



# 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)

Dear Bristol City Centre DDP Team

## **PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY PLAN – RESPONSE FROM THE BRISTOL PARKS FORUM COMMITTEE**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above Plan published in July 2023.

As we were unable to meet the consultation deadline, we can confirm that we received the Council's reply to a request for an extension of time, that it would not be available to us, and that our comments would not form part of the consultation response,

The Bristol Parks Forum is the only community voice dedicated to all publicly owned parks and green spaces 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/>

Having read the Executive Summary and the supporting documentation Part A and Part B we wish to comment as follows.

We note the approach being taken to existing and new parks and open spaces, but would call for a more positive approach to providing green, green space and wildlife corridors, across the area of the plan.

We note that the document becomes a material consideration in planning decisions if approved by Cabinet.

General Comments:

In the introductions to the plans, visions etc, we ask that a better emphasis is placed on:

- the role of play in the proposals;
- the approach to design for women and girls; and
- the need to support individual or groups of wildlife species. This point would help with our comment about a more positive approach to green, green spaces and wildlife corridors.

There is reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we suggest it would be beneficial to provide more detail on how the proposals contribute to each relevant goal.

We ask that in considering the measures to be included in the Plan for parks and green spaces, that allowance is made for obtaining sufficient money for the maintenance of those features.

Detailed Comments:

We would suggest that the reason for the statements that “approximately 2,500 new homes”; “at least 2,500 new homes over the next 10 to 15 year, up to 750 new students beds” will be created, is stated.

Broadmead:

We welcome the creation of a tree led Civic Avenue along Merchant Street linking Castle Park to St James Barton, Our view is that it would benefit from more green, green space

We also welcome the proposals to let the Almshouses on Merchant Street “breathe” with space around them, rather than buildings and hard surfaces, but we wish to see green, green space being provided around the area.

Castle Park

We have not commented on the detail of the proposal for Castle Park as there is an established Parks Group who have better knowledge of the detail of the site.

We ask the Bristol City Council; potential funders; and the relevant landowners and developers work together to ensure that the protection, enhancement and long-term maintenance of existing and new parks and green spaces, is a priority to ensure that the health and well-being benefits of these features are available to people and wildlife.

Finally, we note that Castle Park is currently well used, if not over crowded at times, even before the improvements suggested come into place. In our view while the improvements are welcomed, there is still a desperate need for a new large green space in Central Bristol, potentially at St Phillips.

A copy of this letter has been sent to:

Cllr Ellie King, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities;  
Cllr Nicola Beech, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Resilience and Floods  
Jon James, Head of Service for Natural and Marine Environments

If you have any queries on this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Len Wyatt

Chair

**For Bristol Parks Forum**

**3 October 2023**

