.
- implement a scheme for the improvement of bird breeding habitat and aquatic ecology.

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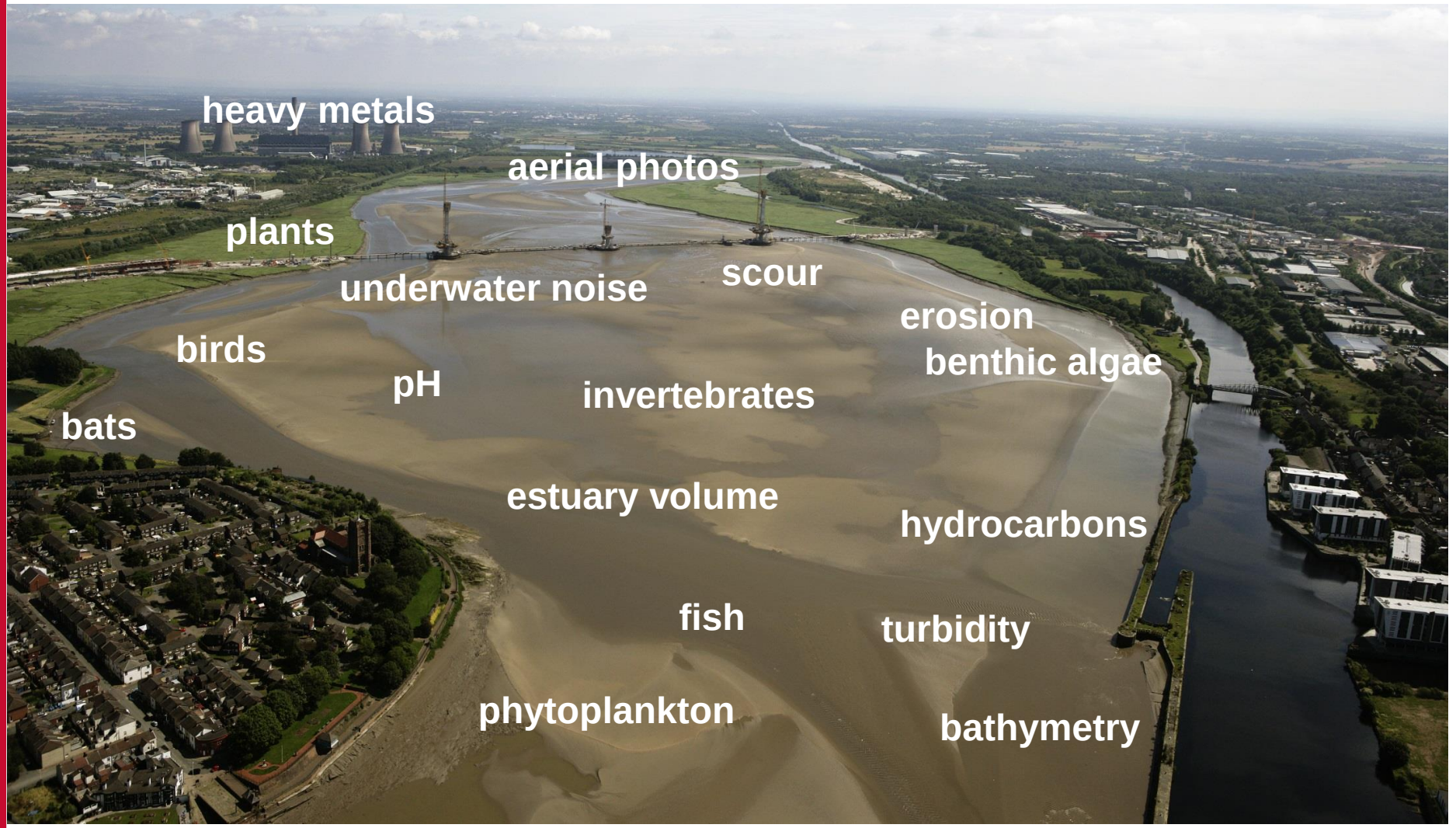
1,654 ha of land and water – compared to 75 ha

Living Laboratory – Monitoring



Living Laboratory – Ecosystem services

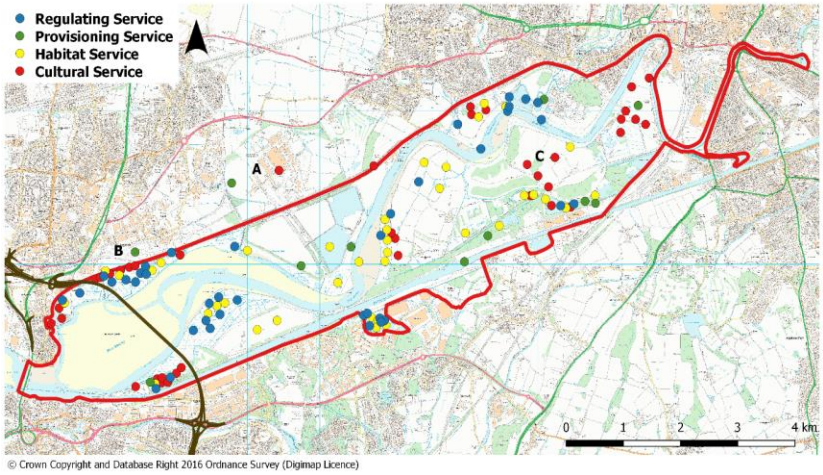
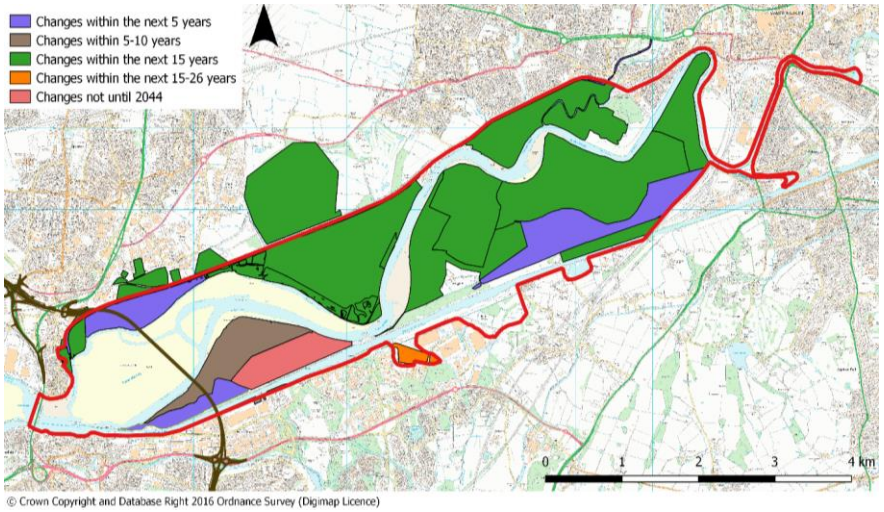


