



Bristol Parks

A Management Plan for Troopers Hill Nature Reserve

Revised January 2007



Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve Management Plan

Produced by Bristol Parks working in partnership with The Friends of Troopers Hill

**Bristol Parks
Colston 33
Colston Avenue
Bristol
BS1 4UA**

For further information about Bristol's parks –

Tel: 0117 922 3719

Email: bristolparks@bristol.gov.uk

Email: www.bristol.gov.uk/parks

The Friends of Troopers Hill

c/o 3 Corkers Hill

St George

Bristol

BS5 8DT

For information about The Friends of Troopers Hill, visit www.troopers-hill.org.uk

Foreword

In many ways, Bristol's identity is defined by its green spaces, and we know that they are one of the main reasons why people value living in and visiting the city. Many people may have visited The Downs or Ashton Court, however relatively few will realise the number of fascinating, diverse and beautiful spaces such as Troopers Hill which lie hidden within suburban neighbourhoods. The city council is proud to have developed a strong reputation for urban wildlife management through the early designation of sites like Troopers Hill as Local Nature Reserves over a decade ago. And today the importance of such designations is even more relevant to our strategy for the city's public spaces, as we seek to conserve these green lungs as a key part of creating more balanced and sustainable communities. I am particularly delighted to share this foreword with The Friends of Troopers Hill, who represent the very best in community action at the neighbourhood level. Without The Friends it is unlikely we would be in a position to complete this management plan and be aiming to see a Green Flag flying over this wonderful reserve.

Councillor Simon Cook

Executive Member

(Health Promotion Young People and Leisure)

Bristol City Council

As the Chair of The Friends of Troopers Hill I am delighted to support this new management plan that builds on the strong partnership between our local community group and Bristol Parks. This document takes forward and builds on the management plan created for us by Rob Acton-Campbell (my husband, The Friends of Troopers Hill's Works Party Organiser) and Sally Oldfield (Bristol Parks' Local Nature Reserves Officer) soon after the formation of our group at the end of 2003. Adherence to this plan will do much to ensure the continued existence of Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve as a site rich in bio-diversity, history, geology and natural beauty, providing a valuable resource to the local community and a home to nationally scarce species contributing to the national ecosystem.

Susan Acton-Campbell

Chair

The Friends of Troopers Hill

Contents

| | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Foreword | 1 | 3.5 Acts, policies/plans/strategies and designations | 14 |
| Compartments Map | 5 | 3.5.1 Acts | 14 |
| 1.0 Introduction | 6 | 3.5.2 Policies and strategies | 14 |
| 1.1 The reason for producing a management plan | 6 | 3.5.3 The Bristol Plan designations | 15 |
| 1.2 The purpose of the plan | 6 | 3.5.4 Other designations | 15 |
| 1.3 The process used to produce the plan | 7 | 3.6 A short history of the site | 15 |
| 1.4 The life of the plan | 8 | 3.6.1 Troopers Hill in the seventeenth century | 15 |
| 2.0 Policy context | 9 | 3.6.2 Eighteenth century | 15 |
| 2.1 Bristol Partnership community strategy | 9 | 3.6.3 Early nineteenth century (1800–1840) | 15 |
| 2.2 Bristol City Council | 10 | 3.6.4 Late nineteenth century (1840–1900) | 16 |
| 2.3 Bristol Parks | 10 | 3.6.5 Early twentieth century (1900–1956) | 17 |
| 2.3.1 The Parks and Green Space Strategy | 11 | 3.6.6 Later twentieth century (1956–present) | 18 |
| 2.3.2 Getting a measure of parks | 11 | 3.7 Heritage values | 18 |
| 2.3.3 Typologies | 11 | 3.8 Natural heritage | 18 |
| 2.3.4 Local Nature Reserves (LNR) | 12 | 3.8.1 Acid heath and grassland | 19 |
| 2.4 The Green Flag award | 12 | 3.8.2 Trees and scrub | 19 |
| 3.0 Site description | 13 | 3.8.3 Species | 20 |
| 3.1 The name of the site | 13 | 3.9 Cultural heritage | 23 |
| 3.2 Location and area | 13 | 3.10 Built heritage | 23 |
| 3.3 Ownership | 13 | 3.10.1 Listed buildings | 23 |
| 3.4 Site description | 14 | 3.10.2 Park “furniture” | 24 |
| | | 3.11 Legal agreements | 24 |

Contents

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 4.0 Community use | 25 | 5.9 Bristol Parks Forum | 32 |
| 4.1 Visitor facilities | 25 | 5.10 Other local organisations | 32 |
| 4.2 Consultation | 26 | 5.11 Sustainability (Including Pesticides Policy and EMAS) | 33 |
| 4.3 Community groups and other interested organisations | 26 | 5.12 Risk assessments | 36 |
| 4.4 Access | 27 | | |
| 4.5 Informal recreation | 27 | 6.0 A Vision for Troopers Hill | 37 |
| 4.6 Events | 27 | 6.1 The hierarchy of priorities | 37 |
| 4.7 Children and young people | 28 | 6.1.1 An example of how an objective relates back to a council priority | 37 |
| 4.8 Educational use | 28 | | |
| | | 7.0 A five year work plan | 38 |
| 5.0 Current management (2006) | 29 | 7.1 Compartments | 39 |
| 5.1 Explanatory note | 29 | 7.2 The Aims for Troopers Hill | 41 |
| 5.2 People with responsibilities for Troopers Hill | 29 | 7.3 Aims and objectives | 42 |
| 5.3 Contractors | 30 | | |
| 5.4 Specifications | 30 | 8.0 Monitoring and review | 49 |
| 5.5 Resources | 30 | List of maps/list of photographs | 50 |
| 5.6 Standards | 31 | References/list of documents available to view at the Bristol Parks office | 50 |
| 5.7 Interpretation and promotion | 32 | List of people that assisted with the production of this management plan | 51 |
| 5.7.1 Leaflets | 32 | | |
| 5.7.2 Interpretation panels | 32 | Appendix 1: Getting a measure of parks | 52 |
| 5.7.3 Displays | 32 | | |
| 5.7.4 Publicity | 32 | | |
| 5.7.5 Web pages | 32 | | |
| 5.8 National organisations | 32 | | |

Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Appendix 2: List of acts and laws affecting the management of Troopers Hill | 54 |
| Appendix 3: Plans/policies and strategies | 55 |
| Appendix 4: List of stakeholders | 63 |
| Appendix 5: List of people with responsibilities for Troopers Hill | 64 |
| Appendix 6: Environmental register (Index of environmental legislation) | 65 |
| Appendix 7: Approved pesticides | 67 |

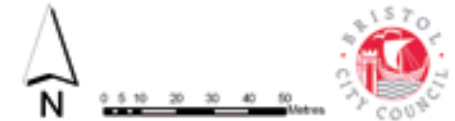


Map 1

**Troopers Hill
Management Plan**

January 2007

Compartments



Culture and Leisure Services

Bristol Parks, Phone: 0117 92 23719
Colston 33, Fax: 0117 92 23744
Colston Avenue, bristolparks@bristol.gov.uk
Bristol, BS1 4UA, www.bristol.gov.uk/parks

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Bristol City Council: 100023406: 2007.

Aerial Photography copyright Ektanix International Ltd. Unauthorised reproduction prohibited.



1.0 Introduction

1.1 The reason for producing a management plan

Troopers Hill has had a management plan since 1992. It has been revised periodically to remain current and was last updated in 2004. However, in 2006 Bristol City Council adopted a “template” for future management plans for parks and green spaces based on guidance from the Commission for Architecture, Buildings and Environment (CABE Space). It was also agreed to apply for three Green Flag awards in 2007 and Troopers Hill was chosen as one of those sites. Therefore the existing plan has been updated to accommodate both the council’s new template for management plans and to more fully address the green flag criteria.

1.2 The purpose of the plan

Troopers Hill forms part of Bristol’s Local Nature Reserves (LNR) network. There are now four existing LNRs in Bristol and three additional sites are about to be designated. Therefore it is important to ensure that the site is managed so that it complies with the criteria that Natural England set out as being necessary and definitive for such designation (*see section 2.3.4*).



Therefore the plan will:

- Assist Bristol City Council to look at the long-term management of the site by setting policies and management priorities.
- Provide continuity by providing a stable business plan when personnel change (staff, management and committee members retire or move on).
- Enable the council to identify significant projects that are presently beyond their financial resources so that additional capital and revenue funding can be sought, possibly from outside organisations.
- Provide sound aims with which to approach other organisations and council departments with a view to working together to achieve mutual objectives.
- Allow the parks officers to prepare a rolling five year work plan that will be reviewed annually to manage the site in the medium term.
- Enable Bristol Parks and The Friends of Troopers Hill to prepare detailed six monthly work plans that will be implemented through ongoing maintenance and manage the site in the short term.
- Inform all interested user groups and individuals about the long-term future of Troopers Hill and explain to them both the daily maintenance regime and the reasons behind any major changes.

Other useful advantages include:

- Everyone – ie Bristol City Council, contractors, community groups, outside institutions – can work together to the same ends.
- Consultation with service users gives “validity” to decision making.
- Provides open and “transparent” decision-making.
- It will help to address and hopefully resolve conflict created by different demands.
- Enable Troopers Hill to achieve Green Flag status.

1.3 The Process Used to Produce the Plan

■ March 1992

The first Troopers Hill Management Plan was produced by Land Mark consultants for Bristol Development Corporation.

■ August 1994

A photographic monitoring programme was established in 1994 with the aim of assessing ecological changes at Troopers Hill over a period of time. Photographs are taken from 35 fixed points on the site every two years in August, and a report on the findings is produced (*see objective 7.2.9.3*).

■ June 1995

Bristol City Council declared Troopers Hill as a Local Nature Reserve.

■ March 1999

A new management plan was produced for Bristol City Council by Wessex Ecological Consultancy.

■ April 2004

A Management and Action Plan for Troopers Hill was produced by the newly formed Friends of Troopers Hill, in partnership with Bristol City Council.

■ April 2005–2006

Updates and reports produced by The Friends of Troopers Hill.

■ Summer 2006

The council adopted a format for future management plans for parks and green spaces based on guidance from the Commission for Architecture, Buildings and Environment (CABE Space). It was also agreed to apply for three Green Flag awards in 2007 and Troopers Hill was chosen as one of those sites.

■ November 2006 to January 2007

The existing management plan for Troopers Hill was revised in line with other parks site management plans. The Friends of Troopers Hill worked closely with the city council during the whole of this process and provided much of the research and information that has been included.

1.4 The life of the plan

- This revised management plan will be adopted in January 2007.
- It will be implemented from the next financial year, 1 April 2007.
- The plan is to inform policy making with a view of over 50 years.
- It contains a five year work plan that will be reviewed annually as part of the process of creating an annual action plan. This is because it identifies a number of longer-term proposals that cannot be implemented until financial resources have been identified. It will also make it more responsive to, for example, changes in wildlife populations.
- The whole document will be reviewed in five years time (from 1 April 2012) (*see section 8*).

2.0 Policy context

2.1 Bristol Partnership Community Strategy

The city council works in formal partnership with business and other organisations to produce a community strategy that covers the economy, learning, health and community safety etc. There are two specific environment actions that apply to Troopers Hill and where Bristol Parks has a role to play:

1: Action 19

Establish a partnership approach to deliver on a plan for open spaces that includes park wardens, better facilities in parks and greater community engagement in their management.

2: Action 26

Develop a partnership approach to:

- Up-date surveys of all Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCIs), access their conservation management status and develop plans to ensure they are in favourable conservation status (*see note overleaf*).
- Develop and implement plans that improve the biodiversity of Bristol.



Note: Favourable Conservation Status –

The designation of SNCI (Site of Nature Conservation Interest) is given to those sites in Bristol which significantly contribute to the nature conservation value of the city. Bristol City Council aims to ensure that all SNCIs in Bristol are in “favourable conservation status” by 2020. In order to qualify for favourable conservation status, a site must be managed effectively to retain its nature conservation value.

SNCIs are currently being surveyed to determine whether or not they are being managed sympathetically for nature conservation. The assessment results in the allocation of one of the following categories to a site:

1. **Favourable – maintained**
2. **Favourable – recovered**
3. **Unfavourable – recovering**
4. **Unfavourable – no change**
5. **Unfavourable – declining**
6. **Partially destroyed**
7. **Destroyed**

The assessment of Troopers Hill was carried out in August 2005 by BRERC (Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre) and the site was evaluated as “Favourable – maintained”.

2.2 Bristol City Council

The Corporate Plan 2006–2009

The city council has a vision 2006–2009 for Bristol based on five long-term aims:

- **A thriving economy:** To maintain and develop a competitive economy in what is a growth area; to ensure that all people and neighbourhoods in Bristol can contribute to, and benefit from, that thriving economy; and to make Bristol one of the most attractive places in Europe to live, work and visit.
- **Learning and achievement:** To ensure that all children and young people achieve high standards and acquire the qualifications and skills to progress with confidence into employment, training and citizenship.
- **Health and well-being in Bristol:** To ensure that everyone in Bristol has the opportunity to be as healthy, fulfilled and as independent as possible with investment focused on working in an inclusive way to promote well-being and the prevention of ill health.
- **A high quality environment:** Bristol to be a green capital in Europe, tackling the causes of climate change and creating a clean and attractive built and natural environment.
- **Balanced and sustainable communities:** To create balanced and sustainable

communities with a high quality of life where no one is disadvantaged.

2.3 Bristol Parks

Bristol Parks sits within Bristol City Council’s Culture and Leisure Department and publishes an annual service plan which links into the council’s corporate plan. The Bristol Parks Service Plan is available to view at the Bristol Parks Office at 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA and on the council’s web site at www.bristol.gov.uk/parks

Bristol Parks is working on producing a Parks and Green Space Strategy (*see 2.3.1*) but in the meantime it has a vision:

“Of a city with a diverse range of attractive, enjoyable and accessible parks and green spaces, set within green and sustainable communities, which meet the present and future needs of all Bristol citizens, and also visitors to the city”.

Whether working towards a vision or parks strategy there are seven **outcomes** that the parks service works towards.

1. Safe Parks

Safe parks and green spaces, which reduce actual and perceived risks within neighbourhoods.

2. Accessible parks

Accessible parks and green spaces enjoyed equally and in greater numbers by the city's diverse community.

3. Clean parks

Clean parks, green spaces and neighbourhoods.

4. Attractive parks and city

Well-managed, attractive and stimulating parks and green spaces and streets within sustainable neighbourhoods.

5. Parks and health

Local communities benefiting more from the city's parks and green spaces with better spiritual, mental and physical health and well-being.

6. Parks and wildlife

Parks, green spaces, and neighbourhoods rich in wildlife enjoyed by local people.

7. Parks and communities

Parks and green spaces, which help define and contribute to a stronger sense of community.

2.3.1 The Parks and Green Space Strategy

Bristol is producing a Parks and Green Space Strategy, which will be vital to improving Bristol's green spaces and also in response to government changes to planning regulations. It will present a greenprint for where Bristol's green spaces should be provided and what

types, inform how they should be maintained and what facilities they might contain. The Strategy's central aim is to ensure that there is equal access for people across Bristol to different types of green space and visitor facilities. The strategy is due to be adopted by Bristol City Council in December 2007.

The strategy applies to all publicly accessible green space and sets out the priorities and processes for a 20 year investment programme in green spaces and Bristol Parks services.

The strategy will inform the new planning requirements within the Bristol Local Development Framework and will set out new standards for the accessibility, quantity and quality of green space in Bristol. These standards will apply to different types of space that have been identified and their location mapped across the city. All existing areas of parks have been broken down and categorised under one of five different typologies to make the work of measuring and comparing areas easier (*see 2.3.3 for details*).

