

Oxford Street Proposals May 2026

- **Introduction**

Outline proposal for Oxford St BS2

Proposers:

Forest Bakery
Full Court Press
Little Martha Brewing
The Pasty Emporium
Unwin's Brewery

Supporters:

Bristol Business Improvement District (BID)
University of Bristol
The Urbanists

- **Vision**
- **3 key asks**
- **Analysis**
- **Precedents**
- **Short/Long term interventions**
- **FAQs**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions?**

Context + Study Area

Bristol



theurbanists

500 m



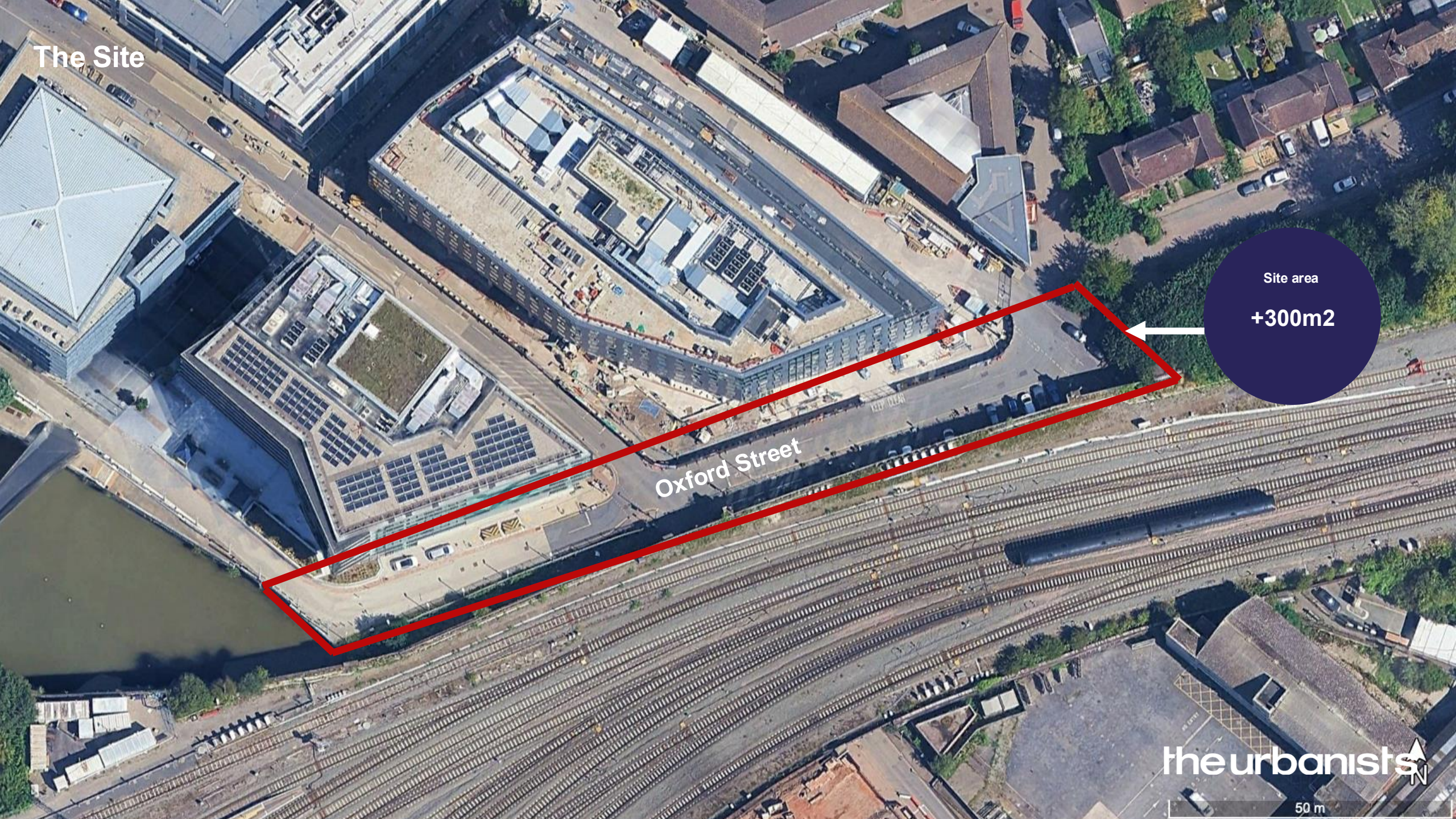
The Site

Oxford Street

Site area
+300m²

theurbanists

50 m





26

FOREST BAKERY

MARKET ARCHES
- COMMUNITY HUB

theurbanists

This proposal consists of three key asks:

1. For Oxford Street to be recognised as an important urban high street for the Temple Quarter and Dings areas.
2. For changes to be made to the Bristol City Council owned highway to enable more outdoor seating and trading space for the businesses, creating a destination high street.
3. For Arch Company to progress the renovation of the 6 remaining arches to the west of Avon Street to further elevate the street.

Short Term Changes

We recognise that our long-term vision will take time and significant investment.

In the short term we ask that Bristol City Council can support us with:

- restricting the highway to one-way
- narrowing the carriageway through planters and surface dressing
- improve wayfinding

Bristol BID are keen to support these changes through investment in planters, parklets and artwork.

Why?

- Improvement to existing trading areas
- Attractiveness
- Dwell time
- Safer for pedestrians and cyclists
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Support residents
- Support independent businesses

