



# Ideas and Options Paper

## Henbury and Southmead

## Area Green Space Plan

A spatial and investment plan for the next 20 years





## Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead 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



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## 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 Henbury and Southmead. 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 Henbury and Southmead - 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp), call 0117 922 3719 or email: [Park.Strategy@bristol.gov.uk](mailto: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 Henbury and Southmead, Ideas and Options Papers are also available for comment on the following areas:*

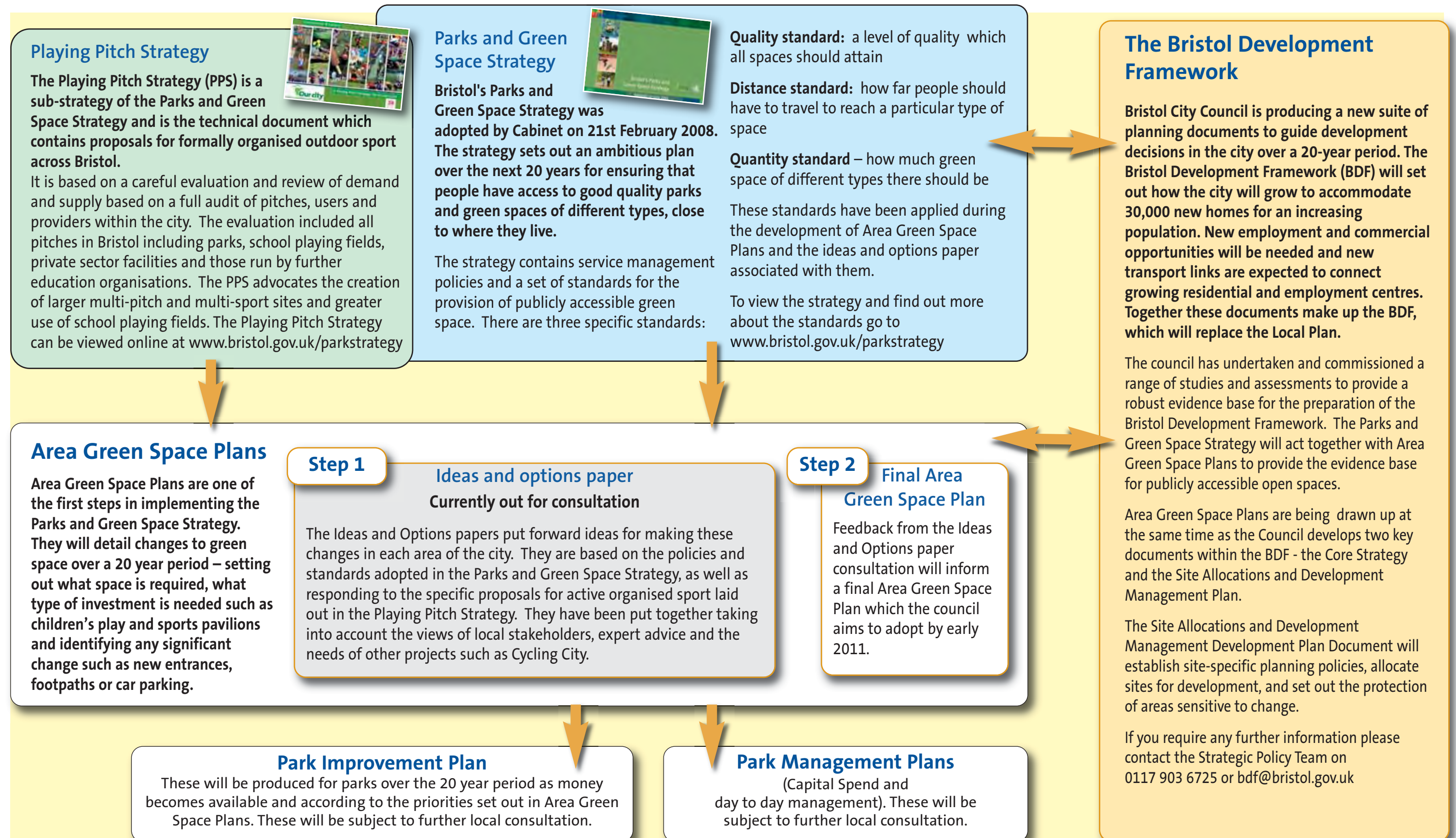
- Knowle, Filwood and Windmill Hill;
- Hengrove and Stockwood;
- Hartcliffe, Withywood and Bishopsworth;
- Bedminster and Southville;
- Cabot Clifton and Clifton East;
- Henleaze, Westbury on Trym and Stoke Bishop;
- Brislington East and West;
- Avonmouth and Kingsweston;
- Bishopston, Cotham and Redland;
- 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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/siteallocations) or email [bdf@bristol.gov.uk](mailto: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 Henbury and Southmead 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.

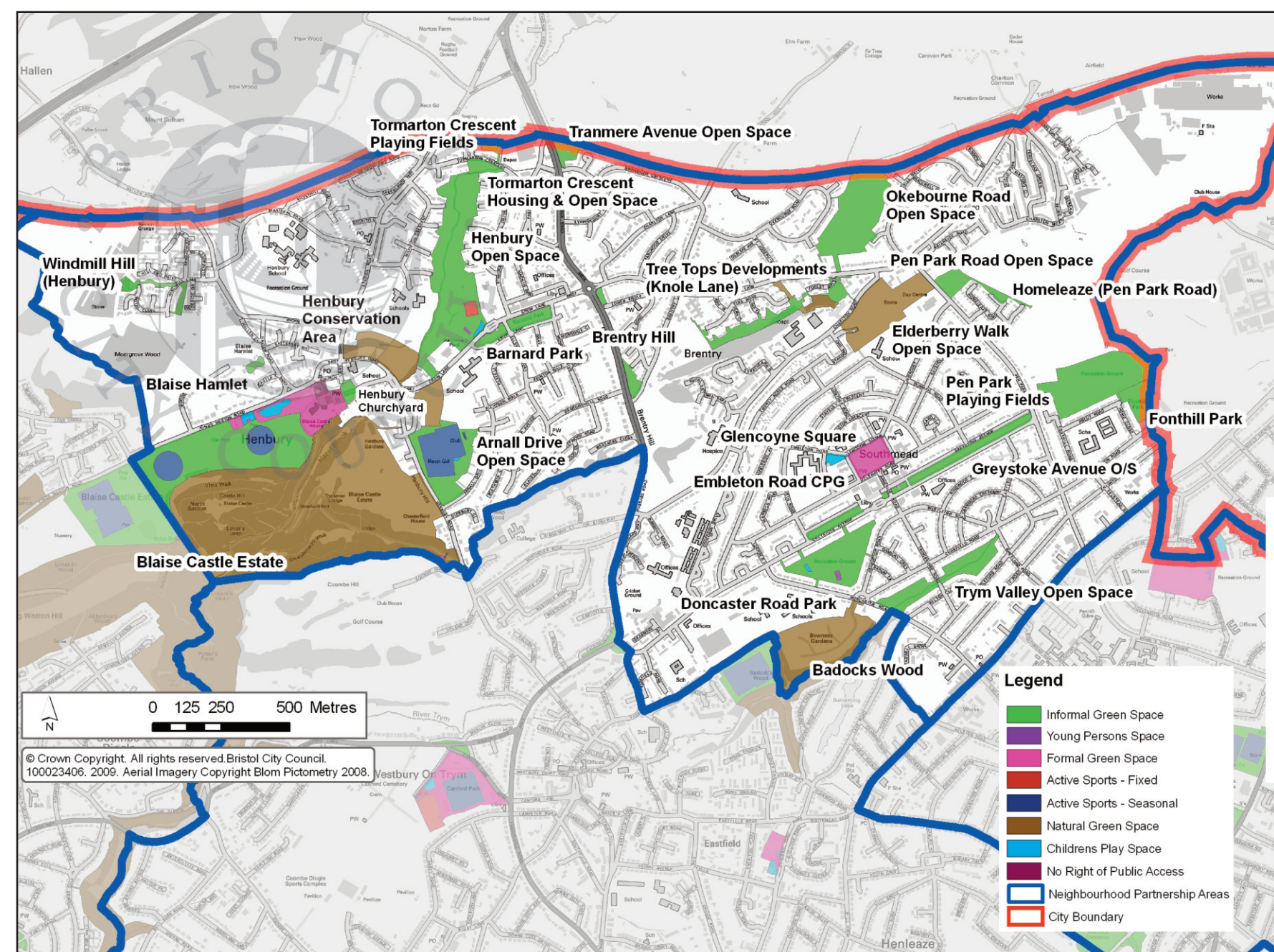
However the contribution of all these spaces to the urban green infrastructure of the city for wildlife, leisure and gardening is recognised and taken into account when drawing up these plans.

## Green Space in Henbury and Southmead

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

The Henbury and Southmead Neighbourhood Partnership Area has a wide range of different green space including public open space, grazing meadows, allotments, private open space, 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 of green space that will be considered by the plan, and therefore by this Ideas and Options Paper is shown here. These spaces are categorised into five different types 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.

**In addition to the spaces already identified as publicly accessible in 2008 the following spaces will be adopted:**

Space	Why?
Marissal Road	This is a newly created publicly accessible open space. BCC worked alongside Wessex Water to adapt a space known as “the Penn” - making an alleviation pond where floodwater could collect.

**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?
Tormarton Crescent Playing Fields	This land is to be transferred to allotments and therefore will not be 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 recognized that people from across the city use the destination parks of Ashton, Blaise and Kingsweston, The Downs, Hengrove Play Park and Oldbury Court Estate & Snuff Mills, city centre spaces and sports facilities for organized 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 Henbury and Southmead visit spaces across the boundary to including, Canford Park, Monks Park and Clack Mills.

Henbury and Southmead 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.

These links are most evident at Blaise Castle Estate and Badocks Wood, which are both shared with neighbouring Neighbourhood Partnership Areas. Crow Lane Skate Park is also popular with visitors from outside the Neighbourhood Partnership Area.

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 Blaise Castle Estate
- the role of Badocks Wood and natural green space for the wider community
- the provision of Crow Lane Open Space and Doncaster Road Park as future traditional parks and the facilities they may offer
- the strategic management of natural green spaces for the benefit of wildlife
- long distance cycle and pedestrian routes
- the influence of neighbourhood sports facilities such as the Arnall Drive site for football and Southmead Community Sports
- the provision of different types of space where the Neighbourhood Partnership Area's boundary is easily crossed

In practical terms, Henbury and Southmead is most easily connected with the Neighbourhood Partnership Areas of Horfield and Lockleaze, Avonmouth and Kingsweston and Henleaze, Westbury-on-Trym and Stoke Bishop. It is those areas where types of space and facilities will have the most influence.





## 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 discuss and get feedback on investment opportunities and also possible disposal sites.

**Those that we asked for comments in Henbury and Southmead included:**

- ▶ local community and parks groups.
- ▶ representatives of the Neighbourhood Partnership;
- ▶ the police and Community Safety Officers;
- ▶ Southmead Youth Forum and Henbury Youth Club;
- ▶ 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 PGSS, 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 park group in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area who play a very active role in securing improvements to green spaces. Some have already been involved in the drafting of, and consultation on, improvement plans for their parks.

Representatives of the following groups have participated in the discussion sessions held and took the opportunity to share their experiences with one another; Southmead Estate Agreement members, Friends of Badocks Wood, Henbury and Brentry Community Council, Southmead Community Sports, Henbury Futures Group, Henbury Transitions Group and Grounds 4 Change.