One element of the funding to help implement the new strategy will be S106 developer contributions, as determined by the council's Supplementary Planning Document No 4, adopted in October 2005. This sets out a formula to determine a "tariff" which will apply to residential developments of over 10 units,

with funding for "off site" recreational investment on green spaces qualifying. Troopers Hill might bring forward funding to help with implementation of the elements in the management plan.

2.3.2 Getting a measure of Parks

"Getting a measure of Parks" is an objective methodology used to describe the quality of parks and green spaces throughout Bristol reflecting Provision, Condition and Maintenance of a range of site features scored from 1 to 4 (with four being the highest quality). In addition the methodology considers the potential quality of any one feature (*see Appendix 1*).

2.3.3 Typologies

To more easily measure the quality, quantity and accessibility of green space in Bristol five different typologies have been used to identify the current use of all the green space in Bristol.

- A. Formal Green Space
- B. Informal Green Space
- C. Natural Green Space**

- D. Children's and Young People's Space
- E. Active Sports – two sub-types fixed and seasonal

Those shown in **bold** exist on Troopers Hill.

For more information about the definitions please see "*Parks and Green Space Strategy – Guidance For Defining Typology for Green Space use*". It is

currently only available as a working document at the the Parks Office, 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA.

2.3.4 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)

Bristol City Council officially declared Troopers Hill as a Local Nature Reserve on 22 June 1995, under the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. The site was one of three LNRs declared at that time, all of which were selected with the guidance and approval of English Nature (now Natural England). These sites became Bristol's first LNRs and were selected on the basis of their high nature conservation value, and the fact that each site supported a contrasting range of habitats and species. The importance of public enjoyment of nature and education were also crucial factors in the declaration of the LNRs. The cultural and historical importance of Troopers Hill was highlighted at the time of the site's declaration as an LNR.

Bristol's emerging Parks and Green Space Strategy outlines Bristol City Council's aim to declare a network of up to sixteen LNRs in order to meet Natural England's recommended national standard. The strategy also details the policy to maintain LNRs to a high standard and to ensure that these key wildlife sites achieve their potential in terms of community involvement and environmental education.

2.4 The Green Flag award

The Green Flag award scheme is a measure of the quality of the provision and management of parks and green spaces. It is an annual award that is administered by The Civic Trust.

Applications are made in January when the management plan for the site is submitted for evaluation. If the management plan gains sufficient marks then an assessment of the site is made by (usually) two independent judges who evaluate the site using the following criteria:

- A welcoming place
- Healthy, safe and secure
- Well-maintained and clean
- Sustainability
- Conservation and heritage
- Community involvement
- Marketing
- Management

It is intended to apply for a Green Flag award for Troopers Hill in 2007 as a useful indicator of the quality of the site and its management.

3.0 Site description

3.1 The Name of the site

Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve

3.2 Location and area

Grid reference ST628731

Area 8.4 Ha (21 acres)

See Map 1.

3.3 Ownership

The whole of the site is owned by Bristol City Council.



3.4 Site description

Troopers Hill is a hillside facing south and west, providing spectacular views across the city and towards the Mendip Hills. The top is an uneven plateau bounded to the north by an allotment site. The site is roughly triangular in shape and is bounded to the south-east, by Troopers Hill Road. This boundary is a four-rail wooden fence at the bottom of the slope. To the south west it is bounded by Crews Hole Road and to the west it is contiguous with Crews Hole woodland, which is also owned by Bristol City Council. To the north east, part of the boundary runs along the small cul-de-sac of Greendown and part is with “The Farm” allotment site which is managed by Bristol East Allotments Association. The site has been extensively worked for minerals in the past. It is uneven and very steep in places, with mainly very poor soils. There is bare rock and a little erosion of spoil in places (*see Map 1*).

The flora of the site is very interesting. The top of the ridge and tops of the spoil heaps are generally clothed with fine grasses and mosses. There is occasional ling and heather in places. It is difficult to decide if this is a remnant of wider areas of heath or new heath colonising the grass. The tops of the slopes have heath, sometimes with broom or gorse. Lower down is often bramble with bracken which diffuses into

hawthorn and woodland trees at the bottom of the slopes and especially around the boundaries of the site. There are five pedestrian gates into the area and two gates for working vehicles. There is an extensive network of paths, including three public footpaths (*see Map 2*). Some paths are maintained and some are “desire lines”. There are two listed monuments (both are redundant chimney stacks from previous industrial work on site). There are no facilities other than benches and dog bins that have also been provided in recognition of the extensive use made of the hill by dog walkers.

3.5 Acts, policies/plans/strategies and designations

3.5.1 Acts

See complete list of Acts in Appendix 2.

3.5.2 Policies/strategies

See details of Policies/Plans and Strategies in Appendix 3.

- Bristol City Council Corporate Plan 2006–2009
- Bristol City Council Education Development Plan 2005–2006
- Bristol Climate Protection and Action Plan 2004–6
- Bristol Parks Service Delivery Plan 2006–7

- Bristol’s Art Strategy 1999 (review planned)
- Bristol’s Community Strategy 2003 and updated 2006
- City Life – a Cultural Strategy for Bristol, 2004
- Environment EMAS
- Health Strategy 2006–2009
- Local Action Plan
- Parks and Green Space Strategy
- Parks Wildlife Strategy (Draft)
- Playing for Real, 2004 and Making Play Matter 2003
- Public Art Strategy 2003
- Public Consultation Strategy, 2001
- Recycling
- Road Safety Strategy: in Local Transport Plan 1999
- Safer Bristol partnership Crime and Drugs, 2004–2008
- Sustainable Energy Strategy Bristol City Council
- The Bristol Sports Partnership (undated)
- The Cycling Strategy: in Local Transport Plan 1999
- The Walking Strategy: in Local Transport Plan 1999
- Towards a Parking Strategy: in Local Transport Plan 1999

3.5.3 The Bristol Plan Designations

Troopers Hill is protected by Nature Conservation Policy NE5 in the Bristol Plan owing to its status as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI).

3.5.4 Other designations:

- Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
- Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI)
- Public Rights of Way (PROW)
- Conservation Area
- Listed buildings/structures (2)
- Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Site (RIGS) – Proposed

3.6 A short history of the site

Please note that this precised version was taken from a much more detailed account that was written by Rob Acton-Campbell of The Friends of Troopers Hill. The full version is available on The Friends web site www.troopers-hill.org.uk.

3.6.1 Troopers Hill in the seventeenth century

Harris Hill

The area that is now known as Troopers Hill is on the edge of Kingswood Forest or Chase overlooking the river Avon. A map dated 1610 shows the hill as “Harris Hill” and a later map of 1672 shows “Harris Hill Lands”.

The 1610 map shows a single tree on Harris Hill. It is not clear whether the area was tree covered at that time, though it may have been.

Civil War

Local tradition has it that the parliamentary army, under the command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, camped on Troopers Hill prior the siege of Bristol in 1645. It has also been suggested that the ditch between the hill and the allotments was dug at this time as a defensive earthworks.

Baptists

A reference to the area in the seventeenth century is made in “*The Records of a Church of Christ in Bristol 1640 to 1687*”. This is the story of the struggles of the Baptists in Bristol against persecution. In the record for August and September 1682 it refers to “*preaching on the woodland slope in the area of Troopers’ Hill*”. While it is not known exactly where this gallery was, this account does indicate that the slopes on the side of the Avon valley were woodland at that time.

3.6.2 Eighteenth century

Copper smelting

In the eighteenth century a copper smelting industry was established in the area. Copper ore was brought by boat, mainly from Cornwall and north Devon and coal was sourced locally. The copper produced was mostly used with calamine (zinc ore) from the Mendips in the manufacture

of brass at Baptist Mills and other sites in Bristol.

Troopers Hill chimney

It is not known exactly when the chimney was built. However there is evidence to suggest that it originates from the 1790s and that it was built for a copper works. It is certain that the chimney was built before 1826, since it is shown in a drawing from this date of the view from Arnos Court commissioned by G W Braikenridge.

The smelting of both copper and lead in the Avon valley throughout the eighteenth century may have had an effect on the natural environment of the hill. Both produce smoke laden with sulphur, which may have increased the acidity of the soil in the surrounding area. The chimney is now a Grade II listed structure.

3.6.3 Early nineteenth century (1800–1840)

Coal Mining

Copper and lead smelting continued in Crews Hole on a much smaller scale during the early years of the nineteenth century than it did in the eighteenth century. On Troopers Hill itself there was some quarrying of pennant sandstone during this period, but the most significant development was the opening of Troopers Hill pit.

The chimney or stack that still stands at the junction of Troopers Hill Road and Crews Hole

Road is all that remains of this colliery. Originally the chimney was at the corner of the engine house and parts of the walls of that building can still be seen. The corners of the stack are formed with black copper slag blocks. This structure is also Grade II listed. The colliery, which was also known as Crews Hole pit, was mining coal from the early 1800s and closed before 1845.

Scenes in our parish, by a country parson's daughter

A unique record of the Crews Hole area in the early nineteenth century has been provided by Elizabeth Emra, the country parson's daughter. "Little Elizabeth" was the author of "*Scenes in our Parish*" the first part of which was published in 1830:

"the barren and quarried hill, with its yellow spots of gorse and broom, and its purple shade of heath, raising itself above the dark heaps of dross on our own side; and then the river, the beautiful, soft flowing river that we have all loved so well, laving as kindly our rough and barren banks, and holding its pure mirror to us, as truly as to the embellished and fertile scenery on the other side; and how clearly we saw every reversed image of the trees in the little copse-wood beyond..."

[dross: "The scum thrown off from metals in smelting"]

This actually refers to the hill at the top of what is now Strawberry Lane, however the same landscape will undoubtedly have extended all the way along the valley to Troopers Hill at that time.

Troopers Hill – origin of the name

1830 marks the first recorded use of the name "Troopers Hill" – the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map of the Bristol area. Prior to this date the hill had been referred to as "Harris Hill" or "Truebody's Hill". "Truebody's Hill" continued to be used on legal documents until the end of the century. One document has "*the Bodies Hill*"; this must have been a transcription error, and demonstrates how easily names can be changed.

Troopers Hill and Truebody's Hill were therefore both used through much of the nineteenth century, with Troopers Hill becoming the accepted name by the end of the century, possibly because of its use on the Ordnance Survey map. It remains in doubt as to whether the name came from the use of the hill by troopers in the civil war or at some other time; or whether it was simply a corruption of Truebody's Hill.

3.6.4 Late nineteenth century (1840–1900)

Tar Works

1843 saw the start of a new industry adjacent to Troopers Hill that dominated the area until

1981. While the Great Western Railway from Bristol to Paddington was under construction in 1838, John Bethell patented creosote for the wooden sleepers as a timber preservative and Brunel realised that its use would be a benefit to his new railway. William Butler & Co (Bristol) Ltd gradually took over all the land between Troopers Hill and the river.

Chemical Works

It is not known who purchased the copper works sites and Troopers Hill in 1828 when The Brass Company sold it, but by 1886 all the land, except that owned by Butlers, was owned by the Somers family of Clevedon.

In the area where the new copper works were shown on the 1803 map, the 1886 lease shows Stone & Tinson's Chemical Works. Given the requirement to maintain the chimney and flue mentioned in the lease it seems likely that this works was using the Troopers Hill chimney at that time.

Fireclay mine and works

Fireclay is often found alongside coal seams and fireclay mines were often operated in areas where the coal had previously been extracted. The first recorded fireclay mine in Crews Hole was owned and worked in the 1850s. The exact location is unknown but the 1886 lease points to it being at Troopers Hill. The Fireclay Company abandoned the mine in 1908.

Pennant sandstone quarrying

The industry that had the most effect on the shape of Troopers Hill as we see it today was the quarrying of pennant sandstone for use in building. Quarrying probably started on a small scale very early on in the history of the area and Elizabeth Emra referred to a large quarry in her book of 1830.

The 1890 Ordnance Survey map shows a quarry in what is now known as “the gully”. Comparison of this map with the second edition Ordnance Survey map of 1904 clearly shows that a lot of rock was removed between the dates of the surveys for these two editions. The shape of the hill in 1904 was much as it is now so quarrying must have ceased soon afterwards. The humps between the gully and Troopers Hill Road are tipped waste from this quarry. A quarry is also shown on the south-west of the hill on the 1890 map that has become an “old quarry” by 1904. The 1890 map also shows an “old quarry” adjacent to the colliery engine house at the Crews Hole end of Troopers Hill Road.

The exposed sandstone faces in the gully with their great range of colours from red to grey which were left when the quarry closed are now one of the hill’s most striking features.

Expansion of Bristol

In 1897 the boundaries of the City and County of Bristol were extended to include St George

and therefore Troopers Hill. Prior to this date Troopers Hill had been in the county of Gloucestershire.

Fortunately Troopers Hill and the fields of Troopers Hill Farm to the north both escaped development. The farm was to become allotments on the outbreak of war in 1914. Part of it remains as Bristol East Allotments Association’s “Farm” allotments site, while the area now known as Malvern Road open space was converted from allotments to public open space some time after its purchase by Bristol City Council in 1932.

3.6.5 Early twentieth century (1900–1956)

White’s Bristol Flora

An indication of the range of flora present on Troopers Hill at the beginning of the twentieth century is given in “*The Bristol Flora*” by James Walter White, published in 1912. Troopers Hill is listed in this book as one of the “*minor eminences on the Gloucester side of Bristol*”. In the chapter on soils Mr White refers to the change in the vegetation to the east of Bristol due to the pennant sandstone and says “*the trees are low in stature, as if stunted by fumes and smoke from collieries and chemical works; and the few remaining untilled portions of old Kingswood Chase are sprinkled with heather, broom, needle-whin, and uncommon forms of bramble*”.

Troopers Hill For sale!

With the closure of the fireclay mine, the quarries and finally the chemical works of Stone and Tinson, the industrial history of Troopers Hill itself came to an end.

In 1920, and again in June 1924, Troopers Hill was offered for sale by auction. It was said to have “*over 2,000 feet of frontage to public roads and comprises some useful building sites*”. The chimney stack and flue are mentioned as well as “*valuable Quarries of Stone and seams of Fireclay*”. Potential buyers were obviously not attracted by this sales pitch and no sale was completed until September 1924, when it was purchased by John Ballard of Holly Lodge, St George for £515.

Coal digging in the general strike

Outcrops of coal were dug during the 1926 general strike while the coalmines themselves were closed. It is believed that one of the coal diggers lost his life on the hill at this time. The photograph of coal digging on Troopers Hill in Dave Stephenson, Andy Jones and Dave Cheesley’s book on Crews Hole, may date from this time.

Purchase by Bristol City Council as a Public Open Space 14 September 1956

In papers held in Bristol Records Office, is a report from a local paper under the headline of “Troopers Hill” it states:

“After visiting the area, the visiting sub-committee of Bristol Planning and Public Works Committee decided yesterday that negotiations should take place with the owner of 21 acres of land at Troopers Hill, St George, with a view to acquiring it for public open space purposes.”

The sale was completed on 14 September 1956 for the sum of £600. There is a series of photographs taken in 1953 from Butlers Tar Works that show what the hill looked like at the time of its purchase. They can be seen on the website at www.troopers-hill.org.uk. The hill appeared dramatically different then to the way it does now, with significantly less woodland and more grassland. The quarry is clearly visible and there are only isolated hawthorn bushes.

There was open ground all the way along the side of the Avon Valley from Troopers Hill to Blackswarth Road. The land between Troopers Hill and Lamb Lane was also purchased by Bristol City Council in 1956; the area is now known as Crews Hole Woodland.

