





Appendix 2: Green infrastructure list

The green infrastructure map with these sites marked and numbered is Figure 12 on page 41 of the Neighbourhood Plan

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
Areas not specifically protected in other national or local plans or policies and protected under Policy LWH4				
1		Trees & green space in & around Dinas Close, west of Dinas Road, Hatherley	Public accessible green space with trees and shrubs. Not designated in Cheltenham Plan This green space has been improved recently with environmental planting including trees	Very accessible informal recreational space, habitats, softening and lending important open aspect to built up area
2		Trees & open space around junction of Winchester Way, Canterbury Walk, Warden Hill	Public accessible green space with trees. Flooded heavily in 2007. Not designated in Cheltenham Plan. Residents are using this space as a community meeting place in the summer.	Very accessible informal recreational space, habitats, softening & lending important open aspect to built up area

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
3		<p>Green space around Multi Use Games Area and next to formal playground between United Reformed Church and Co-Op store, Warden Hill</p>	<p>Informal green space including trees and shrubs, fenced off from road along with MUGA and playground.</p>	<p>Safe green play space for younger children next to MUGA and playground, softening more formal/urban feel of built-up area, MUGA and playground contributing to children's mental as well as physical health,.</p>
4	 <p>GCC public rights of way:</p>	<p>Green corridor on pathway routes north from St Michael's Road towards Bournside School (right of way CHL5) and east behind the same road to connect with Hatherley Brook (CHL19). The ward and parish boundary runs just to the north of the east/west corridor.</p>	<p>Trees and often quite dense vegetation surrounding recognised rights of way and footpaths.</p>	<p>Provides rural and in places woodland feel to local pathways, particularly exciting for children to safely explore; provides habitats for many species, connecting with Hatherley Brook and so providing connectivity to the Local Green Space and AONB to the south and Bournside fields and The Park north of the NP area.</p>

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
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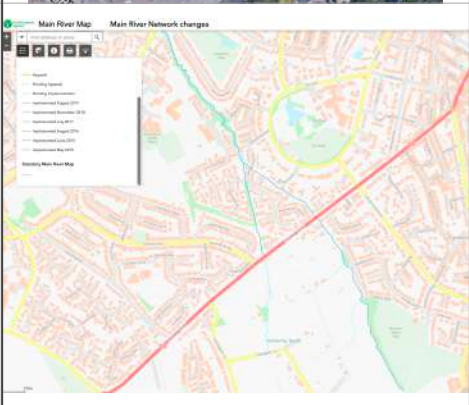
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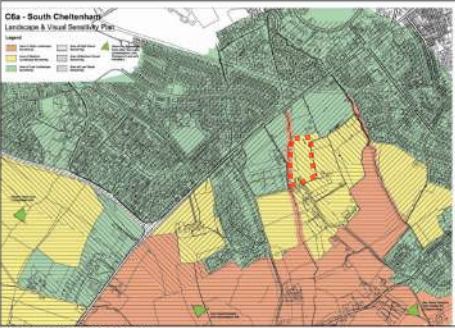
Line of Hatherley Brook north from the A46/ Shurdington Road to the ward/parish/NP boundary



Line of EA-recognised main river Hatherley Brook (see EA map, left), with watercourse, trees and often quite dense vegetation.


Watercourse and surrounding vegetation providing connected habitats linking the High School Leckhampton site, Local Green Space and AONB to the south with the green pathway and watercourse north to The Park and north-west to the green corridor (4 above) and Bournside fields. There is also a connection to Moorend Stream which marks the old parish?NP boundary just to the north-east.






Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
6		<p>Line of Hatherley Brook and neighbouring floodzone, trees and hedgerow network south from the Shurdington Road to Kidnappers Lane to the south, to the boundary of the designated Local Green Space and the fields known as 'R2' and 'R3' (see 7 below) to the east, and including hedgerow along the northern edge of Kidnappers Lane between the junctions with Farm Lane and the northern side of the Robinswood pathway (footpath CHL6).</p>	<p>This area is covered by Cheltenham Plan Policy MD4 which says development must have 'a layout and form that respects the existing urban and rural characteristics of the vicinity' but does not specifically identify the brook or hedgerows. The JCS Inspector did specify "Built development should, however, avoid the green corridor of Hatherly Brook" (Elizabeth Ord, Note of Recommendations, 21 July 2016).</p> <p>The area includes the flood plain of the brook and nationally recognised National Forest Inventory Broadleaved woodland habitat and Priority Habitat Inventory Deciduous woodland just north of Kidnappers Lane (see Defra map, left).</p>	<p>The brook line, trees and hedgerow network will all soften and mitigate the visual impact of MD4 development on the visual landscape. They provide important and connected habitats, including nationally recognised woodland habitats, which add to and link habitats within the Local Green Space and ultimately the AONB to the south and the continuing brook line and The Park to the north.</p> <p>The view south to Leckhampton Hill forms part of the setting for the AONB referred to in the JCS and Cheltenham Plan and was one of only 28 notable roadside viewpoints in England listed by the AA.</p>
			<p>Much of the brook line was protected in the plans by Miller Homes rejected in 2022 (see Miller's plan left) but some connections would have been lost and not all hedgerows were clearly protected. Work in 2022 to Kidnappers Lane in connection with the new High School Leckhampton protected hedgerows beside highways land itself.</p>	<p>Protecting this view and connectivity within future MD4 development as was proposed to some extent by Miller will preserve nationally recognised habitats and biodiversity and a view important not just to Leckhampton but to Cheltenham.</p>
				



Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
7		<p>Fields referenced during the JCS process as 'R2' and 'R3' and accompanying hedges, bounded by pathway CHL6 and the Local Green Space to the east, Kidnappers Lane to the south and the vegetation surrounding Hatherley Brook to the west specified in 6 above. Within the MD4 area in the Cheltenham Plan but - uniquely within the MD4 area - more visible from the AONB and of higher landscape value and sensitivity according to the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process (marked on map, left, from the report, JCS Evidence document EBLO-106).</p>	<p>Agricultural fields of an open rural character noted by a series of inspectors and recommended as not to be developed by Inspector Ord during the JCS examination ("I have concerns over the impact of the proposed development on the AONB. I have visited Leckhampton Hill on three occasions and it is apparent to me that proposed building on the areas of medium sensitivity, shown yellow on the Landscape and Visual Sensitivity plan, would bring a large mass of development closer to Leckhampton Hill, adversely impacting on views from the Hill.. The areas I find acceptable for development correspond generally with the fields referenced NE, NW1, NW2, NW3 and NN in EXAM 121C", Elizabeth Ord, Note of Recommendations, 21 July 2016).</p>	<p>This is the most visually sensitive part of the MD4 area as seen from the AONB. Incorporating the green and rural character of these higher landscape sensitivity fields and their accompanying hedges into any planned development scheme would significantly soften and mitigate the visual impact of any development under MD4. The wooded areas are nationally recognised as important habitats and all the accompanying hedges provide connected habitats for a variety of species providing important biodiversity within the MD4 area.</p>
	 <p>Landscape & Visual Sensitivity plan</p>		<p>The wooded area in the north-west of this area is nationally recognised as Priority Habitat Inventory Deciduous Woodland (see Defra map in 6 above)</p>	



Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
8		<p>High School Leckhampton site including playing fields, trees, brook bank and hedgerows, bounded by Kidnappers Lane to the north, Hatherley Brook to the east, Farm Lane to the west and the Local Green Space and a residential property to the south.</p>	<p>As at August 2022, this forms part of the school construction site but the permitted development (plan, left and subject to some change to incorporate pathway CHL9) will protect trees and hedgerows and the bank of Hatherley Brook to the east. According to the application, it will also incorporate wildflower planting and provide green playing fields and informal spaces alongside the school building, courtyard and car parks and all-weather MUGA and green Astro pitch.</p>	<p>The school site and particularly its overwhelmingly green playing fields are a significant part of Leckhampton's valued landscape and are prominent in the view out of the AONB, including the iconic view from the Devil's Chimney. The northern two thirds of the site was identified in the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process (see 7 above) as of medium (yellow)</p>
			<p>Playing fields are protected for their utility under the National Planning Policy framework (paragraph 99, 2021) but this site is included here for its additional importance to biodiversity and landscape.</p>	<p>landscape sensitivity and the southernmost third as of high (red) landscape sensitivity. The hedgerows surrounding the site soften the impact of the school building itself and are particularly important for biodiversity (a significant issue during the planning process) as well as for the physical and mental health of the school students. The hedgerows and the brook line along the east of the site provide important and sensitive habitats, including for nationally protected species, which need to be protected from further development and intrusive lighting.</p>


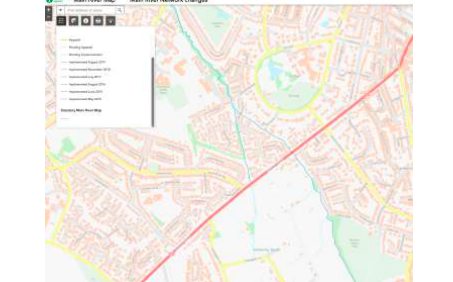


Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
9		<p>Orchards, green fields and the line of Hatherley Brook adjacent to Leckhampton Farm Court, bounded by Farm Lane to the west, Church Road to the south, Hatherley Brook itself to the east and the Local green Space to the north and east.</p>	<p>This area is outside the Local Green Space designated in the Cheltenham Plan but between that and the AONB immediately to the south. It is extremely prominent in the foreground of iconic views from the AONB at Leckhampton and was identified in the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process (see 7 above) as of high (red) landscape sensitivity. It contains two nationally recognised Priority Habitat Inventory Traditional Orchards (see Defra map, left).</p> <p>This area was not excluded from the LGS on landscape or visual sensitivity grounds but because local planners and councillors trying to limit the size of the Local Green Space according to the Cheltenham Plan inspector's instructions prioritised areas which were more publicly accessible and thought to be more at risk from development, considering development very unlikely to be permitted at this location.</p>	<p>This is a highly sensitive part of the visual landscape, very prominent in the foreground of iconic views from the AONB, including from the Cotswold Way and the Devil's Chimney. It is identified as high value landscape in both the JCS Landscape & Visual Sensitivity analysis report and the 2022 NP Landscape Character Assessment. The orchards are Priority Habitats and perhaps the last remaining examples of the historic orchards that defined Leckhampton (<i>leek hamtun</i> in Anglo-Saxon) as a settlement based on market gardening.</p>



Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
10		<p>Elongated area historically known as “Railroad Piece” between the borough, AONB and Green Belt boundary along the line of the original Leckhampton tramway now Footpath ASH42/CHL18 to the west (top in maps, left) and Leckhampton Road/ Leckhampton Hill to the east.</p> <p>For clarity, the area marked in the map, left, includes dwellings, gardens and a site where development was permitted in 2022 but the green infrastructure referred to here is the vegetation bordering these, the pathway and the road.</p>	<p>Wooded footpaths and roadside including trees, hedges and undergrowth. As well as ASH42/CHL18, a footpath crosses the area east/west across the site where development has been permitted. As at May 2023, this development has not commenced, an order for a public right of way footpath has been made (https://ww3.gloucestershire.gov.uk/PROW/ApplicationForm.aspx?RecordFilter=573/11/130(1)) but the route is contested and a stopping up order has also been initiated. Neither of these processes is yet resolved so the future status of the pathway is unclear.</p>	<p>Footpath ASH42/CHL18 marks the historic Leckhampton quarry tram route. It also marks the boundary of the AONB and Green Belt with Cheltenham borough and its Principal Urban Area so contributes to the setting for this part of the AONB.</p> <p>The area is prominent both from the AONB and from the urban side as it is perched above the junction of Leckhampton Road/ Leckhampton Hill and the Old Bath Road with the extensive vegetation providing a soft transition from the rural to the urban area which should be respected in any future development.</p> <p>The trees and undergrowth provide important habitats.</p>

