

Bristol Walking Alliance (BWA) supports the guiding principles listed in the survey on Mead Street regeneration during the consultation ending 7 January 2022. We comment in particular on the travel and place-making opportunities.

Guiding Principles

We strongly support the four guiding principles for Mead Street regeneration listed in the survey:

1. Making it a place people want to live and work, are proud of and which is representative of the community that live there.
2. Providing better routes for sustainable travel.
3. Quality Places: Public Realm, Place-Making and a Sustainable and Low Carbon Neighbourhood.
4. Quality spaces: Green space at the heart of the new neighbourhood and ecological enhancements.

Travel

In particular, we agree with the desire to make this a neighbourhood that is based on sustainable travel, with minimal motor traffic and parking. We therefore support the creation of an active travel route via Mead Street, providing a segregated pedestrian and cycle way along its length and connection through to an active travel route being considered for Whitehouse Street.

We also support improvements to St Luke's Road, with widening of footways, and other measures to improve north-south connectivity, including improving accessible pedestrian connections across York Road and, we hope in the future, across the New Cut.

However, this development will add to the footfall to and from Temple Meads Station. It will increase the need to improve the pedestrian route to Temple Meads and the extremely poor pedestrian connection across Bath Bridges via the inadequate shared pedestrian/cycle route on the footway.

If Mead Street is also to be considered as a mass transit route, it will be important to ensure sufficient width to allow clear segregation between buses, cycles/scooters and pedestrians, and to allow pedestrian-priority crossings along its length.

It seems likely there will need to be a new lights-controlled junction from Mead Street onto Bath Road, in which case it should include a single-stage pedestrian/cycle crossing of Bath Road.

Local Neighbourhood

To ensure this area is an attractive, healthy neighbourhood, we encourage active frontages, green infrastructure including a large central green open space, trees and other greenery, and seating in an accessible and friendly public realm around community facilities.