3.6.6 Later twentieth century (1956–present)

New fences and paths

An information leaflet for Troopers Hill was produced by the Bristol Development Corporation (BDC) and Bristol City Council’s Parks Department entitled *“Troopers’ Hill ...is wearing out!”*. This invited the public to a

meeting on Thursday 28 February 1991. The leaflet set out a plan of action for the hill, which included building new fences around the perimeter to prevent access by motorcycles, and repairing the footpaths. The fences and paths were constructed during the spring of 1991. The BDC also had a Management Plan drawn up for the site and subsequent to this two interpretation boards were installed.

Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve

A photographic monitoring of the site was also introduced in 1994 to track the changes in the vegetation; this was undertaken by Wessex Ecological Consultancy. Photographs of the site have been taken from 35 fixed locations every other year since 1994, with the 2006 photographs being taken by Friends of Troopers Hill.

In March 1999 Wessex Ecological Consultancy produced a Management Plan for the site. The plan did not propose any changes to the site’s management but did recommend the formation of a community action group.

1995 Fire

In its second summer as an LNR Troopers Hill suffered from a serious grass fire that swept across the hill. Although the short-term effects did not look attractive the long-term effects were probably beneficial in controlling scrub. Fires on Troopers Hill were regular occurrences in

the past. There have been no large fires on the site since this date.

3.7 Heritage values

Heritage inherently implies an inheritance. In relation to Troopers Hill it includes everything that physically exists or is known about the site. It is dealt with under three headings to make the subject easier to deal with. These are “natural”, which is taken as either living or geological; “built”, which encompasses all buildings and structures; and “cultural”, which includes knowledge of the site and what it tells us about our ancestors and hence ourselves. It is difficult or impossible to exclude “culture” from the other two headings because Troopers Hill was created and is maintained by human activity and “culture” is a main driving force of human activity.

3.8 “Natural” heritage

Troopers Hill LNR supports the only significant area of Lowland Heathland and Lowland Acidic Grassland in the Bristol area. Both of these habitats are identified under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (<http://www.ukbap.org.uk>) as UK Priority Habitats.

3.8.1 Acid heath and grassland

Acid heath

Ling Calluna and bell heather *Erica cinerea* are both found on site, growing in a matrix of acid grassland. This is considered to be the most important part of the site because it is the only heath within the city boundary.

Acid grassland

This grows on the very poorest soils with minimal maintenance. In places there is very sparse vegetation cover and mosses colonise the area. Bare soil is evident in many places and this is important for many of the invertebrates (see objective 7.2.2.13).

Current management

The heathland and acidic grassland is the most important habitat on site. Therefore no bramble or hawthorn scrub is allowed to invade this area.

Until now, little management has been necessary other than preventing invasion by bramble, bracken, scrub and trees (see objective 7.2.2.10).

Note however that parts of the site now have relatively old heather and ling plants, and in future it may be necessary to consider cutting back these areas to encourage re-growth and new seedlings to emerge. The situation will be monitored annually along with the five-year work plan (see objective 7.2.2.12).

Flower meadow

There is an area within compartments 2 and 3 (see Map 1) and has more fertile soil than most of the site. It has a flora more akin to a meadow with both vigorous grasses and dicotyledonous flowering plants (see objective 7.2.3.1, 7.2.3.2, 7.2.3.3, 7.2.3.4).

Current management

It is mown annually with the arisings removed from site to encourage as diverse a range of plant life as possible (see objective 7.2.3.1, 7.2.3.3).

3.8.2 Trees and scrub

Trees

Whilst there are some sizeable oaks and mature hawthorn, there are no really large mature trees on Troopers Hill. This is probably due to the previous industrial use of the site. It is impossible to know if any trees have ever been planted here. It is assumed that the trees have all arrived through “natural” regeneration, probably from the well-wooded slopes of the adjacent site, Crews Hole (also owned by Bristol City Council). The main group is Oak, Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), Turkey oak (*Q. cerris*) and Holm oak (*Q. ilex*). There is also a group of birch (*Betula sp*) and scattering of willow (*Salix sp*).

Current management

“Native” trees are allowed to colonise parts of the boundaries of the site. This forms a useful barrier giving “protection” to adjoining properties, shelter for birds and screens the adjacent allotment site (see objective 7.2.2.5).

Non “native” species are removed when still young (see objective 7.2.2.1).

All seedling trees are removed from areas of heath and grassland (see objective 7.2.2.9).

Trees are checked every two years as part of the risk assessment regime.

Scrub

Scrub is an important component of Troopers Hill landscape and wildlife interest after heath and acid grassland. It includes all stages from scattered bushes in grassland to closed canopy (the ground is not open to the sky) vegetation, dominated by shrubs and tree saplings, usually less than 5m tall, occasionally with a few scattered trees.

There is an increasing amount of bramble (*Rubus*), hawthorn (*Crataegus*) and bracken (*Pteridium*) scrub present on Troopers Hill. Some scrub patches have more wildlife value than others – low dense scrub is of maximum value for most invertebrates and nesting birds. In Britain, most of the landscape would be woodland if not for the activities of man. Scrub

is a natural progression between grassland to woodland. If it is not managed scrub will eventually develop into woodland (see objective 7.2.2.8).

There are benefits of scrub:

- As a landscape feature to frame views or block intrusive views, eg the adjacent allotment site.
- To provide variation and relief from the very open grassland landscape.
- To provide habitat for insects, birds and plants that do not inhabit open grassland.
- To provide warmth, shelter, and variations in grassland habitats by acting as a windbreak and casting shade.
- Adds educational interest.

Scrub management

Scrub is a transitional landscape and will disappear if not managed. The spaces between the woody plants are just as important as the woody plants themselves. This is true from both a landscape and wildlife perspective. If it is not managed, the spaces in between the shrubs disappears first (loss of some herbaceous species) and then the larger woody types (trees) dominate with a consequential loss of some small woody species and herbs. The existing landscape character will be lost and the diversity of “wild” species will be diminished if scrub is not managed.

Current management

Heathland type scrub with broom (*Cytisus*) is managed to maintain the presence of typical species on site (see objective 7.2.2.11).

Hawthorn scrub is managed to prevent it from developing into woodland (see objective 7.2.2.8).

Bramble is managed to prevent encroachment onto open areas of heath or grassland and paths (see objective 7.2.2.2).

Japanese knotweed is present in places. This is sprayed with herbicide twice a year (see objective 7.2.2.6).

3.8.3 Species

Flora

The most extensive vegetation type on the hill is acidic grassland. Frequent grasses here include common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), sheep's fescue (*Festuca ovina*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and wavy hair-grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*).

Frequent herbs in these areas include sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), mouse-ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinalis*) and buckshorn plantain (*Plantago coronopus*).

Around rock outcrops and, where erosion has occurred the sward is thinner and more broken mosses (including *Polytrichum spp*) and various lichens (*Cladonia*) are frequent and higher plant species present include early hair-grass (*Aira praecox*), thyme-leaved sandwort (*Arenaria*

serpyllifolia) and small mouse-ear chickweed (*Cerastium semidecandrum*). In several areas scattered plants of ling (*Calluna vulgaris*) and bell heather (*Erica cinerea*) are found in this grassland sward and in places.

In a few areas where the soil is deeper or has been enriched taller grassland is present. This taller grassland is dominated by cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and supports a variety of herbs including black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) and meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*).

Light scrub is scattered across the site and is especially frequent along the west facing slope of the hill. This light scrub is dominated by broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus agg*). Herbaceous plants associated with this scrub include wood sage (*Teucrium scorodonium*), golden rod (*Solidago virgaurea*), imperforate St John's wort (*Hypericum maculatum*) and wild carrot (*Daucus carota*).

Dense scrub grows along the south east facing slope of the hill along Troopers Hill Road and also along the western edge of the site where it forms the boundary of Crew's Hole woodland. This scrub is dominated by hawthorn (*Crataegus monogvna*) but along the western edge of the site in particular it also includes silver birch (*Betula pendula*), goat willow (*Salix caprea*) and oak species (*Quercus robur*, *Quercus petraea* and

the introduced Turkey oak *Quercus cerris* and Holm oak *Quercus ilex*). Two patches of the non-native Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) are present on the edge of the scrub and this has spread extensively through the adjacent woodland.

The site supports the only substantial area of acidic grassland and heath in Bristol and the best developed surviving example in the former County of Avon. Since acidic soils are uncommon in the area, 25 of the plant species recorded here are included in the list of Notable Plant Species in the former County of Avon. However, they may be much more common in other parts of the country where acidic soils are frequent.

(Notable species are those that are recorded in 150, or fewer, one kilometre squares in the former County of Avon).

These species are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| • Common bent | <i>Agrostis capillaries</i> |
| • Silvery hair-grass | <i>Aira caryophyllea</i> |
| • Early hair-grass | <i>Aira praecox</i> |
| • Thyme-leaved sandwort | <i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i> <i>ssp leptoclados</i> |
| • Ling | <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> |
| • Small mouse-ear chickweed | <i>Cerastium</i> <i>semidecandrum</i> |
| • Heath grass | <i>Danthonia decumbens</i> |
| • Wavy hair-grass | <i>Deschampia flexuosa</i> |

- Bell heather
- Blide fleabane
- Fennel

- Heath bedstraw
- Soft grass
- Imperforate St John's wort

- Bitter vetch
- Narrow-leaved everlasting pea
- Heath woodrush
- Buckshorn plantain
- Sessile oak
- Sheep's sorrel
- Golden rod
- Least trefoil
- Common corn salad
- Squirrel's tail fescue
- Rats tail fescue

Erica cinerea
Erigeron acer
Foeniculum vulgare
(probably introduced)
Galium saxatile
Holcus mollis
Hypericum maculatum

Lathyrus linifolius
Lathyrus sylvestris

Luzula multiflora
Plantago coronopus
Quercus petraea
Rumex acetosella
Solidago virgaurea
Trifolium micranthum
Valertanella locusta
Vulpia bromoides
Vulpia myuros

Fauna

Casual records of birds present have been made during other surveys. Other species of vertebrate recorded on the site include common lizard, slow-worm and badger. The level of badger activity on the site appears to have increased since 1998.

Invertebrates

In 2000 and 2006 Bristol City Council commissioned David Gibbs to carry out invertebrate surveys of Troopers Hill. His results were spectacular and it is worth quoting the first paragraph of his 2000 site assessment in full:

“Given the small size and isolation of this site, its conservation significance for invertebrates is really quite extraordinary. The only sites so far investigated which have proved to be better than Troopers Hill are very large more diverse sites, often abutting other good areas in the wider countryside. If we had sufficient information to score all the species according to their rarity, Troopers Hill would probably come out as the most important site of its type in the Bristol region. This is not only because of the large number of local rarities, including some new county records, but the presence of an endangered species, *Nomada guttulata*, massively increases its importance. Not even the spectacularly productive Dolebury Warren has any species so rare. Records from previous years only serve to confirm these conclusions.”

A total of 137 invertebrate species were identified in 2000 and 276 were recorded in 2006 (the survey period in 2006 was longer). This represents a surprisingly good record for such a small isolated site. In 2000, 13 species

found were Nationally Scarce or Red Data Book status. Red Data Book Categories are RDB1 – endangered; RDB2 – vulnerable; and RDB3 – rare, while Nationally Scarce species are also sub-divided into categories Na & Nb.

The 2006 survey identified 23 species of conservation significance. Five species this year were found which had Red Data Book status. *Nomada guttulata* was not recorded in this survey, although this does not cause major cause for concern, as small populations on isolated sites will inevitably be vulnerable. Red Data Book Categories are RDB1 – endangered; RDB2 – vulnerable; and RDB3 – rare, while Nationally Scarce species are also sub-divided into categories Na & Nb.

Table 1. Nationally Scarce Aculeate Hymenoptera (see right)

Many of the bees mentioned are mining bees and there are also other more common mining bees on the hill. These can be seen on sunny days in spring and summer in the areas of bare earth on Troopers Hill. These areas of erosion therefore form one of the most important habitats on the hill.

The 2006 survey identified a species of particular interest as it was recorded here for the first time in Great Britain. This tiny leaf-mining fly (*Phytomyza sedi*) is a European species so far known from France, Germany,

| Species | Status | Pre-2000 | 2000 | 2001–2005 | 2006 |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|------|-----------|------|
| <i>Tiphia minuta</i> | Scarce b | X | | | |
| <i>Aporus unicolor</i> | Scarce a | | | | X |
| <i>Arachnospila minutula</i> | Scarce b | | | | X |
| <i>Nysson trimaculatus</i> | Scarce b | X | | | |
| <i>Philanthus triangulum</i> | RDB2 | | X | | X |
| <i>Andrena bucephala</i> | Scarce a | | | X | |
| <i>Andrena fulvago</i> | Scarce a | X | | | |
| <i>Andrena humilis</i> | Scarce b | X | X | X | X |
| <i>Andrena labiata</i> | Scarce a | X | X | | |
| <i>Andrena tibialis</i> | Scarce a | X | | X | |
| <i>Andrena trimmerana</i> | Scarce b | X | | | X |
| <i>Bombus rupestris</i> | Scarce b | X | | | |
| <i>Nomada fucata</i> | Scarce a | X | X | X | X |
| <i>Nomada guttulata</i> | RDB1 | | X | | |
| <i>Nomada integra</i> | Scarce a | | X | X | X |
| <i>Nomada lathburiana</i> | RDB3 | | X | X | X |
| <i>Sphecodes crassus</i> | Scarce b | X | X | | |
| <i>Sphecodes reticulatus</i> | Scarce a | | X | | X |
| | | 10 | 9 | 6 | 9 |

Spain and Yugoslavia. Its host plant is stonecrop (*Sedum*) where it mines the leaves. At Troopers Hill it is associated with the extensive patch of reflexed stonecrop (*S. rupestre*) in compartment 8. This is not a native species in Britain. It is impossible to know if *P. sedi* is an introduced species associated with garden stonecrops or a previously undetected native.

Prior to David Gibbs' survey, insect recording had concentrated on the site's butterflies. Grayling (*Hipparchia semele*) was first seen on the site in 1985 and was recorded in most subsequent years until 1994 but unfortunately has not been seen since and it is unlikely that it is still present. While the fire may have been the cause of its demise there may have been other factors.

Reintroduction has been considered but more information is required before a decision can be made. Other species of grassland butterfly which have been recorded include common blue (*Polyommatus icarus*), small copper (*Lycaenaphlaeas*) and small heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*). The only other group of insects for which there are reasonably complete records are grasshoppers and bush-crickets. The grasshoppers present include a large population of mottled grasshopper (*Myreomattix maculatus*).

The two reports from David Gibbs are available to view at the Parks Office, 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA or at www.troopers-hill.org.uk.

Birds

Few bird species have been seen on the grassland areas, although meadow pipits are often present outside the breeding season and kestrels often hunt over the site. The scrub areas support a larger range of birds. Species regularly present include willow warbler, whitethroat, long-tailed tit, greenfinch, green woodpecker, house sparrows, tawny owl and bullfinch. Full species records are available to view at 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA.

3.9 “Cultural” Heritage

“Cultural” heritage encompasses everything that relates to civilization, the arts and intellectual

activity. It is knowledge and sophistication acquired through education and exposure to arts, beliefs customs and practices. It is the “story” of society, and social structure with its standards of behaviour, and political opinion.

