



# Ideas and Options Paper

## Horfield and Lockleaze

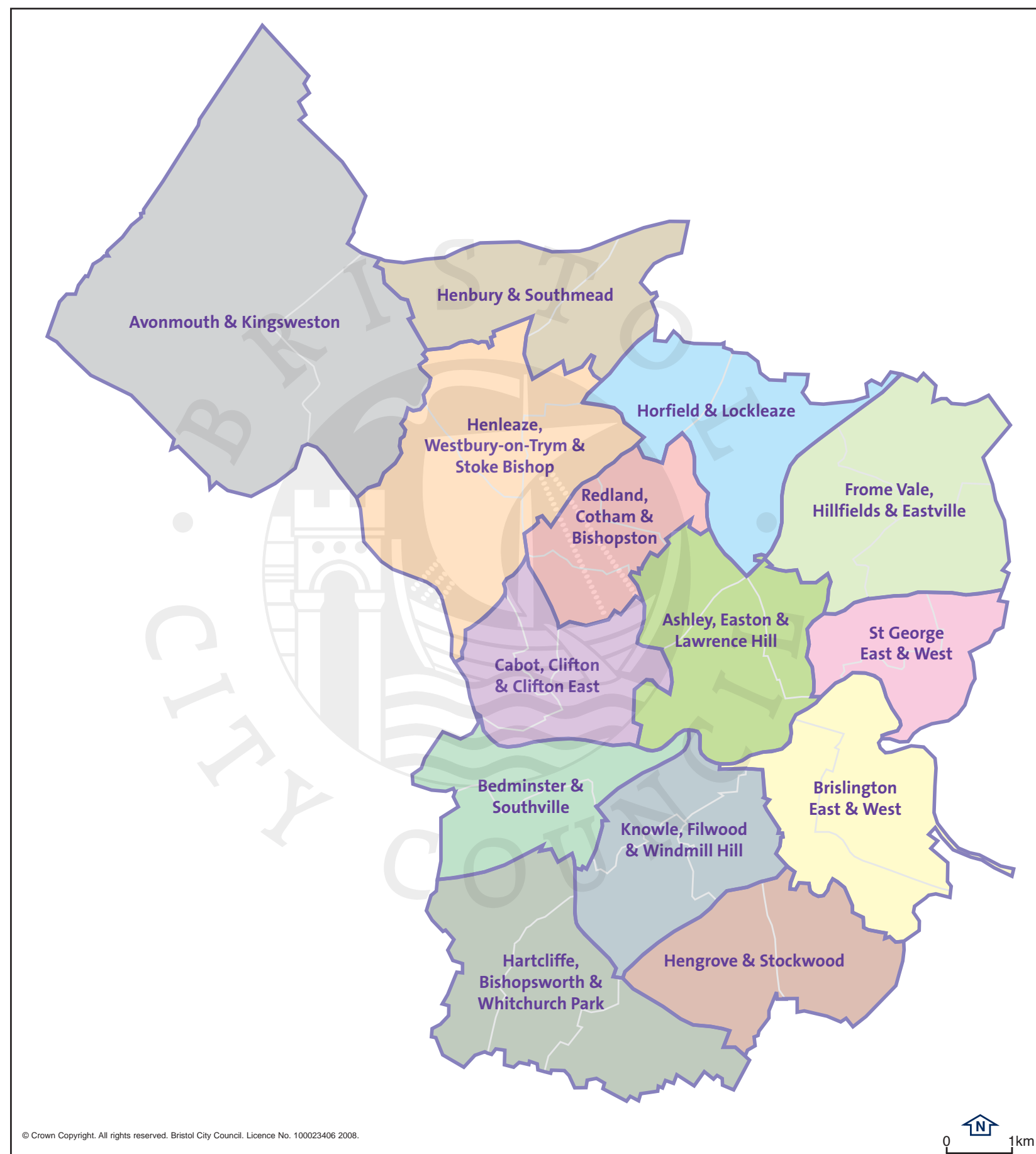
### Area Green Space Plan

A spatial and investment plan for the next 20 years





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 Horfield and Lockleaze. 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 Horfield and Lockleaze - 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 Horfield and Lockleaze, Ideas and Options Papers are also available for comment on the following areas:*

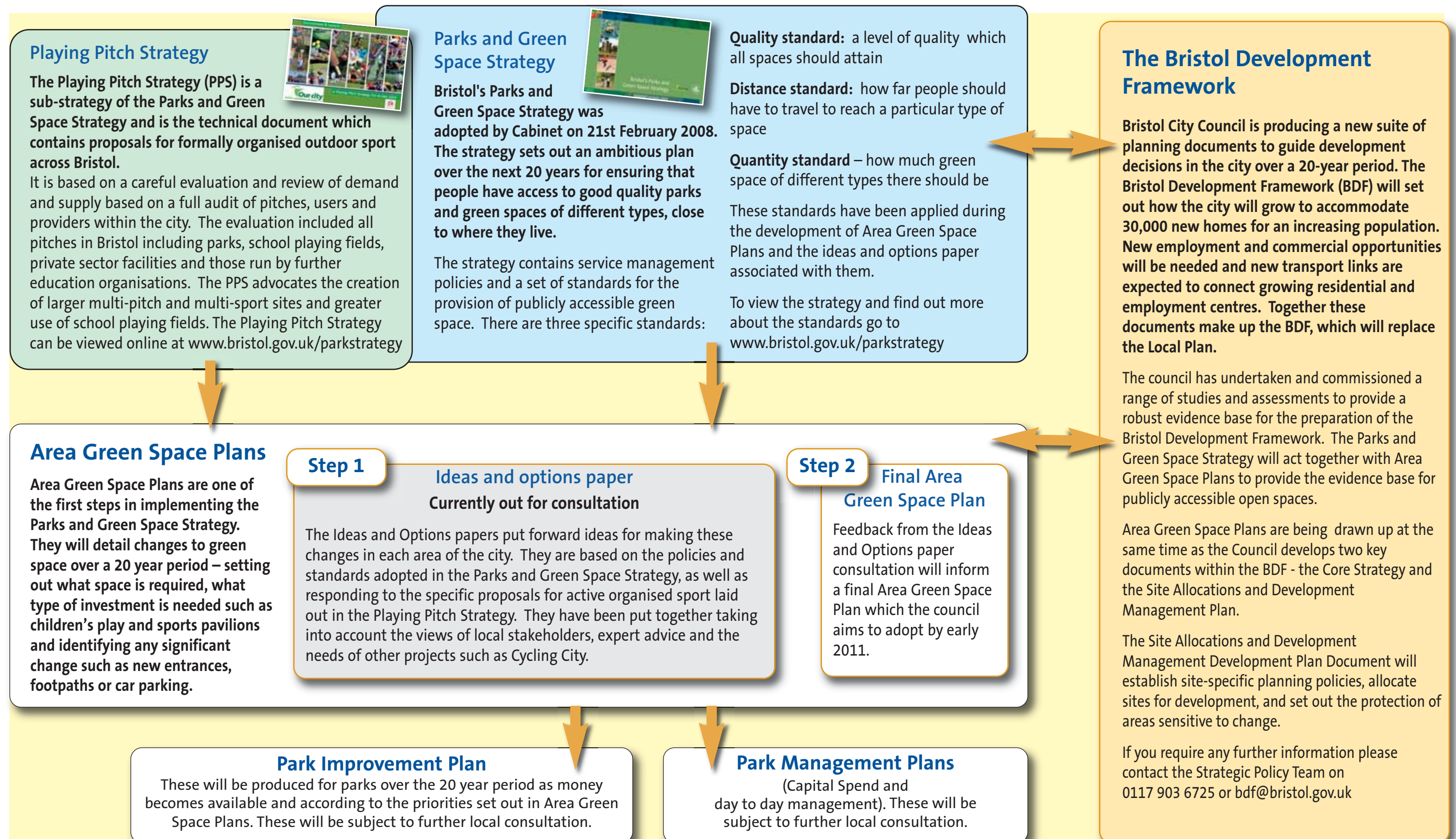
- ▶ Knowle, Filwood and Windmill Hill;
- ▶ Hengrove and Stockwood;
- ▶ Hartcliffe, Withywood and Bishopsworth;
- ▶ Brislington East and West;
- ▶ Cabot Clifton and Clifton East;
- ▶ Henleaze, Westbury on Trym and Stoke Bishop;
- ▶ Avonmouth and Kingsweston;
- ▶ Henbury and Southmead;
- ▶ Redland, Cotham and Bishopston;
- ▶ Bedminster and Southville;
- ▶ 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 Horfield and Lockleaze 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.

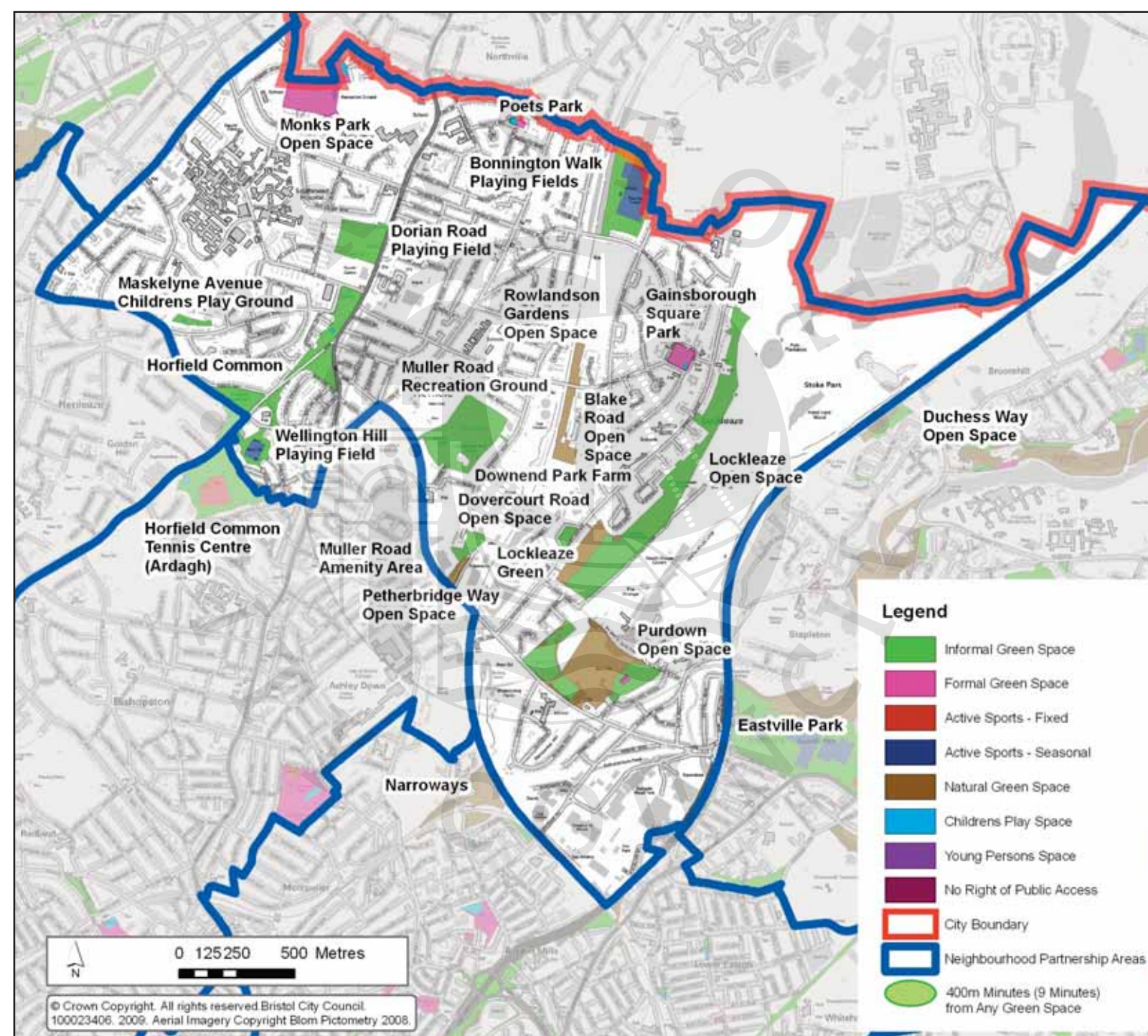
## What isn't included in an Area Green Space Plan?

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.

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



## Green Space in Horfield and Lockleaze

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

Horfield and Lockleaze have a range of different green spaces. The public open space is dominated by playing fields and informal space but there are parks with a formal element and some natural space. It is currently proposed that the city council acquire the historic garden at Stoke Park, which will secure its future as public space.

Spaces that are not public include school playing fields, allotments, hospital grounds and private sports facilities.

The Area Green Space Plan considers only the public open space element. 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.



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

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

Space	Why?
Stoke Park	Bristol City Council recently agreed in principle the acquisition of Stoke Park pending the satisfactory conclusion of 'due diligence' negotiations. The park is included in proposals.
Emersons Square Childrens Play Area, (otherwise known as the ABC park)	This new play area was laid out as part of the surrounding housing development. It has now been adopted by the city council.

It is not proposed to exclude any spaces identified as publicly accessible in 2008.



Emerson's Square play area

## 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 parks such as Eastville Park, St Andrews Park, Snuff Mills and Oldbury Court were mentioned.

Horfield and Lockleaze are also connected to the wider area through the urban environment, including footpath and cycle routes- whether specifically marked out or just in common use.

Strong connections exist from the north of Lockleaze to South Gloucestershire via cycle routes to the University of the West of England, Hewlett Packard and the MoD. Works have been undertaken through the Cycling City project to the route south of Muller Road to St Werburghs, from here there is an on road route to the city centre.

There is a route from Stoke Park under the M32 from where it is possible to link into the Frome Valley Corridor and adjoining open spaces. Not all of this is open to cyclists.

There are no similar off road routes in and out of Horfield and Gloucester Road is used as the main transport corridor.

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 provision of open space in South Gloucestershire;
- the provision of different types of space where the boundary between Neighbourhood Partnership Areas is easily crossed and in particular the Ardagh;
- the role of Stoke Park and Purdown for the wider community;
- the strategic management of natural green spaces for the benefit of wildlife;
- long distance cycle and pedestrian routes to the city centre and South Gloucestershire;

In practical terms, Horfield and Lockleaze are most easily connected south towards the city centre and north to UWE and MOD. It is in these areas where types of space and facilities will serve the community.



