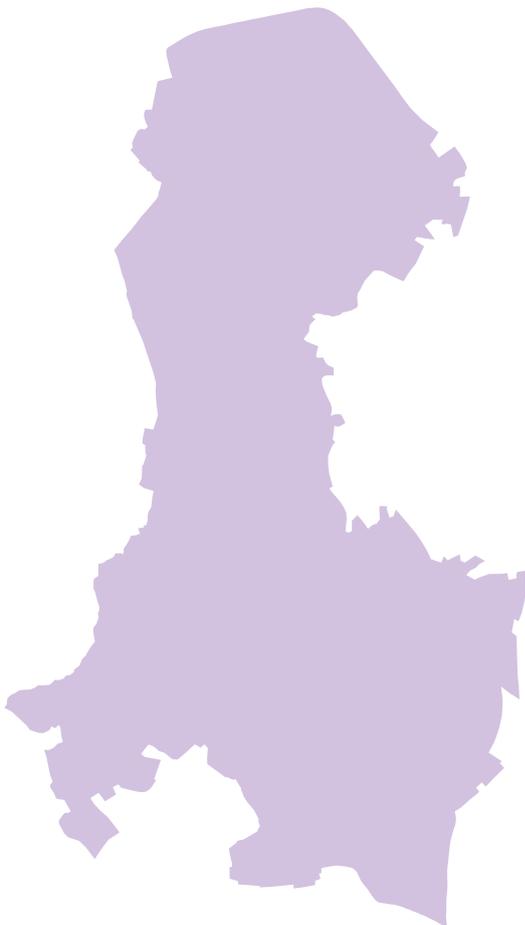




Area 14

Kingswood



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Key

➔14 Photograph viewpoints

Scale: not to scale

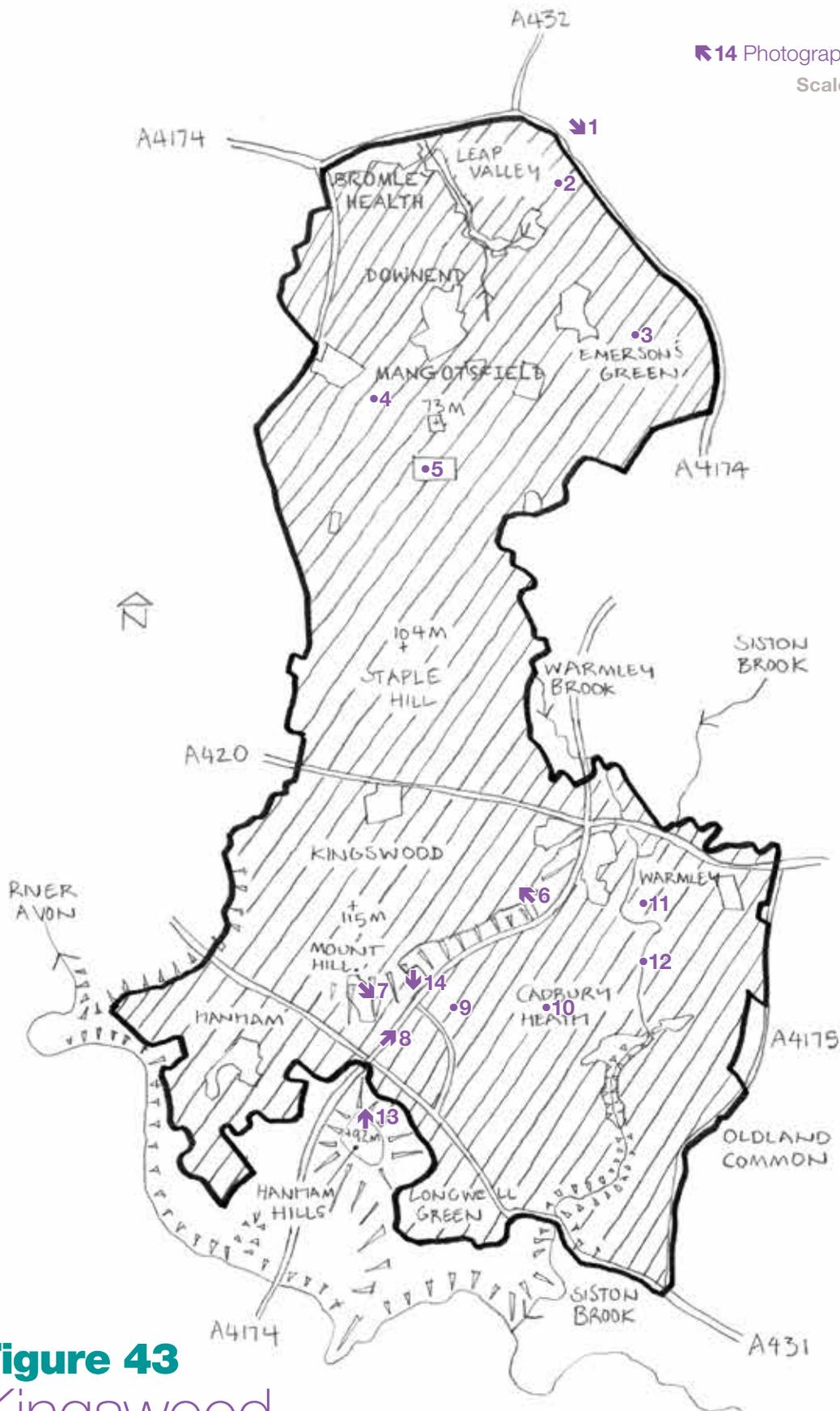
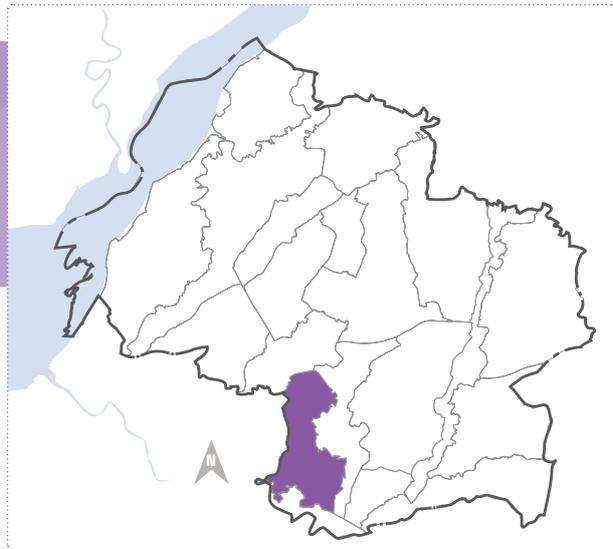


