

# Summons to attend meeting of Full Council



**Date:** Tuesday, 10 January 2023

**Time:** 2.00 pm

**Venue:** The Council Chamber - City Hall, College Green,  
Bristol, BS1 5TR

**To: All Members of Council**

**Issued by:** Oliver Harrison, Democratic Services

City Hall, PO Box 3399, Bristol, BS1 9NE

Tel: 0117 3526162

E-mail: [democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk)

**Date:** Thursday, 29 December 2022



# Agenda

## 6. Public Petitions, Statements and Questions

Public forum items can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which directly affects the city. Submissions will be treated in order of receipt and **as many people shall be called upon as is possible within the time allowed within the meeting (normally 30 minutes).** (Pages 3 - 16)

Further rules can be found within our Council Procedure Rules within the Constitution.

Please note that the following deadlines apply to this meeting:

- a. Public petitions and statements: Petitions and written statements must be received by **12 noon on Friday 6 January 2023** at latest. One written statement per member of the public is permitted.
- b. Public questions: Written public questions must be received by **5pm on Wednesday 4 January 2022** at latest. A maximum of 2 questions per member of the public is permitted. Questions should be addressed to the Mayor or relevant Cabinet Member.

Public forum items should be e-mailed to [democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk)

Signed



Proper Officer  
Thursday, 29 December 2022



# Agenda Item 6

## Agenda item 6 – Public statements:

24 Public statements submitted were referred to the mayor for his information/consideration. Ten have requested a response.

PS No.	Name	Response
PS03	Hughes Deveraux	<p>Thank you for your statement. We have notified the relevant cabinet member for context. We recommend you write to the planning committee with your concerns who will be able to comment further on the LA plans for strategic planning.</p> <p>Please see details: <a href="https://moderngov-brisistol.gov.uk">ModernGov - bristol.gov.uk</a></p>
PS05	Tarlton	<p>It is good that you are not saying that the council is anti-tree, because we are probably the most pro-tree administration ever. And we are proud to be because of many of the positive about trees which you outline, even if I don't necessarily agree with your conclusions.</p> <p>You will, I hope, welcome our continued commitment to the One City goal for Bristol to double its tree canopy by 2045, re-stated in <a href="#">my detailed response to the petition debate which took place at Full Council</a> following Public Forum. During National Tree Week, Councillor Ellie King and I announced that <a href="#">the council plans to plant 16,000 new trees this year – adding to the 80,000 new trees already planted since 2015</a> (an average of 10,500 new trees each year).</p> <p>While the updated Climate Emergency Action Plan doesn't mention trees, and perhaps it should, 'inexplicable' may at least verge on hyperbole given our record and also that trees are repeatedly mentioned in our Ecological Emergency Strategy and in the One City Plan as above. Trees are, of course, central to the cabinet decision that we took last year to develop a Tree Strategy and a Tree Planting Plan for Bristol, which will come back to Cabinet this year.</p> <p>As well as adding to the 80,000 new trees already planted since 2015, the Tree Strategy and Tree Planting Plan will be a chance to expand tree cover in less leafy parts of our city. You may have seen that Bristol was recently recognised as the third greenest urban centre in Great Britain (out of cities with populations of at least 100,000). This assessment by the University of Sheffield was based on tree cover, vegetation, and parks.</p>
PS06	Hackett	<p>Baltic Wharf is previously developed land. <a href="#">This photo</a> from around 1930 may be helpful in better understanding the history of this site and that of our city's working harbour.</p>



We were the first city in the UK to declare climate and ecological emergencies, and I moved the declaration of a climate emergency by over 400 other councils at the Local Government Association. In Bristol, our administration has invested around £100 million in decarbonisation over recent years and are working for the council, which produces just 0.5% of (scope 1 and 2) emissions in our city, to be carbon neutral by 2025. We have also just secured an initial £424 million investment in clean energy through City Leap. This innovative partnership is the first and largest of its kind in the UK, if not beyond, and is the definition of acting at scale. The programme will create 1,000 new jobs and cut emissions by 140,000 tonnes over the first five years of operation. We continue to work through 3Ci to advocate for some £330 billion of climate investment projects here in Bristol and around the UK. [Our administration published an updated climate emergency action plan](#) at the end of October and I have also shared [more details on our wider environmental work](#), including around COP27.