## 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 informed by 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. Respondents can prioritise both key ideas given for each space and the space they would improve first.*

## 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 Henbury and Southmead 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 Henbury and Southmead, details of which you will find in Section 4, but you will also find in chapter 3 the investment options for the remainder of the spaces. For Henbury and Southmead this applies to Okebourne Road Park, Crow Lane Open Space, Arnall Drive Open Space, Trymside Open Space and Elderberry Walk Open Space.





## 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 Henbury and Southmead 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.

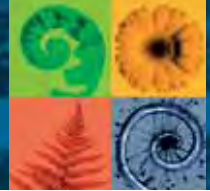
Your comments, ideas and priorities will be used to inform a final Area Green Space Plan for Henbury and Southmead.

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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# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Okebourne Road Open Space

*'We'd like to see more paths, more bins, more benches, more lighting. A Park Ranger and a play area. Could a slide be incorporated into the slope? Maybe re-open an old allotment site as possible new allotments.'*

*'Central woodland needs to be thinned out now - trees too close together.'*

*'It's a lovely way down to Henbury Shops. There's a lovely view and it's the only green space out of the Charlton Mead Estate.'*

Local resident's comments

Okebourne Road Park is located on the northern boundary of the city. It is surrounded on three sides by housing and open rural countryside to the north.

The park is informally laid out with a central area of woodland planted by the community. It is situated on a sloping site with extensive views out towards Avonmouth, Cribbs Causeway and beyond to the River Severn and Welsh Hills.

There are six entrances with one formal surfaced path and a number of informal unsurfaced paths through and around the park.

A public right of way crosses the site, although its route is currently blocked by overgrown vegetation within the central woodland. The density of the woodland creates a central barrier within the park.

Due to previous community involvement, the park has a special significance for local people, and a friends of group has recently been established.





## Okebourne Road Open Space

### What we want to achieve

To retain the semi-rural informal character of the park and to create a series of vibrant functions with a wide range of uses for all age groups.

### Ideas and options

- Improve natural surveillance and security by considering a limited amount of development fronting on to the park
- Provide a new children's and teenage play areas
- Carry out essential short and long-term management within the central woodland
- Create a new perimeter and central walk, with a series of seating areas which take advantage of the existing views. Create a series of new paths through the park
- Enhance the entrances making them more conspicuous and with better signs and information
- Improve the management of the central woodland and create further variations in mowing regimes across the park. Provide information on the woodland and the views from 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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp)





## Badock's Wood

Badocks Wood covers an area of approximately 10 hectares. It is a small, ancient, semi-natural, broad-leaved woodland situated in a limestone valley (with adjacent areas of grassland) sitting between Henleaze and Southmead wards and providing a wildlife haven in an urban setting. To the north of the site, in an area of open grassland, is a Bronze Age burial mound (tumulus).

The site has been in the care of Bristol City Council since 1937, when it was given to the city by a local industrialist Sir Stanley Badock.

The woodland is probably at least 400 years old in parts, as indicated by the presence of ancient woodland flora. It has a surprisingly good bird life for an urban site. The River Trym flows through the floor of the valley and meets one of its (unnamed) tributaries in the centre of the wood. To the north of the wood, there is an area of semi-improved grassland (which includes the tumulus) which was created in the mid-1980s when temporary post-war prefabs were removed.

An active Friends Group, (Friends of Badock's Wood: FOBW) work in conjunction with the council and actively raise funds. They are currently working on improving entrances. With their efforts interpretation of the site has much improved and new habitats have been created and maintained.

Badock's Wood was assessed and awarded the status of a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in January 2008. Although it is a significant site, while talking to people during the preparation of this plan, it was clear that many people did not know it existed.

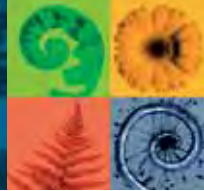
The River Trym is classed as a main river and therefore falls under the control of the Environment Agency.



*"New uses not needed. Local people are making use for children and dog walking increasingly. The habitats for wildlife are improving and wild flower seeding is bringing back a taste of real countryside for town children."*

Local resident's comments





## Badock's Wood

### What we want to achieve

To manage the site so it maintains its status as a Local Nature Reserve, raise awareness of the space among local people, enable and encourage use of the space by the community as a whole.

### Ideas and Options:

#### Enhance wildlife value

Extend the wildflower meadow on the former playing field to create wildlife habitats, incorporate it into the Local Nature Reserve.

#### Improve entrances and boundaries

- Create a more welcoming and visible entrance at the main Lakewood Road entrance, maybe incorporating a large metalwork arch reading "Badock's Wood."
- Improve entrance and introduce signage at Park Lane.
- Plans have been prepared for a new entrance feature at the Doncaster Road entrance. These plans have formed the basis of an application for National Lottery funding through the Community Spaces Awards scheme. If successful, this would take place this year.
- Continued upgrading of the boundary fencing and entrances in an effort to combat the illegal entry of cars and off-road motorbikes.

#### Improve pathways, waterways and bridges

- Explore with the Environment Agency the possibility of the following works;  
a railway sleeper bridge over the open gully,  
a grill across the stream to catch debris,  
the refurbishment and reinstatement of the Victorian weirs and bridges, and pond upstream- to look into the possibility of Heritage Lottery Funding for this major project.
- Maintain all paths in an appropriate manner.
- Improve path from the Greenway Centre and some paths by the river edge.

#### Seating and bins

- Replace existing seats with ones appropriate to their location, for example metal in the more open areas and wood in the wooded area.
- Introduce new litter ins across the site in an appropriate design.
- Introduce new dog bins at Doncaster Road entrance and playing field site.
- Raise awareness of problems caused by dog waste bags being thrown into trees and enforce as appropriate.

#### Develop the old playing pitch as a community facility

- Meadow planting is suggested above for wildlife reasons, other options include its development as a small community orchard to add to the foraging appeal of the hedgerow alongside or a site for community events.

#### Management

- The services of a Park Keeper should continue.
- Consideration by Friends of Badocks Wooed whether they could increase their area of interest to include the Trym Valley site across Doncaster Road.

#### Signs

- Consider the installation of direction signs in the streets around the entrances particularly near the main Lakewood Road entrance, also the entrances at Eastfield Road and Southmead Road.



Badock's Wood



Badock's Wood tumulus



Badock's Wood meadow



Badock's Wood bus trip

*"Too many dog walkers chuck their poo bags into the leaves. More deposit bins are needed. They need to walk a long way back to use the one at Lakewood Road."*

Local resident's ideas

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## Glencoyne Square

*'Youths DO need somewhere to sit, but not in a park hidden away. In an open area, well lit where any anti social behaviour would be spotted straight away. In Southmead this could be Glencoyne Square.'*

*"Bring the Lake District to Southmead. Can we have hosts of golden daffodils?"*

Local resident's comments

Glencoyne Square forms the central focus of an elaborate late 1940s development, which includes a series of radial roads and avenues all centred on the square.

The square is large in scale and open in nature but with little interest or features. For this reason, it fails to attract users to stay in the space and is used predominantly as a pedestrian cut through.

The square has a community focus being surrounded by seven churches of various denominations and close to the local shops. To the north are residential properties however this surrounding development does not have a strong relationship with the square.

The path layout suggests a degree of formality, although the semi-mature tree planting is largely sporadic and informal. The square can be accessed informally from all sides as there are no boundary railings or other forms of enclosure. There is a strong formal path network through the park, consisting of three paths which converge in a meeting area to the north of the shops

The entrances to the square are low key and there are no signs or information boards.





## Glencoyne Square

### What we want to achieve

To create a dynamic well defined square which retains its important function as a through route but also includes new facilities to encourage people to use and enjoy the square.

### Ideas and options

- To form a well defined square with a good relationship to its surrounding context
- To introduce a children's play area and seating areas which will encourage people to stay in the square
- To create a variety of planting, including new trees, shrubs, bulbs and grasses which will provide all year round interest
- To create a number of new formal access points and enhance existing entrances
- To make entrances more inviting by creating entrance 'squares' with railings, signage and information - similar to Queen Square. Any work to the highway would require a future public consultation.
- To enhance existing through routes and create a new perimeter path
- If the Square becomes much more popular we would consider introducing a mobile cafe on site
- Introduce a range of seating throughout the park

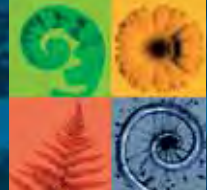


### KEY

- New tree planting
- Close mown grass
- Long/meadow grass
- Hedge
- Ornamental Planting
- Potential development
- Footpaths - existing
- Footpaths - enhanced
- Footpaths - proposed
- Parking
- New
- Enhanced
- Seating area
- Railings

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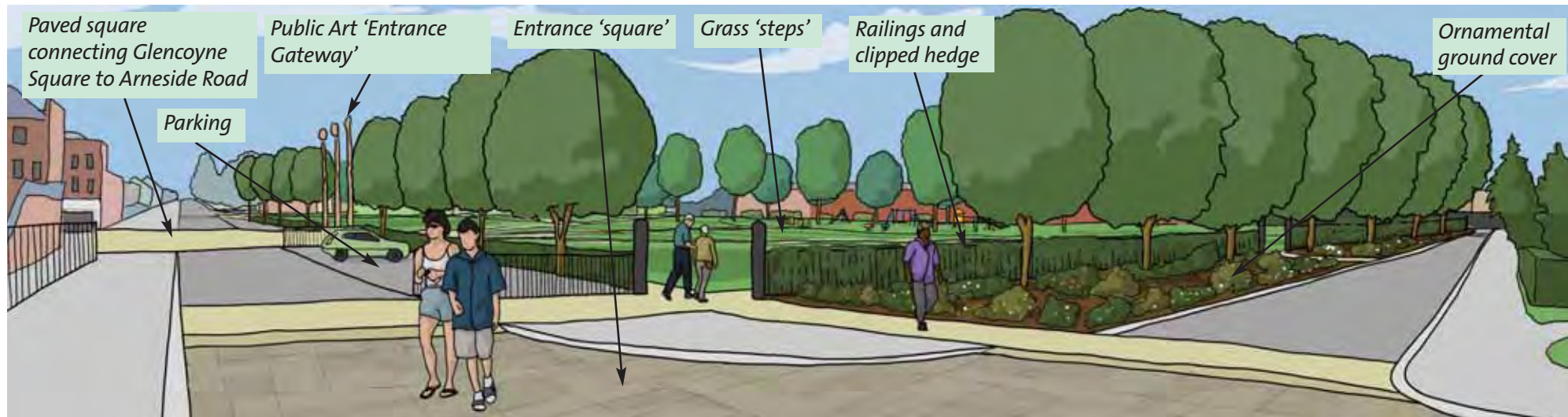