Figure 43
Kingswood
 Sketch Map

Area 14

Kingswood

The Kingswood landscape character area is a heavily built up area of residential, commercial and industrial uses and roads, interspersed with pockets of open space.



Key Characteristics

- Dominated by residential settlement, developed around an historic core of roads and former industrial activity, surrounded by extensive late 19th and 20th century development.
- Extensive more recent residential development extends up to the north eastern boundary.
- Former village settlements, with Pennant stone buildings and walls, industrial heritage features, churches and chapels, form distinct features within the urban fabric.
- Large open spaces relate to steeper slopes, valley landforms and drainage systems, generally retaining an agricultural and semi-natural vegetation framework.
- Open areas include a diversity of habitat including wetland, open standing and flowing water with bankside vegetation and broadleaf woodland providing habitat for notable species including European protected species. Also areas of neutral and calcareous grassland, supporting a diverse range of flora including species rich grassland.
- Small formal parks and informal open spaces break up the urban fabric, provide setting and local identity.
- Frequent urban trees and some remnant orchards are scattered within the urban area.
- Gardens are important for their visual amenity, the relief they bring to the urban area and biodiversity, particularly where there is little public open space.
- Extensive views to the east and south extend over the area towards adjacent prominent rural hills, ridges and scarp.
- Relics of pre-urbanisation land use pattern and buildings exist, some associated with former coal/brass/pin/shoe industries, an historic estate or remnant agricultural field patterns.

Location

The Kingswood landscape character area is located in the south of South Gloucestershire and forms the eastern urban fringe of the Bristol conurbation.

The northern boundary is defined by the A4174. The western boundary follows the Authority limits with Bristol beyond. The southern boundary marks the limits of the urban area and the rural Avon Valley further south. (Figure 49) The eastern boundary follows the well defined edge of the urban area. (See Figures 37).