You would have to ask councillors what the climate and ecological emergencies mean to them in practical terms. But I remain disappointed that, in the face of these emergencies and a continued housing crisis, some of them from opposition parties sadly continue to oppose building much-needed new homes on brownfield sites including former car parks, former airfields, former shipyards, former schools, and former depots. Too often the crucial question, “if not there, then where?”, goes unanswered by them. Thankfully, despite such obstructionism, we have still gotten Bristol building. We have delivered on – and exceeded – our ambitious manifesto target. In 2021/22, 2,563 new homes were built in Bristol, including more affordable homes than in any of the 12 years since Labour were last in government nationally. 90% of these new homes were built on previously developed land, like Baltic Wharf.

		<p>I also shared more about our continued One City goal for the city to double its tree canopy by 2045, in <a href="#">my detailed response to the related petition debate which took place at Full Council</a>. A well-known proverb is that the best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago, and the second best time is today. It should go without saying that, like every part of our natural world, no tree is immortal; the new trees of today are the mature trees of tomorrow. That's why <a href="#">we plan to plant 16,000 new trees this year – adding to the 80,000 new trees planted since 2015</a> (an average of 10,500 new trees each year).</p>
PS07	Smith	<p>The previous Labour Government introduced the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. Officers across the council, including those employed to deliver other statutory services, spent a great many hours responding to more than 2,600 FOI, EIR, and SA requests in 2022.</p> <p>This is of course at a time when local government faces £3.4 billion of additional costs next year, after over a decade of austerity and with inflation and rising demand for frontline services combining to create a cost of operating crisis, requiring us to save on costs and increase revenue. Bear in mind that the 18 hour limit (at which point FOI requests can be refused) under the FOI Act amounts to almost half of a council officer's entire working week. There are no limits for the amount of time and resource that SAR requests can, and therefore do, take up.</p> <p>Last year officers responded to: 12,000 complaints; 3,835 Member enquiries; 1,950 FOI and EIR requests; and 715 SAR requests. I understand that your SAR request has now been responded to in full, following internal delays which are down to the council operating at breaking point.</p> <p>The recently published budget proposals to be considered by cabinet continue to protect frontline services, including children's services and SEND, which we have been proud to do over the last six years. We were pleased that Ofsted and the CQC's inspection has found sufficient progress against four of the five areas required. Our focus will be on continuing to deliver further improvements, including in working with all parents and carers. We pledged to create 450 new specialist school places by 2024, and we are pleased to be on track to deliver this for Bristol in 2023.</p>
PS08	Priest	<p>Stop Building on Green Spaces</p> <p>Thank you for your statement. My response to the statement (and the later Petition Debate) has been published on my blog site: <a href="#">Building a better Bristol: 2,563 new homes - The Bristol Mayor</a></p>
PS09	Biggs	<p>I recognise the moral, ecological, and legal duty to clean up Bristol's air to improve our city's health.</p> <p>We all need to minimise our contribution to air pollution in the city. Changing our transport habits are a big part of that, but we can – and must</p>

		<p>– do more. Cleaning up the air in Bristol will require the whole city to come together with a common purpose, adjusting the way we live to protect each other from pollution, particulates and toxic fumes.</p> <p><a href="#">Clean Air for Bristol</a> has information about our Clean Air proposals. Local air quality data is available on <a href="#">Open Data Bristol</a> which includes a dashboard to access real-time and historic air quality data. National air quality data and pollution forecasts are available from <a href="#">Defra</a>.</p> <p>We have sought to protect disadvantaged households from being disproportionately affected by the charges of the Clean Air Zone in Bristol, through various <a href="#">exemptions</a>. We are also offering financial support, including grants and loans to help people and businesses replace non-compliant vehicles, as well as vouchers to support active travel and public transport.</p>
PS11	Powell	<p>Bristol City Council faces a cost of operating crisis resulting from inflation, demand for services and diminishing settlements from central government. We have a legal duty to reach a balanced budget, and so unfortunately difficult decisions must be made.</p> <p>Following responses to our recent Budget consultation, proposal 'GR012_A Parks Service' has been removed from the proposed budgets going to Cabinet for approval on the 24th January.</p> <p>The Cabinet member for Public Health Ellie King has agreed to work with Bristol Parks Forum following a review of consultation responses and amendments to budget proposals.</p> <p>I support Community Asset Transfers to empower more communities by giving them the chance to own and run their own assets. We have been actively progressing CATs, but I appreciate your frustration at the length of time this process is taking. Progress has been delayed by lack of resource and funding, particularly during the pandemic.</p> <p>We are committed to completing this work and are recruiting new staff to increase capacity and support asset transfers.</p>
PS12	Daniel	<p>I agree.</p> <p>In the devolution deal, the West of England Combined Authority has strategic transport powers, so transferring strategic transport staff and associated costs to WECA is logical.</p> <p>I am disappointed that the Silver Motion raised by the Green Party at Full Council does not recognise this.</p>

