



Urban Environmental Planning

Project

Landscape Strategy and Environmental Appraisal

Client

Bristol Development Corporation

Background

Bristol Development Corporation (BDC) was formed to stimulate urban renewal within a large area of central Bristol, the Urban Development Area (UDA). The UDA covered some 370 hectares of land of diverse character, including wooded valley slopes along the River Avon, low lying, industrial areas and high density housing. The UDA was characterised by a general lack of environmental quality, reflecting years of industrial and social decline.

Description

The BDC commissioned Landmark to prepare a strategy, to be tackled in three phases.

Part One an initial appraisal, established the prevailing environment of the UDA via site survey, research and consultation. Interdisciplinary assessment considered the status of the landscape, open spaces, waterways, footpaths and cycleways, buildings and townscape, archaeology, wildlife, energy and waste.

Part Two summarised the findings of the overview and offered a framework of broad policies for environmental improvements.

Part Three distilled this framework into priorities for action; a programme of specific projects for implementation over 10 years which would generate significant environmental improvements and create a 'green framework' into which new development could be fitted.

The Strategy was used by the Development Corporation as the cornerstone of its environmental programme. A broadsheet was subsequently produced by Landmark, which presented the main elements of the strategy to the general public.

Client benefits

A well-researched planning document, presented in an accessible format, helped to win public support for a potentially contentious development strategy.