

Question: CQ15.1

Cabinet – 1 September 2020

Re: Agenda item 15 – Bristol Future Parks Programme

Question submitted by: Cllr Martin Fodor

Parks in Bristol are currently subject to a number of different pressures:

- Budget pressures from the cuts to the services (£2m down from £6m)
- Increased usage from the public during coronavirus

Also the potential impact of commercialisation measures being introduced to raise funding – but while this summer has seen new concessions let it has not resolved the investment that allows traders to thrive, such as electricity and water supplies on Redland Green.

Our approach to Parks and open spaces also needs to take into account the impact of climate change and increased demand for local food. The existing strategy arguably now needs to be reviewed to take account of these priorities.

On the positive side, better stewardship of our parks in partnership with Friends of Parks groups could help Bristol tackle the ecological and climate emergencies we have declared.

But the ways all these pressures and factors interplay needs to be clearer; more fundraising can help and better coordinated volunteering has a part to play, but the ground rules must be set out.

Question:

So how will the many issues above be factored in to the Future Parks initiative?