PS19	Namini	No more building on green spaces in the City of Bristol Thank you for your statement. My response to the statement (and the later Petition Debate) has been published on my blog site: <a href="#">Building a better Bristol: 2,563 new homes - The Bristol Mayor</a>
PS20		I extend my congratulations to Mike Alden for being awarded the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Unsung Hero award for 2022.  Thank you Mike for your work in the community to support and promote accessibility in sport in Bristol.

**Agenda item 6 – Public questions:**

ACTION: 13 questions were submitted. Written responses to be prepared by the mayor or relevant Cabinet Member

PQ No.	Name	Response
01	Gill	<p>Q1: I ask the mayor to look at widening 150m of the northside pavement along Feeder road between Avon street and Small street. The pavement is less than 50cm wide and busy. People walking must step onto the road to pass one another. There is 2m wide uncontrolled car parking on the road. Are parked cars on Feeder road four times more important than pedestrians?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feeder Road is part of the Temple Quarter regeneration area.</li> <li>• A consultation has started today (10 January) on the whole regeneration area, including early principles for change in St Philip’s Marsh.</li> <li>• This includes what travel infrastructure and public realm improvements could be needed in the area to support the much-needed new homes, jobs, and public spaces the project aims to deliver.</li> <li>• The consultation is open until Wednesday 8 March and I would encourage anyone with an interest in the future of the area to visit <a href="http://ask.bristol.gov.uk/templequarterconsultation">ask.bristol.gov.uk/templequarterconsultation</a> and share their thoughts.</li> <li>• There is even an interactive map to put specific comments against specific locations.</li> <li>• This feedback will help us as we start masterplanning for St Philip’s Marsh later this year.</li> <li>• Through that masterplanning work opportunities for improving pedestrian safety will be considered.</li> <li>• The Feeder Road and canal are identified as important transport routes through the area and the framework suggests improvements to public realm, active travel and public transport infrastructure.</li> </ul>
02	Gill	<p>Q2: The district heating network draft local development order requires the "site shall be reinstated to the condition which existed prior to such works taking place". Will the mayor work with his active and sustainable</p>