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
11		<p>Prominent green space above the last part of Undercliff Avenue where it meets Leckhampton Road/Hill.</p>	<p>A small public open space with established and newly planted trees and hedgerow and including a small gravelled area with a public seat, bin and Parish Council noticeboard.</p>	<p>A pleasant stop for dog walkers and other pedestrians (or even less energetic cyclists) during the increasingly steep ascent up Leckhampton Hill, softening the transition between the hill and the urban area and currently providing space for new tree planting.</p>
12		<p>Leckhampton Primary School playing field</p>	<p>Part of a large connected area of green space including the Local Green Space and adjacent allotments within the NP area and Burrow's Field beyond it. Identified as medium (yellow) visual sensitivity in the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process (see 7 above).</p> <p>Playing fields are protected for their utility under the National Planning Policy framework (paragraph 99, 2021) but this well-connected site is included here for its additional importance to biodiversity and the landscape.</p>	<p>Along with the connected green spaces including the Local Green Space, the school playing field forms part of Leckhampton's valued landscape and is clearly visible in the view out of the AONB. The site was identified in the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process (see 7 above) as of medium (yellow) landscape sensitivity. The vegetation surrounding the site provides habitats for a variety of species. This green space is also important for the physical and mental health of the school pupils.</p>

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
13		<p>Fields and former orchards and nurseries between Kidnappers Lane to the south, the Newlands development to the east and Robinswood Field and the Local Green Space to the north.</p>	<p>Not publicly accessible and not designated within the Local green Space these four parcels of land including some previously developed areas now feature extensive trees and vegetation and form a significant part of Leckhampton's valued landscape clearly visible from the AONB. Identified as of medium (yellow) visual sensitivity in the the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process.</p>	<p>Any development in this area should respect its importance to the local landscape and protect existing trees and hedgerows which not only form an important rural aspect to the overall street- and landscape but also important and connected habitats for many species. The trees and hedgerows bordering Kidnappers Lane are important in lending the lane a green and rural feel and provide important and connected habitats for many species.</p>
14		<p>Green space and hedgerow between A46 Shurdington Road and Hawkswood Road near its junction with Woodlands Road</p>	<p>Stretch of land including open area of grass with pillar box and phone box, sheltered from the busy A46 by established trees & hedgerow along the north-east side.</p> <p>Current works in connection with the High School Leckhampton (https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2110145/the-high-school-leckhampton-highways-improvements-plan-2.pdf) will involve existing vegetation being cleared but replacement planting will be provided to landscape architect design.</p>	<p>The grassy area itself is an important green island for dog walkers and pedestrians on the northern Woodlands/Warden Hill side of the busy Shurdington Road.</p> <p>The trees and hedgerow provide important screening from the noise and pollution from the A46 not only for those using the green space but for the householders of Hawkswood Road, and will provide a habitat for different species.</p>



Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
15		<p>Network of connected green spaces, pathways and vegetation centred around footpath and right of way CHL20 (see GCC rights of way map, left) between and around Jasmin Way, Hidcote Avenue, Wisteria Court, Mimosa Avenue, Japonica Drive and Farmfield Road.</p>	<p>A well planned and well used set of green corridors including formal footpaths, areas of grass, trees and hedgerows right across this 20th century development and out to the A46 Shurdington Road to the south east, Champion Park to the south west, Jasmin Way to the west and Warden Hill to the north and connected to the much older established hedgerow and trees along Farmfield Road.</p>	<p>This is a pleasant, well-planned and integral part of this 20th century estate, providing safe car-free recreational spaces for children, and walking and cycling connections right across the estate and to neighbouring areas.</p> <p>Farmfield Road is an important part of the area's rural history, dating back at least to the 18th century as the original connection between Leckhampton and Hatherley farms and villages. This hedgerow along its southern side is one of the last remnants of this historic rural character (see also 16 below) and an important habitat for many species.</p>
16		<p>Hedgerow and connected green spaces south of Farmfield Road north of Lilac Close.</p>	<p>Old established hedgerow along the south side of Farmfield Road including grass verges and small open spaces and connected open green space with trees at the end of Lilac Close.</p>	<p>As set out in 15 above, Farmfield Road is an important part of the area's rural history and this hedgerow is one of the last remnants of this historic rural character and an important habitat for many species. The connected green spaces along Farmfield Road and at Lilac Close add green character to both and the latter provides a small green recreational open space in a built up area.</p>




Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
17		<p>Hedgerows and trees in and around fields and smallholdings designated “NE” during the JCS process, bounded by Moorend Stream and the old parish/NP boundary and the Shurdington Road to the north, the Local Green Space boundary along pathway CHL6 to the south and a small access road to the west.</p>	<p>A mixed area including smallholdings and some buildings and included in the MD4 policy area having been found acceptable for development by the JCS Inspector (“The areas I find acceptable for development correspond generally with the fields referenced NE, NW1, NW2, NW3 and NN in EXAM 121C”, Elizabeth Ord, Note of Recommendations, 21 July 2016).</p>	<p>The brook line, trees and hedgerows will all soften and mitigate the visual impact of MD4 development on the visual landscape. They provide important and connected habitats, including nationally recognised woodland habitats, which add to and link habitats within the Local Green Space and ultimately the AONB to the south and the continuing brook line connecting to Hatherley Brook and The Park to the north.</p>
		<p>For clarity, the area marked on the map, left, includes large areas of field and smallholding which are likely to be developed under Cheltenham Plan Policy MD4 but the green infrastructure referred to here are the trees and hedgerows.</p>	<p>The area nevertheless includes the western banks of the EA designated main river Moorend Stream (see EA map, left), trees and old hedgerows as well as a pleasantly sheltered and wooded pathway along its southern boundary.</p>	<p>Protecting this connectivity within future MD4 development as was proposed to some extent by Miller will preserve biodiversity.</p>
			<p>It also touches wooded and sheltered footpaths CHL6 (to the south, pictured, left) and CHL12 (to the east).</p>	<p>Preserving the wooded and sheltered pathways will protect unusually pleasant rural spaces for existing and new residents alike.</p>
			<p>The eastern brook line was protected in the plans by Miller Homes rejected in 2022 (see Miller’s map, left) but some connections and hedgerows would have been lost and the wooded pathways were not clearly protected.</p>	




Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
18		<p>Brizen Field, between Up Hatherley Way and the southern boundary of the parish and borough.</p>	<p>Playing field and green recreation space including youth centre/ community centre with car park, Multi Use Games Area, open green play area and playing field, surrounded by well established trees and hedges.</p> <p>Brizen Field is within the Cheltenham & Gloucester Green Belt so protected to some extent but included here for its combination of recreational value and trees and hedgerow habitats.</p>	<p>A safe, popular and accessible green recreation area for young people and children in particular including places to explore and connect with nature amongst the hedgerows and trees.</p> <p>The trees and hedgerows also provide habitats for many species.</p>
19		<p>St Christopher's Garden, Lincoln Avenue, Warden hill, opposite St Christopher's Church</p>	<p>A beautiful urban pocket garden maintained by local residents and featuring seating and raised beds</p>	<p>A brilliant example of urban gardening bringing beauty and biodiversity to a modern urban setting.</p>