Physical Influences

The underlying geology largely consists of Coal Measures, Pennant sandstone and shales, overlain with alluvium. In association with the drainage pattern, this creates a gently sloping and undulating landform between approximately 50 to 115 metres a.o.d., with some steeper slopes.

The landform comprises a ridge of hills running approximately north/south. A few small valley features cut into and are perpendicular to the ridge, forming hilltops on which Kingswood and Staple Hill are located.

A steep slope falls from the southern end of Kingswood at Mount Hill, towards the A4174 and forms a slight scarp running from Warmley, south westwards to Hanham.

Further south, the Hanham Hills rise beyond the urban edge of Longwell Green and the character area boundary. To the north east lies a broad shallow bowl occupied by Cadbury Heath, contained to the east by the Oldland Ridge beyond the area's boundary.

Siston Brook cuts through this bowl fed by Warmley Brook and one tributary. Siston Brook flows south to the River Avon, within a green corridor contained by dense residential development. The brook is channelled through Warmley, then follows its natural, tightly meandering course, before following a small

steep sided river valley, with a narrow floodplain corridor at Oldland Bottom to the south.

Also flowing into the River Avon is the Stroud Brook, which flows southwards along a small valley feature (forming part of the south western boundary of this area, shared with Bristol). The upper valley includes Magpie Bottom (a village green), and the valley as a whole is hemmed in by residential development. The brook discharges into the River Avon at Conham Wharf.

The Leap Valley to the north forms a very shallow depression, with a small stream course draining north beyond this area to the River Frome. The stream follows a green corridor of varying width, contained by housing.

Land Cover

The majority of this character area is dominated by settlement. There are however, a variety of green spaces and vegetation cover which break up and punctuate the area.

The largest open spaces are associated with steep, natural landform and valleys, which bisect or physically separate the urban area.

Small pockets of open space created by parks, school grounds, linear roadside spaces, some remnant common land and some allotments are scattered within the area.

Churchyards form numerous green spaces within the area, typically comprising grassland around the gravestones and edged by mature trees.

New parks and informal open spaces are associated with recent residential development. Landscape infrastructure planting occurs along the A4174 and the shopping centre at Longwell Green. Private gardens to houses vary in size, have a variety of vegetation, but can have mature trees which contribute to the streetscape. Remnants of orchards are often found adjacent to older cottages and former farmhouses.

The linear corridor below Mount Hill, along the A4174 to the west of Warmley, physically bisects the urban area, comprising steep slopes and rough grassland of former agricultural fields, divided by overgrown hedgerows (Photos 6 & 8).

Siston and Warmley Brook flow within green corridors, often including informal linear parks, riparian vegetation of trees and scrub with rough grassland (Photo 12), or abutting a small golf course above Siston Brook at Cadbury Heath. The Siston Valley at Oldland Bottom to the south, physically separates the urban fabric, comprising a steep sided wooded valley.

The Leap Valley to the north, forms a linear corridor of grassland, with a varied framework of overgrown and intermittent former hedgerows and scattered mature tree covers, contained by a dense residential fringe. It includes an area of wetland near Baugh Farm and is a designated Site of Nature Conservation Importance.

Within Downend there is a concentration of open spaces and vegetation at Cleeve Hill, comprising mature woodland adjacent to allotments, tennis courts and large residential gardens.

Just to the north, along the A4174 (Bromley Heath Road) lies a broad asymmetric green corridor of mown grass, ornamental trees and shrub beds. Along the northern boundary, adjacent to the A4174 (Avon Ring Road) and contained by the residential edge of Bromley Heath, lies a linear area of open space comprising sports pitches, rough grassland, scrub and trees.

Page Park and Kingswood Park are formally laid out parks with walled and railing boundaries, ornate gateways (Photo 5), tennis courts, mown lawns, pathways, ornamental planting and mature trees. Hill House Park is an area of public open space that was formerly a playing field associated with Down End Lower school.

The recent village parks within Emerson's Green typically comprise linear and irregular informal open spaces of grassland and tree clumps (Photo 2 & 3).

Traditional school playing fields and college grounds largely comprise open mown grassland, with little or no vegetation structure, however more recent school redevelopments such as Park School in Kingswood and Courtney Primary have been designed to include a robust landscape framework. Sports grounds are also typically simple open spaces, with limited built infrastructure of clubhouses and pavilions and mature trees often associated with older cricket grounds (Photo 4), providing structure or enclosure to these spaces.

