

King Street, Bristol: Closing to traffic, opening to life

Transformation of one of Bristol's most iconic streets is underway following a successful campaign for pedestrianisation.

LDA Design and local traders have worked together to make 17th century King Street traffic-free along its entire length, creating a temporary new open space and place to socialise in the heart of the city. This move allows for more outside seating for bars and cafés, boosting business recovery following the C-19 pandemic. Pedestrianising the street also provides a large flexible new space outside the Bristol Old Vic theatre for outdoor performances.

The move fits with a wider strategy to pedestrianise the old streets of the city centre, making Bristol a safer and healthier place for residents, workers and visitors, and easier and more pleasant for pedestrians and cyclists to get around.

The plan is a fantastic example of how councils and businesses can collaborate to support the local economy. Pushed through on emergency measures, it is hoped King Street will remain pedestrianised, and studies to understand usage following closure will now be made. Spaces along the street can then be clearly defined, using high quality materials which respect its historic character.



Client
Bristol City Council

Location
Bristol

Partners
King Street Collective, Bristol BID

Services
Landscape Architecture

Schedule
2020 - ongoing

¹ First phase of creating a car-free King Street