



Ideas and Options Paper

Hengrove and Stockwood

Area Green Space Plan

A spatial and investment plan for the next 20 years





Ideas and Options Paper Hengrove and Stockwood Area Green Space Plan

If you would like this information in a different format, for example, Braille, audio CD, large print, electronic disc, BSL DVD or community languages, please contact us on 0117 922 3719



Vision for Green Space in Bristol

A City with good quality, attractive, enjoyable and accessible green spaces which meet the diverse needs of all Bristol citizens and visitors.

Source: Parks and Green Space Strategy 2008



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Section 1.

Introduction

This draft Ideas and Options Paper is for the Neighbourhood Partnership Area of Hengrove and Stockwood. It sets out ideas for investing in green spaces over the next 20 years to ensure everyone has easy access to a range of good quality green spaces with new and improved facilities, such as children's playgrounds, sports pitches, young people's facilities and wildlife areas. It will also identify if any green space is no longer needed and can be disposed of to fund improvements to other spaces.

In drawing up these options local groups and experts have given their views. We would now like feedback from all Bristol residents - your views are important and will inform a final Area Green Space Plan for your area.



Consultation on the Ideas and Options Paper for Hengrove and Stockwood - how to make your comments.

We would like your views on all the ideas and options presented. You can make comments and give us your own ideas. We will not be able to afford all the ideas presented in the plans so we would also like to know which spaces and types of facility you would like to see us invest in first. Your views will inform a final Area Green Space Plan which will set down improvements and priorities over the next 20 years.

To make the most of your opportunity to comment we suggest you look at the Ideas and Options paper before you start to complete the questionnaire. You can choose to comment on all the spaces or select those you are most interested in.

The public consultation is open for 20 weeks and will end on 29th October 2010

All ideas and options are open for comment.

How to make your comments

There are a number of ways you can submit comments to us; via a questionnaire online, by obtaining a paper copy of the questionnaire or by visiting one of our drop in sessions.

Online at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp

You can view the Ideas and Options paper and complete a questionnaire online. If you do not have Internet access you can visit any of our libraries or customer service points which offer free Internet access.

Paper and cd versions

Alternatively paper and cd versions of the Ideas and Options Paper and questionnaire are available from:

Bristol City Council, Parks, Colston 33,
Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA

Or by telephoning: 0117 922 3719

Or by e-mailing: Park.Strategy@bristol.gov.uk

Drop in sessions

A drop-in session is being organised for each Neighbourhood Partnership Area - this gives the opportunity to see the document and talk through the ideas with council officers. For details about when these drop-in sessions will be held go to www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp, call 0117 922 3719 or email: Park.Strategy@bristol.gov.uk

Available to view

Paper versions of the Ideas and Options papers are available to view at all Bristol libraries, customer service points and The Council House, College Green, Central Bristol, BS1 5TR.

What happens next

The views put forward during this consultation will help to inform a final Area Green Space Plan for your area. All views put forward by the public will be analysed and carefully considered, following the close of the consultation on 29th October. Final Area Green Space Plans will be drafted and further comment will be sought from key stakeholders and Neighbourhood Partnerships. The current aim is to adopt the final Area Green Space Plans early in 2011.

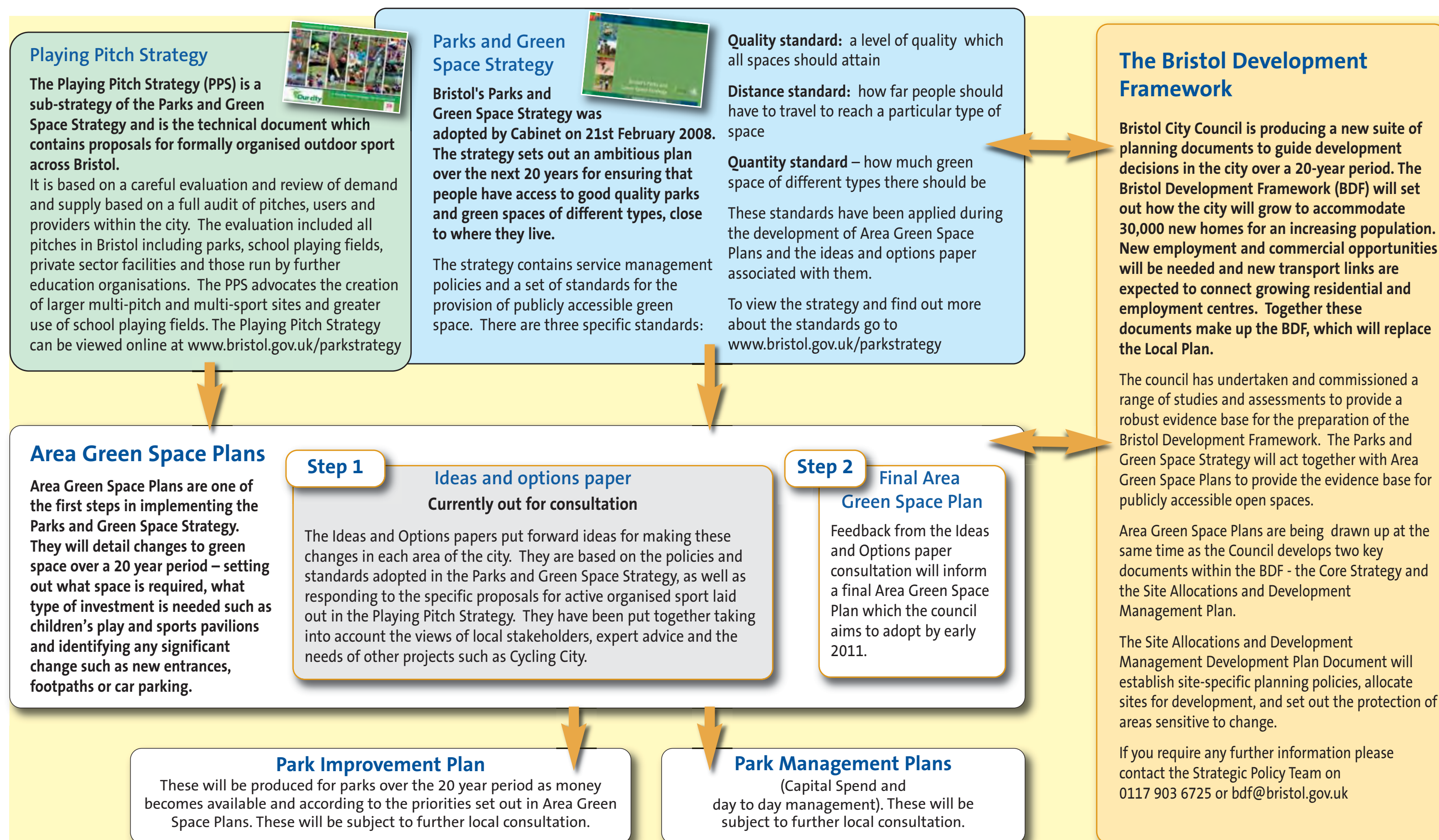
In addition to Hengrove and Stockwood, Ideas and Options Papers are also available for comment on the following areas:

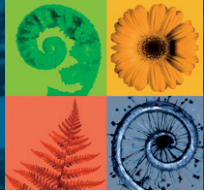
- ▶ Knowle, Filwood and Windmill Hill;
- ▶ Brislington East and West;
- ▶ Hartcliffe, Withywood and Bishopsworth;
- ▶ Bedminster and Southville;
- ▶ Cabot Clifton and Clifton East;
- ▶ Henleaze, Westbury on Trym and Stoke Bishop;
- ▶ Avonmouth and Kingsweston;
- ▶ Henbury and Southmead;
- ▶ Redland, Cotham and Bishopston;
- ▶ Horfield and Lockleaze;
- ▶ Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill;
- ▶ Eastville, Frome Vale and Hillfields; and
- ▶ St George East and West.

Other consultations you may be interested in

The Site Allocations and Development Management Options Document is also out to consultation up until Friday, 29 October 2010. This document suggests specific sites in the city which may be developed to provide new homes, jobs or shops in your area. It also proposes land to be protected for open space, industry, nature conservation and shopping. In terms of green space, while the Area Green Space Plans cover publicly accessible green space only, the Site Allocations will include consideration of a wider range of green space in the city including allotments and grazing land. Visit www.bristol.gov.uk/siteallocations or email bdf@bristol.gov.uk or call 0117 903 6725.

Section 2. How does the Ideas and Options Paper fit into the plans for green space and wider citywide planning?





Ideas and Options Paper Hengrove and Stockwood Area Green Space Plan

What green space will the Area Green Space Plan cover?

An Area Green Space Plan will consider only green spaces for which there is legitimate public access and which provide recreational benefit (publicly accessible green space). In line with the Parks and Green Space Strategy the Area Green Space Plan will consider five different types of space described below. This Ideas and Options paper has been drawn up using these categories and definitions.

Type of space and key attributes Map key (Legend)

Children and young people's space



These are spaces specifically designed to increase opportunities for children and young people to play or meet safely within equipped and unequipped environments. Sub-types include, wheels parks, games areas, children's play space.

Formal green space



Sites with a consciously organised layout whose aim is aesthetic enjoyment. This can include sweeping landscapes such as the Repton landscapes of the historic estates, to ornamental gardens which include flower beds and features such as statues.

Informal green space



Informal in layout and character, where the emphasis is on informal recreation. They generally have few or no additional facilities.

Natural green space



Sites providing people with access to, and experience of nature. It includes woodland, grassland, scrub, hedgerows and wetland.

Active sports space



Those areas which are used for a variety of organised and competitive sports.

What isn't included in an Area Green Space Plan?

The Area Green Space Plan will not consider green spaces that are not freely accessible to the public, including allotments, city farms, school grounds, or Sites of Nature Conservation in private ownership. In addition it excludes small pieces of land that don't serve any recreational purpose such as road verges and small areas within housing.

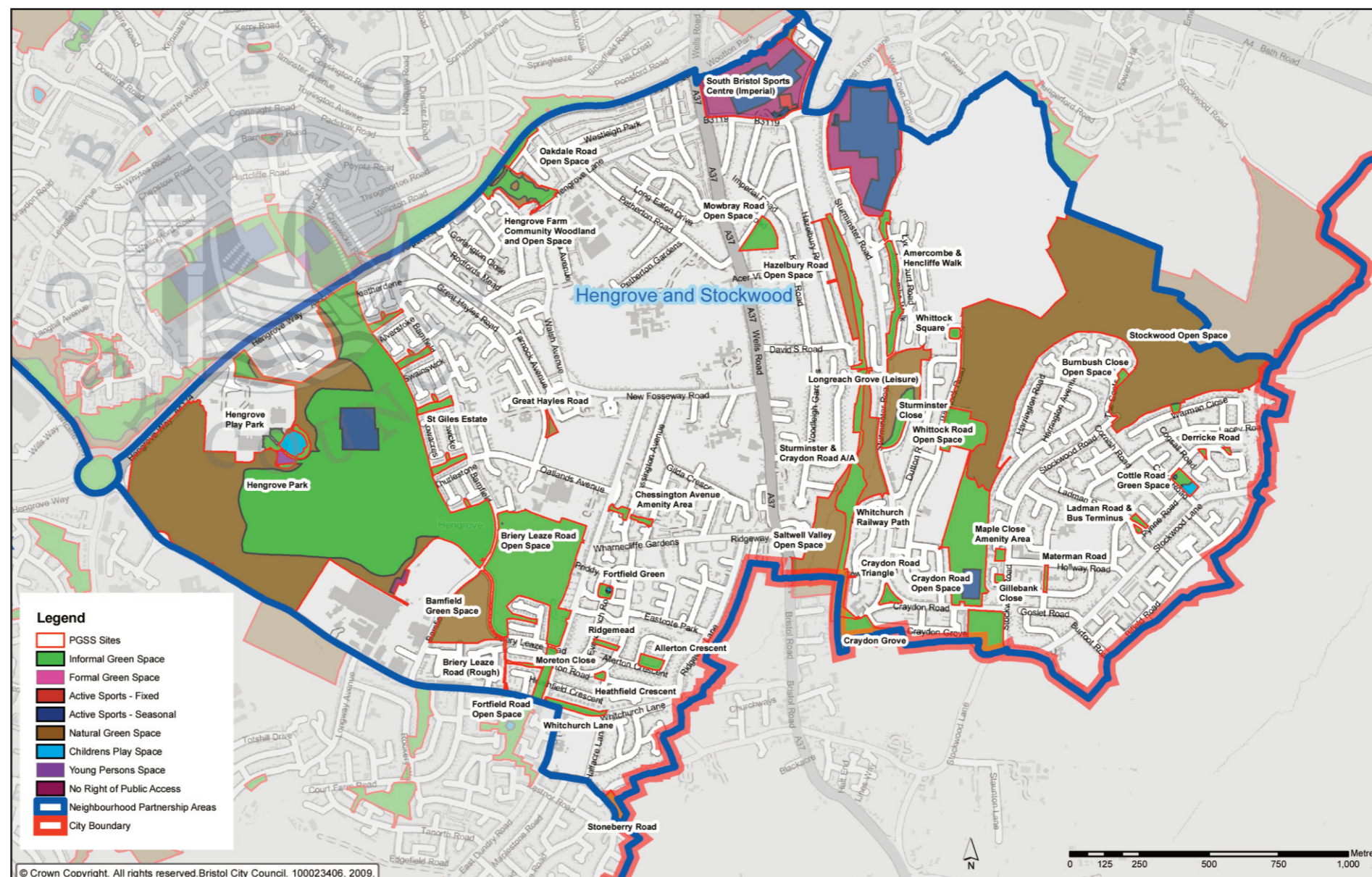
However the contribution of all these spaces to the urban green infrastructure of the city for wildlife, leisure and gardening is recognised and taken into account when drawing up these plans.

Green Space in Hengrove and Stockwood

The Area Green Space Plan is defined by the boundaries of the Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership Area - itself defined by the two electoral wards.

The Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership Area has a wide range of different green space including public open space, grazing meadows, allotments, private agricultural land, private sports facilities, private woodland, churchyards, burial grounds and schools' grounds. The Area Green Space Plan considers only the public open space element of this. The map shows the spaces in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area as outlined in the Parks and Green Space Strategy 2008.

The publicly accessible spaces considered by the Parks and Green Space Strategy as outlined in 2008.



Spaces that have been included or excluded in this Area Green Space Plan

During detailed consultation with stakeholders and further analysis of the spaces, some changes have been made as to which spaces or parts of spaces are considered publicly accessible and which are not.

No additional spaces have been adopted as publicly accessible in this area.

The following spaces identified originally as publicly accessible are no longer considered to be and will not be considered as part of an Area Green Space Plan for this area:

Space	Why?
Imperial Sports Ground & Manor Farm Sports Ground (Both part of South Bristol Sports)	The spaces are both community sports facilities which are available to hire for formal sport, but otherwise are not legitimately publicly accessible.

How does the Area Green Space Plan link to other neighbouring Neighbourhood Partnership Areas

Although Neighbourhood Partnership Areas are used for open space planning, it is recognised they provide an artificial boundary in terms of where people visit. In drawing up this Ideas and Options Paper, the proximity and use of spaces in neighbouring areas has been taken into account.

It is also recognised that people from across the city use the destination parks of Ashton, Blaise and Kingsweston, Hengrove Play Park and Oldbury Court Estate & Snuff Mills, city centre spaces and sports facilities for organised sport, and that often people travel to visit other spaces outside their Neighbourhood Partnership Area. During local stakeholder consultation it was evident that people in Hengrove and Stockwood visit parks such as Callington Road Local Nature Reserve, St Augustine's Park and Court Farm Road, as well as parks outside the city in Keynsham and Bath.

Hengrove and Stockwood are also connected to the wider area through long distance footpath networks and cycle routes - whether they are specifically marked out or just in common use. Connections to other areas include Whitchurch Railway Path and links from and to Hengrove Park.

These links also allow visitors from outside the Neighbourhood Partnership Area to visit spaces here. Stockwood Local Nature Reserve and Hengrove Play Park are particularly well used by people across the city.

In developing the Ideas and Options Paper green links have had a strong influence and care has been taken to ensure that different Area Green Space Plans 'talk to each other'. Specific cross boundary influences have been considered for:

- the role of Stockwood and Hengrove Local Nature Reserves
- the strategic management of natural green spaces for the benefit of wildlife
- the provision of a traditional park and the facilities it may offer
- long distance cycle and pedestrian routes, such as the South Bristol Circular Walk (for more information please visit the website at www.bristolramblers.org.uk)
- the influence of Callington Road Local Nature Reserve

In practical terms, the Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership Area is most easily connected with that of Knowle, Filwood and Windmill Hill, Brislington East and West and Bishopsworth, Hartcliffe and Whitchurch Park. It is in these areas where different types of space and facilities will serve Hengrove and Stockwood.

