



Bristol Parks Forum

representing resident led
park groups and citywide organisations
involved in protecting and improving
Bristol's green spaces

19th April 2012

Central Area Action Plan

Please find attached Bristol Parks Forum's response to the consultation on the Central Area Action Plan.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this policy and look forward to your response on each of the areas covered.

Regards

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Bristol Parks Forum

Bristol Parks Forum was established by Bristol Parks as an umbrella organisation for community park groups and organisations in the city with an interest in their local parks and green spaces.

The forum is supported by Bristol City Council but acts independently and is currently the only 'community voice' that is dedicated to all of Bristol's green spaces. The forum's three main roles are to:

- offer an opportunity to share ideas and experience
- act as a consultation body for the Bristol Parks service and other agencies;
- influence decision-making, including the allocation of resources.

Bristol Parks Forum <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/>

- 1) The vision statement for the city centre needs to include the statement that there will be 'a significant improvement to the green infrastructure within the CAAP area'
- 2) The role of green spaces in the reduction of the impact of existing noise and air quality needs to be strongly stated.
- 3) Brandon Hill and College Green are mentioned as destination parks although they are not classified as such by Environment and Leisure. This needs to be clarified.
- 4) Castle Park should be in the same classification / status as both Brandon Hill and College Green.
- 5) It should be noted that any development on the St. Mary-le-Port site must not encroach on the existing area of Castle Park.
- 6) The high value of green infrastructure for tourism and recreation should be mentioned in the introduction of the green infrastructure section.
- 7) Policy HE14 on cultural and tourist facilities should state that 'uses should be retained **and improved** in those uses'
- 8) Policy HE16 should state that vacant sites should be made publicly accessible green space and utilized.
- 9) A primary walking route from Bristol Bridge to Cabot Circus is required.
- 10) There needs to be a policy that enables the gradual re-opening of previous water courses that are currently culverted.
- 11) There needs to be a policy that specifically states that the floating harbour needs to be enhanced with green infrastructure and that the harbour quayside walkway becomes a key part of the city's green links
- 12) Policy GI5 is open to be ignored as it states 'feasible'. The policy should say 'must'. If developers on the proposed green infrastructure links do not incorporate anything then the links will **never** be complete. This needs to be mandatory and taken into consideration by the developers when they take on particular sites.
- 13) There is no 'proposals map' in the document though it is mentioned in GI5
- 14) There needs to be an additional policy GI8 – "Green infrastructure in existing development: green infrastructure will be sought to be included in existing developed areas to green up barren parts of the city.