		<p>travel team to design and consult on public realm improvements on roads the heat network will pipe under, so these can be delivered whilst the road is dug up, leading to our public realm being improved rather than left stagnant?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We agree this is important.</li> <li>• Wherever possible the council seeks to minimise disruption with a ‘one dig’ approach and co-ordinate the actions of different developers to minimise disruption and maximise public realm improvements.</li> <li>• The draft local development order condition provides a backstop to ensure that development under the LDO with not result in the deterioration of the public realm.</li> <li>• The scope of works approved under the draft order are restricted to those outlined within the description of development, therefore additional highway and public realm improvements would need to go through a separate approval process.</li> </ul>
03	Fortune	<p>How can you go along with cuts to services in the knowledge that austerity is believed to have caused 300,000 excess deaths since 2010?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We retain a legal and moral responsibility to set a balanced budget. It is easy to take your approach and ignore our responsibility to the people of Bristol.</li> <li>• If we fail to set a balanced budget, whether you like it or not, we hand over responsibility to the budget to the government appointment commissioners.</li> <li>• Their first act would be to scrap the council tax reduction scheme, increasing costs to the 1000s of our most vulnerable citizens. Their second act would be to scrap all discretionary services that we provide for both adults and children in care, remove the impact funds, close children’s centres and close libraries.</li> <li>• Balancing the budget whilst maintaining our commitments to the city is the courageous act. Refusing to set a budget is the easy option.</li> </ul>
04	Bosanquet	<p>East Street Pedestrian Zone – why do you allow the pedestrian zone to be so wildly ignored?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We don’t allow it to be ignored as you acknowledge. That’s why we’ve added extra regular enforcement days on East St with the police and our own Parking Enforcement Officers.</li> <li>• This enforcement by ourselves and police is supported by additional signage around the Cannon St / East St junction, and we’ve used social media comms and a flyer to explain to traders and locals the current regulations and why they are in place.</li> <li>• Temporary traffic restrictions are currently in place along Malago Road and Dalby Avenue so that the District Heat Network can be installed and improvements made to the highway and public realm.</li> <li>• All efforts are being made to reduce any disruption for businesses, residents and customers and we thank everyone for their ongoing patience with these temporary restrictions.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The finished result will support the high street with increased footfall, and investment in public realm in the area which will boost this important part of Bedminster.</li> </ul>
05	Bosanquet	<p>What new steps will you be taking citywide in 2023 to tackle antisocial driver behaviours? Specifically speeding, pavement parking &amp; idling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avon and Somerset Police are responsible for speeding enforcement and we will continue to work with colleagues there regarding the enforcement of the speed limits, particularly through the fixed and mobile camera enforcement activities.</li> <li>Speeding is more than anti-social and is a crime.</li> <li>We continue to work on making the city safer for everyone as safe speeds and safe road users are two elements of our Safe Systems Approach to Road Safety.</li> <li>Including Liveable neighbourhoods, 20mph schemes, school streets etc</li> <li>We deliver a programme of schemes funded through the Area Committees where these issues have been raised by residents to use Community Infrastructure Levy and other funds on road safety projects.</li> <li>Including speed bumps in Whitchurch, junction protection etc</li> <li>We will also address unsafe parking through delivery of the road safety engineering, education, training and publicity and safer routes to school programmes.</li> <li>The Bristol Clean Air Zone is delivering clean air and health targets, the introduction of Moving Traffic Enforcement (which passed at Cabinet last month) in order to further improve road safety and of course on-going civil parking enforcement.</li> </ul>
06	Ellis Thomas	<p>Can the mayor please explain why, after three years, the application for a CAT for the Pavilion building, which would enable Mike Alden to resolve these issues, has not been progressed?</p> <p>What is actively being done to move this forward and when can we expect a result?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We congratulate Mike on his award and work in the community.</li> <li>We have been actively progressing community asset transfers and carried a cabinet paper in October 2020 on sports asset transfers. But we acknowledge it's a difficult situation and an indication of how stretched our Parks service is. Several clubs across the city share your frustration and we appreciate you bringing the subject here to raise.</li> <li>This provided for sports clubs to manage their own pitch and surrounds, take over their club houses and seek external investment for a sustainable future, rather than be subject to a diminishing investment from the council.</li> <li>This process was applied to every sports ground in the city with pitches and we received expressions of interests for many of our parks.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As previously mentioned, progress of this was delayed by lack of resource and funding and the pandemic. We are committed to completing this work this year. Everyone who has submitted an Expression of Interest will be able to submit a business case and we can take the sports asset transfers forward.</li> </ul>
07	Bensted	<p>Is he aware that three complaints raised directly with Bristol City Council concerning a vulnerable young black man were never responded to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thank you for your email to the mayor's office received last week which raised this issue. We have been told that there were responses from colleagues in the complaints team, one of which was escalated to the Ombudsman. If you haven't got these then let the office know and they can follow up.</li> </ul> <p>If he is not aware, can he explain how this could happen / what he thinks went wrong / how is it possible that complaints simply go unanswered and what impact does he think this might have on young, black men vulnerable to exploitation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, we agree that it is not acceptable for complaints to go unanswered which is why the mayor's office have looked into your email and are in touch with colleagues in the complaints team.</li> <li>It is important that those vulnerable citizens are supported through the complaints system and other local government agencies.</li> <li>The mayor's office will respond to your email.</li> <li>We can't talk specifically about this case in public.</li> </ul>
08	Audrey	<p><b>Q1.</b> In what ways the council could be more open and transparent in its operations to reduce the number of Freedom of Information requests?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As I'm sure you are aware, as well as publishing data on data.gov.uk and opendata.bristol.gov.uk, the Council regularly publishes a vast range of data on our website, including commonly requested information relating to expenditure over £500, the mayor's diary, senior officers' pay, international travel, and more: <a href="https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-and-mayor/data-protection-and-foi/open-data">https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-and-mayor/data-protection-and-foi/open-data</a></li> <li>If you have any specific suggestions for data which might be added to our open data section, let me know.</li> <li>Access to information is of course important. The previous Labour Government introduced the Freedom of Information laws, which make FOI and other requests a statutory function. Officers across the council, including those employed to deliver other statutory services, spent a great many hours responding to more than 2,600 FOI, EIR, and SA requests in 2022.</li> <li>This is of course at a time when local government faces £3.4 billion of additional costs next year, after over a decade of austerity and with inflation and demand for frontline services rising. The Council, over the</li> </ul>