Who has been involved so far?

To inform the Ideas and Options Paper, a series of participation events took place with local community representatives and groups as well as relevant experts and professionals. These events included information sessions, meetings, workshops and site visits to gain information and thoughts about sites, to gauge their value to local people and get feedback on investment opportunities as well as possible disposal sites.

Those that we asked for comments in Hengrove and Stockwood included:

- representatives of Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership
- the Police and Safer Bristol
- local youth workers and young people accessed through these workers
- Hengrove Scouts
- local primary schools
- Residents attending meetings specifically to discuss Mowbray Road, Hengrove Farm Community Woodland, Saltwell Valley, Hengrove Park, Briery Leaze, the Mounds, Cottle Road and Craydon Road spaces
- Bristol City Council officers including park managers, landscape designers, archaeologists, ecologists, highways engineers, the cycling team, planners and sports development workers

All ideas were considered and we are very grateful for the input from all those that attended sessions to discuss their green spaces.

We are now asking all residents and interest groups to give their views .

It is important to note that the options set out are the council's interpretation, and they take into account not only stakeholder views but the policies outlined in the Parks and Green Space Strategy, the emerging Bristol Development Framework requirements and other council initiatives. The options have not necessarily been endorsed by any of the above stakeholders, who also have the opportunity to give their views through this consultation

The role of park groups

There are a number of well established parks groups in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area who play a very active role in securing improvements to the parks in question. Some have already been involved in the drafting of, and consultation on, improvement plans for their parks.

Representatives of all the groups have participated in the discussion sessions held and took the opportunity to share their experiences with one another.

Funding the proposals

The Parks and Green Space Strategy projected that achieving a 'good' standard of provision across the whole Bristol parks and green space network will cost £87million in capital funding (at 2006 prices) over 20 years. This is the cost of putting in new facilities (e.g playgrounds, sports pavilions) and infrastructure (e.g footpaths, railings) in to parks. The Strategy laid out how this funding would be raised based on knowledge in 2006. It identified the following funding sources: contributions from developers, external funding such as lottery grants, money from the disposal of green space and the council core parks and estates budget. Taking into account the more detailed work that has been done in drawing up this paper, the current economic position and changes to developer's contributions through the Community Infrastructure Levy these figures will need to be revised following this consultation.

It is important to emphasise that investment will take place as and when funding becomes available based on priorities which will be identified following the response to this consultation. If not enough funding is available then options which are least important may not be taken forward. The consultation questionnaire accompanying the Ideas and Options Paper is designed to not only allow respondents to state whether they support ideas or not, but also to help them prioritise.

Sale of some green space to raise money to re-invest

Area Green Space Plans will propose which green spaces the council might dispose of to raise money to reinvest back into park improvements. The council's usual policy is that all receipts from disposals should go into a 'single capital pot' for distribution to overall priorities, but in this case 70% will be ring fenced for reinvestment in to parks. Section 4 gives options as to which sites in Hengrove and Stockwood could be disposed of.

In some cases the value of a space could be improved by the partial development of it - allowing housing to be built facing onto the space and providing natural surveillance. In this case, what is often a poorly and misused backland site, can become of greater value to the local community with the opportunity to make improvements which attract more people to use it. Five partial open space disposals are put forward for Hengrove and Stockwood, details of which you will find in Section 4, but you will also find in Section 3 the investment options for the remainder of the space. This applies to Briery Leaze, Craydon Road, Sturminster Close, Hazelbury Road and Ladman Road Bus terminus.



Section 3.

Investment ideas and options

This section presents a range of spatial and investment ideas and options for all accessible green spaces within the Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership Area, setting out what facilities are needed and where. The aim is to meet the policies and open space standards set out in the Parks and Green Space Strategy and respond to ideas gathered from members of the local community and professional stakeholders from consultation carried out in 2008/9.

Area Green Space Plan Officers considered all ideas against any constraints and an analysis of individual open spaces and for each open space or park, the ideas and options highlighted are a result of this.

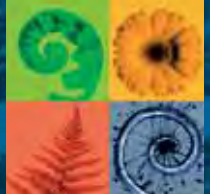
Your comments, ideas and priorities will be used to inform a final Area Green Space Plan for Hengrove and Stockwood.

Parks or open spaces for which proposals would result in significant change are presented in this section as 'concept plans'.

No decisions have yet been made and all ideas and options are open to comment and influence throughout the consultation.

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Briery Leaze

"It is a lovely open space which can be used by the community, all ages can use this area as they do for a variety of social activities."

Local resident

Briery Leaze Open Space is located to the south of Whitchurch District Centre and to the east of Hengrove Park. St Augustine's Park is further to the south linked via a green footpath corridor.

The site has an informal character with groups of trees, remnants of hedgerow and high grass mounding. There are excellent views from parts of the space to the city centre and to Dundry Slopes. However, the existing hedgerows have suffered from poor maintenance.

There is only one formal path within the site which runs in a north-south direction, which is well used by local residents when visiting the supermarket.

The site is not heavily used, but does not host features such as a children's play area or other green space facilities.



Briery Leaze

What we want to achieve

The aim is for Briery Leaze to be recognised as the neighbourhood park serving the Whitchurch area, with a much more diverse range of uses. Part of the site is proposed for development.

The new facilities, along with Hengrove Play Park and plans for youth provision at St. Augustines Park, will contribute to the overall provision for all sectors of the community. A young children's play area here will provide for the wider area.

The suggestions given here attempt to balance the aspirations of local residents and the requirements of the Parks and Green Space Strategy.

It should be noted that if the Town and Village Green application that has been submitted by local residents for this space is successful, not all ideas set out here will be practical and the concept plan will be reconsidered.

Ideas and options

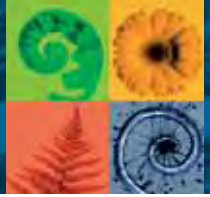
- Provide improved and enhanced entrances, footpaths within the park with better connections to the local centre and Hengrove Park
- Dispose of part of the park closest to the ASDA site while retaining the majority of the site as a significant formal, mixed-use space
- Increase the diversity and range of uses within the park by incorporating seating areas, toddlers play area and enhanced park planting
- Protect and manage the site's wildlife value



KEY

- New tree planting
- Existing trees
- Close mown grass
- Existing vegetation thinned and cut back to improve visibility
- Potential development
- Footpaths - existing
- Footpaths - enhanced
- Footpaths - proposed
- New entrance
- Enhanced entrance
- Proposed Roads
- Views / Vistas
- Play area
- Seating area

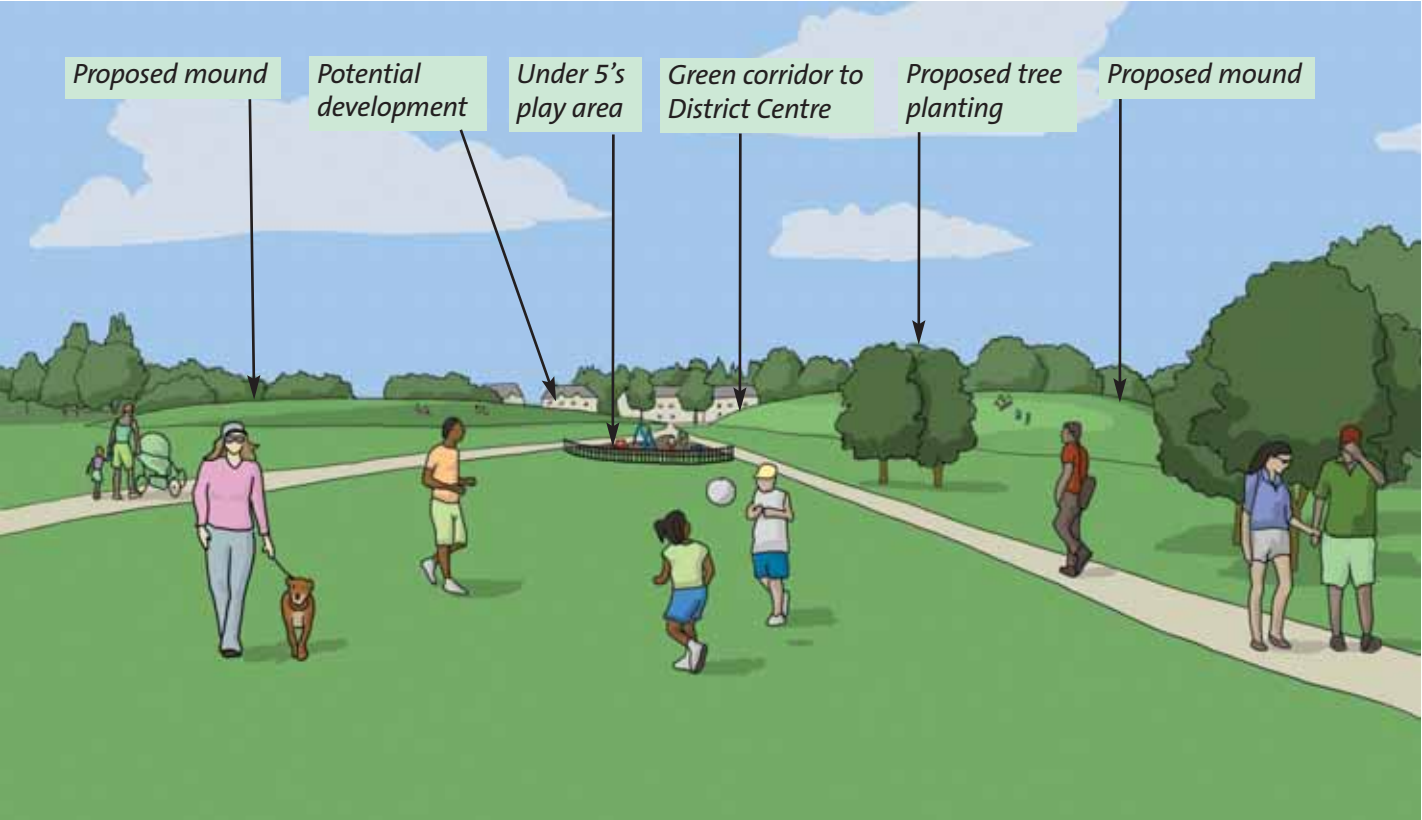
These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp



Briery Leaze



Existing view looking north towards Whitchurch District Centre



Impression of the view looking north towards Whitchurch District Centre



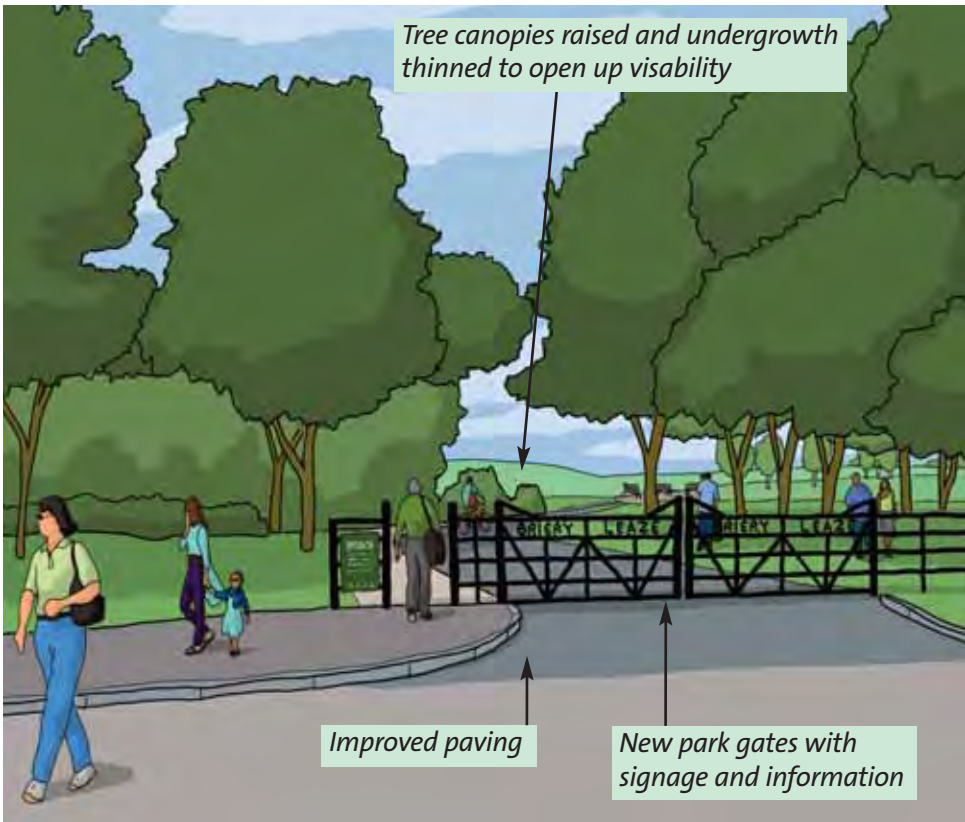
Existing entrance from Fortfield Road



Under 5's play area



Formal seating area



Impression of entrance from Fortfield Road



Example of houses facing an open space

Cottle Road

“Groups of young people congregate around the shops opposite the park, how can we stop them vandalising the children's equipment and give them something they'd want?” Local resident

Cottle Road Park is a small neighbourhood space in the heart of the residential area of upper Stockwood. Half of the site accommodates a play facility for the under 8s with the remainder of the space being dedicated as an informal kickabout space, with goal posts.

Cottle Road Park was one of 30 playgrounds across the city to benefit from £2.5 million awarded to Bristol to improve play facilities under the Play Pathfinder initiative. The new play area at Cottle Road includes a large wooden climbing structure with nets, cradle swings, a dish roundabout, a rocker and a large sand area that has a sand digger and balance beams. The playground includes areas of grass, sand and bark along with a winding path and gentle mounding around the edges with a higher mound in the centre. New seating and bins have also been provided as well as cycle hoops.

The improvements have been well received and have transformed a rather neglected neighbourhood park into somewhere pleasant for local children to play. More work is required however to finish the park improvements and mitigate anti-social behaviour in the park at nightfall. It is hoped that improvements suggested for teen-focused space at Whittock Road will complement investment at Cottle Road.

Local people are being encouraged to set up a “Play Watch” scheme for this site. In the summer of 2009 a series of organised play activities were arranged by CSV Environment.

What we want to achieve:

To provide a centre for children's play and activities in a safe, welcoming environment.

Ideas and options

- 1 Maintain the play area with the possibility of providing new and exciting equipment.
 - New railings around the site to improve current boundary.
- 2 Removal of goal posts, to discourage after hours football.
 - Line of standard trees planted around Cottle Road and Derrike Road to enclose the space.
 - Seating area with formal planting elements.
 - Make the whole space a dog-free park to enable children to play safely across the space.



These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp





Ideas and Options Paper Hengrove and Stockwood Area Green Space Plan

Craydon/ Whittock Road

"The improvements we'd like to see are youth facilities - a meeting space, youth shelter, get them involved in building it."

"Why are the slopes allowed to scrub up? - may be good for wildlife, but needs managing."

Local resident comments

This is a large area of informal open space, connecting upper and lower Stockwood.

Craydon Road has an outstanding long distance view across Bristol and beyond and this is a very popular location for watching the Balloon Fiesta at Ashton Court.

The space is popular with a diverse range of visitors and provides a pedestrian route through to the local shopping area. It is very popular with dog walkers, some horse riders and the site forms part of the Ramblers Association 23 mile city walk.

The site tends to be linear in character, with limited surveillance from adjoining properties and occasional incidences of anti-social behaviour.

The site lacks formal paths and way-marking and tends to be viewed as a series of separate spaces that are away from Stockwood Open Space Local Nature Reserve.

The mix of trees and scrub on Burnbush Slopes provide good nesting habitat for birds and other wildlife. However, they lack a management regime.



KEY

- Existing footpath
- Desire line/informal pathway
- Existing views
- Boundaries and Edges
- A Limited surveillance due to residential properties /development backing onto park
- B Limited surveillance due to density of vegetation
- Access / Entrances

Craydon/ Whittock Road

What we want to achieve

To create an exciting neighbourhood park linking upper and lower Stockwood and incorporating facilities for young people, informal sport and play with some formal and community provision. Maximise opportunities for enjoyment throughout the site for all the community and ensure the park acts as an attractive gateway to Stockwood Open Space Local Nature Reserve.