The “driving forces” that created Troopers Hill as a place of public recreation and eventual LNR were industrialisation and the resulting difficult terrain to build on. The present cultural benefits of the site include:

Health

- Volunteers working on site, controlling bramble etc
- Casual recreation – jogging
- Walkers (some with dogs) and the Walking The Way To Health Group from nearby Barton Hill
- Mental health – quiet rest from the “pressures” of life
- Contemplation through being in a “wild” landscape and looking at the views

Social Interaction

- The Friends Group meet regularly both on and off site to discuss the management of the site and to agree working parties and events
- Children’s play up to 12 years (close by)
- Parents and grand parents with children
- Dog walkers “club”

- Teenagers – meeting place
- Single people
- Lovers’ walks
- Guided walks
- Family picnics
- Events

Green Space

- Landscape
- Neighbourhood identity
- It is not necessary to enter a park to gain benefit from its existence and a large number of residential properties look out over this site
- “Green lungs” of the city
- “Native” flora and fauna

Education

- Open-air classrooms
- Workshops and informal learning
- History
- Social history
- Interpretation panels and leaflets

3.10 Built Heritage

3.10.1 Listed Buildings

There is a small fund held centrally by the council to undertake emergency repairs on listed buildings and structures. Provision for their

repair and maintenance is made alongside the other buildings in the city that Culture and Leisure Services maintain, prioritising a limited budget based on the outstanding works identified in the individual Asset Management Plan Surveys that the council has undertaken for each building that it is responsible for.

Listed Buildings are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Specific Listed Building Consent is required for the demolition of a building or structure or the alteration or extension of the building or structure in any manner that would affect its character.

Works to listed buildings may require listed building consent. Specific Listed Building Consent is required for:

- The demolition of any building or structure in the area requires planning permission
- The alteration or extension of the building or structure in any manner which would affect its character

The need for consent covers the monument itself, any object or structure fixed to it, and any freestanding object or structure that has been in its curtilage since before 1 July 1948. It is an offence under s.9 (1) of the 1990 Act to undertake unauthorised works to a Listed Building.

The current and standard inspection regime for all buildings managed by Culture and Leisure

Services is every five years. It has been agreed that the management plan for Troopers Hill will lead to an enhanced inspection regime, every two years, which will commence from 1 April 2007. The first full inspection during 2007/2008 will identify a schedule of repairs, which will then need to be considered by Culture and Leisure Services in terms of any funding support that might be available via the Departmental Asset Management Plan process.

Listed buildings

ST629728 Grade II listed early 19th century. Pennant rubble with copper slag block dressing. Square two stage chimney previously attached to an engine house, now demolished. The upper stage is set back. Probably a former colliery engine house.

ST629731 Chimney circa 1863. Pennant rubble with brick dressings. A round chimney, has a plinth with a semicircular brick flue arch and a coping of blue engineering bricks. A pronounced lean. Probably part of William Butler's tar works which was founded 1863 to which it was linked by a flue running up the hillside. A prominent landmark.

Note: The date of 1863 may be an error. *"It seems very likely that the chimney was built ... in the 1790s, a view supported by Joan Day. It is certain that the chimney was built before 1826, since it is shown in a drawing from this date of*

the view from Arnos Court commissioned by G W Braikenridge."

3.10.2 Park furniture

At present there is a mix of different types and styles of park furniture, ie seats, signs, dog mess bins etc. This detracts from any sense of coherent identity for the site. Therefore it is proposed that a survey be carried out of the existing furniture and a decision made as to the materials and manufacturer of all future items.

3.11 Legal agreements

The only known underground service at Troopers Hill is the Avon Valley sewer in a tunnel under the corner of the site at Troopers Hill Road and Crews Hole Road.

4.0 Community use

4.1 Visitor facilities

The main function of Troopers Hill is that of a LNR and “wild, romantic landscape” within the urban area. Therefore, facilities are minimal to ensure that they are in keeping with the function of the site (*see Map 3*).

- Car parking in nearby residential roads is very easy.
- There is a path suitable for disabled access from the main entrance to the best viewing area.
- Interpretation and information boards.
- Dog bins (3)
- Seats (3)
- One children’s play area (close by)

Litterbins have been considered but not provided to date. Several arguments have been taken into consideration that have prevented their installation including:

- 1) Fire hazard – fires, fortunately small, are occasionally lit on the site. Bins would be another source of materials for a fire that is a hazard to the heath and gorse.
- 2) A desire to minimise “street furniture” which detracts from the “natural” appearance of the site.



- 3) Most users of the site presently are local residents and are happy to take their own rubbish home; those who do not are unlikely to make use of bins in any case.
- 4) There are no sources of litter on the site (such as cafes etc). When drinks or snacks are sold at events, sacks are provided for rubbish.

Since an initial clearing of rubbish by the friends group three years ago, levels of litter have been low and litter picks by contractors and friends have been arranged around peak times such as bonfire night and half terms. Many dog walkers pick litter, if they see any, while walking their dogs. An excellent example of the value the community place on the site (*see Map 3*).

4.2 Consultation

In 2002 Bristol Parks delivered a questionnaire to 1,000 households in close proximity to Troopers Hill. Around 200 replies were received with many respondents showing an interest in getting more involved in Troopers Hill. As a result, a public meeting was held and this eventually led to the formation of The Friends of Troopers Hill.

Consultation takes place on a regular basis between Bristol Parks and The Friends of Troopers Hill. Officers attend The Friends of Troopers Hill meetings, and the group publicise

their activities and news about Troopers Hill on their website (www.troopers-hill.org.uk), their bi-monthly newsletters and on the on-site noticeboards. The noticeboards are also used by Bristol Parks to inform people about works taking place on site and other issues. The public can also access information from Bristol City Council's website: www.bristol.gov.uk/parks

Bristol Parks will consult all local people and site users again in 2012 when this Management Plan is reviewed. Further consultation about the site will be carried out on a regular basis through questionnaires made available at Troopers Hill events.

4.3 Community groups and other interested organisations

The Friends of Troopers Hill are a very active community group that formally came in to existence with the election of a committee and the adoption of a constitution on 2 December 2003.

They are committed to the site and are an excellent example of the community accepting the idea of "ownership" for their own environment, taking some of the responsibility for its management.

With the support of the LNR Officer, The Friends of Troopers Hill has worked to meet the aims set

out in its constitution "to ensure that Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve is maintained as a nature reserve, of benefit to both wildlife and people". A full record of the group's work can be seen on the website at www.troopers-hill.org.uk

Highlights of the first three years included:

- Over 800 hours of volunteer time spent on work parties
- Raising over £18,000 in grants and donations
- Organising approximately 25 public events
- Producing a five-year Management and Action Plan
- Working with Bristol Parks to improve paths and access
- Building a membership list of over 350 households
- Producing and distributing bi-monthly newsletters
- Launching and developing a website at www.troopers-hill.org.uk
- Raising the profile of Troopers Hill within various Bristol based organisations

"Groundforce" is an initiative in the Barton Hill area of the city that encourages people to be aware of their environment and to take an interest in its care and maintenance. They visit Troopers Hill on occasion as a small working party to carry out works in conjunction with the friends group. Groundforce also supports the Barton Hill Walking the Way to Health group

who use Troopers Hill as a destination site for their organised walks (*see Appendix 4 for full list of “stakeholders”*).

4.4 Access

There is free access over the whole site. However, it may from time to time be necessary to restrict access to parts of the site for operational reasons.

The main access into the site is from Malvern Road, a cul-de-sac to the north west of the site where there is easy parking. The gate leads directly to Malvern Road open space (also known as Troopers Hill open space on the FoTH web site), which must be crossed to access Troopers Hill LNR (*see objective 7.2.10.6*).

Disabled access

At present there is no specific assistance for the disabled (December 2006) due to the very uneven nature of the ground. However, a gate suitable for wheelchair access has been provided at Malvern Road and a path suitable for wheelchair access as far as the old chimney is under construction. The path has been grant aided by the Yanley and North Somerset Environmental Company (YANSEC). The grant was applied for by The Friends of Troopers Hill (*see objective 7.2.10.3*).

Roads

There are no roads across the site. However Troopers Hill Road and the cul-de-sac, Greendown, bound it on the southeast side.

Paths

There are three public footpaths across the site (*see objective 7.2.10.8 and Map 2*).

The only properly constructed footpaths are the ones from Malvern Road open space to the ridge, from gate “A” to “F” and parts of the path from gate “E”. These were provided by the Bristol Development Corporation and maintained by adding loose stone material or the addition of wooden steps on steep slopes to minimise erosion (*see 7*).

The majority of the footpaths on Troopers Hill are narrow, uneven and unsurfaced. They are steep in places (*see Map 3*). There are also many “desire” lines all over the site.

Buses

The nearest bus route is on Air Balloon Road, about 400 metres away.

Cars/Motorcycles

There is no access for motorised vehicles onto the site. There is ample parking in the adjacent residential roads.

4.5 Informal recreation

There is no organised sport on Troopers Hill. The main recreational activity is dog walking for which three dog bins are provided (*see 7.6.2, 7.6.3*). Walking alone or with friends, jogging, kite flying and picnics are also popular activities along with enjoying the views from the seats and the “natural” environment.

There are few facilities for these activities; the “natural feel” of Troopers Hill is one of its main attractions. There are other sites in the city that provide for organised sport and recreational activities, eg BMX bikes, or floodlit multiplay areas. Ball games can be played on the adjacent site, Malvern Road open space.

4.6 Events

A wide range of events have taken place at Troopers Hill, mostly since 2003. A programme of wildlife events are organised each year by Bristol Park’s LNR Officer working in close partnership with The Friends of Troopers Hill. The Friends also organise additional events, such as the “Music on the Hill” open air concert in 2006, working in partnership with Bristol City Council to ensure correct health and safety procedures are followed. Events on Troopers Hill take place with the following aims:

- To encourage more people to discover Troopers Hill
- To enable people to learn about the natural and cultural heritage of the site
- To encourage more people to become involved in helping to look after Troopers Hill
- To enable people to enjoy being in a natural green space
- To enable people to develop a sense of local community

Events are usually free of charge and have included dawn chorus walks, moth trapping, bird box making, kite flying, history walks and storytelling.

Guided walks at Troopers Hill are also organised for specialist groups, for example Walking the Way to Health groups, the Barton Hill Local History Group, Bristol Magpies, Bristol Naturalists and Bristol Industrial Archaeological Societies have all had guided walks on the hill.

Every year an Easter service takes place on Troopers Hill on Good Friday, organised by local churches.

4.7 Children and young people

Children's events are frequently organised at Troopers Hill and have included minibeast hunts, storytelling, bird box making and kite making.

4.8 Educational use

The Troopers Hill events programme enables both children and adults to learn about wildlife and history in an informal and enjoyable way. In addition to public events, in 2005 the LNR project organised educational activities at Troopers Hill for local children attending Air Balloon Junior School. The project, organised in conjunction with Avon Wildlife Trust, resulted in the production of some innovative environment artwork, created specifically for use by The Friends of Troopers Hill. More educational work is planned for 2007, when local children will have the opportunity to learn more about the history of Troopers Hill.

Work parties on the site also provide people with a chance to learn new skills and develop an understanding of nature conservation management. The Friends of Troopers Hill organise monthly work parties, which are attended by both adults and children. Outside organisations have also taken part in volunteer work at Troopers Hill, for example, Crime Concern's Youth Inclusion Project, Groundforce (from Barton Hill) and the Ministry of Defence, who ran a team-building day on the site, mending steps.

Plant identification workshops are due to take place in 2007, organised by The Friends of Troopers Hill and funded by the Big Lottery's Breathing Places fund.

5.0 Current management (2006)

5.1 Explanatory note

Until the introduction of Compulsory Competitive Tendering (CCT) introduced under the Planning and Land Act 1980 and Local Government Act 1988 Troopers Hill was managed directly through staff employed by the city council (direct labour). The legislation forced local authorities to put work out to open tender and since 1993 there have been two different contractors carrying out grounds maintenance on Troopers Hill.

- 1993–1994 Glendale
- 1994–2007 Bristol Contract Services (BCS)

5.2 People with responsibilities for Troopers Hill

The day-to-day management of Troopers Hill rests within the operations section of Bristol Parks. The Parks Operations Manager (POM) is responsible for all the parks and green spaces in the whole city including delivery of relevant council policies.

He has two assistants called District Coordinators (DCs) that look after half of the city



each. Their role is to assist the POM to deliver policy, manage all changes and monitor day-to-day maintenance to ensure that there is one standard across the city.

Each DC manages four Community Park Managers (CPMs) who hold the budgets and are responsible for individual contracts. They are responsible for monitoring the contracts and are the first point of contact for the service users.

The Local Nature Reserves Officer (LNRO) has responsibility for providing ecological advice, promoting Troopers Hill as an important wildlife site in Bristol, and organising community events and educational activities on the site.

There are other specialist officers that the Operations Section can call on for advice on subjects such as landscape or children's play (see *Appendix 5*).

Further support for events is provided by the Park's Community Development Officer and the Events Team.

See 3.10.1 for managerial responsibility of the listed structures.

5.3 Contractors

At present Troopers Hill is managed through a grounds maintenance contract with Bristol Contract Services (BCS).

In addition, other contractors may be employed from time to time to carry out specialist works such as listed buildings, paths or fences etc.

5.4 Specifications

(Copies are available at the Bristol Parks Office, 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA.)

The present grounds maintenance specifications uses performance or standards based criteria. The contractor is expected to monitor and report on the success of the operations and the Community Park Manager (CPM) also checks the work on site. The contractor and the CPM both have responsibilities for grounds maintenance contracts elsewhere in the city. The checking of the specifications is used to manage the quality and frequency of works carried out on the site.

The work on site is inspected and recorded in two ways:

- Formal inspection sheets are raised by the Contracts Officer on a monthly basis. These are geographically based and are randomly chosen.
- The CPM carries out informal inspections as he goes about his other duties on the site. The formal sheets are filed and any problems discovered through the informal inspections are also recorded.

5.5 Resources

Existing expenditure and resources

Grounds maintenance is presently carried out to a specification that was written by the client (Bristol Parks) and implemented through a private contractor, Bristol Contract Services (BCS).

Planned maintenance is work carried out through the grounds maintenance contract every year such as litter picking and it amounts to £1968.77 pa.

Scheduled works are works that are identified and prioritised annually. For Troopers Hill this amounts to approximately £14,500 pa for years 1–4 of the management plan. Year five shows about £60,000 for the year. However, this includes estimates for items that are monitored such as fence and path repairs to the whole site that may not be required until future years (greater than six), or could possibly be funded from grants.

Response works, eg vandalism repairs or fly-tipping, is dealt with by the CPM though a separate budget that is held by the District Coordinator for one half of the city.

Client support

In addition to the CPM who has control of the day-to-day site management, there is technical

and administrative support, eg arboriculture; natural environment officers to carry out surveys, or consultations provided through Bristol Parks. Support for archaeology, planning etc is also supplied through council officers.

Income

Additional (new) expenditure and resources

These can be categorised as either financial or as people and their skills.

Financial

Capital expenditure can be sought through:

- Section 106 contributions (see 2.3.1)
- Grant aid from external bodies
- The sponsorship of leaflets/notice boards etc
- Donations of materials, eg wood for steps or fences
- Seat or interpretation board donations

Revenue expenditure is more difficult to raise, because it is an ongoing commitment. However, it is possible to seek it through:

- Annual sponsorship of particular events such as education
- Grant aid (eg the LNR Officer's post is grant funded)

People and their skills

Volunteers are becoming more important to both local government and private institutions as an important resource. There may well be training and health and safety issues but these

are more than offset by the benefits. Examples of where volunteers can assist include:

- The provision of lists of plants and animals identified on particular areas
- Assistance with counts of plants and animals
- The provision of guided walks and talks
- Volunteer Rangers to report on incidents of antisocial behaviour. They don't necessarily have to get involved to be effective. Their presence alone may deter people from being antisocial
- Working parties, eg litter picking, scrub control
- Research into historical facts about buildings or structures or visitor surveys

The Friends of Troopers Hill are engaged in all of the following activities:

- Running work parties to undertake conservation tasks on site
- Providing an opportunity for local people to get involved in activities on Troopers Hill and to give their views on site management issues
- Raising the profile of Troopers Hill and attracting more visitors and positive publicity
- Reporting issues on site to Bristol Parks and the police, eg vandalism
- Running community events.
- Recording and researching the wildlife and history of the site

- Fund-raising for events and site improvements

Options

- The new Bristol City Council policy for developers' contributions under Section 106 agreements (known as Supplementary Planning Document 4) could mean that works could be financed from these funds.
- Seek to maximise donations of seats (to a plan) and to look for other ideas to attract donations/sponsorship.
- Investigate and monitor the changing situation with grant-funded opportunities.