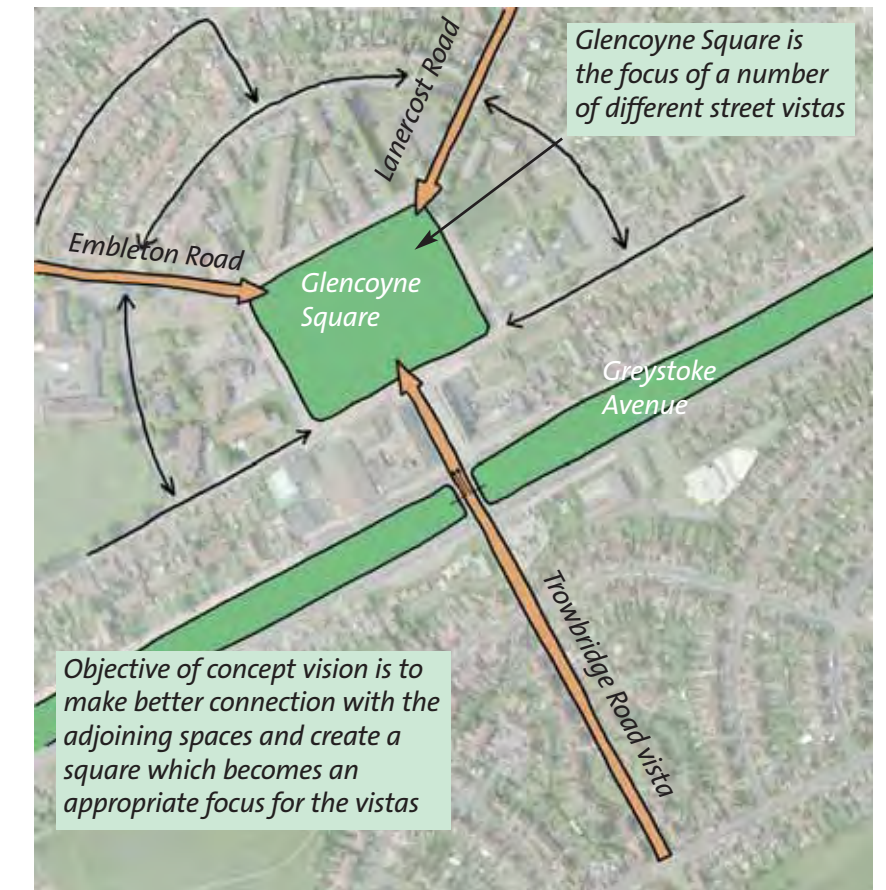
# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Glencoyne Square

Existing view looking onto the south-east corner of Glencoyne Square



What new entrances into the Square could look like



Creating a focus

These are examples of the type of spaces that could be incorporated



Public art entrance



Integrated play



Railing path and planting



'Terraced' seating



Direction path/promenade with seating



Grass terraces

• raising quality • setting standards • providing variety • encouraging use •





## Crow Lane Open Space

Crow Lane Open Space is a large linear space in Henbury not far from Blaise Castle Estate. The space is commonly used as a cut through to neighbouring shops and houses, with less people actively using the space for recreation. It has a children's play area and a recent addition of a popular wheels park. The open space and the neighbouring streets and shops suffer from significant levels of anti-social behaviour which cause safety concerns to local residents.

The space suffers from poor natural surveillance and some areas seem inhospitable - another reason for people to feel unsafe crossing the space.

The space has the potential to be a well used multi-functional space - its size and nature lend itself to a range of different uses. A great deal of work has been done to look at how the space could be improved. The introduction of residential accommodation around the edges of the site to increase natural surveillance of the remainder has been a long term proposal.

Feedback from local people was obtained via a questionnaire to people's homes and through community venues which has helped inform initial ideas which are presented here.

### What we want to achieve:

To create a multi-functional park at the heart of the community offering a range of facilities and which provides a safe and inviting place where people want to stay and take part in active recreation.

### Ideas and Options

- Improve feeling of safety through opening up the spaces, improving overall management and maintenance and sensitively introducing residential development on the fringes of the space, facing on to the park.
- Improve the woodland area for education and leisure activities
- New defined park entrance and investigation of safer crossing points along Crow Lane
- Enhance wildlife value, provide nature walks and introduce wildflower meadows
- To create spaces as 'rooms' within the park to encourage activities for all ages
- Explore possibility of expanding the park with Henbury Court School



Introduce housing facing onto the space to increase supervision and overlooking of the space and increase perceptions of safety and security.



Example of houses overlooking open space



Existing Wheels Park



View over the space to the east

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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp)





# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Doncaster Road Park

*"I use the park every day. I have always felt safe, even though there are lots of lads using the park. The park is well looked after by Mark the Park Keeper"*

Local resident comment

*"Put more things in for older kids. Football pitches, skate and bike park, shelters and chairs and tidy up basketball/netball pitch."*

Youth Forum member aged 13

Doncaster Road is a traditional park, with a formal layout which lacks many traditional features and facilities and is clearly in need of updating.

The park is popular with locals of all ages and is well used throughout the daytime and evening. The space has a very open feel that is considered to be an attribute in terms of safety and gives the park its character.

The park is enclosed by housing at its perimeter and it has been the focus of anti social behaviour in the past, but this has much improved in recent years.

Through the stakeholder consultation process it became clear that local residents feel there needs to be better quality and choice of facilities in the park. The park has several features including children's play and teen facilities, which are very important to the space.





## Doncaster Road Park

### What we want to achieve

Develop the formal character and identity of the park by improving and adding traditional and contemporary features that cater for all ages of the community

### Ideas and options

- Improve links across the park by enhancing existing entrances and providing new footpaths that link to bus stops and shops.
- Improve security and surveillance by increasing the activity in the park

### Opportunities for young people

- Provide opportunities for all ages from toddlers to teenagers.  
Build on existing features, working with children and young people to create their own BMX track within the cycle circuit and surrounding area and revamp and extend the play area.
- Provide a multi-use-games-area (MUGA) with lighting.

### Improve entrances

- Clear, quality signs and information about the park to promote and bring people in.
- Enhance the appearance of entrances to make them visually more appealing and safe, whilst ensuring access for all.

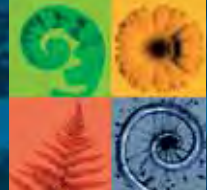
### Visibility and views

- Ensure open views across the site are retained to allow good surveillance of 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/agssp](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agssp)





## Arnall Drive Open Space

*“Any use made of it could be discussed and agreed with some sort of residents committee. We need parking for people who want to use the green space.”*

*“It is beautiful to look at, and creates a lovely place to live. It is always available to play on, stroll / walk on.”*

Local resident's comments

Arnall Drive is a large open space playing host to a mixture of informal green space, natural green space and sports pitches. Stretching from Arnall Drive in the south of Henbury and running alongside Henbury Road, until reaching Crow Lane in the north. The space is a popular dog walking and cut through space and is also used by Henbury Boys football club. As many as 200 users play football here at weekends.

It is an area highly valued by local people and views of those who attended the local meeting support that the area should more or less be kept as it is with some slight enhancements, parking facilities and better maintenance to trees and hedges. The area has some anti-social behaviour and there are reports of some young people making the site feel unsafe in the evenings for other users and vandalising the club house.



View from space towards Arnall Drive

### What we want to achieve:

To improve the space for active sports provision and for young people, ensuring that it remains a place for the wider community to enjoy.

### Ideas and Options

- 1 Option: Installation of a multi-use-games-area (MUGA) - Arnall Drive is one of two sites across Henbury which are being considered for a MUGA. The advantages of this site are that it is already recognised locally as a sports “hub”. A MUGA could be used by both Henbury Boys and other local young people. Suggested location is on the site of the old play area. The alternative site is on Crow Lane Open Space.
  - 2 Dispose of two small areas of the space for housing to improve overlooking of the space and increase perceptions of safety and security.
  - 3 Improved car parking provision - expansion of current car park area leading from Lorian Walk, to ease pressure on Arnall Drive when football tournaments are taking place.
- Improved management and maintenance of trees across the site. Many residents have told us that tall trees and hedges ruin their views onto the open space and block out light into properties along the edges of Arnall Drive - a maintenance and management regime should be undertaken. Boundary hedges need to be kept trimmed to improve views and therefore, natural surveillance into the site.
  - The main football pitch to be fenced off to mitigate against effects of motorbike damage and dog fouling
  - Improved clubhouse facilities to allow male and female football to be accommodated.

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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp)







## Trym Valley (Trymside Open Space)

*"There's nothing here - build on it"*

*"It's just a dog toilet with nothing for the kids to do"*

Local resident's comments

Trymside Open Space in Southmead has a chequered history, being the site for both community activism and some more anti-social activities. The pleasant riverside walkway is often marred by flytipping, entrances have been hit by stolen cars and there is a feeling of unease for those passing through. Recently a tree planting project took place on site. Trymside has an interesting bridge across the River Trym which was created by a community arts project in honour of a local youth worker. The site is mainly used as a cut through from Shetland Road and Trowbride Road to Doncaster Road.

Given the security issues experienced in the space, it could be beneficial to improve surveillance.

### What we want to achieve:

To improve the safety and security of the space and make it a welcoming environment for all visitors.

### Ideas and Options

- A new frontage of houses (single terrace and road frontage) facing on to the space from Doncaster Road and Shetland Road ends of the site.
- The remaining space should be actively managed for wildlife, incorporating a wildflower meadow and suitable management of new native trees.
- An enhanced riverside walkway through the site should be provided, with new entrance features, surfacing and lighting.



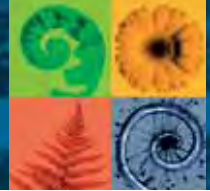
Existing footpath through the site.

*Introduce housing facing onto the park to increase supervision and overlooking of the space and increase perceptions of safety and security.*



Example of houses overlooking open space





## Elderberry Walk Open Space

*“There are too many motorbikes using the site in the summer and a lack of facilities overall. There is not a single bench across the whole space”*

Local resident's comments

Elderberry Walk is a large natural green space running from Pen Park Road in Southmead, adjoining the vacant Dunmail School Site. It has an interesting hedgerow thought to be a remnant from Southmead Farm. Despite the size of the space it appears to be under-used by local people, with dog-walking the main use. A public right of way runs through the site from east to west.

The adjacent vacant site of the former Dunmail School is likely to be redeveloped in the future. Improvements and changes to Elderberry Walk should be considered together with the neighbouring site to realise the maximum benefits to both spaces.

### What we want to achieve:

Ensure the space continues to act as a good quality natural open space and wildlife corridor. Better surveillance can be achieved by considering part of the site for development. This is a space that might also be considered for the provision of a junior football pitch (or pitches) as there is a shortage locally.

### Ideas and Options

- 1 To introduce some new houses on the space which overlook it and act to maintain the perception of safety and security on the space. This development would likely be considered at the same time as the adjacent Dunmail School site.
- Introduce an informal kickabout area, or junior football pitches with fixed goal posts.
  - Retain areas of grassland, while managing some areas as wildflower meadow
  - Convert part of the space for use as allotments



Elderberry Walk from Pen Park Road



Elderberry Walk view across quarry



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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp)





## Blaise Castle Estate

*"I go walking there with my family, it's like another world and a breath of fresh air"*

Local resident's comments

Blaise Castle Estate is a major destination site for the city which attracts both local and regional visitors.

The majority of Blaise Castle Estate lies in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area. This popular estate has received approximately £6 million of capital investment over recent years, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This has made a significant difference to the quality of facilities on the estate with an extended play area, café and improved paths and views.

The ongoing management and maintenance of the estate is detailed in the Blaise Castle Estate Management Plan which is available at [www.bristol.gov.uk/blaisycastleestate](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/blaisycastleestate). There are no other proposals for this site beyond those currently set out in the Management Plan.



Blaise Castle Estate - play facility



Restored Dairy



Bus trip to site with local residents.





# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Barnard Park

*"This could be a good formal space. Better mown grass with some seating and better planting"*

Local resident's comments

Barnard Park is an informal green space fronting onto Crow Lane opposite the main shopping thoroughfare in Henbury.

The site is well placed to be invested in as a new formal site for Henbury, with seating, planting and entrance features. It should be noted that this site hosts a yearly community event which would need to be accommodated. In the past the site has suffered from anti-social behaviour from some young people, and any improvements made should encourage ositive use of the park.



### What we want to acheive

To create a good quality formal site in the heart of Henbury, with seating and visually interesting planting. The site should also be developed as a community events space.