Local Context + Photo Analysis



Glass Wharf



Glass Wharf / Oxford Street



Oxford Street



Oxford Street



Oxford Street - various










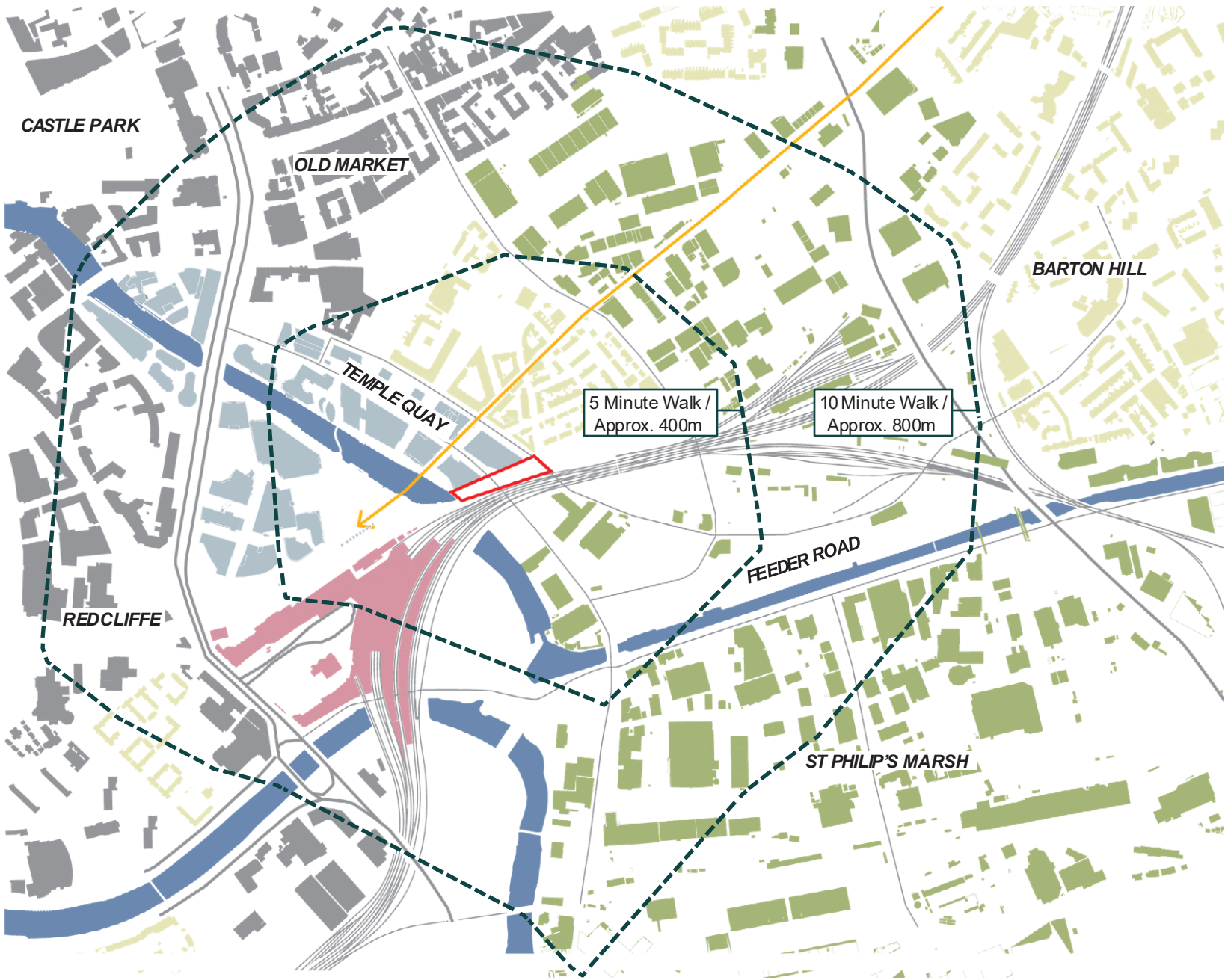
Analysis

This work has kindly provided by **the urbanists**,
based locally in Temple Studios, Bristol

Land-use

KEY

-  Site Boundary
-  Temple Meads Station
-  Industrial
-  Commercial
-  Residential
-  Mixed Use / Undefined
-  River
-  Bristol to Bath Cycle Route
-  Walkable Catchment Area



