



Noise, Quiet Areas and Citizen Engagement

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Quiet Areas: Paris
12th February 2010

Neighbourhoods

Pollution Control

Slide 1





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The SILENCE Project

- EU integrated Research Project (FP6)
 - 43 Partners
 - 15.8 million Euros
 - Finished Jan 2008
- Develop technologies and methods for control of urban surface transport noise
- Bristol's role:
 - Show impact of traffic management on noise through noise mapping
 - Support publication of [guidance](#) for Noise Action Plans



Practitioner Handbook for

Local Noise Action Plans



Recommendations from the SILENCE project



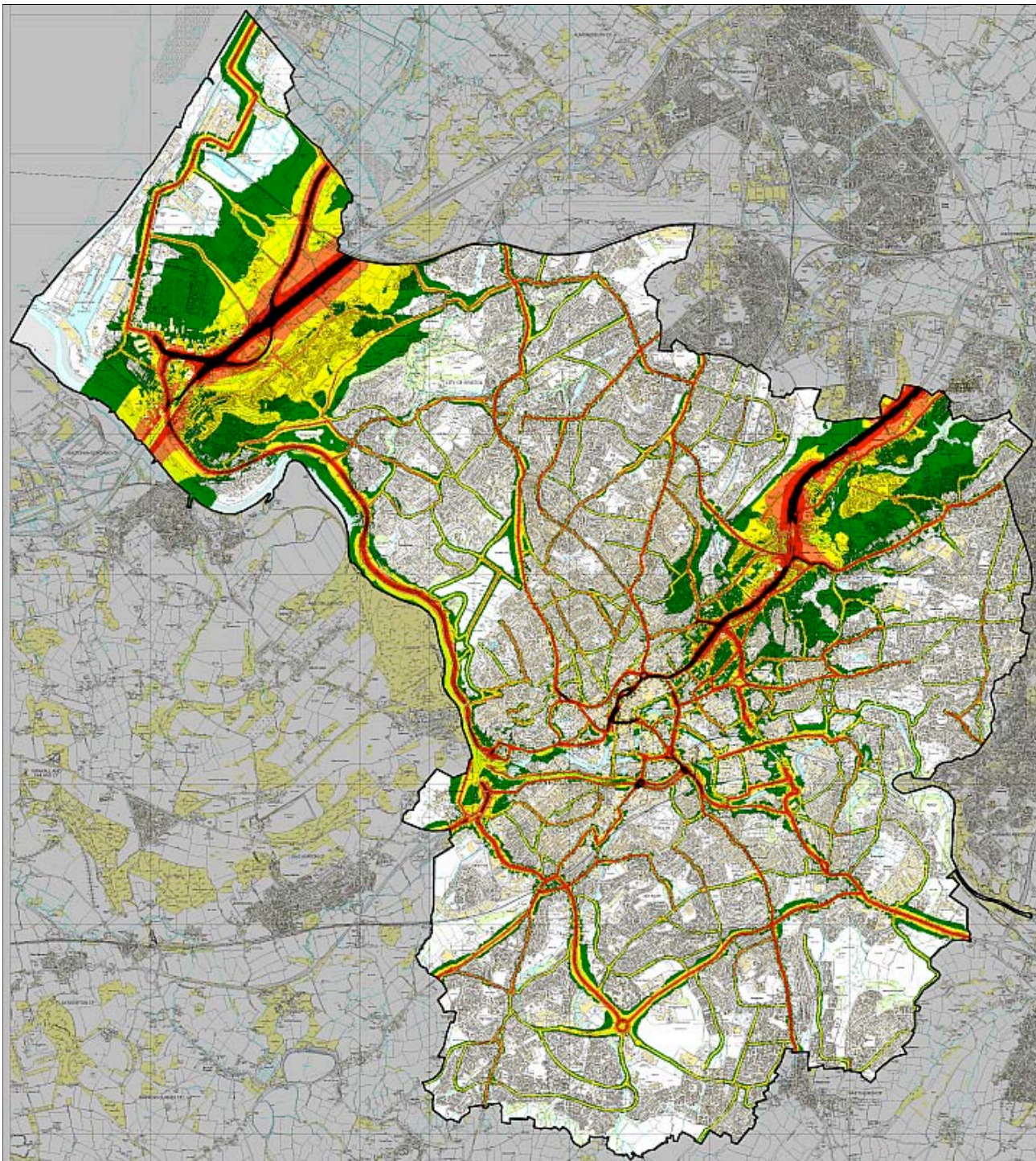
SILENCE is an Integrated Project co-funded by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Programme for Research & Sustainable Development, Global Change and Society themes.



