

# Bristol City Council

## Minutes of the Full Council

8 November 2022 at 6.00 pm



### Members Present:-

**Councillors:** Lord Mayor Councillor Paula O'Rourke, Deputy Mayor Craig Cheney, Amal Ali, Donald Alexander, Lesley Alexander, Kerry Bailes, Jenny Bartle, Nicola Beech, Marley Bennett, Fabian Breckels, Andrew Brown, Craig Cheney, Jos Clark, Sarah Classick, Asher Craig, Chris Davies, Carla Denyer, Kye Dudd, Tony Dyer, Richard Eddy, Emma Edwards, Jude English, Lily Fitzgibbon, Tessa Fitzjohn, Martin Fodor, Lorraine Francis, John Geater, Paul Goggin, Geoff Gollop, John Goulandris, Katy Grant, Fi Hance, Tom Hathway, Gary Hopkins, Katja Hornchen, Jonathan Hucker, Chris Jackson, Hibaq Jama, Ellie King, Tim Kent, Heather Mack, Mohamed Makawi, Brenda Massey, Henry Michallat, Yassin Mohamud, Graham Morris, Paula O'Rourke, Barry Parsons, Steve Pearce, Ed Plowden, Guy Poultney, Kevin Quartley, Tom Renhard, Tim Rippington, James Scott, Sharon Scott, Steve Smith, Ani Stafford-Townsend, Lisa Stone, Christine Townsend, Andrew Varney, Mark Weston, David Wilcox, Chris Windows and Tim Wye

### 1 Welcome and Introductions

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting and issued the safety information. It was noted that Mayor Rees gave his apologies for this meeting and Councillor Craig Cheney would be deputising.

### 2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were heard from Councillors Bradshaw, Cole, Goodman, Holland, Hume, Hussain and Mayor Rees.

### 3 Declarations of Interest

None received.

### 4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Councillor Gollop requested amendments to the 18 October Full Council minutes. The minutes will be reviewed and brought back to the 13 December meeting for approval.



## 5 Lord Mayor's Business

The Lord Mayor spoke on the following matters:

- The arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday ceremony and parade. A minutes' silence was observed by Full Council.
- Former Liberal Democrat Councillor Antony Wood, who served the Eastville Ward from 1998 to 2001, had recently passed away.
- Local campaigner Julie Boston had recently passed away. The Lord Mayor read a statement from Julie's family.

## 6 Public Petitions, Statements and Questions

### Public Petitions:

There were no petitions received.

### Public Statements:

The Full Council received and noted the following statements (which were also referred to the Mayor for his consideration/ information)

PS01	Haydn Gill	A Comprehensive Cycling Network
PS02	Deborah Hurst	GOLDEN MOTION
PS03	Sarah Harris	A4018 Proposals
PS04	Jackie Griffiths	A4018 Proposals
PS05	Cecilia Farren	Cycle Safety
PS06	Hilary Rydon	Golden Motion
PS07	Clive Stevens	Golden Motion
PS08	Trevor Brown	Cycling in Bristol
PS09	Paul Hilton	Cycling in Bristol
PS10	Rory Peliza	Make Bristol a place where anyone feels safe to cycle
PS11	Liv Fortune	Tribute to Julie Boston
PS12	Alison Wren	Silver Motion
PS13	Clare Freshwater-Turner	Slow Progress – Safe Crossing for Cranbrook Road
PS14	Caroline Wilson	Golden Motion
PS15	Christine Fraser	Silver Motion
PS16	Cristina Cooney	Make Bristol a place where anyone feels safe to cycle
PS17	Colin Smith	The Future of the Lord Mayor's Chapel
PS18	Mary Stevens	Make Bristol a place where anyone feels safe to



		cycle
PS19	Ashley Bligh	Newbridge Road
PS20	Emma Davidson	Newbridge Road
PS21	Karen Norman	Newbridge Road
PS22	Tom Merchant	Housing Officers in Estates Management are Still Stressed and Will Continue to Strike
PS23	Lindsay Wall	Unite the Union
PS24	Pete Yeates	Newbridge Road

Within the time available, statements PS01, PS05, PS11, PS12, PS15, PS16, PS17 and PS22 were presented by individuals present at the meeting.