		<p>next five years, is potentially facing approximately £20 million financial gap, to be closed by budget savings and increased revenue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bear in mind that, the 18 hour limit (at which point FOIs can be refused) under the FOI Act amounts to almost half of a council officer’s entire working week. Under the act, FOIs can each cost the Council up to £450 in officer time, so perhaps there is a balance to be struck. And, of course, there is no time limit for SAR requests, or the annually allowed requests to look at any aspect of our council’s accounts.</li> <li>• I’m not sure which tables and time periods you are referring to, but understand that over the last year, council officers responded to the following (just through the casework management system, not including e-mails). I’m sure that some people are disproportionately involved in these requests, just as they are in attending public meetings and asking questions at them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 12,000 complaints</li> <li>○ 3,835 Member enquiries;</li> <li>○ 1,950 F.O.I and E.I.R. requests</li> <li>○ 715 S.A.R. requests</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Data is also openly available on other parts of the Council’s website, through the ‘Statistics and census information’ page [<a href="https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-and-mayor/statistics-census-information">https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-and-mayor/statistics-census-information</a>], including on housing completions. In November, the Council published the latest Bristol Residential Development Survey. It shows that that last year Bristol built 2,563 new homes, smashing our ambitious manifesto target; of these 474 were affordable, the most in any of the twelve years since Labour was last in government nationally; with over 90% built on previously developed land, as we tackle the housing crisis and climate and ecological emergencies; and that over 3,500 new homes were under construction as of 1 April, 2022. To save you searching, the link to this part of the website has been shortened to: <a href="https://bit.ly/bristol2563">bit.ly/bristol2563</a></li> <li>• Let’s not, though, forget that most people don’t get their information through FOIs. In our digital age, it’s essential that we regularly share updates promoting data and news across social media, both by myself and by the council, as well as on my blog – for instance, including a recent eDNA report on marine species in our harbour, rivers, brooks, and canals: visit <a href="https://thebristolmayor.com">thebristolmayor.com</a> for more information</li> </ul>
09	Audrey	<p>Q.1 Please will you provide an update on the next phase of developing the new committee system including the dates, venues and arrangements for the public meetings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee Model Working Group (CMWG) is moving to the next phase of its work, having spent the first few months in hugely valuable information gathering.</li> <li>• As reported at Council in December, this next phase will include formal meetings on a monthly basis, with all of the usual arrangements for Public Forum. The first of these meetings is scheduled for Friday 27th</li> </ul>