5.6 Standards

The main measure of standards is carried out through the implementation of the contract documentation, which is available to view at the Bristol Parks Office, 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA. The specification details the quality and frequency of work tasks and this is monitored and recorded by both the grounds maintenance contractor and the CPM. All defects are recorded and filed by the Parks Procurements Officer.

Risk assessments are carried out by the CPM on a biennial basis. A soft copy is stored in the risk assessment database with a hard copy (including

maps and photographs) filed under the CPM area at 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA.

The council aspire to Green Flag status and intend to apply in 2007 for Troopers Hill.

5.7 Interpretation and promotion

5.7.1 Leaflets

Three site leaflets, covering the wildlife, history and geology of Troopers Hill, are currently being produced by The Friends of Troopers Hill and funded by The Big Lottery Fund. They will hopefully be complete by May 2007.

5.7.2 Interpretation panels

There is one interpretation panel on Troopers Hill at present and several signs at the entrances. Further interpretation is planned, including tourist signs directing people to the site from nearby roads, and the possibility of creating a panoramic viewpoint interpretation board near the chimney. Further funding needs to be sought for these projects (*see objective 7.2.7.1*).

5.7.3 Displays

The Friends of Troopers Hill have produced two displays: one on the history of the site, and the other on their group's activities. These displays are usually shown at events and, on occasion, at local community centres.

5.7.4 Publicity

Press releases are produced at every opportunity to promote positive action taking place at Troopers Hill as well as events and other initiatives. The Friends of Troopers Hill produce a bi-monthly newsletter, which is sent out to around 300 local households. Bristol Park's Nature in the City Project produces a newsletter twice a year, which focuses on Bristol's Local Nature Reserves and advertises the programme of wildlife events taking place.

Other opportunities to promote Troopers Hill are taken wherever possible, for example at Bristol Park's stall at the annual Festival of Nature.

5.7.5 Web pages

There is a Troopers Hill page within the Nature Reserves section of the Bristol City Council web site – www.bristol.gov.uk/parks. Those pages are linked to an excellent web site provided by The Friends of Troopers Hill (see www.troopers-hill.org.uk).

5.8 National organisations

Natural England is responsible for providing advice on LNR declaration and management.

5.9 Bristol Parks Forum

Bristol Parks Forum is a network of individual community groups and organisations that are working to improve parks and green spaces or have an interest in them. It is supported by Bristol Parks but acts independently. It has around 80 members representing many different neighbourhoods and green spaces across Bristol. (The Friends of Troopers Hill are active members.) Membership is free.

For Bristol Parks the forum acts as an important consultative body with regard to strategic decision making, including allocation of resources. Its members help monitor Bristol Parks services and its performance by using inspection sheets to report on the performance of both the client and contractor. The inspection sheets are sent to either the Procurements Officer (Parks) or the Community Development Officer for the attention of the Community Parks Managers. The Forum meets four times a year including an annual conference and its members publish a quarterly newsletter.

5.10 Other local organisations

The Friends of Troopers Hill Group.

5.11 Sustainability (including pesticides policy & EMAS)

Environmental strategy

Bristol City Council is committed to improving the local environment and helping to protect it for the future. We recognise that our wide range of activities and services have positive and negative impacts upon the environment, and that we have a leading role to play in creating a sustainable city. To achieve this goal an environmental policy is in place and an environmental management system was implemented in 2006 called EMAS (“Environment Management Audit Scheme”). EMAS is an independently verified system that ensures that significant environmental impacts are monitored and managed, and overall environmental performance is continually improved. Bristol City Council’s Culture and Leisure Department is EMAS registered, as part of the corporate system.

EMAS has been implemented for the following departments with responsibilities for Troopers Hill: Culture and Leisure Services, Central Support Services and Planning Transport & Sustainable Development. Most aspects of Troopers Hill therefore come within the remit of EMAS, and are open to external audit. Each section and department within the city council

is required to keep their own environmental register of principal environmental legislation; to be aware of the parts of the corporate register that apply; and to know how to keep up to date with new developments. Parks are using the legislation register originally compiled by the Landscape Design team, and will continue to customise this (*see objective 7.1.12.6*).

The council also subscribes to a quarterly database that is available on the intranet called CEDREC to enable departments to keep up to date with legislation.

Headline targets of the environmental policy are underlined and EMAS actions relevant to operations on Troopers Hill are listed below:

■ Providing leadership and support for environmental management within the council through elected representatives and senior managers

- Support is given from the EMAS implementation team.
- The Bristol Parks Business Coordinator liaises between the Bristol Parks team and the Environmental Performance team and coordinates individual line manager responsibilities within Bristol Parks.

■ Providing for identification and compliance with all environmental legislation, policies and codes of practice relevant to our activities and services

- Maintain an updated environment register based on the one currently compiled by the Landscape Design team and ensure that it is maintained up-to-date and relevant to Troopers Hill. A copy is included in Appendix 6.
- Work with other directorates and management teams to ensure legislation relating to all aspects of Troopers Hill is complied with, ie events, street scene, planning, waste management etc.

■ Continually improving overall environmental performance through the implementation and review of objectives and targets

- Annual review of the five-year work plan (*see objective 7.2.12.7*).
- Annual review of EMAS Action Plan (*see objective 7.2.12.6*).

■ Identifying and managing environmental aspects relevant to council activities and services

- Improvement will occur through continual service and management plan review (*see*

8.0). Actions relevant to Troopers Hill will be identified, agreed, implemented and monitored through EMAS and the five-year work plan (see 7.0 and objective 7.2.12.6).

- The city council Events and EMAS teams are currently seeking to identify policies and operations, to reduce the environmental impact of events (see objective 7.2.6.6). A draft checklist for events organisers already exists (January 2007) and will be issued to all events organisers in 2007.

■ Ensuring that the environmental consequences of all new policies and practices are assessed

- The service and management planning procedures will ensure that the introduction of any new policies and operations will be assessed for their environmental impacts. This will be undertaken through officer team meetings and management plan reviews (see 8.0).

■ Prevention of pollution

- The council has a Pest Management Policy (see next section)
- Standard corporate procedures for chemical use and storage exist; these apply to all depots and operations

- Prepare a Site Use and Access Guide for Event management and contractor operations (see objective 7.2.12.12)
- Contractor operations are discussed at regular monthly client-contractor meetings

■ Minimising the effects of resource use by conserving water

- No water is used on Troopers Hill LNR

■ Reducing the consumption of fossil fuels by conserving energy and promoting the use of renewable sources

- Vehicles and machinery are maintained to high standards to ensure that they are energy efficient. Service records are kept and monitored by Bristol Contract Services (BCS).
- Investigate the use of bio fuels by events organisers

■ Minimising the disposal of waste through reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery

- Develop recycling for all arisings and as much litter as possible (see objective 7.2.12.5).
- Evaluate the arguments for and against the provision of litter bins and the cost thereof (see objective 7.2.6.7).

- Used oil will be disposed of through Fleet Management.
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) timber will be specified for all repairs of benches, fences etc, if locally grown timber is unavailable.
- Troopers Hill is close to an allotment site. We intend to negotiate to recycle the green waste from Troopers Hill on the adjacent allotments. We currently remove it to Eastwood Farm (less than one mile) for chipping and composting. It can then be used across the city on the shrub beds (see objective 7.2.12.9).
- Metals removed from this site and others are collected in a skip and when full removed for recycling (see objective 7.1.12.5).

■ Evaluating and monitoring air, noise, water and land pollution, and influencing others to reduce such pollution

- The creation of a Site Use & Access Guide for events organisers will be investigated to better control noise and waste generated by events throughout the city (see objective 7.2.12.8).
- Herbicides, chemicals, paints and other materials are all COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) regulated and usage is kept to a minimum. There is an approved chemical list.

■ Monitoring and protecting biodiversity

- The preferred option of the city council timber policy is to source all timber from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).
- “Environmental Guidance for Landscape Design” will be prepared in 2007 for material specifications covering hard and soft work and will include guidance on materials, embodied energy, toxicity, use of pesticides, treatments, paints, drainage, material durability etc. This will be reviewed against current material and maintenance specifications.
- Develop wildlife monitoring program for Troopers Hill (*see objectives 7.2.3.3, 7.2.3.7, 7.2.9.1, 7.2.9.2*).

■ Encouraging suppliers and contractors to improve their environmental performance in order to reduce any detrimental environmental impact of the goods and services used by the council. This will be achieved through the council procurement strategy and by controlling the on-site activities of contractors

- The proposed “Site Use & Access Guide” (*see objective 7.2.12.8*) will demand more comprehensive production schedules, sites plans and risk assessments from event

managers so that environmental impacts can be reduced and monitored.

- “*The Bristol First Guide to construction, planning and development*” provides guidance for all construction and maintenance operations. The relevant content will be extracted as a separate leaflet to be called “*Construction Sites – Environmental Good Practice*”.
- The city council will ensure waste carrying contractors are chosen from the approved lists where their annually renewable waste carriers licenses and Waste Transfer Notes (WTN’s) for removed material are regularly checked.
- Contractors will be encouraged to explore green energy providers and undertake energy efficiency audits at offices and depots.

■ Actively involving our staff through training and awareness programmes to ensure that they improve their environmental performance

- Bristol Parks will review and record all directly relevant training undertaken by city council directorates with responsibility for Troopers Hill.
- There are Environmental Awareness Representatives (EARS) in all departments

that are kept up to date on all developments in environmental performance.

■ Regularly reviewing and reporting on progress which will include producing an annual environmental statement for departments that have been verified

- Bristol Parks management will provide input into the environmental statement and will make this available as appropriate for communication to stakeholders.

■ Communicating with interested parties and making this policy publicly available

- This management plan is available to the public and has been distributed to all stakeholders.

Pest Management Policy (available to view at 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA).

Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils (hereafter referred to as the council) are committed to providing, maintaining and positively promoting a health and safety environment at work. A Pest Management Policy has been produced in conjunction with trade unions, safety representatives and other representatives of the council. The policy has

been adopted by Bristol City Council and is evidence of the Council's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all its employees.

The council recognises and accepts its responsibility as an employer and will ensure as far as practicable the protection of employees, occupiers of its premises and the general public from exposure to harmful chemicals, and to minimise the impact of the use of such chemicals on the environment. All employees of the council who use pesticides must abide by the policy, which applies to all departments of the council.

Approved Pesticides

Chemical usage is kept to a minimum. There is an approved pesticides list that is part of the contract specification (*see Appendix 7*).

Recycling

The "hay cut" is composted on secure allotments site.

All rubbish collected by working parties is sorted into materials for recycling.

Peat

There is no peat usage on Troopers Hill.

5.12 Risk Assessments

A new risk assessment system has recently been adopted by the parks service and the CPM is

currently carrying out new assessments in line with the new system. This will be a continuous process that will have completed one cycle by the end of August 2007. These are filed at the Bristol Parks Office, 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA. The current contractor, BCS have their own risk assessments for their staff and equipment that are filed at their office.

Bristol Parks have produced a health and safety support pack that they use to ensure that all works carried out on site by volunteer groups are carried out safely. Copies available to view at 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA. This involves training individuals to carry out risk assessments in advance of the work that are countersigned by the CPM or the community development officer, and how to give a talk on tool use before every work party starts work. No work should be carried out unless such a trained person is present on site. The property services department checks the condition of all monuments and other structures.

A risk assessment is carried out as part of the contract inspections and is recorded on inspection sheets that are filed at 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA.

6.0 A vision for Troopers Hill

6.1 The hierarchy of priorities

It is important that all actions carried out on site can be seen to comply with all the policies and strategies of each “higher authority” within the local government hierarchy. The Annual Service Plan guides the work of Bristol Parks. The city council has both a corporate plan and The Bristol Partnership Community Strategy to guide it. In addition, there are other bodies that have an interest in the future management of the site, eg Natural England, concerning the LNR status. It is not realistic to show how each and every objective (*see section 7.0*) in this management plan relates back to the Bristol Partnership Community Strategy. However, section two of this management plan, “Policy context” shows both the political/managerial hierarchy and how the various actions, aims, outcomes, strategies and policies work.

6.1.1 An example of how an objective relates back to a council priority

| Detail | Terminology | Hierarchy |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Develop and implement plans that improve the biodiversity of Bristol | Action 26 | Bristol Partnership Community Strategy |
| A high quality environment | Long term aim | Bristol City Council |
| Of a city with a diverse range of attractive, enjoyable and accessible parks and green spaces, set within green and sustainable communities, which meet the present and future needs of all Bristol citizens, and also visitors to the city | Vision | Bristol City Parks (temporary whilst producing a Parks and Green spaces Strategy) |
| Parks and Wildlife | Outcome | Bristol City Parks |
| To ensure that Troopers Hill is maintained as a Local Nature Reserve | Aim | Site Management Plan |
| Manage to maintain some areas of heath type scrub with broom | Objective | Site Management Plan |

This management plan has:

- One overall aim
- Four site aims
- Seven “people” aims
- Various objectives as set out in the five year work plan

7.0 A five year work plan

The five year work programme will be subject to change from outside influences, including pressure from site users, from the results of surveys or monitoring and the availability of finance. Therefore it will be reviewed annually so that it remains a five year programme. Some objectives have been identified as being desirable but they cannot be scheduled at present until finance has been identified. They have all been recorded in year five as >5.

Malvern Road open space

This area is owned by Bristol City Council. It is not included within the management plan and is not part of the area included in the Green Flag application. However, since this site provides the main access route to Troopers Hill LNR its management affects Troopers Hill LNR.

Work guidelines (affecting Troopers Hill LNR)

- Maintain the main access path from Malvern Road to Troopers Hill LNR such that it can be used by wheelchairs and buggies.
- Maintain gates and fences to prevent access by motorcycles to Malvern Road open space and Troopers Hill Nature Reserve.
- Provide signage at entrances giving directions to Troopers Hill LNR.



7.1 Compartments

The site has been arbitrarily divided into separate geographical compartments, mainly using the footpaths as the boundaries. This is to make it easier to identify and prioritise the site works (see Map 1).

Compartment 1

Description

This compartment is the boundary with the allotment site. It is mainly scrub, *Crataegus*, *Quercus*, *Fraxinus*, *Betula*, *Fraxinus* and *Rubus* growing in a ditch all along the boundary. Between the line of scrub and the path there is a wide area of fine (*Festuca*) grassland with some good size anthills and a very few plants of *Erica cinerea*. Along the edge of the path the grass is coarser, possibly due to a richer soil, from path construction.

Work guidelines

- Manage this compartment as fescue rich grassland within a boundary strip of scrub
- Retain the scrub along the boundary as a foil against the allotment site
- Prevent the scrub from maturing and becoming woodland
- Prevent the scrub from spreading into the grassland
- Do not damage the anthills

Compartment 2

Description

This compartment is bounded by the allotments to the north west and Greendown to the north-east. The north western corner is almost 100% vigorous bramble (winter 2006) that is invading the remaining grassland. The majority of this compartment is a grassy slope with fine, fescue type grasses at the top being replaced with coarser grasses further down the slope. There are some dicotyledonous plants in the grassland including, Dock (*Rumex*), Buttercup (*Ranunculus*), Plantain (*Plantago*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and various Fabaceae. The compartment is bounded to the north by a four rail wooden fence outside a recently planted hedge composed of hawthorn, blackthorn, rose, holly, field maple and hazel. The hedge is intended to eventually replace the fence. There is a large patch of *Urtica dioica* at the extreme eastern corner adjacent to the entrance stile.

