

Environment Group

Responsibilities

The Environment group is responsible for maintaining the quality of both the built and physical environments of the Borough, from cleaning the streets to conserving our historic buildings. The group contributes to the vision as set out in “Our future, our choice”, which is the community plan for Cheltenham, with particular reference to meeting the priorities of an attractive and safe town, safe and accessible transport and providing a healthy environment.

There are two divisions within the group:

- Built environment - which is responsible for development control planning, planning appeals, urban design, listed building consents and conservation, building control, dangerous structures, and housing enabling.
- Operations – The Operations Division was established earlier this year when the previous divisions of Environmental Maintenance and Green Environment were amalgamated. The new division is responsible for refuse collection, recycling, street and open space cleaning, public conveniences, abandoned vehicles, as well as parks and open spaces, cemetery and crematorium, allotments, trees and grass verges.

Issues

The group works to protect and enhance the infrastructure that makes the town attractive, including protecting and enriching its architecture, parks, gardens and open spaces. Through the planning process the group ensures that new buildings are well designed and they improve the appearance of the town.

The Council has adopted a Civic Pride approach to the town centre in order to efficiently co-ordinate the physical redevelopment of key vacant sites which are in it's ownership.

This substantial project is now about to embark on the delivery of these aspirations, and to transform central Cheltenham through traffic reduction measures, and the construction of high quality mixed use forms of development.

The Borough Council recognises that the quality of the whole town environment is vitally important to the economic wellbeing of the town.

It is not only a significant factor for local residents but also for those who work within the Borough and the many visitors it greets each year.