## 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 Horfield and Lockleaze:**

- representatives of Lockleaze Voice;
- local park groups;
- the police and Safer Bristol;
- local youth workers;
- 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

The Lockleaze Voice is a community organisation that is involved in a range of local issues. They have been working with the city council to create 'A Community Vision for Lockleaze', which includes the consideration of general open space issues in Lockleaze and suggestions for the future design and use of Gainsborough Square and its surrounds.

There is a well established Friends of Horfield Common.

The Stoke Park Steering Group has a long and active involvement in Stoke Park.

Residents who attended site meetings to look at Muller Road Rec and Monks Park were interested in forming parks groups for these spaces.

## 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 Horfield and Lockleaze 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. Two partial open space disposals are put forward for Horfield and Lockleaze at Lockleaze Open Space and Muller Road Recreation Ground. Because these are linked to suggested investment it is included in chapter 3 as well as chapter 4.





## Section 3.

### Investment ideas and options

*This section presents a range of spatial and investment plans and options for all accessible green spaces within the Horfield and Lockleaze Neighbourhood Partnership Area. The options aim to meet the policies and open space standards set out in the Parks and Green Space Strategy and also reflect the ideas gathered from members of the local community and professional stakeholders in 2008/9.*

Draft ideas and options are put forward for consideration and comment for each space.

It is recognised that further detailed work in the form of improvement plans will be required to firm up proposals for the larger spaces.

Draft improvement plans would be the subject of consultation and once approved form a useful basis for funding applications and deciding priorities.

In drawing up these options Area Green Space Plan Officers have taken into account all ideas put forward alongside an analysis of each space including any identified constraints.

Your comments and priorities will be used to inform a final Area Green Space Plan for Horfield and Lockleaze

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## Gainsborough Square Park

*“Should and could be the heart of the community”*

Local resident's comment

The shops and facilities around the open space at Gainsborough Square were purpose built to be the local centre of this part of Lockleaze.

Lockleaze Voice has looked in detail at the square and its surrounds, expressing concerns over the physical state of the landscaping and pavements, the lack of direct routes across the square and the fact that the play area was in the wrong place. Other concerns related to the lack of enclosure of the square meaning that it is very exposed to wind and the lack of the right kind of activity throughout the day and evening.

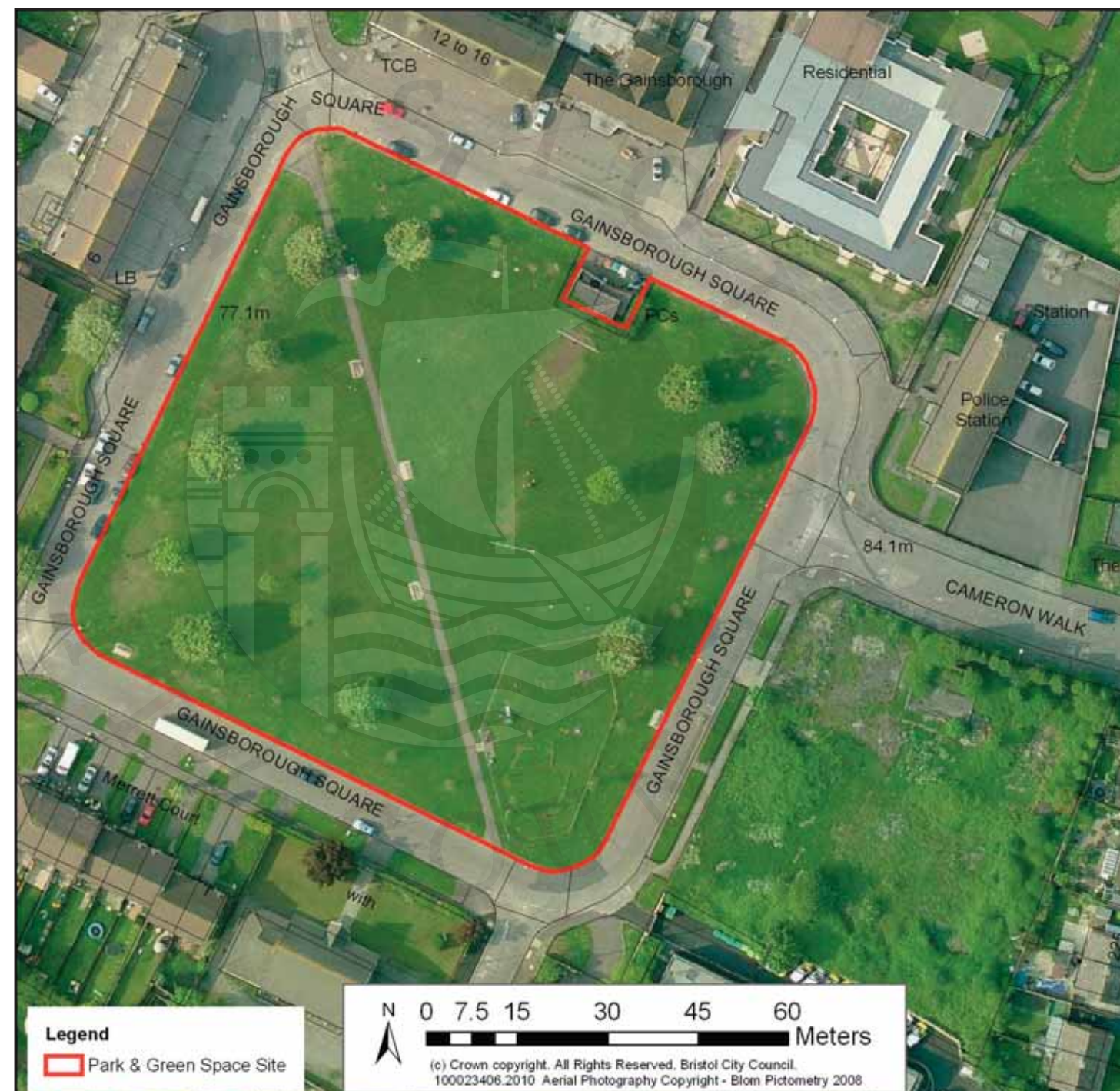
Since this a new children's play ground has been installed on the square through Project Play Pathfinder. New trees have been planted, goal posts have been erected and a couple of benches installed.



New play area

There remain a number of suggested improvements to the square stemming from the work of Lockleaze Voice. This Idea and Options Paper supports these improvements and encourages their delivery. The proposals include:

- Creation of a 'key space' focal point that is multi-functional and can host events;
- Replacement of the existing toilets with a new building that might be large enough to host other community uses and a recycling facility;
- Introduction of a new and varied planting scheme for the park;
- Introduction of new formal entrances that involve public art and new signs;
- Redesign of footpaths with lighting for better and safer movement through the space;
- Provision of new seating;
- Examination of the possibility of providing more appropriate car parking;
- See what opportunities there are to provide road crossings to help pedestrians access the park more safely.



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)



## Monks Park

*"I like to sit on a bench for a while, maybe read a paper"*

*"It would be great to use the space more often if there was play"*

Local resident's comments

Monks Park is a good sized open space located close to the boundary between Bristol and South Gloucestershire. Older housing backs onto the northern boundary of the park with newer housing facing the park along its eastern and southern boundaries.

Various improvements were undertaken to the park in association with the development of the newer housing. These works included the installation of new gates, a play ground for young children and play equipment designed for older children. A key feature is the 'target', which in conjunction with the information included on the ornamental railings that surround it, is a recognition of the areas connection to the local aircraft industry. The nearby seating makes this a gathering place, which is used by mums to look out for young children playing on the surrounding grass.

The playground was removed after suffering from vandalism. The facilities for older children remain and are well used but have been the focus of some anti-social activity.

The park is located between two schools - Orchard School and St Teresa's Catholic Primary School - and as a result is a focal point for children and young people.

According to the open space standards set out in the Parks and Green Space Strategy, the park is in a good location to provide formal green space, natural green space and a children's playground.

Without these the park is not serving the needs of the community as a whole with dog walking and informal play being the main activities at present.

Local consultation during the development of this Ideas and Options Paper demonstrated strong support for the space and a desire to see it improved.

Residents wanted to have a childrens play area on the site but had different views on the best location.

### What we want to achieve

To improve the site, introducing new spaces and activities making it more welcoming and attractive to a greater range of visitors.

### Ideas and Options

- Provide a new children's playground in consultation with local residents. Comments to date suggested two locations - to the north in a similar location to the previous playground but possibly closer to the road or in the south, close to the entrance from Biddlestone Road. The playground will be dog free, include seating and provide natural and equipped play elements.
- Provide a new formal space that includes seating and ornamental planting. It is suggested that this is sited in one of the two locations mentioned above not used for new play. If a location close to Biddlestone Road was chosen this space could be around the target.
- Provide a kickabout area in the centre of the park. There is already a reasonably clear, level area but there may be a need for the removal of a small number of trees.
- Plant some additional native shrubs or a wildflower meadow around the edges of the park to support wildlife and create a natural 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](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp)





## Horfield Common (including the Ardagh)

*“Like the fact that the common is open and as ‘nature intended’ “*

*“Use the Ardagh for sports for all ages”*

Local resident's comments

Horfield Common is made up of eight spaces of varying size and two much smaller spaces, each legally registered under the 1965 Commons Registration Act. The Common lies at the junction of three Neighbourhood Partnership Areas and has parts in each, it is divided by a number of roads including Kellaway Avenue.

The law prevents the erection of any building or fence, or the construction of any work, which prevents or impedes access to common land, unless the consent of the Secretary of State is obtained.

There are two children's playgrounds on The Common, one to the north by Horfield Sports Centre and one to the south, close to Golden Hill.

Horfield Common benefits from the work and activities of the Friends of Horfield Common who regularly hold events and raise funds to improve facilities on the site.

### The Ardagh

The Ardagh Sports Centre is on land that is not registered common land but is surrounded by The Common. It is located in the Redland and Cotham Neighbourhood Partnership Area and takes its name from a house that was on the site until its demolition in 1926.

The centre is made up of a cluster of tennis courts, a bowling green and a pavilion.

The Ardagh Sports Club, based on the site, are committed to the improvement of these facilities. They have recently carried out improvements to the pavilion including the addition of a balcony.

The Ardagh Sports Centre has been the subject of a number of engineer's surveys to determine the cause of ground movement that is affecting the playing surfaces of the facilities there. These reports have not reached a common conclusion on the cause or the solution. This uncertainty means that, in the short term, it is not possible to support investment in the high quality sports facilities that have been there previously. This document therefore seeks your views on a range of possible alternative uses for the site, aimed at attracting a wider audience and suggested during stakeholder consultation.



The Ardagh tennis courts





## Horfield Common (including the Ardagh)

### What we want to achieve

To maintain the character of the Common in keeping with its legal designation and historical use while introducing new formal space and natural green space that is appropriate for the site. The Common and Ardagh will be improved for children and young people with the main function of the Ardagh changing from that of a sports focussed site to a site with a broader appeal accommodating some informal use.

### Ideas and Options

#### A The Ardagh

The main use of the Ardagh Sports Centre will change and a site masterplan and feasibility study drawn up to consider the following options:

- Maintain the tennis courts on site but review the number of courts.

or

Decommission all tennis courts and relocate them to a nearby site if 'turn up and play' tennis facilities are required locally, e.g. Muller Rd Recreation Ground. Taking account of the facilities at Orchard School in Horfield.

- Maintain the bowling green and the current function of the pavilion.

or

- Change the function of the pavilion to serve a wider range of users. This could include a cafe with outside seating area, modern toilet facilities with baby changing and a potentially a room that could be hired out. Alternatively it could be for soft play.

- Decommission the bowling green and use it in association with an alternative use of the pavilion, for example as a cafe garden.
- Provide a new children's playground with outdoor water play facility;
- Provide a new multi-use-games-area for a variety of ball games;
- Provide new, formal gardens;
- Explore the provision of an equipped, fitness area for older people;
- If not all the space is needed, reduce the area currently within the Ardagh boundary, creating new areas of informal green space.
- Reconsider the boundary treatment of the Ardagh and whether high fencing is required.
- Selectively remove some of the trees over a period of time if shown to be needed as part of work to stabilise ground conditions at the site.

### Horfield Common

#### B Common Land around the Ardagh

- Make more of a feature of the stream running along the south west and southern boundaries. The impact on nearby houses would have to be assessed.
- Provide a meadow and nature area in the space where the children's playground is currently located, if a new play area was installed on the Ardagh
- Provide more seating to enjoy the views

#### C Common Land adjacent to Kellaway Crescent

- No change

#### D Common Land adjacent to Horfield Parish Church

- Create a new natural green space - increasing wildlife value with wildflower planting

#### E Common Land adjacent to Abbots Way

- Restore the water fountain and make it more of a feature
- Create a new natural green space - increasing wildlife habitat with wildflower planting

#### F Common Land at the junction of Gloucester Rd and Kellaway Ave

- Create a new natural green space - increasing wildlife habitat with wildflower planting
- Introduce more formal planting beds close to the main road junction to create an attractive feature on this major route in to the city

#### G Common Land south of Horfield Sports Centre

- For information: The children's playground at the end of Bishopthorpe Road is being renewed and potentially moved to the space in front of the Territorial Army Centre.
- Use tree planting and boundary improvements in front of the TA Centre to create a 'space within a space', perhaps where events might take place.
- Provide new seating
- Create a marked mile to support healthy walking and running.

The possibility of installing a Multi-Use-Games- Area either to the side or the rear of Horfield Sports Centre is suggested in the section on Dorian Road Playing Fields.



Common land around the Ardagh



Common land adjacent to Abbots Way



Common land south of Horfield Sports Centre

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# Ideas and Options Paper Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan

## Blake Road Open Space and Rowlandson Gardens Open Space

These two spaces are located directly to the east of the main north to south railway line. Blake Rd Open Space is sited to the south of Constable Road and Rowlandson Gardens Open Space is sited to the north. Access to both is via steps from Constable Road.

The spaces are overgrown and contain a number of large trees. Electricity Pylons run through both parallel to the railway line.

At present access is difficult because of the amount of undergrowth. The spaces are currently of little recreational value and flytipping has been a problem. They do however have wildlife value and form part of a green corridor alongside the railway that links Ashley Vale and St Werburghs through to South Gloucestershire.