Local people have told us that youth provision is required in Stockwood. Whittock Road has been identified as the key site to house these facilities. The main aspiration for local people is to bring the spaces to life and increase usage.

Ideas and options

- To create a multi-functional neighbourhood park, with facilities across the site.
- To dispose of part of Craydon Road Open Space to provide housing that will overlook the park and improve perceptions of safety and security.
- Provide teen-focused facility on Whittock Road site
- Provide young children's play space on Craydon Road (North) site to complement the provision at Cottle Road.
- Mark out routes taking into account the existing informal paths and short cuts and use art/sculptures to act as focal points
- Advertise the space from the shops and roads, so people know about it.
- Provide entrance features
- Improve and promote the existing green links with cycle and ramblers networks across the city
- Improve some footpaths to allow accessibility for wheelchair users, cyclists and horse riders

These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp

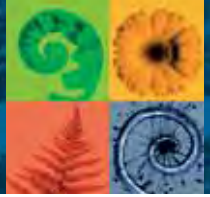


KEY

- Existing trees
- Close mown grass
- Tree & shrub clearance to create glades and views
- Potential development
- Footpaths - existing
- Desire lines
- Existing entrances
- Enhanced entrances
- Proposed Roads
- Views / Vistas
- BMX area
- Play area
- Seating area
- Multi-purpose building
- Public art
- N



Example of housing development fronting open space.



Ideas and Options Paper Hengrove and Stockwood Area Green Space Plan

Craydon/ Whittock Road

Examples of types of facilities proposed for this site



Example of seating areas cut into Burnbush Slopes



Example of improved entrance and pathways



Teen focused play equipment and improved BMX track



Improved entrance ways



Multi-use pathways



BMX track



Teen Play equipment

Sturminster Close

“Biggest problems with anti social behaviour in Stockwood are around Sturminster Crescent/ Dutton Road - Instances up 50% in a year and now at a comparable level to Filwood levels.”

BCC Community safety team

“The amount of problems we have on this road have made me want to leave. It doesn't feel safe walking my dog in the woodland any more”

Local resident

Sturminster Close is a mix of informal green space and natural green space, and is part of the wider Sturminster Road Site of Nature Conservation Interest.

In front of Sturminster Close is a close mown amenity grassland area, leading down a steep, densely vegetated slope to the Brislington Brook and Sturminster Road. Beyond the housing to the north of the grassland lies a wooded area, with mature deciduous trees. This area has recently been the focus for anti-social behaviour by groups of young people. There have been various reports of fires and a number of the trees have been removed or vandalised.

It is proposed to develop the grassland area for housing, which could be designed to improve surveillance within the quiet cul-de-sac. In addition it is recommended that the woodland will be opened up to create visible pathways through the space. Suggestions have been made to use the woodland as a natural play facility, to encourage

positive play such as den building. However, it is suggested this is implemented after the facilities at Whittock Road have been installed and their success assessed.

What we want to achieve

To create a welcoming, open, natural space to encourage local people to use the site as a link between middle and lower Stockwood.

Ideas and options

- ① Develop the grassland area in front of Sturminster Close for housing.
 - Reduce the sense of enclosure and improve the feeling of safety through the woods.
- ② Thin out woodland, remove damaged trees and create new pathways, clearings and glades that will benefit diversity for wildlife and will create views through the space.
 - Create or enhance area for natural play.
- ③ Improvements to steps leading from Dutton Road.
- ④ Open up woodland edge from Sturminster Close



View to proposed development site



View into woodland from Sturminster Close



Open up woodland edge from Sturminster Close



These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp



Hengrove Park

"It needs some undulation so it looks better aesthetically, better landscaping, trees, shrubs and planting."

Local resident

Hengrove Park is a 76 hectare former airfield. Today few remnants of the airport remain and the site is used mainly as an informal open space, recreation ground, destination play park and sports facility.

Hengrove Play Park was built on the site in 2002. This state-of-the-art adventure play park is one of the most exciting play parks built in England in recent years, and is the biggest free play park in the south of England. It includes facilities for all ages from toddlers to teenagers including a 12 metre high dome housing a jungle play experience, water play for younger children, a large wheels park for skateboarders, inline skaters and BMX riders, café and toilets. A new natural play facility was opened here in 2009.

Priority is given within the emerging Bristol Development Framework Core Strategy to the regeneration of south Bristol, which will include additional mixed use development and supporting infrastructure. Hengrove Park is the largest regeneration site within the city of Bristol and will ultimately feature a range of new homes, employment sites, significantly enhanced public transport and a high quality large park. The initial phase of development is well underway and is delivering:

- South Bristol Community hospital
- South Bristol Skills Academy
- Leisure centre
- New office facilities and associated infrastructure.



Whilst the provision of a 'high quality large park' is a major proposal we have not produced a concept plan for the park as it is so intricately linked to the wider development of the Hengrove site. Prior to the Area Green Space Plan process, consultation work was carried out relating to the wider development of Hengrove Park, the results of which were reinforced by discussions with stakeholders as part of the Area Green Space Plan process and are reflected here for comment:

- At the west end of Hengrove Park there is an unusual bowl-shaped area rich in wildlife called the Mounds. This site contains species-rich grassland on the banks, with marshy areas in the base, and trees and hedgerows linking the bowl to the road. Here you can find lots of the wildflowers and invertebrates. Skylarks, bullfinches and cuckoos have all been sighted here. The intention is for this site to be considered for designation as a Local Nature Reserve. It will have a formal link to the main park area.

- The stakeholder priority for the proposed park and open spaces were to ensure high quality management of any new facility.
- An aspiration that the park will be developed to include space for major events to be held, such as a grass arena. This would create a 'new' major events venue and destination park for south Bristol.
- Links created to wider Bristol cycle routes
- It is suggested that the rapid transit route could run through the park to facilitate journeys to the park as a major events venue.
- Interesting and high quality landscaping, trees, shrubs and planting throughout the park, with improvements made to topography.
- Managed routes between play park and "new park".
- Water features - including lake and water play.
- Opening up the Mounds area with improved access and information boards, incorporating viewing platforms for for bird watching for people with disabilities unable to access the whole site.
- Shared events and rugby facilities.
- Improved routes to and across the site, incorporating new entrances.
- Space on site for community facilities, including meeting spaces, sports provision and scout hut.
- Seating and formal spaces throughout the park.
- Links made between new developments and existing facilities and clear links made to the Briery Leaze site.



Saltwell Valley

"We'd like to see proper pathways, new entrances, seats and bins and a new bridge crossing over the brook to make the area more family friendly."

Local resident

"Overgrown, litter, hard to cross in parts, paths poorly maintained, brambles everywhere, nettles & thistles, stream full of rubbish, rat problem. All in all neglected, allowed to go to rack and ruin."

Local resident

Saltwell Valley is an area of natural green space visible to the east of the Wells Road nearing the city boundary. The site is accessed via the Whitchurch Railway Path, which runs along the top edge. The site is a Site of Nature Conservation Interest and has valuable grassland habitats. It is a steeply wooded valley with an old field system and stream (with viaduct) running through.

The site is home to an abundance of trees, shrubs and other wildlife, although lack of management has eroded some of its wildlife value. Footpaths through the site have become overgrown with impassable and dominant brambles and scrub are taking over.

The Valley is a key site for improving access to nature in line with the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Local residents who attended an on-site meeting to discuss this space were interested in pursuing the idea of forming a 'friends of' group.

What we want to achieve

To significantly improve this space for wildlife, offering a good quality and welcoming natural green space for people to enjoy – improving access and management.

Ideas and options

- Opening all entrances to a minimum of three metres to enable access onto site.
- Clear a network of footpaths across the site.

① Construct a bridge over the stream opposite the Wells Close entrance to the site.

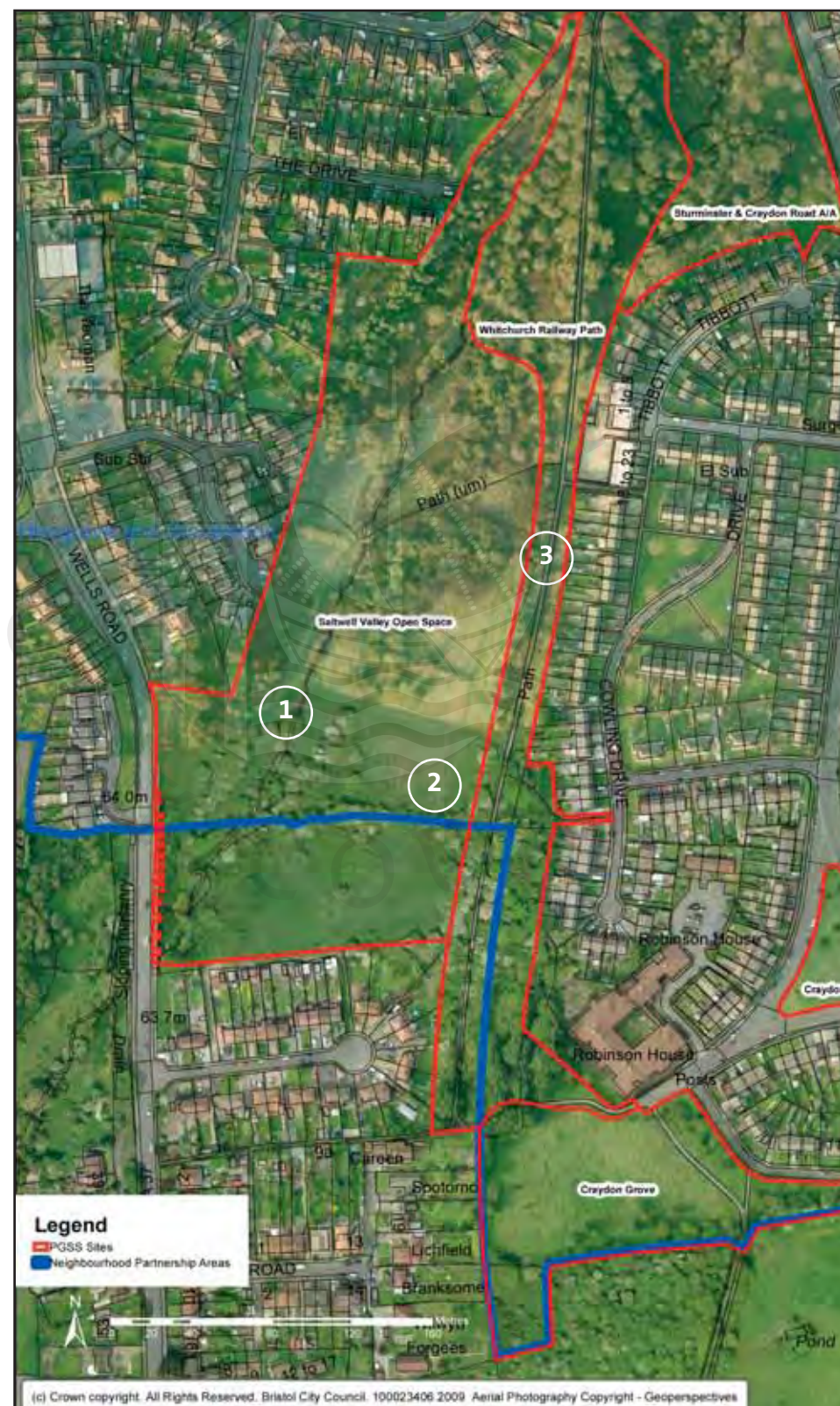
② Dog bins and seating/ picnic area on highest part of site adjacent to Whitchurch Railway Path

- Management regime aimed at reclaiming habitats. Cut back the undergrowth, coppice and reduce number of trees, retaining the best specimens. Introduce mowing regime on best grassland areas - consider fencing some areas and reintroducing grazing as part of management regime.

③ Sensitive construction of 'cycling city' path through the site to Whitchurch.

- Signs explaining plants and wildlife on the site.

These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp



View across site to Wells Road



Top edge of site from Whitchurch Railway Path



Whitchurch Railway Path (incorporating Hazelbury Road and Craydon Grove)

“Dog poo alley! Only use cycle path if my husband can come along. Don't feel safe to walk along with my daughters alone.”

local resident

Whitchurch Railway Path passes through a number of park sites in Stockwood and is being upgraded as part of the Cycling City proposals. Locally, people have told us that the site feels unsafe and isolated and suffers from a lack of management.

The aim of the cycling city improvements are to increase use and awareness of the path for cycling, walking and recreational use and to reduce potential accidents.

The Cycling City team are also investigating proposals to improve a link through to Whitchurch Village through Saltwell Valley from the Whitchurch Path to the Saltwell Viaduct. This route will be continued over the boundary into Bath & North East Somerset.

The Craydon Grove site forms part of the greenbelt and is an informal open space adjacent to Whitchurch Railway Path. The site is part of the Sturminster Road SNCI and there is a Public Right of Way through the space.

The site is surrounded by scrub and some broad-leaved woodland with a good variety of habitats. It is home to the rare Essex Skipper butterfly and is the only site for this species in Bristol. It is poorly managed for nature conservation at present.

What we want to achieve

To increase use and improve access to and from the Whitchurch Railway path, improving the path for walking, cycling and recreational use.

Improve management of Craydon Grove site.

Ideas and options

- 1 Improve main accesses at Craydon Grove and Manston Close.
- 2 A Section of Hazelbury Road Open Space is being considered as a potential development site- see page 30.
 - Improve the surface of the Whitchurch Railway path with repair work.
 - Improve signs onto path from all available entrances.
 - Provide information boards highlighting biodiversity and local history at Craydon Grove recreational play area and Saltwell Viaduct area.
- 3 Improvements including better access to an informal “BMX” track off the path on the wooded part of Hazelbury Road. This has been created by a group called Bristol Free Riders.
- 4 Picnic area created at top of Saltwell Valley site and Craydon Grove
 - Tree works including improving the quality of planting, removing trees causing damage to the path or affecting visibility, whilst creating better views to local amenities
 - Add solar-powered lights to gently illuminate the path at night for pedestrians and cyclists.

These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp



Hazelbury Road potential development site



Informal BMX site Hazelbury Road

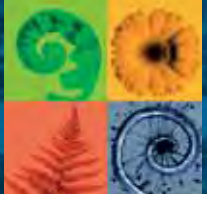


Whitchurch Railway Path



Craydon Grove entrance





Stockwood Open Space Local Nature Reserve

“Where have the views gone? There used to be great views overlooking the open space - but all the trees have grown up.”

“Steps down from Sidelands are very dangerous. When it rains it's very slippery. They need maintaining - land is sliding. Fall off needs to be retained. Could we have a handrail?”

This Local Nature Reserve is an old area of farmland in upper Stockwood, crossing over into the Neighbourhood Partnership Area of Brislington East and West. The space connects to the Whittock Road and Craydon Road spaces and Hicks Gate in the east. It has fantastic views across the city and into the vale of Keynsham.

Stockwood Open Space supports a range of wildlife habitats including wildflower meadows and hedgerows which provide plenty of cover for nesting birds. The woodland by the Coots, Lysander Grove is ancient and carpeted with bluebells, wood anemones and the rare Bath asparagus in spring. The reserve is also home to song thrushes and warblers.

There are two old farm ponds which are home to five of the six species of British amphibians, but there is an issue with people dumping rubbish in these ponds. There is an old orchard on an overgrown area of the site.

A tarmac track runs through the length of the site providing all-weather access for all users. Routes to other areas of the reserve is via informal footpaths which need greater management in order to improve access. A trail for horseriders was advertised in the 1980s and there have been requests locally to reinstate this.

The site is managed in partnership with Avon Wildlife Trust, and a local resident has taken on the role of volunteer warden and deals with day-to-day liaison with the council regarding any issues affecting the site. There is a supportive ‘friends group’ for the site.



Most of the improvements to this space will be around management and maintenance. Not many people know about the reserve, and awareness should be raised about what is there, and how people can enjoy it.

What we want to achieve

To enhance the site for wildlife and people, opening up the views and restoring features such as the orchard and ponds for community use and the site as a whole for education and natural play.

Ideas and options

- information about the site at key access points - from Whittock Road, end of Stockwood Road/ Coots junction.
- Opening up views across to Hicks Gate, by thinning vegetation.

- Providing a multi-use path, suitable for horses, cyclists and runners, including way-markers and distance markers
- Enhance and widen steps leading from Sidelands Close, incorporating handrails.
- Management of orchard site, with an opportunity for a community growing initiative
- Enhanced maintenance of ponds, a community nature initiative, a pond dipping platform
- New natural seating throughout the site (linking in with improved access routes)
- Orientating course/ parkour route through woods - linking through to Whittock Road Open Space.