## Pen Park Sports Ground

*"We'd like to see suitable fencing around this site, to stop balls going into adjacent gardens"* Local resident's comments

Pen Park Sports Ground is managed by Southmead Community Sports, and provides a sporting hub site for this area of the city. The pavilion on the site was funded by the sale of part of the land on this former school site and was completed in the summer of 2007. The pavilion has six changing rooms, a disabled changing room and officials changing room.

There is pedestrian access via footpaths around the site, but vehicle access is restricted to the main entrance. The pavilion is of easy access and has facilities for disabled people including a hearing loop in the bar area.

Southmead Community Sport aims to provide a wide variety of sports facilities for everyone to use.

### Ideas and Options

- Provision of a children's play area, managed by the organisation but with public access at times when the club is open. It is envisaged that the play site should be designed for all age groups and have an active sport focus.
- Requests have been made from the club for more junior pitches in the Southmead area. This may possibly be provided at Elderberry Walk if space allows.
- A multi-use-games-area is also recommended for the site, with a mixture of public and club use.



Pen Park Sports pitches - possible site for MUGA





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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp)





## Other sites

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



Name	Description	What we want to achieve	
Pen Park Open Space	<p>Pen Park Open Space is home to a large cave situated underground - known locally as Pen Park Hole. The cave was discovered accidentally in the 17th Century. The first descent into the hole was by Captain Sturmy in 1669.</p> <p>The cave has had a long history of investigation, including being the object of the world's first published cave survey in 1683.</p> <p>Pen Park Hole is currently the UK's only known hydrothermal cave system. It contains one of Britain's largest natural underground cavities, the roof of which is only a few metres below the surface. The Cave is around 170 - 180 million years old and has a 30m lake at the bottom.</p> <p>Apart from the site's obvious interest to cavers and historians the site is a pleasant dog walking cut through space on the public right of way to neighbouring Homeleaze.</p>	No change of use is proposed for the site, but it is suggested that more information be made to the general public on the site's historical interest.	
Tree Tops	The Tree Tops development is an excellent example illustrating what we hope to achieve at other sites in the city. The housing layout, with properties fronting on to open space and woodland edges provides a secluded yet overlooked walkway stretching across from Passage Road to Charlton Lane.	The small green space sandwiched between Knole Lane and Charlton Lane is a good location for a small formal seating space for those walking in the area.	





Other sites

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

Name	Description	What we want to achieve	
Homeleaze Open Space	This open space leads from the public footpath at Pen Park Open Space into this silver birch lined right of way adjacent to housing on the edge of Filton Golf Course.	Continue to manage as at present.	
Henbury Churchyard	Henbury churchyard is the heart of Henbury village and has a through route to Blaise Castle via a tunnel to the rear of the churchyard. This burial ground is maintained but not owned by the city council, under the disused burial sites act.	Continue to manage as at present.	
Windmill Hill	A hilltop site offering stunning views of Avonmouth and the Severn Estuary. Accessed via housing development located off Hallen Road with another area of informal green space located between Woodside Close and Windmill Lane. The Hilltop site is adjacent to Riding for the Disabled facilities at Blaise and is the former site of a children's home - remnants of old walls and walkways are visible. Two stunning mature cedar trees crown the hilltop.	Continue to manage as at present.	





## Other sites

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

Name	Description	What we want to achieve
Marissal Road Open Space	<p>This is a new natural green space which is now publicly accessisble and an additional space for the area. Bristol City Council worked alongside Wessex Water to adapt a space known as “the Penn” - making an alleviation pond where floodwater could collect.</p> <p>The project has been designed with a reed bed, tree and wildlife planting. New pathways and seating around the pond are suitable for wheelchair users and buggies. The pond sits beneath grassy banks overlooked by new housing.</p>	Manage as publicly accessible space.
Greystoke Avenue	<p>Wide area of informal green space forming an avenue adjacent to the roadside edge leading along Greystoke Avenue through the heart of Southmead.</p> <p>The area adjacent to Arnside Avenue has in recent years been improved with planted beds and a community art installation.</p> <p>The space has obvious asthetic appeal in breaking up the housing, but is also used by young people as an informal kickabout area</p>	It is suggested that improvements to Glencoyne Square are extended to include an avenue of trees along this space (Greystoke Avenue).



## Publicly accessible private spaces

The area also has a space which is accessed by the public but is not under Bristol City Council ownership but worthy of mention.

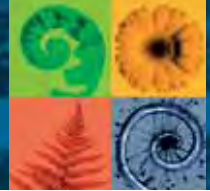
### Blaise Hamlet

A delightful hamlet of nine very different picturesque cottages in a wonderfully tranquil location. The hamlet was designed by John Nash in 1809 to accommodate Blaise Estate pensioners.

The cottages circle a publicly accessible green with fruit trees and monument. It is owned and managed by National Trust.







## Section 4. Possible open space disposals in the Henbury and Southmead 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 Henbury and Southmead. Through stakeholder involvement, views from the community were sought, helping to identify how sites are used, levels of use, barriers to access and whether these could be overcome.

In Henbury and Southmead, four spaces have been identified as low value and are proposed for disposal.

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 to the remainder. In this case, 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. Partial disposal is proposed on a further five spaces.

### Control of housing design in relation to partial site disposals.

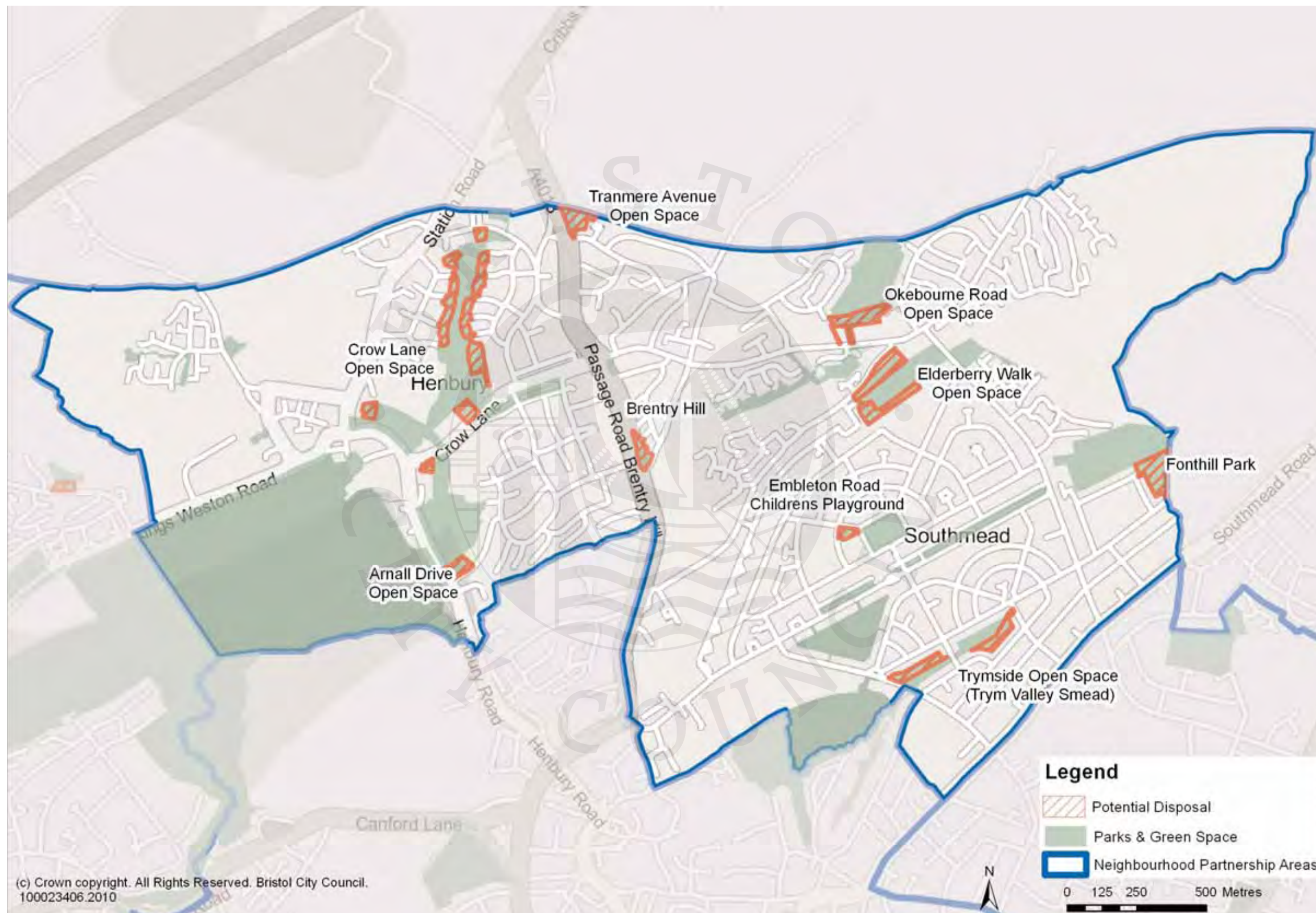
Where it is considered appropriate to partially develop council land in order to improve the remainder of the space, the method of disposal will take whatever form is the most likely to bring about the intended benefits of the development within acceptable timescales. Prior to marketing, the council 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 whole and partial disposal sites.







## Disposal Sites

### 1. Part of Crow Lane Open Space

The space is defined as a 'backland site' under policy LM7 of the Parks and Green Space Strategy and as such it is considered that it would benefit from development looking over the space. The site has suffered from anti-social behaviour and misuse.

The space is currently underused and is one of the five sites that is being put forward for partial disposal. Development of part of the space would benefit the remaining open space by introducing natural surveillance and increasing the perception of safety and security. It is proposed to dispose of part of this site with a peripheral development with properties looking into the space.

Care has been taken to ensure that ecological and environmental issues have been addressed when forming the disposal footprint and that the wildlife corridor remains a satisfactory size. This also includes taking flood risk issues into consideration.



### 2. Part of Arnall Drive

Two areas across the space have been identified as possible disposal sites. The site has been a focus for anti-social behaviour and so development is proposed to bring more natural surveillance in to the park and increase the perception of safety and security.

The park is a Wildlife Network Site and forms a green link running from Blaise Castle Estate up to the north of the city through Crow Lane Open Space. It is therefore important to retain this link.

Part of the space hosts a highly valued sport venue and the Area Green Space Plan is seeking to enhance this as set out in the Investment Section (page 18).

The disposal footprint chosen would offer good supervision of the park and would not compromise the current function of the park as a sports venue and Wildlife Network Site.



### 3. Part of Okebourne Road

This site is also defined as a 'backland site' and would benefit from development overlooking the space. There are on-going issues of fly tipping and motorbike use and there has been evidence of fires and cars being dumped at the bottom of the open space.

The space is a Wildlife Network Site and primary school pupils took a major role in planting the community woodland of "Oke Park Wood".

Development is proposed along the southern boundary of the site, at the top of the hill. In this location, a good sized park would be retained to accommodate facilities (see page 8 for investment ideas and options).



### 4. Part of Elderberry Walk

It is proposed that a proportion of Elderberry Walk is considered for disposal. However, any plans should be considered in conjunction with any proposed development for the adjacent Dunmail School site.

The site is a Wildlife Network Site and a large section running east to west is to be retained for this purpose. There is also a hedgerow to the south of site that is though to be part of the original hedgerow of Southmead Farm it is expected that this would be protected through planning.







## Disposal Sites

### 5. Embleton Road Children's Play Area.

This is a well used and popular children's play area on a busy route for parents. However the play area is nearing the end of its lifespan and it is proposed that a new play area is sited on the improved Glencoyne Square site. It is suggested that when this project is implemented the site at Embleton Road be disposed of.



