

## 9.10 Old City



- 9.10.1** The Old City neighbourhood is the historic core of the city, comprising the mediaeval walled city and the area around Queen Square, bounded by the Floating Harbour and culverted River Frome. Old City is an important destination for visitors to the city, both in its own right as an historic quarter of the city centre and also because of its cultural and leisure offer. The neighbourhood includes the thriving St. Nicholas' Market and a major performance venue in the Bristol Old Vic. Old City is also home to the Arnolfini gallery and Architecture Centre. The neighbourhood is a significant focus for the evening economy, particularly in the Centre, Corn Street, Baldwin Street, King Street and Welsh Back.
- 9.10.2** Old City is extensively developed, but there remain a small number of gap sites and other sites where existing buildings are expected to come forward for redevelopment within the Central Area Plan period.
- 9.10.3** The High Street, Wine Street and Castle Park area discussed above (Policy BCAP37) lies partly in Old City.

### Policy BCAP44: The Approach to Old City

- 9.10.4** Although there are sites of strategic significance in Old City neighbourhood, the role of Old City in the wider city centre is set out in Chapters 3-5 and 7-9 (including Policies BCAP26 and 37). The approach to Old City neighbourhood reflects the area's existing character and these policies.

Development will be expected to preserve, enhance and, where appropriate, reinstate Old City's historic character, particularly in its scale and massing, grain and the choice of materials used, and should contribute where appropriate to the reinstatement of historic routes through the area.

Development will be expected to reduce the impact of traffic on the area and support the growth of independent retail at St. Nicholas' Market and St. Mary-le-Port.

- 9.10.5** This approach will continue to allow a wide variety of uses to develop in the area, while retaining a requirement for development to respond to the historic context, including reinstating the historic grain of the area where it has been eroded. Small business units will be promoted rather than large format buildings. Street improvements delivered through the emerging City Centre Public Realm and Movement Framework will have a key role to play in supporting this approach.

## Policy BCAP SA4: Site Allocations in Old City

The sites listed below and shown on the Policies Map will be developed in accordance with the accompanying development considerations set out in the *Annex: City Centre Site Allocations* and other relevant policies of the Local Plan.

- SA401 Disused transit sheds at Welsh Back / Redcliffe Way
- SA402 Broad Quay House / Narrow Quay House, Broad Quay / Prince Street
- SA403 Old Seaman's Chapel, Royal Oak Avenue, fronting Prince Street
- SA404 Gap site, 16 Narrow Quay
- SA405 Harris Wharf, Farris Lane

### Policy Links

#### Bristol Local Plan Core Strategy – Key Policies

- BCS2: Bristol City Centre
- BCS7: Centres and Retailing
- BCS8: Delivering a Thriving Economy
- BCS9: Green infrastructure
- BCS10: Transport and Access Improvements
- BCS21: Quality Urban Design

## 9.11 Broadmead



- 9.11.1 The approach to the Broadmead neighbourhood (Bristol Shopping Quarter) is set out in Policies BCAP36-39.