www.silence-ip.org/

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Noise level (Lden) at 4m grid height 10m cell size



The Citizenscape Project

- Purpose – To: “Integrate and test Web 2.0 social networking ICT tools to encourage citizens to engage with the implementation of EU environmental legislation at a local level”
- Funded by European Parliament under eParticipation stream
- Discussions should be “citizen led”
- Online and offline methods
- City - wide activity but outreach for “seldom heard” communities in South Bristol

The Citizenscape Project



- Partners

- Bristol City Council
- Genoa
- Donegal
- Zilina
- Public – i
- National Microelectronics Centre, Eire (Project Leaders)

Neighbourhoods

Pollution Control

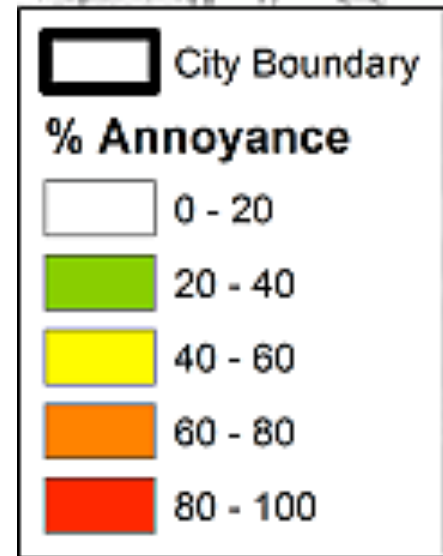
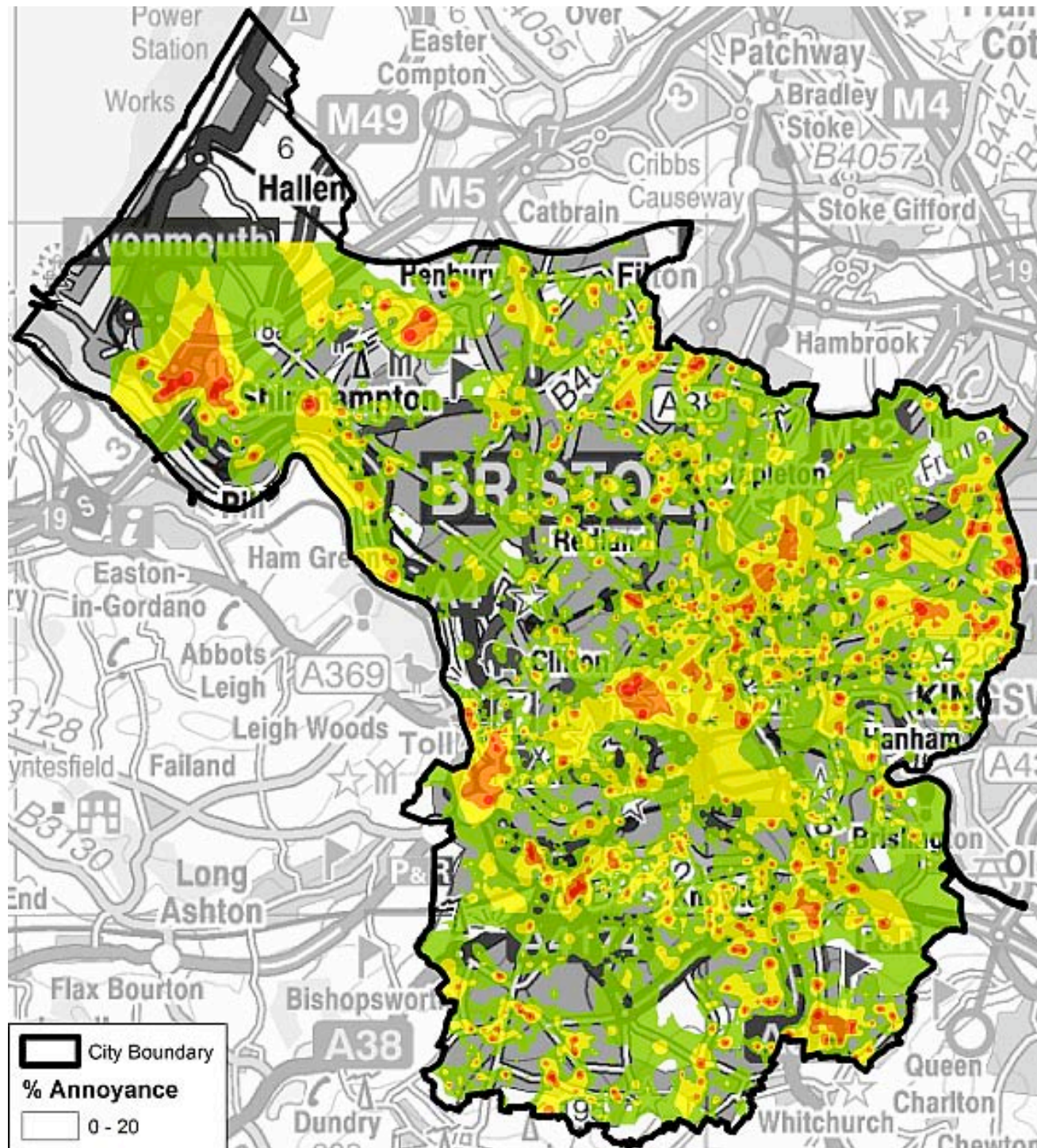
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The Citizenscape Project – Why Noise?