Biodiversity

Although Kingswood is an urban area, the green spaces and riparian habitats present within this area include a diversity of habitat, as well as a resource to urban wildlife which may include species of conservation concern. These species are likely to be particularly vulnerable to changes impacting upon these habitats.

There are only 13 hectares of woodland within this area and these woodlands are very sparse and scattered across the area with generally few linkages between habitats. While the area may still support many species of conservation concern but the diversity will be much lower than that in the more rural character areas.

There are however 13 SNCIs within this character area, comprising a mosaic of habitats including grassland (neutral, acidic and calcareous), small plots of broadleaved woodland likely to be remnants of old orchards and flowing open water represented by the Siston Brook to the south east of the area and other small tributaries of the River Frome in the north. This designation recognises the importance of these habitats within the national context for flora and fauna and their particular importance within the urban setting of this area. Key species likely to be associated with the wooded and riparian areas include bats which are present across the District and are UK priority species with associated Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP).

Eight of the SNCIs are designated for their neutral, acidic and calcareous grassland, including areas of species-rich grassland. This diverse habitat supports a range of invertebrates and ant hills are a regular feature. These invertebrates in turn provide a food source for mammals including bats.

The water courses in the Leap and Willsbridge Valley are amongst the few watercourses found in this character area. As a result species (which may include water voles) within these habitats are likely to be sensitive to any changes impacting upon the water body. The scattered ponds and pools within the area will support amphibians such as great crested newts (a European Protected Species).

Gardens and amenity spaces are likely to present a potential habitat for a range of species in such an urban area, and the provision of tree cover, other planting and the retention of 'wild corners' takes on additional importance.

Settlement and Infrastructure

Settlement is the predominant land use in this character area. The historic core of road pattern, settlement and former industrial activity is extensively surrounded by late 19th and 20th century residential, industrial and commercial development, creating a dense urban area with relatively few open spaces.

The pre-urbanisation field pattern and road network is evident over much of the area and, in places, largely defines the shape and pattern of settlement and open space seen today.

Older development within the area is typically a mix of grey Pennant sandstone cottages, farmhouses, and individual houses, with gardens and some remnant orchards contained by stone walls. Settlement of this age is either clustered within recognisable former village centres, as seen in Downend, Hanham, Warmley, North Common and Oldland Common, or elsewhere is mixed with the occasional addition of recent brick infill, as at Mangotsfield, Staple Hill and

Kingswood. Many of these villages grew in association with the former industrial activities associated with coal mining, the brass/pin works and the shoe industry.

Older stone properties are also scattered throughout the area, absorbed within more recent phases of urban expansion. Some distinctive buildings and structures include churches, chapels, monuments and Sunday Schools (associated with Methodism), small industrial buildings, warehouses and old factories. Stone bridges are associated with the disused Bristol-Bath railway and Dramway, with station platforms and buildings at Mangotsfield North and South and at Willsbridge.

In Hanham, Longwell Green and towards Oldland, the older stone housing is often associated with large gardens and mature trees which abut the road network, or form the southern boundary with the Avon Valley. Some early 20th century housing has mature gardens and street trees which contribute greatly to the streetscape (Photo 10).

Later residential development is largely of brick (some rendered), detached, semi-detached and flats, varied in density and tends to lack structural tree planting or designed open spaces. Open space is largely incidental, retained along hedges, watercourses and footpaths, or related to schools, sports centres and community facilities.

More recent large scale residential development lies to the north east at Emerson's Green. Dense, brick estate housing (Photo 3) extends eastwards to the A4174, which in conjunction with the industrial/commercial sheds at Emerald Park within the adjacent area (Photo 1), abruptly defines the urban edge here. Former farmhouses on the edge of this development area have been put to new uses such as public houses.

The new housing areas include some strategic open space corridors and are occasionally broken by village parks.

The character area is punctuated with retail centres, comprising a number of linear streets or centres located on major roads leading to Bristol City Centre. A large retail centre at Longwell Green forms a concentration of large commercial sheds, within a framework of roads, roundabouts, car parks, grass verges and ornamental planting structure (Photo 8).