- Nature trail for use by schools around site.
- Natural play opportunities to be enhanced near site of old adventure play facility - Whittock Road end.

These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agssp

Mowbray Road

“The space has been a peace haven for the people in the area for the past number of years and the children play very well and mix. It is lovely to see the local children playing footie and cricket and building dens”

“It would be a good idea to have a play area but there must be some control over policing to stop youths destroying things. What about a detached youth worker?”

“Would like to keep it as a green - a play area would attract anti-social behaviour”

Local residents comments following site specific meeting.

This is a small triangle of informal green space adjacent to the Wells Road. This site delivers open space for residents to the east of Wells Road in the residential area of Upper Stockwood and for young people walking home from Oasis Academy. Dog walking, jogging and some children's play are the current main uses. The site used to have a children's play facility but this was removed a number of years ago following complaints of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

A consultation has recently taken place relating to investment into this park and the results from this will be reflected in the Area Green Space Plan. A play area is to be constructed this year. The consultation included the following ideas and options, which are set out for information only:

- Provide a fenced children's play space for 0-12 years, located sensitively to minimise impact on houses adjacent to the site. This space will be dog-free.
- Create a formal seating area with planted elements to be provided after the children's play space has had time to “bed-in”
- Create new pathway around the site.
- Benches and seating to be located near to children's play space and on other areas of the site.
- Area of flat space to be retained/enhanced for informal sport/kickabout area.
- Consideration of small fence by Mowbray Road edge.



View across space from Mowbray Road



Mature trees on site



Example of 0-12 years play space

Hengrove Farm Community Woodland

“Underage drinking, broken bottles, fires started mainly on Friday and Saturday night. Need to be policed more. Needs to be cleaned more - Improve landscaping. More waste bins at entry points and one in the centre. We should have locked gates at night. Remove benches as no-one uses them apart from underage drinkers”

“We'd like a children's play area but only if policed or if there was a warden or high fences and gates locked at night.”

Local residents comments following site specific meeting.

This site is a mixture of informal and natural green space which was enhanced in 2002 when the new housing development to the west of the site was built. The remaining green area which was valued by local people for its wildlife was retained and money was raised to spend on creating new entrances, footpaths and wildlife planting in the centre of the site. A stream runs near to the northern section of the site. The site attracts a lot of local young people, although there are no specific facilities for them on site.

Local residents have told us they like the fact that it is an open area. During the day, the space is used by families with young children plus older children on bikes and playing football. It feels safe during the daytime and is used a good deal by dog owners, who help to provide an unofficial watch over the site.

The overriding issue for this site is the fear of increasing anti-social behaviour and wasting money on creating something that will immediately be vandalised.

Any improvements to this site would need to be timely and planned thoroughly with input from local residents, young people, Police and PCSO's. It is advised that improvements to the children's playground will be put in place following installation of new provision at Mowbray Road.

Consideration should be given to providing play facilities at the Walsh Avenue end of the site and a new natural seating area for young people situated at the north edge of the site. Any improvements should be made from natural materials where possible.

What we want to achieve

To improve the site for all users, during daytime and evening, with enhancement of natural green space and incorporation of smaller formal elements as appropriate, with seating and enhanced planting.

Ideas and options

- 1 Play facility 0-12 years - natural design in keeping with the feel of the site. Improved seating in relation to play facilities at Walsh Avenue end of the site.
- 2 Seating facility for young people to north of site.
 - Formal element with seating and enhanced planting.
 - Entrance improvements.
 - Improved management of central woodland area incorporating a trail and meadow planting on remaining grassland.



These are ideas and options. We cannot afford to do all of these suggestions. Please tell us what your priorities would be and give us your ideas by completing the questionnaire at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp



Other sites

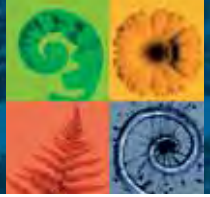
In addition to those featured in detail, Hengrove and Stockwood have a significant number of small green spaces. The following management is proposed for the sites listed below:

Name	Nature of site	What we want to achieve	
Great Hayles Road	Small area of natural green space adjacent to Oatlands Avenue allotment site. There area a number of trees on site.	Given its proximity to Perry Court Primary School, the space could be ehanced for educational use for the study of wildlife.	
Halsom Close Open Space	Small area of informal green space adjacent to Stockwood Open Space Nature Reserve. Site lies within the greenbelt.	Useful gateway to Stockwood Open Space. Could be enhanced with informations boards about site.	
Derrike Road	Small site of informal open space.	Continue to manage as amenity grassland.	
Ladman Road Bus terminus	Island site of informal open space by bus stop. No safe access on to site and is primarily a visual green break on the road.	The site has been put forward for disposal with a small part remaining as the traffic island. There is an opportunity to replant as a decorative bed.	
Materman Road	Narrow strip of informal green space opposite local shops and sandwiched between Elderly Persons Home and Doctor’s surgery on Holloway Road. Well used as a cut-through from houses to rear of Materman Road.	Important as footpath access to local facilities. Could be a good site for local events, linking with the shopping area such as a community market.	

Other sites






Hengrove and Stockwood small green spaces management continued:

Name	Nature of site	What we want to achieve	
Sturminster and Craydon Road Amenity Area	Wooded steep banked area, with stream running through. Part of Sturminster Road Site of Nature Conservation Interest.	Recommended to continue site management to encourage wildlife.	
Longreach Grove	Steep area of amenity space with steps leading up to Whitchurch Railway Path	Improved management of steps to open up entrance to railway path.	
Amercombe and Hencliffe Walk	Pleasant riverside walkway area, with Brislington Brook running through.	Continued management to encourage wildlife.	
Whittock Square	Informal green space, forming a pleasant square surrounded by housing on three sides, looking out onto Stockwood open space.	Continue management as an informal open space.	
Hither Bath Bridge Open Space	Natural Green Space forming part of a wildlife corridor.	Continued management to encourage wildlife.	




Other sites

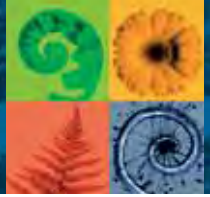
Hengrove and Stockwood small green spaces management continued:

Name	Nature of site	What we want to achieve	
Oakdale Road Open Space	Small verge adjacent to Airport Road, with Brislington Brook running through. Entrance feature to Hengrove Farm Community Woodland.	Continue managing for wildlife and visual value.	
Chessington Avenue Amenity Area	Planted up walkway, linking Kylross Avenue with Fortfield Road.	Continue to manage as present, with opportunities in future to replant with interesting an scheme.	
Fortfield Green	Small play area catering for under 8s. Has been site of some anti social behaviour in past and fencing around the site has improved this for local people.	Long term plan to remove play area when it reaches the end of its natural life. This will be replaced by a play area on Briery Leaze. This space will then be kept area as informal green space between houses	
Allerton Crescent	Informal green space, forming a pleasant square surrounded by housing. Mature trees on site, some have recently been replaced. Forms a good kickabout area for local children.	Improve seating on site for older residents.	
Ridgemead	Narrow informal space with houses fronting onto it.	Continue to manage it as present.	

Other sites




Hengrove and Stockwood small green spaces management continued below:

Name	Nature of site	What we want to achieve	
Heathfield Crescent	Informal green space adjacent to housing. New tree planting recently carried out.	Continue to manage it as present.	
Fortfield Road Open Space	Wide informal verge with avenue of trees. Ditch to rear supports habitat for nesting birds.	Continue to manage it as present.	
Whitchurch Lane	Wide informal verge with trees. Useful in breaking up monotony of housing.	Continue to manage it as present.	
Stoneberry Road	Small area of informal green space adjacent to open countryside.	Continue to manage it as present.	
Moreton Close	Narrow informal space with housesat the front - a pathway through to Briery Leaze (Rough) from Fortfield Road	Continue to manage it as present.	



Other sites

Hengrove and Stockwood small green spaces management continued below:

Name	Nature of site	What we want to achieve	
Briery Leaze Road Rough	Pleasant green route from St. Augustine's Park leading to Briery Leaze.	Continue to manage it as present.	
Bamfield Green Space	Site of Nature Conservation Interest which is suffering from lack of management and maintenance. Instances of garden waste being dumped at edge of site and frequent flytipping. There is lack of knowledge locally about the value of this natural green space, and some information would be helpful	Improved management. Pathways cut into centre of site. Information boards.	
St Giles Estate entrances	Wide informal grassed areas with houses overlooking it. Entrances to Hengrove Park.	Retain area as part of Hengrove Park developments.	



Section 4. Possible open space disposals in the Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership Area

As stated in Section 1 one of the sources of funding investment proposals is from the disposal of small amounts of green space. The council is committed to reinvesting 70% of any money raised back into improving parks and green spaces.

Potential green space disposal sites are also identified in the Site Allocations Development Plan Document and Proposals map - documents that are part of the emerging Bristol Development Framework. The Site Allocations is subject to a public consultation at the same time as Area Green Space Plans - ideas and options papers.

The Site Allocations will in many instances suggest an alternative use for a potential disposal space. For example, for residential housing. If so, its proposed use is also identified here.

If the Site Allocations does not propose an alternative use then the future use of the land would be determined by the purchaser and, if relevant, the application of planning policy in the normal way - the future use of a disposal site is more likely to be for built development.

How have disposal sites been identified?

Green Space Standards adopted by the Parks and Green Space Strategy guide decision-making on disposals.

One of the main factors determining whether a site should be disposed of is its value as land which contributes to the local community or has wider benefits – such as ecological value. It is not based on its financial value.

The table below summarises the key factors that have been considered when assessing a space – a more detailed description of these can be found in the Parks and Green Space Strategy - appendix 5.

Factors for assessing value

The following factors have been included in the assessment:

- Level of use
- Community views of the space
- Community involvement
- Equalities considerations
- Educational significance
- Demographic change
- Level of anti-social behaviour
- Events potential
- Local context and significance
- Accessibility
- Landscape significance
- Nature Conservation significance
- Archaeological/Historical significance
- Legal Status
- Contribution to the local economy
- Sustainability significance

A value assessment took place for all sites identified for possible disposal in Hengrove and Stockwood, checks on its significance in all the key areas were considered. Through the stakeholder involvement, views from the local community were sought, identifying amount of use, key barriers to use and consideration as to whether these barriers could be overcome to make this space a viable space for the local community.

In Hengrove and Stockwood, six whole spaces have been identified as low value and are proposed for disposal.

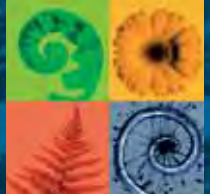
In some cases the value of a space could be improved by its partial development, allowing housing to be built facing onto the space and providing natural surveillance to the remainder. Then, what is often a poorly and misused backland site, can become of greater value to the local community and attract more people to use it.

Control of housing design in relation to partial site disposals.

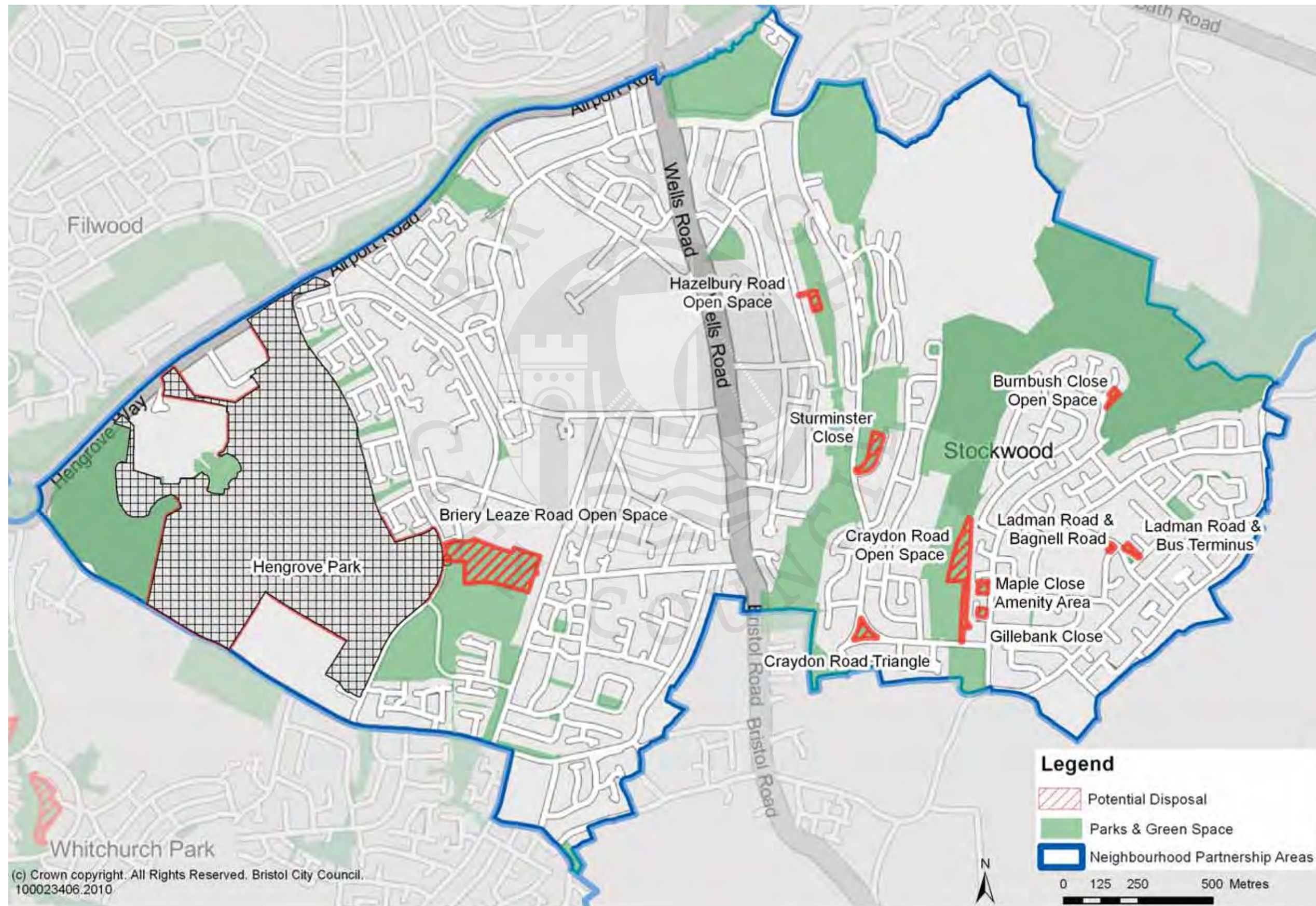
Where it is considered appropriate to partially develop council land in order to improve the remainder of the space, the method of disposal will take whatever form is the most likely to bring about the intended benefits of the development within acceptable timescales. Prior to marketing, the council will issue a developers brief on which relevant stakeholders will be consulted. Normally the Council will proceed by way of a building agreement and would only transfer the freehold interest in the site when an acceptable development had been completed in accordance with the brief.

Your comments

We welcome your comments on the possible disposal sites put forward here.



Map showing proposed Disposal Sites (the Hengrove Park regeneration area is also shown for information only)



Disposal Sites

1. Part of Briery Leaze

The site is important to local people and is currently the subject of a Town and Village Green application. The park is used for informal kickabouts and as a cut through from the residential properties to ASDA and other local amenities.

It is proposed to dispose of the northern part of this site next to the ASDA store, for a potential mixed use development. This will introduce the opportunity for more natural surveillance on to the remainder of the site, which will have improved facilities. Important elements will be retained, and improved facilities provided such as children's play and formal seating areas provided. Please refer to the full investment ideas and options for this site on page 8.



2. Part of Hengrove Park

This is for information only - this has already been the subject of consultation. The disposal of this site is discussed in more detail in the investment section on page 16 as part of the wider development scheme. The site has an ongoing regeneration programme that includes the introduction of new houses, community buildings and open space and Phase One of the development is well underway.

Phase two of the development will continue the work and provide additional housing and high quality open space, with an aspiration to create a destination park and all the facilities this has to offer, though the layout of the next step has yet to be finalised.

Please refer to the investment section on page 16 and comment on the facilities and features you would like to see created here.



3. Part of Sturminster Close

The site has suffered from anti-social behaviour and has been a hotspot for criminal damage. Local residents have indicated that the problem is of real concern.

It is proposed to develop part of the informal green space on Sturminster Close, which could be designed to create more natural surveillance around the remainder of the site and reduce the anti-social behaviour, in line with Policy LM7 of the Parks and Green Space Strategy.