Precedents

Precedent Studies - Industrial Reimagination



Battersea Brewery



Deptford Market Yard, London



Loughborough Junction, London



Borough Yards, London



Greengate, Salford, Manchester



Hoxton, London



Wood Lane Arches, London



Jagtgatan, Stockholm, Sweden

Precedent Studies – Shared Spaces



Princess Victoria Street, Clifton Village



Cotham Hill, Bristol



New Road, Brighton



Broad Street, Bristol



De Laat, Alkmaar, Netherlands



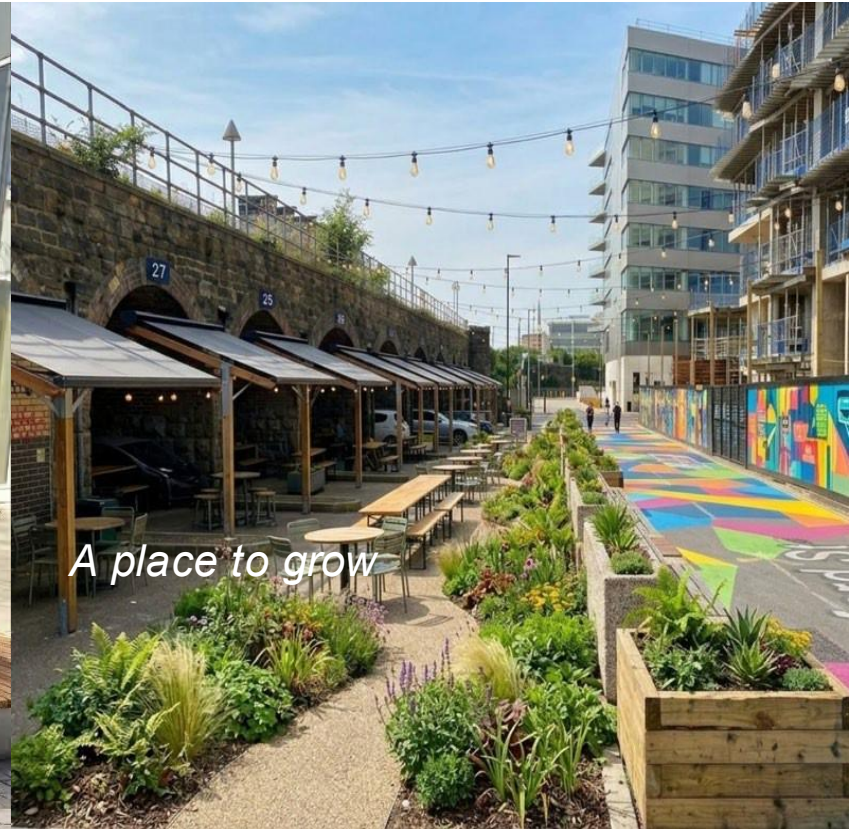
Exhibition Road, London

CGIs

Oxford Street - A healthy street



Oxford Street - A place to grow



Oxford Street - A meanwhile and long-term destination



Oxford Street / Glass Wharf – The existing street



The current street



Security railings removed