### 6. Part of Trym Valley

It is proposed to develop two edges of the site to create a single terrace of housing looking into the space to improve passive surveillance and security. The site has had a history of anti-social behaviour including drug dealing, car dumping and fly-tipping.

Various community projects have taken place on the site including a bridge crossing and more recently tree planting, though the trees have subsequently suffered from vandalism.



### 7. Font Hill Park

Font Hill Park occupies an isolated position on the eastern edge of Southmead. With no through route it feels out on a limb. It suffers high levels of anti-social behaviour and there is evidence of drug taking and rubbish dumping. Neighbours regularly make complaints to Bristol Parks and the Police. The park was identified through the Call for Sites process (part of the Bristol Development Framework) by local residents as a space which is surplus to requirements and which they would like to see developed. It has previously housed a children's play facility. There is a need for children's play in this area and it is suggested that a new children's play facility should be located at the Southmead Community Sports site adjacent to the park, which is well used at all times of the day.



### 8. Tranmere Avenue

The disposal of this site would be dependant on acquiring access to land of similar size in a more appropriate location in the vicinity. The space is of poor quality and not well used, primarily due to its backland location adjacent to the dual carriageway (Wyck Beck Road) and has been the subject of anti-social behaviour, flytipping and fires. However, the need for children's play in this area has been identified and to meet the standards of the Parks and Green Space Strategy, the site has some importance. If another, more suitable, piece of land were to become available in the area that could accommodate children's play, then Tranmere Avenue should be disposed of.



### 9. Brentry Hill

The larger of the two sites on Brentry Hill is suggested for disposal if an alternative site for children's play can be identified. This triangular site is adjacent to housing on Brentry Lane and bounded by the dual carriageway. Its position, sandwiched between dual carriageway and a one way access road make it a space that is difficult to use. However, the need for children's play in this area has been identified and to meet the standards of the Parks and Green Space Strategy, the site has some importance. If another, more suitable, piece of land were to become available in the area that could accommodate children's play, then Brentry Hill should be disposed of.







## Section 5.

### Future opportunities

Henbury and Southmead is 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:**

An opportunity may exist to negotiate legitimate public access to the historic parkland at Royal Victoria Park. Discussions have been held previously. The benefit of this would be to reduce the gap in provision for access to informal green space at the northern edge of the Neighbourhood Partnership Area.

There is an area to the north of the Neighbourhood Partnership that fails to meet our distance standard for access to Children and Young People's Space. The only available site is at Tranmere Avenue but this is not a suitable space for children's play. It is proposed that the Tranmere Avenue site is disposed of and opportunities to locate a children's play area elsewhere will be investigated. The Brentry Primary School and Children's Centre site is one option to explore with Children and Young People's Services and the School. Similarly, the Brentry Hill site is currently put forward for disposal but is the only available site to accommodate children's play.

There may also be a future opportunity to introduce a children's play space in Elderberry Walk. This has not been suggested in the ideas and options, as a preference for an informal kickabout area and possibly junior football pitches was taken. However, if through the consultation it becomes apparent that a children's play space is desired here, there is an opportunity to do so.





## Appendix 1. How the Area Green Space Plan would meet the standards set out in the Parks and Green Space Strategy

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 Henbury and Southmead.

### 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 getting to 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.

In Henbury and Southmead, the most significant barrier to access is that of the A4018 (Passage Road, which turns into Wyck Beck Road north of the Crow Lane Roundabout) that splits the two wards. Doncaster Road and Greystoke Avenue in the Southmead ward are also considered to be barriers. However, there are numerous opportunities to cross the road and this has been reflected in applying the distance standard.





# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Children's and Young Person's Space

Henbury and Southmead is currently under provided for in terms of children's play with just four play spaces in the area. Play spaces are provided at Blaise Castle Estate, Crow Lane Open Space in Henbury, Doncaster Road Park and Embleton Road in Southmead.

Blaise Castle Estate provides a major play facility in the local area with equipment for all ages ranging from toddlers to teenagers.

The park provision at Doncaster Road Park is coming towards the end of its operational use and caters for under 8s. The options within this document suggests that this play area should be replaced and cater for a wider age group - with separate provision for toddlers and older children. Embleton Road Play Area is another facility in need of replacement within the next

few years. Despite its shortcomings the site is very popular and is on a through route to a primary school, the option in this document is to relocate the play area to Glencoyne Square.

Large areas outside the children's play standard show up across East Southmead and Brentry which have no children's play facilities.

In order to better meet the distance standards three new play areas are proposed with additional improvements made to Doncaster Road Park, and Crow Lane spaces. Doncaster Road proposals are to include provision for all age groups - from toddler play equipment to a BMX space. Similarly Crow Lane play area will extend with provision for a wider age group.

New play areas are suggested for Okebourne Road Open Space, Southmead Community Sports and Glencoyne Square. The provision at

Okebourne Road will incorporate a toddler playground and more risky play spaces for older children using the woodland and slopes on the site. It should be noted that the new space for Glencoyne Square will replace the current provision at Embleton Road and will be aimed at under 8s. Southmead Community Sports will satisfy the gap in provision around the east of the Neighbourhood Partnership Area providing a facility managed by the sports club, which will have access restricted at late hours. It has been requested that this facility should have a sporty theme, but will provide for all ages.

The disposal and subsequent development of the former Dunmail School and Elderberry Walk will be considered together to realise the maximum benefits to both spaces. A new children's play area is a consideration here.

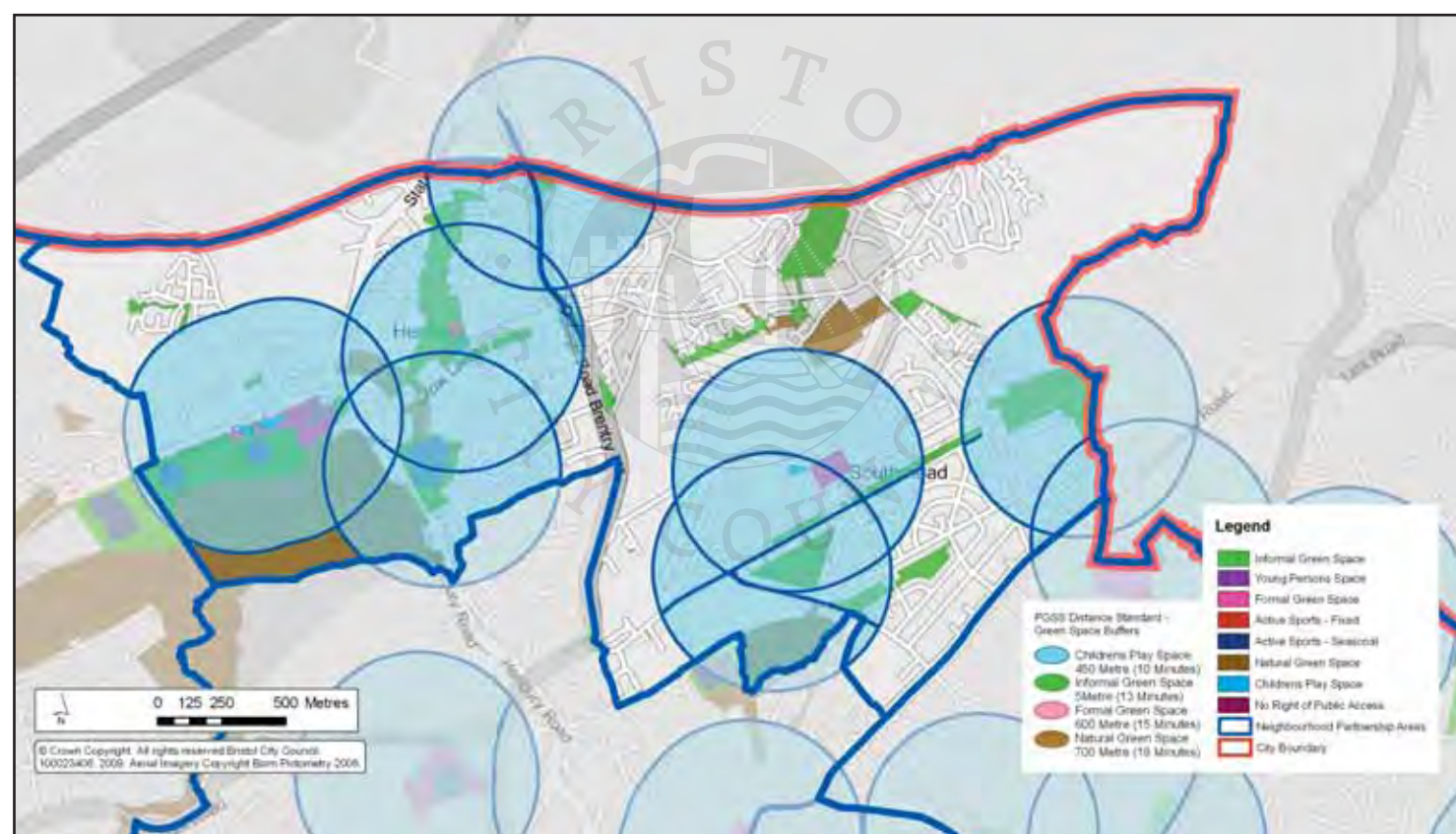
There may also be an opportunity to site a small children's play area at Brentry Primary School if the school supports this. The progress on these new play facilities will determine the future of Tranmere Road space (see page 30).

Brentry Hill also sits within a gap in provision and has been identified for disposal. Disposal will only take place if a more suitable location for play can be found.

New children's play proposed for Monks Park in Horfield will also be accessible by young people in parts of Southmead

The introduction of possible new play spaces will mean the total population outside the 450m distance standard will go down slightly from 50% to 47%. This does not include potential play areas at Elderberry Walk or Brentry Hill Primary School.