The designation of the site as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest has been taken into account.



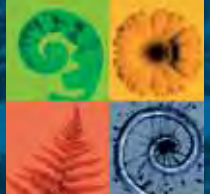
4. Craydon Road Triangle

It is proposed to dispose of the whole site for development.

The space forms part of the street pattern and is bounded on all three sides by roads, one of which is the busy Craydon Road, essentially creating a traffic island. This location means that the site is not suitable for recreation and its use is restricted.

The site is located near to both Craydon Grove and the larger Craydon Road Open Space, where informal sports and play can take place.





Disposal Sites

5. Burnbush Close Open Space

This is a small piece of amenity grassland that sits alongside existing houses and Stockwood Open Space Local Nature Reserve. The site is actually included within the Local Nature Reserve boundary, though is physically separated from the main part of the LNR by trees and bushes and is excluded from the area managed by the Avon Wildlife Trust.



6. Ladman Road and Bagnall Road and Ladman Road and Bus Terminus (2 sites)

Both sites are found at the side of Ladman Road. Being small, their use for recreation is limited and there is little evidence that they are used. The space at the nearby Cottle Road is available for informal play and sport.



7. Part of Hazelbury Road Open Space

A small section of land towards the south of this space is proposed for disposal as part of the council's garage strategy.



8. Part of Craydon Road Open Space

Part of the site is proposed for disposal for housing that could be designed to increase overlooking of the park and increase perceptions of safety and security.

The disposal area has been selected to ensure the remaining space can accommodate a wide range of new improvements. Please refer to page 12 of the investment section for full details of the improvement ideas and options.

Part of the disposal site includes a strip running from Craydon Road to the main disposal area. This is anticipated to provide access to the new housing area.



9. Maple Close

It is proposed to develop this small area of informal green space. The space is primarily used as a short cut to the local shops and does not offer an effective recreational facility, with park users much more likely to visit the larger space at Craydon Road nearby.



10. Gillebank Close

Similar to Maple Close, and very close by, this small space does not offer an effective recreational facility. The space is sometimes used by local children for informal kickabouts, but park users are more likely to visit the larger Craydon Road Open Space very near by.





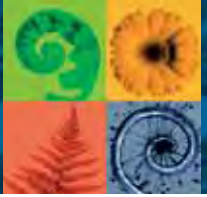
Chapter 7.

Future opportunities

Hengrove and Stockwood is extremely well served for publicly accessible open space. The ideas put forward by members of the local community were comprehensive and where possible the proposals in the Area green Space Plan reflect this. As a result a draft strategic vision for open space that meets the aims and objectives of the Parks and Green Space strategy has been drawn up.

However over the 20 year lifetime of the AGSP a number of further opportunities could be explored:

The surplus land from the former Hengrove Secondary School is the key future opportunity in providing a park to serve central Hengrove. The distance standard is not met within the Hengrove ward for access to any type of green space. Part of the surplus land from the former Hengrove Secondary School is being designated for alternative use and the council will look to provide a new park or parks as part of any development of this site. The space provided should be large enough enough to cater for a range of uses including informal ball games, children's play, and young people's activities. It would be an advantage to provide two children's play areas in different locations within the development footprint to best meet the appropriate distance standard. It would also be a requirement to provide formal green space in order to meet distance standards. The location of a junior football centre in this area is a consideration through the application of the Playing Pitch Strategy.



Appendix 1. How the Area Green Space Plan is meeting the PGSS standards

The Parks and Green Space Strategy adopted new minimum standards for the provision of publicly accessible green space. There are three specific standards:

- 1. Quality Standard – a level of quality which all spaces should attain.
- 2. Distance Standard - how far should people have to travel to reach a particular type of space.
- 3. Quantity Standard - how much green space of different types there should be.

A key aim of this Area Green Space Plan is to propose how these standards will be met in the Neighbourhood Partnership Area of Avonmouth and Kingsweston.

Quality

A Bristol quality standard has been devised in consultation with national advisers and local parks users, which takes into account design, condition and maintenance, and assesses a comprehensive range of features of parks and open spaces. It takes into account a number of aspects which are of particular public concern such as entrances, safety feel, and facilities.

Before the adoption of the Parks and Green Space Strategy, each park and green space across the city was assessed for its quality. As a result the council was able to know which sites met the Quality Standard and which sites needed improving. On a 1 to 4 scale (poor, fair, good and excellent), where 3, or 'good', is the quality standard threshold, the quality assessment process revealed an average quality level across Bristol of 2 (fair).

The final Area Green Space Plan will be informed by a review of the quality of parks and green spaces - to take place this year. This is because the original assessment is now between 4 and 5 years old and does not take into account investment to improve spaces over this time. For this reason an analysis of quality in each Neighbourhood Partnership Area is not shown here.

Distance Standard

The aim of the distance standard is to protect and promote an accessible network of green space. The distance standards are based on research on how far Bristol residents feel it's

reasonable to walk to get to the different types of space, combined with an analysis of Bristol's layout to ensure the standards are credible. A distance standard has been set for each of the five different types of space recognised by the Parks and Green Space Strategy.

The maps on the following pages demonstrate how well the standard for each type of space is currently met across the Neighbourhood Partnership Area and how proposals to invest in new types of space will improve access across the area.

When proposing a new type of space the AGSP ensures that the existing value and character of a site is enhanced and not compromised. If it is clear that the existing type is of high value then no change is proposed and either an alternative site is found or it is accepted that the standards may not be met in that area.

The distances proposed are in the table below:

Distance Standard	Distance 'as the crow flies' (metres)	Estimated Time (minutes walk)
Distance to the nearest green space	400	9
Children's play space	450	10
Formal green Space	600	15
Informal green space	550	13
Natural green space	700	18
Active sports space	Determined by Playing Pitch Strategy	

Barriers to access

When applying distance standards barriers to accessing parks such as railways, rivers, major roads, hills and valleys and large industrial areas have been taken into account . When considering these barriers any legitimate crossing points - bridges or pelican crossings for example - have been located. The effect of barriers and crossing points is incorporated in to the application of each distance standard across the area.

When open spaces are proposed to be disposed of, they are not included in the application of distance standards. In most circumstances, open space is not recommended for disposal if it is needed to meet minimum open space provision. Please refer to page 28 for a map and explanation of open space disposals in Hengrove and Stockwood.

The Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership Area is relatively free from barriers to access. The busy Wells Road splits the area from north to south, while another key arterial route of Airport Road forms the norther boundary. However, there are many pedestrian crossing along these roads allowing easy access over them. All barriers to access have been considered when applying the distance standards.

Children and Young People's Space

There are currently three children's playgrounds in Hengrove and Stockwood. One of those is Hengrove Play Park destination site which serves the whole of Bristol, situated in west of the Hengrove ward. A new play facility has been constructed at Cottle Road, Stockwood as part of the play pathfinder project. The other facility is a small play area coming towards the end of its operational use catering for under 8s at Fortfield Green Hengrove.

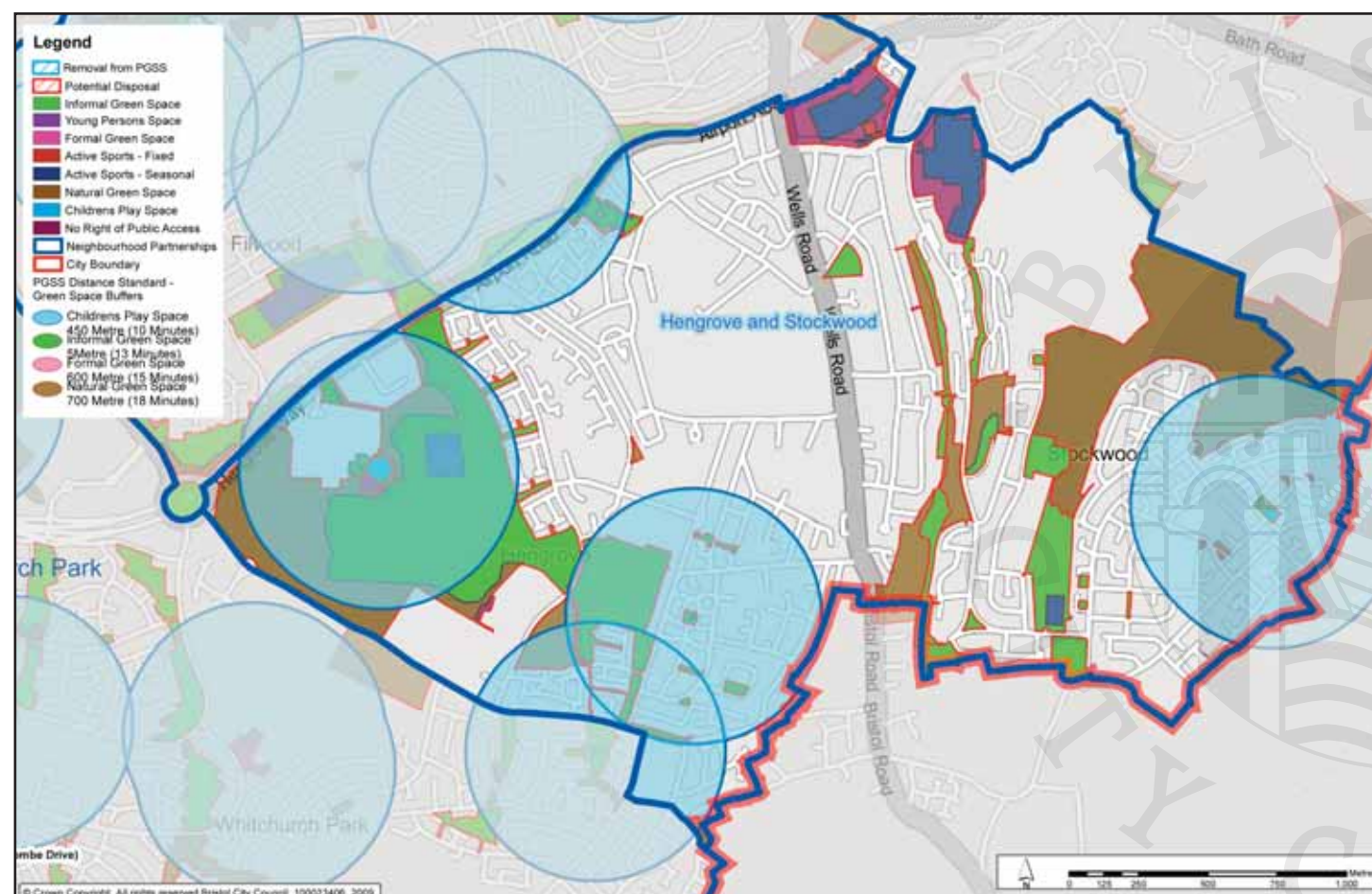
In order to better meet the distance standards for play, three new play areas are proposed for Hengrove Farm Community

Woodland, Briery Leaze and Craydon Road, while a fourth new playground is being installed in Mowbray Road. It is worth bearing in mind that an enhanced natural BMX facility for Whittock Road are not formally mapped here, but will also serve local children.

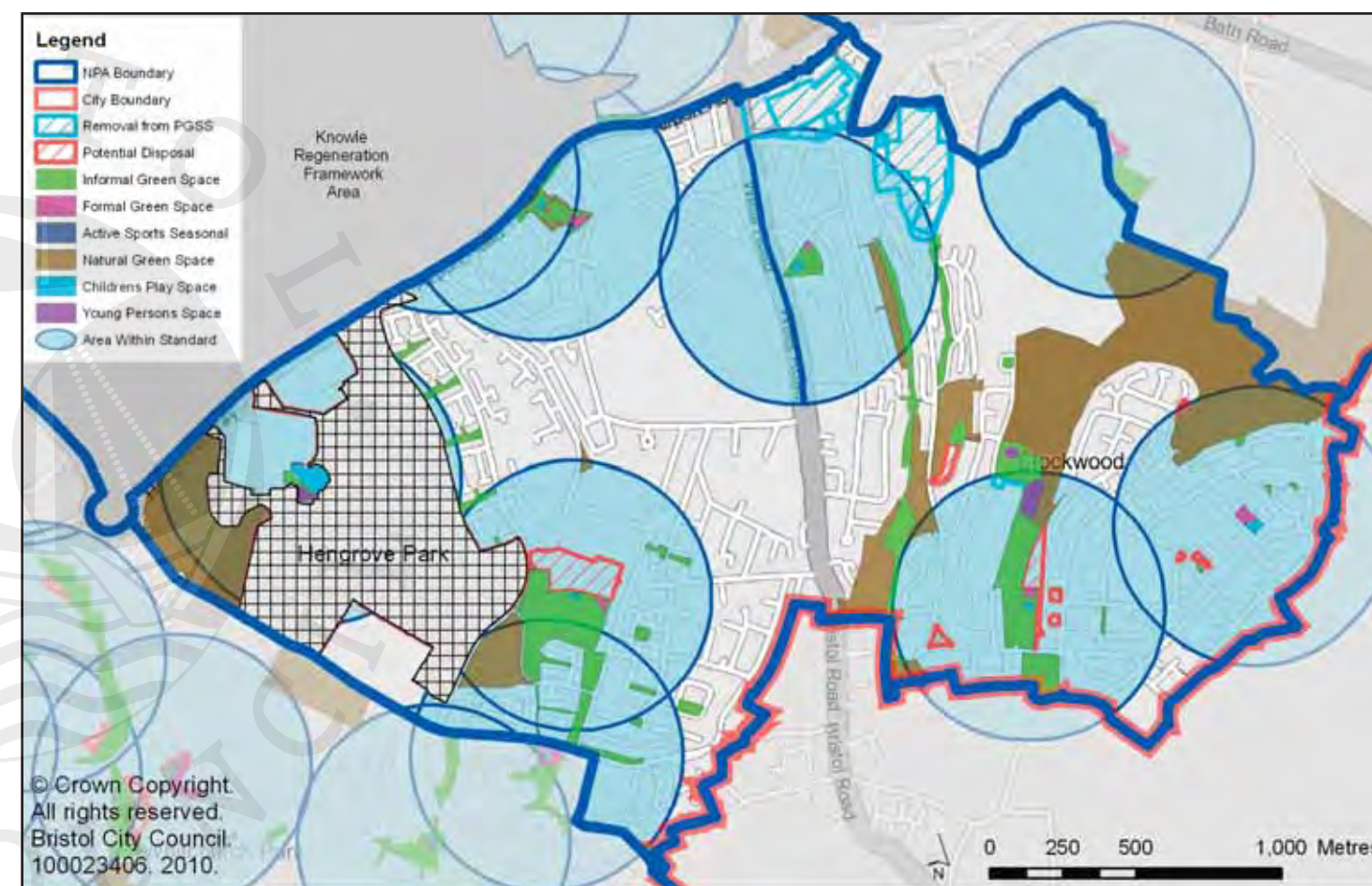
Outside of the Neighbourhood Partnership Area the Brislington East and West Area Green Space Plan recommends a new play area at Hungerford Road and Hartcliffe, Whitchurch Park and Bishopshopworth Area Green Space Plan recommends one for St. Augustines Park. Both these sites will serve a small part of the Hengrove and Stockwood Area.

The percentage future population that will be outside the distance standard will fall from 66% to 33%. There is a significant gap in provision in the centre of the Hengrove ward. We shall explore opportunities within the surplus land from the former Hengrove Secondary School to satisfy this requirement. Please see Future Opportunities (page 31) for more details.