Oxford Street / Glass Wharf – A vibrant future

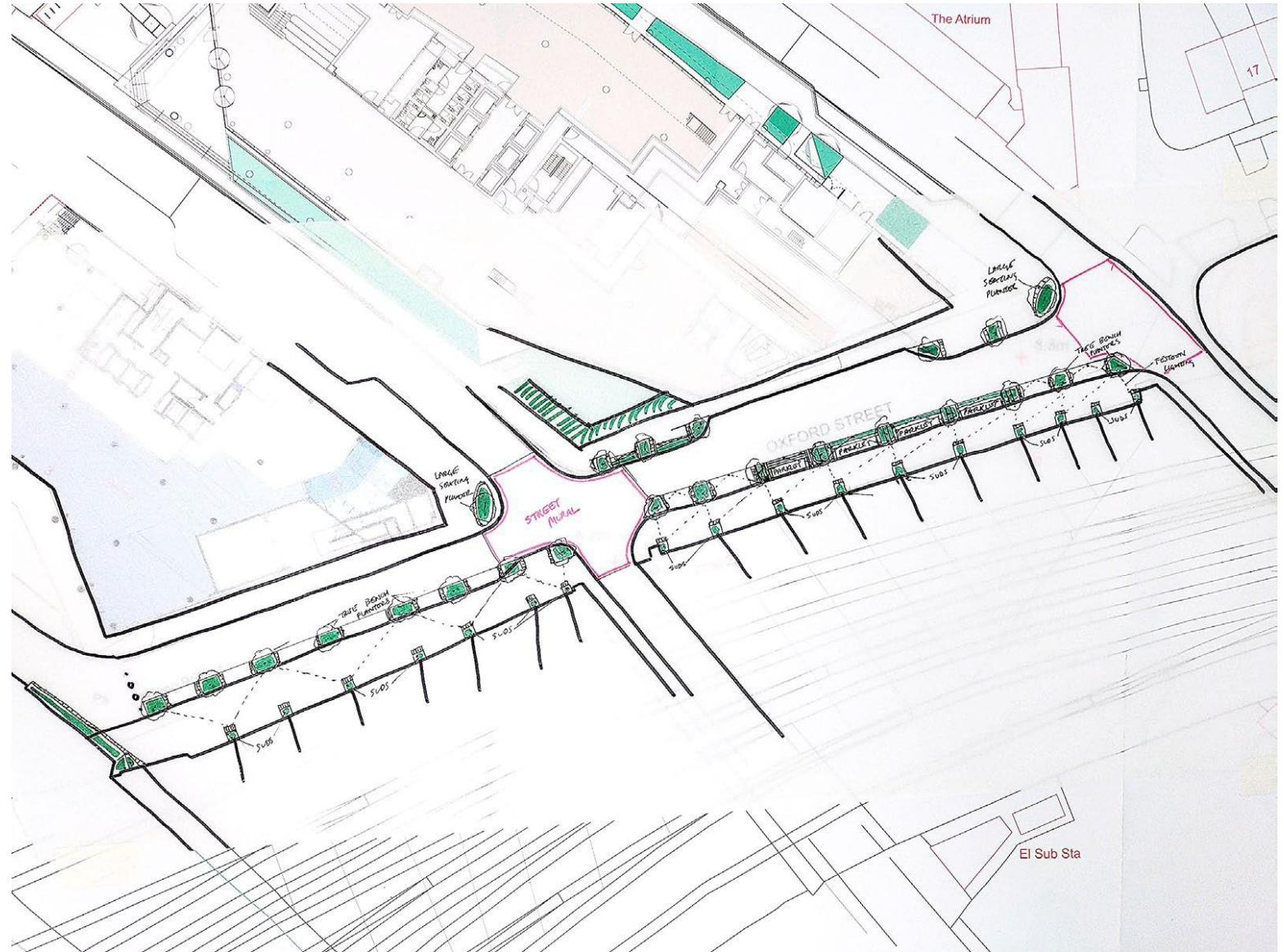


Introduction of local business, greening, SuDS and activation

Early thoughts

Shorter Term Option

- Road width reduced, a one-way system implemented to allow for necessary access, potential trial of fixed pedestrian only hours
- Moveable & modular planters for shrubs and small trees with integrated bench seating define arch frontages and serve building corner units
- Parklets create an extended frontage to units for retail or dining space
- Festoon lighting running between planters and arches provides an unobtrusive and elegant lighting scheme
- Street murals at key road junctions create a fun, community-led, low-impact precedent for pedestrian awareness / active travel

