



Bristol European Green Capital 2015 Monthly Report: May 2015

1. This monthly report has been prepared for the Department for Energy and Climate Change following the award of £7m grant funding to Bristol City Council to help deliver Bristol European Green Capital 2015.
2. As requested, this short report focuses on spend to date, key milestones and risk register.

SPEND TO DATE

3. The table below summarises spend to date.

	Forecast	Spend to date
Summits	1,700,000	607,243
Green Tech	1,400,000	352,101
Schools Programme	1,000,000	340,124
Neighbourhood Programme (Grants & Funding)	2,000,000	
- Local funding		192,214
- Strategic/Small/Neighbourhood Grants		1,929,137
Bristol Welcome:	650,000	
- Volunteers		133,477
- Neighbourhood Arts Programme		108,224
- City Dressing		75,552
- Opening Events		277,882
Bristol Method	250,000	65,048
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	7,000,000	4,081,002

4. Total forecast spend remains £7m.
5. BCC and Bristol 2015 Ltd are finalising their joint review of the current allocation of DECC funding and commercial sponsorship to ensure that resources are made available to support the development, production and curation of the cities pavilion at the Paris COP21. As agreed in the Memorandum of Understanding, we will be seeking DECC approval in July to re-profile the budget against current themes/activities. We are keen to continue close discussion with DECC and FCO over the coming months, to ensure that the cities presence supports UK Government messages and priorities.

KEY MILESTONES

6. The Bristol [Walking Festival](#), Britain's largest urban walking festival, returned for a third year. This ran throughout May with over 150 walks from 60 organisations.

All walks had easy-to-follow grading and descriptions, with most offered free of charge.

7. [Food Connections](#) took place from 1st – 9th May. A key food event for Bristol in 2015, this comprised over 130 events all over the city divided into six themes: land and growing, wellbeing, feasting and festivities, get cooking, brain food and families. The event highlighting existing food projects happening across the city and showcased some of the small changes that can have a real impact on health, environment and local economy. The event also hosted the BBC [Food and Farming Awards](#)
8. The Bristol 2015 [Schools Programme](#) launched on 1st May. This is a three year programme of work which will be available to schools nationally. Initially Primary and special schools across Bristol have been invited to take part in free sustainability workshops covering our five themes (food, nature, energy, transport, resources). The workshops are delivered by specialists working in the city and to date over 5,500 children have participated. An online platform will be launched later in the year to provide teaching resources. In July an online critical thinking game will be launched. This has been developed with the creative team at Aardman Animations and features Shaun the Sheep.
9. [Filwood Green Business Park](#) launched on 28th May. This is a flagship project for Bristol City Council during EU Green Capital year. The £12m business park for small and medium sized businesses in South Bristol is the first of its type in the region to be built to the 'BREEAM Outstanding' environmental and sustainability standards.
10. Briefs for the remaining eight [Neighbourhood Arts](#) Commissions are now live and the deadline for proposals is 8th June 2015.
11. EuroparlTV, the web TV channel of the European Parliament, visited Bristol in March to report on our year as European Green Capital. The resulting film is now available to view on their [website](#)
12. June sees a number of events including:
 - Bristol presence at [EU Green Week](#) in Brussels (3rd – 5th June)
 - [Venturefest Bristol & Bath](#) (9th June)
 - [Festival of Nature](#) (13th – 14th June)
 - Bristol's [Big Green Week](#) #lovethefuture (13th – 21st June)
 - EU 2017 Awards & Gala dinner (17th – 18th June)
 - [Bristol Skyride](#) (21st June)
 - IMCL Conference on [Achieving Green Healthy Cities](#) (29th June – 3rd July)
13. We will be providing a mid-year update on the progress of our grant funded initiatives in a future report. Following our April report the Energy Tree project have produced a short [video](#).
14. A summary of May media coverage is included as Appendix A

15. Details and copies of May media coverage are included as Appendix B.

RISK REGISTER

16. Key programme risks and mitigations are set out in the table below.

Risk	Mitigation
There is a risk that some of the key Bristol City Council projects, whilst Green, are controversial, (e.g. Metrobus) leading to negative publicity	<i>Ongoing risk which we continue to monitor.</i>
There is a risk that we will be challenged by organisations who are unsuccessful in the grant application process, leading to additional work to respond, and negative publicity	<i>1. Cabinet reviewed and agreed the Strategic Grants process and resulting awards made on 16 December 2. Existing appeals process is available. Update May 15. Of the two formal appeals received both were investigated by a senior officer unrelated to the original process who did not find in favour of the appellant.</i>
There is a risk that some of the activities organised for European Green Capital year will create ongoing liabilities for Bristol City Council	<i>Ensure contracts and agreements do not include ongoing liability for BCC without agreement</i>
There is a risk that that there is not enough budget available to fully support activities leading to, and during, COP21 where Bristol will have a presence, meaning the opportunity may not be fully utilised.	<i>Fully costed proposals being developed in discussion with ICLEI and BCC international office. Discussions continue with 2015 Ltd to identify potential sources of funding.2015</i>
There is a risk that the proposed dates for the handover ceremony may need to be adjusted to avoid clashes with the sitting of the EU parliament (December)	<i>Discussions continue with EU and Ljubljana regarding handover ceremony. It is looking increasingly likely this will be held in 2016 in Brussels.</i>

Appendix A: Summary of May media coverage – attached

Appendix B: Details of May media coverage - attached

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