		<p>January, at 11.00am, and the papers for that meeting will be published on the Council website a week before, as standard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is likely that the agenda for that meeting will include agreeing the work programme for the coming year, with the ambition of bringing the proposed model to Council in December 2023</li> </ul>
10	Bristol Parks Forum	<p>How many responses to proposals for the budget of the Parks Service (Ref: G12-A) in the recent Budget Consultation (Bristol’s Budget 2023 to 2024 – Guide to savings proposals) were received by the Council?</p> <p>How will the Cabinet and/or Council consider the proposal for a “Big Conversation” about our parks and green spaces put forward by the Bristol Parks Forum as a response to that consultation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of 4,529 responses to the budget consultation received by 4 January 2023, 4274 (94%) answered question 32: ‘Do you agree or disagree with proposal GR12_A: Parks Service?’ These numbers may increase slightly, as we include Easy Read responses and paper responses which may have been delayed by the Christmas post. In addition, there are a small number of responses received via email which we will also consider.</li> <li>• We will consider the Forum’s proposal for a big conversation after reviewing and assessing the consultation responses and any subsequent amendment of the budget proposals made and be in contact with the Forum committee directly about this.</li> <li>• I will lead a review in due course and happy to work with you on this.</li> </ul>
11	South West Transport Net.	<p>What progress is mean time is Bristol city council along with Banes and South Gloucestershire council making in this budget to a Transport levy to fund the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority mayor Dan Norris the city region support bus Network?</p> <p>What progress is being made on bus service via Bus Advisory Board and an Enhanced quality partnership?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We agree this is really important. As ever, we would encourage you to raise this with WECA at its meetings.</li> <li>• There was recent discussion here about bus franchising which is a matter for the WECA mayor to consider. Our position has always been it has to be adequately funded. Labour policy goes further and aims for public ownership. However, we need a shift in national policy to facilitate this.</li> </ul>
12	Richardson	<p>What discussion are going on between Bristol city council and the Heritage bodies to make sure the city is fully accessible under the equalities act 2010 to users?</p>

		<p>Will the planning and Transport Department meet with Bristol disabled equalities forum to discuss the equalities act and the city Heritage?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Heritage Officers regularly meet with Historic England to discuss aspects of the city’s heritage. We have regularly approved access improvements to listed buildings of all types in accordance with Historic England’s guidance.</li> <li>• In the Kingsweston iron bridge case it was not possible to design a solution that met all needs. When the Development Control Committee recently decided to grant permission for the scheme, they recognised that the adjacent landscape wasn’t fully accessible and they had full regard to the Public Sector Equalities Duty.</li> <li>• There was support for the planning application from the ward councillors.</li> <li>• Officers would be very happy to meet with the forum to discuss these issues further.</li> </ul>
13	St Christophers Action Net.	<p>1. Which special education needs experts or departments working for BCC have been involved in discussing the detailed SEND provision to go on the site,</p> <p>2. The precise details of the provision that is being discussed or offered, including the nature of that provision, the facilities on offer for children - particularly with regard to safeguarding, staffing levels (including education and care staff), hours of service to be provided, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For context, this was an independent school which closed and the provision ended. It was not local authority maintained</li> <li>• As you note, the developer is primarily focused on retirement living and not directly replacing dedicated SEND provision. Our own plans for an additional 450 SEND school places focuses on alternative sites.</li> <li>• The Specialist Places Team and Education Capital Team have been engaged with the developer about some small provision but our plan does not rely on this.</li> </ul>

**Agenda item 7 – Councillor petitions**

ACTION: Two Councillor petitions were received, written reply required:

CP No.	Name	Response
CP01	Parks funding	<p>As previously detailed, these decisions have now lapsed and receipts from the sale of council assets and land are now allocated and spent on much-needed capital projects across the city that meet the priority needs of communities today.</p> <p>Cabinet will make a decision to invest in a series of green space improvement projects funded by a £1.5M allocation from Strategic CIL. The residual funds still available from the land sales referred to and raised</p>

		in 2012 will be combined with this and other funding to make an overall investment in green spaces of £1.95M.
CP02	Stop the Cuts to Brislington buses	<p>Thank you, Councillor Rippington, for your work in this area.</p> <p>I appreciate your concern over the proposed cuts to bus routes in Brislington, and understand how important transport links are for Bristol.</p> <p>The West of England Combined Authority have responsibility for some supported bus routes in Bristol. However, since Margaret Thatcher's deregulation of the bus sector in the 1980s, local authorities hold limited powers to compel bus operators to operate in certain ways. As our budgets are eroded by central government, we are unable to subsidise bus companies to incentivise them to provide expansive services.</p> <p>We desperately need a change to how buses are run in this country, and this must come from central government. We should aspire for full public ownership. Public transport should be a public utility and should not be subject to private companies putting profit above public need.</p>