Work guidelines

- Remove bramble scrub and restore the grassland
- Manage this compartment as a flower rich "meadow"
- Cultivate the hedge until maturity and then maintain at the height of the existing fence
- Consider removing the fence when the hedge forms a sufficient barrier

- Identify all the plant species growing in the grassland to help advise on the future maintenance of this compartment

Compartment 3

Description

A large area aligned east–west, along the ridge with the prominent chimney set in acid grassland. There is a path for the disabled from gate "A" along the ridge, ending close to the chimney from where the best views are available. At the far end of this grassland there is a large patch of nettles and willow herb. There is no path as a boundary between this compartment and compartment 4. The boundary is the top of the steep slope.

Work guidelines

- Manage the plateau as fescue rich acidic grassland
- Maintain access path and rest area for the disabled
- Provide interpretation signs

Compartment 4

Description

Below the plateau/ridge that forms compartment 3, the ground slopes steeply down into the gully (see Map 3) where there is open grassland, heath and invading scrub with bracken. There is some erosion of spoil in the south western part of this compartment.

Work guidelines

- To maintain the open grassland and acid heath
- Maintain open rock faces
- To manage eroded areas for invertebrates

Compartment 5**Description**

An area of spoil or quarrying that forms the southern banks to the gully (see Map 3). At the south western corner there is bare soil and rock where there is erosion. The tops of most of the mounds have fine grasses with mosses growing on them with heath on the slopes. There is a little invasion by oak, birch and bracken in places. This compartment has quite a lot of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) growing on one rocky outcrop with bramble invading it. There are some isolated patches of scrub, Cotoneaster, bramble, hawthorn and ivy (*Hedera helix*).

Work guidelines

- Manage for as much heath and grassland flora as possible
- Remove competition with the heathland flora
- Prevent the scrub from maturing into woodland
- Maintain open rock faces
- Maintain areas of bare ground for the benefit of invertebrates

Compartment 6**Description**

A steep bank with a path along the western boundary. There is a four rail wooden fence at the lower, eastern boundary between the site and Troopers Hill Road. This compartment is composed of a mix of scrub including Hawthorn (*Crataegus*), oak (*Quercus*), bramble (*Rubus*), bracken (*Pteridium*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanoides*) and nettles.

Work guidelines

- Maintain as scrub but prevent it from maturing into woodland
- Cut back scrub from the highway

Compartment 7**Description**

A continuation of compartment 6, bounding Troopers Hill Road. However, this compartment is much more open and contains a few plants of broom (*Cytisus*).

Work guidelines

- Maintain scrub along the boundary but keep the grassland area as large and open as possible
- Control the spread of scrub and bracken

Compartment 8**Description**

A complex area with spoil in some parts. The northern most part, to the west of entrance "E" (see Map 3) is a gentle grass bank sloping to the east with abundant Heath-grass (*Danthonia decumbens*) and a small amount of heath. It is being invaded by sapling oak and bramble in places. There is hawthorn preceded by bracken invading from the base of the slope. The southern part of the compartment is very steep sided spoil or quarrying. The tops of the spoil heaps have heathland plants growing. Moving down the slopes this changes through broom (*Cytisus*), to bramble (*Rubus*) and at the bottom mature hawthorn (*Crataegus*) with young sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanoides*). These species are all invading up the slopes.

Work guidelines

- Manage as acid grassland, with heath and broom scrub in places
- Prevent the scrub and woody plants from spreading and competing with heath or maturing into woodland
- Remove scrub at the top of the slope to prevent it invading heathland

Compartment 9**Description**

This compartment is very similar to compartment 8 at the southern end. It has a

steep, west facing bank with hawthorn, bramble and sycamore invading up the slopes to where there is open grassland and broom (*Cytisus*). At the top of the slope there are a few plants of bell heather. The northern part of this compartment is much more open, but it follows much of the rest of the site in that bramble and scrub is invading from the bottom of the site preceded by a “band” of broom. There is open grassland close to the top of the area and some mature heath at the very top. There are a few maturing trees (oak) in the gullies.

Work guidelines

- Manage for as much heath and grassland as possible with scrub at the south and west perimeter of the site
- Remove competition with the heathland flora
- Prevent the scrub from maturing into woodland

Compartment 10

Description

An area of scrub that is tending to woodland with oak, willow, blackthorn, birch, and Buddlejia in places. The scrub is advancing from Crews Hole woodland to the west and encroaching (at two metres a year in places) onto grassland and heath on compartment 9. There is also a large colony of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia*) in this compartment.

Work guidelines

- Manage as mainly acid grassland with heath with broom scrub in places
- Cut back the invading woodland to the boundary with Crews Hole and prevent the woodland from Crews Hole invading Troopers Hill LNR
- Aim to maintain a narrow boundary of broom and birch scrub on the Troopers Hill side of the boundary. (This will be dictated by the richness of the soil encountered beneath the scrub as it is cleared.)
- Prevent further colonisation of this area by coarse scrub and woodland species at the expense of the herbs and grasse.

Compartment 11

Description

The higher parts of this compartment are open grassland with a little heath (*Erica and Calluna*). To the west there is Japanese Knotweed and encroaching bramble and sycamore woodland from Crews Hole woodland. There is an attractive bank of birch with bramble beneath and broom close by. This area is being invaded by scrub from compartment 10 and the adjacent site, Crews Hole Woodland.

Work guidelines

- Maintain the grassland and heath flora as far as possible

- Remove dense invading scrub and return the area to acid heath and grassland
- Maintain the lower part of this compartment as very sparse and open birch and broom scrub but prevent it from spreading into adjacent compartments
- Cut back the invading woodland to the boundary with Crews Hole to prevent the Crews Hole woodland from invading Troopers Hill LNR and also restore lost views over the city
- Aim to maintain a narrow boundary of broom and birch scrub on the Troopers Hill side of the boundary. (This will be dictated by the richness of the soil encountered beneath the scrub as it is cleared.)

7.2 The Aims for Troopers Hill

Overall aim

7.2.1 To ensure that Troopers Hill is maintained as a Local Nature Reserve, of benefit to both wildlife and people.

Site aims

7.2.2 To conserve and where possible enhance the extent and quality of acidic grassland and heath habitats, including its associated bare earth for the benefit of species diversity.

7.2.3 To ensure that Troopers Hill landscape retains its strong landscape character and remains in good condition.

7.2.4 To conserve and where possible enhance the geological features of the site where this does not conflict with important biological interest.

7.2.5 To conserve the industrial heritage features.

People aims

7.2.6 To provide suitable facilities and opportunities for public enjoyment of the site, for present and future generations of Bristolians and visitors to the city, providing that these do not conflict with nature conservation requirements.

7.2.7 To provide maximum opportunities for interpretation and encourage educational use.

7.2.8 To encourage community involvement in the site, and encourage active involvement in the management of the site.

7.2.9 To assist organisations or individuals with any scientific research.

7.2.10 To ensure that Troopers Hill is safe and accessible to all within the natural constraints of the site.

7.2.11 To ensure that antisocial behaviour is controlled and its impacts reduced.

7.2.12 To ensure that Troopers Hill is well managed, and well resourced, balancing all the various public uses with the wildlife and heritage value of the site.

7.3 Aims and objectives

Source of funding:

E = Existing resources, eg officer wages

R = Revenue budget(s) as indicated

C = combination of capital/grant

Some of the costs associated with the maintenance of the site are included in the grounds maintenance contract held by BCS. Splitting this cost (£1,968.77) into the spending in each compartment is not a sensible action and so the actions covered by this expenditure are highlighted in the table with a *.

CPM = Community Parks Officer

FoTH = Friends of Troopers Hill

LNRO = Local Nature Reserves Officer

MCO = Marketing and Communications Officer

PEO = Parks Events Officer

PO = Projects Officer

POM = Parks Operations Manager

PROWO = Public Rights of Way Officer

Aim 7.2.2: To conserve and where possible enhance the extent and quality of acidic grassland and heath habitats, including its associated bare earth for the benefit of species diversity

| Objective | Compartment | Aims and Objectives | Lead Officer | Year 1 2007/8 | Year 2 2008/9 | Year 3 2009/10 | Year 4 2010/11 | Year 5 2011/12 | Cost Per Annum £ | Funding source |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 7.2.2.1 | All | Eradicate holm oak (<i>Quercus ilex</i>), turkey oak (<i>Quercus cerris</i>) and Buddleja. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £400 | R |
| 7.2.2.2 | 2 | Cut back the bramble to retain a five metre wide strip close to the boundary to form a security barrier with the allotments and also diversify wildlife habitat on site. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |
| 7.2.2.3 | 4, 5 | Remove some patches of invading scrub in the gully and keep the remaining scrub cut back to agreed boundaries. | CPM | | # | # | # | # | £800 | R |
| 7.2.2.4 | 5 | Begin cutting the gorse on a rotational plan to encourage regeneration, reduce the fire risk and prevent it becoming old and degenerate. | CPM | | | # | # | # | £400 | R |
| 7.2.2.5 | 10, 11 | Gradually cut back all woodland invading from Crews Hole. Manage this area to encourage it to become re-colonised by the remaining open heath but leave a narrow boundary of heath scrub growing on the LNR side of the boundary. | CPM | # | # | # | # | ># | £1,500 | R |
| 7.2.2.6 | 10, 11 | Eradicate Japanese knotweed. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £3,100 | R |
| 7.2.2.7 | All | Eradicate bracken or at least reduce it to a minimum. | CPM | # | # | # | # | ># | £400 | R |
| 7.2.2.8 | All | Removal of all tree species growing in scrub areas before maturity. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £200 | R |
| 7.2.2.9 | All | Remove all tree seedlings from grassland and heathland. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £200 | R |
| 7.2.2.10 | 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 | Control bramble and scrub encroaching onto grassland and heathland. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £800 | R |
| 7.2.2.11 | 5, 9, 10, 11 | Manage to maintain some areas of heath type scrub with broom. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £400 | R |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Aim 7.2.2: Continued

| Objective | Compartment | Aims and Objectives | Lead Officer | Year 1 2007/8 | Year 2 2008/9 | Year 3 2009/10 | Year 4 2010/11 | Year 5 2011/12 | Cost Per Annum £ | Funding source |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 7.2.2.12 | 4, 5, 9, 10, 11 | Investigate ways to manage the older heath. This may involve either mowing or possible burning at intervals. | CPM | | # | | | | £100 | R |
| 7.2.2.13 | 4, 5, 9 | Monitor and manage areas of bare ground and erosion. It may be necessary to take action to either stop/slow it down or create new area in places. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £100 | E |
| 7.2.2.14 | 9 | Remove bramble and scrub from base of lower chimney. | CPM | # | | # | | # | * | E |
| 7.2.2.15 | 2 | Manage newly cleared scrub as rough turf (cut three times per year) until it can be mown as meadow. | CPM | # | # | # | | | * | R |
| 7.2.2.16 | 7 | Manage newly cleared scrub around entrance "E" as rough turf. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |
| 7.2.2.17 | 4 | Manage newly cleared bramble as rough turf and coppice willows every seven years. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |

Aim 7.2.3: To ensure that Troopers Hill landscape retains its strong landscape character and remains in good condition.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|----|------|---|
| 7.2.3.1 | 2 | Cut hay meadow in July and remove arisings. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |
| 7.2.3.2 | 2 | Remove patch of nettles close to gate "C" and then manage as hay meadow. | CPM | # | | | | | * | R |
| 7.2.3.3 | 2 | Record and monitor plant species growing in compartment 2 to inform future mowing regime. | LNRO | # | # | # | # | # | £300 | E |
| 7.2.3.4 | 3 (by gate C) | Cut tall herbs in September and remove arisings. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |
| 7.2.3.5 | 2 | Maintain recently planted hedgerow through weeding, mulching and pruning. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £100 | R |
| 7.2.3.6 | 2, 7, 8, 9 | Maintain and repair fencing round site boundary. | CPM | # | # | # | # | ># | £200 | R |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Aim 7.2.3: Continued

| Objective | Compartment | Aims and Objectives | Lead Officer | Year 1 2007/8 | Year 2 2008/9 | Year 3 2009/10 | Year 4 2010/11 | Year 5 2011/12 | Cost Per Annum £ | Funding source |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 7.2.3.7 | 7 | Monitor effect of badger activity on fence and take appropriate action to retain boundary whilst protecting badger sett. | LNRO, CPM & FoTH | # | # | # | # | ># | £500 | E |

Aim 7.2.4: To conserve and where possible enhance the geological features of the site where this does not conflict with important biological interest.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|--|---|--|---|------|---|
| 7.2.4.1 | | Cut back Ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>) where possible from rock faces. | CPM | # | | # | | # | £600 | R |
|---------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|--|---|--|---|------|---|

Aim 7.2.5: To conserve the industrial heritage features.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|--|---|--|---|--------|-----|
| 7.2.5.1 | 3 and 9 | Maintain the two chimneys in line with results of regular inspections. | CPM | # | | # | | # | £1,500 | R |
| 7.2.5.2 | All | Inspect/carry out risk assessment. | CPM | # | | # | | # | £200 | E/R |

Aim 7.2.6: To provide suitable facilities and opportunities for public enjoyment of the site, for present and future generations of Bristolians and visitors to the city, providing that these do not conflict with nature conservation requirements.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|--------|-----|
| 7.2.6.1 | All | Continue with an active events programme. | LNRO & FoTH | # | # | # | # | # | £600 | R/C |
| 7.2.6.2 | Entrances A, C, F | Maintain existing dog bins on site. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | | * |
| 7.2.6.3 | Entrances D, E, G | Provide additional dog bins on site. | CPM | # | | | | | £1,200 | R |
| 7.2.6.4 | All | Maintain existing seats on site. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |
| 7.2.6.5 | All | Produce a seat plan, agree on seat type and look for ways to fund the additional seating. | CPM & FoTH | # | | | | | £200 | E |
| 7.2.6.6 | All | Produce an events policy in line with city-wide events. | PEO | | | | | | | |
| 7.2.6.7 | All | Monitor the litter on site and re-evaluate the question of placing litter-bins on site. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £100 | R |

Aim 7.2.7: To provide maximum opportunities for interpretation and encourage educational use.

| Objective | Compartment | Aims and Objectives | Lead Officer | Year 1 2007/8 | Year 2 2008/9 | Year 3 2009/10 | Year 4 2010/11 | Year 5 2011/12 | Cost Per Annum £ | Funding source |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 7.2.7.1 | Entrances and 3 | Produce and install on-site interpretation. | LNRO | # | # | # | | | £2,250 | R |
| 7.2.7.2 | | Maintain information on BCC website and The Friends of Troopers Hill website. | MCO & FoTH | # | # | # | # | # | £100 | E |
| 7.2.7.3 | | Produce information leaflets. | FoTH | # | | | | | | C |
| 7.2.7.4 | | Review information leaflets. | MCO | | | | | | | E |

Aim 7.2.8: To encourage community involvement in the site, and encourage active involvement in the management of the site.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|
| 7.2.8.1 | | Maintain notices on site notifying people of working parties and how to contact both the council and the friends group. | CPM & FoTH | # | # | # | # | # | £50 | E |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|

Aim 7.2.9: To assist organisations or individuals with any scientific research.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|--------|-----|
| 7.2.9.1 | All | Maintain up to date lists of species on site. The results will be used to inform decisions about future management for inclusion in reviews of this plan. | LNRO | # | # | # | # | # | £1,000 | E/R |
| 7.2.9.2 | All | Carry out regular Invertebrate Surveys and Butterfly Transects. The results of these surveys will be used to help decide on the priorities for management of heath and scrub. Troopers Hill will be suggested to academic institutions and other bodies as a subject for research that could include these surveys. | LNRO | | # | | # | | £1,000 | C |
| 7.2.9.3 | All | Continue the biennial photographic monitoring project. | LNRO | | # | | # | | £600 | E |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Aim 7.2.10: To ensure that Troopers Hill is safe and accessible to all within the natural constraints of the site.