## Areas where the standard is currently met



## Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years





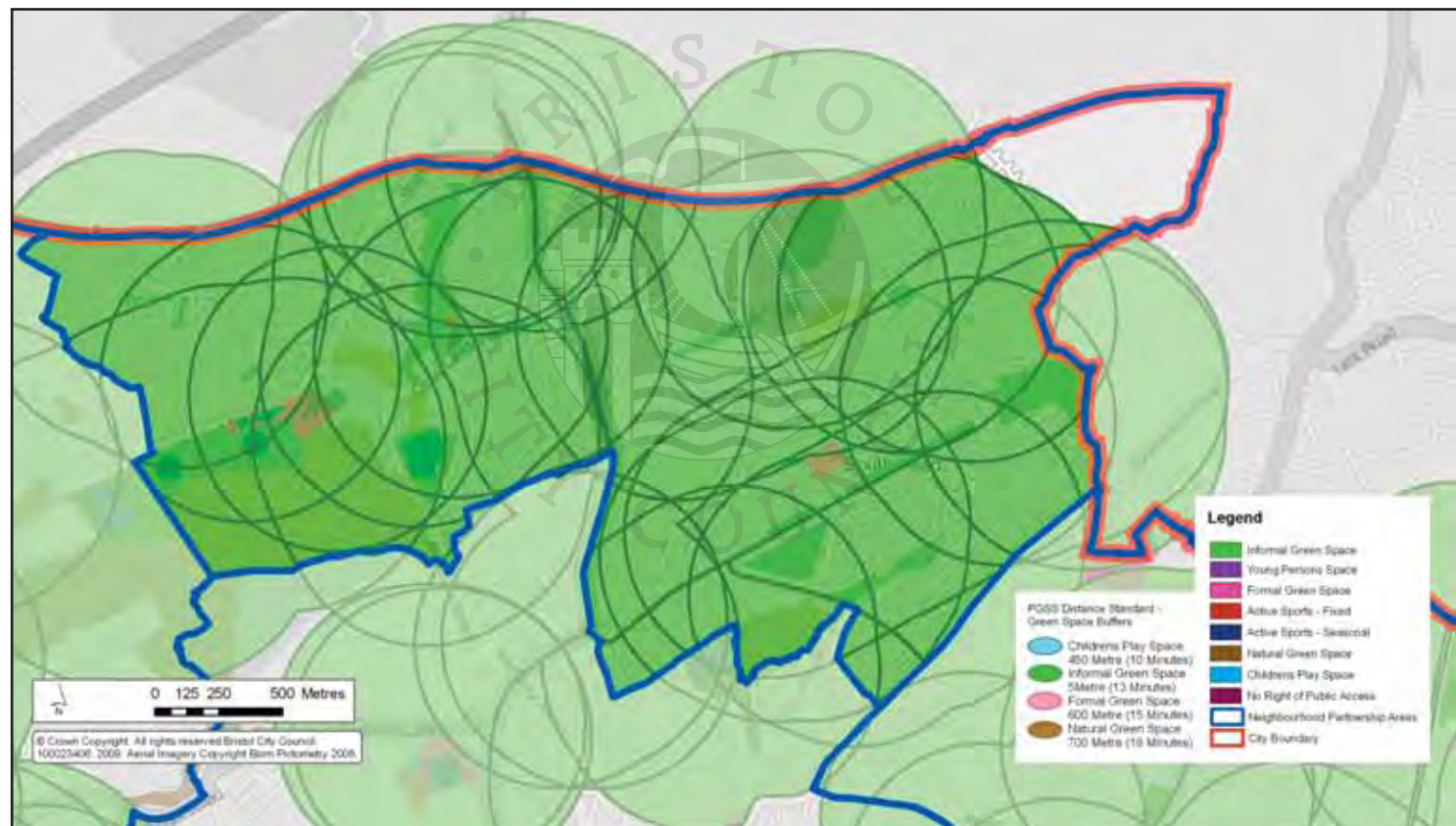
## Informal Green Space

Informal green space is well provided for across this Neighbourhood Partnership Area and the only gap in provision falls in the industrial area to the north east where there are limited homes. The Area Green Space Plan proposes a number of changes to the footprint of Informal Green Space but overall the area within the distance remains broadly unchanged. However there are some small gaps in provision across the Neighbourhood Partnership Area. It is highlighted under “future opportunities” (page 31) that Royal Victoria Park could be counted as informal green space - if public access to the site was legally secured. It is presently accessed via a public footpath by the local community.

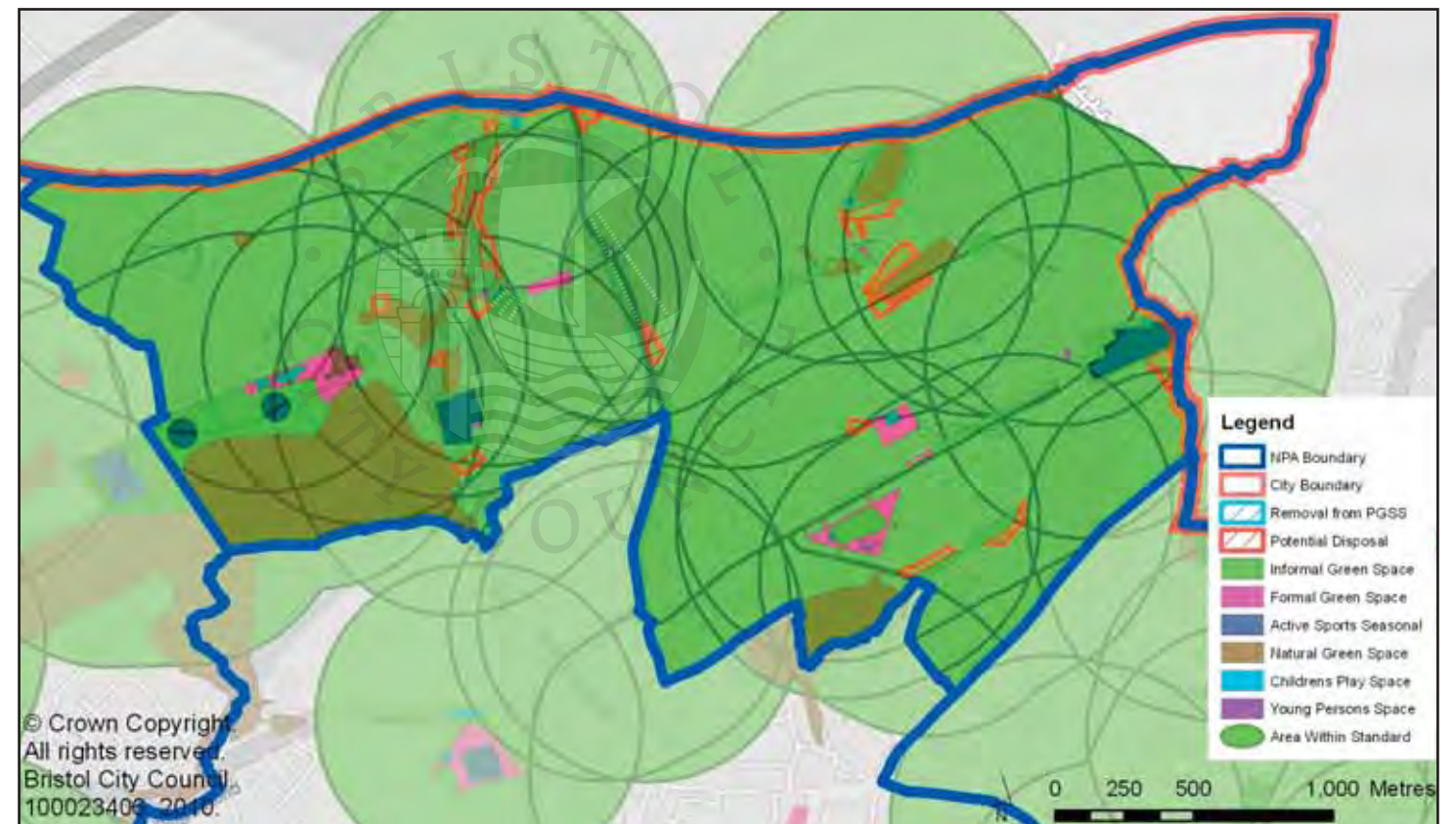
The current informal space at the eastern end of the Tree Tops development will be formalised reflecting a local aspiration to make it a pleasant seating area.

The percentage of the predicted future population that will be outside the distance standard for Informal Green Space will remain the same at 1%.

## Areas where the standard is currently met



## Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years







# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Formal Green Space

Two formal green spaces are currently available in the Neighbourhood Partnership Area, Glencoyne Square and Blaise Castle Estate. There are large gaps in provision across much of the area, particularly around central Henbury and Brentry.

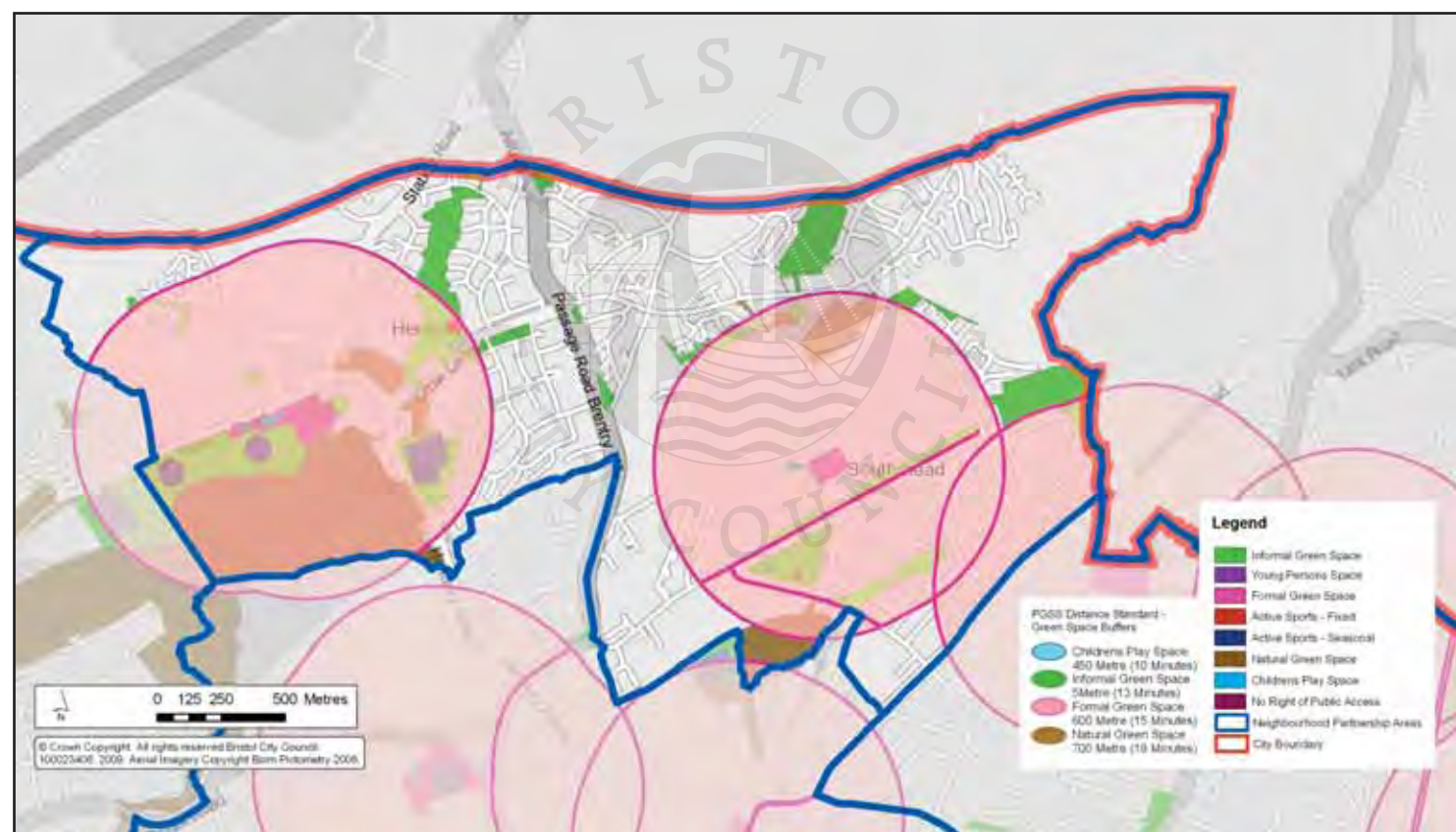
The Area Green Space Plan proposes the redesign of Glencoyne Square to better deliver formal provision by this space with enhanced planting, seating and entrances on to the Square. Formal provision from the Square will extend with avenues of trees planted onto the large verges of Greystoke Avenue.

Improvements outlined in the concept plan for Doncaster Road Park will make the park more accessible for all sectors of the community, and will deliver a formal picnic space on site, improved planting and more seating throughout. Both Doncaster Road Park and Crow Lane Open Space should successfully provide a traditional formal park experience for the people of Henbury and Southmead. New formal provision is planned for the informal space at Tree Tops off Knole Lane. Barnard Park on Crow Lane should be improved as a formal provision in the heart of Henbury. Monks Park (covered by Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan) will provide a formal opportunity for people in the southern part of Southmead.