The work undertaken by Lockleaze Voice has identified an opportunity to develop these spaces as part of a 'linear park', which would extend north into Bonnington Walk Allotments and Bonnington Walk Playing Fields.

Bonnington Walk Allotments lie to the north of Rowlandson Gardens Open Space, they are overgrown and have not been used as allotments for many years. There is an aspiration to develop this land for housing. As part of this development there would be a requirement that new public open space be provided and also alternative allotments. At the time of writing there is no planning permission for development.

As part of the City Council's Cycling City Project there is an aspiration for a strategic route connecting the City Centre with the North of Bristol.

Part of this route to the south through Ashley Vale has already been completed and a connection between Muller Road and Dovercourt Road is planned. It is suggested that the route could join the railway corridor at Constable Road and run north from here through the proposed linear park. This would provide links to the local community in

Lockleaze, as well as to the major employers in South Gloucestershire such as the Ministry of Defence, Hewlett Packard & UWE.

Works to the route would complement other aspirations for the setting out of the linear park.

Consultation has revealed some concerns that use of these spaces by motorbikes might increase following access improvements.

### What we want to achieve

Adapt these open spaces to create an attractive linear park that can in future connect through the Bonnington Walk Allotment site to Bonnington Walk Playing Fields. The park should provide better access to open space and a safe environment for walking, exploration and play.

### Ideas and Options

- Significantly improve access for both pedestrians and cyclists which can form part of the proposed strategic cycle route connecting the City Centre with the north of Bristol and, in consultation with local residents, provide access points to the path from local streets.
- Consider what form of access controls might be appropriate to deter motorcycle use of the path.
- Ensure that a properly managed wildlife corridor is provided and maintained along the length of the railway corridor. This will include some clearance of undergrowth and planting of native shrubs to increase the range of habitats
- Create new areas of landscaping and seating at different locations to make the space more attractive and encourage regular use.
- Use natural materials and landscaping to improve the new park for informal play for both children and younger people.
- Change the area of Blake Road Open Space around Cotman Walk to use as allotments (area outlined in blue on the map).



Rowlandson Gardens Open Space



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



## Bonnington Walk Playing Fields

*It is liked that the site is open and accessible and feels safe during the day*

Local resident's comment

Bonnington Walk Playing Fields open space is located on the northern edge of the city in Lockleaze alongside the main railway line. The site is accessed from Bonnington Walk. There is an existing cycle route through the space that connects into South Gloucestershire.

The site is currently held on a lease by Bishopston Rugby Club with less than 5 years of the lease arrangement remaining. Changing rooms are provided on-site and there is room for four adult pitches.

The future of the Playing Fields has been the subject of discussion between Bristol City Council and both Bishopston Rugby Club and the Dings Crusaders Rugby Club.

Dings Crusaders Community Sports and Rugby Football Clubs currently play on pitches in South Gloucestershire - adjacent to Bonnington Walk Playing Fields. The Club has had great success as a community rugby club, reaching the national 3rd division whilst engaging local young people in sport. At a future date Dings Crusaders have expressed an interest in improving their facilities by relocating to Bonnington Walk. However further planning and feasibility work is needed before this could happen.

The Playing Fields are located in an area that is outside the Bristol green space provision standard for children's playgrounds and the introduction of a playground on the site may be one option to serve the immediate area. However due to the adjacent overhead power lines, this has not been formally proposed but expressed as a future opportunity, (refer to page 22).

### What we want to achieve

To provide a high quality space for active sport. Improve the space for wildlife, pedestrians, cyclists and general use by the public, concentrating on the section alongside the railway line so it forms part of a linear park that will connect south to Blake Road Open Space.

### Ideas and Options

- Agree a acceptable arrangement with Dings Crusaders Rugby Club which seeks to encourage investment in high quality playing pitches, changing rooms and a pavilion for rugby. The lease would maintain good public access to the majority of the site whilst ensuring that the rest of the site is managed to maintain the highest quality facilities (part of the site may no longer be accessible).
- Make the playing pitch area of the space dog-free whilst retaining space for dog-walkers elsewhere on-site.
- Improve entrances so that the spaces are more welcoming and access to motorbikes is prevented as far as practicable.
- Ensure that a properly managed wildlife corridor is provided and maintained along the length of the railway corridor.
- Look to provide seating at different locations and use natural materials and landscaping to make the space good for informal play.



Entrance off Bonnington Walk

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)





## Dorian Rd Playing Fields

Dorian Rd Playing Fields lie adjacent to Horfield Sports Centre and has room for two adult football pitches. There are no other facilities on this space but use by the public is not restricted.

If the Dings Crusaders Rugby Club moves to Bonnington Walk Playing Fields, then Bishopston Rugby Club would be likely to move from Bonnington Walk to Dorian Rd and improvements to the pitches and facilities will be required and the level of use will increase.

### What we want to achieve

To continue to maintain the space for formal sport. To significantly improve the site for sport should Bishopston Rugby Club relocate here.

### Ideas and Options

- Upgrade the sports facilities as part of the potential move of Bishopston Rugby Club to the site including lighting and a new pavilion.
- Designate the site as a dog-free area in keeping with its key function for sport.
- Work with the Horfield Sports Centre to see if there is land outside the playing pitch area that could be used in conjunction with the land leased to the sports centre to provide a multi-use-games-area for young people. This could be to the rear of the sports centre or use some of the car parking area closest to the playing fields, which is often underused.



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)



## Poets Park

Poets Park is a small, relatively new open space serving a high density residential area in Horfield, close to the city's northern boundary. The park provides a children's play area and a separate grassed area with a footpath inbetween. The play area and the park as a whole is surrounded by a mix of walls and railings.

The park has suffered from long periods of antisocial behaviour and its current design provides potential hiding places.

A joint project has been ongoing involving the police and Bristol Community Housing Foundation, who manage many of the nearby houses, in consultation with local residents to agree an improved design for the park.

Residents expressed a desire for the park to act as a 'Community Green' providing play equipment for a range of ages and a green area with benches for relaxing.

**An outline plan has already been approved following consultation and a detailed design for the park will be published for further comment later in 2010, it will contain the following features (This is for information only):**

- A new layout to accommodate children's play for differing ages throughout the park
- The opening up of the park through the removal of the central pillars, walls and railings.
- The removal of the 'steps' within the park and creation of a sloped area for play.
- The removal of shrubs around the edge of the park to improve views in and out
- A redesign of the layout of pathways and entrances in line with the proposed changes.

It is anticipated that an approved scheme will be complete by the end of 2010.



## Maskeleyne Avenue Open Space

Maskelyne Avenue Open Space is a long, grassed area located to the rear of residential properties on both Maskelyne Avenue and Bishopthorpe Road, it contains a recently constructed multi-use-games-area. The eastern side of the space has the feel of an orchard with numerous trees contributing positively to the overall character. There are good views of the Severn Estuary to the west from the park.

The park is often used as a cut through and local residents are keen to see it better used.



### What we want to achieve

To create a space that is welcoming and attractive to the community as a whole.

### Ideas and Options

- Introduce a new children's play area that includes adventurous equipment
- Create a picnic area with permanent barbecue facilities
- Improve and upgrade entrances from both Bishopthorpe Road and Maskelyne Avenue
- Upgrade all footpaths
- Introduce a small wildlife pond/water feature.
- Introduce improved lighting along footpaths and entrances

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 Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan

## Stoke Park, Lockleaze Open Space, Purdown and Lockleaze Green

Locally, these spaces are known collectively as Purdown, but for the purposes of clarity this document considers each space individually.

### Stoke Park

Bristol City Council has agreed in principle to acquire Stoke Park to secure it as public open space for present and future generations. The acquisition is subject to successful 'due diligence' negotiations with the current land owner.

Stoke Park is one of the most prominent open spaces in the city due to its position alongside the M32 and association with the well known sights of The Dower House, the fishing lake and the Purdown BT Tower.

This large swathe of land sweeps up from the M32 to form a ridge. Lockleaze Open Space lies along its northwestern boundary and Purdown Open Space is sited to the south.

From the main part of Stoke Park there is a link under the M32 to the entrance at Duchess Gate.

The park was laid out in the 18th Century and designed by Thomas Wright, it is registered by English Heritage as a Grade II Historic Park and Garden. There are World War II gun emplacements on the upper part of the ridge, which are a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The park has significant wildlife and geological importance. It is a key site where access to nature can be improved in line with the Biodiversity Action Plan.

A large part of the park is grassed but there is an area of woodland towards its northern end in the vicinity of The Dower House.

The Stoke Park Steering Group are an enthusiastic and dedicated group, who have committed a great deal of time in helping in the management, maintenance of the park. The group also organise events for the community, such as wild food gathering and green wood workshops.

There have been several restoration projects at Stoke Park in recent years, including the Hermitage Tunnel and several listed monuments found in the park. New pathways have also been introduced through the woodland.

However the park experiences problems of vandalism and other anti-social behaviour, which has threatened its historic fabric..

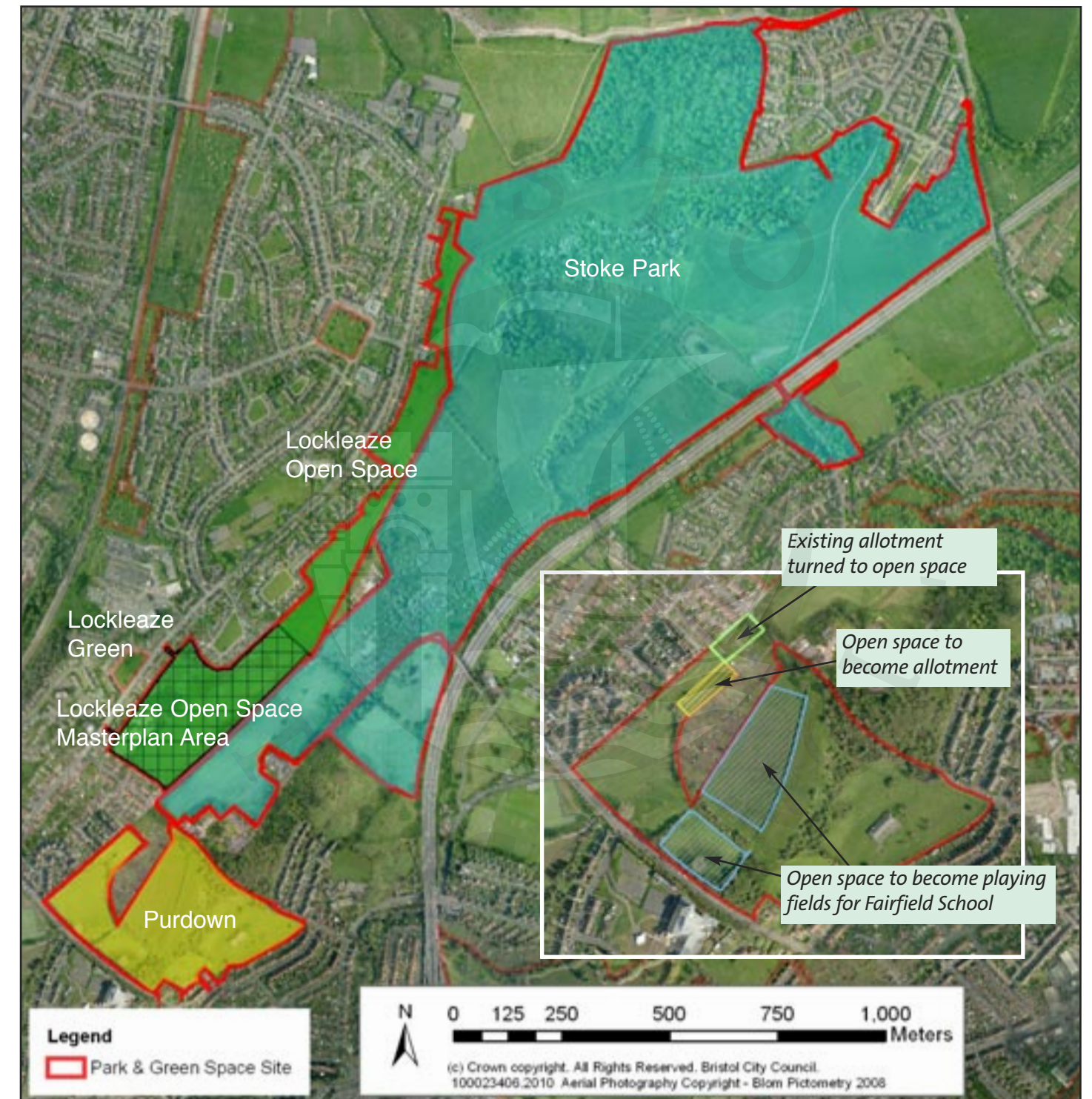
Once formally acquired by the council, Stoke Park will be the subject of a comprehensive management plan which will be developed following full consultation with users and residents. The Area Green Space Plan defers proposing ideas and options for the space to the management plan. Any stakeholder comments gathered through the Area Green Space Plan process will be used to inform the masterplan - a key suggestion is a visitors centre and access improvements.



Views towards Dower House



Restoration project at Stoke Park



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)



## Stoke Park, Lockleaze Open Space, Purdown and Lockleaze Green

### Lockleaze Open Space

Lockleaze Open Space is a long and, in places, narrow space that runs directly to the rear of properties along Romney Avenue and those on adjoining cul-de-sacs. Currently this space is separated from Stoke Park by fencing and hedges but there are some gaps that allow access between the two. There are good views of the surrounding area from the northern part of the space. The space is mainly used for dog walking.

The space has suffered from anti-social behaviour in the past, including vandalism and motorbikes.

Lockleaze Voice have highlighted the need to improve this space as a gateway into Stoke Park. Entrances and links between the two require improvement.

When the standards in the Parks and Green Space Strategy are applied there is a need to provide a children's play area and formal space to serve the south of Lockleaze. Lockleaze Voice recognise new play for children of all ages and facilities for young people are needed as well as an overall improvement in the quality of open space.

As well as providing a gateway to Stoke Park, the council feels there is an opportunity on Lockleaze Open Space to provide a new, good quality, formal park which contains facilities to attract all of the community and all ages.

To support the new park as a safe, high quality and sustainable space, it is felt that new housing should be accommodated that can face onto the new park, improving overlooking of the space and helping deter mis-use and anti-social behaviour. This arrangement would also make the space feel safer and more welcoming and in general provide a great contrast to the current situation where all the houses back onto the space.