- Requirement in Citizenscape for discussion on EU Environmental Legislation – END is well defined
- Build on success of SILENCE
- Aspiration to continue work on traffic noise, but no funding
- Need to consult in Noise Action Plans
- Mismatch between reported perception of noise and complaints





45% Annoyed by traffic noise (2006 – 2008)





Engagement Methods (Bristol)

ONLINE

- AskBristol.com – noise discussion
- YouTube videos
- Vox – pops
- Blogs
- Interactive Google Map for quiet areas

OFFLINE

- Community Facilitators - outreach
- Partnership with Knowle West Media Centre
- Noise survey by MSc Student

bristolstreets.co.uk

home close my stuff envt. quiet notes comments add place

Citizenscape Quiet Places

follow new comments via rss.

4.0 - 55.0	65.1 - 70.0
55.1 - 60.0	70.0 - 75.0
60.1 - 65.0	75.1 - 88.0

Colours show intensity of noise on map, units in "Lden", click here for more information

Overlay

Noise Map (Road & Rail 2005)

Marker Types (all on)/(all off)

Quiet Places

Could Be Quiet

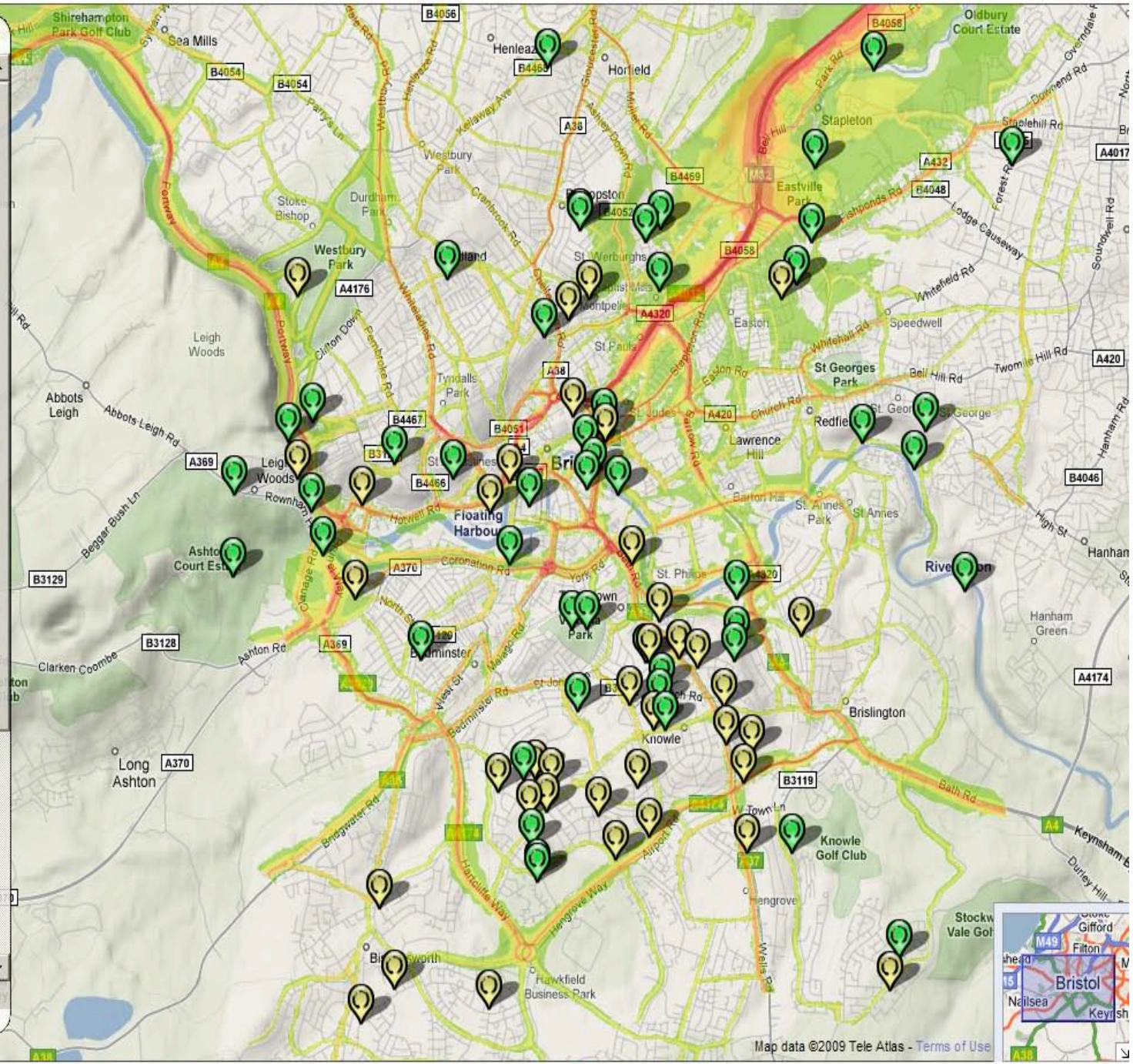
show markers by area

The checkboxes above determine what is shown on the map.

Click on the map to tell everyone about the quiet spaces in Bristol that you like to visit.

Also tell us about places that might be quiet if certain measures were taken.

