



# Bristol Parks Forum

*Campaigning to protect and enhance all public green space  
in the City of Bristol.*

See our Vision for Parks & Green Spaces at

[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/vision](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/vision)

**Statement to Communities Scrutiny Commission – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Agenda Items 9 and 10**

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The Bristol Parks Forum is the only community voice dedicated to all publicly owned parks and green spaces (PGS) in Bristol. We work with Bristol City Council to ensure our spaces are well looked after and to help local groups to enhance their green space. Further information about the Forum can be found at <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/>

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**Agenda Item – 9 Parks and Green Space Strategy**

**Agenda Item – 10 Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy**

The Bristol Parks Forum Committee would like to make the following points.

We have experience of dealing with complex policy situations as seen in our vision for 2030 which informs our work. [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/vision](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/vision)

We appreciate the work which has been done so far. The submissions as they stand are incomplete, so we have pieced together “missing text” from our knowledge of the potential direction of the Strategies; and of our PGS.

We welcome statements to work with local parks groups and communities; and links to initiatives to improve accessibility for various groups to the benefits that PGS can provide.

We note that the One City Climate Change Strategy asks for the natural environment to be restored, protected and enhanced; and adaption to limit the damage to wildlife, whilst supporting opportunities for recovery and protection of species.

We ask for statements in both Strategies to ensure that when considering individual sites that a “joined up” consideration of the implications of changes on existing features, functions and uses of the site, is carried out alongside assessing the future opportunities. This will help proposals be more sensitive to the sites, and potentially more acceptable to those who use the sites.

We also ask for wording to be included to enable a practical consideration of a new large green park in Central Bristol (eg: in the St Phillips area) to support the thousands of new residents who are, and may be moving into the area.

**Bristol Parks Forum Committee, 12 September 2023**