Lockleaze Voice feel very strongly that none of this space should be developed but it is presented here as an option for consultation. The land identified for some possible development is outside the historic parkland and a masterplan approach is suggested with decisions on the exact location of housing, the new park and routes through open to future discussion (the masterplan area is shown on the map opposite). The park could contain a range of facilities which would be the subject of further consultation but the views of the community are welcome now.

#### What we want to achieve

The improvement of the gateways to Stoke Park. The creation of a safe and welcoming area where a high quality new park containing a range of facilities for the community as a whole can be developed.

#### Ideas and Options

- Identify key gateway points into Stoke Park and the opportunities there are to link in with short and long distance routes through Stoke Park and Purdown. Improve the gateways and routes with a mix of appropriate surfacing, seating, signs and information boards.
- Introduce houses into the southern section of the park to provide overlooking of the space, so deter anti-social behaviour and reduce concerns about safety and security.
- Create a new high quality park within the newly overlooked area to include a mix of facilities; a formal space with seating and ornamental planting as somewhere for older members of the community to meet, a children's play area and play equipment



Lockleaze Open Space

designed for older children, with a kickabout space and young people's facilities.

### Purdown Open Space.

Purdown Open Space is located to the south of both Stoke Park and Lockleaze Open Space. There is an area of well established allotments in the north of this space and a section has planning permission to be converted to school playing fields.

The space slopes down to meet Muller Road and in the spring contains a wide sweep of daffodils.

There is a pedestrian route around the allotments that links the space, via an unmade road, with Stoke Park and Lockleaze Open Space, but the route is not at all clear.

The space is within an area where there is currently a gap in the provision of children's play equipment.

#### What we want to achieve

To open up the walking route across this space and links to other spaces, provide for the children in the surrounding residential area.

#### Ideas and Options

- Introduce a children's play area in the vicinity of Heath House.
- Provide seating at the top of the slope to admire the view.
- Add signs to help people navigate from the footpath network in Ashley Vale the other side of Muller Road into Stoke Park and beyond. This is a key element of the long distance circular route possible.
- Swap some allotment land to open up a through route between Stoke Park and Muller Road.
- Improved routes and signs are proposed for Lockleaze Open Space and recommended for inclusion in the management plan for Stoke Park.
- Provide two junior football pitches to the north of the space.



Purdown - view south

### Lockleaze Green

There are no suggestions for this grassed area which contains young trees. If a new park in Lockleaze Open Space is not supported, this space could host a children's play area.



Lockleaze Green

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





## Muller Rd Recreation Ground

*'It is a blank canvas of outstanding quality'*

Local resident's comments

Muller Road Recreation ground is a large area of informal open space used mainly for sport and dog walking. It contains five adult football pitches and there is a small block of changing rooms close to its main entrance off Muller Road. It is a former landfill tip that has in places subsided and affected the quality of the pitches. The space is on two levels, separated by a grassy slope across the centre of the site. In the south east corner is an 'island' of privately owned space - Downend Park Farm.

To the north of the site is an area of playing fields owned by the Civil Service. Within these playing fields is a hard surfaced games court, a bowling green and a pavilion.

The space is a backland site with no facing fronts of houses or highways. There have been personal safety concerns expressed by users due to the secluded nature of the site and the fact that the lack of facilities beyond the playing fields means the level of use is low when sports are not being played. Anti-social behaviour and flytipping have been an issue. There is a problem across the site with dog mess and a lack of bins. The entrances to the site are currently poor, uninviting and unable to prevent access by motorbikes.

### What we want to achieve

To invest and improve the space so that it acts to provide both good quality facilities for sport and a more attractive local park with provision for children's play. There is also an opportunity to explore working in partnership with the Civil Service so that the Recreation Ground and the neighbouring private sports facilities act together to become a sports hub site. The Civil Service has not yet been approached with this idea and a joint masterplan approach would be needed.

### Ideas and Options

- 1 Install a dog-free children's play area in the vicinity of the vehicular access off Muller Road - this would mean a reduction in size of one of the sports pitches.
  - 2 Layout out a formal area with seating and ornamental planting close to the play area.
  - 3 Provide some more adventurous play for older children. This could be close to the boundary with the Civil Service site, in the vicinity of games court, which is well used in the evenings. The overlooking this provides would deter anti-social behaviour.
- Make some or all of the playing pitches dog free.
  - Introduce some additional dog bins.
  - Plant a wildflower meadow around the edges of the space to enhance its wildlife value and add colour.
  - Look at a redesign of the entrances to prevent motorbike access but allow buggies and wheelchairs.
  - Develop the car park area and land around Downend Park Farm for housing. This would be accessed from Downend Park Road and would introduce more activity and overlooking of the space -see section 4 for more details. Any disposal on this site is dependant on the long-term vision for the site. If there is a sporting and visitor need to retain the space, then it would be.
  - If a decision is made that the Ardagh is no longer a viable site for the provision of good quality tennis courts, (see pages 10 and 11), this site is a potential alternative location. A small number of courts (a minimum of four) would be provided.
  - Potentially provide a series of netball courts, the first in public open space Bristol.



- Explore working in partnership with the Civil Service so that the two spaces can be used together to become a sports hub site. This could include new netball courts, and if required tennis courts, on Muller Road Rec and a range of adult and junior pitches on the remainder of the space with a shared pavilion/changing rooms.
- Continue to provide adult football pitches, with the potential to convert space for junior pitches if required.
- Provide new/enhanced changing facilities. If a partnership is agreed with the Civil Service, one set of facilities would be needed.



View north 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)



## Section 4. Possible open space disposals in the Horfield and Lockleaze 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 Horfield and Lockleaze, checks on its significance in all the key areas were considered. Through stakeholder involvement, views from the local community were sought and helped with identifying levels of use, barriers to access and whether these barriers could be overcome.

In Horfield Lockleaze, two 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.

There are two partial disposals proposed in Horfield and Lockleaze.

### 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.

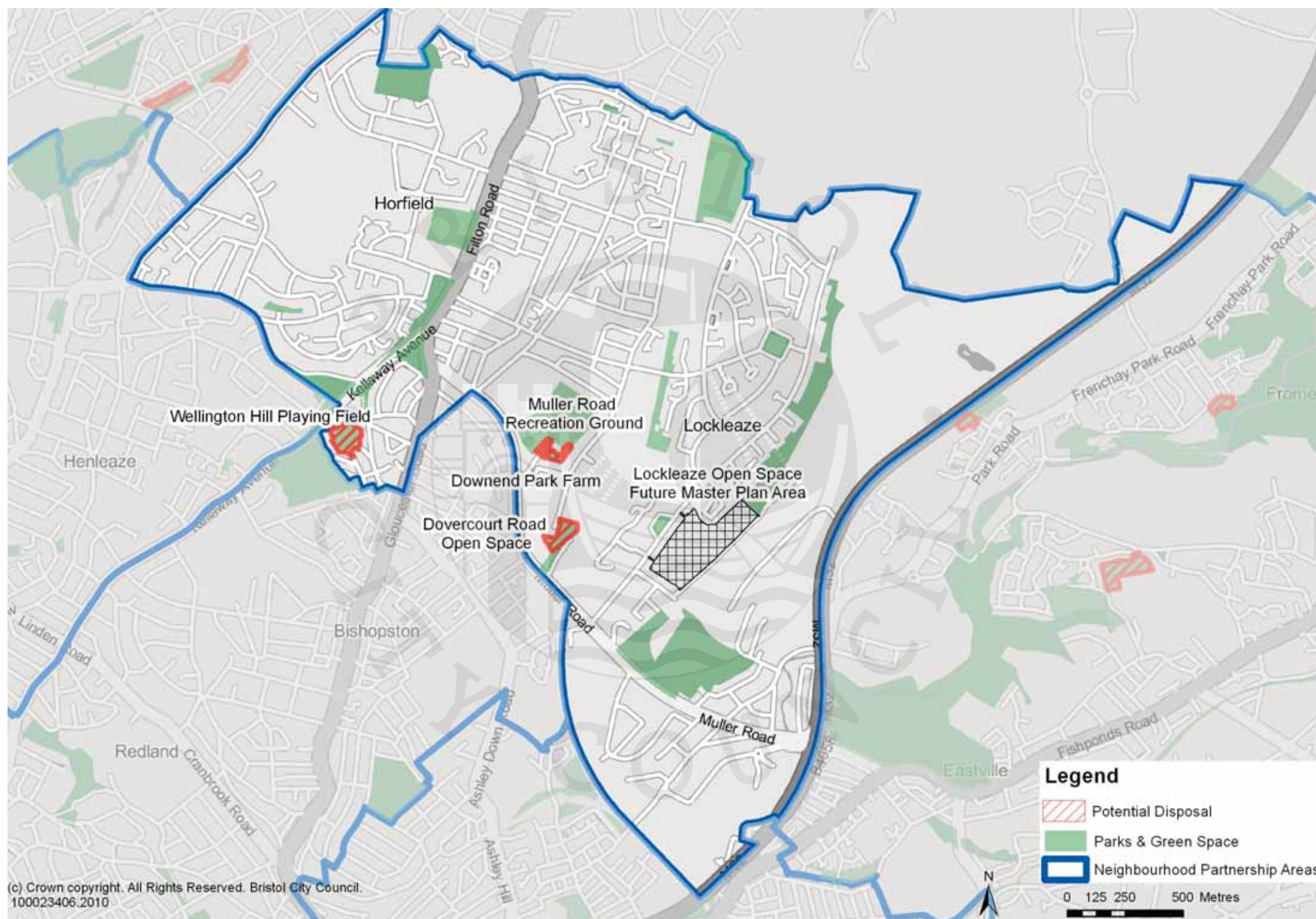
### Your comments

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





## Horfield and Lockleaze Disposal Sites





## Disposal Sites

1.

### Wellington Hill Playing Fields -

This area of playing fields is located close to Horfield Common, which provides a key area of open space for this part of the city and contains a range of facilities. There is also the nearby Ardagh, which currently contains tennis courts and a bowling green.

The site is little used for much of the week other than by dog walkers.

Any development of this site will have to be preceded by archaeological investigations as remains of a medieval structure were found on the adjacent site currently being development as a nursing home.



2.

### Dovercourt Rd Open Space

Dovercourt Road- this is a sloping area of land at the end of Dovercourt Road, which wraps around Jack Knight House. It is little used other than by dog walkers, access to Muller Road to the south is hampered by a wooded stream channel.

Planning permission has been granted for a cycle route through this space to connect Dovercourt Road with the road alongside B & Q and from there to Muller Road, this includes a long bridge over the stream. This will effectively divide the space into two.

Independent access of this space is not possible but it could be used in conjunction with the redevelopment of adjoining sites if proposed in the future.

Some of the space falls within Flood Zone 3, which would have an impact on the extent and type of development possible.



3.

### Part of Muller Rd Recreation Ground

It is proposed to dispose of two small sites on the south west corner of Muller Road recreation ground. One is the car park at the top end of Downend Park Road, this is occasionally used. The other site is an area at a lower level than the remainder of the space, which is little used other than as a point of access. The development of both needs to be informed by future plans for sport on this site. If it is deemed that space is required a disposal will not take place.

Development on these sites would potentially introduce more activity and overlooking of this part of the space and help curb anti-social behaviour and improve perceptions of safety - the council will take steps to control the layout of this development so that achieves this. Access to any development area is likely to be from Downend Park.

Development will have to take into account the impact on the Grade II Listed Downend Park Farm.



1.

### Part of Lockleaze Open Space

This linear open space is mainly used by dog walkers and walkers. There is a history of anti-social behaviour to include motorbikes, quadbikes and sometimes cars.

The Site Allocations DPD has identified this as a masterplan area. The masterplan proposals are on pages 16 and 17. The aim of the masterplan would be to deliver some residential housing to introduce overlooking of the space and deter anti-social behaviour whilst providing significant open space enhancements that provide the facilities needed for local residents and continue to act as a high quality gateway to Stoke Park and Purdown.







## Section 5.

### Future opportunities

Horfield and Lockleaze is well served for publicly accessible open space. The ideas put forward by the members of the local community professionals/experts were comprehensive and the proposals in the Area Green Space Plan reflect this. As a result a good 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 Area Green Space Plan a number of further opportunities could be explored:

i) Linear Park alongside the main railway

Referred to by in the draft community vision for Lockleaze, there is an aspiration to create a linear park from Blake Road Open Space north to Bonnington Road Playing Fields. This is dependant on the proposed development of the former allotment site at Bonnington Walk delivering a new area of open space. The recreational value of this park will be enhanced if the Cycling Team are successful in developing a route from Constable Road north to link in with existing cycle routes to the south.

ii) Sporting Hub site at Muller Road Recreation Ground

There may be potential to work with the civil service to provide shared sporting facilities with some new netball courts and possibly tennis courts, (depending on the future of the Ardagh and level of need), on Muller Road Recreation Ground.

iii) New Multi-Use-Games-Area at Horfield Sports Centre

To add to the popular skateboard park, there may be potential to provide a MUGA for young people on land in the vicinity of the sports centre, making use of land leased to the sports centre and some of that at Dorian Road Playing Fields.

iv) New childrens play area at Bonnington Walk Playing fields

The area around the playing fields is not currently served by a childrens play area and there could be scope to provide one near to the entrance on the area which is not used for sport.

These are all suggestions that could be followed up and we would like your views on each accordingly.





## 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 Horfield and Lockleaze.

### 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

The main barrier to access within this neighbourhood partnership area is the railway line, over which there are only two bridges. However these bridges do coincide with areas of open space.

Otherwise although there are some key main roads, such as Gloucester Road, there are no significant physical barriers to accessing open space.





# Ideas and Options Paper Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan

## Children's playgrounds

There are currently five children's playgrounds in Horfield and Lockleaze at Gainsborough Square, Poets Park, Maskeleyne Avenue, Horfield Common and the recent Emersons Square.

There is another playground at Horfield Common close to the Ardagh Sports Centre but this space is in the Bishopston, Redland and Cotham Neighbourhood Partnership Area.

Also outside of the Neighbourhood Partnership

Area there are two playgrounds in Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill that serve some of the residents of Eastville (by area not ward) within the Neighbourhood Partnership. These are St Werburghs Park Open Space and Penfold Road Open Space.