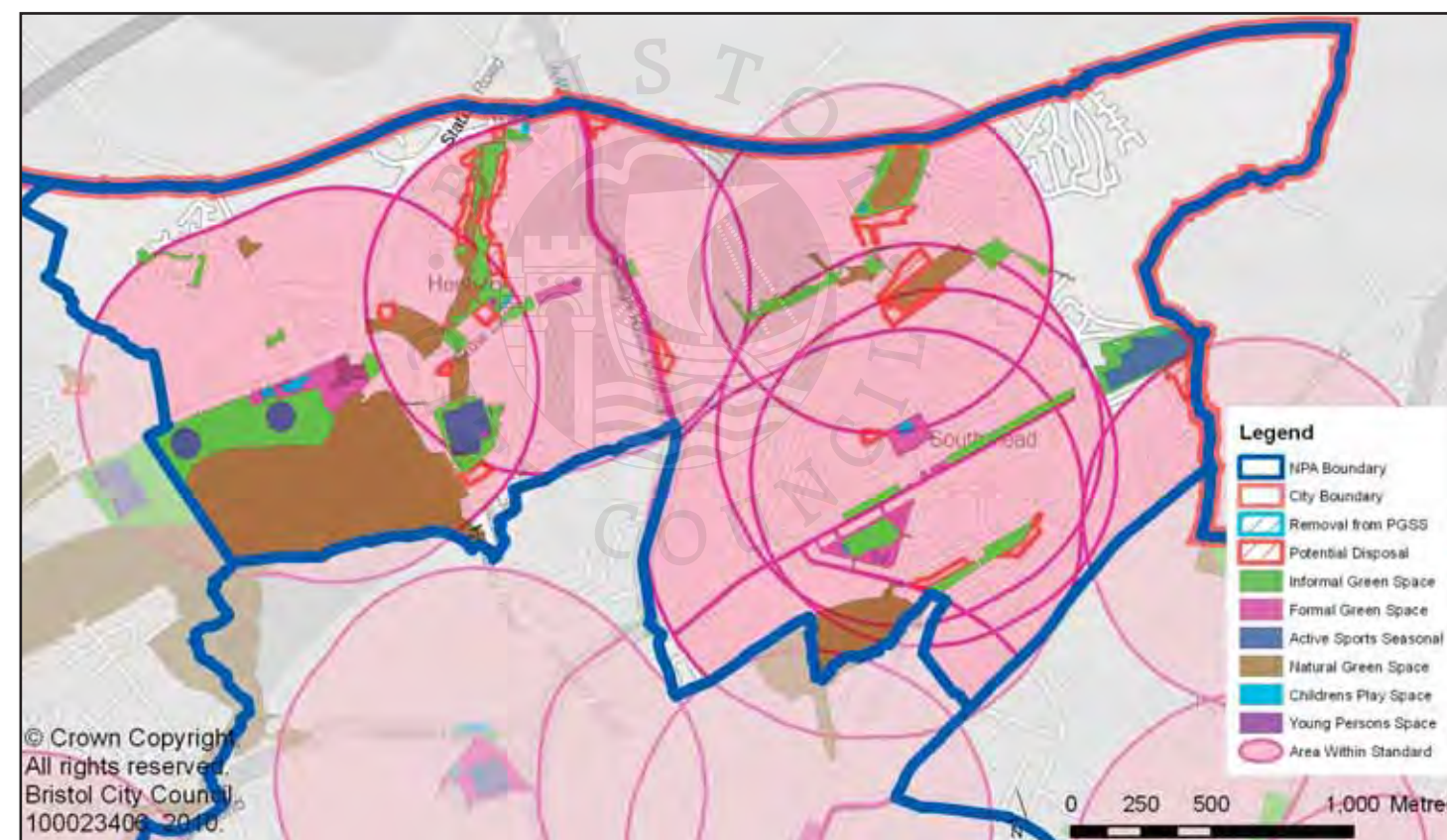
The provision of formal green space will be higher, but gaps will still exist across the far east of the Neighbourhood Partnership Area, but much of this area is underpopulated. There is currently no suitable space to meet the standards any further.

The percentage of the predicted future population that will be outside the distance standard for Formal Green Space will fall from 49% to 12%.

## Areas where the standard is currently met



## Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years





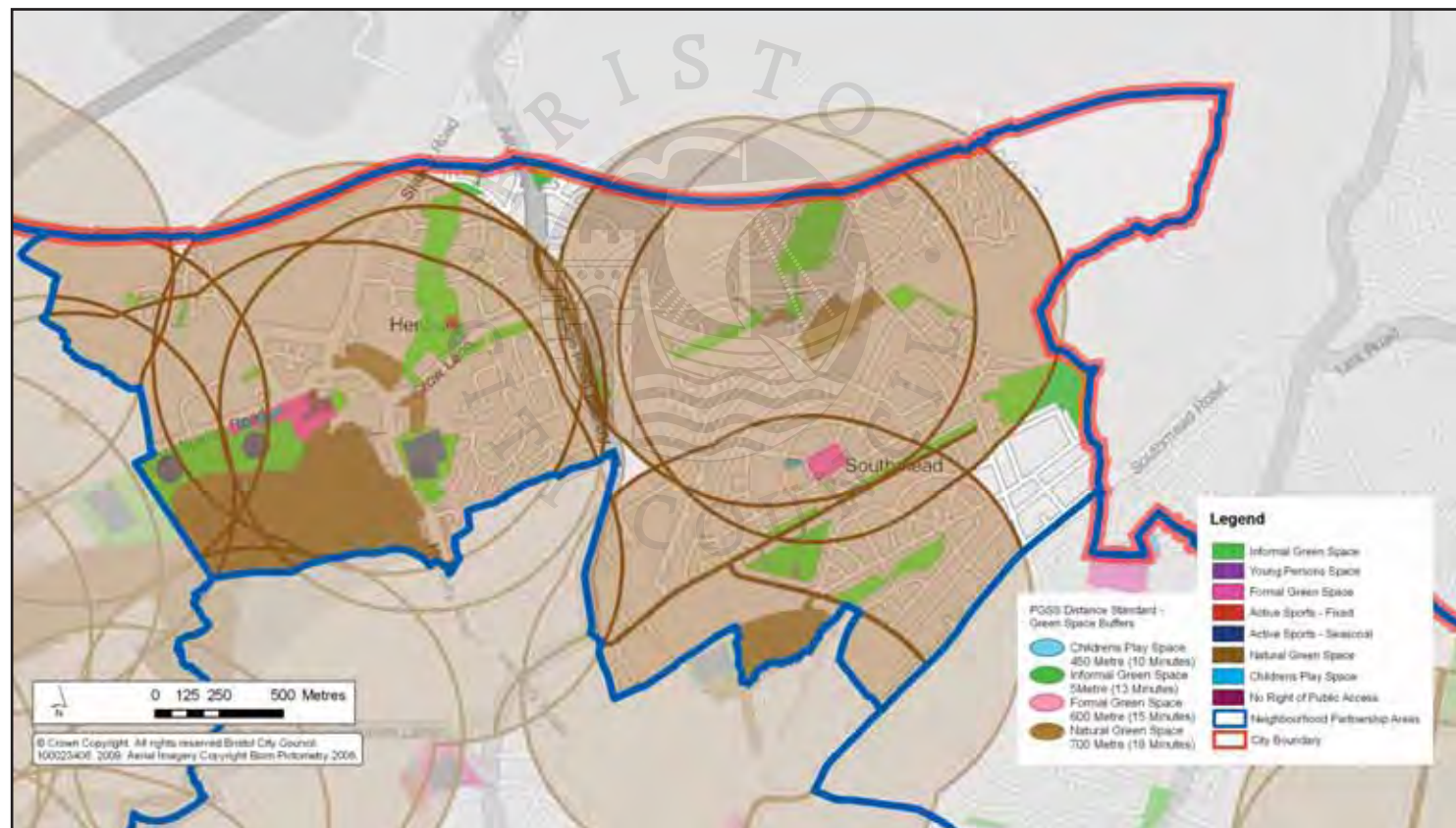
## Natural Green Space

The Neighbourhood Partnership Area is very well provided for by Natural Green Space with minimal gaps in provision after the proposals have been applied. The area is home to a Local Nature Reserve at Badock's Wood and has natural opportunities at Elderberry Walk (ancient hedgerow), Crow Lane Open Space (Hazel Brook), Tree Tops (woodland walkway), Okebourne Road (central woodland site), Trym Valley (Riverside walkway), Arnall Drive (part of Henbury conservation area) and of course Blaise Castle Estate. New natural provision at Marissal Road includes a pond and wildlife planting.

The distance standard for natural green space is almost met after the options have been applied. The slight gap in provision could be improved should Royal Victoria Park become legitimately accessible.

The total population that is predicted to be outside the distance standard for Natural Green Space will drop from 7% to 0%.

## Areas where the standard is currently met



## Areas predicted to be within the standard in 20 years





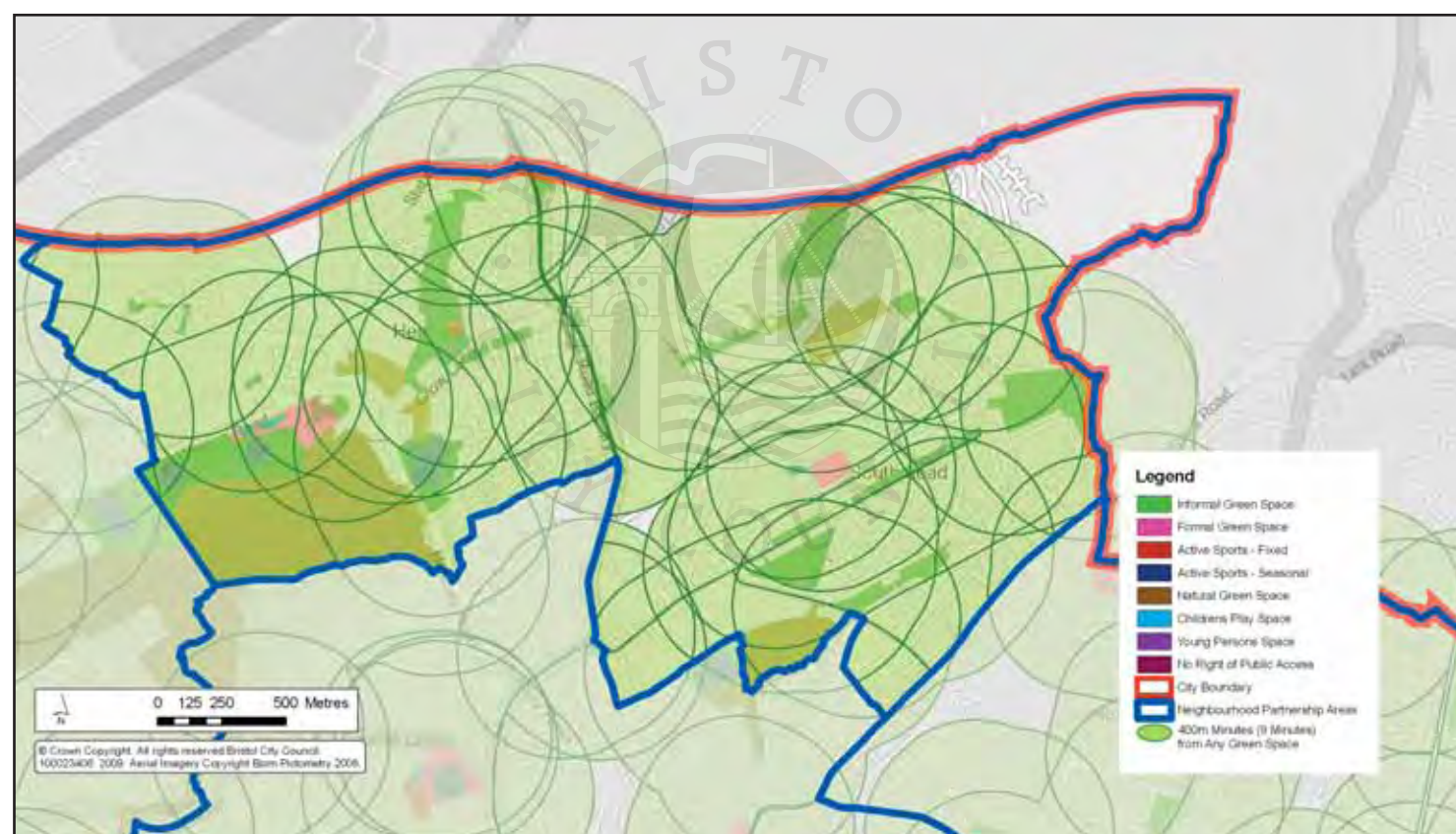


## Distance to the nearest green space

At present only 4% of the population are not within 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 4% will remain further than 400m from an accessible green space. This figure could be further improved if Royal Victoria Park became legitimately accessible and access is possible to space at Brentry Primary School.