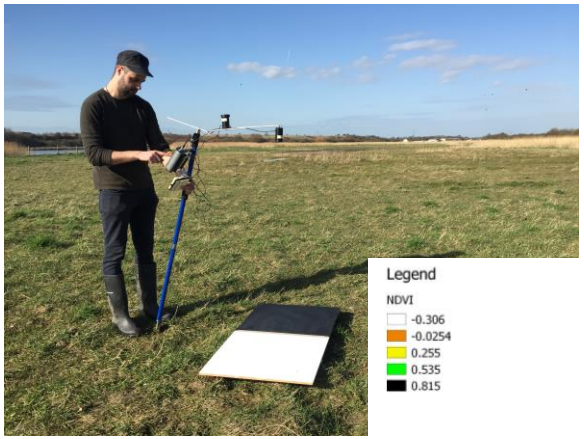
Figure 1 Map of Upper Mersey Estuary, with identified locations of ecosystem services as a product of the Delphi workshop. Points A = Fiddlers Ferry, point B = Tan House Lane, Point C = Arpley landfill.

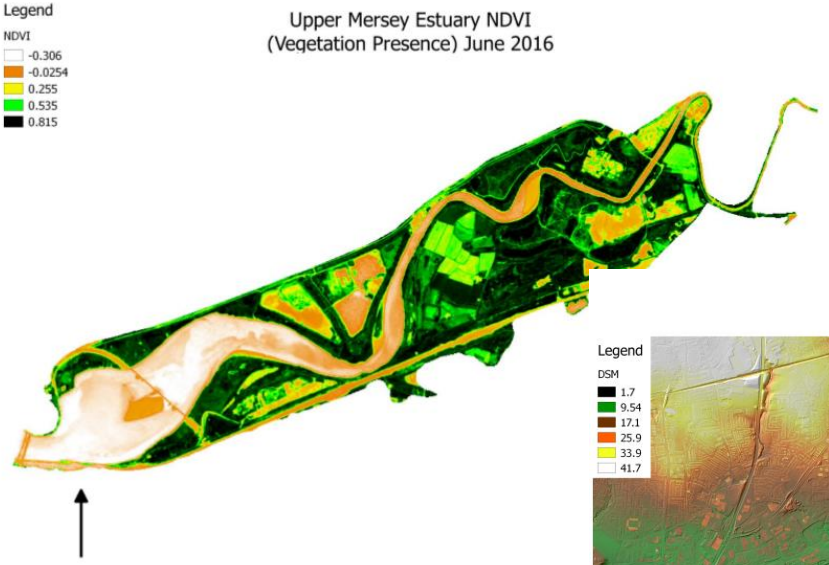


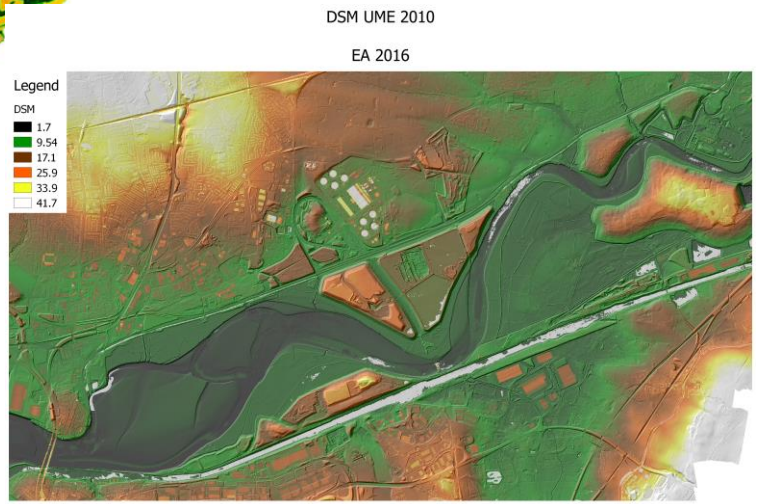
Changes of the estuary anticipated by the participants of the Delphi workshop per site compartment. Intervals of change were given as i) changes within the next 5 years; ii) changes within the next 15 years; ii) changes within the next 26 years; iv) no changes until 2044.

Perz, A. (Ongoing) PhD studies

Living Laboratory – Habitat improvement







Alexander, D. (Ongoing) PhD studies

Take Home Messages

- Significant environmental gains through innovative thinking supported by an on-going research focus.