In order to better meet the distance standards for children's playgrounds it is proposed to provide five new playgrounds at; Maskeleyne Avenue, Muller Road Recreation Ground, Monks Park, Lockleaze Open Space and Purdown Open

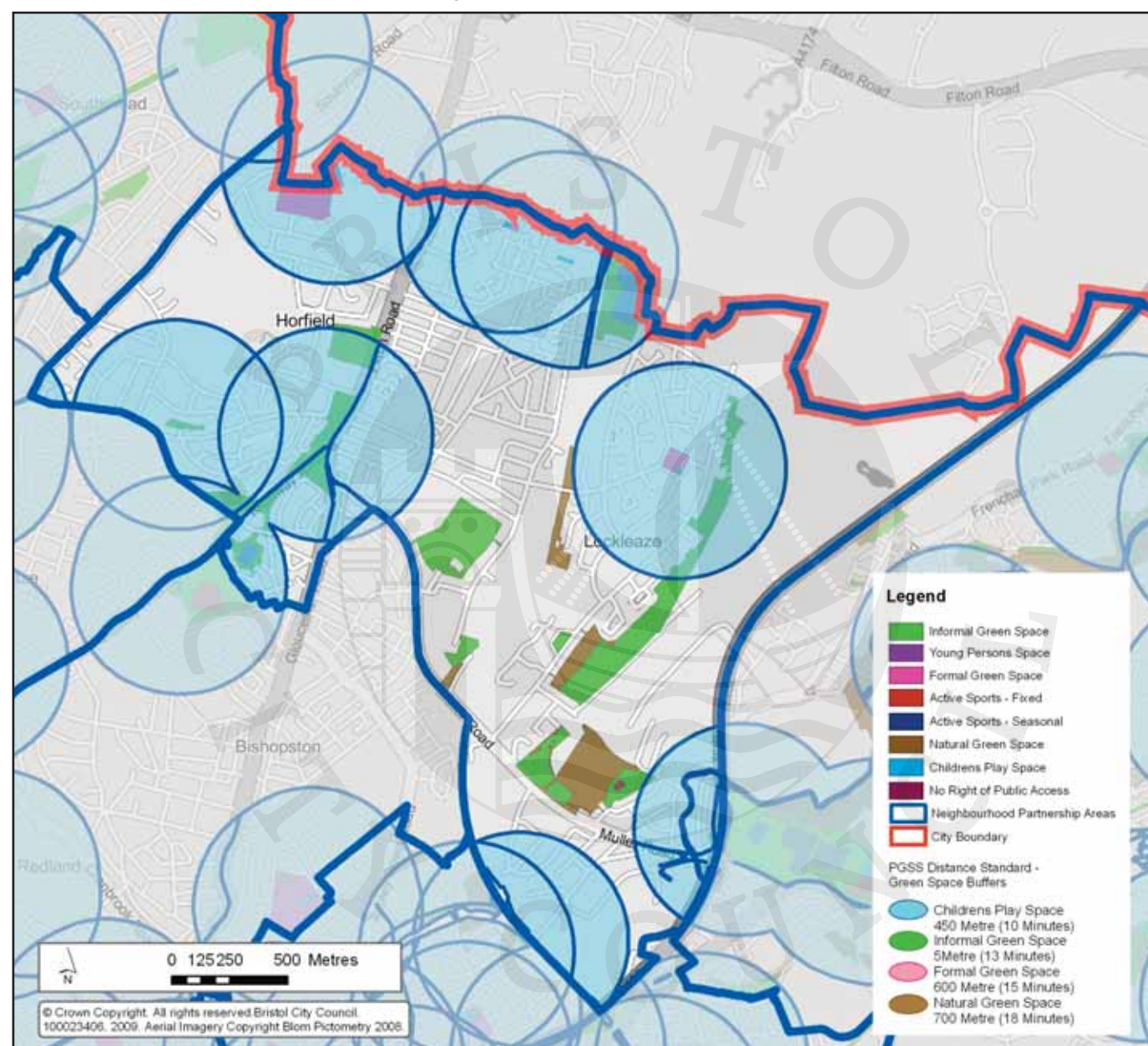
Space. The possibility of a new play ground at Bonnington Walk Playing Fields is put forward for discussion.

All existing playgrounds in the Neighbourhood Partnership Area will be retained - though the Horfield Common facility may be moved further north within the site.

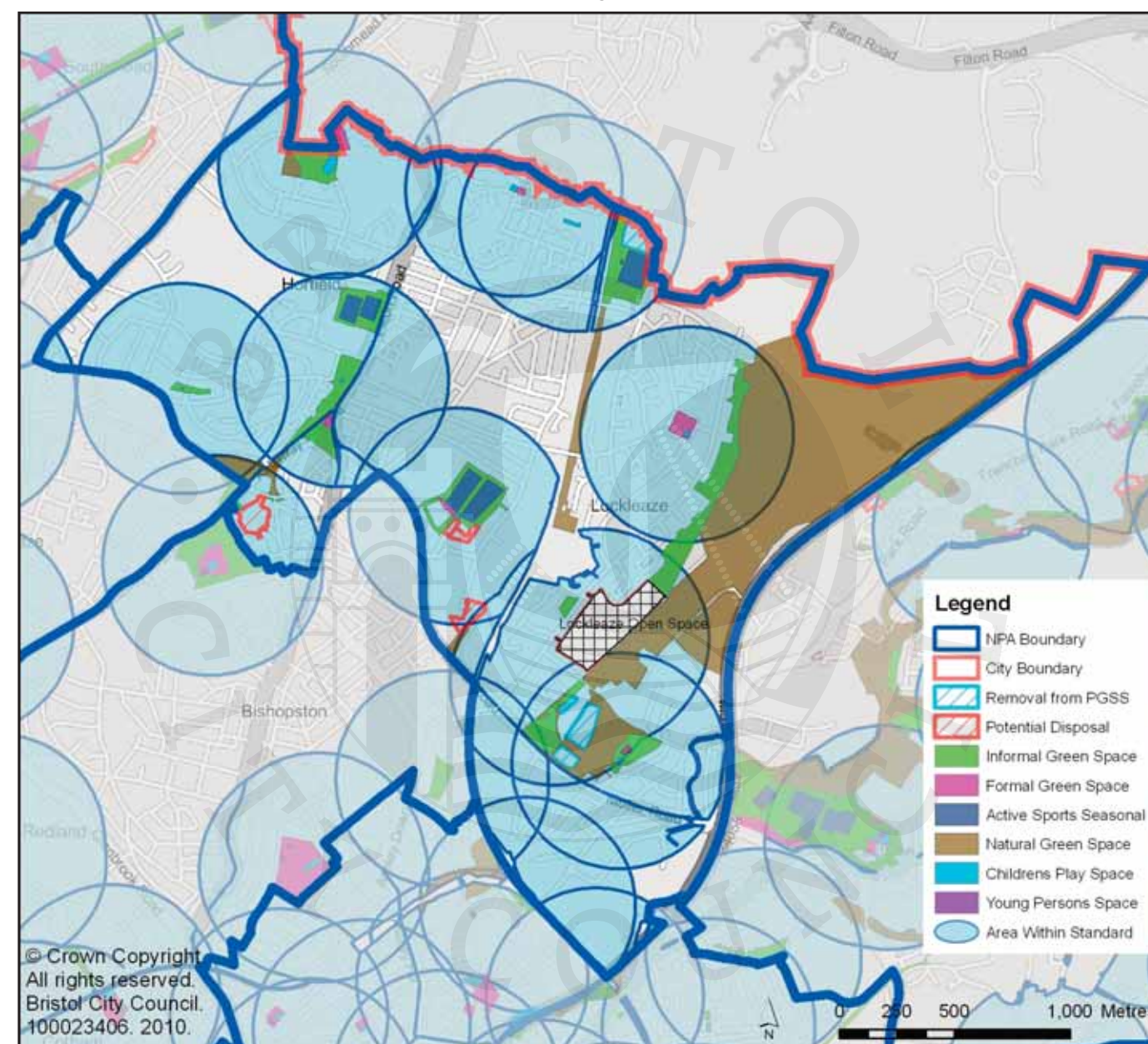
The percentage of the predicted future population that will be outside the distance standard for children's playgrounds will go

down from 41% to 22%. This will leave two areas of Horfield and Lockleaze under-served for an equipped children's playground. In the area around Southmead Hospital there are no accessible spaces to provide a new children's playground. In the area north of Filton Avenue Infants School there is a possibility of a new local linear park to the east of the railway line which would be improved for informal play. This would offset a need for a new playground at Bonnington Walk.

## Areas where the standard is currently met



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





## Formal

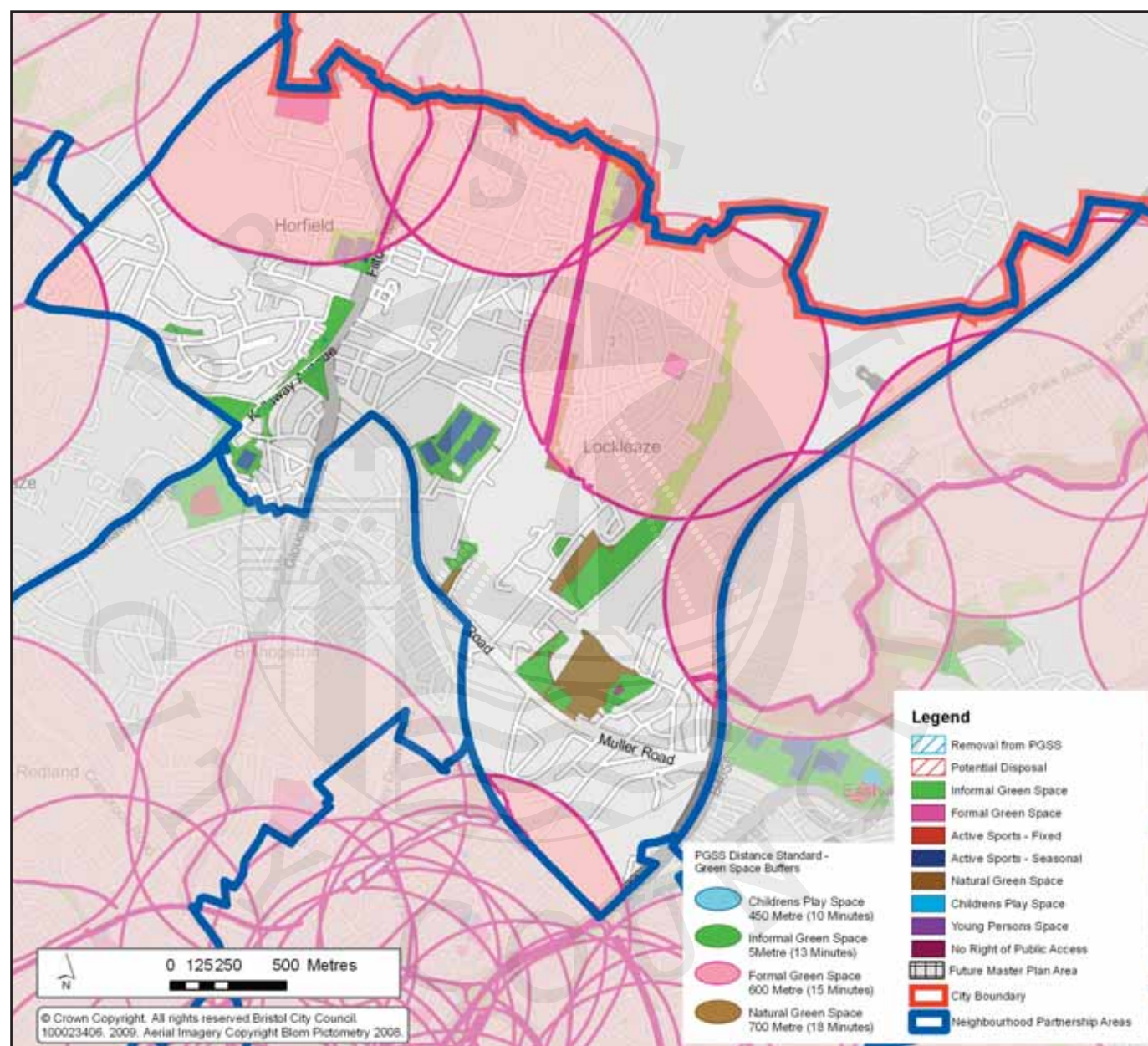
The Neighbourhood Partnership Area has three areas of formal green space at Monks Park, Gainsborough Square and Poets Park. Outside the Neighbourhood Partnership Area, there are two other spaces that will serve a small area of Horfield and Lockleaze at - Old Quarry Park and Mina Rd Park.