| Objective | Compartment | Aims and Objectives | Lead Officer | Year 1 2007/8 | Year 2 2008/9 | Year 3 2009/10 | Year 4 2010/11 | Year 5 2011/12 | Cost Per Annum £ | Funding source |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 7.2.10.1 | All | Carry out regular health and safety audits. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £200 | E |
| 7.2.10.2 | All | Cut back vegetation adjacent to and overhanging footpaths and entrances. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £200 | R |
| 7.2.10.3 | 3 | Maintain access for new path in a suitable condition for use by wheelchairs and pushchairs. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | * | R |
| 7.2.10.4 | All | Seek funding to repair other key footpaths and steps on site. | PO | | | # | | | | C |
| 7.2.10.5 | | Seek permission and funding to install tourist signs giving directions to Troopers Hill from nearby roads. | CPM | # | | | | | £200 | E |
| 7.2.10.6 | All | Investigate improvements to all entrances especially in regard to improving road safety on Troopers Hill Road and access for child buggies. | CPM | # | | | | | £400 | E |
| 7.2.10.7 | All | Review path system with a view to improving “all weather” access throughout to the site. (At present only the paths from gate A–C and A–F could be considered to be “all weather”. C–F and G to the central path should be considered for inclusion in the maintenance regime.) | CPM & PROWO | | # | | | | £400 | E |
| 7.2.10.8 | 1, 2, 8,9,10 | Consider applying to divert the public footpaths to concur with the actual paths on site. | CPM & PROWO | # | | | | | £2,000 | R |

Aim 7.2.11: To ensure that antisocial behaviour is controlled and its impacts reduced.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|-------|---|
| 7.2.11.1 | 2, 7,8,9 | Repair any fence or gate, which may allow motorbike access within 20 days of being reported. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £2000 | R |
| 7.2.11.2 | All | Report anti-social activity on site to police. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £50 | E |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Aim 7.2.11: Continued

| Objective | Compartment | Aims and Objectives | Lead Officer | Year 1 2007/8 | Year 2 2008/9 | Year 3 2009/10 | Year 4 2010/11 | Year 5 2011/12 | Cost Per Annum £ | Funding source |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 7.2.11.3 | All | Wherever possible, engage with all users of the site, eg dog walkers and youths, to explain the value and importance of the site to them and to hopefully recruit them to assist in encouraging behaviour that is socially aware. | FoTH & CPM | # | # | # | # | # | | E |

Aim 7.2.12: To ensure that Troopers Hill is well managed, and well resourced, balancing all the various public uses with the wildlife and heritage value of the site.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|--------|-----|
| 7.2.12.1 | All | Remove graffiti on site within 20 days of it being reported (five days for graffiti on the chimney, notice boards and information panels and 48 hours offensive graffiti), unless specialist equipment is required. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £150 | R |
| 7.2.12.2 | All | Remove burnt out vehicles within five days of being reported, dependent on location and conditions. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £200 | R |
| 7.2.12.3 | All | Remove fly-tipped litter within two days of being reported. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £300 | R |
| 7.2.12.4 | All | Carry out regular litter picks on site. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | | * |
| 7.2.12.5 | All | Recycle as much as litter as possible when carrying out litter picks. | FoTH | # | # | # | # | # | | |
| 7.1.12.6 | All | Audit the site from the EMAS perspective. | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £500 | E |
| 7.2.12.7 | All | Revise the five-year work plan | CPM | # | # | # | # | # | £500 | E |
| 7.2.12.8 | All | Prepare a site user and access guide for events organisers. | PEO | # | | | | | £500 | E |
| 7.2.12.9 | All | Negotiate with the allotments association adjacent to the site to compost organic arisings on their site. | CPM | # | | | | | £500 | E/R |
| 7.2.12.10 | All | Review the management plan. | POM | | | | | # | £1,000 | E |
| 7.2.12.11 | All | Review SNCI status. | LNRO | | | | | # | £500 | E |
| 7.2.12.12 | 3, 8 | Inspect and report on listed structures. | | # | | # | | # | £500 | E |
| 7.2.12.13 | All | Apply for green flag status. | POM | # | # | # | # | # | £500 | E |

8.0 Monitoring and review

Five Yearly

- Bristol Parks will review the whole management plan document (*see objective 7.2.12.10*).
- SNCI to be checked for favourable conservation status (*see objective 7.2.12.11*).
- Monitor satisfaction of site users through user surveys (*see section 4.2*).

Biannual

- All listed buildings and structures inspected by Property Section from Central Support Services (*see objective 7.2.12.12*).
- Risk assessments carried out by the CPM (*see objective 7.2.5.2*).
- Invertebrate surveys (*see objective 7.2.9.2*).
- Keep photographic record (*see objective 7.2.9.3*).

Annual

- The Parks Service will review the five-year work plan and set out a new five-year plan (*see objective 7.2.12.7*).

- Review the EMAS Action Plan (*see objective 7.2.12.6*).
- Seek to attain and maintain green flag status (*see objective 7.2.12.13*).
- Parks Operations Manager and Technical Services Manager review the Departmental Asset Management Plan for the maintenance of structures.
- CPM has an annual work plan reviewed by the District Coordinator. (DC's annual work plan reviewed by Parks Operations Manager etc.)
- Monitor income and expenditure against annual budgets.
- Monitor and record the number of events.
- Review community group agreement.
- Monitor plant and other species to inform management of compartments (*see objective 7.2.3.3, 7.2.3.7*).
- Maintain regular liaison with The Friends of Troopers Hill through email and council officers to attend Friends group meetings when necessary.
- AGM of The Friends of Troopers Hill.

Six monthly

- Detailed work plans agreed with The Friends of Troopers Hill.

Every six weeks

- Friends Group meetings (CPM to attend at least two pa). All management issues to be raised with the Community Park Manager in the first instance.

Monthly

- Monthly spending monitored by District Coordinator and CPM against annual budget.
- The CPM informally monitors quality of work against specifications (approximately monthly).

List of maps

(Separately attached documents)

| Map | Title |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Compartments (<i>see also page 5 of main document</i>) |
| 2 | Public Rights of Way |
| 3 | Site Features |

References

| Reference | Page |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| The Records of a Church of Christ in Bristol 1640 to 1687 edited by Roger Hayden, Bristol Records Society's Publication Vol XXVII 1974 | 15 |
| Scenes in our Parish by a Country Parson's Daughter, Harper and Brothers, New York 1833 | 16 |
| The Flora of Bristol by J W White, Chatford House Press 1972, first published 1912 | 17 |

List of Documents

Available to view at the Bristol Parks Office, 33 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UA

- The photographic monitoring project records from 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006 *
- Invertebrate Survey 2000 and 2006 *
- Plant records from BRERC 1985
- Badger Consultancy Survey (2001 and 2007)
- Moss Survey
- Fungi Survey 2005 *
- Bristol Naturalist's Invertebrate Records 2005 *
- Moth Group Records 2005 and 2006 *
- Bird Survey (2007)
- Pesticide Policy
- The Parks Service Plan †
- SNCI Favourable Nature Conservation Status report 2005
- Parks and Green Space Strategy – Guidance for Defining Typology for Green Space use

* – Indicates documents also available to view on-line at www.troopers-hill.org.uk

† – Indicates documents also available to view on-line at www.bristol.gov.uk and/or more specifically at www.bristol.gov.uk/parks

List of People

People who assisted with the production of this Management Plan

Rob Acton-Campbell
Friends of Troopers Hill

Jim Hill
Senior Application Support Technician

Caroline Hollies
Senior Community Park Manager

Nick Hudson
Friends of Troopers Hill
Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre (BRERC)

Sally Oldfield
Local Nature Reserves Officer

Adrian Pannett
Admin Officer (North and Central)

John Threadgold
Community Park Manager

Philip Williamson
District Coordinator (North and Central)

Appendix 1

Getting a measure of parks

Site Quality Assessments – Quality Results

SQA ID = Site Quality Assessment Identification Number

4 = Excellent / 3 = Good / 2 = Moderate / 1 = Poor

Troopers Hill & Crews Hole Road

SQA ID: 95 – Cycle 1

Setting and Containment of Site

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Setting and containment of site | 4 | 4 | 0 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

Entrances

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Status and clarity | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Location | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Design | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Condition | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Maintenance | 2 | 4 | 2 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

Boundaries Peripheral

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Design | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Condition | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Maintenance | 3 | 4 | 1 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

Boundaries Internal

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Design | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Condition | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Maintenance | 2 | 4 | 2 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

Access Paths & Hard Surfaces

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|---------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Network layout | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Access for disabled | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Condition | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| Maintenance | 1 | 4 | 3 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

Grass Areas

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Provision | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Condition | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| Maintenance | 1 | 4 | 3 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

User Experience

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|-----------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Safety and feel | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Abuse and feel | 3 | 4 | 1 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 4 November

Signage and Interpretation

| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
|--------------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Provision | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Information for disabled | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Condition | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Maintenance | 1 | 4 | 3 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

| Site Furniture | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
| Number and location | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Design | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Condition | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Maintenance | 3 | 4 | 1 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

| Overall Impressions | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
| Overall impressions | 1 | 4 | 3 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

| Horticulture | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
| Layout and quantity | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Plant selection | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Condition | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Maintenance | 2 | 4 | 2 |

Gary Ratcliffe, 04 November

| Nature Conservation | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
| Use | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| User experience | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological condition – woodland | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Ecological condition – woodland | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological condition – grassland | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological condition – healthland | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Ecological condition – scrub | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Ecological condition – hedgerow | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Ecological condition – built | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Ecological maintenance | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Ecological maintenance | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological maintenance | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological maintenance | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological maintenance – scrub | 3 | 3 | 0 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Ecological maintenance – | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Ecological maintenance – built | 1 | 1 | 0 |

Jane Walters, 08 June 2006

| Woodland | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----|
| Criteria | Actual | Potential | Gap |
| Design & use | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Condition (management saviiculture) | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Maintenance | 2 | 4 | 2 |

Richard Ennion, 14 June 2006

Appendix 2

List of acts affecting the management of Troopers Hill

- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, revised 1 June 1983.
- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act, 2005
- Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000
- Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Habitat regulations and Habitats directives
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Litter Act 1983
- Local Government Acts 1972, 1999 (established Best Value Authorities) and 2000 (established promotion of economic, social and environmental well-being)
- Local Government and Rating Act 1997
- National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949
- Occupiers Liability Act, 1957
- Open Spaces Act 1906
- Public Health Acts 1848 to 1875
- Relevance of various regulations (including PUWER, RIDDOR, COSHH etc)
- Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 118 Prescribed Descriptions (England) Order 2004 (established statutory crime and disorder strategies)
- Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended)
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992