The noise map overlay only covers



Map data ©2009 Tele Atlas - Terms of Use







BRISTOL NOISE


A BLOG ON THE EFFORTS BEING MADE IN BRISTOL TO REDUCE TRAFFIC NOISE.

TUESDAY, 12 JANUARY 2010

Praise for noise work in Bristol from MEP

Our regional MEP, Graham Watson has praised work done in Bristol to involve local communities in discussions about traffic noise. Mr. Watson recognised the importance of developing new approaches to consultation like those used in the [Citizenscape](#) project. He also encouraged efforts to tackle traffic noise and acknowledged the importance of a quieter city in the context of Bristol's aspirations to be a [Green Capital](#) in Europe.






The full press release is available from [Graham Watson's website](#).

POSTED BY STEVE CRAWSHAW AT 11:46 0 COMMENTS 

LABELS: [BRISTOL NOISE](#), [CITIZENSCAPE](#), [EU](#), [GRAHAM WATSON](#), [MEP](#)



BRISTOL \ NOISE BLOGS

-  **Bristol Traffic**
Schoolkid build-outs for Colston Primary School
17 hours ago
-  **Vowles the Green in Knowle**
Zero Meals Per Gallon...
17 hours ago
-  **Green Bristol Blog**
The Railway Path - Before and After
5 days ago
-  **Working Group Noise Eurocities**
Tyre labelling EU
1 month ago
-  **Bristol Cycling City**
Good morning Bristol!
8 months ago

About:

Make some noise about noise.