Areas where the standard is currently met



Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years





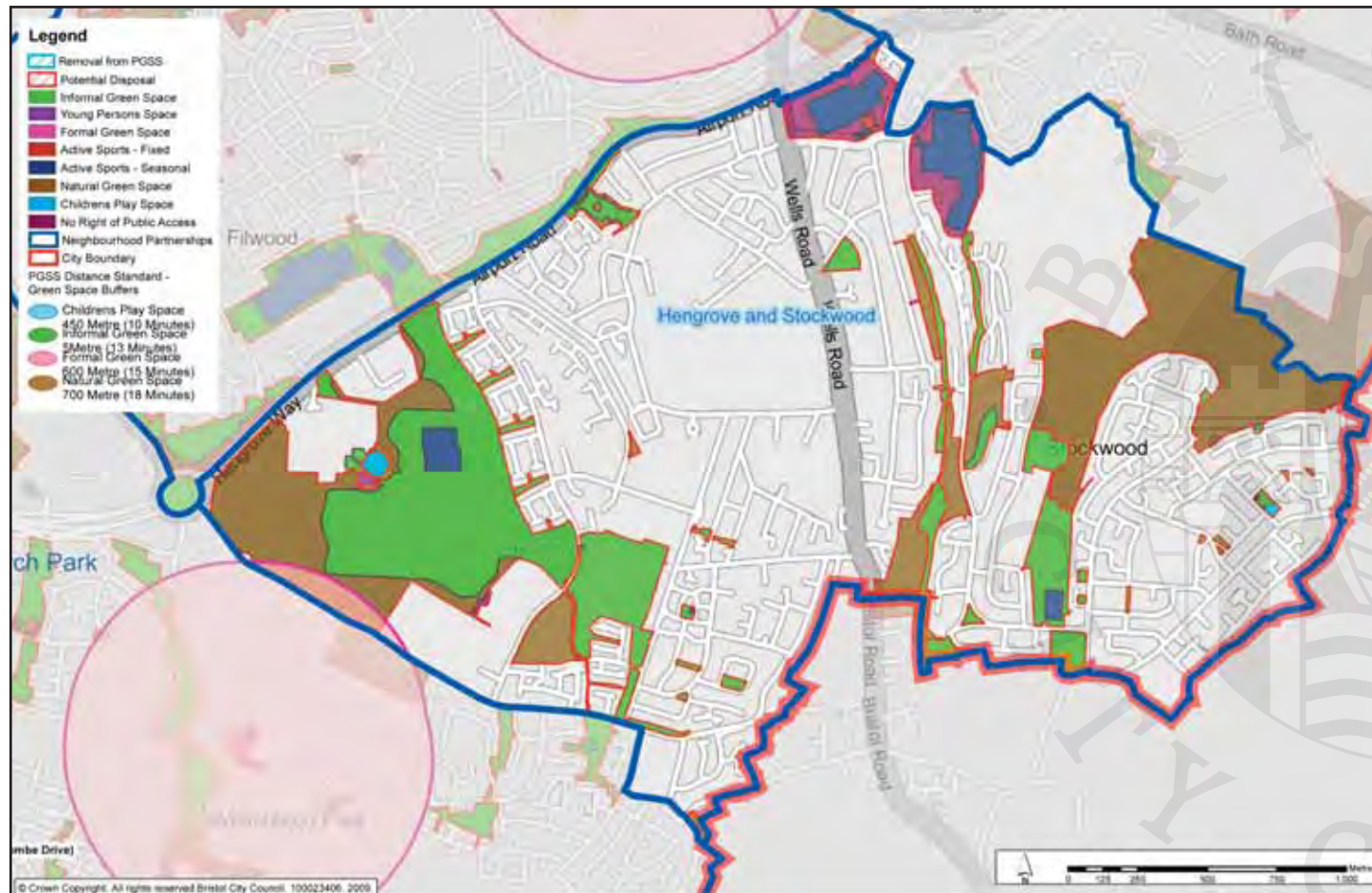
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Formal Green Space

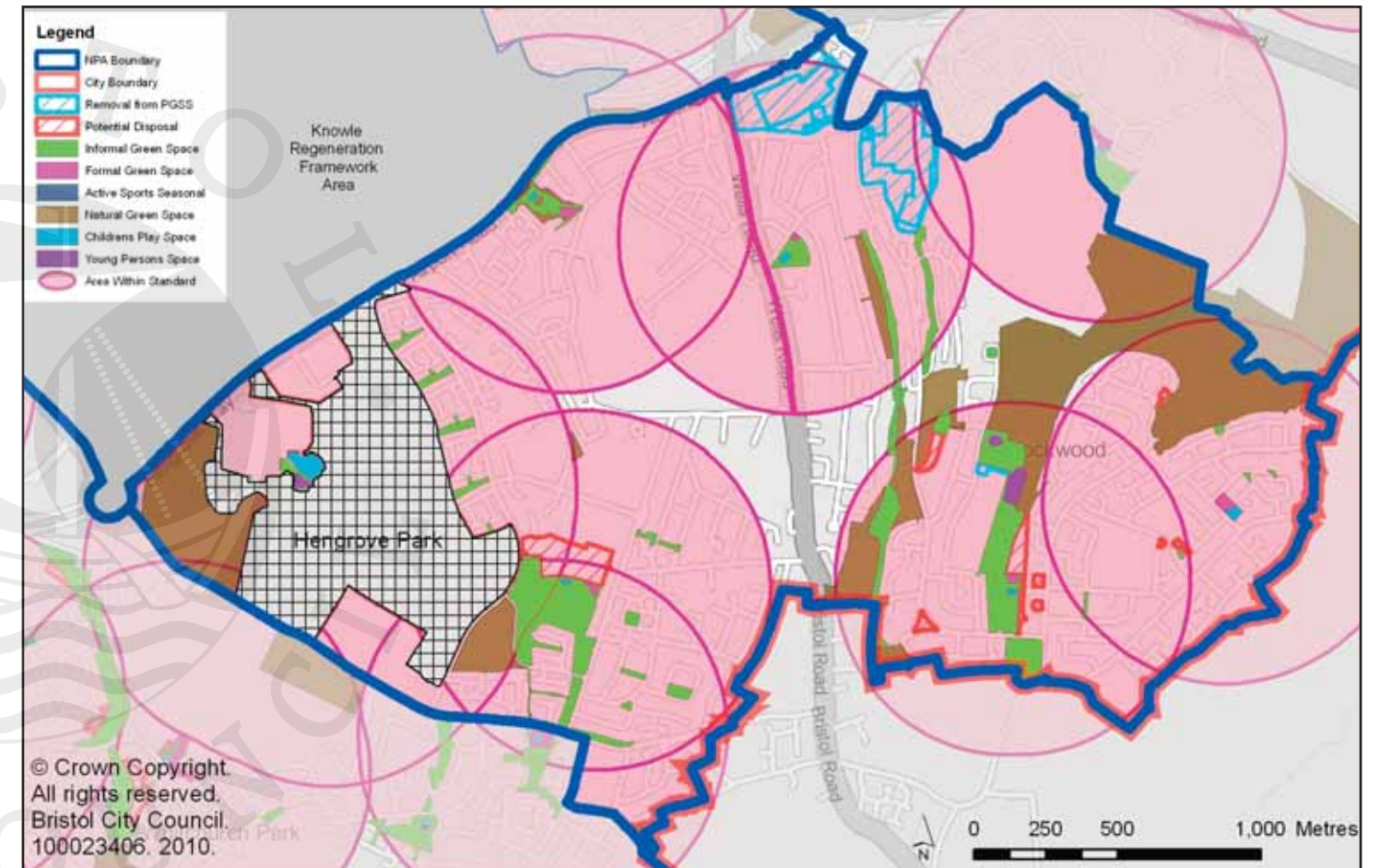
The Neighbourhood Partnership has no areas of formal green space. There are no sites in other Neighbourhood Partnership Areas which serve significant population in Hengrove and Stockwood. In order to better meet the standards new formal spaces are proposed for Hengrove Farm Community Woodland, Mowbray Road, Craydon Road (North), Briery Leaze and Cottle Road. The new Hengrove Destination Park will provide a new formal facility.

The percentage future population that will be outside the distance standard for a formal space will fall from 100% to 8%. There leaves a gap in provision in the centre of the Hengrove ward. We shall explore opportunities within the surplus land from the former Hengrove Secondary School to satisfy this requirement. Please see Future Opportunities (page 31) for more details.

Areas where the standard is currently met



Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years

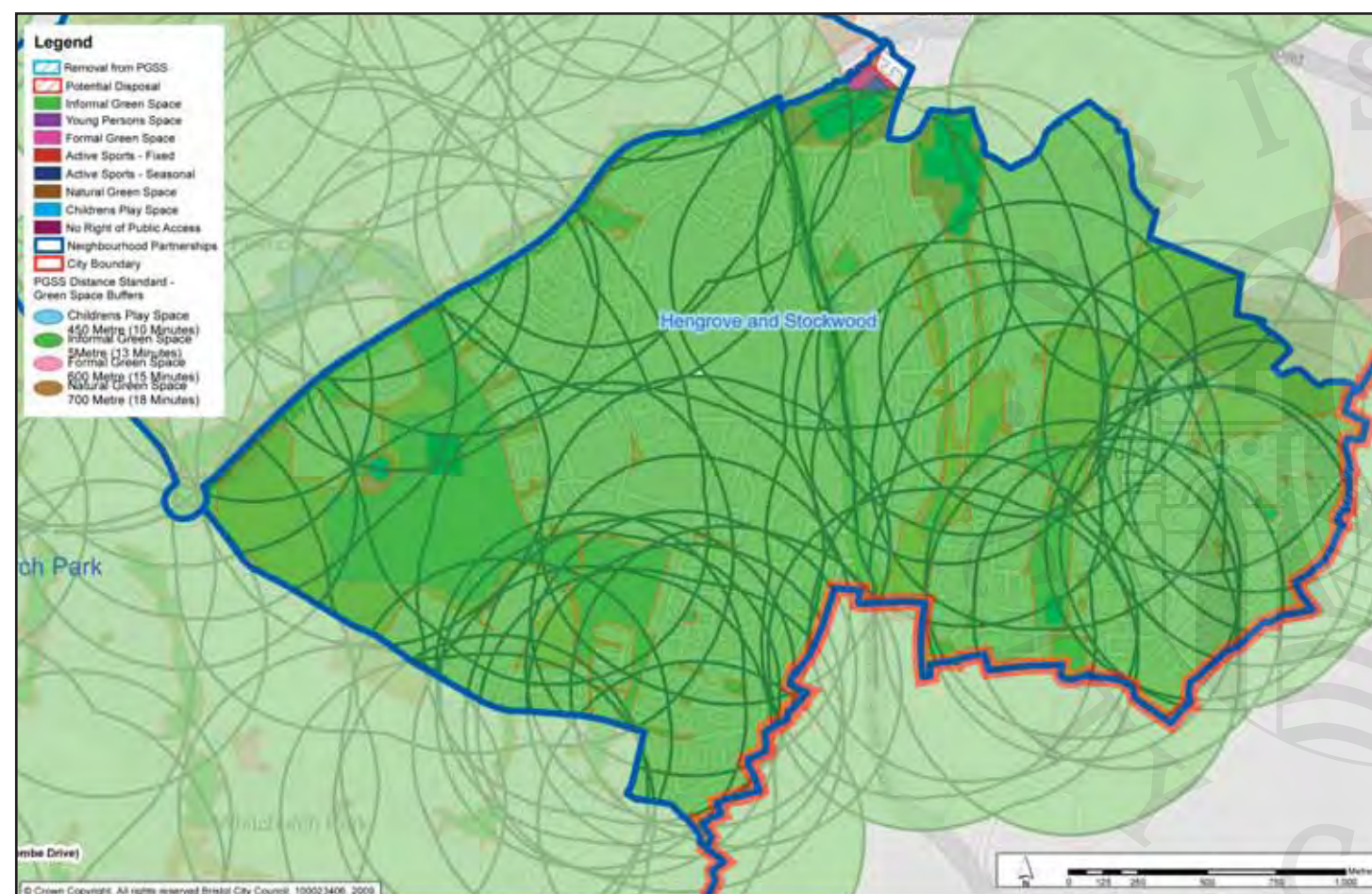


Informal Green Space

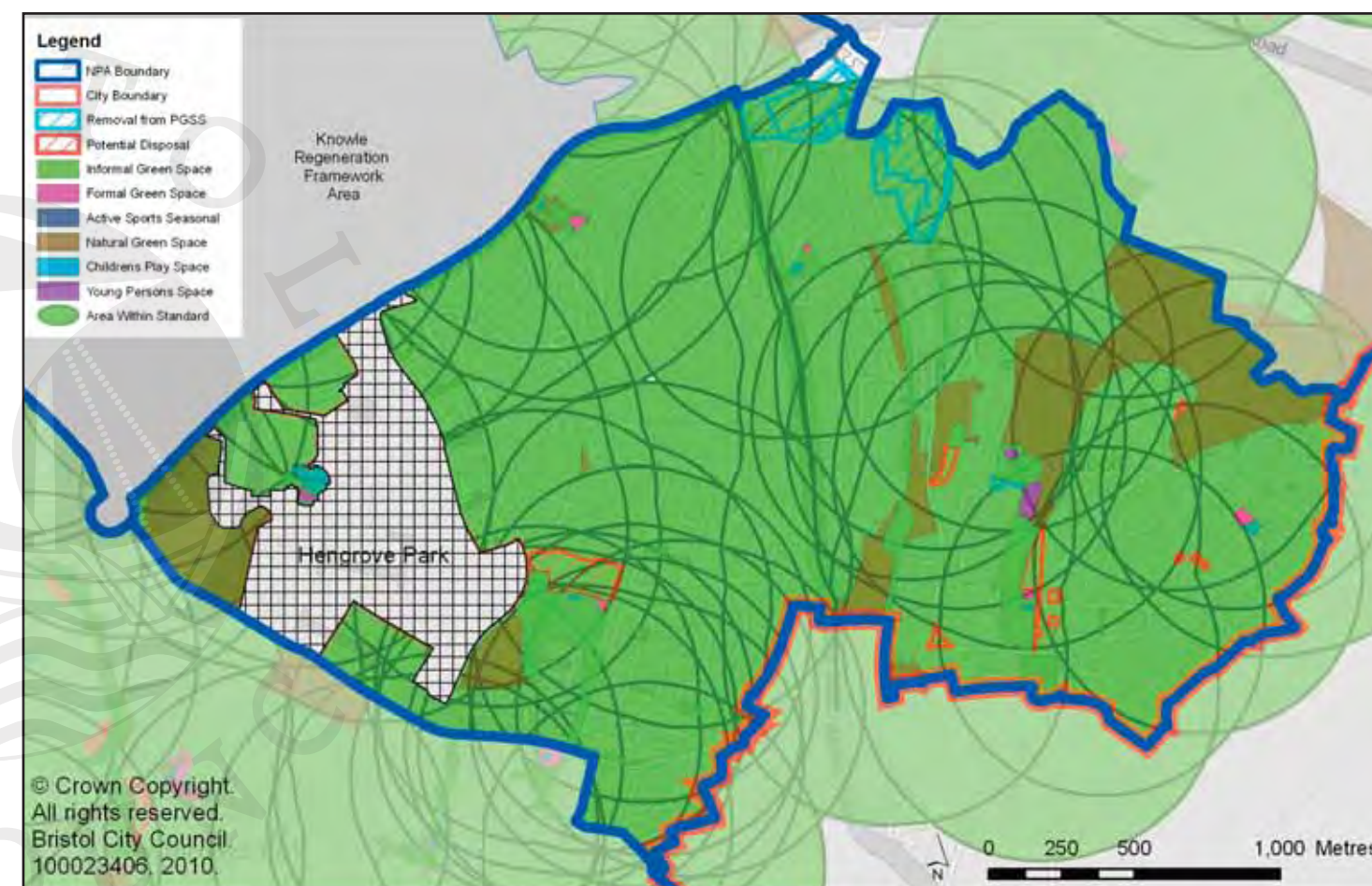
The distance standard for Informal Green Space is met across the Neighbourhood Partnership Area, with a small gap in provision just north of the Imperial Sports Ground, crossing into Brislington Neighbourhood Partnership Area. It is not thought the standard can be met immediately for this area, but there may be an opportunity to have discussions with Imperial Sports, about allowing public access onto this site.

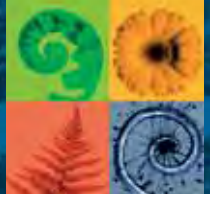
The Area Green Space Plan proposes a number of changes to the footprint of Informal Green Space but overall the area outside the distance remains broadly unchanged, with 1% of the future population outside the distance standard.