The adjacent multiplex development below Mount Hill is cut into the steep hillside and includes a large warehouse type building, car park and peripheral steep earth banks/retaining structures, while the more recent leisure centre takes a lower profile.

Industrial works are concentrated within the centres of Kingswood, Warmley and also along Kingswood's eastern rural fringe. Some have been redeveloped to residential uses. A number of historic sites are absorbed within or on the edge of the urban area.

Warmley House and gardens, together with the Clock Tower (originally a pin mill), form the core of the internationally important Champion's Brassworks. The factory is partly constructed with slag block quoins and coping stones, a bi-product of the industrial process (Photo 11).

The use of distinctive slag quoins and coping stones is widely distributed within the South Gloucestershire area, generally limited to older individual stone buildings and walls. Distribution is evident within the adjacent character areas of Pucklechurch Ridge and Boyd Valley, Westerleigh Vale and Oldland Ridge, as well as Kingswood, Bristol and as far west as the Severn Ridges and Oldbury Levels.

The historic estate of Barr's Court in Oldland, is a partially moated manor site (Scheduled Ancient Monument) and still retains much of its park boundary wall and moat, largely absorbed within residential development (Photo 9). Also within the Siston Valley at Oldland Bottom is Willsbridge Mill.

The Bristol and Bath Railway Path follows a disused railway line west to east through the urban area of Staple Hill, in tunnel and cutting

before turning south, entering the adjacent character area, before passing through the urban areas of Warmley, Willsbridge and the Avon Valley beyond.

The southern section of the railway path is partly followed by the Dramway (an historically important tramway associated with the former coal mining industry) and the Community Forest Path. Both these routes leave the railway line south of Oldland Common, entering the rural Siston Valley to Willsbridge Mill and the Avon Valley beyond.

The urban area also includes many short sections of public footpath within pockets of open space. These connect with the widespread, dense local road network.

The area is intensely dissected by numerous lanes, roads and major routes such as the A432, A431, A420, A4174 and A4175, connecting the residential districts.

The A4174 Avon Ring Road follows a broad corridor, generally containing the urban edge to the north and north east and passing through the urban/semi-rural areas in the south. Generally contained for much of its length within a maturing framework of trees, the road is being absorbed within the wider landscape.

Landscape Character

The overall character of this area is dense settlement, with distinct areas comprising former village centres and linear hamlets linked by the road network, phased residential development, concentrations of industrial works and commercial areas, interspersed with a mix of various ages and style of development.

Industrial heritage features and distinct buildings provide landmarks and contribute to the distinctive character of the various neighbourhoods within the urban fabric.

A variety of open spaces punctuate the urban area, the character of which are diverse, often providing relief and contrast, contributing to local identity and the setting of built development.

The ridge and hill landform of the character area is generally marked by the dominance and enclosure created by the urban development over much of this area. However, landform and elevated position is very apparent along some road corridors and from open spaces, where views out beyond the character area are obtained.

The steepest landforms have hindered the spread of urban development and are therefore typically the most extensive, open and visible green spaces within the area. These comprise the largely rural, open steep slopes and ridgeline of Mount Hill above the A4174, a prominent local backcloth; the Siston Valley, a small enclosed and sinuous rural wooded valley, at its southern end largely undisturbed by development; and the prominent landmark of the Hanham Hills, to the south within the Avon Valley character area.

Breaks in the urban fabric on the elevated landform frequently allow long distance views eastwards of the adjacent rural fringe, Pucklechurch and Oldland Ridge and the Cotswold Scarp beyond. Views southwards include the Hanham Hills, which forms a distinct open hill beyond the settlement edge (Photo 14). From the southern settlement edge, some views extend over and beyond the Avon Valley.

The urban area of Kingswood is also prominent within panoramic views from the Pucklechurch and Oldland Ridge to the east.

The urban area contains numerous mature trees which include both remnants of pre-urbanisation agricultural land use and planned tree planting along streets, within parks and gardens. The visual contribution this “urban forest” makes is significant locally and in the wider landscape, particularly from beyond the urban area to the east of this character area.

Planned formal open spaces are limited, comprising scattered areas of varying size and character contained within the urban fabric. These include ornamental parks at Page Park and Kingswood Park; allotment gardens at several locations; school/college grounds, playing and sports fields; graveyards (some neglected) associated with the many chapels and churches, all of which provide seasonal variations in pattern and texture.