Noise pollution is a source of annoyance for 35% of people in Bristol. As well as being annoying, noise causes sleep problems and stress, which can lead to other health problems.

This website pulls together online resources on traffic noise, to raise awareness and find out what you think. This will inform Bristol's response to the [European Noise Directive](#). You can:

- Find out more about noise pollution
- Tell us how it affects you
- Suggest how to reduce noise
Tell us about quiet places in the city
- Your views will help us to implement the noise action plan for Bristol

[more >](#)

Pledge:

Why not start a pledge to do your

Map: Plot your quiet places here. (click map to open)



bristolstreets.co.uk | [quiet layer](#)

Great quiet area with views ov...

2009-09-23T15:55:58+01:00

Great quiet area with views over the city

Katie Taylor

[View On Map](#)

A great escape from the office...

Join up:

**JOIN UP &
ASK** 

If you have any feedback on this site email citizenscape@bristol.gov.uk

Film:



To see vox pops of people in Bristol talking about noise pollution visit the [council's youtube site](#)

Webcasts:

Bristol City Council

What's On

Citizenscape Results

- >100 postings on AskBristol
- 203 quiet / not quiet places on Bristolstreets
 - Good response from touch screen in shopping mall for Bristolstreets: ~30 in a week
- 197, 347 and 976 YouTube views (3 viral videos)
- Blog – 2 comments
- Online poll – 6 responses
- No petitions set up





Citizenscape Conclusions

- What went well
 - Interactive Map
 - Video
 - AskBristol
- Some Challenges
 - Engaging Councillors (time/diary)
 - Influence on Noise Action Planning process is uncertain
 - Is traffic noise interesting enough to stimulate engagement?



Thousands sign petition after Bristol cat eaten by snake next door

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 07:00

 20 readers have commented on this story.
[Click here to read their views.](#)

More than 4,000 people have signed a petition for tougher laws on snake owners, started by a Bristol man whose cat was eaten by a python.

Martin Wadey's pet Wilbur was eaten alive by his neighbour Darren Bishop's 13ft snake Squash earlier this year.

The story made global headlines in the summer after Mr Wadey, 44, of Brislington, started an online campaign in memory of his lost pet.

'Justice for Wilbur' called for changes to the law as constrictors like Burmese python Squash are not covered by the Dangerous Wild Animals Act (DWAA) and so owners do not need a licence.

So far, there are 4,637 electronic signatures on the e-petition to 10 Downing Street to introduce "Wilbur's amendment", ahead of the deadline on October 24.



Related content



[Justice for Wilbur campaign](#)

Ads by Google

[Bristol Wasp Control](#)

0 - 1 Hour Emergency Service
Wasps Nests Removed and
Destroyed

www.bristolwaspscontrol.com



Citizenscape Conclusions

- Overcoming cynicism about outcomes from consultation
- Noise needs to be raised up the political agenda
- Web 2.0 offers benefits for consultation but dual online and offline approach is still required
- Did we really reach the “Seldom Heard”?



Quiet Areas Pilot Study

- Building on success of Citizenscape
- Process
 - Internal BCC stakeholders and Defra
 - Identify Quiet Areas
 - Political approval
 - Consult
 - Options for management/protection
 - Incorporate in Noise Action Plan (+ Strategic Plans)
- Show good practice/template for identifying Quiet Areas elsewhere in UK

