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| Title: Response to the Bundred Review | |
| Ward: City Wide | Cabinet lead: Cllr Cheney, Deputy Mayor with responsibility for Finance, Governance and Performance |
| Author: Anna Klonowski | Job title: Chief Executive |

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| Revenue Cost: £ N/A | Source of Revenue Funding: N/A |
| Capital Cost: £ N/A | Source of Capital Funding: N/A |
| One off <input type="checkbox"/> | Saving <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> | Income generation <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Finance narrative: <p>There are no direct financial implications associated with this report; however the response captures the positive trajectory to date on what will be our improvement journey. The actions provides a theme for the vision, principles, objectives, steps and values which the Council will adhere to in order to ensure that there is a robust and effective governance framework in place and that the fundamental principles of good governance are embedded across the organisation at every level. Financial accountability and appropriate internal controls will seek to achieve the highest standards of financial probity in the use of public funds.</p> | |
| Finance Officer: Denise Murray – Service Director Finance | |

Summary of issue / proposal: *This draft response document sets out the 12 recommendations of the Bundred Review and the Council's proposed response and timeframe to fulfil them.*

Summary of proposal & options appraisal:

- The Bundred Review was commissioned by Mayor Marvin Rees following September's Cabinet report outlining a budget deficit of £29.1m in 2016/17. It was undertaken by former Audit Commission Chief Executive Steve Bundred, who reviewed the causes for the budget deficit and makes recommendations for improving financial management.
- The Report following the review was published on the 9th February 2017. There are 12 recommendations across a broad range of topics. They include strengthening the council's Finance department, improving the council's approach to reporting, writing business cases, managing documents and making specific departments accountable for savings. It also highlights the need to improve management culture, keep backbench and opposition councillors better informed, and maintain more regular financial reporting to Cabinet.
- A considerable amount of work has already occurred to strengthen the governance framework and implement necessary changes in response to the recommendations found within the Bundred review.
- The draft response document (appendix 1) contains details of activity that has taken place since the publication of the report, further actions to be fulfilled, along with future proposals. The Action Steps add specific and timed actions in order to implement the response.

Recommendation(s) / steer sought: *Recommend that:*

- *Cabinet approve Bristol City Council response to the Bundred review. The response, plans and timeframes will implement the recommendations in the report, thereby improving corporate governance and performance.*
- *Cabinet note the work that has taken place already in relation to the fulfilling the recommendations*

within the report to immediately address issues brought to light by the Bundred Review.

City Outcome: This will ensure that Bristol City Council operates within a strongly governed robust corporate framework that promotes transparency, accountability, improved performance and cooperation. It will ensure that strong financial control and democracy is at the heart of its operations, therefore allowing available funds to be efficiently and effectively directed onto the front line, to serve our citizens and communities.

Health Outcome summary: N/A

Sustainability Outcome summary: N/A

Equalities Outcome summary: N/A

Impact / Involvement of partners: N/A

Consultation carried out: N/A

Legal Issues:

The Council is responsible for making sure that the authority's business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically and efficiently.

The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to put in place proper arrangements for:

- the continuous improvement of the authority's functions
- the governance of the authority's affairs, which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

The Annual Governance Statement explains how the Council has complied with the Governance Framework. It also meets the requirements of Regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 in relation to the publication of the statement of internal control.

The proposed recommendations to the report enable the Council to meet its statutory duties.

Legal Officer: Shahzia Daya – Service Director Legal and Democratic Services

Policy/Comms Officer: N/A

| DLT sign-off | SLT sign-off | Cabinet Member sign-off |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Nicki Beardmore 04/05/2017 | [CEO] 04/05/2017 | [Cabinet Member] [04/05/2017] |

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| Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal | YES |
| Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external | NO |
| Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny | NO |
| Appendix D – Risk assessment | NO |
| Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal | NO |
| Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal | NO |
| Appendix G – Exempt Information | NO |