The concentration of woodland at Cleeve Hill (Downend) associated with a break within the urban streetscape, produced by allotments and tennis courts, large gardens, together with street trees, forms a distinct local identity.

Informal open spaces with their former agricultural framework partly intact, include the linear Leap Valley Park and wood fringed field at Charn Hill.

The presence of large private gardens, garden vegetation, street trees, wide verges and planting infrastructure along some roads contribute to a suburban character. In contrast, areas of more modest Victorian housing, typically with small or no gardens, without the presence of public open spaces, form very dense, uniformly built areas.

Village parks, created as part of the Emerson’s Green development, have attempted to incorporate existing landscape features of hedgerows and trees into the structure of the new development. These features, where retained and well managed, provide an immediate framework and mature landscape setting to this development that has now been supplemented by the more recent planting that is now maturing.

The industrial heritage features of villages, linear hamlets and buildings associated with coal mining, pin and shoe making industry, historic remains of Barrs Court Estate and the distribution of architecturally diverse chapels, churches and their churchyards, significantly contribute to local identity.

Warmley Church is a prominent distinctive landmark and focus to the village settlement, nestled within the landform. The adjacent brass works also forms a prominent local feature.

The pattern of stone cottages, unified by stone boundary walls within Downend, has a distinct rural village character within an otherwise urban area, reinforced by the Downend Cricket Field adjacent to Christchurch.

The eastern and southern urban/rural fringes have varying built characteristics. The open setting provided by the adjacent rural fringe is an important visual characteristic.

The north eastern boundary at Emerson's Green comprises recent dense housing, commercial and retail development off the A4174 junctions, with formerly derelict farm houses being put to new uses. The planting associated with the A4174 corridor has matured to absorb the new road, however where timber boundary fencing remains visible this forms an abrupt and hard edge to the development compromising the landscape character of the locality. The commercial development of Emerald Park, within the adjacent character area, is also prominent and visually confines part of this area. Further south, the degree of integration along the urban edge varies, largely determined by the adjacent land use and vegetation cover which abut this character area's boundary.

The older residential edge, intermixed with an industrial complex and school grounds, is in places partially contained by woodland at Rodway Hill. Adjacent recreational land uses, remnant common and agricultural land in Westerleigh Vale and Oldland Ridge area, creates in places a transitional boundary between the abrupt development edge of this area and the adjacent, more rural countryside to the east.

The village settlement pattern of Warmley, North Common and Oldland Common, located within this area along the eastern boundary, form a distinct, intricate and varied edge to the rural fringe, variably integrated by the rural vegetation

framework, or forming a defined urban edge.

The adjacent landform of the Pucklechurch and Oldland Ridge forms a prominent and distinctive backcloth within many views from this urban edge.

The convoluted urban edge along the southern boundary is largely influenced by the landform of the Siston Valley, the Avon Valley and its floodplain and the Hanham Hills. The various phases of residential development are intermixed with the large retail area at Longwell Green and the more recent redevelopment of Hanham Hall (former hospital) and grounds to residential use, both of which visually influence the urban edge and adjoining rural fringe.

The edge of Willsbridge and older edge of Hanham have a distinctive rural village character. However, in contrast, the more recent residential development around Hanham Hall creates a sharp, defined urban edge without integration. (Photo 2). Longwell Green has both prominent linear urban edges (Photo 13) and better integrated sections, achieved through long rear gardens and associated vegetation. The recent large scale commercial development below Cock Road Ridge, at Mount Hill, is located in an elevated position, compared with the older retail development area. The scale and nature of this development contrasts sharply with the adjacent housing. The multiplex development is prominent from a wide area due to its location, scale and light colour, and is visible from the Cotswold Scarp and from the hills to the south of the Avon Valley, while the lower level timber clad leisure centre achieves a significantly higher degree of integration with its surroundings.

The Hanham Hills are a prominent and distinctive landmark within this area.

The Changing Landscape

The Kingswood landscape character area has a dense urban fabric with a surrounding rural fringe. Distinct areas of local character are influenced by settlement age, pattern and materials used within a number of communities; landmark architecture; historic remnants of early settlement and the industrial past; intermixed with a variety of open spaces and wildlife habitats.