### Public Questions:

Full Council noted that the following questions had been submitted:

PQ01	Jonny Adcock	Whitehall Road and Easton Road junction
PQ02	WITHDRAWN	
PQ03	Neil Roper	Social Care
PQ04	James Crawford	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ05	Jay Jethwa	Idling Vehicles
PQ06	Vassili Papastavrou	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ07	David Angel	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ08	Ali Cameron	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ09	Cecilia Farren	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ10 & PQ11	Suzanne Audrey	FOI Requests and Climate Emergency
PQ12	Nicholas Davies	Cycle City
PQ13	Martin Fraser	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ14	Richard Jones	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ15	Rachel Horsington	Cycling Equalities
PQ16	Philip Bird	Nelson Street
PQ17	Johan Wadsten	Cycle Safety
PQ18	Dan Ackroyd	Mass Transit Plans
PQ19	Samuel Clayton	Cycling Security
PQ20	Cristina Cooney	Walking and Cycling Commissioner
PQ21	Karen Parker	Cycle Safety
PQ22	Tom Bosanquet	Cycling Infrastructure
PQ23	Claire Gronow	Citizen Assembly
PQ24	Dan Ackroyd	Brabazon Hangar



PQ25	Mary Rivers	Safe Cycling
PQ26	David Redgewell	Rail and Buses

Within the time available, the Deputy Mayor responded verbally to questions PQ01, PQ03, PQ07, PQ09, PQ16 and PQ22 also responding to supplementary questions.

## 7 Petitions Notified by Councillors

None received.

## 8 Petition Debate: Make Bristol a Place Where Anyone Feels Safe to Cycle

Full Council considered a report of the Director – Legal and Democratic Services setting out details of a petition ‘Make Bristol a Place Where Anyone Feels Safe to Cycle’. The petition had reached the 3,500 signature threshold to qualify for a Full Council debate.

Ian Pond and Toby Wells, the petition organisers, were invited by the Lord Mayor to present the objectives of the petition.

Full Council debated the petition.

Following the debate it was:

### **RESOLVED:**

**That the petition and the comments from the debate be noted and referred to the Mayor for response.**

## 9 Information item: Mayoral Commission - Verbal Update from the new Disability Equality Commission (CPR14.5)

Full Council received an update report from the Disability Equalities Commission.

There was a debate and it was:

### **RESOLVED:**

**Full Council noted the report.**

## 10 Information item: Mayoral Commission Update - report from Bristol Women's Commission (CPR14.5)



Full Council received an update report from the Bristol Women's Commission.

There was a debate and it was:

**RESOLVED that Full Council:**

- **Noted the report.**
- **Ensure Bristol City Council continues to support the Bristol Women's Commission to deliver on its programme of work.**
- **Continue to support the Women's Commission.**

**11 Information item: Mayoral Commission Update - Report from Bristol Race Commission (CPR14.5)**

Full Council received an update report from the Commission on Race Equality.

There was a debate and it was:

**RESOLVED that Full Council:**

- **Noted the report and contribution locally and nationally.**
- **Continue supporting implementation of the strategic work and implementation of the Commission on Race Equality.**

**12 Information item: Annual Report of Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Decisions**

Following a short adjournment, it was then moved by the Lord Mayor that standing order CPR2.1(xi) be suspended to allow the meeting to go past the standard time limit so the remaining reports and golden motion could be heard. Following a vote, it was agreed to proceed for an additional 30 minutes.

Full Council considered the Annual Report of Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Decisions.

Councillor Craig Cheney moved the report and the recommendations therein.