Areas where the standard is currently met



Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years





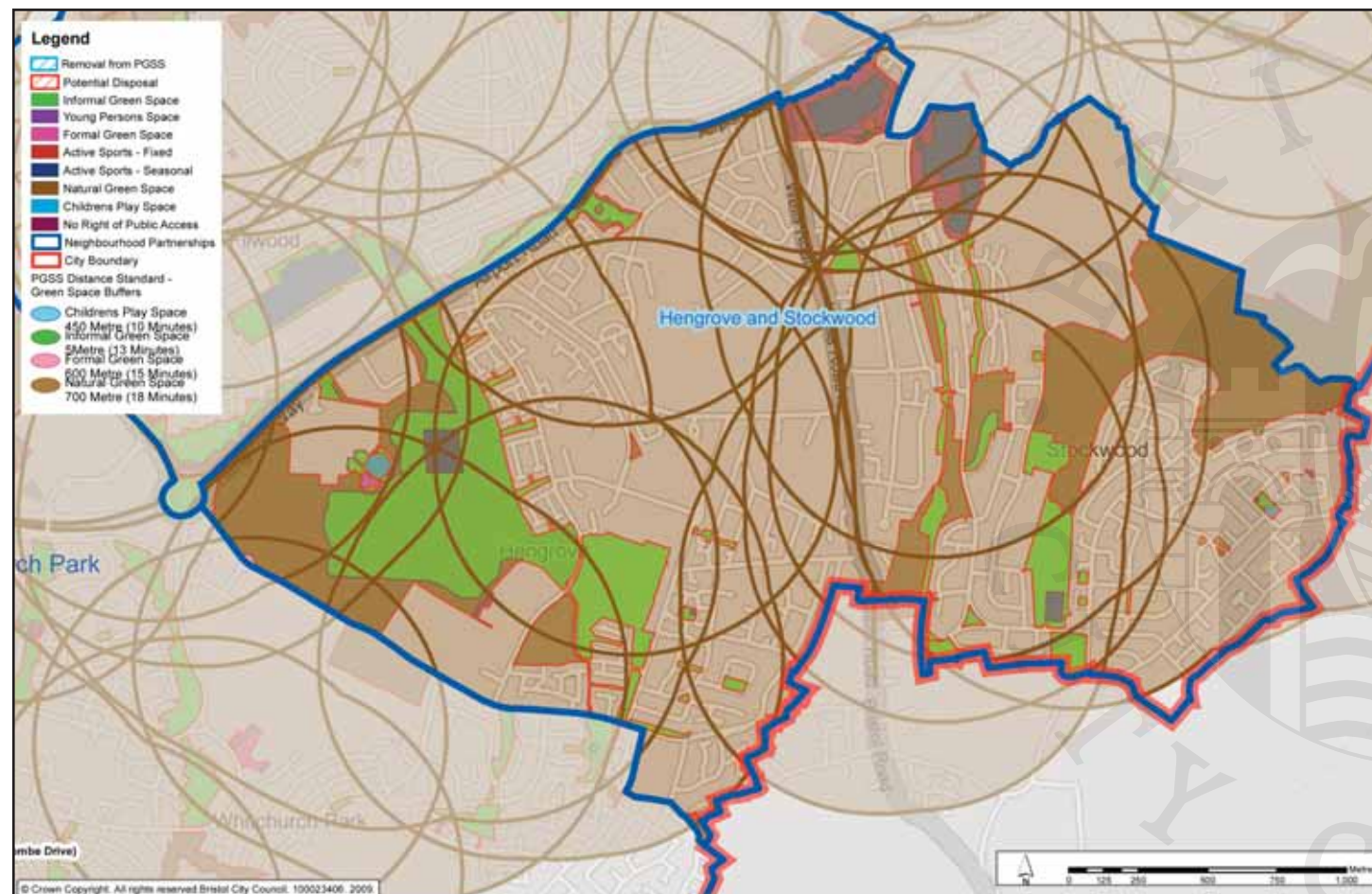
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Natural Green Space

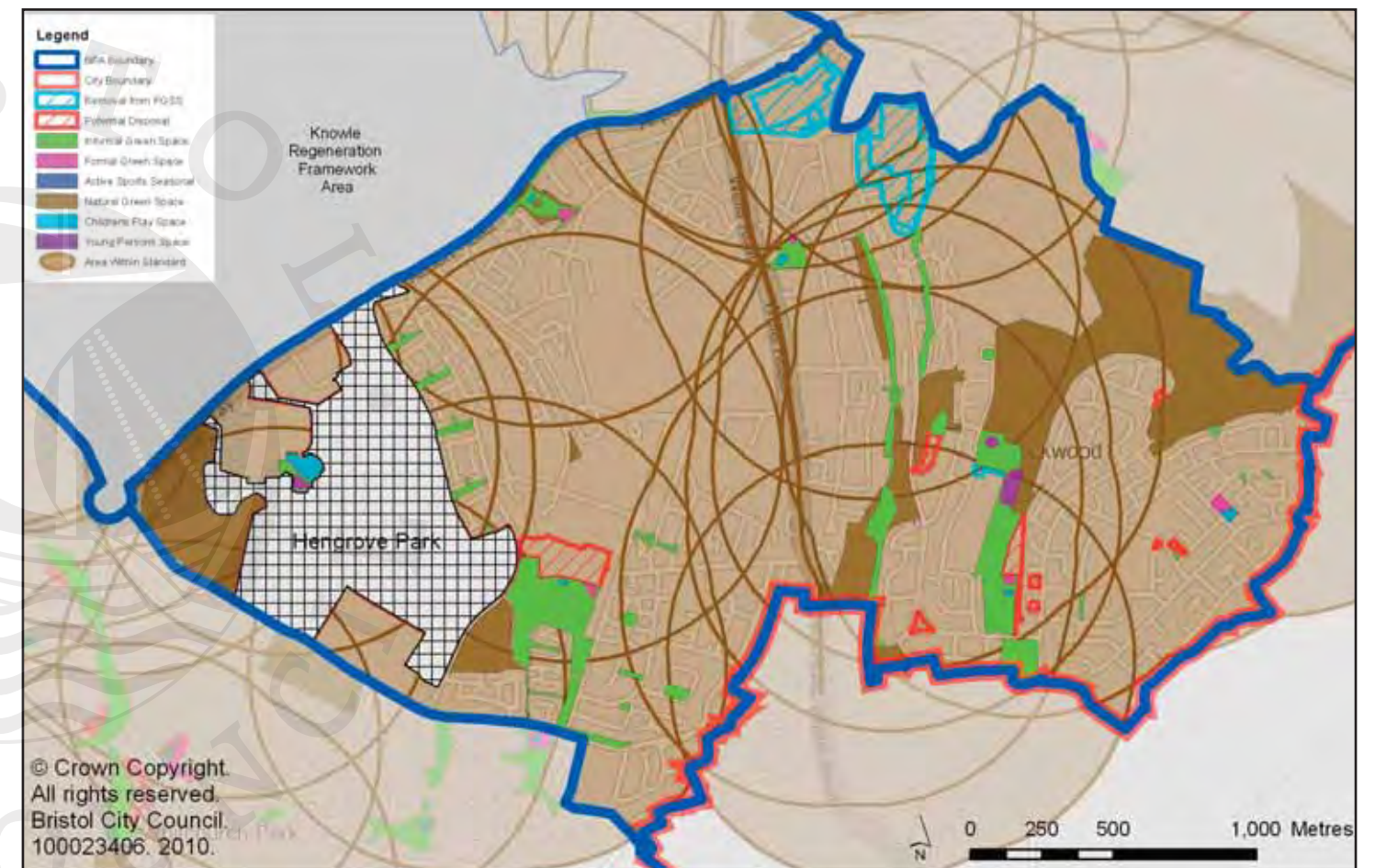
The distance standard for natural green space is met across the Neighbourhood Partnership Area both before and after the proposals have been applied. We are not proposing any changes to natural green space across the Neighbourhood Partnership Area, apart from proposals to improve their management.

The percentage of future population outside the distance standard will remain at 0%

Areas where the standard is currently met



Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years

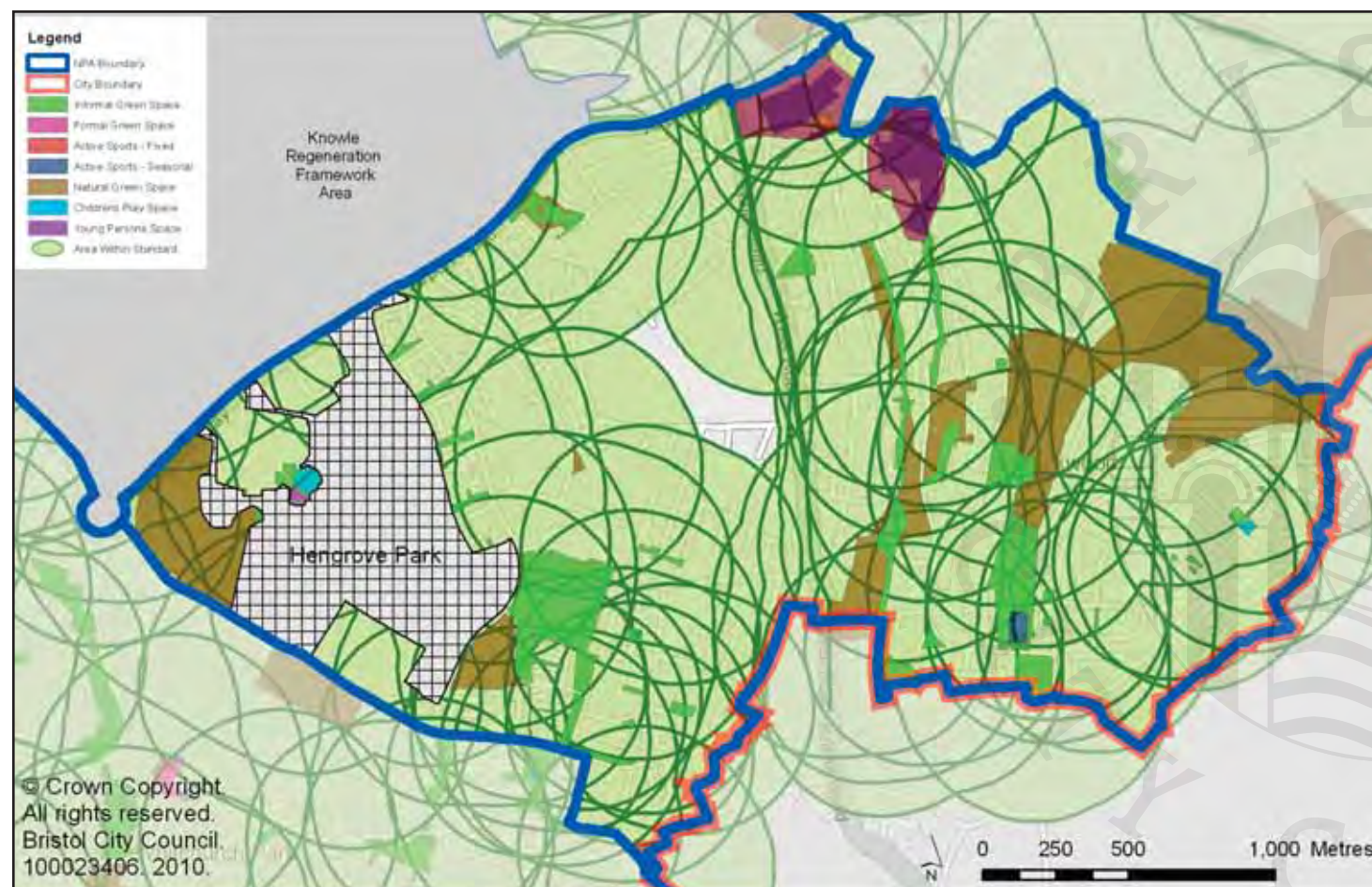


Distance to the nearest green space

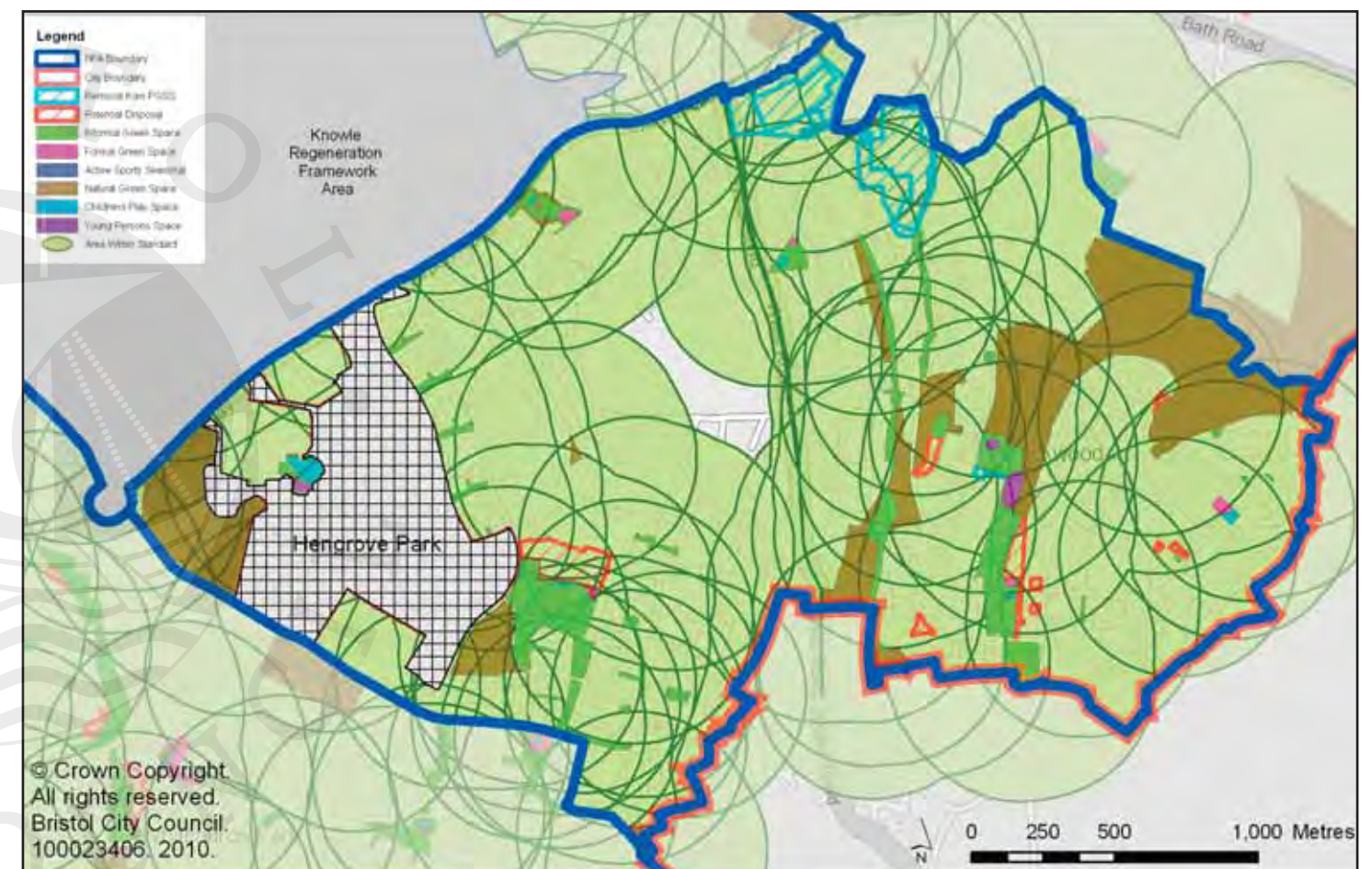
At present only 1% of the population are outside 400m of a publicly accessible open space.

Although the Area Green Space Plan proposes a number of changes to the footprint of accessible space the area within the standard remains broadly unchanged and 1% will continue to be outside 400m of an accessible green space.

Areas where the standard is currently met



Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years





Quantity

The Quantity Standard relates to the amount of green space that should be in the city.

The Quantity Standard has both a citywide and a local component. The citywide Quantity Standard is the figure used to compare Bristol and its standards with other cities and is largely fixed. However, for planning and land management purposes the local component is more important because it ensures there is an adequate supply in every neighbourhood.

- 1. Local component – the minimum amount of green space that any area should have.
- 2. Citywide component – the total amount of space within all the city’s large destination parks. This includes Blaise/Kingweston, Oldbury Court/Snuff Mills, The Downs, Hengrove Play Park, and the area of Ashton Court that sits within the city’s boundary. These are sites that attract citywide and regional visitors.

Proposed minimum quantity standard:

	sq m/capita	Hectares/1000 pop
Locality Component	18.0	1.80
City wide component (Destination parks)	9.8	0.98
Total Bristol Standard	27.8	2.78

Locality Standards for different types of space:

	sq m/capita	Hectares/1000 pop
Children’s play space	0.3	0.03
Formal green space	2.0	0.20
Informal green space	8.0	0.80
Natural green space	9.0	0.90
Active sports space	See Playing Pitch Strategy & notes below	

The changes in the type of open space proposed in the Distance Standard maps will ensure that the Quantity Standards set by the Parks and Green Space Strategy will be better met in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area.