#### Agenda item 8 – Petition Debate

ACTION: Two Councillor petitions were received, written reply required:

Agenda	Name	Response
8	No More Building on Green Spaces in the City of Bristol	<p>Thank you for submitting your petition.</p> <p>My response to this debate has been published on my blog site: <a href="#">Building a better Bristol: 2,563 new homes - The Bristol Mayor</a></p> <p>Publishing the responses on the Mayor's blog page allows for broader access and transparency for members of the public not directly contacted by Democratic Services.</p> <p>The response from the mayor to the debate on the petition debate was published on the mayor's blog immediately following the Full Council meeting. This is a bit quicker than usual because he also wanted to encourage people to respond to the Local Plan consultation before it closed on 20<sup>th</sup> January</p> <p>Response text:</p> <p>We agree with the sentiment of the petition presented to Full Council last night.</p> <p>Councillor Nicola Beech, my cabinet lead for strategic planning, resilience, and floods, who spoke on the petition for the Labour Group at Full Council, launched a consultation on the Local Plan in November 2022. We continue to oppose plans to build homes on Brislington Meadows, the Western</p>

Slopes, and Yew Tree Farm, and policies out to consultation reflect our position while also including new policies on biodiversity. These sit alongside our plans to plant 16,000 new trees in Bristol this year, adding to the 80,000 trees planted in our city since 2015 (averaging to 10,500 per year), announced during National Tree Week.

The aforementioned sites were allocated for development under the previous administration, following public consultation – which is how planning policy is set. To influence future policy, far more than signing petitions, it is essential that people respond to share their views before Friday 20 January. More details are available in Nicola’s blog. Yesterday we launched a consultation on Temple Quarter, where we will work to deliver 10,000 new homes and 22,000 new jobs.

My administration has rightly made building new homes a priority for us, because it’s a priority for our fellow Bristolians. After the disruption of Brexit and the pandemic, last year Bristol built 2,563 new homes – exceeding our ambitious manifesto targets; 474 of these new homes were affordable – the most in the 12 years since Labour were last in national government; and 90% of these new homes were built on previously developed land – again demonstrating our commitment to building new homes in an environmentally responsible way. Another 3,500 new homes were under construction as of 1 April, 2022. This is fantastic news for Bristol as we continue building a city where nobody is left behind.

Our city is just 42 square miles. Our population grew by more than 10% in the decade to 2021, to 472,000, and is set to rise to 550,000 by the middle of this century. 15% of our residents – some 70,000 people – live in areas that are among the 10% most deprived in England. 19,000 people are on our housing waiting list. Over 1,000 households are living in temporary accommodation. In this context, we need to continue building in (on brownfield) and up (at higher density). Otherwise we risk being unable to minimise our sometime need to build out (onto land which has not previously been developed). Recently we have been disappointed that many of the councillors which this petition lauds, and some people already sitting comfortably in their own homes, have continued to oppose building new homes for Bristolians on brownfield sites including former car parks, former airfields, former shipyards, former schools, and former depots. Too often the crucial question, “if not there, then where?”, goes unanswered by them.

Unfortunately some single-issue campaigns often fall short of engaging with our city in the fullness of the reality of life here. We face a housing crisis, at the same time as ecological and climate emergencies, the national cost of living crisis, recovering from the pandemic, and other major pressures. There is no magic button to turn off any of these to focus on a favourite – they must all be considered and tackled at once. This is why we have prioritised an approach which delivers social and environmental justice hand-in-hand, using the UN’s interdependent Sustainable

		<p>Development Goals as our framework. And we continue to shape global policy through Global Goals Week, COP27, and my TED Talk on cities and the climate crisis. You may be among the more than 1.5 million people who have watched the latter.</p> <p>We are determined to start 2023 by continuing to deliver on what matters to Bristolians. My administration remains focused on carrying on tackling our city's challenges and getting stuff done to give Bristol the best possible future. For more on our vision for our city, with new jobs, new homes, clean energy, new schools, and mass transit, watch Bristol 2032.</p>
--	--	---