Recent years have seen the increasing re-development of brownfield sites such as former employment sites, chapels and their grounds, or graveyards, as well as the redevelopment of houses with large gardens to make way for higher density housing.

This has affected local character and in some cases reduced wildlife habitat. Where green spaces previously provided valuable visual amenity and physical breaks within the urban fabric, as well as softening the urban form, some locations have seen a reduction in openness within the area. This has increased the density of the built environment and introduced a variation in architectural style, form, massing and colour, that has in some cases affected the distinctiveness of the locality.

A further change affecting the character area is the paving of front gardens and loss of associated boundary treatments. In other locations hedged boundaries have been replaced by harsh close boarded fences. Cumulatively these small changes often result in a significant erosion of the traditional character and biodiversity of the locality, replacing low stone walls and associated garden planting with the harshness of a fence or a predominance of parked cars. This can also result in the replacement of soil with impermeable paving, leading to increased runoff and potential problems with drainage capacity.

Kingswood High Street has however seen a significant improvement in the urban fabric of the town centre. The introduction of a one way system was taken as an opportunity to reclaim urban space for the pedestrian, introducing

high quality urban street furniture and features designed to reinforce and improve the character and appearance of the street.

Existing parks provide important open spaces and in some cases valuable wildlife habitat within the urban fabric and influence local character. The landscape amenity of these spaces relies on their continued maintenance and management. There has been an increasing trend towards community engagement with the management and maintenance of such open spaces with the formation of 'Friends' groups, a more recent move away from the more traditional play equipment to 'natural play' that utilises natural features such as rocks, logs and trees, as well as increased tree planting and provision of play and gym facilities to suit a wider age group. Open spaces such as Grimbsbury Farm have seen improvements that have resulted in a move away from traditional mown grass to meadow and greater diversity of habitat. Other traditional parks are seeking to ensure restoration of their historic features such as band stands and railings.

Scattered ponds and pools, including potentially those in gardens are vulnerable to any loss of habitat including the terrestrial habitat around ponds as well as the ponds themselves.

Open space within new developments often incorporates mature trees, often that are remnant features from the former agricultural land use, pre-urbanisation. These contribute greatly to the area's 'Urban Forest' and local streetscape. These features are however sensitive to a number of potentially damaging operations and types of change, e.g. work relating to underground and overhead services, site development and site access and especially where insufficient space is allowed for either existing mature trees or semi-mature trees to develop further.

The majority of open spaces are crossed by, or connected to, the urban area by public footpaths. This accessibility provides not only an important recreational and amenity resource for the local community, but with new development increasing the numbers of users also potentially exerts an

increasing physical pressure on these spaces and their features.

The more recent housing development at Emerson's Green has introduced new urban elements along the edge of Kingswood, within a former agricultural landscape. The retained vegetation framework has only a limited ability to integrate such extensive built development. While a softening of the transition between the housing edge and adjacent open space/rural fringe has been achieved as the new landscape has matured, there remain places where the housing and/ or boundary fencing remains visually prominent thereby eroding the character of the adjacent landscape.

The large scale commercial/retail and leisure developments at Longwell Green and below Mount Hill has had a significant effect on the urban character locally. The elevated and sloping nature of the site means that this development has not effectively integrated with its surroundings, with the result that the large scale built forms, together with the associated car parking and road infrastructure, contrasts markedly with the character of adjacent housing areas and the remnant landscape framework.

The corridor of remnant agricultural land at Mount Hill, Cock Road Ridge and Grimsbury Farm are important and prominent recreational areas which separates Kingswood and Oldland. These areas have seen further infill development and are under potential pressure for further change. Hedgerows are not actively managed. The likely long-term decline of these features would weaken their visual contribution to the landscape framework of the area, as well as their ability to provide integration of both existing development and future change.

The Hanham Hills beyond the southern urban edge in the adjoining character area are a distinct rural landmark, visually prominent within many local views. They are particularly sensitive to change, or a decline of their hedgerow framework.

The southern and eastern urban areas exert a potential pressure for change in the adjacent rural landscape. Such change could have a potentially widespread visual influence, eroding the distinctive rural character of the agricultural landscape and common land which lie just beyond the eastern boundary. As much of the area is elevated, development within the Kingswood character area has the potential to influence views from the surrounding rural areas such as Redfield Hill, Siston Common, Bridge Yate Common and the Hanham Hills.