Appendix 3: Policies/Plans and Strategies

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Bristol's Community Strategy 2003 and updated 2006</p> | <p>Vision for Bristol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city that realises its full potential and exerts influence appropriate to its status at the regional, national and European level. • A modern, cosmopolitan, ambitious city at the heart of a prosperous and confident area that is the gateway to the South West. • A diverse and accessible city made up of vibrant and balanced communities. • Where everyone is valued and can thrive economically, culturally and socially. • A safe city that promotes health, learning and sustainable development. • A city where no one is disadvantaged. <p>Most relevant aims:</p> <p><i>A thriving economy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make Bristol one of the most attractive places in Europe to live, work and visit. <p><i>Learning and achievement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and well being in Bristol. Investment is focused on promoting well-being and preventing ill-health. <p><i>A high quality environment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of the built and natural environment. • Reduce car use in the city, by enabling improved public transport service and the provision of attractive Park & Ride alternatives (Bristol City Council with partners). • Implement cycling and walking schemes to provide alternative modes of transport to the car (Bristol City Council with partners). | <p>7.2.1, 7.2.12.1, 7.2.9.3, 7.2.11.3</p> <p>7.2.6.1, 7.2.8.1, 7.2.10.2</p> <p>7.2.10 7.2.2.1, 7.2.2.4, 7.2.2.11 7.2.6.3</p> |
| <p>Bristol City Council Corporate Plan 2006–2009</p> | <p><i>Same vision and aims as Community Strategy</i></p> <p>The Corporate Plan highlights two particular themes, which will “run through all the council will do over the next three years...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of balanced and sustainable communities. | |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Change for Children programme to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. <p>Raising educational attainment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council will give priority to improving attainment, particularly levels of literacy, amongst 7 and 11 year olds, levels of numeracy amongst 11 year olds, and overall grades at GCSE. We will do this through a number of different ways including ...personalise learning. <p>Increasing participation in sport and other physical activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council is an important provider of sports and other opportunities for exercise, and has a key role in making the wider environment suitable for active life styles. We will give priority to making streets and parks safer and more attractive for walking and cycling, and to providing more attractive sports facilities. Our actions to make this a reality will include ...improving quality of playing pitches and sports facilities, improving accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists and delivering. <p>Improving recycling and waste management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will give priority to reducing the amount of waste generated, increasing the amount of waste recycled, and reducing the amount of waste going to landfill sites. <p>Improving the cleanliness of the city</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue to make the city cleaner and respond to local concerns with more targeted cleanups. | <p>7.2.6.1, 7.2.7.2, 7.2.7.3, 7.2.11.3</p> <p>7.2.6.1, 7.2.8.1, 7.2.10</p> <p>7.2.12</p> |
| <p>Bristol's Arts Strategy 1999 (review planned)</p> | <p>Bristol City Council values the arts and the benefits which they bring to the social, economic and environmental life of the city. Through partnership the city council will encourage a full range of high quality arts activity rooted in Bristol's diverse communities and ensure that it is accessible to all sections of society. The city council is committed to equality of opportunity and will seek to integrate equalities policies throughout all its cultural activity. Bristol City Council aims to develop the full potential of the arts, delivering its corporate agenda across all directorates and thereby contributing to the city's future success as a major European centre for the West of England.</p> | <p>No direct links but actions relating to further consultation, need for design guides and major new buildings all with potential for arts related outputs</p> |
| <p>Public Art Strategy, 2003</p> | <p>Sustain an annual programme of artworks by artists in the public realm and help establish Bristol as a modern European City of Culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the commission of temporary and permanent public artworks using new technologies, new materials and in new formats, to challenge and build new audiences for contemporary art. | <p>As above</p> |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Cycling Strategy, in: Local Transport Plan, 1999</p> | <p>Headline target: more cycling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To more than double the level of cycling in and around Bristol by 2002 (based on 1998 figures) and double it again by 2012 measured in terms of the number of trips made. • The city council will develop and maintain a safe, convenient, efficient and attractive infrastructure, which encourages walking, cycling and the use of public transport whilst reducing the need to travel. • The city council will integrate cycling as an essential element of a multi-modal transport strategy for Bristol, which will emphasise traffic restraint, speed reduction and reducing the environmental impact of motor vehicles, whilst also reducing the need to travel. This will include integration with public transport facilities (to enable cycle use as part of longer journeys); and seeking to ensure free cycle carriage on local urban and country buses, and future light rail systems. • Design will be based on best technical advice wherever possible, ie Cycle Friendly Infrastructure (for general principles), NCN guidelines and DETR local transport notes. | <p>7.2.10</p> |
| <p>The Walking Strategy in: Local Transport Plan, 1999</p> | <p>Bristol's vision for transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bristol City Council wants to create an increasingly clean, safe and thriving city, where people can live and work close to high quality shopping and leisure facilities. A city where people can not only move about safely, but also have better choices as to the mode of transport that they use. A local walking strategy will positively contribute to this vision. | <p>7.2.10</p> |
| <p>Road Safety Strategy in: Local Transport Plan, 1999</p> | <p>General comments about education and speed control measures etc.</p> | <p>7.2.11.1 There are no highways across this site</p> |
| <p>Towards a Parking Strategy in: Local Transport Plan, 1999</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce unnecessary use of private cars, especially in the city centre. • Enhance the vitality of the city. • Encourage alternative transport modes. • Guide appropriate scale, location and standards for all private and public parking, including branding of all city parking. | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>City Life a Cultural Strategy for Bristol, 2004</p> | <p>Promote equality of access in the way we plan, promote and manage cultural facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support cultural activity and expression among excluded communities. | <p>7.2.8.1 7.2.6.1</p> |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcome barriers to access with good transport and signage, and by implementing the Disability Discrimination Act and Bristol’s own high standards for physical access. • Invest in community identity through locally determined public art, signage and street design, arts and sports projects, festivals and publications (both in the neighbourhoods in the city centre). • Replace or refurbish changing facilities and improve sports pitch quality and develop a variety of indoor/outdoor sports opportunities. • Work with young people to prioritise and design youth facilities in parks. • Foster community involvement in managing parks, and the role of the Bristol Parks Forum. • Work with users to develop a strategy for open space in Bristol, ensuring that diverse and good quality parks are accessible to people across the city. • Deal with the causes of squalor and insecurity in our streets and parks – litter, vandalism, anti-social behaviour (ASB). • Devote as much energy to supporting cultural events that celebrate local (ie neighbourhood) identity, as to promoting the city as a whole. • Ensure that high quality marketing material is available locally, nationally and internationally that does justice to the creative capacity and reputation of the city, and be pro-active in promoting Bristol throughout Britain and the world for its unique properties. • Improve the public realm and welcome people with better information and signage. | <p>7.2.7.1 7.2.7.2 7.2.7.3 7.2.6.5 7.2.10.3 7.2.10.5 7.2.10.6 7.2.10.7 7.2.12</p> |
| <p>Public Consultation Strategy, 2001</p> | <p><i>“The council is committed to open and inclusive local government, and to using wide range of approaches to public consultation to ensure it listens effectively and considers the views of its citizens as part of its decision-making, with the aim of ensuring its policies and services reflect the aspirations and needs of Bristol’s diverse communities.”</i></p> | <p>7.2.7.1</p> |
| <p>Safer Bristol Partnership Crime and Drugs, 2004–08</p> | <p>Reduce crime and the fear of crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce overall crime by 20% (as measured by the Home Office “basket” of recorded crime). • Increase the number of people who feel safe when out and about in Bristol. <p>Build safer, stronger communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the level and impact of ASB. • To promote a safer environment. <p>Help people feel safer when outdoors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making improvements to the environment, reinforcing acceptable behaviour, and tackling ASB and nuisance. | <p>7.2.7.2 7.2.7.3 7.2.12 7.2.10.2 7.2.10.6 7.2.10.1</p> |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring reports of ASB and nuisance to the Bristol Together Hotline and to the police, and identifying hotspots. <p>Reduce the incidence of all ASB and associated crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking coordinated action through area multi-agency panels. Using the full range of enforcement options <p>Increase public involvement in tackling ASB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting communities to be involved in setting and maintaining acceptable standards of behaviour. Increase public confidence in partnership working to tackle ASB. Investing in and publicising local solutions to local problems, reinforced by specific support to individuals. Initiatives include increasing patrolling by Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) as part of a neighbourhood policing approach. | 7.2.11.3 |
| Recycling | General policies of waste reduction and waste recovery. | |
| Health strategy 2006–2009 | <p>Objective: To increase participation in sport and other physical activities.</p> <p>This strategy expresses work the council is doing with its partners to improve and protect the health of people in Bristol, and to narrow the health gap. It is our contribution to the Health and Well-being theme of Bristol’s Community Strategy.</p> <p>Our key priorities are set out and it gives examples of how council action provides an environment for good health and promotes healthy lifestyles through participating in or leading initiatives such as physical activity and sport.</p> | 7.2.10 |
| Parks and Green Space Strategy | <p>Original document 1997 now being updated and released for public consultation in October 2006.</p> <p>Emerging focus on standards for provision of green space: quality, quantity and accessibility standards. Quality is the most influential standard (intention to raise quality of parks to “Good” over a period of time – to be determined).</p> | 7.2.2 7.2.3 7.2.4 7.2.5 |
| Bristol Climate Protection and Action Plan 2004–06 | <p>Bristol has a wide range of parks, historic gardens, woodlands, nature reserves and open spaces that are rich in wildlife. Two are of international importance – the Severn Estuary and the Avon Gorge – although at present it is uncertain what the impacts of climate change will have on these sites. The indirect ones could include the need to construct more flood defences, thereby possibly damaging existing wildlife sites. Climate change could also lead to changes in water table levels, which could effect habitats and species sensitive health. Efforts to increase housing insulation may contribute to a decline in cold related deaths and illness.</p> | 7.2.2 |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Sustainable Energy Strategy Bristol City Council</p> | <p>1.3.3. Tourism and leisure A longer, more reliable summer season is likely to lead to an increase in visitor numbers in Bristol which would increase spending levels. Such growth would also create more jobs, provide new opportunities for small and medium sized businesses. Warmer annual average temperatures and increases in CO2 levels are likely to enhance the growth rate of natural and agricultural species and may lead to a change in the species composition of plants and animals. An increase in average temperatures could also lead to a longer growing season, which will mean that parks and other green spaces will need to be cut over a longer period of the year. This will have financial implications for the council's Grounds Maintenance service.</p> | <p>7.2.6.1 7.2.6.3 7.2.6.5 7.2.7 7.2.10</p> |
| <p>Environment (EMAS)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing leadership and support for environmental management within the council through elected representatives and senior managers. • Providing for identification and compliance with all environmental legislation, policies and codes of practice relevant to our activities and services. • Continually improving our overall environmental performance through the implementation and review of objectives and targets Identifying and managing significant environmental aspects relevant to council activities and services. • Ensuring that the environmental consequences of all new policies and practices are assessed. • Prevention of pollution. • Minimising the effects of resource use by conserving water. • Reducing the consumption of fossil fuels by conserving energy and promoting the use of renewable sources. • Minimising the disposal of waste through reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery. • Evaluating and monitoring air, noise, water and land pollution, and influencing others to reduce such pollution. • Monitoring and protecting biodiversity. • Encouraging suppliers and contractors to improve their environmental performance in order to reduce any detrimental environmental impact of the goods and services used by the council. This will be achieved through the council procurement strategy and by controlling the on-site activities of contractors. • Actively involving our staff through training and awareness programmes to ensure that they improve their environmental performance. • Regularly reviewing and reporting on progress which will include producing an annual Environmental Statement for departments that have been verified. • Communicating with interested parties, and making this policy publicly available. | |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Bristol Sports Partnership (undated)</p> | <p>Key Issue 2: Increased participation for all The BSP will work to increase opportunities for everyone to take part in sport in a quality environment and will work to remove barriers where they exist, focusing on: school children; young people 16–18 years; older people; women; black and ethnic minorities; disabled people.</p> <p>Key Issue 4: The development of high quality facilities Facilities that are accessible and accommodating to all sectors of the population.</p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>Playing for Real, 2004 and Making Play Matter, 2003</p> | <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable opportunities for the voice of all children and young people to be routinely heard and taken into account in all decisions made that affect their play needs and wants... • To ensure that the Play Policy is referred to whenever decisions are made that could impact (negatively or positively) on children’s and young people’s play opportunities. | <p>7.2.11.3</p> |
| <p>Bristol City Council Education Development Plan 2005–2006</p> | <p>Overarching education plan for the city. Multiple actions about raising standards and increasing inclusion, eg raising attainment in Early Years and Primary Education.</p> | <p>7.2.6.1 7.2.7.3 7.2.11.3</p> |
| <p>A Playing Pitch Strategy (undated)</p> | <p>Strategic Framework: Q1 Quality and Capacity Improve the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities in accordance with the Sport England quality assessment, prioritising improvements that increase capacity in areas and sport that are currently most deficient.</p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>Parks Wildlife Strategy (Draft)</p> | <p>All Sites of Nature Conservation Interest to be in Favourable Condition by 2010.</p> | <p>7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.3 7.2.4.1, 7.2.9</p> |
| <p>Bristol Parks Service Delivery Plan 2006/07</p> | <p>Vision of a city with a diverse range of attractive, enjoyable and accessible parks and green spaces, set within green and sustainable communities, which meet the present and future needs of all Bristol citizens, and also visitors to the city.</p> | |

| Policy | Key related objectives | Links to Troopers Hill Management Plan (relevant action listed in Section 7.0) |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p>Service outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Parks • Accessible Parks • Clean Parks • Attractive Parks • Parks and Health • Parks and Wildlife • Parks and communities | <p>7.2.11 7.2.10, 7.2.7 7.2.12 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.2.4, 7.2.5 7.2.10 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.2.1, 9.2.9 7.2.6, 7.2.6, 7.2.8</p> |

Appendix 4

List of stakeholders

- Avon Wildlife Trust
- Barton Hill History Group
- Barton Hill Walking the way to Health
- Bristol & Gloucester Archaeological Society
- Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre (BRERC)
- Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery
- Bristol Civic Society
- Bristol East Allotment Association
- Bristol Industrial Archaeological Society
- Bristol Naturalist's Society
- Bristol Naturalists
- British Trust for Ornithology
- Butterfly Conservation
- Forest of Avon
- Friends of Troopers Hill
- Groundforce
- Head of Vascular Plants, National Museum & Galleries
- Moth Group
- Natural England
- Rigs Group
- St Aidan's Church
- WWF Global Environment Network

Appendix 5

List of people with responsibilities for Troopers Hill

Parks Officers

Chief Executive of Bristol City Council

Nick Gurney

Chief Officer of Bristol City Council

Director of Culture & Leisure Services

Steven Wray

Divisional Director

Head of Parks, Estates and Sports

Richard Mond

City-wide Management Responsibility for Parks, Estates & Sports

Parks Service Manager

Peter Wilkinson

City-wide Management Responsibility of Parks Operations, Projects & Natural Environment

Parks Operations Manager

Graham Evans

City-wide Responsibility for Parks Operations including Blaise and Ashton Court Estates

District Coordinator South and East

Vacant

Responsibility for coordinating four of the eight contract areas for the whole city.

Community Parks Manager East

John Threadgold

Day-to-day Management of Troopers Hill and East Contract Area.

Natural Environment Coordinator

Richard Ennion

Management of the Arboricultural and Ecological Sections giving specialist advice.

Local Nature Reserves Officer

Sally Oldfield

Promoting Troopers Hill through the Nature in the City project, including running public events and encouraging educational use of the site. Providing wildlife management advice.

Procurements Officer (Parks)

Jo Mealing

Contract Procurement

Community Development Officer

Richard Fletcher

Community Groups/Consultation

Marketing Officers

Jane Greenaway/Karen Dennet

Marketing/Consultation/Survey Analysis

Assets Manager

Liz Peddle

General Property Advice

Other Council Officers

Strategic Access Officer

Eamon McClelland

Access

Technical Services Manager

Andrew Searle

Building Maintenance

Landscape Architect

Richard Goldthorpe

Advice on landscape issues

Contractors

Midge Westlake

Contracts manager for Bristol Contract Services

Dave Cambridge

Team leader for Bristol Contract Services East area team

Other organisations

Local Beat Officer

Pete Crawford PC 682

Fishponds Police Station

Fishponds

Bristol

BS16 2LG

Security/antisocial behaviour

Appendix 6

Landscape Design Team Office Handbook – Index of Environmental Legislation: A–Z



A

Air Quality Regulations, 2000
Pollution Control – Air Quality

B

Badgers, Protection of, Act 1992
Protected Species

Biodiversity Action Plan, UK, 1994
Biodiversity Action

C

Circular 02/99: Environmental Impact Assessments, published DETR 12 March 1999
Environmental Impact Assessments

Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.), Regulations, 1994
Protection of habitats and species

Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000
Common Land
Public Rights of Way

E

Education Act, 1996, s.508 -
Facilities for recreation and social and physical training

Environment Act, 1995
Pollution Control – Air Quality

EU Council Directive 85/337/EEC(1)
Environmental Impact Assessments

EU Council Directive 97/11/EC(1)
Environmental Impact Assessments

H

Habitats Regulations, 1994
Protected Species

Hedgerow Regulations, 1997
Protection of Hedgerows

L

Local Authorities (Recovery of Costs for Public Path Orders) Regulations, 1993 (SI 1993 No 407)
Public Rights of Way

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976
Trees and Excavations

N

National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949
Local Nature Reserves

P

Pollution Protection and Control (PPC) Act, 1999
Pollution control agencies' responsibilities

Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004
Planning System change, including Local Development Framework

Protection of Badgers Act, 1992
Protected Species

Public Path Orders Regulations, 1993 (SI 1993 No 11)
Public Rights of Way

R

Rights of Way Act, 1990
Public Rights of Way

Road Traffic Act, 1988, s. 34
Offence to drive vehicle on common land

T

Town and Country Amenities Act, 1974
Trees

Town and Country Planning Act, 1990

Compulsory Purchase Orders
Planning Obligations
Planning Process
Public Rights of Way
Tree Preservation

Town and Country Planning Act, 1990, s. 197

Tree and Tree Group protection
Trees in Conservation Areas

Town and Country Planning Act, 1990, s. 202

Tree Preservation Orders, powers to make

Town and Country Planning Act, 1990, s. 210/1

Punishment for damage or destruction of TPO tree

Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act, 1985

Woodland

Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales), Regulations 1999

Environmental Impact Assessments

Town and Country Planning (Trees) Regulations 1999, SI 1999/1982

Trees

Town and Country Planning (Public Path Orders) Regulations, 1993 (SI 1993 No 10)

Public Rights of Way

Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation Order) (Amendment) and (Trees in Conservation Areas) (Exempted Cases) Regulations 1975

Tree and Tree Group protection
Trees in Conservation Areas

U**UK Biodiversity Action Plan, 1994**

Biodiversity Action

W**Water Framework Directive****Water Industry Act, 1991**

Pollution Control – Pollution control agencies' responsibilities

Water Resources Act, 1991

Pollution Control – Water Resources

Weeds Act, 1959

Weed Control

Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981

Areas of Special Protection
Public Rights of Way
Protected Species
Trees

Appendix 7

Approved Pesticides

Only materials containing the following active ingredients shall be used. If for a specific problem an alternative pesticide is required then the contractor shall obtain the Supervising Officer's written agreement.

The Unitary Authority Pesticide Management Group is responsible for the approval and authorisation of the pesticides used. This schedule of materials may be altered from time to time as a result of decisions taken by this group.

Chemical Active Ingredient

- Aluminium Ammonium Sulphate
- Ammonium Sulphamate
- Bupirimate
- Captan
- Carbendazim
- Chlorothanil
- Chlorpyrifos
- Cypermethrin
- Deltamethrin
- Dicamba
- Dichlobenil

- Dichlorophen
- Ferrous Sulphate
- Glyphosate
- Iprodione
- Maleic Hydrazide
- Mancozeb
- MCPA (with restrictions)
- Mecoprop (with restrictions)
- Metaldehyde
- Methiocarb
- Myclobutanil
- Oxycarboxin
- Pichloram
- Pirimicarb
- Propyzamide
- Pyrethrins
- Thiabendazole
- Thiophanate Methyl
- Trichlopyr



If you would like this information in a different format, for example Braille, audiotape, large print or computer disc, or community languages, please contact us on 0117 922 3719 or email bristolparks@bristol.gov.uk