When proposing the introduction of new types of space a projection of future population, size and location, has been considered and included in calculations. Population projection figures have been used using the latest information from the Office of National Statistics (ONS estimate). A further population projection has been generated using data informing the Bristol Development Framework, based on the city's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment and Site Allocations (GLA estimate). This information makes it easier to target more precisely where new populations might be located in the future.

When open spaces are proposed for disposal, they are not included in the application of the Quantity Standard. In most circumstances, open space is not recommended for disposal if it is needed to meet minimum open space provision.

The table below sets out how well the Quantity Standard for each type of space is met at present, and the impact on this if the changes proposed were implemented. The table does the same with a future population projection included. Open spaces that are proposed for disposal are not included in these figures. In most circumstances, an open space cannot be disposed of if it is needed to meet minimum standards for the provision of publicly accessible green space.


How the Quantity Standard will be met in 2026 if related ideas and options are adopted:

	Standard sq m/person	Current provision sq m/person	ONS 2026 population estimate sq m/person	GLA 2026 population estimate sq m/person
Children’s play space	0.3	0.38	0.42	0.49
Formal green space	2.0	0	2.48	2.90
Informal green space	8.0	35.10	15.65	18.27
Natural green space	9.0	36.60	23.27	27.16
Locality standard	18.0	72.08	41.82	48.82



Appendix 2.

How the Area Green Space Plan is meeting the PGSS policies

Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
Children and young people		
	Developing a diverse range of children's play spaces including natural play	CY1 Following the introduction of natural play materials at Cottle Road, this will be followed by opportunities at Whittock Road (BMX track and other facilities), Hazelbury Road (improvement of natural BMX facility) and Hengrove Farm Community Woodland. New equipment for the under 5s is planned for Briery Leaze and Craydon Road and more traditional equipment to cater for under 12s at Mowbray Road.
	Provide diverse, exciting and challenging spaces for young people	CY2 More facilities for young people are planned at the Whittock Road site.
	Enhance the wider park environment for play	CY4 Plans to enhance woodlands at Sturminster Close and Stockwood Open Space, (including parkor and orienteering course.) Support for cycling at Hazelbury Road and across Whitchurch Railway Path Informal kickabout at Craydon Road and Briery Leaze sites with goalposts added. Space will continue to be made available on the Fortfield Road edge of Briery Leaze, Allerton Crescent, Hengrove Farm Community Woodland and Mowbray Road.



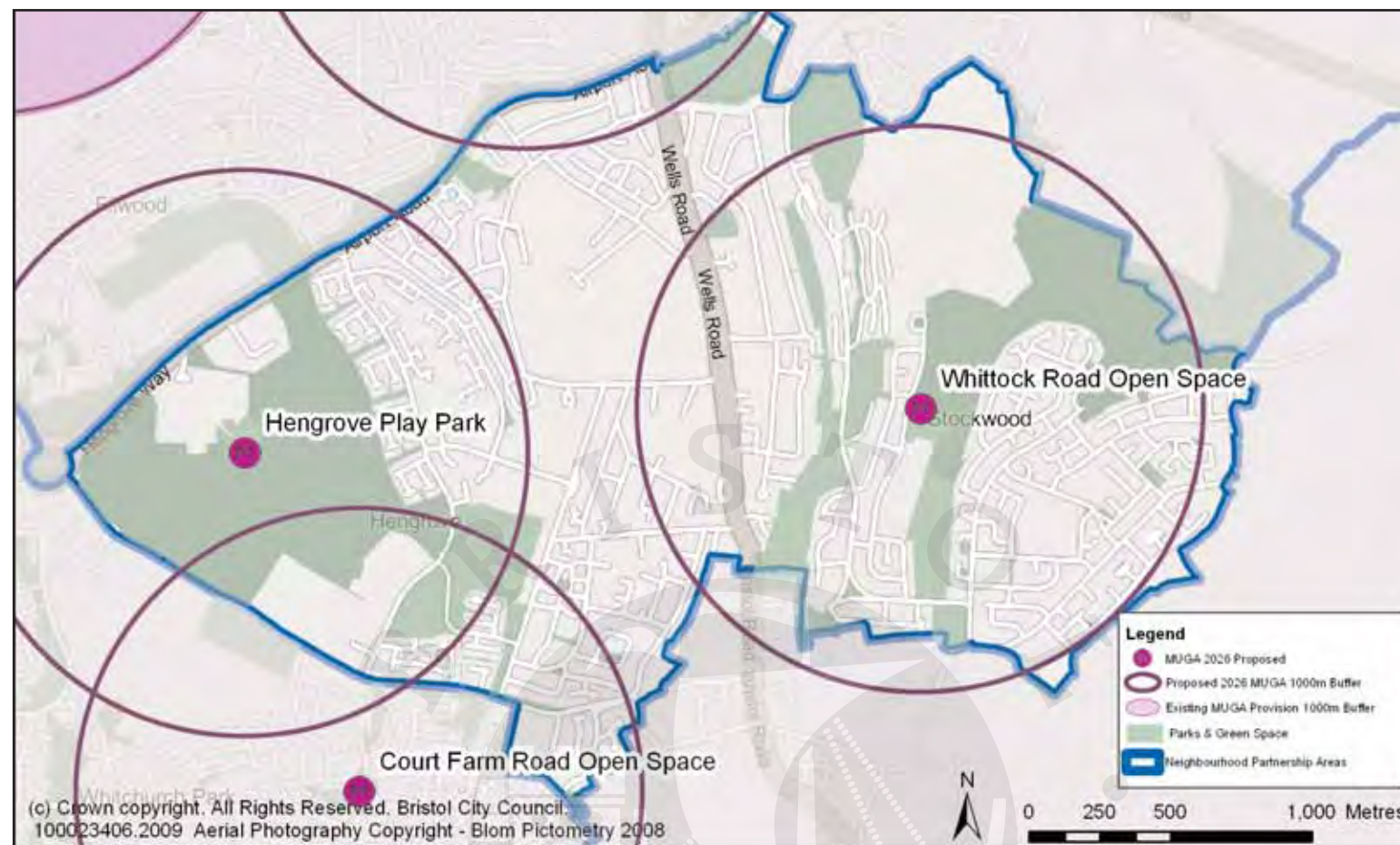
Wheels Parks and MUGAs

The Parks and Green Space Strategy sets out that young people should have access to a Multi-Use-Games-Area (MUGA) within 1km of where they live and access to a Wheels Park within 2km.

A MUGA is an all-weather surfaced, fenced, ball court with goalposts and basketball hoops. They are commonly lit during the darker months to a set time in the evening.

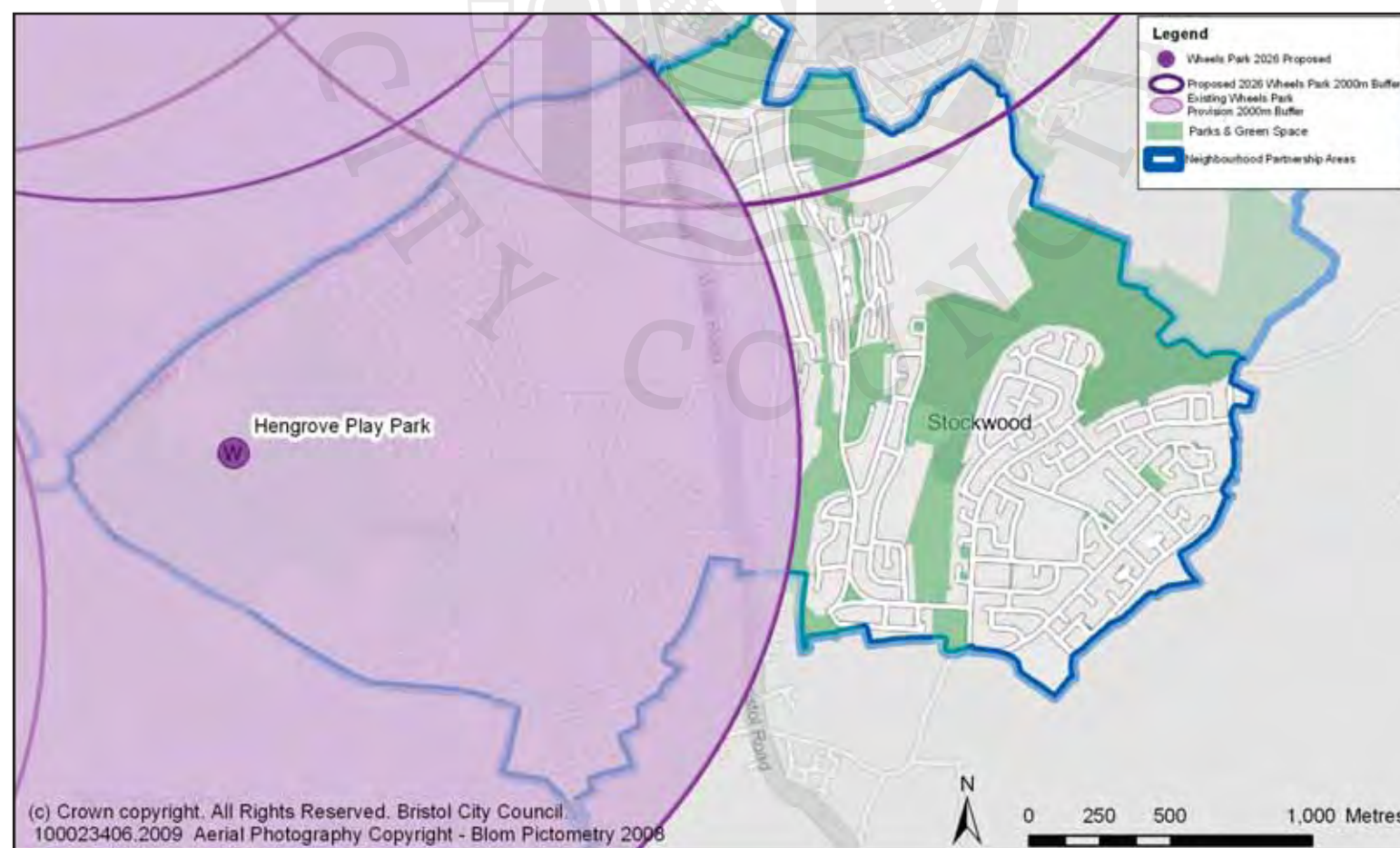
A Wheels Park is an area purposely designed for wheel sport activities. These can have a solo use like a stone chip covered BMX track or a be a multi-purpose concrete park. Wheels parks attempt to offer a more secure setting to an activity that can be a medium to high risk activity.

There are currently no MUGAs in the NPA that fit the required standard for young people to use. A wheels park is provided as part of the provision at Hengrove Play Park. A very informal space for BMX is provided at the rear of the allotments on Whittock Road. One Multi Use Games Areas is situated in the Stockwood ward, at the BS14 Club for young people on Stockwood Road, but is not fully accessible.



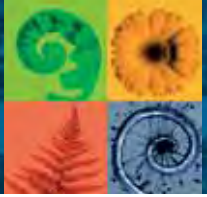
Potential Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) with 1km Distance Performance Target

Preferred option - Provide a MUGA at Hengrove Play Park and Whittock Road Open Space. This would be complemented by other MUGAs at Court Farm Road in the Bishopsworth, Hartcliffe and Withywood Neighbourhood Partnership Area.





Potential Wheels Parks with 2km Distance Performance Target

Option Continue to provide a Wheels Park at Hengrove Play Park with an enhanced BMX track at Whittock Road Open Space.



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Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
Formal Green Space		
	Ensure there is a good traditional park within easy reach of home offering a range of facilities (multi-functional park with a range of facilities including a Park Keeper)	FG1 Hengrove Park and Craydon Road will act as the two traditional parks serving each ward.
	Providing a Park Keeper in all main traditional parks as a minimum	FG2 A park keeper is already in place for Hengrove Play Park, it is expected that this role will extend to the new park site at Hengrove Park and Briery Leaze.
	Enhance entry points and boundaries	FG4 See proposals for individual parks
	Provide visual planting schemes in key formal green spaces	FG7 Schemes are suggested at Briery Leaze, Hengrove Park, Ladman Road Bus terminus, Hengrove Farm Community Woodland, Craydon Road and Cottle Road
Informal Green Space		
	Tackle anti-social behaviour focusing on prevention and greater responsiveness to incidents, access and visibility	IG2 Provide focussed teen equipment at Whittock Road to encourage groups of young people to an open, yet minimally overlooked space. Police incident recording data suggest that most incidents take place at Cottle Road and Sturminster Close, with some incidents recently reported in Stockwood Open Space. Measures are suggested to design out crime including removal of the kickabout area at Cottle Road. Opening up of woodland areas at Sturminster Close and Stockwood Open Space will diminish instances of ASB in these spaces.
	Upgrade some areas of informal green space for safe play and sport, including enclosing them with railings and making them dog free	Cottle Road Play Park will be enclosed with railings and it is proposed to make this site dog-free.

Policy Area

PGSS Policy No. How ideas and options would act to meet the policy

Natural Green Space



Establish a network of 16 Local Nature Reserves across the city

NG1

Stockwood Open Space is one of the cities 9 existing LNRs. There are a number of sites of Nature Conservation Interest in this area that could be considered as a future LNR, including The Mounds at Hengrove Park and Saltwell Valley.

Improve maintenance and management regimes in natural green space to improve welcome and accessibility

NG2

Improved maintenance is suggested at Stockwood Open Space, The Mounds and Saltwell Valley to improve accessibility of all these sites. See details on all these sites earlier in the document.

Improve entrances and routes through natural green space to improve welcome and security

Active Sports Space



The quality of experience and carrying capacity of a playing pitch will be enhanced by improving changing facilities, pavilions and pitch quality.

AS1

Hengrove and Stockwood currently has the following active sports facilities:

Rugby Pitches at Hengrove Park

South Bristol Sports is a charity promoting sports facilities within the local community. The project has a 25 year lease on the former Imperial Sports and Social Club . One of the main aims is to create a sports centre to offer school children and people living in the local community the chance to participate in a variety of sports. This project is delivered through a partnership between the City Council and a not-for-profit led consortium led by the City Academy Bristol. These spaces are not publicly accessible and are no longer considered as part of the Area Green Space Plan.

The facilities which include the neighbouring Manor Sports Ground include both senior and junior football and rugby pitches, 5 a-side facilities, squash and gym facilities and skittles.

Bristol South Rugby Club is located at Hengrove Park, and will be accommodated within the Phase two plans for Hengrove Park redevelopments.

There is an emerging proposal to create a junior football hub site at the Oasis Academy site in Hengrove.

There are no tennis or bowls facilities in publicly accessible spaces in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area.

Long-term proposals for sport will be identified in the final Area Green Space Plan.

Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
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Other land management policies



Enhance destination parks and city centre spaces fitting Bristol's status as a major city with international and national profile, maintaining them to the highest standard.

LM1 / LM2

Proposed Destination Park for South Bristol as part of Hengrove phase 2 developments, which links to the recently improved Hengrove Play Park. It will offer an exciting contemporary park experience for the 21st Century.

Create a major new park at Hengrove, offering traditional park features but also new and exciting leisure opportunities.

Restore and develop park buildings for a range of alternative uses.

LM3

At Craydon Road it is proposed that the old changing facilities be demolished. It is suggested that available section 106 funding for community facilities be spent on creating a cafe, toilets and community space on the Craydon Road site. It is also suggested that new community facilities shall be integrated into the Hengrove phase 2 developments.

Provide good quality accessible toilets

LM4

see above

Improve access to green spaces for a wider range of people by creating dog free spaces whilst ensuring dog walkers retain a varied choice of green space to visit

LM5

All new play areas should be fenced off and made dog free spaces. It is suggested that Cottle Road Park becomes fully dog free.

Develop and re-design some backland sites to provide frontages of houses looking onto the site - creating a community focal point and improve feelings of safety

LM7

Briery Leaze, Sturminster Road and Craydon Road sites to be partially developed to provide frontages of houses looking into the sites.

Other land management policies continued

Improve the quality of green corridors, riverside routes and cycle/walkways for recreation, biodiversity and commuting	LM12	<p>Stockwood hosts two elements of the Strategic Green Infastructure network as proposed in the Core Strategy of the Bristol Development framework. These are Sturminster Road SNCI sites and the Craydon Road, Whittock Road and Stockwood Open space links</p> <p>Improve the quality and accessibility of Sturminster Road SNCI green corridor, through development of part of Sturminster Close, and better management along Whitchurch Railway Path sites and Amercombe and Hencliffe Walk. Likewise improving the corridor between Craydon Road through into Stockwood Open Space. Maintain effective links through Briery Leaze, Bamfield Green Space and proposed changes at Hengrove Park.</p>
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