There was a debate, and it was:

**RESOLVED: That Full Council note the report.**

**13 Annual Report of Audit Committee**

Full Council considered the Annual Report of Audit Committee.



Councillor Andrew Brown, Audit Committee Chair, moved the report and the recommendations therein.

There was a debate, and it was:

**RESOLVED: That Full Council note the report.**

## 14 Motions

### Motion 1 – Golden Motion: Setting a realistic housing target for Bristol

Councillor Tony Dyer moved the following motion:

#### Full Council notes:

1. Bristol City Council will this month begin public consultation on a new Local Plan which will guide development within the city for the next 10 to 20 years.
2. The Local Plan will include local policies which will set locally developed standards for net zero carbon, biodiversity, green space protection, local shopping streets, and so on. Many of these policies are far in advance of national policy in terms of dealing with the climate and ecological emergencies. The local plan will also look at how and where housing will be delivered.
3. Although it is a “Local” Plan it is subject to a “housing need” target that is subject to calculations set by central government.
4. Central government is currently insisting that the largest 20 urban areas, including Bristol, should include a 35% uplift to its housing need target.
5. The result of this is that Bristol has been set a housing need target of 67,000 homes to be delivered within the lifetime of the new Local Plan.
6. This produces an annual target of 4,467 homes per year over the next 15 years, far and above any single delivery year in Bristol’s recent history. It is a figure that has not been approached since the large-scale government investment in council housing of the 1950s. Even more challenging in the current economic climate where people’s inability to afford mortgages is already suppressing the housing market making it less attractive for developers.
7. Government legislation insists that authorities need to demonstrate a rolling five year supply of available land to meet their housing target. If they cannot, private developers will be able to override local plan policies that have been approved by locally elected councillors following public consultation.



8. There are over 16,000 families on the housing waiting list with many of them living in overcrowded and/or otherwise unsuitable accommodation, another 1,000 in expensive temporary accommodation with associated impacts on revenue budgets, whilst both visible and unseen homelessness continues to affect many individuals in our city.

**Full council believes:**

1. There is a clear need to prioritise the housebuilding efforts of the city to reduce the impact of the shortage of housing for affordable rent, and in particular social rent.
2. It is imperative that Bristol City has a new local plan with modern, relevant policies in order to unlock the highest quality development in the city. The adopting of a Local Plan will have far-reaching consequences for the future of the city at a critical time in our history as we seek to address the climate and ecological emergencies, and at a time of significant economic turmoil.
3. Bristol does not have the delivery capacity nor the land capacity to deliver 67,000 homes in the next 15 years.
4. It is appropriate to adjust the housing need figure to be based on more up-to-date evidence and detailed study rather than a top-down target imposed by central government.
5. The WECA Spatial Development Strategy is unlikely to be completed on a reasonable timescale, and that its absence should not curtail Bristol's efforts to bring a new Local Plan into effect.

**Council resolves:**

1. To express its full support for the proposal agreed by councillors and officers on the Local Plan Working Group to produce an evidence-led housing target for Bristol's Local Plan that is based on housing need figures for the West of England to be derived by expert consultants.
2. To continue, in the absence of a Spatial Development Strategy, to work collaboratively with our immediate neighbours in North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and B&NES, in order to establish mutually agreed principles for development that recognises the close relationship between all four authorities and the need for cross boundary co-operation to protect biodiversity, address flood risk, and tackle the climate and ecological emergencies as well as addressing locally assessed housing need.
3. To request the Mayor and Party Group Leaders, on behalf of Full Council, to write to central government requesting that they revoke the 35% uplift target as being incompatible with the principles of a locally developed plan designed to meet the needs of Bristol and its residents and approved by its elected representatives.
4. To confirm its support for the 'Project 1000' principles of delivering 1,000 affordable homes per year and that at least 70% of these homes should be for long term affordable rent, and especially social



rent, to help address the identified need for truly affordable homes for rent as evidenced by the number of families on the housing waiting list.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Jenny Bartle.

**Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the motion was CARRIED (59 For, 0 against, 0 abstentions) and it was**

**RESOLVED:**

**Full Council notes:**

- 1. Bristol City Council will this month begin public consultation on a new Local Plan which will guide development within the city for the next 10 to 20 years.**
- 2. The Local Plan will include local policies which will set locally developed standards for net zero carbon, biodiversity, green space protection, local shopping streets, and so on. Many of these policies are far in advance of national policy in terms of dealing with the climate and ecological emergencies. The local plan will also look at how and where housing will be delivered.**
- 3. Although it is a “Local” Plan it is subject to a “housing need” target that is subject to calculations set by central government.**
- 4. Central government is currently insisting that the largest 20 urban areas, including Bristol, should include a 35% uplift to its housing need target.**
- 5. The result of this is that Bristol has been set a housing need target of 67,000 homes to be delivered within the lifetime of the new Local Plan.**
- 6. This produces an annual target of 4,467 homes per year over the next 15 years, far and above any single delivery year in Bristol’s recent history. It is a figure that has not been approached since the large-scale government investment in council housing of the 1950s. Even more challenging in the current economic climate where people’s inability to afford mortgages is already suppressing the housing market making it less attractive for developers.**
- 7. Government legislation insists that authorities need to demonstrate a rolling five year supply of available land to meet their housing target. If they cannot, private developers will be able to override local plan policies that have been approved by locally elected councillors following public consultation.**
- 8. There are over 16,000 families on the housing waiting list with many of them living in overcrowded and/or otherwise unsuitable accommodation, another 1,000 in expensive temporary accommodation with associated impacts on revenue budgets, whilst both visible and unseen homelessness continues to affect many individuals in our city.**





**Full council believes:**

- 1. There is a clear need to prioritise the housebuilding efforts of the city to reduce the impact of the shortage of housing for affordable rent, and in particular social rent.**
- 2. It is imperative that Bristol City has a new local plan with modern, relevant policies in order to unlock the highest quality development in the city. The adopting of a Local Plan will have far-reaching consequences for the future of the city at a critical time in our history as we seek to address the climate and ecological emergencies, and at a time of significant economic turmoil.**
- 3. Bristol does not have the delivery capacity nor the land capacity to deliver 67,000 homes in the next 15 years.**
- 4. It is appropriate to adjust the housing need figure to be based on more up-to-date evidence and detailed study rather than a top-down target imposed by central government.**
- 5. The WECA Spatial Development Strategy is unlikely to be completed on a reasonable timescale, and that its absence should not curtail Bristol's efforts to bring a new Local Plan into effect.**

**Council resolves:**

- 1. To express its full support for the proposal agreed by councillors and officers on the Local Plan Working Group to produce an evidence-led housing target for Bristol's Local Plan that is based on housing need figures for the West of England to be derived by expert consultants.**
- 2. To continue, in the absence of a Spatial Development Strategy, to work collaboratively with our immediate neighbours in North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and B&NES, in order to establish mutually agreed principles for development that recognises the close relationship between all four authorities and the need for cross boundary co-operation to protect biodiversity, address flood risk, and tackle the climate and ecological emergencies as well as addressing locally assessed housing need.**
- 3. To request the Mayor and Party Group Leaders, on behalf of Full Council, to write to central government requesting that they revoke the 35% uplift target as being incompatible with the principles of a locally developed plan designed to meet the needs of Bristol and its residents and approved by its elected representatives.**
- 4. To confirm its support for the 'Project 1000' principles of delivering 1,000 affordable homes per year and that at least 70% of these homes should be for long term affordable rent, and especially social rent, to help address the identified need for truly affordable homes for rent as evidenced by the number of families on the housing waiting list.**



Meeting ended at 9.15 pm

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

