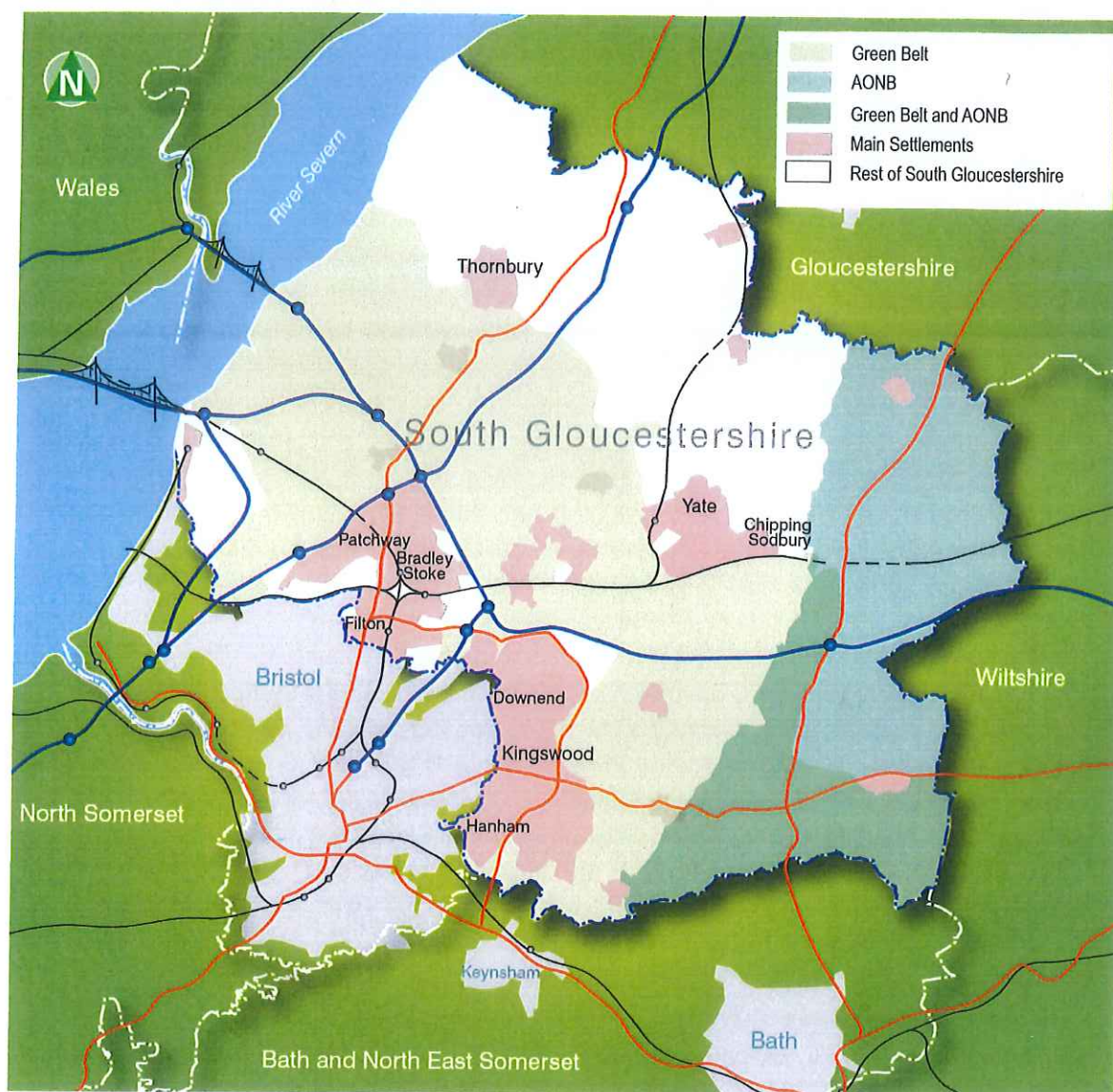


Map 1: Setting the scene



© South Gloucestershire Council. All rights reserved LA 100023410, 2014

- 2.6 The population structure is very similar to the national average, with 20% aged under 16 years, 65% aged 16 – 64 years and 15% in the 65 years and over age group. The proportion who are in employment is, however, higher than the national average (86% compared to 78%), reflecting the strong economy of the area. The service sector provides the majority of jobs in the area (78%), while the number of jobs in the manufacturing sector is higher than the national average because the aerospace industry is a major employer.
- 2.7 Congestion hot spots are a significant problem. Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) have been declared due to the levels of traffic related air pollution. It is estimated that at least £350m is lost to the economy of the West of England area each year due to journeys delayed as a result of congestion. Since 1991 traffic on the roads of South Gloucestershire has increased by 30% (compared to the national average of 21%), but