In order to better meet the distance standard for formal green space new formal spaces are

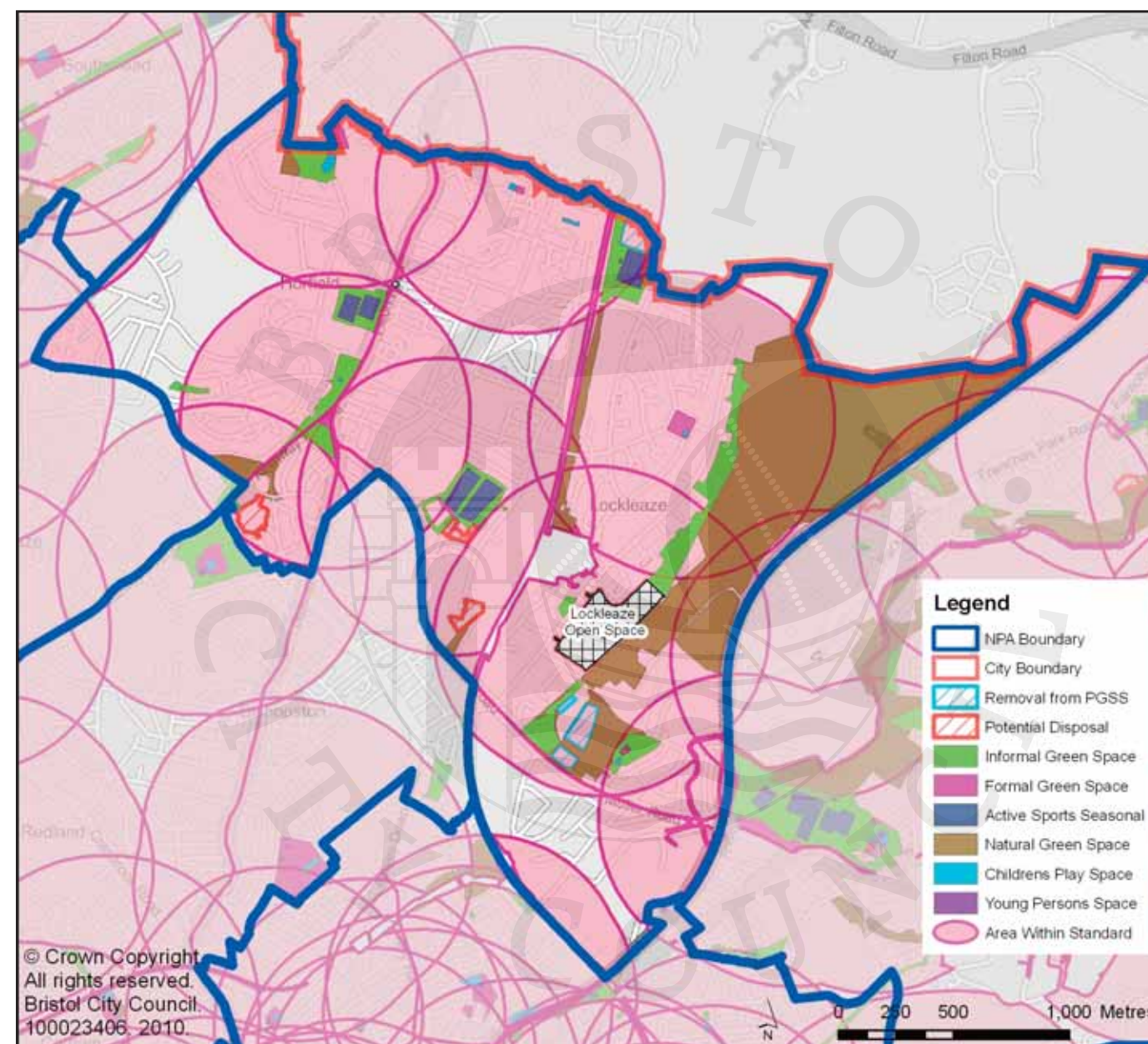
proposed for Horfield Common at the Ardagh Sports Centre, Muller Rd Recreation Ground and Lockleaze Open Space. A future small area of formal space in the form of ornamental planting is proposed.

The percentage of the predicted future population that will be outside the distance standard for formal green space will go down from 55% to 12%

## Areas where the standard is currently met



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



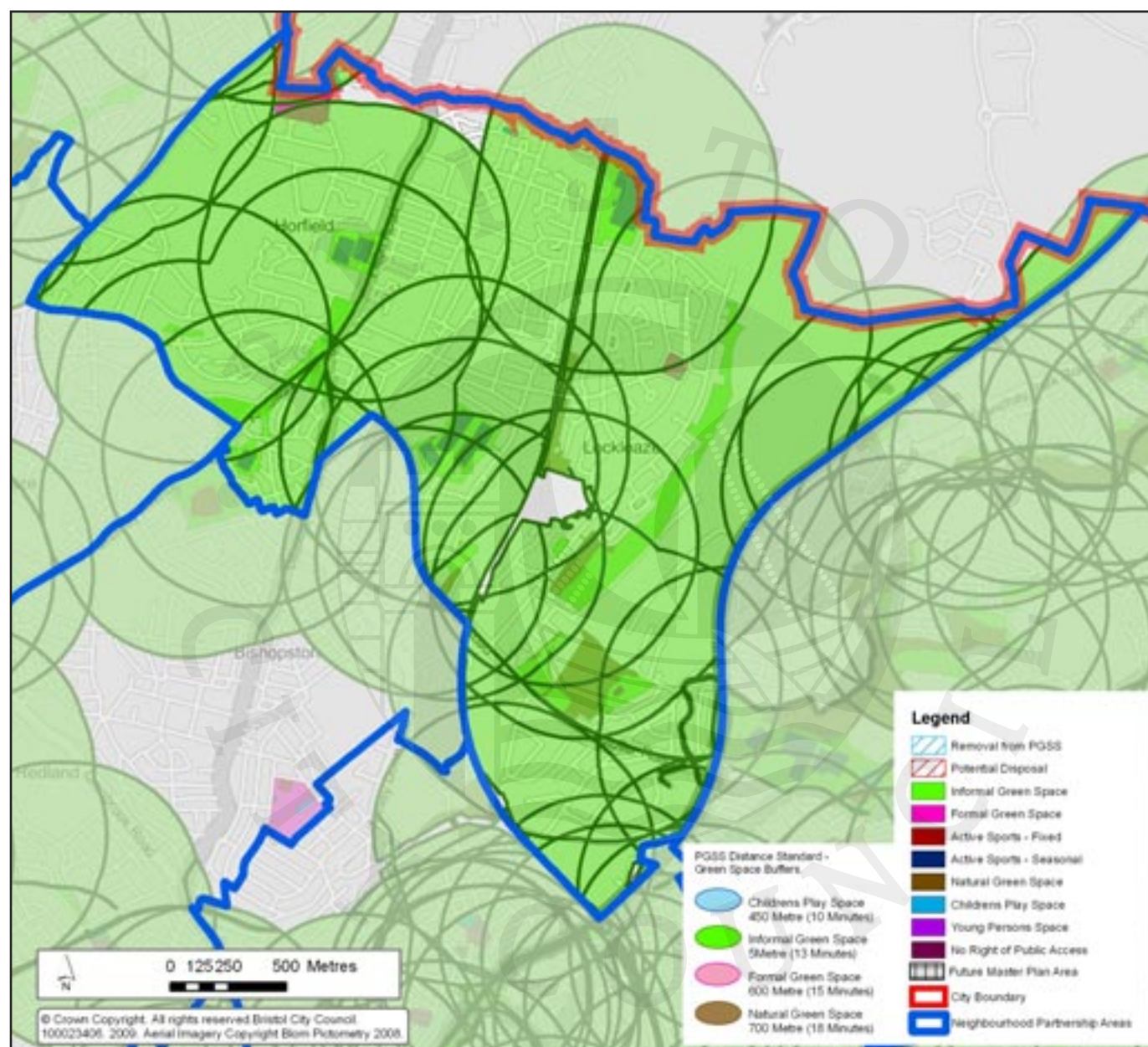




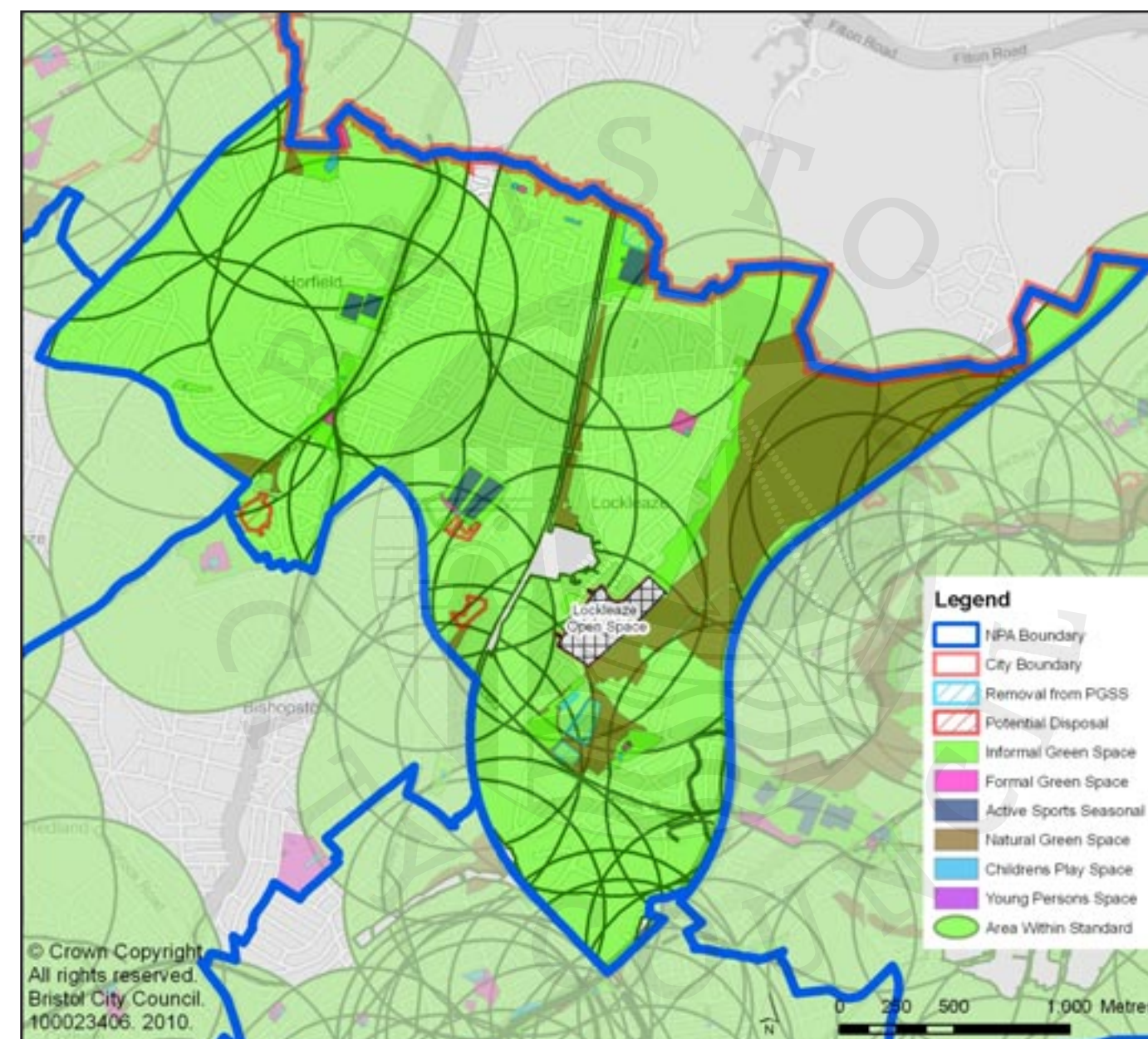
## Informal Green Space

At present there are around 130 households outside the standard for Informal Green Space close to Monks Park. The proposals in the Area Green Space Plan will leave a small area of up to 70 households just 60 metres outside of the standard. However this does not significantly alter the percentage of the population outside the standard will remain at 1%.