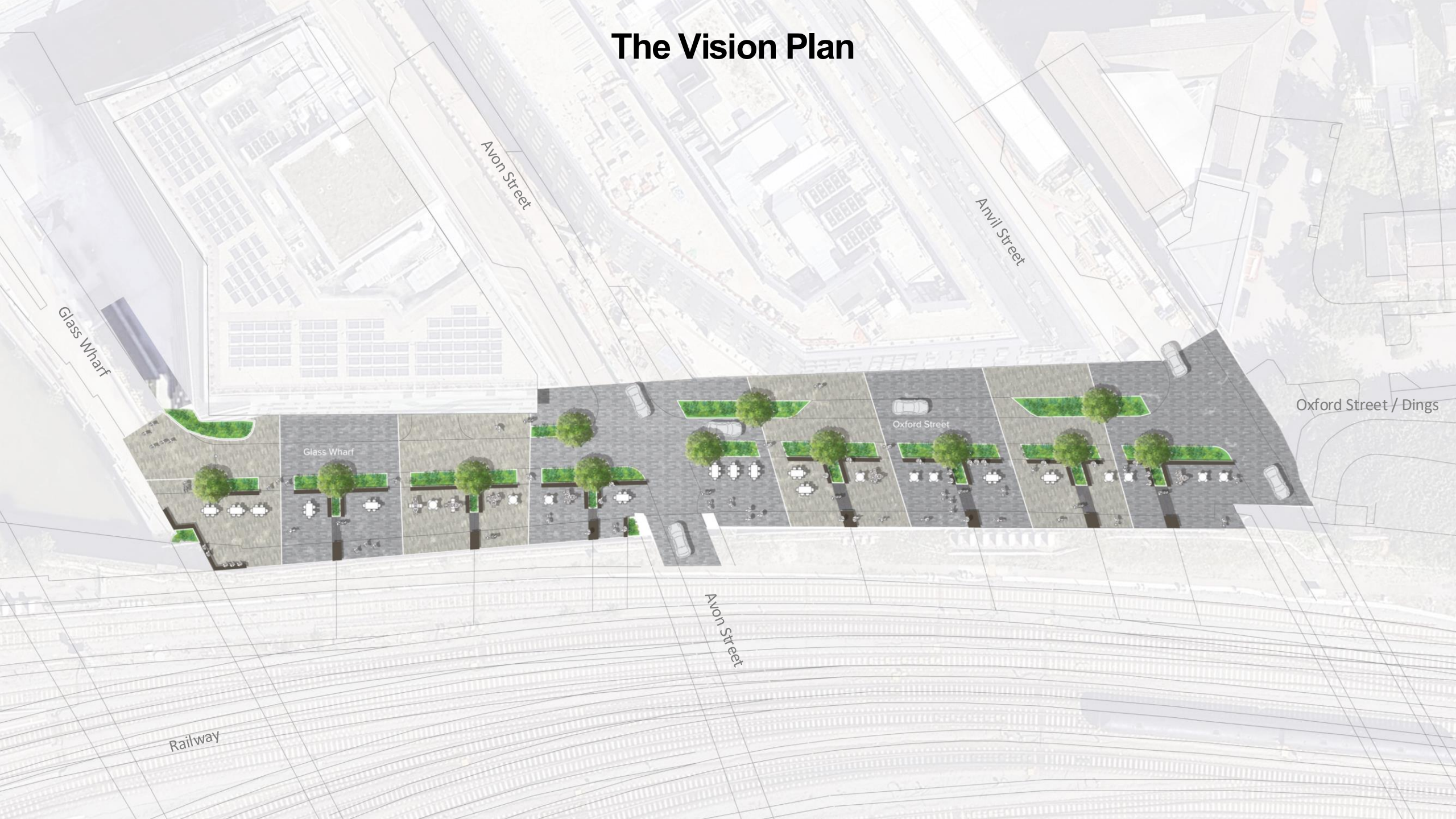


Longer Term Option

- New shared surface paving scheme with a reduced width for vehicles, a one-way system implemented to allow for necessary access at set hours
- Permanent hardscaped planters for shrubs and trees with integrated bench seating define arch frontages and serve building corner units, with modular usage at varying times of the day to help facilitate a constant hub of activity
- SuDS scheme incorporating rain gardens to enhance biodiversity & manage drainage
- Paving to front of arches is extended by approx. 2-3m, maximising space for retail and dining
- Contemporary lighting scheme throughout helps create a defined sense of place and further promotes commercial activity beyond daylight hours
- Distinct Oxford Street brand will be celebrated through signage, wayfinding & art scheme, with street art, sculptures and heritage features visible from beyond the arches



The Vision Plan



Avon Street

Anvil Street

Glass Wharf

Glass Wharf

Oxford Street

Oxford Street / Dings

Railway

Avon Street

FAQ

What about vehicle access?

Maintained for service vehicles & deliveries and access to the Welcome Bldg – restricted to northbound

Who owns the arches?

Network Rail retain the freehold with The Arch Co having a long lease agreed

Who owns/manages the roads?

Avon St Northern side - Bristol City Council (adopted highway)
Avon St Southern side – Bristol City Council (partially adopted highway)
Managed by Avison Young & Workman

Any previous road closures?

East Bristol Brewery Trail & street parties

Consultation so far?

Initial stages

Public Engagement and Next Steps

- East Bristol Brewery Trail, May 2nd and 3rd
- Instagram – 56,000 views, 1 500 likes, 145 shares
- LinkedIn – 88 likes on Bristol BID page
- Facebook – 99 likes on Bristol BID page
- Petition to Bristol City Council – please share
- Stakeholder site visit



“Further development of Oxford Street, including local amenities and pedestrianisation, will increase North–South footfall through the Avon Street underpass. This is to be welcomed and encouraged, helping to better knit the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus into the city and increase safety and vibrancy of the route through greater use.

We are working with Bristol Temple Quarter LLP, BCC and WECA on plans to activate the Avon Street and Cattle Market Road underpasses as key gateways into Temple Quarter, targeting September 2027. The Oxford Street proposal is strongly aligned to these plans.”

Professor Judith Squires

Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Provost

University of Bristol