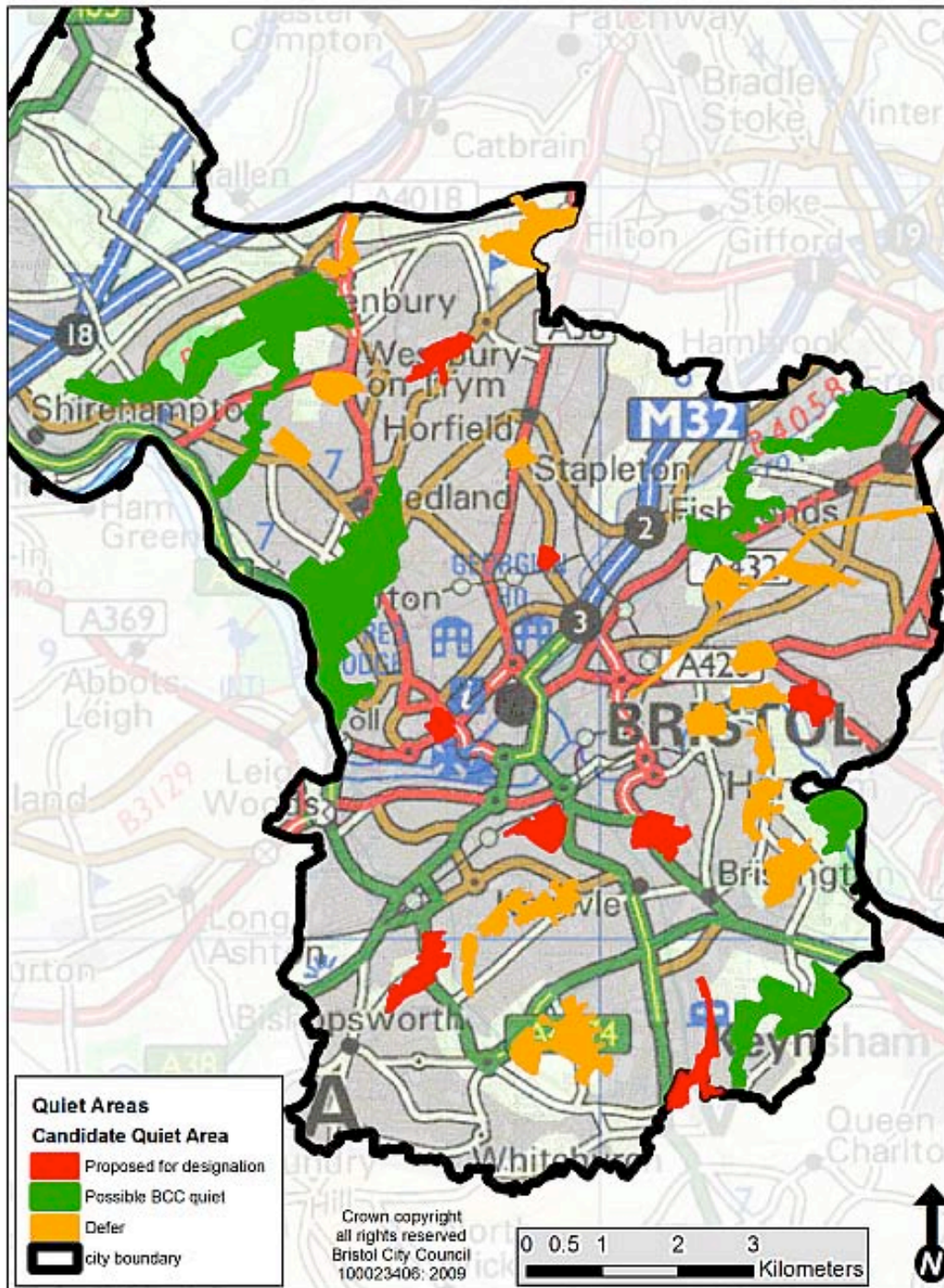
Key Criteria for Proposal

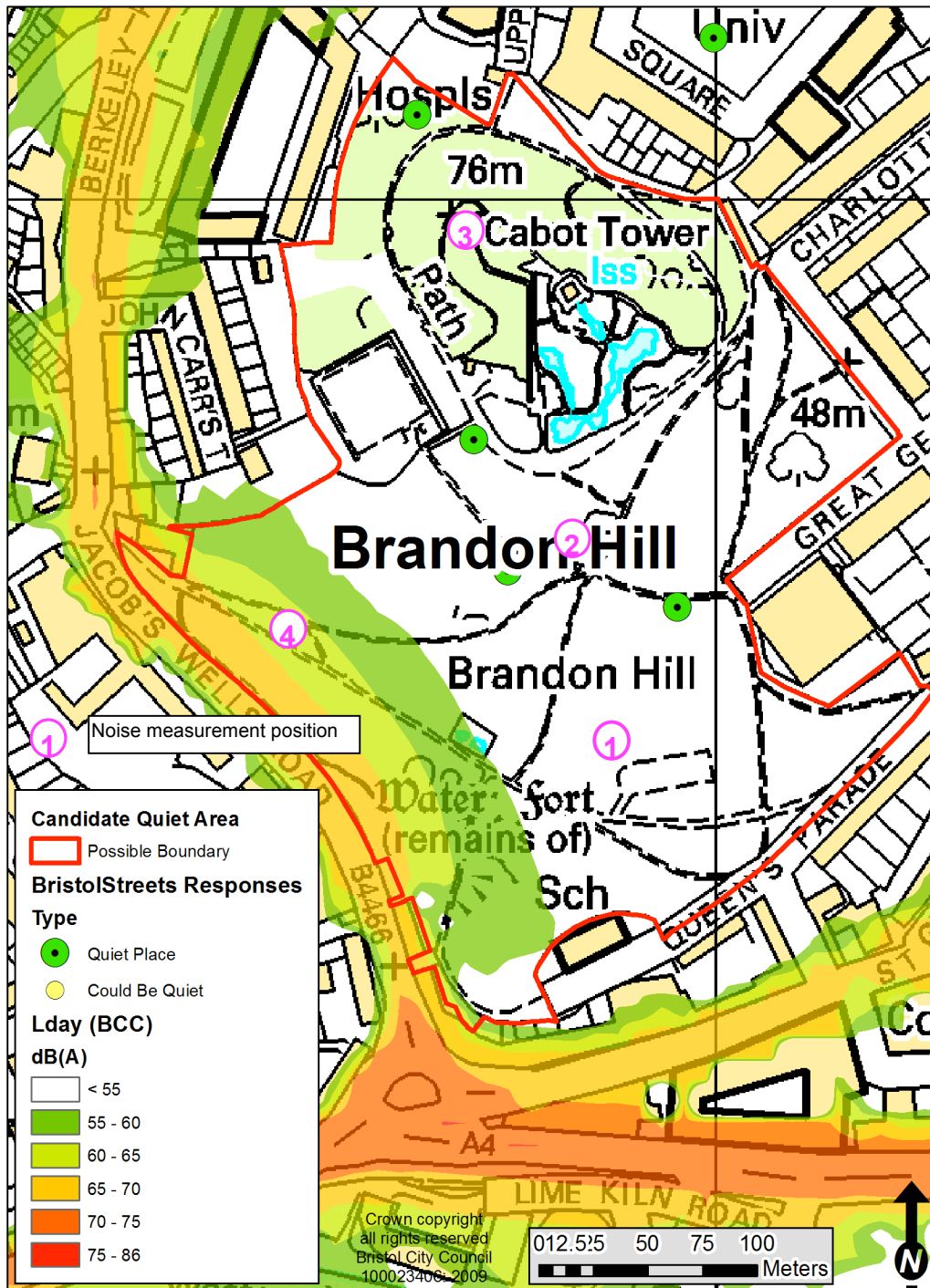
- TRL guidance (>9Ha, <55 dB(A) L_{day})
 - Noise measurements to confirm mapping
- Accessibility
 - Distribution across city
- Quality
 - Determined by Parks Department
- Development Plans
 - Strategic Planning Framework
- Local Considerations
 - Bristolstreets nominations
 - Activity in local groups for each area

Possible Quiet Areas in Bristol

Types of Open Space

- Cemetery
- Small formal park
- Large formal park
- Former mining area
- Nature reserve
- Cycle route





Possible Quiet Area
- city centre park



Conclusions

- Much of our work was supported by European Projects
- UK policy on Noise (and Quiet) is still emerging
- Bristol's work is helping inform policy
- Citizen engagement will be key to protecting quiet areas
- What can we learn from colleagues in Europe?



Thank You

Neighbourhoods

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