## 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
<b>Total Bristol Standard</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>2.78</b>

### 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	0.4	0.35	0.41
Formal green space	2.0	1.79	2.44	2.84
Informal green space	8.0	24.7	13.31	15.48
Natural green space	9.0	24.96	20.89	24.29
Locality standard	18.0	51.85	37.0	43.01





Appendix 2.

How the Area Green Space Plan would meet the policies set out in the Parks and Green Space Strategy

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	<p><b>CY1</b></p> <p>New play spaces at Doncaster Road, Southmead Community Sports and Glencoyne Square are planned as well as enhanced play equipment at Crow Lane.</p> <p>In addition natural play opportunities should be provided at Badock's Wood, Crow Lane Open Space, Okebourne Road and potentially at Elderberry Walk.</p>
	Provide diverse, exciting and challenging spaces for young people	<p><b>CY2</b></p> <p>Doncaster Road Park should provide youth oriented provision including space for bikes and a multi-use-games-area. The proposals have been developed in consultation with young people from Southmead Youth Forum.</p> <p>Options for Crow Lane include a multi-use-games-area, and opportunities for natural play. Please refer to proposals for multi-use-games-areas and Wheels Parks on the following page.</p> <p>Opportunities for young people using the woodland and slopes at Okebourne Road are proposed.</p>
	Enhance the wider park environment for play	<p><b>CY4</b></p> <p>The whole of Okebourne Road should be enhanced with the wider play opportunities in mind.</p> <p>Informal kickabout spaces are suggested at Crow Lane, Okebourne Road and Doncaster Road Park.</p>





# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

## Wheels Parks and MUGAs

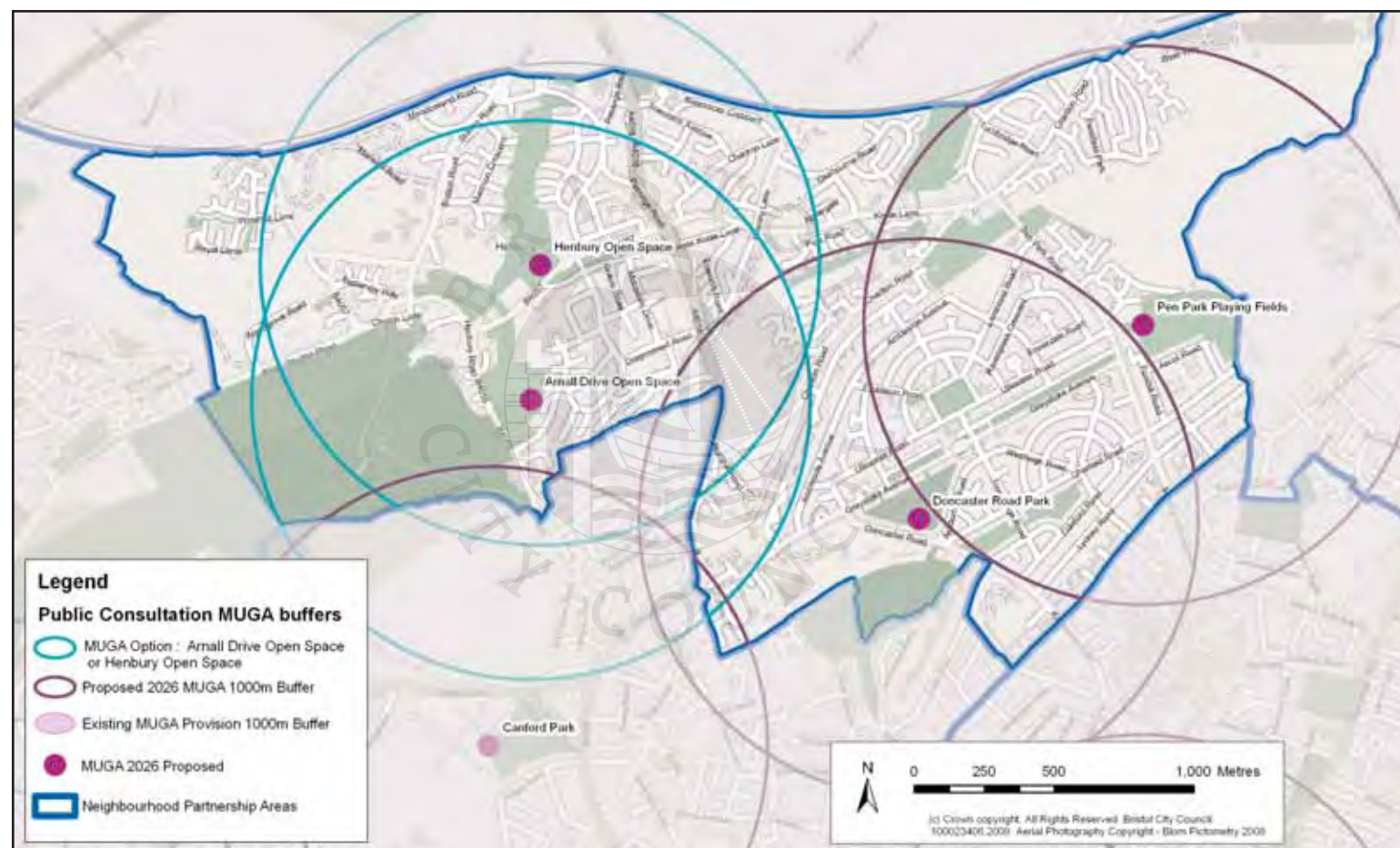
The Parks and Green Space Strategy sets out that young people should have access to a Multi-Use-Games-Area (MUGA) within 1km of where they live and access to a Wheels Park within 2km.

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.

The map identifies that there are currently no MUGAs in the NPA that fit the required standard for young people to use.

A wheels park was installed in 2005 as part of the provision at Crow Lane Open space.



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

**Option One:** Provide a MUGA at Crow Lane Open space, Southmead Community Sports (Pen Park Sports Ground) and Doncaster Road Park

**Option Two:** Provide a MUGA at Arnall Drive, Southmead Community Sports (Pen Park Sports Ground) and Doncaster Road Park



## Potential Wheels Parks with 2km Distance Performance Target



### Preferred option:

Provide a new wheels facility at Doncaster Road Park. In the neighbouring Neighbourhood Partnership Area there are proposals for improved wheels facilities at Canford Park which will also benefit young people from Henbury and Southmead Neighbourhood Partnership Area.







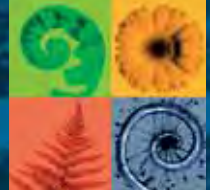
# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
<b>Formal Green Space</b>		
	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)	<b>FG1</b> The traditional parks serving this Neighbourhood Partnership Area will be Crow Lane Open Space for Henbury ward and Doncaster Road for Southmead ward.
	Providing a Park Keeper in all main traditional parks as a minimum	<b>FG2</b> A park keeper currently covers a number of parks in the area including Doncaster Road Park, Badock's Wood and Glencoyne Square. This cover would be extended if Crow Lane Open Space became a traditional park.
	Enhance entry points and boundaries	<b>FG4</b> See individual improvement plans.
	Provide visual planting schemes in key formal green spaces	<b>FG7</b> New planting schemes are suggested for Tree Tops, Glencoyne Square, Doncaster Road, Barnard Park, and Crow Lane Open Space.
<b>Informal Green Space</b>		
	Tackle anti-social behaviour focusing on prevention and greater responsiveness to incidents, access and visibility	<b>IG2</b> Provide teen focussed equipment at Doncaster Road Park, as part of wider park improvements, which will encourage more people to use the space.  A MUGA will be provided at either Arnall Drive Open Space or Crow Lane Open Space - both areas have been the focus for a certain level of anti-social behaviour and it is hoped that by providing an additional youth sports facility we may be able to encourage a level of more positive behaviour in the neighbourhood.
	Upgrade some areas of informal green space for safe play and sport, including enclosing them with railings and making them dog free	<b>IG3</b> Proposals for Glencoyne Square will enclose this space making it safer for play.



Policy Area	PGSS Policy No. How ideas and options would act to meet the policy		
<b>Natural Green Space</b>  	Establish a network of 16 Local Nature Reserves across the city	<b>NG1</b>	Badock's Wood is one of the city's current designated Local Nature Reserves. Other sites will be selected from Sites of Nature Conservation Interest across the city.
	Improve maintenance and management regimes in natural green space to improve welcome and accessibility  Improve entrances and routes through natural green space to improve welcome and security	<b>NG2</b>	Improvements to management of woodland at Okebourne Road underpin the improvements suggested in this plan, to bring much more of the space into the public realm.  Many of the improvements suggested in the Crow Lane options and ideas also emphasise improved management along the brook corridor and wooded areas and limited development to create natural surveillance to improve both welcome, accessibility and security on site.
<b>Active Sports Space</b>  	The quality of experience and carrying capacity of a playing pitch will be enhanced by improving changing facilities pavilions and pitch quality.	<b>AS1</b>	Southmead Community Sports has a number of football pitches, junior pitches, cricket square and nets and a 3G pitch, along with a large pavilion with changing rooms.  Arnall Drive has 3 football pitches, run by Henbury Old Boys. One pitch is of excellent - county standard. Improvement to security of sports facilities have been requested by the Club.  Blaise Estate currently has 3 cricket squares. It is proposed to reduce these to two.  Long-term proposals for sport will be identified in the final Area Green Space Plan.
	A smaller number of locations will provide tennis courts, but these will have multiple courts (ideally four or more) managed by either a club or someone to take bookings.	<b>AS2</b>	There are no proposals to provide new tennis courts in this Neighbourhood Partnership Area.
	Review and rationalisation of bowling provision.	<b>AS3</b>	The bowling club and green at Crow Lane Open Space is in a strategically good location for meeting city wide need.
	Enhance the wider park environment for informal sport.	<b>AS5</b>	Crow Lane or Arnall Drive will provide a multi-use-games-area. A multi-use-games-area will be provided at Doncaster Road and Southmead Community Sports. Doncaster Road, Crow Lane, Elderberry Walk and Okebourne Road will provide areas for informal kickabout.





### Policy Area

### PGSS Policy No.

### How ideas and options would act to meet the policy

#### Other land management policies



Provide good quality accessible toilets

LM4

Review the arrangements for management and maintenance of the toilets at Blaise to make significant improvements to their care and upkeep.

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.

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

This is put forward for Crow Lane Open Space and Okebourne Road Open Space. The principle of introducing housing to overlook a site also applies to Arnall Drive Open Space and Elderberry Walk Open Space.





# Ideas and Options Paper Henbury and Southmead Area Green Space Plan