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
20	See maps below	The Bournside Green Corridor, immediately south of the playing fields of Bournside School	0.76ha (1.88 acre) stretch of land between Bournside School and Canterbury Walk owned by Gloucestershire County Council, the former site of the railway line in Cheltenham. Trees and shrubs have recently been planted here to create a wildlife corridor in Warden Hill. Mixed native broadleaf trees including Hazel, Hawthorn, Beech and Oak trees have all been planted at the site as well as hedgerow plants. Though security concerns prevent this area being open for wider public access, it is planned for students from Bournside School who helped to plant the trees to continue to help maintenance of the area.	This will create habitats for wildlife and encourage biodiversity while helping to reduce our carbon footprint, provide a valuable green addition to the Warden Hill landscape and a connection to nature for the students of Bournside and perhaps neighbouring schools who help with its maintenance in future.



Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
	Otherwise protected green areas:			
		<p>Local Green Space designated in the Cheltenham Plan 2020 (definitive map from the Cheltenham Plan 2020 below left).</p>	<p>26 hectares of popular and accessible green space criss-crossed by rights of way, pathways and hedgerows, in places reflecting ancient field patterns and featuring important sources of biodiversity including well connected hedgerows, nationally recognised Priority Habitats, the banks of two watercourses and an abundance of wildlife including dormice, many species of bats, common toad, deer, butterflies, bank voles and many legally protected mammals and birds.</p> <p>The majority is rated as of high (red) visual sensitivity in the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process with two northernmost yields still rated as medium (yellow) sensitivity and ruled as inappropriate for development by the JCS Inspector (see 7 above). It forms the core of Leckhampton's valued landscape described in detail in the updated 2022 Landscape Character Assessment carried out by Lepus Consulting.</p>	<p>Already protected</p>
			<p>Protected as Local Green Space under the National Planning Policy Framework.</p>	

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
		<p>Allotments between footpath CHL28 to the west and Leckhampton primary School playing fields to the east.</p>	<p>Well used allotments in local food production with adjacent trees and vegetation and part of a large connected area of green space including the Local Green Space and Leckhampton Primary School within the NP area and Burrow's Field beyond it. Identified as medium (yellow) visual sensitivity in the Landscape & Visual Sensitivity and Urban Design Report carried out for the JCS process (see 7 above). Protected by Policy C13 of the Cheltenham Plan.</p>	<p>Already protected</p>
		<p>AONB at Daisybank, south of Pilley, bounded by the AONB boundary to the north and west and the parish boundary to the east and south (see Defra AONB boundary map below).</p>	<p>Fields, trees and hedgerows on the slopes of Leckhampton Hill below Daisybank Road all within the AONB and so directly protected under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the National Planning Policy Framework, JCS and AONB Management Plan.</p>	<p>Already protected</p>
		<p>AONB around St Peter's Church and Leckhampton Court south of Collum End Rise, bounded by the AONB boundary to the north and the parish boundary to the south. (see Defra AONB boundary map below).</p>	<p>Fields and woodland on the slopes of Leckhampton Hill around the listed Leckhampton Court and St Peter's Church all within the AONB and so directly protected under the the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the National Planning Policy Framework, JCS and AONB Management Plan.</p>	<p>Already protected</p>

Number on map	Picture	Name/location	Description	Importance/reasons for protection
				
		<p>Warden Hill Primary School playing fields</p>	<p>Playing fields are protected under the National Planning Policy framework (paragraph 99, 2021).</p>	<p>Already protected</p>
		<p>Weaver's Field and Warden Hill</p>	<p>Hill, hedgerows & public open space in Warden Hill. Listed as Public Green Space in Cheltenham Plan 2020 and protected by saved policies from LP2006 GE2. Weaver's Field was saved from being turned into allotments in 2012 by local residents and a petition of protest by 1020 residents. The Field now has QEII (Queen Elizabeth II) status and is protected permanently as a local green space. The monument stone was hewn in the Forest of Dean and is seated at the peak of Weaver's Field.</p>	<p>Already protected</p>