## Areas where the standard is currently met



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

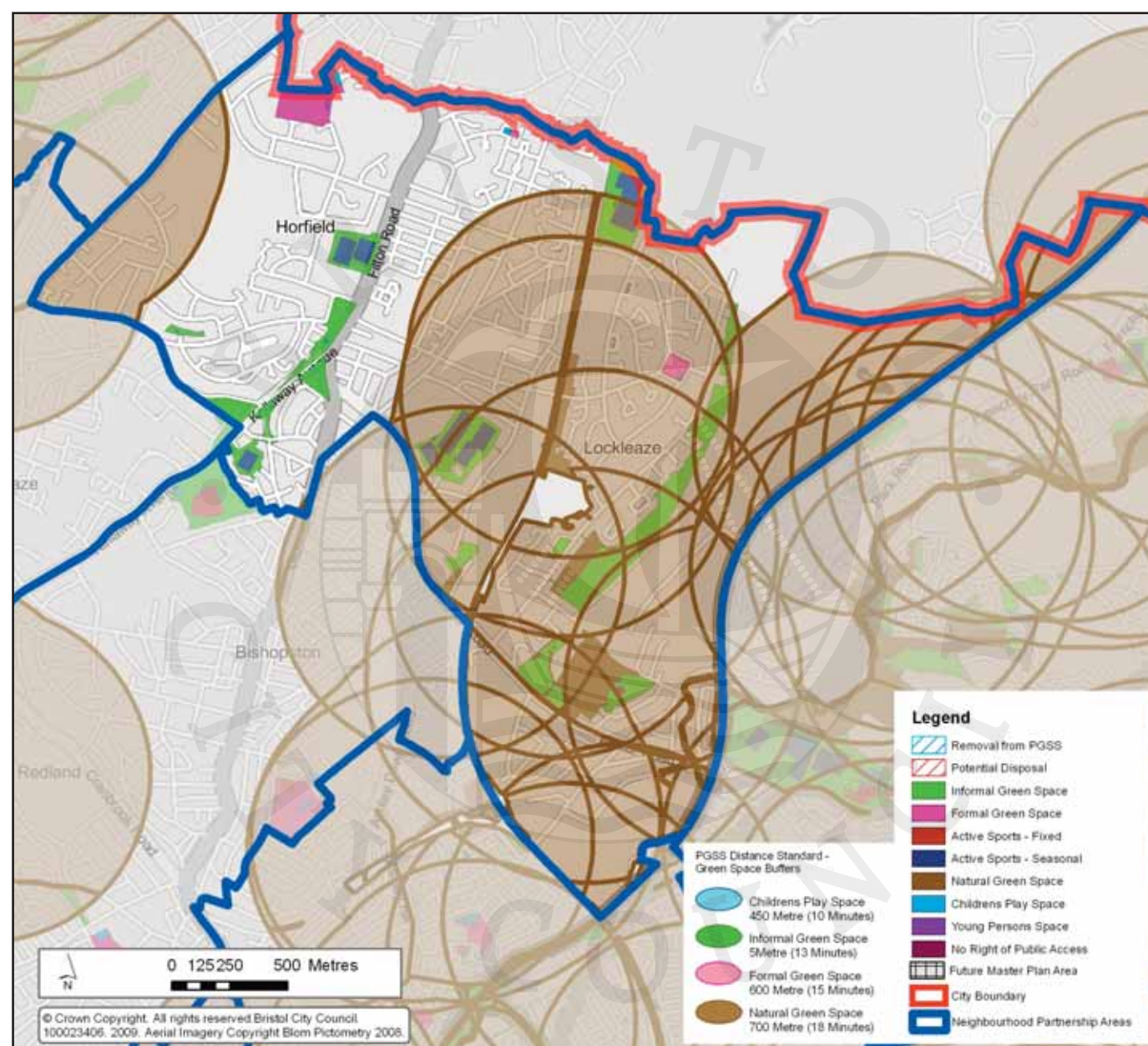




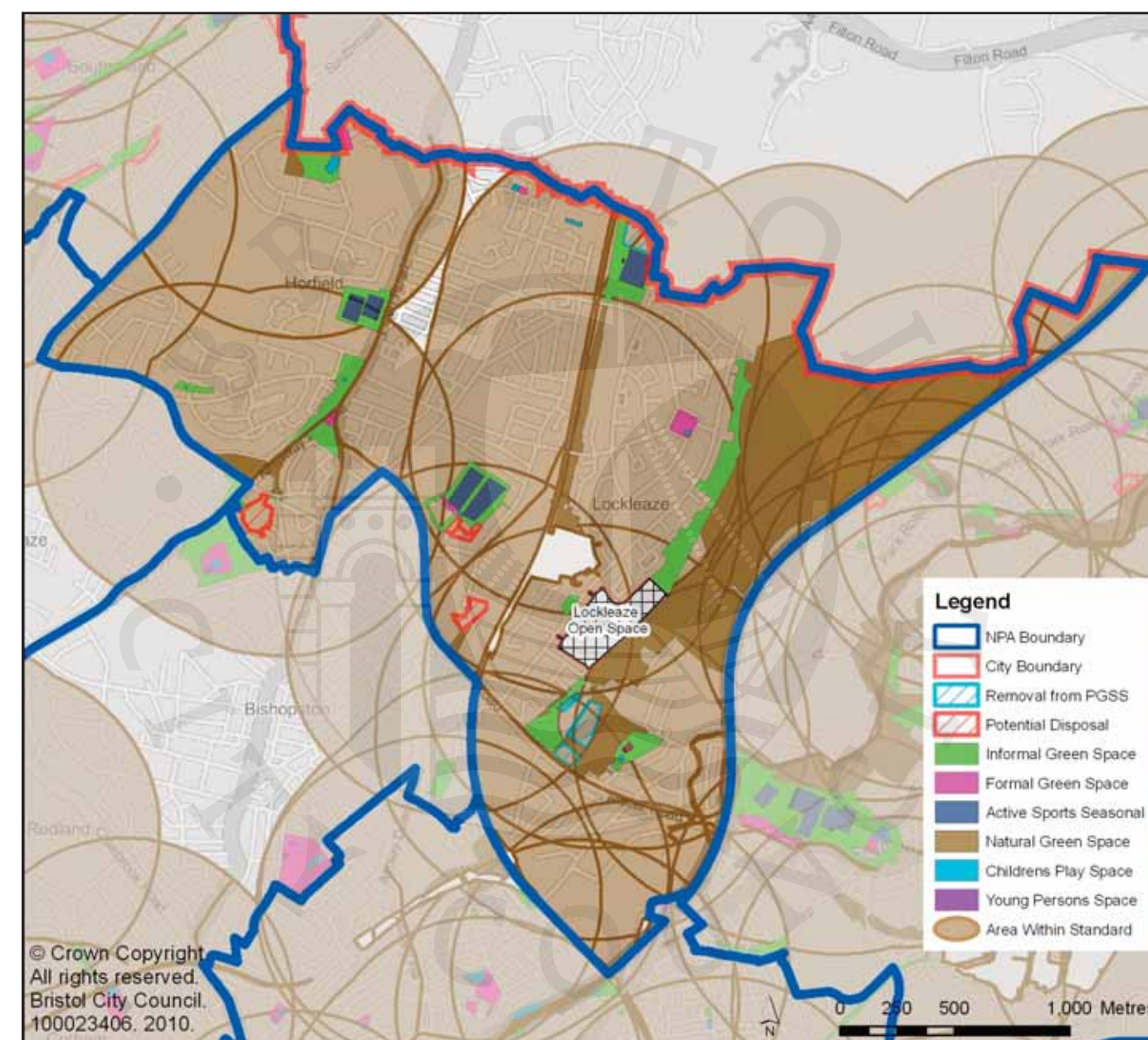
## Natural Space

The Neighbourhood Partnership is considerably under-served for Natural Green Space with the majority of Horfield outside of the distance standard. The Area Green Space Plan proposes new Natural Green Space within Monks Park, along with the provision of other types of space, and also Horfield Common. There are a number of options put forward for the location of natural space in the Common. The percentage outside the distance standard will change from 44% to 3%.

### Areas where the standard is currently met



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





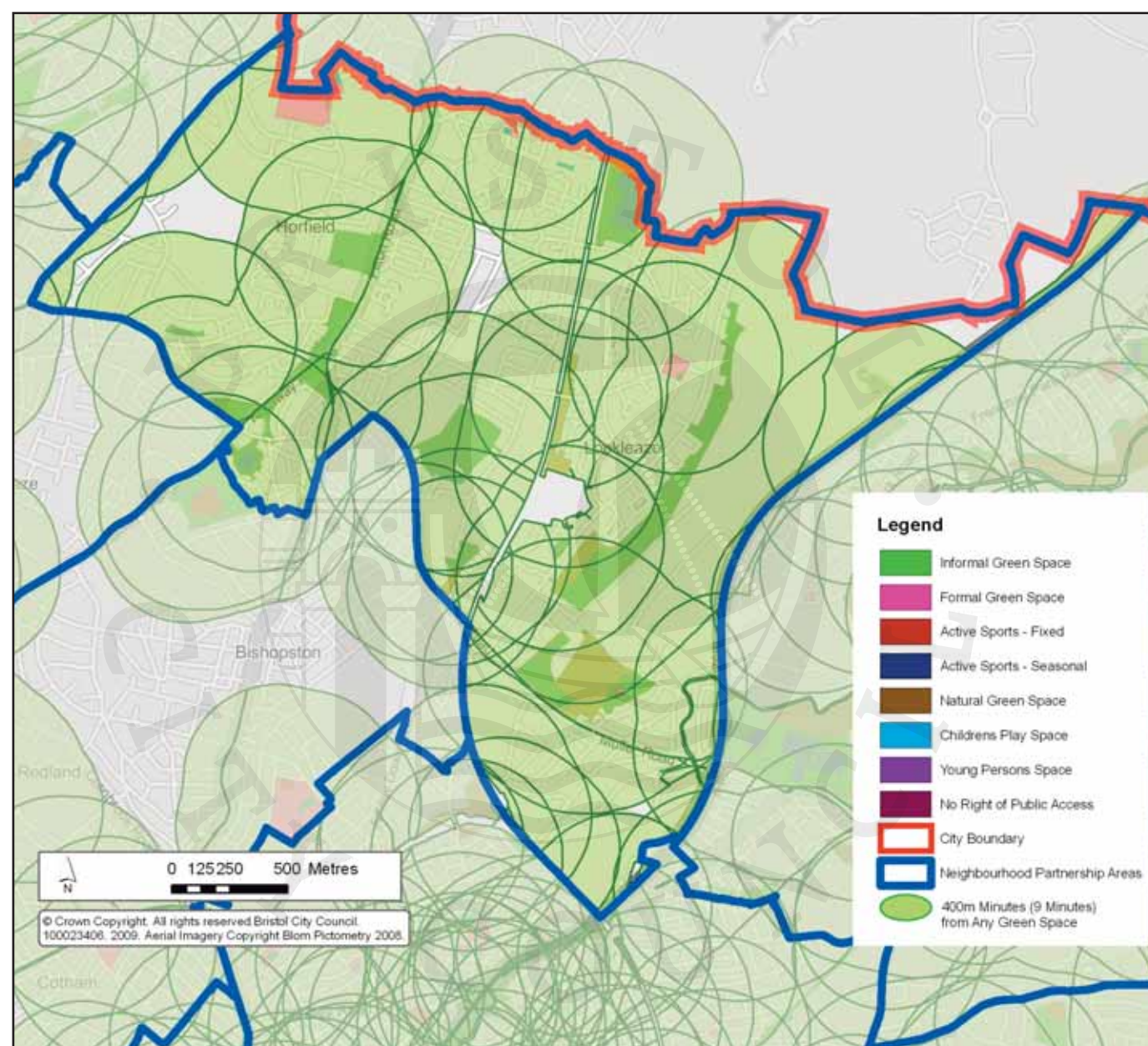


# Ideas and Options Paper Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan

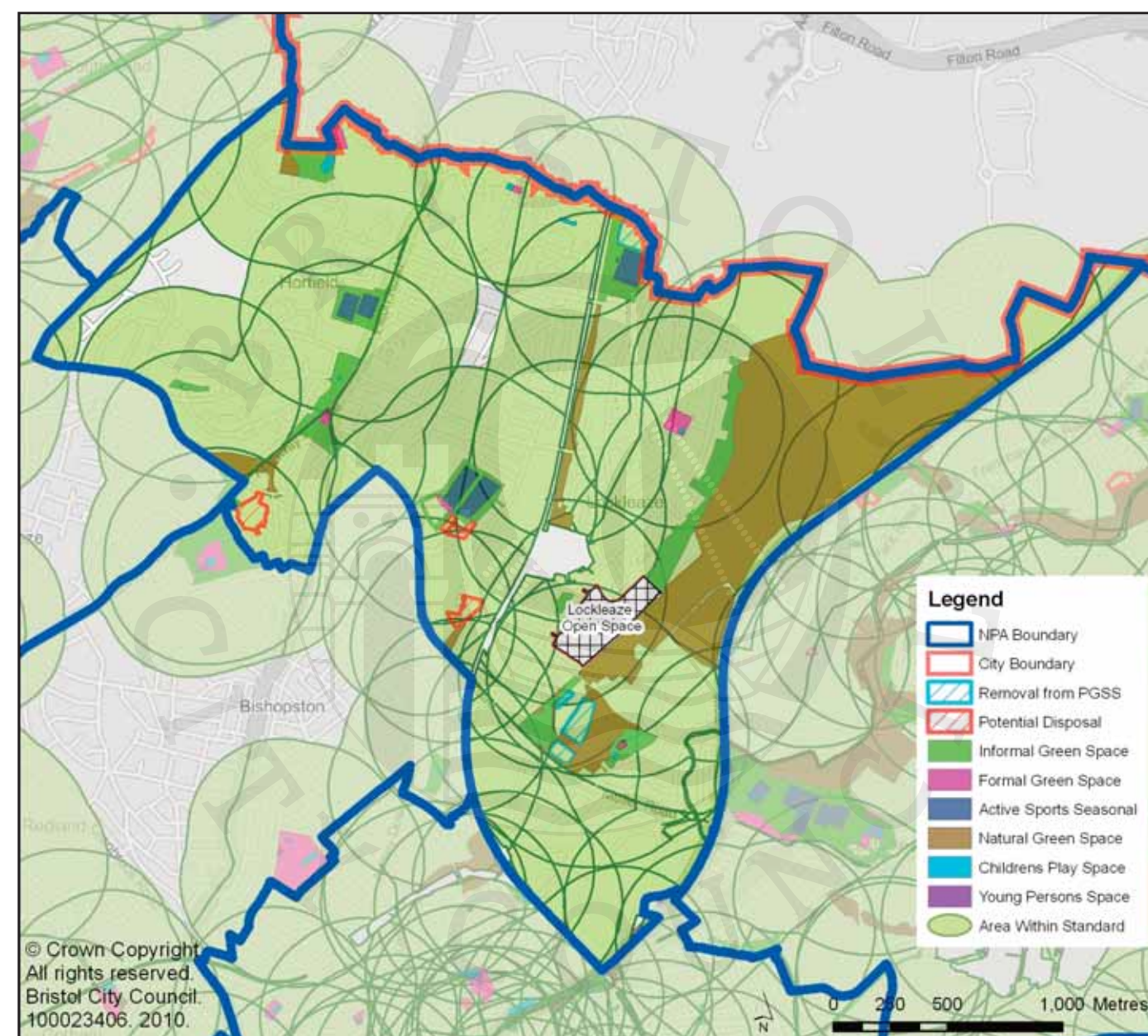
## Distance to the nearest Green Space

At present 3% of the population in the Neighbourhood Partnership Area are outside 400m of a publicly accessible open space. There are no proposals for new open space and this will not change under the lifetime of the Area Green Space Plan.

## 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.

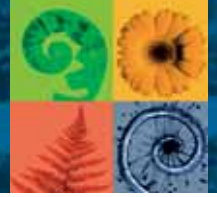
When open spaces are proposed for disposal, they are not included in the application of the Quantity Standard. In most circumstances, open space is not recommended for disposal if it is needed to meet minimum open space provision.