Infill remains a significant pressure across this character area, including on both larger and smaller plots and gardens. Such infill can result in the loss of significant albeit often private areas of green space, increasing the urban character and resulting in the loss of space and landscape features which impart a particular character to the area and/or provide visual relief and wildlife habitat in an otherwise dense urban environment.

The distinct village patterns seen in many places, such as Warmley, Oldland Common, Willsbridge and Hanham, are sensitive to change such as from infill, which might dilute or erode their individual character.

The proposed large scale extension to Emerson's Green, north east of the A4174 in the adjoining character area, for residential and employment purposes, will result in a significant change to the present character of the rural fringe. The current urban edge will extend northwards, beyond this character area boundary, with the inevitable loss of the adjoining open rural landscape.

Landscape Strategy

- Protect and extend the Kingswood 'urban forest' character imparted by street trees and maintain, manage and extend other tree cover within the urban environment.
- Protect key views and skylines that contribute to the distinctive character of the locality, whether in this or adjacent character areas.
- Where key to the character of the locality, ensure that the critical balance between the existing urban built form and green open space and/ or planting is maintained and enhanced, and distinctive local character is retained and enhanced. This includes consideration of the role that private open space places in the urban environment.
- Carefully control boundary treatments particularly for road facing gardens, to protect the character of place and enhance the biodiversity value and visual quality of the public realm.
- Ensure that new development incorporates an adequate landscape framework and open space network to provide relief to the urban environment, wildlife habitat and wherever possible connectivity of habitat.
- Ensure that open space areas within new development are of adequate size to be useable and effective, and that sufficient space is incorporated around retained landscape features and wildlife habitats, to facilitate their effective protection and management into the future.
- Within the tight urban environment of this character area careful planning of new developments is vital to ensure that proposed levels, service runs etc do not damage existing retained trees or compromise proposed new landscape schemes. Also ensure that lighting schemes particularly at the urban edge do not disturb wildlife.
- Secure the sensitive management and enhancement of existing civic parks, formal and informal open spaces to protect and enhance their landscape character, heritage value, recreational function and biodiversity value, and their resilience to increased use.
- Active management of remnants of the former agricultural landscape, including hedgerows and hedgerow trees will help ensure the conservation of these features and their continued function as habitat and connectivity in the long term.
- Preserve views to Warmley church spire
- Protect and enhance open space and biodiversity links between existing open spaces, recognising the value of gardens in this.
- Look for opportunities to address the current shortfall in allotments and public open space within Kingswood and Staple Hill.

Landscape Character Areas



1 Avon Ring Road separating the business park at Emerald Park to the left and the new housing of Emerson's Green North. The Pucklechurch Ridge is on the skyline.



2 Emerson's Green North, looking towards Blackhorse Pond and Westons Brake.



3 Emerson's Green Common looking towards Green Lane.



4 Christ Church, Downend, viewed across Downend Cricket Club Ground, with historic connections with W.G. Grace.



5 Page Park, formal park at Staple Hill used for many community events.



6 Grimsbury Farm open space towards Cock Road Ridge.



7 Allotments at Hollyguest Road looking across retail development towards the Cotswolds.



8 Avon Ring Road, showing the commercial development below the wooded scarp of Mount Hill.



9 Remains of Barr's Court Estate set against modern retail and residential development.



10 Cadbury Heath Road, early 20th century residential development.



11 Warmley Clock Tower, part of Champion's Brassworks, now used by the community. Slag quoins and copings have been frequently used within many local buildings.



12 Siston Brook and linear parkland within Cadbury Heath.



13 Hanham Hills, Lynch Pit looking to Kingswood on the horizon. Pockets of open space include playing fields and green scarp at Mount Hill.



14 View south from Mount Hill, with Hanham Hills rising above housing at Longwell Green in the middle distance.

Figure 44 – Area 14
Kingswood

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS



Legend

- South Gloucestershire Boundary
- Landscape Character Area

The Landscape Character Area boundary shown on this map is indicative, sometimes marking a distinct change, but more often representing a transition in character with adjacent areas.

Similar attributes may therefore be evident within adjacent areas. (For further information refer to Report Section 4.1)



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Figure 45
Area 14
Kingswood