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	0.28	0.28	0.33
Formal green space	2.0	1.91	1.51	1.78
Informal green space	8.0	18.38	10.16	12.00
Natural green space	9.0	5.08	28.76	33.98
Locality standard	18.0	25.65	40.70	48.09





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
<div>Children and young people</div> <div></div>	Developing a diverse range of children's play spaces including natural play	<div>CY1</div> <div>New children's play space is proposed for Maskeleyne Avenue, Monks Park, Muller Rd Rec, Lockleaze Open Space and Purdown. The play area adjacent to the Ardagh may be relocated to the Ardagh. Playgrounds in Poets Park, Gainsborough Square, Horfield Common and Emersons Square will continue to be invested in. All sites have the potential to provide both natural and equipped play facilities.</div> <div>New investment as recently taken place at Gainsborough Square.</div>
	Provide diverse, exciting and challenging spaces for young people	<div>CY2</div> <div>An outdoor water play facility is proposed at the Ardagh site in Horfield Common if play moves there.</div> <div>A new multi-use-games-area (MUGA) at the Ardagh site is one option and potentially one adjacent to Horfield Sports Centre. A future option is to provide one at a new formal park at Lockleaze Open Space if this idea is adopted.</div> <div>A number of sites will provide a focal point for young people, including Monks Park and Muller Rd Rec, and facilities there will be provided according to local consultation.</div> <div>Please refer to the MUGA and Wheels Park map on page 31.</div>
	Enhance the wider park environment for play	<div>CY4</div> <div>Informal kickabout will be provided for at Monks Park and Lockleaze Open Space and will continue at Horfield Common, Gainsborough Square, Dorian Rd Playing Fields, Bonnington Walk Playing Fields and Muller Rd Rec. A new linear park alongside the railway line in Lockleaze will be designed to support informal play.</div> <div>Cycling will be supported through the new route planned in connection with Bristol's Cycling City Project. Cycling may also be facilitated on certain routes through Stoke Park, Purdown and Lockleaze Open Space.</div>

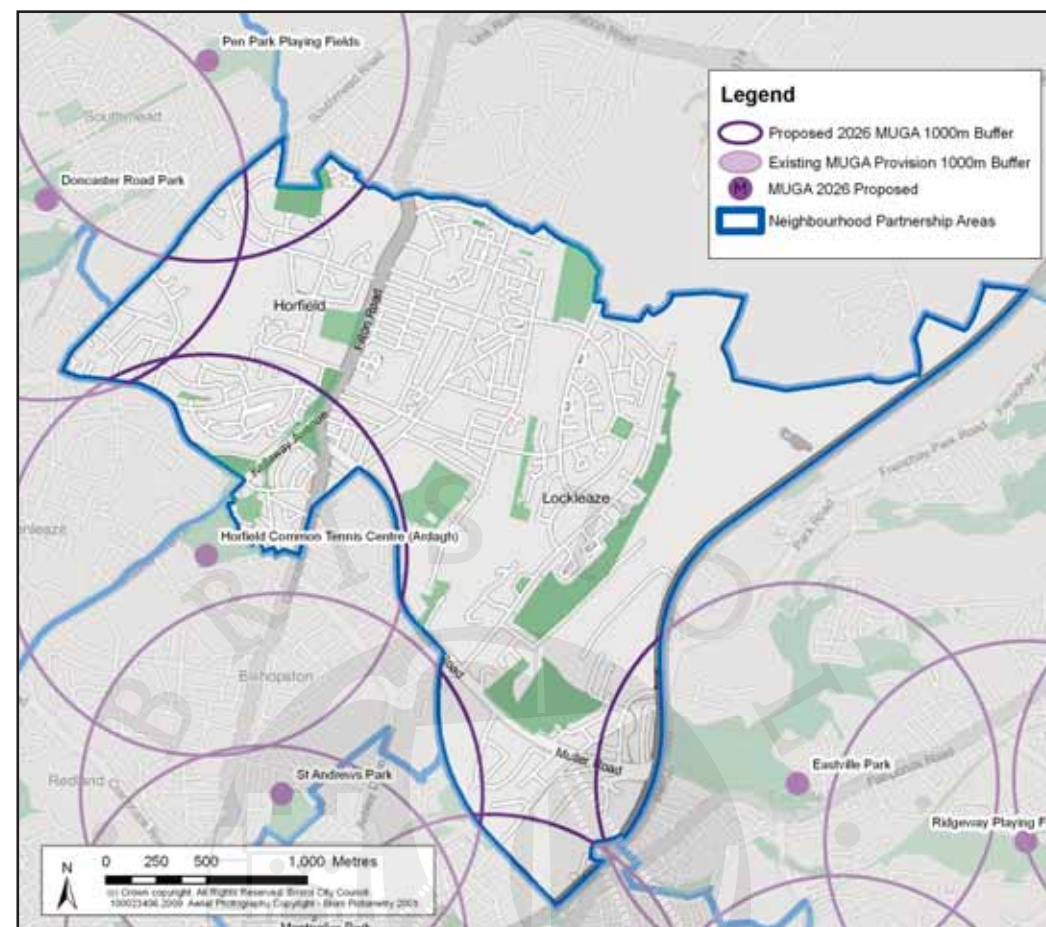


## Wheels Parks and MUGAs

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.

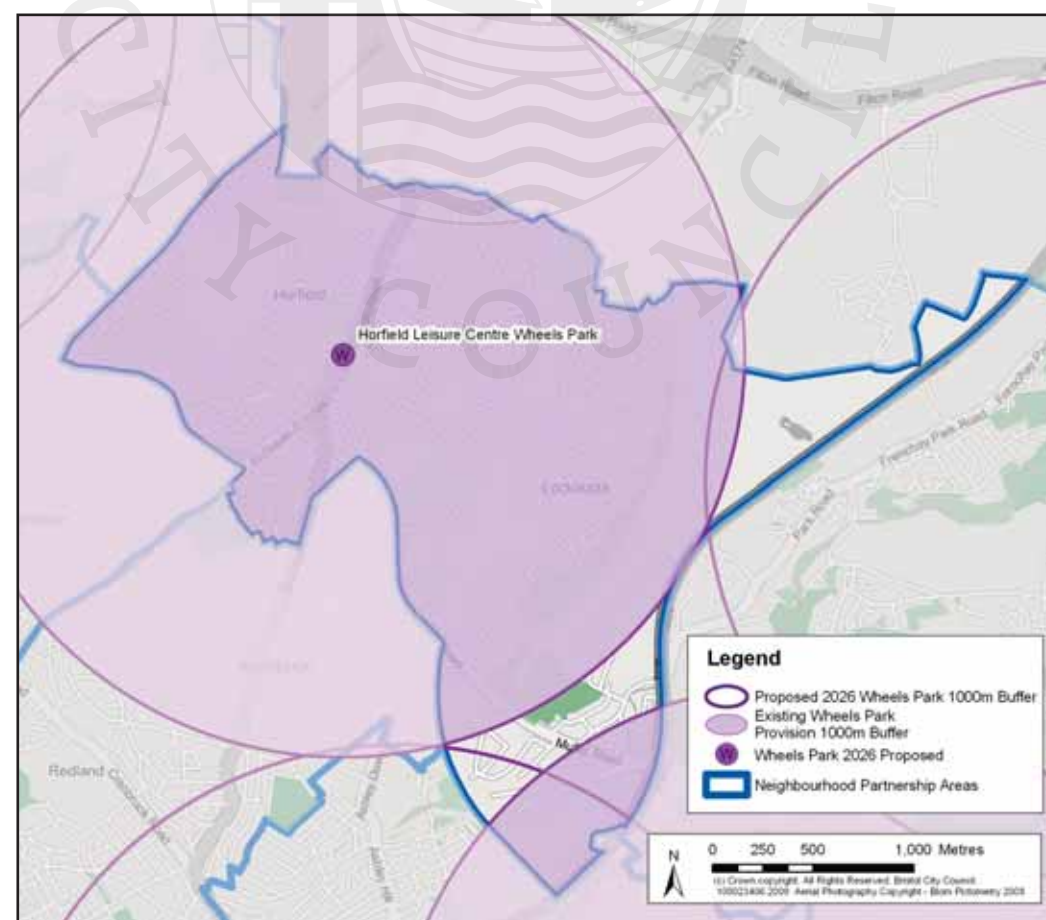
A MUGA is an all-weather surfaced, fenced, ball court with goalposts and basketball hoops. They are commonly lit during the darker months to a set time in the evening.

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.



Sites within 1km distance performance target.

*No new MUGAs are proposed within the Neighbourhood Community Partnership Area but there may be an opportunity for one at The Ardagh and close to Horfield Sports Centre. There may also be an opportunity to provide one at a new, formal park at Lockleaze Open Space.*




Wheels Park within 2km distance performance target

*No new wheels parks are proposed but that at Horfield Sports Centre continues to serve much of the area.*






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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)	<b>FG1</b> If adopted, a change of use to the Ardagh Sports Centre will effectively ensure that the site and the surrounding Common together act to provide a traditional park. There may be an opportunity to provide a new multi-functional park at Lockleaze Open Space.
		Providing a Park Keeper in all main traditional parks as a minimum	<b>FG2</b> A park keeper or similar covering a park at Lockleaze Open Space and Stoke Park would be required. An upgraded Ardagh facility would have a Park keeper.
		Enhance entry points and boundaries	<b>FG4</b> See proposals for individual parks.
		Provide visual planting schemes in key formal green spaces	<b>FG7</b> There is an option to create a new formal garden at the Ardagh Sprts Centre as part of a possible change of use. The planting will be of the highest horticultural standards.  New formal space is also proposed for Muller Road Rec, Monks Park and Lockleaze Open Space. There is the possibility of introducing formal planting schemes in either of these spaces if this has the support of local residents.  A small area of new planting is proposed at in Horfield Common at the junction of Gloucester Rd and Kellaway Avenue.



Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
Informal Green Space		
	<p>Tackle anti-social behaviour focusing on prevention and greater responsiveness to incidents, access and visibility</p>	<p><b>IG2</b></p> <p>A number of spaces in Horfield and Lockleaze have suffered from incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour. Police incident recording data tells us that most reported incidents take place in Stoke Park, Purdown, Horfield Common and Poets Park. A lower number of incidents are recorded for Bonnington Walk Playing Fields, Lockleaze Open Space, Monks Park, and Muller Rd Rec. A few more serious incidents are reported at Horfield Common and Muller Rd Rec.</p> <p>All investment proposals made in the Area Green Space Plan will act to reduce the incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour in the long term by ensuring that the number of visitors increases.</p> <p>Specifically, the introduction of partial development at Muller Rd Rec may be able to act to improve perceptions of safety in the space, particularly if the proposed new children's playground were to be located nearby.</p> <p>Investment in new formal space, a children's playground and facilities for young people at Lockleaze Open Space would be supported by the introduction of new homes that are designed to allow better surveillance of the open space.</p> <p>The proposals for Poets Park will open up sightlines into the park and remove hiding places.</p>
	<p>Upgrade some areas of informal green space for safe play and sport, including enclosing them with railings and making them dog free</p>	<p><b>IG3</b></p> <p>It is proposed to explore making part of Bonnington Walk Playing Fields dog-free and also Dorian Rd Playing Fields in line with their key function for sport. The latter is likely to be enclosed in order to make the dog-free nature of the site easy to distinguish. There may be an option of creating part of Muller Road Recreation Ground as dog free. All proposed childrens play areas will be dog free.</p>





# Ideas and Options Paper Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan

## 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**

As a site of Nature Conservation Interest Stoke Park would be able to be considered as a potential Local Nature Reserve.

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

**NG2**

A management plan will be developed for Stoke Park in consultation with local residents. The plan will set out how the meadows, woodland, hedgerows, watercourses and footpaths will be managed to enhance the area for wildlife and access.

The proposed new linear park incorporating Blake Rd Open Space, Rowlandson Gardens Open Space and Bonnington Walk Playing Fields will include the improved management and maintenance of a wildlife corridor as well as as significantly improving access to the space.

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

Proposals for Lockleaze Open Space and Purdown include improvements to entrances and routes into the natural space at Stoke Park, together these will open up long distance routes.

### 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**

**Horfield and Lockleaze currently has the following formal, active sports facilities:**

5 x adult football pitches at Muller Rd; 2 x adult football pitches at Dorian Rd; 3 x rugby pitches at Bonnington Walk Playing Fields; 11 (8 useable) tennis courts at the Ardagh; 1 x bowling green at the Ardagh; 1 x disused football pitch at Wellington Hill Playing Fields

Long term proposals for sport will be identified in the final Area Green Space Plan. Some ideas have been put forward in this ideas and options paper;

#### Football and rugby:

The number of football pitches at Muller Rd Rec could change depending on whether a partnership with the Civil Service was practical and whether there was a strategic need for new tennis or netball provision.

Dorian Rd may be converted from football to rugby pitches. This will involve establishing a new pavilion and changing facilities.

It is proposed to decommission the single football pitch at Wellington Hill Playing Fields.

It is proposed to introduce two new junior football pitches in to Lockleaze Open Space.

Bonnington Walk Playing Fields may be transferred on a lease to Dings Crusaders Rugby Football Club. This would involve- establishing a new pavilion with changing facilities and floodlighting - and provide a minimum of three pitches.



Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
Active Sports Space continued...		
	AS2	<b>Tennis:</b> There are a number of options for tennis in the body of the Area Green Space Plan affecting Ardagh Sports Centre and Muller Road Rec'- please refer to pages 10-11 and 18.
	AS3	<b>Bowls:</b> One option put forward is the decommissioning the single bowling green at the Ardagh Sports Centre- please refer to pages 10-11.
	AS5	See proposals for individual parks.
Other land management policies		
	LM3	Restore and develop park buildings for a range of alternative uses.  At Gainsborough Square Park it is proposed to replace the existing toilets with a new building that might be large enough to host other community uses and a recycling facility;  There may be scope to use the existing pavilion at the Ardagh for a greater range of uses.
	LM4	Provide good quality accessible toilets  It is proposed to provide fully accessible toilet facilities at the Ardagh Sports Centre. These could be provided in conjunction with other key facilities such as a cafe and children's playground.
	LM5	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  Please refer to notes for Policy IG3





## Ideas and Options Paper Horfield and Lockleaze Area Green Space Plan

Policy Area	PGSS Policy No.	How ideas and options would act to meet the policy
Other land management policies continued		
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	<p>The potential introduction of small-scale development at Muller Rd Rec would introduce natural surveillance from low-level traffic and people accessing their properties. New properties would face on to the open space and make the space feel less hidden.</p> <p>This principle would be adopted in the design of housing development on part of Lockleaze Open Space should this go forward.</p>
Establish greater connection with transport planning to improve access, entrances and pathways to and within sites for different users	LM11	<p>As part of Bristol's Cycling City Project the council is investigating a new shared use path for cycling and walking which would go through through Rowlandson Gardens Open Space and Bonnington Walk Playing Fields as part of a strategic route connecting the City Centre to the North of Bristol. The route will provide links to the local community in Lockleaze, as well as to the major employers in South Gloucestershire such as the Ministry of Defence, Hewlett Packard &amp; UWE. There are aspirations that in the future part of the route might be changed to go through Blake Rd Open Space.</p> <p>Cycling routes through Stoke Park to South Gloucestershire both from Lockleaze and Stapleton will be maintained.</p>
Improve the quality of green corridors, riverside routes and cycle/walkways for recreation, biodiversity and commuting	LM12	<p>Horfield and Lockleaze has a number of elements of the Strategic Green Infrastructure network proposed in the Core Strategy of the Bristol Development Framework. Links include the Railway Corridor to Filton, Stoke Park to Wallscourt Farm and Stoke Park to the M32 corridor. Two further links are identified from Stoke Park across the M32 east to the Frome Corridor. These routes serve as wildlife corridors and pedestrian and cycle routes as well as simple 'green' links.</p> <p>It is proposed to significantly enhance access along the green infrastructure route by the north-south railway line for cyclists pedestrians - while maintaining an important wildlife corridor. Cycle routes, walking routes and signposting will be a significant investment feature of the management plan for Stoke Park. The plan will consider route through the site and connections to the neighbouring residential areas of Stapleton, South Gloucestershire, Lockleaze and Eastville.</p>





# Horfield and Lockleaze

## Draft Area Green Space Plan

